



# Congregation Ahavat Shalom

The ACHDUS NEWSLETTER  
www.ahavatshalomteaneck.com

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Parshat Emor

Volume: 19, Issue: 42 | May 17-18, 2019

Iyar 12-13

Rabbi Yehuda Halpert

Assistant Rabbi David Schlusberg

Shabbat day: 74°, Partly Cloudy

## Shabbat Times



<b>Friday, May 17</b>	
Mincha/Maariv:	7:15 PM
Candle Lighting:	7:50 PM
<b>Shabbat, May 18</b>	
Shacharit:	9:00 AM
Kriyat Shema:	9:14 AM
Mincha /Shalosh Seudot:	7:40 PM
Shkiya:	8:09 PM
Maariv:	8:52 PM
Havdalah:	8:57 PM
<b>Next Friday, May 24</b>	
Mincha/Maariv:	7:15 PM
Candle Lighting:	7:56 PM

**Weather Report:** Friday night 54°, Partly Cloudy

Welcome to Dov Stokar who recently moved into Terrace Circle!

**UPDATE: CAS Community Security Campaign** - The board is truly moved and is appreciative for all those that took place to come forward and assist with this urgent campaign. Baruch Hashem, **we have raised more than the initial goal thanks to all the awesome people who generously gave.** We will continue to have the campaign up through the end of the month to allow those who weren't able to give and can, some time to do so. We thank all those who came forward to help ensure our shul remains our shul. **For those who haven't been able to come forward yet, we ask that if you can, you please do so.** This is our shul, and you can't spell our without yoU. Doantions can be made on the campaign website at <https://donate.thechesedfund.com/cause/congregation-ahavat-shalom-security>. **Tizku l'Mitzvot!**

**To continue this necessary campaign, we have another anonymous sponsor that has agreed to graciously match the next \$360 raised by Friday, May 24th!!!**

**Sisterhood Cookbook Club:** Please join the Ahavat Shalom Sisterhood for a Special Shavuot Addition of the cookbook club open to both men and women of the community. Please make your favorite Shavuot Dish to share with the community as well as a copy of the delicious recipe. The event will take place on **May 20th @ 8:00pm** in the home of Melissa & Ariel Kirshenbaum 1485 E. Terrace Circle, Apt. # 2. RSVP: <http://forms.gle/rIDY6hvn0LSLmYZj9>

**Amud Yomi** - Finding time during the day to learn can be an extremely difficult task, especially for those in the workforce. Without a chavrusa to motivate you to show up, it can be difficult to commit to setting aside time. While the worldwide Daf Yomi program has had incredible success in this endeavor, many of us might still find difficulty keeping up and drop it altogether. For anyone that is interested, amudyomi.com is on a schedule to complete Shas in 15 years (Daf Yomi = shas in 7.5 years; 1 amud = 0.5 daf; Amud Yomi = shas in 15 years; math is fun!). This is a great opportunity to incorporate learning into your daily life! If you have any interest in doing this alongside like-minded individuals within our community, please reach out to Ami Kirschner for more details. He can be reached via email: [amikirschner@gmail.com](mailto:amikirschner@gmail.com) or on his cell: (347) 233-1180.

**Origami Workshop** - Just in time for Shavuot, come join Yaacov Metzger as he continues his free Origami workshop series with "Tulips in a Flowerpot" You will have two chances to catch this workshop at Congregation Beth Aaron. The first one will be on Sunday, May 19, at 5:00 p.m. The workshop will be repeated on Memorial Day, Monday, May 27, at 10:00 a.m. Both adults and children are welcome; children aged 8 or under require parental participation. Register at [www.bethaaron.org/event/TulipOrigami](http://www.bethaaron.org/event/TulipOrigami).

**Torah Opportunity:** Yeshivat Noam's Latte and Learn, May 21st, and Tuesday, May 28th at 9:30 am with Dr. Alex Mondrow children's mental health. A light breakfast will be served. **Additionally,** The Yeshivat Noam's Parent Education Committee presents: an inspiring lecture by Jill Friedbauer "From Hopeless to Healthy: My Journey to Heal my Soul and Heal my Gut" on May 22nd at 8:30 p.m. The lecture is open to the wider community. Please email [PSP@yeshivatnoam.org](mailto:PSP@yeshivatnoam.org) for the exact address.

**5K for Yavneh** - Yavneh Academy will be hosting the 14th Annual Benjamin Schwartz Memorial 5K Run and 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk at the Garden State Plaza in Paramus on Sunday morning, May 19. For more information please visit [www.yavnehacademy.org](http://www.yavnehacademy.org)



## Rabbi Halpert's Availability

Rabbi Yehuda Halpert will be here: 5/18, 6/1.

He can be reached via email at [RabbiYehudaHalpert@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## Rabbi Schlusberg's Contact Info

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

## 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](http://ahavatshalomteaneck.com/movingin) for more information.



**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!

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**MORTGAGE ADVANTAGE PROGRAM**

**Jordan Kadry**  
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\*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.



## Omer: Hashem's Measure of Love

We are all familiar with the *mitzvah* (*Sefer Hachinuch*, *mitzvas aseh* 306) of counting the *omer*. To the Rambam this *mitzvah* is still considered a biblical obligation while according to the Rosh and Shulchan Aruch and others, because we do not yet have the *korban omer* the counting nowadays is a rabbinic *mitzvah*, *zecher l'mikdash* - a reminder as to what we had, and please G-d will have.

What is an Omer? The first time this term is used in the Torah is (*Shemos* 16:16) when the *mon* descended in the desert and Moshe conveyed the Divine instruction that each individual was to gather an *omer* per person each day, the *omer* being an amount that satiated each person. The last verse in that chapter informs us that an *omer* is a tenth of an *ephah* which is the volume of approximately forty two and a half eggs (it is a dry measure.)

There is a theme in the Torah that repeats itself many times, namely, the consecration of firsts. The first born son is to be redeemed after thirty days. The produce that grows in the land of Israel cannot be eaten until the land owner designates the *terumah* (i.e. first) portion for the *kohein* and to the Levi, his tenth known as *ma'aser*. Thus, the annual bringing of an *omer* measure of barley in the Temple on the second day of *Pesach* as an expression of appreciation to Hashem for His giving us the barley crop is most understandable, and fits into the established pattern. What is rather perplexing is that this offering is referred to as the *korban omer*, as if the specific amount of barley brought played a significant role in this offering. Moreover, the Torah uses the term *omer* three additional times in *Parshas Emor* teaching 1) that the *omer* of barley is to be waved on the second day of *Pesach* 2) that in addition to the waving of the Omer a lamb is to be offered 3) that the *mitzvah* of counting, bridging the two holidays of *Pesach* and *Shavuot*, is to begin on the day you bring the Omer of waving. It seems most strange that the Torah should place such emphasis on what appears at first glance to be a very minor detail, i.e. how much barley (an *omer's* worth) constituted the offering.

Rav Yosef Salant *zt"l*, in his work *B'aer Yosef*, provides a most exciting response to this question. He says the Torah is calling attention to the *mon* by referring to the *korban* of thanksgiving for the barley crop as a *korban omer*. How so? He notes, as the Talmud (*Taanis* 9a) teaches, that the *mun* descended in merit of Moshe, and thus it ceased on the seventh of *Adar* in the fortieth year which was the day of Moshe's passing. The last portion of *mon* which the Jews received nourished them for the thirty day period of mourning for Moshe, for three additional days as they prepared to cross the *Yardain* river, and through the fifteenth *Nissan*, i.e. the first day of *Pesach*. On the second day of *Pesach* they began to eat from the produce of the land of Israel (see *Yehoshua* 5:11). It is thus understandable that to mark this transition from relying on *mon* to eating the produce of the land of Israel we bring an *omer's* worth of barley each year on the second day of *Pesach* in appreciation for the many *omer* of *mon* that had nourished us throughout our stay in the desert until the second of *Pesach* the year we entered Israel.

Moreover, since it was the *mon* taught us to have total reliance and faith in Hashem, that He is the provider of their sustenance, now that we would be planting and harvesting and deriving our food from the ground, and not from the sky, we could easily come to believe, "my strength and the might of my hand made me all this wealth" (*Devarim* 8:17.) Thus, the Torah said on that this day of transition bring an *omer* of barley to remember our daily sustenance of an *omer* of *mon*, for ultimately there is no difference between *lechem min hashomayim* and *lechem min ha-artz* (bread made in heaven or that which sprouts forth from the earth.)

Rav Salant quotes the *Medrash* (*Vayikra Rabba* 28:3) in which Rabbi Berachya taught that Hashem directed Moshe to tell *Bnei Yisrael* that while Hashem in His generosity provided an *omer* per person in the desert, when we reciprocate and bring an *omer* to Him, it is but one *omer* on behalf of the entire nation, not an *omer* per person.

I believe if one takes the time to calculate the discrepancy between Hashem's generosity to us and our reciprocation, the numbers are astounding. There were approximately two million Jews in the desert (the Torah informs us there were six hundred thousand men between twenty and fifty, roughly an equal number of women, and when one adds in the young and older members of the community there must have been roughly two million Jews.) Thus, each week Hashem "special delivered" fourteen million *omer* of *mon* to the Jews; monthly, they received fifty six million; annually six hundred and seventy two million; over forty years they received approximately twenty six billion, eight hundred and eighty million portions of Omer of *mon*. And all He asks in return is one Omer of barley! The message is so powerfully penetrating: He gives us so much, and asks so little in return.

Rabbi Benjamin Yudin

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