



# Sharei Chesed 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

## וירא - Vayera

**November 19, 2016 – 18 Heshvan 5777**

After his circumcision, Abraham is visited by 3 angels, whom he invites into his tent to rest and eat. One of the angels announces that, at this same time next year, Sarah will give birth to a son. Sarah laughs privately upon hearing this, whereupon the angel asks her why she laughs. Sarah denies this out of fear, but the angel says, "Nay; but thou didst laugh," which is why the child will be named Isaac.

God then tells Abraham that he is going to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah because of their wickedness. Abraham argues that the innocent should not be punished along with the guilty. Abraham bargains with God and it is finally decided that, even if only 10 righteous people are found in the city, God will not destroy it.

Two of the 3 angels arrive at Sodom (the 3rd having discharged His duty to announce the birth of Isaac) and Lot invites them into his home. The men of the city insist on taking them. Lot refuses, and the men are smitten with blindness. The angels announce God's plan to destroy the city and tell Lot and his family to leave. Lot is hesitant, but the angels insist and take him, his wife and daughters out. Lot escapes to (cont.)

**1712 Hopkins Crossroad, Minnetonka, MN 55305**

**763-545-8800 | [www.ShareiChesed.org](http://www.ShareiChesed.org)**

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

## Parashat Vayera (cont.)

the city of Zoar. God destroys Sodom and Gomorrah by raining down fire and brimstone. Although they were warned not to look back toward the city, Lot's wife looks back and turns into a pillar of salt.

Abraham and Sarah travel to Gerar in the south of the land. Abraham tells the king of Gerar, Abimelech, that Sarah is his sister. Abimelech takes her for himself, but God comes to him in a dream and orders him not to touch her and to return her to Abraham. Abimelech does so and gives them gifts.

Isaac is now born, as told by the angel, but is mocked by Ishmael, Abraham's son by Hagar. Sarah tells Abraham to send Hagar and Ishmael away. In the wilderness, Hagar cries out to God and God provides water for them both and assures her that Ishmael will be the father of a great nation.

God now calls upon Abraham to sacrifice Isaac on Mount Moriah. Abraham takes him there, binds him on the altar, and just before he strikes the fatal blow, an angel stops him and tells him that God now knows that Abraham truly fears God. Abraham sees a ram caught in the thickets by its horns and he sacrifices it in place of Isaac. The angel tells Abraham that God will keep his promise of making Abraham a great nation.

## This Day in Jewish History—18 Heshvan



**In 1938, Nazi leader Hermann Goering announced that in order to "solve the problem of the Jews," the African island of Madagascar was being considered as a giant ghetto for 4 million European Jews. The plan was seriously considered by Hitler in May 1940, in his discussions with Mussolini and Nazi officials. Hitler's idea was that the Jews would play the role of hostages, as a way to prevent the United States from entering the war.**

**The Madagascar Plan was cancelled due to a British blockade. One year later, it was decided that the "Final Solution to the Jewish Question" would mean extermination.**

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

## Welcome Back!!

Sharei Chesed welcomes back Rabbi Etedgui, Shelly and Steve Zien, and Iris Gaillard from their trip to Israel. We look forward to hearing their stories about their travels around the Kiddush table today.

## Today's Kiddush Luncheon

We invite you to stay after services for our weekly Kiddush luncheon. Today's luncheon is sponsored by Roz and Maurice Etedgui to celebrate the birth of their 18th great-grandchild. Mazal Tov!!

## Kabbalat Shabbat—Friday Evening December 9th

Our next Kabbalat Shabbat will be on Friday evening December 9th, when our guest speaker will be Marc Grossfield, founder and CEO of Tzfat Spirits of Israel, headquartered in Minneapolis.

Marc is the inventor of Aviv 613 Vodka - a luxury vodka like no other, and the only vodka made with the 7 species of the Land of Israel that are listed in the Torah. His is a story of great inspiration and spirituality. You definitely won't want to miss it!!

Contact the synagogue office to make your reservations.



## Countdown to Hanukkah

# 36 Days Until Hanukkah!!



# Yahrzeits for week of November 19 - November 25, 2016

## 18 Heshvan - 24 Heshvan 5777

### Please help with the daily Minyan

#### Yahrzeit of

#### Remembered by

#### **Saturday, November 19th (18 Heshvan)**

Miriam Blunk	Miriam bat Avraham	Ita Teyvel
Louis Kovoshonsky		
Mikhail Melamud	Mikhail ben Yosif v'Dina	Mariya Melamud & Leonid Melamud

#### **Sunday, November 20th (19 Heshvan)**

Girsh Estrin	Gershom ben Nachman	Tatyana Estrina
--------------	---------------------	-----------------

#### **Monday, November 21st (20 Heshvan)**

Berka Markman	Baruch ben Noach	Nekha Zelikman
---------------	------------------	----------------

#### **Tuesday, November 22nd (21 Heshvan)**

Ethel Akerman	Yetel bat Israel	Asya Akerman
Samuel Bartofsky	Sender ben Avigdor	Lois Kulinsky
Reuben Bolnick	Ruven ben Nachum	
Riva Kamenir	Riva bat Vigdor	Berta Kipnis & Lilly Kamenir
Liza Vugman	Leah bat Yehuda	Mariya Pisarenko

#### **Wednesday, November 23rd (22 Heshvan)**

Eva Gruen		Vicky Sektor
Charles Krinsky	Yeshua ben Israel	Maddie Banwell

#### **Thursday, November 24th (23 Heshvan)**

Sarah Braufman		Maddy Braufman
Moysey Fridlyand	Moshe ben Shimon	Luba Zevelev
Sandra Galbinsky	Sandra bat Aaron	Anatoly Galbinsky
Yakov Krasnynsky	Yankel ben Nachum	Nechama Ustyeva
Polina Perelman	Perl bat Yankel	Alex Perelman
David Shaich	David ben Baruch	
Yakov Shmunik	Yakov ben Israel	Alla Furman

#### **Friday, November 25th (24 Heshvan)**

Gerald Fiterman	Yakov ben Yehiel Mordechai	Julie Miller
Sandra Kampf	Zisil bat Shlomo	
Nisel Sheckman		Nina Furman & Faina Shulman
Roman Zaretsky	Yerachmiel ben Maier	Semyon Zaretsky

## May their memories always be for a blessing.