



Congregation Etz Chaim

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President: Joshua Maeir
Treasurer: George Monat
Secretary: Leonard Gerber, Ph.D.

Director: Susan Cable
Director: Esther Dell
Director: Tzila Pass

Synagogue
Member



Parasha Acharei Mot

Shabbos Mevorchim

Erev Shabbos

Candle lighting 7:23 PM

Shabbos Day **

Shacharis 9:00 AM

Latest shema 9:12 AM

Latest tefilla 10:22 AM

Mincha 7:22 PM

Shabbos ends: 8:29PM

8:55PM

~ 4/29 to 5/1 ~

****Before attending please review our COVID-19 policy and pre-register. The signup can be found on the shul website****

****Minyan Signup****

Rosh Chodesh Iyar: Sunday and Monday, May 1 and 2

Sunday

Shacharis 8:00 AM

Monday 5:55 AM

T, W, F 6:15AM

Th 6:05AM

Mincha at YI 7:23 PM

M-Th

Torah Learning

Shamiras Halashon is M-F,
9:05 a.m. to 9:40 a.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/8709646716>

password: bjn6R3

Rabbi Hartman's Pirke Avot
Sunday class WILL NOT MEET
this Sunday but will resume
soon.

Zoom ID: 903 917 1656

Password: 170smain

According to the **Sharon Board of Health** as of March 4, 2022, mask wearing is recommended based on your personal preference and individual assessment of risk for yourself and those with whom you interact. PLEASE be respectful of individual choices about mask wearing and personal circumstances of your fellow community members.

KIDDUSH SPONSORSHIP

A full kiddush may be sponsored for \$100.00 and a shabbos "shout-out" for \$18.00. Please contact Esther Dell for dates at edell53@hotmail.com, and Janis Monat, jbmonat@aol.com for printed wording

THANK YOU

Thank you, David Schectman, for reading the names of our congregants' loved ones who perished in the Holocaust at the **Community Wide Service for Yom HaShoah v'HaG'vurah – The Day of Remembering the Holocaust and the Bravery**, this past Wednesday, April 27 at Temple Sinai and to Miriam Leah Epstein Preil for reading her poem on Survivors' Testimonies.

Our **Shout out** kiddush is sponsored by the Brainin/Monat family in honor of the memory of Janis's sister, Barbara, on her 3rd yartzeit, 28th Nisan, Friday, 4-29.

RABBI REISMAN

Torah Conferencing Network invites the community to our state-of-the art Torah Conferencing Network. This is a live broadcast of one of America's most popular Shiurim.

Watch as the Book of Ezra is brought to life with Rabbi Yisrael Reisman's famous and thought-provoking Navi class, taking place every Saturday night at Congregation Etz Chaim, 10:00 P.M.

See you then!

ROSH CHODESH TALK

Janis Monat will share some thoughts about **the new month, Iyar**, on Sunday, May 1st, the 30th of Nisan, the first day of Rosh Chodesh Iyar, at 7:00 p.m.

For the link and to share any meaningful and uplifting words for the month after, **Sivan**, and/or the months beyond, please contact Merilee at melmaeir@gmail.com.

ETZ CHAIM'S BOOK CLUB

This past Monday we had a fascinating discussion on **The Rose Code** book by Kate Quinn. The British decoders at Bletchley Park were able to decipher the plans of the Nazis and give this vital information to the British MI5 to for the thwarting of the Nazis' plans.

We are planning our non-fictional book choice for June. Suggestions for future books, please contact Merilee Maeir: melmaeir@gmail.com.

BOARD MEETING

Our upcoming board meeting, virtually, will be this Monday, May 2nd at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome. Please contact Josh Maeir for the Zoom link: president@etzchaimsharon.com

RABBI BARRY HARTMAN'S Pirke Avot class WILL NOT MEET this Sunday. It will resume soon. We wish him a continued refuah shelaima.

SHAMIRAS HALASHON CLASS continues Monday, May 2, 2022, at 9:05 a.m. (See 1st page for Zoom number). The classes are Monday – Friday.

MARCH OF THE LIVING

On May 15th, Sunday, at 4:00 p.m. Etz Chaim will show the film ***In Our Own Hands: The Hidden Story of The Jewish Brigade in WW II***, followed by a discussion with speaker, Aaron Kischel, ***In Our Own Hands*** is the story of the only all-Jewish fighting unit in World War II, courageously battling against the Nazis, carrying out assassinations of Nazi officers in hiding, and the daring movement of Holocaust survivors to Palestine. These Brigade veterans helped to organize the Israel Defense Forces and led the 1948 War of Independence!

This program is sponsored by the N. E. Friends of March of the Living. Admission is free with donations optional to The Friends of the March of the Living organization

Aaron Kischel is a lifelong Jewish community and youth leader; former Director at United Synagogue; Youth (USY) and Executive Director for the Northeast Region for USCJ; Director/Docent of Teen Education for NEF MOTL; recipient of FJMC's 'Keeper of the Flame' Award. Presently *Aaron Kischel* is the MOTL Director, Teen Programming.

This program is sponsored by the NE Friends of March of the Living. Admission is free with donations optional to The Friends of the March of the Living. <https://motlnewengland.org/donate/>.

REFUAH SHELAIMA

Please daven for ****Tzila Chava** and her brother, Avram Yeshayahu, b'nai Rachel; Alan Pass, Asher Anshel ben Miriam; Rabbi Barry Hartman, Berel Dovid ben Sarah; Malka Menucha bat Hinda; Tuvia Dovid ben Malkah Menucha; Heidi Goldblatt, Rachel Chana bas Menucha; Susan Cable, Shulamit bat Braina Bashi; Chana Rivka Dana bas Neshah; Esther Dell, Esther bat Raizel, Robert Dell, Chana Reuven ben Leah; the sons of Leisha Martin, Yosef Eliyahu ben Ruth and Yisrael Yitzchak ben Ruth, and other friends and family who are going through life's changes and medical issues. May each person have their refuah shelaima with complete and speedy healing.

****Tzila** is recovering at Faulkner Hospital. Donations can be made to the rabbi's discretionary fund to help support Alan at this time with various needs.

Please make your check out to Etz Chaim and send it to the treasurer, George Monat. The checks can be sent by postal mail or put in the Treasurer's box in the back of the green room with a memo note: "**Discretionary Fund**".

Alan will accept visitors at his home. Please contact Chaya Levin at **(718) 549-0599** to arrange this.

Thoughts on Acharei Mot

By Janis Monat

This week's parsha opens with Hashem speaking to Moshe after the tragic deaths of the sons of Aharon, Nadav and Avihu, Vayikra 16:1. They died during the dedication of the Mishkan, Vayikra 10:1-2. This catastrophe is described after the two brothers offered an "alien fire" during their service to Hashem. They in turn died by divine fire.

My younger son, Yoni, lained this incident, six chapters earlier, in his bar-mitzvah parasha, Shemini. There Moshe attempted to explain his nephews' deaths to Aharon with, "This is what the Eternal meant in saying: Through those close to Me, I am sanctified, and I make Myself known before all the people", Lev. 10:3.

Both then and now these parashas recount a warning to Aharon that without careful adherence to his difficult and demanding duties as Kohen Gadol, he might suffer the same fatal consequences.

The parasha then describes the rituals for the sin offerings that Aaron as the High Priest was to present in the sanctuary for himself, his family, his community, and all of the people Israel. Some commentators say Aaron felt guilt around the death of his first two sons, in that he didn't teach them enough boundaries when it came to the Holy of Holies. Perhaps this was one of his "sins" he asked Hashem to forgive him for when he entered the Holy of Holies on Yom Kippur.

His immediate reaction to the deaths of his two older sons was silence, Vayikra 10:3, a silence that could be understood as inaction during this abrupt and heartbreaking loss. Then the parasha goes on to outline a detailed and exacting ceremony assigned to him, the Kohen HaGadol. It required a complex and precisely executed sequence of actions which maybe provided Aharon with an opportunity to repair a small part of the loss that he felt when he saw his sons die before him.

Wednesday night and Thursday, we commemorated Yom HaShoah through honoring and remembering the victims of the Holocaust and recalling the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. Maybe, like Aharon, we were offering a small measure of repair for the immeasurable loss that we suffered as a people.

Teshuva, confession, is a main part of our Yom Kippur service. We hope and pray we are sealed in the Book of Life for another year. Nearing our death we are to say Viduy, our personal confessional prayer. Not knowing when that will be we “cover our bases” when we forgive and make amends during our bedtime shema, “Master of the universe, I forgive anyone who has angered me, sinned against me, whether accidentally or intentionally, by speech or by deed. May no man be punished on my account. May it be Your will that I shall sin no more, nor repeat my sins, not anger You or do what is wrong in your eyes. May the words of my mouth and meditations of my heart be acceptable unto Thee, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.”

That is the connection between Aaron’s sons and the Yom Kippur Service. Just as Yom Kippur brings atonement, so does the death of the righteous says Yerushalmi Yoma 1:1. The Stone Chumash comments regarding verse 10:3 that Moshe comforted Aaron with, “I knew that the Tabernacle would be sanctified through someone in whom God’s glory reposes, but I thought it would be one of us. Now I know that they were greater than either of us”.

At night we make our amends with Hashem. Each day we try to use words of kindness and respect in relating to others. Ani Ma’amim. I believe in perfect faith...

A sweet shabbos!