

Service Times

Please continue to wear masks for all Dor Tikvah services and activities.

See the [Safe Services Update](#) for details.

Babysitting is available from gam to noon.

* Sign up for services at Dortikvah.org/event/Join-Minyan.

Please register by Fridays at 5 pm.

Erev Shabbat **Friday, August 27 (Elul 19)**

6:15 pm - * Mincha / Kabbalat Shabbat / Maariv

6:30 pm - Earliest Candle Lighting

7:32 pm - Late Candle Lighting

Shabbat **Saturday, August 28 (Elul 20)**

9:00 am - * Shacharit

10:06 am - Latest preferable time to say Shema

7:00 pm - * Mincha / Seudah Shlishit

8:28 pm - Maariv / Havdallah

Kiddush Sponsor: Avi & Netanel Monderer
In honor of Avi's Father's Yahrzeit.

Upcoming Sponsors

9/4 - Leah Chase 9/11 - The Barger Family

Sukkot Kiddush sponsorships are available! Reach out to Rebecca at info@dortikvah.org to reserve a sponsorship.

Contributions

> Ilisa & Ezra Cappell & Family

- In honor of Joe & Edie's special anniversary.

> Nina & Virgil Mocle

- In honor of Joe & Edie Rubin on their milestone anniversary.

> Debbi & Greg Rothschild on behalf of Truere Rothschild

- In honor of those who made his Bar Mitzvah so meaningful.

Rabbi Elisha Paul

David Popowski

Jonathan Zucker

Nathan Kirshstein

Yoni Alon

Gerry Katz

Eli Hyman

Slade Gleaton

Marcie Rosenberg

Peter Rosenthal

We appreciate all donations! Contributions of \$10 or more are acknowledged here. Donations to CDT can be made at DorTikvah.org or by mail. Thank you!

Announcements

> **Welcome** to our new member, Dr. Marcelo Hochman!

Dor Tikvah Events & Programs

* **Congregational Meeting** - Aug. 29th, 5:30 pm

Join us on [Zoom](#) for our Quarterly Congregational Meeting, followed by a *Special Congregational Meeting*.

Get details and the full agendas at

Dortikvah.org/event/Cong-Aug-Meeting.

* **High Holy Days** - Beginning Sept. 6th

Our service schedule is now available and registration is open! Join us throughout this important time of year. Go to Dortikvah.org/hhd5782 for more information, updates, youth programming, and service registrations.

Classes

• Daf Yomi with Rabbi Paul & Yoni Alon

Sunday-Thursdays 8:30 pm, On [Zoom](#). Meeting ID: 5212585813

Refuah Shleima

List will be reset at Rosh Hashanah. If you wish to keep a name on, contact charlessteinert@gmail.com.

Yisroel Chaim ben Pesha

Aron David ben Yudah

Yael Bracha bat Pnina

Channah Penina bat Miriam Rochel

Avraham Moshe Ben Tzora

Nechama Chana bat Tziporah Rachel

Blumah Leah bat Yitzhak Dov

(Rosalind Minster)

Shlomo Yoel ben Miriam

(Stanford Kirshtein)

Rahel Tzvia bat Feigel Sara

Aaron ben Miriam Shonah

Nechemiah ben Chanah

Esther bat Alitza

Elijah Myer ben Chaya

Moshe ben Esther

Simcha ben Ettie

Hodel bat Raazel

Talia bat Shoshana

Reuven ben Chaya

Rina bat Gisya

Gana bat Gisya

Hank Legare

Shoshona bat Chana

Areilla bat Shoshona

Life Cycle

Birthdays

> Jett Kirshtein (8/27)

> Linda Gilston (8/28)

> Chai Kirshtein (8/27)

> Zoe Fox (8/29)

Anniversaries

> Ben & Susan Chase (9/3)

Yahrzeits

> Moses Wolper, Great Uncle of Nathan Kirshstein (8/29)

> Max Zucker, Father of Lenny Zucker (9/1)

> Max Kirshstein, Father of Nathan Kirshstein (9/2)

> Ludwig Spangenthal, Father of Peter Rosenthal (9/4)

> Leah Blatt, Grandmother of Keath Blatt (9/4)



Ki Tavo

(Deuteronomy 26:1 – 29:8)

TRUE HAPPINESS

by Rabbi Moshe D. Lichtman

RZA.org



September 6, 2017

A recurring theme in this week's parashah is simcha – happiness. In the opening section, which deals with bikurim (first fruits), the Torah states, – You shall rejoice in all the good that the Lord, your G-d, has given you and your household (26:11). In the next section, dealing with Vidui Ma'asrot (Confession of the Tithes), Rashi comments on the verse – I have done according to all that You have commanded me (26:14): “I have rejoiced and made others rejoice in it [the tithes].” Two sections later, when Moshe tells the People of Israel what to do when they cross the Jordan River, the verse states, – You shall slaughter peace offerings and eat there, and you shall rejoice before the Lord, your G-d(27:7). Finally, after thirty-two verses of admonition (tochachah), the Torah reveals why the Jews will be punished so severely if they do not follow the ways of HaShem: – Because you did not serve the Lord, your G-d, with joy and goodness of heart, when everything was abundant (28:47).

Undoubtedly, serving HaShem joyfully is of paramount importance. But, like so many other things in this world, there is a time and a place for everything. I am sure that we can all think of examples of times when rejoicing is inappropriate. At the beginning of the parashah, R. Chayim ben Atar (the “Or HaChayim HaKadosh”) teaches that there are also places where rejoicing is inappropriate (or more accurately, there is only one place where rejoicing is appropriate). The opening verse states, – It shall be (והיה) when you enter the Land that the Lord, your G-d, gives you as an inheritance, and you possess it and dwell in it (26:1). The Or HaChayim comments:

[The Torah] used the word והיה, which connotes happiness, to suggest that one should only rejoice in dwelling in the Land, as [King David] said, [When the Lord will return the captivity of Zion, we will be like dreamers.] Then our mouths will fill with laughter... (Tehillim 126:1-2).

By the way, the Or HaChayim practiced what he preached and made aliyah at the age of 45. Unfortunately, he died less than two years later. The author of Sefer Chareidim concurs with the Or HaChayim and elaborates on this idea. The verse begins with the word והיה, one of the twelve combinations of the Holy Name, to hint to the fact that one who dwells in Eretz Yisrael clings to G-d. The opposite is true of a Jew who dwells in Chutz LaAretz; he is like one who has no G-d. This combination also hints to Chazal's statement “Wherever it says והיה, it implies happiness.” The Ramban includes the mitzvah of living in Eretz Yisrael in his enumeration of the 613. Every moment a person dwells in Eretz Yisrael, he fulfills this mitzvah. And, it is well known that the main reward for the mitzvah is [received] for the great joy [one has while fulfilling] it, as it says, – Because you did not serve the Lord, your G-d, with joy. Thus, one who dwells in Eretz Yisrael must constantly be happy about his perpetual mitzvah, because of his love for it. [However], one must also be filled with fear and trepidation... (See the entire passage in Sefer Chareidim, chap. 59.)

This concept may also have a halachic ramification. In Chutz LaAretz, Birkat Kohanim (the Priestly Blessing) is customarily recited only on holidays. The Rama explains that this is because people are joyous on the holidays, and joy is a prerequisite for this blessing (Shulchan Aruch, Orach Chayim 128:44). Taking this one step further, some say that this is why Birkat Kohanim is recited every day in Eretz Yisrael: because true joy is felt on a daily basis in G-d's Chosen Land. Most people spend their entire lives searching for true happiness. The first word in this week's parashah teaches us that many Jews may very well be looking for it in the wrong place.