



Suburban Orthodox Congregation Toras Chaim



SHABBOS SCHEDULE

Shabbos Mevarchim
Shabbos Night

5:47p Candle Lighting
5:50p Mincha followed by
Kabbolas Shabbos

Shabbos Day

9:00a Shacharis (10:13a KS)
11:30a Simcha Kiddush
4:15p Early Mincha
4:30p Sisterhood Shalosh Seudos
4:40p Daf Yomi (Yehuda Neuberger)
5:40p Mincha followed by
Shalosh Seudos
6:46p Maariv followed by Havdalah
>No Chassidus on the Parsha or Sefer
Yona shiurim



WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sun 11/4 - 26th of Cheshvan
7:15, 8:00, 9:00a Shacharis

4:45p Mincha/Maariv

Mon - Wed

6:45, 9:00a Shacharis
4:45p Mincha/Maariv
9:00p Maariv

Thurs - Fri a.m. Rosh Chodesh

6:30, 9:00a Shacharis
4:45p Mincha/Maariv
9:00p Maariv



WEEKLY SHIURIM

Sun

8:00a Daf Yomi

Mon - Fri

5:45a Tomer Devorah
5:55a Daf Yomi (5:45a Thurs-Fri)
Following 9am minyan 15 Minutes of
Mishnayos (Rabbi Richter)

Mon

8:00a Business & Bagels, Goldberg's
Rabbi Silber

Tues

8:30p Hilchos Shabbos B'Iyun
(Rabbi Richter)

Wednesday

9:30a Perek Shira for WIT, BJSZ
Rabbi Silber, (for women)
8:00p Lessons from the Weekly Parsha
Rabbi Silber, (for women)

Thurs

8:30p Likutei Moharan
Rabbi Silber, (for men)

Parshas Chayei Sarah

25 Cheshvan | November 3, 2018

Candle Lighting
5:47p

Mincha
5:50p

Torah Reading
Pg. 106

Haftorah
Pg. 1136

Candle Lighting 11/9
4:39p



AGING WITH ATTITUDE

RABBI SHMUEL SILBER

Dedicated in memory of our brothers and sisters murdered in Pittsburgh

“And Avraham was old, he came with his days and God had blessed Avraham with everything.” (Genesis 24:1)

We have seen Avraham develop from a young man in Aram to a leader of humanity in Canaan. We have felt the pride of his accomplishments and the sadness of his tragedies. It is now that the Torah sets the stage for the next chapter of our national evolution, the passing of Avraham and emergence of Yitzchak as the next Av, (patriarch). And so the Torah tells us that Avraham was old as a way of foreshadowing what will soon occur. But what is the meaning of the phrase *ba ba'yomim*, (coming with his days)? What does this add that was not already conveyed through the word *zakeyn*, (old)?

Getting older is a blessing but it can also be filled with challenges and difficulties. Aside from the physical and sometimes cognitive limitations, there is a reality that one can't do what he once did. Thus, there are some who spend their older years pining and yearning for the vitality and vigor of their youth. They yearn for the days gone by and for the years that have passed. Unfortunately, the yearning and pining often yield sadness, depression and hopelessness. But there are others who, accepting the limitations of their present, do everything in their power to maximize and find meaning in their current circumstances. They realize that every stage of life has its own unique opportunities. Just because the present is not like the past doesn't mean that it can't be beautiful, meaningful and holy. This was the greatness of Avraham Avinu; he was able to maximize every stage of life. Rabbi Nachman of Breslov explains that Avraham was able to access the *Tov HaGanuz*, (the unique hidden good) in each and every day. He realized that the purpose of today is different than the purpose of yesterday and what one can achieve at 100 is different than what one could and needed to achieve at 20. This is the meaning of the phrase, *ba ba'yomim* (he came with his days), he maximized each day in its own unique way reflecting the stage of life which he was in. Amazingly, Sarah Imeynu, Avraham's life partner found her unique way to maximize each stage of life. The Torah states:

“And the life of Sarah was one hundred years and twenty years and seven years; [these were] the years of the life of Sarah.” (Genesis 23:1)

Rashi points out that the last phrase in the above-mentioned verse seems to be extraneous. Why must the Torah conclude by saying, “these were the years of the life of Sarah” after the verse just told us Sarah's lifespan? Rashi gives a simple answer, “*kulan shavin l'tova*, (they [her one hundred years, twenty years and seven years] were equally good).” Sarah's entire life was infused with meaning, purpose and holiness. Often we “wake up” later in life, realizing that we have limited time on this earth and we must make something of ourselves. Sarah lived her entire life, from childhood to her last breath, with an awareness of the need to infuse meaning in every moment of life.

The lifetime of a person can be divided into three stages; childhood, youth and adulthood. Rav Yosef Dov HaLevi Soloveitchik zt'l explains that each of these stages has unique characteristics:

“The child is endowed with a capacity of an all-absorbing faith and trustfulness; youth bursts with zealously, idealism, and optimism; the adult, mellowed with years, has the benefit of accumulated knowledge and dispassionate judgment. Each age is physically and psychologically attuned to particular emphases, but the superior individual can retain and harmonize the positive strengths of all three periods during his entire lifetime. Sarah was such a person, “the goodness of her life was equally distributed,” *kulan shavin l'tova*. She was at the same time a child in her total faith, youthful in her exuberant idealism and an adult in the maturity of her judgment.”

(The Covenantal Role of Sarah, 88)
This was the greatness of Sarah. She took her life stages with her every step of the journey. She maintained her childlike, simple faith and trust. When Avraham was told, “*Lech Lecha*, (Go for yourself),” leave everything you know and travel to an unknown, alien land, Sarah went along. Sarah never heard from God, Sarah never

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MEMBER NEWS

MAZAL TOV

Larry & Barbara Marder on the aufruf and upcoming wedding of their son, Alex to Elana Itzkowitz. Mazal Tov to grandparents, Milton & Eleanor Marder and to aunt & uncle, Liz & David Lefkowitz

Rabbi Dr. Ivan & Arleeta Lerner and to **great great grandmother Dena Lerner Gerber** on the birth of a great granddaughter to Tehillah & Netanel Greenwald

Aron Raskas on the engagement of his son, Yossi to Gila Chernick of Isarel

BIRTHDAYS

Louis Rosen, Bernhard Kiewe, Karl Agrich, Shalom Kovacs, Reese Avery Myrowitz, Rivki Lichter, Avigail Horwitz, Mitch Posner, Aaron Schor, Talia Lawrence, Simcha Pollack, Adriane Kozlovsky, Ellen Miller, Diane Berkowitz

YAHREZITS

Lisa Hamermesh, Rose Barbero, Hyman Korn, George Cousin, Albert Greenberg, Ludwig Stiefel, Esther Diener, Jerome Gross, Clara Buck, Manfred Sklar, Norman Brody

UNVEILING AND MINYAN

The unveiling of our dear member, Milton Jacobson will take place this Sunday 11/4 at 3:30p at the Chevra Ahavas Chesed Cemetary, 9800 Liberty Road. Please attend to help make a minyan.



SHUL HAPPENINGS

SOTC Security Training

Sun 11/4 | 7:30p

suburbanorthodox.org/event/security

Motzei Shabbos Learning

Begins 11/10 | Weekly 1 hour after Havdallah

Chavrusa Torah & Tacos

Sun 11/11 | 7:30p, SOTC

Dive into deep flavors and Jewish texts. suburbanorthodox.org

SOTC Book Club

Tues 11/27 | 2:00p, SOTC

Beneath a Scarlet Sky by Mark Sullivan

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

Exploring Mental Health from a Trauma Informed Care Lens

Featuring Rabbi Silber

Thurs 11/8 | 8:30a - 3:30p, UMB

www.nursing.umaryland.edu/academics/pe/events/

JCN Toy Drive

Dropbox located in side lobby.



DVAR TORAH CONT.

received a direct command nor was she given any explicit promises, yet, she believed, she trusted in God and she embarked on the journey. Sarah put her faith in a loving God whom she believed would protect, nurture and guide her every step.

Sarah maintained a constant sense of idealistic optimism. After years of marriage without children, Sarah turned to Avraham and urged him to marry her maidservant, Hagar. The Ramban (16:2) comments, "Sarah did not give up on Avraham, nor did she distance herself from him, for she was his wife and he was her husband." One might have thought that by giving Hagar as a wife to Avraham, Sarah was withdrawing, giving up, admitting defeat and retreating to the shadows. Instead, she says to her beloved Avraham, "I am right here by your side. Life hasn't worked out the way I had hoped, but I am not giving up. We will realize our life dream of building a people and a destiny together."

Sarah was able to make the difficult decisions that needed to be made. After the birth of Yitzchak, Sarah very quickly understood that to raise a true Abrahamitic heir required an atmosphere of holiness and dedication. Yishmael's life stood in contradistinction to these values and as such, Sarah felt he had to be sent away. Sarah's keen judgment, sharpened sense of purpose, profound life experience and acquired wisdom gave her the

courage to do what had to be done even though it hurt.

We often view life as a progression requiring us to grow out of one stage as we progress to another. While this is true in many respects, it would perhaps, be more accurate to view life as a pyramid with each stage building on the one before it. As we get older we must bring the ideals of our past into our present to build our future. No matter how old we get we must learn to find our inner child. Although we have been hurt and wronged by others we must learn to trust. Although at times we may feel let down by God, we must try to cultivate a strong sense of faith. We must remember how to believe like a child, in our God and in ourselves. No matter how many times we fall and fail we must maintain an ever-present sense of optimism that things will come together. We must remain idealistic even when so many around us are not. We must use our heart, mind and life experiences to make wise life decisions. We must allow our inner child, young adult and wise elder to walk hand in hand throughout life.

Our grandparents, Avraham and Sarah continue to teach us an important and profound lesson. We must find the strength and courage to maximize our present and build on each stage of life. Let us hope that their holy examples will be an inspiration for us all.

Newly posted shiurim online and on Podcast www.rabbitsilber.com



SPONSORSHIPS

DONATIONS

Richard & Susan Lehmann

Israel Oppenheimer in memory of his father, Lee Oppenheimer z'l

Lillian Mayer in honor of the birth of her great granddaughter, Ella.

Ann Berman in honor of the yahrzeit of her husband, Sheldon Berman, Shmuel Yoel ben Shalom Tuvia z'l

Mitch & Janice Posner and **Arnie & Nina Allen Goldberg** in honor of the Rabbi & Rebbetzin on the engagement of Shani Silber to Yosef Bizouati



SIMCHA KIDDUSH

Larry & Barbara Marder in honor of the aufruf of their son, Alex.

Thank you to our annual Kehillah Kiddush sponsors: suburbanorthodox.org/sponsor Adam & Yudit Ben-Zev, Shua & Zali Bier, Jacob & Julie Blumenfeld, Charner/Openden Family, Steve & Teri Czinn, Steve & Wendy Drazin, Noam & Leah Efron, Yona & Shushie Ehrenfeld, Avron & Galya Elbaum, Josh & Jen Erez, Julian & Lauren Hammond, Jon & Jen Kaplan, Cliff & Jamie Katz, Richard & Susan Lehman, Ari & Shoshana Lerner, Dr. Chuck & Patty Leve, Gregg & Rachel Levitan, Ari & Esti Lichtman, Ed & Iris Miller, Art & Sherry Miller, Allen & Sue Myrowitz, Meir & Sarah Raskas, Aron Raskas, David & Gila Reidy, Matt & Susie Schoenfeld, Rabbi & Rebbetzin Silber, Gregg & Rena Trestman, Aaron & Alana Weinberg