

Dicles

קולות כ.ק. עדת ישראל



Middletown, Connecticut
January 2026 tevet/shevat 5786



Rabbi Nelly Altenburger

Dear Friends,

January invites us inward. The days are short, the cold keeps us close to home, and the calendar offers us a rare gift: no major holidays demanding our attention, no festivals pulling us outward into celebration. It's just us and the quiet.

To this Brazilian, January's cold still feels like an imposition rather than an invitation. My body wants warmth, wants to be outside, wants the kind of easy movement that summer is known for. But perhaps that resistance is part of the lesson: sometimes we find the sacred not despite our discomfort, but through it. The cold drives us inward whether we're ready or not.

Rabbi Arthur Green teaches that "God not only resides behind the text as guarantor of its infinite elasticity but

(Rabbi Continued on page 5)

Valuing of Our Interfaith Families

Adam Finkelstein
President



This month, with winter holidays approaching for multiple religions, I wanted to take some time to recognize and thank our interfaith families, or more specifically the spouses and partners who are not Jewish from those families.

This is, admittedly, personal to me, since both my mother and my wife are not Jewish. But like so many other partners from interfaith relationships, they are extremely supportive. Marilyn may even spend more time in the building each week than I do, volunteering with the religious school.

But this isn't just about my family. It's about many of our families. Actually, it may be about most of our families. A recent community survey from the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford found that roughly 70% of non-orthodox Jews in the greater Hartford area, who are married, are in interfaith marriages.

In other words, these families aren't just part of our community, they are vital to it.

I can tell you that here at Adath Israel, as we've seen those numbers grow first-hand, so too has our acceptance of those families. Suffice it to say we weren't always as welcoming as we are now, but we've thankfully come a long way.

But acceptance isn't the goal. That doesn't suffice. It's

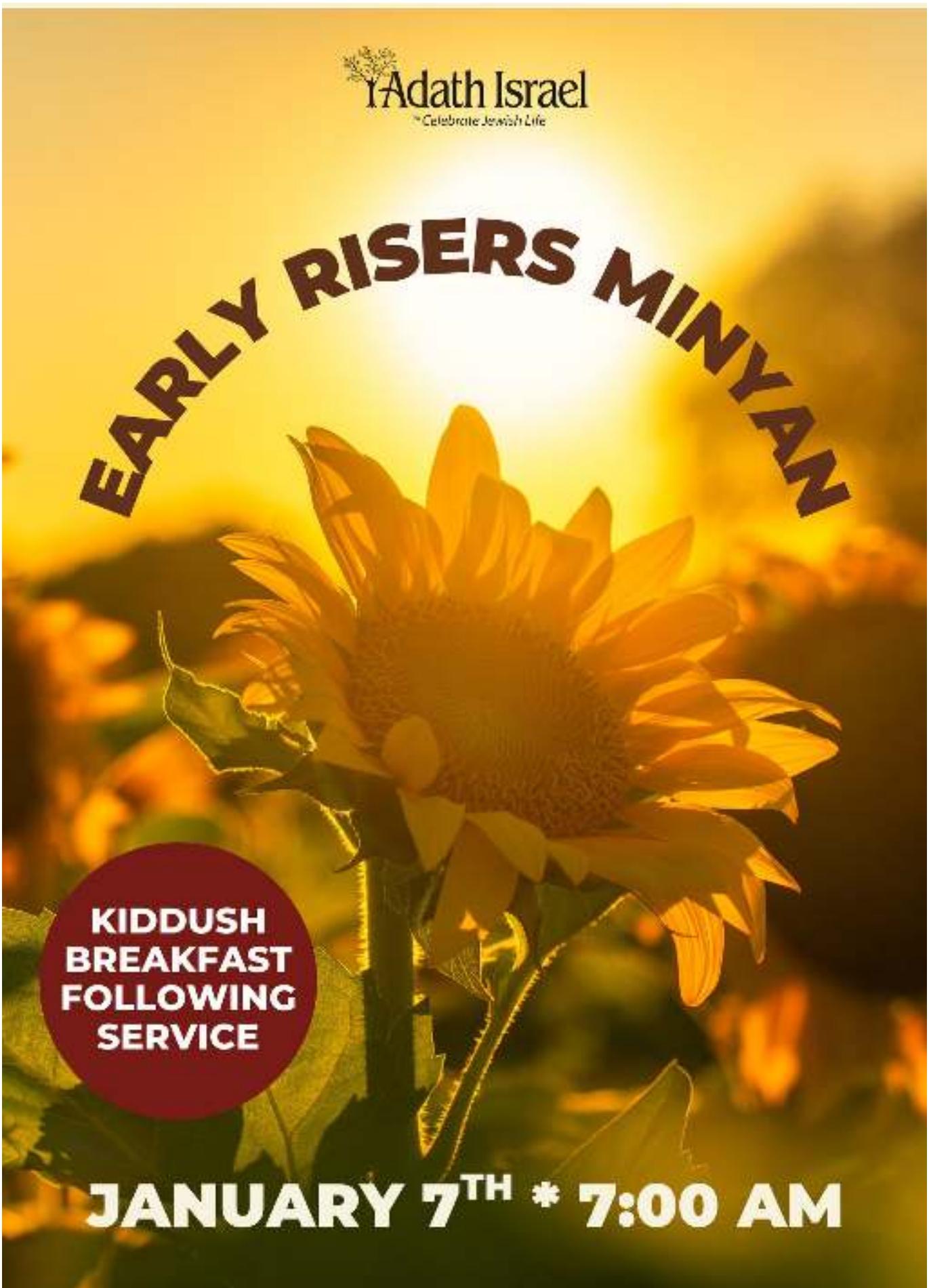
(President Continued on page 3)

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!

If you or anyone you know is ill or in need of support, please contact our Bikur Cholim (Compassionate Care) Committee. Contact Michelle Grossman, rickandmichelle360@gmail.com; Rabbi Nelly, rabbi@adathisraelct.org; or Joanna at the office.



EARLY RISERS MINYAN

A large sunflower is the central focus, shown in profile facing left. It has a dark brown stem and several large, serrated leaves. The background is a soft-focus field of many other sunflowers, all bathed in a warm, golden light that suggests sunrise or sunset.

**KIDDUSH
BREAKFAST
FOLLOWING
SERVICE**

JANUARY 7TH * 7:00 AM

(President Continued from page 1)

inclusion and complete appreciation. Supporting a partner, and especially raising children, who don't practice the same faith as you, can be challenging. That's especially true in times like these, when antisemitism is running rampant, and you know your children are walking down a path that will inevitably lead to prejudice.

So, how do we support those families?

We thank those partners. Not just with our words, but with our actions. We greet them with warmth and appreciation whenever we see them in our building or community and we don't stand for less from anyone else.

We are consistent with our messaging. Quite frankly, their sacrifice isn't a one-time choice, it's a repeated one, so too then must our appreciation for it be.

We are considerate of their holidays. It should be without saying we can wish people a "Merry Christmas" just as non-Jews can say "Happy Chanukah" to us.

We invite them, and others, to join in ours...or we help them build their own. I can tell you from personal experience that one of the gestures that made my mom feel most appreciated years ago was when one of our congregants (Reva Paley) brought over a kugel on Passover and helped her learn how to make her own matzo ball soup.

We don't ask them to choose. The reality is that lots of families celebrate holidays from various religions in one way or another. It is not for any of us to judge. To the contrary, maybe it is incumbent on us to support those who have supported us.

So, to all of our interfaith families, and specifically those who are not Jewish, please know that you are a valued part of our community, that we appreciate what you do for us, and that, whatever holiday you are celebrating this month, we hope it is a peaceful and joyous one.



CELEBRATE JEWISH LIFE THROUGH PRAYER

All services are in-person & via Zoom

Morning Minyan

Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM

Monthly Early Risers Minyan, 7:00 AM

Sunday, 9:00 AM

Zoom Info

Meeting ID: 863 5646 9422 Passcode: 679552

Shabbat Services

Friday, 7:00 PM

Monthly Pray-Eat-Sing Services, 6:00 PM

Saturday, 9:30 AM

Zoom Info

Meeting ID: 815 6727 3870 Passcode: 474612

All prayer services at Adath Israel are public events, open to the community as a whole. Members, guests, and other religious seekers who desire the warmth of Jewish prayer and the fellowship of being together are always welcome.



Tikkun Olam/Fundraiser

Redeemable Bottle & Can Collection

Save time, aggravation, and the planet while providing funds for important causes by donating your cleaned redeemable bottles & cans.

January-March funds raised will benefit the Religious School.

Please drop your **CLEANED** cans & bottles off in the designated bucket in front of the Synagogue office.

PRAY EAT SING

Janu-Dairy

DATE

Friday, January 9th

TIME

6:00 PM

RSVP BY

January 2nd

to office@adathisraelct.org

An udder-ly delicious
dinner featuring a
chocolate fountain dessert

FREE TO MEMBERS!

OTHERS: \$10 PER PERSON, \$18 PER FAMILY

(Rabbi Continued from page 1)

also dwells within us, in the innermost chambers of our endless creativity." This is January's invitation—to turn toward those innermost chambers, to notice what lives there when we're not rushing from one obligation to the next.

I see this truth come alive in our online Torah study sessions. Our wonderful group gathers from the warmth of our separate homes, and together we create something remarkable—spirited conversations, spiritual debates, the kind of wrestling with text and meaning that reveals the divine presence Green speaks of. Our creativity, our questions, our struggles to understand—these aren't separate from the sacred work of interpretation. They are the sacred work. We, together with God, bring life to Torah and Torah to life.

If you'd like to join us - Wednesday mornings from 10:30 to noon or Thursday evenings from 6 to 7:30 pm - you're more than welcome. You don't need to be a member, you don't even need to be Jewish. Just contact the office and ask to be added to the mailing list to receive the PDF of our study sources. Come struggle with us, question with us, bring your own creativity to these ancient texts.

This partnership requires something of us, though. Green writes: "Look around you. Look within. Open your eyes. Find God's presence in each and every creature and in the unified, transforming vision of all that is. That's what it means to belong to Israel, the people who struggle with God."

To struggle with God, to become Israel, means to keep our eyes open. Not just to the grand moments, but to the ordinary ones. To the neighbor we pass on the street, to the bare trees against the winter sky, to the stirrings of our own hearts in these darker months, to the faces on our screens as we study together. The divine presence isn't waiting for us only in the sanctuary or in the pages of our holiest texts. It's in each creature, in each moment, in the unified vision of all that is.

January asks us: What do you see when you look? What do you find when you look within?

This is our inheritance as Jews - not certainties, but the sacred struggle. Not answers handed down, but the creative partnership of bringing life to ancient words and finding God's presence in the everyday. In the quiet of this season, even as this Brazilian shivers and longs for warmth, we have space to notice both. To look around. To look within. To open our eyes.

Warmly,

Rabbi Nelly



Artwork Coming to Adath Israel! Jan. 12-Feb. 12

The Grassroots Jewish Women of CT, a nonpartisan group formed after October 7th, created this artwork for the Under One Roof exhibit at the Mandel JCC of Greater Hartford. The canvas is rich with symbolism, with each component expressing our true values and goals. Despite the devastating challenges and losses that Israel has faced, its national flower, the red anemone or poppy blooms every spring, expressing its vibrance and beauty for all to see. The interwoven olive branches, a universal symbol of peace, represent the connections that continue to grow through our immense strength. The Hebrew names integrated throughout the art honor the memory of those lost since October 7th, and the yellow ribbon frame signifies our hope that all the hostages return home. Finally, the background chosen represents the colorful tiles that adorn Jerusalem, with each tile being slightly different, as they were handcrafted by over 200 women within our group to fit their vision.

Though we are diverse in culture, political perspectives, and national origins, we are united by common values and goals. We hope you will take this opportunity to share in our mission of resilience, hope and support of Israel. Our heartwarming 36"x 46" canvas is available for display during the upcoming year, and we look forward to helping you reserve it for your community.

Adath Israel is proud to display a powerful work of art. Look for it in the small sanctuary any time the building is open. Many thanks to Miryam Welborne and Ethan Warner-Crane for making this happen.

Member Resources

The following resources are available to members:

- 2025-26 Member Directory
- 2025-26 Life of the Congregation & Synagogue Leadership
- By-Laws of the Congregation
- Chevra Kadisha Rules & Regulations

Please contact the office to receive your copy.

FREE PROGRAM!

Scan QR Code for More Info

January - 2026

Mazel Tots



Community Event!

Classes

Havdalah Service
Saturday 1/24
5:30pm

- ▶ 1/4 - NO CLASS
- ▶ 1/11 - Sanctuary Scavenger Hunt
- ▶ 1/18 - NO CLASS
- ▶ 1/25 - Tikkun Olam Twister





Religious School News

Honor Edmonds
Director

Shalom! The winter months are a beautiful time for rest and renewal. As someone who prioritizes being cozy, these

months bring me a lot of joy. There are few things better than curling up with a blanket and a good book. On the flip side, this time of year can be difficult because we lose a lot of something else that I really enjoy, sunlight! Because the days are short, many of our social gathering opportunities begin after the sun sets. It can be challenging to bring yourself to leave a warm space and face the cold, but if you are brave enough to enter the darkness, I think you'll find a whole lot of light on the other side. In wintertime, our light is our community.

Have you ever left a gathering with your steps light and a warm, fuzzy feeling in your chest? That is the winter version of sunlight! We might not always feel like driving an hour to drop a friend at the airport, or schlepping to shul on a frozen winter morning for Religious School, or hosting a big dinner in our home. But we are rewarded for our bravery! Turns out, that

hour-long car ride gave you and your friend more quality time than you'd had in months. That morning at Religious School? It opened your student's mind to new ideas about Judaism, Hebrew, and the history of our people. And that dinner you hosted turned into a weekly tradition rotating through your friend's homes. There are SO many beautiful things about the winter! So, if you find yourself having a hard time rationalizing leaving your house, consider how much connection and care is waiting for you at your destination. There are still events worth stepping outside for!

Speaking of which, there are so many things happening at Adath Israel this season! Join us for:

Pray Eat Sing on Friday January 9th at 6:00pm

An October 7th memorial art piece on display from January 15-February 15

Havdalah & Trivia Night on Saturday, January 24th at 5:30pm

Tu B'Shevat L'chol Adat on February 1st at 9:30am

and a meaningful talk by a Holocaust survivor Heidi Palmer on February 8th at 11:00am.

Our Library Is Nearly Full!

Thanks to everyone's generosity our library is **nearly full.**

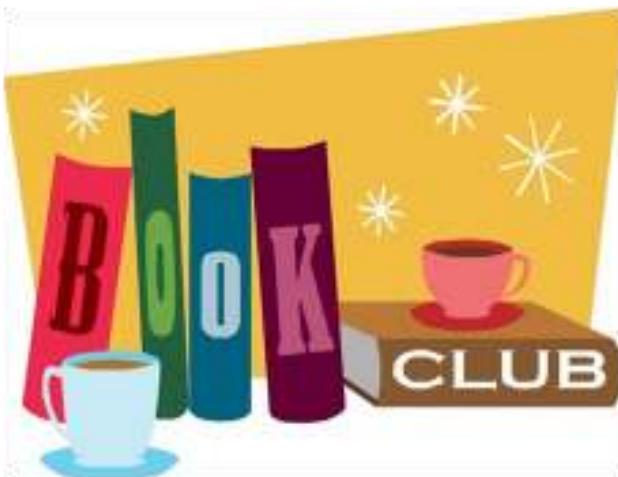
If you have a donation, please contact Eileen Daling at edaling21@att.net or 860-346-0667.





★ **JANUARY 12** ★
at Perk on Main

Join us for breakfast following morning minyan.
Please note: While the great conversation is free,
participants are responsible for what they order.



The Cure for Winter Blues? More Books!!

Happy 2026! Let's look ahead and continue to be excited about reading in the new year. The cure for the winter doldrums is reading!

Many thanks to all who participated in last month's discussion of Sayed Kashua's *Second Person Singular*. What an interesting story of two men, a successful Israeli Arab attorney and a social worker-turned artist, whose lives intersect under the most curious circumstances! Kashua is described as a master of subtle nuance in dealing with both Jewish and Arab society. What a timely book to read!

Stay tuned to find out about the next book selections!

As you know, the Book Club meetings are held at The Nester Center at 7 p.m. as well as via Zoom. We use a hybrid model so that more people can participate. All are welcome to attend.

Meeting ID: 886 4652 0065

Passcode: 196174

Happy Reading!

ROBERTA

Roberta Levine Glass, rjlevine610@gmail.com, 302-593-7581 (cell)



Daniel & Judith Merida
Tod & Melissa Olczak



Phinnaeus Dreyfus
Rabbi Nelly Altenburger
Matthew Feldman
Jack Weiss
Josephine Dreyfus
Alan Firestone
Nona Horn
Alex Margolis
Steven Weiss
Jack Wilkins
Dylan Zaplin
Ethel Peltz
Judith Merida
Gloria Sones
Jim Lawrence
Sherry Aiudi
Rachelle Harris
Jaime Bruno
Marjorie Perry
Ella Evans
Susan Dickes
Sherry Young
Suzanne Goldberg

Did we leave someone off the list? Please call the office, and let us make it right.

HONOR THOSE SPECIAL EVENTS IN YOUR LIFE WITH A PLAQUE ON THE “SIMCHA” MENORAH

Whether celebrating a wedding, birth, b'nei mitzvah, “special” birthday, or anniversary, share your joy with our synagogue community – **FOREVER**. Only \$136.00 – A gift that endures

Please contact the office to order.



Ariella

Altenburger's BAT MITZVAH PROJECT

For my Bat Mitzvah Project, I chose the Israel Guide Dog Center for the Blind, an organization that combines my love of animals with my desire to help people, while supporting a project located in Israel. My uncle Ken Altenburger z'l was blind and had many dogs that helped him through his life. This project is important to me because it keeps the memory of my uncle alive and also combines one of my big passions, dogs.



Donate here



**Bat Mitzvah
D'var Torah of
Ariella
Altenburger
Offered on
December 6,
2025**

Welcome and Shabbat Shalom. Thank you all for coming to share this special day with me.

My parashah is Vayishlach. You could say Vayishlach is basically the original WWE episode of the Torah. Jacob — or Yaakov — is on his way home, stressed out because his twin brother, Esau, is coming to meet him after twenty years. That might sound nice, like a family reunion, except the last time they saw each other, Esau wanted to kill him. And now Esau is coming... with 400 men. That's not a family reunion — that's a battle scene.

So Jacob prepares. He sends gifts, splits his camp, and prays to God. He's anxious, unsure if this meeting will bring forgiveness or disaster. And then that night, something mysterious happens — Jacob wrestles with a man, or maybe an angel, until dawn. Can you imagine what that looked like? Two guys rolling around in the desert all night. If that happened today, it would definitely end up on YouTube with the title "Angel vs. Patriarch: Who Will Win?"

In the end, Jacob wins — kind of. He's limping, but he's also transformed. The angel blesses him and gives him a new name: Yisrael, meaning "one who struggles with God and prevails."

But here's the part that matters most — what happens after the wrestling. The next morning, Jacob meets Esau. After all that fear and planning, something amazing happens: Esau runs to him, embraces him, and they weep together. No battle, no revenge — just two brothers finding peace after years of anger and pain.

To me, that's the real heart of Vayishlach: reconciliation. It's not just about wrestling; it's about what comes after — the courage to forgive, to let go, and to start again.

We all wrestle with things in our own lives. Maybe not angels in the desert, but definitely alarm clocks, bad WiFi, or people who take 18 items into the "10 items or less" line. And sometimes, the hardest wrestling matches are with ourselves — our fears, doubts, and pride. Like Jacob, we struggle through the night, and hopefully, by morning, we've grown just a little bit stronger, a little bit wiser.

But the story reminds us that the struggle isn't just about winning. It's about finding peace — with others and within ourselves. It's about saying, "I'm sorry," or "I

forgive you," or even just, "Let's start over." That's not weakness — that's strength.

Being Jewish doesn't mean we never struggle. It means we keep wrestling — with faith, with courage, with forgiveness — and we still show up the next morning to try again.

So, whether you're wrestling with your alarm clock, your homework, or your own heart, remember Jacob. Hold on, stay in the fight, and when the morning comes, you'll walk away stronger — even if you're limping to the coffee machine.

Becoming a Bat Mitzvah is a special moment in my life — a time when I begin to take responsibility for my own actions and choices as a Jewish person. When Yaakov receives a new name, Yisrael, that moment marks a change in his life — a transformation that shows his strength, growth, and new sense of purpose. I feel like my Bat Mitzvah is a little bit like that. I may not be getting a new name, but I am stepping into a new identity — one where I take ownership of my Jewish values, my learning, and the kind of person I want to be.

Just like Yaakov's new name connected him more deeply to his faith and to the future of the Jewish people, my Bat Mitzvah connects me more deeply to my community, my heritage, and my own journey. It reminds me that being Jewish means striving, learning, and growing — just like Yaakov did. This day celebrates not just what I've accomplished, but who I am becoming.

For my Bat Mitzvah project, I chose to raise money for guide dogs for the blind in Israel. This cause is especially close to my heart because my uncle was blind, and I've seen how much independence and confidence guide dogs can give to people who can't see. Through this project, I've learned that doing a mitzvah isn't just about helping others — it's also about showing love, compassion, and making a real difference in someone's life.

My Bat Mitzvah reminds me that being Jewish means learning, caring, and striving to be my best self. This moment connects me more deeply to my family, my community, and the generations before me. It's both a celebration of who I am and a promise of who I want to become.

I want to thank all of you for being here. Thank you to my mom and dad for helping me through this journey, to my siblings for always being there for me, to my teachers for their guidance and patience, and to my friends at school and at Hebrew school for making every moment more fun. Thank you to Joanna for helping us organize this event, and last but not least, thank you to Sandra Beckman for helping me make and edit my speech.



FRIENDS OF YIDDISH

5 (used to join sentences) *but*
worked hard, yet he failed.

yew *nc, nu* (the wood)
 green leaves and red
 hedges.

YHA *abbreviation (the)*
 Association.

Yid-dish *nu* a language
 from Eastern Europe.

yield¹ *nc, nu* (formal) an amount produced



NEW

*Zoom Group that meets monthly on Sunday
 mornings*

10:30am-12:00pm



Upcoming Meeting:

• January 11

Zoom info:

Meeting ID: 870 1194 6659

Passcode: 446254

What We Offer

- Hear Yiddish stories & music
- Learn words & phrases
- Schmooze
- Prior Yiddish knowledge helpful but not required!



JOIN US!

Contact Larry Rosenberg
 at lrosenberg@transoncol.com or 475-559-8407



IT'S NEWS**MAZAL TOV!**

Ariella Altenburger on being called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah.

Rabbi Marshal Press on being honored by the Rabbinical Assembly on the 50th anniversary of his ordination.



Ruth & Mike Sigal on becoming grandparents!: Eloise Margot Kolodny was welcomed into the world on Dec. 12.

**TODAH RABAH****Acts of Kindness****Donating Chanukah candles:**

Sheila W. Johnson and the Haddam Clothing Closet

Meals & Shopping: Phil Saxe, Harriet, Aaron, and Marcey Thiela,

Picking up food at the Crown: Fred Zierler, Rabbi Nelly

Proofreading: Naomi Kamins, Phil Saxe

Helping with mailings: Anita Hennessey

Returning bottles: Eileen & Mike Daling

Bringing our cranberry sauce donations to the Middletown Community Thanksgiving Project:

Michael Daling

Helping While Julio Was on Vacation:

Leah Adler, Phil Saxe, Aaron Thiela, Elliott Altenburger, Honor Edmands



"Where there is no food there is no Torah"

Sunday Meals Sponsors and Helpers:

Ben Eisner, Suzanne Goldberg, Patty Netherland, Andy Bauer,

Aidan Bauer, and Sam Bauer

Early Risers Minyan Sponsors & Helpers:

Scott Levy

Bagel Break:

Marilyn & Adam Finkelstein, Sherry & Brandon Aiudi

Sponsoring an Oneg or Kiddush:**IN APPRECIATION OF**

The support of everyone in the morning minyan by Robin & Marty Levine

IN MEMORY OF

Herbert Bichunsky by Betsy & Donald Cosenza
Fredrick Adler by Leah Adler & Stu Epstein
David Nemeth by Jean & Marc Nemeth

**SPEEDY RECOVERY**

We'd like to wish a "Refua Shleima" to the following: Katrina Axelrod, Bob Baskin, Phyllis Frydenberg, Suzanne Goldberg, Paula Goldstein, Shari Lynn Kochman, Jean Lawrence, Robin Levine, David Schwarz, Stephen Shapiro, Mark Stein

IN MEMORIAM

Our heartfelt condolences to the family of
Vida Wagner z"l who came to her eternal rest on November 28 (8 Kislev).



IF YOU OR A LOVED ONE IS IN THE HOSPITAL OR OTHER HEALTH CARE FACILITY

Patient privacy laws prohibit the hospitals & other healthcare facilities from notifying Adath Israel if you are admitted unless you specifically request it. Upon admission, please list Judaism as your religion and request spiritual care or a visit from the chaplain. The hospital chaplain will contact the synagogue. If you do not wish to go through the hospital, please contact the synagogue directly if you or a loved one would like a pastoral visit.



HAVDALAH & TRIVIA NIGHT

January 24th at 5:30pm



 YAdath Israel
Celebrate Jewish Life

ADATH ISRAEL DEDICATED FUNDS*"Those Who Give Lend to the Lord"***ADATH ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND (SOPHIE &**

JULIUS BARKER, EVELYN & ABRAHAM
GROSSMAN, SARAH ZIETZ PIERSON, RABBI
ALBERT & ROSALYN TROY, SYLVIA GROSS
WASSERMAN, MAX CHEIKIN, BERNIE SEIDON,
AND JEAN STERN ARON SCHOLARSHIPS)

Provides scholarships to children of Adath Israel members attending an accredited college, university or school of higher learning

DR. ARTHUR & GLADYS WEISS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Provides scholarships to children of Adath Israel members attending Jewish camp, Jewish content special programs, and trips to Israel

BEIT-PALEY FUND

Supports Torah repair

CHEVRA KADISHA

Supports maintenance and enhancement of the cemetery

ARTHUR & EDYTHE DIRECTOR FAMILY FUND

Supports music in the ritual, educational, and cultural gatherings at Adath Israel

ETERNAL LIGHT FUND

Supports the general operation of Adath Israel

HOWARD FELDMAN BEAUTIFICATION FUND

Supports the beautification of our synagogue building and grounds and the Nester Center

LYNN BENNETT RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Supports the upgrade of our religious school

IN HONOR OF

Aaron Thiela celebrating his 40th Birthday by

Ruth & Mike Sigal

Naomi & Richard Kamins

Phil Saxe

MAXINE THUMIM CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Provides scholarships to children of Adath Israel members attending Jewish camp or travelling to Israel

MICHAEL FASSLER FUND

Supports early childhood education at Adath Israel

MUSEUM FUND

Supports purchases and maintenance of Adath Israel's museum

The EIS Foundation

NATHAN OLSHIN SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE-FUND

Supports annual scholar-in-residence program

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Allows the rabbi to support individuals and causes in our community anonymously

IN HONOR OF

Stan Sadinsky's 90th Birthday by Edie Slossberg

SANFORD BEIT MINYAN FUND

Supports the creation and building of community over Kiddush

IN MEMORY OF

Lil Levine by Julie & Howard Levine

SYNAGOGUE FUND

Supports the general operation of Adath Israel
The EIS Foundation

IN MEMORY OF

Harriet Kabel by Harriet Fein-Deeton

YAHRTZEIT FUND

Supports the general operation of Adath Israel

Israel Grower by Liz Whittaker

Abraham Katz by Richard A. Katz

Daniel Kahn by Lee King

Philip Curkin by Herb Curkin

Edith Curkin by Herb Curkin

Pearl Dembowitz by Richard Neveloff

Pearl Searle by Josh Searle

Herbert Bichunsky by

Betsy & Donald Cosenza

Steven Bichunsky

Hyman Nathan Paul by Debby Paul Fuller

Ida Paul by Debby Paul Fuller

Alan Katten by Deborah Katten

Paul Handler by Leslie Handler-Stern

Meyer Goldberg by Heidi Geiges & Beth Katz

Jacob Poliner by Robert Poliner

Morris Poliner by Robert Poliner

Michael Pashalinsky by Robert Poliner

Seymour Ronner by Carolann Schwartz

Bertha Palmer by Michael Palmer

Bertha David by Sara Paley

Yetta Gerstenblatt by Ines Gerstenblatt

Arthur Limon by Abby & Gene Cerotti

Gary Limon by Abby & Gene Cerotti

Doris & Irving Parmett by Nancy Parmett Messinger

Lillian Keller by Harriet Deeton

Benita Egelman Ide by Heather Zavod

Abe Bishins by Gloria Pannone

Esther Panich by Carolann Schwartz

Sophie Barker by Michael Barker

Beatrice S. Sadowsky by Natalie & Lenny Cheerman

Israel Experience Travel Scholarship Program

A Program of the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Hartford

Attention Greater Hartford area Jewish high school-aged students:
Are you interested in traveling to Israel?

Apply today for one of several scholarships, each valued up to \$6,000!

Who is eligible?

All Greater Hartford area Jewish high school-aged students currently in grades 9, 10, and 11

Program requirements include:

- Priority given to immersion programs lasting from 4 weeks to 1 semester
- Participation in a pre- and post-educational program
- Participation in 10 community service hours within the Greater Hartford Jewish community
- Financial information is not required; however, priority will be given to students with a demonstrated financial need and who have never traveled to Israel

Application Deadline: January 30, 2026



Visit the Grants section of the website at www.jcfhartford.org to learn more, read the FAQs and complete the application.

Yahrtzeit Funds Continued from page 15)

Sue Hutensky by

Bill & Barbara Hutensky
Sandra & Paul Beckman

Mike Eisner by Paula Eisner

Jerry Kosofsky by David Kosofsky

William Z. Good by Michael Good

Frances Becker by Andrew Becker

Esther Ben-Dov by Ruth Borsuk

Maurice Lerner by Diane Blum

Esther Rosenberg by Larry Rosenberg

Fanya Kislyuk by Raisa Filler

Yitzchak Filler by Yakov Filler

Mike Eisner by the Eisner Family

Marty Fields by Harriet Deeton

Carolyn R. Reed by Bobette Reed Kahn

Martha Zwelling by Virginia Zwelling

Dorothy Seaman, Elmer Seaman, and David Seaman by

Nancy Thornton

Irwin D. Mittelman by Sharon Mittelman Murphy

Anne Lief Willis by Roberta & Marc Glass

Herbert Sperling by Michael Sperling

Rose Sperling by Michael Sperling

Murray Schutz by Michael Sperling

5786 Annual Giving Campaign

We are incredibly grateful to our members and friends who have participated this year's Annual Giving Campaign. Their support promotes the vitality of Adath Israel, allowing us to improve our facilities and enhance our cultural, educational, and spiritual offerings.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Michelle & Rick Grossman

Hinda Niemeyer

Deborah Katten

Arlene Pressman

Corinne & Michael Brodie

Carolann Schwartz

Marge & Stan Sadinsky

Andy Becker

Larry Rosenberg

Gertrude Steele

Raisa & Yakov Filler

Ruth & Sherwin Borsuk

Natalie & Lenny Cheerman

Hacnosas Orchim Jewish Society of Meriden

Barbara & Robert Sequenzia

Barbara & Steven Weiss

Risa & Fred Zierler

**thank
you!**

EXPRESS MINYAN

EVERY WEDNESDAY 8:00AM*

WHEN YOU WANT TO DAVEN
BUT ARE SHORT ON TIME
*EXCEPT WHEN A LONGER SERVICE
IS HALACHICALLY REQUIRED



Adath Israel

Kolot Issue	Deadline
February	01/12
March	02/02
April	03/09
May	04/13
June (Summer)	05/04

Office Hours

Monday: 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Tuesday: 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Wednesday: 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Thursday: 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Friday: 8 a.m.-Noon

The office is closed weekends, legal holidays, and Jewish holy days.

Tu B'Shevat L'chol Adat

for everyone!

**Sunday, February 1st
at 9:30 AM**

ADATH ISRAEL

EMERGENCY CANCELLATION & CLOSING PROCEDURES

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL:

**THE DIRECTOR WILL CONTACT STAFF & STUDENTS' FAMILIES DIRECTLY &
POST IT ON OUR WEBSITE.**

ALL OTHER CANCELLATIONS & CLOSINGS:

CHECK TV CHANNEL WFSB (EYEWITNESS 3) OR WWW.WFSB.COM.

SHARE THE JOY WITH A SPONSORED ONEG OR KIDDUSH

Share a family simcha, honor a friend or relative, or remember a loved one by sponsoring a Friday night Oneg Shabbat or a Shabbat Morning Kiddush. This is a delightful way to let others in our community celebrate a special occasion or share a memory with you. Our hope is that you would be present which will only add to the occasion.

The new Kiddush menus will be prepared and tastefully arranged by the Crown Supermarket in West Hartford. **Please call the synagogue office at 860-346-4709 at least a week in advance to make ordering and pick-up arrangements with the office administrator.**

The following is a breakdown of the new menus and costs for a Shabbat Morning Kiddush:

**Traditional Kiddush (up to 15 people): \$150
(16-30 people): \$225**

Bagels, Tuna salad, Egg salad, cuke, tomato, & onion platter, lox spread, plain & chive cream cheese, fruit salad, pastry, cold & hot drinks

**Deluxe Kiddush (up to 15 people): \$225
(16-30 people): \$350**

Bagels, tuna salad, egg salad, lox & sliced veggie platter, whitefish salad, plain & chive cream cheese, sesame noodles, kugel, fruit salad, pastry, cold & hot drinks

Friday Night Oneg Shabbat (15 people): \$54

Pretzels, fruit, M&M's, pastry, cold & hot drinks

Prices for both a Kiddush and/or an Oneg Shabbat will be adjusted if there is a larger group in attendance for special life cycle events (Bar/Bat Mitzvah, baby naming, or wedding, etc.).

Of course, you can always purchase the food, bring it to the synagogue and do the set up yourself while also following the synagogue's Kashrut guidelines. Some assistance may be available on the day of your Kiddush.



Holocaust Survivor Speaks: Escape From Vienna



Adath Israel

Congregation Adath Israel

Heidi Palmer speaks publicly for the first time about her experiences fleeing Europe and settling in America. Most of her family left Vienna for Sweden right before the Anschluss, and was able to get into the United States without papers in 1940. Her father crossed the Atlantic to join the family in the midst of World War II, a very perilous undertaking. The family settled in Larchmont, New York, where at the time there were no Jews. Many of her family members were killed in the Holocaust, and her grandmother was the only one of 11 siblings to survive.

Sunday, February 8th at 11am

at Congregation Adath Israel

Please RSVP to office@adathisraelct.org or 860-346-4709 by 2/1

Address provided upon RSVP

Adath Israel

TORAH STUDY



Weekly on Zoom:

Wednesdays
10:30am-12:00pm
Meeting ID: 837 9879 1910
Passcode: 963942

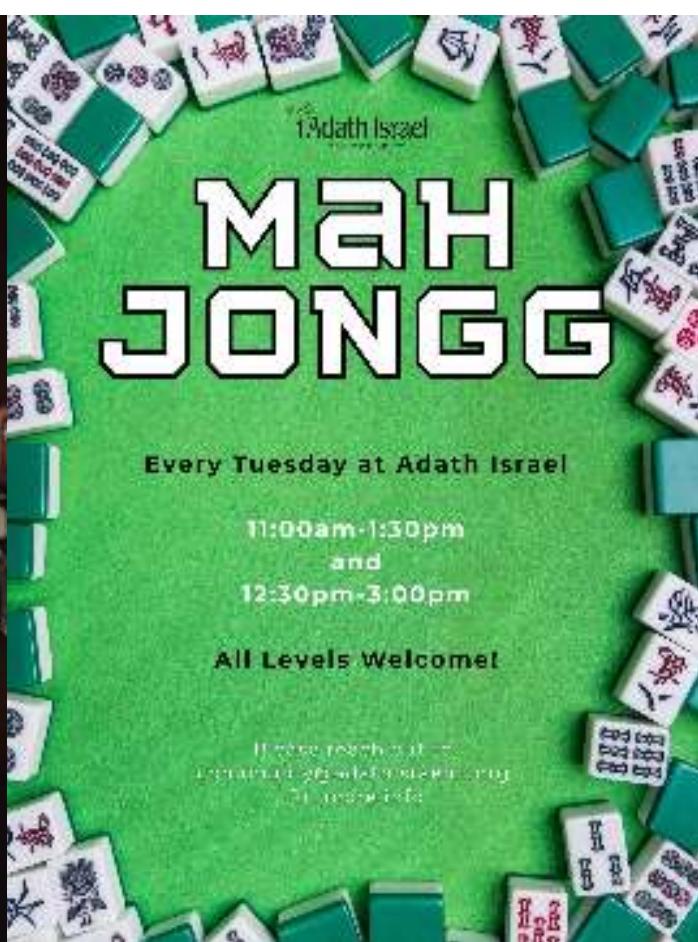
Thursdays
6:00-7:30pm
Meeting ID: 842 5337 5828
Passcode: 568266



With Rabbi Nelly!

Adath Israel

MAH JONGG



Every Tuesday at Adath Israel

11:00am-1:30pm
and
12:30pm-3:00pm

All Levels Welcome!

For more information contact: adathisrael2020@gmail.com or 202-369-4354

Student & Service Member Outreach Program



Is your child serving in the military or attending a post high school educational program?

Please share their address or change of address

They will receive care packages throughout the year, reminding them they are an important part of our Adath Israel family.

This program has been generously sponsored by Ally, Robert Polman.



Phishing Awareness: Avoid Taking the Bait

Every month or so it seems, scammers send out emails pretending to be from Rabbi Nelly or a member of the Board. Below are some tips on how to avoid getting snagged by one of these phishing expeditions.

Common warning signs of phishing include:

- Unfamiliar greeting or tone
- Unsolicited messages
- Grammar and spelling errors
- Sense of urgency
- Suspicious links or attachments
- Requests for personal information
- Inconsistencies in email addresses, links, etc.
- Unusual requests
- Alerts that you've won something

Please remember: **No one from Adath Israel will ever ask you for personal information or financial assistance via an email.** If you have *any* question, do not respond to the email. Contact the person it claims to be from via a trusted method. DO NOT use any email, website, or phone number included in the suspicious message. If it is spam, please report it to your email provider.



january 2026

tevet/shevat

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
*Candle Lighting Times for Middletown, CT				1 Office closed 8 am Minyan 6 pm Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom New Year's Day 12 tevet	2 RSVP Deadline for Pray-Eat-Sing Services & Dinner 8 am Minyan 7 pm Shabbat Evening Services *4:14 pm 13 tevet	3 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services Vayechi 14 tevet
4 No Religious School or Mazel Tots 9 am Minyan 15 tevet	5 8 am Minyan 16 tevet	6 8 am Minyan 11 am Mah Jongg 12:30 pm Mah Jongg 7 pm Al Anon & Alateen 17 tevet	7 7 am Early Risers Minyan 10:30 am Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 4 pm Religious School 18 tevet	8 8 am Minyan 6 pm Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 19 tevet	9 8 am Minyan 6 pm Pray-Eat-Sing Shabbat Evening Services & Dinner *4:21 pm 20 tevet	10 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services Shemot 21 tevet
11 9 am Minyan 9 am Religious School 10:30 am Mazel Tots 22 tevet	12 February Kolot Deadline 8 am Minyan Breakfast Bunch Following Minyan 23 tevet	13 8 am Minyan 11 am Mah Jongg 12:30 pm Mah Jongg 7 pm Al Anon & Alateen 24 tevet	14 8 am Express Minyan 10:30 am Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 4 pm Religious School 7 pm Board of Directors Meeting 25 tevet	15 8 am Minyan 6 pm Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 26 tevet	16 8 am Minyan 7 pm Shabbat Evening Services *4:28 pm 27 tevet	17 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services Vaera 28 tevet
18 No Religious School or Mazel Tots 9 am Minyan 29 tevet	19 8 am Minyan Martin Luther King Day Rosh Chodesh 1 shevat	20 8 am Minyan 11 am Mah Jongg 12:30 pm Mah Jongg 7 pm Al Anon & Alateen 2 shevat	21 8 am Express Minyan 10:30 am Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 4 pm Religious School 3 shevat	22 8 am Minyan 6 pm Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 4 shevat	23 8 am Minyan 7 pm Shabbat Evening Services *4:37 pm 5 shevat	24 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services 5:30 pm Havdalah & Trivia Night Bo 6 shevat
25 9 am Minyan 9 am Religious School 10:30 am Mazel Tots 12 pm Post B'nei Mitzvah Class 7 shevat	26 8 am Minyan 8 shevat	27 8 am Minyan 11 am Mah Jongg 12:30 pm Mah Jongg 7 pm Al Anon & Alateen 9 shevat	28 8 am Express Minyan 10:30 am Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 4 pm Religious School 10 shevat	29 8 am Minyan 6 pm Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 11 shevat	30 8 am Minyan 7 pm Shabbat Evening Services *4:46 pm 12 shevat	31 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services B'shalach Shabbat Shirah 13 shevat



february 2026

shevat/adar

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
1 Tu B'shevat L'chol Adat 9 am Minyan 9 am Religious School 10:30 am Mazel Tots 14 shevat	2 March Kolot Deadline 8 am Minyan Tu B'shevat 15 shevat	3 8 am Minyan 11 am Mah Jongg 12:30 pm Mah Jongg 7 pm Al Anon & Alateen 7 pm Book Club 16 shevat	4 7 am Early Risers Minyan 10:30 am Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 4 pm Religious School 17 shevat	5 8 am Minyan 6 pm Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 18 shevat	6 8 am Minyan 7 pm Shabbat Evening Services *4:54 pm (*Candle Lighting Time for Middletown, CT) 19 shevat	7 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services <i>Yitro</i> 20 shevat
8 9 am Minyan 9 am Religious School 10:30 am Mazel Tots 11 am Heidi Palmer Holocaust Survivor Talk 21 shevat	9 8 am Minyan Breakfast Bunch following services 22 shevat	10 8 am Minyan 11 am Mah Jongg 12:30 pm Mah Jongg 7 pm Al Anon & Alateen 23 shevat	11 8 am Express Minyan 10:30 am Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 4 pm Religious School 7 pm Board of Directors Meeting 24 shevat	12 8 am Minyan 6 pm Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 25 shevat	13 Pray-Eat-Sing RSVP Deadline 8 am Minyan 7 pm Shabbat Evening Services *5:03 pm 25 shevat	14 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services Cooper Bruno called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah <i>Mishpatim Shabbat Shekalim</i> 27 shevat
15 No Religious School or Mazel Tots 9 am Minyan 28 shevat	16 Office closed 8 am Minyan Presidents Day 29 shevat	17 8 am Minyan 11 am Mah Jongg 12:30 pm Mah Jongg 7 pm Al Anon & Alateen Rosh Chodesh 30 shevat	18 No Religious School 8 am Minyan 10:30 am Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom Rosh Chodesh 1 adar	19 8 am Minyan 6 pm Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 2 adar	20 8 am Minyan 6 pm Pray-Eat-Sing Shabbat Evening Services & Dinner *5:12 pm 3 adar	21 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services <i>Terumah</i> 4 adar
22 9 am Minyan 9 am Religious School 10:30 am Mazel Tots 12 pm Post B'Nei Mitzvah Class 5 adar	23 8 am Minyan 6 adar	24 8 am Minyan 11 am Mah Jongg 12:30 pm Mah Jongg 7 pm Al Anon & Alateen 7 adar	25 8 am Express Minyan 10:30 am Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 4 pm Religious School 8 adar	26 8 am Minyan 6 pm Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 9 adar	27 8 am Minyan 7 pm Shabbat Evening Services *5:20 pm 10 adar	28 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services <i>Tetzaveh Shabbat Zachor</i> 11 adar



Celebrate Jewish Life

P.O. Box 337

Middletown, CT 06457

Contact information

Phone: 860-346-4709

Email: office@adathisraelct.org

Website: www.adathisraelct.org