

# Beth Israel Sinai News

The Monthly Newsletter of Beth Israel Sinai Congregation

June 2023     Sivan / Tammuz 5783

## Rabbi's Message

Our journey towards both "physical" and "spiritual" freedom began on the second night of Passover. With a mighty hand and fearsome force, G-d enabled us to escape our Egyptian captivity. But the ancient Israelites were not ready to accept G-d's greatest gift. Nor were they able to assume the responsibility as G-d's Chosen People. Constantly complaining to their leader Moses about a lack of food and water, building a Golden Calf and more than once demanding a return to the "good life" in Egypt, our ancestors could not escape their slave mentality in bred over 400 years. Only a new generation, untainted by PREVIOUS PERSECUTION, would be ready to accept G-d's greatest gift— the Torah. Only a new generation, untainted by SLAVERY, would be ready to accept the Word of G-d.

On the second night of Passover, we began our spiritual countdown of 49 days leading up to receiving the Torah on Shavuot. During this period many historical events occurred. During the first thirty-two days of counting the Omer, 24,000 students of the saintly Rabbi Akiva lost their lives. What caused this tragedy? Though extremely talented, they were afflicted by a terrible plague caused by their failure to treat each other with mutual respect. That is why many Jews consider this period of time of "semi-mourning". Weddings and B'nai Mitzvot are not scheduled on this day. People conduct pilgrimages to both the graves of Rabbi Akiva and the author of the Kabbalah, Rabbi Shimon bar Yohai. We continue our countdown for another 16 days until we reach the holiday of Shavuot.

Shavuot has many different names. They include: "Chag Ha'Shavuot" (the Festival of Weeks); "Yom Ha'Bikkurim" (the Day of the First Fruits) and "Chag Ha-Katzir" (the Harvest Festival). Along with Pesach and Sukkot, Shavuot is one of the Three Pilgrim Festivals when Jews throughout ancient Israel traveled to Jerusalem for communal prayers and rituals sacrifices. The holiday falls on the sixth day of the Hebrew month of Sivan—exactly 50 days from the second Pesach seder.

Most importantly, Shavuot is known as "Z'man Matan Torateinu," the time of the giving of the Torah. According to tradition, the ancient Israelites stayed up all night eagerly anticipating the return of Moses with the Holy Covenant. Upon his descent from Mt. Sinai, Jews thanked G-d for the return of their leader and the miraculous gift bestowed upon them.

Imagine what it must have been like to be at Sinai over 3,000 years ago. "with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm "G-d led you out of Egypt." You were accompanied by over 600,000 soldiers and their families who escaped from the tyranny of Pharaoh. You witnessed G-d's wrath and supreme power during the Ten Plagues. Unsatisfied with the leadership of Moses and Aaron, you participated in the building of the Golden Calf. You heard how Nadav and Abihu were consumed by a "Strange Fire" in the Mishkan for entering intoxicated. Finally you saw the grandson of the Co-han Ha-Gadol (High Priest), Pinchas kill those responsible for trying to assimilate with the Canaanite nations. G-d provided you with "manna" for sustenance and the promise of your own nation. This land, called Israel, would "FLOW WITH MILK AND HONEY."

The Torah (Instruction) was provided as a blueprint for that society. This Divine Masterpiece contained laws on social, religious and ethical conduct. The earliest medical theories and cures for diseases were written down. All this was given to you and your brothers and sisters. Your nation was chosen to be an "Ohr la-Olam" - A CULTURAL LIGHT TO THE WORLD. No wonder our ancestors waited and prayed all night in anticipation of G-d's greatest gift.

In celebration of this momentous occasion, Jews around the world on the first night of Shavuot will be studying TORAH all night.

Join us for our ZOOM Tikkun la-el Shavuot Thursday evening, May 25th, and 8 pm. Our discussion will include: 1. The Book of Ruth, 2. The giving of the Torah on Shavuot, 3. The Ten Commandments, 4. Ask the Rabbi.

Everyone is encouraged to participate in this exciting evening. If there is a particular subject you wish to explore, email it to me at: rabbimartyn@gmail.com May we continue to grow from strength to strength as a "kehillah ka-dusha," a HOLY CONGREGATION..

**SEE YOU SOON  
CHAG SAMEACH  
RABBI Marty**

If you have a member of family or a friend who was a member of Beth Israel Sinai and you have a short story about them that you would like to write I will put that story in the Yahrzeit section of the newsletter. You can send me the articles whenever you have time and I will keep them in a file to use on the month of their yahrzeit. Please either send in mail to our address or email to [president@bethisraelsinai.org](mailto:president@bethisraelsinai.org).

I want to thank Steve Pedersen for taking on the job of making our small front garden look so nice.

This will be the last newsletter until September. Once again the newsletter let me know it needed a vacation.

In June it is Sarah Levin's birthday. We all want to wish her a very happy birthday.

### **Cemetery Notes**

The Racine Jewish Cemetery is five acres located at 612 Lathrop Ave. It is a well maintained, park-like setting. A resting place for all Jews. .

There is a Reform section of the cemetery where Jews and their non-Jewish family members can be buried together.

For more information about the purchase of cemetery plots or perpetual care, please call Marc Greenberg 702-465-4805

### **ZOOM LINK INFO**

**ID Number 811 5151 1468**

**Passcode 833720**

**Phone number**

**1-312-626-6799**

### **The Presidents Message**

You can easily join our synagogue family we have affordable full memberships and we have associate memberships for those who may live too far from us to become an active member. Whether you want to attend weekly or just when you have time please consider joining with a membership. Your membership helps to keep our synagogue open and vital.

If there are any programs you think would be interesting and they are on zoom let us know and we can try to have the program on zoom for you to enjoy at the synagogue. We just watched an interesting program on the Architects of Auschwitz.

You can reach me by phone 262-945-7675

Joyce Placzkowski President

Rabbi Adelberg is offering free Hebrew classes to children. Please call Rabbi Adelberg 847-529-1609 to setup appointments. Donations to the Rabbi's discretionary account are always welcome, and tax deductible.

Louise Langlieb

February 22, 1926—June 4, 2020

Born Louise Haskell, February 22, 1926 in Hartford, Connecticut. She was 1 of 8, three brothers and 5 sisters. Her father was a junk dealer, dealing in tires and batteries from a small barn behind the house. This was the depression years, but they got by. She graduated from Weaver High School, and worked at G. Fox Dept. Store. She met my father, Edward, at a singles dance at the Knights of Columbus hall in Hartford. He was in the Army and sent to Burma. When he returned at the war's end, they married in November 1945 in Hartford.

They moved in with Dad's parents in St. Albans, Queens, where Barry was born a year later. Soon after they bought their one and only home in West Hempstead, where they lived for the next 57 years. Soon Don and Claudia were born and this is where my Mom made a life for her family.

Louise was a collector of friends, many friends. There were neighbor friends, temple friends, other Jewish friends, work friends, garden club friends. Well you get the picture. Over the years she brought many of this disparate people together where they all made new friends. A lot of this in her home. She loved to cook and have others enjoy her food.

Her home was the center of many gatherings from holiday dinners, dinners with friends, to summer barbeques with different groups of family and friends. One group was made up of 5 couples. For every anniversary they would rotate homes and prepare dinners to celebrate and enjoy each others company. This went on for decades.

Louise was loving to all, kind, and welcoming. She helped neighbors, volunteered, and listened to those who needed to talk. One of the volunteer groups was the "Cancer Group", sewing cancer bandages for local hospitals, that met weekly.

Louise was always willing to listen, always with reason. Never saying one bad word about anybody. She always found the good in everybody. She put in the time and loving effort to foster relationships, both old and new. She made the effort to keep relationships going. As a result she had an ever expanding circle of people who cared about her. It didn't take much for new acquaintances to become her friend because she treated everyone with kindness and heart. A couple of weeks before she passed away, the siblings Barry, Don, and Claudia had a family video call with her. In the era of Covid, in the nursing facility, Lakewood at Sienna, in Racine, Wisconsin, no guests had been allowed in for at least a couple of months. So we were all together visiting on screen, and it was wonderful. That was our last meaningful conversation when I asked about her nickname "Libby", She tiredly said "I think it was Lieba". After that she kept getting weaker every day.

It was just 5 or 6 weeks later I ordered he memorial plaque for her Temple in Racine, Beth Israel Sinai Congregation. Her Hebrew name is Lieba bat Kalman, Now, ironically, she married a Langlieb. Lang Lieb L-I-E-B. "long love". So after a long story we are now at the essence of who our mom was: Libby –Lieba-lieb: ALL mean the same thing LOVE. She was all love, ALL the time.

#### **Sisterhood**

If anyone is interested in sponsoring a Kiddush just let Joyce Placzkowski know, 1 -262-945-7675. The charge for a dairy Kiddush is \$50, meat Kiddush is \$100. The kitchen can always use paper goods. If you are interested in helping to make food for the Kiddush or a Shabbat dinner just let Joyce Placzkowski know.

**Anonymous general donation**

**Joyce Placzkowski general donation**

**Anonymous general donation**

**Max Gordon in memory of Jim Wiener**

**Max Gordon in honor of Sarah Levin's birthday**

**Max Gordon in memory of Evelyn Gordon**

Beth Israel Sinai  
3009 Washington Ave  
Racine WI 53405

262-633-7093

Email:

president@bethisraelsinai.org

treasurer@bethisraelsinai.org

rabbi@bethisraelsinai.org

Web: www.bethisraelsinai.org

**BETH ISRAEL SINAI**  
**June 2023**  
**Sivan / Tammuz 5783**

**Shabbat & Holiday Candle Lighting Times**

June 2 8:06  
June 9 8:11  
June 16 8:15  
June 23 8:16  
June 30 8:16



# June 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1	2	3 10 am service in person and zoom
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 10 am service in person and zoom
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 10 am service in person and zoom
18 Father's Day	19	20	21 Summer begins	22	23	24 10 am service in person and zoom
25	26	27	28	29	30	