



THE ETZ CHAIM BULLETIN

MESSAGE FROM THE RABBI

PARSHAS SHEMOS SHABBOS MEVARCHIM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8

Mincha	5:25PM
Candle Lighting	5:25PM

SHABBOS, JANUARY 9

Sephardic Minyan	9:00AM
Shacharis	9:00AM
Latest Shema	9:59AM
Mincha	5:15PM

Rabbi Cohen will give a class on the topic of: Receiving the Covid Vaccine on Shabbos

Maariv & Havdallah	6:27PM
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Services This Week: Shacharis

Sunday	8:30AM
Monday - Wednesday	6:45AM
Thursday (Rosh Chodesh)	6:30AM
Friday	6:45AM

MINCHA

Sunday - Thursday	5:25PM
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Daf Yomi

Monday - Friday	5:45AM
Sunday	7:30AM
Shabbos	8:15AM

TORAH READING

Parshas Shemos	Page: 292
Haftorah Shemos	Page: 1147

The unthinkable has occurred in America. The United States of America, long revered as the beacon of freedom, liberty, and democracy, has a moral stain that will not easily go away. A hallmark feature of democracy is a peaceful transition of power, and our great sadness is that it did not occur this week. As our adversaries around the globe have pointed out, it will be unacceptable for America to lecture any country about the need to have a peaceful transition in their government. The millions of people worldwide who have always looked to America for inspiration in their own quest for liberty and freedom are dispirited and saddened. That is only one consequence of many that may be felt for years into the future. It was traumatic for us to see the citadel of liberty-the United States Capitol run over by a violent mob that intended to disrupt the legislative proceedings of certifying the presidential election results. It is not just enough to condemn the violence or the individuals that ransacked the Capitol. Moments like these do not occur in a vacuum and require some reflection as to how we got here. We must all undergo a national exercise of soul searching and reflect on what areas of improvement we can all focus on to move forward in a positive way. These are some areas of inflection for me that I would like to share.

Two wrongs do not make a right. I found it distressing to hear from people that while this violence may be inappropriate, there is a double standard in acts of rioting or violence by other groups that are tolerated. It's important to acknowledge and take responsibility for any situation in life without equivocating or making any qualifying statements. The first King of Israel, Shaul, was not removed from his position simply because he erred in the battle with Amaleik. It

was because he was reticent to take responsibility. His successor, King David, committed multiple infractions and remained King for forty years because he was able to take responsibility for his actions.

The Death of Nuance: Over the last several years, as we have slipped more into a caustic polarized environment, the art of nuance has been a casualty. Many issues have become binary choices. One is forced to choose between unlimited gun rights with no limitations or a mandatory confiscation of firearms. One is forced to choose between not allowing any immigrants into the country or complete open borders. As a student of Halacha, I have learned the importance of nuance, even in the most sacred Jewish obligations. One is obligated to fast on Yom Kippur or keep the Shabbos but some situations would exempt one from these Mitzvahs. A casualty of the rhetoric and charged discourse has been thoughtful and a nuanced approach to complex issues, and we must work on working with dignity.

Losing with Dignity: Nobody likes to lose or be associated with the losing side but the reality in life is that we don't always get everything we desire. The Orthodox Jewish community overwhelmingly voted for President Trump. There was considerable disappointment in many of our circles when he did not prevail at the ballot box. I have heard many voices in our community of despair as if somehow our republic has entered a death spiral with no hope of redemption. At a moment like this, I recall the story of Rabbi Yochanan Ben Zakkai, who at the throes of the destruction of our Second Temple in Jerusalem, had a climactic meeting with the Roman general Vespasian. Continues on Page 3



Monday January 18th @ 12:00PM

FROM GANGS TO G-D



NISSIM BLACK

Nissim Black has been a gangster rapper, a gang member, and a faith seeker. But it is his current incarnation that is here to stay: an African American Hasidic Jew who brings sharp beats and hook filled rhymes to the masses. Nissim grew up in the Seward Park neighborhood of Seattle. He was raised a Sunni Muslim but was non-practicing. At the age of thirteen Nissim started rapping under the name Danger. Vitamin D, a Seattle rap producer, worked with him and produced his first recordings. When he was fourteen years old Nissim joined the Christian faith. He retired in 2011 to focus on his conversion to Judaism, but returned in 2012 under his Hebrew name, Nissim Black. The first single of 2020, "Mothaland Bounce" is a confluence of everything he's ever done, and everywhere he's ever been and has already garnered 4 million views on YouTube. Nissim is married to Adina Black and the couple have six children together.

Zoom Link with Registration @ Etzchaim.org
For more information contact
Rabbifeigenbaum@etzchaim.org



"He is the hero of his own rap lyrics; the story of how the power of faith can shape and change lives."



Java For The Soul
In Person With Social Distancing Guidelines & Zoom



With Rabbi Feigenbaum
The "Peh" (mouth) Is Mightier Than The Sword

Sticks and Stones will break my bones - but in Jewish Law and Shema, words hit. We will be studying the works of the Chofetz Chaim to better understand the complexity and thought process of Jewish Law & in regards to the incredible power our words have to affect our families and communities.

Zoom ID: 843 966 9742
Password - Etz
Dial by your location
928-255-6098 313-626-6799

Located in the Etz Chaim Chapel
Wednesdays @ 8:45am



THE PERFECT WAY TO
START YOUR DAY

Daf Yomi is held in the Mirka Chapel. Rabbi Fisch will teach the Daf Yomi class.

Now's the time to join
DAF YOMI



Monday-Friday 5:45am
Sunday & Legal Holiday 7:30am



MESSAGE FROM THE RABBI CONTINUED

During the meeting, Vespasian was informed about the Roman Emperor's death and the authorities in Rome nominated him to become the new emperor. Vespasian was impressed with Rabbi Yochanan Ben Zakkai and asked him if there was anything that he can do for him. The Rabbi responded with three seemingly unimportant requests to which Vespasian agreed to. For about two thousand years, a nagging question has been why didn't the Rabbi ask the new emperor to call off the siege of Jerusalem and spare the Temple ?? I once heard a powerful insight from Rabbi Yisroel Reisman to this question. The Rabbi was teaching us a powerful lesson that is hard to internalize. He was teaching us how to lose with dignity. Rabbi Yochanan realized that Jerusalem was already doomed to its fate, and there was no way to reverse that catastrophic event. He also felt it was imperative at that moment to be pragmatic and gracious in defeat.

My favorite part of NFL games is what occurs immediately after the game. The losing coach congratulates the winning coach and they usually offer each other warm words of encouragement for a good game played. In my opinion, the post-game ritual should be modeled by all of us in all areas of life.

A silver lining to this traumatic season can be if we use this as an inflection point. It is not by looking outwards and pointing fingers at different people or groups but by looking inward and reflecting on what we can all do to engage in healing and reconciliation.

Have a Peaceful Shabbos,
Rabbi Yaakov Fisch

YOUTH PROGRAMS



Winter Fellowship 2021

is launching

We want you to be a part of it.

Discover your Judaism with friends and food!

🕒 January 11th

Every Monday through March 1st



WINTER SEASON 2021

EMTZA KOLLEL CLUB!



OUTDOOR
ACTIVITIES

SNACKS

LEARNING



Grades 6-8



Jan 5 - Feb. 23
Every Tuesday
4:05-5PM



\$300/Season*

Registration opens today! Email HamaouiJ@ncsy.org

*Some photos were before covid

*Limited Scholarship Available

EMTZA NCSY & The Jacksonville Community Kollel present a new after-school Jewish enrichment program for middle school teens. Participants will explore general Jewish concepts, holidays and ethics gaining a deeper understanding of their heritage and practical lessons that can be applied in their personal lives. Upon completion there will be an off-campus trip!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

ROSALINA AYALA
RABBI YAAKOV FISCH
JONATHAN GOODMAN
SIMCHA KAHN
NAUM LIPOVROVSKI
CHARLES OHAYON
EFRAT R. OHAYON
CHAVA SCHEINER
AIDEN SMOLENSKY
GALINA VOLOSHIN
Yael ZAGURI

REFUAH SHELEMAH

LISA ANSBACHER
FERN ESTNER
MYRON FLAGLER
SUSAN GOLDMAN
MURRAY HUSNEY
HOPE KULISH
MARTIN SCHWARTZ
JAIS OHAYON
FOMA MAKHTINA

Yahrzeit

JACK S. ABADEE
LILLIAN ANSBACHER
BARNES SOLLOWAY
BAYLA BOGOMOLNY
PHILIP COPLAN
SAMUEL GAMCE
KYM SPILL HARRIS
LEON HONIG
JACK HUSNEY
ALBERT MICHELSON
DR. DAVID MIZRAHI
ELLIOT STARR
CHANA TALPALAR
MAX TALPALAR

COVID GUIDELINES

- ◆ If a person has symptoms and a positive test, they must quarantine for ten days from the onset of symptoms.
- ◆ If a person has a positive test without symptoms, they must quarantine for ten days starting when the positive test result is received.
- ◆ There is no need for a second test, but the person must be clear of all symptoms 24 hours after the ten day quarantine period since a person may be infectious for ten days.
- ◆ If a person develops symptoms, the day AFTER the first symptom is day 1. For example, if symptoms developed on Sunday, the first day that is counted towards quarantine is Monday.
- ◆ If a person is exposed (within 6 feet of a Covid positive person for more than 15 minutes, with or without a mask), there is a 10 day isolation period. No test is needed after the ten day period. If a person is exposed and obtains a negative test on day 5 or 6, they only have to quarantine for a total of 7 days.
- ◆ If the Covid positive person does not self isolate from their family, the family must quarantine for the 10 days with the Covid positive person and then an ADDITIONAL 10 days (or 7 additional days if the family obtains negative tests on day 5 or 6 of the additional 10 day period).
- ◆ There is no need for a second test, but the person must be clear of all symptoms for 24 hours “prior to returning to shul” after the 10 day quarantine period – a person is infectious for 10 days
- ◆ Our policy of mandatory mask-wearing remains in place for the ENTIRE time you are in the building.
- ◆ Please do maintain proper social distancing at all times.
- ◆ We have several bottles of hand sanitizers available, and we encourage you to avail yourself of this.
 - ◆ All children must be 9 and over to attend davening unless they will be attending youth group
- ◆ Once you have symptoms or test positive, please contact the Covid Liason, Rachel Shyken at 410.419.0613. Rachel will need to authorize each person in the household’s return to shul.



**Mazel Tov to David and Rise Pearl
upon the birth of a new grandson born
to Isaac and Ayala Pearl**