

NHBZ Shabbos Bulletin

May 5, 2012

Welcome to Nusach Hari B'nai Zion

13 Iyar, 5772

Torah Portions Acharei/Kedoshim
Haftorah Acharei

Leviticus 16:1 – 20:27
Amos 9:7 – 9:15

Stone Chumash pages 636 - 655
Stone Chumash pages 1173 - 1174

Erev Shabbos - Friday, May 4

- **Mincha & Maariv (6:30 pm)** – early davening tonight!
- **Candle Lighting (7:38 pm)**

Shabbos - Saturday, May 5

- **Shachris & Musaf (9:00 am)** - Thank you for leading services:
 - Pesukei D'Zimra: **Howard Sandler**
 - Shacharis: **Dr. Ethan Schuman**
 - Leyning: **Max Gornish**
 - Haftorah: **Kenny Bressler**
 - Sermon: **Rabbi Ze'ev Smason**
 - Musaf: **Dr. Ethan Schuman**
- **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)** – please move to the Social Hall and be seated quickly; pour a cup of wine or grape juice, and remain quiet until **Rabbi Smason** says Kiddush.
- **Shabbos Study Group (6:20 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 (7:20 pm)**
- **Shabbos Concludes (8:41 pm)**



This Week

Davening Times	Shabbos May 5	Sun. May 6	Mon. May 7	Tues. May 8	Wed. May 9	Thur. May 10	Fri. May 11	Shabbos May 12
Shachris	9:00 am	8:00 am	7:00 am	7:00 am	7:00 am	7:00 am	7:00 am	8:30 am
Mincha/Maariv	7:20 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:25 pm
Events	Study Group; Shalosh Seudos	Pancake; Bremler; Soc. Club; Tanya	Buy Cash Cards		Lunch & Learn	Lag B'Omer; Shechita Class;		Synaplex Shabbos

- **Rabbi Smason to attend Rabbinical Council of America Conference (May 6 through 9)**
- **Pesach Sheini (Sunday, May 6) & Lag B'Omer (Thursday, May 10)** – see picture ads for details.
- **Sunday Learning - (Sunday, May 6, 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 – (on break this week, resumes May 13)** - with **Rabbi Smason**, for young men and women; at Starbucks at Olive & Price; with complimentary drinks to all participants!
- **Pre-Lag B'Omer Pancake Breakfast (Sunday, May 6, 10:00 am)**
- **H.H. Bremler Memorial Program (Sunday, May 6, 1:00 pm)**
- **Irvin Alper Social Club (First Sunday, May 6, 5:00 pm)** – join us for supper, social hour, and movie; all for only \$7; please RSVP to Ruth Alper at (314) 569-2877.
- **Tanya Class (Sunday, May 6, 8:00 pm)** – at NHBZ lower level.

- **Rabbi Smason's Lunch & Learn** (Wednesday, May 9, 12:15 pm) - in the Teen Lounge; now studying *Pirkei Avos (Ethics of the Fathers)* in English; guest teacher this week is **Trudy Sudin**.
- **Carry-Out Pizza Night** (Wednesday, May 9) – please place orders by Noon on May 9;
- **Shechita Class** (Thursday, May 10, 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 **Tuesday, May 15 and May 31**; buy 'em before these dates and earn free money for NHBZ.

Coming Events

-  (Shabbos, May 12) – featuring U.S. Representative Russ Carnahan; lunch in honor of April and May birthdays and anniversaries; see picture ad.
- **NHBZ Sisterhood Luncheon and Bingo** (Tuesday, May 15, Noon) – Everyone is welcome; honoring all mothers; \$6.50; see picture ad for details.
- **Yom Yerushalayim Picnic and BBQ** (Sunday, May 20, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm) – see picture ad.
- **Dine-In Pizza Night** (Sunday, May 20, 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm) – **ONE WEEK EARLY, due to Shavuos.**
- **Semi-Annual Membership Meeting** (Tuesday, May 22, 7:30 pm) – **NEW DATE** don't miss it!
- **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) – presented by Rebbitzin Chani Smason; see picture ad for details of this exciting program!
- **Yizkor** (Monday May 28, Second Day of Shavuos, approximately 10:30 am) – see picture ad.
- **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.
- **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! Details soon to follow.
- **Legacy Shabbos** (Saturday, June 9)

Meetings

- **Board of Directors** (Tuesday, May 8, following minyan at 7:00 pm)
- **Semi-Annual Membership Meeting** (Tues, May 22, 7:30 pm, following minyan at 7 pm) – **NEW DATE**
- **Executive Committee** (Tuesday, May 22, following Semi-Annual Membership Meeting)



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.
- **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.
- **Volunteer Opportunities** - NHBZ needs YOU! NHBZ is open 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, and 52 weeks per year; to provide such an ongoing service, we need your help; whatever your skills, we have an opportunity for you: office work, cooking, pickup and delivery, repairs, Pizza night, Sukkah raising, outreach committee, building committee; please call the office to volunteer.



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 Acharei/Kedoshim

May 5, 2012

13 Iyar, 5772

Welcome to Beyond Twelve Gates



A postcard mailed from Chicago recently reached Scott McMurry. No news there -- except that the postcard depicting Shedd Aquarium was mailed in 1958.

McMurry's mother mailed the postcard to an address in Decatur, Ga., where the McMurry family grew up. Somehow the postcard arrived in Elizabeth Fulcher's mailbox in South Daytona, Fla. Fulcher posted a picture of the postcard on Facebook and her friends helped track down Scott McMurry, now living in Virginia. The 71-year-old says he immediately recognized his mother's handwriting. The half-century mail delay remains a mystery. In the meantime, the aquarium has offered to give McMurry a tour of the attraction that his late parents visited.

Earlier is better than later, but better late than never. Have you been to Israel yet? Whether you're young, middle-aged or old (at what point does someone become old?), a trip to Israel should be on every Jew's 'bucket list.' The Talmud tells us, "*Avira d'Eretz Yisrael machkim*" -- the very air of Israel brings wisdom. The special qualities of Israel will spiritually invigorate you, and you'll return home inspired and changed. Visit Israel -- better late than never.

Parshas Acharei/Kedoshim Lev. 16:1 - 20:27



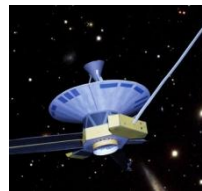
Acharei begins with a lengthy description of the special Yom Kippur service to be performed in the *Mishkan* by the Kohen Gadol. The service included the lottery selection from among two

identical goats, one of which would become a national sin offering and the other would be pushed off a cliff in the desert as the bearer of the people's sins (the 'scapegoat'). We also find described the command that Yom Kippur and its laws of fasting and refraining from work be observed eternally by the Jewish people as a day of atonement. *Acharei* concludes with a listing of the immoral and forbidden sexual relationships, and the command that the Jewish people maintain and ensure the holiness of the land of Israel.

Kedoshim begins with G-d's command to the entire nation of Israel to be holy, emulating the supreme

sanctity of G-d Himself. The Torah goes on to delineate a multitude of *mitzvos* through which we can achieve sanctity, covering a wide variety of subjects, both positive commandments and negative injunctions, dealing with our unique relationships to G-d and our fellow man. Amongst the highlights; revere your parents, guard Shabbos from desecration, have honest dealings with our neighbors, refrain from tale-bearing, don't hate your brother in your heart, and the well-known commandment to love your friend as yourself. *Kedoshim* concludes with the commandment that we be a holy and distinct people from among the nations of the world.

Rabbinic Ruminations



Ten years ago last week NASA received the final communication from one of the most influential and invaluable space probes ever launched by humankind: Pioneer 10. Carrying an explicit message from humanity to extraterrestrial intel-

ligence that might encounter the craft, the Pioneer Plaque, affixed to Pioneer 10, was created by astro-scientists Carl Sagan and Frank Drake. The aluminum plaque shows the nude figures of a human male and female, and also gives easily decodable directions back to planet Earth. The directions are in the form of a pulsar map.

Pulsars are rapidly rotating neutron stars which emit beams of radiation. The Pioneer Plaque pulsar map looks like an erratic burst of lines radiating from a central point. The center represents our sun, while each line represents the scale distance between our local star and one of 14 selected pulsars. The lines are binary (base-2) numeral strings denoting the unique period of each pulsar, so that aliens can know exactly which regularly radiating celestial object we're using as a sign post.

Unfortunately, despite the extraordinary intellects working on the Pioneer Plaque, the listed period of one of the pulsars is wrong. A math error crept into the design, making it possible that little green men could take a gigantic cosmic wrong turn in search of our sun. For those of us who make occasional math errors when balancing our checkbooks, it's nice to know that even the best pros are fallible! In various places the

Torah describes mistakes made by the greatest of our ancestors. It takes courage and self-confidence to admit making mistakes. View the entire process of learning from mistakes as a course in gaining more wisdom.

Quote of the Week

"One needs something to believe in, something for which one can have whole-hearted enthusiasm. One needs to feel that one's life has meaning, that one is needed in this world. -- Hannah Senesh

Joke of the Week

An atheist found himself in the woods when suddenly he heard some loud rustling of leaves. He looked over

his shoulder and was stunned to see a huge bear. The atheist started running, but soon the bear was towering over him with a paw raised as if he was going to swat him. However, just at that moment an incredibly bright light appeared, and a booming voice called out to the atheist, saying: "For all these years you have despised Me and now you call for My help."

The atheist said, "I'm sorry G-d. If you can't help me, can you at least turn the bear into a religious Jew?"

Then the light disappeared. The bear sat down and said, "Baruch Ata Hashem, Elokainu, Melech haolam, hamotzei lechem min ha'aretz!"



OY VEY!

Mazel Tov On Simchas
For Weeks of May 5 - May 11

Happy Birthday

Boruch Smason
James Pollock
Linda Szus

Larry Comensky
Carol Abrams

Happy Anniversary

Charles & Gloria Waxman
Victor & Anna Rose Tandler

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

Minyan Information

A person should make it clear to others that he or she does not talk in shul during services, and do so in a way that makes them want to act similarly.

Mayer Taller 997-0527 Rabbi Smason 749-5271
Howard Sandler 409-7266 NHBZ Office 991-2100

NHBZ Semi-Annual Membership Meeting

NEW DATE: Tues, May 22, 7:30 pm

We encourage all members to attend

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

Irvin Alper Social Club

Sunday, May 6, 5:00 pm

Join us for supper, social hour, and a movie; all for only \$7; please RSVP to Ruth Alper at (314) 569-2877.

ISRAEL CORNER

Last week marked Israel's 64th birthday. Since its establishment in 1948, its population has grown ten-fold and its gross domestic product fifty-fold.

YIZKOR REMINDERS

1. Yizkor is recited four times per year – on Yom Kippur, Shemini Atzeres, the eighth day of Passover and the second day of Shavuos.
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.
4. Yizkor will be recited next on the second day of Shavuos, May 28, 2012.

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

Question: What is the *El Malei Rachamim* prayer?

Answer: It is a moving memorial prayer that begins with the words "El Malei Rachamim" ("G-d, full of compassion"). This prayer, whose name is often abbreviated to simply *Malei*, is recited at the Yizkor service by the Prayer Leader on behalf of all the deceased for whom the Yizkor service was said. The *Malei* prayer is also said at funeral services and monument dedications; and it is said on the *yahrzeit* in the synagogue on behalf of the deceased by the gabbai or rabbi. Naturally, it is preferable that a member of the family be present at services to request the prayer. During weekly services, the *Malei* is typically said following the Monday and Thursday Torah readings, as well as following the Torah reading of Shabbos afternoon.

PANCAKES!



Saturday Morning May 12

8:30 am - Regular Services

10:15 am - Learners Service *in the chapel*
led by Rabbi Smason

this Synaplex will feature only one adult break-out session

11:00 am - Break-out sessions

- **Middle East Policy in a Changing Middle East: Israel, Iran and the Arab Spring**
U.S. Representative Russ Carnahan
- Youth Programming for kids 4 and over
led by Abi Epstein
- Tot Shabbat *led by Whitney Gartenberg*

12:00 Noon - Kiddush Lunch

Getting to Know You

by Roving Reporter Robin Rickerman

This week featuring *Joni Kaiser*.



Tell me a bit about your family history.

I have lived in St. Louis all of my life. My parents were "pioneers" in the mid 1960s and moved way out west to the Ballwin area where

few Jewish families had ever ventured before.

Bobby Levine and I were two of the very small handful of Jewish students at Parkway West High School. I met my husband Bob in 1983 at a cousin's wedding, and was immediately impressed with his sense of humor, positive outlook and his desire to "always do the right thing." We will be celebrating our 27th wedding anniversary next month. Along the way, we've been blessed with two absolutely wonderful daughters, Hannah (20) and Rebecca (17).

What is your favorite Jewish Holiday?

My favorite Jewish holiday is definitely Shabbat. Whether we have a dinner on Friday night with just our family or invite friends to our home, it's such a joy to slow down and appreciate what's truly important in life. Seeing my NHBZ family on Saturday at shul is the highlight of my week!

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

I was raised on a five-acre ranch with horses. When my parents divorced, my mom opened a boarding stable. I mucked out stalls on a daily basis and even trained my own colt when I was just 11 years old.

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

In 2004, we decided as a family that we wanted to be within walking distance of a synagogue, but we couldn't find a good "fit" that met all of our needs. That Fall, we were invited to NHBZ's Simchat Torah dinner, and from the moment we walked through the doors, we immediately felt welcomed and at home. We came back on a Shabbat to hear one of Rabbi Smason's famous drashas and we were hooked. The fact that we could be close to NHBZ and have our children attend Ladue school district sealed the deal. We moved from Chesterfield and have been happy Olivette residents for 7 years.

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

I have been fortunate to have traveled to Israel twice and would of course enjoy another trip there. But now that Hannah's away at college, anywhere that we could travel together as a family would be a treat. The only requirement would be a large assortment of kosher restaurants!

SHAVUOS SCHEDULE 5772

Saturday May 26, Motzei Shabbos

8:30 pm Shavuos Dinner

Early Bird Learning

10:00 P.M. 1st Session

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

10:45 P.M. 2nd Session

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

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 Minyan

Monday May 28, Second Day of Shavuos

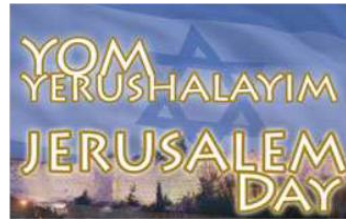
9:00 am Shachris

10:30 am YIZKOR

New NHBZ Women's Event

"A Woman's Guide to Time" with Rebbitzin Chani Smason

Every four weeks we will come together to explore the powerful opportunities the Jewish lunar calendar offers us as women. The next meeting is scheduled for Motzei Shabbat, May 26, 10:00 pm, during Shavuos Learning at NHBZ.



**Celebrate
The reuni-
fication of
Jerusalem**

PICNIC and BBQ

Special Games & Programming 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
will be available for sale

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

BINGO

NHBZ Sisterhood Luncheon

"Honoring All Mothers!"

Tuesday, May 15, Noon

NHBZ Social Hall, 650 N. Price Rd.

**Everyone Welcome – hope to see you –
Men and Women of all ages!**

**Delicious Menu: Tuna Salad, Kugel, Fruit,
Bagels, Cake, Cookies, Soda & Coffee**

Donation \$6 RSVP 314-395-6017

PRIZES GALORE

Pesach Sheini - 14 Iyar – Sunday, May 6

A year after the Exodus, Hashem instructed the People of Israel to bring the Passover offering on the afternoon of **Nisan 14**, and to eat it that evening, roasted over the fire, together with matzah and bitter herbs, as they had done on the previous year just before they left Egypt. "There were, however, certain people who had become ritually impure through contact with a dead body, and could not, therefore, prepare the Passover offering on that day (Nisan 14). They approached Moses and Aaron and they said: '...Why should we be deprived, and not be able to present G-d's offering in its time, among the children of Israel?' (Num. 9). In response to their plea, God established the **14th of Iyar** as a "second Passover" (Pesach Sheini) for anyone who was unable to bring the offering on its appointed time in the previous month (Nisan 14). We do not say *tachanun* on Pesach Sheini, and it is customary to eat matzah.

LAG B'OMER – Thursday, May 10

During the time of Rabbi Akiva, 24,000 of his students died from a plague during the counting of the Omer; therefore we observe this as a period of semi-mourning. The plague ended on the 33rd day of the count, and on that day, all mourning restrictions are lifted. This year Lag B'Omer is Thursday, May 10.

New Grief Support Group Forming

Psychotherapist Louise Kaufman-Yavitz will be leading a new grief support group hosted at NHBZ. Sessions will be held every other month, on Mondays from 6:45 pm to 8:00 pm, with the first one on May 21, 2012.

These meetings are non-denominational and open to people of all ages. Whether your loss occurred recently or in the past, you will find empathy and a healing environment here. There is no charge to attend.