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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

Shmini - שמיני

11th Day of Counting the Omer—י"א לעומר

April 22, 2017 – 26 Nisan 5777

This Shabbat we read the portion of Shmini. After all the preparations for the service in the new Tabernacle, and following the seven days of rehearsal and dedication of the Kohanim and the Tabernacle, on the Eighth Day (Shmini) Aaron and his sons, under Moses' direction, began to officiate as the priests.

A fire descended from heaven and consumed the sacrifice, indicating that the service was accepted by God. The people were elated, cheered and bowed down to God.

In this Parasha we also read of the death of two of Aaron's sons, Nadav and Avihu, when they presented an offering of incense—something they were not supposed to do.

This Parasha includes all the laws regarding Kashrut—which animals may be eaten and which are forbidden.

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

This Day in Jewish History—26 Nisan



Yahrtzeit of the biblical Joshua, Yehoshua Bin Nun, in 1243 BCE. Joshua was born in Egypt, and he led Israel in the first decisive battle against Amalek (Exodus ch. 17). Joshua was Moses' prime disciple, and accompanied him partway up Mount Sinai. Joshua was also one of the 12 spies sent by Moses to explore the land of Canaan. Before Moses died, God had him appoint Joshua as his successor. When Joshua led the Jewish people into Israel, the Jordan River miraculously split. Joshua's first conquest was Jericho; after circling the city for seven days and blowing shofars, the city walls collapsed.

These and other events are described in the Book of Joshua.

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

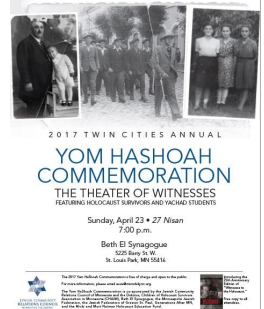
“The Theater of Witnesses” - Sunday April 23rd

Join us at Beth El Synagogue in St. Louis Park for the annual commemoration of Yom HaShoah. This year's commemoration is titled "The Theater of Witnesses", featuring Holocaust survivors and Yachad students.

The 2017 Yom HaShoah Commemoration is free of charge and open to the public. For more information, please email susie@minndakjrc.org.

You can also click on the following link for information about the commemoration:

<http://www.minndakjrc.org/documents/YH-2017-flyer.pdf>



“Kabbalah—Your Path to Empowerment” - Begins May 10th

“There’s a crack in everything, that’s how the light gets in.” (Leonard Cohen)

Join Joy Gordon for a new Kabbalah class beginning Wednesday May 10th called “Kabbalah—Your Path to Empowerment”. The ancient wisdom of Kabbalah provides strategies to guide us through uncertain times.

Contact Joy at 763-559-7029, or joy@joyofkabbalah.com.



Next Shabbat—Bat Mitzvah of Maria Sakurets

We hope you will join us next Saturday as Maria Sakurets becomes a Bat Mitzvah. Maria is the daughter of Alexandra and Pavel Sakurets, and the sister of Anna and Eleina. Services begin at 9:30 A.M., with the Kiddush luncheon immediately following, sponsored by the family.



Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Anniversary to:

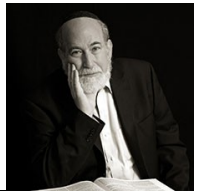
- Shura and Yefim Budilovskiy
- Ida and Simon Grinberg

Upcoming B'nai Mitzvah

- Maria Sakurets—Saturday April 29th (Parashat Tazria-Metzora)
- Elizabeth Janson-Melnik—Saturday May 13th (Parashat Emor)
- Liel Cohen—Saturday June 17th (Parashat Shlach)
- Mariam Kravchenko—Saturday September 2nd (Parashat Ki Tetzei)

Rabbi Joseph Telushkin—Thursday Evening April 27th

Join rabbi, scholar, and bestselling author Joseph Telushkin at the St. Paul JCC this Thursday evening, where he will present two new books: “Why the Jews: The Reason for Antisemitism, the Most Accurate Predictor of Human Evil” and “Rebbe: The Life and Teachings of Menachem M. Schneerson, The Most Influential Rabbi in Modern History”. Rabbi Telushkin is the bestselling author of eighteen books. He serves as a Senior Associate of the National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership, on the Board of Directors of the Jewish Book Council, and as spiritual leader of the Synagogue for the Performing Arts in Los Angeles.



For tickets, go to <http://www.sabesjcc.org/whats-happening.php>

Counting of the Omer

Saturday night is the 12th 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 יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ
בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוָּנוּ עַל סְפִירַת הָעוֹמֵר:

“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.”

הַיּוֹם שְׁנַיִם עָשָׂר יוֹם, שֶׁהֵם שָׁבוּעַ אֶחָד וְחֲמֵשָׁה יָמִים לַעֲמֵר.

“Today is 12 days, which is one week and five days of the Omer.”

Yahrzeits for week of April 22 - April 28, 2017

26 Nisan - 2 Iyar 5777

Please help with the daily Minyan

Yahrzeit of

Saturday, April 22nd (26 Nisan)

Jacob Benjohar	Yakov ben Avraham	Albert Benjohar
Ida Polikoff	Ita bat Shmeriyahu haCohen	Steven Tillinger
Minnie Rosenfeld		Aileen Snyder
Rosalind Stoller	Shoshana bat Samuel v'Katherine	Stuart Stoller, Jayme Stoller, Robyn Awend, Joy Gordon

Remembered by

Sunday, April 23rd (27 Nisan)

David Roytburg	David ben Yosef	Sika Roytburg
Gertrude Silbert	Gitel bat Yosef	
Yitzchak Vayner	Yitzchak ben Israel	Revekka Vayner

Monday, April 24th (28 Nisan)

Rose Leviton	Raizel bat Avraham	
Sam Salloway	Shmuel Moshe ben Yitzchak haCohen	Barbara Weil
Ben Shaich	Baruch ben Bentzion	
Lena Wasserman		Mark Wasserman
Natan Zaytzev	Natan ben Avraham v'Dina	Artur Zaytsev and Yelizaveta Zaytsev

Tuesday, April 25th (29 Nisan)

Genya Temnogradsky	Genya ben Nachum
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Wednesday, April 26th (30 Nisan)

Sarah Axelrod		Steve Zien
Shaye Golant		Michael Golant
Bentzion Lipnik	Bentzion ben Israel	Bronya Lipnik and Tony Lipnik
Meyer Meyerson	Meyer ben Avraham	
Louis Phillips	Yehuda Leib ben Chaim Hanoch	Fred Phillips
Mordechai Rishkovetsky	Mordechai ben Meir	Boris Gerber and Maya Malamudman

Thursday, April 27th (1 Iyar)

Vera Gringersh	Dvora bat Zalman v'Rosia
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Friday, April 28th (2 Iyar)

** NO YAHRZEITS **

May their memories always be for a blessing.

Condolences

Sharei Chesed extends its condolences to the following people for the loss of a member of the family:

- **To Natalie, Rebecca, Michael and Caitlin Zabezhinsky, and Leonid and Natalie Zabezhinsky, for the passing of their beloved husband, father and brother, Leonid Zabezhinsky.**
- **To Nikolay and Bronya, Yakov and Natalie and their children, for the passing of their mother and grandmother Fanya Bryants.**
- **To the family of Harvey Ehrlich.**
- **To Renana Schneller and family for the passing of their father and grandfather in Israel.**

May God comfort them among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.