The Jewish Center
SHABBAT BULLETIN

November 24, 2018 • 16 Kislev 5779 • Parshat Vayishlach

Shabbat Schedule

EREV SHABBAT
4:15PM Candle-lighting
4:20PM Minchah

SHABBAT
7:45AM Hashkama
Israel Silverstein Morning Midrash with Rabbi Dovid Zirkind will resume next week
9:00AM Shacharit
9:15AM Hashkama Shiur with Rabbi Dovid Zirkind, Flatter Me Not: On the Ethics of Gracious Dishonesty
9:12AM Sof Zman Kriat Shema
10:00AM Youth Groups
12:15PM Early Minchah (4th floor, Beit Midrash)
3:00PM Bikkur Cholim/Bikkur in the Home (meet at 730 Columbus Ave.)
4:05PM Minchah
Daf Yomi
Muktzah 101 with Rabbi Dovid Zirkind will resume next week
Seudah Shlishit Speaker, Rabbi Dovid Zirkind
5:14PM Shabbat Concludes

Thank you to our CSS members whose efforts help maintain a safe shul for our community.

Mazal Tov
Lisa & Tyler Ben-Jacob on the birth of a daughter, Jean Rory
Mazal tov to grandparents Gilda & Irving Chodosh

Condolences
Ira Kalfus on the passing of his mother Frieda Kalfus

Thank you to our Ushers
Deborah de Winter
Thank you to our ushers for maintaining a warm and welcoming shul.

Community Announcements

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Please Join us for Friday Night Dinner & Conversation
With Scholar In Residence Mr. Nathan Lewin
Attorney and Legal Scholar
Shabbat November 30th
Registration now open!
Friday Night Dinner Conversation:
The Future of Religious Liberty in America: The Supreme Court and the Jewish Community.
Shabbat Morning Public Lecture:

Youth Department Chanukah Dinner
Shabbat December 7th
Services at 4:15PM
Dinner at 5:30PM
For details and registration visit jewishcenter.org

Why We Cannot Ignore the UN
December 12 at 7:30PM
The Jewish Center and Touro College invite the community to a conversation between Justice Elyakim Rubinstein and Irwin Cotler, moderated by Harry Ballan, Dean and Professor of Law at Touro Law Center.
To register visit jewishcenter.org.

Teen Boys vs. Clergy Basketball Game.
December 15
Details and registrations to follow.
Questions? Email Sarah@jewishcenter.org

Women’s Tehillim Group:
Monday, December 3, 7:15PM
Contact Joyce Weitz for more info. at 212-877-1176

Daily Service Times

Sunday Nov. 25
7:45AM Daf Yomi
8:30AM Shacharit
4:15PM Minchah

Monday Nov. 26 – Thursday Nov. 29
7:45AM Daf Yomi
4:15PM Minchah

Friday Nov. 30
7/8AM Shacharit
4:12PM Candle-lighting
4:20PM Minchah

The Jewish Center
MEMBERSHIP 101
20% OFF MEMBERSHIP DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER TO APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP VISIT WWW.JEWISHCENTER.ORG/MEMBERSHIP101
THIS DISCOUNT INCLUDES A 14 MONTH MEMBERSHIP THAT RUNS THROUGH DECEMBER 2019
Make Our Center Your Home!
Questions? Email membership@jewishcenter.org
**The Jewish Center**

The Jewish Center is going to be cleaning out the cubbies and shelves of the Beit Midrash. If you have any personal siddurim or property of any kind in the Beit Midrash please remove it so it does not get misplaced. Thank you!

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**TUESDAY**

**Talmud Class**  
Rabbi Noach Goldstein  
7:45am–8:30am

**Nosh and Drash**  
With Dr. Adena Berkowitz

**Tanach 101:**  
Athens vs Jerusalem:  
War in Tanach and The Iliad  
Rabbi Noach Goldstein  
The Sadye and Henry Bayer Tanach  
Class 8:00 PM

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**WEDNESDAY**

**An Introduction To The World of Mussar:**  
The Writings of Rav Eliyahu Dessler  
Rabbi Dovid Zirkind  
Oct.10- Dec.12 at 11:00 am

**Talmud 101**  
Ora Weinbach, Community Educator  
October 24th, 31st and November 14th and 28th at 8:00pm

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**SHABBAT**

**Muktzah 101**  
Rabbi Dovid Zirkind  
Shabbat Afternoons  
Between Minchah and Maariv in the main sanctuary

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JCU 101 FALL SEMESTER

Runs through December

For more information visit our website or contact
Rabbi Dovid Zirkind at dzirkind@jewishcenter.com

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**MATCHED IN THE CITY**

PRE-CANUKAH MEGA BASH  
MO/MM SINGLES 20-32

CELEBR8

SATURDAY NIGHT 8PM  
12.1.18

- Music by Roy Baron  
- Performance by Singer Shauli  
- Comedian David Weinbach  
- Sushi, Cocktails, and 8 Awesome Activities

The Mansion  
107 East 16th Street  
NY NY 10003

$40 Till 11/14, $54 Thereafter  
RSVP: matchedinthecity@gmail.com

Co-hosted by JJC Live
AIPAC Policy Conference 2019
Sunday March 24-26, 2019 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. Limited tickets available.

FAITH, FERTILITY, AND THE FUTURE OF PARENTHOOD
Thank you to everyone who joined us for the final installment of our Beginnings of Life Seminar with Professor Carol Sanger of Columbia University Law School. Professor Sanger spoke about her latest book About Abortion and the culture and conversations that shape the way abortion is perceived in America today. Thank you to all our presenters for making this an outstanding semester of learning!

Thank you everyone who took part in last week’s Women’s 3 on 3 basketball tournament. Congratulations to Twins Plus!

SAVE THE DATE
Teen Weekend Extravaganza December 14th-15th: including a Friday night Middle School Oneg, High School Oneg, and Teen Minyan.

YOUTH EVENTS
JC Youth Department had an awesome motzei Shabbat Movie Night last weekend for elementary school kids. All seats were filled for an incredible viewing of Toy Story!

Please drop toys in the Jewish Center lobby!
Deadline: November 26, 2018
The Source of Gratitude
Ora Weinbach, Community Educator

It is obvious from even before they are born, that Yaakov and Esav are opposites. Physically, psychologically, and even in their careers, these two brothers are foils of one another. When Esav and Yaakov reunite in this week’s parsha for the first time after decades of separation, their conversation continues to reveal how significantly different they are from one another.

Yaakov initiates their reunion through sending gifts. Yet Esav rejects these gifts, saying, “I have a lot, my brother. You have what is yours (33:9).” Though at the surface this seems a kind and generous statement, it is clearly contrasted with Yaakov’s response, “Take my blessing that I have brought to you, for God has favored me and so I have everything (33:11).” These words are not simply passing niceties. They in fact reveal the brothers’ drastically different worldviews.

In Pirkei Avot 5:10, the mishna records 4 different middot- temperaments or attitudes- towards monetary wealth. “The one who says, ‘What is mine is mine, and what is yours is yours’-- that is an average temperament. And there are some who say that is the temperament of Sodom... [One who says] ‘what is mine is yours, and what is yours is yours’ – that is a pious person...” With a close reading of our text, it becomes clear that Esav displays the former temperament, whereas Yaakov displays the latter.

Esav rejects Yaakov’s gifts because he believes each person is responsible for their own wellbeing. “I have a lot... you have what is yours” represents the mentality of a self-made, self reliant individual. Esav, the man of the field, the hunter, lives by his own might and believes that others should as well. While this attitude – so common in our world today- seems innocuous, Pirkei Avot points out that it ultimately leads to a harsh, hyper-isolated, inhospitable society, as represented by Sodom. The city of Sodom refused guests, sharing of any kind, and oppressed the poor and needy. Such behaviors ultimately grow out of Esav’s disposition- ‘what is mine is mine and what is yours is yours’.

Yaakov, on the other hand, embodies the latter temperament recorded in Pirkei Avot. He wants to give to Esav and does not demand anything in return- ‘what is mine is yours and what is yours is yours’. The root of Yaakov’s attitude is his acknowledgment of the source of his blessing, “God has favored me, and so I have everything.” He openly credits God for his prosperity, not the work of his own hands. Acknowledging the fact that everything he has is truly a blessing from God enables him to be pious and generous, for her knows that nothing he has is truly his own.

Over Thanksgiving weekend, we often contemplate the qualities of gratitude and generosity. This week’s parsha reminds us that the root of a pious disposition, one of giving and sharing, is a recognition of the abundance of blessing in our lives. We have so much good, not because we have earned or are entitled to it, as Esav believed, but because it has been gifted to us. As we head into this weekend, let us reflect on the many gifts which God, our community, and our loved ones have given us. Doing so will enable us- just like forefather Yaakov- to give generously in turn.

ISRAEL UPDATE
November 23, 2018

Haley scolds UN envoy for saying Israel, Gaza should both show restraint

US Ambassador Nikki Haley challenged the United Nations’ special envoy for Mideast peace over his call for both Israel and the Palestinians to exercise restraint following an upsurge in violence across the Gaza border last week, in an intense UN Security Council meeting on Monday. The Times of Israel reported that Haley also castigated UN member states for focusing what she deemed a disproportionate amount of its criticism against Israel, when malevolent actors like the Iranian regime get nowhere near the level of attention. After Nickolay Mladenov, the UN’s special coordinator for Middle East peace, called for both sides to use “maximum restraint,” Haley accused him of “missing the mark.” “Fact,” she said, “There is only one side that attacks indiscriminately. One side that targets civilians. One side that terrorizes to achieve its objectives.” “Yes, Israel launched airstrikes on military posts, weapons depots, and intelligence assets in Gaza. But it did so in response to over 400 rockets and mortars that were fired indiscriminately from Gaza into Israel. Neighborhoods were targeted. A bus was bombed by an anti-tank missile. Families were forced into bomb shelters to escape the barrage.”

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 (202) 639-5200 or by visiting www.aipac.org.