



## *A Message From the Rabbi*

### **Judaism Models Altruistic Behavior**

Among our post-biblical observances is the Fifteenth of Shevat--Jewish Arbor Day, also known as Tu B'Shevat. It is described in the Talmud as The New Year for Trees, the time when the planting of seedlings begins in Israel. Mystics sought to give the festival deeper meaning, and one Talmudic story told often in relation to this observance describes a young man who came upon an elderly man who was planting a tree that would not bear fruit for many years, when the older man would certainly no longer be alive. The passerby asked, "Why are you planting a tree the fruit of which you will not live to enjoy?" The elderly man replied. "Previous generations planted trees the fruit of which I enjoy, so I am planting for future generations."



This story speaks to our concerns over the growing national and state governmental deficits that are going to be such a financial burden for future generations. People want lower taxes and no compromise to entitlements or diminution of government spending on services to which they accustomed. Too many people are just concerned with themselves and have no concern "to plant fruit-bearing trees for future generations."

A major purpose of religion is to socialize us to be less selfish and more concerned with the welfare of others. Judaism teaches about *chesed*--behavior characterized by loving-kindness. The Jewish ideal is for a person to become a *tzaddik*--a righteous person, one who personifies an altruistic way of being in the world.

Many of us are disillusioned by the greedy, self-oriented manner of people we come across. We are witnessing the undoing of the middle class as we know it, because of the greed and selfishness of those who take advantage of others and are only concerned with their own desires.

Congregational life teaches the profound messages of our tradition and provides opportunity to grow spiritually and to relate with others who share in our desire to prioritize character development over more mundane self-serving pursuits.

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Moses could have been concerned only with himself and ignored the plight of the Israelites. Instead he becomes a model of righteousness and redemptiveness.

The deepest possible fulfillment in life comes from serving others. Let us open our hearts to the highest ideals of Jewish life.

Best wishes in the New Year!

*David Oler*

Rabbi David Oler

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## Welcome New Members

A warm welcome to our new members

**Jim and Jackie Sondell**



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Congratulations to

**Howard and Debbie Teitelbaum**

on the birth of their first grandchild



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Visit the Kadima web site: [www.nrck.org](http://www.nrck.org)

Contact the temple at any time by e-mail at [office@nrck.org](mailto:office@nrck.org) or by phone at 847-229-9500

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## Patrons and Sustaining Members

Patrons and Sustaining Members generously choose to pay special dues that make it possible for the congregation to assist members who find it difficult to pay full dues or school fees.

Please consider becoming a Patron or Sustaining Member.

Patron: \$6,000  
Sustaining: \$4,400  
Sustaining Single: \$3,000

*Patrons:*

**Jack Henkin & Louise Pearson**

**Al & Bobbie Levine**

**Dr. Scott & Amy Taxman**

**Howard & Debbie Teitelbaum**

**Avers & Gloria Wexler**

*Sustaining Members:*

**Warren & Ellen Schoen**

**Scott Warren**



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## ***From the Executive Vice President***

"Try it...you'll like it!"... and ..."Like chicken soup...it couldn't hurt!"

Greetings. Many of us grew up hearing those expressions in commercials; and then, like many commercials, they became part of our everyday expressions. That said, I am going to ask those of you who have not been to Shabbat services or attended a board meeting to give them a try.

Shabbat services are a wonderful way to disconnect from the mundane week that just ended, and spend some time with your fellow congregants. With the combination of the service and adult education Torah class, we have had some very interesting discussions that often continue on during the Oneg afterward. Please give some thought as to having a new start to your weekend by coming to our services.

The monthly board meetings are another way to learn about and be involved in your congregation. All are welcome to attend and give their input. Many of the programs and projects we have undertaken have been the result of your suggestions. Suggestions are always welcome, but we often need help with the execution and administration of those projects. Board meetings are open to all members. Most of the meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month. This is your congregation and it is important that we hear your thoughts and feelings. As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email me at: [brucehirsh@gmail.com](mailto:brucehirsh@gmail.com).

Please help us to grow with your active participation..."it couldn't hurt!"

Bruce Hirsh

### **Would you like to sponsor an Oneg?**



Any member can host an Oneg Shabbat. Mark a special occasion such as a birthday, baby naming, anniversary, Bar or Bat Mitzvah, or...just because.

Contact Linda Hirsh at  
[lindabeth903@hotmail.com](mailto:lindabeth903@hotmail.com)

### **When someone is sick....**

Rabbi Oler requests that if you are being hospitalized or know of someone in the congregation who is going to be, please contact him at



[davidoler@nrck.org](mailto:davidoler@nrck.org)

or call the Kadima office at  
847-229-9500.

## *A Message from the Principal*

On these cold January nights, when I'm not driving my children to basketball or dance practice, I'm already looking at glossy brochures that arrived months ago and figuring out what summer camps and classes they'll attend this summer. If you're doing the same, I want to make a pitch for Congregation Kadima's Youth Service Camp, open to students entering sixth grade and older. We'll be meeting June 13-17, the week after school ends for most of our children.

Summer is a great time for sports and fun, but it's also a great time for our children to help others and do something to address the pressing problems of our community; and our children, many of whom are returning for another season, have found this is one of the best ways to find fun and satisfaction. Those who sign up early can participate in choosing our projects. Last year these included baking dog biscuits and playing with the animals at the Orphans of the Storm shelter, running a lemonade stand to benefit Childhood Leukemia research, visiting the PAWS shelter in the city, collecting non-perishable food for the Deerfield Food Pantry and helping disabled adults participate in the summer Olympics at the Center for Enriched Living. The students also plan some fun activities to round out their week together, like playing mini-golf and going out for pizza.

We are fortunate to have Marc Shapiro and Yelena Kalugina's home in Northbrook as our base again this summer. With their sons Daniel and Jake, they make us feel very welcome, and the children and teens enjoy fixing snacks in their kitchen, playing with the cat and jumping on the trampoline between work sessions. It's a relaxed, friendly and creative environment that we all enjoy.

In keeping with our tradition, the adult leaders volunteer their time and there is no fee for participating in service camp. Students will need a small amount of spending money for lunches out (some days we all brown bag our lunch) and for recreational activities, and we ask families to make a donation for our supplies if they are able.

We try to be flexible regarding the students' schedules. Some students attend summer school and so join us for the afternoons; others come for part of the week if they are going on vacation, or leave early on the days they have a ball game. We understand how summer is, and we try to work with anyone who wants to join in community service. Friends are welcome, and some have returned for subsequent seasons and really become part of the group.

Several of our students have used the camp as the core of their Mitzvah project or to fulfill community service requirements for school or honorary societies. We're proud that a number of our students really became devoted community volunteers and were recognized by the Optimist Club for their contributions.

If you have questions or want to sign up or serve as an adult helper on one or more days, please contact me.

Shalom,

Mary Oler

## **Congregational Happenings**

### **Tu B'Shevat**

**January 21, 2011  
7:15 p.m.**



In celebration of Tu B'Shevat, please join us for a community dinner at  
Jimmy's Charhouse in Riverwoods

Adults: \$15, Children 12 and under: \$8, 3 and under: No charge  
Reserve at [office@nrck.org](mailto:office@nrck.org).

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### **Family Shabbat Service and Dinner February 25, 2011 6:30 p.m.**

Jimmy's Charhouse in Riverwoods

Adults: \$15, Children 12 and under: \$8, 3 and under: No charge  
Reserve at [office@nrck.org](mailto:office@nrck.org).

*There will be no Religious School or Adult Education that evening.*

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### **Adult Education**

Adult education classes are held on Friday evenings at the Shepard School in Deerfield. Jack Henkin teaches Hebrew from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Torah study continues with the Rabbi as part of the Shabbat services beginning at 7:30 p.m.

## Bar Mitzvah



### Chase Frankel

January 22, 2011

4:30 p.m.

Unitarian Building, Deerfield

Chase Frankel attends seventh grade at Wood Oaks Middle School in Northbrook where he was recently honored as “Student of the Month.” Chase is a passionate follower of Tom Skilling (WGN meteorologist) and enjoys interpreting radar weather models in order to formulate his own weather predictions. His ultimate goal is to become a meteorologist. Friends and family rely on Chase for the weather report. Chase has an inquisitive mind, always wanting to know the “facts and why.” His favorite reading material is “Wikipedia” where he is also a contributor. He often visits his grandparents where he engages his 85 year old grandfather in political conversation and his 79 year old grandmother about medicine. He loves people and seldom is without a smile. He shares a unique sense of humor with his mother that only they understand. He often drives on long road trips with his father; regardless of the destination it is the journey he enjoys.

*Congratulations to Chase and his family!*

*All members of Kadima are invited to come and celebrate this milestone with the Frankels*

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### Dedicate a Service Booklet

A lovely and meaningful opportunity to honor someone special to you:  
Dedicate one of Kadima’s new service booklets to a loved one.

See page 8 for details and an order form.

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### Winter Clothing Drive

The winter clothing drive continues throughout January.  
Members may bring outerwear to Religious School or to services.

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The congregation has so far made \$800 through members doing business with Allura Jewelers of Highland Park. Mentioning Kadima at a sale or purchase will result in a contribution to Kadima.

The congregation received the following letter from Sedgebrook Community thanking us for activities involving residents there:

October 7, 2010

Rabbi David Oler, Ph. D.  
New Reform Congregation Kadima  
Deerfield, Illinois 60015

Dear Rabbi Oler,

Thank you so much for the wonderful ways you and your congregation have helped this community. I greatly regret my delay in getting this letter to you, but I want so much to thank you all for your kind and generous efforts to contribute your time and energy to the religious and pastoral care needs of our Jewish residents here at Sedgebrook. You have provided much assistance in a very short period of time, with grace, hospitality, and commitment. We are so grateful for all you and your congregants have done for our residents.

I am so moved by the care and dedication with which Bruce Hirsh and Leonard Schneider offered their leadership for the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services in Renaissance Gardens, our assisted living and skilled nursing facility. The leaders of our Jewish Council are aware of, and grateful for, the efforts to bring a quality religious service to those who had few other options due to illness. I am also grateful for Linda Hirsh's offer to become a "Listener" for those in Renaissance Gardens who can spiritually benefit from a caring, listening presence.

The actions your congregation has taken to help us address the spiritual needs of Jewish residents are inspiring. May the Holy One bless you and your congregation for all you have done here and bless your ministries here in the future. We look forward to a long and rich collaboration with New Reform Congregation Kadima.

Peace,

Janna Born Larsen, JD, MATS  
Pastoral Ministries Manager and Chaplain  
Sedgebrook Community

Kadima plans to continue its involvement with Sedgebrook. Please contact the office at 847-229-9500 if you would like to participate in future activities with them.

## Dedicate a Service Booklet in Honor or in Memory of a Loved One

Our congregation has recently published new booklets for the regular Shabbat and the Family Shabbat services and for Bar and Bat Mitzvah services. Members may dedicate these booklets in honor or in memory of loved ones, and these dedications will be recorded on beautiful bookplates specially created for us. The cost of dedicating a Shabbat or Family Shabbat booklet is \$18 each, and dedication of a Bar/Bat Mitzvah booklet is \$25 each.

If you would like to participate, please fill in the form below and mail with your check to:

The New Reform Congregation Kadima  
P.O. Box 1722  
Deerfield, IL 60015

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I would like to dedicate the following:  
(Please print)

\_\_\_\_\_ Shabbat booklet(s)  
(number)

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Family Shabbat booklet(s)

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Bar/Bat Mitzvah booklet(s)

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \_\_\_\_\_