

# CONGREGATION SONS OF ZION

Volume 11 | Issue 3 | December 2025 | Kislev/Tevet 5786

## Congregation Sons of Zion

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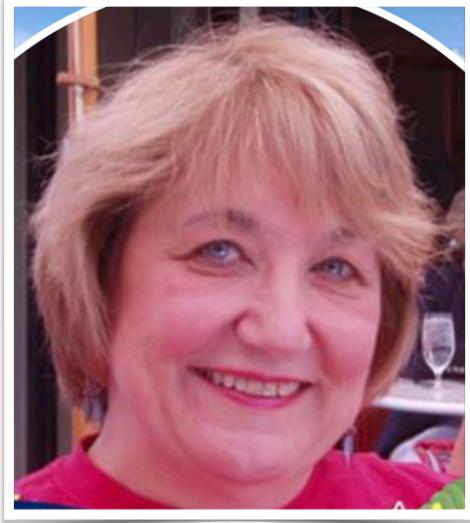
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## About the Month of Kislev

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!!!*



## President's Message

I am pleased to share that the building at 378 Maple Street has officially been sold. The \$550,000 from the sale is being invested to support the future of our congregation and its cemetery.

While it is bittersweet to say goodbye to our beautiful sanctuary—with its stained glass windows, hand-crafted woodwork, and more than a century of memories—the reality is that maintaining a 19,000-square-foot building had become overwhelming for our aging membership. The upkeep and needed repairs far exceeded what we could sustainably manage.

We are comforted knowing that the new owners, Templo Pentecostal Las Hermanos, deeply appreciate the historic value of the building. With their large and energetic congregation, they have already begun restoring it with great care and enthusiasm.

We extend our deepest gratitude to Attorney Ellen Freyman, who handled the closing *pro bono*. Her generosity is profoundly appreciated.

A heartfelt thank you also goes to Dr. Stephen Levine for recommending Zaisha Robert of SR Commercial Realty, who worked tirelessly to find the best possible outcome for both our congregation and the broader community.

My eternal gratitude goes to everyone who helped us move out of a building that held over a hundred years of history - especially David Scher, who was my indispensable right hand throughout this entire process.

We now look forward to a more secure and sustainable future in our charming, affordable rented space at 380 Dwight Street, which requires very little upkeep. Although we no longer have a full-time Rabbi, we continue to enjoy meaningful services and holiday celebrations with a variety of Rabbis, service leaders, and the help of Zoom.

Looking ahead, we are planning a range of engaging activities, including lectures, musical and film events, Torah study, and other educational opportunities. If you have suggestions, we would truly love to hear them. Our warm, welcoming, and wonderfully diverse community hopes to see you soon.

Happy Hanukkah and best wishes for a joyful and healthy New Year in 2026.

Joanne Saltman

# Kislev/Tevet

## 5786

# December 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 10 Kislev	1 11 Kislev	2 12 Kislev	3 13 Kislev Ma'ariv Minyan: Schmooze, 5 pm Service, 5:15 pm (Zoom)	4 14 Kislev Federation 99 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, 7 pm SOZ Shem Tov Awardee: Jayne Pearl	5 15 Kislev Welcome Shabbat Candle Lighting (Zoom): Gather: 3:45 pm, Light Candles: 4:00 pm	6 16 Kislev Shabbat Service: 10 am (Zoom), Service Leader: Dr. Max Chorowski  Vayishlach
7 17 Kislev	8 18 Kislev	9 19 Kislev SOZ Board Meeting: 6:30 pm (Zoom)	10 20 Kislev Ma'ariv Minyan: Schmooze, 5 pm Service, 5:15 pm (Zoom)	11 21 Kislev	12 22 Kislev Welcome Shabbat Candle Lighting (Zoom): Gather: 3:45 pm, Light Candles: 4:00 pm	13 23 Kislev Shabbat Service: 10 am: Details TBD  Vayeshev
14 24 Kislev <i>EREV HANUKKAH</i> (Light one candle)  10 <sup>th</sup> Annual Hanukkah Menorah Lighting: 5:30 pm (Holyoke City Hall). Indoor celebration to follow!	15 25 Kislev <i>1<sup>ST</sup> DAY HANUKKAH</i> (Light two candles)	16 26 Kislev <i>2<sup>ND</sup> DAY HANUKKAH</i> (Light three candles)	17 27 Kislev <i>3<sup>RD</sup> DAY HANUKKAH</i> (Light four candles)  Ma'ariv Minyan: Schmooze, 5 pm Service, 5:15 pm (Zoom)	18 28 Kislev <i>4<sup>TH</sup> DAY HANUKKAH</i> (Light five candles)	19 29 Kislev <i>5<sup>TH</sup> DAY HANUKKAH</i> (Light six candles)  Welcome Shabbat Candle Lighting (Zoom): Gather: 3:45 pm, Light Candles: 4:03 pm	20 30 Kislev <i>6<sup>TH</sup> DAY HANUKKAH</i> (Light seven candles) Shabbat Hanukkah: 10 am (Hybrid - weather permitting), Service Leader: Rabbi Marc Rudolph, Holiday Kiddush follows service Miketz
21 1 Tevet <i>7<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF HANUKKAH</i> (Light seven candles)  <i>ROSH CHODESH TEVET</i> Eighth Night of Hanukkah Celebration: 6 pm (Rosner's Home)	22 2 Tevet <i>8<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF HANUKKAH</i>	23 3 Tevet	24 4 Tevet Ma'ariv Minyan: Schmooze, 5 pm Service, 5:15 pm (Zoom)	25 5 Tevet	26 6 Tevet Welcome Shabbat Candle Lighting (Zoom): Gather: 3:50 pm, Light Candles: 4:06 pm	27 7 Tevet Shabbat Service: 10 am (Zoom) Service Leader: Randi Stein  Vaygash
28 8 Tevet	29 9 Tevet	30 10 Tevet <i>FAST OF THE 10<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF TEVET</i>	31 11 Tevet <i>New Year's Eve</i> Ma'ariv Minyan: Schmooze, 5 pm Service, 5:15 pm (Zoom)	1 12 Tevet <i>New Year's Day</i>	2 13 Tevet Welcome Shabbat Candle Lighting (Zoom): Gather: 3:55 pm, Light Candles: 4:12 pm	3 14 Tevet Shabbat Service: 10 am: Details TBD  Vayechi

# DATES TO REMEMBER

## Wednesday, December 3, 2025

Ma'ariv Minyan (Zoom):  
5 pm Schmooze, 5:15 pm Service

## Thursday, December 4, 2025

Federation 99<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, 7 pm  
Shem Tov Awardee: Jayne Pearl

## Friday, December 5, 2025

Welcome Shabbat Candle Lighting (Zoom):  
3:45 pm Gather, 4:00 pm Light Candles

## Saturday, December 6, 2025

Shabbat Service, 10 am (Zoom),  
Service Leader: Dr. Max Chorowski

## Tuesday, December 9, 2025

SOZ Board Meeting, 6:30 pm (Zoom)

## Wednesday, December 10, 2025

Ma'ariv Minyan (Zoom):  
5 pm Schmooze, 5:15 pm Service

## Friday, December 12, 2025

Welcome Shabbat Candle Lighting (Zoom):  
3:45 pm Gather, 4:00 pm Light Candles

## Saturday, December 13, 2025

Shabbat Service, 10 am (Details TBD)

## Sunday, December 14, 2025

**EREV HANUKKAH (Light one candle)**

10<sup>th</sup> Annual Hanukkah Menorah Lighting:  
5:30 pm (Holyoke City Hall), Indoor  
celebration to follow, See flyer on page 5

## Monday, December 15, 2025

**1<sup>ST</sup> DAY HANUKKAH (Light two candles)**

## Tuesday, December 16, 2025

**2<sup>ND</sup> DAY HANUKKAH (Light three candles)**

## Wednesday, December 17, 2025

**3<sup>RD</sup> DAY HANUKKAH (Light four candles)**

Ma'ariv Minyan (Zoom):

5 pm Schmooze, 5:15 pm Service

## Thursday, December 18, 2025

**4<sup>TH</sup> DAY HANUKKAH (Light five candles)**

## Friday, December 19, 2025

**5<sup>TH</sup> DAY HANUKKAH (Light six candles)**

Welcome Shabbat Candle Lighting (Zoom):  
3:45 pm Gather, 4:03 pm Light Candles

## Saturday, December 20, 2025

**6<sup>TH</sup> DAY HANUKKAH (Light seven candles)**

Shabbat Hanukkah:

10 am (Hybrid - weather permitting),  
Service Leader: Rabbi Marc Rudolph,  
Holiday Kiddush follows service

## Sunday, December 21, 2025

**7<sup>TH</sup> DAY HANUKKAH (Light eight candles)**

**ROSH CHODESH TEVET**

Eighth Night of Hanukkah Celebration:  
6 pm (Rosner's Home), See flyer on page 6

## Monday, December 22, 2025

**8<sup>TH</sup> DAY HANUKKAH**

## Wednesday, December 24, 2025

Ma'ariv Minyan (Zoom):  
5 pm Schmooze, 5:15 pm Service

## Friday, December 26, 2025

Welcome Shabbat Candle Lighting (Zoom):  
3:50 pm Gather, 4:06 pm Light Candles

## Saturday, December 27, 2025

Shabbat Service, 10 am (Zoom),  
Service Leader: Randi Stein

## Tuesday, December 30, 2025

**FAST OF THE 10<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF TEVET**

## Wednesday, December 31, 2025

**New Year's Eve**

Ma'ariv Minyan (Zoom):

5 pm Schmooze, 5:15 pm Service

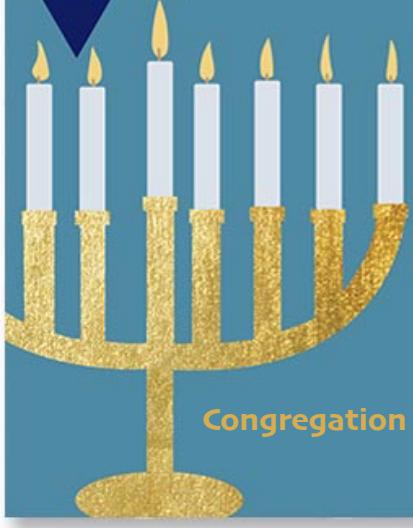


# 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL Hanukkah Candle Lighting at Holyoke City Hall

**Sunday, December 14, 2025  
5:30 PM**

**LIGHT THE CANDLES  
SONGS  
DREIDELS**

**Followed by holiday refreshments  
in City Hall**



Festivities brought to you by:

Congregation Sons of Zion  
Congregation Rodphey Sholom  
Holyoke Parks and Recreation Department  
Holyoke Mayor's Office

**For more information contact:**

**Congregation Sons of Zion at 413-534-3369 or [office@sonsofzionholyoke.org](mailto:office@sonsofzionholyoke.org)**

# CONGREGATION SONS OF ZION'S 8TH NIGHT OF HANUKKAH PARTY



*CANDLE  
LIGHT  
FOOD*      *SONGS  
FUN!!!*

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21ST AT 6 PM**

**HOSTS: JOAN AND MICHAEL ROSNER**

9 Sycamore Park, South Hadley, MA

**REMEMBER TO BRING:**  
**HANUKKAH MENORAH AND CANDLES, MUSICAL  
INSTRUMENTS, YOUR SPIRIT OF FUN!!!**

**It's a potluck and oil is the theme! Suggestions:**

- Latkes of any variety (we'll cut them up so all can taste)
- Sufganiyot (donuts)
- Any other foods cooked in or prepared with oil
- No meat please

**Last Name A to P:**

Please bring an entree, side dishes,  
or salad  
(For example: latkes, homemade  
apple sauce, vegetable casserole)

**Last Name Q to Z:**

Please bring dessert  
(For example: donuts, oil fried treats,  
cookies, stewed fruit, fresh fruit)

RSVP: Email the office at [office@sonsofzionholyoke.org](mailto:office@sonsofzionholyoke.org) or call  
(413)534-3369

QUESTIONS AND DIRECTIONS: Contact Joan or Michael Rosner at  
[joanrosner@comcast.net](mailto:joanrosner@comcast.net) or (413)536-5669

## Local Events/Information

Use the links below to sign up for PJ Library and PJ Our Way.



<https://pjlibrary.org/>



<https://pjourway.org/>



*Save the Date!*

**NHC New England Winter Retreat:  
Shabbat in the Country**

**December 19-21, 2025**

Camp Ramah Palmer, MA



*families welcome, childcare provided*

for more info: [www.havurah.org/2025-winter-retreat](http://www.havurah.org/2025-winter-retreat)  
email [ne-retreat@havurah.org](mailto:ne-retreat@havurah.org)

NATIONAL HAVURAH COMMITTEE THE TORAH CANNOT BE ACQUIRED EXCEPT IN FELLOWSHIP

אין הדרורה נקנית אלא ב חבירות

*we hope to see you there!*



## Local Events

# Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning

Rabbi Wallk has been involved with the Melton School since 1996. The Melton School is a worldwide community of adult learners who are eager to explore Jewish texts, traditions and rituals. The Melton School offers world-class opportunities for learning, growth, and travel. Over 50,000 Melton learners say that learning with Melton has changed their lives by enriching conversations, influencing decisions, and strengthening community.

The Melton curriculum covers:

- The whys of Jewish living
- Jewish ethics to inform decision making
- Contemporary and ancient insights into the Bible
- Critical moments in Jewish history
- Modern Israeli and Jewish culture
- And much more...

To find out what Rabbi Wallk is teaching and to learn more about the Melton School in general, email [Rabbi Wallk](#).

Go to:

<https://tbespringfield.org/adult-education/> for more information.



## A Special Thank You to Our 2025-26 Sustaining Members

Joseph Arshawsky

Andrew Barowsky

Ned and Cindy Barowsky

Steve and Linnea Constant

Rich and Ellen Freyman

Norman and Marion Halpern

Stephen and Lois Levin

Steve and Joan Levine

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)	Aaron & Gail Lansky
Elaine Baskin	Stephen & Lois Levin
Irene Bernstein*	Stephen & Joan Levine
Joseph Boucher	Sidney* & Elizabeth* Paul
David & Nancy Carmen	Burton & Marjorie Resnic
Louise Citron	Michael & Joan Rosner
James Eisenstock*	William Robbins* & Mollie Blatt*
Andrea Fox	Ellen Saltman*
Richard & Ellen Freyman	Paul Saltman
Albert Goldberg*	William & Joanne Saltman
Herbert* & Barbara* Goldberg	Elihu & Joan Schepps
Debra Goldberg and Seth Waxman	Nitza Seaver
Rose Gorin*	Charles Weinstein
Janet & Richard Greenfield	Frances Nelson & Thomas Osborn*
Rachel Henderson	Sherwin* & Rhoda Wernick
Alfred & Lee Hutt	Thomas & Eleanor Wilson
Ira Laby	<i>*Deceased</i>

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](mailto:office@sonsofzionholyoke.com) or (413)534-3369. Thank you very much.



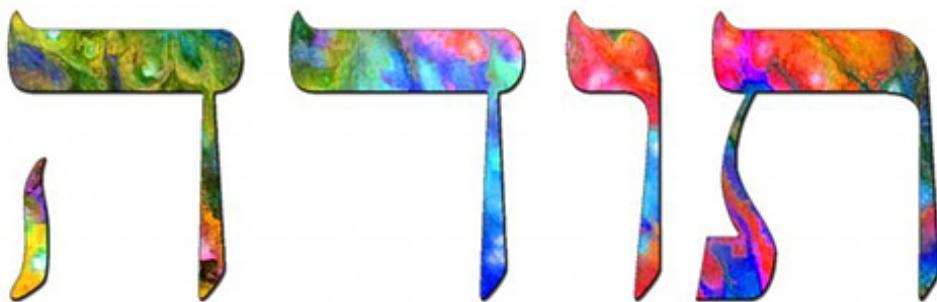
# תודה November Donations: Thank you! תודה

## Cemetery Fund

- ♦ Elizabeth Bassell Goodman: In memory of her mother, Dorothy Bassell
- ♦ Helene Marks: Marks plot beautification

## General Fund

- ♦ Andrew Barowsky: In memory of his father, Mischa Barowsky
- ♦ Ned and Cindy Barowsky: In memory of Ned's father, Mischa Barowsky
- ♦ Stephen M. Greenberg: To be used where it's needed most
- ♦ Judy Katz: In honor of Jayne Pearl for her Federation honor
- ♦ Judy Katz: Refuah shlemra to Cindy Vieu
- ♦ Jayne Pearl: November 15th Kiddush Sponsorship



sdaris

"Todah" Thank You

## December 2025 Yahrzeits

### November 30-December 6: Joanne Saltman

November 30      Benjamin Paul  
                     Roberta Shefrin  
                     \*Murray Horn  
                     December 4      Jacob Paul  
                     Lena Seamon  
                     \*Nathan Solomon  
                     December 5      \*Arthur Jay Berenson  
                     \*Meyer M. Rubin  
                     December 6      \*John Gaylor  
                     Sherman Marks  
                     Milton Palmer  
                     \*Samuel Resnic  
                     Anne Wiener

### December 28-January 3: Lois Levin

December 30      \*Mischa Barowsky  
                     Sarah Lipnick  
                     Stephen Barowsky  
                     \*Mollie Schlosberg  
                     Shirley Fortgang  
                     Harvey Elliot Goldberg  
                     Sue Ellen Panitch  
                     Sarah Reiner  
                     Bessie Jolles  
                     \*Batya Segalovitch

### December 7-13: Cindy Vieu

December 7      \*Sonia R. (Baker) Greenspan  
                     December 9      \*Leslie Kahan  
                     December 10      \*Aaron Blatt  
                     Ellen Connington  
                     \*Yetta Gaylor  
                     \*Anne Kaplinsky  
                     Sophie Paul  
                     \*Louis Saex  
                     December 12      \*David A. Weber

### December 14-20: Richard Freyman

December 14      Dolores Stein  
                     December 15      \*Russell Bernstein  
                     December 16      Shirley Brawer  
                     \*Louis H. Schlosberg  
                     December 17      Harold Gerstein  
                     \*Matilda Goldberg  
                     \*Mildred Kaplinsky  
                     \*Philip Rubin  
                     December 19      Dr. Ira Daniel Gilbert  
                     \*Joseph Welson

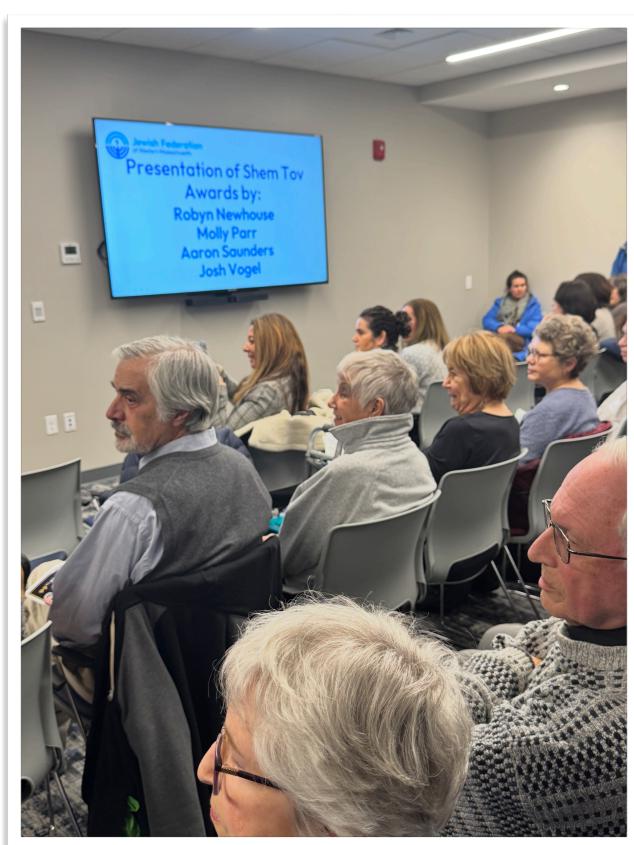
### December 21-27: Ira Laby

December 21      \*Milton Jerome Laufer  
                     Adele Robbins  
                     December 22      Marcelle Freyman  
                     December 23      \*Ethel Haley  
                     Paul Meyer  
                     December 24      \*Ida Laskin  
                     Rose Rubin  
                     December 25      Renee Gilbert  
                     December 27      \*Shirley Eisenstock  
                     Daniel Jeremias  
                     Thomas Osborn  
                     \*Isadore Ziff



## Honoring Jayne Pearl

Provided by: Dr. Stephen Levine



## Ads from Our Sponsors

### ASCHER ZIMMERMAN

Funeral Home, Inc.

Funeral Directors:  
RYAN S. ASCHER  
ROBERT P. ZIMMERMAN

413-734-5229  
888-827-2437

EMAIL: [ascherzimmerman@aol.com](mailto:ascherzimmerman@aol.com)  
WEBSITE: [ascherzimmerman.com](http://ascherzimmerman.com)  
44 SUMNER AVENUE, SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS, 01108

### EMILY DUMALA

[EmilyDumala@SmithMonuments.net](mailto:EmilyDumala@SmithMonuments.net)  
**OFFICE:** (413) 568-8682  
**CELL:** (413) 374-2692

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

There is always room for more!!!



**Jewish Federation**  
of Western Massachusetts