

**KIDDUSH IS SPONSORED  
BY**

**Anne and Harvey Brenner** in loving memory of **Harvey's** mother, **Adel bas Lazar**. May her Neshamah have an Aliyah.

**KIDDUSH IS  
CO-SPONSORED  
BY**

**Larry Burstein** in memory of my parents, **Sam and Anne Burstein**.

**KIDDUSH IS  
CO-SPONSORED  
IN LOVING MEMORY  
OF**

**Sam Israel Marcus - Shmuel Israel ben Avram Yitzchak Marcus**, on his upcoming Yahrzeit this week. Your legacy lives on! From your children and grandchildren, the **Marcus, Pinn and Katzenellenebogen Families** and all the **Sam Marcus** descendants.

**Nazel Tov**

to

**Colin and Jane Scher** on the birth of their grandson to **Mark and Julie Scher**.

and to

**Joan Sable** on the birth of her great-grandson to **Mark and Julie Scher**.



**The Congregation  
Expresses  
Condolences**

to

**Mendy, David and Jordan Rezmovitch** on the loss of **Mendy's** father, and **David and Jordan's** grandfather, **Chaim Shmuel**.

**MINYON SCHEDULE**

6/25 Shacharit.....6:45 a.m.  
6/25 Plag.....6:31 p.m.  
6/25 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat.....6:45 p.m.  
6/25 Candles by.....7:10 p.m.  
6/26 Shacharit.....9:00 a.m.  
6/26 Sh'ma: Latest Time.....9:17 a.m.  
6/26 Mincha.....7:35 p.m.  
6/26 Shabbat Ends/Ma'ariv.....8:46 p.m.

**THIS COMING WEEK**

6/28/2021 - 7/2/2021

**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.....7:45 p.m.

**CLASS SCHEDULE**

**Sunday - Thursday**  
Talmud in Depth (RJW).....7:45 a.m.  
**Sunday, Tuesday - Thursday**  
Daf Yomi (RJW).....8:30 p.m.  
**Monday**  
Pirkei Avot (RJW).....8:30 p.m.  
Daf Yomi (RJW).....9:15 p.m.  
**Tuesday**  
Women's Class (RJW).....11:00 a.m.

**Rabbi Reich will be away from 6/16/21 - 7/9/21.**

**SPONSOR A KIDDUSH**

Available Kiddush Options:

- \$295 - Regular Kiddush Sponsor
- \$175 - Regular Kiddush Co-Sponsor

DATES THAT ARE AVAILABLE:

July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>

Contact the office at (858) 535-1196 or [info@adatyesurun.org](mailto:info@adatyesurun.org) to sponsor.

*In Memory of Linda Neiman*

**THE CONGREGATION ADAT YESHURUN  
WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN**

**Daniel Reich**  
Rabbi

**Jeffrey Wohlgeleter**  
Rabbi Emeritus

**Brian Marcus, President**

Balak

16 Tammuz 5781 June 26, 2021



*This Week's Torah Reading*

The Torah Reading begins on page 598 in the Hirsch and page 856 in the Stone. The Haftarah begins on page 900 in the Hirsch and page 1189 in the Stone.

**PARSHAS BALAK BEGINS** with an account of Balak's reaction to the defeat of Sichon and Og at the hands of the Jewish people. Fearing a similar fate, Balak, king of Moav, went to the Midianites to gain insight into the powers and character of Moshe Rabbeinu, who had grown up there. The elders of Midian responded by saying Moshe's entire power lay in his mouth, meaning his ability to pray. Therefore, in order to defeat Moshe and the Jewish people it would be necessary to choose a person whose power was also in his mouth. It was for this reason Balak sent for Bilaam, to curse the Jewish people and to signal their defeat.

**THE ENTIRE SECTION** of Bilaam poses a great problem for our commentaries. It is difficult to understand how there could be such a thing as a prophet in the non-Jewish world, why Hashem would rest His presence on such a person, and of what significance is the entire Parsha dealing with Bilaam and his curses. Many of our commentaries explain that Bilaam was in essence not a prophet, but rather a magician or sorcerer. Due to the fact his services were needed however, he was given the ability to have prophesy. Hashem set up a situation where a person who was greatly respected and feared by nations and kings would be the instrument through which would come His message. The Jewish People would be victorious, it was futile to attack them. In truth, Hashem had decided it was not a good idea for the Jewish People to be attacked and be involved in a war at this time. The most effective way of getting the nations of the world to step away from the Jewish People was to give them a message via a personality they respected and trusted. It is in this vein that the entire incident is explained, including the incident of the donkey, serving as a message to Bilaam or as a message to those gathered around him, that Bilaam's powers were coming from Hashem as opposed to sorcery.

**UNTIL THE VERY** last section of the Parsha the entire sidrah deals with the account of Bilaam and Balak, and Bilaam's attempted curses of the Jewish People. We see the curses he attempted to level against the Jewish People were all miraculously turned into blessings. The Torah recounts to us the details, and records the four curses-turned-blessings that Bilaam leveled against the Jews. In his first attempt to curse the Jewish people, Bilaam said (v.9) "I see this nation from mountain tops, and gaze on it from the heights." Chazal explain Bilaam looked at the root and source of the Jewish People, the Patriarchs and Matriarchs,

who are ultimately responsible for the immortality of the Jewish Nation. Bilaam recognized that although the nations would eventually blend together and assimilate, the Jewish people would remain as a nation which was forever alone and unique in its laws. As long as the Jewish Nation had Torah they would be protected. No nation would have the power to overcome them.

**IN THE SECOND** attempt at cursing the Jewish People, as Bilaam stood over them and perceived the essence of the Jewish People and their relationship to their land, he understood that their strength lay not in sorcery (v.23), but through Hashem's protection. All of their movements were dictated by Divine Providence (v.21). At the end of this second prophesy he was given the ability to see that Moshe would not die until he brought down both the King of Moav, as well as Bilaam himself.

**IN THE THIRD** attempt, which begins in chapter 24, a change comes over Bilaam. It is at this point he is enveloped by a Divine Spirit and is given an even stronger ability to perceive and understand the workings of the Jewish People. It is in this attempt that Bilaam states (v.5), "How good are your tents, Oh Yaakov, your dwelling places, Oh Yisroel!" in which he expresses his absolute amazement at the modesty and purity of the Jewish community. It was during this attempt that all of Balak's hopes of changing Hashem's will were destroyed. He thus broke his ties with Bilaam. It was therefore Bilaam's own initiative to continue with the blessings.

**DURING THE FOURTH** and final attempt Bilaam prophesied about the end of days: the destruction of the nations of the world and the subsequent victory of the Jewish People and of G-d. At the end of this curse Bilaam and Balak officially parted ways, returning to their respective homes.

**FIRST, HOWEVER, BILAAM** advised Balak on how to prevent all of the blessings from occurring. He explained that the blessings take place only when the Jewish People are seen in a favorable light to G-d. There is one way to cause them to be distanced from G-d though, through idolatry and immorality. The Parsha goes on to describe how the Moabite women set up stalls and invited the Jewish men in, to entice them to worship their idols.

**THE PARSHA CONCLUDES** with the story of the Midianite woman who was brought into the Israelite camp by one of the heads of the tribe of Shimon. It was at that moment that Pinchas, son of Elazar, the son of Aharon, could no longer contain himself. Feeling justice must be carried out, he followed the Israelite man and the Midianite woman into the tent's inner chamber and drove a spear through them. At that point, the plague which had struck the Jewish People stopped, and the death toll remained at twenty-four thousand.

**WAS PINCHAS JUSTIFIED?** Was it moral for Pinchas to take the law into his own hands in order to cleanse the Jewish People of their immorality? Was G-d pleased with Pinchas' actions? We will see next week in parshas Pinchas.

Shabbat SHALOM,

It is time for some very special thanks:

With Rabbi Reich still away on vacation to the east coast, we have had the privilege to have some outstanding stand-in speakers for Shalosh Seudos. Thank you to Gavin Horn and Todd Salovey for this, and for all you do in your roles as Gabbayim. And to Tsvi Goldenberg who will also be one of our guest Shalosh Seudos speakers. Thank you too, to Avi Greenboim who is always there, even at the last minute, to lain Torah.

Last Friday night after services, we had an incident where a group of young men in a car yelled anti-Israel obscenities at the guard and congregants at the gate before driving off. At this point, there is no cause for alarm beyond the incident, but nonetheless we are taking it seriously. SDPD was notified and provided video footage. They responded immediately and initiated an investigation.

Please help us stay safe by not congregating outside the main gate. If you experience an event like this, it's best to refrain from engaging in hostile banter and it's always useful for law enforcement, to obtain a good description of any individuals and/or vehicles involved, of course always keeping your own safety as a priority. We are thankful that we have volunteers and a community that supports the need for professional security services. Thank you to Moises Eilemberg and the security teams. We still need more people to volunteer for security, precisely for the reasons above!

This upcoming week, the following members are observing yahrzeit: Brenda Abelkop, Isaac Bakst, Harvey Brenner, Karen Breziner, Sofia Dujowich, David Ellman, Mara Lynn Katzman, Arthur Klitofsky, Brian Marcus, Esther Resnicov, Stanley Seidle, Peter Shoikhet, Richard Venger, and Hayley Winick.

We wish them Long Life and may the Nishmot of those departed have an Aliyah.

Shabbat Shalom,

Brian

MISSION STATEMENT

*Congregation Adat Yeshurun is a vibrant and welcoming Orthodox congregation that is committed to Torah, the State of Israel and strengthening Jewish identity and practice. Adat's diverse membership comes together to grow spiritually and intellectually within a caring and supportive community.*

## URGENT NEED FOR KIDDUSH VOLUNTEERS

So many of our members who have in the past participated regularly in shopping, preparing food for kiddush, assisting in special Holiday events etc. often report that they have made friends, and felt more a part of the shul community by volunteering.

The weekly Kiddush is such a cornerstone of our community. More important than donating money, is the donation of time and effort that contribute to the sense of community and financial well-being of our Adat Mishpacha.

**We are in urgent need of kiddush volunteers, otherwise we won't be able to resume our normal kiddush. Please consider volunteering for one or more of the following Kiddush Volunteer Groups.**

1. **Weekly Fruit buyer** – in this group you will be part of rotating schedule of volunteers who pick up the fruit each week for the kiddush. You will receive a reminder when it's your turn and the shopping list. You'll drop off the fruit in the kitchen, the receipt in the office and we will send you a reimbursement for the fruit.
2. **Weekly Kiddush Salad Maker** – in this group we put together teams of 2-3 people who will come on Thursday or Friday morning to make the salads for kiddush and Shalosh Seudos. Like the other groups we put together a rotating schedule, send reminders to the scheduled team each week, provide all of the supplies and the instructions for preparing the salads.
3. **Monthly Kiddush supplies buyer** – in this group you will part of a rotating schedule in which the volunteer will shop once per month picking up all of the kiddush supplies (i.e. food and paper goods), then deliver them to the shul and get reimbursed for the costs.
4. **Deluxe Kiddush Shopper** – the volunteer(s) in this group will shop for the extra items included in the Deluxe Kiddush on an as needed basis.
5. **Shabbat Morning Kiddush helpers** – this group will help with the assembly of the kiddush food Shabbat morning, and then put out the kiddush food on the kiddush table.
6. **Shalosh Seudos helpers** – this group will help to put out the food for Shalosh Seudos.

Thank you for your help!

If you would like to volunteer for any of these groups, please email Catharine at [catharine@adatyeshurun.org](mailto:catharine@adatyeshurun.org) or Annette at [annette@adatyeshurun.org](mailto:annette@adatyeshurun.org)

WE THANK OUR SECURITY VOLUNTEERS	
Friday Evening	
6:45 p.m.	<b><i>Need Volunteers!</i></b>
7:20 p.m.	<b><i>Need Volunteers!</i></b>
Shabbat Morning	
9:00 a.m.	<b>David Rezmovitch</b>
9:30 a.m.	<b>Rick Venger</b>
10:00 a.m.	<b>Peter Bowers</b>
10:30 a.m.	<b>Len Jurkowski</b>
11:00 a.m.	<b>Moises Eilemberg</b>

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR OUR SECURITY**

If you would like to assist us in keeping our community safe, please volunteer your service or fulfill the duties assigned to you. Anyone wishing to be added for security duty can email the office or speak with Moises Eilemberg.

**ADAT YESHURUN BROTHERHOOD**

Ever wished you had the chance to get to know some of the great guys in shul better? We are forming an adult male "Brotherhood" for Adat. The Brotherhood will give our men the chance to have some fun, make some new friends, and get to know old ones better through socially intriguing and exciting events. The first event will be announced soon. Don't miss out! Just email your name to [AdatBrotherhood@gmail.com](mailto:AdatBrotherhood@gmail.com) to get on the event notification list. There is no obligation to attend or cost to sign up.

Please note Rabbi and Brooke Reich will be away on holiday from June 16<sup>th</sup> and returning on July 9<sup>th</sup>. If you have an emergency and need to speak with Rabbi, you may reach him at (732) 715-1115 or via email at [rabbireich@adatyeshurun.org](mailto:rabbireich@adatyeshurun.org)

**CHECK OUT THE NEW KOSHER RESTAURANT AT THE JCC**

The new restaurant at the JCC, **BOTANIC BURGERS**, is open!!

Check it out [CLICK HERE](#)

It is open Sunday - Thursday and it is under the supervision of the VAAD.

**SPECIAL SHALOSH SEUDOS GUEST SPEAKERS!**

The following guest speakers will be speaking at Shalosh Seudos:

**6/26 - Gavin Horn**  
**7/3 - Tsvi Goldenberg**

Join us Shabbat afternoon at our community Shalosh Seudos!

# WHAT IS SHIV'ASAR B'TAMMUZ?

**SUNDAY, JUNE 27<sup>th</sup>** is the 17<sup>th</sup> of Tammuz. **The fast begins at 4:12 a.m. and ends at 8:46 p.m.** The purpose of the fast is to commemorate five tragedies that happened on the 17<sup>th</sup> of Tammuz, marking it as a black day in Jewish history. It was on this day that Moses broke the Ten Commandments as he descended from Har Sinai, while the people were worshipping the golden calf. It was on this day that the walls of Jerusalem were breached during the times of the First and Second Temple. It was on this day that Aposthumus the Wicked burned a Torah scroll, and the wicked king Menashe placed an idol in the Temple courtyard.

THE 17<sup>th</sup> OF Tammuz marks the beginning of a period of three weeks of mourning over the destruction of the temple and for every tragedy which has befallen our people. It is during this period of time we reflect on the cause of our troubles, draw conclusions and make efforts as both individuals and as a nation to repair the damage that has been done. This three week period of mourning begins with the 17<sup>th</sup> of Tammuz and ends with Tisha B'Av, the 9<sup>th</sup> of Av, the day on which we commemorate the actual destruction of the Temples and other tragedies.

THROUGHOUT HISTORY THIS period of time has been one of death and destruction for our People. The 17<sup>th</sup> of Tammuz cannot be ignored as a day which some religious fanatics have designated a fast day. It is a day that marks tragedies, disasters, deaths, persecutions, sufferings, mutilations of other Jews; events which we can not ignore or sweep under the table. It is therefore not an appropriate day to be sitting on the beach or strolling on the golf course. It has been established by our sages as a day of fasting, prayer, and reflection. The 17<sup>th</sup> of Tammuz does not carry the same power as Tisha B'Av; one need not sit on the floor or refrain from wearing leather shoes or any of the other prohibitions specific to the 9<sup>th</sup> of Av. However, keeping within the spirit of the day is certainly appropriate. It is understood that young children need to be taken care of and as they do not need to fast, and do need to function, there are activities that must be done for them and with them. The choice of these activities should be in keeping with the spirit of the day however, satisfying both the needs of the child and the obligations of the fast day. If there are any questions on the laws of the fast, please speak directly to the Rabbi.

## Pirkei Avot

Come and learn firsthand the timeless wisdom of our sages. This lively class is a must for those who want to deepen their knowledge and understanding of how the Torah sees our development as incredible human being. Each week is a stand alone class of inspiration and uplifting thoughts.

Every Monday at 8:30 p.m.

Rabbi Wohlgernter's Zoom Room

<https://zoom.us/j/6107329485>

Meeting ID: 610 732 9485

Password - 123

## Daf Yomi

Daf Yomi is a worldwide program in which students learn a page a day of the Talmud, our ancient repository of law, stories, mysticism, and more. It is an awesome way to get a smattering and exposure to the world of Talmud study and a great view of the landscape of Torah. One of the biggest yields of Daf Yomi is the YOMI, daily engagement in serious Torah study. Come and see that many of our students have no prior background in Talmud study, but show up with a great desire to learn.

Sun., Tue. - Thu at 8:30 p.m.

Monday 9:15 p.m.

Rabbi Wohlgernter's Zoom Room

<https://zoom.us/j/6107329485>

Meeting ID: 610 732 9485

Password - 123

## Womens' Mesillat Yesharim Path of the Just

Mesillat Yesharim Path of the Just. Join us and learn how to strengthen your Jewish Character. The study of mussar is the study of how and why a Jew is meant to think. Lively, participatory class.

Every Tuesday at 11:00 a.m.

Rabbi Wohlgernter's Zoom Room

<https://zoom.us/j/6107329485>

Meeting ID: 610 732 9485

Password - 123

## Talmud in Depth

Talmud in Depth meets Sunday through Thursday, on zoom, currently studying Tractate Megilla. We go slow, in-depth, with an eye towards Halacha. It is a lively class with tons of participation. A really great way to get your feet wet in learning Gemarah.

Sunday - Thursday at 7:45 a.m.

Rabbi Wohlgernter's Zoom Room

<https://zoom.us/j/6107329485>

Meeting ID: 610 732 9485

Password - 123