Lincolnwood Jewish Congregation AG Beth Israel Bulletin









Rabbi Meyers' Message

The Gift

A few years ago (2022, to be precise), we spoke about how our experience of receiving the Torah at Har Sinai has three components — the Giver, the Receiver, and the Gift.

We started with the Giver (G-d), focusing on deepening our relationship with G-d during these weeks of Sefira.

But this year I want to shift gears, to the gift itself, the Torah.

The Torah is not just a set of laws. It's not just a history book or a collection of beautiful ideas. The Torah is life. When we stood at Sinai, it wasn't just about hearing commandments. It was about receiving G-d's vision for what life could be, and an invitation to live it.

And yet, as central as the Torah is supposed to be in our lives, it is very easy to lose sight of its specialness. When something is always around — always present — we sometimes stop noticing it, we take it for granted.

Part of the work of these days leading up to Shavuot is to recapture our sense of wonder and appreciation. To fall in love with the Torah again (or maybe for the first time).

And like any relationship with something precious, that doesn't happen by accident. It takes effort. Intention. Thought.

I would like to suggest three simple ways we can help make that happen.

May-June 2025 Issue 3

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Rabbi: Yehuda Meyers

Rabbi Emeritus: Joel Lehrfield, PhD

LJCAGBI Bulletin

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President's Perspective

What a great holiday we had! Some travel for Passover, some stay home. Some travel to our area and enhance our minyan with their presence. Anyone who missed the musical

stylings of the Wall family at Hallel - come to minyan and pray you get another chance!

This brings us to the Omer. We count our days and attempt to make our days count (not an original line). We don't have much from the Torah to explain the minhagim that have come up over time, but there are customs of mourning that apply. In the modern age, we have added 4 observance dates during this season: Yom HaShoa v'haGevura; Yom HaZikaron; Yom HaAtzma'ut; and Yom Yerushalaim. Two of these days entail a look back, two are more celebratory and forward-looking.

In other shul news, we are embarking on a new direction for our weekly Shabbat Kiddush. Sponsorship is always welcome, and additional hands on deck are also in demand.

Keep an eye on the weekly announcements and shul web site, www.ljcagbi.org, for information about upcoming events, and keep coming to shul. You are the lifeblood of our minyan, and we are your community.

Daniel Gutstein President





Announcements

Mazal Tov

To Helaine Ellenby on her special birthday

- To Rabbi Mark & Chava Gutman on the birth of a granddaughter
- To Rabbi Yehuda & Rebbetzin Martha Meyers on their 10th Wedding Anniversary
- To Rabbi Yehuda & Rebbetzin Martha Meyers on the engagement of her brother, Abe Wall to Sari Yizhaky.
- To Rabbi Greg & Rebbetzin Rona Wall on the engagement of their son, Abe Wall to Sari Yizhaky

Refuah Shlema

Berta Kalman

Many thanks to Rabbi Meyers and all the women who helped me celebrate my birthday

Helaine Ellenby

Condolences to the family of

Sheldon Kirshner
father of Michael Kirshner
Zelda Ettore
mother of Mark Dym
grandmother of Ben Dym

Please note that this bulletin is online at www.ljcagbi.org

To print calendars, flyers or order forms, go to the bulletin page needed, and print the page(s) you would like. Perfect for refrigerator door decor.

Please get your articles in for the shul bulletin

If you have a program, announcement or event, please get your information to the Shul *Bulletin* so everyone will know about it! Send your electronic submissions to the editor at: bulletin@ljcagbi.org or submit a hard copy to the Shul office before the deadline, *July-August 2025 issue*, *Friday*, *June 20*, *2025*. All material is subject to approval by the editor and may be modified for space or content. Inserts must also be approved by the editor before inclusion in the *Bulletin*. Please email bulletin@ljcagbi.org for further details.



Rabbi Meyers' Message—continued from page 1

First, we can approach the Torah with fresh eyes. Quite literally, we can find something new — a sefer we've never opened, a mitzvah we've never fully explored. Ask questions we've never asked. Be curious again.

Another step is to think about how different life would be without the Torah.

What would it feel like to live without the structure, without the meaning, without the sense of belonging the Torah provides?

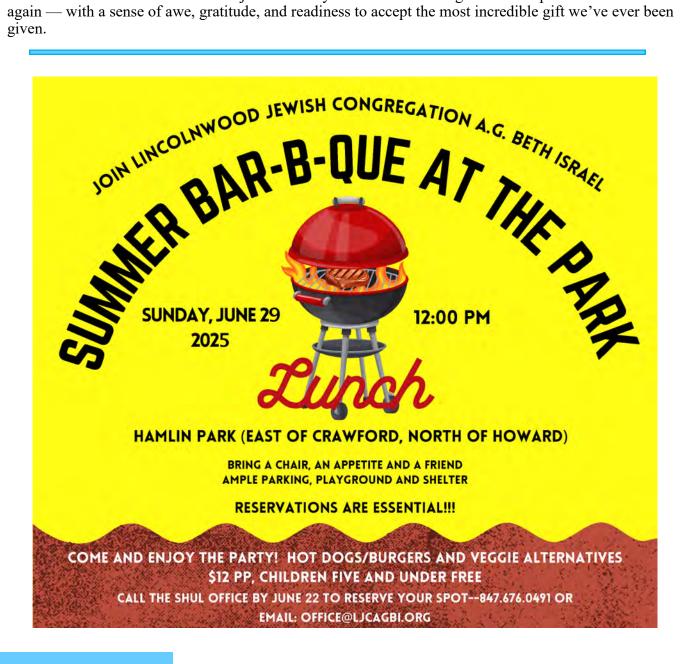
Gratitude often comes not just from noticing what we have, but imagining what life would be like without it.

And finally, maybe the most powerful way to cherish the Torah is to share it.

Teach a short Torah thought to a friend. Start a conversation at your Shabbat table.

The Torah isn't meant to be held onto alone. It's a gift meant to be shared.

The countdown to Shavuot isn't just about days. It's about building ourselves up to stand at Har Sinai again — with a sense of awe, gratitude, and readiness to accept the most incredible gift we've ever been given.



May-June 2025 Calendar of Events

Thursday, May 1 Yom HaAtzma'ut

Sunday, May 12 Pesach Sheini

Friday, May 16 Lag BaOmer

Monday, May 26 Yom Yerushalayim/Memorial Day

Wednesday, May 28 Rosh Chodesh Sivan

Sunday, June 1 Erev Shavuot

Monday, June 2 Shavuot- Day 1

Tuesday, June 3 Shavuot- Day 2

Wednesday, June 18 Annual Meeting

Thursday, June 26 Rosh Chodesh Tammuz Day 1

Friday, June 27 Rosh Chodesh Tammuz- Day 2









Schedule for Services &

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Shabbat |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| KEY: S - Shacharit M - Maariv M/M - Mincha/Maariv CL - Candle Lighting H – Havdalah | | | | 1 YOM HAATZMA'UT S: 7:00am M/M: 7:30pm | 2 S: 7:00am CL: 7:32pm M/M: 7:10pm | 3 TAZRIA- METZORA S: 9:15am M/M: 7:25pm H: 8:33pm |
| 4 S: 8:30am M/M: 7:40pm | 5 S: 7:00am M/M: 7:40pm | 6 S: 7:00am M/M: 7:40pm | 7 S: 7:00am M/M: 7:40pm | 8 S: 7:00am M/M: 7:40pm | 9 S: 7:00am CL: 7:40pm M/M: 7:10pm | 10 ACHAREI- KEDOSHIM S: 9:15am M/M: 7:35pm H: 8:41pm |
| 11 S: 8:30am M/M: 7:45pm | 12 S: 7:00am M/M: 7:45pm | 13 S: 7:00am M/M: 7:45pm | 14 S: 7:00am M/M: 7:45pm | 15 S: 7:00am M/M: 7:45pm | 16 LAG BA'OMER S: 7:00am CL: 7:47pm M/M: 7:10pm | 17 EMOR S: 9:15am M/M: 7:40pm H: 8:48pm |
| 18 S: 8:30am M/M: 7:55pm | 19 S: 7:00am M/M: 7:55pm | 20 S: 7:00am M/M: 7:55pm | 21 S: 7:00am M/M: 7:55pm | 22 S: 7:00am M/M: 7:55pm | 23 S: 7:00am CL: 7:53pm M/M: 7:10pm | 24 BEHAR- BECHUKOTAI S: 9:15am M/M: 7:50pm H: 8:54pm |
| 25 S: 8:30am M/M: 8:00pm | 26 YOM YERUSHALAYIM Memorial Day S: 8:30am M/M: 8:00pm | 27 S: 7:00am M/M: 8:00pm | 28 ROSH CHODESH SIVAN S: 7:00am M/M: 8:00pm | 29 S: 7:00am M/M: 8:00pm | 30 S: 7:00am CL: 7:59pm M/M: 7:10pm | 31 BAMIDBAR S: 9:15am M/M: 7:55pm H: 9:00pm |

Minyan times are subject to change. To confirm minyan time please check the shul website under the worship services tab or call/text Paul Kramer at 312.343.2200.



Candlelighting Times

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Shabbat |
|--|---|---|-----------------------------------|---|--|--|
| 1 EREV SHAVUOT S: 8:30am CL: 8:01pm M/M: 8:05pm | 2 SHAVUOT- DAY 1 S: 9:15am M/M: 8:05pm CL: 9:02pm | 3 SHAVUOT- DAY 2 S: 9:15am M/M: 8:05pm H: 9:02pm | 4 S: 7:00am M/M: 8:05pm | 5 S: 7:00am M/M: 8:05pm | 6 S: 7:00am CL: 8:04pm M/M: 7:20pm | 7 NASSO S: 9:15am M/M: 8:00pm H: 9:05pm |
| 8 S: 8:30am M/M: 8:10pm | 9 S: 7:00am M/M: 8:10pm | 10 S: 7:00am M/M: 8:10pm | 11 S: 7:00am M/M: 8:10pm | 12 S: 7:00am M/M: 8:10pm | 13 S: 7:00am CL: 8:08pm M/M: 7:20pm | 14 BEHA'ALOSCHA S: 9:15am M/M: 8:05pm H: 9:09pm |
| 15 S: 8:30am M/M: 8:15pm | 16 S: 7:00am M/M: 8:15pm | 17 S: 7:00 am M/M: 8:15pm | 18 S: 7:00am M/M: 8:15pm | 19 S: 7:00am M/M: 8:15pm | 20 S: 7:00am CL: 8:11pm M/M: 7:20pm | 21 SHELACH S: 9:15am M/M: 8:05pm H: 9:11pm |
| 22 S: 8:30am M/M: 8:15pm | 23 S: 7:00am M/M: 8:15pm | 24 S: 7:00am M/M: 8:15pm | 25 S: 7:00am M/M: 8:15pm | 26 ROSH CHODESH TAMMUZ S: 7:00am M/M: 8:15pm | 27 ROSH CHODESH TAMMUZ S: 7:00am CL: 8:11pm M/M: 7:20pm | 28 KORACH S: 9:15am M/M: 8:05pm H: 9:11pm |
| 29 S: 8:30am M/M: 8:15pm | 30 S: 7:00am M/M: 8:15pm | | | | | KEY: S - Shacharit M - Maariv M/M - Mincha/Maariv CL - Candle Lightir H – Havdalah |

Your presence is greatly needed: please attend

Lincolnwood Jewish Congregation A G Beth Israel, our Shul, has always maintained two daily minyanim for Shacharit and for Mincha/Maariv (or just Maariv during the winter months). It continues to be difficult to guarantee that 10 men will be present for davening. Your help is urgently needed to ensure that a full minyan is present for everyone, especially those who have Yahrzeit or are in their year of mourning. Please attend whenever you are able.

Yasher Koach to the 2025 Lox Box Team

We would like to thank the following members and businesses that worked on and/or contributed to the success of this year's Lox Box:

Donors

CIBC Bank-Lincolnwood Branch
RepublicBank-Lincolnwood Branch
Dr. David Marcus
Dr. Elliot Baker
Starr Kosher Catering
Whole Foods
Larry Brown
Paul Kramer/New American Funding

Rob Chimberoff
Henry Kalter
Nicole Mazor
Dov Steinberg
Kevin Braude
Kari Gutstein
American Solutions for Business

Saturday Night Packers

Marcia, Sarah & Paul Kramer Dan, & Kari Gutstein Norm & Bobbi Snitofsky Jeffrey & Edie Light Regine Meisel Rabbi Yehuda Meyers Myron Moscovitch Michael Kirshner Steve Kramer Alex Goldstein Janice Thall

5:30 AM Sunday Packers

Rob Chimberoff Michael Kirshner (and Bagel pickup) Pesach Osina Paul Kramer Nicole Mazor

Drivers and Runners

Sarah & Paul Kramer
Marcia Kramer & Kai Gutstein
Henry Kalter
Benjamin Mazor & Olga Krapivner
Mitchell Dayan
Jeff Liebling
Gary Goodman
Doni & Ami Finkel

Max Panitch Aaron Goldman Regine Meisel Caleb Gutstein Kari Gutstein Nicole Mazor

<u>Special Thanks go to:</u> Chava Gutman & Janice Thall in the office Ryszard & Jadwiga for the set-up and cleanup, plus Michael Kirshner & Staff of Starr Kosher Catering. Please forgive me if I missed anyone.

Paul Kramer, Chair 2025 Lox Box Committee



STATE OF ISRAEL Q&A III CAN BE VERY CONFUSING TRYING TO MAKE SENSE OF THE DIFFERING RELIGIOUS PERSPECTIVES ON THE STATE OF ISRAEL. JOIN US FOR A MEANING FUL CONVERSATION ON THIS IMPORTANT TOPIC, SHABBAT MORNING, MAY 10TH. SEND QUESTIONS IN ADVANCE TO RABBI@UCAGBLORG.











From The Catering Department

When I look outside, it is finally the end of winter. This makes me happy, since I don't like winter.

I'm sure that when I was a kid I never disliked winter, but it's been a long time since winter was a favorite season for me. I love spring and even summer. Never has winter been a favorite time of the year. I can tolerate winter but never looked forward to it. I like the clothes we wear in the fall but that's about it.

I think most people like spring. There's something special about the budding of flowers, etc. that most people enjoy. I had a little poem I used to say at the beginning of spring. "It's spring it's spring, the bird is on the wing....my word, how absurd, the wing was on the bird." When I look outside my window, it's still cold. The first warm day of spring we all took off our coats off no matter how cold it still was. I think all kids get warm blooded on the first day of spring. Every kid takes off his or her outer jacket. No wonder, somehow we all seem to catch a cold on the first day of spring. All kids seem to believe that spring means warm weather. Spring has to be the loveliest time of the year, it has a smell all it's own.

I'm a warm weather person so I really look forward to not having to wear a jacket. I think that all everyone can't wait till they can go without a winter jacket. It must be contagious because we all seem to think alike at this time of year.

I live near the Lincolnwood school and I don't see any kid wearing a jacket, even if they're shaking with cold hands. They pretend that the weather has changed so they don't need their outer jackets, even though they may be shivering. Kids sure are funny.

And on that note......Be well, and stay safe

Your friend,

Shirley Derdiger

Off the Subject

Dave Rosenberg recently made Aliyah to Israel and was still getting used to the new bureaucracy. One day, he received a very strongly worded "second notice" from the Israeli Tax Authority saying that his taxes were overdue. Dave ran down to the tax office, paid his bill and said apologetically that he must have accidentally overlooked the first notice.

"Oh," confided the tax collector with a smile, "the Israeli Tax Authority doesn't send out first notices. We have found that the second notices are more effective."

An employee of the Maid of the Mist in Niagara Falls was trying to recruit a few more tourists to join their tour when he approached one fellow who was admiring the falls.

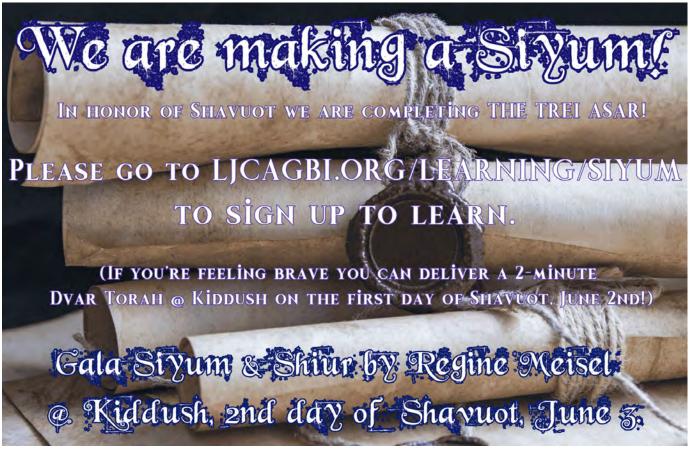
"Where are you from?" the employee asked.

"Israel," responded the man.

"I bet you don't have anything like this in Israel," said the employee.

"No, but my cousin Itzik is a plumber in Rishon LeTzion. He could fix this."







LJCAGBI & YEHUDA MOSHE PROUDLY PRESENT

WEST-LINCOLNWOOD COMMUNITY ALL-NIGHT Torah Learning

June 1, 2025

SCHEDULE @ LJCAGBI:

7:00PM - LIGHT DINNER

7:35- SHIUR W/R' MEYERS

8:05- MINCHA

8:15- SHIUR W/JOSH BOWMAN

8:45- MA'ARIV

9:05- KIDDUSH, CHALLAH AND SOUP

9:40- SHIUR W/R' MEYERS

10:10- DESSERT

10:30- SHIUR W/R' JOEL GUTSTEIN

LEARNING CONTINUES @ CONG. YEHUDA MOSHE

12:00AM- SHIUR/R' YEHUDA MEYERS

1:00AM - 4:45AM - ALL NIGHT MISHMAR W R' GUTSTEIN

AND R' WOLF

In Honor of Mother's Day

Forever Grateful "For You Are Mom"

Dear Mom, I wish to share my gratitude, With humble hands, I'll craft my deeds, For every sacrifice, for love so pure, You've sown the seeds of hope in me.

May joy surround you in all your days, With me beside you, worries fade, I vow to cherish and uphold your grace, To be your strength, in every way.

Oh, Mom, how I long to express my thanks, To paint the world with all you've done, For all the warmth, the laughter, the love, In the story of my life, you are the sun.

Through trials faced and storms endured, Your wisdom lights the darkest night, With every hug, you've calmed my fears, In your embrace, the world feels right.

Your heart, a fortress, ever strong, Guiding me where I belong, In every lesson, every tear, You've built a life that I hold dear.

So here I stand, a grateful child, For all the moments, tender and wild, With every heartbeat, know this is true— Mom, my world begins and ends with you.

Alex Goldstein