

CONGREGATION AHAVATH ACHIM WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



Rosh Chodesh Adar II Shekalim Parshat Vayakhel March 4-11, 2016 / 24 Adar I - 1 Adar II - 5776

Schedule of Services:			
Friday, March 4, 2016			
Shacharit		6:45 AM	
Mincha/Ma'ariv		5:25 PM	
Candle Lighting		5:29 PM	
Shabbat, March 5, 2016			
Shabbat Shacharit		9:00 AM	
Latest Shema Time		9:12 AM	
Rabbi's Class		11:50 AM	
Mincha		12:35 PM	
Shabbat Ends		6:31 PM	
Ma'ariv		6:50 PM	
Sun-Thur, Mar 6-10, 2016			
	Shacharit	* Mincha - Ma'ariv	L O C
Sun	8:30 AM	7:40 PM - A	
Mon	6:30 AM	7:40 PM - K	
Tue	6:45 AM	7:40 PM - K	
Wed	6:45 AM	7:40 PM - B	
Rosh Chodesh Adar II			
Thur	6:30 AM	7:40 PM + A	
A - Ahavath Achim			
B - Bikur Cholim on			
Park & Capitol Ave., Bpt			
K - Kollel on Arlington St., Bpt			
Mincha: Sun-Thur 2:40 PM at Kollel			
Friday, March 11, 2016			
Rosh Chodesh Adar II			
Shacharit		6:30 AM	
Mincha/Ma'ariv		5:35 PM	
Candle Lighting		5:37 PM	
Page Numbers:			
Torah Reading			
Shemot	Pages:		
35:1-38:20		516-529	
Maftir Shekalim			
Shemot 30:11-16		484-485	
Haftarah			
II Kings	Pages:		
12:1-17		1213-1214	

Minyan Times: In the Schedule of Services on the left of this page, we list the service and the start time for that service. The start time is a commitment that we will not begin before the announced time, to allow everyone who desires to come and participate. There is also an implicit commitment for everyone wanting to attend to arrive on time. That way, when we arrive at the portions of the service where a minyan is required, we will have the needed minyan. Please be on time. Come and **Help Make Our Minyan Strong!**

Early Shabbat Mincha: Immediately following Kiddush, Rabbi Moldovan will give his pre- mincha shiur, the topic is "How to make great cholent on Shabbos". followed by Mincha (at 12:35pm) services. Please return after Shabbat ends (at 6:31pm) for Ma'ariv (at 6:50pm). Please remember to recite "**Baruch hamavdil bein kodesh l'chol**" in order to end Shabbat before driving or doing other work that is prohibited on Shabbat.

Torah Message from Rabbi Moldovan

The entire Jewish nation was invited to participate in the construction of the Mishkan by contributing precious metals, wood, leathers, and materials for the assembly of the Mishkan. The Nesi'im, the princes of the tribes, wished to be included and sought to underwrite the construction and make up any shortfall, as opposed to donating up front. They were surprised by the generosity of the Jewish people when the entire shortfall was only the rare stones needed for the breastplate of the Kohen Gadol. Rashi notes a peculiar misspelling in the possuk - the word "Nesi'im" is blatantly missing a yud! Rashi explains that the Nesi'im were criticized for not actively donating to the Mishkan but only agreeing to cover the shortfall. We can ask of Rashi that this is hardly something to be critical of. If one were to raise funds for a multi-million dollar building project and was offered an agreement to underwrite the entire project and cover everything lacking - wouldn't this be significantly better than a huge direct donation! The baalei mussar explain that when one has an opportunity to do something or not do something and delays in committing, even for the most positive of reasons, that delay is often deeply seated in a desire not to give. Even though one might eventually give more than if they were to donate a large sum now, it is difficult for one to actively give to a cause. This was the flaw of the Nesi'im.

Notice of next Board Meeting:

There will be a Board Meeting on Tuesday evening, March 8th at 6:30 pm in the library. Please call the office or Barbara, to let her know if you will be attending this meeting.

Purim is Coming!

We are looking forward to our Purim program here at Ahavath Achim. Rabbi Moldovan will read the Megillah on the evening of March 23rd. Please join in for a light break fast and a lively talk by the rabbi. The times for the Megillah reading can be found in the March calendar. Please call the office to RSVP if you are planning to attend the break-fast.

Matanot L'evyonim (gifts to the needy on Purim)

One of the four mitzvot of Purim (the others are mishloach manot, hearing megillah at night & in the morning, and having a festive meal on Purim day) is to give a monetary donation to two poor people. This is one of the specific mitzvot of Purim and enhances friendship and brotherhood amongst the Jewish people. Money can be given to the Rabbi or to Arnell in the office to pass on to the Rabbi. The money will be distributed amongst worthy people in the Fairfield/Bridgeport area and people in Israel.

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>	

Mishloach Manot

The letters and order forms for our annual Purim fund raising project have been mailed. Thank you to everyone who has completed and returned your orders. If you have not sent in your form, please do so ASAP. Renee is preparing beautiful mishloach manot baskets again this year with Israeli products and we look forward to everyone joining in this beautiful Purim mitzvah. We also look forward to everyone participating in our matanot levyonim campaign again this year to support needy families and enable them to enjoy the Purim holiday.

Pre- Pesach Preparation Class

Are we cleaning for Pesach or spring cleaning? Do we really have to clean behind the 500 pound refrigerator? How about the garage? Rabbi Moldovan will be presenting

a practical class on what to focus Pesach cleaning efforts in order to calm pre-pesach nerves. Sunday March 20 at 9:15am (following Shacharit) for men and woman. Coffee and cake will be served.

Join Nefesh B'Nefesh for the Aliyah event of the year!

Sunday, March 6 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel Times Square, NYC. Hear from professionals about employment, communities, education, taxes, budgeting and retirement in Israel, and featuring a vendor fair running throughout the day. This is a great opportunity to meet and network with other people planning Aliyah. Check-in & Registration Times: Retirees: 10:30am; General Programming: 12pm; Singles & Young Professionals: 3:30pm. For more information: www.nbn.org.il/newyork

Extra Help for the Moldovans in the Upcoming Weeks:

A number of congregants from our Ahavath Achim family have asked about how they can help the Moldovans as they anticipate a very busy period with their family! First, they have asked me to express their warmest appreciation in response to these offers. They are well situated with food and don't need any additional help in that area. However, if any congregants are available to run a quick errand or even watch the children in the apartment for a short period of time, that would be a big help. You may contact Rabbi Moldovan directly if you are available. Again, both Hadassah and Rabbi Moldovan wish to express their thanks for this thoughtfulness. Barbara Tuckel

A Kosher for Pesach Food Drive: Please donate kosher Passover food! A collection box has been located in the shul entrance. All food will be distributed by the Jewish Family Service. Contact Eric Risch at erisch@sarhighschool.org for more information.

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

Yahrzeits for the week:

Monday, March 7 – **Howard Klein**

Tuesday, March 8 – **Hedy Augenbraun** (Father)

Wednesday, March 9 – **Malka Serkin** (Mother)

Friday, March 11 – **Bernie Dickens** (Father)

Friday, March 11 – **Debbie Lozanov**(Father)

Yahrzeits 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 Yahrzeit, please make sure you are in Shul before Torah Reading. If you arrive late, we cannot guarantee you an honor.
