



**January 26, 2019**  
**20 Shevat 5779**



**Parsha Yitro**

Torah Reading - Page 394

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*This week's Shabbos Sheet  
is sponsored by  
David & Janet Kohll and Family  
in memory of the yahrzeit of,  
our dear friend, Alan Stoler.  
Beth Cohen & Harry Berman  
in honor of the 15th anniversary  
of moving into the  
Pacific Street Building*

### IN THE WEEK AHEAD

*The Week of Learning is being sponsored by Michael & Melissa Shrago 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 26

Shacharit .....	9:00 a.m.
Kiddush .....	11:30 a.m.

This week's kiddush lunch is being sponsored by  
Zevi and Devora Friedman

<i>Insights into the Weekly Torah Portion</i> .....	4:15 p.m.
Mincha/Seudah Shilshit .....	5:00 p.m.
Havdalah .....	6:18 p.m.

#### Sunday, January 27

Shacharit .....	9:00 a.m.
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home .....	5:20 p.m.

#### Monday, January 28

Shacharit .....	7:00 a.m.
<i>Jewish History - Your History</i> with Rabbi Shlomo .....	12:00 p.m.
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home .....	5:20 p.m.

#### Tuesday, January 29

Shacharit .....	7:00 a.m.
<i>Torah Tuesday</i> with Rabbi Ari .....	3:00 p.m.
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home .....	5:20 p.m.

#### Wednesday, January 30

Shacharit .....	7:00 a.m.
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home .....	5:20 p.m.

#### Thursday, January 31

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 .....	5:20 p.m.

#### Friday, February 1

Shacharit .....	7:00 a.m.
Mincha/Candle Lighting .....	5:23 p.m.

### In Memoriam

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

**Frederick Arthur Bromley** ☆ **Frederick (Fritz) S. Cassman**

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





...to Michael & Melissa Shrago for sponsoring the Week of Learning.

...to Zevi and Devora Friedman for sponsoring this week's kiddush lunch.

...to David & Janet Kohll and Beth Cohen & Harry Berman for sponsoring this week's Shabbos sheet.



**Mazel Tov to Those Celebrating Next Week**



**Birthdays**

Eleanor Dunning	Jan 27
Nikki Tindall	Jan 28
Scherry Linsman	Jan 30
Joshua Priluck	Feb 1

**Anniversary**

Moshe & Sarah Rosenblatt	Jan 27
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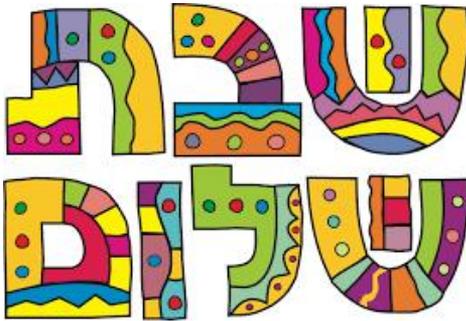
***Celebrating a special simcha this month? Call the office or speak to Bette Kozlen to be a part of the February 23 Simcha Kiddush.***



## Community Open House Tuesday, January 29

All adults in the community—not just parents—are invited to check out the amazing things going on at Friedel Jewish Academy at the Community Open House on Tuesday, January 29.

Tours are scheduled to begin a 9:00 A.M., 10:30 A.M. and 1:30 P.M. so that interested community members can see the students in action. Private tours also can be made by appointment. To reserve your place, or with questions, please contact Sara Kohen at [skohen@fjaomaha.com](mailto:skohen@fjaomaha.com)



### Jewish Federation of Omaha Scholarship Opportunities

Thanks to the generosity of the community, a variety of funding sources are available to Omaha's Jewish families to assist in meeting the financial challenges of programs for their children. Scholarships and grants exist for residential camp, JCC summer camp, Israel programs, the Pennie Z. Davis Child Development Center, Friedel Jewish Academy, and youth group activities. Assistance is also available for undergraduate, graduate, vocational, technical, professional or yeshiva studies.



Visit the JFO web page for specific information and application forms. Brochures available in the office at the front desk.

Now is the time to plan and apply. Application Deadline is March 1, 2019

# 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.**



**Todah Rabbah to Ilana McNamara  
NCSY Advisor for this week's  
D'var Torah**



In this week's parsha, Yitro, we receive the Aseret Hadibrot. This is usually translated as "the 10 commandments", but the first "commandment" doesn't follow that rule. "I am Hashem, your god, who brought you out of Egypt" isn't a commandment at all. It's just a statement! It could be said that G-d is commanding us to know this fact, but even this logic has come flaws. If you already knew that Hashem is G-d, you would have no reason for it to be reiterated to you. Conversely, if you had no idea who Hashem was, you would have no reason to believe that Hashem is G-d. In my Theory of Knowledge class at Omaha Central High School we learn about how we know what we know. Knowledge like this without justification is not knowledge at all. We have to use different ways of knowing to back up our beliefs. In this case, we need faith to justify the statement that Hashem is G-d. Faith is major tenant of Judaism, or any religion, and I believe this is what G-d is saying with the first "commandment". "Aseret Hadibrot" is better translated as "the 10 sayings" or "the 10 tellings", and I believe that we are told to have faith in Hashem, which is vastly different from simply knowing that Hashem is G-d or being commanded to believe in Hashem. Through this we can learn that we as Jews must question what is given to us, and then we can dive so much deeper into the Torah and through learning it, understand what G-d really wants from us.

Shabbat Shalom

**Parsha Questions**

1. What convinced Yitro that Hashem was greater than all other gods?
2. What was Yitro's suggestion to Moshe?
3. What is the eighth commandment?
4. What is the only commandment that its reason is mention in the parasha?
5. What is the only commandment that its reward is mention in the parasha?

# Parsha Yitro

Source: [www.torah.org](http://www.torah.org)  
Rabbi Aron Tendler

**1st Aliya:** Yisro brings Moshe's wife and two sons to join him in the desert. In 18:10, Yisro proclaims his belief in Hashem (G-d) and identifies His manifest justice as the primary motive for his belief and conversion.

**2nd & 3rd Aliyot:** Yisro observes Moshe's daily schedule as chief administrator, judge, and teacher. He advises his son-in-law to delegate some responsibilities to a hierarchy of worthy judges and administrators. This would allow Moshe to focus his attention on those issues that demand his specific attention. Moshe listens to Yisro's advice.

**4th Aliya:** This begins the preparation for Revelation. It is the 1st day of Sivan, and the Bnai Yisroel have been in the desert for 43 days. Moshe is told by Hashem to explain to the nation that they are a "kingdom of priests..."

**5th Aliya:** Moshe tells the nation of G-d's expectations and they respond, "all that Hashem will command we will do." Moshe is further instructed to tell the people to prepare themselves by immersing themselves and their clothing in a Mikveh, and to remain apart from their spouses for 3 days. Mt. Sinai is to be fenced off so that no person or animal could ascend the mountain until the shofar sounded the conclusion of Revelation. On the 3rd day, Revelation began with lightning, thunder, the sounding of a Shofar, and Mt. Sinai completely engulfed in clouds, smoke, and fire. Moshe led the nation to assemble at the foot of a trembling Mt. Sinai.

**6th Aliya:** Hashem summoned Moshe to ascend the mountain and instructed him to re-emphasize the prohibition against anyone ascending the mountain during Revelation. Moshe descends and discharges G-d's wishes. With Moshe standing among the people at the foot of the mountain, Hashem spoke the Ten Commandments to the entire people.

**7th Aliya:** This last Aliya describes the reaction of the nation to Revelation. In 20:19, the Pasuk factually states that the Bnai Yisroel (Jewish Nation) collectively heard G-d speak. It is among the most fundamentally important statements in the entire Torah. The Parsha concludes with the three commandments regarding the Mizbeach (Altar).



## **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.

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*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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