



SYNAPLEX SHABBAT NEXT WEEK!!!

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☆ **Scholar in Residence Kiddush & Luncheon** Everyone is invited to Kiddush & Lunch in the Joe Rothman Auditorium following services this morning. Thanks for sponsoring soda today ~ our **"POP"-STARS** of the week ~ **Harold & Fran Hoffman!!!**

If you would like to sponsor or enhance a Kiddush, sponsor Soda or Shalosh Seudos, or add something special, please call 314-991-2100, ext. 2, to make arrangements. Your contribution will help our NHBZ Kiddush & Shalosh Seudos Funds.

☆ **Davening ~ Parshas Vayekhel-Pekude ~ Shabbos HaChodesh**

Sedra: *Vayekhel: Shemos 35:1-38:20*; pages 516-528. *Parshas Pekude: Shemos 38:21-40:38*; pages 531-540.

Parshas HaChodesh: Shemos 12:1-20; pages 348-355.

Haftorah: HaChodesh: Ezekiel 45:18-46:15, I Samuel 20:18,42; pages 1218-1219.

☆ **Thank You For Leading Davening: Pesukei D'Zimra: Howard Sandler; Shacharis: Ron Makovsky; Leyning: Dr. Larry Gornish & Aryeh Needle; Haftorah: Alan Haber; Musaf: Menachem Szus.**

☆ **Jr. Congregations** Jr. Congregations will be held this morning at 10:30 a.m., Girls Jr. Congregation and younger children will meet in the Chapel with **Sivya Smason**. Boys Jr. Congregation will meet in the Auditorium with **Avrumi Smason**.

☆ **Mincha:** We will daven Mincha today at 5:40 p.m. Shabbos will conclude at 6:51 p.m.

☆ **Shacharis, Mincha and Maariv ~ Shabbos, March 13 through Friday, March 19:**

Daily minyanim are held in our rear building. **Friday and Saturday nights**, minyanim are held in the Chapel in the main building.

	Shabbos	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Shacharis	8:45	8:00 DST	6:45	☆6:45	7:00	6:45	7:00
Mincha/Maariv	5:30	6:50	6:50	6:50	6:50	6:50	6:50
		☆Daylight Savings Time		☆Rosh Chodesh Nisan			

☆ **Two Monument Dedications** ~ Tomorrow, Sunday, March 14, for **Jane Guber, י"ג**, beloved mother of Sol Guber, at 12:30 p.m., Chesed Shel Emes Cemetery on White Road; and for **Dorothy Bierman, י"ג**, beloved mother of Gloria Waxman, at 2:00 p.m., at B'nai Amoona Cemetery, 930 North & South Road.

☆ **Ari-Kabbalat-Shabbat & Scholar in Residence Weekend** Thanks to Aryeh Needle for leading the lively services last night. And thank you to our **Scholar-In-Residence, Avi Lipkin**, who specializes in speaking about (and against) Islamic fundamentalism. His topic last night was "Coming Confrontation with Iran." His topic during lunch today will be "Insights into the Arabic Media (Radio, TV & Newspapers)" and for Shalosh Seudos, Mr. Lipkin will speak about the "Islamic Threat to Jewish Communities Worldwide" (not for the faint of heart). PLEASE JOIN US for Lunch and return for Shalosh Seudos later today!!

☆ **Delight Savings Time Begins Tomorrow!!**

**Please remember to set your clocks
UP one hour before retiring tonight!!!**



☆ **Rosh Chodesh Nisan** ~ This Tuesday, March 16.

☆ **TIME TO SELL CHOMETZ** Please don't wait until the last minute!!! You can make an appointment to meet personally with Rabbi Smason during the day, or you can sell your chometz to Rabbi Smason at minyan; or come by or call our office so you can add your name (and place of business) to our list. Please make checks payable to the Rabbi's Charity Fund. The **ABSOLUTE DROP DEAD DEADLINE - Monday, March 29 at 7:30 a.m.**

☆ **Moas Chittim** ~ Each year, the Vaad Hoer conducts its Moas Chittim campaign to assist our people in Israel and our own St. Louis community who need our help to properly celebrate Pesach. Make checks payable to **Vaad Hoer Moas Chittim**. Send checks to the VaadHoer - Notation: from Nusach Hari B'nai Zion; or send them to our office and we will forward them to the Vaad.

☆ **Sponsors for Pesach Kiddushim** ~ We have our core group of donors who have generously sponsored our kiddushim every Pesach for many, many years, and we are very grateful to them. So far, the regulars on board for this year are **Jeff Baker, Murray Baker, Sam & Shirley Bluestein, Vic Grossman and Dr. Milton Tofle**. Now, with prices going up-up-up, we are seeking additional sponsors to help with the expenses. YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!!! To sponsor or co-sponsor a kiddush, please contact Sandie, 314-991-2100, ext. 2, or Rabbi Smason, 314-749-5271.

☆ **Absentee Ballots** Reminder to U.City residents: Local elections will take place on Tuesday, April 6, 2010 — the last day of Pesach. In order to vote, you will need to submit an absentee ballot. Absentee ballots may be obtained in our office.

☆ NHBZ Coming Events & Dates to Remember

☆ UPCOMING SHABBOS FESTIVITIES & ACTIVITIES:

☆ **SYNAPLEX SHABBAT** plus Lunch and celebration of March Birthdays & Wedding Anniversaries, next Shabbos, March 20th. The Synaplex Sessions: "The Mentsch in the Moon: Must One Keep Mitzvos in Outer Space?" led by Rabbi Smason; "Classic Insights into Pesach" led by Rabbi Menachem Kirshner; "Is There a Jewish Obligation to Diet, Exercise and Take Advantage of Preventative Medicine?" led by Daniela Hermelin, M.D. of Wellness to Be, M.D.; "Hot Topics for Jewish Teens" led by Avrumi Smason, and "Tot Shabbat" led by Sivya Smason; plus a Learners' Service at 9:45 a.m. led by Rabbi Chanan Swidler.

☆ Shalosh Seudos will be sponsored on Shabbos, March 20, by **Marian Walters** in memory of her beloved husband, **Kurt Walters**, ר"צ, and by **Esther Kalina** in memory of her beloved husband **Sydney Kalina**, ר"צ.

☆ **ANTIQUES ROAD SHOW** Thanks to Sisterhood & The Irvin Alper Social Club for a great evening last Sunday. Good food, good friends to schmooz with, and the Antiques Roadshow that was soooooo much fun and informative!! Everyone had such a good time that I suspect we might see another Roadshow down the "Road."

☆ **Shul Board of Directors Meeting** This Tuesday, March 16. Mincha: 6:50 p.m.; Meeting: 7:30 p.m. - both in the Rear Building.

☆ **Young People's Home Group** This Sunday, March 14, sponsored by **Michelle & Ephraim Mufson** will take place at the home of Sam & Shirley Bluestein.

☆ **Sisterhood's Mixed Company Day** This Tuesday, March 16, 12:00 noon. Come have **LUNCH** with us and **PLAY BINGO!!** Pasta with Meat Sauce, Tossed Salad, Dessert & Beverages: Members - \$6.00; Guests - \$7:00! RSVP to Rachael Pevnick, 576-1191.

☆ **CARRY-OUT PIZZA NIGHT** This Wednesday, March 17. Place your orders by 12:00 noon that day.

☆ **Executive Committee Meeting** Tues., March 23. Mincha: 6:55 p.m.; Meeting: 7:30 p.m. - both in the Rear Building.

☆ **LION'S DEN PIZZA BUFFET** - Sunday, March 28th!!

☆ Learning at NHBZ & with Rabbi Smason

☆ Weekly Learning ~

☆ **Boys' Shabbos Study Group** With Rabbi Smason for boys ages 10-14 each Shabbos, **30 minutes** before Mincha. **This Shabbos at 5:00 p.m.**

☆ **Shabbos Study Groups** Each Shabbos **30 minutes** before Mincha. Studying Tanach (currently, Melachim Bet - Kings II) and Pirkei Avos, **this Shabbos at 5:00 p.m.** led by **Menachem Szus**; **Everyone at any level of learning is welcome.**

☆ **Sunday Learning** Mishna Shiur every Sunday. **Rabbi Chanan Swidler**, of the St. Louis Kollel, leads a study of the Mishna following Sunday morning services. Davening at 8:00 a.m. **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME** followed by Mishna study.

☆ **Basic Jewish Texts & Ideas You May Have Missed** CAJE's Florence Melton Adult Mini School at Bais Abraham. Structured, 2-year, in-depth class: learn the basics of Jewish history, ethics, beliefs & holidays; text-based course taught on Wednesday nights, 7:30-9:30 p.m. by **Rabbi Ze'ev Smason**. Contact Cyndee Levy at 442-3754 or clevy@cajestl.org. Scholarships are available.

☆ **RAP with the RABBI** Teen group with **Rabbi Smason** for boys & girls this Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. in the office.

☆ **Lunch & Learn** with **Rabbi Smason**, each Wednesday, 12:15 pm, in the rear building. Insights for daily living from the weekly Torah portion.

☆ Monthly Learning ~

☆ **The Morris Lengua Yiddish Club** meets on the 1st Thursday of each month, at 7:30 p.m. in the Joe Rothman Auditorium. **Next Date will be the SECOND THURSDAY -- April 8, 2010.** Join us for a spirited & enjoyable hour filled with Yiddish stories and songs, fun and laughter, **keeping Yiddish alive!** Seasoned "mayvens" (experts), as well as novices are invited to attend. Just show up and bring a friend! You'll have a blast!!

☆ **NHBZ Women's Home Study Group ~ "Women of Valor ~ Our Biblical Mothers"** presented by **Rabbi Shaya Mintz**, of the St. Louis Kollel. The group meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month. **Next class Tuesday, MAY 4, 2:30 p.m.**, at the home of **Jackie Berkin**. All women are welcome. Please join us!!!

☆ **NHBZ Chesed Fund** ~ Your donations of financial help and contributions of your valuable time are badly needed. In addition to your generous contributions, we especially need friends who will visit people needing some TLC. Partner up!! It's easier when there are two of you sharing the mitzvah. Thanks and Yasher Koach to our TLC Teams and individuals: **Jackie Berkin & Sally Needle, Bertha Berman & Phyllis Silverman, Ruth Alper and Moshe Pinto!** Please join the TLC Team and call **Phyllis Silverman**, 314-434-2482; she will tell you who needs our TLC in hospitals and nursing homes. Please send your checks to our office, or charge to your credit card -- call 314-991-2100, ext. 2.

MAZEL TOV
ON SIMCHAS THIS WEEK!
March 13-19, 2010!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Harold Berman
Helen Bolt
Danielle Eisenberg
Estelle Levin
Alex Lyss
Jack Lyss
Rebecca Lyss
Marvin Stein
Rosalie Yakovitz

Happy Anniversary
Rabbi Ze'ev & Chani Smason
Menachem & Linda Szus

Show your friends you care ~ SEND A TRIBUTE!
Sisterhood: Call Phyllis Silverman, 314-434-2482
Shul: Call Gloria Waxman, 314-872-3296

Beyond Twelve Gates

by Rabbi Ze'ev Smason

'Beyond Twelve Gates' refers to a beautiful concept taught by the great mystic **Rabbi Isaac Luria** (1534-1572), also known as *'The Ari'*. There exist twelve gates of prayers in Heaven — one for each tribe of Israel. Additionally, there exists a Heavenly thirteenth gate. Through this gate the prayers of all Jews regardless of tribe, Jewish education or level of observance are allowed to enter and are heard by G-d.

Welcome to Beyond Twelve Gates. Do you believe that Somebody is out there listening? A recent study indicates that most Americans believe that G-d is not only listening, but is involved in their everyday lives and concerned with their personal well-being. The study, published in the March issue of the journal **Sociology of Religion**, offers some fascinating highlights. 82 percent of participants reported that they depend on G-d for help and guidance in making decisions. 71 percent said they believe when good or bad things happen, these occurrences are simply part of G-d's plan for them. The basic Jewish understanding of G-d is that He is not only our Creator, but our Sustainer and Supervisor as well. Albert Einstein once said, "Coincidence is G-d's way of remaining anonymous." Our traditional sources express the idea that each single blade of grass grows with Divine Supervision. Perhaps we should think twice the next time we consider using the words 'luck', 'chance' and 'coincidence'.

Parshas Vayakhel—Pekudei Exodus 35:1 — 40:38

This week we read the final portion of Exodus, a book which began with the Jewish people enslaved to Pharaoh in Egypt and now ends with the completion of the construction of the **Mishkan** in the desert. Exodus is known as 'the Book of Redemption'; redemption was achieved not only through our escape from slavery, but also through receiving the Torah on Mt. Sinai which gave purpose to that freedom. The climax of that salvation was when G-d rested His presence amongst the Jewish nation when the **Mishkan** was completed. **Parshas Vayakhel (Exodus 35:1 — 38:20)** begins with Moses assembling the entire nation of Israel to transmit the details of the construction and fabrication of the **Mishkan** as described in the three previous Torah portions. However, Moses first cautions them about the fundamental mitzvah to observe Shabbat. The nation is reminded that although the construction of the **Mishkan** is of transcendent importance, it does not take precedence over the weekly observance of Shabbat. The portion describes that the Jewish people came forward with their generous contributions for the **Mishkan's** construction, producing a surplus of supplies. The craftsmen are selected and the building begins. **Parshas Pekudei (Exodus 38:21 — 40:38)** begins with a complete accounting of the gold, silver and copper contributed by the people for use in the **Mishkan**. Following Moses' inspection and approval of the many utensils and unassembled parts, Moses sets up the **Mishkan** on Rosh Chodesh Nissan as each part is anointed and arranged in its proper location. And as G-d promised, His glory fills the **Mishkan**.



Rabbinic Ruminations

Does participation in sports build good character? Texas A&M University-Commerce football Head Coach Guy Morris admitted to police that his team was responsible for the removal of all student newspapers distributed on campus last week. Was the football team suddenly interested in journalism? Apparently not. The East Texan published a story on Wednesday titled "Football Player Arrested in Drug Bust", and team players wanted to remove the newspapers that cast one of their players and their team in a bad light. Coach Morris said that he supported the players' actions, and added, "I am proud of my players for doing that. This was the best team building exercise we have ever done." Morris said he was not in agreement with the act being classified as theft because it is a free newspaper. Athletic Director Carlton Cooper said the football team could not have stolen the papers without the aid of outside help. "I don't think they are smart enough to do this on their own," he said. On a more positive note, linebacker Scott Fujita knew the right way to leave a city. Most of America followed the heartwarming story of the long-downtrodden New Orleans Saints winning the Super Bowl in February. Fujita, who recently signed as a free-agent with another team, did one more thing for the people of New Orleans before leaving town; He gave half of his Super Bowl check (\$83,000) to charity, half of that going to relief efforts in Haiti, and the other half going to coastal restoration in New Orleans. Fujita said: "The people of this city and region have been so good to me and my family that we just felt strongly about doing something to protect the city we have come to love so much." **Pirkei Avos** (Ethics of the Fathers) teaches that "good character is a prerequisite to Torah." The many 'stories' found in the book of Genesis come to emphasize the importance of moral and ethical conduct as a necessary foundation for mitzvah observance. Fertilizer can produce a beautiful flower, or a giant weed. It all depends upon the raw material — and quality of character — that we begin with.

Quote of the Week

A dream doesn't become a reality through magic; it takes sweat, determination and hard work — *Colin Powell*



Joke of the Week

Shmuelik was a little slow. In fact, Shmuelik was just plain dumb in most people's opinion. Some of the boys would play a joke on Shmuelik. They would show him a nickel and a dime and offer him a choice of one of the two coins. Shmuelik, being the dummy that he was, would always pick the nickel. One day kindly Mrs. Goldfarb who had heard about Shmuelik decided to see if he was really as dumb as everyone said he was. She took a dime and a nickel from her purse and offered them to him. Shmuelik picked up the nickel and said, "The nickel is bigger and shinier, and it has a picture of a building on the back, which I think is really neat, so I'll take the nickel." Mrs. Goldfarb said, "Poor boy, don't you know that a dime is worth more than a nickel?" "Well of course I know that," Shmuelik answered. "Well then, why do you always choose the nickel?" "Because," Shmuelik responded, "if I ever chose the dime, people would stop giving me nickels."

Thanks for reading 'Beyond Twelve Gates'. Comments, questions, requests to be added to our email list or better jokes can be sent to Rabbi Smason at Pepshort613@sbcglobal.net or adarabba@hotmail.com Care to know more about Nusach Hari B'nai Zion Congregation? Check us out at www.nhbz.org If you enjoyed Beyond Twelve Gates, please share with a friend. Thanks to Alan Haber for his assistance in distributing BTG.

Ze'ev Smason, Rabbi

Aaron Borow, Rabbi Emeritus Robert Kaiser, President

Phone: 314-991-2100 Fax: 314-993-4821 On-Line: www.nhbz.org

SYNAPLEX SHABBAT

NEXT SHABBOS, MARCH 20, 2010

Regular Services at 8:30 a.m.

Learners' Service at 9:45 a.m.

**Break-out Synaplex sessions following services,
starting at about 11:00 a.m.:**

**THE MENTSCH ON THE MOON:
Must We Do Miztvos in Outer Space?**

Led by Rabbi Ze'ev Smason

CLASSICAL INSIGHTS INTO PESACH

Led by Rabbi Menachem Kirchner, St. Louis Kollel

**IS THERE A JEWISH OBLIGATION TO
Diet, Exercise & Take Advantage
of Preventative Medicine?**

Led by Daniela Hermelin, M.D.
of Wellness To Be, M.D.

HOT TOPICS FOR TEENS

Led by Avrumi Smason

TOT SHABBAT

Led by Sivya Smason

Enjoy lunch with us at 12:00 noon

following the Synaplex Sessions

SHABBOS, MARCH 20, 2010

Celebrating March Birthdays & Anniversaries

Pesach

Sunday, March 28	Search for Chometz
Monday, March 29	1st Seder
Tuesday, March 30	1st Day of Pesach 2nd Seder
Wed., March 31	2nd Day of Pesach
Monday, April 5	7th Day of Pesach
Tues., April 6	Last Day of Pesach Yizkor Recited

FROM THE VAAD: As a reminder to the public to be aware that just because a product is found in the "Kosher for Passover" section of a supermarket, does not necessarily mean it is Kosher for Passover. Most food products require special certification for Passover. Look for a "P" designation next to the kosher symbol, or specific "Kosher L'Pesach" mention made on the product. Since there are some products on the market that say "Kosher for Passover," but contain **kitniyos** (such as peanuts, beans, peas, similar items from the legume family, corn, bean sprouts, alfalfa sprouts, green beans, mustard, and foods derived from these) or other problematic ingredients, we recommend that consumers use accepted national certifications such as the OV, OU, OK, Kof-K, cRc, Star-K, etc. It is very important to check every label. Local St. Louis supermarkets do not consult the Vaad regarding Passover products. Often they do not even separate Kosher for Passover from Non-Kosher for Passover items. Only Simon Kohn's and Diamants are under Vaad Heir supervision.

Please do not hesitate to call the Vaad office with any questions, especially if you are in doubt -- 314-569-2770.



**PIZZA
PIZZA
PIZZA
at
NHBZ!!!**



**Lion's Den DINE-IN Pizza Night
SUNDAY, MARCH 28!!**

**Your house will be
KOSHER FOR PESACH!!**

**COME EAT OUR DELICIOUS PIZZA
NO MUSSI! NO FUSS!!**

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

All-You-Can-Eat Buffet of Pizza, Spaghetti, Garlic
Bread & Salad plus Dessert & Beverage

Kids 3 & under: FREE

Kids 4-12: \$6.00 Adults: \$10.00

**CARRY OUT NIGHT:
THIS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17**

HOT PIZZA WILL BE WAITING FOR YOU TO
PICK UP!! OR ORDER AN UN-COOKED PIZZA
TO FREEZE AT HOME!!

Plain Cheese Pizza ~ \$12.00

Toppings ~ \$.75 each

EXTRA-CHEESE MUSHROOMS

ONIONS TOMATOES BASIL

GREEN PEPPERS SLICED OLIVES PINEAPPLE

PLACE YOUR ORDER ~ CALL SANDIE

314-991-2100, ext. 2

Deadline to Order: 12:00 noon on March 17.