



CONGREGATION TIFERETH BETH DAVID JERUSALEM

Shabbat Bulletin

בס"ד

ל' אב התשפ"ב

שבת פרשת ראה / א' דראש חודש

Shabbat Parshat R'ei

First Day of Rosh Chodesh Elul

August 26 - 27, 2022 / 5782

Please print this bulletin before Shabbat.

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SHABBAT SHALOM • שבת שלום

Rosh Chodesh Elul is on Shabbat, August 27 and Sunday, August 28

Molad is on Shabbat, August 27 at 8:16am and 5 chalakim

Shabbat Parshat R'ei First Day of Rosh Chodesh Elul

Haftara: Yeshayahu 66:1 - 66:24
(repeat verse 66:23)

Friday, August 26

- 6:05pm Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat - Main Sanctuary
- 6:19pm Plag Hamincha
- 7:00pm Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat - Main Sanctuary
- 7:00pm Minha et Kabbalat Chabbat - Minyane Sépharade - Chapel
- 7:25pm Candle Lighting
- 7:44pm Sh'kiah

Shabbat, August 27 / 30 Av

- 8:00am Shacharit - Hashkama Minyan
- 9:00am Shacharit - Main Sanctuary
- 9:00am Shacharit - Minyane Sépharade - Lower Level Chapel
- 9:33am Sof Zman Kriyat Sh'ma
- 10:00am Kef Club Shabbat Programs for Kids - Lower Level Classrooms
- 6:17pm Plag Hamincha
- 7:10pm Minha et Seoudah Shleesheet - Minyane Sépharade - Chapel
- 7:15pm Mincha, Seoudah Shleesheet and Maariv - Main Sanctuary
- 7:42pm Sh'kiah
- 8:28pm Havdala
- 9:20pm Musical Havdala on Facebook with Rev. Amiel & Cheryl Bender

RESERVE YOUR SEATS FOR THE HIGH HOLIDAYS 5783!!!!

We are currently taking reservations for seats for our upcoming High Holiday services. If you reserved places in 2019 - before the pandemic - those same seats are being held for you again this year. Please send a message to brian@tbdj.org if you plan to take these seats - or if you have any adjustments to your list of seat-holders. The deadline to reply is Monday, September 5.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Mazal Tov to **Maxine & Stephen Jacobson** and **Rachel & Issie Shanfield** and their families on the occasion of their granddaughter Miley Anne Jacobson becoming a Bat Mitzvah on Rosh Chodesh Elul - Sunday, August 28. Proud parents are Ronit & Avi Jacobson. Sharing in their simcha are Miley's siblings AJ, Eli and Sadie and many delighted aunts, uncles and cousins.

Mazal Tov to **Vicky & Jimmy Shizgal, Vera Honigwachs** and Bracha & Morty Shizgal and their families on the forthcoming wedding of their son and grandson Josh Shizgal to Talia Ganz on Monday, August 29. Sharing in their simcha are Talia's parents Jodi & Jack Ganz of Toronto, her grandparents Marlene & Peter Myerson and many delighted siblings, aunts, uncles and cousins in both families. Lovingly remembered at this time are Josh's grandfather Leo Honigwachs z"l and Talia's grandparents Rachmie & Hershel Ganz z"l.

Mazal Tov to **Vicki & Howie Steinberg** and their family on the engagement of their granddaughter Adele Steinberg to Yuval Edan. Proud parents are Ronit & Stuart Steinberg of Israel and Aliza & Herzl Edan of Israel. Sharing in their simcha are many delighted siblings, aunts, uncles and cousins in both families.

Condolences to the family of TBDJ Member **Jacob (Yankel-Jack) Felder z"l** who passed away on Thursday, August 25. Funeral took place on Friday, August 26 at Paperman's. Strictly private shiva.

Refua Sh'leima to **Yosef Yehoshua ben Rivka** יוסף יהושע בן רבקה.

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS

Kiddush is sponsored by **Vicki & Howie Steinberg** in honour of the engagement of their granddaughter Adele Steinberg to Yuval Edan.

This Shabbat Bulletin is sponsored by **Vera Honigwachs** in honour of the forthcoming wedding of her grandson Josh Shizgal to Talia Ganz.

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK

Mincha/Maariv:

7:15pm Sunday to Thursday

Shacharit

Monday and Thursday: 6:50am

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday: 7:00am

On Friday, September 2

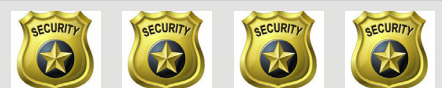
Candle Lighting is at 7:12pm

Mincha is at 7:00pm

M. Sépharade Minha is at 7:00pm

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

TBDJ is Recruiting Volunteers for our new SECURITY TEAM



Would you like to help TBDJ provide a safer and more secure place to daven? We are looking to assemble a team of 15 to 20 volunteers who will provide support to our paid security guards as they work to protect our building and safeguard our people. With your personal knowledge of our community, you will help ensure that any guests visiting our building are indeed here for a valid reason, along with securing locked doors and monitoring the general safety situation in and around 6519 Baily Road. This new TBDJ Security Team will meet once per month for training which includes special surveillance, combat training and security-related skills. If you are interested in joining this vital new volunteer initiative, please send an email message to Zach at zachary.steinlauf@gmail.com.

We Aren't There Yet

כִּי לֹא בָאתֶם עַד עֵתָה אֶל הַמְנוּחָה וְאֶל הַנַּחֲלָה אֲשֶׁר ה' אֱלֹהֵיךְ נָתַן לָךְ
**For you will not have yet come to the resting place
 or to the heritage that Hashem your G-d gives you...**

Devarim 12:9

The above verse from this week's Torah portion of Re'eh refers to a fourteen-year period, a time of indeterminate state, after Bnei Yisrael's entrance into the Holy Land, when the Tabernacle was not yet erected at Shiloh. Shiloh was going to be considered the temporary resting place for Hashem's holy presence while the heritage from Hashem was to be the eternity of the Beit Hamikdash in Yerushalayim. Hashem tells the children of Israel that *they aren't there yet*....with respect to established practices concerning offerings during that historical period before the sanctuary at Shiloh was created.

At the risk of taking this idea out of context, this is certainly a thought that is applicable even in today's world. There is furious activity in our busy lives. We live with wishful thinking and dreams, ambitions and short and long-term planning. We pass our days as we slowly progress towards the light which represents our accomplishments and achievements at the end of our lifetimes. Everyone wants to get *there*. The question is: What is *there*? Are we *there*... and if not, when will we be *there*? Will we be *there* when we achieve spiritual wholeness, financial actualization, retirement, when we feel that we have done everything that we have wanted to do in the world, when we have total peace of mind in everything we do? In short... will we ever be *there*?

These questions are subjective, and every reader will have different answers and or reflections. While I certainly do not have the answers to these questions, the mission of my personal Jewish existence is the quest to be *there* - in the place that Hashem has in store for me while living my life according to the commandments, principles and doctrines of the Torah. I believe that it is incumbent upon each one of us to *reach for our spiritual stars* as Jews and, as well, to maximize our potential as individuals in our respective worlds. Maybe this is what being *there* is all about.

As I write these words, we are about to usher in the Hebrew month of Elul, the month of preparation leading up to the High Holidays. Every morning this month we sound the shofar at the end of services, and we add Psalm 27 following the shofar blasts. This is our annual month of התעוררות, the wake-up call for us to get *there* spiritually, to prepare for the season of repentance.

We seek spiritual perfection as we approach the High Holiday season. Our spiritual perfection gives us a good feeling about ourselves, and it lends itself to motivating us in the other challenges that we face in our physical lives and endeavors. We may learn about the relationship between our spiritual and physical lives from The Lubavitcher Rebbe who wrote that The Mount Sinai Experience brought our ancestors, Bnei Yisrael, to spiritual perfection, and that since spirituality and physicality are related to each other, spiritual perfection also brought physical perfection.

In his theory of self-actualization, Jewish psychologist Abraham Maslow's contends that individuals are motivated to fulfill their potential in life. To Maslow, self-actualization is the ability to become the best version of oneself. Maslow stated: *This tendency might be phrased as the desire to become more and more what one is, to become everything that one is capable of becoming.*

We all seek to get *there*, to our respective states of perfection – physical, spiritual and more. Getting *there* is a welcoming state of mind and accomplishment. In a very real way, getting *there* is the result of finding *it*, that something that you are seeking and looking for.

A friend of mine ran a brilliant program in a Montreal synagogue some years ago. He called the program: *IT*. On a designated evening every week for the duration of the program, a group of young men got together at the synagogue, and they spoke about *IT*! What is *IT*?

I asked my friend about his program. His answer: *I don't know what IT is*. I asked him: *What does that mean? Who knows what IT is?* He answered me: *Hopefully nobody*. I countered: *Why not?* He answered: *Because the minute someone finds IT this wonderful program is over and I don't have an excuse to bring 20 to 30 young men into the synagogue to shoot the breeze and look for IT*. In short, the program was a success because everyone was looking for *IT* but nobody found *IT*! The discussions, accompanied by great food and camaraderie continued week after week as the members of the group discussed what *IT* was and how to get to *IT*. While *IT* was spiritual to some and physical states of mind and being to others, all felt that they were not there yet in their personal state of finding *IT*.

It is not easy to get *there*, to find *IT*. It would seem though, from the words of the Torah recording and describing the nature of our Patriarch Avraham Avinu's life, that we can get *there*, we can find *IT*. *And Avraham expired and died at a good old age, mature and content, and was gathered to his people (Breisheet 25:8).*

Josh Dubin brings an analogy from Rabbi Yeruchem Levovitz who explains: *When a person wins the lottery, he tells all his friends that he has won the lottery. He does not explain all the details of his millions. Yet a person who has worked all his life and is able to save up those same millions will have a lot to tell about how hard he worked and the sacrifices he had to make to save up all that money. He would tell you how he had to work long hours with very little sleep, etc. Each aspect of his hard-earned money is dear to him. The more effort he put in, the more he would talk about it.*

Rav Levovitz relates this idea to the way that Avraham Avinu got there, to his righteous nature. *That the actions and behavior of the righteous are like a building. With each action, a righteous person is building a large skyscraper. That is why the Torah tells us of the hospitality of Avraham in such great detail. Avraham did not become righteous overnight; he worked every minute of his life to become righteous.*

Dubin explains that we learn from this example that it takes work and effort, often over one's entire life, to become righteous if one sincerely wants to do so. However, Hashem guarantees that if you strive for righteousness, He will assist you in attaining your goal. We learn from Avraham Avinu that the goal is attainable - we can get *there*, we can find *IT*.

For you will not have yet come to the resting place or to the heritage that Hashem your G-d gives you...

We read these words in the Torah as we enter the month of Elul, the most defining season of our spiritual year. In our spiritual world, this is the time of the year to search for *IT*! It is a time of reflection, introspection, prayer, soul searching and more. We pray to Hashem for a good year for ourselves, our loved ones, our community, Israel, and the list goes on. There are no limits to our prayer and good will. When we pray to Hashem for all that matters in our lives and in the lives of others, for the good and the welfare of the world around us, we must realize especially now, as we enter the month of Elul where our lives hang in the balance, that we aren't *there* yet.

Shabbat Shalom and best wishes for a meaningful month of Ellul...

Rev. Amiel

**Mark your calendars! Kef Club Season Opener!
 Family Apple Picking at Verge Labonte Orchard
 for Kef Club kids and their parents!
 Sunday, Sept. 18, 8:30am-12:30pm
 \$15/child 5-13; \$20/adult or teen
 Under 5 = free!
 Transportation and bag for apples included!
 Register now at www.tbdj.org/KCapples5782**