

May 25th, 2019/ כ' אייר תשע"ט

Parshat Behar

פרשת בהר

Page #686

Shaarei Tefillah is the destination for families and individuals from diverse Jewish backgrounds who share a desire for strong Jewish values, relevant inspiration, personal growth and warm welcoming community!

SHABBAT DAVENING TIMES

FRIDAY NIGHT

MINCHA	7:00 PM
EARLY CANDLE LIGHTING	7:11 PM
CANDLE LIGHTING	8:27 PM

SHABBAT DAY

DAF YOMI	8:30 AM
MORNING SERVICES	9:00 AM
BREAKAWAY W/ RABBI LIPNER	10:15 AM
PIRKEI AVOT SHIUR	7:50 PM
MINCHA followed by SEUDAH SHELSHIT	8:20 PM
MAARIV/HAVDALAH	9:39 PM

NEXT SHABBAT - PARSHAT BECHUKOTAI

FRIDAY MINCHA	7:05 PM
EARLY CANDLE LIGHTING	7:16 PM
CANDLE LIGHTING	8:33 PM

WEEKLY DAVENING TIMES

WEEKLY MINCHA	7:00 PM
SUNDAY	
DAF YOMI	7:15 AM
SHACHARIT	8:15 AM
MONDAY-FRIDAY	
DAF YOMI	6:30 AM
SHACHARIT	6:30/7:30 AM

Yahrzeits for the Week

Deceased Name	Relationship	Member Name
Norman Ringel	Son	Mrs. Lorraine Ringel
Raye Wolgelerenter	Sister	Mrs. Molly Lazarus
Howard Laufman	Brother	Mrs. Reta Eisen
Cheryl Kates	Sister	Mr. Jeff Kulbak
Ben Raskin	Father	Mrs. Marcia Werb
Jacob Szereszewski	Brother	Mr. Norman Sherrin
Chaia Simcha Nohr	Mother	Mrs. Hilda Carno
Eli Anhang	Son	Mr. Jacob Anhang
Eli Anhang	Son	Mrs. Vivian Anhang

Dear Members & Guests,

As we celebrated Lag Ba'omer this week, the approach of Shavuot and the end of the journey that we began on Pesach is on our minds. We are now over a month into our 49 day count called Sefirat Ha'omer and at this point, it is worthwhile to remind ourselves why in fact we count Sefirat Ha'omer at all.

Many of us are familiar with the reason (given by the Sefer Ha'Chinuch) explaining the importance of connecting the celebration of our physical freedom from Egypt (Pesach) to spiritual freedom by our choosing to elevate our life goals through the acceptance of Torah (Shavuot). True, on Pesach we were liberated, however after such a long and bitter persecution we had lost our spark, our kedusha. The Sages explain that the Jewish people at the time were precariously resting on the 49th level of Tumah/lowliness... out of 50 levels. Reaching 50 would have been a point of no return. Given such a state, there is much debate as to what merit there existed for being saved. Everyone agrees that it was not attributed to their lofty status but perhaps to the fact that they hung on to some semblance of Jewish practice.

I think it is also worthwhile to emphasize two additional insights into what we can gain from this mitzvah of Sefirat Ha'omer.

First, the low level of the Jewish people at that time was understandable and forgivable, and yet, G-d still believed that the spark was not all lost... just very dim. As such, the days leading up to Shavuot are meant to be used to fan the flame, strengthening and refining our character in order to ensure that we arrive at Shavuot at our best, ready to (re)accept the Torah each year. The counting and climbing up the levels in fact is not simply so that we are worthy of receiving the Torah but even more so, that we appreciate its contents and value.

Second, it is interesting to note that if you miss one day of counting, you can no longer recite the blessing required for the remainder of the day. Perhaps this is indicating that the purpose of a process, and in fact of time in general, is to appreciate the potential inherent in each day. If you miss a day, you can't "make it up" tomorrow – it is lost forever. The message of counting each day reminds us that our goal is not simply to count each day – but to make each day count!

I am certainly looking forward to the coming week that I will be spending in Poland, and making not only each day count, but each second. It will undoubtedly serve as a reminder of the importance that our past should have in reaffirming our commitment to the Jewish future. I look forward to sharing this experience with many other members of our shul who will be joining me, and to sharing it with all of you upon my return.

Shabbat Shalom,

Rabbi Lipner

PS – Please note that in my absence, in the case of an emergency or need for any rabbinic assistance, Rabbi Shlomo Schwartz has graciously offered to make himself available and can be reached at 416.839-2090.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Congregational kiddish is generously sponsored by Simone and Elliott Levine in honor of their daughter Shira's bat mitzvah.



Parsha Sheet is generously sponsored by Frances Sadoway, Diane Miles and Harold Sadoway in loving memory of their father Mordechai (Max) ben David Sadoway A"H, whose Yahrzeit will be observed on the 21st of Iyar. May his Neshama have an Aliyah.



Parsha Sheet and **Seudah Shleishit** are generously sponsored by Hilda Carno and the Jacobson, Louis, Rosenbush and Carno Families, in loving memory of Hilda's beloved mother Chaia Simcha bat Hodel A"H, whose Yahrzeit will be observed on the 25th of Iyar. May her Neshama have an Aliyah.



PROGRAM TIME 10:00am-11:30am **NURSERY** Under Grade 1 **THE MAKER SPACE** Grades 1— Grade 3 **JUNIOR MINYAN** Grade 4 — Grade 8

WEEKLY BLURBS FROM OUR YOUTH LEADERS

In this weeks parsha, Behar, we learn of the commandment called "Shemittah"! This law tells us to work for 6 years, and rest on the 7th year! We invite you to rest this shabbat and join our youth groups in fun games and tasty treats! Who knows what happens after 7 sets of 7 years? Bring your answer to groups!

-Ariel (Youth Director; Nursery & The Maker Space)

In this weeks Parsha, Behar, the Jewish people are instructed on the Laws of Shemita (Sabbatical Year). This entails a 7 year cycle and regulates farming and agriculture in the Land of Israel. Join the Junior Minyan as we learn about the Laws of Shemita! As always, there will always be yummy snacks and fun games to play as well! Look out for the flyer detailing the awesome STC Youth Shavuot Ice Cream party!!

-Batya & Ryan (Youth Directors, Junior Minyan)

RIDDLES OF THE WEEK

Grades 3 and under: I have a tongue but cannot talk, I have no legs but I sure can walk. What am I?
Grades 4 and up: I always run but never walk, I sometimes sing but cannot talk, No head on which a hat to place, You always look me in the face. What am I?

UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE

June 22nd @ 5:30 PM
For our

4th Annual Shabbat Afternoon Shmooze

A light Seudat shelishit, a few l'chaims, and some Divrei Torah to celebrate another great year and welcome in the summer!



Momentum Men's Trip

Join Rabbi Lipner for a journey where you'll tap into yourself, your people, and your homeland.

November 11-17, 2019

Contact Rabbi Lipner for more details at ravlipner@gmail.com

CLASSES FOR THE WEEK



Rabbi Shlomo Schwartz -
Cancelled until further notice

Rabbi Alex Hecht (YU Kollel) -
"Controversies of the 20th Century"
Wednesdays
7:30 PM —Social Hall

Rabbi Rafi Lipner—The Morning Jolt
Will Resume June 6th