



Congregation Ahavat Shalom

The ACHDUS
NEWSLETTER
www.ahavatshalomteaneck.com

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Parshat Beha'alotcha

Volume: 18, Issue: 44 | June 1-2, 2018

Sivan 19

Rabbi Yehuda Halpert

Shabbat Times



Friday, June 1	
Mincha/Maariv:	7:15 PM
Candle Lighting:	8:03 PM
Shabbat, June 2	
Shacharit:	9:00 AM
Kriyat Shema:	9:10 AM
Mincha / Shalosh	
Seudot:	7:45 PM
Shkiya:	8:22 PM
Maariv:	9:07 PM
Shabbat Ends:	9:12 PM
Next Friday, June 8	
Mincha/Maariv:	7:15 PM
Candle Lighting:	8:08 PM

Weather Report Friday night: 70°, Warm and humid

Shabbat day: 82°, Showers and T-storms

Mazel Tov - to Leora, Spence and Ayelet Weitzen on the birth of a baby girl, Yakira Tamar!

Ahavat Shalom Shabbat Gemara Chabura - Ahavat Shalom's men's Gemara Chabura will continue on Shabbat morning at 8:30 AM in the shul, led by Ian Mark. There is no required level of Gemara knowledge. For more information, please contact Ariel Kirshenbaum at akirshenbaum3@gmail.com.

Parent & Me - Kids 0-2 (too young for groups). The program will take place in Room 6 from 10:00 A.M. until the end of davening. Come sing songs, play with toys and schmooze with other parents. Please provide your own snacks and be sensitive to nut allergies. Hope to see you there! (Moms and Dads welcome!) Just a reminder to please help clean up when you leave.

Meet the Secemski's! (Well, two of them...) Dina and Moshe Secemski moved into the community following their wedding this past January. Dina is studying for her Masters in speech language pathology at Hunter. Moshe is a Financial Advisor at Summit Financial Resources specializing in investment and insurance planning. Being the pioneer that he is, Moshe was the third Secemski to move into terrace circle this past year. Dina is known for being a great singer, stemming from her starring role when she was in the Ramaz chamber choir. In their spare time, Dina and Moshe enjoy watching movies, spending Sunday mornings at Lazy Bean and driving around Teaneck looking for parking.



Women's Seudah Shlishit! Come one, come all (women) to Ahavat Shalom's first ever women's only Seudah Shlishit! There will be food and games hosted at the home of Yael Wine, 110 Ayers Court, #2A at 4:30 PM!

2018-2019 Board Nominations - Boy, has it been a great year! That said, nominations for the 2018-2019 Ahavat Shalom Board are open! If you think someone would be a great representative, please fill out the nomination form at this link, which can be accessed at: <http://www.ahavatshalomteaneck.com/20182019boardnominations> or under the "About Us" section of the website. Additionally, you can send your nominations directly to presidentahavatshalom@gmail.com. If you would like to get involved, please have someone nominate you. The deadline to submit nominations is Sunday, June 10, 2018 at 11:59 PM. Looking forward to another amazing year ahead!

Chesed Committee - The Chesed Committee's Community Resource Initiative is open for business! If there is anyone in need of professional services, please reach out to chesed@teaneckapartments.com. Thanks to the generous members of our community, we have set up a professional network to assist you with your professional needs. All correspondence will remain virtually anonymous. If there are any professionals in the community who are willing to donate some time and/or professional resources, please reach out as well.

Looking to buy a home? Are you looking to buy a home in the next two years? Please join Ahavat Shalom and FM Home Loans' Jordan (Yishai) Kadry on June 10th at 10:30 AM for a First Time Home Buyers' seminar. An exclusive event providing potential home buyers with an in-depth look at home buying that is designed to help plan for the unexpected and avoid many pitfalls first-time buyers encounter.

Looking for some laughs? London based Orthodox Jewish comedian Ashley Blaker is flying into NY for 5 weeks from May 27 to June 28 and will be performing his unique one-man comedy show on Broadway. Join us for this special, once-in-a-generation opportunity to see an orthodox Jewish comedian on Broadway! Tickets for Ashley's show cost \$43. Contact sisterhood@teaneckapartments.com if you are interested! Depending on the interest, we may be able to get a group discount.

Baseball @ Beth Aaron - Next Shabbat, June 2, at 6:55 p.m., and on Shabbat, June 9, at 7:00 p.m., at Congregation Beth Aaron, Mark Sommer will discuss "The Boychicks of Summer: Jewish Aspects of Baseball." On June 2, the topic will be "Jewish Aspects of Baseball," and on June 9, "Extra Innings." The program is sponsored by the Men's Club. Mark is a member of the Society for American Baseball Research, the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, and the Vintage Base Ball Association.

Congregation Ahavat Shalom Board Members 2017-2018

President: Ben Wine **Vice Presidents:** Alex Daitech | Ariel Kirshenbaum | Yosef Chai Klein | Evan Rottenstreich **Secretary:** Eli Baum **Treasurer:** Yonatan Isser

Sisterhood: Melissa Kirshenbaum | Sam Locke **Gabbaim:** Dani Weinberger | Steven Lowinger | Benjy Lebowitz | Adam Ehrenreich

We welcome your input! Please send your newsletter announcements by Wednesday.

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

Rabbi Halpert's Availability

Rabbi Yehuda Halpert will be here: 6/2. 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, let Yosef Chai Klein or Yael Wine know! Check out ahavatshalomteaneck.com/movingin for more information.



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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

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The Menorah: Symbol of Unity

I

“When you kindle the lamps towards the face (the center, Rashi) of the menorah the seven lamps will shine” (*Bamidbar* 8:2). The conventional interpretation groups the middle phrase – “toward the face of the menorah” – together with the end of the *passuk*, placing a comma after the introductory phrase - “when you kindle the lamps.” The Seforno, however, disagrees. He combines these aforementioned first and second phrases and inserts two explanatory words, as follows: “When you kindle the (six) lamps toward the center of the menorah, (then) the seven lamps will shine.” The right candles represent those who deal with eternal life. i.e. learning Torah. The left candles represent those who deal with temporal life, i.e. earning a livelihood, who help those who learn Torah. Both must intend to fulfill Hashem’s desire and exalt His name together, just as they accepted, “The entire people responded together and said ‘Everything that Hashem said we shall do’” (*Shemos* 19:8), i.e. between all of us we will complete His intention.

The Seforno quotes the Gemara (*Chulin* 92a) that compares *Am Yisrael* to a grapevine. The branches are earners (*ba’alei batim*) who support the poor and the government so that their brothers can survive (Rashi). The clusters (grapes) are the Torah scholars, and the leaves are the masses (*amei ha’aretz*) who produce the food that Torah scholars eat (Rashi). Let the clusters pray for the leaves, for if not for the leaves the clusters would not survive. Even though the masses work for their own benefit, the Torah scholars should be grateful and pray for them (Be’er Yitzchak).

The status of earners who work in order to support Torah is much higher than that of the masses. “Rejoice, Zevulun, when you go out (for trade, Rashi) and Yissachar in your tents” (*Devarim* 33:18). Zevulun earned and supported Yissachar, who learned Torah. Zevulun precedes Yissachar since Yissachar’s Torah was made possible by Zevulun. The Seforno’s reference to the masses includes them in the unified *Am Yisrael* as well. The Seforno adds that the reason the menorah must be made from a single block of gold (8:4, see Rashi) is to teach that unity is the purpose of lighting the menorah.

II

Aharon felt badly that neither he nor his *shevet* (Levi) were with the *nesi'im* who brought *korbanos* to dedicate the *mizbeach*. Hashem said to him “Yours is greater than theirs, because you kindle the lamps” Why is Aharon’s role greater?

The *Eim Habanim S’meicha* (p. 497) explains that preservation is more important than construction. Preserving the *Mishkan* and the *Beis Hamikdash* depends on peaceful coexistence between all segments of *Am Yisrael*. Aharon, who loved and pursued peace (*Avos* 1:12), lit the lamps of the menorah, which, as Seforno explains, represents unity. Unity is especially critical when we face mortal danger (the *sefer* was written in Budapest in 1943). Torah Jews must maintain their religious observance but can unite with all Jews in *Yishuv Eretz Yisrael* (*ibid* p. 500).

The Rav *zt”l* expresses a similar idea (The Day - Jewish Journal November 12, 1954 pg. 6). Torah Jews may and must cooperate with all Jews to defend the Jewish people and land against outside forces (*k’lapei chutz*). But there may not be joint religious activities with groups that deny the fundamentals of Torah belief and practice (*k’lapei p’nim*).

Striking the proper balance between unity and separation involving various groups and sub-groups is difficult, and, itself, the subject of dispute. We must, like Aharon, love and pursue peace, love all creatures and bring them close to Torah (*Avos* 1:12) while simultaneously safeguarding our Torah heritage and transmitting it to our children. May we succeed in both endeavors and thereby hasten the day when the menorah will be lit in the rebuilt *Beis Hamikdash*.

By: Rabbi Mordechai Willig

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