

# Shabbat Update July 31, 2021

To rbessman@berchayim.org



## Shabbat Update

July 31, 2021

### Cantor Bessman's Shabbat Update



Dear BCT Membership,

Here is the last Shabbat Update for July 2021. This means that we can just about touch August and maybe beginning to feel the weight of the upcoming Holy Days. I hope everyone will be rested and ready.

Last week, I attended four lectures in the Mosse/Weinstein series titled "Jews and Politics: America, Israel, Europe." I shared some of my notes with the congregation at Friday night services. Much was discussed.

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### July Calendar of Events

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

*ZOOM services  
will continue*

**Friday  
July 30  
7:30 pm  
Erev Shabbat**

My central takeaway is that disenfranchisement is not good for any group. The history of the Jewish people—most notably 20th-century European Jewish history—teaches that rights once thought secure are indeed transitory. Dr. David Sorkin, one of several excellent speakers attending, was quick and unequivocal when questioned if we need to be concerned as Jews with respect to our rights in the United States. Yes. In our lifetimes, many of us saw signs declaring that blacks and Jews were not allowed. In our lifetimes, many of us personally experienced blatant discrimination. The last 40 years—not so much. Recent memory can be easily forgotten.

As it seems to be with those who followed Moses. Parashat Eikev continues the retelling of our ancestors' desert journey. Again, words from this parashah can be found in our canon of prayers.

As a descendent of Moses (in spirit, if not in fact), let me continue the tradition of repetition as I remind everyone that you can find current information on the temple website, Berchayim.org. Not only are the recent Shabbat Updates and the monthly Bulletin archived there, but also the Calendar tab reveals future events. It is a good place to start even though the information there may be, as most things in life, “subject to change.”

If you would like to participate in this year's High Holy Day services—or any other, for that matter—please contact Debbie Lang or me. A few congregants have connected with us already. There are enough prayers and readings for everyone who would like to participate to be able to participate.

Shabbat shalom,

Cantor Richard Bessman

Service  
ZOOM &  
In-Person

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Friday  
August 20  
Shabbat Under  
The Stars  
7:30 pm  
Bel Air Pavilion  
with BYOD  
(Bring Your Own  
Dinner) at 6pm

Sunday  
August 22  
4:30 pm  
Congregational  
Picnic  
Location TBA

Saturday  
September 25  
Havdalah  
TBA



**Yahrzeits for  
week ending**

**July 31, 2021  
22 Av 5781**

Sam Olin  
Sandra Shapiro  
Dave Klein

# This Week's Torah Portion

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## Eikev

עֵקֶב

**[And if You] Obey [These Rules]  
Deuteronomy 7:12–11:25**

### Summary

- Moses tells the Israelites that if they follow God's laws, the nations who now dwell across the Jordan River will not harm them. (7:12–26)
- Moses reminds the people of the virtues of keeping God's commandments. He also tells them that they will dispossess those who now live in the Land only because they are idolatrous, not because the Israelites are uncommonly virtuous. Thereupon, Moses reviews all of the trespasses of the Israelites against God. (8:1–10:11)
- Moses says that the Land of Israel will overflow with milk and honey if the people obey God's commandments and teach them to their children. (10:12–11:25)

Samuel Wolfe  
Kaplan  
Flora Aams  
Esther Lavine  
Hadassah E.  
Lefkowitz  
Eliot Elliott  
Seymour Ray  
Scher

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### Happy Birthday

**July 5**

Beth DeShong  
Harry Haag

**July 14**

Russ Corwell

**July 18**

Faye Snow

**July 27**

George Beneman

**July 30**

Larry Hohing

### Happy Anniversary

**July 8**

Leslie & Barney  
Leibowitz

**July 23**

Lynne & Howard  
Hansell

[share your birthday  
and anniversaries  
dates with our friends](#)

and families...contact  
[info@berchayim.org](mailto:info@berchayim.org)

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B'er Chayim  
Contact  
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**"Virtual"  
instructions -**

*To watch on **Zoom** -  
send an email to  
[admin@berchayim.org](mailto: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  
yourself enough time.*

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

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B'er Chayim Congregation  
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