



December 2025/Kislev 5786 Newsletter



Hello TCJRC Friends,

We move through Kislev collectively and into Tevet, known to some as the right and left hand. The month of Kislev beckons us to dive deeper into the realm of our dreams, holding us in the time when the most night or darkness occurs in the calendar.

Dreamwork is a holy and full world. We can turn to so many guides of old and in our lifetime to think of where we can step into this work. Rabbi Kohenet Jill Hammer writes, “Dreams are an “Undertorah”—a deep well of truth and revelation that lies hidden within our sleeping hours.”

Kislev reminds us that darkness is a place for seed planting and our dreams are a realm to gather seeds for our waking life, a place to find truths and examine. May this month of cocooning allow you to synthesize your seeds so you might start to tend to them this winter.

With blessings and care,
Student Rabbi Shosh Madick
Social Media and Events Director
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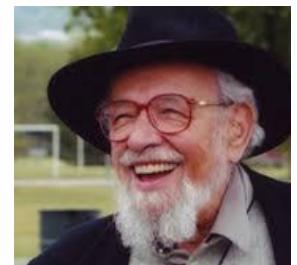
Local TCRJC Events

Documentary Style Interviews of Reb Zalman's life in Review by his daughter, Chana Tina Duskis

Documentary 2: New Life in America: Wanderings & Wonderings

Monday, December 1, 6:30 - 8:30 PM CT on Zoom

This second documentary focuses on Reb Zalman's early years of wandering and wondering, and what it was like growing up with him as a father...



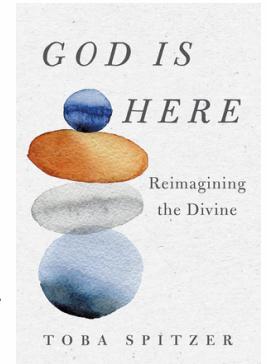
This is a great opportunity to learn about Reb Zalman Schacter-Shalomi and the founding of the Jewish Renewal movement. This is the second of three 1.5 hour documentaries. Members who knew Reb Zalman please join us the last half hour to contribute your first hand knowledge to our discussion.

RSVP to Shoshtcjr@gmail.com for the Zoom link. TCJRC Members free and nonmembers \$5.00 at [this link](#).

TCJRC Jewish Spiritual Book Meeting God is Here: Reimagining the Divine

Sunday, December 7th from 7-8:30 PM CT on Zoom

We will discuss chapters 5, 6, and 7, God is here Reimagining the Divine by Toba Spitzer |March 2022.



New participants are welcome! Join us even if you do not have the book.

Please RSVP with your name and email to TCJewishRenewal@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

TCJRC Happy Hour Hanukkah Meet Up

Monday, December 15, 4:30 - 6 PM

Yard House, The Shops at West End, 1665 Park Place Blvd.



Join your TCJRC community for a festive Chanukkah gathering before we head together to sing Chanukah Songs of Bravery and Light with Koleinu. Come celebrate, connect, and kick off an inspiring evening of light, music, and community. RSVP to Shoshtcjr@gmail.com and register separately if attending the Chanukah Koleinu singing (www.koleinumusic.com).

Sharing the Light Yoga

Thursday, December 18th at 6:30 - 7:30 pm (Doors open at 6 and close at 8)

Location: North Loop near the Acme Comedy Club, Exact Address with RSVP



On the fourth night of Chanukah, we will light 5 candles. The number 5 has meaning and significance in our world - our 5 senses, 5 fingers, toes, and many other examples that represent our connection to the divine. Five also represents change, adventure and exploration of new possibilities.

In saying, 'Sharing the Light' we will explore our needs through Yoga. We will practice different poses and breathing techniques that challenge our bodies' capabilities. Let's open ourselves to discover what is hidden underneath the mind, the fear and/or chaos that ensues from a society built upon control - and we will go deep to rediscover that light that is hidden in all of us - whether it's a sound your body truly wants to make, a movement, or simply being in community. The space is provided for us to arrive safely within ourselves and with others to find meaningful connection, or light, again.

Register Here: \$10 for Members and \$15 for Non-Members. Location sent with registration closer to the date. Please bring a yoga mat and a water bottle.

Aaron is a practitioner of Yoga and has been for over 10 years. They have taught in multiple school districts, studios, and senior homes spanning New York City, Los Angeles, India, and here in Minneapolis. They come from an athletic background during college and now give back as a coach and teacher in public school systems instructing sports, dance and yoga. Aaron is also a singer, dancer, musician and choreographer, and he uses these abilities to foster connection in the world. You can follow him on Instagram at @az_is0 or email Yogafillc@gmail.com.

Local TCRJC Events

Gathered in Love: A Service of Trans Solidarity

Tuesday, December 9, 2025, at 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Creekside United Church of Christ

106 E Diamond Lake Rd, Minneapolis, MN 55419

Register Here

On December 9, 2025, Gathered in Love: A Trans Solidarity Service will welcome people of faith and allies into a shared space celebrating the beauty, courage, and sacredness of trans and nonbinary lives. The free service, offered in person and online, will include music, poetry, reflection, and pathways to stand together in care and solidarity. TCJRC is a cosponsor of this event.

Adat Ha'araphel: Congregation of the Cloud Shabbat Services

Second and Fourth Shabbat mornings of the month

Gather at 9:15 AM CT and begins 9:30 AM

Join us in the cloud for a spiritually infused, musical service. Please contact Sherry at tcjewishrenewal@gmail.com for Zoom details. All are welcome to attend. Service leaders include Rabbi Marc Labowitz from Temple Adath Or in So. Florida, Rabbi/Chaplain Leon Olenick, Jackie Olenick, and a host of other talented Jewish Renewal leaders such as our own TCJRC member, Chaiya Isenberg.

TCJRC Membership and Donations

We hope you decide to join us or renew as a TCJRC/ALEPH Member! Your \$72 membership includes immediate family members, and enrolls you in both TCJRC and ALEPH (our national organization). We are able to bring in talented national leaders and grow with your support. Plus, you get a discount on many of our events and activities while helping us offer even more.

Now is the time to embrace that personal connection to God by reaching beyond religious boundaries and institutional structures. We offer a contemporary egalitarian approach, which includes Jewish mystical/Chasidic traditions and social transformation. Come immerse yourself in a different, joyful way of experiencing Judaism.

Various opportunities include designated ALEPH courses, free community webinars, resource sharing, Shabbaton with Renewal leaders, network community open houses, Rosh Chodesh participation, our national biennial Kallah conference and scholarships through grants.

Local Events

Channukah Songs of Bravery and Light with Koleinu

Monday, Dec 15, 6:30 – 8:00 PM

St. Louis Park, MN

Register Here Location given after registration.

Light the Chanukah candles, sing songs of bravery and light (with instrumental accompaniment) as inspired by the Chanukah story, and enjoy a dessert reception to follow. Feel free to bring your own chanukiah and candles to light with us in community.

Adam Bohanan Presents: A Very Funky Hanukkah Show

December 18th, 2025, 7:30-10:30

The Cedar Cultural Center

416 Cedar Avenue Minneapolis, MN, 55454

Register Here

Growing up Black and Jewish, Adam Bohanan blends his dual heritage into a vibrant Hanukkah show that fuses Soul, Funk, and R'n'B with Jewish tradition, featuring modern takes on classics and brand-new music inspired by his lifelong favorites. Organized by Bohanan—fresh off a Season 26 *Voice* semifinalist run—the event will showcase a dynamic lineup of talented Twin Cities performers.

Mitzvah Request

Kathilyn Solomon is receiving medical treatment dissolving cancer in the bone marrow. If you are willing to make a Friday Shabbat meal for her, please contact Jeanne of the Chesed Committee of Mayim Rabim; easiest by text (612 267-1981), then email (jhoff3@gmail.com), or call. She is handling the overall calendar and food preferences and can possibly arrange for pickup and delivery to Kathilyn in St. Louis Park if needed.

ALEPH Events

ALEPH Spring 2026 Public Courses

Registration is open for Aleph's dynamic, live Zoom-based classes, each meeting weekly for 13 sessions. Guided by inspiring teachers and rooted in Jewish wisdom, our courses create a welcoming space for personal growth, connection, and exploration.

Join us this spring—classes begin the week of February 1, 2026. Learn, engage, and be part of ALEPH's vibrant learning community. Click [here](#) to learn more.

A Chanukah & Solstice Gathering: Feeling the Turning of the Season with Beit Kohenet Sunday, December 21, 7 pm ET

Registration Cost: \$18-\$36.

On Sunday, December 21 at 7 pm ET via Zoom, join us on the 8th night of Hanukkah for a ritual dance journey to move in celebration with the rhythms of light and dark, spiral and stillness, miracle and mundane. We'll begin with Hanukkah songs to warm our bodies, minds, and hearts on this Winter Solstice eve, then flow into a guided dance journey led by Kohenet Aliza Rivka. After our dance, we'll take time to share what the ritual revealed.

To close our evening and welcome the final glow of Chanukah, at 8 pm ET Rabbi Jill Hammer, PhD and Shoshana Jedwab will lead us in candlelighting and blessings, honoring the paths we've traveled and the wisdom this turning of the season brings.

Friday Healing Circle

Fridays, 10:30 to 11:30am CT

with Rabbi Diane Elliot

The Friday Healing Circle, led online by R. Diane Elliot and friends, offers a weekly space to connect, to feel, to praise, to learn, to grieve and to love. Join us each Friday at 10:30am CT for an hour of song and movement, Torah, poetry and healing prayers to expand your spirit and lead you into Shabbat. Gatherings are recorded and a link sent to all on our mailing list, so you can partake at your convenience. The Circle is freely offered; contributions are appreciated. To sign up for the mailing list and receive the Zoom link email rabbidiane18@gmail.com

Nechamah Minyan Every Evening (not Friday) at 8 PM CT

Led by Rabbi Geela Rayzel Raphael and friends. Please email ALEPH's Spiritual Arts Director (rrayzel@shechinah.com) for zoom room link. Providing nechamah (comfort) beyond time and space. Serving to connect people across denominational lines; people who need a place to pray; to heal; to grieve; to experiment with different forms and modalities of prayer. Please bring your prayers and songs for peace.

Silence is Praise

Weekly on Wednesdays, Time: 10:30 am-11:30 pm CT

Presenter: Rabbi Anne Brener

Registration Cost: Pay-what-you-can

Join Rabbi Anne Brener for a chanting and meditation service, using the structure of the morning service, to calm our bodies and connect our souls. There will be time for some check-in afterward.