

Welcome to Congregation Ner Tamid!

Be a part of our Family!

Call 415-661-3383 for Membership Information
or to be put on our Mailing List.

✧ PERSONAL EVENTS IN OUR SYNAGOGUE FAMILY ✧

Yom Huledet Same'akh! ~ Happy Birthday Wishes to:

Shoshana Kalinski (5/15); Dean Davis (5/16)

Jerry Hyman (5/18); Irena Libedinsky (5/22)

Adele Shafer (5/24); Madelaine Eaton (5/24)

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Happy Anniversary Wishes to:

Pearl & Oscar Baltor (05/19); Eva & Leon Rajninger (5/28)

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REFUAH SHELEMA ~ We wish a recovery to:

Pablo Libedinsky; Regina Blum; Esther bat Gittel; Warren Hirsch; Tom Lagerquist

Tuviya Pesach ben Sarah; Yaffe bat Margit; Lila Kluger

Malka Mina bat Miriam; Adele Davis

Please inform us of any illness or life cycle event of which you are aware.

Rabbi Shana would like to know so that she can call or visit.

📖 **MAY THEIR MEMORY BE A BLESSING** 📖

Yahrzeits This Week

Bertha Kotick; Mendel Anmuth; Hugo Heymann Julius

David Leichter; Dorothy Abers; Betty Svirsky; Marilyn Krassner

Cecilia "Cesia" Einhorn; Marton Lorincz; Hermina Lorincz

Ibolya Lorincz; Paul Lorincz; Charles Lorincz

Ida Blumenthal; Samuel Fish; Max Silverman

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To dedicate a plaque in memory of a loved one, please call the office.



We are heartbroken to announce the passing of
Henry Slamovich's beloved granddaughter, **Mimi**.
May her memory be a blessing.



Start Shavu'ot off at Ner Tamid!

Tikkun Leyl Shavu'ot

Saturday evening, May 19 at 7:30 PM

Please bring a friend ~ and a dessert to share!

All are welcome!

Why do we have a night-time study on Shavuot? And why is it called a Tikkun/correction? The Rabbis teach that when Moses came to give the People the Torah on behalf of G*d, they had overslept! G*d was not angry with them, on the contrary, we learn that G*d made their slumber extra deep, so they would be fully refreshed to receive the Word of G*d. Even so, the practice developed to do a "correction" by staying up late, even all night, on Shavuot. That way, as we collectively accept the Torah again, we'll not be caught napping!

... EVENTS THIS MONTH ...

Sunday, May 20, 10 AM: Shavuot Festival Services at B'nai Emunah.

Monday, May 21, 9:30 AM: Shavuot Festival Services with Yizkor

Tuesday, May 22: Correction: There is NO Board of Directors' Meeting

Thursday, May 24, 9:30 AM: Torah Study Breakfast. Abby & Mel Margolis host.

Thursday, May 24, 5:30 PM: Read Hebrew II

Friday, May 25, 6 PM: Discover Shabbat Services & Dinner, sponsored by *Hartley Appleton* and *Phil Kernfeld* with guest speaker, *Irish Consul General Robert O'Driscoll* and an after-dinner program of Irish and Celtic music. Reservations closed.

Monday, May 28: Office Closed in observance of Memorial Day

Thursday, May 31, 9:30 AM: Torah Study Breakfast hosted by *Jackie Nounou*. Rabbi Emeritus Moshe Levin will be teaching.

Thursday, May 31: NO Read Hebrew II Class. Enjoy the week off!

Thursday, June 7, 9:30 AM: Torah Study Breakfast. Sue Scheiter hosts.

Thursday, June 7, 5:30 PM: Read Hebrew II

Thursday, June 7, 6:30 PM: C3's Jewish Film Night showing of "*Unstrung Heroes*". Dessert \$6/person with RSVPs by noon on Tuesday, June 5; \$9/person at the door.

Remember to count the Omer tonight, Day 49.

Parashah Summary -

Book of Numbers Overview and Parshat Bamidbar

Inspired by the Gunther Plaut Torah Commentary

Torah Reading: p. 774

Maftir: p. 785

Haftarah: p. 786

The Book of Numbers/Bamidbar begins where Exodus leaves off (Leviticus consisted almost entirely of legislation separate from historical accounts, except chapter 16). Exodus ended with the establishment of the Tabernacle on the first day of the first month. Numbers starts with a census taken a month later, just about a year after the exodus from Egypt. Bamidbar means "in the wilderness" and it is there that this book takes place. Only the beginning and the end of the "40 years of wandering" are recorded – the middle 38 years receive no attention at all.

Numbers comprises four sections. The first is a variety of regulations set forth at Sinai – from the holding of a census to the ordeal of the "bitter waters," from prescriptions for offerings to the use of silver trumpets. Most laws are "case law," meaning that the situation is first described that necessitates or explains the law. The second section recounts the early days of the journey and the many rebellions, especially the uprising of Korach, Dathan and Abiram. The old guard begins to pass – first Miriam, then Aaron dies, and Moses' fate is sealed. Eleazar and Joshua are named to lead the people into Canaan as priestly and secular leaders, for the torch must be inevitably passed. The third section is the "Book of Balaam," which some scholars suggest was once a separate book by that name. The final section precedes the invasion of Canaan: the elevation of Phineas the Priest, the holding of a new census, and the first land distributions. The boundaries of the Promised Land are set, and the people receive final instructions before the crossing of the Jordan River.

Parshat Bamidbar begins with a massive mustering of the nation's troops. The reckoning of the fighting forces according to their father's houses must have been an impressive sight. Each tribe is assigned a position surrounding the Ark of the Covenant which, in this telling, is at the center of the camp. After another painful reminder of Aaron's sons who died after offering "alien fire," some Levitical duties are enumerated. The numbers in this portion may be exaggerated or difficult for us to translate (and thus understand) properly, but the military precision and detail that is described suggests the scope and potential power of this "Tzivot haShem," a mighty "Army of G*d," prepared to do battle for the Creator.

עֲבַדְתֶּם אֱלֹהִים!



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Rabbi Emeritus William Z. Dalin^z1

Rabbi Emeritus Moshe Levin

Bamidbar: Week of 5 Sivan 5778 – May 18 - May 24, 2018



Originally designated as the Holiday of the First Fruit, or Chag HaBikurim, the holiday of Shavuot evolved to be known as the Time of the Giving of the Torah, in Hebrew "Z'man Matan Torateinu." Literally meaning "weeks," it is also sometimes called Pentecost, as it is the 50th day following Passover, the celebration of freedom. It is a lush and bountiful holiday, often accompanied by fresh flowers and juicy fruits, the flowing milk of the cheesecakes and blintzes that are part of its customary foods, and celebrations of Confirmation and Adult B'nai Mitzvah around the Jewish world. Torah is often likened to nourishing and sustaining wheat, and so we rejoice in both the receiving of the Torah and the gathering in of the actual and symbolic Wheat Harvest.

Chag Sameach!

With thanks to Rochelle Blumenfeld and Barnert Temple for their beautiful artwork.