

Shabbat Update August 28, 2021

To rbessman@berchayim.org



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Cantor Bessman's Shabbat Update



Dear BCT Membership,

August 25, 2021, is the deadline for getting information and contributions to the office for this year's High Holiday Appeal and for the Book of Memory. **That day is today!** I spoke with Rebecca (not difficult as we have adjoining offices), and she agreed to extend the deadline until the end of this week. Thank you, Rebecca.

Tavo begins with instructions relating to the offerings of first fruits, specifically those of wheat, barley, dates, figs, grapes, pomegranates, and olives. These seven



August Calendar of Events

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

*ZOOM services
continue*

species remind me of our Tu B'shvat seder back on January 29, a short half-year ago. Tu B'shvat is one "New Year" in the Jewish calendar; soon we will have another. Then and now we thank God for the earth's rich bounties—then through sacrifice, now through blessings.

Passover is referenced in this week's reading. In Deuteronomy 26:5, we find the well-known Biblical quotation heard at the Passover seder: "My father was a wandering Aramean. He went down to Egypt with meager numbers and sojourned there, but there he became a great and very populous nation." Though we are in Deuteronomy, we are never far from Exodus. Our exodus from Egypt is oft-referenced within the Bible (it has its very own book, of course). Ki Tavo references Israel's exodus from Egypt; however, it also contains an extraordinary litany of curses that could beset the Jewish people if they do not heed God's laws. Fortunately, the length and detail of God's threatened retributions are resident in this parashah alone. It is quite sobering.

That said, we know what to do and what not to do—think Ten Commandments. We learn that although God may be tough (an understatement), abundant kindness and mercy can ameliorate severe punishment. I believe that Rachelle Valladerez finds a similar hopeful conclusion in her d'var Torah (sermon) she is sharing with us Friday. Perhaps not. I can't wait to find out.

Ki Tavo begins with allusions to Tu B'shvat, continues with Passover references, and concludes with the hope of a full life for those who follow God's ways, our prayer for the Yom Kippur season.

The in-person Shabbat Under the Stars last Friday was greatly enjoyed by all who attended. It was a beautiful setting with a colorful sunset and near full moon. Thanks to the Langs for reserving the Bel Air Pavilion, the setup, and for providing various treats. Friday services are at 7:30 pm at B'er Chayim Temple and on Zoom.

Friday
August 27
7:30 pm
Erev Shabbat
Service

Saturday
August 28
7:30 pm
Selichot
Service

Yahrzeits for week ending

**August 28, 2021
20 Elul 5781**

I. Robert
Lichtenstein

Marvin M. Lutz

Monroe Rosenthal

Sidney Dantzic

Ruth (Wolf) Karras

Sarah
Mendelsohn

Ruth Scholl

Benjamin Miller

Harry B. Beneman

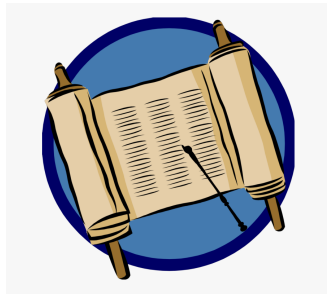
Marie Boyd
Eichler

Samuel J. Feigus

Jerry Morton

Shabbat shalom,

Cantor Richard Bessman



This Week's Torah Portion

Ki Tavo

כִּי-תָבוֹא

When You Enter [the Land]

Deuteronomy 26:1–29:8

Summary

- The Israelites are instructed to express their gratitude to God for their bountiful harvests and freedom from slavery by tithing ten percent of their crops for the Levite, the stranger, the orphan, and the widow. (26)
- The people are told to display on large stones God's commandments for all to see. (27:1-8)
- The Levites are to proclaim curses upon those who violate God's commandments. (27:15-26)
- The Israelites are told that if they obey God's mitzvot faithfully, they will receive every blessing imaginable. They are also told that if do not fulfill their brit with God, many curses will descend upon them. (28:1-69)
- Moses reminds the Israelites of the miracles they witnessed in the wilderness and commands them to observe the terms of the covenant so

Barbara Snow
Sokoloff

Anita Feit

Dr. Arthur S.
Bauer

Frances
Glicksman

Sara Feldstein
Ridgway



Happy Birthday

August 1

Howard Pallik

August 2

Barbie Corwell
Lydia Savramis

August 6

Betsy Hurwitz
Schwab

August 8

Zak Andrews

August 18

Polly Jo Hightower

8/19

Howard Reynolds
Bruce Dubins

8/24

Bebe Goldman

that they may succeed in all that they undertake. (29:1-8)

High Holiday Services Schedule

Monday
September 6
7:30 pm
Erev Rosh Hashanah

Tuesday
September 7
10:00 am
Rosh Hashanah morning

Wednesday
September 8
10:00 am
Rosh Hashanah second-day Torah Study

Wednesday
September 15
7:00 pm
Yom Kippur begins (Kol Nidre)

Thursday
September 16
10:00 am
Yom Kippur morning
and Yizkor

3:00 pm
afternoon service

5:00 pm
Ne'ilah service

8/26
Lee Schwartz

8/28
Nancy
Friedenberg

8/31
David Pallik

8/31
Judi Lazarus
Haag

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and anniversaries
dates with our friends
and families...contact
info@berchayim.org](#)



B'er Chayim
Contact
Information:

Temple phone:
301-722-5688

Cantor Bessman
email:
rbessman@
berchayim.org

Rebecca Galliher
email:
admin@
berchayim.org

"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
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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