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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

במדבר - Bamidbar

מ"ו לעומר - 46th Day of Counting the Omer

May 27, 2017 – 2 Sivan 5777

חג השבועות - Festival of Shavuot

May 31 and June 1, 2017 – 6 and 7 Sivan 5777

Bamidbar begins the fourth Book of the Torah. In Hebrew it's called 'Bamidbar'—in the wilderness—because of the first words of this book. In English it is called the Book of Numbers because the book begins with the census that was taken in order to know the number of men available to serve in the army that will be conquering the Promised Land.

Shavuot is also called 'Zman Matan Toratenu' - the Season of the Giving of the Torah. It is one of the three pilgrimage festivals connected to harvest and is known as 'Hag Habikurim' - the Festival of the First Fruits.

On Wednesday—the first day of Shavuot—we will be reading the Ten Commandments. On Thursday—the second day of Shavuot—we read the portion from the Torah that describes the various tithing people were commanded to give to the poor and the Levites as well as the Mitzvah of celebrating the Three Festivals. (continued on next page)

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

Festival of Shavuot (continued from Page 1)

It is customary to read the Akdamot before the Torah Reading on the first day of Shavuot. Akdamot is a long poem written in Aramaic dealing with the greatness of God, the excellence of the Torah, and the future hope of Israel.

On the second day of Shavuot, it is customary to read the Book of Ruth, containing the story of Ruth the Moabite who converts to Judaism and is the great-grandmother of King David.

Yom Yerushalayim—"The Temple Mount is in Our Hands!"

This past Wednesday, Jews around the world celebrated "Yom Yerushalayim" - Jerusalem Day. 50 years ago on that date—June 7, 1967—IDF paratroopers advanced through the Old City toward the Temple Mount and the Western Wall, bringing Jerusalem's holiest site under Jewish control for the first time in 2000 years. There are sound recordings of the scene, as the commander of the brigade, Lt. General Mordechai (Motta) Gur, approaches the Old City and announces to his company commanders, "We're sitting right now on the ridge and we're seeing the Old City. Shortly we're going to go in to the Old City of Jerusalem, that all generations have dreamed about. We will be the first to enter the Old City..." and shortly afterwards, "The Temple Mount is in our hands! I repeat, the Temple Mount is in our hands!" General Rabbi Shlomo Goren, chief chaplain of the IDF, sounded the Shofar at the Western Wall to signify its liberation. Many considered it a gift from God.



Saturday's Guest Speaker—Ken Engel

We are pleased to welcome Ken Engel as our guest speaker this morning. As a member of the Speakers Bureau of the JCRC of Minnesota and the Dakotas/ Tolerance Minnesota, the JCRC Middle East Speakers Bureau, and other platforms, Ken has given hundreds of presentations to schools, colleges, municipalities, synagogues, churches, educators, industry and private groups, clubs and organizations about the Holocaust, his parents' experiences during World War II, Israel, Judaism, and related subjects. He's trained thousands of survivors, 2nd- and 3rd-generation descendents of Holocaust survivors, community activists and lay members on how to effectively and comfortably share their individual stories with a wide range of audiences. Ken is also a member of the governing Coordinating Council of *Generations of the Shoah International (GSI)*, a U.S.-based group of Jewish leaders of Second Generation and other Holocaust-related organizations. Ken will be speaking today about his experiences as a child of Holocaust survivors, and about the current Muslim refugee crisis.

Ken and his wife live in Minneapolis' Bryn Mawr neighborhood, and have just welcomed their first grandchild—a boy.



Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to:

- Judy Siegel
- Gregory TERNYAK
- Sofia Zhuravel

Happy Anniversary to:

- Sara and Russell Reininger
- Yana and Roman Zolotov

Saturday's Kiddush Luncheon

We hope you will join us following services for our regular Kiddush luncheon. Today's luncheon is sponsored by Roz and Maurice Etedgui, in honor of both of their birthdays—Mazal Tov!!

Kabbalat Shabbat—Friday Evening June 9th

Our final Kabbalat Shabbat of 5777 will be on Friday evening June 9th, when our guest speaker will be Tuvia Abramson, a veteran of the Six-Day War which is seeing its 50th anniversary this year. Tuvia was born in Israel, served in the military, and completed his undergraduate degree work at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He came to the United States where he earned his master's degree in Higher Education at the University of Minnesota, and later became its Hillel director. In 1994, the national Hillel office asked Tuvia to become Hillel executive director at Penn State, where he remained for 12 years. Today, Tuvia lives in the Twin Cities and works with the Jewish Artists' Laboratory, an arts initiative through the Sabes JCC. His experiences in 1967 make for an inspiring story you won't want to miss!!

Contact the synagogue office by Monday June 5th to make your reservations.



Schedule for Shavuot Services

The Festival of Shavuot commemorates the Giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai. On Shavuot we renew our acceptance of God's gift.

We hope you will join us Wednesday and Thursday morning for Shavuot services as we celebrate 'Matan Torah' - The Giving of the Torah:

- Wednesday morning May 31st at 9:30 A.M.
 - Thursday morning June 1st at 9:30 A.M.
- **NOTE**** Yizkor will be recited on Thursday.



A dairy Kiddush luncheon will follow services both days.

Yahrzeits for week of May 27 - June 2, 2017

2 Sivan - 8 Sivan 5777

Please help with the daily Minyan

Yahrzeit of

Saturday, May 27th (2 Sivan)

Golde London
Belle Richman

Remembered by

Michael London and Rita Paper

Sunday, May 28th (3 Sivan)

Isaac Shafransky
Hyman Weingarden

Isaac ben Mikhail
Hyman ben Avraham

Mariya Shafranskaya

Monday, May 29th (4 Sivan)

Ruth Abzug
Nachum Feldman
Tatyana Fishman
Mikhail Geskin
Ninel Portnova

Ruth bat Shimshon
Nachum Dovid ben Mordechai
Motel ben Mayer v'Ester
Ninel bat Yitzchak

Paul Abzug
David Feldman and Mark Feldman
Simon Fishman
Yuliya Portnova

Tuesday, May 30th (5 Sivan)

** NO YAHRZEITS **

Wednesday, May 31st (6 Sivan)

Oscar Dolgoff
Pesha Goldberg
Marvin Lazarine
Harry Leviton
Mordechai Vurgaft

Osher Mayer ben Harry
Pesha bat Sarah
Meir ben Chaim
Hershel ben Avraham
Mordechai ben Einoch

Larisa Palant
Joyce Ettedgui
Asya Akerman

Thursday, June 1st (7 Sivan)

Bonita Gould
Fanny Rubinstein

Batya bat Yerachmiel v'Freda
Fradel bat Yakov v'Toba

Steve Paper and Marilyn Giffis
Eddy Rubinstein and Esther Rubinstein

Friday, June 2nd (8 Sivan)

Max Bernhard
Paul Ross Rosenfeld
Jack Stoller

Dov Menachem ben Shmuel Mayer

Candace Margulies
Aileen Snyder
Stuart Stoller

May their memories always be for a blessing.

Condolences

Sharei Chesed extends its condolences to the family and friends of Chezar Grinberg who passed away this past Monday May 22nd. Chezar is survived by his children, Ludmila (Samuel) Vaynshenk, Dina (Archie) Grazhdankina and Alex (Tatyana) Grinberg; sister, Ita (Mikhail) Teyvel and grandchildren, Sergey Vaynshenk, Leonid Grazhdankina, Pavel Vaynshenk, Daniel Grinberg, Sarah Grinberg, Ellie Grazhdankina and Ariana Grinberg.

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