

# Youth Happenings @ Congregation Etz Chaim



**Dec. 22, Parshat Vayigash, 5 Tevet 5778**

## **Vayigash Times & Numbers:**

Candle Lighting- 4:15pm  
Mincha- 4:15pm  
Shacharit- 9:00 am  
Teen Minyan- 9:45  
Jr. Congregation- 10:15  
Tot Shabbat- 10:15  
Mincha -4:10  
Shabbat Ends- 5:24 pm



**NO MITZVOT IN THIS PARSHA**  
**NUMBER OF PESUKIM :106**  
**NUMBER OF WORDS: 1480**  
**NUMBER OF LETTERS: 5680**



NCSY Chessed Mission

**NASHVILLE, TN**

FEB 21-25

\$500

10TH-12TH GRADE

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, AMAZING SHABBAT, LIGHT TOURING.  
GRANTS AVAILABLE THROUGH DESTINATION JEWISH SERVICE  
LEARNING BY JTEEN



## **FRIDAY NIGHT RAFFLE!**

Every week a new amazing prize will be given away- but you must be in shul to win!

**Returns Jan 5<sup>th</sup>-Win a:**

**\$100 Barnes & Noble**

**BARNES & NOBLE** Shopping spree! **BARNES & NOBLE**  
(Books & Games only)

Congregation Etz Chaim: [www.etzchaimnj.org](http://www.etzchaimnj.org)  
Rabbi E. Samuel Kliбанoff  
Rabbi Natan Kapustin, Assistant Rabbi  
Presidents: Neil Kaplan & Alan Schall  
Youth Director: Yoni Glatt  
Rabbinic Intern: Yoni Gold

## **Preparing For The Future**

Yaakov is all gung-ho to see Yosef after so many years. But the land of Canaan is very holy. Yaakov feels the need to ask *Hashem's* permission to leave it for Egypt. He is worried that his children will be assimilated. So he heads over to Be'er Sheva and offers *korbanot* (sacrifices) to *Hashem* on the *mizbayach* (altar) his father Yitzchok built. *Hashem* gives an "A-okay" to Yaakov's request. *Hashem* tells Yaakov not to be afraid to go down to Egypt. They will be divinely protected. *Hashem* also promises Yaakov that Egypt is just a temporary stop in the fulfillment of the promise made to him and his fathers, Avraham & Yitzchak. It is in Egypt that *He* will make them into a great nation.

So Yaakov, his 11 sons and their families pack up all their possessions & animals, and head out to Egypt. Sixty-Nine people in Yaakov's household start the trek. Levi's daughter Yocheved (Moshe's mother), is born along the way, making it an even 70 upon arrival. Yehuda goes ahead to make preparations. He builds homes and a *Yeshiva* in the far off land of Goshen. After all, this is where Bnai Yisrael will be spending the next 210 years.



## ***"Quote of the Week"***

***"Courage is for a moment. Regret lasts a lifetime."***

**- Rav Yom Tov Glaser**

## **DID YOU KNOW.....**

Did you know that the first ghetto was in the city of Venice, Italy and was established in 1516? Jews were sectioned off into the small area of the ghetto, which was eventually expanded due to overpopulation. In 1797 Napoleon decreed the end of Jewish segregation and the ghetto age effectively came to an end, even though many Jews remained there. However, ghettos which had sprouted up across Europe would still remain for decades to come. Today the Venice Ghetto is the home to Chabad in Venice, has a Jewish museum, active shuls, a kollel, and some of the best kosher dining in the world.

## MIDDLE RIDDLE ??????

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

**There are six of these every year  
One of which is very near  
Say them in any order but  
Start with the most important of all  
And you'll be standing proud and tall**

### Last Week-

The word Chanukah can be found  
In this Parsha so look around  
Sorry this isn't so easy,  
I hope the search doesn't make you queasy  
A-Bereishis 43:16

## MORAH GOLDSTEIN IS COMING BACK JANUARY 6TH!

**SHABBAT MORNING PROGRAM AT 10:15  
UPSTAIRS IN CLASSROOM 2 FOR MIDDLE  
SCHOOL GIRLS.**

**LUNCH AT THE YOUTH HOUSE FOR  
GRADES 8-12**

**SHABBAT- JANUARY 6<sup>TH</sup>- 12:00PM**

**65 SHREWSBURY DR**

(There will be a special cholent ;)

## ISRAEL THROUGH THE AGES

**Our free ongoing class  
for grades 8-12 continues  
with Yoni Tuesday Dec.  
26th at 5:45pm. Dinner  
and snacks served. Next  
Week's Class:**

***THE RETURN  
OF THE KINGS***

### ISRAEL IN THE PARSHA

**Jennifer's class also  
returns on December 26<sup>th</sup>-  
before Yoni's class.**

**MIDOT MATTER MOST:  
A TRUE WINNER DOESN'T MAKE  
ONE WHO IS DEFEATED FEEL  
LIKE A LOSER**

Altruism- Al-tru-ism

(אַלְטְרוּיִזְמוֹ 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 ABARBANEL (1437-1508)

Rav Isaac ben Judah Abrabanel, commonly referred to as *The Abarbanel*, was a great Portuguese Torah scholar, statesman, philosopher, and financier. A descendant of King David, The Abarbanel was born in Lisbon, Portugal, into one of the most distinguished Jewish Iberian families who had escaped persecution in Castile during 1391. A student of Rav Joseph Chaim, he became well versed in rabbinic literature, devoting his early years to the study of Jewish philosophy. At age 20, he wrote on the original form of the natural elements, on religious questions, prophecy, and eventually wrote a brilliant commentary on the Torah. He also showed a complete mastery of financial matters, which attracted the attention of King Afonso V of Portugal who employed him as treasurer.

When the town of Arzila, in Morocco, was captured by the Moors, and the Jewish captives were sold as slaves, he contributed largely to the funds needed to free them, and personally arranged for collections throughout Portugal. After the death of Afonso he was obliged to relinquish his office, having been accused by King John II of collusion with the Duke of Braganza, who had been executed on the charge of conspiracy. The Abarbanel, warned in time, saved himself by a hasty flight to Castile (1483). His large fortune was confiscated by royal decree. He moved to Toledo, Spain and occupied himself at first with Biblical studies, and in the course of six months produced an extensive commentary on the books of Joshua, Judges, and Samuel. But shortly afterward he entered the service of the house of Castile. Together with his friend, the influential Don Abraham Senior, of Segovia, he undertook to farm the revenues and to supply provisions for the royal army- tasks that he carried out to the entire satisfaction of Queen Isabella.

When the banishment of the Jews from Spain in 1492 was ordered with the Alhambra decree, he left nothing undone to induce the king to revoke the edict, even offering him a very large sum of money. With his brethren in faith, he left Spain and went to Naples, where, soon after, he entered the service of the king. He moved around for many years before ending up in Venice in 1503, where his services were employed in negotiating a commercial treaty between Portugal and the Venetian republic. The Abarbanel died in Venice and was buried in Padua next to Rabbi Yehudah Minz,