

Shabbat Update June 18, 2022

To rbessman@berchayim.org



Shabbat Update

June 18, 2022

Dear BCT Membership,

Success was never in doubt for last week's first-ever post-Shabbat-service potluck with Cantor Bessman, as we are blessed with several fine cooks who participated. Special mention and thanks to Beth, Debbie, and Francine, who brought terrific homemade (and vegan) dishes with enough for all to share. Thanks also to everyone who brought desserts, fruit, wine, bread, and themselves. Perhaps we can have another pre-service potluck before the year is through. The 5:30 pm service start time may have been on the early side for a few. We would like to hear what works best.

We are reading from Parashat Behaalotecha. Three verses get special mention this year. "Whether it was for two days, a month or a year, that the cloud lingered to hover over the Mishkan, the children of Israel would encamp and not travel, and when it departed, they traveled" (Numbers 9:22). In other words, the

June Calendar of Events

*B'er Chayim
Temple is open for
in-person
services.
Safeguards will be
in place - mask
wearing &
observing
safe distances*

*ZOOM services
continue*

**Friday
June 17
7:30 pm**

Children of Israel did not know if they were setting camp for a day, a week, or years. Only God knows what tomorrow will bring and how a journey continues.

“The meat was still between their teeth; it was not yet finished, and the anger of the Lord flared against the people, and the Lord struck the people with a very mighty blow”(Numbers 11:33). Here we have another example—by now, we probably shouldn’t need it—that trust is all-important. The consequence of faithlessness, whether it be through golden idols or culinary complaints, is often fatal.

Even the great prophetess Miriam is subject to Law. She spoke against Moses and, not surprisingly, God was not pleased with such evil speech: “The cloud departed from the Tent, and behold, Miriam was afflicted with tzara’ath [as white] as snow. Then Aaron turned to Miriam and behold, she was afflicted with tzara’ath” (Numbers 12:10). Thank goodness for Moses, for he could talk to God and, not surprisingly, intervene. Miriam suffered for a week. Verse seven of Yigdal reminds us that—unfortunately for us—we no longer have Moses; therefore, we must be extra careful today.

Remember that summer break is here, but don’t worry. Adult Hebrew and Adult Education will continue in the fall. Last year, we had a smattering of Mishnah and Talmud and a good dose of Ten Commandments. I think they provide a solid foundation for other areas of study. Now is the time to think about topics, and I am interested in hearing from you about what may be of interest. Speaking of interest, who would like to prepare a Torah, Haftarah or perhaps a Hebrew reading for the upcoming High Holy Days?

I have still not connected with Gate1 Travel (gate1travel.com). Travel has opened up, but things are not what they were. Yesterday, I failed as a tourist in New York City. I couldn’t visit my alma mater because of COVID restrictions (although I think staffing was the real problem), a favorite church was unexpectedly closed, a museum had only one

Erev Shabbat
Service

Saturday
June 18
NO TORAH
STUDY



**Yahrzeits for
week ending
June 18**

Charles Snow

Michael
Beerman

Rose Dezen

Jennie
Finkelson

Jenny Friedland

Sylvia Lippel

Daniel G.
Schoffmann

Fannie Luddeke

Helen
Eisenberg

Shimshan
HaCohen Klein

Max
Greenbaum

Paul Castelle

small gallery open. Prices are high, but at least public transport remains a steal at \$2.75/ride.

A webinar sponsored by the ADL, the National Urban League, and the Congressional Caucus on Black Jewish Relations takes place Friday, June 17 at 11:00 am. It is part of the ADL's "Fighting Hate from Home" webinar series, titled "Fighting Hate From Home: Celebrate Juneteenth with the Congressional Caucus on Black Jewish Relations." The ADL works hard to expose and counteract hate of every kind. Please click [here](#) for the registration link.

Also on Friday, services return to 7:30 pm, at the Temple and on Zoom.

Shabbat Shalom,

Cantor Richard Bessman



This Week's Torah Portion



B'haalot'cha

When You Raise [the Lamps]

Numbers 8:1–12:16

Summary:

- God speaks to Moses, describing the menorah for the Tent of Meeting. The Levites are appointed to serve as assistants under Aaron and his sons. (8:1-26)
- Those who are unable to celebrate Passover during Nisan are given a time

Sue Warhaft

Victor Weiss



**Happy
Birthday**

June 7
Elizabeth
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

Bruce and Bobbi
Dubins

[share your birthday](#)

in the month of Sivan to observe a "second Passover." (9:1-14)

- A cloud by day and fire by night show God's Presence over the Tabernacle. When the cloud lifts from the Tabernacle, the people leave Sinai, setting out on their journey, tribe by tribe. (9:15-10:36)
- The Israelites complain about the lack of meat, and Moses becomes frustrated. God tells him to appoint a council of elders. God provides the people with meat and then strikes them with a very severe plague. (11:1-34)
- Miriam and Aaron talk about the "Cushite woman" whom Moses has married. In addition, they complain that God speaks not only through Moses but also through them. Miriam is struck with leprosy, and Moses begs God to heal her. After her recovery, the people resume their journey. (12:1-16)

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



B'er Chayim
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Information:

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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, and 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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