

Hineini & Social Justice Shabbat Service Friday, January 9, 7:30pm

Each year at this time, we honor the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and reaffirm our commitment to social justice.



As Jews striving for a more just and compassionate society, we recognize the civil rights movement's work is unfinished and still

calls us to act. At this Shabbat service we will be honoring the Hineini students and families for their commitment to bringing Jewish values to life through all their volunteer work throughout the year.

Today's challenges - from voting rights and police-community relations to LGBTQ equality and disability rights - demand our attention.

This meaningful service will feature powerful readings and music centered on justice.



Emanu-El at 180: Explore Jews of the Gilded Age at the Bernard Museum of Judaica Thursday, January 15, 11:00am (depart at 9:30am)

Come on a captivating docent-led tour of the special "Emanu-El at 180" exhibition with Museum Director Warren Klein, who will spotlight treasures from Tiffany windows to centuries-old ritual art and stories of Jews of the Gilded Age. Along the way, we will trace Emanu-El's journey from its 1845 Lower East Side beginnings to its iconic home on East 65th Street and its lasting place in American Jewish life.

Cost: \$50/person (includes docent tour and transportation). Following the tour, those who are interested are invited to lunch at Barbaresco Restaurant.

Space is limited, friends and family are welcome! RSVP information can be found in Emanumail.

Family Bingo & Pizza Lunch Sunday, February 1, 11:45am



After Religious School, we'll be bringing on Bingo for the whole family! Rabbi Goldsmith will be calling numbers and winners will receive gift cards from local stores. This event will benefit the Jared Dubro Legacy

Fund. Pre-purchase Bingo cards in Emanumail: \$18/1 card or \$30/2 cards or \$45/3 cards or \$60/4 cards. Pay at the door: \$20/per card.

Artisan Bagel Baking Class in NYC Thursday, February 5, 11:00am (depart at 9:30am)



Roll, boil, bake - learn to make authentic New York-style bagels from scratch, from dough mixing to the classic rope-and-loop shape, using techniques (and equipment) you can actually pull off at home. You'll enjoy your hot, just-baked bagels with classic

schmears and smoked fish, then head out with a half-dozen to share...or not.

Cost: \$75/person (includes transportation). Space is very limited, and RSVPs must be in by January 26. RSVP information can be found in Emanumail.



ABBA Purim Shabbat Friday, February 27, 7:30pm

This year, our Purim Shabbat service is going full ABBA - a raucous, joyous, delightfully ridiculous celebration of a holiday that practically demands laughter. Expect disco-infused Purim music, sequins, bell-bottoms, and a sanctuary buzzing with noise, cheer, and just a little Purim chaos. We'll tell the Purim story the way it begs to be told - out loud, over the top, and with plenty of Dancing Queen energy - leaning fully into the joy, irreverence, and community spirit that define this day.

Come ready to laugh, sing (very loudly), groan at bad jokes, cheer the heroes, boo the villains, and maybe find yourself shouting "Mamma Mia!" at least once. Whether you arrive in full disco glory or simply ready to sway in your seat, join us as we revel in the simple, powerful act of celebrating together - because on Purim, as ABBA reminds us, thank you for the music.



Mazel Tov...

To Jillian Hochfelder & Craig Shuster on their wedding - wishing them a lifetime of love and happiness!

Has someone in your immediate family welcomed a child or gotten married? Share the joy with our community! Send details and a photo – and we'll include the news in the bulletin! Email information to Abbie at alevitt@c-e-w.org.

Chanukah Treats and Smiles

Hineini teens rang in Chanukah with a morning full of delicious treats! Chef Cara led the way, teaching everyone how to make festive Chanukah Gelt and cookies. From rolling dough to savoring their creations, our teens had a blast celebrating the holiday together - proving that the sweetest part of Chanukah is sharing it with friends!



Boutique 2025: A Success!

Thank you to our small but mighty team of organizers and volunteers who worked tirelessly to make the annual Sisterhood Boutique on October 29 a success, and to everyone who shopped or supported the event! Together, we raised funds to aid the recovery of those affected by October 7 in Israel. Your generosity and community spirit make a meaningful difference.



Exploring Impressionism Together

We recently explored our artistic side in a painting class with Terry Kessler Schwarz on November 4. Participants of all levels experimented with Impressionist techniques and brought their own creativity to life on canvas.



Staff Directory

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|---|-----------------------------------|
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Assistive Listening
is now available!

LISTEN
TECHNOLOGIES

Emanu-El offers ListenWifi, an innovative Wi-Fi streaming solution for those attending in-person services and events in the sanctuary. This new service enables individuals with hearing devices to easily connect to the audio in the sanctuary via their Bluetooth-enabled hearing aids or ear buds, providing a more seamless and enhanced auditory experience during worship or other activities. It ensures that everyone, including those with hearing challenges, can fully engage with the community experience.

To use the new streaming system, please follow the steps below:



1. Scan the QR code with the smartphone you will use when at temple.

2. Install the ListenWifi app on your smartphone – you must install the app in order to use the technology.

3. Come to temple to finish set-up! The staff will assist you in making sure your **Bluetooth hearing aids or ear buds** are connected to the dedicated Wi-Fi in the sanctuary.

To schedule in-person assistance during normal business hours, contact Arnold at 914-967-4382 x1026.

This technology is generously sponsored by the Jared Dubro Legacy Fund.

Every Hatred Has a Name

We have spent much of the last eighty years universalizing. Since the end of World War II, Americans have worked hard to focus on what we share, what is common, rather than what is unique or different. We tried to get rid of accents. We went to court to change ethnic-sounding names. We adjusted our palates to enjoy the same food as our neighbors. We listened to the same music.



Religiously, we saw this play out in myriad ways. As Jews, we placed new emphasis on Chanukah, which historically had been a minor festival. We added gift-giving to mirror the customs of Christmas. Interfaith efforts, whether worship services or joint advocacy, focused on shared ethics, values, and beliefs, on what we had in common.

Recent years have seen a shift. There has been a renewed acknowledgment, and even celebration, of unique cultures and ethnicities. Each spring and fall, different ethnic and national groups parade down Fifth Avenue, celebrating heritage and pride. We have come to recognize that diversity brings a richness that uniformity lacks. Ethnic restaurants are more popular than ever. While language loss in immigrant communities remains common by the third and fourth generations, there is also a growing interest among some in reclaiming the languages of their immigrant forebears. In the Jewish community, we see something of a Yiddish renaissance, exemplified by the recent production of *Fiddler on the Roof* in Yiddish.

And yet, there is one area in which we continue to insist on generalization rather than specificity. That area is hate.

Whenever a swastika is carved into a bathroom door, a noose is hung from a tree, or graffiti defaces an LGBTQ+ community center, the first response is often to declare, "We reject hate." And God knows, we should reject hate. We should reject hate of all kinds. But one thing we must learn from the rise in hate across our country is that the strategy of lumping all hate together is failing.

General hate, bigotry, evil, prejudice, and bias are real, and they are dangerous. But very few people are generally hateful. Very few people hate everyone and everything. Instead, hateful actions are directed at specific groups. At the same time, no victim of hate experiences it as a general phenomenon. Hate is experienced as specific, personal, and targeted. Those experiences are shaped not only by the act itself, but by the long histories that give those acts their meaning and power. And it is never only about the present moment. The histories of different hatreds vary widely, just as

their contemporary expressions and consequences differ.

As Jews, we know this all too well. Antisemitism's roots stretch back at least to the Egyptian High Priest Manetho in the third century BCE, who constructed one of the earliest ideological attacks on Jews, depicting us as impure outsiders whose very identity posed a social threat. Under Christendom in Europe, antisemitism left Jews stateless and insecure for nearly two thousand years. Its culmination in the Holocaust murdered six million of our people and left us with intergenerational trauma that endures to this day. The modern expression in radical Islamic fundamentalism has killed thousands of Israelis and Jews throughout the diaspora, including the horrors on Bondi Beach just weeks ago. The impact on our communities, spiritually, psychologically, financially, intellectually, and emotionally, is impossible to quantify. And its impact on us is different from the impact of other hatreds on other peoples.

It is time to begin fighting hatreds as the distinct phenomena that they are. We can no longer respond to a swastika carved into a school bathroom with a generic assembly on "all hate symbols." The response must address antisemitism specifically. We should no longer respond to a noose in a tree with a vague call to oppose hate in general. The response must confront anti-Black racism. When a Pride flag is defaced, city leaders should not retreat to abstract language about common humanity alone. They must name and condemn anti-LGBTQ+ hatred.

Only by understanding the specific history of a hatred, its contemporary forms, and its impact on its victims can we hope to combat it effectively. Yes, of course we seek a world without hate. We must work toward that vision. But we will only defeat hate in all its forms by confronting each hatred honestly and directly, and by working with allies to replace it with light and love.

May we find those allies to help us fight antisemitism, and may we be allies to all who need us to stand with them. Speedily and in our day.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "H. Goldsmith".

Howard J. Goldsmith, Rabbi

It Takes A Village

"It takes a village," a quote from an old African proverb brought into the mainstream by Hillary Clinton, has become cliché. But the notion of people coming together to provide support during a difficult time has proven true for my family over recent weeks and months.



As I reflect back over the tumultuous time before and after my husband, Martin, succumbed to his battle against cancer on November 10, I am overcome by the extent to which people showed up for our family in so many ways, through "bikkur cholim," caring for the sick, and "gemilut chasadim," acts of loving kindness. Both of these are fundamental Jewish values of communal responsibility.

Our congregation has supported me in numberless ways throughout this very difficult period. I am deeply grateful to Rabbi Goldsmith for being fully present for Martin, me and our children, and to our entire staff, Marcy Modica and the temple board for enabling me to carry on as your cantor in this time of upheaval. Thank you from the bottom of my heart to the countless congregants who sent meals, cards, emails and texts of loving support.

Mirit, Lila, and I were deeply moved that more than 50 temple families donated to the Central Park Conservancy, helping us exceed our \$20,000 goal in just five days to dedicate a bench in memory of Martin in a place so important to our family.

At home, in the last weeks of Martin's life, we welcomed a constant stream of family and friends, many who came from great distances. Martin's sister Eve, 85 and remarkably energetic, came for weeks to help, shopping and cooking, and other siblings, nieces, and nephews visited when possible and stayed connected by FaceTime. A more distant relative, a palliative care doctor, made herself available to us 24/7 and we called her frequently.

Last year, when Martin was still undergoing chemo, a couple of his friends kept him company during the treatments, and visited until the end. Friends brought home baked gluten free cakes, shared memories of growing up in Pasadena and listened to music with Martin. Once, while Martin was napping, a bluegrass pal sat quietly in the room, playing gently on the guitar. These visits meant the world to Martin. They gave him respite from his suffering as well as the deep sense that he was loved and embraced. Connecting meaningfully with family and friends from all decades of his life surely helped bring him closure on a life well lived. No wonder why "bikkur cholim" is such an important Jewish value.

While Martin struggled through chemotherapy, life at home was challenging but not unmanageable. Once he entered home hospice in September, however, it

became increasingly difficult for me to keep up.

A word about home hospice: it focuses on comfort rather than cure, allowing a terminally ill person to spend their final weeks at home with medical support for pain and symptoms. Services and medications are delivered to the home and covered by Medicare, with 24-hour phone support. However, the primary caregiver role is essentially full-time, especially in NYC, where hospice staff may check in only weekly. I learned to be proactive in asking for help and to use every service offered.

As the demands of caregiving accelerated, many people asked if there was anything they could do to help. I appreciated their caring intentions, but most of the time was too overwhelmed to even respond to their messages. I felt that I couldn't ask an out of town friend to do laundry, bring a single grocery item or clean the kitchen floor. There was no time to talk on the phone.

A dear college friend, who does not live locally, urged me to request meal credits and sent me my first DoorDash gift card. It was hard for me to ask for what I really needed, but in the days after our loss, Mirit, Lila and I were glad to be relieved from cooking.

The most valuable offers of help were specific: a neighbor texted often to say she was going to Trader Joe's and did I need anything. Even though I don't know most of my neighbors as well as my longtime friends, it was easier to receive help from them because of proximity; I wasn't worried that I was putting them out. Someone helped with laundry, someone else donated unused medical supplies to a local nursing home.

A parent friend from PTA days called from Stew Leonard's saying she'd like to bring their delicious rotisserie chicken and some side dishes. No decisions on my part! We were so appreciative. I am grateful to cherished friends who hosted shiva at my home, who sat with me while I called Social Security and Medicare, who slept over during the first few weeks, who've helped with some home projects.

In times of loss and sorrow it is easy to withdraw and isolate oneself. But how much more healing it is to accept the hand that is offered, to build new connections with those who step forward. I treasure all who showed up as "a village" to me, Martin, Mirit and Lila - our temple community and my extended community- who so beautifully embodied "Kol Yisrael arevim zeh bazeh" - our shared responsibility for one another. I hope that these bonds will continue to grow and that I, too, will be able to show up for others as they have shown up for me.

Meredith Stone, Cantor

Knots, Fringes, and Maintenance

My tallit is large; called a tallit gadol, it literally is a “large tallit.” Wrapped around my body it prepares me for prayer, and, during these cold months, it even retains some heat and keeps me warm. When worn properly, it feels



like a prayerful cape, covering my shoulders and back, and flowing behind me with four neatly braided fringes. If worn improperly, it drags along the ground, and the fringes on its edges are at risk of being undone. The tallit gadol is beautiful and warm, and prayerful, but without these four fringes it would just be a bolt of cloth.

In the Torah, we are commanded to bind fringes to our garments, that they may serve as a reminder for us to observe God’s commandments and do them, and not forget what God had done for us by bringing us out of the land of Egypt (Numbers 15:38-41). Growing up, my rabbi told me the same when he taught me how to braid my fringes, and expanded by saying, “each knot and braid in this tzitzit represents a different mitzvah. All 613 of them. Do not let them become undone.” Their fabric, diligently braided onto the four corners of a tallit, serves as a testament to our faith.

In the Babylonian Talmud, the rabbis recount one particularly righteous man, who, overtaken by his desires, sought to go to Rome and sleep with the most beautiful prostitute that lived there. He arrived to the city, reached her home, paid her fee, and went towards her bedroom. With each step, however, his fringes flew up and smacked him in his face, as if the fabric itself screamed, “do not do this!” The man paused, sat down, and did not do what he set out to do. The prostitute, in her curiosity, inquired about why he stopped walking, if she had somehow displeased him, but upon learning that he had stopped on account of his tallit and religious conviction, she too changed her ways and embraced Judaism (Talmud Bavli Menachot 44a). Thus each tallit serves as a physical reminder to those who wear them, and it would be understandable to think that this means we kept them in the best condition.

The other day, while sitting in prayer at Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion, I was mindlessly playing with one of the fringes on my tallit when I noticed that something looked off. One of the small

decorative knots along the edge had come undone. “How long have you been like that?” I wondered as I tied it. Then I noticed a second knot had become undone, and a third. My tallit, which I love, was coming loose! I hadn’t taken it to the dry cleaner in months, nor inspected its edges. Who knows what would have happened if I hadn’t noticed the undone knots when I did. Could it have been truly damaged? As it turns out, these constant reminders of the mitzvot need [near] constant maintenance as well.



Just as it serves as reminder of the mitzvot, this brief ordeal with my tallit reminded me of the importance of maintenance. Not just the maintenance of our ritual objects, but of ourselves. We can easily get lost in our daily action and activities and neglect what is important to us. We can neglect going to

the gym after long days, eating healthily, or even our mental health by continuously reading the news in every waking moment. Each of these, in their own way are like the tallit – an alarm bell when we are neglecting our physical, mental, and spiritual wellbeing. We need to take moments to check in on ourselves, and to keep our “tallits” whole.

As the days once again become longer, I encourage each us to make that check-in on their “tallit,” to examine the fabric and the sanctity of their knots and make sure that all is in order. That way, when we all come back together, we can shine and be whole.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Zachary M. Canali".

Zachary Canali, Rabbinic Intern

Amen

There are few things cuter in synagogue life than a younger sibling standing on a step stool during a bar or bat mitzvah, carefully reciting the siblings' prayer. They concentrate hard, pronounce every word with solemn seriousness, and then, at the very end, offer an amen that is often a beat too loud, a beat too proud, or both. It lands with confidence and finality, as if to say, "That's it. I meant that." In that moment, amen feels less like a liturgical formula and more like a human instinct - a small word that says, "I did my part. I belong here."

Amen is one of the shortest words in Jewish tradition, and one of the most enduring. It does not mean "the end," and it is not quite the same as "I agree," though we often use it that way. The word comes from the same Hebrew root as *emunah* - faith, trust, steadiness. To say *amen* is to say, "This is true," "This is trustworthy," or "May this become true." It is a word of grounding. It plants the feet. It signals that what has just been spoken deserves to stand.

That is why *amen* is almost always a response. Someone else offers words of blessing, gratitude, hope, or longing, and others answer. In that moment, prayer stops belonging to a single voice and becomes shared. The Talmud teaches that the one who answers *amen* participates as fully in the blessing as the one who speaks it. Listening carefully enough to respond, and responding with intention, is not passive. It is sacred work. *Amen* turns prayer into a partnership.

In fact, for much of Jewish history, *amen* may have been the primary way most people participated in communal worship. In the ancient Temple and early synagogue, one person spoke and everyone else responded. Not everyone knew the words of the prayers, but everyone knew when to say *amen*. There is a wonderful image in the Talmud of the great synagogue of Alexandria, so vast that not everyone could hear the blessings being recited. The prayer leader would wave a flag from the central platform, signaling to the congregation that it was time to respond. Thousands of people, watching carefully, would lift their voices together and say *amen*. That flag was not a substitute for prayer - it was the prayer. The response itself was the act of participation.

There is even a gentle and ongoing debate about how to say the word. Is it *ah-men* or *ay-men*? Historically, the Hebrew pronunciation is closer to *ah-men*. The *ay-men* sound reflects the long journey the word took through Greek and Latin and into other languages and religious traditions. In Jewish prayer, *ah-men* is technically "correct," but Judaism

has never been overly anxious about policing this particular vowel. The power of the word has never rested in its pronunciation. What matters is not how it sounds, but that it is offered with presence and intention.

Amen also has companions. There is *selah*, a biblical word whose precise meaning is unclear, but which seems to invite a pause - a moment to let the words sink in before moving on. There is the familiar phrase "forever and ever, amen," stretching a blessing beyond the present moment and into something enduring. There is *ken yehi ratzon* - "so may it be" - a longer, more explicit version of what *amen* accomplishes in just two syllables. Each of these words does similar work. They seal the moment. They affirm that what has been said matters.

The reach of *amen* extends well beyond Judaism. Early Christianity adopted the word along with much of its liturgical structure, and it appears throughout the New Testament. In Islam, *amen* is recited after the opening chapter of the Qur'an, the Fatiha, by communities across the world. Few words have traveled so far while retaining so much of their original meaning. Across traditions, *amen* remains a response of trust, affirmation, and hope.

There is also something deeply democratic about *amen*. Children say it. Elders say it. You do not need to know Hebrew grammar or theology to say it well. You just have to be paying attention. Sometimes we say *amen* with confidence and joy. Sometimes we say it quietly, with doubt mixed in. Sometimes we say it because we hope the words will become true, even if we are not sure they are yet.

On Shabbat, that idea takes on a poetic form in *Shalom Aleichem*, the song that welcomes the angels of peace into our homes. The Talmud imagines two angels accompanying us home from synagogue, one inclined toward blessing and one toward challenge. When they find a home prepared for Shabbat, the angel of blessing says, "May it be so next week as well," and the other is compelled to answer *amen*. Even the angels, it turns out, are bound by the power of that word. A spoken hope, sealed by *amen*, shapes what comes next.

Amen does not mean, "I understand everything." It does not mean, "I have no questions." It means, "I am here. I am listening. I am part of this." It is a word of participation, of presence, of quiet courage.

And whether it is whispered, sung, or declared proudly by a younger sibling on a step stool, *amen* remains one of the simplest and most powerful prayers we have.

Social Action Collections & Events

We are committed to tikkun olam, repairing our world. Help make our community a better place and participate in the important drives scheduled throughout the year. For more information, contact co-chairs Hedy Cardozo at hedozo@aol.com and Lauren Shalem at lauren.beitman@gmail.com.



Afya Collection: Baby and Adult Diapers & Feminine Hygiene Products Through Friday, January 30

Afya is collecting unopened packages of diapers (adult and baby), tampons and pads. These supplies will be given to community and school-based healthcare centers treating diverse, under-resourced communities in the United States. Unopened packages can be dropped off in the temple lobby during normal business hours.



New Art Supply Drive for the Cottage School Monday, February 2 - Friday, February 27

We are collecting new art supplies for the children and teens at the Pleasantville Cottage School. New art supplies will be brought to the school when CEW teens spend the morning with kids living on campus. Art supplies needed: marker sets, colored pencils, crayons, craft glue, drawing paper, and tracing paper (or similar items—just no glitter!). New art supplies can be dropped off in the temple lobby during normal business hours.



Volunteer to Teach Adult English Language Learners at the Carver Center in Port Chester Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 - 10:30am

Volunteers are needed to tutor adult English language learners, no experience necessary, just a passion to help others. Contact the office to learn more.

Join the Emanu-El Caring Community

Being there for one another in difficult times is a vital piece of who we are. The Emanu-El Caring Community is a volunteer-run group that makes certain that our congregants experience a sense of support after the loss of a loved one.

We are looking for volunteers to help assemble and deliver bereavement baskets on an as-needed basis. If you are interested in learning more about volunteering with the Caring Community, contact Michelle Schwartz at prettypaper1@gmail.com.

Social Justice Update: RAC-NY Legislative Campaigns for 2026

RAC-NY is excited to share their 2026 legislative campaigns (below). If you are interested in getting involved with these social justice initiatives, contact Marcie Aiuvalasit at marciena33@gmail.com or Hedy Cardozo at hedozo@aol.com.

Immigration: "First They Came": Advance humane, just, and compassionate immigration policies in N.Y.

Key Legislation:

- New York for All Act - Limits state and local cooperation with ICE.
- End of Lawless Tactics Act - Restricts deceptive ICE enforcement practices.
- Protecting Sensitive Locations Act - Shields schools, hospitals, and houses of worship.

Climate Covenant: Keep New York leading on climate action for future generations.

Key Legislation:

- Packaging Reduction & Recycling Infrastructure Act.
- Cap-and-Invest Program and Guardrails Bill.
- Solar energy expansion measures.

How to Take Action Today for Immigration Justice with RAC-NY (Zoom session)

Tuesday, January 13, 8:00pm

Learn from fellow Jewish leaders and community members about how to take action for immigration justice at the federal, state, congregational, and individual levels. RSVP at <https://bit.ly/4jfk9z>.

RAC-NY Advocacy Day in Albany

Wednesday, February 25, 9:00am - 5:00pm

This event will focus on advocating for Reform Jewish values and climate change initiatives. Participants will engage in discussions and support legislative efforts related to these issues. RSVP at <http://bit.ly/3N3grNa>.

Remembering My Beautiful Son, Jared Dubro

My beautiful son Jared was born on June 21, 1989—healthy, sweet, and full of light. From the very beginning, his warmth and gentle spirit filled our lives. As he grew, that light only grew brighter. Jared’s kindness, compassion, and thoughtfulness touched everyone he met, shaping not only his own journey but the lives of all who knew and loved him.



Jared loved learning and giving. He attended Westchester Day School, Westchester Hebrew High School, and Binghamton University, where his generous heart inspired him to create the Premiere Project, raising funds for Breast Cancer Research and the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Even in high school,

he volunteered with the Friendship Circle, building meaningful, tender connections with children who needed extra care. Jared lived the teaching of Pirkei Avot 1:2: “The world stands on three things: Torah, service to God, and acts of loving-kindness (gemilut chasadim).”

During his doctoral studies at the Adler School of Psychology in Chicago, Jared worked with low-income families on the South Side. He met each person with empathy, warmth, and patience, embodying the mitzvah of chesed in everything he did. His life was a lesson in how to bring light to others.

At age 12, Jared was diagnosed with a benign brain tumor. Despite this challenge, he lived with courage, optimism, and grace. In March 2015, after a second surgery, he returned home and shared a beautiful Passover with us—our last holiday together. On April 15, 2015, Jared suffered a massive brain stem stroke caused by hydrocephalus. He remained in a vegetative state for three years until his passing on February 12, 2018.

The love, care, and support my family received from Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester during those years sustained us in ways we cannot fully express. We are forever grateful to this community for holding us, comforting us, and honoring Jared’s life.

To share Jared’s light and continue his legacy of kindness, we created the Jared Dubro Legacy Fund, which supports chesed programs at CEW, including Midnight Run, Hope Community Services, Mitzvah Shabbat, and Pleasantville Cottage JCCA. Each initiative reflects the values Jared lived every day: kindness, empathy, and care for others.

Upcoming Events in Jared’s Memory

Family Bingo & Pizza Lunch (open to all!)

Sunday, February 1, 11:45 am

Join us for pizza, prizes, and laughter following Religious School. Led by Rabbi Goldsmith, this joyful gathering supports the Jared Dubro Legacy Fund and keeps Jared’s spirit of kindness alive. More details on pg. 1.

The Mitzvah of Comforting the Bereaved (for Hineini families)

Sunday, February 1, 9:30-11:45 am

Hineini parents are invited to join Rabbi Goldsmith as we explore *Nihum Avelim*, the mitzvah of comforting those in mourning. The Torah teaches: “And it came to pass after the death of Abraham, that God blessed Isaac, his son” (Genesis 25:11), reminding us that even in loss, compassion and comfort can shine through. Together, we will learn how to offer presence, care, and strength to those living through grief.

Jared’s light and love continue to guide us. Through the Legacy Fund, his spirit inspires acts of kindness, compassion, and care throughout our community. I feel his presence every day in the good we do in his memory.

With love and gratitude,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jane".

Jane Dubro, Director of Programming & Engagement



Beit Midrash

Sundays, January 4 & 25, 10:30am

Saturdays, February 7 & 28, 9:00am

Each week, the Torah connects deeply with Jewish life as we know it today - in our homes, in our communities, and in the rituals we practice. This year in Beit Midrash, we will explore how the weekly portion links to a familiar Jewish custom, holiday observance, or lifecycle ritual. From Kiddush and Shabbat candles to the wedding veil and the Passover seder, each session will bring out the ancient roots of practices that are still vibrant today. We'll draw from a variety of texts and sources - biblical, rabbinic, historical, and contemporary - to uncover meaning and relevance for modern Jewish living. Come every session or just drop in - all are welcome!

Contact Rabbi Goldsmith at hgoldsmith@c-e-w.org or 914-967-4382 x1013 for more information.



Single Malt Torah

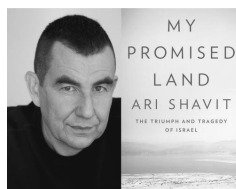
Thursday, January 8, 8:00pm

Men of the congregation join together for fine scotch and Torah learning with Rabbi Goldsmith. Topics range from contemporary questions of Jewish society to issues in Israel to exploration of our sacred texts. Whatever the topic, we enjoy our time together.

Single Malt Torah Book Club Edition

***My Promised Land* by Ari Shavit**

Thursday, February 12, 8:00pm



They say that Torah, most broadly understood, includes not only the ancient text in the scrolls in the ark, but every piece of text that struggles with ultimate meaning.

We will discuss *My Promised Land* by Ari Shavit, a sweeping and deeply personal history of Israel that blends memoir, interviews, and history to explore the ideals, contradictions, and moral dilemmas at the heart of the nation and its people.

Whether you've read the entire book or just the dust jacket, please join us! RSVP information will appear in Emanumail.

Canasta

Tuesdays, January 6, 13, 20, 27

& February 3, 10, 24, 1:45 - 3:45pm



Come play on Tuesday afternoons. Friends and family are welcome! RSVP information can be found in Emanumail.

Next Step

Sundays, January 11 & February 8, 11:00am

This group of men meet to discuss personal issues that they face in retirement. The bonds of friendship and a deep sense of trust have allowed this group to continue for many years. Next Step is facilitated by Paul Spindel. For more information, contact Paul at 914-632-1264.

SAVE THE DATE
2026 Spring Benefit

Honoring
DEBRA & LARRY COHEN

SATURDAY, MAY 2

— 7:30PM —

Women's Study Group Shabbat Retreat Friday, January 23 - Saturday, January 24



Join the women of Congregation Emanu-El for our annual overnight getaway at the Interlaken Inn in Lakeville, CT. Beloved teacher Rabbi Pam Wax will lead us in an exploration of Jewish angels. The Interlaken Inn is located on 30 acres of lush green grounds between Lake Wononscopomuc and Lake Wononpakook in the Litchfield Hills of Connecticut.

Cost (includes 3 meals): \$375 Double Occupancy Room; \$480 Single Occupancy Room. RSVP no later than January 6 at tinyurl.com/2026WSG. Contact Cantor Stone at mstone@c-e-w.org for more information.

Film: *Vishniac*

Date Change: Thursday, January 29, 7:00pm



A powerful documentary on Roman Vishniac, the visionary photographer whose images preserved prewar Jewish life across Europe. Flamboyant and driven, he captured vanished

shtetls, survived upheaval, and reshaped documentary art and scientific microscopy, leaving an enduring visual record of a world erased by war and history's unforgiving passage of time. RSVP information will appear in Emanumail.

Shabbat Celebrating Reproductive Freedom Friday, January 30, 7:30pm



Join us for a powerful Shabbat service dedicated to exploring reproductive rights as a Jewish value. Together, we will reflect on our sacred tradition's emphasis on *tzedek* (justice) and *chesed* (care for others).

Film: *Front of the Class*

Thursday, February 5, 7:00pm



A deeply human story of resilience and identity, this film follows Brad Cohen's journey growing up Jewish with Tourette syndrome in a world that often misunderstood him. From a loving Jewish home to

becoming a beloved teacher, Brad's path reflects *netzach*, *limud*, and *kehilla* - a modern vision of tikkun olam. RSVP information will appear in Emanumail.

Reflections Workshop with Cantor Stone Monday, February 9, 12:00pm

Daily life experiences and observations, or perhaps poetry or words of Torah, provide inspiration for the personal writing we do in this ongoing workshop. Our words, when woven into a Shabbat service, expound upon the meaning of our prayers and enrich our worship. Through writing and sharing we strengthen connections to one another and our tradition. Light lunch provided. RSVP to Cantor Stone at mstone@c-e-w.org.

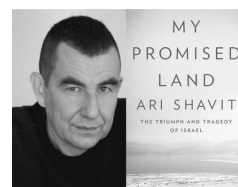
Cooking with Chef Cara Tannenbaum Thursday, February 12, 7:00pm



Join us for the sweetest class in confection making. We will learn to temper chocolate, prepare chocolate bourbon truffles and dark chocolate cherry clusters, then wrap them

with a bow and take them home to treat your sweetheart on Valentine's Day! Great sweet tooth satisfaction with the best ingredients and simple preparation! Cost: \$36/person. RSVP information will appear in Emanumail.

Community Read: *My Promised Land* by Ari Shavit Thursday, February 26, 12:00pm



Discussion and debate lie at the heart of the Jewish intellectual and religious project. Those debates are not open-ended, they traditionally rely on a text:

analyzing a text, dissecting a text, commentary on a text - we love all things text. We will discuss *My Promised Land* by Ari Shavit, a sweeping and deeply personal history of Israel that blends memoir, interviews, and history to explore the ideals, contradictions, and moral dilemmas at the heart of the nation and its people.

Whether you've read the entire book or just the dust jacket, please join us! RSVP information will appear in Emanumail.

Former & Current Board Member Dinner Friday, February 27, 6:15pm

Current and former board members come together to reconnect, get updates on board business, and celebrate the congregation. RSVP information will appear in Emanumail.

The Growth of Winter

Despite loving to ski, I am not a fan of winter. I love the sun, so January and February often feel like the longest stretch of the year for me. The days are short and dark, the cold air hurts my chest, and the energy that carried us through fall gives way to a slower pace. During this season, all I want to do is bundle up in sweatpants and sit huddled in front of a space heater. And yet, this is the time of year when I start to notice some of the most meaningful moments of growth in our school. Something shifts in our students right around the midpoint of the year, as routines have been established and trust has been built between teachers and amongst students. It's at this point of the year that we often find students asking more thoughtful questions, participating more openly, and taking on roles they didn't feel ready for back in September. Even in the season when everything outside feels frozen and still, our students and classrooms are filled with development.



This sense of growth is exactly what our next holiday, Tu BiShvat, asks us to think about. Described as both the birthday and new year of the trees, Tu BiShvat is a holiday where we typically focus on our environmental responsibility. We plant for the future so that things will bloom either in a few short weeks or a few years. But just as trees don't grow overnight and we can't always tell what is below the surface, Jewish learning works in a similar way. We plant seeds of values, curiosity, confidence, and connection, and sometimes we don't see their impact until much later.

I see this most clearly in the way our students begin to show increasing ownership of their Jewish learning as the year progresses. A student who hesitates to share in October is raising a hand by January, and they may even be volunteering to be in one of our Torah Time skits. A class that had a hard time taking things seriously is now debating ethical dilemmas related to antisemitism and the Holocaust with depth and maturity. A child who once struggled to feel comfortable in Jewish spaces begins to take pride in leading a prayer or knowing the answer in a trivia game about a Jewish holiday. These shifts may seem small from the outside, yet they represent the changes taking place much deeper inside that make Jewish education so powerful. Tu BiShvat reminds us that nurturing growth is a process that unfolds slowly and deliberately, supported by the community around us.

Our winter programming also reflects this theme of growth and connection. In January, we are excited to welcome our 4th and 5th grade families for a very special program that explores Jewish holidays in an interactive and meaningful way, and our 3rd graders will also have a family program in February. These family learning experiences are some of my favorite moments of the year because they invite children and adults to learn side by side, strengthening not only the students' understanding but also the family's shared sense of Jewish identity. I love watching parents and children engage with texts, traditions, and activities together, as it reinforces the idea that Jewish learning is not something just saved for the classroom, but something that lives within our homes and families. These programs often spark conversations that continue long after the morning ends, and Rabbi Goldsmith and I love having this sacred time with parents, as we don't get that face-to-face time as much as we'd like!

In February, we have one of my favorite Shabbat programs for our younger students, Pajama Shabbat! This service has become an adorable tradition that brings warmth and joy to all in attendance during the cold winter season. There's something magical about watching kids in the sanctuary in their pajamas, looking so comfortable as we sing and celebrate Shabbat together. This Shabbat service serves as a reminder that a sanctuary and synagogue should feel like a home where you can be playful, comfortable, and joyful! And of course, I also love having the opportunity to wear my own cozy PJs to Shabbat at this special service.

Winter may be long and cold, but being part of our synagogue community makes it feel much warmer. I'm grateful to spend this season learning, growing, and celebrating with your children, and I can't wait to see how the seeds we're planting now continue to take root in the months ahead. And, before we know it, spring will be here!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jackie".

Jackie Kurland, Director of Education



**Pre-K/K Drop-Off Program: Tu BiShvat
Sunday, January 25, 9:30-10:45am**

Learn all about Tu BiShvat with us at our drop-off pre-k and kindergarten class. Filled with stories and art projects, your child will leave knowing all about the Jewish holiday for the trees! RSVP information can be found in Emanumail.

**Young Families Celebrate Tu BiShvat
Sunday, January 25, 10:45-11:45am**

Come and celebrate the new year of the trees with us! Join us for crafts, songs, and snacks. RSVP information can be found in Emanumail.

B'nei Mitzvah Mazel Tov!



We would like to honor
the following students
who will become B'nei Mitzvah
in January & February

Julius Diskin
David Gitkind
Hazel Johnson
Kiera Kaufman
Coren Levine

TRAVEL

CONGREGATION EMANUEL

A JEWISH JOURNEY

THROUGH AMSTERDAM

April 15 - 20, 2026

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| DESTINATION NETHERLANDS | WHO'S GOING OUR COMMUNITY | TRIP TYPE CONGREGATIONAL | DURATION 6 DAYS | GROUP SIZE 20+ | PRICE FROM \$4,295 |

We are going to Amsterdam!

Travel isn't just about the places you visit—it's about the connections you make along the way. Deepen your connection with our congregation, Jewish history and your own Jewish identity on this unforgettable journey!

Embark on a meaningful journey through Amsterdam's rich and complex Jewish history. This carefully curated experience, designed by J² – a leading luxury travel brand specializing in Jewish educational and experiential journeys – will take us beyond typical tourist sites, immersing us in a story of resilience, remembrance, and renewal. Along the way, we'll enjoy plenty of Dutch pancakes, tulips, windmills, and cheese! Amsterdam has had a profound impact on the Jewish people over the centuries. Once home to a thriving Sephardic and Ashkenazi community, it became a center of learning, culture, and trade. The city also bore witness to one of the darkest chapters in Jewish history during the Holocaust. On this trip, we will explore both aspects of this legacy—celebrating Dutch Jewry's contributions while also honoring the memory of those lost. *Interested in learning more? Visit tinyurl.com/cewamster or contact Jane at jdubro@c-e-w.org or 914-967-4382 x1021.*

Our community offers our deepest condolences to

The Bauman family on the death of Caroline Bauman
Lauren Canell on the death of her mother, Ann Levi
Karyn Moore on the death of her father, Harold "Hal" Kahn
Rich Rosenbaum on the death of his father, Mark Allen Rosenbaum
Meredith Stone on the death of her husband, Martin Rutishauser

Yahrzeit Remembrances for the Memorial Fund

In memory of:

Abram Belilovsky
Lev Belilovsky
Michael Benerofe
Fanny Berg
Jim Berman
Peggy Berman
Clara Bernstein
Alfred Burin
Bernice Carton
Jerry Cohen
Judith S. Cohen
Richard Alan Cotton
Donald Lee Duncan
Nell S. & Rabbi Harry W. Ettelson

Lorraine Flocks
Lillian Gelfman
Eileen & Stanley Goodman
Edwin "Ed" Greenhaus
Robert Grossman
Neil Grundman
Leonard Heinberg
Alexander Hersh
William Hersh
Sally Josephberg
Mildred Kassan
Pauline Kazlow
Reuben Keller
Janet Klion
Michaele Lefferman
Belle & Joseph Lefft
Judith Levin
Albert Levy
Leon Lobel
Morris Lobel
Stanley Lobel
Stanley Lobel
Stanley Lobel
Jac Mann

Remembered by:

Alya, Boris and Eugene Belilovsky
Alya, Boris and Eugene Belilovsky
Shelly Benerofe & Family
Estelle & Stanley Berg
Alice Tenney & Budd Weisenberg
Alice Tenney & Budd Weisenberg
Marty & Pat Bernstein
Peter & Hilda Spitz
John Carton & Wendy Rowden
Naomi Cohen and Debra & Clark Pager and Family
Lois Falberg & Brian Sinder
John & Patty Bottomley
JoAnn Duncan Terdiman
Sandra S. Ettelson, Amy Ettelson Hyman
& Linda Ettelson Bernstein
Edgar & Margie Masinter
Robert & Phyllis Gelfman
MJ Wolff
Pamela & Martin Winter
Ilene Schwartz
The Grundman Family
Jack & Melissa Heinberg
Myra Hersh
Myra & Andrew Hersh and Emily Pollack
Arline & Rich Josephberg
Arline & Rich Josephberg
Rhonda, Daniel, Jessica and Emily Chestler
Lois Falberg & Brian Sinder
Alice Tenney & Budd Weisenberg
Jessie, Andy, Molly & Benji Stergiou
Roger & Fran Lefft
Tim & Phyllis Alexander
Jerry & Nancy Lawton
Evelyn Lobel
Evelyn Lobel
David, Robin, Jessica & Michael Lobel
Evelyn Lobel
Mark, Carla, Brian, Scott, Devon & Cal Lobel
Bob & Babs Mann

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Yahrzeit Remembrances for the Memorial Fund

In memory of:

Gazella S. Masinter
Andrew Jacob Mayrsohn
Mayr Mayrsohn
Linda Rosenblut
Samuel Roth
Judith "Judy" Schneider
Harriet Shenk
Solomon Sinder
Joseph Slotnik
Louis Steiner
Arthur Stern Jr.
Casey Stern
Beatrice Rothschild Stotter

Herbert J. Stotter, Jr.

James Stuart
Milton M. Stuart
Judy Tenney
Larry Weiner
Anne Weinstein
Howard Wohl
Marcia Wolff
Eric Yaffee
Ronald Zuckerman

Remembered by:

Margery & Edgar Masinter
Janet Mayrsohn
Janet Mayrsohn
Michael N. Rosenblut & Hedy R. Cardozo
The Golden & Charles families
Ellen Linhart & Family
Marcia & Andy Patel
Lois Falberg & Brian Sinder
Stacey Cole
Sheila, Dominique, Jonathan & Arthur
Jim & Jane Stern
Jane & Jim Stern and Sydney & Jon Stern
Sandra S. Ettelson, Amy Ettelson Hyman
& Linda Ettelson Bernstein
Sandra S. Ettelson, Amy Ettelson Hyman
& Linda Ettelson Bernstein
Jackie Stuart
Jackie Stuart
Alice Tenney & Budd Weisenberg
Terry Feldman & Family
Ruth Weinstein
Jen & Michael Zinn
MJ Wolff
Neil & Mara Miller
Terry Zuckerman Feldman

Annual Fund: 2025-26 Community Support

Nicole & Emilie Poteat

Annual Fund: 2025-26 High Holy Day Appeal

Karyn & Joe Barer
Katherine Hayes
Kathryn Hearst
Nicole & Emilie Poteat
Ronnie Bershad Sachs in honor of Jill Novak
MJ Wolff
Brooke Zarkowsky

Garden of Gratitude Fund

David & Precilla Bukzin
Jennifer Lerner in memory of Steve Klebanoff

Annual Fund: 2025-26 Year End Appeal

Susan Birnbaum in appreciation of Maj Wickstrom
Richard & Emily Cohen
Lois Falberg & Brian Sinder
Robert & Phyllis Gelfman
Ryan & Lorri Goldstein
Adam Groothuis & Rebecca Appleman
Lauren & David Marcus
Brian & Jaime Morris
Ken & Amy Pollinger
Jason & Jessica Riesel
Kim & Rich Rosenbaum
Jackie Stuart in memory of Alan Stuart
Nancy Ullman
Alison Wachstein
Maj Wickstrom

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Bauman Greene Family Kindergarten & Pre-K Program

Judy Blake in memory of Dr. Caroline Bauman
Richard & Emily Cohen in memory of Dr. Caroline Bauman
Carol Lederman in memory of Dr. Caroline Bauman
Maj Wickstrom in memory of Dr. Caroline Bauman

General Contribution to the Annual Fund

Anonymous
Jared Greenbaum in honor of Oliver Freedman
becoming Bar Mitzvah
Bob & Babs Mann
Marc Schmied in memory of Martin Rutishauser

Memorial Donation Fund

Michael & Lauren Baruch in memory of Hal Kahn
Sandra Ettelson in honor of the late
H. William Ettelson Jr.'s birthday
Gerry & Jeannie Kligman in memory of Leonard Lauren
The LoCastro Family in memory of Andy Stillman
Tom & Peggy LoCastro in memory of Seymour Page
Seth & Dani Pariser in memory of Martin Rutishauser

Music Fund

Bill & Hinda Bodinger in memory of Martin Rutishauser
Lawrence & Harriet Feldman in memory of Martin
Rutishauser
Jim & Elaine Glover in memory of Martin Rutishauser
Michael N. Rosenblut & Hedy R. Cardozo in memory
of Martin Rutishauser

Social Action Fund

Michael & Arleen Cohen
Dick & Susan Hecht
Bob & Randi Robinowitz
Jonathan & Helene Rod in honor of the engagement
of Olivia Truesdale and Marc Rod

Rabbi Daniel S. Wolk Memorial Scholarship Fund

Anonymous
Kevin & Carrie Berg in memory of Harvey Schulweiss
Kevin & Carrie Berg in honor of Barbara Benerofe
John Carton & Wendy Rowden
Suzanne Davidson
Sean & Arielle Diskin in memory of the lifelong lessons
their grandparents bestowed upon them
Roger & Vivian Farah
Jerry & Julie Levy
Geoffrey & Kathy Raicht in memory of Penny Carroll
Jonathan & Joelle Resnick
Viktorya & Jonathan Steiner

Rabbi Goldsmith Discretionary Fund

Anonymous
Stuart & Lisa Alperin in honor of the marriage of
Jillian Hochfelder & Craig Shuster
Judy Bloom in memory of Rick Wolff
Karen Brand in memory of Rick Wolff
Ben & Stacey Cross
Andrew & Cathy Jacobs in memory of Richard Wolff
David & Rory Jones in honor of David's birthday blessing
The Lobel Family in memory of Stanley Lobel Donation
Jill Sheppard in honor of Rabbi Goldsmith
Gil & Kathy Stiefel in honor of Rabbi Goldsmith
Susan Markell Stillman in memory of Andrew Stillman
Sharon Wallberg in memory of Jeffrey Wallberg
Faith Wolitzer in honor of Arleen Cohen's birthday

Donations processed after December 12 will appear in
the March/April bulletin.

January 2026

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|--|-----|--|--|---|
| | | | | 1 Office closed for New Year's Day | 2 6:00pm Early Service | 3 |
| 4 9:30 - 11:45am Religious School 9:30am Academy 9:30am Confirmation 10:30am Beit Midrash | 5 | 6 1:45pm Canasta 3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom 4:00pm B'nei Mitzvah Boot Camp | 7 | 8 3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom 8:00pm Single Malt Torah | 9 7:30pm Hineini & Social Justice Shabbat | 10 11:00am David Gitkind Bar Mitzvah |
| 11 9:30 - 11:45am Religious School 9:30 - 11:45am 4th & 5th Grades Family Learning Program 11:00am Next Step | 12 | 13 1:45pm Canasta 3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom 4:00pm B'nei Mitzvah Boot Camp 7:30pm Board Meeting | 14 | 15 11:00am Trip to Temple Emanu-El in NYC 3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom | 16 7:30pm Shabbat Service | 17 |
| 18 No Religious School | 19 Office closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day | 20 1:45pm Canasta 3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom 4:00pm B'nei Mitzvah Boot Camp | 21 | 22 3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom | 23 5:00 - 10:00pm WSG Retreat 7:30pm Shabbat Service | 24 9:00am - 5:00pm WSG Retreat 11:00am Hazel Johnson Bat Mitzvah |
| 25 9:30 - 11:45am Religious School 9:30am Confirmation 9:30 - 10:45am Pre-K/K Tu Bishvat 10:30am Beit Midrash 10:45 - 11:30am Young Families Celebration | 26 | 27 1:45pm Canasta 3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom 4:00pm B'nei Mitzvah Boot Camp | 28 | 29 3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom 7:00pm Film: <i>Vishniac</i> | 30 7:30pm Shabbat Celebrating Reproductive Freedom | 31 11:00am Julius Diskin Bar Mitzvah |

February 2026

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|---|-----------|--|--|---|
| <p>1</p> <p>9:30 - 11:45am Religious School</p> <p>9:30am Academy</p> <p>11:45am Bingo & Pizza</p> | <p>2 Tu Bishvat</p> | <p>3 Tu Bishvat</p> <p>1:45pm Canasta</p> <p>3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom</p> <p>4:00pm B'nei Mitzvah Boot Camp</p> | <p>4</p> | <p>5</p> <p>11:00am Bagel Class in NYC</p> <p>3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom</p> <p>7:00pm Film: <i>Front of the Class</i></p> | <p>6</p> <p>5:15pm Family Shabbat Dinner</p> <p>6:00pm Pajama Shabbat</p> | <p>7</p> <p>9:00am Beit Midrash</p> <p>11:00am Coren Levine Bat Mitzvah</p> |
| <p>8</p> <p>9:30 - 11:45am Religious School</p> <p>10:45am Confirmation</p> <p>11:00am Next Step</p> | <p>9</p> <p>12:00pm Reflections Workshop</p> | <p>10</p> <p>1:45pm Canasta</p> <p>3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom</p> <p>4:00pm B'nei Mitzvah Boot Camp</p> | <p>11</p> | <p>12</p> <p>3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom</p> <p>7:00pm Cooking Class</p> <p>8:00pm Single Malt Torah Book Club Edition</p> | <p>13</p> <p>6:00pm Early Shabbat Service</p> | <p>14</p> |
| <p>15</p> <p>No Religious School</p> | <p>16</p> <p>Office Closed for Presidents' Day</p> | <p>17</p> <p>No Canasta</p> <p>No Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom</p> <p>No B'nei Mitzvah Boot Camp</p> | <p>18</p> | <p>19</p> <p>No Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom</p> | <p>20</p> <p>6:00pm Lay Led Zoom Shabbat</p> | <p>21</p> |
| <p>22</p> <p>No Religious School</p> | <p>23</p> | <p>24</p> <p>1:45pm Canasta</p> <p>3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom</p> <p>4:00pm B'nei Mitzvah Boot Camp</p> | <p>25</p> | <p>26</p> <p>12:00pm Community Read</p> <p>3:30pm Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom</p> | <p>27</p> <p>6:15pm Former & Current Board Member Dinner</p> <p>7:30pm Purim Shabbat</p> | <p>28</p> <p>9:00am Beit Midrash</p> <p>11:00am Kiera Kaufman Bat Mitzvah</p> |

Exploring the Romaniote Legacy at Kehila Kedosha Janina

On November 17, we enjoyed a memorable tour of Kehila Kedosha Janina, learning about the rich history of the Romaniote Jewish community and the incredible stories preserved within this beautiful synagogue. We also visited the Eldridge Street Synagogue, savored Kossar's famous bialys, and stopped at the iconic Pickle Guys – proving that history, community, and good food make a perfect combination. A special reflection on resilience: Albert Bourla, Pfizer CEO, was born in Thessaloniki to Holocaust survivors, a testament to the strength of those who rebuilt after immense tragedy and the lives they continue to impact today.



Community in Action: Afya Volunteer Day



Congregants, clergy and staff came together on December 8 to volunteer with the Afya Foundation, working side by side to sort and prepare medical supplies bound for communities around the world where these lifesaving items are urgently needed. In the simple, powerful act of rolling up our sleeves together, we were reminded that meaningful work happens not just in grand gestures, but in shared moments of purpose and a collective commitment to care beyond our walls. We are deeply grateful for the opportunity to partner with Afya. We hope to do another sort this coming spring!

An Emanu-El Celebration of Chanukah

We kicked off Chanukah a little early (and just right) with a joyful Shabbat dinner full of crispy latkes, warm laughter, and good company all around.

We then gathered in the sanctuary to light our menorahs together, singing songs as we shared the glow of Chanukah light.



Name
Street Address
City, State Zip Code

JANUARY & FEBRUARY SHABBAT SCHEDULE

January 2

6:00pm Early Shabbat

January 9

7:30pm Hineini & Social Justice Shabbat 🎵

January 16

7:30pm Shabbat Service

January 23

7:30pm Shabbat Service

January 30

7:30pm Shabbat Celebrating Reproductive Freedom

February 6

5:15pm Family Shabbat Dinner

6:00pm Pajama Shabbat 🎵😊

February 13

6:00pm Early Shabbat

February 20

6:00pm Lay Led Shabbat

February 27

7:30pm ABBA Purim Shabbat 🎵😊

Key: 🎵 Band 😊 Especially Family Friendly



Pajama Shabbat & Family Dinner

Friday, February 6

5:15pm Dinner, 6:00pm Service

A special service focused on our younger members, bring your kids (or grandkids) in their PJs to enjoy a delicious pizza and pasta dinner followed by a child friendly, music-filled service. What better way could there be to end the week and begin our day of rest?! Appropriate for children up through 2nd grade. Cost: \$15/person. RSVP information will appear in Emanumail.

Assistive Listening Available in the Sanctuary



Enjoy crystal-clear audio by streaming directly from your smartphone to your Bluetooth enabled hearing aids and earbuds during in-person sanctuary services. Details on pg. 3.