

# The Shul

at the Lubavitch Center  
6701 Old Pimlico Road  
Baltimore, MD 21209

[www.chabadshul.org](http://www.chabadshul.org)



March 18, 2023

VaYekhel–Pekudei — Parshat HaChodesh — Shabbat M'vorchim

25 Adar, 5783

## Happy Birthday!

Happy birthday! With more than 200,000 people born around the world each day, it's likely that at least a few of our readers are celebrating their birthdays today.

Conventionally, birthdays are for parties! When we're very young (and very old) we mark the day we were born with a celebration. Cake, ice cream, gifts, games, we gather family and friends to celebrate our birthdays.

Ostensibly, birthdays are quite secular affairs. Every person has one once a year. In fact, in the Torah, the only birthday singled out for any mention is that of Pharaoh! Yet, the Talmud teaches that one's birthday is the day on which one's "fortune rises."

Is there a special "Jewish" way to celebrate a birthday? And is there such a thing as a Jewish birthday? And once we find out when our Jewish birthday is, how do we go about celebrating it?

A birthday is a time for reflection, a time to review the year gone by and to think about those aspects of our lives that need improvement and correcting.

We can use the day to study a Jewish thought and share it with others, take (extra) time to pray, as well as making sure to give charity and do some other special mitzvot (commandments).

The birthday party is transformed into a joyous gathering of family and friends and the power of the birthday will guarantee that the good resolutions made in such a setting will be fulfilled in the future.

Ancient Jewish sources teach the value of celebrating a birthday. For example there is a Midrash that relates: Most people cherish the day on which they were born and make a party on that day.

In 1988 (5748), shortly after the passing of his wife, Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka, the Lubavitcher Rebbe chose the anniversary of her birth – 25<sup>th</sup> of Adar – as a time to launch a new campaign to reinvigorate the custom of celebrating Jewish birthdays.

The Rebbe asked that even the youngest children should be taught the spiritual importance of a birthday and that they should be encouraged to celebrate their birthdays with their friends in a way that they will increase Jewish observance and good resolutions.

For each of us, our birthday is a day to rejoice in the knowledge that on this day our soul descended to this world for a special, unique purpose that is only ours to fulfill.

On the anniversary of our birth, we embark on a new year, a new stage in our development, and a new chapter in the fulfillment of our life's mission.

There is no other you in the world and there is no other person who can accomplish the purpose for which you specifically were born.

Take advantage of this occasion. Be introspective, explore the state of your spiritual life, set your Jewish house even more in order. Start fulfilling some of the good resolutions on the spot and use your birthday as a time to increase goodness and holiness in the world!

*(from <http://www.lchaimweekly.org/>)*

Sale of Chometz forms are available online at [www.chabadshul.org](http://www.chabadshul.org).

**Deadline** for giving these filled-in forms to Rabbi Kaplan **is Monday, April 3, 2023.**



שנת הקהל

## Hakhel Monthly Gatherings For Women

THE SOUL TALKS TORAH  
 SING THE SONG OF YOUR SOUL  
 SOUL STRINGS THROUGH A STORYLINE

Awaken the soul

HOSTED BY REBBETZEN ROCHEL KAPLAN

ALL JEWISH WOMEN ARE INVITED  
 SPONSORSHIPS WELCOMED  
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 CHABAD IN PIKESVILLE MD ▪ 443-220-9124  
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TUESDAY 2023  
 JAN 24 ▪ FEB 21 ▪ MARCH 21  
 APRIL 18 ▪ MAY 23 ▪ JUNE 20  
 8:00 PM  
 LIGHT FARE ▪ NO CHARGE

## Yahrzeits This Week:

Mitch Mayer

2 Nisan - Thursday night / Friday

for father

Israel ben Meir

## SHUL DIRECTORY

**Rabbi:** Shmuel Kaplan . . . rabbikaplan@chabadmd.com**Treasurer:** Michael Frank . . . shul.chabad@gmail.com**Kiddush:** Reuven Frank . . . . . rfrank82@gmail.com**Website:** Shoshana Zakar . . . . . sue.zakar@gmail.com**Gabbaim:**

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## DAVENING AND SHIURIM SCHEDULE

**Friday, 3/17 — 24 Adar**

Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.

Shabbat Candles — 6:57 p.m.

Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:00 p.m.

**Shabbat, 3/18 — 25 Adar**

Shacharit — 9:00 a.m.

Sof Z'man Kriat Shema — 10:12 a.m.

Minchah — 6:45 p.m.

Shiur — after Minchah

Ma'ariv — 7:57 p.m.

**Sunday, 3/19 — 26 Adar**

Shacharit — 8:00 a.m.

Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:05 p.m.

**Monday, 3/20 — 27 Adar**

Shacharit — 6:50 a.m.

Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:05 p.m.

**Tuesday, 3/21 — 28 Adar**

Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.

Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:05 p.m.

**Wednesday, 3/22 — 29 Adar**

Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.

Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:05 p.m.

**Thursday — Rosh Chodesh Nissan, 3/23 — 1 Nissan**

Shacharit — 6:40 a.m.

Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:05 p.m.

**Friday, 3/24 — 2 Nissan**

Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.

Shabbat Candles — 7:04 p.m.

Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:00 p.m.