

From: B'er Chayim Congregation info@berchayim.org
Subject: Shabbat Update June 19, 2021
Date: June 16, 2021 at 6:00 AM
To: rbessman@berchayim.org



Shabbat Update

June 19, 2021

Cantor Bessman's Shabbat Update



Dear BCC Membership,

The number one news of the week is that our Hebrew and Jewish Education students are now on vacation (chufsha—a word Israelis love). Democracy reigned last Thursday; the class voted to take a summer break, and it was nearly unanimous. COVID restrictions are being lifted as summer arrives. It makes sense to appease some of the restlessness of late with travel and family visits. Though it goes without saying, I'll say it anyway:



June Calendar of Events

*B'er Chayim Temple
is open for
in-person
services.
Same safeguards
will be in place.*

*ZOOM services
will continue*

goes without saying, I'll say it anyway.
Shabbat services continue.

I will be around for much of the summer and am always available by phone. High Holy Day preparations are underway. Please think about how you might like to participate in the upcoming High Holy Day services. We look forward to hearing from you.

This week's Parashat Chukat offers many avenues for Torah exploration. Ritual impurity that can only be mitigated by means of a red heifer is but the beginning (warning: not so easy). Miriam dies, seemingly taking the life-sustaining waters with her. Yet again, the faithless Israelites quarrel with Moses wishing to return to their "better life" in the land of Egypt. This time God uses snakes to exact retribution. A rock is struck sealing the fate of Aaron and Moses, though a people's thirst is quenched. The nation travels on and Aaron dies almost as suddenly as his sister Miriam. This is a synopsis of maybe two-thirds of the reading. Much happens. Much to investigate.

Friday, 7:30 pm we have Shabbat evening services. Saturday, 10:00 am we have Torah study. As hinted above, too much is happening in this parashah to cover it all. Fortunately, it returns next year. I'm planning on examining the problems of purity and the prescribed red-heifer alchemy on Saturday.

Hope to see you this Shabbat. Shabbat shalom,

Cantor Richard Bessman



Thursday
June 17
Summer Break
from
Adult Hebrew

Friday
June 18
Erev Shabbat
Services
In person &
ZOOM

Saturday
June 19
10:00 am
Torah Study
ZOOM

Monday
June 21
7:00 pm
Board Meeting
ZOOM



**Yahrzeits for
week ending**

**June 19, 2021
9 Tamuz 5781**

Michael Beerman
Willie Stein
.Jennie Finkelson



This Week's Torah Portion

Chukat

חֻקַּת

The Ritual Law

Numbers 19:1–22:1 Summary

- The laws of the red heifer to purify a person who has had contact with a corpse are given. (19:1-22)
 - The people arrive at the wilderness of Zin. Miriam dies and is buried there. (20:1)
 - The people complain that they have no water. Moses strikes the rock to get water for them. God tells Moses and Aaron they will not enter the Land of Israel. (20:2-13)
 - The king of Edom refuses to let the Children of Israel pass through his land. After Aaron's priestly garments are given to his son Eleazer, Aaron dies. (20:14-29)
 - After they are punished for complaining about the lack of bread and water, the Israelites repent and are victorious in battle against the Amorites and the people of Bashan, whose lands they capture. (21:4-22:1)
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-

Paul Castelle
Max Greenbaum
Sue Warhaft
Victor Weiss
Pauline B.
Friedland
Kurt Gottlieb
Lena Scheinberg



Happy Birthday

June 7

Elizabeth A.
Weisman
Shana Andrews

June 9

Larry Brock

June 19

Jake Litman

June 22

Debbie Lang

June 25

Rick Dezen

June 27

Adam Lazarus

Happy Anniversary

June 8

Bobbi & Bruce
Dubins

share your birthday
and anniversaries
dates with our
friends and
families...contact
info@berchayim.org



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**"Virtual"
instructions -**

*To watch on Zoom - send
an email to
admin@berchayim.org
and the ID and Password
will be emailed back to
you. The ZOOM Id and
Password will be the
same each Friday
evening. Please
remember that Rebecca
is part time leave*

*is part time, leave
yourself enough time.*

*Following along in
prayerbooks for ZOOM
services:
Links for prayerbooks are
found on our website
(www.berchayim.org).
Those links will take you
to Mishkah T'Filah for
Shabbat Services.*

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