



The Jewish Center

SHABBAT BULLETIN

December 7, 2013

PARSHAT VAYIGASH

4 Tevet 5774

Erev Shabbat

4:11PM Candle lighting
 4:15PM Minchah, Dvar Torah by Yachad participant
 Community Dinner with Union of Traditional Jewish Communities in Germany (1st floor)
 Yachad Shabbat Dinner (5th floor)
 7:30PM Community Oneg (5th floor)

Shabbat Morning

7:45AM Hashkama Minyan
 8:30AM Rabbi Israel Silverstein Mishnayot Class
 9:00AM Shacharit
 9:15AM Hashkama Shiur with Rabbi Daniel Fridman, *Ramban the Cardiologist*
 9:30AM Young Leadership Minyan
 9:55AM Sof Zman Kriat Shema
 10:00AM Youth Groups: 2-year-olds: lower level; 3-5-year-olds: lower level; 1st-3rd grade: 7th floor; 4th-6th grade: 5th floor
 YL Hot and Spicy Kiddush
 12:20PM Early Minchah

With thanks to our Kiddush Sponsors:

Young Leadership Kiddush, Anonymous

Shabbat Afternoon

2:45PM Bikkur Cholim/Bikkur in the Home to Mt. Sinai Hospital and home visits. Meet at the Westmont at 730 Columbus Avenue.
 2:45PM Youth Department Bikkur Cholim Visit (5th-8th graders)
 4:05PM Minchah, afternoon youth groups
 Israel Friedman Daf Yomi
 39 Melachot: Theory and Practice with Rabbi Dovid Zirkind, *An Introduction to the Melacha of Tochen*
 Seudah Shlishit Speaker: Michael Grunberg, Founder of the Union of Traditional Jewish Communities in Germany



With thanks to our Seudah Shlishit Sponsors:

Saul Finkelstein & Family in memory of Bernard Finkelstein

5:10PM Shabbat concludes

5:30PM Parent & Child Learning with Rabbi Daniel Fridman, *Baruch SheAmar* (1st-4th graders). Thank you to our anonymous sponsor for making this wonderful year of Parent Child Learning possible
 6:15PM Youth Movie Night: Mary Poppins

— DAILY SERVICES —

Sun., Dec. 8	Mon., Dec. 9 - Thur. Dec. 12	Fri., Dec. 13 Fast of Tevet
Daf Yomi 7:45AM	Daf Yomi 7:45AM	Fast Begins 5:59AM
Shach 8:30AM	Shach 7:8AM	Shach 6:45/7:45AM
Minchah 4:15PM	Minchah 4:15PM	Daf Yomi 7:45AM
		Minchah 4:00PM
		Candle Lighting 4:11PM

Women's Tehillim - Monday, December 16 at 7:15PM.
 Contact Joyce Weitz for more information at 212-877-1176.

WELCOME TO THE DELEGATION OF LEADERS FROM THE UNION OF TRADITIONAL JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN GERMANY!



The Jewish Center is honored to host this delegation for Shabbat. We hope that you have the opportunity to meet them at the Community Shabbat dinner or at services on Shabbat.

WELCOME TO YACHAD!



The JC is proud to host the 8th grade of MDS and Yachad for the Shabbat dinner of their annual Shabbaton. We look forward to davening with them and hearing Divrei Torah from Yachad members.

MARCH 2-4, 2014 • WASHINGTON, DC JC DELEGATION TO THE 2014 AIPAC POLICY CONFERENCE

Over three jam-packed days, Policy Conference participants choose from hundreds of informative sessions and participate in the pro-Israel community's largest and most important advocacy conference.

Purchase your discounted ticket through The JC by Tuesday, December 31st and take advantage of our rate: only \$399 per person (standard registration fee is \$599). Please visit our website to purchase your ticket. For more information, please contact Eliane at eliane@jewishcenter.org.

ONLY 16 TICKETS REMAIN

MEMBERSHIP MONTH HAS BEEN EXTENDED!

**Become a member by December 31st
 and save 20% on the annual
 membership fee.**

Apply for membership online at www.jewishcenter.org
 or pick up an application in the lobby.



Follow The JC on Twitter @JewishCenterNY

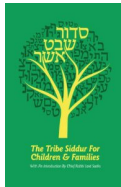
Like our page on Facebook: The Jewish Center

THANK YOU TO OUR YACHAD DINNER SPONSORS

Serena Wieder & Jonathan Blank, Lisa & Jacob Buksbaum, Vivian & Daniel Chill, Debbie & Elliot Gibber, Rona & Ira Kellman, Amanda & Daniel Laifer, Rabbi Yosie & Rachel Levine, Golda & Henry Rothman, Atara & Zeesha Twersky

THE YOUTH DEPARTMENT HAS NEW SIDDURIM!

Chazal taught us that, unlike other mitzvot, which have specialized times for performance, a person could truly daven all day long. The connection between human and the Almighty forged through heartfelt prayer, is the very cornerstone of our personal and communal religious experience. It is our deepest aspiration to educate our children to cherish and yearn for the connection with our Creator that comes through a lifelong commitment to deep prayer. As such, we are thrilled to announce to the community the acquisition of a beautiful new siddur, The Tribe Siddur for Children and Families, Shevet Asher, which will be used in both our 1st-3rd and 4th-6th grade groups. The acquisition of this siddur was made possible through the generosity of Becca and Dovid Herman, to whom our entire community is indebted for their leadership in the sacred area of chinuch banim v'banot, the spiritual development of our children.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW 4TH-6TH GRADE YOUTH GROUP LEADER

AMINADAV GROSSMAN hails from Riverdale, NY, and is a graduate of SAR High School. He is a senior at Columbia College, majoring in History, along with a minor in Jewish Studies. He is also studying for Semikha at YU/RIETS. He has experience working with children in settings such as Camp Moshava, as a counselor on Mach Hach, and in several Jewish communities. In his spare time, Aminadav enjoys baseball trivia, a good run in Central Park, and volunteering. He is looking forward to learning, growing, and having fun with The Jewish Center youth and would love to meet you.



THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY DINNER SPONSORS:

Vicky & Bernard Falk, Dinah & Andy Mendes, Barbara & Guy Reiss and Traditioneller Juden in Deutschland

THANKSGIVING FIREHOUSE VISIT

To say thank you to our firefighters, JC children visited our local firehouse on Thanksgiving. They climbed on a fire truck, played with the pet Dalmatian and delivered cards and treats to the firefighters.



COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Jewish Center is delighted to share the news that **Rabbi Benjamin Blech** will join Richard Joel, President of Yeshiva University, as scholars in residence for Pesach at the Waldorf Astoria Resort in Orlando. We wish him many years of continued good health and all our brachot.

RENOVATIONS AT THE JC: NEW DOORS

We are pleased to inform you that over the next couples of weeks, The Jewish Center will begin replacing our main entry and vestibule doors. This work, supported by a grant from the New York State Department of Homeland Security, will make our entry way safer by incorporating modern safety materials, security and access control features. While our new doors will take advantage of all this modern technology, they will also be made more beautiful. If our new doors look vaguely familiar to you - well that is OK - because they are designed to look very similar to the way they did when The Jewish Center first opened nearly 100 years ago. We are excited to provide a safer and more inspiring entrance to our Jewish Center, and very literally witness "Chadesh Yamenu Kecedem, renew our days as of old." We apologize for any inconvenience during this renovation. When the main entry doors are inaccessible we will have clear signage as to which secondary entrance should be used. At this time we also want to thank our Facilities Committee for overseeing this process, particularly Elli Himelstein, who has supervised the design and installation of practically each nut and bolt.

Virginia Bayer Hirt Avi Schwartz
 President Chair, Facilities Committee

Jewish Center University Fall Semester

DAILY

- Israel Friedman Daf Yomi, 7:45AM (Except Shabbat)

MONDAY

- Ancient Jewish History: Judaism and the Origins of Christianity with Rabbi Ari Lamm, 8:15PM

TUESDAY

- Advanced Talmud with Rabbi Daniel Fridman, 7:45AM
- Women's Nosh and Drosh with Dr. Adena Berkowitz, 10:15AM
- *The Sadye and Henry Bayer Tanach Class: Mysteries of Elijah* with Rabbi Yosie Levine, 8:00PM

WEDNESDAY

- Advanced Talmud with Rabbi Daniel Fridman, 7:45AM
- Women of the Bible with Rabbi Yosie Levine, 11:00AM
- Studies in Weekly Haftarah with Rabbi Daniel Fridman, 8:00PM

- The Next Level with Rabbi Mark Wildes, 8:00PM

THURSDAY

- Talmudic Text and Mental Illness with Rabbi Dovid Zirkind, 8:00PM

FRIDAY

- Shabbat4Tots with Cantor Chaim David Berson, 11:00AM
- 3D Tefillah: Davening, Distraction and Deveikut with Dr. Adena Berkowitz (December 13)

SHABBAT

- Mishnayot Class with Rabbi Yosie Levine, 8:30AM
- Hashkama Shiur with Rabbi Daniel Fridman, 9:15AM
- Israel Friedman Daf Yomi
- 39 Melachot: Theory and Practice with Rabbi Dovid Zirkind
- Parent & Child Learning with Rabbi Daniel Fridman

UPCOMING EVENTS

YOUNG COUPLES AND FAMILIES MINYAN AND LUNCH • Shabbat, December 14

Come for the inspiring davening....stay for the scrumptious lunch. Make new friends and enjoy a wonderful afternoon. If you would like to participate in the minyan or be involved in planning the lunch, please email ycf@jewishcenter.org. If you have any questions, please contact our host committee: Ruth & Elli Himelstein, Yael & Tony Pinto, Miri Lipsky & Josh Schainker and Jessica & Noam Zeffren. Please visit our website to register for the lunch.

ONEG SHABBAT: 3D TEFILLAH: DAVENING, DISTRACTION & DEVEIKUT

Friday, December 13 at 8:15PM at Sharon Herzfeld & Dov Kleiner's home. Join for dessert, singing and an interactive discussion. RSVP to Dr. Berkowitz at adenakb@aol.com for more the address and for information.

SEUDAH SHLISHIT SPEAKER: DR. MARK MEIROWITZ, Turkey, Israel and the Jewish Community: An Update • Shabbat, December 14

Dr. Mark Meirowitz holds a doctorate in Political Science and is a business lawyer. He has taught at Turkish universities and served as moderator on panels at the Annual Conferences of the Turkish community. He now lectures extensively on Turkish Foreign Policy, Turkish-Israel Relations, US-Turkish Relations, the Turkish Jewish Community and related topics. He is currently writing a book on Turkish Foreign Policy.

TEEN VS. CLERGY BASKETBALL GAME • Saturday night, January 11 at 8:00PM

In order to give our clergy more time to work on conditioning, the game has been rescheduled. Please note the new date and join us Saturday evening, January 11th for this perennial favorite. Please visit our website to register and to sponsor. If you would like to participate, please contact rachel.levine1@gmail.com.

BOOK CLUB MEETING: RED RIBBON ON A WHITE HORSE

BY ANZIA YEZIERKA • February 2 at 7:30 PM

This year the book club's theme is: The Jewish Immigrant Experience in New York City. Please join for this meeting, which will be led by Esther Nussbaum. For more information, please contact bookclub@jewishcenter.org.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAZAL TOV

David Engelhardt on his engagement to Avital Littman.

Ari Blech on his recent engagement to Alaethia Doctor. Mazel tov to Ari's parents, **Rabbi Benjamin & Elaine Blech**.

Sara Marko, daughter of Dr. Sidney and Myra Marko of Ottawa, on her engagement to Eytan Rait, of Riverdale, son of Shulamit Z"L and Charles Rait, Z"L.

Danielle & David Spier on the birth of a boy. Mazel tov to grandparents **Radine & Bill Spier**.

Shifra Epstein on the occasion of the engagement of her grandson, Moses Sternstein, son of Guita & Steven Wolfe, to Marisa Warren.

THANK YOU TO OUR USHERS

Thank you to **Judy Federbush, Joseph Gottlieb, Jay Worenklein** who are our ushers this Shabbat.

THANK YOU CSS

We would like to once again thank CSS and our dedicated CSS members for providing the security for our Synagogue this week.

OUR LAY LEADERS WANT TO MEET YOU!

This week come meet **Joseph Gottlieb**, who will be joining the clergy on the receiving line immediately following services. We look forward to getting to know each of you, hearing your thoughts and ideas about The Center and discussing ways to become more involved.

FAST OF TEVET • Friday, December 13th

Please note that Minchah will begin at 4:00PM

LETTER TO THE JEWISH WEEK

Last week The Jewish Week published an interview with Rabbi Perry Tirschwell, the new Executive Director of the National Council of Young Israel. His article referenced the singles scene in New York and New Jersey. Please visit www.theJewishweek.com or The Jewish Center facebook page to see Rabbi Zirkind's response.

NEW 2-SESSION CSS COURSE! Join Us for a Rewarding and Important Undertaking!

Join our Shul's security team! We are looking for additional volunteers to protect our family, friends and home. A prerequisite two-session course will be provided on the Upper West Side on the evenings of Monday, December 16 and Thursday, December 19.

- The course is not physical; no previous experience is necessary.
 - All members are welcome
 - Training will be provided by Community Security Service (CSS)
- If interested, please contact Yaron Kinar at yaron@jewishcenter.org or Rachel Wolf at jc@thecss.org.

YOUTH DEPARTMENT EVENTS

Children, join us for Adon Olam

Children are encouraged to come up during the Cantor's recitation of Kiddush and then sing Adon Olam together.

YOUTH DEPARTMENT & BIKKUR

CHOLIM VISITS

Shabbat, December 7 at 2:45PM
For children in 5th-8th grades. For more information and to RSVP, please contact Sharon Herzfeld at sherzfeld@holisticneuro.com.

MOVIE NIGHT -

MARY POPPINS

December 7 at 6:15 PM
Join The Jewish Center Youth for pizza, popcorn and a movie! Children



ages 5 and up are welcome to join. Visit our website to register.

BIRTHDAY KIDDUSH SHABBAT, DECEMBER 14

Join the JC Youth Department Shabbat for our November & December Birthday Kiddush. Celebrate your child's birthday and support JC Youth programs by becoming a Kiddush sponsor. Please visit our website to sponsor.



TEEN MINYAN

Shabbat, December 14 and Feb. 1
Contact Rabbi Fridman to participate dfridman@jewishcenter.org.

The Strongest Bond
Rabbi Dovid Zirkind, Assistant Rabbi

The Charlotte Observer ran a beautiful obituary this week in memory of Frank and Eleanor Turner. The couple met in 1948 when Frank was seeking to buy a car at the dealership where Eleanor worked as the receptionist, and the rest was history. They were married for 65 years, raising two children and three grandchildren. In a sad but beautiful ending, Eleanor was moved from their nursing home to the hospital, where she passed away. Frank, unaware of his wife's death, passed away a mere 6 hours later.

When Yaakov's sons attempted to deceive their father, they 'returned' to him a bloodied and torn *ketonet passim* and Yaakov cried: "*Tarof tarof Yosef – Joseph has surely been torn apart!*" (Vayeishev 37:33) According to the Ohr HaChaim, the brothers presented such graphic evidence with only one goal in mind; that Yaakov would never search for his lost son. Evidence so gruesome would surely lead any person to draw the conclusion that Yosef was never to return. But even in this aspect of their plot, the brothers appear to have failed.

In our Parsha this week, Yehuda pleads with the leader of Egypt, begging him to spare Binyamin's life because of the pain it would cause their father: "Then your servant my father said to us, 'You know that my wife bore me two sons. One has left me and I presumed: Alas, he has surely been torn to pieces; and I have not seen him since.'" (Vayigash 44:28) How powerful it is that after all the evidence supported the brothers' story and a part of Yaakov assumed

Yosef was dead, still in his heart of hearts, he never stopped looking. Our sages teach that Yaakov refused to be comforted upon the loss of his son because "man does not accept condolences on the living" – the bond between Yaakov and his son was so strong, no evidence could convince him of a loss that had not really happened, a connection he still felt within him.

Before studying Torah in the morning, one must first recite a bracha, like any other mitzvah. However, once that bracha is recited it is not repeated even if one takes a break from learning for hours and only returns at the end of the day. Rabbi Solovetichik once suggested that the connection between man and Torah is as strong as the bond between a mother and a child. Even when they are not together, the latent awareness of each others existence is a constant connection. It is this latent awareness, an almost tangible connectedness, which the Torah highlights in the relationship of Yaakov and Yosef.

The love that we have for our most cherished relationships is inspired; our love for family, appreciation of friendships built or our dedication to community and our faith. When reading of others who have had the gift of these kinds of connection, it should remind us to not only appreciate their constant presence, but to remind the people we care about, just how we feel and how important they are to us.

SIGN UP FOR WESTCHESTER SUMMER DAY CAMP

Westchester Day School's summer program, **Westchester Summer Day** ("WSD") offers an outstanding program for children ages 3-11. WSD is situated on the Long Island Sound and offers a wide array of activities, including: swimming, boating, water-skiing, rock climbing, ziplining, Jewish culture, Oneg Shabbat parties, sports, arts and crafts, music, trips and more. Kosher lunch and snack daily. WSD is located in an air conditioned facility on 26 acres in Mamaroneck, NY. Transportation on mini, air conditioned buses available from NYC, only a 45 minute ride. Learn more about the program at www.westchesterday.org/summerday or come for a guided tour to view the magnificent campus. For additional information, please contact Rachel Mandelbaum at rmandelbaum@westchesterday.org or 914-698-8900 ext. 154.

This is a paid advertisement

Clergy & Staff

Yosie Levine
Rabbi

Dovid Zirkind
Assistant Rabbi

Chaim David Berson
Cantor

Daniel Fridman
*Resident Scholar/
Youth Rabbi*

Ari Lamm
*William Fischman
Rabbinic Intern*

Aaron Strum
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Israel Update

December 6, 2013

For the first time, Israel is admitted to U.N. Human Rights group

Israel's admittance into the U.N. Human Rights Council's (UNHRC) Western European and Others Group (WEOG) marks an important step toward normalizing Israel's status at the United Nations. The exclusion of Israel from a regional working group in Geneva was a profound affront to decency and justice which the U.S. has sought to correct for many years. In a statement, Samantha Power, the U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. said, "For far too long Israel has been unfairly excluded from regional bodies at the United Nations. I applaud the decision to admit Israel into the WEOG...providing Israel membership into one of the regional bodies that shape policy and determine leadership posts in U.N. fora." Power added, "This long-overdue decision brings Geneva in line with the decision to admit Israel into WEOG in New York in 2000, which continues to pay dividends more than a decade later, as well as more recent efforts by this administration to more fully normalize Israel's treatment across the U.N. system."

The Jewish Center partners with AIPAC, America's pro-Israel lobby, in educating our community on issues affecting the U.S.-Israel relationship. We encourage you to learn more by contacting AIPAC at (212) 750-4110 or by visiting www.aipac.org.

To advertise or list an announcement in The JC Shabbat Bulletin, please contact Eliane at eliane@jewishcenter.org