

REGO PARK JEWISH CENTER BULLETIN

"And let them make for me a sanctuary that I may dwell among them."

EXODUS 25:8

VOLUME 84 NO. 3

TEVET / SHEVAT / ADAR I 5784

JAN. / FEB. 2024

JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2024 **SERVICE SCHEDULE**

Friday, January 5 - 5:30 PM
Saturday, January 6 - 9:00 AM

Friday, January 12 - 5:30 PM
Saturday, January 13 - 9:00 AM

Friday, January 19 - 5:30 PM
Saturday, January 20 - 9:00 AM

Friday, January 26 - 5:30 PM
Saturday, January 27 - 9:00 AM

Friday, February 2 - 5:30 PM
Saturday, February 3 - 9:00 AM

Friday, February 9 - 5:30 PM
Saturday, February 10 - 9:00 AM

Friday, February 16 - 5:30 PM
Saturday, February 17 - 9:00 AM

Friday, February 23 - 5:30 PM
Saturday, February 24 - 9:00 AM

PARASHAT CLUB

Shabbat, January 13th

Shabbat, February 17th

12:30 P.M. after Shabbat services

Presented by Rabbi Romiel Daniel

SUNDAY MORNING LEARN-IN WITH RABBI DANIEL



LEARN - IN

with Rabbi Romiel Daniel

Sundays at 9:30 A.M.
at Rego Park Jewish Center

See list of dates below

January 7, 14, 21, 28

February 4, 11, 18, 25

Bring your own dairy breakfast.

Coffee served.

FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

SHEVAT

What is the month of Shevat in the Bible?

Shevat the 11th month is well known as the month of Tu B'Shevat, the new years for trees.

Is Tu B'Shevat a biblical holiday?

How significant is Tu B'Shevat, compared to Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and more? No offense to trees, but the holiday doesn't land high in terms of religious or spiritual importance for Jews. It's not mentioned in the Torah. "It is not considered a major holiday."

Who invented Tu B'Shevat?

The main innovation that turned Tu B'Shevat into a holiday was accomplished in Safed in the 16th century by Isaac Luria Ashkenazi, the father of contemporary kabbala. He and his disciples enacted a tikkun (correction) that made Tu B'Shevat a day of celebrating and eating fruit.

The month of Shevat was when Moses prepared for his passing in the following month on 7 Adar. He took the opportunity to rebuke the children of Israel, as recorded in Deuteronomy. Out of honor for the Jewish people, Moses saved these words of rebuke and heartfelt criticism until right before he passed away.

The Midrash explains that Moses spent the month of Shevat translating the entire Torah into the 70 major languages then spoken. This teaches an incredibly important lesson: Every Jew has a connection to the Torah, even one who cannot read it in its original tongue.

In Jewish history and tradition

- 1 Shevat – Moses repeats the Torah (Deuteronomy 1:3)
- 15 Shevat – Tu B'Shevat
- 28 Shevat (circa 134 BC) – Antiochus V abandoned his siege of Jerusalem and his plans for the city's destruction. This day was observed as a holiday in Hasmonean times. (Megilat Taanit)

ADAR

In leap years, it is preceded by a 30-day intercalary month named **Adar Aleph** (Hebrew: אַדָר א', Aleph being the first letter of the Hebrew alphabet), also known as "Adar Rishon" (First Adar) or "Adar I", and it is then itself called Adar Bet (Hebrew: אַדָר ב', Bet being the second letter of the Hebrew alphabet, also known as "Adar Sheni" (Second Adar or "Adar II").

During the Second Temple period, there was a Jewish custom to make a public proclamation on the first day of the lunar month Adar, reminding the people that they are to prepare their annual monetary offering to the Temple treasury, known as the half-Shekel.

Based on a line in the Mishnah declaring that Purim must be celebrated in Adar II in a leap year like 2024 (Megillah 1:4), so Purim in 2024 will be on March 24, 2024.

Adar I is considered the "extra" month. As a result, someone born in Adar during a non leap year would celebrate their birthday in Adar II during a leap year.

Tradition relates that Moses passed away on 7 Adar. What Haman did not know was that Moses passed away on the very same day he was born—the 7th of Adar! The day of Moses' birth, the Talmud relates, helped avert the evil decree.

Adar was the last month the Jewish people spent in Egypt before the Exodus. Adar's joy is so great, in part, because it serves as the opening to an even greater rejoicing: the miracles of Passover.

Have a happy month!

Rabbi Romiel Daniel

CHANUKAH - 27 KISLEV, 5784 - DECEMBER 10, 2023

A lovely afternoon - on a rainy, grey Sunday. It was a wonderful afternoon we had enjoying the Tizmoret.

The word Tizmoret is orchestra in Hebrew. Fourteen young Jewish men and women entertained us by singing beautiful songs in Hebrew and English. This group is nationally acclaimed; they are college students who excel in a cappella singing - using their beautiful voices as instruments in an orchestra. Seven young ladies and six young men led by their leader gave all of us some much needed solace and entertainment from the recent horror in Israel as well as the challenges we are facing in our own country and around the world.

As all young people, they were starving after an hour of singing - and as the aroma of latkes drifted in from the kitchen, they were the first ones that Lynne Zakoff and I served. They were so appreciative that we could not deny that "second helping" - with delicious applesauce topped off by the sufganiyot donuts filled with dripping jelly and sugar coated.

The grey skies began to darken and the Rabbi gathered us around the beautiful menorah. Four of us had the honor of lighting the candles, the brightness of the flames reaffirming our heritage and the love we have for Israel and its people.

We thank Rabbi Daniel for finding this wonderful group of young people who made a rainy, unpleasant day memorable. As always, Robin Basdeo made sure the latkes were nice and hot - and we thank all of you, members and guests who were so generous - you not only paid for your ticket but also in so many cases, donated a little more to our shul so that we had more than enough food and Chanukah gelt, distributed by Lynne Zakoff.

Sandi Goodman

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**Please check your email
for links to Religious Services,
the Parashat Club & our
Sunday Learn-In
on Zoom**

**Please contact our Center office
at office@rpjc.org
for more information**

FOCUS ON SISTERHOOD

The next Sisterhood meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 24 at 1:30 P.M. Please take note of the change of day and time.

This meeting is for paid-up Sisterhood members only!

We request that you come prepared to discuss Sisterhood's goals for 2024 and suggestions for future programs topics.

There will be no meeting in February. You will be advised of the March meeting date in our next bulletin.

Happy secular New Year to all.

Noreen Daniel
Elaine Spodick

SISTERHOOD MEETING

Wednesday, January 24, 2024

1:30 PM

For Paid Sisterhood Members Only!

Refreshments Provided

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Noreen Daniel
Harriet Goodman
Selina Modak
Jeffrey Novzen
Martin Novzen
Sandy Novzen
Ed Starer



JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Lynne & Joel Zakoff

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Lorraine Carroll
Meryl Colman
Lynne Zakoff

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Toby & Herb Usenheimer



MANY THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING FOR SPONSORING A KIDDUSH OR PARASHAT CLUB

Sheila & Ken Sasmor, who sponsored the congregational kiddush on November 4, 2023.

Reina Goodman and Ruth Wolfson, who sponsored the Parashat Club on November 11, 2023.

Elise Bornstein and Maria Duron, who sponsored the Parashat Club on December 16, 2023.

January 2024

TEVET / SHEVAT 5784

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 20 TEVET NEW YEAR'S DAY	2 21 TEVET	3 22 TEVET	4 23 TEVET	5 24 TEVET E.S. 5:30 P.M. C.L. 4:24 P.M.	6 25 TEVET M.S. 9:00 A.M. S.E. 5:28 P.M. "SHEMOT"
7 26 TEVET LEARN-IN 9:30 A.M.	8 27 TEVET	9 28 TEVET	10 29 TEVET	11 1 SHEVAT ROSH CHODESH	12 2 SHEVAT E.S. 5:30 P.M. C.L. 4:31 P.M.	13 3 SHEVAT M.S. 9:00 A.M. P.C. 12:30 P.M. S.E. 5:35 P.M. "VA'ERA"
14 4 SHEVAT LEARN-IN 9:30 A.M.	15 5 SHEVAT MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY	16 6 SHEVAT	17 7 SHEVAT	18 8 SHEVAT	19 9 SHEVAT E.S. 5:30 P.M. C.L. 4:39 P.M.	20 10 SHEVAT M.S. 9:00 A.M. C.L. 5:42 P.M. "BO"
21 11 SHEVAT LEARN-IN 9:30 A.M.	22 12 SHEVAT	23 13 SHEVAT	24 14 SHEVAT SIST. 1:30 P.M.	25 15 SHEVAT TU B'SHEVAT	26 16 SHEVAT E.S. 5:30 P.M. C.L. 4:47 P.M.	27 17 SHEVAT M.S. 9:00 A.M. S.E. 5:50 P.M. INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY "BESHALACH"
28 18 SHEVAT LEARN-IN 9:30 A.M.	29 19 SHEVAT	30 20 SHEVAT	31 21 SHEVAT	C.L. = CANDLE LIGHTING E.S. = EVENING SERVICE M.S. = MORNING SERVICE N.E.S. = NO EVENING SERVICE N.L.I. = NO LEARN-IN N.M.S. = NO MORNING SERVICE P.C. = PARASHAT CLUB S.E. = SHABBAT ENDS SIST. = SISTERHOOD MEETING		

February 2024

SHEVAT / ADAR I 5784

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
C.L. = CANDLE LIGHTING E.S. = EVENING SERVICE M.S. = MORNING SERVICE N.E.S. = NO EVENING SERVICE N.L.I. = NO LEARN-IN N.M.S. = NO MORNING SERVICE P.C. = PARASHAT CLUB S.E. = SHABBAT ENDS SIST. = SISTERHOOD MEETING				1 22 SHEVAT	2 23 SHEVAT E.S. 5:30 P.M. C.L. 4:56 P.M.	3 24 SHEVAT M.S. 9:00 A.M. S.E. 5:58 P.M. "YITRO"
4 25 SHEVAT LEARN-IN 9:30 A.M.	5 26 SHEVAT	6 27 SHEVAT	7 28 SHEVAT	8 29 SHEVAT	9 30 SHEVAT E.S. 5:30 P.M. C.L. 5:05 P.M.	10 1 ADAR I M.S. 9:00 A.M. S.E. 6:06 P.M. "MISHPATIM"
ROSH CHODESH						
11 2 ADAR I LEARN-IN 9:30 A.M.	12 3 ADAR I	13 4 ADAR I	14 5 ADAR I	15 6 ADAR I	16 7 ADAR I E.S. 5:30 P.M. C.L. 5:13 P.M.	17 8 ADAR I M.S. 9:00 A.M. P.C. 12:30 P.M. C.L. 6:14 P.M. "TERUMAH"
18 9 ADAR I LEARN-IN 9:30 A.M.	19 10 ADAR I PRESIDENTS DAY	20 11 ADAR I	21 12 ADAR I	22 13 ADAR I	23 14 ADAR I E.S. 5:30 P.M. C.L. 5:22 P.M.	24 15 ADAR I M.S. 9:00 A.M. S.E. 6:22 P.M. "TETZAVEH"
25 16 ADAR I LEARN-IN 9:30 A.M.	26 17 ADAR I	27 18 ADAR I	28 19 ADAR I	29 20 ADAR I		

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

HIGH HOLIDAY DONATIONS

Noha Astiukar
Meryl Colman
Marc & Debra Elkin
Lisa Katz
William Katz
Bertha Klein
Michael Loewinger
Fran Miller
Shane & Jeremy Rom
Julia & Moses Samson
Ray & Ed Starer
Lynne & Joel Zakoff

HIGH HOLIDAY HONORS

Joel Zakoff, for High Holiday honors.
Lynne Zakoff, for High Holiday honor.

MEMORIAL FUND

Deborah Arluck, in memory of Ruth Kaplan.
Harriet Gussin, in memory of Ruth Kaplan.
Robin Hochberg, in memory of Sylvia Stark.
Robin Hochberg, in memory of Robert Stark.
Phyllis Lerner, in memory of Bela Tekiel.
Ruth Wolfson, in memory of the niece of Ida Schwartz.

Yahrzeit Fund

Max Amper, in memory of wife Zona Amper.
Robert Begleiter, in memory of his parents Fanny & Sidney Begleiter.
Ira Decker, in memory of father Murray Decker.
Gail Edelstein, in memory of mother Rosalind Edelstein.
Robin Hochberg, in memory of father Mark.
Robin Hochberg, in memory of brother in law Donald Hochberg.
Julie Mikelberg, in memory of mother Veronica.
Julie Mikelberg, in memory of father Leslie.
Agnes Posner, in memory of father Elyakim.
Agnes Posner, in memory of brother Avraham.
Frances Rotkopf, in memory of father in law Israel Noah Rotkopf.
Ken Sasmor, in memory of mother Martha Sasmor.
Ken Sasmor, in memory of father James Sasmor.
Sheila Sasmor, in memory of mother Clara.
Elaine Spodick, in memory of mother Perel Nachama.
Ed Starer, in memory of grandfather Shmuel.
Audrey Stone, in memory of husband Richard Stone.
Rochelle Wasserman, in memory of mother Hannah Wasserman.
Jacqueline Weiss, in memory of father Morris Weiss.
Jacqueline Weiss, in memory of grandfather Isaac Weiss.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Donations received after December 25th
will be listed in the March / April bulletin.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

GENERAL DONATIONS

Elise Bornstein, in honor of Rosh Chodesh Kislev.
Elise Bornstein, in honor of Chanukah.
Noreen Daniel, in honor of opening the ark on Shabbat.
Rabbi Romiel & Noreen Daniel
Maria Duron, in honor of Rosh Chodesh Kislev.
Maria Duron, in honor of Chanukah.
Susan Goldschmidt, in honor of reading prayer on Shabbat.
Reina Goodman, in honor of opening the ark on Shabbat.
Robin Hochberg, in honor of opening the ark on Shabbat.
Cheryl Kastel, in honor of the Kristallnacht memorial service.
Pnina Lanxner, in honor of lighting a candle at the Kristallnacht memorial service.
Linda Osofsky, in honor of the Sunday Learn-In program.
Joshua Patraj

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

Reina Goodman

COMMEMORATIVE FUND

Blanca Nickels, in honor of Reina Goodman.
Blanca Nickels, in honor of Pnina Lanxner.

MISHEBERACH FUND

Maria Duron, for the healing of Jonathan ben Ketorah.
Susan Goldschmidt, for the good health of Joe Farber.
Susan Goldschmidt, for the good health of Judy Fischman.
Robin Hochberg, for the recovery of Jack Alkana.
Phyllia Lerner, with prayers for the health of Faezeh bat Airan.

RABBI'S FUND

Carol Stoller



SCHWARTZ BROTHERS-JEFFERSON
MEMORIAL CHAPELS

PARKSIDE MEMORIAL CHAPELS



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David E. Goldstein

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