

The Shul

at the Lubavitch Center

6701 Old Pimlico Road
Baltimore, MD 21209

www.chabadshul.org



November 25, 2023

VaYeitzei

12 Kislev, 5784

Rabbi Yanki Tauber is a scholar, rabbi, writer and editor. From 1999 to 2013 he served as chief content editor of Chabad.org. He is currently chief writer and editor of a new translation and anthologized commentary for The Five Books of Moses. Rabbi Tauber received his rabbinical ordination from Yeshivat Tomchei Temimim in 1987. He has taught and lectured at the Maayanot Institute of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem, the Eliezer Society at Yale University, and other academic forums. He is the author of three books and more than 800 essays of biblical commentary and Jewish and Hasidic thought. His writings have been translated into Spanish, German, French and other languages.



Rabbi Tauber will be joining us for this Shabbat. There will be an Oneg Shabbat Friday night beginning at 8:00 p.m. Rabbi Tauber will lead off with a drasha related to the parasha and will then open it up to an "ask the rabbi" format give-and-take with the audience.

On Shabbat, Rabbi Tauber will be giving the drasha before Musaf. After davening, there will be a kiddush where he will present a few short vertlach to say in between niggunim. On Shabbat afternoon between Mincha and Maariv there will be a dialogue between Rabbi Kaplan and Rabbi Tauber.

Several levels of sponsorship are available:

Diamond Level at \$500

Gold level at \$250

Silver Level at \$100

Bronze Level at \$50

You are urged to participate in this Shabbat event by attending and sponsoring.

In the Merit of Yaakov's Walking Stick

There is a very fascinating Daas Zekeinim m'Baalei haTosfos in this week's parsha. Before Yaakov went to sleep, he "put the stones under his head." And when he arose "he took the stone from under his head" and made it into a matzevah, upon which he poured oil to anoint it as a mizbayach. The Daas Zekeinim m'Baalei haTosfos ask a simple question: From where did Yaakov obtain the oil? He was in the middle of nowhere. It is not like he could go to the nearest gas station and get a quart of oil. So where did Yaakov obtain this oil?

They answer that Yaakov had a walking stick with him. He had hollowed out the walking stick and filled it with oil. Why? Yaakov had been studying in the Yeshiva of Shem and Ever for the previous fourteen years. He learned there the entire night. Chazal say on the words "He slept there in that place" (Bereshis 28:11), that it was only there that Yaakov slept at night, but for the previous fourteen years in the Yeshiva of Shem and Ever, he learned the entire night without going to sleep. They did not have electricity in the Yeshiva of Shem v'Ever, so how could Yaakov learn at night? Obviously, he must have learned by candle light, which requires oil. This, says the Daas Zekeinim, is where Yaakov obtained the oil. The ready supply that he kept in the hollow of his trusty walking stick was available whenever he needed it.

The Daas Zekeinim adds that this was the same supply of oil from which Moshe obtained the Shemen haMishcha (oil of anointing) to inaugurate the keilim of the Mishkan. And it was the same supply of oil that Elisha used, and it was this very Shemen that was in the jug of oil that the Chashmonoim found, which lasted for eight days during the story of the Chanukah miracle.

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The sefer Darash Mordechai makes a beautiful observation: In Tefilas Geshem (the prayer for Rain recited on Shmini Atzeres), one of the stanzas is “Zachor ta’an maklo v’avar Yarden mayim”—Remember (Yaakov Avinu) who took his stick with him and crossed the Jordan’s water. At first glance, this seems like a very strange expression. What is so significant about Yaakov’s walking stick? Presumably, all desert travelers need a walking stick. Yaakov was not a youngster anymore so he had a walking stick. What is the big deal? Why do we mention Yaakov’s stick in Tefilas Geshem?

In light of the comments of the Daas Zekeinim, we can appreciate the special nature of this walking stick. This stick, with its hollowed-out chamber for storing olive oil, enabled Yaakov to learn Torah, day and night, for fourteen years in the Yeshiva of Shem v’Ever. So we very appropriately say, “Ribono shel Olam – remember the Torah of Yaakov Avinu that he learned with self-sacrifice and dedication.” That is the “ta’an maklo v’avar Yarden mayim.”

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

We happily wish Mazel Tov to
Avi and Elana Blumenthal
on the **Birth and Bris of their Son, Yehudah Hillel.**

Mazel Tov also to the grandparents:
Dr. Bruce and Mrs. Jill Blumenthal and Mr. Joel Drabkin.



We wish Mazel Tov to **Mr. Yechiel and Mrs. Rochelle Rubin** on
the **engagement of their daughter**
Ilana Dafna

to
Nissim Pinto

of Woodmere, New York.

We wish both of you much mazel, simcha and a long life together.

We wish Mazel Tov to **Rabbi Lawrence and Mrs. Flo Ziffer** on
the **engagement of their granddaughter**
Daphna

to

Moshe Rosenbaum

of Brooklyn, New York.

We wish both of you much mazel, simcha and a long life together.



Kol Hanaarim– Father and Son Learning – every Friday evening during the winter at 7:30 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.

DAVENING AND SHIURIM SCHEDULE

Friday, 11/24 — 11 Kislev

Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.

Candles — 4:28 p.m.

Minchah / Ma’ariv — 4:30 p.m.

Shabbat, 11/25 — 12 Kislev

Shacharit — 9:00 a.m.

Sof Z’man Kriat Shema — 9:25 a.m.

Minchah — 4:15 p.m.

“Dialog” — after Minchah

Ma’ariv — 5:29 p.m.

Sunday, 11/26 — 13 Kislev

Shacharit — 8:00 a.m.

Minchah / Ma’ariv — 4:30 p.m.

Monday, 11/27 — 14 Kislev

Shacharit — 6:50 a.m.

Minchah / Ma’ariv — 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, 11/28 — 15 Kislev

Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.

Minchah / Ma’ariv — 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 11/29 — 16 Kislev

Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.

Minchah / Ma’ariv — 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, 11/30 — 17 Kislev

Shacharit — 6:50 a.m.

Minchah / Ma’ariv — 4:30 p.m.

Friday, 12/1 — 18 Kislev

Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.

Candles — 4:25 p.m.

Minchah / Ma’ariv — 4:25 p.m.