



## CALENDAR

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 1

Candle Lighting 4:22 p.m.  
 Kabbalat Shabbat 4:25 p.m.

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 2

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.  
 Torah Reading: VAYECHI  
 Genesis 47:28-50:26

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 8

Candle Lighting 4:28 p.m.  
 Kabbalat Shabbat 4:30 p.m.

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 9

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.  
 Torah Reading: SHEMOT  
 Exodus 1:1-6:1  
 Anniversary Shabbat

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 15

Candle Lighting 4:36 p.m.  
 Kabbalat Shabbat 4:40 p.m.

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 16

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.  
 Torah Reading: VAERA  
 Exodus 6:2 - 9:35  
 Family Shabbat/ Birthday Shabbat

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 22

Candle Lighting 4:44 p.m.  
 Kabbalat Shabbat 4:45 p.m.

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 23

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.  
 Torah Reading: BO  
 Exodus 10:1 - 13:16

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 29

Candle Lighting 4:52 p.m.  
 Kabbalat Shabbat 4:55 p.m.

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 30

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.  
 Torah Reading: BESHALACH  
 Exodus 13:17-17:16

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Candle Lighting 5:01 p.m.  
 Kabbalat Shabbat 5:05 p.m.

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.  
 Torah Reading: YITRO  
 Exodus 18:1-20:23  
 Anniversary Shabbat

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12

**Shabbat Shekalim**  
 Candle Lighting 5:10 p.m.  
 Kabbalat Shabbat 5:10 p.m.

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.  
 Torah Reading: MISHPATIM  
 Exodus 21:1- 24:18

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

**Shabbat Zachor**  
 Candle Lighting 5:18 p.m.  
 Kabbalat Shabbat 5:20 p.m.

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.  
 Torah Reading: TERUMAH  
 Exodus 25:1-27:19

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25

**Fast of Esther/Leil Purim**  
 Maariv followed by Megillah Reading 6:30 p.m.

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26

**Purim**  
 Megillah Reading 6:30 a.m.  
 Candle Lighting 5:26 p.m.  
 Kabbalat Shabbat 5:30 p.m.

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.  
 Torah Reading: TETZAVEH  
 Exodus 27:20- 30:10  
 Birthday/Family Shabbat



*Rabbi*  
**Bruce Ginsburg**

## OF GROGGERS AND DREIDLS

I devoted my Shabbat morning sermon a couple weeks ago to a comparison of Chanukah and Purim – noting that they share remarkable features. Both holidays – unlike the Pilgrimage festivals – fall during the cold season of the year. Both are geared to children, permit work-related activity, and share common liturgical elements.

But I also remarked that the two holidays are quite different in the way they present their respective heroes' roles in changing the course of history. Organizing armed revolt, the Maccabees were, from the outset, direct and confrontational. In contrast, Esther and her cousin Mordechai adopted an effective covert approach by long concealing her identity.

That was my sermon. Here, let me add that Chanukah and Purim are also quite different in the way they portray God's role in the affairs of man. A great Chassidic Master once suggested that this distinction is illustrated by the different toys children favor on each of the holidays.

On Chanukah, children play with a dreidl. They spin it from the top, so it rotates on the bottom. On Purim, however, they play with a grogger, spinning it from the bottom while it rotates on top. The dreidl recalls that in Hasmonean times, inspiration first came from God; only afterward, did the people respond. Indeed, the Jews were fragmented and lethargic until an inspired Mattathias galvanized them with the rousing battle cry: "All who love the Lord, follow me!" It is as if God took the initiative, spinning from the top, so that His people would be stirred below.

In contrast, the grogger reminds us that Megillat Esther never even mentions the name of God. No one offers a prayer or invokes divine intervention. Rather, Esther and Mordechai call upon human strengths – courage, diplomacy, and the survival instinct – to thwart Haman's vile plans. Only at the end of the book do we sense that God has responded, working behind the scenes to turn agony and grief into joy and festivity. It is as if the people took the initiative, spinning from below, so that the Almighty would be stirred on high.

There are moments when it seems that God breaks into history with overwhelming force. There are other times when it seems He hides His face. Chanukah and Purim teach us, however, that more often than not a divine-human partnership is at work in daily events. Sometimes that partnership whirls like a grogger; other times, it spins like a top.

*Rabbi Bruce Ginsburg*

## Rabbi Ginsburg's Winter Adult Education Series

### "THE BIBLICAL BOOK OF JOB"

Tuesday Evenings,  
January 5 -January 26, 8:30 p.m.  
Zoom Info:

To Join Zoom Meeting Click:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85840417666?pwd=Zz-VrSXJSVUdxZjhKVVhwUIRzQXZzd09>

Meeting ID: 858 4041 7666  
Passcode: 566541  
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*This course is free and open to the public  
For a copy of the text, please contact Natalie at the synagogue office: (516) 374-0655.*



**JOIN US IN CELEBRATION  
OF TU BISHEVAT**  
**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27**  
**8:00 P.M.**  
**VIA ZOOM ONLY**

To Join Zoom Meeting click:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83907739632?pwd=YzN-Fb1BWVki1oM2oxWTNwUEtaSFBxZz09>

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*President*  
**Mark Kavarsky**

- to the leadership, staff and support crew at CSOI who work tirelessly on behalf of our families
- to the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees who spend far too many hours resolving the problems associated with the Covid-19 pandemic.

Make a resolution to express your gratitude to someone you love, like or like not.

*Mark Kavarsky*

## **EMBRACING AN ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE IN THE FACE OF COVID-19**

I am sitting at my desk working remotely and watching the snow accumulate as forecasters are predicting near blizzard conditions. In the “old normal” I would be complaining about the challenges that I face in clearing the driveway with my snow blower and shovels. In the “new normal” the challenges are much ado about nothing. While many of us have been bombarded with discouraging reports about the devastating impact of COVID-19, it is easy to feel overwhelmed, anxious, and depressed. Our “new normal” has been extremely challenging, whether we are trying to work from home, caring for sick loved ones, managing childcare or all of the above. Therefore, it is not surprising that we may be focused on all that is going wrong in the world. However, if you are sheltering at home and are healthy, there are many things for which to be thankful. This is where embracing an “attitude of gratitude” is important.

Gratitude is the expression of appreciation of what one has in his life, even during a pandemic. Adopting a grateful outlook allows you to recognize the value of things independent of monetary worth and affirms intrinsic goodness. While gratitude can be a spontaneous feeling, research suggests that individuals can practice cultivating gratefulness and thereby enjoy the benefits. In particular, gratefulness has been shown to boost happiness as well as improve physical and psychological health even among those with mental health issues.

There are many ways to cultivate gratefulness and including your family in your gratitude practices can be particularly helpful when you are all sheltering at home together.

As the secular year comes to a close, I offer my gratitude

- to the First Responders - health care workers, front line workers, teachers, coaches, policemen and firemen who nobly serve as our surrogate on the firing line
- to my family who has expressed love and support even as we practice social distancing
- to my friends and colleagues who check-in on me even as we stay in contact exclusively by zoom
- to the educators who struggle to teach our children remotely or jeopardize their health by working on site
- to the small business owners who suffer the economic burdens of the pandemic
- to my black and brown friends who suffer racial and economic inequality

## **WOODMERE SISTERHOOD**

Woodmere Sisterhood would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the entire CSOI community for your generous and thoughtful donations to the LEKET Israel Campaign. Leket Israel’s sole focus is rescuing healthy, surplus food and delivering it to those in need through partner nonprofit organizations. A less known fact is that Leket Israel only donates 100% nutritious food. Your contributions will enable Leket to provide food assistance to over 200,000 Israelis every week, regardless of age, gender, religion, or ethnic background.

On February 26, Purim 5781 will be here. Due to Covid-19, Sisterhood has chosen to celebrate the spirit of Purim this year by sending a card in lieu of a basket. We have designed a custom PURIM GREETING CARD which we will send -- for you-- to your designated CSOI family and friends. The money that is raised from this project will help fund Sisterhood programs, Hebrew school faculty, and Synagogue infrastructure. Sisterhood will also donate a portion of the proceeds to LEKET. Watch your mail for details.

Our next Book Club ZOOM meeting will take place on Monday, January 20 at 7:45 pm. The book to be reviewed is *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett. The story follows the lives of a set of identical twins whose lives diverge. It is a reflection on family, Black identity, and how our past lives shape our present.

The next two Elayne Cheslow Flores Lunch and Learn sessions will be January 13 and February 24 at 1:00 pm. Bring your own lunch and ZOOM.

Wishing you a Happy Tu B'Shevat!

**PB and J**

*We Extend Mazal Tov To:*

**RAE AND GARY KERZNER**

on the birth of their grandson, Zeke Theise Firestone

**LYNNE GORDON**

on becoming Executive Vice President of The Nassau Hadassah

**ANDREA AND ALAN OBERSTEIN**

in honor of the engagement of their son, Jeremy to Samantha Chasworth

*Refuah Shleima*

A Very Speedy Recovery to:

**DAVID HIRSH, NEAL ROMANOFF, DR. LANCE COHEN,  
DR. GALE GROBSTEIN, TERI STEIN**

**NACHAMU NACHAMU**

*The Congregation and Board of Trustees offer their heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families of our members:*

**GIZELLA GOLDSTEIN z”l**

Beloved mother of Susan Hassine

**MARILYN KAMINSKY z”l**

Beloved wife/mother of Howard Kaminsky and Brian Kaminsky

**LUCILLE STALMAN z”l**

Beloved sister of Dr. Sheldon Goodman

**JONATHON (YONI) ZALCMAN z”l**

Beloved son/brother of Helen and Samuel Zalcmán and Shiri Zalcmán

**SEMYON KOSTOVETSKY z”l**

Beloved father of Alexander Kostovetsky

*“May their souls be bound up in the bond of eternal life”*

## The Congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions

### SPECIAL DONATIONS

Charlotte Horowitz

### SIRULNICK FUND FOR FAMILY ED.

Rae And Gary Kerzner in honor of the birth of their grandson, Zeke These Firestone.

Connie and Jeff Glaser in appreciation to Michael Brenner for leading the outside services during the High Holidays.

Connie and Jeff Glaser in appreciation to Harriet Gefen and Staff for arranging the outside services during the High Holiday. Ronnie and Fred Hirsh for the complete recovery of Rachel Ginsburg.

Carla and Joel Russo, Alison and Brian Oku and Lauren and Jeffrey Rait in memory of William Brief.

Connie Glaser for the Yahrzeit of her father, Harry Weiss.

Ronnie Hirsh for the Yahrzeit of her father, Raymond Baron.

Sandra Brandner for the Yahrzeit of her father, Sol Prosky.

Steven Poster for the Yahrzeit of his father, Murray Poster.

### TORAH FUND

Gaye and Sam Levine in memory of William Brief.

Mitchell Jacobs for the Yahrzeit of his father, Isadore Jacobs.

Helen Cytryn for the Yahrzeit of her husband, Jack Cytryn.

Michelle Benesowitz for the Yahrzeit of her father, Louis M. Levine.

Mara Kostovetsky for the Yahrzeit of her mother, Raza Chernerko.

### SYNAGOGUE FUND

Mollie Palais

Ronnie and Fred Hirsh in honor of Jason Machowsky's marriage to Rachel Watson.

Richele and Randy Alpert in honor of all our Simchat Torah Honorees.

Harriet Gefen in appreciation to Warren Prosky for his outstanding help.

Lynne and Arnie Gordon in honor of the birth of Rae and Gary Kerzner's grandson, Zeke These Firestone.

Linda Gralitzer in appreciation to Harriet Gefen for her "Learning to Read Hebrew Course."

### *For the speedy recovery of Anita Florin:*

Richele and Randy Alpert

Harriet Schneier

Janet and Barry Behrens for the speedy recovery of Maddi Lavin.

Nancy and Stephen Kronick for the speedy recovery of Neal Romanoff.

Nancy and Stephen Kronick for the speedy recovery of Alex Sreter.

Richele and Randy Alpert for the speedy recovery of Julie Gronowetter

### *For the speedy recovery of Rachel Ginsburg:*

Richele and Randy Alpert

Nancy and Stephen Kronick

Joan Greenfield

Ruth and Barton Schwartz

Harriet Schneier

Sue and Ted Kahn

Janet and Barry Behrens

Kate Kreiss in appreciation to Nancy and Michael Kimmel for their friendship and help.

### *In memory of Elayne Cheslow Flores:*

Harriet Schneier

Joan Greenfield

Richele and Randy Alpert

Audrey and Jeff Amer in memory of Jeffrey Hoch.

Sheera Gefen Greenberg and Asael Greenberg in memory of Charlotte Koss.

Sasha and Fanny Wainstein in memory of Bernie Furman.

### *In memory of William Brief:*

Phyllis, Jill and Ed Bernstein

Lisa Fiske

Laurie DiFrancesco

Ruth and Barton Schwartz in memory of Marilyn Kaminsky.

Dr. Shelley Goodman in memory of his sister, Lucille Stalman.

Tammy Sippin for the Yahrzeit of her father, Yeshayahu Baum.

Barbara Koffler for the Yahrzeit of her mother, Lillian Stein.

Mitchel May for the Yahrzeit of his father, Sheldon May.

Kate Kreiss for the Yahrzeit of her grandmother Anna Klinick.

Gale Grobstein for the Yahrzeit of her husband, Steven Grobstein.

Martin and Barbara Semel for the Yahrzeit of his mother, Clara Semel.

Barbara Kolb for the Yahrzeit of her father-in-law, Nathan Kolb.

Lynne Gordon for the Yahrzeit of her grandmother, Anna Gurian.

Nancy Kimmel for the Yahrzeit of her mother Shirley Buchman.

Ellen Pupkin for the Yahrzeit of her father, Sam Goldstein.

Jonathan Katz for the Yahrzeit of his grandfather, Julius Katz.

Fred Koffler for the Yahrzeit of his father, Abraham Koffler.

Mollie Palais for the Yahrzeit of her mother, Julia Ganis.

Murray Blum for the Yahrzeit of his mother, Rose Blum.

Ann Wertheim for the Yahrzeit of her brother, Alan Kaufman.

Marlene London for the Yahrzeit of her father, Dr. Charles Sternschein.

Anita Florin for the Yahrzeiten of her parents, Ida and Joseph Schonbach.

Anita Florin for the Yahrzeiten of her in-laws, Stella and Murray Florin.

George Elkowitz for the Yahrzeit of his mother, Lillian Elkowitz.

Janet Behrens for the Yahrzeit of her mother, Ann Goldberg.

Helen Ingerman for the Yahrzeit of her mother, Ida Gurfein.

### TZEDAKAH FUND:

Richele and Randy Alpert

Richard Berman

Mollie Palais

### *In honor of the birth of Suzanne Held's grandson, Henry Ethan Held:*

Connie and Jeff Glaser

Honey and Leonard Slavitt

Liane Feuer in honor of the birth of Rae and Gary Kerzner's grandson, Zeke These Firestone.

Connie and Jeff Glaser in honor of the birth of Teri and Aaron Stein's granddaughter.

Connie and Jeff Glaser in honor of Jason Machowsky's marriage to Rachel Watson.



Honey and Leonard Slavit in honor of Dr. Fred Hirsh's good health.

***For the speedy and complete recovery of Rachel Ginsburg:***

Connie and Jeff Glaser  
Honey and Leonard Slavit  
Ilene and Scott Nelson  
Ann Wertheim  
Wendy and Warren Muchnick

***For the speedy and complete recovery of Anita Florin:***

Connie and Jeff Glaser  
Honey and Leonard Slavit  
For the speedy and complete recovery of

***Neal Romanoff:***

Pepi and Marcel Buchsbaum  
Honey and Leonard Slavit

***For the speedy and complete recovery of Lance Cohen:***

Honey and Leonard Slavit  
Pepi and Marcel Buchsbaum

Honey and Leonard Slavit for the speedy and complete recovery of David Hirsh.  
Sharon and Warren Goodman in memory of Gerald Sippin  
Honey and Leonard Slavit in memory of William Brief.  
Gladys Pascher in memory of Sheila Evans.  
Vicki and Alex Sreter in memory of Joe Block.  
Judith Minsky for the Yahrzeit of her husband, Arnold Minsky.  
Michael Haberman for the Yahrzeit of his father, Maurice Haberman.  
Martin Kaplan for the Yahrzeit of his mother, Bessie Kaplan.  
Rita Palley for the Yahrzeit of her sister, Margie Zweiback.  
Rabb Burton Cohen for the Yahrzeit of his father, Harold Cohen.  
Honey and Leonard Slavit for the Yahrzeit of her father, Louis H. Levine.  
Manny Weiss for the Yahrzeit of his father, Harry Weiss.  
Sol Freedman for the Yahrzeit of his brother-in-law, Stuart E. Liebowitz.  
Eliot and Tina Millman for the Yahrzeit of his father, Dr. Nathan Millman.  
Avi and Lynn Turett Barbasch for the Yahrzeit of her brother, Neal Turett.  
Stephen Kronick for the Yahrzeit of his father, Lewis Kronick.  
Abby Fox and for the Yahrzeit of husband/father, Randy Fox.  
Gale Grobstein for the Yahrzeit of her husband, Steven Grobstein.  
Steven Kirtman and family for the Yahrzeit

of brother/uncle, Howard Kirtman.  
Helen Cytryn for the Yahrzeit of her uncle, Leo Isaacson.  
Ellen Margolin for the Yahrzeit of her mother, Belle Blaushield.  
Dena Feinberg Stein for the Yahrzeit of her mother, Millie Feinberg.  
Sol Freedman for the Yahrzeit of his brother, William Katcher, father-in-law, Louis Liebowitz and mother-in-law, Dorothy Liebowitz.  
Suzanne Held for the Yahrzeit of her brother, Evan Kotel.  
Joel Kaplan for the Yahrzeit of his mother, Phayne Kaplan.  
Barbara Benimowitz for the Yahrzeit of her father, Reuben Levin.  
Murray Blum for the Yahrzeit of his mother, Rose Blum.  
Kostovetsky Family for the Yahrzeit of their friend, Walter Tessler.  
Joan Guskin for the Yahrzeit of her father, Sidney Palley.  
Stephen Ickowitz for the Yahrzeit of his mother, Malvina Ickowitz.  
Vivien and Stephen Ruchman for the Yahrzeiten of parents, Helen and David Brodsky and Ida and Simon Ruchman.  
Rochelle Rabinowitz for the Yahrzeit of her brother, Melvin Rabinowitz.  
Cyd Weiss for the Yahrzeit of her brother, Howard Rosenberg.  
Marina Bernstein for the Yahrzeit of her mother, Yelizaveta Rashevskaya.  
Sol Freedman for the Yahrzeit of his brother, Morris Katcher.

**BUILDING IMPROVEMENT FUND:**

Mollie Palais  
Connie and Jeff Glaser in appreciation to Arnie Gordon for running the Food Drive.  
Linda and Cary Brozik for the speedy recovery of Iris Eisenberg.  
Neal Romanoff for the Yahrzeit of his grandmother, Zipporah Berger.  
Harriette Romanoff for the Yahrzeit of her sister, Sheila Bolton.  
Cary Brozik for the Yahrzeit of his mother, Margaret Brozik.  
Sue Kahn for the Yahrzeit of her father, Bernard Huttner.  
Richele Alpert for the Yahrzeit of her mother, Sandra Schor.  
Mark Kavarsky for the Yahrzeit of his mother, Pauline Kavarsky.  
Judy Cohen for the Yahrzeit of her grandfather, Ben Schwartz.

**GENERAL FUND**

Phyllis and Howard Brenner in honor of Mark Sataloff's special birthday.

***For Mary Harrow's Good Health:***

Binnie Stein  
Woodmere Sisterhood

Harriet and Isaac Gefen in honor of Jeremy Oberstein's engagement to Samantha Chadsworth.  
Ann Wertheim in honor of Jason Machowsky's marriage to Rachel Watson.

***In honor of the birth of Rae and Gary Kerzner's grandson, Zeke Theise Firestone:***

Kate Kreiss  
Harriet and Isaac Gefen

***In honor of Lynne Gordon becoming Executive Vice President of Nassau Hadassah:***

Woodmere Sisterhood  
Kate Kreiss  
Binnie Stein

Kate Kreiss for the speedy recovery of Gale Grobstein.

Kate Kreiss in memory of William Brief.  
Joan and Mark Kavarsky in memory of Elayne Cheslow Flores.  
Kate Kreiss in memory of Lucille Stalman, sister of Dr. Sheldon Goodman.

***In memory of Howard Krochmal, dear brother of Paula Rosenfeld:***

Harriet and Isaac Gefen  
Phyllis and Howard Brenner

Gladys Pascher for the speedy recovery of Dr. Simone.

***For the speedy and complete recovery of Rachel Ginsburg:***

Joan and Mark Kavarsky  
Joan and Steven Sherman  
Lynne Jacofs

***For the speedy and complete recovery of Lance Cohen:***

Harriet and Isaac Gefen  
Howard and Phyllis Brenner  
Natalie and Stewart Lyons  
Joan and Steven Sherman  
Lynne Jacofs for the speedy and complete recovery of Anita Florin.

***For the speedy and complete recovery of Neal Romanoff:***

Natalie and Stewart Lyons  
Harriet and Isaac Gefen  
Joan and Steven Sherman  
Rosalie Moskowitz for the Yahrzeit of her mother, Ruth Krieger.



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## LEIL PURIM SERVICE, MEGILLAH READING, AND CELEBRATION

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25- 6:30 P.M.- Main Sanctuary

To Join Via Zoom click:

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## PURIM SHACHARIT SERVICE AND MEGILLAH READING

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26- 6:30 AM – Main Sanctuary

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## JEWISH SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

If your child will be attending a kosher Jewish sleep away camp or going on an organized Jewish teen summer trip to Israel, financial assistance is available through Woodmere Sisterhood's Cantor Lazar Wax Scholarship Fund and the Muriel Leibowitz Israel Scholarship Fund, respectively. **Please contact Harriet Gefen at 374-0655 for an application.**



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**WEBSITE**

Weekly announcements, schedule of events and links to programs and sites of Jewish interest can be found on our website **[www.csoiwoodmere.org](http://www.csoiwoodmere.org)**. Please do your Amazon shopping via our website. Just click on the link. CSOI will receive a donation for every purchase that you make!

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