

Congregation Etz Chaim



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

Chaim Stramer - President
Treasurer: George Monat
Secretary: Janis Monat
Member at Large: Robert Dell
Member at Large: Michael Ferber
Member at Large: Rabbi Chuni
Rappoport

Synagogue
Member



Shabbos & first days of Sukkos

September 26, 2026 / 15th of Tishrei

Shabbos lik ner: **6:18 PM**

Shabbos Day

Shacharis **9:00 AM**

Latest Shema **9:36 AM**

Latest Tefilla **10:35 AM**

Mincha **6:15 PM**

Maariv & chag lik ner **7:16/7:46 PM**

SUNDAY 2nd day of Sukkos Sept. 27

Shacharis **8:00 AM**

Mincha **3:55 PM**

Maariv, Havdala, **7:14/7:25 PM**

Shabbos Day at Young Israel

Mincha **6:19 PM**

Ma'ariv **6:55 PM**

Chag lik ner (after this time) **7:17 PM**

Day 2 of Sukkot

Mincha **6:19 PM**

Ma'ariv/Havdalah **7:10/7:15 PM**

Weekday at YI

Mincha/Maariv **6:07 PM**

Shabbos Day at Chabad

Mincha **6:10 PM**

Maariv **7:16 PM**

Weekday at Chabad

Mincha/Maariv **6:15 PM**

TORAH LEARNING

Rabbi Hartman's class will resume after the chagim.

Zoom ID: 903 917 1656

Password: 170 smain

SHMIRAS HALASHON class resumes **9-28-26**.

Please contact Janis Monat: jbmonat@aol.com for the link.

DAF YOMI WEEKDAY ZOOM SCHEDULE

Via Zoom: Mon - Th 7:00 pm and Tu & Th 7:30 a.m.

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

A SIP OF TORAH

This Wednesday evening, Sept. 30th at 7:30 p.m. **Yoni Monat will give Etz Chaim's "A Sip of Torah" shiur on s"The Halachos of Chol Hamoed".** It's based on years of research and rabbinical insights. Come and learn! Please RSVP to jbmonat@aol.com for the link.

ETZ CHAIM BOARD MEETING

Our next monthly **board meeting** will be **Monday, October 5 at 5:00 p.m.** via Zoom. Please RSVP to Janis at jbmonat@aol.com if the **link** is needed.

OCT. 7 REMEMBRANCE

People from five communities and 11 synagogues have come together as **one united community to remember and honor those who were killed on October 7, in captivity, or in battle since then.** This **Community-Wide October 7 Memorial Program** will be held at **Temple Israel in Sharon on Wednesday, October 7.** Doors will open at 6:45 p.m., and the program will run from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The flyer below contains a clickable link to the pre-registration form, as well as a QR code that also links directly to the form. **People must pre-register for safety reasons.** Any questions contact Nina Rogoff by e-mail, text or phone at 781-883-3764



[FLYER FOR OCT 7 MEMORIAL PROGRAM.pdf](#)

ETZ CHAIM BOOK CLUB

Please join our group for our next read, ***History of Love*** by Nicole Krauss on Monday, **October 12** at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. The Sharon Public Library has them at the Circulation Desk. Just ask for the Etz Chaim Book Club book. Any questions or thoughts contact Merilee at melmaeir@gmail.com.

REFUAH SHELAIMA

Our prayers are for the healing of the wounded soldiers of the IDF, those who have been hurt in terrorist attacks, the Israeli survivors from 10/7/23 **and this Iran/Lebanon/Gaza War.** We pray for the healing of our congregation members: Heidi Goldblatt, Rachel Chana bas Menucha; Robert Dell, Tzila Pass, Tzila Chava bas Rachel; and Marve Rudenstein, Menachem Yitzchak ben Raitza;. May they all heal soon and fully!

ROOM RENTAL

The Mathes Room, a large modern space, is available for holiday celebration rentals, shiva meals, sheva bracha meals, children's parties, etc. Please contact George Monat, etztreasurer@aol.com for more information.

THOUGHTS on **Sukkos** Vayikra, ch. 22:26-23:44 and Bamidbar ch. 29:12-16,

By Janis Monat

The Sukkos readings are on the laws of the *moadim* or "appointed times" for festive celebrations including the mitzvot of dwelling in the sukkah and taking the "Four Kinds" on Sukkos. The various offerings brought to the Holy Temple in Jerusalem are described as is the obligation to journey to the Beis Hamikdash to **"to see and be seen before the face of G-d"** on the three annual pilgrimage festivals, the "reglayim", with our sacrifices on Pesach, Shavuot, and Sukkos.

Someone asked me when did we start to say the prayer for rain. I explained that though we begin the **praise** during the mincha service of Shemini Atzeret in saying, "Mashiv haruach oomored hageshem", He makes the wind blow and He makes the rain descend, marking the seasonal shift, (and maybe this Sukkos storm is a bit early...) Jews in the land of Israel wait two weeks to allow the travelers/pilgrims from Yerushalayim time to return safely to their homes before winter rains begin. They begin to **request** rain, **"V'sein Tal U'Matar"**, on the 7th of Cheshvan, two weeks later for the above reason. We in "chutz l'aretz", outside of Israel, begin saying it at Ma'ariv time on December 5.

I was wondering why **V'sain Tal Umatar** (the prayer for rain) is said on a secular date and not a Hebrew one. Chabad explains that it starts typically **December 4 or 5** in the Diaspora because the halachic requirement is tied to the solar seasonal cycle rather than the lunar Hebrew calendar.

Tonight begins Sukkot and without asking, even mentioning, Hashem has decided we are to experience heavy rain on our sukkah. Sometimes the unexpected happens and we have to adjust to it. Chabad eats their meal in the sukkah despite rain. With rain we can make a kiddush and then go into our homes for the main meal.

In readying to "batten down the hatches!" our family put 35-pound water buckets on the sukkah's frame to hold the corners down, and 2' by 4' wooden boards across the roof's schach to keep it from blowing away. The term, "batten" comes from the early 19th century when sailors used canvas and long strips of wood called **battens** to seal shut a ship's deck openings (hatches) to keep water out during a heavy storm.

When we sit in a *sukkah*, we are doing something **because G-d commanded us to**. It takes us beyond our own instincts and **reminds us that there is something greater than ourselves**. I had this in mind when I woke up Yom Kippur morning. There was no wavering as fasting was in the Torah, a biblical command! It charged me throughout the day. The day felt simple in my commitment to do what was commanded.

I recently learned that the willows for Hoshana Rabba are "simple", representing Jewish people's simple, basic, deep faith in Hashem. The above was an example of what I experienced on Yom Kippur.

Throughout history we Jews have lived in "temporary dwellings", longing to return to our homeland, our lives at times being perilous, not knowing if we'd be subjected to expulsion, proselytization, or attacks in our "host homes". One wonderful host, though, was Avraham. He sat in his sukkah, welcoming guests, the three travelers we all know about, and offered them shade beneath a tree. Midrash Tanchuma has because he provided shade for others, his descendants were given the mitzvah of sitting in the shade of a *sukkah*. It explains that because Abraham said to his guests, *"Please recline under the tree,"* G-d rewarded his descendants by granting them the commandment of the **Sukkah**, as well as the protective Clouds of Glory in the midbar, allowing them to sit under the protective shade of vegetation.

"Z'man simchateinu", the time of our joy, teaches us to find joy in what we do. It's found in being grateful, no matter our circumstances. There's a teaching from Ben Zoma in Pirkei Avot in which he asks, "Who is rich?" Not the one who has whatever he **wants** but "who celebrates everything he **has**." This is the truest meaning of joy. When we sit maybe feeling the drips of rain this Sukkos we still feel blessed and rejoice that we are surrounded by the presence of G-d and by the people we love. It is all we really need.

Rain or shine, with simcha here we come!

A safe and special shabbos and yom tov!