



# ETZ CHAIM SEPHARDIC CONGREGATION

B"H

## SHABBAT SHALOM

### PARASHAT METZORA - SHABBAT HAGADOL D'VAR BY RABBI DAVID GINGOLD-ALTCHEK

Shabbat HaGadol Shalom u'Mevorah, is the greeting brought down in halakha for this coming Shabbat. And while many Shabbatot throughout the year have a special name or designation, this is the only one referred to as Shabbat HaGadol, or the great Shabbat!

Many commentators ask why this Shabbat holds such a distinguished designation. While the simple explanation is that it was the Shabbat proceeding the final miracles of the exodus, other answers have also been offered.

One, brought by R' Yosef Karo, the author of the Shulhan Arukh (Code of Jewish Law), was a quote from the Midrash. There, a story is told in which the children of Israel collected the first born of their flock and prepared them on Shabbat. When the Egyptians inquired as to the reason for this peculiar behavior, the Israelites told them that the Lord has promised a tenth and final plague - a decimation of Egypt's first born.

The first-born sons of Egypt immediately began arguing with pharaoh against his dangerous policy of anti-liberation. Here, according to the midrash, ensued internal strife that led to a civil war between the pharaonic government and the first-born of Egypt. Ultimately, the first-born anarchist militia fell to the Egyptian military's superior might. Of this, the midrash reports, these events were prophetically recounted by the psalmist as, "and for the Egyptians smiting of their first born - His kindness endures forevermore." For the psalm does not praise the Lord for smiting the first born, but rather attributes much of it to the Egyptians themselves.

So, how does a people get to a point wherein their national pride and hubris can bring them to kill their own? History, unfortunately, is ripe with such examples. Even here in America, though this is not the place to expand the thought.

The answer is, when our morals and ethics are tailored to our ideals - we fail as societies. Contrarily, when our ideals are fashioned from a higher moral and ethical code - we can only succeed societally. At least this is my takeaway from this explication; this Shabbat is the great

### Shabbat Metzora - Shabbat Hagadol Observance

#### Times

Friday Night Services - Minha	7:30 PM*
Shabbat Candle Lighting	7:54 PM*
Shabbat Morning Services - Shaharit	9:00 AM**
Tzurba M'raban Torah Today Class	1:15 PM
Shabbat End	8:54 PM*

\*Please note observance times change.

\*\*Please arrive on time to help make a minyan, so Torah reading can begin on time.

Please silence your cellphone during Shabbat

#### **Contact Information**

<u>Rabbi:</u> Rabbi David Gingold-Altchek: Rabbi@etzchaimindy.org	
<u>President:</u> Alan Cohen: President@etzchaimindy.org	317-513-3056
<u>Immediate Past President:</u> Gadi Boukai: BGadi@att.net	317-727-6113
<u>Treasurer:</u> Mark Sigman: Treasurer@etzchaimindy.org	317-691-7553
<u>Deborah Sisterhood Pres.:</u> Maya Shmoel: Sisterhood@etzchaimindy.org	
<u>Donations:</u> Batya Auerbach: Batya@etzchaimindy.org	317-251-6220
<u>Oneg Sponsorship:</u> Rakhel Farahan	317-413-0373
<u>Life &amp; Legacy:</u> Alan Cohen, President@etzchaimindy.org	317-513-3056
<u>Office:</u> Information@etzchaimindy.org	317-251-6220

Please Note: We have recently centralized the processing of donations for Prayer Books, Chumashim, donations to Etz Chaim and Sisterhood. Please indicate how your check should be applied. Mail all donations to Etz Chaim, Attn: Donations, P.O. Box 80004, Indianapolis, IN 46280. Thank you

(d'var cont.) Shabbat because it reminds us of the superiority, not of our people as an ethnic group, but as a civilization intended to have its foundations in morality above all else!  
Shabbat Shalom!

### **5779 PESSAH Schedule of Services**

**Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>**

**12:15-12:45 PM - Burn Chametz**

Speak to Rabbi for Questions or Assistance

**Minha 8:00 PM**

Candle Lighting 8:08 PM

*\*Followed by First Seder*

**Shabbat, April 20<sup>th</sup> - 1<sup>st</sup> Day Yom Tov**

Shaharit 9:00 AM

**Minha 8:00 PM**

Candle Lighting 8:08 PM

*Second Seder*

**Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> Day Yom Tov**

Shaharit 9:00 AM

**Minha 8:00 PM**

2nd Day Yom Tov Ends 9:10 PM

**April 21<sup>st</sup> (After 3 stars) - April 25<sup>th</sup> (Until Sundown) Chol Hamoed**

Services open to everyone!

## Anyos

**Mordechai Alboher**  
**Morris Abravaya**  
**Rachel Toledo**  
**Hymen Cohen**  
**Mary Nahmias**  
**Rachel Baruch Aroesty**  
**Siyoon David Solooki**  
**Bertha Klain**

### Reminder

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE: CANCELLED

First Night Pessah Seder @ Etz  
We apologize for any inconvenience.

*Wishing everyone a Pessah Kasher v'Sameah!*



## Passover Food Drive

**Bags to fill are in the lobby!**  
**Please drop off donations by Friday, April 12**  
**Etz Chaim, 6939 Hoover Road**

or

**Jewish Family Services, 6905 Hoover Road**  
**Questions? Email Rachel Katz: rkatz@jfgi.org or**  
**call 317-259-6822.**

Etz Chaim is a proud participant and recipient of the **LIFE & LEGACY** program. Contact Alan Cohen (317) 513-3056 for more information.



## Weekly Services & Classes

*Services and classes are open to the community & free of charge.*

Sunday @ Chabad on 96th

**Shaharit @ 9:00 AM**

Monday - Friday @ Etz Chaim

**Shaharit @ 7:00 AM**

Wednesday @ 8:00 PM

**Pirkei Avot Class**

**w/ Rabbi David Gingold-Altchek**

Shabbat 1:15-2:15 PM

**Torah Today:**

**Exploring the Laws of Daily Jewish Living**

## Upcoming

Friday, April 12

**Last day to donate to Popsie's Pantry for the Passover Food Drive**

April 19-April 27

**Pessah 5779**

Full Schedule of Services (See separate flyer)

Sunday, April 28 @ 5:30 PM

**Mimuna Celebration**

Sunday, May 19 4:00-7:00 PM

**Israel in the Park**

**Yom Ha'Atzmaut Celebration**

**Coxhall Gardens - 11677 Towne Rd., Carmel**

Please see flyer(s) for more information on event(s).

### Question about your Statement?

If you have any questions regarding your statement, please do not hesitate to reach out to our president, Alan Cohen / alanmtg@aol.com / 317-513-3056.

\*Anything you discuss will be treated as confidential.

## This Week's Oneg

Sponsored by

**Rina & Boaz Karmazyn in Loving Memory of**  
**Rina's Beloved Aunt, Esther Bat Malka**

and

**Mark & Carol Sigman in Loving Memory of**  
**Stanley Sigman**

Oneg sponsorship and co-sponsorship opportunities are available!

Contact Rakhel Farahan

**Volunteer in the Kitchen!**

Join Sisterhood in the preparation of our Shabbat onegs.

Both **women and men** are welcome to help in the kitchen.

**Friday Mornings @ 10:00AM-1:00PM**



Etz Chaim is a proud member of  
**The Sephardic Jewish Brotherhood of America**  
**La Ermandad Sefaradi**

To receive their weekly newsletter,  
**La Boz Sefaradi The Sephardic Voice**  
Subscribe at [www.sephardicbrotherhood.com](http://www.sephardicbrotherhood.com)

**Bikkur Cholim:** Please contact us 317-251-6220, if you know of someone who is ill or needs support of our community or Rabbi.

Etz Chaim Sephardic Congregation

6939 Hoover Road, Indianapolis, Indiana 46260 • 317-251-6220 • [www.EtzChaimIndy.org](http://www.EtzChaimIndy.org) • [Information@EtzChaimIndy.org](mailto:Information@EtzChaimIndy.org)