SONGREGATION SONS OF ZION

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Congregation Sons of Zion

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About the Month of Kisley

Kislev the ninth month of the year, counting from Nisan, brings the celebration of Hanukkah! Hanukkah celebrates the miracle of one day's holy oil lasting for eight days; allowing time to prepare more oil. As the candles of the hanukkiyah shine through our windows at the darkest time of the year, our thoughts turn to the hard won freedom of the Maccabees. We celebrate freedom and light.

Happy Hanukkah!!!

Thanksgiving and Hanukkah - A Wonderful Combination

On Thanksgiving we acknowledge and give thanks for the blessings in our lives.

On Hanukkah we mark the rededication of the Temple after it had been occupied and desecrated by the tyrant Antiochus.

Since Thanksgiving (November 25) and Hanukkah (first candle November 28) arrive so unusually close to one another this year, we have a rare opportunity to combine the messages of these two holidays. From Thanksgiving, we can take the emotion of gratitude, and from Hanukkah, we can take the idea of the Temple. Put them together, and we have giving thanks for our Temple.

By "our Temple", I mean our synagogue – not just the physical building at 378 Maple Street in Holyoke, but also our SOZ community that has managed to support one another, thrive, and even grow during this pandemic we have been confronting.

Like the Hanukkah miracle story of the small cruse of oil that burned for eight days, our shul community, without access to programs in our building, has kept the light glowing -- of fellowship, praying, learning, socializing, gardening, and even Joan's famous kugel -- throughout these many months. Before COVID, who would have imagined that we could have lectures, services, study groups, schmooze/support sessions, group cooking, book discussions and more, all without setting foot in our building?

More people are attending services, arriving earlier, and staying on Zoom to schmooze after. We miss the folks who aren't into Zoom, but new folks have joined us, both from the area and from as far away as California. Our Torah discussions and study sessions have been characterized by sharing our challenges, joys, as well as insights with one another. At a time of physical distancing, our emotional bonds have deepened.

So there is a lot about our SOZ "Temple" community to be thankful for this Thanksgiving.

What can we do this "Thanksganukkah" to express our gratitude in an active, meaningful way?

Thanksgiving and Hanukkah - A Wonderful Combination (Continued)

Suggestion #1:

Take a few minutes to write about what you appreciate about SOZ. It can be just a few sentences, not a whole megillah (wrong holiday...), that you're willing to share with others. In addition to including things others might say, try to be specific about an aspect of our shull that others might not mention.

Then send what you've written to <u>office@sonsofzionholyoke.org</u> before the end of November. We will collect these entries and share them in an upcoming newsletter, on the SOZ website, and in similar publications. Please include your name or initials, whatever is most comfortable for you.

Why do this?

It gives you an opportunity to be in touch with your own feelings of gratitude. Expressing appreciation is good for the soul.

It is a way to share your ideas with others and hopefully to be nurtured and uplifted by what they may write.

A website is one of the first places that people turn to for information. When someone wanting to connect with a synagogue looks at our website, your personal expressions of gratitude for our congregation will encourage them to explore SOZ. We have a very special, warm, and nurturing community to offer them; they, in turn, will bring their energy to the SOZ community. The result: a metaphorical rededication of the Temple for all, fully appropriate for Hanukkah.

Suggestion #2:

Share your appreciation with an even wider audience. Take a few minutes to add your recommendation and review to Facebook/Instagram. You need to have a Facebook account to write a review or make a recommendation. Go to https://www.facebook.com/CongregationSonsofZionHolyoke/reviews to access our Facebook page and write a review or recommendation. Facebook will require that you sign into your Facebook account before writing a review or recommendation. Once you are signed in, there will be a button that says "Share Feedback".

Thanksgiving and Hanukkah - A Wonderful Combination (Continued)

Suggestion #3:

We're searching for a volunteer to keep our Facebook/Instagram image current and appealing. Let the office know of your interest and you will hear from us. Call (413) 534-3369 or email office@sonsofzionholyoke.org. By doing this, you can make a huge difference in rededicating/renewing our Temple.

Suggestion #4:

The Harold Grinspoon Foundation has awarded SOZ a generous Family Education grant of \$7,500 to reach out to Jewish and intermarried families in the area. What a wonderful gift we can now offer to people who want to nurture a Jewish connection for their family! Please consider helping to launch this initiative. Volunteer to help organize this effort, suggest families who might appreciate this opportunity, and/or help identify and hire a talented community builder to staff this mission. To do so, contact Joan Rosner at (413) 535-8679 or Lois Levin at (413) 219-8640.

By doing any or all of these suggestions, you can contribute to your own well-being, to your SOZ Temple, and to new people who you welcome to share in this wonderfully nurturing and supportive Jewish community.

Thanksgiving + Hanukkah = a Happy and Meaningful Thanksganukkah for all!!

Saul Perlmutter, Rabbi

Joan B. Rosner, President





Cheshvan/ Kislev 5782

November 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 25 Cheshvan More Help Needed at the SOZ Garden, 10am at SOZ	1 26 Cheshvan Minyan Cancelled	2 27 Cheshvan	3 28 Cheshvan Mincha Minyan Schmooze, 5pm Service, 5:15pm (Zoom)	4 29 Cheshvan	5 1 Kislev	6 2 Kislev Shabbat Service, 10am (Zoom) Tum the clocks back before bed
Halloween					Rosh Hodesh Kislev	Toledot
7 3 Kislev SOZ Book Club, 10:30am (Zoom) Life After Death Study Session: In Memory of Robert Katz (z"I), 7pm (Zoom) Daylight Saving Time Ends	8 4 Kislev Minyan Cancelled	9 5 Kislev Fall SOZ Lecture Series with Dr. Simon Sibelman, 7pm (Zoom)	Mincha Minyan Schmooze, 5pm Service, 5:15pm (Zoom) SOZ Board Meeting, 6:30pm (Zoom or in- Person TBD)	11 7 Kislev Veterans Day	12 8 Kislev	13 9 Kislev Shabbat Service, 10am (Zoom)
14 10 Kislev	15 11 Kislev Minyan Cancelled	16 12 Kislev	17 13 Kislev Mincha Minyan Schmooze, 5pm Service, 5:15pm (Zoom)	18 14 Kislev	19 15 Kislev	20 16 Kislev Shabbat Service, 10am (Zoom)
21 17 Kislev	22 18 Kislev Minyan Cancelled	23 19 Kislev	24 20 Kiselv Mincha Minyan Schmooze, 5pm Service, 5:15pm (Zoom)	25 21 Kislev Thanksgiving	26 22 Kislev	27 23 Kislev Shabbat Service, 10am (Zoom)
28 24 Kislev Minyan Cancelled	29 25 Kislev Minyan Cancelled Hanukkah Candle Lighting @ Holyoke City Hall, 5:30pm	30 26 Kislev	1 27 Kislev Mincha Minyan Schmooze, 5pm Service, 5:15pm (Zoom)	2 28 Kislev	3 29 Kislev Fifth Day	4 30 Kislev Shabbat Service, 10am (Zoom) Sixth Day
Erev Hanukkah Light 1st Candle	First Day Hanukkah Light 2 Candles	Second Day Hanukkah Light 3 Candles	Third Day Hanukkah Light 4 Candles	Fourth Day Hanukkah Light 5 Candles	Hanukkah Light 6 Candles	Hanukkah Light 7 Candles Mi-Ketz

*(Zoom) and cancelled Monday minyanim assume that COVID-19 restrictions continue.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday, November 3, 2021

Mincha Minyan (Zoom):

5pm schmooze, 5:15pm service

Friday, November 5, 2021

Rosh Hodesh Kislev

Saturday, November 6, 2021

Shabbat Service, 10am (Zoom)

Turn the clocks back before bed

Sunday, November 7, 2021

SOZ Book Club, 10:30am (Zoom)

Life After Death Study Session: In memory of Robert Katz (z"l),

7pm (Zoom)

Daylight Saving Time Ends

Tuesday, November 9, 2021

SOZ Fall Lecture Series with Dr.

Simon Sibelman, 7pm (Zoom)

Wednesday, November 10, 2021

Mincha Minyan (Zoom):

5pm schmooze, 5:15pm service

SOZ Board Meeting, 6:30pm

(Zoom or In-person TBD)

Thursday, November 11, 2021

Veterans Day

Saturday, November 13, 2021

Shabbat Service, 10am (Zoom)

Wednesday, November 17, 2021

Mincha Minyan (Zoom):

5pm schmooze, 5:15pm service

Saturday, November 20, 2021

Shabbat Service, 10am (Zoom)

Sunday, November 21, 2021

SOZ Book Club Meeting,

10:30am (Zoom)

Wednesday, November 24, 2021

Mincha Minyan (Zoom):

5pm schmooze, 5:15pm service

Thursday, November 25, 2021

Thanksgiving

Saturday, November 27, 2021

Shabbat Service, 10am (Zoom)

Sunday, November 28, 2021

Erev Hanukkah

Light the 1st candle

Monday, November 29, 2021

Hanukkah Candle Lighting at

Holyoke City Hall, 5:30pm

First Day Hanukkah

Light 2 candles

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Second Day Hanukkah

Light 3 candles

Hanukkah Blessings

Candles are added to the *hanukkiyah* (menorah) from right to left but are kindled from left to right. The newest candle is lit first.

Light the *shamash* (the helper candle) first, using it to kindle the rest of the Hanukkah lights. As you do, say or sing:

Baruch aaah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tsivanu I'hadlik ner shel Hanukkah.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, who hallows us with mitzov, commanding us to kindle the Hanukkah lights.

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, she-asah nisim laavoteinu v'imoteinu bayamim hahaeim baz'man hazeh.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, who performed wondrous deeds for our ancestors in days of old at this season.

For first night only:

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, shehecheyanu v'kiy'manu v'higiyanu laz'man hazeh. Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, who has kept us alive, sustained us, and brought us to this season.

On Erev Shabbat, Friday evening, December 3rd, light the Hanukkah candles first followed by Shabbat Candles.

We kindle these lights because of the wondrous deliverance You performed for our ancestors. During these eight days of Hanukkah, these lights are sacred; we are not to use them but only to behold them, so that their glow may rouse us to give thanks for Your wondrous acts of deliverance.

MAOZ TZUR (Rock Of Ages)

מְעוֹז צוּר יְשׁוּעָתִי לְךְּ נָאֶה לְשַׁבֵּחַ. תִּכּוֹן בֵּית תִּפִּלָּתִי וְשָׁם תּוֹּרָה נְזַבֵּחַ. לְעֵת תָּכִץ מַטְבֵּחַ מִצָּר הַמְנַבַּח. אָז אָגְמוֹר בְּשִׁיר מִזְמוֹר חֲנֻכַּת הַמִּזְבַח.

Maoz Tzur Translation:

Rock of Ages, let our song praise Your saving power.

You, amid the raging foe, were our sheltering tower.

Furious, they assailed us, but Your help availed us,

And Your word broke their sword when our own strength failed us. X2

Transliteration:

Ma-oz Tzur Y'shu-a-ti, Le-cha Na-eh L'sha-bei-ach

Ti-kon Beit T'fi-la-ti, V'sham To-da N'za-bei-ach

L'eit Ta-chin Mat-bei-ach, Mi-tzar Ham-na-bei-ach

Az Eg-mor B'shir Miz-mor Cha-nu-kat Ha-miz-bei-ach (x2)

Help Restore the SOZ Garden

SOZ used to have a thriving garden of flowers and vegetables in the yard. It is time to bring that back!



A small group of dedicated

volunteers has started clearing the vines and tangles from along the perimeters of the SOZ yard. The plan is to continue the work and to hire professionals with the right equipment to complete the job.

We need help raising the funds to make this vision a reality.

Please help by contributing whatever you are able to the SOZ Garden Fund.

Contributions can be mailed to SOZ: 378 Maple Street Holyoke, MA 01040

You can also donate by clicking the button below or by using PayPal on our website. Please add a note stating that the donation is marked to Restore the SOZ Garden.

Donate Now

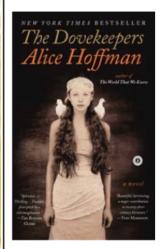
For the convenience of being able to make donations on our website, PayPal takes 2.9% plus 30¢ of your donation as part of their fee. There is an option to help offset the cost of processing. Please consider using this option so that SOZ will receive all of your thoughtful donation.



Congregation Sons of Zion 378 Maple Street Holyoke, MA 01040

SOZ BOOK CLUB MEETING

Sunday, December 12th at 10:30am



The Dovekeepers by Alice Hoffman

Nearly two thousand years ago, nine hundred Jews held out for months against armies of Romans on Masada, a mountain in the Judean desert. According to the ancient historian Josephus, two women and five children survived. Based on this tragic and iconic event, Hoffman's novel is a spellbinding tale of four extraordinarily bold, resourceful, and sensuous women, each of whom has come to Masada by a different path. Yael's mother died in childbirth, and her father, an expert assassin, never forgave her for that death.

Revka, a village baker's wife, watched the murder of her daughter by Roman soldiers; she brings to Masada her young grandsons, rendered mute by what they have witnessed. Aziza is a warrior's daughter, raised as a boy, a fearless rider and expert marksman who finds passion with a fellow soldier. Shirah, born in Alexandria, is wise in the ways of ancient magic and medicine, a woman with uncanny insight and power.

How to Watch SOZ's Past Shabbat Services on YouTube:

(Zoom services are not recorded)

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 them 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 10:00am, Shabbat Shalom!

FALL 2021 LECTURES AT SOZ



OCTOBER 12, 2021

and

NOVEMBER 9, 2021

at 7pm via Zoom

Please join us on October 12, 2021 and November 9, 2021, at 7pm via Zoom as Dr. Simon Sibelman leads us on two Jewish geographic journeys to France, the Czech Republic, and Poland. You will visit sights of Jewish interest and learn about the rich Jewish history and heritages in those countries. Have your passports ready and be prepared to join in our travels.

Please register at www.sonsofzionholyoke.org/events



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A Special Thank You to Our Sustaining Members

Andrew Barowsky
Ned and Cindy Barowsky
Richard and Ellen Freyman
Bonnie and Maggie Gruszecki
Norman and Marion Halpern
Alfred and Lee Hutt
Stephen and Lois Levin
Buddy and Margie Resnic
Michael and Joan Rosner
William 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 & Fleanor 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@sonsofzionholyoke.com or (413)534-3369. Thank you very much.





Donations: Thank you!



Cemetery Fund

- * Francis Burke and Marcia Burke: To be used to clean and maintain the headstone for David Slotnick and Gladys Slotnick
- * Edith Eskenasy: In memory of her beloved father, Jacob Barowsky
- + Edith Eskenasy: In memory of her beloved husband, Isaac Eskenasy
- * Sanford N. Katz: In memory of his father, Jacob Katz
- + Leslie and Rich O'Donnell: In memory of Leslie's grandfather, Hyman Bernstein
- + Leslie and Rich O'Donnell: In memory of Leslie's grandmother, Ida Bernstein
- Charles Weinstein: In memory of his mother, Clara Weinstein

Garden Fund

- * Alan and Elaine Barr: In memory of Elaine's father, Myer Goldenberg
- * Alan and Elaine Barr: In memory of Elaine's mother, Pearl Goldenberg
- * Alan and Elaine Barr: In memory of Elaine's brother, Eric Goldenberg
- + Alan and Elaine Barr: In memory of Alan's father, Harry Barr
- * Alan and Elaine Barr: In memory of Alan's mother, Anne Barr
- * Alan and Elaine Barr: In memory of Alan's brother, Garry Barr
- * Alan and Elaine Barr: In memory of Alan's brother, Michael Barr
- * Robert and Olivia Mausel: Restore the SOZ Garden
- Myra Orlen: In memory of Samuel Orlen

General Fund

- Gail and George Baquis: In memory of Gail's mother, Ida Plesset
- * Marjorie Bloom: In memory of her beloved mother, Sylvia Bloom
- * Bonnie Gruszecki: In memory of her paternal grandmother, Fanny Gruszecki
- * Judy Katz: High Holiday Donation
- * Judy Katz: To Joan Rosner, with thanks for all of her help
- * Joan and Michael Rosner: Congratulating Joan Kagan Levine on her retirement from Square One and all she has done for the children of greater holyoke
- * Joan and Michael Rosner: Swift and comfortable recovery to Ken Vieu
- Joan and Michael Rosner: Good health to Richard Freyman
- Joan and Michael Rosner: Huge thank you to Deb Levine, Yoni Glogower and all who worked to restore the SOZ Garden
- Rick Tessler: High Holiday Donation
- * Catherine Walsh: In memory of Mr. Robert Katz
- * Ruth and Susan Weiss: Thanking SOZ for letting them join in on the Zoom 2021 Yom Kippur Services

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

* Muriel R. Asher: In memory of Robert Katz, husband of Judy Katz

November 2021 Yahrzeits

October 31 – November 6: Mady Schorsch

October 31 *Bess Kaplinsky

*Nathan Wilson

November 2 *Fannie Saex

Robert Saex

*Max Stein

November 3 Sylvia Bloom

November 4 *Constance K. Barowsky

Beatrice Rose
*Isaac Eskenasv

*Beatrice Palmer

November 5 Ruth Breslow-Young

November 7 – 13: Barry Sparkes

November 7 Jay Posnik
November 8 *Stanley Saex
November 9 Samuel Cohen
November 11 *Rose Alperin
November 12 Philip G. Craig

November 14 - 20: Rick Tessler

November 14 Benjamin Paul November 16 *Murray Horn November 18 Jacob Paul

Lena Seamon

*Nathan Solomon

November 19 *Arthur Jay Berenson

*Myer M. Rubin

November 20 *John Gaylor

Sherman Marks Milton Palmer *Samuel Resnic Anne Wiener

November 21 – 27: Cindy Vieu

November 21 *Sonia R. (Baker) Greenspan

November 23 *Leslie Kahan November 24 *Aaron Blatt

> Ellen Connington *Yetta Gaylor *Anne Kaplinsky Sophie Paul *Louis Saex

November 26 *David A. Weber

November 28 – December 4: Ken Vieu

November 29 *Russell Bernstein November 30 Shirley Brawer

*Louis H. Schlosberg

December 1 Harold Gerstein

*Matilda Goldberg *Mildred Kaplinsky

*Philip Rubin

December 3 Dr. Ira Daniel Gilbert

*Joseph Welson



Pictures

Provided by Deb Levine



Joan, Yoni and Mady: Discussing the work ahead



Yoni, Brielle, Rich and Paul: Taking a break in the shade



Billy Os



Phil Os

Pictures and Thank You!

Provided by Deb Levine





Yoni: Getting more roots pulled

Yoni: Almost ready to sow grass seed

A tremendous TODAH RABAH goes out to all the garden workday volunteers who came together on several occasions to weed, dig, and prepare the SOZ yard for planting. Also a huge shout out of appreciation to Phil and Bill Os, the landscapers who cleared the trees, vines and general tangles that were too much for the volunteer crew to manage.

And to Yoni Glogower, wonderful friend to SOZ and Director of Conservation and Sustainability for the City of Holyoke, we can't thank you enough for your guidance, support and hard work in helping this vision become a reality. It is thanks to Yoni that SOZ was able to partner with DCR to have trees planted in the yard that will provide shade and beauty for years to come.

If you haven't been able to join us this summer and fall, never fear. There will be spring planting days when we will be gathering appropriate bushes and perennials from our yards to create a beautiful and low maintenance border.

If you haven't seen the SOZ yard recently, take a drive by. You won't believe the changes.

Thanks again to one and all who helped out.

Deb Levine

Ads from our Sponsors

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7 Hadley Street, South Hadley **536-6100**

Friendly, relaxed atmosphere

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

There is always room for more!!!

