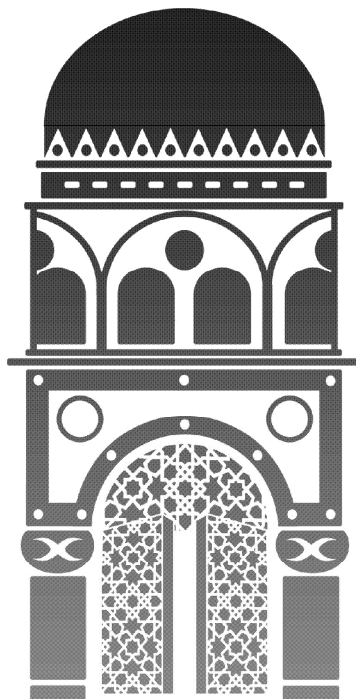


WEST LONDON SYNAGOGUE

ק"ק שער ציון

WELCOMES YOU



שַׁבַּת שְׁלוֹם

SHABBAT SHALOM

17/18 May 2019

13 Iyyar 5779

SHABBAT SHALOM AND WELCOME TO WEST LONDON SYNAGOGUE

FRIDAY

6.00pm:

Erev Shabbat Service

Led by Rabbi Julia, Rabbi Sybil

Sermon by: Rabbi Sybil

7:15pm:

Shabbat Shirah Service

Led by: Rabbi David

Wardens:

Gillian Westwood, Vivien Feather and Lilliane Chan

Beadle:

Micky Nathanson

SATURDAY

10.30am:

Coffee Morning

11.00am:

Shabbat Morning Service

Led by Rabbi Julia and Rabbi Sybil

Sermon by: Rabbi Julia

Wardens:

Gillian Westwood, Vivien Feather and Lilliane Chan

Beadle:

Micky Nathanson

Torah:

Leviticus 25:1-13

Haftarah:

Jeremiah 34:6-15

Please join us for Shabbat kiddush after the service.

Doctor or fully trained first aider?

If you are a doctor, trained first aider or fully trained mental health first aider please make yourself known to the wardens and beadle.

PARASHAT B'HAR

Parashat B'har presents laws regulating the sabbatical year and the jubilee year. The people are told that for six years they are to sow their fields and prune their vineyards, but, during the seventh year, the land is to be given a complete rest, a Sabbath. Every fiftieth year is to be a jubilee year in which land and vineyards must not be worked and in which liberty will be granted to all Israelites enslaved during the previous forty-nine years. The jubilee year also marks a return of any properties purchased during the previous forty-nine years to the original owner-families who had been given the land at the time the Israelites entered it.

COMMUNITY NEWS

We extend a warm Mazel tov to:

- Sidney Tordjman and Preeti Kler on their Auf Ruf.
- Maya Woolf and her family on Maya's Bat Mitzvah.

וַיִּדְבֹר יְיָ אֶל־מֹשֶׁה בְּהַר סִינַי לֵאמֹר: דַּבֵּר אֶל־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאָמַרְתָּ
 אֲלֵהֶם כִּי תִבְאוּ אֶל־הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר אָנֹכִי נֹתֵן לָכֶם וּשְׁבַתָּהּ הָאָרֶץ שִׁבְתָּ לִּי:
 שֵׁשׁ שָׁנִים תִּזְרַע שְׂדֶךְ וּשְׁשׁ שָׁנִים תִּזְמַר כְּרֶמֶךְ וְאִסַּפְתָּ אֶת־תְּבוּאָתָהּ:
 וּבַשְּׁנָה הַשְּׁבִיעִית שִׁבְתָּ שְׁבַתוֹן יִהְיֶה לְאָרֶץ שִׁבְתָּ לִּי שְׂדֶךְ לֹא תִזְרַע
 וּכְרֶמֶךְ לֹא תִזְמַר: אֵת סַפִּיחַ קִצְיֹרֶךְ לֹא תִקְצֹר וְאֶת־עֵנְבֵי נִזְיֹרֶךְ לֹא
 תִבְצֹר שְׁנַת שְׁבַתוֹן יִהְיֶה לְאָרֶץ: וְהִיְתָה שְׁבַת הָאָרֶץ לָכֶם לְאֹכְלָהּ לָךְ
 וּלְעַבְדְּךָ וּלְאִמְתְּךָ וּלְשִׁכְיֹרֶךְ וּלְתוֹשֵׁבְךָ הַגֵּרִים עִמָּךְ: וְלִבְהֶמְתָּךְ וּלְחַיָּה
 אֲשֶׁר בְּאֶרְצְךָ תִהְיֶה כָל־תְּבוּאָתָהּ לְאֹכֵל:

וְיִסְפַּרְתָּ לָךְ שִׁבְעַת שָׁנִים שִׁבְעַת שָׁנִים שִׁבְעַת שָׁנִים שִׁבְעַת שָׁנִים וְהָיוּ לָךְ יָמֵי
 שִׁבְעַת שָׁנִים תִּשְׁעַת שָׁנִים וְאַרְבָּעִים שָׁנָה: וְהִעֲבַרְתָּ שׁוֹפָר תְּרוּעָה בַּחֹדֶשׁ
 הַשְּׁבִעִי בַּעֲשׂוֹר לַחֹדֶשׁ בְּיוֹם הַכִּפּוּרִים תִּעֲבִירוּ שׁוֹפָר בְּכָל־אֶרְצְכֶם:
 וְקִדְשְׁתֶּם אֶת שְׁנַת הַחֲמִשִּׁים שָׁנָה וּקְרַאתֶם דְּרוֹר בְּאָרֶץ לְכָל־יֹשְׁבֵיהָ
 יוֹבֵל הוּא תִהְיֶה לָכֶם וּשְׁבַתֶם אִישׁ אֶל־אֲחֵזְתּוֹ וְאִישׁ אֶל־מִשְׁפַּחְתּוֹ
 תִּשְׁבוּ:

יוֹבֵל הוּא שְׁנַת הַחֲמִשִּׁים שָׁנָה תִהְיֶה לָכֶם לֹא תִזְרְעוּ וְלֹא תִקְצְרוּ
 אֶת־סַפִּיחֵיהָ וְלֹא תִבְצְרוּ אֶת־נִזְיֹרֶיהָ: כִּי יוֹבֵל הוּא קֹדֶשׁ תִהְיֶה לָכֶם
 מִן־הַשְּׂדֶה תֹאכְלוּ אֶת־תְּבוּאָתָהּ: בַּשְּׁנַת הַיּוֹבֵל הַזֹּאת תִּשְׁבוּ אִישׁ
 אֶל־אֲחֵזְתּוֹ:

LEVITICUS 25:1-13

¹The Eternal One said to Moses at Mount Sinai, ²“Speak to the Israelites and say to them: ‘When you enter the land I am going to give you, the land itself must observe a sabbath to the Eternal One. ³For six years sow your fields, and for six years prune your vineyards and gather their crops. ⁴But in the seventh year the land is to have a year of sabbath rest, a sabbath to the Eternal One. Do not sow your fields or prune your vineyards. ⁵Do not reap what grows of itself or harvest the grapes of your untended vines. The land is to have a year of rest. ⁶Whatever the land yields during the sabbath year will be food for you - for yourself, your male and female servants, and the hired worker and temporary resident who live among you, ⁷as well as for your livestock and the wild animals in your land. Whatever the land produces may be eaten. The Year of Jubilee,

⁸“Count off seven sabbath years - seven times seven years - so that the seven sabbath years amount to a period of forty-nine years. ⁹Then have the trumpet sounded everywhere on the tenth day of the seventh month; on the Day of Atonement sound the trumpet throughout your land. ¹⁰Consecrate the fiftieth year and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you; each of you is to return to your family property and to your own clan.

¹¹The fiftieth year shall be a jubilee for you; do not sow and do not reap what grows of itself or harvest the untended vines. ¹²For it is a jubilee and is to be holy for you; eat only what is taken directly from the fields. ¹³In this Year of Jubilee everyone is to return to their own property.

JEREMIAH 34:6-15

6 Then Jeremiah the prophet told all this to Zedekiah king of Judah, in Jerusalem, 7 while the army of the king of Babylon was fighting against Jerusalem and the other cities of Judah that were still holding out—Lachish and Azekah. These were the only fortified cities left in Judah. 8 The word came to Jeremiah from the Eternal One after King Zedekiah had made a covenant with all the people in Jerusalem to proclaim freedom for the slaves. 9 Everyone was to free their Hebrew slaves, both male and female; no one was to hold a fellow Hebrew in bondage. 10 So all the officials and people who entered into this covenant agreed that they would free their male and female slaves and no longer hold them in bondage. They agreed, and set them free. 11 But afterward they changed their minds and took back the slaves they had freed and enslaved them again. 12 Then the word of the Eternal One came to Jeremiah: 13 “This is what the Eternal One, the God of Israel, says: I made a covenant with your ancestors when I brought them out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. I said, 14 ‘Every seventh year each of you must free any fellow Hebrews who have sold themselves to you. After they have served you six years, you must let them go free.’ Your ancestors, however, did not listen to me or pay attention to me. 15 Recently you repented and did what is right in my sight: Each of you proclaimed freedom to your own people. You even made a covenant before me in the house that bears my Name.

RABBI NEIL'S THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK^v

In a couple of weeks I will be leading a conversation as part of our Young Adults programming entitled 'JTalk: Living Well – Is it a mitzvah?'. The JTalk series has been created by Or Madmon, our Young Adults Coordinator to bring lively and current conversations into the synagogue space. Living Well is a constant challenge in today's hectic and pressured life – how do we create balance and good health and what role do Jewish values, practice and learning have to play in reaching a goal of living well.

It's also a play on words because the Hebrew is 'Be'er Chayyim' – the well of life – an allusion to our Jewish traditions and insights. In September I will be launching a full programme under the Lyons Learning Project around this theme, so the session for our Young Adults will be a taster session – and you do not need to worry if you aren't young because there will be a chance for you to enrol in the bigger programme soon!

The idea of wellness and water-wells is something I have been thinking about a lot lately because Rabbi Miriam Berger and I are working with a small cross-communal group to build a building housing a new Mikveh (ritual immersion pool). There is a mikveh at the Sternberg Centre but it is in need of upgrading and the current space does not offer the potential for something like Mayim Chayim in Boston or Mikveh Shmaya in Kibbutz Hannaton. At these centres a total experience for spiritual well-being is offered for people seeking to use the mikveh as part of their journey through life. Rabbi Berger wrote a beautiful sermon about the way she used the mikveh in coming to terms with her own fertility, as just one example.

Reflecting on the mikveh - the well of living waters – I find there is something remarkable about entering a pool of water seeking transformation. The water, core to that transformation, primordial, encompassing and healing does not change itself. The mikveh enabled me to discover a sense of acceptance and wholeness. In that way, the water is a connection to the Unmoved Mover, God, who is not changed even whilst being in a deep and lasting partnership with us on our journey through life.

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday 18 May

1.00pm: Library Hour

This month there's going to be a special twist to the Library Hour. In honour of the upcoming summer holidays we are going to have the 1st "Library Hour Book Club" where we want everyone to bring along your favourite "Holiday Read" - the book, either fiction or non-fiction (but somehow related to Jews and/or Judaism), that you could just not put down! We hope that by the end of the Library Hour everyone will walk away with an idea about what to read this summer. And hopefully - a borrowed or loaned copy of their chosen BOOK!

Monday 20 May

2.30pm: Bereavement Support Group

A monthly support group for those who have suffered the loss of a partner, relative or friend and an opportunity to meet others in a similar position.

For more information or to discuss this further please contact Jo Michaels on 020 7535 0290.

Sunday 2 June

6.00pm: Meet the Author: *'Where Moses Stood - Shattering Biblical & Historical Illusions'*, with Robert Feather

Robert Feather's explorations in the Sinai Desert over four years, have confirmed the Exodus did take place, and revealed the exact location where Moses stood to receive the Ten Commandments, and the circumstances of the progression of the Exodus from Egypt to the Promised Land.

Join us to hear these fascinating theories, from a seasoned author on the Copper Scroll of Qumran, who has also researched the origins of the Abrahamic faiths in the reign of the radical Pharaoh Akhenaton around 1350 BCE, and the role of Moses and a priestly community by the Dead Sea in the passing down of events and customs through the ages.

All warmly welcomed to this, the latest in our Meet The Author series.

For security reasons, please book your place in advance with Kathryn Forro on 020 7535 0259.