



Congregation Ahavat Shalom

The ACHDUS
NEWSLETTER
www.ahavatshalomteaneck.com

Davening: TABC, 1600 Queen
Anne Rd.
Mailing: PO Box 595, Teaneck,
NJ 07666-0595

Parshat Eikev

Volume: 17, Issue: 4 | August 23-24, 2019

Av 22-23

Rabbi Yehuda Halpert

Assistant Rabbi David Schlusberg

Shabbat Times

Friday, August 23

Mincha/Maariv: 7:15 PM
Candle Lighting: 7:25 PM

Shabbat, August 24

Shacharit: 9:00 AM
Kriyat Shema: 9:36 AM
Mincha / Shalosh
Sendot: 7:15 PM
Shkiya: 7:52 PM
Maariv: 8:19 PM
Havdalah: 8:24 PM

Next Friday, August 30

Mincha/Maariv: 7:15 PM
Candle Lighting: 7:16 PM



Weather Report: Friday night: 64°, Partly Cloudy

Shabbat day: 77°, Sunny

Welcome to Ezra Chefitz who recently moved into the community!
Jonah Schindelheim who recently moved into the community!

Mazel Tov to **Shani & Eli Fenyes** on the birth of a baby boy!

ENDS THIS SUNDAY: "Early Bird" Membership: Please be advised that enrollment is now open for the Shul membership year of 2019-2020. We are offering early bird pricing at \$330 per household. As of this Sunday, August 25th, membership will be \$360 per household. Single member household rate is \$165. Kindly reach out to any member of the board should you have any questions. The membership link is available on the shul website.

Rabbi Halpert's Availability

Rabbi Yehuda Halpert will not be here. He can be reached via email at RabbiYehudaHalpert@gmail.com, or phone at 201-836-3828. In the event of an emergency, Rabbi Halpert can also be reached at 212-909-6951.

»**Additionally**, Yom Kippur seats are available for purchase. Seats are \$36 per member and \$72 per non-member.

Rabbi Schlusberg's Contact Info

Rabbi Schlusberg can be reached at (201) 543-9308 or daveschluss@gmail.com

Gemara Chabura will be given this week @ 8:30am by Rabbi David Schlusberg.

IF YOU ARE NEW!

If you or anyone you know has recently moved into our community please send contact info to presidentahavatshalom@gmail.com

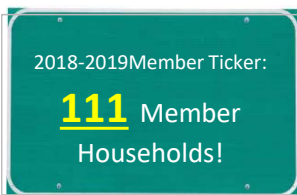
Shalosh Seudos topic for this week will be: "The Debate Over an Orphans Go Fund Me Page."

Chesed

Our very own Dina Shaw, a Registered Nurse, has graciously offered to teach Lamaze classes. For information or assistance, reach out to Dina at (845) 826-5295 or dina5295@gmail.com

Fertility Resources - A member of our shul has compiled a list of fertility resources. We are proud to announce that this is now live on the shul website. The resources can be accessed directly from the homepage. The resources include reproductive specialists, support groups, and helpful organizations.

New Members - If you or anyone you know has moved in recently or if you know of someone about to move in, please let the board know! Check out ahavatshalomteaneck.com/movingin for more information.



President: Moshe Secemski **Vice Presidents:** Benji Berg | Henry Bernstein | Alex Daitch | Josh Katz **Secretary:** Yosef Chai Klein **Treasurer:** Tova Sonnenblick

Sisterhood: Rivi Landesman | Aliza Rosenberg **Gabbaim:** Steven Lowinger | Avidan Rothman | Dov Rossman | Meir Safrin

We welcome your input! Please send your newsletter announcements by Wednesday of each week to ensure they make it in!

board@teaneckapartments.com | president@teaneckapartments.com | rabbiyehudahalpert@gmail.com

The Law Offices of
LOUIS B. CHAPMAN, PC
WWW.NJLAW.TV

MICHAEL J. CHAPMAN
Attorney At Law

Real Estate Closings | Traffic Court
Wills and Estates | Personal Injury
Worker's Compensation

141 Ayers Court, Suite 2C
Teaneck, New Jersey 07666
Tel: 201.833.4500 x17
MJChapmanLaw@gmail.com



Katz Dental Associates

David J. Katz, DDS | Rebecca Block, DDS
Restorative and General Dentistry

583 Winthrop Rd. | (201)833-0007
Teaneck, NJ 07666 | KHMDDS@aol.com



V'osiso Hayashar Veahatov

Daunting as it is to model Hashem's traits, we are reminded of this *mitzvah* several times in *Parshas Eikev* (10:12,20 see *Sefer Hachinuch* #432)) and further instructed to practically and directly pursue it by spending time with scholars who have mastered pious, principled and virtuous behavior. Indeed, our passionate pursuit of etiquette and propriety is governed by the mandate of *imatito dei* and *kidush* Hashem.

This *mitzvah* with its practical guidance planted firmly in the flow of the final book of the Torah, *Sefer Devarim*, confirms a suggestion of HaRav Nisan Alpert tz"l, one of our *roshei yeshiva* who was one of the foremost students of Rav Moshe Feinstein tz"l. In his commentary on *chumash, Limudei Nisan*, that was brought to publication thru the untiring and skillful efforts of Rav Dovid Weinberger *shlit"l*, Rav Alpert addresses a question that has long puzzled Torah commentaries: What is the unifying thread of *Sefer Devarim*? *Breishis* describes creation of the physical world, the development of civilization and the birth of the Jewish people. *Shemos* tells of our first exile and its redemption, *Vayikra* details the service of the *mishkan* and *mikdash*, and *Bamidbar* records the events of the desert generations. Now how do we describe *Sefer Devarim*?

Ramban understands that in *Devarim* Moshe *Rabbeinu* delivers the final necessary preparations for our entry in Israel. Yet he concedes that it is hard to explain how the *mitzvos* of marriage, divorce and *yibum* as well as details of witness collection were left out until now, to be collected in *Mishne* Torah. This leads Abarbanel to conclude that *Devarim* is the original FAQ, addressing any confusing or vague notions that the desert generation harbored!

Additionally, Rav Alpert poses whether we should seek a common thread not only in the *mitzvos* included in the sefer but also between the *mitzvos* and the *musar* of the sefer.

In a bold and sweeping opening comment to *Sefer Devarim*, Rav Alpert suggests that *Mishne* Torah focuses on "*v'osiso hayashar veahatov*", and the charge to be people of "goodness and integrity" embraces the whole sefer. We can support this insight as we note that this phrase is not found in an earlier sefer and is repeated numerous times in *Devarim*. Moreover it has been suggested that *Devarim* is referred to as "*sefer Hayashar*" by no one less than Shmuel *Hanavi* (Shmuel 2, 1:18, *Metzudas*).

Rav Alpert explains that when Moshe reviewed the Torah, standing on the Plains of Moav, he stressed the goodness and decency inherent in many *mitzvos*. Moreover he instructed us to note the moral code of that which we had already learned. Thus we would be emotionally and intellectually incorporating the values that our behaviors were pursuing.

Here are a few examples: Whereas in *Parshas Mishpatim* the Torah defines the appropriate compensation for any damages that we have caused, in *Devarim* we are taught the care that one has to take in building one's home to protect residents and guests from foreseeable danger. In other words, compensation alone should not act as a guide to behavior or as a deterrent. That would not go far enough in inculcating decent behavior. Moshe therefore stressed an imperative to be concerned and protective of others.

Though the prohibition of theft has already been recorded, *Devarim* teaches the care we extend to the lost objects of others, thus inculcating a lack of desire for that which we did not earn and the sensitivity to the pain caused by material loss. Whereas the obligations of support of one's wife are written in *Shemos*, the goodness that we aspire to is underscored towards the end of *Devarim*, by the obligation of establishing a committed bond with one's wife.

The broad imperative of "*yoshor vetov*" and *imatito dei* come as a firm reminder that the Torah is not a book of dry prescriptions and rote actions that will assure the character that the Torah demands of us. Truth be told, we do often witness the magic of Torah. We often acknowledge that the study of Torah in the young and all the way to the youngest, brings to the fore goodness and consistency that is often latent. Nevertheless the magic of Torah should not delude us to believe that the mechanical observance of the *mitzvos* is a magical potent or wand that will produce ethical people. They will go a long way to do so but will still need the concentrated focus and relentless visceral pursuit on the broad goals set out for us in *Devarim*. It would seem that just as Moshe saw us embarking on setting up an organized community with all the necessary administrative offices and institutions he too was told to fear that our behavior could also become institutional, habitual and rote.

This called for a review of the entire Torah which would emphasize the goals of character that Hashem desires in His children who are charged above all to sanctify His name in the world in which we live.

Rabbi Yaakov Neuburger

Copyright © 2019 by The TorahWeb Foundation. All rights reserved.

The Law Offices of
LOUIS B. CHAPMAN, PC
WWW.NJLAW.TV

MICHAEL J. CHAPMAN
Attorney At Law

Real Estate Closings | Traffic Court
Wills and Estates | Personal Injury
Worker's Compensation

141 Ayers Court, Suite 2C
Teaneck, New Jersey 07666
Tel: 201.833.4500 x17
MJChapmanLaw@gmail.com

Katz Dental Associates
David J. Katz, DDS | Rebecca Block, DDS
Restorative and General Dentistry

583 Winthrop Rd. | (201)833-0007
Teaneck, NJ 07666 | KHMDDS@aol.com