

Tefilla Notebook

9 Adar II • Parshat Vayikra • Parshat Zachor

March 11-12, 2022

Steven Dorfman, President

Rabbi Pini Dunner, Senior Rabbi

Nati Bar-Am, Chazan



SHABBAT SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, MARCH 11

CANDLELIGHTING 5:39pm

MINCHA/KABBALAT SHABBAT 5:40pm

SATURDAY, MARCH 12

GEMARA SHIUR 8:30AM

SHACHARIT 9:15AM**

PARSHAT ZACHOR 10:30AM

MINCHA 5:50PM

MAARIV: 6:40PM

SHABBAT ENDS: 6:43PM

****There will be a second reading of Parshat Zachor following services at approximately 11:45am**

WEEKDAY DAVENING TIMES

	Shacharit	Mincha/Maariv
Sunday	8:00am	6:50pm
Mon, Tues	7:00am	6:50pm
Wed & Thurs Purim (See page 2)		
Friday	7:00am	6:30pm

DON'T FORGET TO CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD ONE HOUR ON SATURDAY NIGHT



Welcome to all those joining for the **TEEN MINYAN** this Shabbat at 10:00am in the beit midrash

Teen-led services and participation followed by a teen-only kiddush

A Message from the Sassover Family

To The Entire YINBH Community
Your friendship and outpouring of support were a source of great comfort during our Shiva. It is a privilege to be a part of such a kind and loving community.

With deep gratitude!

The Sassover Family

Dear Members & Friends,

The First World War, said President Woodrow Wilson, was going to be "a war to end all wars." He was totally wrong – and, as it turns out, a plagiarist; the turn of phrase was not even his. "The War That Will End War" was the title of a book by the British writer H.G. Wells (1866-1946), who passionately argued in a series of articles published during the course of 1914 that the First World War had to be won decisively for it to be the last war ever.

Great Britain entered the First World War to honor a military treaty with Belgium after it was summarily invaded by Germany as their backdoor route into France. But although Britain immediately declared war, Wells was concerned that the British powers-that-be would not do what was needed to ensure that Germany's insatiable territorial ambitions were curbed once-and-for-all. "We began to fight because our honour and our pledge obliged us," he wrote, "but so soon as we are embarked upon the fighting, we have to ask ourselves what is the end at which our fighting aims. We cannot simply put the Germans back over the Belgian border and tell them not to do it again."

Three years later, in presenting the case for the United States to join the war in Europe, President Wilson argued that victory would "make the world safe for democracy." Tragically, the cessation of hostilities in November 1918 was followed by peace arrangements which ended up aggravating an aggrieved Germany, resulting in the far more devastating Second World War just over 20 years later. In the final analysis, it wasn't winning the war that was critical, it was winning the peace. The bungled territorial adjustments at Versailles and the insistence on crippling reparations from Germany resulted in festering resentments, creating the foundation for the rise of Hitler and his warped worldview. It was a perfect storm, and the rest – as they say – is history.

Except that it isn't. More recently, the "war to end all wars" was the Cold War – which the West won decisively. The Berlin Wall was torn down in 1989, and the Soviet Union collapsed a couple of years after that. Capitalism and globalization took over, so that even the heart of Communism became a bastion of profit-based business. Most importantly, peace reigned between East and West. And while wars were not entirely eradicated – such that they existed, they were both local and manageable. By which I mean that a "World War" with a potential for nuclear devastation was, for all intents and purposes, off the table. The world had moved on.

And yet, isn't it remarkable how people always say that one should learn from history, and then they never do? In 1905, the philosopher George Santayana (1863-1952) noted that "those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." Then, in 1922, after the "war to end all wars" was done and dusted, he wryly quipped that "only the dead have seen the end of war."

And how right he was. Collective memory is short-lived, and expedience always trumps experience. Over the past two weeks it has suddenly dawned on the western world that even though we all confidently believed Russia was no longer a major international threat, in Russia, the reduction of status from superpower to former superpower was not seen in quite the same way. Not remembering Germany's resentment after Versailles has proven to be an Achilles heel the western world will regret long into the future. Russia's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine might very well be Vladimir Putin's Saddam Hussein moment, and he may ultimately pay a personal price for his atrocious warmongering – but by then too much damage will have been done. And sadly, it could all have been avoided.

There is a curious directive in Jewish tradition demanding us to recall the atrocious warmongering of an ancient, long-forgotten nation – the Amalekites. Soon after the Exodus, the Amalekites attacked the Jews at Rephidim near Mount Sinai, and were defeated by Joshua. God immediately told Moses to record the incident for future generations so that they would recall the unprovoked aggression of this belligerent tribe (Ex. 17:14): **תִּכְתֹּב זאת זִכְרוֹן בְּסֵפֶר וְשִׁים בְּאָזְנֵי יְהוֹשֻׁעַ בִּי מַחֵה אֶמְלֶכֶת אֶת זֵכֶר עַמְלֶכֶת מִתַּחַת הַשָּׁמַיִם** - "Inscribe this in a document as a reminder and read it aloud to Joshua: I will utterly blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven!"

Amalek became the prototypical enemy of the Jewish people, regularly cited as the essence of evil – most famously in the Purim story, in which the antihero, Haman, is described as a descendant of Agag, the Amalekite King executed hundreds of years earlier by the prophet Samuel. For this reason, we read a short passage regarding Amalek as part of the weekly Torah reading each year on the Shabbat before Purim (Deut. 25:17): **זָכוֹר אֶת אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה לְךָ עַמְלֶכֶת בְּדֶרֶךְ בְּצֵאתְךָ מִמִּצְרָיִם** - "Remember what Amalek did to you on your journey, after you left Egypt." The passage goes on to say: **תִּמְחָה אֶת זֵכֶר עַמְלֶכֶת מִתַּחַת הַשָּׁמַיִם לֹא תִשְ�כַּח** - "blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven. Do not forget!"

Curiously, both Torah passages demand that we remember what Amalek did, notwithstanding their mandated eradication. The Amalekites have completely disappeared, and it is a wonderful irony that archeologists have been unable to find any trace of this warrior tribe, to the extent that some historians have declared the Amalekite tribe to be purely mythological. Nevertheless, we are expected to remember what they did year after year, generation after generation, century after century.

Perhaps the explanation for this compulsory recollection is that although the Amalekites may no longer exist, the evil they embodied has morphed and mutated into successor Amalekites, resulting in the same attempts by evil to overcome good as occurred at the dawn of Jewish history. Only by recalling that ancient lesson can we be fully prepared and ready to battle Amalekite evil whenever it raises its ugly head.

The lesson from history – and from the annual Amalek aide-memoire – is that we can never lower our guard. Particularly when the bad guys seem down and out and we feel most secure, we need to be on the lookout for the next whack-a-mole head to pop up – as it always surely does. Putin is only the latest incarnation of this phenomenon, and there will certainly be many more once he is gone. Let's hope that next time around we are all much better prepared.

Wishing you a Shabbat Shalom and a great week ahead, *Rabbi Pini Dunner*

Sisterhood Corner

March

Happy Purim!

MISHLOACH MANOT IS OFFICIALLY SOLD OUT!!

Thank you to all who took part in our joyous mitzvah and participated in Sisterhood's biggest fundraiser of the year! See the list of participants in the box below.

SAVE THE DATE

Puppets. Pizza. Purim!

Wednesday, March 16th at 6:30pm

\$10/child includes prizes, pizza, and popcorn!

RSVP to beverlyhillssynagogue.org

Let's Celebrate Passover!

Sunday, April 3rd 9:30-12:00pm

Big Fun for Little People ages 1-6yrs

See flyer with full details!

Buy your next Book Group read!

People Love Dead Jews by Dara Horn

Sisterhood's next Book Group will be held

Tuesday, April 26th

Chag Purim Sameach & Shabbat Shalom,

Cecile & Ruthie

Sisterhood Co-Presidents

YAHRTZEITS



Moritz Rosenfeld
Moshe ben Naftali Zeev z"l
Father of
Robert Rosenfeld
Yahrtzeit - 13 Adar II

Happy Anniversary
Simon & Susy Rubinstein

PURIM SCHEDULE

Wednesday, March 16th

Fast Begins **5:47am**

Shacharit **7:00am**

Doors Open **6:00pm**

Puppet Show **6:30pm**

See Puppet Show Flyer on page 3

Mincha **6:50pm**

Maariv/Fast Ends: **7:41pm**

Megilla Reading: **7:45pm**

Followed by a break-the-fast

Thursday, March 17th

Shacharit **7:00am**

Megilla Reading **7:30am**

Second Megilla Reading **10:00am**

Mincha/Maariv **TBD**



Johanna Rosenblatt

Josh Flaum

Lauren Broidy

Jacqueline Cohenca

Andre Rosenblatt

July Hodara

Matanot La'evyonim

Rabbi Dunner is going to be distributing *Matanot La'evyonim* to needy families in Los Angeles and Jerusalem. You can contribute on our website or send in a check.

The online cutoff date is March 16th. If you would like to donate online, go to

beverlyhillssynagogue.org/donate.

If you would like to mail a check, please make it out to "YINBH" and write "Matanot La'evyonim" on the memo so it is applied correctly.

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE WHO PURCHASED MISHLOACH MANOT:

WE ARE NOW COMPLETELY SOLD OUT!

David & Caroline Azouz

Chazzan Nati & Carmit Baram

Michael & Susan Baum

Michael & Margaret Bayer

Barbara Bernstein

William & June Brenner

Elliott & Robin Broidy

Hart & Debbie Cohen

Victor & Jacqueline Cohenca

Steven & Vivian Dorfman

Rabbi Pini & Sabine Dunner

Simon & Rita Elhiani

Rabbi Yehuda & Simi Feigen

Marty & Eva Feldberg

Shawney & Richard Fine

Harry Finkel & Shirley Aizenstein

George & Suzi Fischmann

Karen Fisher

David & Gloria Frankel

Jerry & Jean Friedman

Aaron & Lillian Fuchs

Jason Fuchs

Tuvia Ganz & Joanne Sacks

Larry & Judith Garshofsky

Ernie & Regina Goldberger

Jeffrey Golden & Allyson Kimmel

Susan Graysen

Evan & Liz Greenspan

Edwin & Cecile Gromis

Jeff Gross & Gina Raphael

Jonas Herskovitz

Mark & Janette Herskovitz

Chavi Hertz

Patrick & Ginette Hodara

Vahid & Shirin Javaherian

Philip & Janice Kaufler

Hillel & Ruth Kellerman

Jonathan & Faye Kellerman

Mark & Amy Kestenbaum

David & Roberta Kimmel

Hillel Laks

Dr. William Levin

William & Joan Lopatin

Vera Markowitz

Isaac & Sarah Meier

Stuart & Fran Miller

Sam & Diba Mostadim

Raphy & Rivka Nissel

Barry Novack & Annie Baum

Mitch & Karen Parver

Howard & Judy Raykoff

Weston & Denise Richter

David & Leah Ross

Rosalyn Rothman

Simon & Susy Rubinstein

Franck & Evelina Ruimy

Faramarz & Sheilagh Sadeghi

Lee Samson

Joseph & Galina Samuel

Stephen & Jessica Samuel

Moshe & Helen Sassover

George & Irina Schaeffer

Arnold & Sheri Schlesinger

Stephen H. Schloss

Avrumie & Maryjo Schnitzer

Adam & Jesse Shaked

David & Michele Silver

Jaime & Marilyn Sohacheski

Norman & Virginia Solomon

Seymour & Grace Stoll

Daniel & Bella Strum

Barton & Arleen Tanenbaum

Karynne Tencer

Benjamin & Ella Thompson

JJ & Wendy Wallack

Michael & Sharon Weiner

Robert Zeller & Nadine Gerson

PUPPETS • PIZZA • PURIM

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16TH, 2022

Puppet Show at 6:30pm

\$10/child

Includes pizza, popcorn, and prizes

RSVP at beverlyhillssynagogue.org

Megilla Reading at 7:45pm by
Chazzan Nati Baram

Followed by a Break-The-Fast sponsored by
Joe & Galina Samuel in memory of Joe's
brother, Victor Samuel, Yitzchak ben Yaakov z"l,
whose yahrtzeit is on the 18th of Adar.

YINBH Beverly Hills Synagogue
9261 Alden Drive • Beverly Hills, CA 90210
Beverlyhillssynagogue.org • 310-276-7650

HOLIDAY HOPPER

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Questions call (310) 276-7650 or email office@yinbh.org

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For more info and
to signup
Shelley Schwartz
Snsmd@ucla.edu

