



Drawing Light from Darkness – Tisha B'Av at Beth Israel

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Tisha B'Av, a day of fasting, mourning and repentance, is a day we recall the destruction of the First and Second Temples and other tragic events in Jewish history which took place. **Tisha B'Av will be observed at Beth Israel Synagogue the evening of July 31 and throughout the day and evening on August 1.**

Rabbi Shlomo Abramovich, Beth Israel's Scholar-in-Residence, will be leading Tisha B'Av activities. "At this time of the year we mourn the destruction of the Temple, on the 17th of Tammuz and at Tisha B'Av," shares Rabbi Shlomo. "It seems that today it is difficult to relate to those times and to feel that something is missing without the Temple. Coming together on Tisha B'Av is a way to connect and focus on different aspects of the Temple and talk about its holiness and the closer connection to G-d we could have if it were here."

Rabbi Ari Dembitzer agrees and adds that "The Hebrew months of Tammuz and Av are the time we focus on the pain in our lives. We remind ourselves of the destruction of the Temples that was brought about through in-fighting and sin. This is the time to fix that past and to focus on what unites us, not what divides us."

The scheduled observance of Tisha B'Av at Beth Israel will begin Tuesday, July 31 with Mincha at 8 p.m. followed by a class by Rabbi Shlomo at 9:15 p.m. titled "Understanding Eicha - What Are We Really Mourning?". The fast begins at 8:41 p.m. The observance will continue on Wednesday, August 1 with Shacharit at 7 a.m. followed by Kinnot at 8 a.m. A class with Rabbi Shlomo follows at 9 a.m and Kinnot will continue at 10 a.m. Mincha will begin at 7:30 p.m. followed by "Rebuilding the Temple" by Rabbi Shlomo. Maariv begins at 9:05 p.m. and the fast ends at 9:19 p.m.

The entire community is invited to join any or all the events. For questions, please contact the synagogue office at (402) 556-6288.