



Congregation Ahavat Shalom

The ACHDUS
NEWSLETTER
www.ahavatshalomteaneck.com

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Parshat Ki Tisa

Volume: 19, Issue: 30 | February 22-23, 2019

Adar Aleph 17
Rabbi Yehuda Halpert

Shabbat Times

Friday, February 22	
Candle Lighting:	5:21 PM
Mincha/Maariv:	5:25 PM
Shabbat, February 23	
Shacharit:	9:00 AM
Kriyat Shema:	9:25 AM
Mincha /Shalosh Seudot:	5:15 PM
Shkiya:	5:40 PM
Maariv:	6:16 PM
Havdalah:	6:21 PM
Next Friday, March 1	
Candle Lighting:	5:29 PM
Mincha/Maariv:	5:30 PM



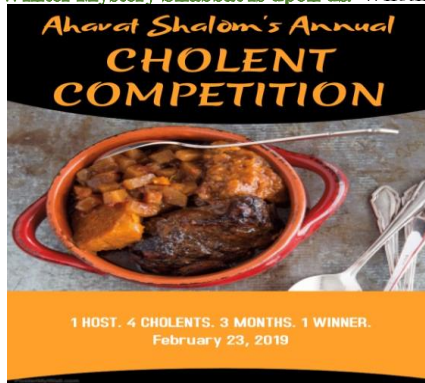
Weather Report: Friday night: 29°, Cloudy

Shabbat day: 43°, Cloudy

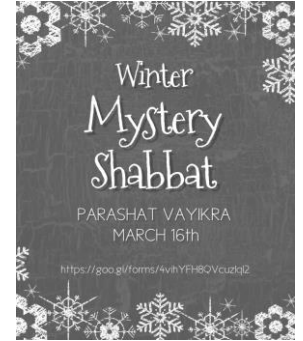
Round Three: Ahavat Shalom's Annual Cholent Competition! Round Three will be after davening this Shabbat! Get ready to taste the Cholents from the houses of Ferber Sonnenblick, Winston and Segal. The competition will take place immediately after davening in the home of Gabee London, 110 Ayers Ct. #1B. As this will be the final round of the round robin, the stakes are high. 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/UVrcipCJSIpkwFGI2>

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!



Rabbi Halpert's Availability

Rabbi Yehuda Halpert will be here: 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.

Chesed 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.



Committee is respectfully reaching out to our community for help. We are looking for sponsors to contribute to this cause, and our goal is \$2,500. Every donation is appreciated - every penny counts! If you would like to support these amazing lecture series, please donate through Venmo @Ahavat-Shalom or through Quickpay @ treasurer@teaneckapartments.com and write "Raising Awareness Seminar" as the memo. You can also write a check to Congregation Ahavat Shalom and contact shirarussell26@gmail.com to work out drop-offs. Keep in mind that this is a fantastic opportunity for those who want/need extra zechuyot!

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 this Motzei Shabbat, February 23, 2019 at 8:30 PM at Keter Torah! No RSVP required!

Touching base in Tahara - Tuesday, 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 tomzahrtz@gmail.com

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

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MORTGAGE ADVANTAGE PROGRAM

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- 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.

FM HOME LOANS

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it is Possible to Ruin, Then it is Possible to Fix

Cast on the sixteenth of Tammuz, worshipped and destroyed on the seventeenth of Tammuz - that is the short history of the *eigel hazohov*, the golden calf. Delivered and destroyed on the seventeenth of Tammuz - that is, *lehavdil*, the short history of the *luchos*, the Ten Commandments.

The Torah does mention the *luchos* just prior to the unfolding of the *eigel* narrative in a dangling "one liner" *pasuk* which is sandwiched between the discussion about the organization of the *mishkan* and the record of the downward spiral to building the *eigel*. It reads as follows: (31:18) "Having completed speaking with [Moshe], [Hashem] gave the two *luchos* of testimony, *luchos* of stone written with Hashem's finger", and seems to introduce the *eigel hazahav* story. Rashi says that this *pasuk*, similar to the detailed *mishkan* discussion that precedes it, is out of place and belongs after the *eigel* event. Accordingly, we should certainly try to explain how it enhances the upcoming account of the *eigel* debacle.

Furthermore, this *pasuk* will become entirely redundant as we learn of Moshe's descent down the mountain to discover the *eigel* for himself. That is when we read, "And Moshe turned and descended the mountain with the two *luchos* of testimony in his hand, *luchos* that were written on both sides...and the *luchos* were the work of Hashem, and the writing was Hashem's writing, engraved into the *luchos*" (32:15-16.) Why then is the stone record of the Ten Commandments, apparently destined to become a gift for our people, mentioned fleetingly in 31:18, with no unique information to offer?

Perhaps the Torah is pointing out to us that in order to appreciate the colossal disappointment of the *eigel*, one has to fully appreciate what should have happened and what could have been. Of course, to leave the spiritual heights of Sinai and find oneself in the abyss of the *eigel*, whatever it was and wherever it came from, is the event that we never end probing and testing our ability to understand. But here is another angle that should not get lost: what did we deserve to have? What should we strive to recover? What does a *mamleches kohanim*, untainted and on course, look like?

It is those questions that must forever accompany the study of this *parsha*. The *mishkan*, the *parsha* that according to Rashi was given to us after the *eigel* tragedy, precedes it in the written Torah record. Truth be told we envision the *mishkan*, sans *cheit hoeigel*, as solidly and closely connected to each and every family thru the first born of the family, all scheduled for *mishkan* service. After the *cheit hoeigel* the *mishkan* "belonged" to one *shevet* which intercedes for every other non-levite.

We were supposed to have a readily accessible view of Hashem's miraculous handwriting: letters hanging without support, and words engraved in stone that can be read from both sides! All of this to help us become a people among whom the presence of Hashem was palpable! And these are not just the records of what was lost, rather they are testament to a potential - in concept though not in its detailed form - waiting to be regained.

This all may be well summarized by the pithy and encouraging thought of Rav Nachman of Breslov, "if it is possible to ruin, then it is possible to fix."

Rabbi Yaakov Neuburger

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