

Flushing-Fresh Meadows Jewish Center
 193-10 Peck Avenue ☆ Flushing, New York 11365 (718) 357-5100

THE BULLETIN

Jan.-Feb., 2020
 Vol.18. No. 1

Tevet-Shevat 5780
 Rabbi Daniel Wolpe
 Cantor Aaron Katz



Coming Events

Rabbi's Classes

Mondays, From 10:00am to 11:00am
 Introduction to Midrash continues till Monday,
 January 27

Wednesdays, From 10:00am to 11:00am
 Jewish Medical Ethics continues till
 Wednesday, January 29

Thursdays, From 7:00pm to 8:00pm
 Introduction to Judaism continues to May 2020.

Rabbi's Upcoming Classes in February

Mondays, From 10:00am to 11:00am
 Building a Relationship With God
 Starting February 3, 10, 24 till April 2020.

Wednesdays, From 10:00am to 11:00am

The Book of Job
 Starting February 5, 12, 19 and 26 till April 2020.

Monday, February 10

Come join us for a great Tu Bishvat Seder.

We will be celebrating the
 "New Year of the Trees"
 with plenty of food, drinks
 and learning.

Time: 12noon to 2:00pm.

Cost: \$ 10 per person



WATCH FOR THE FLYER

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2020

Friday, January 3

Mincha/Maariv4:15 PM
Candle Lighting4:23 PM

Saturday, January 4

Parshat Vayigash
Shabbat Services9:00 AM
Shabbat Ends5:32 PM

Friday, January 10

Mincha/Maariv..... 4:15 PM
Candle Lighting4:29 PM

Saturday, January 11

Parshat Vayechi
Shabbat Services..... 9:00 AM
Shabbat Ends..... 5:39 PM

Friday, January 17

Mincha/Maariv4:20 PM
Candle Lighting4:37 PM

Saturday, January 18

Parshat Shmot
Shabbat Services..... 9:00 AM
Shabbat Ends..... 5:46 PM

Friday, January 24

Mincha/Maariv4:30 PM
Candle Lighting4:45 PM

Saturday, January 25

Parshat Yitro
Shabbat Services9:00 AM
Shabbat Ends5:55 PM

Friday, January 31

Mincha/Maariv4:30 PM
Candle Lighting4:54 PM

Saturday, February 1

Parshat Bo
Shabbat Services9:00 AM
Shabbat Ends6:03 PM

Friday, February 7

Mincha/Maariv4:45 PM
Candle Lighting5:03 PM

Saturday, February 8

Parshat Beshallach
Shabbat Services9:00 AM
Shabbat Ends6:12 PM

Friday, February 14

Mincha/Maariv4:45 PM
Candle Lighting5:11 PM

Saturday, February 15

Parshat Yitro
Shabbat Services9:00 AM
Shabbat Ends..... 6:20 P M

Friday, February 21

Mincha/Maariv..... 5:00 PM
Candle Lighting5:20 PM

Saturday, February 22

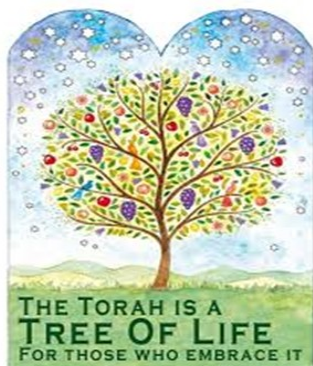
Parshat Mishpatim
Shabbat Services9:00 AM
Shabbat Ends6:29 PM

Friday, February 28

Mincha/Maariv5:10 PM
Candle Lighting..... 5:28 PM

Saturday, February 29

Parshat Terumah
Shabbat Services9:00AM
Shabbat Ends6:37 PM



SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL

PLANT TREES WITH JNF FOR TU B'SHEVAT.

**CALL THE SYNAGOGUE OFFICE TODAY
718-357- 5100**



Mazal Tov

To: Zach and Joan Levine on the birth of their latest great granddaughter Malki.

Condolences

To: Rosalie Weiner on the passing of her sister Iris Deborah Roth.

Get Well Soon-Updates

Stuart Cohen is still in rehab at The Five Towns Premier Rehab. & Nursing Center in Woodmere. Hopefully he will be home soon.

Gustav Hirschhorn attended Shabbat Services on Saturday, December 21. We were so happy to see him.

Gertie Isaac is on the road to recovery. We hope to see her soon.

Maxine Marcus is doing better and is going for Physical Therapy. Hopefully she will be on her feet soon. She is looking forward to seeing us soon.

Congratulations

To: Rabbi Wolpe who celebrated his 42nd Bar Mitzvah Anniversary on Saturday, December 21, 2019. Rabbi read the Torah and the Haftorah. His favorite dishes were served.

Center News

On Saturday December 28, after Shabbat services, we had a special Hanukkah dairy luncheon with Indian delicacies, Italian cuisine, blintzes and, of course sufganiyot (donuts) and latkes. Cantor Katz led us in beautiful Hanukkah songs during the meal. The joy of the holiday pervaded the entire shul.

Lois Roman's Visit To FFMJC

By Rabbi Dan Wolpe

On November 16, we had a very special Shabbat guest. Her name was Lois Roman and she was here to teach us the history of our Holocaust Torah and the Holocaust Torahs that have been saved throughout the world. A Holocaust Torah, as the name implies, is a Torah that was saved from the Nazis. However, the story of their reclamation and redistribution is far greater than just their having been saved from destruction during World War II.



As Ms. Roman explained to us, many of these Sifrei Torah dated back one hundred or two hundred years before the Holocaust. They are crucial links not only to our faith but to communities that thrived at different times in history. When the Nazis ravaged Jewish communities, many Sifrei Torah were destroyed, while others were either hidden by Jews or warehoused by the Germans.

After the war, a movement slowly grew to seek out these Sifrei Torah and return them to the Jewish communities around the world. Often, intrepid searchers like Ms. Roman had to go to way out locations in foreign countries to retrieve the Sifrei Torah. Her organization then found that there was a warehouse that had hundreds of lost Torahs. They were able to retrieve them and catalogue them and have now sent these Sifrei Torah to synagogues around the world, including ours.

Ms. Roman's presentation was fascinating and informative and we were honored to have her.



Sisterhood News

Now that winter is officially here, we plan to keep indoors and stay warm and dry. However, plans are being made for the spring. The first Sisterhood function is scheduled for March 26th when the Book Club will meet to discuss the book “The Language of Flowers” by Vanessa Diffenbaugh. Call the Fresh Meadows library to see when the book is available for our group. The group meets at 11AM. Following the discussion, the members of the Sisterhood Board will meet to plan for the new season. Save the date of April 30 when we will celebrate Yom Ha’ atzmaut, Israel Independence Day, with a luncheon and entertainment.

Looking back to the November meeting, we all enjoyed a video about Broadway musicals and the Jews. It was interesting to note that so many of the composers and lyricists were Jewish. As always, we enjoyed the bagel and lox lunch and socializing with our friends. Thanks to Matilda for preparing the food for the lunch.

Save the following dates! April 23, Book Club: book to be announced. May 14, Sisterhood lunch and program with a doctor from Northwell Health. May 21, Book Club.

Have a Healthy winter and keep warm.

Marilyn (in Florida) and Joan, Sisterhood Co-Presidents.

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CHANUKAH PARTY AND CELEBRATION

Just a few days before the official start of Chanukah, Sisterhood sponsored a party for the holiday. Many members and friends joined together to eat lo mein and latkes and then to be entertained by our own Cantor Aaron Katz.

Did you ever hear the Dreidel song Texas style (yee haw!). We did. What a beautiful variety of folk music and other songs Cantor Katz brought to us from “This Land is Your Land” to Peter, Paul and Mary’s “Light one Candle”. Thank you, Cantor Katz. Thank you again to Matilda who made all the arrangements for the food. Thank you to the volunteers who helped serve. Thank you to Vincent and Howard for setting up. Thank you to Marcia who kept the tally of the reservations.

We would also like to thank Arthur Cohen for his donation towards the Chinese food, in memory of his mother Rose Cohen, a former member of the Flushing Jewish Center.

Most of all, thank you for participating.



SIMCHA CAKE

Sisterhood has created a way of announcing special Simchas and other events to support the Torah Fund of the Jewish Theological Seminary. At each meeting, we will be able to announce our Simcha and have it published in the Bulletin with a minimum donation of \$1.00. This is in lieu of putting Tzedakah boxes on the tables. Torah Fund contributions ensure our legacy to future generations of Conservative Jews by training Rabbis, Cantors, Educators, Scholars and Lay Leaders.

The following was announced at the November 14, 2019 Sisterhood Meeting

Inge Berger	Speedy recovery to Stuart
Marilyn Brown	Good health to all
Matilda Cohen	May 2020 be a happy & prosperous year for all
Luisa Cvern	Happy birthday, Michael & Taylor
Doris Fried	Happy & healthy Thanksgiving to all
Gloria Goldsmith	Happy Thanksgiving
Eleanor Frommer	For Hannah & Logan's engagement
Evelyn Hurr	Health & Happiness
Gertrude Isaac	Happy Thanksgiving to all
Goldie Kerstner	Hannah & Logan's engagement
Lynne Kirby	Wishing everyone a happy & healthy New Year and a great big welcome to our new Rabbi
Judy & Michael Krutoy	Byron's 92 nd birthday
Ruth Lasky	For the Dresner's anniversary
Joan & Zach Levine	Good health to my family and loved ones
Judy Levy	Welcome to newest great-granddaughter, Malcah
Alice Wetchler	Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving
	For grandson Daniel's 31 st birthday
	For grandson Brian's 33 rd birthday
Tena Umlas	Healthy winter to all
Pearl Rosenthal	Good health to the entire congregation
Anita Seelig	Speedy recovery to Stuart
Sylvia Udasin	A healthy winter to all
Rosalie Weiner	Happy, Healthy winter to all
Ellen Zilka	Wishing everyone a pleasant winter

Remember cards can be sent for any occasion to benefit the Jewish Theological Seminary

Call Marcia at the office at 718-357-5100

Rabbi speaks to the New Highland Elementary School

Letter from The Highland School:

Dear Rabbi Dan Wolpe,

Thank you very much for your very informative Hanukkah presentation to the boys and girls of the Highland School yesterday, December 17, 2019. The children were fascinated with the Menorah and the dreidel, and thoroughly enjoyed singing with you. We look forward to your sharing more enriching experiences with our students.

The Highland School



What Is A Tu Beshvat Seder? By Rabbi Dan Wolpe

While everyone, even many non-Jews, are familiar with the Passover seder, the Tu Beshvat Seder is not widely known. It began in the 1500's among the kabbalists of Tzfat. Even though Tu Beshvat is considered a very minor holiday, the mystics gave it an added weight, and as you will see, its importance has been heightened even more in modernity.

Tu Beshvat is often called "The new year of the trees," and is a minor holiday which is basically the Jewish Arbor Day. It is a celebration of nature and is celebrated in many different ways. The name Tu Beshvat literally means, "The 15th day of the month of Shevat." In Israel, it is customary to plant trees on this day in honor of it being the New Year of the Trees.

In the Talmud, Tu Beshvat is listed as one of four New Years in our calendar. The first of Nisan which is the new year in the Torah, the rabbis declared to be the "New year for kings and festivals." The first of Elul is the new year for tithes and cattle, the first of Tishrei is Rosh HaShannah, and is the date by which the calendar is counted and celebrates the creation of the world, and Tu Beshvat was ruled to be the date by which the agricultural calendar began.

In the 16th century, the mystics of Tzfat instituted the Tu Beshvat seder. This seder gave symbolic meaning to various fruits in Israel. Although much shorter than the Passover seder, it does include four cups of wine.

In recent years, with the ecological worries facing the planet, the high level of species going extinct, the danger of climate change, and the destruction of natural resources, the Tu Beshvat seder has taken on a new meaning and its relevance has been revived in almost all religious circles. Today, it is a reminder that we are stewards of the Earth and responsible for its upkeep. It is a job at which we have resoundly failed so far, and we use Tu Beshvat as a reminder.

There will be a Tu Beshvat seder on Monday, February 10 from 12:00 PM-2:00 PM. I hope you will all join me in this celebration.

UPCOMING CLASSES WITH RABBI WOLPE: starting in February 2020

DAY CLASSES

MONDAYS

Building A Relationship With God:

From: 10:00am to 11:00am

DATES: February. 3, 10, 24, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, April 6, 13, 20 and 27.

PLEASE NOTE: No class on February 17.

How do we build a relationship with God? Is it possible?

Join Rabbi Wolpe as we explore different methods of bringing ourselves closer to the Creator of the universe.

UPCOMING CLASSES WITH RABBI WOLPE: starting in February 2020

DAY CLASSES

WEDNESDAYS

The book of Job:

From: 10:00am 11:00am

DATES: February 5, 12, 19, 26, March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1, 22, 29.

PLEASE NOTE: No classes on April 8 and 15 due to Pesach.

The Book of Job is one of the most powerful books in the entire Tanach (Bible). It poses such questions as, "Why do bad things happen to good people?" "How does a good God allow suffering?" Join Rabbi Wolpe as we explore these powerful themes.

EVENING CLASSES

THURSDAYS

Introduction to Judaism.






From: 7:00pm to 8:00pm

This class continues, but if you haven't attended, don't worry! Each class is self-contained so that a student can attend only the classes that interest them or attend the whole course.

This is the class that will teach everything you wanted to know about Judaism but were afraid to ask. We will go over rituals, history, theology, holidays, Israel and many other subjects.





January 2020

Tevet/Shevat 5780

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 4 Tevet Rabbi's Classes "Jewish Medical Ethics" 10:00am to 11:00am	2 5 Rabbi's Classes "Introduction to Judaism" 7:00pm to 8:00pm	3 6  4:23pm	4 7 Parshat Vayigash Ends: 5:32pm
5 8	6 9 Rabbi's Classes "Introduction to Midrash" 10:00am to 11:00am	7 10	8 11 Rabbi's Classes "Jewish Medical Ethics" 10:00am to 11:00am	9 12 Rabbi's Classes "Introduction to Judaism" 7:00pm to 8:00pm	10 13  4:29pm	11 14 Parshat Vayechi Ends: 5:39pm
12 15	13 16 Rabbi's Classes "Introduction to Midrash" 10:00am to 11:00am	14 17	15 18 Rabbi's Classes "Jewish Medical Ethics" 10:00am to 11:00am	16 19 Rabbi's Classes "Introduction to Judaism" 7:00pm to 8:00pm	17 20  4:37pm	18 21 Parshat Shmot Ends: 5:46pm
19 22	20 23 Rabbi's Classes "Introduction to Midrash" 10:00am to 11:00am	21 24	22 25 Rabbi's Classes "Jewish Medical Ethics" 10:00am to 11:00am	23 26 Rabbi's Classes "Introduction to Judaism" 7:00pm to 8:00pm	24 27  4:45pm	25 28 Parshat Yitro Ends: 5:55pm
26 29	27 1 Shevat Rabbi's Classes "Introduction to Midrash" 10:00am to 11:00am	28 2	29 3 Rabbi's Classes "Jewish Medical Ethics" 10:00am to 11:00am	30 4 Rabbi's Classes "Introduction to Judaism" 7:00pm to 8:00pm	31 5  4:54pm	

February 2020

Shevat/Adar 5780

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 6 Shevat Parshat Bo Ends: 6:03pm
2 7	3 8 Rabbi's Classes "Building a relationship with God" 10:00am to 11:00am	4 9	5 10 Rabbi's Classes "Book of Job" 10:00am to 11:00am	6 11 Rabbi's Classes "Introduction to Judaism" 7:00pm to 8:00pm	7 12  5:03pm	8 13 Parashat Beshallach Ends: 6:12pm
9 14	10 15 Rabbi's Classes "Building a relationship with God" 10:00am to 11:00am Tu Bishvat Seder 12:00pm to 2:00pm	11 16	12 17 Rabbi's Classes "Book of Job" 10:00am to 11:00am	13 18 Rabbi's Classes "Introduction to Judaism" 7:00pm to 8:00pm	14 19  5:11pm	15 20 Parshat Yitro Ends: 6:20pm
16 21	17 22 No Classes President's Day	18 23	19 24 Rabbi's Classes "Book of Job" 10:00am to 11:00am	20 25 Rabbi's Classes "Introduction to Judaism" 7:00pm to 8:00pm	21 26  5:20pm	22 27 Parshat Mishpatim Ends: 6:29pm
23 28	24 29 Rabbi's Classes "Building a relationship with God" 10:00am to 11:00am	25 30	26 31 Adar Rabbi's Classes "Book of Job" 10:00am to 11:00am	27 2 Rabbi's Classes "Introduction to Judaism" 7:00pm to 8:00pm	28 3  5:28pm	29 4 Parshat Terumah Ends: 6:37pm