

Agudas Israel Congregation
77 North Pine Street
Hazleton, PA 18201
570-455-2851

Officers:

Richard Kline, Ritual Leader
Debbie Walko, President
Marlene Leonard, Vice President
Richard Rockman, Secretary
Helene Kline, Treasurer
Richard Kline, Financial Officer



SHABBAT CANDLELIGHTING

December 6- Parashat Vayetzei- 4:16 pm candlelighting

December 13- Parashat Vayishlach- 4:16pm candlelighting

December 20- Parashat Vayeshev- 4:19pm candlelighting

December 25- 1st night of Chanukah

December 27- Parashat Miketz- 4:23pm candlelighting (light 3 Chanukah
candles before Shabbat candles)

Calendar information is being sent out. Please respond timely!

Hebrew School is held Sunday mornings with Richard Kline at Agudas Israel
Congregation. Please reach out for more details.

Look out for the next set of classes with Cantor Ramon coming soon!

If you know anyone looking for employment as a building maintenance
person, the shul is looking. Please reach out to Christina or Debbie with any
leads or questions.

Why is Hanukkah Called the Festival of Lights?

The origins of this common name for the December holiday go back to the first century.

By [My Jewish Learning](#)



Hanukkah today is often referred to as the Festival of Lights, or *chag ha-ooreem* in Hebrew. The origins of this term are quite old, going back to the Jewish historian [Josephus Flavius](#).

Josephus lived in Jerusalem in the first century of the Common Era. In his work *Antiquities of the Jews*, Josephus describes the origins of the holiday we now know as Hanukkah.

And so Judah and his fellow citizens celebrated the festival of the restoration of

the sacrifices of the Temple for eight days, and omitted no sort of pleasure, but everyone feasted upon very rich and splendid sacrifices; and they honored God, and delighted themselves with psalms of praise and the playing of harps. Indeed, they were so very glad at the revival of their customs and, after so long a time, having unexpectedly regained their right to worship, that they made it a law for their posterity that they should keep a festival celebrating the restoration of their Temple worship for eight days. And from that time to this we celebrate this, which we call the Festival of Lights, because, I imagine, beyond our hopes this right was brought to light, and so this name was placed on the festival.

Josephus' account differs markedly from the common one known today, which focuses on the miracle of a tiny jar of oil lasting for eight days. It is that miracle that is normally invoked as explanation for the eight days of the festival and the eight candles of the Hanukkah menorah. But Josephus makes no mention of the miracle of the oil and speculates that the name comes from the fact that the right to worship and sacrifice again in the ancient temple was "brought to light."

Today, of course, the most prominent and best-known symbol of the holiday is the menorah — the eight-armed candelabra (nine if you count the [shamash](#)). And it is the menorah lights that we typically think of when we call Hanukkah the Festival of Lights. Which is no surprise, given that Hanukkah typically falls around the darkest part of the year.

But the earliest source we have of this term suggested something very different. It is not the physical lights of the holiday that we are commemorating, but the restoration of the ancient temple practices that, thanks to the courage of the Maccabees, was again “brought to light.”

Estate Planning?

Call the AIC office to reserve your cemetery plot(s) for you and your beloved family. Active planning helps family tend to your afterlife needs and their mourning with less stress.

Consider joining the Cemetery Committee to help our members and congregation with this lasting legacy.

GET WELL WISHES ARE EXPRESSED TO: CAROL SILVER, JANET KEICH, LEANNE TRATTNER, SHIRLEY BRENNER, RABBI LARRY KAPLAN, BONNIE YANUSKIEWICZ, & SARA FRIEDMAN.

SHOULD ANYONE HAVE ANY NEWS TO SHARE WITH THE AIC FAMILY, PLEASE EMAIL IT TO AGUDASISRAELHAZLETON@GMAIL.COM TO RUN IN THE NEXT AGUDAGRAM!



*A message from Laurie Tevlin Klemow:
Thank you to everyone who sent notes, called,
visited, and made donations in memory of Bob.
Also, thank you to all those who shared stories
and memories of Bob.*

(Kislev) December Yahrzeits

May the memory of the righteous endure as a blessing.

The yahrzeit plaque lights are on in the sanctuary in memory of our departed loved ones.

*Numbers before each name correspond to the Hebrew date of their passing. The date after each name is the secular day of the yahrzeit. Yahrzeit candles should be lit the evening before this date burning through the day of their passing. Kaddish should be said the evening before and the day of the date of passing.

KISLEV

1 Rabbi Michael Michlin 12/2
3 Ethel Pegalis 12/4
3 Leroy Orkin 12/4
3 Selma Sebrans 12/4
6 Fannie Aranoff 12/7
6 Lena Levine 12/7
7 Ida Deitch 12/8
7 Miriam Chana Rosen 12/8
8 Gloria Tevlin 12/9
9 Lillian Brown 12/10
9 Martin Elkind 12/10
10 Sedell Bloch 12/11
10 Rita Baiderman 12/11
10 Aaron Kashinitz 12/11
10 Kurt Seuss 12/11
12 Frances H. Miller 12/13
13 Lottie Chenetz 12/14
14 Esther Bea Quint 12/15
15 Manuel Klemow 12/16

16 Isadore Rothbart 12/17
17 Jacob Sherman 12/18
19 Leonard Narrow 12/20
21 Rachel Suess 12/22
21 Hyman Gold 12/22
22 Howard Koller 12/23
22 Harry Rabinowitz 12/23
23 Levi Bohard 12/24
23 Lester Rosenberg 12/24
24 Dora Jaffe 12/25
24 Elaine Linz 12/25
25 Alan Berg 12/26
25 Evelyn Hollander 12/26
26 Albert Aronoff 12/27
28 Dorothee Lande 12/29
29 Nathan Adler 12/30
29 Henry Rockman 12/30

PLEASE REMEMBER THE MITZVAH OF GIVING TZEDUKAH TO YOUR SHUL OR THE SHUL OF YOUR LOVED ONE WHO HAS PASSED, ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR YAHRZEIT IN THEIR MEMORY.

REFLECTION WHICH MAY BE READ WHEN LIGHTING A YAHRZEIT CANDLE FOR YOUR LOVED ONE:

"I light this candle to bring peace to the soul of _____ (insert Jewish name) ben/bat (son of/daughter of) _____ (insert father's Jewish name)."

The human soul is a light from God. May it be your will that the soul of (*insert name*) enjoy eternal life, along with the souls of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah, and the rest of the righteous that are in Gan Eden. Amen.

Neir Adonai Nishmat Adam. Yehi Ratzon Milfanecha, Adonai Eloheinu Veilohhei Avoteinu, Shetehei Nishmat (insert name) Tzerurah betzeror hachayim, im nishmot Avraham Yitzchak ve'Ya'akov, Sarah, Rivkah, Rachel VeLeah. Tehi Menutchatah kavod, Selah

NOVEMBER DONATIONS RECEIVED

Yahrzeit Memorial Fund			Endowment Fund
<i>From</i>	<i>....</i>	<i>In Memory of</i>	
Lois Sugarman	Ben Mason, father	<i>In Memory of Robert Klemow</i> Alan & Karen Levy Bradley Cohen Bruce & Kate Miller Ellen Starker-Minicucci & Susan Starker Hank Narrow Howard & Marie Narrow Karen & Barry Chaskin Lenny & Ann Louise Brenner Richard & Faye Bishop Richard Rockman
Alan & Karen Levy	....	Benjamin Levy, grandfather
Rhoda Wolff	....	Bernard Wolff, father-in-law
Lenny Brenner	....	Betty Brenner, mother
Jeffrey & Joyce Cutler	....	Eva Cutler, mother
Richard & Faye Bishop	....	Gary Taub, friend
Miriam Lefkowitz	....	Harold Lefkowitz, husband
Ruth Goldstein	....	Henry Goldstein, father
Ronald Feller	....	Hy Feller, father
Honey Minkin	....	Irving Brown, father
Richard & Faye Bishop	....	Irving Brown, father of friend
Mable Brown	....	Irving Brown, husband
Alan & Karen Levy	....	Jan M. Levy, cousin
Janet L. Keich	....	Julia Baum Blumberg
Richard & Faye Bishop	Mirian Kuss, mother of friend	<i>In Memory of Michele Sukenik Banker</i> Bruce & Kate Miller
Ruth Goldstein	....	Morris Hoffman, grandfather
Alan & Karen Levy	....	Morris Levine, uncle
Shirley Brenner, Cindy, Debbie & Family	....	Myron Brenner, father
Ronald Feller	....	Pauline Lander, grandmother
Jackie Matlow	....	Reuben Cohn, father
Richard & Faye Bishop	....	Rochelle Spizer, friend
Karen Chaskin	....	Rochelle Spizer, sister
Richard & Faye Bishop	....	Rose Bishop, grandmother
Eulah Bishop c/o Roseanne Nam	....	Rose Bishop, mother-in-law
Tama Lee Barsky	....	Samuel Koplin, father
Terry & Marvin Chercass	....	Sophie Richter, aunt
David Matlow	....	Ted Matlow, brother
Jackie Matlow	....	Ted Matlow, husband
Esther & Alan Karpe	....	Yale Schwartz, brother

Thank you!

We greatly appreciate donations for yahrzeits, life events, and other celebrations! They truly keep the shul running and show how strong our congregation is.

If you'd like information about donating, please email us at agudasisraelhazleton@gmail.com or call the shul.

AIC/ COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS



Calendar information is being sent out currently. Please keep an eye on your email and mailbox, and then send back any names or ads by December 25th. Calendars will be mailed out mid-January and will cover February 2025-January 2026.

Invitation from Temple Israel WB:

Due to Chanukah coming during school winter break, we will celebrate a little early to include families.

Join us for our Pre- Chanukah Havdalah Celebration and Dinner with Midrasha!

(in place of Chanukah Workshop Sunday)

Saturday Evening

December 21 at 5:45 pm

Reservations required - Please RSVP to the office at 570-824-8927 or to office@templewb.org



Friday, December 27, 2024 at 11:30am

Please plan to join the community at City Hall as we light the menorah together. As always, a photo will be taken for the newspaper and added to our newsletter next month.

Monday, December 16, 2024- We are invited to Congregation Ohav Zedek, 242 S. Franklin St. (one block from Temple Israel) for Israeli food and learning with guest speaker, Rabbi Aaron Goldscheider. Rabbi Goldscheider lives in Israel and will speak to our community about Chanukah after 10/7/23. A takeout dinner from the Around the Table Catering food truck is complimentary with your reservation, plus dessert! Choose from falafel in a pita or platter, tofu schwarma in a pita or platter, or buffalo schnitzel in a pita or platter. Dinner is at 5:30 and the class is at 6:15. Email Sara for details or to RSVP/order at admin@ohavzedek.org or call at 5702390626. All are welcome!



DECEMBER PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Shalom to all,

Greetings from Amsterdam! What a moving trip this has been! I visited the Anne Frank House where the Frank family and friends hid from the Nazis until they were found and sadly taken to concentration camps). It is an experience I will never forget and really drives home the saying "NEVER AGAIN!"

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and is enjoying the snow falling in our area. We look forward to this holiday season with some interesting and exciting invitations to join events around NEPA. If you have the chance to attend any, I hope you enjoy them. Please make every effort to join us at the menorah lighting at City Hall on December 27 at 11:30am. It is always nice to see so many in our community come out for this event in our city.

We continue to wish the family of Bob Klemow our condolences. May his memory be for a blessing.



Sincerely,

Debbie Walker