

BULLETIN

TEMPLE EMANUEL OF NORTH JERSEY

A welcoming, Conservative, egalitarian, spiritual community

Chanukah 2024

Kislev 5785



TEMPLE EMANUEL OF NORTH JERSEY
CELEBRATES

CHANUKAH

The Festival of Lights

Lights, Laughter, Love & Latkes!!!



**Chanukah Candlelighting
& Group Photo**
*Thursday, December 26
at 5:00 p.m.*

**Shabbat Services
and Festive Luncheon**
Saturday, December 28
Services at 10:00 a.m.
Luncheon to follow.



*Please contact the office to RSVP for the luncheon.
No charge, but donations appreciated.*



Joseph H. Prouser, Rabbi | Susan Bograd Yudin, President

558 High Mountain Road | Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417 | 201-560-0200 | Email: office@tenjfl.org | Website: www.tenjfl.org

“Parshat Miketz: Celebrating our Daughters”

Rabbi Joseph H. Prouser



By the time Abraham achieved advanced old age, the Torah informs us, God had blessed the patriarch “ba-kol – in all things” (Genesis 24:1). This assertion scandalized certain Talmudic sages, who protested that Scripture mentions no daughter born to Abraham. How could a man without a daughter possibly be described as blessed “in all things”?! Rabbi Yehuda insisted that “ba-kol – in all things” of necessity indicates that Abraham did indeed have a daughter (Baba Batra 16b). Others doubled down, explaining that “Bakol” was the name of that daughter: “God blessed Abraham with Bakol!” These views anticipated the wisdom of the Greek dramatist Euripides: “To a father growing older, nothing is dearer than a daughter.”

A little-known observance worthy of our renewed attention is “Chag Ha-Banot” – the “Festival of Daughters” – celebrated each year on Rosh Chodesh Tevet, which always falls during Chanukah. This year we celebrate this filial festival on Tuesday, December 31. Also known as Rosh Chodesh La-Banot and, in Arabic, as Eid al-Banat, the celebration was long popular in North Africa, among the Jews of Tunisia, Libya, Algeria, and Morocco, among others – thus the Arabic designation. The sadly neglected holiday is enjoying a welcome resurgence among Jewish feminists, and is still faithfully celebrated by Jews of Tunisian origin in France and Israel.

A special liturgical poem is customarily recited before lighting Chanukah candles on the eve of Chag Ha-Banot, as is a “Misheberach Imoteinu” – a blessing

invoking the Four Matriarchs. Some households dedicate each individual Chanukah candle in honor of a specific woman or group of women on this special night. In certain communities, historically, parents would take their daughters to the synagogue, where they would sing and dance, kiss the Torah Scrolls, pray for good health, and receive the rabbi’s blessing. To mark the occasion, mothers give special gifts to their daughters, and husbands give loving gifts to their wives: “Many daughters have done superbly, but you surpass them all” (Proverbs 31:29). Girls and women who have experienced interpersonal conflict or suffered a falling-out seek principled reconciliation in honor of Chag Ha-Banot.

Parshat Miketz, which all but invariably coincides with Chanukah, may well have inspired the gift giving associated with this mid-Chanukah celebration of daughters. It is in Parshat Miketz that we read of Joseph’s remarkable rise to prominence in Pharaoh’s court. He is rewarded with power, public adulation, and an Egyptian name: Tzafenat Paneach. Joseph is also given Asenath, daughter of Potiphera, the Priest of On, in marriage – further confirming his now lofty aristocratic status (Genesis 41:45).

A number of Midrashic sources (Tractate Soferim 21:9; Pirkei Rabbi Eliezer 38) preserve a fascinating tradition about Asenath, Joseph’s ostensibly Egyptian bride. They assert that she was the adoptive daughter of Potiphera, though she had actually been born to Dinah, daughter of Jacob. Joseph married not merely the daughter of an Egyptian priest, but a granddaughter of Jacob, a party to the chosen, covenantal line. Furthermore, it should be noted, marriage to one’s own niece (especially a sororal niece) is treated in Rabbinic literature as a particularly desirable and reliably loving match (Yevamot 62b-63a).

(continued on page 3)

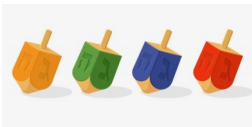
(Rabbi's article... continued from page 2)

How did Joseph find his Israelite bride among the Egyptian aristocracy? The midrash explains that Jacob had lovingly presented Asenath with a gift: a gold amulet bearing the Tetragrammaton, the ineffable, holy, four-letter Name of God, which she wore around her neck without fail. When Pharaoh offered the newly ascendant Joseph his choice of Egyptian brides, Joseph saw God's name inscribed on Asenath's necklace and understood that Providence had sent her to her aristocratic, adoptive family "for just such an occasion" (compare Esther 4:15). Thanks to Jacob's prescient and sensitive gift, a grateful Joseph realized that his marriage to Asenath was God's will. Asenath went on to become the mother of Ephraim and Manasseh, and is thus to be counted together with Rachel, Leah, Bilhah and Zilpah as among the progenitresses of the twelve tribes.

This coming Tuesday, December 31, will be celebrated by many as New Year's Eve. This year, however, Jewish tradition beckons us to mark that day, Rosh Chodesh Tevet, as Chag Ha-Banot, a sacred opportunity to reflect on the profound blessing that all the daughters in our lives represent. In the spirit of the midrash, our celebration of Chag Ha-Banot recalls Jacob's loving, impactful, and fateful gift to his daughter's daughter, Asenath.

May Parshat Miketz and Chag Ha-Banot thus remind us that the most precious gift we can bestow on our daughters – as on our sons – is a vivid sense of God's Presence, an intimate connection to God's Name, and an unassailable faith that they are each an indispensable part of God's plan.

As we begin 2025, may we strive for precisely that gold standard of spiritual clarity.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Susan Bograd Yudin



*On behalf of the Board of Trustees
of Temple Emanuel of North Jersey,
I wish our whole synagogue
family a Chanukah
filled with light, joy and peace.*



Thursday, December 26th
at 4:00 p.m. followed by the
Chanukah Candlelighting
& Group Photo at 5:00 p.m.

Guide to Lighting Chanukah Candles

Using an extra candle called the Shamash, light one candle on the first night (starting at the extreme right side of the chanukiah) and add a candle each night. Always begin by lighting the newest candle first. One should light Chanukah candles near a window, visible from outside.

Each night, before lighting the candles, the first two blessings below are recited. On the first night, the third blessing is added.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו,
וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה.

Baruch Atah Ado-nai Elo-heinu Melech Ha-olam Asher Kid'shanu B'mitzvotav V'tzivanu L'hadlik Ner Shel Chanukah.

Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the Universe who sanctified us with his commandments and commanded us to kindle the Chanukah light.

Baruch Atah Ado-nai Elo-heinu Melech Ha-olam She-Asah Nisim La-avoteinu Bayamim Ha-heim Ba-zman Hazeh.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לְאֲבוֹתֵינוּ
בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בְּזֶמַן הַזֶּה.

Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe who performed wondrous deeds for our ancestors in those days, at this season.

Baruch Atah Ado-nai Elo-heinu Melech Ha-olam She-heche-yanu V'kiye-manu Vehigi-yanu La-z'man Ha-zeh.

Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe who has kept us in life, sustained us and enabled us to reach this season.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁחַחֲנוּנוּ וְקִיַּמְנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ
לְזֶמַן הַזֶּה.



November

Lana Brach
 Joan Gulko
 Bonnie Karg
 Cherie Perrell
 Jonathan Reisbaum
 Pamela Safirstein
 Rona Stein
 Janice Wallach

December

Ed Berkowitz
 Bruce Feller
 Bonnie Grossman
 Louis Grossman
 Julie LaPoff
 Harold Levison
 Cynthia Sparber
 Linda Schwager
 Marc Zitcer



November

Robert & Hannah Lee Gold
 Howard & Sheila Schnoll

If your birthday or anniversary is within one of these months (or any other month) and you are a member, please let the office know and we will get it into the computer!

We would love to **spotlight your special moments**. Submit info of your and your family's milestones, celebrations, Bar/Bat-Mitzvah, birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, births, graduations, trips, achievements, etc. to the TENJ temple office to include them here and other Temple printed & e-mailed publications.

SHABBAT SIMCHAH CELEBRATION

- ◆ Usually 3rd Shabbat each month.
- ◆ Join us in the celebration.
- ◆ You will be given the opportunity for an Aliyah in your honor.
- ◆ Help keep these wonderful good times alive by offering to help **sponsor the kiddush**. You can donate as little or much as you like. All donations go to enhance the kiddush.

**NEXT SHABBAT
 SIMCHAH:
 DECEMBER 21ST
 10:00 AM Service with
 kiddush to follow.**



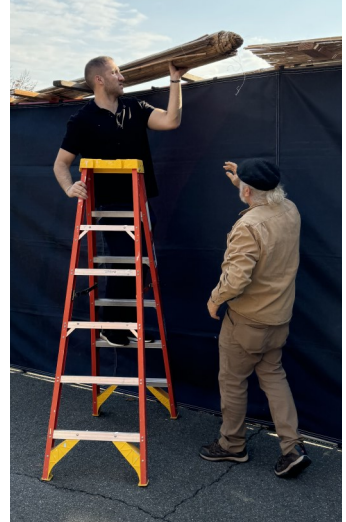
SIMCHAH GREETING CARDS

Send simchah greetings to family & friends (and support TENJ too)! Cards are \$10 each. When there are 4 or more people on the simcha list in any one month, you can send greetings to the entire list for \$36.00. Call the office today to add your name to our simchah card greetings.



Thank you to our Sukkah builders, decorators and sponsors!

Thank you to Mickey Levine for helping with and coordinating our sukkah build with Joe Persaud, Jr., Sam Greenblatt, Eli Freidman, Josh Gerris. Thank you also to our creative decorators, Sisterhood President, Rita Berzin & Helena Jankowitz. A very special thanks to all those who contributed toward the decorations and our wonderful Sukkot luncheons which were also sponsored by Sisterhood.



**A New Torah Mantle
was dedicated in memory of
the victims of October 7, 2023.**

MAZAL TOV!

*Chatan Torah: Michael Lawrence
on being called to the Torah for the final Aliyah of the liturgical year.*

*Kallat Bereishit: Rita Berzin
on being called to the Torah for the first Aliyah of the new liturgical year.*



“The Fifth Candle”

“Say Little, Do Much” Articles
from Crescent City Jewish News
by *Rabbi Joseph H. Prouser*

My father, of blessed memory, fondly recalled his childhood celebrations of Chanukah. He would receive a gift from his parents only on the fifth night of the holiday. Throughout his long life, he approached “the fifth candle” with particular joy and enthusiasm.

As a child, I assumed that this singular focus was motivated by economics. My father was the youngest of eight children and his immigrant parents were of limited means. Only a single, modest gift was possible. The fifth candle was as good a time as any for such gift-giving.

Later, I speculated that the fifth night festivities originated in the fact that it is then that, for the first time, the majority of the Chanukah candles on the Menorah are kindled. Light finally triumphs over darkness. The fifth night’s merriment reinforces a core message of the holiday.

Ultimately, I learned the profound meaning of this custom, more widely adopted than I first imagined. The fifth night of Chanukah never falls on Shabbat. Limiting gift-giving to the fifth night honors the weekly Sabbath, when the handling of Gelt (coins: a traditional Chanukah gift) is prohibited.

My father’s fondness for “the fifth candle” reflected not a family of meager where-withal... but a household richly blessed by faithful Shabbat observance: a gift of incalculable value.



Latkes (pareve)



- 4 to 5 medium to large Yukon gold potatoes
- 1 large onion, shredded (you can use a food processor)
- 2 eggs
- 1 1/2 tablespoons flour or matzo meal
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- Oil for frying

Peel and cut 2 of the potatoes into one-inch chunks. Boil the chunks in salted water until tender (15 to 20 minutes). Drain and mash the potatoes slightly. Sprinkle the flour or matzo meal on top of the mashed potatoes and set the mixture aside. Shred the remaining potatoes and mix them in a large bowl with the shredded onions (this mixing is to keep the potato from turning brown). Squeeze and drain as much liquid as possible from onion/potato mixture. Add the eggs, pepper, and salt to the onion mixture and mix to combine. Add the mashed potatoes to the shredded potatoes and mix to combine. Make 3- inch patties. Heat oil and fry the patties in 1/4 to 1/2 inches of oil. Cook for about 5 minutes on the first side and then turn them over with a spatula and cook for 2 to 3 more minutes or until golden brown. Drain on paper towels. Makes approx 8 to 12 latkes, depending on size.

YAHARZEIT & YIZKOR DONATIONS

The Congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions which were made in memory of beloved family & friends.

<i>Anna Berkowitz</i> Edmund Berkowitz	<i>Judith Blake</i> <i>Stanley S. Blake</i> Dara & Neil Gelerter	<i>Abraham Goldberg</i> David & Joy Levitt & Family	<i>Ethel Osder</i> <i>Raymond Osder</i> <i>Annette Stein</i> Rona & Alan Stein
<i>Yizkor donation in memory of</i> <i>Dr. Jacob Schulberg</i> <i>Celia Schulberg</i> <i>Gerrard Berman</i> <i>Ella Berman</i> Larry & Rosalie Berman	<i>Sarah Falk</i> Robert Goldberg Benjamin Gulko Joan & Ralph Gulko	<i>Irving Kleinberg</i> <i>Fannie Rittenberg</i> <i>Paul Rittenberg</i> Bea & Marty Rittenberg	<i>Jeanne Tapler</i> Patricia & Harold Tapler <i>Joseph Sherman</i> <i>Lillie Teitler</i> <i>Morris Teitler</i> Linda & Jack Teitler
<i>Lillian Braunstein</i> <i>Manny Braunstein</i> <i>Estelle Rosen</i> Lynda & Allan Braunstein	<i>Milton Goodman</i> Steve & Debbie Goodman <i>Anita Gulko</i> <i>Benjamin Gulko</i> Joan & Ralph Gulko	<i>Sylvia Ross</i> Dora Rosenbach & Family <i>Ruth Bloom</i> <i>Dr. Ronald Illions</i> The Rosenfelt Family	<i>Harry Weiss</i> Mitchell Weiss <i>Anne Bograd</i> <i>Hyman Bograd</i> Susan & Bob Yudin
<i>Leona Chodosh</i> <i>Eliot Chodosh</i> H. Louis Chodosh MD	<i>Richard Kaplan</i> Annette Kaplan <i>Ruth Koslow</i> Sidney Koslow	<i>Frances Grobert</i> <i>Sidney Grobert</i> Merrill & Laura Rutman	
<i>Sylvia Davis</i> Harriet Davis	<i>Alyce Krawitz</i> Michael Krawitz <i>Jerome Levine</i> Ellen & Charles Levine	<i>Alice Safirstein</i> <i>Max Susnick</i> The Safirstein/Susnick Family	
<i>Barbara Engel Swartzberg</i> Peter Engel	<i>Beverly Kelberg</i> <i>Sylvia Manspeizer</i> Dr. Harvey Halem	<i>Edith Sherman</i> <i>Rubin Sherman</i> <i>Steven Sherman</i> Terry Sherman & Family	
<i>Isadore Davis</i> Harriet Davis	<i>Jerome Levine</i> <i>Esther Sussman</i> Hilda Levine		

May the names of the departed mentioned above be a blessing. We fondly remember those who have gone before us and carry forward their memories from generation to generation.



The Congregation gratefully acknowledges the following donations. Your continued support & generosity is appreciated.

In Honor

In honor of all those with a birthday and/or anniversary In Oct–Dec, the following people sent Simchah cards.

**Rosalie & Larry Berman
Allan & Lynda Braunstein
Yael Israel & Ray English
Ellen Lipschitz
Vicki Rosenblith
Bob & Susan Yudin**

In honor of Mickey Levine's birthday

Marty & Bea Rittenberg

In honor of Yael Israel's birthday

Marty & Bea Rittenberg

In honor of Vicki Rosenblith's birthday

Hannah Lee & Robert Gold

In honor the Bar Mitzvah of Ethan Perkell

**Alan & Rona Stein
Vicki Rosenblith**

In honor of the marriage of Diedre & Charlie Glucksman

Rosalie & Larry Berman

In honor of the birth of Bob Goldberg's grandson

**Ellen Lipschitz
Vicki Rosenblith**

In honor of Hannah Lee & Robert Gold's new grandchild

Vicki Rosenblith

In honor of wedding of Julie LaPoff's grandson

Vicki Rosenblith

In honor of the birth of Susan & Bob Yudin's great-grandson

**Larry & Rosalie Berman
Bob Goldberg
Marcia Hofflich & Phil Moss
Ellen Lipschitz
Steve & Linda Schwager**

In honor of the birth of Rabbi Charlie Friedman & Judy Yudin's grandson

Larry & Rosalie Berman

Thank You

Thank you to our Shabbat Simchah celebration kiddush sponsors.

**Vicki Rosenblith (Sept)
Yael Israel (Oct)
Michael Lawrence (Nov)
Bruce Feller (Dec)**

Thank you to **Vicki Rosenblith** sponsoring kiddush on December 14th in loving memory of Bob Rosenblith & Rose Rosenblith

Speedy Recovery

Speedy Recovery to Joe Persaud,
Vicki Rosenblith

In Memory

In memory of Cantor Eddy Ehrlich's mother
Ellen Lipschitz

In memory of Harriet Halem, Past President of Temple Emanuel of Paterson

**Rosalie & Larry Berman
Vicki Rosenblith
Susan & Bob Yudin**

In memory of Marc Steven Berenzweig, son of TENJ Benefactors, Doris & Stanley Berenzweig z"l

**Larry & Rosalie Berman
Ellen Lipschitz
Susan & Bob Yudin**

In memory of Jeff Kugler, brother of Bonnie Grossman

**Larry & Rosalie Berman
Ellen Lipschitz
Vicki Rosenblith
Bob & Susan Yudin**

In memory of Rachel Walk, sister of Rebecca Walk (Lipschitz)

**Ellen Lipschitz
Bob & Susan Yudin**

In memory of Harris Rittenberg on his yahrzeit

Ellen Lipschitz

In memory of Michael Paul Moroze

Susan & Bob Yudin

In memory of Aliza Marx, mother of Iris Ovadia

**Bob Goldberg
Susan & Bob Yudin**



201-488-1255 EXT.170

Fax: 201-342-1597

E-mail: bert@conklinandkraft.com

Web: conklinandkraft.com

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GENERAL INSURANCE



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746 River Road
New Milford, NJ 07646



**Wishing our
Temple Family a
Happy & Healthy
Chanukah**

Bea & Marty Rittenberg

Merrill Rutman
Résumé and Job Search Coach

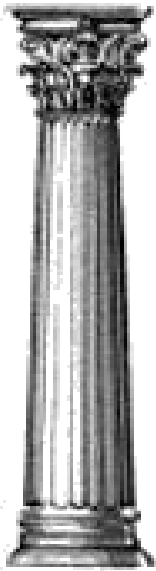
Office (201) 447-1664

Mobile (201) 315-0345

coach@mr-mahwah.com

LinkedIn.com/in/MerrillRutman





LINDA H. SCHWAGER

Attorney at Law

Member of NJ, NY and DC Bars

350 Ramapo Valley Road, Suite 29

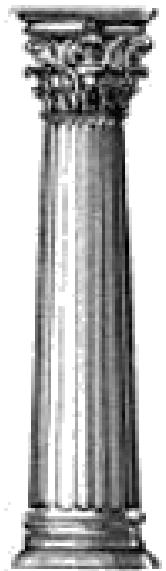
Oakland, NJ 07436

(201) 337-5166

Fax (201) 337-6100

Lin822@aol.com

LHS1ESQ@GMAIL.COM



yudin's™
appliances inc.

378 Main Street

Wyckoff, NJ 07481

201-891-3111



Temple Emanuel of North Jersey
558 High Mountain Road, Franklin Lakes, NJ

Temple Office (201) 560-0200

Fax (201) 560-0218

e-mail: office@tenjfl.org

www.tenjfl.org

Officers & Staff

Rabbi Joseph H. Prouser	Rabbi
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Mitch Tanner	Financial Secretary
Merrill Rutman	Recording Secretary
Camille Cascia	Administrator/.Bookkeeper
Joe Persaud, Jr.	Custodian



SAVE THE DATE ~ DETAILS TO FOLLOW

Monday Morning ~ February 17, 2025



Annual Presidents Day Observance

At Temple Emanuel of North Jersey

including

Distinguished Guests, Breakfast & The Gettysburg Address

translated into Hebrew and chanted as a Haftarah!!