



תְּקוּוֹתֵינוּ TIKVATENU



ISRAEL CENTER OF CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

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SHEVAT/ADAR 1

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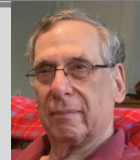
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LET OUR FAMILY WELCOME YOURS

MESSAGE FROM CO-PRESIDENTS

DAVID SCHWARTZ AND SAM WEISS



Fellow Congregants,

As you read this, we are in a critical stage in our search for a new rabbi. The Rabbinical Search Committee, which began its work over the summer, has now narrowed the field of candidates to a select few and has begun inviting these finalists to audition before the congregation. As the selection of a new spiritual leader is among the most important decisions a congregation can make, we urge all our members to make the time to participate in this process.

That will not necessarily be easy to do now as the on-going Covid pandemic continues to alter the way things normally get done. For example, in prior years, a rabbinical candidate would be invited to take part in a full-scale Shabbaton, in which he or she would participate at a Friday night service and share a meal with the membership, then officiate at Shabbat morning services, partake in a Kiddush luncheon, meet and greet congregants, lead a teaching session, and cap it all off participating in the Havdalah service on Saturday night.

This time around, candidates are being invited to officiate in person only at the Shabbat morning service, in which they will deliver a short D'var Torah and learning session, to be followed by a half-hour question-and-answer period immediately after service is concluded. The entire Saturday morning event will be Livestreamed, via our website: iccj2004.org, so congregants unable to attend the service in person can nevertheless watch and evaluate the candidates in these sessions.

In addition, we expect candidates will participate in Friday night services via Zoom and conduct a virtual learning session following Havdalah on Saturday night. We have invited candidates to meet and greet our Youth and Young Families on Sunday.

Needless to say, this extended process, involving in-person and virtual appearances by the candidates, is not our preferred process and may present its own challenges. But it is also an exciting time, one in which the entire congregation can participate in charting the future course of ICCJ for years to come. We hope you all take advantage of the various opportunities provided to have your votes count in choosing our new spiritual leader.

Regards,

David Schwartz and Sam Weiss

Co-Presidents, ICCJ

Marilyn Kaufman and Adrienne Simons

Co-Chairs, Rabbinical Search Committee

FROM OUR RABBI: Rabbi Moshe Saks



We are all concerned about our children – their health, their well being, and their happiness. Of course, these are all important issues to be concerned with, but what about their future? What about their Jewish future? Do we spend the same amount of time

instilling Jewish values into our children as we watch them grow?

Below is a little “test” that I would like you to take – you can grade yourself. How do you measure up – are you passing or failing? Think about it! I would be happy to hear your reaction.

TEN THINGS JEWISH PARENTS DON'T SAY ENOUGH TO THEIR CHILDREN

- ♦ Some part of any money, which comes your way, is for *Tzedakah*.
- ♦ The way you fulfill your appetites should be a reflection of your Jewishness.
- ♦ You have a home in Israel.
- ♦ No part of your education is more important than your Jewish education.
- ♦ Come to synagogue with me.
- ♦ Be at our Shabbat table.
- ♦ It is important to pray.
- ♦ I expect you to marry a Jew.
- ♦ Zain a mensch.
- ♦ This is what I believe about God.

RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS: Michelle Fouks

Shalom from Religious Affairs

Hope you're staying warm & safe. On January 16, we had a spectacular Tu B'Shevat Seder prepared for you by Rabbi Saks together with the Religious Affairs Committee. It was truly enjoyable and if you weren't there you missed a good time, so mark your calendar for next year, Sunday evening, February 5, 2023 where hopefully we will meet in-person. We are so lucky to have Zoom to keep in touch for those who aren't comfortable with in-person get togethers. As a reminder, you know what makes events successful? When you join us. We have our regulars joining almost all events, but it would be so nice to have new people join, as they say the more the merrier, so keep an eye on the eblasts and join whenever you can.

As I state regularly, we have our Kabbalat Shabbat Services Friday evening on Zoom. There is a morning service in-person with livestreaming for those who cannot attend. Those in-person enjoy not only the services but the ability to take part in a discussion about the parsha while those at home see and hear the services. In the evening, there is Havdalah Zoom. Surely, one of these services peaks your interest. Best of all you don't have to venture outside in the cold if you choose to livestream or Zoom. In addition, we have evening services **every day** at 7:30 pm on Zoom. Your attendance would be greatly appreciated.

Now, we are well into planning for Purim on March 16 and March 17. So, watch your eblasts as we dust off our costumes and get ready for the fun. My last time in a restaurant was the ICCJ 2020 Synagogue Purim Seudah at Ben's. Hopefully, we can return to that next year. In the meantime, plan to join us for the Megillah reading and festivities.

Remember, if you have a yarzeit coming up try to let the Rabbi know the month before so we can ensure there is a minyan.

Stay warm, safe and most of all healthy.

Looking forward to seeing all of you in person when you are comfortable doing so.



THE ICCJ MEMORIAL PLAQUE DEDICATION CEREMONY

Spring, 2022

Join us as we dedicate:

THE ICCJ BALLROOM IN MEMORY OF MEL KAUFMAN

THE SYNAGOGUE OFFICE IN MEMORY OF LILLIAN AND HOWARD KURTZ

&

ALL INDIVIDUAL PLAQUES PURCHASED WITHIN THE PAST THREE YEARS



By purchasing a memorial plaque,
in memory of a loved one,
you will provide a lasting remembrance

If you have been thinking of dedicating a
plaque, now is the time to do so

Individual plaques available for purchase
at \$360 each

***Don't delay, all orders due by March 1, 2022**

To request an order form and for further details, contact Helena in the synagogue office:

718-591-5353 helena@iccj2004.org

WATCH EBLASTS FOR EXACT DATE

Zichronam Liv'racha

May their memories be for a blessing

זִכְרוֹנָם לְבִרְכָּה

ICCJ, 167-11 73rd Avenue, Flushing, NY 11366

YOUNG ADULTS: Jordan Brantz & Maxwell Greebler



Who are the Young Adults of ICCJ? This was an idea that was tossed around at High Holiday services and recently came alive after months of planning. We presented our ideas at the November Board of Trustees

meeting and got the green light to move forward. We thank the Board and the Executive Board for getting behind our ideas. And now, we are excited to finally introduce our committee to the congregation.

So who are we?

Our mission is to create a strong bond across ICCJ's younger population, while expanding our circle of Jewish friends. We are targeting the 16+ population in the synagogue, so please spread the word to your kids

and grandkids. We plan to host monthly events to hang out and get to know each other, as well as give back to our local communities and partner with other committees at ICCJ. Some potential ideas we have for the future include speaker series and field trips, social action programs, holiday-related events, bonfires, and much more.

The first Young Adults Kickoff Havdalah and Movie Night at ICCJ took place on January 8, 2022.

Check out our new Young Adults page on www.iccj2004.org and stay tuned for more updated content. If you are interested in joining our YA chat group, please send your info to Jordan Brantz at jaybeejordan@gmail.com.

SISTERHOOD NEWS: Presidents Hannah Feldman & Lisa Woliner



Sisterhood took a two-week hiatus and is back in full swing.

On Sunday evening, January 9', together with the Education Committee, we had our first "off-Broadway" play on Zoom. The performers were from the Polaris North Theater and students from the

B.F.A. Program in Acting for Theatre, Film & Television at Long Island University: Brooklyn. These performers were so talented and I'm sure we were witnessing some future stars.

Normally, if we were in the building, there would be no program in February, but since we are on Zoom we are having a game night "Trivia with a Twist."

Save the Date – March 21 for our Sisterhood Seder.

Lisa ,

I want to express a huge thank you and extreme gratitude to you and your team from our Theresa Lang Children's Center and my Volunteer Services Team.

Attached is a picture with our Nurses holding the gifts.

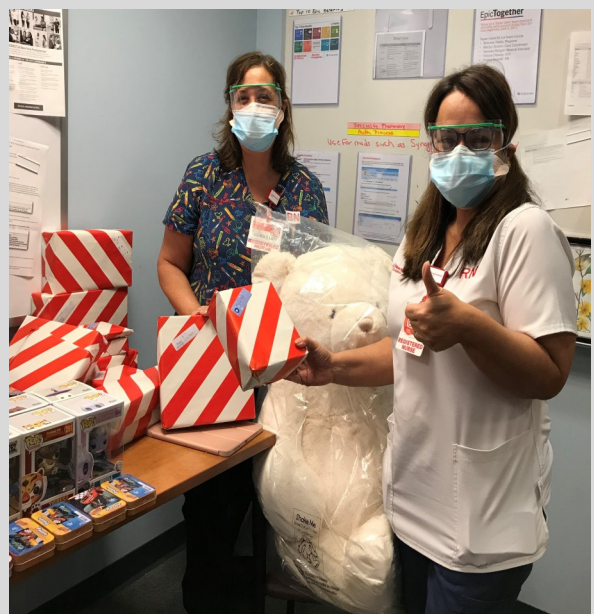
I have to tell you the delivery of these gifts came in the perfect time because the clinic was full.

If by any chance you ever wanted to connect with other projects we are always open to collaborate.

Wishing you a wonderful holiday season!

With Kind Regards,

***Cecilia Oropeza- Martinez, MPA
Coordinator of Volunteer Services***



Torah Fund

Each of us is one small nugget of gold, but together our small gifts reflect and refract the light inside us and help each other shine. (WL '21)

The Torah Fund Campaign supports our future rabbis, cantors, educators, social workers and innovative thinkers enrolled in our Conservative / Masorti seminaries.

Donations in any amount are welcome and appreciated! Here's how you may be part of ICCJ's Torah Fund Campaign.

Send greeting cards with a purpose. Use Torah Fund cards to acknowledge life cycle events. Buy one at a time or purchase several. They're \$5 each.

Fill a Torah Fund *tzedakah* box. Return it in May as the campaign year comes to a close.

Share that your fashion has a passion. Proudly wear the *B'Yachad* pin pictured above. Donate \$180 and receive this beautiful thank you gift from Torah Fund.

Please contact:

Cynthia Begel, cbegel@gmail.com, for Torah Fund cards; and

Anise Parnes, a.parnes8166@gmail.com, for Torah Fund pins, *tzedakah* boxes, and your Torah Fund questions.

Together, let's invest in our Jewish future. Thank you for generously supporting our Torah Fund Campaign!
L'shalom,

Anise

Anise Parnes - ICCJ Sisterhood Torah Fund Chair



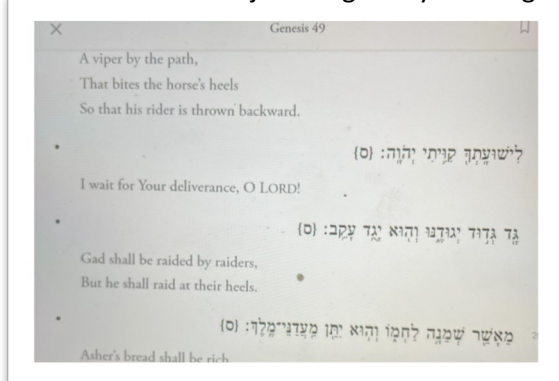
CHAVERIM: Co-Presidents Susan Losow & Betty Shaffer

In December, Chaverim, along with Hillcrest Jewish Center, presented the Musical Midrash Project led by its founder, Mark Sherman. The evening was filled with songs that drew surprising inspirations from the Torah and brought its ancient words close to our hearts.

Midrash is a form of commentary, used by the Rabbis who shaped Jewish life, to draw out the meaning of holy writings.

The Musical Midrash Project began by looking for

notable instances of lyrical beauty in the Biblical text. In each of the traditional divisions of weekly Torah readings, one of these lyrical texts became the starting point for musical midrash - using song to draw out the emotional impact and spiritual power in the words. With melody, and interpretive English lyrics to match the cadence of each text, the songs of the Musical Midrash Project join a living tradition that continues to find new ways of interpreting Torah, and life itself.



MEMBERSHIP: Betty Shaffer



Despite the current Covid restrictions, ICCJ is still very active and working towards a new and invigorating year ahead. Our Board of Trustees has overwhelmingly endorsed the creation of a new group – Young Adults. This group, started by the teens of ICCJ during the High Holiday services, is for youth aged 16+. They have expressed a desire to socialize with their friends in the environs of our synagogue and to include some social action activities.

The Rabbi Search Committee is actively interviewing to fill this important position for our community. Watch the eblasts and bulletins for more information on when candidates may be coming to us for auditions.

Remember the congregation is who chooses the Rabbi, not the board nor a small committee. You have a say in this choice.

The Nominating Committee is also busy considering what will be the best slate of Officers and Trustees to lead our congregation forward in the upcoming year.

The Pool and Gym Sports Clinic is up and running Sundays thru Thursdays. Check the website, eblasts or Sports Clinic article for the times and classes that are available to you for free as a member of ICCJ.

Weekly Shabbat services are in-person every Saturday, but also available on streaming for those who are unable to attend in person. There are daily evening minyans on Zoom with Rabbi Saks. Just go to the our website iccj2004.org for the link.

As always, you, the members of our congregation are the most important persons for ICCJ. Without you, we have no purpose. All that we do here at ICCJ is to provide our members with the best community possible. We are your family, spiritually and socially.

COMMUNICATIONS: Nina Greebler & Linda Korobelnik

The Communications Committee is pleased to add a new page to the website representing the recently added Young Adult Committee. It will be co-chaired by two of our young members who grew up at ICCJ....Jordan Brantz and Max Greebler with our own Cantor Shiya Ribowsky as an advisor, mentor and friend. Please read their article in this bulletin and visit their webpage on ICCJ2004.org. We look forward to wonderful things from them.

We also welcome Dina Yakar, the new Young Families Coordinator, who will be working very closely with us. Welcome Aboard!

As events are occurring either virtually or in person, we are adding more photos to the website. Please visit our photo picture pages under the tab Photo Galleries.



Don't forget to visit our ICCJ Facebook page for the latest happenings. If you are missing issues of our bulletin, you can find them on ICCJ2004.org under the Publications tab.

We wish everyone a very happy and healthy 2022.



Thank you for all the cards and good wishes on the birth of my first great-grandchild, Mila Rae Nussbaum.

Marilyn Kaufman

**Not
feeling
well
today..**

The Chesed Committee,
headed by Sol Sturm, is here for you
Contact Sol: storm454@rcn.com
or
Idan Corsentino: idadances@aol.com



SAYING KADDISH

If you would like to say Kaddish,
please contact Rabbi Saks @
rabbims@iccj2004.org, rabsaks@gmail.com
or 718-591-5610



H2I YOUTH GROUP: Youth Director Jennifer Gold

A Joint Venture of HJC, HJBIC & ICCJ



Dear Congregants,

Happy New Year! This past week, our members showed off their acting skills in our Lights, Camera, Action program. We learned improvisation through fun drama games and acting! We are excited for more programming to come and we will be releasing our Spring calendar soon!

As a reminder, we provide programming for grades 5 through 12. Kadima is for children in grades 5-8 and is every Sunday night from 6:15pm to 7:30pm. USY is for

grades 9-12 and is every Sunday night from 7:30pm-9:00pm. Our program locations are on a rotating basis amongst the three synagogues. We are currently holding programming at Hillcrest Jewish Center (Moreida room).

We are looking forward to a great month filled with amazing programs! Please look out for the Spring calendar- coming soon!

If you should have any questions, please reach out at any time :)

h2iyouthgroup18@gmail.com

YOUNG FAMILIES: Emilee Wyner & Dina Yakar

ICCJ Young Families spent Martin Luther King Jr. Day doing Mitzvah Projects. We drew and made cards for people in need. There were stories about doing mitzvot and helping others, along with a yummy lunch of pizza and falafel!

In addition, we brought Arts and Crafts supplies to ICCJ to donate to Cohen's Children's Medical Center. We will be collecting these items until Purim, so please help us by dropping off items in the collection box at ICCJ. You will find the list on the flyer enclosed in this bulletin. Please make sure all items are new and unused! We thank you for your help and support of this mitzvah project.



Look out for information on our February program in your email.

Any questions? Feel free to contact me, Dina Yakar, at iccjyoungfamilies@gmail.com.



ICCJ YOUNG FAMILIES COORDINATOR

Dina Yakar has deep roots with ICCJ. She grew up going to the Conservative Synagogue of Jamaica Estates, starting in their nursery school in the early 1980's. She attended their Hebrew School and was very active in their Kadima and USY chapter. Dina, and her twin brother, were in the first graduating class of the Solomon Schechter High School of New York, which was located at the JTS throughout their years in high school.

Dina has mostly worked in the Jewish world at various synagogues, such as: Hillcrest Jewish Center, as an Office Manager, and Park Avenue Synagogue, as a Program Manager, in the Department of Synagogue programming, and at the Jewish Community Centers of North America, as a Conference Coordinator. Her current role is the Office Manager at Temple Gates of Prayer.

Dina is excited to rejoin the ICCJ staff as the Young Families Program Director. Years ago, she was the Youth Director at ICCJ, prior to the merge of youth groups with Hillcrest and Hollis Hills. In her free time, she enjoys baking and knitting, sometimes joining the ICCJ Knit & Schmooze group when she isn't working!

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE: Philip Parnes



Thank you, again, to the entire ICCJ community for supporting our winter weather clothing and food drives, making each a huge success.

Food insecurity (the state of being without reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food) continues to challenge millions of Americans. Individuals and families in every US community continue to face hunger, including 1.6 million New York City residents.

According to Feeding America, the “largest hunger-relief organization” in the US, food insecurity “can have a wide impact, depending on each individual’s circumstances. Some of the most common, yet complex, effects of food insecurity include:

- Serious health complications, especially when people facing hunger are forced to choose between spending money on food and medicine or medical care
- Damage to a child’s ability to learn and grow
- Difficult decisions such as choosing between paying for food and heat, electricity, rent, and transportation.”

Mazon: A Jewish Response to Hunger, channels support from the Jewish community to end hunger “among people of all faiths and backgrounds in the United States and Israel.” Mazon encourages communities to work together towards the goal of ending hunger here and in Israel.

With these thoughts in mind, the Social Action Committee is continuing to collect date-usable, nonperishable food (no glass jars, please) to help alleviate food insecurity within our New York City community. Thank you, in advance, for your generous donations!

As I write this article, the Social Action Committee is considering additional food related social action, as well as new projects. Look for updates in eblasts and future issues of this newsletter.

Let me end by encouraging all members of ICCJ to feel free to suggest social action project ideas.

Your active participation in our community’s social action efforts makes a difference!

Thank you.

FOOD DONATIONS

ICCJ is once again collecting non-perishable food

Please do what you can to help our food collection and/or donate to these organizations:

feedingamerica.org mazon.org cityharvest.org and
fundraise.humanityfirst.org/fundraiser/2752794

Many thanks to all who donated to our Social Action Food Drive.

250lbs of non-perishable food was collected for City Harvest.

Food donations may be brought to the synagogue during office hours.



SPORTS CLINIC: Paul Gorel

Contact the SPORTS CLINIC at 347-502-3612 or sportsclinic@iccj2004.org for more information or to confirm attendance!!



PLEASE JOIN US FOR:



CONGREGATION SWIM

Monday

8:15 PM - 9:15 PM

Tuesday

7:15 PM - 8:15 PM

Wednesday - Water Aerobics

8:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Thursday

7:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Sunday

7:50 AM - 8:50 AM & 4:45 PM - 6:00 PM

Lifeguard on Duty • No Swim Diapers • No Showers • Long Hair Up Please

On Wednesday, December 15th the long-awaited Water Aerobics class started. After a year plus of figuring out how to open the pool safely, Paul Gorel and his team opened the doors.

The first class consisted of Susie Berkson, Nina Greebler, Nikki Hasson, Marilyn Kaufman, Lisa Woliner and Shari Zuber. Our instructor, Joan, stood at the ledge of the pool and instructed these bathing beauties in the fine art of aerobic exercise. A second instructor, Valerie, was in the pool with the swimmers.

(Nina said) The class was wonderful. the instructor worked us hard, even with the hard work we had a wonderful workout. I look forward to further classes and loads of fun.

(Marilyn said) The water was delightfully warm and the exercise was wonderful, also thank you Julie Gorel for supplying the music.

(Lisa said) she hadn't slept so well in weeks thanks to the strenuous exercise and apparatus used in the water.

(Shari said) it was a wonderfully refreshing experience.

Lisa Woliner



GETTING IN THE SWIM AT ICCJ

Emerging from the nippy air of the women's locker room into the gently chlorine-scented aroma of the ICCJ pool area made the shiver of the winter weather vanish. The warmly heated waters of the natatorium tenderly caressed our bodies as we soon-to-be aquatic beauties grasped the handrail and descended the steps into the vast wetness which awaited us.



Beginning on Wednesday evening, December 15, 2021, Paul Gorel, denizen of ICCJ's Sports Clinic, introduced a new facet to the ICCJ congregational swim opportunities available. A women's water aerobics program was instituted to help those who wish to limber up their weary bones and wash away the winter doldrums. Nine ladies of ICCJ took advantage of this invitation on the initial night of the program.

Our understanding and capable instructor, Joan, first had us warm-up so that the subsequent exercises wouldn't be a culture shock to our systems. We then progressed to using water noodles and weights to strengthen various arm and leg muscles. In the pool with the participants was Valerie, our aquatic angel, who helped us properly perform the exercises and who stood by in case anyone was in need of aid. The hour passed quickly and as it was time to leave we did so regretfully, wishing the session had been longer.

As the weeks have progressed, the attendance has varied, depending on the holidays, etc., but each week there are stalwarts who return for the joy that has been afforded us. Since this is an ongoing program, anyone can participate at anytime. If you want to join these Esther Williams wannabes, contact Paul or Mara Gorel and they will be only too happy to help you.

Many of our congregants don't realize that there are many open swim times throughout the week for ICCJ members. The times are listed on the synagogue website. For a relaxing hour you can come and swim your daily cares away and tone up. Swimming is one of the best and most refreshing exercises you can engage in.

If you have any fears about Covid, etc., your apprehensions are completely unfounded. For those of us in the water aerobics class, we are safely distanced, our instructor is outside of the pool, and our water angel, Valerie, wears a full plastic face shield. No one is allowed in the pool unless they are fully vaccinated. For those of us in the program, that includes having had our booster shots.

There are so many pluses about being a congregant of ICCJ that we don't realize. Being the shul with a pool, and a gym, is an added perk too many of our members don't use to full advantage. Give it a try. You'll be glad you did. I know I couldn't be happier that I finally got into the swim of things. *Shari Zuber*



Scholarstream's series #4 on **The Other Within– Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in a Pluralistic Movement** continues this month with:

When Jews Made Fellow Jews "Other": Hasidism and Its Opponents

Wednesday, February 2, 2022 at 8:00 PM ET/5:00 PM PT **Teacher:** David Fishman

From Kinyan to Brit: Options for Egalitarian Partnerships in Conservative Halakhah

Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 8:00 PM ET/5:00 PM PT **Teacher:** Gail Labovitz

Series #5: Halakha - The Process Moving Forward & the Forward-Moving Process will follow on: Wednesdays, February 16, 23 and March 2, 9 at 8 PM ET / 5 PM PT

Registration is FREE to our membership.

Please sign up via iccj2004.org under Educational Opportunities

THE GERIATRIC ORPHAN & AGING: Sheldon Ornstein Ed.D, RN, LNHA

The geriatric orphan is described as an elderly person with no close friends nor survivor or family members who are available to provide emotional support. He or she has had significant others and lost them to death, distance or fractured relationships. This individual has not, however, desired to be alone. The researcher, Boyack suggests, "It is imperative to establish a surrogate network, assist the individual through their grief, resolve any unfinished business and seek appropriate resources for maintenance in the community as long as desired and able." However, for some, it can be a welcome relief to be among others in a congregate or institutional setting despite a commonly held belief against residing in a nursing facility or setting.

As we observe this individual we begin to understand the three Rs that define the tasks of aging as identified by the researcher, Cynthia Kelly. They are "accepting reality, fulfilling responsibility, and exercising rights."

Realty has to do with accepting one's capacities in the health, social and financial realm.

Responsibility includes planning for one's survivors and for making the best choices regarding the remainder of life.

Rights include exercising the right to move at one's own pace, the right to privacy, and the right to respect.

The geriatric orphan's plight is often compounded by the loneliness of living alone. Loneliness for all intent and purpose can be an amorphous state of longing and feelings of isolation.

There is little information on the effects of living alone as it pertains to survival and satisfaction. Males who live alone or with someone other than a spouse are thought to be at a disadvantage in terms of survival, while it seems to make less difference to women. Both sexes are equally affected by income, race, physical activity and employment, but these are variable effects. The researcher, Moustakas sees loneliness "as a condition of human life that sustains, extends and deepens humanity." In a recent research study on loneliness it was claimed that "loneliness is evidence of the capacity to love. The degree of attachment is directly correlated with the felt loss when detachment occurs."

Florence Nightingale reflected on the fact that pets are an excellent companion for the elderly person who is living with a long term illness and with feelings of unrelenting loneliness. Studies concerning the value of a pet that lives with an isolated aged individual began appearing with popular literature around the 1980s. One

reason for an old person to own a pet is companionship and what that pet can bring to the relationship.



For those who care for an elder, here are several questions that can be asked that would aid in a clearer understanding and reason for that loneliness:

- Does the elderly individual reply when spoken to?
- Does the elderly individual appear anxious, withdrawn, apathetic, or even hostile as demonstrated in the body language?
- Is he/she unable to articulate their personal needs?
- Is he/she eager for visitors but becomes distressed when they leave?

As a Registered Professional Nurse who has worked and cared for the aged, I urge the caregivers of a geriatric orphan, whether at home or in a facility, to become familiar with a technique known as verbal intervention. Here are several suggested interventional approaches.

- Ask whether the patient feels lonely daily.
- Devote time with the individual by either sitting quietly or open with a mutually shared conversation.
- Inform the person when you will be available to talk again. However keep your appointment as promised.
- Engage him/her with informal discussion pertaining to their feelings, with the purpose of obtaining insight into what the individual is sensing.
- Don't expect an immediate response with that first intervention.
- When asking these questions consider the emotional trauma they may cause.
- Never force a response brought on by a question which may cause anger.

Here is a final thought. Alice, an elderly nursing home resident once framed it in the following manner. "Loneliness is a devastating illness, more so than physical illness and can be fatal. Some people can overcome a little, but the older the individual is, the more hazardous the loneliness becomes. A hug or touch is so important."

Here then is a quotable quote that succinctly expresses a healthier direction for those who live with the pain brought on by an emotional reaction.

"Hope never abandons you, you abandon it." Anon.

OHR Chadash: School Administrator Shari Zuber



A New Location and a New Year For Trees

Following our winter hiatus, Ohr Chadash classes resumed on Sunday morning, January 9, 2022, with our student body and staff refreshed and relocated to Israel Center of Conservative Judaism.

Morah Judy began instructing our classes about the upcoming holiday of Tu B'Shevat, the New Year for Trees, in preparation for our Tu B'Shevat Seder. At Recap Time our children gathered in the ICCJ Main Sanctuary to practice the ecologically celebratory songs about the holiday.

The next Sunday, January 16th, officially welcomed in the birthday of these stalwarts of nature. Our school seder began with a video explaining the holiday and how it has grown in importance over the years, especially with growing concerns over our planet's beleaguered environment and the threat of global warming. Reading from our Tu B'Shevat Seder Haggadah, the students learned of the division of various fruits into different categories: those which are completely consumable, those with seeds and/or a pit, and those which are edible inside, but have an external covering which is inedible. For each variety of fruit, they were able to consume individually packed items. Going through the seasons of the year, the children watched as varying colors of grape juice changed, representing the transition from winter to spring to summer to autumn. The children then learned about bokser, or carob, which is not unlike chocolate, and which can be found in Israel, one particular



location being dangling from a tree on the same block as the Jewish National Fund in Jerusalem.

To conclude the program, the students raised their voices in song, advising us about "Doin' the Green Thing" and touting the myriad purposes provided by "Trees".

Ohr Chadash looks forward to two special events in February. On Sunday, February 6th, the Men's Club of ICCJ will be celebrating the World Wide Wrap. Our older classes will learn about the non-Shabbat morning ritual of donning tefillin and the significance and history of the procedure, which has its roots in the Torah. The following Sunday, February 13th, the children will celebrate the weekly ceremony of Havdalah, where we say good-bye to the Sabbath with candlelight, fruit of the vine libation, and aromatic spices.

Beginning in February, Ohr Chadash will be conducting its annual Passover Candy Sale. This is a crucial event for our school. It is the main fundraiser, which enables our children to have our monthly programs of commemoration and provides the monies so we can have noted children's authors visit our students and discuss worthwhile Jewish children's literature with them. When you see the notice about our candy sale in your respective synagogue bulletins, or advertised on flyers, please participate. Even if every person at each shul orders one item, that will surely add up to a successful holiday candy drive for our school.

The foundation of our children's future and the assurance they receive from us helps reenforce their positive outlook about our faith.

Wednesdays February 2 - March 9 Rabbi Saks' Movie Discussion Class - 8:00 PM

Saturday, Feb. 5 - Sisterhood & Men's Club The Not So Newlywed Game - 7:00 PM

Sunday, Feb. 6 - Men's Club & Ohr Chadash World Wide Wrap - 9:30 AM

Monday, Feb. 7 - Sisterhood Bingo - 7:30 PM

Saturday, Feb. 12 - Tot Shabbat—10:30 AM

Young Adults Event - PM

Sunday, Feb. 20 - Book Café - Guest Author of "Rebel Daughter" - 11:00 AM

Young Families Movie Night - 4:30 PM

Saturday, Feb. 26 - Tot Shabbat—10:30 AM

Sunday, Feb. 27 - Education Committee & Richter Library - An Evening with Rabbi Mike Uram - 6:00 PM

Friday, March 4 - Shabbat Across America - 6:00 PM



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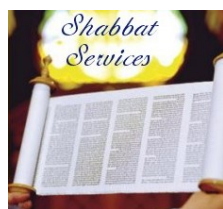
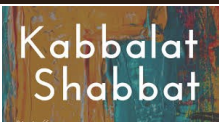
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Please join Rabbi Saks
for



CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES JANUARY, 2022

2/4 - 4:58 PM - Terumah
2/11 - 5:07 PM - Tetzaveh
2/18 - 5:15 PM - Ki Tisa
2/25 - 5:23 PM - Vayakhel



When visiting ICCJ,
please follow Marilyn
Kaufman's example
and wear a mask.



Israel Center of Conservative Judaism
and
ICCJ Family Programming