



# Congregation Ahavat Shalom

The ACHDUS NEWSLETTER  
www.ahavatshalomteaneck.com

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

Parshat Bo

Volume: 19, Issue: 24 | January 11-12, 2019

Shevat 5

Rabbi Yehuda Halpert

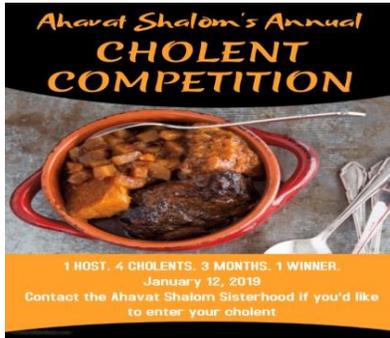
Shabbat day: 32°, Partly Cloudy

### Shabbat Times



<b>Friday, January 11</b>	
Candle Lighting:	4:30 PM
Mincha/Maariv:	4:35 PM
<b>Shabbat, January 12</b>	
Shacharit:	9:00 AM
Kriyat Shema:	9:42 AM
Mincha /Shalosh	
Seudot:	4:20 PM
Shkiya:	4:49 PM
Maariv:	5:29 PM
Havdalah:	5:34 PM
<b>Next Friday, January 18</b>	
Candle Lighting:	4:37 PM
Mincha/Maariv:	4:40 PM

Weather Report: Friday night 20°, Clear



**Baruch Dayan ha'Emet** - We wish condolences to Avi & Tova Sonnenblick on the loss of Avi's beloved grandmother, Helene.

**DISTRIBUTED: 2019 Ahavat Shalom Calendar** - Move over family photos on the fridge! The 2019 Ahavat Shalom is out to all member households! If you did not receive your copy, please contact your Vice President!

**THIS WEEK: Ahavat Shalom's Annual Cholent Competition!** Round Two will be after davening this Shabbat, at the Moallem residence, 1390 Hill Street, Apt. 3B. The four competing households are the Klein's, Katzourin's, Rehanian's and Roffel's. They will compete in order to advance into the final round and claim Champion Cholent of the World (well, Ahavat Shalom)! All community members are invited to attend the event, taste test the cholents, and vote for your favorite. May the best cholent win!

### Rabbi Halpert's Availability

Rabbi Yehuda Halpert will not be here: 1/12.  
He can be reached via email at RabbiYehudaHalpert@gmail.com, 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.

**ALSO THIS WEEK: Raising Awareness Seminar: Relationships with Parents and In-Laws** - Dr. Howard Forman, psychiatrist in Montefiore Medical Center will address the touchy topic on how to deal with parent / parent-in-law relationships. It will take place in TABC on Friday Night, January 11th, @ 8:30pm. Refreshments will be served.

**Torah Opportunity:** The topic for this week's Shvitseder limud at Congregation Beth Aaron is "The Greatest of the Grape: What Type of Beverage May Be Used for Kiddush?" The program is held on Sunday mornings in the Beit Midrash, following the 8:00 a.m. minyan. A light breakfast is served at 8:45 a.m. For more information, please contact Mordy Ungar, 201-741-3920, [m\\_ungar2@yahoo.com](mailto:m_ungar2@yahoo.com).

### Yeshivat Noam Youth Groups

Groups for children ages 2-4 will be located in Room 3 from 9:45am - 11:00am. 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.

**Torah Opportunity:** The Beit Midrash of Teaneck (BMT), located at Heichal Hatorah, 70 Sterling Pl., provides an interactive Talmud Torah

**RAISING AWARENESS SEMINAR**  
A Lecture Series hosted by Congregation Ahavat Shalom aiming to raise awareness for and reduce stigma around important issues in the Jewish community

**2nd Topic: Relationships with Parents and In-Laws**

When: Friday Night January 11, 2019  
8:30PM - 9:30PM  
Where: Ahavat Shalom\*

Guest Lecturer: Howard Forman, MD  
Psychiatrist at Montefiore Medical Center

Refreshments will be served.  
ALL are welcome!

\*Maximum seating available

learning experience for male retirees on Monday and Wednesday mornings between 9:15 a.m. and 12:45 p.m.

### Chessed Committee

If you or anyone you know has moved in recently or knows somebody moving in, please let Shira Russell-Giller know! Check out [ahavatshalomteaneck.com/movingin](http://ahavatshalomteaneck.com/movingin) for more information.

**Cookbook Club Soup Edition**

PLEASE JOIN THE AHAVAT SHALOM SISTERHOOD FOR A SPECIAL EDITION OF THE COOKBOOK CLUB OPENED TO BOTH MEN AND WOMEN.

DEENA and OREN VAKNIN 92 WALRAVEN DRIVE, 18 JAN. 21 at 8:00

PLEASE MAKE YOUR FAVORITE SOUP TO SHARE WITH THE COMMUNITY. WARM YOUR SOUP UP IN YOUR POT BEFORE COMING AND BRING A COPY OF THE RECIPE. FINAL HEATING CAN BE DONE WHEN YOU ARRIVE.

PLEASE RSVP WITH SIGN UP LINK

**Shop for a Cause!** Wuko Gals is currently running a promo exclusively for the Ahavat Shalom community that allows you take 10% off your order as well as they will donate 10% of your order to the Shul. Use promo code "AHAVATSHALOM" when checking out @ [wukogals.com](http://wukogals.com)

**COMING UP - Cookbook Club: Soup** - In continuation of it's monthly meet-up the Sisterhood's Cookbook Club will be meeting on Monday Evening, January 21st at Vaknin Residence where they will feature delectable soups. This will be a **CoEd event** - allowing all to taste the soups, exchange recipes and spend time together. Please reach out to Yael Wine or Deena Berenstein for more info.

### Congregation Ahavat Shalom Board Members 2018-2019

**President:** Ben Wine **Vice Presidents:** Eliana Baum | Henry Bernstein | Eli Fenyes | Shira Russell-Giller **Secretary:** Yosef Chai Klein **Treasurer:** Yishai Kadry  
**Sisterhood:** Deena Bernstein | Yael Wine **Gabbaim:** Eli Baum | Stephan Gilbert | Steven Lowinger | Avi Sonnenblick

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

[board@teaneckapartments.com](mailto:board@teaneckapartments.com) | [president@teaneckapartments.com](mailto:president@teaneckapartments.com) | [rabbiyehudahalpert@gmail.com](mailto:rabbiyehudahalpert@gmail.com)

2018-2019 Member  
Ticker:  
**97** Member  
Households!

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**Citizens Bank**  
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**MORTGAGE ADVANTAGE PROGRAM**

**FM HOME LOANS**

**PROGRAM BENEFITS:**  
Exclusively for Ahavat Shalom Members

- Waive of all bank fees (\$1490 value)
- A dedicated mortgage professional assisting you through the entire process
- Competitive rates

\*Minimum loan amount \$300,000  
Loan must be originated with Jordan Kadry. Must be a member of Ahavat Shalom at time of application. Offer expires June 1, 2018.

**Jordan Kadry**  
Vice President  
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**EQUAL HOUSING LENDER**



## Honoring Royalty

"All of your (Pharaoh's) slaves will come down to me and bow to me" (*Shemos* 11:8). Moshe gave honor to royalty (as Hashem instructed, see Rashi 6:13); even though in the end Pharaoh himself came down to him (12:31), Moshe did not say to him 'You will come down to me and you will bow to me' (Rashi. See Rashi 5:3). The Gemara (*Menachos* 98a) derives from here that one should always have awe for royalty. Rashi adds that one should not rebel against royalty, and should thank the government for its services.

Another source for "*aimas hamalchus* - fear/awe of the government" cited in the Gemara is, "the hand of Hashem was with Eliyahu and he...ran before Achav until near Yizre'el" (*Melachim* I, 18:46.) In order to give honor to royalty, Hashem gave Eliyahu a supernatural strength to run before Achav's chariot so that Achav should not be alone (Rashi).

*Chazal* chose two of the worst kings to emphasize that we must honor even the vilest rulers. Pharaoh killed our sons and oppressed our people (*Shemos* 1:13, 22), and is called Pharaoh *harasha* (the wicked) (*Shemos Raba* 8:3) for his hubris and depravity. Achav is called the worst of all the bad kings (*Melachim* I 16:30, 21:25), was a murderer (21:19, see *Metzudos*) and has no portion in the world to come (*Sanhedrin* 102b).

Given Hashem's omnipotence and promised intervention, His command and enabling of honor to royalty obviously cannot be attributed to utilitarian motives (*shtadlanus*), rather it is clearly a more fundamental requirement. Monarchs and leaders serve as Hashem's agents in history, as we are taught, "The heart of a king is in the hand of Hashem" (*Mishlei* 21:1.) Perhaps this role played by governmental leaders demands a modicum of respect, even in the case of a totally evil monarch.

Alternatively, even the most wicked kingdom may have some redeeming quality. "Do not despise an Egyptian, because you were a stranger in his land" (*Devarim* 23:8.) Even though they killed your sons, don't despise them forever, since you were saved there from hunger. They honored your patriarch and appointed a ruler from his progeny (Ramban). Similarly, although Achav was the prototype of an evil Jewish king, Achav supported Torah scholars from his royal treasury and was granted partial atonement (*Sanhedrin* 102b). Furthermore, in Achav's time, the Jews were victorious at war even though they were idolaters because they were not informers (*Yerushalmi Peah* 1:1). And, in fact, Achav ultimately repented (*Melachim* I 21:29).

Pharaoh and Achav are paradigms for wicked non-Jewish and Jewish kings respectively, and yet Hashem unambiguously required that we respect them. All the more so in America, the kingdom of kindness, we must recognize all the good received from the government, and bless the State and all of its leaders (Igros Moshe *Choshen Mishpat* vol. 2, 29). Recent attacks on President Trump are inconsistent with Hashem's command to give honor to non-Jewish royalty. His policies and personal failings do not even begin to approach those of Pharaoh *harasha*, who Hashem commanded Moshe to honor.

Today's Israeli government supports Torah scholars from its treasury, and the Israeli Defense Forces protect all of Israel's inhabitants from enemies that want to destroy us. Whatever faults exist among Israel's leaders are far less serious than those of the idolatrous murderer Achav. Recent attacks on the government's leaders and soldiers are inconsistent with Hashem's command to honor a Jewish government.

As we read of the honor accorded to wicked kings by Moshe and Eliyahu, we must apply the Torah's timeless lessons to our own generation. If we do so, and especially if we eliminate the terrible *sinas chinam* resulting from attacks inconsistent with Hashem's command to honor the government, we will hopefully be able to honor the righteous king, *Mashiach* ben David, speedily in our days.

Rabbi Mordechai Willig

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