If one’s offering is an Olah (elevation offering) from the cattle, he shall bring an unblemished male; he shall bring it into the entrance of the tent of meeting, voluntarily before Hashem." Vayikra 1:3

Rashi explains the words “He shall bring it” -- this teaches us they force him. One might then think he can be forced to bring an offering against his will -- thus, the verse says “voluntarily”. How can you force him, and yet he brings it voluntarily? Says Rashi, we force him until he says I am willing. The Rambam in the Laws of Divorce 2:20 explains this concept as follows. He says in essence a Jew always wants to do what’s right, but it is the yetzer hora that prevents him from doing so. Thus, when the Beis Din forces a Jew to do the right thing, it is in truth not against his will. The Bais Din just removes the spiritual obstacles placed in his way, allowing the goodness of his neshoma to do what is right. However, the Chasam Sofer (Rav Moshe Sofer, 1762-1839) explains this concept in a different way with the following example. A farmer living in a tiny rural community far away from the center of Torah in Jerusalem commits a sin, which obligates him to bring a korban olah. He knows he has to take time off from his farming and make the long trip to Jerusalem. Now his yetzer hora starts working on him and says to

The weekly Shmooze News is dedicated by:
Jack and Susan Gluck in memory of Milton & Edith Gluck z”l and Nicholas Brecher z”l;
Stuart Harris in honor of Penny Harris; and
Aaron and Susan Weinberg in memory of Jack & Helen Weinberg z”l and Morris & Nellie Fischer z”l.
him -- true, you sinned, but everybody makes mistakes. You don’t have time now to travel to Jerusalem; who is going to take care of the farm while you are away? Can you really afford to spend so much money to buy a korban for such a small sin? Are you a bigger tzadik than your next door neighbor -- he sinned? Does he go to Jerusalem to bring korbonos? The farmer fights his yetzer hora and takes the trip. When he finally gets to Jerusalem he is exhausted and a little depressed why he took the trip. What about my farm? Then he comes to the courtyard of the Beis Hamikdash and his attitude goes through a metamorphosis. The farmer is entranced by the Holiness. He is awed by the sight of the Kohanim in their service of the Temple. He listens to the Leviyim sing. He sees the great Sanhedrin in session and witnesses the miracles that take place in the Beis Hamikdash on a daily basis. He is caught up in the atmosphere of Holiness and has this overwhelming desire to get close to Hashem. The yetzer hora is defeated; the farmer brings his sacrifice with joy and happiness to G-d and begs His forgiveness. This, says the Chasam Sofer, is what the verse means. At first he brings the korban against his will; however, once he is at the Holy Mikdash he is inspired and gives it willingly. This could apply to all of us as well. There is a tzedaka appeal. You question, "Should I give or not give? I already have given to so many other worthy causes." Finally, you write a check almost by force, but once you give it, you feel good and you’re happy you have another mitzvah of tzedaka as a great merit for you and your family. My friends soon it is Pesach there is a great Mitzvah of Maos Chittim, and of course the Mitzvah of maos chittim is to help those less fortunate than us to make Pesach. This is a generous community which is constantly asked to contribute. Our sages tell us according to the difficulty is the reward. Please respond generously you’ll see that when you do you’ll be glad you did because helping other Jews it’s what it’s all about.

Sefer-Darchei Noam

Wishing you an inspiring Shabbos!
Rabbi Moshe Gruenstein
Young Israel Congregation
Shmooze News
Parshas Vayikra, March 17, 2018

Classes and Upcoming Events
- Father & Child learning will take place upstairs during Seudah Shlishit.
- Mondays at 10:30AM – Ladies Tehillim Group in the Beis Midrash.
- Monday March 19, 11:30am – Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Gruenstein, Topic: Pesach
- Shabbos April 13-14 – Cantorial Shabbos/Community Shabbos Dinner. $75 per adult $36 per child. Please make reservations for the Friday night dinner.

Congregational Family and Shul News
- Kiddush this week is sponsored by Jacks & Ianna Sterenfeld and family in honor of their daughter Shaila becoming a bat mitzvah. Mazal tov to the Sterenfeld family!
- This week’s early minyan Kiddush is co-sponsored by Aaron & Susan Weinberg in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Ariella Weinberg. Mazal Tov to Aaron & Susan, to parents Sara & Josh Weinberg, to grandparents Isaac & Etta Novick. It is also co-sponsored by Gaby Kopel “in celebration of my husband’s birthday. May we celebrate many more with Gizunt u Menicha.”
- Sale of Chametz: You can sell your Chametz weekdays after shachris and before Mincha with Rabbi Gruenstein.
- Mazal Tov to Keith Berman on the engagement of his youngest daughter Kate Alexis Berman to Eric Daniel Cohen, both of Los Angeles. Mazal tov to Kate’s sister Jade & Barry Lustig.

Building Fund
Please pay your Building Fund pledge as soon as possible. We would like to pay off our Building Fund loan obligation to the bank to avoid paying continued loan interest.

Refuah Sheleimah
We wish refuah sheleimah to: Allen Packer, Rabbi Simeon Schreiber, Minnie Schraga, Shlomo Mayer, Miriam Greenblatt.

Youth Program
- Starting this week, Father and Child learning will be upstairs during Seudat Shlishit with delicious treats and prizes!
- High School teens are invited to Learning and Frozen Yogurt every Wednesday night. Please check for weekly timing and location details.
- Any teen that would like to get more involved with advocating for Israel by being a part of a weekly Israel Advocacy meeting on Mondays or attend via Skype please email RabbiFried@YICBH.org
Yahrzeits Mar. 17 – Mar. 23, 2018

30 ADAR  Helen Ratzker for her nephew, Avraham Dovid Moses, on Shabbos, Mar. 17
1 NISAN  Ziporah Milstein for her father, Elazar Ben Uri Meyer Kahanow, on Shabbos, Mar. 17
1 NISAN  Lawrence Jaffe for his mother, Anne Jaffe, on Shabbos, Mar. 17
1 NISAN  Morris Tuchman for his father, Tzvi Tuchman, on Shabbos, Mar. 17
1 NISAN  Saadia Shapiro for his mother, Marta bat Yeshyah, on Shabbos, Mar. 17
2 NISAN  Cathy Weiss for her father, Leon Selwyn, on Sunday, Mar. 18
5 NISAN  Rhoda Lipton for her mother, Raizel Zukerman, on Wednesday, Mar. 21
5 NISAN  Heshie Greenblatt for his mother, Chaya Greenblatt, on Wednesday, Mar. 21
6 NISAN  Paul Rosenberg for his father, Joseph Rosenberg, on Thursday, Mar. 22

Please report any errors or omissions to the Young Israel office or email stevenbarryschwartz@gmail.com

Support our Shul with Amazon Smile

When you shop on Amazon through the program called Amazon Smile, a portion of your purchases can be donated to the Shul. Please visit www.smile.amazon.com and sign up your amazon account with Young Israel Congregation (National Council of Young Israel – Surfside). Amazon Smile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Young Israel every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you’ll find the exact same low prices and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to our Shul. Click here to go to smile.amazon.com and begin supporting the shul.

E-mail communication

When you e-mail the office please make sure your e-mail is to yakira@yicbh.org NOT yibh.org
The e-mail for Florence, our receptionist/secretary, is florence@yicbh.org

Community notice

Motion activated lights were installed in the pedestrian crosswalk at Collins Avenue and 99th Street. Use of this crosswalk should be avoided on Shabbos and Yom Tov as the lights are motion activated and are turned on as pedestrians cross Collins Avenue.

ATTENTION ALL MEN!

Please do not walk behind the 2 ladies’ sections during services.
Please use side doors to enter and exit Sanctuary after 10:00 AM.
Thank you for your cooperation.

If you are interested in sponsoring Kiddush or Seudah Shlishis, please contact Stuart Harris or Yakira at (305) 866-0203.

Please submit all insertions for the Shmooze News to yakira@yicbh.org by noon on Thursday.