



# Travel Series Continues, Upcoming Programs and More - December 9, 2024

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## FOUR LESSER KNOWN AMERICAN JEWISH COMMUNITIES

Our new live virtual travel series, *Four Lesser Known American Jewish Communities*, continues next week on December 18.



Join us for the second session in our series on **Wednesday, December 18 at 7:00 pm EST** when we will head north to Alaska. Alaska was purchased from the Russian empire only 154 years ago but the Jewish contribution for the development of Anchorage and Alaska in general is remarkable. In fact, the first mayor of Anchorage was Jewish and more so the idea to purchase Alaska was a Jewish idea. We will be guided by Rabbi Levi Glitsenstein who nine years ago joined the team of the Alaska Jewish Campus and Museum in Anchorage, a home for Jewish life, history and culture in Alaska that serves the growing Jewish community.

Register here - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/four-lesser-known-american-jewish-communities-alaska-tickets-1061802683409>

Learn more about the series here - [walnutstreetsynagogue.com/u-s-travel-series](http://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/u-s-travel-series)

## YEAR END GIVING

As the secular year comes to a close, we hope you will help us strengthen our Jewish identity and presence here in Chelsea. Your support enables us to maintain and secure our historic synagogue, conduct services and provide high quality programming to our community in Greater Boston and now online around the world. Thank you to those who have already donated!

**Giving Page** - <https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/giving/>

## CSP

We are pleased to be a partner congregation of the Orange County Jewish **Community Scholar Program (CSP)**. Please join us at an upcoming program!



## **Roots and Resilience – The Jewish Story of Romania and Moldova**

**Part 3 – Resilience and Transformation: Jewish Romania in the 20th Century** - Sunday, December 15, 1:00 pm EDT (online)

Welcome to an immersive three-part series exploring the rich and complex Jewish history of Romania and Moldova (aka Bessarabia). From the roots of Jewish life in the 2nd century CE to the vibrant communities of the 18th and 19th centuries, and the tumultuous events of the 20th century, this virtual journey will take you through the heart of these lands, visiting both bustling capitals, Bucharest and Kishinev, and smaller towns in the region. Together, we'll uncover the intricate tapestry of Jewish heritage in Romania and Moldova, delving deep into the political, cultural, and social landscapes that shaped Jewish life across the centuries.

**Part 3 – Resilience and Transformation: Jewish Romania in the 20th Century** – Witness the dramatic shifts in Jewish life throughout Romania in the 20th century, from the challenges of the World Wars to the migration of Jews to Israel. Our virtual tour will take us to surviving synagogues and Jewish communities, including the Grand Synagogue of Bucharest, as we explore the resilience and transformation of Romanian Jewry over the last century.

**Evgenia Kempinski** is a Russian Jew born and raised in St. Petersburg. Her family was originally from the Pale of Settlement, Poland, Ukraine and Belorussia, and endured the suppression of Judaism in the Soviet Union then the rebirth of Jewish culture and religious life in today's St. Petersburg. She has been an official St. Petersburg tour guide for over 15 years and is the founder and owner of St. Petersburg Jewish Tours, a company offering Jewish travelers a unique experience of showcasing the best of Russia from a Jewish point of view. She currently lives in Haifa, Israel, still keeping close connections with St. Petersburg and its Jewish community.

[https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0sdemuqzqoG9D-N\\_5ewuFNfwKmR779DoBo#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0sdemuqzqoG9D-N_5ewuFNfwKmR779DoBo#/registration)

## **COMMUNITY PARTNER PROGRAMS**

### **Hanukkah: The Festival of Lights**

Thursday, December 12, 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm EST *(in person at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston)*

Join Combined Jewish Philanthropies (CJP) and the Jewish Arts Collaborative (JAarts) at the Museum of Fine Arts for an evening of art, music, and activities as we celebrate The Festival of Lights. Enjoy live music, dance performances, a pop-up photography exhibit on Sephardic traditions, delicious Hanukkah treats, and explore the diversity of Jewish culture in the MFA's new Judaica Gallery.

**More information here** - [https://www.jewishboston.com/events/hanukkah-the-festival-of-light/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR1C8U4Pz2VjTpAMm2bFpps9ZEf0zdwo8lSEPr5BvvKiiXkvOFx18w4Zrn4\\_aem\\_yM5vUEviajEBR8Cf38A1MA](https://www.jewishboston.com/events/hanukkah-the-festival-of-light/?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR1C8U4Pz2VjTpAMm2bFpps9ZEf0zdwo8lSEPr5BvvKiiXkvOFx18w4Zrn4_aem_yM5vUEviajEBR8Cf38A1MA)

## **COMMUNITY PARTNER PROGRAMS FOR TEENS**

### **Teens Feed**

Wednesday, December 18, 6:00 pm EST *(in person at Temple Emanu-El, 393 Atlantic Ave., Marblehead)*

Jewish teens in grades 7-12 are invited to participate in the mitzvah of caring for the stranger by preparing meals for Lifebridge North Shore. Teens learn about the connection between Judaism and social justice while contributing to the well-being of our community. Dinner will be served to teen volunteers. *Sponsored by the Lappin Foundation*

**Teens Feed flyer** - <https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Teen-Feed-Flyer.pdf>

**Register here** - <https://lappinfoundation.tfaforms.net/135>

## GIVING

Please visit our Giving page to send tributes, recognize yahrzeits and make other general donations to support the Walnut Street Synagogue. Donations can be made online or through the mail.

<https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/giving/>

## YAD CHESSED



Yad Chessed helps Jewish individuals and families who struggle with financial hardship pay their bills and buy food. As a social services agency rooted in the Jewish values of kindness (chessed) and charity (tzedakah), they are committed to helping those in need navigate a path toward financial stability while preserving their privacy and dignity. They provide emergency financial assistance, grocery gift cards and compassionate advice for those trying to make ends meet. Hundreds of families and individuals throughout the state rely on Yad Chessed to provide for their essentials, and even at times, a Jewish burial for a loved one. Members of our community, as well as others in the Jewish community, who need assistance may contact Yad Chessed by phone at 781-487-2693 or by Email at [intake@yadchessed.org](mailto:intake@yadchessed.org) for a confidential conversation. Questions can be directed to [info@yadchessed.org](mailto:info@yadchessed.org).

**Support Yad Chessed** - <https://givebutter.com/yadchessed>

## OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

Do you have milestones such as marriages, births, Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, special birthdays, graduations, etc. to share with our community? If so, please submit details to [central.walnutstreetshul@gmail.com](mailto:central.walnutstreetshul@gmail.com) to be included in our weekly announcements. Photos are welcome!

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## VISIT US ONLINE

Website

<https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/>

Facebook Page - Walnut Street Synagogue

<https://www.facebook.com/WalnutStreetSynagogue>

Facebook Group - Jews of Chelsea, MA Then and Now

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ChelseaJews>

*The Walnut Street Synagogue is the center for Jewish history, education and culture serving Chelsea, Greater Boston and beyond and is the historic home of Congregation Agudas Sholom. (added to National Register of Historic Places in 1993)*



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