

CONGREGATION AHAVATH ACHIM



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WEEKLY BULLETIN

Parshat Matos-Masei

July 17-24, 2015 / 1-8 Av 5775

Chazak

Schedule of Services:			
Friday, July 17, 2015			
Rosh Chodesh Av			
Shacharit	6:30 AM		
Mincha/Ma'ariv	7:00 PM		
Candle Lighting	8:11 PM		
Shabbat, July 18, 2015			
Shabbat Shacharit	9:00 AM		
Latest Shema Time	9:19 AM		
Rabbi's Class	7:15 PM		
Mincha/Ma'ariv	8:00 PM		
Shabbat Ends	9:07 PM		
Sun-Thur, July 19-23, 2015			
	Shacharit	Mincha Ma'ariv	L O C
Sun	8:30 AM	8:05 PM	A
Mon	6:30 AM	8:05 PM	K
Tue	6:45 AM	8:05 PM	K
Wed	6:45 AM	8:05 PM	B
Thur	6:30 AM	8:05 PM	A
A - Ahavath Achim			
B - Bikur Cholim on			
Park & Capitol Ave., Bpt			
K - Kollel on Arlington St., Bpt			
Friday, July 24, 2015			
Shacharit	6:45 AM		
Mincha/Ma'ariv	7:00 PM		
Candle Lighting	8:02 PM		
Page Numbers:			
Torah Reading			
Bamidbar	Pages:		
30:2-36:13		900-935	
Haftorah			
Jeremiah	Pages:		
2:4-28; 3:4		1193-1194	

The Minyan of few: A large minyan is wonderful, but, unfortunately, that is not our normal crowd. It is a constant challenge to ensure a minyan. Commit to at least one minyan a week, and show up on time. This will **Help Make Our Minyan Strong!**

Pre-Mincha Shabbat Shiur: Over the next two weeks, Rabbi Meth will continue to present a series called "The Once and Future Israel," about Eretz Yisrael in Tanach and in halakhah, from its earliest times until the times of Moshiach. Please join us at 7:15pm for a pre-Mincha shiur. Learn a little, pray a little, and eat a little at Seudat Shelishit. It doesn't get much better than this!

Child Care on Shabbat Morning. For the last hour of tefillah on Shabbat morning, roughly from 10:30-11:30 am. Randy Dimand will be supervising the children in the playroom with Shabbat activity.

Baruch Dayan Emet: It is with great sadness that we write of the passing of Gina Gelb, a very special and admired member of Congregation Ahavath Achim. As the inspiration for and leader of the monthly tehillim group, Gina Gelb set an example of bravery and courage that is model for us all. She was a constant, kind friend and mentor to many, while she battled fiercely through her own serious illness. She will be very missed by us all.

May the family be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem. Burial took place this past Monday in Bet Shemesh, Israel. Shiva will be observed at the Gelb home, 6 Stoneleigh Square beginning Tuesday through Sunday morning. Visiting hours are: Tuesday: 2-5 pm & 7-10 pm; Wed & Thurs: 10-12 noon, 2-5 pm & 7-10 pm; Friday: 10-12 noon & 1-3 pm; Saturday: 9:30-11 pm

Refuah Shelema to Lionel Eliovson, who is now recovering at home from surgery in Norwalk Hospital. At this time, phone calls would be appreciated.

The Tehillim Group will meet on Thursday evening, July 16, at 8:00 pm, at the home of Charles and Miriam Parker, 134 Wynnwood Road, Fairfield. Please note the new time.

Tisha B'Av News. Please call Rabbi Ephraim Meth directly for additional information and to let him know you are interested in the special "elucidated Kinnot seminar" he will present on Tisha B'Av. This seminar is for those who wish to recite Kinnot at a slower pace and with explanations and discussion

Tisha B'Av Schedule for showing DVDs is being coordinated with Cong. Bikur

Cholim to try and prevent any scheduling conflicts, if possible. CAA's videos are "Rebuilding from the Ashes," (from YU/OU) with presentations by Rabbi Schacter and Rabbi Rosner (total time approx. 50 min.). The 2nd video, from Torah Umesorah, is "Shanghai Miracle," about the Yeshivah students who escaped Europe and survived in Shanghai. The final time schedule will be available in next week's bulletin

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

Address	1571 Stratfield Road Fairfield, CT 06825
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New Summer Learning Program -Rabbi Ephraim Meth's a new learning program continues every Sunday morning, for one-half hour, following Shacharait throughout the summer. The topic will be "The Halakhic Decision-Making Process Revealed: From Torah to Talmud to Today." Rabbi

Meth will cover various case studies, going through sources in depth, with the first case-study being: "Tefillah in a Tank-Top." Rabbi Meth wishes to emphasize that the program is open to men and women. Bright teenagers will gain insights from the classes, and all the source material will be translated. Please call the office to register so that we know how many to expect. The class must have a minimum attendance of 8 to run.

Rabbi Ephraim Meth - Torah Thoughts. The mitzvah to sanctify Hashem's name, Kiddush Hashem, has two components that seem mutually exclusive. On the one hand, the mitzvah seems to advise us to act in a virtuous manner that earns the acclaim of our observers, such as to pay bills promptly, to speak politely, and the like. On the other hand, the mitzvah advises us to act with steadfastness and integrity, and not to give up defense of our values for the world. Hence, Kiddush Hashem is the source for the halakhic and historical practice of choosing death over conversion to other religions. Sometimes, the two components of Kiddush Hashem conflict, such as when the world will only admire our ideals if we change them. Under these circumstances, which sadly seem quite prevalent in the Western world nowadays, we must evaluate with the utmost realism how positively or negatively a vigorous defense of our values will impact on Hashem's reputation. The recent Supreme Court decision regarding same-gender marriage, which is immoral, and which we hope will be swiftly retracted, is a perfect example. While it is critical for us to declare that what is now legal is nonetheless wrong, it is equally important for us to think long and hard about how to express this critique in a manner that enlightens our opposites with insight into the compelling strengths of our definition of morality.

Tag Sale News: Another successful tag sale, under the direction of Renee Mizrahi was held on this past Sunday, July 12th. Thanks very much to the dedicated shul members who volunteered many hours before and during the tag sale, without whose help it would not have been possible; Jay Dimand, Julie Fischer, Leah Guttman, Arlene Jutkowitz, Sara and Andrew Klein, Elaine Schiller. The date for the next tag sale will be announced shortly. It will be sometime in August. We are always in need of new, fresh merchandise. Please call Renee if you have large pieces for pickup.

Journal Luncheon News: Diana Rich is handling reservations for the Journal Luncheon at which we will be honoring Shalom and Renee Mizrahi. This year will be a particularly special event. We know you will want to be part of the festivities honoring this special couple. Be sure to send in your ads and reservations quickly. Remember \$500 in ads earns you two (2) free admissions to the Gala Luncheon.

Kollel Konnections:

- **Basketball & Learning:** Tuesday nights, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at 85 Arlington Street, Bridgeport. Sponsored by The Kollel. Contact: Yitzchak Elchonen or Shlomo Pepper. 248-259-6399 or 845-200-6179. Join in the fun and learning. Refreshments, Prizes, Raffles.

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

Yahrtzeits for the week:

Saturday, July 18 – **Sheila Klein**-(Sheila Husband) Thursday, July 23 – **Mark Breiner** (Grandmother)
Friday, July 24- **Olga August** (Olga's Brother)

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.