



Congregation Ahavat Shalom

**The ACHDUS
NEWSLETTER**
www.ahavatshalomteaneck.com

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

Parshat Tetzaveh

Volume: 19, Issue: 29 | February 15-16, 2019

Adar Aleph 11

Rabbi Yehuda Halpert

Shabbat day: 42°, Partly Cloudy

Shabbat Times

Friday, February 15	
Candle Lighting:	5:12 PM
Mincha/Maariv:	5:15 PM
Shabbat, February 16	
Shacharit:	9:00 AM
Kriyat Shema:	9:29 AM
Mincha /Shalosh Seudot:	5:05 PM
Shkiya:	5:32 PM
Maariv:	6:08 PM
Havdalah:	6:13 PM
Next Friday, February 22	
Candle Lighting:	5:21 PM
Mincha/Maariv:	5:25 PM



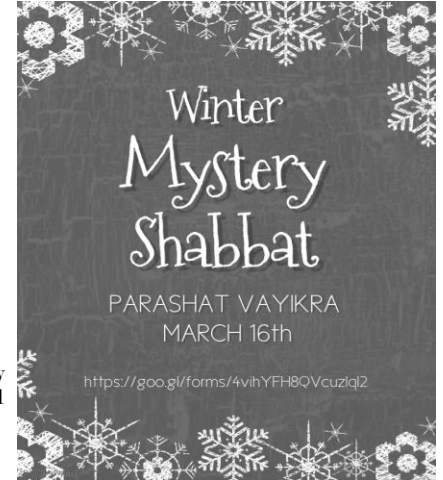
Weather Report: Friday night 32°, Clear

Tzeitchem L'Shalom to Yael, Gabe and Atara Nadel who will be moving to Springfield.

Welcome to Rabbi Mischel and Suburban Torah of Livingston, NJ who are joining us this Shabbat! Thank you for sponsoring a hot kiddush!

Round Three: Ahavat Shalom's Annual Cholent Competition! Round Three will be after davening next Shabbat, **but we are still looking for a host and one more chef!** Please reach out to Yael Wine or Deena Bernstein if you can host and/or cook! May the best cholent win!

Cookbook Club: Special Edition - In continuation of it's monthly meet-up, the Sisterhood's Cookbook Club will be meeting on Monday Evening, February 25th at the home of Michelle Kadry, where they will take part in a special and meaningful "Amen Party." Please reach out to Yael Wine or Deena Bernstein for more info and sign up at <https://goo.gl/forms/UVrcipCJSIpwkFGI2>



Rabbi Halpert's Availability

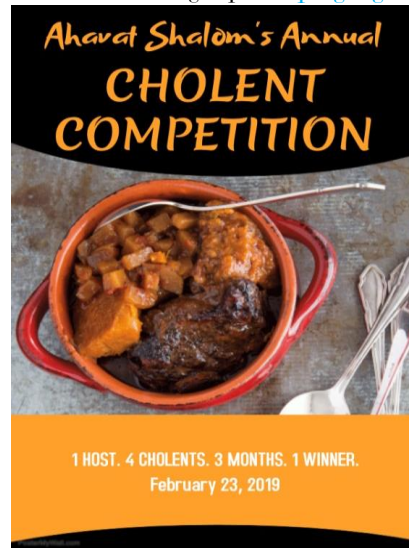
Rabbi Yehuda Halpert will be here: 2/16, 2/23, 3/9.
He can be reached via email at RabbiYehudaHalpert@gmail.com, or phone in the evenings at 201-836-3828. In the event of an emergency, Rabbi Halpert can also be reached at 212-909-6951.

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.

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 for more information.



February 26, 2019: Intimacy: Keeping the Spark Burning 8:00 pm – CBY Social Hall, 641 West Englewood Avenue, Teaneck, NJ. Join for one, or for all three! Please submit questions in advance to mzahtz@gmail.com

A Taste of Hope - Bonei Olam, an organization dedicated to helping families struggling with fertility issues, is hosting a free event for men and women, featuring Naomi Nachman and her famous Chopped Competition! The event will take place on Motzei Shabbat, February 23, 2019 at 8:30 PM at Keter Torah! No RSVP required!

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

Winter Mystery Shabbat is upon us! Whether you have participated before or this will be your first time, sign up for Winter Mystery Shabbat! Either sign up as a host or as a guest, and enjoy your lunch meal on Shabbat, March 16, 2019 (Parshat Vayikra). Please sign up at <https://goo.gl/forms/4vihYFH8QVcuzIqI2>. For more information, reach out to Yael Wine or Deena Bernstein!

Torah Opportunity: Sunday, February 17 at 8:45am, Rabbi Moshe Taragin will speak at Cong. Rinat Yisrael on: Has Brisker Creativity and Tanach Analysis Eliminated the Awe of Talmud Torah?

Touching base in Tahara - Congregation Bnai Yeshurun invites all women to join Michal Zahtz for a Taharat HaMishpacha Refresher for Women. **Hashkafa Tuesday, February 19, 2019:** The Mikvah - A Most Sacred Place: Mikvah Halacha and Hashkafa. **Tuesday,**



Please join us as we come together to support each other and offer our brachot and respond with amen

Monday February 25 at 8:30 at the home of Michelle Kadry 1470 Terrace Circle #6

PLEASE SIGN UP WITH LINK

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The "Take It All In" Moment

If the A-mighty could have an afterthought, then the conclusion of *Parshas Tetzaveh* would unquestionably be its paradigm. However, since Hashem cannot have senior moments and lapses, and never is remiss by not remembering, we have to find another explanation for the seemingly tacked-on *Parshas Ketores* at the end of this week's reading. The *mishkan* seems to be complete, the clothes of the *kohanim* are done and worn, the dedication days services are all described and then comes the seemingly "oops moment". We read about the construction of the golden *mizbeach* that will be placed in the *mishkan* and a brief sketch of the incense service, all of which seems a much better fit for *Parshas Teruma* which is already replete with details of all aspects of *mishkan* construction.

Whereas Rambam (*Moreh Nevuchim*) understands that the *ketores* is similar to a powerful incense candle which assures that the *mikdash* does not smell like a butcher store, *Chazal* seem to add many deeper meanings as well. After all, *Chazal* describe that the aroma of the incense would be carried all the way to Yericho! Surely if the Jews of *midbar* Yehuda were to smell the *ketores* there should be another meaning in that as well. Additionally, the *ketores* emanated from the inner sanctum and brought wealth to the *kohanim* who offered it!

The broad and overwhelming presence of the *ketores* leads me to believe that it served as a reminder to anyone near the walls of Yerushalayim to stop and smell the fragrance. The all-embracing nature of the *ketores* bouquet begged each resident and every passerby to pause, take it all in, and appreciate the privilege and responsibility of having Hashem dwell among us. Similarly, that is why it is the capstone of the *parshiyos* describing the construction of the *mishkan*. It thus serves as a textual symbol of the role of the *ketores*, reminding us that even as we study the details of the *mishkan*, we should ponder the big picture and become mindful of our heritage and our ultimate enterprise. There is very little in life that is of value that does not gain additional value added by the moments when one can look back and appreciate what we have accomplished.

If this understanding of the *ketores* is correct, then it may be the insight of the Seforno as he addressed our opening question. Seforno explains (and his words may shed light on Ramban's comment as well) that the incense service is the only service that celebrates Hashem's presence, as opposed to all other aspects of the *mishkan* which are there to bring the *Shechina* to the *mishkan* to begin with. That is why the *ketores* is described after we read about the construction of all the instruments and their successful consecration which indeed resulted in the settling of the *Shechinain* our midst.

In other words, the pensive pause that we have described, the "take it all in" moment, is indeed a moment of celebration and even more. For many, I imagine, the inescapable scent would be received as a divine hug; for the lonely and worn, the curious and the skeptics it would be an invitation to come closer, and maybe it was even perceived as Yerushalayim reaching out to them; and for some it would simply remind them of their core, their roots, and their ambition. But for all it was a soaring manifestation of the entrancing reality of having access to G-d from this very human, very flawed, and often painful planet.

A discussion of the incense altar any place but at the end would be totally misplaced.

Rabbi Yaakov Neuburger

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