



Sharei Chessed Congregation

שערי חסד

Welcome to our synagogue! ברוכים הבאים

Avraham Ettedgui, Rabbi | Bernie Miller, President

Dr. David Feldshon, Vice President

Religious School Faculty:

Uri Koppel, Sheryl Sue Warren, Carmella Chazin, Mark Bloom

Lee Reinharz, Office Manager

Mishpatim—משפטים

February 25, 2017– 29 Shevat 5777

Shabbat Shekalim—פרשת שקלים

Last week we read about the Revelation at Sinai and the Giving of the Ten Commandments at Mount Sinai. In Mishpatim another 53 laws are given, dealing with all kinds of situations, things we should do and things we cannot do. Such as, instructions on how to treat a servant; slavery is over and from now on only a person's services can be purchased and only for a certain length of time; kidnapping is punishable by death; punishment for theft and swearing in vain; and one's responsibility for bad behavior by his/her animals.

Mitzvot that urge us to be extra nice to strangers, widows, and orphans. These defenseless people especially deserve our kindness. Prohibition against charging interest when lending money to someone.

This Parasha also includes laws of Shemitah, the Sabbatical year, and the Mitzvot related to the three pilgrimage festivals: Pesah, Shavuot and Sukkot. That's just some of the laws in this Parasha.

The Shabbat that is before Adar (Adar II in leap years) is also known as Shabbat Shekalim. We read the passage from the Torah that commands each individual to contribute a half shekel in order to be counted. (cont.)

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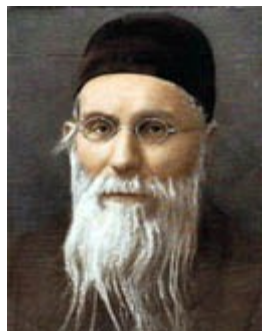
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Parashat Mishpatim (cont.)

During the Temple days, this money was used to purchase the daily offerings that were offered on behalf of the entire congregation.

There are several Mitzvot we are commanded to fulfill on Purim. One of them is Matanot Laveyonim—gifts to the poor. The commandment of the half shekel is a reminder that everyone should help.

This Day in Jewish History—29 Shevat



Yahrtzeit of Rabbi Noson Tzvi Finkel (1849-1927), better known as the Alter of Slobodka (a town in Lithuania). He was a master at bringing out the potential of every individual, encouraging students to refine their character and become great in both scholarship and ethics. Many of his disciples, who studied at his famed Slobodka Yeshiva, became major leaders of 20th century Judaism -- Rabbis Yitzhak Hutner, Yaakov Kamenetzky, Aaron Kotler, Yaakov Yitzchok Ruderman, Yechezkel Sarna, and Elazar M. Shach. His own son, Eliezer Yehudah Finkel eventually became dean of the famed Mir Yeshiva, today located in Jerusalem and the largest yeshiva in the world with 5,000 students.

On this date in 2003, the Space Shuttle Columbia broke up during re-entry, killing all seven crew members aboard, including Israel's first astronaut, Ilan Ramon. During his 16 days in space, Ramon defied gravity by lifting his country from the morass of terror, by making Jews feel connected and proud. Ramon's space luggage included a small Torah scroll that had survived Bergen-Belsen. He also brought along a mezuzah adorned with barbed wire -- symbolizing the Nazi concentration camps -- in tribute to his mother who survived Auschwitz and his grandfather who was murdered there. On board the Shuttle, Ramon ate kosher food and welcomed Shabbat with the first intergalactic Kiddush. And as he passed over Jerusalem, he recited "Shema Yisrael," the age-old declaration of Jewish faith.



(courtesy of Aish.com—'Day in Jewish History')

Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to:

- Bruce Cohen
- Raisa Gringauz
- Polina Lipnik
- Sara Reininger
- Nadine Royter
- Aileen Snyder

Happy Anniversary to:

- Raisa and Lazar Gringauz

Today's Kiddush Luncheon

We hope you will stay for our regular Kiddush luncheon immediately following services today. Today's luncheon is sponsored by:

- Shelly and Steve Zien in honor of Shelly's Bat Mitzvah.
- Jane and Dmitry Gringauz in honor of Dmitry's mother Raisa's birthday.
- Raisa and Lazar Gringauz in honor of the Simhat Bat (baby naming) of their great-granddaughter Hanna Liv Leydiker.

Mazal Tov!!

Twin Cities Masorti National Gala—Sunday April 2nd

Save the date - Sunday evening April 2nd at 5:30 P.M. - for the Twin Cities Masorti National Gala, to be held at Adath Jeshurun Congregation. The gala will honor Rabbi Harold Kravitz, Rabbi Michael Graetz, Louis Newman, and Rabbi Amy Eilberg. Dinner will be served, followed by the program.

'Masorti' represents the Conservative movement in Israel, and promotes egalitarianism, pluralism and freedom. Sharei Chesed is proud to be a part of the Masorti movement.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED BY WEDNESDAY MARCH 15TH.

For more information, go to:

<http://www.shareichesed.org/happenings.html>

or contact Debra Krawetz at
dkrawetz@mac.com



Masorti Foundation

Yahrzeits for week of February 25 - March 3, 2017

29 Shevat - 5 Adar 5777

Please help with the daily Minyan

Yahrzeit of

Remembered by

Saturday, February 25th (29 Shevat)

Benny Held	Baruch ben Moshe
Bessie Rutman	Peshie bat Usher
Ella Schwartz	Elka bat Berle Zalman

Sunday, February 26th (30 Shevat)

Michael Geller

Cary Geller, Esther Geller,
Heidi and Dan Geller, Mark Geller
Dena Hegg, Devora Rothman
Stephen Guffan

Zelda Noodleman

Monday, February 27th (1 Adar)

Sally Braun	Sarah bat Shraga Feivish	Vladimir Davidov
Anna Davydova	Anna bat Yakov v'Rasalia	Mariya Feldman
Shleyme Feldman	Shleyme ben Shmuel	
Archie Gubman		
Jill Horowitz		Michael Horowitz
Rose Meyerson	Rose bat Chaim	
David Shifrin		Alex Shifrin

Tuesday, February 28th (2 Adar)

Rachel Burshteyn	Rachel bat Mark	Vera Burshteyn
Emanuel Polikoff	Eliyahu Mendel ben Yakov haLev	Steven Tillinger
Leo Portnoy	Leib ben Valvl Zalman	Matrey and Boris Portnoy
Charles Skolnik		Bill Skolnik and Lisa Skolnik

Wednesday, March 1st (3 Adar)

Minnie Juster Rubenstein

Jack Rubenstein

Thursday, March 2nd (4 Adar)

Jack Beugen	Yakov ben Ahron	Corrine Toretzky
Frank Cohan	Ephraim ben Yehuda Lev	
Barney Gutnik		Steve Zien
Sarah Marcus	Sarah bat Berel	Bonnie Farb
Moshe Wasserman		Mark Wasserman

Friday, March 3rd (5 Adar)

Efim Akerman	Ephraim ben Shimon	Asya Akerman
Khaya Aybinder	Khaya bat Yosef	Maya Peskin
George Lutz		Mary Lutz
Esther Oleisky	Esther bat Leib	Anna Silverman, Liz Pomish and Jenny Lessner
Stanley Sektor		Vicky Sektor and Harold Scherling

May their memories always be for a blessing.