

Shavuot

Shavuot will take place this year on June 9 and June 10. Literally, “the holiday of weeks,” Shavuot marks the culmination of the 50-day counting period of the agricultural harvest — thus explaining its name Yom Ha-Bikkurim, the holiday of first fruits. Shavuot also has historical significance, since tradition states that the Torah was presented to the Jewish people on the 6th day of Sivan. For this reason, Shavuot is designated as Z’man Matan Toratenu — the time of giving our Torah.

Special Torah readings are assigned for these two days of Yom Tov, the highlight of which is the chanting of the Decalogue on the first morning. On the second day, Yizkor memorial prayers are said.

Shavuot is a triple holiday, a three-fold celebration which commemorates:

- The giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai
- The harvesting of wheat in Israel
- The ripening of the first fruit in the Holy Land

The Rabbis declared Shavuot to be the most pleasant of all Jewish holidays. It complements Passover well and brings that great festival to a glorious conclusion. On Passover the Jews were freed from slavery, and on Shavuot the freed slaves were transformed into free human beings by the Ten Commandments.

May 26, 2000

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Shabbat and Shavuot Schedule

Friday, May 26 6:30 pm	Friday Night Service	Friday, June 9 First Day Shavuot	
Saturday, May 27 7:30 and 9:15 am	Shabbat Services B’Chukotai: Leviticus 26:3-27:34	9:15 am	Festival Service Confirmation Bikkurim Ceremony
9:15 am	Joshua Cohen Bar Mitzvah Ilana Kattan Bat Mitzvah	6:30 pm	Friday Night and Festival Service
10 am	Jr. Congregation	Saturday, June 10 Second Day Shavuot	
10:30 am	Nitzanim, APR	7:30 and 9:15 am	Shabbat and Festival Services Deuteronomy 14:22-16:17 Numbers 28:26-31
Friday, June 2 6:30 pm	Friday Night Service	Yizkor will be recited at both services	
Saturday, June 3 7:30 and 9:15 am	Shabbat Service B’Midbar: Numbers 1:1-4:20	9:15 am	Ali Weisz Bat Mitzvah Torah Readers honored Perek Yomi, Chapel
9:15 am	Jacob Breall Bar Mitzvah Brian Goldstein Bar Mitzvah	12:30 pm	
10 am	Jr. Congregation Worship and Study Minyan, APR	Friday, June 16 6:30 pm	Friday Night Service
12:30 pm	Perek Yomi, Chapel	Saturday, June 17 7:30 and 9:15 am	
Thursday, June 8 Erev Shavuot Religious School		Naso: Numbers 4:21-7:89	
6:30 pm	Mincha Service Religious School Tikkun Layl Shavuot, APR	9:15 am	Dorothy Fox Bat Mitzvah Matthew Fox Bar Mitzvah Jr. Congregation Gan Shabbat, MR
6:45 pm	Light Supper	10 am	
7:15 pm	Study Session	12:30 pm	Perek Yomi, Chapel
8:00 pm	Maariv Service		
Study Session at 8:15 pm			



Sisterhood News

Dor l'Dor Program

On Sunday, April 30 approximately 60 Sisterhood members (and one husband) participated in Dor l'Dor, Generation to Generation: Tracing Your Jewish Heritage. Judith Mostyn White, librarian at the Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington, presented a program describing several approaches to describing your family tree. She displayed various "pedigree" charts, several descendant charts and a beautiful quilt with a family tree in photographs. Judith also distributed a genealogy research check list. If anyone is interested in an introduction to Jewish genealogy, you can see find information at www.jewishgen.org/infocfiles. The next speaker was our very own Bernice Blumenthal who described her gift to her children of a family recipes notebook. Bernice's love of cooking and its place in nurturing our souls and our heritage was very well received. Julia Loeb spoke to us about the importance and satisfaction of putting together photo histories. This is another way of telling our stories and preserving our memories. The photo scrap books that Julia has put together for her own family were an inspiration to many attendees to pull out those boxes full of photos and start their own albums. Sisterhood would like to thank Barbara Friedman for coordinating this program, and expresses its appreciation as well to the three presenters.

Sisterhood Revised By-Laws Approved

On April 30 the Sisterhood general membership approved a much needed revision of the group's By-Laws. The re-writing effort was led by Alissa Horvitz and Claire Marwick, with input from the Sisterhood Executive Committee and the Board of Directors. Todah Rabah to Claire and Alissa for their invaluable contribution to this important project.

New Sisterhood Members

Sisterhood welcomes our new members. Please add these names, addresses and phone numbers to the Sisterhood Directory.

Friedman, Barbara B., 8 North Park Drive,
Bethesda MD 20814 301-215-8360

Kitt, Susan, 7813 Exeter Road, Bethesda, MD
20814 301-652-1753

Koby, Glenda, 4505 West Virginia Avenue,
Bethesda, MD 20814 301-718-9464

Sisterhood Directory Address Corrections

Mina Schneider, 10201 Grosvenor Place, #1601,
Rockville, MD 20852

Carla Schraub, 9139 Redwood Avenue, Bethesda,
MD 20817

Reminders

The Sisterhood Catering Committee can always use volunteers to help on a regular basis with the Shabbat kiddushim and luncheons. Jackie Levine, 301-299-9507, or Marcia Kalman 301-897-8562, can tell you how you can get involved in this worthwhile activity.

Have you shopped at the Sisterhood Judaica Shop? Stop in to see the lovely, new items in stock. The Judaica Shop is open on Thursdays and Sundays from 9 am to Noon or by special appointment.

Sisterhood has beautiful, special greeting cards available for all occasions. Proceeds from the cards benefit the Jewish Theological Seminary. Call Rita Kahn 301-654-7716 to purchase cards.

Your subscription to *Washington Jewish Week* can benefit Sisterhood at no additional cost to you. Call Leslie Dellon, 301-530-4645, for more information.

An easy way to get information about Sisterhood or to leave messages, is to call the Sisterhood hotline number 301-652-2606, ext. 333. Calls will be answered as quickly as possible.

All in the Family

Mazal Tov to **Kenneth and Carolyn Feigenbaum** on the birth of two granddaughters. Elizabeth Feigenbaum, daughter of Jonathan Feigenbaum and Lisa Foster, was born on March 14, 2000 in Boston, MA. Sophie Mae Finch, daughter of Miriam Feigenbaum and Peter Finch, was born on March 31, 2000 in Seattle, WA.

Mazal Tov to Religious School music teacher, **Andrea Foster**, on her June 6 graduation from Morasha, The Florence Melton Adult Mini-School for Teachers.

Membership Information

Change of address: **Martin and Naomi Levy**, 4620 N. Park Avenue, Apt. 205E, Chevy Chase, MD 20815.

Tikkun Layl Shavuot - Thursday, June 8, 2000

It is a time-honored custom to study Torah on the eve of Shavuot, commemorating the anniversary of the giving of the Law. The morning the Jews were supposed to receive the Torah at Sinai, they overslept. Moses had to wake them up! This is one explanation for the custom of staying up all night studying on the eve of Shavuot. Come learn together on Thursday evening, June 8. Congregants of all ages are welcome to attend. Both children's and adults' programs will begin at 6:30 pm and will include dinner. Rabbi Maltzman will lead an adult study session at 7:15 pm. The Maariv Service at 8 pm concludes the children's evening. The service will be followed by adult study sessions led by Rabbi Rudolph and Hazzan Lubin. If you would like to join us for the light meal and study sessions, please return the coupon below to the synagogue office by Thursday, June 1. Please contact a member of the clergy if you have questions about the adults' program; contact Sarah Roark, (301) 652-2606, ext. 320, with any questions about the children's program.

Shavuot/Bikkurim Ceremony

The festival of Shavuot will be celebrated on Friday, June 9 and Saturday, June 10. Families are invited to celebrate Shavuot and the bringing of "Bikkurim" (first harvest fruits and flowers) to the synagogue during services on Friday, June 9.

It is a tradition at Beth El for children up to third grade age to bring a basket filled with fresh fruit and flowers of your choosing to beautify the synagogue (later to be distributed to the needy). There will be a children's procession during the service. There will be refreshments following the service and babysitting is available during services.

*The Families of the Confirmation Class Cordially Invite
the Congregation to the Confirmation Exercises
on Friday, the ninth of June, two thousand
at 9:15 am
Congregation Beth El*

Beth El's 2000 Confirmation Class

*Phillip Arnheim, son of Walter Arnheim and Marsha Rehns
Sarah Paloma Bolasny, daughter of Sheldon and Paola Bolasny
Rachel Claxton, daughter of Rick and Joan Claxton
Calvin Abraham Cooper, son of Jeffrey and Ferne Cooper
Pamela Corbett, daughter of Jeffrey and Sharon Caplan
Emily Dorfman, daughter of Jonathan and Cynthia Dorfman
Sarah Dutcher, daughter of Ronald and Gale Dutcher
Rachel Ilana Fersh, daughter of Robert Fersh
and Sharon Markus
Joshua Glick, son of Jeffrey and Marilyn Glick
Elizabeth Goldman, daughter of William and Emily Goldman
Brian Hanley, son of Bruce and Joan Hanley
Suzanne Hurwitz, daughter of Ely and Barbara Hurwitz
Rebecca Kazzaz, daughter of Daniel Kazzaz and Audrey Corson
Jacob King, son of Bert and Susan King
Ross Koenig, son of Robert and Evyan Koenig
Lance Kramer, son of Mark and Marjorie Kramer
Rachel Kurlander, daughter of Roger Kurlander
and Marion Danis
Eliot Srul Lesser, son of Howard and Hanna Lesser
David Levy, son of Gregg and Joan Levy
Aaron Hugh Levy-Forsythe, son of Jonathan Levy
and Patricia Forsythe
Allison Lipsit, daughter of Ed and Estie Lipsit
Zachary Lipson, son of Ace and Linda Lipson
Jessica McDonald, daughter of Jim and Betty McDonald
Laura Mirengoff, daughter of Paul and Yvonne Mirengoff
Seth Ross Niedermayer, son of Roy Niedermayer and Gail Ross
Dara Postar, daughter of Michael and Adeen Postar
Jennifer Rubin, daughter of Ken and Susan Rubin
Micah S. Siegel, son of Jay Siegel and Mona Sarfaty
Adam Simon, son of Jonathan and Sandra Simon
Gregory Smolen, son of Jason and Marilyn Smolen
Diana Rachel Stern, daughter of Larry and Lya Stern
Carolyn Webber, daughter of William and Laurie Webber
Ian Weisz, son of Bernard and Janyse Weisz*

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Men's Club News

You are invited to attend the Beth El Men's Club's regular Sunday breakfast programs and to join the Men's Club. The Men's Club supports programs including the renowned Perspectives in Dialogue series (now in progress!), political forums, awards and other events.

The Men's Club also sponsors youth programs including scouting, the Purim Carnival, the annual Magic Show, Israeli scholarships, school books, Bar Mitzvah kiddush cups, and other important activities. Your participation makes it possible! For membership information, please call Marvin Yudkowitz at 301-564-4580.

Our regular Sunday Morning Breakfast Programs continue, and all congregants are welcome. For these regular programs, lox and bagel breakfast is at 9:30 am (after the 9 am minyan), with program from 10 to 11 am. Check the Men's Club poster in the Rotunda for updated details.

Upcoming programs

May 28: Rabbi Jonathan Maltzman, "Happiness is a Serious Problem"

June 4: Men's Club business meeting

June 11: Julian Spier, "Sol Blum and the Congressional Response to the Holocaust"

June 18: Rabbi William Rudolph, "A Wrap-up on T'fillin" Everything you ever wanted to know about t'fillin: What are they? How to put them on. (Did you know there are several ways?) This is your chance to see if you can stump Rabbi Rudolph with a question you have regarding t'fillin. Order forms for purchasing t'fillin at a special low rate will also be available.

Gan Shabbat

Sarah Roark is leading Gan Shabbat services this year. Gan Shabbat, the Saturday morning service geared especially for children in kindergarten through third grades, will continue to meet in the downstairs Meeting Room from 10 to 11 **am** Meeting dates will be on the third Saturday of the month.

Please contact Sarah Roark at 301-652-2606, ext. 320, if you are a parent interested in helping out with the details of the service.

Vatikkim Luncheon on June 15

Please join us for our June 15 Vatikkim luncheon when we will learn about a very different subject: Esperanto, the international language created in 1887 by Dr. Ludwik Zamenhof (aka Doktoro Esperame - Dr. Hopeful.) Our speaker will be Dr. E. James Lieberman, Secretary of the Esperantic Studies Foundation.

Lunch is at Noon and the program is at 1 pm. The cost for members is \$7.00; nonmember cost is \$8.00. Please fill out the reservation form below and mail it to Bea Goldman, 3214 Henderson Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20902, 301-942-9434, or Phyllis Blum, 1411 Stratton Drive, Rockville, MD 20854, 301-340-3046.

Please note that we will not accept reservations later than two days before the scheduled event to assure proper planning.

Reservation Form

Vatikkim Luncheon on Thursday, June 15, 2000.

Please reserve _____ places for me at the Vatikkim luncheon.

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Please have your response reach us by June 13. No reservations will be accepted after this date.

Keruv

Celebrate Havdalah with Keruv

Please join Keruv on Saturday evening, May 27 at the home of Gale and Ron Dutcher, 11708 Farmland Drive, Rockville, MD, for Havdalah and a dairy pot luck dinner. Please RSVP to Gale Dutcher, 301-984-0025, or Terri Annis, 301-656-5219.

Keruv welcomes your questions, comments and concerns about intermarriage, conversion and living in an interfaith family. These types of questions often arise during life cycle events. We have all types of families and have experience that may be able to help you deal with your particular situation. Call Terri Annis or leave a message in the synagogue office.

Keruv ("outreach") addresses the issues of intermarriage and conversion at Beth El. We hold drop-in Shabbat discussions, talk to Havurot, and have family-based holiday parties. For more information about Keruv and its activities, call Terri Annis at 301-656-5219.

**THURSDAY JUNE 8, 2000
TIKKUN LAYL SHAVUOT**

Adults will attend:
6:30 Mincha
6:45 Dinner
7:15-8:00 Teaching session with Rabbi Jonathan Maltzman
8:00 Maariv
8:15-9:30 Teaching Session with Rabbi Bill Rudolph
and Hazzan Abraham Lubin

Programming for school-age children will be run by Sarah Roark and Louis Nagel from 6:30-8:00 including dinner. Families will be encouraged to reunite for Maariv.

R.S.V.P. to the synagogue office by June 1, 2000,

Name(s) of
adult(s) _____

Name(s) of
child(ren) _____

If children are attending, please list their grades in school.

There will be a five dollar fee per person to cover the cost of a dairy dinner.

If your child is sensitive to certain foods, please contact Sarah Roark in advance.

**Beth El Men's Club
Honors the Recipients of the 2000 Kavod Awards**

Service to the Community at Large
Dr. Bernard Moss

Service to the Jewish Community
Mr. Julian Tishkoff

Service to Congregation Beth El
Mr. Cary Feldman

Beth El Basketball Shines

By Ariele Hausner-Barach, Youth Director, and Jesse Spiegel, USY Executive Vice President

CONGRATULATIONS to our USY Basketball team for finishing second in the league. It came down to the finals and Beth El Bethesda was winning by two points with 20 seconds left against Columbia. Unfortunately, Beth El was not able to maintain this lead and ended up losing by two points. However, everyone on the team had a fun time during the season as Beth El made a major accomplishment by finishing in second place. Each person on the team made a major contribution toward the team's success this year, and Beth El looks forward to competing for the championship next season.

Our esteemed players are Reuven Birnkrant, Andrew Feinberg, Brian Graber, David Levine, Zachary Maltzman, David Ochs, David Schoenholtz, Jonas Singer, Brett Stark, Jessi Wolke-Brooks, Heather Wolke-Brooks, and team captain Jesse Spiegel. We could not have done it without the help of our dedicated (and strict) coaches, Rabbi Maltzman and Ken Brooks. Thank you, thank you, thank you!



Summer Volunteers Needed to Shop for and Visit Frail Elders

The Jewish Social Service Agency critically needs summer volunteers to shop for and visit the frail elders who live in their own homes. Volunteer shoppers in this non-sectarian program receive a list (by phone or in person) from the elder, purchase the items, and deliver the groceries. The volunteers are needed to fill in for those on vacation. Each volunteer visitor is paired with a frail elder who lives in Montgomery County, as geographically close as possible to them. Volunteers must have their own transportation. For more information or to volunteer, call Marilyn Polon, 301-816-2638.

From the Desk of the Youth Director

Before you say good-bye for the summer, join your friends for one last program!

Bonim and Machar are invited to the end of the year event on Sunday, June 11, co-sponsored by the Religious School and Family Education departments. An afternoon of music, storytelling, food, and fun will be had at Beth El. Look for further details in this edition of the *Scroll* and in your mailboxes.

Kadima will be hosting the region for "Kadima Kayitz: Summer Send-off Dance." Boogie the night away on Saturday, June 3, from 9-11. Come show the region how incredible Beth El Kadima is.

USY will be saying good-bye to the year and hello to next year's freshman class (current 8th graders), at a pool party on Sunday, June 4. Splish splash with your friends and welcome the 8th graders into our amazing USY chapter.

We hope to see all of you at next year's events (and maybe a few over the summer). Whenever you're in the synagogue, stop by my office to say hello and grab some candy.

Enjoy your summer vacation!!!

Tallitot for Kostroma

Beth El's two B'nai Mitzvah classes are making tallitot for Kostroma! Congratulations to Education Director, Louis Nagel, class teachers Marla Sevi and Ira Haber, and Art Educator, Myrna Dworsky, for introducing and implementing so meaningful a project

The students know how Beth El became associated with this, our reviving community in the former Soviet Union which, only a few years ago, determined to begin to live Jewishly after 64 years of not being allowed that right. That the classes are expressing their concern and support in so significant a way is commendable.

Yes, Beth El has sent tallitot to Kostroma, but machine-made. Can you imagine the joy with which these tallitot-hand-made by our own perceptive young people-will be received? Life is hard in Kostroma. That our students cared enough to make such an effort will be received with gratitude and warm appreciation. Count on it!

To those who initiated the undertaking and to those who are carrying it out, a hearty yasher koach from the whole congregation!

Evening Minyan

The following people are asked to help us with our daily Evening Minyan for the next three weeks. On Sunday through Thursday, the Minyan begins at 8 pm and concludes at 8:15 pm. During the week of your assignment, we would appreciate your attending as many evenings as possible, so that those who are saying Kaddish will have a minyan that they can attend at Beth El.

May 28 to June 1

George and Priscilla Tievsky
Marvin and Arleen Tievsky
Julian and Iris Tishkoff
Irving and Melva Tofsky
Christopher and Meritt Tollefson
Stuart and Rachel Tomares
Ronald and Evelyn Treinish
Howard and Rhea Troffkin
Bruce and Susan Turnbull
Daniel and Rachel Ullman
Harold and Denise Unterman
Jack and Stephanie Ventura
Alan and Ruth Vinitsky
Alon Vogel and Rebecca Smith-Vogel
Irene Vogel
Melvin Wachs
Abraham and Louise Wagman
Michael Wald
Ruth Wald
Adam and Yhomara Warshavsky

June 4 to June 8

Alan Wasserman and Penny Dash
Shirley Wasserman
Bernard and Marta Wassertzug
Robert Watson and Fran Katz
Laurie and William Webber
Mark and Joanne Weinberg
Paul and Carolyn Weinberg
Sophia Weinberger
Edwin and Carolyn Weiner
Mervyn and Shirley Weiner
Brent Weingardt and Danielle Srou
Benjamin and Lillian Weinmann
Donald and Marcia Weinroth
Dora Weinstein
Frank and Harriet Weinstein
Neil and Karen Weinstein
Herbert and Judith Weintraub
Stuart and Elizabeth Weisberg
Howard and Susan Weiss
Irvin and Rita Weiss

June 11 to June 15

Marjory Weiss
Allan and Jocelyn Weissman
Bernard and Janyse Weisz
Joseph and Edith Weisz
Simon and Gertrude Weker
Barbara Werner
Jack Werner
Jerome and Ina Wernick
Rita Wexler
Yuli and Martha Wexler
Mary Wichman
Barton Widom and Deborah Reiser
Mark and Janet Willen
Jeffrey and Karen Williams
Elliot and Esther Wilner
Lewis and Susan Winarsky
Gary and Marilyn Wind
Bradley D. Wine and Melanie Ilyse Wine
Mark and Blanche Wine

IT'S NOT TOO LATE! GET YOUR TICKETS!

**Come celebrate Hazzan Lubin's "TENTH" anniversary on
Sunday, June 4 at 7 p.m.**

**We promise you an evening of wonderful music and warm tributes
followed by a delicious dessert reception.**

Cantorial performances by:

**Hazzan Jeffrey Nadel,
Beth Sholom, Potomac, MD**

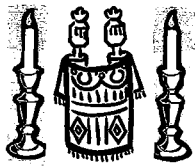
**Hazzan David Perper,
Temple Judea of Bucks County,
Doylestown, PA**

**Hazzan Faith Steinsnyder,
Temple Beth El of Spring Valley, NY.**

Klezmer music by "The Klezical Tradition"

**Tickets can be purchased through the synagogue office
or at the door that evening!**

Set the Table



with Torah

Set the Table with Torah

An introductory word: a discussion about the week's Torah portion is a good Shabbat dinner custom. Make the discussion as long or short, as simple or complicated, as your dinner crowd can handle.

Behukkotai: Leviticus 20:3-27:34

Behukkotai, which means "My laws", begins with a promise and a curse. If the Israelites follow God's laws and commandments, God will bless them. Their land will be fertile and peaceful and their enemies will flee before them. But if the people do not obey, God will punish them. Their enemies will dominate them, their land will not produce, and they will live in fear.

The Book of Leviticus concludes with a section detailing three types of gifts which might be promised to the sanctuary. The first type of gift consists of a promise to contribute a certain sum of money (specified in the text) equal to the valuation assigned to persons based on gender and age. For example, the amount to be given for a male of 60 years is 15 shekels and, for a female over this age, 10 shekels.

The second type of gift involved the giving of animals or property. Both were sold and proceeds went to the maintenance of the sanctuary.

The third type of contribution which a person dedicated to God (be it man, beast, or land) cannot be redeemed; everything thus given is totally consecrated to God.

The final portion of the Book of Leviticus is known as the tochechah - a warning or reproof. Throughout Leviticus, the Israelites are admonished to be holy. In this portion, the consequences of obedience and disobedience are presented.

Why do you follow the rules?

Do you always consider the consequences of your behavior?

What would happen to society if there were not consequences for breaking the rules?

For most people, is it the consequences that get them to follow the rules?

This section describing the evils that will befall the Israelites should they not follow God's rules ends with a passage allowing for their atonement. God promises not to break the covenant with the people even while they are enduring the punishment of exile. This passage contains a reference to God's covenant

with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and is bound up with the Talmudic idea of zechut avot - the merit of the fathers. According to this concept, the merit of the Patriarchs and the great love which God had for them help to "tip the balance" of God's judgment in favor of the Israelites even at times when they err severely. The fact that the Patriarchs are mentioned in reverse order in verse 26:42 is seen as a reflection of this. According to Leviticus Rabbah 36:5, "If there were no good deeds in Jacob, then Isaac's would suffice, and if Isaac's deeds did not suffice, then Abraham's would suffice; in fact, the deeds of each one alone would suffice for the whole world to be kept suspended in its position on account of their merit." In what respects do you benefit from the merit of your ancestors? Your parents? Your relatives?

Bamidbar: Numbers, 1:1-4:20

The name of this portion, which is also the Hebrew name given to the Book of Numbers is Bamidbar - In the Desert. This title is appropriate because the desert is the setting of this book.

The English title, Numbers, is a direct translation of the Greek Arithmoi. This name refers to the several census takings found in this book.

On the first day of the thirteenth month following the Exodus from Egypt, God commands Moses to take a census of all the Israelite males over 20 years of age who are able to bear arms. Moses and Aaron and the heads of each tribe record the census.

The Levites, however, are counted in a separate census, since they are not to bear arms. Moses assigns to them specific duties for the care of the Tabernacle. They are to camp around the Tabernacle to guard it. The rest of the Israelites are told to camp in four groups of three tribes under their ancestral banners around the Tabernacle.

Originally, firstborn Israelites were consecrated to God, since they escaped the plague of the death of all firstborn in Egypt. Now, God tells Moses to appoint the Levites as priests in place of the firstborn. Twenty-two thousand male Levites over one month old are counted by Moses and Aaron. They are assigned to help Aaron and his sons Eleazar and Ithamar with the work of the Tabernacle.

Moses also counts all the firstborn males over one month old among the rest of the Israelite population. A redemption piece of five shekels per head is collected and paid to Aaron and his sons.

A separate census is taken of the Kohathite clan of the Levites which is given the task of carrying the