



## Anti-Semitism in American Today

by Rabbi Daniel Alder

**W**e are now in the wake of the horror in Pittsburgh, where eleven Jews were gunned down in a synagogue during Shabbat morning services by a man spewing anti-Semitic propaganda. The shooting has inspired “it can and did happen here” discussions, suggesting that Jews learn that their safety is an illusion, and that the virulent anti-Semitism of Europe that had seemed to lie dormant here has erupted again, like a chronic disease.

There is a lot of truth to that perception. As the journalist Andrew Silow-Carroll points out, you don't need a study to remind you about the toxic sludge that regularly pours forth from the Internet and social media. The “alt-right” puts Jews at the center of their master narrative of white nationalism under threat. The idea of the Great Replacement—that Jews and people of color are displacing the white race, aided by Jewish liberals like George Soros—has made the leap from the Charlottesville march to the political mainstream.

Despite having Jewish grandchildren, the president often appears loath to separate himself from some of the ghouls who believe this stuff. And whether that's because he believes it himself or is constitutionally unable to reject the support of a single voter, it doesn't really matter.

College campuses have seen anti-Israel rhetoric shade too often into anti-Semitism. We saw it recently when some pro-Palestinian activists asked Jews in mourning to account for Palestinian suffering.

But it is important to note that despite all these ominous signs, the lived experience of American Jews is not one of fear and vulnerability, certainly when you compare it to 100 years ago. That's what made the Pittsburgh attack so shocking; it is simply not the daily experience of American Jews to feel under physical threat. That is not because they are deluded or complacent. It is because Jews are, for better or worse, at home in America.

Perhaps the leading indicator of this is the rate at which Jews marry non-Jews—over 70 percent according to recent numbers. That is not only a sign of wide acceptance, but it also means that Jews are woven in the family trees of more and more people of different faiths.

I don't mean to trivialize the hatred expressed when someone scrawls a swastika, or retweets

a vicious anti-Jewish meme, or spews bile at a Jewish journalist. Recent attacks on Orthodox Jewish men in Brooklyn were despicable. The Pittsburgh massacre has shattered the illusion that our synagogues are havens from an at-times ugly, dangerous world.

But we shouldn't grant more power to haters than they deserve. The widespread gestures of solidarity and acts of kindness—by elected officials and other religious traditions—that followed the Pittsburgh massacre are far more typical of America than the acts of a deranged subculture. The Pittsburgh massacre is not a sign that Jews have lost their bargain with America, but that hatred by a disgruntled and alienated minority has been encouraged and allowed to fester—by cynical politicians, irresponsible social media companies, and the complacent.

It is true that Jews in many European countries today feel under siege, both from a resurgent right, Islamists, and the radical left. Jews in Belgium and France were targets of vicious anti-Semitic terrorism in recent years. European Jews will tell you that they are keeping their bags packed and are afraid to show their Jewishness on the street.

But that's the point: The United States is not Europe. American Jews don't live their lives that way. America has not broken its promise. If we throw up our hands and say “it's like the 1930s all over again,” or if we tell our story as one of siege and constant threat, we might reach for the wrong remedies. We'll overlook the advantages, political and cultural, that actually give you the power to fight not just anti-Semitism, but bigotry in all its forms.

### Homeless Shelter Donations

Our homeless shelter will open on Thursday, January 3. We will be receiving 8 male guests 3 times a week until the end of March.

Donations of unused socks, scarves, gloves, hats and underwear will be most appreciated.

**We have also asked anyone who loves to knit or crochet to use their talents and consider donating a handmade scarf or hat!**

### Shabbat Services

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 6:30 PM  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 9:30 AM

*Bar Mitzvah of Blake Levine*

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7, 6:30 PM  
*Dinner and speaker following services*

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 9:30 AM  
*Shabbat Hanukkah*

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 6:30 PM  
*Speakers from Dream Center NYC Church*

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 9:30 AM  
*Bat Mitzvah of Esme Hayme*

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 6:30 PM  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22, 9:30 AM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28, 6:30 PM  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 9:30 AM

### Speakers at Services Friday, December 14, 6:30 pm



#### Pastors Stella and Brad Reed

Pastors Stella and Brad Reed of the **Dream Center NYC Church** will be addressing the congregation during Shabbat evening services Friday, December 14. They will tell the remarkable story of a church whose foundation of faith is found through service of those in need.

Brotherhood volunteers have worked with the Dream Center in their Adopt-a-Block, Backpack Giveaway and Turkey Giveaway initiatives. We are thrilled to welcome them to Brotherhood to learn about their mission and their faith.



Sponsored by the Interfaith Committee.

## By the Book

This year we will be featuring members answering “By the Book” questions in order to get to know one another better and to encourage further reading. Please let us know if you’d be willing to answer these questions (you need not be an author/writer). Email to: [rabbi@brotherhoodsynagogue.org](mailto:rabbi@brotherhoodsynagogue.org).

Member, **Ann Schwartz**, is the fourth to answer in our series....

### What books are on your nightstand?

Right now I’m reading *Parable of the Sower* by Octavia Butler. It’s dystopian fiction, presenting a future after global warming radically changes the Earth. It’s frighteningly real. The *Times* had an article about a community of opioid addicts that corresponds to one in the book.

I used to work for a book publisher, one of my sisters works for Simon & Schuster, and as a result, I have lots of books. My company, Warner Books, had published *Parable*, and I found it languishing on one of my bookshelves. Also on my nightstand is *The Case for Israel* by Alan Dershowitz, *Stonesetting for Contemporary Jewellery Makers* (a hobby of mine), and *The Mathematical Traveler*, which I started, put down, and probably will never pick up again. It’s looking at me reproachfully as I write this.

### What was the last truly great book you read?

I recently finished *The Complete Short Stories of Noel Coward*, which I recommend highly. I found the book on the “take shelves” in the basement of the building where I live. I love finding books serendipitously. Back to Noel Coward, many of the stories are moving and some of them make you think about how you’re living your own life. But boy, can those characters smoke cigarettes and drink cocktails!

### What’s your favorite Jewish book of all time?

I grew up in a secular Jewish family, but my parents had a copy of *The Last of the Just* by Andre Schwarz-Bart, and it opened my eyes to what it means to be a Jew. The last part of the book struck hard, and I’ll never forget it. I recently read *Upon the Head of the Goat: A Childhood in Hungary 1939-1944* by Aranka Siegal (picked up for two bucks in a Salvation Army store). It’s a beautiful story that will break your heart at the end. I donated it to the Brotherhood children’s library.

### What’s your favorite thing to read? And what do you avoid reading?

I like fiction the best. I avoid books on the bestseller list, especially romances—probably because I used to be in charge of writing the cover and jacket copy (flaps, back covers). I’ll be very happy if I never see another romance novel for the rest of my life. As I said, I love reading books that seem to come my way, the found ones. I stay away from reading groups and read

what and when I want. It’s easy for me to gobble down a book but difficult to read about current events in the paper.

### What book would we be surprised to find on your shelf?

Books my company published written by Christian evangelists. They can be quite inspiring and helpful. But don’t worry, I’m not going over to the other side.

### Are you a rereader? What kinds of books do you find yourself returning to time and time again?

It’s funny, but I don’t reread much. I can watch certain movies again and again, however. Go figure.

### What’s the last book that made you laugh?

*Barchester Towers* by Anthony Trollope. I’m just getting into Trollope. And to be honest, there’s a book called *Die Laughing: Killer Jokes for Newly Old Folks* that’s in our bathroom that’s a hoot (freebie from Simon & Schuster).

*Continued on page 6*

## Shabbat Club

### Saturday, December 1, 1:00 pm

**Ophir Tal, a shaliach\***, or emissary, based at the 14th Street Y, will speak at the Shabbat Club on December 1 at 1 pm, in the Reception Room on the second floor. He will first explain his role as shaliach, and then speak about his experiences in the IDF as a journalist. All are welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be served.

\*A shaliach is a cultural and educational ambassador sponsored by the Jewish Agency for Israel. Every two years a young adult from Israel comes to the U.S. to operate an outreach program dedicated to promoting increased connections to, and a greater understanding of, Israel and our Jewish heritage.

The title of Ophir’s talk is “**What I’ve Learned Covering a War in Israel!**” Participants will be exposed to a unique viewpoint on the Israeli army, from the perspective of a journalist for the IDF newspaper who documented the war live—on the Israeli side and on the Palestinian side. Come join us! There will be time for questions and discussion.

If you have any suggestions for future Shabbat Club topics or speakers, please contact Deborah Newman or the office.

## Life Goes On

*Life Goes On* is a group for those of us who have lost a spouse or life partner and want to experience the beauty, joy, and opportunity that New York life offers surrounded by supportive friends who understand and share in the loss.

We had a wonderful time together during our genealogy workshop at the Center for Jewish History in November. Thanks so much, Arthur, for arranging it all. A thank you as well to Brenda and Paulette who arranged our dinner together after the workshop which allowed for a great deal of fascinating conversation.


Our annual **Hanukkah Party** will take place on **Thursday, December 13 at 6pm** at Gramercy Farmer and The Fish restaurant (245 Park Avenue South, between 19 and 20th). We will be seated in the lovely private dining area in the rear of the restaurant, and individual checks will be provided. Please plan to bring a gift with a cost of no more than \$25. Please don’t delay sending your RSVP to [Bapace172@gmail.com](mailto:Bapace172@gmail.com). Please feel free to contact Brenda for further details and RSVPs **must be received by December 10**.

We have a great program planned for **January 8**: a private tour at the **Frick Collection**, studying 3 extraordinary paintings. Chairs

will be provided for our comfort. Please arrive by 3:15pm. Cost including museum entrance fee is \$20 payable in advance. You may cancel for a refund before January 6. Dinner to follow at 5:30 pm at Via Quattranno, 25 East 73rd (NE corner of Madison). Individual checks will be provided. **Please email your reservation to [gaby.kende@gmail.com](mailto:gaby.kende@gmail.com) or call Gaby at 517-927-3105.**

The **February** meeting will feature a **yoga class and talk on nutrition**...and in **March** there will be a tour of the magnificent main building of the **New York Public Library**. Details for those events to come.

Our book club decided to read a classic for our November meeting: *American Pastoral* by Philip Roth—and it led to many interesting topics for discussion. The next book and meeting date has not been chosen yet; but it will probably take place early January. Details will be sent as soon as they are available.

If you or someone you know would like to be a part of *Life Goes On*, please come to our meetings—we would be happy to see you! If you have any questions, please call Agnes Marton at 917.519.4427 or e-mail her at [Iagnesmarton@gmail.com](mailto:Iagnesmarton@gmail.com) or call Roberta in the Synagogue office at 212.674.5750, email [rkahn@brotherhoodsynagogue.org](mailto:rkahn@brotherhoodsynagogue.org). 

## A Community Lighting of the Chanukah Menorah in Gramercy Park

Monday, December 3, 5:30 pm

Join us for communal blessings and singing at the annual community lighting of the Chanukah menorah in Gramercy Park. Just following, join us for refreshments in our Community Room!



## Salon Sanctuary at Brotherhood Synagogue\*

Thursday, December 13, 8:00 pm

### IN THE WAKE OF THE MARSEILLAISE Songs of Love, Loss, and Triumph from the Age of Emancipation

The fall of the Ancien Régime precipitated by the Napoleonic conquest radically re-shuffled the social order throughout European capitals, and ushered in a new era in inter-religious understanding. As the ghetto walls separating Jew from Gentile came tumbling down along with the unquestioning acceptance of clerical and royal authority, an ascendant bourgeois class demanded new compositions for the domestic sphere, with popular references and playable scores accessible to those with neither an aristocratic pedigree nor the funds to purchase a piano.

Songs for soprano and Early Romantic Guitar speak not only of an age of liberation and meritocracy, but of the growing taste for Bel Canto singing, in this charming program featuring repertoire by Carulli, Cimarosa, Doisy, Haydn, Sor, and none other than Napoleon's favorite composer Domenico Maria Puccini, grandfather of the composer of Tosca.

Complimentary tickets for Brotherhood members at: <https://www.showclix.com/event/marseillaise>. Use code 1865.

\*Salon/Sanctuary Concerts was founded in 2009 by Artistic Director Jessica Gould in order to present early music in intimate venues which complement both the acoustic and the historical context of the repertoire and to encourage understanding among people of different faiths through the performance of sacred works in sanctuaries appropriate to the repertoire. <http://www.salonsanctuary.org/aboutus.html>



Pascal Valois  
Early Romantic  
Guitar  
Jessica Gould  
Soprano



## A Musical Celebration of American Jewish Composers

featuring the Brotherhood Synagogue  
Choir Harmoni-AH!  
Cantor Isaac Yager  
Meredeth Kelly  
Reception to follow. Suggested donation: \$10

## SHABBATON@BROTHERHOOD

Friday-Saturday, December 7-8

Due to an illness in the family, Jonathan Weisman's talk has been postponed and will be rescheduled for a later date.

Friday, December 7, an evening with  
David Kaufman

### NYC Jewish History & the Making of the 'New York Jew'



After services and a 2nd Avenue Deli congregational dinner, please join us for a talk from historian **David Kaufman** in an exploration of the past and present of 'the greatest Jewish city in the world,' New York. Themes include the extraordinary contributions of Jews to the popular culture of the city (and beyond); our conversation will include the remarkable convergence between age-old traditions of Jewish life and the modern urbanism of NYC in forming the culture of the 'New York Jew.'

For complete details about our Saturday programs and to rsvp for the dinner, see the enclosed flyer or our website.

## KNOWLEDGE FOR COLLEGE

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday January 13, 5:30pm - 7:30 pm

Anti-Semitism and anti-Israel sentiment are on the rise worldwide and American college campuses have become ground zero in the fight for our Jewish identity.

The increasingly aggressive BDS movement (Boycott-Divest-Sanction) has firmly planted its roots in our institutions of higher learning and the rhetoric used often crosses the line between anti-Zionist and anti-Semitic.



- ☆ How do we equip our college-bound teens to navigate these issues?
- ☆ How do we empower them to be well-informed advocates for their Jewish heritage?
- ☆ And how do we give them the tools to support Israel while maintaining a fair and critical perspective?

In partnership with Downtown Jewish Life, Brotherhood Synagogue is thrilled to welcome **Chloe Valdary** for the opening event of Knowledge for College, a 4-part series designed for high school teens.



Chloe is the **Director of Partnerships and Outreach at Jerusalem U**, a non-profit on-line educational resource and strong voice in the pro-Israel movement. She is an active supporter of Israel on college campuses, leading the conversation about Zionism among Millennials and in the African-American community. She served as a Tikvah Fellow at the *Wall Street Journal* under Bret Stephens and has been a guest speaker at JNF and at synagogues across the country.

**David Kestin**, a senior at Beacon High School and BBYO Regional Vice President will be moderating.

We encourage all high school students to attend along with their parents.

Please invite friends!

Pizza and soft drinks will be served!

RSVP for this event on the Brotherhood website  
[www.brotherhoodsynagogue.org](http://www.brotherhoodsynagogue.org)

\*Thank you to Congregation B'nai Israel in Tustin, CA for their inspiration and support\*

## Happenings in Our Kehilah

Please contact the synagogue office or Rabbi Alder with any pertinent happenings in your family.

### B'nai Mitzvah, Mazal Tov to:

Jason and Susan Levine on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, **Blake Levine**. Blake, a student at PS 126/MAT, will celebrate his simcha with his older sister, **Dorie**.

Evan and Regina Haymes on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, **Esme Haymes**. Esme, a student at Friends Seminary, will celebrate her simcha with her younger brother, **Theodore**.

### Weddings, Mazal Tov to:

Jayme and Charlie Rich on the engagement of their son, **Alex Rich** and **Amanda Tendler**.

### Births, Mazal Tov to:

Sarah Ratzenberger-Tupper and Jordan Tupper on the birth of their son, **Zachary Reuben**

**Tupper**; and to grandparents, **Gail and Floyd Tupper**.

**Courtney and Adam Crown** on the birth of their son, **Nathan Pierce Crown**; and to older brother, **Noah**.

**Samantha and Joshua Hollander** on the birth of their daughter, **Teddi Jane Hollander**; and to older siblings, **Davy and Ozzie**.

### Condolences to:

**Ellie Wertheim** on the passing of her stepfather, **Lawrence Kallenberg**.

**Neal Epstein** on the passing of his mother, **Lillian Epstein**.

**Neal Rosenberg** on the passing of his father, **Leon Rosenberg**.

**Debbie Cantor** on the passing of her mother, **Annette Cantor Wexler**.

The family of our member **Walter Diamond** on his passing. 🌊

## President's Post

by Tracie Basch



It was 5 weeks ago, but the impact of what happened at Tree of Life will be with me for a very long time, and I honestly don't think that I will ever forget that day. I am not shocked that there is anti-Semitism in the US. How can I be, when I myself was the victim of hate speech as a child? What amazes me still, what I can't wrap my head around, is the depth of hatred that people still have towards those that have different beliefs. With all the progress we have made, this is one area where it seems that we are going backwards.

In my remarks to the Congregation, at the Memorial Service we had, I said that I was shocked and outraged. I was then, and I still am now. But my feelings have changed—they are no longer as raw as they were then. I, as have all of us, have had some time to process those events. For a while, I would question the world that we are leaving to our children—one that is full of hate. But then, I look at the faces of my children and I listen to what they and their friends are talking about. These young kids, ages 11 and 12, have a remarkable grasp of what is going on in this world and the injustices they see around them. And they want to fix it. Not with crazy ideas, but with common sense solutions. Now, when I look at my children, what I see is HOPE. Hope for a better future because their generation is tired of the injustices and the insanity that they see around them. They are not just talking—they are fighting for a better world for them.

It's up to us—the grownups—to help them find solutions. How? Simple, really. We can listen to each other and try to learn from one another—even if it is not something we believe and/or understand. It has been said a lot lately—we are more alike than not. Let's prove that statement right.

—Tracie

## Social Action

Sunday, December 2, 10:00 am

### Family Community Service Event at Hebrew Home in Riverdale

Join us for a day of family community service as we visit with residents, sing songs, and tour the facilities at the Hebrew Home in Riverdale.

We will meet at the Hebrew Home at 10:00 am and the event ends at 11:30 am.

*There are only a limited number of volunteer spots available so please e-mail Beth Barry (blbar1@aol.com) asap if you'd like to join the group!* Ages 8 and up are

welcome. Families who volunteer are encouraged to bring small gifts for the residents!

*Drivers are needed*, so when you RSVP, please indicate if you will be able to drive and provide rides for others.

*Thanks to all the Brotherhood fashionistas who contributed to this season's BOTTOMLESS CLOSET handbag and costume jewelry drive. We really appreciate it. See you again in the Spring for another collection.*



## Interfaith

### Hunger Van at Brotherhood

Thanks to all who volunteered for the Muslim-Jewish Weekend of Twinning *Feed the Hungry* event on Sunday November 11 along with our partner organizations FFEU, The Hunger Van, Muslim-Jewish Solidarity Committee, and our friends from the NYU Islamic Center. **We ended up packing 7,240 meals!**

Please **SAVE THE DATE** and **VOLUNTEER** with us on **Sunday morning, January 27**, when Brotherhood Synagogue will be hosting *The Hunger Van* for an all-Brotherhood volunteer morning!! More details



to come in the January bulletin and the weekly email!

If anyone would like to know more about the Interfaith Committee and its activities, or, if you'd like to join our committee, please email Bob Wolf ([rwolf@tarterkrinsky.com](mailto:rwolf@tarterkrinsky.com)) or Ellie Wertheim ([elliewertheim@yahoo.com](mailto:elliewertheim@yahoo.com)) or Jeff Ross ([drjaross@gmail.com](mailto:drjaross@gmail.com)) for more details!

## Brotherhood Book Club

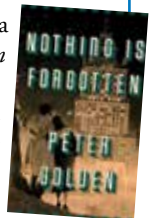
Thursday, December 20, 7:00 pm

Barbara Feingold will lead a discussion of *Nothing is Forgotten* by Peter Golden.

If you are interested in joining the Book Club, please contact Margie Katz at [margie.katz@me.com](mailto:margie.katz@me.com). All are welcome!

### Future Book Club Date:

**January, Dec. 17:** Margie Katz will lead a discussion of *A Fifty-Year Silence: Love, War, and a Ruined House in France* by Miranda Richmond Mouillot.



## A Note from Development:

### There's Still Time to Make Your Annual Fund Gift Before Year-End!

As December 31st approaches and the end of the 2018 tax-year looms, there is still time to make your Annual Fund gift before the year ends. We are so grateful to all those who have already made their 5779 Annual Fund gift and we ask those who have not yet done so to please consider making your gift **before December 31, 2018!** The Annual Fund is the Synagogue's "bread and butter" each and every year. It is the Annual Fund that makes it possible for us to offer the wide array of programs and services we run year-round, as well as to maintain the operations and upkeep of our beloved landmarked building. The Annual Fund enables us to offer programs like our winter Homeless Shelter, Tikvah Special Education, High Holiday services for the community-at-large and Senior Transportation—to name a few—at no cost to participants. And we are able to offer generous scholarships to students in our Hebrew School, so that no child is turned away from a Jewish education because of his/her family's inability to pay. **All this—and more—is made possible through your support of our Annual Fund!** To make your tax-deductible gift in the year 2018, please send your check to Brotherhood Synagogue, 28 Gramercy Park South, New York, NY 10003, call the Development office at 212-674-5750 or make your gift online at [www.brotherhoodsynagogue.org](http://www.brotherhoodsynagogue.org) by December 31, 2018.

We remain ever grateful to each and every member of the Brotherhood community for your ongoing commitment and support and we wish you and your loved ones a Happy Hanukkah, and a happy new year as we ring in 2019!

—Marilyn Strozak,

Director of Development 

### The Chesed\* Committee WANTS YOU TO KNOW...

The Jewish Association Serving the Aging (JASA) provides help for seniors regarding benefits, home care, meals, legal assistance, and programming. They have resources to support caregivers as well. Check out [jasa.org](http://jasa.org) or call 212-273-5272.

\*The Chesed Committee provides help and compassion to Brotherhood members in times of need. We can be reached at [chesed@brotherhoodsynagogue.org](mailto:chesed@brotherhoodsynagogue.org) or through the synagogue office.



## Yahrzeits

^Garden of Remembrance \*Book of Remembrance

### December 1-7

Myer Agin, ^Rose Antell, Matthew Arnoff, Hermine Bauer, Nellie Beck, ~\*Rachel Leah Berglas, \*Joseph Berlowitz, Ann Bledstein, ^Philip Blinder, Murray Borden, ^Susan Capaldo, Ann Chain, Annaliese Daniel, Martin Davis, Irving Feinland, ^Orene Moskow Fisher, Marion Flash, ^Bessie Fradin, Isaiah Gellman, ^Flora Goldin, Gilda L. Goldstein, \*Abraham Goldstein, ^Samuel Goldstein, \*Willard Gourse, \*Leon Graham, Lou Hacker, Benjamin Hayeem, ^Anne Hayt, David Hochbaum, Lillian Hurowitz, Michael Kaplan, Louis Kletzkin, ^Herman E. Kurland, ^\*Dr. Isidore J. Landsman, Eugenia Lauterpacht, \*Frances Lebon, ^Sophie Leifschutz, \*\*Sadie Maisel, Ruth Mandell, Pearl Miller, ^Sheldon Moskowitz, ^Sidney Palew, ^Sidney Paley, Louis Richkin, ^Joseph Rothenberg, Sol Russon, Emanuel Saxe, Celia Schneier, David Schumann, Bill Seregi, Milton Shiller, David Silver Jr., ^James Slater, ^Marc Sloane, Louis Slotnick, \*Matthew Solomon, \*Mildred Steckler, ^Louis Stutzel, Miriam Sussman, ^Joseph Teperman, ^Richard Turkheimer, \*Rose Fogelhood Unterweiser, ^Herbert Vogel, Murray Weinstein, ^Lillian Weiss

### December 8-14

Ronald Abitbol, Tess Abramowitz, Phyllis Adelsberg, ^Frieda Rinder Antler, Gabriel Ascher, Dorothy Bergman, Harry Bernstein, ^Evelyn Borden, \*Frances Greengras Carton, ^Helen Seinfeld Chodos, Abner Cohen, ^Molly D. Cummings, Rita Domow, \*Ethel Edelstein, ^Benjamin Eisenstadt, ^Alan J. Freedman, Elsa Friedman, ^I. Edward Ginsburg, Dacia Glusband, Stanley Goldberg, ^\*Blanche Greenhouse, Harry Aaron Gross, Rosalind Halper, ^\*Kenneth Halpern, Hayeem Benjamin Hayeem, Billy Jacobson, Bernard Jurysta, Isadore Kasman, Miriam Kramer, Evelyn Kreloff, ^Betty Landino, ^Donald Learner, Eric Morse, \*Lena Presser, Leonard Pressman, Renee Goode Rigby, \*Sylvia Ringler, Ruth Rooney, \*Rev. Saul Roselle, Estelle Rosenthal, Norman Rottenbach, \*Sarah Schlanger, Daniel Schwartz, \*Allan Shafer, Lena Shargel, Dr. Stephen Silverman, Everett Singer, Edward Stempel, \*Rose Cooperman Wallach, Moishe Wigdor, Arthur Ziff

### December 15-21

^Daniel Altman, Max Balaber, Martin Berkowitz, Nathan Borkow, ^Isidor Diamond, ^Lazar Ente, ^Ethel Epstein, ^Rose Epstein, \*Leo Farland, ^Rae Feld, ^Louis Philip Foster, Charles Friedenberg, \*Jack Friedman, Mimi Gettinger, Alden Getz, Sarah Glickstein, Edward Greenberg, William Greenleaf, \*Lewis Gross, Jack Herman, Joseph Kalish, Gertrude Kaufman, ^Clara Kaufman, David Kitoover, Abraham Kitt, ^Israel Klonsky, ^\*Marvin Levy, \*Nachama Rachel Lewinstein, ^Anna Meisler, \*Joseph Michael, Estelle Moskowitz, Marjorie Nadler, Anne Osofsky, ^Ismar Cohn Reisner, Phillip Rosen, Ruth Saxe, \*Bertha Scheiner, ^Doris Gordon Selkowitz, Joseph Silberberg, \*Fred Sirkin, \*Betty Siskind, Sol Sloan, Eliezer Slotnick, ^Max Steinberg, Martha Stokes, ^Esther Stutzel, Doris Watty, Michael Weintraub, ^Edward Weiss, Renee Wexer, Marguerite Wimer

### December 22-28

^\*Meyer Antell, Edgar Baurer, Jessie Zera Benardete, \*Philip Block, ^Harry Blum, Yosef Chaim Borochov, Lennie Brass, ^Esther Brickman, Galina Bronshteyn, Beatrice Chernick, \*Yetta Chizner, \*Benjamin Dymn, \*Meyer Ellenbogen, ^Morris Esrig, Yale Fendel,

Gloria Fisher, Irving Flax, \*Anna Frankel, ^\*Chester B. Franklin, Nacha Garfin, ^Mark Geller, Rachel Gersbein, ^Paula Glass, Solomon Glassman, \*Morris Goldstein, \*Abraham Gross, \*Clara Gross, Harry Haberman, ^Anne Soloway Hayt, Robert Hikida, ^Bernice Hoffeld, Neil Kaplan, Victor Kramer, Edna Larkin, Patricia Manly, Mace Mason, Dora Mayer, Leonard Miltenberg, Rita Morrison, ^Fay Nelson, Joseph Nobel, ^Barbara Okanes, ^Herbert D. Roistacher, Samuel I. Rosenfeld, Yita Chaya Royardo, ^Dianne Rubinfeld, Philip Rutkin, ^Murray J. Schneider, Fred Schultz, ^Edward Schwartz, Rebecca Segal, Sandy Seidman, Julian Silbiger, Stanley Simon, ^Leila Sloane, ^Sylvia Wasserstrom Solomon, Jack Stark, Tillie Tuft, ^William Warmbrand, Anna Wisgordinski, Jack Wishnie

### December 29 – January 4

Isaac Alhadeff, \*Herman Alshan, Fred Bayroff, ^Cylka Berke, Phyllis Block, Rae Brumberg, ^May Lipton Cummins, Henry Daniel, ^Leon Dankberg, ^Jack Davis, \*Julius Dolitsky, \*Florence Eichner, Isaac Epstein, \*Fannie Feldman, Evelyn Fisher, \*Libby Fried, ^Shaynii K. Gadsden, Ansel Garfin, Abraham Glasser, George Goldberg, Pearl Goldfinger, ^Joseph D. Goldreich, \*Minnie Gross, \*Sarah Handler, ~\*Yaakov Michele Hirsch, Goldy Hushansky, \*Aaron Bernard Israel, \*Edith R. Karban, \*Charlotte Chernoeb Klein, ^Samuel Kleinhaut, ^Leon Krentzman, Gertrude Krupen, Estelle Lasser, ^Ilsa Karger Levy, Isidore Marke, \*Anna Meyers, ^\*Resi Hamburger Nachman, \*Gilbert Naftalis, Max Neiden, \*Florence Newfield\*, Esther Nirenberg, Shirley Pearlstein, \*Murray Pfeffer, Hannah Pressman, Lawrence Raizman, Eric Renstrom, Sylvia Rubinstein, Charlotte Hope Saltzman, Sophia Savits, Nathan Scher, Isidore Schneider, ^Jeannette Mildred Seinfeld, \*Joseph M. Sepersky, ^Abba Settle, Pauline Shapiro, ^Theresa Rena Sidran, Miriam B. Singer, \*Rose K. Solomon, Laura Sonneberg, Barry N. Spilkin, ^Rose Strong, ^Evelyn K. Sussman, Larry Toporek, Nathan Tucker, ^William Tudor, ^Maurice Volk, Arlyne Warmbrand, ^\*Celia L. Warmbrand, ^Hannah Weiner, Ruth Weiss, Annie Weprin, Mildred Wishnie, Marc Zeitlin

## The Brotherhood Synagogue



28 Gramercy Park South  
New York, N.Y. 10003  
Phone: (212) 674-5750  
Fax: (212) 505-6707



[www.brotherhoodsynagogue.org](http://www.brotherhoodsynagogue.org)

RABBI DANIEL ALDER

CANTOR ISAAC YAGER

RABBI IRVING J. BLOCK<sup>21</sup> D.D.: Founding Rabbi

HERMAN DIAMOND: Cantor Emeritus

TRACIE BASCH: President

PHILLIP ROTHMAN:

Executive and Education Director

Congregation founded in 1954

Historic Landmark Building erected in 1859

## Hebrew School News

This month of December/Kislev-Tevet—is filled with many exciting Hebrew School and synagogue activities! Our **Chanukah Store** will be Monday December 3 through Wednesday December 5! Be sure to stock up on Chanukah Candles, Dreidels, and Chanukah gifts for your family and friends!

Chanukah, the Festival of Lights, begins on Sunday evening December 2—the 25th Day of Kislev. On Monday December 3 at 5:30 pm—as we light our second Chanukah Candle—our Hebrew School will be joining with the entire Brotherhood community in the **Lighting of the Chanukiah (Chanukah Menorah) in Gramercy Park**. The community-wide candle-lighting will be followed by the singing of Chanukah songs and a return to our Community Room to continue our Chanukah Celebration!

On Sunday morning December 9 we will be holding our **Brotherhood Synagogue Family Chanukah Party and Concert** from 11:30-1:00 pm. To our great delight, the Korman-Rivera Family and Friends Band will—once again—be performing! In addition to our Chanukah Concert there will be the World Series of Dreidel, arts and crafts booths, and plenty of Chanukah treats—*sufganiot* (jelly filled donuts) and *livivot* (latkes/potato pancakes). Please join us for this wonderful celebration!!

When Chanukah was still a new festival, there was a difference of opinion as to how the Chanukiah should be lit. Students of the great Rabbi Shammai said that the festival should begin with eight lights, and decrease by one light each night. The students of the great Rabbi Hillel disagreed, saying that the festival should begin with one light and each night one light should be added because “holiness is something that must grow, not become smaller.”

As our thoughts turn to the miracle of Chanukah, we give thought to the Maccabees and their valiant struggle—one of the earliest recorded struggles for religious freedom in history—to reclaim Jerusalem and rededicate the Holy Temple. It is the second Chanukah blessing that brings to mind the miracle of Chanukah and request/need for G-d to make miracles in our days as well. The second bracha for Lighting the Chanukah lights is as follows: *Praised are You, Lord our G-d, King of the universe who made miracles for our ancestors in ancient days, and in our time.*

Wishing you a miraculous Chanukah!  
*Chag Chanukah Sameach!*

—Barbara Simon,  
Hebrew School Principal 🌸

The Brotherhood Synagogue

## CHANUKAH CONCERT & PARTY

**Calling all Brotherhood kids and their families!**

Please join us at our Brotherhood Synagogue  
Family Celebration of Chanukah

**Sunday, December 9 • 11:30 am–1:00 pm**

Prior to our Chanukah Concert, the World Series of Dreidle and other fun-filled arts and crafts activities will take place! Our Chanukah Concert will feature favorite guest artists Mira Rivera and Jerry Korman and Family—and will be followed by delicious Chanukah treats!  
*Please come celebrate with us and feel free to bring your friends!!*



## Summer Camp Fair!

**Monday, December 10, 5:30-6:30 pm**

Stop in to the Community Room before or after Hebrew School pickup to get info on some fantastic summer camp options for your child. Whether your child is sporty or arty or outdoorsy or none of the above, there is a Jewish camp for every family (at any level of observance)!

Overnight and day camps will be represented. Snacks will be served.



*Please join us on the following Friday evenings to welcome Shabbat together with stories and song!*



**December 14**

**5:30 pm - Children up to 3 years old with Daphna Mor and Saskia Lane**

**5:30 pm - Children ages 3-6 years old with Katie Shea**

**6:30 pm - Grades 2-7 with Phil Rothman**

## CHANUKAH STORE AT BROTHERHOOD!!!

**November 26 through December 5 and December 9!!**

**toy dreidels • chocolate gelt • Chanukah themed puzzles and games and books • candles and menorahs and other toys & games!**

Brotherhood's Chanukah store has just what you need to make Chanukah fun!

**Stop by the lobby and pick something up for your celebration!**



*BY THE BOOK, continued from page 2*

**What's the last book that made you cry?**

I don't remember crying while reading lately... but the other day I teared up during the last five minutes of *Gunga Din* (the 1939 movie). Does that count?

**What kind of reader were you as a child?**

I read as much as I could, including during recess and at night with a flashlight when I was supposed to be sleeping. I adored all the *Oz* books, and fantasies by E. Nesbit and Edward

Eager. I read most of the classics: *The Secret Garden*, *Little Women*, etc. I didn't realize that *All of a Kind Family* and *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* were part of a series until I grew up. I loved books with magic the best.

**What's the last book that made you furious?**

*The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*. I've been reading it online. It makes me physically sick as well. I can only read a little bit at a time. But I think we need to know what other people think of us. 🌸

## Nursery School Thoughts

by Karen Sumberg

My husband and I come from very different backgrounds. I'm Jewish, he's Hindu. I'm from the North, he's from the South. While our differences are obvious, it is our shared values that brought us together. One of those common principles is giving tzedakah. Brotherhood's focus on educating kids about the value of community, as well as the responsibilities that come with being a member of a community, was one of the things that attracted us to the school.

We started talking about tzedakah and putting money in a pushke when my older son, now in the Red Room, was a year and a half. I knew at some point we would take the money out and give it to a charity or buy something to donate to a cause. I had this amazing image in my head of the magical moment in the future when we would guide my son to understand the deeper meaning of giving. But I thought we had time.

As with all things parenting related, my timing was off. While running errands with my boys, our wonderful caregiver put change in the cup of a homeless man sitting outside. My son turned to her and asked, "Why did you put money in the cup? It's not a tzedakah box." She explained to him that tzedakah takes different forms, and when we have more than others, we give. As she relayed the story to my husband and I, we knew it was time to empty our pushke.

We took the money out and counted the coins. We asked our son if he wanted to give to children (HIAS) or animals (ASPCA). He picked children. We talked about the children he was giving to and how the money would help them be with their families. He wanted to know their names. We looked at photos of children on the HIAS website to help make this more tangible. Then he realized his tzedakah box was empty and he asked for more money. We talked about how we would start over, saving money to give again.

The whole experience reminded me that kids see and understand so much more than we give them credit for.

Next time, my son decided, he wants to give to animals. He likes to call my parents to ask them, "Grandma and Grandpa, can you buy some money to put in my tzedakah box." One lesson at a time. 🌊

## BROTHERHOOD FILM SERIES

### SAVE THE DATES

Wednesday, January 30, 7:00 pm

### 93QUEEN

(85 mins.)

[www.93queen.com](http://www.93queen.com)

Set in the Hasidic enclave of Borough Park, Brooklyn, 93QUEEN follows a group of tenacious Hasidic women who are smashing the patriarchy in their community by creating the first all-female volunteer ambulance corps in New York City. With unprecedented—and insider—access, 93QUEEN offers up a unique portrayal of empowered women who are taking matters into their own hands to change their own community from within.



Sunday, January 27, 4:00 pm

### SCREENAGERS: GROWING UP IN THE DIGITAL AGE

(67 mins.)

<https://www.screenagersmovie.com/>

A FREE screening of the award-winning documentary film. SCREENAGERS reveals how tech time impacts kids' development and offers solutions on how adults can empower kids to best navigate the digital world and find balance.



## ♪ Cantor's Notes ♪ by Cantor Isaac Yager

Generally speaking, "MiSinai" refers to musical compositions whose origins date back long enough that specific composers cannot be attributed to the music. *MiSinai* chants (music) have held a special role in the history of Jewish music. Traditionally, they are sung on more formal or somber occasions, specifically the High Holidays. They are a shared form of musical expression for both eastern and western Ashkenazim. It is likely, though, that these melodies originated in southwestern Germany and were composed between the late 11th century and early 16th century since the musicality of the *MiSinai* chants indicates a connection to both traditional Ashkenazi *t'filah* musical styles and cantillation models, as well as non-Jewish influences including Gregorian chants.

The derivation of the term *MiSinai*, meaning "from Sinai," is referenced in early Hasidic writings. These writings claim that *MiSinai* chants were actually given to Moses by G-d at Sinai. From wherever these tunes originated, it is evident that the *MiSinai* chants retain a poignant level of honorable esteem, both for their historical significance and for their placement during important liturgical moments, specifically during the High Holy Days and continue to be practiced in Ashkenazi shuls worldwide.

The *MiSinai* chants from the High Holy Days include the *Barchu*, *Halmelech*, *Avot*, *V'hakohanim*, *Aleinu*, various renditions of *Kaddish*, and *N'ilah*. Additionally, *MiSinai* chants for *Tal* and *Geshem* are sung during Passover and Sukkot.

Perhaps the most well known *MiSinai* musical moment is the one sung during Kol Nidre. The *MiSinai* chant found within Kol Nidre captures both the pain and hope for salvation on the most solemn day of the Jewish year. Interestingly, it is believed that this particular tune was constructed through the conglomeration of several different melodic pieces, including Ashkenazi cantillation and *minnesang* (a tradition of lyric- and song-writing in Germany during the Middle High German period). Perhaps more significant than the origin of this music is the way in which it has stood up and flourished over the course of time. This is not simply a testament to tradition. Of course, we sing the music that we grew up with, and since we all grew up with *MiSinai* music, it is understandable that *MiSinai* remains in the present. Yet we are still drawn to the music, not just because it is familiar, but because it is beautiful and fulfills our spiritual needs. After all, if it didn't, it wouldn't have lasted this long. 🌊

# Brotherhood Synagogue



Kislev / Tevet 5779  
December 2018

☆ Saturday Mornings: Shabbat Corner 9:45 am / Junior Congregation 10:30 am / Alef-Bet Club 11 am

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25 9 am: Tikvah	26 11:30 Baby Class 4 pm: Hebrew School	27 9:30 am: Toddler Class 10 am: English in Action 10:45 am: Toddler 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:40 pm: Minyan 6:30 pm: Harmoni-AH!	28 10 am: Pre-Toddler Class 11 am: Baby Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 6:30 pm: Intro to Trope 7 pm: The New York Jew	29 9:30 am: Toddler Class 11 am: Pre-Toddler Class 2 pm: English in Action 3 pm: Thursday Corner 4:15 pm: Thursday Corner II 4:45 pm: Chagall, Lissitzky, Malevich at the Jewish Museum 6:30 pm: BBYO 7 pm: Life Goes On Book Club	30 4:11 pm: Candles: 6:30 pm: Services	1 ☆ 9:30 am: Services Bar Mitzvah of Blake Levine 1 pm: Shabbat Club
<b>HANUKAH SHOP</b>						<b>VAYESHEV</b>
2 9 am: Tikvah 10 am: Family Community Service at Hebrew Home	3 11:30 Baby Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:30 pm: Community Menorah Lighting in Gramercy Park	4 9:30 am: Toddler Class 10 am: English in Action 10:45 am: Toddler Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:40 pm: Minyan	5 10 am: Pre-Toddler Class 11 am: Baby Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 6:30 pm: Intro to Trope 7 pm: The New York Jew	6 9:30 am: Toddler Class 11 am: Pre-Toddler Class 2 pm: English in Action 3 pm: Thursday Corner 4:15 pm: Thursday Corner II	7 7:30 am: Minyan 4:10 pm: Candles 6:30 pm: Services 7:30 : Dinner 8:30 pm: Speaker: David Kaufman	8 ☆ 9:30 am: Services 1:15 pm: Spiritual Yoga 3 pm: Terrific Toddler Time 8 pm: Brotherhood's Annual Hanukah Party- Lotsa Vodkas & Latkes
<b>EREV CHANUKAH</b>	<b>HANUKAH SHOP</b>			<b>SHABBATON</b>		<b>ROSH CHODESH MIKETZ CHANUKAH</b>
9 9 am: Tikvah 11:30 am: Hanukah Concert & Party <b>HANUKAH SHOP</b>	10 11:30 Baby Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:30 pm: Summer Camp Fair	11 9:30 am: Toddler Class 10 am: English in Action 10:45 am: Toddler Class 1 pm: Hadassah 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:40 pm: Minyan 6:30 pm: Harmoni-AH!	12 10 am: Pre-Toddler Class 11 am: Baby Class 4 pm: Hebrew School	13 9:30 am: Toddler Class 11 am: Pre-Toddler Class 2 pm: English in Action 3 pm: Thursday Corner 4:15 pm: Thursday Corner II 6 pm: Life Goes On	14 4:11 pm: Candles Family Shabbat 5:30 pm: (up to age 3) 5:30 pm: (3-6 years) 6:30 pm: (2nd - 7th grade) 6:30 pm: Services Speakers: Stella & Brad Reed	15 ☆ 9:30 am: Services Bat Mitzvah of Esme Haynes
16 9 am: Tikvah 5 pm: Winter Concert	17 11:30 Baby Class	18 5:40 pm: Minyan	19	20 7 pm: Brotherhood Book Club	21 4:13 pm: Candles 6:30 pm: Services	22 ☆ 9:30 am: Services
23	24	25 <b>CHRISTMAS OFFICE CLOSED</b>	26	27	28 4:18 pm: Candles 6:30 pm: Services	29 ☆ 9:30 am: Services
30	31					<b>SHEMOT</b>

**ANNUAL CHANUKAH PARTY**

**LATKES! VODKAS!**

**LIVE ISRAELI/CUBAN MUSIC**

**TELAVANA**

**ADMISSION: \$10**

**DECEMBER 8**

**7:30 PM**




*We had a great turnout of Brotherhood volunteers (pictured here) for our DOROT Thanksgiving visits on Sunday, November 18! Thanks to all who volunteered!*