

# CONGREGATION SONS OF ZION

Volume 5 | Issue 5 | January 2020 Supplement | Tevet/Shevat 5780

## Congregation Sons of Zion

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## About the Month of Tevet

This month begins with the last days of Hanukkah. By internalizing the message of the ever-increasing lights of the menorah, we are able to reveal the good that is hidden in our lives and in the world around us.



# TEVET/SHEVAT

## 5780

January 2020

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
29 1 Tevet	30 2 Tevet	31 3 Tevet	1 4 Tevet	2 5 Tevet 8am Minyan	3 6 Tevet	4 7 Tevet Shabbat Services, 10am followed by Kiddush  Va-Yigash
5 8 Tevet	6 9 Tevet 8am Minyan	7 10 Tevet	8 11 Tevet SOZ Board of Director's Meeting, 7pm	9 12 Tevet 8am Minyan	10 13 Tevet	11 14 Tevet Shabbat Services, 10am followed by Kiddush  Va-Yechi
12 15 Tevet	13 16 Tevet 8am Minyan	14 17 Tevet	15 18 Tevet	16 19 Tevet	17 20 Tevet Challah Havurah, 9am	18 21 Tevet Renewal Shabbat Service, 10am followed by Kiddush  Shemot
19 22 Tevet	20 23 Tevet 8am Minyan	21 24 Tevet	22 25 Tevet	23 26 Tevet	24 27 Tevet	25 28 Tevet Shabbat Services, 10am followed by Kiddush and Song Session  Va-Era
26 29 Tevet Tikkun Olam at Kate's Kitchen 11:45am	27 1 Shevat 8am Minyan ROSH HODESH SHEVAT	28 2 Shevat	29 3 Shevat	30 4 Shevat	31 5 Shevat	1 6 Shevat

# DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday, January 4, 2020

Shabbat Services at 10am followed by Kiddush

Wednesday, January 8, 2020

SOZ Board of Director's Meeting, 7pm

Friday, January 10, 2020

Challah Havurah, 9am

Saturday, January 11, 2020

Shabbat Services at 10am followed by Kiddush

Saturday, January 18, 2020

Renewal Shabbat Service at 10am followed by  
Kiddush

Saturday, January 25, 2020

Shabbat Services at 10am followed by Kiddush and  
Song Session

Sunday, January 26, 2020

Tikkun Olam at Kate's Kitchen, 11:45am

Monday, January 27, 2020

Rosh Hodesh Shevat

Tuesday, February 18, 2020

SOZ Adult Education Lecture Series III:  
What was the Dreyfus Affair?  
Holyoke Public Library at 6pm

# CHALLAH HAVURAH

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 AT 9AM

We knead you!!!!



CONGREGATION SONS OF ZION  
378 MAPLE STREET  
HOLYOKE, MA 01040

Research and learn challah recipes from around the world the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of every month!

PLEASE RSVP TO: MAGGIE GRUSZECKI  
(413)883-2307

Sponsored by: Harold Grinspoon Foundation and Congregation Sons of Zion



Saturday,  
January 25, 2020

We will be doing mostly songs dealing with nature, the earth, trees etc to help usher in Tu B'Shvat, which begins a couple weeks later.

All are welcome!



**Congregation Sons of Zion's**

# RENEWAL SHABBAT

This renewal Shabbat we will be encountering Parshah Shemot which means "names" in Hebrew. We will be exploring through chant and song the many names the Jewish tradition offers us to address the Divine.

Renewal-style group aliyot will offer us the opportunity to deepen our understanding of identity— including our Jewish identity— through the story of Moses, Pharoah's daughter and other ancestral role models.

**SHABBAT SHEMOT**  
**SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 2020**  
**21 TEVET**

**SERVICE BEGINS AT 10AM**  
**A FESTIVE KIDDUSH TO FOLLOW**

Congregation Sons of Zion  
 378 Maple Street  
 Holyoke, MA 01040  
 (413)534-3369

\*Please use accessible Cabot Street entrance

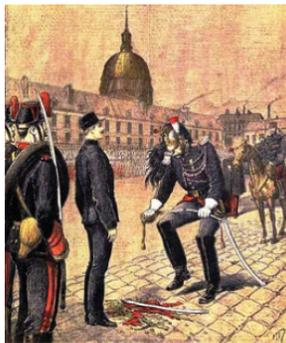
**All are welcome! No prior knowledge of Hebrew is necessary.**



*Supported in part by a grant from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation*

# Sons of Zion Adult Education Lecture Series III: **WHAT WAS THE DREYFUS AFFAIR?**

*Presented by Author and Scholar, Dr. Simon Sibelman*



When Alfred Dreyfus was arrested for espionage in 1894, few in France or around the world could have imagined the case would mangle for a bitter 12 years. It would also set the stage for many events that would engulf the world – Jewish and non-Jewish – over the course of the 20<sup>th</sup> century as the *Affaire Dreyfus* unleashed a tidal wave of anti-Semitic rhetoric and visual imagery the intensity of which had previously been unknown. Many individuals would sense the need to become philosemitic, to stand with Dreyfus and the Jews, and for Viennese journalist

Theodore Herzl to recognize the necessity to establish a Jewish State. This illustrated lecture will explore these and other pressing issues born of the Affair.

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2020 AT 6PM**

This event includes a 1 hour lecture, a 1/2 hour Q & A, followed by light refreshments.

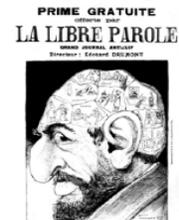
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Dr. Sibelman is a native of Richmond, VA and a graduate of the University of Richmond and King’s College, University of London. He has taught in many universities in the US and abroad. Dr. Sibelman has received grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Ashdown Trust, and the French Ministry of Culture. He has authored several books and lives in Western Mass. This is the third year he has taught a lecture series at SOZ.



Questions? Contact Congregation Sons of Zion  
at (413)534-3369 or  
office@sonsofzionholyoke.org

**DONATIONS ARE WELCOME**



## SOZ Adult Education Lecture Series II

By Andrea Fox

About 30 attendees ages 10 to 98 ventured the cold and listened intently to Dr. Simon Sibelman share about the invaluable photographs taken by Roman Vishniac who documented a civilization lost to antisemitic hatred and violence. In this second of four Congregation Sons of Zion Adult Education Series, Dr. Sibelman offered historical, ethnography, socioeconomic and geographic realities of Jews in Eastern Europe who were targeted, endured pogroms, and eventually exterminated.

Roman Vishniac (1897-1990) was a Russian-American photographer who had a respectful sense of urgency when he took over 16,000 photos of candid and everyday life within the Jewish Central and Eastern European communities soon to be destroyed by the Holocaust. Of those photos, only about 2000 remain in existence today. Vishniac focused primarily on the people, and categorized by Sibelman, 1) the realm of Yiddishkeit, 2) social realities, and 3) children. Most of Vishniac's photographs were commissioned by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (Joint) for the purposes of preserving a world that might cease to exist and with the goal of publishing abroad to get money to assist.

An interactive medium, photography allows one to be both witness and creator of a story. The subject or individual image is captured through the lens of the photographer, it is processed through the mind of the observer, and a virtual dialogue can ensue between all three. A photograph not only lets the viewer meet the individual in that moment, but in Vishniac's photos, they served to keep alive the memories of entire families and communities of Jews.

Trying not to be intrusive, and obfuscating consent (which would have been unlikely to obtain from Orthodox Jews), Vishniac skillfully hid his camera within his coat. Moving through the public and private spheres, he was able to capture the intimacy and detail of the seemingly mundane. He carefully made notations on the back of each photo allowing for context of the individual image.

Vishniac was also a trained physician and microbiologist, known to be adept with the microscope. A wonderful metaphor, his photography reduced a bigger picture and zoomed in to its minute details - such as distinctive hats and clothing, the facial expressions, and the physical movements of the subjects. Whether davening (praying), farming, cooking, bathing, shopkeeping, studying, walking to or from shul (the synagogue) or market, these men, women and children depict lives of joy, celebration, suffering and sorrow in action.

Dr. Sibelman raised the questions of what was lost and what was saved? Untended Jewish cemeteries, abandoned synagogues, homes, etc., are tangible signs of what was lost. However, that did not account for losses of the educational, spiritual and interpersonal aspects of one's life. Jews are often referred to as the "people of the book". In Vishniac's images, he shows homes or studies with shelves of books, or rabbis and children carrying books. A sadly unique yet important type of book were "Yizker books" or memorial books, created by survivors to document their history, biographies, and cultural life before their communities were eradicated. A powerful and very practical example of where books were scarce, synagogues would paint the holy words in big letters accessible for all to see on the sanctuary walls.

Photographs are "frozen moments" that can take us to places we've never been and/or invite us to envision what the past was like. They can also help us remember things we do not want to forget. Consistent with the mission of the "Joint", pictures can be very influential in changing peoples' opinion of truth. Some pictures are considered too disturbing to be published as the pain of others can shock or repulse. Conversely, exposing cruelty and inhumanity has the power to educate and motivate others to honor the struggles and realities of the suffering, and afford the choice to act, assist and help improve the lives of the suffering. For in this way we serve our God, ourselves, and our people.

# SOZ Adult Education Lecture Series II

Provided by Andrea Fox



# SOZ Adult Education Lecture Series II

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# 1st Night of Hanukkah at Holyoke City Hall

Provided by Shoshana Zonderman



# 1st Night of Hanukkah at Holyoke City Hall

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# 1st Night of Hanukkah at Holyoke City Hall

Provided by Shoshana Zonderman



# 8th Night of Hanukkah at the Rosner's

Provided by Andrea Fox

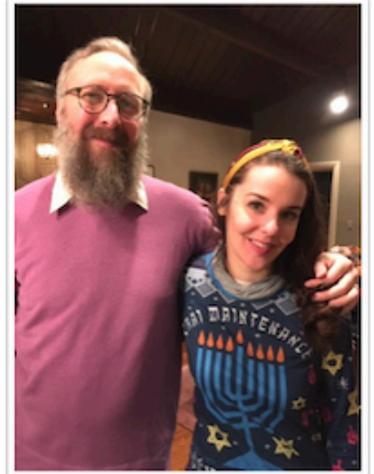
Despite predictions of an ice storm, members and friends of Holyoke's Congregation Sons of Zion filled the home of SOZ President Joan Rosner, with holiday dishes to share, and also bringing their personal hannukiah to celebrate the eighth night of Chanukah. New this year was a competitive and friendly latke contest. With the taste buds of a discerning judge, and the wisdom of King Solomon, Rabbi Saul Perlmutter sat in judgment and tasted, critiqued, and announced the winners of each category. With diverse, creative, and tasty entries, it was clear there was "a latke talent." In addition, there were dreidels, festive singing and a special Birthday cake for several members with December birthdays!

*Andrea Fox*



# 8th Night of Hanukkah at the Rosner's

Provided by Andrea Fox

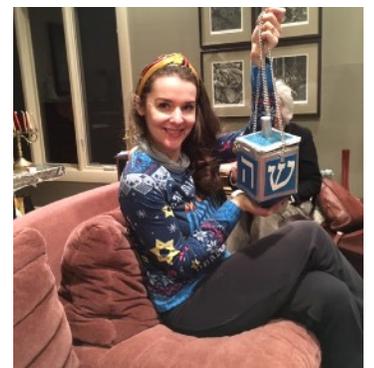


# 8th Night of Hanukkah at the Rosner's

Provided by Andrea Fox and Shoshana Zonderman



# 8th Night of Hanukkah at the Rosner's



## Latke Contest at the Rosner's

Many Hanukkah party goers braved the icy stormy predictions and came with diverse and delicious dishes to share, bringing their personal hannukiah and some entered into the SOZ first annual potato latkes contest suggested by newer member Robert Katz. With the taste buds of the most discerning judges, and the wisdom of King Solomon, Rabbi Saul sat in judgment and tasted, critiqued, took notes, and gave his final ruling announcing the winners. A total of seven entries, it was clear there was "a latke talent" within the entries. He shared his thoughts in the following way:

1. The Mattathias winner because it has a nice crunch and goes best with tea (as in the song "Mattathias dined with latke and tea.")
2. An excellent, light latke that goes down your throat nice and easy, so it gets the latke "lite" award (keeping with the theme of Hanukkah "light.")
3. The Hillel latke, because it started subdued and grows on you. (Hillel was a sage who said we should light an additional candle each night. Just as the light starts small and increases, so does the taste of this latke.)
4. Won the soufgani-atke award because it was the most donut like. A soufgania is a donut (also fried in oil) in Hebrew that is eaten on Hanukkah, so soufgani-atke is a soufgania-like latke.
5. Was the taj mah latke because it tastes most like Indian food.
6. Was the Shammai latke because it tastes strong at first and then mellows. (Unlike Hillel #3 above, the sage Shammai said we should start strong by lighting all the candles the first night of Hanukkah, and decrease the number by one candle each night, becoming mellow by the end of the holiday.)
7. Was given the thanks a latke designation -- or should we say thanks alot -- ke?

### Contestants:

Rachel Henderson

Joanne Saltman

Robert Katz

Gail Hornstein

Cindy Vieu (3 entries)



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