



November 30, 2019
2 Kislev 5780



Shabbat Parsha Toldot
Torah Reading - pg. 124
Haftorah - pg. 1137

IN THE WEEK AHEAD

Saturday, November 30

Open Beit Midrash	8:30 a.m.
Shacharit	9:00 a.m.
Sponsored Kiddush	11:15 a.m.

Sponsored by Mark & Janey Herskovitz

in honor of Yoni and Liora Herskovitz and the birth of their son, Caleb.

<i>Insights into the Weekly Torah Portion</i>	3:35 p.m.
Mincha/Seudah Shlishit	4:20 p.m.
Havdalah	5:42 p.m.

Sunday, December 1

Shacharit	9:00 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home	4:40 p.m.

Monday, December 2

Shacharit	7:00 a.m.
<i>Cooking the Torah</i> with Rabbi Yoni.....	1:00 p.m.

Learning Torah Through the Palate

Mincha/Ma'ariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home	4:40 p.m.
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Tuesday, December 3

Shacharit	7:00 a.m.
Torah Tuesday	1:00 p.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home	4:40 p.m.

Wednesday, December 4

Shacharit	7:00 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home	4:40 p.m.

Thursday, December 5

Shacharit	7:00 a.m.
<i>Character Development</i> with Rabbi Ari	9:30 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home	4:40 p.m.

Friday, December 6

Shacharit	9:00 a.m.
Mincha/Candle Lighting	4:37 p.m.



... Dani Shrago for doing our shopping.

...Faige Jeidel, Yoni Dreyer, Ruthe Starlin, Nancy Mattly, and Marge Williams, for managing the kitchen. We had an AMAZING kiddush this past week, followed by Ron's Israeli cooking class, followed by

Yoni's class. The kitchen has been well used, and thanks to everyone mentioned, all the programming went very smoothly!

...Thank you to Hadar Nachman for helping Ron with the Israeli cooking class!

...Thank you to Jenny Cohen, who told my wife that I was good with kids.

Col HaCavod to Yoni for teaching his first class at Beth Israel! To many more.

Save the Date

The community is invited to the bar mitzvah and sponsored kiddush of Abiel Shyken on December 7



CeleBRate



Mazel Tov to Those Celebrating Next Week

Birthdays (English)

Jack Cohen	November 30
Matan Shapiro	December 1
Maggie Gerber	December 1
Rachel Kricsfeld	December 4
Bruce Potash	December 5
Alexander Cemaj	December 5
Ari Kohen	December 5

Birthdays (Hebrew)

Alexander Cemaj	03 Kislev
Abiel Oregon Shyken	04 Kislev
Millie Campbell	04 Kislev
Matan Shapiro	06 Kislev
Jake Besser	08 Kislev

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

Chanukah Brisket Lunch
Saturday, December 28, 2019
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

*registration is now open. Call or email the office to reserve your spot today.

Enjoy a delicious traditional Chanukah meal. Including brisket, potato kugel, salad, applesauce, challah rolls, and desserts. Reservations close Monday, December 23 at noon. Cost \$18 for adults, \$9 ages 3-12. Vegetarian meals available by request.

*As always, we never want finances to get in the way of your attendance at community events. If assistance is needed, please contact the office.



Jewish Funeral Home, Inc.

12604 Pacific Street | Omaha NE 68154 | (402) 556-6288 | Fax (402) 556-5759
Nate Shapiro, Executive Director | nshapiro@orthodoxomaha.org

The Jewish Funeral Home (JFH) is hiring Shomrim (guards). Shomrim participate in the mitzvah of “watching” or “guarding” the body of a deceased person from the time of death until burial.

Requirements of Shomrim:

1. Be Jewish
2. Ability to lift 50lbs
3. Have reliable transportation

Benefits for being a Shomer for JFH:

1. Payment (\$10 an hour for day shift, \$9 an hour for overnight shift)

2. Participating in Chesed Shel Emet (a good deed of truth).

Shift availability is dependent on deaths in the community and is inconsistent.

If you, or someone you know, might be willing and able to serve as a Shomer/Shomeret, please be in contact with Nate Shapiro, nshapiro@orthodoxomaha.org, (402) 556-6288.



Operation Grateful Goodies



What is Operation Grateful Goodies?

Operation Grateful Goodies is an opportunity for the Jewish community to say “thank you” to the dedicated people who serve our city all year long and are away from their families on December 25th. Volunteers from Beth El Synagogue, Beth Israel, Temple Israel, Chabad and the Jewish Federation of Omaha will bake, package and deliver home-baked goods to police officers, fire fighters, hospital staff and employees of the Rose Blumkin Jewish Home. It’s our way of showing appreciation to those who protect, defend and heal us 365 days a year.

Volunteers Needed

Operations Grateful Goodies will require many dedicated volunteers. Volunteers will be needed to fulfill three primary tasks, for which we will have an online signup sheet:

Bake: Volunteers can bake in their homes, and freeze and store the goodies. Home-baked goods do not need to be kosher.

Volunteers are also invited to bake in the Beth El Synagogue kitchen on Sunday, December 8 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., on Monday, December 9 from 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.; and on Wednesday, December 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Delivery Option #1: On Monday, December 23, volunteers are needed to transfer baked items from their homes and/or synagogues to Temple Israel between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Sort and package boxes: On Tuesday, December 24, volunteers are needed at Temple Israel to sort and package baked goods. Two shifts are available: from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. or from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Temple will provide to-go boxes and labels for packing. The labels will include the names of all participating organizations.

Delivery option #2: Volunteers will meet at Temple Israel on Wednesday, December 25, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. to pick up Grateful Goodies packages and a list of delivery sites. Delivery volunteers can work solo, in pairs or as a family to bring boxes to first responders and health care workers, spreading joy across town.

Volunteers can sign up online from Beth El’s Web site: bethel-omaha.org. For additional information on how you can volunteer to bake, sort and deliver Operation Grateful Goodies packages, please email Linda at linda_saltzman@hotmail.com.





You can do it!



*And Eisav said, "Look, I am going to die, so of what use to me is the birthright?" ...And Eisav spurned the birthright.
(Gen. 25:32)*

Eisav came home from the field exhausted and noticed Yaakov cooking up a stew. "Pour some of that red stuff down my throat for I am starving", Eisav exclaimed. Yaakov replied, "I'll sell it to you for the birthright." Eisav said, "Look I am going to die, so of what use to me is the birthright?" After he sold the birthright to Yaakov, the verse tells us that Eisav looked at the birthright with disdain.

Rashi explains that Eisav feared the birthright since he knew that the birthright entailed responsibilities such as performing the service in the Holy Temple, and if there were any shortcomings in his performance he could be punished with death. If so, why was he considered to have treated the birthright with disdain by selling it? On the contrary, he was showing the importance of the birthright and the dignity in which the service must be conducted!?

In the course of life, God "throws" us many opportunities which can make us greater. He gives us an opening to start a great project or a position where we can influence and elevate others. The Torah is telling us not to let these opportunities slip away. Don't say, "It's too hard for me," or "I'll do it tomorrow..." Eisav had the opportunity to do the service of the birthright and gave it up. The Torah considers the passing up of such an opportunity a disgrace!(Rav Moshe Feinstein) When an opportunity comes your way - grab it, and enjoy the ride to greatness!



December 19-23

Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center Hotel

\$299 Early Bird Price (before December 1)
\$329 Regular Price
Transportation fee not included

Register now at midwestncsy.org

For more information, contact midwest@ncsy.org or 847-677-6279.



Parsha Chaye Sarah

Source: By Rabbi Aron Tendler
www.torah.org

1st Aliya: Yitzchak is 40 years old (2088) when he marries Rivkah. After 20 years, Esav and Yakov are born. The Parsha jumps from their birth to Yakov's purchase of the 1st born rights from Esav at the age of 15. (2123 – the day Avraham died)

2nd Aliya: The Parsha returns to the story of Yitzchak and Rivkah and the famine which forces them to settle among the Plishtim. Yitzchak, like his father before him, has a moral confrontation with Avimelech, after which his fields are uniquely prolific and financially successful.

3rd Aliya: Yitzchak's financial success leads to jealousy with his Plishtim neighbors. He re-digs Avraham's wells, resulting in a confrontation with the Plishtim over water rights. He moves back to Beer Sheva.

4th Aliya: Hashem (G-d), in a dream, confirms for Yitzchak the future of his children. Avimelech, the King of the Plishtim, and his General, Phicol, approach Yitzchak to make a peace treaty.

5th Aliya: The treaty between Yitzchak and the Plishtim is celebrated.

The Parsha returns to the story of Yakov and Esav. Esav's marriage to two Canaanite women at the age of 40 (2148) brings disappointment to Yitzchak and Rivkah. In 2171, when Yakov and Esav are 63 and Yitzchak is 123, Yitzchak blesses Yakov and Esav. The Parsha details the duplicity of Yakov and Rivkah in fooling Yitzchak.

6th Aliya: Yitzchak blesses Yakov with spiritual and material gain, after which Esav returns to discover Yakov's plot. He receives his own blessing for material gain, and is determined to kill Yakov. Rivkah, fearful for Yakov's life, convinces Yitzchak to send Yakov to her brother Lavan in search of a shiduch – a wife. Yitzchak confirms on Yakov the future of the Jewish nation before his departure to Lavan.

7th Aliya: Yakov departs for Padan Aram, and Esav marries the daughter of Yishmael. (his 1/2 1st cousin)

Parsha Questions

- 1) How did the torah describe Yaakov?
- 2) how did the torah describe Esav?
- 3) what did yaakov do to get the brachos from Yitzchok?
- 4) when yitzchok embraced Yaakov, what did he say?



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, Head Rabbi
Toba Cohen-Dunning, President
Nate Shapiro, Executive Director
Rabbi Yoni Dreyer, Assistant Rabbi
Leo Fettman, Cantor Emeritus

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