

שערי שמים SHAAREI SHOMAYIM

SPRING / SUMMER 2022
 NISAN-IYYAR-SIVAN-TAMMUZ-AV-ELUL 5782



Art by Aviva Bloom

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Front cover image by Aviva Bloom, a Jerusalem-based artist who enjoys creating unique watercolour Judaica.
To view her latest work, follow her Instagram @artbyavivabloom



Where Does Redemption Start?

A version of a popular saying goes “It’s not where you start; it’s where you finish.” The optimistic sentiment expressed in this phrase lifts the spirit and encourages us to be goal-oriented, focusing much more on the desired outcome than on the questionable circumstance in which we currently find ourselves. There is wisdom in this motivational approach.

Surely a holiday that commemorates a transformative redemptive experience is shaped by this hopeful outlook. Although our ancestors were enslaved in Egypt for two hundred and ten years, and according to our rabbinic tradition, had even declined to a lowly spiritual state that was almost irredeemable, the divine promise of redemption, of returning to our homeland, of raising a generation of free children, pushed a collection of slaves to think more about the finish line than the bottomless pit of slavery they were in. Pesach is all about the long-term goal as is described at the seder night by several symbolic acts, the first of which is the four cups of wine. Each cup represents a separate phase in the redemption process – another step forward.

But it would be misleading to examine the redemptive message of Pesach solely through the lens of desired outcomes and objectives. Considering the nature of the “geulah”, the redemption from Mitzrayim, the Talmud shares a disagreement between Rabbi Yochanan and Rabbi Yehoshua ben Levi:

“...for Rabbi Yochanan argues that though the complete deliverance from Egypt did not take place until the morning [of the 15th of Nisan], there was some kind of deliverance in the evening; whereas Rabbi Yehoshua ben Levi argues that since the real deliverance happened in the morning, [that of the evening] was no proper deliverance.” (Berachot 4b)

Rabbi Yehoshua ben Levi saw redemption within the framework of achieved goals. The night of the first seder for the Jewish people in Egypt, while perhaps an emotional and religiously stirring experience, did not change the status of the people from slavery to freedom. It was only upon leaving Egypt the next day that redemption, of which Hashem spoke, was realized.

However, Rabbi Yochanan refused to dismiss the stirring in the hearts and souls of the people. He deeply believed that the

partial redemption of that moment, as incomplete as it was, must not be ignored. In other words, Rabbi Yochanan asserts that the struggle of the moment, the challenging circumstance of the present, contain the seeds of redemption and we should not search only for the endpoint and thereby disregard where we start. The finish line is surely important, but where you start does matter.

Consider this: Avraham our forefather and the progenitor of the Jewish people started out as an idolator and was an immigrant to Israel. In fact, the Haggadah insists that we recall his dubious beginnings as we tell the story of our redemption at the seder.

Moshe Rabbeinu, the greatest of all prophets who attained a level of closeness to Hashem that will never be duplicated, started out as a prince in a land described in the Torah as incomparably morally corrupt and depraved.

The ultimate redeemer of our people and of the entire world, the Mashiach, traces his lineage back to a woman (Ruth) who was born into a nation that was an enemy to the Jewish people (Moav) and later converted to Judaism.

Where Avraham, Moshe and Ruth ended up has certainly shaped the narrative of our people. But perhaps their impact is multiplied precisely because of where they started. Choosing a direction and destination in life matters a great deal. But let us not for a moment believe that we are not in a good place to take the first step on that path. “It’s not where you start; it’s where you finish” is far from the whole story.

“If only things were different now, then I would...” is a statement that Rabbi Yochanan would have refused to declare. So should we.

Rochelle and I wish you and your family *Chag Kasher Vesameach*. 📖

P ARSHAT HASHAVUA SHIUR

With Rabbi Elliott Diamond



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Reflections on Leadership

ROBIN GOFINE



As my term as President of Shaarei Shomayim comes to an end, and this is my last article for the Bulletin, I would like to reflect upon lessons in leadership learned from this experience. Leading a large shul like ours is complex at the best of times, all the more so during a pandemic and at a time of significant transition.

Over the years, I have had the privilege of studying leadership and have learned from talented leaders in the Jewish world. I wish to share a few ideas from people who have guided and inspired me. I hope that the following ideas and lessons inspire each of you to do great things in your lives, for our shul and for our community, ensuring a better world for all:

Know Yourself and Lead with Authenticity

Authentic leadership is about how we see ourselves. Knowing our strengths and weaknesses allows us to have the confidence to be who we are - not who we should be. This self-awareness breeds trust and respectful working relationships. It instills confidence in those around you. By leading with your values and acting with integrity, one earns respect and instills confidence within those around you.

Build a Team and Empower Others

Through his leadership, our Past President Randall Craig has demonstrated the importance of engaging and empowering others to achieve our collective goals. A critical role of the President is to mobilize our shul's volunteers to achieve greatness. Shaarei Shomayim's uniqueness is defined by the hundreds of volunteers who lead committees and serve on them, offer their time and expertise, and give of themselves. The President's job is to inspire and engage people to get involved - the responsibility does not lie with her alone. We are blessed to have leaders of all kinds in our community - medical, public health, business, education, strategy, law, children, programming, and communal life. Tapping into this treasure trove of human capital is instrumental in making our community stronger.

Support Your Professional

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks^{z"l} notes in his book *Lessons in Leadership* that leaders must have faith in the people they lead. The work of the leader is accomplished by believing in those around us. We are blessed to have Rabbi Diamond, Rabbi Bergman, Rabbi Anstandig, Ralph Levine and Chazzan Freund. Each in their own way has touched and nourished our souls during this critical time and for that we are all grateful. Nicole Toledano has been instrumental in our success along with her dedicated team: Lejla Petrela, Meital Itzkovich, Ellen Spigelman and Tova Gaisin. Trusting each person to do their job, providing advice when necessary and helping to remove obstacles that they face, has enabled all of us to achieve our collective goals. Supporting and trusting our professionals to do their job is a key leadership capacity.

Happiness is Doing the Right Thing

Rabbi Diamond over the years has spoken of the Jewish understanding of *simcha* or happiness. Our sages teach us that true happiness is derived not by the ephemeral feeling of happiness that may feel good for the moment, but rather from that deep sense of knowing that we are acting in the appropriate and correct way. I hope that this idea continues to guide each of us through life.

Optimism is Powerful

Hope and the ability to see a better future and create it have been the underlying strengths of Jewish leaders since the earliest of times. In Parshat Bereshit the words *Ki Tov*: 'it is good, it will be good' are used by Hashem not only to describe Hashem's assessment of what he has created but also, according to Rabbi Diamond the inherent good in the creation as well. After Yocheved gave birth to Moshe, the Torah tells us that when Yocheved looked at the baby, she saw that Moshe was 'Ki Tov' - he was goodly. Israel's National Anthem *Hatikvah* - *The Hope* - speaks of hope transcending thousands of years of Jewish history, hatred and persecution. During the pandemic, members expressed appreciation for the optimistic and positive messages from the President,

cont. on page 6

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Reflections on Leadership

which gave them hope. A positive attitude from leaders is critically important helping people to see a brighter future during difficult times.

Don't Underestimate Seemingly Small Gestures

The most meaningful and memorable moments in serving our community have come during moments when connecting with members of our community. Welcoming new members, visiting a shiva, delivering food to the vulnerable or checking up on an elderly member is a reminder of how important being part of our community is to many, and that each of us can make a significant difference by reaching out.

Dream Big

Having lofty goals that inspire others is important, even if you don't achieve all that you wish to during your time. Dr. Erica Brown* writes that "...a great Jewish leader dreams big, articulates aspirations, removes barriers, engages in expert problem solving and then does everything within their power to bring their vision to reality – no matter how long it takes." My hope is that these words will continue to inspire successive generations of leadership at Shaarei Shomayim.

Never Give Up

Leaders are in it for the long-haul and don't give up. When Rabbi Jonathan Sacks²¹ gave his investiture speech as Chief Rabbi of Britain he said: "I will never give up or relax or despair... Leadership begins with a vision bound by hope and the daily discipline of thousands of incremental covenantal commitments." Leadership is a never-ending job. Each of us builds upon the foundation laid by our predecessors and will continue to be built by those that come after us.

Don't Fear Failure

Leaders cannot fear making mistakes. Jewish Educator Arna Poupko Fisher** notes that leaders who seek transformation and originality must be willing to put themselves at personal risk. Leaders who are fearful of failures will never stretch the fearful possibility of being wrong into a welcome opportunity for growth.

Everyone has a Role to Play

We must be guided by the teaching *Kol Yisrael arevim zeh ba'zeh* – All Jews are responsible for one another (Shevuot 39a). Everyone's participation is critically important to build and serve a community. Shaarei Shomayim is successful because of the multitude of volunteers who comprise our committees, boards and various initiatives. Together we are collectively responsible for our failures and our achievements.

I would like to express deep appreciation to our Board of Governors and to each member of the Executive who has been part of this unparalleled journey over the past two years: Elie Roth, Donna Starkman Shiff, Jonathan Ostro, Rachel Libman, Randall Craig and Louis Vandersluis. Each individual has made a significant contribution to our shul.

Elie – Thank you for using your legal mind and skill to ensure that our shul is governed to the highest possible standard.


Donna – Thank you for your ongoing principled perspective and your skill in serving as Chairwoman of the Board.

Jonathan – Thank you for the many hours spent in ensuring that our shul is in a sound financial position.

Rachel – Thank you for your thoughtful consideration and sensitive perspective on all of the issues we faced.

Louis – Thank you for your selfless dedication as Gabbai always and particularly during the pandemic.

Randall – Thank you for your ongoing availability and mentorship.

As a result of the unique talents of each of you and your commitment to our shul we have been able to navigate the challenges. Our collective accomplishments have resulted in a stronger, more vibrant and dynamic institution. May we continue to go from strength to strength. 

*Dr. Erica Brown, 'Visionary Leadership for a Jewish Future' (Sapir, Volume Four, Winter 2022)

** Rabbi Larry Hoffman, ed. *More than Managing, The Relentless Pursuit of Effective Jewish Leadership* (Nashville: Jewish Lights Publishing, 2016).

IN MEMORY

Since the writing of this article, we have lost a beloved community leader – **Julia Koschitzky**²¹. Julia's leadership and generosity inspired and benefitted many in Toronto and across the Jewish world. This article is dedicated to her memory.



Ten Year Anniversary

The members of Shaarei Shomayim are once again looking at their Board of Governors election. For me, this will be my 6th election process that I have to help manage over the next few months. This means that in June of this year, I would have been working at Shaarei Shomayim for 10 years.

According to Google, this is the TIN anniversary. Tin is quite reflective – it's pretty durable. It may get dented or rusted, but it maintains itself well. This is kind of how the shul operates. We have some ups and downs, shine ourselves up and continue our work.

The past 10 years are ones that are quite diverse. I began working at Shaarei Shomayim – in a portable. It was post flood and renovations had not yet begun. As such, all the staff were operating in two portables in the parking lot. We all got a lot of exercise walking to the washroom – in the building. I even received my first bee sting – from a dead bee collection that we had on the windowsill of the portable. Being there before renovations began gave me the ability to put my own “stamp” on designing the office. We opened up the walls and had all the staff be part of one big open space. We built the beautiful Weinbaum Beit Midrash, the Rabbi's office and a nice multipurpose space in the lower level (what was once the Weinbaum Beit Midrash as well as Room 29).

The RRR Campaign (Retire, Rebuild, Renew) in 2013/2014 successfully renovated the Main Lobby and the Sharp Sanctuary, giving the space a much needed full facelift and made the Lobby into a more usable space for events, weddings, etc. I learned about accessibility and was successful in receiving an accessibility grant that assisted in ensuring that all areas of the space were accessible. The accessible ark was designed and built and also introduced into the Sharp Sanctuary.

Recognizing that the Banquet Hall was now looking very old and worn, renovations to this space took place in 2015/2016. We created a space that was neutral – a space that could be used with minimal decorations or blend in with simcha designs that were sometimes over the top.

2016 also saw the introduction of the new portable mechitzas for the Sharp Sanctuary. It is also the year that the shul brought in the Shinshinim program – young Israeli leaders who have just finished high school and come to the

GTA to volunteer in our community for one year.

2017/2018 saw a lot of work with the developers on the west side of the shul as well as the south corners of Glencairn and Bathurst. Shaarei Shomayim had to ensure that the shul's space as well as traffic, security and safety were taken into account when designing the new buildings. 2018 also brought in the agreement with the Village Shul for use of our McCowan Road Cemetery.

2019 showcased the shul's 90th. What a history – from the house on McKay Avenue, to a rented large house on Christie Street, then to an actual synagogue on St. Clair Avenue West – and finally landing at 470 Glencairn in 1963.

2020 was a speed bump – one that got you hung up on the bump, with your wheels spinning and spinning. It showed us our vulnerabilities and our abilities – to band together to help others. We identified with those in isolating situations and tried to help them through such a difficult time. We learned how to connect – without actually physically connecting. We learned that important things go by the way side – that 300 person wedding isn't really necessary. We were able to stay “open” whenever we could, working around some very confusing and often contradictory regulations. We were and are able to provide a safe environment for davening. I became the COVID police – quoting regulations ad-nausea, trying to maintain an open shul in a trying time.

It was only recently that we were able to get any traction and start to move forward. I look forward to our reinvigorated community. May we really go from strength to strength.

It is with thanks to so many volunteers, lay leadership and clergy that I can say that it has been almost 10 years of great work and accomplishments. I look forward to many more years – hopefully ones a lot easier than the last two. With thanks to all the presidents that I have worked with: Robin Gofine, Randall Craig, Brian Cantor, Joyce Eklove and Benny Osher. What a ship you all steered so successfully.

Chag Pesach Kasher Vesameach. 🍷

Elevating The Sparks

Chaiur Exploring the Spiritual World of Chassidut

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Make Our Shul New Again

Few things bring as much excitement in Toronto as the true beginning of spring. When the long dark winter finally ends (as I write this, I pray that it happens soon) and Hashem blesses us with consistent, long, warm, sunny days we feel a natural sense of happiness and renewal. Access to the beauty and comfort of nature provides a profound form of therapy.


It is no coincidence that the holiday of Pesach takes place during the spring. In fact, when the Jews were on the verge of leaving Egypt, Hashem instructed them to take notice that they were leaving in the month of the spring (Shemot 13:4). Maharal (Gevurot Hashem Chapter 46) notes that Hashem links the Jewish festivals of Pesach, Shavuot, and Sukkot to three stages in the agricultural cycle: budding, harvesting, and gathering. Maharal argues that Pesach is linked to the spring, when plants first begin to bud, because the Exodus from Egypt represents the birth of the Jewish nation.

However, we should not view the birth of the Jewish nation as an event that merely took place in the past. Maharal writes that just as the forces of nature recreate the seasonal cycle every year, each year contains its own spiritual cycle as well. Therefore, as we recount in the Haggadah, during the Festival of Spring, we aim each year to experience our national rebirth once again.

But cliché as it sounds, the mitzvah to see ourselves as if we just left Egypt presents a difficult challenge. The seder epitomizes familiarity. We generally perform the same customs, sing the same songs, and even use the same utensils every year. We will not experience the newness of

our national rebirth simply by going through the motions. Rather, to truly re-experience *Yetziat Mitzrayim* we need to tap into the spiritual force we each possess, which Jewish thinkers refer to as *koach hahitchadshut*, or the power of renewal. *Koach hahitchadshut* allows us to inject an activity we have performed numerous times with the feeling of newness. When we use our *koach hahitchadshut* properly, we can pierce through the cloud of boredom and mundaneness and engage even daily responsibilities with a sense of fun and enthusiasm. As we approach Pesach, we would be wise to contemplate how we can unlock our power of renewal so that our seders feel new and exciting for ourselves and our children.

Over the past two years, we have all struggled with the challenge of spiritual staleness. The pandemic and ensuing lockdowns may have dulled our *koach hahitchadshut*. Please God, as we progress, we will have new opportunities to revisit old activities and rituals. The challenge we face is to not only to return to what was, but to imbue our routines with renewed vitality.

At Shaarei Shomayim we are working hard to create a sense of communal *hitchadshut*. In addition to doing everything we can to bring back the shiurim, minyanim, kiddushim and programs we once enjoyed, we are always thinking of what we can do to bring a sense of newness to our community. We have innovated with special events around the Chagim such as our Musical Hallel, and Shabbat with the Maccabeats on Chanukah, and our Purim Chagigah and Megillah Marathon during Purim. We put together social programs such as our Young Families Luncheon and the Young Professionals Paint Night. We would love to do much more. But our success as a community will correlate with the passion and participation of our members. Please join us for our minyanim, our shiurim, and our programs. Reach out to us with any creative ideas that you have. Give us positive feedback on what you have enjoyed, and sensitive, constructive criticism on what we can do better. Please God as this Festival of Spring approaches, we can all work together to come back to our old Sanctuary with a spirit of newness and excitement. 

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Adult Education

The Adult Education Committee has been newly reformed for the 2021-2022 year! While COVID restrictions in the fall and winter made some programming possible, a wide array of Zoom *shiurim* has seen great success, which we hope to continue and grow as restrictions lift. Daily Talmud study, Rabbi Diamond's *Parshat Hashavua* shiur, Rabbi Bergman's *Mishna Maimonides* shiur,

and partnered programs with Hasbara Fellowships, Jews for Judaism and Beit Midrash Zichron Dov have made sure that the shul's culture of learning has persisted through the pandemic. During Chanukah we had a very successful week of learning and lectures from within our shul's membership, and the *Women Teaching Torah for Rosh Chodesh* within the congregation has continued unabated! With provincial

restrictions beginning to lift, we are planning for the reintroduction on in-person learning as well. Programs such as Scholars-in-Residence, shiurim around the chagim and lifecycle events, and even a Beit Midrash program are all in the works.

If there are specific ideas you would like to see implemented, email Jonathan Parker at mrjbparker@gmail.com. 

SHIUR BY STACEY GOLDMAN



Stacey Nechama Goldman
Nitzevet mother of David: standing on ceremony

Halachic Prologue

שמות פרק כא
(א) ואלה המשפטים אשר תשים לפניהם:
(ב) כי תקנה עבד עברי שש שנים יעבד
ולשבעת יאמר לשפטי חנם:
(ג) אם-בגפו יאמר בגפו יאמר אם-בעל אשה
הוא יוצאה אשתו עמו:
(ד) אם-אדניו יתן-לו אשה וילדה-לו בנים
או בנות האשה וילדיה תהיה לאדניה
והוא יאמר בגפו:
(ה) ואם-אמר יאמר העבד אהבתי את-
אדני את-אשתי ואת-בני לא אצא חפשי:
(ו) ויגישו אדניו אל-הקצאים והגישו אל-
הדלת או אליהם וירצו וירצו אדניו את-אדניו

1 And these are the ordinances that you shall set before them.
2 Should you buy a Hebrew slave, he shall work [for] six years, and in the seventh [year], he shall go out to freedom without charge.
3 If he comes [in] alone, he shall go out alone; if he is a married man, his wife shall go out with him.
4 If his master gives him a wife, and she bears him sons or daughters, the woman and her children shall belong to her master, and he shall go out alone.
5 But if the slave says, "I love my master, my wife, and my children. I will not go free."
6 His master shall bring him to the judges, and he shall bring him to the door or to the

שערי שומאים
SHAAREI SHOMAYIM ADULT EDUCATION THE Women's INITIATIVE


SHAAREI SHOMAYIM & THE OU WOMEN'S INITIATIVE PRESENT:
A ZOOM SHIUR BY

STACEY GOLDMAN

PART OF
Nach Yomi
SIYUM CELEBRATION

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 26, 2022 | 8:00 PM

On the topic
Nitzevet, Mother of David: Standing on Ceremony



Stacey Goldman teaches Tanach at Kohelet Yeshiva high school in Philadelphia. She also gives adult education classes all over the greater Philadelphia area including Aish Chaim, Lower Merion Synagogue, and Hillel at the University of Pennsylvania. She is a graduate of Barnard College and the U.S. Yoetzet Halacha Program of Nishmat's Miriam Glaubach Center and currently serves as Yoetzet Halacha for the greater Philadelphia community and the Young Israel/Aish, Las Vegas. She has published essays and articles on chabad.org, and audio classes on YUTorah.org. Stacey lives in the Philadelphia suburbs with her husband and is the happy mother of five boys.

Via Shaarei Shomayim's Zoom.



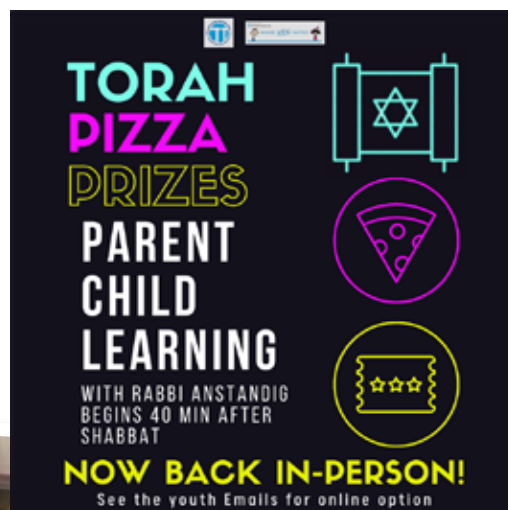
Youth Matters

There are a few answers that never fail when responding to a Jewish question (admittedly, with some tongue and cheek). “It’s a *machloket*,” “depends” and “to make the children ask.” The seder abounds with *halachot* and *minhagim* designed to perplex young audiences just for the sake of engaging them in the mitzvah of *Sippur Yetziat Mitzrayim*. And this is by no means a modern innovation. When discussing the mitzvah, the Torah states, “when your child shall ask you, saying...” (Shemot 13:14, Devarim 6:20). Inquisitive children are the focal point of the seder.

But today I’d like to flip the script and ask a question of the kids and ourselves. What gets us excited about shul? What do we love about our community? The process of returning to groups and programming has been encouraging. Now is the time to take the momentum and ask: What can we do, personally and communally, to strengthen our connection and engage our youth? Perhaps it’s a *machloket* (we are Jewish, after all), it certainly depends, and yes, it’s to make the children ask.

I would like to thank everyone involved with Youth Programming, from the clergy to administrative staff and lay leadership. It truly is a collaborative effort and I enjoy working with each of you.

Chag Sameach and see you in shul! 🍷

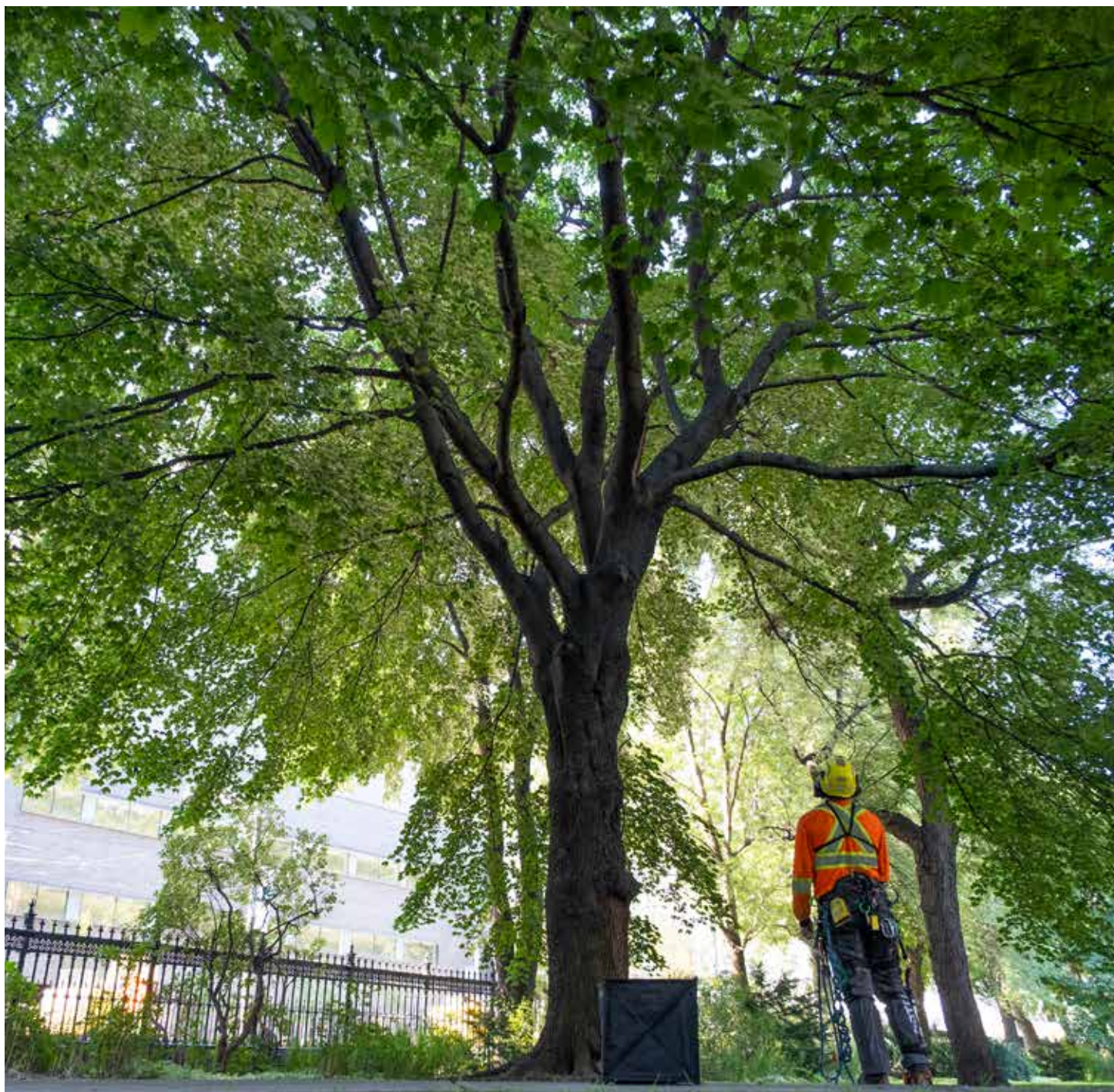


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HAPPY PESACH!

*Wishing you and your family a happy and healthy spring!
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Becoming An איש

Inspired by Dr. James Diamond's reading of Moshe's early years in Theology Unbound (thank you Elan Pratzter for sharing this book with me!), I want to suggest an understanding of what was at the core of Moshe's journey from Egyptian prince to Jewish leader. There is a word that repeats itself often in Parshat Shemot, in particular in chapter two, which chronicles Moshe from his birth to his marriage with Tzipora: איש – a person or human, which is repeated multiple times. Here is the list:

1. Moshe's parents are referred to as an איש and אישה, not by their proper names (which they are later).
2. Moshe leaves the palace and sees an Egyptian איש hitting a Jewish איש.
3. Moshe looks to see if there is an איש before he kills the Egyptian, who was striking a Jew.
4. Two Jewish אנשים are fighting. Curiously, Moshe asks why friends would hit one another, though they ask why Moshe thinks he is an איש over them.
5. Yitro's daughters describe Moshe to their father as an Egyptian איש, and as such, implying the reason why they did not invite him home.
6. Yitro rebukes his daughters for letting Moshe go, and asks that this איש be brought to their home.
7. Moshe marries Zipora, and moves in with Yitro, who is described as an איש.

What is this string of usages trying to tell us about Moshe's early journey that ends up in a conversation with God at the burning bush? And why are so many people unnamed, especially people like Yitro, Amram and Yocheved, whose names we know?

If one looks carefully, the implication of the word איש changes, depending on the context. Sometimes it stands alone, and sometimes it is a modifier (Egyptian איש / Jewish איש). It would seem that when it stands alone, it reflects a higher or aspirational meaning of what it means to be an איש, to be human. That would be the case for Amram and Yocheved, who overcome Paroh's decree and have a child; Moshe is looking to see if there's a person willing to take a moral stand against an Egyptian beating a slave; or Yitro wanting to invite the איש who saved his daughters into his home. The interesting case is when the Jewish slave asks Moshe if he is going to be an איש over them. In this context,

it also refers to a higher moral plane, but with a different intention, depending on one's perspective. The Jewish slave is effectively saying, who are you to stand on a higher moral plane – you killed someone! What he fails to understand, of course, is that this very act came from a place of higher morality, thus entitling Moshe to be called an איש, even in this context.

When acting as a modifier, however, the word איש implies something else. It may imply something 'less than,' like the Egyptian איש who beat a Jew, or a Jewish איש who does not stand up for himself. In the case of Tzipora and her sisters, being an Egyptian איש is why they don't invite Moshe home, which their father corrects them, saying, he is simply an איש, a person of quality – make sure to invite him home!

So, we see in this chapter that Moshe was conceived from a place of moral grandeur, of Amram and Yocheved coming together to defy Paroh. However, achieving a higher morality is not something one inherits. Moshe needs to go through a process of discovering a higher form of human behaviour, one's being as an איש, and that can only happen by experiencing failure again and again. And yet, by the end of the story, through Yitro (who himself is identified as an איש and able to identify another איש), he reaches the higher moral plain that his parents established when conceiving him. It is only once he achieves this level of uprightness that he gets that he is worthy of speaking to God at the burning bush, and beginning his journey of Jewish leadership.

I think this story points to two things. One is the influence of the home and parents (and ultimately, in-laws, as with Yitro). But the other is that even with this foundation, becoming a fully moral human being is a journey each child has to go through on his or her own. Each person has to discover this higher moral being through their own experience, and only then become ready to face the world on their own terms.

These two elements – home and the child's journey – are at the centre of the Pesach seder. On one hand, the Pesach sacrifice happens in each home, demarcated by the blood painted on the door on the inside, signifying the importance of what happens in the home. And on the other, the annual seder is focused on the questions of our children, helping them in their Jewish journey ahead as they move to independence. *Chag Sameach!* 📖

Smachot and Events are Back Again! Enjoy indoor dining with full capacity!

Contact the Shaarei Shomayim office to book your preferred date: 416-789-3213 or email lifecycle@shomayim.org.

Contact Menchens catering: 416-638-8381 or email naomi@menchens.ca.



YIZKOR MEMORIAL BOOK

Dear Friends,

Planning for our 2022/5782 Yizkor Memorial Book has begun. Shaarei Shomayim's Yizkor Book has been an important part of our community's remembrance of loved ones and observance of the Yizkor prayer for a few decades. Published every Shavuot, the book contains the prayers recited during memorial and remembrance services, and the names of the departed in whose memories we recite Yizkor. The Yizkor Book will be available for use by the congregation at the following services:

2 nd Day Shavuot	June 6, 2022
Yom Kippur	October 5, 2022
Shemini Atzeret	October 17, 2022
8 th Day of Pesach	April 13, 2023

On the next page is our *Yizkor Book Inclusion Form*. If you would like a loved one to be remembered in the Yizkor book, please complete the information and return it to our office. Should you have any questions, contact the office at 416-789-3213 or email: coordinator@shomayim.org.

You can make your submission online at shomayim.org/form/yizkor2022. Your support is vital to the continuation of this very worthy endeavor.

Thank you for your participation.





YIZKOR MEMORIAL BOOK INCLUSION FORM 2022

YOUR INFORMATION (please print)

Name _____ Email _____
 Address _____ Postal Code _____
 Telephone Number (h) _____ (c) _____

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- ☐ Page \$360 (up to 32 names)
 ☐ ½ page \$188 (up to 14 names)
 ☐ Individual names:
 First name \$26; subsequent names \$18 each

YOUR ENTRY

- ☐ This is a new entry.
☐ Please keep my inclusion the same as it was last year.
 ☐ Please add the following names to my inclusion from last year.
 Please **PRINT** clearly.

Remembered by: _____

In Memory of:

In Memory of:

PAYMENT

Total amount of Sponsorships and Donations: \$ _____.
 ☐ A cheque is enclosed.
 Please charge my ☐ Visa or ☐ MasterCard
 Number _____ Expiry Date _____ CSV _____
 Name on card _____

SUBMISSION

- ☐ Webform: <https://www.shomayim.org/form/yizkor2022>
 ☐ Fax: 416-789-1728
☐ Email: coordinator@shomayim.org
 ☐ Mail: at the address noted below

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Parsha & Cholent!

Thursdays, 9:00 pm

With Rabbi Sammy Bergman

Please join us on Thursdays for Parsha, Cholent, Maariv and a L'chayim!

In person at Shaarei Shomayim.

Sponsorships available - please contact the shul office.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
CHAMETZ TIMES FOR EREV PESACH Thursday April 14: Search for Chametz after 8:30 pm. Friday April 15: Last time to eat Chametz is 10:39 am. Chametz must be burned and nullified by 11:58 am. At the 1st seder, afikoman must be eaten by 1:17 am. At the 2nd seder, afikoman must be eaten by 1:16 am.						
2 Nisan 8:30 am Shacharit	3 Nisan 7:10 am Shacharit	4 Nisan 7:15 am Shacharit	5 Nisan 7:15 am Shacharit	6 Nisan 7:10 am Shacharit	7 Nisan 7:15 am Shacharit	8 Nisan 9:00 am Shacharit Shabbat Hagadol Parsha 6:25 pm Rabbi Diamond's Shabbat Hagadol Drasha 7:25 pm Mincha 8:33 pm Shabbat Ends
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 7:35 pm						
9 Nisan 8:30 am Shacharit	10 Nisan 7:10 am Shacharit	11 Nisan 7:15 am Shacharit	12 Nisan 7:15 am Shacharit	13 Nisan 7:10 am Shacharit	14 Nisan Erev Pesach Fast of the Firstborn 5:29 am Fast Begins 7:00 am Shacharit & Siyum See box for <i>chametz times</i> 7:42 pm חג (6:38*) 7:50 pm Mincha 8:47 pm Earliest start 1st seder Fast concludes with Kiddush	15 Nisan I Pesach 8:45 am Shacharit Tefillat Tal 7:40 pm Mincha 8:48 pm Shabbat Ends חג* 8:48 pm Earliest start 2nd seder Count Omer 1 after Maariv
16 Nisan II Pesach 8:45 am Shacharit 7:55 pm Mincha 8:49 pm Yom Tov Ends Count Omer 2 after Maariv	17 Nisan Chol Hamoed 7:00 am Shacharit Mon - Wed Mincha is 7:55 pm Count Omer 3 after Maariv	18 Nisan Chol Hamoed 7:00 am Shacharit Count Omer 4 after Maariv	19 Nisan Chol Hamoed 7:00 am Shacharit Count Omer 5 after Maariv	20 Nisan Chol Hamoed/Erev Chag 7:00 am Shacharit Eiruv Tavshilin 7:00 pm Mincha 7:50 pm חג (6:43*) Count Omer 6 after Maariv	21 Nisan Chol Hamoed/Erev Chag 7:00 am Shacharit Count Omer 7 after dark	22 Nisan VIII Pesach 8:30 am Shacharit Shir Hashirim 10:45 am Yizkor (approx.) 7:50 pm Mincha 8:56 pm Shabbat/Chag End Count Omer 8 after Maariv
23 Nisan 8:30 am Shacharit Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 8:00 pm Count Omer 9 after Maariv	24 Nisan 7:10 am Shacharit Count Omer 10 after Maariv	25 Nisan 7:15 am Shacharit Count Omer 11 after Maariv	26 Nisan 7:15 am Shacharit Count Omer 12 after Maariv	27 Nisan Yom HaShoah 7:10 am Shacharit Count Omer 13 after Maariv	28 Nisan 7:15 am Shacharit Count Omer 14 after dark	29 Nisan Shabbat Mevorchim 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha 7:50 pm Mincha 9:05 pm Shabbat Ends Count Omer 15 after Maariv

*Earliest time for this activity.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 Nisan I Rosh Chodesh 8:30 Shacharit	1 Iyyar II Rosh Chodesh 7:00 am Shacharit	2 Iyyar 7:15 am Shacharit	3 Iyyar Yom HaZikaron 7:15 am Shacharit	4 Iyyar Yom HaAtzmaut 7:10 am Shacharit	5 Iyyar 7:15 am Shacharit	6 Iyyar 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha קדושים
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 8:10 pm						
Count Omer 16 after Maariv	Count Omer 17 after Maariv	Count Omer 18 after Maariv	Count Omer 19 after Maariv	Count Omer 20 after Maariv	Count Omer 21 after dark	Count Omer 22 after Maariv
7 Iyyar 8:30 am Shacharit	8 Iyyar 7:10 am Shacharit	9 Iyyar 7:15 am Shacharit	10 Iyyar 7:15 am Shacharit	11 Iyyar 7:10 am Shacharit	12 Iyyar 7:15 am Shacharit	13 Iyyar 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha אמור
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 8:15 pm						
Count Omer 23 after Maariv	Count Omer 24 after Maariv	Count Omer 25 after Maariv	Count Omer 26 after Maariv	Count Omer 27 after Maariv	Count Omer 28 after dark	Count Omer 29 after Maariv
14 Iyyar Pesach Sheni 8:30 am Shacharit	15 Iyyar 7:10 am Shacharit	16 Iyyar 7:15 am Shacharit	17 Iyyar 7:15 am Shacharit	18 Iyyar Lag B'Omer 7:10 am Shacharit	19 Iyyar 7:15 am Shacharit	20 Iyyar 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha בהר
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 8:20 pm						
Count Omer 30 after Maariv	Count Omer 31 after Maariv	Count Omer 32 after Maariv	Count Omer 33 after Maariv	Count Omer 34 after Maariv	Count Omer 35 after dark	Count Omer 36 after Maariv
21 Iyyar 8:30 am Shacharit	22 Iyyar Statutory Holiday 8:30 am Shacharit	23 Iyyar 7:15 am Shacharit	24 Iyyar 7:15 am Shacharit	25 Iyyar 7:10 am Shacharit	26 Iyyar 7:15 am Shacharit	27 Iyyar Shabbat Mevorchim 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha בחוקותי
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 8:30 pm						
Count Omer 37 after Maariv	Count Omer 38 after Maariv	Count Omer 39 after Maariv	Count Omer 40 after Maariv	Count Omer 41 after Maariv	Count Omer 42 after dark	Count Omer 43 after Maariv
28 Iyyar Yom Yerushalayim 8:30 am Shacharit	29 Iyyar 7:10 am Shacharit	30 Iyyar Rosh Chodesh 7:00 am Shacharit	31 Iyyar 7:00 am Shacharit			
Sun - Tues: Mincha/Maariv 8:35 pm						
Count Omer 44 after Maariv	Count Omer 45 after Maariv	Count Omer 46 after Maariv				

* Earliest time for this activity.

שַׁעֲרֵי שְׁמַיִם
SHAAREI SHOMAYIM

JUNE 2022

Sivan / Tammuz 5782

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 2 Sivan 7:15 am Shacharit	2 3 Sivan 7:10 am Shacharit	3 4 Sivan 7:15 am Shacharit	4 5 Sivan 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha Erev Shavuot במדבר 8:25 pm Mincha & Shiur 9:42 pm שבת 9:42 pm Yom Tov Maariv Tikkun Layl Shavuot
			Wed - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 8:35 pm Count Omer 47 after Maariv	Count Omer 48 after Maariv	Count Omer 49 after dark	
6 Sivan I Shavuot 8:45 am Shacharit	7 Sivan II Shavuot 8:45 am Shacharit Megillat Ruth 10:45 am Yizkor (approx)	8 Sivan 7:15 am Shacharit	9 Sivan 7:15 am Shacharit	10 Sivan 7:10 am Shacharit	11 Sivan 7:15 am Shacharit Parsha נשא	
8:45 pm Mincha 9:42 pm שבת	8:45 pm Mincha 9:43 pm Yom Tov Ends	Tues - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 8:45 pm			7:15 pm Mincha 8:40 pm שבת (7:23*)	8:30 pm Mincha 9:47 pm Shabbat Ends
13 Sivan 8:30 am Shacharit	14 Sivan 7:10 am Shacharit	15 Sivan 7:15 am Shacharit	16 Sivan 7:15 am Shacharit	17 Sivan 7:10 am Shacharit	18 Sivan 7:15 am Shacharit Parsha בהעלותך	
					7:15 pm Mincha 8:43 pm שבת (7:26*)	8:30 pm Mincha 9:50 pm Shabbat Ends
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 8:45 pm						
20 Sivan 8:30 am Shacharit	21 Sivan 7:10 am Shacharit	22 Sivan 7:15 am Shacharit	23 Sivan 7:15 am Shacharit	24 Sivan 7:10 am Shacharit	25 Sivan Shabbat Mevorchim 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha שלח	
					7:15 pm Mincha 8:45 pm שבת (7:27*)	8:35 pm Mincha 9:51 pm Shabbat Ends
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 8:50 pm						
27 Sivan 8:30 am Shacharit	28 Sivan 7:10 am Shacharit	29 Sivan 7:15 am Shacharit	30 Sivan I Rosh Chodesh 7:00 am Shacharit	1 Tammuz II Rosh Chodesh 7:00 am Shacharit		
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 8:50 pm						

*Earliest time for this activity.

JULY 2022

Tammuz / Av 5782

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 2 Tammuz Canada Day 8:30 am Shacharit	2 3 Tammuz 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha קריה
4 Tammuz 8:30 am Shacharit	5 Tammuz 7:10 am Shacharit	6 Tammuz 7:15 am Shacharit	7 Tammuz 7:15 am Shacharit	8 Sivan 7:10 am Shacharit	7 7:15 pm Mincha 8:44 pm חה (7:28*)	8:30 pm Mincha 9:50 pm Shabbat Ends
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 8:45 pm					9 Tammuz 7:15 am Shacharit	9 10 Tammuz 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha חוקת
11 Tammuz 8:30 am Shacharit	12 Tammuz 7:10 am Shacharit	13 Tammuz 7:15 am Shacharit	14 Tammuz 7:15 am Shacharit	15 Tammuz 7:10 am Shacharit	16 Tammuz 7:15 pm Mincha 8:42 pm חה (7:26*)	8:30 pm Mincha 9:47 pm Shabbat Ends
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 8:45 pm					17 Tammuz 7:15 am Shacharit	17 Tammuz 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha בלק
18 Tammuz Tzom 17 th of Tammuz 4:32 am Fast Begins 8:30 am Shacharit/ Slichot 8:20 pm Mincha 9:10 pm Maariv 9:31 pm Fast Ends	19 Tammuz 7:10 am Shacharit	20 Tammuz 7:15 am Shacharit	21 Tammuz 7:15 am Shacharit	22 Tammuz 7:10 am Shacharit	23 Tammuz 7:15 pm Mincha 8:38 pm חה (7:23*)	8:25 pm Mincha 9:42 pm Shabbat Ends
25 Tammuz 8:30 am Shacharit	26 Tammuz 7:10 am Shacharit	27 Tammuz 7:15 am Shacharit	28 Tammuz 7:10 am Shacharit	29 Tammuz 7:10 am Shacharit	24 Tammuz Shabbat Mevorchim 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha פנחס	25 Tammuz 8:20 pm Mincha 9:36 pm Shabbat Ends
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 8:30 pm					26 Av Rosh Chodesh 7:00 am Shacharit	26 Av 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha מטות-מסעי
31 Av 8:30 am Shacharit					27 Av 7:00 pm Mincha 8:26 pm חה (7:13*)	8:10 pm Mincha 9:29 pm Shabbat Ends
Mincha/Maariv 8:25 pm						

*Earliest time for this activity.

AUGUST 2022

Av / Elul 5782

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	4 Av Civic Holiday 8:30 am Shacharit	15 Av 7:15 am Shacharit	26 Av 7:15 am Shacharit	7 Av 7:10 am Shacharit	8 Av 7:15 am Shacharit	9 Av Shabbat Chazon 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha דברים
	Mon - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 8:25 pm				7:00 pm Mincha 8:17 pm ע (7:06*)	5:45 pm Mincha 8:34 pm Fast Begins 9:20 pm Shabbat Ends 9:45 pm Maariv, Eicha, Kinot
10 Av Tisha B'Av 8:30 am Shacharit & Kinot 2:30 pm Early Mincha 8:00 pm Mincha 8:50 pm Maariv 9:06 pm Fast Ends	7 Av 7:10 am Shacharit	8 Av 7:15 am Shacharit	9 Av 7:15 am Shacharit	10 Av 7:10 am Shacharit	11 Av 7:15 am Shacharit	12 Av Shabbat Nachamu 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha ואתחנן
17 Av 8:30 am Shacharit	18 Av 7:10 am Shacharit	19 Av 7:15 am Shacharit	20 Av 7:15 am Shacharit	21 Av 7:10 am Shacharit	22 Av 7:15 am Shacharit	23 Av Shabbat Mevorchim 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha עקב
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 8:00 pm					7:00 pm Mincha 7:57 pm ע (6:50*)	7:45 pm Mincha 8:59 pm Shabbat Ends
24 Av 8:30 am Shacharit	25 Av 7:10 am Shacharit	26 Av 7:15 am Shacharit	27 Av 7:15 am Shacharit	28 Av 7:10 am Shacharit	29 Av 7:15 am Shacharit	30 Av Shabbat Rosh Chodesh 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha ראה
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 7:50 pm					7:00 pm Mincha 7:45 pm ע (6:40*)	<i>Begin L'David Hashem at Maariv</i> 8:48 pm Shabbat Ends
1 Elul II Rosh Chodesh 8:30 am Shacharit	2 Elul 7:10 am Shacharit	3 Elul 7:15 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit			
Sun - Wed: Mincha/Maariv 7:40 pm						

*Earliest time for this activity.

SEPTEMBER 2022

Elul 5782 / Tishrei 5783

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
**Rosh Hashana minyanim times will be published in the next bulletin.						
8 Elul 8:30 am Shacharit	4 9 Elul Statutory Holiday 8:30 am Shacharit	5 10 Elul 7:15 am Shacharit	6 11 Elul 7:15 am Shacharit	7 12 Elul 7:10 am Shacharit	8 13 Elul 7:15 am Shacharit	9 14 Elul 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha כי תצא
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 7:25 pm						
15 Elul 8:30 am Shacharit	11 16 Elul 7:10 am Shacharit	12 17 Elul 7:15 am Shacharit	13 18 Elul 7:15 am Shacharit	14 19 Elul 7:10 am Shacharit	15 20 Elul 7:15 am Shacharit	16 21 Elul 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha כי תבוא
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 7:15 pm						
22 Elul Time TBD Later Slichot 8:30 am Shacharit	18 23 Elul Time TBD Shacharit & Slichot	19 24 Elul Time TBD Shacharit & Slichot	20 25 Elul Time TBD Shacharit & Slichot	21 26 Elul Time TBD Shacharit & Slichot	22 27 Elul Time TBD Shacharit & Slichot	23 28 Elul 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha ניצבים
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 7:00 pm						
29 Elul Time TBD Shacharit & Slichot	25 1 Tishrei I Rosh Hashana **	26 2 Tishrei II Rosh Hashana **	27 3 Tishrei Tzom Gedalia Fast & Service Times TBD	28 4 Tishrei Time TBD Shacharit & Slichot	29 5 Tishrei Time TBD Shacharit & Slichot	30 6 Tishrei 6:40 pm Mincha 7:57 pm Shabbat Ends
Erev Rosh Hashana **						

*Earliest time for this activity.

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WOMEN TEACHING TORAH For Rosh Chodesh Spring 2022 / 5782



Rosh Chodesh Nisan
Raquel Goldberg

Rosh Chodesh Iyyar
Dr. Anna Urowitz-Freudenstein

Rosh Chodesh Sivan
If you would like to be a presenter,
please contact the shul office

Rosh Chodesh Tammuz
Amy Greenberg

Via Shul's Zoom | Women and Men Welcome

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WOMEN TEACHING TORAH FOR ROSH CHODESH



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If you have not already done so and have an email registered with us, please login to your account at shomayim.org, set up your password, and look to see if the information that we have for you is correct. You can check birthdates, yahrzeits, children's details, and your account – all the information we have for you and your family. Please call the office for assistance at 416-789-3213.



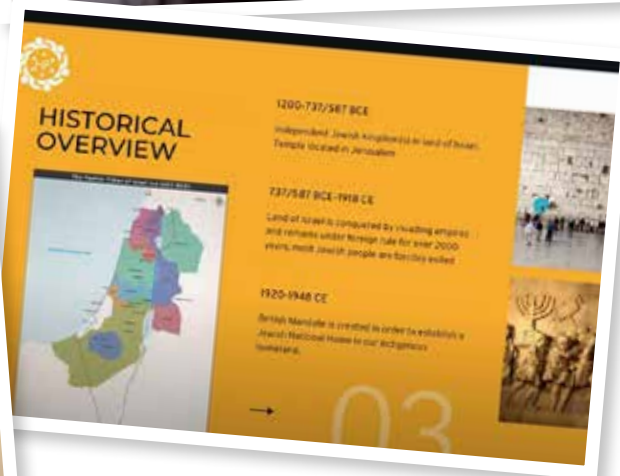
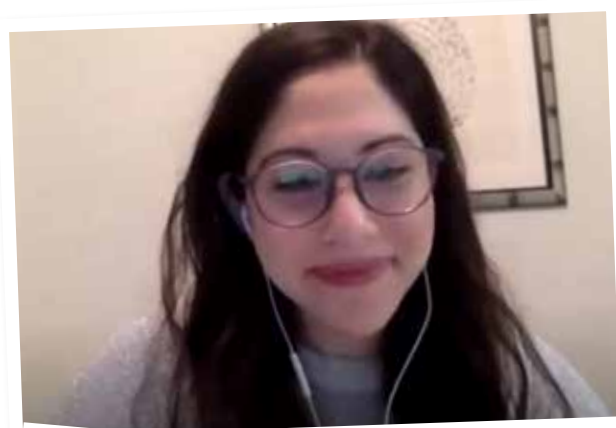
 Shaarei Shomayim in Partnership with
 Hasbara Fellowships Canada Present
Winter 2022 Zoom Programming
ADULT PROGRAM
Beginner's Guide to the Disputed Territories
Wednesday, Feb. 9 | 7:00-8:00 pm
 A dive into the complexities of the Disputed Territories
 (West Bank and Gaza, Judea & Samaria, or the Occupied
 Territories). Participants will gain an in-depth
 understanding of the legal, historical, and current issues at
 play in this region.
On Shaarei Shomayim's Zoom.



Free of charge. No registration required.

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THE MORDECHAI YOU THOUGHT YOU KNEW
SHIUR IN COMMEMORATION OF DAVID WM. BROWN^{z"l}
FEATURING RABBI AVI DIAMOND



שערי שמים
SHAAREI SHOMAYIM

ADULT EDUCATION

**“The Mordechai
You Thought You Knew”**

**Shiur in Commemoration of the
First Yahrzeit of David Wm. Brown^{z"l}**

Featuring Rabbi Avi Diamond
Motzei Shabbat, Feb. 5, 2022 | 8:00 pm

**Sponsored by
Sarah Brown & Steven Strauss**

Via Shaarei Shomayim's Zoom.

FILES FROM THE HALACHA INSTITUTE OF TORONTO:
A PEEK INTO SOME INTRIGUING CASES WITH RABBI TSVI HEBER

Files from the Halacha Institute of Toronto (H.I.T.)
A Peek into Some Intriguing Cases
Rabbi Tsvi Heber

Questions for discussion:

- (1) A gentile neighbor was cutting the community eruv wire for the last few weeks. Am I allowed to carry on Shabbos?
- (2) My lawyer is giving me a hard regarding signing the heter iska that my rabbi recommends. What am I to do?
- (3) I have one son and three daughters. My Will is crystal clear that, *achor mesh ve'xirim*, I want my estate to be distributed evenly between all my children. Should I be concerned that this might not happen?

A video frame of Rabbi Tsvi Heber, a man with a grey beard and glasses, wearing a dark suit, speaking in a video call. The background shows an office setting with a window and a wall-mounted picture.

שערי שמים
SHAAREI SHOMAYIM

ADULT EDUCATION

**Files from the Halacha Institute of Toronto: A
Peek Into Some Intriguing Cases
With Rabbi Tsvi Heber**

Wednesday, Dec. 8, 2021 | 8:00 pm

A graphic of a yellow folder with a red tab, labeled "HALACHA INSTITUTE of Toronto". The folder is open, showing a white page with a blue header and a small logo.

The Halacha Institute of Toronto (H.I.T.) is a registered charity which helps facilitate and enhance the observance of halacha. Their core services are a Halacha Line: where rabbonim are standing by to answer questions; Halachic Business & Estate Consulting, to assist those interested in ensuring that their businesses and estate planning operate within the confines of halacha; and a Jewish Alternative Dispute Resolution Centre, where their roster of rabbonim who are professionally trained and certified as mediators, assist people in resolving disputes in a Halachic framework.

Via Shaarei Shomayim's Zoom.

CHANUKAH & CHESSED FAMILY CELEBRATION



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FOOD

SUNDAY, Dec. 5

*In loving memory of Suzanne Burger z"l, sponsored
by her husband, children and grandchildren.*

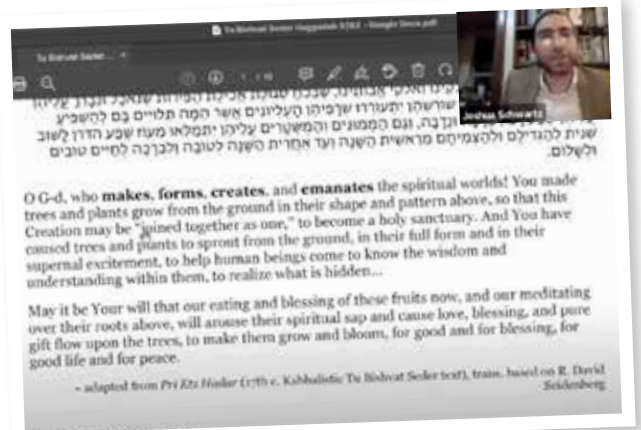




ROSH CHODESH TEVET & CHANUKAH MUSICAL HALLEL



SHAAREI SHOMAYIM & BETH LIDA ZOOM TU BISHVAT SEDER



SHAAREI SHOMAYIM Beth Lida

Shaarei Shomayim and Beth Lida Present:

ZOOM TU BISHVAT SEDER

Sunday January 16, 2022 | 7:30 pm

A traditional but creative Tu BiShvat Seder led by Rabbi Elliott Diamond, Rabbi Sammy Bergman, and Rabbi Joshua Schwartz of Beth Lida.

Via Shaarei Shomayim's Zoom.

MEGILLAH MARATHON

MEGILLAH MARATHON!
MOTZEI SHABBAT
MARCH 12 AT 8:30 PM
 IN PERSON AND VIA THE SHUL'S ZOOM

10 MINUTES EACH! **10 INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKERS!** **10 CHAPTERS!**

8:31-8:40 SHAYNA KRAVETZ • PARTIES IN THE CASTLE: GLAMOUR AND SORROW
 8:41-8:50 RABBI MORDECHAI TORCZYNER • DID ACHASHVEROSH WANT A QUEEN AT ALL?
 8:51-9:00 RABBI JARED ANSTANDIG • WHY DIDN'T MORDECHAI JUST BOW?
 9:01-9:10 PROF. DAVID NOVAK • WHY ISN'T HASHEM'S NAME IN THE MEGILLAH?
 9:11-9:20 DR. ANNA UROWITZ-FREUDENSTEIN • JEWISH QUEENS: HISTORY AND HALAKHA
 9:21-9:30 INTERMISSION
 9:31-9:40 RABBI JEFF TURTEL • THE BEGINNING OF THE END OR THE END OF THE BEGINNING?
 9:41-9:50 RIVKA AND FEIGA WERNER • HOW TO WIN FRIENDS AND INFLUENCE PEOPLE WITH ESTHER HAMALKA
 9:51-10:00 MIRIAM BESSIN • HAMAN'S DEAD...NOW WHAT?
 10:01-10:10 EZER DIENA • THE PURIM TRADE-OFF
 10:11-10:20 SARIT ANSTANDIG • WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

HAMANTASCHEN BAR • WINE • SUSHI



PURIM SHPIEL VIDEO



TEEN MEGILLAH READING & PURIM PARTY



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ב"ה

Women's
Megillah Reading Series
Book
of
Esther

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for the reading of Megillat Esther!

Purim Morning
Thursday March 17 at 9:45 am

Member News

We wish Mazal Tov to the following:

FROM NOVEMBER 20, 2021 TO MARCH 26, 2022

BIRTHS

JERRY & TAMMY BALITSKY and George & Malka Adler on the birth of their grandson, Yitzchak Asher, born to Amaris & Yisroel Adler. Excited siblings are Shragi and Bayla.

JOEL ARSHOFF & DARA PETEL on the birth of their daughter, ORLI RITA. Proud grandparents are Ruth & Shaul Petel and Carol & Larry Arshoff. Delighted great-grandfather is Aharon Petel.

YONATAN & YOCHVED MILEVSKY on the birth of their son, EFRAIM FISCHER. Excited siblings are YONAH, YIDDLE, ETHEL and JJ. Proud grandparents are Dr. Chaya (Rabbi UzielTM) Milevsky and Simcha & Esther Dick.

BAILEY & YONI ROTH on the birth of their son, SIMON. Excited brothers are LEO and ISAIAH. Proud grandparents are JOY & MARC KOPLOWITZ, Leah & Steve Roth, and great-grandmother is Sylvia Slomovits. Uncles and aunts are DARA & ADIR DISHY, JAKE KOPLOWITZ, JUDY & ELIE ROTH, Itia & Menachem Roth and Yaakov & Arielle Roth.

LIDDY BECK & STEVE GOTTESMAN and Ilene & Stephen Flatt on the birth of their grandson, Ollie Simon, born to Sophie Gottesman & Bryan Flatt. Delighted big brother is Henry Lev Flatt. Excited aunts and uncles are Elizabeth Gottesman & Jeff Pelchovitz, Jonathan Gottesman & Marly Peikes, MADELEINE GOTTESMAN, Dana and Laura Flatt. Thrilled cousins are Zoe and Jack Pelchovitz. Proud great-grandmothers are Phyllis Flatt and Florence Magram.

LORRAINE HANSER on the birth of her great-grandson, Coby James, born to Lee & Tali Abrams. Proud grandparents are Kim & Jon Abrams and Shulie & Sue Moskowitz of West Orange, NJ. Excited aunts, uncles and cousins in Toronto are Dale & Falyn, Cole, Paige and Chase Abrams; Jesse & Shani and Mateo Abrams; Ryan, Ahron & Sarah Abrams.

LORRAINE HANSER on the birth of her great-granddaughter, Juliet Alisha, born to Jesse & Shani Abrams. Happy big brother is Mateo. Proud grandparents are Kim & Jon Abrams and Ilana & Chaim Cohen of Israel. Excited aunts, uncles and cousins in Toronto are Dale & Falyn, Cole, Paige and Chase Abrams; Lee & Tali and Coby Abrams; Ryan, Ahron & Sarah Abrams.

SUSIE & HART GOLDBAR on the birth of their son, EZRI SAMUEL. Excited sister is NINA. Proud grandparents are FERN & SHELDON GOLDBAR and Debbie & Shelly Senders. Excited aunts and uncles are ELINOR, DAYNA, and HILLI GOLDBAR, Tammie, Ruthie, and Joey Senders. Proud grandparents are EVE LERNER, Paula Goldbar, Rabbi Haskel & Audrey Lookstein, and Mike Senders.

REBECCA & BERL NADLER and Jeff and Rhonda Avner on the birth of their grandson, Natan Moshe, born to Tova and Seth Avner. Thrilled siblings are Rose, Adira and Yonah.

MALKA LEWITTES & ELAN PRATZER and Michael & Karen Rosenberg of New Jersey on the birth of their granddaughter, Izzy Nava, born to Ariella Pratzer & David Rosenberg. Proud great-grandmothers are Ida Pratzer, Betty Cohen and Sherry Kelner. Proud aunts are Aviva Pratzer and Yael Wertenteil, and uncles are Noam Pratzer and Eric Rosenberg.

EVAN GOLDENTHAL & ILANA ARJE-GOLDENTHAL on the birth of their son, OZZY MADDY. Excited siblings are LEORE and KOBY. Proud grandparents are GEORGE & CHARLENE ARJE and Ruth Parker, and ecstatic great-grandmother is Shoshana Samuels. Thrilled uncles and aunts are ELI & TAMAR LECHTMAN, DANIELLE ARJE & DANIEL ROSENFELD, and Josh & Shely Goldenthal. Excited cousins are AARON, LEAH and NATHAN LECHTMAN, and Cayden, Liam, and Noah Goldenthal.

RUTH PODESWA on the birth of her great-granddaughter, Isla Paige, born to Shawna & Dave Mecklinger. Thrilled grandparents are Debbie & Jamie Seligman and Elysse & Al Mecklinger. Proud great-grandmother is Renee Seligman

LINDA LEVENSTEIN on the birth of her great-grandson, Brody Michael, born to Aaron & Talia Lesser of New York. Proud grandparents are Carol & Stewart Lesser and Marla & Bob Stark of Cleveland.

AVIVA ZIELENIEC & JONATHAN GRAUMAN on the birth of their son, Eitan David. Excited siblings are LEAH, BINYAMIN and ARYEH. Proud grandparents are Atta & Henry Zieleniec and Yossi & Erika Grauman.

NATHAN & ELAINE DISENHOUSE, Faryl Hausman, Ron McCloskey and Gillian McCloskey on the birth of their granddaughter, Milly (Liv) McCloskey, born to Tara & Edward McCloskey. Excited uncle is Robert (Bobby) Disenhouse.

GILA & AKYVA SPIEGEL on the birth of their daughter, ROMY LINA. Ecstatic big brothers are ARLEY and AYAL. Elated grandparents are DEBBIE & REUVEN SPIEGEL and Cyril & Leigh Ann Brenman. Proud great-grandparents are HARVEYTM & YETTA BRENNAN, Avron & Rochelle Slutsky and Beatrice Spiegel. Mazal Tov to all the aunts, uncles and cousins.

IES & RUTH VAN MESSEL on the birth of their great-granddaughter, Chaya Raichel, born to Kreindy & Heshy van Messel of Borough Park NY. Proud grandparents are Nechama & Samuel van Messel.

BAR / BAT MITZVAH

SAM & MICKI MIZRAHI on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, ETHAN. Excited sister is EDEN. Proud grandparents are Naomi & Allan Cracower and Ziba (SamiTM) Mizrahi.

TOBY KASNER on the Bat Mitzvah of her granddaughter Maddy Mogil in New York. Proud family are Jill Kasner and Jonathan Mogil and brother, Kevin Mogil.

JEREMY & JENNIE KELLERSTEIN on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter SHIRA. Excited siblings are COBY, ADINA and LEAH. Proud grandparents are Irene and Sidney Papernick, Howard Rotberg and Faye and Martin Kellerstein.

BRIAN & ROBBIE SCHWARTZ and Ofra Svorah and Zev Nadel & Toby Harrison on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Sari Schwartz, daughter of Maya Nadel and Moshe Schwartz. Excited siblings are Hadas, Noa, Binah, and Ora.

MIRIAM ALLMAN & LES KLEIN, Danny Allman and Sorrie and Howard Javasky on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Adi Tehilah Javasky in Ariel, Israel, daughter of Danit and Yehuda Javasky. Excited siblings are Shaanan and Nadav. Mazal Tov to great-grandparents Myra & Meyer Feldman, Ruth Javasky, Baruch JavaskyTM, Jack & Faye WisebrodTM, aunts and uncles ELI JAVASKY & DR. RACHEL SHOUR, Ezra Javasky, Ora & Daniel Klein, Safi & Maytal Allman, and all the cousins and extended family.

ENGAGEMENTS

AARON & BERTHA LANG on the engagement of their granddaughter, Leora Strauss to Koby Cohen of New York. Proud parents are Ronnie & Shana Strauss. Excited siblings are Reena, Adina, Hadassah and Max.

BENNY & ELAINE OSHER on the engagement of their son JONAH, to Yuval, daughter of Asher & Revital Shriki of Israel. Proud great grandmother is Hannah Fisher. Proud grandparents are Yaffa Afrimi, Kopel & Pnina Osher and Bernie & Helen Ceifets. Excited siblings are NOAH, SARAH, Amit & Shira.

SHOSHANA KAGEDAN (Ian Kagedan^{z"l}) on the engagement of her daughter TALYA KAGEDAN to Raviv Murciano-Goroff, son of Judith Murchiano and Daniel Goroff. Excited siblings are Lila Kagedan & Avi Shainhouse, Aharon & Karen Kagedan, Ariel Kagedan & Liora Zhrebker and Yonina Murciano-Goroff. Proud grandmother is Mrs. Madeleine Murciano.

RISA & LOUIS VANDERSLUIS on the engagement of their son ELI to Einav, daughter of Orna and Max Simoni. Proud grandmothers are Helen Parker and Mazal Ashuall. Excited siblings are Daniel & Stacey, Jonathan, and Avi & Maddie Vandersluis, Yona & Adam Solomon, and Tamar Simoni.

STEVE GOTTESMAN & LIDDY BECK on the engagement of their daughter MADELEINE to Jeffrey Hender, son of Ellen Sone and Cliff Hender. Excited siblings are Elizabeth Gottesman & Jeffrey Pelchovitz, Sophie Gottesman & Bryan Flatt, Jonathan Gottesman & Marly Peikes, and Daniel Hender & Zoe Cheung and Kevin Hender. Thrilled niece and nephews are Zoe & Jack Pelchovitz and Henry & Ollie Flatt.

MARRIAGES

AARON DADOUCH & KATIE DUBIN on their marriage. Proud parents are ANITA BIELAK-DADOUCH, Eli Dadouch, and Eva and Nolan Kane. Excited siblings are BLAKE ENZEL & RACHEL DADOUCH, LESLIE DADOUCH, MELISSA DADOUCH, and Jonathan Quigley. Proud bubbly is Marsha Bielak. Proud aunt is Sylvia Bielak.

ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS

Gabbai LOUIS VANDERSLUIS on his birthday.

JERRY GENESOVE on his 91st birthday.

PAUL BROWN on his 80th birthday.

LOUIS GOELMAN on his 85th birthday.

ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS

RABBI MORDECHAI TORCZYNER, Beit Midrash Zichron Dov's Rosh Beit Midrash, on his Special Birthday.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mazal Tov to RANDALL & LINDA CRAIG on their daughter SABRINA, who was ranked as the most influential Torontonian by Toronto Life magazine. She was also recognized this week by *Chatelaine* magazine as a "Woman of the Year" with their Doris Anderson Award.

Mazal Tov to RANDALL CRAIG, who has been inducted into the *Canadian Speakers Hall of Fame*.

Mazal Tov to CLIFF KORMAN in being elected to Fellowship in the College of Fellows of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada. Architects nominated have demonstrated great dedication to bettering their communities and their profession.

Mazal Tov to Dr. David Herbert, son of DR. PAUL HERBERT, on being awarded *The Strem Award for Pure or Applied Inorganic Chemistry* by the Chemical Institute of Canada. The award is presented to an individual who has made a significant contribution to inorganic chemistry showing exceptional promise.

Mazal Tov to the PARTICIPANTS THE CHUMASH RASHI SHIUR on celebrating the Siyum of studying all of Rashi to ספר שמות.

Mazal Tov to SABRINA CRAIG, daughter of RANDALL & LINDA CRAIG, on being selected as one of the *Top 25 Women of Influence* for 2022, for her leadership of *Vaccine Hunters Canada*.

CONDOLENCES TO

IAN & HEATHER RINGEL and JACOB RINGEL on the loss of their mother, mother-in-law and grandmother, Lorraine Ringel^{z"l}.

RENA (RICHARD^{z"l}) LEVY and family on the loss of their brother, uncle and great-uncle, Lionel Train^{z"l}.

LOWELL BUDD, Andrew Budd, Jennifer & Sean Debow, Philip Kosoy, David Kosoy, Jill and Albert Walker, Lauren, Katelyn and Joshua, Alexandra and Nicole, on the loss of their wife, mother, mother-in-law, sister, sister-in-law and grandmother, MYRNA BUDD^{z"l}.

RONITTE FRIEDMAN-PERLMAN & KUSIEL PERLMAN, Rabbi Orri & Hanna Friedman, Avram & Gail Friedman, Evelyn Ellenbogen, SARITTE, LEEAT and MAYTAL PERLMAN, Dov and Chaya and family, Tal, Assaf, Avigail, Noa and Ethan Friedman, Sara Leah and Itamar Elimelech, Ariel, Shira and Michael Richtman, on the loss of their mother, mother-in-law, sister, grandmother and great-grandmother, Esther Friedman^{z"l}.

Al Donin, Cheryl & Gerry Rosen, Hyla & Kobi Lederman, Marcia "Bootsie" Noble and Janet & Carl Frederiksen and family on the loss of their mother, sister, grandmother and great-grandmother, KAREN DONIN^{z"l}.

Georges Samuel Hakoun, Esther Hakoun, Jack Hakoun, CAROLINE & EDWARD (TED) PERLMUTTER, Wendy Hakoun, Annalise, Sarah, Moshe, Ariella, Shmuel, Aharon, Elianna, Naomi, Yaakov, Aron, Dovi, and the Attal family, on the loss of their wife, stepmother, mother-in-law, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister and aunt, Rachel Ginette Hakoun^{z"l}.

Jack and Ruth Muskat, Hedda and Arnie Wess, Melissa and Miles Kettner, Lindsay and Zach Fein, Benjamin, and Samantha Kettner, on the loss of their mother, mother-in-law and grandmother, NINA MUSKAT^{z"l}.

JOYCE & ZION SASSON, Rena Feinman-Siegel & David Siegel, TOVA SASSON-TRAVIS & ELAD TRAVIS, Gila Sasson & Ben Pichette, SHIRA SASSON & GUY VOICHEK, Avital Siegel, Ariel Siegel and families, on the loss of their father, father-in-law, grandfather and great-grandfather, DR. SAYA VICTOR FEINMAN^{z"l}.

Dan Malamet & Dawn Benson, Ruth & Philip Hart, Elliott & Leah Malamet and families, on the loss of their mother, mother-in-law and grandmother, AHUVA MALAMET^{z"l}.

SUZANNE WINTROB, Stephanie Mezei, Adam Mezei, Eva Schaumer, SUSAN YOUNG and Rhonda Young, on the loss of their husband, father, father-in-law and brother, PETER MEZEI^{z"l}.

SHELLY MOSKOWITZ, Brian & Naomi, Natalie, Josh & Jessica, Amanda & Jason, Sunny and Blaise, on the loss of their husband, father, father-in-law and grandfather, SAMUEL MOSKOWITZ^{z"l}.

RENA LEVY, Jason and Sharon Levy, Melissa and Ran Kafri, David Levy, Elana and Lawrence Mandel, Russell and Miriam Levy, Elyse and Michael Epstein, JONATHAN LEVY, JOANNE LEVY, Nancy and Vic Bendavid and families, on the loss of their husband, father, father-in-law, brother, brother-in-law and grandfather, DR. RICHARD LEVY^{z"l}.

CONDOLENCES TO

Riva Freedman Rotenberg, LAILLA RAPOPORT, GITA ROTENBERG, REBECCA ROTENBERG NADLER (BERL NADLER), Meir Rotenberg, Noam Rotenberg, Chana Golinkin, Meta Rotenberg and families, on the loss of their husband, brother, brother-in-law, uncle, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, Hon. David Wolfe Rotenberg^{z"l}.

Our sincere condolences to the family of ESTHER ABRAMOWICZ^{z"l}.

Meir Rosenfeld and family on the loss of David Rosenfeld^{z"l}, Shaarei Shomayim's past Gabbai Sheini, Downstairs Minyan.

Philip (Pinchus) & Connie Beinhaker and family, on the loss of their sister and sister-in-law, Gloria Pearl Brock (nee Beinhaker)^{z"l}.

Geneviève Robert, Jason, Catherine and Caroline, AGI & JACK MANDEL, Susan & Barry Michaels and families, on the loss of their husband, father, brother and brother-in-law, Ivan Reitman^{z"l}.

Rena & Gavin Goodvach, Mitchell Sered, GAYLE & JEFF ROBERTS, Drs. Sam & Heather Sered, Eden and Noa Goodvach, MICHAEL, RACHEL, DANIEL and JOSHUA ROBERTS, Dahlia, Nathan, Aviva and Roei Sered, on the loss of their father, father-in-law and grandfather, Dr. Bernard Sered^{z"l}.

Bettina & Ian Morris, Allen & Vanessa Morris, Richard & Samantha Morris, Jerry Gross, Anita Morris and families, on the loss of their son, brother, brother-in-law and grandson, Lorne Morris^{z"l}.

RIFKA EISENSTAT (SHOLOM), Steve Holtzkener (Allison Small), Barry Holtzkener (Fern) and families, on the loss of their mother, mother-in-law, grandmother and great-grandmother, Ida Holtzkener^{z"l}.

Sol Budd, SAM & BEVERLEY COHEN, Max & Hilda Cohen, Helen Lester, Gary & Liliane, Marvyn & Susan, Yonah (Jay) & Sonya, Michael & Kaila and families, on the loss of their wife, sister, sister-in-law, mother, mother-in-law, grandmother and great-grandmother, Lynn Budd^{z"l}.

Henry Koschitzky, Jeanette Massouda, MIRA & SAUL KOSCHITZKY, Sarena and David, Hartley and Faye, Jonathan and Tamar, Leelah and Joseph and families, on the loss of their wife, sister, sister-in-law, mother, mother-in-law, grandmother and great-grandmother, Julia Koschitzky^{z"l}.



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OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:00AM - 5:00PM
 Friday 9:00AM - 2:00PM
 Shabbat, Sunday Closed

WHO'S WHO

Interim Senior Rabbi Elliott Diamond
 Assistant Rabbi Sammy Bergman
 Shamash / Baal Koreh Ralph Levine
 Chazzan Chaim Freund
 President Robin Gofine
 Executive Director Nicole Toledano
 Bulletin Contributor Lawrence Savlov

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To make a donation or arrange for a sponsorship, please email or call the shul office, or go to: www.shomayim.org. Tax receipts will be issued.

ENDOWMENTS

Endowment funds can be set up to suit your individual requirements. For further information, please contact the shul office.

DATES TO REMEMBER

APR 9	Shabbat Hagadol & Rabbi's Drasha
APR 15	Ta'anit Bechorot / Erev Pesach
APR 16	I Pesach
APR 17	II Pesach
APR 18 - 21	Chol Hamoed Pesach
APR 22	VII Pesach
APR 23	VIII Pesach
APR 28	Yom HaShoah
MAY 4	Yom HaZikaron
MAY 5	Yom HaAtzmaut
MAY 11, 18, 25	Beit Midrash Zichron Dov's Business Ethics Series
MAY 14	Volunteer Recognition Shabbat
MAY 15	<i>Medical Ethics: Family Planning in Judaism</i> Rabbi Mordechai Torczyner
MAY 19	Lag B'Omer
MAY 28	Special Shabbat Honouring Immediate Past-President Randall Craig
MAY 29	Yom Yerushalayim
JUN 4	Erev Shavuot
JUN 4 - 5	Tikkun Layl Shavuot
JUN 5 - 6	Shavuot
JUN 11	Grad Shabbat
JUN 20	<i>Medical Ethics: Rabbi Mordechai Torczyner</i>
JUN 26	<i>Legal Ethics: Ethical & Effective Crisis Management</i> Rabbi Mordechai Torczyner
JUL 17	Tzom 17 th of Tammuz
AUG 7	Tisha B'Av
SEPT 17	Earlier Slichot
SEPT 18	Later Slichot
SEPT 25	Erev Rosh Hashana
SEPT 26 - 27	I & II Rosh Hashana