

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. 5

IYAR / SIVAN / TAMMUZ 5781

MAY / JUNE 2021

MAY 2021 SERVICE SCHEDULE

Saturday, May 1 - 9:00 AM - RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Saturday, May 1 - 8:30 P.M. - Webex

Friday, May 7 - 7:00 PM - Webex

Saturday, May 8 - 9:00 AM - RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Saturday, May 8 - 8:30 P.M. - Webex

Friday, May 14 - 7:00 PM - Webex

Saturday, May 15 - 9:00 AM- RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Saturday, May 15 - 8:30 P.M. - Webex

Sunday, May 16 - 7:30 PM - Webex

Tikkun Leil Shavuot - Discussion

Monday, May 17- 9:00 AM- RPJC sanctuary & Webex

1st Day Shavuot

Tues., May 18 - 9:00 A.M. - RPJC sanctuary & Webex

2nd Day Shavuot (Yizkor)

Friday, May 21 - 7:00 PM - Webex

Saturday, May 22- 9:00 AM- RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Saturday, May 22 - 8:30 P.M. - Webex

Friday, May 28 - 7:00 PM - Webex

Saturday, May 29- 9:00 AM- RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Saturday, May 29 - 8:30 P.M. - Webex

JUNE 2021 SERVICE SCHEDULE

Friday, June 4 - 7:00 PM - Webex

Saturday, June 5 - 9:00 AM - RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Saturday, June 5 - 9:00 P.M. - Webex

Friday, June 11 - 7:00 PM - Webex

Saturday, June 12 - 9:00 AM- RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Saturday, June 12 - 9:00 P.M. - Webex

Friday, June 18 - 7:00 PM - Webex

Saturday, June 19- 9:00 AM- RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Saturday, June 19 - 9:00 P.M. - Webex

Friday, June 25 - 7:00 PM - Webex

Saturday, June 26- 9:00 AM- RPJC sanctuary & Webex

Saturday, June 26 - 9:00 P.M. - Webex

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

**Please contact our Center
office at
office@rpjc.org**

REGO PARK JEWISH CENTER

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Website: www.rpjc.org

Rabbi Romiel Daniel.....Rabbi

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

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

Rabbi Romiel Daniel.....President

Sisterhood President

Ruth Loewenstein

Sunday Breakfast Club & Learn-In President

Rabbi Romiel Daniel

Special Events Group

Lee Lobel-Zwang

Yiddish Vinkel

Pnina Lanxner

* deceased

FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

SIVAN

Sivan includes one day of Rosh Chodesh (celebration of the new moon) and is always 30 days long. The great event of the month of Sivan is the holiday of Shavuot, which corresponds with the receiving of the Torah by the Children of Israel on Mt. Sinai. Shavuot is commemorated in Israel on the sixth day of the month, and on the sixth and seventh days in the Jewish Diaspora (outside Israel).

The three days preceding the giving of the Torah: the third, fourth and fifth days of Sivan, are known as *Shloshet Yamei Hagbalah* (the Three Days of Limitation). On the first of these days, Moses set demarcation lines beyond which Jewish people were not allowed to approach the holy mountain. On the second, Jewish men were commanded to separate from their wives so that both men and women could purify themselves for the giving of the Torah.

The Torah was originally meant to have been given to the Jewish people on the sixth day of the month, 50 days after the beginning of the exodus. Moses added an extra day of preparation to ready the people, and G-d agreed to this initiative. So the Torah was actually given on the seventh day of Sivan. Jews commemorate the holiday of Shavuot on the sixth day, because G-d's original plan was to give the Torah on the sixth of Sivan.

Sivan is referred to as 'the third month' in the Torah. After the children of Israel left the land of Egypt during the third month, they entered the wilderness of Sinai (Ex.19:1) The Talmud comments: "Blessed be our G-d who has given a threefold Torah [Torah, Prophets, Writings] to a three-fold nation [Kohanim, Levites, and Israelites] through one who was third [Moses, the third child after Aaron and Miriam] ... in the third month."

On Shavuot, we read the story of Ruth, the Moabite princess who abandoned everything safe and familiar to follow her mother-in-law Naomi to Israel, to a life of physical rigor and spiritual truth. Her story is the story of all of us this month, as we try to move beyond our limited grasp of truth and move closer to the whole picture we saw at Sinai.

Studying Torah all night long! It is a kabbalistic tradition (coming from the sixteenth-century mystics of Safed) to stay up the entire (first) night of Shavuot studying Torah. Known as Tikkun Leil Shavuot, this all-night study session is an opportunity to recommit ourselves to the study of Torah. Tradition teaches that the skies open up during this night for a brief moment, and G-d favorably answers all prayers. The kabbalists also think of Shavuot as the moment when G-d and Israel wed; the Torah is the ketubah (marriage contract) or written affirmation of the covenant between them.

Chanting the Ten Commandments. On Shavuot it is customary to chant the Ten Commandments with a special trope (manner of chanting Torah). The Ten Commandments are found in Exodus 20 and Deuteronomy 5 with minor differences.

6 Sivan (circa 1313 BCE) – The Torah was given to Moses at Mount Sinai and thus observed as the holiday of Shavuot.

4 Sivan (circa 1040 BCE) – Birth of David.

6 Sivan (circa 940 BCE) - Death of David.

23 Sivan (474 BCE) – Mordecai and Esther sent letters so that the Jews shall prepare themselves for the annihilation plan orchestrated by Haman to be committed against them on the 13th of the following Adar.

continued on page 4

TAMMUZ

The Hebrew names for the Jewish months originated in Babylon during the 70-year exile (after the destruction of the First Temple in 586 B.C.E.). “Tammuz” was actually the name of a Babylonian idol and deity. Maimonides, aka the Rambam, tells us that Tammuz was a false prophet who, according to ancient Mesopotamian lore, was crowned by the gods and flies away following his tragic death.

How sacrilegious to then attribute one of Hebrew months to an icon that contradicts the very core of Judaism's monotheistic beliefs, right?! But actually, not really; Judaism is all about striving towards more light and learning from our mistakes. The Israelites indeed struggled to adhere to the prohibition against idol worship as they wandered. Naming this month after a false idol is a reminder of past mistakes and a commemoration to overcoming them.

But back to the 17th of Tammuz. On this day, centuries earlier, while wandering in the desert, Moses smashes the Tablets of the Ten Commandments after descending from Mount Sinai to witness the Israelites worshipping a Golden Calf. This day is a rather destructive day, and Jews the world over commemorate this moment with a fast (observed from dawn on the 17th of Tammuz until the sun goes down on the 18th of Tammuz).

Whether you fast on this day or not, you're invited to pay specific attention to the natural human inclination to lose one's faith and get distracted by anger.

- **3 Tammuz** (circa 1272 BCE) – Joshua stops the sun (Book of Joshua, 10:1–15)
- **9 Tammuz** (circa 586 BCE) – Jerusalem walls breached by Nebuchadnezzar II, a date observed as a fast day until the second breaching of Jerusalem's walls by the Roman Empire on the 17th of Tammuz (70 CE)
- **17 Tammuz** (circa 1312 BCE) – golden calf offered by the Jewish people, 40 days after the giving of the Torah at Har Sinai. This is the first of the 5 national tragedies mourned on this day.
- **17 Tammuz** (circa 1312 BCE) – Smashing of the first Tablets by Moses
- **17 Tammuz** (70) – Walls of Jerusalem breached by the Roman army.
- **17 Tammuz** (135[?]) The Roman general Apostomus burned the Torah and placed an idol in the Second Temple Bar Kokhba revolt

Rabbi Romiel Daniel

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Leonor Herbst
William Katz
Peter Landes
Ruth Loewenstein
Allan Morrin
Agnes Posner
Elaine Spodick
Ava Wand



MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Rabbi Romiel & Noreen Daniel
Robin & Mark Hochberg
Sandy & Martin Novzen

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Jack Alkana
Roslyn Hochman
Pnina Lanxner
Sanford Operowsky
Jenny Sill
Herb Usenheimer
Lee Lobel-Zwang

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Beverly & Carl Ellman



MAZAL TOV

Mazal Tov to Ray & Ed Starer on the Bat Mitvah of their granddaughter Isabel Fine on April 10, 2021. Isabel is the daughter of Jackie & David Fine.

Mazal Tov to Ida and Arthur Schwartz, who celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary in April.

LOSS OF MEMBER

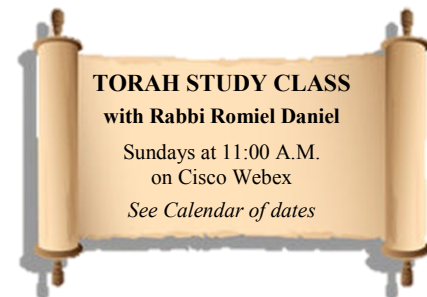
Frieda Mirzoeff

*We extend our deepest condolences
to her son Larry Mirzoeff.*

REFUAH SHELEIMAH

Jack Alkana
Joyce Fefferman
Mark Hochberg
Ruth Loewenstein
Sonia Siegel

SUNDAY MORNING TORAH STUDY CLASSES WITH RABBI DANIEL



TORAH STUDY CLASS
with Rabbi Romiel Daniel
Sundays at 11:00 A.M.
on Cisco Webex
See Calendar of dates

May 2, 16, 23, 30

June 6, 13, 27


All classes meet on Webex at 11:00 A.M.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Donations received after April 20th will be listed in the July/August bulletin.


May 2021

IYAR / SIVAN 5781

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>C.L. = CANDLE LIGHTING E.S. = EVENING SERVICE H.S. = HAVDALAH SERVICE M.S. = MORNING SERVICE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">N.T.S. = NO TORAH STUDY CLASS S.E. = SHABBAT ENDS T.S. = TORAH STUDY CLASS</p>						1 19 IYAR M.S. 9:00 A.M. SANC. & WEBEX E.S./H.S. 8:30 P.M. ON WEBEX S.E. 8:37 P.M. "EMOR"
2 20 IYAR T.S. 11:00 A.M. ON WEBEX	3 21 IYAR	4 22 IYAR	5 23 IYAR	6 24 IYAR	7 25 IYAR E.S. 7:00 P.M. ON WEBEX C.L. 7:41 P.M.	8 26 IYAR M.S. 9:00 A.M. SANC. & WEBEX E.S./H.S. 8:30 P.M. ON WEBEX S.E. 8:45 P.M. "BEHAR/ BEHOUKOTAI"
9 27 IYAR N.T.S. MOTHER'S DAY	10 28 IYAR	11 29 IYAR	12 1 SIVAN ROSH CHODESH	13 2 SIVAN	14 3 SIVAN E.S. 7:00 P.M. ON WEBEX C.L. 7:48 P.M.	15 4 SIVAN M.S. 9:00 A.M. SANC. & WEBEX E.S./H.S. 8:30 P.M. ON WEBEX S.E. 8:54 P.M. "BEMIDBAR"
16 5 SIVAN T.S. 11:00 A.M. ON WEBEX TIKKUN LEIL SHAVIOT -7:30 PM ON WEBEX C.L. 7:49 P.M. EREV SHAVUOT	17 6 SIVAN M.S. 9:00 A.M. SANCTUARY & WEBEX 1 ST DAY SHAVUOT	18 7 SIVAN M.S. 9:00 A.M. SANCTUARY & WEBEX YIZKOR 2 ND DAY SHAVUOT	19 8 SIVAN	20 9 SIVAN	21 10 SIVAN E.S. 7:00 P.M. ON WEBEX C.L. 7:54 P.M.	22 11 SIVAN M.S. 9:00 A.M. SANC. & WEBEX E.S./H.S. 8:30 P.M. ON WEBEX S.E. 9:01 P.M. "NASSO"
23 12 SIVAN T.S. 11:00 A.M. ON WEBEX	24 13 SIVAN	25 14 SIVAN	26 15 SIVAN	27 16 SIVAN	28 17 SIVAN E.S. 7:00 P.M. ON WEBEX C.L. 8:00 P.M.	29 18 SIVAN M.S. 9:00 A.M. SANC. & WEBEX E.S./H.S. 8:30 P.M. ON WEBEX S.E. 9:08 P.M. "BEHA'ALOTECHA"
30 19 SIVAN T.S. 11:00 A.M. ON WEBEX	31 20 SIVAN MEMORIAL DAY					

June 2021

SIVAN / TAMMUZ 5781

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 21 SIVAN	2 22 SIVAN	3 23 SIVAN	4 24 SIVAN E.S. 7:00 P.M. ON WEBEX C.L. 8:05 P.M.	5 25 SIVAN M.S. 9:00 A.M. SANC. & WEBEX E.S./H.S. 9:00 P.M. ON WEBEX S.E. 9:14 P.M. "SHELACH"
		6 26 SIVAN T.S. 11:00 A.M. ON WEBEX	7 27 SIVAN	8 28 SIVAN	9 29 SIVAN	10 30 SIVAN <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">ROSH CHODESH</div>
13 3 TAMMUZ T.S. 11:00 A.M. ON WEBEX	14 4 TAMMUZ	15 5 TAMMUZ	16 6 TAMMUZ	17 7 TAMMUZ	18 8 TAMMUZ E.S. 7:00 P.M. ON WEBEX C.L. 8:12 P.M.	19 9 TAMMUZ M.S. 9:00 A.M. SANC. & WEBEX E.S./H.S. 9:00 P.M. ON WEBEX S.E. 9:21 P.M. "CHUKAT"
20 10 TAMMUZ N.T.S. FATHER'S DAY	21 11 TAMMUZ	22 12 TAMMUZ	23 13 TAMMUZ	24 14 TAMMUZ	25 15 TAMMUZ E.S. 7:00 P.M. ON WEBEX C.L. 8:13 P.M.	26 16 TAMMUZ M.S. 9:00 A.M. SANC. & WEBEX E.S./H.S. 9:00 P.M. ON WEBEX S.E. 9:22 P.M. "BALAK"
27 17 TAMMUZ T.S. 11:00 A.M. ON WEBEX FAST OF TAMMUZ	28 18 TAMMUZ	29 19 TAMMUZ	30 20 TAMMUZ	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		

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Yahrzeit Fund

Jack Alkana, in memory of father Joseph Alkana.
Meryl Colman, in memory of husband Harry Colman.
Meryl Colman, in memory of mother Evelyn.
Reuben Ezra, in memory of mother Victoria Ezra.
Reuben Ezra, in memory of uncle Shokar Abraham Ezra.
Susan Fischer, in memory of husband Arthur Fischer.
Mikhail Gelfer, in memory of his wife.
Joel Herbst, in memory of father Nat Herbst.
Leonor Herbst, in memory of husband Morris Herbst.
Ira Hochman, in memory of brother Elliott Hochman.
Roslyn Hochman, in memory of brother Marvin.
Dan Isaacs, in memory of father Asher Isaacs.
Rachel Kacenenbogen, in memory of father Jacques.
Regina Landau, in memory of husband Isaac Landau.
John Landes, in memory of mother Maria Landes.
Pnina Lanxner, in memory of mother Miriam.
Agnes Posner, in memory of husband Laszlo Posner.
Frances Rotkopf, in memory of mother Sylvia .
Jack Siegel, in memory of father Harry Siegel.
Ed Starer, in memory of mother Vera Starer.
Ed Starer, in memory of grandmother Ida.
Jacqueline Weiss, in memory of grandmother Sara.
Ira Werner, in memory of father Shephard Werner.

Memorial Fund

Arlene & Ken Kapilow, in memory of Johanna Katz.

Commemorative Donations

Roslyn & Ira Hochman, in honor of the bat mitzvah of Isabel Fine, granddaughter of Ray & Ed Starer.
Ida & Arthur Schwartz, in honor of their 70th wedding anniversary.
Ruth Wolfson, in honor of Ida & Arthur Schwartz' special anniversary.

General Donations

Elise Bornstein, in honor of Rosh Chodesh Nisan.
Elise Bornstein, in honor of Passover.
Maria Duron, in honor of Rosh Chodesh Nisan.
Maria Duron, in honor of Passover.
Mikhail Gelfer, in honor of Passover.
Susan Goldschmidt, in honor of reading prayers on Shabbat.
Sandi Goodman and Harriet Goodman, with gratitude for their recovery from Covid-19 and in loving memory of their Rego Park Jewish Center friends who did not survive.
Aida & Menashe Ovadia
Paramdeo Patraj
Lynne & Joel Zakoff, in honor of various aliyot.

Refuah Sheleimah

Arlene Broad and family, for the recovery of Joe Farber.
Susan Goldschmidt, for the recovery of Joe Farber.
Ray & Ed Starer, for the recovery of Sonia Siegel.
Lynne & Joel Zakoff, for the recovery of Jack Alkana.
Lynne & Joel Zakoff, for the recovery of Joyce Fefferman.
Lynne & Joel Zakoff, for the recovery of Mark Hochberg.
Lynne & Joel Zakoff, for the recovery of Ruth Loewenstein.

Passover Yizkor

Martin Cantor
Rabbi Romiel & Noreen Daniel
Reuben Ezra
Susan Goldschmidt
Pnina Lanxner
Michael Loewinger
Jeanette Mildner
Sonia & Jack Siegel
Elaine Spodick
Carol Stoller
Ruth Wolfson

Rego Park Jewish Center
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