



August 31, 2019

ל אב תשע"ט

Parashat Re'eh - Deuteronomy 11:26-16:17 ראה
Stone – p 998 Hertz – p 799 Etz Hayim – p 1061

Maffir Rosh Chodesh – Numbers 28:9-15
Stone – p 890 Hertz – p 695 Etz Hayim - p 930

Third Week of Consolation

Haftarah – Isaiah 66:1-24 ישעיה סו
Stone – p 1208 Hertz – p 944 Etz Hayim - p 1220

Aufruf of Moshe Leib Cohen celebrating his
upcoming marriage to Ruth Beryl Schachter.

Kiddush luncheon is sponsored by Joseph and Florence
Schachter in honor of the upcoming wedding
of their daughter, Ruth, to Moshe.

Talmud Class—5:30 PM

Minchah—6:45 PM

Seudah Sh'lishit

Shabbat Ends—8:15 PM

TRADITIONAL CONGREGATION

Rabbi Seth D Gordon – Rabbi.Gordon@yahoo.com

Rabbi Ephraim Zimand z"l, Emeritus

Marian S. Gordon, Executive Director – tradcong@sbcglobal.net

DAILY SERVICE TIMES

Shabbat—9:00 AM & 6:45 PM Sunday—8:30 AM

Monday—Friday—7:00 AM & 6:30 PM

Board of Directors:

Elaine Farkas, President

Paul Tesser, Executive Vice President

Ellis Frohman, Financial Vice President

Marty Levy, Ritual Vice President

Florence Schachter, Education Vice President

Chris Brown, Membership Vice President

Steve Roufa, Building & Grounds Vice President

Lori Tesser, Treasurer

Mimi Levy, Secretary

Past Presidents

Jerry Chervitz, Alan Rosenberg, Phil Brick, Boaz Roth, Cyndee Levy, Kenneth Bohm

Members at Large:

Steve Bell

Shelah Feldman

Bill Gold

Gary Golden

Ari Levy

Carol Max

Steven Puro

Dina Rinder

Jerry Tullman

Jeff Weisman

Justin Zeid

*Traditional Congregation welcomes new members. If someone you know would like to receive membership information, please contact
Chris Brown, Membership VP, at 636-288-5356*

On This Week's Torah Portion – Re'eh

The people of Israel are preparing to occupy the Land. This adventure is a new chapter in their sacred mission. A few central questions for consideration in the Book of Devarim are: What type of direction, instruction, or imperatives should Moses give to them?; Can we view this parsha and several others as Moses conveying G-d's deep attachment to the people of Israel and concern for their future?; and How are Moses and G-d giving them a spiritual basis to sustain them in the Land?

In the three parashot Reeh, Shoftim and Ki Seitzei Moses mentions the vast majority of the mitzvos that the Jewish people will need in the Land of Israel. Parshas Reeh explains to the people that the observances in the wilderness will not be sufficient for the new life in the Land of Israel where the people will have to take more responsibility for everyday life. In these parashot, Moses informs us about how G-d commanded the mitzvot and provided details concerning how the laws were to be obeyed. In the Book of Devarim, Samson Raphael Hirsch says: "Of the more than 100 articles of law more than seventy are new and do not appear in preceding books." (Pentateuch, p. 653). G-d has placed in the hands of the people to choose their future. They can follow the laws and be blessed or be cursed if they turn away from them.

Rav Kook, who was heavily invested in the holiness of the Land of Israel, was able to embrace even the least religious halutzim (pioneers) because he understood that settling the land spoke to a spiritual yearning in them that the forms of religion in the places they had left could not. The Torah must give the people a formal religion that can give them a sense of identity as opposed to the surrounding nations and remind them of the importance of the Almighty without their falling into complacency that either the observances or being everyday good people can substitute for each other. Part of how this is done is instituting a formal central place where the Shechina is and formal times where everybody has to show up and bring some token individual sacrifice even if it is only a bird.

Festivals are brought into a different meaning when the people of Israel enter the land. The festivals serve as a deadline to bring any of the individual non-festival offerings such as the elevation offering, sin offering, or vow that people have become obligated to bring. Festivals are also a reenactment of the range of emotions of the Exodus experience from joy at freedom. At Passover, there is joy at everything you have which will sustain you through the winter and possible shmitta year on Sukkos. This parsha contains the specific commandment to rejoice on the three pilgrimage festivals as opposed to the later threat of dire punishment for NOT serving G-d with joy. This suggests that rejoicing on the festival is more than bringing joy to preparing for the festival and whatever mitzvos you may do there, but also involves rejoicing in the timeless power of the recalled spiritual experience and the relative lack of everyday spiritual impediments. In our discussion about this parsha, James Borden, shlita, emphasized that the community needs to bend over backward to support a poor or sick person in getting to Jerusalem to participate in the festival as is supported by the text which says that Levites, gerim, widows, and orphans should all participate.

These places and times give the people the opportunity to test their level of spiritual intensity and generosity when it is challenged to be at a very high level. In their everyday lives outside the Temple Mount, the people should be scrupulous about the laws of kashrut which are mentioned here. This behavior accustoms the people to think that the world/Israel is here for us to enjoy if we are able to make distinctions between what is spiritually nourishing and what isn't.

Shabbat shalom,
Leah Borden, Steven Puro

LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER!!



YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR

**CHINESE
SHABBAT DINNER**

HONORING OUR VOLUNTEERS
WHO'VE MADE MANY MEALS FOR US

DINNER TO BE PREPARED BY
**CHEF RABBI GORDON
& HIS ABLE ASSISTANTS**

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2019
KABBALAT SHABBAT 6:30 PM
FOLLOWED BY DINNER

\$20/person paid by 8/26

\$23/person after 8/26

\$10 age 7 & under

Mail payment or register online at

<https://www.traditional-congregation.org/events>

TRADITIONAL CONGREGATION
12437 LADUE RD 314-576-5230
WWW.TRADITIONAL-CONGREGATION.ORG

MAKING MEDIA LITERACY EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS: A CHALLENGING PATH FORWARD

A KNOSH 'N KNOWLEDGE PROGRAM WITH
JESSICA Z BROWN

Join Jessica Brown as she discusses the challenges and the joys of being media literate...because media literacy intersects with media messages about so much that concerns us...our health, science, public policy, social justice, entertainment.....and faith.

Being media literate connotes a certain amount of savvy when it comes to discerning the myriad media messages we digest daily. But becoming and staying media literate is hard work. Are you up to the task? How do we deal with bombarding media messages on a variety of media platforms, and with ever-changing technology?

Jessica will guide us through the challenges both consumers and producers of messages face, and show us how to become ever-mindful, critical-thinking citizens.

SUNDAY

15

SEPTEMBER
2019



9:30 AM Breakfast

10:15 AM Program

\$6/person

RSVP by 9/6

trædcong@sbcglobal.net

or

314-576-5230

Jessica Z. Brown, a media literacy proponent and educator, often speaks to professional and parent groups on the importance of media literacy, a useful life-long critical-thinking skill. She strongly believes sustained media literacy education can greatly benefit a community's economic development and help promote healthy communities. Wife of Curt Billhymer, mother of daughters Jackie and Leslie, and longtime community connector and professional volunteer, she is founder and president of Gateway Media Literacy Partners, Inc., (GMLP) a nonprofit organization operating in the bi-state region, tasked with educating citizens about media literacy's ongoing importance in civic life. A full adjunct professor at Webster University for the past 15 years, and a multi award-winning communications professional whose body of work covers many media platforms, Brown has enlivened her classes with broad media communications experience that includes newspaper reporting, photography, television broadcasting and documentary production, as well as management of a variety of communications disciplines at a large telecommunications company. She currently is working with international colleagues as business manager for the Digital International Media Literacy E-Book (www.DIMLE.org), following a five-year stint on the national board of the National Association for Media Literacy Education, www.NAMLE.net

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, September 6 **Chinese Shabbat Dinner** honoring our volunteers who have made many meals for us. Dinner to be prepared by Rabbi Gordon and his sous chefs. \$20/person pd by 8/26, after that \$23/person; \$10 age 7 & under. Register at: <https://www.traditional-congregation.org/events> **VOLUNTEER SOUS CHEFS NEEDED**, please contact Marian if you can help shop, chop or clean up, 314-576-5230 or tradcong@sbcglobal.net

Shabbat, September 7 **Kiddush Luncheon is sponsored by Gail & Jerry Tullman** in honor of their 45th anniversary.

Thursday, September 12 **General Board Meeting**, 7:30 PM

Sunday, September 15 **Knosh & Knowledge with Jessica Z. Brown: “Make Media Literacy Everybody’s Business: A Challenging Path Forward”** Jessica will guide us through the challenges both consumers and producers of messages face, and show us how to be mindful, critical-thinking citizens. 9:30 AM Brunch, 10:15 Program. \$6/person, RSVP by 9/6 to tradcong@sbcglobal.net, 314-576-5230 or online at <https://www.traditional-congregation.org>

Wednesday, September 18 **Schmooze & Games**, 7:00 PM in the Jewish Heritage Center. Play/schmooze/nosh—no charge, hang out with friends and relax.

Shabbat, September 21 **Active Attack Response Training** with Scott Biondo, Jewish Federation’s Community Security Director. Scott will be on site at approximately 11:00 AM (following Torah reading) to guide us through what to do in the event of an attack. This is important and timely information you won’t want to miss!

Motzei Shabbat, September 21 **Selichot Program & Services**. How can two gangsters inspire you to enter in the High Holydays?? Join us for a screening of “Maktub,” an Israeli gangster comedy, and find out! Grab a nosh beginning at 8:15 PM; film at 8:30, discussion at 10:15 and Selichot services at 10:30 PM.

We’re looking for...YOU—to sponsor a Kiddush! Call Marian, 314-576-5230 to reserve your date. Not ready to sponsor but would like to help offset our Kiddush costs? It’s easy—mail your donation to Traditional (note: Kiddush Fund in memo) or donate online at <https://www.traditional-congregation.org/donate> and select Kiddush Fund Donation. Thank you!

<https://www.traditional-congregation.org>

PRAYER

For the blessings which You lavish upon us in forest and sea,
in mountain and meadow, in rain and sun, we thank You.

*For the blessings You implant within us, joy and peace,
meditation and laughter, we are grateful to You.*

For the blessings of friendship and love, of family and community.

For the blessings we ask of You and those we cannot ask;

For the blessings You bestow upon us openly
and those You give us in secret;

*For all these blessings, O God of the universe,
we thank You and are grateful to You.*

For the blessings we recognize and those we fail to recognize;

For the blessings of our tradition and of our holy days;

For the blessings of return and forgiveness,
of memory, of vision, and of hope;

*For all these blessings which surround us on every side,
O God, hear our thanks and accept our gratitude.*

Ruth F. Brin

THOUGHT FOR THE MOMENT OF SILENCE

One is not rich by what one owns, but more by what one is able to do
with dignity.

Immanuel Kant