



SUMMER 2015

G E S H E R

Washington Heights Congregation

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Hope You
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A Great
SUMMER

A Message From The Rabbi ...

Enjoying Tisha B'Av?

Special Halachot of Tisha B'Av Falling on Shabbat

by Rabbi Yaakov Hoffman

When Tisha B'Av falls on Shabbat, as it does this year, the fast is deferred to the following day (Saturday evening through Sunday nightfall). The restrictions of Tisha B'Av (eating, drinking, anointing, leather shoes) do not apply at all on Shabbat – one may even eat meat and drink wine in unlimited quantities, as on any other Shabbat that falls during the nine days. However, Ashkenazic custom is to refrain from marital relations unless Friday night is *mikvah* night.

Contemporary practice is to wear Shabbat clothes on the Shabbat prior to Tisha B'Av, including when Tisha B'Av falls on Shabbat. Some have the practice to wear one or more weekday garments surreptitiously. This must be done in a way that others will not recognize that one is not wearing one's usual Shabbat clothes.

The restrictions of Tisha B'Av begin on Saturday at sunset, although Shabbat does not end until nightfall. However, one does not remove one's leather shoes or sit on the floor until after answering "Barechu" in the synagogue. If the Saturday night prayers will take place some time after Shabbat is over, or if one is not planning on going to synagogue, one says *ברוך המבדיל בין קודש לחול* ("Blessed is the one who distinguishes the holy and the profane") at the conclusion of Shabbat, then changes into Tisha B'Av clothes and shoes.

Since the cup cannot be drunk, Havdalah is delayed until Sunday night, when it consists only of the blessing over the wine and the Havdalah blessing. However, the blessing over the candle is recited on Saturday night prior to the reading of Eichah.

When Tisha B'Av is deferred, the rules governing who is required to fast are similar to those of the minor fast days. Hence, pregnant and nursing women, and those who will become weakened or slightly ill by the fast, are exempt from fasting. Some recommend that such people

fast until midday if this is possible with no ill effects. Parents celebrating a Brit Milah or Pidyon Ha-Ben that very day may also eat after midday.

Those who are exempt from fasting must recite Havdalah prior to eating. Havdalah should preferably be made on grape juice or beer rather than alcoholic wine.

Normally, the restrictions of the nine days (haircutting, laundering, meat and wine, etc.) apply until the day after Tisha B'Av at noon. When Tisha B'Av is deferred, this does not apply since the fast itself is essentially observed on "the day after Tisha B'Av." Nevertheless, one may not eat meat or drink wine (except for Havdalah) on the night following the fast. 🕌



Shul Events:

Many thanks to **Giti Hoffman** for providing delicious homemade mezonos to our kiddushes on Pesach and Shabbat Chol HaMoed. **Rabbi Yaakov & Giti Hoffman** sponsored a festive Seudah Shlishit on the last day of Pesach.

On Sunday, April 26th, **Barbara Ribakove Gordon**, Founder and Executive Director of North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry (NACOEJ) gave a very interesting and well-attended talk entitled "Ethiopian Jews in Israel and still in Ethiopia: Status Update".

On Shabbat Behar-Bechukotai, May 16, the shul held its annual **Yom Yerushalayim lunch**. Our own members **Morris Whitcup** and **Ada Maccabee** spoke about the “Impact of the Six Day War on American and Israeli Jewry”. Their talks were personal and reflective, about how they felt at the time as well as considering how the events appear in retrospect.

Continuing our practice of the past few years, we had shiurim before and after mincha on both days of Shavuot. The first day **Rabbi Avrohom Gordimer** spoke about “Kosher Dairy in the 21st Century: An Insider’s Perspective” and **Rabbi Avrohom Hoffman** on “Learning vs. Earning: Torah Perspectives”. On the second day, **Rabbi Yaakov Hoffman** talked about “Receiving the Torah: A Basis for Laxity with Milk and Meat?” and, while Rabbi Hoffman spoke upstairs in the Main Shul at Mt Sinai, **Rabbi Ezra Schwartz** came downstairs and spoke about “Conversion Controversies”.

Upcoming Events:

Rabbi Hoffman will speak about the kinos after Shacharit (beginning at 8:20 AM) on Tisha b’Av.

For the Yomim Noraim, we look forward to having **Leibie Sternberg** as our *ba’al shacharit* and, as we have had for the past two years, **Shmuel Gilbert** as *ba’al musaf*.

Plans for the fall include having a scholar-in-residence and a film program. Details will be announced after the yom tovim.

מזל טוב / Congratulations

To **Bertha Gruenspecht** on the birth of a great-grandson, and to **Naomi & Yechiel Faham** on the birth of a grandson

To **Sonya Jacobs** on the birth of a great-granddaughter, and to **Chani & Mark Gruenbaum** on the birth of a grandson

To **Yitzi & Shira Wolf** on their graduation from S.A.R. High School and to their parents **Tamsin & Bob Wolf**

To **Margo & Nuri Daynish** on the birth of a son **Amitai**, and to **Ariel and Alma** on the birth of a brother

To **Elaine & Sam Samson** on the engagement of their son **Eric**

To **Rabbi Ben Elton**, our former rabbinical intern, now at Lincoln Square Synagogue, on his engagement to **Hinda Young**

To **Ilse Gruenspecht** on the bar mitzvah of a great-grandson

To **Arik & Limor Tawil** on the birth of a daughter **Tiferet Hadassa**, and to **Hod, Hadar, Oz and Chaim Tawil** on the birth of a sister and granddaughter

To **Bertha Gruenspecht** on the birth of a great-grandson

To **Martin Spier** on his 90th Birthday

To **May & Gary Deutsch** and the entire Deutsch family on the engagement of **Naavah (Deutsch) Walker** to **Josh Brown**

Kiddush Sponsors:

April 11, 8th day of Pesach: **Rabbi Yaakov & Giti Hoffman** sponsored Seudah Shlishit

April 18, Shmini: **Nancy & Abe Sclar** on Abe being *Chatan Bereishit*, on **David Sclar's** post-doctoral fellowship at Princeton starting in the fall, and *Nesiah Tova* to **David, Yafit**, and their children on leaving for two months in Oxford

April 25, Tazria-Metzora: **Margot Fein** in celebration of a promotion and her birthday

May 2, Achrei Mot-Kedoshim: sponsored by the shul in honor of **Rabbi Ellis & Leah Bloch**

May 9, Emor: **Martin & Monica Spier**, in celebration of their wedding anniversary and of Martin's liberation from the camps

May 23, Bamidbar: co-sponsored by **Margot Fein** on yahrzeit of her mother **Sylvia Fein** and by **Dvora Hersh** on the yahrzeit of her father **Richard Lowe**

May 24-25, Shavuot: co-sponsored by Anonymous and **Mr. & Mrs. Alexandr Dizenko**

May 30, Naso: **Laura & Morris Whitcup** on the yahrzeit of Morris's father

June 6, Beha'alotcha: **Sheva & Izya Shtaygrud** on the yahrzeit of Sheva's parents

June 13, Sh'lach: **Bob & Tamsin Wolf** to celebrate Yitzi's and Shira's graduation from S.A.R. High School

June 27, Chukat: **the family of Dulcie Zirkind** o'h to mark the end of the shloshim

July 11, Pinchas: **Charles & Marjorie Gregor** to celebrate the 2nd birthday of their grandson Noach

If you are interested in sponsoring a Kiddush, please call the Shul office (212) 923-4407

תפילה לרפואה / Best Wishes for a Speedy Recovery

Mrs. Trude Kahn
Mrs. Rivka Rosenberg

Mr. Ira Schatten
Mrs. Sheva Shtaygrud

Condolences to:

Condolences to the family of our long-time member **Dulcie Zirkind** o'h

Condolences to the family of our long-time member **Hilda Rollhaus** o'h

If you have any questions or needs,
please call the Shul office at (212) 923-4407
The answering machine is checked frequently.
You may also consult our website at www.bridgeshul.com

Washington Heights Congregation Zmanim

Summer 5775

SHABBAT PARASHAT MATOT-MASEI, JULY 17-18

Earliest Candle Lighting time	6:58
Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat	7:10*
Candle Lighting	8:07
Shema	after 9:04
Shacharit	8:40
Mincha	8:05
Maariv/Shabbat ends	9:13

SHABBAT HAZON, PARASHAT DEVARIM, EREV TISHA B'AV JULY 24-25

Earliest Candle Lighting time	6:53
Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat	7:05*
Candle Lighting	8:02
Shema	after 8:58
Shacharit	8:40
Mincha	3:00
Fast begins	8:15
Shabbat ends	9:07

TISHA B'AV, JULY 25-26

Maariv	9:20
Shacharit	8:20
Chatzot	1:02
Fast ends/Havdalah	8:56

SHABBAT NACHAMU, PARASHAT VAETCHANAN JULY 31-AUGUST 1

Earliest Candle Lighting time	6:48
Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat	7:00*
Candle Lighting	7:55
Shema	after 8:50
Shacharit	8:40
Mincha	7:50
Maariv/Shabbat ends	8:58

SHABBAT MEVARCHIM PARASHAT EIKEV AUGUST 7-8

Earliest Candle Lighting time	6:42
Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat	6:55*
Candle Lighting	7:47
Shema	after 8:41
Shacharit	8:40
Mincha	7:45
Maariv/Shabbat ends	8:49

ROSH CHODESH ELUL SHABBAT PARASHAT RE'EH AUGUST 14-15

Earliest Candle Lighting time	6:34
Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat	6:50*
Candle Lighting	7:38
Shema	after 8:31
Shacharit	8:40
Mincha	7:35
Maariv/Shabbat ends	8:38

SHABBAT PARASHAT SHOFTIM AUGUST 21-22

Earliest Candle Lighting time	6:26
Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat	6:40*
Candle Lighting	7:28
Shema	after 8:21
Shacharit	8:40
Mincha	7:25
Maariv/Shabbat ends	8:27

SHABBAT PARASHAT KI TEITZEI AUGUST 28-29

Earliest Candle Lighting time	6:17
Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat	6:30*
Candle Lighting	7:17
Shema	after 8:09

Shacharit	8:40
Mincha	7:15
Maariv/Shabbat ends	8:16

SHABBAT PARASHAT KI TAVO, SEPTEMBER 4-5

Candle Lighting time	7:06
Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat	7:15
Shacharit	8:40
Mincha	7:05
Maariv/Shabbat ends	8:04

SHABBAT PARASHAT NITZAVIM SEPTEMBER 11-12

Candle Lighting	6:54
Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat	7:00
Shacharit	8:40
Mincha	6:50
Maariv/Shabbat ends	7:51

*For those whose families daven with the shul's minyan, candles should be lit no later than 25 minutes after Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat starts

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