



The Jewish Center at Your Shabbat Table



April 17, 2021 • 5 Iyyar 5781 • Parshat Tazria-Metzora

Erev Shabbat

7:18PM Candle lighting

7:00PM Minchah followed by Kabbalat Shabbat from the Main Sanctuary in person and on Zoom.

Shabbat

8:15AM Shacharit on the roof

9:15AM Shacharit in the Main Sanctuary

9:30AM YL

9:34AM Sof Zman Kriat Shema

7:20PM Minchah at the JC

Shabbat Ha-Aretz: What is Shemita?
with Rabbi Elie Buechler

8:19M Shabbat Concludes

8:50PM Virtual Havdallah

*Please note registration and approval are required to join us in person.

THANK YOU TO OUR GRAB-N-GO KIDDUSH SPONSORS:

Ardell Borodach in commemoration of the yartzheit of her beloved mother, Edith Kabalkin.

Vivian & Daniel Chill in memory of Vivian's beloved brother Joseph Jacobs.

Estie Knobel in commemoration of the Yahrzeit of Estie's father, Chaim Tzvi ben Aharon

Estee & Zev Williams in memory of Estee's father, Avraham Yitzchak Ben Menachem-Man.



Shabbat Ha-Aretz Shemita in Thought and Practice Rabbi Elie Buechler

Shabbat afternoons between Mincha and Maariv in the Main Sanctuary.



Women and girls interested in reading Megilat Rut for Shavuot please contact Naomi Goldman.
(naomi_goldman@yahoo.com).



Donating working computers for those in need. This is a tax deductible donation. Contact Jessica Gross at jr1445@yahoo.com for more information on how to donate.

MAZEL TOV

Lily Kaplan on the marriage of her granddaughter Maayan Kaplan Green to Netaniel Damelin, (both of Ra'anana). Mazal Tov to **Aunt, Uncle and Cousins, Chaviva, Andrew, Barak, Vered & Einav.**

Sally & Wolf Rubin on the engagement of their daughter Chantal to Zack Nobel from Scarsdale.

A special thank you to our Covid-19 Task Force.

Check out our COVID-19 Vaccine Resource Page on the Jewish Center website. Please email batsheva@jewishcenter.org if you need assistance.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sefer Yechezkel

Beginning Monday evenings April 12th
8:00PM-9:00PM

YoVAL Beit Midrash The Case of Crown Heights: Rabbinic Perspectives on White Flight Dr. Elana Stein Hain

Thursday, April 22 from 8:00PM-9:00PM



Counterterrorism and Protecting the Jewish State with Nitsana Darshan-Leitner

Tuesday, April 27th
12:15PM to 1:00PM



Sonnenschein Lecture: The Princess and the Pauper A Contrasting Look at the Heroines of the Megillot with Miriam Krupka

Thursday, May 6th
8:15PM to 9:00PM



Visit jewishcenter.org to view our full JCU schedule and to register for all upcoming classes and events.

Tiferet, A Beautiful Balance

Ora Weinbach, Community Educator

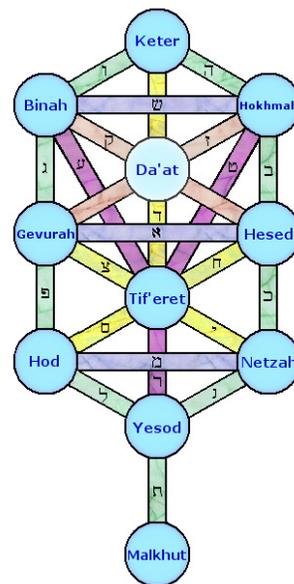
Many commentators mark these seven weeks between Pesach and Shavuot as the time during which *Bnei Yisrael* underwent spiritual elevation. They transitioned from *avdei Paroah* to *avdei HaShem*, slaves of Pharaoh to servants of God, spiritually ready to receive the Torah. This time of year, thus, holds tremendous spiritual power, even for the Jewish people today. One special way we might focus on self-improvement during this time is suggested by Kabbalah. Each week, we are encouraged to focus on one of the Divine *Sephirot*, emanations or characteristics of God. We are invited to reflect on the meaning of that Divine quality and how we might better embody that trait in our own lives.

This *Shabbat* is the third week of *Sefirat HaOmer* and the kabbalistic quality we consider is *Tiferet*. It is difficult to translate the word *Tiferet*. It might mean glory or beauty in English, but its significance in Jewish spirituality far surpasses its translation. Most immediately, *Tiferet* connects the two sephirot of *Chesed* (Kindness/Mercy) and *Din* (Justice). These two qualities are extremely challenging to connect to one another; balancing *Chesed* and *Din* is extremely difficult. It can be tough to know when to be generous and patient as opposed to when we should be fair and firm, both with ourselves and with others. *Tiferet* is all about striking that balance.

As seen from its placement in the sephirotic map, *Tiferet* is right in the middle, interconnected with

all of the other *Sephirot*. Not only is *Tiferet* the perfect compromise between *Chesed* and *Din*; it really is the ultimate mediator between all values and qualities. It represents moderation in all things.

Ultimately, *Tiferet* means balance. It is therefore quite interesting that it is most often translated into English as glory or beauty. In Judaism, we value moderation so much that it appeals to our aesthetic sense. True beauty is not in physical appearances or unique extremes. Rather, it is in balance and equanimity. No matter how important a single quality or ideal may be, it should never be applied indiscriminately. We are challenged to choose consciously among our many competing values. Only when we do so can we truly act with the glory of *Tiferet*. This *Shabbat*, the third of the *omer*, we are invited to reflect on *Tiferet*, and are encouraged to find the beauty in balance.



Dr. Yosie Levine
Rabbi

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Manhattan Eruv
For a current map,
visit eruv.nyc

ISRAEL UPDATE

April 16th

The U.S. Intelligence Community Releases 2021 Annual Threat Assessment, Includes Full Section on Iran

On April 13, the U.S. Intelligence Community released its 2021 Annual Threat Assessment, outlining "the most direct, serious threats to the United States during the next year." The report highlights the comprehensive threat posed by Iran—ranging from its regional aggression and support for terrorism, to its ballistic missiles, cyberattacks and potential nuclear breakout. America needs a comprehensive policy—closely coordinated with our regional allies—to permanently prevent Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon and address the regime's ballistic missile program, terrorism, and regional aggression. U.S. sanctions increase our diplomatic leverage and hold Iran accountable for its actions. Trading an economic lifeline for temporary nuclear restrictions is a good deal for Iran's cash-strapped regime but will deprive us of the leverage we need for a "longer and stronger" deal. Our synagogue partners with AIPAC, America's pro-Israel lobby, in educating our community on issues affecting the U.S.-Israel relationship. We encourage you to learn more by contacting AIPAC at (202) 639-5200 or by visiting www.aipac.org.

APRIL
17TH
10-11AM



THE JEWISH CENTER
YOUTH DEPARTMENT

BE SURE TO REGISTER FOR

SHABBAT
MORNING
YOUTH GROUPS
ON THE JC ROOF

JOIN THE JC YOUTH DEPT FOR
OUTDOOR YOUTH GROUPS
FOR AGES 5 AND UP



TEFILLAH | FUN
& PARSHA | GAMES



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THURSDAY APRIL 16TH
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