



Shabbat Shalom

6 Tishrei 5775
September 19, 2015

Parashat Vayelekh

This Week at Beth El Synagogue

Saturday, September 19:

Havdalah—7:58 pm

Shabbat Mishnah Study	8:45 am
Orthodox Kehillah Services	9:00 am
B'nai Mitzvah Peer Tutoring	9:00 am
Monthly Parsha Study	9:30 am
Main Sanctuary Services	9:30 am
Dvar Torah given by Laura Lieber	
Healing Yoga	10:00 am

Sunday, September 20:

Weekly Sunday Minyan	9:30 am
First Day of Talmud Torah	9:30 am
Hebrew Level I	10:00 am
Kitah Zayin Field Trip	10:00 am
Cemetery Visitation	10:30 am
Hebrew Level II	11:00 am
Tutor Refresh Session	3:00 pm

Monday, September 21:

Sisterhood Meeting	7:00 pm
Midrash with Rabbi Sager	7:00 pm

Tuesday, September 22:

Pre Fast Dinner	5:15 pm
Kol Nidre	6:30 pm
Candle Lighting	6:54 pm
Yom Kippur Eve Orthodox Kehillah	7:00 pm

Wednesday, September 23:

Yom Kippur Orthodox Kehillah Services	8:30 am
Yom Kippur Services	8:30 am
Main Sanctuary	
Children's Services	10:30 am
Study Session	4:00 pm
Mincha	5:00 pm
Nehilah	6:30 pm
Havdalah	7:52 pm

Thursday, September 24:

Friday, September 25:

Candle Lighting—6:49 pm

This weekend's Kiddush lunch is sponsored by:
Florence & Edward Goldblatt, Lynn & Dr. Robert Lefkowitz, Marilyn & Peter Ornstein, Melanie Roskin, Myrna & Joel Schwartz, and Luba & Len Spevak

Beth El is a welcoming community of members with diverse backgrounds, ideas, levels of knowledge, and observance. We are an egalitarian Conservative congregation, and a member of the Southeast Seaboard district of United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism (USCJ), and the Orthodox Union.

Upcoming Events:

- ✧ Sat. 9/26 Shabbat Morning Orthodox Kehillah Services
- ✧ Sat. 9/26 B'nai Mitzvah Peer Tutoring
- ✧ Sat. 9/26 Chavurah Minyan
- ✧ Sat. 9/26 Shabbat Morning Services
- ✧ Sat. 9/26 BE with Pride: NC Pride Parade
- ✧ Sun. 9/27 Weekly Sunday Minyan
- ✧ Sun. 9/27 Talmud Torah
- ✧ Sun. 9/27 Hebrew Level I Class and Hebrew Level II Class
- ✧ Sun. 9/27 AlephBet Kickoff (Pumpkin Patch)
- ✧ Sun. 9/27 Erev Sukkot
- ✧ Mon. 9/28 Sukkot Service at Beth El with Rabbi Bach from Judea Reform
- ✧ Mon. 9/28 Midrash with Rabbi Sager
- ✧ Tue. 9/29 Sukkot Service at Beth El with Rabbi Back from Judea Reform
- ✧ Wed. 9/30 Weekly Wednesday Minyan followed by class
- ✧ Wed. 9/30 Talmud Torah
- ✧ Thur. 10/1 Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Greyber at UNC Hillel
- ✧ Thur. 10/1 Synagogue Life Meeting
- ✧ Fri. 10/2 Kabbalat Shabbat Services, Bat Mitzvah of Gavi Fischer
- ✧ Fro. 10/2 Teen Shabbat Dinner @ Rabbi Greyber's Home

Gabbai Schedule

Contact the scheduled gabbai if you'd like to request an *aliyah*, other honor, or to volunteer to lead a service in the Main Sanctuary. Gabbaim will try to accommodate requests made on Shabbat morning (by 10:15am, before the Torah service) but we ask for your understanding if all honors have been previously claimed during the week.



9/19 Vayeilech Shuva Roger Perilstein rperilstein@hrc-pa.com	919-286-9814
9/26 Haazinu Sally Laliberte selalib@gmail.com	919-302-0035
9/28 Sukkot I Shula Bernard shulabernard@gmail.com	919-967-9393
9/29 Sukkot II Alan Mandel andelcpa@gmail.com	917-589-5673
10/3 Hol Hamoed Sukkot Diane Markoff diane.markoff@earthlink.net	919-969-8953

Parashat Vayelexh

Adapted from <http://www.uscj.org/>

Moses officially transfers his position of leadership to Joshua. Moses writes down the Teaching and tells the people to read it publicly on Sukkot once every seven years. God assures Moses that the Israelites inevitably will break the covenant and that God will hide God's presence from them. Moses is asked to write a poem to teach the Israelites of this likelihood. Moses relays God's prediction to the people, and prepares to recite the poem along with Joshua.

Theme #1: Hide and Seek

Then my anger will flare up against them, and I will abandon them and hide My countenance from them. They shall be ready prey; and many evils and troubles shall befall them. And they shall say on that day, "Surely it is because our God is not in our midst that these evils have befallen us." Yet I will keep My countenance hidden on that day, because of all the evil they have done in turning to other gods. (Deuteronomy 31:17-18)

Perhaps an absent God is a scarier proposition than an angry God.

Is God dead? It is a question that tantalizes both believers, who perhaps secretly fear that he is, and atheists, who possibly suspect that the answer is no. Is God dead? The three words represent a summons to reflect on the meaning of existence. No longer is the question the taunting jest of skeptics for whom unbelief is the test of wisdom and for whom Nietzsche is the prophet who gave the right answer a century ago. ... -- Time Magazine, April 8, 1966

"I will conceal my face" as if I do not see their distress. -- Rashi on 31:17

The gematria of the final letters of [this verse: 95] is equal to that of the name Haman. This is in accordance with what our Sages have expounded in the Talmudic tractate Hulin: The phrase "but I will surely have concealed" (Deuteronomy 31:18) is an allusion to Queen Esther. -- Ba'al HaTurim

Theme #2: Parchment-back Writer

When Moses had put down in writing the words of this Teaching to the very end, Moses charged the Levites who carried the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord, saying: Take this book of Teaching and place it beside the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord your God, and let it remain there as a witness against you. (Deuteronomy 31:24-26)

God's written word provides not only instruction for future generations, but testimony for generations that disobey God's will.

Oral tradition alone is not enough. Memory is not only to be "in their mouths" but also to be written "on your hand." The Lord instructs Moses directly to "Write this for a memorial in a book." Along the way, "Moses wrote all the words of the Lord" on the mountain, inscribed "the words of this law in a book," and not only wrote down the words of a song but "taught it to the children of Israel". To his long list of roles, Moses can, then, add "song leader" and "social director." -- Aaron Wildavsky, Moses as Political Leader

The only place in Deuteronomy where direct claims are articulated of Moses' having acted as a scribe is in 31:24-25 where Moses is reported as writing the words of "this law" (or "this teaching" or "this torah") on a scroll, and the scroll is placed in the ark of the covenant. The definite "this" is unambiguous. It refers to the material Moses has just been giving to the Chosen People in his long speeches. Some of it is already written down (as reported in Deut. 30:10), which implies that Moses is reading from a scroll already in existence and now he writes down the rest of what he has been telling the people. Therefore, in total, all that is being suggested about Moses as author is that he recorded something about the children of Israel in the wilderness and that he wrote out parts of the teachings that are found in Deuteronomy. It is not a strong case for ascribing the first five books of the scriptures to Moses ... -- Donald Harman Akenson, Surpassing Wonder

Rabbi Yohanan said in the name of Rabbi Banaah: The Torah was given in separate scrolls, for David declared, "Then I said, I, who am alluded to in a scroll in the book of Torah, am come" (Psalms 40:8). But Rabbi Shimon ben Lakish said: The Torah was given as [one] sealed [book], for it is said, "[When Moses had finished writing the words of this Torah in a book, to the very end, Moses commanded the Levites], 'Take this book of Torah.'" -- Gittin 60a

Beth El Synagogue

1004 Watts Street

Durham, NC 27701

919.682.1238

info@betheldurham.org

www.betheldurham.org

Rabbi: Daniel Greyber

Rabbi Emeritus: Steven Sager

Synagogue President: Rachel Galanter

Refuah Shleymah רפואה שלמה

Aharon ben David u'Miriam (Alan Goldman)	Reuven ben Chanoch v'Dinah (Robert Feurst)	Lydia Cowan Davis Elinor Fleishman
Aliza Chana bat Leah	Rifka bat Idel v'Elka	Ilene Jacobson
Baracha bat Sarah	Rut bat Sarah (Suzanne Furst)	Anne Krunkosky
Ben-Zion ben Sarah	Sara bat Hinda (Sylvia Dante)	Jennifer Krunkosky
Chana bat Malkah	Sarah Gittel bat Rut (Sue Perlo)	Inez McFarling Ezra Rapport
David ben Avraham v'Sarah (David Weaver)	Sharon bat Aharon v'Devorah (Sharon Halperin)	Jack Reich Pearl Rohde
David ben Sarah (David Leitner)	Shira Batya bat Meirav	Richard Roth
Dovid ben Shayna Etta (David Riceman)	Shmuel Ariyeh ben Karit	Lauren Schiro
Eliezer David ben Feigel (Larry Berger)	Shmuel ben Shoshana	Susan Tolchin
Eliyahu Chanan ben Sarah (Ed Gagnon)	Tziporah bat Esther	Christine Walters
Gershon Yonah ben Teyva haKohen v'Chanah Leah haLevi	Yehudit bat Rachel	Orrie Wilner Amy Wolf
M'cor Eyshel bat Esther Tzvia	Lee Ballen	Lucretia Bell
Miryam bat Rivkah (May Segal)	Sonia Berman	Anne Boyd
Ovadya ben Elinor (Ovadya Fleishman)	Cynthia Brown	Please contact the synagogue office with any additions or changes to this list.

Yahrzeits יארצייט

Michel Baranger	Melvin Gladstein
Morris Becker	Israel Gutman
Rifkie Kresses Birnbrey	Bernice Kahn
Pearl Cohen	Lester Zauder

BE Remembered

Beth El Synagogue extends condolences to Gary and Abby Zarkin and their family on the death of Gary's father - Sam Zarkin - who passed away on September 12th in Seattle. The Zarkins will have a shiva minyan at their home on Sunday, September 20th at 7:00 pm. Their address is 3705 Sweeten Creek Road in Chapel Hill.

BE at Beth El

Beth El welcomes the following returning and new members to our congregation!

Ruth Aronowitz-Thomson, Perri (18) & Emma and Anna (15); Marc Brettler; Rabbi Jerry & Carole Fox; Laslo & Susan Gross; Adam & Rikki Sanogueira and Halleli (3); Craig & Rona Spitzer, Justin (8) and Max (4)