

# CONGREGATION AGUDATH JACOB

May Nisan/Iyar 5779  
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From the Desk of

**Rabbi Ben-Zion Lanxner**



Today, the 27<sup>th</sup> Nissan 5779, May 1, 2019 is a time for our Holocaust Remembrance Day, for all the victims of the Nazi's atrocities, massacres, barbarism and other evils on an epic scale.

As we remember our Jewish brothers and sisters – more than one in two of every Jew in Europe: young and old, rich and poor, pious and assimilated, and a million and a half children.

On January 27, 1945, Russian troops liberated Auschwitz and saw for the first-time, sights we still find difficult to comprehend – the reality of the so-called Final Solution in which all the Jews of Europe were scheduled for destruction.

It is impossible to walk through the gates of Auschwitz, with their mocking inscription, "Arbeit Macht Frei" (labor makes you free), without feeling that you have entered the gates of hell.

The Holocaust defies the imagination.

To give the simplest sense of scale: the 21<sup>st</sup> century was transformed by a multiple act of terror on September 11, 2001, when **3000 people** died in the attacks on the World Trade Centre and the Pentagon, the worst terrorist incident in American history.

During the Holocaust, on average, **3000 Jews** were murdered, **every single day continuously, for five and a half years**. If we observe a minute of silence for each of the victims, the silence would last more than eleven years!

A whole murdered generation. 'For these I weep' says the Book of Lamentations. על אלה אני בוכיה "Al Eileh Ani Bochiyah" 'My eyes, my eyes run with tears and there is no one to comfort me, no one to restore my spirit.' We remember the victims.

But today I want to pay a personal tribute to the survivors. To every one of them, from whom I have learned more than any other group I have met, and who I admire above all.

How they survived knowing what they had seen and lived through I will never know. The Bible uses words about Noah that it uses about no one else. He was righteous, perfect in his generations, he walked with God, and yet, Noah after the flood could hardly live. We see him drunk and dishevelled, a sad shadow of what he once was. Even Noah, the righteous man could not bear the pain of seeing his world destroyed.

And yet, the survivors I knew and know somehow found a greater strength than that,

partly because they gave one another strength having many of them lost all their families – they became one another’s family and lifted one another.

Partly because with an absolutely iron will, they looked towards the future, perhaps knowing that if they once looked back, they would be turned like Lot’s wife into a pillar of salt.

And partly in this, I find most moving of all, because of their indomitable faith in life itself they married or remarried, many of them, had children, grandchildren, and refused to let evil have the final word or the final victory. They made a vow that they will do their best to replace those one and a half million children who perished in the crematorium.

And so, the survivors became my heroes.

And then when they built a life for themselves and often after only fifty years, they did look back and they told their stories – taught them to all our children and bore witness so that the world would know these things happened not just through films or books, but through the words of those who were there.

And then I think of some of their stories.

I think of Victor Frankel, the late Victor Frankel, who survived Auschwitz spending all his free time there giving people the will to live and after the war creating an entire new school of psychotherapy built on man’s will to meaning.

I think of the Rabbi of Klausenburg, the late Rabbi Yekutiel Halberstam, who survived Auschwitz and Dachau, but lost his wife and all eleven of his children, and during the war he

vowed that, if he survived then he would dedicate his life to saving life.

He built the Laniado hospital in Israel, one of the few Orthodox hospital in Israel, where most of the terror attacks emergency cases are sent to, and I can tell you the story first hand, since my sister in law is the head nurse in this Emergency room. This hospital is dedicated to healing Jews, Muslims, Palestinians (even terrorists) and Christians alike, to dealing with their spirits, as well as their bodies in absolute dignity.

I think of so many others whose whole lives after the Holocaust were a way of thanking God for life by enhancing the lives of others.

We cannot change the past, but the survivors have shown us that out of the wreckage of destruction something can be redeemed from the past if we fight hate with love, brutality with compassion, and death with an unconquerable dedication to life.

May God bless the survivors, all survivors, and may their courage inspire us and our children never to hate and never to be afraid.

As Rabbi Nachman of Bratzlav song goes...

כל העולם כולו גשר צר מאד, והעקר לא לפחד כלל

“The entire world is a narrow bridge, but the main thing is not to fear”.

**Am Israel Chai – Never Forget – Never Again**

**See you all at our Yom HaShoah  
Remembrance Day program.**

*Rabbi Ben-Zion Lanxner*

# MAY Service Schedule

## Friday, May 3

Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m.  
Candle Lighting 7:52 p.m.

## Saturday, May 4

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.  
Shabbat Ends 8:49 p.m.

## Friday, May 10

Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m.  
Candle Lighting 7:57 p.m.

## Saturday, May 11

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.  
Shabbat Ends 8:55 p.m.

## Friday, May 17

Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m.  
Candle Lighting 8:01 p.m.

## Saturday, May 18

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.  
Shabbat Ends 9:00 p.m.

## Friday, May 24

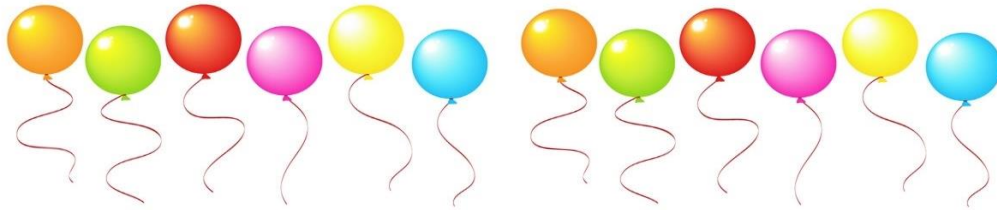
Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m.  
Candle Lighting 8:06 p.m.

## Saturday, May 25

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.  
Shabbat Ends 9:05 p.m.

## Friday, May 31

Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m.  
Candle Lighting 8:10 p.m.



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

**May 2**

Miguel Perez

**May 11**

Dorothy Harelik

**May 12**

Chava Kamenetsky

**May 14**

David Fay

Avigail Via

**May 15**

Jake Bauer

**May 20**

Betty Bauer

**May 21**

Jayden Mayette

**May 24**

Daniel Barish



# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

**May 4**

Mr. & Mrs. George Keller

**May 9**

Mr. & Mrs. Craig Hoffman

**May 25**

Mr. & Mrs. David Jortner

**May 30**

Mr. & Mrs. Joel Weissman



**Special Donations:**

*Robert & Gayle Monta*

*Zack & Genie Zacharias*

*Shanna Rogers*

**Rabbi Discretionary Fund:**

*Melvin & Lynne Lipsitz*

**April Food Sponsors:**

*Rabbi Lanxner*

**Shabbat Donations:**

April 6

*David Fay*

*Judy Hersh*

*Javis Howeth*

*Miguel Perez*

*Joseph Settle*

*Abbye & Susan Silver*

*Jim & Morasha Stuckey*

*Gloria Yoder*

April 13

*Judy Hersh*

*Javis Howeth*

*Joseph Settle*

*Abbye & Susan Silver*

*Jim & Morasha Stuckey*

April 20

*Judy Hersh*

*James & Gabrielle Howle*

*Miguel Perez*

*Joseph Settle*

*Jim & Morasha Stuckey*

*Gloria Yoder*

April 27

*David Fay*

*Debbie Hersh*

*Judy Hersh*

*James & Gabrielle Howle*

*Joseph Settle*

*Gloria Yoder*



*Bar Mitzvah*  
**BRIGGS ALCOCK HABER**

*Friday, May 24, 2019 at 7:00 pm*

TEMPLE RODEF SHOLOM, 1717 N 41ST STREET, WACO, TX

RECEPTION FOLLOWING SERVICE

RSVP TO (254) 716-1812

Please join us and the entire Haber family as Briggs becomes a  
Bar Mitzvah!

RSVP directly to 254.7165.1812 **NO LATER THAN** May 15<sup>th</sup>.



The office will be closed on  
Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup> for Memorial Day.

*In Loving Memory*



**Deana Stupak**

Melvin & Lynne Lipsitz  
Richard & Ellen Shaw  
James & Sidney Evans  
Cheryl Hersh  
Houston Federation of Teachers  
Amanda Hensen Perry  
Harry Harelik  
Louis & Sara Jo Englander  
Barry & Sandy Halpern  
Michael & Candance Leskin

**Norma Ivette Alvarez Norat**

Howard Miller

**Birdie Citrin**

Jeff Levin

**Jack Ruttenberg**

Phyllis & Mahmoud Akmal  
Rina Ruttenberg & Daniel Holland

**Donald C. Stuckey**

Jim & Morasha Stuckey

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### HOW TO OBSERVE THE YAHRZEIT

It is traditional to kindle a Yahrzeit Candle in the home on the evening Yahrzeit begins. It should remain lighted until sunset the next day. Possible prayer before lighting a Yahrzeit candle: Eternal God, I/we light this candle in memory of (name) \_\_\_\_\_, my/our beloved (relationship) \_\_\_\_\_. The light of the flame rekindles all the warm memories of the moment we shared together and reassures me/us that a piece of his/her soul dwells in my/our heart(s) forever. May his/her soul be bound up with the bonds of eternal life. Amen. Candles are available at the Gift Shop. Every effort should be made to say Kaddish at congregational services. It is meritorious to perform some Mitzvah or to contribute to the synagogue in commemoration of the deceased.

#### Kaddish will be read on May 3

*Nisan 28 Leah Beerman  
Alex Stein  
Morris Miller*

*Nisan 29 Ida Berkman  
Don Tocker*

*Iyar 1 Harry Goltz  
M.S. Roberts*

*Iyar 2 Sam Rubel  
Richard Lamar  
Brinkley*

*Iyar 3 Tessie Ruskin*

*Iyar 4 Adam Kiss  
Lester Englander  
Lawrence Lynn*

#### Kaddish will be read on May 10

*Iyar 5 Agnes Rubel  
Mrs. Ben Golob  
Abraham J.*

*Sprecher*

*Iyar 6 Ruth Bell*

*Iyar 7 Bertha Rosen  
Rebecca Brickman  
Jake Berkman*

*Iyar 8 Eva Wizig  
Abe Hashfield  
M. Berlowitz*

*Iyar 9 Z. Hoppenstein  
Muriel Jesenof*

*Iyar 10*

*Mary Novich  
Dr. Sam Chernoff  
Leona Faye*

*Stuckey*

*Iyar 11 Annie Esserman  
Sarah Israel*

*Jack Weissman*

*Dave Freed  
Max Chodorow  
Lillian Rubenstein*

#### Kaddish will be read on May 17

*Iyar 12 Benjamin Bauer*

*Joe Leo Siegel  
Louis Woolf*

*Iyar 13 Millie Gardner  
Abe Adams*

*Iyar 14 Adrian Moes  
Fannie Genecov  
Rhua Settle*

*Iyar 15 Sarah Hoffman  
Morris Cohen  
Annie Rae Wizig*

*Iyar 16 Gilford Fred*

*Iyar 17 Julius Berkman  
Jacob Greenspan  
Samuel Kestner*

*Iyar 18 Abe Udashen  
N. Suravitz  
Jennie Rosenberg*

#### Kaddish will be read on May 24

*Iyar 19 Louis Kleiman  
Ralph Leeds  
Barnett Sachs*

*Iyar 20*

*Sonia Stein*

*Iyar 21*

*Louis Marks*

*Lee Wolkoff*

*Sarah Stein*

*Iyar 22*

*Max Hoppenstein*

*Abe Lewis*

*Hyman Novy*

*Iyar 23*

*Mandel H. Citrin*

*Iyar 24*

*A. Polansky*

*Mary Budin*

*Orpha Starr*

*Iyar 25*

*Otto Levy*

*David Harry*

*Rubel*

*Sara Stupak*

*Steve Zelen*

#### Kaddish will be read on May 31

*Iyar 26*

*Dave Spero*

*Iyar 27*

*Phillip M. Citrin*

*Sarah Cohen*

*J. Englander*

*Hannah Lasinker*

*Lilly Maleh*

*Barbara Vondra*

*Iyar 28*

*Abe Levy*

*Toby Mallen*

*Iyar 29*

*Al Jacobson*

*Sivan 1*

*Rosaline Gardner*

*Jacob Jacobson*

*Rebecca*

*Zoblotsky*

*Hennie Genecov*

*Sivan 2*

*John Harry Fay*

# May 2019

## 26 Nisan 5779 - 26 Iyar 5779

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 5:22AM/7:23PM  <b>Religious School 4:15 pm</b>  26 Nisan/11 L'Omer Bechoros 14	2 5:21AM/7:24PM §8:09PM Yom Hashoah   27 Nisan/12 L'Omer Bechoros 15	3 5:19AM/7:25PM ii7:07PM Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m.  28 Nisan/13 L'Omer Bechoros 16	4 5:18AM/7:26PM §8:11PM Shacharit 9:30 a.m. #showupforshabbatMev archim  29 Nisan/14 L'Omer Bechoros 17
5 5:17AM/7:27PM  Rosh Hodesh I Minyan 9:30 a.m. "Against All Odds" Video Series Disc 3 11:00 a.m.  30 Nisan/15 L'Omer Bechoros 18	6 5:16AM/7:28PM  Rosh Hodesh II   1 Iyar/16 L'Omer Bechoros 19	7 5:14AM/7:29PM    2 Iyar/17 L'Omer Bechoros 20	8 5:13AM/7:30PM §8:15PM Yom Hazikaron  <b>Religious School 4:15 pm</b>  3 Iyar/18 L'Omer Bechoros 21	9 5:12AM/7:31PM §8:16PM Yom Ha'Atzmaut  4 Iyar/19 L'Omer Bechoros 22	10 5:11AM/7:32PM ii7:14PM Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m.  5 Iyar/20 L'Omer Bechoros 23	11 5:10AM/7:33PM §8:18PM Shacharit 9:30 a.m.  6 Iyar/21 L'Omer Bechoros 24
12 5:09AM/7:34PM  Minyan 9:30 a.m. "Against All Odds" Video Series Disc 4 11:00 a.m.  7 Iyar/22 L'Omer Bechoros 25	13 5:08AM/7:35PM    8 Iyar/23 L'Omer Bechoros 26	14 5:07AM/7:36PM    9 Iyar/24 L'Omer Bechoros 27	15 5:06AM/7:37PM  <b>Religious School 4:15 pm</b>  10 Iyar/25 L'Omer Bechoros 28	16 5:05AM/7:38PM    11 Iyar/26 L'Omer Bechoros 29	17 5:04AM/7:39PM ii7:21PM Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m.  12 Iyar/27 L'Omer Bechoros 30	18 5:03AM/7:40PM §8:25PM Shacharit 9:30 a.m.  13 Iyar/28 L'Omer Bechoros 31
19 5:02AM/7:41PM §8:26PM Pesach Sheini Minyan 9:30 a.m. "Against All Odds" Video Series Disc 5 11:00 a.m.  14 Iyar/29 L'Omer Bechoros 32	20 5:02AM/7:42PM    15 Iyar/30 L'Omer Bechoros 33	21 5:01AM/7:43PM    16 Iyar/31 L'Omer Bechoros 34	22 5:00AM/7:44PM  <b>Religious School 4:15 pm</b>  17 Iyar/32 L'Omer Bechoros 35	23 4:59AM/7:45PM §8:30PM Lag B'Omer  18 Iyar/33 L'Omer Bechoros 36	24 4:59AM/7:46PM ii7:28PM Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m.  19 Iyar/34 L'Omer Bechoros 37	25 4:58AM/7:47PM §8:32PM Shacharit 9:30 a.m.  20 Iyar/35 L'Omer Bechoros 38
26 4:57AM/7:47PM  Minyan 9:30 a.m. "Against All Odds" Video Series Disc 6 11:00 a.m.  21 Iyar/36 L'Omer Bechoros 39	27 4:57AM/7:48PM    22 Iyar/37 L'Omer Bechoros 40	28 4:56AM/7:49PM    23 Iyar/38 L'Omer Bechoros 41	29 4:55AM/7:50PM  <b>Religious School 4:15 pm LAST DAY</b>  24 Iyar/39 L'Omer Bechoros 42	30 4:55AM/7:51PM    25 Iyar/40 L'Omer Bechoros 43	31 4:54AM/7:51PM ii7:33PM Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m.  26 Iyar/41 L'Omer Bechoros 44	