טז כסלו התשפ"ב שבת פרשת וישלח **Shabbat Parshat Va'yishlach** November 19 - 20, 2021 / 5782 Please print this bulletin before Shabbat.

Chazan Sheini Rabbi President **Rev. Amiel Bender** Yechezkel Freundlich **Josh Orzech** 

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# SHABBAT SHALOM • שבת שלום

#### **Shabbat Parshat Va'yishlach**

Haftara: Ovadiah 1:1 - 1:21

#### Friday, November 19

3:22pm Plag Hamincha 4:02pm Candle Lighting

4:05pm Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat

and Maariv - Main Sanctuary

and Upper Social Hall -

After Kabbalat Shabbat and Maariv toniaht, shiur with Rabbi Freundlich: Bowing for "Bo'ee Kallah"

4:21pm Sh'kiah

#### Shabbat, November 20 / 16 Kislev

8:00am Shacharit - Upper Social Hall 9:10am Chumash Shiur - Main Sanctuary 9:20am Sof Zman K'riyat Shman 9:30am Shacharit - Main Sanctuary

3:22pm Plag Hamincha

3:55pm Mincha, Seudah Shleesheet

and Maariv - Main Sanctuary

Kef Club for Kids - Lower Level

and Upper Social Hall

4:20pm Sh'kiah

10:00am

5:08pm Havdala

5:15pm Daf Yomi - Upper Social Hall 6:00pm Musical Havdala on Facebook

with Rev. Amiel Bender

#### **SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK**

Mincha: 4:00pm Sunday to Thursday

#### Shacharit

Sunday: 8:00am and 9:00am Monday and Thursday: 6:50am and 8:00am Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday: 7:00am and 8:00am

> Candle Lighting is at 3:57pm and Mincha is at 4:00pm on Friday, November 26

For our full schedule, go to tbdj.org/calendar

#### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

Mazal Tov to Carole & Mayer Diamond and their families on the occasion of their granddaughter Charlotte Isabelle Diamond becoming a Bat Mitzvah on Shabbat, November 20 in Ottawa. Proud parents are Sharon & Mark Diamond. Sharing in their simcha are Charlotte's brother Matthew, her maternal grandparents Sophie & Neil Frenkel and many delighted aunts, uncles and cousins.

Mazal Tov to Bonnie & Alex Spira and their families on the occasion of their granddaughter Talya Lily Spira becoming a Bat Mitzvah on Sunday, November 14 in Sharon, Massachusetts. Proud parents are Dena Zyroff & Dan Spira. Sharing in their simcha are Talya's siblings Daphna, Tamar and Oren, her maternal grandparents Ellen & Jack Zyroff and many delighted aunts, uncles and cousins.

Kol Hakavod to the following TBDJ members who were honoured as "Changemakers" by Emunah Montreal at their 2021 Fall Gala on Thursday, November 18: Rachel Goodman Aspler, David Diner, Alyssa & Yair Meyers, Shoshana Neuer, Isabelle Punski, Jody Quint.

Condolences to Rachel & Isidore Shanfield and their families on the loss of Rachel's beloved mother Charlotte Scheiner Spitzer z"l who passed away on Saturday, November 13. Funeral took place on Monday, November 15. Shiva continues until Sunday, November 21 - for details please contact the family.

#### THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS

Kiddush is sponsored by generous members of TBDJ to mark the resumption of weekly kiddushim inside our building after a long hiatus due to the pandemic.

Seudah Shleesheet is sponsored by **Susan Lieberman and her family** in memory of beloved husband, father, father-in-law, grandfather and great grandfather Aron Lieberman z"l (Aharon ben Eliezer v'Reizl - 20 Kislev).

Rabbi Freundlich's Chumash Shiur on Shabbat morning is sponsored by Rosaleen & David Hutman and their family in memory of David's beloved mother Donna Selick Hutman z"l (Devosha bat Dov v'Chana - 18 Kislev).

This Shabbat Bulletin is sponsored by Rochelle & Jeffrey Rein and Michaella & Cyril Weintraub and their families in memory of Rochelle and Cyril's beloved mother Dolly Weintraub z"l (Dobrusha bat Nachum HaKohen - 17 Kislev).

Rifki Freundlich's Tehilim Class on Monday, November 15 was sponsored by Shira Vasilevsky for the refua of Zelig Shabtai ben Pnina.

#### UNVEILING

A monument in memory of Yenti (Helen) Blech Rosenfeld z"l mother and mother-in-law of Esther & Andy Csillag will be unveiled at 10:15am on Sunday, November 28 (next week) in the Ste. Sophie Jewish Cemetery, 2405 2e Rue, Šte. Sophie, QC J5J 1Ň6

#### For With My Staff I Crossed the Jordan

ּ קָטֹנְתִּי מִכֹּל הַחֲסָדִים וּמִכָּל הָאֱמֶת אֲשֶׁר עָשִׂיתָ אֶת עַבְדֶּךְּ בִּי בִּמַקְלִי עַבַרִתִּי אֵת הַיַּרִדֵּן הַזֵּה וְעַתַּה הַיִּיתִי לִשְׁנִי מַחֲנוֹת

I have become small from all the kindnesses and from all the truth that You have rendered Your servant, for with my staff I crossed this Jordan, and now I have become two camps.(Breisheet 32:11)

With these words, our patriarch Yaakov Avinu teaches us a lesson in humility and *derech eretz* - proper conduct. This verse, from our Torah portion of Vayishlach, paints a portrait of our patriarch that should serve as an example and model of gratitude and respect for all of us to follow as recipients of infinite and merciful gifts from heaven as we live our lives.

Yaakov recognizes Hashem's kindness and favours to him as he beseeches Hashem to safeguard him from his brother Esav's wrath and vengeance. He recounts his modest beginnings - for with my staff I crossed this Jordan - as he is returning - albeit on guard for his brother's wrath - blessed with a large family and great wealth. In his commentary on the verse, Rabbi Shimshon Raphael Hirsch (1808-1888) writes that Yaakov was not praying or begging anything for himself as he had already received so much from Thee that I cannot possibly have paid the debt of gratitude that I owe Thee. By the abundance of what Thou hast already done for me, I feel quite small and too humble to approach Thee... Rabbi Hirsch further explains the nature of Yaakov's request from Hashem in his commentary on the following verse: Nevertheless, I pray Thee, save me from my brother, who perhaps has some claim against me, from Esav, who in accordance with his character, perhaps plans revenge, which perhaps after all, I do not deserve, save me for the sake of my children, on who Thou hast promised to build such a great future. (Breisheet 32:12-13) While Yaakov realizes that Hashem's favours are great and cannot be repaid, he is concerned for the future of his people, a future that will be carried on the weight of his children carrying on the tradition.

For with my staff I crossed this Jordan...

We learn from these few words the importance of not taking anything for granted and appreciating everything that we have from the source of our blessings: Hashem. These words imply Yaakov's realization that he may be unworthy of asking for anything else after all the good that he has been blessed with. We learn from Yaakov how to accept the gifts that Hashem bestows upon us and how to express our gratitude.

Yaakov had no material wealth as he crossed the Jordan on his way to a temporarily imposed exile thirty four years earlier. He had however, a wealth of spirituality acquired through his faith in Hashem and through learning a vast and extensive amount of Torah knowledge. The spiritual wealth is not mentioned in the verse. Following his leaving home and prior to crossing the Jordan, Yaakov strengthened his Torah knowledge with fourteen years of learning in the yeshiva of Shem and Ever. In his commentary on the verse describing Yaakov's life in Lavan's presence, Rashi teaches: Though I have sojourned with Lavan, I have observed the 613 commandments and have not learned from his evil ways... Yaakov arrived in the exile of Charan with his chosen discipline of living a Torah-mandated life.

- with my staff... Yaakov's humility and gratitude is accentuated by the Torah cantillation note for this word. The note is called the Revi'i which descends four notes and suggests musically that Yaakov's material possessions were of lower status.

For with my staff I crossed this Jordan...

The Torah that Yaakov learned and brought across the Jordan, outside of Eretz Yisrael to the pagan world of exile in Charan connects to us in a very real way. Yaakov passed on his Torah learning and observances, sharing it with his sons, our ancestors, Bnei Yisrael - the children of Israel - who in turn have passed it down from father to son and mother to daughter throughout our existence. It is our Torah, our way of life spanning the generations. Taking into account Yaakov's crossing the Jordan River with his staff and obviously the Torah that he learned, it is amazing to witness how, throughout the past three thousand years, this light of Torah has spread virtually - not a pun - and is literally all over the world.

In preparing my divrei Torah, I enjoy surfing the internet where gems of Torah can be found from all over the world. Here is something that I read about Yaakov's character which was published by the Kansas City Kollel. Yes, a Torah thought from Kansas City, Missouri, USA! Let us appreciate an amazing fact: We live in times where the light of Torah is everywhere and I think that on this occasion it's actually quite appropriate to relate a Torah thought which originated in Kansas City. Yaakov displayed a sense of humility in approaching Hashem. In Jewish and Torah terms, when compared to various Jewish populated cities around the globe Kansas City is quite a humble place. I remember that the first person I met at Bar Ilan University upon my arrival from the airport as I began my freshman year in Israel was a guy name Danny who came from Kansas. I remember saying to him: Really? I also remember thinking: Who ever met any Jews from Kansas?

And so... Here is some Torah from the Kansas City Kollel and there is no need to click your heels three times...

In his plea to Hashem before confronting Esav, Yaakov says "I have become small by all of the kindness and truth You have bestowed upon [me]" (32:11). The Sfas Emes (1847-1905), quotes a novel approach from his grand - Rebbe, the Chozeh of Lublin (1745-1815). Instead of explaining that the "smallness" is a product of the good things he received, the Chozeh explains that Yaakov is explaining that his humility is one of the kindnesses Hashem granted him. Meaning, that through all of the tremendous blessings granted to Yaakov, he could have easily grown entitled and egoistic about Hashem's favoritism towards him. But it wasn't only that Yaakov was humbled by G-d's gifts, but that even his humility he saw as a gift. For Yaakov, and for ourselves, we appreciate how everything we have - even our own personalities - are gifts from Hashem.

For with my staff I crossed this Jordan...

Isn't this everyone's story? We have grown up with countless accounts of how our parents and ancestors came across the ocean or were born into dire circumstances with nothing and how they built up their lives. We have our own memories of how we crossed our Jordan rivers, how we earned our first dollar, how we came from modest beginnings, how we began our careers and families, moved into our first residences and more... to where we are today. These stories are inspiring and we retell them over and over again, teaching our children about approaching their own lives and growth as well as expressing our gratitude and even measures of disbelief at our good fortune.

For Yaakov and for ourselves, we appreciate how everything we have are gifts from Hashem.

Shabbat Shalom,

Rev. Amiel

# Chanukah is the time for Chesed at TBDJ

- 1 Volunteer at MADA on Sunday, Nov 21 @11am
  Limited space. Reservation required.
  email- rifki.freundlich@gmail.com
- Give a gift to a resident or staff member at Maison Shalom. Sign up attached.
- Donate new or gently used winter gear to be distributed to the homeless.

  Drop off @ bins in TBDJ parking lot Nov.28-Dec.5

### **UPCOMING SHIURIM, PROGRAMS AND EVENTS**

Saturday 11/20 at 6:00pm Sunday 11/21, 8:00am-10:35am Monday 11/22 at 10:00am

Monday 11/22 at 7:45pm

Tuesday 11/23 at 12:00pm Wednesday 11/24 at 12:15pm

Thursday 11/25 at 12:30pm

Musical Havdala with Rev. Bender - TBDJ Facebook Page

Kollel Yom Rishon at TBDJ - see flyer on page 5

Tehilim Class with Rifki Freundlich - Zoom

Jewish History Lecture with Rabbi Freundlich - Upper Social Hall

and on Zoom

Lunchtime Halacha Shiur with the Rabbi - Zoom

Wednesday Parsha Shiur with the Rabbi - Upper Social Hall

and on Zoom

Parsha Shiur for Women with Rifki Freundlich - TBDJ Library

and on Zoom

Mark your calendars!

TBDJ and KTM invite everyone to a Chanukah Melava Malka Extravaganza

on Motsa'ei Shabbat, December 4

Learning programs, music, food, games and Ping Pong Tournament!!!

Mark your calendars!

TBDJ Welcomes Scholar-in-Residence Rabbi Ari Cutler of Yeshivat HaKotel

Shabbat Parshat Va'yigash, December 10 and 11



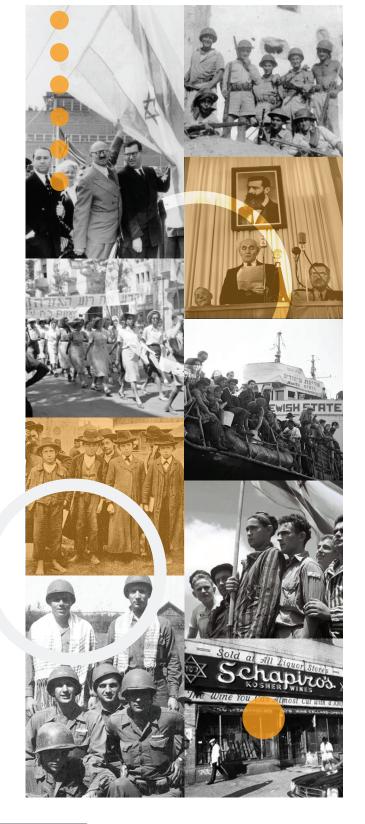
NEXT LECTURE: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15

# MODERN JEWISH HISTORY

FROM WORLD WAR I
TO THE DECLARATION
OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

with Rabbi Yechezkel Freundlich

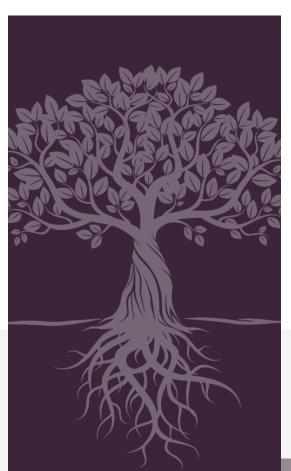
Mondays at 7:45pm
LIVE IN TBDJ SOCIAL HALL
and available on Zoom



THE SERIES WILL COVER THE FOLLOWING TOPICS AND MORE!



AMERICAN JEWRY BEFORE WORLD WAR II
THE HOLOCAUST AND THE DESTRUCTION OF EUROPEAN JEWRY
POST-WAR PRE-STATE PALESTINE
DECLARATION OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL
WAR OF INDEPENDANCE









TBDJ is proud to launch two new programs in partnership with Kollel Torah MiTzion!



## Friday Night Shiur

A program for our (early) winter Friday nights at shul. On alternating weeks, Rabbi Freundlich and Rav Gateno will deliver a short 10-15 minute shiur after davening for those wishing to stay.

# בולל יום ראשון - Sunday Morning Kollel

Led by Rabbi Freundlich and Rav Gateno. A systematic and concise learning method from the Talmudic source through modern day Halachic applicaation.

8:00 AM 1st SHACHARIT MINYAN

Followed by a 20-minute shiur on Hilchot Shabbat.

9:00 AM 2nd SHACHARIT MINYAN

Followed by some nosh and coffee, chavruta learning from 9:45-10:15, and a short 20-minute shiur tying everything together. You can come with your own chavruta, or we'll set you up. The KTM bachurim will also be leading small learning groups.

Location: Congregation TBDJ, 6519 Baily Road

