

REKINDLED BY LIGHTS

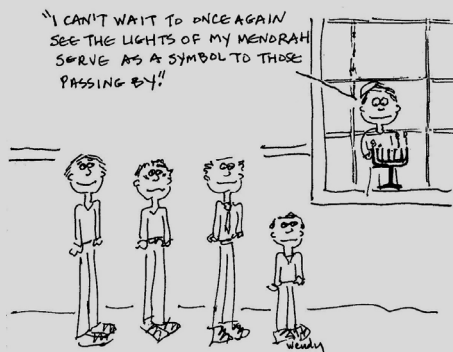
Emanuel Zareh

Chanukah has always been a holiday of mixed emotions for me. Growing up as an only child, I remember playing dreidel by myself during afternoons after school on the floor of my tiny bedroom in my grandfather's house. You see, I grew up in a household of modest means and spent most of my childhood alone, as my mom, a single parent, worked while my grandparents raised me. The feelings I felt during the evenings of Chanukah were also mixed. I enjoyed singing songs while lighting the menorah with my grandfather, but I often felt frustrated by the gifts, or lack thereof, as we concluded the evening rituals. I am sure that I am not alone in having had these feelings as a child. In hindsight, however, I am now grateful for whatever my family could scrape together. But as a child, Chanukah meant loneliness, and reinforced my financial insecurities, especially when compared to my more affluent peers at the private Jewish school that I attended.

As a teenager and during my college years, my religious association drifted. While I held leadership positions in the Jewish community at my college, that was more of a social experience. On my own, Chanukah lost its importance. I was the typical wandering Jew, struggling with religious meaning, especially after my grandfather passed away during my junior year. The connection weakened further after I returned to New York City following my graduation, when I focussed on my social life more than anything else. It was time wasted for sure, but it was actually part of a maturation process.

My religious experience, especially the celebration of Chanukah, took on new and more significant meaning when I entered Lincoln Square Synagogue and met Rabbi Buchwald and Rabbi Robinson. Encouraged by a dear cousin of mine to come and wrap *teffilin* every Thursday morning, I felt reinvigorated and sought to learn more and be more present in religious life. Interestingly, Chanukah took on new meaning before any other holiday.

It was my first year after business school. My job at a hedge fund evaporated (the hedge fund closed). It was during the teeth of the "Great Recession," and job prospects looked very dim. At the



same time, I exited a long-term relationship. All this occurred in the weeks just before Chanukah. Talk about making things worse between me and a holiday!

Interestingly, it was at this time that I decided to return "home." In what might have appeared a random chance, I noticed a quote from the book of Isaiah - "Return to Me for I will redeem you." Feeling in need of redemption, I went back to Lincoln Square Synagogue.

As I entered Lincoln Square Synagogue one evening, I saw the Chanukah lights. I had not even known that it was Chanukah! Seeing the lights, I remembered my childhood - but the good parts, the parts where my grandfather and I would light and sing songs. I no longer felt sorry for myself for being alone and not getting presents. Instead, I realized that I had denied myself the many joys of Chanukah for years. Soon after, I ran to a local store, bought my first Menorah and lit it for the first time. As I viewed the lights glowing in my window overlooking Columbus Avenue, my soul had a sense of redemption.

This Chanukah season, I once again find myself at an interesting turning point in life. I have many unanswered feelings, emotions, and questions about the direction I need to go. My faith, however, although being tested time and again, is not wavering. I now realize that the path to Providence is uneven. There have been, to be honest, many missteps along my path to living a life guided by Torah principles - especially in personal relationships with people I love. Nevertheless, I can't wait until Chanukah - to once again see the lights of my menorah light up my apartment and serve as a symbol to those passing by on Columbus Avenue that here lives a proud Jew.

These lights will also remind me of what it means to live as a Jew. I may stumble, but I am aided by my hope in G-d to make this holiday, and every day, a positive turning point in life - for I seek to be redeemed by returning to Him.

Emanuel Zareh grew up in an Iranian family from the town of Shushan (from the holiday of Purim) and now lives on the Upper West Side. He attended Colgate University and Harvard Business School, and currently works at a hedge fund.

CONGRATULATIONS AND MAZAL TOV

ENGAGEMENTS

Lana Kalickstein and Steven Friedman
Megan Quattlebaum and Ben Klein
Julia Vosler and Robert Rossy
Henny Zaretzky and Abraham Gilman
Mazal Tov to mother, Chana Gilman



MARRIAGES

Sarit Ickovics and Yonatan Tannenbaum
Mazal Tov to parents, Karen and Alain Ickovics

BIRTHS

Rivka and David Gorin, on the birth of a daughter,
Chana Bracha
Chava and Yosef Maccaba, on the birth of a daughter,
Sara
Linda and Joshua Reich, on the birth of a son,
Noam Joseph Zev
Mazal Tov to grandparents, Joan and Stephen Reich

BAR/BAT MITZVAH

Moshe Wolff
Mazal Tov to parents, Laurie and Richard Wolff

CONDOLENCES

Yehudis and Moshe Ashin, on the loss of their granddaughter,
Yael Bracha Guttman, daughter of Basya Chaya and
Yair Dovid Guttman
Ari, Gabriel and Diana Bousbib, on the loss of their father,
Moshe Bousbib
Ahuva Jackie Gross, on the loss of her father, Dagvadorj Auysh
Ellen and Mark Newman, on the loss of their son,
Ariel Yitzchak Newman

SPEEDY RECOVERY/REFUAH SH'LAIMA

Regina Ullendorff, Rachel bat Feige

CONGRATULATIONS

Dr. Lynn Davidman, on her new book, *Becoming Un-Orthodox: Stories of ex-Hasidic Jews*

TODAH RABBAH

Tovah and Assaf Alster, Robin and Neil Goldberg, Michelle and Eli Salig and Manny Zareh for making possible the participation of Rabbi Mordechai Reich & family in the

LSS High Holiday Beginners Services. Thanks also to the management of the Beacon Hotel
Deborah Bendheim, for helping with the various Beginners mailings

Break Fast Sponsors following Yom Kippur Services:
The Adler-Landau Family and Ellen and Mordecai Lipkis
The Gibber Family for the flowers at the High Holidays at the Lincoln Square Synagogue Beginners Service
Kiddush Sponsors on the High Holidays: Tovah and Assaf Alster and Susan Hecht and David Cohen and parents, Dr. Sandra and Michael Hecht
Roberto Novig for his "inspiring" ushering during the High Holiday Beginners Services
Chaviva Warner and Naomi Ferrando for helping with the Beginners High Holiday set up

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Tue December 16, 2014 - 24th of Kislev
Erev Chanukah
 Morning Services 7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Mincha/Maariv 4:15 PM
 Light Chanukah Candles . . . after 5:01 PM

Wed December 17, 2014 - 25th of Kislev
1st Day CHANUKAH
 Morning Services 7:00 & 7:40 AM
 Mincha/Maariv 4:15 PM
 Light two candles after 5:02 PM

Thur December 18, 2014- 26th of Kislev
2nd Day Chanukah
 Morning Services 7:00 & 7:40 AM
 Mincha/Maariv 4:15 PM
 Light three candles after 5:02 PM

Fri December 19, 2014- 27th of Kislev
3rd Day Chanukah
 Morning Services 7:00 & 7:40 AM
 Light four candles before Shabbat candles 4:13 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat . . . 4:20 PM

Sat December 20, 2014 - 28th of Kislev
4th Day Chanukah Mikeitz
 Morning Services. 7:40, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Beginners Service. 9:15 AM
 Beginners Mishnayot. 2:50 PM
 Talmud & Bible Classes 3:20 PM
 Mincha 4:05 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends
 Light five candles. after 5:14 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 4:20 PM

Sun December 21, 2014 - 29th of Kislev
5th Day Chanukah
 Morning Services 7:00 & 8:30 AM
 Light six candles after 5:03 PM

Mon December 22, 2014 - 30th of Kislev
Rosh Chodesh 6th Day Chanukah
 Morning Services 7:00 & 7:40 AM
 Light seven candles. after 5:04 PM

Tue December 23, 2014 - 1st of Tevet
Rosh Chodesh 7th Day Chanukah
 Morning Services 7:00 & 7:40 AM
 Light eight candles. after 5:04 PM

Wed December 24, 2014 - 2nd of Tevet
8th day Chanukah
 Morning Services 7:00 & 7:40 AM

Thu December 25, 2014 - 3rd of Tevet
Legal Holiday
 Morning Services 7:10 & 8:30 AM

Fri December 26, 2014 - 4th of Tevet
 Morning Services 7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Candle Lighting 4:17 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat . . . 4:20 PM

Sat December 27, 2014 - 5th of Tevet
Vayigash
 Morning Services. 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Beginners Service. 9:15 AM
 Beginners Mishnayot. 2:50 PM
 Talmud & Bible Classes 3:20 PM
 Mincha 4:05 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends. 5:18 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 4:25 PM

Thu January 1, 2015 - 10th of Tevet
ASARAH B'TEVET NEW YEAR'S DAY
 Fast begins at 6:08 AM
 Morning Services 6:50 & 8:30 AM
 Mincha/Maariv 4:15 PM
 Fast Ends 5:11 PM

Fri January 2, 2015 - 11th of Tevet
 Morning Services 7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Candle Lighting 4:22 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat . . . 4:25 PM

Sat January 3, 2015 - 12th of Tevet
Vayechee
 Morning Services. 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Beginners Service. 9:15 AM
 Beginners Mishnayot. 2:55 PM
 Talmud & Bible Classes 3:25 PM
 Mincha 4:10 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends. 5:24 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 4:30 PM

Fri January 9, 2015- 18th of Tevet
 Morning Services 7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Candle Lighting 4:29 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat . . . 4:35 PM

Sat January 10, 2015 - 19th of Tevet
Shemot
 Morning Services. 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Beginners Service. 9:15 AM
 Beginners Mishnayot. 3:00 PM
 Talmud & Bible Classes 3:30 PM
 Mincha 4:15 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends. 5:30 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 4:35 PM

Fri January 16, 2015 - 25th of Tevet
 Morning Services 7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Candle Lighting 4:37 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat . . . 4:40 PM

Sat January 17, 2015 - 26th of Tevet
Va'eira
 Morning Services. 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Beginners Service. 9:15 AM
 Beginners Mishnayot. 3:10 PM
 Talmud & Bible Classes 3:40 PM
 Mincha 4:25 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends. 5:38 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 4:45 PM

Mon January 19, 2015 - 28th of Tevet
Martin Luther King Day
 Morning Services 7:10 & 8:30 AM

Wed January 21, 2015 - 1st of Shevat
ROSH CHODESH
 Morning Services 7:10 & 7:50 AM

Fri January 23, 2015 - 3rd of Shevat
 Morning Services 7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Candle Lighting 4:45 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat . . . 4:50 PM

Sat January 24, 2015 - 4th of Shevat
Bo
 Morning Services. 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Beginners Service. 9:15 AM
 Beginners Mishnayot. 3:15 PM
 Talmud & Bible Classes 3:45 PM
 Mincha 4:30 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends. 5:46 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 4:55 PM

Fri January 30, 2015 - 10th of Shevat
 Morning Services 7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Candle Lighting 4:53 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat . . . 4:55 PM

Sat January 31, 2015 - 11th of Shevat
Beshalach
 Morning Services. 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Beginners Service. 9:15 AM
 Beginners Mishnayot. 3:25 PM
 Talmud & Bible Classes 3:55 PM
 Mincha 4:40 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends. 5:55 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 5:00 PM

Wed February 4, 2015 - 15th of Shevat
TU B'SHEVAT
 Morning Services 7:10 & 7:50 AM

Fri February 6, 2015 - 17th of Shevat
 Morning Services 7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Candle Lighting 5:02 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat . . . 5:05 PM

Sat February 7, 2015 - 18th of Shevat
Yitro
 Morning Services. 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Beginners Service. 9:15 AM
 Beginners Mishnayot. 3:35 PM
 Talmud & Bible Classes 4:05 PM
 Mincha 4:50 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends. 6:04 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 5:10 PM

Fri February 13, 2015 - 24th of Shevat
 Morning Services 7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Candle Lighting 5:10 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat . . . 5:15 PM

Sat February 14, 2015 - 25th of Shevat
Mishpatim - Parashat Shekalim
 Morning Services. 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Beginners Service. 9:15 AM
 Beginners Mishnayot. 3:45 PM
 Talmud & Bible Classes 4:15 PM
 Mincha 5:00 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends. 6:12 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 5:20 PM

Mon February 16, 2015 - 27th of Shevat
PRESIDENT'S DAY
 Morning Services 7:00 & 8:30 AM

Thu February 19, 2015 - 30th of Shevat
ROSH CHODESH
 Morning Services. 7:00 & 7:40 AM

Fri February 20, 2015 - 1st of Adar
ROSH CHODESH
 Morning Services. 7:00 & 7:40 AM
 Candle Lighting 5:19 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat . . . 5:25 PM

Sat February 21, 2015 - 2nd of Adar
Terumah
 Morning Services. 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Beginners Service. 9:15 AM
 Beginners Mishnayot. 3:50 PM
 Talmud & Bible Classes 4:20 PM
 Mincha 5:05 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends. 6:20 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 5:25 PM

Fri February 27, 2015 - 8th of Adar
 Morning Services. 7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Candle Lighting 5:27 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat . . . 5:30 PM

Sat February 28, 2015 - 9th of Adar
Tetzaveh - Parashat Zachor
 Morning Services. 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Beginners Service. 9:15 AM
 Beginners Mishnayot. 3:45 PM
 Talmud & Bible Classes 4:15 PM
 Mincha 5:15 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends. 6:29 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 5:35 PM

Wed March 4, 2015 - 13th of Adar
TA'ANIT ESTHER, EREV PURIM
 Fast Begins 5:14 AM
 Morning Services 6:50 & 7:30 AM
 Mincha/Ma'ariv 5:25 PM
 Fast Ends 6:22 PM

Thu March 5, 2015 - 14th of Adar
PURIM
 Morning Services. 6:15 & 7:30 AM
 Women's Megilla Reading. . . 10:00 AM
 Mincha & Megilla Reading. . . 12:45 PM
 Mincha & Ma'ariv 5:35 PM

Fri March 6, 2015 - 15th of Adar
SHUSHAN PURIM
 Morning Services. 7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Candle Lighting 5:35 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat . . . 5:40 PM

Sat March 7, 2015 - 16th of Adar
Ki Tisa
 Morning Services. 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Beginners Service. 9:15 AM
 Beginners Mishnayot. 3:50 PM
 Talmud & Bible Classes 4:20 PM
 Mincha 5:20 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends. 6:37 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 6:45 PM

Sun March 8, 2015 - 17th of Adar
 Move clocks forward for Daylight Savings
 Morning Services. 7:10 & 8:30 AM

Fri March 13, 2015 - 22nd of Adar
SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA
 Morning Services. 7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Shabbat Across America 6:30 PM
 Candle Lighting 6:43 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat . . . 6:45 PM

Sat March 14, 2015 - 23rd of Adar
Vayakhel-Pekudei - Parashat Parah
 Morning Services. 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Beginners Service. 9:15 AM
 Beginners Mishnayot. 5:00 PM
 Talmud & Bible Classes 5:30 PM
 Mincha 6:30 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends. 7:44 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 6:50 PM

Fri March 20, 2015 - 29th of Adar
 Morning Services 7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Candle Lighting 6:50 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat . . . 6:55 PM

Sat March 21, 2015 - 1st of Nisan
ROSH CHODESH Vayikra - Parashat Hachodesh
 Morning Services. 7:40, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Beginners Service. 9:15 AM
 Beginners Mishnayot. 5:10 PM
 Talmud & Bible Classes 5:40 PM
 Mincha 6:40 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends. 7:52 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 7:00 PM

Fri March 27, 2015 - 7th of Nisan
 Morning Services 7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Candle Lighting 6:58 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat . . . 7:00 PM

Sat March 28, 2015 - 8th of Nisan
Tzav - Parashat HaGadol
 Morning Services. 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Beginners Service. 9:15 AM
 Mincha 6:30 PM
 Shabbat HaGadol Drasha . . . 6:55 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends. 7:59 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 7:05 PM

Thu April 2, 2015 - 13th of Nisan
 Morning Services 7:00 & 7:50 AM
 Bedikat Chametz after 8:15 PM

Fri April 3, 2015 - 14th of Nisan
EREV PESACH - Taanit Bechorot
 Morning Services with Siyum 6:30 & 7:30 AM
 Latest time to eat Chametz. . . 10:13 AM
 Latest time to burn Chametz. . . 11:23 AM
 Candle Lighting 7:05 PM
 Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat . . . 7:10 PM
 Begin Seder after 7:54 PM

SAVE THE DATES

Beginners Shabbaton
 Dec 12-13, March 27-28

Beginners Chanukah Party
\$20 in advance, \$25 at the door
 Mon, Dec 22, 7:00 PM

Beginners Shabbat Luncheons - \$20
 Saturdays, 12:30 PM
 Jan 3, Feb 7, March 7

Purim Party
\$20 in advance, \$25 at the door
 Wed, March 4, 9:00 PM

Beginners Shmooze - Free
 Mon, March 9, 8:15 PM

SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA
 Fri, March 13

Model Seder
 Wed, April 1, 7:00 PM