

UPCOMING EVENTS

Women's role in Jewish society – This Tuesday!

Film and discussion with award winning Israeli film director and producer, Einat Kapach • Screening of: Willingly (22 min.) • The Gravedigger's Daughter (20 min.) • Tuesday, September 10 • Time: 10:00 AM • Cost: \$10.00 • Register online at cmhottawa.com/events or by contacting the shul office. • In Partnership with OTS Amiel BaKehila • About Einat: A graduate of the prestigious film school "Maale", with an MA from the Schechter Institute in Jerusalem, Einat Kapach is the director of a number of films, including the documentary "My Legacies" (2011), "Rav Papa" (2016), and "At the End of a Long Day" – which won the "Minister of Education Prize for Creators in the Field of Jewish Culture" (2009). Today, Einat teaches at Maale and also works in its Department of Public Relations.

Journeys: An evening with Dr. Lisa Aiken and Einat Kapach – This Wednesday!

In Partnership with OTS Amiel BaKehila and JET Ottawa • Dr. Lisa Aiken: World renowned, scholar, psychologist and lecturer, whose books have been translated into four languages. • Journey of the Soul: What do Jewish sources tell us is the purpose of life, what a soul is, why we have a soul, what happens to it in the afterlife, and what near-death experiences are all about. • Einat Kapach: Award winning Israeli film director and producer, and granddaughter of Rabbi Yosef and Bracha Kapach • The Journey from Yemen to Israel: The Story of Einat's grandparents– the most prominent leaders of the Yemenite Jewish community is Israel. Rabbi Yosef and Bracha Kapach are the only married couple to have both won the Israel Prize. • 7:30 PM • Location: Machzikei Hadas • \$10/person • Register online at cmhottawa.com/events or by contacting the shul office.

A Shabbat of Gratitude for Rideau Bakery – One week away!

Rideau Bakery was a foundation of our community. This is our chance to say thank you. • A presentation of gratitude to Rideau Bakery • Q&A panel with the owners of Rideau Bakery on the history of Rideau Bakery and the Ottawa Jewish Community • Please send in your favourite memories of Rideau Bakery to be included in our expanded keepsake Shabbat Newsletter • Lavish Kiddush Lunch featuring many Rideau Bakery products • Suggested Donation: \$20 per adult • Silver Sponsorship: \$180 per family (special mention in the expanded newsletter) • Gold Sponsorship: \$500 (reserved table for 10 and special mention) • Diamond Sponsorship: \$1800 (two reserved family style tables for 20 people, special access (Disney Fast Lane) to the dessert table, 3 official Rideau Bakery souvenir aprons, 10 Egg challahs and picture with the remaining Kardish Bakery Members) • Sponsor through our website, cmhottawa.com/events or by contacting the shul office. • RSVP required by September 12.

Ray Fathi Memorial Hockey Night – November 7

Come out for a night at the Canadian Tire Centre as our Senators take on the LA Kings. We'll start with a delicious dinner at the shul, and then take a bus together to the game. • Cost: \$45 • 5:00 PM — Dinner at Shul • 6:15 PM — Bus departs for game • Register online at www.cmhottawa.com/events or by calling the shul office at 613.521.9700.



CONGREGATION MACHZIKEI HADAS

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Rabbi Idan Scher, Rabbi
Rabbi Dr. Reuven P. Bulka, C.M, Rabbi Emeritus
Cantor Emeritus Pinchas Levinson
Chain Bregman, President

SEDRA SHOFTIM

7 ELUL 5779

SEPTEMBER 7, 2019

SHABBAT | ITON

Torah Thoughts from *Sermonic Wit* by Rabbi Bulka

CHECKS AND BALANCES

Judges and officers shall you place for yourselves in all your gates which the Lord your God gives you, and they shall judge the people with righteous judgement (Deuteronomy, 16:18).

Rabbi Yosef Shaul Nathanson observed that it is not necessarily detrimental to have a few Rabbis in one city. With more than one, they can check each other out, and the judgements that emanate from such a process are more enlightened.

He thus explains this verse as follows. If you place judges (plural) in the city, then the collective judgement will be a righteous one.

UNIQUE TORAH

The king was obliged to have two Torah scrolls; one that was stored in the king's treasury, the other which was to always be with him (Deuteronomy, 17:18 and Rashi, ad. loc).

These scrolls had to be written explicitly for the king, and were not be inherited from the king's parents (Talmud, Sanhedrin, 21b).

Even though an inherited scroll would have a nostalgic touch, and remind the king of his parental roots, nevertheless the Torah had to be unique to the king.

This is because each generation has its own specific context. This king must not dismiss any issue by saying—this is the way my parents did it, and this is therefore the way I will do it.

Much as this approach is salutary, it misses out on the unique circumstances the king faces. The Torah does not change, but situations change. For this, the king needs his own Torah.

POINTS TO PONDER

The obligation to pursue justice is spelled out in the words- "*Justice, justice shall you pursue...*" (p. 1078, 17:20). Why the double mention - justice justice?

The Torah establishes that for any capital case, at least two eye witnesses are required (p. 1080, 17:6; p. 1088, 19:15). Why is one witness not enough?

The King of Israel always had to have two Torah Scrolls (p. 1082, 17:18). Why two?

The general principle forbidding the destruction of anything that can be used for human enhancement is introduced in the laws that govern war (p. 1092, 20:20). Why is this introduced there, rather than being stated independently?

HAFTARAH

The Haftarah, found in your Humashim on page 1094, is the fourth in the series of seven "comfort" readings, following Tish'ah B'Av, and taken from the book of Isaiah.

The Haftarah starts with the same first word as does the Ten Statements (Commandments), and speaks of God being the source of Israel's comfort, and Israel's ultimate return to Zion.

The prophet speaks metaphorically about Israel appearing drunk, staggering from what seems to be inebriation, but which is really the staggering from suffering.

Israel is promised that the time will come when they will not have to drink any more from this painful potion, and instead will awaken with full wits and vigour for their return to Zion.

The ultimate redemption, says Isaiah, will not be in haste, as was the case with the exodus from Egypt. There will be no hurry, because there will be no fear. It will be an orderly march, with purpose, direction and profound confidence.

Quote of the week:

According to the law which they shall teach you shall you do...

Schedule of Services

Saturday, Sept 7

8:45 a.m.: Shaharit
5:55 p.m.: Rabbi Moishele Fogel's Class
6:30 p.m.: Rabbi Bulka's Class
7:00 p.m.: Minhah
8:12 p.m.: Shabbat Ends

Sunday, Sept 8

8:30 a.m.: Shaharit
5:50 p.m.: Minhah & Maariv

Monday—Thursday

6:45 a.m.: Shaharit
5:50 p.m.: Minhah & Maariv

Friday, Sept 13

6:45 a.m.: Shaharit
Lighting: After 5:59 p.m./before 6:58 p.m.
6:45 p.m.: **Minhah** & Kabbalat Shabbat



Are you between the ages of 6 and 16 and want a cool new High Holiday experience?

We are looking for youth of any and all backgrounds who want to help lead exciting parts of the services on **Rosh Hashanah** and **Yom Kippur**.



Please be in touch with Rabbi Scher at rabbischer@cmhottawa.com or Dr. Stacy Goldstein stacy@cmhottawa.com to learn more and sign up for this special opportunity.

A Congregational Kiddush
will take place in the Social Hall following services.

WEEKLY CLASSES

Sunday Morning Talmud
7:45-8:30, with Rabbi Bulka

Rose Kravetz Ladies Class in Jewish Ethics
Tuesday Morning, 9:30 a.m., with Rabbi Bulka

YAHRZEITS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPT 7

7 Elul—Sept 7
Eliyahu Harpak
Jack Myers
Samuel Froman
William (Bill) Kahansky

11 Elul—Sept 11
Eva Hubscher
Fanny Blostein
Faye Blostein
Leon Silver
Nap Kapinsky

8 Elul—Sept 8
Amelia Cohen
Anne Wormann

12 Elul—Sept 12
Israel Podolsky
Morris Lustig

9 Elul—Sept 9
Aaron Posen
Issie Landau
Rachel Luterman
Sarah Finkelstein

13 Elul—Sept 13
Charles Benovoy
Edward Sheinfeld
Leah Katz
Malka-Sarah Raber Katz
Miriam Wexler
Reba Rovav
Shmuelik Katz

10 Elul—Sept 10
Malca Algom
Maxwell Lobel
Sam Saslove
Shafica Saleh