

**KIDDUSH IS SPONSORED
BY**

the **Sragovicz** and **Braverman** families in honor of the 2nd yahrzeit of **Gregory Braverman, Hershel Ben Moshe**^z. Time does not diminish the magnitude of our loss. His legacies of kindness to all, love and support of family, and menschlichkeit live on. May his Neshama have an Aliyah.

**KIDDUSH IS CO-SPONSORED
BY**

Todd and Diane, Leah, Aryeh and Shira Salovey in celebration of the wedding of **Dovid and Dassi Wohlgeleerter**. We've watched **Dovid** grow from making lemonade to sushi to Pesach for a whole community. We wish you both mazel and bracha and a lot of happiness. Congrats and many thanks as well to the **Rabbi and Shoshie** for setting the record for most done for your shul while on Sabbatical.

**KIDDUSH IS CO-SPONSORED
BY**

Ellen Marks in honor of the anniversary of my son, **Jonathan's** Bar Mitzvah.



to the **Rabbi and Shoshie, Rabbi and Brooke**, and to the **entire congregation** on celebrating the **33rd Anniversary** of our incredible community.

MINYON SCHEDULE

2/14 Candles.....	5:09 p.m.
2/14 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat.....	5:15 p.m.
2/14 Rabbi Simon Teen Oneg.....	9:00 p.m.
Parsha Pump-Up.....	8:30 a.m.
Shabbat Morning.....	9:00 a.m.
Sh'ma-Latest Time.....	9:18 a.m.
Teen Minyan.....	9:30 a.m.
Rabbi Simon Lecture.....	after Kiddush
Mincha.....	5:00 p.m.
Rabbi Simon Lecture.....	at Seudah Shlishit
Shabbat ends.....	6:16 p.m.
Parent/Child Learning.....	7:30 p.m.

THIS COMING WEEK

2/16/20-2/21/20

SERVICE SCHEDULE

Sun. Shacharit.....	8:30 a.m.
Mon. & Thu. Shacharit.....	6:30 a.m.
Tue., Wed. & Fri. Shacharit.....	6:45 a.m.
Sun. - Thu. Mincha/Ma'ariv.....	5:20 p.m.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Sunday	
Tefillin Club for Boys.....	8:30 a.m.
Daf Yomi (Z).....	8:00 p.m.
Monday - Thursday	
Talmud I (Z).....	6:00 a.m.
Talmud in Depth (Z).....	7:30 a.m.
Monday	
Working Men's Kollel.....	1:00 p.m.
Pirkei Avot (Z).....	7:30 p.m.
Daf Yomi (Z).....	8:00 p.m.
Tuesday	
Women's Mesillat Yesarim (Z).....	11:00 a.m.
Daf Yomi (Z).....	8:00 p.m.
Wednesday	
Women's Pirkei Avot (Z).....	11:00 a.m.
Working Men's Kollel.....	1:00 p.m.
Girls' Club (3 rd -6 th Grade).....	4:30 p.m.
Great Debates.....	7:30 p.m.
Daf Yomi (Z).....	8:00 p.m.
Thursday	
FAQ's of LIFE.....	7:30 p.m.
Daf Yomi (Z).....	8:00 p.m.

* (Z) Classes taught by Rabbi Jeff from Israel. Please contact Catharine at catharine@adatyeshurun.org for information about accessing these classes.

In Memory of Linda Neiman

**THE CONGREGATION ADAT YESHURUN
WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN**

Rabbi Jeffrey Wohlgeleerter

Assistant Rabbi Daniel Reich

Abraham Loebenstein, President

Vol. XXVIII No. 17

20 Shevat 5780 February 15, 2020

Yitro



This Week's Torah Reading

The Torah Reading begins on page 276 in the Hirsch and page 394 in the Stone. The Haftarah begins on page 854 in the Hirsch and page 1154 in the Stone.

THIS WEEK'S PARSHA opens with Yisro, Moshe's father-in-law, coming to join the Jewish people in the desert. He came as soon as he heard of the miracles Hashem had performed for the Jewish people: splitting of the sea, the victory over Amalek, the falling of the Mon, and the well of water. With him, came Moshe's wife, Tziporah and their two sons, Gershom and Eliezer, whom Moshe had left behind in Midian so as not to add to the number of enslaved Jews in Egypt. Although Yisro lived in the lap of luxury, he nevertheless came to the desert, a wasteland, in order to hearken to the words of the Torah.

THERE IS A debate among the commentaries as to whether we are meant to understand Yisro's reaction to all the miracles as positive or negative. Some believe Yisro was overjoyed at the victory of the Jews and the miraculous intervention by G-d, that this was a source of tremendous inspiration for him. Others believe Yisro had mixed feelings about their success because Egypt was destroyed, which explains why he did not stay with them but rather returned to Midian.

YISRO SENT A message to Moshe informing him of his imminent arrival. Moshe, Aharon, Nadav and Avihu, followed by the rest of the people, went out to greet him. Moshe bowed to Yisro and kissed him, telling him of all the great things that had happened to the Jews through the hands of Hashem, in order to inspire him further. Yisro, who had previously worshipped every idol in the world, now recognized G-d's greatness. Then they sacrificed burnt offerings and peace offerings and sat down to eat.

THE CHRONOLOGY OF the next section of the Torah, describing the innovative legislative system, suggested to Moshe by Yisro, is also a subject of debate among the Sages. According to some, Yisro's suggestions were made before the giving of the Torah. However, Rashi and others indicate it was after Yom Kippur when Moshe came down again with the second set of tablets. Irrespective of when we say, Yisro came. In fact, his actions caused an entire portion of the Torah to be added, which either occurred, or was recorded, before the giving of the Torah. Many of our sages point out the following homiletical understanding: The section dealing with Yisro was recorded before the giving of the Torah to teach us once again, "derech ertz kadmah latorah", proper behavior takes precedence over Torah study. Hashem wanted to insure the Torah was given to a disciplined society, capable of dealing with the new laws they were to be given, not to a wild, lawless people. Hence the ordering of the judicial system precedes that of the giving of the Torah.

PARSHA CONTINUES

THE ORACH CHAIM makes a very interesting comment. He states this parsha is here to teach us the reason why G-d chose the Jewish people as His nation. It had nothing to do with our wisdom or with cultural superiority, because in truth, we were no better than any other people. Yisro himself had to teach us how to manage ourselves. Rather, it was our spiritual superiority which prepared the Jewish people to be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.

YISRO SUGGESTED TO Moshe, while Moshe sat adjudicating cases for the people, that he was working too hard and inefficiently. He suggested Moshe seek out capable, G-d fearing men of truth who hated injustice, and appoint them as leaders of thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens. He was to let them administer justice for the people, with the tough cases being brought directly to Moshe for his ruling. Moshe took the advice and set up this new legal system. Part of Yisro's recommendation was that the leaders Moshe Rabbeinu appointed should possess the following qualities: they be capable (which, according to Rashi means wealthy), G-d fearing and truthful and people who hate unjust gain. Yet, we find when Moshe Rabbeinu looked for judges he sought only those who were "anshei chayil", capable men. Our sages differ in their understanding of this discrepancy. The Rambam explains this virtue of being capable includes all of the other qualities, therefore we understand Yisro spelled each one out, whereas Moshe included them all in one. Thus, according to Rambam, Moshe did not ignore the suggestions made by Yisro. The Orach Chaim however, explains Yisro's "four qualities" corresponded to the four ranks of judges he recommended, and therefore when it says Moshe Rabbeinu looked only for anshei chayil, it means he was looking only for judges of thousands, he was not speaking about his search for the others. When Moshe Rabbeinu looked for the other judges, certainly he looked for the quality necessary to each one of those other levels.

THE TORAH RELATES the giving of the Torah and the preparations for this event. On Rosh Chodesh Sivan, the third month after the Exodus (43 days later) the people came to the Sinai desert, camping in the wilderness opposite the mountain. Ohr Hachaim explains this verse in the Torah to indicate the three conditions necessary for receiving the Torah: (1) In the desert: to receive the Torah, one has to make himself humble, like a desert; (2) Israel: we must become like one people with one heart; and (3) they left Refidim: the place of the war with Amalek, which happened because we weakened our resolve to keep G- d's law. Therefore, in order to receive the Torah we needed to 'leave' Refidim by strengthening our resolve.

G-D THEN SPOKE to Moshe instructing him to tell the people they would be receiving the Torah and their commitment to it would result in becoming G-d's special nation of priests and holy ones. Moshe brought back the people's response, that they would do all G-d commanded of them. Hashem then told Moshe He would appear to them in a thick cloud so the people would believe in Moshe as G-d's messenger and in the Torah forever.

HASHEM TOLD MOSHE to instruct them to prepare and sanctify themselves in the mikvah for the giving of the Torah. Hashem also told Moshe to set up a boundary around the mountain so no one would go up during the giving of the Torah.

THE TORAH DESCRIBES how Mount Sinai was in smoke and fire, and the mountain was trembling while there was a sound of a Ram's Horn amidst thunder and lightning. Hashem spoke and Moshe relayed the message to the people.

PARSHA CONCLUDES

HASHEM SPOKE TO the people, through Moshe, giving them the Ten Commandments:

1. Belief in Hashem
2. No idol worship
3. No vain oaths
4. Remember the Shabbos
5. Honor your parents
6. No murder
7. No adultery
8. No stealing
9. No bearing false witness
10. No coveting

THERE ARE FIVE commandments between man and G-d and five between man and man. See if you can figure out why the commandments were given in this order, i.e. with commandment 1 corresponding to 6 and 2 to 7 and so on. Also, what is the connection between 1 and 10, and 5 and 6?

THE PARSHA ENDS with an account of the aftermath of the Divine revelation on Sinai and with some concluding rules about the altar which would eventually be built.

THE FIRST OF the Ten Commandments reads: "Anochi Hashem Elokecha," "I am the Lord your G-d." The question our commentaries grapple with is: Is this one of the 613 commandments that G-d commanded the Jewish people? Can belief, which involves no particular action, be called a mitzvah? Is faith in G-d, which is fundamental to all other mitzvahs, included in the 613? Or is it not a mitzvah at all, but rather a conclusion that is reached naturally through observance? According to the Rambam, this is the first commandment of the "aseres hadibros", the ten commandments, namely that one is obligated to believe, and to know G-d. According to the Bahag and the Abarbanel, however, faith in Hashem is not one of the 613 commandments, but rather the very existence of mitzvahs which stems from the existence of G-d. This knowledge forms the foundation of all 613 commandments, but is not in itself a specific command. However, there are others who believe the verse "Anochi Hashem Elokecha", "I am the Lord your G-d who took you out of the land of Egypt," is in fact one of the 613 mitzvahs. Yet, in accordance with the reference to Egypt, it is not a command to believe in Hashem's existence, but rather to believe Hashem watches over the whole world in general, and over each of its beings individually. The Smag says it is a commandment to believe in the Torah from Sinai.

A NIGHT FOR SCY FUNDRAISER

Sunday, February 23rd at 6:30 p.m.
RSVP to scyhigh.org/ANFS or call (858) 560-1818.

WELCOME

OUR GUEST SPEAKER
Rabbi and Mrs. Simon from **SCY High**. Please see the schedule for Rabbi Simon's lectures in this bulletin.

WE THANK OUR SECURITY VOLUNTEERS

Friday Evening

5:20 p.m. **Paul Shtein**

6:00 p.m. **Adam Sragovicz**

Shabbat Morning

9:00 a.m. **Steve Weitzen**

9:30 a.m. **Jerry Hermel**

10:00 a.m. **Brian Zimmerman**

10:30 a.m. **David Feifel**

11:00 a.m. **Roland Goldberg**

11:30 a.m. **Yaakov Shore**

SHALACH MANOT WEBSITE ORDERING IS NOW OPEN

This year's "baskets" promise to be better than ever! We are using the website HappyPurim.com to do our ordering. You should have received order forms via email. Please complete your order as early as possible! We hope you will continue to support our Sisterhood!

If you would prefer a paper order form mailed to you, please contact the office at (858) 535-1196 to request one.

Paper Order forms are due to the Shul office by February 24th and the Website Online ordering deadline is March 1st at 8:00 p.m.

The Adat Professional Network is Back!

Join us Tuesday March 3rd,
7-9pm @Adat
for a valuable, interactive, and
fun workshop:
An Even Better You!

Increasing Your Personal Effectiveness with Lumina. The workshop will provide a highly interactive experience in which you will explore who you are using the Lumina personality framework. You will understand yourself better and learn how to improve your working relationships with others. By applying the Lumina model, you can unlock many professional as well as personal benefits. Email Daniela Levi @ dlevi@boldspirations.com to reserve your place by February 24th. Limited space available.

UPCOMING ADAT EVENTS:

Guest Speaker
RABBI ADAM SIMON

February 14-15

All lectures are free of charge and open to everyone.

Friday Teen Oneg 9:00 p.m. at the Aron's - "Q&A Session with the Simons"

Post Kiddush lecture - "The Curious Tale of the Sapphire Staff: The Mostly Unknown Story of Moses"

Shalosh Seudos - "The Synesthesia of Loshon HaKodesh, Seeing Sound, Hearing Color, and Tasting Infinity"

Guest Speaker
RABBI STEVEN WEIL

February 21-22

All lectures are free of charge and open to everyone.

Friday Night Oneg 9:00 p.m. at the Reich's - "The Two Great Challenges Facing Jewry in the 21st Century"

Shabbat Morning Drasha - "The Crucifix on the Charles Bridge Over the Vltava River"

Post Kiddush Lecture - "The Great Revolution"

Shalosh Seudos - "Obsession: Why Do Our Leaders Bring out the Worst in Us"

Please join us for a lunch with Rabbi Weil in shul after the Post Kiddush Lecture. RSVPS are Required for the lunch and must be made by the deadline.

Please RSVP by Friday, February 14th to catharine@adatyeshurun.org to make lunch reservations: \$30 per adult/\$25 child (age 4-12)

RESERVATIONS FOR THE LUNCH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER FEB 14th.

COMMUNITY CHINUCH THINK TANK AT BETH JACOB Sunday, February 16th

3:45 p.m. Registration

4:00 - 5:15 p.m. Concurrent Sessions
Rabbi Kaplan - "Kindling the Shabbos Spark"

Rabbi Nissel - "Recalculate: When Your Child Needs Attention to the Point You Must Run Your Life Differently"

Rabbi Goodman - "Shooting for the Stars: Realizing our Children's (and our own) Full Potential"

5:20 p.m. Mincha/Ma'ariv

5:20 - 6:00 p.m. Dinner

6:00 p.m. Keynote Address by **Rabbi Leff** - "Creating Your Own Torah Enclave"

6:45 p.m. Parent Think Tank

Cost

\$10 per person

\$15 per couple

Babysitting for ages 2-11

Babysitting fees: \$10 for first child and \$5 for each additional child.

Free babysitting if both parents attend.

You must register online at www.bjsd.org/event/thinktank

Please contact Rabbi Reich for more information at rabbireich@adatyeshurun.org

Nazel Tov

David and Jackie Diamond on Daniel's engagement to Michal Urias

and to

Jaime and Rachel Atri on the birth of their grandson, to Daniela and Isaac Modiano.

PURIM SEUDAH RESERVATIONS ARE OPEN Purim is Tuesday, March 10th at 5:00 p.m.

**Catered meal
Children's Activities in the Shul
Parking Lot
Face Painter
Animal Show**

Costs:

**Early Bird Pricing
(you must RSVP by Feb 25th to receive early bird pricing)**
\$25 per adult (ages 13 and over)
\$15 per child (ages 4-12)

**After Early Bird Pricing
(last time to RSVP is noon on Feb 28th)**
\$30 per adult
\$18 per child

Reservations will NOT be accepted after Feb 28th. Please do not miss the deadline. **RSVP to Catharine at catharine@adatyeshurun.org or call (858) 535-1196 Opt 1**

SHALACH MANOT PACKING PARTY INFORMATION

Purim is soon approaching! We plan to assemble Shalach Manot on Sunday, March 1st in the large classroom at the shul, starting at 9:30 am and finishing by approximately 1 pm. Please RSVP to **Nora Laiken** nlaiken@ucsd.edu if you plan on being there. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Nora at 858-229-2323 or to contact Nora via e-mail nlaiken@ucsd.edu. Thank you in advance for your help!