



# NHBZ Weekly News

## Welcome to Nusach Hari B'nai Zion

Affiliated with Union of Orthodox Congregations of America

October 2, 2021 • 26 Tishrei 5782 • Candle Lighting 6:25 pm • Shabbos Concludes 7:27 pm

Shabbos Bereishis  
Haftorah

Genesis 1:1 – 6:8  
Isaiah 42:5 – 42:21

Stone Chumash pp. 2 – 29  
Stone Chumash p. 1130

We thank our generous sponsors for the sumptuous Simchas Torah Dinner:

Rachael Pevnick  
The Szus Family

Mimi Fiszal  
Bob & Joni Kaiser

The Edelstein Family  
Kenny & Barb Bressler

Helayne & Ed Levitt

**ATTENTION: Is the Eruv down for this Shabbos?** As of publication (Thursday, September 30), the Eruv is DOWN for this Shabbos. Please be sure to verify its availability weekly. Before Shabbos, call the Eruv Hotline at 314-863-1811.

## Prayer

### Erev Shabbos, Friday, October 1

- 6:25 pm Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat, Ma'ariv
- 6:25 pm Candle Lighting

### Shabbos, Saturday, October 2

- 9:00 am Shachris followed by Musaf

Pesukei D'Zimra: **Menachem Szus**

Shacharis: **TBA**

Leyning: **TBA**

Haftorah: **Dr. Naftali Kadosh**

Sermon: **Rabbi Avi Okin**

Musaf: **Rabbi Avi Okin**

- 6:05 pm Mincha, Shalosh Seudos, Ma'ariv
- 7:27 pm Shabbos concludes



**WHO NEEDS CARTOONS?** Starting **THIS SHABBOS MORNING**, NHBZ offers Saturday morning programs for elementary and middle school students. Programs **every Shabbos**, from 10:00 am until Kiddush is served. Program content is personally designed and coordinated by Rabbi Okin. Families do NOT need to be members of NHBZ to participate. See you Saturday!

### Minyan Times September 30 – October 9, 2021

	Thu Sep 30	Fri Oct 1	Shabbos Oct 2	Sun Oct 3	Mon Oct 4	Tues Oct 5	Wed Oct 6*	Thur Oct 7*	Fri Oct 8	Shabbos Oct 9
Shachris (am)	7:00	7:00	9:00	8:00	7:00	7:00	6:45	6:45	7:00	9:00
Mincha/Ma'ariv (pm)	6:25	6:25	6:05	6:15	6:15	6:15	6:15	6:15	6:15	5:55

\*Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan

# Congregation News

## **Mazel Tov on Simchas This Week! October 3 – October 9, 2021**

### ***Happy Birthday***

Robert Abrams	October 3
Leib Smason	October 3
Dr. Susan Feigenbaum	October 5
Sallie Volotzky	October 8
Ina Makovsky	October 9
David Morgensztern	October 9



### ***Happy Anniversary***

Dr. Jonathan & Naomi Shanker	October 6
Marvin & Sandra Greenberg	October 7

## **Events**

### **Coming Soon**

- Saturday, November 13 – Havdalathon (Motzai Shabbos – Saturday night)
- Monday, November 15 – "14 Days Living in Eshkol, Israel"
- Thursday, November 25 – Thanksgiving Parent/Child Learning & Gratitude Program
- Sunday, December 12 – 116<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event

### **On-Going**

- Online Classes – See listing on Page 6
- Every Shabbos, 9:15 am – Learners' Service with Rabbi David
- Every Shabbos, 10:00 am – Shabbos Morning Kids' Program
- Every Shabbos, 10:15 am – Starting Points with Rabbi Smason
- Every Wednesday, 12:15 pm – Pirkei Avos Class with Rabbi Smason (**On Hiatus\***)
- Every Thursday, 7:30 pm – Mishmar Learning with Rabbi Okin
- Every Sunday, 9:00 – Teen Schmooze with Rabbi Okin

\* Rabbi Smason's Wednesday classes will resume October 13, 2021.

## **Current Status of the Special Gifts Campaign**

I would like to thank all of you who helped and continue to assist in this important effort. The project this summer went longer than we expected, which prevented the scheduling of a planned event to extend appreciation to those members of the Shul who have contributed to the Campaign.

Rather than continue the Special Gifts Campaign ("the SGC"), which would conflict with our Yizkor Appeal and the efforts involved with the Annual Dinner, the Executive Committee has agreed to defer continuation of the SGC until after the first of the year.

I appreciate your understanding. Know that the funds generated by the Campaign will go a long way to ensure the future of Nusach Hari.

Jay B. Umansky  
Committee Chair



## **On-going Covid Guidelines *Shul Policy***

NHBZ requires that all people praying inside the shul show proof of vaccination. You may show your vaccination card to Rabbi Smason before the holidays or as you enter the shul. **If we have no proof of vaccination**, you are welcome to join services from the Kaiser Terrace on the West side of the synagogue.

Masks required of all inside attendees, age 3 and older; masks are strongly encouraged for those outside, too. Children aged 13 and older have the same vaccination requirements as adults.

Please enter the synagogue from the South entrance (near Logos School).

Here's to good health, a year of peace, and prosperity. With our efforts and cooperation, may we help end this pandemic.

## **Youth Programming**

### **Shabbos Morning Kids' Program, Saturdays**

Who wants to watch cartoons when we can have fun with friends and spend time with Rabbi Okin and other great counselors?! NHBZ is excited to launch its Shabbos Morning programming!



Starting THIS SHABBOS, NHBZ will offer Saturday morning programs for elementary and middle school students. Programs offered **every Shabbos**, from 10:00 am until Kiddush is served. All program content will be personally designed and coordinated by Rabbi Okin. Families do NOT need to be members of NHBZ to participate. Please contact Rabbi Okin at [aviokin@nhbz.org](mailto:aviokin@nhbz.org) with any questions. See you on Saturday!

### **Teen Schmooze is BACK, Sundays**

**"Teen Schmooze"**, a special opportunity just for teens in an informal group setting, is now underway. This program meets every Sunday – middle school students start at 9:00 am, and high school students at 9:30 am. **Join us on the patio at the back of the NHBZ Sanctuary.** Breakfast will be served! For details, contact **Rabbi Okin** at [aviokin@nhbz.org](mailto:aviokin@nhbz.org).

## **Israel**

### **Israeli Olive Oil**

Place your orders! To participate in this awesome opportunity is simple:

- Go to the website: [mytree.org.il/nhbz](http://mytree.org.il/nhbz)  
The website will instruct you to click on a button to order either 3 or 6 bottles of oil and will explain how you can get your name placed on your own tree in Israel.
- You will also make your payment on the website. The bottles will be sent to NHBZ and we will contact you to pick them up.
- If you prefer to pay by check or cash please call Nancy (314-991-2100, ext. 2) or email ([office@nhbz.org](mailto:office@nhbz.org)).
- Please contact Margo Tzadok at [tmargo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tmargo@sbcglobal.net) for any questions.

## NHBZ – Yom Kippur Appeal – 2021/5782

Psalm 100 enjoins us to “Ivdu et Hashem B’simcha”, which translates to “Serve Hashem with Joy”.

During the last year, plus, that mitzva has been very challenging to fulfil. We continue to calculate each step we make, as individuals, as families, as a congregation, as a nation and as a whole world.

Nevertheless, at our shul we decided from the outset that, together with being medically responsible, we would press on and find ways to move the needle on the great compass, as far forward as possible and to do so with creativity and joy.

One year ago, we hired Rav Okin to be our Assistant Rabbi in charge of young family and youth and singles programming. This year we hired both a new bookkeeper, Hindy Anton, and Nancy Stenn, our new Shul Administrator. Together with Rabbi Smason and our other staff, they form a dynamic team, who truly believes in our shul’s mission. They are of course, always complemented by our tremendous team of volunteers.

Many new members have joined us, in all age groups. Most recently we have been joined by a family whose children represent a fifth generation of NHBZ members. Our youth programming and young adults programming is accelerating, and I am very optimistic about our shul’s future.

All of the above could not and would not be possible, without your generous donations and gifts to your shul. I am reaching out to you to fulfil the mitzva of Tzedaka at this propitious moment of the Jewish year cycle. Please donate generously to your shul so that we can continue with our missions of in-reach and outreach and make sure that no Jew is left behind. There are many ways that you can donate and also have friends and relatives be recognized in the process. Let’s together fulfil the mitzva of “Ivdu et Hashem B’simcha”

**Shana Tova and G’mar Chatima Tova  
Menachem Szus, Shul President.**



**"Everyone, age 3 and older, wears a mask in the shul. Adults (age 13 and older) must also show proof of vaccination to the Rabbi. Health and safety, first!"**



# Learning at NHBZ

## ● Parashas Bereishis

This first portion of the Torah begins with G-d's creation of the world in six days and His 'resting' on the seventh. All was created during this first week: from the separation between light and darkness, to the establishment of the sun, moon and stars, to the creation of Man (Adam) and Woman (Eve) in G-d's image and their placement in the Garden of Eden.

Adam and Eve are given one command -- to refrain from eating the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge. Eve is enticed by the snake to eat of the forbidden fruit, and she offers some to her husband as well. G-d punishes them for their transgression, and they are banished from the paradise of Eden.

After the expulsion their first two sons, Cain and Abel, each bring an offering to G-d. In jealousy Cain kills his brother, and G-d sends him into exile to wander the face of the earth. The Torah then gives a genealogy of the first ten generations of the world, beginning with Adam and leading up to the birth of Noah and his three sons.

## ● NHBZ Mishmar

Join Rabbi Okin and young men from all over St. Louis for Mishmar, an evening gathering of Torah and Camaraderie on Thursday Nights from 7:30 pm – 8:00 pm. ***We will meet indoors at the back of the NHBZ sanctuary*** with a text-based and interactive learning session. If you are interested, please contact Rabbi Okin at [aviokin@nhbz.org](mailto:aviokin@nhbz.org).

## ● Rabbi Smason's Shabbos Shoutout

The complete list of Shabbos Shoutouts, with most recent listed first, can be found at [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLI\\_MFI0zsmKlImpR3KpHROrHDWIDNbgsN](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLI_MFI0zsmKlImpR3KpHROrHDWIDNbgsN)

## ● Rabbi Okin's Torah Thoughts

The complete list of Torah Thoughts, with most recent listed first, can be found at: [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLI\\_MFI0zsmKJG-HuXMG1Ej2aUImgQHkJ-](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLI_MFI0zsmKJG-HuXMG1Ej2aUImgQHkJ-)

## ● Rabbi David's Learners' Service

Every Shabbos at 9:15 am. Just starting out? No worries. Rabbi David teaches the basics of Shabbos prayers.

## ● Rabbi Smason's Starting Points

Join Rabbi Smason for a 45-minute presentation/discussion of relevant, contemporary topics every Shabbos at 10:15 am in the Feigenbaum-Pepose Multi-Purpose Room. Upcoming topics coming soon!

## ● Rabbi Smason's Wednesday In-Person Class will resume Wednesday, October 13, 2021.





## NHBZ Online Classes

Rabbi Ze'ev Smason will keep you connected during this challenging time. The classes listed below are easy to join and you can drop in on one without having previously attended. All classes are offered through Zoom video conferencing on your computer or smart phone (you do not need to download the Zoom application to see the class) AND through audio only on your telephone.

### Instructions to Attend Classes

**For audio** through your telephone, connect in one of two ways:

1. *Preferred option* - Call 312-626-6799 which connects you to the ZOOM audio number and will enable you to participate fully, except for the video. Toll Free.
2. Or call 314-325-8791 for our old audio connection. We encourage you to use the *preferred option* since this way might become unavailable soon.

**For Zoom video**, each class has a Zoom link shown underlined in blue below. Click or tap on the link, or copy and paste the link into your browser to join the class.

### List of Rabbi Ze'ev Smason's Zoom Classes **Classes resume next week**

1. Weekdays, 8:15 am (Sun 9:15 am) ~ New topic "Tehillim Tips: Insights Into Our Prayers". Sessions are approximately 30 minutes.  
Zoom video link: <https://zoom.us/j/99013706617>
2. Monday thru Friday, 3:00 pm - 3:30 pm ~ "King Solomon: His Wisdom, Wealth and Wives".  
Zoom video link: <https://zoom.us/j/136785930>
3. Fridays, 8:15 am ~ Discussion of the "Haftorah of the Week"  
Zoom video link: <https://zoom.us/j/99013706617>

### **GOT QUESTIONS?? Ask our Rabbis!**

What is the meaning behind.....? Why did my Grandmother always.....? Can you offer a deeper meaning to.....?

Whatever the question, our Rabbis are here to answer! You may email your questions directly to Rabbi Smason at [pepsshort613@gmail.com](mailto:pepsshort613@gmail.com) or contact the rabbis directly. Let's make the most out of these learned teachers!

### **Trib-ute (trib'yoot)**

**A gift, payment, declaration, or other acknowledgement of gratitude, respect or admiration.**

**Make a tribute honor someone's simcha or good health or a loved one's memory.**

**Call Nancy in the office to make a tribute – 314-991-2100, ext 2.**

***Tributes will be listed monthly in the NHBZ Weekly News.***



# THE SISTERHOOD SCOOP

## OCTOBER 2

בראשית  
In the beginning...

Volume 4

Number 38

26 Tishrei 5782

October 2, 2021

### St. Louis Jewish Federation Women's Philanthropy presents: **L'Chaim! Make a Fresh Start**

A virtual evening of celebration,  
community, and giving, on  
**Wednesday, October 27, 2021**  
Virtual – 7:00 pm

featuring *Clea Shearer & Joanna Teplin*,  
founders of *The Home Edit*...

...who will share how Jewish values have  
shaped them into powerful female  
entrepreneurs with an inspirational  
Instagram account, celebrity clients, and a  
hit Netflix series.

Our NHBZ Sisterhood will serve as a  
Congregational Table Host for the Event.

Tickets: **\$18**, includes a *L'Chaim!* Treat and a  
chance to win a gift package from The Home  
Edit Collection. Register online **by October 20**  
at [www.JFedSTL.org/events/lchaim2021/](http://www.JFedSTL.org/events/lchaim2021/)

*Thank you to all who contributed  
to Sisterhood's New Year Greeting  
campaign for 5782*  
in support of our Passport to Israel Program

## Book Club News

**Mark your calendars now for these  
upcoming Book Club discussions:**

- ☐ **Oct. 25 "The Third Daughter"** by Talia Carner  
– discussion led by *Ilene Brooks Scharnhorst*
- ☐ **Dec. 27 "The Ghost of Hannah Mendes"**  
by Naomi Ragen

For more information or to  
**RSVP call Terri Schnitzer**  
at 314-518-4107 or email  
[terrischnitzer@yahoo.com](mailto:terrischnitzer@yahoo.com)



## Sisterhood's 'Welcome Back' Open House in the Sukkah!



Many thanks to  
Rabbi Smason,  
Rabbi & Mrs. Okin  
and all those  
who attended  
Sisterhood's first  
event of 5782!

## Seal of G-d is Truth

*In the beginning of G-d's creating the heavens and the earth...  
G-d blessed the seventh day and sanctified it because on it  
He abstained from all His work which G-d created to make*

These two verses encompass all of Creation. The opening three words end in the letters *taf, aleph, mem*, which spell *emet* – truth, and the closing three words end in *aleph, mem, taf*, which again spell *emet*. Rabbi Simchah Bunim of P'shis'che cites the Talmudic statement, "The seal of G-d is *emet*", and comments, "It is customary for an author to place his name in the opening of his book. G-d placed His Name *emet* – truth, in the opening chapter of the Torah. *Emet* thus envelops all of creation, a testimony to G-d as the Creator."

*Divrei Shaul* notes that all traits can be a matter of degree. There can be greater beauty and lesser beauty, greater wisdom and lesser wisdom, greater strength and lesser strength, etc. Only one trait cannot be more or less: truth. There is no such thing as greater truth and lesser truth. Something is either true or it is not true.

G-d is identified with truth. Just as truth can never be altered, because altered truth is no longer truth, there can be no change in G-d. (*Malachi, 2:6*).

The Talmud says that *emet* is broad-based, consisting of the first letter of the alphabet, *aleph*, the middle letter, *mem*, and the last letter, *taf* (*Shabbos 55a*). Truth therefore, has stability and durability. Falsehood, on the other hand, is the Hebrew *sheker*, consisting of three letters near the end of the alphabet. *Sheker* is top-heavy and cannot endure.

To the extent that a person lives with truth is the extent one identifies with G-d. Any falsehood distances a person from G-d.

– by **Rabbi Dr. Abraham Twerski** ([www.aish.org](http://www.aish.org))



# DELICIOUS PARTNERSHIP

NHBZ is giving you the opportunity to connect to an Israeli farmer who will create for you your private brand of boutique olive oil bottles!

For you and your family    As an incredible gift    In memory of a loved one

Promote Israel! Support your community!  
A part of the money goes back to NHBZ

[mytree.org.il/nhbz](https://mytree.org.il/nhbz)

Email for questions: [tmargo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tmargo@sbcglobal.net)



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# **Teen Schmooze**

*Teens of all levels of observance welcome*

***A special opportunity just for teens  
in an informal group setting***

***Weekly, starting Sunday, August 29  
On the NHBZ Patio***

***Refreshments will be served***

Join Rabbi Avi Okin to talk about . . . life,  
Jewish stuff, not-so Jewish stuff, concerns,  
questions . . . and whatever is on your mind!

***5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders 9:00 am - 9:30 am***

***9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders 9:30 am - 10:00 am***

## **Got Questions**

There is no charge for this program  
NHBZ membership not required

Please RSVP to Rabbi Okin at [aviokin@nhbz.org](mailto:aviokin@nhbz.org)

