CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL

THE CHRONICLE TEMPLE HAVE A ROSAL FOR FOR THE LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

JANUARY 2024 VOLUME 24 - ISSUE 1

THE RABBI SPEAKS RABBI BARRY BLOCK

Dear Friends,

Rabbi Eric Gurvis tells the story of a benefactor who offered to build a new synagogue for the community, with one condition: Nobody in the community would see the plans for the synagogue until after it was built!

On the day of the new synagogue's dedication, the community marveled at the building's singular beauty—the stunning tapestries, the exquisite windows, and the magnificent holy ark. As evening approached, though, and the sun began to set, people began to notice that no lighting was installed in the sanctuary! How could that be? How would people see when they gathered for worship at night?

The benefactor stepped forward and explained: "You're right. I did not install lighting in the sanctuary. However, I have a lamp for each of you, and hooks have been attached to the synagogue walls, one for each person. Each time you come to the synagogue, bring your lamp. The hook is waiting for your lamps. You will bring the light into the sanctuary."

We are living at bleak time for the Jewish people in Israel, here in the United States, and around the world. To state the obvious, your rabbi always wants you to come to Temple. In this moment, though, we **need** to be together, each of us bringing our light, to dispel the sadness and horror we have experienced since October 7—for victims, hostages, and internal refugees in Israel, to be sure, and also for ourselves as we face antisemitism at a level unprecedented in most of our lifetimes.

Please join us on January 5 and 26 for worshipful music and prayer, lighting and warming the Sanctuary at a time when the nights are long and cold, with Aleksandra Dubov, our E. Lee Ronnel Student Cantor. Please join us on January 12, to hear from Dr. Joseph Margolick about his time in Israel volunteering with Magen David Adom, bringing light to the Jewish State.

WORSHIP AT-A-GLANCE

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES IN JANUARY

Oneg Shabbat at 5:45 pm Services at 6:15 pm

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5 MISHKAN T'FILAH SHABBAT SERVICE

Led by Rabbi Barry Block and E. Lee Ronnel
Student Cantor Aleksandra Dubov

Sermon: "Women at War, in Ancient Egypt and Contemporary Israel"

Oneg Shabbat host: Ruthe Kaplan, in memory of Phil's birthday Security Sponsor: Terry Orgel

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12 MISHKAN T'FILAH SHABBAT SERVICE

Led by Rabbi Block
Special Guest Speaker Dr. Joseph Margolick
reflects on his experience volunteering with
Magen David Adom in Israel
Music: Jana Cohen and Friends, accompanied by
Perry Young

Security Sponsors: Carol Parham, Shelley Ballew

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19 MISHKAN T'FILAH SHABBAT SERVICE

led by Rabbi Block Sermon: "Confronting the Tenth Plague" Music: Jana Cohen

Oneg Shabbat Host, Bima flowers, and Security Sponsor: Trip, Steve, and Susan Strauss in memory of Shirley Strauss

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26 MISHKAH T'FILAH SHABBAT SERVICE

led by Rabbi Block and E. Lee Ronnel Student
Cantor Aleksandra Dubov
Sermon in Song: Songs of War and Deliverance
Oneg Shabbat Hosts: Doris Krain and Bonnie
Nickol in honor of their special birthdays

Security Sponsor: Dan Roda

(The Rabbi Speaks continued from front page)

After that January 12 service, we will light up the social hall with Shabbat dinner, hosted by Becky and Jay Marks, an opportunity for us to share our light with one another.

Every Sunday at Religious School, our students, faculty, and madrichim light up the Temple with learning and joy under the leadership of Eileen Hamilton. Our volunteers—singing, cooking, leading, and so much more—bring light to us all.

The winter solstice has passed. Even though the coldest part of winter is likely yet to come, the minutes and then hours of daylight will increase each day this month. Each of us can be partners with God by bringing our own light to Congregation B'nai Israel every Shabbat and every day in between. The "hooks" for our lights are installed.

Faithfully,

Zamitt. Block

Dr. Joe Margolick to Reflect on Volunteering in Israel at Services on January 12



In November, our congregant, UAMS trauma surgeon Joseph Margolick, M.D., spent three weeks in Israel, volunteering with Magen David Adom. He has graciously agreed to share his experience with our congregation during Shabbat services on Friday, January 12.

Joe is much to be commended, as is his wife, Lauren, who held down the fort in Little Rock with their daughter Ari.

Please join us to hear Joe's experiences and to celebrate his safe return with Lauren and Ari at a Shabbat Dinner to follow the service. Our hosts for dinner will be Becky and Jay Marks.

Please make reservations for dinner by January 10 for the cost of \$18.00/adult. After that date, the cost increases. To make reservations, call Temple office at 501.225.9700 or email TempleSecretary@bnai-israel.us by Jan. 10.

SATURDAY MORNINGS IN JANUARY

Shabbat Torah Study at 9:30 am, led by Rabbi Block each Saturday morning in January.

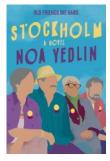
Shabbat Morning Worship at 11:00 am, led by Rabbi Block each Saturday morning in January, together with Cantor Dubov on January 6 and 27.



Cantor Dubov to Present Sermon in Song: Songs of War and Deliverance

Each year, when we *Parashat B'shallach*, the Torah portion that includes the Song of the Sea, which our ancestors sang upon crossing the Sea of Reeds on dry land, we celebrate *Shabbat Shirah*, the Sabbath of Song. This year, that Shabbat falls on January 26-27, and Aleksandra Dubov, our E. Lee Ronnel Student Cantor, is appropriately scheduled to be with us that Shabbat!

At the Friday evening service on January 26, Cantor Dubov will plan to present a sermon in song: "Songs of War and Deliverance." Please plan to be with us for this very special Shabbat worship experience.



AL BARON BOOK CLUB SUNDAY, January 21st 3:00 PM IN THE LIBRARY STOCKHOLM

By Noa Yedlin

Avishay is up for the Nobel Prize for Economics. But there's just one problem—he's dead. His four closest friends agree that the well-earned prize must stay within his grasp, and so conspire to conceal Avishay's corpse until the committee's announcement. The potential of a glorious legacy for their late friend – and by extension, for them all – is only a mere eight days away. What could go wrong? Ho far will this foursome go to help their friend die a winner?



Another New Year – Time to Express my Gratitude

Another New Year – 2024 – has arrived. The earth in the Northern Hemisphere now begins to experience longer periods of daylight. We are emerging from darkness with small incremental increases of sunlight. Before we know it, spring will bring Arkansas out of the grey of winter into a bursting sea of green trees!

As I reflect on this past year, my heart swells with gratitude for the time and talents so many congregants give to maintain the Temple's facilities and foster a welcoming and safe place for our members and guests. With that in mind, it seems like a perfect time to highlight a few of our volunteers who have taken on monumental tasks over the past year.

Did you know that Janet Korenblat has singlehandedly engineered a kitchen remodel project? Janet not only pushed for funding, but she also spent hours with the contractor planning out what needed to be done and staying on top of every detail throughout the construction project. Thanks to her devotion to this Temple, we should have an updated kitchen this month!

Obviously, improvements to the Temple's financial operations, if done properly, will not be generally known to the entire congregation until the Annual Meeting each June. Our current Treasurer, Shelly Baron, saw a need for several improvements in our accounting system and the budget process, as well as arranging for a new part-time bookkeeper and a new CPA. This just describes the "top of the iceberg". In essence, Shelly has brought our financial record-keeping into the 21st Century!

The Temple building has undergone several improvement projects necessitated by the need to provide better security in these times of rampant antisemitism: New front doors, window treatments, increased numbers of surveillance cameras, with all this integrated by computer for ease of communication with law enforcement. Carol Parham and Brian Rosenthal put their shoulders to wheel, consulted with the FBI and local law enforcement about priority needs, obtained funds for those priority needs from the Ottenheimer Brothers Foundation, and secured quotes from contractors. All of this has been done since the Colleyville synagogue hostage crisis in January 2022. Most recently, a security assessment has been done by Secure Community Network (SCN). Carol and Brian have given their all to provide a safe place for our community to come together!

When I originally asked Carmen Arick to propose a Community Covenant (Brit Kehillah) for our congregational community, she did not know that her charge would be expanded in the fall of 2022. Eventually, I appointed a Teshuvah Task Force (TTF) chaired by Carmen Arick along with Dr. Brad Diner, Elizabeth Cohen, Nan Selz, Carol Parham, and Rabbi Barry Block. The Teshuvah Task Force was charged with two goals: first, to understand where the congregation has failed to meet the expectations and trust of the congregation while providing a platform to ask for forgiveness and atonement; and second, to develop a process to move forward with more transparency and make recommendations for healthier ethical guidelines. Since the beginning of the TTF's work, it created an opportunity for congregants to meet and share their own experiences and feelings. As we approached the High Holy Days this year, the TTF arranged for Rabbi Mary Zamore, the Executive Director of the Women's Rabbinic Network and a nationally recognized expert on ethics and safe places, to offer programs during the weekend of Selichot. The TTF has now presented its recommendation for a Community Covenant (Brit Kehillah) to the Board of Trustees. This recommendation is based on extensive research gleaned from other congregations, the URJ, and conversations with our congregants. The dedication and commitment shown to this community by Carmen Arick and all members of the Teshuvah Task Force is both amazing and humbling!

In the Mussar tradition, we are told to keep two notes in our pockets; one note says, "I am dust and ashes", and the other note says "The world was created for me." Those reminders point out that humility must stand on a foundation of self-esteem. Eventually, our physical bodies will be "dust and ashes". One of the first tasks that faced the founders of Congregation B'nai Israel was to secure ground for a cemetery. The Sesquicentennial of Oakland Jewish Cemetery will be in 2024. Larry Alman is currently Chair of the Cemetery Foundation, and Richard Estelita oversees family assistance. Richard has been working for months to update our cemetery records and arrange for a cloud-based cemetery management software that will enable our members to open the Oakland Jewish Cemetery map and click on an individual plot to view burial information, photographs, and related documents. Richard has also spearheaded the revision of the Cemetery Rules and Regulations, Deed Templates, and Cemetery fees. Once again, the dedication and commitment of Richard Estelita and Larry Alman to the proper maintenance of our cemetery and cemetery records is a lasting gift to the past and future of our community.

On behalf of the entire congregation, let me express my heartfelt gratitude to our members highlighted in this article and to all our volunteers who give their time and talents so generously.

Wishing each of you a Healthy and Happy New Year 2024 Annabelle Imber Tuck, President



We all have perceptions of things. That person was not dressed appropriately. His hair is too long. Her voice is too loud. Children should sit quietly at services. Do not double dip. The list goes on and on and to be honest, it is hard to live in this world with so many opinions about what is polite, and proper, and the 'right' way. I have my own thoughts and perceptions too, and of course, my views are right too. Even though I know there are two, if not more, sides to every discussion. I have worked in temple life for 30 years, and the discussion about children and services has stayed the same. We want children to participate and be at Temple, but many want them to sit quietly. Yes, my own mother gave us the 'stink eye' plenty of times for not sitting still in services. My brothers were punished by not being able to go to the Oneg Shabbat once for messing around during services.

Anyway – upon asking our young families about their desire to attend services on Fridays, some of the comments came back that they felt uncomfortable because others judged them. They felt self-conscious about the stares and perception of their children's movements and noises during services. Therefore, they choose not to come. And when our older members ask, 'where are the young people' because they love the idea of youth in Temple...well this could go round and round for days – about who said what, and who had the 'stink eye,' and what is right and what is wrong. And in the end, there is no right or wrong answer. The right idea, of course, is to welcome everyone – of all ages, and all habits, and idiosyncrasies – double-dippers, the loud, the quiet, the playful, and the stoic, all in one room to observe Shabbat, in whatever way feels right. I delivered words many times from the pulpit, with my two year old on my hip. He saw me on the Bima, and he had no other idea other than being with me. I balanced the best I could to work and be his mom. I wanted him to feel Shabbat by being in the sanctuary and for him to be part of the community, but it was not easy sometimes when he cried and fussed to come to his mommy. My husband did his best, but when a toddler wants his mom, it is all over. I wish

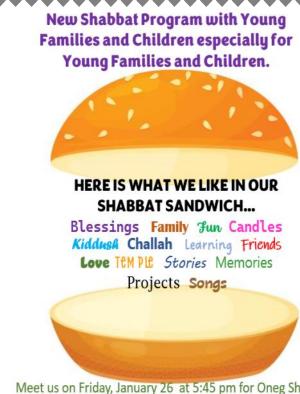
we could all remember those times when we were in that place and boat. I remember travelling with two kids under four on a plane, by myself. I am sure the other passengers saw me coming... some with smiles, others cringing.

In January, we are going to start a young family/young children Shabbat experience again in the same fashion as the previous Shabbat Kids Club, this time called Shabbat Sandwich, which wraps up all our Shabbat experiences between our two pieces of bread/ challah. We all have different things we add to sandwiches, different condiments, some people like sandwiches thicker, and others grilled or toasted. We all have special components we add to make them exactly right for ourselves. I hope you will take all that is delicious to you and add it to your Shabbat experience as we navigate what makes Shabbat a balanced and delectable 'cuisine' for all congregants, of all ages and styles, and of course, opinions.

JANUARY RELIGIOUS SCHOOL DATES:

Sundays, January 7, 14, 21, 28

Confirmation Class: Wednesday, January 10 & 24



Meet us on Friday, January 26 at 5:45 pm for Oneg Shabbat.

Then join in the sanctuary for the candles, kiddush, and blessing of the children, and then off to learning, fun, and family time.

Bring a packed dinner of your favorite sandwiches – all things 'Shabbat delicious'. iust for you.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1st	Sam Levin		
2nd	Adam Hoffman		February
3rd	Alma Baker Catherine Norwood Dale Ronnel		February February
4th	Bonnie Nickol		February
5th	Charles Alman Eoin Dockter Bruce Greenberg		February February
6th	Stacey Ronnel Janice Thurow		February 2
7th	Ellen Korenblat Becky Marks		
8th	Greyson Reiss		LAIN
9th	Martha Alman		CINFI
10th	Tricia Gold Clara Spivey		
11th	Aniko Diamant		
12th	Nancy Alexander		
14th	Jo Sears Harkins		
15th	Shirley Friedman		
16th	Elaine Lowens		
17th	Harper Harris		
18th	Rylee Krupitsky		
19th	Jude Schlesinger		
20th	Debbie Brady Eileen Hamilton Jack Perin	Birthda 26th	Andrew Casciano
21st	Ellyn Polsky		Sean Gibson William Siegel
22nd	Capi Peck	27th	Isabella Ifrah

23rd

25th

Jill Bauman

Keith Nigro

Charlotte Rudofsky

Vivian Rudorsky

28th

29th

Howard Bresnik

David Shell

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

February 6	Judy and John Selig	42 years
February 14	Rivka and Harry Ehrenberg Jr.	10 years
February 14	Lee and Ricky Harris	7 years
February 16	Betty and David Rosen	47 years
February 18	Elaine and Rick Lowens	20 years
February 19	Becca and Andrew Perin	12 years
February 19	Melinda and Lou Tobian	29 years
February 21	Alison and Austin Vann	10 years



LAFTY NEWS, by Ben Casciano, Religious and Cultural Vice President

Three or four times a year, LaFTY does a social action project. We recently participated in an event at the Historic Arkansas Museum where we ran an exhibit on Judaism in Arkansas. Our families brought a variety of Jewish ritual items that we explained to the visitors. Children at the museum played the dreidel game that we had set up. We had about 300 visitors. Overall, it was a positive experience for us and our visitors, but I must recognize how fortunate we were. When I was heading to and participating in the event, I worried about the safety of our youth group amid increased hatred directed at Jews. This makes me realize, though, how important our exhibit was. It can be dangerous to be publicly Jewish, but educating the community about us is how we can work to combat hate.

The following weekend, LaFTY hosted the first ever "Latkes, Lox, and Laffs" event and had several friends from school over. We made latkes and sufganiyot, played a few games (some of our own invention,) lit candles, and explained Hanukkah to our guests. LaFTY stayed for a lock-in immediately after. We provided a fun and educational experience for our guests.

We are in a hard time now, but that will not stop LaFTY from having Jewish experiences and interacting with the community. We must continue to educate those around us.

DONATIONS

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Anonymous In memory of Bill Eiseman Fran Eiseman

Yahrzeit Fund

In memory of Sheila Fine In memory of Don Gordon Marilyn and Earl Sorrells In memory of Elsa Rosenthal

Byron and Susan Rosenthal Kantrow

In memory of Flora S. Franklin Jane and Bob Goff In memory of Marguerite Selz

Nan Selz

In memory of Justin Komiss Patty and Herb Monoson

In memory of Dr. Ray Biondo Mary Biondo

In memory of Bertie Mack Susan and David Mack

In memory of Ted Baer Milt Baer

In memory of Alvin Strauss, Jr. Tracye and Larry Townley

In memory of Rita Slutsky

Galina and Michael Krupitsky

In memory of Barbara Schlesinger

Kelli and Scott Schlesinger and family

In memory of Eleanor Gross Mark A. Gross

In memory of Catherine Nachmann

Pat Highley and Arnie Nachmann

In memory of Janet and Arnold Mayersohn and Bettye and J.W. Fullerton

Loris and Jay Fullerton

Endowment Fund

General donations

Richard J. Thalheimer Stacey and Mike Ronnel

In memory of Phil Kaplan

Jane Lovett Holt

In memory of Jerry Sherman

Jo Ellen Hartman

Storthz Religious Education Fund

Dr. Rosana Diokno and Dr. Ron Sanders In memory of Jerry Sherman Ann and Phyllis Storthz Anna Marks

In memory of Joan Allenberg Giraud Ann and Phyllis Storthz

Meir Chayim Camp Scholarship Fund

Tom Slatton

Dr. Rosana Diokno and Dr. Ron Sanders

Vogel Caring and Sharing Fund

In honor of Chairperson Janet Korenblat and for providing the wonderful Hannukah luncheon of December 12th.

Van Gates

Wilma C. Diner Fund for Education

In memory of Jerry Sherman Debbie and Brad Diner

Salinger Landscape Fund

In memory of Irving Spitzberg Peggy Klug

Levy Camp Scholarship Fund

In honor of Keith Nigro's birthday In honor of Scott Levine's birthday In honor of Laura and Allan Gold's 50th anniversary In memory of Joan Allenberg Giraud In honor of Larry Townley's birthday Bobbye and Rabbi Gene Levy

Pfeifer Community Outreach Fund

Shelley Ballew

Security Donations

Fran Eiseman

RESOLUTION CONCERNING CREDIT CARD USE AT **CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL**

Stating this past November 1, all transactions using credit cards will be charged 3% to cover the cost of processing fees. Please remember that there are many ways to pay and make donations. The fee will apply ONLY to credit cards.

- Credit cards will continue to be accepted as a form of payment for all functions at Congregation B'nai Israel.
- All donations, including annual gifts, and payments for goods and services, paid by credit cards will be assessed a 3% convenience fee to cover the expense that Congregation B'nai Israel is charged for use of the credit card as a form of payment. Payments may be made by check or ACH without such a fee (and other payment methods may be available in the future).

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NO BETTER TIME THAN NOW! Thank you for all the generous support received since last month.

SAFETY, SECURITY, PEACE OF N

Congregation B'nai Israel is committed to the safety and well-being of our congregants and guests. The Security Committee has been advised of the importance of having uniformed officers present when we are gathering, and this is quite costly. The Temple does NOT have a specific fund that covers the expense of security, rather we count on sponsorships and our operating budget.

Our security costs are on average \$180 each time we hire one officer on duty. This is a budget line of over \$25,000.00 a year.

Will you help us keep our sacred Temple safe for worship? Your donation is greatly needed and appreciated more than ever.

REPORT AN ANTISEMITIC OR BIAS INCIDENT

We all have a responsibility to report and respond to antisemitism or hate when we see it.

TO REPORT AN ANTISEMITIC OR HATE INCIDENT, VISIT:

ADL.ORG/REPORTINCIDENT-KULANU

IF YOU FEAR FOR YOUR SAFETY OR THE SAFETY OF OTHERS, **CALL 9-1-1 IMMEDIATELY.**

What should I report?

You should report any incident you perceive as antisemitic, biased or hateful.

- Antisemitic or other hateful graffiti in public places, including synagogues and schools.
- Vandalism of religious artifacts such as mezuzahs or menorahs and holy places.

 Online harassment, including hateful social media posts and emails. Remember to take a
- Verbal harassment, including emails and voicemails.

 Media-based incidents, including antisemitic or hateful content in a news story.
- White supremacist propaganda

Make an impact in the fight against antisemitism and hate.

Scan this OR code to





JANUARY YAHRZEITS

January 5/6

Louis Blass Clara Zinn Block Max Block Ray Solmson Bluthenthal Barbara Brookes Dr. Wilma C. Diner Jennie Book Diner Sarah Harris Donner Lucille K. Ehrenberg Eva Morris Elias Clarence Randel Epstein Warren Faupel Norman N. Fein Irma Frankel Bettye Fullerton J.W. Fullerton Lillian Brenner Gealt Yale I. Glubok Richard Steven Hillman Nathan "Nate" Robert Hulett Maurice Joseph Jacobson Solomon Kaufman Sol H. Levy Herbert Lux Arnold Linn Mayersohn Janet Grundfest Mayersohn Bertha Wolf Ottenheimer Robert Peiser Henrietta Pfeifer Hollis Pruitt A. Allen Quick **Brooks Rosen** Mary Rubin Sam J. Storhtz Jr. Bernard Tanenbaum Pauline Ticker

January 12/13

David Alexander
Blanche Alman
Sol Alman
Sophie Ceitlin
Mabel Cohen
Larry Dumont
Debbie Friedman
Mary Julia Heczel
Doris M. Hoffman
Charles W. Kaiser
Rabbi J. Aaron Levy
Max Lifshitz

Jan. 12/13 continued

Edward Meyers
Renee Miller
Arthur Pfeifer
Morris Phillips
Joanne Reagler
Maurice Roby
Annette J. Sanders
Harry Schneider
Sam Schwartz
Sylvia Schwartz
Mamie Dreeben Spear
Birdie Razeper Tenenbaum
Mollie Liffland Utter
Sol Waldman
June M. Wolf

January 19/20

Gus Blass Alice Young Camp Barnett H. Cohen Ernest E. Ellman Mary E. Gans Sarah Gold Marx Goldstein Martin Greenberg Marion Lee Levy Jane B. Mendel Leonard J. Ottenheimer Miriam Zavadoff Rabkin David Reagler Anita Scherer Reikes Ralph Reutlinger Morris H. Rosen Jeanette Rubin Dan Schwartz Sydell Siegel Gertrude M. Solmson Adrienne R. Steppach Moses O. Stern Jess B. Thalheimer Haskell Wolff

January 26/27

Stephen Biller John F. Bolts **Arthur Bott** Rebecca Navra Cohen Pauline R. Crum James Davidson Carolyn Schott Ducker Molly Fleisig Flora Oppenheimer Fox Ellen Rae Kaufman Fannie Safferstone Klein Lionel H. Kohler Ruth Goldman Kretchmar Samuel Herbert Levin Beatrice Brint Marks Kate L. Mayersohn Dave Meyer Mary Nelson Vernon Sahlin Jennie R. Storthz Bettye Jeanne Butner Streiff

WE RECORD WITH SORROW THE DEATH OF OUR MEMBER

JEROME SHERMAN

father of Karen Sherman



WE RECORD WITH SORROW THE DEATH OF OUR MEMBERS RELATIVE

SAUNDRA NELOMS

mother of Andrea Neloms

JACOBS CAMP

WE'RE HIRING!

BENEFITS OF WORKING AT JACOBS CAMP

All people who work at summer camp do so because they enjoy working with children. However camp offers many valuable experiences and transferable skills that can be used for a wide range of careers in different industries. The skills learned from working at a camp can be applicable in both the classroom and boardroom.

Everyday, staff members have the opportunity to build upon skills appealing to any employer. From walking to the pool to teaching a camper how to tie their shoe, you can improve your leadership, communication and flexibility skills, and so much more! Below are a few examples:

- Self Discipline
- Multi-tasking
- Interpersonal Communication
- Managing Up
- Leadership Development
- Conflict Resolution
- Teamwork
- Flexibility
- Ability to Have Fun

The Light Does Not Go Out

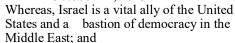
Pictured below is Yaakov Tyberg, nephew of Ellyn Polsky, cousin of Julie Polsky, Sadie and Gabe Elson. Yaakov is lighting Hanukkah candles inside of their armored vehicle in Gaza as he serves the IDF in this time of war.





Congregation B'nai Israel Little Rock, Arkansas

Resolution in Support of Israel October 17, 2023





Whereas, Israel has been the target of ountless terrorist attacks and has faced existential threats to its very existence since its founding in 1948;

Whereas, Hamas, the terrorist organization that rules the Gaza Strip, brutally attacked Israeli civilians on October 7, 2023, Shabbat-Atzeret Simchat Torah 5784, murdering some 1,300 of Israel's residents of all ethnicities and walks of life, most of them civilians; abducted nearly two hundred hostages of all ages, and wounded thousands; and

Whereas, Israel's right to self-defense is enshrined in international law and is a fundamental principle of the United Nations Charter; and

Whereas, Israel has been a beacon of hope and opportunity for Jews around the world, providing a safe haven for those fleeing persecution and oppression; and

Whereas, the United States and Israel share a deep and abiding friendship, based on common values, mutual interests, and a commitment to freedom and democracy;

Therefore, be it resolved that Congregation B'nai Israel, Little Rock, Arkansas stands in solidarity with the State of Israel and all of its residents and supports Israel's right to defend itself against all threats to its sovereignty and the lives of its resi-

Be it further resolved that Congregation B'nai Israel expresses gratitude to President Joe Biden, his Administration, and members of Congress of both parties who have demonstrated stalwart support for the State of Israel in this horrific time of crisis; and

Be it further resolved that Congregation B'nai Israel pledges to work tirelessly to strengthen the ties between the United States and Israel, and to promote peace, security, and prosperity in the Middle East and beyond.

RESOLVED AND ADOPTED BY BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON THE 17th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2023.

DONATIONS: THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING GENEROSITY TO YOUR TEMPLE

ENCLOSED IS MY GIFT OF DONATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$			
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In memory of:			
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- ♦ HALLIE COHEN MILLER ARCHIVE FUND
- MEMORIAL PRAYERBOOK FUND
- ◆ CHARLES NEWFELD FUND FOR INTERFAITH RELATIONS
- ♦ SISTERHOOD LEGACY FUND



Alex Daniel, B'nai Israel Board of Trustees Member and religious school committee chair, who was awarded Teacher of the Year at Episcopal Collegiate School.

Liz Lucker and Mary Machen whose son, Spencer Lucker, received a 2024 Purpose Award from Purpose Jobs, celebrating individuals who are making the world a better place. The award states that Spencer's 'work is centered on bringing diverse groups together to solve structural problems. He's mission-driven and focused on building authentic partnerships.'

Stanley Goldberg, on his 95th birthday, from his sister, Faye.