Community Synagogue of Rye is a caring Jewish community that seeks to add meaning and purpose to your life.

Inspired by Jewish teachings and traditions, we seek to be a center for spiritual transformation; to foster the creation of sacred relationships; and to give people the tools and resources to be God’s partner in healing the world.

This vision is guided by our commitment to the Jewish values of:

- Worship (‘T’filah)
- Lifelong Learning (Talmud Torah)
- Community (Kehilah)
- Loving Kindness (Hesed)
- Repairing the World (Tikkun Olam)
- Love of Israel (Ahavat Yisrael)

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Rabbi ..............................................Daniel B. Gropper
Cantor.............................................Melanie Cooperman
Rabbi Emeritus..............................Robert A. Rothman
Executive Director .......................Glynis Conyer
CJL Director.................................Amy Rosenbaum
Director of Youth Engagement....Yael Farber
ECC Director...............................Dale Oberlander
SAJE Coordinator.........................Brenda Wilkin
Rabbinic Intern.........................Jeffrey Dreifus

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WRJ/Sisterhood Leadership
Brianne Goldstein and Janet Meyers

COMMUNITY NEWS STAFF
Editor.................................Joanne Steinhart
Layout and Design...............Jeff Frumess

Welcome New Members

Lauren & Benjamin Ameline & Isla
Rattner
White Plains, NY

Ashley & Andrew Liza Mendelson
Rye, NY

Libby & Rob
Alexander
Rye, NY

Mazel Tov to Ashley and Andrew Mendelson on the baby naming for their daughter, Liza Mendelson

May their memories be a blessing

Condolences
When cherished ties are broken, our burden of sadness is made lighter by the sympathy and comfort of friends.

Ernest Leckart, father of Gregory Leckart
Priscilla Paris Ianucci, mother of Gregory Leckart
Malcolm L. Sampliner, brother of David Sampliner
Kenneth Miller, brother of Sharon Parker
Betty Seicol, Past President of Community Synagogue of Rye, mother of Johanna Loddo
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, December 2</td>
<td>11:30 am SAJE</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:15 pm</td>
<td>7th Grade &amp; CSR Teens</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>7th Grade bar/bat mitzvah Family Ed Ritual Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, December 4</td>
<td>4:00 pm CJL Grades K-7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, December 5</td>
<td>10:00 am Who Do You Want to Be?—Advice for Modern Life Through the Ancient Wisdom of Pirke Avot</td>
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<td>11:30 am</td>
<td>SAJE</td>
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<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Membership Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>7:15 pm</td>
<td>COSY Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, December 6</td>
<td>7:00 am First Friday Torah Study—Offsite, Le Pain Quotidien</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:20 am</td>
<td>ECC Shabbat</td>
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<td>5:15 pm</td>
<td>Sharing Shabbat</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Shabbat Service</td>
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<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>7th Grade Shabbat Dinner</td>
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<td>Saturday, December 7</td>
<td>8:45 am CJL Grades 3-6</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6th Grade J-Life: Family Artifacts Torah Study Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, December 9</td>
<td>11:30 am SAJE</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:15 pm</td>
<td>7th Grade &amp; CSR Teens</td>
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<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>Board of Trustees Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, December 11</td>
<td>4:00 pm CJL Grades K-7</td>
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<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>Band and Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td>Thursday, December 12</td>
<td>11:30 am SAJE</td>
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<td>Friday, December 13</td>
<td>9:20 am ECC Shabbat</td>
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<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Shabbat Service with Band and Choir</td>
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<td>Saturday, December 14</td>
<td>8:45 am CJL Grades 3-6</td>
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<td>4th Grade J-Life</td>
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<td>Torah Study Service</td>
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<td>11:15 am Jewish Yoga</td>
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<td>Monday, December 16</td>
<td>11:30 am SAJE</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>Madrichim Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:15 pm</td>
<td>7th Grade &amp; CSR Teens</td>
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<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>Executive Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>Wednesday, December 18</td>
<td>4:00 pm CJL Grades K-7</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>BBM Moms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, December 19</td>
<td>10:00 am Who Do You Want to Be?—Advice for Modern Life Through the Ancient Wisdom of Pirke Avot</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30 am</td>
<td>SAJE</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>CSR Film Class with Cantor Cooperman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, December 20</td>
<td>All Day ECC Chanukah Celebration</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:20 am</td>
<td>ECC Shabbat</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Shabbat Service with Vatikim</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>Shabbat Dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, December 21</td>
<td>All Day CIL Closed for Winter break</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8:45 am Torah Study Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, December 23</td>
<td>All Day CIL &amp; ECC closed for Winter break</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, December 24</td>
<td>All Day CIL &amp; ECC closed for Winter break</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:00 pm Office closes early</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, December 25</td>
<td>All Day Building Closed</td>
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A young woman contacted me, interested in converting to Judaism. She had done some learning on her own and discovered that Judaism was for her. We studied the Jewish calendar, prayer, views of God, Shabbat and even some Torah. Then I said, “it’s time to try Middot.” “Middot? I thought Judaism was all about Mitzvot—good deeds, commandments; you know, stuff we do.” “It is,” I replied, “it’s also about Middot—virtues. Judaism is a combo-plate of actions and attitudes. Of course, the only way you make an attitude real is to road test it. It’s easy to say that gossip is wrong but can you refrain from it at a dinner party (this was long before Facebook and Twitter)?”

Starting with generosity, we decided that she would give one dollar a day to the homeless man she passed on her way to work. One month later, having given away $20 in singles, she sat in my study.

“How was it?” “Easy.” “How are you?”

“I feel that by doing that one simple act I became more generous to others. I held the elevator, I offered to get a coworker a cup of coffee, I called my mom more often.”

This woman was living the comment in Orchot Tzaddikim, the 16th century Mussar classic, that, “a person who gives 1000 gold pieces to a worthy person is not as generous as one who gives 1000 gold pieces on 1000 different occasions, each in its proper place. For if one gives 1000 pieces at one time, it is because he was suddenly seized with a great impulse to give, that afterward departed him. The act of opening the hand 1000 times is spiritually transformative.”

The key to developing the virtue of generosity is about developing a practice. It’s about living generously. Not only do our behaviors—for good or for bad—carve new neural pathways in the brain, but gifts given with the express purpose to strengthen virtuous muscles will help to thaw a frozen human heart. Each act of generosity works to pry open the heart a little, like clearing a blocked stream one pebble at a time. The flow of generosity is thereby free to flow.

Mussar teacher Alan Morinis writes, “real generosity means not only giving something practical that will be of help to someone—it also means changing something in yourself. When you undertake to give your heart as well, you change an element of yourself. Each act of generosity makes you into a more giving (or joyful, or empathetic, or committed, or loving, or….) person. And when you change yourself, you change the world.”

This season, we are reminded, “ ’tis better to give than to receive.” I encourage you to begin a practice whereby you live generously. Then, as your heart opens you will receive the greatest gift of all, the gift of God dwelling among us. As our Torah reminds us, “And let them build Me a sanctuary, and I will dwell in their midst.” (Exodus 25:8). You are the sanctuary in which God can dwell.

Wishing you and your family a happy Chanukah and a happy holiday season, however you celebrate.
Generosity taps into the realization that we are all interconnected. That interconnectivity means that we are partners in the ongoing care and support of others.

In the Book of Deuteronomy, chapter 15, we read: “If, however, there is a needy person among you, one of your kin in any of your settlements in the land that your God is giving you, do not harden your heart and shut your hand against your needy kin. Rather, you must open your hand and lend whatever is sufficient to meet the need…Give readily and have no regrets when you do so, for in return the Eternal your God will bless you in all your efforts and in all your undertakings.”

What blocks our ability to open our hand and soften our hearts? For many of us, when it comes to giving with an open heart and heart, a primary obstacle is the fear of scarcity, the thought and feeling that we will not have enough for ourselves or our loved ones. When we find ourselves facing obstacles to generosity, we can bring an awareness and perhaps compassion to our fear of scarcity. We can ask ourselves if the fear is real and true. For instance, is it true that if we give a $10 bill instead of a $5 bill to a homeless person that we will not have enough for ourselves? Thank God, for most of us, it will not make a huge difference in our lives.

If we approach generosity with a solid sense of our own abundance, giving can make us feel more appreciative of what we have and maybe even gives us a sense of prosperity. We gain a sense of gratitude that we have enough to be comfortable, to be warm, to have clothes, and shelter. For most of us, these physical needs are met.

This holiday season, pay attention to when you give. Do you only give at the end of the year? When you are solicited? If so, what would it feel like to make giving a practice? For instance, giving before Shabbat, or once a month picking an organization that is particularly meaningful, or maybe just giving a couple dollars to the person on the street who asks instead of turning away? We are all connected and when we cultivate a generous heart, we are not only honoring the holiness in another person, we are acknowledging the holiness in each of our souls.

"At the deepest level, there is no giver, no gift, and no recipient only the universe rearranging itself."

-Tom Kabat-Zinn
“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”—Winston Churchill

*Tzedakah*, which translates to justice or righteousness, is more than giving charity and being benevolent. For Jews, *tzedakah* is a religious obligation. It’s about doing what is just and right.

Over the past 18 months as president of Community Synagogue of Rye, I have been inspired by the generosity of giving and *tzedakah* within our community. Our members give with their time, wisdom and heart, as well as with their wallets! So many of our congregants value the community we have and contribute in all of these ways to sustain it.

I have been overwhelmed by the financial contributions—above and beyond annual dues—that so many congregants give. Your contributions help support our wonderful programming and our talented clergy and professional staff. And while we still have a mortgage, your contributions helped build our beautiful new spiritual home.

Our *Tzedek* Council participates in activities both within our synagogue and in our surrounding community. The Council organizes many of our social justice activities, including Israel Action, Green Team, Dinner at Noon, Literacy, and the Jewish Justice League. All are welcome to join the work of the *Tzedek* Council. For more information, use the following link: [https://www.comsynrye.org/act.html](https://www.comsynrye.org/act.html).

Our *Hesed* team is part of the *Tzedek* Council and is a great example of *tzedakah* within our community, where our dedicated volunteers cook, drive or visit those who are in need. If you, or someone you know, is in need of support, please make sure to let us know! We know that the recipients appreciate the support and the volunteers also feel a sense of pride for the work they do. If you would like to participate with the *Hesed* team, please use the following link: [https://www.comsynrye.org/hesed-loving-kindness.html](https://www.comsynrye.org/hesed-loving-kindness.html).

In Hebrew, the word *natan* means “to give.” Both in Hebrew and English, this word is the same both forward and backward. When we think of philanthropy and giving, it is also about receiving. Both the giver and the recipient benefit from the positive experience. *Tzedakah* is meant to be done in a compassionate way, with a smile on your face and that smile should linger knowing you have made a difference.

Thank you to all of our members for everything you give in your own way to support our community in every way.

Susan Zeitlin, 
CSR President

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**Considering Making a Gift to CSR Before Year End**

“Giving Tuesday 2019” is on December 3, 2019. It is a “global generosity movement unleashing the power of people … to transform their communities.” We hope you will use this day as a springboard to participate in this effort and invest in Community Synagogue of Rye.

We are immensely grateful to those of you who have already made a gift to CSR this year. Please know that your contribution is critical to our being able to provide opportunities and experiences for our youngest to our youngest-at-heart members. The simple fact is that membership affiliation and religious school fees do not cover the cost of operating CSR. Remember that Community Synagogue is a 501(c)(3) organization, which means that your donations are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. Consult with your accountant.

Please note that you can give your gift electronically by going to the Donate Page on our website, [https://www.comsynrye.org/donate.html](https://www.comsynrye.org/donate.html) or [https://donate.chip-in.us/?nonprofitId=106665](https://donate.chip-in.us/?nonprofitId=106665), or simply send a check to the synagogue office at 200 Forest Avenue, Rye, NY 10580.

For more information on using Stock or an IRA to make a contribution to Community Synagogue of Rye, please see page 8.
CSR Book Club

Every other month, CSR's Book Club facilitates interesting discussions as we explore the layers of a novel while connecting them to relevant and relatable Jewish texts.

Wednesday, January 8 at 7:30 pm

*Where the Forest Meets the Stars*
*By Glendy Vanderah*

In this gorgeously stunning debut, a mysterious child teaches two strangers how to love and trust again.

After the loss of her mother and her own battle with breast cancer, Joanna Teale returns to her graduate research on nesting birds in rural Illinois, determined to prove that her recent hardships have not broken her. She throws herself into her work from dusk to dawn, until her solitary routine is disrupted by the appearance of a mysterious child who shows up at her cabin barefoot and covered in bruises.

The girl calls herself Ursa, and she claims to have been sent from the stars to witness five miracles.

**Everyone is welcome! Interested in attending?**

Please contact clergyassistant@comsynrye.org.

CSR Film Class

Every other month, Cantor Melanie Cooperman and Allan Staples will screen a Jewish film.

**Thursday, December 19**

6:15 pm—Dinner
7:00 pm—Movie

*Barton Fink (1991)* Directed by the Coen Brothers

In 1941, New York intellectual playwright Barton Fink comes to Hollywood to write a Wallace Beery wrestling picture. Staying in the eerie Hotel Earle, Barton develops severe writer's block. His neighbor, jovial insurance salesman Charlie Meadows, tries to help, but Barton continues to struggle as a bizarre sequence of events distracts him even further from his task.

**Everyone is welcome!**

Please contact clergyassistant@comsynrye.org to let us know if you will be joining for dinner and the movie or just the movie.
Consider Making a Gift to CSR Before Year End

(continued from page 7)

Year-end guidelines for using Stock to make a contribution to Community Synagogue of Rye

Greater Tax Savings with Gifts of Appreciated Securities
With a charitable gift of appreciated shares held for more than one year, the donation you make and the deduction you get are greater than they would be if you were to sell the shares and donate the cash proceeds. This is because when you donate shares, your gift will not trigger any capital gains tax, regardless of how much the securities may have appreciated in value over time. Instead, you get a full deduction for the fair market value of the shares. Remember, the greater the appreciation in the value of the stock you are donating, the greater your tax savings. So, you might be in a position to donate more than you thought you could!

To obtain the tax advantages, it is essential that the securities are given directly to CSR.

Quick Tip for IRA Owners
If you are an IRA owner over age 70½, you may make a gift from your IRA directly to a qualified charity, including Community Synagogue of Rye. The maximum IRA charitable rollover gift is $100,000 per year. An IRA charitable rollover gift can help satisfy your required minimum distribution, reduce your taxable income, and further the work of a charitable organization such as CSR.

To obtain the tax advantages, it is essential that the funds flow directly from your IRA to CSR.

Please contact Michelle Simon at msimon@comsynrye.org or 914-967-6262 so that we can provide you with the information your financial agent will need to send the securities.

You can designate your gift to the general fund or any specific Community Synagogue of Rye Funds.

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Ner Shel Tzedakah
Candle of Injustice

A Blessing for the Sixth Night of Chanukah

On Chanukah we light candles and perform mitzvot. On the sixth night of Chanukah, December 27, 2019 we encourage families to donate the value of the gifts they would ordinarily exchange (or the gifts themselves) to local or national organizations assisting those in need.

Baruch Ata Adonai, Eloheinu Melech Haolam, Asher Kidshanu B’mitzvotav, V’lamdeinu L’Hadlik Ner Shel Tzedakah.

Blessed are You, Eternal, our God, who makes us holy through the performance of Mitzvot, and inspires us to light the Candle of Righteousness.

As we light this “Ner Shel Tzedakah” tonight, we pray that its light will shine into the dark corners of our world, bringing relief to those suffering from the indignity and pain that accompany poverty. May our act of giving inspire others to join with us in the fight against the scourge of hunger, homelessness, need and want. Together, let us raise our voices to cry out for justice, and may that clarion call burst through the night’s silence and declare that change must come.

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www.comsynrye.org
A Different Type of Generosity

When we think of generosity, we often think of gifts or monetary donations. The ECC has certainly been the recipient of many generous gifts from our families over the years. The result of this kindness has been wonderful improvements to our program, including the redesigned playground, the expanded vegetable garden, the butterfly garden and all the new play equipment on the blue rug. These enhancements have enabled the ECC to keep pace with current trends in early childhood education and help us remain strong within an increasingly competitive marketplace.

For this bulletin I would like to also shed light on a different type of generosity, one that is often overlooked and not always recognized—the giving of one’s self.

Every day in the ECC I see members of our community generously giving over and above what is expected. I see patience beyond what is humanly possible. I see a teacher pulling 2x4s out of the back of her car to build a garage for our playground after school. I see another sending a night-time email to share a lovely event that happened that day. I see a twos teacher bravely navigating her fifth poopy diaper in 15 minutes without a complaint. I see teachers taking the time to support each other with professional advice and support. I see and feel the sincere love and care the teachers feel for their students and for each other. I see so many wonderful parents giving their free time, often while juggling young children, to plan and organize events for our community. I believe this generosity is a reflection of a truly happy and healthy community and I am so proud to be a part of it.

Chanukah Blessings

(Chanukah begins on Sunday, December 22)

How we light the Chanukiah (Chanukah menorah):

Candles are added to the Chanukiah each night starting from the right side and filling in towards the left, but are kindled in the opposite direction (from left to right) so that we always light the newest candle first. We begin by lighting the shamash or helper candle, and then use it to kindle the rest of the lights, saying or singing together:

First Blessing over Candles:

Barukh atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melekh ha’olam, asher kidishanu b’mitzvotav v’tzivanu l’had’lik neir shel Chanukah. (Amen)

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

Second Blessing over Candles:

Barukh atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melekh ha’olam, she’asa nisim la’avoteinu bayamim hahem, baz man hazeh. (Amen)

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

Third Blessing over Candles:

Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech haolam, shehecheyanu v’kiy’manu v’higianu laz’man hazeh.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, for giving us life, for sustaining us, and for enabling us to reach this season.
Generosity of the Heart

Amy Rosenbaum PH.D, CJL Director • Arosenbaum@comsynrye.org

Nedivut halev or “generosity of heart” is a Jewish value that speaks to something beyond giving tzedakah. It describes an attitude or mindset more than a specific action. Nedivut refers not only to generosity with money but generosity with time, with kindness, with self. It is a value we want to encourage in our learners. One of the most effective and important ways that we teach values is by modeling them, and in the CJL we’ve been fortunate to have some terrific models in CSR congregants. We have benefitted from their nedivut as they have generously shared their time and talents and in so doing, have helped transform what learning looks like at the CJL.

Over the summer, we undertook a large project with the CSR library, weeding the collection, cleaning it up, and designing an inviting, flexible space to foster collaboration, creativity, and engagement among CSR’s children and families. CSR congregant Sherman Levine generously contributed his building skills to this project, transforming large unneeded bookshelves into inviting nooks for reading, doing projects, or just hanging out. With the help of Sherm’s nedivut, the library is a more welcoming and magical space.

The week before Veteran’s Day, CSR congregant Leonard August accepted our invitation to participate in a special evening of learning about service, patriotism, and the value of amotz lev (courage). Len met with our 7th grade and shared the story of his service in the Navy and engaged with our learners in a discussion on topics ranging from a mandatory draft, the importance of memory and remembering in Jewish tradition, and the meaning of serving one’s country. When the 7th graders’ questions continued past our planned ending time, Len showed true nedivut with his time, staying to patiently answer each learner’s question. The 7th graders’ encounter with Len was an example of the power of intergenerational learning and truly changed how these children think about Veteran’s Day.

The CJL has been fortunate to benefit from the generosity of other CSR congregants who have enriched our learners’ experience by sharing their time and talents (a special shout out to Rhoda Levine for beautifully documenting special CJL programs and interviews with senior members of this community). In this season of giving, it seems especially timely to thank those members of CSR whose quiet contributions and generosity of heart do so much to enrich the experience of CJL learners.

Dates to Remember:

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<tr>
<td>Dec 29–Jan 1</td>
<td>CJL Closed for winter break</td>
<td>Jan 18–20</td>
<td>CJL Closed for MLK Day weekend</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 2</td>
<td>CJL reopens</td>
<td>Jan 25</td>
<td>6th grade J-Life and Mitzvah Fair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 10</td>
<td>3rd grade Shabbat dinner and service</td>
<td>Jan 29</td>
<td>Last Wednesday class for 7th grade</td>
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Generosity: What Your Teens Are Saying

Yael Farber, Director of Youth Engagement & Informal Learning • Yfarber@comsynrye.org

In this season of giving, our teens are surrounded by commercialism, gift-giving, and pre-vacation assignments and tests. In the midst of this, what do our teens think about generosity?

When asked what generosity means to them, here’s what they said:

- **Generosity means giving people stuff without expecting something in return. Sam K., 8th grade**
- **Generosity means sharing things you care about with other people. Tobie B., 12th grade**
- **Generosity means to give to those in need and to support others. It also means to do something for others without it benefitting yourself at all. Lauren M., 10th grade**
- **To be generous is to put someone’s needs before your own. Nate N., 9th grade**
- **Generosity is giving to someone else, whether it be of actual physical things, or time and energy, without expecting anything in return. Charlie L., 10th grade**
- **It means taking time out of your day to give back to people, regardless of their relation to you. Bradley R., 12th grade**

I invite you to join our teens in considering your answer to the question: what does generosity mean to YOU?
The Ethical Life: 
Jewish Values in an Age of Choice

Judaism has a long history of wrestling with moral questions, responding to them in a way that considers all sides of an issue.

This series will use a curriculum created by the Jewish Theological Seminary that has been used in dozens of synagogues nationwide. The sessions will be taught by Rabbi Ben Goldberg (KTI), Rabbi Daniel Gropper and Jeff Dreifus (Community Synagogue of Rye) and Rabbis Howard Goldsmith and Jade Ross (Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester).

Fee
Includes sourcebook & materials.
$18 for members of Community Synagogue of Rye, Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester or Congregation KTI.
$36 for all others

Information
Rabbi Ben Goldberg 
rabbigoldberg@congkti.org
914.939.1004 x206

Registration required. 
https://ktionline.nirsham.com/form/the-ethical-life

Sessions
All sessions are on Thursday at 7:30 pm & end at approximately 9:00 pm.

Sources of Jewish Ethics
January 9
KTI
Teacher: Rabbi Ben Goldberg

The Ethical Dimensions of Food Production
January 16
Congregation Emanu-El
Teacher: Rabbi Howard Goldsmith

Better than Normal? The Ethics of Enhancement
January 23
Community Synagogue of Rye
Teacher: Rabbi Daniel Gropper

Surrogacy and the Ethics of Relationships
January 30
KTI
Teacher: Rabbi Ben Goldberg

Advance Directives and the Ethics of End-of-Life Care
February 6
Congregation Emanu-El
Teacher: Rabbi Jade Ross

Fracking: A Case Study in the Ethics of Neighborly Relations
February 13
Community Synagogue of Rye
Teacher: Jeff Dreifus, Rabbinic Intern
SAJE (SENIOR ACTIVITIES IN A JEWISH ENVIRONMENT)
Brenda Wilkin • SAJE@comsynrye.org

Monday December 2
Elaine Lerner leads us in a discussion: “Let Me Tell You Something You Might Not Know About Me.” This is an opportunity for us to share a story, happening or special event.

Thursday December 5
Dr. William Reszelbach speaks on the topic Culprits of the Nuremberg Trials. His presentation will answer the questions: Who were these men, How were they responsible for the killing of millions of human beings, Who facilitated their rise to power, How did their punishment fit the crimes and Why were they exonerated?

Monday December 9
Andi Hessekiel is a freelance writer and writing coach. She has led sessions for SAJE each year for over a decade, by using simple prompts that jog your memory and guide you to write about your life. This month we have 2 prompts: First prompt is: I knew we were friends when… The second prompt is: It was a blizzard outside. Here’s what I remember….Please select the prompt that suites you best.

Thursday December 12
Laura deBuys is the Executive Director of The Picture House. Come hear about this historic movie theater, formerly known as the Pelham Picture House. It is the oldest, continuously running movie theater in Westchester. This special theater is an alternative to commercial movie theaters, presenting the best in independent, international, documentary, and classic cinema.

Monday December 16
Rabbi Ben Goldberg leads Congregation KTI. This is an opportunity for us to get to know our neighboring Rabbi. Whether your interest is in scripture, spiritual support or singing, Rabbi Goldberg aims to connect with everyone in our community and beyond.

Thursday December 19
Chanukah celebration with Cantor Melanie Cooperman

December 23—January 2
No SAJE
First Friday Torah Study
DECEMBER 6, 7:00 AM—Offsite, Le Pain Quotidien

The monthly Torah study sessions are designed to allow working members of the synagogue to squeeze in some Torah study before the start of the workday.

They are held on the first Friday morning of the month and last roughly an hour. Torah texts are also available for use. We hope you can join us (no RSVP required, just come).

Empty Nesters Event: TRIP to the NY Historical Society
Mark Twain and the Holy Land

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 at 2:00 pm
https://www.nyhistory.org/exhibitions/mark-twain-and-holy-land

Using original documents, photographs, artwork, and costumes, as well as an interactive media experience, this exhibition commemorates the 150th anniversary of one of the best-selling travelogues of all time as it illuminates Twain’s fabled journey and explores his and other Americans’ perceptions of the Holy Land in the postbellum era.

New York Historical Society
170 Central Park West, New York, NY 10024

We have arranged for a private docent-led tour for a maximum of 25 attendees, so guarantee your reservation by sending a check for $21 per person to the synagogue office; please write “December 8 museum trip” on the memo line.

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MAH JONGG

Players of all levels are welcome, including beginners. The cost to attend is $5 for members/non members, which supports Sisterhood initiatives. RSVP with your level of play to Janet Meyers at Janet@SHMeyers.com.

Thursday, December 26, 2019 at 7:00 pm
Canasta players are most welcome!
DONATE WINTER CLOTHING

Our dedicated bins are back in the lobby! The Sharing Shelf seeks donations of winter clothing for infants, children and teens. Please bag items and place them in the marked bins.

All sizes, from newborn through adult XXL are accepted but sizes 3T-14 for boys and girls as well as casual clothing for teen boys is critically needed. Donations of new socks & new underwear are greatly appreciated but we do not accept used ones.

CLOTHING SHOULD BE IN CLEAN, WEARABLE CONDITION FREE OF RIPS, STAINS AND TEARS READY FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION TO CHILDREN IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.

If you have any questions or would like to help, please contact Carrie Nagel at carrienagel1203@gmail.com

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<th>Age 11-12</th>
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Monetary donations can be made online at: http://www.t4twestchester.org/donate

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Need some new pieces of Judaica for Chanukah?

Contact Brianne Goldstein
Briannegoldstein@gmail.com
(914) 939—3213
Contributions

ADULT EDUCATION FUND (CECELE FRAENKEL MEMORIAL) FUND
Ellen & Howard Deixler in memory of Edwin Nadel, father of Lauren Nauser

CANTOR COOPERMAN’S DISCRETIONARY FUND
Lauren Nauser in memory of Edwin Nadel
Heather Cabot Khemlani and Neeraj Khemlani
Tish Richard and Jodi Freed in memory of our mother, Francine Schoeman Alper

DAVID & IRIS SAMPLINER YOUTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT FUND
In memory of Malcolm Sampliner, brother of David Sampliner
   Joan & Ron Cohen
   Joanne Steinhart & Brian Kabcenell
   Elaine Lerner

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER ENRICHMENT FUND
In memory of Zora Gropper
   Amy & William Sherman
   Jennifer & Davie Berke

GRAYER TEEN INITIATIVE FUND
Janice & Gyuri Spector and family in memory of Jerry Cohen

HESED
Laurie & John Frolich in memory of Lotte Frolich

KADIMA CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
In memory of Jerry Cohen
   Shara & Michael Kimmel
   Jennifer Mayer
   Barbara & Paul Elliot
   Piper & Roger Smith
   Iris & David Sampliner
   Marnie & Lloyd Mallah
   Carol & Richard Chadakoff in memory of Gordon Chesy
Susan and James Winter in memory of Eleanor Winter
In memory of Zora Gropper
   Joan & Ron Cohen
   Carol Cohen
   Joanne Steinhart & Brian Kabcenell
Angela & Geoffrey Davids in memory of Betty Valk
Carol Cohen in honor of Ruth Shiller’s 100th birthday
Cindy Valk Danish & Les Danish in memory of Fred C. Valk
Sharon & David Parker in honor of Rabbi Gropper, for all his love and support over the years
Barbara & Howard Chumsky in memory of Rose Schneider, Howard’s grandmother

PRAYER BOOK FUND
Melanie & Michael Lipson in honor of Mikayla Dolgins’ bat mitzvah

RABBI GROPPER’S DISCRETIONARY FUND
In memory of Zora Gropper
   Margy & David Lawrence
   Susan & Gary Taplin
   Joan Furman
   Melissa & Andrew Kaminsky
   Lauren Nauser
   Lisa & Todd Kantor
   Laura & Michael Beber
   Arielle & Jon Jachman
   Lois Blume
   Sue Ellen & Peter Goldman
   Deborah, Rob, Jacob, and Juliet Lewis
   Ellen & Howard Deixler
   Iris & David Sampliner
Frances Ginsberg
Sue & Andrew Zeitlin
Tish Richard and Jodi Zeitlin in memory of our mother, Francine Schoeman Alper
Lauren Nauser in memory of Edwin Nadel
Lois Blume in memory of Beatrice Weinberg
Todah Raba Rabbi Gropper for leading a meaningful Shabbat service for Emma and her ECC classmates.
Orif and Jonathan Danziger
Wishing you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving!
Best wishes, Jan & Marc Reisman

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL ENRICHMENT FUND
Abby & Steven Pisaniello in memory of Shelia and Irving Green, mother and father of Abby

SENIOR ACTIVITIES IN A JEWISH ENVIRONMENT (SAJE) FUND
Elaine Lerner in memory of Max Lerner
In memory of Zora Gropper
   Caryl & Gilbert Weinstein
   Elaine Lerner
Ellen & Howard Deixler in memory of Nettie Deixler
Erna Kahan
Sandra & Ira Goldstein
In memory of Zora Gropper
   Gordon Chesey and Bill Nightingale
Rhoda & Steve Steinber in memory of Anna Oill
In memory of Malcolm Sampliner, brother of David Sampliner
   Ellen & Howard Deixler
   Iris & David Sampliner
   Susan & Gary Taplin
   Caryl & Gilbert Weinstein
   Rhoda & Steve Steinberg

SOCIAL ACTION FUND
Laurie & John Frolich in memory of Stanley Likoff

SYNAGOGUE FUND
In memory of Zora Gropper
   Repair the World
   ECC Staff
Devora & Teddy Chasanoff
Marlene & Jack Adler for Yizkor
Jeri Levine
Sherrie & Robert Frankel in memory of Natalie Boslow
Irene & Jonathan Metz in memory of Gordon Chesey and in honor of Robin Blum
Janice & Gyuri Spector and family in memory of Jerry Cohen
Tish & Michael Richard for sponsoring the Oneg
Alexis & Jonathan London
Amy & Stephen Fisch

YAHREITZ FUND
Les Danish in memory of Helen Stockfield
Bonnie Hirsch in memory of Kenneth Hirsch
Jill Buchholz in memory of Zora Gropper
Peter Marshall in memory of Richard M. Marshall and Bruce R. Tolchin
Wendy & Jamie Schutzer in memory of Harriet Schutzer
Nancylee & Roger Matles in memory of Holly Pressman
Jill & Jimmy Feldesman in memory of Lucille Feldesman
Vivian & John Linder in memory of Joseph Salih

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Community Synagogue of Rye has a variety of funds which are used to enrich our congregation.

You may wish to make a contribution in honor or in memory of someone or to celebrate a joyous occasion (birth, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Confirmation, wedding, anniversary). The funds are listed on the right.

I (We) wish to make a special contribution of $_________ to the ___________________________ Fund.

☐ In Honor of ___________________________

Occasion ___________________________

☐ In Memory of ___________________________

Relationship ___________________________

Donor’s Name (s) ___________________________

Donor’s Address ___________________________

Donor’s Phone ___________________________

Donor’s Email ___________________________

Please send an acknowledgement note to:

Name ___________________________

Address ___________________________

Your gift is tax deductible to the extent of the law. Please mail and make checks payable to Community Synagogue of Rye.

YOU CAN NOW MAKE YOUR DONATIONS TO CSR ONLINE

To make a donation to the synagogue or any of its fund using a credit card, please go to https://www.comsynrye.org/donate.html.

Endowment Funds
David & Iris Sampliner Youth Leadership Development Fund
Etz Ha Dorot Endowment (Special Projects) Fund
Goodkind Scholar-in-Residence Fund
The Obrasky (Elder Transportation to CSR) Fund
Pond & Beyond (Grounds Improvement) Fund
Reform Jewish Commitment (RJC) Fund
Victor & Marjorie Wolder (Annual Adult Education Program) Fund
Victor & Marjorie Wolder Joy of Living (Annual Joyous Community Event) Fund

Restricted Funds
Adult Education (Cecele Fraenkel Memorial) Fund
Beautification Fund
Cantor Cooperman’s Discretionary Fund
Camp/Israel Trip Fund for Teens
Early Childhood Center Enrichment Fund
Grayer Teen Initiative Fund
Hesed (Caring Community) Fund
Israel Action Fund
Kadima Capital Campaign Fund
Kol Nashim (Women’s Programming) Fund
Marilyn Zelman Early Childhood Center Scholarship Fund
Michael Ginsberg Memorial Library Fund
Prayer Book Fund
Rabbi Gropper’s Discretionary Fund
Religious School Enrichment Fund
Religious School Special Education Fund
SAJE (Senior Activities in a Jewish Environment) Fund
Social Action Fund
Steven Harry Klein Membership Fund
Synagogue Fund
Yahrzeit Fund

Learn more about these funds at comsynrye.org/ csr-funds