

Pekude



We stand with Israel

This Week @ YICC

Make yourself at home and enjoy!

Shabbat Candles: 6:43 PM

Havdalah: 7:40 PM

SHABBAT SCHEDULE

EREV SHABBAT - Friday, March 15

• Snacharit	6:00/7:00/8:00 AM
 Shabbat Candles 	6:43 PM
 Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat (Mintz BM) 	5:35 & 6:50 PM
• Shkiah	7:01 PM

SHABBAT MORNING - March 16

 Hashkama Minyan (Mintz BM) 	7:15 AM
 Main Minyan (Schlesinger Sanctuary) 	9:00 AM
 Davening led by: David Gershov 	
 YCM Minyan (Mintz BM) 	9:15 AM
 Teen Minyan (Nagel Library) 	9:30 AM

SHABBAT AFTERNOON

Shabbat ends & Havdalah

 Voices from the Bima - 	5:45 PM		
Rivka Hodaya (Letty) Camarillo: "My Journey to Judaism"			
 Mincha (Schlesinger Sanctuary) 	6:30 PM		
• Guest Seudah Shlishit Shiur with Rav Zvi Sobolofs	ky, Rosh		
Yeshiva, RIETS			
• Shkiah	7:02 PM		
 Maariv 	7:30 PM		

WEEKDAY SCHEDULE: MARCH 17 - 20

Minyanim in the Schlesinger Sanctuary

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 Shacharit
 6:45/8:00/9:00 AM

 Mincha
 6:45 PM

Monday - Wednesday

 Shacharit
 6:00/7:00/8:00
 AM

 Mincha
 6:45
 PM

TA'ANIT ESTHER: THURSDAY, MARCH 21

Minyanim in the Schlesinger Sanctuary

 Fast Begins
 5:40 AM

 Shacharit
 6:00/7:00 AM

 & 8:00 (Nagel Library)
 AM

 Mincha
 6:40 PM

 Maariv
 7:22 PM

 Fast Ends
 7:37 PM

YICC PURIM CARNIVAL!

THURSDAY, MARCH 21 @ 5:30 - 7:30 PM

EREV SHABBAT- FRIDAY, MARCH 22

Shacharit	6:00/7:00/8:00	AM
Shabbat Candles	6:48	PM
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	5:40 & 6:55	PM
Shkiah	7:06	PM

IMPORTANT HALAKHIC TIMES

MARCH 15 - 22

Alot HaShachar	5:48 - 5:38	AM
Earliest Tallit & Tefillin	6:18 - 6:08	AM
Sof Zman Kriat Shema	10:00 - 9:56	AM
Sof Zman Tefilah	11:02 - 10:57	AM
Earliest time for Mincha	1:32 - 1:31	PM
Shkiah	7:01 - 7:06	PM

7:40 PM

KIDDUSH CORNER

We thank the following sponsors:

Sol Lowi Z"L Hashkama Minyan Kiddush:

• Michael Makiri in honor of YICC's Mishloach Manot volunteers.

YCM Kiddush:

• Anonymous friends of YICC.

Teen Minyan Kiddush:

Noam Sokol and Kobe Karben in honor of Jesse Orenshein for all his hard work and dedication to YICC.

Sponsorships are a wonderful way to commemorate a Yahrzeit, or to celebrate any special occasion or Simcha. To sponsor a Kiddush, please contact the Shul office or click <u>HERE</u>.

MAZAL TOV

Abe & Eva Kaplan on the birth of a great-granddaughter, born to their grandchildren Shmuel & Shaindel (Klavan) Tashman. Mazal Tov to the grandparents, Avi & Gila Tashman and Yehoshua & Ruchel Klavan. Mazal Tov to all the Tashman & Blitz families.

THANK YOU

- YU Kollel and Rabbi Jonah Steinmetz for arranging the Guest Seudah Shlishit Shiur this Shabbat with Rav Zvi Sobolofsky, Rosh Yeshiva, RIETS.
- Rivka Hodaya (Letty) Camarillo for addressing us this Shabbat for "Voices from the Bima".
- David Gershov for leading the Davening in the Schlesinger Sanctuary this Shabbat.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following and hope they will enjoy a long-lasting relationship with our Shul:

- Shawn & Deborah Feinblum and Family
- Eliot Kaufman

IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Yehuda Berdugo Z"L, father of our member, Nehama (Lawrence) Samson. **Shiva** is being observed at Nehama's home, 1475 Cardiff Avenue, from Saturday night through Wednesday (Shiva concludes on Thursday morning). **Visitation:** Saturday night- 8:00 PM - 10:30 PM, Sunday - Wednesday starting from 10:00 AM. Please no visits between 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM or after 9:30 PM. Please be aware of the parking signs and restrictions. There will be no Minyanim at the Shiva home.

May the Almighty comfort the bereaved family along with all mourners of Zion & Jerusalem.

HALAKHIC CORNER

Q: Where does the custom of making noise when Haman's name is mentioned come from?

A: The 16th century Ashkenazik halakhic authority the Rema writes (OC 690:17) that there used to be a custom where children would write the name of Haman on wood or stones and bang them together to erase the name. This symbolized the concept of wiping out the remembrance of Amalek and the notion of "the names of the wicked should rot (Mishlei 10:7)." As an offshoot of this, the custom developed that people would bang when the name Haman was mentioned when reading the Megilla in Shul (see the Mishna Brura 690:59 where he notes that it was not just children who did this as the Chacham Tzvi followed this custom as well). The Rema ends by saying that we should not nullify any custom, nor should we mock it as it was not instituted for naught. The Mishna Brura, authored by Rav Yisrael Meir Ha'Kohen Kagan (1839-1933) quotes the Pri Megadim who argues and says that one should not follow this custom as it creates a lot of noise and doesn't allow people to hear the Megillah (690:59). This is problematic as if one does not hear the entire Megillah, one does not fulfill their obligation. It is for this reason that the Mishna Brura notes, that if a Shul has the custom to make noise when Haman is mentioned, the Ba'al Koreh should be careful to pause while the noise is being made. Additionally, he writes that since it is common for the noise to extend for a long time, it is recommended that everyone have a Megillah or Chumash in front of them and read the next one or two verses just in case they can't hear them from the Ba'al Koreh (690:60).

FROM OUR SEMICHAS CHAVER PROGRAM

Question For the Week by Adam Lewis

Q: If, God-forbid, a child under the age of Bar or Bat Mitzvah loses a close relative, does the child need to tear keriah?

A: Children are exempt from all of the laws related to *aveilus* (mourning). That said, the *Taz* explains that if a child has reached the age of *chinuch* (old enough so that they're aware of the situation), the child should tear *keriah*. Regardless of the child's age, *Rashi* and the *Shulchan Aruch* agree that if the child attends the funeral, then an adult should tear the child's garment in order to evoke sorrow on those present.

So, if adults are present, it appears that even a five-year-old should tear *keriah* not because they have an obligation or because of *chinuch*, but rather to have an impact on others. The experience of seeing a five-year-old with a large tear across his or her shirt reminds us that when one part of *Klal Yisrael* suffers, all of *Klal Yisrael* is in pain.

We can take the pain that we experience each time we hear of a loss in Israel and use it to propel ourselves forward in our relationships. We can ask ourselves what we can do to minimize the pain of others. We can be more forgiving, reach out to others who may be going through a rough patch, and share our *s'machot* with people who aren't part of our usual crowd.

As Purim approaches, we will be preparing for our *seudahs* and celebrating our ancient victory against *Haman* (and those who supported him). This year, consider inviting someone to your festive meal who is outside of your usual circle of friends and family. We are all part of one interconnected family, and the more we break down the barriers within the Jewish people, the stronger we become as a *kehilla* and the greater impact we can have on the world.

If you're on the fence about inviting someone to your *seudah*, send that invite. And in the merit of our increased *achdut*, may *Hashem* bless all of *Klal Yisrael* so that no Jewish child ever needs to tear *keriah* again.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- This Shabbat 3/16 @ 4:30 PM: "Pre-Purim Shiur for Women" with Rav Zvi Sobolofsky, Rosh Yeshiva, RIETS, at the home of Sam & Liz Neumark.
- Sunday, 3/17 @ 2:00 4:00 PM: "Runnergize Women's 2024 LA Race" at Hazeltine Park, Sherman Oaks. For more info, contact runnergize@gmail.com.
- Tuesday, 3/19 @ 11:30AM 2PM: The Israel Bonds Women's Division Trunk Show, featuring Maskit: Israel's oldest established fashion house! Show your support for Israel and Shop for Israel. Register HERE. Location will be provided.
- Sunday, 3/31 @ 7:30 PM: "Meet Me After Purim": An event for Jewish Professionals of all ages. Location: 8850 W. Pico Blvd. \$20 cash at the door.
- Achi 613 Shabbat Shalom Israel Fund Shabbat Shalom Cards: Instead of a bottle of wine for your hosts, give them a Shabbat Shalom card. Each card represents a Shabbat meal donated to those impacted by the War in Gaza. 5 cards for \$100, 10 cards for \$180. Make your check out to: ACHI613, Inc. and mail to: 5922 Grand harbour Circle, Boynton Beach, FL 33437 or Zelle: team@achi613.org.

YAHRZEITS

March 16 - 22 • 5 - 12 Adar II

Sat, Mar 16

• Rabbi Elazar Muskin's maternal grandfather, Eliyahu ben Meir Yitzchak Ha'Levi Z"L.

Sun, Mar 17

• Neil Miller's mother, Neima bat Yisrael Z"L.

REFUAH SHLEIMAH:

Please include the following names in your prayers, and may each be granted a Refuah Shleimah.

- Ahava bat Kochava
- Akiva Eliyahu ben Naomi
- Aviad Shlomo ben Sharon Rachel Shprinza
- Avraham Gavriel bat Elana Tziporah
- Baruch Yisrael ben Tziporah
- Bayla Bracha bat Malka Hinda
- Binyamin Yitzchak ben Riva Leah
- Bracha Ita bat Leah Golda
- Chaim Azaria ben Menucha
- Chaim Benzion Yitzhak ben Fayga
- Chaim Menachem ben Hena Raizl
- Chaim Ozer ben Leah
- Chaya bat Rivka
- Chaya Esther bat Nechama
- Devorah Sarah bat Chana
- Dov Yosef Ben Rivka Tova
- Emanuel ben Gita
- Esther bat Sarah Miriam
- Frayda bat Blima
- Gershon ben Shoshana
- Gershon Menachem ben Dina Karen
- Gitta Rivka bat Chaya Risa
- Golda bat Chava
- Golda Bat Mindel
- Hanoch ben Sara Shprintzeh
- Kayla Shoshana bat Ella Bracha

- · Leah bat Batya
- Leah bat Haddasah
- Leeba bat Brinya
- Liat Bat Esther
- Mateel Rivka bat Esther Malka
- Matte Leba bat Basha Raizl
- Michal bat Gita Mina
- Moshe ben Bruria
- Pessa bat Sarah
- Rachel Yaffa bat Sarah
- Refael David ben Ella
- Rifka bat Lottie
- Rivka Yosefa bat Sara Feiga
- Rivka Rut bat Chaya
- Ronie Moshe be Irit
- Sheindel Meril bat Sheva
- · Shimon Aryeh ben Chana
- Shlomo ben Ruth
- Sarah bat Frayda
- Sora Golda bat Fradel
- Sorah Gitel bat Chava Raitzl
- Yehudit bat Feiga Perel
- Yissachar Dov ben Frumet Gittel
- Yitzak ben Channa
- · Yosef Dovid ben Hadassah

THE ALTHEA GOLDSTEIN Z"L YICC WOMEN'S TEHILIM GROUP

This group meets via Zoom every Monday, at 7:30 pm, to recite the entire Tehilim, praying for all those in need of a Refuah, for those wanting a child, for singles to find their soulmates, for the memory of a loved one, as well as for peace in Israel and the world. Anyone interested in joining our Tehilim group, by saying a few chapters of Tehilim, should please contact the Shul office.

WHAT WE CAN DO FOR ISRAEL

- **Send protest letters** to President Biden & Vice President Kamala Harris <u>HERE</u> in an effort to correct their inaccurate and damaging public comments about Israel. We must make our voices heard loud and clear.
- **Volunteer:** Email Eva Tashman Kaplan at ISRAELVOLUNTEER@gmail.com to find a volunteer opportunity that is right for you (see LA Voices From Israel page).
- Contribute to "Operation Unity"- A Young Israel Shuls fund to help support the needs of our Lone Soldiers and their families. To contribute: Online Donations: Click <u>HERE</u>, and select "Gmach" from the dropdown menu and put a note for "Operation Unity". Checks should be made out to YICC Gmach, earmarked "Operation Unity" and dropped through our mail slot
- **Text** "Israel" to 24722 to support AIPAC's bipartisan, ongoing efforts to provide Israel with the security, diplomatic and materiel support that only our government can provide. For more on how you can support congressional action, visit www.aipac.org/act.
- **Sign up** for the 2-A-DAY email campaign using **this link**, and take FIVE MINUTES OR LESS A DAY to complete the 2 daily action items for Israel.
- **Daven & learn:** Most importantly, come to the daily Minyanim to Daven, attend Shiurim and give Tzedakah.
- AIPAC Action Item: Call our representatives and senators and urge them to stand with Israel! Please reserve 15 minutes every day for the next several weeks to make calls to offices through AIPAC's new call center, www.aipac.org/call, urging America's leaders to support Israel. Right now, this is the single most important thing we in America can do to keep Israel and her residents safe:
 - Senator Alex Padilla: DC (202) 224-3553; LA (310) 231-4494
 - Senator Laphonza Butler: (202) 224-3841
 Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/laphonza
 Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/laphonzabutler/?hl=en
 - Congresswoman Sydney Kamlager-Dove: (202) 225-7084
 - o Congressman Ted Lieu: (202) 225-3976
 - For a complete list of US representatives and their phone numbers: https://www.house.gov/representatives

DAVEN FOR OUR YICC LONE SOLDIERS

Anat bat Akiva V'Aliza
Naftali Zamir ben Gila
Yisroel Menachem ben Shoshana
Yosef Meir ben Chava
Yosef Tzvi ben Shulamit

We also have in mind our former YICC community members with family and friends serving in the IDF.

ADULT EDUCATION

Week of 3/18/24

SUNDAY

DR. GEORGE FOX Z"L MEMORIAL
GEMARA SHIUR
With Rabbi Dr. David Fox



8:40 AM Via Zoom To join this Shiur, email: mshainberg@sbcglobal.net

MONDAY

THE DAF GOES DEEPWith Rabbi Yitzchak Etshalom



5:00 PM - New Time! On Zoom

MONDAY

SEMICHAS CHAVER PROGRAM With R' Seth Berkowitz



8:30 PM in the Nagel Library

TUESDAY

TALMUD SHIURWith Rabbi Elazar Muskin



8:30 PM On Zoom

WEDNESDAY

MEGILLAT ESTHER
SHIUR FOR WOMEN
With Rabbi Elazar Muskin



9:30 AMIn the Nagel Library & On Zoom

WEDNESDAY

SEFER HACHINUCHWith Rabbi Nechemia Langer



8:30 PMAt the home of Marty Pollack or Via free conference call: 1425-436-6352, 200747#

WEDNESDAY

TALMUDIC TALESWith Rabbi Mahler



8:15 PMIn the Nagel Library

FRIDAY

OHR HACHAIMWith Rabbi Mahler



6:35 - 6:50 AM On Zoom

DAILY

THE SOL TEICHMAN Z"L

DAF YOMI SHIUR

With Rabbi Yitzchak Etshalom



Shiur meets at YICC (including Shabbat) immediately after the early Minyan. Also on Zoom.

KOLLEL BOKER - Monday - Thursday 6:15 - 7:00 AM with Rabbi Yoni Pere - In the Nagel Library in conjunction with the Jack & Gitta Nagel YU Community Kollel

MINHAGIM AND HALAKHOT Shabbat Parashat Pekude And Ta'anit Esther March 15 – 22, 2024 By Rabbi Elazar Muskin

Friday, March 15th

- Recite regular Shacharit.
- After *Kaddish Shalem* at *Shacharit* recite Chapter 121 of *Tehilim*, followed by the *Mi Sheberach* for the IDF and the *Mi Sheberach* for the hostages.
- At Mincha omit Tachanun.
- Shabbat candles should be lit by 6:43 PM.
- Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat is at 5:35/6:50 PM.
- Shkiah is at 7:01 PM.
- Recite a regular Kabbalat Shabbat and Maariv.
- If you attend the early Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat remember to repeat S'hma after 7:19 PM.

Shabbat, March 16th - Parashat Pekude

- Davening begins with Anim Zemirot followed by the Mourner's Kaddish.
- Shacharit is a regular Shabbat Shacharit.
- The *Torah* reading is *Pekude*. Seven *Aliyot* are distributed plus *Maftir*.
- Recite the *Mi Sheberach* for the sick, followed by the *Tefilah* for the American Government, the *Mi Sheberach* for the IDF, hostages and the *Tefilah* for *Medinat Yisrael*.
- The *Haftorah* is Kings I (7:51-8:21).
- Say the two chapters of Y'kum Purkan and the Mi Sheberach.
- Recite Av HaRachamim.
- Voices from the Bima at 5:45 P.M.
- Mincha is a regular Shabbat afternoon Mincha. Mincha at Shul begins at 6:30 PM.
- Recite Tzidkatcha Tzedek and the Kel Maleh at Mincha.
- After *Kaddish Shalem* recite Chapter 121 of *Tehilim*, followed by the *Mi Sheberach* for the IDF and the *Mi Sheberach* for the hostages.
- Maariv is the regular weekday Maariv. Maariv begins at 7:30 PM.
- Right after the Amida the Chazan recites Chatzi Kaddish followed by V'he Noam.
- After V'he Noam the Chazan recites Kaddish Shalem.
- V'yeeten Lecha is said, followed by a complete Havdalah, Aleinu and the Mourner's Kaddish.
- Shabbat ends at 7:40 PM.
- *Kiddush Levanah* is recited. Look up at the moon and then turn east to say *Kiddush Levana*. *Aleinu* is said at the conclusion of *Kiddush Levanah* followed by the Mourner's *Kaddish*.

Sunday March 17th - Wednesday March 20th

- Recite regular Shacharit and Mincha with Tachanun.
- After *Kaddish Shalem* at *Shacharit* and *Mincha* recite Chapter 121 of *Tehilim*, followed by the *Mi Sheberach* for the IDF and the *Mi Sheberach* for the hostages.
- Recite regular *Maariv*.

MINHAGIM AND HALAKHOT

CONTINUED

Thursday, March 21st Ta'anit Esther

- The fast begins at 5:40 AM.
- During Chazarat HaShatz the Chazan says Aneinu as its own Brakha between the Brakhot of Goel Yisrael and Refa'enu
- After Chazarat HaShatz, Selichot for Ta'anit Esther are recited followed by Avenu Malkeinu and Tachanun. After Tachanun the Chazan should recite Chatzi Kaddish.
- The *Torah* reading of *VaYechal* for a Fast Day is read. Three Aliyot are distributed followed by the *Ba'al Kriah* saying *Chatzi Kaddish*. Only those fasting should receive an *Aliyah*.
- After *Kaddish Shalem* at *Shacharit* recite Chapter 121 of *Tehilim*, followed by the *Mi Sheberach* for the IDF and the *Mi Sheberach* for the hostages.
- Either before or after *Mincha*, one should observe the custom of *Machatzit HaShekel*. One should lift the three half dollars that are on the *Shulchan* for this purpose and say *Zecher L'Machatzit HaShekel* and then place the equivalent of \$1.50 into the plate on the *Shulchan*. He should repeat this for each family member for whom he is performing this custom.
- At *Mincha* the *Torah* reading of *VaYechal* for a Fast Day is read. Three *Aliyot* are distributed. Only those fasting should receive an *Aliyah*.
- The third *Oleh* reads the *Haftorah* from Isaiah (55:6 56:8).
- The Chazan recites Chatzi Kaddish before the silent Amida begins.
- Everyone fasting should recite Aneinu during the Brakha of Shema Koleinu in the silent Amida.
- Recite Sim Shalom rather than Shalom Rav as the last Brakha of the Amida.
- During *Chazarat HaShatz* the *Chazan* says *Aneinu* as its own *Brakha* between the *Brakhot* of *Goel Yisrael* and *Refa'enu*.
- In Chazarat HaShatz the Chazan should say Birkat Kohanim before Sim Shalom.
- We recite Avenu Malkeinu and Tachanun because the Ta'anit is a Mukdam and not right before Purim.
- After *Kaddish Shalem* recite Chapter 121 of *Tehilim*, followed by the *Mi Sheberach* for the IDF and the *Mi Sheberach* for the hostages.
- *Maariv* begins at 7:22 PM.
- Fast ends at 7:37 PM.

Friday, March 22nd

- Recite regular *Shacharit*.
- After *Kaddish Shalem* at *Shacharit* recite Chapter 121 of *Tehilim*, followed by the *Mi Sheberach* for the IDF and the *Mi Sheberach* for the hostages.
- At *Mincha* omit *Tachanun*.
- Shabbat candles should be lit by 6:48 PM.
- Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat is at 5:40/6:55 PM.
- Shkiah is at 7:06 PM.
- Recite a regular *Kabbalat Shabbat* and *Maariv*.
- If you attend the first Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat remember to repeat Sh'ema after 7:24 PM.

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING



YICC PURIM CARNIVAL

FUN FOR EVERYONE! ALL AGES WELCOME!

THURSDAY, MARCH 21 5:30 - 7:30 PM @ YICC

- All carnival booths have been sponsored! (All sponsorships will be publicly displayed.)
- Carnival snacks will be available: Popcorn, hot pretzels, cotton candy & snow cones

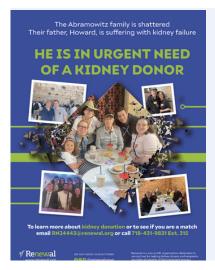


SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE: RABBI DR. ZEV WIENER

SHABBAT HAGADOL APRIL 19-20

- Shabbat Meals @ Pat's by reservation only (Register <u>HERE</u>):
 - Dinner @ 7:00 PM, "Reclaiming the Afikomen"
- Lunch @ 12:00 PM, "Does Matzah Improve Mental Health?"
- Shabbat morning Chumash Shiur
- Shabbat HaGadol Drasha, "Apples, Walnuts and Endless Love"

Sponsored by: Michelle Barak & Valerie and Gary Weiter & families, Jennie Lewcowicz & Dr. Emanuel Gottlieb, and Dr. Susan Vorhand



HELP SAVE A LIFE:

Dr. Howard Abramowitz is in urgent need of a kidney donor.

To learn more about kidney donation or to see if you're a match, email

RN24443@renewal.org

or call 718-431-9831 Ext. 315

PURIM PREPPING @ YICC!



PURIM PREPPING @ YICC!

PARTICIPATE IN OUR MISHLOACH MANOT CAMPAIGN 5784!

SIGN UP BY THURSDAY, 3/21!



Click <u>HERE</u> to send Mishloach Manot to your friends at YICC! There is also a handy button on our homepage (<u>www.yicc.org</u>) for your convenience, (or you can pick up a paper form in the Shul office). Please log in to your member account to complete the online form. If you require any assistance, please email Melissa@yicc.org or call the Shul office: 310-273-6954.

- Participation: \$36 minimum (includes first 6 names)
- Each additional name: \$4
- Send to the entire Shul: \$285
- Additional Gift Baskets: \$29 each (For you to deliver to your family/friends outside of YICC membership list)

MATANOT L'EVYONIM

With Purim around the corner, we remind everyone of the most important Mitzvah of Purim, Matanot L'Evyonim (gifts to the poor). The Mitzvah requires that both men and women, each give a gift that will cover the minimum cost of two meals @ \$20 per meal (equaling \$40 minimum per contribution) so that two people will each have a Purim Seudah. All gifts should be submitted by Purim morning, March 24, 2024, so that Rabbi Muskin will be able to distribute the Matanot L'Evyonim on Purim day.

Payment Instructions: Simply click <u>HERE</u> or the button on our homepage to pay with a credit card online OR you can mail or drop off a check made out to: Young Israel of Century City with the memo marked: "Matanot L'Evyonim".

PURIM SEUDAH HOSTING

If you are hosting a Seudah this Purim and would like to host YICC members who do not have a Seudah to attend, please let the Shul office know, and you will be notified if you are matched with guests. This is a beautiful way for our community to come together and help each other experience the Mitzvah of Simchat Purim!



THE PARSHA PROJECT

THIS SHABBAT! PARSHAT PEKUDE

"The Stones of the Choshen"



FIRST YEAR @YICC

with Eliza Orenshein

A Mommy and Me program that meets every Shabbat in the northwest corner of the Youth Wing.

All mommies with children under 18 months old are invited!



CHESED AWARDS!

Each month, a child is chosen to receive a personalized plaque and a gift presented by Rabbi Muskin in front of the entire Shul, in recognition of outstanding acts of Chesed.

Please contact Jesse Orenshein to recommend a child who deserves this honor! <u>jorenshein@gmail.com</u>.

Award Recipients:

Sam Werthman (Tevet) Tova Richards (Shevat) Caleb Hartman (Adar I)



III YICC YOUTH



LA VOICES FROM ISRAEL

Let the Miracles Continue

By Lydia Weisman

It is now 5 months of horrific fighting. Tension spots surround us. Funerals and tragically wounded continue. Hostages are still suffering. Reports of worldwide antisemitism flourish. Outrageous inflammatory political and rabbinic statements pollute us. Diplomacy attempts seem ineffective. We are each trying so hard, whether fighting, volunteering, doing chased, showing kindness and always davening. We also know it just does not seem enough, and we desperately need Divine Intervention!

Yet how to explain that Israelis, especially us soft American Olim, are NOT in despair, anxious and depressed, and heading for the airports. Instead, they remain committed to continue volunteering, sharing simchas, filling the restaurants, concert halls and movies. They travel, they go on tyulim. Their love for this precious land and this determined people only grows stronger. Are they crazy? In denial? Have they not heard the news? I cannot rule out any of those theories, but my experience of the previous week leads me in a different direction.

Harry and I had signed up for the Alyn Rehab Childrens Hospital 3-day, 2-night camping hike. We must have been crazy, delusional, in denial, and clueless, because if you remember us an 'elderly couple' already when we left LA 3 years ago, you would be correct. And if you heard that this hike in the Judean Mountains and Dessert is long and tough, you would be correct again. I myself cannot explain the moment of madness when we first signed up. Perhaps I wanted to support the hospital, and figured they will probably need to cancel anyway, because of 'the matsav, the situation'. When sanity did return to me a couple of weeks later, and the plans were still going strong, I called the organizer to cancel due to our 'advanced ages', our desire to reach the next age, and our reluctance to be a burden on the group. Our not-so-straight-with-us organizer assured us there were other folks close to our age (not!), we would not go more than 10k each day (not! reality was 18k), there were only about 3 or 4 tricky spots in total to navigate (not! reality was 3 or 4 every 5-10 minutes), and not to worry because their staff was amazing and would help us (yes! completely true, and beyond). So Dear Reader, we went! We walked the walk of our forefathers, we connected with the beauty of this gift that Hashem gave us, we bonded with our fellow hikers, we were a team who helped each other, all of us were inspired by our leaders, and we were united in our mission, our big picture, to help the hospital. And we succeeded, because we were positive and determined and of course because there was no other option on high cliffs or deep ravines in middle of the desert.

I have no doubt Harry and I would never have taken on this challenge anywhere else in the world. And we could not have overcome these challenges, with joy in our hearts and singing on the trails, anywhere else in the world. And we would not have been accepted and included in the way we were anywhere else in the world.

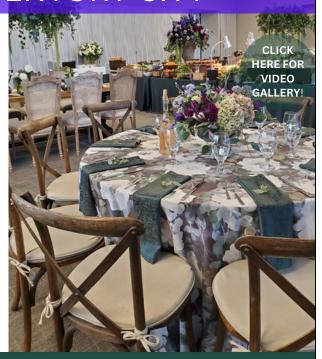
Harry and I might seem ridiculous in believing that we could do this hike, just as most of the world believes Israel is ridiculous in believing it can overcome the overwhelming challenges our many enemies have planted to wipe us off our path. Yet the people of Israel are correct in believing they will preserve and succeed. They see clearly what their Big Mission is: to protect this Gifted Land and to ensure that it will always be Our Jewish Homeland. The young men and women go joyfully to war: they feel the honor of participating in this honorable mission. And all the while, just a few miles from the fighting, the citizens and visitors in this country go to theaters and restaurants and gather with simcha for family milestones. Most likely they have several family members serving in the military, and they volunteer in some capacity several hours each week. They live their lives with Faith in the end goal and demonstrate daily resiliency and normalcy so this wonderful life can continue during this 'matsav', and continue long after this 'matsav' is resolved.

Israel is a miracle. The hike was a miracle. Long live miracles!

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THIS WEEK'S FEATURED FLYER



MY JOURNEY TO JUDAISM

Shabbat | March 16 | 5:45 P.M. (Mincha 6:30 P.M.)

Rivka Hodaya (Letty) Camarillo

Each year, Voices From The Bima features one member of YICC who shares with us his/her life story and how they balance an observant Torah lifestyle while succeeding in their professional career.

This year, it is our pleasure to feature Rivka Hodaya (Letty) Camarillo. Letty is a Mexican-American Jew who converted to Judaism through the Beth Din of the Rabbinical Council of California in July, 2023. She attended Weber State University in Ogden, Utah, where she was Woman of the Year in 2012, and earned her law degree in 2017 from UC Berkeley Law. She is a practicing attorney at Pershing Square Law Firm in Los Angeles.

Letty's first introduction to Orthodox Judaism was at Chabad of San Francisco. Prior to her involvement with Chabad, she learned about Judaism through a historical and anthropological lens. Upon graduation from law school, Letty was a fellow with the Fellowships at Auschwitz for the Study of Professional Ethics.

From her involvement with Chabad of San Francisco, Young Israel of Century City, Tomchei LA, Olami West, and the Jewish Learning Exchange, to her time learning at Shearim Seminary in Israel shortly prior to completing her conversion, Letty's journey to Judaism has been the most awe-inspiring experience of her life to-date.