



DATMINYAN

Parashat Matot-Massei

July 30, 2022 ~ 2 Av 5782

Rabbi Shmuel Halpern, Rabbi ~ Dr. Jonathan Fishman, President

440 S. Monaco Pkwy., Denver, CO 80224 ~ www.datminyanyan.org ~ office@datminyanyan.org



Earliest Candle Lighting 6:46 pm
Candle Lighting 7:57 pm
Havdalah 9:01 pm

This Shabbat, all services will be at The Jewish Experience (399 S. Monaco Pkwy)

Friday

Mincha/ Kabbalat Shabbat/ Maariv: 6:35 pm
Shema should be recited after 9:02 pm

Shabbat

Shacharit: 9:00 am (with childcare)
Latest time for Shema is 9:31 am

Kiddush following services

Mincha: 7:50 pm

Maariv: 9:01 pm

Laws of the Nine Days can be found on page 7

Masks are optional at our minyanim. We encourage anyone who wishes or needs to wear a mask to continue to do so. If you have any symptoms or not feeling well, please stay home.

D'var Torah by Rabbi Halpern

Business psychology gurus teach us to build upon our strengths and manage our weaknesses. This advice is commonsensical enough, but it misses a crucial point: your strengths need plenty of managing too.

Consider the following story. The setting: Ancient Israel. The scene: A bloody battle between King David's loyalists and Avner, general of the recently deceased King Shaul.

Ashael, the swiftest of David's warriors, set his sights on Avner and gave chase. Avner repeatedly beseeched Ashael to leave him alone. "I don't want to kill you," he begged. Ashael would have none of it. Left with no choice, Avner quickly turned on his pursuer and stabbed him to death.

Ashael's greatest asset, speed, led him right to death's door.

Years later, King Solomon reflected, "I sat and contemplated all that is beneath the sun, and I saw that the race doesn't always go to the swift, nor the battle to the mighty."

Sometimes our strengths bring us success, sometimes they're no help, but do no harm; sometimes, though, if we aren't careful, as in Ashael's case, our strengths can become a death trap.

The recent Torah readings bring this message into clear focus.

Pinchas took daring initiative and was praised and rewarded. The righteous daughters of Tzafchad begged Moshe to give them an inheritance in the land of Israel. They pushed the envelope and were rewarded for it.

Continued on next page

Davening Times for the Upcoming Week:

Weekday Davening will be held at DAT Minyan (440 S. Monaco Pkwy)

Shacharit

Sun: 8:00 am

Mon, Thurs: 6:30 am

Tues, Wed, Fri: 6:35 am

Mincha

Sun - Thurs: 7:55 pm

Fri: 6:20 pm

*Every person counts for Minyan!
Please make an effort to attend*

Message from Rabbi Halpern

I'm available on the phone or in person for your halachic needs, rabbinic counseling, or anything else that I can assist you with. You can reach me on my cell at 732-237-5455 or at shmuel.halpern@datminyanyan.org

D'var Torah (cont.)

Pinchas and Tzafchad's daughters courageously pursued their aims, achieving their objectives and more, but others didn't fare quite as well.

The tribes of Gad, Reuven, and half of Menashe raised cattle and wanted to settle the recently conquered lands of Sichon and Og, where the vast, fertile fields were perfect for their grazing cattle. Although the land was on the eastern side of the Jordan, far from what would soon be Israel proper, the men of Gad were world-class warriors who could protect the settlement alone.

These two-and-a-half tribes also took the initiative, but Moshe gave them a sound rebuke instead of words of praise and reward. In addition, centuries later, they were the first to be carted off to exile by the Assyrian king.

Why the difference? Why were Tzafchad's daughters and Pinchas commended and Gad censured?

Pinchas utilized his strength to avenge the honor of Hashem and put a stop to the devastating plague that threatened to destroy a nation. He wasn't after money or fame.

Tzafchad's daughters had a dream; they wanted an *eternal* portion in the land of Hashem. They wanted to be *closer* to the world center of Divine service.

Gad had a different objective. He had cattle that would thrive here, and for *this*, he would remain *outside* of the world's spiritual center.

This issue is as relevant today as ever. We have what it takes to succeed, so we give chase and pursue our objectives. But sometimes, we realize, too late, that we'd been better off had we held back. Had we honestly asked ourselves why we needed to succeed, we'd have had a better chance of succeeding.

Had we felt less powerful yesterday, we wouldn't be so powerless today.

But how do we know when to go and when to halt? Wouldn't it be wonderful if life had a traffic signal at each stop? But wait, such a traffic signal does exist; it is there in plain sight but must stop if we are to notice it. Only then can we hear the silent voice of reason, the whisper of our conscience.

We must quiet the passions of war coursing through our veins and ask ourselves some questions: What is it that I'm chasing? To what end? What do I hope to achieve? Is it recognition or power? Is this agenda something I genuinely care about today or is the 'principle' of upholding old, stale opinions that is truly at stake?

What will this power or fame do to make me a better person or the world a better place?

Nothing.

So let it go.



DAT Minyan Announcements

- **Thank you** to Mark and Sarah Raphaely for sponsoring a deli kiddush this Shabbat in appreciation to all those who have worked so hard to make the dream of our new home a reality.
- **Save the Date! Thursday, August 25** DAT Minyan is proud to sponsor a presentation by our own Rabbi Areyh Lightstone, Senior Advisor to U.S. Ambassador to Israel David Friedman (2017-2021), and a participant in the work toward what became known as the groundbreaking Abraham Accords. Rabbi Lightstone will speak about that process and his just-released book, "Let My People Know." Details to follow.
- **Volunteer Day #5 - This Sunday at 2pm** Help us prepare for Rabbi Aryeh Lightstone's visit and make his speaking event a success! See details on page 5.
- **Bob and Jacquie Marks** would like to thank the community for their love during our time of mourning. We were comforted by your outpouring of support.
- **See the progress** of our construction. Pictures on page 6.
- **Popsicles in the Park** will be meeting at the Green School playground this Shabbat at 4pm. Kids play, adults Shmooze! Enjoy a Dvar Torah and Popsicles! In case of rain at 4:00, event is cancelled.
- **An audio recording** of Rabbi Halpern's Wednesday night shiur parts 1, 2 and 3 is available at datminyan.org/audio

Members' Milestones



Claudia Bernstein, Josh Drexler

Refuah Shlemah

Please include the following names in your tefilla. May each be granted a Refuah Shlemah.

Aliza bat Batsheva	Miriam bat Esther	Shalom Shimon ben Rachel
Alonit bat Yael	Mordechai ben Chaya Hannah	Shmuel Aharon ben Jenny
Bella bas Malka	Naama	Shoshanah bat Miriam
Chaika bat Rachel	Penina Devorah bas Shulamit Itka	Yonatan Zeev ben Netaa
Eliezer ben Tova	Ruchel Malkah bat Leah	Yosef ben Sarah Imenu
Hannah bat Naomi Miriam	Saige bat Hannah	Yosef Simcha Chaim ben Sarah Chana
Masha bas Rivka	Sarah Gili bat Bena	Yosef Yitzchok ben Sima Chasya
Mika Ester Bat Adi	Sarah Rivka bat Rachel Leah	Yossef ben Dinah

Names are kept on the list until Rosh Chodesh. Help us keep the list accurate by updating the [Cholim Document](#) or by emailing office@datminyan.org

Community Happenings

- The Golda Meir House Museum invites the community to "The Only Woman in the Room" Monday, 8/1 . More info can be found at <https://www.ahec.edu/auraria/golda-meir-house/the-only-woman-in-the-room-symposium>
- Online Megillat Eicha reading by Rabbinic leaders in Israel and around the world - Chief Rabbi David Lau, Chief Rabbi Yitzchak Yosef, Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks zt"l, Rabbi Shmuel Eliyahu and Rabbi Berel Lazar. mizrachi.tv/eicha. See flier on page 8 for more Tisha B'av programming offered by Mizrachi.
- Merkaz is running a Teen Summer Minyan at Merkaz at 7:45 am Mon-Fri followed by a bagel breakfast. All ages welcome. Contact ret@merkaztorah.org for more info.
- East Side Eruv. Visit www.denvereruv.org to sign up for weekly status messages, Eruv maps, and to make donations.
- MOED: Visit www.mikvahofeastdenver.org for updates, donation form, membership info and more!
- Chana Feige Abrahams is scheduling appointments for the Zussman Mikvah. Call 720-295-7718 or text 720-838-4093.

9 B'Av - Fast Day

August 6- 7

Shabbat, August 6

- 8:06 pm Fast Begins
8:52 pm Say "Baruch Hamavdil"
9:10 pm Maariv, Eicha and Kinnot

Sunday, August 7

- 9:00 am Shacharit and extended Kinnot Program (see below)
1:05 pm Chatzot
7:30 pm Mincha / Maariv
8:50 pm Fast Ends
8:51 pm Havdallah

The Extended Kinnot Program will include explanations of specific Kinnot to enhance our understanding and prayers and make the day more meaningful:

Kinnah #14 *"The Roots of Destruction"* led by Rabbi Shmuel Halpern

Kinnah #17 *"If It Could Happen..."* and Kinnah #19 *"To You Hashem is the Righteousness"* led by Rav Binyamin Hutt

Kinnah #21 *"Cedars of Lebanon"* led by Rabbi Shmuel Halpern

Kinnah #26, *"When Jeremiah Approached the Graves of Our Ancestors"* led by Elan Penn

Kinnah #36 *"O Zion Will You Not Inquire"* Kinnah #38 *"O Zion Most Desirable Crown"* led by Dr. Nathan Rabinovitch

Rabbi Moshe Heyman (Torah U'Mesorah Holocaust Fellowship) *"The Shoah"*

Come Learn With Us

- **SHAWL** led by Liora Wittlin. 7:00 pm at The Jewish Experience
- **In-Depth Gemara Shiur** Led by Rabbi Halpern. 50 minutes before Shabbat Mincha. This week at 7:00 pm. This week's topic "*The Meaning of a Signature: Daf In Depth*"
- **NEW 4-part class led by Rabbi Halpern.** Mashiach is one of the fundamentals of our faith, and yet we struggle with the concept. What is Mashiach all about, and what does it mean to await his arrival? As we enter the three weeks, we invite you to join us for a four-part series as we delve into some aspects of this vital part of our emuna. Part 4 - August 3 at 7:20 pm "*Yearning for Bread: Why hasn't he arrived yet??*" All classes will be held in person at DAT Minyan (440 S. Monaco Pkwy) and on Zoom (<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/81503728887>)
- **Words of Wisdom** is on hiatus for the month of August.
- **Masechet Megillah Chabura** is on hiatus for the Summer and will resume Aug 8.
- **Parsha for Women** is on hiatus for the month of August.
- **The OU Women's Initiative 2022 Virtual Summer Beit Midrash** July 25 - August 5 with both morning and evening classes. Learn more and sign up at ou.org/women/alit2021.
- [Click here](#) to view this week's edition of **Mizrachi's Parshat Hashavua package.**

Volunteer Day #5

This Sunday at DAT Minyan (440 South Monaco) at 2 pm

Rabbi Aryeh Lightstone will be speaking on August 25. There are many details to work out, and we only have a few weeks to get it all done. While our previous 4 Volunteer Days were for our new building, this Volunteer Day will help make Aryeh's visit a great success.

Please join us to help with this important event.

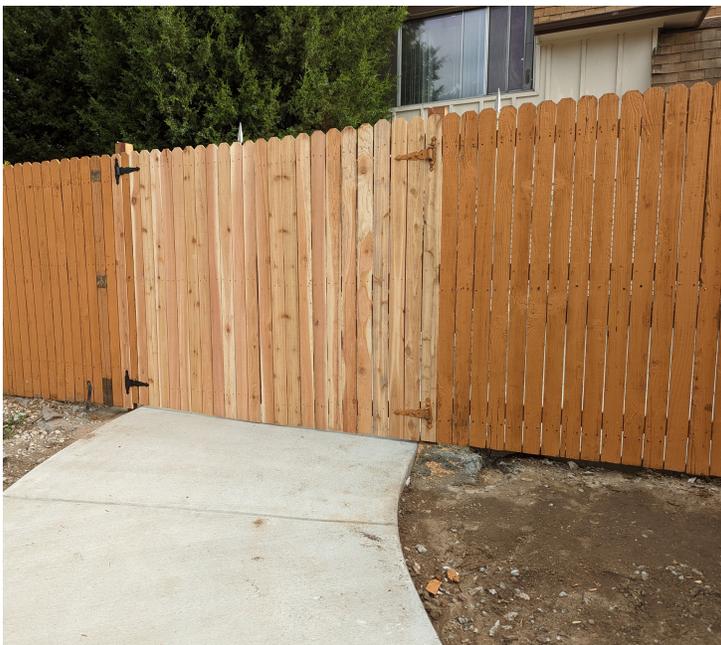
Construction Update

Concrete has been poured for the new main entryway and stroller parking



Lower level sanctuary space

New gate installed for new entry way



Halachot of the Nine Days

Sadly, from our vantage point in history, it is challenging for us to understand, let alone feel, the pain of our collective loss. The halachot and minhagim of this period are an opportunity to get into the proper frame of mind.

Unlike the mourning for a deceased relative, which follows a descending order of intensity—shiva, shloshim, etc.—the mourning for the Beit Hamikdash follows an ascending order. First, we have the general halachot of the three weeks, followed by the month of Av, the week of Tisha B'av, and finally, Tisha B'av itself.

It takes time for us to leave our comfort zone and appreciate that for all our blessings, we are far, far away from home.

Beginning with Rosh Chodesh Av, we should refrain from particularly joyous purchases, such as an engagement ring. One may be lenient if there is a particular need to buy the ring during the nine days.

Home renovations should be pushed off until after Tisha B'av. If, however, one has hired a non-Jew to do the work, it is okay to allow them to work. If it isn't too difficult, it is best to ask the non-Jew to refrain from working during the nine days. Practically, this can often cause significant delays; in that case, we can be lenient. It is okay to have work done during the nine days for a shul or other mitzvah project.

Bathing for pleasure and swimming is forbidden. Bathing for cleanliness is permitted, using cold or lukewarm water and keeping the bathing time as short as possible.

Nail cutting should be avoided during the week, but on Erev Shabbat, or in preparation for immersion in the mikvah, one may cut their nails.

Wearing freshly laundered or newly purchased clothing is forbidden. In case of necessity, one may put the clothing on the floor before wearing it.

Washing clothing is forbidden, even if the freshly laundered clothing won't be worn until after Tisha B'av. If one will be traveling and will not be able to do laundry, they may give the garments to a non-Jewish laundromat to wash them—so long as they aren't worn until after Tisha B'av. Small children's clothing may be washed, as they are consistently dirtying their clothing.

Mending garments and purchasing new clothing should be avoided, even if only to wear after Tisha B'av. In the event of a sale, or another limited opportunity to buy clothing, one may be lenient.

During the nine days, we refrain from eating meat and drinking wine. If one is ill, even slightly, they may be lenient and eat meat.

For havdalah, if there's a boy between six and ten years of age, it is best to have him drink the wine—grape juice is preferred to wine, unless one is always careful to make havdalah on wine specifically. In the absence of a six to ten-year-old boy, the person making havdalah can drink the wine himself.

"Whoever mourns over Yerushalayim will merit to see it rebuilt." May we all see that day soon!



Make your Tisha B'Av more meaningful
with Mizrachi's programming

KINOT ON LOCATION

COMMENTARY AT THE SITES WHERE THE TRAGEDIES OCCURRED...
ACROSS ISRAEL AND AROUND THE WORLD



with an
introduction by
Rabbi Dr. Jacob
J. Schacter



Rabbi Yosef Zvi Rimon
*Overlooking
Har HaBayit*



Rabbanit Shani Taragin
Sha'ar Ha'Ashpot



Rabbi Hanoch Teller
Yad Vashem



Eve Harow
*Beitar,
Shiloh*



Chief Rabbi Michael Schudrich
*Ghetto Uprising Memorial,
Warsaw, Poland*



Shulie Mishkin
Midras



Rabbi Barnea Levi Selavan
Burnt House



Margalit Frydman
Umm el-Umdan



Rabbi Yonason Golomb
*Clifford's Tower,
York, UK*



Esti Herskowitz
*Southern Wall
Excavations*



Rabbi Dovid Roberts
*Brandenburg Gate,
Berlin, Germany*



Franny Waisman
Derech HaAvot

WATCH AT MIZRACHI.TV/KINOTONLOCATION



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