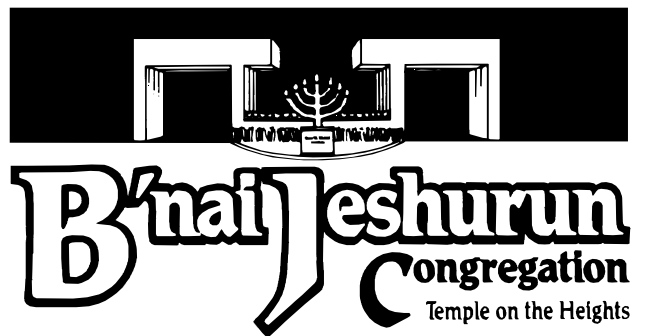


*Shabbat Shalom!*

27501 Fairmount Boulevard  
Pepper Pike, Ohio 44124  
Tel: 216-831-6555 Fax: 216-831-4599  
www.bnaijeshurun.org  
Condolence/Event Cancellation Tel:  
216-831-6556



Welcome to the **David J. Moskowitz Sanctuary** on behalf of  
Rabbi Stephen Weiss, Rabbi Hal Rudin-Luria, Cantor Aaron Shifman,  
Education Engagement Rabbi Josh Foster,  
Rabbi Emeritus Stanley J. Schachter, President Shelley Scher  
and Executive Director Jay Ross.

*Our Mission is "To ensure the flourishing of Jewish life through educational, social and Conservative religious experiences in a warm and dynamic community."*



Parashat Ki Tisa כִּי תִשָּׂא

Shabbat Parah

March 17/18, 2017 - 20 Adar 5777



	<u>Hertz</u>	<u>Etz Hayim</u>	<u>Verse</u>
Rishon	352	523	Ex. 30:11 - 30:13
Sheni	352	524	30:14 - 30:16
Shlishi	353	524	30:17 - 30:21
Revi'i	353	525	30:22 - 30:33
Chamishi	354	526	30:34 - 30:38
Shishi	355	527	31:1 - 31:11
Shevi'i	355	528	31:12 - 31:17
Maftir	652	880	Num. 19:1 - 19:22
Haftarah	999	1287	Ezekiel 36:16 - 36:38



Thank you to our Torah readers: Sylvia Kugelman, Rachel Zimmerman, David Steiger, Barry Shapiro, Kenny Cohen, Rylan Polster, Steve Wolotsky and Max Wiznitzer. Thank you to Max Wiznitzer for chanting the Haftarah.



DAILY MINYAN  
MONDAY - THURSDAY 7:00 am & 7:30 am & 6:00 pm  
FRIDAY 7:00 am & 7:30 am & 6:00 pm (unless otherwise noted)  
SATURDAY 9:00 am & 6:00 pm  
SUNDAY & HOLIDAYS 8:00 am & 6:00 pm

*Your presence adds to the joy of our service!*

## FRIDAY

Mazal tov to all of our couples who are celebrating anniversaries this month!

Thank you to our Board member on the bima, Jeremy Zelwin, and our greeter, Lynn Wasserman.



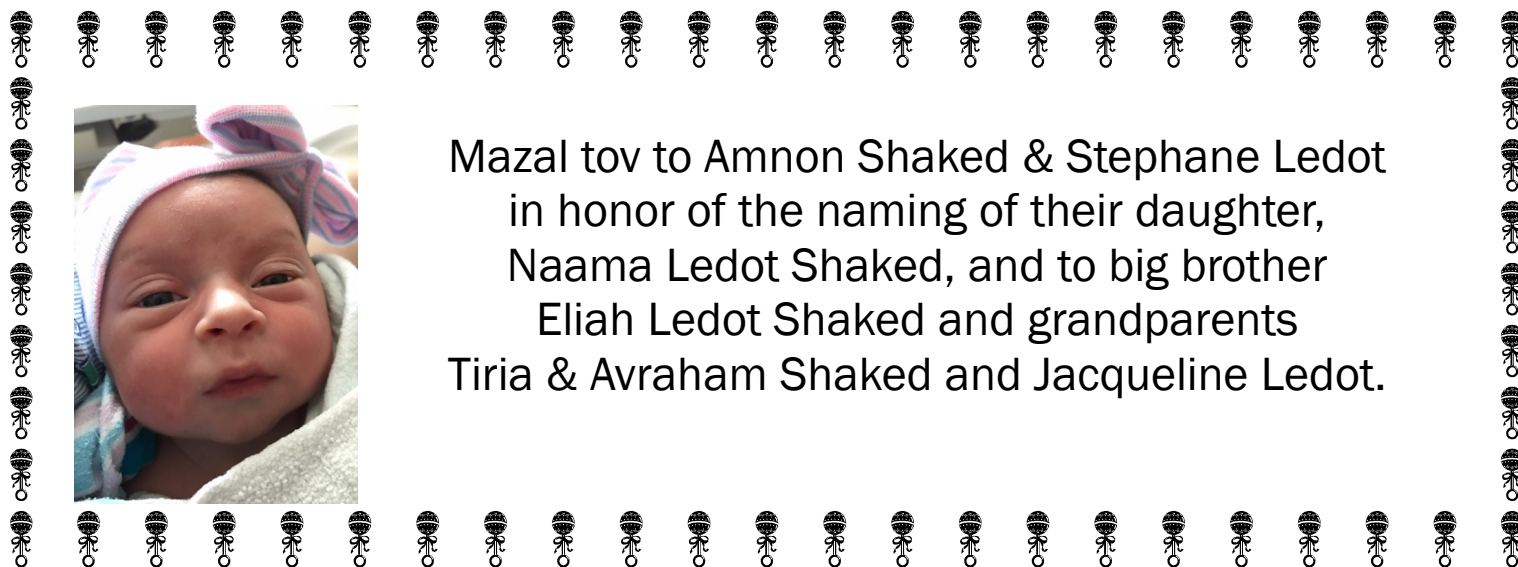
## SATURDAY

Our Starbucks, Bread & Torah teacher this week is Doron Kalir. Thank you to Jacalyn Hazen for preparing the refreshments.

Thank you to the women who prepare the kiddush refreshments: Fay Blumenthal, Tova Cohen, Lynn Katz Danzig, Ruth Dobres, Faith Eisenberg, Laura Katzner, Harriet Mann, Cheryl Spira, Nancy Tresser Lipko and Pnina Wiesel.

Thank you to our Board member on the bima, Richard Berkowitz, our greeter, Wendy Dahar, and our ushers: David Cohen, Maury Greenstein, Dan Jacobs and Harriet Rosenberg Mann.

Following the Benediction, please join us for kiddush in **Gross Atrium**, sponsored in part by Adrienne & Mel Wasserman in honor of his milestone birthday; and by Amnon Shaked & Stephane Ledot in honor of the naming of their daughter, Naama Ledot Shaked.



Mazal tov to Amnon Shaked & Stephane Ledot in honor of the naming of their daughter, Naama Ledot Shaked, and to big brother Eliah Ledot Shaked and grandparents Tiria & Avraham Shaked and Jacqueline Ledot.



**Friday, April 21 • 7 pm**

Bring your families to this wonderful evening, with a live band playing some of today's most upbeat Jewish music. You will find yourself tapping your toes, clapping your hands and dancing to these contemporary melodies. Multiple musical genres are woven through the service, highlighting text from

each of the Psalms, which creates an energizing and engaging service. A special prayer book has been created to offer Hebrew, transliteration and English to make this service user friendly. Listen to and download tracks from our website. Services will be held in the Linden Family Courtyard, weather permitting. **The April oneg is sponsored by Phyllis & Sidney Reisman. Future dates: May 19, June 16, July 21, August 18.**

**Cook & Serve Meals for the Transplant House of Cleveland**  
**Thursday, April 20 • 5:30 pm**

Chesed is excited to be starting a new partnership with the Transplant House of Cleveland, which provides temporary, affordable housing in a home-like environment for organ transplant patients and their families while they are visiting



Cleveland for medical care. This mitzvah involves preparing a meal for ten people at YOUR home and bringing it to the Transplant House. We will connect with the residents as they enjoy a nice, family meal together. We plan to make this an ongoing Chesed project. Our next date is already scheduled for June 21. Contact Shani Kadis if you would like to help. Learn more about the Transplant House at [transplanthouseofcleveland.org](http://transplanthouseofcleveland.org); they are located at 2007 E. 115th St., Cleveland.



**Caring for Our Fishy Friends at the  
Greater Cleveland Aquarium**  
**Sunday, April 23 • 10:30 am**

Come together with other young families for a special morning as we learn about the mitzvah of caring for animals, including our fishy friends. Enjoy a guided tour of the aquarium, craft and snack. \$8/adult; \$5/child; RSVP required to Julie Sukert.

*This program was made possible through a Shores Grant, administered by the Jewish Education Center of Cleveland and supported by the Fund for the Jewish Future of the Jewish Federation of Cleveland.*

**Scholastic Book Fair**  
**Sunday, March 19 • 10 am - 12:30 pm**  
**Tuesday, March 21 • 3:30 - 6 pm**



Everyone is encouraged to stop by Jacobson Library to purchase new and exciting books on Jewish themes and general reading. Books available include items for pre-school children, juvenile literature, young adult literature and adult items. There's something for everyone!

**Office Volunteers Needed**

Volunteers are needed to help at the front desk with lunchtime relief. Times can be arranged to conveniently fit your schedule. Both men and women are welcome. We guarantee a friendly, rewarding environment. Please contact Marilyn Greenwald (440-449-2449 or [marilynandstuart@gmail.com](mailto:marilynandstuart@gmail.com)).

Please Join Us for an  
Exclusive Webinar



## A World Turned Upside Down: A Conservative Jewish Response

with

Chancellor Arnold M. Eisen

Wednesday, April 26 • 7 - 8 pm • BJC\*

We invite you to participate in this live, online educational presentation during which viewers are able to submit questions and comments to the Chancellor. The questions will be received at JTS and addressed as time allows.

For more information, please contact Dana Hartman, Director of Annual Giving ([donate@jtsa.edu](mailto:donate@jtsa.edu) or 212-678-8866). This webinar is being offered exclusively to congregants whose synagogues support Friends of JTS at the Re'im and Yedidim levels (\$5,000 and above).

\*If you are unable to participate with us at the synagogue, you may also log-in from your home computer; visit [jtsa.edu](http://jtsa.edu) for more information.

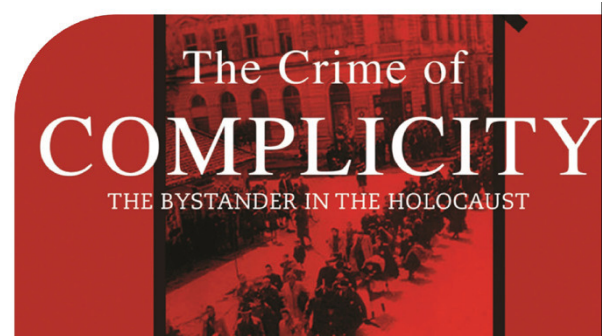
## The Crime of Complicity: The Bystander in the Holocaust Amos N. Guiora

Thursday, April 27 • 7 pm • BJC • Free & Open to the Public



If you are a bystander and witness a crime, should intervention to prevent that crime be a legal obligation? Or is moral responsibility enough? Amos N. Guiora addresses these profound questions and the bystander-victim relationship from a deeply personal and legal perspective, focusing on the Holocaust and then exploring cases in contemporary society. He shares the experiences of his parents and grandparents during the Holocaust and examines sexual assault

cases at Vanderbilt and Stanford and other crimes where bystanders chose not to intervene. Guiora recommends that we must make the obligation to intervene the law, and thus non-intervention a crime.



Thank you to our sponsors

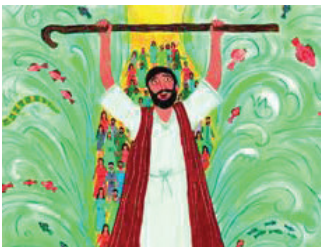


**Haymarket to the Heights:  
The History of the Oldest Jewish Cemeteries in Cleveland  
A Sisterhood Lunch & Learn with Historian Jeff Morris  
Tuesday, March 28 • noon**

Jeff will discuss his work including important points on our own Glenville Cemetery. \$10 per person. RSVP by March 23 to Robin Rood (rroodrd@gmail.com or 440-338-5090). Please send checks, made payable to BJC Sisterhood, to Robin at 113 Silver Springs Tr., Chagrin Falls, 44022.

**Sisterhood Torah Fund Luncheon  
Sunday, April 2 • 11:30 am • BJC  
featuring The Workmen's Circle Klezmer Orchestra**

To attend this special luncheon, you must be a current Torah Fund Benefactor (contributed \$180 or more) or Supporter (contributed \$20 or more), including purchase of JTS greeting cards, during the last year. Co-sponsored by Park Synagogue and B'nai Jeshurun Sisterhoods. There is still time to make your 2016-2017 contribution! \$20 per person. Prepaid reservations are due March 23. RSVP to Judi Lauer (330-888-9029 or judithlauer@roadrunner.com). Please make checks payable to B'nai Jeshurun Sisterhood and mail to Judi at 654 Fairfield Lane, Aurora, Ohio, 44202; indicate salmon or eggplant parmesan.



**Calling All PreSchool – 2nd Grade Students and Families!  
Passover Extravaganza  
Saturday, April 8 • 10:30 am**

Join us for Passover fun and excitement followed by lunch. This program is in place of Family Shabbat this month.

**3rd - 5th Grade Youth Shabbaton  
April 21-23 • Camp Wise**

Join your BJC friends for a Shabbaton filled with learning, friendship, fun, food, exciting activities and learn great Jewish values from Shrek! Parents and students will meet at 4:15 pm on Friday in Nickman Chapel for introductions and an opening program before the bus departs. The bus will return on Sunday by 11:15 am. All programming, meals and snacks are included. For more information, contact Rabbi Foster. Register at [bnaijeshurun.formstack.com/forms/shabbaton\\_2017](http://bnaijeshurun.formstack.com/forms/shabbaton_2017).



*B'nai Jeshurun Congregation gratefully acknowledges the Retreat Institute (RI) of the Jewish Education Center of Cleveland (JECC), for financial and programmatic assistance. The JECC's Retreat Institute is supported by the Fund for the Jewish Future of the Jewish Federation of Cleveland.*

# Pesach 5777

**Sunday, April 9:** Search for *hametz* (evening)

**Monday, April 10:** Erev Pesach – 1st Seder; No eating of *hametz* after 11:07 am - sell and burn *hametz* before 12:15 pm.

7:00 am Combined Minyans; *Siyyum b'Chorim* (Fast of the First Born)

6:00 pm Mincha/Evening Service

**Tuesday, April 11:** 1st Day of Pesach – 2nd Seder

9:15 am Shabbat/Festival Service

6:00 pm Mincha

**Wednesday, April 12:** 2nd Day of Pesach; *Yom Tov* ends at 8:46 pm

9:15 am Festival Service

6:00 pm Mincha

**Sunday, April 16:** Erev 7th Day of Pesach

6:00 pm Mincha/Evening Service

**Monday, April 17:** 7th Day of Pesach

9:00 am Festival Service

6:00 pm Mincha

**Tuesday, April 18:** 8th Day of Pesach; **8:53 pm Passover ends**

9:00 am Shabbat/Festival Service/Yizkor/Dedication of Memorial Plaques

11:00 am Children's Programming during Yizkor

6:00 pm Mincha

If you sold your *hametz* through the shul, you may eat it right away, as the sale reverts immediately.

Hametz Transfer of Ownership forms may be found in March *Tidings* or online at [bnaijeshurun.org/hametz](http://bnaijeshurun.org/hametz).

The deadline to purchase a memorial plaque or listing in the Golden Book of Remembrance for dedications at Yizkor Pesach is Monday, April 3.

Contact Diane Shalom for more information. Order forms may be found in March *Tidings* and online at [bnaijeshurun.org/pesach](http://bnaijeshurun.org/pesach).

The Rabbinical Assembly Pesach Guide includes the rules and procedures relating to the special food requirements of Pesach observance. They have been compiled by the Committee on Jewish Law and Standards (CJLS) of the Rabbinical Assembly and Conservative Movement. This information can serve as an annual reference for you. Any items not covered, and about which you have a question, should be discussed directly with one of our clergy. We hope your preparations for Pesach will lead to a joyous holiday for you and your dear ones. The 2017 – 5777 guide may be found at <https://goo.gl/niomwL>. Hard copies are available on the information table in **Gross Atrium**, or you may call to have one mailed to you.

MISHABERAH

JAYDEN BARBER  
DOVID BEN STANLEY  
YITZHAK MICHAEL BEN DINAH  
AVRAM DAVID BEN DINAH  
ELI CHAIM BEN MINNA YITTA  
BEN-TZION PESACH BEN  
SHAINDEL CHAYAH  
FRUMA BAT JANETTE  
YISRAEL BEN MEIRA  
MATANA DVORAH BAT SARAH  
ZELIG BEN DOROTHY  
DAVID BEN MICHAEL HAKOHEN  
DINA RIVKA BAT LEAH  
GITTEL CHANA BAT ESTHER  
MASHA TSIRIL BAT BASHA  
SHANDEL BRACHA BAT ESTHER  
DYLAN CHAIM BEN PESIA HINDA  
AVIGAYIL BAT HADAR MIRIAM  
HADAR MIRIAM BAT ESTHER  
ADINA BAT SARAH  
YAKOV BEN MIRIAM  
RONI BEN RACHEL  
TOVA ELKA BAT RAISEL MALKA  
RAISEL MALKA BAT FREDA  
TOVA BAT SARAH GITTEL  
MOSHE BEN ZELDA  
MICHAL VERED TOVA BAT SARAH GILA  
SARAH GILA BAT LEAH  
PINHAS SIMCHA BEN PNINA  
ADIN RONEN BEN SARAH GILA  
YONIT ABRA BAT HAYA  
HAYA TZIPPORAH BAT ITTA  
YAKOV ELIJAHU BEN GALIA  
DONNA ROSEN  
MASHA BAT HEINCHA  
ZEV TZVI BEN SARAH MALKA  
MEIR BEN SHLOIMO HA'LEVI  
AVRUM REUVAIN BEN NAOMI  
RACHEL BAT SARA  
MORDECHAI DOVID BEN LEAH  
MIMI DORF  
PEREL BAT YENTA  
YAKOV BEN SARA  
DANIEL BEN LEAH  
ZELDA BRACHA BAT MINA  
TZIPPA ZEISEL BAT MIRIAM  
HENNACH BEN ETEL  
SURA TOBA BAT JOSEF ZWI  
ZALMAN SHMUEL DOV BEN  
RUVENA SHIFRA  
BRACHA BAT SIMA  
KETURAH BAT SARAH

MESHELEM BEN RACHEL  
NOACH YA'ARI BEN SARAH  
YEHUDIT BAT SARAH  
ADIRA BAT RUCHEL  
GERSHON BEN RITA  
MINAH MINDEL BAT PESAH MALKA  
MASAHIRO UENO  
CHANNA EETA BAT FIVAL  
SARA CHAYA BAT DEVORAH  
AVRAHAM BEN SARAH  
SIMCHA MELECH BEN SORA  
PEREL SARAH BAT DVORAH  
MALKA BAT BATYA  
AVRAHAM BEN CHAIM HA'LEVI  
EZRA SHAMIR BEN SIMCHA  
RACHEL LEAH BAT DEVORAH  
MORDECHAI BEN MIRIAM  
AIYELA RACHEL BAT SHIFRA  
REUVEN BEN ADELIN  
LEAH BAT ETYE  
PHIL APRUZZI  
MICHAEL LUBLINE  
SHOSHANA BATYA BAT  
YEHUDIT DEVORAH  
MALKA BAT RAISA  
MORT YUSSEL BEN RIVKA  
DANYA MICHEL BAT CARI  
HANA RUCHEL BAT FAIGEL  
KIM BAILES  
SHAINA LIEBE BAT CHAVA MIRYAM  
ZLATE FEIGA BAT CHAYA  
MEIR BEN SARAH  
YENTEL SURAH BAT MARIAM PESSSEL  
RAPHAEL BEN MASHA GOLDA  
BENJAMIN JOSEPH GREEN  
MIRIAM BAT RUCHEL  
MARY ELIZABETH GREENE  
REUVEN BEN SHAINDL  
YONKEL MOSHE BEN LEAH  
YOSEFA BAT CHANA SURA  
HAYA SORA BAT LEAH  
EFRAIM ZEV BEN ZELDA  
MOSHE ZEV BEN SHEVA  
SHELMIE REUVEN BEN ZVEI  
MENORAH BAT SHULAMIT  
LIBBY GOLDIE BAT SHAINA MALKA  
CHANA MINCHA BAT CHAYA  
YEHUDIT BAT LIBA  
HAYA LEAH BAT DVOSIA  
ZIPPORAH BAT VELA  
Yael BAT ESTHER  
MORDECHAI BEN YENTEL  
YEHUDIT BAT MOSHE

ELIEZER BEN SARAH  
 SHLOMO FEIVEL BEN KAYLA  
 HARAV MIRIAM MALKA BAT HANA LEAH  
 HAYA BAT BRACHA  
 RACHMIEL BEN DORIT  
 BOB ALTMIRE  
 GOLDIE BAT SARA  
 LARRY RIGA  
 STEVE LANDFIELD  
 LOU GOLDSTEIN  
 RIVKA BAT FRAYDA  
 TZIVIA AVIVA BAT MINDEL HANA  
 RUT BAT ESTER  
 ROSE GORDON  
 GARY BETTLEY  
 DAVID SHIMON BEN RENAH  
 FAYGAH BAT SORA  
 ANNE RZEPKA  
 FRED RZEPKA  
 YOSEF BEN HAYA  
 DANIEL BEN HENDEL LIEBE  
 JENNIFER BAT DORIS  
 SHMUEL BEN MOSHE  
 ETHEL DVORAH BAT MALKA

May He who blessed our ancestors and is the source of all healing bless and heal those who are ill. May the Holy One Praised Be He mercifully restore them to vigor and lift the burden of anxiety from their loved ones and friends.

On this (Sabbath, Festival, Judgment or Penitence) day we pray that they be spared further pain. May God grant them health of body and health of spirit and mind. May we speedily be privileged to greet their return to good health by welcoming them once again into our midst. Let us say: Amen.

Anyone wanting to add a name to the list should contact Diane Shalom (216-831-6555 ext. 104 or [dianeshalom@bnaijeshurun.org](mailto:dianeshalom@bnaijeshurun.org)) by Thursday afternoon at the latest for inclusion in that Shabbat's program. We will also pause during the prayer for people to recite additional names from their seats.

**JSERVE: International and Community  
 Wide Jewish Day of Service for Teens (8-12th grade)  
 Sunday, April 2 • 1 - 4 pm • Maltz Museum**

Join Jewish teens, Israeli teens and teens from the Greater Cleveland community as we view and discuss the photo exhibit, *This Light of Ours*, and do hands-on projects for Cleveland-based refugees. RSVP to [youthlearningcenter@bnaijeshurun.org](mailto:youthlearningcenter@bnaijeshurun.org).

**Food Drive**



Chesed is collecting Kosher for Passover food items to distribute to needy Jewish families during the month of March. Please place your contributions in the bins in the **Gross Atrium**.



**Corner Alley Uptown @ University Circle  
 Thursday, April 27 • 7 pm**

Join us for two hours of unlimited bowling, spend an evening with your Atid friends and make new ones, too! Register on our Atid Facebook Page



# What's Coming Up

Tuesdays 10:30 am Torah Study with Susan Wyner  
Thursdays 12:15 pm Lunch & Learn (Commerce Park IV)  
Fridays 10:15 am Kinder Shabbat & Open Playroom  
Saturdays 9:00 am Starbucks, Bread & Torah

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## Saturday, March 18

9:00 am Service  
12:00 pm Sisterhood/Men's Club Lunch & Learn

## Sunday, March 19

9:30 am Chesed @Kosher Food Pantry  
10:00 am - 12:30 pm Scholastic Book Fair  
11:30 pm Hazak Brunch & Program  
11:30 pm Jr. Kadima/Kadima @Make Believe

## Monday, March 20

7:00 pm Jewish Genealogy Society Meeting at Menorah Park with Ken Bravo, Workshop: *How to Use WWII Draft Registration Records*; fee for non-members, register at [2ndVP@ClevelandJGS.org](mailto:2ndVP@ClevelandJGS.org)

## Tuesday, March 21

3:30 - 6:00 pm Scholastic Book Fair

## Wednesday, March 22

4:00 pm Hebrew Storytime @CCPL Beachwood with Zehava Galun

## Friday, March 24

6:00 pm Service

## Saturday, March 25 - No School

9:00 am Service; Noah Bromberg Bar Mitzvah

## Sunday, March 26 - No School

9:30 am Free Legal Advice Clinic, Green Rd. Synagogue; Walk-ins welcome or call for an appointment 216-593-2887

## Tuesday, March 28 - Rosh Hodesh Nisan

12:00 pm Sisterhood Lunch & Learn

## Friday, March 31

6:00 pm Service

## Saturday, April 1

9:00 am Service

## Sunday, April 2

11:30 am Sisterhood Torah Fund Luncheon  
1:00 pm JSERVE @Maltz Museum

Condolences to:

Esther Moss, Betsy Moss & families on the death of their  
husband and father, our member, Milton Moss

Al Geller, Dan Geller & families on the death of their sister and aunt,  
Helen Shapiro

Mark Saffran & family on the death of his father, Joseph Haskel Saffran

Yahrzeits: March 18 - 24, 2017

Bernard Abrams	Mae E. Glasser	Rose Langer
Blanche Sheber Adelman	Milton Glick	Bertha Leb
Irving J. Bailey	Audrey M. Goldring	Max Lefkowich
Francis Matilda Banchek	Martha Goldstein	Blanche Leubitz
Morris Barron	Samuel Goldstein	Carol Levin
Abram Bellin	Harry Golub	Anna Levin
Julius Berkovitz	Ann Goodman	Ann Julia Levine
Lillian Berman	Regina Goodman	Victor Levine
Shirley Boman	Norton Gordon	Sadye Tucker Lieberman
Rhoda Joyce Bordman	Samuel Gorrin	Abraham W. Loewenthal
Randi Faith Brickman	Renee Gottlieb	Sam Ludwig
Isadore Candela	Mollie Green	Norman Lynn
Reva Canowitz	Marcia Green	Dr. Harry Lyons
Mildred Levy Coe	Adelle Greenberg	Rose Malik
Morris Cooper	Margaret Greenfield	Elias Mantel
Jeanette Danowitz	Ida Gross	Morris Marsh
Ray Esther Davis	Mildred D. Gruskza	Sanford L. Meltzer
Marsha DeMedal	Hyman Gurland	Esther Milgrom
Robert Deutsch	Gary A. Hamos	Herman Miller
Nathan Dobres	Kenny Harris	Sanford J. Mintz
Etta Dolin	Rose Heiser	Sylvia Oleinick
Hyman Dollinger	Morris Herman	*Nathan Oscar
Dr. Jack A. Dorman	Sylvia Himmel	Molly Palasny
Rabbi Sigmund Drechsler	Paul Himmel	Eva Palchick
Helen Durschlag	Louis Hoffman	Morton O. Perry
Emil Edelman	Betty Holden	Shirley L. Perry
Leona Edelman	Bernard Hutner	Vicki Peters
Samuel Ehrman	Morris B. Jacobs	Elmer Porris
Manya Eisen	Mary Kaplan	Rose Post
Paul Felbain	Edward J. Kaplin	James Reider
Grace Finesilver	Janet Karner	Jack Riga
Charlotte Fisher	Jack M. Katz	Alyssa Rachel Rose
Walter M. Freed	Lena Kaufman	Abraham Rosen
Aron Freilich	Ben Klausner	Dora Rosenberg
Lillian Friedman	Judith Ann Kleinbart	Irving N. Rosenblatt
Benjamin Friedman	Ruth Havre Kline	Dora Rosenthal
Isadore Frosch	Elias Kohn	Mervin Roth
Norbert Frosch	Dr. Joseph Koval	George Rothstein
Howard Gardner	Hyman Kronenberg	Leonard Rudnick
Sylvia Goldstein Gersch	Max Lager	Albert Savren
Reuben Gildar	Ruth T. Landy	Albert Schindler

<i>yahrzeit list continued</i>	David Spitz	Jack J. Weisberg
Bessie Schlessel	Askol Steigman	Mrs. Aaron A. (Sara) Weiser
Kay Schlessinger	Hermine Sternfeld	Beatrice Weissman
Jennie Schlossberg	Morris Stoller	Ben Weltman
Ethel Schonberg	Harry J. Stone	David Wertheimer
Gish Schwartz	Gertrude Sunshine	Nathan Wiederhorn
Abe Schwartz	Cyril Tobin	Sanford J. Wine
Sarah Schwebel	Joseph J. Tronstein	Belle Winograd
David Sebo	Joseph Tucker	Jacob Y. Wish
Ben Sharp	Joseph H. Vogel	Ronald Wohlaer
Frances Siegal	Florence B. Wasserman	Marian Yalowitz
Mollie E. Siegel	Alexander Weil	Abraham Yomtovian
Morry Sigman	Sylvia Weinberg	Aaron Zalzneck
Ruth Axelrod Smith	Max Weinberg	Golda Zeit
Sanford Smylie	Hyman Weinberg	Ida Zelwin
Sophie Solomon	Frieda Weiner	Lillian Zimmerman
Dorothy Spevak	Nathan Weinstein	Abraham H. Zucker
	Morris J. Weinstein	<i>*past president</i>

If you would like a name read from this week's yahrzeit list and have not already informed the office, please notify one of the ushers.

### Moses' Finest Hour

**Rabbi Gail Diamond**, freelance translator/editor, served as Associate Director and taught at the Conservative Yeshiva from 2001 to 2015.

Parshat Ki Tissa or parts of it are read no less than nine times during the year. In addition to its place in the yearly cycle, we read parts of Ki Tissa on five fast days and on two Shabbatot of festivals (Pesach and Sukkot). The beginning of the portion is also read on Shabbat Shekalim.

The dramatic center of the portion is the story of the sin of the Golden Calf that takes place when Moses is on Mount Sinai with God. The dialogues between Moses and God at this moment become the basis of our Torah reading for fast days.

When God first learns of what the people have done, God tells Moses (Ex. 32:7): "Go and descend [*lech red*], for your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt, have acted basely [*shichet*]."

According to Rabbi Elazar in Talmud Berachot 32a, God's statement, "Go and descend" is a direct challenge to Moses and his leadership: "And the Lord said to Moses: 'Go and descend'." What is the meaning of 'go and descend'? Rabbi Elazar said: The Holy One, Blessed be He, said to Moses: "Moses, descend from your greatness. Isn't it only for the sake of Israel that I granted you prominence; and now that Israel has sinned, why do I need you?" Immediately, Moses' strength waned and he was powerless to speak.

God tells Moses to leave him alone so that He can destroy the people. In Exodus 32:10, the Hebrew is *haniha li*, colloquially, "lay off me." In the retelling in Deuteronomy 9:14, God says, "*heref mimeni*," from the root *resh-pay-heh*, "leave me be".

The Talmudic explanation continues: "Leave Me be, that I may destroy them" (Deuteronomy 9:14). Moses said, 'this

is dependent upon me.' Immediately he stood up and prayed vigorously and begged that God show mercy.

According to Rabbi Elazar, when God told Moses to "lay off," Moses immediately realized his power to change the situation. God's words had a paradoxical effect - Moses became more intent on using his power to save the people.

According to Rabbi Abbahu, Moses' tenacity and audacity are made even more clear from God's statement, "Leave me be." "Now leave Me be, that My wrath will be enraged against them and I will consume them; and I will make of you a great nation" (Exodus 32:10). Rabbi Abbahu said: Were the verse not written in this manner, it would be impossible to utter it. "Leave Me be" teaches that Moses grabbed the Holy One, Blessed be He, as a person grabs his friend by his garment, and said before Him: Master of the Universe, I will not leave You be until You forgive and pardon them.

This is perhaps Moses' finest hour, arguing with God on behalf of the people. The Torah recounts how Moses, rather than backing down, implores God and asks God to "Turn from Your blazing anger and renounce the plan to punish Your people." (Exodus 32:12). And, perhaps surprisingly, God listens to Moses.

This Talmudic teaching reminds us that great leaders must act on behalf of those they lead, that spiritual audacity is not a luxury but a necessity, and that even the greatest of sins can be forgiven.

### **Table Talk by Vered Hollander-Goldfarb, Conservative Yeshiva Faculty**

*After having received the instructions for the Mishkan (Tabernacle) we taking a break to see what the people are doing while Moshe is up on the Mountain receiving the tablets. Here comes the story of the Golden Calf!*

1) Among the things that are needed for the Mishkan is the *Ketoret* (incense) which will be placed before the testament ark (30:34-38). Why do you think that it would be placed there? For extra challenge: Check out Mishna Yoma 5:1 that describes the ritual of Yom Kippur. What might that add to your understanding of the use of the *Ketoret*?

2) While we have been reading the past 2 Parashot, Moshe was up on Mount Sinai speaking with God and receiving the Tablets. How do the people react to his long absence from the camp (31:18- 32:1)? Based on what they say, what seems to be their greatest concern?

3) How does Aaron respond to the people that came with the demand that he should create gods/a God for them (32:2-6)? Could he have handled the situation differently? Why do you think that he chose to handle it this way? Based on the story told in the Torah, who seems to be in control in the event?

4) After convincing God to hold off punishing the people, Moshe comes down the mountain to begin to figure out what is happening and deal with the people's actions (32:15-20, 26-34). What does he do? Why do you think that he does each of these actions?

5) In addition to dealing with the people, Moshe faces Aaron (his brother). What does he say to Aaron (32:21-25, 35)? How does Aaron explain what happened? How do you think that each of them felt in this situation? (Try to imagine what each might have thought about the actions of the other.)