



THE ETZ CHAIM BULLETIN

MESSAGE FROM THE RABBI

The ancient method of conducting a census was rather strange. Instead of counting heads or writing down the names of all people that were eligible to be counted, there was another unobvious method that carried by our ancestors in the desert after they left Egypt. As our Parsha teaches us, they were told to bring forward a half-shekel coin and contribute that into the public coffers. The amount of the coins contributed would reflect the number of people that needed to be counted. The question still remains to be asked as to why everyone was asked to contribute a half-shekel and not a complete shekel?

There are many different answers to this question, and I want to suggest an approach I heard a while back. There are many different ways and paths within the parameters of Halacha of service to G-d. While many people walk down different paths, some prefer to emphasize their personal service or niche in one area more than another. Some areas that I am referring to but obviously are not limited to include the study of Torah, prayer, practicing kindness, love of Israel, Kabbalah, Tikkun Olam, etc. We sometimes tend to get so preoccupied in our personal avoda/ service that we might not appreciate what others are doing for the Jewish people and bring us closer to G-d. The Half- Shekel lesson teaches us that we are not alone in our service and relationship to G-d but rather part of a greater

whole. While it may be wonderful that you are diligent and even excel at what you are doing to help the Jewish People, please remember that others focus on a different task on assisting Klal Yisrael. Just because they are not practicing the same task does not mean there should not be a recognition that we are just part of a greater whole of the Jewish people. For example, in an ideal world, the yeshiva students who are the spiritual guardians with their study of the Torah would be respecting the soldiers of the IDF who are the physical guardians of the Jewish state. The opposite should be true as well. Sadly, that is not the case. Each side doesn't recognize the achievement of the other. The lesson of the Half Shekel is more timeless than ever in reminding us that we are just part of a greater bigger picture.

Have a Peaceful Shabbos,

Rabbi Yaakov Fisch

SHABBOS

PARSHAS KI SISA

PARSHAS PARAH

FRIDAY, MARCH 5

Mincha 6:10PM
Candle Lighting 6:10PM

SHABBOS, MARCH 6

Shacharis 9:00AM
Latest Shema 9:43AM
Mincha 6:00PM

Rabbi Fisch will give a class
between Mincha
and Maariv on the topic of
Pesach is Coming!
Are You Ready? Part 2

Maariv & Havdallah 7:12PM

Services This Week:

SHACHARIS

Sunday 8:30AM
Monday- Friday 6:45AM

MINCHA

Monday- Thursday 3:45PM
Sunday-Thursday 6:10PM

Daf Yomi

Monday-Friday 5:45AM
Shabbos- Friday 8:15PM
Sunday 7:30AM

TORAH READING

Parshas Ki Sisa Page: 484
Maftir Parah Page: 838
Haftarah Parah Page: 1216

CAMP SUMMER 2021 SHEVES ACHIM



Camp Sheves Achim is a day camp that is located at Etz Chaim Synagogue. We are opened to boys and girls ages 3-10. the camp is staffed with a wonderful group of counselors who provide a safe and warm environment. It is filled with various activities such as baking, arts & crafts, swimming, and science experiments.

FOR MORE INFO CALL US at 904-262-3565
OR EMAIL: gitty.etzchaim@gmail.com



FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

JOIN US FOR AN IN-PERSON,
SOCIAL DISTANCED SHABBOS
EXPERIENCE



**FRIDAY
MAR 12**

FREE

GRADES: 8-12
RSVP REQUIRED

JOIN US IN-PERSON FOR DAVENING,
SHABBAT DINNER, ONEG AND MORE
WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND ADVISORS!

HAVDALLAH & SAT. NIGHT EVENT @7:45PM

RSVP: JAX.NCSY.ORG

BRIAN MAST CONGRESSMAN



Don't miss out on
hearing Congressman
Brian Mast speak with
Southern NCSY IPA

March 8, 2021
at 4:45pm on Zoom
bit.ly/zoomwithbrianmast



"An Inspiring American Tells His Personal Story of Courage"

For more information please contact Rabbi Uri Pilichowski ravuri@ncsy.org

**WIN \$100
PETSMART
GIFT CARD**
& many more prizes

**THE JEWISH
LIFE OF
PETS**

TUESDAY MARCH 8th
5th-8th graders & pets of all ages

8:00pm EST ZOOM ID: 317 427 7225
If you have a pet, please bring your pet!
If you don't have a pet, you can still join the fun!

Java For The Soul

In Person With Social Distancing Guidelines & Zoom



With Rabbi Feigenbaum

The "Peh" (mouth)
Is Mightier Than The Sword

Sticks and Stones will break my bones - but in Jewish Law and Morality, words kill. We will be studying the works of the Chofetz Chaim to better understand the complexity and thought process of Jewish Law & in regards to the incredible power our words have to affect our families and communities.

Zoom ID: 843 906 9742
Password - Etz
Dial by your location
929-205-6099 312-626-6799

Located in the Etz Chaim Chapel
Wednesdays @ 8:45am



JOINT JCA & ETZ CHAIM SOCIAL DISTANCING



Monday, March 15th @ 12:30PM

With: Rabbi Feigenbaum

Hosted by: JCA 8505 San Jose Boulevard, 32217

THE HOLIDAY OF FREEDOM DURING COVID ERA

**Practical Lessons That Apply
To Our Daily Lives**

Registration is limited to 30 and is a mandatory.
Registration @ Rabbifeigenbaum@etzchaim.org

Individually packaged food will be provided.

The L&L will also be on Zoom
Zoom Meeting ID: 843 906 9742
Passcode: Etz

A very special thank you Dara and Nora Baer for Sponsored in loving memory of their father Kenny Baer. My his memory be for a Blessing.

A Multimedia Presentation by Rabbi Ken Spiro



Rabbi Ken Spiro's quick-paced, humorous style catches and keeps an audience's interest. He is a Senior Lecturer and Researcher for Aish HaTorah Jerusalem and a licensed tour guide from the Israel Ministry of Tourism. Rabbi Spiro graduated from Vassar College with a BA in Russian Language and Literature. He has an MA in History from The Vermont College of Norwich University and Rabbinic Ordination from Yeshiva Aish HaTorah. He has appeared on numerous radio and television and is the author of WorldPerfect and the Crash Course in Jewish History.

A NATION THAT DWELLS ALONE



Sunday March 7,14 @ 10:15AM

A four part series of the complex and confrontational relationship Judaism and the Jewish people had with the great civilizations of Antiquity

- 1-Babylon and the destruction of the First Temple
- 2- Persia and Purim 3- Greece and Hanukah
- 4- Rome versus Israel - Pompei to Hadrian



Zoom Link with Registration @ [Etzchaim.org](https://www.etzchaim.org)
For Information contact Rabbifeigenbaum@etzchaim.org



THE PERFECT WAY TO

Daf Yomi is
held in the
Mikvis Chapel.

START
YOUR DAY

Rabbi Fisch
will teach the
Daf Yomi
class

Now's the time to join

DAF YOMI



Monday-Friday 5:45am
Sunday & Legal Holiday 7:30am



COMMUNITY SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

GOVERNOR EXPANDS VACCINE ELIGIBILITY TO EDUCATORS, LAW ENFORCEMENT 50+ AND MEDICALLY VULNERABLE

Persons under 65 deemed medically vulnerable
by a physician (form required);
K-12 school employees 50 years of age and older;
Sworn law enforcement officers 50 years of age and older;
and Firefighters 50 years of age and older

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

MICHAEL ABEL
ALLISON JACOBS
ELENA KAHN

REFUAH SHELEMAH

BERTICA HUBSCH
FERN ESTNER
SUSAN GOLDMAN
MURRAY HUSNEY
HOPE KULISH
MARTIN SCHWARTZ
FOMA MAKHTINA

YAHREZEIT

ROSE GAMCE
JEAN GOODMAN
SONYA GUSINSKAYA
LEE HORVITZ
ROBERT PLATZER
GERALD SCHWARTZ
TONI WOLFF

Rabbi Yaakov Fisch will be sharing a daily
insight on Pesach Preparations. This will start
on Sunday March 7. These insights will be
shared on our what's app channel.

MAZEL TOV!



**Mazel Tov to the Smolensky family on
the Bar Mitzvah celebration of their son
Benjamin Smolensky.**

PURIM FUN

