



# Congregation Ahavat Shalom

The ACHDUS  
NEWSLETTER  
www.ahavatshalomteaneck.com

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

Parshat Ki Tavo

Volume: 19, Issue: 5 | August 31 - September 1, 2018

Elul 21

Rabbi Yehuda Halpert

## Shabbat Times



Friday, August 31	
Candle Lighting:	7:13 PM
Mincha/Maariv:	7:15 PM
Shabbat, September 1	
Shacharit:	9:00 AM
Kriyat Shema:	9:39 AM
Mincha /Shalosh	
Seudot:	7:00 PM
Shkiya:	7:29 PM
Maariv:	8:06 PM
Havdalah:	8:11 PM
Next Friday, September 7	
Candle Lighting:	7:01 PM
Mincha/Maariv:	7:15 PM

**Weather Report:** Friday night: 68°, Cloudy

Shabbat day: 75°, Showers

**Welcome** - Margalit & Yoni Lewis, and Sarah & Avidan Rothman who recently moved into the community!

**Selichot** - will be this Motzei Shabbat at shul beginning at 12:55 AM.

**Rosh Hashana** - We are once again be partnering with Beth Aaron to assist members of our community that are staying in the area for Rosh Hashana. As in the past, our community members will be offered half-price tickets to Beth Aaron. If you are interested, please reach out to Judi Resnick at (201) 836-6210 or [office@bethaaron.org](mailto:office@bethaaron.org).

**Yom Kippur** - As in the past, we will be having a minyan over Yom Kippur! If you plan to be here for Yom Kippur, pricing will be \$25/seat for members and \$45/seat for non-members. The signup link is live as of this week and can be found at [www.ahavatshalomteaneck.com/yomkippur2018](http://www.ahavatshalomteaneck.com/yomkippur2018). Additionally, babysitting will be offered during the day for an additional \$20/child for children 1.5 to 4. Please make sure to sign up on the website!

**Ahavat Shalom Membership for 2018-2019!** The link will be live! It can be found at [www.ahavatshalomteaneck.com/ahavatshalommembership](http://www.ahavatshalomteaneck.com/ahavatshalommembership). The new membership year begins on September 1st. Early Bird Specials of \$150/person or \$300/household will be available until Rosh Hashanah. As soon you dip your apples in honey the price changes to \$165/person and \$330/household. There will be additional options to add to your membership, explained as follows:

- **Kiddush Fund** - \$25. This helps cover the cost of kiddushim throughout the year. This year, we will be rolling out some great new kiddush plans!

- **Welcome Baskets** - \$10. This helps cover the cost of providing welcome baskets to everyone that moves into our community!

- **Mikvah Fund** - \$20 suggested minimum donation. This is an optional donation in any amount that goes towards maintenance of the Teaneck Mikvah. Every \$20 donated covers the cost of assisting someone who cannot afford it to perform this important mitzva h.

## Rabbi Halpert's Availability

Rabbi Yehuda Halpert will be here next week: 9:8.

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

There will be no groups this week. If you know anyone who is ready and willing to lead groups over the summer, please reach out to Ben at [presidentahavatshalom@gmail.com](mailto:presidentahavatshalom@gmail.com).

## 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.



**Arba Minim** - Eli Baum will be selling lulav and etrog sets this year. A portion of your purchase will be donated to the shul when you mention Ahavat Shalom. Additional discount available to paid Ahavat Shalom members for the 2018-2019 year. Pricing starts at \$55 per set.

**SAVE THE DATES!** Our next Meet n' Greet will take place next Shabbat, September 8th at 3:30pm by 102 Walraven's Terrace!

**Additionally**, the annual Ahavat Shalom Simchat Torah luncheon will take place on Tuesday, October 2nd with a Mexican fiesta twist! More details on both to follow!

**NEW COMMITTEE!** Ahavat Shalom will be organizing a Singles' Shabbaton and are looking for volunteers to join the committee. If you are interested, please reach out to Deena Bernstein ASAP!



**Rabbi Yitzchok Weinberger will check tefillin and mezuzot** on Labor Day, this Monday, September 3, and on Tuesday, September 4, at Congregation Beth Aaron. There will be a box in the shul lobby where tefillin and mezuzot can be left, and another where Rabbi Weinberger will place checked items. Every effort will be made to provide same-day service. The cost is \$90 for a full examination of tefillin, \$25 for an external examination, and \$11 per mezuzah. Checks should be made out to Congregation Beth Aaron. You can sign up in advance at <http://www.cjid.org/beth-aaron-mezuzah-checking.html> or simply come to Beth Aaron.

**Chesed Opportunity** - On Sunday, September 16, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at Congregation Shaare Tefillah, 510 Claremont Avenue, there will be a Blood Drive. Sign up in advance at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org), with the sponsor code "Shaare Tefillah." Thanks to the generosity of the Red Cross and Chopstix, all donors will receive a free oil change at Bovan's Auto Service in Cliffside Park, a \$5 Chopstix certificate, and a free hair cut voucher for Sport Clips.

## 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)



**Zeevyah Benoff**  
Sales Associate  
NJAR CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE  
SALES AWARD - 2015  
C: 201.956.0208  
O: 201.992.3500  
[Zeevyah@LinksNJ.com](mailto:Zeevyah@LinksNJ.com)



**Stuart Greenbaum**  
Mortgage Banker NMLS# 279221  
Mortgage Banking | Chase  
170 The Plaza, Teaneck NJ 07666  
C: 201.694.4677 | F: 844.232.5274  
[stuart.greenbaum@chase.com](mailto:stuart.greenbaum@chase.com)



## MORTGAGE ADVANTAGE PROGRAM



**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  
FM Home Loans, LLC  
(516) 456-3842  
[jkadry@fmm.com](mailto:jkadry@fmm.com)  
NMLS ID# 1206628





The Purpose of the Excursion

There is a famous parable for Elul, comparing it to a king strolling in his field, and anyone can approach him. This *moshol* is quoted as if it were a *midrash*; but it is not. [There is a *midrash* that the Tur brings about a group of people preempting the king, by coming to him while he's travelling, but its intent is quite different.]. It is a *moshol* of the Baal Hatanya [*Likutei Torah Reeh*].

On the surface of it, the parable seems to not have much content. It is simply a somewhat vague metaphor for having an easier way in with the king. But why would this be so? Why **don't we** need to make an appointment with the king at his palace like everyone else? What prompted the royal stroll?

Let us take a closer look at his words:

"Why are the *yud gimmel middos* revealed during Elul, though they are a very high revelation suitable mainly for Yom Kippur? One can compare it to a king who before he arrives in the town, is accessible to everyone and he is friendly with them. When the king goes to the city, **they then follow him**. And once he is in his palace they need permission to enter..."

I think that the words "they then follow him" are the crucial words. For although one needs special permission to enter the palace, these poor peasants are so far removed from the refinement of the monarchy that they lack any interest to even make an appointment to see the king. What does the king do? He extends himself undeservedly to them, so that they gain some sense of what he is. When their interest is aroused, and their passions are excited, they follow the king to his palace. And now they must deserve to enter.

If you wish, this is actually a *passuk* in *Shir Hashirim*. In the fifth *perek* there is a description of the king's beloved having become tired of the king. He begs her to open the door, and she replies that she is tired and has gone to sleep. He then puts his hand through the keyhole, and she begins yearning for him. But now he is gone, and she must spend the rest of her time pursuing him.

This is the same dynamic. A beloved has lost interest, and unless that interest is aroused again, she/he will never even bother to pursue the king.

The point of the Baal Hatanya's parable is that for the process of *din* to be meaningful, a desire must first be aroused in the populace to achieve closeness to Hashem. Thus, Elul is a time when Hashem grants us -undeservedly - a rush of spirituality. This is not the real spirituality, for real spirituality comes only by dint of effort. It is meant to draw us out of our beds of comfort, to begin following the king to his palace. And at the palace we must show ourselves deserving

By: Rabbi Ahron Lopiansky

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Mortgage Banker NMLS# 279221  
Mortgage Banking | Chase  
170 The Plaza, Teaneck NJ 07666  
C: 201.694.4677 | F: 844.232.5274  
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