

Times of Services

If you don't already do so, come to at least one Shacharit and one Minchah each week – you'll love it!

Next Shabbat Dinner June 6th

Shabbat 5/16-5/17/08:

Candle Lighting 7:47 PM

Friday Mincha and Maariv 7:00 PM

Shabbat Shacharit 9:30 am

followed by Kiddush

Mincha 7:45 PM

Seuda Shlishit followed by Marriv:

Shabbat ends 8:55 PM

Sunday 5/18/08:

- Shacharit 8:30 AM
- Minchah 8:00 PM
- Bible project 7:00 PM
- The Mystery of Destiny—The book of Job—8:10 PM

Monday 5/19/08:

- Shacharit. 6:30 AM
- Minchah/Maariv 8:00 PM

Tuesday 5/20/08–Thurs 5/22/08:

- Shacharit. 6:45 AM
- Torah Class 8:10—9 @ JCC-Tuesdays
- Minchah/Maariv 8:00 PM

This month the joint Agudas -Young Israel Mincha/Maariv service will be held at Young Israel of West Hartford

Announcements

Board meeting Monday May 19th

Annual Meeting Sunday June 15th at 10:00am

We had an interesting shabbat hosting Eleonora Shifrin and hearing her views on Israel and the diaspora. A big yishar co-ach to Lenny and Renanna for organizing this event, Ann, Michael, Eli, Esia, Abby, the Rabbi and Gary for cooking and set-up (and all those who helped them). We also thank the Zachs family and Rick and Roberta for helping sponsor this event.

Sponsor A Kiddush!

***A SCHEDULE OF DATES IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR KIDDUSHIM
CELEBRATE A SIMCHA — BIRTHDAY,
ANNIVERSARY, BAR/BAT-MITZVAH,
GRADUATION, ETC.***

Starting at

Costs vary from \$ 105 - \$175

Co-sponsor \$55

For more details, please contact the shul

**Please sponsor a Seuda Shlishit
(third meal on shabbat), cost is \$20.
Contact Bob Birnbaum 236-4914
for more information**

Congregation Agudas Achim
1244 N. Main St.
West Hartford, CT 06117

Weekly Calendar
5/16/08-5/22/2008

Agudas Achim
Weekly News



Parshat Behar

**In the Hertz
Chumash on pg 531**

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The Weekly Haftorah

By: Reuben Ebrahimoff - The Haftorahman

The Haftorah for Parshat Behar

The Haftorah is read from the book of Yirmiyahu (Jeremiah), 32:6-27

Jeremiah Buys a Field in the City of Anatot

The connection of the Haftorah to the Parsha: There are 3 connections between the Parasha and the Haftorah: #1) The **Parasha** of Behar deals with the laws of "Geula", redemption of property (land). Similarly, the **Haftorah** gives an account of Yirmiyahu purchasing a field. #2) at the beginning of the Parsha of Behar, it informs us of the laws of Shmitta, the commandment that one must let his fields rest for 1 year, once every seven years. The sages teach us that as because B'nai Yisrael failed to observe seventy Shmitta years (7x70= 490 years) Hashem exiled the Jews to Bavel for seventy years. The Haftorah tells us of this punishment by mentioning the Babylonian army's impending conquest of Jerusalem. #3) both the Torah and the Haftorah contain similar hints to the final redemption.

The storyline of this week's Haftorah: Jeremiah the "weeping prophet" has been jailed by Zedkiyahu, the (last) King of Judah, because of his prophecies that recommended that the Jews surrender to Nebuchadnezzar, King of Bavel, instead of fighting against them. Obviously, King Zedkiyahu had a different opinion. The Haftorah begins here: a divine word instructs Jeremiah to purchase ancestral land from his cousin Hanamel that he does according to the legal practice. Jeremiah then instructs his aide Baruch to preserve the documents as lasting proof. (I was in the Levitical city of Anatot which was located 2 miles north of Jerusalem and was Jeremiah's home town!) His father, Chilkiyahu, a Kohen (who may have been the same Chilkiyahu that found the Torah Scroll Moses wrote while cleaning out the Bait Hamikdash for King Josiah) lived there with other very pious people. Jeremiah seeks to understand the symbolic meaning of the purchase. Yirmiyahu first praises Hashem with prayer, and then requests an explanation of Hashem's command. Hashem replies that due to Israel's and Judah's straying after Idolatry and turning their backs on Hashem, the Babylonians will conquer Jerusalem. (Not to worry, Hashem will return B'nai Yisrael to their fields and cities).

Famous Phrases: Jeremiah 17:7, "*Baruch hagever asher yivtach ba'Hashem*" "Blessed is the man who trusts in Hashem and Hashem will be his helper." Recited in the Birchat Hamazon, Grace after Meals.

Haftorahman's Lesson of the week: Hashem made Yirmiyahu buy a field, so that he would have the deed to the land in his hand. That way Jeremiah would know that one-day his property in Israel would be reclaimed. We too have a great deal to look forward to.

Announcements

LET'S CELEBRATE TOGETHER!

Friday June 6th

SPECIAL ISRAELI DINNER

Spirited Mincha/Maariv service at 6:00pm

Dinner at 7:00pm

Special program

Limited to 80 people, please call & make reservations by June 3th

Adults \$15, Children (ages 6-12) \$10, Family Cap \$50

Congregation Agudas Achim
1244 North Main Street
West Hartford, Connecticut
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Smile of the week

"This is Syrian Air Force Flight. We ave lost one engine and want to land at any airport in the Middle East OTHER than Israel!"

No answer.

A while later he announces, "This is Syrian Air Force Flight 174 again. We have now lost two engines and need to land at any airport in the Middle East OTHER than Israel!"

Silence.

A short while later the captain announces, "This is Syrian Air Force flight 174 We are desperate.....We have now lost THREE engines an urgently ask permission to land at any airport in the Middle East OTHER than Israel!"

Still no answer .

Finally the captain calls out, "Help! This is Syrian Air Force Flight 174. We have only one engine left and it is rapidly failing. Unless we can land we are going to crash. We need permission to land at ANY airport in the Middle East INCLUDING Israel!"

Shortly thereafter, a voice is heard in the Syrian cockpit:

"Shalom Syrian Air Force Flight 174. This is Tel Aviv approach control. We would like to help."

"Allah is praised," says the Syrian pilot. "Please give me instructions."

"Do you speak Hebrew?" "No"
"OK, then please repeat after me:.....YITGADAL VIYITKADASH SHI-MAY RABBAH..

Helene H

If you would like to submit a "smile of the week" please email Renana Kadden at kaddenn@comcast.net