

SHABBAT SERVICES

Torah Study

Shabbat mornings, 8:45-9:45 am

Friday, November 4

Shabbat Service, 6:15 pm

Cantor John Kaplan

Greeters: Margie Kerstine & Irma Binder

Tot Shabbat and dinner, 6:15 pm

Rabbi Micah Greenstein

Dinner reservations at timemphis.org

Saturday, November 5

10:00 am

Noah Mayer, son of Ruth and Minton Mayer, will become bar mitzvah.

Friday, November 11

6:15 pm

Rabbi Micah Greenstein

Greeters: Berta Stevens and Alice Ahart

Saturday, November 12

10:00 am

Maggie Strassburger, daughter of Dory and David Greenberg and Julien Strassburger, and Benjamin Greenberg, son of Sharon and Barry Greenberg, will become b'nai mitzvah.

Friday, November 18

Shabbat Service, 6:15 pm

Cantor John Kaplan

Greeters: Fran & Hal Kaufman

Family Shabbat and dinner, 6:15 pm

Rabbi Adam Grossman

Dinner reservations at timemphis.org

Ruach Service, 7:30 pm

Rabbi Micah Greenstein and the Ruach band

Saturday, November 19

10:00 am

Rabbi Adam Grossman

Friday, November 25

6:15 pm

Cantor John Kaplan

Greeters: Alison Delugach & Fannie Notowitz

Saturday, November 26

10:00 am

Allison Boshwit, daughter of Juliet and Andrew Boshwit, and Matthew Saslawsky, son of Betsy and Andrew Saslawsky, will become b'nai mitzvah.



Friday services are also live at timemphis.org

Be a greeter at a Shabbat service! Please call Sylvia Appleton, 761-3130.

Honor a loved one or commemorate a joyous family occasion by sponsoring a Kiddush. Call Sharon Nickol, 937-2797, for details.

BETWEEN YOU AND ME

When Rabbi Chayim of Volozhin died, there was great excitement in heaven. The host of angels who came out to greet him told him there would be no need of a trial and that he would be admitted to heaven immediately, so rich was he in good deeds. But Rabbi Chayim brushed aside the invitation and insisted that there had to be a trial for him, just as there is for everyone else. He cited the passage in the Talmud that requires that all must be treated equally by the law.

At the trial, he was told he would be admitted and given a seat of high honor in heaven for having established the great Yeshiva in Volozhin. But Rabbi Chayim argued again on the basis of Talmudic law, arguing that if he was entitled to a reward, then surely the students of the school were as well, for he could not have accomplished what he did without them.

The court agreed that he was right. But Reb Chayim then argued that he would not enter heaven unless and until all the people of Volozhin were admitted too, for they had taken the students in and given them food and lodging. Without them, he said, the Yeshiva could not have succeeded. The heavenly court deliberated and came to the conclusion that again he was right; the people of Volozhin were entitled to a share of his glory.

But Rabbi Chayim was not finished yet! He said, "The people of Volozhin at least had the satisfaction of seeing the results of their charity. But what about all those Jews far away who contributed to the school without ever having the satisfaction of seeing it? Surely, they too deserve a share of the reward. The court conferred and agreed once more that he was right.

Then Reb Chayim insisted that all Jews should be admitted with him, since all Jewish households everywhere contribute in some way to the maintenance of Torah. But even this did not satisfy him. He argued further that gentiles too have provided a home for Jews, and therefore, they too should have a share in the Torah. This time he was told that he had asked for too much, there was simply not enough room in heaven for all, and that what he was asking was not possible until the Messiah comes.

"In that case," said Rabbi Chayim, "I will stay outside with them and wait." And until this very day, his great soul waits patiently at the portals of heaven, studying Torah with intensity and praying for the ultimate redemption of all humanity.

This may sound far-fetched, but who can do better than Rabbi Chayim and treat everyone else as a part of the same human family? Isn't that the message of Thanksgiving later this month? Isn't that the purpose of our synagogue, "to be a light unto others?" Isn't that the meaning of true brotherhood and sisterhood?

Faithfully yours,
Rabbi Micah D. Greenstein



URJ BIENNIAL
December 14-18, 2011
Washington, D.C.



Rabbi Greenstein



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Rabbi Greenstein has the distinct honor and privilege of leading the Friday night Shabbat service at this year's Biennial.

Biennial, the largest Jewish gathering in North America, is where Reform Jews gather to learn, pray, share ideas, dance and sing, hear from inspiring guest speakers, reunite with old friends, make new connections, and make decisions about the policies of the Reform Movement.