



Congregation Ahavat Shalom

The ACHDUS
NEWSLETTER
www.ahavatshalomteaneck.com

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Parshat Vayeira

Volume: 17, Issue: 14 | November 18-19, 2016

Cheshvan 18, 5777

Rabbi Yehuda Halpert

Shabbat Times



Friday, November 18	
Candle Lighting:	4:17 PM
Mincha/Maariv:	4:20 PM
Shabbat, November 19	
Shacharit:	8:45 AM
Kriyat Shema:	9:15 AM
Mincha /	
Shalosh Seudot:	3:55 PM
Shkiya:	4:34 PM
Maariv:	5:13 PM
Shabbat Ends:	5:18 PM
Next Friday, November 25	
Candle Lighting:	4:13 PM
Mincha/Maariv:	4:15 PM

- ❖ **Tzeitchem L'shalom** to Sarah and Dani (and Eitan and Julie) Kolat who are moving to Maryland! Its a truly sad day for Ahavat Shalom...
- ❖ **Welcome** to Reva Judas and NechamaComfort! NechamaComfort is a Jewish non-profit that helps parents and families who have suffered miscarriage, pregnancy loss, stillborn babies or infant loss. Reva will be speaking about NechamaComfort shortly after musaf.
- ❖ **Kiddush!** There will be light kiddush following musaf sponsored by the shul.
- ❖ **Shaleshudis** is sponsored by the shul.

2016-2017 Membership

Membership for the 2016-2017 year is now open. Thank you to all the members who have already signed up! For more information (including how to sign up and dues), visit www.ahavatshalomteaneck.com/membership.html.

"And all the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your offspring, because you are member of Ahavat Shalom"
Genesis 22:18

Weather Report

Friday night: Clear, 44°



Shabbos day: Sunny, 64/40°



Rabbi Halpert's Availability

Rabbi Yehuda Halpert will be here for Shabbos on: 11/19, 11/26, 12/3
He can be reached via email at rabbihalpert@verizon.net, or phone in the evenings at 201-836-3828. In the event of an emergency, Rabbi Halpert can also be reached at 212-909-6951.

Men's Shiur - There will be a Men's Shiur on Nov. 22nd. More information to come. If you are interested in hosting this shiur (or others), please reach out to the board.

Women's Shiur/Brunch with Yoetzet Halacha Shoshana Samuels - on Sunday, December 11th at 10:00 - 11:30 AM. More details to follow.

Welcoming Committee - If you would like to be part of the Welcoming Committee, please reach out to the board. Do you have anything else better to do?

Yeshivat Noam Youth Groups

Groups for children ages 2-3 are located in the room across the Shul from 9:30am - 10:45am. Morah Shira and Morah Melissa, two Yeshivat Noam teachers, will supervise. Toys and books will be provided by Yeshivat Noam. We ask parents to please send your child with a snack. Signup is on the website.

Northern NJ Holocaust Memorial & Education Center - Saturday Evening, December 10, 2016 at 8:00 PM at Congregation Keter Torah (600 Roemer Ave, Teaneck).

The community is invited to a special evening of music, information, and inspiration, to benefit the capital campaign for the Northern NJ Holocaust Memorial & Education Center to be located on the Municipal Green in Teaneck. Music composed during the Holocaust will be performed and discussed by Dr. Tamara Freeman, renowned scholar & musicologist for the Association of Holocaust Organizations. Special Guests: Alan Hantman, FAIA, 10th Architect for the Capitol, will discuss the Memorial's features and goals. Introductory remarks by Teaneck Mayor Mohammed Hameeduddin. Dessert reception to follow program. RSVP required- Sponsorships available. For more information visit www.nnjholocaustmemorial.org

Beth Aaron - On Thanksgiving morning, November 24, at 9:30 a.m., the Men's Club will present Rabbi Danny Senter on "Our Meat, It's Not All in Vein -- From Field to Table: The Koshering Journey of our Meat." Rabbi Senter is the Kashrut Administrator at the Kof-K, located in Teaneck. Congregation Beth Aaron is located at 950 Queen Anne Road.

Yeshivat Noam - Yeshivat Noam is pleased to invite the community to our weekly Tuesday morning parent shiur, on November 22 at 9:15 am in the YN Middle School Beit Knesset. Dr. Michelle Sarna, school psychologist, will deliver a six-week series of classes called: Staging a Spiritual Life: How to Embrace Change and Stay Inspired. This shiur series is free of charge and is open to the entire community, so bring your friends! Brought to you by the Yeshivat Noam Parent Education Committee. For questions or more information, please email psp@yeshivatnoam.org

Welcoming Committee

If you or anyone you know has moved in recently, let us know! Check out ahavatshalomteaneck.com/movingin for more information.

Welcome to Ahavat Shalom

Households: 86
(Adults: 169, Klds: 50)

President: Jason Shor **Vice Presidents:** Jason Bloom | Moty Raven | Yoni San Solo | Binny Steinig **Secretary:** Liron Gamzeh **Treasurer:** Jason Felder

Sisterhood: Sarit Anstandig | Tali Wigod **Gabbaim:** Sam Lightstone | Ezra Blain | Shua Joseph | Dani Weinberger

We welcome your input! Please send your newsletter announcements by Wednesday.

board@teaneckapartments.com | president@teaneckapartments.com | rabbihalpert@verizon.net



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Lessons From the Aftermath of the Akeida

Rabbi Zvi Sobolofsky

Immediately following akeidas Yitzchak the Torah tells us that Avraham rejoins those who had accompanied him on his journey to the akeida. There are two difficulties with this epilogue. First, there is no mention of Yitzchak returning, which leads us to wonder where he was after the akeida. Second, why is it significant that Avraham returns to those who initially traveled with him?

There are two important lessons that we learn from Avraham's return and Yitzchak's seeming lack of return. Chazal comment that Yitzchak did in fact not return home, but rather traveled to the yeshiva of Shem and Ever to study Torah. Why was the place of Torah study the next destination for Yitzchak after experiencing the akeida?

There are countless references in Tanach and Chazal to the relationship between the Beis HaMikdash and talmud Torah. The Mishkan, and later the Beis HaMikdash, housed the luchos which were the representation of the entire Torah. The Sanhedrin that embodies the mesorah sat in the Beis HaMikdash. Our tefillos at the end of every Shemoneh Esrei conclude with the words "May You rebuild the Beis HaMikdash and grant us our share in Your Torah." Echoing the words of Yeshayahu, "From Tzion will come forth Torah and Hashem's word from Yerushalayim," the Rambam in the end of Hilchos Melachim describes the days of Moshiach as being a time of unprecedented Torah study. "The world will be full of knowledge of Hashem", as prophesized by Yeshayahu, and this will accompany the rebuilding of the Beis HaMikdash.

The connection between Torah study and Mikdash reflects the basic nature of both. The purpose of the Mikdash is to enable the Shechina to dwell in our midst. It is precisely this Divine Presence that is also an essential component of talmud Torah. Chazal teach us that anytime and anyplace that Torah is studied, Hashem's Presence is there. At the conclusion of the akeida the future location of the Beis HaMikdash was designated. Although not physically offered as a korban, Yitzchak had been consecrated as one. As such, he had to maintain a level of sanctity befitting a korban. Yitzchak was therefore searching for a location where he could continue to bask in Hashem's Presence, and there was no greater place to do so than the yeshiva of Shem and Eiver.

Yitzchak's actions following the akeida speak to every one of us this time of the year. We all experienced the Divine Presence during the recent yomim tovim. Although we did not yet merit the rebuilding of the Beis HaMikdash, we did come closer to Hashem during the Yomim Noraim and Succos season. Now that the month of Tishrei and its great spirituality is behind us, where do we go to maintain the proximity to Hashem's Presence that we attained during that period? Yitzchak's behavior is very instructive. The only way to continue our relationship with Hashem is through the vehicle of Torah study. We go back to the beis medresh and thereby reinforce everything we accomplished in the "House of Hashem" during the yomim tovim.

Avraham's actions following the akeida also contain a critical lesson for us, particularly following the great spiritual heights of the past month. Although Avraham had just passed the monumental test of the akeida, he did not display any haughtiness toward others who had not done so. He accompanied his fellow travelers without drawing attention to his great accomplishments.

We daven that Hashem should remove the Satan from in front of us and from behind us - "v'hoseir Satan milifneinu u'm'l'achareinu". The Chofetz Chaim explained this phrase to refer to the two challenges that we face as we try to attain spiritual heights. There are obstacles we must overcome that can prevent us from attaining greatness in Torah and avodas Hashem. After we succeed, we are faced with another challenge: we may become arrogant about our accomplishments and look down at those around us. We therefore beseech Hashem to help us follow the example of Avraham who was able to return from the akeida without the feeling of arrogance notwithstanding his great accomplishments. We should be proud of what we accomplished during the month of Tishrei. Yet, this should never result in an arrogance that causes us to look down at others. As the yom tov season is behind us, let us rededicate ourselves to talmud Torah in a spirit of humility befitting the descendants of Avraham and Yitzchak.



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