

CONGREGATION AHAVATH ACHIM WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



Rosh Chodesh Shevat

Pashat Va'era

January 27–February 3, 2017 / 29 Tevet-7 Shevat 5777

Schedule of Services:

Friday, January 27, 2017

Shacharit	6:45 AM
Mincha/Ma'ariv	4:45 PM
Candle Lighting	4:45 PM

Shabbat, January 28, 2017

Rosh Chodesh Shevat

Shabbat Shacharit	9:15 AM
Latest Shema Time	9:37 AM
Mincha	12:30 PM
Shabbat Ends	5:47 PM
Ma'ariv	6:02 PM

Sun-Thur, Jan 29-Feb 2, 2017

Mincha 2:10pm at Kollel

	Shacharit	Ma'ariv	
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
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

Friday, February 3, 2017

Shacharit	6:45 AM
Mincha/Ma'ariv	4:50 PM
Candle Lighting	4:54 PM

Page Numbers:

Torah Reading

Shemos	6:2-9:35	318-339
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Maftir – Shabbat Rosh Chodesh

Bamidbar	28:9-15	890-893
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Haftorah – Shabbat Rosh Chodesh

Isaiah	66:1-24	1208-1210
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It's Been Lonely

This past week it's been lonely at the daily minyanim. Please make an effort to attend at least one minyan, hopefully more, to help alleviate the loneliness. Show up. Sign up (there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board). Come early, come often, and **Help Keep Our Minyan Strong!**

No Pre-Mincha Shabbat Shiur

Rabbi Moldovan will not be giving his usual Shabbat shiur before Mincha this Shabbat. Mincha is (at **12:30 pm**). We will return about 15 minutes after Shabbat ends (at **5:47 pm**) for Ma'ariv (at **6:02 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.

Torah Message from Rabbi Moldovan

Pharaoh's resistance to releasing the Jewish people leads to the famous 10 plagues. The first plague of blood was to be instituted by striking the Nile with the mystical staff of Moshe. Interestingly, Hashem tells Moshe to pass his staff to Aharon so that Aharon can hit the Nile in order to begin the plague. Rashi explains that Moshe was to show appreciation to the Nile that saved him as a baby when his mother sent him into the water from which he was saved. Hitting the Nile would show a lack of appreciation to the body of water that had helped him. The commentaries ask, granted showing appreciation is very important, but the water of a river is unfazed whether it garners appreciation or not. What was significant about Moshe not hitting the water? The commentaries explain that appreciation is not for the sake of the one who receives the appreciation. Rather, saying thank you is a positive trait in and of itself, regardless of who the thank you goes to. Moshe was instructed not to harm a lifeless body of water due to the good that he had received from the Nile. Appreciation was one of the great traits that led to Moshe Rabbeinu becoming the leader of the Jewish people.

Eruv Maintenance Information

This note is to remind everyone that as we begin the new fiscal year, the 2017 Membership statements have been mailed. The annual \$25 Eruv Assessment included with the dues statement goes directly towards maintenance of our Fairfield community Eruv, which is an important benefit for the entire Jewish community. Whatever your level of membership, please remember to include this

very minimal amount of \$25 when paying your dues. If you still haven't paid for 2016, please do include it with this year's payment. This past year there were a number of maintenance issues that needed to be addressed that necessitated considerable costs. Even if you personally don't rely on the Eruv, many in the community do. With each family contributing just this small amount (\$25) to the Eruv Fund, our community Eruv has been maintained at minimal expense to each of us with great benefit to everyone. Thank you in advance for your attention and consideration. Ritual Committee, Congregation Ahavath Achim

Tu B'shevat Shabbos Seudah

Ahavath Achim will be hosting an exciting Tu B'Shevat Shabbos lunch on Saturday, February 11th. Come join us for an enjoyable seudah to celebrate the birthday of the trees. Please call Arnell in the office to RSVP. \$20 per person, maximum \$40 per family. Payment is required prior to the lunch.

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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Website	www.ahavathachim.org	
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Personal Contact Info		
Rabbi Yirmiyah Moldovan	203-906-6296	
Barbara K. Tuckel, PHD	203-581-2405	
Find us on: Facebook, Twitter, & LinkedIn		

Important Message - Cong. Beth El Member Needs a Kidney Transplant

In FJP Executive Director David Weisberg's message to the community this past week, he shares a message which we are also sharing with you here. A Beth El congregant is suffering from end-stage renal disease and is in need of a kidney transplant. While she is on a waiting list, the wait can often exceed six years. For more information, please contact David Weisberg at dweisberg@jewishphilanthropyct.org and he will facilitate a connection. "While sometimes the lives we can save are across the world, indeed sometimes they are next door."

Bi-Cultural Day School Brings "Pop-Up BBQ" to Stamford on Sunday, Jan. 29

The Wandering Que will bring Kosher Texas BBQ to BCDS on Sunday, January 29 from Noon to 8:00 PM. Purchase fresh cooked BBQ to eat there or take home.

There will also be live music and an open mic for local clergy to share Torah thoughts during the day. *No RSVP, no entrance fee, not a fundraiser.* For more information about The Wandering Que, see the flyers in the Beit Midrash and front hallway.

Super bowl Catering by Six Thirteen Restaurant

Kosher catering for parties of all sizes – All packages come with wings, heroes & more. Visit the website or contact 613 at 203-614-8777. Orders at catering@613restaurant.com

International Holocaust Remembrance Day – January 27

The UN designated January 27 as International Holocaust Remembrance Day. This was the day, in 1945, when the Soviet army liberated Auschwitz, the infamous Nazi German death camp. In the Jewish tradition, we are commanded to remember (*zachor*) and not to forget (*lo tishkach*).

Let us remember not only the tragic deaths of the six million Jews, including 1.5 million children, but also their vibrant lives, manically cut short, and the great loss to the Jewish nation and to humanity.

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

Yahrtzeits for the week:

Tuesday, January 31 – **Arlene Dolores** (Mother to Michael London)

Tuesday, January 31 – **Julius Selinger** (Father to Arlene Dentz)

Wednesday, February 1 – **Miriam Goldberg** (Mother to Bernard Goldberg)

Wednesday, February 1 – **William Wolper** (Grandfather to Billy Wolper)

Thursday, February 2- **Aaron Milrod** (Father to Debbie Allen)

Friday, February 3 – **Sonya Risch** (Mother to Harvey Risch))

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.
