

HAVURAT YISRAEL H WEEKLY NEWS

12 Kislev 5784

SHABBAT VAYEITZEI

November 25, 2023

Shabbat Shalom!

Welcome to Rabbi Levitt, Our Assistant Rabbi

4:14 pm Candle Lighting
4:20 pm Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat

8:45 am Mishnayot Shiur
9:00 am Shacharit
9:15 am Latest Shema
Parsha: p.144 Haftorah p. 1139
11:00 am Drasha & Kids Program
3:30 pm Shiur (Rabbi Levitt)
4:05 pm Mincha
5:12 pm Maariv, Havdalah

Womens Tehillim following Kiddush

Kiddush is sponsored by Ephraim Grossbein commemorating the Yahrzeit of his grandfather Ephraim ben Shimon Z"L, in honor of the HY members who attended the rally in DC, in honor of Julio for keeping us safe, and celebrating his birthday — Mazal Tov!

Seudah Shlisheet is sponsored by Caridad Luna & Salvador Tavares in honor of the IDF soldiers for protecting Am Yisrael and to bring back all the kidnapped people in Israel.

Upcoming Sponsorships

December 23 — Esther Santana & Mayer Weisel

Mazal Tov! to Shulie & Jack Goldhaber on their Aliyah!!



The Havurat Yisrael Kiddush

One of the most characteristic features of Havurat Yisrael is the time we spend together at the kiddush. Even after the food is gone and the tables are clean, people still stay to chat and mingle, thus developing the special bonds that unite us. It is sad to see that some Shabbatot go without a sponsor. Please consider sponsoring a kiddush so that all our dates are filled with sponsors' names.

Thursdays at 7 pm

Rabbi Avi Levitt

Sichos Mussar
with Carlebach Music

Free Class! Bring Friends and Family

Sichos mussar is the title of a book that collected the speeches of the famed Rabbi Chaim Shmuelewitz, Dean of Mir Yeshiva in Jerusalem. The speeches contain very deep philosophical and psychological insights that have molded a whole generation of students. Light refreshments will be served.



Kol Nidre Honor Roll

Rabbi & Tamara Algaze	Elisheva Palala
Rachelle Alkalay	Bezalel Paniagua
Eileen Alter	Irving Prus
Mehran Arasheben	Jerry & Jennifer Revich
Gary & Yael Emmanuel	Miriam Rickard
Avi Felder	Arlene Ross
Aron & Hadassah Flores	Stuart & Judy Rosen
Victorino & Rubenia Flores	Mark & Gail Silverman
Andrew & Lana Glantz	David & Debbie Sosnowik
Jack & Shulie Goldhaber	Jane Stiefel
David & Renee Hirsch	Kim & Joseph Trigoboff
Bruce & Miriam Jacobs	Jay Waitzman
Matthew Jacobs	Daniel & Carol Yaghoubian
Sy Kaplan	Yael Yopez
Rafi Katz	Add your name here!
Louis & Rachel Ordentlich	

All contributions of \$500 or more will be listed here.

Hanukkah Series

HANUKKAH

THE JEWISH HOLIDAY WE KNOW SO LITTLE ABOUT

Join us for an exciting new series with **Rabbi Avrohom Levitt**

Tuesdays at 7 pm (November 28, December 5 and 12)

- ☆ Learn about **what happened** on Hanukkah
- ☆ Study all the **laws and practices** of this holiday
- ☆ Absorb the ideas that are in this holiday and **lessons for our lives**

Food served and Hanukkah music and songs at every session

The last class will be on Hanukkah and will feature lighting the menorah and delicious sufganyot (doughnuts).

SUNDAY Nov. 26 / 13 Kislev	MONDAY Nov. 27 / 14 Kislev	TUESDAY Nov. 28 / 15 Kislev	WEDNESDAY Nov. 29 / 16 Kislev	THURSDAY Nov. 30 / 17 Kislev	FRIDAY Dec. 1 / 18 Kislev
7:30 am Gemara Shiur 8:00 am Shacharit 9:00 am Breakfast 9:30 am Class in Spanish — Rabbi Algaze	6:30 am Gemara Shiur 7:00 am Shacharit 7:00 pm Journey in Jewish Literature — Rabbi Algaze (NO CLASS THIS WEEK)	6:30 am Gemara Shiur 7:00 am Shacharit 7:00 pm Hanukkah Seminar — Rabbi Levitt	6:30 am Gemara Shiur 7:00 am Shacharit 7:00 pm Parasha Class — Rabbi Algaze	6:30 am Gemara Shiur 7:00 am Shacharit 7:00 pm Sichos Mussar — Rabbi Levitt	6:30 am Gemara Shiur 7:00 am Shacharit 4:11 pm Candle Lighting 4:15 pm Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat

HAVURAT YISRAEL

106-20 70TH AVE, FOREST HILLS, NEW YORK 11375 / TEL: 718-261-5500 / FAX: 718-261-7584

DAVID ALGAZE, RABBI / JACK GOLDHABER, PRESIDENT

WEB: WWW.HAVURAT.COM / EMAIL: HYOFFICE18@YAHOO.COM / ERUV: 718-544-6898

THE LADDER

By Rabbi David Algaze

Jacob's ladder connecting the heaven and the earth is one of the world's most powerful and known images. "And behold there was a ladder, that was rooted in the earth but whose head reached the heavens." What does the ladder represent? Why do the angels "go up and down?" Should not angels, whose abode is above, first descend and then ascend? What is the meaning of this dream at this moment in Jacob's life?

Yaacov was a very holy man. His life was dedicated to the study of Torah, he was "yoshev ohalim", (resident of the tents) as our Rabbis interpret a "resident of the Tent of Torah." His entire experience was that of a spiritual nature. Throughout his life he had been somewhat insulated from the vicissitudes of the earthly experience. As he is about to approach his challenging stage in a material earthly environment, the marriage, children, the difficult dealings with Laban and all the other hardships, he had this dream. The message of the dream is that even human, earthly experiences can be connected to Heaven. There is a ladder that can bridge between the ideals of Heaven and the realities of Earth.

This is also represented by the inverse order of first ascending and then descending. The symbolic meaning of this vision is that even lowly, earthly experiences can ascend and be meaningful in the Heavenly realm. This is also the genius of the Torah: that there is a ladder connecting the heaven and the earth. Other peoples have solved this dichotomy by choosing one side or the other. Some religions have extolled the heavenly pursuits to the exclusion of earthly involvement. Monastic practices, asceticism even withdrawal from the earthly experience, as is the case with some Eastern religions, prevail in this approach. The opposite is to deny Heaven. To claim, as the prophet Isaiah describes this philosophy, "eat and drink for tomorrow we will die." The Torah presents a totally novel idea. There should be no contradiction between heaven and earth. The two are connected. The ladder represents then the human actions which, when properly directed, can actually reach the level of heavenly creatures.

In our lives we too are presented with many challenges. The temptation to separate the religious from the secular, the earthly from the divine is foreign to Judaism. We too need to see his ladder in front of us. Every action of ours can ascend to heaven like angels. The earthly experience need not be removed from the influence of the spiritual and it can ascend to heaven and affect the upper worlds. The ladder represents the intrinsic unity that should animate our lives at every turn.

PRAYER

During times of crisis for the Jews, The Hafetz Haim recommended that everyone go to minyan and bring their children. It's not enough to pray alone; we must do it in a minyan and recite vigorously the yehi shme Rabba of the Kaddish that gives special strength to Am Israel.

Childrens Hanukkah Party with the Havurat family

Sunday Afternoon December 10
(time to be announced)



MAGIC SHOW & Candies!

Full Dinner following
(see below — reservations required fee)

Hannukah Party At Havurat Yisrael

Sunday December 10 at 5:30 pm



Join us for a festive Dinner

Light the first Hanukkah Candle

Enjoy a sit-down dinner with sufganiot, latkes and more

Contribution \$30 per person

Please contact the office to make reservations
718-261-5500 / hyoffice18@yahoo.com

Refuah Shlema Alte Ester Riva bat Devorah Shifra (Eileen Alter), Batya bat Rachel (Betty Feit), Zeev Zelig ben Sarah Tish (Tom Hamori), Zalman Mordechai Yitzhak Halevy ben Alta Chana (Stuart Greenberg), Chava Naomi bat Doba Chana, Yaakov ben Leah, Tzvi Ben Sara, Chavah Bat Rivka, Moshe Elimelech haLevi ben Bashe, Gloria bat Sarah, Talia Leah bat Sarah, Yeoshua David HaCohen ben Ariella Dinah (Rabbi's grandson), Gabriela bat Sarah (Tamara's mother).