

SHABBAT BULLETIN

CONGREGATION TIFERETH BETH DAVID JERUSALEM

RABBI CHAZAN SHEINI PRESIDENT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
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בעזרת ה'
ביחד
ננצח

SHABBAT ACHDUT

Chanukah 5784: Friday, December 8 to Friday, December 15
First Candle is lit after sunset on Thursday, December 7.

Shabbat Parshat Va'yishlach
Haftara: Ovadiah 1:1 - 1:21

Friday, December 1

- 3:45pm Minha et Kabbalat Chabat -
Minyane Sépharade - Lower
Level Chapel
3:55pm Candle Lighting
4:00pm Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat -
Main Sanctuary

Shabbat, December 2 / 19 Kislev

- 8:00am Shacharit - Hashkama Minyan
8:30am Shacharit - Minyane Sépharade
8:40am Parsha Shiur with Rabbi Claman
9:00am Shacharit - Main Sanctuary
9:30am Kef Club Shabbat Programs
10:15am The Zone - Kids in Gr. 1-3 - Library
10:45am The Zone - Kids in Gr. 4-6 - Library

Special Shabbat Achdut Services and Programs

Shabbat Drashot, Mussaf and Kiddush -
all minyanim gather together in the Main
Sanctuary then move to Upper Hall

- 3:50pm Shabbat Achdut Mincha,
Seudah Shleesheet and
Maariv - all minyanim gather
together in the Lower Level
Chapel
4:15pm Bnei Akiva Program at TBDJ -
Youth Minyan Lounge
5:02pm Shabbat Achdut Musical
Havdala and Kumzitz

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Mincha / Maariv: 3:55pm

We begin saying "v'ten tal umatar livracha"
in the weekday Amidah from Maariv on
December 4 until Pesach.

Shacharit

Sunday: 8:00am
Monday and Thursday: 6:50am
Tuesday and Wednesday: 7:00am
Friday (Chanuka Day One): 6:45am

Friday, December 8

Mincha - Minyane Sépharade: 15h35
Candle Lighting is at 3:53pm
Mincha - Main Sanctuary: 3:55pm

COMMUNITY NEWS

Mazal Tov to **Annie & Gerry Cartman** and their family on the birth of a granddaughter on Monday, November 27. Proud parents are Hila & Kevin Fuks. Sharing in their simcha are the baby's siblings Layla, Jordan and Eli, her paternal grandmother Rosa Kroiter and many delighted aunts, uncles and cousins. Lovingly remembered at this time is the baby's beloved grandfather Michael Fuks z"l.

Mazal Tov to **Sari & Shlomo Drazin, Ruth Drazin and Rozanne Polansky** and their families on the birth of granddaughter and great-granddaughter Nechama Leah (Emma Leah) Drazin on Sunday, November 26 in New York City. Proud first-time parents are Rebecca & Ari Drazin. Sharing in their simcha are Nechama's maternal grandparents Michelle & Yehuda Appel, her maternal great-grandparents Mimi & Rabbi Shlomo Appel and Fern & Willy Nathanson and many delighted siblings, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Mazal Tov to **Eva & Alan Katznelson** and their family on the birth of great-granddaughter Miriam Mermelstein on Shabbat, November 25 in New York. Proud parents are Didi & Menachem Mermelstein. Sharing in their simcha are Miriam's grandparents Rivi & Moti Schiffer of Woodmere, NY and her siblings Chava and Elisheva.

Condolences to **Sandra Kulik Birnbaum** and her family on the loss of her beloved husband TBDJ Member **Robert (Bob) Birnbaum z"l** who passed away on Tuesday, November 28. Funeral was held on Thursday, November 30. Shiva continues until the morning of Wednesday, December 8 at 5607 Borden, Cote St. Luc H4V 2T9; Saturday - 7pm to 9pm; Sunday and Monday and Tuesday - 10am to 12pm, 2pm to 4pm, 7pm to 9pm; Shacharit at 8:00am, Mincha/Maariv at 4:00pm.

Condolences to **Joelle & Martin Sacksner** and their family on the loss of Joelle's beloved grandmother Ruzena (Ray) Slomovic z"l who passed away on Friday, November 24. Funeral was held on Sunday, November 26. Shiva has been observed.

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS

Kiddush for the Hashkama Minyan is sponsored by **Elliott, Laura, Jacob and Michael Silverman** in memory of Elliott's beloved grandmother Phyllis Shapiro z"l (Menucha Pesha bat Tzvi Hersch - 19 Kislev) and in memory of his beloved grandfather Abie Silverman z"l (Avraham ben Velvl - 26 Kislev).

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

Special Shabbat Achdut Drasha is sponsored by **Sandra & David Fine** in memory of Sandra's beloved father Leon Judah Zeitoune z"l (Yehoudah Youssef ben Youssef v'Rivkah - 20 Kislev).

This Shabbat Bulletin is sponsored by **Chaviva & Brian Smith** to mark the first yarzeit for Brian's beloved brother Dr. Stanley Smith z"l (Shimon Gedalia ben David v'Sara - 20 Kislev).





HOMEFRONT MISSION

יחד ננצח! 

שבת אחדות UNITY SHABBAT

FOLLOWING THREE WEEKS OF INDIVIDUAL MISSIONS
WE JOIN TOGETHER FOR ONE COMMUNAL MISSION!

SHABBAT PARSHAT VAYISHLACH
DECEMBER 1-2, 2023 // 19 KISLEV 5784



**JOINT MINYANIM ON
SHABBAT MORNING**

UNITED KIDDUSH

**MUSICAL HAVDALAH AND KUMZITZ
WITH BNEI AKIVA YOUTH**



SNIF

ACHDUT

Hosted by
TBDJ!

Grades K-6

Join Us for a fun Snif followed by musical
Havdallah & Kumzitz in honour of TBDJ's
"SHABBAT ACHDUT"!

**Shabbat
Vayishlach
December 2nd
4:15-6:00 pm**

Walking group will
leave from Hebrew
Academy at 3:45pm.
Parents invited to
join right after
Shabbat!

*pizza will be served
after Shabbat!*



BNEI AKIVA

Hand in hand with



ISRAEL



As Chanukah approaches, in conjunction with many synagogues in Montreal, TBDJ would like to show our appreciation for the support we have received in our respective neighbourhoods. We are inviting everyone to bake cookies in their homes to be dropped off at TBDJ to be delivered to the police, municipal security, firefighters, security guards and other friends in our communities. We will amalgamate all the baked goods and distribute them.

This special initiative was inspired by the incredible story of Rachel Edri who was held captive in her home in Israel with her husband for fifteen hours by terrorists from Gaza. She credits their survival in part to the coffee and cookies she fed those terrorists at the time. You can read her story at the following link: <https://www.ynetnews.com/magazine/article/bjxis4611t>

If you are interested in participating in this baking initiative, please go to tbdj.org/cookies to register. Your baked goods will be delivered in time for Chanukah on Thursday, December 7. For more information, please write stephanie@tbdj.org.



DECEMBER
6

Baking the World a Safer Place

Sharing the Light of Chanukah with those
who keep our Jewish community safe.

Let's show our gratitude to local police and firefighters, public security and neighbours for the support we have received as we share the meaning of Chanukah with our entire city.

A Night of Miracles

In the spirit of Chanukah, please join us
for an inspiring night out for ladies
Featuring personal stories told by brave
women in our very own community.

Adina Moss, Penina Claman & Avigail Salter

Tuesday Dec 5th at TBDJ
program begins at 8:00pm
refreshments will be served



TORAH MITZION
KTM MONTREAL



**Chanuka
Crafts &
Chesed Fair
for Israel!**

**JOIN KEF CLUB & BNEI AKIVA FOR
CANDLE LIGHTING, CHANUKAH TREATS
AND BOUNCY CASTLES, AS WE DO
ACTS OF CHESED FOR ISRAEL AND
ENJOY CHANUKAH CRAFTS!**

**Wednesday, Dec 13
5-7pm at TBDJ**

**36\$ PER FAMILY
18\$ SINGLE RATE
INCLUDES DINNER!**

REGISTER AT: [HTTP://TBDJ.ORG/KCCHANUKAH5784](http://TBDJ.ORG/KCCHANUKAH5784)

I Have Lingered

Parashat Va'yishlach opens with our Patriarch Yaakov's efforts to appease his brother Esav upon his return to the Holy Land after thirty-four sojourning years due to his flight from Esav's wrath. Yaakov sends messengers ahead of him and instructs them to tell Esav:

עִם-לָבָן גִּרְתִּי, וְאַחֵר עַד-עַתָּה

I have sojourned with Lavan and have lingered until now...

Breisheet 32:5

The word ואחר interpreted above as "soujourned" means *I was late* in modern Hebrew. In general, the definition of being late is understood as occurring or arriving after the correct or expected time. Yaakov was seemingly late in returning to his beloved Holy Land, in returning to his place of destiny. If things would have gone according to plan he would have married his beloved Rachel after his first seven years working for her trickster father Lavan, consequently returning to Canaan earlier. The way it worked out, Yaakov spent twenty long years in his father-in-law's home, working fourteen years for his marriages to Leah and his beloved Rachel and another six years to amass his flock and personal wealth.

There are times in our lives when, with respect to our long-term goals, circumstances dictate that we must be late. Consider the academic who leaves Israel to complete his higher university education with a two-year plan to complete his doctorate, following which he will return to his beloved home with his new and improved professional credentials. Upon completing the doctorate, the individual seeks to better himself even more and the years away from home start to add up. While things do not always go as planned, there is within us a compass which directs us in mind, if not in body, in the direction of our desired destiny.

This was Yaakov Avinu. His heart and mind were directed towards the Holy Land while he was in Galut, in exile. The word ואחר makes it clear that while he wanted to return home, Yaakov was late in returning to his homeland.

Living in Galut. The exile, the diaspora...

While reciting my daily Psalms the other day, I came across a verse which painted the harsh reality of our nation's trials over the past seven weeks:

תָּבוּא לִפְנֵיךָ אֲנָקָת אֲסִיר כִּגְדֹל זְרוּעֶךָ הוֹתֵר בְּנֵי תְמוּתָהּ
**Let the groans of the prisoners reach You;
reprise those condemned to death,
as befits Your great strength.**

Psalms 79:11

Rabbi Shimshon Raphael Hirsch's commentary on this verse reads as follows:

Israel, in exile is an אסיר, a prisoner. Its foes have deprived it of freedom of movement, of the right to exercise, its innate strength, to which all men are entitled; it has been prevented from taking those paths in life that are open to all others. Israel's life has been turned into a dungeon from which only the cry of terror of the shackled men within, rises up. Israel - in exile - is a תְּמוּתָהּ, the nation condemned to die out. According to the opinion of the nations, and in view of the intolerable conditions, which they have created for the Jewish people, the Jewish nation, indeed, should have died

out... Now O L-rd show the greatness of thy arm: show how beyond all the might and machinations of men Thou art able to grant survival to the very ones who men would expect to die out and who the nations would seek to render extinct...

To be in exile is to be a prisoner. Yakov was a prisoner in Lavan's house. Although Rashi explains that Yakov kept the commandments even though he was living in the house of an idolater, the only place where Yakov could have his ultimate freedom would be in the holy land.

The tragedies of October 7th which have propelled upscaled antisemitism across the diaspora, has brought the reality of our exile to the forefront of our existence. In a city where I have always felt secure, I suddenly find myself looking behind me in the darkness - even during the short walk home from TBDJ - and wearing a cap in the less Jewish populated areas of Montreal. The reality is that there is a perspective about living in the exile, which we tend to forget or ignore due to the comfort of our existence. At the present time we are prisoners of a reality which is new to many of us, though it has been the lot of our nation in exile from time immemorial. We are prisoners in an exile which has turned its ugly face upon us, and we are becoming more and more aware that Israel, even with the rockets showering down from the north and the south, is a safer place for the Jew than the diaspora.

Yaakov was late, Yaakov has lingered until now...

And... We are late, we have lingered until now and we are quickly learning that Galut, life in the exile of the diaspora, is but a temporary home for us.

Presently there are two new panoramic posters hanging in our lobby. The first, immediately visible upon entering TBDJ, is that of our precious martyred IDF soldiers who have fallen on and since that terrible day seven weeks ago. The second poster, which hangs near the check room, is of those who were taken hostage.

Friends and colleagues have stressed the importance of looking at each face on these posters as we remember our martyrs and pray for the many captives. These pictures are a reminder of the Talmud's teaching in the tractate of Sanhedrin: *Anyone who destroys a life is considered to have destroyed an entire world; and anyone who saves a life is as if he saved an entire world.* This is on my mind as I look at the posters. With every martyr we lost a world. With every freed hostage/captive we regain a world. I spend many moments looking at the faces on these posters, remembering the lives that have been compromised, and I feel guilty walking away from the many faces on the wall to pursue the privileges of life that are there for me, but are lost to so many. I believe that we should not rush away from these pictures, even to the point of - ואחר... our being late to where we are going. We should linger by the pictures and offer silent and fervent prayers in memory of our martyrs and for the welfare of the hostages. We must never forget that our brothers and sisters in our homeland are those who are paying the ultimate price for their safety and ours.

May the wicked fall and may our hostages continue to return home, please G-d safe and sound...

Shabbat Shalom and עם ישראל חי

Rev. Amiel