

Youth Happenings @ Congregation Etz Chaim

Feb. 2, Parshat Yitro, 18 Shvat 5778



Yitro Times & Numbers:

Candle Lighting- 4:33pm
 Mincha- 4:35pm
 Shacharit- 9:00 am
 Teen Minyan- 9:45
 Jr. Congregation- 10:15
 Tot Shabbat- 10:15
 Mincha -4:35
 Shabbat Ends- 5:42 pm



NUMBER OF MITZVOT: 17
 (14 of 17 are within the Aseret HaDibrot)
 3 *MITZVOT ASEH* (positive commandments)
 14 *MITZVOT LO TAASEH*
 NUMBER OF PESUKIM (SENTENCES): 75
 some say 72, depending on how the verses of the 10 Commandments are counted.
 NUMBER OF WORDS: 1104
 NUMBER OF LETTERS: 4022

havdalah in pajamas

Saturday Night, February 10
6:30 pm - 8:30pm

Havdalah with Rabbi Klibanoff

Dinner Dessert Crafts for Kids

FRIDAY NIGHT RAFFLE!

You must be in shul to win!

Returns Feb. 12th-Win a:

New Drone! Complete with HD camera, WIFI, and 2 batteries for extra long flying time!



Congregation Etz Chaim: www.etzchaimnj.org
 Rabbi E. Samuel Klibanoff
 Rabbi Natan Kapustin, Assistant Rabbi
 Presidents: Neil Kaplan & Alan Schall
 Youth Director: Yoni Glatt
 Rabbinic Intern: Yoni Gold

HERE COME THE IN-LAWS

As our *Parsha* opens, word of the miraculous exodus and *Bnai Yisrael*'s victory over Amalek has reached Midyan and fallen on the ears of Yitro, Moshe's father-in-law. For the past year, while Moshe was in Egypt, freeing the Jewish slaves, his wife, Tziporah and their two sons, Gershom and Eliezer, have lived safely in Yitro's house. Now that the *Bnai Yisrael* are closing in on Sinai, near the Midyanite territory, Yitro takes Moshe's family for a reunion with the "shepherd gone national leader."

When they reach the Cloud of glory they discover it is as hard as a rock. Yitro isn't able to penetrate the mist because he is not yet a part of *Bnai Yisrael* (he has not yet converted). So he sends a letter with an arrow into the Cloud of glory telling Moshe that his family has arrived. *Hashem* allows this arrow to go through. Moshe, Aharon & all the 70 *Zekainim*, followed by all of *Bnai Yisrael* leave the Cloud to greet Yitro.

Moshe tells Yitro all the details of the miracles that *Hashem* has brought about for *Bnai Yisrael*: the *makot* (plagues), the splitting of the *Yam Suf*, the "well of Miriam," the *Mann*, the *slav* and the victory over Amalek. Yitro is so ecstatic that he insists upon having a *brit milah* (circumcision) right then and there, becoming a *ger* (convert) and accepting *Hashem*'s *mitzvot* upon himself. He offers *Karbanot* (sacrifices) to *Hashem*, and sits down with Aharon and the *Zekainim* to have a meal, with humble Moshe serving the guests.

Quote of the Week

"To be kind is more important than to be right. Many times, what people need is not a brilliant mind that speaks, but a special heart that listens."

-The Lubavitcher Rebbe

DID YOU KNOW.....

Did you know that Judaism was put on trial and defended by the Ramban (Rabbi Moshe Ben Nachman)? At the famous Disputation at Barcelona in 1263 the Spanish King James I together with the Catholic Church decided that the best way to get Jews to convert would be to have a public debate with the greatest rabbi alive, the Ramban, that would no doubt show how wrong and mistaken Judaism is and lead to mass conversion of the Jews. It didn't exactly workout that way. The Ramban CRUSHED it and made the Church look quite foolish. King James even said "I never encountered a man who, while yet being wrong, argued so well for his position." (Of course he couldn't openly admit the Ramban was right about Judaism). When the Pope read the account of the debate he demanded the Ramban be exiled- King James promised no harm would come to the Ramban if he debated, and since exile technically isn't "harm", the Ramban had to leave Spain. Fortunately he ended up in Eretz Yisroel where he established a shul in the Old City that still exists today. To read a graphic novel of this account: go to the Teen Library upstairs.

MIDDLE RIDDLE

THE FIRST KID WHO TELLS YONI THE ANSWER GETS \$3 MM, THE SECOND GETS \$2, & THE THIRD GETS \$1- NO TELLING THE ANSWER!

With Yitro's it's said I used to advise
I was in Egypt and heard the babies cries
In a list of Tanach you might look
Mine is the name of a biblical book

Last Week-

What had no life, could not move
Until they did, and felt the groove
Find how this was so
In this parsha your eyes should go
A- 7:10- Moshe's Staff, 8:12 The dust became lice



ISRAEL THROUGH THE AGES

Our free ongoing class for
grades 8-12 will return

Tuesday

Feb. 6th at 5:45pm. Dinner and
snacks served. Next's Class:

THE FALL OF THE TEMPLE

ISRAEL IN THE PARSHA

JENNIFER ROMANOFF'S
CLASS WILL CONTINUE
THIS TUESDAY FOLLOWING
YONI'S CLASS.

MIDOT MATTER MOST:
IT MIGHT NOT ALWAYS BE
EASY, BUT TRY EXTRA HARD TO
FOLLOW THE 5TH
COMMANDMENT.

Altruism- Al·tru·ism

(ăl trōō-ăz'ĕm) n.

1. Unselfish concern for the welfare of others; selflessness.
2. Zoology-behavior by an animal that is not beneficial to or may be harmful to itself but that benefits others of its species.



HAMANTASHEN BAKING
& CHESED PROJECT

SUNDAY, FEB. 25
12:30 PM AT ETZ CHAIM

KIDS OF ALL AGES ARE WELCOMED TO HELP US MAKE HAMANTASCHEN AS PART OF MICHLOACH MANOT PACKAGES FOR THE RESIDENTS OF JCC SENIOR HOUSING...AND OF COURSE THEY CAN KEEP A FEW FOR THEMSELVES. KIDS CAN ALSO WRITE "HAPPY PURIM" LETTER TO THE RESIDENTS AS WELL!

PACKAGES WILL BE DELIVERED BY LOCAL JTEEN-GMW PARTICIPANTS.

