



**November 24, 2018**  
**16 Kislev 5779**



**Parsha Vayishlach**  
Torah Reading - Page 170  
Haftorah - Page 1141

**Rabbi Ari is out of town, visiting family.  
He will return to the office on Tuesday.**

**IN THE WEEK AHEAD**

*The Week of Learning is being sponsored by Rabbi Mendel & Shani Katzman for the merit of a complete recovery for those who are ill and need a recovery in our community and in the entire nation of Israel.*

**Saturday, November 24**

Shacharit..... 9:00 a.m.  
*Insights into the Weekly Torah Portion* ..... 3:40 p.m.  
Mincha/Seudah Shilshit..... 4:25 p.m.  
Havdalah..... 5:44 p.m.

**Sunday, November 25**

Shacharit..... 9:00 a.m.  
*Jewish Time and Calendar* with Yosef Siegel ..... 10:00 a.m.  
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home ..... 4:45 p.m.

**Monday, November 26**

Shacharit..... 7:00 a.m.  
*Jewish History -Your History* with Rabbi Shlomo..... 12:00 p.m.  
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home ..... 4:45 p.m.

**Tuesday, November 27**

Shacharit..... 7:00 a.m.  
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home ..... 4:45 p.m.

**Wednesday, November 28**

Shacharit..... 7:00 a.m.  
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home ..... 4:45 p.m.  
*A Taste of Conversational Hebrew* with Rabbi Shlomo ..... 7:00 p.m.

**Thursday, November 29**

Shacharit..... 7:00 a.m.  
*Connecting with Our Faith* with Rabbi Shlomo ..... 9:30 a.m.  
*Jewish Ethics* with Rabbi Shlomo @ UNMC..... 12:00 p.m.  
Mincha/Maariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home ..... 4:45 p.m.

**Friday, November 30**

Shacharit..... 7:00 a.m.  
Omaha Jr NCSY Shabbaton..... 2:00 p.m.  
Mincha/Candle Lighting ..... 4:47 p.m.

**In Memoriam**

Beth Israel extends condolences and wishes of comfort to members of the community on their recent loss.

**Anna Weisman**

Ha'makom yenachem etkhem betokh she'aravelei Tziyon vi'Yerushalayim





...to Yaakov and Faige Jeidel for chairing the Beth Israel Blood Drive on November 18. Thanks also those who volunteered during the event - Max Kohll, Leora McNamara, Ilana McNamara, Lior Nicholson, Lillian Cohen, and Linda Potash. And thanks to the many who saved lives by donating blood

...to Gregory Kogan for his donation of grape juice and gefilte fish.  
 ...to Lauren Tam, Hunter Tam, and Faige Jeidel for working several hours in the Children’s Room this week, organizing and cleaning out broken items,. They will be developing an action plan for a proposed renovation of the room.  
 ...to Linda Neumann-Potash for running another Pampered Chef fund-raiser  
 ...to Jordana Kurtzman for helping in the kitchen this week, to Dani Shrago for handling shopping, and to Linda Potash, Helene Shrago, Jordana, and other volunteers to helping with kiddush and Seudah Shlishit.

**Mazel Tov to Those Celebrating Next Week Birthdays**



Abiel Oregon Shyken	Nov 25
Toba Cohen-Dunning	Nov 25
Patti Adler	Nov 25
Dr. Tippi Denenberg	Nov 25
Bennett Fishbain	Nov 26
Debra Roitstein	Nov 29
Jack Cohen	Nov 30



**Anniversary**

James & Susan Polack	Nov 26
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***Celebrating a special simcha this month? Call the office or speak to Bette Kozlen to be a part of the December 29 Simcha Kiddush.***

***Jewish Time and Calendar with Yosef Seigel***

Sunday, 10 a.m., November 25

Nov 25 - Explaining the history and development of the Jewish calendar; laws of months & leap years; when & why holidays fall throughout the seasons; Sabbatical & Jubilee cycles..



Join Rabbi Ari next Sunday, December 2, at 10 a.m. for “The Secret Lights of Chanukah” and learn about the true illumination of the holiday.

**CHANUKA + FALAFEL + CARNIVAL**

**FALAFEL STAND  
CARNIVAL GAMES  
MENORAH MAKING**



OPEN TO THE OMAHA JEWISH COMMUNITY  
BETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE  
12604 PACIFIC STREET, OMAHA, NEBRASKA  
DEC 2 2018 - 4:00 - 5:30 PM



**Israeli Falafel Made/Sponsored By Jerusalem Grocery**



**CANDLE LIGHTING AND A SPECIAL  
CHANUKA TRIVIA GAME**

**Many thanks to the generous sponsors of this year's  
Chanukah Carnival!**

*Joel & Cony Alperson, Beth Cohen & Harry Berman,  
Sharon & Jeff Kirshenbaum, Bette & Jack Kozlen, Julee Katzman,  
Kohll's Pharmacy & Healthcare, Linda Neumann-Potash & Bruce Potash,  
Nancy Rampey Biniamow, Susie & Paul Shyken.  
Helene & Jack Shrago, and Fred Weiss.*

# CHANUKAH HAPPENINGS AT BETH ISRAEL

*The first night of Chanukah is Sunday, December 2*

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2**

10 –11 a.m.

***The Secret Lights of Chanukah***

Join Rabbi Ari and learn about the real lights of this wonderful holiday.

4-5:30 p.m.

***Beth Israel Chanukah Carnival***

Enjoy bounce house, games, trivia, and music. New this year is a menorah making workshop, presented by Home Depot plus a falafel stand, sponsored by Jerusalem Grocery. The event is free of charge thanks to sponsorships by Joel & Cony Alperson, Beth Cohen & Harry Berman, Sharon & Jeff Kirshenbaum, Bette & Jack Kozlen, Julee Katzman, Kohl's Pharmacy & Healthcare, Linda Neumann-Potash & Bruce Potash, Nancy Rampey Biniamow, Susie & Paul Shyken, Helene & Jack Shrago, and Fred Weiss.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8**

**Following Shabbat morning services**

***Beth Israel Chanukah Lunch***

Enjoy brisket, potato kugel, salad, cranberry relish, challah rolls, and dessert. Adults \$14, ages 3-12, \$7. Mary Sue Grossman, who will be retiring at the end of December, will be honored. Sign up on line or call the office. Reservations needed by December 5.

**NOW THROUGH DECEMBER 8**

Shop the ***Beth Israel Sisterhood Gift Shop*** for gifts for young and old, decorations, menorahs, candles, and more! Gift shop available during regular business hours, Monday through Thursday, 9am-4pm, and Friday, 9am-2pm.



**Todah Rabbah to Lenora McNamara  
for this week's D'var Torah**

This week's parsha is Vayislach. This happens to be my bat mitzvah parsha!! It's crazy that I was bat mitzvahed 3 years ago today, but for this anniversary I decided to share some ideas I shared back then. So here it is...

Some rabbis say that Yaakov was coming out first and his brother, Esau, pushed him out of the way, so Yaakov came out after him and he grabbed Esau's heel on the way out of his mother. So his parents named him Yaakov which means "heel". This name represents his struggle against Esau. Throughout his life, in the back of Yaakov's mind he was always thinking Esau is trying to kill me."

First he struggles with the angel, which some rabbis say is the angel of Esau, and wins. Later, he meets his brother face to face and they make up. After Yaakov stopped always being afraid of his brother then he could get his new name Yisroel. Now he could focus on his connection with G-d.

At the end of wrestling with the angel of Esau, Yaakov is wounded in the thigh and he demanded a blessing. That blessing is getting the name Yisroel. The angel says:

כִּי שָׁרַיְתָּ אֶל־הַיְמִינִי עַם אֱלֹהִים וְנָשִׂיתָ אִתִּי כֹל  
This means "You struggled with God and Humans and prevailed."

I think this was really important. His name changed because Yisroel is now a minister of G-d, someone who does what G-d wants in the world. He went from being a scared little brother to prevailing and being G-d's helper in the world.

We all have to go through our own struggles before we can become the person we are meant to be.

The land of Israel came to Yaakov after his name changed. That is important because the newly named Yisroel became worthy of receiving the land because after his struggles he stopped caring just about himself and now cared for all of humanity.

# Parsha Vayishlach

Source: [www.torah.org](http://www.torah.org)  
Rabbi Aron Tendler

**1st 2nd & 3rd Aliyot:** It's the year 2205 and Yakov is 97 years old. He sends messengers to greet Eisav and is informed that Eisav is approaching, prepared to do battle. He applies a three pronged strategy in preparation for the confrontation: a) Tefilah – prayer b) diplomacy c) war. Prior to the actual confrontation, Yakov bests Eisav in a spiritual battle with Eisav's Angel, and earns the name "Yisroel." Due to the wound he sustained in the battle, G-d prohibits Yakov and his family from eating the Gid Hanashe – the sciatic nerve. Yakov and Eisav meet after 34 years.

**4th Aliya:** Yakov and Eisav agree to separate peacefully. Eisav returns to his kingdom of Seir, and Yakov settles outside of the city of Shechem.

**5th Aliya:** Dina is abducted and raped by Shechem the son of Chamor, and Shimon and Levi devise a strategy for successfully killing the entire male population of Shechem. According to Chazal, Shimon and Levi were 13 years old. Hashem (G-d) instructs Yakov to move to Beth El. Rivka's nurse Devora dies, and Hashem confirms the name Yisroel upon Yakov.

**6th & 7th Aliyot:** Rachel dies while giving birth to Binyamin and Yakov buries her in Beis Lechem. Following Rachel's death, Reuven

## Parsha Questions

1. What did Yaakov call the place where he wrestled with the angel? What does the name mean?
2. After Yaakov wrestled with the angel, his name was changed Yisrael. What was the meaning of the new name?
3. Rachel died and was buried along the way to what present-day town?
4. What is the significant issue about Yitzhak's burial? mean?

**Omaha/Kansas City Jr. NCSY  
Shabbaton  
November 30 - December 2  
Beth Israel Synagogue**



*It will be a great Shabbat filled with learning, ruach, friendships, and fun. Contact Rabbi Shlomo to be a part of it. Can you help as a volunteer or by giving a monetary donation? Please talk to Yaakov or Rabbi Shlomo, or Rabbi Ari.*



## **WELCOME TO BETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE**

We are delighted to welcome you to Beth Israel Synagogue. A passage from Deuteronomy 30:11-14 inspired the art work in the sanctuary. "For this commandment that I command you today - it is not hidden from you and it is not distant. It is not in heaven, [for you] to say, 'Who can go to the heaven and take it for us so that we can listen to it and perform it? Nor is it across the seas, [for you] to say, 'Who can cross to the other side of the sea for us and take it for us, so that we can listen to it and perform it?' Rather, the matter is very near to you - in your mouth and your heart - to perform it." Mitzvot are obtainable.

- ◆ The focal point of the sanctuary is the Menorah Window, which frames the Ark and is shaped in the form of the six branched candelabrum. To the right, brilliantly colored windows have forms that reflect the heavens, while the left side depicts the seas.
- ◆ The message is completed in a frieze, the horizontal painting on wood mounted on the wall. The background of the frieze symbolically and abstractly represents the relationship between G-d and the people of Israel through the Covenant. The perochet, or curtain over the Ark, completes the symbolic composition, with an expression that intertwines the Torah and the letter Aleph, the first letter of the Hebrew alphabet, of the Ten Commandments, and of G-d's name in Hebrew.
- ◆ As is traditional, the sanctuary has 12 windows, representing the 12 tribes of Israel. These windows contain the name of each tribe in flowing, organic letters. The windows are located above the continued frieze, which includes two central texts of the revelation at Sinai - "If you will keep my Covenant, you shall be precious to me," and "You shall be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation." This composition expresses the unity of Israel as the people stood together at Sinai and accepted the Torah.

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*Beth Israel Synagogue strives to perpetuate the legacy of Torah Judaism in the modern world. Beth Israel welcomes all persons of the Jewish faith to join and accepts the diversity of practice and thought among its members.*

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Toba Cohen-Dunning, President  
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