

Congregation B'nai Torah

Shabbat Announcements

Cholent Kiddush is sponsored by the **Zelikovich family** in honor of Dora Weiss becoming a great-grandmother. Mazal tov!

Seudah Shlishit is sponsored by **Congregation Bnai Torah**

Shul Kiddush Sponsorship Rotation List

We encourage those who are interested to sign up to sponsor a basic kiddush when there is no other sponsor. Please sign up using this link or by contacting the office.

<https://forms.gle/qM4nT9iJTswDazFS9>

Congregation Bnai Torah wishes to thank Jonathan Goldfarb for volunteering to replace the shul's first aid kit, in order to make sure that it is up to date

General Donations:

- ◆ Xavier Rivera
- ◆ Harry Merin
- ◆ Rick Bentley and Caryn Vogel

Yahrtzeit Donations :

- ◆ Susan Mitchell

Aliyah Donations:

- Bob Stoner
- Michael Zelikovich
- Gad Flaumenhaft
- Allon Friedman
- Darrel Mandel
- Israel Keisari
- Azik Zelikovich

Parshat VaYeshev

Friday, December 20th

Candle Lighting: 4:58 pm

Mincha: 5:00 pm

Shabbat, December 21st

Shacharit: 9:00 am

Mincha: 4:55 pm

Shabbat ends after 6:19pm

There will be a Shalom

Zachor at the Cox

Residence on Friday Night

at 8:00 PM. 409 West 65th Street



Weekly Classes

Daf Yomi: Every morning at 6:15, 7:45 on Sundays

Lunch & Learn: On break

Halacha Class: between Mincha & Maariv, Sunday through Thursday.

Chovot HaLevavot: Mondays after Maariv

Rabbi Hirsch on Parshat Shavua for women: Wednesday Nights after Tehillim

Minchat Chinuch: On break

Tehillim for women: Wednesday at 7:30pm in the library

Men's Mishmar: Meets on Thursday nights, at 7:30pm. Learn with a chavrusa or join a class.

Shabbat Morning Class for 2nd Graders & under: Meets after Kedushah of Mussaf in the Beit Medrash. There will be davening, Parsha study, games & prizes

Parshat Shavua: One hour before Shabbat Mincha

Dor LeDor: Adult and child learning, immediately following Shabbat Mincha. Stories and raffles!

Seudah Shlishit Class: Doctor Greenbaum will be speaking.

A Dvar Torah from Rabbi Teitelbaum

In this week's Parshah, the wife of Potiphar tries to seduce Yosef into sinning with her. One can only imagine the magnitude of this test; Yosef all alone in this foreign country, after having been sold by his brothers. What gave Yosef the strength to overcome this test, and what can we learn from it as well?

On the words "ותשא אשת אדניו את עיניה אל יוסף ותאמר שכבה עמי," His master's wife lifted her eyes upon Joseph and she said, 'Lie with me,' " the Midrash comments that is a reference to the constellations, where she saw that she was destined to produce a child with Yosef (this was later to be fulfilled through her daughter, Osnas). In other words, the wife of Potiphar was telling Yosef: This union is meant to be, it is a part of nature; it is quite literally written in the stars that we are meant to be together.

Where, then, did Yosef find the strength to refuse? Our Sages reveal to us that "diyukno shel aviv," the appearance of his father appeared to him at that very moment and prevented him from sinning. Some understand this literally, while others say this cannot be taken literally, for who wouldn't be stopped by such a sight? — and thus this would not be considered the great mitzvah for which Yosef became known.

Rather, the Imrei Emes explains when our Sages say that diyukno shel aviv appeared to him, this is referring to the idea expressed elsewhere (see Rashi to Chullin 91b with Maharatz Chiyus), that the appearance of Yaakov is etched onto the Kisei Hakavod, the Heavenly Throne. This symbolizes the idea that Jews are above the forces of nature—not controlled by it. Having remembered and understood this, Yosef was able to tell himself: You are not bound by what the wife Potiphar is telling you must be; you are able to transcend that and overcome this difficult test.

This power to rise above nature stems from an even earlier encounter between Hashem and Avraham, where the verse says (Bereishis 15:5), "And Hashem took him outside...and He said to him, 'So shall your children be!' " The Midrash there comments that Hashem lifted Avraham above the dome of the sky to show him that he is not beholden to the laws of nature...And so shall your children be! In fact, the Midrash in our Parshah draws a parallel between Yosef, who "ran outside," and Avraham, who was taken "outside" by Hashem.

"So shall your children be," Hashem promised Avraham. This power remains within each one of us, to this very day. Even when all hope is lost, to the point that it seems that nature is controlling us, seemingly dictating one way or the other—we have the power to see the diyukno shel Yaakov and overcome whatever challenge we may face.

This is also a central theme of Chanukah. After the Greeks had ransacked the Beis Hamikdash and defiled all the oil, most people would have simply raised their hands in defeat. Yet as the children of Avraham, they had the power to rise above nature and discover that one remaining, pure flask of oil which can never be destroyed. So shall your children be—indeed.

Good Shabbos and a Freilichin Chanukah!

Congregation B’Nai Torah Service Schedule December 2024 30 Cheshvan 5785 - 30 Kislev 5785

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	Shabbat
1 30 Cheshvan <u>Rosh Chodesh</u> Shacharit: 8:30am Mincha: 5:05pm	2 1 Kislev <u>Rosh Chodesh</u> Shacharit: 6:45am Mincha: 5:05pm	3 2 Kislev Shacharit: 7:00am Mincha: 5:05pm	4 3 Kislev Shacharit: 7:00am Mincha: 5:05pm	5 4 Kislev Shacharit: 6:50am Mincha: 5:05pm	6 5 Kislev Shacharit: 7:00am Candle Lighting: 4:55pm Mincha: 5:00pm	7 6 Kislev <u>Vayetze</u> Shacharit: 9:00am Mincha: 4:50pm Shabbat Ends: after 6:16pm
8 7 Kislev Shacharit: 8:30am Mincha: 5:05pm	9 8 Kislev Shacharit: 6:50am Mincha: 5:05pm	10 9 Kislev Shacharit: 7:00am Mincha: 5:05pm	11 10 Kislev Shacharit: 7:00am Mincha: 5:05pm	12 11 Kislev Shacharit: 6:50am Mincha: 5:05pm	13 12 Kislev Shacharit: 7:00am Candle Lighting: 4:56pm Mincha: 5:00pm	14 13 Kislev <u>Vayishlach</u> Shacharit: 9:00am Mincha: 4:50pm Shabbat Ends: after 6:17pm
15 14 Kislev Shacharit: 8:30am: Mincha: 5:05pm	16 15 Kislev Shacharit: 6:50am Mincha: 5:05pm	17 16 Kislev Shacharit: 7:00am Mincha: 5:05pm	18 17 Kislev Shacharit: 7:00am Mincha: 5:05pm	19 18 Kislev Shacharit: 6:50am Mincha: 5:05pm	20 19 Kislev Shacharit: 7:00am Candle Lighting: 4:58pm Mincha: 5:00pm	21 20 Kislev <u>Vayeshev</u> Shacharit: 9:00am Mincha: 4:55pm Shabbat Ends: after 6:19pm
22 21 Kislev Shacharit: 8:30am: Mincha: 5:10pm	23 22 Kislev Shacharit: 6:53am Mincha: 5:10pm	24 23 Kislev Shacharit: 7:00 am Mincha: 5:10pm	25 24 Kislev <u>Legal Holiday</u> Shacharit: 7:40am Mincha: 5:10pm	26 25 Kislev <u>Chanukah</u> Shacharit: 6:54am Mincha: 5:10pm	27 26 Kislev <u>Chanukah</u> Shacharit: 7:00am Candle Lighting: 5:00pm Mincha: 5:05pm	28 27 Kislev <u>Mikeitz/Chanukah</u> Shacharit: 9:00am Mincha: 5:00pm Shabbat Ends: after 6:24pm
29 28 Kislev <u>Chanukah</u> Shacharit: 8:30am Mincha: 5:10pm	30 29 Kislev <u>Chanukah</u> Shacharit: 6:55am Mincha: 5:10pm	31 30 Kislev <u>Chanukah</u> <u>Rosh Chodesh</u> Shacharit: 6:56 am Mincha: 5:10pm				