The Bulletin

January 2023 8 Tevet, 5783 Volume 88, Issue 4



Jewish Gospel Comes to Fort Worth

CONGREGATION AHAVATH SHOLOM

Renowned Jewish singer Joshua Nelson and the Kosher Gospel Singers come to Fort Worth for MLK weekend.

Joshua Nelson and the Kosher Gospel Singers bring people and cultures together in joyous song.

Contact Dan Sturman: 817-996-9424

Rabbi Z Is Turning 90

Rabbi Zimelman's 90th birthday celebrated with a special Kiddush Luncheon

January 28, 2023

Join CAS in honoring Rabbi Zimelman's birthday with a special Kiddush Lunch. He joined CAS as Rabbi and subsequently retired in Fort Worth where he has continued to volunteer as Torah reader and scholar, teacher, and integral part of our congregational family.

You can show your thanks to our very special Rabbi by becoming a Sponsor (\$100) or Donor (\$500) All donations are welcome and will be listed for this very wonderful occasion.

Inside this issue

Lifelong Learning2
Fani's Gems2
Rabbi Chat3
Schedule of Services3
Kiddush Lunch4
We Celebrate4
Israel at 754
President's Thoughts5
Join the Fun5
Special points of interest
E sette Mission Ouline Oul

- Evening Minyans: Online Only
- LEC back in Session
- Rabbi's classes back in Session
- Opportunities to engage with CAS

Learning: a lifelong occupation

Enjoy these CAS opportunities with your friends

Rabbi Adult sessions: The Torah within us & the connection with the past and the present.

- Tues,, January 10: 10:30 am & 6:30 pm
 - And each Tuesday following



Learníng & Engagement Center

- Classes **resume** Sunday, January 8 at 9:30 am
- No School January 15. MLK Holiday

Confirmation Class

- January 8 at 11:30 am
- January 29 at 11:30am



Shalom Kehilah,

Kislev is the ninth month on the Jewish calendar, counting from the month of Nisan. It is best

known for the holiday of Chanukah, which begins on the 25th day of Kislev.

The message of Chanukah is the eternal power of light over candles in the Chanukiah (for educational purposes), sang darkness and freedom over tyranny. Chanukah songs, awarded of prizes to the winning teams

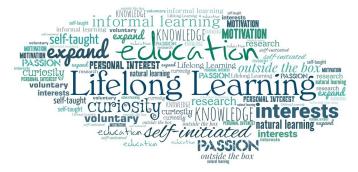
For us at the LEC, it came and went in a flash as Kislev was a month full of activities, light, candles, clay dreidels, plastic dreidels, chocolate gelt, sweets and treats, singing, and Sufganiyot.

Our mission at the LEC is to create a place for our students to explore Judaism and their Jewish identity through our curriculum with our talented educators' creative spirits.

This December, our students enjoyed an unconventional Chanukah challenge:

The students learned all about Chanukah as their focused curriculum topic on the first week of December, in their respective classes and then, this last week, LEC held a truly fun challenge competition: "The Chanukah Amazing Race"!

Learning 2023



CAS takes lifelong learning seriously and with much joy. Come join the fun for all from preschoolers to High Schoolers with the Learning & Engagement Center on Sundays and for adults with Rabbi Bloom on Tuesdays at 10:30 am and again on Tuesdays at 6:30 pm.

Confirmation Classes explore the questions of "Who am I?" "Where do I fit in?" What should I do with my life?"

Not bad topics for adults, too. Come meet with the Rabbi to explore current topics and what the Torah might have to say about how we as adults could lead our lives. See you soon!

> Based on the TV show "The Amazing Race", teams had to complete physical and knowledge-based challenges related to Chanukah in a giant race to the final checkpoint.

We finished our Chanukah party by lighting the candles in the Chanukiah (for educational purposes), sang Chanukah songs, awarded of prizes to the winning teams and the best part: We all enjoyed eating Sufganiyot (jelly donuts).

For our youngest group we had a special program from the PJ Library. Many thanks go to Cindy Simon from Jewish Federation of Fort Worth & Tarrant County for a wonderful Chanukah activity with stories, songs and an edible Chanukiah.

I wish you, your family, and your loved ones near and far A Happy New Year, a blessed secular 2023.

Beh'Shalom! Fani Kiselstein, LEC Principal, CAS Learning and Engagement Center lec@ahavathsholom.org



New Year Resolutions:

Dear Friends,

The American New Year is here, and while as Jews we don't celebrate January 1 as our New Year, this time of year does make me think about life. I get caught up thinking about the "New Year's vows" that people make every year and about their "new beginnings." My question to those who do make vows is why are vows made? Do people intend to keep them, or have the vows simply become part of their New Year's celebrations, like the drinking of champagne, the first kiss, the signing of "Auld Lang Syne"? If so, then what good are these vows?

In Judaism vows or promises or nedrim are taken much more seriously than those we make on New Year's Eve. For example, in the first book of Samuel, chapter one verse eleven, we read about Hanna who was childless and desperately wanted a child. Hanna's prayer and vow to the Lord reads: "And she vowed a vow, and said, O Lord of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thy handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thy handmaid, but wilt give to thy handmaid a man child, then I will give him to the Lord all the days of his life "Later in the story, even though it must have been terribly hard for Hanna to let go of her son, she sent him to serve God by serving the high priest Eli. In the end we know that Samuel became the last great prophet.

As we see, a *neder* is something that is very hard to break, even when the promise itself is very painful. A person can only be relieved of his/her vow or promise by way of a special religious ceremony requiring a religious authority such as a rabbi. This fact is the reason that many religious Jews, when asked a question, answer by saying "*bli neder*" (literally translated "without a vow"). In other words, I hope, but I don't want to promise.

Which system is better -- the New Year's vows which cause those who make them to consider change if only for a fleeting moment, but does not necessarily result in action, or the Jewish neder, which demands both thought and action? Would people who make New Year's vows, even under the influence of New Year's cheer, make them if they knew that they would be held to them?

Think what the consequences could be. I believe that even the best, brightest, and most dedicated individuals would be fearful of not living up to their word. For example, do you think that any high-priced ballplayers would agree to be paid their multi-million dollar salaries contingent upon how well they play during the upcoming year? Would Met outfielder Carlos Beltran have been willing to pro-rate his contract on the promise or vow to hit a certain number of homeruns and advance runners in scoring position? If so, after last year's disaster of a season, he would have lost a large part of his \$20 million salary (that being ridiculous in and of itself).

If keeping promises is so difficult, no matter if they are made on New Year's or any other time, one might start to ask oneself if any promise is worth making. In the end, I would say yes. Currently I am reading a very good book by Naomi Levy, called *To Begin Again: The Journey Toward Comfort, Strength, and Faith in Difficult Times.* Her book talks about recovery after personal loss. It discusses not only dealing with loss, but also making a promise to keep on living even when faced with great personal tragedies.

What does the promise of life entail? In essence it entails the most difficult but basic of actions: the opening of our eyes. This sounds basic, for don't we open our eyes every day? The answer to this is actually no; we don't open our eyes every day. We might physically open them, but what about spiritually? Spiritually I am not too sure. We go to synagogue, but do we really pray? We listen, but do we really learn what the words and the melodies are trying to teach us? Is the welcoming of the Sabbath Queen a sincere welcome? Are our hearts open to her? Does her beauty and the beauty of Shabbat move us? Do we even believe in the Sabbath Queen?

My answer is that we should strive to believe, we should attempt open up our minds and hearts and, most importantly, our eyes. We may see what is in front of us. We should look for the beauty of what is inside each and every one of us. Is not the beauty of our lives and our surroundings proof enough for us that there is a God? In my humble opinion it is! Therefore, I suggest to those who are thinking of making New Year's vows to rather make a *neder* to open our eyes to Judaism, to religiosity, to spirituality, to prayer and to our personal growth as human beings and as Jews.

Let me end with a prayer from Naomi Levy's book. "Open my eyes, God. Help me to perceive what I have ignored, to uncover what I have forsaken, to find what I have been searching for. Remind me that I don't have to journey far to discover something new, for miracles surround me, blessings and holiness abound. And You are near. Amen." I hope and pray that all of us will be able to fulfill this kind of vow and that our eyes will be opened.

> B'Shalom and friendship, Rabbi Andrew Bloom

Schedule of Services Most in-person and online • Morning Minyan: M—F

- 6:55 am
- 9:00 am National Holidays
- 6:45 am Rosh Chodesh
- Evening Minyan: M– Th
 - 6:00 pm
 - Online Only
- Kabbalat Shabbat: Friday
 - 6:00 pm

Shabbat Morning

• 9:30 am

Yahrzeits—We Remember

Sun., Jan. 1 8 Tevet David Benson Harold Gilbert Robert Greer Maxine Jacobson Ruth Maizlish Harry Marks **Eugene Redlich** Lillian Youngworth Schalop Mollie Singer Mon., Jan. 2 9 Tevet Sophie Appel Rose Dworkin Chazanow Norris Cole Martin Herzog Bert Kutler Isadore Persky Motel Weingarten Tue., Jan 3 10 Tevet Etta Hamill Barrett Leo Brandt Esther Leventhal Morris Levine Anne Pierce Marks David J. Schwartz Marsha Stein Freida Weinstein Wed., Jan. 4 11 Tevet Anne Klimist Carr Clara Klein lack Nebrat Jane Rosenthal Thu., Jan. 5 12 Tevet Marie Adams Sarah Schultz Ansel Adrienne Hannah Asher Dr. Irving Dollinger Aaron Goldberg Sarah Greines Esther Grvder Esther Coplin Lidell Isaac Miller **Eugene Orosz** David Reznikoff Sylvia Silansky Ida Bott Zimelman Fri., Jan. 6 13 Tevet **Betty Bienstock** Esther Goldstein Harry Green Ben Laves Leo Lipshitz Mitchell Hunter McDonald Barbara Ray Goodstein Rubin Sat., Jan. 7 14 Tevet Susan Breacher Bernice Garoon Mendell Givant Ida Givant

Alex Hesselson Don Howard George Levy Helen Liebling David L. Ortenberg Morris Schreiber Hvman Schuster Sun., Jan. 8 15 Tevet Dr. Sidney Cohen Aberaham Goldman William W. Goldstein Hyman Kornbleet Hannah Sandler Sol Suskin Mon., Jan. 9 16 Tevet David Horn Helen Isgur Alvin (Al) Kaplan Louis Katz **Tobias Oruch Ernest Schwarz Ruth Tovin** Hanna Widerhorn Tue., Jan. 10 17 Tevet Samuel Davis L.G. Gilbert Harry Murad Minna Shosid Wed., Jan. 11 18 Tevet Elliott Appel Mary Frumkin "Frank" Aranow Alfred "Shuggie" Cohen Jack Gerrick Dave Hyman Lewis Lena Lurie **Robert Mothner** Morris Star Amparo Valdez Max Weinberg Dorene Zilberg Thu., Jan. 12 19 Tevet Pepi Perl Birnfeld Avadic Harry Blackstone Rebecca Finkelstein Dr. William N. Goone Irvin Gratch Nettie Klemow Andrew Kutler Solomon Kutler Gedaliah Pereversky Nettie Bender Petrofsky Abraham Rothfleish **Beatrice Schwartz** Fri., Jan. 13 20 Tevet Nettie Bailin Marilou Berman Mary Schuster Friedman Mona Golin Max Greenberg Hannah Weber Sandler

Sylvia Schweiger Sat., Jan. 14 21 Tevet Stanley Barnett David Falkowitz **Bessie Fendler** Aaron Rovinsky **Rebecca Laves Victor** Sun., Jan. 15 22 Tevet **Tessie Gratch** Sophie Rosenfeld Gratch George Joseph Blanche Attias Karsner Mike Rovinsky Max Rubin Irv Solomon Joseph Wolffson Malakah Zahirpour Mon., Jan. 16 23 Tevet Julius Bailin Louis Engler Lyusya Gutman Falkovich Rabbi Philip Graubart Lola Kantor Benjamin Kaplan Irvin Leva Rose Luskey Norma Preston Charles K. Raker Hyman Sankary Leroy Solomon **Barry Stern** Tue., Jan. 17 24 Tevet Abraham Baum William Beleck Charlsa Sarvis Church Morris Cohen Louis Engelberg Jerome Kantor Sylvia Krakover Rose Label **Robert Gary Margolis** Dr. Philip Sheinberg Wed., Jan. 18 25 Tevet Arlene Berman Anne Cohen Elmer Hyman Collier Lieba Deborah Daiches Samuel Steve Deifik Lillie Herman Deutch Anna Gurkoff Abe Hertz Yale Kahalnik Clara Notik Julius Solomon Thu., Jan, 19 26 Tevet Leopold Cohen **Rose Fuller** Jeno Lacko Sara Lysyansky Jennie Motley

Ethel Walensky Edward Wecker Fri., Jan. 20 27 Tevet Julius Cohn Easer Falkowitz **Stanley Feinberg** Anna Friedman Florine Green Lane Sophya Nosanovskaya Gertrude Pozez Dena Rabinowitz Sophie Rovinsky Leland Vermillion Morris Weinberg Leon Weingarten Sat., Jan. 21 28 Tevet Gad Cuperman Jerome Feldstein Robert Greer Arthur Irving Hofstein Patricia Linn Myer Oberstein **Pauline Oberstein** Nancy Bernstein Rakoover Doris Smith Bertha Wolf Sarah Zodon Sun., Jan. 22 29 Tevet Lillie Cohen Anton Harriet Hava Belcher Hilda Blum Abraham "Abe" Cohen Blanche Abrams Goldberg Sidney Korenman Sidney Skibell Norman Spigel Dror Tadmor Bernard Youngworth Mon., Jan. 23 1 Shevat Nathan Ginsberg Jacob Goldberg Harold Goodman Gertie Salsberg Lillian Brod Towne Tue., Jan. 24 2 Shevat Yetta Fein Elisa Mitrani Leslie Moss Harry Rovinsky Isidor Sack Wed., Jan. 25 3 Shevat Julius Cohen Eli Echert **Bella Falkovich** Burnhardt Fane Helen Friedman Esther Gryder Lynne Gurkoff Norman W. Rudman Sam Simon

Thu., Jan. 26 4 Shevat Herbert Blackman Ida Goldstein Nat Grav Abe Mitchel Herman Martin Pawgan **Eleanor Rapport** Joseph Sher Bella Victor Harris Zuckerman Fri., Jan. 27 5 Shevat Ann Kirschner Bogart Joseph C. Jacobs Emanuel Kaikov David Morris Sat., Jan. 28 6 Shevat Leo Berman Carol Ann Birdsong Marcia Bockstein Eva Cooper Saul Gresky Irving Levinson Jerry Paul Ike Sandler Sun., Jan. 29 7 Shevat Arien Z. Desrosier Marcos Hazan-Cohen Lillian Klotzman **Richard LeVine** Murray Pliskin Sol (Sine) Stepinoff Gertrud Levin Weinstein Mon., Jan. 30 8 Shevat Irwin Harold Blum **Donald Herman** Diana Karsner Levin Ken Meer Aaron Sandler Tue., Jan. 31 9 Shevat Rachel Leah Bernstein Nathan Falkowitz Jacob Goodstein Lena Persky Max Robin **Baruch Vinokurov**

Todah Rabbah

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Yahrzeit In Loving Memory of

Max & Mollie Barnett Ella Brachman Howard Rog Joseph Sher Leroy Solomon Marvin Seltzer Nettie Petrofsky, Irvin Gratch, Tessie Gratch, Sophie Gratch In Honor of Rabbi Bloom **Bearden Family**

Laurie & Lon Werner Laurie & Lon Werner **Regina Rog** Sandra Richard Paul & Debra Solomon Howard Seltzer Stephen & Frances Gratch

Dr. Phillip Cohen David Dropkin Marcia, Aaron & Dr. Harold Malofsky

Norris & Georgia Cole

Elsie Blum Catering

<u>Cemetery Operating Fund</u>

Elijah Fund: In loving memory

Guiding Stars Jacob & Kate Garston

Drs. Murray & Elizabeth Cohen

Jetti, Howard, & David Cole

James & Faye Cohen Yahrzeit In Loving Memory of

Norman Spigel Mendell Givant Ida Givant Shirley Berman Ann Pierce Marks Dr. Sidney Cohen Anne Cohen Sidney Korenman Ethel Meltzer Chevra Kadisha Fund Earl Givant

Barbara Spigel Shirley Givant Shirley Givant Joseph & Julie Berman **Richard Marks** Judith Cohen Lynne Markham Casey Shirley Korenman Robert G. Meltzer, MD In Loving Memory of

Shirley & Michael Givant

Dave Klimist Cemetery Beautification Fund

Yahrzeit In Loving Memory	
Regina Skibell	Ruth Hendelman
Joe Weisman Hirsch	Jeanie Huffman
Frank & Goldie Greenbaum	Shirley Herman
Diana A. Levin	Richard Levin
Dr. William J. Bearman	Louise & Judd Vermillion
Rev. Leland A. Vermillion	Louise & Judd Vermillion

Garsek Patriot Garden Fund: In Memory of:

Michele Nations

Bimah Flower Sponsors

Eddy Nations

Dr. William J. Bearman Rev. Leland A. Vermillion Nettie Petrofsky, Irvin Gratch, Tessie Gratch, Sophie Gratch

Louise & Judd Vermillion Louise & Judd Vermillion Stephen & Frances Gratch

General Operating Fund

In Honor of Dr. & Mrs. Louis Cristol Joshua Nelson Concert Yahrzeit In Loving Memory of **Bessie Fendler** Barbara Goodstein Rubin Jacob Goodstein Sonia Chelminsky Stanley Kaye

Dr. & Mrs. Harold Malofsky Jim Stanton

Karen & Rick Savitz Janice Rubin Janice Rubin Linda & Arthur Moses Valerie & Stephen Kaye

Religious Education Fund Yarhzeits

In Loving Memory of Ann Lidell Mark & Diane Lidell Howard Rog Rebekah & Jason Seiden **Tiffany Johnson** Elizabeth Johnson Anna Zodin, Ehrym Zodin Ceil Canter David Canter Bernard & Nettie Blum Berliner Carol Berliner Blackwell

Kiddush Luncheon Donors

Mary Frances Antweil -Happy Birthday

In Loving Memory of

Viqui Litman

Debby Berliner Hoffman,

Carole Rogers, Roz Rosenthal, Gail Granek, Margie Glazer

Karen & Rick Savitz Rebecca & Stuart Isgur

Many Thanks

Kiddush Luncheon Donors & Sponsors

December 10 * IM of Vigui Litman **Francine Schultze** Rebecca & Stuart Isgur

December 17 * IM of Ida Reznikoff Mike Reznikoff, Janet Williamson

* Happy Birthday Mary Frances Antweil **Carole Rogers**

* Happy Birthday Dan & LaJean Sturman Hedy Collins, Gail Granek, Carole Rogers

* Happy Birthday to us LaJean & Dan Sturman

Shabbat Greeters

Diana Weinberg

Jim Stanton

Joyce Abramowitz

Regina Rog

Deep in the Heart: Israel at 75



This T-shirt says it best!!

Bernie Appel, years ago, Jerusalem's Western Wall

Kiddush Luncheons: Food for the Jewish Soul

CAS Celebrates each Shabbat with a convivial Shabbat lunch; Kiddush table, tasty food and drink, interesting and wide-ranging discussions from Torah to current events.

Looking forward to 2023, CAS will continue innovative menus, beautiful settings, and some surprises, too.

Here are some ways to help:

- Come on Shabbat and join the fun
- Eat, schmooze, and enjoy .
- Re-connect with folks •
- Contribute to CAS for Kiddush Lunch: Contact Suzi Gardner CAS 817-731-4721
- Contribute to the Elijah Fund, "Let

We Celebrate:

49

26

23

3

13

- Jerry & Robin Stein 1 Myron & Rhonda Krupp 2
- Ariel & Faina Feldman 5 Kfir & Eua Drey 6
- Sandra Williams Tommy Paul Beau Tinnin **Charles Paley**

1

5

6

- 7
- 9 Jerry Stein 13 Hedy Collins
 - Eliana Hayward
- 19 Arnold Barkman Harry Labovitz Regina Rog Gary Stoddard Mel Garsek 20 Steve Nudleman Allen Schuster Rabbi Sidney Zimellman Molly Corso 21 Loli Kantor Saul Sheddy

all who are hungry, come and eat." Contact Suzi Gardner, CAS 817-731-4721

- Engage the CAS Catering Committee for all your celebrations: Contact Rhonda Krupp 682-429-4210
- Don't forget all the other fun and food occasions at CAS for 2023:
- Holidays, special programs, and "just because we like to be together."



Anniversaries

Marvin & Laurie Blum	44
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- 25 Larry & Elaine Daiches 53
- 26 Lewis & Josephine Bassist 34

Birthdays

- Nancy Faigin 22 Daniel Goldstein Julia Lederman
- 26 Aleksandr Gershengoren
- Daniel Sherwin 28 Alon Schwartz 29 Arlene Lamark
 - Alvin Luskey Rebecca Isgur

Fort Worth Jewish Archives



DEEP IN THE HEART: ISRAEL AT 75

The FW Jewish Archives will celebrate Israel's 75th birthday with an exhibit this spring that illustrates our ties to Eretz Yisrael.

Do you have group photos from a journey to Israel -- perhaps from a Federation Mission, a Hadassah MOMentum Trip, a Youth Group visit, or Rabbi Bloom's family trip? Do you have pictures of yourself standing at some iconic spot like the Western Wall or Massada? If so, please bring them to the office and place them in the Archives mail slot. Or email your photos to the archives

at archivesbethel@gmail.com . (Be sure to include the date and identify as many people in the photo as you can.)

Do you have souvenirs that show Texas' strong ties to Israel --- like the T-shirt pictured on this page? If so please loan them to the Shul for the exhibit.



Welcome, we are into the New Year and our Synagogue continues to evolve!

Last year brought changes in both Clergy and professional staff here at the Shul. We feel lucky that we found Coleman Shickman to help us fill

the void left by the Hazzan. We are hoping to continue with Coleman for the foreseeable future. He brings a youthful exuberance to our services and provides great new interpretations and tunes of many familiar prayers. Please come to services on a Friday for Kabbalat Shabbat services at 6:00 p.m. and on Saturday for Shabbat services at 9:30 a.m. and following this service with our wonderful Kiddush Lunches!

We would also like to introduce to you our new Administrator Angyl McCool. She has started and is learning many new procedures, tasks, and duties. Let's all welcome Angyl with our friendly Shul attitudes and let her know we are all glad to have her here as part of our congregational family.

I also want to assure each of you that the safety of our congregants is of the upmost importance. Our Board of Directors continues to meet and review our security procedures and processes. We are in conversations with authorities and the SCN, (Secure Community Network), to continue work with security professionals to follow a plan for safety solutions to address current deficiencies. With this said we continue to ask our congregants to help us out by volunteering to come to services both Friday or Saturday and help with the Fort Worth off- duty police officer at the front doors. This helps us work together with the police officer and identify congregants or guests that are showing up to the different services we provide the community. This is a very essential and important Mitzvah that requires little time but provides us another layer of security in our house of worship. Members can sign up with the office during weekdays to be

able for us to make sure we have coverage for our different services.

On another note, the Learning and Engagement Center has continued to keep our LEC Sunday School vibrant and full of activities. We are so proud of our LEC principal, Fani Kiselstein, and our great teachers for all their time and energy. Also, the great job they have done to keep the curriculum interesting and engaging for the kids is working well and we are growing. You can help by bringing your own personal interests, like cooking, needlework, wood working, gardening, or anything else, to help teach the kids your skills through volunteering for special programs. Just contact Fani and she will be glad to speak with you about the "hands on" approach to working with the students.

Our Catering Committee team headed by Rhonda Krupp has out done themselves with their continued love and support for our Shul and almost every activity going on within the walls here at our building. Please thank all of these wonderful volunteers the next time you see them for the hours and hours of work they are helping provide CAS. We are truly lucky to have this committee, they work every week to provide a wonderful Kiddish Lunch for our members. They also work with all our community to help in any way they can to help with the food for many different types of events.

We are always looking for community volunteers to help with many projects that need people to keep our synagogue and grounds looking great and our building neat and tidy. Let us remember that it "Takes A Village" and our village is CAS!! With each member's help we can all be very proud of the synagogue environment we help create with warm hearts and the inclusion of all of our members.

> B'shalom, Foster Owen President

Join in Friendship

Ladies Auxiliary

- Book Club Once a month
- Gift Shop First Sunday of each month AND by appointment: call CAS Office 817-731-4721

Ava Beleck

Men's Club

- Support & volunteer for LEC special programs
- Monthly meetings

For the Mitzvah of:

Beautification:	Bimah flowers	Call: 817-731-4721
Tzedakah	All funds	Call: 817-731-4721
Security	Shabbat greeters	Call: 817-731-4721
Joyful Shabbat	Donate for Kiddush, Rhonda	Call 682-429-4210



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Thank you to our bulletin underwriters



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