

Rabbi's Column – November 4, 2019

It is now the Hebrew month Heshvan. Heshvan is unique in that there are no religious celebrations outside of Shabbat. Every other month in the Jewish calendar has something - either a day of celebration or a day of fasting. During Temple days, that was probably to allow people to travel home after Shmini Atzeret. Now, it provides time to decompress from the Holydays and begin to prepare for the next sets (Hanukkah, Purim, Pesach).

In terms of the Torah, last week we quickly went through several thousand years of mythical history, from Creation through Noah. This week, things are slowed down a bit as we follow the Ark from early construction stages through crash landing on Mt. Ararat. At the end of the portion we do quickly go over another 10 generations so that we can get to Abram.

If any of you who are musically inclined would like to help provide some accompaniment for Hanukkah or Purim, please meet with me to go over the possibilities. What I do not have is sheet music for the traditional songs (the Purim parodies can more easily be found).

As winter hints slowly that it is back, please do not let the cold outside (as I write this it is in the single digits) affect your inner soul. May the warmth of our community continue to grow.