



NHBZ Weekly News

Welcome to Nusach Hari B'nai Zion

Affiliated with Union of Orthodox Congregations of America

December 9, 2023 • 25 Kislev 5784 • Candle Lighting 4:21 pm • Shabbos Concludes 5:25 pm

Parashas Vayeshev
Haftarah Vayeshev

Genesis 37:1 – 40:23
Obadiah 1:1 – 1:21

Chumash p. 198 – 221
Chumash p. 1142 - 43

Thanks to our generous sponsors this Shabbos

Arin Rosenberg for sponsoring Kiddush Lunch, "As we take time to celebrate Hanukkah and embrace the miracle, we invite you to share Kiddush Lunch with the Rosenberg girls: Hadassah Rinda, Tziporah Miriam, and Yocheved Yael, to celebrate our conversion and journey into the light."

Dr. Jay Pepose and Dr. Susan Feigenbaum for sponsoring this week's bulletin, "With deepest gratitude to members of the NHBZ 118th Anniversary Dinner Planning Committee and its brilliant leaders, Amy Feit, Rhonnie Goldfader and Margo Tzadok, for creating a perfect evening!"

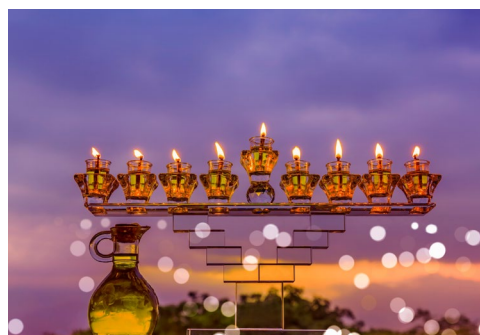
Prayer

Friday, December 8

- 6:45 am Shachris
- 4:20 pm Mincha
- 4:21 pm Candle Lighting

Shabbos, Saturday, December 9

- 9:00 am Shachris followed by Musaf:
 - ☆ Pesukei D'Zimra: **Howard Sandler**
 - ☆ Shacharis: **Mateo John**
 - ☆ Leyning: **TBA**
- 10:00-10:45 am: **Rabbi David**: Downstairs
 - Topic: TBA
- 4:11 pm Mincha
- 5:25 pm Shabbos concludes



- ☆ Haftarah: **Rabbi Chaim Bogopulsky**
- ☆ Sermon: **Rabbi Chaim Bogopulsky**
- ☆ Musaf: **Rabbi Chaim Bogopulsky**

Minyan Times December 8– December 16

Daily minyan has returned to the Rabbi Rivkin Chapel

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

^Chanukah *Monday Minyan moved to 7:30 pm

Rabbi Chaim Bogopulsky • Rabbi Aaron Borow, Emeritus • Rabbi Ze'ev Smason, Emeritus • Kenneth Bressler, President
Nusach Hari B'nai Zion • 650 N. Price Rd. St. Louis, MO 63132 • Phone 314.991.2100 • Web: www.nhbz.org

Congregation News

Mazel Tov on Simchas This Week!

Happy Birthday!

Eldad Bialecki	Dec 9	Sydney Mufson	Dec 12
Faye McCary	Dec 11	Chiya Smason	Dec 12
David Porter	Dec 11	Sheera Tzadok	Dec 12

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Learning at NHBZ

On-Going Classes

- **Gemara Learning with Rabbi Chaim Bogopulsky**, Weekdays, 6:15 am
- **“Journey through the Chumash” with Rabbi Chaim Bogopulsky**, Tuesdays, 12:00 pm
Take an amazing journey of learning! Step by step, we will explore the Chumash.
- **Pirkei Avos / Ethics of the Fathers with Rabbi Ze’ev Smason**, Wednesdays, 12:15 pm
Feed your soul 45 minutes of spiritual nourishment from the timeless wisdom of our Sages, full of relevant, contemporary insights and lessons. Low-calorie, gluten free, and refreshing!
- **“Gateway to Tefilla” with Rabbi Chaim Bogopulsky**, Wednesdays at 7:00 pm, followed by Ma’ariv at 7:30 pm.
Deepen your understanding of the prayers we say.
- **Book of Kings with Rabbi Ze’ev Smason**, Monday-Thursday 3:00 pm (On Zoom!) An online class providing an exciting and informative look into the lives of Israel’s early kings and prophets. Thirty-minute sessions on Zoom. Join class via this link:
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/78974795850?pwd=tw7IIOVumZ8QelPxHvApYZsox8VUem.1>
- **Kitzur Shulchan Aruch with Rabbi Chaim Bogopulsky**, Sunday–In between Mincha and Ma’ariv, and Monday, Tuesday & Thursday at 7:15 pm, followed by Ma’ariv at 7:30 pm.
Invest a few minutes to expand your understanding of Halacha/Jewish Law.
- **Partners in Torah** Monday nights at 8 pm. Sign up available in person.
- **“Soul Building” Series with Rabbi Yosef David**, Shabbos mornings, 10:00 am
- **Pre-Mincha Shiur with Rabbi Chaim Bogopulsky**, Every Shabbos afternoon
- **Mishna Learning with Rabbi Chanan Swidler**, Every Sunday morning, after Shachris

Annual Membership Meeting and Election of Officers This Sunday, Dec. 10, 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 this Sunday, December 10 at 11:00 am.

Each year, 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 Rabbi, President and other officers and Board members about the business of the shul. If you would like to give your opinion, make 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 Membership meeting, the slate is officially nominated, *and other nominations are accepted from the floor. You can even nominate yourself.* Full Members in good standing may nominate others and have the privilege of voting. Nominees must be members in good standing for at least one year at the time of nomination. The Officers and new Board members take office on January 1, 2024.

We have eight officers and fifteen Board members. Officers serve for one year. Board members serve for three years, with one third of the Board up for election each year.



NHBZ NOVEMBER 2023 TRIBUTES

IN MEMORY OF

Samuel Bluestein

Joni & Bob Kaiser
 Terri & Jean Jacobson
 Faith Waxman
 Arnold Brody
 Jerry & Gail Tullman
 Janet Yassen & Irle Goldman
 Shari Damlich
 Private Home Care
 Marvin & Dorrie Lerner
 Rachael Coleman
 Craig & Jackie Berkin
 Neal & Laurie Price
 Debbie Finland
 Malina Schramm
 Ruth Novack
 Felicia Watz

Estelle Kram

Joni & Bob Kaiser

June Cohen

Joni & Bob Kaiser

Nathanne Senturia

Joni & Bob Kaiser
 Phyllis & Howard Loiterstein

IN HONOR OF:

Leslie & Scott Gitel

Joni & Bob Kaiser

Nancy Rush

Susan Gellman

Marcela Morgensztern

Nancy & Glen Goldberg

Erol & Sally Amon on your Anniversary

Keith & Karen Zeff

Stella Vladimirov: "We are so appreciative of your commitment to our Police & Firefighters!"

Dr. Susan Feigenbaum & Dr. Jay Pepose

REFUAH SHLEMA

Helayne Levitt

Faith Waxman

Phyllis Loiterstein

Faith Waxman

Rachael Pevnick

Jerry & Gail Tullman
 Joni & Bob Kaiser

Trib-ute (trib'yoot)

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

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

Call (314-991-2100, ext 2) or email (office@nhbz.org) to make a tribute.

Tributes will be listed monthly in the Weekly News.

Parashas Vayeshev

Upon reviewing the stories of two of Yaakov's twelve sons, Yosef and Yehudah, one may wonder why Yehudah's descendants were ultimately crowned with the kingship of Israel rather than those of Yosef. Stories regarding their chastity are told of both.

After her first and second husbands died, both of whom were sons of Yehudah, Tamar dressed as a prostitute and seduced her former father-in-law. Yosef, on the other hand, when confronted by his master Potiphar's wife, who propositioned him in the privacy of her mansion, ran away. Yehudah acceded to temptation; Yosef resisted.

Earlier in the Parshah, the Torah tells us that Yosef was thrown into a pit by his brothers and about to be killed. What does Yehudah do? He suggests that the brothers sell Yosef to a passing caravan of Ishmaelite merchants. Though he is the leader of the brothers, he does not recommend that Yosef be retrieved from the pit and brought back to their father. Moreover, Yehudah, according to certain midrashim, married a Canaanite woman – something even Esav did not do – at a time when his family was anxious about the children intermarrying.

Why, one wonders, was Yehudah rewarded with the sovereign leadership of Israel? A good leader is not one who is perfect, but one who falters and finds the strength of purpose to make a fresh start through repentance and improved actions. The Talmud tells us, "Four died through the serpent's machinations" – that is, they died because all people are doomed to die and not on account of their personal sins: Binyamin, Amram, Yishai and Caleiv. Binyamin was the most perfect of Yaakov's sons, but he was never featured as a leader. The son accepted as leader, by the brothers and their father, was Yehudah.

Yehudah's public admission of his relations with Tamar made a great impact in Heaven. Following G-d's forgiveness of him, the angels pronounced the blessing (which later formed part of the Amidah), "Blessed are you, Lord, who is gracious and forgives repeatedly."

While the sincere confession acknowledges imperfection, it demonstrates moral maturity and responsibility. The baal teshuvah has the courage to admit his failures and uses those setbacks to better himself. Leaders are not born perfect, but they constantly strive toward that goal. This is Yehudah and his claim to royalty.

Rabbi Chaim Landau

Congregation Ner Tamid in Baltimore, Maryland



In the Community:

Thank you to the Sponsors and Volunteers of the Thanksgiving for Olivette Police Officers & Firefighters!

As it has been for the last six years, once again our congregation cooked and brought the traditional Hot Kosher Thanksgiving meal to Olivette police and firefighters!

This year it was more important than ever to illustrate our tremendous gratitude and support that our shul has for our first responders.

We are thankful for all our shul members who donated money and who worked many hours to make this event possible:

Our Mashgichim and cooks:

Norma Rubin, Jackie Berkin, and Bob Kaiser.

Our volunteers, who prepared and delivered the food:

Faye, Bryan and Scott McCary; Marcela, David and Michael Morgensztern; Anna Rose Tendler; Sallie Volotzky; Stella Vladimirov.

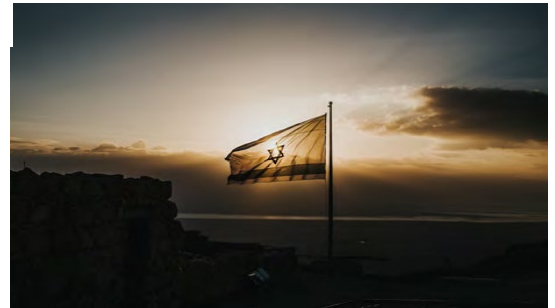
Our members, who donated money for the event:

Debbie and Jessie Barash; Shirley Bluestein; Susan Feigenbaum and Jay Pepose; Janet and Alan Haber; Eliot and Sally Katz; Joni and Bob Kaiser; Sally Needle; Sari Neudorf; Lois Perryman; Libby Sorkin Routman; Terry and Jeff Schnitzer.

Help for Israel

Here are some **suggested** places to donate:

1. Magen David Adom
 - ✧ Online: <https://afmda.org/donate/>
 - ✧ Mailing a check:
 - ✧ American Friends of Magen David Adom
 - 20 West 36th Street, Suite 1100
 - New York, NY 10018
 - ✧ Call: 866-632-2763
2. United Hatzalah:
 - ✧ Online: https://israelrescue.org/campaign/israel-under-attack/?utm_source=homepage&utm_medium=popup-new-2&utm_campaign=gaza2023
3. Friends of the IDF:
 - ✧ Online: <https://www.fidf.org/>
 - ✧ Mailing a check:
 - ✧ Friends of the Israel Defense Forces
 - ✧ PO Box 4224 NY, NY 10163 USA.
 - ✧ Call: 1-888-318-3433
4. Shaving Israel
 - ✧ Online: www.shavingisrael.org
 - ✧ Mail a check:
 - ✧ PO Box 6991
 - ✧ Chesterfield, MO, 63006





THE SISTERHOOD SCOOP

DECEMBER 9



Volume 6

Number 45

26 Kislev 5784

December 9, 2023



"Hanukkah is about the freedom to be true to what we believe without denying the freedom of those who believe otherwise. It's about lighting our candle, while not being threatened by or threatening anyone else's candle."

— Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks ²⁷L

Ripley's **Believe It or Not!**

THERE ARE MORE THAN 15 WAYS TO SPELL "Hanukkah" IN ENGLISH.

Hanukka	Hanukkah
Hannuka	Chanukah
Hannukkah	Hanukah
Channuka	Hannukkah
Xanuka	Chanuka
Hannukka	Chanukkah
Chanukkah	Hanuka
Chanukka	Channukkah
Chanuga	Chanukka

Book Club News



The Book Club usually meets on the fourth Monday of odd-numbered months at 7:15-8:45 PM. The first meeting of 2024 will be **January 22** when the Book Club will discuss **People Love Dead Jews: Reports from a Haunted Present** by Dara Horn, described in the Washington Post as "...one of those unexpected, memorable books... riveting, gorgeously written."

For more info call Fran Alper at 314-993-4024 or fran.alper@outlook.com or sisterhood@nhbz.org

VAYEISHEV: Don't Tell Me to Cheer Up

Out for a walk, you see an old friend whose head is down, a frown etched on her face; you instinctively say to her, "Cheer up," hoping to lift her spirits. Well, it won't. It will, however, make her angry, frustrated and more depressed. You are being an insensitive boor and you don't even know it. If that's all you've got to say, keep quiet and offer a friendly smile, not a trite comment. If I am going through a hard time, I don't want someone to tell me to be cheerful—I want someone to understand why I am miserable.

"Cheer up" implies that I have no reason for feeling bad. Face it: chances are that I'm not sad for the fun of it. Something is obviously troubling me. Telling me to cheer up is effectively denying me the right to feel upset about it. Imagine the burden I now carry: I not only have a worrying problem, I'm not even allowed to feel bad about it!

It is also an insult to imply that becoming cheerful is simple & easy. It's like saying, "What's wrong with you? Pull yourself together." When someone is depressed—over finances, a troubled marriage, or whatever—the last thing they want is to be made to feel inadequate for feeling low. If it were that easy for them, they would have cheered up without your sage advice.

Take a leaf out of the book of the biblical Joseph. He was languishing in an Egyptian jail with two of Pharaoh's ministers, when one morning he notices they are in a foul mood. What does Joseph tell them? Does he tell them, "Chin up"? Actually, he doesn't tell them anything—instead he asks them a question: "Why are you sad today?" which is their cue to unburden themselves to Joseph.

Joseph did something very profound. He didn't tell them how to feel; instead he gave them an opportunity to talk about their problems. Joseph realized that in 99% of cases people are upset for a reason. The way to help them is to encourage them to talk about the problem and to help them work towards a solution.

So, on the next occasion that you are tempted to tell another to "cheer up," consider that perhaps you are merely furthering his or her misery with your insensitive remark. Here is a simple rule: when something is the matter with another person, it is almost always better for them to do the talking, not you. Whatever your huge brain conjures up will almost certainly be irrelevant, and potentially offensive.

When you ask someone, "How are you?" are you really prepared to wait for the answer? That is the real reason we say "cheer up"—it is quick and easy. We convince ourselves that with our nugget of wisdom we have done our part for humanity, while in reality the recipient of your brilliant aphorism is bursting inside, "I hate you for saying that!"

Remember, once the words have gone out, they cannot be put back in. Maimonides wisely advised not to say anything without reviewing it in one's own mind three or four times. On these occasions five or six would not be amiss, and assiduously observe the rule: if in doubt, say naught. If you care about someone going through a rough patch, find some time to listen. If you are not good at listening, offer a hug or—very Jewishly—a cake . . .

— Yossi Ives, www.chabad.org



TOWN HALL MEET & GREET

WESLEY BELL

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY CHALLENGER,
MO'S 1ST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2023

10 – 11:30 AM

YOUNG ISRAEL OF ST. LOUIS

8101 DELMAR BLVD

**SECURITY PROVIDED
REFRESHMENTS SERVED**

Wesley Bell is an American attorney, former public defender, former municipal prosecutor and judge, former municipal prosecutor, and former city council member for Ferguson, Missouri. Currently, Bell holds the office of prosecuting attorney for St. Louis County.

He will be competing against incumbent Rep. Cori Bush in the Democratic primaries for the 2024 US House elections.



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Deadline
December 15

NEXT EXIT

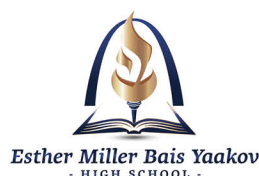
Need
Help?

Contact Hillel Anton
at EAO@agudahMO.org
or 314-200-5781

Deadline to donate for the
2023-2024 school year scholarships is
DECEMBER 15, 2023

For more information or to donate,
visit AgudahMO.org/EAO

Our Partner
Schools:



STL MARCH *for* ISRAEL

**March to free the hostages.
March against antisemitism.**

**SUNDAY
DECEMBER 10
1 PM**

**Meet on Delmar at Kingsland in University
City at 1 pm; after a brief gathering, we'll
march down Delmar toward Eastgate.**

(Parking available on Kingsland)

