



CONGREGATION TIFERETH BETH DAVID JERUSALEM

Shabbat Bulletin

בס"ד
שבת פרשת תצוה / שושן פורים
טו אדר ה'תשפ"א

Shabbat Parshat Tetzaveh
Shushan Purim

February 26-27, 2021 / 5781

Please print this bulletin before Shabbat.

Rabbi
Yechezkel Freundlich

Chazzan Sheini
Rev. Amiel Bender

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SHABBAT SHALOM • שבת שלום

Shabbat Parshat Tetzaveh

Shushan Purim

Haftara: Yechezkel 43:10 - 43:27

All minyanim are restricted to members who have pre-registered. When davening at home, it is preferable to do so at the same time as the rest of the community.

Friday, February 26

- 3:45pm Daf Yomi on Zoom
- 4:29pm Plag Haminchah
- 5:10pm Minha & Kabbalat Shabbat -
Minyane Sépharade-Lower Hall
- 5:19pm Candle Lighting
- 5:20pm Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat -
Main Sanctuary, Upper Hall and
Library
- 5:37pm Sh'kiah

Shabbat, February 27 / 15 Adar 5781

- 7:45am Shacharit - Main Sanctuary
- 8:30am Shacharit - Minyane Sépharade
- 8:45am Shacharit - Upper Hall
- 9:22am Sof Zman K'riyat Shma
- 9:45am Shacharit - Main Sanctuary
- 10:45am Shacharit - Upper Hall
- 11:00am Shacharit and Early Mincha -
Lower Social Hall
- 4:30pm Plag Haminchah
- 4:55pm Minha - Minyane Sépharade
- 5:10pm Mincha - Main Sanctuary and
Upper Hall
- 5:39pm Sh'kiah
- 6:23pm Havdala
- 6:55pm Musical Havdala and Kumzitz
on Facebook with Rev. Bender
- 7:30pm Daf Yomi on Zoom

Mincha is at 5:20pm this coming week.

To view all times for sh'kiah, davening, shiurim & candle lighting, go to www.tbdj.org/calendar.

To view details about our all our programming, go to www.programming.tbdj.org.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Mazal Tov to **Sari Newman** on the engagement of her son Yechiel Newman to Sarita Cohen, daughter of Aaron Cohen of Venezuela. Sharing in their simcha are Yechiel's father Perry Newman, his grandmother Miriam Stern, Sarita's grandmothers Estrella Cohen and Nora Perel, and many delighted siblings, aunts, uncles and cousins in both families. Lovingly remembered at this time are, zichronam livracha, Yechiel's grandfather Lou Stern, Sarita's mother Fanny Cohen and her grandfathers Moises Cohen and Moises Perel.

Mazal Tov to **Marla & Peter Veres, Carolyn & Arnold Steinman** and **Huguette Veres** on the birth of a granddaughter and great granddaughter in Ra'anana, Israel. Proud parents are Ali & Zack Isakow. Sharing in their simcha are the baby's siblings Coby, Mia and Ayla, grandparents Ellen & Izzy Isakow of Toronto, great grandparents Archie Richmond and Faige Isakow and many delighted aunts, uncles and cousins. Lovingly remembered at this time are, zichronam livracha, Ali's grandfather Andre Veres and Zack's grandparents Gloria Ann Richmond and Joe Isakow.

Condolences to **Mitchell Axelrad** and his family on the loss of his beloved brother Dr. Robert Axelrad z"l who passed away in Toronto on Sunday, February 21. Funeral took place on Wednesday, February 24.

Condolences to **Ralph & Ketty Munk, Zev & Susan Munk** and **Mary & Nathan Blankrot** and their families on the loss of their beloved mother, mother-in-law, sister and sister-in-law TBDJ Member **Kreina Kriw Munk z"l** who passed away on Wednesday, February 24. Funeral took place on Thursday, February 25.

Condolences to **Danny & Audrey Wald** and **Ronald & Rachel Wald** and their families on the loss of their beloved father and father-in-law Theodore (Ted) Wald z"l who passed away on Friday, February 26. Funeral scheduled for Friday, February 26.

SPONSORSHIPS AND THANK YOUS

Drashot by Rabbi Freundlich on Shabbat are sponsored by **Amanda & David Ettegui** in memory of David's beloved grandfather Louis Shapiro z"l (Yehuda Leib ben Uri - Adar 20).

This Shabbat Bulletin is sponsored by **Maxine & Stephen Jacobson** in memory of Maxine's beloved grandparents Annie Edith & Maxwell Lightstone z"l (Chana bat Moshe - Adar 13 and Mordechai ben Levy - Kislev 27) and Esther Malca & Avrum Neamtan z"l (Shvat 29 and Shvat 18).

The Virtual Diaspora Tours of Shanghai on Tuesday, February 23 and Tuesday, March 2 are sponsored by **A. Earl Kimmel** in honour of his dear wife **Lessy Ashkenazi Kimmel**, "on the occasion of her virtual return trip to Shanghai, her birthplace and home town."

Rabbi Freundlich's Advanced Parsha Shiur on Thursday, March 4 is sponsored by the **Wald Family** in honour of Rabbi Yechezkel & Rifki Freundlich and the TBDJ kehila "as Hakarat Hatov for their warmth and compassion during a difficult time for our family."

It Could Have Been Us

In the *הניסים על* prayer said in the Shmoneh Esrei and the Birkat Hamazon after meals there is a phrase: *בימים ההם בזמן הזה* - that miracles were performed for our forefathers *in those days at this time*. "This time" refers to this season, the month of Adar.

These words take us deeper. In celebrating our holidays we take steps which characterize our Jewish connection and identity with our holidays. For example, in the Haggadah at our Pesach Seder we add a personal dimension in saying that "in every generation one should see himself or herself as if they had left Egypt". Many stay up all night on Shavuot to learn Torah because it is the holiday of the giving of our Torah. On Sukkot, there are those who extend their ritual experience by sleeping in their Sukkot overnight - in addition to eating and learning Torah there. We extend our holiday celebrations to our dining room tables with appropriate food, which enhance the spirit of the holiday: *homentashn* on Purim, matza on Pesach, dairy products on Shavuot, honey cakes and round challot on Rosh Hashanah, kreplach on Yom Kippur, latkes and *sufganiyot* on Chanukah.

It is interesting that we do not say the joyous Hallel prayer on Purim as we do on Chanukah. One reason is that our ancestors in Shushan were still subservient to King Achashverosh, though they were redeemed from Haman's evil decree. This stands in contrast to the miracle of Chanukah where our ancestors' victory enabled them to eradicate the reign of the Syrian-Greeks and to re-create their autonomous physical and spiritual lives. Analyzing the miracles of Chanukah and Purim, Chanukah is recognized as a *נס גלוי* - a public miracle, while Purim is a *נס נסתר* - a hidden miracle. On the surface, the Purim story is a story that reads as a story of Jews in any place at any time.

In those days at this time... The words of this prayer take on an interesting homiletical twist. They can advise us about living as Jews in Montreal among the Jews of the diaspora, and we can thus connect with the holiday of Purim in a way that is perhaps not so different from the way the Jews of Shushan lived within the Persian Empire so many years ago. Living among non-Jews under a non-Jewish government with mainly non-Jewish leaders likens us to our forefathers in Shushan. The Jews of Shushan came together to fast and beseech Hashem and the evil decree was overturned. Similarly, when there is a contemporary crisis affecting us as a Jews in exile, we bond together in prayer, petition and protest. It is interesting to note that Haman's recorded accusations against the Jews don't go into much detail. In the words of the Megillah - actually three verses - Haman pleads his case against the Jews of the Empire: *And Haman said to King Achashverosh, There is a people scattered and separate among the peoples throughout all the provinces of your kingdom, and their laws differ from [those of] every people, and they do not keep the king's laws; it is [therefore] of no use for the king to let them be. If it pleases the king, let it be written to destroy them, and I will weigh out ten thousand silver talents into the hands of those who perform the work, to bring [it] into the king's treasuries.* The next two verses carry the Kings seemingly immediate response: *And the king took his ring off his hand and gave it to Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the adversary of the Jews. And the king said to Haman, "The silver is given to you, and the people to do to them as it pleases you."*

There is no evidence that hatred of Jews was a widespread phenomenon in the Persian Empire, yet Haman's decree was passed and plans were made to carry out this decree. The words of the Megillah in chapter eight advise us that following Haman's hanging there was a need for the Jews of Persia to protect themselves from the various ethnic nations living within the empire. This is evident in the letter that Mordechai sends to the Jews with the stamp of the king: *...that the king had given to the Jews who are in every city, [the right] to assemble and to protect themselves, to destroy, to slay, and to cause to perish the entire host of every people and province that oppress them...* Excluding Haman, we do not read of Jewish hatred in the Megillah however these verses imply that the people of Persia were ready to carry out Haman's evil decree. We have learned over the years that while antisemitism may seem dormant at times it is always there and more than occasionally in Jewish history it surfaces within higher levels of government. The people of Shushan and the greater Persian Empire may not have been Jew haters, yet upon a governmental decree they were ready to join with their leaders. Our contemporary challenges with antisemitism seem to follow the same pattern.

In those days at this time... The miracle in Shushan happens and the Jews are saved yet Hashem's name is not mentioned in the Megillah. There is a hint to Hashem's name in four words found in verse seven of chapter seven. The scene: The king and Haman are guests at Esther's banquet and Esther informs the king that her nation is facing a genocidal plot engineered by none other than Haman: *For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be slain, and to perish...* And King Achashverosh said, and he said to Queen Esther: *"Who is this and where is he who dared to do this?"* And Esther said: *"An adversary and an enemy, this evil Haman!"* And Haman became terrified before the king and the queen. *The king gets up in fury and leaves the feast for the orchard garden and Haman stood to beg for his life of Queen Esther, for he saw that evil was determined against him by the king*

כי בלתה אליו הרעה

At this turning point in the story, we find a hint to Hashem's holy name, spelled out with the last letter of four words in the verse which informs us that the king turned his wrath upon his high and mighty officer. The divinely-appropriated miracle saves our people yet Hashem's name is hidden in the Megillah. This is a powerful message of Purim which connects us to the idea of Hashem's constant involvement in our world. Our Rabbis teach that hidden miracles happen every day. We do not merit to physically see Hashem, but we know as believing Jews that Hashem is always behind the scenes looking after us as individuals and as a community.

In those days at this time...

Jewish history dictates that antisemitism serves as our multi-generational connection with the past and, though ominously challenging, it clarifies our identity: who we are, what we are and why we have continued to exist. The miracles of the past serve as a bank of inspiration and confidence in our ability to - with divine intervention - surmount the antisemitic challenges of each and every generation.

Happy Purim and Shabbat Shalom,

Rev. Amiel

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

For more programs, shiurim and classes... please visit <http://programming.tbdj.org>

Monday Morning Tehillim WITH RIFKI FREUNDLICH

EVERY MONDAY AT 11:00AM
HOSTED IN TBDJ'S ZOOM SOCIAL HALL

*** Led by Rifki Freundlich, For Women***

Monday, March 1 at 11:00am // Location: Zoom Social Hall



Modern Jewish History - Part I: **Laying The Groundwork**

From the Mussar Movement
to the First World War (Early 1800s to 1918)

Modern Jewish History: The Treaty of Versailles

Monday, March 1 at 7:45pm // Location: Zoom Social Hall



VIRTUAL DIASPORA

by  **living room tours**

Tour of Shanghai - Part Two: The Experience of WWII Jewish Refugees

Tuesday, March 2 at 1:00pm // pre-registration required - see email



MONITORING ISRAEL

PRESENTATIONS ON KEY ISRAELI ISSUES DIRECT FROM ITS LEADING THINKERS AND CONTRIBUTORS

Monitoring Israel: Michal Cotler Wunsh in Conversation with Natan Sharansky

Tuesday, March 2 at 8:00pm // Location: Zoom Social Hall

VIRTUAL DIASPORA

by  living room
tours

NEW DATES

SERIES FINALE

Tuesday, February 23

1:00pm Eastern / 12:00pm Central
11:00am Mountain / 10:00am Pacific

Shanghai - Part 1



The Extraordinary City Made by Extraordinary Individuals

The little-known stories of Jewish 'individuals extraordinaire' who shaped the metropolis of Shanghai and China's 20th Century history. During our tour, we'll explore the historical background of Shanghai's development along with sights from the modern city and Jewish community. *Led by Shanghai-based Photo-Journalist Dvir Bar-Gal.*

Tuesday, March 2

1:00pm Eastern / 12:00pm Central
11:00am Mountain / 10:00am Pacific

Shanghai - Part 2



Sweet & Sour Safe Haven:

The WWII Jewish Refugees Experience in Shanghai

Unlike many other places throughout the world, Shanghai kept its port open to Jewish refugees escaping Nazi persecution. Nearly 20,000 penniless refugees arrived to this exotic war-torn city only to realize the Japanese would soon take it over. Join us to hear this little-known yet extraordinary story. *Led by Shanghai-based Photo-Journalist Dvir Bar-Gal.*

Tuesday, March 9

1:00pm Eastern / 12:00pm Central
11:00am Mountain / 10:00am Pacific

Moldova - Kishinev



Moldova has a very rich Jewish history and heritage. About 200 shtetls, colonies, and târgs had a Jewish population prior to WWII. Moldova had more than 300 synagogues, Jewish cemeteries, schools, shops, baths, factories, private houses, and roads - most of this heritage was destroyed. We'll explore the Kishinev Pogrom of 1905 and take a virtual walk through Kishinev's Jewish neighborhoods, including the small but vibrant modern day community of Chişinău.

Tuesday, March 16

1:00pm Eastern / 12:00pm Central
11:00am Mountain / 10:00am Pacific

Belarus



Part I: Minsk and Volozhin, two centers of the Jewish world prior to WWII, and a look at the Jews of the Naliboki Forest. We'll explore the history, institutions, stories and myths, and profiles of some who escaped and emerged as leaders. *Led by local tour guide Alexander Bely.*

Part II: A musical geography of the early ethnographic expeditions in Belarus; Nigunim (Devotion Tunes) of the Belarusian Hasidim; and a musical soundscape of Litvakland. *Led by local musician Zisl Slepovitch.*

ACCESS THE TOURS AND RECORDINGS AT

<https://portal.livingroomtours.com>

(REGISTRATION AND ACCESS CODE REQUIRED)

**Please note changes to our original schedule, as a result of restrictions beyond our control in some of the original locations.*



PRESENT

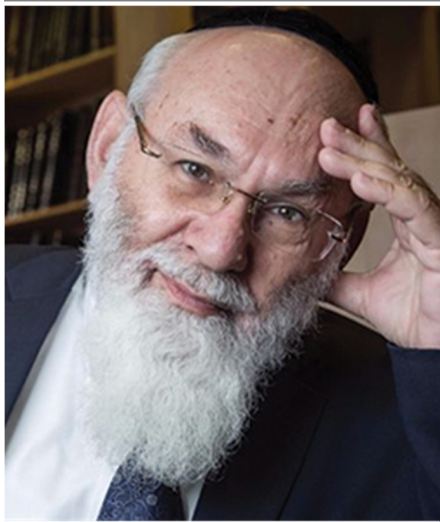
RABBI PROFESSOR AVRAHAM STEINBERG

Zoom Scholar-in-Residence

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2021 | 12:00 PM

ON THE TOPIC

Health & Ethics Issues Related to COVID-19:
Triage Decisions, Vaccinations, and Halachic Issues
related to Davening / Holidays



Rabbi Prof. **Avraham Steinberg**, MD, is an associate clinical professor of medical ethics at the Hebrew University–Hadassah Medical School in Jerusalem. He is the author of *The Encyclopedia of Jewish Medical Ethics*, for which he was awarded the *Israel Prize* in 1999. Prof. Steinberg is a senior pediatric neurologist at Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem, and directs the center's Medical Ethics Unit. He is also director of Yad Harav Herzog, and a member of national and international societies of child neurology, medical ethics, and Jewish medical ethics. In Israel, Prof. Steinberg is the co-chair of the National Bioethics Council, chair of the National Committee in accordance with the Dying Patient Act, a member of the National Committee in accordance with the Brain-Death Act, the National Committee for Inspection on Mohalim, the Institutional Review Board (“Helsinki Committee”) of Shaare Zedek, and the Ethics Committee of Shaare Zedek. He is the author & editor of 36 books and public reports, and over 260 articles and chapters in scientific journals and books.

Via Shaarei Shomayim's Zoom
And Live-streamed on Shaarei Shomayim's Facebook Page:
<https://www.facebook.com/shaareishomayim/live/>