



NHBZ Weekly News

Welcome to Nusach Hari B'nai Zion

Affiliated with Union of Orthodox Congregations of America

March 5, 2022 • 2 Adar II, 5782 • Candle Lighting 5:39 pm • Shabbos Concludes 6:43 pm

Parshas Pekudei
Haftorah

Exodus 38:21 – 40:38
1 Kings 7:51 – 8:21

Chumash pp. 530 – 541
Chumash pp. 1164 – 1165

Prayer

Shabbos, Friday, March 4

- 5:35 pm Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat, Ma'ariv
- 5:39 pm Candle Lighting

Shabbos, Saturday, March 5

- 9:00 am Shachris followed by Musaf
Pesukei D'Zimra: **Menachem Szus** Haftorah: **Kenny Bressler**
Shacharis: **TBA** Sermon: **Rabbi Avi Okin**
Leyning: **Stuart Klamen** Musaf: **TBA**
- 10:00 am Kids' Program (downstairs)
- 10:15 am Clean Speech STL, "Haman and the Antisemites" with **Rabbi David** (downstairs)
- 5:25 pm Mincha, Shalosh Seudos, D'var Torah by **Rabbi Avi Okin**, Ma'ariv
- 6:43 pm Shabbos concludes



Minyan Times March 3 – March 12, 2022

	Thu Mar 3*	Fri Mar 4*	Shabbos Mar 5	Sun Mar 6	Mon Mar 7	Tues Mar 8	Wed Mar 9	Thu Mar 10	Fri Mar 11	Shabbos Mar 12
Shachris (am)	6:45	6:45	9:00	8:00	7:00	7:00	7:00	7:00	7:00	9:00
Mincha/Ma'ariv (pm)	--	5:35	5:25	5:45	5:45	--	--	--	5:45	5:35
Ma'ariv Only (pm)	6:45	--	--	--	--	6:45	6:45	6:45	--	--

* Rosh Chodesh Adar 2

Call for Minyanim – Your attendance is needed

Please check in with Rabbi Smason or Howard Sandler and commit to a time to help. Text message reminders for your minyan attendance are available. Please provide the following information to minyan@nhbz.org: Name; cell number and carrier; and times for which you would like reminders.

Shabbos Mornings Kids' Programs

Every Shabbos, from 10:00 am until Kiddush is served, NHBZ offers programs for elementary and middle school students. Families do NOT need to be members of NHBZ to participate. See you Shabbos!

Congregation News

Mazel Tov on Simchas This Week! March 6 – March 13, 2022

Happy Anniversary

Gary & Trudy Sudin	March 6
Andy & Betty Epstein	March 7
Evan Garmaise & Dr. Melissa Shapiro	March 9
Dr. Ram & Sallie Volotzky	March 13
Rabbi & Rebbetzin Smason	March 13

Happy Birthday

Victor Tendler	March 5*
Janet Haber	March 6

*We missed him last week

FEBRUARY TRIBUTES

IN MEMORY OF

Janet Goldenberg

SENT BY

Stanley Goldenberg

IN HONOR OF

Jesse Barash

SENT BY

Ed & Nancy Lauri

IN HONOR OF

Helayne Levitt's

Birthday

SENT BY

Joni & Bob Kaiser

IN HONOR OF

Hindy's Granddaughter,

Miriam

SENT BY

Joni & Bob Kaiser

Anonymous

Events

Coming Soon

- This Shabbos, 10:15 am – "Clean Speech: Haman and Antisemites" with Rabbi David
- Thursday night, March 17 – Purim Seudah

On-Going

- Online Classes – See listing on Page 7
- Every Shabbos – Learners' Service with Rabbi David, 9:15 am
- Shabbos Morning Kids' Program, 10:00 am (downstairs)
- Starting Points with Rabbi Smason, 10:15 am (downstairs)
- "Bitachon: Relying on G-d to Get Through Tough Times", with Rabbi Okin at Shalosh Seudos
- Saturday Nights, 7:30 pm – ChillZone with Rabbi Okin
- Sunday mornings, after Shachris – Mishna learning with Rabbi Swidler
- Mondays, 8:00 pm – St. Louis Kollel Amud-A-Week
- Wednesdays, 12:15 pm – Pirkei Avos Class with Rabbi Smason
- Thursdays, 7:00 pm – Mishmar Learning with Rabbi Okin
- Clean Speech STL, March – Community Initiative (See Page 5)

PURIM IS COMING !!!

- Purim Cards are here and ready for pickup! Double the joy: add to the mitzvah of *Mishloach Manos* (the cards do not fulfill the mitzvah!) AND the proceeds fund NHBZ Chesed activities! Get your Purim Cards from the Office today!
 - 5-card pack (envelopes included) \$12.50
 - Purchase 30 or more cards, \$2.00 each
- Join us for Purim Seudah! Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 6:15 pm. RSVPs and proof of vaccination required.

Contact the office today for your cards and to RSVP: 314-991-2100, ext 2 or office@nhbz.org

COVID Message from Rabbi Smason

Dear Members and Friends,

St. Louis County Executive Sam Page said during a Covid-briefing this past Monday morning, "We're not out of the woods yet, but we're in a much better place," Our region faces a new mix of rules: Mask mandates in St. Louis County were lifted on Monday. St. Louis city's mask rule isn't set to end until Sunday. Yet face coverings are still required in airports and on public transportation.

With an awareness of the above and in consultation with our shul's Medical Advisory Board, I'm pleased to inform our congregation that I am finalizing the details on a 'Mask-Recommended' policy for our shul. I look forward to the policy being in place in time for Purim, March 16.

To our good health,
Rabbi Ze'ev Smason

Rabbinic Search Committee Update

The committee has received over fifteen resumes from well qualified Rabbis. We have carefully reviewed the resumes and are happy to report that we have several very promising candidates who are enthusiastic about the opportunity of joining us at Nusach Hari Bnai Zion!

We are now conducting Zoom interviews with the Rabbis who we feel lead this group of candidates. Within the next couple of weeks, we plan to complete this stage of our search. At that time, we will share information about each of the finalists and schedule a Shabbat weekend for each of them to be with us.

All members are strongly encouraged to make every effort to attend the various opportunities we will have to meet with the candidates and their wives.

Please contact Alan Zarkowsky with your comments, questions, and concerns. Your input is always very important and is vital to the selection our next Senior Rabbi.

Alan Zarkowsky, Chair
avzark@aol.com
rabbisearch@nhbz.org
314-805-1896

A Message from Rabbi Smason – Purim!

With the festive holiday of Purim fast approaching, I'm writing to remind you of the time-sensitive mitzvah of *Matanos L'Evyonim* -- tzedaka (charity) to the poor. For many years, we at NHBZ have collected *Matanos L'Evyonim* in conjunction with the worthy organization *Od Yosef Chai*. Our special arrangement with Od Yosef enables me to distribute locally half of all money collected. The remaining half supports our Jewish brethren in Jerusalem and elsewhere. All money pledged and collected for Matanos L'Evyonim is distributed on Purim. This year, Purim takes place on March 16 and 17, so please make your contribution on or before Monday, March 14.

Your donation of \$10, \$18, \$36, \$54, \$100 - or whatever amount you care to give-- will make a significant difference to those in need and enable you to fulfill the precious Purim mitzvah of Matanos L'Evyonim. Checks can be made out to 'Rabbis Charity Fund'

PURIM IS COMING !!!

Purim commemorates the salvation of the Jewish people in Ancient Persia from Haman's plot to kill all Jews in a single day. Set in Persia 2,300 years ago, the "Megillah" tells how a seemingly unrelated series of events spun together to save the Jewish people from annihilation. Purim is Judaism's most dramatic, fun-filled holiday. Here are the mitzvot and customs of Purim at NHBZ:

1. Read the Book of Esther - Mitzvah of Mikra Megillah

It is a Mitzvah to hear the Megillah read twice. Bring your kids and family!

Wednesday, March 16	Thursday, March 17
6:35 pm Mincha	6:30 am Shacharis
7:55 pm Ma'ariv	7:00 am Megillah Reading
8:05 pm Megillah Reading	

2. Give Charity to the Poor - Mitzvah of Matanot l'Evyonim

Od Yosef Chai - For several years, NHBZ has collected money for Od Yosef Chai, an organization that distributes money to the poor in Israel. Make checks payable to Rabbi's Charity Fund and bring or send them to our office. To donate by credit card, please call 314-991-2100, ext. 2. The deadline for contributions is Monday, March 14th.

3. Send Gifts to Friends - Mitzvah of Mishloach Manot

Fulfill the mitzvah of Mishloach Manos! Give actual gifts of food to at least two friends... then send our **PURIM CARDS** to everyone else!! All proceeds will benefit our NHBZ Chesed Fund. Cards may be purchased through our office for \$12.50 per pack of 5 cards with envelopes; purchase 30 or more for \$2.00 each.

4. Fast of Esther

To commemorate the day of prayer and fasting that the Jews held in the Book of Esther, we fast on the day before Purim, Wednesday, March 16th beginning at 6:00 a.m. and concluding at 7:51 p.m.

5. Eat a festive Purim meal - Mitzvah of Seudah Purim

Thursday night, March 17th

6:00 pm – Mincha

6:15 SHARP - Purim Seudah, Hi-Jinks, and FUN for all!!!

Dinner, Whiskey Slush, PLUS Hamantaschen!!!

Ma'ariv following Seudah

RSVPs REQUIRED FOR DINNER – Limited Seating

See Flyer for Complete Details

SPONSORS WELCOME

In the Community

Clean Speech St. Louis A month-long Initiative

Have you ever envisioned a community where we use words to build each other up rather than tear each other down? What would our community look like if everyone had your back and you had theirs?

Clean Speech St. Louis is a city-wide initiative with over 30 Participating Organizations. This 30-day social media mindfulness challenge aims to unite us through the ancient Jewish teachings of Lashon Hara (gossip and slander) which you'll learn is a lot more than just speech. Watch our daily lessons by signing up today at www.cleanspeechstl.com, you can also find us on Facebook, Instagram or YouTube by searching for @CSSTL or Clean Speech St Louis.

Get involved, join the conversation and pick up your free inspirational and educational materials and swag directly from your affiliated Temple, synagogue or organization! Don't worry, we have lots to keep the kids busy too.

Youth Programming

● Shabbos Morning Kids' Program, Rabbi Okin

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 Saturday nights

Join kids 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 will resume in the Spring.)

Learning at NHBZ

● Parshas Pekudei – By Rabbi Smason

This week we read the final portion of Exodus, a book which began with the Jewish people enslaved to Pharaoh in Egypt and now ends with the completion of the construction of the Mishkan in the desert. Exodus is known as 'The Book of Redemption'; redemption was achieved not only through our escape from slavery, but also through receiving the Torah on Mt. Sinai which gave purpose to that freedom. The climax of that salvation was when G-d rested His presence among the Jewish nation when the Mishkan was completed.

Parshas Pekudei begins with a complete accounting of the gold, silver and copper contributed by the people for use in the Mishkan. Following an inspection and approval of the many utensils and unassembled parts, Moses sets up the Mishkan on Rosh Chodesh Nissan as each part is anointed and arranged in its proper location. When the Mishkan is finally complete with every vessel in place, a cloud descends upon it, indicating that G-d's glory was resting there. Whenever the cloud moved away from the Mishkan, the Jewish people would follow it. At night the cloud was replaced by a pillar of fire.

Learning at NHBZ (con't)

Ask Our Rabbis

Q: If I do not want to drink wine/grape juice, may I use other drinks for *Kiddush*?

A: The *gemara* prescribes wine (or grape juice) to make *Kiddush* upon, and this generally applies across the board, for the two *Kiddushes* of the day. At night one should not use other drinks as a substitute for wine.

During the day, some permit the use of *chamar medina* - best translated as "the local notable, important drink." One of the problems with *chamar medina* is that determining what counts as such is very elusive. The simplest reading of the *gemara* and the opinion of most authorities is that it only applies when there is a lack of available wine.

There are few drinks in contemporary society (which likely differ from place to place) that are considered *chamar medina* according to a consensus of authorities. Whiskey (there is much discussion about how much one must drink) and beer have been on the "short list" for generations, and some have added natural fruit juices and coffee, with milk and soft drinks/soda being brought into consideration by some.

In our generation, with a wide variety of wine/grape juice available at cheap prices, the pendulum has rightly turned toward making *Kiddush* only on them. The best reasons to still use other drinks are when one ran out of them, dislikes them, or has a physical sensitivity to them. Another case is if one is very attached to a family *minhag* to use a different drink that is indeed still a notable, important drink.

NHBZ needs YOU!

NHBZ is open 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, and 52 weeks per year; We need your help; whatever your skills, we have an opportunity for you: office work, cooking, pickup and delivery, repairs, Pizza night, Sukkah raising, outreach committee, building committee, you-name-it!

If you see an event listed in the Weekly News, we need volunteers! Please contact the office (314-991-2100, ext 2, or email office@nhbz.org) with your availability and how you would like to contribute.

This is OUR community. This is OUR shul. These are OUR responsibilities and privileges. Coming together, in good times and hard ones, is the blessing of community. Share your heart and hands with us. Volunteer today.

● **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:

- | | |
|----------|---|
| March 5 | No Class – Special CleanSpeech Presentation by Rabbi David |
| March 12 | Purim & Joy: Finding Rules for a Happy Life |
| March 19 | Are People Born Nice or Nasty? |
| March 26 | The Best Ways to Deal with Disappointment and Failure |

Learning at NHBZ (con't)

- **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 7:00pm – 7:30pm. **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 Wednesday In-Person Class**

Same place and time, same health and safety protocols.

- **Rabbi David's Learners' Service – Returns 3/12/22**

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

- **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.

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

Be Happy, it's Adar!

MARCH 5



Volume 5

Number 10

2 Adar II 5782

March 5, 2022

PURIM IS COMING! PURIM IS COMING! PURIM IS COMING! PURIM IS COMING! PURIM IS COMING!

Join Sisterhood at NHBZ's Purim Seudah – Costume Contest & Schtick Nite – Thursday, March 17, at 6:15 PM

Take two tablets
and call me in the
morning.



On This Day in History – 7 Adar

This year 7 Adar II is Thursday, March 10, 2022

Moses was born in Egypt on the 7th of Adar of the year 2368 from creation (1393 BCE) and passed away on his 120th birthday -- Adar 7, 2488 (1273 BCE).

Of all his accomplishments, Moses is most famous for bringing the children of Israel the Torah, G-d's blueprint for a moral life. In fact, the five books of the Torah are known as the Five Books of Moses.

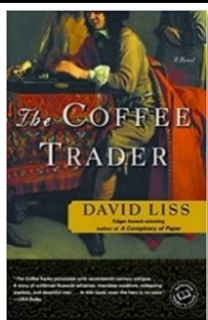
Book Club News

The next meeting of the Book Club will be **Mon., March 28, 7:15-8:45 PM**, at the home of Devy Goldenberg. The book is "*The Coffee Trader*," by David Liss – a compelling novel about capitalism, greed, morality, intrigue, the Jewish community, and a new commodity called "coffee", in 17th century Amsterdam.

The Book Club will meet on the **fourth Monday of odd-numbered months, 7:15-8:45 PM**.

Make a note of the remaining dates for 2022:
March 28, May 23, July 25, Sept. 19, Nov. 28.

For more information, or to join the Book Club contact **Fran Alper** at 314-993-4024 or email fran.alper@outlook.com



Sisterhood Needs YOU in 2022!

We look forward to hearing *your* ideas and encourage you to join us! **Don't forget to send your \$25 check for dues for 2022 – payable to NHBZ** (write 'Sisterhood' in the memo line) or call the office to pay by phone, 314-991-2100, ext. 3. **For info or questions, email: sisterhood@nhbz.org** or call Teree Farbstein at 314-753-5035 or tfarbstein2@gmail.com or Fran Alper at 314-993-4024 or fran.alper@outlook.com

PEKUDEI: HOME



Nations go to war over it, families sign away a sizeable chunk of their income for the next thirty years to acquire one. The sages of the Talmud go so far as to say that "a man without a homestead is not a man." A home is more than a roof to keep out the rain, walls to keep out unwanted visitors, a kitchen in which to prepare food, and a bed in which to sleep. Forts, office buildings, hotels and restaurants can perform those functions as well, or better, than any residence. But only at home is a person at home. Home is where you can make faces at the mirror, wear an old sweater with a hole in it, and eat pickles with peanut butter—because you feel like it.

G-d, too, desires a home—a place where He can be fully and uninhibitedly Himself. The Chassidic masters ask: Why did G-d create the physical world? What can our coarse, finite, strife-ridden existence give Him that the spiritual dimensions of creation cannot? And they answer: G-d created the physical world because He wanted a home—a place where He can do things because He feels like it.

G-d's first home was a two-room, 45-by-15-foot building. According to Exodus 25, it was made of the following materials: gold, silver, copper, blue-, purple- and red-dyed wool, flax, goat hair, animal hides and wood. It was made to order, from detailed specifications given to Moses at Mount Sinai. It sat in the very center of the Israelite camp in the desert and was designed so that it could be dismantled and reassembled as they wandered from place to place for the forty years between their exodus from Egypt and their entry into the Holy Land. Later, a larger and more permanent version was constructed on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem.

Said G-d to man: I created wisdom, knowledge and understanding, and in these creations My mind dwells. I created love, justice and compassion, and in these my character resides. I created beauty, splendor and majesty, and in these I invest My personality. But none of these are My home, any more than the office at which you work or the theater at which you are entertained is yours. So, I created physical matter—the most undivine thing I could conceive of—so that I should have a place in which there are no roles for Me to play and no characteristics for Me to project. Only My will to fulfill.

When you take your gold (your material excesses), your silver (your stolid middle-class wealth) and your copper (your pauper's subsistence pennies) and use them to fashion a reality that conforms to My will, you have made Me at home in My world.

—Yanki Tauber, www.chabad.org



Join Us For Purim! 2022 5782

FAST OF ESTHER:

Wednesday, March 16

Fast begins: 6:00 AM

Fast ends: 7:51 PM

Wednesday March 16th

Mincha 6:35 pm | Ma'ariv at 7:55 pm

Reading of

Megillas Esther at 8:05 pm



Thursday March 17th

Megillas Esther at approx. 7:00 am.

Mincha at 6:00 pm followed at 6:15 by

SEUDAH

costume contest & Schtick Nite

Featuring:

A Delicious & Festive Meal prepared especially for you by our chefs and crew. **followed by Ma'ariv**
The Festivities would not be complete without our famous costume contests! So Dress Up as your favorite Purim character or ... others. And don't forget to Get your 'schtick' together. **Costume Contest:** Competition in 3 categories – Children, Adults, Couples/Family **Schtick:** Skits, Games, Poems, Jokes, Musical Entertainment, Etc. 3-5 minutes max. Enter with the title of 'Your Schtick' to Office@nhbz.org.

LIMITED SEATING, ACT FAST! RSVP's REQUIRED, NO WALK-INS

"Early Bird" Pricing through noon on March 8th:

\$18 - Adults (12 and over); \$15 - Kids (4-11); Kids 3 and under - Free; Family cap: \$62

AFTER Noon on March 8th: \$25 - Adults; \$18 - Kids (4-11); Family cap: \$87

RSVP BY MARCH 12TH 991-2100 EXT: 2

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



CHILLZONE

— 2021 - 2022 —

chillzone.org

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

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

St. Louis

Girls & Boys
5th grade & up

Saturday nights
@ 7:30 pm

Need info? chillzone@thezone.org

Rabbi Avi Okin: 862-438-4094

NHBZ
650 N Price Rd
St. Louis, MO 63132