

The Agudagram

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Sivan 5782

Agudas Israel Congregation
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Debbie Walko, President
Marlene Leonard, Vice President
Richard Rockman, Secretary
Helene Kline, Treasurer
Al Rosen, Financial Advisor
Richard Kline, Financial Officer



Shabbat Candlelighting & Holidays

June 3- Parshat Bamidbar- 8:15PM candlelighting

June 10 Parshat Naso- 8:19PM candlelighting

June 17 Parshat Behalotcha- 8:22PM candlelighting

June 24 Parshat Shelach- 8:24PM candlelighting

Shavuot candlelighting June 5 after 9:23PM

Shavuot candlelighting June 6 at 9:25PM

In the area? Check out our new safety fence that has been installed around the parking lot using the 2020 security grant.

Shavuot services can be streamed from Temple Israel via their Facebook page or link on their website www.templewb.org.

Why We Read The Book of Ruth on Shavuot

The connections between this story and the spring harvest festival.

BY [RABBI RONALD H. ISAACS](#)

In traditional settings, the Book of Ruth is read on the second day of Shavuot. The book is about a Moabite woman who, after her husband dies, follows her Israelite mother-in-law, Naomi, into the Jewish people with the famous words “whither you go, I will go, wherever you lodge, I will lodge, your people will be my people, and your God will be my God.” She asserts the right of the poor to glean the leftovers of the barley harvest, breaks the normal rules of behavior to confront her kinsman Boaz, is redeemed by him for marriage, and becomes the ancestor of [King David](#).

The custom of doing this is already mentioned in the Talmudic tractate of *Soferim* (14:16), and the fact that the first chapter of the [Midrash](#) of Ruth deals with the giving of the Torah is evidence that this custom was already well established by the time this Midrash was compiled. [Tractate Soferim is one of the latest books of the Talmud, probably dating no earlier than the eighth century.]

There are many explanations given for the reading of Ruth on Shavuot. The most quoted reason is that Ruth’s coming to Israel took place around the time of Shavuot, and her acceptance into the Jewish faith was analogous of the acceptance of the Jewish



people of God’s Torah. A second explanation relates to genealogy. Since the Book of Ruth ends with the genealogy of David, whose forbearer Ruth was, it has been suggested that it is read on Shavuot because there is a legend that David died on Shavuot.

Another reason for the reading of Ruth on Shavuot is that its story takes place at harvest time, and Shavuot also occurs at the time of the spring harvest.

Excerpted with permission from [Every Person’s Guide to Shavuot](#) ([Jason Aronson, Inc.](#)).

Why Dairy on Shavuot?

A survey of the many explanations given for the tradition of eating milk products.

BY [LESLI KOPPELMAN ROSS](#)

Although everyone agrees that the food of choice for Shavuot is cheese, most typically [blintzes](#), or a [Sephardic](#) equivalent such as [bourekas](#), there are differences of opinion (some quite charming) as to why it is a custom.

Some derive the practice directly from scripture, saying we eat dairy to symbolize the “land flowing with [milk and honey](#)” ([Exodus 3:8](#)) promised to the Israelites, or that “milk and honey are under your tongue” ([Song of Songs 4:11](#)). These passages, along with “The precepts of the Lord are... sweeter than honey” ([Psalm 19:9-11](#)) also indicate we should eat honey, which is customary in some communities.

A sage discovered that the initials of the four Hebrew words in [Numbers 28:26](#), which describe the sacrificial meal offering on Shavuot, spell *mei halav* (from milk), suggesting that dairy food is the acceptable dinner for the festival. At Sinai, the Israelites were considered to be as innocent as newborns, whose food is milk.

Those of [kabbalistic](#) [mystical] bent [equate the numerical value](#) of the word *halav*, 40 (‘het’=8, ‘lamed’=30, ‘vet’=2), with the number of days Moses spent on Mount Sinai receiving the [Ten Commandments](#) and other teachings ([Exodus 24:18](#)). Others look to the mountain itself, which is termed in Psalms mount of *gavnunim* (68:15), meaning many peaks. They connect that

description with the Hebrew word *gevinah*, meaning cheese.

Scholars who trace all Jewish customs and rituals to practices common among various ethnic groups claim that spring harvest festivals characteristically featured dairy dishes, perhaps because cheese was produced during that season.

There is also support for the custom based on the spiritual development among the Israelites in the wake of Sinai. After the Torah was given, they were obligated to follow its laws, including those governing dietary practice. As they returned to the camp from Revelation, they



could not eat the previously prepared meat, which had not been done according to the laws of *kashrut* [dietary restrictions]. Since butchering and cooking fresh meat would take too long for the tired, hungry Israelites, they took the dairy food that was readily available. Symbolizing modesty, the dairy was also seen as appropriate for the occasion of receiving the Torah, which should always be approached with humility.

In some Jewish communities, it is customary to follow the traditional dairy meal with a meat dish (after waiting the requisite 30 minutes per the laws of [kashrut](#), except in places where the rabbis waived the normal separation). The two foods represent the two loaves brought on the festival. We are also supposed to eat meat as a contribution to our joy on a festival day. This can cause practical problems, however, not only in terms of the time lapse, but because you cannot mix milk and meat dishes and utensils. Therefore, it is more common to have a dairy meal on the first evening of Shavuot and then serve meat the next day.

Along with [blintzes](#) and [bourekas](#), [cheesecake](#) is a widely popular Shavuot item. Some eat [kreplach](#), three-cornered dumplings that are often filled with meat but can be cheese filled or even vegetable filled. They are supposed to remind us of the Bible, which is comprised of three sections ([Torah, Nevi'im and Ketuvim](#) / Torah, Prophets and Writings), which was given to Israel through Moses, who was the third child of Amran (after Aaron and Miriam), following three days of preparation ([Exodus 19:11](#)) in the third month of the year ([Exodus 19:1](#)).

Excerpted from [Celebrate! The Complete Jewish Holiday Handbook](#). Reprinted with permission from Jason Aronson Inc.




June (Sivan) Yahrzeits

May the memory of the righteous endure as a blessing.

The yahrzeit plaque lights are on in the sanctuary in memory of our departed loved ones.

*Numbers before each name correspond to the Hebrew date of their passing. The date after each name is the secular day of the yahrzeit. Yahrzeit candles should be lit the evening before this date burning through the day of their passing. Kaddish should be said the evening before and the day of the date of passing.

SIVAN



3 Anna Fishman 1	15 Sol Schmerin 13
4 David Bishop 2	15 Sandra Graylin 13
4 Jonas Steiner 2	15 Bertha Schwartz
4 Samuel Jaffe 2	15 Lillian Keich 13
7 Stanley Brenner 5	15 William Silverman 13
7 Louis Matlow 5	17 Helen Burkat 15
7 Sylvia Narrow 5	18 Anna Stolboff 16
8 Harry Goldberg 6	18 Herbert Narrow 16
9 Gertrude Gordon 7	20 Edna Glass 18
10 Eva Kahn Landy 8	20 Morris Bar 18
10 Rabbi Joseph Miller 8	21 Max Figlin 19
10 Rochelle Goldman 8	23 Sgt. Harry Cohn 21
10 Blanche Schwartz 8	24 Louis Syken 22
11 Benjamin Glass 9	24 Richard Lande 22
11 Benjamin Levine 9	24 Fanny Kline 22
11 Sidney Bauer 9	24 Simon Lande 23
11 Aaron Lintz 9	25 Arnold Berg 23
12 Joseph Brown 10	25 Michael Brenner 23
12 Jakob Spanier 10	25 Bessie Glickman 23
13 Bessie Brenner 11	27 Carl Jaffe 25
13 Faye Orkin 11	28 Dorothy Druian 26
13 Sarah Deitch 11	28 Abraham Brownstein 26
14 Elizabeth Gildenberg 12	30 Ely Abramson 28

Prayers To Recite When Lighting the Yahrzeit Candle

“I light this candle to bring peace to the soul of _____ (insert Jewish name) ben/bat (son of/daughter of) _____ (insert father’s Jewish name).”
The human soul is a light from God. May it be your will that the soul of (*insert name*) enjoy eternal life, along with the souls of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah, and the rest of the righteous that are in Gan Eden. Amen.

Neir Adonai Nishmat Adam. Yehi Ratzon Milfanecha, Adonai Eloheinu Veilohei Avoteinu, Shetehei Nishmat (insert name) Tzerurah betzeror hachayim, im nishmot Avraham Yitzchak ve’Ya’akov, Sarah, Rivkah, Rachel VeLeah. Tehi Menutchatah kavod, Selah

We greatly appreciate donations for yahrzeits, life events, and other celebrations! They truly keep the shul running and show how strong our congregation is.

If you'd like information about donating, please email us at agudasisraelhazleton@gmail.com or call the shul.



GET WELL WISHES ARE EXPRESSED TO: BOBBIE KLEMOW, LEANNE TRATTNER, SHIRLEY BRENNER, & EILEEN BRENNER.

SHOULD ANYONE HAVE ANY NEWS TO SHARE WITH THE AIC FAMILY, PLEASE EMAIL IT TO AGUDASISRAELHAZLETON@GMAIL.COM TO RUN IN THE NEXT AGUDAGRAM!

A Prayer for Ukraine shared by Art Kaplan



Holy One, Source of Strength,
War has begun, and innocent people are dying.
We ask Your protection for Ukraine and its citizens.
We pray for their safety and the security of the country,
and for the neighboring countries—Hungary, Poland, and Rumania, among others—that have opened their borders to provide humanitarian corridors

and safe passage for all those who wish to evacuate.

We seek the comfort of believing that everything will be all right,

even in the face of insurmountable odds.

Quiet the fears that threaten to deafen us; grant us Shleimut—

the inner peace we so desperately seek. Help us remain calm and reach out to those in need.

May this horrific situation be diffused swiftly with minimal casualties.

Bless our world leaders with the ability to work together for the greater good,

and the wisdom to make wise decisions during this turbulent time.

Bless the people of all nations with the desire, strength and courage

to create a world based on justice and filled with peace.

May the words of Isaiah 2:4:

“Nation shall not lift up sword against nation;

neither shall they learn war anymore”

become true in our day—in this very hour.

Source of Goodness, shine Your healing light on us

and all those in the Ukraine we hold in our hearts.

Shelter us, shield us, show us the path to peace.

May we each be inspired to use our unique gifts to usher in an era of enduring peace.

And let us say: Amen.

**SHEILA IS RESIDING AT ST. LUKE'S PAVILION.
VISITATION AT ST. LUKE'S IS NOW OPEN TO THE
PUBLIC. PLEASE WEAR A MASK SHOULD YOU LIKE TO
VISIT AND REFRESH HER MEMORY OF HER LIFE WITH
US! LAURIE TEVLIN KLEMOW VISITS SHEILA WEEKLY.
PLEASE EMAIL HER AT LTEVLIN@PTD.NET WITH ANY
MESSAGES YOU'D LIKE TO PASS ON TO SHEILA OR IF
YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEND HER A CARD, YOU MAY
SEND IT TO:**

**SHEILA MOYER
C/O ST. LUKE'S PAVILION
1000 STACIE DR. ROOM 202
HAZLETON, PA 18201**

MAY DONATIONS RECEIVED

Yahrzeit Fund

<u>From:</u>	<u>In Memory of:</u>
Thomas Kline	Isadore J. Kline, Father
Ruth Goldstein	Betty Phillips, Aunt
Lenny & Annie Brenner	Joseph Brenner, Father
Lois Kline Bailey	Jeanne Kline, Mother
Shayna Geller by Edward Geller	Isaac Jaffe, Grandfather
Bruce S. Miller	Cecelia Miller, Mother
Larry Janowitch	Edna Janowitch
Faye & Richard Bishop	Samuel Gandell, Grandfather
Marilyn Bergstein	Hannah Cohn, Mother
Ruthie Goldstein	Sara Goldstein, Mother
Ruthie Goldstein	Hal Goldstein, Brother
Faye & Richard Bishop	Sidney Schwartz, Friend and Neighbor
Lois Sugarman	Kalman Sugarman, Father-in-Law
Carlos & Sharon Buchbinder	Rudolph Suess, Grandfather
Beulah Bishop	Sam Gandell, Father

Endowment Fund

	In Celebration of BEULAH BISHOP'S 100th Birthday	
	Barry & Karen Chaskin	
	Marsha & Lee Glassberg	
	In Memory of EVELYN GRAHAM	
	Richard Rockman	
	In Memory of JEFF MASON	
	Marsha & Lee Glassberg	
	In Celebration of ROSEANNE BISHOP NAMM'S Birthday on June 9th	
	Richard & Faye Bishop	
	In Memory of ESSY DAVIDOWITZ	
	Richard & Faye Bishop	

AIC NEWS

Rhoda Starker's unveiling will take place June 12 at 1PM at the Agudas Israel Cemetery. A kiddush in the shul's social hall will immediately follow. All are welcome to attend in Rhoda's memory.

Agudas Israel Congregation -
1 of 3 organizations in
Luzerne County to be
awarded funding through the
2022 Non-Profit Security
Grant program.



Agudas Israel Congregation has successfully secured an additional \$17,788 in state funding through the 2022 NPSG program as part of more than \$5 million that was awarded to protect diverse communities throughout the state.

Working with the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, we donated \$1000 To Ukrainian relief efforts.

We also donated \$200 through St. Mary's Ukrainian Church in McAdoo. They have raised nearly \$27,000 in Humanitarian Aid for the people of Ukraine through several initiatives supporting refugees involving transport of humanitarian convoys and supplies.

Our new roof will be going on soon and interior repairs will begin to be completed before high holiday.

JUNE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Shalom,
Happy Shavuot to all.

The highlight of my message is the wonderful feeling we experienced last Shabbat as we held services in our beautiful chapel. I, along with others, were overtaken by emotions throughout the service especially when we were able to take the Torah out and perform the Torah service which has not occurred in a very long time. I felt that God put his arms around us and embraced us with his joyful presence. I want to thank Richard Kline for the outstanding job in leading us with his beautiful voice. Howard Narrow was also amazing in assisting with the Torah service and performing the

Haftarah.

The Kline and Narrow family tradition continues to keep our shul moving forward. I am asking our community to please join us for two hours of inspirational weekly prayer services and to continue having our necessary 10-person minyan. You can easily join us on Zoom if you are not available in person.

Thank you to Sara Friedman who will be providing us with a link to join Temple Israel Shavuot and Yizkor services for Sunday and Monday.

We wish Lois Sugarman all the best with her move to North Carolina where she will be closer to her daughter. Her new address and phone number is included below if you would like to send her well wishes:

748 Hazel Way
Denver, NC 28037
704-966-0383

Please join the family of Rhoda Starker for her unveiling on June 12 at 1:00pm at Agudas Israel Cemetery. A Kiddush will follow at the Synagogue.

Enjoy the lovely sunshine and warm weather this month brings us!

All the best,

Debbie Walker