



Suburban Orthodox
Congregation Toras Chaim

24 Kislev 5773 • Parshas Vayeshev
December 8, 2012 • Vol. 8, No. 60
Torah Reading p. 198 ; Haftorah p. 1142
שבת שלום

Rabbi Shmuel Silber
Cantor Philip Rosenblatt, Emeritus

Mincha 4:30 pm
CL 4:25 pm
Next Week
Mincha 4:30 pm
CL 4:26 pm

D'var Torah

Chanukah: Appreciating The Light

When trying to understand the true nature of Chanukah we often struggle to comprehend why so much prominence is given to the miracle of the *PACH SHEMEN*/cruse of oil (we light the Menorah, eat foods that are made with oil) and yet the military victory over the Syrian Greeks is only mentioned in our additional paragraph of *B'EMEY MATISYAHU* (inserted after *MODIM* in *SHMONA ESREH*). We would all agree that the miracle of the oil is amazing – but doesn't overcoming a superpower deserve a little more attention?

Rav Chaim Shmulevitz zt'l the Rosh Yeshiva of the famed Mirrer Yeshiva explains this dynamic. In reality there are different types of miracles. There are miracles that are necessary to remedy an immediate need. For example, when the Jewish people left Egypt and found themselves stuck between the Red Sea and the pursuing Egyptian Army – there is “no choice” – God must split the sea to save His nation. However, there is another non-utilitarian type of miracle. A miracle that is performed not because there is any particular need that must be addressed – rather, a miracle that is performed to send a message. An example of this second type of miracle can be found in last week's Parsha. Yosef's brothers sell him to a group of traveling merchants. The Torah goes out of its way to tell us that the caravan was transporting sweet-smelling, aromatic herbs and spices. The Talmud explains that generally, these types of caravans carried foul-smelling hides and oils. This was a miraculous event orchestrated by God for the benefit of Yosef. Are we to understand that because Yosef is surrounded by potpourri that suddenly his suffering and anxiety melt away? Of course not — but the message being dispatched to Yosef was — you are not alone. I know you are hurt, I know you are broken but I am here with you. In other words, Yosef received a Divine kiss (*NESHUKA*). A kiss of reassurance, love and companionship. This explains Rav Shmulevitz is the essence of the *PACH SHEMEN* (cruse of oil) miracle. God did not need to do it; it was not “necessary”; we could have easily gotten by without it. This is what makes it so special - it was a “kiss” from God to us. It was a kiss that reflected His pride and admiration for the sacrifices we were willing to make. It was a kiss that reminded us that even when life is dark and difficult, we are never alone. It was a kiss that gave us the strength to weather the difficulties and vicissitudes of life.

Now we can understand why this miracle takes center stage on Chanukah. The *PACH SHEMEN* is much more than a jug of oil – it is the kiss that has held us through the centuries, it is the kiss that dispels the darkness, it is the kiss that gives us the strength to get back up when life has knocked us down.

The kiss of the *PACH SHEMEN* will allow us to find the strength and find positive ways to respond to the current tragedy in Israel.

The kiss of the *PACH SHEMEN* is the kiss that opens our eyes, and provides the illumination to see all of the other Divine “kisses” we experience throughout life.

As we bask in the glow of the Menorah over the remaining nights of Chanukah, let us remember the kisses of the past appreciate the kisses of the present and yearn to be showered with Divine Kisses in the near future.

Good Shabbos and Chanukah Samayach
Rabbi Shmuel Silber

Today in Shul

Davening

- Shacharis.....9:00 am
- Mincha.....4:10 pm
- Maariv/Havdalah..... 5:26 pm

Shiurim

- *Parsha Shiur:* (Rabbi Silber)8:25 am
- *Daf Yomi* (Rabbi Daniel Rosenfelt).....8:15 am
- *Birthdays: Something to Celebrate?* (Rabbi Daniel Rosenfelt) 3:25 pm

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TONIGHT, Motzei Shabbos,
December 8th
CHANUKAH MELAVA MALKA
Live Music & Ruach
Doors open at 7:30 pm
Buffet opens at 7:45 pm
Magic Show begins at 8:00 pm

Davening**Shacharis**

Sunday 7:15 am, 8:00 am & 9:00 am

Monday—Thursday 6:45 am & 9:00 am

Please note for Chanukah 6:45 am & 9:00 am Shacharis will meet in the Main Shul.

Mincha/Maariv

Sunday - Thursday 4:30 pm

Late Maariv Monday - Thursday 9:00 pm

Learning/Shiurim**Sunday**

- Daf Yomi, Rabbi Silber, 8:00 am

Monday

- Torah & Bagels, Rabbi Silber @ Goldberg's Bagels, 8:00 am

Tuesday

- Women's Tehillim, 9:30 am, *NEW LOCATION* Home of Liba Rivka Katz, 3303 Greenvale Road, 410-580-0220. (Small children welcome)

Wednesday

- Navi and Nosh, Rabbi Silber, 12:00 Noon, Rooms 2/3
- Wednesday Night Parsha Shiur, Rabbi Silber, 8:00 pm
- Resumes after Chanukah
- Contemporary Halacha, Rabbi Silber, 9:15 pm (For men)
- Resumes after Chanukah

Monday-Friday

- Mesillas Yesharim, Rabbi Silber, 5:45 am
- Daf Yomi, Rabbi Silber, 6:00 am & Rabbi Daniel Rosenfelt, 8:20 am

Online Bill Payments: Accounts can be paid online at shop.suburbanorthodox.org. Please make every effort to pay your Shul obligations.

Missed a Shiur? Listen to Rabbi Silber's Shiurim online at <http://suburbanorthodox.org/media.php>.

Suburban Orthodox Sisterhood Bookclub. Our meetings are open to all. Our next selection is "The Lost Wife", by Alyson Richman. From the glamorous ease of life in Prague before the occupation, to the horrors of Nazi Europe, this book explores the resilience of the human spirit and the strength of memory. The next meeting will be on Tuesday January 15 at 1:30 pm in our social hall. Bring a friend.

Are you getting married or recently married? MAZAL TOV!! We have a wedding gift for you. Free membership until your 1st anniversary! This gift of free membership entitles you and your spouse to full membership privileges. Just complete a membership application, write "just married" and wedding date, and bring to the office. Membership applications are available at suburbanorthodox.org or from the Shul office, 410-484-6114.

Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group: Monthly meetings to be held at Tudor Heights, early evenings. For more information, contact 410-318-8000. Free.

Chasdei Rus Gemach: Making a Simcha? Housing is available for your out-of-area guests at no charge. Close to Shul and child-friendly. Please call Mrs. Estherkayla Fleischman at 443-213-8048 (new phone #) to reserve rooms (not available on Chagim).

Employment Info: (1) **Joblink:** If you know of job opportunities (all levels and specialties) with your employer or elsewhere locally, please contact Joblink at email jobinfo@joblinkemployment.com, or call 410-602-8700 (Mailbox #1), or fax 410-602-1981; (2) **OU Job Board:** Search for jobs through the Orthodox Union placement service. Email jobs@ou.org; call 212-613-8129; (3) Jewish Community Services Career Services provides individual career coaching, employment assistance, business development, & special services for employers. Call 410-466-9200 or visit www.jcsbaltimore.org.

Yeshiva University will be having two separate receptions (one for Yeshiva College [men] and one for Stern College [women]) in Baltimore on Tuesday,

SHUL HAPPENINGS**Volunteering to host**

If you are available to host families either for a full Shabbos, or for a meal, please contact Dovid Brenner. We can proactively find families or individuals to share Shabbos with you. It is very important for us to integrate hospitality and outreach into the fabric of our Congregational efforts.

Membership

If you are considering your membership status, please speak with Dovid Brenner. We have many current members deciding to upgrade their associate membership to a full membership. Full members ensure that our shul can have the funds needed to run the many programs within our walls.

From keeping the utilities on to paying our hard working administrative staff, as well as our maintenance staff, running a shul is an extensive endeavor. We literally open at the crack of dawn with learning starting at 5:45am, and stay open all day with multiple minyanim and the services provided by our outstanding office staff, and then close up late at night well past 10pm with SOTC and IJC Shiurim as well as our new late Maariv.

If you are a regular on Shabbos or during the week, have children in groups, or just greatly appreciate our Congregation and the dedication and inspiration of our Rav, please consider showing your support with a full membership. If you are coming to our learning programs regularly, or frequently daven with us, and do not have a membership, please consider and associate membership- they are very affordable and help to make sure that we continue to offer a full range of opportunities. Thank you.

Facebook

The Suburban Orthodox Facebook Page has 165 likes. If you are active on Facebook, please consider liking our page. Our Facebook admins are busy posting Shul events. It is a great way to keep in touch, and to spread the word about the great things happening in our Shul.

Membership Committee

Anyone interested in participating on the membership committee please contact Dovid Brenner.

Online Enrollment

Know of someone who would like to join our Shul? Now there is a very easy way! SOTC has released a new online enrollment form. 90% of new memberships are coming in electronically.

Go to <http://join.suburbanorthodox.net/>

Email david@dgbrenner.com with any questions.

Learning/Outreach

- The Rabbi continued his Monday morning bagel shuir, 2 evening IJC classes, and morning Mesilas Yeshorim/Daf Yomi classes this week.
- Continuing our outreach to the entire community, the Rabbi has arranged for a special tish at Pickwick for young professionals and young families.
- The Suburban Orthodox legal holiday learning series continued on Thanksgiving with Rabbi Silber's shiur on: **Pilgrims, Preservation & Piety: Understanding the Halachik Implications of Adopting Cultural Practices** **If you missed it, you can watch it online at:** <http://www.suburbanorthodox.net/thanksgiving.htm> **from any PC or Mac.**
- The Institute for Jewish Continuity continues its Fall Semester here at SOTC. To register for classes, please visit.
- Keep an eye out soon at <http://www.goijc.org> for the next semester of IJC classes.

December 18, 2012 at 7:30PM. The Stern College presentation will be taking place at the home of: Dr. and Mrs. Ely Lasson - 2500 Larryvale Road. The Yeshiva College presentation will be taking place at the home of: Mr. and Mrs. Craig Neuman - 2522 Summerson Road. For more information please contact Mr. Rafi Katz, Yeshiva University's Assistant Director of Undergraduate Admissions at 212-960-5277 or email rafi.katz@yu.edu.

Mesila of Baltimore is proud to introduce a workshop for the Baltimore Community: A Kallah's Introduction to Family Financial Management: A workshop to provide engaged and newly married women the understanding and tools needed to meet the basic challenges of managing a family's finances. Introductory Workshop is being given on Dec 5, Jan 23, or Feb 27 at Bnai Jacob Shaarei Zion. Please RSVP to attend, or for questions MesilaBaltimoreWorkshop@Gmail.com

Youth News**Gobbie Cohn, Youth Director,**gcohn@torahyouth.org**Shabbat Groups****All snacks are pareve & nut free****Beginning this Shabbos the babysitting group will begin at 9am (instead of 9:30am).****• Early Birds: All ages, 9:00-10:00 am, 1st floor, Room C, Talia Seifris****• Teen Minyan: 9:30 am, 2nd Flr. Youth Lounge****• Jr. Congregation: (boys, grades 4-7), 10:00 am, Beis Midrash, Adam Leve****• Boys, grades 1-3: 10:00 am, Room A, Raphael Norman****• Girls, grades 1-3: 10:00 am, Room C, Chana Frand, Michal Klotzman****• Girls, grades 4-6: 10:00 am, Classroom G, Ashera Auster****• **Coed, 2-5 year olds: 10:00 am, Room B, Aliza****Kozlovsky, Chavy Bluman, Miri Miller, Rikki Frand, Chavie Rothschild****Because of the chanukah party - The Saturday night learning programs will not take place this Motzei Shabbos (Dec 8). All programs will resume 6:45pm, Dec 15 (last night Chanukah)****Parents Please Note:** Groups end immediately after Musaf. Please pick up your children before Kiddush **We kindly ask parents not to congregate in the 2-5 year-old group room, especially during circle time & snack. Parents of children who have just turned 2: Adjustments can take 2-3 weeks. Please introduce yourselves & your child to us so that we can work with you to acclimate your child into the group. Parents of children under 2: We encourage you to use Rooms 2/3 on Shabbat mornings.**Condolences:** To Josh Hirsh and his family on the loss of his grandfather, Abraham Freund.**Mazel Tov:** To Beth and Nathan Adler, on the birth of a grandson, born Shabbos morning to Rachel and Yehuda Leib Birnbaum. To Rabbi Richard and Sharon Levine on the engagement of their daughter, Tova to Shimon Brody, son of Yaakov and Sarah Brody. To Becky Reeves on her engagement to Ephraim Zeilinger. To Howard and Tori Lewitt, on their recent marriage. To Chani Friedman on her wedding this Sunday to David Bates. To Isaac & Esty Samuel on the birth of a new granddaughter, born to Joey and Dodi Samuel. Mazel Tov also to brothers Rafi and Eitan Samuel of Baltimore. To Marianne and Andre Katz on the birth of a new granddaughter, born to Elina and Avi Flax of White Plains, NY**Birthdays:** Ann Berman, Ariella Esterson, Avi Gordon, Beverly Hirsch, Joshua Cane, Moshe Eliezer Lerner, Rashi Turniansky, Sheryl Michalowski, Jacob & Yael Ziv, Joanna Kozlovsky.**Anniversary:** Herman & Beverly Venick, Steve & Melanie Fleischer.**Cholim:** Ruth Levin, Mildred Shapiro Bashevkin, Martin Kaufman, Mollie Wittow, Warren Michaelson.**Yahrzeits:****24 Kislev:** Abram Lewkowicz, husband of Miriam Lewkowicz; Edward Kalish, father of Paul Kalish; Harry Nasdor, father of Estelle Silverman and Irma Davidson; Maurice Fox, uncle of Howard Stein.**25 Kislev:** Harry Mackler.**26 Kislev:** Albert Danoff, brother of Irene Pfeferstein; Hinda Esterson, mother of Samuel Esterson; Rabbi Samuel M. Rubinstein, father of Hy and Ed Rubinstein; Richard Weinberger, Attorney of Isser Goldsmith.**27 Kislev:** Dorothy Wiseman, mother of Alan Wiseman; Evelyn Scherr, mother of Frona Klotzman, and Sandra Yecies; Mary Brill, mother of Shirley Abramson, and grandmother of Bennett Goldberg; Sarah Bluefeld, mother of Gertrude Freedman.**28 Kislev:** Bettie Kahanovitz, wife of Jake Kahanovitz; Ida Rubin, mother of Alvin Book.

My name is Jacob Roshgadol, I am an 18 year old student currently studying at Yeshivat Torat Shraga in Israel. David Beiss, one of my friends at Yeshiva, asked me to participate in Team Butterfly, a charity running team in the Jerusalem Marathon, Half-Marathon, and 10k run, to help raise funds for research for a cure for the disease he suffers from, Epidermolysis Bullosa (EB). EB is an extremely rare skin condition that causes blistering on the surface of the skin from friction and normal contact. When I joined Team Butterfly I was required to make a commitment to raise \$600 for the JGSF. This is a cause that is dear to my heart since it affects a teenager just like me. I ask you to please help support David and research for a cure to EB by making a donation. All donations are greatly appreciated in bringing us one step closer to curing this terrible disease. Donations can be made at my personal fundraising page at <http://www.crowdrise.com/jacobroshgadol> using a credit card online or checks sent to my home (7617 7 Mile Ln., Baltimore, MD 21208) payable to the Jackson Gabriel Silver Foundation. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at jacobiroschgadol@gmail.com

29 Kislev: Ernest Neuberger, father of Rene Neuberger; Helen Maler, mother of Judy Mael.
1 Tevet: Isadore Posner, brother of Bernard and Nathan Posner, and Marion Kramer; Morris Polansky, father of Rosalyn Hartman; Rose Glickstein, mother of Robert Glickstein.

Coat Rooms: It's time for us to clean the coat rooms for Winter. We are asking our members to please remove any items or books. We are also looking for a volunteer to coordinate the "cleaning/ book sale" with all of the books/sefarim left in the Coat room. Please contact Phil if you would like to help with this project.

Thank you!

To Jerry and Abby Appelbaum, for the donation of three Siddurim in memory of Sheldon Berman z'l, in memory of Eileen Miller z'l, and in honor of Phil Rosenfeld. To Jeannette Goldman and Beverly Sagal for sponsoring a shiur in memory of Dennis Goldman z'l. To Ann Berman for sponsoring a shiur in memory of Ted Berman z'l. To Richard and Sharon Buck for sponsoring parent/child learning. To Hillorie Morrison for donating a siddur In Honor of the First Yahrzeit of Sidney Morrison. To Malka and Sam Esterson for sponsoring the Shabbos Drasha in memory of Hinda Esterson z'l. To Meriam Lewkowicz for sponsoring the Shabbos afternoon shiur in memory of her husband Abram B"R Yehuda Leib z'l. To Manfred Meiseles for sponsoring a shiur in memory of his father Abraham Meiseles z'l. To Elaine and Harold Shindel their for generous donations in honor of Rabbi Silber and in honor of Lynn and Stuart Shindel.

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