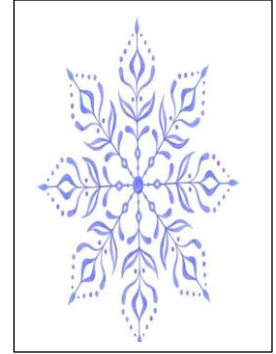


*January - Shevat 5781*  
*TBT Chailights*

*So, nu?*



*WE MADE IT TO 2021!!!!*

## *FROM THE RABBI*

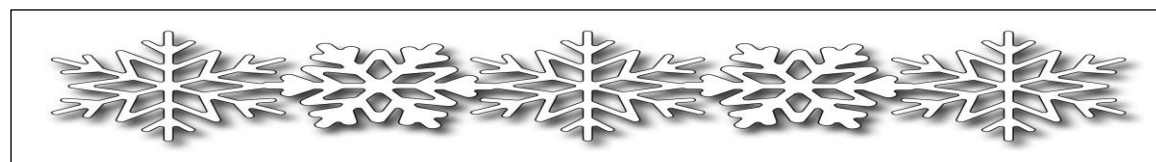
I know I speak for all of us when I say I'm so excited to say good riddance to 2020 and usher in 2021! For our Shabbat service on **January 1st**, I'd like to give anyone who wants the opportunity to share a couple of your favorite inspirational quotes. You can feel free to share with us on Zoom that evening, or if you are Zoom shy, feel free to send them to me at rebdeb18@comcast.net and I'd be happy to share them for you. **Our children's service will begin at 6:15 that evening, preceding our 7 pm service.**

The following Shabbat, January 8th will be our joint service with Shaar HaShalom. Rabbi Stuart and I look forward to leading this service, and I'd love to have participation by our children so parents, if you would like your children to participate, and you can feel free to participate together with them, please let me know by the end of our children's service on January 1st.

**For those of you who are interested and feel comfortable, on Thursday February 11 there will be a socially distanced outdoor candlelight performance by a string quartet organized by FEVER.** The venue in Houston is to be announced. Check out FEVER's website and if you're interested in meeting there and watching together, please email me at rebdeb18@comcast.net by January 1st so we can have our choice of tickets. Priya and I went earlier this month to hear a different concert and it was so enjoyable, relaxing, and normal feeling. Please see picture below.

With our help, may 2021 usher in peace, harmony and may there be COVID vaccines for all!

*Warmly, Rabbi Deborah*



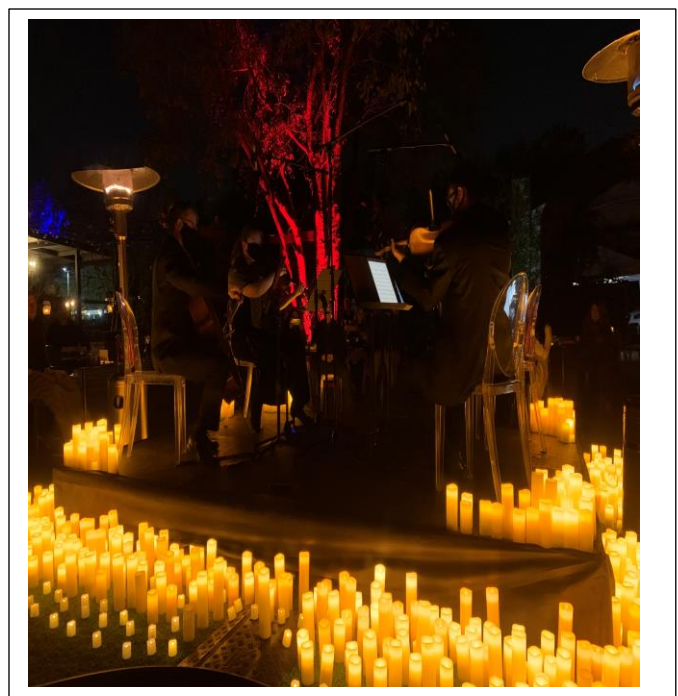
**THE RABBI ALSO ASKS:**

Her friend would like to DONATE this set to someone who can use it. Need to be able to transport it yourself. If interested, please let her know at:

[Rebdeb18@comcast.net](mailto:Rebdeb18@comcast.net)



Here are some pictures of the FEVER concert with the Rabbi and Priya



***THE PREZ SEZ – DEB NOWINSKI [TBTPRES@GMAIL.COM](mailto:TBTPRES@GMAIL.COM)***

## **THE PURSUIT OF A TRIVIAL JANUARY**

I decided that big resolutions are so passe and so this year I decided I would dedicate a word for each month and try to live up to it. Okay, it's a quasi resolution-resolution, but keeps the guilt at bay.

With our new year upon us and the year that shall never be SPOKEN AGAIN gone, I am dedicating this month to: **FUN!**

**What better way to have FUN than with our first JEWISH TRIVIAL PURSUIT TBT FAMILY FUN ZOOM GAME?**

**On TUESDAY JANUARY 19<sup>TH</sup> 7-8:30 P.M. bring your wine (not whine) and join us! PLEASE RSVP TO ME BEFORE JANUARY 12<sup>TH</sup> so we know how many will be jumping into the FUN.**

The questions will be focused on all things Jewish from food, holidays & everything we forgot in Hebrew School. There will be questions for everyone!

Here is a sample:

**Which person was NOT in the Marx Brothers:** (no googling!)

- 1) Harpo
- 2) Zeppo
- 3) Shmuel
- 4) Groucho

IF you chose 3 – you win! I hope to see you on our first game of the year and I wish you and yours a most wonderful healthy prosperous 2021!

**Deb Nowinski**



**The Case Of The Unidentified Servant - Chapter 1**

From The Memoirs Of Sherlock Holmes

Ah, I remember it well, my most difficult case. It was three o'clock in the morning and Mrs. Hudson was still puttering about in the kitchen while I, was busy playing Mumblepeg, with the cat. Pfft-tingg, MEOW!!! Oops, sorry cat. Two out of three? When the phone rang. Hello...yes I am...I see.

My laundry was ready.

Later that morning I received an urgent message from Scotland Yard as follows:

"My dear Mr. Sherlock Holmes, Her Majesty wishes to know as soon as possible who exactly is the "suffering servant" described by the Hebrew prophet, Isaiah, in Chapter 53 of the writings bearing the same name. The Bishop of Bristles tells her it's Jesus, the Cantor of Canterbury tells her it's the Jews and her personal servant tells her it's him. She still remembers the fine job you did for her during "The Affair Of The Missing Watch" when you deduced that if you keep searching and searching for something and you just can't seem to find it anywhere, it probably means that it's lost. Anyway, she insisted that you be given this assignment.

God/Jews/Personal

Servant? Save The Queen!

Sincerely, Lord Benjamin Disraeli, Her Majesty's Minister of Religion (Mrs.)"

I immediately called up my associate and trusted friend, Dr. Watson.

Holmes: Come here immediately Watson, the game is afoot.

Watson: Should I bring my revolver?

Holmes: I think not Watson. This case involves Jews. Leave your revolver at home. Bring bagels.

Watson arrives toting a large bag with an assortment of bagels. As they start to munch on their bagels Holmes fills in Watson on the case.

Holmes: In order to properly understand what the Hebrew prophet Isaiah was saying, we must first learn to understand the language that he wrote in, Hebrew. That is the key to this case. I have made arrangements with my good friend, Dr. Sigmund Freud, of Vienna, to not only teach us Hebrew through correspondence but also, through Freud's psychological training, to help us to understand the meaning of what Isaiah wrote within the context of the other sixty-six chapters. We should be receiving our first correspondence lesson from Dr. Freud by the end of the week.

Watson: Brilliant Holmes. Do you foresee any problems?

Holmes: Just one Watson. Your breath, it's ghastly! Didn't anyone ever tell you that garlic bagels were only meant to be eaten when dining alone?

Watson: Sorry Holmes.

Holmes: (Grabs bag of bagels from Watson) Perhaps I can find a more suitable choice. (Digs through bag and finds onion bagel) No (tosses bagel across the room. Continues search and finds jalapeno bagel) Egads! (Jalapeno bagel meets same fate as onion bagel. Gets to bottom of bag and sees poppyseed bagel) Hullo. (takes out bagel and stuffs it into Watson's mouth).

Watson: (muffled) thpfnkylfu.

Holmes: Your welcome.

[For the rest of the story go to TBT's Facebook Page:

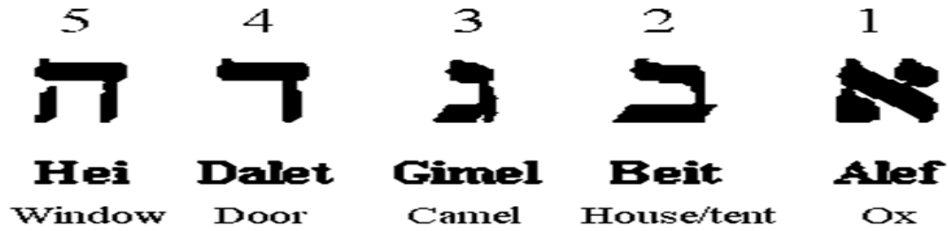
<https://www.facebook.com/Temple-Beth-Tikvah-246521018874450>]



*DO YOU HAVE A POEM, FAMILY STORY OR PHOTOS YOU  
WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH US?*

*PLEASE SUBMIT IT TO*

*[TBTPRES@GMAIL.COM](mailto:TBTPRES@GMAIL.COM)*



## RELIGIOUS SCHOOL ROUND UP –

**JILL MACGREGOR – BOARD MEMBER [JILL.MACGREG@GMAIL.COM](mailto:JILL.MACGREG@GMAIL.COM)**

As last year’s “Spring Break That Never Ended” dragged on into summer, I struggled with the thought of taking our small Religious School online. How would we connect and how could we bring substance and fun into that virtual world? Last year, we partnered with Congregation B’nai Israel (CBI) Galveston for several combined Family Learning Days spaced throughout the year. The goal was to build community and introduce our TBT kids to other Reform Jewish kids their age, and we had a lot of fun.

So it was natural to consider collaborating with CBI for virtual Religious School this year. I reached out to Rabbi Matt Cohen to see if he was interested in conducting our online school together this year and he was immediately onboard. I was relieved and also excited about how our partnership would allow us do more in an online environment, making it fun and stimulating for the kids. And it is! We typically meet for a half hour assembly, which almost always includes Rabbi Cohen on guitar teaching us upbeat songs and prayers that the kids get up and move to while belting out the words in their living rooms! Then we break out into our Zoom “classrooms” for grade-specific Judaic lessons. Corinne Blancas and Joe Wallack graciously agreed to continue teaching, knowing that it would be challenging to teach in an online environment while also getting to know a bunch of new kids. Corinne teaches the Kinder/1st grade class, I teach 2nd, and Joe teaches 4th/5th. Rabbi Cohen’s wife Erin teaches 3rd grade, Rabbi Cohen teaches the 6th-7th Bar Mitzvah-centered class, and Rabbi Todd Doctor teaches a special confirmation-level class to the post-Bar Mitzvah & high school teens. Several of CBI’s usual teachers were unable to teach this year so this arrangement has turned out to be mutually beneficial for our schools!

As many of you are aware, TBT is a member of ISJL – the Institute for Southern Jewish Life based in Jackson, MS. This entitles us to access to their full educational curriculum as well as being assigned an Education Fellow to help us with programming throughout the year. CBI is also a

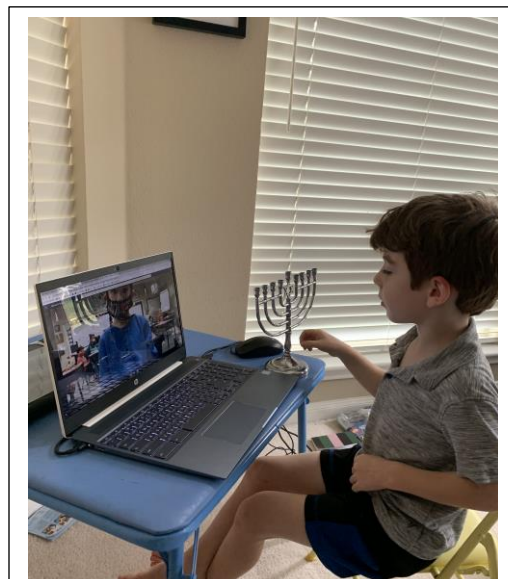
member of ISJL, and as luck would have it, our Education Fellows just happen to be roommates!

Our ISJL Fellow, Julian Cohen, joined us in August to lead a Shabbat service (where he delighted us with his French horn playing) and a Sunday program for our kids focused on preparing for the High Holidays. Julian recently joined us again for his virtual fall "visit" where he led another fabulous Shabbat service, conducted an adult education class entitled "A Jewish Response to Civil Rights" that was attended by both TBT and CBI members, and finally, a Religious School program on Hanukkah Around the World. We also get the benefit of enjoying the programs conducted by CBI's Education Fellow, Landon Crawford, during his virtual visits. This fall the kids enjoyed a program conducted by Landon about some of the similarities between Judaism and Halloween...it was hauntingly fascinating!

We are looking forward to continuing our Religious School year in January and expect that we will remain virtual through May. I have truly enjoyed seeing all the familiar and new smiling faces during our Kehillah (together) time each week and have also had a lot of fun getting to know and to teach a few new kids in my own class. Despite the challenges this year has put before us, I'm thrilled that we've been able to both continue to connect our kids to their Jewish identities and allow them to make some new friends in the process!

**ADAM BAKER – BOARD MEMBER WRITES:**

Max is currently in quarantine due to a COVID close contact, but still was able to give a presentation to his class regarding Hanukkah. It was really fun to see how excited he was to share his knowledge. Thank you, Corinne, for volunteering being his teacher!





**Nancy Schwartz – Board Member** [nancyaya14@gmail.com](mailto:nancyaya14@gmail.com)

**Harriet Hayes- Board Member** [harriethayes@comcast.net](mailto:harriethayes@comcast.net)

Now that we've all eaten our share of latkes, we're moving on to soup for January. We won't be gathering for the TBT Soup Cook Off but that doesn't mean that we can't share recipes! We hope you enjoy the following soup recipes – especially as our weather gets a bit “colder.” **They are all winners this year!** Thanks to those who contributed and Bon Appetit!

**From Judith Oppenheim –**

**Below is my recipe for Red Lentil Soup,**

I found it in Cook's Illustrated Magazine (1/2016). It is fast, nutritious, and low calorie. It is also kosher and colorful. What's not to like?

4 T unsalted butter

1 large onion, chopped fine

3/4 t coriander

1/2 t cumin

1/4 t ginger

1/8 t ground cinnamon

Pinch cayenne

1 T tomato paste

1 garlic clove, minced

4 C chicken broth

2 C water

1-1/2 C red lentils, picked over and rinsed

2 T lemon juice

1-1/2 t dried mint, crumbled

1 t paprika

1/4 C chopped fresh cilantro & salt and pepper (to taste)



1. Melt 2 T butter in large saucepan over medium heat. Add onion and 1 t salt and cook, stirring occasionally, until softened but not browned, about 5 minutes. Add coriander, cumin, ginger, cinnamon, cayenne, and 1/4 t pepper and cook until fragrant, about 2 minutes. Stir in tomato paste and garlic and cook for 1 minute. Stir in broth, water, and lentils, and bring to simmer. Simmer vigorously, stirring occasionally, until lentils are soft and about half are broken down, about 15 minutes.
2. Whisk soup vigorously until it is coarsely pureed, about 30 seconds. Stir in lemon juice and season with salt and extra lemon juice to taste. Cover and keep warm.
3. Melt remaining 2 T butter in small skillet. Remove from heat and stir in mint and paprika. Ladle soup into individual bowls, drizzle each portion with 1 t spiced butter, sprinkle with cilantro, and serve.

**Stuffed Cabbage** - My Mom's recipe with some of my variations added to it, of course.

Meat mixture has variations (I create variations to almost every recipe) - use 2lbs. of ground meat - select either beef, chicken or turkey

2 eggs (well beaten)

1/2 - 1 C. raw rice (occasionally I use GF Panko crumbs or bread crumbs)

Salt, pepper and Italian Herb seasoning to taste

Combine all ingredients with clean hands in a big bowl.

1-2 clove pieces of minced garlic (more or less to suit your taste)

Chop 1 sweet, yellow onion coarsely and saute lightly (a couple minutes). Add to the above ingredients

### **Cabbage and Sauce**

1 Lg. loose leafed cabbage, cored and save the small parts and broken leaves

1 Lg. or 2 C. finely chopped/grated onions

2-3 Lg. cloves of fresh garlic, minced

2TBL olive oil

12 oz. can tomato sauce, plus one can of water

12 oz. can tomato paste, plus one can of water

1/2 C. brown sugar (more if you like it sweeter, less if you like it more savory)

Add 2 TBL. (for starters) of Italian seasoning or each of the following: chopped parsley, oregano, thyme and a little rosemary,

**Cabbage:** Pour boiling water over cabbage and let soak a few minutes or lay core up in a shallow bowl and pour water over the open end of cabbage and into the bowl. Microwave for 30 seconds and gently separate leaves. Repeat until you have only unusable pieces of cabbage. Cut these "leftovers" into large chunks and place them on the bottom of a large roasting pan

**Sauce:**

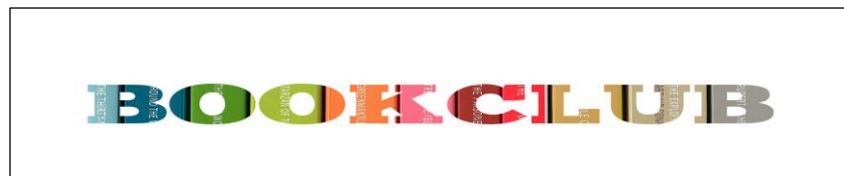
Saute this second batch of onions and garlic in olive oil until golden and soft. Add the rest of the ingredients and simmer gently. Taste this sauce before adding the rolls to adjust seasonings per your taste buds. If it's too sweet for you, add juice from one lemon or vinegar. If not sweet enough, add more brown sugar and/or 1 cup of golden raisins if desired. It's always more flavorful the second day!

**To make cabbage rolls...** spoon about 3 tablespoons of meat mixture in the center of a cabbage leaf. Roll the leaf tucking in the sides and placing the open edge down in the baker. Keep rolling the meat in the leaves until done. Pour sauce over all. If not enough liquid, add another can of sauce and water. Adjust seasonings accordingly.

**Bake** covered at 350 degrees for 2 -3 hours, basting occasionally. Uncover and brown if desired. Turn the bottom layer to top to let it brown. If you have an Instant Pot, use their directed cooking time.

Note: for passover use matzo instead of rice, panko or breadcrumbs.

Yields about 16-20 cabbage rolls ENJOY! **Nancy Schwartz**



**THE NEXT BOOK CLUB MEETING WILL BE JANUARY 10<sup>TH</sup> AT 12:30 ON ZOOM**

Our book for January is: Left Neglected by Lisa Genova. Proposed list:

Feb: Other Peoples Pets by R.L. Maizes

March: Broken for You by Stephanie Kallos

April War: How conflict Shaped Us by Margaret MacMillan

May: The Secret by Rhonda Byrne- (movie Dare to Dream)

June: The Alice Network by Kate Quinn

Any thoughts or objections to book list- additional book suggestions welcome. Please pick a book that you have read.

**JEANNE SHEINBERG** WISHES EVERYONE A HAPPY NEW YEAR! If you wish you join the book club, please email here at [Jeanne.sheinberg@gmail.com](mailto:Jeanne.sheinberg@gmail.com) – she welcomes all.

## TBT SERVICE OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

AT our Chanukah service in December, we awarded our first "TBT SERVICE OF EXCELLENCE AWARD" to our very own music maker, MYRNA REINGOLD.

The award is presented to those members who go above and beyond service to our Temple. It exemplifies those who give unconditionally with their time and talent to our family.

The Board of Directors revived this award this past year. Choosing Myrna was easy. It was a unanimous vote! She received a beautiful basket from Joe Wallack.

Our next Service of Excellence Award will be given out in June at our Congregational Meeting. If YOU know anyone who is deserving of this award, you can nominate them by emailing: [tbtpres@gmail.com](mailto:tbtpres@gmail.com)

We thank Myrna for all she does and congratulate her! *Mazel tov!*



**WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION TO TBT  
IN HONOR OF SOMEONE? IN MEMORY OF SOMEONE?**

TBT  
12411 PARK SHADOWS TRAIL  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77058 - 281.286.1717

TBTHOUSTON.COM  
RABBI DEBORAH SCHLOSS - [REBDEB18@GMAIL.COM](mailto:REBDEB18@GMAIL.COM)  
832.978.4624

## January schedule

**1<sup>st</sup>- 6:15 p.m. Childrens Service – 7 p.m. Adult Service - Rabbi**

**8<sup>th</sup> – Joint Service with Shaar Ha'Shalom- 7 p.m.**

**10<sup>th</sup>- Book Club at 12:30 p.m. zoom**

**13<sup>th</sup> - BOARD MEETING – you are invited to attend the board meeting for the first 10 minutes to discuss whatever you need – please email me at [tbtpres@gmail.com](mailto:tbtpres@gmail.com) if you want speaking time.- 7 p.m.**

**15<sup>th</sup>- Myrna 7 p.m.**

**19<sup>th</sup>- JEWISH TRIVIA 7-8:30 P.M.**

**22<sup>nd</sup> – Service with the Rabbi 7 p.m.**

**29<sup>th</sup> – Service with Myrna 7 p.m.**



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### **BIRTHDAYS:**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Matthew MacGregor
- 3<sup>rd</sup>- Myrna Reingold
- 3<sup>rd</sup>- David Taylor
- 6<sup>th</sup>- Annette Login
- 6<sup>th</sup>- Morgan Moliver
- 7<sup>th</sup> – David Hayes
- 7<sup>th</sup> – Ed Sheinberg
- 9<sup>th</sup> – Joann Hamer
- 10<sup>th</sup> – David Wallack
- 14<sup>th</sup>- Priya Fink
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Denise Gadino
- 21<sup>st</sup> – EJ Nowinski
- 21<sup>st</sup> – Jill MacGregor
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – Mark Gittleman
- 29<sup>th</sup> – Jocelyn Morales
- 30<sup>th</sup>- Audrey Dunegan

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

- 20<sup>th</sup>- Bruce Blackwell and Judith Oppenheim
  
- 21<sup>st</sup> – William & Joy Blair



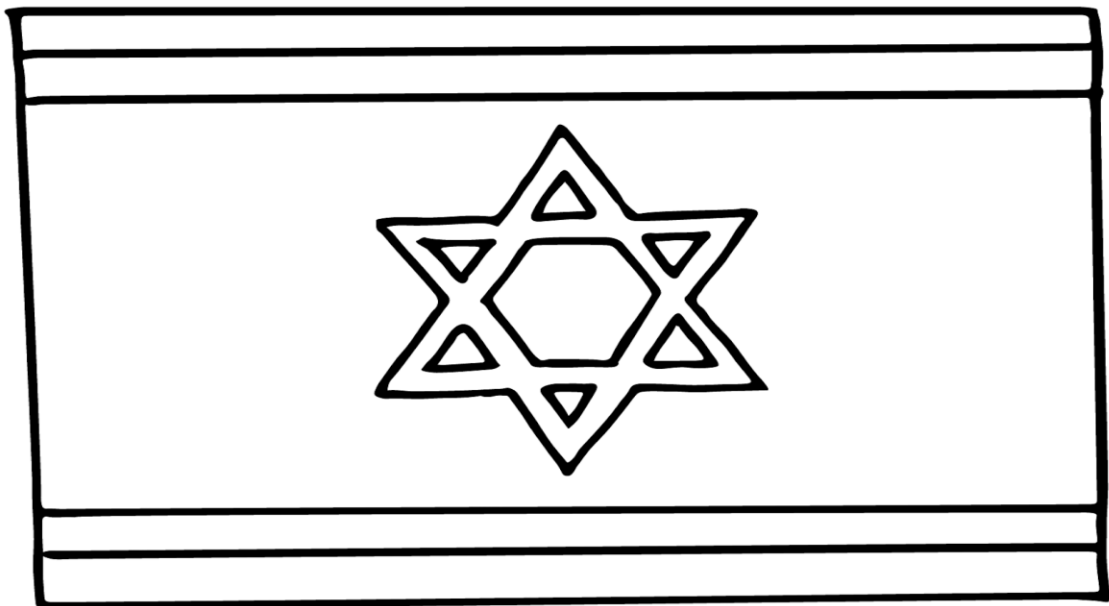
**kids coloring corner**

**Print this out**

**Color it anyway you want!!!**

**Return it to me to be displayed in next months Chailights!**

**Print your name too**



**ISRAEL**

