

CONGREGATION AHAVATH ACHIM WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



Rosh Chodesh Parshat Miketz December 11-18, 2015 / 22-29 Kislev 5776

Schedule of Services:		
Friday, December 11, 2015		
Shacharit		6:30 AM
Mincha/Ma'ariv		4:05 PM
Candle Lighting		4:06 PM
Shabbat, December 12, 2015		
Chanukah		
Rosh Chodesh Tevet		
Shabbat Shacharit		9:00 AM
Latest Shema Time		9:32 AM
Rabbi's Class		11:50 AM
Mincha		12:17 PM
Shabbat Ends		5:06 PM
Ma'ariv		5:25 PM
Sun-Thur, Dec 13-17, 2015		
Shacharit	+ Ma'ariv * Mincha & Ma'ariv	L O C
Rosh Chodesh Tevet		
Sun	9:00 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
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		
2:40 PM Mincha at Kollel		
Friday, December 18, 2015		
Shacharit		6:45 AM
Mincha/Ma'ariv		4:05 PM
Candle Lighting		4:08 PM
Page Numbers:		
Torah Reading		
Bereshis	Pages:	
41:1-44:17		222-249
Rosh Chodesh Reading		
Bamidbar – 28:9-15		890-892
Chanukah Reading		
Bamidbar – 7:42-47		768-769
Haftorah		
Zechariah	Pages:	
2:14-4:7		1210-1211

Come Early, Come Often: Get your day started on a high note with a spiritual lift. Come to the minyan. Need a little social interaction? Come to the minyan. Need a morning cup of coffee? Come to the morning minyan. Come early, Come often, and **Help Make Our Minyan Strong!**

Early Shabbat Mincha Following this week's special Shabbat kiddush celebrating Randy Dimand's Bar Mitzvah, we will gather in the main sanctuary for a pre-mincha shiur given by Rabbi Moldovan. Mincha services, will follow the Rabbi's Shiur. Shabbat will end at 5:06 pm. Please return approximately 20 minutes later for ma'ariv services at 5:25 pm. 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.

Time Change for Shacharit Please note Shacharit on Friday, 12/11, will be at 6:30am, NOT 6:45am, for Chanukah. This Sunday, 12/13, Shacharit will begin at 9:00am instead of 8:30, for Randy's Bar Mitzvah.

Torah Message from Rabbi Yirmiyah Moldovan

Purim is marked in the Jewish calendar as a day of feasting and drinking with a festive Yom Tov-like meal prescribed, whilst Chanukah, on the other hand, has no specific mitzvah to eat or drink. Why do we have different modes of celebration for two similar festivals both marking a miraculous salvation from our enemies? The Taz explain that on Purim our lives were on the line at the hands of the wicked Haman and our physical salvation gives rise to a physical celebration to appreciate the salvation of Hashem. The Greeks of the Chanukah story were not focused on annihilating the Jewish people but the subjugation and destruction of Torah study and Judaism. Our surrender to the political and cultural incursion of the Greek empire would have led to the cessation of Greek hostilities, an option that was not available during the time of Haman. To celebrate our "spiritual" freedom we rejoice by lighting the Menorah, singing Hallel to Hashem every day, and committing ourselves to serving Hashem and learning Torah with all of our strength. We should merit to have a Chanukah of spiritual growth for ourselves, our families, and all of the Jewish people. Good Shabbos and a freilichen Chanukah.

Mazel Tov to the Dimand and Dickens families on the forthcoming Bar Mitzvah of Randy Dimand. In celebration of this simcha, Jay Dimand is sponsoring a special kiddush this Shabbat. Please join the congregation in celebration of Randy's Bar Mitzvah.

Chanukah Sameach On Sunday night, the first night of Chanukah, after ma'ariv, a crowd gathered on the front lawn to light the big electric menorah, and to sing the Blessings with Hanerot Halahlu and Maoz Tzur. Zimmer Hall was gaily decorated for Chanukah. Many different games were set up for play with dreidel leading the way. Randy Dimand and Michelle Loeser were the big dreidel game winners, but kindly left their winnings on the table. Amiel Goldberg had an intense game of chess with Rabbi Moldovan. Delicious refreshments were enjoyed by all and the jelly danishes were quickly gone. The evening was a fun way to begin the Chanukah

holiday and we wish Chanukah Sameach to everyone. Thank you to Bernard Goldberg for erecting the front lawn Menorah.

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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Refuah Shelemah to Zolly Guttman and Benny Kovensky (Leah's Brother) who are currently in St. Vincent's Hospital. We wish them both a speedy and complete recovery.

Greater Fairfield Community Welcomes Rabbi Moldovan Don't forget to reserve next Sunday morning, December 20, 10:00 am, when the entire community is invited to join with us in formally welcoming the Rabbi and his family to our Congregation and Fairfield. Please join Rabbi Yirmiyah Moldovan and his wife, Hadassah and three children, Yocheved, Tzvi and Mordecai in Zimmer Hall for an opportunity to personally welcome

them. We have invited the rabbis of all the local synagogues and leaders of the Federation, JFS, Jewish Senior Services, etc. to join us. Coffee and cake will be available.

Safe Journey to Shalom Mizrahi who is leaving Motzai Shabbat for Israel where he will attend son Daniel's induction to the Israel Defense Forces. Daniel is following in the footsteps of older sister, Eliana, who completed serving in the IDF with distinction recently. As we find pride in the young adult members of our shul, we fervently pray for Daniel's safety, and for all members of the IDF. May Hashem guard and bless them and all Israel.

Additional Kiddush Volunteers Wanted Thank you to our volunteers, Susan Klein and Bernard Goldberg, who have graciously offered to prepare Shabbat kiddush. It would be very helpful for two or three more people to offer to help. So please call me before I leave on Sunday for the winter and let's make sure we have a kiddush every Shabbat.

Elaine Schiller

Tehillim Group - Monday, Dec. 14 The regular monthly meeting of the Gina Gelb Tehillim Group will be on Monday night, December 14 at 8:00 pm at the home of Miriam and Charles Parker, 134 WynnWood Rd. Fairfield. Please call or email Miriam to let her know you will be attending.

Father & Son Learning Program continues at Cong Bikur Cholim, Motzai Shabbat, Parshat Miketz, December 12, at 6:30pm.

Community Event in NYC Ambassador Dennis Ross To Speak on U.S.-Israel Relations on Tuesday, Dec.15, 7:00 p.m. Join Senior Rabbi Ammiel Hirsch and the Stephen Wise Free Synagogue Israel Committee for an evening with Ambassador Dennis Ross, who will discuss his latest book, [Doomed to Succeed The U.S.-Israel Relationship from Truman to Obama](#). The talk will feature a Q&A and book signing. Registration is required. To RSVP and ticket information: <http://swfs.ticketleap.com/ambassador-dennis-ross-speaks-at-swfs/> or Response@swfs.org, or call (212) 877-4050 x 280

Refuah Shelemah to: *Kenneth Epstein, Rabbi Moshe Epstein, David Gordon, Roberta Greenbaum, Zolton Guttman, Yitzy Hain, Benny Kovensky, Deborah Lozanov, Joe Macy, Fred Schwartz, Bryan Seedman, Diane Shinbaum,*. May G-d grant each a speedy and complete recovery.

Yahrtzeits for the week:

Sunday, December 13 – Bill Wolper (Uncle)	Tuesday, December 15 – Joe Macy (Wife)
Monday, December 14 – Bernard Goldberg (Joyce Grandfather)	Thursday, December 17 – Bill Wolper (Grandmother)
Monday, December 14 – Terry Augenbraun (Aunt)	Friday, December 18 – Joel Rothwax (Mother)

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.

Please remember that Golden Book greeting cards are a great way to honor someone or remember a loved one.