



**JEWISH  
CENTER**  
OF  
THE **HAMPTONS**

חג חנוכה שמח

*Happy Chanukah*

CHANUKAH GUIDE 5785  
DECEMBER 2024 BULLETIN

# Rabbi Joshua Franklin

## Pirsum HaNes: Wearing Your Jewishness on the Outside



For generations, Jews in the United States have faced a dilemma: Should we outwardly display our Jewish identity or keep it discreet? Should I wear my Star of David necklace tucked inside my shirt or let it shine for all to see? Should my freedom tags supporting the return of hostages be on full display, or should they be hidden? Even within Orthodox communities, the debate persists: Is it truly safe to walk the streets of New York wearing a kippah, or should one opt for a baseball cap to maintain religious observance while avoiding unwanted attention?

This tension has given rise to innovations like the “camozuzah,” a discreet mezuzah designed to blend into door frames without announcing the Jewish identity of the home’s residents. These concerns have only grown over the past year, especially in places like New York City, where visible expressions of Jewishness have, at times, been met with verbal and physical harassment.

And yet, Chanukah arrives each year to remind us that living Jewishly is something to be celebrated—publicly and proudly. One of the central commandments of Chanukah is *pirsum ha’nes*, the publicizing of the miracle. This tradition calls not only for the lighting of the menorah but for placing it where it can be seen—out in windows, for the world to witness. The Chanukah lights are meant to shine brightly, not to be hidden away.

In that spirit, we at the Jewish Center of the Hamptons are excited to continue our cherished tradition of Pop-Up Chanukah. We will not only light menorahs in our homes but throughout the town of East Hampton, sharing the glow of the holiday at some of our favorite spots, including Nick & Toni’s, the Hook Windmill, Guild Hall, and more. The menorah is a symbol meant to radiate light—and we are committed to ensuring that light shines across our community.

I hope you’ll join us for this joyful JCOH tradition, but I also encourage you to reflect on the deeper lesson of *pirsum ha’nes*. Our Jewishness isn’t something to hide; it’s a source of pride and a gift to share with the world. The prophet Isaiah reminds us of our calling to be a “light to the nations.” This light isn’t limited to the candles we kindle during Chanukah—it’s in how we carry ourselves, how we live our Jewish values, and how we show the world that our Jewish identity is both beautiful and a blessing.

*Rabbi Joshua Franklin*

Rabbi Joshua Franklin

# Cantor Debra Stein, Rabbi

## Continuing to Keep the Hostages in our Hearts this Chanukah



A few weeks ago, I was getting out of my car, and I heard something fall to the ground. I looked around my car and found my “dog tag” that I’ve been wearing now for well over a year.

Now it’s fourteen months, and we still don’t know the fate of over 100 held hostages in Gaza. Last year I spoke about the Al Hanissim prayer. A prayer

recited throughout our liturgical calendar, thanking God for miracles and mighty deeds for victories we have won throughout our history.



This year, I find myself concentrating on the letters that the dreidel holds in Israel. Nun, Gimmel, Shin Pay. These four letters remind us that great miracles can happen. Nes Gadol Haya Po. A great miracle happened here. In ancient times, it was the miracle of regaining entry into the Temple, winning a war against Antiochus Epiphanes, the Jewish people surviving. Today the miracle we wait for is to know the fate of the rest of the hostages, to pray for the healing of mind and body for the hostages who have been returned, and that Israel, once again find herself in peace with her neighbors.

We have had to postpone a congregational trip to Israel for many years now, it leaves me to pray that next year we will be able to extend the invitation for you to join us on a congregational trip to our sacred land.

Keyn Y’hi Ratzon, So May It Be.

B’shira,

*Cantor Debra Stein, Rabbi*

Cantor Debra Stein, Rabbi





Dear Congregants,

On behalf of our Clergy, Officers and Board of Trustees, we want to personally wish you all a very happy and joyous Chanukah.

Everyone at the JCOH is committed to continuing to be your home for prayer, Jewish education and community for all. We look forward to sharing the new year by offering innovative programming, stimulating classes and activities that support our Jewish values for all ages.

May the light from the Chanukah candles illuminate your houses and hearts with happiness and our never-ending hope for peace.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harry A. Katz".

Harry A. Katz  
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carole Olshan".

Carole Olshan  
Chairman



## “Where Everybody Knows Your Name”

For the past two years, since moving to the Hamptons full-time, I’ve been debating whether to buy an espresso machine. I’ve read countless reviews and sought advice from friends, but I can’t seem to commit. Instead, I drive to Starbucks every morning, seven days a week. Though it costs a small fortune, I have no plans to stop - and here’s why: Starbucks has become my “Cheers,” the place where everybody knows my name.

When I walk in, I’m greeted with “Good morning, Margaret,” and questions like “How’s your daughter in Boston?” or “How’d that school project go?” In turn, I’ll ask Gabby how her daughter is adjusting to Pre-K and check in with Steve about how he’s feeling after his latest round of chemo. Although I never see these people outside the café, we’re a community. We share each other’s highs and lows, offering encouragement when needed. My life wouldn’t be the same if I stayed home to brew my own coffee. I belong there.

Similarly, but on a much deeper level, the Jewish Center offers me that same sense of connection and belonging. It’s where a group of strong women supported me during the final stages of my divorce, offering wisdom and seeing me through. It’s where members, young and old, welcomed me to their Seders, holiday celebrations, outings, and Shabbat dinners so I wouldn’t be alone. These relationships are the foundation of a strong community, and we all need people and spaces where we feel embraced, supported, and seen. For me, the Jewish Center has become that place - a second home. It’s where I lean on others during challenging times and celebrate life’s joys. It’s where my voice is heard, my story matters, and I truly belong.

The Jewish Center can be that place for you, too. Whether you’re seeking connection, spiritual growth, or simply a warm, welcoming environment, our community is here for you. Come as you are, and share your journey. You belong here.



*Margaret Barcohana*  
Education & Engagement Coordinator



**Shul House**  
at Jewish Center of the Hamptons  
*Where Jewish learning feels like home*



**FIRST NIGHT** | REGISTRATION REQUIRED

**Wednesday, December 25 | 5:00pm**

**Old Hook Windmill**

North Main St, East Hampton, NY 11937

Jewish Center of the Hamptons joins with Chabad of the Hamptons at one of East Hamptons most iconic buildings, Old Hook Windmill. Join the Jewish community along with local politicians for a celebration of songs, gifts for children, and a lighting of East Hamptons most public menorah.



**SECOND NIGHT** | REGISTRATION REQUIRED

**Thursday, December 26 | 5:00pm**

**Guild Hall**

158 Main St, East Hampton, NY 11937

Come check out the galleries at a freshly renovated Guild Hall from 5:00-6:00pm with a **special menorah lighting at 5:00pm.**



**THIRD NIGHT** | REGISTRATION REQUIRED

**Friday, December 27 | 6:00pm**

**Shabbat & Chanukah on the Beach**

Main Beach, East Hampton, NY 11937

Join us around a beach bonfire for a menorah lighting and Shabbat on the Beach service. It might be chilly, but feel free to warm up with fresh hot cocoa.





**FOURTH NIGHT** | REGISTRATION REQUIRED

**Saturday, December 28 | 4:30pm**

### The Clubhouse

174 Daniels Hole Rd, East Hampton, NY 11937

Bring the whole family to celebrate the fourth night of Chanukah at the Club House! After the menorah lighting, enjoy an hour of fun for all ages, with bowling and arcade games for kids and adults alike.



**FIFTH NIGHT** | REGISTRATION REQUIRED

**Sunday, December 29 | 5:00pm**

### Nick & Toni's

136 North Main Street, East Hampton, NY 11937

Kick off the fifth night with a menorah lighting at one of our favorite restaurants in the Hamptons. Have a drink, enjoy some latkes, and reserve your table for dinner. *Space is limited.*



**SIXTH NIGHT** | REGISTRATION REQUIRED

**Monday, December 30 | 5:00pm**

### Bookhampton

41 Main St, East Hampton, NY 11937

There's no greater gift than a book! Join Rabbi Josh and Cantor Debi at Bookhampton for a special story time filled with songs, stories, and Chanukah's joy. Plus, every child will leave with a book of their choice, courtesy of the Jewish Center of the Hamptons clergy. Come sing, celebrate, and make cherished holiday memories!



**SEVENTH NIGHT** | REGISTRATION REQUIRED

**Tuesday, December 31 | 5:00pm**

### Champagne Toast at the Cantor's Home

Raise a glass to the New Year and the Festival of Lights at Cantor Stein's home with a special New Year's Eve and Chanukah Champagne Toast. Together, we'll enjoy delicious nosh, festive drinks, and a heartwarming menorah lighting. All members of the JCOH are invited to join this celebratory evening! *Space is limited.*



**EIGHTH NIGHT** | REGISTRATION REQUIRED

**Wednesday, January 1 | 5:00pm**

### Amagansett Wine & Spirits

203 Main St, Amagansett, NY 11930

Enjoy Cabernet by candlelight, whiskey with warmth, and Merlot with merriment. While you're there, be sure to stock up on your favorite wines and spirits for the holiday season!



# Chanukah Unpacked

HISTORY, STORIES, & SYMBOLISM

**Classes: December 5, 12, 17, 26 | 4:00pm**



Rabbi Joshua Franklin

**Chanukah Unpacked:** Chanukah's Hidden History, Stories, and Symbolism invites you to uncover the deeper meanings of this beloved holiday. Beyond candles, dreidels, and festive foods, Chanukah holds untold stories and symbols that resonate through Jewish history. Together, we'll explore its spiritual, historical, and cultural layers—from the Maccabean revolt to the mystical significance of light—and connect its ancient themes to modern questions of identity and resilience. Rekindle the true spirit of the Festival of Lights with us.

Register at [jcoh.org/unpacked](https://jcoh.org/unpacked)



VIRTUAL



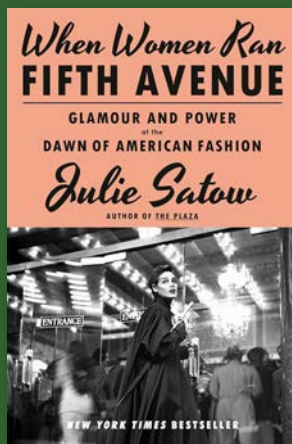
IN-PERSON





# BOOK CLUB

WITH RABBI DEBRA STEIN, CANTOR



## WHEN WOMEN RAN FIFTH AVENUE

BY LETTY COTTIN POGREBIN

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19 | 4:00pm

In *When Women Ran Fifth Avenue: Glamour and Power at the Dawn of American Fashion*, award-winning journalist and author of the widely acclaimed 2019 book, *The Plaza*, Julie Satow draws on her expert knowledge of New York City history and culture to whisk readers back to a bygone era of innovation and glitz. Satow chronicles the rise of the department store through dazzling portraits of three female powerhouses who broke barriers and created new and evolving possibilities for working women.

Save the date for Book Club in January

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16 | 4:00pm

Keep your eyes open for the January Book Club title. Each book club session is one hour of fascinating discussions on the book of the month. If you would like to volunteer a book title or like to run the group, please reach out to [cantor@jcoh.org](mailto:cantor@jcoh.org).

Register at [jcoh.org/bookclub](http://jcoh.org/bookclub)



VIRTUAL



IN-PERSON

# 2024 CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

## SAVE TAXES!

Use your RMD towards a charitable donation!



A Qualified Charitable Donation (QCD) is a donation made directly from your IRA to the JCOH!

Once you turn 73, you must start taking annual RMDs from your Traditional IRA. Your first RMD must be taken by April 1 of the year following the year you reach age 73. Every year thereafter you must take an RMD by December 31.

Generally, IRA distributions are taxable, but QCDs remain tax-free if sent directly to a qualified charity by the trustee.

Each eligible IRA owner can exclude up to \$105,000 in QCDs from taxable income.

Married couples, if both meet qualifications and have separate IRAs, can donate up to \$210,000 combined. QCDs don't require itemizing deductions.

Contact your IRA trustee soon to ensure the transaction completes by year-end.

Support the JCOH with your Qualified Charitable Donation and take advantage of the tax benefits!

To make your Qualified Charitable Donation to the JCOH,  
contact your 401K Plan Administrator.

If you have any questions, you may reach out to  
Diane Wiener at [development@jcoh.org](mailto:development@jcoh.org)



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the



# ADOPT A FAMILY

## SUPPORT THE RETREAT

PLEASE PURCHASE GIFTS. DROP OFF AT THE JCOH NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11

### GIFT CARDS

Visa, MasterCard, Amex, Target, Walmart,  
Amazon, TJ Maxx, Grocery Stores, Gas Stations

### WINTER GEAR

Snow Boots, Hats, Scarves, Gloves,  
Mittens & Throw Blankets

### ESSENTIALS

Socks, Slippers, Pajamas, leggings,  
Underwear, Sports Bras

### GIFTS

Board Games, Culturally Inclusive Dolls,  
Arts & Crafts, Activity Kits, Puzzles

*Let's help put a smile on someone's face during such difficult times!*

Questions: Contact Cantor Debra Stein, Rabbi at 631-324-9858 or email [cantor@jcoh.org](mailto:cantor@jcoh.org).



MAUREEN'S HAVEN  
HOMELESS OUTREACH

## Helping our Neighbors

Our homeless shelter, Maureen's Haven, here on the East End of Long Island is once again opening doors to house and feed the homeless. Thanks to a generous offer from the Bridgehampton Childcare Center, guests will be housed two nights a week, Wednesdays, and Sundays.

Once again, I have pledged our help, as we have been working with them since they first began serving Eastern Long Island.

**We will be sponsoring a meal on December 8 to provide a hot meal for the holidays.**

## HELP FEED THE HOMELESS



This year, the statistics have changed dramatically, as there are now over forty percent of the homeless who are women. Sixty percent are over fifty-five years of age, and eighty percent are simply "down on their luck," and not exhibiting any signs of psychological disorder. In other words, we are all a paycheck away from joining them.



## BLESSING OVER CANDLES

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,

*Barukh atah Adonai, Eloheinu, melekh ha'olam*

Blessed are you, Lord, our God, sovereign of the universe

אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוָּנוּ

*asher Kidishanu b'mitz'votav v'tzivanu*

Who has sanctified us with His commandments and commanded us

לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה

*l'had'lik near shel Chanukah. Amein.*

to light the lights of Chanukah. Amen.

## BLESSING FOR CHANUKAH

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,

*Barukh atah Adonai, Eloheinu, melekh ha'olam*

Blessed are you, Lord, our God, sovereign of the universe

שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לְאַבוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בְּזֶמֶן הַזֶּה.

*she'asah nisim la'avoteinu bayamim haheim baziman hazeh. Amein.*

Who performed miracles for our ancestors in those days at this time. Amen.

## SHEHECHEYANU

(first night only)

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,

*Barukh atah Adonai, Eloheinu, melekh ha'olam*

Blessed are you, Lord, our God, sovereign of the universe

שֶׁהִחְיֵנוּ וְקִיְּמָנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזֶמֶן הַזֶּה.

*shehechenu v'kiymanu v'higianu laz'man hazeh.*

*Amein.*

Who has kept us alive, sustained us, and enabled us to reach this season.

Amen.

*Happy Chanukah*



**מְעוֹז צוּר**

מְעוֹז צוּר יְשׁוּעָתִי, לְךָ נִאֶה לְשִׁבַּח  
 תִּכּוֹן בַּיִת תְּפִלָּתִי, וְשֵׁם תּוֹדָה נִזְבַּח  
 לְעֵת תְּכִין מִטְּבַח מִצָּר הַמְּנַבַּח  
 אֶז אֶגְמֹר בְּשִׁיר מִזְמוֹר חֲנֻכַּת הַמִּזְבֵּיחַ

**MA'OZ TZUR**

*Maoz tzur y'shu-ah-ti,  
 L'cha na-eh l'shabei-ach  
 Tikkon beit t'filati  
 V'sham today n'zabei-ach  
 Leit tachin mat'bei-ach  
 Mi-tzar ha-m'nabei-ach  
 Az egmor b'shir mizmor  
 Chanukat ha-miz'bei-ach*

**ROCK OF AGES**

Rock of ages, let our song  
 Praise Your saving power,  
 You, amid the raging foes,  
 Were our sheltering tower.

Furious, they assailed us,  
 But Your arm availed us,  
 And Your word  
 Broke their sword  
 When our own strength failed us.

**OH CHANUKAH**

Oh Chanukah, Oh Chanukah, come light the menorah  
 Let's have a party, we'll all dance the Horah  
 Gather 'round the table, we'll give you a treat  
 Dreidels to play with and latkes to eat

And while we are playing the candles are burning low  
 One for each night they shed a sweet light  
 To remind us of days long ago  
 One for each night they shed a sweet light  
 To remind us of days long ago

**I HAVE A LITTLE DREIDEL**

I have a little dreidel. I made it out of clay.  
 And when it's dry and ready, then dreidel I shall play.  
 Oh dreidel, dreidel, dreidel, I made it out of clay.  
 Oh dreidel, dreidel, dreidel, then dreidel I shall play.

It has a lovely body, with legs so short and thin.  
 When it gets all tired, it drops and then I win!  
 Dreidel, dreidel, dreidel, with leg so short and thin.  
 Oh dreidel, dreidel, dreidel, it drops and then I win!

My dreidel's always playful. It loves to dance and spin.  
 A happy game of dreidel, come play now let's begin.  
 Oh dreidel, dreidel, dreidel, it loves to dance and spin.  
 Oh dreidel, dreidel, dreidel. Come play now let's begin.

I have a little dreidel. I made it out of clay.  
 When it's dry and ready, dreidel I shall play.  
 Oh dreidel, dreidel, dreidel, I made you out of clay.  
 Oh dreidel, dreidel, dreidel, then dreidel I shall play.



**סְבִיבּוֹן**

סְבִיבּוֹן – סב סב סב  
 תְּנִיכָה הוּא חַג טוֹב  
 תְּנִיכָה הוּא חַג טוֹב  
 סְבִיבּוֹן – סב סב סב

חַג שְׂמֵחָה הוּא לְעַם  
 נֵס גָּדוֹל הָיָה שָׁם  
 חַג שְׂמֵחָה הוּא לְעַם  
 נֵס גָּדוֹל הָיָה שָׁם

**S'VIVON**

S'vi-von sov sov sov  
 Ha-nu-ka hu hag tov  
 Ha-nu-ka hu hag tov  
 S'vi-von sov sov sov

gag sim·ha hu la-am  
 nes ga-dol ha-ya-sham  
 nes ga-dol ha-ya-sham  
 hag sim·ha hu la-am

**מִי יְמַלֵּיל**

מִי יְמַלֵּיל גְּבוּרוֹת יִשְׂרָאֵל  
 אוֹתָן מִי יִמְנֶה?  
 הֵן בְּכֹל דּוֹר יָקוּם הַגִּבּוֹר  
 גּוֹאֵל הָעָם.  
 שְׁמָע!

בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בְּזִמְן הַזֶּה  
 מִכַּבֵּי מוֹשִׁיָּע וּפּוֹדֵה  
 וּבְיָמֵינוּ כָּל עַם יִשְׂרָאֵל  
 יִתְאַחֵד, יָקוּם וַיְגַאֵל.

**MI Y'MALEIL**

Mi y'maleil g'vurot Yisrael;  
 Otan mee yimneh?  
 Hein b'khol dor yakum hagibor,  
 go'eil ha'am.  
 Sh'ma!

Bayamim haheim baz'man hazeh,  
 Makkabi moshiyah u'fodeh,  
 Uv'yameunu kol am Yisrael  
 Yit'ahed yakum v'yiga'el.

**THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE**

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine  
 This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine  
 This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine  
 Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

I'm gonna hold my light up in the air, I'm gonna let it shine  
 I'm gonna hold my light up in the air, I'm gonna let it shine  
 I'm gonna hold my light up in the air, I'm gonna let it shine  
 Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

I'm gonna take my light around the world, I'm gonna let it shine  
 I'm gonna take my light around the world, I'm gonna let it shine  
 I'm gonna take my light around the world, I'm gonna let it shine  
 Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

I won't let anyone woooosh it out, I'm gonna let it shine  
 I won't let anyone woooosh it out, I'm gonna let it shine  
 I won't let anyone woooosh it out, I'm gonna let it shine  
 Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!



**בְּאֵנוּ חוֹשֶׁךְ**

בְּאֵנוּ חוֹשֶׁךְ לְגִירָשׁ  
 בְּיָדֵינוּ אֹר וְאֵשׁ  
 כָּל אֶחָד הוּא אֹר קָטָן  
 וְכֻלָּנוּ אֹר אֵיתָן  
 סוּרָה חוֹשֶׁךְ הִלְאָה שְׁחֹר  
 סוּרָה מִפְּנֵי הָאֹר

Banu cho-she-ch leh-ga-rehsh  
 Beya-deinu ohr va'esh  
 Kol echad hu ohr katan  
 V'chu-lanu ohr eitan  
 Surah cho-shech hal-ah sh'chor  
 Surah mipnei haor

**BANU CHOSHECH**

Though the night is cold and dark.  
 In our soul, there lies a spark.  
 Each of us, is one small light.  
 All together, we shine bright.  
 Do a Mitzvah – light your spark.  
 Let your glow shine through the dark.  
 Do a Mitzvah – light your spark.  
 Let your soul shine through the dark

**DON'T LET THE LIGHT GO OUT**

Music Written by: Peter, Paul and Mary

Light one candle for the Maccabee children  
 With thanks that their light didn't die  
 Light one candle for the pain they endured  
 When their right to exist was denied  
 Light one candle for the terrible sacrifice  
 Justice and freedom demand  
 But light one candle for the wisdom to know  
 When the peacemaker's time is at hand

*Don't let the light go out!  
 It's lasted for so many years!  
 Don't let the light go out!  
 Let it shine through our love and our tears.*

Light one candle for the strength that we need  
 To never become our own foe  
 And light one candle for those who are suffering  
 Pain we learned so long ago  
 Light one candle for all we believe in  
 That anger not tear us apart  
 And light one candle to bind us together  
 With peace as the song in our hearts

*Don't let the light go out!  
 It's lasted for so many years!  
 Don't let the light go out!  
 Let it shine through our love and our tears.*

What is the memory that's valued so highly  
 That we keep it alive in that flame?  
 What's the commitment to those who have died  
 That we cry out they've not died in vain?  
 We have come this far always believing  
 That justice would somehow prevail  
 This is the burden, this is the promise  
 This is why we will not fail!

*Don't let the light go out!  
 It's lasted for so many years!  
 Don't let the light go out!  
 Let it shine through our love and our tears.*

*Don't let the light go out!  
 Don't let the light go out!  
 Don't let the light go out!*

**LOTS OF LATKES**

Music: based on English folk song "Chumbara"

Lots of latkes, lots of latkes, lots of latkes, Let's all eat 'em up!  
 S'vi-von sov sov, s'vi-von sov sov, s'vi-von sov sov, s'vi-von sov sov  
 Maccabee, maccabee, maccabee, maccabee, maccabee, maccabee

**1. Which do we light first, Shabbat candles or Chanukah candles?**

We light the Chanukah candles first. We do not light anything else after the Shabbat candles are lit.

**2. What is the difference between an American and an Israeli Dreidel?**

The American Dreidel has the letters: Nun, Gimel, Hay, Shin  
 “A Great Miracle Happened There”



The Israeli Dreidel has the letters: Nun, Gimel, Hay, Pay  
 “A Great Miracle Happened Here”



**3. When does Chanukah begin?**

Chanukah begins in the Hebrew month of Kislev and ends in the month of Tevet.

**4. Why is the story of Chanukah not mentioned in the Torah?**

The events that led up to the holiday happened after the Torah period in 164 B.C.E.

**5. How many candles does it take to observe all the nights of Chanukah?**

It takes 44 candles all together to observe all the nights of Chanukah.

**MENORAH**

The symbol of Israel and has 7 branches.  
 The menorah was used in the Temple.



**CHANUKAH**

Is used on Chanukah and has 9 branches.



The story takes place in Judea under the ruler Antiochus Epiphanes. He set laws and restrictions on the Jewish people, preventing them from practicing Judaism and forcing them to recognize Greek idols as gods. The Jewish community disagreed about what to do under this ruler. Some felt they should become “Hellenized” (like the Greeks) in order to preserve life, while others felt their rights were being denied and they had to fight against these restrictions. This caused a civil war among the Jewish community that created much strife.

In the neighboring town of Modin, Mattathias, the father of five sons, took action. He publicly refused to eat pork in the town square and bow down to idols. This started a rebellion, and he and his sons led a small band of Jews fighting for their rights. They hid in the mountains and defied the army of Antiochus. The fighting went on for three years, during which time Antiochus’ army took over the Temple in Jerusalem and defiled its sacred holiness.

The legend goes, eventually the small band of farmers overcame the strong army and were able to return to Jerusalem to reclaim their holy Temple. That good can overcome evil with perseverance and belief in God, is one of the most memorable lessons of Chanukah. When the Jews went back to the Temple, however, they were horrified to find that it had been desecrated and was in shambles. Their first task was to clean and reestablish this holy site and bring it back to its sacred state. It was during this time that the menorah was to be lit, but there was not enough oil. Miraculously, the tiny bit of oil they were able to find lasted an entire week. That was very convenient because that’s about how long it took to process a new batch of oil from the olive crop. The oil lasting for eight nights is the reason for the lighting of the Chanukah menorah today.





What would Chanukah be without an exhilarating game of dreidel? Grab your friends, your family, your dreidel and the tokens of your choice, roll up your sleeves and get ready for some dreidel fun!





### What you'll need:

- ✧ A dreidel
- ✧ Tokens (pennies, raisins, candy or peanuts, for example)
- ✧ A flat playing surface (floor or table)

### How to play:

1. Sit around the table or in a circle on the floor.
2. Everyone starts with the same number of tokens.
3. Each player puts one token in the center of the playing area (the pot).
4. Players take turns spinning the dreidel.

Use the chart below to determine what to do:

-  **NUN** – Player does nothing.
-  **GIMMEL** – Player takes all of the tokens in the pot.
-  **HEY** – Player takes half of the tokens in the pot.
-  **SHIN** – Player adds one token to the pot.

5. When there are fewer than two tokens in the pot, each player puts one more token in the pot.
6. Play continues until someone has all the tokens.

### DREIDEL ORIGIN

The dreidel reminds us of the miracle of Chanukah when a few drops of oil miraculously burned for eight days and nights after the Holy Temple was recaptured in 165 BCE.

The letters on the dreidel stand for the Hebrew words:

*Nes Gadol Hayah Sham*

“A great miracle happened here.”



## CHARLOTTE'S GRAVLAX

### Ingredients:

- 2 x 1 lb. pieces center cut salmon, skin on
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup Diamond Crystal kosher salt
- 1/4 cup black peppercorns- lightly smashed
- 1/8 cup whole coriander- lightly smashed
- 1 large bunch dill chopped
- 1/8 cup aquavit(optional- can substitute gin, citrus or pepper flavored vodka)

### Directions:

1. Combine sugar, salt, peppercorns and coriander. Rub all over both of the fleshy sides of salmon. Place one side, skin side down in bottom of container. Sprinkle aquavit or other alcohol on both sides. Put dill on top of first side. Put other side on top of first side, flesh side down. Cover with plastic wrap. Put another container on top. Place heavy cans on top container to weigh down fish. Refrigerate for 2- 3 days. Flip fish daily. Make sure to reapply wrap and heavy cans.
2. Brush off most of seasoning. Slice thin horizontal pieces almost parallel to the skin. You can swirl the fish in the liquid pooled on the container for extra flavor.

### Optional Mustard Sauce Recipe:

Equal parts honey mustard and coarse mustard thinned by a small amount of white wine vinegar and a small amount of mild flavored oil such as canola or avocado plus some chopped fresh dill and freshly ground pepper.



## CHARLOTTE'S POTATO LATKES

### Ingredients:

- 7 baking potatoes, peeled and shredded
- 2 large onions, finely chopped
- 4 eggs, beaten
- 2 egg whites, beaten
- ½ cup to 1 cup flour
- salt and pepper
- oil for frying (I like an olive oil/canola blend)

### Directions:

1. Squeeze out any excess water from potatoes and from onions after shredded and chopped.
2. Combine potatoes, onions, eggs and egg whites, flour, salt and pepper. Squeeze again as you form latkes.
3. Fry in sizzling oil until golden on each side.
4. Drain on newspaper.

**Makes 40-50 Small Latkes.**

**Serving suggestion:** Serve with applesauce, sour cream, yogurt, etc.

Enjoy!

*Recipes courtesy of Charlotte Sasso, member of JCOH and Secretary on our Board of Trustees.*



## APPLESAUCE

### Ingredients:

- 6 apples (2 Golden Delicious, 2 McIntosh, 2 Granny Smith), peeled and cut into wedges
- Juice of half of 1 lemon
- 1 cup apple cider
- 2 Tbsp. granulated sugar
- 1 Tbsp. brown sugar

### Directions:

1. Place all ingredients into a saucepan.
2. Bring to a boil and simmer for 15 minutes or until soft.
3. Remove the pan from the heat.
4. Mash the mixture with a fork and leave chunky.

**Serving suggestion:** Allow to cool, then serve with your potato latkes.



## SUFGANIYOT (ISRAELI JELLY DOUGHNUTS)

*Adapted from Joan Nathan's "The Children's Jewish Holiday Kitchen"*

### Ingredients:

- 1 packet dry yeast (1 tablespoon)
- 4 Tbsp. sugar
- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup lukewarm milk or water
- 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  cups all-purpose flour
- 1 pinch of salt
- 1 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 2 eggs, separated
- 2 Tbsp. butter or margarine, softened
- Preserves or jelly of your choice
- Canola oil for frying
- Extra sugar for coating

### Directions:

1. Combine yeast, 2 tablespoons of sugar and the milk. Let sit to make sure it bubbles. Then, sift the flour and mix it with the remaining 2 tablespoons of sugar, salt, cinnamon, egg yolks and yeast mixture.
2. Knead the dough until it forms a ball. Add butter until well absorbed. Cover with a towel and allow dough to rise overnight in the refrigerator. Roll out the dough to a thickness of  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch.
3. Cut out the dough into 24 rounds with a glass or bowl. Place  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon of preserves in the center of half the rounds. Top with a round of dough (as if to make mini sandwiches). Close the edges with egg white, crimping firmly to seal. Let rise for 30 minutes.
4. Heat about 2 inches of oil to about 375° F, frying about 5 doughnuts at a time. Drain on paper towels. Roll fresh doughnuts in sugar.

**Makes 12 Sufganiyot.**







# LET'S DINE TOGETHER!

.....

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11 | 6:30PM

.....

Join us as we gather to support one another through the winter months. On each of these dates, we will meet at an East Hampton restaurant for dinner and sisterhood. Each participant is responsible for their own tab. The restaurant to be determined by how many will be joining. Reservations will be made two weeks in advance, so please send your response to [cantor@jcoh.org](mailto:cantor@jcoh.org)

.....

UPCOMING WOMEN'S DINE AROUND DATE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15 | 6:30PM

.....

**GENERAL  
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**Lori Maslow**  
**Barbara Klein**  
**Darlene Kleiner & Martin Kern**  
 in memory of Lloyd Macklowe  
**Stephanie Goldstone**  
**Vanessa & Darryl Frank**  
**Andrea Ganz-Vogel**  
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**Ronnie Jankoff**  
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 in memory of Janice Tainiter  
**Frank Lasusa**  
**Valerie Street**  
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*Thank you for your  
generous support.*

*Wishing you peace,  
love and light  
throughout this  
glorious Festival  
of Lights*

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Join Us!  
**Pop-Up Chanukah**  
 DECEMBER 25 - JANUARY 1





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