



NHBZ Weekly News

Welcome to Nusach Hari B'nai Zion

Affiliated with Union of Orthodox Congregations of America

November 27, 2021 • 23 Kislev 5782 • Candle Lighting 4:23pm • Shabbos Concludes 5:26pm

Parshas Vayeshev
Haftorah

Genesis 37:1 – 40:23
Amos 2:6 – 3:8

Stone Chumash pp. 198 – 220
Stone Chumash pp. 1142 – 1143

ATTENTION: The Eruv is down for this Shabbos

We thank our generous sponsors in honor of Thanksgiving weekend

- ~ The Szus family for the Kiddush in joyful honor of visits by Eli Szus, Dr. Dana Sutton, Dr. Elie Sutton, Sammy, Jane and Linda Sutton
- ~ Dr. and Mrs. Craig Berkin for the ice cream – Welcome to Eric, Jennifer, Jacob and Akiva from New Jersey

Prayer

Shabbos, Friday, November 26

- 4:25 pm Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat, Ma'ariv
- 4:23 pm Candle Lighting

Shabbos, Saturday, November 27

- 9:00 am Shachris followed by Musaf
Pesukei D'Zimra: **Akiva Horn** Haftorah: **Lenny Alper**
Shacharis: **Jacob Horn** Sermon: **Rabbi Ze'ev Smason**
Leyning: **Stuart Klamen** Musaf: **Rabbi Avi Okin**
- 4:10 pm Mincha, Shalosh Seudos, Ma'ariv
- 5:26 pm Shabbos concludes



Minyan Times November 25 – December 4, 2021

	Thu Nov 25	Fri Nov 26	Shabbos Nov 27	Sun Nov 28*	Mon Nov 29*	Tues Nov 30*	Wed Dec 1*	Thur Dec 2*	Fri Dec 3*	Shabbos Dec 4**
Shachris (am)	8:00	8:00	9:00	8:00	6:45	6:45	6:45	6:45	6:45	9:00
Mincha/Ma'ariv (pm)	4:20	4:20	4:10	4:20	4:20	--	--	--	4:20	4:05
Ma'ariv Only (pm)	--	--	--	--	--	6:45	6:45	6:45	--	--

* Chanukah

**Rosh Chodesh Teves

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!

Call for Minyanim

Your attendance is needed. Check in with Rabbi Smason or Howard Sandler and find a time when you can help. If you would like to receive SMS 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.

Congregation News

Mazel Tov on Simchas This Week! November 28 – December 4



Happy Birthday

Dr. David Reisler	December 1
Gail Rose	December 2
Menachem Szus	December 2
Maxwell Goldman	December 4

Happy Anniversary

Leonid & Stella Vladimirov	December 3
Scott & Leslie Gitel	December 4

Events

Coming Soon

- Sunday, December 5
- Sunday, December 12
- NEXT SUNDAY is the Family Chanukah Party
- 116th Anniversary Event – LIVE & In-Person at the Clayton Plaza

On-Going

- Online Classes
- Every Shabbos, 9:15 am
- 10:00 am
- 10:15 am
- Mondays, 8:00 pm
- Wednesdays, 12:15 pm
- Thursdays, 7:00 pm
- Saturday Nights, 7:30 pm
- Sundays, 9:00 am
- See listing on Page 8
- Learners' Service with Rabbi David
- Shabbos Morning Kids' Program
- Starting Points with Rabbi Smason
- St. Louis Kollel Amud-A-Week
- Pirkei Avos Class with Rabbi Smason
- Mishmar Learning with Rabbi Okin
- ChillZone with Rabbi Okin
- Teen Schmooze with Rabbi Okin

116th Anniversary Banquet **Clayton Plaza Hotel Information**

With the Anniversary Dinner just weeks away, we want to remind you that attendees should be fully vaccinated. The Clayton Plaza Hotel strongly recommends that all its employees be vaccinated, although it does not require them to show proof. All employees, including those serving at our event, are required to wear masks. Stay tuned for updates. We look forward to celebrating with you!

WE'RE HAVING A CHANUKAH PARTY!!!



RSVP extended

Accepting Reservations through
Wednesday, November 30, 12:00 pm
(NO WALK-INS)

***GREAT game and BINGO prizes for Kids & Adults including imagination toys and Ahava products**

Come out and PLAY! Join the celebration on the 7th day of Chanukah!

Full-sized flyer at the back of this newsletter

ChillZone off to a Good Start

Great turn out for the first ChillZone! Special thanks to **Norma Rubin** for spending her Saturday night as our *Mashgicha* and for keeping things HOT in the ChillZone. Tell your friends and join us this Saturday at 7:30pm at NHBZ. Membership not required to attend.

In the Community

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.

Staenberg Building

As of December 1, 2021, both Mikvaos will be closed to the men. This will remain in effect until further notice. Please contact Lynda Cohen (314-795-3982) with questions.

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, Every Shabbos

NHBZ offers Shabbos morning programs for elementary and middle school students. Programs offered 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!



ChillZone **NEW!** Saturday nights

Join children from around St. Louis, 5th grade and up, at NHBZ at 7:30 pm on Saturday nights for pizza, fun, and prizes while exploring Judaic topics with Rabbi Okin. Come get in the ChillZone.

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.

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.

Learning at NHBZ

● Parashas Vayeshev – By Rabbi Smason

Jacob's favoritism toward Joseph incites his brother's hatred. Their jealousy increases when Joseph tells them about two dreams which indicate that they will one day be subservient to him. Jacob sends Joseph to check up on his brothers, and upon seeing him approaching they plot to kill him. Reuben convinces the brothers not to kill Joseph, but is unable to totally save him as the brothers sell Joseph into slavery in Egypt. After dipping Joseph's coat in blood, they return to their father who assumes that his beloved son was torn apart by a savage beast. The Torah then digresses to relate the story of Judah and his daughter-in-law Tamar. The narrative then returns to Joseph in Egypt, where he becomes an extremely successful slave and is placed in charge of his master's household. His master's wife repeatedly tries to seduce Joseph, and when he refuses he is thrown into prison. Ten years later, Pharaoh's chief butler and baker are placed into the same prison. One night they each have a perplexing dream that Joseph accurately interprets, setting the stage for his release from prison.

Ask our Rabbis

Q: Is it appropriate to stand during the repetition of the Amidah when the Modim D'Rabbanan (the blessing of thanksgiving) is said?

A: The Shulchan Aruch (Ramah: O.H. 144,4) writes "Some say that all the congregation stand during the repetition of the Amidah by the Chazzan". The Mishna Brurah there explains that as the Chazzan is saying the blessings for the congregation, it is as if we ourselves are saying the Amidah, which must be said standing. Based on this it is certainly correct to stand during the repetition of the Amidah. However, in many places this is not the custom. The Mishna Brurah points this out, noting (sadly) that "nowadays everyone does whatever they want - including sitting and chatting!" [It is certainly forbidden to talk during the Chazzan's repetition]. It would seem that if the local custom is to sit, one may join them so as not to "stand out". Also, in any case, if it is difficult for one to stand, one is allowed to sit.

And to answer your specific question: Even if a person sits during the Amida repetition, it is recommended and praiseworthy to stand when Modim D'Rabbanan is said.

● 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 27	Chanukah: Do Miracles Still Happen?
December 4	Chanukah: How to Pick Great Heroes
December 11	Lend Me an Ear: Are You a Good Listener?
December 18	EQ: Can We Master Our Emotions?
December 25	The December Dilemma: Living Jewishly in a Non-Jewish World
January 1	Welcoming 2022: How to Begin Getting Happier
January 8	Living Inspired: How Can We "Capture the Wow" in Our Lives?



● Rabbi Smason's Wednesday In-Person Class

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

● Rabbi David's Learners' Service – No Service November 27, 2021

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 in 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-



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.

Classes on PAUSE until Wednesday, December 1.

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 27

Volume 4

Number 46

23 Kislev 5782

November 27, 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!

Parsha Vayeshev (Genesis 37-40)

Snakes and Scorpions

Parshat Vayeshev tells of Joseph being thrown by his brothers into a pit. The Torah describes the pit as being "empty and without water."

This raises a question: If the verse says that the pit was **empty**, why does it also need to tell us there was **no water**?

The answer is that there is no such thing as a **completely** empty pit. The laws of physics tell us that something will always permeate a vacuum. So, in this case, the "empty pit" had no water, but it did contain other, dangerous elements like snakes and scorpions.

This idea manifests in our own lives as well. The "pit without water" symbolizes a life without Torah, which is often compared to water. There's no such thing as "neutral." Something will always become your god and your guide. The question is: What will it be? Will we proactively fill that space with a good, positive element? Or will we just let some other – perhaps dangerous element – determine our outlook and habits?

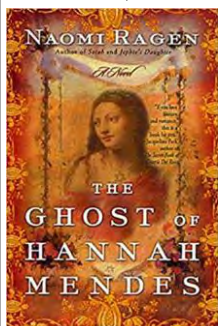
With the threat of terror spreading worldwide, I am reminded of the adage from Edmund Burke: "The only thing that evil needs to flourish is for good men to do nothing."

Yes, nature abhors a vacuum... and that law applies to metaphysics as well. So let's fill the space that surrounds us -- with the beautiful overflowing fountain of Torah.

– by **Rabbi Shraga Simmons**, www.aish.com

Book Club News

The next book club meeting has been rescheduled to **Monday, January 24, 7:15-8:45 pm**. The discussion is currently scheduled to be virtual – on Zoom only. The book will be "**The Ghost of Hannah Mendes**," a novel by Naomi Ragen that



Is based on the true-life story of Dona Gracia Mendes who grew up in Spain and Portugal during the start of the Spanish & Portuguese Inquisitions. It fictionalizes Gracia's descendants now living in the United States.

For more info contact
Terri Schnitzer 314-518-4107
terrischnitzer@yahoo.com



Sisterhood Wishes Everyone a
HAPPY CHANUKAH





**IT'S TIME TO DECIDE: Who to sit with?
Do I want chicken, fish, or vegetarian?
What should I write in my Ad?**

RSVP for NHBZ Dinner & Submit Your Ad before Nov. 29!

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

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.cpclyton.com/covid-19>. NHBZ is carefully monitoring the changing Covid situation. Please consult www.nhbz.org for updates.

11.21.2021



CHILLZONE

— NEW SEASON STARTING —

Girls & Boys
5th grade & up

chillzone.org

[insta@chillzone_national](https://www.instagram.com/chillzone_national)

[fb@chillzoneintl](https://www.facebook.com/chillzoneintl)

St. Louis

NHBZ
650 N Price Rd
St. Louis, MO 63132

Starts Nov 20TH!

**Saturday nights
@ 7:30 pm**

Need info? chillzone@thezone.org

Rabbi Avi Okin: 862-438-4094



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 prices 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.



youth philanthropy

Be the Change in Your Community

Calling all teens!

Do you want to make the world better, have fun, learn new things, and meet new people?

The St. Louis Teen Tzedek Youth Philanthropy Program gives you the chance to make a difference by supporting the causes you care about.

Teen Tzedek is open to Jewish teens in grades 7 through 12.

HOW DOES TEEN TZEDEK WORK?

- Deposit \$18 a year into your Teen Tzedek account.
- Learn about philanthropy firsthand as you allocate funds from your Teen Tzedek account to charities and organizations that are important to you.
- Throughout the year, you will explore different causes that you're passionate about, as well as have opportunities to participate in social service projects.

Find out more and register for this fun and meaningful program
JFedSTL.org/Teen-Tzedek.

Have questions?

Jody Gerth will help at
JGerth@JFedSTL.org
or 314-442-3881.



KranzbergFamily



Jewish Federation
OF ST. LOUIS



Israel Bound

June 13 - July 04, 2022

— ALL-INCLUSIVE PRICING

~~\$5,050~~ *\$2,300 (includes flight from St. Louis)

Open to teens currently in the 10th-12th grade.

Adventure awaits...

- Explore ancient Jerusalem & modern Tel Aviv
- Float in the Dead Sea
- Climb Masada at sunrise
- Ride a camel in the Negev Desert
- Surf in the Mediterranean
- Reflect at the Kotel, the Western Wall
- Hang out with Israeli teens
- AND much more!

Learn More

- VIEW ITINERARY, WATCH VIDEOS, & APPLY at JFedSTL.org/Israel-Bound.

*Discounted price includes \$750 travel grant available to all St. Louis teens and \$3,000 RootOne voucher (limited number of vouchers available). *RootOne is seeded through the generosity of The Marcus Foundation, and is powered by the Jewish Education Project.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Contact Jody Gerth at 314-442-3881
or email JGerth@JFedSTL.org.



Jewish Federation
OF ST. LOUIS
FUNDER. COMMUNICATOR. CONVENER.
For our community - now and in the future