



January 4, 2020
7 Tevet 5780



Shabbat Parsha Vayigash

Torah Reading - pg. 250

Haftorah - pg. 1144

***This weeks Shabbos sheet is sponsored by
Lourdes Secola & Shelly Lerner
In honor of the Dembitzer family and
the birth of Mordechai Ori***

IN THE WEEK AHEAD

The Week of Learning is being sponsored by Linda Neumann-Potash & Bruce Potash in memory of Linda's Mother Erika Neumann, and 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, January 4

Open Beit Midrash	8:30 a.m.
Shacharit.....	9:00 a.m.
Torah Class with Rebbe Howie.....	10:15 a.m.
Torah Class with Rebbe Leon.....	10:30 a.m.
Daven & Learn with Rebbe Donald	10:30 a.m.
Torah with Rabbi Moshe	10:45 a.m.
Torah Tot Shabbat.....	10:50 a.m.
Sponsored Kiddush - Meat lunch.....	11:15 a.m.

Co-Sponsored by: Yosef Seigel and Ben Shapiro

for the occasion of a siyum upon completion of Talmud (Bavli),

for a Happy New Year and for the many Simchas occurring this month.

Insights into the Weekly Torah Portion	3:50 p.m.
Teen-led Children's Activity.....	4:30 p.m.
Mincha/Seudah Shlishit.....	4:35 p.m.
Havdalah.....	5:55 p.m.

Sunday, January 5

Shacharit.....	9:00 a.m.
Works of the Maimonidies.....	9:45 a.m.
JYE BI.....	10:00 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home	4:55 p.m.

Monday - Friday

Laws of Shabbos with Rabbi Ari	6:45 a.m.
Shacharit.....	7:00 a.m.
Nach Yomi: Daily Prophets with Rabbi Ari	7:40 a.m.

Nach Yomi is being sponsored by Sherry Taxman

in memory of the yearzeit of her father, Huna ben Menachem Mendel

Lights of Teshuva with Rabbi Moshe	8:00 a.m.
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Monday, January 6

Tasty Torah with Rabbi Yoni.....	1:00 p.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home	4:55 p.m.

Tuesday, January 7

Mincha/Ma'ariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home	4:55 p.m.
Tasty Torah with Rabbi Yoni.....	7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 8

Yom HaShoah Meeting.....	10:00 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home	4:55 p.m.
Executive Committee Meeting.....	5:30 p.m.

Thursday, January 9

Character Development with Rabbi Ari	9:30 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv @ Rose Blumkin Jewish Home	4:55 p.m.
Master Chef Beth Israel Teens with Rabbi Yoni	7:30 p.m.
Keeping "Relate" in Your Parent-Child Relationship	8:15 p.m.

Friday, January 10

Mincha/Candle Lighting	4:57 p.m.
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Celebrate



Mazel Tov to Those Celebrating Next Week

Birthdays (English)

Ron Giller	January 4
Daniel Denenberg	January 4
Ben Lohman	January 4
Sasha Denenberg	January 5
Eric Dunning	January 6
Ed Joseph	January 8
Liora Shapiro	January 9
Stacey Rockman	January 10
Morton Glass	January 10

Birthdays (Hebrew)

Ed Joseph	7 Tevet
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*Celebrating a special simcha?
Contact Bette Kozlen or the office to be a part of
the January/February Simcha Kiddush on February 8.*



...Lourdes Secola and Shelly Lerner for sponsoring the Shabbos Sheet in honor of the Dembitzer family and the birth of Mordechai Ori.

... Linda Neumann-Potash & Bruce Potash for sponsoring the Week of Learning in memory of Linda's mother, Erika Neumann

... Sherry Taxman for sponsoring Nach Yomi in memory of the yearzeit of her father Huna ben Menachem Mendel.

...Yosef Seigel and Ben Shapiro for co-sponsoring the Kiddush lunch for the occasion of a siyum upon completion of Talmud (Bavli), for a Happy New Year and for the many Simchas occurring this month.

...Dani Shrago for doing our shopping.

...Nancy Rampey-Biniamow for repairing the torah cover.

...Harry Weiner for helping cook and clean for the Kiddush.

...Bridget Kohll, Beth Cohen, Helene Shrago, Anna Priluck, Dani Shrago, Sharon Klibanow, and everyone else to who helped make the Bris extra special.

...Sherry Taxman for reading the announcements.

...our anonymous neighbors who brought flowers in to the shul this week.



MasterChef Beth Israel Teens

Thursday 1/9/2020 • 7:30 pm
7th-12th graders

For More details - Rabbi Yoni (402) 401-8184



The food will be served at the kiddush and judged for quality and taste

Remember to RSVP!

*You can sign up for as many or as few classes as you would like.
\$10 per couple per class or \$30 per couple for all Four! Contact Kaitlin to RSVP.*

E-mail executiveasst@orthodoxomaha.org or call 402.556.6288

COME HEAR FROM DANIELLE
BETTMANN, EARLY CHILDHOOD
EDUCATOR AND PARENTING COACH,
IN HER NEW CLASS SERIES:

KEEPING "RELATE" IN YOUR PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIPS

Through these classes, Danielle will discuss every-day parenting strategies and practical advice for effectively raising your 1-7 year olds.

**THE CLASSES WILL BE HELD AT BETH
ISRAEL ON JANUARY 9, 16, 23, AND 30
FROM 8:15-9:15 PM**

Cost of attendance is \$30 per couple for four classes, or \$10 per a class. Please RSVP by calling (402) 556-6288.



COMMUNITY EVENT



Little Hands, Big Hearts: A Family Day of Caring

Sunday, January 12, 2020

10:00 - 11:30 AM | Location: Friedel Jewish Academy



Join PJ Library & Friedel Jewish Academy for a morning of service activities on the Omaha JCC campus for children ages 0-5 and their parents (and/or grandparents!). Timed so you can drop older siblings at religious school and come have special time focused on your littles. **Learn how even tiny hands can start giving back!** The program will be formatted open-house style with activity stations set up highlighting a different craft or service project teaching a related Jewish value. Snacks and coffee will be available throughout the program.

RSVP by Thursday, January 9th

Online at www.surveymonkey.com/r/KWFL2PM or email Jennie Gates Beckman at jbeckman@jewishomaha.org

(All synagogue tot programming will be meeting at this program instead of their regularly scheduled programming.)



The Jewish Federation
OF OMAHA



This year's focus will be on environmental sustainability: how might we be good caretakers of our earth? See the description on the registration page for more details!

Announcements

At Beth Israel, we are constantly evolving our security protocols. Matt Cohen is the head of our Security Committee. If you see anything suspicious, please report to him or any Beth Israel Staff member.

Reminder: Firearms are not permitted to be carried in the Synagogue, except by security personnel authorized by Synagogue.



Keep Smiling!

Vayigash (Genesis 44:18-47:27)



*Pharaoh said to Yaakov,
"How many are the days of the years of your life?"
(Gen. 47:8)*

Pharaoh asked Yaakov, who appeared to be extremely old, "How old are you?" Rabbi Chaim Shmuelevitz¹ expounds on this verse, explaining that Yaakov was punished with a shorter lifespan because he looked older than his years. God was telling him, "There was no reason for you to age from the ordeals of Yoseph, Dina and Eisav. You should have had faith and been in a state of happiness!"

David, a jolly young fellow, got into a yellow cab in downtown Manhattan and began conversing with the driver. After being on the road the whole day, the driver was not in the best of moods and had no interest in talking to David. However, due to David's cheerful personality, he transformed the driver's mood within minutes into a pleasant one. Finishing work, the cab driver came home and to his wife's surprise this was the first time ever that she had seen him come home in a good mood. The two of them spent an enjoyable evening together. The next morning his wife went to work and was still in high spirits from the night before. She didn't fight with her co-workers and nothing seemed to bother her. Tony, her boss, who usually came home after work with a migraine from listening to his employees quarrel, came home that night calm, with a pleasant attitude. He decided to reunite with his son, Jim, whom he hadn't spoken to for months, due to his hectic schedule.

He was walking with Jim and noticed that he was being quiet, with tears streaming down his face. Alarmed, Tony asked, "What's wrong? Are you okay?" His son slowly took a crumpled paper out of his pocket and handed it to his father. His father opened the note and it read as follows:

To whom this may concern: I committed suicide because no one in the world cares about me. --Jim

Tony looked at him with tears in his eyes and put his arm around him. Choking on his tears Jim explained, "For the past few months I was lonely and depressed. I felt no one cared about me and I planned to commit suicide. Three minutes before the jump I got your phone call that you would love to spend time with me...!"

Joy is contagious. Just walking around with a positive attitude you can affect many lives. A smile enriches those who see it and those who give it; it takes just a moment, but it lasts forever. It is a form of sunshine which nurtures, sustains, and heals, and can be produced on demand. It is needed by all: rich, poor, for the home, business, and in the street. A smile costs a little and creates a lot. Scientists say that it takes 13 muscles to smile and 112 muscles to frown. Why work so hard?

NOTES

1. Sichas Mussar pg. 124

Parsha Vayigash

Source: By Rabbi Aron Tendler
www.torah.org

1st Aliya: Yehuda confronts Yoseph in the aftermath of the stolen chalice. Yehuda reviews the past events, starting from Yoseph's suspicious interest in their family.

2nd Aliya: Yehuda's final plea, that he would remain a slave instead of Binyamin, triggers Yoseph to reveal himself. Yoseph mitigates his brother's shock and obvious shame by explaining to them the hidden hand of Hashem in all that had occurred.

3rd Aliya: Yoseph instructs his brothers to bring Yakov and the rest of the family to Egypt. Pharaoh, having heard the news of the brother's arrival, confirms Yoseph's offer.

4th Aliya: Yoseph sends provisions and transportation for Yakov's entire household. Yakov is told of Yoseph being, "alive and well and ruling the land of Egypt".

5th Aliya: Yakov wishes to see Yoseph, but first asks Hashem for instructions. Hashem reassures Yakov that the time of slavery and nationhood has begun, and that he must go to Mitzrayim. The 70 direct descendants of Yakov are counted.

6th Aliya: Yakov and Yoseph reunite after 22 years. Five of the brothers and Yakov are presented to Pharaoh. Yakov blesses Pharaoh. The year is 2238.

7th Aliya: The remainder of the Parsha is a flashback to the two years preceding Yakov's arrival. Yoseph's master plan for reconfiguring Egyptian society is detailed. Yoseph follows the broad outline of his advice to Pharaoh regarding the administration of the 7 years of plenty. The famine must have been of enormous intensity for Yoseph to accomplish his plan in just two years. Although the people "sell" themselves to Pharaoh in order to get food, Yoseph's plan maintains their sense of dignity and independence.

Parsha Questions

- 1)What was Yosef's consolation to his brothers when he revealed his identity?
- 2)What did Yosef send to Yaakov to show that he is alive?
- 3)What did Hashem tell Yaakov to reassure him that he should go to Egypt?
- 4)What was Yaakov's reaction when he was reunited with Yosef?

Announcement

We are striving to shift the culture of our shul to one of more ownership and collective responsibility of the Shul. Whether it's clearing your plate from the table after kiddush, or helping to serve or put away Shaleshudes, we appreciate everyone who pitches in and helps keep the shul running and ask that if you see someone working, please lend a hand!



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.

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.

Rabbi Ari Dembitzer, Head Rabbi
Toba Cohen-Dunning, President
Nate Shapiro, Executive Director
Rabbi Yoni Dreyer, Assistant Rabbi
Leo Fettman, Cantor Emeritus

12604 Pacific Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68154
(402) 556-6288 / www.orthodoxomaha.org