



Congregation Ahavat Shalom

The ACHDUS NEWSLETTER
www.ahavatshalomteaneck.com

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Parshat Vayakhel

Volume: 19, Issue: 31 | March 1-2, 2019

Adar Aleph 24

Rabbi Yehuda Halpert

Shabbat day: 41°, Snow to Rain (Guck!)

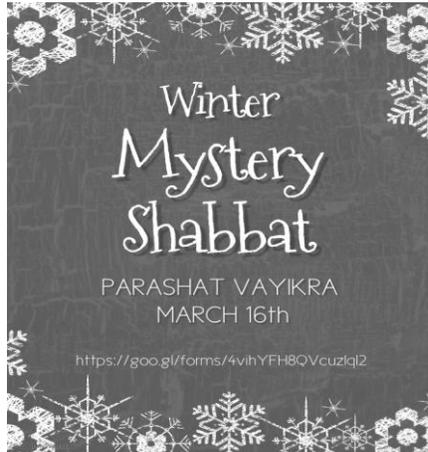
Shabbat Times

Friday, March 1	
Candle Lighting:	5:29 PM
Mincha/Maariv:	5:30 PM
Shabbat, March 2	
Shacharit:	9:00 AM
Kriyat Shema:	9:19 AM
Mincha /Shalosh Seudot:	5:20 PM
Shkiya:	5:48 PM
Maariv:	6:24 PM
Havdalah:	6:29 PM
Next Friday, March 8	
Candle Lighting:	5:38 PM
Mincha/Maariv:	5:40 PM



Weather Report: Friday night 32°, Snow (1-3" expected)

Kiddush This Week: Our Monthly Rosh Chodesh Kiddush will be this week following davening in honor of Shabbat Mevarchim!



Mishloach Manot are are! Purim is three weeks away!!! As we have done in the past, Ahavat Shalom will be coordinating our Mishloach Manot Program! Sign up now to send Mishloach Manot to your friends in the community! Each basket costs \$10 or you can send to the whole shul for \$100! Using the form below, you can select specific families that you would like to send to or to the entire shul. On Purim, each member household will receive their Mishloach Manot from the shul, along with a list of all the people that contributed to their Mishloach Manot! The deadline to submit a FORM AND PAYMENT is MARCH 10TH, 2019 at 11:59 PM! If you don't see your friend(s) on the list, encourage them to join and become members too! Link:

<https://goo.gl/forms/7wYonDPly5gI3Cy92>

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/4vihYFHSQVcuzIq12>. For more information, reach out to Yael Wine or Deena Bernstein!

Rabbi Halpert's Availability

Rabbi Yehuda Halpert will be here: 3/9, 3/16.
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

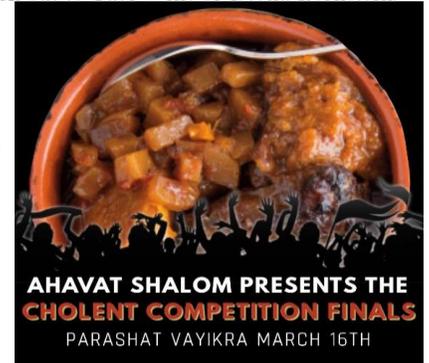
Groups for children ages 2-4 will be located in Room 3 from 9:45am - 11:00am. Morah Shira and Morah Melissa, two Yeshivat Noam teachers, will supervise. Toys and books will be provided by Yeshivat Noam. We ask parents to please send your child with a snack. Signup is on the website.

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.

Fundraising Appeal - The Raising Awareness Seminars are a new lecture series launched by our Chesed Committee to raise awareness and decrease stigma about very important issues in the Jewish community. Our first 2 seminars were wonderful successes! In order to enable future events, the Chesed 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!



NitzSunday Funday - Join Nitzanei Noam Nursery school for a Sunday Funday program for all children 18 months through 3 year old on Sunday March 3rd, 2019. Play-Draw-Sing & Dance and Snack with Morah Elana Kessler and Nitzanei Noam teachers on Sunday, March 3rd from 9:30am to 11:15am at Congregation Bnai Yeshurun, Teaneck.

Join Yeshivat Noam as we recognize Guests of Honor, Tamar & Ross Rothenberg, Community Service Awardees, Ariela & Ruby Herman and the Faculty Awardees, Deena Lewin and Becky Weisberg at the Chai Anniversary Annual Dinner on Wednesday night, March 6th. Every dollar will go to delivering educational excellence and providing financial scholarships. To make a donation and/or reservation, contact Amy Vogel, 201-261-1919 x126 or go to www.yeshivatnoam.org

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

Jordan Kadry
Vice President
FM Home Loans, LLC
(516) 456-3842
jkadry@fmm.com
NMLS ID# 1206628

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.



Maintaining the True Beauty of the *Mishkan*

The construction of the *Mishkan* is the culmination of *Sefer Shemos*. As the Ramban notes in his introduction to *Shemos*, this is the Book of Redemption. Once the presence of Hashem rests upon the Jewish People through the vehicle of the *Mishkan*, the redemptive process of *yetzias* Mitzrayim is complete. The role of the *Mishkan* was already mentioned as the miracles associated with *yetzias* Mitzrayim came to an end. Following *krias* Yam Suf, the song composed by Moshe and the Jewish people ends with the words, "You Hashem will establish your sanctuary." As fundamental to *yetzias* Mitzrayim as the *Mishkan* is, there is another institution in Jewish life that is also integral to *yetzias* Mitzrayim and even has greater significance than the *Mishkan*. *Parshas Vayakhel* begins with the commandment to observe Shabbos. By introducing the actual construction of the *Mishkan* with a reference to Shabbos, we are taught that the *Mishkan* cannot be built on Shabbos. Shabbos is a *zecher* L'*yetzias* Mitzrayim and the *Mishkan* culminates *yetzias* Mitzrayim, yet Shabbos takes precedence over *Mishkan*. How do we understand the relationship between these two pillars of Jewish life?

The *Mishkan* is not only mentioned at the end of the *Az Yashir*, but it is also referenced in the beginning. "*Zeh Keli V'anvehu*" opens the song celebrating the miracle of *krias* Yam Suf. There are several interpretations of the ambiguous word, "*V'anvehu*." *Chazal* in *Meseches* Shabbos interpreted it as referring to *hiddur mitzvah*, the beautifying of the objects used for *mitzvah* observance. The Targum interprets the word as relating to constructing the *Mishkan*. These interpretations complement one another. *Hiddur mitzvah* of the highest order was practiced in the construction of the *Mishkan*. The elaborate details that encompass the *parshios* that deal with the *Mishkan* help create *Hiddur Mitzvah* of the highest order was practiced in the construction of the *Mishkan*. The elaborate details that encompass the *parshios* that deal with the *Mishkan* help to create a beautiful structure. The *Mishkan* and later the *Beis Hamikdash* were stunning works of art, a true expression of *hiddur mitzvah*. Why is *hiddur Mitzvah* so important? Why can't we simply perform *mitzvos* in a way that satisfies all *halachik* requirements, but not necessarily in a beautiful fashion? *Hiddurmitzvah* is an expression of *ahavas* Hashem. A gift that is presented to someone who one loves is done so with special care and attention to detail that expresses that love. When we don't want to do something, we do it in a way to simply get by. *Hiddur mitzvah* is one way we show our love for Hashem and the *mitzvos* He has given us.

There is a third interpretation of the word "*v'anvehu*" that encompasses the feelings that the Jewish people had for Hashem at the time of *krias* Yam Suf. *Chazal* in *meseches* Shabbos suggest that "*v'anvehu*" is related to the words, "*Ani V'hu*", "I and him." The Jewish people praised Hashem by saying that they wanted to emulate him. By following in Hashem's ways, we express our complete love and devotion towards Him. We imitate those whom we admire. There are many ways we emulate Hashem, such as being kind, patient, and forgiving. There is one *mitzvah* that the very essence of which is to follow in Hashem's ways. We observe Shabbos just as Hashem observed the first Shabbos, following *yetzias* Mitzrayim, as we became His Nation. What greater way to express our following in His ways than to observe His Shabbos. As we construct a beautiful *Mishkan* for Hashem's Presence to dwell in, our ultimate goal is to express our love for Him. What greater way to declare this love than by observing His Shabbos? A *Mishkan* that would be built on Shabbos would be nothing more than a fancy man-made structure that did not demonstrate our love for Hashem. As we build an exquisite *Mishkan* to fulfill "*V'anvehu*," we reach the culmination of *yetzias* Mitzrayim. We do so by first observing Shabbos as we follow the model of our Beloved who rested on Shabbos. By doing so, our beautiful *Mishkan* is truly our expression of *Ahavas* Hashem!

Rabbi Zvi Sobolofsky

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