

שבועות

*Shavuot, the Feast of Weeks, falls exactly forty-nine days after the Pesakh seder. According to Jewish legend, the first day of Pesakh coincides with the first day of the Israelite exodus from Egyptian slavery. Seven weeks later, Moses returned from his forty days atop Mount Sinai and brought to Israel a gift from God: the Torah! That is why Shavuot is called "Z'man Matan Toratenu" – the time when God gave us the Torah.*



## CLIMBING MT. SINAI!

WCT Kidz Shavuot Celebration  
including the Blessing of our First Fruits



### Getting Ready to Climb

#### The Marvelous Toy

When I was just a wee little kid, full of health and joy,  
My parents homeward came one night, and gave to me a toy.  
A wonder to behold it was, with many colors bright.  
The moment I laid eyes on it, it became my heart's delight.

CHORUS: It went \*ZIP\* when it moved, and \*BOP\* when it stopped,  
And \*WHIRR\* when it stood still.  
I never knew just what it was, and I guess I never will.

The first time that I picked it up, I had a big surprise.  
Right on its bottom were two big buttons that looked like big, green eyes.  
I first pushed one and then the other, and then I twisted its lid.  
And when I set it down again, this is what it did:

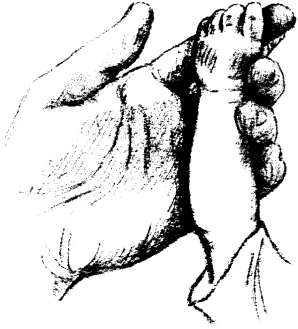
It first marched left and then marched right,  
Then marched under a chair.  
When I looked where it had gone,  
It wasn't even there.  
I started to cry and my mom and dad laughed,  
'Cuz they knew that I would find  
That when I turned around, my marvelous toy  
Would be chugging from behind.

Well, the years have gone by.  
Too quickly, it seems.  
I've got my own little girl and boy.  
And yesterday, I gave to them  
My marvelous little toy.  
Their eyes nearly popped right out of their heads.  
They each gave a squeal of glee.  
None of us knows just what it is,  
But they love it just like me!



## Blessing of our First Fruits

PARENTS: *As our ancestors made their sacred pilgrimage to Jerusalem, they carried the first fruits of their harvest. In grateful recollection of their faithfulness, and in keeping with the ancient tradition of "bee-koo-reem," we "gather" to give thanks, bringing our precious children, the happy symbol of our many blessings. May God bless them, and us, throughout our lives.*



בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהַחַיִּינוּ וְקִיַּמְנוּ וְהִנֵּיעֵנוּ  
לְזֶמַן הַזֶּה.

BA-RUKH A-TAH, ADONAI, E-LO-HEY-NU ME-LEKH HA-O-LAM, SHE-HE-KHE-YA-NU V'KEE-YEE-MA-NU V'HI-GEE-YA-NU LAZ-MAN HA-ZEH.

*Thank You, God, for giving us these cherished lives, for helping us to care for them and to nurture them, and to reach this moment of great joy. Amen.*

## At Mt. Sinai

PARENTS: *As our ancestors stood at Sinai on the first Shavuot, they heard God's words. May we hear them again. O God, grant us and grant our children courage and wisdom, that we and they may remain faithful to You and Your Torah forever.*

Rabbi: When Torah entered the world, freedom entered it.

ALL: *The whole Torah exists only to establish peace.*

Rabbi: Its highest teaching is love and kindness.

ALL: *What is hateful to you, do not do to any person.*

Rabbi: That is the whole Torah. All the rest is commentary. Go and learn it.

ALL: *Those who study Torah are among the true guardians of civilization.*

Rabbi: Honoring one another, doing acts of kindness, and making peace -- these are our highest duties.

ALL: *But the study of Torah is equal to them all, because it leads to them all.*

Rabbi: Let us learn in order to teach;

ALL: *Let us learn in order to do!*

*Hay Sameakh!*

*Happy Shavuot!*

Amer date

Hebrew date

Full name

Addr

Addr

Dear Baby's name,

If my math is correct, then you were born sometime since last Shavuot (or maybe just a wee bit before that). Shavuot is the holiday that celebrates our receiving the Torah at Mt. Sinai. Here at Woodlands, we are celebrating an additional, very sweet tradition: when Shavuot arrives, we bless all you babies who entered our lives during the past twelve months.

Now here's what I'd like you to do. Sit your Mom and Dad down one night after dinner and ask them if they'd bring you to a very special half-hour service on **Friday, Month X at 7:00 pm** in our Sanctuary. Tell them that your grandparents will enjoy this one, too.

We'll sing a few songs and say a few prayers. Then we'll climb Mount Sinai and bless our "first fruits" (that's you) before the open Ark. And lastly, we'll gather for a gala Oneg in your honor.

All in all, it's a pretty wonderful evening. I hope you will plan to join us. Please contact Liz Rauchwerger in the temple office (592-7070 or [liz@wct.org](mailto:liz@wct.org)) so we can get all excited that you and your family will be with us.

See you on Month X<sup>th</sup>!

In friendship and shalom,

rabbi billy

**KIDZ SHAVUOT — “CLIMBING MOUNT SINAI”  
Woodlands Community Temple**

Songs (wander!!): **MA YAFE, BIM BAM.**

Shabbat Stuff

Pretending Mt. Sinai is here.

- Climb up at end.
- 1<sup>st</sup> ... **THE MARVELOUS TOY**

**BLESSING OF THE FIRST FRUITS.**

- a) Invite families to (bring sheets &) climb Mt. Sinai.
- b) Parents' Reading (incl Shehech).
- c) Rabbi blesses.
- d) Stay with me.

And now ...

**EVERYBODY ELSE JOIN US ON MT. SINAI FOR ...**

- a) **Shofar** (if avail ... air, little toot, blast).
- b) **Family reading.**

- c) **Parents Blessing:**  
YIVAREKHEKHA  
ADONAI  
V'YISHM'REKHA.  
MAY GOD BLESS YOU,  
AND MAY GOD CARE FOR YOU.  
BE STRONG FOR TRUTH,  
BE KIND IN YOUR WORDS,  
BE LOVING IN YOUR ACTIONS.  
MAY YOUR LIFE BE FILLED WITH  
JOY,  
YOUR DAYS WITH SMILES AND  
LAUGHTER. AMEN.  
SHABBAT KISS/HUG.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**10q to all who've helped this year!**  
Thru summer ... outdoor services.  
AND ... Gateway!! (HL speak)

Last thing:

Everybody climb Mount Sinai.  
**SHOFAR ... big one!**  
Receive **"Be Torah" sticker.**