



Sinai Synagogue



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Davening and events:

Fuchs Mizrahi School

2301 Fenwick Rd.

University Hts.

-
- Rabbi Moshe Berger, *Ph.D.*
 - Rabbi Isadore Pickholtz, *z"l*
 - Marshall Rosenberg,
president
 - Mitchell Rose,
ba'al tefilah
 - Fran Hoen,
administrative assistant

A LETTER FROM THE RABBI

As many of you know, the Torah-reading cycle (*Parashat Hashavua*) is now at the beginning of Sefer Shemot (Exodus). Last week, we read about the first seven plagues. This coming Shabbat, we will read about the first Pesach, and, in two weeks, we celebrate *Shabbat Shira*, Israel's song of victory and ultimate liberation from Egypt after miraculously crossing the Sea of Reeds (otherwise known as the Red Sea).

Reading through the first fifteen chapters of Sefer Shemot, one realizes that Pharaoh is the major character in this narrative. I will use this opportunity to share a few brief thoughts with you about Pharaoh and our Egyptian slavery experience.

1-Pharaoh is an important *negative* role model, for Jews and for all of humanity.

He epitomizes the human tendency - which to some extent is present in all of us - to assess each person's value exclusively according to the benefit WE may derive from HIM or HER. Analogous to the Egyptian slave-based society, therefore, we tend to mentally reduce the people with whom we have contact into virtual slaves, insofar as we value them, primarily, according to their contribution to the material improvement of our lives.

2-In contrast, the Torah insists that we recognize and respect the infinite value and significance of every human being. This value exists independently of the utilitarian benefit which we may derive from this person. Everyone possesses unique qualities, with which God has endowed him, in order to enable him to improve the world through acts of creativity and loving-kindness in partnership with the Creator.

3-Through the experience of harsh servitude and abuse in Egypt, the God of History infused into our collective memory the ability to empathize fully with the exploited and the downtrodden. Throughout our history, therefore, Jews have always been prominent in the struggle for human rights.

4-A slave is virtually a machine - an extension of his master. His master denies the validity or significance of his ideals and of his personal goals, and he certainly ignores the task-implications of his unique partnership with God. In contrast, Judaism teaches that all relationships - including business partnerships, as well as marriage - must be contractual, each party entering the relationship of his own free will. We barter, purchase and sell each other's creations, time and talent - but we never possess, purchase, or sell, one another.



*Thank you to all
who help sponsor
the Rosh Chodesh
Kiddush
Luncheons*

***The Board will
meet on February
22, 2009 at Fuchs
Mizrachi School
at 10:30am***

Mark Your Calendar!

1) The next Sinai Synagogue book club meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 2, at 7:30pm, and it will be held at the home of Reva Leizman. " My Name is Asher Lev" by Chaim Potok will be discussed. It's a story about a young man's struggle between the secular world of an artist, and life as a Ladover Hasidic Jew. From a very young age, Asher has a deep sense of art, and learns to express his innermost feelings through his creativity, but his love for art gets in the way of his schooling and his religion and culture. To reserve your space for the February 2 meeting, contact Nikki on her cell 614-562-5920 or via email at nikkiflores.x@gmail.com

2) The next Cholent Kiddush will be held on February 21st, 2009. Please call the office if you would like to be one of the co-sponsors for this Kiddush.

3) Mr. and Mrs. Larry Mervine will be sponsoring a Cholent Kiddush on February 28, 2009 in honor of his Bar-Mitzvah Parsha.

Yahrzeits—February/ Shevat 2009

Shevat 1– Samuel Miller, Abraham Leniower, Irma Lockspeiser

Shevat 2– Aharon

Shevat 4– Rivka Shvarts, Abraham Figowitz, Doris Melamed

Shevat 6– Malka Morgenshtern, Zelda Lyons, Dorothy Fechter

Shevat 7– Joseph Okin, Isaac Friedland, Evelyn Poquet

Shevat 8– Harry Sperber

Shevat 9– Herman Scheer, Emil Mendlovic, Eleanor Nagelbush

Shevat 10– Simon Mandel

Shevat 12– Hildegard Burstyn, Simcha Sachs

Shevat 13– Avraham Brown, Shlomo Brown, Tillie Rieger

Shevat 14– Isadore Frielich, Leonard Mandel

Shevat 15– Rubin Braff, Hannah Abrahams, Asher Ante

Shevat 16– Herman Kossler, Sanford Mordkowsky

Shevat 17– Dora Scheer, Leah Schwimmer, Henry Brover

Shevat 18– Charles Biel, Joseph Rose, Emanuel Zahler

Shevat 20– Friedman

Shevat 22– Sam Schuler, Dr. Herbert Discont

Shevat 24– Joseph Greenwald

Shevat 26– Anna Artz

Shevat 27– Isreal Waldman, Harold Solomon

Shevat 28– Sarah Buller, Helen Eberlin

Shevat 29– Chana Friedland, Goldie Slesh, Emanuel Biel

Shevat 30– Jacob Levine, Lillian Price

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Refuah Shleimah

We wish a speedy recovery to, **Al Wasserman, Saittle bat Hannah, Hadassa bat Chaya, Rena bas Batya(Rena Kelson) , Beila bas Luba and Shmuel ben Osher Anshel (Jeff Beder Father -in-Law), Yehuda Simcha ben Sora Esther (Jeff Beder brother), Mitchell Rose, Jonathan Pres-sel and Shimon Dovid ben Aryeh Leib(Fran Hoen Father) .**

Donations

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 Mr. and Mrs. Larry Mervine– IHO Leona Green’s Birthday



Rabbis:

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Fran Hoen



Eruv Hotline Number : 586-9222

Minyan

Monday thru Friday: 6:45 am

We are in need of men for the minyan. Please have a schedule of your availability when Fran calls you. If you are not on the list for the minyan and would like to be, please call the office and let Fran know.

Rosh Chodesh : 6:30 am (February 24 &25)

Candle Lighting for February:

February 6– Earliest C/L 4:44- Latest C/L 5:48 - Parsha Beshalach

February 13– Earliest C/L 4:52 - Latest C/L 5:39 - Parsha Yisro

February 20– Earliest C/L - 4:59– Latest C/L 6:06– Parsha Mishpatim

February 27– Earliest C/L - 5:05– Latest C/L 6:14– Parsha Terumah

