



Please see the complete Passover schedule on page 3.

Shabbat Shalom!

6:57 pm Candle Lighting
 6:45 pm Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat and Maariv

8:45 am Mishnayot class
 9:00 am Shacharit
 9:51 am Latest Shema
 Parasha p.568; Haftorah p.1220
 6:00 pm Mincha & Seudah Shlisheet
 7:15 pm Shabbat Hagadol Drasha
 7:57 pm Maariv & Havdalah

Kiddush is sponsored by Judy Kugelman commemorating the Yahrzeit of her Mother Tovah bat Shlomo Z"L.

Seudah Shlisheet sponsorships available.

Upcoming Sponsorships

☆ May 9 Michelle Polonetsky

The Havurat Yisrael Kiddush



One of the most characteristic features of Havurat Yisrael is the time we spend together. Even after the food is gone and the tables are clean, people still stay to chat and mingle, thus developing the special bonds that unite us. It is sad to see that some Shabbatot go without a sponsor. Please consider sponsoring a kiddush so that all our dates are filled with sponsors' names.

Welcome new Members

☆ Elisheva & Nader Naghi
 ☆ Nancy Frank

NEW CLASS by Rabbi Algaze

Mondays at 7 pm (resumes after Pesach)
The Prayer of Ana Bekoach

This Kabbalistic piece is a mystical, Kabbalistic prayer that includes the 42 Names of God.. It is formed by 7 verses (lines) of six words each totaling 42 words, The first letters of each word form the mystical Name of God. It is attributed to the saintly Tanna, Rabbi Nechunya ben haKannah. It is recited every morning, and after the Lecha Dodi on Shabbat and also before bed. It is a segula to overcome obstacles, untangle knotted situations. The course will introduce some of the basic concepts of Kabbalah.

The entire community is invited to

Rabbi Algaze's SHABBAT HAGADOL DRASHA



Mincha 6 pm Followed by Seudah Shlisheet

7:15 Shabbat Hagadol Drasha

Maariv and Havdalah 7:57 pm

Sale of Hametz Schedule with Rabbi Algaze

- Sunday 9 — 9:30; 10:30 — 12
- Monday 7 — 8 pm
- Tuesday 11 — 1

Maot Chitim

As you sell your chametz, don't forget to contribute to the Ma'ot Chitim fund, literally "money to purchase matzah". Many people visit our synagogue before Pesach in search of some help and we send money to others who solicit by mail. Your contributions make it possible for the Rabbi to help these families.

When we break the matzah at the Seder, we can meditate on the broken hearts of families that cannot afford a meal or who live at the edge of poverty. We can feel a lot better if we know that through our participation in the Ma'ot Chitim campaign we have helped some of these families enjoy a happier Pesach. Please give generously to the Ma'ot Chitim fund.

HAMETZ AFTER PESACH

Please wait at until after 8:30 pm on Thursday April 9th to use any hametz sold through the shul.

When purchasing hametz after Pesach, it is vital to purchase hametz only from appropriate stores, specifically:

- ☆ Jewish-owned stores which properly sold their hametz, such as Aron's, Seasons, Wassermans, other VHQ supervised stores.
- ☆ Non-Jewish owned stores which are permitted to own hametz during Pesach, such as Natural and other Asian-owned businesses.
- ☆ National supermarket chains which are corporations and are not considered Jewish-owned such as Stop & Shop, Trader Joe's.

Be careful when purchasing from stores which may be Jewish-owned franchises and may not have properly sold their hametz. At such stores, avoid buying perishable hametz such as bread for at least a week, and hametz with a longer shelf life, like pasta, for at least a month.

| SUNDAY March 29 / 11 Nissan | MONDAY March 30 / 12 Nissan | TUESDAY March 31 / 13 Nissan | WEDNESDAY April 1 / 14 Nissan EREV PESACH | THURSDAY April 2 / 15 Nissan PESACH | FRIDAY April 3 / 16 Nissan PESACH |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 8:00 am Shacharit 9:30 am Rabbi Algaze: Parasha Class in Spanish | 6:45 am Shacharit 7:00 pm No Class This week with Rabbi Algaze | 6:45 am Shacharit 7:00 pm Parasha Class with Rabbi Levitt by Zoom 8:11 pm or later: Search for Hametz. | | | |
| <i>Please see the holiday schedule on page 3</i> | | | | | |

THE SERVICE OF THE NIGHT

By Rabbi David Algaze

“Hashem spoke to Moses, saying: Command Aaron and his sons, saying: This is the law of the olah (elevation-offering): It is the elevation offering [that stays] on the flame, on the Altar all night until the morning, and the fire of the Altar should remain aflame on it.” (Vayikra 6:1-2)

This verse is strange in various ways. First, it seems to be about the law of the olah, the offering that is wholly consumed on the fire of the Altar, as opposed to other offerings that were only partly burned and other parts eaten by the kohanim or the donors. Yet, the verse veers into a detail about the olah that is not pertinent to the olah itself. The fact that parts of the animals that could not be burned on the Altar during the day, would be burned during the night, was applicable to other offerings too. Why would the Torah start by saying that it was to teach us about the olah and then tell us about the nighttime avodah (service) which was a general rule for all parts of animals that had not been burned during the day due to restrictions of time or the abundance of offerings?

Of course, since the olah had to be completely burned, it is logical to assume that, since there were many more animal parts that needed to be burned, that the nighttime service would be mostly about burning the parts of the olah offerings. Yet, it is difficult to understand the verse as written. What is the law of the olah? The verse only talks about the burning of those parts that could not be burned earlier in the day. But this applied to all offerings and not just to the olah.

A midrash peliah - a rabbinical source that contains many strange and enigmatic stories - tells the story of Rabbi Yosi ben Kisma who was asked by his students, “When will the Messiah come?” Rabbi Yosi answered them by saying “This is the law of the olah”, precisely quoting this verse. What is the meaning of the answer? How is this verse telling us about the Messiah?

Rabbi Moshe Wolfson explains that Rabbi Yossi was telling the students that their impatience with the long exile and their desire for the coming of the Messiah was answered by this verse. He was telling them that the nighttime service had value too. He was affirming the function of the nighttime service as a possible explanation for the exile, which is compared to the night. Just as the nighttime service was an integral part of the Temple service, the exile had a function too. It is during the exile that the Jewish people were able to refine their traits and perfect their character to prepare them for the Messianic age.

We tend to view nighttime services in our lives, such as the pains and hardships we must sometimes endure, the challenges we encounter in our lives, as inconvenient periods we would rather avoid. However, these challenges are often then steppingstones in our own growth and elevation and we must not dismiss them or view them as unnecessary.

This was the answer the Rabbi was giving his impatient students who were always waiting for the Messiah and tired of the long exile: the nighttime service you are engaged in now is also important. The law of the olah, the way in which you will be elevated, is precisely through the nighttime service, through the period of pain and suffering you are experiencing.

It is by appreciating the function of our challenges and hardships that we can endure the long night and difficult moments.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO REBBETZIN TAMARA ALGAZE!



Birkat Ha'llanot

In the month of Nissan we say a special bracha upon seeing a flowering fruit tree. The bracha may be said on any fruit-bearing tree and should be said only when we see the flowers or buds.

ברוך אתה ה' אלוקינו מלך העולם שלא חיסר בעולמו כלום וברא בו בריות טובות ואילנות טובות ליהנות בהם בני אדם

“Blessed are You Hashem, our G-d, King of the Universe, for nothing is lacking in His universe and created good creatures and beautiful trees to give mankind pleasure in them”

If one sees a flowering tree on any other time of the year, the bracha is not recited.

Dues are Due

Membership dues are due January 1st and payable by **March 31st of each year** and a member retains the status of “good standing” only when dues are up to date. Please pay your membership on time and in full to enjoy special members’ prices. All Membership privileges are extended **only** to fully paid-up members. We want everyone to be not just a member, but a part of our caring family. If not now, when?

Refuah Shlema Alte Ester Riva bat Devorah Shifra, Yaakov ben Leah, Tzvi ben Sara, Talia Leah bat Sarah, Miriam bat Rivka, Reuben ben Malka, Baruch Chaim ben Basha, Malka bat Simcha, Hannah bat Yehudit, Binyamin Baer ben Chana, Hillel Zvi Yehuda ben Tzina, Joseph David ben Rachel, Abraham ben Devorah Shifra, Israel ben Devora Shifra, Sherry Plutzker, Chaya Sarah bat Bunye, Baruch Chaim ben Basha, Chavah Rivka bat Brucha .

PESACH SCHEDULE 5786

Tuesday March 31st / 13 Nissan

- Evening (after 8:11 pm) — **Search for Hametz (Bedikat Hametz)**
 - Search for hametz with a candle.
 - Bracha: ...asher kidshanu bemitzvotav vetzivanu al bi'ur hametz
 - After search: *Kol chamira vachamya de'ika birshuti, delo chamite udelo bi'arte, libatel veleheve hefker ke'afra de'ar'a. "Any hametz that I own, that I did not see, and which I did not remove, it is hereby nullified and become ownerless as the dust of the earth."*

Wednesday April 1st / 14 Nissan — Erev Pesach — Fast of the First Born (Taanit Bechorim)

- Shacharit 6:45 am followed by Siyum
- Last time to eat hametz 10:52
- Dispose of hametz by 11:55 am
- Candle lighting 7:02 pm (Shehecheyanu)
- Mincha 6:45 pm
- Seder (by reservation)

Thursday April 2nd / 15 Nissan — Yom Tov Pesach 1

- Shacharit 9 am
- Mincha 7 pm
- Candle lighting 8:02 (from preexisting flame and Shehecheyanu)
- Second Seder (count the Omer during the Seder)

Friday April 3rd / 16 Nissan — Yom Tov Pesach 2

- Shacharit 9 am
- Mincha 6:45 pm
- Candle lighting 7:04 (from preexisting flame with regular Shabbat blessing)
- Count Omer #2 at night

Saturday April 4th / 17 Nissan — Shabbat Hol Hamoed

- Shacharit 9 am
- Mincha & Seudah Shlisheet 6:00 pm
- Drasha by Rabbi Algaze 7:15 pm
- Havdalah 7:57 pm
- Count Omer #3 at night

Sunday April 5th / 18 Nissan — Hol Hamoed

- Shacharit 8:00 am
- Count Omer #4 at night

Monday April 6th / 19 Nissan — Hol Hamoed

- Shacharit 6:45am
- Count Omer #5 at night

Tuesday April 7th — 20 Nissan — Hol Hamoed

- Shacharit 6:45am
- Mincha 6:45 pm
- Candle lighting 7:08 pm (no Shehecheyanu)
- Count Omer #6 at night

Wednesday April 8th 21 Nissan — Shevii Shel Pesach

- Shacharit 9 am
- Mincha 6:45 pm
- Candle lighting 8 pm (preexisting flame, no Shehecheyanu)
- Count Omer #7 at night

Thursday April 9 — Aharon Shel Pesach

- Shacharit 9 am
- Mincha 7 pm
- Havdalah 8:02 pm
- Count Omer #8 at night
Wait until after 8:30 pm to use the hametz sold through Rabbi Algaze