

Congregation Beth Am

TNT Mitzvah Project: The Four Mitzvot of Purim

Our Sages teach us *Mishenihnas Adar, marbim bisimha*, he that enters Adar their joy increases. During the month of Adar we prepare ourselves to celebrate the holiday of Purim. There are four mitzvot, Jewish commandments that apply to the holiday of Purim.

1. **Hear the Megillah reading of the Book of Esther** – The Megillah is read twice on Purim, once at night and once during the day. In order to properly fulfill the mitzvah of Megillah, it is necessary to hear every word during the reading. For this reason it is imperative that people not talk to each other during the Megillah reading.

2. **Mishloach Manot/Shalah Manos - Sending Gifts** – Every Jew is obligated to give at least one *Mishloach Manot* gift containing at least two different types of ready-to-eat food items.

3. **Matanot La'evyonim - Gifts to the Poor** – Giving to the poor is a mitzvah all year round. However, the mitzvah to do so on Purim is in addition to the general mitzvah of *tzedakah* (charity). To properly fulfill the mitzvah of *Matanot La'evyonim* one must give to two poor individuals. Although one may fulfill this mitzvah by giving a very minimal amount of money to each person, the sages noted that the highest form of fulfilling this mitzvah is by giving enough money for a meal, or the equivalent in food. This mitzvah may be fulfilled by donating beforehand to an organization that will distribute the money or food on Purim day.

4. **Seudah - Festive Meal** – One is obligated to partake in a festive meal on Purim day.

**This project will focus on Mitzvot related to the Four Mitzvot of Purim.
Please have your mitzvah done prior to the next event.**

Remember for each mitzvah take a picture, and write a one paragraph summary!

This month's TNT is to choose a mitzvah project that will enable you to celebrate Purim and appreciate Adar in the way you will find the most meaningful. Remember for each mitzvah take a picture, and write a one paragraph summary! Please bring your project to our next TNT.

1. Volunteer to help assemble and/or deliver Mishloah Manot bags! Beth Am is in the process of a Mishloah Manot program. Contact Rabbi Earne (rabbie@betham.com) for more information and let him know you would like to volunteer.
2. Hear the book of Esther: Come to the reading of Esther at Congregation Beth Am and bring your friends and family. Email Susan Mualim (susan@betham.com) for more dates and info.
3. Festive Meal: Are you interested in having a festive meal on Purim? Email Rabbi Earne for an after school Seudah, on Purim Day for TNT students only.
4. To fulfill the mitzvah of *MATANOT LAEVYONIM*, you can make a food donation to the Jewish Family Services [Hand Up Food Pantry](#) (858-637-3018). These are food packages that will help our Russian/Jewish community.