

REGO PARK JEWISH CENTER BULLETIN

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

EXODUS 25:8

VOLUME 83 NO. 6

TAMUZ / AV / ELUL 5783

JULY / AUGUST 2023

JULY & AUGUST 2023 **SERVICE SCHEDULE**

Saturday, July 1 - 9:00 AM

Friday, July 7 - 6:00 PM

Saturday, July 8 - 9:00 AM

Friday, July 14 - 6:00 PM

Saturday, July 15 - 9:00 AM

Friday, July 21 - 6:00 PM

Saturday, July 22 - 9:00 AM

Tisha B'Av Services

Wednesday, July 26 - 7:00 PM (evening service)

Wednesday, July 26 - 7:15 PM (Tisha B'Av service)

Friday, July 28 - 6:00 PM

Saturday, July 29 - 9:00 AM

Friday, August 4 - 6:00 PM

Saturday, August 5 - 9:00 AM

Friday, August 11 - 6:00 PM

Saturday, August 12 - 9:00 AM

Friday, August 18 - 6:00 PM

Saturday, August 19 - 9:00 AM

Friday, August 25 - 6:00 PM

Saturday, August 26 - 9:00 AM

PARASHAT CLUB

Shabbat, July 15, 2023

Shabbat, August 5, 2023

12:30 P.M. after Shabbat services

Presented by Rabbi Romiel Daniel

SISTERHOOD MEETING

Tuesday, August 22, 2023

2:00 P.M.

Guest Speaker:

Regina Ganpat of Chase Bank

Topic:

**Protect Your Identity & Other Assets
Steps to Minimize Identity Theft**

Refreshments Provided

Everyone is Welcome!

*There will be no
Sisterhood meetings in July*

FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

TISHA B'AV

The name of the fifth month on the Jewish calendar, Av, literally means “father.” It is customary to add the name “Menachem,” which means “comforter” or “consoler” - so it becomes *menachem Av*.

In this month, both Temples were destroyed, and many other tragedies occurred. Yet our Father in heaven is there to comfort and console us.

The astrological sign of the month of Av is connected with a lion and represents a month of enormous potential and yes, great tragedy. Just as healing and redemption follow the fires of destruction, similarly in our lives, our challenges are divine gifts helping us to move forward.

Each year thousands of Jews converge on the Western Wall in Jerusalem to mark Tisha B'Av, our National Day of Mourning. On this day in history, both our Holy Temples were destroyed, we were exiled from our land, and a host of other calamities occurred throughout the centuries.

Some may wonder: Why do we still mourn; don't we have a sovereign state of Israel? Isn't Jerusalem united under Jewish rule today?

This tradition has always reminded us that our personal joy is incomplete until our nation's joy is re-established. And that requires the total restoration of our national life, including Jerusalem rebuilt.

It is not only a question of place; it is a question of time. At this time in our history, the redemption has not yet arrived. We still pray three times a day that the Temple be rebuilt speedily in our time. And until those prayers are answered, I'm afraid we are all still in exile.

When Jewish lives are being lost daily to terrorist armies, when our neighbors still dream of driving us into the sea, when they still deny us our basic legitimacy, when the international media challenges our right to defend our citizens, can we claim that we are really and truly independent?

Thank G-d we have an army, navy and air force, and JNF-USA to support us. But true independence means that our national security is no longer threatened and that a genuine and lasting peace has been achieved. No wonder *mashiach* is called the Messenger of Peace. Who else can we turn to for that long-awaited dream? Political schemes certainly do not seem very promising.

And so we still observe Tisha B'Av. And unless *mashiach* comes before that day, we will fast and sit on low chairs in the manner of mourners. We will mourn the destruction of our temple and the state of exile it created. And we will pray for the full return to Jewish sovereignty and total independence. A time when our cities and towns will be free of enemy rockets and our children will feel safe and secure. May that time be now.

HISTORY

Five calamities

According to the Mishnah (*Taanit* 4:6), five specific events occurred on the ninth of Av that warrant fasting:

1. The Twelve Spies sent by Moses to observe the land of Canaan returned from their mission. Only two of the spies, Joshua and Caleb, brought a positive report,
2. The First Temple built by King Solomon was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar in 586 BCE, and the population of the Kingdom of Judah was sent into the Babylonian exile.
3. The Second Temple built by Ezra and Nehemiah was destroyed by the Romans in 70 CE, scattering the people of Judea and commencing the Jewish exile from the Holy Land.
4. The Romans subsequently crushed Bar Kokhba's revolt and destroyed the city of Betar, killing over 500,000 Jewish civilians (approximately 580,000) on 4 August 135 CE.

Continued on page 3

Other calamities

Over time, Tisha B'Av has come to be a Jewish day of mourning, not only for these events, but also for later tragedies which occurred on or near the 9th of Av. References to some of these events appear in liturgy composed for Tisha B'Av (see below).

- The First Crusade officially commenced on 15 August 1096 (Av 24, AM 4856), killing 10,000 Jews in its first month and destroying Jewish communities in France and the Rhineland.
- The Jews were expelled from England on 18 July 1290 (Av 9, AM 5050).
- The Jews were expelled from France on 22 July 1306 (Av 10, AM 5066).
- The Jews were expelled from Spain on 31 July 1492 (Av 7, AM 5252).
- Germany entered World War I on 1–2 August 1914 (Av 9–10, AM 5674), which caused massive upheaval in European Jewry and whose aftermath led to the Holocaust.
- On 2 August 1941 (Av 9, AM 5701), SS commander Heinrich Himmler formally received approval from the Nazi Party for "The Final Solution." As a result, the Holocaust began during which almost one third of the world's Jewish population perished.
- On 23 July 1942 (Av 9, AM 5702), began the mass deportation of Jews from the Warsaw Ghetto, en route to Treblinka.
- The AMIA bombing, of the Jewish community center in Buenos Aires, killed 85 and injured 300 on 18 July 1994 (10 Av, AM 5754).
- The 2005 Israeli disengagement from Gaza.

The Month of Elul and Selichot

- Significance: Time of reflection leading up to Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur
- Customs: Blowing the shofar (ram's horn); asking people for forgiveness; reciting penitential prayers

The month of Elul is a time of repentance in preparation for the High Holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Tradition teaches that the month of Elul is a particularly propitious time for repentance. This mood of repentance builds through the month of Elul to the period of Selichot, to Rosh Hashanah, and finally to Yom Kippur.

The name of the month (spelled Alef-Lamed-Vav-Lamed) is said to be an acronym of "Ani l'dodi v'dodi li" (אני לדודי ודודי לי) "I am my Beloved's and my Beloved is mine," a quote from Song of Songs 6:3, where the Beloved is G-d and the "I" is the Jewish people. In Aramaic (the vernacular of the Jewish people at the time that the month names were adopted), the word "Elul" means "search," which is appropriate, because this is a time of year when we search our hearts.

According to tradition, the month of Elul is the time that Moses spent on Mount Sinai preparing the second set of tablets after the incident of the golden calf (Ex. 32; 34:27-28). He ascended on Rosh Chodesh Elul and descended on the 10th of Tishri, at the end of Yom Kippur, when repentance was complete. Other sources say that Elul is the beginning of a period of 40 days that Moses prayed for G-d to forgive the people after the Golden Calf incident, after which the commandment to prepare the second set of tablets was given.

Elul is also a time to begin the process of asking forgiveness for wrongs done to other people. According to Jewish tradition, G-d cannot forgive us for sins committed against another person until we have first obtained forgiveness from the person we have wronged. This is not as easy a task as you might think, if you have never done it. This process of seeking forgiveness continues through the Days of Awe.

Many people visit cemeteries at this time, because the awe-inspiring nature of this time makes us think about life and death and our own mortality. In addition, many people use this time to check their mezuzot and tefillin for defects that might render them invalid.

Continued on page 4

Selichot

As the month of Elul draws to a close, the mood of repentance becomes more urgent. Prayers for forgiveness called selichot (properly pronounced "s'lee-KHOHT," but often pronounced "SLI-khus") are added to the daily cycle of religious services. Selichot are recited in the early morning, before normal daily shacharit service. They add about 45 minutes to the regular daily service.

A fundamental part of the selichot service is the repeated recitation of the "Thirteen Attributes," a list of G-d's thirteen attributes of mercy that were revealed to Moses after the sin of the golden calf (Ex 34:6-7): Ha-shem [1], Ha-shem [2], G-d [3], merciful [4], and gracious [5], long-suffering [6], abundant in goodness [7] and truth [8], keeping mercy unto the thousandth generation [9], forgiving iniquity [10] and transgression [11] and sin [12], who cleanses [13].

In Jewish History

- 1 Elul (1313 BCE) – Moses ascends Mount Sinai for 3rd set of 40 days
- 2 Elul (1555) – Shulchan Aruch published
- 17 Elul (2105 BCE) – Noah dispatches dove
- 23 Elul (2105 BCE) – Dove brings olive Leaf to Noah
- 23 Elul (2001) – Attack of 9/11 on the World Trade Center in New York City
- 25 Elul (3761 BCE) – The 1st day of the world according to the Genesis creation narrative

Rabbi Romiel Daniel

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Rabbi Romiel Daniel.....Rabbi

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

Rabbi Romiel Daniel.....President

* deceased

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

on Cisco Webex

**Please contact our Center office
at**

**office@rpjc.org
for more information**

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.

Look for forms in the mail or on our website.

Please submit the names of your departed loved ones to the Center office by August 20th.

HIGH HOLIDAY TICKETS

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

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. 7th. Tickets for non-members are \$180 per person.

SUNDAY MORNING LEARN-IN WITH RABBI DANIEL



July 2, 16, 23, 30

Bring your own dairy breakfast.

Coffee served.

SUNDAY MORNING LEARN-IN

Meetings in May & June have run the gamut - from looking inward, as we discussed the importance of gratitude, positive thoughts and free will - to an outward exploration of key people (the Sages) who were important in Jewish history, shaping Jewish law and practices through centuries.

In addition to our in-person attendees, we were happy to welcome a number of listeners on Webex.

Our Sunday Learn-In is a lively, informative way to start a new week.

Elaine Spodick

July 2023

TAMMUZ / AV 5783

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 12 TAMMUZ M.S. 9:00 A.M. S.E. 9:21 P.M. "CHUKAT/BALAK"
2 13 TAMMUZ LEARN-IN 9:30 A.M.	3 14 TAMMUZ	4 15 TAMMUZ INDEPENDENCE DAY	5 16 TAMMUZ	6 17 TAMMUZ FAST OF TAMMUZ	7 18 TAMMUZ E.S. 6:00 P.M. C.L. 8:12 P.M.	8 19 TAMMUZ M.S. 9:00 A.M. S.E. 9:19 P.M. "PINCHAS"
9 20 TAMMUZ N.L.I.	10 21 TAMMUZ	11 22 TAMMUZ	12 23 TAMMUZ	13 24 TAMMUZ	14 25 TAMMUZ E.S. 6:00 P.M. C.L. 8:09 P.M.	15 26 TAMMUZ M.S. 9:00 A.M. P.C. 12:30 P.M. S.E. 9:15 P.M. "MATOT/MASSEI"
16 27 TAMMUZ LEARN-IN 9:30 A.M.	17 28 TAMMUZ	18 29 TAMMUZ	19 1 AV ROSH CHODESH	20 2 AV	21 3 AV E.S. 6:00 P.M. C.L. 8:04 P.M.	22 4 AV M.S. 9:00 A.M. S.E. 9:09 P.M. "DEVARIM"
23 5 AV LEARN-IN 9:30 A.M.	24 6 AV	25 7 AV	26 8 AV E.S. 7:00 P.M. TISHA B'AV SERVICE - 7:15 P.M. BEGIN FAST-8:18 PM EREV TISHA B'AV	27 9 AV NO SERVICES FAST ENDS-8:48 PM TISHA B'AV	28 10 AV E.S. 6:00 P.M. C.L. 7:58 P.M.	29 11 AV M.S. 9:00 A.M. S.E. 9:01 P.M. "VAETCHANAN"
30 12 AV LEARN-IN 9:30 A.M.	31 13 AV	<p>C.L. = CANDLE LIGHTING E.S. = EVENING SERVICE M.S. = MORNING SERVICE N.E.S. = NO EVENING SERVICE N.L.I. = NO LEARN-IN</p> <p>N.M.S. = NO MORNING SERVICE P.C. = PARASHAT CLUB S.E. = SHABBAT ENDS SIST. = SISTERHOOD MEETING</p>				

August 2023

AV / ELUL 5783

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 14 AV	2 15 AV	3 16 AV	4 17 AV E.S. 6:00 P.M. C.L. 7:50 P.M.	5 18 AV M.S. 9:00 A.M. P.C. 12:30 P.M. S.E. 8:52 P.M. "EKEV"
6 19 AV N.L.I.	7 20 AV	8 21 AV	9 22 AV	10 23 AV	11 24 AV E.S. 6:00 P.M. C.L. 7:41 P.M.	12 25 AV M.S. 9:00 A.M. S.E. 8:43 P.M. "RE'EH"
13 26 AV N.L.I.	14 27 AV	15 28 AV	16 29 AV	17 30 AV	18 1 ELUL E.S. 6:00 P.M. C.L. 7:32 P.M.	19 2 ELUL M.S. 9:00 A.M. S.E. 8:32 P.M. "SHOFTIM"
20 3 ELUL N.L.I.	21 4 ELUL	22 5 ELUL SIST. 2:00 P.M.	23 6 ELUL	24 7 ELUL	25 8 ELUL E.S. 6:00 P.M. C.L. 7:21 P.M.	26 9 ELUL M.S. 9:00 A.M. S.E. 8:20 P.M. "KI TETZE"
27 10 ELUL N.L.I.	28 11 ELUL	29 12 ELUL	30 13 ELUL	31 14 ELUL		

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Martin Cantor
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



MANY THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING **FOR SPONSORING A** **CONGREGATIONAL KIDDUSH,** **PARASHAT CLUB OR LEARN-IN**

Carol Stoller & Jacky Schoenfeld-Cohen, who sponsored the Parashat Club on May 13, 2023.

Jeffrey Stark, who sponsored the congregational kiddush on June 3, 2023.

Elise Bornstein & Maria Duron, who sponsored the Parashat Club on June 24, 2023.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

COMMEMORATIVE FUND

Ida & Arthur Schwartz, with mazal tov wishes to Ruth Wolfson on the engagement of her grandson Adam Wolfson to Hannah Homler.

Ray & Ed Starer, in honor of Agnes Posner's special birthday.

GENERAL DONATIONS

Elise Bornstein, in honor of Shavuot.

Maria Duron, in honor of Shavuot.

Susan Goldschmidt, in honor of reading prayers on Shabbat.

Reina Goodman, in honor of opening the ark on Shabbat.

Leonor Herbst

Paramdeo Patraj

Arthur Schwartz, in honor of aliyah on June 3, 2023.

Arthur Schwartz, in honor of aliyah on June 10, 2023.

Ida Schwartz, in honor of reading prayer on Shabbat, June 3, 2023.

Lynne & Joel Zakoff, for various aliyas.

MISHEBERACH FUND

Rabbi Romiel & Noreen Daniel

Susan Goldschmidt, for the recovery of Ruth Kaplan.

Pnina Lanxner, for the recovery of Ruth Kaplan.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Yahrzeit Fund

Lorraine Carroll, in memory of husband Herbert Carroll.
Susan Fischer, in memory of husband Arthur Fischer.
Susan Goldschmidt, in memory of mother Hanna.
Robin Hochberg, in memory of husband Mark Hochberg.
Robin Hochberg, in memory of mother in law Selma Hochberg.
Robin Hochberg, in memory of father in law Shlomo Hochberg.
Roslyn Hochman, in memory of mother Ella.
Leon Horowitz, in memory of father Julius Horowitz.
Pnina Lanxner, in memory of sister Chava.
Frances Rotkopf, in memory of mother in law Dyna Rotkopf.
Sheila Sasmor, in memory of father Benjamin.
Sonia Siegel, in memory of father in law Harry Siegel.
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.
Jacqueline Weiss, in memory of grandmother Sara Schenkel.
Ira Werner, in memory of mother Sydell Werner.
Ira Werner, in memory of aunt Lillian Werner.

Memorial Fund

Susan Goldschmidt, in memory of Arlene Strauss-Broad.

Passover Yizkor

Mollie & Jack Alkana
Elise Bornstein
Maria Duron
Ray & Ed Starer

Shavuot Yizkor

Mollie & Jack Alkana
Martin Cantor
Reuben Ezra
Susan Goldschmidt
Sandi Goodman & Harriet Goodman
Robin Hochberg, Shari Hochberg & Steve Metzger
Pnina Lanxner
Ida & Arthur Schwartz
Elaine Spodick

Donations to Sisterhood

Carol Stoller

⋮

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Carol Stoller

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Donations received after June 26th will be listed in the September / October bulletin.

NYC DEPARTMENT FOR THE AGING

Queens
Community
House



REGO PARK

OLDER ADULT CENTER

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9AM - 4PM

FOR APPOINTMENTS (718) 896-8511

LUNCH WITH US



HOT KOSHER MEALS 12PM - 1PM

**Queens Community House Older Adult Center
Is located on the Lower Level of Rego Park Jewish Center**

97-30 QUEENS BLVD., REGO PARK, NY

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

