



October 20, 2018
11 Cheshvan 5779



Parsha Lech Lecha

Torah Reading - Page 54

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Mazel Tov to Those Celebrating Next Week Birthdays

Laura Dembitzer	Oct 20
Dasha Stein	Oct 22
Montgomery Smith	Oct 23
Abigail Stein	Oct 26

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
Saturday, October 20

Shacharit	9:00 a.m.
<i>Insights into the Weekly Torah Portion</i>	5:15 p.m.
Mincha/Seudah Shilshit.....	6:00 p.m.
Havdalah	7:18 p.m.

Sunday, October 21

Shacharit @ Beth Israel	9:00 a.m.
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home.....	6:20 p.m.

Monday, October 22

Shacharit @ Beth Israel	7:00 a.m.
<i>Jewish History - Your History w/ Rabbi Shlomo @ JCC</i>	12:00 p.m.
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home.....	6:20 p.m.

Tuesday-Wednesday, October 24

Shacharit @ Beth Israel	7:00 a.m.
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home.....	6:20 p.m.

Thursday, October 25

Shacharit @ Beth Israel	7:00 a.m.
<i>Connecting with Our Faith w/ Rabbi Ari</i>	9:30 a.m.
<i>Jewish Ethics w/ Rabbi Shlomo @ UNMC</i>	12:00 p.m.
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home.....	6:20 p.m.

Friday, October 26

Shacharit @ Beth Israel	7:00 a.m.
Mincha.....	6:10 p.m.
Candle Lighting	6:10 p.m.

Welcome to **Rabbi Pesach Wolicki** who will speak today following kiddush. Rabbi Wolicki serves as the Associate Director of the Center for Jewish-Christian Understanding & Cooperation, CJCUC. A guest lecturer throughout the United States and Canada, his columns and commentaries on the topic of Jewish Christian relations appear regularly in Israeli and Christian media, including Charisma News, Times of Israel, and BreakingsIsraelNews.com. He recently published his first book, *Cup of Salvation*, a devotional commentary on Psalms 113 through 118.

Prior to joining CJCUC, Rabbi Wolicki served for twelve years as Dean of Yeshivat Yesodei HaTorah, a pos- secondary academy of higher Torah learning just outside of Jerusalem. He is widely respected in the world of Jewish education as an innovator. He is known and appreciated for his engaging, welcoming, and interactive teaching style. He is a regular lecturer at the CJCUC weekly Bible study programs hosted at the Bible Lands Museum in Jerusalem. Previously, Rabbi Wolicki served as a communal rabbi in Fairfield, Connecticut and Newport News, Virginia. Rabbi Wolicki and his wife Kate live in Beth Shemesh with their eight children.

In Memoriam

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

Ken Wiseman

Ann Rosen Kaiman

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



**Todah
Rabbah**

...to our ongoing kitchen volunteers Dani Shrago, Jordana Kurtzman, Bette Kozlen, Helene Shrago, Linda Potash, and other volunteers for their on-going help in baking, shopping, and prep work.



REMINDER: JYE BI Sunday morning sessions begin October 21st with the first Volunteer Day.

*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



Support Friedel Jewish Academy at the Usborne & More Book Fair

Shop many of the best educational and engaging children's books on the market! As a fundraiser for Friedel Jewish Academy, the school will receive 50% back in FREE BOOKS for their library and classrooms.

- Shop in person – Thursday, October 25 from 11am to 7pm at Friedel. Browse the books on display and place your order. Cash, check or credit cards accepted.
- Shop online - The Friedel e-fair is located at <https://www.reading4tomorrow.com/fja>. Over 1800 titles are available and you can choose to ship to Friedel as an option for free shipping. Please share the link with family and friends. The e-fair is available now through October 26th.

**A TASTE OF
CONVERSATIONAL HEBREW**
With Rabbi Shlomo Abramovich
Wednesdays, 7-8 p.m.
Kripke Jewish Federation Library
October 24 - December 19
No prior knowledge needed
Open to the community, free of charge
Call (402) 334-3463 to register
(American accents welcome!)

Friday Learning Series - Big Cities and Unusual Places in Israel Oct. 26 | 11:15 am | Kripke Library

The Friday Learning Series, with Rabbi Shlomo, will meet October 26 when he 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.

Scholar-in-Residence

HERB KEINON

**DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT
FOR THE JERUSALEM POST**



WHEN

NOVEMBER 9-10, 2018

WHERE

BETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE

EVENT CHAIRS

LLOYD & DEBBIE ROITSTEIN

WWW.ORTHODOXOMAHA.ORG

(402) 556-6288

BETHISRAEL@ORTHODOXOMAHA.ORG

OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

FRIDAY, NOV 9

**Candle lighting/Mincha - 4:53 p.m.
Shabbat Dinner - 6 p.m.**

Salad, chicken, side dishes, challah, desserts, beverages; \$18 Adults \$9 ages 3-12; Reservation deadline November 5; After deadline - prices increase to \$28/\$19

**Presentation by Herb Keinon
Immediately following dinner**

*"Travels with Bibi: A Decade
Covering Prime Minister
Netanyahu"*

SHABBAT, NOV 10

Shacharit - 9 a.m.

**Presentation by Herb Keinon -10:15
a.m.**

*"Is it as Bad as it Appears: A
Non-Sensationalist Look at Israel's
Current State of Affairs, from Iran
to Gaza, Netanyahu to American
Politics"*

Kiddush - 11:30 a.m.

Insights into the Weekly Torah

Reading with Rabbi Ari - 3:50 p.m.

Mincha/Seudah Shlishit - 4:35 p.m.

Presentation by Herb Keinon

*"French Fries in Pita – A Personal
Look at the Quirks and Charms of
Life in Israel"*

Havdalah - 5:54 p.m.





**Blood Drive
Beth Israel Synagogue
Social Hall
Sunday, November 18, 2018
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Please contact Faige at (347) 522-2668 or at the office at (402) 556-6288 or visit redcrossblood.org and enter BethIsrael to schedule an appointment.

D'var Torah

**Todah Rabbah to Rachelli Friedman
for this week's D'var Torah**

The first time I flew overseas I was super excited. I had been waiting for that day for a long time. I packed my bags, said goodbye to my parents as I left my house, hopped into a taxi and drove away. About 20 minutes later I got out of my city and then eventually onto the plane and flew out of the country towards my destination. If I would have told you that I first left the country, then left my city and only after that left my house - you'd think I lost my mind. Obviously the order in which I said it makes the most sense. In this weeks Torah portion, God instructs Avraham to leave his land (country), his birthplace (city), and then finally his parents home. What's going on; how does that make any sense? That's like me getting onto a plane and flying out of the country and then leaving my house while in midair over the Atlantic! A fascinating explanation is offered by many Rabbi's. God wasn't merely giving Avraham directions - He was giving him spiritual advice. He was telling Avraham how to become the best him. God was showing Avraham that change doesn't come easy. First he needed to leave his country which had the least impact on him, then his city which had some more, and only after that his parents home which had the most. If someone wants to truly grow, it must be done slowly. May we all merit to follows God's advice and continue to grow and become the best we can be.

Parsha Lech Lecha

Source: www.torah.org
Rabbi Aron Tendler

1st Aliya: Avram is instructed to leave Charan and travel 400 miles to the Land of Canaan. (Charan was 600 miles from Ur Casdim) Upon arriving, they are forced to leave Canaan, due to a local famine, and travel to Mitzrayim in search of food.

2nd Aliya: Avram plans for his encounter with the amorality of Egypt. His and Sarah's confrontation with Pharaoh is detailed. Avram and Sarah return home.

3rd Aliya: Avram separates from his nephew / brother-in-law Lot, due to Lot's defection from the teachings of Avram. Hashem reassures Avram that he will have children, "like the dust of the earth", who will inherit the Land and carry on his work.

4th Aliya: Avram is forced to rescue Lot from captivity. In so doing, he adjusts the balance of power in Canaan and is recognized by the other political leaders for his military and moral strength. His encounter with Malki Tzedek (Shem) is in stark contrast to his confrontation with the King of Sodom.

5th Aliya: Hashem again reassures Avram that he will have genetic children (not just students) who would be as numerous as the stars in the sky.

6th Aliya: The monumental "Covenant Between the Halves" takes place during which the next 430 years of Jewish history is revealed. Avram is 70 years old. Sarai instructs Avram to marry Hagar. The story of her conflict with Sarai, her encounter with an angel, and the birth of Yishmael in 2034 is told. Following the birth of Yishmael Avram's name is changed to Avraham.

7th Aliya: Avraham is presented with the Mitzvah of Circumcision. Sarai's name is changed to Sarah, and Hashem assures Avraham he and Sarah will have a son called Yitzhak. It is the year 2047 and Avraham circumcises himself, Yishmael, and his entire household.

Parsha Questions

1. HaShem gave Avraham one commandment with several parts at the beginning of the parsha. What was it?
2. What was Avraham's reaction when HaShem told him that Sarah would bear him a son?
3. What two metaphors were used to describe Avraham's descendants in this week's parsha?
4. How old was Avraham when Yitzhak was born?



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.

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Toba Cohen-Dunning, President
Mary Sue Grossman, Executive Director
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