

# The Shul

at the Lubavitch Center

6701 Old Pimlico Road

Baltimore, MD 21209

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



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January 18, 2025

Shemot

18 Tevet, 5785

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## Hypertext

Anyone who's spent time surfing the web knows about hypertext. Hypertext is text that contains links to other texts, graphics, video and sound.

It refers to the unique way websites present information: they go beyond a textual or linear approach. They do so by internally linking pages. For example, a site about Shabbat may have a picture of a woman lighting candles and a description of the mitzva (commandment). In the paragraph, the word "blessing" is in a different color. Click on the word and you're linked to another page, say one that has the blessing in Hebrew and transliterated with a recording of someone reciting the blessings. When you're finished listening, you click another link to go back to the beginning or go to another page.

Through links, websites also connect to each other. You can go from one site to another ad infinitum, if you like. This is known as "surfing the web." You can end up very far from where you started. What makes the web so versatile, so useful, so fascinating and so informative are the links - the intra and inter-connectedness. No longer does one thing lead to another, but everything leads to everything else.

Of course, that's also why the web can be a very dangerous place. The links don't always go where we expect them to - or where we want to be taken. Even innocent detours can prove detrimental. We can get sidetracked into irrelevancies. Five hours later, we still haven't read that article from L'Chaim. We wasted it playing games or going hither and yon (virtually speaking) looking and listening to trivia (or worse!).

Hypertext provides a metaphor for the concept "All Israel is responsible one for another." In the world of the world wide web, everything links to everything else in some way. Eventually, each web site connects to and interacts with every other website. So, too, every Jew connects to, interacts with and affects every other Jew. Positively or (G-d forbid) the opposite.

That's because every Jew has a Divine soul, an "actual part of G-d above," as it says in Tanya. (Tanya, chapter 2.) There's a unity between the souls. Recognizing this also leads (links us to) an easy way to fulfill the mitzva, "Love your fellow as yourself." Since, spiritually speaking, we are "all of a kind and all have one Father - therefore all Israelites are called real brethren by virtue of the source of the their souls in the One G-d."

We have to be careful not to damage another "website" by imbedding broken, bad or misleading links in our own. For, to continue the analogy, our actions link us. When we violate a mitzva, do something we shouldn't or don't do something we should, we not only break an internal link, we disconnect other Jews. For, if we're linked together, who know whose soul goes through our actions?

But when we do a mitzva we not only strengthen our spiritual connections, intra with G-d, we also create links and connections, inter with other Jews. So affixing a mezuzah, putting on tefillin, giving charity, learning Torah - all this (and more) creates links and gives strength to Jews far away in physical space, but very close in spiritual space.

*(by Dovid Y.B. Kaufmann a'h from <http://www.lchaimweekly.org/>)*

## This week in Jewish History

The founder of Chabad Chassidism, Rabbi Schneur Zalman of Liadi (1745-1812), passed away on the eve of the 24th of Tevet, 5573, at approximately 10:30 pm, shortly after reciting the Havdalah prayer marking the end of the Shabbat. The Rebbe was in the village of Peyena, fleeing Napoleon's armies, which had swept through the Rebbe's hometown of Liadi three months earlier in their advance towards Moscow. He was in his 68th year at the time of his passing, and was succeeded by his son, Rabbi DovBer of Lubavitch.

*(from [www.chabad.org](http://www.chabad.org/))*

**Community Information of Interest**

**January through July 2025: A Work of Heart: Between Women and G-d. Seven monthly courses given in Memory of Rebbetzin Rochel Kaplan**

[Please click to RSVP.](#)

We look forward to welcoming you and sharing this meaningful experience together.

Please note: Doors open at 7:45 PM, and the class begins at 8:00 PM. Light refreshments will be served. This series is free of charge.

To sponsor a class, please contact Chana Kaplan at (443) 454-9589 or Devorah Ungar at (516) 567-5810.



The Shul has two Sifrei Torah that are undergoing restoration.  
Also, The Shul's HVAC system is over 25 years old, has failed twice last summer.

**The cost of these two projects is approximately \$46,000.**

Please donate to these projects as best as you can. You may send a check to the Shul, or give your donation directly to the Rav or to Michael Frank – Shul Treasurer.

**Kol Hanaarim** – every Friday evening during the winter at **7:15 p.m. in The Shul**. Cholent and other refreshments are served. Each session is 'topped off' at the end with a fascinating story. For any questions, please see Rabbi Itzkowitz.



**'The Rav's Friday Night Hashkafa Q&A Shiur for Men'**

will take place **Friday night – January 24<sup>th</sup>**  
at 8:00 p.m. and will be held at  
the home of **Mr. Josh and Mrs. Rikki Volosov**,  
at 6607 Shelrick Place.

Questions can be submitted in advance to [rabbikaplan@chabadmd.com](mailto:rabbikaplan@chabadmd.com).

**SHUL DIRECTORY**

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**DAVENING AND SHIURIM SCHEDULE**

**Friday, 1/17 – 17 Tevet**  
Shacharit – 7:00 a.m.  
Shabbat Candles – 4:52 p.m.  
Minchah / Ma'ariv – 4:50 p.m.

**Shabbat, 1/18 – 18 Tevet**  
Shacharit – 9:00 a.m.  
Sof Z'man Kriat Shema – 9:48 a.m.  
Minchah – 4:40 p.m.  
Shiur – after Minchah  
Shkiah – 5:11 p.m.  
Ma'ariv – 5:54 p.m.

**Sunday, 1/19 – 19 Tevet**  
Shacharit – 8:00 a.m.  
Minchah / Maariv – 5:00 p.m.

**Monday, 1/20 – 20 Tevet**  
Shacharit – 6:50 a.m.  
Minchah / Ma'ariv – 5:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, 1/21 – 21 Tevet**  
Shacharit – 7:00 a.m..  
Minchah / Ma'ariv – 5:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, 1/22 – 22 Tevet**  
Shacharit – 7:00 a.m.  
Minchah / Ma'ariv – 5:00 p.m.  
Tanya Shiur: 2<sup>nd</sup> part of Tanya Shaar HaYichud  
V'Emunah which deals w/the nature of creation and  
the unity of Hashem – 8:00 p.m.

**Thursday, 1/23 – 23 Tevet**  
Shacharit – 6:50 a.m.  
Minchah / Ma'ariv – 5:00 p.m.

**Friday, 1/24 – 24 Tevet**  
Shacharit – 7:00 a.m.  
Shabbat Candles – 5:00 p.m.  
Minchah / Ma'ariv – 5:00 p.m.