



YOUNG ISRAEL OF WEST HARTFORD
 2240 ALBANY AVENUE
 WEST HARTFORD, CT 06117
www.YoungIsraelWH.org
 @YoungIsraelWeHa

Rabbi's Sermon

BeShalach: 3 Days Without Water

[Click here to listen to it](#)

Our Minyanim

Depending on weather, we will be utilizing either our outdoor davening space or the indoor sanctuary. Please review our policies for both ([here](#)) and sign up for minyan at youngisraelwh.org/minyansignup!

PLEASE SIGN UP IF YOU PLAN TO COME AND PLEASE COME IF YOU SIGN UP!

Due to the expected cold forecast for this weekend, Shabbat Morning Minyan will be INDOORS. Please review our guidelines before signing up for minyan. Please see the schedule and the signup.

YOUNG ISRAEL YOUTH DEPARTMENT

SHABBAT In The SHADE
WILL NOT MEET THIS WEEK

Shabbat Morning Groups For Grades Pre-K—4th

VIRTUAL Tu B'SHEVAT BIRTHDAY BASH!!
SUNDAY, 1/31 AT 9:30 AM

Ages: Pre-schoolers to 3rd Grade

Join us to celebrate Tu B'Shevat by planning together. More info on the flyer. RSVP preferred to Leora at YouthDirector@youngisraelwh.org

Teen Virtual Trivia Night
WEDNESDAY, 2/3 AT 8 PM

GRADES 7-12

Teen Trivia Night — Need we say more? The player with the most points will receive an Amazon Gift Card.

Youngisraelwh.org/Zoom

WEEKLY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

All on Zoom at YoungIsraelWH.org/Zoom

THE WEEKLY HAFTARAH

Wednesdays, 11:45a to 12:30p

Join Rabbi Brander and tackle the week's Haftarah, exploring its story, significance & meaning.

SHABBAT ON WEDNESDAY!!

EVERY WEDNESDAY at 8:30 PM on Zoom

Hear the Rabbi's *drasha*, catch up with friends and get updates from the shul!

Everything you miss about shul but the davening.

Shabbat Shira Parashat Beshalach

Jan. 29-30, 2021 ☆ 17 Shevat 5781



All Zoom programs can be accessed at youngisraelwh.org/zoom or on the phone at (646) 558-8656 and Meeting ID: 685 094 0946#.



Please take a moment, reach out and say hello to someone (virtually).

Mazel Tov

To Audrey & Arlen Lichter on the recent birth of a granddaughter, Eva Sylive, Nechama Aviva to Shari & Sam Raymond.

To Barbra Becker & Jonathan Bilmes on their Aliya

Upcoming Events

Tu B'Shevat Pickling

Sunday, Jan. 31, 2021 at 8 PM

Explore Tu B'Shevat Torah and learn to preserve delicious veggies with lacto-fermentation from the comfort of your own home!

More information to follow.

[RSVP Online HERE!](#)

SUPER BOWL FUNDRAISER

SUPER BOWL LV SQUARES

WIN UP TO ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS!!

100 boxes — \$25 a box

Reserve your box by Friday, February 5 at 12 noon!

Purchase your box and support our Young Israel at youngisraelwh.org/superbowl

SHABBAT MEAL SWAP

Shabbat February, 19-20 2021

Tired of Cooking & Eating the SAME FOOD each week? We can help!!

Sign up to swap part (or all) of your Shabbat meal with another family.

Sign up by Friday Feb. 12 at noon at

Youngisraelwh.org/ShabbatSwap

COVID-19 VACCINE

75 and older can now get their vaccine!

See our eblast for instructions or for assistance, contact Rabbi Brander!!

SEE PAGE 3 FOR MORE COVID-19 VACCINE INFORMATION

Rabbi Brander is available during the week and can be reached by email at rabbi@youngisraelwh.org or on his cell.

Mara D'Atra: Rabbi Tuvia Brander (Rabbi@youngisraelwh.org)
 President: Shayne Green Kesler (President@youngisraelwh.org)
 To submit something for the bulletin, please send it to bulletin@youngisraelwh.org

Upcoming Community Events

Havurah Initiative

Are you looking to connect and expand your Jewish connections? The **Jewish Federation** is looking to create peer-led Jewish gathering groups. For more information, contact Carrie at CBerman@jewishhartford.org

Young Israel Book Club

The next books will be *The Third Daughter* by Talia Carner and *The First Mrs. Rothchild* by Sara Aharoni

Upcoming Events (cont.)

PESACH SEDER BOOT CAMP

Chanukah is over....and Pesach is around the corner.

Inspire your Pesach this year! Join Rabbi Forgosh and the West Hartford Jewish community in learning the last chapter of Tractate Pesachim. Get the "Daf Yomi experience" without the long-term commitment.

- Gain insight to your Passover Seder, plus other important topics including (but not limited to) general brachot, kiddush, and havdalah
- Finish one chapter (22 front and back pages) of Talmud in just 3 weeks
- Built in weekly review of pertinent halachot
- All skill levels welcome, English translations provided

Sunday-Thursday 7:45-8:45

February 28th-March 18th

To Join, contact Rabbi Forgosh at jforgosh@neja.org

New England Jewish Academy

presents
the THIRD annual
VIRTUAL GALA & AWARDS
February 10, 2021 at 7 PM

Honoring our
NEJA Faculty & Dr. Richard Nabel
RSVP at www.NEJADINNER.org

A Prayer For The Moment

אָבִינוּ שְׁבַשְׁמִים - עֲזֹר וּבְרַךְ אֶת אֶרְצֵנוּ אֶת אֲרָצוֹת הַבְּרִית בְּאֶמְרֵי קָא. שִׁים אֶתְּבָה וְאַחֲרָה בֵּין כָּל תּוֹשְׁבֵי אֶרְצֵנוּ. בְּרַךְ אֶת כָּל מְנַהֲגֵי הַמְּדִינֹת הָאֵלוּ. וְתֵן בְּלִבָּם רוּחַ חֲכָמָה וּבִינָה לְקוּמֵי שְׁלוֹם הָאָרֶץ וְתִרְוַתָּהּ.

Our father in Heaven, assist and bless our land, the United States of America. Place love and brotherhood among all of the residents of our land. Bless the leaders of these states. And place in their hearts the spirit of wisdom and understanding to uphold the peace of the land and its liberty.

BOOKKEEPER'S CORNER

If you have any questions about shul bills or pledges, please reach out to our bookkeeper, Jill at bookkeeper@youngisraelwh.org.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Please send all acknowledgements to Young Israel so that they may be processed, cards may be sent out, and notices may be placed in the weekly bulletin.

Young Israel Virtual Open House

After an immensely successful Virtual Open House, we are going to be running a second one at the end of January.

SO....know someone looking to relocate? Looking for an awesome warm and loving community? Invite them to our **Virtual Open House**.

Want to be a part? Contact Rabbi Brander at rabbi@youngisraelwh.org

ICYMI — Catch It On YouTube

Watch **Choosing Life: COVID-19 Vaccine, Jewish Law & Jewish Life** - [HERE](#)

Watch **Weekly Haftarah Class** - [HERE](#)

Watch **Shabbat On Wednesday Sermon**—[HERE](#)
All available on our YOUTUBE CHANNEL!!

WEEKLY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

All on Zoom at YoungIsraelWH.org/Zoom

CHAIM DAVIS GEMARA SHIUR IS BACK

Sundays at 9 am (beginning 11/29) on Zoom
Join Chaim Davis and explore the topics and themes in the first chapter of the Tractate of Sanhedrin

KIWI: WEEKLY PARASHA EXCHANGE

Share your own idea or find one online! Meets Thursday Evenings on Zoom after Maariv.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In Memory of Melvin Gallant z'l

Ann & Jeremy Pava

Sharon & David Goldfarb

In Memory of Sara Rivka Bat Chanock Henech by
Anonymous

In Memory of Irving & Dorothy Brownstein
by Moshe Brownstein

In Memory of Rabbi Phil Finkelstein,
Ronald & Renana Kadden

In Memory of Vera Fouchs z'l & Mila Liberman z'l
Larisa & Alex Liberman

The Upshot About The Shot: **The Torah View on the COVID-19 Vaccine**

We recently concluded a two-part series entitled “Choosing Life: The COVID-19 Vaccine, Halakha and Jewish Thought”. Here are some key questions, answers and information regarding the Jewish approach to the COVID-19 Vaccine.

Must I get the COVID-19 Vaccine?

Yes! It is both a Mitzvah (positive commandment) and an *Chiyuv* (religious obligation) that stems both from the halakhic (Jewish legal) responsibility to protect one’s own health and requirement to help save others’ lives. The only exception is in the very rare situation where your qualified PCP advises due to very specific medical needs against receiving the shot.

What about the possibility of adverse side effects, albeit very slight and largely unknown?

Everything in life carries some risk. Halakha (Jewish Law) gives us a system to evaluate and assess life’s risks and empowers us to live active, religiously enlightened lives. The very minor possibility of largely unknown possible adverse effects is rendered inconsequential in the Halakhic system of risk assessment in the face of the wide consensus of medical experts and the very tangible positive outcomes for both the individual and greater society upon receiving the vaccine. A true servant of God, thus, is empowered to not only take the vaccine with great joy but also face any lingering apprehension or fear of the unknown with a full measure of Emunah and Bitachon (faith and trust in the Almighty) that she or he is fulfilling the Divine Will.

Great! Can I make a bracha (blessing) when I receive the vaccine?

Absolutely. While generally we are hesitant regarding invoking God’s name unnecessarily even in the context of a *bracha*, this reality seems to certainly qualify under the Halakhic rubric for making either the *bracha* of *shehecheyanu* (lit. “who has given us life”; which highlights the individual joy and benefit for the receiver of the vaccine) or *Hatov V’Hameitiv* (lit. “who is good and bestows good”; which highlights the communal relief and benefit the receiving the vaccine entails). Either *bracha* should be recited upon receiving the 1st dose of the vaccine. No matter if or which *bracha* one may recite, the more important *kavanah* (intention) to have in mind is the overwhelming gratitude and sense of thanksgiving we must have to the Almighty for grant humanity the wisdom, capability, and know-how to produce this vaccine in record time and with such great success.

Does Halakha (Jewish Law) have a system and set of priorities for distributing the vaccine?

Of course. A priori, a rich conversation could be had regarding how to evaluate and design a system of priorities for rolling out the vaccine. However, Halakha also affirms and recognizes the right of a country or state to create and execute its own fair system of prioritizations and requires adherence to that system of distribution. It is absolutely prohibited by Jewish law to attempt to try and skip the line and try to receive a vaccine before it is legally one’s turn.

Where can I learn more about these topics?

Great question! Feel free to check out our 2-part series entitled “Choosing Life: COVID-19, Jewish Law and Jewish Thought” on these topics on our YouTube Channel at https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLWoG8hFkvF5QAta8YXOr7ADAdsnDm_8nV please feel free to reach out with any additional question to me directly at Rabbi@youngisraelwh.org!

☆ Young Israel of West Hartford Schedule of Services ☆

January 29th –February 5th
Shabbat Parashat Beshalach

Friday, January 29th — Erev Shabbat

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|------|------|
| <i>Shacharit*</i> | 7:00 | a.m. |
| Earliest Candle Lighting | 4:00 | p.m. |
| Candle Lighting | 4:44 | p.m. |
| <i>Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat</i> | 4:49 | p.m. |
| Repeat <i>Shema</i> after | 5:32 | p.m. |

Shabbat, January 30th—Shabbat

| | | |
|--------------------------------------------|-------|------|
| INDOOR Morning Minyan | 8:00 | a.m. |
| INDOOR Morning Minyan | 9:30 | a.m. |
| <i>Sof Zman Kriat Shema</i> (Latest Shema) | 9:34 | a.m. |
| Earliest <i>Mincha</i> | 12:34 | p.m. |
| Mincha followed by Maariv | 4:45 | p.m. |
| <i>Seudat Shlishit</i> Before | 5:04 | p.m. |
| <i>Shabbat</i> Ends | 5:48 | p.m. |

Sunday, January 31st—Friday, January 29th

| | | |
|----------------------------------------------|------|------|
| <i>Shacharit...Sunday</i> | 8:15 | a.m. |
| <i>Shacharit...Monday –Friday</i> | 7:00 | a.m. |
| <i>Mincha & Maariv</i> (Sunday-Thursday) | 4:50 | p.m. |

- We are excited to be resuming in person minyanim.
- All people must register in advance to attend a minyan — **Sign up at [YoungIsraelWH.org/MinyanSignUp](https://www.YoungIsraelWH.org/MinyanSignUp)**

APART BUT TOGETHER

*Under conditions in which one is unable to pray together with the minyan, our sages teach us that praying at the same time as the congregation is powerful way to still bound our prayers as one. Thus, if one is unable still to attend minyan, it is ideal to daven at the approximate same time as the tzibbur and community! *During the week, join us virtually to daven together!!*

For a complete **Winter Weekday Mincha Maariv** schedule visit our website, <https://www.YoungIsraelWH.org/minyan-schedule.html#Mincha%20Times>

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Vayin l' Kiddush Ul' Havdalah

Alison & Nate Pava

Ner La'Maor - Lights

Juanita & Yitz Moss

Seudah Shlishit Supplement

Karen & Gerry Goldberg

Kol HaKavod
Aroesty Family

Get Out Of Sermon Card
Caesar T. H.

Pat La'Orchim

Racheli & Raffi Jesin

Kiddush Supplement

Devorah & Solomon Sultan

Handy Man

*Becca & Eric
Maurer*

Good Humor Man

*Debbie & Steven
Luger*

You-Dah-Man
Jeremy Pava