



Parshas Pikudei

Candle Lighting

6:57p

Havdalah

7:59p

Torah Reading

Shemos: 38:21-40:38

Haftarah

Melochim I: 7:51-8:21

Candle Lighting 3/22

7:04p

Pikudei- Chasing the Clouds

Rabbi Shmuel Silber

"He set up the courtyard all around the Mishkan and the altar, and he put up the screen at the entrance to the courtyard; and Moses completed the work." (Exodus 40:33)

Over the last number of *Parshios* we have read of the collection and subsequent creation of the *Mishkan*. God asked for an earthly abode, a place where His beloved children could come to connect. And now, in this week's *Parsha*, the last section of the book of *Shemos*, the work was complete. The *Mishkan* was brought to Moshe, the Divine Presence descended upon it, and the relationship between God and His nation was further cemented. Yet, the Torah adds a seemingly extraneous piece of information.

"When the cloud rose up from over the Mishkan, the Children of Israel set out in all their journeys." (Exodus 40:36).

Over the course of the next three verses the Torah discusses *Mishkan* movement. Specifically, when the cloud of God would ascend, it signaled a need to break camp and journey forward. But why is this mentioned here? This belongs in the book of *Bamidbar* which details our various journeys in the desert. Yet, this is the last piece of information closing out the book of *Shemos*. What is the deeper meaning?

The Lubavitcher Rebbe (Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, 1902-1994) provides an incredible insight. The purpose of the *Mishkan* was to create a home for God within our midst. Although, we believe that God is everywhere, as physical beings it is helpful for us to have an address, a place where we can dedicate ourselves to connection and elevation. The *Mishkan* was the place where God allowed His Presence to be more acutely felt. The cloud which hovered over the *Mishkan* was a manifestation of God. When one saw the cloud, he understood that Hashem was dwelling within our midst; he felt God next to him. There are times in life when we feel close to God, and there are times when we feel distant. What is the approach of the Jew when he feels disconnected and distant? What should we do when we don't feel inspired and holy? We must find the strength to seek out our Father. We must find the courage to run after the cloud when we are no longer enveloped by it.

This is the message of the verse.

U'Vheyalos He'Anan Mey'Al HaMishkan, (When the cloud rose up from over the Mishkan) – There are times when the cloud of inspiration seems far away. At times, we don't feel connected to God. The cloud of holiness seems to leave our inner *Mishkan*.

What is our approach in these moments of disconnect?

Yis'u Bnai Yisroel B'Chol Maaseyhem, (the children of Israel set out in all their journeys) – We move forward trying to catch up to the cloud. Sometimes, the cloud is distant but attainable if we are willing to journey towards it. Spiritual inspiration doesn't show up at our doorsteps. More often, it is hovering, waiting for us, beckoning to us from a distance. We must travel to it, seek it out, find it, and claim it. If we truly want to be enveloped by the cloud of godliness, we must be ready to travel for it.

And now we understand. The entire purpose of the *Mishkan* was to create a space for God within our community and daily lives. Yet at the end of this incredible endeavor, we are taught that no matter how much we want to keep the cloud near us, at some point it travels forward. It is then that the true nature of our spiritual mettle comes through. We all love holiness, inspiration, and closeness to God, but are we willing to push ourselves, to travel and venture out to acquire them? Meaningful and lasting personal holiness is never acquired with ease. It requires effort, exertion, and willingness to chase after the cloud.

WEEK AT A GLANCE 3/15 - 3/22	15/16 FRI/SHABBOS	17 SUNDAY	18 MONDAY	19 TUESDAY	20 WEDNESDAY	21 THURSDAY	22 FRIDAY
	SHABBOS NIGHT 6:30p Toameha 6:57p Candle Lighting 7:00p Mincha followed by Kabbolas Shabbos SHABBOS DAY 7:00a Hashkama Shacharis 8:45a Shacharis (KS - 9:39a) 9:15a Teen Minyan 9:30a Junior Congregation 4:00p Women's Learning Group 6:00p Daf Yomi 6:50p Mincha 7:59p Maariv/Havdalah	7:15a Shacharis 7:55a Daf Yomi 9:00a Shacharis 2:00p Mincha 5:50p Plag Mincha 7:10p Mincha/Maariv	5:55a Daf Yomi 6:45a Shacharis 9:00a Shacharis 5:50p Plag Mincha 7:10p Mincha/Maariv 7:50p Hilchos Shabbos Chabura 8:00p Teen Boys Learning (HS) 8:40p Amud Yomi 9:00p Maariv	5:55a Daf Yomi 6:45a Shacharis 9:00a Shacharis 5:50p Plag Mincha 7:10p Mincha/Maariv 7:45p Women's Purim Lecture 8:00p Teen Boys Learning (5th-6th) 8:40p Amud Yomi 9:00p Maariv	5:55a Daf Yomi 6:45a Shacharis 9:00a Shacharis 5:50p Plag Mincha 7:10p Mincha/Maariv 8:00p Teen Boys Learning (7th-8th) 8:40p Amud Yomi 9:00p Maariv	Taanis Esther 5:45a Daf Yomi 5:55a Fast Begins 6:30a Shacharis 9:00a Shacharis 5:50p Plag Mincha 7:05p Mincha/Maariv 7:50p Maariv 8:01p Fast Ends 8:40p Amud Yomi	5:55a Daf Yomi 6:45a Shacharis 9:00a Shacharis 6:30p Toameha 7:00p Mincha followed by Kabbolas Shabbos 7:04p Candle Lighting

MEMBER NEWS

MAZAL TOV

Chana Friedman and **Dov & Shira Friedman** on Aliza's Bas Mitzvah. Mazal Tov to grandparents **Toby & Pinchas Fader** and **Fayge & Shimon Friedman**.

BIRTHDAYS

Shlomo Yehuda Artman, Kenneth Creeger, Tova Einbinder, Ezzy Fogel, Aliza Friedman, Fayge Friedman, Naomi Shoshana Gordon, Aaron Mordechai Gordon, Joel Hosner, Elie Kahn, Gabe Kramer, Aryeh Langer, Liora Larsen, Yonah Lerner, Tamar Miller, Didi Neuman, Randi Orshan, Aaron Rapoport, Sylvie Rosen, Rivka Schwarzbaum, Mildred Shapiro, Noam Ziffer

UPCOMING YAHRZEITS

Zina Rosen, Bernice Rubin, Shalom Wolf, Jennie Weiss

SPONSORSHIPS & DONATIONS

TALMUD TORAH

The Schwarzbaum Family in memory of Aaron J. Schwarzbaum, Aharon Yosef ben Meir z'l. May his neshama have an aliyah.

Leah Sol in the zechus of her daughter Ilana bas Esther's successful surgery and complete refuah sheleima, and for a safe return of all our hostages.

Maia Hoffman in memory of her father, Reuven ben Emanuel z'l, and in the merit of hatzlacha, health, and joy for all of her family: Shulamit, Avraham, Mariasha Tzivia, Barak Raphael, and Dora.

Yoel & Sara Kelman in honor of the birth of their son, and in memory of Staff Sergeant David Sasson Hy'd, age 21, who was killed fighting in Gaza on March 6, 2024.

DAF YOMI

Adam Plunka in commemoration of the upcoming yahrzeits: Moshe ben Amram, Moshe Rabbenu, on Adar 7; Moshe ben R' Dovid, R' Moshe Feinstein z'l on Adar 12; Shmaryahu Yosef Chaim ben Yaakov Yisrael, Rav Chaim Kanievsky z'l, on Adar 15.

SHABBOS DRASHA

David & Lisa Gerhardt in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Catherine Beberman z'l, mother of Lisa Gerhardt.

DONATIONS

Fay Kaufman in honor of Becca & Josh on their 17th Anniversary! Wishing you much love, togetherness and happiness! Love always, Mom

SOTC UPDATES

WOMEN'S TEHILLIM FOLLOWING SHABBOS DAVENING

Please join the women of the shul after davening before kiddush to complete sefer Tehillim in the z'chus of the Eretz Yisroel.

WOMEN'S SHABBOS TEHILLIM

Will meet on Shabbos at 3:45pm the Lerner home (3302 Northbrook Rd).

SOTC BOOK CLUB

The next meeting of the Suburban Orthodox Book Club will be Tuesday, April 9, 2 p.m., at Suburban Orthodox Congregation. Selection: "The Little Liar," by Mitch Albom

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Megillah Connection

Anyone needs to have the megillah lained, who can lain megillah, or who has a megillah to lend, please call 410-358-9691. A project of Agudath Israel of Baltimore. לע"נ הרב משה שלמה בן יוסף אליעזר זשוראוועל.

JBI: Free Haggados for Disabilities

If you or someone you know needs a large print, braille, or audio format Haggadah this year, please visit JBI's website at www.JBILibrary.org or call JBI toll free at 1-800-999-6476 before April 11 and they will be happy to send you your Haggadah, completely free of charge.



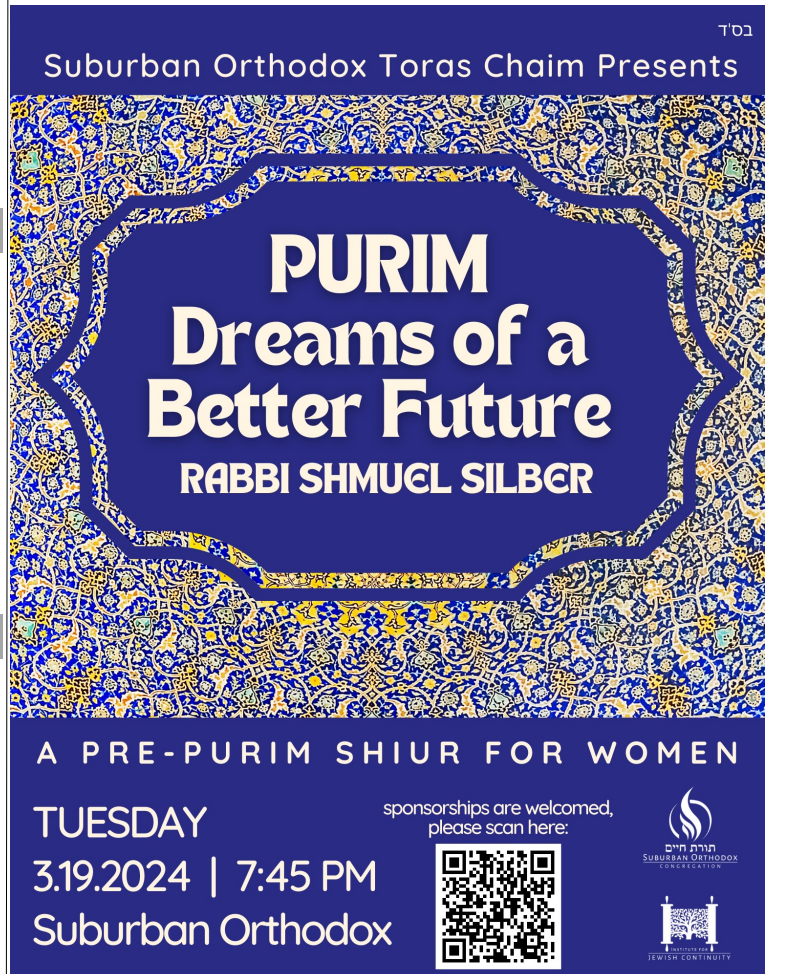
PURIM AT SOTC UNDER CONSTRUCTION

SHABBOS 3/23 - SPECIAL PURIM EDITION
TEEN GIRLS SHABBOS GROUP **10:00AM**

SHABBOS 3/23 - KIDS SHABBOS PARTY & PURIM STORY WITH RABBI SILBER **5:00PM**

SUNDAY 3/24 - PURIM MORNING MIDDLE SCHOOL BOYS MINYAN, BREAKFAST & BEIS MIDRASH **8:00AM**

SUNDAY 3/24 - SOTC CHESSED CARAVAN
MEET AT AVENTURA AT THE HEIGHTS 7218 PARK HEIGHTS AVE **11:00AM-12:00PM**




Suburban Orthodox Toras Chaim Presents

PURIM
Dreams of a Better Future
RABBI SHMUEL SILBER

A PRE-PURIM SHIUR FOR WOMEN

TUESDAY
3.19.2024 | 7:45 PM
Suburban Orthodox

sponsorships are welcomed,
please scan here:



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