



January 12, 2019
6 Shevat 5779



Parsha Bo

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Mazel Tov to Those Celebrating Next Week **Birthdays**

Jeff Kirshenbaum	Jan 12
Shoshy Susman	Jan 12
Alyssa Kirshenbaum	Jan 13
Helene Lohman	Jan 13
Alan Biniamow	Jan 18
Helen Kay	Jan 18
Eva Stein	Jan 18

Anniversary

Mary Sue & Alex Grossman	Jan 16
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Celebrating a special simcha this month? Call the office or speak to Bette Kozlen to be a part of the February 16 Simcha Kiddush.

IN THE WEEK AHEAD

The Week of Learning is being sponsored by Linda & Bruce Potash in honor of the yahrzeits of Linda's mother and Bruce's father and 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, January 12

Shacharit	9:00 a.m.
Beth Israel Teen Shabbat	12:00 p.m.
<i>Insights into the Weekly Torah Portion</i>	3:55 p.m.
Mincha/Seudah Shilshit	4:40 p.m.
Havdalah	6:02 p.m.

Sunday, January 13

Shacharit	9:00 a.m.
<i>Heaven & Afterlife in Judaism</i> with Rabbi Shlomo	10:00 a.m.
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home	5:05 p.m.

Monday, January 14

Shacharit	7:00 a.m.
<i>Jewish History - Your History</i> with Rabbi Shlomo	12:00 p.m.
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home	5:05 p.m.

Tuesday, January 15

Shacharit	7:00 a.m.
<i>Torah Tuesday</i> with Rabbi Ari	3:00 p.m.
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home	5:05 p.m.

Wednesday, January 16

Shacharit	7:00 a.m.
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home	5:05 p.m.

Thursday, January 17

Shacharit	7:00 a.m.
<i>Connecting with Our Faith</i> with Rabbi Ari	9:30 a.m.
<i>Jewish Ethics</i> with Rabbi Shlomo @ UNMC	12:00 p.m.
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home	5:05 p.m.

Friday, January 19

Shacharit	7:00 a.m.
Mincha/Candle Lighting	5:06 p.m.



...to Linda and Bruce Potash for sponsoring the Week of Learning.

...to the sponsors of the January Simcha Kiddush. **Birthdays**

- Michael Shnayder, Orion Shnayder, Rose Rosenberg,

Daniel Denenberg, Sasha Denenberg, Eric Dunning, Eleanor

Dunning, Ed Joseph, Jeff Kirshenbaum, Alyssa Kirshenbaum, Shoshy

Susman, Helene Lohman, Alan Biniamow, Leo Kohll; Maneva Ruth & Harold

Edelman in loving memory of Ruth's mother.

HEAVEN AND AFTERLIFE IN JUDAISM

WITH RABBI SHLOMO

Sunday, January 6th, 2019
29th of Tevet, 5779
10:00 - 11:00 AM

Sunday, January 13th, 2019
7th of Shevat, 5779
10:00 - 11:00 AM

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE



✉ Sabramovich@orthodoxomaha.org

Dinner • Fruit • Singing • Art Exhibit • Activities

TU BISHVAT

A Taste of Israel

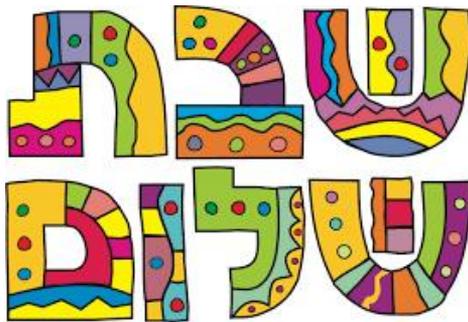
Saturday, January 19, 2019 • 7 - 8:30 PM

FREE • RSVP: executiveasst@orthodoxomaha.org

**Dani Shrago's Amen Gathering
for Women and Children at Beth Israel Synagogue
Thursday, January 17, from 9:30 a.m.-11 a.m.**

In Judaism, we recite various blessings before eating. Blessings help us to connect our physical and spiritual existence. The specific blessing that is said depends on the category of the food: fruits, vegetables, bread, wine, grains, and miscellaneous food items. At an "amen gathering", food from each category is sampled so that as many blessings can be said as possible. As we go around the table, each person will recite the blessing in English or Hebrew, and everyone will respond "amen" together. There is importance and power in the word "amen". By saying "amen", everyone can merit divine help for their individual needs and for those of everyone around them. It is with great empathy and faith at this gathering, that we call out a heartfelt "amen" to the other women's blessings, each of us hoping for the other women's success, as well as our own. At this one gathering, hundreds of "amens" can be generated!

No RSVP needed, but if you'd like to email Dani Shrago at dani12209@yahoo.com, it will help with food preparation.



In Memoriam

Beth Israel extends condolences and wishes of comfort to members of the community on recent losses.

Marvin J. Azriel

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

LEARN AND GROW AT BETH ISRAEL

Weekdays

7:45 a.m. - *Daily Halacha* - Rabbi Ari

Sunday

Jan 6 & 13 - *Heaven & Afterlife in Judaism* - Rabbi Shlomo

Feb 3 & 10 - *Jews & Money: Jewish Attitudes
to Wealth* - Yosef Seigel

Monday

12-1 p.m. - *Jewish History - Your History* - Rabbi Shlomo

Tuesday

3 p.m. - *Torah Tuesday* - Rabbi Ari

Thursdays

9:30-10:45 a.m. - *Connecting to Our Faith* - Rabbi Ari

12-1 p.m. - *Jewish Ethics* - Rabbi Shlomo @ UNMC

Friday

Call for dates and topics

11:15 a.m. - *Friday Learning Series with Rabbi Shlomo @
Kripke Jewish Federation Library*

Shabbat

Shabbat afternoon - see weekly email for time
Insights into the Weekly Torah Reading - Rabbi Ari

Individual or group learning sessions also available.

Talk to Rabbi Shlomo or Rabbi Ari to schedule.

**Sponsoring a Week of Learning is a wonderful way
to remember a special occasion, yahrzeit, or other
happenings all while supporting Beth Israel's
"Refuah Sh'lemah" program.**

Cost \$100 - Contact the office to reserve your week.

This month shall be for you the beginning of the months, it shall be for you the first of the months of the year. (Ex. 12:2)

Kiddush Hachodesh (the sanctification of the new moon) was the very first commandment given to the Jewish nation as a whole, which suggests that this is a most significant mitzvah. A thousand years later it was one of only three commandments that the Greeks prohibited. The other two were Shabbos and Milah (circumcision). The fact that they saw fit to prohibit Kiddush Hachodesh together with those two commandments certainly implies it is a most central mitzvah, but what exactly is its significance?

Rosh Chodesh, the start of the new month, symbolizes renewal. Just as the moon disappears at the end of each month but returns and grows to fullness, so too the Jewish nation has the ability to rise up from oblivion and restore itself to past greatness. This essential characteristic of the Jews was first demonstrated in Egypt when the Jewish people had fallen to the 49th level of impurity, one level above spiritual extinction. They renewed themselves to such a degree that only seven weeks later they were able to stand at Mount Sinai, receive the Torah, and experience prophecy! It was this concept of renewal that the Greeks attempted to eliminate by ending the observance of Rosh Chodesh.(2)

Everyone makes mistakes. The problem is that when a person feels guilty about what he has done wrong and sees himself as a failure, he may give up and lose the strength to keep trying to grow. In order to avoid this, he must recognize that although he has made a mistake he can always get back up, dust himself off and start again.

Parsha Questions

1. How many plagues are there in Bo and what are they?
2. What is the name of the month in which Pesach falls, as mentioned in the parasha?
3. How many people came out of Egypt?
4. Name 5 of the mitzvot given in this week's parasha.

Parsha Bo

Source: www.torah.org
Rabbi Aron Tendler

1st & 2nd Aliyot: Moshe and Aharon forewarned Pharaoh about the Locust. His advisors begged Pharaoh to consider Moshe's request, and Pharaoh attempted to negotiate with Moshe and Aharon that the children should stay behind. When his offer was refused, all negotiations broke down and Pharaoh chased Moshe and Aharon away. The Locust swallowed up Mitzrayim (Egypt), but Pharaoh still refused to send away the Jews.

3rd Aliya: Darkness enveloped Egypt for three days. Pharaoh told Moshe that he could take out his people, but he had to leave the cattle behind. Moshe refused and Pharaoh forewarned Moshe that he could not come to him again. In truth, the next time they saw each other would be after the Death of the First Born, when Pharaoh went to Moshe.

4th Aliya: Moshe forewarned the Egyptians about the Death of the First Born. In 12:2 Hashem (G-d) commanded Moshe and Aharon with the very first Mitzvah to be given to the Nation. The very first Korban Pesach was described along with the Mitzvos of Matzoh, Chametz, and Pesach.

5th Aliya: The Bnai Yisroel were commanded to mark the inside of their doors with the blood of the Korban Pesach.

6th Aliya: The plague of the Death of the First Born left Mitzrayim in mourning. Pharaoh and the Egyptians hurried the Jews out of Mitzrayim. Approximately 600,000 men besides women, children, and the elderly (3,000,000 total) as well as about 1,000,000 non-Jews (the Eruv Rav) left Mitzrayim during the Exodus. It was the year 2448, and the Pasuk says that the Jews had been in Mitzrayim for 430 years. (exactly 430 years from the Bris Bain Habisarim – The Covenant Between the Halves) The laws of the Korban Pesach were reviewed.

7th Aliya: The Parsha concludes with a review of the laws of Pesach as well as introducing the Mitzvos of Pehter Chamor – the commandment to exchange all first born, male donkeys for a sheep; Pidyon Haben – redeeming the first born male child; and the Mitzvah of Tefillin.



Shabbat Shalom



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
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