



October 19 - 22, 2019
20 - 23 Tishri 5780



Shabbat Parsha Chol Hamoed

Siddur Torah Reading - pg. 961

Siddur Haftorah - pg. 973

Shmini Atzeret

Siddur - pg. 964

Simchat Torah

Siddur - pg. 975

IN THE WEEK AHEAD

The Week of Learning is being sponsored by Jenny & Matt Cohen for the yahrzeit of Linda Van 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, October 19
Shalom Beneda Bat Mitzvah**

Shacharit	9:00 a.m.
<i>Insights into the Weekly Torah Portion</i>	5:30 p.m.
Mincha/Seudah Shlishit	6:00 p.m.
Havdalah	7:20 p.m.

**Sunday, October 20
Hoshanah Rabbah**

Shacharit	9:00 a.m.
JYE BI - Succah Hop	10:00 a.m.
Mincha/Candle Lighting.....	6:18 p.m.

**Monday, October 21
Shmini Atzeret - Yizkor
Office Closed**

Shacharit	9:00 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv @ Beth Israel.....	6:20 p.m.
HaKafot	7:00 p.m.
Candle Lighting	7:17 p.m.

**Tuesday, October 22
Simchat Torah
Office Closed**

Shacharit	9:00 a.m.
HaKafot	10:00 a.m.
Simcha Kiddush.....	11:00 a.m.
Mincha/Maariv @ Beth Israel.....	6:20 p.m.
Havdalah	7:15 p.m.

Wednesday, October 23

Shacharit	7:00 a.m.
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home.....	6:20 p.m.
Board of Commissioners Meeting.....	7:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 24

Shacharit	7:00 a.m.
<i>Connecting with Our Faith</i> with Rabbi Ari.....	9:30 a.m.
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home	6:20 p.m.

Friday, October 25

Shacharit	7:00 a.m.
Mincha/Candle Lighting.....	6:11 p.m.

Child Care will be available on the following schedule:

Shemini Atzeret	Oct 21	9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
<u>Simchat Torah</u>	<u>Oct 22</u>	<u>9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.</u>

*Youth Lounge unavailable both Oct 21 & 22



To Shalom Beneda on the celebration of her Bat Mitzvah. Shalom is the daughter of Matt & Stephanie Beneda and her siblings include Yehodah & Eliyana.

*Todah
Rabah*

...to Jenny & Matt Cohen for sponsoring the Week of Learning for the yahrzeit of Linda Van.

...to Rabbi Ari for his dedication to the Synagogue. He's an easy guy to take for granted, but he works incredibly hard to keep things spiritually moving and shaking.

...to Rabbi Shlomo and the entire family, who will be departing from us sooner than we would like. Please take a moment to wish them well, as the window of opportunity is closing very rapidly.

... to Mordachai Lopez for donating a new mechanical broom to the synagogue. Honestly, this thing is like the Ferrari of mechanical brooms and will be a big help in tidying up (especially during holidays).

... to the entire Beth Israel family for accepting me in my role as ED, but especially Beth Cohen, Julee Katzman, Toba Cohen-Dunning, Mary Sue Grossman, and Jeff Kirshenbaum for being cheerleaders and advocates for me (Nate) as I continue to learn and improve in my role.

... to Jordana Kurtzman for helping cook pizzas for the teen sukkah hop.

... to Nancy Wolf and Deb Platt for proofreading the latest Beth Israel Bulletin. THANK YOU!

...to the sponsors of the October Simcha Kiddush. **Birthdays;** Shalom Beneda, Jean Cahan, David Cahan, Laura Dembitzer, Rick Eirenberg, Josh Grossman, Sarah Grossman, Maxine Kirshenbaum, Jack Kozlen, Deborah Kricsfeld, Samuel Kricsfeld, Marvin Parilman, Linda Potash, & Ethan Shrago.

Tehilim Team at the Nachmans

Once a month, on the Shabbat before Rosh Chodesh, the Nachman family will be hosting a 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.

The next gathering will be October 26, at 12309 Deer Hollow.

Kiddush October 26th

Rabbi Dembitzer's predecessor, Rabbi Jonathan Gross is visiting later this month. Friends of Rabbi Gross are collecting donations to honor and welcome Rabbi Gross with a kiddush on October 26, 2019. If you would like to contribute to the kiddush, please contact Kaitlin in the office!

executiveasst@orthodoxomaha.org or call 402.556.6288



Celebrate



Mazel Tov to Those Celebrating Next Week

Birthdays (English)

Carol Goldberg	October 19
Jack Kozlen	October 19
Steven Haas	October 19
Laura Dembitzer	October 20
Dasha Stein	October 22
Jack Marshall	October 22
Montgomery Smith	October 23
Hedy Kirke	October 24
Rachel Wheeler	October 25

Birthdays (Hebrew)

Aviva Segall	23 Tishrei
Steven Hass	24 Tishrei
Laura Dembitzer	24 Tishrei
Montgomery Smith	24 Tishrei
Jean Cahan	25 Tishrei
Carol Goldberg	26 Tishrei
Jack Kozlen	26 Tishrei

***Celebrating a special simcha?
Contact Bette Kozlen or the office to be a part of
the November 16, Simcha Kiddush.***

Rabbi Yitzchak Mizrahi was the assistant Rabbi here in Omaha for 5 years. He and his wife Taliah just had a baby girl. They are now living in Kansas City. If you would like to contribute to a group gift (a certificate to Target) let Dani Shrago know by October 24.

Her address is 12209 Leavenworth Road Omaha, NE 68154.
E-mail Dani12209@yahoo.com.

We are suggesting between \$10 and \$20 per family for the gift.

Scholar in Residence at Beth Israel Saturday, October 26

Dr. Hanna Kehat, professor for Jewish thought and Tanakh in Givat Washington Academic College, Israel will visit at Beth Israel. Dr. Kehat will speak after kiddush about "Female Leadership in the Book of Bereshit-Genesis"

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR
BETH ISRAEL SISTERHOOD'S
ANNUAL FUND RAISING EVENT**

*Sunday, November 3, 2019, 11:30am
Luncheon, Silent Auction & Style Show*

Fashions provided by
VON MAUR

Event Chairs
Bette Kozlen & Helene Shrago

Beth Israel Synagogue, 12604 Pacific Street, Omaha NE 68154 (402) 556-6288

**Don't miss your
chance to win
\$500 in cash!**

Tickets just \$10 each

Purchase in advance in the Beth Israel office, or at online at orthodoxomaha.org.

Tickets also available day of event.
Payment only by cash, check, or credit card. Drawing at Sisterhood Donor Event on Nov 3. Need not be present to win!

Contact the office at
(402) 556-6288 or

executiveasst@orthodoxomaha.org

for reservations and additional information.

Succah Hop

Sunday, October 20th 2019

All k-7th graders are invited to join us at our annual JYE BI Succah Hop! We'll Meet at the Beth Israel Youth Lounge at 10:00 AM and ask that you pickup your children from the Cohen residents (12202 Deer Hollow Dr.) at 11:30 AM. Please remember to wear your JYE BI tshirts!

Omaha Jewish Camp Fair!

Sunday, October 27, 12:00-1:00 PM
Temple Israel, 13111 Sterling Ridge Drive

Join us for a camp-style cookout lunch and learn about all the fantastic Jewish summer programs in the Midwest and beyond!

RSVP to bmazur@templeisraelomaha.com

**November 15-17
Overland Park Kansas
Grades 5-8**



Register now at MidwestNcsy.org or call Faige at 347.522.2668. Cost is covered for Beth Israel Members in full if registered before November 1, otherwise is \$29.

Join the Jeidel's and the Omaha group for a fun weekend in KC! Lets Show them



In honor of The Abramowitz family and their return to our holy land!



Sukkot and the purpose of life

On Yom Kippur, we disengage from the normal lives that we live and enter a place of holiness. We don't eat or drink, we wear white to symbolize our angelic origins and we spend the majority of the day in prayer. Then, before you know the holiday of Sukkot arrives and we're singing and dancing, eating and drinking, and having the time of our lives partying in the sukkah.

What is the secret behind this extreme shift in our overall approach to the holidays? The answer is hidden within one of the philosophical foundations of Judaism.

When I was a young student I recall my teacher once asking us, "Gentlemen, how much do you have to change yourself for it to be considered a valuable change?" One after another students would suggest different ways to measure the success of true growth and inner change. After a few minutes he silenced the class and said, "From now on I want you to remember, there is no such thing as small change – all change, even in the little things, has a big impact." What does it mean to be holy? Kedusha - holiness is often misunderstood. There is a notion that holiness means to be totally disconnected from mundane reality; that it is sacred and something completely elevated. When we think of holy imagery we may imagine a monk sitting on the mountain top meditating and speaking gently, or someone else who stands detached from the day-to-day grind of work, computers and technology, changing diapers and cooking.

Nothing could be further from the truth. To truly be holy means to be fully and passionately connected and identified with our inner self, while at the same having the capacity to express that through our day-to-day life.

The opposite of the word kodesh – holy, is the word chol – mundane.

Interestingly, chol is also the same Hebrew word for sand. Why? Sand is unique from dirt in that no matter how much water you use to make the pieces stick, they ultimately remain separate entities and never really connect or join together. To be mundane means to be disconnected from our true purpose and meaning in life. The opposite is holiness which ultimately is the passionate connection to our soul, God and the pervasive purpose that exists within the fabric of creation.

On Yom Kippur, we temporarily leave the world behind and elevate our body to the place of our soul. We stop engaging in the material world by refraining from wearing comfortable shoes, showering, eating or drinking and spend the majority of the day in spiritual pursuits. Though we may see this as the holiest of holidays – the word choice of God in the Torah is tahara (see Leviticus 16:30) which means cleansing and healing.

Sukkot gives us the opportunity to connect our lives with true depth, beauty and meaning.

But on Sukkot, we don't bring our body up to our soul, rather we bring our newly cleansed and clarified soul and vision back down into our body. We are meant to ask ourselves the question: "Now that I went through the ten days of repentance, how can I bring that down into my day to day life – to live as an

Torah Reading Summary

Source: www.chabad.org

G-d agrees to Moses' request that His presence only dwell amongst the Jews. Moses requests to be shown G-d's glory. G-d agrees, but informs Moses that he will only be shown G-d's "back," not G-d's "face."

G-d tells Moses to carve new tablets upon which G-d will engrave the Ten Commandments. Moses takes the new tablets up to Mt. Sinai, where G-d reveals His glory to Moses while proclaiming His Thirteen Attributes of Mercy.

G-d seals a covenant with Moses, assuring him again that His presence will only dwell with the Jews. G-d informs the Jewish people that He will drive the Canaanites from before them. He instructs them to destroy all vestiges of idolatry from the land, not to make molten gods, to refrain from making any covenants with its current inhabitants, to sanctify male firstborn humans and cattle, and not to cook meat together with milk.

The Jews are commanded to observe the three festivals — including the holiday of Sukkot, "the festival of the ingathering, at the turn of the year." All males are commanded to make pilgrimage to "be seen by G-d" during these three festivals.

The maftir, from the Book of Numbers, discusses the public offerings brought in the Temple on this day of Sukkot.

Parsha Questions

1. What did Moshe ask from Hashem, as mentioned at the beginning of the Torah reading?
2. How it will be known that Hashem likes the people of Israel?
3. Who made the Second Tablets?
4. How is Sukkot called at the end of the Torah reading?

D'var Torah Cont.

expression of my deepest self?" The answer to that question is in the Sukkah. The sukkah is a place where everything we do from eating and drinking to sleeping and shmoozing becomes elevated and sanctified because it's being done within the context of a mitzvah, a divine commandment. The mitzvah of living in the sukkah affords us the opportunity to see what life would be like if everything we did was connected with true depth, beauty and meaning. The Torah teaches us that to truly be a holy person, we need not run away from the world and up towards the soul, rather we must grab the world with all of its glory, identify and fill it with the majesty of our own unique divinity. This Sukkot, let us take the time to remember how high we reached on Yom Kippur and find many ways to channel those moments into our day to day lives and elevate even the little things.



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