

HAKOL

The Voice of Hewlett–East Rockaway Jewish Centre/Congregation Etz Chaim

November/December 2025

Vol. 75 • No. 2

Cheshvan/Kislev/Tevet 5786

HAPPY CHANUKAH

Join us for our

Chanukah and New Member Brunch

Sunday, December 14
at 11:00 am at HERJC

Chanukah Shabbat Dinner

Friday, December 19
following 6:00 pm Services

MORE INFORMATION ON PAGES 8–9

Village of East Rockaway
Menorah Lighting
Tuesday, December 16
(see p. 15)





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Notes from the Hazzan



HAZZAN BONNIE ZAKARIN

As we move into the months of November and December, our calendars are filled with opportunities to pause, reflect, and celebrate. Coming off the High Holidays and Sukkot, we carry forward the lessons of introspection, renewal, and gratitude. Rosh Hashanah reminded us of the gift of a new year, Yom Kippur of the power of forgiveness and repair, and Sukkot of the joy of community and the beauty of dwelling together in temporary spaces, reminding us of life's fleeting

yet precious moments.

November brings a natural rhythm of gratitude. In the spirit of Thanksgiving, we are invited to consider not only what we are thankful for, but to express our gratitude in meaningful ways—through acts of kindness, through reaching out to friends and family, and through supporting our synagogue community. Judaism teaches us that gratitude is not just a feeling but an action. Our prayers of thanks, the blessings over food, and the mitzvot we perform each day are ways we make our gratitude tangible.

December welcomes Chanukah, the Festival of Lights, a celebration of hope, resilience, and the triumph of light over darkness. As we light the menorah each night, we are reminded that even the smallest flame can illuminate the darkest of places. The holiday calls us to bring light into the lives of others—through friendship, generosity, and acts of justice. Chanukah is not just a story of long ago; it is a reminder that we each have the power to shine, even when the world feels heavy.

This season, as days grow shorter and our homes and hearts seek warmth, I encourage each of us to hold close the gifts of friendship, community, and faith. Whether through a shared meal, a simple phone call, or gathering in our sanctuary, let us be intentional about nurturing connections and spreading light.

May the gratitude we feel in November carry into the joy and illumination of Chanukah, and may we remember the lessons of our recent holidays: to forgive, to repair, to celebrate, and to bring light wherever we can.

Wishing you all a season filled with warmth, light, and the joy of community.
Hazzan Zakarin

Friendsgiving Shabbat Meat Potluck Dinner

Friday, November 28, following 6:00 pm Services

Email rebecca.youth.family@gmail.com to sign up.



The Rabbi's Remarks



RABBI MICHEL SCHLESINGER

Rekindling the Menorah, Rekindling Community

When the Maccabees defeated the Greeks and recovered the Temple in Jerusalem, their first instinct was not to celebrate their military victory, nor to secure their political power. They understood that the most urgent thing to do was to reestablish the life of the community. The Temple had been desecrated, the people traumatized, the very rhythms of Jewish life interrupted. And so they turned their attention to the sacred Menorah. By rekindling its light, they symbolized the rebirth of their people, the recentering of their identity, and the restoration of their connection to God.

Chanukah, therefore, is not only about the miraculous oil that lasted eight days. It is about the determination of a people to prioritize spiritual life even in the shadow of war and destruction. It is about the courage to believe that a small flame can push away great darkness. It is about the insight that community is what sustains us long after the battles are fought.

We too face challenges in our own day. As I write this article, the war in Gaza continues. Forty-eight Israeli hostages remain in captivity. Israelis and Palestinians alike are paying an unbearably high price for a conflict that has already lasted two years. Here in the United States and abroad, we are also confronting a rise in antisemitism that threatens not only our safety, but also our confidence in the future.

And yet, just as in the days of the Maccabees, our task is clear. External threats may sometimes be overcome, or at least controlled. But the most important question is: what kind of community will we be when the fighting quiets down? What inner strength will we have cultivated so that we can endure? What kind of Jewish home will we pass on to our children?

The answer lies in the Menorah. Just as our ancestors prepared oil to keep its flame alive, so too must we prepare the “oil” that sustains our Jewish life today. That oil is made of many things: our presence in synagogue life, our knowledge and learning, our generosity of spirit and resources, our commitment to one another, and our willingness to come together in joy and in sorrow. Without these elements, the Menorah cannot remain lit. With them, it shines brightly against the darkness.

This Chanukah, as we gather to kindle the candles, we are invited to reflect on our role in keeping that flame alive. Lighting the menorah is not only a ritual—it is a declaration that we believe in the future of the Jewish people. Every flame we add each night is a reminder that our strength grows when we gather together.

At HERJC, we are blessed with a community that is resilient, diverse, and dedicated. Let us continue to strengthen it—with our time, our energy, our knowledge, and our financial support. Each of us has the ability to add oil to the lamp. Each of us has the ability to ensure that the light of Torah, tradition, and togetherness continues to shine here on the South Shore of Long Island and beyond.

May this Chanukah inspire us to be builders of community, guardians of hope, and keepers of the flame. And may we merit the day when the Menorah of our tradition becomes also the Menorah of Shalom—a light of peace for Israel, for the Jewish people, and for the entire world. *Chag Urim Sameach*—may the Festival of Lights bring joy and strength to you and your loved ones.

With blessings, Rabbi Michel Schlesinger

HAKOL

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Congregation Etz Chaim

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HERJC Mission Statement

Hewlett-East Rockaway Jewish Centre—Congregation Etz Chaim (HERJC) is a warm, vibrant, traditional-egalitarian Conservative congregation. Our diverse, forward-thinking community is one in which learning, prayer and social action flourish.

Since its founding in 1949, HERJC has been recognized for creating a welcoming environment in which each member – Regardless of age, stage of life or background—feels a connection to one another, to the Jewish people, to the United States, to the land and State of Israel, to Judaism, and to God.

We are committed to continuing to provide innovative, interesting and thought-provoking programs that:

- Foster lifelong learning from pre-school through adulthood
- Celebrate our Jewish heritage
- Deepen the sense of community among our Congregational family
- Promote religious involvement of all members, and enhance their spiritual experience
- Encourage intergenerational cooperation
- Nurture the State of Israel and our relationship with it
- Serve the needs of our members, the local community, the United States, and K'lal Yisrael, the Jewish people, throughout the world.

Pirkei Avot says the world rests on Torah, Avodah, and G'milut Chasadim. So too does our Congregation.

From the Executive Director



LISA STEIN

Our tradition teaches us that we must always have hope. Throughout history, the Jewish people have struggled and suffered, and we have always persevered in amazing and inspiring ways. As I write this article the idea of hope, *Tikvah*, is at the forefront of my thinking. As the line in Hatikvah, Israel's national anthem reads;

הַתִּקְוָה בֵּת שְׁנוֹת אֶלְפִים

Ha'tikvah bat shnot alpayim,

The hope that is two-thousand years old,

so, too, must we continue to find hope wherever we look, in our own lives, in our families, and in our community. Hope has sustained us and I believe it will continue to do so for generations to come. Judaism reminds us to celebrate the positive, to reach higher and to constantly learn along the way. At this moment, we are hoping that the twenty living Israeli hostages will return home to their families and that the bodies of the deceased hostages will be returned home for proper burial as well. We, the HERJC community, have added our voices to this hope for the past two years, singing Hatikvah at the conclusion of every service.

On a much different note, I have tremendous hope for the future of HERJC. I am excited, strengthened, and motivated by our new **Torah Mantle Campaign**. The generosity of our congregation inspires me on a daily basis, both the philanthropic mindset of our congregants, and also the emotional generosity of our members. Our community is passionate about Judaism, giving, and thoughtfully working towards a continual, *hopeful* and meaningful future!

I am fortified by this hopefulness, which goes hand in hand with *chesed* (kindness). Just ask my children. While it is still a work in progress, focusing on kindness has become a bit of a joke in our family; we constantly ask each other, "Are you being kind?" And I try to retain my *hope* that the lesson is sinking in. In all seriousness, I find that being kind can be one of the most significant things to put into practice, since it can make such an impact on those around us.

It is this tremendous hope that is palpable in our special community. We are experiencing kindness expressed in so many substantial ways and I am grateful to be a part of it. As we continue to celebrate our successes, and continue to work toward sustainability through our fundraising, prayer, learning, and compelling programs, I look forward to our shared hope. I hope

to see you at any (or all) of our wonderful upcoming programs and services and wish you, your family, and the entire HERJC community lots of Love, Light and Hope in this season as we look forward to lighting the *chanukiah* this year.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions or comments.



From the President



JASON MELZER

Dear Congregants,

As the days grow shorter and the air becomes cool, we enter a season that naturally invites reflection. Winter reminds us how much we rely on light—both the light we kindle and the light we share with one another. This year, that message feels especially powerful.

My family and I recently returned home from a trip to Israel, a place where the contrast between light and darkness feels particularly vivid right now. We spent some time in Hostage Square in Tel Aviv and witnessed individuals whose strength and faith defy imagination—families who have endured loss, yet continue to hope, communities who have opened their doors to others, and the miraculous sight of hostages finally returning home. The joy on faces, the tears that streamed down others, and the overwhelming feeling of unity that surrounded us, were living reminders of *Am Yisrael Chai*—the Jewish people live.

Across the world, Jews have felt that same sense of connection. Even from afar, HERJC has shared in the heartbreak, the prayers, and the steadfast belief that we are one people bound together by purpose and tradition. In times like these, our resilience is not an abstract idea: it's an act of faith.

As we approach the winter holidays, Chanukah most of all, we are called to bring light into darkness. Every candle we light, every song we sing, every gathering we share is a declaration of hope. HERJC embodies that spirit. Whether through worship, learning, acts of kindness, or simply being present for one another, we continue to create warmth that transcends distance and circumstance.

May this winter be a time when HERJC's light shines especially bright, illuminating not only our sanctuary and our homes, but reaching across oceans to our brothers and sisters in Israel. Together, we affirm that even in the coldest and darkest moments, the Jewish spirit endures and always finds its way back to light.

With love and respect, Jason

SERVICE SCHEDULE

SHABBAT

Friday night

6:00 pm – In person

Saturday morning

9:30 am – In person
and Zoom

MORNING MINYAN

Monday, Thursday,
& Rosh Chodesh

7:45 am – In person
and Zoom

Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday

7:45 am – Check calendar
for in person and Zoom

Sunday

9:00 am – Zoom ONLY

National holidays

9:00 am

EVENING MINYAN

Sunday-Thursday

7:30 pm – Zoom ONLY

Call-in for all Services:

+1 929 205 6099 US (NY)

Meeting ID: 834 2299 4395,

Passcode: herjc18

Follow

@herjcny



f HERJC



f Early Childhood
Center



Progressive Dinner

Saturday, November 15, 6:30 pm

\$40/pp

Appetizers at one congregant's
home, dinner at another and
everyone together for dessert
at Juliana & Rabbi Schlesinger's
home.

Please RSVP by November 7
by scanning the QR code



A Word From the Ritual Committee

BY MICHAEL GOLDWASSER

Shalom! We hope that everyone has had a great start to 5786. Thank you to everyone who joined us for the High Holidays and the Chagim that followed—we hope that it was a meaningful experience for all. So many congregants participated in services, and I'm happy to say that a majority of the Torah readings during Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur were done by our teenagers. We also had some of our younger members leading us in parts of the services. And I think that this was our biggest crowd for Yom Kippur mincha and Neilah in many years. The congregational break fast after Yom Kippur was also a big hit and we hope that it can continue—after all, eating is a big part of Jewish ritual!

“... a majority of the Torah readings during Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur were done by our teenagers. We also had some of our younger members leading us in parts of the services.”

This year, we are organizing a series of Shabbat morning services to be led by various HERJC committees. If you're on a committee, please volunteer to do your part to help lead. We are also having a L'dor Vador (from generation to generation) Shabbat where we invite kids, their parents, and their grandparents to participate and lead the service together. This service is also scheduled for March, but if you are interested in having your family be a part, don't hesitate to contact me, the clergy, or the office soon. You don't have to read Torah or lead a prayer (although that would be great!)—just opening and closing the ark could be a beautiful family moment. Intergenerational ties have long been a source of strength here at HERJC, and hopefully this service can become an enduring and meaningful tradition.

As always, we also encourage volunteers to participate in every service, not just these scheduled special Shabbatot mentioned above. We believe that every single member of our shul is important and is deserving of the honor of being on the bima. It doesn't matter if you've never done it before—make today the day that you say “yes.” Everyone involved—the clergy, the Ritual Committee, your fellow congregants in the pews—will support you and try to help you feel comfortable in whatever role you decide to take on.

We hope that you enjoy the upcoming Chanukah celebrations, and please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions related to ritual.

Chanukah Treats

Charcuterie boards are very trendy! How about adding a Latke Board to your holiday table?

From Courtesy of Food Network

Celebrate Chanukah with a latke board that's customized with all your favorite trimmings. The latkes go fast so we suggest adding some sturdy kettle chips as a backup potato option. If you plan on making the latkes right before serving, you'll want to assemble the board ingredients first, keeping perishables like smoked fish refrigerated, then fry the latkes, place everything on the board and serve.

Additional Topping Suggestions: Smoked fish, dips such as sour cream, creme fraiche, hummus, guacamole, tzatziki, pickled vegetables, hard boiled eggs, garnishes.

Latkes Ingredients:

Vegetable oil, for frying
3-1/2 lbs. russet potatoes, peeled
1 large onion, quartered
3 large eggs, beaten
3/4 cup matzo meal
Kosher salt
3/4 teaspoon baking powder

Use a 1/4-cup measure to scoop the potato mixture onto the skillets leaving room between each. Gently press each with a spatula to flatten, being careful not to spatter oil. Cook until the undersides are deep golden and crispy, about 2 minutes. Flip and cook the second side, 2 minutes more. Transfer to a baking sheets and place in the oven while you make more latkes, adding more oil to the skillet as needed. Towards the bottom of the bowl will be more liquid from the potatoes; press the liquid out when you scoop the potatoes so the oil doesn't spatter and the latkes stay crisp. (Makes about 36 small latkes.)



Mazal Tov to Our Bat Mitzvah

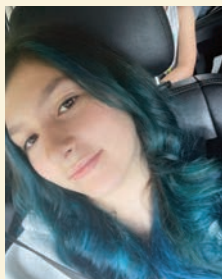
BRIANNA BORZUMATO

December 13, 2025

Mazel Tov to Jennifer and James Borzumato on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Brianna.

Brianna is kind, outgoing, funny, creative, responsible, reliable, and independent. She enjoys playing tennis and volleyball, drawing, reading, and attending sleep away camp in the summer.

The Borzumato Family looks forward to continuing to attend Shabbat Services. Brianna has attended HERJC since Building Blocks (now Gan) and her siblings, Victoria (10) and Jacob (6), both attended Pre-K there.



PNINA KNOPF

My Jewish "Coming of Age" at MY AGE

Growing up in the 1950s and 60s in a conservative Jewish family, I did not have a Bat Mitzvah. As a "gift" to myself, I decided I wanted to have a Bat Mitzvah to celebrate my 75th birthday. With encouragement from Rabbi Schlesinger and Hazzan Bonnie, the date is set for December 20, 2025.

I'm going "all in" and doing a Mitzvah Project, too, by bringing awareness about **SIBSPlace** to the HERJC community to help support this program, "A Place Where a Child Matters Most." SIBSPlace is a free therapeutic program serving children ages 5-17 living with a sibling or parent with a devastating medical illness, and/or a child coping with the death of a sibling or parent.

I look forward to seeing you at my Bat Mitzvah!

Getting to know our new members...

The Husserl Family

Carlye and Paul live in Oceanside and are happy to be new members at HERJC! Carlye is a registered Dietitian/Nutritionist and Paul is an OB/GYN. They have two children: Leo (8) and Hailey (4) who both attend school in Oceanside. Paul loves to bake and Carlye is into yoga and photography. They are both certified scuba divers. Carlye grew up in Wappingers Falls, NY and attended

a conservative synagogue called the Beacon Hebrew Alliance. Paul grew up in Bellmore and attended Bellmore Jewish Center. The Husserl Family is excited to be part of a community where they can raise their children with the same values they were raised with." In the short time since joining before the high holidays, Carlye

and Paul have already felt the warm embrace of this community and made connections with like minded families. They look forward to meeting more in the future!



The Held Family

Rosie and Marc are very excited to officially join their family as members of HERJC. Their son, Henry (5) graduated from the ECC last year and is now enjoying continuing his Jewish education in the Gan program. Their daughter, Molly (19 months) just started the ECC Toddler Time program. The Held Family lives just a few blocks from HERJC and they love being able to walk to both services and school programs. Rosie is a radiologist specialized in Breast Imaging at Lenox Hill Radiology and Marc is a Managing Director in EY's real estate advisory practice. Rosie and Marc enjoy spending time with their children on the weekends and traveling when they can. Marc is an avid golfer and talented musician. Rosie loves to read, take walks, and go to the beach. Rosie attended religious school and had her Bat Mitzvah at HERJC as did her two sisters. Her parents are still HERJC members (Lois and William Weiner) and it is so meaningful to come back to the shul as an adult. Marc grew up at Sons of Israel in Woodmere, where he was Bar Mitzvahed and attended religious school, though he attended HERJC ECC for nursery school. At HERJC, the Held Family feels a sense of community and pride in being Jewish that they hope to instill in their children.



Chanukah

NIGHTLY BLESSINGS

Baruch ata Adonai, Elohaynu Melech Haolam,
asher kidshanu b'mitsvotav, v'tsivanu,
l'hadlik ner shel Chanukah.

ברוך אתה ה' אלהינו מלך העולם, אשר קדשנו
במצותיו וצונו להדליק נר של חנוכה.

We praise You, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who has sanctified us with Your Mitzvot and commanded us to kindle the Chanukah lights.

Baruch ata Adonai, Elohaynu Melech Haolam,
she-asa nisim la-a-vo-tenu, ba-yamim,
ha-hem bazman ha-zeh.

ברוך אתה ה' אלהינו מלך העולם, שעשה נסים
לאבותינו בימים ההם בזמן הזה.

We praise You, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who performed wondrous deeds for our ancestors in days of old at this season.

TO BE ADDED ON THE FIRST NIGHT AFTER THE OTHER 2 BLESSINGS

Baruch ata Adonai, Elohaynu
Melech Haolam, she-he-che-yanu
v'ki-y'manu, v'higianu lazman ha-zeh.

ברוך אתה ה' אלהינו מלך העולם, שהחיינו וקיימנו
והגיענו לזמן הזה.

We praise You, O Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who has given us life, sustained us and enabled us to reach this season.

CHANUKAH EVENTS

ECC Pre-Chanukah Party: Light Up the Night!

■ Thursday, December 11, 5:30-7:30 pm

Chanukah and New Member Brunch

■ Sunday, December 14, 11:00 am-1:00 pm

East Rockaway Village Hall Candlelighting

■ Tuesday, December 16, Religious School at Village Hall starting at 4:15 pm.
Communal Menorah Lighting for all at 6:00 pm

Chanukah Shabbat Dinner

■ Friday, December 19, 6:00 pm following Services



Join us for our Chanukah Shabbat Dinner



**Friday,
December 19**

following 6:00 pm
services

\$25/adult (13+)

\$10/child (4-12)



The Harry Kassel Patrons Society



If Harry Kassel (z"l) were alive, I believe he would say the Patrons Society which he envisioned 47 years ago has achieved more than he could ever have imagined. Our Early Childhood Center has over 110 students and extended its services this year to Israeli children to provide them with a stable life while fighting rages in Gaza. Our Religious School has over 85 students with the influx of new members who see their children's education as paramount to a Jewish community. Our overall membership rose by over 25 families this year, continuing the trend of HERJC's growth and positive feedback for our synagogue.

In truth, *The Harry Kassel Patrons Society* and those who participate as Patrons reflect the incredible generosity of HERJC members who secure our future by maintaining our present.

Their contributions as Patrons are shining examples of what these families mean to HERJC, and we owe them our gratitude for their stalwart support. Their participation is a sign of the Patrons' collective belief in HERJC and in the legacy Harry sought to create.

Thank you to our new and continuing Patrons. If you would like to become a Patron, please contact Lisa Stein at execdir@herjc.org.

KETER TORAH

Lisa & Edmund Cohen
Marilyn & Stanley Cohen
Stephanie & Steven Kaufman
Joan Laufer

DOUBLE CHAI

Arnelle & Brian Blinderman
Pamela & Daniel Gerstman
Terri & Steven Gold
Aleta & Ariel Grunberg
Robin & Mark Hoorwitz
Iris & Alan Jacobs
Laurie & Asher Platt
Arthur Riegel
Nora & Jack Skiba
Gary Stehr

CHAI

Leslie & Jonathan Altus
Laurie & Joseph Brofsky
Doris & Yosef Dlugacz
Stefanie & Stuart Doloboff
Renee Fischer
Marcia & Marc Goldberg
Lisa & Michael Greenberg

Jody & Richard Grobman
Rachel & Randolph Gwirtzman
Lisa & Lev Herrnson
Steven Kandel
Lois & Marc Kemp
Meredith & Michael King
Liz & Harold Kislik
Lisa & Kenneth Kornblau
Janie & Michael Krasne
Heidi & Steven Kreit
Debra and Jeffrey Langendorff
Nancy & Paul Levitt
Marsha & Larry Miller
Melanie & Stephen Moelis
Audrey & Elliott Polinsky
Joan & Martin Rosen
Nanci-sue & Eric Rosenthal
Meryle Samuels
Ellen & George Schieren
Nancy & Steven Stern

SIMCHA

Barbash Family
Joan Berkowitz
Linda & David Burton
Ilene & Lawrence Cohen

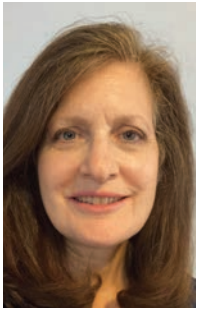
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Shelley & Arthur Debin
Naomi & Norman Doctor
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Vicki & Irwin Graber
Frank Grobman
Elaine & Edward Halbridge
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Wendy Kassel, Lisa Kassel
& Mitchell Winter, & Richard
Kassel & Penny Venetis
Susan & David Koffler
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Adrienne & Geoffrey Lurie
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Judith Mintz
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Juliana & Rabbi Michel Schlesinger
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Shari & Brian Silver
Jacqueline Simons & Kenneth Fink
Barbara & Joseph Sklar
Roberta & Stuart Sugarman
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Marjorie & Joel Wecksell

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Marnie & Mitchel Feffer
Leslie & Jason Gang
Elaine & Brett Garver
Regina & Lev Ginzburg
Allison & David Horton
Karen & Adam Ingber
Margo & Jason Melzer
Rebecca Osder
Erica & David Rechtweg
Ileane & Herbert Tischler
Jason Winter & Betsy Schwartz;
Rebecca Winter, Joshua Waitt;
& Xander Winter
Hazzan Bonnie & Moshe Zakarin
Cristina Zancani & David Schieren

Sisterhood



BEVERLY WACHTEL

Sisterhood has traditions that we have passed on *L'Dor V'Dor*, "from generation to generation," at HERJC. Throughout the years, we've held our major events at certain times of the year. At this time of year, it is our tradition to hold our annual Coat Drive on the first weekend in November, and our annual Membership Dinner in October or November depending on when the Jewish holidays fall that fall. (Yes, pun intended.)

Tikkun Olam, repairing the world, is a tradition of the Jewish people that we pass on "from generation to generation." Help those who are less fortunate than we are by donating your gently used warm outer clothing during our Coat Drive on November 2 and 3, and by donating food for our food collection throughout the year.

Music is the perfect entertainment to fit our theme "From Generation to Generation" for our Membership Dinner. Songs connect the past and the present as the styles of music evolve. Soft rock began in the 1960s and has remained popular through the decades. Not too long ago, music venues were closed during Covid. As Covid waned, a group of veteran Long Island musicians got together to revive what was dormant. With renewed energy, as if on borrowed time, they emerged on stage.

We're in for a treat with a performance by "Borrowed Time," featuring famous soft rock hit songs. Join Sisterhood and join us for our annual Membership Dinner on Thursday, November 13 at 7:00 pm.

Jewish holidays revolve around food! Traditional Chanukkah foods include fried foods like potato latkes and *sufganiyot* (jelly donuts), which commemorate the miracle of the oil lasting eight days. Join us for the next session of our cooking series with Rebecca Osder. On December 3, before Chanukah, we'll make latkes and more. Then you can decide if you'll add these to the recipes your family passes on from generation to generation!

As has become our tradition, our Book Club meets every other month. On Wednesday, December 10, participants in our Book Club will discuss the book *A Place to Hide*, by Ronald Balson. This month's book explores the deeply moving actions of an ordinary man who resolves, under perilous circumstances, to make a difference. This true story of a Dutch Jewish survivor inspires a tale of WWII resistance. *A Place to Hide* is both a cautionary tale and a guide for counteracting an ongoing tragedy. These are two lessons that every young generation must learn.

We continue to plan as the year progresses, so don't be surprised if we add a few activities!

Mark your calendar and join us at our events!



Annual Coat Drive

Sunday, November 2
9:00 am - 12 noon

Monday, November 3
12:30 - 3:30 pm



Sisterhood Events



Led by Rebecca Osder

Our Cooking Series Continues . . .

Wednesday, December 3 (before Chanukah)

Latkes and More!

Upcoming Sessions . . .

Wednesday, February 11

(as we prepare for Purim)

Hamentashen

Sunday, March 29 (before Passover)

Flourless Chocolate Cake and Matzo Crack

Join us as
we prepare holiday
favorites and bring
home some new
recipes to pass on to
our families.

Sisterhood Book Club

■ **Wednesday, December 10 at 8:00 pm**



A Place To Hide by Ronald H. Balson

A work of historical fiction set in Amsterdam during World War II follows a U.S. diplomat who, with the help of Dutch resistance members, works to save Jewish children from the Nazi regime. This story explores the deeply moving actions of an ordinary man who resolves, under perilous circumstances, to make a difference.

Contact Roberta.sugarman@gmail.com if you would like to join us. Heidi Kreit will lead the discussion.

Year-Round Food Collection



Please continue to bring kosher non-perishable food items to the Synagogue. We deliver regularly to a food pantry. The need is great, so please help us to fight hunger.

SAVE
THE
DATES!

HERJC Annual Sisterhood Membership Dinner

■ **Thursday, November 13 at 7:00 pm in the HERJC Ballroom**

You're invited to our Sisterhood Membership Dinner featuring the soft-rock band "Borrowed Time" playing famous hit songs! Look for your invitation in the mail!



Wednesday, January 14

at 7:00 pm on Zoom

BQLI Health Program

Thursday, January 15

at 7:00 pm

BRINGO

Saturday, January 24

at 9:30 am

Sisterhood Shabbat

Thursday, March 12

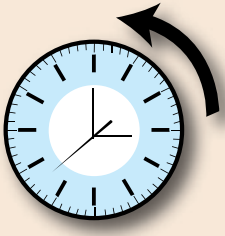
at 8:00 pm

Carol King

Tribute Show



November Calendar



November 2nd

**Daylight Savings
Time Ends**

**Set Clocks Back
One Hour**



**Recycling
Opportunities
at HERJC**

**The Early Childhood
Center Collects**

used ink cartridges, cell phones and "garbage" (which becomes art!), such as CLEAN paper towel tubes, coffee cans, egg crates, baby food jars, plastic containers, ribbons, wrapping paper, wallpaper, buttons, yarn, spools, fabric, shopping bags and anything else you can think of!

**They can be dropped
off outside the ECC
School doors, or call
the office at 599-1169.**

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

Congregation Meeting

Monday, November 17 at 6:00 pm

Please join us for our semiannual Congregation Meeting
followed by Open Board of Directors Meeting.

2 11 CHESHVAN

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS
9:00 am - In Person & Virtual Morning
Minyan followed by Breakfast
9:00 am-12:00 pm - Religious School
Gan-Zayin (Grades K-7)
9:00 am-12:00 pm - Sisterhood
Coat Drive
9:30 am - Torah Learning & Breakfast
1:30 pm - Magic of Eric Wilzig
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

3 12 CHESHVAN

7:45 am - In Person & Virtual
Morning Minyan
12:30 pm-3:30 pm - Sisterhood
Coat Drive
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

4 13 CHESHVAN

ELECTION DAY
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CLOSED
ECC CLOSED
7:45 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
7:00 pm - Education Committee
Meeting (Zoom)
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

9 18 CHESHVAN

9:00 am - In Person & Virtual Morning
Minyan followed by Breakfast
9:00 am-12:00 pm - Religious School
Gan-Zayin (Grades K-7)
9:30 am - Torah Learning
& Breakfast
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

10 19 CHESHVAN

7:45 am - In Person & Virtual
Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

11 20 CHESHVAN

VETERANS DAY
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CLOSED
ECC CLOSED
9:00 am - In Person & Virtual
Morning Minyan
6:30 pm - Israel Committee Meeting
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

16 25 CHESHVAN

9:00 am - In Person & Virtual Morning
Minyan followed by Breakfast
9:00 am-12:00 pm - Religious School
Gan-Zayin (Grades K-7)
9:30 am - Torah Learning
& Breakfast
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

17 26 CHESHVAN

7:45 am - In Person & Virtual
Morning Minyan
6:00 pm - Congregation and Open
Board of Directors Meeting
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

18 27 CHESHVAN

7:45 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
4:15-6:15 pm - Alef-Vav (Grades 1-6)
6:30 pm - Ritual Committee Meeting
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan
8:00 pm - House Committee Meeting

23 3 KISLEV

9:00 am - In Person & Virtual Minyan
9:00 am-12:00 pm - RS Gan-Zayin
9:30 am - Torah Learning & Breakfast
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

30 10 KISLEV

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CLOSED
9:00 am - In Person & Virtual Minyan
9:30 am - Torah Learning & Breakfast
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

24 4 KISLEV

7:45 am - In Person & Virtual
Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

25 5 KISLEV

7:45 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
4:15-6:15 pm - Alef-Vav (Grades 1-6)
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan



of Events

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



**OPT IN TO
DIGITAL COPIES**
Going Green and sharing Hakol
digitally going forward.



1 10 CHESHVAN
PARASHAT LECH LECHA

9:30 am - Shabbat Service
Aufruf of Eric Kolbrenner
& Marisa Kaplan
Kiddush sponsored by
Alana Kolbrenner
6:33 pm - Havdalah

5 14 CHESHVAN

7:45 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

6 15 CHESHVAN

7:45 am - In Person & Virtual
Morning Minyan
6:00 pm - ECC Vendor Night
6:30 pm - Parsha & Pizza
at Temple Hillel
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan
8:00 pm - Sisterhood Board Meeting

7 16 CHESHVAN

7:45 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
4:26 pm - Candlelighting
5:30 pm - Tot Shabbat

8 17 CHESHVAN
PARASHAT VAYERA

9:30 am - Shabbat Service
Kiddush sponsored by Steven Kalka
and by Judith Nysenholz
& Ian Herzberg
5:25 pm - Havdalah

12 21 CHESHVAN

7:45 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
8:30 am - ECC Storytime
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

13 22 CHESHVAN

7:45 am - In Person & Virtual
Morning Minyan
7:00 pm - Sisterhood
Membership Event
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

14 23 CHESHVAN

7:45 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
4:19 pm - Candlelighting
6:00 pm - Kabbalat Shabbat Service

15 24 CHESHVAN
PARASHAT CHAYEI SARA

9:30 am - Shabbat Service
5:20 pm - Havdalah
6:30 pm - Progressive Dinner

19 28 CHESHVAN

7:45 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

20 29 CHESHVAN

7:45 am - In Person & Virtual
Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan
8:00 pm - Finance Committee
Meeting (Zoom)

21 1 KISLEV

Rosh Chodesh
7:45 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
4:14 pm - Candlelighting
6:00 pm - Kabbalat Shabbat Service

22 2 KISLEV
PARASHAT TOLDOT

9:30 am - Shabbat Service
9:30 am - Religious School Shabbat
5:16 pm - Havdalah

26 6 KISLEV

ECC CLOSED
7:45 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

27 7 KISLEV

THANKSGIVING DAY
OFFICE CLOSED/ECC CLOSED
9:00 am - In Person & Virtual
Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

28 8 KISLEV

OFFICE CLOSED/ECC CLOSED
7:45 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
4:11 pm - Candlelighting
6:00 pm - Kabbalat Shabbat Service
7:00 pm - Friendsgiving Shabbat
Meat Potluck Dinner

29 9 KISLEV
PARASHAT VAYETZEI

9:30 am - Shabbat Service
5:13 pm - Havdalah



December Calendar

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

1 11 KISLEV

7:45 am - In Person & Virtual Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

2 12 KISLEV

7:45 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
4:15-6:15 pm - Alef-Vav (Grades 1-6)
7:00 pm - Education Committee Meeting
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

3 13 KISLEV

7:45 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan
8:00 pm - Adult Ed & Sisterhood Cooking Series

7 17 KISLEV

9:00 am - In Person & Virtual Morning Minyan followed by Breakfast
9:00 am-12:00 pm - Religious School Gan-Zayin (Grades K-7)
9:30 am - Torah Learning & Breakfast
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

8 18 KISLEV

Hoops for Israel - Time TBD
7:45 am - In Person & Virtual Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

9 19 KISLEV

7:45 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
4:15-6:15 pm - Alef-Vav (Grades 1-6)
6:30 pm - Israel Committee Meeting
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

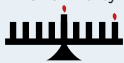
10 20 KISLEV

7:45 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
8:30 am - ECC Storytime
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan
8:00 pm - Sisterhood Book Club

14 24 KISLEV

Erev Chanukah - First Candle

9:00 am - In Person & Virtual Morning Minyan followed by Breakfast
9:00 am-12:00 pm - Religious School Gan-Zayin (Grades K-7)
9:30 am - Torah Learning & Breakfast
11:00 am - Chanukah Brunch Party
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan



15 25 KISLEV

Chanukah Day 1 - Second Candle

7:45 am - In Person & Virtual Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan



16 26 KISLEV

Chanukah Day 2 - Third Candle

7:45 am - In Person & Virtual Morning Minyan
4:15-6:15 pm - Alef-Vav (Grades 1-6) at East Rockaway Village Hall
6:30 pm - Ritual Committee Meeting
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan
8:00 pm - House Committee Meeting



17 27 KISLEV

Chanukah Day 3 - Fourth Candle

7:45 am - In Person & Virtual Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan



21 1 TEVET

Chanukah Day 7 - Eighth Candle

9:00 am - In Person & Virtual Morning Minyan followed by Breakfast
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CLOSED
9:30 am - Torah Learning & Breakfast
6:00 pm - Burning Bright: A Fiery Chanukah Night!
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan



22 2 TEVET

Chanukah Day 7

7:45 am - In Person & Virtual Morning Minyan
6:30 pm - Board of Directors Meeting
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

23 3 TEVET

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CLOSED
7:45 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

24 4 TEVET

ECC CLOSED
7:45 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

28 8 TEVET

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CLOSED

9:00 am - In Person & Virtual Morning Minyan followed by Breakfast
9:30 am - Torah Learning & Breakfast
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

29 9 TEVET

7:45 am - In Person & Virtual Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

30 10 TEVET

Asarah B'tevet

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CLOSED
7:45 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

31 11 TEVET

NEW YEAR'S EVE

7:45 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan



of Events

THURSDAY

4 14 KISLEV

7:45 am - In Person & Virtual Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

11 21 KISLEV

7:45 am - In Person & Virtual Morning Minyan
5:30 pm - ECC Pre-Chanukah Party
6:30 pm - Parsha & Pizza at Congregation Sons of Israel
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan
8:00 pm - Sisterhood Board Meeting

18 28 KISLEV

Chanukah Day 4 - Fifth Candle
Chanukah Event at Temple Beth El - Time TBD
7:45 am - In Person & Virtual Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan
8:00 pm - Finance Committee Meeting (Zoom)



25 5 TEVET

OFFICE CLOSED/ECC CLOSED
9:00 am - In Person & Virtual Morning Minyan
7:30 pm - Virtual Evening Minyan

FRIDAY

5 15 KISLEV

7:45 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
4:09 pm - Candlelighting
6:00 pm - Kabbalat Shabbat Service

12 22 KISLEV

7:45 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
4:10 pm - Candlelighting
6:00 pm - Kabbalat Shabbat Service

19 29 KISLEV

Chanukah Day 5 - Sixth Candle
7:45 am - In Person & Virtual Morning Minyan
4:12 pm - Candlelighting
6:00 pm - Kabbalat Shabbat Service
7:00 pm - Chanukah Shabbat Dinner



26 6 TEVET

OFFICE CLOSED/ECC CLOSED
7:45 am - Virtual Morning Minyan
4:16 pm - Candlelighting
6:00 pm - Kabbalat Shabbat Service

SATURDAY

6 16 KISLEV
PARASHAT VAYISHLACH

9:30 am - Shabbat Service
5:12 pm - Havdalah

13 23 KISLEV
PARASHAT VAYESHEV

Bat Mitzvah of Brianna Borzumato
9:30 am - Shabbat Service
5:13 pm - Havdalah

20 30 KISLEV
PARASHAT MIKETZ
Rosh Chodesh
Chanukah Day 6 - Seventh Candle
Bat Mitzvah of Pnina Knopf
9:30 am - Shabbat Service
5:16 pm - Havdalah



27 7 TEVET
PARASHAT VAYIGASH

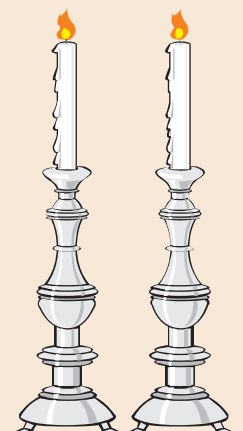
9:30 am - Shabbat Service
5:20 pm - Havdalah

Light the Shabbat Candles and Recite the Following Blessing

ברוך אתה ה'
אלהינו מלך העולם,
אשר קדשנו במצותיו,
וצונו להדליק נר
של שבת.

Ba-ruch A-tah A-do-nai
E-lohei-nu Me-lech
Ha-olam
A-Sher Kee-di-shah-noo
Bi-mitz-vo-tav
Vi-tzee-va-noo
Li-had-leek Ner
Shel Sha-bat.

Blessed are You,
Lord our God,
Ruler of the universe,
who has hallowed us
through commandments,
and has commanded
us to kindle the
Shabbat Lights.



Candlelighting times are listed on the calendar

Village of East Rockaway Communal Menorah Lighting

Tuesday, December 16 at 6:00 pm
Menorah Lighting • Crafts • Donuts
All are Welcome

East Rockaway Village Hall, 376 Atlantic Ave.





Harry Laufer Education Center



Early Childhood Center

CHERYL KARP

Journeys of Wonder and Gratitude

This summer, I had the privilege of traveling to Iceland, a land full of contrasts—glaciers standing beside volcanoes, roaring waterfalls flowing into quiet valleys, and skies that stretched so wide it felt as though they could embrace the earth. Everywhere I turned, I was reminded of how vast, beautiful, and mysterious our world truly is.

As I walked through those breathtaking landscapes, I often thought about the journeys our children are on each day here in our ECC. For them, a new school year can feel like stepping into a new country—exciting, a little uncertain, and full of possibilities. At first, there may be tears or hesitation, just as there are when we enter unfamiliar places. But with time, patience, and courage, the children begin to settle in, and suddenly the world opens up with laughter, friendships, and joy.

One of the lessons I carried home from Iceland is the importance of noticing wonder in everyday moments. In Judaism, we are encouraged to pause, to say blessings, and to recognize the holiness in the ordinary—whether in a sunrise, a meal, or the sound of children's voices. That sense of awe is something I see reflected in our classrooms each day: in the sparkle of curiosity in a child's eyes, in the pride they feel when they try something new, and in the gentle kindness they show to one another.

As we enter the season of Thanksgiving, I feel especially grateful—for the children who bring so much light and energy into our days, for the families who trust us to guide them, and for the community we create together. Like the journeys described in our tradition, life is filled with challenges and joys, but what matters most is that we travel it together—with love, with trust, and with gratitude.

And as Chanukah approaches, we are reminded that even the smallest light can brighten the darkest night. Just as the Maccabees rededicated the Temple with courage and hope, we too can bring light into our homes, classrooms, and community through acts of kindness, joy and gratitude.

Thank you for allowing us to share in this part of your children's journey. May this season be one of warmth, connection, and appreciation for the blessings all around us.

ECC OUR YEAR TO SHINE
ONE PIECE AT A TIME

■ **Thursday, November 6**
ECC Vendor Night, 6:00 pm

■ **Friday, November 7**
Tot Shabbat, 5:30 pm

■ **Wednesday, November 12**
ECC Storytime, 8:30 am

■ **Wednesday, December 10**
ECC Storytime, 8:30 am

■ **Thursday, December 11**
ECC Pre-Chanukah Party:
Light Up the Night!, 5:30 pm

ECC Vendor Night

All Welcome
Shop for the Holidays

Thursday, Nov. 6
6:00–9:00 pm



School Closed

■ **Tuesday, November 11**
Veteran's Day

■ **Wednesday, November 26–
Friday, November 28**
Thanksgiving

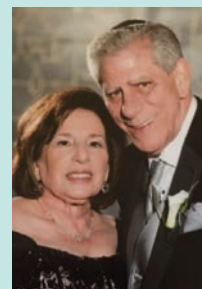
■ **Wednesday, December 24–
Friday, January 2**
Winter Break



Torah Mantle Campaign

It is with tremendous excitement and gratitude that we share information about our Torah Mantle Campaign. As was announced on Yom Kippur, HERJC is embarking on a campaign to add beauty and meaning to our Main Sanctuary and Chapel. We are working with Jeanette Kuven Oren, a gifted Judaica artist, to design twenty four Torah mantle covers in anticipation of the 2026/5787 High Holidays. These new Torah covers will be designed specifically for HERJC with input from a congregational committee.

The goal is to have new mantles for all of our Torahs, both for the High Holiday season and for the remainder of the year. Families will have the opportunity to dedicate the Torah mantles to their loved ones. Our year-round Mitzvah 613 Torah will be dedicated to the memory of Naomi and Norman Doctor and serve as a communal Torah for all members to dedicate toward. Any and all donation amounts are welcome to support the Doctor Torah mantle cover. Accordingly, we hope everyone in our community will support this meaningful campaign in whatever way works for your family.



Jeanette Kuven Oren is the most frequently commissioned Judaic artist in the United States. Since 1984, she has worked with more than 400 synagogues and community organizations worldwide.



In 2022, Jeanette was commissioned by the U.S. Postal Service to create the Hanukkah stamp. Jeanette specializes in glass, mosaic, metal, fiber art, calligraphy, papercutting, and painting. She makes Torah covers, Ark curtains, Donor Recognition Art, Huppah, Ketubah, Wall hangings and many other items for homes and institutions.

Left: Torah Covers from The Emanuel Synagogue, West Hartford, CT

We extend a tremendous Todah Rabah—a Big Thank You to those who have already pledged donations to the Torah Mantle Campaign.

Michelle & Stephen Beinhacker • Heidi Levine & Ted Berkowitz • Barry Borodkin • Lisa & Ed Cohen • Honora Dash • Matthew Dash • Stefanie & Stuart Doloboff and Shari Doloboff • Susan Fishler • Leslie & Jason Gang • Terri & Steven Gold • Lisa Greene • Aleta & Ariel Grunberg • Lisa Berkowitz & Lev Herrnsen • Liz & Harold Kislik • Heidi & Steven Kreit • Robin & Benjamin Mintz and Rebecca & Roman Kizhner • Melanie & Stephen Moelis • Judith Orlando • Audrey & Elliott Polinsky • Carrie and Daniel Rolnick • Ellen & George Schieren • Gary Sebold • Nora & Jack Skiba • Cheryl & Jeffrey Strom • The David Susser Foundation • Julie & Roy Wolff



Religious School



CHARI NACSON

Each week, I watch our students arrive with bright smiles and eager energy. They can't wait to drop their coins into our Tzedakah box, counting them out with me in Hebrew. I love reminding them that each donation is a mitzvah they can proudly add to our Mitzvah Board. Their faces light up when they answer a question correctly and earn the honor of holding the flag to sing *Hatikvah*. And their excitement when they discover that Lian, our *Shinshinit* (Israeli gap-year student), will be joining their class that day. These are the joyful, meaningful moments that parents may not always get to see—but they are what make our school so special.

I've had many conversations over the years about where Religious School fits into the lives of these busy kids. Parents often tell me, "You just don't understand—things are different now!" They explain how their children's schedules are overflowing with sports, lessons, tutoring, and everything in between. But I always remind parents that Religious School isn't just another activity on a long list—it's something far more meaningful. It's a place that nourishes the soul as much as soccer or dance strengthens the body and mind.

Now more than ever, as we navigate a world where antisemitism still exists, Religious School offers something essential: a sense of pride, belonging, and understanding. It's not only where our students learn prayers or prepare for B'nai Mitzvah—it's where they discover who they are as Jews and why that identity is something to celebrate.

At HERJC, our classrooms are filled with warmth, curiosity, and connection. Here, being Jewish feels joyful. When our students learn Hebrew, explore holidays, study Torah, and connect with Israel, they gain more than knowledge—they gain confidence and strength. They come to see that Judaism isn't just ancient; it's vibrant, relevant, and full of meaning. Here, they also learn how to answer the tough questions they might face—in middle school, on college campuses, and beyond. And just as importantly, they learn that it's okay to ask questions too.

Our goal is to spark a lifelong love of Jewish learning—to make each child feel that they belong here and that their presence matters. I take my role here at HERJC very seriously. It's a tremendous responsibility—and a privilege—to help shape your children's Jewish education. I'm constantly asking myself: What lessons will truly resonate? How can we make our students want to come, to laugh, to learn, and to feel that they belong here?

By choosing to send your children to Religious School, you are giving them an extraordinary gift—the gift of Jewish connection, community, and spirit. You are helping to ensure that the light of Judaism continues to shine brightly for generations to come.

In a world that often pulls us in many directions, our school reminds us all that being Jewish is a blessing—one to be embraced with pride, courage, and joy.

“ Our goal is to spark a lifelong love of Jewish learning—to make each child feel that they belong here and that their presence matters. ”



Do You Have a College Student?

Help us stay connected to your children. Fill out the form using the QR so we can send them some treats!



Religious School Schedule

NOVEMBER

- **Sunday, November 2**
Gan through Zayin (Grades PreK-7) . . . 9:00 am-Noon
- **Tuesday, November 4**
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CLOSED—ELECTION DAY
- **Sunday, November 9**
Gan through Zayin (Grades PreK-7) . . . 9:00 am-Noon
- **Tuesday, November 11**
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CLOSED—VETERANS DAY
- **Sunday, November 16**
Gan through Zayin (Grades PreK-7) . . . 9:00 am-Noon
- **Tuesday, November 18**
Alef through Vav (Grades 1-6) 4:15-6:15 pm
- **Saturday, November 22**
Religious School Shabbat 9:30 am
- **Sunday, November 23**
Gan through Zayin (Grades PreK-7) . . . 9:00 am-Noon
- **Tuesday, November 25**
Alef through Vav (Grades 1-6) 4:15-6:15 pm
- **Sunday, November 30**
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CLOSED—
THANKSGIVING WEEKEND

DECEMBER

- **Tuesday, December 2**
Alef through Vav (Grades 1-6) 4:15-6:15 pm
- **Sunday, December 7**
Gan through Zayin (Grades PreK-7) . . . 9:00 am-Noon
- **Tuesday, December 9**
Alef through Vav (Grades 1-6) 4:15-6:15 pm
- **Sunday, December 14**
Gan through Zayin (Grades PreK-7) . . . 9:00 am-Noon
- **Tuesday, December 16**
Alef through Vav (Grades 1-6) 4:15-6:15 pm
Class at Village Hall - Lighting the Menorah
- **Sunday, December 21**
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CLOSED—WINTER BREAK
- **Tuesday, December 23**
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CLOSED—WINTER BREAK
- **Sunday, December 28**
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CLOSED—WINTER BREAK
- **Tuesday, December 30**
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CLOSED—WINTER BREAK

Another wonderful year of learning at HERJC



First day of HERJC Religious School



First day of ECC—This is our year to shine one piece at a time!



Personals and Donations

Personals

Mazal Tov!

B'nai Mitzvah

Jennifer & James Borzumato as their daughter, Brianna becomes a Bat Mitzvah.
Pnina Knopf as she becomes a Bat Mitzvah.

Special Wedding Anniversaries

• NOVEMBER

Carol and Neal Skolnick (50)

• DECEMBER

Ellen & Laurence Abelow (25)

Lisa & Walter Fishkind (45)

Judith and Allen Frank (60)

Vicki & Irwin Graber (60)

Special Birthdays

• NOVEMBER

Teena Ben-Ari Jason Melzer

Jennifer Borzumato Daniel Mirkin

Joan Berkowitz Tom Reilly

Marnie Feffer Rosalie Roth

Lauren Goldstein Donald Schaeffer

Kevin Harrison

• DECEMBER

Hildy Feldman Carol Rubinstein

Pnina Knopf Barry Skolnick

And . . .

Ora & David Kirsch on the marriage of their daughter Laine.

Debra & Jeffrey Langendorff on the birth of their granddaughter, Devon Blair.

Randi & Jonathan Polansky on the birth of their first grandchild, Rowan Miles, child of Samantha & Alex Resnick.

Dena & Gregg Stein on the engagement of their son, Zachary to Alex Chernin.

Condolences

Jaime Ezratty on the loss of his brother, Ira S. Ezratty.

Joy Kaminsky on the loss of her husband, Larry Kaminsky.

Margo Melzer on the loss of her mother, Marleda Berger.

Robin Mintz on the loss of her uncle, Ronald Prager.

Steven Stern on the loss of his mother.

Memorial Plaques

Hildy Feldman in memory of Lester Pollack.

Nora Skiba in memory of Sylvia Breen.

Nancy Wachs in memory of Charles Baum.

Welcome New Members

(August, 2025–October, 2025)

Arielle & Ari Herman

Erica Snider

Jacqueline & Ian Axelrod

Noy & Harris Freedman

Rivka & Andrew Silverberg

Rose & Marc Held

Shiran & Alex Dyomin

Carlye & Paul Husserl

Arkady Yusupov

Beth Heydemann

Frances Mishler

Heidi Levine & Ted Berkowitz

In Memoriam

We Mourn Our Loss
in the Passing of Our Member

**Larry Kaminsky,
Past HERJC President**

Our Sincere Sympathy and
Condolences to His Family
in Their Bereavement

Funds

*The Congregation gratefully acknowledges
the following contributions which were
received August 8, 2025–October 10, 2025.*

Chesed Fund

Denise & Robert Sher in memory of
Ira Ezratty.

Early Childhood Center Fund

Carol Rubinstein in memory of
Marleda Berger.

Lisa & Richard Wainer in honor of
Cheryl Karp.

Education Fund

Laurie & Joe Brofsky in memory of
Marleda Berger.

Lisa & Ed Cohen in memory of
Paul Sonenthal.

Lisa & Ed Cohen in memory of
Louis Cohen.

Lisa & Ed Cohen in memory of Edna Cohen.

Jody & Richard Grobman.

Pnina & Lewis Knopf in memory of
Marleda Berger.

Hazzan's Music Fund

Karen Edelstein in memory of
Miriam Blajchman.

Marsha & Larry Miller in memory of
Ira Ezratty.

Robin & Benjamin Mintz in appreciation of
Hazzan's Zakarin's officiating of
Ronald Prager's funeral.

Sharon & Ron Nash and Family in memory
of Ronald Prager.

Elizabeth & Mitchell Podgorsky in memory
of Ira Ezratty.

Audrey & Elliott Polinsky in memory of
Ira Ezratty.

Nancy & Michael Rehns in memory of
Larry Kaminsky.

Kiddush Fund

Jane & Marty Lesser in memory of
Ira Ezratty.

Mitzvah Garden Fund

Barbara & Joe Sklar in honor of

Elliott Polinsky being Chatan Bereshit.

Barbara & Joe Sklar in honor of
Larry Gottlieb's 90th birthday.

Prayer Book Fund

Susan & David Koffler in memory of
Ira Ezratty.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Marsha Becker in memory of Jack Becker.

Marsha Becker in memory of Herbert

Strassman.

Barbara & Paul Cooper in honor of the
birth of Devon Blair, granddaughter of

Debbie & Jeff Langendorff.

Terri & Steven Gold in memory of

Larry Kaminsky.

Gold & Lobel Families in honor of their
daughter's wedding.

Lisa & Michael Greenberg.

Madeline & Keith Harrow in memory of

Stanley Ehrlich.

Madeline & Keith Harrow in memory of

Benjamin Markowitz.

Madeline & Keith Harrow in memory of

Jeanette Trieger.

Lisa & Ken Kornblau in memory of

Charley Moss.

Lisa & Ken Kornblau and Family in memory of

Mitchell Gerber.

Nancy & Paul Levitt.

Deborah Polokoff & Zeitlin Family in honor
of the engagement of Dena & Gregg

Stein's son, Zachary to Alex Chernin.

Sondra & Marvin Rose in honor of

Stanley Cohen.

Ellen & George Schieren in memory of

Norman Doctor.

Denise & Robert Sher in memory of

Larry Kaminsky.

Denise & Robert Sher in memory of

Ronald Prager.

Nora & Jack Skiba in memory of

Sylvia Breen.

Barbara & Joe Sklar in honor of the
Aufruf of Brandon Rosenthal and
Sarah Altman.

Nancy & Scott Wachs in memory of
Norman Doctor.

Lisa & Richard Wainer.

In Memory of Marleda Berger

Irene & Bruce Drantch

Kathy & Larry Feffer

Terri & Steven Gold

Denise & Robert Sher

Nora & Jack Skiba

Cheryl & Jeff Strom

In Memory of Ira Ezratty

Barry Borodkin

Barbara & Paul Cooper

Laura & Alvin Epstein

Irene & Larry Fener

Lisa & Michael Greenberg

Heidi & Steven Kreit

Audrey & Elliott Polinsky

Polokoff & Zeitlin Families

Nora & Jack Skiba

Cheryl & Jeff Strom

Anita Zaret Special Education Fund

Anita & Sy Zaret in memory of Ira Ezratty.

Anita & Sy Zaret in memory of

Larry Kaminsky.

Anita & Sy Zaret in honor of Marilyn Cohen.

Yahrzeit Fund

Gail & Jay Alweis in memory of
Leon Feinberg.

Marsha Becker and Family in memory of
Jack Becker.

Jill & Mitchell Brand in memory of
George Brand.

Laurie & Joe Brofsky in memory of
Minnie Orgel.

Ilene Browner in memory of

Charles Rosenblatt.

Elyse Coleman in memory of Ruth Coleman
and Ruth Feingersh.

Shelley & Arthur Debin in memory of
Douglas Debin.

Shelley & Arthur Debin in memory of
Beverly Ritholtz.

Alyce Diamond in memory of

Belle Landesman.

Shari Doloboff in memory of Amelia
Doloboff.

Shari Doloboff in memory of
Sidney Doloboff.

Lisa & Richard Drillich in memory of
Harvey Grapek.

Kathy & Larry Feffer in memory of
Lester Reitman.

Eleanor Feingold in memory of
Abraham Bedar.

Eleanor Feingold in memory of
Hyman Bedarsky.

Eleanor Feingold in memory of
Harry Feingold.





POTLUCK BRISKET BAKE-OFF AND BBQ

Mazel Tov to this year's Brisket Bake Off winner, Stefanie Atyas!
Thank you all for joining us for a delicious meal and afternoon with our HERJC community!



Roberta & Sanford Feldman in memory of Max Feldman.
Judith & Allen Frank in memory of Rose Oppenheim.
Leah & Edward Freeberg in memory of Norman Doctor.
Leah & Edward Freeberg in memory of Bernard Freeberg.
Leah & Edward Freeberg in memory of Stella Freeberg.
Leah & Edward Freeberg in memory of Steven Freeberg.
Pamela & Daniel Gerstman in memory of Larry Kaminsky.
Terri & Steven Gold in honor of Rita Doneger's 102nd birthday.
Lauren & Barry Goldstein in memory of Gloria L. Goldstein.
Sandra & Marvin Greenberg in memory of Ely Benin and Mary Greenberg.
Elaine & Edward Halbridge in memory of Donald Halbridge.
Robin & Mark Hoorwitz in memory of Stanley Misikoff.
Pnina & Lewis Knopf in memory of Lisa, mother of Yael, John, and Liam.
M. Kurot in memory of Solomon Kurot.
Nancy & Paul Levitt in memory of Norman Doctor.
Myra & Alan Markowitz in memory of Alex Markowitz.
Myra & Alan Markowitz in memory of Tibor Markowitz.
Martin Mast in memory of Mark Fetner.
Barbara Misikoff in memory of Stanley Misikoff.

Gary Renick in memory of Harriet Renick.
Laurie & Brian Sandler in memory of Leonard Barashick, Esther Barashick, Rochelle Fortgang, Elaine Sandler, Lawrence Sandler, and Lillian Sandler.
Barbara Grossman-Schapiro in memory of Kate Grossman.
Barbara Grossman-Schapiro in memory of Rita Grossman.
Ellen & George Schieren in memory of Dr. Hugh Page Schieren.
Denise & Robert Sher in memory of Noah Sterling Sher.
Shari & Brian Silver in memory of Jason Behar.
Nora & Jack Skiba in memory of Gerry Jeros.
Robin & Steven Toor in memory of Garry Toor.
Margory & Leonard Weilgus in memory of Jacob Weilgus.
Miriam & Howard Weisbrod in memory of Rose Lassinger.

General Synagogue Fund

Gloria Fried in honor of Lisa & Michael Greenberg
Lisa Berkowitz-Herrnson & Rabbi Lev Herrnson.
Carol Obrentz-Levy in memory of Gregory Fishkind.
Adrienne & Geoffrey Lurie in honor of Rita Doneger's 102nd birthday.



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Jeryl Paris, the Nasos, the Silversteins, Mimi Abrams and Joanne Taylor in memory of Larry Kaminsky.
Sydell Rothafel in memory of her father, Louis Meyer.
Sydney Rubenstein in honor of Larry Fener's 85th birthday.
Gary Simon.
Nora & Jack Skiba in memory of Norman Doctor.
Anita & Sy Zaret with wishes for a speedy recovery to Gloria Kamen.
In Memory of Marleda Berger
Stacey & Jaime Ezratty

Heidi & Steven Kreit
Daniel & Carrie Rolnick
In Memory of Ira Ezratty
Nina & Yona Beno
Pamela & Daniel Gerstman
Nancy & Michael Rehns
Carrie & Daniel Rolnick
Sondra & Marvin Rose
Nancy Sverdik and Sisters
In Memory of Larry Kaminsky
Michael Busch
Adrienne & Geoffrey Lurie
Myra & Alan Markowitz
Julie Sherman



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Yahrzeits

*The Yahrzeit of the following beloved relatives of our members will be observed during the next few weeks.
It is especially fitting and proper that the members of the family be present at the appropriate Service to observe this occasion.*

11/1 - 10 Cheshvan

William Jacobs
Joseph Greenberger
Jeff Heller

11/2 - 11 Cheshvan

Esther Borodkin
Sally Kislik
Michael Yedid
Rebecca Radusky
Joel Herbert Beldner
Jeffrey Ritholtz

11/3 - 12 Cheshvan

Sherry Cohen
Mildred Sebold

11/4 - 13 Cheshvan

Martha Alweis

11/5 - 14 Cheshvan

Louis Weinstein
Pearl Rosenblatt

11/6 - 15 Cheshvan

Carmela Moritz

11/7 - 16 Cheshvan

Isaac Jerusalemi
Marc Lesser
Rachel Grunberg

11/8 - 17 Cheshvan

Benjamin Platek

11/9 - 18 Cheshvan

Ruth Kalka
Judith Levine

11/10 - 19 Cheshvan

Betty Goldfinger
Regina Rosenfeld
Barbara Berger

11/11 - 20 Cheshvan

Sarah Altus
Joseph Glass
Solomon Karp
Louis Mast
Sylvia Hershkoff
Fern Carol Zeitlin

11/12 - 21 Cheshvan

Leon Lurie
Harry Feldsott

11/13 - 22 Cheshvan

Charlotte Nash

11/14 - 23 Cheshvan

Frances Cohen
Martin Stone
Frieda Streigold
Amy Strong

11/15 - 24 Cheshvan

Seymour Saul Fishkind

11/16 - 25 Cheshvan

Francis Lebovitz
Dinah Weil

11/17 - 26 Cheshvan

Rose Meyer
Samuel Riegel

11/18 - 27 Cheshvan

Stanley J. Marcus
Kevin Rubinstein
Kenneth Marcus

11/19 - 28 Cheshvan

Berdie Kaufman
Bayla Solow
Evette Yedid

11/20 - 29 Cheshvan

Herbert Warmflash
Joseph Ezratty
Fanny Grunberg
Sheila Mason

11/21 - 1 Kislev

Samuel Greenstein
Eydie Weisbrod

11/22 - 2 Kislev

Oscar Zaretsky
Louis Taishoff
Meric Moshe
Underweiser
Sarah Alpert

11/23 - 3 Kislev

Annie Borodkin
Elsa Menchel
Nettie Sunshine
Kenneth Kelmenson
Barnet Baron
Benjamin Weiten

11/24 - 4 Kislev

Ruth Rappaport
Emanuel Schaeffer

11/25 - 5 Kislev

Phillip Levitt
Gary Bader
Martin Miller
Nettie Knobel

11/26 - 6 Kislev

Mildred Gottlieb
Selma Lesser
Herbert Eisenberg
Arline Kotcher

11/27 - 7 Kislev

Ruth Harvey
Pauline Kislik

11/28 - 8 Kislev

Pauline Gorman
Kate Rosen
Miriam Herzberg
Bernard Zakarin

11/29 - 9 Kislev

Jason Heller

11/30 - 10 Kislev

Benjamin Kolbrenner
Edward S. Pauker

12/1 - 11 Kislev

Helen Benin

12/2 - 12 Kislev

Bertha Alweis
Solomon Dobin

12/3 - 13 Kislev

Benjamin Schieber
Marcia Arkin
Selma Stone
Lenore Greenberg

12/4 - 14 Kislev

Jack Baker
Albert Yedid
Irma Reitman

12/5 - 15 Kislev

Phyllis Rodin
Donald Stern

12/6 - 16 Kislev

George Brand
Herman Commike
Morris Aaron Goldberg
Samuel Eisenberg

12/7 - 17 Kislev

Mary Hauser
Joseph Rost
Frieda Wolk

12/8 - 18 Kislev

None

12/9 - 19 Kislev

Scott Kemp
Evelyn Lamon
Faye Berger
Beatrice Garver
Ronnie Osder
Herbert White
Sheldon Philip Prager

12/10 - 20 Kislev

Sol Farberman

12/11 - 21 Kislev

Beatrice Black
Elaine Scharf
Goldie Kirschenbaum

12/12 - 22 Kislev

Gus Belmont
Adena Joy Feffer
Violet Davis

12/13 - 23 Kislev

Anna Commike
Miriam Eizikovics
Murray Katz
Marilyn Warmflash
Julia Leibman

12/14 - 24 Kislev

Howard Schneider
Manny Roth

12/15 - 25 Kislev

Bertha Lieber Feingold
Meyer Klein
Sydell Gould
Harvey Gorman
Ernestine Chaut
Bernard Morgan

12/16 - 26 Kislev

Morris Sopher
Janice Berkowitz
Lori Suser
Harriet Weiss

12/17 - 27 Kislev

Harold L. Schmier
Bernard Schoengold
Robert Alan Jaffe

12/18 - 28 Kislev

Edward S. Abrams
Goldie Nestor

12/19 - 29 Kislev

Lena Sklar Fox
Nancy Stern

12/20 - 30 Kislev

Henry Jaskol
Mary Silverstein

12/21 - 1 Tevet

Herbert Kristeller

12/22 - 2 Tevet

Jacob Levine
Sarah Ain Morenstein
Esther Weisner
Claire Frankel

12/23 - 3 Tevet

Sidney Levitt
Roslyn Zimmerman
Howard Bender

12/24 - 4 Tevet

Moe Trompeter
Joanne Zweben

12/25 - 5 Tevet

Pearl Kalikow
Ruth Brofsky
Lorraine Heyer
Anne Knopf

12/26 - 6 Tevet

Dorothy Alt
Abraham Borodkin
Florence Brodney
Morris Rosenblatt
Ray Steinberg
Harold Mechlin
Edith Greenberger

12/27 - 7 Tevet

Arnold Sher
Edward Orgel
Lenore Ostroff
Sandra Weiner

12/28 - 8 Tevet

Nathan Klein
Louis Landesman
Arnold Kemp

12/29 - 9 Tevet

Samuel Weiss
Ira Zapolsky

12/30 - 10 Tevet

Rubin Steinberg

12/31 - 11 Tevet

Florence Behr
Sara Fisher
Rose Freda Olin
Edward Paster
William Ritholtz
Audrey Drillich



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