

HAKAFA WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEEK OF OCTOBER 4, 2017

SUKKOT BEGINS THIS EVENING

The holiday of Sukkot begins this evening, October 4, at sundown and lasts 7 days through Wednesday, October 11. In observance of the first day of Sukkot, the Hakafa office will be closed from this evening through Thursday. It will re-open on Friday, October 6.

Shabbat in the Home: Hosts Needed for November 3

We are looking for hosts for this year's Shabbat in the Home! Shabbat in the Home takes place one Friday evening each year. Fifteen or more Hakafa families host a potluck Shabbat dinner, and every congregation member is invited to dine and share the evening at one of the homes.

But, it can only work if we get enough hosts. If you are willing to open up your home to other Hakafa members for a potluck dinner on Friday, November 3, please contact Debbie Fogel (curlyfogel@yahoo.com or 312- 576-6775) or sign-up at this link: <http://tinyurl.com/shabbat-in-the-home>.

We hope to get enough volunteer hosts and hope you will join us as we celebrate Shabbat, share a delicious meal, enjoy interesting conversation, meet new friends, and reconnect with old ones!

Torah Chanters and/or Readers Needed for Simchat Torah

Again this year, we are hoping to have a verse or two from as many Torah portions as possible read or chanted. Perhaps you would like to do a couple of verses from your bar/bat mitzvah portion or other portion to which you have a connection? Or, maybe you'd like to learn a couple of verses from any portion available?

If you would do us the honor of reading or chanting 1-2 verses from a Torah portion at our Simchat Torah celebration on **Wednesday, October 11 at 6:00 p.m.** at the **Takiff Center** (999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe), **please contact Rabbi Elder (rabbi@hakafa.org or 847-266-8854) at your earliest convenience.**

New Refugee Update

We are happy to welcome Teklebrhan and Adhanom, Eritrean refugees, who arrived last week. They have spent the last several years in Israel. Both fled Eritrea due to Eritrea's requirement of lifetime military conscription. Both men had to leave their families behind. Teklebrhan has a wife and three daughters, and Adhanom has a wife and 7 children. They are getting settled in their new apartment in Albany Park and will be starting English classes at RefugeeOne shortly. We are grateful to the members of our Hakafa community who have agreed to mentor them.

We are looking for winter coats and other items for Teklebrhan, Adhanom, and some other refugees who will be spending their first winter in Chicago. If you are able to help, please check out our Sign-Up Genius: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0d4aa4a72fa57-welcoming>

Wednesday Afternoon Torah Study

Wednesday, October 4, 1:00-2:30 p.m.

North Shore United Methodist Church (213 Hazel Avenue, Glencoe)

Join us for weekly Torah Study! Each Wednesday afternoon, we proceed through the Bible, verse by verse, discussing its content and various interpretations with Rabbi Elder.

New Member Havdallah in the Elder Family's Sukkah

All members new to Hakafa within the last year are invited to join Rabbi Bruce and Rona Elder for a Dessert Havdallah in their Sukkah (333 Green Bay Road, Highland Park) on **Saturday, October 7** at **7:30 p.m.** We regret that, due to space limitations, this event is for adults only. New members should have received a separate invitation. Please RSVP to Rona (admin@hakafa.org or 847-242-0687).

Visit Hakafa's Sukkah on Wheels – THIS SUNDAY, October 8!

There will be no religious school this Sunday during Sukkot; therefore, we will not be building a sukkah at the Takiff Center. Instead... **We are bringing a sukkah to you!**

Join fellow Hakafa members from your neighborhood on **Sunday, October 8**, as we travel throughout the North Shore in our mobile sukkah. Come and shake the lulav, sing a bit, schmooze a lot, and enjoy some beverage and nosh. Come alone, or bring your family and friends. Come to one stop, or come to many. *Moadim l'simcha* - make this Sukkot a festival of happiness & joy!

We will be in the driveways of the following members at the following times:

- 9:00 a.m. Steve Yousha & Jessica Golub (418 Park Ave, Wilmette)
- 10:00 a.m. Laura Alter Klapman & Howard Klapman (3140 Wilmette Ave, Wilmette)
- 11:00 a.m. David & Stacy Saef (1624 Sequoia Tr, Glenview)
- 12:00 p.m. Mike & Tammy Bendoff (1233 Stratford Pl, Northbrook)
- 1:00 p.m. Betsy Hersher (1444 Stratford Rd, Deerfield)
- 2:00 p.m. Rachel Schulman (871 Marion Ave, Highland Park)
- 3:00 p.m. Steve & Jamie Miller (911 Oak Dr, Glencoe)
- 4:00 p.m. Paul & Peggy Slater (560 Ash St, Winnetka)
- 5:00 p.m. Peter Office & Allyson Haut (523 Maple Ave, Wilmette)

Midrash Class in the Elder Family's Sukkah

Tuesday, October 10, 9:00-10:00 a.m.

Elder Family's Sukkah (333 Green Bay Road, Highland Park)

Join us to study *midrash* with Rabbi Elder in the Sukkah. Midrash is the creative, interpretative process of the rabbis over generations.

Mishneh Torah Class – NOTE LOCATION CHANGE

Tuesday, October 10, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Home of Allison Blakley Davis & Kenneth Davis (2940 Moon Hill Drive, Northbrook)

Are you interested in studying *Halacha* (Jewish law)? If so, please join us for our next Mishneh Torah class with Rabbi Elder.

Hebrew School

Tuesday, October 10, 4:15-6:00 p.m.

Takiff Center (999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe)

Tuesday Evening Torah Study in the Elder Family's Sukkah

Tuesday, October 10, 7:30-8:45 p.m.

Elder Family's Sukkah (333 Green Bay Road, Highland Park)

Join us for weekly Torah Study in the Sukkah! We will be starting this Tuesday evening's class at Deuteronomy Chapter 11, Verse 6. Each Tuesday evening, we proceed through the Bible, verse by verse, discussing its content and various interpretations with Rabbi Elder.

Simchat Torah and Consecration

Wednesday, October 11, 6:00 p.m.

Community Hall at the Takiff Center (999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe)

Please join us to celebrate Simchat Torah and Consecration! Come dance with us to the sounds of Hakafa's own **Bibi and the Patts**, accompanied again this year by members of the **Maxwell Street Klezmer Band** and Hakafa member, **Julian Solway**. Come and enjoy the fun as we sing, dance, eat, and welcome our newest learners into our encirclement.

Interim Officer Elections – October 15 Congregation Meeting

Two of our officers will soon be resigning their posts, and new officers will need to be elected to fill both positions on an interim basis. The elections will take place at our **Sunday, October 15** Congregation Meeting at **10:35 a.m.** at the **Takiff Center** (999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe). Hakafa President, John Thomason, and family will be moving to New Zealand later this year, and David Saef has decided to step down as Operations Treasurer. As stipulated in our bylaws, nominations will be taken from the floor. The following congregants will be suggested to fill these roles for the remainder of the fiscal year: President: Nancy Goodman; Vice President: Sylvia Dresser (to replace Nancy); Operations Treasurer: Don Pollak. Heather Harris will continue as Dues Treasurer, and Greg Braun as Secretary. Please attend this congregational meeting to elect interim officers. If you have any questions, please contact John Thomason (president@hakafa.org).

Come One, Come All to see Sidney Friedman, The Country's Leading Mentalist

Sunday, October 15, 3:00 p.m.

Winnetka Community House (620 Lincoln Avenue, Winnetka)

Congregation Hakafa's Kadima Group invites the entire Congregation to see an amazing performance. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see **SIDNEY FRIEDMAN** (son of founding Hakafa members, Jerry and Elaine Friedman) perform at no charge to you. Sidney has agreed to perform for us and is donating his time to our Congregation. The show is designed for all ages, so bring your children. **The only cost to you is to donate something for the Oneg Table.**

You are in for an extraordinary treat. By special arrangement, the country's leading mentalist **SIDNEY FRIEDMAN**, as seen on numerous TV shows such as the **TODAY SHOW** and **THE VIEW**, will perform for us with what can only be described as mind reading and psychological illusions. Plus, Sidney is a national best-selling author with his book **YOUR MIND KNOWS MORE THAN YOU DO** which reached #8 on AMAZON. You don't want to miss this event!!

To see clips of some of his past performances, go to the following links:

- **Sidney Friedman doing his EXCLUSIVE "Music Mindreading":**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ddGhimPo4oM>
- **More "Music Mindreading" by Sidney Friedman:**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V4Elp1lkcEg>
- **Sidney Friedman is 100% with his OSCAR predictions. WATCH THIS REACTION ON ABC-TV's "Windy City Live":**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zw3XLitFevw>
- **Sidney Friedman WOWS the anchors on FOX-TV News Chicago:**
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=diuDSR7E0E0>
- **Mentalist Sidney FRIEDMAN on ABC-TV's "Windy City Live":**
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=alhQmmc2QOE>

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Volunteers are needed this year to host **Friday Evening Onegs**, to host a **Shabbat-in-the-Home** potluck dinner, to volunteer at **A Just Harvest**, to help with **Sunday Morning Bagels**, and to provide **Coffee/Snacks for the Adults** on Sunday mornings. It's easy to sign up to help out for any of these volunteer opportunities!

Go to this link, scroll through the different options, and click on the links to sign up: <https://hakafa.org/community/volunteer-opportunities>

If you would like to go directly to a specific volunteer opportunity, follow these links:

Friday Evening Onegs: <http://tinyurl.com/oneg-hosting>

Shabbat-in-the-Home: <http://tinyurl.com/shabbat-in-the-home>

A Just Harvest: <http://tinyurl.com/a-just-harvest>

Sunday Morning Bagels: <http://tinyurl.com/bagels-on-sunday>

Sunday Coffee/Snacks for Adults: <http://tinyurl.com/coffee-on-sunday>

Now is the time to GET INVOLVED.

Fight back by working for a cause that advocates for good: Family Promise

Family Promise is an interfaith network of congregations that helps families in homeless situations return quickly to permanent housing. The churches and synagogues in the Family Promise network rotate the responsibility of housing and feeding the guest families. Typically, families are housed at each congregation for a week, remaining there between 5:30 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. The North Shore United Methodist Church (NSUMC) in Glencoe and Hakafa members will be hosting Family Promise at NSUMC from **November 5-12**. We have opportunities available to donate food, prepare meals, enjoy dinner with the guests, and stay overnight at the church. This is a great opportunity for Hakafa members, of all ages, to volunteer in our own community! Please contact Hakafa member, **Peggy Salamon** (312-286-4055 or peggysalamon@me.com), for more details.

To sign up, go to: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c084baba72da20-family7>

Composting

Drop-off of your **fruit and veggie scraps for compost will continue through September**. The box is located just outside the front gate of Glencoe Community Garden (west of Green Bay Trail between South and Harbor). It is open on Sundays from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. For more info, including what to do if you can't make those times, contact Barbara Miller (barbarasmiller01@yahoo.com or 847-835-8000). And, if you can help out at the garden, please let her know. We are always looking for volunteers.

Taking Action

Let Hakafa support, facilitate, and empower you to make your voice heard at the federal, state, and local levels! Visit the "Taking Action" page on Hakafa's website (<https://hakafa.org/justice/taking-action>) for weekly positive actions that you may wish to take at the local, state, and federal level. Also available on this page are links to issue updates from the Religious Action Center (RAC), National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW), and League of Women Voters along with resources for or about kids.

REAL ISRAEL

We are old friends who, for a number of years, have gotten together for the break-the-fast meal. As usual, we discuss our thoughts about the High Holiday sermons and personal reflections. This year, Allison Stein's reflection hit a chord with all of us. She spoke passionately and emotionally about the nine refugee families that Hakafa has welcomed over the past two years as they begin their new lives in the Chicago area. These families had all escaped violence and war in their homelands, and made their way to refugee camps where they waited in limbo, possibly for years, to be resettled. Allison and Bob Turner head up Hakafa's refugee resettlement committee, coordinating our congregation's volunteer efforts to assist these families as they adjust to their new lives.

This past week, two new refugees arrived in Chicago from *Israel*, to be welcomed by Hakafa. Several years ago, they fled Ethiopia and made their way to Israel seeking asylum. This led to questions which have never been addressed in Real Israel, namely, who are these refugees? What is life like for asylum seekers living in Israel?

This week we begin taking a look at Israel's refugee crisis. It's not a feel-good story. According to Haaretz, critics of Israel's refugee policy say "Israel knows it can't forcibly expel asylum seekers from Eritrea and Sudan and doesn't want to give them refugee status ... so it is doing everything it can to have them leave 'voluntarily.'"

New rules require asylum seekers in Israel to deposit 20 percent of their salaries in a special fund that will repay them only when they leave the country. These rules have not only refugees but activists and employers – who are required to deposit another 16% of the salaries in the fund – up in arms. Jamal, a refugee from Sudan who works at a hotel in Israel, said he wouldn't be able to make it financially with the new deductions, which come on top of the income tax and social security payments he has to make like other Israelis. "I make 5,000 shekels [\$1,390] a month, but an apartment costs more than 2,000 shekels and I have to pay municipal tax, water, electricity, gas, income tax, and National Insurance. I have to pay everything. What will I do if they take another 20%? I can't live on that and I have nowhere to go."

Next week, the Supreme Court ruling.

Listen as a Sudanese refugee discusses his situation:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Be8bU7f39Wo>

Contact Information for Hakafa:

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Website: www.hakafa.org

Congregation Email: conghakafa@hakafa.org

Rabbi Elder: 847-266-8854 or rabbi@hakafa.org

Bibi Patt, Director of Education: 847-955-9980 or education@hakafa.org

Sara Goodman, Music Director: 847-274-7166 or music@hakafa.org

Rona Elder, Administrator: 847-242-0687 or admin@hakafa.org

John Thomason, Congregation President: 847-347-1361 or president@hakafa.org

Lori Wilansky, Newsletter Editor: 847-444-1488 or wilanskyl@comcast.net

- If you would like an announcement included in this weekly update, please email your announcement to Rona Elder (admin@hakafa.org) by Tuesday afternoon.

- If you would like an article included in the monthly newsletter, please contact Lori Wilansky, our volunteer newsletter editor at wilanskyl@comcast.net. Articles must be submitted by the 15th of the month prior to the newsletter's publication.