

HAKAFA WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEEK OF DECEMBER 6, 2017

Condolences

It is with deep sadness that we inform you that Malka Marcell, mother of our Director of Education, Bibi Patt, passed away Monday evening. The funeral will be tomorrow, **Thursday, December 7**, at **10:00 AM** at **Chicago Jewish Funerals in Skokie** (8851 Skokie Boulevard, Skokie).

The family will be sitting shiva at the home of Bibi and Eric Patt (267 East LaSalle Street, Vernon Hills) on Thursday (4:00-9:00 PM), Friday (12:00-4:00 PM), and Saturday (4:00-9:00 PM). *Before sending or bringing food to the shiva house, please contact shiva coordinator, Amy Schwartz (847-612-9979) due to food allergies.*

Wednesday Afternoon Torah Study

Wednesday, December 6, 1:00-2:30 PM

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.

Shabbat Service

Friday, December 8, 7:30 PM

Winnetka Community House (620 Lincoln Avenue, Winnetka)

Please join us for our weekly Shabbat Service. As always, an oneg will follow.

Religious School

Sunday, December 10, 9:45 AM – 12:00 noon

Takiff Center (999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe)

Sunday Morning Adult Educational Programming

Sunday, December 10, 10:35 AM to noon

Community Room 1 at the Takiff Center (999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe)

Study in Community Room 1:

Hidden Wisdom: The Esoteric and the Occult in Pre – Modern Jewish Thought – Part II
with Dr. David Shyovitz

Please join us for this second of 3 sessions. Throughout Jewish history, the notion that there exists a realm of secret knowledge or hidden wisdom that lies just beyond human grasp has motivated Jewish theologians, magicians, mystics, and scientists. The quest for such occult knowledge has played a key role in the consolidation of Jewish doctrine, the shaping of rituals and prayers, and the development mystical and magical beliefs and practices. This series of three classes will examine some case studies of the ways in which Jewish (and non-Jewish!) esoteric beliefs have shaped the course of Jewish thought and culture.

David Shyovitz is Associate Professor of History at Northwestern University, and has a joint appointment at the Crown Center for Jewish and Israel Studies. His research and teaching focus on pre-modern Jewish cultural and intellectual history, with a particular emphasis on Jewish-Christian relations. He is the author of the recently published book A Remembrance of His Wonders: Nature and the Supernatural in Medieval Ashkenaz.

Discussion in Community Hall:

***Parenting Teens: A Conversation with a Jewish Mother* - Linda Weinstein**

Do you have a teenage child or grandchild whom you just don't understand? Do you have a pre-teen who thinks s/he is a teenager or who acts like one and you don't know what to do? Whether you are wading in the waters of teen adolescence or you are drowning in it, this conversation is for you! Join Hakafa's very own Jewish mother extraordinaire, **Linda Weinstein**, as she shares some thoughts about raising teens in this day and age and then opens it up for discussion on how to survive this period in your children's and grandchildren's lives.

Endowment Committee Meeting

Sunday, December 10, 12:15 PM

Conference Room at the Takiff Center (999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe)

Congregation Hakafa maintains an endowment fund that we use to support new programs and activities that aren't covered by our annual budgeting process. Congregants are welcome to offer suggestions and proposals for such programs and activities. The Endowment Trustees will be meeting this Sunday to consider new requests. This meeting is open to all congregants. Please attend or contact the trustees with your ideas or questions. Our three trustees are **Scott Lowtwait** (scottlowtwait@gmail.com or 847-650-6906), **Seymour Rothstein** (sybike@yahoo.com or 847-432-1756), and **Nancy Goodman** (president@hakafa.org or 847-564-3273). And, please remember, financial contributions to the endowment fund are always welcome—any time of the year.

High School Program: Second 9th-11th Grade Class Session

Sunday, December 10, 4:00-6:15 PM

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

This Sunday will be the second class session and dinner for our 9th-11th grade students.

Midrash Class

Tuesday, December 12, 9:00-10:00 AM

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

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

Hebrew School

Tuesday, December 12, 4:15-6:00 PM

Takiff Center (999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe)

HANUKKAH BEGINS THIS TUESDAY EVENING – DECEMBER 12th!

Hanukkah begins on Tuesday evening, December 12, with the lighting of the first candle on the *chanukiah* (Hanukkah menorah). Best wishes for a *Chag Sameach* – a happy holiday!

Make plans to celebrate Hanukkah with Hakafa **NEXT Friday, December 15** beginning at **7:30 p.m.** at the **Winnetka Community House** (620 Lincoln Avenue, Winnetka) at our **Congregational Shabbat Service and Hanukkah Celebration!** Join us for a beautiful Hakafa tradition as we celebrate Hanukkah and Shabbat. Bring your *chanaukiot* (Hanukkah menorahs), candles, and matches, and help us celebrate Hanukkah as a community. A special Hanukkah oneg, hosted by Kadima, will follow.

Tuesday Evening Torah Study

Tuesday, December 12, 7:30-8:45 PM

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

Join us for weekly Torah Study! Each Tuesday evening we proceed through the Bible, verse by verse, discussing its content and various interpretations with Rabbi Elder. We will start at Deuteronomy 15:10 this week.

Join Hakafa to help with Houston Flood Recovery

Hakafa, the Winnetka Congregational Church, and the Muslim Community Center will be joining together for an **interfaith trip to Houston** the week of **January 22, 2018** to do hurricane recovery work. Details are still in formation. Please, contact Rabbi Elder (rabbi@hakafa.org or 847-266-8854) if you are interested in participating or in learning more about the trip.

Refugee Sponsorship Update

We are so fortunate to have helped welcome 33 refugees to America over the past 2 years. We are very excited that yesterday we welcomed yet another family - the Mokes who arrived from a refugee camp in Tanzania on Tuesday. The Moke family is from the Congo but have lived in the camp for more than 20 years. The father (Babekalo who is 25), mother (Mawazo who is 23) and son (Medard who is almost 3) will be living on the North side of the city. They speak Swahili and French. They do not speak any English and have never held jobs but have a secondary education.

There are lots of ways to help welcome the Mokes:

- Consider being part of the mentor team who visits the family a few times per month to help them acclimate. French is not required to work with the family.
- Donate to help the family - see the SignUp Genius link below.

If you are interested in mentoring, please contact Allison Stein at ajzstein@gmail.com; for all other opportunities, please see our SignUp Genius: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0d4aa4a72fa57-welcoming1>. In addition to the new family, **we still need 2 men's small/medium coats for our refugees and some warm men's sweaters. We also have some single men who need mentors.** Any questions, please contact Allison Stein.

Stock the Shelves for Refugees

Stock the Shelves is a North Shore grassroots organization that was organized earlier this year to provide refugee families in Rogers Park with essential daily items not covered by food stamps (i.e. diapers, laundry soap, feminine products, cleaning products, deodorant, and toilet paper). It is led by First Presbyterian Church Wilmette (FPCW) and partners with Congregation Sukkat Shalom, First Congregational Church of Wilmette, and most recently with Congregation Hakafa. *Stock the Shelves* solicits donations from schools and individuals that are distributed the fourth Wednesday of each month at Warren Park in Chicago. Hakafa member, **Judy Bramson**, is looking for volunteers who would like to help create opportunities for donations and distribute the items at Warren Park. This would be a wonderful bar or bat mitzvah project for a family looking for a way to support those in need. Please contact Judy (847-204-9770 or jdbramson@gmail.com) for more information.

Winter Coat Drive

Hakafa member, Barbara Scott, is collecting CLEAN and gently used OR new coats, hats, mittens, and boots for children in grades K-8 at various Chicago Public Schools on the west side. Please bring the items to the box that is currently in the lobby of the Takiff Center (999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe) The box will be in the lobby through the end of this December. For more information, please contact Barbara Scott (bams4@comcast.net or 847-707-5795).

Composting Drop-Off at the Takiff Center

You can **drop off** your **fruit and veggie scraps** on **Sunday mornings at the Takiff Center** (999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe) from **9:30-11:30 AM**. Dump your scraps into the containers that are inside the labeled bin that is located at the Takiff Center Main Entrance Parking Lot (near the dumpsters). If you have any questions, or for further information, please contact Barbara Miller (barbarasmiller01@yahoo.com or 847-835-8000).

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.

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>

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>

Shabbat-in-the-Home 4/20/18: <http://tinyurl.com/shabbat-in-the-home>

Condolences to...

... Ron Katz and family on the loss of his mother, Joyce Dantzker.

Kiva - Shark Tank for Good - Team Hakafa - 865 loans - \$31,575

<https://www.kiva.org/lend/1412557> - Patrick in Kenya - a farmer who also sells cereals to customers; current supply is outstripped by demand, so help Patrick expand his side hustle.

<https://www.kiva.org/lend/1412501> - Godwin in Uganda - an experienced taxi owner/driver who would like to expand his fleet and increase his income; Godwin has saved enough money to cover some of the cost of a second cab, but he needs the help of a few Sharks to invest in his dream.

<https://www.kiva.org/lend/1411768> - Delmy in El Salvador - wishes to expand both the tailoring and the beauty portions of her business with the help of a Shark or two.

REAL ISRAEL

Climate change! What thoughts come to mind when you hear these words - concern? doubt? Over the last month or so, we've seen a noticeable uptick in the number of OpEd pieces, editorials, and magazine cover stories on the subject. The urgency expressed in these articles is real. Today's story comes from the New Yorker and Times of Israel.

The direct cause of climate change has to do with the amount of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere. At four hundred ten parts per million, the saturation of CO2 is greater than it's been since the mid Pliocene, three and a half million years ago, at a time when there was a lot less ice at the poles and the sea levels were sixty feet higher. Currently the world's cars, planes, refineries and power plants produce and release about thirty-six billion tons of CO2 annually. As a result, air temperatures today are 1.6 degrees F warmer than they were 100 years ago (after rising 2/10th degree F over the preceding 150 years).

The aim of the 2015 Paris Agreement is to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and keep the global temperature rise this century to below 2 degrees C, 3.6 degrees F. To achieve this, two things must happen: there has to be a drastic reduction in CO2 emissions, and the CO2 already in the Earth's atmosphere has to be reduced.

Israel has committed to eliminate the use of polluting coal, replacing it with natural gas (a much cleaner fossil fuel). Two weeks ago, the Minister of Environmental Protection and the Minister of Energy presented their joint commitment to promote the natural gas revolution in Israel.

In 2013, natural gas began flowing from Tamar, a gas field discovered four years earlier, 60 miles off the coast of Haifa, underneath more than a mile of seawater and a mile of salt. At the time it was estimated that Tamar contained enough gas to feed Israel's energy needs over the next 15 years.

Then in 2010, a substantially larger gas reservoir, Leviathan, was discovered nearby. This field is estimated to contain more than double the gas found at Tamar. Production is expected to begin in 2019.

-Bob Rifkin

A very interesting video discussing Israel's natural gas finds
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JCTM_LhIxMQ

Contact Information for Hakafa:

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- 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.