

# NHBZ Shabbos Bulletin

February 18, 2012

Welcome to Nusach Hari B'nai Zion

25 Shevat, 5772

Torah Portion Mishpatim  
Maftir Shekalim:  
Haftorah Shekalim:

Exodus 21:1 – 24:12  
Exodus 30:11 – 30:16  
II Kings 11:17 – 12:17

Stone Chumash pages 415 – 443  
Stone Chumash page 484 - 485  
Stone Chumash pages 1212 - 1214

## Erev Shabbos - Friday, February 17

- **Mincha & Maariv** (5:15 pm)
- **Candle Lighting** (5:23 pm)

## Shabbos Shekalim - Saturday, February 18

- **Shabbos Shekalim** – see page 6 for information.
- **Shachris & Musaf (9:00 am)** - Thank you for leading services:
  - Pesukei D'Zimra: **Howard Sandler**
  - Shacharis: **Michael Shapiro**
  - Leyning: **Michael Shapiro**
  - Haftorah: **David Rubin**
  - Sermon: **Rabbi Ze'ev Smason**
  - Musaf: **Menachem Szus**
- **Child Care (10:00 am – Noon)** – for children 3 years old and younger, in the Children's Room downstairs.
- **Youth Programming (10:15 am – Noon)** – for children ages 4-8, in the Youth Lounge on the lower level.
- **Learners Service (10:15 am)** - led by **Rabbi Ze'ev Smason**, in the Chapel on the lower level.
- **Kiddush/Lunch (following Musaf)** - **Thanks** to **Dr. Jay Pepose & Dr. Susan Feigenbaum** for sponsoring lunch today in honor of the February birthdays of their children, **David, Sam, Max & Morissa**; **thanks** also to **Rabbi Ze'ev & Chani Smason** for sponsoring additions to lunch in honor of Smason family birthdays, the wedding anniversary of **Rabbi Smason & Chani**, and in honor of moving into their new home last Tuesday.
- **Shabbos Study Group (4:05 pm)** - Studies in Tanach, led by **Menachem Szus**; everyone at any level of learning is welcome; now studying Yeshayahu (Isaiah).
- **Mincha/Shalosh Seudos/Ma'ariv (5:05 pm)** - Guest speakers Sheryl Levine and Michelle Mufson will speak on 'Reflections on the Nishmah Conference'
- **Shabbos Concludes (6:27 pm)**



שבת שלום

## This Week

Davening Times	Shabbos Feb 18	Sun. Feb 19	Mon. Feb 20	Tues. Feb 21	Wed. Feb 22	Thur. Feb 23	Fri. Feb 24	Shabbos Feb 25
Shachris	9:00 am	8:00 am	7:00 am	7:00 am	7:00 am	6:45 am	6:45 am	9:00 am
Mincha/Maariv	5:05 pm	5:25 pm	5:25 pm	-	-	-	5:25 pm	5:15 pm
Ma'ariv Only	-	-	-	6:30 pm	6:30 pm	6:30 pm	-	-
Events	Kiddush; Shalosh Seudos	Learn; Rap		Buy Cash Cards	Lunch & Learn	Rosh Chodesh Adar	Rosh Chodesh Adar	Shabbos

- **Sunday Learning (Sunday, February 19, following Shachris)** - **Rabbi Chanan Swidler** of Aish HaTorah leads Mishna study for men following Sunday morning services; davening at 8:00 am.
- **RAP with the RABBI Teen Group** – (Sunday, February 19, 10:00 am) - with **Rabbi Smason**, for young men and women; at Starbucks at Olive & Price; with complimentary drinks to all participants!
- **Rabbi Smason's Lunch & Learn (Wednesday, Feb 22, 12:15 pm, in the Teen Lounge on the lower level)** - Now studying *Pirkei Avos (Ethics of the Fathers, in English)*, which deals with Jewish ethical and moral principles; please join us for an enjoyable and relevant presentation and discussion.

- **Buy and Use Cash Cards** (Monday – Friday) – Next order dates are **Wednesday, February 29 and Thursday, March 15**; buy 'em before these dates and earn free money for NHBZ.

## Coming Events

- **Dine-In Pizza Night** (Last Sunday, February 26, 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm) – see picture ad.
- **Tanya Class** (Starting Sunday, February 26, 8:00 pm) – at NHBZ lower level; see picture ad.
- **Shechita Class** (Starting Thursday March 1, 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm) - An 8 week series of classes for men will be offered in the laws of *Shechita* - ritual slaughter according to Jewish dietary law. The classes, held at NHBZ each Thursday night, will be led by Rabbi Chaim Loike, a Rabbinic Coordinator with Orthodox Union (OU) Kashruth Division.
- **Morris Lenga Yiddish Club** (First Thursday, March 1, 7:00 pm) - Join us for a spirited hour filled with Yiddish stories, songs and laughter; seasoned "mavens" as well as novices are welcome.
- **Purim Palooza** – (Sunday, March 4, 10:30 am – Noon) - fun, arts & crafts for Kids! See picture ad.
- **NHBZ Women's Home Study Group** (First Tuesday, March 6, 2:30 pm) - at the home of **Jackie Berkin**; Topic is "The Six Constant Mitzvos," presented by **Rabbi Shaya Mintz**, of the St. Louis Kollel; all women are welcome; please join us!!
- **Irvin Alper Social Club** (**NEW DATE** Sunday, March 11) – Special Event: "Howie" performs sing-along Show Tunes and Oldies; stay tuned for details.
- **Carry-Out Pizza Night** (to be determined)

## Meetings

- **Board of Directors** (Tuesday, February 21, 7:00 pm, following minyan) – **New Date!**
- **Executive Committee** (Wednesday, February 29, 7:00 pm, following minyan) – **New Date!**
- **Sisterhood Spring Meeting** (Tuesday, March 20, Noon)



## Kashrus Alert

- **Potato Salad, Cole Slaw and Macaroni Salad** - the following brands of fresh salads such as Potato Salad, Cole Slaw and Macaroni Salad are no longer under the certification of the cRc: **Orval Kent, Sysco, US Foodservice, Walmart, Sam's Club**; buyers should be diligent when making any food purchases and should look at each label for a kosher certification; any remaining products still bearing the cRc logo are kosher certified.

## Reminders

- **Bulletin Deadline is Noon on Wednesday!**
- **Sponsorships** - If you would like to sponsor kiddush, Soda, Shalosh Seudos, this bulletin, or something special and unique in honor or in memory of someone, please call 314-991-2100, ext. 2, to make arrangements.
- **Tributes** - Show your friends you care; a tribute is a donation in honor of a birth, a birthday, an anniversary, a healthy recovery, or in memory of a loved one, or for any reason to show you care; tributes will be listed in this bulletin monthly.
  - For a Shul tribute, call Gloria Waxman at 314-872-3296
  - For a Sisterhood tribute, call Phyllis Silverman at 314-434-2482
  - For Libby Needle Fund, call Sally Needle at 314-991-2575
  - For Chesed Fund, drop by the office to pick up a 'card pack'
- **Synagogue Honors** - It is customary to make a donation to the synagogue for an Aliyah or other synagogue honors received.
- **Free Money for NHBZ!!** - Use Schnuck's Scrip and buy Gift Cards; call Scrip and Gift Card Mavens Janet Haber at 567-7406 or Bert Zakroff at 220-0674 for details.



# *Beyond Twelve Gates* by *Rabbi Ze'ev Smason*

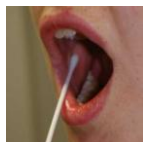
Beyond Twelve Gates' refers to a beautiful concept taught by the great mystic *Rabbi Isaac Luria* (1534-1572), also known as '*The Ari*'. There exist twelve gates of prayer in Heaven — one for each tribe of Israel. There also exists a Heavenly thirteenth gate. Through this gate the prayers of all Jews,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

Parshas Mishpatim

February 17, 2012

25 Shevat, 5772

## *Welcome to Beyond Twelve Gates*



Growing up in St. Louis, Khrys Vaughan always believed that she had inherited her looks and mannerisms from her father. But aspects of her self-image crumbled when she was told, at age 42, that she had been adopted. "I was crying because I wasn't Daddy's little girl," said Mrs. Vaughan, describing the day that her adoptive mother finally told her the truth. "I needed to find my place in the world." She began searching for her origins through a DNA testing company that offered to help people who had been adopted find clues to their ancestry and connections to blood relatives.

About five weeks after shipping off two tiny vials of her cells from a swab of her cheek, Mrs. Vaughan was given the names and e-mail addresses of a dozen distant cousins. She recently drove 200 miles from her hometown to meet her third cousin, the first relative to respond to her e-mails. Mrs. Vaughan is black and her cousin is white, and they have yet to find their common ancestor. But Mrs. Vaughan says that does not matter. "Somebody is related to me in this world," she said. "Somebody out there has my blood. I can look at her and say, 'This is my family.'" Mrs. Vaughn said her newfound relatives have filled a void in her life.

Judaism teaches that all humans descend from an identical source. One person (Adam) was created as the common ancestor of all people, for the sake of peace of the human race, so that one should not be able to say to a neighbor, "My ancestor was better than yours." Ultimately, those seeking their family roots need look no further than the first person in sight.

## *Parshas Mishpatim Exodus 21:1 – 24:18*



Following on the heels of the Ten Commandments, this week's Torah portion deals primarily with civil law. Like the realm of the ceremonial, our worldly and common activities must be infused with holiness and observed carefully. Included among the civil laws discussed in the portion are; penalties for causing bodily injury to another person and damaging his property; laws regarding borrowers; the mitzvah to show sensitivity to the poor and to offer them free loans; and laws relating to the honest dispensation of justice. After mentioning the mitzvos of Shabbos and

*Shemittah* (the Sabbatical year), the portion continues with a brief discussion of the three pilgrimage festivals -- Passover, Shevuous and Sukkos.

The Torah then returns to the revelation at Mt. Sinai. The Jewish people declare their commitment to do whatever G-d commands with the famous phrase "Everything G-d has said, we will do and we will listen." The portion concludes with Moses' ascending the mountain, where he will remain for forty days and forty nights to receive the rest of the Torah.

## *Rabbinic Ruminations*



Gotten your **X-Men** fix lately? For those not in the know, the **X-Men** are a superhero team in the Marvel Comics Universe. The basic concept of the **X-Men** is that under a cloud of increasing anti-mutant sentiment, a Professor Xavier created a haven at his mansion to train young mutants born with superpowers to use their talents for the benefit of humanity, and to prove mutants can be heroes. Xavier recruited Cyclops, Iceman, Angel, Beast and Marvel Girl, calling them "X-Men" because they possess special powers due to their possession of the "X-gene," a gene which normal humans lack and which gives mutants their abilities. The **X-Men** comics have been adapted into other media, including animated television series, video games, and a commercially successful series of films.

Though the **X-Men** universe is decidedly fantasy, believe it or not, a real-life court of US law ruled that mutants like the **X-Men** are definitively non-human. In a 2003 decision *Toy Biz, Inc. v United States*, the U.S. Court of International Trade ruled that the **X-Men** are non-human. At the time, Toy Biz was the toy manufacturer that imported **X-Men** action figures from China to the United States, subjecting them to import tariffs. Toys categorized as "dolls" — defined as realistic toy depictions of human beings — faced higher tariffs than all other toys under US law. Toy Biz went to court to argue that the **X-Men** were non-human, and the toy versions of said super-beings were most assuredly not dolls. Thus, there is case law on the books holding that some mutants (and most superhumans) are less than human!

Jewishly speaking, one qualifies for 'human' status based upon having both a body and a soul (*neshama*).



The source? "And the Lord G-d formed man from the dust of the earth, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul" (Genesis 2:7). G-d has a special love and fondness for we who are created in His image - mutant and non-mutant alike.

### Quote of the Week

"Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work."

- Thomas Edison

### Joke of the Week

One night outside a small town, a fire started inside the local chemical plant. The alarm went out to all fire departments for miles around. But the roaring flames held the firefighters off. Soon more fire departments had to be called as the situation became desperate. The company president shouted out that he would offer \$100,000 to the fire department who could save the company's secret files.

From the distance, a lone siren was heard as a small fire truck came into sight. It was the nearby Chasidic Jewish rural township volunteer fire company com-

posed mainly of Jewish, ultra-orthodox men over the age of 65. To everyone's amazement, that little broken-down fire engine roared right past all the sleek newer engines that were parked outside the plant.

Without even slowing down, it drove straight into the middle of the inferno. Outside, the other firemen watched in amazement and disbelief as the Chasidic old timers jumped off right in the middle of the fire and fought it back on all sides. It was a performance and effort never seen before. Within a short time, the Chasidic old timers had extinguished the fire and saved the secret formulas. The grateful president announced that for such a superhuman feat he was upping the reward to \$200,000, and walked over to thank each of the brave Jewish fire fighters personally. The local TV news reporter rushed in to capture the event on film, asking their chief, "What are you going to do with all that money?"

Vell," said Moishe Epstein, the 70-year-old fire chief, "Da foist ting ve gonna do is fix da brakes on dat darn truck!"

(Thanks to Jerry Cohen)



OYVEY!

#### Minyan Avoidance Excuse #4

**I WANT TO BUT I JUST KEEP FORGETTING!**

We have an easy solution. If you commit to attend minyan on a regular basis, we will have someone call to remind you! This will help ensure that we have a minyan every day, and will help you remember to come and fulfill your commitment.

Howard Sandler (409-7266)  
Rabbi Smason (749-5271)  
Synagogue Office (991-2100)

**Mazel Tov On Simchas  
This Week Feb 18 - Feb 24**

**Happy Birthday**

**Rebecca Kaiser  
Arnold Brody  
Frank Fox**

**Happy Anniversary**

**Jerry & Frances Cohen  
Marvin & Shirley Goldenberg**

**Show your friends you care - SEND A TRIBUTE**  
**Shul: Call Gloria Waxman 314-872-3296**  
**Sisterhood: Phyllis Silverman 314-434-2482**  
**Libby Needle Fund: Sally Needle 314-991-2575**  
**Chesed Fund: Drop by the office for a Card Pack**

#### Registration Opening for STL Birthright Israel Trip

The first ever St. Louis-only Birthright Israel group will travel in early May 2012, giving 40 young adults age 22-26 an opportunity to see Israel while making lasting friendships. Registration opens Wed., Feb. For more information contact Lee'at Bachar at (314) 442-3817 or [lbachar@jfedstl.org](mailto:lbachar@jfedstl.org).



#### Tanya Class at NHBZ led by Rabbi Shaya Mintz, St. Louis Kollel

Tanya is a major work of Chassidus that explores mystical psychology and theology, and serves as a guide to daily spiritual and ethical life in Jewish observance. Classes will be held on Sundays at 8:00 pm starting February 26. Men and Women who are interested may contact Bob Kaiser at [rkaiser@armstrongteasdale.com](mailto:rkaiser@armstrongteasdale.com).

**Nusach Hari B'nai Zion**  
650 N. Price Road  
Saint Louis, MO 63132

**Ze'ev Smason, Rabbi**  
Aaron Borow, Rabbi Emeritus  
Janet Haber, President  
Dr. Ethan Schuman, Chazan

**Office Phone 314-991-2100**  
Chapel Phone: 314-991-2100  
Webpage: [www.nhbz.org](http://www.nhbz.org)

## Stump the Rabbi

Ask Rabbi Smason questions about Judaism. Any question is fair game! You can ask your questions in person, or by email at: [Pepshort613@gmail.com](mailto:Pepshort613@gmail.com)

### Question:

**Why do we rise on our toes during the Kedusha prayer?**

### Answer:

**Kedusha** is one of our more moving prayers -- both literally, and figuratively. During Kedusha, recited at Shacharis, Musaf and Mincha, one must stand still, with feet together as if we were angels. The most important moment of the Kedusha is when we recite "Kadosh, kadosh, kadosh..." because in that moment we are sanctifying G-d's name. The universal custom is to rise up on your toes (feet remaining together) at each word "kadosh" (some also rise at "baruch" and "yimloch" of the later phrases) as if you are drawing yourself higher and closer to G-d. There is also a Kabbalistic custom to raise your eyes and look up with your eyelids closed during Kedusha. It is understood to be a moment when we are looking up at G-d while G-d is looking down at us, and we are connecting with the Divine.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Crown Center needs volunteers to deliver hot kosher dinners in the U. City area. If you are available 1 - 2 hours per week, we'd like to speak with you. For more information, please contact Florence Schachter, Director of Resident and Community Services, Crown Center for Senior Living, at 314-991-2055, or at [fschachter@crowncenterstl.org](mailto:fschachter@crowncenterstl.org).

## Irvin Alper Social Club

**NEW DATE Sunday March 11**

**Special Event: "Howie" performs Sing-along Show Tunes and Oldies**

**. . . stay tuned for details . . .**

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650 N. Price Road  
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## Getting to Know You

by Roving Reporter Robin Rickerman

This week's person of interest is **Lou Osheroff**.



**Tell me a bit about your family history.**

I was the youngest of five children. My mom and dad came from Russia. My dad came first then my mom followed 3-5 years later.

**What is your favorite holiday and why?**

Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur. During this time of year it makes me feel faithful and spiritual - the start of a new beginning for a healthy, happy, New Year.

**What is something about you that most people don't know?**

People think I project the image of being tough....but really,... I am very easy-going. Also, People think I am older than I actually am, when really I am 39.

**How did we become so fortunate to have you as a member of Nusach Hari?**

My brother was a former President of Nusach Hari Bnai Zion. He married into the Pessin family and they were very involved. My brother Abe, was part of the team that moved the Shul from Blackstone to Olive.

**If you could travel, ANY WHERE IN THE WORLD, where would you go and what would you do?**

I would love to go back to Israel and share the experience with my family

## GET READY FOR PURIM

**Two Ways to Fulfill the mitzvah of Matanos L'Evyonim, giving charity to the poor.**

1. In recent years, NHBZ has collected money to give to **Od Yosef Chai**, an organization that distributes money to the poor in Israel and our own St. Louis community. Make checks payable to **Od Yosef Chai** and bring or send them to our office. To donate by credit card, call 314-991-2100, ext. 2.
2. Buy special "pasta groggers" for \$4 each. Use the boxes of pasta as groggers during Magillah reading, after which they will be donated to the Jewish Food Pantry; proceeds will benefit the NHBZ Chesed Fund and the Rabbi's Charity Fund. A very BIG THANK YOU to Paul Mendelson for his generous donation of the "pasta groggers" this year, as well as last year.

**Today is Shabbos Shekalim**  
**(Shabbos of Shekels)**

Shabbos Shekalim recalls the census taken in the wilderness, described in Exodus 30:11-16, which is the maftir portion today. The people are to donate a half-shekel silver coin as a tax to provide for maintenance of the Tent of Meeting and its service, and the coins are counted instead of the people. The fact that both rich and poor contribute the same amount reminds us that both rich and poor are equally valued in the eyes of Hashem. The fact that we count coins instead of people reminds us that people are not to be thought of as mere numbers on a ledger. The fact that the census contributions are used to maintain the Tent of Meeting reminds us of the importance of contributing to the upkeep of the synagogue. On Shabbat Shekalim, we read a haftorah portion from II Kings 11:17-12:17, which also refers to census money and its use for Temple maintenance.

**ISRAEL CORNER**

Did you know that the most popular food product in Israel is the "soup nut."





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

**Lion's Den DINE- IN Pizza Night**  
**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26 !!**  
**5:00 pm - 7:00 pm**  
**All-You-Can-Eat Buffet of**  
**Pizza, Pasta Salad,**  
**Garlic Bread & Salad**  
**plus Dessert & Beverage**

**Kids 3 & under FREE**  
**Kids 4-12: \$6.00**  
**Adults: \$10.00**

**DATE OF NEXT CARRY-OUT NIGHT IS**  
**TO BE DETERMINED**

**PURIM-PALOOZA!**

 **Get ready for**  
**PURIM!** 

**Sunday, March 4th**  
**10:30-12:00 p.m.**

**A Fun-Filled morning of**  
**Making your own:**  
**Hamentashen's, Groggers & Masks**  
**(Children of all ages welcome)**

**PANCAKES!!**  
**will be served for a charge**  
Age 2 and under - FREE, children to age 12 - \$3  
12 and up thru adult - \$5, for all you can eat

**Nusach Hari B'Nai Zion**  
**650 North Price | Olivette, MO 63132**

Space is limited. RSVP's are strongly encouraged  
**Call 314-991-2100 by March 1st**

**NHBZ Chesed Committee Now**  
**Selling Tribute Card Packs**

**The Cards will be sold in Packs of 10 for \$25.00. You may pay by cash, check or charge card. Drop by the office to pick up a 'card pack'. The following have already purchased Chesed Card Packs:**

*Linda Szus, Fran Alper, Mark Ragin, Rachael Pevnick, Rhonnie Goldfader, Susan Scribner, Jackie Berkin, Sally Needle, Phyllis Silverman*

**NHBZ Business News**

Invoices for our 2012 Membership Dues are in the mail. We will appreciate it and thank you in advance if you will send your dues payments **as soon as possible**. If you wish to pay by credit card, please call Sandie, 314-991-2100, ext. 2. *Members who pay full dues and send payments early will receive a 5% discount!*