

CONGREGATION AHAVATH ACHIM WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



Chazak

Parshat Vayechi

January 13-20, 2017 / 15-22 Tevet 5777

Schedule of Services:		
Friday, January 13, 2017		
Shacharit		6:45 AM
Mincha/Ma'ariv		4:25 PM
Candle Lighting		4:29 PM
Shabbat, January 14, 2017		
Shabbat Shacharit		9:15 AM
Latest Shema Time		9:39 AM
Mincha		12:25 PM
Shabbat Ends		5:30 PM
Ma'ariv		5:45 PM
Sun-Thur, January 15-19, 2017		
Mincha 2:10pm at Kollel		
Shacharit	Ma'ariv	
Fast of Tevet		
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, January 20, 2017		
Shacharit		6:45 AM
Mincha/Ma'ariv		4:35 PM
Candle Lighting		4:37 PM
Torah Reading		
Bereishit	47:28-50:26	268-289
Haftarah		
I Kings	2:1-12	1145-1146

Bundle Up for the Cold Outside – Open up for the Warm Inside: It has gotten very cold outside. So Bundle up good and stay healthy. If you want a place that can warm you outside and inside, try out Daily Minyan. Not only is the heat working, your spirit will be lifted being part of a minyan, and you can even get a hot cup of coffee after! What more incentive do you need? Show up. Sign up (there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board). Come early, come often, and **Help Keep Our Minyan Strong!**

Minyan Updates

Even with the snow and freezing cold weather this past Shabbat, we are so glad to report that our Shabbat minyan was again complete and on time. We also need to keep working on the Friday night and weekday mornings. Please remember that we will be glad to provide a ride if you need some help getting to the minyan on time. Our warmest **THANK YOU** to all the men who have taken on this responsibility to ensure we have a reliable minyan for our community.

Early Shabbat Mincha: Immediately after Kiddush, we will have a short class by Rabbi Moldovan (at approximately 11:45 am), The topic for this week's class is "Ashes to Ashes, Dust to Dust - Cremation in Halachah?" followed by Mincha (at 12:25 pm). We will return about 15 minutes after Shabbat ends (at 5:30 pm) for Ma'ariv (at 5:45 pm). Please remember to recite "**Baruch hamavdil bein kodesh l'chol**" in order to end Shabbat before driving or doing other work that is prohibited on Shabbat.

Torah Message for Parshat Vayechi

Yaakov, on his deathbed, gathers his 12 sons together to bless them and their descendants. Each brother is given a different blessing, specifically handpicked by Yaakov for that particular son. But upon closer inspection, these "blessings" seem to be bereft of any prayer for the future as we would expect to find in a blessing. Rather, Yaakov seems to be describing the traits of each brother - Reuven is impetuous, Shimon and Levi are violent, Yehudah is a leader, Gad is a warrior and so on. What is Yaakov's intention by simply describing the brother's in place of a traditional blessing? The commentaries explain that Yaakov knew his children. He

instructed each child to fulfill his individual potential by utilizing their own unique skills and talents. The greatest blessing of all is for one to fulfill their potential in life. Many of us have aspirations for our lives based on a perception of who we should be according to our family, peers, media, and society. Our greatest success in life comes when we define what our goal in life is and maximize our potential in the service of Hashem.

Tu B'Shevat Shabbat Lunch – Shabbat, February 11

We will be celebrating this Tu B'Shevat with a catered Shabbat lunch in Zimmer Hall. Come celebrate the birthday of the trees with our community. Keep Saturday February 11th free for the event. Stay tuned for more information and RSVP details. Please call the Rabbi to volunteer and help plan this event.

February Women's Rosh Chodesh Get-Together

Mark your calendar for Sunday morning, February 26, when we will have the third in our new Rosh Chodesh Women's Learning Program. Location and topic to be announced shortly. Torah and Treats – A Winning Combination. Please call Sharon Risch to volunteer to host this event.

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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Find us on: Facebook, Twitter, & LinkedIn		

RIDE NEEDED TO THE JEWISH SENIOR SERVICES REHAB CENTER (on Park Avenue) We have just learned that Andrew Deutsch is recuperating (from a recent hospital stay), at the Jewish Senior Service rehab center. Betty does not drive and would appreciate if someone could take her to visit Andrew. Please call her directly at 203-374-7352 if you can help to arrange a ride. Andrew would also welcome visits from his friends. Please check with Betty as to convenient times. Thank you.

Winter Lecture Series Postponed by the Weather

We are very sorry to report that the Shabbat snow storm forced another postponement of the Rabbi's new Winter Lecture Series. He has decided to wait for more agreeable weather to begin the lecture series. Watch the shul news for the new date and time.

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

Yahrtzeits for the week:

Friday, January 13 - **Miklos Hartstein** (Husband to Clara Hartstein)
 Saturday, January 14 - **Ethyle Krentzman** (Mother to Myrna Kosowsky)
 Sunday, January 15 - **Lorraine Kaufman** (Mother to Debra Lozanov)

Tuesday, January 17- **Martin Anfllick** (Husband to Betty Anfllick)
 Wednesday, January 18 -**Samuel Fischer** (Husband to Julia Fischer)
 Wednesday, January 18- **Frieda Egri** (Sister to Betty Deutsch)
 Friday, January 20 - **Allen Handler** (Father to Arnell Wilson)

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.
