

LAMISHPACHAH

SUMMER EDITION

"TO DO OR NOT TO DO, THAT MAY CAUSE CONGESTION"

Volume VIII issue 26

May 22, 2005 , 13 Iyar, 5765

SUMMER TO DO LIST



Religious School is now over for the year and won't start up again until **September 11th**. This means Sundays we can sleep in, no worrying about doing Hebrew

homework, no stressed out kids about the extra hours of education, no more parents worrying about what to bring for snack for *hafsaka* (ask your kids what that is), and no more rushing from work to pick up your kids on time from Hebrew School. Pause, sigh, deep breath .

..

That's one way to look at the summer. One can not be Jewish alone, it is a community based religion, unlike other religions that promote solitude and separation we find spiritual experiences and we become close to God when we are with others. The summer may be more challenging to be Jewish.

Judaism has symbols and rituals that help to get us into routines that help us to appreciate life, make life more meaningful and more memorable. Now is a good time to bring more rituals into your life. I would like to suggest a summer "to do" list that may help to make your summer more meaningful and help bring you closer to Judaism and to your family.

"TO DO" LIST

- ☆ Check out a book from the Temple Library for summer reading with your children
- ☆ Come to our upbeat, energetic, Shabbat Alive, a great opportunity for your children to see Hebrew in use and for them to practice.
- ☆ Sing *Modeh Ani* with your kids in the morning when they wake up

*Modeh ani l'fanecha, melech chai v'kayam,
shehechezarta bi nishmati b'chemlah; rabah
emunatecha.*

I give thanks to You, O God, eternal and living ruler,
who in mercy has returned my soul to me; great
is your faithfulness.

- ☆ Light Shabbat candles at home on Friday night or if going out for dinner, say the *motzi* over the Hamburger bun. see Shabbat blessings on the UAHC website <http://uahc.org/shabbat>
- ☆ Celebrate *havdalah* on Saturday night with a twisted candle, spices and a cup of wine.
- ☆ Choose an organization you and your family might want to help and donate your time to them as a family.

LEARNING HEBREW IS NOT LIKE RIDING A BIKE



The Hebrew teachers have worked hard over the year to instill a love of Hebrew in your children. We teach Hebrew to help the students connect to Judaism, prayer, Israel, Jews of the past and Jews around the world. Please continue the work that our teachers did over the summer. If you have any questions or would like to meet with me with or without your child, I'd be happy to discuss possibilities and give pointers in helping your child learn the language of our people.

Some of the students will need to catch up on the *Alef-Bet* over the summer.

Some of the students will need Hebrew tutors to help them with their reading.

All of the students will need to practice their Hebrew over the summer.

Please check out the Religious School website for helpful places to study Hebrew via the internet.

Helpful Hebrew Websites:

<http://www.leobaektemple.org/education/hebrew/index.htm>

THANK YOU



Thank you to **Roz** the Education Secretary for being the first line of defense for the Religious School.

Thank you to all of the **teachers** and **madrichim** for taking my suggestions and working hard to make this a wonderful first year.

Thank you to **Joi Morris** who was the backbone of this Religious School, my support network and the moving force behind the additions to our program for next year.

Thank you to **Lewis Wilkenfeld** for all he did to mobilize the room parents.

Thank you to the **Youth Education Committee** and **Room Parents** for their involvement in school life.

Thank you to all of the **students** for the energy and enthusiasm they bring to Judaism and to the programs we have here, especially this past Big Sunday which was quite impressive.

Thank you to **Rabbi Lewis**, **Cantor Wally** and **Rabbi Chasen** for being part of the team to make this year full of life, music, and wisdom.

Thank you to **Mark Williams** for writing all of the LaMishpachot for this year.

THE HOLIDAY OF SHAVUOT



Join the Confirmation class of 5765 in celebration Shavuot on Sunday, June 12th at 4:00PM. Shavuot is the holiday that celebrates the receiving of the Torah. As you can guess, one of the more important holidays to celebrate and acknowledge. It is a great time to learn, sing and eat cheese.

SUMMER READING CLUB

The Jewish Community Library of Los Angeles is sponsoring a summer reading club for kids 2005.

RULES:

- ♥ [Read 6 Jewish books throughout the summer.](#)
- ♥ Books must be age or grade appropriate.
- ♥ Print out and complete the form below.
- ♥ Mail or fax the completed form to the Jewish Community Library of Los Angeles. <http://jccla.org/>

You will receive your certificate and prize in the mail!

HINT! HINT!

- ♥ If you read to an older or younger sibling, or friend -it counts for both of you!
- ♥ If a teacher, parent, or camp counselor reads to a group of kids it counts for everyone!