



Sharei Chessed Congregation

שערי חסד

Welcome to our synagogue! ברוכים הבאים

Avraham Etedgui, 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

Vaera - וארא

Rosh Hodesh Shevat—ראש חודש שבט

January 28, 2017 – I Shevat 5777

Last week's portion ended with Moses complaining to God, "Why did you send me? Ever since I came to Pharaoh to speak in Your name, he has dealt worse with this people, and you have not delivered Your people." (Exodus 5:22-23)

This week's Parasha begins with God telling Moses that the time has come to fulfill the promises made to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; namely, the end to slavery. That the children of Israel will be **taken out** of Egypt. God will **deliver them**. He will **redeem them** and **make them** His people.

Moses and Aaron are given instructions to warn Pharaoh that terrible plagues will be brought upon the Egyptians if he does not let the people go. Seven of the Ten Plagues are described in this Parasha. Sometimes, Pharaoh promises that he will let them go, but then he changes his mind. The plagues we will read about in this Parasha are: blood, frogs, lice, wild animals, pestilence, boils, and hail.

Pharaoh's heart begins to soften as the plagues take their toll.

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Sharei Chessed Congregation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Did You Know That ...

There is a custom that women do not work on Rosh Hodesh. It goes all the way back to the time of the sin of the Golden Calf. A midrash teaches that each of the Rosh Chodeshim was originally intended to represent one of the twelve tribes of Israel, just as the three major festivals (Pesah, Shavuot and Sukkot) each represent one of the three patriarchs. However, because of the sin of the Golden Calf, the holiday was taken away from the men and given to women, as a reward for the women's refusal to participate in its construction.

(courtesy of 'jewfaq.org')

"Kabbalah is About Relationships" - Winter 2017

Kabbalah is a timeless spiritual wisdom that explains the origin of the universe and our place within it. The Tree of Life is a map of ten divine emanations that flow throughout creation. Join Joy Gordon to discover practical ways to navigate these energies. Develop an inner energy compass to bring greater awareness and balance to yourself and your relationships.

**6 Sunday afternoons: Feb. 12, 19 and 26 and
March 5, 19 and 26, 2017
Time: 4:00 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.
Location: Sharei Chesed
Course fee: \$90**

**Contact Joy at 'joy@joyofkabbalah.com' or
call her at 763-559-7029 for more
information.**



This Day in Jewish History—I Shevat



On this date, as the Jewish people were completing 40 years of wandering in the desert, Moses gathered the entire the nation and began his farewell address. Moses' speech would continue for 40 days until his death, as described in the Book of Deuteronomy. Moses reviewed the commandments of the Torah, gave a historical reflection, prophesized about future events, and offered poetic blessings. Also during this time, Moses wrote 13 Torah scrolls -- one for each tribe, plus one to place in the Ark of the Covenant.

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

Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to:

- Bruce Cohen
- Gregory Gittsovich
- Helen Sandler
- Valda Kaye
- Leo Zabezhinsky

Happy Anniversary to:

- Marina and Mark Guterman

Today's Kiddush Luncheon

We hope you will join us for our weekly Kiddush luncheon immediately following services. Today's luncheon is sponsored by Judith and Jerome Ingber in observance of Jerry's father's Yahrzeit. May his memory always be for a blessing.

JDAIM: Shining the Light on Abilities

Join Jewish Family and Children's Service at the Sabes JCC Monday evening February 6th at 7:00 P.M. to celebrate Jewish Disability Awareness & Inclusion Month and enjoy an evening of storytelling, laughter and improv with comedian and inclusion advocate Pam Schuller. Named one of the "36 under 36" who are changing the face of the Jewish community by The Jewish Week (May 2016), Schuller's performance guarantees to inspire communities to a new understanding of inclusion.

The event is free and open to all. Hot chocolate reception to follow.

This event is a collaboration of JFCS and the Sabes JCC.

For more information and to register, go to ['jfcsmpls.org'](http://jfcsmpls.org) and click on the banner at the top of the page.



Yahrzeits for week of January 28 - February 3, 2017

I Shevat - 7 Shevat 5777

Please help with the daily Minyan

Yahrzeit of

Remembered by

Saturday, January 28th (1 Shevat)

Leah Katz Leah bat Tzve Benjamin

Sunday, January 29th (2 Shevat)

Jack Fiterman	Yehiel Mordechai ben Chaim Yehuda	Julie Miller
Sima Freydina	Sima bat Israel	Vitaly Shtulman
Sam Geller	Shmuel ben Yehuda Leib haLevi	Esther, Mark & Cary Geller
Ike Katzovitz	Yehuda Eidel ben Moshe HaCohen	Marcia Pinkus

Monday, January 30th (3 Shevat)

BenTzion Feygin	BenTzion ben Yosef	Marat Feygin
David Gerber	David ben Mordechai v'Rachel	Maya Malamudman & Boris Gerber
Reuven Khaykinson	Ruven ben Nathan	Larisa Palant

Tuesday, January 31st (4 Shevat)

Yosef Guffan	Yehuda ben Avraham	Stephen Guffan
Boris Nirenberg		Alexandra Teplitsky

Wednesday, February 1st (5 Shevat)

Irving Kowitz		Cantor Mitchell Kowitz
Lillian Pincheff	Leah bat Avraham	Roz Strimling & Marvin Wilensky
Jack Radin	Zelig ben Ari Leib	Red Goldberg
Inda Shapiro	Hinda bat Srul	Liya & Emma Shapiro
Mehel Shapiro	Mehel ben Srul	Liya & Emma Shapiro
Bella Zadova		Lev Zadov

Thursday, February 2nd (6 Shevat)

Robert Gordon	Reuven ben Eliyahu
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Friday, February 3rd (7 Shevat)

Aron Fridland	Aron ben Isak v'Sarah	Solomon Fridland
Hyman Shwartz		Barry Schwartz
Judy Steffenson	Yehudit bat Moshe v'Ruth	Lee Reinharz

May their memories always be for a blessing.