

Men's Club President
Alan Friedlander

November 2023

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Dear Congregant:

This year, the meaning of Chanukah will take on current urgencies. On Chanukah, we recall the exploits of the Maccabees, who defended Jewish Tradition during dark times. We also recall the light that miraculously burned for eight days in the reclaimed Temple when there was only sufficient oil for one day. These two memories – the battle for religious freedom and the ritual that celebrates its victory – are intertwined one with the other. We invoke these memories by kindling lights each year in the winter, thereby bringing light to dark nights the way that the efforts of the Maccabees brought light to times of religious darkness. By lighting candles on this holiday, we perpetuate the link between the generations and remind us that we have all come from a common place with a shared tradition as we all continue to celebrate our Jewish Traditions in Israel and throughout the world.

Chanukah is a time to kindle lights and to remember light. Our Men's Club is sending you these candles to use over the holiday and as a way of seeking your support of our youth activities. The funds raised go toward the purchase of Siddurim for the Aleph class, to support our USY and Kadima youth groups and donation to Men's Club in the envelope provided to help us support these important programs and spark light in Jewish life for our young people.

On behalf of your Beth Judea Men's Club, I wish you and your family a very Happy Chanukah. May the light of the candles help to brighten your home and our community on this joyous occasion.

Sincerely,

Alan S. Friedlander
Men's Club President