



Tefilla Notebook

30 Kislev • Parshat Miketz • Rosh Chodesh

December 23-24, 2022

Steven Dorfman, President

Rabbi Pini Dunner, Senior Rabbi

Nafi Bar-Am, Chazan

SHABBAT SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23
 4:31PM CANDLELIGHTING
 4:30PM MINCHA/KABBALAT SHABBAT

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24
 8:15am GEMARA SHIUR
 9:00am SHACHARIT
 4:40pm MINCHA
 5:30pm MAARIV
 5:31pm SHABBAT ENDS

WEEKDAY DAVENING TIMES

	Shacharit	Mincha/Maariv
Sun RH	8:00am	4:30pm*
Mon-Thurs	7:00am	4:30pm
Friday	7:00am	4:30pm

*RABBI DUNNER WILL LIGHT THE MENORAH IN SHUL

THANK YOU

Franck & Evelina Ruimy
 for sponsoring this week's kiddush in honor of their new daughter,
Ellie Rose Abigail

Benny and Shahla Zaghi
 for sponsoring this week's Seudah Shlishit in memory of Benny's brother,
Avraham Jamshid ben Rahman z"l, whose yahrtzeit is on the 1st of Tevet; and Benny's mother
Zinat bat Meir z"l, whose yahrtzeit is on the 4th of Tevet.

Thank You

Barbara Bernstein
 for sponsoring next week's parsha shiur in memory of her brother,
Joel Bernstein, Yosef Yitzchak ben Yechiel z"l, whose yahrtzeit is on the 3rd of Tevet.

Dearest Members and Friends,

One of the most remarkable aspects of Sir Winston Churchill's personality is so rarely recalled that it is barely known, even by dedicated Churchill aficionados. I am referring to his capacity for public displays of emotion, and particularly floods of tears, which were usually brought on by the suffering of others.



A revealing 2016 article by the award-winning historian Andrew Roberts – Winston Wept: The Extraordinary Lachrymosity and Romantic Imagination of Winston Churchill – charts the countless occasions when Churchill shed tears after being confronted by or informed of human misery. This seasoned veteran of wars and upheaval, whose incredible fortitude and resolve in times of crisis were legendary, whose steely stoicism enabled him to make life-and-death decisions others balked at, would nonetheless openly and spontaneously display his emotions when he encountered the pain of others. What is particularly surprising is that in Churchill's day, the British were renowned, even admired, for their "stiff upper lip." As Roberts puts it, "it was widely believed that the British Empire itself depended on the capacity of officers and gentlemen to rise above their natural human emotions and stay calm and collected, regardless of whatever appalling thing was happening." But it would appear that Churchill was a frequent exception to this particular norm.

In June 1941, Colonel Georges Groussard came to meet Churchill in London as an emissary of the collaborationist French leader, Marshal Philippe Pétain. His description of the difficulties experienced by the French under Nazi occupation "reduced Churchill to tears." Later that year, Clement Attlee, Churchill's political rival as head of the Labour Party, wrote a letter to his brother in which he described the prime minister's "extreme sensitiveness to suffering." He continued, "I remember some years ago his eyes filling up with tears when he talked of the sufferings of the Jews in Germany [and] I recall the tones in which looking at Blitzed houses – he said, 'poor poor little homes.' It is a side of his character not always appreciated."

Roberts cites numerous occasions when Churchill "wore his heart on his sleeve," and even goes as far as to say that it was Churchill's ability to tap into his emotions that allowed him to take the risks he took in order to save the world from Nazi aggression. "The decision to fight on against the Germans in 1940 was primarily an emotional rather than a rational one," says Roberts, a vivid reflection of the fact that "Churchill had the moral courage necessary to cry when all around his contemporaries were keeping stiff upper lips."

The British-born American author and optimism guru, Simon Sinek, takes it one step further: "The true price of leadership is the willingness to place the needs of others above your own. Great leaders truly care about those they are privileged to lead and understand that the true cost of the leadership privilege comes at the expense of self-interest." A good leader must care about those they lead and constantly worry about their welfare, to the extent that the pain of others becomes their pain, and the suffering of others causes them to suffer. It is precisely this sensitivity to the needs of others that generates superlative leadership. And indeed, it is this required leadership quality that explains a puzzling anomaly at the beginning of Parshat Mikeitz.

The portion begins with the story of Pharaoh's dreams, which his coterie of advisors found impossible to interpret. Suddenly, out of nowhere, the royal butler remembers his erstwhile fellow convict, Joseph, who had accurately interpreted his dream and the dream of his ill-fated companion, the royal baker, when they had shared a prison cell a couple of years earlier. Joseph is quickly freed from prison, and he immediately interprets Pharaoh's dreams – the very same dreams that had utterly baffled Pharaoh's advisors.

Although, once Joseph has revealed the meaning of the two dreams and thrown light on how they were a forecast of Egypt's future, Pharaoh's advisors' inability to interpret the dreams seems somewhat mystifying. After all, they were seasoned dream interpreters – how is it possible that they were unable to unpack the dreams that Joseph, who was no expert, interpreted so easily? Clearly the symbolism wasn't that complicated.

The Midrash informs us of various interpretations given by Pharaoh's advisors, all of which he rejected: "They offered interpretations, but Pharaoh could not accept them. They suggested that the seven good cows symbolized seven daughters born to him, while the seven lean cows represented seven daughters he would bury; the seven good stalks represented seven kingdoms he would conquer, while the seven lean stalks represented seven districts that would rebel against him." Apparently, it never occurred to Pharaoh's advisors that the dreams might be about his subjects, the ordinary folk living in Egypt, and that the events in each dream reflected events in their lives that might need his input.

Enter Joseph, the ultimate empathist. As soon as Pharaoh related his dreams, Joseph recognized that they reflected his leadership role. As a leader, Pharaoh was being informed of the future successes and travails of those over whom he ruled, and that it would require him to be concerned about their welfare for the dreams to have any kind of meaningful outcome. "Become a great leader," Joseph's interpretation informed Pharaoh, "and care about the lives of others." No advisor of Pharaoh had even considered this angle, and that was why they were unable to interpret his dreams.

Being a leader can never be about your personal needs or concerns. Rather it is always about caring for others. As Margaret Mead put it: "Never believe that a few caring people can't change the world. For, indeed, that's all who ever have."

Wishing you Shabbat Shalom and a wonderful week ahead, *Rabbi Pini Dunner*

Sisterhood Corner

DECEMBER/JANUARY

Wishing you a Chanukah Sameach!

There is still an opportunity to buy gifts!
Annual Chanukah toy drive benefiting
Chai Lifeline.

Please help us lift the spirits of a child this
Chanukah by purchasing a gift.
Visit the Chai Lifeline Amazon Wish List

The Cairo Geniza with Rabbi Aubrey Hersh

Learn how the discoveries found in the Cairo
Geniza changed Jewish History
Thursday, January 5th at 7:00 pm
RSVP at yinh.org/cairogeniza

Our next YINBH Book Group read!

We will be reading *And After the Fire*
by Lauren Belfer

Winner of the National Jewish Book Awards
The book is available for purchase on Amazon
Tuesday, January 17th at 7:30 pm
Private home address will be provided
upon RSVP

Get ready for an interesting discussion!

Shabbat Shalom and Chodesh Tov!
Cecile & Ruthie
Sisterhood Co-Presidents

YAHRTZEITS



Sheldon Robert Raphael
Zalman Yehudah ben Tzvi z"l
Father of
Gina Raphael
Yahrtzeit - 2 Tevet

Joel Bernstein
Yosef Yitzhak ben Yechiel z"l
Brother of
Barbara Bernstein
Yahrtzeit - 3 Tevet

Chaya Gitel Shprintza
Chaya Gitel Shprintza bat Dovid a"h
Mother of
David Frankel
Yahrtzeit - 4 Tevet

Leonard Stoll
Eliahu ben Mordechai z"l
Father of
Seymour Stoll
Yahrtzeit - 4 Tevet

Eliahu Gaba
Eliahu ben Mordechai z"l
Father of
Ruth Gaba
Yahrtzeit - 6 Tevet

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Daniel Kramer
Samuel Schlesinger
Ethan Ruimy
Dalia Wizman
Helen Sassover

Happy Anniversary

Michael & Jennifer Halimi

MAZAL TOV



Mazal Tov to **Ilana**
and **Jordan Moss** on
the birth of their son

and to the proud grandparents,
Jonathan and Faye Kellerman.

MAZAL TOV



Mazal Tov **Fran & Stuart**
Miller on the birth of a
new granddaughter,
born to **Daniel & Elana Miller** of
Teaneck, NJ.



2022 ANNUAL CHANUKAH TOY DRIVE!

BENEFITING CHAI LIFELINE

Participate by purchasing a gift from Chai's
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Please purchase your gift by December 31st, 2022

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PAUL FEDER Z"L GEMARA SHIUR

לע"נ פנחס אליהו בן
שמשון הלוי

Join Rabbi Dunner for
his Gemara shiur on
Shabbat 45 minutes
before Shacharit.

REMINDER

Statements have been
emailed to everyone with
an outstanding invoice.
Please make sure to pay
any open balances to the
Synagogue before the end
of the year. You can log-in
to your account at
beverlyhillssynagogue.org
or call 310-276-7650

YINBH
SISTERHOOD

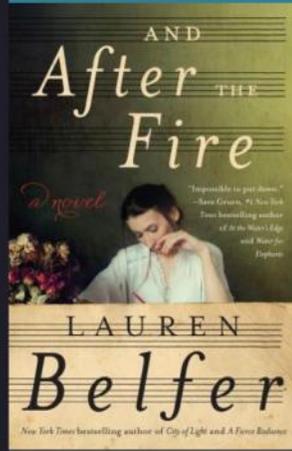
BOOK GROUP EVENT

LAUREN BELFER

for
Her
Book "And After
The Fire"

Tuesday, January 17th
at 7:30pm

RSVP at yinbh.org/bookgroup



GUEST SPEAKER

Shabbat 14th January 2023



Rabbi Raphael Zarum

Dean of the London School of Jewish Studies

Rabbi Dr. Zarum will address the community at 11:00am
Services followed by Kiddush

Rabbi Dr Raphael Zarum is Dean of the London School of Jewish Studies (LSJS) where he holds the Rabbi Sacks Chair of Modern Jewish Thought. Rabbi Dr. Zarum lectures extensively and regularly writes articles in the media and contributes scholarly essays for academic journals. He is an acclaimed speaker on a variety of topics who has travelled the globe lecturing at a wide range of Jewish institutions.

Rabbi Zarum will also be speaking during Kabbalat Shabbat on January 13th and Seudah Shlishit on Shabbat



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF YOUNG ISRAEL PRESENTS: MENORAH BUILDING CONTEST

1. BUILD A FUNCTIONAL & CREATIVE MENORAH
2. SUBMIT YOUR PICTURES TO US BY MONDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2022
3. SHARE THE LINK ON YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA FOR YOUR FRIENDS TO VOTE FOR YOUR MENORAH!
4. DETAILS & ENTRY FORM ARE AT YOUNGISRAEL.ORG/CONTEST

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WIZO CALIFORNIA

LITERARY SALON EVENT

FEATURING

COMEDIAN & AUTHOR
MARK SCHIFF

IN CONVERSATION WITH SHIRIN YADEGAR
FOUNDER OF LA MOM MAGAZINE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18TH, 2023 | 10:30AM
YOUNG ISRAEL NORTH BEVERLY HILLS

TICKETS: \$54

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& GINA RAPHAEL



FOR QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE
CONTACT WIZO CALIFORNIA AT 323.206.6403
OR DIRECTOR@WIZOCALIFORNIA.ORG.





THE CAIRO GENIZA

with Rabbi Aubrey Hersh

Thursday, January 5th, 2023 at 7pm

YINBH - 9261 Alden Drive Beverly Hills 90210

The most lucrative prize of the 19th century: 250,000 documents of antiquity. Tailed by scandals and forgeries, it took one single Hebrew fragment to change history forever.



Rabbi Hersh is the author of an extremely popular weekly podcast: "**History for the Curious**". Having spent over 25 years as an international lecturer and educator, he is renowned for his talks on History, Halacha and Jewish Thought.

RSVP at yinbh.org/cairogeniza