



INTRODUCING THE NINTH NIGHT OF CHANUKAH

by Elsa Conrad

CALL IT Chanugiving or Thanksgivukkah, but Chanukah's arrival this year will certainly be different. If you haven't consulted your calendar yet, look under November, not December. Stuff the turkey, light the candles, spin the dreidl, make the pie, give the gelt and loosen your belt.

For our activities committee, the juxtaposition of Chanukah and Thanksgiving posed a challenge. Would anyone come to our traditional Friday Chanukah service the day after Thanksgiving? If not Friday, when? Certainly not on night 1, with turkeys in the oven. Night 5, as people return from travel? Night 8, midweek?

On Friday, Dec. 6, join us for a NINTH Night of Chanukah. We're gathering at 6:30 pm for potluck supper, followed by a last lighting of the menorah with your Betenu friends. Pick a number from 1-8 and light that many candles, then sing some songs and spin a dreidl.

Not everyone travels, and some people don't want to wait. So we will still offer our traditional Chanukah service on night 3, Friday, Nov. 29. Rav Nate will lead the service and we will light up the night. There will be food, too, if you still have room.

Can't decide? Come both nights. We'll have more than enough fellowship, food and candles to go around.

The best measure of success is seeing many of our members enjoying themselves at an event. If you can't make it, drop a quick note to let us know if you like the idea, even if it doesn't fit your schedule. And if you're not finding the programs that you want, let us know that, too. We can work together to make new ones happen. Our best events are the ones that include our entire Betenu family.

See you by the menorahs!



Haven't consulted your calendar yet?

This month, Chanukah can be found

on an unfamiliar page: November.

Faced with scheduling questions, we found what we think is an exciting solution—and quite possibly a new tradition.

This is another new programming idea we're initiating. It's important for us to know if we're finding the right ideas.

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CONGREGATION BETENU

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Thanksgivukkah

by Rav Nate DeGroot

THIS YEAR—for the first time in over a century—something will happen for us Jews here in the United States that likely won't happen again for close to seventy years, and some say not for another 70,000 years! What is it? Hanukkah and Thanksgiving will overlap, creating a new holiday some have affectionately tabbed, "Thankgivukkah."

What makes this phenomenon so rare? I'll leave that to the astrologists, physicists, and historians to explain. But suffice it to say that our Gregorian and Jewish calendars playfully dance around each other, the sun and the moon each guiding us on their own unique paths, ensuring that our calendars interact in funny ways. Wouldn't you know, the stars so happen to align this year in such a way that the second night of Hanukkah is the same night that many of us will be sitting down around our long Thanksgiving tables, crowded with family, friends, football, steaming hot food, and hopefully, plenty of thanks-giving to go around.

GROWING UP, my family had a tradition of giving non-material gifts to one another every night of Hanukkah. Before any packaged and wrapped presents had been exchanged, we would go around the room, each of us offering to another the most meaningful, sweetest, non-material gifts we could muster: family, friendship, love, joy. We also have a tradition, as many of



you may as well, of going around the Thanksgiving table sharing with each other what we're grateful for.

This Thanksgivukkah, as we light our menorkeys (<http://menurkey.com/>) and eat our sweet potato marshmallow latkes with a side of cranberry sauce, we have a special opportunity to offer up a heaping double helping of the non-material gift of thanks. A holiday where we kindle the first tender lights of hope in the midst of the darkest days of the year, this year especially Hanukkah is a chance to reflect on all that we are grateful for.

This year especially we get to give thanks. We all know the story of the little bit of oil lasting eight days. Who helps you keep your light burning when it feels like it might go out? Who provides that gentle flame for you when the days keep getting shorter and shorter? Who is your light amidst the darkness? If we're lucky, we will be surrounded by these people at our table this Thanksgivukkah and we can thank them in person. For loved ones who will be there in spirit but not in body, a phone call, an e-

mail or text, a hand-written letter, or a warm and loving thought straight from our hearts might help.

Though we could have started by lighting eight candles on our menorah, removing one each night, instead we begin Hanukkah with one candle and add a light each night. Hanukkah is a time of growing possibility, where we end with more light than we begin with. It is a time of rediscovering hope, believing that the days will once again get longer, the sun will once again shine warm.

HANUKKAH this Thanksgiving is a chance to appreciate one another, to really see each other and thank those we care about for all that they give, all that they do, and all that they are. May giving thanks be the oil that helps make miracles happen this holiday season, kindling the menorah and keeping the flame alive for all eight days and beyond, as the light grows one candle and one appreciation at a time. Thank you, Betenu community, for all you do to help our collective light shine bright. Happy Thanksgivukkah!

Questions or comments on this article? Email Rav Nate at rabbi@betenu.org.

YOU'RE INVITED!

9th NIGHT CELEBRATION & POTLUCK

Nov. 6 • 6:30 pm

Join us at Betenu for a night of food, fun and services! Bring along your favorite number of candles and a menorah, plus a fun, inexpensive wrapped gift for our Yankee Swap. We hope to see you there! For further details, contact the Betenu office.





*Please join us
in acknowledging
the generosity
and achievements
of these members
and friends!*

NEWS & NOTES

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thank You!

- ◆ Alex Dube and Jenna Goldstein for helping lead Shabbat services this month
- ◆ The Goldstein family for generously donating bottled water and hosting an oneg

Happy Birthday!

- ◆ Zadek Burstein
- ◆ Benjamin Conley
- ◆ Emily Ditman
- ◆ Matt Stein

CONTRIBUTORS

Holiday Appeal

- ◆ Harry Applebaum
- ◆ Michael & Aprille Goldstein
- ◆ John Hart
- ◆ John & Allison Leary
- ◆ David Rosen
- ◆ Dr. Peter & Jeanne Stein
- ◆ Dr. Bernard Weber



**Mazel Tov to Alex Dube on his Nov. 2 Bar Mitzvah!
From left: Sam, Sophia, Alex and Andrew Dube.**

YHRZEITS

In Loving Memory

- ◆ Rabbi Ernst Conrad
father of Elsa Conrad
November 6
- ◆ William Wright
November 11
- ◆ Robert Burger
father of Eric Burger
November 16
- ◆ Pearl Gribetz
mother of Jeff Gribetz
November 20
- ◆ Harriet Fanny Witkowski
mother of Ellen Hoffman
November 20
- ◆ David Mendelsohn
November 21
- ◆ Josephine Kenswil
mother of Jackie Rossier
November 21
- ◆ Ruth Clarke
grandmother of Elissa Kahn
November 22
- ◆ Hava bat Shifra v'Yoel
mother of Sonia Campeanu
November 25
- ◆ Leo Silver
grandfather of Paula Silver
November 25
- ◆ Anne Werner
mother of Sara Murphy
November 26
- ◆ Wanda Burger
mother of Eric Burger
November 27

CONGREGATION BETENU OFFICERS

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Rabbi Emeritus: Joshua Segal emeritus@betenu.org

FROM THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

By Sheryl Liberman

Student Progress Reports to be Distributed on Sunday, Nov. 10

Parents, please arrive at Betenu at 11:45 am on Nov. 10 to receive 1st Trimester reports for your children. You will have the opportunity to discuss their progress with teachers.

No School on Dec. 1, Dec. 29

There will be no Sunday school on Sunday, Dec. 1 and Dec. 29.

Volunteers Needed

This month we need extra office and classroom help. Please pitch in! For details, contact either **Sheryl Liberman** or **Elsa Conrad**. Contact info on p. 3.

Is it Helpful to Email Homework?

Now that Hebrew homework has been emailed to parents, we'd like your input. Has it helped your child practice? Please get in touch with Sheryl to let her know.

A Reminder about School Attendance Requirements

To maximize learning opportunities, we recommend these annual guidelines:

◆ Sunday School classes

All ages: 27 sessions

◆ Shabbat/Holiday services

Grades K-3: 4 or more services

Grades 4-5: 7 or more services

Grades 6-7: 15 or more services

Two-thirds of the service requirement should be met by the end of the second trimester, with more than half of all services attended at Betenu. To get credit for services attended elsewhere, please notify the school in writing.

BETENU BITS

Share a Little Sunshine

Our "Sunshine Committee" volunteers are a vital point of contact when congregants are ill, need rides or require a little extra assistance. To volunteer or learn more, contact **Sheryl Liberman**.

MC, Visa and Discover

Your credit card can now pay Betenu dues, tuition, gift purchases or donations! Just call the office or stop in today to arrange the charge details.

Help for the Hospitalized

National privacy laws keep hospitals from calling us when our members are admitted. If you need help or a little friendly support during your convalescence, just ask for the hospital chaplain and request that Betenu be notified. We're here for you!

December Newsletter Deadlines

Please email newsletter submissions to betenu@nii.net by Monday, Nov. 18.

Temple Beth Abraham, 4 Raymond St., Nashua, NH

Carla Kaplan



Author of:

MISS ANNE IN HARLEM: THE WHITE WOMEN OF THE BLACK RENAISSANCE

'Little could be more unusual in the 1920s than for white, upper-class women—"Miss Anne"—to seek to become, in effect, honorary blacks. This groundbreaking group biography uncovers, for the first time, the untold story of the white women, a number of whom were Jewish, of the black Harlem Renaissance.'

'Returning Miss Anne to her rightful place in the interracial history of the Harlem Renaissance, Kaplan's formidable work remaps the landscape of the 1920s, alters our perception of this historical moment, and brings Miss Anne to vivid life.'

Contact Heidi Lovitz, Director of Education and Programming for more information
(603)883-9844 ◆ director@tbanashua.org

Books available now in the Temple Beth Abraham Gift Shop

Program sponsored in part by  Jewish Federation

Refreshments will be served

Book Talk and
Signing

Sunday
November 10, 2013
7:00 p.m.
Temple
Beth Abraham

November at Betenu

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--------------------------|---------|------------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|
| | | | | | 1 Rosh Chodesh Rabbi-led Service, 7:30 pm | 2 <i>To/Do</i> Alex Dube Bar Mitzvah, 10 am |
| 3 <i>Rosh Chodesh</i> Religious School (Rav Nate), 9 am | 4 <i>Rosh Chodesh</i> | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 Lay-led Service, 7:30 pm | 9 <i>Vayetze</i> |
| 10 Religious School, 9 am | 11 Veterans Day | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 Rabbi-led Service, 7:30 pm | 16 <i>Vayishlach</i> |
| 17 Religious School (Rav Nate), 9 am | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 Lay-led Family Service, 7 pm | 23 <i>Vayeshev</i> |
| 24 Religious School (Rav Nate), 9 am | 25 | 26 | 27 Erev Chanukah | 28 Chanukah Thanksgiving | 29 Rabbi-Led Chanukah Celebration, 7:30 pm | 30 <i>Miketz</i> Chanukah |
| | | | | | | |

December at Betenu

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|--|----------------------|
| 1 Chanukah NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL | 2 Chanukah | 3 Chanukah Rosh Chodesh | 4 Chanukah Rosh Chodesh | 5 Chanukah | 6 Chanukah Celebration, 6:30 pm; Lay Service, 7:30 pm | 7 <i>Vayigash</i> |
| 8 Religious School, 9 am | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 Rabbi-led Service, 7:30 pm | 14 <i>Veyechi</i> |
| 15 Religious School (Rav Nate), 9 am | 16 Veterans Day | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 Rabbi-led Service, 7:30 pm | 21 <i>Shemot</i> |
| 22 Religious School (Rav Nate), 9 am | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 Lay-led Family Service, 7 pm | 28 <i>Va'era</i> |
| 29 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL | 30 | 31 | Jan 1 New Year's Day | Jan 2 <i>Rosh Chodesh</i> | Jan 3 Rabbi-Led Service, 7:30 pm | Jan 4 <i>Bo</i> |
| | | | | | | |