The Jewish Center
SHABBAT BULLETIN

DECEMBER 2, 2017 • PARSHAT VAYISHLACH • 14 KISLEV 5778

EREV SHABBAT
4:11PM Candle lighting
4:15PM Minchah
5:00 Young Leadership Kabbalat Shabbat (5th floor)
5:30PM 30’s + 40’s East Meets West Dinner Part I
Young Leadership Mix N’ Match Dinners

SHABBAT
7:45AM Hashkama
8:30AM Rabbi Israel Silverstein Rambam Class
with Rabbi Yosie Levine
9:00AM Shacharit
9:15AM Hashkama Shirur with Rabbi Avi Feder, Partners in Crime:
From Biblical Brothers to Spanish Sages
9:22AM Sof Zman Kriat Shema
9:30AM Young Leadership
12:15PM Early Minchah (4th floor)
3:00PM Bikkur Cholim/Bikkur in the Home
(meet at 730 Columbus Ave.)
4:00PM Minchah
4:00PM Afternoon Groups
Daf Yomi
Hilchot Shabbat with Rabbi David Zirkind
Seudah Shlishit with Ora Weinbach, Wrestling in the Night: Fleeing
and Facing Fate
Seudah Shlishit Youth Dvar Torah by Daniel Wagman
5:14PM Shabbat Concludes
7:00PM Teen Vs. Clergy Basketball Game

THANK YOU TO OUR KIDDUSH SPONSORS:
Hashkama Sponsors:
Harriet, Philip, Adina, Sarah and Daniel Wagman in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Stanley P. Wagman
Community Kiddush Sponsors:
Ruby & Joseph Gottlieb in observance of the yahrzeit of Joseph’s mother, Florence Gottlieb
Sammy Papilsky and Nicole & David Pfefferman in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Sammy’s wife and Nicole’s mother, Paulette
Stacie & Todd Stufflebeam in honor of the ausfruf of their son, Jordan
Tiki & Simcha Lyons in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Simcha’s mother, Berenice Lyons
Suzanne & William Kukielka in commemoration of the yahrzeit of her father, Mark Mason (Mendel Leib Ben Avraham)
Seudah Shlishit Sponsors:
Rachel Lurie in commemoration of the yahrzeit of her mother, Klara Markovitz
Pamela & David Neikrug in commemoration of the 1st yahrzeit of David’s mother, Rachel Neikrug

WOMEN’S TEHILLIM GROUP
Monday, December 4th at 7:15PM
Contact Joyce Weitz for more info. at 212-877-1176

Sunday, Dec. 3
7:45AM Daf Yomi
8:30AM Shacharit
4:15PM Minchah

Mon.-Thurs.,
Dec. 4-7
7/8AM Shacharit
7:45AM Daf Yomi
4:15PM Minchah

Friday, Dec. 8
7/8AM Shacharit
7:45AM Daf Yomi
4:10PM Candle Lighting
4:15PM Minchah

The Jewish Center Annual Pre-Chanukah Dinner with Rabbi Dr. Jacob J. Schacter
Featuring a special presentation in celebration of the 90th birthday of Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm
Friday, December 8th at 5:30PM
5:30PM Pre-Chanukah Community Dinner and Conversation.
Featuring a special presentation in celebration of the 90th birthday of Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm
11:00AM Shabbat Morning Public Lecture
The Jewish Center & Modern Orthodoxy in America: Past, Present and A Vision for the Future
4:30PM Seudah Shlishit
Reflections on Chanukah and Our Center: A Tribute to Rabbi Isaac Bernstein z”l!

To join our growing host committee please contact Rabbi Zirkind at dzirkind@jewishcenter.org. To register and join our growing list of sponsors visit the JC website.
Join our growing list of sponsors:
*One Gift

Youth Department Annual Chanukah Dinner
Friday, December 15th at 5:15PM
Come bask in the glow as we celebrate the 4th night of Chanukah with family, friends, great food and fun for all!
Registration and sponsorship opportunities can be found online.

SAVE THE DATE:
Shabbat with Scholar in Residence Professor Elchanan Reiner
Shabbat December 22nd-23rd
Elchanan Reiner is Professor of Jewish History at Tel Aviv University. His research focuses on the cultural history of Eastern European Jewry in the Early Modern Period. He is particularly interested in the beginning of the print culture in the Ashkenazi milieu, the history of the Hebrew book and the history of the Early Modern Yeshivot and scholarship.

The Jewish Center and Congregation Shearith Israel Ski Trip
Monday, December 25th, 7AM-7PM. Registration on The JC website.
Contact Samantha at Samantha@jewishcenter.org with questions.

UWS Blood and Bone Marrow Drive
Sunday, January 7th | 10AM-4PM at The Jewish Center
The Jewish Center, Congregation Shearith Israel, Darchei Noam, West Side Institutional, Lincoln Square Synagogue and Young Israel are joining together for a community drive.
More details to come.

www.jewishcenter.org
THANK YOU TO OUR USHERS
Gilda T. Chodosh and Howard Brodie

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.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

30's+40's East Meets West Shabbat Dinners
Part II - Friday, December 15th at KJ. Registration on The JC website.

Meet your neighbors from across the park as two of NYC's most dynamic Jewish communities come together again for Part II of this two-part Shabbat dinner series.

OHEL Chanukah Toy Drive
Please donate games, toys, art projects and more. Drop off location is in the lobby of the Jewish Center by December 3rd.

AIPAC Policy Conference 2018
Sunday March 4 - 6, 2018 in Washington, DC
Registration for the conference costs $599, but if you purchase a ticket through The Jewish Center, you will pay $399, a $200 discount.
Contact the Jewish Center office for more information and to purchase your ticket. Only 9 tickets left!

THE JEWISH CENTER UNIVERSITY CENTENNIAL SCHEDULE

Daily
Israel Friedman Daf Yomi (Daily)
Rotating JCU Faculty

Monday
8:00PM 100 Years of Kashrut in America with Rabbi Dovid Zarkin

Tuesday
7:45-8:30AM Advanced Gemara Chaburah with Rabbi Noach Goldstein
10:15-11:30AM Nosh and Drash with Dr. Adena Berkowitz (women only)
8:00PM The Throne Room: From Solomon to Ben Gurion, The Sadye and Henry Bayer Tanakh Class with Rabbi Yosie Levine

Wednesday
11:00AM Women of the Bible with Rabbi Yosie Levine
8:00PM Faith and Philosophy for the 21st Century with Ora Weinbach

Shabbat
8:30AM Rabbi Israel Silverstein Rambam Class with Rabbi Yosie Levine
Following Minchah - Hilchot Shabbat with Rabbi Dovid Zarkin

YOUTH DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Centennial Teen Vs. Clergy Basketball Game
Motzei Shabbat, December 2nd 7:00-9:00PM

With Thanks to our Sponsors:

- Varsity Dana & Adam Fine
- Avi Schwartz*
- Junior Varsity Sharon Schneier & Clifford Brandeis
- Leslie Cohen & Jeffrey Lang
- Rachel & Daniel Solomons
- Patrons
  - Rachel Stone & Robert Bernstein
  - Rochele Tarlowe & Seth Jonas
- Patrons
  - Bosi & Yaron Kinar
- Fan
  - Bernard Broome
  - Esther & Moishe Jacobs
  - Helen Solomons
  - Carole & Joseph Tuchman

Chanukah Family Shabbat Dinner
Friday evening, December 15th Register on the JC website

With Thanks to our Sponsors:

- Marnie & Scott Black*
- Alessandra Rovati & Lloyd Harmetz
- Sabrina & Guy Salomon
- Jennifer & Mark Smith*
- Esther & Garth Symonds
- Adina & Phil Wagman*

*One Gift

Thank you to everyone who attended our Thanksgiving Firehouse visit! More events such as a Motzei Shabbat Menorah Candle Lighting with Cantor Berson coming soon!

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?
Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman was the sixth rabbi of The Jewish Center.
In 2008, he moved to Israel, and completed a Ph.D. in Jewish thought from Hebrew University under the guidance of Dr. Moshe Halbertal, on the topic of Ger Toshav – gentiles who accept the Noahide Laws – in Jewish Law of the Middle Ages. While in Israel, he resided in Neve Daniel with his wife and five children.
He is now the President of Yeshiva University.

JC MINHAGIM
On Chanukah, following Shacharit, we recite 수행נין שיר חנוכה (Psalm 30). This Psalm is thematically connected to Chanukah inasmuch as it celebrates the dedication of the Temple while Chanukah marks the Temple's rededication.

The archives display boxes in the lobby have been updated. Enjoy this fascinating piece of JC history. Thank you to our Archives Committee for organizing the displays.

Thank you so much to those who joined us at the New York Historical Society for our tour of the Arthur Szyk exhibit.

100 Years of Kashrut in America, Mondays at 8PM, JC Beit Midrash
With Rabbi Dovid Zarkin
December 4 – From Almond Milk to Synthetic Beef: Are We Headed Towards a Parve Future?
December 11 – An Inside Look At The World’s Largest Kashrut Agency with OU Kosher CEO Rabbi Menachem Genack
Welcome to our 100 new YL members!

Eliza Abraham
Aviva & Steven Balter
Ariel Berkowitz
David Bernheim
Frances Bernstein
Matthew Block
Naomi Bloch
Noam Bloom
Alex Braunstein
Zachary Breslaw
Hannah Brody
Atara Charnoff
Jackie & Oren Charnoff
Jacob Chefitz
Margalit Cirlin
Maxwell Cutler
Ruth & Jonathan Dagan
David Deutsch
Rena Dicker
Talya Douek
Rebecca Eis
Tara Eisen
Kenneth Eisman
Anna Etra
Alexa & Kehat Falik
Hanania Falik
Austin Feit
Seth Feuerstein-Rudin
Simona Fisch
Jossie Forman
Ariel Futter
Chaim Gevaryahu
Dov Gold
Alison Goldsmith
Jason Goldstein
Jennifer Goldstein
Elana Greenberg
Stephanie Gross
Jaclyn & Joshua Grossman
Craig Gutterman
Shira Hanau
Zoe Heisler
Amanda Herman
Ayelet Hochman
Sarah & David Hochstein
Hillary Hofer
Joshua Honig
Daniel Jacoby
Elana & Aaron Jagoda
Gabrielle Kaplan
Aleza Kleinworm
Joseph Kazlowski
Jennifer Kraut
Rebecca Kraut
Sippy Laster
Yael Lehmann
Tani Levitt
Noam Litwack
Ayelet Mael
Sammy Magid
Rachel Mendelsohn
Zahava & Sam Michaelson
Rachel Miller
Grace Milstein
Samuel Mitrani
Alyssa Moore
Daniel Moskowitz
Joshua Nachman
Sarah Nattel
Zachary Neugut
Lauren Newcorn
Allison Nitzky
Chana & Elya Pardes
Daniella Penn
Charles Peyser
Ayelet & David Rand
Matthew Renick
Nicole & Michael Rochlin
Michael Rosenthal
David Roumani
Jenna Salner
Noam Saltzburg
Michael Schechter
Michelle Schiffman
Laura Schneebaum
Rocky Softel
Max Selig
Aaron Shapiro
Chana Shechter
Caleb Siegel
Alissa Silverstein
Leora Sperber
Shlomo Sprung
Serena Rapoport &
Noah Stein
Ari Stein
Rayna Stern
Arianne Storch
Shail Sturm
Gabriel Unger
Joshua Weisblum
Tanna & Todd Wiesel
Jacob Wilner
Nicole & Daniel Yosef
Judith Zwillenberg
The Immovable Power of Integrity
Rabbi Noach Goldstein

Each of the Patriarchs lived a life facing many trials to overcome, and for each we can identify one particular moment of climactic struggle. For Avraham and Yitzchak that moment came at the Akedah, and the angel's subsequent speech clarifies the specific power that allowed them to meet the challenge: “Now I know that you fear God” (22:12). For Yaakov, the moment arrives this week: “Yaakov was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the break of dawn” (32:25). The timeless message of Yaakov, utterly alone, somehow withstanding an endless assault and dire injury from a seemingly infinitely more powerful foe, is clear. Equally clearly, while Yaakov’s victory was only possible thanks to miraculous assistance, he possessed a particular source of power that allowed him to merit such assistance. After all, when the defeated “man” renames Yaakov “Yisrael,” he explains, “For you have striven with beings divine and human, and have prevailed.” But one mystery remains: what was that power?

The key appears to be the beginning of the verse—why was Yaakov left alone? The Gemara (Chullin 91a) cites the view of R. Elazar, made popular by Rashi’s partial quotation:

“He remained behind for the sake of some small jars. From here we learn that to the righteous, their money is dearer than their body. Why do they go to such extremes? Because they refuse to stretch out their hands to robbery.”

R. Eliyahu Mizrahi (Constantinople, 1455-1525) clarifies the textual inference: In the previous verse, Yaakov had just transferred “all his possessions” to the far side of the river. Thus, R. Elazar deduces that Yaakov remained behind to bring over a few jars so insignificant that they did not even register among those possessions.

Now, Yaakov was no miser or money-lover, as his lavish gift to Esav and his famous comment, “I have everything” (33:11) make clear. The loss of a few cents from his net worth did not motivate him. In a piercing comment, R. Aharon Kotler explains that once people dismiss the value of their own minor possessions, they inevitably dismiss the value of the minor possessions of others—and that is the first step towards stumbling into theft. In order to be hyper-respectful towards what others own, we must respect what we ourselves possess. Chazal state that the original sin of the Generation of the Flood was that they would casually steal minute amounts—a brick here, a needle there—and that created the foundation for a culture of moral anarchy. Yaakov adopted the exact opposite perspective.

In the final verse of Michah, the prophet proclaims the defining virtues of Avraham and Yaakov: “Give chessed to Avraham and emet to Yaakov.” I heard my teacher R. Michael Rosensweig explain that while emet is typically translated as “truth,” the more accurate translation is often “integrity” (e.g. the emet in the Thirteen Attributes of Mercy). Last week Yaakov described the absolute integrity that he conducted himself with in his labor for Lavan. Now, we see the payoff. The prophet Malachi describes the greatness of the original kohanim, concluding with an exclamation that they were comparable to angels of God (2:7). In the preceding verse, Malchi explains how they achieved this lofty station: “For orat emet was in his mouth and no perversity was found on his lips.” Radak explains that these priests of old, exemplified by Aharon and Pinchas, were men of total honesty and integrity, never thinking one thing and saying something else. Just as integrity enabled Aharon and Pinchas to reach the level of the angels, it gave Yaakov the spiritual power needed to defeat the angel wrestling him. And as the force behind “Yisrael,” it constitutes the spiritual legacy inherited by the nation who bears that name.

In bid to boost Africa ties, Israel to open embassy in Rwanda

Israel is opening a new embassy in Kigali, Rwanda, and is weighing direct commercial flights to the East African country. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced Tuesday, “This is part of the expansion of our presence in Africa and of the deepening cooperation between Israel and African countries.” Netanyahu said after a meeting with Rwandan President Paul Kagame in Nairobi. Netanyahu arrived in Kenya for a whirlwind visit to celebrate the inauguration of President Uhuru Kenyatta and for a marathon session of bilateral meetings with African leaders. In the last two years, four African countries have opened diplomatic missions in Israel, and he was inviting others to follow suit. Netanyahu added. In July 2016, Netanyahu became the first sitting Israeli prime minister to visit Rwanda. “I am deeply impressed with Rwanda,” Netanyahu said at a joint press conference. A year later, Netanyahu hosted Kagame in Jerusalem. “To be here it's like coming home,” the Rwandan president said. In recent years, Rwanda has been a staunch ally of Israel, notably abstaining in 2014 vote on a resolution advancing the Palestinian statehood bid at the United Nations Security Council.

December 1, 2017

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 (212) 639-5280 or by visiting www.aipac.org.