

CONGREGATION AHAVATH ACHIM WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



May 13-20, 2016 / 5-12 Iyar - 5776

Parsha Kedoshim

Schedule of Services:		
Friday, May 13, 2016		
Shacharit		6:45 AM
Mincha/Ma'ariv		7:00 PM
Candle Lighting		7:45 PM
Shabbat, May 14, 2016		
Shabbat Shacharit		9:00 AM
Latest Shema Time		9:13 AM
Rabbi's Class		6:50 PM
Mincha		7:35 PM
Shabbat Ends		8:46 PM
Sun-Thur, May 15-19, 2016		
Shacharit		* Mincha & Ma'ariv
Sun	8:30 AM	7:45 PM * A
Mon	6:30 AM	7:45 PM * K
Tue	6:45 AM	7:45 PM * K
Wed	6:45 AM	7:45 PM * B
Thur	6:30 AM	7:45 PM * A
A - Ahavath Achim		
B - Bikur Cholim on		
Park & Capitol Ave., Bpt		
K - Kollel on Arlington St., Bpt		
Friday, May 20, 2016		
Shacharit		6:45 AM
Mincha/Ma'ariv		7:00 PM
Candle Lighting		7:51 PM
Torah Reading		
Vayikra	19:1-20:27	656-671
Haftorah		
Amos	9:7-15	1173-1174

Don't Wait for the Minyan Call: When we are short of a minyan, calls, texts, and messages are sent out to try to collect a minyan. Please don't wait to be contacted. When you don't attend, you are missed. Join the minyan. Come early, come often, and **Help Keep Our Minyan Strong!**

Torah Message from Rabbi Moldovan

The verse in Parshas Kedoshim (19:15) says "You shall not commit a perversion in justice". The great Chassidic Rebbe, Rav Simchah Bunim of Psischa, explains this to mean that one may not pass unjust laws since they pervert justice. This idea is exceptionally relevant for the society that we live in. It is easy to rationalize that you will never be able to stop immoral sexual relations so let it be legal. It is easy to rationalize that you will never stop people taking drugs so it should be made legal. Legalizing drugs may even lead to lower rates of crime! The Torah teaches us that if something is morally and ethically wrong, it can't become right by way of an act of legislature. Many places in the history of man have been pervaded by sin but none have been dealt with so harshly as Sodom and Gomorrah which were destroyed by a rain of fire from heaven. What was so bad about Sodom and Gomorrah that warranted harsher treatment than any other situation? The commentaries explain that Hashem is very patient and gives people time to repent. What sealed the verdict of Sodom and Gomorah was that they had a corrupt standard of justice and legalized every type of crime and immorality. Once immoral behavior is legally sanctioned, there is no longer hope for Teshuvah. Morals and ethics are absolute and don't change with time. We must be careful not to rationalize a perversion of justice.

Eruv News - Our Eruv is primarily based on the local electricity/telephone poles in the area. It has come to my attention that by the edges/boundaries of the Eruv, one must be aware which side of the road is included in the Eruv. Furthermore, there are some areas where the poles are recessed from the sidewalk (or there is no sidewalk) making it impossible to carry on that street. The following areas are of particular note:

- 1) **Stratfield Road** - one must walk on the East side of Stratfield Rd (not the side that Ahavath Achim is on) from Montauk St towards Suburban Ave (towards Bridgeport). - The Eruv continues till Suburban Ave but the sidewalk is lost right after Jackman. It is not possible to carry on Stratfield from Jackman till Suburban (one has to turn into Jackman and continue in the side streets).
- 2) **Montauk St** - It is not possible to carry in Montauk St since some of the poles are recessed from the sidewalk. It is possible to carry in the Dogwood Green complex. **Please contact Rabbi Moldovan with any questions regarding the Eruv.**

Seuda Shlishit is being sponsored this Shabbat by Sharon & Harvey Risch. in memory of Sharon's mother, Rebbetzin Sarah Konovitch a"h.

YOM HA'ATZMAUT - THURSDAY, MAY 12 - 4 IYAR We transition from the solemnity of Yom Ha-Zikaron (Day of Remembrance) to one of celebration, there will be a special video showing of **Above and Beyond**, on Thursday evening, May 12, at 8:15 pm, following ma'ariv, to commemorate Israel Independence Day (Yom HaAtzmaut). See the untold story of the pilots who defended Israel in her dire hour of need. The entire community is invited to join with us to watch this film. No Charge. Film Review: "In 1948, just three years after the liberation of Nazi death camps, a ragtag group of skilled American pilots - both Jewish and non-Jewish, answered a call for help. In secret and at great personal risk, they smuggle planes out of the U.S., trained behind the Iron Curtain and flew for Israel in its War of Independence. This band of brothers not only turned the tide of the war, they also embarked on personal journeys of discovery and pride."

Congregation Ahavath Achim on Social Media: Don't forget to check the Ahavath Achim website for current updates. You can also read and post to the shul's Facebook page or Twitter

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	<i>Find us on: Facebook, Twitter, & LinkedIn</i>	

New Breakfast 'n Learn Program begins on Sunday: Join Rabbi Moldovan on Sunday morning, May 15, for our inaugural Breakfast 'n Learn. A lite breakfast will be served and the Rabbi will deliver an engaging class on contemporary topics. This is a new opportunity to learn and socialize on Sunday mornings immediately following Shacharit. Please call the office to let us know how many to prepare for. This is an exciting learning opportunity to confront contemporary issues in a friendly, social environment.

Jewish Senior Services (Jewish Home for the Elderly) Update: As everyone is aware the new Jewish Senior Services facility is due to open on Park Ave in a few months. The new institution will be providing non-kosher meat, dairy, and a combination of the two to its residents. A small number of resident rooms are slated to be kosher, accompanied by a kosher bistro open to the public. In addition, they plan to be kosher for all

public events and are contemplating doing kosher catering. It is incumbent on me to bring to the congregation's attention that the current proposed standards of supervision for this complex operation are lacking and there is a material risk of non-kosher food making its way into the proposed kosher section. Discussions are underway with the management of the home and the congregation will be updated with any new information. The credibility of the kosher program will depend on the outcome of these discussions.

Community Events: Fairfield County Jewish Community presents "A Long Weekend of Inclusivity," May 19-22, featuring author and activist Shelly Christensen. The topic is "How to Assure that All Families Have Access to Jewish Programming & Services." An email has been sent to everyone on the shul email list with complete information on locations and topics. Registration to attend is required.

JCC Maccabi Games & Artfest - August 7-12: Host families and volunteers are needed for this event. 1500 Jewish teens will be welcomed to lower Fairfield County from all over the US, Israel, Great Britain, Poland and South America. You can become a host family or a volunteer and experience a most amazing community event. For complete details or to register contact www.jccmaccabistamford.org or the JCC Maccabi office at 203-487-0949 or email maccabi@stamfordjcc.org

COMMUNITY DAVENING: The Kolliel is back in session and the community mincha/ma'ariv davening has returned to 85 Arlington Street, Bridgeport on Monday and Tuesday evenings.

Israel Independence Day Parade- Sunday, June 5 You are invited to march with the Orthodox Union in the annual *Celebrate Israel Parade* up New York's Fifth Avenue. Every marcher receives a free t-shirt! More information about times and locations will be available as the day draws near. Register at www.ou.org/parade

Refuah Sheleimah to: *Kenneth Epstein, Rabbi Moshe Epstein, David Gordon, Yitzy Hain, Deborah Lozanov, Joe Macy, Fred Schwartz, and Diane Shinbaum.* May G-d grant each a speedy and complete recovery.

Yahrtzeits for the week:

Sunday, May 15 – **Zigmund Klein** (Father of Harold Klein)
Monday, May 16 – **Sarah Konovitch** (Mother of Sharon Risch)
Monday, May 16 – **Sylvia Schwartz** (Sister of David Sheldon)

Tues., May 17 – **Charlotte Basch** (Mother of David Basch)
Tues., May 17 – **Samuel Karelitz** (Grandfather of Seymour Kosowsky)

Yahrtzeits begin at Ma'ariv the evening before. Please make an extra effort to ensure a minyan for those saying Kaddish. **Be there for others, and they'll be there for you.**

If you would like an Aliyah on the Shabbat before the Yahrtzeit, please make sure you are in Shul before Torah Reading. If you arrive late, we cannot guarantee you an honor.
