

ANSHE EMET SYNAGOGUE

July 4, 2020 • 12 Tammuz 5780

Chukat-Balak

Please proceed to WWW.ANSHEEMET.ORG/LIVESTREAM
to view our Shabbat morning service.



THE MUSIC PROJECT

Let's talk about music.

Join us for a Community Conversation.

July sees the continuation of small-group Zoom-based Community Conversations. Members of the Az Yashir Task Force will continue to speak in depth with people from our community to further refine a vision of music moving forward.

Interested in participating?

Email music@ansheemet.org for more information.

Keep enjoying our playlist: www.ansheemet.org/azyashir

Send us your feedback: music@ansheemet.org

Transliteration of the Prayer for the State of Israel:

Avinu sheh-bashamayim, tsur Yisrael v'goal, bareikh et m'dinat Yisrael reishit ts'michat g'ulateinu. Hagein aleha b'evrat chasdekha ufros aleha sukot sh'lomekha, ushlach or'kha va'amit'kha l'rasheha sareha v'yoatseha, v'tak'neim b'eitsa tovah mil'fanekha. Chazeik et y'dei m'ginei eretz kodsheinu, v'hanchileim Eloheinu y'shua, va'ateret nit-sachon t'at'reim. V'natata shalom ba'arets v'simchat olam l'yosh'veha, v'nomar: Amen.



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Shabbat Shalom and Welcome!

We welcome you to Anshe Emet Synagogue and hope that you enjoy our worship service. If you are a visitor, please introduce yourself so we may welcome you and wish you Shabbat Shalom. Everyone is invited to join our community for Kiddush lunch following services.

Mission Statement

Anshe Emet Synagogue seeks to encourage involvement and create a special sense of belonging. We are committed to meeting the religious, educational, social, and cultural needs of our members within the framework of the Conservative Movement. In keeping with the teachings of Judaism and the spirit of Klal Yisrael, we recognize our responsibility to serve the Jewish community, the wider community and the state of Israel.

Michael S. Siegel • Senior Rabbi, Norman Asher Rabbinic Chair

Alberto Mizrahi • Hazzan, Arnold H. Kaplan M.D. Cantorial Chair

David Russo • Rabbi

D'ror Chankin-Gould • Rabbi

Elizabeth Berke • Hazzan Sheini

Naomi Weiss-Weil • Ritual Director

Art Friedson • President

Boni Fine • Executive Director

Established 1873

Affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

3751 North Broadway • Chicago, Illinois 60613-4104

AnsheEmet.org • 773.281.1423

Parsha Summary

Chukat / This Is The Statute / Numbers 19:1-22:1

Chukat begins with one of the most complex and puzzling rituals in the Torah: That of the red heifer. This cow must be completely red, and its ashes are used to remove the most severe degree of tumah (impurity); that of contact with a corpse.

The Israelites resume their journey, this time to the wilderness of Zin, at Kadesh. There, the prophet Miriam dies and is buried. At that time, there is a drought, and the people begin to rebel against Moses and Aaron once again. God instructs Moses and Aaron to take the rod, gather the people, and order the rock to produce water, as a miraculous sign of God's providence. Instead of doing as God instructs, Moses strikes the rock, twice. Water gushes from the rock, and the people drink and water their animals. God, however, is angry with Moses for lacking sufficient faith to simply speak to the rock, and therefore ordains that Moses will not enter Eretz Yisrael. The place receives the name Meribah, meaning "quarrel".

Moses contacts the king of Edom, requesting permission to pass through his land, but the king refuses his request. Edom sends out an army to attack the Israelites, so they turn away, seeking another route toward their goal.

At Mount Hor, Aaron dies, and is mourned by the entire people. His son, Eleazar, becomes the new Kohen Gadol (high priest).

The king of Arad attacks the Israelites in the Negev, near Atarim. Israel emerges victorious, and renames the place Hormah, meaning "destruction."

As they continue their march, the people again start to complain about God and Moses. As punishment, God sends serpents, which bite and kill many of the people. The people plead with Moses to intercede, and God tells him to construct a copper snake statue, called Nehushtan. When people look on it, they are immediately healed.

The march continues to the border of Moab on the east, to Be'er, where there was a famous spring of water, and finally to Pishgah. Moses sends messengers to Sihon, the king of the Amorites, requesting permission to pass through. Instead of acceding, Sihon launches an attack, and he is routed. The lands of the Amorites, and the town of Heshbon, are now occupied by the Israelites. A similar encounter with Og, king of Bashan, leads to a second Israelite victory. The parashah ends with the Israelites victorious and encamped on the very borders of the Promised Land, across the Jordan River from the city of Jericho.

Balak - Numbers 22:2 - 25:9

Balak, the king of Moab, seeks to hire Balaam, a soothsayer of great repute, to curse the Israelites so he can defeat them. When the elders offer this invitation to Balaam, he tells them to wait so he can inquire as to God's wishes. God tells him not to go with the Moabites, nor to curse the Israelites, since they are a blessed people. The dignitaries return to Balak, who sends another delegation. Once more, Balaam inquires of God, and God permits Balaam to go with them, but insists that "whatever I command you, that you shall do."

Balaam saddles his donkey and proceeds. But God is furious at Balaam and sends an angel with a drawn sword. The donkey sees the angel and swerves from the path, but Balaam beats it to force it to return. This happens again and again, until God causes the donkey to speak, berating Balaam for his lack of gratitude or vision. Then God allows him to see the threatening angel.

When Balaam arrives, he tells Balak, "I can utter only the words that God puts into my mouth." They make a sacrifice, and then Balak leads Balaam to a place where he can see some of the Israelite encampment. Balaam builds seven altars and offers seven bulls and rams. God tells Balaam what to say. This is a blessing that includes the famous description of the Jews: "There is a people that dwells apart, Not reckoned among the nations... May I die the death of the upright, May my fate be like theirs!"

Balak is distraught that the seer he hoped would curse the Israelites blessed them instead, so he tries again from another locale. A similar message emerges: "The Lord their God is with them, and King's acclaim in their midst."

Balak attempts a third oracle, which offers the blessing, "How fair are your tents, O Jacob, Your dwellings, O Israel!" At this final blessing, Balak sends Balaam back to his home. Before leaving, Balaam offers a fourth oracle, unrequested, predicting Israel's victory against the enemy nations that surround it. He then returns home.

While encamped at Shittim, the Israelite men are enticed by Moabite women to participate in the idolatrous cult of Baal-Peor. As a result, a plague erupts among the Israelites, and God commands Moses to impale the leaders of the rebellion. Before he has a chance to carry out God's grim decree, however, the priest Pinhas finds an Israelite man and a Moabite woman copulating near the sanctuary. Zealous on God's behalf, he impales the two with a spear during their copulation, and his action stops the plague.

The Bedside Torah: Wisdom, Visions, and Dream
Rabbi Bradely Shavit Artson

Yahrzeits

We remember those of our Anshe Emet family who are no longer with us and whose Yahrzeits we observe this week.

May their memory be for a blessing.

Michael A. Atz	Marvin Lewis
Max Balaban	Ruth May
Dolores Beck	Bess Mesh
Claire Berger Spatt	Benjamin Miles
Harry J. Bornstein	Morris Mintz
Harry M. Brown	Joseph Nerenberg
Sophie Brownstein	Harris J. Pearlman
Harry Cohn	Louis Perlman
Julia L. Dry	Marie Pervos
Beatrice Dubnow	Ivan Pigan
Pinchas Ejlenberg	Jennie Sultan Posner
Rachel Elias	Sarah Prohov
Michael Evans	Gershon Proskowsky
Tillie Fagan	Sarah Pruskauer
Abraham Feldman	Yossel Pulik
Joe Felsher	Ellie Pearl Rinkov
Julius Fox	Sara Roth
Max Fox	Mark Satter
Matilda Frank	Edward Schechter
Samuel R. Futransky	Stewart Schencker
Elayne Gish	Lee Allan Schlan
Harold Goltz	Hattie D. Seligman
Elaine Holzman	Shepso Shoihet
Charles Hyman	Lillian Silvertrust
Martin Irwin	Todd Simon
Eva Kaplan	Rachel Smoler
David M. Keller	Louis Spector
Jerome Keywell	Ruth Stangle
Nathan Klawans	Harry S. Starr
Blanche Kraut	Melvin Stillman
Rebecca Kurtzman	Steve Stone
Merton Landan	Isaac Thorek
Manny Lax	Max Turner
Howard Levin	Mandel Weissman
Morris Levin	Abraham Yelen
Sarah Levin	Laverne Zeid
Ida P. Levinson	Morris Zoldan

Help Us Be There For You

Synagogue is a place where you want to feel at home, nourished, nurtured and spiritually fulfilled; a place where your soul, heart and head are touched. It is a place where you and your children feel a sense of relevance. It is a place where you are safe, where you are stimulated, and where you will find a welcoming community.

As part of this commitment, the clergy at Anshe Emet are here to help with Simchas and crises in your or your family's life. If you know someone who needs to speak with a member of our clergy, or if you want to add a name to the Mi Sheberach list, please contact Antoinette (Toni) Nuñez at **773-868-5120** or anunez@ansheemet.org. Names will be kept on the Mi Sheberach list for two weeks only unless otherwise specified.

Condolences

It is with deep regret that we inform you of these recent passings:

Anita Minor, beloved mother of Lauren (Hal) Alper, **Mark (Andrea)**; devoted grandmother of Sara, Ian, **Lucy** and **Elyse** and loving sister of Barbara Goldstein.

Judith Feinstein, *nee Resnick*, beloved wife of the late Alan Feinstein; loving mother of **Ellen (Adam Engle) Feinstein** and the late Steve Feinstein; devoted sister of Elaine (Melvin) Sherman; adoring grandmother of **Seth Engle**.

The Anshe Emet community extends its deepest condolences to these families during this difficult time. May they be comforted among the mourners in Zion and Jerusalem. Amen.



On-Line Bereavement Group Supporting our community in times of loss.

July 27 • 7:30pm • Anshe Emet

note our new later start time

Please join us, every fourth Monday of the month, for our [online](#) support group for adults who have experienced the death of a loved one within the past two years. **Meeting ID: 170 885 666** | **Contact Tamar Brooks for Zoom Password: tbrooks@ansheemet.org**

HaZaK • Mondays at 1pm

HaZaK is an Anshe Emet daytime program for mature adults with active minds. Co-taught by our clergy and other community educators, this year HaZaK is focusing on Jewish Ethics with the Melton curriculum "Ethics of Jewish Living." Generously funded by Beatrice Mayer, z"l.

MONDAY, JULY 7 • RABBI D'ROR CHANKIN-GOULD

Visit ansheemet.org/zoom to join | **Meeting ID: 663 098 957**

Contact Cantor Liz Berke for Zoom password

and more information at eberke@ansheemet.org



JUF TOV NOURISH OUR NEIGHBORHOODS VOLUNTEER EVENT

Join JUF TOV to donate non-perishable ingredients for a meal to nourish someone in need. Whether it's breakfast, lunch or dinner, you will supply all the ingredients for the meal you choose to provide.

A list of desired items will be provided upon registration. **Wednesday, July 8,**

contactless drop-off between 8 and 10 a.m. at several locations across Chicagoland.

[Register here!](#)

TORAH READING PAGE NUMBERS IN ETZ HAYIM

NUMBERS Chapters 19-25

1st Aliyah: p. 880, 19:1-19:9

2nd Aliyah: p. 881, 19:10-19:17

3rd Aliyah: p. 883, 19:18-20:6

4th Aliyah: p. 884, 20:7-20:13

5th Aliyah: p. 886, 20:14-20:21

6th Aliyah: p. 887, 20:22-21:9

7th Aliyah: p. 889, 21:10-21:20

Maftir: Numbers p. 908, 25:7-25:9

Haftarah: p. 915, Micah 5:6-6:8

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ANSHE EMET?



THE PEN & THE YAD PODCAST FEATURING RABBI MICHAEL SIEGEL & JONATHAN EIG

Parsha Chukat:

A Biblical Lesson in Anger Management

Parsha Balak:

What is So Good About Jewish Homes and Synagogues?

Listen at: [Ansheemet.org/thepenandtheyad](https://ansheemet.org/thepenandtheyad)



HAVDALLAH SATURDAY, JULY 4 • 9:30PM

This service, led by Rabbi David Russo and Naomi Weiss-Weil, is open to the community and can be accessed [here](#).

Meeting ID: 160 211 603

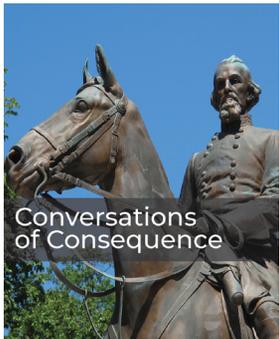


TROPE TALK!

Hello Anshe Emet 5th and 6th Graders!

Has the Summer Pandemic got you down? Are you bored much? Bar/Bat Mitzvah on your mind? Fear not! Naomi Weiss-Weil is going to teach a low-key, hang-out-style class, via Zoom, in which we can all talk trope! Naomi will teach you the basics of trope, so it seems less scary, and even a little fun! We can also do some review of Hebrew reading and prayers that you will need to know.

[Learn more here](#)



SICHOT: CONVERSATIONS OF CONSEQUENCE: MONUMENTS AND HISTORICAL MEMORY IN AMERICA TUESDAY, JULY 7 • 8PM

Conversations of Consequence offers an opportunity to engage in thoughtful dialogues with some of the most important thinkers in our country, to help us navigate the journey forward.

Join Rabbi Siegel as he leads a discussion on the topic of monuments in our current cultural climate with our special guests, Lisa Sharon Harper (Speaker, Writer, Activist, Artist), Pastor Chris Harris (Bright Star Church in Bronzeville), and Rev. Rob W. Lee IV (Author, Activist, Commentator, Professor and Preacher).

[Learn more and join here](#)



SISTERHOOD PRESENTS: FROM TICHELTS TO SHEITELS THURSDAY, JULY 16 7PM

Please join the Anshe Emet Sisterhood as we explore the evolving tradition of head coverings from headbands, falls, snoods, mitpachat, berets, hats, tichels and sheitels on July 16 with Rabbi Marianne Novak.

From Biblical to Medieval to Modern Times, married women within the Jewish tradition have covered their hair in various ways. How much of the tradition reflects Jewish Law, Halakha, how much is influenced by the particular cultural norms of the Jewish community and how much of each woman's experience make up the continued yet diverse adherence to this practice?

[Learn more and join here](#)



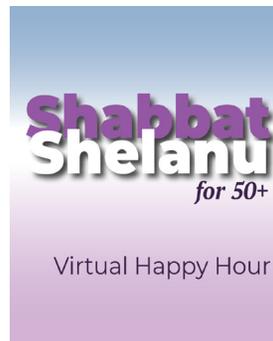
BIKE RIDE 2020 SUNDAY, JULY 19 • 9AM

Join AES members as we take advantage of nicer weather with an outdoor activity—a social bike ride!

There will be two planned routes with a variation on distance. Sign up for either ride, but you must register in advance. Volunteer leaders will be biking with each group.

We will all meet at the Anshe Emet Synagogue parking lot. Start time will be 9am with a staggered start if groups are more than 10, which is why registration is required. Masks will also be required.

[Learn more and join here](#)



SHABBAT SHELANU'S VIRTUAL HAPPY HOUR FRIDAY, JULY 24 • 5PM

Join our over 50 crowd with your own glass of wine for a fun evening of socializing with friends, virtually, using small breakout rooms for easy conversation.

[Learn more and join here](#)