



Young Israel Congregation

9580 Abbott Avenue, Surfside, FL 33154

www.yicbh.org - yakira@yicbh.org

SHMOOZE NEWS

Parshas Lech Lecha, October 28, 2017

Rabbi Moshe Gruenstein – rabbi@yicbh.org

President Menno Ratzker



In this week's Parsha, the Torah describes how four great and mighty kings came to do battle against five powerful kings. This was the "first world war" of history, for it involved the majority of the world population at the time. The Midrash comments: why did G-d put these nine monarchs together in this valley? It was in order to make it easier for Avraham to vanquish all of them at the same time and free his nephew Lot. Had CNN and Fox networks been there, they undoubtedly would have had their military and political experts give us the "real reason" for the strategies of each of the antagonists to all meet in this valley for war. But the pundits would all be wrong, because it was all G-d's plan to make it easier for Avraham. The lesson from this Midrash is meant to give us a Torah outlook on life. Don't give too much credibility to all the so-called "experts" whose insights and analysis fill the airwaves.

Shabbos

Candle Lighting	6:24PM
Mincha/Kabbalas	6:30PM
Shabbos	
Daf Yomi	8:00AM
Talmud Sotah	8:15AM
Shacharis	9:00AM
Shiur	5:20PM
Mincha	6:10PM
Havdalah	7:26PM

Weekday

Shacharis

Sunday	8:00AM
Mon-Fri	7:00AM

Mincha

Sun-Thur	6:30PM
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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.

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More often than not they are wrong, and the reason is simple -- they forgot to put G-d in the equation. It is an axiom of Jewish belief that everything that happens in the world is somehow related to the benefit or detriment of the Jewish people. The connection is not always evident. It sometimes can take years, decades or centuries to confirm, but this is the Jewish view. Therefore, one must look at the news with "Torah eyeglasses" and realize that G-d controls history. So, although Am Yisrael is surrounded on all sides by ruthless enemies who want her destruction, we know that G-d Almighty, who safeguards his people Israel forever, will protect us and bring us the ultimate salvation we so desperately seek, the redemption of our people and the coming of Moshiach, may he come speedily in our days.

Sefer: Emrei Kohan

Wishing you an inspiring Shabbos!
Rabbi Moshe Gruenstein

Halacha Corner

According to the Talmud (Chulin 89A) when Avraham refused to take any of the spoils of war from Sodom and declared, "I will not take as much as thread to a shoe strap," G-d rewarded his descendants with the Mitzvah of retzuah shel Tefillin (the strap of the Tefillin). The following are some laws regarding the straps of Tefillin: The retzuos must be painted black -- the expression is as black as a raven. Optimally, to attain this intense shade of black, the retzuos must initially be blackened at least two to three times. However, the straps are kosher as long as they can be considered black. When blackening the Tefillin, one must say or have in mind that he is doing it L'shem Mitzvas Tefillin (for the sake of the Mitzvah of Tefillin). If one forgets to do so, he must repaint the retzuos with the proper intent. The Tefillin of both hand and head must be placed on one's body without any chatzizah (interference or barrier) but this only applies to the Tefillin boxes and any part of the straps which has to do with the knotting and tightening of the Tefillin, both the hand and head. However, for the rest of the binding of the Tefillin, one need not be stringent. For instance, if one is wearing a watch, one could technically wrap their Tefillin straps on top of the watch and would not be obligated to remove the watch!

Sefer: Weekly halachic discussions



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Classes and Upcoming Events

- Mondays at 10:30AM – Ladies Tehillim Group in the Beis Midrash.
- Father and Child Shabbos after Mincha.
- Tuesday, October 31, 8:00PM, women only class with Rebbetzin Chani Citron, “Empowering Modern Women with the strength of our Matriarchs”, at the home of Rachel Herman 9595 Collins Ave #209.
- December 8-9, Young Couples Shabbaton, guest lecturer Rabbi Jonathan Rietti.

Congregational Family and Shul News

- Kiddush is co-sponsored: by the Sussman family in honor of Elias “Eliyahu” birthday, October 28, with love by his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and by Yoram and Yleana Izhak commemorating the first yahrzeit of Yoram's father, Chezkel ben Chaim z”l.
- Mazal Tov to our Rabbi and Rebbetzin on the upcoming wedding of their daughter Rivky to Baruch Rodkin this week.
- Mazal Tov to Jerry & Ann Gontownik on the engagement of their son Ezra to Lilly Katz daughter of Dan and Caroline Katz of Boca Raton, FL.

Refuah Sheleimah

We wish refuah sheleimah to: Allen Packer, Alexander ben Esther Raizel; Rabbi Simeon Schreiber, Shimon ben Blima; and Dani Smith, Doniel ben Mindel.

Youth Program

- All youth that would still like to attend the fun roller-skating event on Sunday Oct 29, please see separate flyer for more details.
- On November 5, 19 and 26 from 1:30pm - 3:30pm there will be a unique Medical Clowning training for all youth. Please contact Rabbi Fried for more details about this fascinating, fun and important event that will help train you for the beautiful Mitzvah of cheering up those who are sick or have special needs.
- Any High School Teens that are interested in attending an exciting Shabbaton (November 10-12) and then heading to Orlando on Sunday please see separate flyer for more details.
- Father & Child learning will take place upstairs during Seudah Shlishit with treats & 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

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Yahrzeits Oct 28-Nov 3

8 CHESHVAN, 5778	Diana Ben-Arie for her father, Osher Dovid, on Shabbos, October 28, 2017
10 CHESHVAN, 5778	Ann Lebowitz for her mother, Fayga Miriam bas Avraham Abba, on Monday, October 30, 2017
10 CHESHVAN, 5778	Ethelyn Lieblich for her father, Leibish Mendel Freed, on Monday, October 30, 2017
10 CHESHVAN, 5778	Sandy Seligsohn for her father, Arnold Glucksman, on Monday, October 30, 2017
10 CHESHVAN, 5778	Carol Strickoff for her father, Yitzchak ben Yehuda Aryeh, on Monday, October 30, 2017
10 CHESHVAN, 5778	Lillian Tabacinic for her mother, Sarah, on Monday, October 30, 2017
11 CHESHVAN, 5778	Murray Laulicht for his mother, Ernestine Laulicht, on Tuesday, October 31, 2017
11 CHESHVAN, 5778	Michael Levine for his father, Harold Levine, on Tuesday, October 31, 2017
12 CHESHVAN, 5778	Phyllis Franklin for her husband, Mr. Franklin, on Wednesday, November 1, 2017
12 CHESHVAN, 5778	Cynthia Rosenberg for her mother, Irene Stanger, on Wednesday, November 1, 2017
12 CHESHVAN, 5778	Cathy Weiss for her mother, Rae Selwyn, on Wednesday, November 1, 2017
13 CHESHVAN, 5778	Lawrence Jaffe for his father, Morris Jaffe, on Thursday, November 2, 2017
13 CHESHVAN, 5778	Rachel Neuman for her mother-in-law, Gladys Neuman, on Thursday, November 2, 2017

Support our Shul with AmazonSmile

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.