



October 6, 2018
27 Tishri 5779



Parsha Bereishis

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Mazel Tov to Those Celebrating Next Week

Birthdays

Samuel Kricsfeld	Oct 7
Marvin Parilman	Oct 7
Shirley Cemaj	Oct 8
Ron Powers	Oct 9
Deborah Kricsfeld	Oct 10
Lee Lohman	Oct 11
Debbie Powers	Oct 11
Ethan Shrago	Oct 12

Anniversaries

Steve & Tippi Denenberg - Oct 10 - 19 years

Celebrating a special simcha in October? Call the office or speak to Bette Kozlen to be a part of the October 27 Simcha Kiddush.



IN THE WEEK AHEAD

The Week of Learning is being sponsored by Rabbi Ari and Laura Dembitzer for the merit of a complete recovery for those who are ill and need a recovery in our community and in the entire nation of Israel.

Saturday, October 6

Shacharit.....	9:00 a.m.
Kiddush Sponsored by Eddie, Mary, & Emma Bursztyn	11:30 a.m.
<i>Insights into the Weekly Torah Portion</i>	5:40 p.m.
Mincha/Seudah Shilshit.....	6:25 p.m.
Havdalah	7:40 p.m.

Sunday, October 7

Shacharit @ Beth Israel.....	9:00 a.m.
<i>"Why Do We Pray" w/ Rabbi Ari</i>	10:00 a.m.
Nebraska Jewish Community Candidate Forum.....	3:00 p.m.
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home	6:40 p.m.

Monday, October 8

Shacharit @ Beth Israel.....	7:00 a.m.
<i>Eye on Israel w/ Rabbi Shlomo @ JCC</i>	12:00 p.m.
<i>Jewish History - Your History w/ Rabbi Shlomo @ JCC</i>	1:00 p.m.
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home	6:40 p.m.

Tuesday, October 9 - Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan

Shacharit.....	6:45 a.m.
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home.....	6:40 p.m.

Wednesday, October 10 - Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan

Shacharit @ Beth Israel.....	6:45 a.m.
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home	6:40 p.m.

Thursday, October 11

Shacharit @ Beth Israel.....	7:00 a.m.
<i>Connecting with Our Faith w/ Rabbi Ari</i>	9:30 a.m.
Board of Commissioners Meeting	6:30 p.m.
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home.....	6:40 p.m.

Friday, October 12

Shacharit @ Beth Israel.....	7:00 a.m.
Mincha.....	6:31 p.m.
Candle Lighting.....	6:31 p.m.

In Memoriam

Beth Israel extends condolences and wishes of comfort to our members on their recent loss.

Michael Lohman, husband of Helene Lohman

Ha'makom yenachem etkhem betokh she'aravelei Tziyon vi'Yerushalayim





...to Stephanie and Matt Beneda, Anna and Joshua Priluck, Beth Cohen and Harry Berman for hosting the teen Sukkah Hop this past Saturday
...to Yoni and Liora Herskovitz, Andy and Bracha Goldsweig, and Rabbi Ari and Laura Dembitzer for hosting for the JYE BI Sukkah Hop on Sunday.

...to Dani Shrago for shopping, and Linda Potash, Jordana Kurtzman, and other volunteers for helping with kiddush prep.

...to Ida Banner and Shirly Banner for providing the veggie train and ice cream sundaes for today's kiddush. Their sponsorship is for the yearzeit of Elliott Banner.

...to everyone for making Beth Israel's High Holidays so special!

...to Eddie, Mary, and Emma Bursztyn for sponsoring this week's kiddush in memory of David Bursztyn, in honor of Buria Bursztyn, and to thank the Beth Israel community for "shaping our Torah future from 1960-1982."

A decorative border of red cherries with green stems and leaves surrounds the central text.

*Life is a
BOWL of
CHERRIES.*

**Beth Israel
Sisterhood
Annual Fund
Raising Event**

Luncheon, Silent Auction & Style Show
Sunday, November 4, 2018
11:30am

Socializing, Lunch, followed by Style Show
Fashions provided by Soft Surroundings

Event Chairs
Bette Kozlen & Helene Shrago

NEW THIS YEAR
Don't miss your chance to win \$500 in cash!
Tickets just \$10 each
Available in the office, on-line, or day of event
Need not be present to win

Donor categories: Love \$108, Beauty \$72,
Friendship \$54, Happiness \$36, Serenity \$20

Reservations due October 24

Friday Learning Series - Big Cities and Unusual Places in Israel

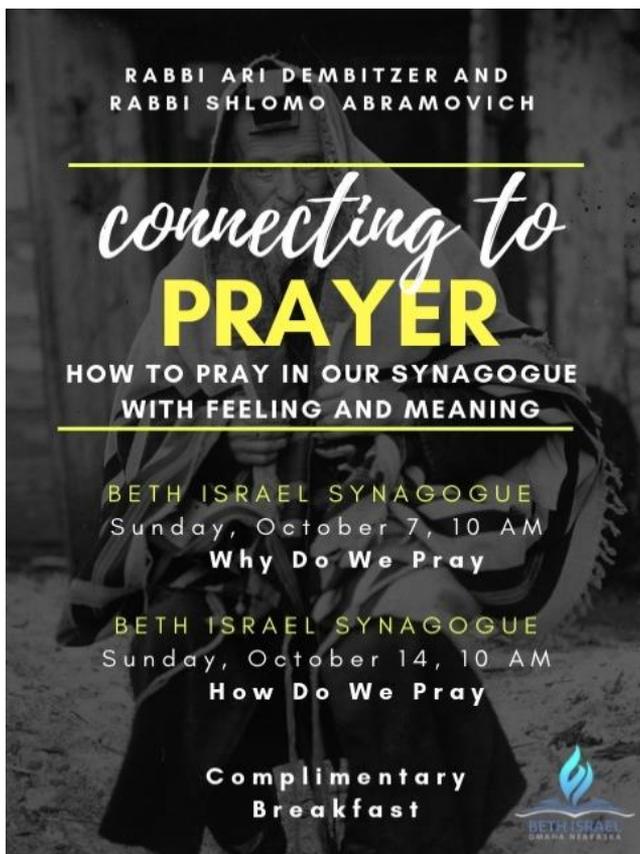
Oct. 12 & 26 | 11:15 am | Kripke Library

Rabbi Shlomo Abramovich, PhD, Visiting Scholar at Beth Israel Synagogue, will present some interesting "non-touristy" aspects of three large Israeli cities - Tel Aviv, Haifa, and Jerusalem - on October 12.

"I think this is a good time to look at these cities," said Rabbi Shlomo, "In addition to being an interesting topic by itself, Israeli municipalities hold their elections in October, and these elections are important in people's lives."

After skipping a week, the Friday Learning Series will meet on October 26 when Rabbi Shlomo presents a discussion of two unusual villages - one that is half in Israel and the other half in Lebanon. The second village is a Hasidic, Halakhic village in which the people share a communal way of life. He's not revealing more than that, or even a clue about the other "unusual places."

The Friday Learning Series is a joint program of Beth Israel Synagogue and the Community Engagement and Education arm of the Jewish Federation of Omaha. The series is open to the community free of charge thanks to the support of the Ann Goldstein Programming Endowment Fund. Reservations are not required.



RABBI ARI DEMBITZER AND
RABBI SHLOMO ABRAMOVICH

connecting to
PRAYER

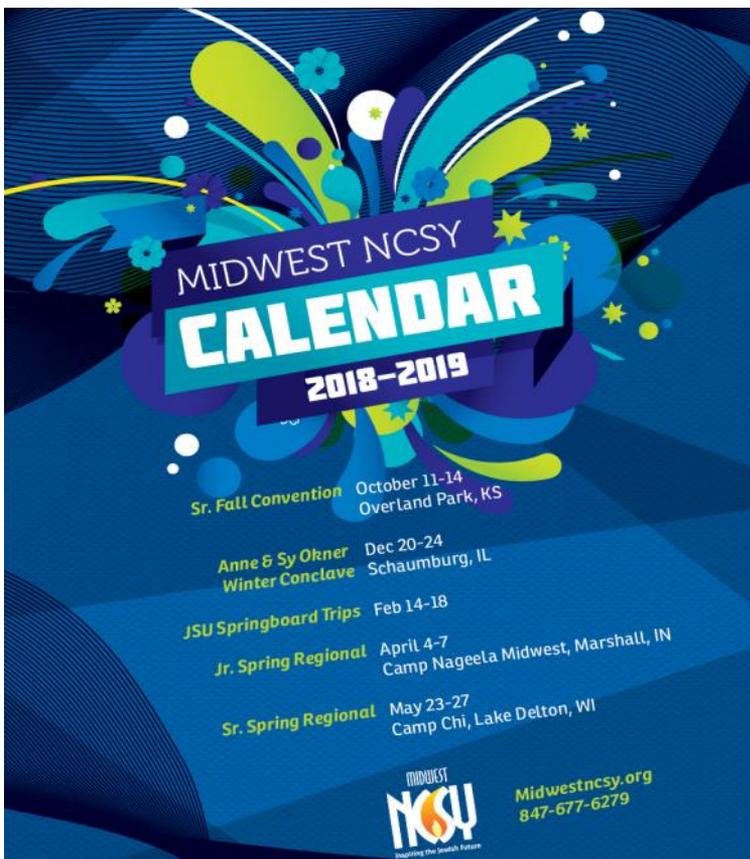
HOW TO PRAY IN OUR SYNAGOGUE
WITH FEELING AND MEANING

BETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE
Sunday, October 7, 10 AM
Why Do We Pray

BETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE
Sunday, October 14, 10 AM
How Do We Pray

Complimentary
Breakfast





Chidon HaTanach The International Youth Bible Contest

Chidon HaTanach is an annual Bible contest from the Jewish Agency for Israel for youth from all around the world. The international finals take place every year during Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrations in Jerusalem. The contest is open to students in 5th-11th grades, divided into divisions by age. The first part includes three tests, taken in Omaha. Whoever reaches the required results then moves on to the national finals, in Manhattan, NY. The first test is on Wednesday November 28. Studying for the test can be done individually and I will be also be holding a class for the Chidon participants to practice for the tests. It is a great for opportunity to learn and to be part an a unusual experience!

If your child want to be part of it, please contact Rabbi Shlomo. This is a great opportunity and Beth Israel youth are encouraged to participate.



Nebraska Jewish Community Candidate Forum

Sunday, October 7, 3 p.m.

Congregation of Temple Israel • 13111 Sterling Ridge Drive

Candidates for Governor



Governor
Pete Ricketts

State Senator
Bob Krist



Candidates for U. S. Congress (NE-2)



Congressman
Don Bacon

Kara Eastman



Candidates for U. S. Senate

Council Member
Jane Raybould



Nebraska Legislature Candidates

State Senator Robert Hilkemann (District 4)

Michaela Cavanaugh (District 6)

State Senator Theresa Thibodeau (District 6)

Mina Davis (District 8)

Megan Hunt (District 8)

Matt Deaver (District 10)

State Senator Merv Riepe (District 12)

State Senator Brett Lindstrom (District 18)

Scott Winkler (District 18)

State Senator John McCollister (District 20)

Find your district at nebraskalegislature.gov/senators

After the Forum, we invite you to join us for the Jewish Federation of Omaha Community Event at the Hilton Omaha downtown.



Parsha Bereishis

Source: www.torah.org
Rabbi Aron Tendler

1st Aliya: The creation of the universe is detailed day by day concluding with the creation of Shabbos. Note the emphasis on Speciation throughout the six day account.

2nd and 3rd Aliya: The creation of Adam and Chava and the story of Gan Eden is detailed.

4th Aliya: Adam and Chava are expelled from Gan Eden and the story of Kayin and Hevel is related.

5th, 6th, and 7th Aliyot: Chronologically, the time covered in Parshas Breishis is from year 1 (the creation of humankind) through the birth of Noach's three sons in 1556. The final three Aliyot list the 10 generations from Adam through Noach that lived during that time, as well as the degeneration of man's relationship with Hashem. It is important to note that Noach's generation was the first generation not to have personally known Adam.

Parsha Questions

1. What were the two great lights Hashem made?
2. On which day did Hashem say "very good" after he reviewed his work?
3. What was Hashem's first commandment to man?
4. What did Cain and Abel do for a living?

D'var Torah

Todah Rabbah to Almog Zinman for this week's D'var Torah

"The first portion of the Torah is Bereshit: G-d creates the universe in six days. On the seventh, He rests. On the first day, G-d created light. However, the sun, moon, and stars were made on the fourth. The question one may ask is: what was the purpose of creating light on one day and the sun, moon and stars on another? What is usually not understood is that the first light is not optical light, but the "light of consciousness," as stated by Rabbi Lawrence Kushner. He had created awareness for the future; awareness for us to be able to discern good from bad. From there, and only after that consciousness had been created, the sun, plants, animals, and humans could be made as well. On the seventh day, G-d refrains from doing work. We know it as Shabbat which literally means rest. Shabbat is a day where the external self is forgotten, where we take a day to pray and thank G-d for all He's done. Families go to shul, enjoy a kiddush with other congregants and otherwise spend time with friends and their loved ones, and, most importantly, rest. We rest from the mundane and instead entirely focus on strengthening our relationship with G-d."



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 windows have 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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