

Bulletin Article – November 5784

As I write this, I am listening to news and hearing about the attacks by Hamas on Israel. It is devastating and heartbreaking. I am reminded that each day is a gift and our children are the most sacred blessings we have been given. I do not take the responsibility of overseeing them lightly. While we have many security measures in place, I also worry about their emotional wellbeing. These two topics will be the subjects of our staff meeting this month: how do we keep our children safe and how do we talk to our children about this conflict in a meaningful way that does not scare them. By the time you are reading this, I will have reached out to families via email with a very straightforward document that addresses precisely this.

On a brighter note, we will be celebrating our Veterans this month, specifically on November 12 in the morning during religious school. Each student will have the opportunity to meet with some military veterans, engage in conversation, and celebrate them. This should be an enlightening experience for the kids and staff alike. I very much look forward to celebrating our Vets!

Looking forward, mark your calendars for the Chanukah Fair on Sunday, December 3 from 9:30 - 12:30. Anne Cohn (from the Judaica Gift Shop) and I just put in a few product orders and many fun and exciting toys and gifts are on their way for kids and adults alike.

Also, please mark your calendars for a joint Chaunkah program with B'Nai Israel of Willimantic. The program will be during religious school hours on Sunday, December 10 at Temple Emanu-El.

Lastly, thank you to all our families who have been participating in Share Shabbat and the Shabbat dinners. It is so wonderful to see so many of your children at Temple enjoying the services. The smiles on their faces warm my heart. Mazel Tov to our newly consecrated students. I am so happy to have witnessed them formally joining our congregation and beginning their lifelong journey of Jewish learning.

Lisa