

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SHABBOS TIMES

Friday, October 29

Candle Lighting 5:38pm
Evening Service 5:45pm

Saturday, October 30

Morning Service 10:00am
Kiddush Brunch 12:00pm
Evening Service 5:45pm
Shabbos Ends 6:36pm

KIDDUSH SPONSOR:

Tzach and Lauren Yoked

in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their
dear daughter

Nina Ehdén

Mazel Tov!

SHALOSH SEUDOS SPONSOR

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DAILY MINYAN

Oct. 31 - Nov. 5

MORNING SERVICE

Sunday 8:00am
Monday - Friday 7:00am

EVENING SERVICE

Evening Service 5:40pm

"G-d helps those who help themselves" as stated in the Torah, "G-d will bless you in all that you do," (Deuteronomy 15:18)

Our blessings come from G-d, but we must do. Of course, we believe in miracles—but we mustn't rely on them. The combination of our own hard work and effort, coupled with G-d's blessing is the ideal path to success.

This week, we were visited by the admissions director of NYC and two young adults who have recovered from drug and alcohol addiction.

We were happy that so many parents and teens came to participate in this important conversation.

The message to all of us who have kids is crystal clear, we cannot rely on miracles. We must act, and we must act now, and when we put effort into good parenting, G-d will bless the work of our hands.

Children today crave real, authentic relationships with their parents more than anything else in the world.

As parents, we must put real work into creating and maintaining real relationships with our kids. And then the Torah promises us, "G-d will bless you in all that you do".



Return to Awesomness

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Save up to \$400,
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SAVE THE DATE!

A WORD OF TORAH

"G-d helps those who help themselves" Is this statement heresy? Does it deny the hand of G-d in our successes? I recall a conversation with a self-proclaimed atheist who used the expression very cynically, suggesting that his considerable achievements were entirely his own and that G-d had nothing to do with it.

I beg to differ. To my mind, "G-d helps those who help themselves" is a perfectly religious statement. What it means is absolutely consistent with traditional Jewish thinking. G-d does indeed help us to accomplish things, but He requires us to help ourselves first. If we just sit back and wait for miracles to happen, we may be disappointed.

"G-d will bless you in all that you do," (Deuteronomy 15:18) makes it very clear. Our blessings come from G-d, but we must do. Of course, we believe in miracles—but we mustn't rely on them. The combination of our own hard work and efforts coupled with G-d's blessing is the ideal road to success.

The classic analogy is the farmer. He can plough and plant, sow and shvitz from today until tomorrow but if the rains don't come nothing will grow. Conversely, all the rains in the world will not cause anything to grow if the farmer hasn't planted first. After the farmer has done his work and the rains come from above, there will be a plentiful crop.

And it's the same story whether we are farmers or shopkeepers, professionals or artisans, employers or employees.

This week's Parshah tells of Isaac taking Rebecca as his wife. "And Isaac brought her to the tent of Sarah his mother." Rashi, quoting the Midrash,

explains this to mean more than the obvious. When she entered the tent, it was as if she was Sarah, Isaac's mother. Because Sarah was of such saintly character, she was granted three special miracles. Her Shabbat candles burned the entire week, her dough was particularly blessed, and a heavenly cloud attached itself to her tent. When Sarah died, these blessings disappeared. When Rebecca arrived on the scene, they resumed immediately. In fact, this was a clear sign to Isaac that Rebecca was indeed his soul mate and that the shidduch was made in Heaven.

Each of those three miracles, however, required some form of human input first. A candle and fire had to be found, the dough had to be prepared and a tent had to be pitched before G-d would intervene and make those miracles happen. In other words, He does help us but we must help ourselves first.

It's a little like the fellow who would make a fervent prayer to G-d every week that he win the lottery. After many months and no jackpot in sight, he lost his faith and patience. In anguished disappointment, he vented his frustration with the Almighty. "Oh, G-d! For months I've been praying to you. Why haven't you helped me win the lottery all this time?" Whereupon a heavenly voice was heard saying, "Because you haven't bought a ticket!"

I wish it were that simple to win lotteries. But the fact is that it is the same in all our endeavors. G-d helps those who help themselves. May we all do our part. Please G-d, He will do His.

-adapted from www.chabad.org

A Bisseleh Humor

David Goldberg bumps into somebody in the street who looks like his old friend Jack.

"Jack," he says. "You've put on weight and your hair has turned gray. You seem a few inches shorter than I recall and your cheeks are puffy. Plus, you're walking differently and even sound different. Jack, what's happened to you?"

"I'm not Jack," the other gentleman tells him. "My name is Sam!"

"Wow! You even changed your name," David says.



Daily Dose Of Wisdom

Intolerance lies at the core of evil.

Not the intolerance that results from any threat or danger. Not the intolerance that arises from negative experience. Just intolerance of another being who dares to exist, who dares to diminish the space in the universe left for you. Intolerance without cause.

It is so deep within us, because every human being secretly desires the entire universe to himself.

Our only way out is to learn compassion without cause. To care for each other simply because that "other" exists.

KIDS

Parsha Lesson

This week's parshah begins with a sad event: Sarah dies at the age of 127. Abraham is very sad and mourns her passing. He buys a piece of land on which to bury her which is called the Cave of Machpelah in the city of Hebron. He pays 400 silver shekels. This is the place where all of our patriarchs (Adam, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob) and Matriarchs (Eve, Sarah, Rebecca and Leah) are buried.

Isaac is now forty years old and not married. Abraham asks his trusted servant Eliezer to go to Charan, Abraham's city of birth, and find a wife for Isaac. Eliezer brings lots of beautiful jewelry and gifts for the future wife. But how will he find her? There were many girls in Charan! So he asks G-d for a sign to let him know which girl is the right one for Isaac. The sign is that when he will ask a girl for water to drink from the well, she will offer to give water to the camels as well.

Well, along comes Rebecca (remember she was born in last week's parshah?) who offers water to Eliezer and the camels and invites him to her father's house. When Eliezer asks for her hand in marriage on behalf of Rebecca's great uncle Abraham, Rebecca says yes. She was happy to marry a righteous and kind person such as Isaac and get away from her family who were not very honest nor righteous.

Rebecca travels to the land of Canaan with Eliezer and marries Isaac. When Isaac marries her he understands that she is the right wife for him and feels a bit better after losing his mother Sarah. How is that? When Sarah was alive there were three great miracles which happened every week: the challah she baked for Shabbat stayed fresh from one week to the next; the candles she lit on Friday night stayed lit the whole week; and there was a cloud on her tent which was a sign that G-d was present all the time. When she passed away these miracles stopped; after Isaac and Rebecca got married they returned. That was Isaac's sign that she was the right one for him—that Rebecca was pious and righteous just like Sarah was!

Abraham also remarries Keturah who is actually Hagar, the wife Abraham married before he and Sarah had Isaac. Why the new name? Because she repented from her not good ways and started a new life as a better person. At the end of the Parshah we learn that Abraham dies at age 175 and is buried next to Sarah in the Cave of Machpelah in Hebron



RECIPE

Stained glass cookies

- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup butter/margarine
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 3 cups flour
- ½ tsp. baking powder
- ½ tsp. salt
- Colored candies or lollypops
- Directions:
- Cream butter or margarine with sugar until fluffy. Add egg and vanilla. Mix.
- Add the salt, baking powder and flour—one cup at a time—until dough comes together. (As always when it comes to baking you may need slightly more or less flour, depending on many factors, including the weather.)
- Refrigerate the dough for 1-2 hours.
- While the dough is chilling, prepare the candy.
- Unwrap the candies/lollypops and separate them by color. Place each color into a separate zip-top bag. If you bags are very thin, you may need to use a double bag.
- Use a hammer or meat tenderizer to crush the candy into pieces. Pour each color out into a bowl and remove sticks (if using lollypops).
- Roll the dough and cut the shapes of your choice. Transfer the shapes to a baking sheet lined with parchment paper, then cut out the centers and fill with the candy.
- Bake on 350°F for about 12 minutes. Remove from oven and allow the candy centers to harden fully before lifting the cookies off the parchment paper.



UPCOMING EVENTS



Women's Paint and Wine

Wednesday, November 10

Enjoy a night out with friends, painting your own Jewish themed painting and a selection of wine and desserts.



Dreidels and Drinks

Thursday, December 2 at 8pm

An elegant, social evening for adults in celebration of Chanukah! Menorah lighting, entertainment, open bar, sushi and desserts. Reserve your own table with friends!



Chanukah Family Festival

Sunday, November 28 at 2pm

Celebrate Chanukah with family, friends and community! Enjoy Chanukah crafts, traditional holiday foods, donut making, hot latkes, music and lighting the giant menorah! Fun for the entire family!

PHOTOS OF THE WEEK

Hebrew School



This week at Hebrew school, children learned Hebrew reading, and had a blast making bracelets with their own Hebrew names written by themselves in Hebrew letters!

MVP Mitzvah Volunteer Program

MVP's ,our Mitzvah volunteers created super cool stained glass Shabbat picture frames to be delivered to senior homes.



Bris Avrohom of Fair Lawn

We are your center for everything Jewish, whatever your need may be, do not hesitate to contact us. Our ever popular holiday celebrations will enable you and your family to celebrate the Jewish holidays in style, with fun and educational ideas helping to make Judaism relevant to our youth. Our Torah classes will give you a second opinion on any subject or matter you may be dealing with and our Holiday programs will allow you to celebrate your Jewish pride with your family and friends. Our fun Hebrew School and Day Camp will fill your children with an educated sense of what it means to be Jewish and our synagogue services will give you the opportunity to pray, be inspired and experience spirituality. From pregnancy and baby celebrations to weddings and after life services including Kaddish and unveiling, we will be there for you and help create a meaningful and memorable experience. We are here to help you and serve you and look forward to seeing you soon!

Rabbi Berel & Leah Zaltzman | Rabbi Mendel & Elke Zaltzman | Rabbi Avrohom & Leah Engel

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