



# THE ETZ CHAIM BULLETIN

## MESSAGE FROM THE RABBI

### PARSHAS NITZAVIM

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Early Mincha 6:15PM  
Earliest time to light 6:28PM  
Candle Lighting 7:29PM

#### SHABBOS, SEPTEMBER 4

Sephardic Minyan 9:00AM  
Shacharis 9:00AM  
Latest Shema 10:15AM

Kiddush will be served in the Social Hall.

Pirkei Avos class with Rabbi Fisch at 6:35pm.

NCSY Boys Chaburah with Joey Hamaoui at 6:30pm in the Mirkis Chapel.

Mincha 7:20PM  
Seuda Shlishis will be served in the Social Hall.

Maariv & Havdallah 8:29PM

#### Minyan This Week:

**SHACHARIS**  
Sunday 8:10AM  
Monday-Friday: Please see Tishrei Schedule.

**MINCHA**  
Sunday 7:25PM  
Monday-Thursday: Please see Tishrei Schedule

**DAF YOMI**  
Shabbos 8:15AM  
Sunday 7:30AM

#### TORAH READING

Parshas Nitzavim  
Haftarah Nitzavim

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The final Shabbos of the Jewish Calendar boasts one feature that does not change from year to year. We always read the Parsha of Nitzavim. What is it about this Parsha of a mere forty verses that make it required reading for the final Shabbos of every year? There are various fundamental themes in Judaism that include Free Will and Teshuva that are recorded in Nitzavim. I will highlight one central theme of the Parsha, which is necessary to internalize before bringing in the New Year. These words feature an unusual characteristic marking above the written words in the Torah. It has several dots above these words. Indeed, if you look into a Sefer Torah, you will see these dots above **לְבָנֵינוּ וְלְבָנֵינוּ עַד-עוֹלָם**. This is translated as the “revealed are to our children and us forever.” This is a continuation of the beginning of the verse “the hidden belongs to Hashem our G-d.” The deeper meaning here is that the private action of Man is under the purview of the Al-Mighty, for better or worse. However, what Man does in public is the responsibility of the Jewish Nation.

The Rabbis have interpreted this to mean that we are responsible for one another. In Hebrew, this dictum **סְכִיל יִשְׂרָאֵל עֲרָבִים זֶה לֶה**. The literal translation is that we are the guarantors of one another. The role of a guarantor carries great responsibility. It reflects a legal commitment for the borrower who

committed a liability. The Chofetz Chaim writes that if a guarantor sees the borrower act in a financially irresponsible manner, he will be worried as ultimately he assumes responsibility.

Similarly, the Chofetz Chaim wrote that if we see the majority of Jews estranged from Torah Judaism, then we bear the responsibility for that. It is unfortunate for us to shrug our shoulders when hearing about the deteriorating numbers of Jews engaged in Judaism. It’s incumbent for every one of us to be the best ambassadors that we can be for G-d and Torah Judaism. The notion of being responsible and a guarantor has brought out the best in Jews over the years. We most recently witnessed it with the collapse of the Surfside towers. Immediately after the tragedy, a group of Israeli soldiers boarded a plane to travel to the other side of the world to assist in a most daunting challenge. That is being a guarantor to the highest degree. As we read the final Parsha of the year, it is a timely reminder that ultimately we are all in this together.

Have a Peaceful Shabbos,  
Rabbi Yaakov Fisch

## Elul Daily Insights with Rabbi Fisch

The month of Elul begins a 40 day journey of spiritual purification which will culminate on the fortieth which is Yom Kippur. The Torah teaches that after the sin of the Golden Calf, Moshe went up to Mount Sinai to pray on behalf of the Jewish People. On the fortieth day, G-d declared וַיֹּאמֶר אֶל-מֹשֶׁה כִּי-תִשְׁלַח or I have forgiven. For thousands of years, tradition has taught us that Elul is a time for reflection, introspection and connection not only to G-d but reconnecting to one's inner self. Rabbi Fisch is sharing daily insights over the course of Elul. Listen to them on [www.RabbiFisch.podbean.com](http://www.RabbiFisch.podbean.com)



### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

NCSY JAX is excited to announce we have been selected to receive a \$2,000 grant from the Jewish Federation and Foundation of NE Florida for our new JSU Family Experience program. This funding will help us to expand the reach of our Jewish Student Union programming and impact the lives of our teens as well as their families. We are humbled to be a recipient this year and grateful to our partners at the Jewish Federation for their support.

### Lulav & Esrog Set for Sale

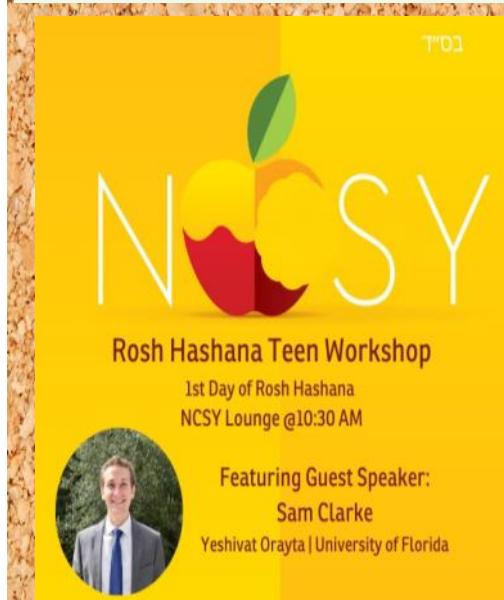
Its time to do wave!

To order your Lulav & Esrog and Hoshana bundles visit [EtzChaim.org](http://EtzChaim.org) and click on the Lulav & Esrog Order tab. The Deadline for ordering your Lulav & Esrog is Thursday, September 9 at 4:00pm Lulav and Esrog will be available for pickup on Monday, September 20 after 12:00pm



### Kibbutzim on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur

The Aliyahs for the Yamim Noraim of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are reserved for our Bei Tefila and for those making a finaa'lnclial contribution to the shul. If you would like to receive an Aliya please contact Steven Shapiro or Rabbi Fisch.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

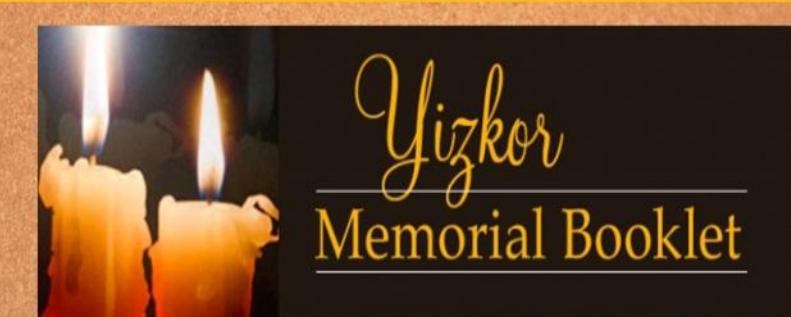
DR. CRAIG SANDLER  
CAROLE SOLOMON

## REFUAH SHELEMAH

BERTICA HUBSCH  
FERN ESTNER  
SUSAN GOLDMAN  
MURRAY HUSNEY  
HOPE KULISH  
MARTIN SCHWARTZ  
FOMA MAKHTINA  
LINDA ROSENTHAL  
BONNIE HARDY  
JANET HUSNEY  
ELIYAHU ROSENTHAL  
SUSAN GENDZIER  
ED FELDMAN

## YAHRZEIT

NANCY ALTMAN  
LEAH COOPER  
FAY METZ  
ABRAHAM SELEVAN  
BERNARD SELEVAN



We are preparing our Annual Yizkor Memorial Booklet  
for our departed loved ones.

If you would like to participate with a new dedication or would like to change your existing dedication, please email [ECoffice@EtzChaim.org](mailto:ECoffice@EtzChaim.org) or call (904) 262-3565. If you do not notify us we will assume you have no changes and your dedication will go to print "as is".

**Deadline for new dedications and modifications to existing dedications is  
September 5, 2021.**

Thank you so much for your support!

With profound sorrow, we regret to inform you of the passing of Charles Ohayon.

We extend our deepest condolences to his entire family.

May the Almighty comfort the family among all the other mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

## JSU Learn & Earn



**Foundations of Judaism  
with Joey Hamaoui**

## YOU'RE INVITED

Ahuva Goldenthal would like to invite you  
to a special gathering in memory of her husband  
Abe Goldenthal's Yahrzeit.  
Sunday September 12 at 5:00pm  
At her home, located at:  
3724 Crown Point Rd  
Jacksonville, FL 32257