



November 20, 2008 | 22nd of Cheshvan, 5769

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- ▶ [Shabbat](#)
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## Hanukkah's A Comin': Check Your Local Listings

November 19, 2008

[Holidays](#) (2 comments)By [JanetheWriter](#)

With more than a week to go until Thanksgiving, we're already well into the incessant advertisements for [Barbies](#), [Chia Pets](#), [Pictionary](#), [Scrabble](#), and, of course, the seasonally popular [Norelco electric razors](#). (Can you even buy one of those things in July?!) Our mailboxes are stuffed with catalogs, catalogs and more catalogs -- [Lands' End](#), [L.L. Bean](#), [Harry and David](#) and the [Vermont Country Store](#) -- and soon enough, we won't be able to escape endless refrains of those silver bells, the chestnuts roasting or the I'll be homes...if only in my dreams.

Against this backdrop, I was thrilled to get an email from [Craig 'n Co.](#) letting me know that *Lights! Celebrate Hanukkah Live in Concert* will air on [PBS](#) this December. Undaunted that the concert will air as a pledge drive special (more popularly known as a "beg-a-thon"), I checked my local listings and have marked my calendar for Tuesday, December 2 at 8 p.m. which is when the concert will air on [WLIW-TV Channel 21](#), the Long Island PBS station.

Thanks, [Bing](#), but I'll take [Josh Nelson](#), [Mare Winningham](#), the [Klezmatiks](#) and the rest of the gang doing "Light One Candle," "Hanerot Halalu," "Maoz Tzur," and more over your holiday classic any day.

*Chag sameach!*

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### Comments

Larry Kaufman said:

In December of 1947 -- post UN vote to partition Palestine between the Jews and the Arabs (we didn't know then from Palestinians) but before the state of Israel came into being -- I was asked to write a couple of songs for the faculty Chanukah party at the Euclid Avenue Temple in Cleveland. One of the two I turned in is completely forgotten, but I still remember

I'm dreaming of a green eretz,  
just like King David used to know,  
Where the Negev's bloom  
Dispels the gloom  
That started two thousand years ago.....

My supervisor, the head of the Hebrew department, was nervous about what Rabbi Brickner would think of our singing something to a Christmas melody, albeit by the Jewish Irving Berlin, but she ran off mimeographed copies, we all sang it, and the rabbi loved it.

### BOOKS & MUSIC



**Inside Intermarriage:**  
A Christian Partner's  
Perspective on  
Raising a Jewish  
Family  
by Jim Keen  
(URJ Press)



The Torah: A  
Women's  
Commentary  
(URJ Press)

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Judaism

So that's a bright side story to the cloying of the silver bells and the not so silent nights. Macy's here in Chicago (fka Marshall Fields) had Christmas decorations up before Halloween. Three cheers for Nordstrom's, where they don't go up until the day after Thanksgiving!

November 19, 2008 4:54 PM

Gardening Grandma said:

Jane,

Have I got a site for you (and all your readers...)! When you get a catalog you don't want, don't throw it away without first going to <https://www.catalogchoice.org/>

It's a free service that lets you let the company know you no longer wish to receive the catalog. I've yet to find a company that is not in their directory.

Sign up and you'll help save the environment and your mail carrier's back.

November 19, 2008 7:40 PM

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