



The Jewish Center

SHABBAT BULLETIN

AUGUST 12, 2017 • PARSHAT EKEV • 20 AV 5777

EREV SHABBAT

7:00PM Minchah (1st floor)

7:42PM Candle lighting

SHABBAT

7:45AM Hashkama Minyan (The Max and Marion Grill Beit Midrash)

9:00AM Shacharit (3rd floor)

9:15AM Hashkama Shiur, Rabbi Noach Goldstein, Birkat Ha-Mazon and the Interface Between Peshat and Pesak

9:31AM Sof Zman Kriat Shema

9:30AM Young Leadership (1st floor)

10:00AM Youth Groups: Under age 3 (drop-off optional, babies must be able to independently sit upright), 3-6-year-olds: Geller Youth Center, 2nd-6th graders: 7th floor

Community Kiddush Sponsors:

Tamar and Jonathan Hofer in honor of the birth of their daughter Natalie Ellen (Chaya Chana Alta) and in honor of the birth of their friend Lyat Salomon (Shaindle Chaya)

Chani and Mark Segall in memory of Joyce Segall

4:00PM Bikkur Cholim/Bikkur in the Home (meet at 730 Columbus Ave.)

6:45PM Daf Yomi

6:45PM Chabura Summer Series (The Max and Marion Grill Beit Midrash), given by Amos Alter, "Shaketz TeShaktsenu: Abominating the Golden Calf"

7:30PM Minchah

WITH THANKS TO OUR SEUDAH SHLISHIT SPONSOR:

Roberta, Jessica and Jeremy Sigall, in commemoration of their beloved mother and grandmother, Etta C. Kramer, Etil Charna bat Yitzchak Aharon V' Sarah

Seudah Shlishit Speaker, Sam Sokol, *The Forgotten Jewish Refugees of Ukraine*

8:41 PM Shabbat Concludes

WOMEN'S TEHILLIM GROUP

Monday, August 21st at 7:15PM

Contact Joyce Weitz for more info. at 212-877-1176

DAILY SERVICES

Sun. Aug 13

Daf Yomi 7:45AM

Shach 8:30AM

Minchah 7:40PM

Mon. Aug 14-

Thurs. Aug 17

Daf Yomi 7:45AM

Shach 7/8AM

Minchah 7:40PM

Friday Aug 18

Shach 7/8 AM

Daf Yomi 7:45AM

Minchah 7PM

Candle Lighting 7:33PM

SAVE THE DATE

Investiture of Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman Fifth President of Yeshiva University

Sunday, September 10th at 11:00AM

The event will take place in the Nathan Lampport Auditorium in Zysman Hall on the Wilf Campus, 2540 Amsterdam Avenue



Shabbat August 12th

Seudah Shlishit with Sam Sokol

The Forgotten Jewish Refugees of Ukraine:

Sam Sokol is a research fellow at the Institute for the Study of Global Antisemitism and Policy (ISGAP). He has worked as a correspondent for the Jerusalem Post and the Israel Broadcasting Authority and is a recipient of the 2015 B'nai B'rith World Center Award for Journalism for his work on revolutionary Ukraine. He is originally from the Upper West Side and studied at Yeshiva University.



Shabbat Afternoon Summer Chabura Series

The community is invited to join us in the Beit Midrash for our annual peer-led summer Chabura series. This program features refreshments, ice cold air conditioning and hot topics of all types.

This week's Chabura will be given by Amos Alter and titled "Shaketz TeShaktsenu: Abominating the Golden Calf" at 6:45PM in the Beit Midrash.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU TO OUR USHERS

Alisa Gadon and Emilio Krausz

MAZEL TOV

Susan Kensky & Sam Goldman on the marriage of their son, and **Elizabeth and Jonathan Schilowitz** on the marriage of their brother, Jonathan Sandor Goldman, to Sara Notkin Haralson.

Moshe and Susan Golkin on the birth of their daughter Rivkah Sara.

THANK YOU TO CSS

We would like to once again thank CSS and our dedicated CSS members for providing the security for our synagogue this week.

DAILY MINYAN REMINDER

As many of our regulars now disperse for the summer, we encourage you to strengthen our daily minyan. Come once or come often! We would love to have you with us.

YOUNG LEADERSHIP SUMMER PROGRAMS

YL end-of-Summer BBQ

August 27th

Great food, beautiful rooftop and more details to come!

YL Lecture Series - *Eating Disorders in the Jewish Community: What to Know and How to Help.*

August 29th

A thought provoking and fascinating lecture featuring Temimah Zucker, LMSW, and Clare, a social media phenomenon (@becomingbodypositive) and leading voice in the body positive movement.

West Side Judaica has been part of the West Side Jewish community for many years. The landlord once again drastically raised the rent and the proprietors are operating at great sacrifice. Please purchase all your Judaica needs at West Side Judaica to support this communal establishment.

Worship of the Heart and Soul
Parshat Eikev 5777
Rabbi Dovid Zirkind

This week's Parsha affords us the opportunity to revisit the second paragraph of Kriyat Shema in context and discuss its powerful verses that have become an essential element of Jewish prayer throughout the ages. In the opening pasuk of the paragraph, Moshe Rabbeinu promises all future generations great reward in the form of success and national security, so long as they are committed to serve Hashem "B'chol livavchem u'vichol nafshichem - with all of your hearts and all of your souls." (Devarim 11:13) While the pasuk refers to service in general, the Sifrei applies this commandment to the Mikdash in particular. The Sifrei teaches: When a Kohein engages in *Avodat HaMikdash* he should do so without distraction; focusing his heart and soul exclusively on the mitzvah at hand.

Why does the Sifrei narrow in on priestly worship? If anyone is trained to be diligent in mitzvah observance, mindful of kavannah at all times, surely it's the Kohein who dedicates his life to this mission! Rav Meir Simcha of Dvinsk, in his Torah commentary *Meshech Chochmah*, offers a powerful and relevant reading of this Sifrei, one that speaks volumes about our ability to transform a simple mitzvah into a meaningful experience. Of course, writes R' Meir Simcha, a holy priest would never simply distract himself from the mitzvot he performs on our religion's biggest stage, but after years of education and training, he may focus on the details, the meaning, the theological reasons why he is commanded to do what he does more than the spirit of the mitzvah and the majestic atmosphere of the Mikdash he is meant to create. Precisely because he is so educated in the minutia of halachic details and because he engag-

es so frequently in this form of worship, the Sifrei reminds him to worship with his "heart and soul" not just with his head.

The same reminder reverberates in the worship of Modern Orthodoxy in America today. On average we are better educated and more skilled than most generations that came before us. High School and College graduates possess analytical skills, philosophical training, and the blessing of many years of education with which to dissect religious practice. We are capable of analyzing each and every mitzvah in a plethora of ways; how economics shapes our thinking about charity, how psychology underpins our approach to prayer or how comparative religious studies reveal similarities to other faiths and dogma. On the one hand we are fortunate to *think* about religion with such sophisticated methodology and yet, at the same time, we struggle to *feel* religion as deeply as we could. Sometimes it seems that to feel religion more we have to try and understand it less. To better get into a mitzvah, we first have to get out of it.

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel wrote about his own prayer experience, saying: "Never once in my life did I ask God for success or wisdom or power or fame. I asked for wonder, and he gave it to me." Surely wisdom is essential to all faiths, perhaps more so in Judaism where Talmud Torah is of paramount importance. But no pursuit of knowledge can ever replace the soulfulness of religious life. In Shema of all places we are reminded not only to think about religion but to work on feeling it a little bit deeper as well.

Yosie Levine
Rabbi

Dovid Zirkind
Associate Rabbi

Chaim David Berson
Cantor

Erica Brown
Community Scholar

Noach Goldstein
Resident Scholar

Avi Feder
William Fischman
Rabbinic Intern

Aaron Strum
Executive Director

Samantha Zwick
Director of
Programming and
Communications

Jenn & Gaby Minsky
Youth Directors

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PHONE NUMBERS

Yoetzet Halacha
Shiffy Friedman
nycyoezet@gmail.com
646-598-1080

Jewish Center
Chevra Kadisha
212-724-2700 x555

UWS Mikvah
212-579-2011

Hatzolah
212-230-1000

Eruv Status
212-724-2700 x4



CENTENNIAL YEAR PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

An exciting array of programs and activities are planned from
September 2017 through June 2018, commemorating
The Jewish Center's first 100 years.

Save The Date - Black and White Soiree - November 4th
Scholar-in-Residence weekends with former Jewish Center Rabbis and leaders
Public lectures, armchair conversations and Torah study linking our past with our future
Celebrating our special connection with Israel over the past 100 years
Dedication of a new Sefer Torah to commemorate our Centennial year
Publication of a Centennial Journal
Curated exhibition of the Jewish Center archives
Video Oral History Project
100 acts of chesed project
Historic neighborhood walks
Centennial themed art projects
Centennial themed youth events
Jewish Center Centennial Gala Dinner - June 2018



Israel Update

August 11, 2017

Ambassador Haley Presses UNIFIL to Thwart Spread of Hezbollah Weapons

On Aug. 7, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations (U.N.) Nikki Haley urged the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) to increase its efforts to prevent Hezbollah from acquiring illegal weapons. Haley stated that the United States is seeking "significant improvements" to UNIFIL as the U.N. Security Council (UNSC) considers later this month the renewal of UNIFIL's mandate—set to expire on Aug. 31. "These arms—which are almost entirely in the hands of Hezbollah terrorists—threaten the security and stability of the region. UNIFIL must increase its capacity and commitment to investigating and reporting these violations," said Haley. Ambassador Haley's statement came in response to an Aug. 4 letter from U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to the UNSC regarding ways UNIFIL could potentially "enhance its efforts." "We share the Secretary-General's strong desire to enhance UNIFIL's efforts to prevent the spread of illegal arms in southern Lebanon," said Haley. "The United States will continue to raise the threat posed by Hezbollah as we seek significant improvements to UNIFIL when the Security Council renews its mandate this month."

Our Synagogue partners with AIPAC, America's pro-Israel lobby, in educating our community on issues affecting the U.S.-Israel relationship. We encourage you to learn more by contacting AIPAC at synagogues@aipac.org or by visiting www.aipac.org.

COMMUNITY SECURITY SERVICE



Looking for an easy and fun way to get involved with The Center while getting some exercise and meeting people? If so, have you considered volunteering for CSS to help with the shul's security on Shabbat and Chaggim? CSS will be holding training sessions this summer. The L2 course will be for six weeks starting August 6 for 2 to 2.5 hours each and will involve some physical training. Both the L1 and L2 courses are open to all -- no prior experience is necessary. If interested, please contact Steve Graber at steve.graber@gmail.com. All members are welcome.