



Congregation Etz Chaim

74 Billings Street, Sharon, Massachusetts 02067
www.etzchaimsharon.com
(781) 784-7204

President: Leonard Gerber, Ph.D.
Treasurer: George Monat
Secretary: Janis Monat
Member at Large: Robert Dell

Synagogue
Member



Parasha Korach

Rosh Chodesh Tammuz
30th of Sivan, July 6, 2024

Erev Shabbos

Mincha/lik ner 8:05 PM

Shabbos Day

Shacharis 9:00 AM

Latest Shema 9:02 AM

Latest Tefilla 10:18 AM

Ma'ariv 9:14/9:35 PM

Shabbos Day at YI

Mincha 7:45 PM

Ma'ariv 9:15 PM

Shabbos Day at Chabad

Mincha 7:55 PM

Ma'ariv 9:15 PM

SUNDAY ETZ CHAIM

Shacharis 8:00 AM

Mincha 8:02 PM

Weekday Mincha/Ma'ariv

Young Israel 8:02 PM

Chabad 8:10/8:56 PM

TORAH LEARNING

Rabbi Hartman's **Sunday** class is the **Book of Ruth**,
meeting at 9:30 a.m.

The link Zoom ID: 903 917 1656

Password: 170 smain

SHAMIRAS HALASHON meets Mo/Th 9:15 a.m.

The link is sent to participants. If interested
please contact Janis Monat: jbmonat@aolcom

DAF YOMI WEEKDAY ZOOM SCHEDULE

Via Zoom: Mon - Th 7:30 pm and Tu & Th 7:30 am

Meeting ID: 822 979 966

Password: 727190

DAF YOMI LIVE SCHEDULE:

Shabbos mornings at shul, 8:00 a.m., one hour
before shacharis;

Sunday mornings at shul, 7:00 a.m., one hour
before shacharis.

Contact Melvyn Huff

(781) 784-6608) or

melvynhuff@comcast.net for more information.



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SHIVA AND MINYAN HOURS

Bob Dell is sitting **shiva** for his beloved wife, Esther at his home: 40 Tall Tree Road
Sunday and Monday from 2-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m.

The Shiva **minyans** are at his home:

Sunday 8:00 a.m. with mincha maariv 8 p.m.
Monday and 6:45 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Tuesday 6:45 a.m.

THANK YOU, LAKESIDE VOLUNTEERS!

Etz Chaim's successful lake booth BBQ was due to all those who had the vision to "See and Be Seen" on our "corner" of the lake. It happened **because** of those who purchased, set up, prepared, cooked, took the orders, served the food, collected the money and reloaded our gear onto the U-Haul for our July 3rd endeavor! A tremendous effort from an incredible group of people! (Any photos taken of the event please send them to: etztreasurer@aol.com).

A SIP OF TORAH

All are invited to Etz Chaim's **Sip of Torah** to honor our **new month of Tammuz**. Mr. **Yoni Monat** will share words on "**Kashrus – the Human Temple**" **this Sunday, July 7 at 2:00 p.m.** Please contact Janis Monat by e-mail: jbmonat@aol.com for the link! All are welcome!

ETZ CHAIM'S BOOK GROUP

Our next book is **The Thread Collectors** by Shaunna J Edwards and Alyson Richmond. The Sharon Public Library has copies at the circulation desk under the name, "Etz Chaim Book Club." We will meet **Monday July 15, at 7pm**. Please RSVP to Merilee Maeir melmaeir@gmail.com & the link will be sent out shortly before the book review.

BOARD MEETING

Etz Chaim's **board meeting** will be **Wednesday, July 17 at 6:00 p.m.** via Zoom. Please contact Janis Monat jbmonat@aol.com for the link. Congratulations to our new at-large board members: Rabbi Chuni Rappoport and Michael Ferber

PRAYERS FOR ISRAEL

We pray for a return of all the hostages, the healing of the injured IDF soldiers and Israeli citizens maimed on 10/7 and since. May there be safety with a peaceful Israel, and a full victory over our enemies and antisemitism.

Am Yisrael Chai 

REFUAH SHELAIMA

We continue to pray for the health of Alan Pass, Asher Anshel ben Miriam; a friend's son, Ahron Yitzchak ben Berina ; Heidi Goldblatt, Rachel Chana bas Menucha; Robert Dell, Chana Reuven ben Leah; George Monat's sister-in-law, Shayna Baila bas Rachel; the mother of a son's friend, Tzipporah Zlata bas Bluma Yehudis; a colleague of a congregant, Eyal ben Chaya; Miriam Aidel bas Sara Malka, the 2-year- old niece of Yoni's chavrusa, R' Hershel Yaffe, who has been diagnosed with cancer/leukemia, Aaron Weinberg, Aharon Yitzchak ben Bruira; and Talia bas Tami. A FULL AND COMPLETE HEALING!

We are greatly saddened by the passing of **Esther Dell**, Esther bas Shimon, laid to rest this past Wednesday, July 3. Esther was a stalwart part of our shul, coming weekly to shabbos services (pre-Covid) and an active leader in many events. This week's lakeside booth was a success with her neshama hovering over us (as she had been in body each year, alongside her hardworking one and only, Bob.) It was a challenge to "change hats" from leaving the funeral to readying the shul's lakeside booth but in her zechus", merit, we carried on as she would have.

Parasha Korach

ch. 16:1-18:32

By Janis Monat

Korach is the name of a first cousin of Aharon's and Moshe's. All three men had the same grandfather, Kehas, and great grandfather, Levi. Aaron and Moshe were from Kehas' first born, Amram, and Korach was from Kehas' second born, Yitzhar. Rashi says that Korach was upset that his cousin Elitzafan, son of Uziel, the youngest of the four sons of Kehas, was appointed in charge of the Kohathite family and not him since his father was older than Elitzafan.

Korach didn't understand that despite having their family origins in common their roles were designed by G-d to be unique and different. The Midrash Tanchuma explains that Hashem created the world with certain demarcations like day and night, light and darkness, upper waters and lower waters, etc. So, too, God-distinguished Jews from other nations, and Aaron and Moshe from each other and from other Jews.

The feeling of being slighted fomented Korach's **rebellion** against Moshe. He also challengingly asked Moshe if a house filled with Sifrei Torah required a mezuzah and whether a garment entirely of techelet wool required a single string of techelet in its tzitzit. These derisive questions were totally irrelevant and intended to ridicule and embarrass Moshe in the eyes of the community. He tried to egg Moshe and Aharon on with, "We are all holy. Why do you raise yourselves above G-d's people?" ch. 16:3. Moshe answered Korach, "In the morning Hashem will make known who belongs to Him and who is holy. He will draw that person, the one who'll He'll choose, near to him.", ch. 16:5.

To Korach and his 250 followers Moshe instructed, "Tomorrow place fire into the pans, and incense atop the fire before G-d". From these 'fireworks' Hashem will "then choose the holy one." much upon yourselves, ch. 16:5-7 (Remnants of Nadav and Avihu taking fire pans of incense and their holy demise).

We can see human differences taking a back seat during the time people attempted to build the Tower of Babel in order to "reach the heavens". Though everyone was speaking the same audible language people lost their humanity, their ability to be kind to one another. G-d's punishment was to scatter the people among the face of the earth with an inability to understand one another.

Interestingly from this forced displacement came creativity and new ways of communicating. Just as Jews throughout history have been exiled from one country to another, we have had to learn the native language and customs, ways of government, economic systems, etc. Yet we also kept our Hebrew of the Torah and sedarim and Aramaic of the Gemara. We kept our Jewish beliefs, identity, practices, Torah knowledge, holidays, Hebrew names, etc. Each of us is singularly unique within being part of a whole Jewish nation.

Recently I was at a service when the 9th man arrived. The rabbi waited a bit for a response to his calls but none came. Ten individual men make a minyan - they are one unit. Without each one of the ten no public repetition of the Amidah, the saying of kaddish, nor the brachot over the Torah aliyahs can be made.

We have just celebrated our country's 248th anniversary of independence from England. Rabbi Moshe Hauer, Vice-President of OU wrote, "...America welcomed us here and encouraged us to live and to thrive as Jews. The country is founded on the values of liberty and fairness and characterized by its kindness and caring.

"Presently the vast majority of Americans, its leaders and its citizens, are sharing our horror at what has taken hold in pockets of this country" amongst those who **blame** Israel for being attacked and for standing up to defend its people. **"This wave of antisemitism will end when it will be actively and decisively addressed and rejected** by the vast and far-too-silent majority of Americans, Democrats and Republicans alike, who love this country, are proudly and firmly committed to its values, and recognize that **there is nothing more un-American than antisemitism."**

Both the rebellions of Korach's and the pro-Hamas college instigators are based on false ideas and haughty premises that their way is the right way, the only way. They cannot see the other's individuality. Everyone has to be the same, think the same, speak the same. But it is not so. The Tower of Babel was destroyed, many of our foes' governments have gone out of existence, and mobs' anger eventually consumes them, their ideas going up in smoke or tunneling below ground, losing the light of day in their souls.

A neighboring rabbi offered, "When leaders today look to Moshe as a role model and learn the lessons of true and modest leadership, our world will become more empathic and moral." There will be more openness to one another with a building of a true sense of community. We need both aspects, individuality and commonality, and the wisdom to know when to emphasize each.

May Hashem continue to bless America...stand beside Her, and guide Her, ...through the night with the **Light from Above.**

Maybe on this shabbos we can appreciate the first Amendment to the US Constitution, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibit the free exercise thereof;...." Thank you, America.