



קליהל קהלה



The weekly newsheet of Clayhall United Synagogue

Shabbos 3 October 2009/ 15 Tishri 5769

Service Times (Shabbos & Yom Tov)

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Shacharis | 9.00 am |
| Minchah followed by Seudah Shlishis | 5.45 pm |
| Shabbos ends/2nd day Yom Tov | 7.21 pm |
| Shabbos & Yom Tov next week | 6.06 pm |

After the solemnity and reverence of the Yomim Noraim, we now enter the joyful festival of **Succos**.

There's something for all ages at Clayhall this year - a **Succah lunch and crawl** for primary school children; **Pizza in the Hut** for the youth, and our popular **Simchas Beis Ha'Shoeva** (Succos party) for everyone! There is more information about all three events inside your Clayhall Kehilla. The Shul would be grateful for donations of whisky and other suitable drinks over this period. The second **Lunch & Learn** takes place on Thursday 22 October at RJCC beginning at 12.45 pm. A dozen people came to the first L&L last month and thoroughly enjoyed it.

Torah Reading

Leyning: Vayikra 22:26-23:44
Hertz p 518 Soncino p 748

Maftir: Bamidbar 29:12-16

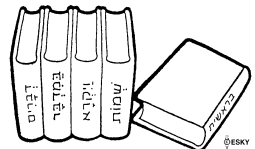
Haftorah:

Hertz p 972, Soncino p n/a

Adam Finegold

Adam Finegold

Rabbi Wilson will be speaking on "What makes a lulav Kosher and an esrog 'very nice' - an overview of the laws of arba minim" between Minchah and Ma'ariv on 2nd day Succos



This week's Clayhall Kehilla is sponsored by the Clayhall Synagogue Security Team - wishing everyone a safe and happy New Year

Children's Service: 10.30am - 11.15am
Youth Service: 10.30am - 11.15am (resumes 24 October)

Weekday Services

Shacharis: Monday to Friday, 7.00 am. Sunday @ 8.15 am.

Shacharis Rosh Chodesh: 6.45 am Monday to Friday.

Shacharis Rosh Chodesh: 8.00 am Sundays.

Minchah & Ma'ariv: 7.30 pm, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Sunday breakfasts: 25 October & 21 November

Clayhall Succos Party

Our annual Simchas Beis Ha'Shoeva (see opposite as well), takes place this **Monday 5 October** in the Shul Succah at 8.00 pm. Once again, the popular, charismatic **Rabbi Shlomo Cramer**, will be providing live entertainment with his repertoire of beautiful songs to enhance the occasion. In addition to nibbles and drinks, a regal dessert table will provide sweet sustenance. So put on your dance shoes and tune your voices for a jolly and heart-warming evening. The event is open to everyone. **The Succos party will be preceded by Ma'ariv at 7.45 pm.**

Pizza in the Hut

Our first Pizza in the Hut takes place on **Monday 5 October** at 6.00 pm until about 7.30 pm in the Shul Succah. Open to school years **7 to 11 only**, the very last chance to apply is **Sunday evening after Yom Tov** either via Facebook or by emailing:

lester.harris@btinternet.com
Pizza, chips, ice cream and bits n'bobs will be served, not all on the same plate! The event is **FREE** so there's even more incentive to be there.

Supper Quiz & Fundraising

Tickets for the **Supper Quiz**, organised by the Genesis committee are selling fast. Please speak to **Philip Shamplina** or the Shul office for tickets but hurry! It takes place on **Sunday 18 October** at RJCC. A Bingo evening on **Sunday 6 December** is also at RJCC. These are important fund raising events for the Shul as well as being fun social evenings. In March, Genesis is planning a "*Clayhall's Got Talent*" evening. There are further details about all these events on the Shul notice board in the foyer.

Succah Lunch & Crawl

There's plenty going on at Clayhall over Succos and the lunch & crawl for children in Reception to Year 6 takes place tomorrow, 2nd day Yom Tov. There are no more places available. After lunch, the children will be visiting several local succahs where hosts will be eager to impress with an array of cakes, biscuits, sweets and drinks! Thanks to all those involved in this event for their hospitality and time.

Simchas Beis Ha'Shoeva

"Whoever did not see the rejoicing of the Beis Ha'Shoeva (Rejoicing of the Place of the Water Drawing) never saw rejoicing in his lifetime." In accordance with the verse "And you shall rejoice before Hashem, your G-d, seven days (Vayikra 23:40), the Temple resonated to the sounds of fifes, harps, lyres and cymbals.

The *Rambam* in *Hilchas Lulav* describes the festivities: "Whoever could play a musical instrument did so, and whoever could sing, sang. Others would stamp their feet, slap their thighs, clap their hands, leap or dance, each one to the best of his ability, while they recited songs and hymns of praise. It is a mitzvah to make this rejoicing as great as possible. But the participation in it was not open to anyone...Only the great scholars, heads of yeshivos, members of the Sanhedrin, elders, and men distinguished for their piety and good deeds - only these dance and clapped, made music, and rejoiced in the Temple during the festival of Succos. All others, men and women, came to watch and listen."

Joy following Affliction

R' SR Hirsch perceives the celebration of Succos to be a natural outcome of the successful attainment of the spiritual goal of Yom Kippur. By abstaining from food - an absolute necessity for the soul - on Yom Kippur, we demonstrate our realization that our sinfulness makes us undeserving of further life. Because we do so, we earn G-d's mercy and forgiveness, and a renewal of our right to live. To symbolize this renewal, G-d commands that on the first day of Succos, we are to "take for ourselves" the Four Species that represent the good fruits of His creation and rejoice with them. From the affliction of Yom Kippur we advance to the boundless joy of Succos.

Three Plus One

Although all the Four Species are mentioned in the same scriptural passage, the practice is to bind together the latter three species - lulav, willows (aravos) and myrtle branches (hadassim) - leaving the esrog unbound, but held close to the others.

The Talmud (Succah 34b) explains that this arrangement is implied in the wording of the verse (Vayikra 23:40): *And you shall take for yourselves on the first day the fruit of a beautiful (esrog) tree, the branches of a date palm **and** twigs of a plaited tree **and** brook willows.* Only the latter three species are connected with the conjunctive *vav*, *and*, implying that the verse contains two groupings: a) the esrog; b) the three remaining species. However all four species are essential to the fulfilment of the mitzvah.

Though many Kabbalistic explanations have been advanced for this unique arrangement, it remains of the sublime mysteries of the Torah.

The Active Attachment by Rabbi Abba Wagensberg

The Torah says, "You shall make [literally, "make for yourself"] the holiday of Succos for seven days" (Devarim 16:13). The Talmud (Succah 11b) explains the phrase "make for yourself" to mean that every person must consciously, actively make their own succah, rather than having their succah accidentally come into being as a result of some other action.

For example, the material that forms the roof of a succah ("*schach*") must fulfill two conditions in order to be kosher: it must have originally grown from the ground, and it must be currently detached from the ground. Imagine that I have four walls forming an enclosed space in my backyard.

All summer long, I let the grass grow, until the weeds are so tall that they reach the top of the walls and droop over the edges. Obviously, these weeds are not kosher *schach*, because they are still rooted in the ground. But a week before Succos, I finally mow the lawn, and the tall weeds - which are now detached from the ground - fall over onto the walls.

Now is my succah kosher? The answer is no! I did not make the succah in my backyard; it just came into being as an accidental result of my mowing the lawn. In order to transform my weed-covered hut into a succah, I would need to gather up the weeds and actively place them on top of the walls.

The Vilna Gaon (cited in Sefer Kol HaTor 1:7) states that the entire body is involved in only two mitzvos: the mitzvah of succah and the mitzvah to dwell in the Land of Israel. (Mikvah is considered to be a preparation for other mitzvos.) He suggests that, just as we must consciously, actively make a succah, we must also be consciously involved in building the Land of Israel to the point where everything is ready for Moshiach to come.

This is not a passive waiting - "I guess it will all work out in the end" - but an active involvement in positive change.

The verse that we say every day in davening, "And a redeemer will come to Zion" (Isaiah 59:20), hints to this idea as well. Rashi explains this verse to mean that the redeemer - Moshiach - will come only to a *built* Zion. The Jerusalem Talmud (Yuma 3:2, 40b) elaborates further, saying that redemption will take place in small, gradual steps, like the sunrise. Our redemption is a process, and we must be active participants in making it come about.

Today, when the Land of Israel seems to be diminishing in size, we are faced with what could be the ultimate test in maintaining our trust in God.

We must not become despairing or distraught, but rather must do everything in our power to build and strengthen our attachment to the land. In this merit, may we be able to celebrate Succos - not just in our individual succahs, but also with "*Succas Dovid haNofeles*" - the Holy Temple in a rebuilt Jerusalem.

Adapted from an article by Rabbi Abba Wagensberg on www.aish.com; for more articles and essays by the same author, please visit the Aish website

Clayhall United Synagogue

Sinclair House, Woodford Bridge Road,

Redbridge, Essex, IG4 5LN

Tel: 020 8551 6533 e-mail: clayhallsynagogue@hotmail.com

www.clayhallsynagogue.org.uk