

*Shirley and Avi Vann express their Nakoras Katov to all that supported the journal, attended the dinner or extended their best wishes. Thank You Hashem Purshkas are available to anyone who has not as yet received one.*



*The Chesed Team is here to help mark the joyful moments in our lives, comfort the bereaved in meaningful ways, and provide support to all members of our community during times of need. For more details, see page 2.*

**CANDLE LIGHTING 7:58 PM | 17 IYAR | MAY 25, 2024 | HAVDALA 9:02 PM**

**שבת פרשת בהר**  
**SHABBAT PARSHAT BEHAR**  
 Haftorah is Jeremiah 32:6–27. No צדקתך צדק. Pirkei Avot Chapter 4.  
**ל"ג בעומר**  
**LAG B'OMER**  
**18 IYAR/SUNDAY, MAY 26**  
 No Tachanun. Music, haircuts, marriages and buying items requiring shehechyanu are permissible.

FRIDAY EVENING	
MINCHA	6:33 PM
EARLIEST CANDLES	6:44 PM
SHKIA	8:16 PM
TZAIT HAKOCHAVIM	8:56 PM
SHABBAT	
HASHKAMA	7:55 AM
MAIN	9:00 AM
LAST KRIAT SHEMA	9:12 AM
POST-HASHKAMA SHIUR	10:00 AM
FUNDAMENTALS SHIUR	11:30 AM
PRE-MINCHA SHIUR	7:10 PM
MINCHA	7:50 PM
MAARIV	9:02 PM

**KIDDUSH**  
 Kiddush is sponsored by Aliza & Richie Mayer in honor of Sophie's Bat Mitzvah. A special welcome to Savta and Gramps, Mark & Meryl Berow, and her aunts, uncles, and cousins from near and far. Mazel tov!  
 יעלה מעלה במעלות התורה והיראה ומעשים טובים  
 May she grow further in the heights of Torah, fear of God and good deeds.

**SEUDAH SHLISHIT**  
 Seudah Shlishit is sponsored by Dina & Elliot Greene in memory of Dina's father Ya-acov ben Hertzela ע"ה.

**LAG B'OMER UNITY EVENT**  
 Big event is happening tomorrow!

**DINNER WITH RAV ROSENSWEIG**  
 RSVP for 5/31 Friday Night Shabbat dinner with Rav Yoni Rosensweig, by 5/24 at [Rav Rosensweig](#).

**PIRKEI AVOT PEREK ON THE PORCH**  
 This Shabbat at the home of Chava & Chayim Goldberg at 5:30 PM.

**GRADUATION KIDDUSH**  
 Graduation Kiddush is next **Shabbat**. Sponsorship is just \$36 per family. Email [seplotnick@gmail.com](mailto:seplotnick@gmail.com) to sponsor, listing each graduate's name, school, special graduation-related honors (e.g., valedictorian, summa cum laude, or similar honors) and her or his degree and major if graduating from college. Graduates so far: **Aliza Baron** (Frisch), **Eitan Baron** (Yeshivat Noam), and **Joseph Baron** (Yeshiva University, B.A. Psychology w/Honors). **Leah Barzideh** (He'atid - Class Speaker) **Reuvain "RJ" Brenenson** (Frisch), **Uri Garfunkel** (University of Maryland Smith School, B.S. Info Systems and Finance), **Ben Greenbaum** (Binghamton University, B.S. Finance), **Daniel Jacob** (Ben Porat Yosef - Valedictorian), **Neshamah Nudelman** (Yavneh Kindergarten), **Mathew Plotnick** (GWU Law School, J.D.), **Anny Safier** (Binghamton University, B.S.W., Cum Laude), and **Eden Slasky** (Amit Renanim High School).

ORTHODOX UNION תנועת אבותינו Enhancing Jewish Life	SUNDAY 5/26	MONDAY 5/27	TUESDAY 5/28	WEDNESDAY 5/29	THURSDAY 5/30	FRIDAY 5/31
<b>WEEKDAY MINYANIM AT AHAVAT ACHIM</b>						
<b>SHACHARIT</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>6:25 AM</b>	<b>6:25 AM</b>	<b>6:15 AM</b>	<b>6:25 AM</b>
<b>MINCHA/MAARIV</b>	<b>8:06 PM</b>	<b>8:07 PM</b>	<b>8:08 PM</b>	<b>8:08 PM</b>	<b>8:09 PM</b>	<b>6:38 PM</b>
<b>ZMANIM</b>						
<b>Earliest Talit</b>	4:23 AM	4:22 AM	4:21 AM	4:20 AM	4:20 AM	4:19 AM
<b>Gedolah</b>	1:31 PM	1:31 PM	1:31 PM	1:31 PM	1:32 PM	1:32 PM
<b>Shkia</b>	8:18 PM	8:19 PM	8:20 PM	8:20 PM	8:21 PM	
<b>Tzait</b>	8:58 PM	8:59 PM	9:00 PM	9:00 PM	9:01 PM	

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**May 31** - Friday night dinner.

**June 1** - Scholar-In-Residence Rabbi

Yonatan Rosensweig

**June 8** - Rut Round Robin

## IN OUR FUTURE

**Aug. 24** - Seudah Shlishit is sponsored in memory of Warren Wolf.

## KIDDUSH & SEUDAH SHLISHIT

- Enjoy Scotch at Kiddush, please donate a bottle to the shul from time to time.
- To sponsor a Kiddush (prices start at \$318, plus a bottle of scotch) email [dmgarfunkel@gmail.com](mailto:dmgarfunkel@gmail.com).
- Want to know what is on the menu for Kiddush? If so, please email [dmgarfunkel@gmail.com](mailto:dmgarfunkel@gmail.com) so we can put you in the WhatsApp group.
- To sponsor for \$136 Seudah Shlishit (or in the case of multiple sponsors, \$100 per sponsor), email [dmgarfunkel@gmail.com](mailto:dmgarfunkel@gmail.com).

## SHIURIM



- SAMSON RAFAEL HIRSCH ON THE PARSHA, Tuesdays at 1:00 PM (<https://zoom.us/j/7291311899>, PW: 112233).
- TORAH FOR YOUR COMMUTE, via a Whatsapp group, with 3-minute daily Halacha insights. To join email Rabbi Shestack at [rabbishestack@gmail.com](mailto:rabbishestack@gmail.com).
- SHABBAT SHIUR, 40 minutes pre-mincha.
- FUNDAMENTALS OF JEWISH THOUGHT, after Kiddush.
- MESORAH-IN-REVERSE lecture series at Seudah Shlishit.
- Tzurba M'Rabanan on Shabbat, Wednesdays at 7:30 PM (to be adjusted as Maariv time changes), on Zoom with Shalom Brauser.

## CONTACTING THE RABBI

The Rabbi is always available for halachic and pastoral issues. For less exigent matters, text, call, or drop by during the Rabbi's office hour, Tuesdays, 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM, or feel free to reach out to the Rabbi to make other meeting arrangements.



## GITA COOPERWASSER ע"ה YOUTH EVENTS

**June 8** - Playground/Radburn Park/3:30 PM

**June 13** - 2nd Day of Shavuot Youth Extravaganza and Dinner

## GITA COOPERWASSER ע"ה YOUTH PROGRAM

- **SHABBAT YOUTH LEADERS, 1ST - 4TH GRADE: LETIZIA & ARIELLA; 3 YRS - LYLA & NICOLE.**
- 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 9:15 AM (Drop Off) in the Youth Room on the right upon entering the social hall.
- Parent & Me room opens at 9:15 AM in the Beit Midrash.
- 5th through 9th graders will meet for Torah and games at 10:00 AM in the David Schwitzer ע"ה Social Hall.

## BERGEN COUNTY CHAVERIM

- Chaverim of Bergen County is looking for committed individuals to respond to non-medical emergencies throughout Bergen County, including roadside assistance, responding to floods, certain home repairs, and assisting with security at community events. Training will be provided. If interested please contact Andrew Schultz at [aschu1tz613@gmail.com](mailto:aschu1tz613@gmail.com).

## Friday Evening, May 24



## Saturday Evening, May 25



## Sunday Evening, May 26



## Monday Evening, May 27



## Tuesday Evening, May 28



## Wednesday Evening, May 29



## Thursday Evening, May 30



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

<http://www.ahavatachim.org>

## CHESED TEAM

The Chesed Team is here to help mark the joyful moments in our lives, comfort the bereaved in meaningful ways, and provide support to members of our community during times of need. Each situation is unique and personal; therefore, we operate with confidentiality under Rabbi Shestack's guidance.

Please reach out to the chesed committee if you or someone you know needs assistance by emailing us at [chesed@ahavatachim.org](mailto:chesed@ahavatachim.org).



AHAVAT ACHIM  
קהלת אהבת אחים  
THE FAMILY SHUL

Join us for a  
**PLAYDATE IN THE PARK**



**SHABBAT Afternoon**  
**MAY 11th at 3:45 PM**  
**Edison Park**



Snacks will be provided!





**Sunday, May 26th**



# Lag Baomer Unity Event & Playground Grand Opening

**12:00 – 3:00 pm**

**FOOD | MUSIC | BOUNCE HOUSE  
TATOOS | PAINT | SAND ART**

**FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!**

Featuring a special fundraising  
initiative to resettle the Kerem  
Shalom community, destroyed on  
Oct 7th

**This event is FREE, but RSVP is  
required by May 19th:**

<https://forms.gle/zPY9qTssH6h3P2o6A>





**Attention Members of the Fair Lawn Community: Are you interested in making an impact in your community? Chaverim of Bergen County is looking for committed individuals from Fair Lawn who are available to respond to non-medical emergencies throughout Bergen County. This includes roadside assistance, responding to floods and certain home repairs, and assisting with security at community events. Training will be provided. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact one of our two Fair Lawn liaisons: Willy Silverstein - [wsilver666@gmail.com](mailto:wsilver666@gmail.com) or Andrew Schultz - [aschultz613@gmail.com](mailto:aschultz613@gmail.com)**

**201-800-4357**

**Cobchelp.org**



AHAVAT ACHIM

קהלת אהבת אחים

THE FAMILY SHUL

JOIN US FOR A VERY SPECIAL  
FRIDAY NIGHT SHABBAT  
DINNER WITH SCHOLAR IN  
RESIDENCE

**RAV YONI ROSENSWEIG**

**MAY 31, 2024**

AFTER DAVENING

MINCHA AT 6:35PM

DINNER AT 7:15PM

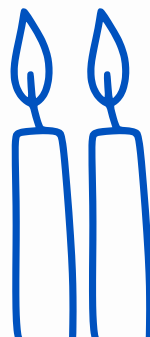
ADULTS (12 YEARS OLD +) - \$25

CHILDREN AGES 6 - 11 - \$13

CHILDREN AGES 3 - 5 - \$5

FAMILY MAX - \$72

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



**RSVP by 5/24/2024!**

# INTRO TO TALMUD



## 5-PART SERIES

8:30 pm Wednesday Nights

- ✓ May 8: Oral Torah
- ✓ May 15: Exegetical Rules
- ✓ May 22 - Talmudic Form
- ✓ May 29 - Talmudic Function
- ✓ June 5 - Pagination Navigation

*GET THE BACKGROUND UNDERSTANDING YOU NEED  
TO BE ABLE TO FOLLOW ALONG WITH A DAF-YOMI  
SHIUR OR STUDY INDEPENDENTLY (W/ ARTSCROLL)*



Recordings on "Torah for your Commute"



In Person @ Shul

W/ R' SHESTACK



Join us for an inspiring afternoon



# Lag Baomer Unity Event & Playground Opening A Fundraiser for the Kerem Shalom community in Israel

RSVP required by May 19 :  
<https://forms.gle/zPY9qTssH6h3P2oGA>

May 26 - 12:00 pm

Sponsored Israeli food







AHAVAT ACHIM  
קהלת אהבת אחים  
THE FAMILY SHUL

# MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DISCUSSION

## MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS



### Speakers:

Kira Wigod, LCSW, MPS-H  
Andrea Riskin, PsyD  
Jewel Safren, LCSW  
Jonathan Frank, LCSW

### Moderated by:

Chana Shestack, LSW

CONGREGATION AHAVAT ACHIM  
18-25 SADDLE RIVER ROAD

**SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024**

MINCHA: 7:30PM  
SEUDAH SHLISHIT & DISCUSSION: 8:15PM



# Covenant & Conversation

Jonathan Sacks  
THE RABBI SACKS LEGACY

BEHAR • בהר

FROM THE TEACHINGS AND WRITINGS OF RABBI LORD JONATHAN SACKS זצ"ל

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

This year's series of essays and videos were originally written and recorded by Rabbi Sacks זצ"ל in 5771 (2010–2011).

These timeless messages are accompanied by a new [Family Edition](#) (2023–2024), created to inspire intergenerational learning on the parsha.

## Minority Rights

One of the most striking features of the Torah is its emphasis on love of, and vigilance toward, the *ger*, the stranger:

*Do not oppress a stranger; you yourselves know how it feels to be strangers, because you were strangers in Egypt.*

Ex. 23:9

*For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes. He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the stranger residing among you, giving them food and clothing. You are to love those who are strangers, for you yourselves were strangers in Egypt.*

Deut. 10:17–19

The Sages noted that the Torah commands us in only one place to love our neighbour, but thirty-six times to love the stranger (Baba Metzia 59b).

What is the definition of a “stranger”? Clearly the reference is to one who is not Jewish by birth.

It could mean one of the original inhabitants of the land of Canaan. It could mean one of the “mixed multitude” who left Egypt with the Israelites. It might mean a foreigner who has entered the land seeking safety or a livelihood.

Whatever the case, immense significance is attached to the way the Israelites treat the stranger. This was what they were meant to have learned from their own experience of exile and suffering in Egypt. They were strangers. They were oppressed. Therefore they knew “how it feels to be a stranger.” They were not to inflict on others what was once inflicted on them.

The Sages held that the word *ger* might mean one of two things. One was a *ger tzedek*, a convert to Judaism who had accepted all its commands and obligations. The other was the *ger toshav*, the “resident alien” who had not adopted the religion of Israel but who lived in the land of Israel. Behar spells out the rights of such a person. Specifically:

*If any of your fellow Israelites become poor and are unable to support themselves among you, help them as you*

would a resident alien, so they can continue to live among you.

*Lev. 25:35*

There is, in other words, an obligation to support and sustain a resident alien. Not only does he or she have the right to live in the Holy Land, but they have the right to share in its welfare provisions. Recall that this is a very ancient law indeed, long before the Sages formulated such principles as “the ways of peace”, obligating Jews to extend charity and care to non-Jews as well as Jews.

What then was a *ger toshav*? There are three views in the Talmud. According to Rabbi Meir it was anyone who took it upon himself not to worship idols. According to the Sages, it was anyone who was committed to keeping the seven Noahide commandments. A third view, more stringent, held that it was someone who had undertaken to keep all the commands of the Torah except one, the prohibition of meat not ritually slaughtered (*Avodah Zarah* 64b). The law follows the Sages. A *ger toshav* is thus a non-Jew living in Israel who accepts the Noahide laws binding on everyone.

*Ger toshav* legislation is thus one of the earliest extant forms of minority rights. According to the Rambam there is an obligation on Jews in Israel to establish courts of law for resident aliens to allow them to settle their own disputes – or disputes they have with Jews – according to the provisions of Noahide law. The Rambam adds:

“One should act towards resident aliens with the same respect and loving kindness as one would to a fellow Jew.”

*Hilchot Melachim 10:12*

The difference between this and later “ways of peace” legislation is that the ways of peace apply

to non-Jews without regard to their beliefs or religious practice. They date from a time when Jews were a minority in a predominantly non-Jewish, non-monotheistic environment. “Ways of peace” are essentially pragmatic rules of what today we would call good community relations and active citizenship in a multi-ethnic and multicultural society. *Ger toshav* legislation cuts deeper. It is based not on pragmatism but religious principle. According to the Torah you don’t have to be Jewish in a Jewish society and Jewish land to have many of the rights of citizenship. You simply have to be moral.

One biblical vignette portrays this with enormous power. King David has fallen in love and had an adulterous relationship with Batsheva, wife of a *ger toshav*, Uriah the Hittite. She becomes pregnant. Uriah, meanwhile, has been away from home as a soldier in Israel’s army. David, afraid that Uriah will come home, see that his wife is pregnant, realise that she has committed adultery, and come to discover that the king is the guilty party, has Uriah brought home early. His pretext is that he wants to know how the battle is going. He then tells Uriah to go home and sleep with his wife before returning, so that he will later assume that he himself is the father of the child. The plan fails. This is what happens:

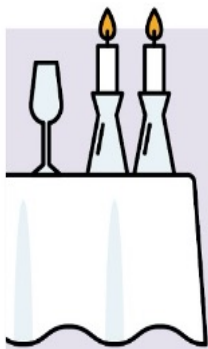
*When Uriah came to him, David asked him how Joab was, how the soldiers were, and how the war was going. Then David said to Uriah, “Go down to your house and wash your feet.” So Uriah left the palace, and a gift from the king was sent after him. But Uriah slept at the entrance to the palace with all his master’s servants and did not go down to his house.*

David was told, “Uriah did not go home.”  
So he asked Uriah, “Haven’t you just  
come from a military campaign? Why  
didn’t you go home?”

Uriah said to David, “The Ark and Israel  
and Judah are staying in tents, and my  
commander Joab and my lord’s men are  
camped in the open country. How could I  
go to my house to eat and drink and make  
love to my wife? As surely as you live, I  
will not do such a thing!”

2 Samuel 11:6-11

Uriah’s utter loyalty to the Jewish people,  
despite the fact that he is not himself Jewish, is  
contrasted with King David, who has stayed in  
Jerusalem, not been with the army, and instead  
had a relationship with another man’s wife. The  
fact that Tanach can tell such a story in which a  
resident alien is the moral hero, and David,  
Israel’s greatest king, the wrongdoer, tells us  
much about the morality of Judaism.



## Around the Shabbat Table

1. Where else in the Tanach do you think we see exemplary treatment of the “ger”?
2. Consider the contrast that the story of David and Uriah provides: why do you think it’s helpful for us to see David’s moral shortcomings and Uriah’s moral fibre?
3. Can you think of modern-day examples of non-Jews who have advocated for and stood up for the rights of Jewish people?

● 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/behav/minority-rights/](http://www.RabbiSacks.org/covenant-conversation-family-edition/behav/minority-rights/)