



NHBZ Weekly News

Welcome to Nusach Hari B'nai Zion

Affiliated with Union of Orthodox Congregations of America

November 25, 2023 • 11 Kislev 5784 • Candle Lighting 4:24 pm • Shabbos Concludes 5:28 pm

Parashas Vayetze
Haftorah Vayetze

Genesis 28:10 – 32:3
Hosea 11:7 – 14:10

Chumash p. 144 – 169
Chumash p. 1139 - 40

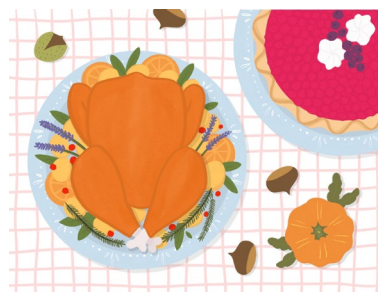
Thanks to our generous sponsors this Shabbos

Jackie & Craig Berkin for sponsoring soup and salad at Kiddush in recognition of the Yahrzeit of their beloved father **Louis Berkin z"l**.
Sodas sponsored by an anonymous donor.

Prayer

Friday, November 24

- 7:00 am Shachris
- 4:20 pm Mincha
- 4:24 pm Candle Lighting



Shabbos, Saturday, November 25

- 9:00 am Shachris followed by Musaf:
 - ☆ Pesukei D'Zimra: **Amir Noy**
 - ☆ Shacharis: **Mateo John**
 - ☆ Leyning: **Stuart Klamen**
 - ☆ Haftorah: **David Rubin**
 - ☆ Sermon: **Rabbi Ze'ev Smason, Emeritus**
 - ☆ Musaf: **Alan Haber**
- 10:00-10:45 am: **Rabbi Ze'ev Smason, Emeritus**: Downstairs
 - Topic: Resilience: How Do You Bounce Back from Setbacks?
- 4:10 pm Mincha
- 5:28 pm Shabbos concludes



Minyan Times November 24– December 2

Minyan Men: Daily minyan has returned to the Rabbi Rivkin Chapel

| | Fri Nov 24 | Shabbos Nov 25 | Sun Nov 26 | Mon Nov 27 | Tues Nov 28 | Wed Nov 29 | Thu Nov 30 | Fri Dec 1 | Shabbos Dec 2 |
|---------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| Shachris (am) | 7:00 | 9:00 | 8:00 | 7:00 | 7:00 | 7:00 | 7:00 | 7:00 | 9:00 |
| Mincha/Ma'ariv (pm) | 4:20 | 4:10 | 4:20 | 4:20 | - | - | - | 4:20 | 4:10 |
| Ma'ariv Only (pm) | - | - | - | - | 7:30 | 7:30 | 7:30 | - | - |

Congregation News

Mazel Tov on Simchas This Week!

Birthdays:

Jay Umansky Nov 25
Sandra Greenberg Nov 27

Shirley Hollander Nov 27
David Reisler Dec 1



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Upcoming Events

- Father/Son Minyan with Rabbi Bogopulsky, **Dec 2**.
- Rabbi Feigenbaum to lead 10 am discussion next Shabbos, **Dec 2**. Look for topic in next week's bulletin!
- **Anniversary Dinner, Dec 3**

Learning at NHBZ

On-Going Classes

- **Gemara Learning with Rabbi Chaim Bogopulsky**, Weekdays, 6:15 am
- **"Journey through the Chumash" with Rabbi Chaim Bogopulsky**, Tuesdays, 12:00 pm
Take an amazing journey of learning! Step by step, we will explore the Chumash.
- **Pirkei Avos / Ethics of the Fathers with Rabbi Ze'ev Smason**, Wednesdays, 12:15 pm
Feed your soul 45 minutes of spiritual nourishment from the timeless wisdom of our Sages, full of relevant, contemporary insights and lessons. Low-calorie, gluten free, and refreshing!
- **"Gateway to Tefilla" with Rabbi Chaim Bogopulsky**, Wednesdays at 7:00 pm, followed by Ma'ariv at 7:30 pm.
Deepen your understanding of the prayers we say.
- **Book of Kings with Rabbi Ze'ev Smason**, Monday-Thursday 3:00 pm (On Zoom!) An online class providing an exciting and informative look into the lives of Israel's early kings and prophets. Thirty-minute sessions on Zoom. Join class via this link:
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/78974795850?pwd=tw7lIOVumZ8QelPxHvApYZsox8VUem.1>
- **Kitzur Shulchan Aruch with Rabbi Chaim Bogopulsky**, Sunday & Monday – In between Mincha and Ma'ariv, and Tuesday & Thursday at 7:15 pm, followed by Ma'ariv at 7:30 pm.
Invest a few minutes to expand your understanding of Halacha/Jewish Law.
- **Partners in Torah** Monday nights at 8 pm. Sign up available in person.
- **"Soul Building" Series with Rabbi Yosef David**, Shabbos mornings, 10:00 am
- **Pre-Mincha Shiur with Rabbi Chaim Bogopulsky**, Every Shabbos afternoon
- **Mishna Learning with Rabbi Chanan Swidler**, Every Sunday morning, after Shachris

Parshas Vayetze

Parshas Vayetze spans the twenty years spent by Yaakov Aveinu - the quintessential *ish tam*, man of integrity - in the inhospitable company of his sinister uncle, Lavan, a master of manipulation, deceit, and double talk. From his initial embrace of Yaakov, which, Rashi notes, is actually a search for concealed valuables, Lavan is bent on exploiting Yaakov for his own purposes. Barely a month had passed when Lavan beguiles Yaakov into tending his flock and agrees to offer the hand of his younger daughter, Rachel, in exchange for seven years of labor. But after the allotted time, Lavan surreptitiously substitutes his eldest daughter, Leah, for Rachel and justifies his chicanery by invoking local custom. In order to claim his rightful bride, Yaakov has no choice but to commit himself to an additional seven years of servitude.

During the final six years of Yaakov's stay, Lavan's deception becomes routine; he repeatedly reneges on his agreements. Yaakov's fortunes nevertheless soar despite his uncle's machinations, and an embittered Lavan comes to view himself as victim rather than aggressor. The full measure of Lavan's hatred does not become apparent until the disappearance of his cherished *terafim* coupled with Yaakov's clandestine departure. Infuriated, Lavan engages in hot pursuit, intent on destroying Yaakov's entire family – Lavan's own daughters and grandchildren. Bloodshed is averted only through divine intervention, a frightful warning issued to Lavan in the dead of night.

Despite unrelenting exploitation, Yaakov maintains his faith and equanimity. This is most evident in his impassioned response to Lavan's tirade, in which Yaakov offers stirring testimony to twenty years of unwavering loyalty and meticulous honesty.

Yaakov's defense is as dignified as his labor – firm, but devoid of bitterness. Without engaging in personal attacks on Lavan, he eloquently places blame for the conflict where it belongs. As the *midrash* insightfully comments, “Better the grievances of the Patriarchs than the humility of the offspring.” Notwithstanding his inspired appeal, Yaakov's words made no discernable impression upon Lavan, whose callous response is, “All that you see is mine.” As the two parts, the Torah notes that Lavan returns “to his place” – morally as well as geographically. For Lavan there is only stagnation. Yaakov, however, goes “on his way” – rising to new spiritual heights. Perhaps Yaakov's greatest achievement from his years with Lavan was his ability to confront *sheker* with *emes*. This was to become Yaakov's proud declaration to his brother Esau: “I managed to live with Lavan for twenty years, remaining faithful to the letter and spirit of the *mitzvos*, without succumbing to his evil ways.”

“*Maaseh avos siman labanim*” – the experiences of the Patriarchs provide inspiration to their progeny. Yaakov's moral triumph serves as a model for the Jew throughout history. In our own time, the Israeli government Jewish leadership, as well as individuals in their professional and personal relationships, are confronted by a sea of *sheker*. While we may not change the Lavans of the world, our challenge is to engage them in the spirit of “Yisrael Saba,” with firmness, integrity, and dignity.

Rabbi Elchanan Adler

Congregation Ohav Zedek, Bayonne, New Jersey

In the Community:

Monument dedication for **Rosalind Rosen**.

The dedication will take place Friday, November 24th, 10:00 am at:
Chesed Shel Emeth Cemetery, 650 White Road, Chesterfield, MO, 63017

Thank you to the Sponsors of the Thanksgiving for Olivette Police Officers & Firefighters!

Sally Needle
Debbie & Jesse Barash
Sari Neudorf
Libby Sorkin Routman
Janet & Alan Haber
Joni & Bob Kaiser
Terry & Jeff Schnitzer

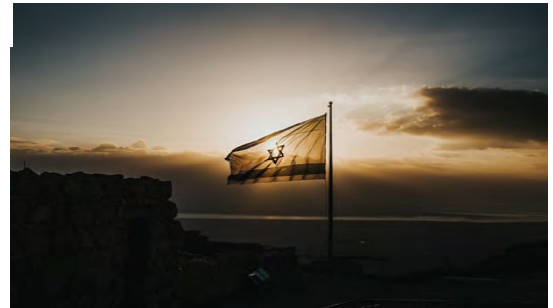
Dr. Susan Feigenbaum & Dr. Jay Pepose
Lois Perryman
Shirley Bluestein
Eliot & Sally Katz

**Special Thank you to Stella Vladimirov for coordinating
this special event!**

Help for Israel

Here are some **suggested** places to donate:

1. Magen David Adom
 - ✧ Online: <https://afmda.org/donate/>
 - ✧ Mailing a check:
 - ✧ American Friends of Magen David Adom
20 West 36th Street, Suite 1100
New York, NY 10018
 - ✧ Call: 866-632-2763
2. United Hatzalah:
 - ✧ Online: https://israelrescue.org/campaign/israel-under-attack/?utm_source=homepage&utm_medium=popup-new-2&utm_campaign=gaza2023
3. Friends of the IDF:
 - ✧ Online: <https://www.fidf.org/>
 - ✧ Mailing a check:
 - ✧ Friends of the Israel Defense Forces
 - ✧ PO Box 4224 NY, NY 10163 USA.
 - ✧ Call: 1-888-318-3433
4. Shaving Israel
 - ✧ PO Box 6991
 - ✧ Chesterfield, MO, 63006
 - ✧ www.shavingisrael.org





THE SISTERHOOD SCOOP

NOVEMBER 25



Volume 6

Number 43

12 Kislev 5784

November 25, 2023

Where is our Protection?

“Torah protects and guards. These are dangerous times, and there’s no better source of protection than Torah.

But if Torah is protecting us, who’s protecting Torah?

It’s the devoted Jewish mothers, the ones who are raising children to learn Torah, to love Torah, the fathers who invest their hearts into seeing their children succeed.

The Jewish home. That’s where Torah is being safeguarded.

It protects us – and we’re protecting it!”

-Rabbi Duvi Bensoussan

Book Club News



We thank **Myra Radinsky** for hosting the Book Club on November 13 and for leading the discussion of ***The Company I Keep: My Life in Beauty***, by Leonard Lauder, relating the fascinating, personal account of his mother Estée Lauder, and the company she built.

The Book Club meets on the fourth Monday of odd-numbered months at 7:15-8:45 PM. The first meeting of 2024 will be January 22 when the Book Club will discuss ***People Love Dead Jews: Reports from a Haunted Present*** by Dara Horn

For more info call Fran Alper at 314-993-4024 or fran.alper@outlook.com or sisterhood@nhbz.org

VAYEITZEI: The Thanksgiving Jew

You may be surprised to hear that the word “Jew” does not appear in the Five Books of Moses. The Torah refers to our people as the Children of Israel. We are the children of our patriarch Jacob, who was given the additional name “Israel.” Israel fathered 12 children, who became the 12 tribes of Israel.

The name “Jew” comes from the name “Judah,” which means “thanksgiving.” Judah was the fourth son of Jacob and Leah, as in this week’s Parshah, “And she conceived again and bore a son, and she said, ‘This time, I will thank [odeh] the L-rd!’ Therefore, she named him Judah [Yehuda].”

Why, then, are all Jews called by the name of just one of the tribes, Judah? What is it about thanksgiving that captures the essence of the Children of Israel? Thanksgiving is easier said than done.

We often look around and wonder why some of the people around us are so ungrateful. Why don’t our children appreciate all that we do for them? Why does our spouse not show gratitude? Why do co-workers take us for granted?

To understand why the feeling of gratitude is so elusive, we must examine the Hebrew word for “gratitude,” *hodaah*, the root of the name Judah. *Hodaah* also means “to acknowledge,” as in acknowledging that another’s opinion is correct.

Why do these two seemingly distinct ideas, thanksgiving and acknowledgement, share the same word? What connection do they share?

The answer is that the key to being thankful is acknowledging the other’s perspective. To illustrate: a mother does so much for her child, yet does the child really appreciate it? The child may take the mother for granted, thinking that she is just doing what she is supposed to do as a mother. After all, argues the child, isn’t this her job? The only way the child can genuinely feel grateful is if he adopts her perspective, if he appreciates all her sacrifices and all the time she lovingly dedicates to him.

The same is true of a spouse. We can say thank you for an act of kindness. But to truly feel grateful, we need to see the picture from the perspective of our spouse. We need to appreciate all the thought, feeling and energy that was invested in this one act. Only when we acknowledge and appreciate the other’s point of view—*hodaah*—can we say *today*, “thank you.”

To be a Jew, then, is to possess the ability to see beyond the obvious, to acknowledge the other’s perspective. To be a Jew is to experience the pain of others, as well as rejoice in their happiness as if it were our own. To be a Jew is to acknowledge and accept the perspective of hope and joy even in the midst of great hardship.

There is an ongoing and long-standing dispute between the creation and the Creator. Our perspective is that our life, health and success is due to our independent efforts, and that the only one we need to thank is ourselves. From G-d’s perspective, however, the entire Universe is being brought into existence every moment by the word of G-d. From His perspective, the only true reality is the G-dly vitality within every created being.

The Jew has the responsibility to see the world from G-d’s perspective, to cultivate the point of view that focuses on the spiritual rather than on the physical. The Jew possesses the gift of acknowledgement—and can therefore experience genuine thanksgiving. – **Rabbi Menachem Feldman**, chabad.org

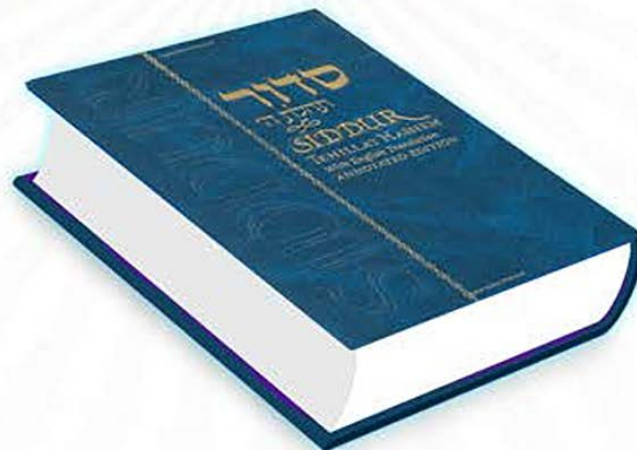


YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR A
Weekly Class

Led by our very own Rabbi Chaim Bogopulsky!

GATEWAY TO TEFILLA:

*Making
Davening
Meaningful*



Wednesdays Evenings approx. 7:00pm

Followed by Ma'ariv at 7:30 pm.

Keep Driving Our State Tax Dollars Towards Jewish Education



Get Your
Tax Credit
Today

Deadline
December 15

NEXT EXIT

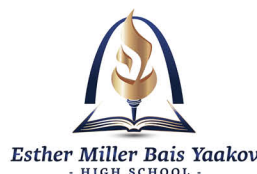
Need
Help?

Contact Hillel Anton
at EAO@agudahMO.org
or 314-200-5781

Deadline to donate for the
2023-2024 school year scholarships is
DECEMBER 15, 2023

For more information or to donate,
visit AgudahMO.org/EAO

Our Partner
Schools:





Rose Ragin Chesed Fund

Supporting our Members

What is the Rose Ragin Chesed Fund?

The fund provides for acts of chesed (lovingkindness) to support lifecycle events of NHBZ members, such as...



**Shiva trays
for mourners**



**Gifts for
newborns**



**Meals for
the sick**

How can I contribute to the Rose Ragin Chesed Fund?

- buy Rose Ragin Chesed cards and Purim Cards
- buy 'onesies' for a baby
- make a donation to the Rose Ragin Chesed Fund
- watch for upcoming special fund-raising campaigns

How else can I help?

Call Nora in the NHBZ Office – 314-991-2100, ext. 2, to....

- notify her about someone who is in need of chesed
- have a misheberach said for someone
- volunteer for the Chesed Committee

Purchase a **pack of 5** Rose Ragin Chesed cards – **\$25 minimum donation**.
Keep some handy to send out whenever you'd like. It's a great way to
honor a simcha, remember a loved one, or acknowledge anything at all.

314-991-2100, ext. 2