

CONGREGATION SONS OF ZION

Volume 5 | Issue 3 | November 2019 | Cheshvan/Kislev 5780

Congregation Sons of Zion

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About the Month of Kislev

Kislev the ninth month of the year, counting from Nisan, brings the celebration of Chanukah! Chanukah celebrates the miracle of one day's holy oil lasting for eight days; allowing time to prepare more oil. As the menorah lights our homes at the darkest time of the year, our thoughts turn to the hard won freedom of the Maccabees. We celebrate freedom and light. **HAPPY CHANUKAH!!**



From the Rabbi

What works for you at SOZ?

We have just completed an intense period of religious services at SOZ. Back in my parents' time, Shabbat and holiday services pretty much followed the same format. They took place in the main sanctuary. They were led by a rabbi and a cantor. Sermons were uni-directional – the rabbi spoke and congregants listened with no opportunity for discussion. Some congregants

were assigned roles in the service, but they were prescribed and scripted, such as an aliyah, lifting or tying the Torah, chanting the haftarah—and did not include sharing their own ideas, thoughts or feelings with the rest of the congregation.

How do our services today compare with this traditional model? What has changed and what has stayed the same? What works best for us?

This traditional model is largely reflected in our Yom Kippur services at SOZ, especially Kol Nidrei (except for the cello) and Yom Kippur morning. We generally follow the traditional order of the service, have a thoughtful and inspirational sermon like the one that Max Chorowsky delivered, and honor members of the congregation with aliyot and other roles in the service.

Services on the first day of Rosh Hashana incorporated three major modifications to this traditional model of a main sanctuary service. A congregant, Rivka Mazel-Carlton, rather than a rabbi or cantor, gave her own interpretation of each section of the Torah reading. Congregants then chose (rather than were chosen in the traditional model) to come up to the Torah for one aliyah or more, based on the theme(s) that Rivka outlined that related directly to their own life experience. And, new this year, we took a break before the start of the Torah service to give people an opportunity to get up, move around the sanctuary, and say hello to old friends or introduce themselves to people they did not yet know.

I was a little worried about how that might work, but everyone seemed to quickly engage in greeting and meeting one another, setting a warm, comfortable, and welcoming tone for the rest of the service. My only regret was that I enjoyed it so much that I lost track of time and let it go on too long; as a result, our services ended later than usual. Next year I hope to do the meet and greet break again, only briefer.

Congregational participation in the service was particularly noteworthy. Well over half of the congregation came up to the Torah for the group aliyot. At least five people who joined the congregation just within the last two years or so led prayers, read Torah or haftarah, or spoke about a prayer that was personally meaningful to them.

We might call this a modified traditional service with enhanced congregational participation.

From the Rabbi (continued)

A third option is the service/study model that we use on the second day of Rosh Hashana. While including key prayers and singing, it also incorporated study and discussion. Participants broke into five or six small groups to read and discuss texts dealing with the relationship between our prayers in the synagogue with how we live our lives outside of the synagogue. The less formal setting of the small social hall fostered discussion and interaction. Instead of listening to a Torah reading or haftarah, the special focus here was on reading selected Jewish teachings, studying them together by speaking and listening to one another to explore their meaning for our lives today.

Our regular Shabbat morning service incorporates elements of each of the three High Holiday models described above. Part of the service uses the traditional model: rabbi-led, with congregants called up for specific prayer-leading roles. But the less informal and more intimate setting of the small sanctuary lends itself to enhanced congregation-initiated participation as well. As people arrive, they are usually greeted with a hand-shake or head nod and usually someone shows them the page we are on. It is not unusual for someone to ask a question in the middle of the service, request a favorite prayer, improvise beautiful harmonies, or introduce a new melody. The study and discussion option also finds expression in our approach to the Torah reading. Instead of a one-way sermon from the rabbi to the congregation, we almost always engage in a lively discussion as we learn from one another about what the Torah reading might mean for each of us.

Every three or four months we have a special renewal-style Shabbat service. It is planned and led with congregants, includes group aliyot as well as chant-style singing accompanied by guitar, and longer, more meditative pauses between the prayers.

Clearly our services today at SOZ are more diverse than back in the day at my parents' synagogue. We are blending traditional and new approaches to ritual and spirituality to provide services that are participatory, engaging, interactional, and meaningful.

Which of these models works best for you? Has your approach to prayer changed over time? If you do not already do so, would you consider trying SOZ Shabbat morning services that incorporate aspects of each model? Or is there another practice of Jewish prayer/spirituality that you would like to see introduced at SOZ?

I hope that this message will give some insight into the changes that are taking place in our services at SOZ. I also hope that it might encourage more participation in our multi-faceted, participatory approach to Shabbat morning services.

I would like to invite your input and suggestions as our services continue to evolve. Please consider sending a response to the next newsletter or just call or email me to let me know what you think. And last but not least, I want to express my heartfelt appreciation to our congregants and friends for your participation, ruach (spirit), and openness that make services at SOZ so special at High Holidays and year-round. Thank you so much!

Rabbi Saul Perlmutter

CHESHVAN/ KISLEV 5780

November 2019

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
27 28 Tishrei	28 29 Tishrei	29 30 Tishrei	30 1 Cheshvan	31 2 Cheshvan	1 3 Cheshvan	2 4 Cheshvan Shabbat Services, 10am Turn clocks back one hour before sleep <i>Noach</i>
3 5 Cheshvan DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS	4 6 Cheshvan 8am Minyan	5 7 Cheshvan	6 8 Cheshvan	7 9 Cheshvan 8am Minyan	8 10 Cheshvan	9 11 Cheshvan Shabbat Services, 10am followed by Kiddush <i>Lech Lecha</i>
10 12 Cheshvan SOZ Lecture: <i>Jefferson and the Jews</i> followed by brunch	11 13 Cheshvan 8am Minyan VETERAN'S DAY	12 14 Cheshvan SOZ Board of Director's Meeting, 7pm	13 15 Cheshvan	14 16 Cheshvan 8am Minyan	15 17 Cheshvan	16 18 Cheshvan Shabbat Services, 10am followed by Kiddush and Song Session <i>Va-Yera</i>
17 19 Cheshvan	18 20 Cheshvan 8am Minyan	19 21 Cheshvan	20 22 Cheshvan	21 23 Cheshvan 8am Minyan	22 24 Cheshvan	23 25 Cheshvan Shabbat Services, 10am followed by Kiddush <i>Chayei Sarah</i>
24 26 Cheshvan Tikkun Olam at Kate's Kitchen 11:45am-1:30pm	25 27 Cheshvan 8am Minyan	26 28 Cheshvan	27 29 Cheshvan Community Thanksgiving Service at St. Peter's Church, 7pm	28 30 Cheshvan 9:30am Minyan THANKSGIVING	29 1 Tishrei ROSH HODESH KISLEV	30 2 Tishrei Shabbat Services, 10am followed by Kiddush <i>Toledot</i>

DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday, November 2, 2019

Shabbat Services at 10am followed by Kiddush
Turn clocks back one hour before sleep

Sunday, November 3, 2019

Daylight Savings Ends

Saturday, November 9, 2019

Shabbat Services at 10am followed by Kiddush

Sunday, November 10, 2019

SOZ Adult Education Lecture Series Part I: Thomas Jefferson
and the Jews, 11am - 1:30pm

Monday, November 11, 2019

Veteran's Day

Tuesday, November 12, 2019

SOZ Board of Director's Meeting, 7pm

Saturday, November 16, 2019

Shabbat Services at 10am followed by Kiddush and
Thanksgiving Song Session

Saturday, November 23, 2019

Shabbat Services at 10am followed by Kiddush

Sunday, November 24, 2019

Tikkun Olam at Kate's Kitchen 11:45am - 1:30pm

Wednesday, November 27, 2019

Community Thanksgiving Service at St. Peter's Church, 7pm

Thursday, November 28, 2019

Minyan at 9:30am, Happy Thanksgiving!

Saturday, November 30, 2019

Shabbat Services at 10am followed by Kiddush

Sunday, December 8, 2019

SOZ Adult Education Lecture Series Part II: The Yizkor
Photographs of , 2pm

Sunday, December 22, 2019

Light 1st Hanukah at Holyoke City Hall, 5:30pm

We are delighted to announce...

**SONS OF ZION
ADULT EDUCATION LECTURE SERIES**
Featuring Dr. Simon Sibelman

SUNDAY: NOVEMBER 10, 2019 11:00AM
THOMAS JEFFERSON AND THE JEWS
Brunch Will Be Served

SUNDAY: DECEMBER 8, 2019 2:00PM
**THE YIZKOR PHOTOGRAPHS OF
ROMAN VISHNIAC**
Tea Will Be Served

THURSDAY: FEBRUARY 13, 2020 7:00PM
WHAT WAS THE DREYFUS AFFAIR?
Light Refreshments Will Be Served

THURSDAY: TBD.....APRIL 23 OR 30, 2020
AM I MY BROTHER'S KEEPER?
Refreshments TBD

**CONGREGATION SONS OF ZION
378 MAPLE STREET
HOLYOKE, MA 01040**

*PLEASE USE THE ACCESSIBLE ENTRANCE ON CABOT STREET.

**PLEASE VISIT [HTTPS://WWW.SONSOFZIONHOLYOAKE.ORG/EVENTS](https://www.sonsofzionholyoake.org/events)
FOR MORE INFORMATION.**



Supported in part by a grant from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation

Sons of Zion Adult Education Lecture Series: **THOMAS JEFFERSON AND THE JEWS**

Presented by Author and Scholar, Dr. Simon Sibelman



The Virginia Declaration of Religious Tolerance, authored by Thomas Jefferson and adopted in 1785, represented the first time a modern polity had granted freedom of religion to all, including Jews. But, did Jefferson really know any Jews? This lecture will explore what degree of relationship Jefferson may have had with colonial Jewish Americans and how they figured into his view of the emerging American Republic.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2019
11AM TO 1:30PM

This event includes a 1 hour lecture and a 1/2 hour Question and Answer period, followed by a delicious brunch.

CONGREGATION SONS OF ZION
378 MAPLE STREET
HOLYOKE, MASS. 01040

*Please use the accessible entrance on Cabot Street

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@sonsofzionholyoake.org

DONATIONS ARE WELCOME



Supported in part by a grant from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation



INTRODUCING YOONHEE KO

Following Yom Kippur many people were asking about Yoonhee Ko, our cellist for Kol Nidre. She lives and performs in the valley and teaches at the Community Music School of Springfield.

Visit her website where you can listen to her play and find her performance schedule which will expand after January.

We look forward to welcoming Yoonhee Ko next Yom Kippur; we're on her calendar.

<https://www.integritycello.com>



News from the cemetery storage shed!!



Before



After

THANK YOU!!! THANK YOU!!! JIM EISENSTOCK AND BILL SALTMAN

Joanne Saltman, chairwoman of the Congregation Sons of Zion Cemetery, agreed that the first sight for everyone entering the cemetery was the garage door which was ugly and dangerous. Five bidders, in the business of garage doors, were contacted. Four agreed to view the project and to bid on the project specifications. Four did bid and the best bid and the lowest agreed to meet and be sure he met all as specified.

On Wednesday, 14 August, the job was started at 11AM and finished at 4PM, with three men working almost non-stop. Jim Eisenstock and Bill Saltman donated the complete cost of the project to the Sons of Zion Congregation.

THANK YOU!!! THANK YOU!!! BILL AND JIM!!!

*We are very sorry that this article was misplaced and recently found.
Apologies from Joan for any frustration this caused.*

How to Watch SOZ's Shabbat Services on YouTube:

Turn on your computer and speakers.

1. Run an internet browser (Internet Explorer or Chrome, for example)
2. Type **youtube.com** in the navigation bar and press enter.
3. In YouTube, type **Congregation Sons of Zion** (not just "Sons of Zion") in the box that says Search and then click on the magnifying glass or press enter.
4. Click on the video that has a red **"Live"** button on the bottom right corner. It may take up to 45 seconds for the video to load.

Services start at 10am. Shabbat Shalom!

SPONSOR

A SHABBAT KIDDUSH

CELEBRATE A BIRTHDAY, HONOR A LOVED ONE, MARK A SPECIAL EVENT OR ACHIEVEMENT, AND SHARE IT WITH YOUR SONS OF ZION FAMILY!

Two Sponsorship Levels:

Sosvin Basic:

Our usual Kiddush, which includes lettuce, vegetables, tuna salad, herring, gefilte fish, coffee, juice, and small desserts - \$50



Kishuti "Fancy":

Everything in the Sosvin Kiddush, plus lox, kugel, and fancier dessert if desired - \$75



A Special Thank you to Our Sustaining Members

Andrew Barowsky

Ned and Cindy Barowsky

Bonnie and Maggie Gruszecki

Alfred and Lee Hutt

Steve and Lois Levin

Buddy and Margie Resnic

Michael and Joan Rosner

Bill and Joanne Saltman

*Please consider joining our generous
Sustaining Members...at any time!*

Congregation Sons of Zion Legacy Society

☆ Congregation Sons of Zion Legacy Society ☆

The following congregants have made arrangements in their wills to leave a bequest to Congregation Sons of Zion and/or have named Congregation Sons of Zion as a beneficiary in their life insurance policy and/or have established a tax-deductible fund for the synagogue, retaining a lifetime income from the fund.

Anonymous (4)

Elaine Baskin

Irene Bernstein

Joseph Boucher

David & Nancy Carmen

Louise Citron

James Eisenstock

Andrea Fox

Richard & Ellen Freyman

Albert Goldberg*

Herbert* & Barbara* Goldberg

Debra Goldberg and Seth Waxman

Rose Gorin*

Janet & Richard Greenfield

Rachel Henderson

Alfred & Lee Hutt

Ira Laby

Aaron & Gail Lansky

Stephen & Lois Levin

Stephen & Joan Levine

Sidney* & Elizabeth* Paul

Burton & Marjorie Resnic

Michael & Joan Rosner

William Robbins* & Mollie Blatt*

Ellen Saltman*

Paul Saltman

William & Joanne Saltman

Elihu & Joan Schepps

Nitza Seaver

Charles Weinstein

Frances Welson & Thomas Osborn*

Sherwin & Rhoda Wernick

Thomas & Eleanor Wilson

*Deceased

Congregation Sons of Zion Legacy Society has participated in Create a Jewish Legacy of Western Massachusetts, which is jointly funded by the Jewish Endowment Foundation and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. The Federations of Western Massachusetts and the Berkshires are program partners.

For further information about supporting Congregation Sons of Zion through a legacy or planned gift, please contact Michael Rosner at office@sonsofzionholyoake.org or (413)534-3369. Thank you very much.



Donations: Thank you!

General Fund

- ♦ George and Gail Baquis: Yom Kippur Contribution
- ♦ Gail Baquis: In memory of her mother, Ida Plesset
- ♦ Fred and Elaine Clein & Ellen and Steve Kappel: In memory of their mother, Esther Kaplinsky
- ♦ Aaron Falbel: General Fund
- ♦ Judith Falbel: General Fund
- ♦ Marjorie Feldman: High Holiday Donation
- ♦ Andrea Fox: Happy Birthday to Carolyn Porter
- ♦ Gerald & Leah Glasser: High Holiday Donation
- ♦ Megan Gross: High Holiday Donation
- ♦ Dr. Bonnie Gruszecki: In memory of her paternal grandmother, Fanny Gruszecki
- ♦ Lee and Alfred Hutt: High Holiday Donation
- ♦ Robert and Judy Katz: High Holiday Donation
- ♦ Deborah Levine: High Holiday Donation in memory of her parents, Arthur and Barbara Levine
- ♦ Steve and Joan Levine: In memory of Joan's father, David Kagan
- ♦ Steve and Joan Levine: Wishing a speedy and complete recovery for Ira Laby
- ♦ Steve and Joan Levine: High Holiday Donation
- ♦ Naomi London: High Holiday Donation
- ♦ Elliot Rothchild: In memory of his father, Louis Rothchild
- ♦ Israel Schepps: High Holiday Donation
- ♦ Simon Sibelman: High Holiday Donation
- ♦ Betsy and Jimmy Tarr: In memory of Betsy's father, Isadore Barowsky
- ♦ Betsy and Jimmy Tarr: In memory of Betsy's mother, Muriel Barowsky
- ♦ Betsy and Jimmy Tarr: In memory of Betsy's brother, Stephen Barowsky
- ♦ Richard Wilson: High Holiday Appeal in memory of his grandparents, Nathan and Gussie Wilson
- ♦ Jonathan Zellan: In memory of his father, Robert Zellan

Cemetery Fund

- ♦ Sanford N. Katz: In memory of his father, Jacob Katz



November Yahrzeits

October 27 – November 2: Joan Rosner

October 27	Ida Plesset Robert Zellan
October 29	*A. William Epstein Bertha Fox
October 31	*Dorothy Bassell

November 3 – 9: Michael Rosner

November 3	*Abraham Greenspan Fanny Gruszecki
November 4	*Samuel Orlen
November 5	*Ida E. Bernstein Dorothy Bussel *Jacob Katz
November 7	Max Speiser

November 10 – 16: Simon Sibelman

November 10	*Hyman R. Bernstein *Myer Goldenberg
November 11	*Jacob L. Barowsky *Selma Adele Weiss
November 12	*Lillian Halpern
November 13	*Armand Paperno
November 14	Katie Becker *Joseph Saltman

November 17 – 23: Cindy Vieu

November 17	Kate Paul *Clara Weinstein
November 20	Ethel Karlinsky
November 22	Samuel Cohen
November 23	*Nathan Wilson *Bess Kaplinsky

November 24 – 30: Joanne Saltman

November 25	*Fannie Saex Robert Saex *Max Stein
November 26	Sylvia Bloom
November 27	*Constance K. Barowsky
November 28	Beatrice Rose *Isaac Eskenasy *Beatrice Palmer



Sukkot

Provided by Andrea Fox



Sukkot

Provided by Andrea Fox



Sukkot

Provided by Andrea Fox



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Westover Animal Clinic

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Chicopee, MA 01020



**Business Card Ads: \$180/Year - Please contact the
synagogue office at (413) 534-3369 OR
office@sonsofzionholyoke.org**

There is always room for more!!!