



Carnegie Shul Chatter

May 16, 2018

SHABBAT



SHALOM!

Candle lighting 8:15

Shabbat Services: 9:20 am

Shavuot Services

Sunday, May 20 and Monday, May 21 (Yizkor): 9:30 am

Shavuot

Shavuot, the holiday that commemorates the giving of the Torah and the Ten Commandments to the Jewish people on Mt. Sinai some 3300 years ago, begins at sundown this Saturday, May 19, and continues until sundown on Monday, May 21. There are very few Jews who do not do something to mark the observances of Rosh Hashanah, Yom, Kippur, or Passover. They certainly know when these holidays are occurring and most either go to shul or have a Passover Seder. But, sadly, nowhere near as many Jews seem to know or do anything special to commemorate Shavuot, and that is a shame, because it is a very important holiday in its own right.

Pray for Israel

This was an historic week, indeed, for the State of Israel, as the United States officially moved its embassy to Jerusalem, recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

But while Israel celebrated the opening of the embassy, the Jewish state was also facing widespread riots instigated by Hamas along the border with Gaza, Palestinian protests on the West Bank, missile attacks from Syria, and a growing threat from Iran bases in Syria, and from Hezbollah in both Syria and Lebanon.

Every Saturday we say a Prayer for the State of Israel as part of our Sabbath services. You do not have to be at Shul to say this prayer, however. So please, keep this prayer (next page) in your hearts as this week you celebrate the giving of the Torah and Ten Commandments, even as Israel continues to be threatened by those who celebrate hatred over peace.

Prayer for the State of Israel

After all, aren't the Torah and the Ten Commandments the cornerstones of our Jewish faith?

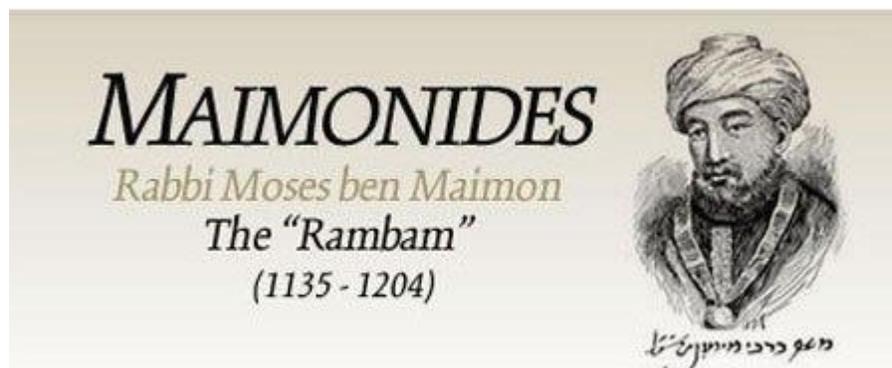
Our Catholic friends do a great job of educating their children on the cornerstones of their faith. They are taught the Apostles Creed prayer early in their religious training, and they recite it at every mass.

Most Jews can tell you most, if not all, of the Ten Commandments, but few can tell you another very important cornerstone of our religion, the Thirteen Principles of Jewish Faith. The great codifier of Torah law and Jewish philosophy, Rabbi Moshe ben Maimon ("Maimonides," also known as "The Rambam"), compiled what he refers to as the *Shloshah Asar Ikkarim*, the "Thirteen Fundamental Principles" of the Jewish faith, as derived from the Torah. Maimonides refers to these thirteen principles of faith as "the fundamental truths of our religion and its very foundations."

If you are not aware of them, the Thirteen Principles of Jewish faith (as recorded in Maimonides' introduction to Perek Chelek) are as follows:

1. *Belief in the existence of the Creator, who is perfect in every manner of existence and is the Primary Cause of all that exists.*
2. *The belief in G-d's absolute and unparalleled unity.*
3. *The belief in G-d's non-corporeality, nor that He will be affected by any physical occurrences, such as movement, or rest, or dwelling.*
4. *The belief in G-d's eternity.*
5. *The imperative to worship G-d exclusively and no foreign false gods.*
6. *The belief that G-d communicates with man through prophecy.*
7. *The belief in the primacy of the prophecy of Moses our teacher.*
8. *The belief in the divine origin of the Torah.*
9. *The belief in the immutability of the Torah.*
10. *The belief in G-d's omniscience and providence.*
11. *The belief in divine reward and retribution.*
12. *The belief in the arrival of the Messiah and the messianic era.*

These principles are also the basis for the Yigdal prayer that many congregations use as the concluding prayer at Friday evening services.



"Our Father Who art in Heaven, Protector and Redeemer of Israel, bless Thou the State of Israel which marks the dawn of our deliverance. Shield it beneath the wings of Thy love. Spread over it Thy canopy of peace; send Thy light and Thy truth to its leaders, officers, and counselors, and direct them with Thy good counsel.

"O God, strengthen the defenders of our Holy Land; grant them salvation and crown them with victory. Establish peace in the land, and everlasting joy for its inhabitants.

"Remember our brethren, the whole house of Israel, in all the lands of their dispersion. Speedily let them walk upright to Zion, the city, to Jerusalem Thy dwelling-place, as it is written in the Torah of Thy servant Moses: 'Even if you are dispersed in the uttermost parts of the world, from there the Lord your God will gather and fetch you. The Lord your God will bring you into the land which your fathers possessed, and you shall possess it.'

"Unite our heart to love and revere Thy Name, and to observe all the precepts of Thy Torah. Shine forth in Thy glorious majesty over all the inhabitants of Thy world. Let everything that breathes proclaim: The Lord God of Israel is King; His majesty rules over all." Amen.

And here are The Ten Commandments, given to the Jewish people on Shavuot:

1. I am the Lord your G-d, Who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.
2. You shall have no other gods before Me. You shall not make for yourself a graven image, nor any manner of likeness of anything that is in heaven above, that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them, nor serve them. For I, the Lord your G-d, am a jealous G-d, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children of the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me; and showing mercy unto the thousandth generation of them that love Me and keep My commandments.
3. You shall not take the name of the Lord your G-d in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that takes His name in vain.
4. Remember the Sabbath Day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work; but the seventh day is a Sabbath unto the Lord your G-d. On it you shall not do any manner of work—you, your son, your daughter, your man-servant, your maid-servant, your cattle, and your stranger that is within your gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea and all that in them is, and rested on the seventh day; wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath Day, and hallowed it.
5. Honor your father and mother, so that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your G-d gives you.
6. You shall not murder.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
10. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, his manservant, his maid-servant, his ox, his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's.



Yahrzeit Plaques

Commemorate a loved one by dedicating a yahrzeit plaque in his or her memory at the Carnegie Shul. These beautiful plaques, mounted on the sanctuary walls, are lit on the loved one's yahrzeit, Yom Kippur, and days when Yizkor is recited. The names are also read aloud from the Bimah during services on the Sabbath of the yahrzeit and on Yom Kippur. To purchase a plaque, for only \$175, please email Mike Roteman at mrmike7777@yahoo.com.



Please consider sponsoring a Kiddush in honor or in memory of a loved one, for only \$36. Your sponsorship will be announced from the bimah and in the weekly Chatter. To sponsor a Kiddush, email mrmike7777@yahoo.com.

THE PITTSBURGH JEWISH COMMUNITY STUDY:

Where Do We Go from Here? A South Hills Conversation

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30 7:00 PM
SOUTH HILLS JCC
345 Kane Blvd., 15243



Featuring:

RABBI DANNY SCHIFF

Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh Foundation Scholar

A panel of Jewish community leaders including:

BRIAN SCHREIBER

President/CEO, JCC of Greater Pittsburgh

RAIMY RUBIN

Manager, Pittsburgh Jewish Community Scorecard

JONATHAN FISCHER

STACEY REIBACH

DAVID WEISBERG

FREE AND OPEN TO THE ENTIRE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Snacks and refreshments provided.

Dietary Laws Observed

RSVP: southhillsjewishpittsburgh.org/commstudy



SOUTH HILLS
JEWISH PITTSBURGH



Important Information to Share!

A service of South Hills Jewish Pittsburgh

All You Need is Love...
and a simple saliva test.

1 in 2 Ashkenazi Jews is a carrier of at least one preventable genetic disease

Get Tested:
jscreen.org/jgenessouthhills

