



December 2018 Kislev - Tevet 5779

Нарру Напиккан!



The Temple was purified and the wicks of the menorah miraculously burned for eight days, even though there was only enough sacred oil for one day's lighting.

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	8 Saturday	2:00 pm Shabbat Film Salon	15 Saturday]	22 Saturday		29 Saturday			
Tishrei - Cheshvan 5779	7 Friday		14 Friday	7:00 pm SLJC Service 9:00 pm Ventriloquist	21 Friday		28 Friday			
Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation Calendar December 2018 Tishrei -	6 Thursday		13 Thursday	4:00 pm SLJC BOD 7	20 Thursday	1:00 pm Sisterhood	27 Thursday			 (480) 305 - 0123 (480) 882 - 9022 (623) 975 - 4272 (480) 247 - 8408 (480) 882 - 9022
	5 Wednesday		12 Wednesday] 7	19 Wednesday		26 Wednesday	11:00 am Devorah Hadassah	Wednesday	Geri Gould Bety Dar Irwin Wiener, D. D. Ronda Polesky Michael Dar
	4 Tuesday	6:30 pm Men's Club	11 Tuesday	9:30 am Sisterhood Board	18 Tuesday	11:30 am Shalom Hadassah Party	25 Tuesday		Tuesday	President Membership Rabbi Cantor Shpiel Publisher
	3 Monday	ن	10 Monday 1	<u>6</u>	17 Monday		24 Monday 2		31 Monday	
	2 Sunday	2:30 pm Devorah Board	9 Sunday 1	Chavurah Chai Party	16 Sunday 1		23 Sunday 2		30 Sunday 3	

Message from our Clergy

The flame will never be extinguished



It is no accident that one of the Scripture readings offered during Hanukkah includes a chapter dealing with light – referring to the Menorah that was the focal point of the Temple. It was a seven-branched candelabrum that remained lit 24/7/365. It was a reminder of the eternalness of God and was the light that also recalled the light of learning, of morals, and ethics that are required for people to live together. The remnant of that symbol can be found in every Jewish house of worship as well as the seal of the State of Israel.

But that is not all these readings deals with. To me the main emphasis can be found in the knowledge that Judaism is a religion of action connected to faith. No single

credo defines the Jew. Rather than declaring our reliance solely on faith, Judaism requires taking action. Throughout the Bible, the Israelites raise doubts over their faith in God – that is not new. The question on the minds of the Israelites as they wander the desert in search of their destiny is whether or not to also engage in God's work. They are constantly complaining about everything from the lack of water, the dust in their mouths from the sand storms, or the endless travel seeming to go nowhere. In fact they actually bemoan their fate with doubts and fears. Still they begrudgingly move forward as though they were being pushed. Today we seem more than ever overwhelmed by self-doubt, as did our ancestors. The world, without provocation or understanding, seems to constantly berate tiny Israel. Israel is forever attempting to explain its desire to live in peace without fear of terrorism or daily bombardments from hostile neighbors. We read time and again of suicide bombers attacking for no reason other than the hatred they are taught from early on. We see children commanded to wreak havoc on anyone who is in their path. Little children who have not even learned how to talk or play or enjoy friends and growing-up are filled with such hatred that they are blinded by their frenzy.

The world looks at this as some sort of ritual that is required to gain acceptance and even admiration. Where is the cry from sane people at this wanton waste of humanity? Where is the outpouring of anger against the rankest form of child abuse? Where are the people of conscience who claim to be guardians of humanities' collective responsibility for life and liberty and happiness?

Each and every time Israel attempts to defend itself from these horrors, the world looks and sighs because they are, in most instances, successful. Occasionally mistakes are made, and sometimes with horrible results. But if you live with a siege mentality, I am sure you too would make mistakes.

Some will say that God is angry at us. Perhaps so. But if, indeed, God is angry at us it is because we don't really jump into action when confronted with what seems to be insurmountable obstacles while worrying about what people will say or do. Our insecurities seem to overwhelm us.

What should we do? Simply stated: it is to not only be a light unto the nations as the Menorah reminds us, but also to take action when needed and not expect some miracle to take place to disengage us from the ordeals of life and living. Our spiritual link to God requires us to be active in our approach to the world around us, not continually be afraid of who we are and what is needed to "MOVE-ON," and eventually continue to survive. We learned this lesson rather starkly when we were faced with certain doom at the edge of the Sea until, as the Midrash tells us, we took that first step into the water to make it separate from the dry land. We were required to take that first step in meeting our responsibilities as partners with God, not depending on God to take charge and leave us with no choices.

What we do we do because it is expected of us and our obligation is to stop complaining about things we should not be complaining about. And shaking our head as though all is lost is a sure path to inaction or even worse.

We MUST be ready to participate in ensuring the survival of Israel because our survival rests with its success. And as the Scriptural readings explain in great detail, fear will only cause destruction. We MUST never be afraid of who we are and what is needed to guarantee our right as a free people who gave the world a light to see the difference between right and wrong.

We didn't put the match in anyone's hand to light the Menorah. We offered the possibility to carry the torch and to remain ever mindful of the eternalness of our People. The Menorah stayed lit because we did not allow the flame to die.

And our faith gives us the right to proclaim the sanctity of life and the action that is necessary to guarantee that right, whether it be in Pittsburgh or right here at home.

Rabbi Irwin Wiener, D.D.



This month we celebrate Chanukah. The enduring story of the Maccabees and the miracle of the oil are the central tenets of this holiday. When we conclude our December service, we will sing Maoz Tzur. When translated literally, it means Stronghold of Rock which is another name we use for God. Our congregation has traditionally sung a blend of the Hebrew chorus from Maoz Tzur and the German version of a non-literal translation of the chorus called "Rock of Ages." Although Jews today primarily sing this song on Chanukah after lightning the menorah, it recalls 4 ancient enemies of the Jewish people: Pharaoh, Nebuchadnezzar, Haman and Antiochus. During Chanukah we recall the time of King Antiochus and the attempt to assimilate the Jews into Hellenistic religion and culture during the Hasmonean period. When Antiochus IV Epiphanes took over the Seleucid dynasty in

Syria, he persecuted the Jews and outlawed their religion. His soldiers massacred thousands of people and desecrated the second Temple in Jerusalem. This spurred the Jewish rebellion led by the priest Mattathias and his 5 sons. Judah "the hammer" Maccabee took over the rebellion after his father's death and successfully drove the Syrians out of Jerusalem. Judah then ordered his followers to rebuild the temple and light the Menorah. Although there was only enough untainted olive oil to light the Menorah for one day, it miraculously lasted for eight days, long enough to find a new supply. The words of "Rock of Ages" recalls these miracles giving credit to God:

Rock of Ages let our song praise your saving power.

You amidst our raging foes were our sheltering tower.

Furiously they assailed us, but Your arm availed us.

And Your word broke their sword when our own strength failed us.

May God, our Stronghold of Rock, continue to protect Jerusalem and all the Jewish people.

Happy Chanukah!

Cantor Ronda

Congregant's Thank You Notes

I want to thank all who sent cards, donations, food, made phone calls and showed concern during and after my recent knee surgery. It is so wonderful to live in such a caring community and it is much appreciated. Marilyn Behr

My family and I would like to thank everyone for their calls, cards, visits and donations in Joe's memory. You are all a fantastic group of people.

Marilyn Koss

I would like to thanks everyone who recently called, visited, sent cards and helped me following my surgery and rehabilitation. Your kindness is very much appreciated. Your support has been of great help.

Ilana Goldschmidt

Presídent's message

December is typically a happy month. Hanukkah usually falls somewhere in December and we celebrate a meaningful historical event with menorahs, dreidels, potato latkes, jelly donuts, Hanukkah gelt, and gift exchanges. We explain to children why our celebration lasts eight days. Children look forward to school vacations, and families often gather when Christian holidays result in time off from work.

As we light our Hanukkah menorahs this month, let's set aside some time to reflect quietly on the victims of the Pittsburgh shootings and of their families who are not in as light-hearted a mood as we may be. Like Jews of all ages, persecution found those eleven individuals for no reason other than they were Jews. Here, we have so far been blessed with life and safety. We have been lucky.

To promote as much safety as possible when we gather for large events such as services, the SLJC Board of Directors has taken steps to keep our congregation as secure as possible. Some steps are easy to see; others may be hidden. You may have noticed a greater presence of the Sheriff's Posse at the Chapel in November, and you probably entered the Chapel through the front door. All other doors were locked from the outside, although they are always able to be opened from the inside for emergency egress. We have no reason to believe we are in any danger, but since violence is random, we want to take action to ensure peace of mind.

So have a very happy Hanukkah and an enjoyable December. Our weather should be beautiful, new good movies usually premiere, and somewhere you might find Chinese food on December 25th. Let's have a happy month!

Geri Gould



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Congregational News

Havurah Chaí

May the glimmer and glow of each candle you light, bring blessings and warmth to make your day bright! HAPPY CHANUKAH to all of you and yours.

Havurah Chai Jewish Singles is a place to make new friends. There are great events to take part in or just enjoy a dinner out with others. We are invited to attend Shabbat services on the 2nd Friday of the month at the Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation and to join our Chai members at the Oneg after Services where we have our own Oneg tables. Car pooling is available and dues is just a smile! Come be a part of our world as we soon will be entering our 4th year of great adventures!

For our events, check the congregation schedule.

For information please contact: Lainy Sardina at: lainysardina@gmail.com or call 480-895-0974.

Men's Club

The Men's Club is a social organization that meets the first Tuesday of the month from October to June. We invite interesting speakers from our community to address our membership. The members also meet at restaurants for lunch throughout the year, as well as visiting interesting locations in the greater Phoenix area.

Men's Club collected 550lb of food to be distributed to needy families.

Our next meeting is December 4, 2018 at 6:30pm at the Chapel Center and our speaker is Derek Hofrichter of the East Valley Krav Maga. He will be demonstrating "Elder Self-Defense." Wives and prospective members are invited to attend.

For further information, contact Al Bloom albeenov@gmail.com.

Lone Solder Project

400 Lone Soldiers will have a smile on their faces as the read the Hanukkah Greeting letters from this year's campaign. These letters will be distributed to them during Hanukkah through Chayal el Chayal and the Michael Levin Lone Soldier Center as well as in bases around the country.

The Lone Soldier Project, EVJCC, thanks the 55 SLJC congregants who participated in this effort. This year we had 7 East Valley Congregations and 8 other youth programs and religious schools support the campaign. Our goal for 2019 is to include at least 20 groups and many more letters.

We continue to knit hats for the soldiers on cold weather assignments. More knitters are always welcome and needed. We also donate money to Lone Soldiers Centers to support all of their activities that are so beneficial to Lone Soldiers. If you are interested in working on this project, knitting hats or donating to with project, please contact Michael Cohen at mwcohen000@gmail.com or call at 480 895 4660.

Shalom Hadassah

Now that December is here, it's time for Shalom Hadassah's annual Chanukah Party. We will meet at Chompies Deli across from the Chandler Mall at 11:30 am on Tuesday, December 18. You have a choice of a Colossal Cobb Salad or a Half Sandwich and Soup. You also get a choice of a Potato Pancake (a latke) or fresh fruit. The cost is \$21.00 and includes hot and cold drinks as well as a Chanukah Cookie. We'll have some Chanukah games & crafts to enjoy. You must RSVP to Marsha Levine at 3805 E County Down Drive, Chandler AZ 85249 by DECEMBER 11,2018. Your \$21.00 check should be made payable to Shalom Hadassah. Guests and non-members are welcome, but they must RSVP with a check. See you there!

Friends of Israel

Marty Haberer will speak on January 27, 2019 at 3:00 pm at the Chapel Center. Mr. Haberer is the CEO of the Phoenix Jewish Federation and his topic will be the Changing American Jewish Attitude Towards Israel. Mr. Haberer is a strong supporter of Israel and has visited the Jewish homeland more than 40 times. In his role as a Federation executive he is quite aware of the mood of American Jewry and our feelings about many topics. His talk will be authoritative and insightful.

Zivit Katz-Tsameret will be our spring speaker. She has worked for Intel for 12 years and currently serves as a Factory Manager in Chandler. She has a BS and Master's degree in Material Engineering from Ben Gurion University. Her topic will be Intel activity in Israel and the US and about technological advances originating in Israel.

Devorah Hadassah

DEVORAH HADASSAH

Gift wrap fundraiser at various Barnes & Noble locations - please contact Wendy Goldstein to volunteer.

Adult Education

Remember when you would spend each Saturday afternoon with friends at the movies? It was popcorn, candy, drinks and loads of fun! Well, it's time to relive those days. Come join us with a new opportunity to have that fun again with "Shabbat Film Salon". SLJC and Villages at Ocotillo will be hosting this NEW and EXCITING Saturday at the movies. Movies on a Jewish subject or concern will be shown. We are beginning the series on December 8, 2018 from 2-4 at Villages at Ocotillo on Alma School and Ocotillo. Now, here's the best part.....EVERYTHING IS FREE! The MOVIES, POPCORN, DRINKS......

FREE!!

Our first movie is a story of intrigue and courage; one man's fight against anti-Semitism, "GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT". Starring in this gem of a movie is Gregory Peck, Dorothy McQuire and John Garfield. I'm sure you all remember these great actors. This film takes place after WWII and was probably one of the first films that openly takes up the subject of anti-semitism.

WOW, WHAT A LINE-UP! DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS OPPORTUNITY!

JUST THINK: A GREAT MOVIE, ALL YOUR GOODIES, AND FUN!! FREE!

Leave your money at home and just come! A great way to spend an afternoon.

YOU MUST CALL TO MAKE A RESERVATION AS SPACE IS LIMITED.

Please call Gail to let her know you will be coming: 480-802-1832.

Save the date: December 8th, Villages at Ocotillo, Alma School Rd. and Ocotillo Rd. (NE corner). SEE YOU THERE!

Sísterhood

The next meeting of the Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation Sisterhood will take place on Thursday, December 20 at the Chapel Center at 1:00 P.M. The guest speaker will be Rachel Hoffer from the Jewish Federation. She will discuss her trip to Morocco, the Moroccan Jewish community and Muslim preservation of Jewish History. The Toys from the Heart project continues as our members will distribute gifts to the kindergarten students at Frye Elementary School in December. Be sure to mark your calendars for the annual Card Party on Monday, February 11, 2019. Have fun playing Mah Jongg, Canasta, Bridge, Scrabble, or your favorite game. There will be extraordinary gift baskets, raffles, homemade baked goods as well as a delicious luncheon at the Oakwood Clubhouse. Proceeds go to many local charities. For more details call Carol at 480-895-3168.

Bírthdays

December Mílestones

Anníversaríes



- **1 Ruth Marcus**
- 1 Wendy Markin
- 2 Joan Tener
- 3 Thea Friedman
- 4 Leah Bloom
- 4 Tom Mohr
- 4 Seymour Zolty
- 5 Debbie Silverstein
- 6 Benita Feldman
- 6 Dennis Novy
- 7 Judy Asbell
- 7 Hildy Forman
- 7 Irwin Wiener
- 8 Milton Lewis
- 9 Kevin Murphy

- 9 Jon Scheck
- 13 Sander Frindell
- 16 Fritzi Ferguson
- 16 Marshall Gurian
- 16 Barbara Gold
- **19 Ronald Buckner**
- 20 Jeff Burnce
- 21 Alice Salita
- 24 Sharon Beck
- 25 Evey Freed
- 26 Adrian Bendick
- 28 Robert Baum
- 28 Alvin Stern
- 29 Richard Nadler
- 29 Faith Roth
- **31 Gregory Posniack**





- 11 Judy & Charles Wolin
- 12 Gregory & Diane Posniack
- 16 Rena & Leonard Dolins
- 21 Phyllis & Dennis Novy
- 22 Joy & Aaron Dolin
- 23 Diane & Martin Silverman
- 25 Susan & Neil Tamber
- 26 Leah & Alan Bloom
- 27 Noreen & Richard Nadler
- 28 Glenda & Cyril Warshaw

November Yahrzeíts

Hannah Ament David Ament Joel Axelrad Rose Backer Benjamin Backer Annie G. Becker Marjorie Betulia Anna Biales Silvia Binder Samantha Byrne Sandra Cervera John DiGirolamo Harry Eisenstock Lena Fisher Margie Frank Cyril Freed Henry Fryde Shirley Gerson Celia Ginsberg Martin Gold Dora Gurian Goldie Henden Sidney Israel



Jerry Kaplan Irving Kliger Samuel Koss Esther Z. Kovac Florence Lazerow Rebecca Lubisch Goldberg Anne Markin Henry Milgroom Estelle Morgenstern Sarah Pinsly Esther Plotkin Lilian Popkin David Popkin Seymour Price Leonard Raffeld Ida Raisin Ben Raisin Sigmund Rappaport Shirley Rappaport Herbert Rosendale Luis Rubinstein



Ben Sable Mitchell Saichek Martin Sandler **Richard Schmalzbach** Yetta Schwartz Arthur Shapiro Jenny Sharff Lawrence Sher **Rose Siegel** Sidney Silverman Mayer Smith Phil Sontag Ruth Spear Sidney Stein Sol N. Steinberg Julius Steinhauer Ruth Sternhill Stanley Stock William Strauss David Sussman Sydney Tanen Lois Temeroff Selig Tevelow

Publisher note:

The November edition published an erroneous Yahrzeits list - the corrected list is shown above.



December Yahrzeits



Irving Arnow Naomi Axelrad Sophie Behr Dan Berg Sidney Bloom Marilyn Blumberg Edward Blumberg Fanny Bush Frances Calcaterra Pauline Cohen Pearl Cook Bette E Dubinsky Harold Dunayer Jackob Eiseman Sitty Eiseman Minnie Elias Irving Evans Elizabeth Fineberg Charles Fink Helen Forman

Leona Frankel Sol Gass **Bessie Gerson** John Gerson Julia Glickman Allan Goelman B. Claiment Granoff Irving Greene George Holstein Mina Kahn Dorothy Kaplan Fay Katz Sidney Klitsner Leo Kollman Jack Kopsenel Leah Koss Sarah Mendelovitz Valentine Morris Toby Paul Max Rosendale



Jerome Roth Zelda Rothstein Sidney Rudin Teddy Sardina Sam Schaeffer Morris Schulman Sarah Shalett Simon Shapiro Stewart Silverman Irving Silverman Samuel Stedman **Charles Stein** Anna Stern Irving Sternhill Lynne Stone Dorothy Taitsman Harry Temkin Harvey Trachtenberg Bessie Warsofsky **Ronald Weiner** Edith Zetzer

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YahrzeítFund

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Memory of Lester Merritt Honor of their Anniversary

Occasion

Memory of Stewart Silverman

Memory of John Gerson

Marylin Fein's Birthday

Flower Fund

Donor Betsey Silverman Charles Gerson Harvey Fein

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Susan & Stephen Kubrin Charles Gerson Carolyn Arklin Diane & Marty Silverman Mickey Friedman Shirley Gersten Shelly & Arnie Henden Diane & Jack Zelinger

Leo Kollman

Occasion

Memory of Arthur Applebaum Memory of Lester Merritt Memory of Lester Merritt Memory of Lester Merritt Memory of Bert Friedman Memory of Jesse Gersten Honor of their Anniversary Honor of Diane's Birthday and their Anniversary

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Please send checks (in any amount) payable to SLJC Sisterhood to: Suzy Ziegler, 139 W Briarwood Terrace, Phoenix, AZ 85045

Sisterhood Membership Dues Form (Sept. 2018-Aug. 2019)
Name:
Address:
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