

**PAINTER'S TAPE ON
THE WALLS IS THERE
FOR A REASON. PLEASE
DO NOT TOUCH IT.**



CANDLE LIGHTING 4:18 PM | 18 TEVET 5784 | DECEMBER 30, 2023 | HAVDALA 5:22 PM



**שבת פרשת ויחי
SHABBAT PARSHAT VAYECHI**

Haftorah is Kings I 2:1-12.

FRIDAY EVENING

MINCHA	4:20 PM
SHKIA	4:36 PM
TZAIT HAKOCHAVIM	5:16 PM

SHABBAT

HASHKAMA	8:00 AM
MAIN	9:00 AM
LAST KRIAT SHEMA	9:39 AM
POST-HASHKAMA SHIUR	10:00 AM
FUNDAMENTALS SHIUR	11:15 AM
PRE-MINCHA SHIUR	3:30 PM
MINCHA	4:10 PM
MAARIV	5:22 PM

KIDDUSH



Kiddush is sponsored by Andrea & Greg Riskin in honor of the anniversary of Greg's bar mitzvah.

PARENT - CHILD LEARNING

This Saturday night, 6:15 PM - 7:00 PM, parent-child learning (with PIZZA) will be hosted by Farnaz & David Gorelik.



DR. NAVA R. SILTON LECTURES



This Tuesday night, 8:30 PM, via Zoom, Dr. Nava R. Siltan will be delivering the second of a three-part lecture series entitled "Parenting & Mental Health in the Modern World", with this lecture dealing with "Grit/Effortful Perseverance". Nava R. Siltan, Ph.D., is a Developmental Psychologist and a Professor at Marymount Manhattan College, where she teaches classes in Child Development, Cognition, Personality, Creativity, and Children's Media. The final lecture will be in person on March 9 at 8:30 PM at the shul on "Creativity" with an interactive game she created! RSVP to: <https://forms.gle/aAxVZKfOhfS5BAyc7>. Learn more here: <https://www.drnasilton.com/>.



SUNDAY
12/31

MONDAY
1/1

TUESDAY
1/2

WEDNESDAY
1/3

THURSDAY
1/4

FRIDAY
1/5

WEEKDAY MINYANIM AT AHAVAT ACHIM

SHACHARIT	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	6:25 AM	6:25 AM	6:15 AM	6:25 AM
MINCHA/MAARIV	4:26 PM	4:27 PM	4:28 PM	4:28 PM	4:29 PM	4:30 PM

ZMANIM

Earliest Talit	6:21 AM	6:21 AM	6:21 AM	6:21 AM	6:21 AM	6:21 AM
Gedolah	12:22 PM	12:23 PM	12:23 PM	12:23 PM	12:24 PM	12:25 PM
Shkia	4:38 PM	4:39 PM	4:40 PM	4:40 PM	4:41 PM	
Tzait	5:18 PM	5:19 PM	5:20 PM	5:20 PM	5:21 PM	

Rabbi Ely Shestack

President Stephen Agress

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 2 - Dr. Nava Siltan Lecture, "Parenting & Mental Health in the Modern World", Part 2 - "Grit/Effortful Perseverance". 8:30 PM, via Zoom.

January 5 - Musical Kabbalat Shabbat

January 6 - Bowling Night (adults only), 7:30 PM. Limited to first 20 bowlers that register. To RSVP, click: [Bowling](#)

February 2 - Musical Shabbat Dinner

February 10 - Pre-Superbowl Kiddush

March 1 - Shabbat Across America Dinner

March 8 - Musical Kabbalat Shabbat

March 9 - Dr. Nava Siltan Lecture, "Parenting & Mental Health in the Modern World", Part 3 - "Creativity, w/ Interactive Game". 8:30 PM, at the Shul.

March 23 - Shul Mishloach Manot

April 20 - Pre-Pesach Luncheon

IN OUR FUTURE

January 6 - Seudah Shlishit is sponsored by Betsy & Marty Sonnenblick on the yahrzeit of Marty's mother מרת בת זלמן, Helene Sonnenblick, and Steven Plotnick for a siyum on Yerushalmi Mesechet Shevi'it.

January 13 - Seudah Shlishit is sponsored by Fern & Oded Strich to commemorate the Yahrzeit of of Adam Strich, Adam Eliyav Ben Oded.

January 20 - Seudah Shlishit is sponsored by Baila Gila Greenberg to commemorate the first Yahrzeit of her mother Kreindel bat Shael HaLevi, Claire Greenberg.

January 27 - Seudah Shlishit is sponsored by the Plotnicks on the yahrzeit of Gail's father, אברהם נחום בן משה, Alan Hodes.

February 3 - Kiddush is sponsored by Gail & Steven Plotnick on the conclusion of Gail's aveilus for her father, אברהם נחום בן משה, Alan Hodes.

February 3 - Seudah Shlishit is sponsored by the Agresses to commemorate the Yahrzeit of Stephen's father, HaRav Chaim ben Yehoshua, Rabbi Hyman Agress.

February 10 - Seudah Shlishit is sponsored by the Garfunkels on the Yahrzeit of David's father, יהושע פאליק ב"ר משה הכהן, Yehoshua Garfunkel.

February 17 - Seudah Shlishit is sponsored by Lori & David Garfunkel on the Yahrzeit of Lori's father, משה מרדכי בן אהרן, Moish Markovitz, together with David's grandfather, חיים בן אברהם הלוי.

KIDDUSH & SEUDAH SHLISHIT

● THIS WEEK'S KIDDUSH IS MEAT.

SHIURIM



- SAMSON RAFAEL HIRSCH ON THE PARSHA, Tuesdays at 1:00 PM, in person and on zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/7291311899> (PW: 112233).

- TORAH FOR YOUR COMMUTE, via a Whatsapp group, with 3-minute daily halacha insights and a weekly 5-minute parsha elucidation.



To join email Rabbi Shestack at rabbishestack@gmail.com.

- SHABBAT GEMARA SHIUR, 40 minutes before mincha.
- SHABBAT ONEG SERIES.
- FUNDAMENTALS OF JEWISH THOUGHT, after Shabbat kiddush.
- MESORAH-IN-REVERSE lecture series at Seudah Shlishit.
- Tzurba M'Rabanan discussing Shabbat: Tuesdays, 7:30 PM, on Zoom with Shalom Brauser.
- Tzurba M'Rabanan on Kashrut, Wednesday, 8:30 PM by Rebetzin Chana, at her home.

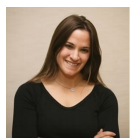


SHALOM BRAUSER, OUR TEEN MENTOR/ADULT EDUCATOR

Middle school Chabura will take place every third shabbat. Upcoming Chabura dates are as follows: **February 2/3**



DR. NAVA R. SILTON LECTURES



Last installment of "Parenting & Mental Health in the Modern World", will be on March 9 at 8:30 PM at the shul entitled "Creativity" with an interactive game she created! RSVP to: <https://forms.gle/aAxVZKFohfS5BAyc7>.

GITA COOPERWASSER YOUTH EVENTS

December 30 - Parent Child Learning, 6:15 - 7:00 PM, hosted by Farnaz & David Gorelik

GITA COOPERWASSER YOUTH PROGRAM



- SHABBAT YOUTH LEADERS, 1ST - 4TH GRADE: BROOKE & PERRI, AND 3 YRS - K: NICOLE & AVIGAYIL
- Youth group for children in 1st to 4th Grades starts at 9:00 AM (Drop Off) in the Youth Room on the left upon entering the social hall.
- Youth group for children 3 years old through Kindergarten starts at 9:30 AM (Drop Off) in the Youth Room on the right upon entering the social hall.
- Parent & Me room opens at 9:30 AM in the Beit Midrash.
- 5th through 9th graders will meet for Torah and games at 10:00 AM in the David Schwitzer Social Hall.
- Rabbi Meet & Greet, every Friday night, kids can come over to the Rabbi after davening to receive a cup of grape juice and a ticket!
- Children's corner at Seudah Shlishit, 1st to 4th graders will get 10 Torah questions in 10 minutes from Rabbi Shestack, with special snacks, tickets and more.
- Children earn tickets for coming to minyan (Friday night and/or Shabbat day), asking the rabbi questions or attending parent-child learning programs! Tickets can be redeemed for prizes.



18-25 Saddle River Road
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410
201.797.0502

<http://www.ahavatachim.org>



AHAVAT ACHIM

קהלת אהבת אחים

THE FAMILY SHUL

You're invited to join us as

AHAVAT ACHIM GOES BOWLING!

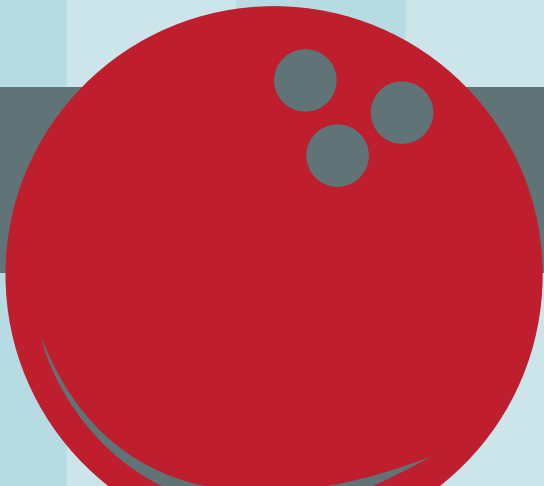
Saturday, January 6th at 7:30pm

at Parkway Lanes,
200 Route 46
Elmwood Park, NJ 07407

RSVP to save your spot by 1/4!

\$25 per participant
(covers bowling shoes & lane fee)

THIS IS AN ADULTS ONLY EVENT!
RSVP EARLY; MAX 20 PLAYERS!





PARENTING & MENTAL HEALTH IN THE MODERN WORLD

A LECTURE SERIES BY
DR. NAVA R. SILTON, PH.D.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH @ 8:30PM ON ZOOM:
EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2ND @ 8:30PM ON ZOOM:
GRIT / EFFORTFUL PERSEVERANCE

SATURDAY, MARCH 9TH @ 8:30PM AT AHAVAT ACHIM:
CREATIVITY (W/ INTERACTIVE GAME!)

Nava R. Siltan, Ph.D. is a Developmental Psychologist and a Full Professor at Marymount Manhattan College, where she teaches classes in Child Development, Cognition, Personality, Creativity, Children's Media. Learn more here: <https://www.drnavasilton.com/>



AHAVAT ACHIM
קהלת אהבת אחים
THE FAMILY SHUL

MOTZEI SHABBAT PCI!

Parent Child Learning

WITH RABBI SHESTACK

DECEMBER 30 ~ 6:15-7:00 PM

PIZZA



DAVID & FARNAZ GORELIK HOME

1ST - 4TH GRADE



LEARNING



COME LEARN WITH US IN A COMFORTABLE ENVIRONMENT,
EARN TICKETS AND PRIZES, AND ENJOY PIZZA!

RSVP BY DEC 26 TO
YOUTH@AHAVATACHIM.ORG FOR ADDRESS



AHAVAT ACHIM
קהלת אהבת אחים

THE FAMILY GROUP

Musical Kabbalat Shabbat Series

WINTER 2023 - 2024

**NOV
10**

**DEC
08**

**JAN
05**

**FEB
02**

**MAR
08**



AHAVAT ACHIM
— קהלת אהבת אחים —
THE FAMILY SHUL

Join us for an uplifting Kabbalat Shabbat on Friday nights coinciding with Shabbat Mevarchim throughout the winter!

CHILDREN'S CORNER @ SEUDAH SHLISHIT 1ST-4TH GRADERS

10
questions
in 10
minutes!

EXCLUSIVE KIDS TABLE

FEATURING

TORAH QUESTIONS WITH RABBI SHESTACK

SPECIAL SNACKS, TICKETS & MORE!

FOLLOWED BY FREE PLAY

Starting 11/25 until Pesach



AHAVAT ACHIM
SEUDAH SHLISHIT
11/25/2019



Covenant & Conversation

Jonathan Sacks
THE RABBI SACKS LEGACY

VAYECHI • ויחי

FROM THE TEACHINGS AND WRITINGS OF **RABBI LORD JONATHAN SACKS** ר"צ זצ

With thanks to the Schimmel Family for their generous sponsorship of Covenant & Conversation, dedicated in loving memory of Harry (Chaim) Schimmel. "I have loved the Torah of R' Chaim Schimmel ever since I first encountered it. It strives to be not just about truth on the surface but also its connection to a deeper truth beneath. Together with Anna, his remarkable wife of 60 years, they built a life dedicated to love of family, community, and Torah. An extraordinary couple who have moved me beyond measure by the example of their lives." — Rabbi Sacks

Grandparents

Every Friday night we re-enact one of the most moving scenes in the book of Bereishit. Jacob, reunited with Joseph, is ill. Joseph comes to visit him, bring bringing with him his two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim. Jacob, with deep emotion, says:

"I never expected to see you again, and now God has shown me your children as well."

Gen. 48:11

He blesses Joseph. Then he places his hands on the heads of the two boys.

He blessed them that day and said, "[In the time to come] Israel will use you as a blessing. They will say, 'May God make you like Ephraim and Manasseh.'"

Gen. 48:20

So we do to this day, with these very words. Why this blessing above all others? One commentator (Yalkut Yehudah) says it is because Ephraim and Manasseh were the first two Jewish children born in exile. So Jewish parents bless their children asking God to help them keep their identity intact despite all the temptations and distractions of Diaspora life.

I heard however a most lovely explanation, based on the Zohar, from my revered predecessor Lord Jakobovits of blessed memory. He said that though there are many instances in Torah and Tanach in which parents bless their children, this is the only example of a grandparent blessing grandchildren.

Between parents and children, he said, there are often tensions. Parents worry about their children. Children

sometimes rebel against their parents. The relationship is not always smooth.

Not so with grandchildren. There the relationship is one of love untroubled by tension or anxiety. When a grandparent blesses a grandchild they do so with a full heart. That is why this blessing by Jacob to his grandchildren became the model of blessing across the generations. Anyone who has had the privilege of having grandchildren will immediately understand the truth and depth of this explanation.

Grandparents bless their grandchildren and are blessed by them. This phenomenon is the subject of a fascinating difference of opinion between the Babylonian Talmud and the Talmud Yerushalmi. The Babylonian Talmud says the following:

Rabbi Joshua ben Levi said, "Whoever teaches their grandchildren Torah is regarded as if they had received the Torah from Mount Sinai, as it is said, 'Teach your children and your children's children.'"

Deut. 4:10-11; Kiddushin 30a

The Talmud Yerushalmi puts it differently. Rabbi Joshua ben Levi used to listen, every Friday, to his grandson reciting the weekly parsha. One week he entered the bathhouse, and after he had begun bathing he remembered that he had not yet heard the weekly parsha from his grandson. So he immediately got up to leave the bathhouse... They asked him why he was leaving in the middle of his bathing, since the Mishnah teaches that once you have begun bathing on a Friday afternoon, you should not interrupt the process. He

replied, “Is this such a small thing in your eyes? For whoever hears the parsha from his grandchild is as if he heard it directly from Mount Sinai” (Yerushalmi Shabbat 1:2).

According to the Talmud Bavli, it is a great privilege is to teach your grandchildren Torah. According to the Talmud Yerushalmi, the greatest privilege is to have your grandchildren teach Torah to you. This is one argument about which no grandparent will have the slightest difficulty saying that both are true.

My late father, of blessed memory, had to leave school at the age of 14 to begin working to support his family, and as a result he never had the full Jewish or secular education that he would have wanted. I remember from my childhood that – as we walked home from shul on a Shabbat morning – I would be full of questions. “Dad, why do we do this?” “Why did we do that?” My father always gave me the same answer, and that was the answer that changed my life. He said, “Jonathan, I didn’t have a Jewish education, so I can’t answer your questions. But one day, you will have the education that I didn’t have. And when that happens, *you* will teach me the answers to those questions.”

The greatest gift you can give a child or a grandchild is what you empower and allow them to teach you. As parents, we strive to give our children everything. There’s one thing we sometimes forget to give them which is the chance for them to give something to us. And that, frankly, is the most important thing there is.

Give your children and your grandchildren the space to give to you. Let them become your teachers and let them be your inspiration. In doing so you will help them become the people that they were destined to be, and you will help create the blessings God wants them to become.

With an exquisite sense of symmetry, just as we begin Shabbat with a grandparent’s blessing so we end it, in Maariv, with the words:

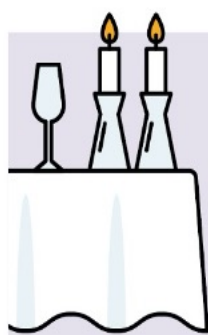
May you live to see your children’s children –
peace be on Israel.

Psalm 128:6

What is the connection between grandchildren and peace? Surely this, that those who think about grandchildren care about the future, and those who think about the future make peace. It is those who constantly think of the past, of slights and humiliations and revenge, who make war.

Jacob lives a life fraught with conflict and troubles. He knew of revenge and war, of grudges and strife. But he died serene, and full of blessings. And before he died, he blessed his children and grandchildren.

To bless grandchildren and be blessed by them, to teach them and to be taught by them – these are the highest Jewish privilege and the serene end of Jacob’s troubled life.



Around the Shabbat Table

1. How can the story of Yaakov blessing Ephraim and Menashe inspire us to maintain our identity in challenging environments?
2. How can the experience of being in exile – as with Ephraim and Menashe – impact a family’s cultural and religious identity over time?
3. How do you think blessing one’s descendants influences family traditions and values across generations?

● These questions come from this week’s **Family Edition** to Rabbi Sacks’ Covenant & Conversation. For an interactive, multi-generational study, check out the full edition at www.RabbiSacks.org/covenant-conversation-family-edition/vayechi/grandparents/