



**Parshat Behar**

**May 25, 2019 20 Iyar 5779**

Torah: Page 531 Ch 25, V 1  
Maftir: Page 534, Ch 25, V 25 Haftorah: Page 535

Mazel Tov to Marley Axmith, her parents Steven & Samantha and all of their family celebrating today's Bat Mitzvah.

Today's Congregational Kiddush is sponsored by Seymour Shadlesky celebrating his 85<sup>th</sup> birthday. Kiddush will take place in the Belzberg-Weisberg Social Hall on the lower level.

**ARE YOU LOOKING FOR  
A WONDERFUL SHUL?**

**Beth Radom always welcomes  
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25% off Membership for Jewish Day School Families.  
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**A HEBREW SCHOOL  
THAT KIDS LOVE!**

**JK-BAR/BAT MITZVAH  
REGISTRATION FOR  
2019/20 OPENS SOON!**

**Watch for Early Bird Discounts!**

**CANDLE LIGHTING & SERVICE TIMES:**

Friday, May 24 Light Candles at 8:27pm  
Saturday, May 25 Shabbat ends at 9:36pm  
Friday, May 31 Light Candles at 8:34pm  
Saturday, June 1 Shabbat ends at 9:43pm  
Daily Minyan (M-F) begins at 7:30am; Sunday at 9:00am  
Shabbat Mornings – Service begins at 9:30am

**Are you a member of Beth Radom in need of a Minyan to say Kaddish?**

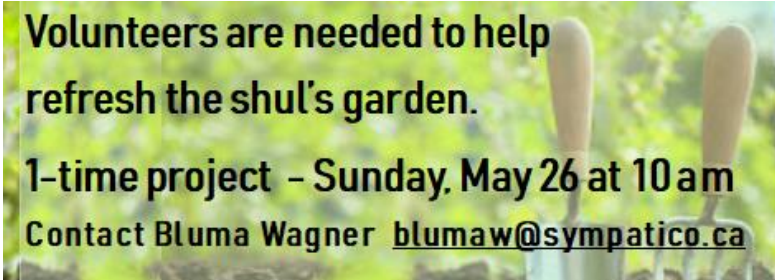
Then contact the Shul office at least a week or two in advance so we can make the necessary arrangements.



Please consider showing your appreciation to fellow members by sponsoring the breakfast. *Food sponsorships are fully receiptable for tax purposes!* We ask that you try to attend morning services as regularly as possible to help achieve a minyan each day.

**CHECK OUT BETH RADOM'S MUSEUM AND GALLERY**

*Have you seen our new video display? It's on our website!* Does your family have things to add to this museum? We appreciate donations of plaques, photos, paperwork, hand written letters, booklets, flyers, old landing papers – anything related to the once thriving, Jewish, City of Radom. And of course we are looking for funding streams to expand the presentation space. Contact Allan [afryman@rogers.com](mailto:afryman@rogers.com) for more information.



**THE BLESSING FOR STUDY:**

Barukh attah Adonai ברוך אתה ה  
Eloheinu melekh ha-olam אלהינו מלך-העולם  
asher qidshanu b'mitzvotav אשר קדשנו במצוותיו  
v'tzivanu la-asoq b'dibri-torah וצונו לעסוק בדברי-תורה  
Praised are you Adonai, our God, eternal Sovereign of the Universe, Who sanctified us with [God's] commandments and enjoined upon us to study Torah.

**RABBI:** Rabbi Dr. Geoffrey Haber [rabbi.haber@bethradom.com](mailto:rabbi.haber@bethradom.com)  
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**ADMINISTRATOR:** Miriam Sharpe [miriam@bethradom.com](mailto:miriam@bethradom.com)

**We wish Refuah Sh'lema to:**

Joe Levitan	Rachel Weiss	Noam Haber
Anice Stark	Bela Davidson	Howie Meyer
Rose Rosenbaum	Allan Fryman	Joel Zeger
Abe Swimmer	Phillip Shadlesky	Gerald Robinson
Ruth Leichner	Rosa Weisberg	Ilse Matheus
	Janice Rothman	Morton Allen Cohen

*If you know Beth Radom members who would benefit from Clergy outreach or should be part of our Refuah Sh'lema list, please contact [office@bethradom.com](mailto:office@bethradom.com). We assure you of confidentiality.*

**With Reverence, We Honour The Yahrzeits Of:**

William Kantor	Late Father of Ronald Kantor
Ezra Hayem Moses	Late Husband of Sally Servin Moses
Regina Cordovi	Late Mother of David Cordovi
Rebecca Anshan	Late Mother of Harvey Anshan
Rega Levison	Late Mother of Lottie Glass
Abraham Nisker	Late Father of Aaron Nisker
Ida Kochberg	Late Mother of Martin Kochberg
Peter Miller	Late Father of Corey Miller
Rose Matlow	Late Mother of Sima Rosen
Joan Landy	Late Sister of Sheila Miles

**REMINDER:**

**SHAVUOT YIZKOR SERVICE - MONDAY, JUNE 10**

**Happy Birthday Wishes To:**

Carol Rothbart	Seymour Shadlesky	Esther Leibovitch
Noam Haber	Henry Icyk	Susan Weltman
Sanford Shessel		

**Happy Anniversary Wishes To:**

Wanda & Philip Haber-Kucharsky	41st Anniversary
Norman & Laura Erdman	24th Anniversary
Fred & Randi Streiman	3rd Anniversary
David & Arlene Kurzman	26th Anniversary

**Prayer For Healing**

*Mi she berach avoteinu* מי שברך: אבותינו,  
*M'kor hab'racha l'imoteinu* מקור הברכה לאמותינו  
May the source of strength, who blessed the ones before us;  
Help us find the courage to make our lives a blessing.

*Mi she berach imoteinu,* מי שברך: אמותינו  
*M'kor hab'racha l'avoteinu* מקור הברכה לאבותינו  
Bless those in need of healing with refuah sh'lema  
The renewal of body, the renewal of spirit, and let us say: Amen

“Bran thought about it. ‘Can a man still be brave if he’s afraid?’

‘That is the only time a man can be brave,’ his father told him.”

— George R. R. Martin (1948-), A Game of Thrones (A Song of Ice and Fire, #1)

I spent this past week at my annual cantors’ convention in Louisville, Kentucky. It is difficult to describe the atmosphere created when this collection of bizarre personalities all congregate in one room, particularly when we consider that any space is usually not big enough to contain the egos of more than one cantor at a time, let alone four or five hundred. This amazingly colourful and dynamic group of people comes together with loosened ties each year to teach each other new melodies for leading services, discuss challenges that different synagogue communities face ranging from pastoral techniques for addressing mental health to membership decline, and to give concerts to each other showcasing music that would be otherwise too esoteric to perform in a typical congregational concert setting.

What moves me most, however, at each convention, are the reports on all of the amazing and exciting things that cantors are doing. This past January, nine of my colleagues brought a new Sefer Torah to the Abuyadaya Jewish community of Uganda to show solidarity with them, despite Israel’s refusal to recognize them as a legitimate Jewish community. Later this year, the Cantors Assembly will be publishing an Abuyadayan Passover Haggadah that simultaneously tells the amazing story of this unique people as it parallels the story of Passover (all proceeds from the publication will go to support the Abuyadaya). Another cantor established a partnership between his community Hebrew and a former Disney animator to create cartoon shorts of biblical stories. But perhaps the most moving presentation of all came from my dear colleague, Cantor Jeff Meyers, leader of the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh.

Cantor Meyers was there that day, when a man, may his memory be erased, motivated only by the age old plague of antisemitism, violated the very meaning of the word ‘sanctuary’ when he burst through the doors of the shul on a Shabbat morning, firing his weapon indiscriminately, ultimately killing eleven congregants. But Cantor Meyers did not dwell on the event, rather the aftermath, whereupon he immediately began the impossible process of healing with his community, ministering to each person in his community who, if they had not lost a close relative, had certainly lost a friend in the unspeakable tragedy.

In this week’s parsha, Behar, we read the verse, “And you shall do My statutes and keep My decrees; and therefore you shall dwell in the land in safety” (Lev. 25:18). As though it were so simple, that all we must do is observe the laws of Torah, and God promises us safety; this conflicts with our lived experience in which bad things do indeed happen to good people. Midrashic literature teaches the story of Rabbi Elisha Ben Abuyah who sent his son up a tree to shoo away a mother bird before collecting her eggs. There are two mitzvot in the Torah which specifically states that the rewards for which are a long life - shooing away a mother bird before collecting her eggs, and honouring one’s mother and father. The rabbi’s son obeyed and climbed the tree only to accidentally slip and fall to his death whilst performing these two mitzvot simultaneously. In his despair, the rabbi concluded that God did not exist, and renounced his Jewish faith. He was henceforth referred to in the Talmud as “Acher”, a pseudonym meaning “that guy [who we hesitate to mention]”. The example of Acher is used in the Talmud time and again to remind us that this question is not at all new to Judaism since the Holocaust, but rather, one which we have wrestled with for many thousands of years. Over all this time, our best answer continues to be that while God is perfect, our world is not; and if it were, humankind would never be challenged to better itself.

And so, even in the face of abject horror and tragedy, we seek opportunities to better ourselves and each other. Upon completing his address, the delegates of the Cantors Assembly spontaneously surrounded Cantor Meyers and began to sing in a gesture of support and spiritual care, just as he has and continues to care for his community still in the midst of great suffering. In Cantor Meyers honour, the Cantors Assembly commissioned a majestic Torah cover depicting 36 stars, 11 black and gold stars to honour the victims of the shooting, and 25 silver stars to represent the first responders who rushed to the defense of the synagogue.

Shabbat Shalom,  
—ChazJ



Global Gathering of Holocaust Survivors,  
Descendants, Educators and Friends

**LIBERATION75**

Toronto will mark the 75th anniversary of the liberation from the Holocaust at the end of the Second World War, and host Liberation75 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre from May 31 through June 2, 2020.

**For information about Liberation75, its lead sponsors & participating organizations, visit [www.liberation75.org](http://www.liberation75.org)**



**VOLUNTEERING at BINGO is FUN!**

The next volunteer opportunities are all on:

**Friday, June 21 2019**

**Session 1: from 8am – 12 Noon**

**Session 2: from 11am – 3pm**

**Session 3: from 2pm – 6pm**

**PLUS Monday, June 24, 2019**

**1 Session: from 8am – 12 Noon**

**To volunteer, please contact**

**[miriam@bethradom.com](mailto:miriam@bethradom.com) or 416-636-3451 x24**