



## Stony Brook Hebrew Congregation Newsletter

### This month's services schedule

Date:	Candle Lighting	Evening Service	Shacharit/Mincha	Kriat Shema	Maariv	Shabbat Ends
6-7	4:58 pm	5:00 pm	9:30 am	9:31 am	6:15 pm	6:00 pm
13-14	5:06 pm	5:00 pm	9:30 am	9:27 am	6:25 pm	6:09 pm
20-21	5:15 pm	5:10 pm	9:30 am	9:22 am	6:30 pm	6:17 pm
27-28	5:23 pm	5:20 pm	9:30 am	9:16 am	6:40 pm	6:25 pm

Weekday Shacharit – Mondays & Thursdays at 7:00 am.

Weekday Maariv – 6:00 pm at Delancy Street Café.

### Learning

Tuesday Talmud class – Led by Rabbi Roffman in the Beit Midrash at 8:00 pm.

Weekly Women's Class – Times change weekly. Contact Rebbetzin Roffman at [rivar@topshot.com](mailto:rivar@topshot.com) for more information.

Hebrew Reading Crash Course – Begins Thursday, February 26th, at 7:00 pm and continues for five weeks. Please extend invitations to anyone you know that might be interested. Register by calling (631) 751-3289 or e-mailing [SBHC@Verizon.net](mailto:SBHC@Verizon.net).

### Special Events in February

Tu B'Shevat – Monday, February 9th.

Rosh Chodesh Adar – Starts on Monday night the 23rd of February and ends on Wednesday night the 25th of February.

Chulent in Synagogue – Shabbat of February 28th during Kiddush.

### Nachas News

- Happy birthday to Michael Lyubich, Adele Milch, Sharon Leib, Esther Stein, Shmuel Strej, Daniel Aluf-Medina, and Eliezer Roffman.
- Happy Anniversary to Dovid & Deborah Zlochower.

### Kiddush

Kiddush this month is sponsored by the Ebin family.

## Why People Are Compared To Trees

By Rabbi Plotzker

1) Trees are created for the benefit of others – they produce fruit for us to eat, their leaves give off oxygen, enabling us to breathe, their wood is used for building etc. A person is also created to help others.

2) Trees produce many fruit and these fruit produce more fruit. Jews also ‘produce’ numerous mitzvos and these mitzvos bring more mitzvos.

3) Trees are always growing. So too, Jews should continuously grow spiritually.

4) A tree starts off as a small insignificant seed, yet can grow into something great and special. So too, people start off insignificant and with the proper nurturing can grow into something great and special.

5) Trees need water to grow, without which, they will wither away. So too, Jews need Torah, which is compared to water, to survive.

6) A tree during the winter, can look lifeless, yet underneath there is the latent potential for a new tree. A Jew also may appear spiritually ‘lifeless’ yet he has latent potential which can grow into something wonderful.

7) Trees go through seasons – blossoming, producing, fading, blossoming, producing, fading etc. So too, man has productive times and non-productive times.

8) A tree that is well rooted, can weather many storms. So too, a Jew that is well rooted in his faith can withstand the many storms that life may bring.

9) A tree gathers nutrients from the ground. Ground looks unhealthy and unwholesome, yet a tree knows how to draw from it for its growth. So too, many experiences in life don’t look healthy or beneficial for us. A Jew must realize that even in the bleakest situation, there is what to be gained, to enable his growth in service to G-d.

10) After a tree no longer produces fruit, one can have benefit from its wood for years to come. A person, even after he passes away, can live on and bring benefit to the world through his deeds, accomplishments, and lessons he taught.

Tu B’Shevat Sameach!