

HAVURAT YISRAEL WEEKLY NEWS

11 Adar 5783

SHABBAT ZACHOR / TETZAVEH

March 4, 2023

Shabbat Shalom!

5:31 pm Candle Lighting
 5:40 pm Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat
 8:45 am Mishnayot Shiur
 9:00 am Shacharit
 9:14 am Latest Shema
 Parsha: p.464; Maftir p. 1066; Haftarah p.1214
 11:00 am Drasha, Kids Program
 4:15 pm Gemara Shiur
 4:45 pm Special Shiur on Purim — Rabbi Weschler
 5:20 pm Mincha, Seudah Shlisheet
 6:30 pm Maariv, Havdalah

Kiddush is sponsored by

- ☆ Rabbi David & Tamara Algaze commemorating the Yahrzeit of Tamara's father Yaakov ben Moshe A"H.
- ☆ Ephraim Grossbein commemorating the Yahrzeits of his sister Ida Rahel bat Shmuel Z"L and his great uncle Mordechai ben Avraham Z"L.
- ☆ Marc & Karen Rose commemorating the Yahrzeit of her brother Avraham Yitzchak ben Yesheskel Z"L.

Seudah Shlisheet is sponsored by Sarah Esses commemorating the Yahrzeit of her father Jacob Esses Z"L.

Upcoming Sponsorships

Kiddush

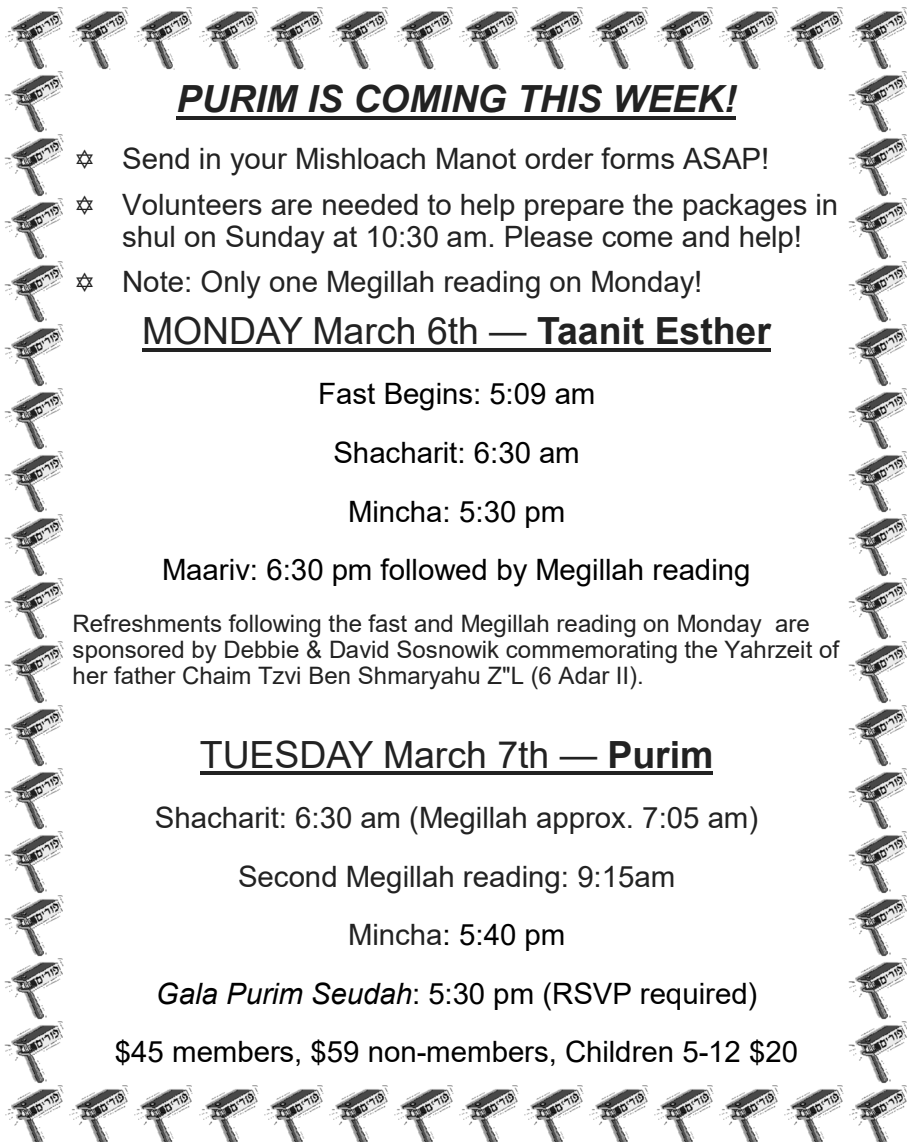
- March 11 — Tuesday Parsha Class *co-sponsors needed!*
- March 18 — Available
- March 25 — Rachele Alkalay
- April 1 — Anonymous

We are happy to announce this year's Journal Dinner honorees

Marc & Karen Rose
 Carol Krohn
 Daniel Cohen

Mazal tov to them!

The dinner will take place in June; date and place to be announced shortly. But the campaign to get ads and to place messages in their honor begins NOW! Start thinking of the people and stores that may be willing to place an ad and support our synagogue. The campaign needs all of us!



PURIM IS COMING THIS WEEK!

- ☆ Send in your Mishloach Manot order forms ASAP!
- ☆ Volunteers are needed to help prepare the packages in shul on Sunday at 10:30 am. Please come and help!
- ☆ Note: Only one Megillah reading on Monday!

MONDAY March 6th — Taanit Esther

Fast Begins: 5:09 am

Shacharit: 6:30 am

Mincha: 5:30 pm

Maariv: 6:30 pm followed by Megillah reading

Refreshments following the fast and Megillah reading on Monday are sponsored by Debbie & David Sosnowik commemorating the Yahrzeit of her father Chaim Tzvi Ben Shmaryahu Z"L (6 Adar II).

TUESDAY March 7th — Purim

Shacharit: 6:30 am (Megillah approx. 7:05 am)

Second Megillah reading: 9:15am

Mincha: 5:40 pm

Gala Purim Seudah: 5:30 pm (RSVP required)

\$45 members, \$59 non-members, Children 5-12 \$20

Please Join on Sunday Morning at 10:30 am

Volunteers are needed to help prepare the packages in shul!

SHABBAT ZACHOR

The mitzvah of Zachor is to remember the deed of Amalek. This is done by hearing the reading of the section in Devarim 25:17 that starts with the words Zachor et asher lecha Amalek (Remember what Amalek did to you). The reading must be from the Sefer Torah and read with the proper pronunciation of the words and with the proper cantillation of the musical notes. This is one of the 613 commandments and it is incumbent on both men and women alike. Therefore, all are urged to be at the synagogue for the Torah reading. **The section of Zachor will be read approximately at 10:30. Do not be late. The Torah is not taken out after the services.**

SUNDAY March 5 / 12 Adar	MONDAY March 6 / 13 Adar FAST OF ESTHER	TUESDAY March 7 / 14 Adar PURIM	WEDNESDAY March 8 / 15 Adar SHUSHAN PURIM	THURSDAY March 9 / 16 Adar	FRIDAY March 10 / 17 Adar
7:30 am Gemara Shiur 8:00 am Shacharit 8:45 am Breakfast 9:30 am Parasha Class in Spanish by Rabbi Algaze 10:30 am Help pack our Purim baskets!	See holiday schedule above!		6:30 am Gemara Shiur 7:00 am Shacharit 7:00 pm The Book of Samuel — Rabbi Weschler	6:30 am Gemara Shiur 7:00 am Shacharit	6:30 am Gemara Shiur 7:00 am Shacharit 5:39 pm Candle Lighting 5:45 pm Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat

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THE AESTHETICS OF THE SPIRIT

by Rabbi David Algaze

“You shall make vestments of sanctity for Aaron your brother, for glory and splendor.” (Shemot 28:2)

What is the importance of external appearance, particularly in the realm of lofty spiritual activities? The display of pageantry, aided by vivid colors and rich materials—such as gold, silver, purple fabric and the rest—seems out of place in the service of G-d. This is especially noteworthy because the whole presentation of pagan rituals included this type of pageantry, luxury and careful attention to external manifestation. Shouldn't the Torah have avoided such demands on a superficial exterior precisely in order to counter the appeal of paganism?

The answer is that outer appearance is not insignificant and that the aesthetic and spiritual senses need not contradict each other. The Talmud says, “Rabbi Yochanan said, ‘The Holy One Blessed be He does not cause His presence to rest on an individual unless he is strong, wealthy, wise and humble.’” (Nedarim 38a). Rabbenu Nissim expounds this idea further by explaining that a prophet who would receive his message in solitude need not have any other qualities than the spiritual ability. However, once a prophet needs to appear in public and reach the masses, he has to pay attention to his external appearance and develop an aesthetic look. This care for his exterior will further the capacity of the prophet to influence people. This means that people are moved by the look of the teacher and that they are more open to someone who has external beauty, who has a pleasant voice and who carries himself with regal dignity.

The Talmud orders, “The king should take a haircut every day, the High Priest once a week.” (Sanhedrin 22b) This is in order that they should appear dignified and aesthetically pleasant in front of the attendees to the Temple. Obviously, this attention to the façade and the outward show is only necessary to fulfill one's role more adequately but it should not become an internal need. Privately, all people, including the leaders and priests, had to maintain a level of humility and a clear understanding of the futility of the outer shell. Yet, for the purposes of reaching people and being able to influence them more deeply, attention to the aesthetics of the person became very important.

Maimonides writes, “The High Priest needs to be higher than the rest of his brethren in beauty, strength, wealth, wisdom and external appearance...and he is obligated to conduct himself with honor and not belittle his position in front of the people.” (Laws of the Temple Utensils, chapter 5) This is true not only for priests and kings but also for all leaders, teachers and all who lead the people of Israel and occupy positions of influence.

The lesson for us is that although preoccupation with deep matters and spiritual concerns is preeminent in a religious person, there is no virtue in neglecting the aspects of beauty and external appeal. Just as we should have a beautiful etrog to fulfill the mitzvah, and a beautiful talit and other ritual objects, so we should appear pleasant, clean and well dressed whenever we pray or join a congregation. A human being is created with “receptors” for beauty and splendor and these receptors need to be satisfied appropriately in order to enhance the spiritual message. Similarly, we need to pay attention to beautiful singing in prayer, elegant speech in teaching and, in general, to conduct ourselves in such a dignified manner that the message of our Torah is conveyed with greater force and that the Torah is reflected in a more beautiful light. Elegance and aesthetics should work together with the spirit. Although the avoidance of luxury is a requirement for spiritual enhancement, the neglect and total inattention to an aesthetic sense is contrary to the Torah.

Many rabbis created beautiful songs; others have orchestrated magnificent buildings and yet others have added with their personal sophistication and classiness a measure of greater appreciation for the message of Judaism. We should emulate them in every aspect of our lives, so that “the glory and splendor” of the message shall be evident to all who meet us.

Kashrut Alert

Rabbi Algaze approved the Hashgahah of the Vaad Kashrus Mehardrin with Rabbi Oelbaum for Pizza Palace

Journal Meeting Thursday March 9 — 7 pm at Havurat Yisrael

The Journal committee invites you to be a part of this important campaign by joining the committee and bring your ideas to them.



Mazal Tov Joseph & Esther Mounessa

THE JOY OF ADAR

The Rabbis tell us “When Adar starts, we increase joy” (Taanit 29)

The month of Adar was the month when Haman decided to put into effect his nefarious plan to exterminate the Jewish people, and the reversal of his plan turned into a great salvation to the people of Israel. The celebrations, the joyful reflections during this month give us the special message that all the threats against us will be reversed, and the Jewish people will live on. Rejoice on this month, entertaining positive thoughts and a spirit of optimism for our future. Plan good events, engage in activities with enthusiasm and hope because this is the month that proclaimed “Am Israel Chai!”

Refuah Shlema Alte Ester Riva bat Devorah Shifra (Eileen Alter), Batya bat Rachel (Betty Feit), Malka bat Buca (Yeni Hassin), Zeev Zelig ben Sarah Tish (Tom Hamori), Zalman Modechai Yitzchak Halevy ben Alta Chana (Stuart Greenberg), Chava Naomi bat Doba Chana, Elca bat Rahel (Michelle Polonetsky's mother), Yaakov ben Leah, Tzvi Ben Sara, Chavah Bat Rivka (Eileen Alter's cousin), Moshe Eliemelech haLevi ben Bashe