



CONGREGATION TIFERETH BETH DAVID JERUSALEM

Shabbat Bulletin

בס"ד
שבת פרשת וישב / שבת חנוכה
כ"ו כסלו ה'תשפ"א
Shabbat Parshat Va'yeishev
Second Day of Chanukah
December 11-12, 2020 / 5781
Please print this bulletin before Shabbat.

Rabbi
Yechezkel Freundlich

Chazzan Sheini
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SHABBAT SHALOM • שבת שלום

Chanukah 5781: Friday, December 11 to Friday, December 18 / Rosh Chodesh Tevet is on Wednesday, December 16

Shabbat Parshat Va'yeishev
Shabbat Chanukah

Haftara: Zechariah 2:14 - 4:7

Minyanim on Shabbat are restricted to those who have pre-registered. When davening at home, it is preferable to do so at the same time as the rest of the community.

Friday, December 11

3:00pm Daf Yomi on Zoom
3:45pm Minha et Kabbalat Shabbat -
Minyane Sépharade - Lower Hall
3:53pm Candle Lighting
3:55pm Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat -
Indoor only
4:11pm Sh'kiah

Shabbat, December 12 / 26 Kislev 5781

8:20am Shacharit - Sanctuary
8:35am Shacharit - Upper Social Hall
8:45am Shacharit - Minyane Sépharade -
Lower Social Hall
9:37am Sof Zman K'riyat Shma
10:20am Shacharit - Sanctuary
10:30am Shacharit - Upper Social Hall
12:15pm Early Mincha - Indoor
3:40pm Minha et Arvit - Minyane Sépharade -
Lower Social Hall
3:45pm Mincha, Shiur and Maariv - Indoor
4:11pm Sh'kiah
5:01pm Havdala
6:30pm Musical Havdala and Kumzitz
on Facebook with Rev. Bender
6:30pm Daf Yomi on Zoom
8:00pm Chanukah Virtual Escape Room
Pre-Registration for this is now closed.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Condolences to **Rena Leinkram Schondorf** and her family on the loss of her beloved sister Tola Leinkram Wehrman z"l who passed away on Monday, December 7. Funeral was held on Tuesday, December 8.

SPONSORSHIPS AND THANK YOUS

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. Zalzman z"l (Shmuel Shlomo benYitzchak Meir v'Chana Lieba - Kislev 29).

Rabbi Freundlich's Shabbat Shiurim are sponsored today by **Jack & Linda Lehrer** in memory of Jack's beloved grandmothers Miriam Lehrer z"l (Miriam bat Menachem Mendel - Kislev 28) and Mary Steingart z"l (Masha bat Moshe - Tevet 2).

The Rosh Chodesh Tevet Shiur for Women on Tuesday, December 15 is sponsored by **Judy Pekofsky's children** in honour of her special birthday "with lots of love for a wonderful mother, mother-in-law and grandmother!"

Rabbi Freundlich will be on vacation from Wednesday, December 16 to Sunday, January 3.

All of his weekly shiurim and programs will be on hiatus during that time.

Please note that the Rabbi's "20-Minute Halacha Shiur" will be given at 3:00pm on Tues., Dec. 15.

DAILY SCHEDULE: DECEMBER 13 - 18

SUN - CHANUKAH 3	MON - CHANUKAH 4	TUES - CHANUKAH 5
Shacharit: 7:45 & 9am	Shacharit 6:45 & 8:00am	Shacharit 6:45 & 8:00am
Mincha 3:50pm	Mincha 3:50pm	Mincha 3:50pm
Shkiah 4:12pm	Shkiah 4:12pm	Shkiah 4:12pm
WED - CHANUKAH 6	THURS-CHANUKAH 7	FRI - CHANUKAH 8
Shacharit 6:45 & 8:00am	Shacharit 6:45 & 8:00am	Shacharit 6:45 & 8:00am
Mincha 3:50pm	Mincha 3:50pm	Mincha-Sefardic 3:50pm
Shkiah 4:12pm	Shkiah 4:13pm	Mincha 3:55pm
		Candle Lighting 3:55pm
		Sh'kiah 4:13pm



Led by Rifki Freundlich, For Women

CHANGE OF TIME: Sunday, December 13 at 11:00am // Location: Zoom Social Hall

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

For more programs, shiurim and classes... please visit <http://programming.tbdj.org>



First Meeting: Book Review of "The Choice - Embrace the Possible" by Dr. Edith Eva Eger
CHANGE OF TIME: Monday, December 14 at 1:00pm // Location: Zoom Social Hall



Modern Jewish History: Political Zionism - with Rabbi Freundlich
Monday, December 14 at 7:45pm // Location: Zoom Social Hall



Online Tour of Santiago, Chile
Tuesday, December 15 at 1:00pm // Registration required (see email)



Rosh Chodesh Tevet Program for Women
Sponsored by Judy Pekofsky's children in honour of her special birthday.
Tuesday, December 15 at 8:00pm // See website for details

The Power of the Flame

Every year at Chanukah time my imagination affords me an awesome sight, one that I am sure is true. In my mind I see the world lighting up, specks of Chanukah light illuminating our globe. It starts with the first Chanukah lit somewhere around New Zealand, some 18 hours before our North American Chanukah candles join in, contributing to a marvelous world full of Chanukah light. Imagine each Chanukah registering a small, yet bright, light as the sun sets on a darkening world - each small light contributing to a global statement of our nation's eternity. This continues for eight days, anew each day in each location. With the collective time zone differences and different Chanukah candle lighting times, we are fortunate to have a continuous world-wide illumination of Chanukah light - lighting up all our lives for eight days! As the candles are going out in one time zone, they are being lit in another. For eight glorious days, our Chanukiyot give the world an eternal light - not unlike the נר תמיד that shines in synagogues around the world, never to be extinguished.

It is a chain of light that unites us with our brethren around the world, sparked by the power of a small flame. While each flame is meaningful and significant as its own entity, a worldwide chain of individual flames, one by one illuminating a darkened global evening as do the stars of the sky reminds me of Hashem's early promise to Avraham Avinu that our nation would be plentiful as are the stars of the sky. How significant is the power of the flame?

Consider the following story, that I heard years ago from Rabbi Zev Lanton, then the principal of Hebrew Foundation School in Dollard, during a Grade 3 Havdala Chagigah:

There was a king who was ready to pass on his throne to one of his three sons. Contemplating who the heir to the throne would be, he invited his sons to the throne room and offered them the following challenge: "It is time for me to step down from my throne. I am giving each one of you one thousand gold coins. If you want to be the next king of the realm, you must fill up this throne room. Your possibilities are unlimited. You may fill the room with anything and you may spend all of the coins that I gave you in your quest for success. I expect you back in this room in thirty days when you will each show me what you have managed to arrange to meet this challenge". The three sons took their bags of gold and commenced with their individual quests for the throne. They returned thirty days later and one by one, entered the throne room. "How many of the gold coins did you spend in order to fill the room?" This king asked son number one. "I have spent all of the gold coins father." The young man replied. A few moments later numerous camels laden with buckets of purchased sand entered the room. The sand was spilled onto the floor. There was plenty of sand, but, alas, the sand only reached halfway to the ceiling of the room and thus the room was not filled. The 2nd son, also with camels carrying his load, informed his father that he also spent all of the gold coins and he proceeded to have numerous buckets of purchased water poured onto the palace floor. While the water level in the room was higher than the sand, it didn't fill the room. It was the 3rd son's turn and he came in with his bag of gold coins which he returned to the king. The king gave him a surprised look. "Are you ready to show me how you will fill this room?" He asked him. "I am ready father" the son replied. "How much did you spend?" the king asked, wondering why the full bag of coins was lying by his feet. "I didn't spend anything..." The son replied and instructed the king's servants to close the doors and block all of the light coming in through the windows of the throne room. When the room was darkened to his satisfaction the 3rd son informed his father: "I will now fill the room..." The young man reached into his pocket and pulled out a candle and a book of matches. He lit the candle and placed it on the table, illuminating the room with his small flame, an instant source of light. "Father, I have filled the throne room with light... I hope that I have met your challenge and that I am worthy to succeed you as the king of the realm..." The young man was chosen by his father to succeed him as the next king.

Years ago, as a Grade 6 Hebrew teacher, I taught my students about the "power of the flame" talking about and discussing the different candles that are kindled in our Jewish year cycle. The homework was to write a short essay: "My thoughts about the flame..." Looking forward to the next class when I would hear the products of their writings, I was not disappointed. Some wrote that the flame always burns upwards symbolizing spirituality, our connection with Hashem and, on the occasion of a Yahrzeit, a connection with the soul of the deceased hovering above. Another thought was that the small harmless flame could have the ferocity of igniting a destructive fire. The idea of the contribution of the flame to the serenity in the room was compared to the בית enhanced by the Shabbos candles contributing to an aura of peace in our homes... There were other ideas, but one stood out in my mind. One girl wrote that the family had recently lost a grandparent. She wrote about the wax that dripped upon contact with the flame and suggested that the dripped wax could be recycled and formed into a new candle. The reused wax symbolizes rekindled memories of the grandparent which are with the family, day after day...

The Chanukah miracle is an amazing piece of our heritage and legacy. In a physical sense the flame of the Chanukah candle is small. In a spiritual sense it is powerful, expansive, boundless, even cosmic as our world fills up with light during Chanukah.

This idea is reminiscent of the light of creation. We learn that the original light that Hashem created was extremely powerful; one could see with it from one end of the world to the other. Reflecting upon the wickedness of man, Hashem hid it for the future, when Mashiach will reveal himself (Chagigah 12a). According to Midrash Tanchuma (Parshat Noach) it was hidden in the Torah to benefit those who toil in the Oral Torah day and night. The Syrian-Greeks endeavored to detach Jews from Torah and wanted them to deny their belief in Hashem and Mashiach. When the miracle of the kindling of the Menorah took place, Hashem revealed a semblance of the great hidden light which will radiate in full glory in the Messianic Era. Likewise, every Chanukah when the Menorah is kindled, there is a revelation of that great light in this mundane world.

This year we need light, we need an abundance of Hashem's powerful light. Our world has been darkened by Covid-19. We pray that the Chanukah candles burning in our windows will, like the colorful rainbows of the windows around the world, illuminate the light of hope and healing for all. As this Shabbat Chanukah Bulletin is being sent to our community, the first Covid-19 vaccines are being distributed around the world. This "light at the end of the tunnel" is shining during the week of the First Chanukah Candle. Coincidence? I'll leave that up to you to decide!

Shabbat Shalom and שמוח!

Rev. Amiel