



Magen Avot

A.G.M. - Edition



Shabbat 16 May 2026 / 29 Iyar 5786 (Shabbat Mervarchim)					Omer Day 44		Parashat Bamidbar 5786/פרשת במדבר		
Light From	Friday Mincha	שבת	שבת Chabura	שבת Shacharit	SZ Kriat Shema	Minis /Maxis	שבת Mincha	שבת Ends	Sunday Shacharit
7.09PM	7.15PM	8.32PM	9.15AM	9.30AM	9.02AM	10.45AM	8.46PM	9.46PM	8.20AM

Shabbat

Chabura: Hillel Mirvis.

Magen Minis and Maxis: Meets at 10.45am.

Munchies Sponsor: Marc Ovits - celebrating the Nachat he gets from Ariella.

Y@MA: Meets after Mussaf kedusha.

Y@MA Sponsor: To be announced

Kriat Hatorah: Dr David Cohen.

Shabbat Drasha: Rabbi Golker.

Today's Kiddush is sponsored by: Family Spizzichino in celebration of Marco's birthday; Family Abrahams in celebration of Joseph's birthday; Julian Pollard in celebration of the 60th Anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah.

Post Mincha Speaker: Rabbi Pollak-New Series: "How Orthodox Judaism absorbed the fundamentals of Psychology".

Shiur 1: "Rav Yisrael Salanter - Freud before Freud"

Rosh Chodesh Sivan

The Molad takes place this Shabbat, 6:02pm and 15 chalakim.
ראש חודש סיון יקרה ביום ראשון הבא עלינו ועל כל ישראל לטובה.

Counting the Omer

OMER COUNTING We are here Day 44

Steps: 1-7, 8-14, 15-21, 22-28, 29-35, 36-42, 43-49, 50

Thanks to Z. Beider.

Yahrzeits

19/05/2026	3 Sivan 5786	Sheldon Reback	Father
21/05/2026	5 Sivan 5786	Hindy Aussenberg	Brother

AGM Council Elections

The AGM (Annual General Meeting), for Magen Avot will be held this Sunday 17th May 2026 at 6.30pm prompt at 48 Finchley Lane, NW4 1DJ. Meet your new Chair.

- AGENDA:**
- Welcome from the Vice-Chair
 - Vice-Chair's Report
 - Financial Representative Report
 - Results of Election to Synagogue Executive and Council
 - AOB

Shavuot Programmes 21st/22nd May

- Rabbi Golker's guidelines for Shavuot are on the last page.
- Shavuot Programme:**
- A Women's musical Hallel at 10.30am 17th May.
 - Years 4-6, Tikkun Leil Power Hour at 7.30 pm, 21st May;
 - A night of Learning and Inspiration from 11.30 pm, 21st May;
 - Y@MA Tikkun Leil Shavuot at 11.30 pm, 21st May; and
 - Womens Event "What is your 11th Commandment", 4.30pm 23rd May.

Please see the attached posters for details.

Upcoming Events

- The War with Iran and its Impact, 7.30pm, 20th May;
- Pirkei Avot Initiative Series, starting 30th May at 6.30pm. Pirkei Avot in members' home on Shabbat afternoons.

Please see the attached posters for details.

Basement Access Reminder and Buggy Policy

Parents are kindly reminded that the basement area is off-limits to children throughout Shabbat. To help keep the Shul safe and tidy, please ensure children remain upstairs at all times. Buggies may only be brought indoors with the approval and guidance of security, who are familiar with the buggy policy.

Kiddush Sponsorship

We have spare slots for Kiddush sponsors over the next few weeks. Book yours at <http://magenavot.com/sponsorships> or contact Marc Ovits on 07866 503 898.

Newsletter News

Additional announcements will be sent via WhatsApp Groups:-
Join the Broadcast Group: <https://tinyurl.com/mabroadcast>
Join the Social Group: <https://tinyurl.com/masocialgroup>

HELP SHAPE THE NEXT 10 YEARS OF MAGEN AVOT

We have proudly celebrated 10 years of Magen Avot. Now we invite you to help build the next incredible decade of our community.

Whether you have time, skills, ideas, or simply enthusiasm, there is a place for everyone to get involved. Anything you can do, big or small, helps our community grow stronger, and more connected.

Email info@magenavot.com with your details and we will be in touch.

www.magenavot.com

Magen Avot

United Synagogue Charity No. 24252

AGM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

We are pleased to invite all members to Magen Avot's Annual General Meeting on **17 May 2026 at 6.30 pm, held at Shul**. This is a vital opportunity to review the past year, discuss future plans, and to welcome the new council and executive members. Your involvement ensures our kehillah continues to thrive.

MAGEN AVOT SHAVUOT NIGHT 2026

A Night of Learning & Inspiration

11:30 PM	Shira Jackson <i>Silent Witness: The Stories that Could Be Told</i>
12:05 AM	☕ Break
12:15 AM	Rabbi Dr Rafi Zarum <i>Torah for all humanity? Malbim's Revolutionary Reading</i>
12:50 AM	☕ Break
01:00 AM	Rabbi Yoni Golker <i>How do we look at other Jews beyond "Jew-ish" Rethinking identities, responsibilities and relationships</i>
01:35 AM	☕ Break
01:45 AM	Rabbi Dr Glenn Bezalel <i>Halakha and Our Ethical Intuitions</i>
02:20 AM	☕ Break
02:30 AM	Chief Rabbi Sir Ephraim Mirvis KBE TBC
03:00 AM	🏯 1st Shacharit

*Join us for a meaningful night of Torah
learning and thought*

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT



Y@MA
YOUTH AT MAGEN AVOT

TIKKUN LEIL

SHAVUOT

THE MOTION:

THIS HOUSE BELIEVES THAT
**STRUCTURED
TEFILLAH
IS OUT OF DATE.**

DEFEND
TRADITION.

CHALLENGE
THE NORM.

**11.30PM
DEBATE**

FOLLOWED BY
TORAH AND Q&A

UNTIL 12.30AM

WITH
RABBI GOLKER, SOPHIE AND MOSHE

**THINK. DEBATE. LEARN. GROW.
THIS IS YOUR TIKKUN.**



TIKKUN LEIL
SHAVUOT



Y@MA
YOUTH AT MAGEN AVOT



FOR ALL
YOUTH IN YEARS 7-13



Magen Avot

YEARS 4-6 TIKKUN LEIL: POWER HOUR!



Thursday 21st May

19:30 - 20:30 @ Nancy Reuben



MAGEN AVOT

— WOMEN'S EVENT —

2ND DAY SHAVUOT

What is your 11TH COMMANDMENT?

The Torah gives us 10 Commandments.
What's the one mitzvah that speaks to your heart?

Share your 11th Commandment – the mitzvah
that inspires, guides and uplifts you.

SHARE AN IDEA.

- An idea or insight about a mitzvah that excites you.
- Halachic – something that deepened your understanding.
- Hashkafic – an idea that inspires your outlook.
- A personal story that moved or shaped you.
- Or anything you want to share.



WANT TO SHARE?

We'd love to hear from you!
Volunteers are invited
to share an idea for
2-3 minutes.

Contact
dina@magenavot.com
to take part!



Join us for cheesecake, tea and learning
as we celebrate the mitzvot that shape our lives
and bring us closer to Hashem.



THE HOME OF
DINA GOLKER



SHABBAT
23RD MAY 2026
(2ND DAY SHAVUOT)



4.30PM
TO 6PM



THE HOME OF
DINA GOLKER

Sunday 17th May
10.30 – 11.30am
North West London location

WOMEN'S MUSICAL HALLEL

Shavuot

With words of inspiration from:



Rebbetzen
Rachie Lister
Edgware United



Rebbetzen
Talya Rose
Mill Hill United



and
Shira Jackson
US Educator



Rachel Kaye



Shira Klajman



Rut Eisenberg



Tickets £5 - Book now at
WWW.THEUS.ORG.UK/HALLELSIVAN26



PIRKEI AVOT

— at —
MAGEN AVOT —
SHABBAT AFTERNOON
Initiative



Informal **PIRKEI AVOT** learning
(30–40 mins) in members'
homes on Shabbat afternoons,
with light refreshments.



Coincides with the next cycle
of 6 chapters of **PIRKEI AVOT**,
from **Shabbat 30th May**
until **4th July**.



A beautiful way to bring back
the spirit of learning **PIRKEI AVOT**
together on Shabbat afternoons.

FIRST EVENT AT

*Rabbi & Rebbetzen
Golker*



**SHABBAT
30TH MAY 2026**



6.00PM

If you would be happy
to **lead a session**,
please be in touch with
Rabbi or Rebbetzen Golker.



Israel Update: The war with Iran and its impact

Wednesday 20th May 2026, 7:30-8:45pm

Join us for a live conversation with Dr Toby Greene and Miri Eisin, introduced by Rabbi Michael Laitner, Director of Education at the US



Dr Toby Greene is the Director of Public Affairs for the Board of Deputies. He has published widely on Israeli politics and foreign policy and held academic positions at leading universities in the UK and Israel, including the Political Studies Department at Bar Ilan University.



Miri Eisin is an internationally recognized expert on intelligence, security, and the geopolitical landscape of the Middle East. A retired colonel in the Israel Defense Forces, she served for over 20 years in a variety of high-profile intelligence and operational roles, including as the foreign media advisor to Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert in 2006.

REGISTER NOW:

www.theus.org.uk/israelupdatemay

Although many communities bring in Shabbat and Yom Tov early during the summer months, there is a widespread custom on the first night of Shavuot to delay Ma'ariv until after nightfall. This is based on the Torah's requirement to count "שבע שבתות תמימות" – seven complete weeks of the Omer. The Taz and Mishnah Berurah therefore recommend waiting until nightfall before beginning Yom Tov. Other authorities maintain that only Kiddush must be after nightfall, while some question whether the requirement of "temimot" applies at all in this context and prefer bringing in Yom Tov earlier in order to add from חול to קודש and preserve Simchat Yom Tov.

At Magen Avot, we will daven Mincha/Ma'ariv on the first night at the usual time of 7.15pm, allowing families to begin Yom Tov in a normal and enjoyable way, particularly for children and guests. At the same time, some people are strict and wait until sunset (8.54pm) before making Kiddush and beginning the meal, and others also wait until nightfall (10.00pm). Where waiting would significantly detract from Simchat Yom Tov, one may make Kiddush earlier.

Yom Tov candles should be lit before 8.39pm and no melacha may be performed from that time onward.

Second Night / Shabbat

This year the second day of Shavuot is on Shabbat which means that the question of whether it is correct to bring in the second day early doesn't arise and the Friday night service will be at the normal time of 7.15 pm. All preparations for Shabbat should be finished by that time and candle-lighting should be shortly after 7.15 pm. An Eruv Tavshilin must be prepared on erev Yomtov to allow preparations for Shabbat to be done on Friday.