

**KIDDUSH IS
SPONSORED BY
Mitch and Barbara
Perlitch**

In honor of
Asher's Bar Mitzvah



**KIDDUSH IS ALSO SPONSORED
BY**

the Board of Directors
of the Shul

To congratulate our **Rabbi and
Rebbitzin** for creating, building
and sustaining Adat Yeshurun for
the past 23 years.

You have established a beautiful
shul and community based on
Hashem, Torah and acts
of loving kindness

**KIDDUSH IS CO-SPONSORED
BY**

David and Melanie Levy with
gratitude to Hashem on the birth of
a granddaughter in
Yerushalayim, a daughter
to **Meir and Chani** and
sister to **Rivka**



MAZEL TOV TO

the **Levy Family** on the birth of a
granddaughter, great granddaughter
and great niece!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS
Alfi Weinbaum and Eva Leitman

**TORAH HIGH ANNUAL CHINESE
AUCTION/CASINO NIGHT**

Sunday evening, March 7, 2010, in the
Social Hall of Beth Israel. Please join
us for a wonderful evening of fun and
friendship in support of Torah High. For
more information, please call the
school at **858.558.6880** for more info.

MINYON SCHEDULE

2/5 Candle Lighting	5:07 p.m.
2/5 Mincha/ Kabbalat Shabbat	5:10 p.m.
Talmud in Depth	8:00 a.m.
Shabbat Morning	9:00 a.m.
Shema-Latest Time	9:22 a.m.
Daf Yomi	4:15 p.m.
Shabbat Mincha	5:00 p.m.
Shabbat ends	6:08 p.m.
Parent Child Learning	6:45 p.m.
Daf Yomi	7:30 p.m.
2/12 Candle Lighting	5:14 p.m.
2/12 Mincha/ Kabbalat Shabbat	5:20 p.m.

THIS COMING WEEK

Sunday Shacharis	8:30 a.m.
Monday & Thursday Shacharis	6:30 a.m.
Tues., Wed. & Fri. Shacharis	6:45 a.m.
Sun.-Thurs. Mincha/Ma'ariv	5:15 p.m.
Mon., Wed., & Thurs. Late Ma'ariv	8:15 p.m.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Sunday - Friday	
Talmud in Depth	7:30 a.m.
Sunday	
Daf Yomi	After Ma'ariv
Monday—	
Ethics	7:30 p.m.
Daf Yomi	8:30 p.m.
Tuesday—	
Talmud I	6:00 a.m.
Women's Class	11:00 a.m.
Reading Hebrew Crash Course	7:30 p.m.
Daf Yomi	8:30 p.m.
Wednesday—	
Talmud I	6:00 a.m.
Prophets	7:30 p.m.
Daf Yomi	8:30 p.m.
Thursday—	
Talmud I	6:00 a.m.
Parsha of the Week	7:30 p.m.
Daf Yomi	8:30 p.m.

SPONSOR A KIDDUSH

For a regular kiddush the Primary
Sponsorship is \$250 (designated as
such in the bulletin).

All cosponsors of kiddush \$125.
Email Linda Neiman at
bulletin@adatyeshurun.org or call
her at **858-759-4226** to reserve your
date.

DATES THAT ARE AVAILABLE:

February 13th, 20th and 27th
March 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th

www.adatyeshurun.org

**CONGREGATION ADAT YESHURUN
WEEKLY NEWS**

Rabbi Jeffrey Wohlgeleenter

Steven Weitzen, President

Volume XVII No. 17

Yitro

22 Shevat, 5770 February 6, 2010



The Torah Reading begins on page 276 in the Hirsch and page 394 in the Stone.
The Haftorah begins on page 854 in the Hirsch and page 1154 in the Stone.

THIS WEEK'S PARSHA opens with Yisro, Moshe's father-in-law, coming to join the Jewish people in the desert. He came as soon as he heard of the miracles Hashem had performed for the Jewish people: splitting of the sea, the victory over Amalek, the falling of the Mon, and the well of water. With him, came Moshe's wife, Tziporah and their two sons, Gershom and Eliezer, whom Moshe had left behind in Midian so as not to add to the number of enslaved Jews in Egypt. Although Yisro lived in the lap of luxury, he nevertheless came to the desert, a wasteland, in order to hearken to the words of the Torah.

THERE IS A debate among the commentaries as to whether we are meant to understand Yisro's reaction to all the miracles as positive or negative. Some believe Yisro was overjoyed at the victory of the Jews and the miraculous intervention by G-d, that this was a source of tremendous inspiration for him. Others believe Yisro had mixed feelings about their success because Egypt was destroyed, which explains why he did not stay with them but rather returned to Midian.

YISRO SENT A message to Moshe informing him of his imminent arrival. Moshe, Aharon, Nadav and Avihu, followed by the rest of the people, went out to greet him. Moshe bowed to Yisro and kissed him, telling him of all the great things that had happened to the Jews through the hands of Hashem, in order to inspire him further. Yisro, who had previously worshipped every idol in the world, now recognized G-d's greatness. Then they sacrificed burnt offerings and peace offerings and sat down to eat.

THE CHRONOLOGY OF the next section of the Torah, describing the innovative legislative system, suggested to Moshe by Yisro, is also a subject of debate among the Sages. According to some, Yisro's suggestions were made before the giving of the Torah. However, Rashi and others indicate it was after Yom Kippur when Moshe came down again with the second set of tablets. Irrespective of when we say, Yisro came. In fact, his actions caused an entire portion of the Torah to be added, which either occurred, or was recorded, before the giving of the Torah. Many of our sages point out the following homiletical understanding: The section dealing with Yisro was recorded before the giving of the Torah to teach us once again, "derech ertz kadmah latorah", proper behavior takes precedence over Torah study. Hashem wanted to insure the Torah was given to a disciplined society, capable of dealing with

PARSHA CONTINUED

the new laws they were to be given, not to a wild, lawless people. Hence the ordering of the judicial system precedes that of the giving of the Torah.

THE ORACH CHAIM makes a very interesting comment. He states this parsha is here to teach us the reason why G-d chose the Jewish people as His nation. It had nothing to do with our wisdom or with cultural superiority, because in truth, we were no better than any other people. Yisro himself had to teach us how to manage ourselves. Rather, it was our spiritual superiority which prepared the Jewish people to be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.

YISRO SUGGESTED TO Moshe, while Moshe sat adjudicating cases for the people, that he was working too hard and inefficiently. He suggested Moshe seek out capable, G-d-fearing men of truth who hated injustice, and appoint them as leaders of thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens. He was to let them administer justice for the people, with the tough cases being brought directly to Moshe for his ruling. Moshe took the advice and set up this new legal system. Part of Yisro's recommendation was that the leaders Moshe Rabbeinu appointed should possess the following qualities: they be capable (which, according to Rashi means wealthy), G-d fearing and truthful and people who hate unjust gain. Yet, we find when Moshe Rabbeinu looked for judges he sought only those who were "anshei chayil", capable men. Our sages differ in their understanding of this discrepancy. The Rambam explains this virtue of being capable includes all of the other qualities, therefore we understand Yisro spelled each one out, whereas Moshe included them all in one. Thus, according to Rambam, Moshe did not ignore the suggestions made by Yisro. The Orach Chaim however, explains Yisro's "four qualities" corresponded to the four ranks of judges he recommended, and therefore when it says Moshe Rabbeinu looked only for anshei chayil, it means he was looking only for judges of thousands, he was not speaking about his search for the others. When Moshe Rabbeinu looked for the other judges, certainly he looked for the quality necessary to each one of those other levels.

THE TORAH RELATES the giving of the Torah and the preparations for this event. On Rosh Chodesh Sivan, the third month after the Exodus (43 days later) the people came to the Sinai desert, camping in the wilderness opposite the mountain. Ohr Hachaim explains this verse in the Torah to indicate the three conditions necessary for receiving the Torah: (1) In the desert: to receive the Torah, one has to make himself humble, like a desert; (2) Israel: we must become like one people with one heart; and (3) they left Refidim: the place of the war with Amalek, which happened because we weakened our resolve to keep G-d's law. Therefore, in order to receive the Torah we needed to 'leave' Refidim by strengthening our resolve.

G-D THEN SPOKE to Moshe instructing him to tell the people they would be receiving the Torah and their commitment to it would result in becoming G-d's special nation of priests and holy ones. Moshe brought back the people's response, that they would do all G-d commanded of them. Hashem then told Moshe He would appear to them in a thick cloud so the people would believe in Moshe as G-d's messenger and in the Torah forever.

HASHEM TOLD MOSHE to instruct them to prepare and sanctify themselves in the mikvah for the giving of the Torah. Hashem also told Moshe to set up a boundary around the mountain so no one would go up during the giving of the Torah.

THE TORAH DESCRIBES how Mount Sinai was in smoke and fire, and the mountain was trembling while there was a sound of a Ram's Horn amidst thunder and lightening. Hashem spoke and Moshe relayed the message to the people.

HASHEM SPOKE TO the people, through Moshe, giving them the Ten Commandments:

1. Belief in Hashem
2. No idol worship
3. No vain oaths
4. Remember the Shabbos
5. Honor your parents
6. No murder
7. No adultery
8. No stealing
9. No bearing false witness
10. No coveting



PARSHA CONCLUDES

THERE ARE FIVE commandments between man and G-d and five between man and man. See if you can figure out why the commandments were given in this order, i.e. with commandment 1 corresponding to 6 and 2 to 7 and so on. Also, what is the connection between 1 and 10, and 5 and 6?

THE PARSHA ENDS with an account of the aftermath of the Divine revelation on Sinai and with some concluding rules about the altar which would eventually be built.

THE FIRST OF the Ten Commandments reads: "Anochi Hashem Elokecha," "I am the Lord your G-d." The question our commentaries grapple with is: Is this one of the 613 commandments that G-d commanded the Jewish people? Can belief, which involves no particular action, be called a mitzvah? Is faith in G-d, which is fundamental to all other mitzvahs, included in the 613? Or is it not a mitzvah at all, but rather a conclusion that is reached naturally through observance? According to the Rambam, this is the first commandment of the "aseres hadibros", the ten commandments, namely that one is obligated to believe, and to know G-d. According to the Bahag and the Abarbanel, however, faith in Hashem is not one of the 613 commandments, but rather the very existence of mitzvahs which stems from the existence of G-d. This knowledge forms the foundation of all 613 commandments, but is not in itself a specific command. However, there are others who believe the verse "Anochi Hashem Elokecha", "I am the Lord your G-d who took you out of the land of Egypt," is in fact one of the 613 mitzvahs. Yet, in accordance with the reference to Egypt, it is not a command to believe in Hashem's existence, but rather to believe Hashem watches over the whole world in general, and over each of its beings individually. The Smag says it is a commandment to believe in the Torah from Sinai.

THE ROSH CHODESH WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB IS RESUMING ITS MEETINGS...THE NEXT MEETING IS...

Sunday, February 14th at 7:30 p.m.

at Marilyn and Gidon Williams' home

We especially welcome newcomers to join with us. For more information, contact Shoshie at thewogies@aol.com

The book club is a relaxed gathering of Adat women who discuss a variety of books each meeting. The sisterhood traveling library is also at the meeting, for borrowing books for the next month. Books have a Jewish theme, and include fiction and nonfiction; humorous and serious.

Soille San Diego Hebrew Day School is having its *first-ever* Tuition Raffle

Prize: \$7,500 Tuition Credit if you are an enrolled family or \$7,500 Cash if not enrolled in the school

Cost: \$100 for 1 ticket or 3 for \$250
All net proceeds benefit the Hebrew Day Scholarship Fund
Contact Gavin Horn to buy a ticket and for further details.



THIN TOGETHER
A personalized Approach to Healthy Weight Loss

Shari Marks Health Coach
619-972-2986 Shari@ThinTogether.com
www.thintogether.com

For every member of Adat that signs up for Thin Together/Take Shape for Life's weight loss program, a donation will be made to Adat Yeshurun.

Shari Marks, Health Coach

SHABBOS MORNING YOUTH PROGRAMING

Groups are:

0-3 year olds (parent(s)

must accompany the child)

4-6 year olds (no parents please)

7-10 year olds

Teen 11-17 years old

Parents please encourage your children to participate in these exciting programs. All Shabbos morning programs will be from 10 a.m. until approximately the end of davening.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES AT ADAT YESHURUN

RSVP Not Necessary...

Just come!

K-3rd Grade

Boys and Girls

PAJAMA PALOOZA!!!

Sunday February 7th

9:30-11:30 a.m.

Cost: \$5/person

SENIOR NCSY

9th-12th Grade Boys and Girls

LA JOLLA LABATON

SHABBATON

February 12th-13th

\$45 Members, \$55 Non-Members

SAVE THE DATE!

ALL AGES!

PRE-PURIM CARNIVAL

Sunday February 21st

2-5 p.m.

Cost: \$7/person.

We wish our visitors a warm La Jolla welcome. Please introduce yourself to the Rabbi and the President so that we can meet and greet you.



LUNCH AND LEARN WITH THE RABBI THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH at NOON

Argen Corporation Auditorium Sorrento Valley—5855 Oberlin Dr.

Sandwiches will be served

RSVP to Julie Shaeffer

858-626-8635 (tel) or

858-626-8652 (fax) or email

julies@argen.com

by the Tuesday before

to facilitate catering.

YOU CAN NOW LISTEN TO THE RABBI'S CLASSES ONLINE!!

www.adatyeshurun.org

Weekly lectures are all on the web for you to listen to anytime you wish!

SAVE THE DATE... FOR THE SHUL GALA JUNE 6, 2010

PARENT-CHILD LEARNING ON SATURDAY NIGHTS AT 6:45



What a wonderful way to spend a Saturday night. A shul filled with parents and their children, exploring the beauties of the Torah together. Pick a subject, or the Rabbi can help you. Pull up a chair and begin to learn.

There will be prizes!

MAKE YOUR RESERVATION FOR THE ANNUAL PURIM

SEUDAH—SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH AT 4 P.M.

~Same price as the past 6 years~

\$ 29.50/Adults 13+

\$ 18/Kids (3-12 yrs. old)



ALL kids 2 and under are FREE

ALL PRICES GO UP \$ 5 ON FEBRUARY 12TH

LAST DAY TO RSVP IS FEBRUARY 19TH, NO EXCEPTIONS

RSVP to Eilite, esaham@adatyeshurun.org

ORDER YOUR SHALACH MANOT AT WWW.HAPPYPURIM.COM

If you didn't receive your letter with your log in code, please call the office so you can participate, 858-535-1196

Shalach Manot orders are due on

Monday, February 22nd



PURIM VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!!

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to help assemble the Shalach Manot on **Sunday, February 21st**, starting at 9:00 a.m. at the shul. We will also have a follow up session on **Wednesday, February 24th at 4:30 p.m.** Even if you can spare just an hour, your help will be most appreciated. Children also are welcome, as long as they are old enough to help. Please contact Nora Laiken (858-452-8275; nlaiken@ucsd.edu) to let her know which day you are coming or if you have any questions.

Also, **WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO HELP ORGANIZE THE DELIVERY ROUTES AND DELIVER THE BASKETS ON PURIM DAY, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH.** Anyone who would like to help can contact Merle Ziman. You may email her at maziman@hotmail.com or **mark the box to help on the www.happypurim.com website.**

We hope you will continue to support our Sisterhood!

Always wish your Sundays were a little more productive?

Send your kids to Torah High's:

"A Day of Camp"

On February 14th 2010

At Soille Hebrew Day School

Drop your kids off from **9 a.m.-1 p.m.** for a fun filled day of crafts, sports, and more. (Snacks will be provided)

Ages 4-10 are welcome. (They will be separated into groups)

\$10/child, cap at \$40

Bring an old white T-shirt to decorate Or White T-shirts will be provided for \$3

For more info. or to reserve your kids' spot call ASAP to THSD office: (858) 558-6880