

Established in 1892



CONGREGATION
KNESETH ISRAEL

Lifelong Learning

Embracing Diversity

Building Community

Meaningful Observance



From the Rabbi's Study

Psalm 30 is called a Psalm of David, a Song for the Dedication of the Temple, Chanukat HaBayit L'David. We say this Psalm every Shabbat morning and often use it to dedicate a new home and put up a mezuzah.

The word Chanukah often gets translated as "dedicate" or "dedication" and that is what happened when the Maccabees returned to the Holy Temple, cleansed it and made it holy space once more. We are at a similar point. We have returned to the building in many ways.

Hybrid services. In-person Torah School. The Chanukah bazaar. What a delight it has been to see people in person again! To hear harmonies! To share a conversation! To look someone in the eyes. To smell cookies baking!

Chanukah begs the question. What are we dedicated to? How do we turn our mourning into dancing? For each of us that answer may be slightly different. People come to synagogue for different reasons. Some come to

continued on page 2



President's Message

It's Hanukkah! A time of joy and celebration with family and friends. Back in

November I was thinking about the approaching holiday, and I decided to go back and re-read the story of Hanukkah. The miracle of Hanukkah came after great suffering and loss; mourning had really been changed into joyful dancing. I imagine the time was bittersweet. I can't imagine how overwhelmed they must have felt at the task of purifying and rededicating the Temple, the heart of worship and their community. As I worried about the

malfunctioning boiler (a minor inconvenience compared to purification of the Temple), I pondered what would I do if CKI was taken away? I thought about my connections to Judaism. CKI isn't the first synagogue that I have attended, but it is the first that I feel connected to. I was consecrated at about age 5 and confirmed when I was 13, but feeling connected to my spiritual roots came when I "dressed" the Torah under Saul's direction, chanted the Torah blessing with Myron and stood with Dan kvelling over my shoulder as he realized that I was actually doing an

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RABBI MARGARET FRISCH KLEIN

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ROBIN COYNE, President

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PEG LEHMAN, Office Manager

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From the Rabbi's Study...

hear the ancient words of prayer. Some come to hear the music and the chant. Some come for social interaction. Some come to learn or to educate their kids. Some come to hang out in the building where they feel closest to G-d.

Your Regathering Committee has worked hard since the beginning of the pandemic to keep our congregation and each of you as safe as possible. As we continue to emerge from the pandemic, we need to rededicate ourselves to making the synagogue a sacred space.

This year there will be opportunities to celebrate Chanukah in person and on Zoom. Friday night, December 3rd as part of Kabbalat Shabbat, we will be hosting Marilyn Price, a nationally recognized storyteller, to help us tell stories of Chanukah around the world. More details on that to follow.

On Sunday, December 5th the Torah School will be celebrating with Super

Science Sunday. These are both part of a national series of events, Homecoming Hanukkah, sponsored by Ron Wolfson and his organizations.

In the past during Chanukah, we have dedicated various places within the building. One year it was the parking lot entrance way. One year it was the library/chapel. One year it was the new *ner tamid*, eternal light, in the library. One year it was the Montifiore Torah. One year, just before the pandemic, it was the sensory room.

This year, perhaps we need to dedicate our roof. Without a secure roof, all the rest could collapse.

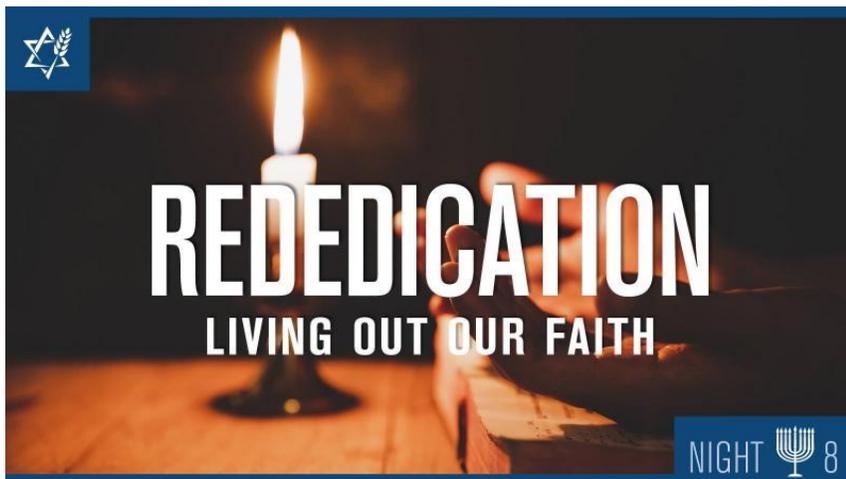
We can rededicate ourselves to our vision statement, to be a community that provides meaningful observance, lifelong learning, building community and embracing diversity. We can rededicate ourselves to be a caring community, holy community, a kehila kedosha. In that way we live out the

vision of the Maccabees of long ago and our own holy congregation of today.

My hope for each of you is that as we light these Chanukah candles and turn our homes from darkness to light, we find a measure of joy as our mourning is turned to dancing. May we each find something we are passionate about and that we want to rededicate ourselves towards.

—Rabbi Margaret Frisch Klein

To reach the Rabbi please call her cell number: **978-590-8268**.
If there is an illness in the family or the loss of a loved one, please call CKI @ 847-741-5656 so that your CKI family can contact you and be of help.



CKI BOARD MEMBERS

President – Robin Coyne
Immediate Past President – Risa Cohen
Executive Vice-President – (available)
VP Ritual – Gene Lindow
Treasurer – Charlie Neuman
Financial Secretary – Sandi Phelan
Recording Secretary – Barb Edelstein
VP of Education – (available)

CKI COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Adult Education – (available)
Bylaws – Rachel Newby
Cemetery – Dick Johnson
CKI Cares – Karen & Al Bender
Director of Education – Heather Weiser
Fundraising – (available)
HaKol Editor – Peg Lehman
CKI Music Director – Stewart Levin
House Manager – Brock Friedman
Keruv – (available)
Kitchen – (available)
Membership – Dick Johnson
Publicity – Brad Burker
Roth Scholarship – Maureen Manning
Tikkun Olam – (available)
Vision – (available)
Youth Activities – (available)

To contact, call CKI at 847-741-5656



Tuesday, December 7th @ 9:00 am

On Zoom only. Check your email or contact
Rabbi Margaret: rabbi@ckielgin.org
for more information.

President's Message cont.

Aliyah by chanting Hebrew, not reading the transliteration, and of course there is my "grounding" in the Community Garden. My wish for all of you is to find your special connection and for CKI to be a joyful and meaningful experience. Please come and find/renew your dedication to CKI and your Judaism. As always, stay vigilant, safe, healthy and joyful, please be kind and stay warm (the boiler is working again).

—Robin Coyne



CKI Office Hours

The CKI building is now open, and
Peg is back in the office.

If you need to reach the office, please call
847-741-5656 during office hours, which are:

**Monday—Friday:
10:30 AM – 3:30 PM**

IMPORTANT REMINDER:

When writing a check, please make it
payable to

Congregation Kneseth Israel, NOT CKI as
the bank does not recognize CKI. Please
note in the memo line what
the money is for.

Thank you!

CKI Book Club Schedule 2021—2022

Date	Book	Author	Moderator	Time
September	No discussion			
October 19 (Tues.) Zoom	Hello Darkness My Old Friend	S. Greenberg	Deborah Arendt	10:30 am
November 16 (Tues.) Zoom	Florence Adler Swims Forever	R. Beanland	TBA	10:30 am
December 21 (Tues.) Zoom	The Light of Days	J. Batalion	Sue Johnson	10:30 am
January 18 (Tues.) Zoom	The Last Kings of Shanghai	J. Kaufman	Gareth Sitz	10:30 am
February 15 (Tues.) Zoom	The Adventures of the Peculiar Protocols	N. Meyer	Chuck Zimmerman	10:30 am
March 15 (Tues.) Zoom	Eternal	L. Scottoline	Judi Tepe	10:30 am
April 19 (Tues.) Zoom	The Lev Effect	S. Greene	Bob Protter	10:30 am
May 17 (Tues.) Zoom	The Nine	G. Strauss	Risa Cohen	10:30 am
June 21 (Tues.) Zoom	Sacred and Profane	F. Kellerman	Deborah Arendt	10:30 am
July 19 (Tues.) Zoom	Selection of new books			10:30 am

Generous Donations

GENERAL FUND

Donation

- Douglas Bakley

High Holiday Donation

- Albert & Sharon Goldberg

Raise the Roof Fund

- Chuck & Nancy Zimmerman

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Donation

- Rachel & Keenan Newby

In memory of Lucas Jacob Schwartz

- Vern & Judi Tepe

In honor of Rabbi's continuing & full recovery

- Ken & Gale Jacoby

CLARA WECHTER EDUCATION FUND

In honor of the birth of my grandson, Asher Vincent Inendino

- Jerry Niederman

In honor of Sandy Lindow for a speedy & complete recovery

- Ken & Gale Jacoby

SELTZER MUSIC FUND

In memory of Morton Niederman's Yahrzeit

- Jerry Niederman

Special Funds

The following funds are available to receive your generous donations:

- **Clara Wechter Education Fund** – Supports Torah School and Adult Ed
- **General Fund** – For multi-purpose use
- **Jerome & Lillian Roth Scholarship Fund** See the President.
- **Memorial Plaques** – \$300
- **CKI Youth Fund** – Supports programs for our synagogue youth
- **Prayer Book Fund** – Siddur is \$36; Chumash is \$60
- **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund** – Needs decided by Rabbi
- **Seltzer Music & Cultural Arts Endowment Fund** – Jewish cultural enrichment programs
- **Simon C. & Ruth L. Kaplan Torah Fund** Repair of Torah scrolls
- **Sisterhood** – Supports women's group's various projects
- **Blossom Wohl Flower Fund** – Pulpit flowers
- **Sisterhood Vision Fund** – Large-type Siddur is \$50
- **Tree of Life** – Leaf \$125; Rock \$1,250
- **Major Gifts** – \$5,000 and up. See the President.

**Parashat HaShavu'a:
Weekly Torah Portions**

Dec 4 30 Kislev	<i>Parshat Mikketz— Day 6 Chanukah Rosh Chodesh Tevet Read from 3 Torahs Genesis: 41:1 - 44:17 aliyah 1-6 Numbers: 28: 9-15 aliyah 7 Numbers: 7:42-47 Maftir aliyah</i>
Dec 11 7 Tevet	<i>Parshat Vayiggash —Genesis 44:18- 47:27</i>
Dec 18 14 Tevet	<i>Parshat Vayhi— Last Genesis reading Genesis 47:28- 50:26</i>
Dec 25 21 Tevet	<i>Parshat Shemot— Exodus: 1:1-6:1</i>

December Birthdays

Benjamin Rasmussen	Dec 1
Abigail Friedman	Dec 2
Norman Agins	Dec 3
Randi Miller	Dec 3
Rachel Bloomberg	Dec 7
Megan Placko	Dec 8
Graciela-Gonzalez Greenman	Dec 8
Aaron Schwartz	Dec 11
Joelle Rockwood	Dec 12
Benjamin Schillmoeller	Dec 17
Ken Jacoby	Dec 18
Robin Seigle	Dec 19
David Greenberg	Dec 20
Sandi Perlman	Dec 20
Lee Berger	Dec 21
Michael Finger	Dec 23
Joel Levy	Dec 23
Leonard Winner	Dec 25
Deborah Arendt	Dec 29
David Barrash	Dec 29
Nikki Berger	Dec 30

December Anniversaries

Earl & Deborah Sternfeld	Dec 16
Charles & Nancy Zimmerman	Dec. 17
Nancy & Harvey Braus	Dec 18
Michael & Debby Poper	Dec 21



CKI Men's Club enjoys bowling outing at Glo-Bowl

On Sunday, November 14th, a group of CKI men had an enjoyable afternoon together bowling at Glo-Bowl in Marengo, which is owned by our CKI members, Sandy and Gene Lindow.

Sincere thanks as well to the Lindows for hosting our event and also picking up the tab for our entire group. A great time was had by all!



Only Hadassah Doctors Dared; Now My Mother Has Started Living Again

The back pain was so severe that Lilyah Altschul, 73, was almost paralyzed. Several Israeli hospitals refused to operate, but doctors at Hadassah Hospital Ein Kerem performed a complicated surgery under only local anesthesia. Senior

spine surgeon Dr. Josh Schroeder restored her mobility in what daughter Diana described as “a miracle.” Diana noted,

“July 29 is now such an important day for us—the day my mother started living again.”

For years, Diana accompanied her mom as she visited many consultants. “One doctor after another gave up on her,” she reported. The pain was constant and intolerable. No number of pills would help.

“At this point we met Dr. Schroeder,” Diana recalls. “He wasn’t afraid and wouldn’t give up. He was so convinced in his ability and that of the surgical team at Hadassah. He infected us with that assuredness. We felt that we’d finally found a doctor who saw her, listened and understood her

distress. We opted for him to operate with our eyes wide open.”

Altschul had a serious infection that brought her to the brink of paralysis, according to Dr. Schroeder. “She arrived in a prone position and was only able to move her head,” he says. “There was incredible pressure on the nerve sac, which surrounds the spinal column. It could have caused permanent paralysis.”

Altschul had numerous health problems, so Dr. Schroeder determined putting her under full anesthesia was extremely risky. He and his colleagues have perfected a technique for operating while patients are still awake but under local anesthesia and sedation.

The orthopedic surgery was carried out by Dr. Schroeder alongside Brain Catheterization Unit Director Prof. Jose Cohen and consultant anesthesiologist Dr. Rawhi Hashem. The team used advanced equipment provided by USAID/ASHA. While Dr. Schroeder placed a series of rods and screws in Altschul’s back, Prof. Cohen monitored her condition with some of the world’s most advanced

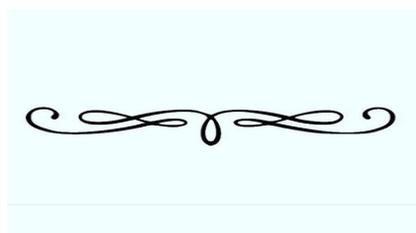
technologies in the field.

Altschul’s children, Diana and Alexander, remained by her side as she took her first post-surgery steps.

“The operation was successful,” says Diana. “There’s improvement day by day. She’s already walking properly on a treadmill. She’s smiling again after all that suffering. “All I have left to say is a huge thank you to Dr. Schroeder, Prof. Cohen, their staffs and the orthopedics team who looked after mom following the surgery. My mother, Alexander and I will always remember you.”



Dr. Josh Schroeder & Lilyah Altschul



Yahrzeits

We recall with loving memory those whose yahrzeits are commemorated during the coming weeks, and those whose names are read in the Synagogue at Friday evening and Saturday morning Shabbat services during the month of December. *It is appropriate for members of their families to be present when these names are read.*

Name	Actual Date Observed	Date of Service	Name	Actual Date Observed	Date of Service
Bessie Wiener	Dec 4	Dec 3 & 4	Sarah Meyer*	Dec 14	Dec 10 & 11
Beverly Fishman	Dec 5	Dec 3 & 4	Mary Dreyer	Dec 15	Dec 10 & 11
Leo Neuman	Dec 5	Dec 3 & 4	Jean Eagels	Dec 15	Dec 10 & 11
Nancy Mariasis Ashcraft*	Dec 6	Dec 3 & 4	Alvin Hass	Dec 15	Dec 10 & 11
Ann Jacoby	Dec 6	Dec 3 & 4	Erika Lindow*	Dec 15	Dec 10 & 11
Celia Raskin	Dec 7	Dec 3 & 4	Michael Glaser	Dec 16	Dec 10 & 11
Renee Wielk	Dec 7	Dec 3 & 4	Hyman Miller	Dec 16	Dec 10 & 11
Albert Goldenberg	Dec 8	Dec 3 & 4	Sarah Cohen*	Dec 17	Dec 10 & 11
Rhea Herzberg*	Dec 8	Dec 3 & 4	Harold Durchslag	Dec 17	Dec 10 & 11
Earl Lesser*	Dec 8	Dec 3 & 4	Frances Ruth Hayden*	Dec 17	Dec 10 & 11
Herman Salnick	Dec 8	Dec 3 & 4	Louis Meyer*	Dec 17	Dec 10 & 11
Idelle Sherman*	Dec 8	Dec 3 & 4	Leo Neuman	Dec 17	Dec 10 & 11
Sylvia Leavitt	Dec 9	Dec 3 & 4	Celia Flowers Reback*	Dec 17	Dec 10 & 11
Rachel Polis*	Dec 9	Dec 3 & 4	Julie Venetianer	Dec 17	Dec 10 & 11
Jerome Silverberg	Dec 9	Dec 3 & 4	Anna Gilbert*	Dec 19	Dec 17 & 18
Nathan Breen*	Dec 10	Dec 3 & 4	Lillian Salk Stein*	Dec 19	Dec 17 & 18
Lillian Grosken	Dec 10	Dec 3 & 4	Maurice Davis	Dec 20	Dec 17 & 18
Beatrice Wohl Shatzkin*	Dec 10	Dec 3 & 4	Martin Fischer*	Dec 20	Dec 17 & 18
Ida Pearl Goldstein*	Dec 11	Dec 10 & 11	Henry Grosken	Dec 20	Dec 17 & 18
Joyce Kofkin	Dec 11	Dec 10 & 11	Irene Kramer*	Dec 20	Dec 17 & 18
Sylvia Glaser	Dec 12	Dec 10 & 11	Manfred Leo Lindow*	Dec 20	Dec 17 & 18
Sarah Hymovitz*	Dec 12	Dec 10 & 11	Argo Parrello	Dec 20	Dec 17 & 18
Laura Zemel	Dec 12	Dec 10 & 11	Henry Norman Eisner*	Dec 21	Dec 17 & 18
Foster Poper*	Dec 13	Dec 10 & 11	Louis M. Brenner*	Dec 22	Dec 17 & 18

December Yahrzeits continued on Page 8 ~

There are two dates listed above on our *yahrzeit* list. The **first** is the **actual date of the yahrzeit, and memorial candles should be lit on the preceding evening.** The **second** are the **days of the services at which the name is read.** An asterisk after a name indicates that a plaque is affixed to the Memorial Tablet.

Kindle the Shabbat Candles		and HAVDALAH Candles	
Fri Dec 3	4:03 pm	Sat. Dec 4	5:12 pm
Fri Dec 10	4:03 pm	Sat Dec 11	5:12 pm
Fri Dec 17	4:04 pm	Sat Dec 18	5:13 pm
Fri Dec 24	4:08 pm	Sat Dec 25	5:17 pm
Fri Dec 31	4:13 pm	Sat Jan 1	5:22 pm

NOTE: Shabbat ends 50 minutes after candle lighting time on Saturday night

Yahrzeits Continued

We recall with loving memory those whose yahrzeits are commemorated during the coming weeks, and those whose names are read in the Synagogue at Friday evening and Saturday morning Shabbat services during the month of December. It is appropriate for members of their families to be present when these names are read.

Name	Actual Date Observed	Date of Service	Name	Actual Date Observed	Date of Service
Dorothy Cohen	Dec 22	Dec 17 & 18	Sarah Miller	Dec 31	Dec 24 & 25
Vivian Atkins	Dec 24	Dec 17 & 18	Jean Fischer Shenker*	Dec 31	Dec 24 & 25
Melvin Garland	Dec 24	Dec 17 & 18	Gerald London	Jan 2, 2022	Dec 31 & Jan. 1
Robert Allen	Dec 25	Dec 24 & 25	Sarah Sweet	Jan 2, 2022	Dec 31 & Jan. 1
Sylvia Coady*	Dec 25	Dec 24 & 25	Marlene Gordon	Jan 3, 2022	Dec 31 & Jan. 1
Harry Richberg	Dec 25	Dec 24 & 25	Roy Rifken*	Jan 3, 2022	Dec 31 & Jan. 1
Florence Shankman	Dec 25	Dec 24 & 25	Florence Schwartz	Jan 4, 2022	Dec 31 & Jan. 1
Bertha Beler*	Dec 26	Dec 24 & 25	Yetta Bear*	Jan 5, 2022	Dec 31 & Jan. 1
Miriam W. Cohen*	Dec 26	Dec 24 & 25	Maurice Bender	Jan 5, 2022	Dec 31 & Jan. 1
Mollie Kleinman	Dec 26	Dec 24 & 25	Michelle Diane Fosco*	Jan 5, 2022	Dec 31 & Jan. 1
James Ryon	Dec 26	Dec 24 & 25	Lizzie Richberg	Jan 5, 2022	Dec 31 & Jan. 1
Harry Seigle*	Dec 27	Dec 24 & 25	Helen Sugar	Jan 5, 2022	Dec 31 & Jan. 1
Harry Sweet	Dec 27	Dec 24 & 25	Ruth Kaplan*	Jan 6, 2022	Dec 31 & Jan. 1
Irving Durchslag*	Dec 28	Dec 24 & 25	Sibyl Kaplan Moses*	Jan 6, 2022	Dec 31 & Jan. 1
Donald Frisch	Dec 28	Dec 24 & 25	George Neumark	Jan 6, 2022	Dec 31 & Jan. 1
Louis Levy	Dec 28	Dec 24 & 25	Joseph Ruben	Jan 6, 2022	Dec 31 & Jan. 1
Betsy Lynn Zeman*	Dec 28	Dec 24 & 25	Jane Barrow*	Jan 7, 2022	Dec 31 & Jan. 1
David Zemel	Dec 28	Dec 24 & 25	Lillian Davis	Jan 7, 2022	Dec 31 & Jan. 1
Barnett Kadin	Dec 29	Dec 24 & 25	Rochelle Fey*	Jan 7, 2022	Dec 31 & Jan. 1
Molly Levine*	Dec 29	Dec 24 & 25	Peretz Mehr	Jan 7, 2022	Dec 31 & Jan. 1
Albert Smilgoff	Dec 29	Dec 24 & 25	Sol Rolnitzky	Jan 7, 2022	Dec 31 & Jan. 1
Ellen Goodman	Dec 30	Dec 24 & 25	Wendy Karen Slutsky	Jan 7, 2022	Dec 31 & Jan. 1
Elizabeth Chesler	Dec 31	Dec 24 & 25			



Ritually Speaking

HANUKKAH

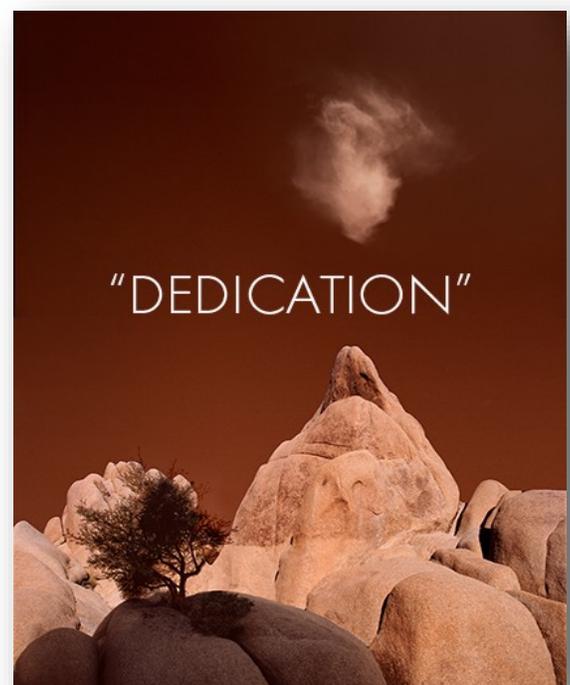
I have always enjoyed this holiday: a few blessings, then food, games, family time, and of course time to enjoy the light from the menorah. As I get older, I become more sentimental and introspective. The definition of Hanukkah translates “to dedicate or dedication.” Simply explained—this minor holiday represents the culmination of a 3-year war where the Maccabees triumphed over King Antiochus and his army. Regaining control of the temple and then being able to rededicate it to the service of God.

I find that the word dedication is with us every day of our lives, not just during Hanukkah. I am sure that we share some of the same concepts to which we are dedicated. Family (parents, children, spouses), friends, community, values, service of God, Tikkun Olam, and many more. How and to what we dedicate ourselves, and at what level, will vary in order to reach our desired outcome. Just a few months ago, we participated in the High Holy Days with introspection—tears—joy—frustration. Can we make a difference? Can we change our ways and be better individuals? Will we be inscribed and sealed in the Book of Life for another year? Can our action plans make a difference? To be cognizant of these concepts during services, I believe, is easy; but to incorporate them into our everyday living takes intention, or in this case, **DEDICATION**. Can we be with God at all times and at the level that causes our hearts to overflow? I know I can't, but I hope my actions/interactions lead me to be a better person.

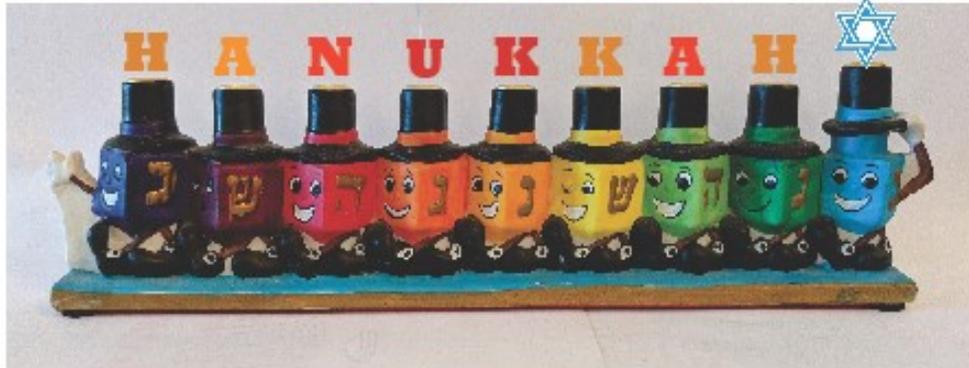
These past 2 years of COVID have challenged us all in so many ways. Our values have been shaken, family and friends divided, and some lost whether by irreconcilable differences or through passing on to Olam Habah, the world to come. So my question for you to ponder while you enjoy the holiday: to what do you want to rededicate yourself?

I have to share when and how this article was written. I had a hard time creating this month's article and pondered so many possibilities. Then, it flowed out of me in just a few minutes while waiting to see Sandy as she was in recovery from surgery and watching the heartbreak of a mom trying to have her teenage children gain access to say farewell to their grandfather. A true reality dedication-check of what really matters.

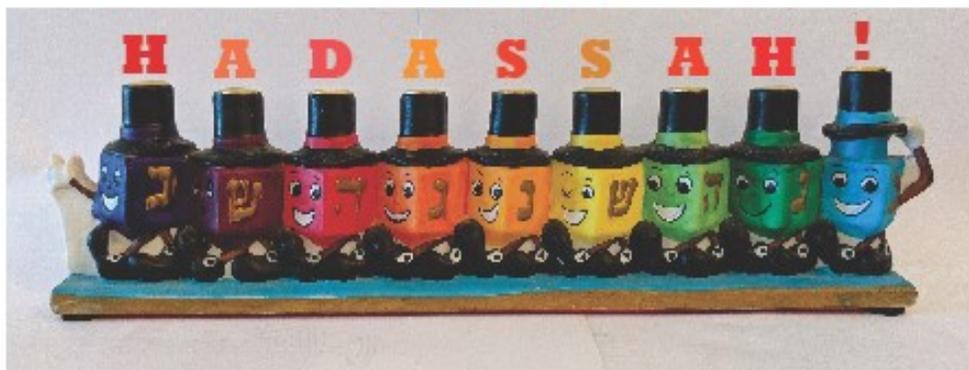
Gene Lindow
CKI Ritual Chair
cki.ritual@gmail.com



CELEBRATE



WITH



Come one, come all to the **VIRTUAL Hanukkah Party**, sponsored by the **Elgin Hadassah Associates!** Bring your menorahs for a special lighting of the 8th night of Hanukkah!

Join us in song and be entertained by **Earl Sternfeld** with his "Soon to be Favorite" Hanukkah parody of "The Letter!"

Bring your dreidels and latkes while special guest, **Lauren Berger**, speaks to us about Annual Giving.

Sunday, December 5, 2021 at 4 pm CT

Join us for a tour of Hadassah Hospitals in Ein Kerem and Mt. Scopus, with **David Barashi**, Hadassah Hospital Medical Clown, as our guide.

NO FEE TO ATTEND, but registration is required!

To register please email Earl.Sternfeld@Outlook.com with "Hanukkah Zoom" in the subject line.

You will receive the Zoom link via email at a later date.

Hope you can join us!

Happy 
Hanukkah

From the Torah School

Shalom-

In Pirkei Avot, Chapter 1, verse 15, it states, "Shammai used to say: make your [study of the] Torah a fixed practice; speak little, but do much; and receive all men with a pleasant countenance."

What does this mean? How do we take this and apply it to our lives right now?

When Hebrew Coaching students are just beginning their journey, I ask them to set aside 10 minutes a day to study. That's all I ask, 10 minutes a day to study. But do it every day! Can you find 10 minutes a day to study something new?

Schedule the time so you can do it. Really commit to it.

On Sunday, December 5, we will be having our Family J-Rocks. Super Science Sunday: Hanukkah Edition. We will be making a family Hanukkiah using electronics, tasting things (oil), studying light and prisms, and so much more!

We will be on winter break on December 19, December 26, and January 2. We will see you back on January 9.

Shammai said, "Speak little. Do much." I interpret that to mean don't talk about doing it, do it!

B' Shalom, ~Heather



Lila's Class



Sam's Class



Earl's Class

Chanukah Blessings

Candle Blessings:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק
נֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה.

Baruch ata Adonai, eloheinu melech ha'olam
asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav, vitzvanu lahadlik
ner shel Chanukah.

Blessed are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe
Who sanctifies us with commandments and commands us
to light the lights of Chanukah

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לְאֲבוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם
בְּזֶמַן הַזֶּה.

Baruch ata Adonai, eloheinu melech ha'olam
sh'asa nisim l'avotenu bayamim ha'hem,
bazman hazeh.

Blessed are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe
Who made miracles for our ancestors
In those days at this time.

1st night:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
שֶׁהַחַיָּנוּ, וְקִיָּמָנוּ, וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזֶמַן הַזֶּה.

Baruch ata Adonai, eloheinu melech ha'olam
sh'hechianu v'ki'imanu v'higianu lazman hazeh.

Blessed are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe
Who has granted us life, sustained us and
Enabled us to reach this time.



Rosh Hashanah 5782— **A Time to Heal**

What a year! Thank you for allowing me to talk to you on this holy day about something so essential in our lives, a time for healing. There are probably many ways that we all think about the healing that we want and need. Reconciliation between family members, community members, recovery or rehabilitation from a physical or mental illness, or even our own individual or spiritual healing. Even though as Jews we have this very special and holy holiday devoted to atonement and healing, it is important that we continue this journey throughout the day and our lives to improve on, mend, mitigate, lessen our spiritual burden, and better ourselves.

As a psychiatrist specializing in consultation-liaison services and electroconvulsive therapy, I see patients, people at some of their lowest points in their lives. They are struggling and suffering from an unbearable burden. I wish more than anything that I could help them quickly and completely. But the truth is, despite how far medications and biological treatments have come in the last couple decades for psychiatry, we cannot heal with these treatments alone. It's a long road and even when psychiatric symptoms do lessen, the aftermath of the experience is often devastating. Patients must mend relationships that suffered, somehow find a way to return to work or school, many have significant consequences that they must deal with while often still in recovery. It's a hard, uphill road to travel and often takes a long time, consistent effort and support from their village. Despite how far we have come and what we know about the brain-mind connection, neurocircuitry and neurotransmitters; there are still people that believe mental illness is a moral failing or weakness. This couldn't be further from the truth. Those who have dealt with mental illness are some of the toughest and strongest people I know.

What we saw during this pandemic, I had never experienced in my career as a physician. I had never been consulted on so many healthcare providers, nurses, physicians, social workers, many others who have had to deal with an unbelievable amount of stress and pain. A neurologist colleague of mine said he had never seen so many late-stage stroke symptoms in patients. He said, just about everyone knows signs of a stroke, you come in to the emergency room right away. People were waiting it out at home for weeks due to anxiety about contracting COVID. Tele-health providers were in tears after seeing some of the conditions of their patients' homes while providing remote medical care. Patients would have to hide in the bathroom to get any privacy for their tele-health appointment. A family of 12 living in a 2 bedroom apartment now having to quarantine together. But it wasn't all terrible. We saw communities and families come together, helping each other with generous donations and volunteering. We saw people helping people, adopting animals from shelters, serving their community. We saw creativity and ingenuity arise in the workplace. Look at CKI, doing services over Zoom! We quickly recognized that survival was dependent on flexibility.

I often find myself explaining to trainees that it really doesn't matter how much medical knowledge you have, what matters the most is your ability to apply that knowledge while connecting with the human being in front of you. You see with Google and webMD, we are all doctors these days. (Just kidding, never Google your symptoms, just talk to a trusted professional). It's important that we do think of ourselves as healers. I have heard so many stories of someone contemplating suicide, but they got a phone call from a loved one or had made a connection with someone at work. You see our stories, our personal narratives can be healing. Sharing them with others and being vulnerable with those close to you, putting down your armor where you have to appear strong, perfect, always put together, smart and diligent and just being a real human being who may have insecurities, doubts, weaknesses, flaws, but also awareness and plans for improvement; that's where the growth and healing begins. By sharing our own, you may inspire someone else to share theirs. You see it's wasted energy to try to be perfect all the time. Most of us know that it's not the real or whole story anyway. If we can be authentic and honest with each other, we can promote true healing, free of judgement or contingencies.

What I learned about healing, I didn't learn in medical school, residency or practice. I learned from being a wife and a mother. Sometimes, we just need to get on the floor to get to each others eye level, apologize for what mistakes we have made and make a plan to move forward together. It's by our togetherness that we can bring each other up. Because the truth is, we still have not located the ID, Ego, and Superego in the brain, and we still don't have all the neurological information about our consciousness. But we do know that the human connection is what will get us through this pandemic, Yom Kippur and beyond. G'mar chatima tovah!

— Biana Kotliyar Castro

ACTS OF CHESED



Thank you to those who have pitched in to make CKI warm and welcoming (and safe). Many times, things are done very quietly and anonymously, so if you did something that isn't acknowledged, know that your deed was greatly appreciated, we just weren't aware that you did it –

Gene & Geoff Lindow – Removing the air conditioners, changing light bulbs, working on tech and many other things that keep CKI WARM and well maintained.

Dick Johnson – Hanging Risa's new rock on our Tree of Life. A major help!

Ken Jacoby – Jumpstarting the Men's Club. Camaraderie is essential!

Barb Razowsky, Sue Johnson, Tina & Ed Wolf – Setting up and running the Hanukkah Bazaar. It was a great event and wouldn't have happened without you!

Elijah Morgan & Jacob Bromet – Helping out with Torah School. Your help is not only invaluable to the teachers and students, but you are fantastic role models!

Nikki Berger and Nancy Zimmerman – Baking for a special Shabbat. Yumm...

Charlie Neuman – Hauling the old printer and air conditioner to the recycling center and in general helping CKI to run smoothly!

Jerry Niederman – Taking out the Community Garden for its winter rest. We look forward to its return in the spring!

Peg Lehman & Rabbi Margaret – Putting in extra time and effort to work with the HVAC contractor to get the boiler repaired. Your efforts definitely are warming!

Rabbi Margaret —Putting yummy baked goods in goodie bags . A special Shabbat treat for all!

CKI Gift Shop

Thank you to everyone who shopped at the annual Chanukah Bazaar; because of you, the bazaar was a success! We truly appreciate your decision to support CKI Sisterhood in our fundraising efforts. Please note that in turn, you have also supported CKI, as the profits earned go to the synagogue. We hope you found everything you wanted and needed.

Also, we would like to send special thank yous to Liza Bachrach for setting up our online shopping experience, Peg for her continuous support in a variety of ways, and Sandi Phelan for taking care of all our financials.

On behalf of us and our families, have a happy and healthy Chanukah! ~Sue, Barb, & Tina

WANTED!

School parents who would like to help with the gift shop while your child/children are in school!

Don't want to do it every Sunday? No problem! Have a friend join you and take turns, or just commit to whatever works for you (such as the 1st Sunday of every month).

It is an easy and great way of getting to know other people, raising money for CKI, and providing a service to our community. Besides, you will get to see all the new merchandise first!! If interested, simply email Tina at ewolf59@comcast.net

Easy as 1, 2, 3 ... 4 or How to Make Donations to CKI



Technology and the Pandemic have changed how many of us shop and handle finances. So, this is a good time to examine the various ways available to donate money to Congregation Kneseth Israel.

Here are 4 ways to donate money to CKI (in no particular order):

Bill Pay (through your bank’s online app/website) to “pay a bill online.” In this case, your bank creates a physical check and mails it to CKI. Your bank notifies you if the check isn’t cashed. (Maybe it was lost in the mail.)

Zelle to transfer funds electronically. *This is allowed **only** through your bank app.* You cannot send money directly from the Zelle app on your phone to CKI.

PayPal to send money to Congregation Kneseth Israel through a credit card. Note that fees apply.

Paper Check, payable to Congregation Kneseth Israel.

Method	Advantages	Disadvantages
Bill Pay	Easy to set up. No fees.	It can take up to a week for the funds to arrive at CKI.
Zelle	Funds are available quickly at CKI, often within minutes. No fees.	None.
PayPal	You can use a credit card.	CKI is charged processing fees.
Paper check.	Easy to do.	You need to deliver/mail it to CKI.

Just a few tips on how to set these up.

Bill Pay – go to your bank website. Add the biller **Congregation Kneseth Israel**, 330 Division Street, Elgin, IL 60120.

Zelle – On your bank app, set **cki@ckielgin.org** (i.e. the CKI email address) as the recipient of your funds. Do **not** set it to the phone number.

PayPal – Best done through the [CKI website](#) or by [clicking here](#). Because CKI is charged fees for accepting payments through PayPal, we appreciate it when you pay the fee. Be sure to check the box to do this!

Paper Check – order checks through your bank. Make check payable to **Congregation Kneseth Israel, not CKI**.

A note about PayPal fees. CKI is happy to offer this payment option. But when you pay this way, PayPal reduces the funds given to CKI. For example, if you pay \$2300 for full membership dues, PayPal takes over \$47 in fees. However, if you check the box to pick up the processing fees, CKI receives the full \$2300, plus you have a donation amount of \$2347. Win-win!

One more point. The fee for each payment is based on a small dollar amount plus a percentage of the payment. So, if you make 4 donations of \$18 each at one time, the PayPal fee is about \$4. However, if you group the 4 donations into one for \$72, the PayPal fee is about \$2. You can still specify all the reasons for your donation.

These little fees add up. Donors are now taking on less and less of the PayPal fees, so CKI must pay them. We don’t deduct this amount from your donation summary. However, we may need to consider it in the future. **Please consider adding the PayPal fees to your donations.**

Choose the payment method that you prefer. No matter how you pay, **we appreciate your support of Congregation Kneseth Israel**. Thank you!

If you have any questions about these payment methods, please feel free to contact either Charlie Newman (chasneuman@sbcglobal.net or 314-497-8688) or Sandi Phelan (phelansan@gmail.com or 630-947-2157

Register.Swab.Commit.

18-40 yrs. old Complete Registration Swab Cheeks TEXT Confirm Commitment

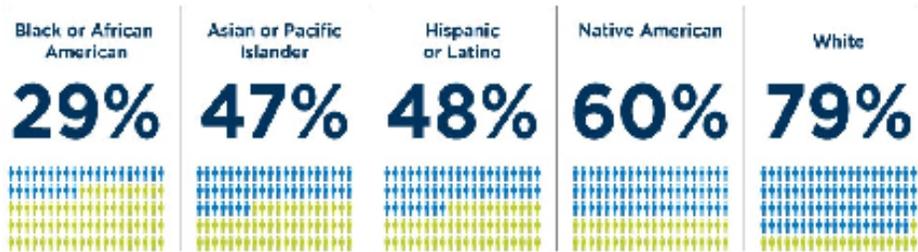
EVERY 3 MINUTES SOMEONE IS DIAGNOSED WITH BLOOD CANCER



Most patients don't have a fully matched donor in their family - and that's when they turn to Be The Match. If your DNA/tissue type twin gets sick and needs your help, you will be there to offer them hope and a CURE. We especially need donors who are fully committed and willing to follow through when called. If you are from a diverse background, please consider joining. Patients are most likely to match someone of their ancestry.

Patients need a genetically matched blood stem cell donor to save their life.

ODDS OF FINDING A MATCH BASED ON ETHNIC BACKGROUND



Source: IT Location Department, February 2021

Help us up the odds
Indicate any and all ancestry in your family history

YOU COULD BE THE CURE



SCAN ME

to join visit:

<https://my.bethematch.org/UnityonDivision>

text
UnityOnDivision
to
61474
 TEXT ME

**CONGREGATION
KNESETH ISRAEL**
330 Division Street
Elgin, Illinois
60120-5685

Building Community
Embracing Diversity
Meaningful Observance
Lifelong Learning

Return Service Requested



December 2021

Shabbat Services: Fridays @ 5:30 PM, Saturdays @ 9:30 AM

Dec 1	Adult Intermediate Hebrew Zoom	5:30 PM	Dec 15	Ha Kol Submissions Due	
Dec 2	Torah Study Zoom	4:00 PM		Adult Intermediate Hebrew Zoom	5:30 PM
Dec 3	Hanukkah Here & Everywhere Shabbat Service	5:30 PM	Dec 16	Torah Study Zoom	4:00 PM
Dec 4	Shabbat Service registered in person & Zoom	9:30 AM	Dec 17	Shabbat Zimrah Service register in person/ Zoom	5:30 PM
Dec 5	Torah School	9:00 AM	Dec 18	Shabbat Service registered in person & Zoom	9:30 AM
	Hadassah Family Hanukkah Party Zoom	4:00 PM	Dec 21	CKI Book Club Zoom	10:30 AM
Dec 7	Java & Jews Zoom	9:00 AM	Dec 22	Adult Intermediate Hebrew Zoom	5:30 PM
Dec 8	Adult Intermediate Hebrew Zoom	5:30 PM	Dec 23	Torah Study Zoom	4:00 PM
Dec 9	Torah Study Zoom	4:00 PM	Dec 24	Office Closed Christmas Observance	
Dec 10	Shabbat Service registered in person & Zoom	5:30 PM		Shabbat Service registered in person & Zoom	5:30 PM
Dec 11	Shabbat Service registered in person & Zoom	9:30 AM	Dec 25	Shabbat Service registered in person & Zoom	9:30 AM
Dec 12	Torah School	9:00 AM	Dec 31	Office Closed New Year's Observance	
Dec 14	CKI Board Meeting Zoom	7:00 PM		Shabbat Service registered in person & Zoom	5:30pm