

Adath Israel Tradition

Serving the Adath Israel Chavurah since 1904

Newtown, Monroe, Bethel, Brookfield, Southbury, Trumbull, Oxford, Danbury

(The Little Synagogue that Could: First building: 1919, First rabbi: 1923)

Ritual: Conservative Social: Progressive Oneg Shabbats: Priceless

הברה עדת ישראל

February
2018



16 Shevat - 13 Adar
5778



JOIN US IN CELEBRATION
TU B'SHEVAT SEDER

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 2, 2018

SEDER BEGINS AT 8:00 PM, FOLLOWING
A SHORT SHABBAT SERVICE AT 7:30

Enjoy a variety of Israeli Wines, fruits, nuts
and desserts in celebration of
Tu B'Shevat, the birthday of the trees

Sponsored by Congregation Adath Israel Sisterhood



[https://www.facebook.com/
congadathisraelnewtown](https://www.facebook.com/congadathisraelnewtown)

Come Experience Congregation Adath Israel's

"Shabbat Before Bedtime"

Challah braiding and Havdallah for children

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 3

5:00-6:00 pm

Calling all families with young children...join us for a joyous percussion and dance filled hour as we learn to braid challah and say goodbye to the Sabbath -- young and young at heart are all invited. Infuse your children with the joy of Judaism and then on to bed!!

CELEBRATE PURIM!

Sunday February 25
Children's Carnival
More information on page 8

Wednesday February 28
Megillah Reading
More information on page 3

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From the Rabbi's Study



PURIM - light side and deep, dark side:

On February 28 this year we celebrate Purim. Usually, we tend to see Purim as a light-hearted fun celebration. We read the Book of Esther, make loud noises to drown out the name of the villain Haman, masquerade, and have Purim carnivals. It is a rejoicing event over the escape from the attempt of a powerful enemy in the ancient empire of Persia to destroy the Jewish People.

However, there is a foreboding and dangerous significance to Purim. According to Talmudic tradition Haman was a descendant of the last king of the Amalekites - the group of desert terrorists who would prey on unsuspecting caravans and travelers in the desert between Egypt and Syria; and who attacked the People of Israel right after their escape from slavery in Egypt. The Israelites were weary and not yet fully organized for their trek to the land of their ancestors, when the Amalekites attacked the stragglers in the caravan, the sick and the elderly who could not easily defend themselves. Ultimately, Joshua and the soldiers of Israel drove off the Amalekites.

The people then vowed that when they would be settled in their own land they would utterly destroy the Amalekites and thus rid the world of that terroristic scourge. In the biblical text, God tells the people that there will be war with Amalek from generation to generation.

Even though the Amalekites, who can be considered as one of the earliest terror groups in history, were ultimately destroyed, the war between those who would destroy Israel and the Jewish People goes on throughout every generation in one form or another. In our generation those who would destroy Western civilization have Israel as their first target. The State of Israel, to protect its own existence, has had to become one of the leading opponents and warriors against terrorism.

We should enjoy our victories on Purim, but we must always be aware that the war is not over. Our continued existence as the Jewish People is totally involved with Western civilizations efforts and need to defeat the same common enemies who are spiritual descendants of Haman and the Amalekites.

May we always strive to be worthy of the responsibility that God has given us.

~ Rabbi Barukh Schectman

President's Message

Dear Congregants,

Florence and I were so pleased to have so many of our friends join us as we celebrated our 60th anniversary on January 12. It is heartwarming to know that we can and do consider Congregation Adath Israel our second home and extended family. We want to thank Rabbi Schectman for his kind words.

There is a lot going on at CAI. We have requested grants from various sources and the hard work of our grant committee is paying off. The team of Lynn Weiner, Sue Rubin and David Smith are hard at work on the grants. We will see an increase in awareness throughout the greater Newtown community of what our goals are and how they can entice members to take a more active role as well as bring new families to our door. Also, under way, is how to utilize grant money to make our educational programs more interesting to parents and students.

I am going on holiday for several weeks and after visiting my son in Florida we are flying off to Israel. Vice Presidents Amy Greenfield and Susan Littlefield will be available to handle all matters that arise and/or direct those matters to the proper board member. Stay healthy and safe.

With Blessings of Shalom,
Bob and Florence Rubinstein

From The Ritual Committee

Celebrating – The Crossing of the Red Sea – in our Sanctuary

On a Saturday morning in late January our Sanctuary was filled with the celebratory sounds of percussion, clapping and singing. In the middle of our Torah reading of Parshat Beshallah, we rose from the pews with tambourines and drums in hand to celebrate as the Israelites did so many years ago at the shore of the Red Sea. After crossing the sea to safety and freedom, Miriam the Prophetess led the women in song and dance. In our Sanctuary, congregant Lynn Wiener and daughter Emily led the singing with a Debbie Friedman song commemorating the biblical event. Thanks to Lynn and Emily and to our many Torah readers that morning: David Smith, Lynn and David Wiener, Susan Morse, Susan Littlefield, Nancy Bamberg, Katherine Kohrman and Rabbi Schectman. Thanks also to our B'nai Mitzvah students who led us in some of the prayer service.



On Wednesday evening February 28, we will be celebrating the holiday of Purim in our Sanctuary. Please join us for the Megillah reading at 6:30 pm. Purim celebrates the story of the rescue of the Persian Jews of Shoshan from the wicked Haman. Several congregants and children of congregants will be chanting lines of the Megillah. We will hear the Purim story, shake *gregors* (noise makers), sing songs, and eat Hamentashen. All are encouraged to come in costumes—not just children!

SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA—FRIDAY MARCH 9

Shabbat Across America is an annual synagogue based event occurring across North America at which synagogue congregants are encouraged to invite their unaffiliated friends, neighbors, and co-workers to share in a joyous Shabbat meal and experience. In our congregation, we will start the evening at 6:00 pm with a Potluck dinner. Our service will begin at 7:30 in the Sanctuary and children from our Religious School will be on the Bimah leading songs and prayers. The service will be followed by a festive Kiddush Oneg, of Challah, wine and grape juice, fruit and sweets. Please invite your friends and plan to join us. Please try to RSVP for the Potluck at <https://perfectpotluck.com/meals.php?t=FHMK8638&welcome=1>. No RSVP is necessary for those just planning to attend the service. Our doors are open on Shabbat. All are always welcome.

This year on March 9 we will also be honoring the newest members of our congregation. We are so happy to have them amongst us now, in our Adath Israel family. We know they each had other choices and they have chosen us! Having them join our Jewish community enriches all of us. Please come and meet our newest member families and welcome them yourselves.

Congregation Adath Israel
Welcomes you to....

SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA™

Friday, March 9, 2018
Dinner 6:00 pm
Service 7:30 pm

To sign up for Perfect Potluck, here is the link:
<https://perfectpotluck.com/meals.php?t=FHMK8638&welcome=1>

Any questions, please contact: Bonnie Goldstein 203-459-0089 or bhgoldstein1836@gmail.com

THE NEZVESKY SCHOOL

א ב ג ד ה ו ז ח ט י כ ל מ נ ס ע פ ק ר ש ת

The Nezvesky School is moving along into a very busy winter and spring season. We just held a Tu B'Shevat Seder for the whole school with some very exciting craft projects. The Seder would not have been possible without the organizing work of Sara Barnes and the contributions of the Anton, Arena, Barnes, Gilman, Malitsky, Markowsky, Sachs, Tingley and Wiener families. Also, special thanks go to Laura Goldstein, Gabrielle Joshpe, and Dona Malitsky for their help setting up, and to Rosalie Newman and Eric Vine for the lovely parsley planting station they ran.

Coming up we have several activities for February. First, on February 5, Shabbat before bedtime becomes Havdalah before Bedtime -- and everyone is certainly invited. Havdalah is a special time when we say farewell to Shabbat and prepare for the week ahead. It should be a delightful way to start a new week.

On Saturday, February 10, we are having a Shabbat luncheon for the whole religious school. Come and join your school for a morning of Torah, songs and a pot luck luncheon. Sara will be setting up a Signup list for the luncheon like she did for Tu B'Shevat so please look into it. We look forward to a special service for all ages.

At the end of February will be Purim, and we are planning our annual Purim Carnival on Sunday, February 25. The school will go on as usual, but at the end we will have a short skit retelling the story of Purim directed by Jodi Markowsky. At 12 noon we will have the Purim Carnival with games, arts and craft projects, and lots of prizes. The admission is \$5 per child and it is open to all in the community so invite your friends.

David Smith
Education Chair
educationchair@congadathisrael.org
[203-770-1685](tel:203-770-1685)

TEACHERS & TEACHER HELPERS WANTED

Take part in our children's Jewish Education!
We're looking for teachers and helpers for 2018-19
Call David Smith at 203-364-1788 for more info.

Ima Abba v'Ani

A pre-school playgroup at
Adath Israel in Newtown



For children ages 2 to 5 (pre-Kindergarten) and their parent or caregiver. Children learn about the Jewish holidays in an age-appropriate way, make crafts, sing and dance, and have a GREAT time. This program meets once a month from 9:30 to 10:30 on Sunday mornings during the school year. FREE to attend.

DATES and TOPICS are as follows:

February 4 (Purim)
March 4 (Passover)
April 8 (Israel Independence Day, Lag B'Omer)
May 6 (Shavuot)
June 10, 2018 (end of year festivities)

A "themed" snack will be provided. If your child has allergies, you may want to provide a Kosher (dairy/pareve) snack for your child.

Call or email the office for more information.
203-426-5188 or office@congadathisrael.org



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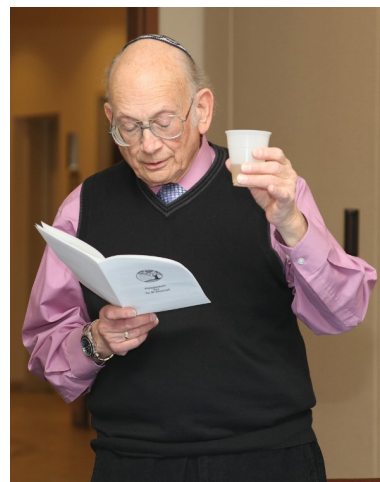
Free Jewish themed books and music CD's for children ages 6 months through 8 years.

Sign up at:
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School Tu B'Shevat Seder and Crafts



Photos by Leslie Murray



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Kenny Jacobson

The Contribution of Jewish Music

Jewish singers, songwriters and musicians throughout the world.

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/rToAwMfKOLg>

Have an opinion? Like to write?

Newsletter contributions are always welcome...

Have family or student news you would like to share?

Contact: newsletter@congadathisrael.org

CLUBS & COMMITTEES

New Club & Program Ideas Always Welcome

Let us know what interests you!

Contact office@congadathisrael.org

MEN'S CLUB Join Today!

Contact Steve Vine

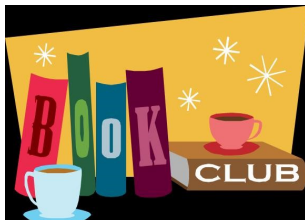
brotherhood@congadathisrael.org

MAH JONG MADNESS



Mondays
7:00 PM
at Adath Israel

For both experienced and beginner players



Adath Israel Women's Book Club

The next meeting of the Adath Israel Book Club will be on Monday March 12th at 7:30 P.M. (location to be determined). We invite all members to join our club. We choose a variety of genres of literature to discuss. The current book we are reading is:

Beneath A Scarlet Sky

By Mark T. Sullivan

Even if you haven't read the book, consider joining us and helping to choose our next book. We usually meet bimonthly. If interested, please email Amy Greenfield at aswgreenfield@aol.com.

SISTERHOOD



Sisterhood members met at My Place in Newtown on January 18th.

We are sponsoring the Tu B'Shvat Shabbat Seder on Friday, February 2nd.

It's the Birthday of the Trees!

Please contact Bonnie Goldstein to find out more.

sisterhood@congadathisrael.org

Community Care and Share Committee Update

During the month of January we sent out cards and did some outreach to congregants to offer our support. Our committee meets several times a year and is always available to offer support and share in your mitzvahs. If anyone has any suggestions for other ways we can be of assistance to our Adath Israel community, please let us know by contacting Susan Morse at: suemorse50@gmail.com

Susan Littlefield
Secretary

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS & EVENTS

THE SECRET IS OUT:

As a friend of Jewish Family Services we want to share with you our latest public information piece. We hope you in turn will share it with your family and friends.

NOW AVAILABLE

SHORT TERM CONSULTATIONS & EVALUATIONS

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RESOURCE & INFORMATION YOU WANT

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jfsdanbury@gmail.com

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NEW JEWISH SENIOR SERVICES HOSPICE VOLUNTEER TRAINING DATES:

Chaifetz Family Hospice will be holding a two day Hospice Volunteer Training Program for anyone interested in giving their time and compassion to terminally ill patients and their loved ones. Training will be held at Jewish Senior Services, 4200 Park Avenue, Bridgeport, CT on Sunday, February 4th and Sunday, February 11th from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. Training materials and meals will be provided free of charge. If you would like to sign up or to learn more about hospice training, please contact Ellen Ashkins at (203) 365-6417 or by email at eashkins@seniors.org.

CELEBRATE PURIM!

Sunday February 25, 2018



**Come see our Purim Play!
Stay for the Carnival!**



11:30 – 12 noon: Purim Play
12 noon - 2:00 pm: Carnival

Come in costume!!

**Bring your friends & family.
Prospective members welcome!!!**

**Lots of exciting Carnival Games
Fantastic Prizes -- Wonderful Crafts -- Food Galore**

Donation for Carnival - \$5.00 per child

**Food at carnival – additional cost.
Pizza, Fruit, Chips, Hamantaschen, Drinks**

Congregation Adath Israel • 115 Huntingtown Road • Newtown, CT

Know of any events that might interest our members?

Send info to newsletter@congadathisrael.org

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Connecticut

Please join the Jewish Genealogical Society of Connecticut on **Sunday, February 18, 2018 at Temple Sinai, 41 West Hartford Rd, Newington, at 1:30 pm**. Daniel Horowitz, Genealogist at MyHeritage will present on the 2018 IAJGS International Conference that will take place in Warsaw, Poland between 5-10 of August. Learn about this great event, what will be available, lectures and activities planned and how you can take advantage of this experience. At the same time, this lecture will give you the tips and tricks on how to plan a roots trip across Europe covering all detail: hotels, transportation, documents, equipment, language, archives and more.

Daniel Horowitz was the teacher and the study guide editor for 15 years, of the family history project "Searching for My Roots", in Venezuela. Working at MyHeritage since 2006, he is currently the Genealogy Expert, involved in the areas of product development and public affairs; lecturing in conferences around the world. Dedicated to genealogy since 1986, he coordinates multiple transcription projects and holds board level positions at the Israel Genealogy Research Association (IGRA) and the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS).

This program is free and open to the public. For additional information, please visit www.jgsct.org.

IN MEMORIAM Yahrzeits: February 2018

8 Feb	23 Shevat	Morris Gertner, Father of Michael Gertner
8 Feb	23 Shevat	Paul Tenenbaum, Father of Steven Tenenbaum
10 Feb	25 Shevat	Anne Goldstein, Mother of Robert Goldstein
13 Feb	28 Shevat	Donald Hoffman, Father of Cara Tingley
16 Feb	1 Adar	Arthur Seligman, Father of Nanette Green
17 Feb	2 Adar	Estelle Weinrib, Mother of Amy Greenfield
18 Feb	3 Adar	Morton C. Hillman, Father of Bill Hillman
21 Feb	6 Adar	Beth Greller, Sister of Susan Littlefield
21 Feb	6 Adar	Hariette Wishko, Mother of David Wishko
22 Feb	7 Adar	Beatrice Getman, Grandmother of Jodi Bialik
26 Feb	11 Adar	Herbert Klein, Father of Karen Klein
26 Feb	11 Adar	Miriam Spigel, Mother of Ruth Theaman
27 Feb	12 Adar	Marie Glantz, Mother of Sylvia Nahoum

... and let us not forget

2 Feb	17 Shevat	Abraham Moskowitz
6 Feb	21 Shevat	Isadore Kaufman
6 Feb	21 Shevat	Monroe M. Frankel
8 Feb	23 Shevat	Dina Stoller Smolen
16 Feb	1 Adar	Isaac Stoller
17 Feb	2 Adar	Paul Mapen
20 Feb	5 Adar	Aaron Leon Bernstein
23 Feb	8 Adar	Ann Torow
24 Feb	9 Adar II	Maurice Nezvesky
26 Feb	11 Adar II	Molly E. Sippin
27 Feb	12 Adar II	Mildred Koffman
27 Feb	12 Adar	Syd Steinfeld
28 Feb	13 Adar	Stanley Norman Koffman

BRONZE MEMORIAL NAMEPLATE

If you wish to install a memorial nameplate in the sanctuary,
please contact Susan Rubin at 203-426-5188 or by email
office@congadathisrael.org

CEMETERY PLOTS AVAILABLE

FOR FAMILIES OF CAI MEMBERS

Adath Israel Cemetery
(a division of B'nai Israel Cemetery)

472 Moose Hill Road, Monroe, CT

Information packets are available. Please contact Susan Rubin at
office@congadathisrael.org or call 203-426-5188.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office Phone: 203-426-5188

Rabbi Barukh Schectman
rabbi@congadathisrael.org

Administrative Assistant: Susan Rubin
office@congadathisrael.org

2017 – 2018 Officers of the Board

President: Bob Rubinstein
president@congadathisrael.org

Vice - President: Amy Greenfield
Vice - President: Susan Littlefield
vicepresident@congadathisrael.org

Treasurer: Dan Greenberg
treasurer@congadathisrael.org

Secretary: Jim Arena
secretary@congadathisrael.org

Member at Large: Lauren DiMartino
Member at Large: Matthew Krichmar
Member at Large: Jessica Sachs

2017 – 2018 Committee Chairpersons

Birthday Books: Mardi Smith

Education Chairperson: David Smith
educationchair@congadathisrael.org

School Parent Coordinator: Sara Barnes
parentcoordinator@congadathisrael.org

Teen Volunteer Coordinator: Matt Krichmar

Care & Share Committee: Susan Morse

Fundraising: **available**
fundraising@congadathisrael.org

Honorarium: Susan Rubin
office@congadathisrael.org

House: Mark Silverman
house@congadathisrael.org

Membership: Leah Newman
membership@congadathisrael.org

Men's Club: Steve Vine
brotherhood@congadathisrael.org

Newsletter: Susan Rubin
newsletter@congadathisrael.org

Programs: Jodi Markowsky
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Publicity: Karen Klein
publicity@congadathisrael.org

Ritual: Katherine Kohrman
ritual@congadathisrael.org

Safety: David Wiener
safetycommittee@congadathisrael.org

Sisterhood: Bonnie Goldstein
sisterhood@congadathisrael.org

DONATIONS

We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions to temple funds:

General Fund

The Lil & Julie Rosenberg Foundation

Gilda & Jay Slomka

Steve Tenenbaum in memory of his father, Pesach Tenenbaum

Bill Hillman in memory of his father, Morton Hillman

Aaron & Cheryl Gilman

The Rubenstein & Brault families in memory of David Rubenstein,
husband, father, grandfather and friend

Sheila Woolf in honor of Florence & Bob's 60th anniversary

Susan Wilson in memory of her father, Stephen Portnoy

Michael Gertner in memory of his father, Morris Gertner

Susan & John Littlefield in memory of Susan's sister, Beth Greller

High Holiday Donations

Shelia Woolf

Susan & Michael Wilson

THANK YOU TO OUR JANUARY ONEG SPONSORS

Friday, January 5 - Shabbat Before Bedtime

School Families

Friday, January 12

Florence & Bob Rubinstein in honor of their 60th anniversary

THANK YOU

Thanks to all of you who contributed your stuffed animals to the temple for "Share A Bear." Your donations really helped. We gave away more than 2000 animals to needy children. We will collect them again in the Spring for various camps and summer programs' so please save them, and again, we thank you for the smiles you have given to so many kids. We really appreciate your assistance.

~ Bernice and Bud Ullmann

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family members and friends

Large Leaf—\$1800. each;

Small Leaf—\$180. each

Order forms available at the synagogue
or by emailing:

office@congadathisrael.org

HOST AN ONEG OR KIDDUSH



Hosting a Friday Oneg or Saturday Kiddush is performing a Mitzvah for our community. After services is a time when we have a chance to slow down and catch up on the weekly events with our fellow congregants.

It's not only a Mitzvah, but a way for you to celebrate an event in your family and share the good news with our congregation. Many people host to commemorate birthdays, anniversaries, engagements, awards, graduations, victories and other happy occasions. You may also host in memory of a loved one. Of course, you don't need a reason to host and you may also buddy up and host with a friend.

If you wish to participate in this Mitzvah or for more information, please e-mail the office at:

office@congadathisrael.org

Friday Oneg Dates Available

February 16, 23 March 2, 16
April 6, 13, 20, 27 May 4, 18, 25
June 8, 22, 29 August 10

Saturday Kiddush Dates Available

March 17, April 7

Sponsor an Oneg or Kiddush this year.

Reserve your date now!

ADVERTISING IN THE NEWSLETTER

Business card : \$10 mo. / \$90 yr.

1/4 page: \$15 mo. / \$135 yr.

1/2 page: \$25 mo. / \$225 yr.

Full page: \$45 mo. / \$405 yr.

Email: newsletter@congadathisrael.org

FEBRUARY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				Feb 1	2	3
				16 Shevat 5778	17 Shevat 5778 4:53p Candle lighting 7:30p Service 8p TuB'Shevat Seder Oneg	Parashat Yitro 18 Shevat 5778 9:30 Learning Service 5p Challah Havdalah before 6:02p Shabbat Ends
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
19 Shevat 5778 9:30 School 9:30 PreSchool Playgroup	20 Shevat 5778 4:30p School gr. 4-7 6:30p Adult Ed 7:45p Ritual Mtg	21 Shevat 5778	22 Shevat 5778	23 Shevat 5778 5:02p Candle lighting 7:30p Service	24 Shevat 5778 5:02p Candle lighting 7:30p Service	Parashat Mishpatim 25 Shevat 5778 9:30 Service 11:45 School Luncheon 6:11p Shabbat Ends
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
26 Shevat 5778 9:30 School	27 Shevat 5778 4:30p School gr. 4-7 6:30p Adult Ed	28 Shevat 5778 4:30p School gr. 4-7 6:30p Adult Ed	29 Shevat 5778	30 Shevat 5778 7p Sisterhood Mtg	1 Adar 5778 5:10p Candle lighting 7:30p Service	Parashat Terumah 2 Adar 5778 6:20p Shabbat Ends
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
No School 3 Adar 5778	4 Adar 5778 No School 5 Adar 5778 7:30p Board Mtg	5 Adar 5778	6 Adar 5778	7 Adar 5778 7:30p Edu mtg via phone	8 Adar 5778 5:19p Candle lighting 7:30p Service	Parashat Tetzaveh 9 Adar 5778 6:28p Shabbat Ends
25	26	27	28	Mar 1	2	3
10 Adar 5778 9:30 School 11:30 Purim Play 12p Purim Carnival	11 Adar 5778 4:30p Hamantaschen Baking 4:30p School gr. 4-7 6:30p Adult Ed	12 Adar 5778	Erev Purim 13 Adar 5778 6:30p Megillah Reading	Purim 14 Adar 5778	15 Adar 5778 5:27p Candle lighting 6p Shabbat Before Bedtime 7:30p Service	Parashat Ki Tisa 16 Adar 5778 9:30 Learning Service 6:36p Shabbat Ends