

# בראשית

## פרשת ויחי

### Parashat Vayehi

14 Tevet, 5786/January 3, 2026

Triennial Cycle Year I: Genesis 47:28-48:22

Humash Etz Hayim, page 293

Haftarah, 1 Kings 2:1-12, page 312

- (47:28-31) Jacob senses that his death is approaching. He asks Joseph to swear that he will not bury him in Egypt, but will return him to the ancestral burial place at the cave of Machpelah in the land of Canaan.
- (48:1-9) Joseph brings his two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, to Jacob to be blessed. Jacob says that they will be like Reuben and Simon, i.e., equal in status to any of his sons.
- (48:10-22) Jacob blesses Ephraim, Manasseh, and Joseph, predicting that younger son Ephraim would be mightier than firstborn Manasseh.

#### WEEK AT A GLANCE

Please check our online calendar for the most up-to-date information

##### Saturday, January 3

9:30 a.m. Services (Sanctuary/YouTube)  
9:45 a.m. Youth Congregation (Beit T'Fillah)  
11:15 a.m. Tot Shabbat (Beit T'Fillah)  
5:45 p.m. Havdalah

##### Sunday, January 4

1:00 p.m. Purim Spiel Auditions (Sanctuary)

##### Monday, January 5

7:00 p.m. Minyan (Zoom)  
7:30 p.m. Psalm 92: What it Means for Us Today (Zoom)

##### Tuesday, January 6

7:00 p.m. Minyan (Zoom)  
7:30 p.m. Navigating the Sea of Sacred Jewish Literature (Zoom)

##### Wednesday, January 7

11:30 a.m. Balance and Stretch class (Beit Midrash)  
4:30 p.m. Religious School (Zoom)  
7:00 p.m. Minyan (Zoom)

##### Thursday, January 8

11:00 a.m. Ladies Who Lunch (Social Hall)  
7:00 p.m. Minyan (Zoom)

##### Friday, January 9

4:50 p.m. Candle lighting  
5:30 p.m. Kids/Tots Shabbat & Potluck (Rooms 15-17)  
6:15 p.m. Potluck & Musical Kabbalat Shabbat (Social Hall/Beit T'fillah)

##### Saturday, January 10

9:30 a.m. Services (Sanctuary/YouTube)  
12:45 p.m. Jewish Book Discussion Group (Beit Midrash)  
5:52 p.m. Havdalah

## Honor a Loved One Through Kiddush-Oneg Sponsorship

If you wish to sponsor or co-sponsor a Kiddush lunch, whether in observance of a yahrzeit or in celebration of a simcha, your contribution helps enrich our communal Shabbat experience. For additional information, including our updated policy, please contact Anat at 408-366-9106.

### SAVE THE DATES

#### Exploring Jewish History in Santa Fe, New Mexico A Multicultural Immersion

Join Rabbi and Shelley Kunin on this exciting adventure!

**Dates:** Monday, July 27–Sunday, August 2, 2026

**Cost:** \$2,340 per person (double occupancy)  
or \$3,220 (single occupancy)

*Pricing based on a minimum of 28 paying guests.*

This trip includes 6 nights hotel, 10 meals, and scheduled tours and activities. *Flights are not included, please arrange your own flights and transfers.* Sign up here <https://tinyurl.com/2026-NM-Trip>.

#### Purim Spiel Auditions (Sanctuary)

Sunday, January 4, 1:00–4:00 p.m.

Audition for our Purim Spiel, "Middle East Side Story"! All are welcome. Please come prepared with 1 to 2 verses of any song.

#### Psalm 92: What It Means for Us Today (Zoom)

Mondays in January, beginning January 5, 7:30–9:00 p.m.

Join our rabbinic intern, Neal Cronin, for a detailed and fulfilling dive into what this ancient psalm means to us in our everyday lives, and how it guides us to engage more constructively with others. We'll use the Lev Shalem Siddur as our study text. Register for Zoom <https://tinyurl.com/psalm-92>

#### Navigating the Sea of Sacred Jewish Literature (Zoom)

Tuesday, January 6, 7:30–9:00 p.m.

Join Rabbi Roller on a journey through Jewish sacred literature—from the Bible to rabbinic, medieval, and modern writings. Explore how each era reinterprets earlier texts, revealing a dynamic conversation that continues to shape Jewish tradition. Register for Zoom here: <https://tinyurl.com/navigating-sea>.

#### Kids/Tots Shabbat, Potluck & Musical Kabbalat Shabbat (Classrooms/Beit T'Fillah)

Friday, January 9

- 5:30 p.m. Kids and Tots Service
- 6:15 p.m. Dairy/Pareve Potluck
- 7:00 p.m. Service with Beth David's Musical Group

We'll start with a kids and tots service at 5:30 p.m., a dairy/pareve potluck at 6:15 p.m., followed by an engaging service with Beth David's musical group. We'll provide the challah and kiddush wine. Sign up for potluck here: <https://tinyurl.com/all-potluck>.

#### Jewish Book Discussion Group (Beit Midrash)

Saturday, January 10, 12:45–2:00 p.m.

*Palestine 1936: The Great Revolt* by Oren Kessler,  
led by Shmuel Shottan

This book is a history of the 1936–1939 Arab revolt in British Mandate Palestine, detailing how the uprising against British rule and Jewish immigration solidified Palestinian national identity while also leading to a significant Zionist counter-rebellion. The book highlights this period as a pivotal turning point that laid the groundwork for the modern Israeli-Palestinian conflict, shaping both Jewish and Arab national movements and influencing the eventual British withdrawal and the partition of Palestine.

#### Connecting with Purpose by Volunteering in Israel (Beit Midrash)

Sunday, January 11, 2:00–3:30 p.m.

Over the past few years, Beth David congregant Sue Maltiel and her friend Elana Feinsmith have traveled to Israel several times to volunteer where needed. They will share stories from their extended volunteer trips. Their multi-week volunteer missions have been both heartening and deeply meaningful, offering vital support to the people of Israel in a time of need.

#### Jewish Women Throughout History (Beit Midrash/Zoom)

with Rabbi Kunin

Tuesday, January 13, 7:30–9:00 p.m.

Jewish history and tradition has been focused primarily on men, leaving out the essential contributions of women over the ages. In this class we discover amazing Jewish women (some well-known and some who have largely been lost. Sign up to attend on Zoom, here: <https://tinyurl.com/zoom-jewish-women>. If you want to attend in person, it is not necessary to register.

#### Youth Congregation (Beit T'Fillah)

Saturday, January 17, 9:45–11:00 a.m.

Youth participate in traditional prayer, Torah readings, games and discussions inspired both by the weekly Torah portion and current events. Adults/parents welcome.

#### Tot Shabbat (Beit T'Fillah)

Saturday, January 17, 11:15–11:45 a.m.

This is a relaxing, lighthearted, interactive, Shabbat program for tots and their families.

#### Teshuvah of the Month (Beit Midrash)

Saturday, January 17, 12:45–2:00 p.m.

with Rabbi Kunin

Join Rabbi Kunin each month to explore fascinating *teshuvot* (rabbinic legal rulings) from ancient to modern Conservative, and occasionally Orthodox or Reform, sources.

#### Hazak – Fun Game Afternoon (Social Hall)

Sunday, January 18, 2:00–4:00 p.m.

Play some familiar games. Learn some new ones. Schmooze a little, too. Refreshments ... but of course. Cost is \$10 per person. RSVP by emailing Hazak at [hazak@beth-david.org](mailto:hazak@beth-david.org). Your account will be billed.

#### The Former Prophets (Beit Midrash)

Saturday, January 24, 12:45–2:00 p.m.

with Rabbi Roller

Discover some of the most exciting biblical stories you've never heard—tales of war, love, betrayal, and revenge that rival any bestseller.

#### Aging with Confidence (Social Hall)

Sunday, January 25, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Join Jewish Family Services of Silicon Valley for a thoughtful conversation designed to help older adults remain independent, connected, and supported while aging in place. Learn how to reduce isolation, access trusted resources, and explore programs from the Rick and Doris Davis Center for Aging and Caregiver Services that honor personal dignity, Jewish values, and individual choice. You'll also learn more about our Chevra Chessed Committee and how this program connects with the Rabbi's upcoming classes, *Planning for the End Won't Kill You: A Series on Death and Dying*. Feel informed, empowered, and confident about the road ahead.

Please sign up by January 23 here <https://tinyurl.com/Aging-with-Confidence>

### **CPR Training (Social Hall)**

Friday, January 30, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Join us for CPR and First Aid Training with Bonnie Hirsch. This is a blended learning class, with an online training portion that must be completed prior to the in-person session. After completion, participants will receive certification valid for 2 years.

Instructions for registering for the online portion will be emailed with your signup confirmation. This class is strictly limited to 12 participants and open to Beth David members only. The cost is \$42.00 and may be paid by cash or check, made payable to Bonnie Hirsch, on the day of the in-person training. Sign up by January 26! Sign up here: [Tinyurl.com/cpr-train](https://tinyurl.com/cpr-train).

### **Women's Shabbat (Sanctuary/YouTube)**

Saturday, January 31, 9:30–11:30 a.m.

Sign up to participate in leading the congregation in an inspiring, Shabbat service. Make this year the year you learn something new! Please RSVP <https://tinyurl.com/2026-womens-shabbat>

### **Dayenu: A Jewish Call to Climate Action (Beit Midrash)**

Sunday, February 1, 3:00–4:30 p.m.

Beth David member Michal Strutin will introduce us to Dayenu Circle, a movement rooted in Jewish values to mobilize Jewish Communities for meaningful climate action. Michal, who serves on the steering committee locally, will share activities of the Silicon Valley chapter, such as neighborhood rallies with other Jewish and conservation groups in the area, collaboration with the Jewish Legislative Caucus in Sacramento, ongoing programs for promoting widespread adoption of solar energy and electric vehicles, and easy ways you can help preserve a livable climate on earth.

### **AAI Blood Drive (Social Hall)**

Wednesday, February 11, 11:00–5:00 p.m.

Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood, and each donation of blood can save up to 3 lives! Join Jews, Christians, and Muslims to assist American Red Cross staff, check-in donors, sterilize chairs and tables in donor waiting areas, refill refreshments for donors post-donation, and ensure donors are feeling well before departure. No experience is necessary! American Red Cross staff will train you to accomplish these tasks easily and safely, providing everything you need.

### **SAVE THE DATE**

#### **Purim Festivities, Sunday, March 1**

\* Silent Auction \* Carnival \* Spiel: "Middle East Side Story"

*Auditions are on Sunday, January 4, 1:00–4:00 p.m.*

All are welcome to audition. Please come prepared with one to two verses of any song.

### **Yahrzeits Week of January 2/3, 2025**

Helen Baer, Wife of Maxie Baer

Pauline Barbarito, Grandmother of Marc, Paula & Shoshana Levitt

Lawrence Brick, of Blessed Memory

Louis Chevlen, of Blessed Memory

Louis Cohen, Father of Arthur Cohen

Michael Benton Cohen, Uncle of Elizabeth Lichy

Norman Coplon, Father of Bonnie Hirsch

Betty Dligach, Grandmother of Natalia Pogrebinsky

Leo Dligach, Grandfather of Natalia Pogrebinsky

Benjamin Dorsay, Father of Richard Dorsay, Grandfather of Adam Dorsay

Christina Doyle, of Leah Newman

Boris Evelson, Uncle of Liza Slain

Evsey Finsteyn, Relative of Lisa & Oleg Lipkind

Hyman Goldberg, Father of Ruth Gipstein

Bertram Goss, Father of Ginny Baird

Nicholas Greenfield, Uncle of Judy Holtzman

Ira Jay Hertan, Father of Roni Wolfe

Helen Jean Weil Heyman, Mother of Margie Pomerantz

Morris Hoffman, Grandfather of David Hoffman

Seemah Isaac, Aunt of Myrtle Schwartz

Alvin Jacobs, Husband of Tamar Jacobs, Father of Aurianne Dorsay

Louis Kaplan, Father-in-Law of Marcia Kaplan

Murray Kaplan, Uncle of Harvey Gold

Belle Kernoff, of Blessed Memory

Irving Kingston, Grandfather of Cheryl Zatkin-Steres

Carol Kusnetzky, Mother of Sheryl Rattner

Elsie Larky, Grandmother of Jan Larky

Minnie Lavetter, Mother-in-Law of Judith Lavetter

David Levine, Grandfather of Judy Holtzman

Lillian Maderis Levitt, Grandmother of Marc, Paula & Shoshana Levitt

Esther Linder, Grandmother of David Paktor

Joseph Mednick, Father of George Mednick

Lydia Mednick, Mother of George Mednick

Robert Mednick, Uncle of George Mednick

Nathan Menschenfreund, Father of Sandra Weinstein

Jennie Metz, Mother of Leonard Metz

Ronald Niedle, Brother-in-Law of Sofia Filshtinsky

Samuel Niedle, Grandfather-in-law of Sofia Filshtinsky

Lillian Spatz Orol, Mother of Marcia Kaplan

Marcia Oshman, Cousin of Myrtle Schwartz

Beatrice Reitman, Grandmother of Jeffrey Warwick

Miriam Rosenberg, Sister of Sarah Rosenberg, Aunt of Daniel Rosenberg

Nellie Roth, Grandmother of Ginny Baird

Riva Rubnitz, Mother of Joel Rubnitz

Irwin Sacolick, Father of Andrea Linder

Ruth Sacolick, Mother of Andrea Linder

Howard Steven Simon, Brother of Rita Blumstein

Rose Simonowitz, Mother of Irene Swedroe

Leonard Singer, Father of Arthur Singer

Gideon Sorokin, Father of Dafna Mizrahi

Arieh Strod, Husband of Rama Strod

Khalil Tabibian, Father of Bahram (Rami) Tabibian

Mae Usim, Mother-in-Law of Aline Usim

Moshe Vackman, Brother-in-Law of Rita Sauvage

Ruth Way, Aunt of Lori Passett

Sidney M. Wolfe, MD, Cousin of Martin Weinstein

Howard Yalowich, Father of Patty Hughes

### **Refuah Shleimah – A Complete Recovery – as of 01/03/26**

Madison and Walker Vega (grandchildren of Jan Krum, niece and nephew of Barb Green)

Ellyn Bloomfield (friend of Hillary and Stan Farkes)

Michaela Yacova bat Ruchel Saushe v'Nachum Chanan, Micaela

Abramovitz (daughter of Rachel and Norman Abramovitz)

Nachum ben Yaakov u'Brachah, Norm Abramovitz (member)

Yehudit bat Mordechai v'Reeska, Judy Applesmith (member)

Liora bat Genia (member and mother of Rabbi Ilana Baird)

Meira bat Zehava, Meira Peretz (niece of Betty Becker)

Zehava Malka bat Chana, Gloria Strikovsky (sister of Betty Becker)

Rivka bat Esther v'Yehuda (mother of Joseph Bendahan)

Hila bat Itzhak u'Bat Ami

Seema bat Asher v'Sara, Seema Cicerone (member)

Keith Cicerone (Brother-in-Law of Seema Cicerone)

Bernard Olfman (friend of Seema Cicerone)  
 Craig Davis (cousin of Seema Cicerone)  
 Sue Ritz (friend of Seema Cicerone)  
 Mayer, Marcos Cicerone (family of Seema Cicerone)  
 Charlotte Berman (cousin of Seema Cicerone)  
 Blanca Revuelta (friend of Seema Cicerone)  
 Judy Attard (friend of Barbara Davis)  
 Barbara Davis (member)  
 Simona Goldstein (cousin of Barbara Davis)  
 Scott Mathews (cousin of Barbara Davis)  
 Noryl Mathews (cousin of Barbara Davis)  
 Susanna Weiss (cousin of Barbara Davis)  
 Marc Weiss (cousin of Barbara Davis)  
 Terri Willert (cousin of Barbara Davis)  
 Dorothy Dorsay (member)  
 Mariama McCullough (friend of Dorothy Dorsay)  
 Axel Faederholdt (friend of Donna Frankel)  
 Gittel bat Yihiskael v'Pi'a Batya, Beverly Jean Kanter (sister of Donna Frankel)  
 Ari Yehuda ben Malka Ariella  
 Sharon Friedman (aunt of Hindy Ganeles)  
 Shira Yael bat Yehudite Rachel, Shira Weisenfuernd (friend of Emily and Howard Gannes)  
 Yaffa Leya bat Ruchel, Susan Marcus (friend of Emily Gannes)  
 Donna Stone (cousin of Wendy J. Glasser)  
 Chaim ben Moshe, Harvey Stone (cousin of Wendy J. Glasser)  
 Shmuel Ben Menaka Mendel  
 Etta bat Phival  
 Malka bat Daniel u'D'vora, Helaine Green (member)  
 Chaya Sarah bat Avraham Hersh v'Shaiva, Sondra Goldberger (member)  
 David Garfinkle (brother-in-law of Rhonda Raider Gould and Don Gould)  
 Zvi Leib ben Esther  
 Menashe ben Chanah, Martin Gewing (friend of Cheryl Graubart)  
 Gittel Leah (friend of Helaine & Stephen Green)  
 Guadalupe Ariel Cordova (friend of Helaine Green)  
 Jessica (friend of Helaine Green)  
 Tikva bat Katania, Allyson Guggenheim (granddaughter of Allen Guggenheim)  
 Juanita Harris (friend of Kristin Gustavson)  
 Prudence Victor (friend of Kristin Gustavson)  
 Kathryn Schultz (friend of Kristin Gustavson)  
 Yukari Lassagne (friend of Kristin Gustavson)  
 Ken Abrams (friend of Kristin Gustavson)  
 Steve Kaplan (friend of Kristin Gustavson)  
 Sylvia Rogers (friend of Kristin Gustavson)  
 Ron Victor (friend of Kristin Gustavson)  
 Ben Tzion ben Ya'akov u'Masha, Brent Hailpern (member)  
 Vellya bat Shmuel haKohen v'Chana Chaya, Vivian Herman (member)  
 Tova bat Chava, Ellen London (friend of David & Debby Hoffman)  
 Hannah bat Gershon u'Miriam, Patty Hughes (member)  
 Yitzchak Hershel Ovadia ben Shoshana Rivka  
 Tamar bat Zvi v'Rachel , Tamar Jacobs (member)

Carol King (member)  
 Leah bat Ariela (daughter of Carol and Roland King)  
 Holly Marsh (friend of Carol King)  
 Levi ben Lina v'Eliyahu (father of Rabbi David Kunin)  
 Tova bat Clara v'Mordechai haKohen (mother of Rabbi David Kunin)  
 Arkadi Nisenzon (brother of Zoya Lazer)  
 Miriam, Marion Lessman (friend of Ben Leitner)  
 Daniel Seth ben Yaffa v'Yitzchak haKohen, Daniel Lewis (son of Sheryl & Eric Lewis)  
 Nessia bat David, Kaela Gaertner (friend of the Lichy family)  
 Jessie Creel (friend of the Lichy family)  
 Miriam bat Bluma, Miriam Marr (member)  
 Chaim ben Uziel v'Tovah, Charlie Marr (member)  
 Leibel Yehuda ben Shmuel Yisroel v'Sheindl, Leonard Metz (member)  
 Susan Keith (friend of Robert Miller)  
 Joanie Pepper (aunt of Jan Pepper)  
 Gary Hedden (friend of Jan Pepper)  
 Margalit mi-beit Shmuel v'Hana, Margie Pomerantz (member)  
 Shaul ben Cara (brother of Sheryl Rattner)  
 Sander ben Avraham u'Martha, Alexander Rodstein (member)  
 Simcha bat Hannah, Susan Marder (sister of Rachel Schwab)  
 Aharon ben Yochevet, Allan Schwartz (former member)  
 Mary Ann Pinsler (cousin of Myrtle Schwartz)  
 David Hai Isaac (cousin of Myrtle Schwartz)  
 Matana bat Rahma, Myrtle Schwartz (member)  
 Sundus Jameel (friend of Myrtle Schwartz)  
 Hannah bat Miriam (sister in law of Myrtle Schwartz)  
 Shoshana bat Hannah (niece of Myrtle Schwartz)  
 Blanche Levine (relative of Myrtle Schwartz)  
 Malka bat Mendel v'Goldie, Marilyn Sefchovich (member)  
 Yudif Golda bat Yente, Yulia Shvarts (member)  
 Shoshana bat Shimon u'Messodi, Shoshana Soha (member)  
 Yosef ben Shmuel u'Miriam, Joe Sorger (member)  
 Lisa Katzenstein (friend of Irene Spector)  
 Kathy Goldstein (friends of Walter Spector)  
 Chris Stanton (father of Ethan Stanton)  
 Adam Yavim ben Avraham v'Sarah, George Steres (member)  
 Rachmiel ben Yoheved (member)  
 Chaye Reizel bat Ruchel (member)  
 Matt Clark (friend of Irene Swedroe)  
 Yael bat Tzvia, Susan Gould (member)  
 David ben Levi v'Esther, David Veksler (son of Svitlana & Leonid Vesbler)  
 Sarah Fegie bat Natan v'Shifrah, Sandi Weinstein (member)  
 Sivia bat Malka, Susie Weitzman (member)  
 Chaim ben Davida  
 Rosa bat Riva (friend of Dina Yevelev)  
 Annabel Rubin (relative of Dina Yevelev)  
 Bela bat Bronya (cousin of Dina Yevelev)  
 Sonya bat Emma (friend of Dina Yevelev)  
 Rita bat Sonya (friend of Dina Yevelev)  
 Chayah bat Yosef v'Dvorah, Cheryl Zatkin-Steres, (member)

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