

## Shabbat Update July 9, 2022

To rbessman@berchayim.org

# Shabbat Update

## July 9, 2022

Dear BCC Membership,

We had a terrific Shabbat morning service and oneg last week. Many thanks to those who provided the delicious food! Perfect kickoff to the holiday weekend.

Parashat Chukat is one of the most enigmatic readings of the year. Some events are straightforward; such as Moses' rock-bashing lack of control, Aaron's complicity, the general nastiness of the Amalekites and the Emorites, Jews complaining about food yet again (proving that "eating to live" is a better choice than "living to eat"), and two notable deaths thrown in the mix. Of course, the most interesting part of Chukat happens in the beginning with laws pertaining to the red heifer.

A parah adumah (red heifer) is needed for required purification and not easily found. The implications for us today are many. How we are able to negotiate these spiritually treacherous waters is open to question. Maybe by Friday, we'll have some answers.

I have heard from a few people who are interested in the Israel excursion. Please contact me to add your name to the list or let me know what your preferences are (by cell or email).

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### July 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  
July 8  
7: 30 pm  
EREV  
SHABBAT  
SERVICE  
In person &  
ZOOM**

**Friday  
July 15  
7:30 pm**

Hope to see many of you Friday. The service begins at 7:30 pm in the Temple or on Zoom.

Shabbat Shalom,

Rabbi Hazzan Richard Bessman

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## This Week's Torah Portion

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### *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)

EREV  
SHABBAT  
SERVICE  
In person &  
ZOOM

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### **Yahrzeits for week ending July 9**

Eva Rosenbaum

Elly Gerson  
Daymont

Rebecca Pariser

Miriam Goldie  
Klawan

Sophia  
Serebryanaya



**Happy  
Birthday**

**July 5**  
Beth DeShong  
Harry Haag

**July 14**  
Russ Corwell

**July 18**  
Faye Snow

**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  
Information:

Temple phone:  
301-722-5688

Cantor Bessman  
email:  
[rbessman@berchayim.org](mailto:rbessman@berchayim.org)

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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, and 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.*

### **Manage Your Subscription**

This message was sent to [rbessman@berchayim.org](mailto:rbessman@berchayim.org) from [info@berchayim.org](mailto:info@berchayim.org)

B'er Chayim Congregation  
The Book Center  
107 Union Street  
Cumberland, MD 21502

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