

### August 24, 2019 23 Av 5779



**Shabbat Parsha Ekev** Torah Reading - pg. 980 Haftorah - pg. 1197

### IN THE WEEK AHEAD

### Saturday, August 24

| Saturday, August 24  |  |  |
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| Shacharit  |  |  |
| Israeli Style Kiddush11:15 a.m.  |  |  |
| Sponsored by Harold & Maneva Ruth Edelman                                  |  |  |
| In honor of their 55th Anniversary   |  |  |
| and the English and Hebrew birthdays of Maneva Ruth.                       |  |  |
| Insights into the Weekly Torah Portion                                     |  |  |
| Mincha/Seudah Shlishit   |  |  |
| Havdalah   |  |  |
| Sunday, August 25  |  |  |
| Shacharit  |  |  |
| JYE BI Meet & Greet10:00 a.m.  |  |  |
| Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home7:50 p.m.                          |  |  |
| Monday, August 26  |  |  |
| Shacharit  |  |  |
| The Secrets of Teshuva: Turning into a Better Version of Myself 12:00 p.m. |  |  |
| With Rabbi Shlomo  |  |  |
| Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home7:50 p.m.                          |  |  |
| Tuesday, August 27   |  |  |
| Shacharit  |  |  |
| Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home7:50 p.m.                          |  |  |
| Wednesday, August 28   |  |  |
| Shacharit  |  |  |
| And Evening of Music and Inspiration with the Weinreb Bros 6:00 p.m.       |  |  |
| Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home7:50 p.m.                          |  |  |
| Thursday, August 29  |  |  |
| Shacharit  |  |  |
| Connecting with Our Faith with Rabbi Ari                                   |  |  |
| Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home7:50 p.m.                          |  |  |
| Friday, August 30  |  |  |
| Shacharit  |  |  |
| Friday Learning Series: A Jewish View on Contemporary Issues. 11:15 a.m.   |  |  |
| With Rabbi Shlomo @ Kripke Jewish Federation Library                       |  |  |
| Mincha/Maariv  |  |  |
| Candle Lighting7:43 p.m.   |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| You can sponsor a week of learning for \$100 for the merit of a complete   |  |  |

You can sponsor a week of learning for \$100, 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. This is a wonderful opportunity to mark a special event. Contact the office to schedule your Week of Learning sponsorship. executiveasst@orthodoxomaha.org

...Rabbi Shlomo for taking on the role of Head Rabbi in Rabbi Ari's absence.

...Mo Mo and Yaakov from Project SEED for doing our weekly shopping.

...Beth Cohen for being instrumental in working with Friedel Jewish Academy and Beth Israel to help keep Rabbi Shlomo and Family with us longer.

...Donald Gerber for arranging new transportation for the Abramovich Family. ...Matthew Cohen for doing a security assessment and making recommendations for our shul.

...Maneva Ruth and Harold for sponsoring this weeks Kiddish in honor of their 55th Anniversary and the English and Hebrew birthdays of Maneva Ruth. ...Shirley Goodman for her dedication to our cemeteries.

...the entire Beth Israel family for your patience and understanding with regards to our Book of Remembrance project.

...to the boys from project SEED for the time they spent teaching and learning with us.

| Mazel Tov to Those Celebrating Next V<br>Birthdays (English) |           |
|--|-----------|
| Naomi Sarah Goldsweig  | August 24 |
| Fred Amster  | August 25 |
| Elaine Feldman   | August 25 |
| Lauren Tam   | August 26 |
| Scott Weiler   | August 26 |
| Eliezer Rich   | August 28 |
| Birthdays (Hebrew)   |           |
| Jenna Potash   | 24 Av     |
| Alan Kricxfeld   | 26 Av     |
| Marsha Feldman   | 27 Av     |
| Anniversaries  |           |
| Marvin & Sandra Kohll  | August 24 |
| David & Janet Kohll  | August 26 |
| Lloyd & Debra Roitstein                                      | August 30 |
| Harold & Maneva Ruth Edelman                                 | August 30 |
|  |           |

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

# Jewish Youth Experience

join us for our annual:

MEET And Greet

We welcome all k-6th graders and their parents to come find out what we have in store for JYE BI this year

08-25-2019 10-11 AM at Beth Israel



### Tehilim Team at the Nachmans

The Nachman family invites all children to join a new group of saying Tehilim (Psalms) for 'Refua Shlema' and for the success of the Jewish people.

All children are welcome, parents can stay or leave the kids and go, on Shabbat, 6pm, for about half an hour, at 12309 deer Hollow.

#### **Beth Israel Presents:**



## Israeli Art Workshop

We will create and decorate a picture holder made out of paper machê in

בס"ד

two sesions

### Naava Naslavsky

Grew up in Israel, in Kibbutz Givat Oz. During the week she has a scientific career of biomedical research, but in the weekends and nights she emerges herself in paper machê sculpting, and create funny whimsical sculptures with humor.

Where? Beth Israel Synagogue 12604 Pacific St.

### When?

Part 1 - September 8, 4-5:30 PM (we will make the projects) Part 2 - September 15, 4-5:30 PM (we will decorate the projects)

> 15\$ for both parts Space is limited RSVP by September 1 sabramovich@orthodoxomaha.org



### This week's D'var Torah In honor of the 4 SEED boys who gave up their summer for #JewishOmaha



### SELL THE SIZZLE, NOT THE (OMAHA) STEAKS!

You will eat and you will be satisfied, and you shall bless. (Deut. 8:10)

The verse states "You will eat and you will be satisfied, and you shall bless." This is the commandment to recite Birchat Hamazon (Grace After Meals). The Talmud (Brachos 21a) notes that the verse contains an obligation to recite a blessing after eating. From where do we know that one is obligated to recite a blessing before eating? The Talmud had a premise to answer based on the following logic: If one is obligated to make a blessing after eating, certainly one must be obligated to make a blessing before eating. (See the Talmud there for the full reasoning.)

The Talmud asks further: we have a verse which tells us that one is obligated to recite a blessing before learning Torah. How do we know that one is obligated to recite a blessing after learning Torah? Here the Talmud suggests reasoning based on the opposite premise: If one is obligated to recite a blessing before learning Torah, then certainly after learning Torah one is obligated to recite a blessing.

The question arises: why is it more easily understood that one has to recite a blessing before eating than after eating, while for learning it is the opposite: it is more obvious that one recites a blessing after learning than before?!

In the physical world anticipation is a most powerful force, but the pleasure never lives up to the promise. Every pleasure is over-promised and under-delivered. The hype is always greater than what you actually get. One of the rules of marketing is: sell the sizzle, not the steak. Advertisers understand well that anticipated pleasure is far greater than actual pleasure. Just looking at the steak your mouth begins watering. However when you actually bite into it, it's just not the same. The sizzle is always better than the steak.

This principle helps resolve our question. If one is obligated to recite a blessing after eating when the actual pleasure has already passed (and was relatively disappointing compared to the anticipation), then surely before eating when the pleasure is great and there is so much excitement and anticipation you are obligated to recite a blessing. However, it is just the opposite in spirituality. Many times one has to push oneself to learn or to do an act of kindness; the pleasure beforehand is negligible. But afterwards, when one finishes learning or performing an act of kindness, the pleasure is just unbelievable. Therefore, if before learning when the pleasure is not that great one is obligated to recite a blessing, certainly afterwards when a person is in ecstasy, he is obligated to recite a blessing. In spirituality, the steak is always better than the sizzle! Enjoy today's Israeli Kiddush and remember to say Birchat Hamazon if you eat bread.

Parsha Ekev

Source: www.torah.org Rabbi Aron Tendler

**1st Aliyah:** Moshe details the general rewards for following the Torah, and encourages the nation to have complete confidence in Hashem's protection. Moshe forewarns them of the dangers in being overly confident and commands them in the Mitzvah of Birkas Hamazon (8:10).

**2nd Aliyah:** Moshe warns them regarding the pitfalls of prosperity and idolatry, and exhorts them to remain humble in the face of their guaranteed victories. G-d is the one who deserves the credit!

**3rd Aliyah:** In order to illustrate his point, Moshe reviews the incident of the Golden Calf. He explains why G-d, being a G-d of Justice, will grant the Bnai Yisroel a victory over the inhabitants of Canaan. Not because the Jews are deserving, but because the Seven Nations deserve to be punished for their own evil actions. The actions of the Bnai Yisroel during the 40 years, such as the Golden Calf, should have resulted in the Jews' destruction. It was three factors which kept them alive and well so that they could inherit the land.

1. Hashem's promise to Avraham, Yitzchak, and Yaakov.

2. The Chillul Hashem– desecration of G-d's name–that would have occurred among the other nations who would question G-d's ability to protect His nation.

3. Moshe's begging for Hashem's forgiveness.

**4th Aliyah:** Moshe finishes the story of the Golden Calf by retelling the giving of the Second Luchos.

**5th Aliyah:** Moshe poses the famous rhetorical question of, "What does G-d want... follow His ways..." and describes other instances of Hashem's demanding justice.

**6th Aliyah:** Moshe describes the nature of Eretz Yisroel as demanding and responsive to our following the Torah. The second Parsha of Shema is recorded.

**7th Aliya:** Moshe promises the nation total victory if they listen to the Mitzvos and follow the ways of the Hashem.

### Parsha Questions

- 1. How often did the people of Israel need to go shopping to buy new cloths, during their 40 years in the desert?
- 2. What are the Seven Spices of Israel, as mentioned in the Parasha?
- 3. Why do the Levites not get their own land in Israel, like all the other tribes?
- 4. What are the two differences between the Land of Israel and Egypt?

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 Nate Shapiro, Executive Director Rabbi Shlomo Abramovich, Visiting Scholar Leo Fettman, Cantor Emeritus 12604 Pacific Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68154 (402) 556-6288 / www.orthodoxomaha.org