Tefilla Notebook

7 Nissan • Vayikra

March 19-20, 2021

Steven Dorfman, President

Rabbi Pini Dunner, Senior Rabbi

Nati Bar-Am, Chazan

SHABBAT SCHEDULE

FRIDAY MARCH 19TH

CANDLELIGHTING 6:46pm

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES 6:30pm

SATURDAY, MARCH 20TH

GEMARA SHIUR: 8:30AM

PESUKEI D'ZIMRA 9:15AM

MORNING SERVICES 9:30AM

MINCHA 7:00pm

SHABBAT ENDS 7:50pm

WEEKDAY DAVENING TIMES

Sunday Mon- Fri 8:00am & 7:00pm 7:00am & 7:00pm

MAZAL TOV!



We welcome our new Sefer Torah from Franck and Evelina Ruimy to

celebrate Ethan's Bar Mitzvah

Chametz Sale Form

Please send your completed Chametz sale forms to the office by **Thursday**, **March 24th**, **8:oopm**. Forms are available to download or fill out online on our website.

Maot Chitim

We have the custom to donate *Maot Chitim*, money to cover the cost of two Matzot, wine and Seder food for those who cannot afford it. If you would like to help in this Mitzvah, you can donate on our website or mail a check to the office.

Dear Members and Friends,

Earlier this week I read that Barbara Rickles had died at the age of 84. Her late husband Don – who passed away in 2017, and often used his wife as the butt of his jokes – was one of America's best-loved 'insult comedians'. A regular on Johnny Carson's "The Tonight Show", he was a fixture of the Hollywood showbiz circuit for decades. As he once said: "Show business is my life – when I was a kid I sold insurance, but nobody laughed."



That quip always makes me chuckle, but it contains a powerful truth: there is a destiny which determines what we end up doing in our lives, and what it is that gives meaning to our lives. We might branch out and try other things, but in the end we must face up to the fact that the most comfortable fit for us is doing what we are best at, which often translates as what it is we have to offer to benefit others. Most importantly, what we do that satisfies this aspect of who we are may not always be the job which earns us the money we need to live, although it will certainly be the part of our lives that makes our life worth living.

Some people are blessed to find jobs and careers that check all their boxes, but truthfully, even the most fulfilling job leaves gaps, and those who allow their careers to become the totality of their lives will almost certainly experience a nagging vacuum at the heart of who they are – a feeling which only grows worse with time. Emily Esfahani Smith's 2017 book *The Power of Meaning: Crafting a Life That Matters* made this elusive aspect of the human condition its central theme. Her thesis is simple: "Leading a meaningful life [corresponds] with being a "giver," and its defining feature [is] connecting and contributing to something beyond the self."

Smith expands on this powerful idea and offers a beautiful blueprint for creating meaning in our lives: "When people explain what makes their lives meaningful, they describe connecting to and bonding with other people in positive ways. They discuss finding something worthwhile to do with their time... no matter what occupies our days, when we reframe our tasks as opportunities to help others, our lives and our work feel more significant. Each of us has a circle of people—in our families, in our communities, and at work—whose lives we can improve. That's a legacy everyone can leave behind."

Judaism offers us a perfect role-model for this paradigm: none other than our very first leader, Moses. The Book of Vayikra begins with the following verse (Lev. 1:1): אַלָּיִי מֵאהֶל מּוֹעֵּד - הַ אַלָּיו מֵאהֶל מוֹעֵּד - "[God] called to Moses and spoke to him from the Tent of Meeting." The Midrash on this verse points out that Moses had ten different names, only one of which was Moses, or "Moshe" in Hebrew. According to the Midrash, by calling out to him using his "Moshe" name, God was conveying the message that He would only address him by this particular name and by none of the others.

Curiously, the name Moshe is not actually Hebrew, rather it was the name given to Moses by Batya, the daughter of Pharaoh, when she rescued him from the river (Ex. 2:10): זָתָּקְרָא שְׁמוֹ מֹשֶׁה וַתּאֹמֶר כִּי מִן הַמֵּיִם מְשִׁיתָהוּ She called his name 'Moshe' – for as she said: 'since I drew him out of the water.'"

The great Hasidic master, Rabbi Shmuel Shmelke Horowitz of Nikolsburg, observes that for this Midrash to appear at this particular point in the Torah is rather strange. After all, this was hardly the first time God had addressed Moses using the name Moshe. At the very beginning of the Exodus story, during their very first encounter at the Burning Bush (Ex. 3:4), God called out to Moses and said 'Moshe! Moshe!', to which Moses replied 'here I am.' So why mention that the name Moshe is significant at the beginning of Vayikra?

Rebbe Shmelke cites a well-known and rather quirky Seforno commentary to explain this anomaly. According to Seforno, if one was being strictly grammatical, Moses' name should not have been Moshe at all. If the reason for his name was that he had been rescued from the waterway – as Batya said: *min hamayim meshistihu* – his name should have been "Mashui", which in Hebrew means "the one who was drawn out." The meaning of "Moshe" is something totally different – it means "the one who draws others out."

As a result of this grammatical mix-up, Seforno concludes that the Torah is sending us a message: because Moses was saved from certain death, he had a moral lifelong obligation to save others. In fact, for his life to have any meaning, he needed to constantly be "Moshe". And while he may have been a very great prophet, and a very great leader – those were his day jobs, and the true purpose of his life could only be achieved by saving others, a purpose embedded into the name given to him by his rescuer, and preferred to all his others by God.

To which Rebbe Shmelke adds, that it was only at this moment in the Torah narrative – after the Exodus, after the Red Sea crossing, after the Mount Sinai revelation, after Moses saved the nation from God's anger following the sin of the golden calf, and after the sanctuary was built – that this point could be made. Up to this point Moses was just doing his job, and now he could quite rightfully say: my job is done. And it is for precisely this reason that the Midrash chooses this juncture to point out that life's meaning, and all activities in your life that give it meaning, don't end when your workday is over, nor do they end when your career has come to an end. Those aspects of your life that give it meaning, namely being there for others and helping them in their time of need, are constant – just as Moshe's name indicated that his life's purpose never ceased, even when his job was done.

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



March

KEEP CALM AND SEDER ON
Many of us aren't accustomed to
making Pesach at home.
Despite this year's unusual
circumstances
we wish you a peaceful and joyful
celebration!

Many thanks to all who generously donated to support our greater Tomchei LA community members who are struggling with food insecurity and economic hardship due to Covid-19

Shabbat Shalom
Cecile & Ruthie
Sisterhood Co-Presidents

YAHRTZEITS

Abraham Kaufler

Avraham Yosef ben Chaim z"l Father of

Philip Kaufler

Yahrtzeit - 7 Nissan

Margarita Socolosky

Malka bat Peter a"h Mother of

Rose Kemps

Yahrtzeit - 8 Nissan

Dora Ross

Devorah bat David a"h Mother of

David Ross

Yahrtzeit - 12 Nissan

Sam Praw

Shalom ben Chanoch Eliezer z''l Father of

Ruthie Kellerman

Yahrtzeit - 13 Nissan

Robert Greenspan

Reuven Feivel ben Chaim z"l Father of

Evan Greenspan

Yahrtzeit - 13 Nissan



Edward Tanenbaum
Cecile Gromis
Emma Almond
Vera Markowitz
Vivian Novack
Rina Lauchheimer
Isabella Kest
Elliot Sassover
Rivka Czuker
Rita Lewkowicz

Stay Connected on Social Media





Siyum Bechorim

The siyum will take place in-person at shul and via zoom Siyum by **Rabbi Pini Dunner**

Thursday, March 25th at 7:40am

https://www.beverlyhillssynagogue.org/zoom Meeting ID: 310 276 7650 Password: yinbh

FAST OF THE FIRST BORN SONS:

The custom on Erev Pesach is for firstborn sons, or fathers of prebarmitzva firstborn sons, to fast, as a way of commemorating the lifesaving exclusion of Jewish firstborns on the fateful night of the tenth plague, when all the Egyptian first-born sons died at the hand of God. However, another tradition offers respite from this fast through the celebration of a "siyum" – the completion of a Talmudic tractate – which, if accompanied by a "meal", is counted as a festive occasion that exonerates one from having to fast. *This year the fast is brought forward to Thursday March 25th, as Erev Pesach falls on Shabbat.*

THANK YOU

Rabbi Pini & Sabine Dunner for sponsoring the siyum in memory of Rabbi Pini's grandfather, HaRav Yosef Tzvi HaLevi Dunner z"l whose yahrtzeit is on the 14 of Nissan





RABBI DUNNER'S SHABBAT HAGADOL DRASHA



When is it ever enough?
Unraveling the Dayenu song

MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2021 6:30PM PST

DELIVERED VIA ZOOM

MEETING ID: 310 276 7650

PASSWORD: YINBH

PASSOVER SCHEDULE 2021/5781

Thursday, March 25th - TAANIT BECHORIM Tuesday, March 30th - FIRST DAY CHOL

7:00am Shacharit

7:40am Siyum Bechorim

Thank you to **Rabbi Pini & Sabine Dunner** for sponsoring the Siyum bechorim in memory of Rabbi Pini's grandfather, **HaRav Yosef Tzvi HaLevi Dunner z"l**, whose yahartzeit is on 14 Nissan.

6:50pm Mincha/Maariv

8:06pm Bedikat Chametz

Friday, March 26th - "PSEUDO" EREV PESACH

7:00am Shacharit

11:45am Latest time to burn/nullify the Chometz

6:30pm Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat Maariv

6:51pm Candle Lighting

24 Hour YIZKOR Candles should also be lit before 6:51 pm

Shabbat, March 27th - SHABBAT HAGADOL/EREV PESACH

7:15am Morning Services

Note early start time so that you can eat chametz

10:31am Latest time to finish eating chametz

7:10pm Mincha

7:45pm Maariv

7:55pm Candle lighting / First Night Seder begins

Light should be taken from an existing flame

Bracha: "Le'hadlik ner shel Yom Tov" and "Shehecheyanu"

EAT AFIKOMAN BEFORE 12:58 AM

Sunday, March 28th - First Day of YOMTOV

9:00am Shacharit

10:15am Mussaf with Tefillat Tal

Kiddush following morning services is sponsored by **Evan &**Liz Greenspan in memory of Evan's father, Robert
Greenspan, Reuven Feivel ben Chaim z"l, whose

yahrtzeit is on 13 Nissan; and in memory of Liz's father, Nathan Sweetbaum, Natan ben Yitzchok z"l, whose

yahrtzeit is on 14 Nissan.

7:10pm Mincha

7:30pm Maariv/Sefirat Ha'omer

7:56pm Candle lighting / Second Night Seder begins

Light should be taken from an existing flame

Bracha: "Le'hadlik ner shel Yom Tov" and "Shehecheyanu"

EAT AFIKOMAN BEFORE 12:58am

Monday, March 29th - SECOND DAY OF YOMTOV

8:15am Gemara Shiur

9:00am Shacharit

7:10pm Mincha

Shiur between Mincha/Maariv

7:55pm Maariv/Sefirat Ha'omer

7:57pm Yom Tov ends

Tuesday, March 30th - FIRST DAY CHOL HAMOED

When davening shacharit and mincha, regular Amida, just add ya'aleh v' yavo

7:00am Shacharit (includes hallel and mussaf)

7:00pm Mincha/Maariv/Sefiarat Ha'omer

Wednesday, March 31st - SECOND DAY CHOL HAMOED

When davening shacharit and mincha, regular Amida, just add ya'aleh v' yavo

7:00am Shacharit (includes hallel and mussaf)

7:00pm Mincha/Maariv/Sefirat Ha'omer

Thursday, April 1st – THIRD DAY OF CHOL HAMOED

When davening shacharit and mincha, regular Amida, just add ya'aleh v' yavo

7:00am Shacharit (includes hallel and mussaf)

7:00pm Mincha/Maariv/Sefirat Ha'omer

Friday, April 2nd – LAST DAY OF CHOL HAMOED

7:00am Shacharit (includes hallel and mussaf)

11:00am Yizkor on zoom Code: 310 276 7650 pwd: yinbh

6:30pm Mincha/Kabbalat Hachag/Maariv

6:56pm Candle Lighting - "Le'hadlik ner shel Shabbat v

Yom Tov" - NO "SHEHECHEYANU"

24 Hour YIZKOR Candles should also be lit before 6:56 pm

Shabbat, April 3rd – SHEVI'I SHEL PESACH

8:15am Gemara Shiur

9:00am Shacharit (includes hallel and mussaf)

6:30pm Mincha/Maariv/Sefirat Ha'omer

8:00pm Candle Lighting

Light should be taken from an existing flame

Bracha: "Le'hadlik ner shel Yom Tov" - NO "Shehecheyanu"

Sunday, April 4th - ACHARON SHEL PESACH / YIZKOR

8:15am Gemara Shiur

9:00am Shacharit

10:15am (approx.) YIZKOR

7:10pm Mincha

8:00pm Maariv/Sefirat Ha'omer

8:01pm Yom Tov ends

 $8:15 \mathrm{pm}$ Chametz sold by Rabbi Dunner will be available to eat

BEVERLY HILLS SYNAGOGUE YOUNG ISRAEL OF NORTH BEVERLY HILLS

9261 Alden Drive Beverly Hills, CA 90210

310-276-7650 office@yinbh.org

Chametz Sale Form

Chametz Sale Forms can be completed online or you can download the pdf. The forms can be found on our website at beverlyhillssynagogue.org

All forms must be returned to the office by



Wednesday, March 24th at 8pm. If you download the pdf, please scan it and email it to office@yinbh.org or fax it to us at 310-276-7018

OU Passover Guide

The 2021 OU Passover guide is available for pick up in the shul.

Includes: Shopping Guide, Kashering Guide, Davar Torahs, and recipes



You can also download it directly at

https://oukosher.org/passover/passover-guide/

Maot Chitim

Donate money to help cover the cost of Matzah and a Seder for those who cannot afford it. You can donate at beverlyhillssynagogue.org/donate



and select "Maot Chitim" from the drop down. Alternatively, you can send your checks made out to 'YINBH' to the office. Please make sure that you write "Maot Chitim" on the memo so we apply it correctly.

LIVE VIRTUAL YIZKOR SERVICE Friday, April 2, 2021 11:00am PST via Zoom Zoom code: 310 276 7650 Password: yinbh

When Erev Pesach Falls on Shabbat - A Guide - Summary

THURSDAY, MARCH 25TH - FAST OF THE FIRSTBORN SONS

- Siyum in Synagogue after morning services
- Make arrangements with your Rabbi for sale of chametz
- Kosher inside oven
- Obtain supply of paper plates and cups, and plastic cutlery
- Search for chametz in the evening

FRIDAY, MARCH 26TH - "PSEUDO" EREV PESACH

- Prepare kitchen for Pesach. Kosher top of cooker cover surfaces
- Store away chametz utensils
- Put aside remaining chametz utensils and food still required
- Put aside challot for Friday night and Shabbat morning
- Burn chametz by 11:45am PST, omitting Kol Chamira
- Prepare Seder and lay table, ensuring no chametz is brought near
- Prepare Shabbat meals in Pesach utensils
- After kiddush on Friday night and Shabbat morning, say blessing over challot at side table
- Finish all bread, brush off crumbs and continue with meal on another table.
- Use paper plates, plastic cups and plastic cutlery
- Light a 24-hour candle before shabbat begins.
- Light Shabbat Candles at 6:51pm PST.

SHABBAT MARCH 27TH - EREV PESACH

- Morning service held early
- Dairy breakfast with challot
- Finish breakfast by 10:31am PST at the very latest
- After breakfast, clear away any remaining chametz
- Throw away paper plates etc.
- Shake out and store away tablecloth
- Recite Kol Chamira declaration before 11:45am PST
- Shabbat lunch no challot
- No matzo may be eaten
- Yom Tov candles should be lit after Shabbat terminates at 7:49pm

 PST
- Light should be taken from an existing flame

See the full booklet at rabbidunner.com or pick it up in the Synagogue