

NHBZ Shabbos Bulletin

May 19, 2012

Welcome to Nusach Hari B'nai Zion

27 Iyar, 5772

Torah Portion Behar-Bechukosai
Haftorah Bechukosai

Leviticus 25:1 – 27:34
Jeremiah 16:19 – 17:14

Stone Chumash pages 696 - 707
Stone Chumash pages 1179

Today's bulletin is sponsored by Rabbi Howard and Felicia Graber, in honor of the birth of a great-granddaughter, daughter of Shloimie and Goldie Lesser of Lakewood, NJ, and granddaughter of Steven and Joy Graber of Baltimore, MD.

Erev Shabbos - Friday, May 18

- **Mincha & Maariv** (7:00 pm)
- **Candle Lighting** (7:50 pm)

Shabbos - Saturday, May 19

- **Shachris & Musaf** (9:00 am) - Thank you for leading services:
 - Pesukei D'Zimra: **Alan Zarkowsky**
 - Shacharis: **Ron Makovsky**
 - Leyning: **Ari Levy**
 - Haftorah: **Mayer Taller**
 - 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** (following Musaf) is sponsored, by **Ruth Alper** and **Ted & Rachael Pevnick** in honor of their grandsons' graduations: **Adam Novack**, graduate of Iowa State University with a degree in architecture, will attend Harvard graduate school; **Andrew Sher**, graduate of the University of Missouri; will attend Cardoza Yeshiva College of Law; and **Joel Sher**, graduate of Parkway Central High School, will attend Yale University School of Engineering. Mazel Tov to **Ruth, Rachael** and **Ted!!!** **Rachael** is also sponsoring Kiddush to wish a Happy Birthday to her husband, **Ted!!!** Happy Birthday, **Ted!!!** Mazel Tov to **Charles & Gloria Waxman** who are sponsoring candy treats in honor of their new great-granddaughter, **Aviva Devorah Gilson**.
- **Shabbos Study Group** (6:35 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** (7:35 pm)
- **Shabbos Concludes** (8:54 pm)



שבת שלום

This Week

Davening Times	Shabbos May 19	Sun. May 20	Mon. May 21	Tues. May 22	Wed. May 23	Thur. May 24	Fri. May 25	Shabbos May 26
Shachris	9:00 am	8:00 am	7:00 am	6:45 am	7:00 am	7:00 am	7:00 am	9:00 am
Mincha/Maariv	7:35 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:40 pm
Events	Study; Shalosh Seudos	Learn; RAP; Picnic	Buy Cash Cards	Rosh Chod. Sivan; Member-ship Mtg; Exec Mtg	Lunch 'n' Learn	Shechita Class	Erev Shabbos	Shabbos; Shavuos Dinner; Earlybird Learning

- **Sunday Learning** - (Next Class Sunday, June 3, following Shachris) - No class May 20 or May 27; **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, May 20, 10:00) - with **Rabbi Smason**, for young men and women; at Starbucks at Olive & Price; with complimentary drinks to all participants!
- **Yom Yerushalayim Picnic and BBQ** (Sunday, May 20, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm) – see picture ad.
- **Tanya Class** (Next Class Sunday, June 3, 8:00 pm) – **No class May 20 or May 27.**
- **Semi-Annual Membership Meeting** (Tuesday, May 22, 7:30 pm) – don't miss it!
- **Rabbi Smason's Lunch & Learn** (Wednesday, May 23, 12:15 pm) - in the Teen Lounge; 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.
- **Shechita Class** (Thursday, May 24, 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm) - An 8 month series of classes for men led by Rabbi Chaim Loike, a Rabbinic Coordinator with the OU Kashruth Division; at NHBZ lower level.
- **Buy and Use Cash Cards** (Monday – Friday) – Next order dates are **Thursday, May 31 and Friday, June 15;** buy 'em before these dates and earn free money for NHBZ.

Coming Events

- **Shavuos** (Motzei Shabbos May 26, Sunday May 27, Monday May 28) – see picture ad for details
- **Women's Guide to Time** (during Erev Shavuos learning Motzei Shabbos May 26) - see picture ad for details of this exciting program!
- **Yizkor** (Monday May 28, Second Day of Shavuos, approximately 10:30 am) – see picture ad.
- **Scholar-in-Residence Weekend** (June 1-3) - Save the dates; **Dr. Jeffrey Lichtman** of Yachad, Scholar-in-Residence at NHBZ; Shabbos dinner, luncheon and more! See picture ad for details.
- **Irvin Alper Social Club** (First Sunday, June 3, **6:00 pm**) – join us at Pizza Night for supper, social hour, and a movie in the Teen Lounge; please RSVP to Ruth Alper at (314) 569-2877.
- **Dine-In Pizza Night** (Sunday, June 3, 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm) – **ONE WEEK LATE, due to Shavuos.**
- **NHBZ Women's Home Study Group** (First Tuesday, June 5, 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!
- **Morris Lengua Yiddish Club** (First Thursday, June 7, 7:30 pm) - Join us for a spirited hour filled with Yiddish stories, songs and laughter; "mavens" as well as novices are welcome.
- **Legacy Shabbos** (Saturday, June 9) – stay tuned for details.
- **Carry-Out Pizza Night** (Wednesday, June 13) – please place orders by Noon on June 13;

Meetings

- **Semi-Annual Membership Meeting** (Tues, May 22, 7:30 pm, following minyan at 7 pm) – **Don't Miss**
- **Executive Committee** (Tuesday, May 22, following Semi-Annual Membership Meeting)
- **Board of Directors** (Tuesday, June 12, following minyan at 7:00 pm)



Reminders

- **Bulletin Deadline is Noon on Wednesday!**

NHBZ Semi-Annual Members Meeting

Tuesday, May 22, 7:30 pm

- Hear Rabbi's, President's & Committee Reports
- Review accomplishments of the last six months
- Express your opinions & provide input into future directions of NHBZ
- Take a peek into the future

Minyan Information

Attending minyan enables one to fulfill many additional mitzvos: Answering to Kaddish, Kedusha, Borchu, and hearing the Torah reading.

Mayer Taller 997-0527

Rabbi Smason 749-5271

Howard Sandler 409-7266

NHBZ Office 991-2100

***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 Behar /Bechukosai

May 19, 2012

27 Iyar, 5772

Welcome to Beyond Twelve Gates



Since kindergarten, 17-year-old high-school senior Ciara Cetraro hasn't missed a day of school. That's more than 2,000 days of showing up for every day of school. And perhaps most impressive of all: She did it living in Hawaii, which is known for its "epidemic" of chronic absenteeism. Ciara's consistency puts her in some famous company. Baseball's all-time Iron Man, Cal Ripken, Jr., holds the record for games played in a row: lacing up for 2,632 consecutive games over more than 16 years. And despite a recent illness, "American Idol" host Ryan Seacrest has shown up for every installment of the show over its ongoing 11-year run.

Ciara has not only had perfect attendance, but the Konawaena High School senior is one of her class valedictorians, president and treasurer of the school's National Honor Society chapter, captain of the cheerleading squad, senior class vice president and Environmental Club vice president. "I never did this for the recognition or awards," Ciara said. "School is very important to me and I like it. I've always been afraid of possibly missing something. I just wanted to try my best, learn as much as I can and continually improve myself. By not missing a single day of school, I get the opportunity to build on and broaden my knowledge."

At times, our culture seems to encourage us to look for immediate results. "Lose 30 pounds in 30 days." "Turn \$1,000 into \$100,000 in just minutes a day." In Torah, as with most things in life, there is no free lunch. The Talmud says, "If someone tells you, 'I haven't toiled, yet I have acquired (Torah knowledge) - don't believe him.'" Consistent hard work is crucial not only to the study of Torah, but in general, to success in life. Every day, all day -- give it all you've got.

Parshas Behar/Bechukosai Leviticus 25:1-27:34



Behar focuses primarily on mitzvos concerning the land of Israel, beginning with the command to observe a Sabbatical (Shemitta) year. During the Sabbatical year one's fields are to remain uncultivated every seventh year, refraining from the normal cycle of planting and harvesting. Similarly, the land in Israel is to remain unworked in the Jubilee (Yovel) or 50th year, at which time ownership of all land automatically returns to its ancestral heritage. A quote found on the Liberty Bell,

"And you should sanctify the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout the land ..." is taken from the passage describing the Jubilee year. *Behar* also speaks about the poor and downtrodden. Not only are we commanded to give them tzedaka and do acts of loving kindness for them, but ideally we are to provide them with the means to raise themselves out of their poverty-stricken state.

Bechukosai, the last Torah portion in the book of Leviticus, begins by briefly listing some of the blessings and rewards that the Jewish people will receive for diligently learning and following the Torah. The Portion then shifts to the subject matter which has made it famous -- G-d's admonitions and warnings of the consequences if the Jewish people abandon the Torah. Step by step, the Torah describes the tragedies which will befall the Jewish people if they abandon observance of the Torah, providing an eerie account of what has been part of our history to this day. There is good news, however; teshuva (return, or repentance) is possible at any time to avert an otherwise harsh decree. The book of Leviticus concludes with a brief discussion of tithes.

Rabbinic Ruminations



The Eastgate Centre in Harare, Zimbabwe, the country's largest office and shopping complex, is an architectural marvel. The complex has no conventional air-conditioning or heating, yet stays regulated year round with dramatically less energy consumption using design methods inspired by ... the self-cooling mounds of African termites! *Biomimicry* is the examination of Nature to emulate or take inspiration from in order to solve human problems. An early example of biomimicry was the study of birds to enable human flight. The Wright Brothers derived inspiration for creating and flying the first airplane in 1903 from observations of pigeons in flight.

Termites in Zimbabwe build gigantic mounds -- some, as high as 20 feet -- inside of which they farm a fungus that is their primary food source. The fungus must be kept at exactly 87 degrees, while temperatures outside range from 35 degrees at night to 104 degrees during the day. The termites achieve this remarkable feat by constantly opening and closing a series of heating and cooling vents throughout the mound over the course of the day. With a system of carefully adjusted convection currents, air is sucked in at the lower part of the mound, down into enclosures with muddy walls, and up through a channel

to the peak of the termite mound. Thousands of tiny, industrious termites constantly dig new vents and plug up old ones in order to regulate the temperature.

The Eastgate Centre uses less than 10% of the energy of a conventional building its size. These efficiencies translate directly to the bottom line: Eastgate's owners have saved millions of dollars because of an air-conditioning system that did not have to be implemented. Eastgate's architects and builders, through biomimicry, learned from the termite -- but who taught the termite how to build?

The Psalmist says, "The heavens declare the glory of G-d; the skies proclaim the work of His hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world." (Psalm 19) Nature is a great proof of G-d's existence.

Quote of the Week

"What a wonderful life I've had! I only wish I'd realized it sooner" - Sidone-Gabrielle Colette, French Novelist

Joke of the Week

A horseplayer gets up one morning and notices that his digital clock radio reads 5:55. He goes out for breakfast and the bill comes to \$5.55. He gets his morning paper and sees that yesterday's winning lottery number was 555. Figuring he's on to something, the superstitious gambler gets on a bus to go to his bank. The number on the bus is 555. The bus drops him off at his bank at 555 Main Street where the horseplayer fills out a withdrawal slip with the number 555 on it, and he withdraws \$555.

Next, the man hails a cab to the track. The number of the taxi is 555 and the fare to the track is \$5.55. He pays \$5 to enter the track through window number 5. The man sits out some races before he bets \$555 on the 5 horse in the 5th. The horse goes off at a robust 55/1 and opens up a 5-length lead, maintaining it until deep stretch when half the field rallies. The man watches with horror ashis horse finishes fifth.



Mazel Tov On Simchas
This Week May 19 - May 25

Happy Birthday

Tzipporah Zakroff Bert Zakroff
Phyllis Silverman

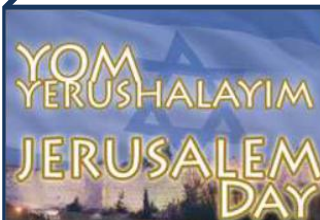
Happy Anniversary
Mikhail & Khasya Epshteyn

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

YIZKOR REMINDERS

Thanks to those who sent Pesach Yizkor donations in memory of your loved ones.

1. Yizkor will be recited next on the second day of Shavuot, May 28, 2012.
2. When we recite Yizkor, we pledge to give Tzedakah in memory of our loved ones; please send your Yizkor donations to NHBZ.
3. We will recite the name of your loved one out loud during Yizkor services for \$18 per year. Call the office at 991-2100 for details.



Celebrate the Reunification Of Jerusalem

PICNIC and BBQ

Special Games & Programs for Kids
Sunday, May 20, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm
Zeid (Citizen's) Park
Old Bonhomme just east of Price

Hot Dogs, hamburgers and beverages for sale

In case of rain, we will move next door to
Nusach Hari B'nai Zion
650 North Price Road, Olivette

ISRAEL CORNER

Israel receives more media coverage, per capita and per square foot, than any other nation on earth.

Stump the Rabbi

Ask Rabbi Smason questions about Judaism. Ask in person, by phone or by email at:

Pepshort613@gmail.com

Question: I've noticed some weird letters after people's names in Jewish announcements. What do a"h and z"l mean?

Answer: American English is now the age of acronyms. OMG, LOL, LMAO, FTW! But in Hebrew, acronyms have been a part of written language for more than two thousand years. Important commentators are referred to using acronyms (so Rabbi **Shlomo Yitzchaki** becomes **Rashi** and Rabbi **Moshe ben Maimon** becomes **Rambam**). These acronyms made heavy books of scholarship shorter, and made it possible to transcribe long passages of text quickly.

In English we have an acronym associated with death: RIP, which stands for Rest in Peace. In Hebrew, there are a few acronyms that parallel this. A"h is short for *alav/aleha hashalom*, which means "peace be upon him/her." Alternately, z"l stands for *zikhrono/zikhronah livrakha*, meaning "May his/her memory be a blessing" and zt"l stands for *zekher tzadik livrakha* "May the memory of this righteous one be a blessing." So when you see a name followed by any of these acronyms, the implication is that the person mentioned is not alive.

There's also a Hebrew acronym for respected rabbis who are alive. Shlit"a is short for *Sheyikhye L'Orech Yamim Tovim Arukim/Amen* (other traditions suggest it stands for *Sheyibadeh L'Yamin Tovim V'Arukim*), which means "He should live a good and long life." Both Shlit"a and the honorifics for the dead are typically given after the person's name, and not before.

Grief Support Group

Will meet twice per month, on Mondays from 6:45 pm to 8:00 pm, starting May 21, 2012. Contact Louise Kaufman-Yavitz to register: 314-872-9988 or louiseky@gmail.com

Barbara Mendelson Tomchei Shabbos Fund - Vaad Hoer

COOKIES for SHAVUOS

Buy a log of ready-to-bake, pareve sugar **cookie dough** that will make approximately 1 dozen cookies.

Price: \$10/log To order Contact Jackie Oppenheimer 314-997-6924 or baubiejackie@gmail.com

Getting to Know You

by Roving Reporter Robin Rickerman

This week featuring **David Simon**.



Tell me a bit about your family history.

My wife Keri and I both grew up in St. Louis. We lived parallel lives going to the same shul, summer camps and simchas. I'm 9 years her senior so we never officially met until we were adults. In 2000 I was playing in a band with a drummer who was good friends with Keri. My drummer set us up on our first date. We were both so surprised when we realized how much of our past was connected. I have a distinct memory of Keri giving a speech at my cousins Bas Mitzvah.

What is your favorite Jewish Holiday?

We are relatively new to observance so every holiday has taken on new meaning. Shabbos has had the most positive impact on our lives. It gives me spiritual fuel for the week but rolls back around as soon as my tank starts to run low. I was very skeptical about Torah and observance until I experienced Shabbos. It was through Shabbos that I began to understand the beauty of Torah.

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

I was on the TV pilot of MTV's the Real World in 1991. I obviously didn't make it to the actual TV show but I was one of 6 people to be a part of the very first reality production. I don't care for that type of entertainment but it was inspiring to hear the producers of the show lay out their vision and watch evolve into a pop culture phenomenon.

How did we become so fortunate to have you so involved at Nusach Hari?

We moved to Olivette a few years ago and were not at all religious. Nusach Hari broke ground a few months after we started dabbling with Kashrus and Shabbos. The first time I heard Rabbi Smason speak I knew this was the shul for us.

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

I have my eyes set on Israel. I went as a teenager and as a 20-something year old. I really want to go to Israel now with this new perspective I have on Judaism. I would love to go for even a week and just learn all day. I'll make it happen.

SHAVUOS SCHEDULE 5772

Saturday May 26, Motzei Shabbos

9:00 pm Ma'ariv

9:15 pm Shavuos Dinner -

Bagels & Lox, Egg Salad, Sesame Noodles, Sandie's Salad, Cucumbers in Dill Sauce, Cheesecake, Strawberries and Sugar-Free Pies

Adults \$12.00; Kids 6-11 \$6.00; Kids under 6 Free

10:15 pm Early Bird Learning Session 1

- Spiritual Significance of Eagle Wings - Rabbi Ze'ev Smason
- Meaning of astrological sign of "The Twins" for Jewish women - Rebbitzin Chani Smason

11:00 pm Early Bird Learning Session 2

- Jewish Influence on Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel Ceiling, Part 2 - Dr. Ethan Schuman
- The State of Israel and Mashiah/ Messiah - Menachem Szus

Midnight - All Night Learning, including Tanya, Chap. 32 (The obligation to Love A Fellow Jew)

Sunday May 27, First Day of Shavuos

5:20 am Early Minyan

9:00 am Regular Yom Tov Services

Monday May 28, Second Day of Shavuos

9:00 am Shachris

10:30 am YIZKOR

Shavuos - Festival of Weeks

This is a major holiday celebrated seven weeks after Pesach. Even though it is only a two day Yom Tov, nevertheless, it is a very important Jewish Festival. Our Sages inform us that **G-d** revealed the **Ten Commandments** to the Jewish people on **Shavuos**. Shavuos is observed with festive meals. Some people include cheese cake and blintzes on the menu, reminiscent of the Torah that is compared to milk & honey. The Song of Songs (4:11) reads: "Honey & Milk shall be under your tongue." This implies that the words of the Torah may be as pleasant to our ears and hearts as are milk and honey to our tongue. Shavuos is observed by attending services in the shul, resting from work on Saturday evening, May 26, and also on Sunday and Monday, May 27 and May 28.

Kiddush is recited on Saturday and Sunday evenings at home, and on Sunday and Monday afternoons following services. Prior to the reading of the Torah on the first day of Shavuos, a special poem tribute to **G-D** for creating the world and giving Israel the Torah is said. The poem is called **Akdamus**.

Scholar in Residence Weekend

with **Dr. Jeffrey Lichtman**,



National Director of Yachad, the National Jewish Council of Dis-abilities (NJCD), Dean of IVDU Schools, Director of NJ Association of Jewish Day Schools, and an experienced, and compelling advocate and speaker.

Friday evening, June 1

7:00 pm -- a lively and spirit filled Kabbalat Shabbat

7:45 pm -- festive dinner and program

Dr. Lichtman will speak on

"Faith in the Face of Life's Challenges"

Saturday morning, June 2

9:00 am -- Regular Shabbat services

10:15 am -- Learners Service in the Chapel

led by **Rabbi Smason**

11:30 am (approximately) Kiddush & Lunch

Dr. Lichtman will speak on

"All in the Family: Celebrating Diversity Within Our Community Family"

Sunday morning, June 3

10:00 am -- Community Lecture

Dr. Lichtman will speak on

"How to Develop Your Child's Potential"

All talks are free and open to the entire Jewish Community. Home hospitality for the weekend is available.

Festive Shabbos Dinner

Friday, June 1, 7:45 pm

Reservations required - call 314-993-4024

Adults \$15.00; Kids 6-11 \$8.00; Kids under 6 free

Yom Tov candles are kindled on the two evenings of Shavuos. The two Brochos are:

Boruch Ata Ado-oi Elo-eynu Melech HaOlom, Asher Kidshonu B'Mitzvosov V'Tzivonu L'Hadlik Ner Shel Yom Tov.

Blessed are you O **L-RD our G-D**, King of the Universe, who sanctified us with His commandments and commanded us to kindle the lights of Yom Tov.

Boruch Ata Ado-oi Elo-eynu Melech HaOlom, Sh'Hehcheyanu V'Ky"Manu V'Higiyanu Lazman Hazeh.

Blessed are you O **L-RD our G-D**, King of the Universe, who has granted us life and sustenance and permitted us to reach this season.