

CONGREGATION AHAVATH ACHIM WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



December 2-9, 2016 / 2-9 Kislev 5777

Parsha Toldos

Schedule of Services:

Friday, December 2, 2016

Shacharit	6:45 AM
Mincha/Ma'ariv	4:05 PM
Candle Lighting	4:06 PM

Shabbat, December 3, 2016

Shabbat Shacharit	9:15 AM
Latest Shema Time	9:22 AM
Mincha	12:15 PM
Shabbat Ends	5:06 PM
Ma'ariv	5:21 PM

Sun-Thur, Dec 4-8, 2016

Mincha 2:10pm at the Kollel

	Shacharit	Ma'ariv	
Sun	8:30 AM	7:40 PM	A
Mon	6:30 AM	7:40 PM	K
Tue	6:45 AM	7:40 PM	K
Wed	6:45 AM	7:40 PM	B
Thur	6:30 AM	7:40 PM	A

A - Ahavath Achim
B - Bikur Cholim on
Park & Capitol Ave., Bpt
K - Kollel on Arlington St., Bpt

Friday, December 9, 2016

Shacharit	6:45 AM
Mincha/Ma'ariv	4:05 PM
Candle Lighting	4:06 PM

Torah Reading

Bereishit	25:19-28:9	124-143
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Haftorah

Malachi	1:1-2:7	1137-1138
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Earliest Friday Evening Services

We begin the period of the earliest Shabbat. For the next 4 weeks, starting with the Friday, Mincha will begin at 4:05 pm. As always, this is the most challenging period for the Minyan. Please come and help ensure we start each Shabbat off on the right path with a Minyan. Come early, come often, and **Help Keep Our Minyan Strong!**

Early Shabbat Mincha

Immediately after Kiddush, we will have a short Rabbi's Class (at approximately **11:45 am**), The topic of the pre mincha shiur will be "Civil Law Continued - Does Halacha Recognize Bankruptcy or Civil Wills?" followed by Mincha (at **12:15 pm**). We will return about 15 minutes after Shabbat ends (at **5:06 pm**) for Ma'ariv (at **5:21 pm**). Please remember to recite "**Baruch hamavdil bein kodesh l'chol**" to end Shabbat before driving or doing other work that is prohibited on Shabbat.

Time Change for Shacharit on Shabbat Mornings

Please note this important time change for Shacharit on Shabbat mornings. Beginning December 3rd, Shacharit will begin at 9:15 am on Shabbat mornings. **With this time change it is critical that we have a minyan at 9:15 am so that davening can commence on time and proceed properly.** We ask everyone's consideration for your fellow shul members, friends and family, and be in shul no later than 9:15 am. Thank you everyone.

Torah Message from Rabbi Moldovan

Esav, the wicked son of Yitzchak, was nevertheless renowned for his respect for his parents. Esav wore his finest clothes when attending his father in order to show a heightened level of respect. The Midrash says that Esav gave his father more than one hundred times the respect the great Rav Shimon ben Gamliel of the Talmud gave his own father. He was on call to do whatever his father desired. Yaakov impersonates Esav in order to receive the blessing of the firstborn. He has the food that Esav was commanded to bring and he is even wearing Esav's clothing so that his father will think he is Esav upon feeling Yaakov. But one thing is missing - Yitzchak comments that "The voice is Yaakov's voice". Rashi explains that Yaakov spoke gently and would say "Please rise, father". But Esav would speak with

arrogance and say "Get up, father". Given Esav's extreme respect for his father, how are we to understand such a harsh and disrespectful manner of speech towards his father? The commentaries explain that if one becomes accustomed to coarse language, it may become so much a part of him that he cannot speak politely, even if he tries. Esav could change his clothes out of respect for his father, but having picked up the coarse language of his peers, he was unable to control the way he talked. In our everyday lives we often associate with people whose speech is less than delicate. Expletives and vulgar terms pepper their vocabulary. We should be conscious of this issue and make a concerted effort not to pick up the speech of the environment that we live in lest we lose control of our language altogether.

Eruv Update

The Fairfield Eruv is currently down. The Rabbi is working on fixing it. The congregation will be informed of any progress.

Insertion for Rain in Shemona Esrei

The seasonal insertion for rain in the 9th blessing of the Shemona Esrei begins at Ma'ariv this Sunday evening. "*Vsein tal umatar livracha*" replaces "*Vsein bracha*" in the blessing. We will continue in this fashion until Pesach 2017.

Congregation Ahavath Achim on Social Media: Don't forget to check the Ahavath Achim website for current updates. You can also read and post to the shul's Facebook page or Twitter

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Shabbat Kiddush Sponsors

Kiddush on this Shabbat is being sponsored by Goldie Librach, for the yahrtzeits of her father Jacob Apfelbaum, (Moshe Yakov Ben Mordechai, z"l) and the yahrtzeit of her husband, Louis Weiskopf, (Laibel Ben Mordechai Halevi z"l) and by Martin & Elaine Schiller, for the yahrtzeit of Elaine's mother, Bessie Kahme, (Peshkah bat Shmuel Mayer, z"l.)

Important Shul Property Committee Update

Anyone wishing to have any shul item(s) that we will not be taking and using after we move to our new location must contact Sara Klein, Committee Chairperson or Barbara Tuckel, President to let them know what you are interested in having. Further, until our sale is absolutely finalized we are keeping all items together. Thank you everyone for your help and cooperation.

Ahavath Achim Winter Lecture Series

A new 3-part series will begin on Motzei Shabbat, December 17th. The topic of the series will be "Why do bad things happen to good people?" We will investigate different approaches to this age-old question from classical sources. Everyone is invited to join in this discussion.

Women's Rosh Chodesh Event - Sunday, Dec. 4, 10:15 AM

Chanukah falls unusually late this year, the very last week of December, between December 25 and January 1. But we will have a discussion on Chanukah early, by discussing "Yehudit - The Chanukah Heroine" with Rabbi Moldovan at the Women's Rosh Chodesh Program on Sunday morning, December 4 at 10:15 am. We will be gathering at Elaine Schiller's home at 1426 Melville Avenue (just opposite Stratfield Elementary school) in Dogwood Green. We welcome you to come and bring your female friends and family for an interesting discussion and a fun, social event.

Community Events

Saturday, Dec.3, at 8:00 PM Sam Glaser's "Rock Your Life Tour"

At Cong. Rodeph Shalom. See posters in the front hall foyer for complete information.

Sunday, Dec. 4, 1 PM, PJ Family Concert

at Jewish Senior Services Campus, Park Ave., Bridgeport. "Rock the Afternoon" with Sam Glaser. Free and open to the community. Reserve your space at skamisar@jewishphilanthropyct.org with number of attending

Wednesday, December 21, 10:00 am - Book Event:

The UnAmericans by Molly Antopol and presented by Bob Abrams at the Stamford JCC, 1035 Newfield Avenue, Stamford. FREE and open to the public. Sponsored by the Jewish Historical Society of Fairfield County

Refuah Shelemah to: *Kenneth Epstein, Rabbi Moshe Epstein, David Gordon, Yitzy Hain, Deborah Lozanov, Fred Schwartz, and Diane Shinbaum.* May G-d grant each a speedy and complete recovery.

Yahrtzeits for the week:

Friday, December 1 – **Bessie Kahme** (Mother to Elaine Schiller)

Friday, December 1 **Beatrice Lozanov** (Mother to Steven Lozanov)

Saturday, December 3 – **Harry Kaplan** (Father to Barbara Tuckel)

Sunday, December 4 – **Jacob Apfelbaum** (Father to Goldie Librach)

Tuesday, December 6 – **David Zimmer** (Father to Pamela Zimmer)

Wednesday, December 7 – **Eva Tuckel** (Mother to Peter Tuckel)

Thursday, December 8 – **Barbara Seedman** (Mother to Tammy Loeser)

Yahrtzeits begin at Ma'ariv the evening before. Please make an extra effort to ensure a minyan for those saying Kaddish. **Be there for others, and they'll be there for you.** If you would like an Aliyah on the Shabbat before the Yahrtzeit, please make sure you are in Shul before Torah Reading. If you arrive late, we cannot guarantee you an honor

Please remember that Golden Book greeting cards are a great way to honor someone or remember a loved one.