



Shabbat 13 February 2021   1 Adar 5781 (Rosh Chodesh/Parashat Shekalim)					Parashat Mishpatim 5781 / פרשת משפטים			
Friday Chabura	שבת Starts	שבת Shacharit	Sof Zman Kriat Shema	שבת Mincha	שבת Ends	Zoom Havdala	Horim V'Yeladim	Sunday Shacharit
8.40AM	4.55PM	9.30AM	9.47AM	5.00PM	6.00PM	6.45PM	7.00PM	8.20AM

### Friday

This week the Chabura will be given by **Elkan Adler**. Join us at the following link: <http://tinyurl.com/MagenAvotZoom>.

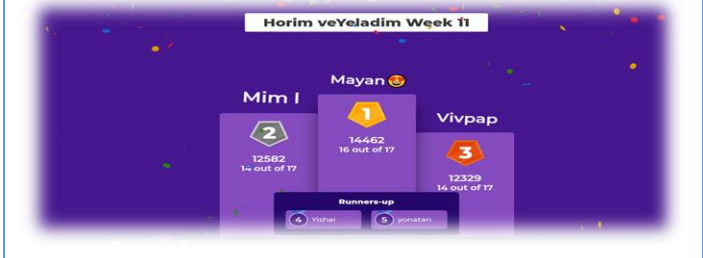
**Shabbat Shekalim (on Rosh Chodesh)**

**Maftir:** Shemot 30:11-16 and **Haftarah:** II Kings 12:1 - 12:17

### Motzei Shabbat

Join the Communal Havdalah at **6.45pm** at the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86342908387> | **863 4290 8387**

Horim V'Yeladim continues this week with another Kahoot Quiz at **7.00pm**: <http://tinyurl.com/MagenAvotZoom>.



### Sunday

- • •
- **TED** •
- **Circles** •
- • •

A TED Circle hosted by Esther Bentley takes place this Sunday at **8.00pm** and will feature: **“Dr Edith Eva Eger: The journey of grieving, feeling and healing”**. Please see the following short video in advance: <https://tinyurl.com/y2qr76xw>. Joining details will be circulated on WhatsApp.

### Wednesday

Rabbi Kenigsberg’s Tzurba m’Rabanan Shiur continues this week with a special Shiur on: **“Hilchot Purim”**. Details will be made available on the WhatsApp Group.

### 3-T 2.0 – Uyghur Campaign

Our Uyghur campaign continues! Please visit our website at the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/y5sqhfre>.

### Kiddush Sponsorship

If you would like to sponsor a “Kiddush” to benefit more NHS staff, please call or text Joy Kay on 07956 348 392.

### Gemach Fund for Members

Magen Avot operates a Gemach fund for members who have fallen into financial hardship. Help is available in the form of emergency one-off payments or short-term loans. If you are in need, are aware of, or are being approached by other members of the community in need of such a service, please feel free to contact Rabbi Kenigsberg ([rabbi@magenavot.com](mailto:rabbi@magenavot.com)) or Cecil Taitz ([treasurer@magenavot.com](mailto:treasurer@magenavot.com)), in complete confidence.

### Mental Health First Aid Course

We are launching a Mental Health First Aid course. The course is run by Jami and is fully accredited. For more information and to register please see click here: <https://tinyurl.com/y6yakofu>.

### Thanks

“Meet MA!” took place last Sunday. Thanks to Julian Pollard and Linda Wolffe for a fascinating interview.

### Purim Events

There will be a “Virtually Impossible” Magic show on Thursday 25 February at 8.30pm with Ben Levy. This is intended for family members (12 years and over) with one screen per family. Links will be sent out nearer the time.



The Magen Avot “Puppet Show” for children will be made available on Friday 26 February via our YouTube link of a specially recorded session with Ruth Ehreich.



Above shows the behind the scenes filming of the Puppet Show!

### Yahrzeits

13 February	1 Adar 5781	Nicola Schechtel	Mother
15 February	3 Adar 5781	Sarah Josephs	Mother
16 February	4 Adar 5781	Cecil Taitz	Sister
16 February	4 Adar 5781	John Wolffe	Mother

We wish them and their families Chayim Aruchim



**MEGILLAH READING SIGNUP: <https://tinyurl.com/mj94vjha>**



Dear All,

With Purim now two weeks away, here is an update regarding plans for Megillah reading at Magen Avot this year.

Although we have chosen to close the shul for services at the present time, there will be a Megillah reading at night and in the morning for those who wish to attend. This is after careful and considered discussion and consultation with medical experts. The decision considers both the fact that:

- current lockdown restrictions do allow for the opening of places of worship and
  - significantly, medical guidance that we have received indicates that the risk of opening shul is minimal, so long as **all the mitigants** listed below are strictly adhered to.
- Additionally, it is important to note that by the time of Purim, the estimated rate of infection in this area will be lower than it was previously when services were routinely taking place.

Nonetheless, we recognize that any social interaction does carry an element of risk and therefore **nobody should feel any pressure to attend**. The service provided by the shul will be done in the most Covid-secure manner possible to provide the choice for each individual to attend should he/she wish but there is certainly no compulsion to do so. From a Halachic perspective too, for some individuals it may be preferable to come to shul, whilst for others it will be preferable to stay at home.

**Mikrah Megillah**

There is a Halachic obligation for men and women to hear the Megillah in its entirety both during the night and day of Purim. Under normal circumstances this must be fulfilled through hearing it read aloud from a kosher scroll. The London Beth Din has ruled that those for whom this is not possible this year due to Covid restrictions may suffice with listening to a zoom livestream. The options are thus as follows:

- One who is in possession of a Kosher Megillah and able to read from it should do so at home. (For assistance in reading, this video contains a slow reading of the Megillah with pauses in between pesukim so that one can read along: <https://youtu.be/0wDyz7827q4>)
- The Megillah readings at Magen Avot (at night and in the morning) will be limited to **30 people**. **Masks** must be worn over the mouth and nose and 2M+ distance always maintained. There will be strictly **no congregating** before or after the reading and entrance and exit will be staggered to ensure this. Doors and windows will be kept open to achieve maximum **airflow**. The reading of the Megillah will **not be accompanied by Tefillah** (neither Maariv nor Shacharit) to keep time to an absolute minimum. There will therefore be no interruptions of boing or any other noisemaking whilst Haman's name is being read. Anyone who is currently ill with coronavirus, is displaying symptoms, is required to self-isolate for any reason, or does not feel safe to attend **SHOULD NOT** come. In line with US guidance, given the disproportionate risk of serious illness or mortality with increasing age, those aged over 70 are asked not to attend. Likewise, those over 50 are reminded about the additional age-related risk and asked to factor that into their decisions about attendance. If you are interested in attending, pre-booking is **essential**, and a sign-up link will be distributed shortly. Please note that (in accordance with US guidelines) children under age 11 may not attend this year's Megillah readings.
- Shabbat Walk are arranging Megillah readings outside people's homes for those who are unable to leave (flyer with details to follow).
- Anyone who is unable to hear the Megillah in person or has any hesitancy about attending should stay at home and may listen to a live zoom stream of the Megillah reading in shul. I stress that this dispensation is for the current circumstances only; but may be fully relied upon if one feels it is applicable to them. There is **NO PRESSURE** for anyone to attend shul over Purim if they do not feel safe to do so.

Further guidance about the other mitzvot of Purim, as well as details of other exciting virtual events will follow shortly. Whilst we will not be celebrating this year in the normal manner, we hope and pray that we will all merit to fulfil the words from the Megillah that we say in Havdala each week: ליהודים הייתה אורה ושמחה וששון ויקר - כן תהיה לנו! "The Jews had light and joy, and gladness and honour." - and so may we!

**Rabbi Kenigsberg and the Magen Avot Executive**

**tribe** THEUS TV  
www.tribeuk.com Celebrating 10 Years TheUS

The United Synagogue and Tribe are delighted to invite you to a fabulous feast of events to celebrate...

# PURIM 2021

THURSDAY 25 - FRIDAY 26 FEBRUARY

**THURSDAY**

- 5:20pm Tribe's Purim Adventure with Captain Calamity
- 6:14pm Fast Ends & Ma'ariv | Story Time with Tribe
- 6:30pm Tribe's Family Megillah Reading
- 7:15pm Purim Musical Extravaganza with Eitan Freilich and Luis Hershaft
- 7:45pm US Communities Women's Megillah Reading hosted by HGSS
- 7:45pm Megillah Reading | BGT Finalist, Illusionist Josh Horus
- 8:30pm Fast Megillah Reading
- 9:15pm Young US Cocktail Making (visit theus.org.uk/cocktails)
- 10:30pm Late Megillah Reading

**FRIDAY**

- 7:00am Early Megillah Reading
- 7:45am Online Shacharit
- 8:30am Early Megillah Reading
- 9:00am Megillah Reading
- 10:30am Explanatory Megillah Reading
- 11:30am Women's Megillah Reading
- 12:30pm Megillah Reading
- 1:15pm Tribe's Family Kahoot Quiz
- 1:45pm Family Megillah Reading
- 4:15pm Kabalat Shabbat Live! with Rabbi Eli and South Hampstead Synagogue

Watch via [facebook.com/UnitedSynagogueUK](https://www.facebook.com/UnitedSynagogueUK)  
Watch at [www.TheUS.tv/purim2021](http://www.TheUS.tv/purim2021)

**MEGILLAH GUIDANCE FOR US MEMBERS**

Ordinarily, adults have an obligation to hear the Megillah in person both in the evening and day of Purim. If you can hear a reading in shul or from someone else whilst complying with government and US Covid regulations, or if you can read yourself from a kosher scroll, then you should do so.

If being to Covid restrictions is not possible, hearing a recorded reading is not possible, then you should listen to any of the live readings we are broadcasting, rather than a recording.

**tribe** Celebrating 10 Years TheUS

Celebrate Purim 2021 with the United Synagogue's

# PURIM W A BOX

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**GIFT**  
a box as Mishloach Manot (Sending gifts)

**DONATE**  
for Matanot L'evyonim (Gifts to those in need)

For more info and to purchase visit [www.theus.org.uk/purimbox](http://www.theus.org.uk/purimbox)



Join our **Community WhatsApp group** by scanning the QR Code opposite using your mobile phone WhatsApp camera.