

Congregation Etz Chaim



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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



Parasha Bereishis

October 10, 2026 / 29th of Tishrei

Shabbos lik ner: **5:54 PM**

Shabbos Day/Birkat Hachodesh

Shacharis **9:00 AM**

Latest Shema **9:41 AM**

Latest Tefilla **10:38 AM**

Mincha **5:50 PM**

Ma'ariv **6:52/7:22 PM**

ROSH CHODESH CHESHVAN 10/11 & 12

Shabbos Day at Young Israel

Mincha **5:55 PM**

Maariv/Havdala **6:48/6:53 PM**

Weekday at YI

Mincha/Maariv **5:44 PM**

Shabbos Day at Chabad

Mincha **5:45 PM**

Maariv **6:52 PM**

Weekday

Mincha/ma'ariv **5:45 PM**

Rabbi Hartman's Sunday morning class resumes

10/11 at 9:30 a.m.

Zoom ID: 903 917 1656

Password: 170 smain

SHMIRAS HALASHON class is **Monday at 9:15 a.m.**

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

RABBI YISROEL REISMAN

This brilliant Torah commentator begins his insightful teachings on the Book of Daniel this motzei shabbos at 9:00 p.m. All are invited to this live streamed Torah Conferencing Network (TCN) showing at Congregation Etz Chaim.

RABBI MENDY ROSENFELD

Rabbi Rosenfeld's parasha class will be **this Monday at 8:00 p.m.**, an exception to his usual Sunday evening class. Chaim Stamer will send out the link.

OCT. 7 REMEMBRANCE THANKS

Thank you, Nina Rogoff, for an incredibly moving program to remember our Israeli brethren whose lives were mercilessly and ruthlessly destroyed and abducted on October 7, 2023 by Hamas. The speakers, musicians, and group singing brought out our emotional and strong unity.

ETZ CHAIM BOOK CLUB

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

ETZ CHAIM BOARD MEETING

Our next monthly **board meeting** will be **Monday, November 2 at 6:00 p.m.** via Zoom. Please RSVP to Janis at jbmonat@aol.com if the link is needed.

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 Bereishis

By Janis Monat

Today we began the first parasha of the first book of Bereishis, opening with Hashem creating the world in six days and ceasing work on the seventh, a sanctified day of rest. Adam was the first human being formed on the 6th day.

Chabad tells us that Talmud points out that when G-d created the world, He created Adam alone. One reason, our sages explain, was to teach us that no person should think, 'What difference can I make? I'm only one person.' Every human being comes into the world with a unique perspective, a unique ability to contribute and can make a difference. At home, at work, with friends, or in our communities, people are influenced by what we say and, even more, by what we do. Each of us has something only we can contribute. We don't have to change the whole world. Sometimes making a difference in one person's life is enough. The important thing is to recognize that we matter, and to use our unique abilities to make a positive difference.

This past Wednesday I attended a very moving commemoration at Temple Israel, organized by Nina Rogoff, to honor the lives brutally murdered and abducted on October 7, 2023, by the terrorist group, Hamas. I was

very taken with words from guest speaker, Omri Atar, an Israeli soldier, on someone who influenced him. He had been given his great great grandfather's Yom Kippur machzor, handed down through his family's generations. Knowing his great great grandfather davened from this machzor in the second half of the 1800's and now he had it moved him very much, "We turn the pages together, the same book, the same prayers, the same chag, despite being in different countries, different times in history, under different governments, with different customs."

Omri emphasized that it shouldn't have to take a ghastly terrorist attack to unite us, a thought I have held for decades. We are all Jews. Yes, we can and do have differences in politics, traditions, customs, and observances, across a spectrum. Our own Talmud has questions, debates, arguments, and varying points of view filling the **5,422 individual page faces**...and yet we honor and respect them. The House of Hillel would teach the ideas from the House of Shammai first, despite being different than theirs, and only then offer their own, giving kavod to fellow Jewish commentators.

We must remember we are more than what Jew haters define us as. We are Am Yisrael Chai. All Jews are our brethren, our family, ones we are to be responsible for. Hashem told this to Cain when asking where his brother was.

Every life is a world, first with Adam and then with Eve. In ch. 1:26 Hashem announced, "Let's us make man in our image". The pronoun "our" has been interpreted as HaShem conferring with the angels. Another explanation is that Hashem was talking to the animals already created. Indeed, we have our "animal" soul and our "divine" soul. Rabbi Jonathan Sacks in his Covenant & Conversation teaching shares, "There is a spiritual dimension to the physical relationship between husband and wife. At one level it is the most animal of desires, but at another it is as close as we come to the principle of Divine creativity itself. Love creates life."

Similarly the first mitzvah given to Adam and Eve upon their creation was to be fruitful and multiply, ch.1:28. Hashem also gave Noach and his wife, Na'ama this as their first mitzvah when the arc came upon dry land, ch. 8:15-17, "Multiply on the earth and be fruitful and increase in number on it". Also in ch. 9:1, "Then G-d blessed Noach and his sons, saying to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth'".

Both sets of people were new in their own new worlds, Adam and Chava, and Noach and Na'ama. To be fruitful and procreate established the new foundational lines for humanity.

We are doing this to this day!

Every person can and does make a difference.

Chofetz Chaim teaches that people are influenced by what we say and, even more, by what we do. Chabad reminds us that each of us has something only we can contribute.

A wonderful shabbos "in the beginning" of autumn!