BMH◇BJ
TouchPoints
Keeping In Touch Without Touching

From Rabbi Chaitovsky

Good morning and welcome to another TouchPoints. In this issue you will find news about Coronavirus at the White House, a take on the troubling relationship between author Alice Walker and The New York Times and its implications for journalists and journalism, and a look back into history to see what medieval Jewish responses to questions raised during pandemics in that era might say to us today.

You will also notice that our daily Minyan offerings now include Shacharit on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:30 AM. We hope you will join us as we start our day with prayer and meditation. Our Minch Maariv and Pirkei Avot continue as scheduled.

Belated Happy Mother's Day to all of our mothers, grandmothers and great grandmothers. And Happy Lag BaOmer, the 33rd day of the Omer, which begins this evening. We hope you will check out the Cantor's special Concert and Sing Along tonight at 7, after Evening Minyan at 6:20. It is sure to get your toes tapping and hands clapping.

Fittingly, Lag BaOmer marks the end of a horrible plague, which according to the Talmud, decimated the entire student body of Rabbi Akiva's yeshiva. While the tale as told by the gemara raises many questions, its bottom line - that a deadly plague came to an end - should be a source of hope and uplift.

May this Lag BaOmer mark a turning point towards the end of our current malaise. May this be God's will!

Rabbi Chaitovsky

Inspiration and Information

The NYT's Alice Walker Problem, Yair Rosenberg

Practical Pandemics - Is It Permitted to Flee The City?, Tamara Morsel-Eisenberg

The Virus Reaches The White House, Michael Shear/Maggie Haberman

Virtual BMH BJ

To enter a Zoom class, click on any link below and then use ID 285-350-9174 and enter password: BMHBJ

You can also call by phone: 720-707-2699 or 312-626-6799

Use call-in password: 498778

zoom
Video Conferencing

Stay Tuned for Shavuot Information including a special Yizkor Service as well as a Community Wide Tikkun with all area synagogues

▶ **Minyan and Davening Schedule**

NEW NEW NEW - Shacharit Service TUES and THURS 8:30 AM

Mincha-Maariv 6:20 PM

▶ **Learning Opportunities and Classes** - Mark your calendars!

Monday May 11 @ 7 PM with Cantor Goldstein

Special Event: Lag BaOmer Sing Along and Concert

Tuesday evenings at 7:30 with Rabbi Chaitovsky

The Truth, The Whole Truth and Nothing But the Truth
Join as we explore the truth behind "commonly held" Jewish beliefs and "popular" practices that "everyone" knows about. From kissing a mezzuzah to covering mirrors to fasting when a Torah scroll falls and much much more, we will separate fact from fiction and *bubbeh maisehs* from correct practice.

Wednesday mornings at 9:00 with Rabbi Chaitovsky

Verse by Verse: The Book of Numbers (Bamidbar)
A survey of the 4th book of the Torah using classical and contemporary commentaries. Bring your bagel and some coffee and join us every Wednesday!

Thursday mornings at 11:00 AM, MDT (US and Canada) with Ellyn Hutt

Ellyn's Parsha Class for Women
Meeting ID: 922 119 870

Thursday evenings at 7:00 with Cantor Goldstein

Learn to Pray: An in depth course to study the structure and concepts of daily and Shabbat prayer.
We will learn how the function and forms of prayer developed over the thousands of years that Jews have been praying both privately and publicly. We will also work on some of the practical "how to's" of praying, including wearing talit and tefillin.

Daf Yomi each weekday morning at 7:30, and every Saturday night 1 hour after Shabbat is over with Rabbi Michoel Fleischmann

WhatsApp
Dial in number: 701-802-5213   Access code: 8622667   Online meeting ID: mfleischmann7
But, not exactly correct?
Please, WhatsApp me for adding to the group messaging of Daf Yomi for times, place in Gemoro, etc. 303-815-4882.
However, for the actual shiur we use freeconferencecall.com, which is accessible by home phone or cell or computer.
Dial-in number (US): (701) 802-5213   Access code: 8622667#
International dial-in numbers: https://fccdl.in/i/mfleischmann7

More information at www.BMH-BJ.org