

REGO PARK JEWISH CENTER BULLETIN

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

EXODUS 25:8

VOLUME 81 NO. 6

TAMMUZ / AV / ELUL 5781

JULY/AUG. 2021

JULY 2021 SERVICE SCHEDULE

Friday, July 2 - 7:00 PM - RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Saturday, July 3 - 9:00 AM - RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Friday, July 9 - 7:00 PM - RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Saturday, July 10 - 9:00 AM - RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Friday, July 16 - 7:00 PM - RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Saturday, July 17 - 9:00 AM- RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Saturday, July 17 - 8:30 PM - RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Saturday, July 17 - 9:15 PM - Lamentations -
RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Friday, July 23 - 7:00 PM - RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Saturday, July 24- 9:00 AM- RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Friday, July 30 - 7:00 PM - RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Saturday, July 31- 9:00 AM- RPJC sanctuary & Webex

**Please check your email
for links to services
on Cisco Webex**

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

AUGUST 2021 SERVICE SCHEDULE

Friday, Aug. 6 - 7:00 PM - RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Saturday, Aug. 7 - 9:00 AM - RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Friday, Aug. 13 - 7:00 PM - RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Saturday, Aug. 14 - 9:00 AM- RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Friday, Aug. 20 - 7:00 PM - RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Saturday, Aug. 21- 9:00 AM- RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Friday, Aug. 27 - 7:00 PM - RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Saturday, Aug. 28- 9:00 AM- RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Saturday, Aug. 28- 7:30 P.M.- RPJC sanctuary & Webex

SELICHOT SERVICE -

SATURDAY, AUG. 28, 2021

8:15 P.M. - Attend the meaningful religious
service in the sanctuary & on Webex.

Officiated by Rabbi Romiel Daniel

REGO PARK JEWISH CENTER

97-30 Queens Boulevard, Rego Park, NY 11374

Telephone: (718) 459-1000 Fax: (718) 459-0431 E-mail: office@rpjc.org

Website: www.rpjc.org

Rabbi Romiel Daniel.....Rabbi

Sisterhood President

Ruth Loewenstein

Josiah Derby, M.A*.....Rabbi Emeritus

Ruth Loewenstein.....Chairman of the Board
of Trustees

Sunday Breakfast Club & Learn-In President

Rabbi Romiel Daniel

Rabbi Romiel Daniel.....President

Special Events Group

Lee Lobel-Zwang

Yiddish Vinkel

Pnina Lanxner

* deceased

HIGH HOLIDAY TICKETS

Rego Park Jewish Center is preparing for the High Holidays, which will be officiated by Rabbi Romiel Daniel and Guest Cantor Yehudah Hirschfeld.

The Center office is selling High Holiday tickets to members - beginning in July. Please let the office know if you plan to reserve seats this year.

If you're not able to come to holiday services at Rego Park Jewish Center, you will be able to stream the services on Webex. Tickets for members (whether in person or on Webex) are \$110 per person. Look for more information in the mail.

We will begin selling High Holiday tickets to non-members on Aug. 9th.

FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

The month of Av is the fifth month of the year on the Jewish calendar and shows up right smack dab in the middle of summer sometime during July and August. It's actually quite a contrast.

While most in the Northern hemisphere are enjoying the summer and trying to soak up as much sun as they can before fall hits, the Jewish world enters into the most devastating time of the year. That's because it is during Av, specifically on the 9th day of the month, Judaism commemorates the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem. This is the "fast of the fifth month" that is referred to in Zechariah 8:19.

But even before that there are three weeks of mourning and the heightened nine days of mourning that begin on Rosh Chodesh Av. During these nine days traditional Jews refrain from, among other things, listening to music, drinking wine, and even swimming and to some level bathing. It's all meant to decrease one's joy. A large portion of Av is spent lamenting for the sins of the past and petitioning G-d to have mercy in the future. In reality it's not something that people generally look forward to. If I were to be honest, Av is like a black mark right in the middle of a beautiful summer.

But along with the association of the destruction of the Temple, mourning practices, and fasting with the month of Av, there is a strange tradition that the Messiah will be born at this time. Here's the legend as told in the *Midrash Rabbah*:

It happened that a man was ploughing, when one of his oxen lowed. An Arab passed by and asked, "What are you?" He answered, "I am a Jew." He said to him, "Unharness your ox and untie your plough" [as a mark of mourning]. "Why?" he asked. "Because the Temple of the Jews is destroyed." He inquired, "From where do you know this?" He answered, "I know it from the lowing of your ox." While he was conversing with him, the ox lowed again. The Arab said to him, "Harness your ox and tie up your plough, because the deliverer of the Jews is born." "What is his name?" he asked; and he answered, "His name is 'Comforter'." (*Lamentations Rabbah* 1:51)

In this obscure midrash an Arab not only informs a Jewish man that the Temple has been destroyed during the month of Av but that the Messiah was born during this month as well. Specifically these events are both being associated with the Ninth of Av. But why would the Messiah be born on the Ninth of Av? Rabbi Abun comes along and states that Scripture teaches that the two concepts—"exile" represented by the destruction of the Temple and "redemption" represented by the birth of Messiah—go hand in hand:

Rabbi Abun said: "... there is an explicit text wherein it is stated, 'Lebanon will fall by the Majestic One' (Isaiah 10:34), which is followed by, 'There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit'" (Isaiah 11:1). (*Lamentations Rabbah* 1:51)

In other words, even at the beginning of exile and the destruction of the Temple, G-d promises that one day the Messiah will come and redeem Israel. The story is not so much about predicting when the Messiah will be born but to point out that even in total darkness there is light in the distance.

Returning to words of Zechariah 8:19: "Thus says the LORD of hosts: '... The fast of the fifth ... shall be to the house of Judah seasons of joy and gladness and cheerful feasts.'"

Although in this present age we mourn in Av and think about the sins of the past that brought the exile to begin with, there is a glimmer of hope that shines in the distance. May it be soon and in our days. Amen.

1 Av (circa 1273 BCE) – Death of high priest Aaron

7 Av (586 BCE) – First Temple invaded by King Nebuchadnezzar

9 Av (586 BCE and 70 CE) – Holy Temples destroyed by the Babylonians and Romans respectively.

9 Av (133 CE) – Fall of Betar to the Romans, ending Bar Kochba's rebellion.

9 Av (1290 CE) – Jews are expelled from England by King Edward I and not permitted to legally return for 350 years.

continued on page 4

From the Rabbi's Desk - continued from page 3

The month of Elul is the 6th month in the Hebrew calendar and the last month of the Jewish yearly cycle, occurring in August or September. The month of Elul precedes the month of Tishrei during which communities celebrate the High Holidays including Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

Rosh Chodesh Elul (the beginning of the month of Elul) begins in the evening on Wednesday, August 8, 2021. Leil Selichot (in the Ashkenazi tradition) begins after nightfall on Saturday, August 28, 2021.

As Elul is the last month in the Jewish yearly cycle before Rosh Hashanah (the Jewish new year), it is viewed as a month of reflection on the previous year and looking forward to the next year. With this focus, Elul is regarded as a month of *Teshuva* (forgiveness) or returning to a clean state. In the biblical tradition, on Rosh Chodesh Elul, Moses began his ascension to Mount Sinai for the third time, coming down 40 days later on Yom Kippur with the second set of Tablets and G-d's complete mercy and forgiveness. Because of this, Elul has become the time for *Teshuva* and introspection.

An acronym of Elul is *Ani L'dodi, V'dodi Li* (Song of Songs 6:3) with each starting letter of the words in the Hebrew phrase spelling E-L-U-L. Translated as "I am to my beloved, and my beloved is to me," traditional commentary describes the relationship between Jews and G-d during this month as that between two beloveds, with a yearning to connect. It is said that the King is in the field during Elul; G-d makes Himself approachable to all His people in Elul.

Traditionally there are no Torah obligations or laws regarding Elul and practices for the month of Elul are customs that have been repeated for generations. The shofar is blown each day during weekday morning services from Rosh Chodesh Elul until Erev Rosh Hashanah; an invitation to "wake up" before the High Holidays, this shofar blast is seen by some as an opportunity to awaken our souls and inspire deeper connection with G-d.

During this season, a recitation of *Tehillim* (Psalms) 27 is added to morning and evening prayers. Some have a custom of continuing this addition until Yom Kippur, when it is said that forgiveness is given, while others have a custom of reciting until the seventh day of Sukkot, when the judgement is sealed. Another custom of Elul is reciting *selichot* (prayers for Divine forgiveness). The Sephardic tradition is to recite *Selichot* every day of Elul while the Ashkenazi tradition is to add these prayers starting the Saturday night before Rosh Hashanah.

1 Elul (1313 BCE) – Moses ascends Mount Sinai for 3rd 40 days

1 Elul (520 BCE) – The Prophet Haggai commands that the rebuilding of the Second Temple continue

2 Elul (1555) – Shulchan Aruch published

25 Elul (3761 BCE) – The 1st day of the world according to the Genesis creation narrative

Rabbi Romiel Daniel

YIZKOR BOOKS

Rego Park Jewish Center prints Yizkor booklets each year to be used at all four Yizkor services, beginning with the Yom Kippur Yizkor.

We'd like to include the names of your loved ones to be so inscribed - donation is \$12.00 per name, with your name included at no charge.

Please submit the names of your departed loved ones to the Center office by August 16th.

FOCUS ON SISTERHOOD

RETURN TO NORMALCY AND TO THE REGO PARK JEWISH CENTER

Is there life beyond the living room? Yes of course! But this has to be a congregational effort. Judaism is built on a community participation and asks all Jews to get involved in Tikun Olam - Repairing the World. Which means we have to look out for each other and not just ourselves. It's time to bring 100% of the human element back to our shul! We have so much to do and we want each member - each one of us - to be a part of our mission - each one in his or her own capacity and hopefully in their fervent desire.

When the Jewish people crossed the Red Sea, which was split in half as they were fleeing from Egypt to their freedom, the Torah tells us that Miriam leads the women with timbrels in hand and Miriam prepared with the women to celebrate the miracles that G-d had performed for us to free us from slavery. Now let us celebrate and dance as "Miriams" and thank G-d that he freed us from Covid-19. Timbrels will be provided.

1. Take the plunge, attend in person and pray with us together. Try the Friday evening Kabbalat Shabbat service or Shabbat morning experience - a thought provoking service and a heart warming Torah reading.
2. We have another obligation and that is to resume and reenergize our membership in Women's League for Conservative Judaism. We missed some of the excellent programs on Zoom, but more than that we missed the friendship and camaraderie of B'Yachad - together (our Torah Fund theme for this year). Because only altogether will we survive. I ask you to please include your check for \$25, which will cover your dues until June 30, 2022. Join us!!
3. Finally, we do have plans for a wonderful program - Pirkei Imahot - The Wisdom of Our Mothers. We need at least eleven thespians, and many more for this exciting adventure. As we are not quite sure how soon we will be able to put this together in person, in shul, we shall keep you informed.

We beg you, please do call us and let us know your opinions and suggestions. We need each of you!

L'Hitra'ot
Ruth Loewenstein
Sisterhood President

SUNDAY MORNING LEARN-IN

SAVE THE DATE

Our Sunday morning Learn-In and Discussion sessions, conducted by Rabbi Romiel Daniel, will begin on Sunday, July 25th at 9:30 A.M.

Unfortunately, a shortage of volunteer helpers needed to shop for, prepare and serve food, makes it impossible to provide breakfast.

Feel free to bring your own dairy food. Coffee will be available.

In the fall, if more volunteers can participate, we may be able to once again offer our traditional buffet breakfast.

Please join us on Sundays this summer, so that we may continue to explore our Jewish heritage together.

Agnes Posner
Elaine Spodick

All Center Members
are invited to attend a

CENTER MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**SUNDAY, JULY 11TH
11:00 A.M.**

in the Crystal Ballroom

**This will be a general meeting.
No elections will be held at this time.**

Refreshments served

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Martin Cantor
Shirley Decker
Charlotte Halpern
Robin Hochberg
Aida Ovadia
Ira Werner



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Roslyn & Ira Hochman

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Joel Herbst
Rochelle Wasserman
Ruth Wolfson

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Mollie & Jack Alkana
Ray & Ed Starer



MAZEL TOV

Mazel Tov to Pnina Lanxner on the birth of her great granddaughter Elizabeth Mae Auerbach on May 30, 2021. Elizabeth Mae is the daughter of Mollie and Matthew Auerbach and the granddaughter of Zipora & Bill Auerbach.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Donations received after June 23rd will be listed in the September / October Bulletin.

LOSS OF MEMBER

Allan Morrin

*We extend our deepest condolences
to the Morrin family.*

REFUAH SHELEIMAH

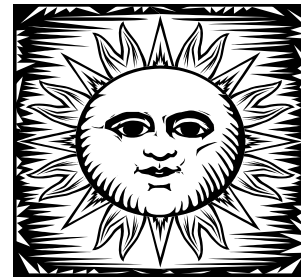
Jack Alkana
Joyce Fefferman
Sonia Siegel

THANK YOU FOR SPONSORING A CONGREGATIONAL KIDDUSH

Thank you to Ruth Loewenstein, who sponsored the congregational kiddush on Shabbat, June 5th in honor of her birthday.

Many thanks to my Rego Park Jewish Center friends for their thoughtfulness and good wishes in celebration of my May birthday.

Sincerely,
Elaine Spodick



**HAVE A VERY HAPPY
AND HEALTHY SUMMER!**

July 2021

TAMMUZ / AV 5781

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
C.L. = CANDLE LIGHTING E.S. = EVENING SERVICE H.S. = HAVDALAH SERVICE M.S. = MORNING SERVICE N.T.S. = NO TORAH STUDY CLASS S.E. = SHABBAT ENDS T.S. = TORAH STUDY CLASS				1 21 TAMMUZ	2 22 TAMMUZ E.S. 7:00 P.M. IN THE CHAPEL & ON WEBEX C.L. 8:13 P.M.	3 23 TAMMUZ M.S. 9:00 A.M. SANC. & WEBEX S.E. 9:21 P.M. "PINCHAS"
4 24 TAMMUZ N.T.S. INDEPENDENCE DAY	5 25 TAMMUZ INDEPENDENCE DAY OBSERVED	6 26 TAMMUZ	7 27 TAMMUZ	8 28 TAMMUZ	9 29 TAMMUZ E.S. 7:00 P.M. IN THE CHAPEL & ON WEBEX C.L. 8:11 P.M.	10 1 AV M.S. 9:00 A.M. SANC. & WEBEX S.E. 9:18 P.M. ROSH CHODESH "MATOT / MASSEI"
11 2 AV N.T.S. MEMBERSHIP MEETING - 11:00 AM	12 3 AV	13 4 AV	14 5 AV	15 6 AV	16 7 AV E.S. 7:00 P.M. IN THE CHAPEL & ON WEBEX C.L. 8:07 P.M.	17 8 AV M.S. 9:00 A.M. SANC. & WEBEX E.S./H.S. 8:30 P.M. LAMENTATIONS - 9:15 P.M. SANC. & WEBEX S.E. 9:13 P.M. "DEVARIM" EREV TISHA B'AV
18 9 AV N.T.S. TISHA B'AV	19 10 AV	20 11 AV	21 12 AV	22 13 AV	23 14 AV E.S. 7:00 P.M. IN THE CHAPEL & ON WEBEX C.L. 8:02 P.M.	24 15 AV M.S. 9:00 A.M. SANC. & WEBEX S.E. 9:06 P.M. "VAETCHANAN"
25 16 AV LEARN-IN 9:30 AM	26 17 AV	27 18 AV	28 19 AV	29 20 AV	30 21 AV E.S. 7:00 P.M. IN THE CHAPEL & ON WEBEX C.L. 7:55 P.M.	31 22 AV M.S. 9:00 A.M. SANC. & WEBEX S.E. 8:58 P.M. "EKEV"

August 2021

AV / ELUL 5781

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 23 AV NO LEARN-IN	2 24 AV	3 25 AV	4 26 AV	5 27 AV	6 28 AV E.S. 7:00 P.M. IN THE CHAPEL & ON WEBEX C.L. 7:47 P.M.	7 29 AV M.S. 9:00 A.M. SANC. & WEBEX S.E. 8:49 P.M. "RE'EH"
8 30 AV LEARN-IN 9:30 AM <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> ROSH CHODESH </div>	9 1 ELUL	10 2 ELUL	11 3 ELUL	12 4 ELUL	13 5 ELUL E.S. 7:00 P.M. IN THE CHAPEL & ON WEBEX C.L. 7:38 P.M.	14 6 ELUL M.S. 9:00 A.M. SANC. & WEBEX S.E. 8:39 P.M. "SHOFTIM"
15 7 ELUL LEARN-IN 9:30 AM	16 8 ELUL	17 9 ELUL	18 10 ELUL	19 11 ELUL	20 12 ELUL E.S. 7:00 P.M. IN THE CHAPEL & ON WEBEX C.L. 7:28 P.M.	21 13 ELUL M.S. 9:00 A.M. SANC. & WEBEX S.E. 8:28 P.M. "KI TETZE"
22 14 ELUL LEARN-IN 9:30 AM	23 15 ELUL	24 16 ELUL	25 17 ELUL	26 18 ELUL	27 19 ELUL E.S. 7:00 P.M. IN THE CHAPEL & ON WEBEX C.L. 7:18 P.M.	28 20 ELUL M.S. 9:00 A.M. SANC. & WEBEX E.S. 7:30 P.M. SANC. & WEBEX SELICHOT-8:15 PM SANC. & WEBEX S.E. 8:16 P.M. "KI TAVO"
29 21 ELUL NO LEARN-IN	30 22 ELUL	31 23 ELUL	C.L. = CANDLE LIGHTING E.S. = EVENING SERVICE H.S. = HAVDALAH SERVICE M.S. = MORNING SERVICE S.E. = SHABBAT ENDS			

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Yahrzeit Fund

Walter Adelstein, in memory of mother Estelle Adelstein.
Walter Adelstein, in memory of father Herbert Adelstein.
Lorraine Carroll, in memory of husband Herbert Carroll.
Shirley Decker, in memory of father Chaim.
Shirley Decker, in memory of brother in law Benjamin.
Mikhail Gelfer, in memory of wife Sofia Gelfer.
Susan Goldschmidt, in memory of mother Hanna.
Mark Hochberg, in memory of mother Selma Hochberg.
Mark Hochberg, in memory of father Shlomo Hochberg.
Roslyn Hochman, in memory of mother Ella.
Leon Horowitz, in memory of father Julius Horowitz.
Pnina Lanxner, in memory of sister Chava.
Ruth Loewenstein, in memory of sister Yana.
Ruth Loewenstein, in memory of grandmother Marianne Loewenstein.
Ruth Loewenstein, in memory of grandfather Abraham Loewenstein.
Aida Ovadia, in memory of grandmother Sara.
Frances Rotkopf, in memory of mother in law Dyna Rotkopf.
Sheila Sasmor, in memory of father Benjamin.
Ed Starer, in memory of father Adolf Starer.
Ray Starer, in memory of mother Hilde.
Ray Starer, in memory of father Joseph.
Rochelle Wasserman, in memory of father Jack Wasserman.
Jacqueline Weiss, in memory of mother Goldie Weiss.
Ira Werner, in memory of mother Sydell Werner.
Ira Werner, in memory of aunt Lillian Werner.
Lynne Zakoff, in memory of mother Pearl.
Lynne Zakoff, in memory of father Irving.

Memorial Fund

Ida & Arthur Schwartz, in memory of Katie Haber Slobodkin.

Passover Yizkor

Walter Adelstein
Elise Bornstein
Maria Duron
Leonor Herbst
Ruth Loewenstein

Shavuot Yizkor

Walter Adelstein
Susan Goldschmidt
Harriet Goodman
Sandi Goodman
Robin & Mark Hochberg
Bertha Klein
Pnina Lanxner
Ruth Loewenstein
Michael Loewinger
Sonia & Jack Siegel
Elaine Spodick
Carol Stoller

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

COMMEMORATIVE DONATIONS

Susan Goldschmidt, in honor of the birth of Pnina Lanxner's great granddaughter Elizabeth Mae Auerbach.

Robin & Mark Hochberg, in honor of Elaine Spodick's special birthday.

Robin & Mark Hochberg, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Isabel Fine, granddaughter of Ray & Ed Starer.

Ruth Kaplan, in honor of Rabbi Romiel Daniel, with thanks for his help.

Pnina Lanxner, in honor of the birth of her great granddaughter Elizabeth Mae Auerbach.

Sandy & Martin Novzen, in honor of the upcoming wedding of Robin & Mark Hochberg's daughter Shari Hochberg and Steven Metzger.

Ray & Ed Starer, in honor of Elaine Spodick's special birthday.

Rochelle Wasserman, in honor of Elaine Spodick's special birthday.

GENERAL DONATIONS

Elise Bornstein, in honor of Shavuot.

Elise Bornstein, in honor of Rosh Chodesh Sivan.

Maria Duron, in honor of Shavuot.

Maria Duron, in honor of Rosh Chodesh Sivan.

Susan Goldschmidt, in honor of opening the ark on Shabbat.

Charlotte Halpern

Paramdeo Patraj

Arthur Schwartz, in honor of Aliyah.

Ida Schwartz, in honor of reading prayer on Shabbat.

Joel Zakoff, for various aliyot.

Lynne Zakoff, for various reading.

REFUAH SHELEIMAH

Rabbi Romiel & Noreen Daniel, for the recovery of Sonia Siegel.

Rabbi Romiel & Noreen Daniel, for the recovery of Julia Samson.

Susan Goldschmidt, for the recovery of Joseph Farber.

Robin & Mark Hochberg, for the recovery of Jack Alkana.

Robin & Mark Hochberg, for the recovery of Ruth Loewenstein.

Robin & Mark Hochberg, for the recovery of Sonia Siegel.

Ruth Loewenstein, for the recovery of Joyce Fefferman.

Ruth Loewenstein, for the recovery of Mark Hochberg.

Ruth Loewenstein, with wishes for the good health of Sandy Novzen.

Sandy & Martin Novzen, for the recovery of Jack Alkana.

Sandy & Martin Novzen, for the recovery of Mark Hochberg.

Sandy & Martin Novzen, for the recovery of Ruth Loewenstein.

Sonia & Jack Siegel

Rego Park Jewish Center
97-30 Queens Blvd
Rego Park, NY 11374



Change Service Requested

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