



CONGREGATION AHAVATH ACHIM

February 2020 Newsletter

6 Shevat – 4 Adar 5780



Torah & Haftorah Readings and Page Numbers					
	February 1	February 8	February 15	February 22	February 29
Torah Reading	Bo	Beshalach	Yitro	Mishpatim (Shekalim)	Terumah
	Exodus 10:1-13:16	Exodus 13:17-17:16	Exodus 18:1-20:23	Exodus 21:1-24:18 Exodus 30:11-16	Exodus 25:1-27:19
Pages	248-262	265-281	288-301	306-322 352-353	326-336
Haftorah	Jeremiah 46:13-46:28	Judges 4:4-5:31	Isaiah 6:1-7:6; 9:5-9:6	II Kings 12:1-12:17	I Kings 5:26-6:13
Pages	263-264	281-287	302-305	993-995	336-338

Minyan Times are in the monthly calendar and on the Ahavath Achim web site, www.ahavathachim.org

Rabbi Peretz Robinson's Torah Message

Dear Friends,

In Judaism, it is the action that is always the imperative. While significance is also attached to the intent behind the action, as well as to the non-active Jewish philosophical tradition, nevertheless it is the elaborate framework of mitzvot, both Torah-based and rabbinic, that stands as the backbone of our Jewish faith and lifestyle.

As we approach the latter half of the winter season and the Purim holiday, it gives me great pleasure to once again reach out to you regarding a mitzvah that is central to our observance of that holiday, the mitzvah of Matanot L'evyonim.

Matanot L'evyonim are tzedakah funds that are collected from members of our congregation and distributed to worthy recipients in our community on Purim. The practice of giving Matanot L'evyonim has its origins in the Megillah itself (Book of Esther 9:22) and is codified as law in the Shulchan Aruch (Orach Chaim 694:1). It is the performance of the mitzvot attendant to the holiday, as stipulated in the Shulchan Aruch and other Halachic works, that ultimately give significance to our observance of holidays such as Purim.

I can personally attest to the fact that the distribution of these funds in our community is greatly appreciated by those on the receiving end, and that the recipients are always appreciative of the efforts of our congregation. Last year, we collectively distributed in excess of \$2,000 on Purim. Please help us meet this year's Matanot L'evyonim goal of \$2,500.

Funds may be sent by mail to:

Rabbi Peretz Robinson
84 Senior Place
Fairfield Ct 06825

Please specify that your contribution is for Matanot L'evyonim. Checks should be made payable to Congregation Ahavath Achim.

I would also like to take this opportunity to mention another mitzvah that is of central importance to our community, the mitzvah of davening with a minyan. I am writing to you specifically regarding our Saturday night motzei Shabbat minyan.

On Shabbatot throughout the winter months, we daven Mincha earlier in the day immediately following Mussaf and Kiddush. We then gather again at JSS in the evening after Shabbat has ended for Maariv and Havdalah. This Saturday night service is not scheduled to begin until at least 20 minutes after the ending of Shabbat in order to give the opportunity for participants to drive in not only from Bridgeport and Fairfield, but from surrounding towns such as Trumbull, Easton, and Redding as well.

Unfortunately, this Saturday night service has been struggling somewhat. We often times find ourselves waiting after the appointed start time for the tenth man to appear, and a couple of times this winter we did not end up making a minyan. Please consider making a commitment in your schedule to help our Saturday night Maariv service this winter. It would be greatly appreciated by myself, your fellow congregants, and especially by the mourners in our community who need a minyan to say kaddish.

May we merit to continue performing mitzvot together,

Rabbi Peretz Robinson

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Community

"A Bissel Yiddish."

Come hear Judy Altman present and discuss classic sections of The Forward's "Bintel Brief" (advice column).

When: Friday, February 7, 2020 10:00 – 12:00pm

Where: Stamford JCC, 1035 Newfield Ave, CT 06905

Suggested Donation: \$5 for the pushke. If you have any questions, call 203-321-1373 x150 (leave message) or email info@jhsfc-ct.org.

Refuah Sheleimah to Andrew Deutsch, David Gordon, Arlene Moidel, and Diane Shinbaum. May G-d grant each a speedy and complete recovery.

Yahrtzeits for February 2020

Friday, January 31 - Aaron Milrod (Father to Debbie Allen)	Monday, February 18- Zohar Peretz (Aunt to Max Barnum)
Saturday, February 1 - Naomi Krentzman (Cousin to Myrna Kosowsky)	Thursday, February 20- Isaac Basch (Father to David Basch)
Saturday, February 1- Sonya Risch (Mother to Harvery Risch)	Thursday, February 20- Molly Goldman (Aunt to William Wolper)
Monday, February 3- Benjamin Joseph Frankel (First cousin to Rose Moidel)	Thursday, February 20- Betty Taub (Aunt to Terrance Augenbraun)
Monday, February 3- Leo Wolper (Uncle to William Wolper)	Saturday, February 22- Rose Kleinman (Aunt to Howard Klein)
Thursday, February 13- Jill Lauren Resnick (Relative to Alex Mantel)	Sunday, February 23- Shifra Muller (Mother to Betty Anflick)
Thursday, January 13- Mordechai Wucher (Uncle to Cathy Velenchik-Joy)	Mother, February 24- Fred Schwartz (Father to Judith Schwartz)
Friday, February 14- Isidor Krentzman (Father to Myrna Kosowsky)	Tuesday, February 25- Morris Dickens (Father to Bernard Dickens)
Saturday, February 15- Avraham Cohen (Uncle to Max Barnum)	Tuesday, February 25- Howard Kaufman (Father to Debbie Lozanov)
Saturday, February 15- Rose Kosowsky (Mother to Seymour Kosowsky)	Tuesday, February 25- Martin Eisenbach (Uncle to Betty Anflick)
Sunday, February 16- Eli Selinger (Brother to Arlene Dentz)	Wednesday, February 26- Harry Berkowitz (Father to Helene Green)
	Wednesday, February 26- Sylvia Magid Fishman (Father to Mark Fishman)
	Friday, February 28- Minnie Samovitz (Grandfather to Charles Zwecker)