



# NHBZ Weekly News

Welcome to Nusach Hari B'nai Zion

Affiliated with Union of Orthodox Congregations of America

**December 12-13, 2025**  
**Candle Lighting 4:22 PM**



**PARSHAS VAYEISHEV**  
**Genesis 37:1-40:23**



**22-23 Kislev 5786**  
**Shabbos Concludes 5:25 PM**

## Announcements



Mazel Tov  
to  
Ezra Cohen  
on his  
Bar Mitzvah!

This week's kiddush is sponsored by  
Major Sanford & Mrs. Jenn Cohen in  
honor of their son Ezra's Bar Mitzvah!

- We express our condolences to Richard & Michelle Goldstein on the passing of Sharon Caster

## Yahrzeits Observed This Week

Dec 12 - 22 Kislev

Harry Freistein

Dec 15 - 25 Kislev

Julius Abrams  
Esther Gelb

Dec 13 - 23 Kislev

Shirley Goldenberg  
Charles Nathan  
Mollie Davis

Dec 16 - 26 Kislev

Ed Lyss

Dec 14 - 24 Kislev

Sarah (Sally) Lerman

Dec 17 - 27 Kislev

Fred Litwin

Dec 18 - 28 Kislev

Evelyn Klayman  
Paul Sudin

## Happy Birthday!

Sydney Eileen Mufson - December 12  
Sheera Tzadok - December 12  
Sandie Abrams - December 16  
David Goldmeier - December 18  
Peggy Umansky - December 18

## Upcoming Events

December 21 - Chanukah Mania  
December 27 - Nov/Dec Birthday Kiddush  
January 10 - Tot Shabbos  
January 17 - David & Norma Rubin Kiddush  
January 24 - Installation Lunch  
January 31 - Birthday Kiddush

## Community Announcements

- ATTENTION- EVERY TAX DOLLAR IS NEEDED TO FUND THIS VITAL PROGRAM The deadline to secure MOScholars tax credits for this year is December 22. If you have questions or want help with the process, please contact Hillel Anton for more information. 314-200-5781 or hanton@agudahmo.org
- Save the Date: The St. Louis Jewish Community Blood Drive will be at Congregation Young Israel on Sunday, January 11, 2026 from 10 AM - 4 PM. Please come and participate in this life saving chessed.
- The Jewish Federation of St. Louis One Happy Camper program is now accepting applications for Summer 2026. One Happy Camper grants range from \$700-\$1,000 for first time overnight campers. Campers must be enrolled in a session that is at least 12 consecutive days at one of the 150+ nonprofit Jewish overnight camps listed on the Foundation for Jewish Camp website. Families are encouraged to apply as soon as possible at OneHappyCamper.org.

## Prayer Times

### Friday, December 12

Mincha/Maariv 4:20 PM  
Candle Lighting 4:22 PM

### Shabbos, December 13

Shacharis/Mussaf 9:00 AM  
Latest Shema Time 9:33 AM  
Mincha 4:05 PM  
Shalosh Seudos and Learn After Mincha  
Shabbos Concludes 5:25 PM

### Weekday Schedule - Chanukah

Shacharis (Sun) 8:00 AM  
Shacharis (Mon-Fri) 7:00 AM  
Mincha (Sun-Thurs) 4:25 PM  
Mincha (Fri) 4:25 PM

## Shabbos Programming

Soul Building with Rabbi David  
10:00 AM

Childcare  
10:00-11:30 AM

## Shul Contact Information

phone: 314-991-2100  
Devorah- Office Administrator  
email: office@nhbz.org

Rabbi Rubin:  
rabbirubin@nhbz.org

Hindy- Bookkeeper  
bookkeeper@nhbz.org



# THE SISTERHOOD SCOOP

# DECEMBER 13



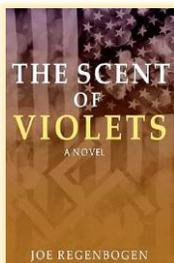
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Number 47

23 Kislev 5786

December 13, 2025

## Next Book Club is January 25



The next Book Club Meeting will be on **Sunday, January 25, 3:30-5:00 PM**, at NHBZ, lower level, just before the January Pizza Night. The book is *The Scent of Violets*, a novel by St. Louis author Joe Regenbogen. **Come and meet the author himself** as

he expounds on his themes of redemption and forgiveness. **COME FOR BOOK CLUB--STAY FOR PIZZA**  
**For more information:** contact Fran Alper at [fran.alper@outlook.com](mailto:fran.alper@outlook.com) or [sisterhood@nhbz.org](mailto:sisterhood@nhbz.org)

**“Never believe that a handful of dedicated people can’t change the world. Inspired by faith, they can. The Maccabees did then. So can we today.”** – Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks, ZT”L

## Get Ready for Chanukah!

The lights of the Chanukah menorah are more than simply a reminder of ancient miracles, they are meant to provide inspiration and illumination in our contemporary daily lives.

In fact, in a very real sense, the Chanukah miracles of old are re-enacted in our observance today. That is one reason why we say, in the second blessing recited over the Chanukah lights, "Blessed are You... who wrought miracles for our ancestors, in those days, at this time." By reflecting upon the significance of the Chanukah miracles, we can see — with ever-increasing clarity — the miraculous dimension of events in our own time.



## VAYEISHEV: Snakes and Scorpions

Parshat Vayeshev (Genesis 37-40) tells of Joseph being thrown by his brothers into a pit. The Torah describes the pit as being "empty and without water."

This raises a question: If the verse says that the pit was **empty**, why does it also need to tell us there was **no water**?

The answer is that there is no such thing as a **completely** empty pit. The laws of physics tell us that something will always permeate a vacuum. So, in this case, the "empty pit" had no water, but it did contain other, dangerous elements like snakes and scorpions.

This idea manifests in our own lives as well. The "pit without water" symbolizes a life without Torah, which is often compared to water. There's no such thing as "neutral." Something will always become your god and your guide. The question is: What will it be? Will we proactively fill that space with a good, positive element? Or will we just let some other — perhaps dangerous element — determine our outlook and habits?

With the threat of terror spreading worldwide, I am reminded of the adage from Edmund Burke: "The only thing that evil needs to flourish is for good men to do nothing."

Yes, nature abhors a vacuum... and that law applies to metaphysics as well. So let's fill the space that surrounds us -- with the beautiful overflowing fountain of Torah.

– by **Rabbi Shraga Simmons**, [www.aish.com](http://www.aish.com)

## THE JEWS NEVER GAVE UP HOPE

“Jews are the people who refused to be comforted because they never gave up hope. Jacob did eventually see Joseph again. Rachel’s children did return to the land. Jerusalem is once again the Jewish home. All the evidence may suggest otherwise: it may seem to signify irretrievable loss, a decree of history that cannot be overturned, a fate that must be accepted. Jews never believed the evidence because they had something else to set against it – a faith, a trust, an unbreakable hope that proved stronger than historical inevitability. It is not too much to say that Jewish survival was sustained in that hope. And that hope came from a simple – or perhaps not so simple – phrase in the life of Jacob. He refused to be comforted. And so – while we live in a world still scarred by violence, poverty and injustice – must we.”

– **Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks, ZT”L**



## Giving & Dedication



Giving & Dedication Opportunities to Nusach Hari B'nai Zion provides you with an opportunity to fulfill the important mitzvah of contributing tzedakah (charity). We offer many ways to say Mazel Tov to relatives and friends in honor of simchas celebrated, or to remember loved ones by making a dedication in their memories.

### ***Contributions & Dedications for Building & Campus***

- Small Stained-Glass Window - \$10,000
- Large Stained-Glass Window - \$25,000
- Yahrtzeit Board Header - \$6,000
- Main Bimah (Spiritual Dedication) - \$150,000
- Main Aron Kodesh (Spiritual Dedication) - \$150,000
- Sanctuary or Auditorium Window - \$18,000
- Dedication of Building – Please call office
- Campus Dedication – Please call office

This is a sample of available opportunities.  
For extra information, please call our office, 314-991-2100, ext. 2.

### ***Inscribed Bricks/Pavers & Plantings***

\$250.00 for 4"x8" inscribed Brick/Paver; \$500.00 for 8"x8" inscribed Brick/Paver

### ***Tree of Life – In the Alper Lobby***

\$360.00 per Brass leave inscribed, in memory or in honor of a special person(s) or occasion.

### ***Cast Iron Memorial Plaques – In the Feigenbaum-Pepose Learning Center***

\$360.00 Bronze Plaque - name in raised lettering. Molay is recited on each yearzeit.

### ***Kaddish***

Important mitzvos to be observed in memory of relatives or dear friends.  
\$360.00 Kaddish recited daily for eleven months after the passing of the individual.  
\$360.00 Kaddish recited each yearzeit in perpetuity.

### ***Book Funds – Dedications Inscribed***

- \$60.00 Nusach Hari Daily Siddur
- \$75.00 Artsroll – Stone Edition Chumash
- \$60.00 Rosh Hashana & Yom Kippur Machzorim

### ***Shabbos Bulletin Sponsorship***

\$54 includes your specified dedication listed in the NHBZ Weekly News  
Call or email the Shul office, 314-991-2100, ext. 2 or [office@nhbz.org](mailto:office@nhbz.org)

### ***Tributes – Honor Simchas, Wishes for Good Health, Condolences***

Call or email the Shul office, 314-991-2100, ext. 2 or [office@nhbz.org](mailto:office@nhbz.org)  
\$10 donation per card; \$25 pack of 5 cards. We have "In memory...", "In honor ...", Speedy Recovery, and Rose Ragin Chesed Fund\* cards. (\*Sold only in packs of 5)

### ***Kiddush Sponsorship – Defrays Costs of Shabbos & Yom Tov Kiddushim***

Please call our office for menu selections and pricing, 314-991-2100, ext. 2.

***NOTE: The above prices, effective January, 2025, are subject to change.***

THIS CHANUKAH, EISHES CHAYIL PRESENTS:



# BE A WINNER!

WITH MRS. ROCHEL HESS

JOIN US (ONCE AGAIN!) FOR A MEGA  
CHANUKAH EVENT  
OF CONNECTION, CELEBRATION,  
AND CLEVER MOVES!

GUEST SPEAKER: MRS. RIVKY SHOENIG

HOT MELAVA MALKA | PARTY GAME | RAFFLE |  
ICY ICE CREAM DESSERT

**MOTZEI SHABBOS, DEC. 13, 2025**

**JSU HOUSE | 8037 DELMAR BLVD | 8:30 PM**

**SUGGESTED DONATION: \$15**

**SPONSORSHIP AVAILABLE: SILVER \$36 GOLD \$72**

**RSVP APPRECIATED EISHESCHAYIL@STLKOLLEL.COM**





DECEMBER 14, 2025 –  
DECEMBER 15, 2025

10:00AM THRU 10:00PM

# SHARE THE LIGHT

THIS CHANNUKAH, YOUR GIFTS BRINGS  
JEWISH LIGHT, LEARNING, AND CONNECTION  
TO EVERY CORNER OF ST. LOUIS



12/14 - 12/15

HELP US RAISE \$360K FOR  
JEWISH EDUCATION. THANKS  
TO A GROUP OF GENEROUS  
MATCHERS, EACH DOLLAR  
YOU DONATE WILL BE  
MULTIPLIED.



**36 HOUR MATCHING CAMPAIGN**

[thechesedfund.com/aishstlouis/2025?aff=qr](https://thechesedfund.com/aishstlouis/2025?aff=qr)



# Keshet

CONNECTING GENERATIONS

## Mother Daughter Program

SUNDAY MORNINGS | 10:30 - 11:45 AM

FOR GIRLS: KINDERGARTEN - 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

WITH KESHER KREW FOR GRADES 6<sup>TH</sup>-8<sup>TH</sup>

### Bitachon

**JANUARY 4<sup>TH</sup>**

וְאֶחָבְתִי אֶתְכֶם, אָמַר ה'  
Hashem loves me-  
It's a reality

**JANUARY 11<sup>TH</sup>**

כִּי הִטָּה אָזְנוֹ לִי  
Hashem cares about  
me, individually.

**FEBRUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>**

כֻּלְיָכֵל  
We all know,  
Hashem is Kol Yachol.  
(The Ultimate Power)

**FEBRUARY 8<sup>TH</sup>**

הוּא ה' יְדַעַת בְּלֹה  
Hashem knows me to  
the T!

**Location: Nusach Hari B'nai Zion, 650 N. Price Road, Olivette, MO 63132**

**Committee: Elisheva Anton, Shana Bersin, Tzirel Biron, Riki Gutovich, Temima Klein, Elissa Schachter**

A PROGRAM OF  
ST. LOUIS  
COMMUNITY  
**Kollel**

Where will you be  
December 25th??

# JOIN US FOR AN AISH FAMILY DISCOVERY DAY

## Special Guest: Rabbi Dovid Goldshteyn

Born in Odessa and raised in the U.S., Rabbi Goldshteyn is a former Maccabiah medalist and second-degree black belt whose journey to Israel and Aish HaTorah transformed his life. He became a lead Discovery Seminar lecturer, teaching thousands of students. For the past many years, he has been one of RAJE New York's most beloved educators, guiding young Russian-speaking Jews and leading impactful trips to Israel. He now serves as RAJE's Director of Education, mentoring students, training staff, and hosting countless Shabbos and Yom Tov meals with his family.



Children's  
Activities 5 - 12 yrs  
Babysitting  
Available 0 - 4 yrs



CLASS 1: Judaism is not a faith-based religion...then what is it?  
CLASS 2: Could a human being have written the Torah?  
CLASS 3: The secret codes in the Torah  
CLASS 4: Can science prove God?



Delicious  
Kosher  
Lunch

EVENT COST (LUNCH NOT INCLUDED): \$25 A PERSON --KIDS ARE FREE WITH PARTICIPATING ADULT -- REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED  
LUNCH ADDITIONAL: \$25 PER ADULT, \$18 PER CHILD (8 - 12)

TO RSVP OR FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 314-862-2474 OR EMAIL [CGOLDSTEIN@AISHSTL.COM](mailto:CGOLDSTEIN@AISHSTL.COM)

OR SCAN QR CODE TO PAY

NUSACH HARI 650 N. PRICE RD. ST. LOUIS, MO 63132

**DECEMBER 25, 10AM - 3PM**





**NHBZ PRESENTS:**

# Chanukah Mania!



featuring



**a Maccabee Warrior  
Training Course &**

**Breakfast for the Brave**



**Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>  
10:30am-12:00pm**

**relay races – dreidel spin off – trivia – storytime – crafts  
latkes – gelt – sufganiyot – hot chocolate – fruit**



**Suggested Donation: \$18/family**



**RSVP at: <https://forms.gle/4sQahfUs2utpKAGf8>**

