



February 23, 2019
18 Adar 5779



Parsha Ki Tisa

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Mazel Tov to Those Celebrating Next Week

Birthdays

| | |
|-------------------|--------|
| Sadie Tam | Feb 24 |
| Errol Saltzman | Feb 25 |
| Bonnie Bloch | Feb 25 |
| Jenna Gerber | Feb 25 |
| Phil Wolf | Feb 26 |
| David Atri | Feb 26 |
| Abby Kohll | Feb 27 |
| Anna Pitman-Kogan | Feb 27 |
| Sherry Taxman | Feb 27 |
| Richard Reinblatt | Feb 28 |
| Adam Rich | Feb 28 |

Anniversaries

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Jack & Bette Kozlen | Feb 28 |
|---------------------|--------|



Celebrating a special simcha this month? Call the office or speak to Bette Kozlen to be a part of the March 16 Simcha Kiddush.

IN THE WEEK AHEAD

The Week of Learning is being sponsored by Harold & Maneva Ruth Edelman in memory of Maneva's brother Gene Ruppe 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, February 23

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| Shacharit..... | 9:00 a.m. |
| Simcha and Mazrachi Kiddush..... | 11:30 a.m. |
| Beth Israel welcomes back Rabbi Mazrachi and his family. | |
| <i>Insights into the Weekly Torah Portion</i> | 4:50 p.m. |
| Mincha/Seudah Shilshit..... | 5:35 p.m. |
| Havdalah..... | 6:50 p.m. |

Sunday, February 24

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| Shacharit..... | 9:00 a.m. |
| Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home | 5:55 p.m. |

Monday, February 25

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|--|------------|
| Shacharit..... | 7:00 a.m. |
| <i>Jewish History - Your History</i> with Rabbi Shlomo | 12:00 p.m. |
| Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home | 5:55 p.m. |

Tuesday, February 26

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|--|-----------|
| Shacharit..... | 7:00 a.m. |
| <i>Torah Tuesday</i> with Rabbi Ari..... | 3:00 p.m. |
| Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home | 5:55 p.m. |

Wednesday, February 27

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| Shacharit..... | 7:00 a.m. |
| Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home | 5:55 p.m. |

Thursday, February 28

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|---|------------|
| 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 | 5:55 p.m. |

Friday, March 1

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Shacharit..... | 7:00 a.m. |
| Mincha/Candle Lighting..... | 5:57 p.m. |



Beth Israel Synagogue is now partnered with Dillons Food Stores Community Rewards Program. Dillons Food Stores include Dillons, Bakers, and Gerbes. When participants use their Plus Shopper's card at any Bakers location, Beth Israel Synagogue could receive rewards up to \$500,000.

To use the Dillons Food Stores Community Rewards Program visit <http://www.bakersplus.com> Register for a Bakers Plus Shoppers card and enroll by searching for BETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE.

This is one way to help the Synagogue by doing what you're already doing.

**Todah
Rabbah**

...to Harold & Maneva Ruth for sponsoring the Week of Learning.

...to the sponsors of the February Simcha Kiddish/Mazrachi Kiddush, Joel & Conny Alperson, Bruce & Cindy Goldberg, Jeff & Sharon Kirshenbaum, Ann Moskovits, Jack & Helene Shrago, Leon & Dani Shrago; Birthdays: David Atri, Bonnie Bloch, Emma Ehrenkranz, Jane Fishkin, Paulette Flatowicz, Hersz Flatowicz, Joe Kirshenbaum, Sara Kohen, Abby Kohll, Joshua Priluck, Marina Sadofsky, Errol Saltzman and grandson Max, Sadie Tam, Sherry Taxman, Phil Wolf; Anniversaries: Yaakov & Faige Jeidel, Alan & Brigitte Kohll, Jack & Bette Kozlen, Bruce & Linda Potash, Phil & Nancy Wolf; and Harold & Maneva Ruth Edelman in memory of Maneva's brother Gene Ruppe.

...to everyone who has searched through the coat room for their belongings to help tidy up the area.

Shabbat Across America

Open to Beth Israel 10-11th Grade Teens



**Israeli Style Friday
Night Dinner With Next
Years Israel Trips Crew**

**Learn More About And
Prepare For The JFO
Teen Trip To Israel**

Shabbat Dinner • 03/01/19 • 6 - 8 PM
Executiveasst@OrthodoxOmaha.org



Event Sponsors





Project Dreamland 3.0 returns to Omaha! Join us for a community (family friendly) Shabbat dinner at Beth Israel chaired by Jewish Women's Renaissance Project (JWRP). Come hear from some of the participants the key to overcoming tribulations and achieving true happiness. We

are very much looking forward. Registration opening soon. Save the date. **March 15th 2019.**

RABBI ARI DEMBITZER


JUDAISM IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Unlock your potential by deepening your understanding of true Torah Judaism

MARCH 17 • 10-11 AM
PRIORITIES IN GIVING CHARITY:
WHERE SHOULD I GIVE MY HARD EARNED MONEY?

MARCH 24 • 10-11 AM
REFORM, CONSERVATIVE, AND ORTHODOX
JUDAISM IN THE EYES OF THE TORAH:
WHAT DO WE HAVE IN COMMON, AND
WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF WORLD JEWRY?

MARCH 31 • 10-11 AM
ANIMAL SACRIFICE IN THE AGE OF
VEGETARIANISM: HOW CAN THEY COINCIDE?



BETH ISRAEL
OMAHA, NEBRASKA

The Wonder of Water

Israeli Innovation for a Thirsty Planet

Sunday, March 24, 2019, 1:30 P.M.–3:00 P.M.
Friedel Jewish Academy (on the JCC campus)
335 S 132nd St, Omaha, NE 68154

Temple Israel, PJ Library Omaha, and Friedel Jewish Academy invite children in kindergarten through second grade to learn about Israeli water innovations through fun, hands-on activities. This program is free and open to the community, but registration is required. Register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JBFG7DC>. Contact Sara Kohen (skohen@fjaomaha.com) with questions.



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**

Shabbat Shalom



**Todah Rabbah Chedva Wielgus
East 22nd NCSY Director
for this week's D'var Torah**



It happened as he drew near the camp and saw the calf and the dances that Moshe's anger flared up. He threw down the tablets from his hands and shattered them at the foot of the mountain. (Ex. 32:19)

God told Moshe that the Jewish People had sinned and fashioned a golden calf. Moshe came down from atop Mount Sinai and saw the golden calf, as well as the merriment and dancing which accompanied it. His anger flared up and he shattered the luchos - the tablets of the covenant. Why did Moshe not break the luchos as soon as God told him that the Jews had made an image?

When Moshe first heard that they had made for themselves a golden calf, he tried to give them the benefit of the doubt. A huge nation felt stranded in the wilderness. What would they feed their children the very next morning? Without a leader and an intermediary to God, how would they survive? He thought they made the idol out of desperation. But when he saw them dancing, he realized that they had not done so reluctantly at all; they enjoyed their worship of the idol, it was a part of them! He then realized that there was no justification for their deed and they did not deserve to have the luchos.

When a person does something with joy it becomes a part of him. The mind best absorbs what it finds pleasurable. It is for this reason that one of the 48 ways in which one acquires Torah is to study Torah with joy. When a person is joyous the mind expands and enables the Torah to take residence within him. However, when someone is sad the mind shrivels and can barely contain a thing. By studying Torah with joy and excitement, the Torah gets absorbed into your blood stream and becomes a part of you.

Parsha Questions

1. How much money each individual needs to give when taking a census of the people of Israel?
2. What were Aaron and his sons required to do before they went to work in the tabernacle?
3. Who designed and built the golden calf?
4. After the golden calf was built, what did the people say about it?

Parsha Ki Tisa

Source: www.torah.org
Rabbi Aron Tendler

1st Aliya: This first Aliya concludes the details of the Mishkan's construction. The Bnai Yisroel are commanded to give the half Shekel toward a national census and the purchasing of the public offerings. The copper washstand, the Kiyor, is described along with the ingredients and laws of the anointing oil and the Ketores – the incense. Betzallel, the grandson of Chur and great-grandson of Miriam, is identified as the chief artisan and architect of the Mishkan. (Note: he was only 13 yr. old!) The Mitzvah of Shabbos is commanded. Its juxtaposition to the details of the Mishkan provides the Gemara with the source for determining the 39 categories of Melacha prohibited on Shabbos.

2nd Aliya: The story of the Golden Calf is told. Moshe ascended Sinai on the morning of Sivan 7, and remained 40 days and nights. The 7th didn't start with a night, so it wasn't included in the total of 40. The Jews mistakenly assumed that it was to be included and expected Moshe back on the morning of Tamuz 16. Instead, he returned the morning of Tamuz 17. By midday of the 16th, the Jews were already desperate. Chur attempts to reason with them and is killed. They approach Aharon who attempts to redirect their terror which results in the Golden Calf. Moshe appears the next morning, breaks the Luchos, marshals the tribe of Levi, and 3000 people are killed. Moshe demands Hashem's forgiveness for the people, but moves the Ohel Moed out from the midst of the camp. Yehoshua is proclaimed the main student of Moshe.

3rd & 4th Aliyot: Moshe requests to understand Hashem's system of justice. He is granted a greater understanding of Hashem than any other person in history, but is denied the ability to comprehend divine justice.

5th Aliya: Moshe is instructed to cut two new Luchos and ascend Sinai. Moshe is taught the secret formula for Teshuva (the Thirteen Names of G-d as He Manifests His Mercy) (34:6) and G-d forgives the Bnai Yisroel.

6th Aliya: Hashem establishes a new covenant with the people. He forewarns them against the influences of assimilation and intermarriage and forbids them to make any treaties with the inhabitants of Canaan. The holidays of Pesach, Shevout, and Succos are reviewed, as well as Shabbos and the basic law of Kashrus.

7th Aliya: Moshe remains on Sinai another 40 days and nights and returns on Yom Kippur carrying the second Luchos. The people see that the very being of Moshe had been transformed and that his face radiated with an inner light. Moshe fashions for himself a veil that he would wear at all times, except when receiving a prophecy and when transmitting the word of G-d to the people.



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
Nate Shapiro, Executive Director
Rabbi Shlomo Abramovich, Visiting Scholar
Leo Fettman, Cantor Emeritus
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