

Youth Happenings @ Congregation Etz Chaim



March 24, 2017 Parsha Vayekhel- Pekudei 27 Adar 5777

Vayekhel- Pekudei Times & Numbers

Candle Lighting- 6:56
 Mincha- 7:00
 Shacharit- 9:00 am
 Teen Minyan- 9:45
 Junior Cong.- 10:15
 Tot Shabbat- 10:15
 Mincha- 6:50 pm
 Shabbat Ends- 7:56



VAYAKHEL- NUMBER OF MITZVOT: 1
1 MITZVAH LO TASEH
 (NEG.COMMANDMENT)
NUMBER OF PESUKIM: 122
NUMBER OF WORDS: 1558
NUMBER OF LETTERS: 6181

PEKUDEI- NUMBER OF MITZVOT: 0
NUMBER OF PESUKIM: 92
NUMBER OF WORDS: 1182
NUMBER OF LETTERS: 4432

This week we also take out a second Torah and read Parshat HaChodesh....and bless Rosh Chodesh....so yeah, long davening ;)

**IF YOU HAVE CHILDREN AND WILL BE
 HERE OVER PASSOVER, PLEASE LET YONI
 KNOW SO WE CAN ACCORDINGLY PLAN
 YOUTH PROGRAMMING**



**A FUN, EDUCATIONAL, AND PRIZE-
 LOADED GAME AFTER JR. CONG THIS
 SHABBAT- MARCH 25!!!**

Congregation Etz Chaim: www.etzchaimnj.org
 Rabbi Sam Klibanoff
 Rabbi Natan Kapustin, Assistant Rabbi
 Presidents: Neil Kaplan & Allan Schall
 Youth Director: Yoni Glatt

MAKING THE MOST OF THE MISHKAN

As the *Parsha* opens, it's the day after *Yom Kippur*, the 11th of *Tishrei*. Things are settling down after the unfortunate episode with the golden calf. The people aren't feeling very good about themselves right now. Although *Hashem* has forgiven them, they just missed total annihilation by the skin of their teeth!

Moshe gathers up the people for a big announcement. *Hashem* has not only forgiven *Bnai Yisrael* for their terrible sins, but has decided that He will now dwell among the people. But first a special "home" for the *Shechina* must be erected. This home is called the "*Mishkan*." Now, we know all about the *Mishkan* because we planted bugs on the summit of *Har Sinai* & heard all the details that *Hashem* gave Moshe in previous weeks. But *Bnai Yisrael* is hearing about this for the first time. Little do they realize that this remedy existed before the "mad cow disease" ran rampant.

Bnai Yisrael are up on the bleachers, waving banners and crying out with great joy in their hearts. Now they know for sure that *Hashem* will always be in their midst. They are eager to begin the construction and are hanging on Moshe's every word. But before Moshe will give details, he warns *Bnai Yisrael* that even though building the *Mishkan* is holy work, it is forbidden to do any work on the *Mishkan* on Shabbat. It is wonderful that they are so eager to do good. Sometimes when we do something wrong we want to rush to make it right. In this case *Bnai Yisrael* had a whole Shabbat to fully take in the extent of how foolish they were, and how fortunate it was that *Hashem* had forgiven them.

"Quote of the Week"

"What matters is not so much where you stand, but with what force you are moving in which direction."

-Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneersohn
 (The last Lubavitcher Rebbe)

DID YOU KNOW???

Did you know that *Har Hazeitim* (The Mount of Olives) in Jerusalem is the world's oldest operational cemetery? For over 3,000 years Jews have been buried there, including the prophets Chaggai, Zechariah, and Malachi.

LAFFY TAFFY RIDDLE

THE FIRST KID WHO TELLS YONI THE ANSWER GETS \$3 MM, THE SECOND GETS \$2, & THE THIRD GETS \$1- NO TELLING THE ANSWER!

WHAT DO YOU CALL TEN STEAKS ORDERED BY TEN JEWS?

Last Week:

The Golden Calf- what a foolish act
But more gold cows were made- it's a fact!
Tell me the Jewish leader who did this sin
Look in the Book of Kings & you could win
A- Jeroboam, first king of the succeeded Israel (10 tribes

**YOUTH
DEPARTMENT
INFLATION!!!
\$5 MITZVAH
MONEY IS HERE!
WIN SOME
PLAYING THE
PRICE IS RIGHT!**



Join more than 300 teens from our Greater MetroWest NJ community to participate in hands-on service projects.

Sunday, April 2, 2017

11:15 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Alex Aidekman Family Jewish Community Campus
901 Route 10, Whippany, NJ

- 14 teen-led projects
- Inspiring teen speakers
- Meaningful Jewish learning
- Service opportunities Expo
- Food drive

To register for J-Serve visit
www.jteengmw.org/j-serve

For more information contact Michael Strom at
MStrom@JFedGMW.org or (973) 929-2963

Brought to you by:



**MIDOT MATTER MOST:
BEFORE YOU BLAME
SOMEONE ELSE, LOOK AT YOURSELF.**

Altruism- Al·tru·ism

(אַלְטְרוּיִזְם) n.

1. Unselfish concern for the welfare of others; selflessness.
2. Zoology-behavior by an animal that is not beneficial to or may be harmful to itself but that benefits others of its species.

TORAH GREATS: THE TZEMACH TZEDEK 9/9/1789- 3/17/1866

Rav Menachem Mendel Schneersohn aka the Tzemach Tzedek (TT), was the third Rebbe of Chabad chasidus (not to be confused with his great-grandson of the same name). He was born in Liozna, Belarus. Sadly, His mother Devorah Leah, died just three years later, and her father the great Rav Shneur Zalman of Liadi raised TT as his own son. TT married his cousin Chaya Mushka, daughter of Rabbi Dovber Schneuri, te second Rav of Chabad. After his father-in-law's death, and a three-year stalling during which he tried to persuade the hasidim to accept his brother-in-law Menachem-Nachum Schneuri or his uncle Chaim-Avraham as their leader, TT assumed the leadership of Chabad-Lubavitch on the eve of Shavuot 5591 (May 5, 1831).

He was known as the *Tzemach Tzedek* ("Righteous Sprout"), after the title of a voluminous compendium of *halacha* that he authored. He also authored *Derech Mitzvotcha* ("Way of Your Commandments"), a mystical exposition of the *Mitzvos*. He compiled major works of Rabbi Shneur Zalman of Liadi for publication, and also authored a philosophical text entitled "Sefer Chakira: Derech Emuna" (Book of Philosophy: The way of Faith).

TT forged close relationships across Europe with many Rabbi's of different heritages as well as with high ranking government officials. His close friendship with professor J Berstenson, the Czar's court physician, often helped the delicate negotiations relating to the welfare of the community. He set up an organization called *Hevras Techiyas Hameisim* to assist Jewish boy-soldiers who were being recruited and converted to Christianity by the Russian army. These soldiers known as Cantonists were taken away from the Jewish community to other villages. TT arranged for his students to pay them regular visits to keep up their spirits and discourage them from converting.

In 1844-45 TT took steps to increase the enrollment and viability of the Lubavitch Yeshivas across Belarus and Poland, expanding their enrollment by the hundreds. During this time Czar Nicholas I made him an honorary citizen of the Russian Empire- a remarkable honor at the time. Soon after TT expanded Chabad chasidus as a whole, gaining well over 10,000 new followers in his later years. TT had 7 sons (all rabbis) & two daughters. He was succeeded by his youngest son Shmuel as the Rebbe of Lubavitch, while three of his other sons formed breakaways of the Chabad which continued to some extent until WWII. These movements did see themselves as part of Chabad, however. TT's grave still exists today in the town of Lyubavichi, Russia.