

Lincolnwood Jewish Congregation AG Beth Israel Bulletin

עם ישראל חי



January-February 2025 Issue 1

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Rabbi: Yehuda Meyers

Rabbi Emeritus: Joel Lehrfield, PhD

LJCAGBI Bulletin

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Lincolnwood Jewish Congregation
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Rabbi Meyers' Message

By the time you read this article, the light of the Chanukah candles will have long since faded. The menorahs will already be packed away, and the warmth of the holiday will feel like a distant memory. The next two months on both the Jewish and secular calendars are conspicuously empty, devoid of major events or celebrations. We have now entered the long, “never-ending” stretch of Chicago’s winter, where the weather outside is frightful, and the air isn’t so delightful. What, then, should our focus be? What is the theme of these quieter months?

Tevet and Shvat, though often overlooked, offer us something rare: stillness. In a world that thrives on busyness and the constant hum of activity, this time invites us to pause. The absence of major holidays or celebrations is not a void to be filled but an opportunity to rest and reflect.

Nature mirrors this idea. In the depth of winter, the earth itself is at rest. This stillness is not a lack of activity but a deliberate pause—a time to gather strength for the growth that lies ahead. Beneath the frozen ground, life is quietly preparing for renewal. Trees stand bare, conserving their energy for the blossoms of spring.

The value of stillness is deeply embedded in Judaism. Shabbat, our weekly day of rest, teaches us to step back from the rush of life and recognize that not every moment needs to be

Rabbi Meyers' Message—continued on page 4

President's Perspective

The new year - Deja vu back in Tishrei, right? Still , it's 2025. We are living in the future and barely realize it. But how about the recent past? At the beginning of December we had an event in Highland Park, a lesson with some practice time. All who participated enjoyed, and I believe we are all looking forward to following up.



As Jews, we have to be aware of our history, and the lesson that we are nothing without our faith in haShem, and we must do what we can to protect ourselves from whatever threats we can.

Thanks to the tireless efforts of our own Mr. Jeff Light, we now have a quick and easy way to submit contributions and payments to the shul. Use Zelle, and send your payment to officeljc@att.net - within moments your payment will reach the shul, and there are no associated fees (for now?).

So, as the new secular year begins, stick with us. Come to shul for prayers, for events, for shiurim, come for friends and community. We are here to help bridge the past from our biblical forebears into the future and beyond. Join us for the journey!

Dan Gutstein

President

A promotional graphic for a 'Tu B'Shvat Challah Bake' event. The background features a close-up of several golden-brown, sesame seed-topped challah rolls. The text is overlaid on the image in white and black boxes.

LJCAGBI LADIES EVENT

TU B'SHVAT CHALLAH BAKE

**JOIN REBETZIN MARTHA
TO MAKE CHALLAH AND
TU B'SHVAT THEMED
DIPS FOR SHABBAT!**

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT
FEB. 12 @ 8PM**

**@ THE
MEYERS
HOME**

**PLEASE RSVP WITH
THE SHUL OFFICE
BY SUNDAY, FEB. 9**



Announcements

Mazal Tov

- To Phylis Kaplan on the birth of a great-grandson born to Steph & Jonathan Gilbert
- To Rabbi Joel Lehrfield on the engagement of his grandson, Naftali, son of Debbie & Yoni Lehrfield, to Yael Green
- To Wini Weisman on the engagement of her granddaughter Sydney Weisman to Noah Segal
- To Marilyn & David Zeller on the birth of a granddaughter, Magnolia Mae (Meora Malka), born to Roxie & Richard Goldberg

Refuah Shlema

- Helaine Ellenby
- Caleb Gutstein
- Berta Kalman
- Mitchell Sandler

Condolences to the family of

- Harvey Greenstein
- William Herst
- Brother of Leah Rosman*
- Rebbetzin Chavie Lehrfield

Please get your articles in for the shul bulletin

If you have a program, announcement or event, please get your information to the Shul *Bulletin* so everyone will know about it! Send your electronic submissions to the editor at: bulletin@ljcagbi.org or submit a hard copy to the Shul office before the deadline, **March-April 2025 issue, Sunday, February 16, 2025**. All material is subject to approval by the editor and may be modified for space or content. Inserts must also be approved by the editor before inclusion in the *Bulletin*. Please email bulletin@ljcagbi.org for further details.

LJCAGBI Presents:

**A Parshat Mishpatim
Scholar
in
residence**

**SHABBAT MORNING
February 22nd**

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE



**Rabbi Yona Reiss
Av Bet Din
Chicago Rabbinical Council**

filled with action. On Shabbat, we are reminded that creation itself was completed not with work, but with rest—G-d ceased creating and sanctified the pause. This deliberate stillness is an active state of renewal. It is a time to recalibrate, to appreciate the blessings we already have, and to trust that the world can continue without our constant intervention. This lesson is profoundly countercultural in modern society, but it is essential to a life of balance and meaning.

Similarly, Tevet and Shvat encourage us to find meaning in slowing down. They remind us that rest is not a waste of time but an essential part of growth.

In our personal lives, we often resist stillness. We fill our calendars, fearing that inactivity might be mistaken for unproductivity. But the quiet months of Tevet and Shvat challenge this mindset. They invite us to embrace the pause, to reflect on where we are and where we want to go. They give us the space to plant seeds—not the dramatic, visible kind, but the quiet, internal ones that will bear fruit in time.

Stillness is not just a reprieve; it is a source of strength. It allows us to reconnect with ourselves, to listen to the whispers of our soul that are often drowned out by the noise of daily life. It is in these quiet moments that we can recharge and realign, preparing ourselves for the seasons of activity and growth that will follow.

LEIL SHABBAT ONEG

“Ain’t no better way to enjoy the long winter Shabbat nights” – Dan G.

PARSHAT VAYECHI, JAN. 10 @ 7:30PM @ DAN & KARI GUTSTEIN
PARSHAT MISHPATIM, FEB. 21 @ 7:30PM @ RUSSEL & RACHEL KATZ



January/February 2025 Calendar of Events

Wednesday, January 1	Rosh Chodesh Tevet- Day 2
	Chanukah- Day 7
	New Years Day
Thursday, January 2	Chanukah- Day 8
Friday, January 10	Fast of the Tenth of Tevet
Monday, January 20	Martin Luther King Day
Thursday, January 30	Rosh Chodesh Shevat
Wednesday, February 12	Lincoln's Birthday
Thursday, February 13	Tu B'Shevat
Monday, February 17	President's Day
Friday, February 28	Rosh Chodesh Adar- Day 1

Oneg Shabbat!

In Tevet's gentle glow, it's that time of year.
We gather together, all laughter and cheer.
"Oneg" we call it—a night we adore.
Where calories don't count, and we're ready for more!
With sons by his side and dreams taking flight.
Joseph, the dreamer, cloaked in colors so bright.
A precious coat gifted, a tale yet to unfold;
Oh, what troubles and destinies lie in stories so bold!
Welcome, dear friends, to our table aglow,
With Rabbi Yehuda Meyers as our guiding flow.
With his wisdom and laughter, and stories to share,
We'll gather together, showing love and good care.
Latkes are sizzling, their aroma divine,
Crispy schnitzel, delicious, and ultra-fine.
Chips and dips beckon, hummus spread wide,
With Babka cakes and cookies-the sweet cravings abide!
And let's not forget, for those who enjoy sips,
Bourbon and whiskey, we'll toast with some quips.
Tequila, my friends, let's keep it in style—
One shot, two shots, let's linger awhile!
In Kedushah we revel, our hearts brimming light.
Thanking our friends as we dance through the night.
So let us rejoice in this Shabbat delight.
With love and with laughter, we'll celebrate right!
Shabbat Shalom!

Alex Goldstein

Schedule for Services &

JANUARY 2025/TEVET-SHEVAT 5785						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Shabbat
			1 CHANUKAH-DAY 7 ROSH CHODESH TEVET DAY 2 S: 8:30am M/M: 4:15pm	2 CHANUKAH DAY 8 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	3 S: 7:00am CL: 4:14pm M/M: 4:20pm	4 VAYIGASH S: 9:00am Mincha: 12:15pm H: 5:15pm M: 5:40pm
5 S: 8:30am M/M: 4:20pm	6 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	7 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	8 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	9 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	10 ASARA B'TEVET Fast begins: 5:49am S: 7:00am CL: 4:21pm M/M: 4:25pm Fast ends: 5:15pm	11 VEYECHI S: 9:00am Mincha: 12:15pm H: 5:25pm M: 5:50pm
12 S: 8:30am M/M: 4:25pm	13 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	14 S: 7:00 am M: 7:40pm	15 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	16 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	17 S: 7:00am CL: 4:29pm M/M: 4:35pm	18 SHEMOT S: 9:00am Mincha: 12:15pm H: 5:30pm M: 5:55pm
19 S: 8:30am M/M: 4:35pm	20 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	21 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	22 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	23 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	24 S: 7:00am CL: 4:38pm M/M: 4:40pm	25 VA'EIRA S: 9:00am Mincha: 12:20pm H: 5:40pm M: 6:05pm
26 S: 8:30am M/M: 4:45pm	27 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	28 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	29 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	3 ROSH CHODESH SHEVAT S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	31 S: 7:00am CL: 4:47pm M/M: 4:50pm	KEY: S - Shacharit M - Maariv M/M - Mincha/Maariv CL - Candle Lighting H - Havdalah

Minyan times are subject to change. To confirm minyan time please check the shul website under the worship services tab or call/text Paul Kramer at 312.343.2200.



Candlelighting Times

FEBRUARY 2025/SHEVAT 5785						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Shabbat
Key: S – Shacharit M- Maariv M/M- Mincha/Maariv CL – Candle Lighting H- Havdalah						1 BO S: 9:00am Mincha: 12:20pm H: 5:50pm M: 6:15pm
2 S: 8:30am M/M: 4:55pm	3 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	4 S: 7:00am M: 7:40 pm	5 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	6 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	7 S: 7:00am CL: 4:55pm M/M: 5:00pm	8 BESHALACH S: 9:00am Mincha: 12:20pm H: 6:00 pm M: 6:25pm
9 S: 8:30am M/M: 5:00pm	10 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	11 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	12 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	13 TU B'SHVAT S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	14 S: 7:00am CL: 5:04pm M/M: 5:10pm	15 YISRO S: 9:00am Mincha: 12:20pm H: 6:10pm M: 6:35pm
16 S: 8:30am M/M: 5:10pm	17 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	18 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	19 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	20 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	21 S: 7:00am CL: 5:13pm M/M: 5:15pm	22 MISHPATIM S: 9:00am Mincha: 12:20pm H: 6:15pm M: 6:40pm
23 S: 8:30am M/M: 5:20pm	24 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	25 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	26 S: 7:00am M: 7:40pm	27 S: 7:00am M: 7:40 pm	28 ROSH CHODESH ADAR-Day 1 S: 7:00am CL: 5:22pm M/M: 5:25pm	

Your presence is greatly needed: please attend

Lincolnwood Jewish Congregation A G Beth Israel, our Shul, has always maintained two daily minyanim for Shacharit and for Mincha/Maariv (or just Maariv during the winter months). It continues to be difficult to guarantee that 10 men will be present for davening. **Your help is urgently needed to ensure that a full minyan is present for everyone, especially those who have Yahrzeit or are in their year of mourning. Please attend whenever you are able.**

Please note that this bulletin is online at

www.licagbi.org

To print calendars, flyers or order forms, go to the bulletin page needed, and print the page(s) you would like. Perfect for refrigerator door decor.

PORTRAITS OF THE PARSHA

SEE THE WEEKLY BIBLICAL NARRATIVE COME ALIVE
THROUGH INCREDIBLE HISTORICAL MASTERPIECES

THURSDAY NIGHTS @ 7:00 PM
JANUARY 9 & 16
FEBRUARY 6, 13, 20, 27

ONLY ON ZOOM



The Most FABULOUS

FOR
BOUT

Shine in Town!

Parshat Shemot, Jan. 18
Marcia Kramer

Parshat Mishpatim, Feb. 22
Marilyn Zeller

WOMEN
WOMEN
WOMEN

TO SPONSOR A SHUR IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE, OR IN
HONOR OF A SYCH, PLEASE CONTACT THE SHUL OFFICE



From The Catering Department

It's true, time really does pass faster when you are not paying attention.

Looking outside my window to the backyard, it's fall weather. Looking outside the front windows, it's more like winter. Let's say it just looks like it's very cold and winter looking. This is not my favorite time of the year.

I adore the start of spring weather and really look forward to summer. Without a doubt, I am a warm weather person. I never complain that it's too hot. I love summer. I would be happy with summer all year round. So, you might ask, "Why do you still live in Chicago?" Well, that's an interesting question. Mainly because it's where my husband had his long-term job. But I easily could have been very happy in a warm weather location. Like I said, I've never been one to complain that it's too hot.

I do love where I live. I love the changes in the weather. I think that spring in Chicago is beautiful. I've never complained in the summer that it's too hot. I guess I'm just very comfortable in Chicago's weather even though I don't like the cold of winter. I admit that in past years, I have gone away in the winter. I have a little plack that says:

"Whether it's cold or whether it's hot, you gotta have weather, whether or not."

That just explains the weather for me. I adjust easily. So now that I've explained my attitude about the weather, that's enough.

I have a little poem I wrote when I was about ten years old:

It's spring, it's spring

The bird is on the wing My word, how absurd

I thought the wing was on the bird.

That's a pretty good closer, don't you think?

Your friend,

Shirley Derdiger

Off the Subject

Joshua worked for Levine's Tailors and was a successful salesman. He was always polite to his customers and as a result was nearly always able to sell a suit to anyone who walked into the shop. So it was a surprise when, after 10 successful years, he resigned to join the police force.

His father couldn't understand why his son should give up a good job to become a policeman. So at the end of Joshua's first week, he calls Joshua to ask how he liked his new job.

"Well dad," Joshua replied, "It's nice of you to ask. The salary is just about OK, the hours aren't as bad as I thought they would be and my colleagues are a great bunch. But what I like best is that the customer is always wrong."

Two non-Jews were standing outside a shul.

One says to the other 'how many Jews do you reckon are in there?'

The other responds 'I heard there are nine hundred thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine (999,999).'

The other one looks at him with a funny look on his face 'what? How did you get to that number?'

'Simple,' the first one responds, 'I heard one Jew coming out saying 'we are one short of a milyan!'



Join LJCAGBI on
Thurs., February 6,
to prepare your unique
cholent recipe.

All participants **MUST**
register in advance!!!

Cholent

COOK OFF

EVERYONE JUDGES AND VOTES!!!

CHOLENT TASTING AT SHABBAT
KIDDUSH, FEBRUARY 8

CROCKPOTS AND DESIRED
INGREDIENTS WILL BE PROVIDED.
EACH CONTESTANT WILL PREPARE ONE
CROCKPOT TO BE COOKED ON FRIDAY,
FEBRUARY 7.



For more information or to
register to compete, contact the
Shul office by January 29 at 847-
676-0491 or office@ljcagbi.org

SHABBAT SHIRA FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL SHABBAT
DINNER @ THE HOME OF
MICHAEL AND ANNIE KIRSHNER

PARSHAT BESHALACH FEB. 7

NO CHARGE!
GENEROUSLY SPONSORED
BY MICHAEL AND ANNIE

PLEASE RSVP TO THE SHUL
OFFICE BY WEDNESDAY, JAN. 29

THURSDAY NIGHT MEN'S MISHMAR

THURSDAY NIGHTS, @ **BPM**
(AFTER THE 7:40PM MA'ARIV)

JANUARY 9, 16
FEBRUARY 6, 13, 20, 27



S U P E R B O W L HALFTIME SHIUR

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9



ELEVATE YOUR SUPER BOWL
EXPERIENCE WITHOUT MISSING
A MINUTE OF THE ACTION WITH
A SPECIAL SUPERBOWL THEMED
SHIUR DURING HALFTIME

EMAIL WITH ZOOM LINK WILL BE SENT
OUT BEFORE THE SHIUR