

כג כסלו התשפ"ב שבת פרשת וישב Shabbat Parshat Va'yeishev November 26 - 27, 2021 / 5782 Please print this bulletin before Shabbat.

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

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SHABBAT SHALOM • שבת שלום

Chanukah 5782 begins the evening of Sunday, November 28 - last day is on Monday, December 6
Rosh Chodesh Tevet is on Shabbat, December 4 and Sunday, December 5
Molad is on Shabbat, December 4 at 1:39pm and 14 chalakim

Shabbat Parshat Va'yeishev

Haftara: Amos 2:6 - 3:8

Friday, November 26

3:18pm Plag Hamincha 3:57pm Candle Lighting

4:00pm Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat and Maariv - Main Sanctuary

and Upper Social Hall -

Shiur with Rabbi Freundlich after

Kabbalat Shabbat

4:16pm Sh'kiah

Shabbat, November 27 / 23 Kislev

8:00am Shacharit - Upper Social Hall
9:10am Chumash Shiur - Main Sanctuary
9:26am Sof Zman K'riyat Shman
9:30am Shacharit - Main Sanctuary
10:00am Kef Club for Kids - Lower Level
3:18pm Plag Hamincha
3:50pm Mincha, Seudah Shleesheet
and Maariv - Main Sanctuary

and Upper Social Hall k:15pm Sh'kiah

4:15pm Sh'kiah 5:04pm Havdala

5:10pm Daf Yomi - Upper Social Hall 5:50pm Musical Havdala on Facebook

with Rev. Amiel Bender

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK

Mincha: 4:00pm Sunday to Thursday

Shacharit

Please note earlier time for first minyan due to Chanukah.

Sunday: 8:00am and 9:00am
Monday and Thursday: **6:45am** and 8:00am
Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday: **6:45am** and 8:00am

Candle Lighting is at 3:54pm and **Mincha** is at 3:55pm on Friday, December 3

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



חג חנוכה שמח!

CHANUKAH CARNIVAL IN THE UPPER SOCIAL HALL TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30 AT 5:00PM!!!! Fun for the whole family! See flyer on page 3 of this bulletin.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Mazal Tov to **Audra Zahava Bowen** and her family on the occasion of her becoming a Bat Mitzvah. Proud parents are **Mirielle & Jason Bowen**. Sharing in their simcha are Audra's brother **Micah**, her grandparents **Linda Levitt Saks** and Aliza & Morty Hoch, her great grandparents **Sylvia & Ben Levitt**, and many delighted aunts, uncles and cousins. Lovingly remembered at this time is Audra's beloved grandfather Jay Saks z"l.

Mazal Tov to **Joyce Reinblatt** and her family on the birth of a grandson on Shabbat, November 20. Proud parents are Karen & Bryan Reinblatt. Sharing in their simcha are the baby's siblings Harley and Natalia, his maternal grandparents Esther & Murray Strulovitch and many delighted aunts, uncles and cousins. Lovingly remembered at this time is the baby's grandfather Neal Reinblatt z"l.

Mazal Tov to **Lorraine & Andrew Szilagyi** and their families on the birth of grandson Jacob David Siegman on Tuesday, November 16 in Toronto. Proud parents are Alison & Michael Siegman. Sharing in their simcha are Jacob's sister Gabriella Mina, his paternal grandparents Denise & Majer Siegman and many delighted aunts, uncles and cousins.

Mazal Tov to Linda Saks on her special birthday! Ad 120!

Condolences to **Sandra & David Fine** and their families on the loss of Sandra's beloved father Leon Judah Zeitoune z"I who passed away on Tuesday, November 23. Funeral took place on Thursday, November 25. Shiva continues until Wednesday, December 1 at 635 Algonquin, Mont-Royal H3R 1E2; 7:00pm to 9:00pm daily; Maariv at 7:30pm.

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS

This Shabbat Bulletin is sponsored by **Dorothy, Steve and Sean Howard** in memory of their beloved brother, brother-in-law and uncle Dr. Steven S. Zalcman z"l (Shmuel Shlomo ben Yitzchak Meir v'Chana Lieba - 29 Kislev).

Rifki Freundlich's Tehilim Class on Monday, November 22 was sponsored by **Helene & David Donath** in memory of David's beloved mother Gittel Kaplan Donath z"l (Gittel bat Shmuel Moshe HaKohen - 17 Kislev).

Kiddush and Seudah Shleesheet are sponsored by Deborah & Howard Szalavetz and their family in memory of Howard's beloved father David Szalavetz z"l (Yitzchak Isaac ben Menachem Mendl HaKohen v'Rachel - 25 Marcheshvan) who passed away on October 31, 2021.

UNVEILING

A monument in memory of **Yenti (Helen) Blech Rosenfeld z"1** mother and mother-in-law of Esther & Andy Csillag will be unveiled at **10:15am on Sunday, November 28** in the Ste. Sophie Jewish Cemetery, 2405 2e Rue, Ste. Sophie, QC J5J 1N6

The Stories of Our People Are Our Stories

Everyone is captivated by a good story. I always look forward to spending time with my chosen reading material and I enhance my reading experience with a snack, a good cup of coffee or a well-chosen meal. I do not read on the fly, rather I take care to enjoy my reading time.

How good is a good story? Jeffrey Archer is my favourite author. I was introduced to his storytelling when I picked up his best seller novel *Kane and Abel* on a weekend off from my rigorous officer's school course in the Israeli army. Once I started reading I couldn't put it down, and I was halfway through the book when the bus returned us to our army base early on Sunday afternoon. With a strong intent to finish the book, I managed to arrange infirmary time for myself, claiming a mild illness. Following a day or so of enjoyable reading, I informed the doctor that I was feeling better and I returned to my unit. To this day I look forward to Jeffrey Archer's new books, and as soon as one is released, I run to purchase it or reserve it at the library.

During these months, our current Torah reading portions in the book of Breisheet are rich with the stories of our patriarchs Avraham, Yitzchak and Yaakov, our matriarchs Sarah, Rivkah, Rachel and Leah and their families. We are reading about the lives of our ancestors, the founders of our religion. These stories, enhanced by countless commentaries, ancient and contemporary, are exciting, interesting and thought provoking. The supporting midrashic accounts afford us a very real look at the human side of our ancestors and their behaviours.

At this time of year I look forward to reading and studying these extensive commentaries as the saga of our biblical ancestors' families unfolds. As we read and reread the Breisheet stories, we realize that our ancestors were people just like us and we can analyze and compare their lives, dilemmas and behaviours to our own lives and experiences. Our patriarchs and matriarchs had their challenges. They weren't perfect and they made mistakes.

This week's Torah portion of Vayeishev offers a good example of these foibles in the description of Yaakov's favouritism for his son Yosef over his other eleven sons. Various commentaries throughout the ages have questioned the phenomenon of favouring one child over another. Contemporary professionals - among them psychologists and social scientists - speak of the compromising effects that favouritism has on families and relationships. If you were Yaakov, would you have acted differently? What would we do if we were faced with a situation such as Yaakov's, where his beloved son Yosef was born to his beloved wife Rachel? Would we have practiced favouritism?

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks z"I wrote about Why Storytelling Is Essential to Jews and Judaism in an article published in 2020. In this article, he cited non-Jewish journalist Andrew Marr who stated that the Jews have always had stories for the rest of us. They have had their Bible, one of the great imaginative works of the human spirit ... And indeed, from early on, storytelling has been central to the Jewish tradition. Rabbi Sacks wrote that every culture has its stories and the late Elie Wiesel once said, "G-d created man because G-d loves stories."

Rabbi Sacks teaches that on the brink of the Exodus from Egypt Moshe Rabaynu told Bnei Yisrael three times how they are to tell their story to their children in future generations and he brings three storytelling verses from the Torah to support this thought:

1. When your children ask you, "What does this ceremony mean to you?" then tell them, "It is the Passover sacrifice to the Lord, who passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt and spared our homes when He struck down the Egyptians." (Exodus 12:26-27)

- 2. On that day tell your child, "I do this because of what the Lord did for me when I came out of Egypt." (Exodus 13:8)
- 3. In days to come, when your child asks you, "What does this mean?" say, "With a mighty hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery." (Exodus 13:14)

Rabbi Sacks poses the following question: Bnei Yisrael had not yet left Egypt, and already Moshe was telling them how to tell the story. That is the extraordinary fact. Why so? Why this obsession with storytelling? He suggests that the simplest answer is that we *are* the story we tell about ourselves. There is an intrinsic, perhaps necessary, link between narrative and identity:

Cultures are shaped by the range of stories to which they give rise. Some of these have a special role in shaping the self-understanding of those who tell them. We call them master-narratives. They are about large, ongoing groups of people: the tribe, the nation, the civilization. They hold the group together horizontally across space and vertically across time, giving it a shared identity handed on across the generations. None has been more powerful than the Exodus story...

These stories are the glue that forms an eternal bond with our past and future, spanning generations and time. All of the Torah's stories and accounts are divinely-ordained. We will learn about, and witness the complexity of, Hashem's plans as the story of Yosef in Egypt unfolds over the next few Shabbos Torah portions.

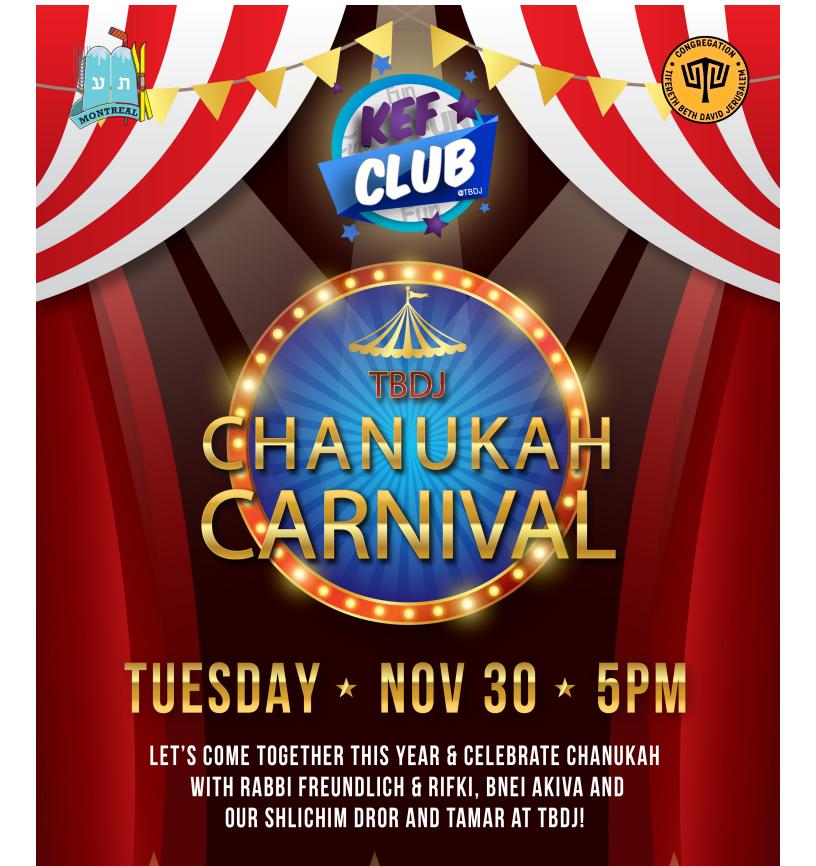
Author and publisher Jan Fortune explains how stories are powerful in her blog titled *Ten Powerful Reasons Why Change Begins With the Magic of Story.* Similar to Rabbi Sacks, she writes that stories become a part of us: *We don't simply tell stories, we inhabit them. Since language began, we've been storytelling animals. Every time and culture has dominant stories that shape us, whether they are stories from religion, ideology or the market-place. She writes that story makes sense of the world and those people we share it with. In stories, we dig deep into archetypes and in so doing we bridge the personal and the universal. We recognise ourselves as connected with the world we inhabit, an intrinsic part rather than something 'other'. In other words, story increases empathy and builds shared experience.*

In our Jewish world, joyous song meets intense story as we recite שירת הים - the Song of the Sea early every morning in our daily Shacharis prayers. This beautiful song and prayer recounts Bnei Yisrael's miraculous crossing of the Red Sea. Rabbi Jablon of Beth Ora spoke of this event as a huge moment in our history, the moment where we actually become a Jewish nation. In it we read of Hashem's salvation, miracles, Bnei Yisrael's faith in Hashem and more. The Song of the Sea takes us back to the birth of our nation and it gives us on a daily basis - so many years later - a shared experience with those who lived that moment so many centuries ago.

I mentioned my favorite novelist in the beginning of this message. The stories and accounts of our ancestors in the book of Breisheet transcend the greatest storytelling. While well written novels and short stories serve as enjoyable page turners, the stories of our people are *our* stories - past, present and future.

Shabbat Shalom,

Rev. Amiel



FUN GAMES

WIN PRIZES DANCE PARTY

BRING-A-GIFT DRIVE YUMMY FOOD

All gifts will be donated to Maison Shalom and Chai Lifeline!

Event will be held in TBDJ Upper Social Hall. Masks must be worn. Ages 12+ vaccination mandatory.

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 11/27 at 5:50pm Sunday 11/28, 8:00am-10:35am Monday 11/29 at 10:00am Monday 11/29 at 7:45pm

Tuesday 11/30 at 12:00pm Tuesday 11/30 at 5:00pm Wednesday 12/01 at 12:15pm

Thursday 12/02 at 12:30pm

Musical Havdala with Rev. Bender - TBDJ Facebook Page Kollel Yom Rishon - Special Chanukah Edition - see flyer on page 5 Tehilim Class with Rifki Freundlich - Zoom

Chanuka Lecture with Rabbi Freundlich - Upper Social Hall and on Zoom

Lunchtime Halacha Shiur with the Rabbi - Zoom

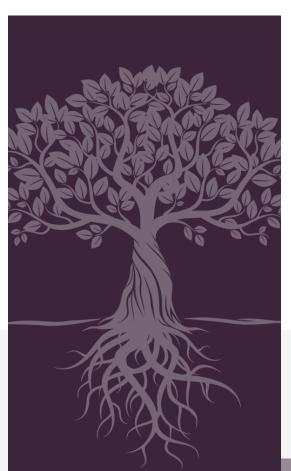
Chanukah Carnival - Upper Social Hall - see flyer on page 3 Wednesday Parsha Shiur with the Rabbi - Upper Social Hall and on Zoom

Parsha Shiur for Women with Rifki Freundlich - TBDJ Library and on Zoom

Mark your calendars!

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

Shabbat Parshat Va'yigash, December 10 and 11









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

