



Middletown, Connecticut
December 2024 cheshvan/kislev 5785



Smashing Idols

*Rabbi Nelly
Altenburger*

Dear Friends,

After the High Holidays, we reemerge in the cycle of reading the Torah. The main character for us is *Avraham Avinu*, or Abraham. His story is ultimately the story of the Jewish people and, one could argue, the story of the soul of any person who searches for the Transcendent, for a life of meaning and connection.

There is a great question posed: what was it about Avraham that made God talk to him? There are many answers to that, but my favorite is that there was nothing essentially different in him that was missing in anyone else. Avraham just said ‘yes’ to a general call that went through the entirety of creation.

(Rabbi Continued on page 5)

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.



Our Priorities

*Adam Finkelstein
President*

With the High Holidays now behind us, I wanted to reiterate what you can expect from the board for the rest of the year. As I discussed on Rosh Hashanah, we are hoping to focus the vast majority of our attention on three main areas that we deem most necessary for the continued growth of our congregation and community.

The first is the security and physical safety of anyone in our buildings. I have both written and talked quite a bit about this, and will have more to say in the coming months, but suffice it to say, we’ve made great strides and yet still have more to do.

The second area is our financial sustainability. Again, this is a topic that I’ve spoken very candidly about in the past. We are fortunate to have a very healthy endowment, but are dependent on the annual interest from those accounts in order to meet our operating expenses. The system works, and has enabled us to offer lower membership fees than any other synagogue in the state, but requires constant vigilance to maintain that delicate balance.

(President Continued on page 3)

Adath Israel
Celebrate Jewish Life

Book Club

December 3rd, 7pm

**ZOOM & In-Person
at the Nester Center**

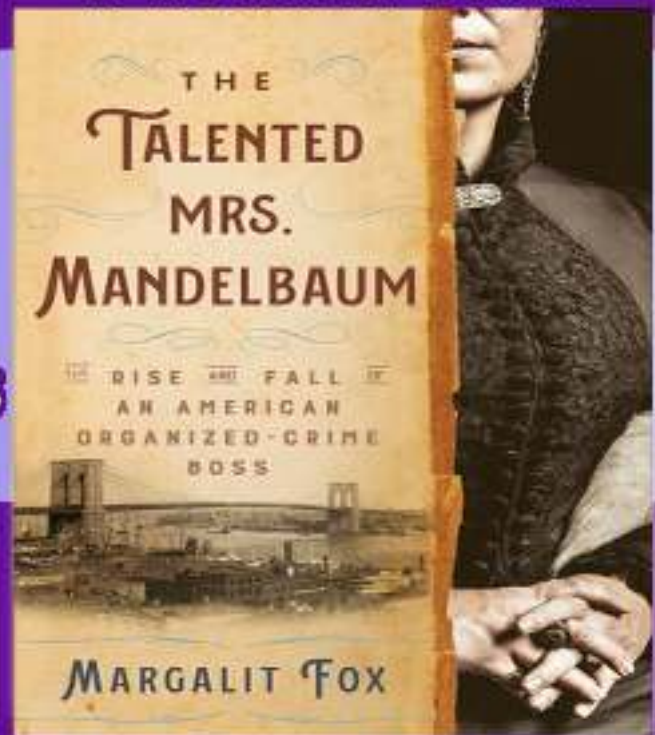
**"The Talented Mrs. Mendelbaum:
The Rise and fall of an American
Organized-Crime Boss"**

by Margalit Fox

Zoom Info

Meeting ID: 886 4652 0065

Passcode: 196174



**Adath Israel Book Club
is free and open to
anyone who desires
great discussions about
fascinating books
on Jewish topics**

**For more information, please contact
Roberta Glass: rjlevine610@gmail.com
302-593-7581**

**or Holly Simon: hfpsimon@icloud.com
860-395-8989**

(President Continued from page 1)

The third category is one I wanted to expand more on here and that's our commitment to maintaining and growing our membership. While we continue to entrust our services to the Rabbi and Ritual Committee, we also recognize that services aren't the only reason people are looking for a synagogue. Especially in times like these, with antisemitism at unprecedentedly high levels, I believe that most of our members are also looking for community. Some of the most vibrant Jewish organizations I've seen and observed over the years are that way because, while they may be inspired by our rituals, they continue to connect beyond those hours.

As a board, we've had ongoing discussions about how to address this, many of which were initiated by Carly during her presidency. While we continue to explore long-term solutions, hopefully you've noticed increased offerings dating back to last spring, ranging from Joel Chasnoff Live to a UConn basketball watch party, as well as more solemn topics like Adele Raemer and Kibbutz Nirim along with our most recent Jewish Life in Middletown celebration. There's more to come too including a Pampered Chef Party and an early New Year's celebration.

The point is that we believe we can be, and are, united by a wide variety of subjects, and we are exploring every opportunity possible to continue to build those bridges of community.

One final note, even in times like these – when our safety is paramount – we will maintain our open-door policies within our building and our events. So, if you have family, friends, or loved ones who are interested in coming to any service, program, or anything else we're doing, please know they are always welcome, whether they are Jewish or not.



High Holy Days Activities



Remembering loved ones at the Kever Avot Cemetery Service in the chapel at the Meriden Hebrew Cemetery.



Our High Holy Days Food Drive collected **786lbs** of food and personal care products for Amazing Grace Food Pantry.



The need doesn't end, so we don't. You can drop off items for Amazing Grace any time the building is open.



Sukkot Hay Ride & Apple Picking!

The Religious School enjoyed a great Sukkot program & apple picking at Nolan's Fruit Farm in Cheshire.



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 and legal and Jewish holidays.

EARLY RISERS MINYAN



Adath Israel

Celebrate Jewish Life

December 4th * 7:00am
Kiddush Breakfast Following Service

(Rabbi Continued from page 1)

God's call to Avraham to leave behind his land, birthplace, and father's house represents shedding layers of ego that a person needs to do in order to reach the state of searching for something. When we are content with how things are, where things stand, with whom we are, we don't search and we don't grow. This process is demonstrated in the story of Abraham breaking the idols in Terach's shop. The idols represent our being stuck to what is – in an idol's case, what is literally in front of your eyes. Abraham – or the soul – needs to break those idols once the soul remembers it is here in this world to grow.

That moment when the soul is reminded of its quest for the search for meaning, that moment when the soul feels the lack, that is the call of God. Yearning is central to the spiritual quest, the deep desire to transcend the known and step into the infinite. Of course, we can distract ourselves with all sorts of diversions to try to forget the yearning. But embracing the yearning is fundamental to finding meaning, to growing, and to becoming a better person.

Surprisingly, however, Avraham is never called a *tzadik*, a righteous person. There is only one character to whom the Torah applies that title: Noah. Not only the narrative voice in the story does so, but even a scene has God telling Noah directly that Noah and his family will be saved because he is the *tzadik*, the righteous person of all that generation. And it means something – there is a danger in the title. This is made explicit in the end of *parshat Noah*, an end so bad that we never ever teach it in Hebrew school. Noah ends up passed out drunk, being sexually abused. He never has another child, blinded by pain and anger to the point that he curses not the son that abused him, but his own grandson.

After that collapse of a righteous person, the Torah never calls anyone else a *tzadik* – this is because once you believe yourself to be righteous, you begin idol worshipping, you begin being stuck in your vision of yourself, in the contentment of not having to search anymore.

There is no “enlightenment”, as a status you arrive at, as a spiritual station from which you can't fall, in our tradition. This is because a human being can always

become more perfect, and Avraham's journey, with all its ups and downs, shows that to us.

May we continue to grow.

Warmly,

Rabbi Nelly

Jewish Life in Middletown

Adath Israel's 120th Anniversary



The Jewish Community Foundation, Jewish Historical Society of Greater Hartford, and Middlesex Historical Society partnered with us to present Jewish Life in Middletown in

celebration our 120th anniversary. It was an enlightening and engaging afternoon with presentations on the history of the Jewish community and Adath Israel from the 1800s to the present, a reminiscence of growing up in Middletown in the 1950s, and background on and a guided tour of our Adath Israel Museum. Also featured was the opportunity for attendees to record their own oral histories of Jewish life in Middletown. Those who recorded memories found the experience moving and powerful.

To keep the momentum going, we invite you to share your memories of Jewish life. We are interested in everything from your bubbe's kugel recipe, to your family's Chanukkah traditions, to what it was like to be Jewish in your high school. We are looking for items from all decades and aspects of life. Please send your submission to office@adathisraelct.org or Adath Israel, P.O. BOX 337, Middletown, CT 06457. This amazing event would not have happened without the hard work of committee chair, Ruth Borsuk, Rabbi Nelly Altenburger, Michelle Grossman, Sandra Beckman, and Richard Kamins. Todah Rabah.



 Adath Israel
Celebrate Jewish Life

PRAY EAT SING

DECEMBER 13TH
6:00 PM
RSVP: DECEMBER 6TH

Free to members; others \$10.00 per person or \$18/family

Religious School News

Anna Elfenbaum
Principal

Adath Israel Teens Lead Rosh Hashanah Family Services: Embracing Tradition and Leadership

This year, a small group of teens was invited to lead our Rosh Hashanah Family services. Over the course of a few weeks, Michaela Altenburger, Ethan Olczak and Maya Shapiro Rosado met with school principal, Anna Elfenbaum, to explore the richness of the Rosh Hashanah themes and prayers. They took their new learning, and with it they collaborated and created a prayer experience that included games, stories, song and conversation for our young children and their families. By sharing their insights and leading parts of the service, the trio infused the experience with new energy and perspective.

By engaging with the traditions of Rosh Hashanah in a meaningful way, our teens are not only deepening their connection to Jewish practice but also stepping into leadership roles within our synagogue community. Their participation in these sacred services helps ensure that our traditions continue to thrive and evolve for future generations.

Plans are already in the works for teen-led Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services next year!



Latkes and Literature

Countdown to Chanukkah and 2025! This Chanukkah, let's rededicate ourselves to reading. May the light of the menorah brighten our spirits and show us new ways to explore, connect and learn!

Many thanks to all who participated (in person and on Zoom) in our first *Books in the Sukkah* event on October 22nd. What a great evening under the stars discussing *The Matchmaker's Gift* by Lynda Cohen Loigman. Thanks to Eileen Daling for



Ten people attended in person with several more on line.

L to R: Roberta Glass, Jan Weiss, Eileen Daling, Sandra Beckman, Sonia Roberts, Ruth Sigal, Marion Irizarry. Not pictured: Loretta Rubin (taking the photo), Natalie Cheerman and Risa Zierler. We hope to make this an annual event.

recommending the book and leading the discussion.

The book selected for our December 3rd meeting was *The Talented Mrs. Mandelbaum: The Rise and Fall of an American Organized-Crime Boss* by Margaret Fox. This is the story of Marm Mandelbaum who lived in Gilded Age New York and ran America's biggest crime syndicate. She was a schemer and a dreamer who turned theft into a viable business. What an unforgettable character!

The Book Club meetings are held at The Nester Center at 7 p.m. as well as via Zoom. We are using a hybrid model to maximize attendance. Come join us!

Meeting ID: 886 4652 0065

Passcode: 196174

Happy 2025! Stay tuned for book selections in the new year!

Whatever your holidays may hold in store, we hope you are able to steal some quiet time for yourself where you can relax and lose yourself in a book! Happy Reading!

ROBERTA and HOLLY

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

Holly Simon, hfpsimon@icloud.com, 860-395-8989

Kolot Issue	Article Due Date
January	12/9
February	1/13
March	2/10
April	3/3
May	4/7
June (Summer)	5/5

CHANUKKAH GIFT FAIR



**9:30am-
12:30 pm**

**Sunday,
December 15th**

**Chanukkah will soon be here!
Don't miss this great opportunity to
get your holiday shopping done early!
New items in stock!**

www.adathisraelct.org



Stephen & Carol Shapiro
Mike & Ruth Sigal
Roberta & Marc Glass
Yakov & Raisa Filler



Ari Padawer
Marshall Levine
Nicole Weinreb
Jon Whittaker
Arlene Pressman
Bob Axelrod
Daniel Nunes
Max Weiss
Max Hibino
Judith Hirsch
Audrey Klein
Beatrix Fooy
Marilyn Finkelstein
Adam Login
Ellie Bruno
Bob Venetianer
Irene Silberstein
Jonathan Goodman
David Schwarz
Alvin Wolfgram
Linda Savitsky
Marc Glass
Richard Parks
Elizabeth Beit
Mimi Fisher
Shira Dubin

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

**HONOR THOSE SPECIAL PERSONS IN
YOUR LIFE WITH A PLAQUE FOR
THE “SIMCHA” MENORAH**

Whether it celebrates a B’nei Mitzvah,
Birth of a Child or Grandchild, Wedding,
“Special” Birthday, special event/honor, etc.
share your joy with our synagogue community

– **FOREVER.**

Only \$136.00 – A gift that endures

Contact the office to order.

**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.

**Famous Jews with
December Birthdays**

12/01 Zoë Kravitz (1988), 12/04 Alfred Hershey (1906), Nelly Sachs (1891), 12/14 Nate Ebner (1988), 12/29 Amy Totenberg (1950)

CHANUKKAH NOON YEAR'S EVE PARTY!



LIGHT • PEACE • LOVE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31st
FROM 11 AM - 1 PM

GAMES, MUSIC, STORY TIME
LATKE BAR, DESSERTS, REFRESHMENTS
FREE. RSVP TO THE OFFICE (860) 346-4709

IT'S NEWS



B'RUCHIM HABAIM— WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

Shari Lynn Kochman
Matt & Yael Dubin
Andy Becker
Cheryl Wiener

MAZAL TOV!!!

Aaron Thiela and Eileen Daling on
being honored as Adath Israel's
Volunteers of the Year!

Sandra and Paul Beckman and
Robert Poliner on the bat mitzvah of
their granddaughter, Alice Poliner (Sept. 7)
Sandra and Paul Beckman on the b'nei mitzvah of
their grandchildren, Max & Luca Singer (Oct. 26)
Aaron Thiela on celebrating the 26th anniversary of
his bar mitzvah



TODAH RABAH (THANK YOU!)

Acts of Kindness Meals & Shopping:

Harriet, Marcey, and Aaron Thiela, and Fred Zierler
Picking up food at the Crown: Fred Zierler, Phil Saxe,
and Harriet, Marcey, and Aaron Thiela
Proofreading: Naomi Kamins, Phil Saxe
Helping with mailings: Anita Hennessey, Myra
Finkelstein, Ruth Sigal, Roberta Glass, Eileen Daling
Taking care of our eNews and blasts: Eileen Daling
Washing linens from the kitchen: Joanna Schnurman
Returning bottles: Eileen & Mike Daling
Sponsoring security for September & November's
Pray-Eat-Sing: Barbara & Steven Weiss

High Holy Days Services: Rabbi Nelly, Cantor Ben-
Zeev, Leah Adler, Richard Kamins, Ruth Borsuk,
Mark Frydenberg, Jodi Gendrich, Michaela
Altenburger, Howard Levine, Sandra Beckman, Jim
Poliner, Rob Goldstein, David Director, Maya
Shapiro-Rosado, Ethan Olczak, Rabbi Michael Kohn,
Paula Goldstein, and Andrew Fisher

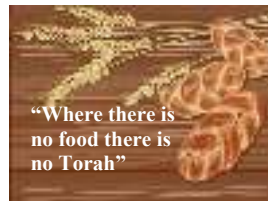
High Holy Days Behind the Scenes Help

Parking: Jose Ortiz & Andy Bauer
Assembling & placing readings on pews: Myra
Finkelstein, Paula Goldstein, Nathaniel Altenburger
Shopping & cooking both the luncheon & Break the
Fast: Harriet Thiela, Marcey Thiela, Aaron Thiela
Helping in the kitchen, putting out food, or cleaning
up: Ariella Altenburger, Elliott Altenburger, Myra
Skluth, Michelle Grossman, Mark Stein

Greeting: Elliott Altenburger, Ariella Altenburger,
Melissa Olczak, Adam Finkelstein, Jonathan Shapiro

Building Our Community Sukkah: Leah Adler, Stu
Epstein, Adam Finkelstein, Mark Altenburger,
Michaela Altenburger, Elliott Altenburger, Nathaniel
Altenburger, Maya Shapiro-Rosado

**Jewish Life in Middletown – Celebrating Adath
Israel's 120th Anniversary:** Rabbi Nelly, Ruth
Borsuk, Michelle Grossman, Sandra Beckman,
Richard Kamins, Stephen Shapiro, Adam Finkelstein,
Marilyn Finkelstein, Melissa Olczak.



Sponsoring an Oneg or Kiddush

IN HONOR OF
Joe Fine's Birthday by Delores
& Allen Zelazo

Aaron Thiela celebrating the 26th
anniversary of his bar mitzvah by Harriet Thiela

IN MEMORY OF

Beatrice Katz by Richard A. Katz
Norman Kabatnick by Brian Kabatnick
Richard Andrew Schwarz by Gail Schwarz Aronow
Fred Adler by Leah Adler & Stu Epstein
Hyime Paley by Mark & Luanne Paley
Etoile Shemkovitz by Saul & Anne Shemkovitz

Early Risers Minyan

Scott Levy

SPEEDY RECOVERY

We'd like to wish a "Refua Shleima"
to the following: Katrina Axelrod,
Phyllis Frydenberg, Paula Goldstein,
Rabbi Marshal Press, David Schwarz,
Stephen Shapiro, and Anne Willis



MAY GOD GRANT COMFORT

WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHIES TO
Harriet Thiela on the recent passing of her
cousin, Kenny Rosenthal z"l.

IN MEMORIUM

Our sincerest condolences are extended to the
families of

- Mark Kaplan z"l, who came to his eternal rest
on September 24 (21 elul)
- Ruth Beit z"l, who came to her eternal rest on
September 25 (22 elul)

May the bereaved find comfort in our
community's support.

5 MINUTES. 5 DOLLARS. 5 REASONS.

Why you should vote MERCAZ USA in elections to the World Zionist Congress. Polls are open online between March 10th and May 4th.

1. **Voting MERCAZ USA** helps deliver \$25 million for Conservative congregations like yours as well as organizations like Ramah, USY, Sisterhoods, Men's Clubs, and more.
2. **Voting MERCAZ USA** delivers millions to the Masorti Movement and its institutions in Israel, helping promote pluralism and shape an Israel that's a welcoming home for each and every kind of Jew.
3. **Voting MERCAZ USA** strengthens pro-democracy forces in Israel by making it clear that world Jewry supports protecting democracy in the Jewish state. Your vote also delivers support for key civil society organizations and helps promote gender and LGBTQ+ equality in Israel and the Jewish world.
4. **Voting MERCAZ USA** will make sure that KKL/JNF's \$2 billion budget goes not to extremists' pet projects, but to those who need it most: the communities hardest hit on October 7th. We'll also ensure our hostages and their families are taken care of through the government's Hostages and Hostages Family Directorate, which is now under the auspices of the WZO.
5. **Voting MERCAZ USA** prevents a takeover of the Jewish Agency by ultra-Orthodox extremists, which would endanger the ability of so many in our communities to make Aliyah and be recognized as Jewish in the Jewish state. It would also put our ability to fund shlichim and shinshinim in our communities at risk.

Voting is a simple, online process that takes just five minutes and five dollars



Scan the QR, or visit mercazusa.org/votemercaz2025 where you can click to sign up for a reminder to vote from your community's MERCAZ captain - make sure to enter your community code.

COMMUNITY CODE: 340



mercazusa.org

[/mercazusa](https://www.facebook.com/mercazusa)

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

REFUA SH'LEIMA (SPEEDY RECOVERY)
Rich Bruno by Shana, Alyn, and Travis Adams

ARTHUR & EDYTHE DIRECTOR FAMILY FUND

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

IN MEMORY OF

Mildred Kamins by Jason Jacoby
Howard Rosenbaum by Naomi & Richard Kamins
Hazel Kurlansky by Naomi & Richard Kamins
Ruth Beit by Naomi & Richard Kamins
Mark Kaplan by Naomi & Richard Kamins

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

IN HONOR OF

Luanne & Mark Paley in celebration of them becoming grandparents by Linda & Jack Adler

IN MEMORY OF

Ruth Beit by Cour Yoga LLC, David & Courtney Eisen

CHEVRA KADISHA

Supports maintenance and enhancement of the cemetery

IN MEMORY OF

Howard May by Irena May
Howard Rosenbaum by Paulette Gewirtz
Lew Goldberg by Francine Goldberg
Kenny Rosenthal by the Thiela Family

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

IN HONOR OF

Ari Shapiro in celebration of him becoming a Bar Mitzvah by Marge & Stan Sadinsky

IN MEMORY OF

Michael Levy by Harriet Fein-Deeton
Hazel Kurlansky by Marge & Stan Sadinsky
Mark Kaplan by Marge & Stan Sadinsky

LYNN BENNETT RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Supports the upgrade of our religious school
Alan Firestone

IN HONOR OF

Adath Israel's 120th Anniversary by
Ruth & Mike Sigal
Laurie & Rabbi Marshal Press
Carly & Dave Norman in celebration of the birth of their son by
Eileen & Michael Daling
Joanna Schnurman & Andy Bauer
Sherry & Brandon Aiudi in celebration of the birth of their son by
Eileen & Michael Daling
Joanna Schnurman & Andy Bauer

IN MEMORY OF

Hazel Kurlansky by
the Thiela Family
Rabbi Marshal & Laurie Press
Mark Finkelstein by Lois Wasserman

MAXINE THUMIM CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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

IN HONOR OF

Luanne & Mark Paley in celebration of them becoming grandparents by Eileen & Michael Daling

(Funds Continued on page 15)

ADATH ISRAEL EMERGENCY CANCELATION & CLOSING PROCEDURES

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL :

THE PRINCIPAL WILL CONTACT STAFF & STUDENTS' FAMILIES DIRECTLY.

ALL OTHER CANCELATIONS & 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

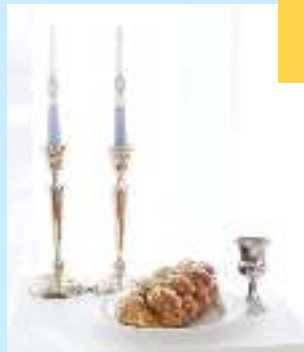
Bagels, tuna salad, egg salad, lox & sliced veggie platter, whitefish salad, plain & chive cream cheese, sesame noodles, kugel, fruit salad, pastry, cold & hot drinks

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.



(Funds Continued from page 13)

Eileen Daling being named Adath Israel Volunteer of the Year by

Aaron Thiela

Bauer/Schnurman Family

Aaron Thiela being named Adath Israel Volunteer of the Year by

The Bauer/Schnurman Family

Eileen & Michael Daling

IN MEMORY OF

Mark Kaplan by Eileen & Michael Daling

MICHAEL FASSLER FUND

Supports early childhood education at Adath Israel

IN HONOR OF

Aaron Thiela by Harriet Thiela

MUSEUM FUND

Supports purchases and maintenance of Adath

Israel's museum

IN HONOR OF

Adath Israel's 120th Anniversary by

Ruth & Mike Sigal

Laurie & Rabbi Marshal Press

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

Rabbi Nelly by Michael Barker

SANFORD BEIT MINYAN FUND

Supports the creation and building of community over Kiddush

IN MEMORY OF

Ruth Beit by

Linda & Jack Adler

Eileen & Michael Daling

The Bauer & Schnurman Family

The Director Family

Sharon Murphy

Vin Capece & Friends from Middlesex Health

Michael Bozzuto

Jane Simmons

Frances Tarr

Virginia & Theresa Labbadia

Randy Parks

The Winer Family

Susan & Doug Miller

Herb Curkin

Hazel Kurlansky by Herb Curkin

Edith Curkin by Herb Curkin

SYNAGOGUE FUND

Supports the general operation of Adath Israel

Paulette Gewirtz

Andy Becker

Richard Braverman

Joanne & David Gertler

Inna & Mark Lerner

Barbara & Fred Edelstein

IN APPRECIATION OF

Warm welcome at High Holy Days by Susan

Goldenstein Lichtman

IN HONOR OF

Luanne & Mark Paley in celebration of the birth of their first grandchild by Sara Paley

IN MEMORY OF

Hazel Kurlansky by Marcia Wrubel

YAHARZEIT FUND

Supports the general operation of Adath Israel

Rose Dampsky by Sara Paley

Robert Rosenfield by Patty Netherland

Lillian Pinkus by Marcia Wrubel

Nettie Pinkus by Marcia Wrubel

Meta Kahn by

Jeffrey S. & Bobette Reed Kahn

Margaret Kahn

Louis Hutensky by Sandra & Paul Beckman

Rose Stoller by Sandra & Paul Beckman

Sidney Mellman by Barbara & Steven Weiss

Seymour Siegel by Audrey Acabchuk

Eddie Betts by Linda & Jack Adler

Philip Cohn by Linda & Jack Adler

Dora Hoberman by Marvin Hoberman

Sylvia Levine by Robin & Marty Levine

Susan Garden by Damien Garden

Irving Friedman by Larry Friedman

Ralph "Mickey" Paley by

Sara Paley

Sharon & William Fleischmann

(Funds Continued on page 17)



THE BREAKFAST BUNCH COMMUNITY WITH A SCHMEAR!

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9TH

**Following morning minyan join
us for breakfast at Perk on Main, Middletown
Please note: while the great conversation is
free, participants are responsible
for what they order.**

WWW.ADATHISRAELCT.ORG

(Funds Continued from page 15)

Mark, Pam, and Stewart Paley
 Lori & Philip McDermott
 Morris Dampsky by Sara Paley
 Coleman Weiss by Barbara & Steven Weiss
 Herman Sochin by Judy Sochin
 Hyman N. Paul by Deborah & Marc Fuller
 Dr. Arthur Weiss by James Weiss
 Lucille Cherniack by Ceile Zanoni
 William Kogen by Audrey Acabchuk
 Harry Soll by Elaine Bersch
 Louis Hutensky by Bill & Barbara Hutensky
 Sari Rosenbaum by the Rosenbaum Family
 Hyime Paley by
 Mark, Pam, and Stewart Paley
 Luanne & Mark Paley
 Goldie Dash by Mark, Pam, and Stewart Paley
 Allan Savitsky by Robin S. Levine
 Philip Curkin by Herb Curkin
 Julia Loitz by Robert Brownstein
 Stan Shulman by Dave Shulman
 Esther Ben-Dov by Ruth Borsuk
 Mark Finkelstein by Miriam Grahame
 Jane Mellman by Barbara & Steven Weiss
 Robert Maron by Ellen Gross
 Dr. Francis H. Tonkonow by Amy Tonkonow Kohan
 Frances Friedman by Ruth Kahn
 Frances Becker by Andy Becker

5785 Annual Giving Campaign

We are incredibly grateful to our members and friends who have participated this year's Annual Giving Appeal. 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:

Marc Sadinsky, Ruth & Mike Sigal, Marge & Stan Sadinsky, Linda Savitsky, Sue & Roy Massicott, David Willis, Rabbi Michael G. Kohn, Barbara & Steven Weiss, Karen Swartz & Ian LaForce, Jan & Jay Weiss, Kim Anderson, Michelle & Rick Grossman, Carol & Stephen Shapiro, Luanne & Mark Paley, Ben Srulowitz, Lisa & Denis Caron, and Andy Becker.



Quinnipiac Students Visit

At November's Pray-Eat-Sing we had the pleasure to host a class from Quinnipiac University led by Prof. Gabriel Acevedo. Thanks to members taking students under their wings, the students had an in-depth experience of Shabbat Evening Services, a kosher dinner, and table songs. During dessert the class toured the Main Sanctuary where they heard a brief history of the community and building and had a Q&A with Richard Kamins & Joanna Schnurman on how synagogues work. According to Prof. Acevado: The visit was so very well received and led to continual dialogue and conversation all the way back to campus. ... (Y)our kindness ... is also very much appreciated by me and the students.





december 2024

cheshvan/kislev

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
<p>1 No Religious School or Mazel Tots 9 a.m. Minyan</p> <p>Rosh Chodesh 30 cheshvan</p>	<p>2 8 a.m. Minyan</p> <p>Rosh Chodesh 1 kislev</p>	<p>3 8 a.m. Minyan 11 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. Mah Jongg 7 p.m. Al Anon/Alateen 7 p.m. Book Club</p> <p>2 kislev</p>	<p>4 7 a.m. Early Risers Minyan 10:30 a.m. Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 4 p.m. Religious School</p> <p>3 kislev</p>	<p>5 8 a.m. Minyan 6 p.m. Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom</p> <p>4 kislev</p>	<p>6 Pray-Eat-Sing RSVP Deadline 8 a.m. Minyan 7 p.m. Shabbat Evening Services</p> <p>*4:02 p.m.</p> <p>5 kislev</p>	<p>7 9:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Services</p> <p><i>Vayetze</i> 6 kislev</p>
<p>8 9 a.m. Minyan 9 a.m. Religious School 10:30 a.m. Mazel Tots</p> <p>7 kislev</p>	<p>9 Jan. Kolot Articles Due 8 a.m. Minyan Breakfast Bunch following Services</p> <p>8 kislev</p>	<p>10 8 a.m. Minyan 11 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. Mah Jongg 7 p.m. Al Anon/Alateen</p> <p>9 kislev</p>	<p>11 8 a.m. Express Minyan 10:30 a.m. Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 4 p.m. Religious School</p> <p>10 kislev</p>	<p>12 8 a.m. Minyan 6 p.m. Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom</p> <p>11 kislev</p>	<p>13 8 a.m. Minyan 6 p.m. Pray-Eat-Sing Shabbat Evening Services and Dinner</p> <p>*4:03 p.m.</p> <p>12 kislev</p>	<p>14 9:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Services</p> <p><i>Vayishlach</i> 13 kislev</p>
<p>15 9 a.m. Minyan 9 a.m. Religious School 9:30 a.m. Chanukkah Gift Fair 10:30 a.m. Mazel Tots</p> <p>14 kislev</p>	<p>16 8 a.m. Minyan</p> <p>15 kislev</p>	<p>17 8 a.m. Minyan 11 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. Mah Jongg 7 p.m. Al Anon/Alateen</p> <p>16 kislev</p>	<p>18 8 a.m. Express Minyan 10:30 a.m. Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 4 p.m. Religious School</p> <p>17 kislev</p>	<p>19 8 a.m. Minyan 6 p.m. Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom</p> <p>18 kislev</p>	<p>20 8 a.m. Minyan 7 p.m. Shabbat Evening Services</p> <p>*4:05 p.m.</p> <p>19 kislev</p>	<p>21 9:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Services</p> <p><i>Vayeshev</i> 20 kislev</p>
<p>22 No Religious School or Mazel Tots 9 a.m. Minyan 9:30 a.m. JWV Brunch</p> <p>21 kislev</p>	<p>23 8 a.m. Minyan</p> <p>22 kislev</p>	<p>24 No Al Anon/Alateen 8 a.m. Minyan 11 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. Mah Jongg</p> <p>23 Kislev</p>	<p>25 Office closed No Religious School 8 a.m. Express Minyan 10:30 a.m. Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom</p> <p>*4:51 p.m.</p> <p>Erev Chanukkah Light 1 candle 24 kislev</p>	<p>26 Office closed 8 a.m. Minyan 6 p.m. Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom</p> <p>*4:51 p.m.</p> <p>Chanukkah Light 2 candles 25 kislev</p>	<p>27 Office closed 8 a.m. Minyan 7 p.m. Shabbat Evening Services</p> <p>*4:09 p.m.</p> <p>Chanukkah Light 3 candles before Shabbat begins 26 kislev</p>	<p>28 9:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Services</p> <p>*5:15 p.m.</p> <p><i>Miketz</i> Chanukkah Light 4 candles after Havdalah 27 kislev</p>
<p>29 No Religious School or Mazel Tots 9 a.m. Minyan</p> <p>*4:53 p.m.</p> <p>Chanukkah Light 5 candles 28 kislev</p>	<p>30 8 a.m. Minyan</p> <p>*4:54 p.m.</p> <p>Chanukkah Light 6 candles 29 kislev</p>	<p>31 No Al Anon/Alateen 8 a.m. Minyan 11 a.m. Chanukkah Noon Year's Eve Party 11 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. Mah Jongg</p> <p>*4:55 p.m.</p> <p>Rosh Chodesh Chanukkah Light 7 candles 30 kislev</p>	<p>*Candle Lighting Times for Middletown, CT Unless otherwise indicated, light Chanukkah candles at time posted or later.</p>			



january 2025

tevet/shevat

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
		*Candle Lighting Times for Middletown, CT Unless otherwise indicated, light Chanukkah candles at time posted or later.	1 Office closed No Religious School 8 a.m. Minyan 10:30 a.m. Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom *4:56 p.m. New Year's Day Rosh Chodesh Chanukkah Light 8 candles 1 tevet	2 8 a.m. Minyan 6 p.m. Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom Chanukkah 2 tevet	3 8 a.m. Minyan 7 p.m. Shabbat Evening Services *4:15 p.m. 3 tevet	4 9:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Services Vayigash 4 tevet
5 9 a.m. Minyan 9 a.m. Religious School 10:30 a.m. Mazel Tots 5 tevet	6 8 a.m. Minyan Breakfast Bunch following Services 7 p.m. Board of Directors Mtg 6 tevet	7 8 a.m. Minyan 11 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. Mah Jongg 7 p.m. Al Anon/Alateen 7 tevet	8 7 a.m. Early Risers Minyan 10:30 a.m. Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 4 p.m. Religious School 8 tevet	9 8 a.m. Minyan 6 p.m. Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 9 tevet	10 RSVP Deadline for Pray-Eat-Sing 8 a.m. Minyan 7 p.m. Shabbat Evening Services *4:22 p.m. Fast of 10th of Tevet 10 tevet	11 9:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Services 5:30 p.m. Shabbat L'chol Adat Havdalah & Trivia Vayechi 11 tevet
12 9 a.m. Minyan 9 a.m. Religious School 10:30 a.m. Mazel Tots 12 tevet	13 Kolot Articles Due 8 a.m. Minyan 13 tevet	14 8 a.m. Minyan 11 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. Mah Jongg 7 p.m. Al Anon/Alateen 7 p.m. Book Club 14 tevet	15 8 a.m. Express Minyan 10:30 a.m. Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 4 p.m. Religious School 15 tevet	16 8 a.m. Minyan 6 p.m. Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 16 tevet	17 8 a.m. Minyan 6 p.m. Pray-Eat-Sing Shabbat L'chol Adat Evening Services *4:30 p.m. 17 tevet	18 9:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Services Shemot 18 tevet
19 No Religious School or Mazel Tots 9 a.m. Minyan 19 tevet	20 8 a.m. Minyan Martin Luther King Day 20 tevet	21 8 a.m. Minyan 11 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. Mah Jongg 7 p.m. Al Anon/Alateen 21 tevet	22 8 a.m. Minyan 10:30 a.m. Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 4 p.m. Religious School 22 tevet	23 8 a.m. Minyan 6 p.m. Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 23 tevet	24 8 a.m. Minyan 7 p.m. Shabbat Evening Services *4:38 p.m. 24 tevet	25 9:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Services Va'era 25 tevet
26 9 a.m. Minyan 9 a.m. Religious School 10:30 a.m. Mazel Tots 9:30 a.m. JWV Brunch 26 tevet	27 8 a.m. Minyan 27 tevet	28 8 a.m. Minyan 11 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. Mah Jongg 7 p.m. Al Anon/Alateen 28 tevet	29 8 a.m. Minyan 10:30 a.m. Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 4 p.m. Religious School 29 tevet	30 8 a.m. Minyan 6 p.m. Torah Study w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom Rosh Chodesh 1 shevat	31 8 a.m. Minyan 7 p.m. Shabbat Evening Services *4:47p.m. 2 shevat	



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