

The Shul

at the Lubavitch Center

6701 Old Pimlico Road

Baltimore, MD 21209

www.chabadshul.org



November 30, 2024

Toldot — Shabbat M'vorchim

29 Cheshvan, 5785

Travel

The next few weeks are busy travel times. Whether the travel is for visiting family or taking a vacation, for business or going to or from university.

With travel comes inconvenience. Packing, tickets, transportation to and from the transportation, hotel or other accommodations, schedules, maps, food, itineraries and someone or something getting lost.

Then there's security. Or insecurity. Passports, picture id's, screeners, (mis)handlers - as if traveling wasn't risky enough. Somehow it seems more dangerous to be on the road - or in the air - than scooting around town.

Whether we like to travel or find it a nuisance, we try to take proper precautions and we hope that whoever's driving (or flying) is driving safe. Travel's not by horse and wagon (though sometimes it may feel that way), but there's still plenty to worry about.

With all the precautions taken on a physical level, though, we often don't concern ourselves with precautions on a spiritual level - other than perhaps a heartfelt yet fearful prayer on takeoff and a heartfelt and relief prayer of thanks on landing.

One reason for this neglect is that we think we're traveling for our purposes - whether business or pleasure. If a person is traveling pursuing his or her own affairs, then, in a sense, what does G-d care? But if we're not just traveling for ourselves, we're traveling (at least also traveling) to fulfill one of G-d's commandments, then our going and coming just might (no guarantees) merit extra spiritual protection.

One of the universal commandments - a Divine decree applicable to all humanity - is charity - tzedeka in Hebrew. Thus there is a Jewish custom - but it's a custom that everyone can adapt - of designating a dollar or some coins as "charity travel money." This money - it doesn't have to be a lot - is given to a charity once the destination is reached.

So even if you're going on vacation for yourself, you're also going to deliver charity, which G-d wants and needs you to do, to your destination city. G-d goes with you, so to speak.

It's even better if a third party participates, so that you're actually a messenger. So if a friend or family member is going on a vacation or a business trip, why not give them a dime or a dollar, and ask them to deliver to some charity upon their arrival?

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

A Person Can Get Used to Anything – An Advantage and a Disadvantage

The pasuk says "When Esav was forty years old, he took as a wife Yehudis daughter of Beerli the Hittite, and Basemath daughter of Elon the Hittite; and they were a provocation of the spirit to Yitzchak and Rivka." (Bereshis 26:34-35). The Medrash notes the fact that the Torah points out that the daughters-in-law behavior was painful to Yitzchak and to Rivka (l'Yitzchak u'l'Rivka) rather than merely stating that their behavior was painful to Yitzchak and Rivka (l'Yitzchak v'Rivka) – without the second "to". The Medrash states that the nature of the Yitzchak's pain differed from that of Rivka's pain. Rivka, having grown up in the house of idolaters, was better able to handle pagan daughters-in-law than was her husband, who grew up in the house of Avraham and Sora.

Rivka was a tzadikes and of course avodah zarah bothered her, but having experienced it at home, she did not have the same visceral reaction to it as did Yitzchak. Dr. Abraham Twerski, zt"l, makes the point that a person who is exposed to negative phenomenon on a daily basis can lose their sensitivity to it. I once saw a statistic that the average child growing up in America has seen 300 murders (on television, movies, etc.). This was in the days BEFORE video games, in which killing people happens ALL THE TIME. Do you think that murder means the same thing that it meant 100 years ago? If you see something day in and day out, you can get used to it. You can get used to anything.

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The truth of the matter is that this is the only way people were able to survive in the concentration camps. It was because "they got used to it." You can get used to anything. That can be a tremendous advantage but it can be a horrible disadvantage as well – if someone loses his sensitivity to evil.

(by Rabbi Yissocher Frand from Project Genesis at www.torah.org)



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, and is on its last half-of-leg.

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.

We happily wish Mazel Tov to
Mr. Zacharie and Mrs. Sarah Mimoun
 on the **Birth and Brit Milah of their Son**
Yosef Shmuel.
 Mazel Tov to the entire Mimoun Family.



Community Information of Interest

November 30: A New Century, but No Peace: The State of Israel & The Jewish People 2000–2004. Lecture by Rabbi Dovid Katz. *Peace-Process in an Unstable Middle East 2000 - 2004.* This lecture will begin at 8:00 p.m. and be held at the Congregation Shomrei Emunah.

Kol Hanaarim– Father and Son Learning – 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.

Mrs. Sally Friedman is sponsoring Kiddush this Shabbat in memory of her husband, **Avigdor Shaul ben Paltiel** whose yahrzeit is on Wednesday, 3 Kislev.



Yahrzeits This Week:

Terry Frank	3 Kislev - Tuesday night/Wednesday	for father	Avigdor Shaul ben Paltiel
Sally Friedman	3 Kislev - Tuesday night/Wednesday	for husband	Avigdor Shaul ben Paltiel

DAVENING AND SHIURIM SCHEDULE

Friday, 11/29 – 28 Cheshvan

Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.
 Candles — 4:26 p.m.
 Minchah / Ma'ariv — 4:25 p.m.

Shabbat, 11/30 – 29 Cheshvan

Shacharit – 9:00 a.m.
 Sof Z'man Kriat Shema — 9:29 a.m.
 Minchah — 4:15 p.m.
 Shiur — after Minchah — **Cancelled this week**
 Shkiah — 4:44 p.m.
 Ma'ariv — 5:27 p.m.

Sunday – Rosh Chodesh Kislev, 12/1 – 30 Cheshvan

Shacharit — 8:00 a.m.
 Minchah / Maariv — 4:30 p.m.

Monday – Rosh Chodesh Kislev, 12/2 – 1 Kislev

Shacharit — 6:40 a.m.
 Minchah / Ma'ariv — 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, 12/3 – 2 Kislev

Shacharit — 7:00 a.m..
 Minchah / Ma'ariv — 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 12/4 – 3 Kislev

Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.
 Minchah / Ma'ariv — 4:30 p.m.
 — **ותן טל ומטר** starts with Ma'ariv
 Tanya Shiur: 2nd part of Tanya Shaar HaYichud V'Emunah which deals w/the nature of creation and the unity of Hashem — 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, 12/5 – 4 Kislev

Shacharit — 6:50 a.m.
 Minchah / Ma'ariv — 4:30 p.m.

Friday, 12/6 – 5 Kislev

Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.
 Candles — 4:25 p.m.
 Minchah / Ma'ariv — 4:25 p.m.