



July 20, 2019
17 Tamuz 5779



Shabbat Parsha Balak

Torah Reading - pg. 856

Haftarah - pg. 1189

***This week's Shabbos Sheet
is sponsored by Carly & Nate Shapiro
in honor of Dani Shrago's continued dedication to
the Synagogue and healing.***

IN THE WEEK AHEAD

This Week of Learning is sponsored by Lourdes Secola and family, in memory of her late daughter, Emma Ocanto-Secola, and mother, Maria D. de Secola and for the merit of a complete recovery for those who are ill and need of recovery in our community and in the entire nation of Israel.

Saturday, July 20

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

With special presentation given by

Max Kohll about his experience with the March of the Living.

Insights into the Weekly Torah Portion 7:30 p.m.
Mincha/Seudah Shlishit 8:15 p.m.
Havdalah 9:42 p.m.

Sunday, July 21

Shacharit..... 9:00 a.m.
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home 8:30 p.m.

Monday - Wednesday, July 22-24

Shacharit..... 7:00 a.m.
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, July 25

Shacharit..... 7:00 a.m.
Connecting with Our Faith with Rabbi Ari..... 9:30 a.m.
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home 8:30 p.m.

Friday, July 26

Shacharit..... 7:00 a.m.
Mincha/Maariv 7:30 p.m.
Candle Lighting 8:30 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.



...Lourdes Secola and family, for sponsoring the Week of Learning in memory of her late daughter, Emma Ocanto-Secola, and mother, Maria D. de Secola.

...Carly & Nate Shapiro for sponsoring this weeks Shabbos sheet in honor of Dani Shrago's continued dedication to the Synagogue and healing.
 ...the Dream Team (Marge and Ruthe) for going the extra mile and helping clean up the back storage room

... Dani & Leon Shrago for their donation of a pool table and its delivery to the youth lounge.

...Harry Weiner for keeping an eye on the synagogue during the wee hours of the morning.

...Scott Weiler for volunteering to rebind our books in the chapel.

...Beth Israel Family for keeping the coat room area very tidy and the synagogue lively.

...to the sponsors of the July Simcha Kiddush. **Birthdays;** Joel Alperson, Steve Denenberg, Vera Dobin, Donald Gerber, Shirley Goodman, Max Kohll, Natalie Shnayder, Kieran Smith, and Sidney Zacharia. **Anniversaries;** Rabbi Ari & Laura Dembitzer, Toba Cohen-Dunning & Eric Dunning, Douglas & Crystal Smith, and Michael & Marina Sadofsky. Yosef Seigel for his Siyum on the Talmud.

...Janet Kohll for providing the fixin's for root beer floats and other dessert toppings.

...Max Kohll for sharing his experience with the *March of the Living*.



Celebrate



Mazel Tov to Those Celebrating Next Week

Birthdays (English)

Stephanie Shapiro-Cohen	July 20
Louise Lippett	July 23
Aryeh Epstein	July 23
Ruben Pitman-Kogan	July 24
Donald Gerber	July 25
Charles V. Robinson	July 26

Birthdays (Hebrew)

Rita Amster	17 Tamuz
Devora Rich	18 Tamuz
Ilana McNamara	19 Tamuz
Susan Besser	20 Tamuz
Stephanie Shapiro-Cohen	21 Tamuz
Faige Jeidel	21 Tamuz

*Celebrating a special simcha in August or September?
 Contact Bette Kozlen or the office to be apart of
 the September 14th, Simcha Kiddush.*

ROSH CHODESH



WOMEN GATHERING

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS, INSPIRING
STORIES, WITH SOME INSIGHTS INTO THE MONTH OF AV
AND THE POWER OF WOMEN

ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED, COME WITH SIMCHA

BETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE

SARAH ABRAHAMSON AND RACHEL WHEELER
WEDNESDAY JULY 31, 2019 @ 7:30PM

**Todah rabah Scott
for Rebinding our books**



**Israeli Cooking Workshop
with Ron Lugasy**





This week's D'var Torah When in Doubt, Don't Shout Balak (Numbers 22:2-25:9)



The she-donkey said to Bilaam, "Am I not your she-donkey that you have ridden all your life until this day? Have I been accustomed to do such a thing to you?" (Num. 22:30)

Imagine you're on the way home from a wedding late at night. You've been traveling many hours and you're wiped out. All you can think of is crawling into bed. You are nearing your house when suddenly you spot your neighbor's car blocking your driveway. You become enraged.

"How could he do something like that, he knows I need to park my car!!" You circle the block for 10 minutes until you find parking, while thinking about how to retaliate against your neighbor.

You then remember that the Torah says to judge others favorably and give them the benefit of the doubt. But you think, "How is it possible to give him the benefit of the doubt - he knows I need to park my car and nevertheless he blocked the driveway?!"

Bilam was riding his donkey on the way to curse the Jews when the donkey stopped moving, refusing to budge. Bilam struck it. The donkey, suddenly able to speak, asked in bewilderment, "Hey, what was that for?!" Bilam said, "You're lucky I don't have my sword on me, otherwise I would have killed you!"

The donkey replied, "Bilam, have I ever betrayed you? Have I been accustomed to do such a thing to you? Why in the world would you think that I'm trying to hurt you and prevent you from going?!"

The donkey was telling Bilam to focus on the one doing the apparent "evil" and not to zoom in on the isolated incident. If the perpetrator is not accustomed to betraying you then it's more rational to assume that some far-out scenario must be taking place. In the case of the donkey, Bilam should have realized that there was something unusual going on. In fact there was an angel blocking the path which prevented the donkey from proceeding.

The same logic applies to your neighbor blocking the driveway. Since this action is not in character with your neighbor, it is more rational to assume that some emergency came up than to assume that he just did not care about you and prevented you from parking your car.

By giving people the benefit of the doubt, our lives, relationships and daily interactions will become more positive and successful - making the world a better place.

Parsha Balak

Source: www.torah.org
Rabbi Aron Tendler

1st Aliya: Parshas Balak begins with King Balak's offer to Bilam the Prophet to curse the Jewish people and G-d's refusal to allow him to accept.

2nd Aliya: Balak sent a second negotiating team and Bilam was given permission to go. However, G-d stipulated that Bilam could only speak the word of G-d.

3rd Aliya: Along the way the incident with the talking donkey occurred, emphasizing G-d's instructions to that Bilam only deliver the word of G-d.

4th Aliya: Bilam attempted his first curse and was unable to do so. Instead, the words he spoke were a blessing for the Jewish people.

5th Aliya: Bilam made his second attempt at cursing the Jews and was again unable to do so. Instead, he issued his second blessing.

6th & 7th Aliya: Bilam attempted his final curse but again blessed the Jews. As he left in disgrace, Bilam told the assembled coalition of kings of their eventual destruction by the Jews. As a parting shot against the Jews, he advised them to seduce the Jewish men with Midianite women and bring G-d's wrath down upon the nation. The Parsha concludes with the incident of Baal-Peor and Pinchas's heroism.

Parsha Questions

1. Why Moav was so afraid of Israel?
2. When Hashem first came to Balaam in the night, what did he tell him to do?
3. What did Balaam not see as he rode along the way?
4. At Balaam's instructions, Balak built altars for sacrifices. What did Balaam say after each set of sacrifices?

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.

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Toba Cohen-Dunning, President
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