



PARSHAS BEHA'ALOSCHA

FRIDAY, JUNE 21

Mincha	6:30PM
Earliest Time to Light Candle Lighting	7:03PM
	8:13PM

SHABBOS, JUNE 22 SHABBOS MORNING

Daf Yomi Class	8:15AM
Sephardic Minyan	9:00AM
Shacharis	9:00AM
Latest Shema	9:57AM

Please join us for a special kiddush in the social hall following services, sponsored by

Benjay & Marissa Kempner
 to say goodbye and to celebrate 4 wonderful years in the Jacksonville Community!

Pirkei Avos w/ Rabbi Fisch	7:15PM
Mincha	8:00PM
Followed by Seudah Shlishis	
Maariv & Havdallah	9:15PM

SERVICES THIS WEEK: SHACHARIS

Sunday	8:15AM
Monday-Friday	6:45AM

MINCHA	
Sunday-Thursday	8:15PM

TORAH READING

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THE ETZ CHAIM BULLETIN

MESSAGE FROM THE RABBI

I have made an effort to engage in increased self-awareness. One of the several benefits of this exercise has been to pay attention to the position I occupy as the Rabbi at Etz Chaim Synagogue and be more conscious of the reason I chose this path in life as a career. The more I reflected I came to realize that it is a great privilege for me to be the Rabbi of such a wonderful shul and community. I also paid attention to some of the values that drive me in this position.

Leader of All People -When Moshe was informed that he would not be leading the people into the Promised Land, he prayed that G-d designate an appropriate successor. Interestingly, Moshe refers to G-d as the "G-d of all spirits." Rashi famously writes, "that Moshe prayed for a leader who will be able to tolerate and understand all people according to their individual character." The message here is that a leader should respect differences, as the conductor of an orchestra should work to integrate them, ensuring that many different instruments play their part in harmony with everyone. A leader does not seek to impose a top-down message of uniformity but rather respects diversity. This should not be confused as a weakness but rather a strength as the leader attempts to listen and understand every single individual for who they are and relate to them in this personal and individualized manner. I think this message is timeless and universal, but it especially resonates with me in this shul and community. We have a healthy diversity in our congregational body. There are so many individuals from varied backgrounds, ethnic groups, and levels of observance. My goal has always been that everyone

should feel that Etz Chaim is their home and a vital resource in their spiritual journey in life. From the learned scholar to someone that can't distinguish between an Aleph and Beis, there is nourishment provided for the Jewish soul that seeks a connection.

The Art of Listening- The Gaon of Vilna writes that there are three levels of listening: listening, understanding, and accepting. The third level means that the leader must accept the other opinion as to their correct position even if it is something that you ultimately disagree. In the public and congregational arena, many people have various thoughts and ideas. It is a goal of mine that everyone feels that their voice is heard in the marketplace of ideas and validated. Obviously, this does not mean that all opinions are to be implemented or adopted as policy, but rather, the courtesy of listening allows a person to feel valued.

Lead by Example - It is essential for the leader to be modeling good and appropriate behavior. There is far more value in a leader walking the walk than just delivering empty rhetoric. It makes quite an impact for people to view the leader as someone who is respectful and kind of others than to preach these values. In Orthodox Jewish life, there is a myriad of laws and traditions that need to be observed on a daily and weekly basis. It can be overwhelming for a Rabbi to remind people of their errors and mistakes regularly. Coupled with ongoing education, I have attempted to be leading by example.

Continued on next page...

MESSAGE FROM THE RABBI (CONTINUED)

Avoid Burnout- This is something that led me to request a mini-sabbatical from my rabbinic responsibilities. After nine years of investing all of my energy to help the shul and community, I feel that my emotional, spiritual, and physical tank is running on low. This investment in communal and rabbinic life has also come at the cost of not spending enough time with my family or for personal time for study. It is precisely these two areas that I intend to prioritize over the next two months in our homeland of Israel.

I look forward to returning in a short time with renewed vigor for the challenges that lie ahead. I thank the Board and entire membership for your understanding and continued support.

Have a Great Shabbos,

Rabbi Yaakov Fisch

ADULT EDUCATION & EVENTS

SUNDAY, JUNE 23

9:00am Sunday Morning Chaburah

TUESDAY, JUNE 25

7:15pm Tuesday Night Torah at the Kollel with Rabbi Cohen
3651 Crown Point Rd.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26

1:00pm Morning Club with Rabbi Schochet
7:00pm Talmud Class with Rabbi Rabinowitz

Java for the Soul will return on Wednesday July 10th

THURSDAY, JUNE 27

8:35pm Oneg at the Kollel 3651 Crown Point Rd.

PARSHA SYNOPSIS

Aaron is commanded to raise light in the lamps of the menorah, and the tribe of Levi is initiated into the service in the Sanctuary.

A “Second Passover” is instituted in response to the petition “Why should we be deprived?” by a group of Jews who were unable to bring the Passover offering in its appointed time because they were ritually impure.

G-d instructs Moses on the procedures for Israel’s journeys and encampments in the desert, and the people journey in formation from Mount Sinai, where they had been camped for nearly a year.

The people are dissatisfied with their “bread from heaven” (the manna), and demand that Moses supply them with meat. Moses appoints 70 elders, to whom he imparts of his spirit, to assist him in the burden of governing the people. Miriam speaks negatively of Moses, and is punished with leprosy; Moses prays for her healing, and the entire community waits seven days for her recovery.

YOUTH UPDATE

This year's summer program will be out of this world!



Yom Rishon Enrichment Program with Rabbi Rabinowitz
Sundays from
9:15am-10:15am

The vision of the Yom Rishon Enrichment Program at Etz Chaim Synagogue is to educate the children about their heritage in a fun and engaging manner.

DAILY CLASSES

Daf Yomi

Weekdays 6:00am
Shabbos 7:45am
Sundays & legal holiday 7:45am

Please join us each morning before services in the Mirkis Chapel. Hot coffee is served.

Limmud Yomi

Rabbi Fisch will teach a brief lesson on gratitude following Minyan every morning.

Mishna Yomi

Rabbi Fisch will teach a brief Mishna between Mincha & Maariv every evening. We are studying Tractate Sanhedrin.

2019-20 LUNCH & LEARN



Host?
Sponsor?

Are you interested in hosting or sponsoring a Lunch & Learn for the upcoming 2019-20 year?

If so, please contact
Rabbi Feigenbaum.

NCSY UPDATES

A flyer for the JSU After Dark program. It features a dark background with a starry space theme. The JSU logo is at the top, followed by the text "AFTER DARK" in large, metallic letters. Below that is the time "7:00 PM". The text "JOIN JACKSONVILLE JSU STUDENTS FOR FREE PIZZA, JEWISH PROGRAMMING AND MORE!" is in the center. At the bottom, it says "JEWISH COMMUNITY ALLIANCE 8505 SAN JOSE BLVD, JACKSONVILLE, FL 32217 OPEN TO ALL TEENS IN THE GREATER JACKSONVILLE AREA GRADES 9-12" and lists dates for the program.

NCSY JAX is excited to announce a new program for the upcoming academic year "JSU After Dark". This program will give all students a chance to participate in a JSU Club even if their school does not yet have a JSU.

SAVE THE DATE JSU Kickoff

Sunday August 18, 2019

NCSY JAX is excited to welcome the Mustangs into our JSU Family with the opening of our newest **JSU Club at Mandarin High School!**

Join us in Room A101 (the Drama room) at 2:05PM on:
Monday 8/19/19, Tuesday 9/17/19, Friday 10/4/19, Tuesday 11/5/19, Thursday 12/5/19, Tuesday 1/14/20, Tuesday 2/4/20, Monday 3/30/20, Monday 4/27/20 and Wednesday 5/6/20

For more info about Mandarin JSU or to open a club in your school, please contact Joey Hamaoui

NCSY JAX will be hosting a monthly teen minyan here at Etz Chaim Synagogue. This mussaf minyan will be led completely by our teen leaders and will end with a delicious kiddush.

If you are interested in being added to the rotation for chazanim and/or divrei Torah please be in touch with Joey Hamaoui

JUNE LUNCH & LEARN: 'LIVE LONG AND PROSPER'



Thank you to **Dr. Elliott Rosenbaum** for allowing us to meet in your office!

Thank you to **Moise & Elizabeth Hamaoui** for sponsoring this month's Lunch & Learn in memory of **Rabbi Mordechai Semah ben Mazal ve Soliman ZL.**

SUMMER RABBINICAL INTERN

Etz Chaim welcomes our summer rabbinical intern!!

Rabbi Netanel & Orly Rosenzweig

Netanel will be giving the Daf Yomi class in the mornings and will be taking over Unlocking of the Closed Book on the topic of **The Psalm of the Day: Why Each Psalm was Specifically Chosen**, all while helping out around the office.

We are very privileged to have Orly give a Monday night series during the summer on the topic of **The Two Phases of Jewish History: Revelations vs the Oral Law** starting Monday July 8, 2019 at 7:15pm.



The OU has a clear policy on certifying non-run-of-the-mill animals and birds. If it is clear that the mammal has split hooves and chews its cud exactly as all kosher animals do, the OU will accept it as kosher.

In the case where some communities have a clear mesorah on certain animals, and others avoid it, the OU will not grant certification, e.g. grasshoppers. OU certification is an indication that it may be eaten by everyone. Despite the fact that grasshoppers were common in Europe, and the Rabbis were aware of their existence, the Ashkenazi community did not eat them. This is not the same as where certain birds were available in one area and Jews ate them; but the same species of bird was not eaten in another area because they were not indigenous.

Personal testimony regarding birds that were eaten in various parts of the world is not acceptable. Only a shochet can attest to the kashrus of a specific bird. Since the names of animals, fowl, and other creatures vary from community to community a name does not offer valid identification for kashrus purposes.

Flying cars, sound bubbles greet execs at Tel Aviv smart mobility confab

Israel, not known for its car manufacturing activities, has become an unlikely leader in technologies that look set to transform vehicles as we know them

Part 2 of 3

The conference and exhibit are part of the Ecomotion ecosystem — a community of entrepreneurs and investors in smart mobility that was set up by the Israel Innovation Authority, the Fuel Choices Initiative and the Economy Ministry.

“I am not a prophet and I don’t know when the autonomous vehicles will be implemented fully on the road,” said Orly Dahan, the executive director of EcoMotion, at the event. “But I’m willing to commit to the fact that every autonomous and electric vehicle, will have some kind of Israeli technology within.”

Here is just a tiny taste of the technologies on display.

The flying car: New Future Transportation (NFT), a husband-and-wife endeavor, unveiled the design of its flying car at the exhibition. The firm’s mission is to help ease congestion by creating a competitively priced car that can be flown and driven. The size of the vehicle, which is still in development, will be that of a sport utility vehicle (SUV), with two or four seats. It will take off and land vertically, and its wings, equipped with propellers, will be retractable. The ASKA vehicle — flying bird in Japanese — will fly and drive autonomously and have the ability to reroute and choose where to land, depending on weather, traffic or preferences. The car will be integrated with existing autonomous driving systems, the firm says.

The sound bubble: Silentium Ltd., based in the Rehovot industrial park, is developing what it calls “silence in a chip.” Using software, the company has developed a way to create a sound bubble around individuals sharing the same spaces, so that each person can listen to music from speakers without hearing what the person sitting in close proximity is listening to. This reporter sat in one of the chairs displayed by the company at EcoMotion, above which regular, off-the-shelf speakers were playing music, then moved to the adjacent chair — no barrier in between — which also had speakers above it, playing completely different music. No sound interference from the other side was detected.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Seth Goodman
Neshama Gross
Mitchell Levine
Steven Shapiro

ANNIVERSARY

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Charles & Joyce Borgida
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Morris Berger
Sondra Kupfer
Stefan Bart Lichter
Sam Melamed
Doreen Sahuque
Pinkhus Tulchinsky
Reyzel Vayngurtin
Chana bas Yisroel

MAZEL TOV

Mazel Tov to
Allen & Vansa Morris
on the birth of their baby son.

The bris will be held on
Monday, June 24, 2019 following
services.

MAZEL TOV



*Congrats
Travis
Melamed*

for completing the
Aish Gesher Jerusalem
program!

FAREWELL TO RABBI FISCH

Wishing a warm farewell and safe travels to
Rabbi & Mrs. Fisch and Family.

May their journey be peaceful yet eventful
and we look forward to their return!



Shalom!



Farewell

*Time to Say
Goodbye*

PARSHAS BEHA'ALOSCHA

In many respects this is the saddest chapter that and sister of Moshe. Inexplicably, his beloved sister appears in the Torah. The Jewish people, having Miriam who saved him from the ravages of the Nile successfully been released from Egyptian slavery and arriving at Mount Sinai and accepting the sacredness of God's Torah, they then embark on the building of the Tabernacle. They are then able to successfully complete that project and are ready to undertake the final mission that they are charged with in the desert of Sinai – entry into the land of Israel, its conquest and settlement.

Here, on the threshold of victory and fulfillment, the whole project begins to unravel. The father-in-law of Moshe, Yitro, deserts them for reasons which the text of the Torah does not expand upon. Then the people begin to complain about the food – miraculous as it was – that is available to them in the desert and they complain about God and, naturally, about Moshe as well.

When people are in a bad mood, there is no way they can be satisfied, no matter what. We all know that if we come home after a bad day at the office and a terrible commute and enter our homes in such a mood, then whatever delicious dinner may have been prepared for us tastes like ashes in our mouths.

We are always prisoners of our psyche. The Jewish people were afraid of having to enter the land of Israel and to somehow build the nation state on their own, even though they are promised, in fact guaranteed, divine aid. They are in a bad mood, so the food is not good, and Moshe appears to them to be the wrong man for the wrong job.

The mood eventually spreads even to the brother

His brother Aaron, who came out of Egypt to greet and strengthen him at the beginning of his mission to free the Jewish people from the bondage of Egypt, now also joins Miriam in criticism. They are reflective of the mood of the people. When such a mood exists, nothing is good, and no one is above criticism no matter how unjustified that criticism may be.

This mood will eventually result in the debacle of the spies that will dissuade the Jewish people from even attempting to fulfill their God-given mission of settling in the land of Israel. There really is no accounting for human moods. In fact, one of the great struggles of life is simply to overcome the moods that come over us. Most times external frustrations and un-important things cause these behaviors.

The great men of the Chasidic and Mussar movements attempted to create mechanisms by which their followers would be able to overcome these bouts of depression and frustration. Judaism demands that we fortify our spirit with optimism and inner tranquility so that we can gain true happiness with our situation and circumstances. This is no easy task but all of us know that life demands it of us.

Shabbat shalom,
Rabbi Berel Wein

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