

תשע"ח 2017-2018 *Jewish*
CALENDAR
5778



SEPTEMBER 2017

ELUL 5777/TISHREI 5778

אלול תשע"ז / תשרי תשע"ח

ELUL

The month of Elul is the time to reflect on the passing year, to examine our behavior and to correct any shortcomings. In synagogues throughout the world, extra prayers are recited daily and the Shofar is sounded every weekday.

THE KING IS IN THE FIELD

When the king leaves his guarded palace and travels through the fields, he makes himself accessible to all – and the people stop what they are doing and come out to greet him, excited by the rare opportunity to see their king up-close. During the month of Elul, G-d is more accessible to us, His people. This notion compels us to stop and reach out to Him through repentance, prayer and charity.

ELUL 18

Known as Chai Elul, the "life" of Elul. Birthday of Rabbi Israel Baal Shem Tov (1698), founder of the Chassidic movement, and of Rabbi Shneur Zalman of Liadi (1745), founder of the Chabad movement.

ELUL 25-26

After midnight, we recite Selichot (special penitential prayers). We continue to recite Selichot every morning until Rosh Hashanah.

ROSH HASHANAH

Rosh Hashanah (literally, the "head" of the year) is the beginning of the Jewish year – and the "birthday" of all of creation. It commemorates the creation of Adam and Eve, the first humans. Man was the first to acknowledged G-d's kingship over the universe, and on Rosh Hashanah we renew this commitment to G-d and His commandments.

THE SHOFAR

The sounding of the Shofar (the ram's horn) is a central observance of Rosh Hashanah. The Shofar calls many things to mind: It symbolizes our coronation of G-d as King, it is a "wake up call" to return to G-d, and it presages the coming of Moshiach, whose arrival will be heralded by the "Great Shofar".

YOM KIPPUR

Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, is the holiest day of the Jewish calendar. It is a day of spiritual cleansing: We acknowledge our shortcomings and transgressions, with a firm resolution for a better future; G-d promises us forgiveness, and the chance for a fresh start. We refrain from work, and avoid any food or drink, as well as washing, using oils or lotions, marital relations and regular (leather) shoes.

"A Sweet New Year", by Offer Yom Tov, www.NerArtGallery.com ►



SEPTEMBER 2017

Elul 5777/Tishrei 5778

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SHABBAT
					1 י אלול Elul 10	2 יא אלול Elul 11 KI TEITZEI Pirkei-Avot: Chapter 2
3 יב אלול Elul 12	4 יג אלול Elul 13	5 יד אלול Elul 14	6 טו אלול Elul 15	7 טז אלול Elul 16	8 יז אלול Elul 17	9 יח אלול Elul 18 KI TAVO Pirkei-Avot: Chapter 3 & 4
10 יט אלול Elul 19	11 כ אלול Elul 20	12 כא אלול Elul 21	13 כב אלול Elul 22	14 כג אלול Elul 23	15 כד אלול Elul 24	16 כה אלול Elul 25 NITZAVIM-VAYEILECH Shabbat Selichot Pirkei-Avot: Chapter 5 & 6
17 כו אלול Elul 26	18 כז אלול Elul 27	19 כח אלול Elul 28	20 כט אלול Elul 29 Eruv Tavshilin	21 א תשרי Tishrei 1 1st day of ROSH HASHANAH	22 ב תשרי Tishrei 2 2nd day of ROSH HASHANAH	23 ג תשרי Tishrei 3 HA'AZINU Shabbat Shuvah
24 ד תשרי Tishrei 4 FAST OF GEDALIAH	25 ה תשרי Tishrei 5	26 ו תשרי Tishrei 6	27 ז תשרי Tishrei 7	28 ח תשרי Tishrei 8	29 ט תשרי Tishrei 9	30 י תשרי Tishrei 10 Yizkor YOM KIPPUR

OCTOBER 2017

TISHREI / CHESHVAN 5778

תשרי/חשוון תשע"ח

SUKKOT

The name Sukkot is derived from the word Sukkah, or hut. In commemoration of the protective "clouds of glory" with which G-d surrounded the Jewish people on their way out of Egypt, we live in makeshift huts during the seven days of this holiday.

During Sukkot, we observe the special mitzvah of shaking the Lulav (palm branch) and the Etrog (citron). Taken together with the Hadas (myrtle) and the Aravah (willow), these very different plant species represent the unity of disparate types of Jews who, each in their own way, are vital components of the Jewish nation.

SIMCHAT TORAH

Simchat Torah marks the day we complete the reading of the Torah in its annual cycle. On the evening of Simchat Torah, (and in many communities, on the previous evening of Shemini Atzeret as well) we make seven Hakafot (circuits) around the table upon which the Torah is read, dancing and rejoicing with the Torah scrolls. During morning services on Simchat Torah, we complete the Torah, reading the last Torah portion. We immediately start reading the Torah from the beginning again—remembering that the Torah is an endless source of wisdom, each cycle challenging us to discover its ever deeper meaning.

CHESHVAN 11

Passing of our Matriarch Rachel, wife of Yaakov. Rachel passed away in 1563 BCE as Yaakov was returning home to his parents. She is buried in Bethlehem.

THE WEEKLY TORAH READING

According to our tradition, the custom of reading from the Torah in the Synagogue every Shabbat is one of the oldest Jewish customs, instituted by Moshe Rabbeinu (Moses) himself. The Torah was divided by Moshe into 54 portions, which is the maximum number of regular readings possible during a Jewish calendar year. The regular cycle is suspended during Jewish holidays, when we read holiday themed portions instead. Most years, it becomes necessary to occasionally group two portions together in order to complete the cycle on time for Simchat Torah. Our lives are built around the calendar cycles: The year, the month, the week. Every day, the current Torah Reading offers a fresh source of inspiration. Though repeated again and again, there is always a new insight, a new guidance, a new commentary on the here and the now. This is the Jewish way of "living with the times."













"Simchat Torah", by Baruch Netanyahu, www.NertArtGallery.com ►



OCTOBER 2017

Tishrei/Cheshvan 5778

New Moon, Cheshvan: Friday, October 20, 2017, 12:12 (17/18) PM

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SHABBAT
1 יא תשרי Tishrei 11	2 יב תשרי Tishrei 12	3 יג תשרי Tishrei 13	4 יד תשרי Tishrei 14 Eiruv Tavshilin 	5  טו תשרי Tishrei 15 1st day of SUKKOT 	6  טז תשרי Tishrei 16 2nd day of SUKKOT 	7 יז תשרי Tishrei 17 1st Intermediate day
8 יח תשרי Tishrei 18 2nd Intermediate day	9 יט תשרי Tishrei 19 3rd Intermediate day	10 כ תשרי Tishrei 20 4th Intermediate day	11 כא תשרי Tishrei 21 Eiruv Tavshilin HOSHANA RABA 	12  כב תשרי Tishrei 22 Yizkor SHEMINI ATZERET 	13  כג תשרי Tishrei 23 SIMCHAT TORAH 	14 כד תשרי Tishrei 24 BEREISHIT Blessing of new month Isru Chag
15 כה תשרי Tishrei 25	16 כו תשרי Tishrei 26	17 כז תשרי Tishrei 27	18 כח תשרי Tishrei 28	19 כט תשרי Tishrei 29	20 ל תשרי Tishrei 30 Rosh Chodesh 	21 א חשוון Cheshvan 1 NOACH Rosh Chodesh
22 ב חשוון Cheshvan 2	23 ג חשוון Cheshvan 3	24 ד חשוון Cheshvan 4	25 ה חשוון Cheshvan 5	26 ו חשוון Cheshvan 6	27 ז חשוון Cheshvan 7 	28 ח חשוון Cheshvan 8 LECH LECHA
29 ט חשוון Cheshvan 9	30 י חשוון Cheshvan 10	31 יא חשוון Cheshvan 11				

NOVEMBER 2017

CHESHVAN / KISLEV 5778

חשוון / כסלו תשע"ח

TEFILLIN

Tefillin, or phylacteries, are donned every weekday by Jewish men and boys over the age of 13. The Torah describes Tefillin as a sign, a public statement of Jewish involvement. By donning Tefillin daily, an individual gives expression to his basic feeling of Jewish identity and its importance to him.

The Tefillin are placed on the arm facing the heart, and on the head. This signifies the binding of one's emotional and intellectual powers to the service of G-d. The straps, stretching from the arm to the hand and from the head to the legs, signify the transmission of intellectual and emotional energy to the hands and feet, symbolizing deed and action.

"The Joy of Learning", by Boris Dubrov, www.NerArtGallery.com ►



NOVEMBER 2017

Cheshvan/Kislev 5778

New Moon, Kislev: Sunday, November 19, 2017, 12:57 AM

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SHABBAT
			1 יב חשוון Cheshvan 12	2 יג חשוון Cheshvan 13	3 יד חשוון Cheshvan 14	4 טו חשוון Cheshvan 15 VAYEIRA
5 טז חשוון Cheshvan 16	6 יז חשוון Cheshvan 17	7 יח חשוון Cheshvan 18	8 יט חשוון Cheshvan 19	9 כ חשוון Cheshvan 20	10 כא חשוון Cheshvan 21	11 כב חשוון Cheshvan 22 CHAYEI SARAH
12 כג חשוון Cheshvan 12	13 כד חשוון Cheshvan 13	14 כה חשוון Cheshvan 14	15 כו חשוון Cheshvan 15	16 כז חשוון Cheshvan 16	17 כח חשוון Cheshvan 17	18 כט חשוון Cheshvan 18 TOLDOT Blessing of new month
19 א כסלו Kislev 1 Rosh Chodesh	20 ב כסלו Kislev 2	21 ג כסלו Kislev 3	22 ד כסלו Kislev 4	23 ה כסלו Kislev 5	24 ו כסלו Kislev 6	25 ז כסלו Kislev 7 VAYEITZEI
26 ח כסלו Kislev 8	27 ט כסלו Kislev 9	28 י כסלו Kislev 10	29 יא כסלו Kislev 11	30 יב כסלו Kislev 12		

DECEMBER 2017

KISLEV / TEVET 5778

כסלו / טבת תשע"ח

KISLEV 19

"Chassidic Rosh Hashanah". Yartzeit of Rabbi Dov Ber of Mezritch, the second leader of the Chassidic movement (1772). Release from prison of Rabbi Schneur Zalman of Liadi, founder of the Chabad movement (1798). His triumphant release marked a turning point in the spreading of Chassidic thought, and this date is celebrated in many communities throughout the world.

CHANUKAH

The kindling of the Menorah is the focal point of the Chanukah holiday, symbolizing religious freedom and the strength of the Jewish spirit. The menorah is kindled on each of the eight nights of Chanukah, this year beginning at the conclusion of Shabbat on December 24th.

The Menorah is placed at the left side of a

central doorway of the home, or at the front window. The candles should be lit immediately following sunset, and should be prepared so that they will remain lit for at least a half hour after dusk. In keeping with Shabbat observance, the Menorah is lit before the Shabbat candles on Friday evening and after the Havdalah ceremony at the end of Shabbat. Gather all family members and light the Shamash, the service candle. Recite the proper blessings and then light the candles beginning from the left. Then place the Shamash at its designated place, separated from the other candles.

TEVET 10

Observed as a fast day. On this date, Jerusalem was placed under siege by the Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar, resulting in the destruction of the First Temple (422 BCE).

"Chanukah Dancers", by Yehoshua Wiseman www.NerArtGallery.com ►



DECEMBER 2017

Kislev/Tevet 5778

New Moon, Tevet: Monday, December 18, 2017, 1:41 (1/18) PM

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SHABBAT
					1 יג כסלו Kislev 13	2 יד כסלו Kislev 14 VAYISHLACH
3 טו כסלו Kislev 15	4 טז כסלו Kislev 16 In Evening Begin Tal Umatar	5 יז כסלו Kislev 17	6 יח כסלו Kislev 18	7 יט כסלו Kislev 19	8 כ כסלו Kislev 20	9 כא כסלו Kislev 21 VAYEISHEV
10 כב כסלו Kislev 22	11 כג כסלו Kislev 23	12 כד כסלו Kislev 24	13 כה כסלו Kislev 25 CHANUKAH	14 כו כסלו Kislev 26 CHANUKAH	15 כז כסלו Kislev 27 CHANUKAH	16 כח כסלו Kislev 28 MIKEITZ Blessing of new month CHANUKAH
17 כט כסלו Kislev 29 CHANUKAH	18 ל כסלו Kislev 30 CHANUKAH Rosh Chodesh	19 א טבת Tevet 1 CHANUKAH Rosh Chodesh	20 ב טבת Tevet 2 CHANUKAH	21 ג טבת Tevet 3	22 ד טבת Tevet 4	23 ה טבת Tevet 5 VAYIGASH
24 ו טבת Tevet 6	25 ז טבת Tevet 7	26 ח טבת Tevet 8	27 ט טבת Tevet 9	28 י טבת Tevet 10 FAST OF TEVET 10	29 יא טבת Tevet 11	30 יב טבת Tevet 12 VAYECHI Shabbat Chazzak
31 יג טבת Tevet 13						

JANUARY 2018

TEVET / SHEVAT 5778

טבת / שבט תשע"ח

TEVET 24

Yartzeit of Rabbi Schneur Zalman of Liadi, founder of the Chabad movement (1812).

KOSHER

Kashrut: Spiritual Diet for a Small Planet

For our physical wellbeing, few things are as important as a healthy diet. But the Kosher laws offer the soul similar benefits, and more. The mystical masters teach us that everything we eat has a bit of holiness – a “spark” of Divine energy released when we eat foods prepared in accord with the kosher laws. Just as the body responds to the quality of the food that fuels it, so too the soul: With appropriate foods prepared in the prescribed manner, we absorb the Divine nourishment that makes for a healthy spirit. Adapting your diet to a kosher life style is easier than you might imagine. The shelves of your local supermarket are stocked with literally hundreds and even thousands of products produced under kosher supervision.

For more information about Kosher, or if you need help koshering your kitchen, please contact our office.

SHEVAT 10

Yartzeit of Rabbi Yosef Yitzchak Schneersohn, sixth leader of Chabad Lubavitch (1950). Rabbi Yosef Yitzchak fought to preserve Jewish life in the U.S.S.R. until he was imprisoned, threatened with his life, and finally forced to leave (1927). In 1940 he came to the United States and established the network of Chabad-Lubavitch educational institutions throughout the U.S.A. and across the world.

This day also marks the beginning of the leadership of his son-in-law Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, known as the Lubavitcher Rebbe.

SHEVAT 15 – TU B'SHEVAT

In Jewish tradition, the fifteenth day of Shevat marks the “New Year” for the trees, opening the season in which trees begin to bud in the Holy Land.

It is customary to celebrate this date by enjoying some fruit, especially the five fruits mentioned in the Torah in connection with Israel: Grapes, Figs, Pomegranates, Olives, and Dates.

"Fruits of the Holy Land", by Rachel Gewirtzman, www.NertArtGallery.com ►



JANUARY 2018

Tevet/Shevat 5778

New Moon, Shevat: Wednesday, January 17, 2018, 2:25 (2/18) AM

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SHABBAT
	1 יד טבת Tevet 14	2 טו טבת Tevet 15	3 טז טבת Tevet 16	4 יז טבת Tevet 17	5 יח טבת Tevet 18	6 יט טבת Tevet 19 SHEMOT
7 כ טבת Tevet 20	8 כא טבת Tevet 21	9 כב טבת Tevet 22	10 כג טבת Tevet 23	11 כד טבת Tevet 24	12 כה טבת Tevet 25	13 כו טבת Tevet 26 VA'EIRA Blessing of new month
14 כז טבת Tevet 27	15 כח טבת Tevet 28	16 כט טבת Tevet 29	17 א שבט Shevat 1 Rosh Chodesh	18 ב שבט Shevat 2	19 ג שבט Shevat 3	20 ד שבט Shevat 4 BO
21 ה שבט Shevat 5	22 ו שבט Shevat 6	23 ז שבט Shevat 7	24 ח שבט Shevat 8	25 ט שבט Shevat 9	26 י שבט Shevat 10	27 יא שבט Shevat 11 BESHALACH Shabbat Shirah
28 יב שבט Shevat 12	29 יג שבט Shevat 13	30 יד שבט Shevat 14	31 טו שבט Shevat 15 TU B'SHEVAT Chamisha Assar B'Shevat			

FEBRUARY 2018

SHEVAT / ADAR 5778

שבט / אדר תשע"ח

SHEVAT 22

Yartzeit of Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka Schneerson, wife of the Lubavitcher Rebbe (1988).

SHABBAT AND FESTIVAL CANDLES

Throughout the ages, light has stirred the imagination of poets, mystics, scientists and psychologists. Because its nature is so different from other material entities, it is often used to describe spiritual insight. Shabbat is a day of light; its pattern and value-orientation is different from the other days of the week. Thus it is the lighting of the Shabbat Candles that ushers in this state of awareness and inspires us to feel the way it permeates our lives. The mystics call this day of light the Shabbat Queen, and the responsibility for lighting the candles and inducing this change of perspective is the woman's. It is she who welcomes the Shabbat Queen into the home.

Young girls, from the age of three or even younger, are encouraged to light their own candles, to involve and educate them in this profound and beautiful mitzvah.

The Shabbat Candles are lit 18 minutes before sunset.

ADAR 7

Birthday and Yartzeit of Moshe Rabbeinu (Moses), who led the Jewish people out of Egyptian bondage.

"Blessing", by Orit Martin, www.OritMartin.com ►



FEBRUARY 2018

Shevat/Adar 5778

New Moon, Adar: Thursday, February 15, 2018, 3:09 (3/18) PM

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SHABBAT
				1 טז שבט Shevat 16	2 יז שבט Shevat 17	3 יח שבט Shevat 18 YITRO
4 יט שבט Shevat 19	5 כ שבט Shevat 20	6 כא שבט Shevat 21	7 כב שבט Shevat 22	8 כג שבט Shevat 23	9 כד שבט Shevat 24	10 כה שבט Shevat 25 MISHPATIM Shabbat Shekalim Blessing of new month
11 כו שבט Shevat 26	12 כז שבט Shevat 27	13 כח שבט Shevat 28	14 כט שבט Shevat 29	15 ל שבט Shevat 30	16 א אדר Adar 1	17 ב אדר Adar 2 TERUMAH
18 ג אדר Adar 3	19 ד אדר Adar 4	20 ה אדר Adar 5	21 ו אדר Adar 6	22 ז אדר Adar 7	23 ח אדר Adar 8	24 ט אדר Adar 9 TETZAVEH Parshat Zachor
25 י אדר Adar 10	26 יא אדר Adar 11	27 יב אדר Adar 12	28 יג אדר Adar 13 FAST OF ESTHER			

ADAR/NISSAN 5778

אדר/ניסן תשע"ח

PURIM

The actual story of Purim, as told in the Scroll of Esther, is as fascinating and spellbinding as any best seller. Yet, though it is sacred Scripture, we do not find the name of G-d mentioned even once! But within the intricate details of the Megillah, we can detect the unmistakable hand of Divine Providence. And the closer we examine the story, the more we discover that even seemingly insignificant events are precisely arranged by the hand of the Almighty.

THE MITZVOT OF PURIM ARE:

- The Fast of Esther, held before Purim, to commemorate the day of prayer and fasting which the Jews held before their victory.
- Listen to the reading of Megillat Esther (the Scroll of Esther) at night and day, recounting the story of Purim.
- Send gifts containing at least two types of ready-to-eat (kosher) food to one or more friends on the day of Purim. These gifts, called Mishloach Manot ("sending portions"), should preferably be sent via a third party.
- Give Matanot L'evyonim ("gifts of charity to the poor"). While Tzedakah (charity) is a year-round responsibility, it is a particularly special Mitzvah on Purim. Give to at least two needy individuals during Purim day.
- Celebrate with a special festive and joyous meal.

NISSAN 11

Birthday of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson (1902).

CELEBRATING PESACH (PASSOVER)

On Pesach we celebrate the birth of the Jewish nation with our miraculous redemption from Egypt. Pesach is celebrated by refraining from eating (or even owning) any foods which are chametz (leavened), and by participating in a Seder dinner on the first two nights of the holiday.

THE SEDER

The Pesach Seder, conducted each of the first two nights of Pesach, is the central event of the Passover festival.

- We drink four cups of wine (or grape juice), remembering the redemption and its four stages.
- We ask the "Four Questions" and recite the Haggadah, retelling the story of Passover and the miracles of our redemption.
- We eat Shmurah Matzah, the plain unleavened bread which aren't allowed to rise, remembering both the simple bread of slaves and the swiftness of the redemption from Egypt.
- We eat Maror (bitter herbs), remembering the bitterness of the enslavement.










"Finding Baby Moses", by Steve Karro, www.Judaica-Art.com ►



MARCH 2018

Adar/Nissan 5778

New Moon, Nissan: Shabbat, March 17, 2018, 3:53 (4/18) AM

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SHABBAT
				1  יד אדר Adar 14 PURIM	2  טו אדר Adar 15 SHUSHAN PURIM 	3 טז אדר Adar 16 KI TISA
4 יז אדר Adar 17	5 יח אדר Adar 18	6 יט אדר Adar 19	7 כ אדר Adar 20	8 כא אדר Adar 21	9 כב אדר Adar 22 	10 כג אדר Adar 23 VAYAKHEIL-PEKUDEI Parshat Parah Shabbat Chazzak Blessing of new month
11 כד אדר Adar 24	12 כה אדר Adar 25	13 כו אדר Adar 26	14 כז אדר Adar 27	15 כח אדר Adar 28	16 כט אדר Adar 29 	17 א ניסן Nissan 1 VAYIKRA Parshat HaChodesh Rosh Chodesh
18 ב ניסן Nissan 2	19 ג ניסן Nissan 3	20 ד ניסן Nissan 4	21 ה ניסן Nissan 5	22 ו ניסן Nissan 6	23 ז ניסן Nissan 7 	24 ח ניסן Nissan 8 TZAV Shabbat HaGadol
25 ט ניסן Nissan 9	26 י ניסן Nissan 10	27 יא ניסן Nissan 11	28 יב ניסן Nissan 12	29 יג ניסן Nissan 13	30 יד ניסן Nissan 14 FAST OF FIRST BORN Erev PESACH First Seder 	31  טו ניסן Nissan 15 1st day of PASSOVER Second Seder In the evening count Omer 1 

APRIL 2018

NISSAN / IYAR 5778

ניסן / אייר תשע"ח

THE LAST DAY OF PESACH

The eighth and final day of Pesach is associated with the ultimate redemption through Moshiach, and our fervent hope for its imminent arrival. In many communities, a festive "Moshiach Meal" is organized toward the evening, to emphasize this day's special dimension.

COUNTING OF THE OMER

Beginning the second evening of Pesach, we count seven weeks until the arrival of the festival of Shavuot. They correspond to the seven weeks, starting from the night of the Exodus, during which our ancestors eagerly awaited the receiving of the Torah at Mount Sinai.

PESACH SHENI

When the Holy Temple stood in Jerusalem, this day offered a second chance to offer the Passover sacrifice for those who had been unable to bring their offering at the appropriate time.

"The Light of Shabbat", by Yehoshua Wiseman, www.NerArtGallery.com ►



APRIL 2018

Nissan/Iyar 5778

New Moon, Iyar: Sunday, April 15, 2018, 4:37 (5/18) PM

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SHABBAT
1 טז ניסן Nissan 16 Omer 1 2nd day of PASSOVER In the evening count Omer 2	2 יז ניסן Nissan 17 Omer 2 1st Intermediate day In the evening count Omer 3	3 יח ניסן Nissan 18 Omer 3 2nd Intermediate day In the evening count Omer 4	4 יט ניסן Nissan 19 Omer 4 3rd Intermediate day In the evening count Omer 5	5 כ ניסן Nissan 20 Omer 5 4th Intermediate day In the evening count Omer 6	6 כא ניסן Nissan 21 Omer 6 Eruv Tavshilin 7th day of PASSOVER In the evening count Omer 7	7 כב ניסן Nissan 22 Omer 7 Yizkor 8th day of PASSOVER In the evening count Omer 8
8 כג ניסן Nissan 23 Omer 8 Isru Chag In the evening count Omer 9	9 כד ניסן Nissan 24 Omer 9 In the evening count Omer 10	10 כה ניסן Nissan 25 Omer 10 In the evening count Omer 11	11 כו ניסן Nissan 26 Omer 11 In the evening count Omer 12	12 כז ניסן Nissan 27 Omer 12 In the evening count Omer 13	13 כח ניסן Nissan 28 Omer 13 In the evening count Omer 14	14 כט ניסן Nissan 29 Omer 14 SHEMINI Blessing of new month Pirkei-Avot: Chapter 1 In the evening count Omer 15
15 ל ניסן Nissan 30 Omer 15 Rosh Chodesh In the evening count Omer 16	16 א אייר Iyar 1 Omer 16 Rosh Chodesh In the evening count Omer 17	17 ב אייר Iyar 2 Omer 17 In the evening count Omer 18	18 ג אייר Iyar 3 Omer 18 In the evening count Omer 19	19 ד אייר Iyar 4 Omer 19 In the evening count Omer 20	20 ה אייר Iyar 5 Omer 20 In the evening count Omer 21	21 ו אייר Iyar 6 Omer 21 TAZRIA-METZORA Pirkei-Avot: Chapter 2 In the evening count Omer 22
22 ז אייר Iyar 7 Omer 22 In the evening count Omer 23	23 ח אייר Iyar 8 Omer 23 In the evening count Omer 24	24 ט אייר Iyar 9 Omer 24 In the evening count Omer 25	25 י אייר Iyar 10 Omer 25 In the evening count Omer 26	26 יא אייר Iyar 11 Omer 26 In the evening count Omer 27	27 יב אייר Iyar 12 Omer 27 In the evening count Omer 28	28 יג אייר Iyar 13 Omer 28 ACHAREI-KEDOSHIM Pirkei-Avot: Chapter 3 In the evening count Omer 29
29 יד אייר Iyar 14 Omer 29 PESACH SHEINI In the evening count Omer 30	30 טו אייר Iyar 15 Omer 30 In the evening count Omer 31					

MAY 2018

IYAR/SIVAN 5778

אייר / סיון תשע"ח

IYAR 18 – LAG BA'OMER

On this date, in the early 2nd century, the students of Rabbi Akiva, the greatest sage of that era, ceased to die from an epidemic. Years later on this same date, his student Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai, Mishnaic sage and author of the Zohar (the seminal work of Kabbalah) passed away. Having fulfilled his mission in this world he asked that the anniversary of his death be celebrated as a joyous occasion. Throughout the Land of Israel – and indeed in Jewish communities throughout the world – this day is marked with festivities and bonfires. In particular, thousands journey to rejoice in the town of Meron, site of Rabbi Shimon's resting place.

THE FESTIVAL OF SHAVUOT

Shavuot celebrates the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai. It is on this day that we became G-d's "chosen people", and He formed a bond with us which shall never be broken.

SHAVUOT OBSERVANCES

- All-night Torah-study on the first night of Shavuot. This is the best preparation for receiving the Torah!
- Reading of the Ten Commandments in the synagogue on the first day of Shavuot. Bring your children too!
- A festive dairy meal is served on the first day of Shavuot. Like milk for an infant, we receive all our spiritual nourishment from the Torah!

"Pillar of Light", by Orit Martin, www.OritMartin.com ►



MAY 2018

Iyar/Sivan 5778

New Moon, Sivan: Tuesday, May 15, 2018, 5:21 (6/18) AM

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SHABBAT
		1 טז אייר Iyar 16 Omer 31 In the evening count Omer 32	2 יז אייר Iyar 17 Omer 32 In the evening count Omer 33	3 יח אייר Iyar 18 Omer 33  LAG BA'OMER In the evening count Omer 34	4 יט אייר Iyar 19 Omer 34 In the evening count Omer 35 	5 כ אייר Iyar 20 Omer 35 EMOR Pirkei-Avot: Chapter 4 In the evening count Omer 36
6 כא אייר Iyar 21 Omer 36 In the evening count Omer 37	7 כב אייר Iyar 22 Omer 37 In the evening count Omer 38	8 כג אייר Iyar 23 Omer 38 In the evening count Omer 39	9 כד אייר Iyar 24 Omer 39 In the evening count Omer 40	10 כה אייר Iyar 25 Omer 40 In the evening count Omer 41	11 כז אייר Iyar 26 Omer 41 In the evening count Omer 42 	12 כח אייר Iyar 27 Omer 42 BEHAR-BECHUKOTAI Shabbat Chazzak Blessing of new month Pirkei-Avot: Chapter 5 In the evening count Omer 43
13 כט אייר Iyar 28 Omer 43 In the evening count Omer 44	14 כס אייר Iyar 29 Omer 44 In the evening count Omer 45	15 א סיון Sivan 1 Omer 45 Rosh Chodesh In the evening count Omer 46	16 ב סיון Sivan 2 Omer 46 In the evening count Omer 47	17 ג סיון Sivan 3 Omer 47 In the evening count Omer 48	18 ד סיון Sivan 4 Omer 48 In the evening count Omer 49 	19 ה סיון Sivan 5 Omer 49 BAMIDBAR Pirkei-Avot: Chapter 6 
20 ו סיון Sivan 6  1st day of SHAVUOT 	21 ז סיון Sivan 7  Yizkor 2nd day of SHAVUOT	22 ח סיון Sivan 8 Isru Chag	23 ט סיון Sivan 9 	24 י סיון Sivan 10 	25 יא סיון Sivan 11 	26 יב סיון Sivan 12 NASO Pirkei-Avot: Chapter 1
27 יג סיון Sivan 13 	28 יד סיון Sivan 14 	29 טו סיון Sivan 15 	30 טז סיון Sivan 16 	31 יז סיון Sivan 17 		

JUNE 2018

SIVAN / TAMMUZ 5778

סיון / תמוז תשע"ח

TAMMUZ 3

Passing of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson (1994). The Rebbe's contribution to Jews and Judaism in this generation is immeasurable. Under his leadership and guidance, thousands of young couples have dedicated their lives, through the global network of Chabad Lubavitch institutions, to spread Yiddishkeit throughout the globe. His vision and promise of an imminent redemption, and a world filled with G-dliness, peace and harmony continues to inspire millions throughout the world. Through our efforts, it shall surely soon become a reality.

THE UPCOMING REDEMPTION

The belief in the upcoming redemption is one of the foundations of our faith, and has been promised to us by almost every one of our prophets, beginning with Moses himself. Maimonides included it in his famous Thirteen Principles of the Jewish Faith. Throughout the ages, even during the most trying times, our ancestors have always prayed for and

looked forward to the coming of Moshiach, our redeemer.

LET'S WELCOME MOSHIACH

Led by the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, many prominent Rabbis proclaimed this generation to be the one to usher in the redemption. We can prepare for this special time by studying the relevant passages in the Torah and its commentaries, and by increasing in acts of goodness and kindness. This will not only help us prepare for the redemption – this will hasten its arrival!

TAMMUZ 12

Birthday of Rabbi Yosef Yitzchak, sixth leader of Chabad Lubavitch (1880), and his release from Bolshevik imprisonment (1927). He was imprisoned and threatened with his life for his struggle to preserve Judaism in the Soviet Union. His release is since celebrated throughout the Jewish world as a victory for Jewry and Judaism.

"Jacob's Dream", by Ofer Yom Tov, www.NerArtGallery.com ►



JUNE 2018

Sivan/Tammuz 5778

New Moon, Tamuz: Wednesday, June 13, 2018, 6:05 (7/18) PM

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SHABBAT
					1 יח סיון Sivan 18	2 יט סיון Sivan 19 BEHA'ALOTECHA Pirkei-Avot: Chapter 2
3 כ סיון Sivan 20	4 כא סיון Sivan 21	5 כב סיון Sivan 22	6 כג סיון Sivan 23	7 כד סיון Sivan 24	8 כה סיון Sivan 25	9 כו סיון Sivan 26 SHLACH Pirkei-Avot: Chapter 3 Blessing of new month
10 כז סיון Sivan 27	11 כח סיון Sivan 28	12 כט סיון Sivan 29	13 ל סיון Sivan 30 Rosh Chodesh	14 א תמוז Tammuz 1 Rosh Chodesh	15 ב תמוז Tammuz 2	16 ג תמוז Tammuz 3 KORACH Pirkei-Avot: Chapter 4
17 ד תמוז Tammuz 4	18 ה תמוז Tammuz 5	19 ו תמוז Tammuz 6	20 ז תמוז Tammuz 7	21 ח תמוז Tammuz 8	22 ט תמוז Tammuz 9	23 י תמוז Tammuz 10 CHUKAT Pirkei-Avot: Chapter 5
24 יא תמוז Tammuz 11	25 יב תמוז Tammuz 12	26 יג תמוז Tammuz 13	27 יד תמוז Tammuz 14	28 טו תמוז Tammuz 15	29 טז תמוז Tammuz 16	30 יז תמוז Tammuz 17 BALAK Pirkei-Avot: Chapter 6

JULY 2018

TAMMUZ/MENACHEM AV 5778

תמוז/מנחם אב תשע"ח

A PERIOD OF MOURNING

The 17th of Tammuz is observed a day of fasting. On this date, in the year 68, the walls of Jerusalem were breached by the Romans after years of siege. The Jewish forces continued to defend the Temple Mount for another 19 days, until it too fell on the 7th of Av. The Beit HaMikdash, the Holy Temple, was torched late on Av 9. The entire period, totaling 21 days, is observed by not scheduling any weddings, as well as by avoiding festive music and dancing. This year, because the fast days fall on Shabbat, they are both postponed to Sunday.

TISH'A B'AV – THE NINTH OF AV

The Ninth of Av has been a sad day on the Jewish calendar from the earliest days of our history as a people. Just one year after our forefathers left Egypt, it was on this date that G-d punished that generation, decreeing that they would wander the desert for forty years, never entering into the Holy Land. The focus of our mourning, however, is on the destruction on this date of both the first Temple (422 BCE) and the second Temple (68 CE).

From the beginning of the month of Av (excluding Shabbat), we refrain from consuming meat or wine and from various pleasurable activities as a sign of additional mourning.

The Ninth of Av itself is observed as a fast day similar to Yom Kippur. We refrain from food and drink, as well as from wearing leather shoes, washing or showering, using oils or lotions, and marital relations. Additionally, on the eve of the fast, the scroll of Eichah (Lamentations) is read in the synagogue in a unique chant, which is mournful yet reassuring. Until noon we sit on low seats only, as a mourner does during Shiva.

May we merit seeing the ultimate redemption and rebuilding of the Temple by Moshiach, now!

AV 15

Several joyful events have occurred on this date, including the end of the 40-year decree upon the Jewish people to wander and die in the desert after leaving Egypt. This date is particularly joyful as it occurs just as we conclude the mourning period over the destruction of the Temple.

"Last Hours at Masada", by Alex Levin www.NerArtGallery.com ►



JULY 2018

Tammuz/Menachem Av 5778

New Moon, Av: Friday, July 13, 2018, 6:49 (8/18) AM

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SHABBAT
1 יח תמוז Tammuz 18 FAST OF 17th TAMMUZ	2 יט תמוז Tammuz 19	3 כ תמוז Tammuz 20	4 כא תמוז Tammuz 21	5 כב תמוז Tammuz 22	6 כג תמוז Tammuz 23	7 כד תמוז Tammuz 24 PINCHAS Blessing of new month Pirkei-Avot: Chapter 1
8 כה תמוז Tammuz 25	9 כו תמוז Tammuz 26	10 כז תמוז Tammuz 27	11 כח תמוז Tammuz 28	12 כט תמוז Tammuz 29	13 א אב Av 1 Rosh Chodesh	14 ב אב Av 2 MATOT-MASS'EI Shabbat Chazzak Pirkei-Avot: Chapter 2
15 ג אב Av 3	16 ד אב Av 4	17 ה אב Av 5	18 ו אב Av 6	19 ז אב Av 7	20 ח אב Av 8	21 ט אב Av 9 DEVARIM Shabbat Chazon
22  י אב Av 10 FAST OF 9th OF AV	23 יא אב Av 11	24 יב אב Av 12	25 יג אב Av 13	26 יד אב Av 14	27 טו אב Av 15	28 טז אב Av 16 VA'ETCHANAN Shabbat Nachamu Pirkei-Avot: Chapter 3
29 יז אב Av 17	30 יח אב Av 18	31 יט אב Av 19				

AUGUST 2018

MENACHEM AV / ELUL 5778

מנחם אב / אלול תשע"ח

ELUL

The month of Elul is the time to reflect on the passing year, to examine our behavior and to correct any shortcomings. In synagogues throughout the world, extra prayers are recited daily and the Shofar is sounded every weekday.

THE KING IS IN THE FIELD

When the king leaves his guarded palace and travels through the fields, he makes himself accessible to all – and the people stop what they are doing and come out to greet him, excited by the rare opportunity to see their king up-close. During the month of Elul, G-d is more accessible to us, His people. This notion compels us to stop and reach out to him through repentance, prayer and charity.

ELUL 18

Known as Chai Elul, the "life" of Elul. Birthday of Rabbi Israel Baal Shem Tov (1698), founder of the Chassidic movement, and of Rabbi Shneur Zalman of Liadi (1745), founder of the Chabad movement.

"A Prayer for Peace", by Laura Avital Krasell ►



AUGUST 2018

Menachem Av/Elul 5778
New Moon, Elul: Shabbat, August 11, 2018, 7:33 (9/18) PM

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SHABBAT
			1 כ אב Av 20	2 כא אב Av 21	3 כב אב Av 22	4 כג אב Av 23 EIKEV Pirkei-Avot: Chapter 4 Blessing of new month
5 כד אב Av 24	6 כה אב Av 25	7 כו אב Av 26	8 כז אב Av 27	9 כח אב Av 28	10 כט אב Av 29	11 ל אב Av 30 RE'EH Pirkei-Avot: Chapter 5 Rosh Chodesh
12 א אלול Elul 1 Rosh Chodesh	13 ב אלול Elul 2	14 ג אלול Elul 3	15 ד אלול Elul 4	16 ה אלול Elul 5	17 ו אלול Elul 6	18 ז אלול Elul 7 SHOFTIM Pirkei-Avot: Chapter 6
19 ח אלול Elul 8	20 ט אלול Elul 9	21 י אלול Elul 10	22 יא אלול Elul 11	23 יב אלול Elul 12	24 יג אלול Elul 13	25 יד אלול Elul 14 KI TEITZEI Pirkei-Avot: Chapter 1&2
26 טו אלול Elul 15	27 טז אלול Elul 16	28 יז אלול Elul 17	29 יח אלול Elul 18	30 יט אלול Elul 19	31 כ אלול Elul 20	

SEPTEMBER 2018

ELUL 5778/TISHREI 5779

אלול תשע"ח/תשרי תשע"ט

ELUL 25-26

After midnight, we recite Selichot (special penitential prayers). We continue to recite Selichot every morning until Rosh Hashanah.

ROSH HASHANAH

Rosh Hashanah (literally, the "head" of the year) is the beginning of the Jewish year – and the "birthday" of all of creation. It commemorates the creation of Adam and Eve, the first humans. Man was the first to acknowledge G-d's kingship over the universe, and on Rosh Hashanah we renew this commitment to G-d and His commandments.

Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, is the holiest day of the Jewish calendar. It is a day of spiritual cleansing: We acknowledge our shortcomings and transgressions, with a firm resolution for a better future; G-d promises us forgiveness, and the chance for a fresh start. We refrain from work, and avoid any food or drink, as well as washing, using oils or lotions, marital relations and regular (leather) shoes.

YOM KIPPUR

Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, is the holiest day of the Jewish calendar. It is a day of spiritual cleansing: We acknowledge our shortcomings and transgressions, with a firm resolution for a better future; G-d promises us forgiveness, and the chance for a fresh start. We refrain from work, and avoid any food or drink, as well as washing, using oils or lotions, marital relations and regular (leather) shoes.

SUKKOT

The name Sukkot is derived from the word Sukkah, or hut. In commemoration of the protective "clouds of glory" with which G-d surrounded the Jewish people on their way out of Egypt, we live in makeshift huts during the seven days of this holiday.

During Sukkot, we observe the special mitzvah of shaking the Lulav (palm branch) and the Etrog (citron). Taken together with the Hadas (myrtle) and the Aravah (willow), these very different plant species represent the unity of disparate types of Jews who, each in their own way, are vital components of the Jewish nation.

"Rosh Hashanah", by Offer Yom Tov, www.NerArtGallery.com ►



SEPTEMBER 2018

Elul 5778/Tishrei 5779

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SHABBAT
						1 כא אלול Elul 21 KI TAVO Shabbat Selichot Pirkei-Avot: Chapter 3 & 4
2 כב אלול Elul 22	3 כג אלול Elul 23	4 כד אלול Elul 24	5 כה אלול Elul 25	6 כו אלול Elul 26	7 כז אלול Elul 27	8 כח אלול Elul 28 NITZAVIM Pirkei-Avot: Chapter 5 & 6
9 כט אלול Elul 29	10  א תשרי Tishrei 1 1st day of ROSH HASHANAH	11  ב תשרי Tishrei 2 2nd day of ROSH HASHANAH	12 ג תשרי Tishrei 3 FAST OF GEDALIAH	13 ד תשרי Tishrei 4	14 ה תשרי Tishrei 5	15 ו תשרי Tishrei 6 VAYEILECH Shabbat Shuvah
16 ז תשרי Tishrei 7	17 ח תשרי Tishrei 8	18 ט תשרי Tishrei 9 EREV YOM KIPPUR	19  י תשרי Tishrei 10 Yizkor YOM KIPPUR	20 יא תשרי Tishrei 11	21 יב תשרי Tishrei 12	22 יג תשרי Tishrei 13 HA'AZINU
23 יד תשרי Tishrei 14	24  טו תשרי Tishrei 15 1st day of SUKKOT	25  טז תשרי Tishrei 16 2nd day of SUKKOT	26 יז תשרי Tishrei 17 1st Intermediate day	27 יח תשרי Tishrei 18 2nd Intermediate day	28 יט תשרי Tishrei 19 3rd Intermediate day	29 כ תשרי Tishrei 20 4th Intermediate day
30 כא תשרי Tishrei 21 HOSHANA RABA	1st day of SUKKOT	2nd day of SUKKOT	1st Intermediate day	2nd Intermediate day	3rd Intermediate day	4th Intermediate day

