

## **Temple Israel Bulletin**

November 2023 / Cheshvan - Kislev 5784

www.JewishDuluth.org

"Temple Israel is a welcoming and vibrant center of Jewish life for our region, I'dor vador... from generation to generation"

### **Weekly Schedule**

Join us for
Torah Study Fridays at NOON via Zoom;
and for in-person
Shabbat Services Fridays at 6:00pm &
Saturdays at 10:00am. Simulcast on Zoom
Requests for the recurring Zoom links can
be directed to the Temple Israel Office
admin@jewishduluth.org

For the complete Temple Israel Calendar Click HERE

Temple Israel Library
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### Office Hours

8:30am - 12:00pm Tuesday – Friday

We are here to help (218) 724-8857 admin@jewishduluth.org

### FROM THE PRESIDENT:

By any measure the events of the last few weeks, specifically the war in Israel are challenging and horrific. I found solace in the community conversation we had for our members and am grateful we were able to honor the range of emotions that were present and to thank everyone for the respectful discussion. During this painful and uncertain time of war, it's reasonable to have concerns about safety and security of Jewish institutions and gatherings. In light of the call by Hamas for worldwide demonstrations against Israel a number of Jewish communal organizations are concerned about the possibility of harassment or violence being directed against synagogues. As of last night, Secure Community Network reports that its researchers have found no evidence in their monitoring of current, credible threats targeting Jewish community groups in the US. To be clear we will remain vigilant and have taken steps to increase our safety and security. While I recognize the desire to be an open and welcoming institution implementing policies such as maintaining locked doors at all times simply is the right thing to do for our membership, staff and guests. I want to remind everyone that our New Member Dinner is a couple of weeks away,

this is a great forum to get to know these folks and share in the joy of welcoming them to our community. Also, our Annual Meeting is right around the corner. Beyond the need for a quorum of members present, please join us in reviewing and understanding where we are as an organization, where we are headed and our slate of new officers. Would love to see you all soon. Bart

### 

We are looking for congregants to sign up as ushers for Shabbat services. Click on the link below to sign up for a date or 2! Sign-up open through February 2024.

Sign up to USHER HERE

### FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY:

The Hebrew month of Cheshvan, which comes between Tishri (filled with all of the fall holidays – Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot and Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah) and Kislev (culminating with Chanukah) – has no special holidays of its own. In Jewish tradition, this month is sometimes called "Marcheshvan" ("bitter Cheshvan") to reflect this lack of special holidays.

Actually, when I was a little kid I was taught that "Marcheshvan" meant "Mr. Cheshvan" – that, given its lack of holidays we should go out of our way to treat the month with respect and dignity because otherwise it will "feel bad." (Similarly, I was taught that we cover the challah on a Shabbat table because the challah will feel bad if it knows that we are giving a much longer blessing (Kiddush) for the wine than the challah gets for itself [hamotzi])

I sort of like those more playful explanations even if, to cite Stephen Colbert, they may have more "truthiness" than "truth" in them...
In any event, November this year corresponds with the last weeks of holiday-less Cheshvan and the part of Kislev that doesn't include Chanukah. However, as Rabbi Mordecai Kaplan (the founder of the Reconstructionist movement) taught, we American Jews "live in two civilizations." And it is certainly true that the American holiday of Thanksgiving, on the fourth Thursday in November, both draws from Jewish sources and inspires us as Jews.

It is told that in creating the American Thanksgiving holiday, the Pilgrims drew on the tradition of the Jewish holiday of Sukkot, one of whose themes is that of thanksgiving for the fall harvest. (One of the traditional names for Sukkot is "Chag Ha'asif"/ "The festival of the ingathering [of crops].)

In fact, in Judaism, every day is Thanksgiving Day, as the *Amidah* (in both its weekday and Shabbat versions) always includes "Birkat Hoda'ah" (The blessing of thanksgiving.)
The arrival of the American Thanksgiving holiday also provides an opportunity each year for us to join together with some of our neighbors for the annual Duluth Interfaith Thanksgiving service. This year it's taking place on Tuesday, November 21st at 7:00 p.m. at Pilgrim Congregational Church, 2310 E. 4th Street, Duluth. I hope to see many of you there.

Speaking of our relationships with our neighbors, it has been a great comfort to have received so many supportive messages from neighboring congregations and individuals who wanted to express to me (and for me to relay to

you) their support of our local Jewish community in the wake of the horrific attacks by Hamas against Israel on October 7<sup>th</sup>. Our neighbors understand that many of us are only one or two degrees of separation from family and friends in Israel and that --- on a deeper level – all Jews are part of "Am Echad"/ "One People".

As I write these words on October 24th, the situation in Israel and Gaza remains dire. We pray that the remaining more than two hundred hostages currently being imprisoned by Hamas be freed, and that Israel be successful in its efforts to neutralize the continuing threat caused by Hamas and its allies, and that this be accomplished with as minimal an impact on innocent civilians in Gaza as possible. It's a horrendous situation that cannot be easily judged from our vantage point of being thousands of miles away from the front. However, I have signed on to a couple of open letters for North American Jewish clergy that expand on the moral and practical implications of this deeply distressing situation. Here are links to those statements:

North American Rabbis and Cantors Respond to the Crisis in Israel and Gaza [CLERGY ONLY] | T'ruah (truah.org)

An Expression of Unity and Support for Israel by Rabbis | Zionist Rabbinic Coalition (zionistrabbis.org)

When we gathered together for a Temple members only worship service and time for sharing on Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, I shared with you some email correspondence that had taken place between me and John Dahl, the President of the Islamic Center of the Twin Ports.

John (cc'ing ICTP member Nik Hassan, with whom I've been on many interfaith panels with over the years) had written to me saying:

> "I wanted to reach out to you to express my sadness of current events in Israel and Gaza and to ask if you were interested in some type of interfaith gathering between Temple Israel and ICTP. I imagine there are many members of the Duluth community feeling strong emotions right now. Perhaps the friendship between ICTP and Temple

Israel can offer mutual support for one another and to others."

And I had written them back saying:

"I'm very appreciative and touched by your reaching out to me and my congregation in this way. I think it should be clear to peace-loving people that Jews and Muslims are not enemies but rather friends whose communities descend from our common ancestor in faith Abraham/Avraham/Ibrahim and that we worship the same God. Despite our theological differences I have always felt a sense of connection between our two communities. The evil perversion of faith, and the utter lack of humanity exhibited by Hamas should not disrupt our deeper ties to one another.

"As for getting our two communities together, I think a nice forum for such an event might be inviting your community as a group to attend our Shabbat evening service here and share fellowship in that way. A date that comes to mind to me as a possibility would be Friday. December 15th. That date is also when I personally observe the yahrtzeit (anniversary of the death) of my father, Arvin Steinberg, of blessed memory. I recall that when my father was alive (He died in 2017) one of things he was impressed about was how I as a rabbi have supported warm relationships between the congregation I served and the local Muslim community. For me, it would be a nice way to honor my father's memory by having all of you join us that evening. Please let me know if that might work for vou."

We have subsequently confirmed that plan – so please put it on your calendars to join us for the Shabbat evening service on December 15th when we will be welcoming our guests from the ICTP.

Meanwhile, the folks at the ICTP had also initiated a conversation with Debbie Freedman, chair of our Tikkun Olam committee, about having a joint activity at the mosque to paint

over some graffiti that vandals had done on their building. That activity, which took place on Sunday afternoon, October 15th, ended up being covered by local television stations both here in Duluth and in the Twin Cities. *Kol Hakavod* to our members who took part in that community strengthening activity.

L'shalom, Rabbi David Steinberg rabbidavid@jewishduluth.org

P.S. As I'm sure you know, there are many avenues for providing support to those impacted by the current fighting, several of which we have highlighted in Temple communications since October 7th. One such venue for contributions is through HIAS. More information can be found at <a href="https://act.hias.org/page/58079/donate/1?en\_txn6=HI-WB-FY24-10-IsraelGazaEmergency">https://act.hias.org/page/58079/donate/1?en\_txn6=HI-WB-FY24-10-IsraelGazaEmergency</a>

## NEWS FROM RELIGIOUS & HEBREW SCHOOLS

It isn't often that our students get to participate in Temple Israel's Simchat Torah celebration as part of their school day, but this year we did. I had the privilege of watching all our students receive an aliyah under a tallit and these two young women – whom I've known and taught for several years – carry and dance with the Torah scrolls.



And while just three students were able to participate in Consecration that next week, we have a total of six new students in our school this year. If you see some unfamiliar faces, stop and introduce yourselves.

Andrea Novel Buck Youth Education Director anbuck@jewishduluth.org (218) 302-3203



Friday, November 10th
Shabbat evening service: 6:00 p.m.
with musical accompaniment by the
Shabbatunes

Community Shabbat Dinner to follow (approximately 7:00 p.m.)

Each week, the first part of our Friday night liturgy is called "Kabbalat Shabbat" which means "Welcoming the Sabbath". On Friday evening, November 10th, we are not only welcoming Shabbat ("Kabbalat Shabbat"), we are also welcoming our new members ("Kabbalat Chaverim Chadashim") since November of 2022. In modern Hebrew we use the same word "Chaver" to mean both "member" and "friend." And we very much hope that our new Temple members will also find lasting friendships in our congregation now that they have officially joined us as Temple Israel members. Please join us as we formally welcome them.

Menu:

Strudels with Gravy
Green Beans with Tomatoes and Onions
Duchess Potatoes
Green Salad and Fruits
Assorted Desserts

Cost \$18 Adults, \$10 Children

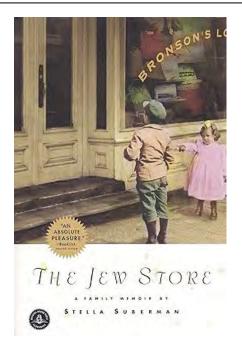
New Members attend as guests of Temple Israel

at no charge

RSVP for New Member Shabbat Dinner HERE

### Remember those in care facilities

Carol Cohen, The Pines Three
Paul King, St Ann's
Rochelle Rubin, Benedictine Health Center
Aaron Glazman, Edgewood Vista
Harriet Pearlman, Viewcrest Health Center
Isabell Tusin - Superior Rehabilitation Center

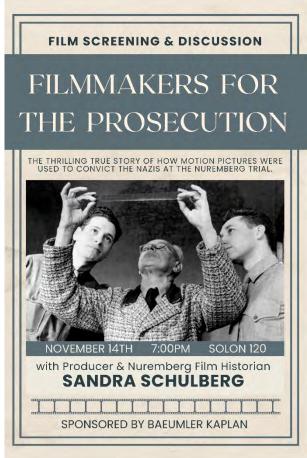


Jewish Book Club will discuss **THE JEW STORE** by Stella Suberman via zoom on Sunday, December 10, 2023 at 1:00 pm CST. Zoom link will be provided in December.

### **ZOOM Shabbat Services**

If you need the link or experience difficulties with Zoom, please contact the **Temple Israel Office**.







"It Ain't Necessarily So..."
Fundraising Committee and Programming
Committee Unite!
Submitted by Allyz Kramer Polacsek

On October 15th, the Fundraising and Programming Committees teamed up to host professional musician and scholar, William Hindin, who presented and performed "The Great Jewish American Songbook" at Temple Israel. His performance detailed the influence of immigrants in framing American music in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In particular, Jewish Americans were quintessential - from George & Ira Gershwin, Leonard Bernstein, and Stephen Sondheim to the Yiddish Theaters of New York. and so many more - these influencers used Jewish liturgy and cantorial knowledge to enrich their famously produced show tunes, big band and orchestral sounds, and poignant themes of love, survival, and equity. For example, the musical *Porgy & Bess* has that well-known ballad "It Ain't Necessarily So..." With Mr. Hindin's explanations, we were enlightened how that tune has the uncanny resemblance of our introductory prayer to Torah reading: Barchu et Adonai Hamvorach. And the song that we can practically sing in our sleep, "Somewhere over the Rainbow", was written in 1938 prior to the 1939 release of *The Wizard of Oz.* These lyrics emit the wonderment of hope and suggestions for peace in the post-Depression era of survival and recovery. These are just a few intertwined

tales of musical genius where Jewish Americans innovatively created and originated myriad 20<sup>th</sup> century music we know so well.

This successful event was made possible by the forward-thinking Temple Board of Trustees to create a suitable musical space in the Overman Social Hall. The new sound system and overhead projector made for a superb audiovisual experience! Sponsorship by RBC Wealth Management, North Shore Bank, and the Mordecai Kaplan Fund provided underwriting funds to host Mr. Hindin, provide a grand piano for the performance, and hire event security from the Duluth Police Department. We are grateful for these contributors to make our event memorable and meaningful. We are pleased to report that ticket sales for the 60+ attendees netted our Temple over \$900.00.

Todah robah to our committees and Temple members for making this possible – from event planning, set-up and take-down, logistics in ticket sales and sponsorships, ushering and welcoming people to Temple Israel, and coordinating with our Duluth Police Dept. for security – you are the examples of community. With your contribution of time and energy, we made this a community event open to the public that was educational, informative, masterfully musical, and safe! A special shout-out to our kind and giving Temple members that helped make this event possible: Tina Alcala-Sales, Maren Christianson, Steve Davis & Terese Tomanek, Danny Friedman, Neil Glazman, John Goldfine, Pam & Tom Griggs, Kathy Levine & Mike Olson, Alexis Pogorelskin, Gabe Polacsek & Allyz Kramer Polacsek, Janet & Steve Rosen, Jack & Cindy Seiler, Jack Shapiro, Toby & John Sillanpa, Dan & Zach Wallerstein, and Nicole & Josh Widdes. THANK YOU!

# WELCOME

Ally Austin and Family



Welcome to our new, returning as an adult, Temple Israel member Ally Austin, her husband Nick Ullrich, and their two children Eben (age 4) and Raif (age 1). Ally grew up attending Temple Israel. Her mother is Bonney Austin and her father of blessed memory is Peter Austin. Ally's brothers are Bryan, Jonathan, and Nicholas. After graduating from college and teaching in Deer River, MN for one year, Ally returned to Duluth and has been employed by the Duluth Public School District for 15 years. The teaching positions she's held include special education teacher, reading interventionist, and homebound/home-based teacher. Nick Ullrich is a plumber/pipefitter/welder at A. W. Kuettel & Sons. Eben started the Temple Israel preschool program this fall with Morah Elizabeth. As a family they enjoy time together outdoors, trips to the cabin, and spending time with their canine companions Maddie, Gordon, and Hildegarde Beatrice.

When asked if she had any favorite memories of her childhood years at Temple Israel Ally replied that being part of a large energetic class was a lot of fun. She really enjoyed Fred Friedman stepping in as her class's religious school teacher one year. "We were always in the Litman Room because it was the only space that fit all of us." Ally also fondly remembers her 10th grade trip to New York City with her Temple Israel peers, quilting at Margie Portilla's house, and role playing different Jewish life events in

3rd grade. She expressed that she never would have guessed that Adam Apter and Ana Grossman would have officially tied the knot after they role played bride and groom in class. "The sense of community and friendships that were formed at Temple Israel have been lifelong," stated Ally.

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I would like to introduce you to Ceilidh Morris. She is a new member here at Temple Israel. Originally she was raised in Houston Tx, but she has lived in numerous states until she decided she wanted a place to live that had 4 seasons and fulfill her desire to raise her now adult son in a small town.. She found herself in Ashland, WI. Her work takes her to Washburn, WI where she is an EMT. She studies modern Hebrew with the Wienervochshochschule in Austria, which began her journey to Judaism.

Her interest in languages has been life-long. Now she is a graduate student at Middlebury College with study in the German language while still working in Wisconsin. Welcome to Temple Israel Ceilidh! We are so happy to count you as one of our congregation.

### MISCELLANEOUS MESSAGES OF SUPPORT RABBI DAVID RECEIVED FROM LOCAL INDIVIDUALS FOLLOWING THE HAMAS ATTACK ON ISRAEL:

"We met years ago when I coordinated a Duluth interfaith response to supporting refugees in Syria. I am writing as a neighbor to express my deepest sympathies for your congregation and the Jewish community. What is a helpful way for us to support your congregation and show solidarity? I'd rather ask than presume to know. I have a card and baked a loaf of bread to drop off at the Temple. But if there is another avenue to show love to our neighbors we'd love to do that!

"I organize a group called The Waging Peace Project that connects people to showing up for their neighbors in practical ways. Please let me how we can support you in this devastating time."

"Grateful for you,"

### Diana Oestreich

"I have been rendered speechless about what has happened in Israel and just can't wrap my head around the horror. There really are no words to express how we all feel about the unimaginable atrocities. I, along with my family, support our Jewish friends and stand with Israel. I shudder to think about what comes next and can only hope that there will be an outcome that will lead to a better world. I am not sure how that will happen but I pray that it will. I am thinking of you and your congregation as you all mourn and deal with any repercussions against synagogues and Jews right here in our own country.

"Please accept my sympathies and my prayers and support.

"Blessings to you and Temple Israel."

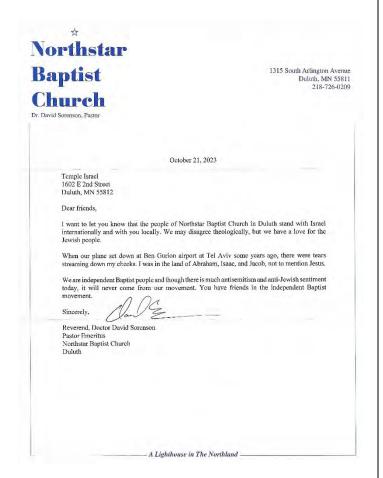
### **Joan Peterson**

"Like many people of faith I have been horrified by the tragedy that has taken place in Israel this week. What can the Christian community of Duluth do to best support our Jewish friends during this trying time? As King David instructed his people to do around three thousand years ago, my family and I will continue to pray for the peace of Jerusalem, but if there is something additional we can do to express our support for the people of Temple Israel we would be honored to do so.

## "Blessing and peace to you and your temple"

**Kydee Sheetz** 

(We also received supportive phone calls from Mayor Emily Larson, Rev. Robyn Weaver and others. And see Rabbi David's bulletin article for information about supportive messages from the Islamic Center of the Twin Ports.)



### Siddurim at Home

Unless otherwise indicated, all our worship services are held in person and simulcast on Zoom. However, the siddurim (prayerbooks) are not screen-shared. Temple members may borrow copies of the siddurim that we use at Temple for your home use. Please contact the Temple office if you wish to do so. The Temple Israel office can be reached at 218-724-8857 or office@jewishduluth.org

If you wish to view online versions of the various siddurim on a separate device while "Zooming" into Shabbat services, here are the links that will enable you to do so:

- For Saturday morning services: <u>HERE</u>
- For the monthly "Family Service" (first Friday of each month): Click <u>HERE</u>
- Unfortunately, the free online version of our regular Friday evening siddur, Mishkan T'fila, is no longer available. But you can still purchase a copy (see below) or Temple members can borrow a copy from the Temple office.

If you would like to purchase your own copies of the various siddurim, here are the links that will enable you to do so:

- For Saturday morning services: Click HERE
- For Friday evening services (other than family shabbat services): Click <u>HERE</u>

The siddur for the monthly "Family Service" (first Friday of each month) is out of print but some used copies for sale might be available at these links:

Version with transliteration: <u>HERE</u>

Version without transliteration: <u>HERE</u>



Temple Israel has a new date for the Annual Meeting Please circle

December 3rd, 2023 @ 11:00am

on your calendars!







Please send your submissions to the Mazel Tov or Todah Rabbah sections to admin@jewishduluth.org

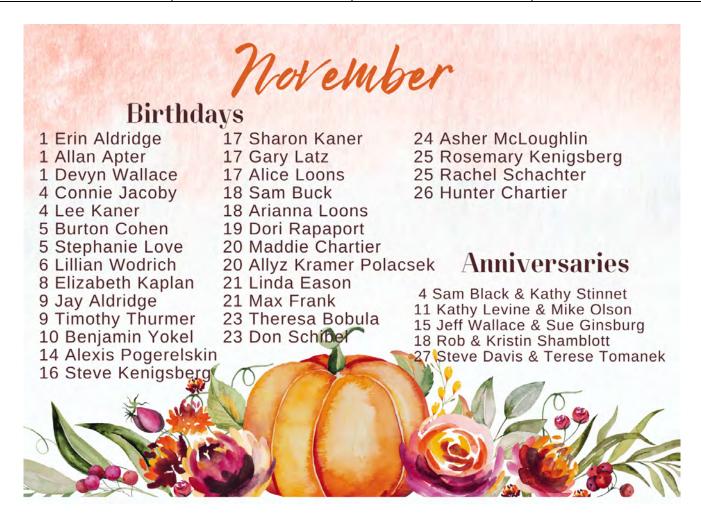
### **Schedule of Shabbat Services and Torah Portions**

**Nov 3 & 4 -** 6:00pm & 10:00am in-person & simulcast via Zoom - Vayera (Genesis 18:1-22:24)

Nov 10 & 11 - 6:00pm & 10:00am in-person & simulcast via Zoom - Chaya Sarah (Genesis 23:1-25:18)

Nov 17 & 18 - 6:00pm & 10:00am in-person & simulcast via Zoom - Toldot (Genesis 25:19-28:9)

**Nov 24 & 25 -** 6:00pm & 10:00am in-person & simulcast via Zoom - Vayetzei (Genesis 28:10-32:3)



## **Donations** 09/29/23 – 10/27/23

Benton/Goldfine Library Fund

Andrea Gelb In honor of Danny Friedman

Joan Bischoff In memory of Chaya Feldman

**Cemetery Fund** 

Anne Scherer In memory of Lenore Ehrens

Shefkin

Claudia Kanter In memory of Hommey & Robert

Kanter

**Chris Crockett Music Fund** 

Andrea Gelb In honor of Laila Seidakmetova

CHUM/Food Shelf

Andrea Gelb In honor of Nicole Widdes Lyndsey Krenzen-Manning In memory of Jack Krenzen

Endowment Fund General Fund Richard Kanoff

Lisa Squillace In memory of Sam Cohan
Carol & Mark Weitz In memory of Gus Wolfman
Carol & Mark Weitz In memory of Charles Weitz

Mark Christner In honor of the Jewish people of Israel

Philip Steuernagel Roger & Lydia Pellett

Harry Glazman Kiddush Fund

Andrea Gelb In honor of Neil Glazman

Cindy & Jack Seiler In memory of Louis "Otto" Macor

Aaron Glazman In memory of Lorrayne Glazman

Neil Glazman In memory of Lorrayne Glazman

Tracy Goman In memory of Sarah Green

**Hebrew School** 

Lyndsey Krenzen-Manning In memory of Jack Krenzen

**Marko Retirement** 

Andrea Gelb In honor of Marko Jukic
Lyndsey Krenzen-Manning In memory of Jack Krenzen

**Memorial Fund** 

Don Schibel In memory of Howard Schibel

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Mike & Michelle Baddin In memory of Miriam Smith Mike & Michelle Baddin In memory of Lenore Bear

**Rabbi Professional Development** 

Sharon Marcovich In memory of Ben Bachinski

**Religious School** 

Andrea Gelb In honor of Elizabeth Kaplan
Andrea Gelb In honor of Linda Glaser
Linda Glaser & John Herold In memory of Cameron Buck
Lyndsey Krenzen-Manning In memory of Jack Krenzen

**Silver Lecture Series** 

Andrea Gelb In honor of Jim Perlman

**Social Action** 

Andrea Gelb In honor of Elyse Carter-Vosen

Lyndsey Krenzen-Manning In memory of Jack Krenzen

#### 12 kislev 20 cheshvan 27 cheshvan 5 kislev Vayetzei 12:45pm Adult Beginner 12:45pm Adult Beginner 12:45pm Adult Beginner Hebrew Chaye Sarah Morning service 12:45pm Adult Beginner 9:00am Hebrew School 10:00am Shabbat 9:00am Hebrew School 9:00am Hebrew School SATURDAY www.karben.com **KAR-BEN** 10:00am Shabbat Morning service 10:00am Religious Morning service 10:00am Religious Morning service 10:00am Religious 10:00am Shabbat 10:00am Shabbat Hebrew No HS/RS 25 School School School 6:00 pm New Member Shabbat evening service 3 2 12:00 pm Torah Study 6:00 pm Family Shabbat evening service Shabbatunes VETFRANS DAY (Observed) 3 0 12:00 pm Torah Study 6:00 pm Shabbat evening service 24 office a cosep & Dinner with musical 12:00 pm Torah Study 6:00 pm Shabbat evening service 12:00 pm Torah Study 19 cheshvan 26 cheshvan 4 kislev accompaniment by FRIDAY 3 10 kislev Office CLOSED 3 kislev 18 cheshvan 25 cheshvan THANKSGIVING 17 kislev THURSDAY cheshvan kislev 23 9 30 N 0 2 kislev 17 cheshvan 24 cheshvan 9 kislev 16 kislev WEDNESDAY 5:30-7:30pm Hebrew School 5:30-7:30pm Hebrew School 5:30-7:30pm Hebrew School 5:30-7:30pm Hebrew School 1:00pm Mah Jongg 1:00pm Mah Jongg November 22 53 万 No HS 00 1 kislev 23 cheshvan ROSH CHODESH 8 kisley 15 kislev TUESDAY Duluth Interfaith Thanksgiving Service \*\*Bulletin Deadline\*\* 28 4 5 29 cheshvan 7 kislev 22 cheshvan SIGD 14 kislev MONDAY DECEMBER 7 4 7 8 MTWT 20 27 4 ± \$ ₹ $\frac{\omega}{\omega}$ 0 w 0 7 4 4 6 kislev 28 cheshvan 13 kislev 21 cheshvan or 4 2 8 **〒**⊙⊕27 SUNDAY ភេត្ស 2023 5784 92 **∑**ഗയമ്ധ്⊗ 2 <u>ත</u> 5 v -∞ to 21 8