

HAVURAT YISRAEL WEEKLY NEWS

16 Kislev 5780

SHABBAT VAYISHLACH

December 13-14, 2019

Shabbat Shalom!

4:11 pm Candle Lighting
4:15 pm Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat

Parsha: p.170 / Haftorah p.1141
8:45 am Mishnayot Shiur
9:00 am Shacharit
9:28 am Latest Shema
11:00 am Drasha — Rabbi Algaze
11:15 am Beginners Minyan — Rabbi Kraft
3:30 pm Gemara Shiur
4:10 pm Mincha
5:10 pm Maariv & Havdalah

Kiddush is sponsored by Arasheben's friends

- ☆ Sedgh Family for the Refuah Shlema of Henrieta Bat Rache and Eliza bat Henrieta
- ☆ Elezar Aryeh in memory his father Gavriel Ben Ribbi Chiya
- ☆ Joseph Israelashvili
- ☆ Pourat family for the Refuah Shlema of Batsheva Leah bat Chana

Seudah Shlisheet sponsorship available.

Upcoming Kiddushim — Plan to sponsor one!

December 21 — Rochelle & Daniel Goren, Arlene Ross
Seudat Shlisheet: Daniel Cohen
December 28 — Linda & Serge Merkin
January 11 — Saul & Sarah Schwartz

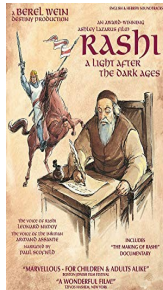
Mazal Tov to Yakov Merkin on completing his IDF service and Hillel Merkin on starting his!

Kids Movie Night

Rashi: a Light after the Dark Ages

Saturday December 14 at 6:30 pm

Marvelous for children and adults!
This animated children's film introduces kids to the life and times of Rashi, history's most studied Biblical commentator. Besides his work as a groundbreaking scholar, Rashi was a rabbi, lawyer, and vintner. This film takes children into the life of this remarkable man.



Pizza, popcorn and drinks
Contribution \$7 per person

Coordinated by Ira Kleiman

KOL NIDRE APPEAL

THIS IS YOUR SHUL--is your name here?

Pledging an amount does not mean that you must pay it all at once. In fact, you may choose to pay in several installments throughout the year or make a monthly payment on your credit card. Please call the office or email us this week so your name will not be missing from the list.

This Honor Roll acknowledges contributions \$500 and up.
(The Honor Roll continues until Hanukkah-Join it!)

Kol Nidre Honor Roll

Rabbi David & Tamara Algaze	Louis & Rachel Ordentlich
David & Rochelle Alkalay	Bezalel Paniagua
Eileen Alter	Jerry & Jennifer Revich
Mehran & Rahel Arasheben	Miriam Rickard
Abigail Barrios	Judy & Stuart Rosen
Bernardo Bautista	Arlene Ross
David & Ruth Better	Rivka & Moises Salazar
Nikolay Burt	Marc & Gail Silverman
Gary & Yael Emmanuel	David & Debbie Sosnowik
Rubenia & Victorino Flores	Jane Stiefel
Jack & Shulie Goldhaber	Daniel & Carol Yaghoubian
Bruce & Miriam Jacobs	And....
Mathew Jacobs	(the list continues to grow!)
Michael & Alice James	<i>Please remit the payment</i>
Seymour Kaplan	<i>of your pledge</i>
Serge & Linda Merkin	

HY TRIP TO ISRAEL!

With Tamara & Rabbi Algaze

February 23-March 4

All inclusive price: \$3600 p.p.



New Classes! Bruce Jacobs is teaching a new Hebrew course, Tuesdays at 6 pm.
Additional New Courses are being planned in Tanach studies: Kohelet and The Book of Joshua. Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights. Let the Rabbi or the office know of your preferences.

SUNDAY Dec. 15 / 17 Kislev	MONDAY Dec. 16 / 18 Kislev	TUESDAY Dec. 17 / 19 Kislev	WEDNESDAY Dec. 18 / 20 Kislev	THURSDAY Dec. 19 / 21 Kislev	FRIDAY Dec. 20 / 22 Kislev
7:30 am Amud Yomi 8:00 am Shacharit 8:45am Breakfast 9:30 am Rabbi Algaze's class (in Spanish) 11:00 am Rabbi Kraft's class	6:20 am Amud Yomi 6:50 am Shacharit 2:00 pm Mincha 8:00 pm Rabbi Algaze's Shiur at the Ordentlich home	6:20 am Amud Yomi 6:50 am Shacharit 2:00 pm Mincha 6:00 pm Hebrew Class with Bruce Jacobs 6:30 pm Connections- A social hour 7:30 pm Parasha Class— Rabbi Algaze	6:20 am Amud Yomi 6:50 am Shacharit 2:00 pm Mincha	6:20 am Amud Yomi 6:50 am Shacharit 2:00 pm Mincha	6:20 am Amud Yomi 6:50 am Shacharit 4:11 pm Candle Lighting 4:15 pm Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat

HAVURAT YISRAEL

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WEAKNESS AND STRENGTH

By Rabbi David Algaze

“And he said, No longer will it be said that your name is Jacob but Israel, for you have striven with the Divine and with man and have overcome.” (Beresheet 32:29)

The messengers have returned from their mission to Esau and report that the aggrieved brother, who had vowed to kill Jacob, is coming now toward him with a strong army. Jacob is stricken with fear and, after making various preparations for the feared encounter with his brother, crosses the river and stands alone. Amid lone trees and a cold wind a strange figure appears to fight with him. Terrified and surprised, the weak brother who had spent years in study and gentle work as a shepherd summons strength from unknown quarters and eventually prevails. Recognizing something divine in his opponent he asks, “Are you a thief?” and the latter responds, “No, I am an angel but from the day I was created the time has not yet come for me to join the angels’ chorus [glorifying G-d]. (Midrash) In the struggle, Jacob’s hip socket is dislocated but he takes firm hold of the angel and does not release him until the latter blesses him with these famous words proclaiming Jacob’s new name: Israel.

What is the meaning of this strange occurrence, who is this mysterious figure and what is the connection between this struggle and the name Israel that will stay with the Jewish people through the ages? Rabbi S.R. Hirsch (Germany, 1808-1888) takes the whole phrase together to explain its significance. It is not merely a change of name but it is a statement to be understood as a whole phrase. Jacob means, “to hold on to the heel” meaning that he is weaker, less self-sufficient and powerful. Israel on the other hand implies valor and bravery as well as superiority. The blessing is that Jacob will not appear as Jacob alone but rather that he will reveal himself to be Israel. The meaning of this phrase is that only when a Jacob, one who appears weak and feeble and in need of support from others, obtains a victory over the enemies that are equipped with all forms of material strength, that his triumph will be seen as caused by a spiritual power that dwarfs all material might and muscle. When Jacob the fragile one wins, all will acknowledge that there is a G-d in the world.

The confrontation between Esau and Jacob later on expresses a similar idea. Esau is at the head of a powerful and intimidating army, made up of horses and armor, while Jacob is surrounded by women and frail children. The picture could not be clearer: here stands a man at the peak of his material powers facing a seemingly puny man and we wonder who is really stronger. The Torah answers this question for us: the outwardly infirm figure has an inner force that will outlast and outweigh the other. Jewish history is replete of examples of this, as illustrated by the Psalmist, “They [ride] carriages and horses, but we march with the Name of G-d.” (Psalm 20) The weak Jew has proven the mighty man of history. Powerful empires have come and gone, but the Jewish people has outlasted them all. This is the blessing that G-d imparts on Israel and Israel’s success testifies to the existence of G-d. When an inquiring emperor asked his mentor what proof he had of the existence of G-d, the philosopher replied, “The Jews, Your Majesty.”

This explanation illuminates also the Midrash that presents the nightly personage as an Angel of G-d who is also the guardian angel of Esau. His statement, “I have not yet said a song of praise” means that he is indeed an Angel but his mission will not be accomplished until Esau will willingly recognize the divine aspect of Jacob’s mission on earth. This vision has a universal meaning for the history of the world. Jacob demands from the nations that they give him blessing and praise instead of persecution and opprobrium. The people of Abraham were to be the source of blessings to the whole world and until the nations acknowledge that fact the purpose of history will not be achieved. In lieu of anti-Semitism and Jew hatred, Jacob asks for recognition that it is precisely the values taught by the people of Israel that maintain the world and through which all nations will find their security and happiness.

The ability to perceive real rather than illusory strength is the key to the understanding of the Universe and our place in it. When material things appear invulnerable and the source of all our security it is because our vision is impaired. Real strength lies in the spiritual, in the soul that is behind the body. The Jewish people has always appeared as weak and impotent and this may be one of the factors for our persecution. Yet, Jews are neither weak nor frail for the protection of G-d surrounds them. The Angel of Esau thought that Jacob was easy prey but in the end it is Jacob who prevails and overcomes. His victory is not for himself alone but a benefit to the world. When Jacob becomes Israel the nations will finally acknowledge the value of Israel to them and the world. At that moment they will be truly and permanently blessed at last.

We need to stay informed-Two important developments

The anti-Semitic act in Jersey City this week and the odious reaction of some of the neighbors is very troubling. We applaud the executive order by President Trump that will curb the hatred of Israel and Jews in universities. This is a welcome principle and will help clean some of the noxious atmosphere currently in American campuses.

The House of representatives voted for a “two state solution”. This is an outrage! Let us take note. This is what the other “state” will do. On PA TV on November 28, 2019, head of Fatah’s Jenin Branch Ata Abu Rmeileh said:

“Our God has honored us and placed us in this land to stand against the invaders and the oppressors. The Tatars, the Mongols, the Crusaders, and the British have left, and these [Israelis] will leave, they will leave [too]. We are carrying out Ribat [religious conflict over land claimed to be Islamic] in this land. We in the Fatah Movement... today we are at the beginning of an ongoing confrontation and are not making do with a rally or procession.” It is an act of arrogance and ignorance for any international body to endorse the formation of a state that ignores the rights of Jews and is bent on destroying us.

Mark Your Calendar!

- ☆ **33RD Annual Ski Shabbaton**, January 22-26
- ☆ **Shabbaton with Guest Rabbi Alec Goldstein**
Friday January 17 and Shabbat January 18
- ☆ **Big Singles Party On Tu Bishvat**, Sunday February 9th 6 pm
We need your help in publicizing this event. Contact all the single people in your sphere, business, family, neighbors. It’s a big mitzvah.

COMMUNITY MEANS INVOLVEMENT-MAKE TIME

Our times are hectic, and we all seem caught in endless tasks that seem to leave us no time to spare. Yet, this is the great illusion of the yetzer hara: making us run all the time so as not to let us concentrate on what is truly meaningful in our lives. There are things that we should not neglect, such as family and community. We need a community to inspire us, to assist us in times of need and in general to feel that we are part of something larger than ourselves.

At Havurat we are blessed with many people who give of themselves and mostly in unnoticed ways, but there is much more we can do and we need more volunteers to develop these projects. Every program has the potential of being a life changer for someone. Will you be part of this life changing events? Whether it’s visiting the sick, teaching someone, helping singles meet, inspiring children, and so many other ideas often go unrealized due to the lack of people’s involvement.

*This is a call to everyone: Get involved! Take over a project, help putting together an event, or just bring new ideas. The essential point is: Make time! You will gain many hours of life just by making time. We all can gain and add years of joy and meaning to our lives. Call the Rabbi and tell him that you do **HAVE** time because... you are making it.*

Light the First Hanukkah candle with Rabbi Algaze At Havurat



Sunday December 22 @ 5:30pm
Lights, Songs, Food, Sufganiot



INVITE YOUR NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS AND LET US CELEBRATE THE MIRACLES OF HASHEM WITH JOY!!!!
Free admission

Beginner's Hebrew Reading Course

A 6 course Session for men and women



First Session is January 19th
From 11:00am –12:30pm
\$50 Registration Fee

For more information Text Danny at 917-705-1818

Celebrate Hanukkah with the Havurat family

HANUKKAH PARTY

Saturday Dec. 28 at 6:30 pm
Clown performance, cotton candy,
face painting and games

Singing , Lighting Candles
Sufganiot Food Pizza.

Cost : MEMBERS \$15 , Children \$10
Family (2 adults and 2 kids \$45)

A new program At Havurat: Connections

A social Hour

Tuesdays 6:30-7:30 pm

Right Before Rabbi Algaze's Parsha Lesson

Tuesdays at 6:30 pm

You are invited to have a snack and chat!! We will have a refreshing hour of Chit-Chat (No Lashon Hara for sure!!) . Tell us about your hobbies, your interest , your folks or kids or about a book you've read, a movie you have seen etc., etc.

Relax with your Havurat Yisrael family and then attend the PARSHA CLASS!!

JOIN US FOR
Social HOUR

Carpet Replacement Campaign

Rabbi David & Tamara Algaze	Irina Genis
Mehran & Rahel Arasheben	Rodolfo Mendoza
Louis and Rachel Ordentlich	Parbin Arasheben
Mark & Gail Silverman	Arlene Ross
Moshe & Rivka Salazar	Elisheva Palala
Judy & Stuart Rosen	Eli Namigoar
Roger & Jeanine Mashihi	Anonymous
Yakov Simkhayev	Esmeralda Meneses
Jerry & Jennifer Revich	Stuart & Debie Greenberg
Betzalel Paniagua	Jose Alvares
Renee & David Hirsch	Michael & Alice James
Seymour Kaplan	Chanah Henriques

Thank you to all our contributors so far.

Please join this worthwhile effort!

MEMBERSHIP- are you paid up?

If you have not paid your 2019 dues, now is the time! Paying membership dues on time says that you care about your synagogue. Paying dues is what makes you a member and paying on time is a sign of responsibility and care. To those who are up to date on their membership we say a big Thank you ! To the others, remember We count on you, don't put it off!

A special thanks to those who have already started to pay their 2020 dues. Pay your 2020 dues before December 31st and get an additional tax deduction.

Plaques for Sara Simantov and Flora Rapoport

Jerry Revich is organizing a group to contribute to memorial plaques for our friends Sara and Flora. Join by contacting him 917-685-2926 /jerry.revich@gmail.com.

Selichot Book Funds

Stuart Greenberg is leading an effort to enhance our Selichot seforim. To contribute, please contact him at 917-318-5677

PAY YOUR DUES 2019, PLEDGES, BALANCES!

It's easy and secure!

Simply click **Donate** on our website

Members who haven't paid dues are asked to pay!!!



Refuah Shlema Alte Ester Riva bat Devorah Shifra (Eileen Alter), Rafael David ben Zelda, Erella bat Zahava, Avraham ben Arlene, Allison bat Florence, Miriam bas Chanah, Dov Ben Avraham, Chaim Itzchak Ben Rivkah, Chana bat Chava (Helen Kober), Dalia Sara bat Devorah, Linda Gelber (Leah bat Sheina Feiga), Tzipora bat Malka, David Lieberman, Gail Weinberg (Golda bat Bina Yehudit), Rivka Bat Sarah, Yizchak Ben Ziba, Bryna bat Anita (Bambi Levine), Devorah Nechama bat Miriam (Debie Greenberg), Esther Necha Bat Yindah, Zilpa bat Racel, Esther Leah Bat Ruth ,Israel Ben Devorah Shifra
Please note: this list is updated weekly by calling the office.