



Beth Israel
SYNAGOGUE

Shabbat Shalom

September 9, 2017
18 Elul 5777

Parsha Ki Tavo



Torah Reading - Page 1068
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The excitement starts tomorrow!

IN THE WEEK AHEAD

Saturday, Sept 9

Shacharit.....	9:00 a.m.
Kiddush - Sponsored by Yaakov & Faige Jeidel	11:30 a.m.
Insights into the Weekly Torah Reading	6:25 p.m.
Mincha/ Seudah Shlishit	7:10 p.m.
Havdalah	8:26 p.m.

Sunday, Sept 10

Shacharit	9:00 a.m.
Bagels & Beit Medrash	9:45 a.m.
JYE BI Kickoff Event	3:00 p.m.

Monday, Sept 11

Shacharit	7:00 a.m.
Eye on Israel Class w/Rabbi Shlomo.....	12:00 p.m.
Talmudic Tales w/Rabbi Shlomo	1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept 12

Shacharit.....	7:00 a.m.
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Wednesday, Sept 13

Shacharit.....	7:00 a.m.
Board of Commissioners Meeting	7:15 p.m.

Please note time change!

Thursday, Sept 14

Shacharit	7:00 a.m.
Ethics Class with Rabbi Ari.....	7:45 a.m.
Woman's Class with Rabbi Ari.....	9:30 a.m.
Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Shlomo	12:00 noon

Friday, Sept 15

Shacharit	7:00 a.m.
Friday Learning Series w/Rabbi Shlomo @ JCC	11:15 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv & Kabbalat Shabbat	7:15 p.m.
Candle Lighting	7:16 p.m.

Missing a ring, necklace or sunglasses?

Recently a ring and necklace were found in the sanctuary and sunglasses were left in the Social Hall. Call the office (402) 556-6288 to identify.



Mazel Tov to Those Celebrating This Week Birthdays

Bonnie Hines	Sept 10
Alan Stoler	Sept 10
Batsheva Tova Shyken	Sept 11
Aaron Kurtzman	Sept 11
Lior Nicholson-Shyken	Sept 12
Deborah Platt	Sept 14
Jessica Rich	Sept 15
Yosef Seigel	Sept 15



Anniversaries

No anniversaries this week

Celebrating a special simcha next month? The next Simcha Kiddush will be September 16 . The cost is just \$25. Call the office or speak to Bette Kozlen to be included.

Mazel Tov to the Lauren & Tommy Tam on the September 3 birth of a son. Siblings are Hunter, Lily, Ilana, and Sadie. The bris will take place Sunday, Sept 10 at 10 am at Beth Israel.



.....to Yaakov and Faige Jeidel for sponsoring today's kiddush in honor of the birth and continued health of their daughter Lea, as a thank you for their warm Omaha welcome, and most importantly, to recognize the good that G-d has bestowed upon them.

... to Jordana Kurtzman, Anna Goldberg, Dani Shrago, Linda Potash and other volunteers for their continuing work with the planning, shopping, baking, and clean-up for kiddush and Seudah Shlishit.

In Memoriam

Beth Israel extends condolences and wishes of comfort to the family of **Janet Glass**. Services and burial will take place in California.



Ha'makom yinachem etkhem betokh she'ar avelei Tziyon vi'Yerushalayim



It's Time to Order Your Lulav and Etrog
Place your order to take part in this beautiful mitzvah during Sukkot. Cost \$52 per set. Orders needed by Monday, September 18. Order through the synagogue website, email bethisrael@orthodoxomaha.org, or calling (402) 556-6288.

Don't miss Rabbi Ari's weekly message. Look for "Rav Kook with Ari - Torah from Omaha, Nebraska" on Facebook or for a Friday afternoon email.



SEPTEMBER HAPPENINGS

- Sept 10 - JYE BI Kickoff Event
- Sept 13 - Board of Commissioners Meeting
- Sept 16 - September Simcha Kiddush
- Sept 17 - Kever Avot Services
- Sept 18 - Lulav & etrog order deadline
- Sept 20 - Erev Rosh Hashana
- Sept 21 - Rosh Hashanah - 1st Day
- Sept 22 - Rosh Hashanah - 2nd Day
- Sept 24 - Fast of Gedalia
- Sept 25 - Tashlich
- Sept 29 - Kol Nidre
- Sept 30 - Yom Kippur

Beth Israel Sisterhood Annual Donor Event

How Sweet It Is!

Silent Auction, Luncheon & Style Show
Featuring fashions from Dillard's
Sunday, November 5
11:30 a.m.

*Save
the
Date*

Chairs - Bette Kozlen & Helene Shrago



**Beth Israel's Scholar-in-Residence
Rabbi Shlomo Abramovich**

Eye on Israel - Mon, Sept 11 - 12pm

**Friday Learning Series-
A Look at the High Holidays**

Fri, Sep 15 & 29 - 11:15am

All of above held at the Kripke Jewish Federation Library

*Presented by the Community Engagement and Education arm
of the Jewish Federation of Omaha*

Gift Card Drive for Houston

Beth Israel Synagogue is doing a gift card drive in support of the United Synagogues of Houston, located in one of the many areas of catastrophic flooding that recently occurred due to Hurricane Harvey. This is the third round of flood damage in recent years for OUC, the largest Orthodox synagogue in the Southwest. When contacted regarding the drive, Jeff Klein, OUC Executive Director said these cards would be a great help to his congregation for the massive rebuilding work ahead.



Please purchase gift cards to Home Depot, Target, Walmart, or Amazon and deliver to the synagogue office by September 26. The cards will then be sent to Houston for distribution to those in need. Thanks in advance for your generosity!

UNL Hillel Challah for Harvey Project

UNL Hillel is hosting a fundraiser to raise funds for the Houston Food Bank Harvey Disaster Relief pantry. While the challah will not be baked in an Omaha Vaad certified kitchen, your financial help for the project would be appreciated.

UNL Hillel is not only a "home away from home" for students, but also an active community organization. Hillel cares and wants to help the victims of Harvey, understanding the importance of supporting those in need. To make a donation, email nebraska-hillel@gmail.com.



MIDWEST

*Going to the Fall Convention?
If see Rabbi Shlomo, Yaakov or
Faige with any questions.*

CALENDAR 2017-2018

- ▶ **SEPTEMBER 15-17**
SR. FALL CONVENTION - ST. LOUIS, MO
- ▶ **DECEMBER 21-25**
SR. CONCLAVE - SCHAUMBURG, IL
- FEBRUARY 9-11**
- ▶ **REGIONAL YARCHEI KALLAH** - ZION, IL
- FEBRUARY 15-19**
JSU PRESIDENTS DAY WEEKEND TRIP
- ▶ **MAY 3-6**
JR. SPRING REGIONAL - CAMP NAGEELA
- ▶ **MAY 24-28**
SR. SPRING REGIONAL - CAMP CHI

MIDWEST.NCSY.ORG



Parsha Questions

1. At the beginning of the parsha, what were the Israelites commanded to do upon coming into the Land?
2. Which four groups would benefit by our tithes?
3. Moshe charged the tribes to stand on two mountains facing each other. What were the names of the mountains?
4. What would those tribes hear from the Levites?

Following the last two Parshas that focused on Justice and the value of individual rights, Moshe directed the nation's attention to the realities of what it meant to live in Eretz Yisroel.

Our behaviors, as well as natural law, are subject to the word of G-d and interface with each other in the most intimate example of cause and effect. As the Chosen People, our lifestyle should manifest the ever-present mastery of the Creator over mankind and the realization of the connection between our adherence of Mitzvot and the laws of nature. This is most apparent in Eretz Yisroel. As Moshe told the Bnai Yisroel in Parshas Ekev, (11:12) "It is therefore a land constantly under Hashem's scrutiny..." As clearly as the rain and dew fall, the land reflects G-d's presence. Keeping the mitzvot of the Torah proclaims in word and deed G-d's mastery over man and results in nature serving man as her accepted master. By ignoring or opposing the Torah we deny G-d's mastery over man; and in turn, nature opposes man's attempts at mastery over the natural world.

During the 40 years of the desert, the Jews were being prepared to accept the reality of Hashem's mastery and the responsibility of keeping His mitzvot. Now, in Parshas Ki Savo, as they were poised to cross the Yarden and assume their intended place as "... highest of all the nations on earth." (28:1) Moshe commanded a number of declarations and ceremonies. These ceremonies would underscore the cause and effect relationship that exists between adherence to Torah, the laws of nature, and the divine responsiveness of the land.

1st & 2nd Aliyot: The Parsha begins with the Mitzvot of the first fruits and the completion of the Tithing cycles. Both are accompanied by special declarations of Hashem's mastery over the land, and man's responsibility to keep the commandments of Hashem.

3rd, 4th & 5th Aliyot: Moshe presents a statement of allegiance between Hashem and His People. We are to keep the Torah and Hashem guarantees us praise, fame and glory as the "highest of all the nations". (26:19) Upon crossing the Yarden, the Nation will publicly declare its acceptance of Hashem's covenant by: inscribing the Torah upon twelve stones; erecting them as a monument; and the ceremony of blessings and curses that is to take place between the opposing mountains, Grizim and Ayval.

6th Aliya: Commonly known as the Tochacha the admonitions and punishments. It describes the consequences that will befall the Jewish people if they ignore Hashem's Torah and his providence. The custom is for the Reader to read this Aliya more quickly and quietly than the rest of the Parsha.

7th Aliya: The Parsha concludes with the beginning of Moshe's final discourse. He starts by recounting the miraculous nature of the past 40 years and its clear indication of Hashem's ever present protection, past and future.



WELCOME TO BETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE

We are delighted to welcome you to Beth Israel Synagogue. A passage from Deuteronomy 30:11-14 inspired the art work in the sanctuary. "For this commandment that I command you today - it is not hidden from you and it is not distant. It is not in heaven, [for you] to say, 'Who can go to the heaven and take it for us so that we can listen to it and perform it? Nor is it across the seas, [for you] to say, 'Who can cross to the other side of the sea for us and take it for us, so that we can listen to it and perform it?' Rather, the matter is very near to you - in your mouth and your heart - to perform it." Mitzvot are obtainable.

- ◆ The focal point of the sanctuary is the Menorah Window, which frames the Ark and is shaped in the form of the six branched candelabrum. To the right, brilliantly colored window has forms that reflect the heavens, while the left side depicts the seas.
- ◆ The message is completed in a frieze, the horizontal painting on wood mounted on the wall. The background of the frieze symbolically and abstractly represents the relationship between G-d and the people of Israel through the Covenant. The perochet, or curtain over the Ark, completes the symbolic composition, with an expression that intertwines the Torah and the letter Aleph, the first letter of the Hebrew alphabet, of the Ten Commandments, and of G-d's name in Hebrew.
- ◆ As is traditional, the sanctuary has 12 windows, representing the 12 tribes of Israel. These windows contain the name of each tribe in flowing, organic letters. The windows are located above the continued frieze, which includes two central texts of the revelation at Sinai - "If you will keep my Covenant, you shall be precious to me," and "You shall be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation." This composition expresses the unity of Israel as the people stood together at Sinai and accepted the Torah.

Beth Israel Synagogue strives to perpetuate the legacy of Torah Judaism in the modern world. Beth Israel welcomes all persons of the Jewish faith to join and accepts the diversity of practice and thought among its members.

Rabbi Ari Dembitzer, Senior Rabbi

Toba Cohen-Dunning, President

Mary Sue Grossman, Executive Director

Rabbi Shlomo Abramovich, Visiting Scholar

Leo Fettman, Cantor Emeritus

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