



CONGREGATION TIFERETH BETH DAVID JERUSALEM

Shabbat Bulletin

יג שבט התשפ"ב
 שבת שירה / פרשת בשלח
 Shabbat Shira / Parshat B'shalach
 January 14-15, 2022 / 5782
 Please print this bulletin before Shabbat.

Chazan Sheini
 Rev. Amiel Bender

Rabbi
 Yechezkel Freundlich

President
 Josh Orzech

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SHABBAT SHALOM • שבת שלום

Tu B'Shvat is on Monday, January 17

Shabbat Shira Parshat B'shalach

Haftara: Shoftim 4:4 - 5:31

Due to current government pandemic restrictions, the TBDJ building is closed.
 When davening at home, it is preferable to do so at the same time as the rest of the community.

Friday, January 14

2:15pm Daf Yomi on Zoom
 3:40pm Plag Hamincha
 4:18pm Candle Lighting
 4:20pm Mincha/Maariv - Parking Lot
 4:36pm Sh'kiah

Shabbat, January 15 / 13 Shvat

9:48am Sof Zman Kriyat Sh'ma
 3:41pm Plag Hamincha
 4:15pm Mincha/Maariv - Parking Lot
 4:38pm Sh'kiah
 5:26pm Havdala
 6:20pm Musical Havdala on Facebook with Rev. Amiel Bender
 6:30pm Daf Yomi on Zoom

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK

Abridged Weekday Minyanim in Parking Lot
 All health and safety protocols followed - including proper social distancing and mask wearing.
 No seats nor tables provided. On days of extreme cold weather, these minyanim are cancelled.

Mincha: 4:25pm Sunday to Thursday

Shacharit - starting at Yishtabach:
 8:00am Sunday to Friday

Candle Lighting is at 4:27pm
 and **Mincha** is at 4:30pm
 on Friday, January 21

For our full schedule, go to tbdj.org/calendar

COMMUNITY NEWS

Mazal Tov to **Mina & Minel Kupferberg** and **Loni & Jeff Kupferberg** and their families on the wedding of their grandson and son Arye Yaakov Kupferberg to Rachel Sara Butterfield on Tuesday, December 28 in Modiin, Israel. Sharing in their simcha are Rachel's parents Suzanne & Yakov Butterfield and many delighted siblings, aunts, uncles and cousins in both families.

Condolences to **Leonard Mendel, Allen & Diane Mendel** and **Joseph & Anna Mendel** their families on the loss of beloved wife, mother, mother-in-law and sister-in-law Pearl Frishman Mendel z"l who passed away on Tuesday, January 11. Funeral is scheduled for Friday, January 14.

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS

This Shabbat Bulletin is sponsored by **Rosaleen & David Hutman** and Larry & Tiffany Rinzler and their families to mark the first yahrzeit for beloved father, father-in-law and grandfather David Rinzler z"l (David ben Chaim v'Shoshana - 17 Shvat).

Monday Nights at 7:45pm with Rabbi Freundlich
 NEXT LECTURE: MONDAY, JAN. 17 ON ZOOM

MODERN JEWISH HISTORY PART II
 FROM WORLD WAR I
 TO THE DECLARATION
 OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL



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UPCOMING SHIURIM AND PROGRAMS ON ZOOM

Monday, 01/17, 10:00am Tehilim Class for Women with Rifki Freundlich

Monday, 01/17, 7:45pm Jewish History Lecture with the Rabbi

Tuesday, 01/18, 12:00pm Lunchtime Halacha Shiur with the Rabbi

Wednesday, 01/19, 12:15pm Wednesday Parsha Shiur with the Rabbi

Thursday, 01/20, 12:30pm Parsha Shiur for Women with Rifki Freundlich

Thursday, 01/20, 2:00pm Jewish Music Shiur with Rev. Amiel Bender

Celebrating HaShem in Song and Art

וְתַקַּח מִרְיָם הַנְּבִיאָה אֲחוֹת אֶהֱרֹן אֶת הַתֵּנָף בְּיָדָהּ
וְתִצָּאנָה כָּל הַנָּשִׁים אַחֲרֶיהָ בְּתַפִּים וּבְמַחֲלֹת
וְתִתֵּן לָהֶם מִרְיָם נְשִׁירָהּ לֵאמֹר כִּי גָאֵה גָאֵה סוּס וְרָכְבוֹ רָמָה בָּיָם

Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took the tambourine in her hand and all the women went forth after her with tambourines and with dances.

Miriam called out to them: "Sing to Hashem for he is exalted above the arrogant, having hurled horse with its rider into the sea..."

Exodus 15:20-21

In this week's Torah portion of Beshalach, we read שִׁירַת הַיָּם, the Song of the Sea. Following the miraculous crossing of the sea, we read about the exalted song of our ancestors. It was expressed in spontaneous, jubilant and heartfelt song, a song that gained momentum towards the ultimate proclamation securing their connection with their Creator who redeemed them from Egypt:

ה' ימֹלֵךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד

Hashem shall reign for all eternity

(Exodus 15:18)

Rashi teaches that Moshe Rabeinu led the men in song. He would say a phrase and the men would respond after him. The above verse teaches us that Miriam likewise led the women in their singing.

The Mechilta (Sota 30:b) discusses the words וְתִתֵּן לָהֶם מִרְיָם – *Miriam called out*, explaining that the root of the word וְתִתֵּן is the word עָנָה which often means *to answer*. In this verse it means to elicit a response. The response elicited was the joyous responsive singing which elevated our people.

Rabbi Yitzchak Levy writes that the word וְתִתֵּן - *she answered*, is generally used as an answer to a question. He asks: *What question was Miriam answering in her song with the women?* He also highlights the following grammatical oddity: *If her's was a song for the women, Hebrew grammar would have the words written in the feminine form: וְתִתֵּן לָהֶן, not in the masculine להֶם.*

He brings an answer to these questions from the *Yalkut Lekach Tov*. He writes that when the women were asked to join Miriam in song they asked her: *What is this joy all about?* He clarifies the reason for the question by stating that while the women also suffered from the slavery in Egypt and that along with the men they also were privileged to be redeemed from the terrible persecution, the redemption from Egypt is but a stage towards the goal of receiving the Torah. However, women are exempt from learning Torah, so what is the joy all about for the women?

Rabbi Levy writes that Miriam used the word לָהֶם, answering them in the masculine form, because she addressed the men as well:

Miriam said: "Precious women, do not take your status and your duties lightly. You stand to the right of your men. You have an important part of the establishment of the Jewish home and the creation of the family.

Without you there is no home - do not take this lightly! If you will... I have proof for you that the strength of the assisting person for the task is equal to that of the person engaged in the task. As the Egyptians drowned in the sea the verse says 'horse with its rider...' The riders deserved the punishment - what was the guilt of the horses? Without the horses the riders had no chance to chase the Children of Israel. The horses helped them to accomplish what was needed and were therefore punished. You" Miriam continued speaking, addressing the task of the Jewish women "are also important and are a central factor in the building of a house in Israel. That alone justifies the fact that your role and part in the miracle of the exodus from Egypt is equal to that of the men. That is a good enough reason to praise with song and dance..."

The Talmud (Sotah 11b) teaches that *in the merit of righteous women of that generation were the Children of Israel redeemed from Egypt*. The women of Egypt maintained the spiritual strength of the nation in various ways during the years of servitude and had greater faith than the men, that the redemption would come accompanied by great miracles. This is why, the Mechilta teaches, that the song of the women was accompanied by tambourines while the song of the men was not: The women were so confident that Hashem would perform miracles, that they prepared the drums to take with them when they left Egypt, to use to sing Hashem's praises at the time of the eventual miracles. The Shelah (1555-1630) explains that Miriam spoke in masculine form to teach us about the superior role of the righteous women of the Israelite nation when they were in Egypt, and to show that the women were on the same level as the men.

I suggest that a characteristic and strength of a devout Jewish woman, wife and mother *is that she is aware of, and answers the needs of, her household before they need to be expressed or asked for*. This started in Egypt and has continued throughout our Jewish existence. The women and the men are equal partners in the strength of the Jewish home and the continuity of our people. Was there a better time in our history to recognize the combined strength of the Jewish parents as equal cornerstones of the Jewish home than the moment where our ancestors crossed the Red Sea and became a nation?

Miriam called out to the women. She called out in song to elicit a response. Singing elicits responses. The response was a call to Hashem, a realization and celebration that the Creator of the world chose to bring us, the Jewish people, out of Egypt and to make us an eternal nation, His chosen people, His nation.

This coming week, my family observes the *yahrzeit* for my late mother, Rena Zambrowsky Bender z"l. My mother was an accomplished and creative artist. Her response to the gift of painting was a call to Hashem's beautiful world of colour, communicating on canvass and on paper through her talent, depicting unique, imaginary and picturesque ideas, bringing Torah and Yiddishkayt to life in her many paintings and prints. This was one of my mother's unique gifts which elicited positive responses from her many fans.

After the conclusion of the shiva for my mother z"l, I went to her studio on the upper level of my parent's apartment to look at her creations, the ones that weren't hanging on our walls. Next to her easel I found a bookcase with ספרי קודש - Jewish books, midrashim and more from which my mother learned as she developed her interpretative ideas for her beautiful paintings and prints. Exhibiting true *Avodat Hashem* year after year through learning and creating, my mother merited to express and bring to life an amazing blend of ideas using the wonderful colours that Hashem created in our world - combining and expressing them with themes and ideas from our Torah and Tanach.

The painting shown below is a prime example of the artwork in my mother's portfolio. The theme of the painting is nothing less than brilliant and to see it in colour is to experience something special. My mother painted a woman lighting the Shabbos candles on a background of six scenes from the six days of creation. The Hebrew letters in the framework around the painting are the words of the Torah from the Kiddush which we recite every Friday, words which tell us that Hashem completed the creation of the world by the seventh day.

This painting was featured in an exhibition at a museum in Yerushalayim in the late 1980's. It was hung in a central area of the exhibition, brilliantly illuminated where the features of the painting spoke volumes to the naked eye.

My sister and I both wanted the painting, pledging to share it among ourselves, and we begged my parents not to sell it. Halfway through the well-attended and festive first night of the exhibition, the painting was still without the red sticker on the corner of the frame which would indicate it was sold. However, just before the close of opening night, a woman walked into the gallery and upon seeing the painting yelled out: "I have to have this!" She immediately purchased the painting.

My mother returned her holy soul to our Creator three years ago on Tu Bishvat, the day that we celebrate the New Year of the Trees, a day on which we honour the divine beauty of the land of Israel through a rich festival of colours in trees, fruit and more. It is personally a very appropriate time of year for me to remember my mother and her life's work - remembering an artist who used the rich colours of Hashem's world to communicate its beauty to old and young alike.

Shabbat Shalom,

Rev. Amiel

לעילוי נשמת אמי מורתי רינה בת הרב צמח מנחם הלוי ובעלא חדזה





WOMEN'S INITIATIVE
& YOETZET HALACHA

Monday Morning Tehillim

WITH

RIFKI FREUNDLICH

EVERY MONDAY AT 10:00 AM

HOSTED IN TBDJ'S ZOOM LIBRARY



WOMEN'S INITIATIVE
& YOETZET HALACHA

A CLASS FOR WOMEN

Thoughts on the Parsha

with Rebbetzin
Rifki Freundlich

Thursdays

12:30-1:00

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