

CONGREGATION AHAVATH ACHIM WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



Tanis Esther / Purim

Parshat Vayikra / Zachor

March 18-25, 2016 / 8-25 Adar II - 5776

Schedule of Services:		
Friday, March 18, 2016		
Shacharit		6:45 AM
Mincha/Ma'ariv		6:45 PM
Candle Lighting		6:45 PM
Shabbat, March 19, 2016		
Shabbat Shacharit		9:00 AM
Latest Shema Time		9:59 AM
Rabbi's Class		5:50 PM
Mincha		6:35 PM
Shabbat Ends		7:47 PM
Sun-Thur, Mar 20-24, 2016		
	Shacharit	*- Mincha + 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
Tanis Esther / Megillah Reading		
Wed	6:30 AM	7:10 PM + A
Purim / Megillah Reading		
Thur	6:15 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 Kollel		
Friday, March 25, 2016 Shushan Purim		
Shacharit		6:45 AM
Mincha/Ma'ariv		6:50 PM
Candle Lighting		6:53 PM
Page Numbers:		
Torah Reading		
Vayikra 1:15-26		544-467
Maftir		
Devarim: 15:17-19		1066-1067
Haftorah		
I Samuel 15:1-34		1214-1216

Welcome to Daylight Savings Time: With the change of clocks this past Sunday, we resume our normal Shabbat schedule. Following services and Kiddish Shabbat morning, we go home for lunch and a Menucha Shabbat, returning for Mincha, Seudah Shi'lishit, and Ma'ariv. Our weekday schedule remains the same. This week we also observe Tanis Esther and celebrate Purim. Join the minyan. Commit to at least 1 day a week. Please be on time. Come and **Help Make Our Minyan Strong!**

Pre - Mincha Shiur Topic: "Purim or St Patricks - how much should one drink on Purim?" at 5:50pm followed by Mincha, at 6:35 pm.

Message from Rabbi Moldovan

Parshas Zachor - On the Shabbat proceeding Purim we read a special Maftir outlining the obligation to destroy Amalek. It is a Torah obligation to hear this reading and many people greatly endeavor to attend shul on Parshas Zachor to hear this reading. It is customary in most communities for women to attend this reading on Shabbos. **This Maftir will be read at approximately 10:15am on Shabbos morning.**

2nd Megillah Reading on Purim day - The Rabbi will be reading the Megillah at 9:30 am on Thursday in the main sanctuary of the shul. Anybody who could not make the earlier reading during Shacharis is invited to attend. The Mitzvah to hear the Megillah applies to both men and women. One should hear the Megillah once during the night of Purim and again during the day of Purim.

Rabbi Moldovan's Torah Message for Purim

Who knows what the name of the upcoming festival, Purim, means? It is actually a Persian word for "lottery", referring to the vile and sadistic lottery that the wicked Haman conducted to assign a date to eradicate the Jews. The commentaries enquire as to the significance of this lottery. It just doesn't appear to be such an important event to warrant the naming of the entire festival! The Megillah is a story of coincidence after coincidence - the element of chance is apparent throughout. Achashverosh has his wife executed leading to the installment of a Jewess as queen, Mordechai overhears conspirators planning to harm the king, Haman enters the king's bedroom as he is planning on rewarding Mordechai for saving his life, Haman assembles gallows that are eventually used to be hung on - a series of coincidences look to be the salvation of the Jews. Purim teaches us the lesson that behind all apparent coincidences is the hand of Hashem guiding the events of life. The lottery that Haman cast to destroy the Jews fell out ominously on the seventh of Adar which was the day of Moshe's death. Little did Haman know that Hashem was guiding this "lottery" and it was equally auspicious as the day of Moshe's birth. The lottery of Purim is really the play that Hashem runs behind the scenes.

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.

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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Purim Schedule

Wednesday, March 23 -Tanis Esther fast begins: 5:28am

Shacharit: 6:30 am

Mincha/Ma'ariv: 6:45 pm

Megillah: 7:30 pm

Fast Ends: 7:51 pm - Please call the office if you plan to attend the Break-Fast.

Thursday, March 24 – Purim

Shacharit: 6:15 am

1st Megillah Reading: 6:45 am (approximate)

2nd Megillah Reading: 9:30 am

Community Mincha/Ma'ariv @ Ahavath Achim: 6:45 pm

Mishloach Manot Delivery – VOLUNTEERS REQUESTED

Renee Mizrahi has been preparing the Mishloach Monot baskets. She needs additional help to complete the project and deliver baskets on Purim. Please call Renee to volunteer your help and make this another successful and happy Purim for all.

Havdallah Concert Sat. Night, March 19, 8:30 pm The *Traveling Chassidim* will again entertain with spirited dance & music at The Bridgeport Community Kollel, 85 Arlington St. Bridgeport. Sponsored by the Kollel, all the community shuls, and the Federation. A light dairy dinner will be served. For more information, call Rabbi Yitzchok Elchonen 248-259-6399. Don't miss this special, **FREE** event to begin your Purim celebrations.

Pre- Pesach Preparation Class- Sunday, March 27, 9:15 am following Shacharit

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. For men and woman. Coffee and cake will be served.

Inaugural Diane Feigenson Memorial Lecture in Jewish Literature:

Dr. Dovid Katz, one of the world's leading authorities on the Yiddish language and on Eastern European Jewish history and culture, will be coming to our area as part of his 2016 North American Lecture Tour. **On Wednesday, March 30 he will be delivering the Inaugural Diane Feigenson Memorial Lecture in Jewish Literature at Fairfield University and on Sunday, April 3, the Louis and Edith Scheinberg Memorial Lecture at Congregation AgudathSholom in Stamford.** Dovid Katz was Judy Lerner's fellow classmate at the Yeshivah of Flatbush High School and she describes him as brilliant, principled, and very engaging. These are lectures you will not want to miss. Both lectures are free and open to the public. Please see details below:

Wed., March 30, 7:30PM Fairfield University-

"Exotic Exploits and Contentious Chapters in Modern Yiddish Literature"

<https://www.fairfield.edu/academics/schoolscollegescenters/academiccenters/carlanddorothybennettcenterforjudaicstudies/lectures/>

Sunday, April 3, 8PM Congregation AgudathSholom, Stamford, CT

"The Old Hebrew-Yiddish Conflict and Its Ongoing Legacies"

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/15gAINWL6_b-YkGCOfoPwu9FRYoRqhdEjJdvwWj-bcY0/pub?start=false&loop=false&delayms=3000&slide=id.i0

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

Yahrtzeits for the week:

Saturday, March 19 – **Bill Wolper** (Father)

Saturday, March 19 – **Bernie Dickens** (Mother)

Tuesday, March 22 – **Roberta Greenbaum** (Father)

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.