



### Service Times

#### **Friday, January 10 (Tevet 13)**

- 4:29pm – Earliest Candle Lighting
- 5:13pm – Late Candle Lighting
- 5:15pm – Mincha/ Kabbalat Shabbat/ Maariv
- 6:15pm – **Winter Friday Night Dinner II** with speaker Rabbi Dr. Tzvi Hersh Weinreb
- 7:45pm – **Oneg/Tisch with Rabbi Weinreb** “Chassidic Music, Mysticism, and Theology”

#### **Saturday, January 11 (Tevet 14)**

- 9:00am – Shacharit
- 9:55am – Latest Preferable Time to Say Shema
- 10:30am – Shabbat Morning Youth Groups
- 10:45am – **Learner's Service with Rabbi Weinreb**
- 12:30pm – **Rabbi Weinreb Shabbat Academy Lecture** “Family Connection in the Digital Age”
- 1:15pm – Mincha
- 6:13pm – Shabbat Ends/Havdalah
- 6:25pm – Maariv
- 7:30pm – **Rabbi Weinreb Lecture with BSBI** “Three Greatest Problems Facing the Orthodox Jewish Community”

#### **Kiddush Sponsorship:**

*In part by Stuart Feldman*

Seudat Hodaah lunch celebrating his first year of recovery from leukemia.

**1/18 – Ruth and Barry Warren**

In honor of their new grandson, Elan Asher.

**1/25 – Barbara and Lenny Zucker**

In memory of Lenny's mother, Maxine Zucker, at yahrzeit time.

Please consider honoring a special event or person in your life by sponsoring a Kiddush. Contact Lenny Zucker at lenbarbz@alum.mit.edu. Regular Kiddush is \$150.

### Weekday Services

Maariv (only)  
Monday & Wednesday 7pm

### Regular Classes

- **Daf Yomi class** with Rabbi Paul & Yoni Alon  
*Daily 8pm (Sunday & Thursday times TBD), Dor Tikvah House*
- **Torah Study: “The Avraham Stories”** with Rabbi Davies  
*Sunday 7:30pm, Congregation Dor Tikvah*
- **“Ketuvim with Kenny”** with Kenny Abitbol  
*Monday 7:30pm, Gilston Chapel*  
*Available through Facebook Live!*
- **“Lunchtime Talmud”** with Rabbi Davies  
*Thursday 12pm, Gilston Chapel*  
*Available through Facebook Live!*
- **“Cholent and Learn”** with Kenny Abitbol  
*Thursday 8pm, Dor Tikvah House*  
*Available through Facebook Live!*

### Coming Up

**Middle School Parent-Child Learning** – Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>, 9:15am  
Breakfast and learning session at Lowcountry Food Bank.  
Details and registration at [Dortikvah.org/event/Jan-Parent-Child](http://Dortikvah.org/event/Jan-Parent-Child).

**Tikkun Olam at Lowcountry Food Bank** – Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>, 10:15am  
Give back as we volunteer together. See list of most needed donations at [Dortikvah.org/event/TikkunOlam](http://Dortikvah.org/event/TikkunOlam).

**Middle School Shabbaton** – Jan. 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>  
COST PER CHILD: \$75 for whole weekend, \$30 for Saturday night only. Register at [Dortikvah.org/event/Shabbaton20](http://Dortikvah.org/event/Shabbaton20) by Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Dr. Stewart Weinberg Breakfast Minyan** – Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>, 8:30am  
First Breakfast Minyan speaker of 2020, speaking on Climate Crisis.  
RSVP to [CharlesSteinert@gmail.com](mailto:CharlesSteinert@gmail.com) by Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup>.  
Details at [Dortikvah.org/event/Breakfast-with-Weinberg](http://Dortikvah.org/event/Breakfast-with-Weinberg).

### Community Events

**No Hate, No Fear Rally** – Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>, 4pm  
Come together at Synagogue Emanu-el for a solidarity rally in response to increased levels of anti-semitic harassment and violence.

**2020 MLK Parade** – Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>, 10am  
The Jewish Community marches in the annual MLK Jr. Day Parade.

### Refuah Shelema

To add or remove a name, contact [charlessteinert@gmail.com](mailto:charlessteinert@gmail.com).

Robert Levinson  
Simcha ben Eittle  
Hodel bat Raozel  
Miriam bat Mazal  
Talia bat Shoshana  
Bloom bat Chaya Sara  
(Bertha Hoffman)  
Refael Aharon ben Devorah  
Reena Firetag  
Yocheved bat Sarah  
Isabella Beaudoin  
Yoseph Ben Sara  
Aharon Ben Yitta

Esther bat Alitza  
Baruch Leib ben Chaya Freidel  
(Burt Roslyn)  
Yisrael ben Chaya  
Yisrael Haynu  
ben Shimon Avraham  
Chayah Leah bat Shier  
Louis Waring  
Elijah Myer ben Malkah  
Rivka Bat Batya (Robyn Dudley)  
Jack Spitz  
Yisroel Mordechai Ben Fradel  
Ester Devorah bat Faigala

### Life Cycle

#### Birthday

- Jennifer Phillips (1/13)
- Marcie Rosenberg (1/14)
- Moshe Davies (1/14)
- Shmuel Davies (1/14)
- Joseph Rubin (1/16)
- Susan Addestone (1/17)

#### Yahrzeit

- Cecile Lazarus, grandmother of Nathan Kirshstein (1/14)
- Sylvia Lazarus, great aunt of Nathan Kirshstein (1/16)

### Contributions

- Bama & Paul Saltzman in memory of Jerry Zucker for Jeffrey Zucker's birthday

We appreciate all contributions – those of \$10 or more will be acknowledged here. Contributions can be made at [DorTikvah.org](http://DorTikvah.org) or by check to Congregation Dor Tikvah, 1645 Raoul Wallenberg Blvd., Charleston, SC 29407.



# Vayechi

## (Genesis 47:28–50:26)

### Life-Long Living

By Yossy Goldman

Chabad.org



A title usually reflects the theme of the subject matter. "Genesis" is about the beginning of the world, "Exodus" is about the Jews leaving Egypt. Whether it is a book, film, or lecture series, the title should convey some idea of the content it describes.

Which is why the title of this week's Parshah (Torah reading) seems highly inappropriate. *Vayechi* means "And He Lived." The name derives from the Parshah's opening line, "And Jacob lived in the land of Egypt seventeen years..." The Parshah, however, goes on to tell us not about Jacob's life, but rather about his death: his last will and testament to his children, his passing, his funeral, and his interment in Hebron in the Holy Land.

Why would a Parshah that concentrates on a person's last days on earth, his deathbed instructions, and his burial be entitled "And He Lived?"

The answer, say our sages, is that we are not discussing biological organisms, but Jews. And the test of true life for a Jew is whether he lived an authentic, consistent Jewish life — for life. Did he falter before the finish line, or was he faithful to his value system until the end?

How do we know that Jacob did indeed live, in the fullest sense of the word? That his was a genuine, G-dly life? When we see that he remains true to those ideals until his dying day, only then can we say with certainty that his life was truly alive; that his was a Vayechi life. The fact that Jacob died a righteous man validated his entire life-span, establishing it as a true life, alive and real from beginning to end.

There are individuals who have their eight minutes of fame, who shine briefly and impress the world only to fade away and leave us disappointedly watching so much unfulfilled potential dissipate into thin air. Others are longer lasting, but don't quite go all the way. Like a certain man named Yochanon who — the Talmud tells us — served as high priest in the Holy Temple for 80 years and then went off the rails. Very scary stuff! No wonder Hillel, in Ethics of the Fathers, warns us not to trust ourselves morally until the day we die. Complacency is dangerous. There are no guarantees. One must constantly "live" — i.e., grow and attempt to improve oneself — lest one falter before the finish line.

I will never forget my experience with a very fine man who was remarkably loyal to the company he worked for. For 45 years he was with the same group, totally and absolutely dedicated. Then he reached the age of compulsory retirement. Suddenly he took ill. The doctors had no real diagnosis. But he got sicker and sicker until he became incapacitated and eventually died. To this day, nobody knows what he died from. But those who knew him well understood that once he left the workplace to which he had devoted his entire adult life, he had nothing left to live for. Sadly, he had no other interests. His work was his life, and without his work there was no life left.

It is psychologically sound to take up a hobby, learn to play golf or develop other interests outside of work. A Jew, though, should ideally start studying Torah. Go to classes, read a stimulating book. Studying and sharpening the mind is good for the brain. Recent medical research confirms that it can even delay the onset of Alzheimer's. Most importantly, a person must have something to live for. Find new areas of stimulation. Discover, dream, aspire higher. Life must be lived with purpose and vigor.

That's why at the end of this week's parsha, which also concludes the Book of Genesis, the congregation and Torah reader will proclaim *Chazak, chazak v'nischazek* — "Be strong, be strong, and we will all be strengthened." Because the tendency when we finish a book is to take a breather before we pick up the next one. Such is human nature. But a book of the Torah is not just any book. Torah is not just history or biography. Torah is our source of life, and we dare not ever take a breather from life. "*Chazak*" energizes us to carry on immediately. And so we do. The very same afternoon we open the Book of Exodus and continue the learning cycle without interruption.

Truth is consistent, from beginning to end. May our lives be blessed to be truly alive — with authenticity, faithfulness and eternal fulfillment. Amen.