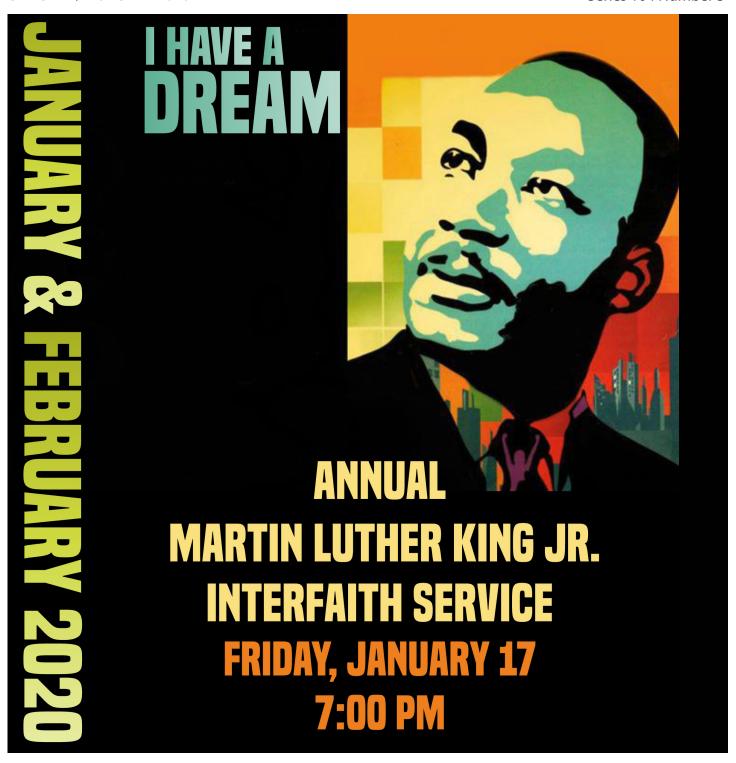


# The Congregation Mishkan Israel

More than a place. We're a community.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2020

Series 104 Number 3





# JANUARY/FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

Celebrate your birthday at Family Services. January birthdays will be celebrated at the Family Service on Friday, January 10 at 6:00 p.m. and February birthdays will be celebrated at Family Service on

Friday, February 14 at 6:00 p.m. If your child will be attending services in their birthday month, please call Tamara at 203-288-3877.

#### **ONEG SHABBAT & PULPIT FLOWERS**

One of the nicest ways to honor a special occasion is to sponsor an Oneg Shabbat and/or pulpit flowers for services.

To arrange for your sponsorship contact Sarah at (203) 288-3877 or slegassey@cmihamden.org.



#### IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER

In case of inclement weather, please check WTNH for announcements on delays and closings. As a rule, services are not cancelled.

When appropriate, we also will send a special e-newsletter and post updates on our website and facebook.

In Memoriam,

Justice Robert Berdon Stacy Fambro Stanley Swimmer

May their memory be for a blessing.

In Sympathy

Scott Friedman on the passing of his father, Philip Dicks

# TODAH RABAH SHABBAT WELCOME TEAM

Thank you to our greeters:

#### **November**

- 1 Howard Lurie & Karen Kimball
- **2** Martha Weisbart
- 8 Joan Lipin & Howard Lurie
- **9** Albert Glassman
- 15 Ivey Cooley & Richard Shaw
- 16 Richard Shaw
- 22 Albert Glassman & Richard Shaw
- 29 Lorri Brown-Ominsky & George Ominsky

#### **December**

- 6 Ivey Cooley & Albert Glassman
- 13 True & Cliff Wolff
- 20 Richard & Marie Shaw
- 27 Richard & Marie Shaw

# PROTOCOL FOR MI SHEBERACH (HEALING PRAYER) LIST

To add or delete a name to our Mi Sheberach (healing prayer) list that is read at services please call Rabbi's office at (203) 288-3877. You must have permission from the individual to have their name read in public. (There is always the Hebrew option as well.) Names will remain on the list for one month unless renewed or requested to be deleted. If you join us for services you can add a name that evening by signing in with the greeter prior to the beginning of services.

#### IS SOMEONE IN THE HOSPITAL?

Area hospitals are not permitted to notify us when a congregant has been admitted. If you know of a congregant who is in the hospital and would appreciate a call or visit, please contact Rabbi Immerman's office at (203) 288-3877 or rabbi@cmihamden.org

#### **PAY ONLINE!**

Did you know you can pay CMI directly from CMI's website or weekly e-news? The convenience is amazing! You can pay your Dues, Religious School, Nursery School, Make a donation, and special events. Go to: http://cmihamden.org/who-we-are/giving/.



# A MESSAGE FROM THE RABBI

#### Rabbi Brian P. Immerman

It's hard to believe that next month our checks will read January 2020. It seems only yesterday that we were celebrating the beginning of a

new millennium, filled with fear of the Y2K bug and anticipation of all that was to come in the future. As the 1900's came to an end, our world was filled with endless possibilities as the internet began its slow domination. In the Jewish world, the Reform movement was starting to envision what our communities would look like in 10-20 years through an initiative called Synagogue 2000. This program offered an intentional method for the Reform movement to adapt faster to trends in Judaism, most notable the desire of many modern Jews to embrace more Jewish traditions while maintaining the core Reform principles of personal choice. One outcome was Mishkan T'filah, allowing us to pray according to the traditional service and allowing for more alternative readings than in Gates of Prayer. Our community didn't directly participate in the program, which was limited to a handful of congregations, but we continued to grow and embrace change throughout the two decades since.

In 2001 Rabbi Danny Freelander, then the UAHC's director of programs (the UAHC is the predecessor of the URJ), noted that "At the core of our philosophy is that how the synagogue does business is always going to be changing, but organizations move really slowly and unless you instigate change, it doesn't come automatically." As we start the new decade, Synagogue 2000 is long gone, replaced by a much broader initiative called, unsurprisingly, Synagogue 3000. There are now many organizations dedicated to transforming Jewish life, from education to prayer to social justice. The growth of these organizations, technology, and the way we live in 2020 present a different challenge to synagogue life than those that spurred Rabbi Freelander's comment. Yet the truth remains, Mishkan Israel, like all congregations, must always seek innovative ways to engage our community in our 4000 year old tradition. Even at 180, the way that CMI operates is always changing.

Not everything changes, of course. As Rav Kook, said, "What is old will become new and what is new will

become holy." Jews always look backward for guidance as we chart our course for the future. CMI will continue to be dedicated to Social Justice, Education, and Spirited Worship while remaining committed to creating an inclusive and welcoming community. In the next year we will celebrate our 180th birthday as well as the sixtieth anniversary of our beautiful and sacred home in Hamden. Already, we have started unearthing historic pictures of the building from the New Haven historical society that depict the same activities we offer now – learning in the lounge, studying in the library, and praying in the sanctuary. At the same time we have to embrace a changing world.

Our board is valiantly examining three major areas for progress – membership commitments and retention, new development strategies, and opportunities to use our building in new and innovative mission-appropriate ways. Internally, we are working on our communication strategies, program registration, membership database software, and ensuring that our program staff's time aligns with the priorities of our congregants. We are not alone in this process, synagogues across the country understand that the Jewish world is rapidly changing and that we must embrace change swiftly in order to remain centered in people's lives.

I am excited to be on this journey with our community and to have such an incredible staff and dedicated group of lay leaders to partner with me. I invite you to reach out to the board and engage in this process as it continues to unfold and to let me know what you think are the most exciting innovations that we should embrace.

As we begin 2020, a new year and decade, I wish you all a season of hope, joy and meaning.

SAVE THE DATE



**April 25, 2020** 



#### **CANTOR'S NOTES**

#### **Cantor Arthur Giglio**

January and February may be cold and forbidding outside but the warmth and joy at CMI will keep you cozy! Friday, January 17th is our annual Martin Luther King Jr. Interfaith

Service. Every year it is a highly anticipated event, and this year will be no different. It is a celebration of the very things that make us strong; our diversity and our differences. We have had divisiveness and intolerance forced upon us as some sort of new normal. The Martin Luther King Memorial Service is a reality check that says we will not accept or tolerate the new normal. I will be bringing you various surprise musical organizations from all over Connecticut to share in the experience, so please be there and bring your children, friends and neighbors.

It is never too soon to start talking about our Cantor's Concert Fundraiser and this year I am incredibly excited to tell you that one of our own will be coming home to bring his incredible talent to the CMI stage. Mark Berman, a.k.a. the brother of Barry and Ken Berman, will be here to bless us with his unique jazz keyboard and vocal talents for one unforgettable evening. Mark grew up in CMI, went to Hebrew school and became a Bar Mitzvah here (along with his brothers, Barry and Ken). He was active in the youth group ("MITY"...at the time) and made a lot of lifelong friends. According to Mark, "My interest in developing music and writing, certainly can be credited (or blamed) on CMI. I helped come up with the music for a Friday night service when I was 15. It was for a local NIFTY conclavette. The very first crush I had was a girl from a CMI youth event!"

continued on page 10...

# Schmaltz is the Word!

Calling all wanna-be actors, singers, and (excuse the expression) hams.

We want you to be a part of this year's Purim Spiel.

All ages and (in)experience levels welcome!

Be part of the fun at the Purim service on March 9th.

Stay tuned for an organizational meeting in January.

Questions?

Email Julie Chevan at julie.chevan@gmail.com



#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

#### Sarah B. Greenblatt

Building a Stronger CMI Community!

In my Rosh Hashana speech, I shared that Congregation Mishkan Israel is experiencing new membership and fiscal

realities. While we remain the largest synagogue community in the Greater New Haven area, we are a smaller congregation than we have been in other eras of our close to 180-year history. This is a common membership affiliation trend that is impacting congregations throughout our Jewish and non-Jewish community in New Haven as well as nation-wide. Over the past decade, CMI has seen a 25% drop in our dues-paying members – from close to 600 to 428 in November 2019. While we continue to welcome many new member families to our vibrant community, it is important to understand that fewer membership commitments mean we have to trim our operating budget while also asking for more financial support.

To answer questions and seek fresh ideas for addressing this new reality, the Board held congregational conversations between Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur where we heard enlightening recommendations related to four key areas, including: 1. How we can retain and support existing members by increasing opportunities for involvement in our vibrant CMI community at different times in the life cycle; 2. How we can increase new CMI Membership Commitments; 3. How can we increase income above dues, e.g. through creative building utilization, increased tzedakah, diverse special events, or an intentional fundraising campaign to support our operating budget, refresh our building, and grow our Temple and Rabbinic endowment funds; and 4. How can we adopt even more strategies for controlling expenses.

The Board then held a retreat in late October 2019 to review lessons learned from the meaningful congregational feedback. Three workgroups emerged to address key ideas related to membership engagement and support/dues structure; development; and building utilization. Members of these three time-limited workgroups are meeting to creatively plan and implement a mix of strategies to welcome new congregants and engage existing continued on page 5...

#### President's Meassage continued...

members in diverse educational, worship and volunteer community activities; explore options for how to share our spiritual home with others in the non-profit community; and build innovative approaches for CMI members to provide financial support above dues.

Overall, we are hoping that all members of our CMI family will find ways to give of their time, their talents and their treasures (financial commitments) to enhance and strengthen our CMI community. If you have interests in finding out about or joining any of these workgroups, please let me know. I can be reached at president@cmihamden.org.

#### World Zionist Congress Delegate Elections Promote Opportunities for Reform Movement Voice

Between January 21-March 11, 2020 (Martin Luther King Day through Purim), Jews around the world will have the opportunity to vote for delegates to the World Zionist Congress – an international body of 500 delegates that meets in Jerusalem every 5 years. Known as the Parliament of the Jewish People, the Congress enables delegates to exert ideological influence on both Israeli society and the global Jewish agenda, as well as allocate financial and other resources to various organizations – including the Reform Movement – in Israel.

Founded by Theodor Herzl in 1897, the Zionist Congress (as it was originally known) was the legislative body of the Zionist Organization (ZO), a non-governmental entity that promotes Zionism. Today the two bodies are known respectively as the World Zionist Congress (WZC) and the World Zionist Organization (WZO).

The 38th World Zionist Congress is scheduled to meet in Jerusalem in 2020; the elections determine the size of the various delegations that will attend. Currently the United States has 145 delegates that will participate – the largest single delegation outside of Israel. Thanks to a robust turnout in the 2015 elections, 56 of the 145 delegates (39%) represent the Reform Movement and, as a result, have been able to ensure that more than \$4 million a year (\$20 million over five years) is being directed to the Israeli Reform Movement. By comparison, the Israeli government annually provides nearly \$1.1 billion to Orthodox and Heredi institutions in Israel. A strong election

turnout among North America's Reform Jews and our supporters and allies will ensure that financial resources will continue to flow to our Israeli movement – including Reform congregations and institutions. It will also allow us to fill leadership positions in some of Israel's national institutions, including the World Zionist Organization, the Jewish Agency for Israel, and Keren Kayemeth LeIsrael – Jewish National Fund.

Having a leadership role in the Jewish National Fund will enable us to ensure that decisions about government and public spending over the Green Line – including land purchases – reflect the Reform Movement's values and positions. Only in this way can we continue to build a democratic society in Israel that truly reflects the Jewish values we hold so dear: pluralism, equality, economic justice and peace. What's more, because the Jewish Agency for Israel and the World Zionist Organization support programs of the World Union for Progressive Judaism (WUPJ), high voter turnout will prove beneficial for the WUPJ congregations and for the Netzer Olami and Tamar – which offer programming for Progressive Jewish youth and young adults in communities around the world.

During the months of January through March 2020, Congregation Mishkan Israel will offer opportunities for congregants over age 18 by June 30, 2020 to review the official platform of the World Zionist Organization and the Zionist Movement and to vote in the election for delegates to the World Zionist Congress (for a minimal processing fee). Watch for information in our weekly e-bulletins. If you have questions or would like to participate in organizing the vote, please contact Sarah Greenblatt at president@cmihamden.org.



#### SUSTAINING CMI TODAY AND FOR THE FUTURE

Now more than ever, it is critical that we act to **Sustain CMI** for future generations. Over the next six months, we will highlight the many ways that you can act now to secure CMI through gifts that can be given now or planned for the future. In this bulletin, we will focus on three ways to give now: Gifts of Stock, IRA Charitable Rollover (70 1/2 +), and Charitable Lead Trusts. And, if you're not able to give through one of these methods, please consider donating directly at http://cmihamden.org/giving.

When you make a planned gift to Congregation Mishkan Israel, you are ensuring that the work of Mishkan Israel will continue for future generations. Please reach out to Sue McDonald at suemcdonald@sbcglobal.net or 203-249-0244 if you are interested or have any questions.

#### **Gifts of Stock**

**How it Works:** You transfer long-term appreciated stocks, bonds or mutual fund shares you have owned for one year or more to the Mishkan Israel. Please call CMI office for broker information, account and DTC numbers.

**Advantages:** You receive an immediate income-tax deduction for the fair market value of the securities on the date of transfer, no matter what you originally paid for them. You pay no capital gains tax on the transfer.

**Example:** In this example, you see that donating the stock results in no capitals gains tax being paid, a larger itemized deduction, and more money for the charity of your choice.

	OPTION 1 Gift of \$10,000 Cash	OPTION 2 Gift of \$10,000 stock
Initial cost basis of securities/appreciation	Not applicable	\$2,000/\$8,000
Capital gains tax saved or paid, assuming 20% rate <sup>1</sup>	Not applicable	\$1,600
Personal income tax savings $^2$ (0.35 $\times$ amount donated to charity)	\$3,500	\$3,500
Net Tax savings	\$3,500	\$5,100

Above example assumes 35% tax bracket, a cost basis of \$2,000, that the investment has been held for more than a year, and that all realized gains are subject to a 20% long-term capital gains tax rate. This does not take into account any state or local taxes.

#### IRA Charitable Rollover for Those 70 ½ and Over

**What It Is:** The IRA Charitable Rollover creates an opportunity for donors who are 70 ½ and over to distribute up to \$100,000 from their IRA/Roth IRA directly to CMI without realizing any income tax on the distribution amount. (If you liability no longer itemize, this allows you to still realize tax advantages for your giving.)

How It Works: You must contact your plan administrator to have the distribution sent to and payable to CMI.

Advantages: If you already have enough income and your IRA minimum distribution requirement only increases your tax liability, this allows you to donate your distribution directly to CMI without realizing federal or Connecticut income tax liability on the amount of the distribution (you will not have to pay Connecticut or Federal income tax on that amount). In addition, if you have a taxable estate, your IRA, will be subject to income and estate taxes (once both spouses are deceased and the IRA is left to your children, grandchildren or other individuals). In fact, in a taxable estate, your non-spouse beneficiaries could end up with 25 cents on the dollar for your IRA assets! The rollover allows you to remove some of those tax-plagued assets from your estate while also providing you with the opportunity to make a significant charitable gift. In addition, if you have a secondary smaller IRA, which is not a necessary income source, this is an opportunity to donate that IRA to our community and make a significant and much needed impact.

**Example:** Mr. Cohn distributes \$18,000 from his IRA to CMI to establish an endowment fund in honor of his grandchildren.

**Without the IRA Charitable Rollover:** Mr. Cohn would be subject to federal and Connecticut income tax on the amount of the distribution (even if it went straight to charity) -- although he could claim a charitable income tax deduction on his federal return (assuming he itemizes) for the donation, he would not be able to do that on a Connecticut income tax return and would have Connecticut income tax liability for the distribution—even if it was given directly to charity.

**With the IRA Charitable Rollover:** The \$18,000 distribution is not taxable income for federal and Connecticut income tax purposes (even if it is being used toward his required minimum distribution)—it is tax neutral. Mr. Cohn has created a wonderful Jewish legacy for his family and community, reduced his Connecticut income tax liability, and reduced his taxable estate!

#### Ten things to know about the IRA Charitable Rollover:

- 1. The distribution from your IRA must be made directly to the charitable organization.
- 2. You must be 70  $\frac{1}{2}$  or older at the time that the distribution is made (note, this differs from the required minimum distribution where you only need to turn 70  $\frac{1}{2}$  during the year).
- 3. The IRA Charitable Rollover is permanent; you can do it this year and every year.
- 4. The maximum amount that can qualify is \$100,000.
- 5. The IRA Charitable Rollover will satisfy your required minimum distribution.
- 6. You can rollover more than your required minimum distribution and in addition to your required minimum distribution (up to \$100,000 to charity).
- 7. The amount of the IRA Charitable Rollover does not need to be reported as income on your federal or Connecticut income tax return. This also means you do not need to itemize in order to realize the advantage of this type of gift.
- 8. Only distributions from traditional and Roth IRAs qualify.
- To qualify, the distribution can only be for charitable purposes and cannot be designated for a donor
  advised fund, supporting organization, private foundation or life-income gift (charitable trust or
  annuity). No goods or services can be received in exchange for the distribution (i.e. tickets or dinner).
- 10. In most cases, you will need to contact your IRA plan administrator/financial institution.

Please consult your professional advisor concerning your tax plans.

#### **Charitable Lead Trust**

**What It Is:** A trust that allows you to contribute significantly to CMI now, while planning for the future of your family or a loved one.

**How It Works:** The trust is established and a portion of the trust's investment yield is distributed annually to CMI. Then, after a specified time or a lifetime, the remainder of the trust is transferred back to the donor or to beneficiaries of the donor's family.

#### **Advantages:**

- Reduced capital gains, income or estate tax in variable combinations
- The donor can provide current support to organizations they care about while also making sure loved ones are provided for after his or her lifetime
- The donor can qualify for significant gift or estate tax savings while transferring assets to their heirs



# RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NEWS

**Michelle Goldstein** *Religious School Director* 

We kick off 2020 right away with a Tot Shabbat on Friday, January 3rd! Our youngest students (Preschool-1st grade)

will be leading a Tot Shabbat later in the year, so this is a great opportunity to come and join us and see what it is all about! On Sunday, January 5th, our K-1 class will have their Shabbat Box family program. Students and their parents will listen to "The Shabbat Box" story and then make their own Shabbat boxes for their families. There is also a 4th and 5th grade youth group event after school that day. On Friday, January 10th, four of our high school students will travel to Washington, D.C. to participate in the Religious Action Center's L'Taken program. They will be learning about different current events issues and the Jewish perspective, ultimately going to congressional offices on Monday morning to lobby. Also on Friday, January 10th, the 5th grade class will lead the Family Service at 6:00 p.m. On Sunday, January 12th, our 6th and 7th graders and their parents will join the Anti-Defamation League for a program called Confronting Anti-Semitism. For the first time this year we are hosting an event "CMI's Got Talent" on Saturday evening, January 25th. The event will begin with a pasta dinner at 5:30 as we watch members of all ages share their talents. The cost of the event is \$10/adult and is free for kids. If you are interested in participating in CMI's Got Talent, please contact Michelle (mgoldstein@ cmihamden.org). On Sunday, January 26th, the Religious School will be participating in Kol Shira at the Towers in New Haven. This regional religious school event has become an annual part of our calendar and community! It is so important to come and be part of the greater New Haven community and join us there. There is also a High School Social Action Experience Event that day.

On Sunday, February 2nd, there is a 6th and 7th grade youth group event after Religious School. Tot Shabbat in February is on the 7th at 5:30 p.m. On Sunday, February 9th, the school will participate in a Tu B'Shevat Seder at 11:00 a.m. and parents are welcome to join us! The 4th grade will help lead services on Friday, February 14th

at 6:00pm. School will be closed for break the 15th-18th of the month. CMI High will be traveling to New York City February 21st-23rd. There, they will attend services at Central Synagogue and I enjoy dinner at Sammy's Romanian. We will be traveling to Ellis Island, visiting the Tenement Museum and much more. If you have not signed up yet and are an 8th-12th grader who is interested in attending, please email Michelle (mgoldstein@cmihamden.org).



#### **NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS**

**Susan Witten Nason** *Early Childhood Director* 

Happy 2020! Hard to believe it is a new year already. 2019 went by too quickly.

We wish you all a happy, healthy new year.

We are enjoying the cold, sometimes snowy weather, (at least those of us under the age of five...), but are also so glad we have such a cool indoor play space to hang out!

The children will be learning about Martin Luther King Jr. in January, and the adults look forward to the special MLK service on January 17th.

As we celebrate the new year, we will also get ready to celebrate Tu B'Shevat- the new year/birthday, of the trees, in February.

That always makes some of us hopeful that spring is around the corner!

Before we know it, Passover will be here.

Happy New Year to all!

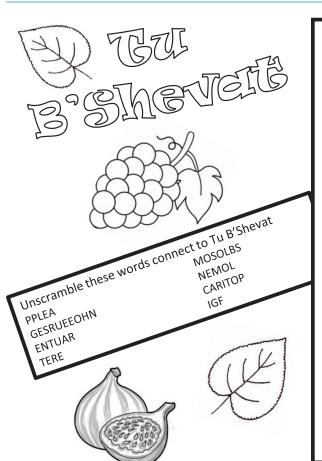


#### Mark P Altman MD

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#### **Tu B'Shevat Wordsearch**

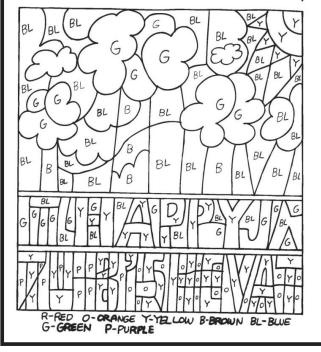
Many different kinds of trees grow in Israel. Find the trees listed below in the wordsearch. The words may be horizontal, vertical, diagonal, backwards or forwards. After you circle the words, the letters which are <u>not</u> used in any words will spell out a Tu B'Shevat message.

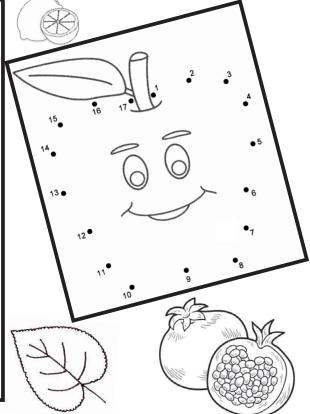
ALMOND WILLOW APPLE TAMARISK APRICOT CAROB
PALM CEDAR ORANGE CITRON OLIVE CYPRESS
MYRTLE FIG LEMON FIR GRAPEFRUIT

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Ν	Е	G	W	Е	W	Υ	N	Е	Р	Α	R
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Е	В	Α	1	R	M	Е	L	Т	R	Υ	М
Т	R	R	Н	Е	D	Α	Υ	L	0	F	Т
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R	Т	Α	М	Α	R	1	S	К	E	W	Е

Write the message with the leftover letters.

COLOR THE SPACES USING THE COLOR CODE BELOW AND SEE THE SPECIAL MESSAGE. LEAVE THE BLANK SPACES WHITE!





#### **CANTOR'S NOTES** continued...

Today, Mark is a world-renowned pianist, composer and music producer who has collaborated with the proverbial who's who of jazz, pop and rock: Aretha Franklin, Carole King, Phoebe Snow, Leslie Gore, Gladys Knight, Wycliff Gordon, Hugh Jackman, Burt Bacharach, Chita Rivera and many others. He has performed at Carnegie Hall, Radio City, the Blue Note, Birdland, the Rainbow Room, and Merkin Hall among other notable New York venues as well as internationally. A graduate of the Hartt School of Music, Berman has written and produced music for television and film including; Sex and the City (where he plays piano on the ubiquitous theme), Nurse Jackie, Royal Pains, The Bachelorette, Bates Motel and many others on NBC, CBS, ABC, Showtime, Comedy Central, HBO and OWN, Mark's original music has also been featured on radio at NPR and CRN International. Mark is also a powerful presence on Broadway, where he's conducted and played lead piano in Rent, Smokey Joe's Cafe, Bullets Over Broadway, The Boy from Oz, Hairspray, 42nd Street, Radio City, Aida, The Color Purple, Jesus Christ Superstar, Hair and Spider-Man. There will be more to this concert than meets the eye but if I gave away all the details that would spoil the anticipation, so put Saturday evening, April 25th, 2020 on your calendar and save the date!! Every year, inevitably someone comes up to me and tells me, "I heard how wonderful the Cantor's Concert was this year, I am very sad I missed it." Mark the date, change your plans, regret is never a good feeling. This is not just a concert, this is a fundraiser and the money we raise is needed, un-jokingly, to turn the lights on.

In case you haven't heard, CMI is in the midst of a serious financial crisis and we need your support now more than ever. The legacy and longevity of CMI is long and deep and we have an obligation to continue the important work of CMI for future generations. The social justice legacies of Rabbi Goldberg and Rabbi Brockman, the pulpit where Martin Luther King Jr preached, the amazing mosaic Ark and murals of the world renowned Jewish Artist Ben Shahn. Did you know Ben Shahn's works are held in the collections of the Art Institute of Chicago, the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, the Tate Gallery in London, and the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., among others and we have

his artistry right in front of us on our walls and bimah? Ben Shahn's works were inexorably tied to his pursuit of social justice and lifelong activism within leftist political beliefs. Is it any mistake that this great Jewish artist is inexorably connected to the very heart and soul of Mishkan Israel? Hardly; but we have the bigger challenge of never losing sight of what it means to continue the work of our forebears, to keep the legacy of CMI ever evolving. Rabbi Immerman has clearly and quickly picked up that torch and is running with it, so too does everyone need to rise to the occasion to continue this legacy. Come to our Cantor's Concert, Saturday evening, April 25, 2020, support CMI!

#### **CONNECT WITH CMI ONLINE**

Keep up-to-date with all CMI events. Check our website regularly at http://cmihamden.org. You will find announcements, upcoming events,

calendar, worship service times and contact information. New members can join the congregation and everyone can register for religious school and nursery school, pay your bills

and make contributions. And don't miss the slideshow of recent events – it changes frequently so check back often!

We have several e-newsletters to keep our congregational family informed of upcoming events, recent passings and school events. If you're not currently receiving our e-newsletters you can get on the distribution list.

CMI is on Facebook. Click the icon on our website or go to http://www.facebook.com/cmihamden. You'll want to "like" us.

CMI Religious School is on Facebook. Go to https://www.facebook.com/cmireligiousschool and "like" us. We would like to keep you up-to-date with all Religious School events.

# JANUARY CALENDAR

# **JANUARY 2020**

			New Years Day Office & School Closed	2 12:00 noon Mussar Lunch & Learn	5:30 p.m. Early Oneg 5:30 p.m. Tot Shabbat 6:00 p.m. Evening Service	<b>4</b> 9:00 a.m. Torah Study
9:00 a.m. Brotherhood Coffee Shop 9:00 a.m. Brotherhood Coffee Shop 9:30 a.m. Kadims Schabbat Box Family Program 9:45 a.m. Intro to Reading Liturgical Hebrew 10:45 a.m. Judaism: New Interpretations of Old Ideas 12:00 noon 4th & 5th Grade Youth Group 12:30 p.m. Confirmation	9	7 4:00 p.m. Religious School 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	2.15 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew 6:00 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting	9 12:00 noon Mussar Lunch & Learn	L'Taken Washington Trip 5:30 p.m. Early Oneg 6:00 p.m. 5th Grade Family Service & Birthday Blessings	L'Taken Washington Trip 9:00 a.m. Torah Study
T2 LTaken Trip 9:00 a.m. Brotherhood Coffee Shop 9:30 a.m. Brotherhood Coffee Shop 9:30 a.m. Religious School 9:30 a.m. Ght/Th Grade ADL Confronting Semitism Program 9:45 a.m. Intro to Reading Liturgical Hebrew 10:00 a.m. Brotherhood Book Club 10:45 a.m. Judaism: New Interpretations of Old Ideas	<b>13</b> L'Taken Trip	74 4:00 p.m. Religious School 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	15.15 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew 7:00 p.m. Board Meeting	16	77 7:00 p.m. MLK Evening Service 8:30 p.m. Oneg	78 9:00 a.m. Torah Study 10:30 a.m. Kabbalah Study Group
<b>19</b> No Religious School or Activities	<b>20</b> MINS Closed	<b>21</b> 4:00 p.m. Religious School 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	<b>22</b> 12:15 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew	23 12:00 noon Mussar Lunch & Learn	<b>24</b> 5:30 p.m. Early Oneg 6:00 p.m. Evening Service	25 9:00 a.m. Torah Study 10:30 a.m. Morning Service 12:00 p.m. Potluck Lunch 5:00 p.m. CMI Got Talent Event & Dinner
26 9:30 a.m. Kol Shira Community Concert at The Towers 9:45 a.m. Intro to Reading Litugical Hebrew 10:00 a.m. Chevra Hands 10:45 a.m. Judaism: New Interpretations of Old Ideas 12:00 Noon CMI High 12:00 Noon Life is Delicious	27	<b>28</b> 4:00 p.m. Religious School 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	2.15 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew 7:00 p.m. Ritual Committee Meeting	30 12:00 noon Mussar Lunch & Learn	<b>31</b> 5:30 p.m. Early Oneg 6:00 p.m. Evening Service	

# **FEBRUARY CALENDAR**

# **FEBRUARY 2020**

						9:00 a.m. Torah Study
29:00 a.m. Brotherhood Coffee Shop 9:00 a.m. Brotherhood Coffee Shop 9:45 a.m. Intro to Reading Liturgical Hebrew 10:00 a.m. Brotherhood Bood (Lub (sowdate)) 10:45 a.m. Judaism: New Interpretations of Old Ideas 12:00 Noon 6th & 7th Grade Youth Group	m	4:00 p.m. Religious School 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	12:15 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew 7:00 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting	6 12:00 noon Mussar Lunch & Learn	5:30 p.m. Early Oneg 5:30 p.m. Tot Shabbat Service 6:00 p.m. Evening Service	89:00 a.m. Torah Study
9.00 a.m. Brotherhood Coffee Shop 9.30 a.m. Religious School 9.30 a.m. Tot Program – Tu BShevat 9.45 a.m. Tot Program – Tu BShevat 10:00 a.m. Brotherhood Book Club 10:45 a.m. Judaism: New Interpretations of Old Ideas 11:00 a.m. Religious School Seder Tu B'Shevat 12:30 p.m. Confirmation	10	4:00 p.m. Religious School 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	12.15 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew	73 12:00 noon Mussar Lunch & Learn	74. 5:30 p.m. Early Oneg 6:00 p.m. Family Service & Birthday Blessings	75 9:00 a.m. Torah Study 10:30 a.m. Morning Service 12:00 Noon Potluck Lunch
<b>16</b> No Religious School or Activities	17	<b>18</b> No Religious School	19 12:15 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew 7:00 p.m. Board Meeting	20 12:00 noon Mussar Lunch & Learn	<b>21</b> CMI High NYC Trip 5:30 p.m. Early Oneg 6:00 p.m. Evening Service	<b>22</b> CMI High NYC Trip 9:00 a.m. Torah Study
23 CMI High NYC Trip 9:00 a.m. Brotherhood Coffee Shop 9:30 a.m. Religious School 9:45 a.m. Intro to Reading Litrugical Hebrew 10:00 a.m. Chevra Hands 10:00 a.m. Brotherhood Book Club (snow date) 10:45 a.m. Lodaism: New Interpretations of Old I deas 11:30 a.m. CMI High	24	25 4:00 p.m. Religious School 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	<b>26</b> 12:15 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew	27 12:00 noon Mussar Lunch & Learn	<b>28</b> 7:00 p.m. Evening Service 8:00 p.n. Oneg	29 9:00 a.m. Torah Study 10:30 a.m. Morning Service 10:30 a.m. Kabbalah Group





#### **FEBRUARY WORSHIP SERVICES & STUDY**

#### **SHABBAT BESHALACH**

Ex. 13:17-17:16

#### Friday, February 7

5:30 p.m. Early Oneg 5:30 p.m. Tot Shabbat 6:00 p.m. Evening Service

Saturday, February 8

9:00 a.m. Torah Study

#### **SHABBAT MISHPATIM**

Ex. 21:1-24:18

#### Friday, February 21

5:30 p.m. Early Oneg6:00 p.m. Evening Service

#### Saturday, February 22

9:00 a.m. Torah Study

#### **SHABBAT YITRO**

Ex. 18:1-20:23

#### Friday, February 14

5:30 p.m. Early Oneg

6:00 p.m. Family Service & Birthday Blessings

#### Saturday, February 15

9: 00 a.m. Torah Study 10:30 a.m. Morning Service

#### SHABBAT TERUMAH

Ex. 25:1-27:19

#### Friday, February 28

7:00 p.m. Evening Service 8:00 p.m. Oneg

#### Saturday, February 29

9:00 a.m. Torah Study 10:30 a.m. Morning Service 10:30 a.m. Kabbalah Study Group

### "...who donates much to charity becomes the richer for it..."

Zohar iii 110b

OCTOBER 1, 2019- DECEMBER 1, 2019

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ROBERT GOLDBERG

#### **2019-2020 CHAI APPEAL**

It is with immense gratitude that we acknowledge those families who as of this publication have responded to the menu of additional giving opportunities with a commitment above their standard dues and to the holiday appeal.

#### **Our Pacesetters:**

Michael Allen & Eun-Mi Shim\*\* Michael Dimenstein & Hedda Rubenstein Andrew & Eileen Eder Sonja Goldstein Sarah B. Greenblatt Judith Hahn\*\* Adam Hittelman & Michelle Serlin\*\* John & Susan Hoffmann James Horwitz & Sandra Allison\*\* **Ruth Koizim** J. Lance Lichtor Jerome & Roslyn Meyer\*\* Larry Schaefer & Lina Lawall **Louis Scheps** Mark & Judith Sklarz Andrew Wingate & Tanya Bilchik

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# LIFE IS DELICIOUS Life is Delicious gets together one

Sunday each month to cook for Columbus House regular shelter. Congregants and their children are invited to join in the fun and help with the cooking.



We will be back in the kitchen to cook for Columbus House's overflow shelter.

Sunday, January 26 & Sunday, February 23

If you'd like to help shop, set-up, cook or clean for this session, contact Aaron at aaron.singer@thehartford.com

Slots fill up quickly

CMI•785 Ridge Road Hamden, CT 06517•203-288-3877•www.cmihamden.org

#### COLLECTIONS

The Social Action Committee continues its ongoing collection of non-perishable foods for the food pantry at Christian Community Action. Please bring non-perishable goods to the collection bin in the rotunda. CCA requests that food be brought in sturdy bags or be double-bagged and prefers no glass containers. If you have any questions, contact Rick Molot (richard.molot2@usdoj.gov).

The Committee also collects clothes for Immanuel Baptist Church's "Clothes Closet," which provides items at no charge to those in need. Gently used winter clothing and coats for children and adults are appreciated at this time of year. The clothing bin is located inside the CMI coatroom. For more information, contact Sarah at sbg4750@aol.com.

#### **TO OUR READERS**

If you use a service from one of our advertisers, please inform them that you are doing so because you saw their ad in the Bulletin.

If you would like to place an ad in the Bulletin, Contact Sarah at (203) 288-3877.

#### **ADULT EDUCATION**

#### Kabbalah & Judaism

Stanley Friedman will be leading discussion sessions that explore topics of interest in Kabbalah and Judaism. The sessions will be held in the Congregation Mishkan Israel lounge from 10:30 AM to noon, on selected Saturday mornings. No prerequisites required – only intellectual curiosity. For questions or to be added to the email list, contact Dr. Friedman at: stanf24@hotmail.com.

#### Class will meet the following dates:

January 18, 2020: Dreams in Kabbalah

February 29, 2020: Heaven

March 28, 2020: Reincarnation/Soul

May 2, 2020: Nature of Evil

May 30, 2020: Kabbalistic Astrology June 13, 2020: "Work" of the Kabbalist

#### **Shabbat Morning Torah Study**

Classes meet every Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m. with Rabbi Immerman.

#### **Introduction to Reading Liturgical Hebrew**

Liturgical Hebrew is taught by Rabbi Steinberg and meets Sunday mornings from 9:45 - 10:30 a.m.

#### **Judaism: New Interpretations of Old Ideas**

Class with Rabbi Steinberg meets Sunday mornings from 10:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m. New participants are always welcome

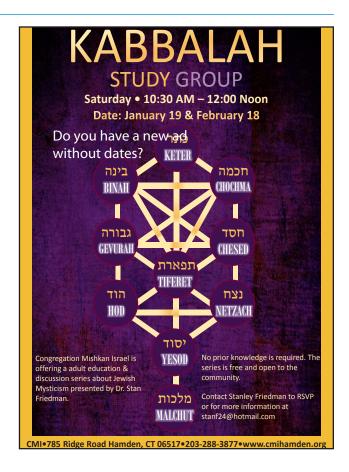
#### Mussar Lunch and Learn - Thursdays at Noon

Thursday, December 5

Through the practice of mussar (moral conduct) we will learn how to achieve balance in our lives through Jewish values. We will study and explore mussar texts including Everyday Holiness by Alan Morinis. . Bring your lunch and meet in the Library. Please sign up by emailing Sarah Legassey at slegassey@cmihamden.org.

#### **Intermediate Biblical Hebrew Study Group**

Meeting on Wednesday afternoons, 12:15 - 1:00 p.m., the group studies biblical Hebrew vocabulary and grammar with a focus on a direct translation of Genesis.



#### **RITUAL COMMITTEE NEWS**

#### **Shabbat Morning Services**

Shabbat morning has always been an important time to gather as a community for joyful prayer, study and to read Torah. In addition to the 9am Torah study, we will have Shabbat morning services at 10am when there is no Bar/Bat Mitzvah. These lay-led services offer an informal setting to pray, build community, and learn more about the Shabbat prayers. For many in our community who do not drive at night, they also an opportunity to celebrate Shabbat here at CMI. We hope that you will join us, consider leading, and help make a minyan.



#### January 3

Jeffrey Abrams Simon Arovas \* Frances Belman Ann Berland Barnett Berman Joel Bolsky Eve Bovilsky Adeline Buxbaum \* Annette Cohen Joseph Cohen \* Joseph Cohn Anna Eisenberg Asna Finkelstein William Glass Diana Grafman Donald Henry Grinder \* Isabelle Lurier Hahn \* Adrian Hirschhorn Esther Hubelbank Minna Kleeberg \* Rose Kryger Zelman Evans Leshine Clara D. Levin \* Svbella Ruth Maskel \* Julius Moore Forester Newick Rosaline Klein Passell \* Minnie Perlman Joseph Rattner Irene Links Ray \* Susan E. Rosen \* **Dorothy Rosenberg** Miriam Hamerman Rudnick \* Jeannette Schycon \* Louis Eli Shapiro \* Pauline Smolinsky Martha Solnit Kate Gootenberg Starin \* Yetta Steinklein \* Marvin Stone Flora Switko

Martin Stuart Weisbart \*

Herbert E. Yudkin

Annette G. 7elson \*

#### January 10

Irene C. Adams \* Harold S. Appell \* Avraham ben Ya'akov Josef Averbuch Dr. Arnold M. Baskin \* Louis Bender Sidney M. Brown \* Evelyn W. Brownstein \* Abraham Buxbaum \* Sarah Prince Cheskis Jane C. Cohen Steven M. Drozd Babette B. Epstein \* Albert Evans William H. Fenn \* Herman Frankenberger Fannie Frankenberger Nathan B. Frankenberger Myron L. Gordon Willard Greenwald Alfred E. Gross \* Abe Harris Charles Hellwig Dr. Aaron R. Hertz \* Robert K. Hertz \* Pauline Hilcoff Abraham Hubelbank Albert "Johnson Sr." James D. Kauffman \* Eleanor Kave Harry L. Kirsch \* Regina Wendel Kleiner \* Anna Kruger Millie Land Lillian L. Langrock \* James Edward Levy \* George S. Linde \* Hilda Lipsher \* Mark Walter Neitlich Mary O'Brasky \* Isidor E. Offenbach \* Edna S. Opper \* Edward L. Ritch \* Nathan G. Sachs \* Leah P. Sachs **Dorothy Sands** Blanche T. Shafer \* Sylvia Shustak Lloyd Silverman Herbert Siperstein Sadie Kurtz Snider \* Joseph Soffer Bella bat Moshe Sorochan Gladys Stenger Jacob Strauss \* Joseph Tendler

Edward Daniel Wallack \*

Bertha Weil \* Rachel Zanker

January 17 Max Adler \* Clifford Altschuler \* Miriam Astmann Jeffrey Hirsch Cohen Gladys E. Collins Harold Fishbone Saul R. Friedler \* Yetta Gittler **Pauline Glass** Robert Gold Hattie H. Goldbaum \* David W. Goldberg \* Harry Goldblum Elaine Goldman Elizabeth Goldsmith David M. Goodman \* Sophie Stinow Goodman \* Louis Greenberg Nathan H. Hamerman \* Philip J. Harrison \* Jean Lachman Howard Robert E. Hyman \* Lisa Shanbrom Keane Linda L. Klebanoff \* Sylvia S. Korn \* Morris Korzenowitz H. David Kushlan \* Louis Lapides \* Mary Levine Frank B. Levine \* **Charles Lipin** Alan Massey Deborah Mermelstein Drew Ryan Merriam \* Benjamin Milles \* Walter Bernard Moscovitz Vivienne Nemerson Bennett S. Olins \* Abraham Ominsky Theresa Lillian Phillips Lillian M. Rubin Hattie Schwartzman \* Jeanette Serling \* Dr. Arnold H. Serow \* Flora P. Silvernail Nathan Siperstein Irving Steiglitz \* Rose Stein \*

Cele Sweedler

David R. Tiven

**Ruth Lipton Swirsky** 

Dr. Joseph Weiner

Irving Weisbart \*

Ida Levine Yudkin

#### January 24

Nancy Ackerbaum \* Siegmond Adler \* Essie Barest Howard Beckerman Samuel Bell Josephine Feinberg Bruno \* Bessie Feldman Bruskin Annie Cohen Rose Eisner \* Irving Enson Lillian Gerrol Farber Milton Feinstein \* Michael Franford William Gitlitz \* George Goldman Monroe S. Gordon Dorothy Katz Greenblatt Sonia Grossman Lillian Hall Rose Hershenson Dorothy (Dolly) Hyman Hertz \* William Horowitz Herbert Kabatznick \* Helen Bretzfelder Kleiner \* Lillian (Bunni) Korman \* Joseph Ullman Labov Florence S. Levine \* Edward H. Levv \* Mary B. Linde \* Ella S. Loeb \* Hyman Lurie Clifford M Masheb \* Daniel A. Mendoza \* David Mevers \* Edith Stein Meyers \* Michael Milander \* Lee Perlman Nathan Rattner Dr. Sevmour Rosenblatt Arthur J. Rosenbluth \* Sheldon Samuels \* Samuel Schwartz \* Miriam Shapiro Barbara Silverstone Judith Siperstein Arnold Unger \* Carl Walman \*

Leanor L. Wexler

Steve Zielinski

January 31 Robert Cyril Ackerberg Janice Ackerman S. Bennett Alderman \* Howard M. Barach \* Bennett Blech Rabbi Harold Brockman Muriel Carberry Lillian Chaprack Anna Elfman Cohen \* Rose Danzinger Hyman Dimenstein Dao Kim Phung Dinhvanminh \* Irene Pines Finke Thomas Flynn Ellinor Jill Fox Herschel ben Velvel Gingis David Glass Helen Katz Goodkind Melvin Green Joseph Handleman \* Mr. Seymour J. Hatkin Albert Hoffman \* Rose Starin Hyman \* Nahman J. Jacobs Jerome Jason Jennie Fishman Kaufman \* Florence Knopp Harry Korman Irene Lehman \* Jane Johnson Livingston \* Martin Lowlicht \* Sidney Margolis Mary Jane McDonald Estelle Meyer Dr. J. Haskell Milstone \* Sarah Naden Pauline Newman \* Mildred Olgin Adrian Ostfeld \* George Paley David M. Popowich Grace Zeidenberg Postman Isidor Premark Harold Rosenberg Helen Hydeman Ross \* Maxwell Rubenstein M. Wallace Rubin \* A. Herbert Schwartz Louis Shure \* Harry Silver Samuel Simons Ida Shoninger Sonnenberg \* Louis Sturtz Dr. Paul Teiger Murray Tuckell \* Rebecca Tuckell **Paul Turner** 

Marshall Richard Weiner

17

#### February 7

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Valerie Allen Jennie Arovas \* Milton B. Baker

Jack I. Baser \*
Louis I. Berdon
Louise Buxbaum \*
Henry Kleiner Cahn

Murray Cohen Sidney Cohen Charles Eisenberg

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Joseph Smolinsky Delores "Dubby" Spivack Addie Stinow \*

Dr. Maurice J. Strauss \* Elsie Stromfeld Lena Sturtz Jules Sturtz

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February 14

Bessie Adler Stanley Back Inge Battige Sylvia Bernstein Hyman Bostin \* Eva Brody David Caeser \*

Herman Robert Cherman \*
Abraham Cohen
Jacob Cooperman \*
Samuel Dryfus \*

Henrietta B. Cahn \*

Ben Eager Jack H. Evans Sonya Gale Malka Gingis Walter Fuld "Gips Jr."

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Dorothy Eleanor Greenhouse \*

Norman Greenstein \*
Dennis Grove
Joyce Hirschhorn
Zelda Hoffman
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Max Jordan Rand \*
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Gerald Rozen
Jacob Rubin

Hernan Saavedra Dr. Bernard Schneider Rose Fuchs Shernow \* Pearl Shindler

Abraham Skolnick Emma M. Sonnenberg \*

Alex Sterling
Alan Tiven
Louis Weiss
Israel Willensky
Gerald Wyndorf
Marisa Yudkin

February 21

Harry Astmann
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Sylvia Bernstein
Bertha Blech
Jacob Blech
Myron Blumenthal \*
Theodore Bovilsky

Theodore Bovil: Sadie Cohen Ida R. Cohen \* Arthur Eder Harry Evans Clara Field

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Veronica Loewenbaum
Charles H. Marks \*
Hinda Massey
Barbara Fast Mezoff
Myron Puklin \*
Howard Roseman
Cecelia Rosenberg \*

Paul Stephen Rosenthal Irwin Sack

Gertrude Rosenthal

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Norma Abeshouse Schaefer

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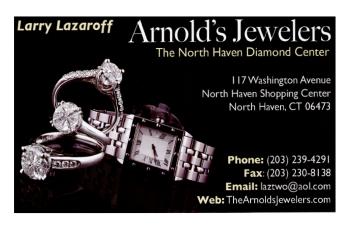
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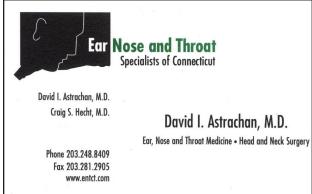
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Sarah B. Greenblatt, President

president@cmihamden.org

#### **JANUARY WORSHIP SERVICES & STUDY**

#### **SHABBAT VAYIGASH**

Gen. 44:18-47:27

Friday, January 3

5:30 p.m. Early Oneg 5:30 p.m. Tot Shabbat 6:00 p.m. Evening Service

Saturday, January 4

9:00 a.m. Torah Study

**SHABBAT VAYECHI** 

Gen. 47:28-50:26

Friday, January 10

5:30 p.m. Early Oneg 6:00 p.m. Family Service & Birthday Blessing

Saturday, January 11

9:00 a.m. Torah Study

#### **SHABBAT SHEMOT**

Ex.1:1-6:1

Friday, January 17

7:00 p.m. MLK Interfaith Service

8:30 p.m. Oneq

Saturday, January 18

9:00 a.m. Torah Study

10:30 a.m. Kabbalah Study Group

**SHABBAT VAERA** 

Ex. 6:2-9:24

Friday, January 24

5:30 p.m. Early Oneg 6:00 p.m. Evening Service

Saturday, January 25

9:00 a.m. Torah Study 10:30 a.m. Morning Service SHABBAT BO

Ex. 20:1-13:16

Friday, January 31

5:30 p.m. Early Oneg 6:00 p.m. Evening Service

Saturday, February 1

9:00 a.m. Torah Study