



The Bulletin is sponsored by Saragail Gnessin Carpe in loving memory of her brother Barnett Gnessin (October 9, 1938 ~ February 9, 2020) with unending love, pride and admiration.



CANDLE LIGHTING 4:39 PM | 10 SHEVAT 5784 | JANUARY 20, 2024 | HAVDALA 5:43 PM

## שבת פרשת בא SHABBAT PARSHAT BO

Haftorah is Jeremiah 46:13-28. Final time for Kiddush Levanah of Shevat is this Thursday, night until 3:07 AM (16 Shevat).

## FRIDAY EVENING

MINCHA	4:45 PM
SHKIA	4:57 PM
TZAIT HAKOCHAVIM	5:37 PM

## SHABBAT

HASHKAMA	8:00 AM
MAIN	9:00 AM
LAST KRIAT SHEMA	9:42 AM
POST-HASHKAMA SHIUR	10:00 AM
FUNDAMENTALS SHIUR	11:30 AM
PRE-MINCHA SHIUR	3:50 PM
MINCHA	4:30 PM
MAARIV	5:43 PM

## KIDDUSH



Kiddush is sponsored by Joan & Barry Goldberg to celebrate their newest grandson, Yehuda Brez. יגדלוהו לתורה ולחופה ולמעשים טובים May they raise him to Torah, chuppah and good deeds.

## SEUDAH SHLISHIT

Suedah Shlishit is sponsored by Baila Gila Greenberg on the first Yahrzeit of her mother Claire Greenberg (ע"ה), Kreindel bat Shael HaLevi.

## ROUND ROBIN MEGILLAT ESTHER PEREK-BY-PEREK SHIUR



We are continuing our successful program of inviting members to explore and share divrei Torah on chapters of each Megillah throughout the year. The next "round robin" will be for Megillat Esther at Seudah Shlishit on March 23. To sign up to present on a perek please contact Andrew Wigod or click here to indicate the Perek you want to speak on: [ESTHER](#).

## RSVP FOR OUR FRIDAY NIGHT (FEB. 2) ZEMIROT & DINNER

Join us for a musical extravaganza with Chazzan-In-Residence Binyamin Abramowitz. RSVP by January 28 here: [DINNER](#).

## SUPER BOWL KIDDUSH - MOTZEI SHABBAT BOWLING

Super Bowl Kiddush/Chulent Cookoff is on Shabbat, Feb. 10! To sponsor and/or be a chulent chef, click: [SUPER BOWL](#). That Saturday night we are bowling (sign up here: [BOWLING](#)).



## TU B'SHEVAT (THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 15 SHEVAT)

Do not say תחנון. Custom is to eat fruits that grow on trees, for Tu B'Shevat is the "New Year of the Trees". Say שנה טובה on any seasonal fruit that you are eating for the first time this year (but not if artificially preserved or deficient in appearance or taste). Many have the Kabbalistic custom of the Tu B'Shevat Seder. For details: [Aish on Tu B'Shevat](#).



SUNDAY  
1/21

MONDAY  
1/22

TUESDAY  
1/23

WEDNESDAY  
1/24

THURSDAY  
1/25

FRIDAY  
1/26

## WEEKDAY MINYANIM AT AHAVAT ACHIM

SHACHARIT	8:00 AM	6:15 AM	6:25 AM	6:25 AM	6:15 AM	6:25 AM
MINCHA/MAARIV	4:48 PM	4:49 PM	4:50 PM	4:51 PM	4:52 PM	4:50 PM

## ZMANIM

Earliest Talit	6:18 AM	6:17 AM	6:17 AM	6:16 AM	6:16 AM	6:15 AM
Gedolah	12:32 PM	12:33 PM	12:33 PM	12:33 PM	12:34 PM	12:34 PM
Shkia	5:00 PM	5:01 PM	5:02 PM	5:03 PM	5:04 PM	
Tzait	5:40 PM	5:41 PM	5:42 PM	5:43 PM	5:44 PM	

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Feb. 2** - Zemirot & Dinner Extravaganza  
**February 10** - Pre-Superbowl Kiddush  
**February 10** - Bowling Night, 8:00 PM  
**March 1** - Shabbat Across America Dinner  
**March 8** - Musical Kabbalat Shabbat  
**March 9** - Dr. Nava Siltan Lecture.  
**March 10** - Musical Hallel and Open House  
**March 23** - Megillat Esther Round Robin.  
 Contact Andrew to volunteer.  
**March 23** - Shul Mishloach Manot Packing  
**April 20** - Pre-Pesach Luncheon  
**May 11** - Prospective Family Shabbaton

## IN OUR FUTURE

- January 27** - Seudah Shlishit is sponsored by the Plotnicks on the yahrzeit of Gail's father, אברהם נחום בן משה, Alan Hodes<sup>ע"ה</sup>.  
**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<sup>ע"ה</sup>.  
**February 3** - Seudah Shlishit is sponsored by the Agresses to commemorate the Yahrzeit of Stephen's father, HaRav Chaim ben Yehoshua, Rabbi Hyman Agress<sup>ע"ה</sup>.  
**February 10** - Seudah Shlishit is sponsored by the Garfunkels on the Yahrzeit of David's father, יהושע פאליק ב"ר משה הכהן<sup>ע"ה</sup>.  
**February 17** - Kiddush is sponsored by Deborah & Mitchell Kempin to celebrate the birth of their granddaughter Isabelle Sarah to Elissa and Michael.  
**February 17** - Seudah Shlishit is sponsored by the Garfunkels on the Yahrzeit of Lori's father, משה מרדכי בן אהרן, Moish Markovitz<sup>ע"ה</sup>, together with David's grandfather, חיים בן אברהם הלוי, and by the Greenes to commemorate the Yahrzeit of Elliot's mother, Sylvia Greene<sup>ע"ה</sup>, Sarah bat Ya'acov Tzvi.  
**March 9** - Seudah Shlishit sponsored by Eli Zeron in memory of חנה בת זעון.  
**May 25** - Kiddush is sponsored by Aliza & Richie Mayer in honor of Sophie's Bat Mitzvah.

## KIDDUSH & SEUDAH SHLISHIT

- **THIS WEEK'S KIDDUSH HAS 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](mailto:rabbishestack@gmail.com).

- SHABBAT GEMARA SHIUR, 40 minutes before mincha.
- 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 takes place every third shabbat. Next is **February 2/3**



## DR. NAVA R. SILTON LECTURES



Last installment of "Parenting & Mental Health in the Modern World", is March 9 at 8:30 PM at the shul entitled "Creativity" with an interactive game she created! To RSVP click: [Mental Health](#)

## COMMUNITY NEWS

- February 17** - First Annual Fair Lawn Mikvah Dinner, at Shomrei Torah, 8:00 PM, \$85 PP (only \$72 PP if paid before 1/24). Sign up at [fairlawnmikvah.org/dinner](http://fairlawnmikvah.org/dinner).  
**Feb. 20-22** - Bergen County Unity Mission to Israel. Contact Rabbi Shestack for Info.

## GITA COOPERWASSER<sup>ע"ה</sup> YOUTH EVENTS

- March 17** - Purim Youth Event, 2:00 PM. Details to follow.

## GITA COOPERWASSER<sup>ע"ה</sup> YOUTH PROGRAM



- **SHABBAT YOUTH LEADERS, 1ST - 4TH GRADE: LETIZIA & NICOLE; 3 YRS - K: PERRI & LYLIA**
- 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

Join us for a

# Friday Night Shabbat Zemiroth Extravaganza

Pair your Friday night dinner with the  
"sounds of Shabbat" featuring our  
Chazzan in Residence,

BINYAMIN ABRAMOWITZ

*February 2, 2024 after davening*

ADULTS (12 YEARS OLD +) - \$25

CHILDREN AGES 6 - 11 - \$13

CHILDREN AGES 3 - 5 - \$5

FAMILY MAX - \$72

[events@ahavatachim.org](mailto:events@ahavatachim.org)

**RSVP here by  
1/28/2024!**







AHAVAT ACHIM

קהלת אהבת אחים

THE FAMILY SHUL

join us for our annual

# **SUPER BOWL KIDDUSH & CHULENT COOKOFF**

**ON FEBRUARY 10TH**

SIGN UP HERE  
TO BE A SPONSOR  
AND/OR CHULENT CHEF!

**SPONSORSHIPS:**  
1ST QTR: \$54  
HALFTIME: \$72

**SPONSORSHIPS:**  
3RD QTR: \$118  
FINAL: \$180



**EVENTS@AHAVATACHIM.ORG**







AHAVAT ACHIM

קהלת אהבת אחים

THE FAMILY SHUL

You're invited to join us as

# AHAVAT ACHIM GOES BOWLING!

Saturday, February 10th at 7:30pm

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

RSVP to save your spot by 2/6!

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

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



# 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  
אֶהָבָה אֶחָיו

718.224.2242



THE FAIR LAWN MIKVAH ASSOCIATION  
CORDIALLY INVITES ALL WOMEN  
to the

# FIRST ANNUAL DINNER OF THE MIKVAH CHAVA FAIGA OF FAIR LAWN

## FEATURING

Dairy/Parve Buffet Dinner & Dessert  
Motivational Health Coach Rorie Weisberg  
Israel-focused Kumzitz with Singer Shani Brick  
Raffle

INGE & FREDY HEISER SIMCHA HALL  
AT SHOMREI TORAH

FEBRUARY 17, 2024  
8-10 PM

\$72 EARLY BIRD,  
\$85 AFTER 1/26  
SPONSORSHIP  
OPPORTUNITIES  
AVAILABLE

SCAN ME



[FAIRLAWNMIKVAH.ORG/DINNER](http://FAIRLAWNMIKVAH.ORG/DINNER)

SEPHARDIC CENTER  
OF FAIR LAWN



# 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!





# 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



# יחד ננצח



## BERGEN COUNTY UNITY MISSION TO ISRAEL IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SULAMOT AND MIZRACHI

JOIN FRIENDS FROM TEANECK, BERGENFIELD, FAIR LAWN, FORT LEE,  
AND OTHER COMMUNITIES ACROSS BERGEN COUNTY

**FEBRUARY 20-22, 2024**



✧ An In Depth Visit to Kerem Shalom

✧ Meeting with Displaced Residents of Kerem Shalom

✧ Visit with Rav Yosef Zvi Rimon

✧ Bikur cholim

✧ Volunteer Opportunities

✧ Meet families of hostages

✧ Nichum aveilim



**VIRTUAL INFORMATION SESSION WITH COMMUNITY RABBIS  
REGARDING MISSION AND REGISTRATION ON JANUARY 9TH AT 8 PM**  
**[HTTPS://US06WEB.ZOOM.US/J/4844160645?OMN=81290407621](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4844160645?OMN=81290407621)**

**Mission Registration will Open January 10th**

**\$800 INCL. DAN PANORAMA HOTEL / \$500 MISSION ONLY / AIRFARE NOT INCLUDED**







# Covenant & Conversation

Jonathan Sacks  
THE RABBI SACKS LEGACY

BO • אב

FROM THE TEACHINGS AND WRITINGS OF RABBI LORD JONATHAN SACKS א"צ

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

## The March of Folly

There is a fascinating moment in the unfolding story of the plagues that should make us stop and take notice. At the opening of this week's parsha, seven plagues have now struck Egypt. The people are suffering. Several times Pharaoh seems to soften, only to harden his heart again. During the seventh plague, hail, he even seems to admit his mistake.

"Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron. "This time I have sinned," he said to them. "The Lord is in the right, and I and my people are in the wrong."

Ex. 9:27

But as soon as the plague is over, he changes his mind:

"He and his officials" says the Torah, "hardened their hearts"

Ex. 9:34

And now Moses and Aaron have come to warn of a further plague, potentially devastating, a plague of locusts that, they say, will devour all the grain left after the hail as well as the fruit of the trees. And for the first time we hear something we have not heard before.

Pharaoh's own advisors tell him he is making a mistake:

Pharaoh's officials said to him, "How long will this man be a snare to us? Let the people go, so that they may worship the Lord their God. Do you not yet realise that Egypt is ruined?"

Ex. 10:7

These words immediately transform the situation. How so?

Back in 1984 the historian Barbara Tuchman published a famous book called *The March of Folly*. In it, she asked the great question: How is it that throughout history intelligent people have made foolish decisions that were damaging both to their own position and to that of the people they led?

By this she did not mean, decisions that in retrospect proved to be the wrong ones. Anyone can make that kind of mistake. That is the nature of leadership and of life itself. We are called on to make decisions under conditions of uncertainty. With the wisdom of hindsight we can see where we went wrong, because of factors we did not know about at the time.

What she was talking about were decisions that people could see at the time were the wrong ones. There were warnings and they were ignored. One example she gives is of the legend of the wooden horse of Troy. The Greeks had laid siege to Troy unsuccessfully for ten years. Eventually they appeared to give up and sail away, leaving behind them a giant wooden horse. The Trojans enthusiastically hauled the horse inside the city as a symbol of their victory. As we know, inside the horse were thirty Greek soldiers who, that night, came out of hiding and opened the city gates for the Greek army that had sailed back under cover of night.

It was a brilliant ploy. Laocoön, the Trojan priest, had guessed that it was a plot and warned his people, in the famous words, "I fear the Greeks even when they come bearing gifts." His warning was ignored, and Troy fell.

Another of Tuchman's examples is the papacy in the sixteenth century which had become corrupt,

financially and in other ways. There were many calls for reform, but they were all ignored. The Vatican regarded itself, like some financial institutions today, as too big to fail. The result was the reformation and more than a century of religious war throughout Europe.

That is the context in which we should read the story of Pharaoh and his advisers. This is one of the first recorded instances of the march of folly. How does it happen?

Some years ago, DreamWorks studio made an animated film about Moses and the Exodus story, called *The Prince of Egypt*. The producer, Jeffrey Katzenberg, invited me to see the film when it was about half complete, to see whether I felt that it was a responsible and sensitive way of telling the story, which I thought it was.

What fascinated me, and perhaps I should have understood this earlier, was that it portrayed Pharaoh not as an evil man but as a deeply conservative one, charged with maintaining what was already the longest-lived empire of the ancient world, and not allowing it, as it were, to be undermined by change.

Let slaves go free, and who knows what will happen next? Royal authority will seem to have been defeated. A fracture would appear in the political structure. The seemingly unshakeable edifice of power will be seen to have been shaken. And that, for those who fear change, is the beginning of the end.

Under those circumstances it is possible to see why Pharaoh would refuse to listen to his advisers. In his

eyes, they were weak, defeatist, giving in to pressure, and any sign of weakness in leadership only leads to more pressure and more capitulation. Better be strong, and continue to say "No," and simply endure one more plague.

We see Pharaoh as both wicked and foolish, because we have read the book. His advisers could see clearly that he was leading his people to disaster, but he may well have felt that he was being strong while they were merely fearful. Leadership is only easy, and its errors only clearly visible, in retrospect.

Yet Pharaoh remains an enduring symbol of a failure to listen to his own advisers. He could not see that the world had changed, that he was facing something new, that his enslavement of a people was no longer tolerable, that the old magic no longer worked, that the empire over which he presided was growing old, and that the more obstinate he became the closer he was bringing his people to tragedy.

Knowing how to listen to advice, how to respond to change and when to admit you've got it wrong, remain three of the most difficult tasks of leadership. Rejecting advice, refusing to change, and refusing to admit you're wrong, may look like strength to some. But, usually, they are the beginning of yet another march of folly.



## Around the Shabbat Table

1. Why do you think leaders often ignore advice and warnings from others, even when it seems obvious that they should listen?
2. How can we tell the difference between being strong and being stubborn? Can you think of an example where this difference is important?
3. Can you think of leaders who have been open to change, or who have had to adapt to new situations?

● 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/bo/the-march-of-folly/](http://www.RabbiSacks.org/covenant-conversation-family-edition/bo/the-march-of-folly/)