TEMPLE BETH SHOLOM State State





YIZKOR... A STRANGE MOMENT OF SADNESS IN THE VERY MIDST OF OUR JOYFUL HOLY DAYS! THAT'S LIFE!

BY RABBI FELIPE GOODMAN

The history of Yizkor is not very clear. Originally, it was associated with Yom Kippur and only later was it added to the three festivals of pilgrimage. Originally, memorial prayers were recited for the martyrs of our people. Then we started reciting the prayers for our own individual loved ones. In the Code of Jewish Law, the Shulchan Aruch, we are merely told, "It was a custom to contribute charity on Yom Kippur on behalf of the departed." The Rema, quoting a 13th century halachic authority, adds the comment, "And we make mention of the names of the departed soul since they also obtain forgiveness on the Day of Atonement."

So, why do we recite Yizkor? Well, here the expressed reason is because in reciting it, we gain atonement for our loved ones; our doing good in this world reflects well on them in the next world. But another theory is just the opposite. In reciting Yizkor, we remind God who our parents were in the hope that through their merit our lives will be enriched. Which leaves us with the question: Why do we say Yizkor on Pesach, Shavuot and Sukkot? Originally, as we've seen, it was only meant to be recited on Yom Kippur. Why the additional three? There are several historical reasons that are offered for these additions, but why specifically on Pesach, Shavuot and Sukkot? One explanation is that our Torah portions on the last days of these festivals speak of gifts that were offered to God in the Temple, making these days an appropriate time for offering gifts to charity in remembering our parents as we recite Yizkor.

But one last question. On Pesach, Shavuot and Sukkot we are commanded to "rejoice." That is a Biblical commandment! Why come along and disrupt the joy of the festival with bringing to mind the pain in remembering the loss of our loved ones? Well, here is the simple answer: That's life! No matter how much joy we find in life, there is always going to be some pain. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote so beautifully: Be still, sad heart! And cease repining; Behind the clouds is the sun still shining;

Thy fate is the common fate of all, Into each life some rain must fall. Yes, into each life some rain must fall. Reciting Yizkor at joyous moments reminds us of that. It's a lesson found in countless Jewish traditions. We celebrate the joy of freedom at the Pesach Seder, but at the same time we eat the maror. We celebrate with a bride and groom at their moment of joy, but then we break the glass. Indeed, we usher in a New Year by dipping our food in honey. Why honey? Some explain that it is to remind us that the bee delivers both – the honey and the sting – and our year will have both.

Amidst the joy of Shavuot, we also recite Yizkor. This is a time to reconnect with our loved ones and be with them once again. This is a time not to punish ourselves with painful memories, but to go back again in our imagination to other times and re-live them once again. Our parents were just like us; sometimes at our best and other times at our worst. That's life! Remembering their passing amidst the joy of a festival should remind us of the moments of joy that they brought into our lives. May their memories ever be for a blessing.

Temple Beth Sholom May–June 2022 Bulletin

BEFORE THE TORAH

BY ASSISTANT RABBI JONATHAN HODSON

These words are the opening lines to Dante Alighieri's "Divine Comedy"-a work considered to be the longest Italian poem ever written. It describes the author's fictious journey of being led through Hell, Purgatory, and later Heaven. When it was written, it was so controversial that the Catholic Church had Dante exiled from Florence, and later tried to have his remains publicly burned at the stake. Dante's views of the afterlife were anything but normal for his day, but in many aspects he tows the party line for how Renaissance-era Catholics thought about eternity.

For instance, when Dante first enters Hell-he is assigned a guide. Interestingly, Dante chose a personal hero of his to lead him through the gates of Hell: a real life Roman poet by the name of Virgil. When the pair finally arrive at the first circle of Torment, Virgil explains that this part of Hades is reserved for people in "Limbo"—ie, these individuals were born before the birth of Christ and therefore were completely ignorant of Catholic traditions like baptism. Here is he greeted by Ovid, Socrates, Homer, Aristotle-and even Julius Caesar. Various other Biblical characters (Patriarchs and Matriarchs from the Tanakh obviously) also reside there, but none of them suffer the fires of Hell. Rather, they can only look up and think of what could have been had they been exposed to "the truth."

It's no secret that for many religions and faiths throughout the world, the Jews completely fit into this category. They regard us as God's "Chosen People"—and they might even call us wise, or learned. But for them, we are simply ignorant of the true religion, and therefore we are resigned to be pitied.

However, we see things differently. We see ourselves as wholeheartedly devoted to pursuing God and God's sacred texts. We pour over every word written in our liturgy and our rabbis write volumes of commentary for every verse. In fact, the holiday of Shavuot celebrates the receiving of these texts-and we allow ourselves the pleasure of reading them and studying them all night. We see the other religions of the world not as bad or ignorant, but lacking the courage to challenge and interpret these sacred books. And what of the afterlife for us?

Rather than a black and white version of "Heaven" and "Hell" our Sages suggest that the greatest version of the afterlife could be learning Torah with Moses. Other Rabbis postulate that when we die,

we are seated at a large banquet table-with long forks attached to our arms, making it impossible for us to feed ourselves. The wicked attempt in vain to stuff themselves with all the succulent food, while the pious and the meek use their fork arms to feed each other. Throughout the book, Dante continues to descend down into the pit with hopes of coming out on the other side. Toward the end of the inferno, in the deepest levels of Hell-- Dante encounters members of the Rabbinic class known as the Pharisees. They are meant to suffer the most horrible tragedies because of their "manipulation" of the Bible, literally making them "Damned Jews." My friends, if interpreting Torah is a sin—I aim to be worthy enough to experience damnation with my Teachers. To Hell with me apparently!

FROM THE PRESIDENT BY BILL MASON

Hello, friends and fellow Temple Beth Sholom members. I hope everyone is enjoying the springtime and wonderful weather we are having in Las Vegas. These warm days and cool nights feel like they were ordered by the Chamber of Commerce to promote business and living in Las Vegas. No shoveling snow here.

To start this report, I will recap some of the recent events offered by the Temple. Our annual Passover Seder was attended by over 120 people. The count exceeded what we originally planned for the event, and the quality of the food was excellent. After the observance of Passover, our youth group sponsored a pizza and ice-skating event at City National Arena. Again, we had over 120 people show up to the event. Based on the positive responses it looks like we may have the beginnings of an annual event.

This past month the Men's Club also sponsored a Sunday Poker Tournament, and the Holocaust Resource Center hosted a Warsaw Remembrance function. Both events were well attended. The Temple Beth Sholom Women's League held its elections in April and will be preparing their entertaining and educational slate of events for the coming year. Please keep checking our weekly bulletins for upcoming activities.

For the Board, it looks to be a busy May. We will be preparing for our annual general meeting, and we are putting together the list of Board members to be presented to the congregation for approval. Please also look to the Temple Bulletin for updates and information on the Six13 Group musical concert planned for December 4, 2022. This concert will be a Hanukkah highlight for the whole Las Vegas Jewish community. We are very excited to bring the Six13 Group to Las Vegas. Regarding our building and grounds, we have completed repairs to the heater for the Temple mikvah and now have warm water in the mikvah.

We have also begun a major overhaul of one of our two cooling towers. The cooling tower repairs cost over \$300,000 but were necessary. Next year we will need to plan for the same repairs to the second cooling tower. We have one of the most beautiful facilities in Las Vegas, but it is starting to show its age.

Thank you everyone, and I look forward to seeing you at Shabbat services, and Temple functions this spring.

Bill Mason President Temple Beth Sholom

WELCOME NEW TEMPLE MEMBERS!

EDUARDO LEVI MARY & STEVEN LOCK & FAMILY GLEEN PRIMACK ADRIENNE FOX & FAMILY

Temple Beth Sholom May-June 2022 Bulletin



SECURITY & SITUATIONAL AWARENESS SCHOOL DIRECTOR FOR TBSECC STAFF

The ave you ever driven to work, school, the grocery store or even home and wondered how you got there, having absolutely no knowledge of the trip to or from these places?

In our busy lives this situation is not uncommon as we are often multitasking or dwelling on what we are going to do next instead of focusing on the present moment in time.

During the April TBSECC staff meeting the teachers and staff of the Sandra and Stanley Mallin ECC at TBS participated in a special training called, " Beware- An Introduction to Situational Awareness" led by Beth LaManna, Regional Security Advisor for Jewish Nevada. LaManna is a 22-year veteran of the FBI, having served in a variety of capacities and assignments within the New York field office, to include Special Agent in the Criminal Division conducting investigations into organized and violent crimes and civil rights violations, the primary coordinator for the National Center for Analysis of Violent Crimes within the FBI and also served as a crisis negotiations coordinator and managed and directed all planning and operations, serving over a decade as a crisis negotiator.





The staff training focused on concepts of Situational Awareness to better evaluate the potential risk in various situations throughout our community. Prior to delving into the meat of the training, the staff was asked, "What situations or places make you apprehensive and why?" Responses included crowds, theaters, shopping malls, gas stations and ATMs. The staff watched various videos of crimes taking place and were challenged to observe and recall elements of the scene that would help solve the crime.

These elements included but were not limited to such things as number of perpetrators, height, weights, skin tones and hair color, clothing details, distinguishing features such as scars or tattoos, make and model of vehicles, were there any weapons and the make and model of vehicles. Common everyday distractions were discussed such as cell phones, ear buds, loud music that pull our attention away from what is going on around us. The interactive training ended with the understanding of how important it is to be aware of your surroundings and never hesitate to report unusual or suspicious behavior. Situational awareness is important in every situation and can be applied anywhere, thus making this training a vital part of our ongoing training as educators.

BY D.J. SINAI YOUTH/MUSICAL DIRECTOR

YOUTH

SY and KADIMAnics are getting ready for summer! The school year is winding down which means so is our youth programming. The students are excited to spend their summer at camps, including many Jewish sleep away. It is wonderful to see our youth exploring other Jewish outlets over their break and then bringing their experiences back to TBS!

Last month USY hosted our very first Community Ice Skating event which was open to our entire TBS community.



Over 120 people came out for an afternoon of fun and for a few, it was their first time on ice skates! Check out the pictures and see all the smiles!





A big thank you to City National Arena for hosting us. As the year wraps up, we have a few activities still going on. Our Far West Regional Convention is taking place at Camp Alonim in California over Memorial Day Weekend where the region votes in their new board. These kinnusim are a great way for our young leaders to interact with other Jewish teens their age, growing and building together to strengthen not only our region, but our individual chapters as well. Seeing these teens lead an entire weekend by themselves, including Shabbat services and Torah reading, is truly a remarkable thing to see.

Our sixth graders are welcome to their first introductory Lounge Night on Wednesday, May 11. This is a great opportunity for our incoming USYers to a small glimpse into what they can expect next year when they join the older teens for Lounge Night! The teens will be able to check out our arcade machines, foosball table, air hockey, 75" TV with surround sound, Xbox, as well as have a night of games and prizes. Not too shabby!

Our last event of the year will be our annual pool party for USYers. For the second year (since we moved into our new home), my wife and I invite the teens to our house for an afternoon of swimming, games, pizza and music! This is open to all 7-12 graders who are current members of USY. We have so much planned to make next year even better, so if you know of any kids in grades 4 - 12, please have their parents email me at <u>djsinai@bethsholomlv.org</u> for more information on our youth programs!

Temple Beth Sholom May-June 2022 Bulletin

THE JUDY & RONALD MACK SCHOOL FOR RELIGIOUS STUDIES

RABBI JONATHAN HODSON RELIGIOUS SCHOOL DIRECTOR



YEAR IN REVIEW

hy is this year different than all other years? Well, much like the Passover story—we began with the unknown but transitioned into freedom.

Our school year began in August, with much of our communal school activities taking place outside. Students and teachers were required to wear masks, but that didn't stop us from smiling at all the fun we had during classes. Whether students were learning Hebrew, Judaica, or traditional Jewish songs—they did so with a happy heart, under the auspices of our caring teachers and staff. With our school entering the High Holidays shortly after classes began, we had the opportunity to participate in our annual Tashlich program, which included Pizza and feeding toy fish!

Unfortunately, our school was dealt a huge blow when we lost our Matriarch and our namesake, Judy Mack, in September. However, we persevered with our studies knowing that Judy would want us to carry on with her love of learning. Rabbi Goodman facilitated "Ask the Rabbi" sessions, while DJ taught our students Hebrew songs. We decorated our Sukkah (and played a little Minecraft in it as well) and made "Refuah Shlema"—or "Get Well" cards for our community members in the hospital.

In November, we hosted our first "Hot Chocolate Havdallah" event—where students enjoyed hot chocolate, smores, and board games. We even talked Rabbi Goodman into playing Playstation FIFA Soccer projected on the outside of the MPR! Later in December, our annual Hannukah Bingo fundraiser had its most successful event yet, distributing more toys and prizes than ever before. Our Monday night Program focused on "Stem Challenge" activities, encouraging our students to build and design various Torah-based projects.

With a new year came new opportunities for learning. Our students participated in "World Wide Wrap"—a program designed to initiate young people into the practice of wrapping tefillin, with the help of our Temple Minyanairres. Shortly thereafter, our Religious School hosted a booth and "Mitzvah Store" at the TBS annual Purim Carnival—where we distributed candy and prizes to students and Temple Members.

During Passover, our Monday Night Program offered our first ever "Plague Seder." Students were treated to a variety of candy treats that represented each plague from the Exodus story. In commemoration of Yom Ha-Shoah, our kids participated in a "Poetry Walk" around our synagogue. Various poems from Holocaust survivors and witnesses were read by students at various places on our campus: the Holocaust Resource Center, the Holocaust Library, and the Warsaw Ghetto Memorial.

Despite beginning our year with several unknowns, our students and teachers were committed to making learning important—and we had a successful school year. Our school will always embody the idea that Judy and Ronald Mack knew was important: educating our children is the most important way to ensure the future of the Jewish people.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE



ur annual election meeting was a great time of shopping, eating, and learning. I was happy to see everyone who came out. I want to take a minute and WELCOME our new and returning board members. Being part of the board is voluntary and I appreciate your commitment to this power group of women! I am looking forward to a year full of activities and friendships.

On May 22nd is our annual Donor event where we honor women who have gone above and beyond. This year we are honoring Nadolyn Karchmer with the Sara Saltzman Award, Cheryl Ross with the Mickey Wilner Award and Kim Memar with the Faye Steinberg Lifetime Achievement. We look forward to honoring these women while enjoying lunch and a silent auction.

This is my last newsletter as President. I would like to thank everyone for the past 2 years. It has been my honor to lead this organization through a few difficult years but it was exciting. I would like to introduce you to the new President, Judy Forman. She and her husband have been in Las Vegas for many years. I wish Judy, and the new and returning Board Members good luck in the coming years.



THE SCHWARTZ JUDAICA GIFT SHOP

will be open in June on Monday's and Wednesday's from 10 AM to Noon. Call Ellen Lessinger for an appointment at 775-842-1550.

MEN'S CLUB

By Ken Heck | Men's Club President

he Men's Club has been busy! On March 20th, LVMPD Deputy Chief Sasha Larkin and Undersheriff Kevin McMahill (Ret.) spoke to a full Social Hall about Safety in Synagogue. Knowing how critical this topic is, the event was open to the entire congregation.



As experts in security among the diverse religious communities of Las Vegas, Sasha and Kevin spent their morning informing our community about what protections are already in place, and what else we can do to improve our safety. We were well-assured that TBS is at the "top of the class" among Las Vegas institutions in terms of safety and security. LVMPD sent additional experts, and all four speakers made themselves available for Q&A both during and after the event. The information was valuable, and everyone seemed more reassured by the end of the event.



PICTURED LEFT TO RIGHT: Ken Heck – Men's Club President, Bill Mason – TBS President, Kevin McMahill – Undersheriff ret. LVMPD, Sasha Larkin – Dep. Chief LVMPD, Ivan Chatman – Sgt. LVMPD

On April 24th, we held the 3rd Annual TBS Men's Club Chai Roller Poker Tournament. Poker was played. Beer and Bloody Mary's were drank. Hamburgers and Hot Dogs were eaten.



And Clayton Steinberg won the Championship Gold Bracelet! There was wise-cracking, back-slapping and lots of laughter.



It felt great to have a room full of Men and Women just having a great time. The pictures show it all. It was the most fun I've had in shul since I was getting in trouble as a kid

> Ken Heck TBS Men's Club President

B'NEI MITZVAH



JACOB MENDEL MAY 7TH, 2022

Jacob Mendel is a 7th grader at Pinecrest Academy Inspirada. Jacob enjoys gymnastics, which he does weekly, and was inspired by his two older sisters, Hannah and Emily. Jacob also has a younger sister, Julianna, whom he adores. He recently joined Boy Scout Troop 51 Henderson and has earned 10 merit badges at the rank of Tenderfoot. His favorite part of scouting is camping. Jacob loves coding, playing video games, and making Tik Tok videos with Grandpa.

Jacob created his own website for his Bar Mitzvah project, "Baykin's Story." which centers around his pet pig, Baykin. This project aims to raise money and collect blankets for Windy's Rescue Ranch.

To learn about "Baykin's Story," and donation information, go to: https://baykins-story.jm010.repl.co/

AVERY RAMAGE JUNE 11TH, 2022 My name is Avery Ramage and I have been attending Hebrew school since February of 2021. What started as an effort to become educated in my mother's religion, turned into my decision to become a Bar Mitzvah and part of the Jewish community.

I enjoy cooking & love to watch cooking shows. I would like to become a chef and have my own restaurant. A small disclaimer so my mom doesn't get mad, I do plan on going to college before fulfilling my dream of being a chef.

My Mitzvah Project was a difficult choice because there are several ways I wanted to serve our community. I decided the best way I could contribute is to help the homeless community here in Las Vegas. I will be creating small sling bags with some basic necessities to those in need. The ability to make at least one person's life a little easier was what spoke to me.



KARL FORMAN JUNE 18TH, 2022

Karl Forman is a 7th grade student who loves art, playing violin, and fencing. He also enjoys creating animation and music on his computer. His older brother, Moses, and his younger sister, Elizabeth, keep him busy at home, and their dog, Rey, is always around to get involved in the action. Karl enjoys visiting his family in British Columbia over the summer, as well as biking, canoeing, and hiking. Karl likes to have Shabbat dinner with his other grandparents, who recently moved to Las Vegas from NY, as well as to go on walks and play cards and word games.

For his mitzvah project, Karl is asking people to support the Nevada Conservation League. Karl wants to help fight global warming and he believes in the work they do locally, working to insure that we all have a clean, unpolluted natural environment in Nevada and preserve the unique wilderness for future generations.

Karl is a wonderful brother, friend, and son.

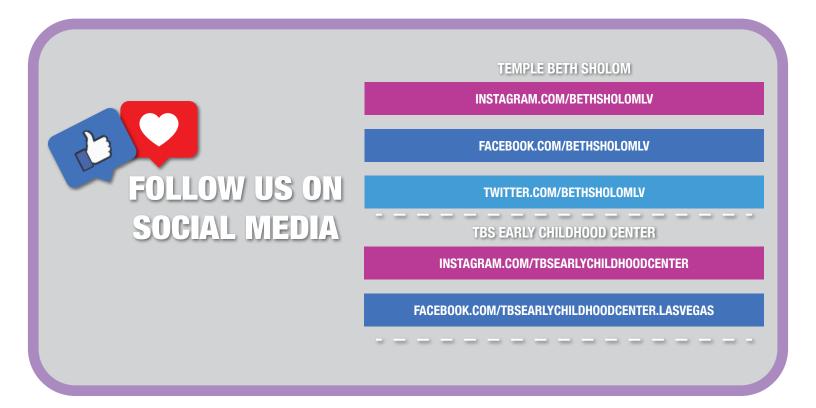


SETH AVI MANN JUNE 30TH, 2022

His parents, Sari and Joel Mann, and his siblings, Eli and Shira, look forward to celebrating this simcha with him. Seth will also be joined by his grandparents, Melanie and Gene Greenberg and Sally and Allan Mann.

Seth is a 7th grader at the Adelson Educational Campus where he is on the Honor Roll. Seth plays drums in the school band and is a member of the basketball and swim team. Seth is proud to be a part of the Trial by Peers program where he participates in the judicial process for juveniles accused of minor offenses. After extensive legal training, he passed the junior bar examination and was sworn in as a Peer Counselor. Seth is also an active member of Temple Beth Sholom USY.

Seth Avi Mann will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on June 30, 2022, in Jerusalem, Israel.









Jack Greenberg, specializes in residential real estate in Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, Henderson and Boulder City. He serves clients ranging from first-time buyers, Luxury proprieties and Investors. A true testament to his success, Jack has a vast pool of repeat business. He is a dedicated and motivated professional, with a proven track record of expertise and results. Jack's reputation is built upon a strong foundation of truly personalized service, with extraordinary attention to details. Born and raised in California, Jack moved to the Las Vegas and started his real estate career in 2002. Since 1995, Jack has made Las Vegas his home along with his wife, two kids, horses, goats and chickens.



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IYAR-5782 MAY 2022

* CALENDAR SUBJECT TO CHANGE *

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	shabbat
9:00 AM Morning Minyan	Z:30 AM Morning Minyan	Z:30.AM Morning Minyan	7:30 AM Morning Minyan	Z:30 AM Morning Minyan 5	7:30 AM Morning Minyan 6:00 pm	9:00 AM Shabbat Morning Service
		12:00 pm Haftarah w/Hodson	6:00 pm USY Lounge Night		USY Dinner 7:30.pm Kabbalat Shabbat. w/.Ruach Ensemble	Jacob Mendel is called to the Torah
9:00 AM Morning Minyan	7:30 AM Morning Minyan 9	Z:30.AM Morning Minyan 12:00 pm Haftarah w/Hodson	Z:30.AM Morning Minyan 6:00 pm USY Lounge Night	7:30 AM Morning Minyan 6:30 pm Intro to Judaism	Z:30 AM Morning Minyan Z:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	9:00 AM Shabbat Morning Service
					7:21 PM	
9:00 AM Morning Minyan 15	Z:30.AM Morning Minyan 16	Z:30.AM Morning Minyan 12:00 pm Haftarah w/Hodson	Z:30.AM Morning Minyan 6:00 pm USY Lounge Night	Z:30 AM Morning Minyan 19	Z:30 AM Morning 20 Minyan 2:00 pm Friday Nite Kids Z:30 pm Acoustic Kabbalat Shabbat	9:00 AM Shabbat Morning Service 9:00 am Shabbat Halelu Morning Service
2:00 AM Morning Minyan 222 9:00 am	Z:30.AM Morning Minyan 23	Z:30.AM Morning Minyan 24	Z:30.AM Morning Minyan 25	Z:30.AM Morning Minyan 26	11 7:26 PM Z:30 AM Morning Minyan 27 7:30 pm	Shabbat Morning Service
Religious School Closing Ceremonies 1:00.pm WLTBS Donor Lunch		12:00 pm Haftarah w/Hodson	6:00 pm USY Lounge Night	6:30 pm Intro to Judaism	Kabbalat Shabbat	Judah Silverberg is called to the Torah
9:00 AM 79	9:00 AM Morning 30	Z:30 AM Morning Minuan			2 7:31 PM	
Minyan	Minyan MEMORIAL DAY	Morning Minyan 12:00 pm Haftarah w/Hodson				
	OFFICE CLOSED	7:00 pm Kids: Chasing Paradise				

SIVAN-5782

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	shabbat
			Z:30.AM Morning Minyan 6:00 pm USY Lounge Night	Z:30.AM Morning Minyan 2	Z:30 AM Morning Minyan G:00 pm Luau Shabbat Community Dinner Z:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat w/Ruach Ensemble	9:00 AM Shabbat Morning Service 7:30 pm Tikkun Leil Shavuot
9:00 am Shavuot - Day One	6 9:00 am Shavuot w/ Yizkor - Day Two	Z:30.AM Morning Minyan712:00 pm Haftarah w/Hodson	Z:30 AM Morning Minyan	Z:30 AM Morning Minyan 6:30 pm Intro to Judaism	7:30 AM Morning Minyan 7:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	9:00 AM Shabbat Morning Service Avery Ramage is called to the Torah
9:00 AM	OFFICE CLOSED	7:30.AM	7:30 AM	7:30 AM	2:30 AM	9:00 AM
Morning Minyan	Morning Minyan 13	Morning Minyan 12:00 pm Haftarah w/Hodson	Z:30 AM Morning Minyan 15	Z:30.AM Morning Minyan	Morning Minyan 7:30.pm Accoustic Shabbat	9:00 AM Shabbat Morning Service Karl Forman is called to the Torah
9:00 AM Morning Minyan	Z:30 AM Morning Minyan	Z:30 AM Morning Minyan 12:00 pm Haftarah w/Hodson	Z:30 AM Morning Minyan 222	Z:30.AM Morning Minyan	Z:30.AM Morning Minyan Z:30.pm Kabbalat Shabbat	Shabbat Morning Service
2:00.AM Morning Minyan	Z:30 AM Morning Minyan 27	Z:30.AM Morning Minyan 12:00 pm Haftarah w/Hodson	Z:30 AM Morning Minyan 29	Z:30 AM Morning Minyan 30	÷÷ 7.44 FM	



OUR TEAM

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MAKE SURE YOU ARE RECEIVING OUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTER EMAIL EVERY WEDNESDAY! BE SURE TO CHECK YOUR JUNKMAIL/SPAM IF YOU ARE NOT **GETTING THEM OR CALL US. WE DON'T** WANT YOU TO MISS OUT ON ALL THE **EXCITING THINGS THAT ARE HAPPENING!**

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