



NHBZ Weekly News

Welcome to Nusach Hari B'nai Zion

Affiliated with Union of Orthodox Congregations of America

November 13, 2021 • 9 Kislev 5782 • Candle Lighting 4:32 pm • Shabbos Concludes 5:34

Parshas Vayeitzei
Haftorah

Genesis 28:10 – 32:3
Hosea 11:7 – 12:14

Stone Chumash pp. 144 – 169
Stone Chumash pp. 1139 - 1140

ATTENTION: The Eruv is down for this Shabbos as of publication (Thursday, November 11). Please verify its availability weekly at 314-863-1811.

We thank our Anonymous Sponsors for today's Kiddush in honor of
David Rubin's recognition as one of the Best Lawyers in America

Prayer

Erev Shabbos, Friday, November 12

- 4:30 pm Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat, Ma'ariv
- 4:32 pm Candle Lighting

Shabbos, Saturday, November 13

- 9:00 am Shachris followed by Musaf
Pesukei D'Zimra: Haftorah: **Kenny Bressler**
Shacharis: **Rabbi Avi Okin** Sermon: **Rabbi Ze'ev Smason**
Leyning: **Stuart Klamen** Musaf: **Rabbi Avi Okin**
- 4:15 pm Mincha, Shalosh Seudos, Ma'ariv
- 5:34 pm Shabbos concludes



Minyan Times November 11 – November 20, 2021

	Thu Nov 11	Fri Nov 12	Shabbos Nov 13	Sun Nov 14	Mon Nov 15	Tues Nov 16	Wed Nov 17	Thur Nov 18	Fri Nov 19	Shabbos Nov 20
Shachris (am)	7:00	7:00	9:00	8:00	7:00	7:00	7:00	7:00	7:00	9:00
Mincha/Ma'ariv (pm)	--	4:30	4:15	4:25	4:25	--	--	--	4:25	4:10
Ma'ariv Only (pm)	6:45	--	--	--		6:45	6:45	6:45	--	--

Shabbos Mornings Kids' Programs: Every Shabbos, from 10:00 am until Kiddush is served, NHBZ offers programs for elementary and middle school students. Bring them into the beauty of honoring Shabbos with their community. Families do NOT need to be members of NHBZ to participate. See you Shabbos!

Congregation News

Mazel Tov on Simchas This Week! November 14 – November 20, 2021



Happy Birthday

Marilyn Liss	November 16
Kenny Bressler	November 17
Michael Minoff	November 19

Happy Anniversary

Jerry & Devy Goldenberg	November 18
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Events

Coming Soon

- Saturday night, November 13 – Havdalathon (Motzai Shabbos – Saturday night)
- Sunday, November 14 – All-Congregation meeting via Zoom (11 am)
- Monday, November 15 – "14 Days Living in Eshkol, Israel" (7 pm)
- Thursday, November 25 – Thanksgiving Parent/Child Learning & Gratitude Program
- Sunday, December 5 – Family Chanukah Party
- Sunday, December 12 – 116th Anniversary Event – LIVE & In-Person at the Clayton Plaza

On-Going

- Online Classes – See listing on Page 8
- 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 Monday, 8:00 pm – St. Louis Kollel Amud-A-Week
- Every Wednesday, 12:15 pm – Pirkei Avos Class with Rabbi Smason
- Every Thursday, 7:00 pm – Mishmar Learning with Rabbi Okin
- Every Sunday, 9:00 am – Teen Schmooze with Rabbi Okin

This Week (Nov 13–15)

Motzai Shabbos

Saturday Night
6:30 pm

2nd Annual Havdalathon – Light the Night!

See attached flyer for details

Sunday Morning

11:00 am

Annual Membership Meeting/Election of Officers

Members have Zoom link via USPS mail and emails

Monday Evening

7:00 pm

"14 Days Living in Eshkol, Israel"

See page 6 for details

Natalie Klamen Monument Dedication

The Monument dedication for Natalie Klamen will take place on Sunday, November 14 at 2:00 pm at Beth Hamedrosh Hagodol Cemetery, Ladue Road.

Annual Membership Meeting and Election of Officers Sunday, Nov. 14, 11:00 am



Did you ever wonder how the officers of NHBZ are elected?
Do you want to have a say in the future direction of NHBZ?
Do you want to express your opinions to the Board of Directors?

*You are invited to attend the Annual Membership Meeting and Election of Officers on **Sunday, November 14, at 11:00 am.** We will send a Zoom link soon!*

Each November, we hold a Membership meeting to give a 'state of the shul' report and elect officers and members of the Board of Directors. This is an opportunity for you to interact directly with the Rabbis, President and other officers and Board members about the business of the shul. If you would like to give your opinion, makes suggestions or just listen, this is your chance.

Here is how the election works. We have a nominating committee that consists of all past presidents. That committee deliberates throughout the year, and comes up with a proposed slate of officers that is presented to the Board in October. At the November Membership meeting, the slate is officially nominated, **and other nominations are accepted from the floor. You can even nominate yourself.** Members in good standing may nominate others and may have the privilege of voting. Nominees must be members in good standing for at least one year at time of nomination. The Officers and new Board members take office on January 1.

We have eight officers and fifteen Board members. **Officers serve for one year**, and can be re-elected. **Board members serve for three years**, with one third of the Board up for election each year. Sometimes we have a vacancy mid-term, and must nominate somebody to fill the remaining time of a term. Here is the slate of nominees for this year's election (indicated in **red** or asterisk), along with continuing Board members.

NHBZ Officers – Term ends 12/31/2022

President	*Kenny Bressler
Vice President	*Jennifer Hartranft
Vice President	*Stella Vladimirov
Vice President	(open)
Vice President	(open)
Treasurer	*Denny Feit
Secretary	(open)
Gabbai	*Alan Zarkowsky



NHBZ Board of Directors

Term ends 12/31/2022
Caryn Alper
Howard Loiterstein
Nancy Belau Rush
Margo Tzadok
Richard Woolf

Term ends 12/31/2023
Marcie Brook
Faye Cohen
***Teree Farbstein**
***Mike Minoff**
(open)

Term ends 12/31/2024
***Rhonnie Goldfader**
***Joni Kaiser**
***Bobby Levine**
***Ed Levitt**
***Gavriel Matt**

2nd Annual HAVDALATHON – Light the Night! Motzai Shabbos, Nov 13, 6:30 pm

Spend this Motzai Shabbos (Saturday night), with friends and community while learning HOW to transition out of Shabbos!

The Second Annual Havdalathon, "Light the Night!" is fun for the whole family! NHBZ membership NOT required.

Each family decorates its own Havdalah set. Rabbi Miller will lead us in the musical Havdalah tradition. PIZZA also provided.

Covid precautions in place. Masks required of all attendees, age 3 and older. Proof of vaccination required for those 12 and older.



The Glow of Success Special thanks, Margo Tzadok!



The success of this Win-Win campaign bears repeating! Thanks to the dedicated efforts of Margo Tzadok, this year's MyTree Olive Oil campaign, raised \$470 for our Shul, that's a 47% increase over last year!

"On behalf of the shul, I would like to thank Margo Tzadok for the wonderful work she has done on this project. It is true *Chesed* on many different levels."

Menachem Szus, President

Kosher Thanksgiving for First Responders is ON!

Once again, NHBZ will show its gratitude to our Olivette Police and Firefighters for their superior service. We will provide a traditional Thanksgiving dinner (Kosher, of course) to those who are on call or at the station for the Holiday. Please call Stella Vladimirov at (314) 540-4450 any day after 6 pm with questions.

We're Having a Chanukah Party! – Volunteers and Sponsors Needed

Dust off your dreidels, it's PARTY TIME!! Sunday, December 5, 12:00 – 3:00 pm

There are a limited number of seats, and NO walk-ins, so RSVP before Sunday, November 21. (Prices increase after 11/21/21). Please see attached flyer for all of the details.

Sponsorships available, \$54 - \$360.

We also need VOLUNTEERS for the event itself:

- Set up (the evening before, after Shabbos)
- Registration/Receiving Table (no money will change hands, just checking the RSVP list!)
- Kitchen food preparation and Clean up



Please call (314-991-2100, ext. 2) or email (office@nhbz.org) with your sponsorship or how you would like to volunteer.

Call for Minyanim

Your attendance is needed. Check in with Rabbi Smason and find a time when you can help. There is no such thing as too many people attending a minyan. If you would like to receive SMSM reminders for your minyan attendance, please send the following information to minyan@nhbz.org: Name: cell number and carrier: and times for which you would like reminders.

Israel

"14 Days Living in Eshkol, Israel" – Monday Night, 7 pm at NHBZ



Two of Israel's finest uniformed men will offer eyewitness testimonies as seasoned servicemen, husbands, fathers, first responders and among the brave men and women protecting Israel's borders.

Lieutenant Colonel Keith Isaacson is Head of Security for the Eshkol Region of Israel, which includes over 30 Moshavim and Kibbutzim (cities and towns) adjacent to the Gaza border. He is joined by Captain Dani Gohar, a Ravshatz (watchman on the wall), special ops soldier and policeman.

Actual video footage of the 14 days of attack in May 2021 will be shown, including rockets, fire balloons and missiles directed toward Israelis. Footage also shows Israel's measured response, and the courage of individual Israelis.

Rabbi Smason will address the gathering, and we will also be honored to hear to the remarks and insights of Irl Solomon, of Friends of Israel, and Pastor Bryan Sharp. We are grateful to Mr. Solomon and Dr. Sharp for enabling us to host this event.

Another special component to the event will be singing, in English and Hebrew, including Caleb Edwards singing "The Holy City". This is a great opportunity to show your support for Israel, and for the Jewish people.

It is required that all attendees wear a mask; attendees age 12 and older must produce a Covid vaccine card at the Nusach Hari B'nai Zion Synagogue before entry into the event.

In the Community

Torah Prep School of St. Louis – Chanukas Habayis November 14, 10:15 am

Expressing gratitude to Hashem, and celebrating their new home, Torah Prep School of St. Louis invites you to 8136 Groby Road, St. Louis. Doors open at 10:15 am for reception and to tour the building. For more information, visit torahprep.com or call 314-569-2929.

CAMERA on Campus Meetings available November 14-15

The Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America (CAMERA) has fellowships available. Their recruiter, Douglas Sandoval will be conducting interviews Nov. 14-15. You may reach him at 213-376-7003, or email douglas@camera.org. More information: <https://www.camera.org/>

JSU 19th Annual Gala (Virtual Event) December 5

The Jewish Student Union (JSU) pays tribute to Dr. Jay Pepose & Dr. Susan Feigenbaum and Mr. Bob Hardcastle for all they have done to strengthen the St. Louis Jewish Community, its youth in particular. Please visit jsustl.org/galarsvp. For more information, please contact info@jsustl.org or call Rabbi Mike at 314-498-6279.

St. Louis Kollel Amud-A-Week at NHBZ

Mondays, 8:00 p.m. All men are welcome! See flyer for additional locations and details.

Youth Programming

Shabbos Morning Kids' Program, Shabbos

NHBZ invites you to its Shabbos Morning programming!

NHBZ offers Shabbos 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 with any questions. See you on Shabbos!



Teen Schmooze, 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 in the back of the NHBZ Sanctuary.** Breakfast will be served! For details, contact **Rabbi Okin** at aviokin@nhbz.org.

Volunteer Needed



Be of service from the comfort of your own home! Nancy requests the assistance of 1 or 2 people to get word of our events to local Jewish publications and free on-line postings! This is a great opportunity for people-persons to use their gift of gab. And a good way for teenagers and others who enjoy posting on social media to help the Office meet the needs of the Community. All copy will be pre-approved and provided. Please contact office@nhbz.org with your offer to fill this important role!

Learning at NHBZ

● **Parashas Vayeitzei – By Rabbi Smason**

Jacob escapes from his wicked brother Esau and travels to Charan, where he will stay with his uncle Laban. While spending the night at the future site of the Temple, G-d appears to Jacob in a dream. Rich in symbolism and meaning, the dream depicts a ladder extending from heaven to earth upon which angels are ascending and descending. After arriving in Charan, Jacob meets Laban's daughter Rachel and agrees to work for Laban for seven years for her hand in marriage. When the wedding night finally arrives, Laban deceives Jacob by substituting his older daughter Leah in Rachel's place. After waiting a week, Jacob also marries Rachel, but not without being forced to commit to another seven years of labor. Over the next few years Rachel remains barren, while Leah gives birth to six sons and a daughter. Bilhah and Zilpah (the maidservants of Rachel and Leah respectively) each have two sons with Jacob. Finally, Rachel also has a son, Joseph. Jacob becomes very wealthy during his twenty-year stay with Laban, even though his father-in-law continually tries to swindle him. After seeking counsel with his wives, Jacob and his family flee from Laban, who pursues and confronts him, upset that he left without saying goodbye and arrogantly claiming that Jacob stole his idols. Eventually they sign a peace treaty and part ways.

Ask our Rabbis

Q: I recently came across a statement that says that mourners are prohibited to learn Torah. I understand that mourning is a time of sorrow, and you should learn Torah in joy. For how long does this prohibition extend? Additionally, many of our prayers contain passages taken directly from Torah sources. So, since a mourner must pray, listen to the Torah reading, etc., how does he or she avoid learning Torah?

A: Your question about the prohibition of mourners learning Torah is an excellent one. The prohibition extends only for the week of shiva. And you're correct in surmising that the reason for the prohibition is that Torah learning gladdens the heart -- an emotion inconsistent with the state a mourner should be in as he or she reflects upon the magnitude of the loss.

As for the question of a mourner during prayer and reciting prayers containing Torah passages, I think there are three components that make it allowable:

- 1) Reciting Torah passages relatively quickly and listening to them read aloud don't constitute the type of Torah study that is prohibited. The real joy from the study of Torah comes from learning of the depth, intricacy, and relevance of the Torah. And even listening to the weekly Torah portion doesn't bring such joy.
- 2) A mourner remains obligated in prayer. Therefore, he must (as an example) say the Shema twice a day. Despite the fact that the Shema consists of three passages from the Torah, the mourner has a separate obligation to recite the Shema.
- 3) A mourner IS allowed to study those parts of the Torah that are relevant for shiva, as well as study those parts that are sad. For example, a mourner can study the halachos of mourning, the Book of Lamentations, etc. So ... prayers such as kaddish, which bring a spiritual benefit to the departed, can certainly be said even though it and other prayers are Torah thoughts or direct passages from Tenach.

● 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:

November 13	The Antidote to Boredom
November 20	Thanksgiving: An Attitude of Gratitude
November 27	Chanukah: Do Miracles Still Happen?



● Rabbi Smason's Wednesday In-Person Class

Same place, same time, same health and safety rules.

● Rabbi David's Learners' Service

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

● 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 7:00 pm – 7:30 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.

● 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_MFI0zsmKlImpR3KpHROrHDWIDNbqsN

● 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-

On-going Covid Guidelines Shul Policy

NHBZ requires that all people attending tefila (prayer services), classes or other NHBZ programs and activities show proof of vaccination. You may show your vaccination card to Rabbi Smason whenever convenient for you both, or on Shabbos as you enter the shul. Once you have shown Rabbi Smason your vaccination card, there is no need to do so again.

If we have no proof of vaccination, you are welcome to join Shabbos services from the Kaiser Terrace on the West side of the synagogue. You are also welcome to enter the synagogue to ask a question of the rabbis and staff, conduct business in the office, pick up or leave an item, or for any other reason that might last for a brief period of time.

Masks required of all inside attendees, age 3 and older; masks are strongly encouraged for those outside, too. Children aged 12 and older have the same vaccination requirements as adults.



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

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>



THE SISTERHOOD SCOOP

NOVEMBER 13

Volume 4

Number 44

9 Kislev 5782

November 13, 2021

Join Sisterhood in celebrating

NHBZ's*116th Anniversary***Sunday, December 12***Clayton Plaza
Hotel**Send in your Ads!
Reserve your meals!*Mail your RSVP card today, or
Call: 314-991-2100, ext.2, or
Email: reservations@nhbz.org*Don't miss out!*

Parshah Vayeitzei | Rachel Immenu

Along with Sarah (wife of Abraham), Rebecca (wife of Isaac), and Leah (her sister and fellow wife of Jacob), Rachel is one of the four mothers of the Jewish people. Like the other matriarchs, she can be referred to as Rachel Immenu (Rachel Our Mother), even though she is technically only the mother of two out of the 12 tribes of Israel. In Yiddish she is affectionately called Mamma Rochel, reflective of her special place in the heart of the Jewish people. The name Rachel, in Hebrew, means "sheep," associated with her lovable, serene nature. Although Scripture is sparing in its depiction of the physical appearance of the people whose stories are told, a notable exception is Rachel, who we are told "had beautiful features and a beautiful complexion."

When Jacob came to her hometown of Padan Aram to search for a wife, he helped her water her father's flock, and the two felt an immediate deep connection. Jacob so wished to marry Rachel that he worked seven years for father, Laban, to earn her hand in marriage. Laban schemed to place Leah under the bridal canopy instead of Rachel and was only successful because Rachel chose to spare Leah embarrassment if the ruse were to be discovered. When Jacob found himself married to Leah, he agreed to work for seven more years if Laban would allow him to marry Rachel a week later.

Chassidic teachings explain that Leah's soul stemmed from the world of thought, while Rachel's soul was from the world of speech. Leah was introspective, a master of meditation and internal communication, while Rachel was charismatic and appealed to others. Together they laid the foundation for our nation. Rachel instilled within us the strength to exude a powerful and far-reaching aura of influence. Leah gifted us with the strength to tug at our soul strings and talk to G-d with integrity.

– adapted from **Rabbi Menachem Posner** (www.chabad.org)

A Scene from Sisterhood's History



Sisterhood ladies competing in NHBZ's Kosher Chili Cook-Off – from left: Emily GrafmanTM, Esther Gelb, Ruth Novack Alper, Rachael Pevnick. The "Amazing Kookers" won the People's Choice Award for most popular chili entry in 2006.

THIS WEEK IN JEWISH HISTORY

11 Kislev – Yeshiva University received its charter, first American university under Jewish auspices, 1945.

14 Kislev – Birth of Reuven, Jacob's first son and the first of the 12 Tribes of Israel, conceived on the wedding night of Jacob and Leah, 2192 (1569 BCE).

14 Kislev – First plane of Operation Magic Carpet bringing Yemenite Jews to Israel, 1948.



Last chance for *EarlyBird* – this Fri. Nov. 12

*Email your Ad & RSVP card before Shabbos, or,
if you procrastinate, final deadline is November 29!*

116th Anniversary Banquet

Honoring



HaKaras HaTov
Award
Alan Haber



Guests of Honor
Lenny & Fran Alper



Israel Advocacy
Award
Shaving Israel

Sunday, December 12, 2021

Clayton Plaza Hotel

7750 Carondelet Ave
Clayton, MO 63105

Hors d'oeuvres at 5:30PM / Dinner & Program at 6:30PM

\$136.00 per person

RSVP by Nov. 12 to be entered in the EarlyBird Raffle to win prizes!

Anniversary Dinner Committee

Sandie Abrams, Fran & Lenny Alper, Jesse Barash, Teree Farbstein, Marsha Feenberg, Rhonnie Goldfader, Fran Hoffman, Dr. Eliot Katz, Bobby Levine, Robin Rickerman, Nancy Rush, Nancy Stenn, Anna Rose Tendler

To ensure everyone's health and safety, attendees should be fully vaccinated and follow the hotel's latest Covid-19 guidelines, including wearing masks in public spaces: <https://www.cpclayton.com/covid-19>. NHBZ is carefully monitoring the changing Covid situation. Please consult www.nhbz.org for updates.

Don't miss out on NHBZ's biggest celebration of the year!

11.09.2021

**NHBZ INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR
2ND ANNUAL HAVDALATHON
LIGHT THE NIGHT!**

**A NIGHT FILLED WITH:
MUSICAL HAVDALAH
DELECTABLE TREATS
DIY HAVDALAH KIT
AND MORE!!!**

**NOVEMBER 13
6:30PM
FREE!!!**

RSVP by 11/09/2021 to office@nhbz.com
Reach out to aviokin@nhbz.com with questions

*13 years and up must show proof of vaccination

*Proof of vaccination and masks required to participate inside

*Seating available outside for those who prefer

*Masks must be worn at all times except when eating

PLUS A FUN RAFFLE!





JOIN US FOR A FAMILY Chanukah Party!

Sunday December 5th, 2021
12:00-3:00 pm

Kids Games - Prizes



Chocolate Gelt For all

Festive Chanukah Lunch

Food supervised by Rabbi Smason



Bingo with prizes for kids and adults • Music by Howard
Way Cool Balloons Donated by Mike Geerlof



Adults-\$18 • Kids 10 and under-\$11 • 3 and under no charge • \$62 Family cap

AFTER NOVEMBER 21 costs are \$25, \$16 and \$87



PLEASE RSVP BY NOVEMBER 21



There are a limited number of tables. No walk-ins.

at: office@nhbz.org or call 314-991-2100.

Consider being a sponsor for \$54 to \$360



Covid protocols in place and proof of vaccination for those 12 and older.
Masks required of all attendees, age 3 and older.