

NHBZ Weekly News

Welcome to Nusach Hari B'nai Zion

Affiliated with Union of Orthodox Congregations of America

April 9, 2022 • 8 Nisan, 5782 • Candle Lighting 7:13 pm • Shabbos Concludes 8:17 pm

SHABBOS HAGODOL - THE GREAT SHABBOS PRECEDING PESACH

Parshas Metzora Haftorah Leviticus 14:1 – 15:33 2 Kings 47:3 – 20

Chumash pp. 620 - 635 Chumash pp. 1172 - 1173

Thank you to our generous sponsors

- Naomi & Dr. Jonathan Shanker and family for the Weekly News, to commemorate the yahrzeit of Naomi's beloved father, Dr. Matthew Burman^{z"l}.
- Leo Bressler, Kenny & Barb Bressler, and Menachem & Linda Szus for Shalosh Seudas to commemorate the yahrzeit of Geraldine Bressler^{z¹}, beloved wife and mother.

Prayer

Shabbos, Friday, April 8

- 7:00 pm Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat, Ma'ariv
- 7:13 pm Candle Lighting

Shabbos, Saturday, April 9

9:00 am Shachris followed by Musaf

Pesukei D'Zimra: **Menachem Szus**

Shacharis: Rabbi Avi Okin

Leyning: Moshe Leib Cohen

Haftorah: Meir Armoza

Sermon: Rabbi Ze'ev Smason

Musaf: Rabbi Avi Okin

- 7:05 pm Mincha, Shalosh Seudos, D'var Torah by Rabbi Avi Okin, Ma'ariv
- 8:17 pm Shabbos concludes

Minyan Times April 7 – April 16, 2022

	Thu Apr 7	Fri Apr	Shabbos Apr 9	Sun Apr 10	Mon Apr	Tues Apr 12	Wed Apr 13	Thu Apr 14	Fri Apr 15*	Shabbos Apr 16**
Shachris (am)	7:00	7:00	9:00	8:00		7:00	7:00		7:00	9:00
Mincha/Ma'ariv (pm)	7:00	7:00	7:05	7:00	7:00	7:00	7:00	7:00	7:15	7:10

*First Seder
**Second Seder

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!

Shabbos HaGodol

Today is the Shabbos before Pesach. It commemorates the 10th day of Nisan, when the Hebrew slaves took the lambs that they were going to offer for Pesach and tied them up outside their homes, to keep until they offered them on the 14th of Nisan. This was a very dangerous thing to do, because Egyptians worshipped sheep; but miraculously, instead of slaughtering the Hebrews, the Egyptians fought with each other over whether the Hebrews should be sent away already. Some have the custom of reading a special haftorah today, Malachi 3:4 - 3:24, which tells about the return of Elijah the prophet and the coming of the Messiah. We believe that Elijah will return at Pesach, and that is why we include a cup of wine for him at the seder.

Congregation News

Mazel Tov on Simchas This Week! April 10 – April 16

Happy Birthday

Teretha Carter April 13
Craig Berkin April 15
Sam Shanker April 15



Programming Committee – Members Wanted

With the weather warming, Shavuos around the corner, and so many things to do and plan, won't you please consider becoming a member of the Programming Committee? Always hard work combined with an equal amount of fun, this is the committee that makes FUN happen! No experience necessary. Please email the committee Chairperson, Jennifer Hartranft (bryjenhart@yahoo.com), and don't only JOIN the party, MAKE IT HAPPEN!!!

Events

Coming Soon

Sunday, April 10 – Pizza Night (Carry-out only)

 Shabbos weekend, April 29 – Second Rabbinical Search Candidate Weekend! Mark your calendars (full details to follow)

On-Going

Online Classes – See listing on Page 7

Every Shabbos – Learners' Service, 9:15 am (downstairs)

- Shabbos Morning Kids' Program, 10:00 am (downstairs)

Starting Points, 10:15 am (downstairs)

 "Bitachon: Relying on G-d to Get Through Tough Times", with Rabbi Okin at Shalosh Seudos

• Sunday Mornings, after Shachris - Mishna learning with Rabbi Swidler

Sunday Nights, 6:00 pm
 The Schmooze" with Rabbi Okin

• Mondays, 7:40 pm — St. Louis Kollel Amud-A-Week (after davening)

Wednesdays, 12:15 pm
 Pirkei Avos Class with Rabbi Smason
 Thursdays, 7:45 pm
 Mishmar Learning with Rabbi Okin

PLEASE NOTE: Rabbi Smason's On-line and Wednesday In-Person classes are SUSPENDED during Pesach. They will resume Monday, April 25, 2022.

NHBZ Tributes - March 2022

IN MEMORY OF

Mary Caroline Taller
Mayer Taller

Jerry Cohen

Eric & Elaine Farkas Kerry & Sandra Klarfeld The Szus Family Libby Sorkin Routman The Morgensztern Family Irwin & Arlene Fredman Ed & Helayne Levitt Nancy Weigley Sam & Shirley Bluestein Lora & David Biernbaum Faith & Bruce Waxman Gloria Sirkin **Donald Solomon Howard Sandler** Lesley Sterling Jalna, Asael & Oren Papour Sally Needle Mark & Debbie Raisher Jesse & Debbie Barash Phyllis Goldberg James Simeri & Heidi Joist Debbie & Brian Sher Dr. Eliot & Sally Katz Fran Hoffman Ruth "Ruthie" Cohn Abert & Shelia Goodman Larry & Shirley Hollander Randi Polinsky Beverly Stuhlman Feigenbaum/Pepose Family

Jacob Levin Mimi Fiszel



IN HONOR OF

Phyllis Loiterstein's Refuah Sh'lemah

Anonymous
Ed & Helayne Levitt
Menachem & Linda Szus

Rabbi Smason's
Book of Sermons
Dr. Paul & Debra Hauptman

Olivia Bracha, Granddaughter of Joni & Bob Kaiser

The Szus Family
Amy & Denny Feit
Phyllis & Howard Loiterstein
The Morgensztern Family
Ed & Helayne Levitt
Libby Sorkin Routman
Sam & Shirley Bluestein
Faith & Bruce Waxman
Dr. Jerry & Gail Tullman

Dr. Erol & Sally Amon's First Grandbaby

> Joni & Bob Kaiser Feigenbaum/Pepose Family

Rabbi Ze'ev & Chani Smason's Wedding Anniversary

Feigenbaum/Pepose Family Hal & Ellen Rosen

IN HONOR OF (CON'T)

Gary & Trudy Sudin's
Wedding Anniversary
Feigenbaum/Pepose Family

Stanley & Rhonnie Goldfader's Wedding Anniversary Ed & Helayne Levitt

Dr. Daniel & Marcela
Morgensztern's
Wedding Anniversary
Feigenbaum/Pepose Family

Jason & Nancy Belau-Rush's Wedding Anniversary Feigenbaum/Pepose Family

Janet Haber's Birthday
Feigenbaum/Pepose Family

Victor Tendler's Birthday Feigenbaum/Pepose Family

Shirley Bluestein's Birthday Feigenbaum/Pepose Family

Trudy Sudin's Birthday
Feigenbaum/Pepose Family

Margo Tzadok's Birthday Feigenbaum/Pepose Family

Alan Haber's Birthday Feigenbaum/Pepose Family

Memorial Plaques

In advance of Pesach and the first Yizkor service of the calendar year, NHBZ offers a special opportunity to memorialize family members and friends. Our handsome brass memorial plaques normally cost \$360.00 each. This year, through July 16, two memorial plaques will be available for \$600 – you save \$120. Ordering soon will enable us to have your plaques mounted on our Memorial Boards (in the Pepose-Feigenbaum Multipurpose Room) no later than Yom Kippur of this year. May the memory of good people bless our days.

SPECIAL GUEST CONTRIBUTOR: RHONNIE GOLDFADER

"Practical Insights in Dealing with Difficult People," an evening with Dr. David Lieberman

Aish Ha'Torah's wonderful 30 day program on CLEAN SPEECH concluded with a presentation at the J with featured speaker Dr. David Lieberman. For those not familiar with him, he is an award-winning author and internationally recognized leader in the field of human behavior and interpersonal relationships.

His discussion topic: "Practical Insights on Dealing with Difficult People", and who can't use that information? I will share a few of his insights, but if you want to learn more, I suggest you read one or more of his books (two of which were on the New York Times Best Seller List for quite some time).

- 1. Appreciate that everything in our life is a message from G-d, and He is giving us "scenarios" for us to learn. Hashem is speaking to us through every person and every relationship. People often miss Hashem's message, as we are focusing on the MESSENGER and not the MESSAGE!
- 2. Just because someone did something wrong doesn't mean that we have to get angry as a result. We need to ask, "What does this mean?" and not ascribe a "personal motivation" to it. Why do we take it personally? Our ego!!! The degree to which we are not bothered by other people is the degree to which we can love and accept ourselves.

The BODY does what LOOKS good The EGO does what FEELS good The SOUL does what IS good!

- 3. A RELATIONSHIP IS WHEN TWO PEOPLE CAN EACH GIVE AND RECEIVE. If you are dealing with someone who is emotionally unwell, they cannot give, they can only take. Be nice to them and consider it *Chesed*; don't get frustrated and angry because they can't give back to you.
- 4. Have COMPASSION. It's hard to be "you;" it's Have COMPASSION. It's hard to be "you;" it's harder to be that difficult person. They don't want to be that way, so don't get angry. Understand that they don't know how to be different much of the time.
- 5. When a person is not in the best mental health, we cannot cure them, but we can help build them up in the best possible way. Do things such as ask the person for advice, give them a genuine compliment, etc.
- 6. Don't confuse intelligence and emotional well-being. We think if someone is smart, successful or talented, then they are ok...that is irrelevant. IQ doesn't make anyone more rational or emotionally healthy. It is our self-esteem that determines the direction of our behavior, not our intelligence.

Dr. Lieberman had a Q and A after his talk. One gentleman asked him "What do you think Will Smith should have done in [the recent] situation?" He answered it, but I turned to the guy who asked the question and here was my answer: "If Will Smith would have had Torah wisdom, he would have known what happened to Moshe when he demanded water and "hit the ROCK!" :)

Pesach Kiddushim Sponsorships

If you would like to sponsor (or co-sponsor) a Kiddush during Pesach this year, please contact the Office (314-991-2100, ext. 2 OR email office@nhbz.org). What a lovely way to honor the memory of a loved one, to share in the celebration of Pesach and to support our Community.



In the Community

- <u>Kashering Utensils for Pesach</u>: You can kasher utensils for Pesach at the Vaad Hoeir Office (4 Millstone Campus Drive) on Sunday, April 10, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.
- HF Epstein Hebrew Academy's Annual Literary Magazine, Machshava, is looking for YOU! Any student (pre-school through 12th Grade) may submit artwork, poems or short stories (up to 500 words). Deadline for entries is April 29. Please see flyer for details.

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!



• The Schmooze Sunday Nights

Join kids from around St. Louis, 4th grade and up, at NHBZ at 6:00 pm on Sunday nights for a discussion-based Torah learning session with Rabbi Okin.

Learning at NHBZ

Parashas Metzora – By Rabbi Smason

Parshas Metzora continues the topic of tzara'as. Although it has commonly been mistranslated as leprosy, this skin disease bears little resemblance to any bodily ailment transmitted through normal exposure. Rather, tzara'as is the physical manifestation of a spiritual malaise, a punishment from G-d primarily for the sin of speaking loshon hara. Loshon hara, meaning literally 'the evil tongue', is often translated as 'gossip'. However, loshon hara is the Hebrew term for derogatory speech that is true. Motzei shem rah refers to derogatory speech about others that is false and slanderous.

Parshas Metzora details the purification process of the metzorah -- one afflicted with tzara'as. Tzara'as could afflict one's clothing and home, and necessitate the burning of one's clothes and demolishing of one's home if the disease spread. The various punishments recorded in the Torah are not intended to serve as revenge for the sin; they are measures that will hopefully restore the person to the correct path.

Learning at NHBZ (con't)

Ask Our Rabbis

Q: On Pesach some offer the greeting of *Pesach Kasher V'Sameach* ("a Kosher and Joyous Pesach"). Why don't we do so on other Jewish festivals, such as *Sukkos Kasher V'Sameach*, or *Chag Kasher V'Sameach* ("a Kosher and Joyous Festival / Holiday")?

A: Pesach occurs in the month of Nisan, the first month of the Jewish calendar. Therefore, Pesach is the first *chag* (festival) of the year. When we wish others a *Pesach Kasher*, we're actually referring to all the festivals! In what way? The letters of the phrase *Pesach Kasher* spell out: Purim, Sukkos, Chanukah, (Yom) Kippur, Shavous, Rosh HaShana. פורים, סוכות, ראש השנה

THE FOUR QUESTIONS

Ladies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls, please allow us to introduce:

BRUCE WAXMAN

Bruce is a 2nd Generation NHBZ member. He and his brother, Brent, celebrated their Bar Mitzvah at Nusach Hari in 1970 and the Waxman family rejoined the Nusach Hari community about 10 years ago. Bruce just celebrated 30 years in business with his accounting/consulting firm Waxman Associates. Married to Faith for 39 years, they have three daughters and sons-in-law, four grandsons and another grandbaby due in May. (Sound familiar? Yes, folks, he's Gavriel Matt's father-in-law!). Bruce spends his leisure time with family, reading and bike riding.

The Questions:

1. Who is your favorite Torah personality and why?

A: "There are many of course, but I have always reflected on the inner strength of Nachshon ben Aminadav. At the splitting of the sea, Nachshon was the first to jump into the sea when everyone else paused. Here is a portrait of a man whose quiet action reflected great devotion, faith and bravery."

2. What is your favorite snack food?

A: "Chips"

3. Three words that best describe you?

A: "Easygoing, motivated, and dedicated"

4. What inspires you?

A: "I am inspired by my wife, Faith and I am inspired every day by my three daughters, my sons-in-law, and especially my grandchildren. During the depths of the pandemic, I was inspired daily by joining Rabbi Smason's morning class at 8:15am via phone and Zoom."

Thank you, Bruce! Great getting a glimpse into your growing family! Who is up next?

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 Starting Points

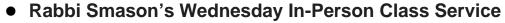
Join Rabbi Smason for a 45-minute presentation/discussion of relevant, contemporary topics every Shabbos at 10:15 am in the Feigenbaum-Pepose Multi-Purpose Room.

Upcoming topics:

April 9 Other People's Shoes: Judging People Favorably

April 16 What Does Freedom Mean to You?

April 23 No Starting Points (Yizkor)



Same place and time, same health and safety protocols.



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_MFI0zsmKIImpR3KpHROrHDWIDNbqsN

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/i/99013706617



NHBZ Pesach Schedule 2022

Thursday, April 14					
<u> </u>	Monday – Thursday, April 18–21 Chol Hamoed				
Shacharis7:00 am					
Bedikas Chometz (Search) After 8:22 pm	Shacharis6:45 am				
· , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	Mincha/Maariv (Mon-Wed)7:00 pm				
Friday, April 15, Erev Pesach	, , ,				
	Thursday, April 21, Chol Hamoed - Erev Yom Tov				
Shacharis7:00 am					
Siyum for First Born Following Shacharis	Make Eruv Tavshilin				
Finish Eating Chometz10:25 am	Mincha/Maariv7:20 pm				
Biyur Chometz (Burning)by 11:43 am	Candle Lighting Erev Yom Tov7:25 pm				
Bitul Chometz (Annulling)by 11:43 am					
Mincha/Maariv7:15 pm	Friday, April 22, 7th Day of Pesach				
Candle Lighting Shabbos/Yom Tov7:19 pm					
First Sederafter 8:23 pm	Shacharis9:00 am				
	Sermon by Rabbi Avi Okin				
Shabbos, April 16, 1st Day of Pesach	Mincha/Maariv7:20 pm				
	Candle Lighting for Shabbos & Yom Tov7:26 pm				
Shacharis9:00 am					
Sermon by Rabbi Ze'ev Smason	Shabbos, April 23, 8th Day of Pesach (Yizkor)				
Mincha*/Maariv7:10 pm					
*D'var Torah by Rabbi Avi Okin	Shacharis9:00 am				
Candle Lighting & Second Seder After 8:24 pm	Sermon by Rabbi Ze'ev Smason				
	Yizkor 10:30 am				
Sunday, April 17, 2nd Day of Pesach	Mincha/Seudat Moshiach/Maariv7:00 pm				
	Pesach Concludes8:35 pm				
Shacharis9:00 am					
Sermon by Rabbi Ze'ev Smason	Important Note: before eating chometz,				
Mincha*7:20 pm	you must wait for at least one hour after Pesach				
*D'var Torah by Rabbi Avi Okin	concludes, until 9:35 pm, so that the rabbis have				
Maariv/Yom Tov Concludes8:25 pm	time to buy back your chometz & until pesach				
	utensils are put away.				





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Sisterhood Book Club News!

The next meeting of the NHBZ Sisterhood Book Club will be WEINA DAI RANDEL Monday, May 23, 7:15-8:45 PM at the home of Linda Shore. The book is: **The Last Rose of** Shanghai: A Novel, by Weina Dai Randel. A National Jewish Book Awards Finalist, *The Last* Rose of Shanahai is a powerful



story of the relationship between a Shanghai heiress and a Jewish refugee, set against the backdrop of a nightclub in China on the eve of the Second World War.

For more information or to join, contact Fran Alper at 314-993-4024 or email fran.alper@outlook.com or sisterhood@nhbz.org.

The Book Club meets on the fourth Monday of odd-numbered months at 7:15-8:45 PM.

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

We welcome you to join us!

After hours & hours of Passover Preparation Mrs. Blumberg decided to have her four cups of wine early

"Who is the wise person? The one who foresees the consequences."

– Talmud, Tamid, 32a

What is chametz?



Chametz is "leaven" — any food that's made of grain and water that have been allowed to ferment and "rise." Bread, cereal, cake, cookies, pizza, pasta, and beer are blatant examples of chametz; but any food that contains grain or grain derivatives can be, and often is, chametz. Practically speaking, any processed food that is not certified "Kosher for Passover" may potentially include chametz ingredients. Chametz is the antithesis of matzah, the unleavened bread we eat on Passover to

recall the haste in which we left Egypt, and the humble faith by which we merited redemption. Matzah is the symbol of the Exodus, a central component of the Seder



rituals, and the heart of the "Festival of Matzot". And the flip-side of eating matzah is getting rid of chametz — and the egotism and spiritual coarseness it represents. -excerpted from www.chabad.org

METZORA: We Repent

The person being purified shall immerse his clothing, shave off all his hair, and immerse **himself in the water and become pure.** (Leviticus 14:8)

One of the stages in the purification process of the metzora is tevilah (immersion) in a mikveh. The Chinuch explains that in the beginning the world was submerged in water. Thus, when the metzora immerses in the mikveh he feels like he has been created anew. He feels like a new person with a clean slate, leaving all his sins behind and starting over.

Failure is part of the growth process. The key to success is to put the past behind you and start again while using your failures as tools to achieve your goals.

Many accomplished people have had a hard road up the mountain of success, but all you see in the press are their victories. Michael Jordan, possibly the greatest basketball player of all time, is described as "single-handedly redefining the NBA superstar," and yet to get there he admits to failing more than most. He is quoted as saying: "I've missed more than 9,000 shots in my career, I've lost almost 300 games. Twenty-six times I've been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over and over in my life."

He goes on to say the reason he has succeeded boils down to his constant failure and using failure as his motivation to shoot for success. In other words, Jordan viewed failures as steppingstones towards success; his shooting average was just below 50% so to score he would have to take two shots, one to miss and the other to score.

Do you despair from your failures or view them as a chance for a rebound? by Rabbi Eli Scheller, www.aish.com



The Schmooze

Sunday Evenings, 6:00 pm



Join with children from around St. Louis for a discussion-based Torah learning session at NHBZ with Rabbi Avi Okin!

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE A NHBZ MEMBER FAMILY TO PARTICIPATE

4TH GRADE AND UP

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 991-2100 EXT: 2

NHBZ's Covid protocol is in place. Kids under age 12 are not required to be vaccinated but they will need to remain masked except when eating.

Children 12 and up are required to be vaccinated to participate.



You can be published in <u>Machshava</u>, Epstein's annual literary magazine!

Any student from pre-school12th grade can enter artwork, poems, or short stories up to 500 words.

Submissions can be in either English or Hebrew.

Deadline for entries: 4/29

Submissions can be sent as a PDF to litmag@eha.org or dropped off in the EHA main office.

This year's theme: Moving Forward Together





Our synagogue helps you to feel comfortable & welcome

NHBZ members are eclectic and diverse, and desire personal growth without politics or an obligatory commitment to any particular movement, denomination, or label.

Our synagogue is proudly Pro-Israel and against the **BDS** movement

Support for a secure Israel as our Jewish homeland is not a political or liberal or conservative cause – it is a Jewish cause.

Our synagogue will engage you Jewishly

...with abundant and accessible learning opportunities so that you can become the best version of yourself.

Our synagogue has meaningful, spiritually oriented services

...simultaneously tapping into the enduring wisdom of our people and your personal experience.



Come grow with us. We are here for you. Experience Nusach Hari B'nai Zion

