November 2018
Cheshvan 5779 - Kislev 5779

Shalom, Ner Tamid!

The month of November is an interesting time in the lives of many Jews. Many of us spent the entirety of Tishrei/September and the beginning of October coming together to pray and celebrate our Jewish lives, while at the same time complaining that we can’t gain any traction in our work and family lives because of all the time off and lack of real structure. Now here we are in Cheshvan/November, an entire month of our “regularly scheduled programming.” The trick is to get back into the swing while remembering all of the things we promised ourselves to change just a few weeks ago.

I take the concept of change very seriously, and I try to hold a mirror to myself many times a year to see how I am doing. This is true not only in my religious life, but at home and at work as well. Being Chair of the Ner Tamid Board of Directors may be a volunteer position, but I don’t see it that way. Along with all of my other tasks I am in constant contact with all of the volunteers who help run our shul, making sure that everyone is heard and that whatever I can do to make the shul a better place I accomplish to the best of my ability, as do all the exceptional volunteers at Ner Tamid.

One of the ways I strive to be the best me I can be, both for myself and for our shul, is by showing Hakarat HaTov, gratitude. Our shul runs on the power of many volunteers, and they are usually doing their volunteer work behind the scenes and are never truly thanked for all that they do. Well, here we are in the month of Thanksgiving as well as Cheshvan, which is a quiet Jewish month having no holidays to call its own, and I am going to dedicate my gratitude to all the people that give of their precious time and efforts to Ner Tamid.

Here is a small sampling of the volunteers who help keep our shul running day in and day out, without whom we cannot thank enough: our sisterhood, brotherhood, those who help in the office, those who set up our weekly kiddush, event coordinators, parents who help in groups (both weekly and on the holidays), those who shop for the shul, those who cook for the shul, those who edit for the shul or give their time and talents to things like the calendar and monthly/weekly e-mails, our Gabbaim, our kiddush greeters, the office renovators, the office painters, our in-house electrician, our in-house tech support, our website facilitator, the executive board, the board of directors, the committees, our executive director, our office manager, the list can go on and on.

November straddles both Cheshvan and Kislev (which does have the holiday of Chanukkah), but let’s make an effort to spread our Hakarat HaTov to those who deserve it throughout the whole month of November. If you see someone taking time out of their day to give to our congregation; say thank you, or even offer to pitch in! If you are one of the hundreds of people I noted above or if you help in a way I did not mention, TodaRabah - thank you, from the bottom of my heart.

Have a great month!
Gabrielle Burger, Chairperson
1) How did you first hear about Ner Tamid?
We both grew up in Baltimore, but never got to know the Shul on a personal level. The first time we davened there was for the Shabbos Project last year when Gad Elbaz came. We really enjoyed it and decided to come back and see what the Shul is like on an ordinary week and we have stayed ever since.

2) How long have you been members?
Since August of this year.

3) What is your religious background?
We grew up in the orthodox community.

4) What do you do for a living?
Zev and I run a wholesale candy manufacturing business, called Shay's Confections.

5) Anything unusual you could tell us about yourselves?
Zev graduated from Ecole Chocolat School for Chocolate Arts as a Master Chocolatier. He also enjoys cooking and is handy around the house thanks to his construction background. Ayala likes to do arts and crafts with her kids. She also enjoys building gift baskets, a skill she learned when owning a chocolate store.

6) What part of Ner Tamid are you most excited about?
We love how welcoming the Shul has been. The children's programming is definitely a great bonus!
We would like to thank all those who generously donated to the shul this month:

Audrey Rose in memory of her husband, Albert Rose and father-in-law, Israel Rose
Estelle Levitas in memory of her parents, Max and Rose Krout
Cindy Diamond in memory of her grandmother, Belle Friedman
Jacqueline Spigel in memory of her mother, Lena Friedenberg
Sheldon Caplan in memory of his mother, Ruth Ann Caplan
Philip Marcus in memory of his brother-in-law, Paul Schenker
Howard Schunik in memory of his mother, Lillian Schunik
Joyce Jandorf in memory of her parents, Rev. Morris Solomon and Rose Klavan
Sonya Davis in memory of Jacob Meyers
Goldie Wolf in memory of her father, Julius Hassid Murray and Lisa Friedman in memory of Sonya Friedman, and in honor of Rabbi Motzen
Anonymous in memory of Steve Schuman
Bernard and Esther Cohen in memory of beloved father, sister and brother, Phillip Setren, Esther Berman, and Louis Setren
Marty Cohen in memory of his father, Benjamin Cohen
David and Ruthie Eisenberg
Myron Bagan in memory of his beloved father, Albert Bagan
Michael Milstein in memory of his grandmother, Belle Goldberg
Beverly Kronthal in memory of her mother, Rose Schnaper
Darryl Garfinkel in memory of her father, Sidney Harold Garfinkel
Anita Steinberg in memory of her mother, Ruth Akman
Sylvia and Robin Karlin in memory of their sister-in-law and aunt, Lena Kasinoff
Florine Rosenberg in memory of her mother, Mildred Rudick
Susan Schuster in memory of her parents Gerson and Martha Bernstein and her sister Adele Tuoff Lyn and Chaim Bendoroff in honor of Mari Mordfin's marriage in Israel
Irma Pretsfelder in honor of Harry and Sonia Ostrow's grandson's Bar Mitzvah
Marcia Spear in memory of her grandfather, Joseph Maslow
Michael Scherr in memory of Mollie Cohn
Patsy Spector in memory of her mother, Esther Tanenbaum
Sarah Katz in memory of her father Laurence Katz
Philip Kershner in memory of his mother, Sylvia Kershner
Sandra Burstyn in memory of her mother, Bernice Miller
James Olson in memory of Helen Fleischer in memory of her sister, Doris Keyser-Morley
Sharon Demb in memory of her father, Jerry Kruger
Irma Pretsfelder in honor of Kenny and Lisa Goldberg's baby girl
Nathan Sefrit in memory of his sister, Miriam Caplan
Harold Lieber in memory of his father Reuben Lieber
Deborah Dopkin in memory of her mother, Bernice Cohn
Gilbert Zemlak in memory of Dena, Alex and Phyllis Zemlak
Esther Kruger in memory of her husband, Jerry Kruger
Olwyn Diamond in memory of his father, Hyman Diamond
Eva Katzenelson in memory of her father Fred Sterba
Judy and Howard Elbaum in honor of Janet Hainkin's birthday
Dear Friends,

The events that took place last week in Pittsburgh shook us all to the core. An attack on one synagogue is an attack on all synagogues and an attack on one Jew is an attack on us all. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families in Pittsburgh who are mourning their beloved.

We have taken some preliminary steps to ensure the safety of our congregation; panic buttons have been placed in strategic locations throughout the shul, for the immediate future, the Pimlico Rd. entrance as well as some doors on the Lincoln Rd. entrance will be locked on Shabbos, we will have security guards this Shabbos and the Baltimore City Police will have a stronger presence than usual throughout the Jewish community. The security committee is developing a comprehensive plan to ensure our safety which will be discussed at the upcoming board meeting. However, it is important to note that local authorities have informed us that there is no imminent threat to the area.

The Associated has called upon all members of the Jewish community, whether one regularly attends services or not, to go to shul on November 3rd as an act of solidarity. I encourage you to participate wherever you find yourself. By attending services this Shabbos we will make a powerful statement that we will not be intimidated by our enemies, a powerful statement of unity with our brothers and sisters of all denominations who will be doing the same, and a powerful statement that we know we can turn to G-d in times of need.

May we, and Jews all over the world, be blessed with a peaceful Shabbos.
Rabbi Yisrael Motzen

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