

Welcome to Beit Rayim

ברוכים הבאים

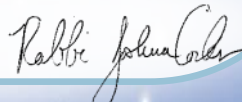
Rabbi's Spotlight

Earlier this week we began the month of *Shvat* (שבט), most noted for *Tu B'Shvat* (טו בשבט, the 15th of *Shvat*). As I've taught on previous occasions, there are several active Jewish calendars which run their own course concurrently. Rosh Hashanah is the civil New Year in which *Shvat* would be considered the 5th month, and the 1st of Nisan (two weeks before Pesach) is the Biblical New Year in which *Shvat* would be considered the 11th month. The names of the months as we know them do not come from the Torah (the Torah only discusses the Biblical year wherein the months are named by their ordinal numbers, 1st, 2nd, 3rd). The names of all the months actually come from the Akkadian language and were imported into the Jewish custom during the Babylonian exile (586-460 BCE). *Shvat* in Akkadian means 'heavy rain' likely having to do with the Middle Eastern rainy season.

This year is a leap year, which means there is an extra month of *Adar*. Why of all the months is *Adar* the repeated month? In the Biblical year, *Adar* is the final month, thus it is a logical place to add an extra month. But why do we need a leap month in the first place? As is well-known, we observe a lunar calendar; however, we have a specific commandment to observe the Passover rites and festival during *Aviv*, the springtime, and the seasons fluctuate according to our Earth's position relative to the Sun, thus relying on the solar calendar as well. The lunar year is eleven days shorter than the solar year, so if we were to observe a lunar calendar without leap years, the lunar year would retrograde through the solar year (like our Muslim cousins) and we would end up with Passover in winter. (Imagine!)

Since the Gaonic period, the Hebrew calendar is fixed—leap years now occur at regularly slotted intervals and we know every leap year from now until the year 8000. However, during the Rabbinic period, the Rabbinic courts—the Sanhedrin—would determine if and when to enact a leap year. If the summer harvest had a bad yield, the following year would be made a leap year. Alternatively, if the highways leading to Jerusalem were still too muddy on the 1st of *Adar* for heavy traffic of people and goods, the Sanhedrin would enact leap year immediately, making that the 1st of *Adar Aleph*. The presumption is that a bad crop meant that the lunar month had retrograded into an earlier part of the season, thus a poorer yield. In the case of the roads, heavy rains meant that it was still winter as *Shvat* is the month of heavy rains, thus indicating the lunar year had retrograded.

Much of this goes unnoticed today as we have a fixed calendar which functions automatically with or without our awareness, but understanding the realities which lie behind our calendar are key to understanding how Rabbinic application of Biblical law form what we know as the Jewish cycle of time today.

Shabbat Shalom, 

from Rabbi Joshua Corber

HONOURS:

If you are receiving an honour/*aliyah*, please introduce yourself to the *Gabbai* at the door. Please arrive early to ensure a *minyan* for *kaddish* at the beginning of the service.

Beit Rayim Synagogue & School Office:
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 www.facebook.com/beitrayimshul
 www.beitrayim.org



UJA Federation of Greater Toronto

Haftarah
 Jeremiah 46:13-28
 (Etz Hayim, p. 395)

Candle Lighting
 4:43 p.m.

Kabbalat Shabbat
 Friday, January 11
 GCC
 5:45 p.m.

Shabbat Services
 Saturday, January 12
 9:00 a.m. (GCC)

Havdalah
 after 5:50 p.m.

Sunday Minyan
 Sunday, January 13
 Kimel Family Education
 Centre Beit Midrash
 8:30am

Rabbi
 Joshua Corber

Cantor Emeritus
 Eli Bard

Cantorial Soloist
 Jaclyn Cepler-Klinitz

Founding Rabbi
 Sol Tanenzapf z"l

Board Chair
 Shelley Isenberg

Board Vice-Chair
 Larry Miller

Co-Presidents
 Lawrence Janit
 Bryan Gerson

Treasurer
 Michael Garber

Secretary
 Joseph Garten

רפואה שלמה / We wish a *Refuah Shleimah*, a complete and speedy recovery:

Yita Rochel bat Feiga
Mordechai ben Shoshana
Shmuel ben Reizel
Yerachmeel Pinchas ben Tzipora
Yeched bat Sura
Arlene Sivakoff
Yaacov Leib ben Chana
Mitchell Thomas Weyrauch
Eliahu ben Luba - Eli Bard
Shalamas Chaya bat Golda

Chaya bat Tupsha - Charlotte Grad
Daniel Mordechai ben Tzila
Esther bat Miriam
Susan Dick-Goodman
Chaim ben Chavka
Shoshanah bat Fraida Rochel
Avraham-Leib ben Edel Faigie
Eda bat Etl
David ben Esther

To add a name to this list, please call the shul office or email admin@beitrayim.org

תודה / The Congregation thanks the following families for donating to Beit Rayim:

Ted & Miriam Benyovits in memory of his father, David Benyovits z"l
Lonny Kates & Mitchell Wein in honour of Hirsch Silverstein's birthday

Announcements

A generous contribution to today's Kiddush has been made by Larry & Amy Miller in memory of Larry's mother, Estelle Miller

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The Beit Rayim community extends a *mazal tov* to Hirsch Silverstein on his upcoming birthday

~
Mazal tov to Shawn Shapiro & Heather Glicksman on the birth of their baby daughter, Riley Bethany and to her proud grandparents, John & Louise Glicksman

This week January 12-18, 2019 we remember the following *yahrzeits*:

David Benyovits z"l, father of Ted Benyovits
Shimin Bishansky z"l, father of Jack Bishansky
Ida Dubrowna z"l, mother of Rose Sultz
Lily Gladstone Gold z"l, mother of Sandra Gold Millstein
Gerald Katz z"l, brother of Eddie Katz
Lazar Luxenberg z"l, father of Ivan Luxenberg

Estelle Miller z"l, mother of Larry Miller
Dianne Pace z"l, sister of Tami Sher
Maurice Saul z"l, brother of Rita Segal
Harry Silver z"l, father of Lou Silver
Henry Vajda z"l, father of Andrew Vajda

תהא נשמתם צרורה בצרור החיים - *May their souls be bound up in the bonds of eternal life*

INVITES YOU TO TAKE PART IN OUR ANNUAL

Shabbat Shira

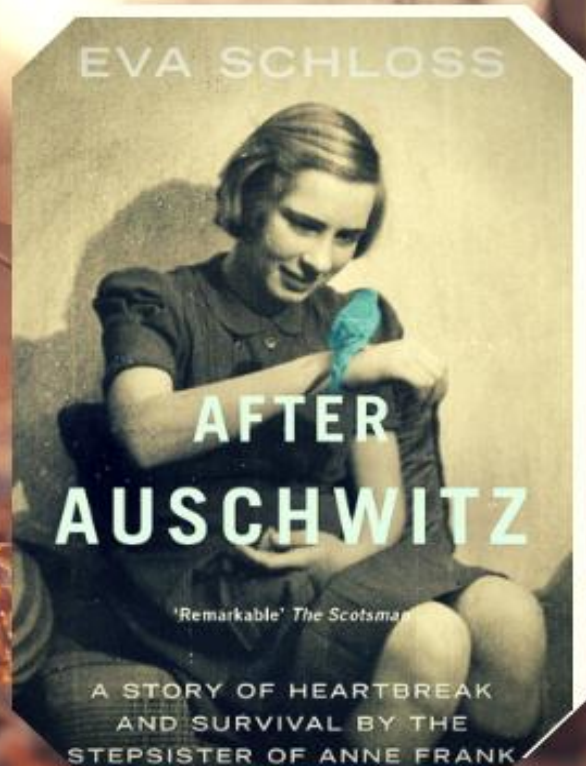
JANUARY 19, 2019

This year's presentation will be based on
After Auschwitz, by Eva Schloss

A story of heartbreak and survival by the step-sister of Anne Frank, Eva gives a searingly honest account of how an ordinary person survived the Holocaust.

This is also an exploration of what happened next, of Eva's struggle to live with herself after the war and to continue the work of her step-father Otto, ensuring that the legacy of Anne Frank is never forgotten.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SERVICE, OR TAKE PART IN THE EVA SCHLOSS PRESENTATION, PLEASE CONTACT CHERYL AT BRHOOD@BEITRAYIM.ORG
 DONATIONS ARE WELCOME!



BRHOOD

Israeli Dinner

bringing the taste of Israel to Beit Rayim

Saturday, January 19

6:15pm - 7:45pm

join us to make your own hummus
 and enjoy falafel in pita

Register online at beitrayim.org under school & youth

*must be in grade 6 or above to register

- grade 6 and up \$10
- B'nai Mitzvah Program..... FREE
- Non-members..... \$18

Yeladim (JK - Grade 2) & Kadima Jr. (Grade 3 - 5)

Aleph Bet Cookies

Sunday January 20

12:30pm

Pick-up from VIVA!

2:00pm

Our fun and delicious program is back... join us this year to make your own Aleph Bet Cookies at VIVA!

lunch included

registration required
 (online under family & youth)

school/members: FREE
 non-members: \$10

SOLD OUT

Please do not engage in conversation in the kiddush area immediately outside our sanctuary. Any noise in this area disturbs the service. If necessary, please feel free to step out to the atrium.

Shabbat and Yom Tov Parking

Parking for Beit Rayim congregants is free on Shabbat and Yom Tov. If you require assistance with your parking, please contact the information desk at the Schwartz Reisman Centre.

BEIT RAYIM SYNAGOGUE & SCHOOL
בית ריימ סניגווגה וסכול

A Discussion on Kibbutz Culture

WITH OUR SHINSHINIM, SHIRA & KOHAV

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29
7 - 9 PM

BEIT RAYIM HEBREW SCHOOL OFFICE
ROOM 201

A discussion on the origins of the *Kibbutz*, the nature of *Kibbutz* life. Just as Israel has changed over the last 70 years, so has the nature and function of the *Kibbutz*. Was the philosophy of Theodor Herzl and his followers one of the greatest utopian experiments in modern times? If so, why in the mid 1990's did many *kibbutzim* dismantle their utopian society and adopt a partially capitalist way of life?

Join the BRHOOD with Shira and Kohav as we discuss these changes in one of Israel's founding institutions: the *Kibbutz*.

RSVP TO CHERYL:
BRHOOD@BEITRAYIM.ORG

THE FUTURE OF THE KIBBUTZ
IN A DIVIDED ISRAEL

CHASING UTOPIA

DAVID LEACH

SUGGESTED READING
(OPTIONAL)

We're in it for the tie!

Join Beit Rayim for our annual

World Wide Wrap

Kids - bring your parents! Parents - bring your kids!

February 3, 9:15AM

in the Goldhar Celebration Centre

Breakfast to follow!

BITS BYTES

SUNDAY MARCH 31,
2019 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Beit Rayim's Alan Nusbaum will be holding a technological information seminar in March

Let Alan know what you'd like to learn: Phones, security systems, computers, operating systems, artificial intelligence, driverless cars, Internet bots, setting up a website, tv set top boxes—anything to do with technology!

Submit your questions to <https://tinyurl.com/y8cysnul>