

HAKAFA WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 7, 2018

Puerto Rico Hurricane Recovery Trip

We are looking into the possibility of taking a trip to Mayaguez, Puerto Rico **the week of March 17th** to help with the Puerto Rico rebuilding process. Please contact Rabbi Elder (rabbi@hakafa.org or 847-266-8854) if you are interested.

Wednesday Afternoon Torah Study

Wednesday, February 7, 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 – Guest Speaker: Rev. Jeff Braun

Friday, February 9, 7:30 PM

Winnetka Community House (620 Lincoln Avenue, Winnetka)

Please join us for our weekly Shabbat Service and Oneg. On this Shabbat, we will be joined by **Rev. Jeff Braun from the Winnetka Congregational Church**. Rabbi Elder and he will share thoughts about our congregations' trip together doing hurricane relief work in Houston a couple of weeks ago.

Sunday Bagel Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to help with bagels on almost all of the remaining Sunday mornings this school year. Volunteers spend 45 minutes (11:30 AM-12:15 PM) slicing bagels, putting them on platters, setting out cream cheese, cleaning up, and putting supplies away. If you can help out, please sign up at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0a45a8a928a13-congregation2> or contact Jennifer Braun (jenniferwbraun1@icloud.com or 847-220-1694). Thank you!

Religious School

Sunday, February 11, 9:45 AM – 12:00 PM

Takiff Center (999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe)

Volunteers Needed to Bring Sunday Morning Coffee/Snacks

We are looking for volunteers to bring coffee and breakfast snacks for the adults **on many of the Sundays through the end of the school year.** If you can help out, please sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/coffee-on-sunday> or contact Julie Tag (julie@julietaghomes.com or 773-350-3780). Please note that Hakafa will reimburse you for a portion of the cost. Thank you!

Sunday Morning Adult Educational Programming:

A Conversation with Rep. Brad Schneider THIS SUNDAY

Sunday, February 11, 10:35 AM to noon

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

We are honored to be joined by Congressman **Brad Schneider, 10th District Representative to the U.S. Congress.** Rep. Schneider will give us an update on the issues before Congress in the current session, survey the domestic and international landscape, and answer questions. We look forward to having him with us.

For over 25 years, Brad Schneider has helped businesses create jobs and grow. As a small business owner, Brad helped family-owned businesses address the challenges of today's economy. Brad has

deep roots in the community, including longtime service with the Jewish United Fund/Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago. He is a member of the Chicago Council on Global Affairs. Among other commitments, he served as director of Business and Professional People for the Public Interest. Brad is a two-time graduate of Northwestern University, where he earned a degree in Industrial Engineering and his MBA. His successful career in advising businesses, large and small, now spans more than two decades in the 10th District. Brad lives in Deerfield with his wife, Julie, and their two sons, Adam and Daniel.

B'nai Mitzvah Workshops THIS SUNDAY

Sunday, February 11, Community Room 4 at the Takiff Center (999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe)

12:15 PM for those having Morning Ceremonies

OR 1:30 PM for those having Evening Ceremonies

Rabbi Elder's "Walk through the Shabbat Service" b'nai mitzvah workshop series will continue next Sunday afternoon. This series is designed for families of students whose b'nai mitzvah celebrations will be taking place in the year after May 2018.

Midrash Class

Tuesday, February 13, 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.

Siddur Class: Its Meaning and Theology

Tuesday, February 13, 10:15 AM

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

How many of us know what our Hebrew prayers actually say? How many of us know what they mean? Join us for this class as we explore the Jewish prayer book with Rabbi Elder. We will look at prayers in Hebrew, translate them together, discuss their theology, and parse what they might mean for us today.

Hebrew School

Tuesday, February 13, 4:15-6:00 PM

Takiff Center (999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe)

Tuesday Evening Torah Study

Tuesday, February 13, 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 17:18 this week.

Membership – Adding to our Circle

We are somewhat unique among religious organizations in that we don't advertise per se. However, we are always looking for a few new members who will be a good fit for our congregation. We could use some help with what to say about Hakafa and how to reach out - who better to turn to than current members?

Please contact Sylvia Dresser (sylviadresser@gmail.com or 847-945-6095) with your ideas for the following:

1. What are the top 3 things you love about Hakafa?
2. What great ideas do you have on growing registration in our Religious School?

Survey from Hakafa's Immigrant Justice Committee

Hakafa voted to be a sanctuary congregation last April. This means we are committed to providing support services to undocumented immigrants who are resisting unjust deportation. We would like to gauge congregational member interest in being involved in this endeavor. **If you have not already done so, please follow this link (<https://tinyurl.com/HakafaImmigrationSurvey>) to a brief survey and let us know if and how you would like to be engaged.**

Note:

- These activities fall within the purview of the law.
- Training will be provided.
- All tasks can be done independently or with others.

Thank you for your time. If you have questions or comments, please contact Peggy Slater (peggy Slater@msn.com) or Stacey Robinson (stacey.z.robinson@gmail.com).

Judaism and the Origins of Christianity in the 1st Century

Please join us for an 8-week course on ***Judaism and the Origins of Christianity in the 1st Century*** taught by Hakafa member, Dr. Audrey Gordon, and her colleague, Mary Ann Spina, retired Pastoral Associate at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Deerfield.

We are co-sponsoring this course with the **North Shore United Methodist Church (213 Hazel Avenue, Glencoe)**, and classes will be held there on **Thursdays from 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM on February 22, March 8, 15, 22, 29, and April 5, 12, 19.**

Audrey Gordon, PhD., was associate professor at the School of Public Health at the University of Illinois at Chicago for 30 years and taught and conducted research in aging, end-of-life care and hospice. Previously, she was on the faculty at Northwestern University in the Department of History and Literatures of Religions (1966-74) and taught classes and did research in the Hebrew Bible, the New Testament, early Judaism and Christianity, and the religions of the Ancient Near East.

Worship Committee Meeting

Sunday, February 25, 3:00 PM

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

At last month's Congregation Meeting, the congregation voted to write our own prayer book for the Rosh Hashanah evening service. **We will be meeting to begin working on this project, and all Hakafa members are welcome and encouraged to join us.** Contact Brian Browdy (847-942-7318 or brian.browdy@gmail.com) if interested and/or if you have any questions.

[Celebrate Purim with Hakafa!](#)

Wednesday, February 28, 6:30 PM

Winnetka Community House (620 Lincoln Avenue, Winnetka)

We've heard it from the Grammys, through the grapevine, leaving on a jet plane, in a yellow submarine, amidst the sounds of silence, wishing upon a star, with all our heart and soul, under a disco ball, on the television, through the painful 80's, with Glee, on Broadway, and more. This year? *Ready, set, action!* **Come to Hakafa's annual Purim Megilla Reading!** Stay after the reading and dare to be judged by Haman and Esther as you sing your favorite karaoke tunes. Who will become this year's Shushan Idol? There will be hamentashen for everyone to nosh and free prizes for anyone wearing a costume!

[Hakafa Annual Canoe Trip – Sign Up by March 30](#)

Are you the outdoors type? Do you like to canoe and camp? Have no prior experience but you want to try something new? If so, Hakafa's summer Shabbaton is for you! Join us for gourmet dining and a community experience on the river **July 19-22, 2018**.

This year we will return to the Pine River Paddle Sports Center (PRPSC) in Wellston, MI where we will establish a base camp. PRPSC is privately owned and extremely well maintained. We have reserved a wooded site that provides ample space for a large group. We have potable water available in the site. A short walk from our campsite are bathrooms equipped with sinks, flush toilets and hot showers. At our planning meeting(s) we will divvy out meals responsibility - though we all help with meal preparation and clean-up. Children are welcome, but they must be strong swimmers.

Our itinerary is as follows:

- Arrive Thursday July 19 and set-up camp. Dinner at the Twin Creek Inn, a Northwood's supper club at 7:00 PM.
- Friday July 20: Paddle the Menominee River.
- Saturday July 21: Paddle the Pine River.
- Sunday July 22: Paddle the Pierre Marquette River. Drive home.

Based on 2017 expenses, the cost per person for the campsite, canoes, and gratuities will be \$150.

So, we can pay our deposit to PRPSC, please send a check for \$100 per person made out to John Wolfson by March 30 to: John Wolfson, 3232 Maple Leaf Drive, Glenview, IL 60026. **Deposits are refundable.**

We will schedule a planning meeting sometime in April. Contact John Wolfson (847-344-9323 or johnwolfson1952@gmail.com) with questions or ideas.

[One Congregation, One Book](#)

Hakafa's book group will meet on **Sunday, April 29 at 10:35 AM** at the **Takiff Center** (999 Green Bay Road) to discuss ***The Secret Book of Kings* by Yochi Brandes**. This novel takes textual sources about the experiences of David and Solomon and spins a story about the foundation of the Kingdom of Israel. Ms. Brandes, one of Israel's best-selling authors, combined her skills as a novelist with her training in academic Jewish scholarship to create a novel that raises the question of what untold stories there may be when the available historical sources were written by the victors. Get your copy of the book now so that you can join the discussion on April 29th!

Getting to Know our Refugees

Over the last 2 years, Hakafa has helped close to 40 refugees! It is a lot to keep track of, so we are continuing to introduce/re-introduce you to some of our refugees.

Ambrose arrived from Uganda last fall. Like his roommate, Emma (who we profiled last week), Ambrose speaks fluent English, along with Swahili, French and a few other languages. Ambrose was a social worker in Uganda and worked primarily with non-governmental organizations. After Ambrose left Uganda, he spent three years in Nairobi working with refugees with the UN High Commission on Refugees. He was recently hired by Evanston Hospital and is looking forward to starting his first job. Through the efforts of Madeleine and Jack Neems from Hakafa, Ambrose is also working with an organization that will help him work towards a job in his field. Both Emma and Ambrose would benefit from an additional mentor. Please contact Allison Stein if you are interested (ajzstein@gmail.com).

Calling All Makers

We are expecting again! The Moke family, recently arrived here from the Congo, is expecting a baby in April. If you are interested in making something to welcome this new baby, please contact Sylvia Dresser (sylviadresser@gmail.com or 847-945-6095).

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).

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...

... Howard Brody and family on the loss of his mother, Merle Parker.

... Janice Halpern and family on the loss of her father, Jack Halpern.

REAL ISRAEL

This week's story had its beginning in 2016 when the Israeli government officially approved a plan to build a special, mixed-gender prayer area at the Kotel - the Western Wall, in Jerusalem. At the time it was seen as a significant breakthrough in promoting religious pluralism in Israel, where the ultra-Orthodox authorities govern almost every facet of Jewish life.

But according to the Times of Israel, the program was never implemented as powerful, ultra-Orthodox members of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's coalition government raised objections to the decision after they had initially endorsed it. Under ultra-Orthodox management, the wall is currently separated between men's and women's prayer sections.

All of that changed last Thursday when, unannounced, construction began on a permanent, pluralistic prayer pavilion at the Wall. Neither the Conservative Movement nor the Reform Movement was consulted prior to the construction, or were they informed that construction was to begin.

More on this story next week, plus an update on Israel's Olympic teams.

-Bob Rifkin

Meet Israel's 2018 Winter Olympians

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0_rrQ7jGVuw

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.