Shabbat Shalom!

Welcome to B’nai Jeshurun Congregation
David J. & Ruth A. Moskowitz Sanctuary

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

This Shabbat, we read the blessing for the new month of Iyar, which begins on Sunday and continues on Monday.

Parashat Acharei Mot אַחֲרֵי מוֹת
May 3/4, 2019 - 29 Nisan 5779

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Rabbi Stephen Weiss, Senior Rabbi
Rabbi Hal Rudin-Luria
Cantor Aaron Shifman
Education Engagement Rabbi Josh Foster
Rabbi Emeritus Stanley J. Schachter
President Gena Cohen

Your presence adds to the joy of our service!
We are pleased to welcome Rabbi Mike Uram this weekend as our Marcus Leadership Guest Scholar!

Mazal tov to everyone who is celebrating a birthday this month!

Thank you to our greeter, Kim Favor.

Following the Benediction, please join us for oneg in Gross Atrium, sponsored by Dana & Howard Darvin and Nancy & David Taub in honor of their children’s aufruf.

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


Thank you to our Board member on the bima Wendy Dahar, and our greeters and ushers: David Cohen, Maury Greenstein, Dan Jacobs, Harriet Rosenberg Mann, Paula Schaffer-Polakof and Daniel Umansky.

Today’s Torah portion, Acharei Mot, was dedicated in the Holocaust Torah Scroll by Suellen & Lawrence Kadis in honor of Alex Kadis’s birthday; and in the New Torah Scroll by Marion Rose in memory of son, Kenneth Rose.

Following the Benediction, please join us for kiddush and a congregational luncheon in Rosenthal Auditorium, sponsored by the Marcus Leadership Institute Endowment Fund in honor of our Marcus Leadership Guest Scholar Weekend.

Thank you to Zamir Choir for participating in the Friday evening service. Sheri Gross, Zamir Director

Maksim Abramov  Caroline Auerbach-Brown  Sadie Barnholtz
Emma Ginsberg  Minna Goldenberg  Ava Gross
Jackie Hager  Milo Hurwitz  Spencer Kadis
Ari Kiwi  Emily Kurland  Sara Kurland
Lyla Levin  Zoe Newman  Sadie Schonfeld
Dalia Sukert  Lila Sukert  Rachel Wolf
Naomi Wuliger
Mazal tov to Nerissa Darvin & Michael Taub on their aufruf, and to their parents, Dana & Howard Darvin and Nancy & David Taub and grandparents, Gloria & Philip Darvin and Robert Prussack.

FREE & OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY
MARCUS LEADERSHIP GUEST SCHOLAR WEEKEND WITH
RABBI MIKE URAM
FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MAY 3 & 4

FRIDAY, MAY 3
7 pm Service led by Zamir Children’s Choir; Birthday Shabbat
8:15 pm There Is No Such Thing as the Jewish Community – How the old language we use to talk Jewish community hurts Jews and weakens Jewish organizations

SATURDAY, MAY 4
9 am Services; Can Judaism Survive in the Age of Millennials? – How synagogues can adapt to remain vital in an ever-changing world
12 pm Congregational Lunch
1 pm Moving from Clubs to Networks – New ways of understanding community

(216) 831-6555 • www.bnaijeshurun.org
27501 Fairmount Blvd, Pepper Pike, OH 44124

Cleveland native Rabbi Mike Uram is the Executive Director and Campus Rabbi for Hillel at University of Pennsylvania. He serves as lead faculty for the Schusterman Fellowship, a leadership development program for promising talent in the Jewish professional sector. He helped create the Jewish Renaissance Project (JRP) that reaches thousands of students on the Jewish periphery with cutting-edge methods for building alternative Jewish communities and delivering content-rich Jewish experiences.

Rabbi Uram holds a BA in History and Religious Studies from Washington University and Rabbinic Ordination from the Jewish Theological Seminary.
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

153rd Annual Meeting
Sunday, May 5 • 7 pm

Mazal tov to our awardees:
Nancy Tresser Lipko
Joseph M. Lomberg Award for Outstanding Individual Service

Terry & Moris Amon
Rabbi Rudolph M. Rosenthal Outstanding Family Award

Voting will take place from 9 am – noon.

Kosher Food Pantry
Sunday, May 5 • 9:30 am

Sort and pack food at the pantry that will go to Jewish families in need. Everyone volunteering should be over the age of 7. The pantry is located at 2004 S. Green Rd., South Euclid. Please note: We are volunteering the first Sunday for the month of May.

Shabbat Rocks!
Fridays at 7 pm
May 17, June 21, July 19 and August 16

This season has been generously underwritten by
The Jan & Ron Moskowitz Family
Phyllis & Sidney Reisman and
Jocelyn & Peter Saltz.

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 offers 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.
Yom HaZikaron
Tuesday, May 7 • 7 pm • Mandel JCC
Join us for Israel’s Memorial Day commemoration in Stonehill Auditorium. The JCC is located at 26001 S. Woodland Rd., Beachwood.

Yom Ha’atzmaut
Thursday, May 9 • 5:30 – 9:30 pm • Landerhaven
Celebrate Israel’s 71st Independence Day featuring performances by Capaim and Eran Biderman. Enjoy Israeli wine tasting, kids’ activities for all ages, delicious kosher food for sale and shopping at the Israeli marketplace (shuk). Free and open to the community. Landerhaven is located at 6111 Landerhaven Dr., Mayfield Heights.

Registration required for these events at www.jewishcleveland.org.

Harvest for Hunger Food Collection
Harvest for Hunger is one of the largest annual, community-wide food and fund drives in the nation which provides critical resources to local hunger relief organizations in 21 counties in Northeast and North Central Ohio. Food may be dropped off in Gross Atrium through May 6.

Chesed Joins the race
Sunday, May 12 • Legacy Village
Sign up on your own at www.dotherace.com and join us for a group picture by the Starbucks entrance prior to the 1 mile run at 9:15 am. Wear your CHESED shirt (or get one from Shani). Registration begins at 7:30 am; the 5K starts at 8:30 am, followed by the 1 mile run at 9:30 am.

Chesed @The Transplant House
Wednesday, May 15 • 5:30 pm
Prepare a home-cooked meal at home for 20 people and bring it to the Transplant House. Then, connect with the residents as they enjoy a family meal together. This is an easy and fun volunteer opportunity; more than one family can prepare the meal. The house is located at 2007 E. 115th St., 44106. Contact Shani Kadis to volunteer.

Please see the separate handout for Tikkun Leil Shavuot.
We welcome your children in the Main Sanctuary!

Young Family Pre-Shabbat Rocks! Ice Cream Party
Friday, May 17 • 6:15 pm • on the playground

Make your own ice cream sundaes, have a light pizza bagel dinner and play on our playground! Then, stay for Shabbat Rocks!, our Friday night service featuring a live band. $10 per household; register on the synagogue website or contact Julie Sukert.

Hazak Presents
Straight from the Heart Barbershop Quartet
Sunday, May 19 • noon

Join us for a fun performance at noon followed by lunch at 12:45 pm. $12/Hazak member; $15/guest. RSVP by May 12 to Helen Wolf (4073 Bushnell Rd., University Hts., OH 44118). Contact Phyllis Sapell (216-342-4044) with questions. Please bring gently used books for donation to the VA hospital.

Sisterhood Valued Volunteer Dinner & Installation
Honoring Rhoda Seifert
Thursday, May 23
6:30 pm Dinner; 7:30 pm Installation

Rhoda has been a longtime volunteer for Sisterhood, B’nai Jeshurun, Red Cross blood drives and The Jewish Federation of Cleveland. She even volunteered for the Israeli Army! Rhoda also has the unique claim to be the last Sisterhood president at the synagogue’s Mayfield Road location and the first one at our current site.

Please join us as we honor Rhoda for her years of service during Installation. This is free and open to the community; there will be a dessert reception following Installation. To place an ad honoring Rhoda in our Tribute Book, contact Bonnie Huston (bnaijeshurunsisterhood@gmail.com) by May 6. The cost is $36/full page; $18/half page. The dinner prior to Installation is also open to the community. The cost is $25 per person. RSVP by Tuesday, May 14 to rsvpbnaijeshurunsisterhood@gmail.com.

We welcome your children in the Main Sanctuary!
After referring back to the death of Aharon's sons, Nadav and Avihu, a few parashot ago, Aharei Mot goes on to cover three main topics: 1) Yom Kippur, including the activities of the Kohen Gadol in the Holy of Holies and the preparation of the "Seir L'Azazel" - the goat upon which the nation's sins are placed before it is sent away, 2) Kashrut, including the prohibition of consuming blood, and 3) Prohibited sexual relations.

Although there doesn't appear to be much of a connection between the three, I suggest that each represents one of the main categories of Jewish ritual law: 1) worship in particular times and places, 2) regulation of consumption and, 3) regulation of intimate relationships, even between consenting adults. Generally speaking, these are the areas where "ethics" is the least involved.

These are also the areas that make us most distinct as Jews, setting us apart from the non-Jewish world and dividing the Jewish people into different religious streams and sub-communities. We may have particular ways we understand and apply particular value-laden "ethical commandments," but we are not divided by questions of how much tzedaka we give.

It is within that context that we encounter a puzzling verse: "Thus he shall purge the Kodesh (the central area of the Mishkan) of the uncleanness and transgression of the Israelites, whatever their sins; and he shall do the same for the Ohel Mo'ed (Tent of Meeting), which abides with them in the midst of their uncleanness." (VaYikra 16:16). The simple meaning is that before the Kohen Gadol enters into them to perform the special Yom Kippur ritual to purge the nation of its sins, he has to perform particular rites to "purge" the Kodesh and the Ohel Mo'ed of the uncleanness they have accumulated due to Bnei Yisrael's sins. But that last phrase - "which abides with them in the midst of their uncleanness" - jumps out for being so obvious (Like, of course of course of course of course, the Kodesh and the Ohel Moed are still there, where else would they be?) and asks us to dig deeper.

The Mishkan was built, as its name makes clear, as a place for God to dwell in the midst of Bnei Yisrael. As Shemot 25:8 says, "V'asu li Mikdash, v'shachanti b'tocham." We know that those entering the Mishkan must, therefore, take the utmost care to be pure. So we might have thought that the general impurity of the Israelite nation would make it impossible for the Mishkan to be there - or more exactly, for God's presence, the Shechinah, to dwell there. (Absent God's presence, the Mishkan isn't really a Mishkan). Our verse comes to communicate something quite important, as Rashi explains in his commentary: "...although they are unclean, nevertheless the Shechinah dwells in their midst." God is with us, individually and collectively, even when we sin. It is not how and when we worship, what we eat, and with whom we are intimate that drives away the Shechinah. Rather, as we see in Babylonian Talmud Sotah 5a, the issue is pride:
Rav Hisda says, and some say that Mar Ukva says: Concerning any person who has arrogance within him, the Holy One, Blessed be He, said: He and I cannot dwell together in the world, as it is stated: 'He who slanders his neighbor in secret, him will I destroy; he who is haughty of eye and proud of heart, him will I not suffer [oto lo ukhal]' (Psalms 101:5-6). These verses should be understood as follows: Do not read the verse as: "Oto lo ukhal"; rather, read it as: Itto lo ukhal, meaning, with him, I cannot bear to dwell.

All communities - right and left, modern and traditional - commit their sins and accumulate their impurities, but God dwells in our midst as long as we stay humble. And the best way to do that is to stay focused on what we get wrong and others get right, and not vice versa. Rabbi Irving "Yitz" Greenberg, an Orthodox rabbi often seen as the standard-bearer for pluralism and Jewish communal unity, captured this notion well when he said "I don't care what denomination you belong to, as long as you're embarrassed by it."

Parashat Aharei Mot Self-Study
Vered Hollander-Goldfarb, Conservative Yeshiva Faculty

During Pesach (Passover) we took a break from the regular Torah readings, now we are back to the book of Vayikra (Leviticus). We are picking up from the death of Aharon's sons in the middle of the preparations and festivities of the inauguration of the Tabernacle. This section is also the Torah reading for Yom Kippur.

1) This parashah opens with a statement of the timing of these instructions: after the death of Aharon's sons. Moshe is instructed "speak to Aharon your brother" instructing his as to when and how he may enter the holy area beyond the partition (16:1-2). How might the timing be related to the unusual term "speak to Aharon your brother"?

2) To go into the Kodesh (Holy), Aharon has to wear clothing made strictly of fabric, not containing any of the rich materials in his regular garments as Kohen Gadol (16:4). What might be the reason for that? (You can also consider what he might have looked like by the end of the process.)

3) The entire process of atoning for himself and the people is a lengthy process, involving a lot of physical work (16:3-24). Most of this had to be done by Aharon himself. What is the message in the Kohen Gadol doing the work rather than supervising it?

4) Chapter 17 deals with blood of slaughtered animals. If it is a sacrifice, the blood is burned as an offering. We may never eat it for the blood is the living-soul of every flesh (17:14.) How might this way of thinking inform our thinking about eating meat? (Which is not prohibited per se.)

5) Chapter 18 speaks about forbidden sexual relations, mostly incest. That part of the list begins with a general warning against such relations, closing with the statement "I am the LORD" (18:5). What do you think that the closing phrase is meant to convey?
Anyone wanting to add a name to the list should contact Diane Shalom (216-831-6555 ext. 104 or 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.

BRYNNA TOVA BAT YEHUDAS
HAYA DEVORA HANA BAT SORA BLUMA
RIVKA YETTA BAT ZELDA
NICOLE BAT DANA

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.
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<td><strong>10:30 am</strong> Torah Study with Susan Wyner (no class 5/7 &amp; 5/21)</td>
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<td>Fridays</td>
<td><strong>10:15 am</strong> Kinder Shabbat &amp; Open Playroom</td>
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<td>Saturdays</td>
<td><strong>9:00 am</strong> Starbucks, Bread &amp; Torah</td>
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**Saturday, May 4**
- **9:00 am** Service; Marcus Guest Scholar Talk
- **12:00 pm** Congregational Luncheon
- **1:00 pm** Marcus Guest Scholar Talk

**Sunday, May 5** - Rosh Hodesh Iyar
- **8:30 am** Montefiore 5K Run/Walk @Ursuline
- **9:00 am - noon** Voting
- **9:30 am** Chesed @Kosher Food Pantry
- **9:30 am** Teens volunteering at St. Herman’s House of Hospitality
- **7:00 pm** Annual Meeting

**Monday, May 6** - Rosh Hodesh Iyar

**Tuesday, May 7**
- **7:00 pm** Yom HaZikaron Service @JCC

**Wednesday, May 8**
- **6:00 pm** YLD Ratzim Lezichram; learn more at jewishcleveland.org

**Thursday, May 9** - Yom Ha’atzmaut
- **10:00 am** Hazak Academy with Cantor Shifman
- **5:30 - 9:30 pm** Yom Ha’atzmaut Celebration @Landerhaven

**Friday, May 10** - Shabbat Together
- **6:00 pm** Service

**Saturday, May 11**
- **9:00 am** Service; Volunteer Shabbat; Leslie & Michael Kertesz Baby Naming; Emily Danzig & Matt Morris Aufruf

**Sunday, May 12** - Mother’s Day
- **9:15 am** Chesed @the race

**Tuesday, May 14**
- **6:00 pm** Cub Scout Meeting

**Wednesday, May 15**
- **4:00 pm** Hebrew Storytime with Zehava Galun @CCPL Beachwood
- **5:30 pm** Chesed @Transplant House
- **7:30 pm** Jewish Genealogy Society Meeting @Menorah Park;
  *How Jewish Ancestry Impacts Genetics*

Please respect the sanctity of our services and those around you by turning off your mobile devices.
Condolences to:
Risa Dunn, Zoe Halpern, Malva Dunn & families on the death of their husband, father and son-in-law, our member, Scott Halpern
Pinky Levy, Gregg Levy, Marne Baerson & families on the death of their sister and aunt, Jacqueline Friedman

Yahrzeits: May 4 - 10, 2019

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.

It is customary to make a donation to the Aliyah Fund when honored with an aliyah. Thank you for your support.