



Young Israel Congregation Shmooze News

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Parshas Tazria-Metzora, April 17, 2021

President Menno Ratzker

SHABBAT SHALOM!

PLEASE STAY SAFE AND TAKE CARE OF YOURSELVES.

WELCOME TO RABBI GIDON & REBBETZIN MALKA MOSKOVITZ!

תִּסְפְּרוּ חֲמִשִּׁים יוֹם וְהִקְרַבְתֶּם מִנְחָה חֲדָשָׁה לַה'

You shall count fifty days, and you shall offer a new meal-offering to Hashem (Vayikra 23:16).

We are currently in the unique period of spiritual growth between Pesach and Shavuot, over which we count the days of the Omer and prepare ourselves for the upcoming Yom Tov of Shavuot. The Torah, in its description of this period and its culmination, writes that after counting the necessary days, וְהִקְרַבְתֶּם לַה' מִנְחָה חֲדָשָׁה לַה', *you shall offer a new minchah offering – a minchah chadashah – to Hashem (Vayikra 23:16).*

What is this *minchah chadashah*? On the simple level, it refers to the Two Loaves described in full in the next *pasuk*. However, if it only refers to that offering, it seems to be repetitive, as the next *pasuk* proceeds to address that offering fully. Additionally, in what way is this “new offering” connected with the counting of the fifty days which proceeded it? The commentators (*Kli Yakar* ad loc., et al.) explain that in fact the *minchah chadashah* is an allusion to a new spiritual plateau that is the culmination of this process of growth; growth that is near impossible to see on a day-to-day basis but can only truly be appreciated when one sees what blossoms.

There is a story told of a sincere fellow, Jack, who comes to his rabbi and with a dejected tone in his voice says, “Rabbi, I really try hard to grow each year, but nothing seems to really change; it’s like I am right back where I started.” The rabbi says, “Jack, did I ever tell you about Chinese bamboo?” Jack replies, “Chinese Bamboo? No.” “Well, you see,” continued the rabbi, “with Chinese bamboo you plant a shoot, and you tend to it and water it for a year. After the year, nothing happens. Then in year two, you continue to water,

Shabbos

Candle Lighting	7:27PM
Mincha	7:00PM
Early Minyan	8:00AM
Shacharis	9:00AM
Mincha	6:50PM
Havdalah	8:25PM

Those davening at home during the week, can connect by zoom with the davening in shul at 7:00AM minyan

Weekday

Shacharis

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

Mincha

Sun – Thu	7:40PM
	In The Young Israel

Next Fri Candle lighting 7:30PM



The weekly Shmooze News is dedicated by:

Jack & Susan Gluck in memory of Milton & Edith Gluck z"l ;

Nicholas & Margaret Brecher z"l;

Penny Harris in memory of Arnold & Myrtle Mullens z"l and Stuart Harris z"l;

Aaron & Susan Weinberg in memory of Jack & Helen Weinberg z"l

and Morris & Nellie Fischer z"l.

Young Israel Congregation
Shmooze News
Parshas Tazria-Metzora, April 17, 2021

weed, and fertilize, and by the end of the year...nothing happens. The same is true for year three and four. But, Jack, in the fifth year something amazing happens. In the space of six weeks, the plant shoots up ninety feet!” “So, I ask you, Jack,” continued the rabbi, “how long does it take for Chinese bamboo to reach ninety feet?” Confused, Jack replies, “You just said it takes six weeks.” The rabbi leans forward and with a warm smile looks Jack in the eye and says, “That’s where you’re wrong! It takes five years! Five years of building nutrition and a healthy root system; only then can it take flight! Jack, it takes five years!”

When seen in hindsight, the annual process of incremental growth, of counting up from Pesach to our receiving of the Torah anew on Shavuot, produces something special; something that the Torah describes as a “new offering.” However, one question remains. We have been doing this for more than 3,300 years! In what way, then, is it “new?”

Rav Eliyahu Eliezer Dessler (*Michtav M’Eliyahu II* p.25) explains that while it is true that in the physical world, *אין שמש תחת השמים*, *there is nothing “new” under the sun (Koheles 1:9)*, just new iterations of the same old physical drives – in the world of the spirit nothing could be further from the truth. Every new spiritual attainment that a person reaches, every new plateau, is in fact an entirely different reality; not just for the person who attains it, but for the world at large. This is because it is axiomatic in Judaism that each and every individual is given a unique spiritual role in this world, presenting them with opportunities and challenges every waking day of their lives, tailor-made to their strengths and weaknesses. One’s spiritual successes, then, are indeed “new” – unable to be replicated by anyone else, as they are the product of that person’s fulfillment of his or her individual and unparalleled spiritual role.

When we engage in the process of growth presented to us over this very special time of year, preparing ourselves for receiving the Torah anew, we create a reality that the world has never seen before; a true “*minchah chadashah*,” a truly “new offering,” and as Nesivos Shalom explains, in a deeper sense, that “new offering” is in fact none other than...you! All the preparations for Pesach, the seder nights, forty-nine days of the Omer, Shavuot... and in the end something truly, uniquely, *new* blossoms within us! We become that *minchah chadashah*. That’s the gift of this time of year; a process of self-actualization, where we bring to the world – to *our* world – something unique, something new. *A minchah chadashah!*

Shabbat Shalom

Rabbi Gidon Moskovitz

We will enjoy the visit of the last Rabbinical candidate for a long weekend, Rabbi David Cohen, on April 22.

Please reserve the date.

VIRTUAL KIDDUSH:
PLEASE ENJOY YOUR SHABBOS KIDDUSH AND SEUDAH AT HOME WHILE
SHARING THE COMMEMORATION OF A SPECIAL OCCASION

This week’s virtual kiddush is being sponsored by Linda & Steve Storch in memory of Steve’s mother, Liba bat Zusman Halevi z”l.

Young Israel Congregation

Shmooze News

Parshas Tazria-Metzora, April 17, 2021

Schedule

- The Daf Yomi shiur is now being given live via Zoom. Please note the new Zoom info for the Daf Yomi: Meeting ID: 873 8224 2928 - Passcode: 613613
9:00AM Sundays - 7:20AM Monday to Friday.

Congregational Family and Shul News

- A warm welcome to our new members, Mindy & Tzvi Ehrenfeld.

Refuah Sheleimah

- We wish refuah sheleimah to Ginette Dekelbaum, Allan Krieger, and Allen Packer.

Schedule Rabbi Moskowitz

Rabbi Moskowitz will speak briefly Thursday between Mincha/Maariv, Friday night, at both morning minyan, give a shiur Shabbos afternoon before mincha, and speak during Shalosh Seudot.

Please note the schedule of times for Shabbos as it is different than usual, and the women's only event has been moved from Sunday evening to Shabbos afternoon.

Thursday April 15

7:30 PM Mincha/Maariv - Live and on Zoom

Friday April 16

7:00 PM Early mincha

Shabbos April 17

8:00 AM Shacharis

9:00 AM Shacharis

5:00 PM Women only, meeting w/ Rebbetzin

6:00 PM Shiur "Sefiras Ha'Omer: Counting Time & Making Time Count" - An exploration of the roots of the obligation to count the days of the Omer, and what that teaches us about this unique time of year.

6:50 PM Mincha

7:20 PM Shalosh Seudot

8:15 PM Maariv

Sunday April 18

10:30 AM Light brunch in shul, Q&A w/ Rabbi & Rebbetzin – Live and on zoom

6:30 PM Shiur "Broken Tablets: Fall from Grace and Coming Back Again", A Shavuot message - Live and on Zoom

7:40 PM Mincha/Maariv – Live and on zoom

Monday April 19

7:00 AM Daf Yomi

8:00 AM Shacharis

11:30 AM Lunch & Learn - "A Survey of Some Interpersonal Mitzvos; And the Attitudes They Shape Within Us" - Live and on Zoom

Young Israel Congregation
Shmooze News
Parsha Tazria-Metzora, April 17, 2021

Yahrzeits April 17 – April 23, 2021

5 IYAR	Steven Storch for his mother, Lee Storch, on Shabbos, Apr. 17
6 IYAR	Elias Sussman for his father, Moshe Sussman, on Sunday, Apr. 18
6 IYAR	Ann Kwiat for her father, Arie Ben Shmuel, on Sunday, Apr. 18
6 IYAR	Paula Novetsky for her father, Aaron Harold Rosner, on Sunday, Apr. 18
8 IYAR	Arthur Schwartz for his father, Gershon Schwartz, on Tuesday, Apr. 20
8 IYAR	Lawrence Jaffe for his wife, Sandi Jaffe, on Tuesday, Apr. 20
8 IYAR	Stephen Milstein for his grandmother, Greta Haas, on Tuesday, Apr. 20
9 IYAR	Fran Glicksman Zazon for her mother, Rochel Esther bas Binyamin, on Wed, Apr. 21
11 IYAR	Martin Jacobs for his sister, Julie Perlmutter, on Friday, Apr. 23
11 IYAR	Golda Jacobs for her brother, Hersh Katz, on Friday, Apr. 23
11 IYAR	Amy Benishai for her mother, Bryna Ruth Lapidus, on Friday, Apr. 23

Please report any errors or omissions to Dr. Jared Plitt at jared@drplitt.com or to yakira@yicbh.org

Eruv Bal Harbour: While the Eruv in Surfside includes both walking paths, in Bal Harbour the Eruv only includes the inner (western) walking path. The pier at Haulover Cut is not included. We would like to emphasize that every Erev Shabbos, individuals should call the Eruv Hotline to make sure that the Eruv is operational prior to carrying on Shabbos. The number is 305-866-ERUV (3788). The Eruv message is recorded approximately two hours prior to Candle Lighting. Miami Beach Eruv web page: www.miamibeacheruv.com

Yahrzeit Plaques Available

If you are interested in purchasing a permanent satin brass Yahrzeit Plaque for a dearly departed loved one on our beautiful, automated Yahrzeit memorial displays in our main sanctuary, please contact David Herman or the Young Israel office. To order a plaque online, please use the website www.yiplaques.com

The Refuah Fund provides meals for families that are experiencing an illness or sitting Shiva. Please donate directly to the Young Israel indicating on your check, or alternative payment, that it is specifically for the Refuah Fund. Special thanks to Susan Gluck and Susan Packer for establishing and continuing this very important mitzvah. Thanks for everyone who already contributed to the Refuah fund!

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