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*Insert:*

Chanukah Home Guide  
Shabbat Chanukah Dinner  
Family Chanukah Party

**A Thank You Letter**

for the Torah donated  
by our congregation



Shalom Irwin!

We brought Sefer Torah safely to Kiev. Our community was so impressed with this treasure gift and by impressive story of Sefer Torah, which your rabbi told.

We decided in our community to do new Aron ha Kodesh and to dedicate this to Hanukah.

Shavua tov!!!

Sincerely yours,  
Reuven and Lena Stamov

# TEMPLE TALK



Congregation L'Dor V'Dor  
Oakland Little Neck Jewish Center

OLNJ.C.org

December 2015

Vol. 12., Issue 4

## Happy Chanukah



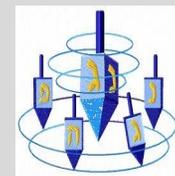
As you celebrate the Festival of Lights  
may your home be filled  
with light and shalom.

*Some great opportunities to learn more about  
the minor festival of Chanukah that is not so minor!  
Please see page 7!*

### Chanukah Insert:



Shabbat Chanukah Services 6:30 pm  
Chinese Shabbat Dinner 7:30 pm  
Friday, December 11th



Family Chanukah Party  
Sunday, December 13  
4:00 p.m. — 6:00 p.m.



*Plus our Chanukah Home Guide*



***Not by might, nor by power,  
but by my spirit, thus says the Lord.***

These words, originally spoken by the prophet Zechariah in the 6<sup>th</sup> century BCE, are chanted as part of the haftarah each year during the synagogue celebration of Chanukah. Perhaps these words were chosen to be part of the haftarah for Shabbat Chanukah as a counter balance to the primacy of the military victory of the Maccabees that is the historical reason for the celebration of this great winter festival. A military victory is indeed a valid cause for celebration, however, the words of Zechariah remind us that victories in life are dependent upon spiritual strength at least as much if not more than physical power or might. The Chanukah candles that bring light into the darkness of night testify that physical might alone cannot bring about a victory for the establishment of God's kingdom here on earth, without an inner passion to pursue justice and to promote peace, harmony and well being as part of a mission to fix a broken world. On Chanukah we celebrate the victory of the Maccabees who were able to stand up for that which is good and true and to rededicate the Temple in Jerusalem to the glory of God and to the values of our tradition.

The primary mitzvah of Chanukah is to advertise to the world the miracle of the victory of the few and weak over the many and powerful. When we light the candles, in the second blessing, we thank God who created miracles for our ancestors and continues to create miracles for us. Just as it was a miracle for the Maccabees to prevail against all odds and were able to win the battle for goodness and peace, so too it is a miracle every time we stand up for our beliefs and prevail against the lure of corruption and immorality.

We are living in a time when this message is more important than ever. On a regular basis, Israel and the Jewish people are maliciously and unfairly criticized and maligned as if it is our fault that Palestinian teenage terrorists are attacking innocent civilians with knives. That somehow this behavior is understandable because of the oppressive and unjust policies and actions of the Israeli government and the Israeli people who are our brothers and sisters. We must not allow the biased media to blur the facts and make us feel anything but strong and proud of who we are as Jews and advocates for Israel as a nation among the nations. On Chanukah we celebrate the victory of the Maccabees for religious and political freedom. In a world where these freedoms are increasingly challenged, let us draw strength from the courage of the Maccabees to fight for that in which they believed and from the inner spirit that guided, motivated and strengthened them.

This year, as we celebrate Chanukah, with the exchange of gifts, gatherings of friends and family, spinning the dreidel, eating latkes and lighting candles, may we have the words of the prophet Zechariah in our minds and remember that our personal and communal victories can be possible when we allow God's spirit to be a real force within our lives. May God's spirit help us to conquer all of the darkness that is plaguing our world. I hope that you will be able to take advantage of the numerous opportunities that our congregation is offering to learn about and to celebrate Chanukah this year. Take a look at page 7 and the supplemental flyer in this December 2015 edition of Temple Talk.

*Rabbi Gordon Yaffe*

## December Schedule of Services

Fri., Dec. 4	Kabbalat Shabbat Service	6:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 5	Shabbat Morning Service	9:00 a.m.
	Alternative Shabbat Service	9:30 a.m.
	Mincha/Maariv/Havdalah	4:00 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 6	Erev Chanukah	
	Morning Minyan	8:45 a.m.
Fri., Dec. 11	A Capella Musical	
	Kabbalat Shabbat Service	6:30 p.m.
	Shabbat Chanukah Dinner	7:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 12	Shabbat Chanukah Morning Service	9:00 a.m.
	Mincha/Maariv/Havdalah	4:00 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 13	Chanukah Morning Minyan	8:45 a.m.
	At the home of Ilse and Gary Holz	
Fri., Dec. 18	Shabbat Evening Service	8:00 p.m.
	Birthdays & Anniversaries Celebrated	
Sat., Dec. 19	Shabbat Morning Experience	
	Breakfast	9:00 a.m.
	Shacharit	10:00 a.m.
	Torah Service	10:30 a.m.
	Musaph	11:15 a.m.
	Kiddush/Lunch	12:00 p.m.
	Mincha/Maariv/Havdalah	4:00 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 20	Morning Minyan	8:45 a.m.
Fri., Dec. 25	Kabbalat Shabbat Service	6:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 26	Shabbat Morning Service	9:00 a.m.
	Mincha/Maariv/Havdalah	4:00 p.m.

### Shabbat Candle Lighting

December 4	4:09 p.m.
December 11	4:09 p.m.
December 18	4:11 p.m.
December 25	4:15 p.m.



## Shabbat Afternoon at 4pm

**Sanctify this special time  
on Shabbat with prayer, a light  
meal, schmoozing and Havdalah.**



## Presidential Matters

by Bob Stern



As I thought about a topic for this month's column, I thought about how many From the President articles I've written since assuming the presidency of Oakland Jewish Center on January 1, 2007. An exact count is unlikely but, suffice it to say, it's been a lot.

Why is this relevant you may ask? Quite simply, it's the January 2007 date and the fact that we will soon be dating our checks January 2016. Yes, it's been nine years. Nine years of problem solving, nine years of frustration, nine years of satisfaction, nine years of making friends and enemies, nine years of comforting people, nine years of patting people on the back for a job well done. And on and on.

I've been proud to serve as president of OJC and co-president of Congregation L'Dor V'Dor. It's been an honor, a privilege and a huge responsibility. The job of president is often a thankless one but you know that going in. Still, over the years, many individuals have assumed the mantle of leadership and led the congregation positively.

The term of President or Co-President is two years. That's as it should be. Allowing anyone to preside longer is unfair to the individual, and also unfair to the congregation. Despite one's best intentions, it's difficult to maintain one's intensity over a long period of time. Let's all remember that the officers of the congregation are all volunteers. These positions are undertaken in addition to their real jobs and lives.

Steve and I have publically announced that this term, ending June 30, 2017, will be our last. I'll let Steve answer questions about his decision. I'm definitely stepping aside when our current term is up. We've recently been criticized as being tired, burned out and disinterested after nine years. Tired, yes. Burned out, possibly. Disinterested, absolutely and categorically as untrue as can be.

We are very fortunate that our congregation includes many very intelligent, dedicated and capable individuals. Many of these folks serve on the current Board of Trustees. Others have elected to help in their own way. Still others remain on the sidelines for whatever reason.

It's time for somebody or somebodies to step forward. Ideally, the person(s) assuming the presidency will have experience on the Board. The good news is there will be another canvas for Board members shortly. Think about it. Consider taking the leap. That's all one can ask.

On a lighter note, Steve and Julie and Lesley and I wish you and your families a Happy Chanukah.

## An Open letter to my Synagogue Family

by Phyllis Bass

It is with deep affection and profound gratitude that I write this letter to our Oakland Little Neck Jewish Center family. As many of you know, our lives changed in an instant in the early morning hours of August 5<sup>th</sup> when I fell down the stairs in our home. Suffering from severe multiple fractures, including those to my back and neck, the latter requiring a neurosurgical procedure to fuse vertebrae, I spent eight days in the hospital, sixteen days in rehab and two months in the Atria Assisted Living facility in Great Neck. Through that difficult time and pain, I maintained my resolve to heal from my injuries and Jeff, despite his own deep emotions, made sure I had the very best care, looked after our home began making provisions for our "next steps" and tended to his responsibilities to his clients. Jeff and I agree that we could have never have made it through without the love and devotion of our "two families". Our first family, of course is our children, grandchildren, siblings, long time friends, etc. Our second family is that of our beloved Oakland Little Neck Jewish Center, our Shul. To so many of you who came to visit me multiple times from my days in the hospital and throughout my recuperation and who helped Jeff and gave him solace and comfort throughout this difficult period, I can only say thank you and I love you all. Your thoughts, prayers and actions epitomized the true meaning of family, friends and Yiddishkite.

I wish to offer very special thanks to our beloved Rabbi Yaffe. He prayed for me; sometimes visited me twice each week. He prayed with me; sang with me; conducted the anniversary celebration for Jeff and me while I was in rehab; visited on Rosh Hashanah and blew the Shofar to the joy of everyone with me at that moment at the Atria; He was always there for Jeff. He is a Blessing! And he is our Blessing for which we must all be grateful.

It's been three months since my accident and for the first time, Baruch Hashem, Jeff and I are together again. My recuperation continues and I'm getting better and stronger each day! I look forward to seeing all of you again in the very near future.

I sign this letter as I started it –  
With deep affection,  
Phyllis Bass



## Message From Cantor Joshua Shron

**"Let the light of Chanukah illuminate the darkness."**

No doubt you've heard some variation of that metaphor in the past. It's the perfect feel-good message for this holiday season, one on which "light" plays a central role. Heck, I feel like I've used it myself in the pages of *Temple Talk* over the years. An overused expression? Absolutely. But with so much evil in the world, it just makes sense to look at the Chanukah candles as symbols of goodness and hope.

So please forgive me as I perpetuate the cliché.

What choice do I have? As I write this, the news has been filled with one unspeakable tragedy after another. Last week, an Israeli father and son were murdered by Palestinian terrorists. Later that evening, ISIS terrorists murdered 130 people in multiple attacks. In the days that followed, ISIS threatened attacks in New York City and Washington, DC. On November 20, five Israelis were killed in two separate terror attacks. We later learned that one of the victims was 18-year old Ezra Schwartz of Sharon, Massachusetts - an active USYer and (on a personal note) the nephew of our family friend.

On November 22, another victim. On November 23, yet another. Dear God, when will it end??

For the past several weeks, about 15 synagogue members have been joining me on Wednesday evenings to learn about and discuss Israel advocacy. While the discussions we've had have been engaging, vibrant and passionate, each meeting has left many of us feeling depressed and frustrated. Why? Because we all possess such a passion for the state of Israel, and we feel paralyzed by the fact that we see little light at the end of the tunnel. From international condemnation of Israel to Palestinian incitement to campus anti-Semitism, the situation seems to be going from bad to worse...with no end in sight.

Okay, so we've certainly covered the "darkness" part. Where in the world is the metaphorical "light"?

Ah, that's the beauty of Chanukah. From a spiritual perspective, the holiday is all about unlikely victories and the importance of never giving up hope. The Maccabees faced an extremely dark time in Jewish history, yet ultimately prevailed against their enemies and restored glory to the land of Israel. Our history has proven time after time that we will always come out on top, even in the darkest of circumstances and the most dire situations. Put simply, WE WILL WIN.

Too abstract for you? Well, how about this: Even in the darkest of times, there is so much light around us. The everyday beauty of nature. The smiling faces of our children and grandchildren. The embrace of caring friends and community members. The generosity of those who selflessly offer their time, money or kindness. The joy of family get-togethers over the holiday, as we gather with loved ones to kindle the Chanukah candles each night. The comforts of freshly-made potato latkes and jelly doughnuts. The fun of a heated game of dreidel, with pennies, almonds or M&Ms as prizes.

Smiling yet? Yeah, Chanukah tends to have that effect on people.

The light is there...we just need to let it in. This Chanukah, let's do our best to stop and appreciate the blessings we enjoy each and every day. Let's pay more attention to the light and do our best to shut out the darkness.

Don't worry...we'll get back to solving the world's problems on December 15th.

*Cantor Josh Shron*



### Teen Conversations with The Cantor at Starbucks in Little Neck

**Tuesdays, 12/15 & 12/22  
At 8:00 p.m.**



## HAPPY DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- |                     |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Gillian Berkowitz | 15 Alix Kudler        |
| 1 Caryn Poll        | 15 Andrew Kudler      |
| 1 Eric Poll         | 15 Harold Lamkay      |
| 1 Diane Stein       | 15 Robert Weibman     |
| 2 Bruce Adams       | 16 Geraldine Major    |
| 4 Martin Marks      | 17 Steven Faber       |
| 4 David Penner      | 17 Julie Grusd        |
| 5 Dale Herman       | 17 Adam Laor          |
| 5 Judy Samuels      | 17 Noah Levine        |
| 6 Beth Heitner      | 18 Judith Belfor      |
| 7 Alexandra Ross    | 18 Saul Brokowsky     |
| 9 Seth Berkowitz    | 18 Patti Unger        |
| 9 Esta Heitner      | 19 Warren Shapiro     |
| 9 Karen Hodes       | 20 Louis Litvin       |
| 9 Stacy Hoffman     | 20 Paul Stein         |
| 9 Dawn Singer       | 21 Tracy Berlinsky    |
| 10 Mark Berlinsky   | 22 Ellen Hantman      |
| 10 Leonard Katz     | 23 Ann Baum           |
| 11 Jeffrey Fein     | 23 David Goldstein    |
| 12 Daniel Glaser    | 23 Mark Rosinsky      |
| 13 Lee Charles      | 24 Marisa Roberts     |
| 13 Gladys Kefkowitz | 25 Marlene Friedman   |
| 13 Robert Stern     | 26 Paul Jason         |
| 14 Tina Anchin      | 26 Michelle Neiderman |
| 14 Alyce Drabkin    | 27 Phyllis Budne      |
| 14 Amy Kahaner      | 28 Marian Hirschler   |
| 14 Laura Lamkay     | 31 Samantha Greben    |
| 14 Shirley Meyer    | 31 Liza Kind          |
| 14 Lawrence Weibman | 31 Terry Makover      |
| 15 Samantha Biton   |                       |



## HAPPY DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Laura and Amos Weinberg
- 12 Mickey and Charles Feldberg
- 13 Annie and Ira Sanders
- 13 Lisa and Shahar B Tamari
- 17 Dorothy and Arnold Honig
- 18 Nancy and Bob Cohen
- 19 Amy and Kenneth Kahaner
- 19 Alana and Ronald Lemkin
- 22 Eileen and Bernard Gellman
- 22 Gail and Charles Wayne
- 23 Helene and David Berkowitz
- 23 Esther and Donald Forman
- 23 Sheila and Carl Mittler
- 23 Suanne and Jeffrey Yeres
- 24 Shirley and Jerry Saslow
- 25 Mairov and Joshua Shron
- 30 Linda and Isaac Schlosser

**Celebrate Your December  
Birthday or Anniversary  
by receiving a special blessing  
at Erev Shabbat Services  
December 18 at 8:00 p.m.**



# December Shabbat Highlights

Alternative Shabbat  
Morning Service  
Saturday, December 5  
9:30 am –11:30 am

You Are Encouraged To  
Bring Your Children And Experience  
The Beauty Of Shabbat Together!



Connecting spiritually through...

Guided Meditation  
Contemporary Poetry  
Informal, Engaging & Interactive Environment  
Torah Study with Discussion  
Spirited Singing and Dancing

These services will be conducted  
simultaneously with our regular  
Shabbat Morning Service.

Following services we will all join together for  
Kiddush and Lunch.



A Capella Musical  
Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Friday, December 11  
at 6:30 p.m.

We Welcome Shabbat With Singing, Dancing,  
And Lots Of Joy!!!



Monthly Shabbat  
Morning Experience!



The Schedule for Saturday, December 19

9:00 a.m. Breakfast & Learning  
10:00 a.m. Shacharit  
w/Heicha Kedushah  
10:30 a.m. Torah Service/Musaph  
12:00 p.m. Kiddush & Lunch

## A View from the Pew

*Beginning this month, this column is reserved for reflections on the question, "Why do you go to shul?" from a member of the congregation who attends Shabbat services each week. If you would like to submit an article for this column, please contact Lisa Pollack in the synagogue office.*

## Why do I go to shul?

By George Klein

It seems to be an unusual question for which I have no simple answer. We are all the sum of our past experiences and personal likes and dislikes and in that regard, the simplistic answer is because I enjoy it but like most things, it is probably more complicated than that.

When I was growing up in Toronto, I recall my father saying more than once that he would really like to be at the point financially where he could afford to go to shul every Saturday. At the time, I could not for the life of me understand this, despite having a Hebrew Day school education. Eventually, we did reach that point financially and my father did indeed go to shul every Saturday. Occasionally my father would try to "persuade" me to go with him but I must admit he did not meet with much success.

A number of years later, I moved to New York and was living in a Columbia University apartment at the corner of Riverside Dr. and 125<sup>th</sup> St. For those not familiar with NYC, 125<sup>th</sup> St. was and is pretty much the main boulevard of Harlem. One fall Sunday, I was browsing through the Times and ran across an article describing one of the last functioning synagogues in Harlem that was at the corner of Old Broadway and 125<sup>th</sup>. After a little research (there was no internet at the time) I discovered that the shul was about 1 block – no more than 200 yards – from the front door of my building, but in a direction that I never really travelled – further into Harlem, not away from it.

The next Shabbat I decided out of curiosity to investigate one of the "last shuls" in Harlem. I must say, the outside appearance of the building did not bode well but like many things, once you got past the superficial you can discover a great deal. What I found inside was Rabbi Jacob Kret, one of the most welcoming and pleasant people one could find anywhere, let alone the middle of Harlem. I believe every member of that shul believed they were Rabbi Kret's best friend, as did I. He was warm, friendly, non-judgmental but at the same time he made a point of establishing a personal connection to every person that entered his shul. I was hooked...I felt like I belonged in that shul and it felt like the prayers were meaningful. At first I went back out of curiosity but eventually I just kept going back because I enjoyed the experience and the people that were there. After a while, it was no longer an "obligation" or an experience of curiosity but it became a time on a Saturday morning where the weight of the week could be put aside for 2-3 hours. I have changed shuls a number of times since those days but going to shul on Saturday and feeling that unwinding after a stressful week still remains the reason I go back almost every Shabbat – and is that not what Shabbat is supposed to be about?

## Kristallnacht Program Review

### *Remembering Never To Forget: Panel Discussion Confronting Genocide*

On Sunday, November 1, The Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County (HMTTC) held a panel discussion on "Confronting Genocide: How You Can Be An Upstander Against Evil." The program commemorated Kristallnacht, the Night of the Broken Glass.

The panel connected and discussed the history of the Holocaust and the Rwandan genocide to current genocides. The program also focused on what each person can do to help prevent and end genocide.

Panelists included Irmgard Klavinsky, a Kristallnacht survivor; Jacqueline Murekatete, a Rwandan genocide survivor and founder/president of Genocide Survivors Foundation; and Rachid Murad, chief of staff of the Commission on Global Security, Justice and Governance at The Hague Institute for Global Justice. Beth Lilach, the senior director of education and community affairs at HMTTC, moderated the program.

At the conclusion of the program, the audience planted approximately 670 daffodil bulbs to commemorate the 1.5 million Jewish children senselessly murdered during the Holocaust. The planting represents an international global initiative to raise awareness for children who are threatened by violence, war and genocide today.

This community program was co-sponsored by Congregation L'Dor V'Dor, Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center, Marathon Jewish Center and Temple Torah of Little Neck.

**Yasher Koach to the following individuals and members of our congregation who purchased daffodils to plant in their homes to create personal memorial gardens and those made generous donations to the daffodil project.**

### **Samantha & Ronald Adjmi**

For their generous donation to defray the cost of the planting of the daffodils

### **Corrine Steel & Edith Feldman**

For their donation to the daffodil project

### **Following Members Created Personal Memorial Gardens At Their Homes:**

Shari Atlas, Ellen & Jeff Baskin, Elane Berk, Phyllis & Dan Budne, Carol Burnstein, Ellen & Gordon Charlop, Margaret C. Diskin, Shari & Neil Garfinkel, Nancy & Rabbi Bruce Goldwasser, Joyce Goodman, Elyse & Edward Goodman, Velma Grusd, Deborah & Ray Hockstein, Stacy & Steve Hoffman, Jan Laxer, Lysa Lopater, Geraldine Major, Albert Miller, Rochelle & Steven Morgan, Barbara & Cantor Julian Raber, Mindy & Richard Rosenfeld, Geraldine Rubin, Judy Samuels, Esther & Saul Spindel, Janet & Irwin Tobin, Nina & Irwin Wolf, Rabbi Gordon & Carrie Yaffe



## A Decision of the Ritual Committee

Under the leadership of Mark Hoffer and Chuck Wayne, the co-chairs of the Congregation L'Dor V'Dor Ritual Committee, at a Ritual Committee meeting that was held on Sunday, November 8, it was decided that the names of the Yahrzeits will no longer be read prior to the recitation of the Mourner's Kaddish at Shabbat Services. The congregation will be directed to the Shabbat Program in which all of the Yahrzeits will be listed and it will be announced that as we say Kaddish we think of all of those whose yahrzeits will be observed during the coming week. As time goes on, the Yahrzeit list is getting longer and longer and it was decided to recite no names rather than choosing to recite a select set of names. It was also decided that all members of the synagogue who pass away will automatically be put into the Yahrzeit data base whether or not the family purchases a memorial plaque. All members of the synagogue will be remembered in perpetuity with their names printed in the Shabbat Program on the Shabbat prior to the date of the yahrzeit. The members of the Ritual Committee who were present at this meeting are: Ellen Charlop, David Coons, Mark Hoffer, George Klein, Jerry Schwartz, Richie Spivack, Chuck Wayne and Stan Wirtheim.



The Sunday Morning Minyan on the 7th day of Chanukah will be at the home of

**Ilse and Gary Holz**

249-18 Beechknoll Ave.  
Little Neck, NY

Sunday, December 13  
8:45 a.m.



# Adult Education

## Parashat HaShavuah Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m.



*Finding relevance and meaning in the weekly portion of the Torah with Rabbi Gordon Yaffe*

*An in depth study of the weekly Torah portion.*

## The Cantor's Club Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m.



### Cantor Joshua Shron

*You too can be a Shaliach Tzibur, the one to lead the congregation in prayer.*

## Israeli Dancing

7:30 p.m.



*Three Monday nights per month*

12/7, 12/21 & 12/28

At Congregation L'Dor V'Dor

With

Dance Instructor, Randy Barenholtz  
(of Temple Israel)

*"Through our beginners' class of Israeli dance and song, we engage in the vibrant life of Jewish culture"*

Questions—contact Joan Kase  
at joankase1@gmail.com



## Sisterhood

Presents:

An Evening with Lisa Kogen

Scholar in Residence

**BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!**

Thursday, December 3

7:30 p.m.



Topic of Discussion:

## Chanukah



Sisterhood invites women, men and children to join together for an evening of learning, coffee and dessert!

Questions—Please contact the office  
at 718-244-0404

## There Is More To Chanukah Than Candles, Latkes, Dreidels and Sufganiyot!

*Embark on a fascinating journey with Rabbi Yaffe and Rabbi David Fohrman, of the Aleph Beta Academy, for some great insights into the significance of this minor festival that is not so minor.*

Sunday, December 6th

10:30 a.m.



*Join us as we explore sophisticated and nuanced answers to the questions:*

**Why Do We Celebrate Chanukah?  
Why Light Candles And Ignore The War?  
A Second Chanukah - What Could Have Been!**

# Israel On Our Minds

## Lawmakers Accuse EU of Hypocrisy, anti-Semitism Over Labeling of Settlement Products

The European Union's decision to label products from the West Bank, Golan Heights and east Jerusalem is hypocritical and racist, Knesset Speaker Yuli Edelstein said on Wednesday, November 12.

"This is a miserable decision of unparalleled hypocrisy," he stated. "Boycotts are inappropriate and do not contribute to solving the situation in our region.

Edelstein said the decision does more harm than good, because "factories over the imaginary Green Line employ many Palestinians," and labeling would "harm the delicate fabric of [relations] between Israelis and Palestinians."

"In addition to that injustice," he stated, "it is hypocrisy to deal with the source of a potato [referring to agriculture in the West Bank] instead of helping millions of miserable people in the world, including the refugees flooding Europe and escaping the battles in Syria."

Edelstein said the inclusion of the Golan Heights, "which has long been an inseparable part of Israel with no conflict," proves the decision is both political and racist, and raises questions about the EU's self-proclaimed neutrality and objectivity toward Israel.

Justice Minister Ayelet Shaked called the decision "anti-Israel and anti-Jewish," and said she plans to look into possible legal action against the EU.

"The European hypocrisy and their hatred of Israel has crossed every line," she stated. "It's interesting that they do not label products from the Western Sahara or [northern] Cyprus [and other disputed territories]."

Ambassador to the UN Danny Danon said in a statement on Wednesday, November 12, that he is "appalled" by the European Union's decision.

"It's unfortunate to see that even in 2015, Europe can adopt such a shameful decision," he said.

Danon also drew a connection between the EU's move and the 40th anniversary of UN resolution 3379, which was passed on November 10, 1975 and equated Zionism with racism.

"Forty years since the international community compared Zionism to racism, the European Union continues to label the entire Zionist enterprise as racist and as discriminatory," he said.

MK Michael Oren (Kulanu), a former ambassador to the US, told The Jerusalem Post he thinks labeling settlement products is anti-Semitic. "There are 200 land disputes around the world, and they single us out, and say it's not anti-Semitic?" he asked, incredulously.

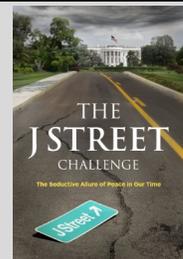
Yesh Atid chairman Yair Lapid took to Twitter to write: "Jews are being stabbed in the streets and the EU has given in to BDS. This is a decision against Israel and encourages terrorism."

MK Itzik Shmuli (Zionist Union) said the EU's decision was "stupid, harmful and unhelpful, which leaves a stain on Europe's forehead." According to Shmuli, "residents of Hamburg or Copenhagen do not really understand where the Green Line starts and ends, and the decision will end up leading to a boycott of all of Israel.

**Source:** Excerpt from *The Daily Alert*, 11/12/15; *The Jerusalem Post*, 11/12/15, Danielle Ziri in Washington contributed to this report.

## The J Street Challenge A Documentary Film

Sunday, January 31 @1pm



The film presents J Street's mission and related actions through speeches by J Street leaders and supporters. J Street believes that it is in Israel's existential interest to make peace with the Palestinians, and that peace can only come through the creation of a Palestinian state. To achieve a two state solution, Israel must make painful territorial concessions. J Street believes that American foreign policy must take an assertive approach in pressuring Israel and the Palestinians in order to achieve peace. According to J Street, Israel is mostly to blame for the lack of peace because of its unwillingness to give up land necessary for the creation of a viable Palestinian state.



## Donations (Oct. 29, 2015 - Nov. 25, 2015)

### General Donations

A general donation made for the High Holidays  
by Leonard Greer

A general donation was made by an Anonymous Donor

#### In Honor of:

Carolyn and Neil Berman's grandson becoming a Bar Mitzvah  
by Malvina Leder

Samuel Pomann, Evelyn Pomann's grandson becoming a Bar Mitzvah  
by Evelyn Pomann

George Klein's 50th anniversary celebration of becoming a Bar Mitzvah  
by Harriet and Richard Spivack  
by Richard H. Buckholz  
by Leslie Klein

### Sanctuary Card

#### In honor of:

Adele & George Wolecki's daughter Hilary's marriage to Jon Schisselman  
by Ann Baum and Family

Rabbi Gordon and Carrie Yaffe's anniversary  
by Ann Baum and Family

### Yizkor

In memory of beloved family members  
by Nathalie and Joseph Kemp

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In appreciation for the 2 music CD's sent to me from Rabbi Yaffe  
by Jeffrey Landsman

### Special Gifts

#### In memory of:

Saul Kanfer, beloved husband of Susan Kanfer  
by Carolyn and Neil Berman

## We gratefully acknowledge the following Yahrzeit Donations in memory of:

**Nathan Velleman** by Mickey Feldberg  
**Saul Hoffman** by Harold Hoffman  
**Leslie Heidecker** by Perry Heidecker  
**Max Cooper** by Stephen Eisenstein  
**Annie Elias** by Phyllis Alperstein  
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Eileen Feiner & Family

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To make an addition or correction (our apologies), please call the office at  
718-224-0404 or e-mail us at: [templetalk@lnjc.org](mailto:templetalk@lnjc.org).

## Save the Date!!!

### Sisterhood

Presents

Mincha / Maariv / Havdalah

Saturday, January 23, 2016

3:30 p.m.



Parashat Beshalach

13 Shevat 5776

## Save the Date!!!

### Hamentaschen Baking



Sunday, January 31

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Join us as we make hamantaschen  
as gifts for our neighbors in need  
and to add to the joy of our  
Purim Celebration.

The Hamantaschen will be frozen  
for use on Purim.

Adults and children are welcome!

# A Home Chanukah Guide

The first night of Chanukah is on Sunday, December 6. Here are some guidelines to help you with the lighting of the menorah.

1. Place the menorah on a window sill or near a window. The mitzvah associated with the lighting of the menorah is to publicly announce that a great miracle (the victory of the few against the many and the weak against the mighty) occurred in ancient days at this time of year.
2. Put the candles in the menorah from right to left and light them from left to right, always lighting the newest candle first.
3. The shamash candle, the one that is used to light the others, should be placed apart from the other candles.
4. On the first night one candle is lit with the shamash. On the second night, two candles are lit with the shamash. On the third night, three candles are lit with the shamash. This pattern is continued on each of the subsequent nights until on the eighth night, eight candles are lit with the shamash.
5. Recite the blessings first and then light the candles.
6. The sole function of the Chanukah candles is to advertise the miracle of the triumph of the few against the many. They may not be used for illumination or any other purpose.
7. On Erev Shabbat, the Chanukah candles should be lit before the Shabbat candles, but should burn for at least 1/2 hour after it gets dark. Therefore, longer burning Chanukah candles should be used on Erev Shabbat.

The following two blessings are recited each night of Chanukah:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה.  
*Baruch atah adonai eloheinu melech ha-olam; asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu l'hadlik ner shel Chanukah.*

Praised are you, Lord our God, King of the universe who gives us opportunities to bring holiness to our lives through the commandments and has given us the commandment to light the Chanukah candles.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לְאַבוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם וּבְזַמַּן הַזֶּה.  
*Baruch atah adonai eloheinu melech ha-olam, she-asah nissim lavoteinu ba-yamim ha-heim u-vazman ha-zeh.*

Praised are you, Lord our God, King of the universe who accomplished miracles for our ancestors in ancient days and continues to do so in our time.

\*\*\*\*\*

On the first night we also recite a third blessing:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהֶחֱיָנוּ וְקִיְּמָנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזַמַּן הַזֶּה.  
*Baruch atah adonai eloheinu melech ha-olam, she-he-che-yanu, v'ki-y'manu, v'higi-anu, lazman ha-zeh.*

Praised are you, Lord our God, King of the universe, for granting us life, for sustaining us, and for enabling us to reach this day.

After lighting the candles we say:

These lights we kindle to recall the wondrous triumphs and the miraculous victories wrought through your holy *kohanim* for our ancestors in ancient days at this season. These lights are sacred through the eight days of Chanukah. We may not put them to ordinary use, but are to look upon them and thus be reminded to thank and praise You for the wondrous miracle of our deliverance.

**Happy Chanukah! חג אורים שמחה!**

# Celebrate Chanukah!

## Shabbat Chanukah Services-Dinner-Party Friday, December 11



Services at 6:30 p.m.  
Dinner at 7:30 p.m.



Chinese Food with Latkes  
Dreidels & Games



Adults @\$25/pp  
Children (5-12) @\$15/pp  
Children below age 5 are free

RSVP by Wednesday, December 1

Shabbat Chanukah Dinner  
Friday, December 11

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email/Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ # of Adults @\$25 \_\_\_ # of Children @\$15  
\_\_\_ # of Children under 5

Names of participants \_\_\_\_\_

Please Seat Me/Us with \_\_\_\_\_

Payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_



## Family Chanukah Party Sunday, December 13 4:00 p.m. — 6:00 p.m.



*Magic Show  
Candle Lighting  
Chanukah Blessings & Songs  
Chicken Fingers, Latkes,  
Jelly Donuts and More!*



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