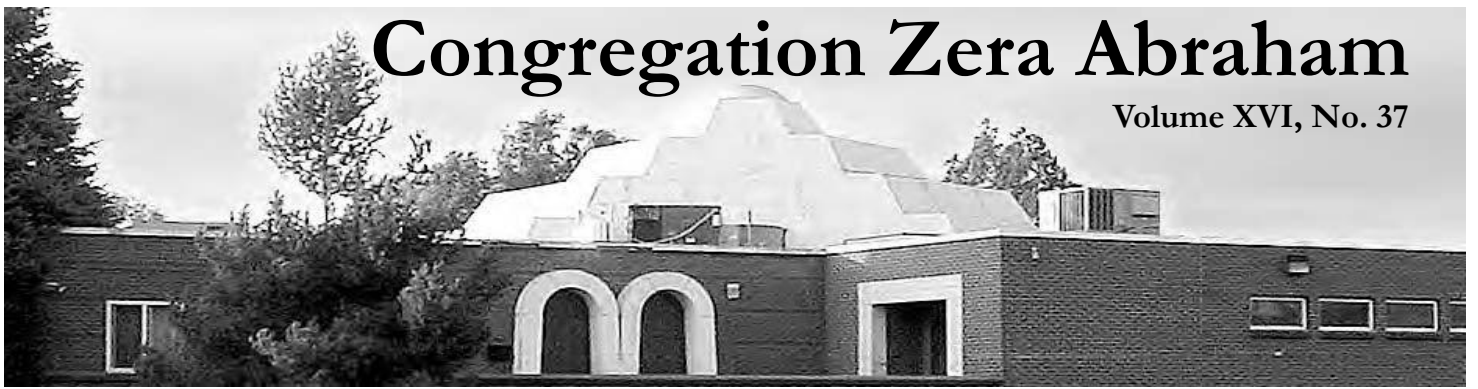


Congregation Zera Abraham

Volume XVI, No. 37



Shabbos Balak • 17 Tamuz • July 4

This week's Kiddush is sponsored by Mr. Lewis and Dr. Jeanne Abrams

I'n Gittel bas Yosef Yitzchok, Mrs. Gilda Lichtman a"h

**Please remember to repeat Krias Shema after tzeis. **

Friday Night Minyan

This Week Shabbos Balak July 4th.

Mincha: 7:00

Candle Lighting: (Earliest and 18 min.) 7:00, 8:14

Next Week, Shabbos Pinchas July 11th

Mincha: 7:00

Candle Lighting: (Earliest and 18 min.) 6:57, 8:12

Erev Shabbos/Kabalas Shabbos

It is recommended that melacha not be performed on the West Side after the latest minyan recites Mizmor Shir, even when Mizmor Shir is recited well before shkiah. Mizmor Shir is recited approximately 30-35 minutes after the start of Mincha. In these weeks it seems that the latest minyan is in the Shul. You can easily calculate the latest recommended time to perform Melacha by looking at the time for Mincha above and adding 30-35 minutes. This concern relates to candle lighting as well. So, as an example, when Mincha starts at 6:15, it is ideal that melacha and candlelighting take place before 6:45. In a circumstance that that is not possible, candles should still be lit 18 minutes before shkiah, which time is also indicated above.

Mazel Tov

To Rabbi and Mrs. Yossi and Rivky Kaplan upon the birth of their daughter. May have much yiddishe nachas!

2nd Shachris Minyan at 8:00

There will now be a second minyan for Shachris and throughout the summer, Monday through Friday at 8:00 am. This is a great time to join the Daf Yomi shiur at 7:10 am – 8:00 am, and you have a choice to daven at the early minyan before the Daf or at the late Minyan after the Daf.

17th of Tamuz Schedule

Fast begins (Alos HaShachar)	4:25
1st Shachris	6:30
Daf Yomi	7:30
2nd Shachris	8:00
Kinyan Masechta Chazara	9:15
Chatzos	1:07
1st Mincha.....	2:00
Yizkireim Video 1st Showing	2:30
Yizkereim Video 2nd Showing.....	4:30
2nd Mincha	8:00
Maariv	9:05
Fast Ends (50 minutes)	9:21

This Sunday, 17th of Tamuz: Yizkereim! Remember Them!

We are the witnesses to the stories and memories of the last survivors of the Holocaust. It is critical that we accept their legacy, hear their voices now and vividly connect with their individual experiences.

Shanghai Miracle, tells the inspirational story of the hundreds of Yeshiva students who escaped to Shanghai, China and lived to rebuild Torah throughout the world. The much acclaimed documentary will be shown across the globe during the Three Weeks – Bein Hametzarim period. Sunday (Shiva Assar b'Tamuz) July 5th there will be two showings in the Shul, at 2:30 pm (Mincha at 2:00) and at 4:30 pm. For Men and Women. (Parental discretion is advised). There is no charge. Co-sponsored by Torah Mesorah, Yizkereim and Zera Abraham.

Me'oros HeGedolim

Develop an Appreciation of our Gedolim of Yesterday and Today! Each Shabbos, 35 minutes before Mincha, one specific Gadol will be described with stories and anecdotes. Each bochur that attends will receive a picture of the Gadol discussed that week. For grades 3 and up.

THIS WEEK: Rav Nosson Tzvi Finkel ז"ר Rosh HaYeshiva of Yeshivas Mir, presented by **Rabbi Avraham Abrams**. 6:25 pm - 7:00 pm. In the Ezras Nashim followed by Mincha.

Thank you

Mrs. Esther Wershaw wished to express appreciation to Rabbi Chaim Abrams and the Shul Board for their acknowledgment at the Shul Dinner of her efforts toward the weekly kiddush. Also, thanks are expressed to all who lend help in the effort, in particular to long-time assistant, Ms. Elisheva Subota, recently graduate of Beth Jacob, and to R' Mordechai Schweitzer who originated the Kiddush concept.

Thank you! West Side Annual BBQ

Great appreciation is expressed to R' Chaim Abrams, R' Yochanan Crystal, Mendel Hershkovitz, Daniel Schweitzer, Mendy Sher, R' Chaim Sher, Dr. Jeanne Abrams, Mrs. Chani Kagan, Mrs. Jeanie Kravitz, Mrs. Naami Erlanger, Mrs. Sarah Crystal, Mrs. Gloria Crystal, Ms. Miriam Fortune, Ms. Nechama Werther, Mrs. Debbie Werther, Mrs. Esther Wershaw and all others who made the Bar-B-Q possible and enjoyable for all.

And thanks to our sponsors, Rabbi and Mrs. Zev & Adina Beren, Mr. and Mrs. David & Sivia Fine, Rabbi and Mrs. Moshe and Zipora Heisler, Mr. and Mrs. Ari & Ruthie Krausz, Mr. and Mrs. Yoel & Barbara Unger, Dr. and Mrs. Robert & Esther Wershaw and Mrs. Bernice Zussman.

Farewell Gathering

We would like to wish our very own Mr. Aharon Tuvia Gladstone farewell and much Hatzlocha on his move back to Eretz Yisroel. A seudas preida gathering will take place on Monday evening, July 13th at the home of R' Boruch and Mrs. Rivka Baxman, 1361 Vrain Street from 9:00-10:00 pm. If you would like to assist with the arrangements, kindly call Mrs. Baxman.

ZeraAbraham.com

As has been showcased at our dinner, the brand new website of the Shul is up and running. Content will continuously be added as development ensues. Take a look! See how you can learn more about what the shul offers: Shiurim for men, for women, and for children. Fill out a TAG application. Reserve a dedication for the weekly Kiddush. Get a better understanding of Areivim Taskforce-what it does and contact info. Refer people to the Project Avreichim page. Look up when Mincha or Shkiah is. Learn about our Mesila services. Become familiar with our extraordinary Women of the Westside organization. View past events and listen to missed shiurim. Take a look at the Getting to Know our Area section which can be used to attract newcomers to our growing Kehilla. And of course, feel free to make heavy and liberal use of the donate button! Refer others to the website and be proud of Your Shul and Your Community.

UPDATE: 4th Annual Cook-a-Thon

Attention CHEFS of ALL ages: The FINAL date for participating as a CHEF in the Annual Cook-a-Thon Shul fundraiser is, I" H, this Sunday, July 5th. B" H, we have a wonderful array of items that we will be advertising in our upcoming MENU, but we would still love to hear from YOU.

The ZA Cook-a-Thon is an important fundraiser for our Shul and has made possible a number of important upgrades enhancing both the function and appearance of our Bais Haknesses. B" H our community is blessed with many wonderful culinary wizards. Both men and women Chefs are invited and encouraged to participate by selecting some culinary favorites to offer for the upcoming Yomim Tovim. All of the items will be advertised in our upcoming MENU FORM (available mid-July), and will be available for purchase at that time. All funds raised will be used to facilitate additional improvements for the Shul. To participate as a CHEF, please fill out and submit your Cook-a-Thon REGISTRATION FORM. For additional forms or for questions, please contact: Dr. Jeanne Abrams (303-820-2682); Mrs. Tamar Kravitz (303-573-0151); Mrs. Esther Wershaw (303-820-2300); or Dr. Barbara Unger (303-825-0070).

Kinyan Masechta Taanis

The Shiur now begins each evening at **7:20 pm** till Mincha (8:20 pm).

Tznius Initiative

Thank you to all the participants in the Tznius Initiative begun in May. Forty Lessons of inspiration and a personal kabbalah in tznius catapulted a massive Kiddush Hashem and many Yeshuos! May we merit many more successes and simchos!

The winner of the initiative raffle is Miss C. N. Steinberg.

To sign up to join and or recommit learning an additional 40 lessons, while maintaining a personal kabbalah in tznius, please call 201.450.0437.

It is Your Kitchen, It is Your Shabbos #26

HALACHOS OF KNEADING

The Rov is delivering a series of shiurim for women, each Wednesday evening from **8:35 – 9:20 p.m.** in the Ezras Nashim, on the subject of Hilchos Shabbos in the Kitchen. We will review these all important halachos, re-familiarize ourselves with the fine nuances in this area, and know what to keep an eye on to avoid problems. And when the questions inevitably occur (as they must in every kosher kitchen!), we'll discuss how to frame those questions and address them. Let us try to clarify the complex. All are also welcome to join by telephone by calling **712-775-7031 access code 944-852-991**. You will be automatically muted when you call in.

Summer Shiurim at Merkaz

Merkaz proudly presents its Summer Shiurim Series featuring Rabbi Akiva Stern and Mrs. Ellyn Hutt. The two part series for men and women, by Rabbi Akiva Stern, will take place Wednesday, July 8th - "The Three Week Continuum", and Wednesday, July 15th - "Meeting G-d In Sorrow". The three part series for women, Insights into Megillas Eicha, by Mrs. Ellyn Hutt, will take place Mondays, June 29th, July 6th, and July 13th. Join us to gain new insights and inspiration! All shiurim will take place at Merkaz, 295 South Locust St, from 8-9 PM. Suggested donation \$5/Class.

Rising from the Ashes

Join Denver Community Kollel Senior Educator Rabbi Mordechai Fleisher for a three-week series on tapping the spiritual potential of the Tish B'Av period. The classes will take place on Mondays, July 6 and July 13, 7:45 pm at Aish Denver. For sponsorship opportunities or more info, contact rmf@denverkollel.org.

Michtav M'Eliyahu Chabura

Weekday Davening

Shacharis ...Sunday6:30, 8:00
Monday and Thursday...6:10, **8:00**
Tues. Wed. and Friday ..6:20, **8:00**
 Mincha.....Sunday-Thursday8:20 p.m. followed by 10 min. shiur
 MaarivSunday-Thursday 14 minutes after shkiah

Weekday Learning

Daf Yomi..... R' Yoil Unger, Rabbi Joseph ... M-F 5:20 a.m, 7:10 a.m.
R' Yoil Unger Sunday..... after 6:30 a.m. Shacharis
 Kinyan Masechta ShiurRav Steinberg... M-Th **7:20 pm**
 Kinyan Masechta ReviewRav Steinberg... Sunday..... after 8:00 a.m. Shacharis

Shabbos Davening and Learning

Candlelighting7:00, 8:14
 Mincha/Kabalas Shabbos.....7:00
 Ateres..... Ms. Feldheim.....7:05
 Mishna Berura..... Rav Steinberg8:00 am
 Shacharis8:30
 Sof Zman Krias Shema8:43, 9:19
 Sefer HaChinuch..... R' Hillel Erlanger.....4:15-4:45
 Daf Yomi..... R' Yoil Unger4:45-5:45
 Pirkei Avos for Women..... Rabbi Feldheim5:00
 Gemara Shiur- Maseches Pesachim Rabbi Rosskamm.....5:45-6:45
 Gemorah Shiur-Maseches Shabbos Rav Steinberg5:45-6:45
 Me'oros HaGedolim..... Rabbi A. Abrams6:25
 Pirkei Avos for Men..... Rav Steinberg6:45
 Mincha.....7:00
 Parsha Shiur9:02
 Maariv9:22
 Tefilla Shiur..... Rabbi Hoffman...After Maariv

Davening at YTC

ShacharisSunday-Friday7:30
Shabbos8:00
 Mincha.....Mon., Tues. and Thurs.....1:50
Sunday-Thurs.....3:00
 MaarivSunday-Thurs.....9:05

Thursday: Minchas Chinuch from Rabbi Yaakov Zions at 8:15
 At Denver Community Kollel

מטעמי פרשת בלק Parsha Delight Question

On the possuk (22:28) כי היכתיני זה שלש רגלים, when the donkey expresses, why did you strike me these three "regalim"- three times, Rashi brings that the donkey was hinting to בלעם the futility of attempting to destroy Israel כלל ישראל who celebrate the שלש רגלים, the three טובים. Why does the celebration of the שלש רגלים specifically relate to the impossibility of destroying Israel כלל ישראל?

Now, each Sunday evening, **starting 25 minutes BEFORE MINCHA**, there is a chabura learning the Sefer Michtav M'Eliyahu by Harav Eliyahu Dessler z"l. Each week a specific piece of the Sefer is learned b'Chavrusa for 25 minutes, and followed by a 5-minute summary by the Rov. For information and chavrusos, please speak to the Rosh Chabura, R' Yisroel Yanez at [720-275-1014](tel:720-275-1014). Join this excellent and powerful chabura, through which each week we can glean from the timeless and provoking words of Rav Dessler and attain real development and growth in avodas Hashem.

Kashrus Alert

Beyond Better Cashew Cheese Gluten Free Sauce and Dip Mixes are being sold in farmer's markets across Colorado, showing the OK kosher logo on their banner. These products are not certified by OK Kosher Certification. Corrective action has been taken.

A non-certified restaurant, **Osi's Kitchen**, located at 4604 West Sahara Avenue in Las Vegas, printed a business card that includes the OU mark. The Orthodox Union does not certify Osi's Kitchen. Corrective actions are being implemented.

King Soopers P\$\$T hamburger buns and P\$\$T hot dog buns.

Beginning June 29th, the following King Soopers buns will temporarily be produced without kosher certification: P\$\$T hamburger buns 12oz. UPC 01111000229 P\$\$T hot dog buns 11oz. UPC 011110002532 All packages that bear the Scroll K symbol are kosher certified.

Parsha Delight and ספר מטעמי זרע אברהם

See the question below on the Parsha. Offer an acceptable answer to the Rov at the kiddush and receive a chocolate! Each week the answers for the previous week's Parsha Delight question will be printed in the newsletter. At the end of the year we will publish a compilation of the questions and answers. This program is for ages 5-105. Sponsored by East Side Kosher Deli.

Newsletter E-mail List and Contact Information

Please e-mail all contributions, mazels tovs, sponsorships, etc. to zera.abraham@gmail.com no later than Wednesday evening. E-mail ensures that nothing will be left out or misspelled. All entries will run for one week unless otherwise specified. To be added to the e-mail distribution list, please send an e-mail requesting to be included.

מטעמי פרשה פרשת חקת

Last week's Question:

In the possuk (20:8) Hashem commands Moshe Rabbeinu for the purpose of drawing water from the rock, קח את המטה, take the staff. In possuk (20:9) it states ויקח משה את המטה מלפני ה', and Moshe took the staff from before Hashem. Where exactly had the staff been? And for what purpose does the possuk tell us that the staff was taken from there?

Answers Received:

The מטה that Moshe Rabbeinu took was not his own, rather the מטה of Aharon that was used to assert his position as כהן גדול and counter the claims of קרח. Moshe Rabbeinu had been instructed to place that staff מלפני ה' as an everlasting sign of the proof against קרח. Now, כלל ישראל again was questioning the authority of משה רבינו and therefore the מטה of אהרן needed to be displayed in public.

In line with the idea that this was the מטה of אהרן, it could be said that it was appropriate to display the staff which sprouted שקדים as from nothing, in order to facilitate the סג of the water coming from the rock, as if from nothing.