

# Sharei Chesed Congregation שערי חסד

#### <u>Welcome to our synagogue! ברוכים הבאים</u>

Avraham Ettedgui, Rabbi | Bernie Miller, President
Dr. David Feldshon, Vice President
Religious School Faculty
Uri Koppel, Sheryl Warren, Avi Reinharz
Lee Reinharz, Office Manager

# בחקתי - Behukotai 42th Day of Counting the Omer מ"ב לעומר - June 4, 2016 – 27 Iyar 5776

This Shabbat we read the last portion of the Book of Leviticus. It begins with these words: "If you follow My laws faithfully and observe My commandments I will grant your rains in their season, so that the earth shall yield its produce . . . You shall eat your fill of bread and dwell securely in your land." The following eight verses promise prosperity, peace and victory over our enemies. The people will live according to the Torah, and God will dwell among them.

Following these blessings, the Torah lists the consequences if the people do not listen and obey God's commandments. A list of curses, illnesses and defeats at the hands of our enemies, traditionally read fast and in a low voice. It's like being in a horror movie when things only get worse and scarier.

Although there are more curses listed than blessings, our sages explain that the blessings are wholesome and contain everything a person or nation can ask for. The details in the curses are meant to put fear in the hearts of those who may not be persuaded to do what is right without these warnings.

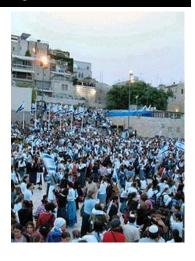
This Parasha and the Book of Leviticus end with this verse: "These are the commandments that God gave Moses for the Children of Israel on Mount Sinai." (Leviticus 27:34)

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

### Yom Yerushalayim—Sunday June 5th

Tomorrow is Yom Yerushalayim—
Jerusalem Day—the newest holiday in
the modern Hebrew calendar.
Celebrated every year on 28 lyar, it
commemorates the reunification of
Jerusalem and establishment of Israeli
control over the Old City in the
aftermath of the Six-Day War in 1967.
It was the first time Jews controlled all
of Jerusalem since the destruction of
the Second Temple by the Romans in
70 C.E.



In this picture, Israelis are celebrating Yom Yerushalayim in 2004 at the Western Wall (the Kotel).

# This Day in Jewish History—27 Iyar



In 1945, the Theresienstadt concentration camp was liberated. Theresienstadt was not a death camp by the usual definition. It was the center of a Nazi PR ploy -- a mythic, idyllic city that was supposedly built to protect Jews from the vagaries and stresses of the

war. The Red Cross was once allowed to visit Theresienstadt, which was spruced up for the occasion; inmates were dressed up and baked goods suddenly filled the shelves. (The Red Cross concluded that the Jews were being well-treated.) In reality, starvation and disease proved rampant. Of the 200,000 people (mostly Czech Jews) who passed through its gates, thousands died of malnutrition and exposure, and others were sent to Auschwitz.

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

## **Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries**

#### Happy Birthday to:

Cindy Schwartz

#### **Happy Anniversary to:**

- Uri and Carolyn Koppel
- Boris and Helen Sandler
- Lenny and Galina Shteyman

#### **Counting of the Omer**

Tonight is the 43rd night of the counting of the Omer. Each year, the Omer is counted every evening after nightfall, from the second night of Passover till the night before Shavuot. The blessing we recite is:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה וְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶדְ הָעוֹלְם, אֲשֶׁר קּוְּשְׁנוּ בָּמְצִוֹתִיוּ, וְצַנֵּנוּ עַל סִפְיֵרֵת הַעַוֹמֵר:

"Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the Universe, who has sanctified us with His commandments, and commanded us concerning the counting of the Omer."

היום שלשה וארבעים יום, שהם ששה שבועות ויום אחד לעמר.

"Today is 43 days, which is six weeks and one day of the Omer."

#### Today's Kiddush Luncheon

We hope you will stay for Kiddush immediately following services. Today's Kiddush luncheon is sponsored by Uri and Carolyn Koppel in honor of their 38th wedding anniversary. Mazal Toy!

# Rosh Hodesh Sivan—Monday Night June 6th

Rosh Hodesh Sivan falls this Monday night June 6th and Tues-

day June 7th. Please join us for Mincha/Ma'ariv on the 6th at 5:45 P.M., and for Shaharit on the 7th at 7:30 A.M. and help us welcome the new month.



#### Yahrzeits for week of June 4 - June 10, 2016 27 Iyar - 4 Sivan 5776 Please help with the daily Minyan

<u>Yahrzeit of</u> <u>Remembered by</u>

Saturday, June 4th (27 Iyar)

Meyer Geskin Meir ben Mordechai

Myer Tsirilman Ida Grinberg

Sunday, June 5th (28 Iyar)

Bill Barbush Shalom ben Akiva v'Hannah Myrna Orensten Abram Galant Avraham ben Sraga Evelyn Galant

Monday, June 6th (29 Iyar)

Aron Chervonka Aron ben Avraham Moshe

Yakov Eliovich Yakov ben Nahum v'Chaya Galina Gitelman Masha Falkina Masha bat Meir Rita Isakova Rachel Gerber Rachel bat Benyamin Boris Gerber Rebecca Hurwitz Rivka Riva bat Beryl Leib Lee Reinharz

Tuesday, June 7th (1 Sivan)

Zelda Feldman Zelda bat Yeshua Lev Feldman, Feliks J. Katz,

and Ilya Tamarkin

Lazar Gringauz

Ester Geskin Ester bat Avraham Chune

Lipa Gringauz

Anna Pisarenko Chana bat Zev Oleg Pisarenko

Sam Silverman Meyer Simcha ben Yeshua

Sarah Vayner Sarah bat Chaim Revekka Vayner

Wednesday, June 8th (2 Sivan)

Golde London Michael London and Rita Paper

Belle Richman

Thursday, June 9th (3 Sivan)

Isaac Shafranskiy Mariya Shafranskaya

Hyman Weingarden Hyman ben Avraham

Friday, June 10th (4 Sivan)

Ruth Abzug Ruth bat Shimshon Paul Absug

Nachum Feldman Nachum Dovid David Feldman and Mark Feldman

Ben Mordechai

Mikhail Geskin Motel ben Mayer v'Ester

Tatyana Fishman
Ninel Portnova
Ninel bat Yitzchak
Yuliya Portnova

May their memories always be for a blessing.