

# HAKAFA WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

## WEEK OF MAY 16, 2018

### REMINDER: NO Wednesday Afternoon Torah Study Today

Please note that there will be NO Torah Study this afternoon.  
We will resume next Wednesday, May 23.

### Please offer your ideas for Endowment Fund programs

Wednesday, May 16, 7:00 PM

**Starbucks on the corner of Waukegan & Lake-Cook Roads in Deerfield**

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 evening. This meeting is open to all congregants.

Please contact the trustees with your ideas or questions, or attend the meeting. Our three trustees are Scott Lowtwait ([scottlowtwait@gmail.com](mailto:scottlowtwait@gmail.com) or 847-650-6906), Seymour Rothstein ([sybike@yahoo.com](mailto:sybike@yahoo.com) or 847-432-1756), and Nancy Goodman ([president@hakafa.org](mailto:president@hakafa.org) or 847-564-3273). And please remember, financial contributions to the Endowment Fund are always welcome—any time of the year.

### Shabbat Service

Friday, May 18, 7:30 PM

**Winnetka Community House (620 Lincoln Avenue, Winnetka)**

Please join us at our weekly Shabbat Service. As always, an oneg will follow the service.

### SHAVUOT

The holiday of Shavuot (pronounced shah-voo-OAT) occurs on the sixth day of the Hebrew month of Sivan (**beginning at sundown on Saturday, May 19 this year**). It is the second of three pilgrimage festivals (Passover and Sukkot are the other two) and is a day on which *yizkor* is observed. Shavuot commemorates the day God gave Moses the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai. It also has an agricultural reference, marking a stage in the harvest. One of the customs of Shavuot is to hold a *tikkun*, or Torah-based learning session, mostly late into the night.

Please help us celebrate Shavuot at these two observances:

- Join Hakafa at the Annual Community-Wide Tikkun L'eil Shavuot

Join Rabbi Elder and other Hakafa members for the **Annual Community-Wide Tikkun L'eil Shavuot** on **Saturday, May 19** at **Am Shalom** (840 Vernon Avenue, Glencoe): ***Everyone has a Story: An Evening of Story, Song, and Learning*** with musician and songwriter Craig Taubman, storyteller Rick Lupert, and guitarist Sean Markness. The evening will begin at **7:00 PM**. It will be followed at 8:30 PM with a dessert reception and a Shavuot Study beginning at 9:00 PM. We hope you will join us for all or part of the evening!

*Participating Congregations include: Am Shalom, Am Yisrael, Aitz Hayim, BJBE, Congregation Hakafa, Congregation Sukat Shalom, Har Shalom, Lakeside Congregation, North Shore Congregation Israel, Temple Beth-El - Northbrook, and Temple Jeremiah.*

- **Early Morning Tikkun and Yizkor Service**

Our Shavuot celebration continues **early on Sunday morning, May 20**. We are told to study the entire night of Shavuot until sunrise. So, we will gather at **3:45 AM** at our offices at the **North Shore United Methodist Church** (213 Hazel Avenue, Glencoe) for an hour-long study session. We will then walk to the **Glencoe Beach** for a sunrise minyan that will include *yizkor*. Minyan will begin at **5:10 AM**.

**Join Kadima at the Chicago History Museum – Tuesday, May 22 (RSVP ASAP)**

All Hakafa members (and your friends) are invited to join Kadima for a visit to the **Chicago History Museum** ([www.chicagohistory.org](http://www.chicagohistory.org) - 1601 N. Clark Street, Chicago) on **Tuesday, May 22**. This is a gem of a museum, and in addition to the permanent collection, right now there is a blues exhibit as well as a Martin Luther King exhibit. We will carpool down to the city together and enjoy lunch nearby before visiting the museum. Free admission is offered beginning at 12:30 PM.

If you are interested in joining us for what plans to be a delightful day, **please contact Betsy Hersher** ([hersherb@hersher.com](mailto:hersherb@hersher.com) or 847-945-5974) **or Ellen Criz** ([hecriz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hecriz@sbcglobal.net) or 847-266-9981) **ASAP** so that we can organize drivers/carpools.

**Midrash Class**

**Tuesday, May 22, 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.

**Mishneh Torah Class**

**Tuesday, May 22 10:30 AM**

**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.

**Help Write a Prayer for Hakafa's New Erev Rosh Hashanah Prayer Book**

Hakafa is writing its own Erev Rosh Hashanah *machzor* (prayer book). To that end, we are asking members of the congregation to write a ten-word prayer to the prompt, **"Thank You, G-d, for ... ."** We will then take from among the prayers we receive and make a responsive reading to be included in the service. **Please take a moment to write a prayer, individually, to the prompt.** You can email your 10-word prayer to Brian Browdy ([brian.browdy@gmail.com](mailto:brian.browdy@gmail.com)).

**Volunteers Needed for A Just Harvest**

We still need volunteers to help bring and serve food at Hakafa's monthly commitment to *A Just Harvest*, a community kitchen in Chicago's Rogers Park neighborhood. You'll spend about 3-1/2 hours on a Sunday afternoon helping serve food to up to 300 guests. It's fun and a great cause. **Slots for June, July and August are open. Families, groups of friends, bar and bat mitzvah service projects -- all are welcome!** Learn more and sign-up at <http://tinyurl.com/a-just-harvest>. Contact Monique Parsons for any questions: [monique.parsons@gmail.com](mailto:monique.parsons@gmail.com).

**REAL ISRAEL**

Whether you open the newspaper or you get your news online, if Israel is in the headline, the focus, sadly, is on its darker side (my term). With this edition of Real Israel, we come to the end of another year of stories about life in today's Israel. I did not want to say good-bye and leave on our annual summer hiatus under a cloud. So, our final story is one that, years from now (hopefully sooner), will sit on top of the list of great accomplishments that Israel has made to make the world a better place.

From yesterday's *Forward* comes our final story. The headline says it all: "Israeli Scientists Uncover Therapy That Converts Cancer Cells Into Normal Ones." A group of researchers at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, led by Professor Varda Shoshan-Barmatz, PhD, have developed a molecule that prevents cancer cells from growing, and turns them into normal, non-cancerous cells. Shoshan-Barmatz and her team have essentially figured out how to make cancer cells start acting like regular ones.

So far, in vitro and mice models have suggested that this treatment might be effective for lung cancer, triple negative breast cancer, and glioblastoma (the type of brain tumor that John McCain is currently battling). But the applications might be even broader, and similar treatments might one day be used to combat an even wider variety of cancers.

Let's hope that, when we return in the fall, the stories we tell will not be overshadowed by the headlines but will be the subject of the headlines. So, as we say good-bye for the summer, I hope that you've enjoyed reading the stories as much as I've enjoyed seeking them out and bringing them to you.

Wishing you and your family a wonderful and relaxing summer.

-Bob Rifkin

### Condolences to...

... Audrey Pam, Lisa Rosenberg, Jill Pam and families on the loss of their grandmother, Lillian Pam.

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:wilanskyl@comcast.net). Articles must be submitted by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the newsletter's publication.