



THE ACHDUS NEWSLETTER



March 6, 2010

Volume 10

Parshat Ki Tisa- Parshat Parah

Issue 21

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<http://www.teaneckapartments.com/thisweek.pdf>

Congregation Ahavat Shalom

Ahavat Shalom services take place at TABC, 1600 Queen Anne Rd.

This Friday	Shabbat	Next Friday
Candle Lighting5:33 PM	<i>Shabbat Shacharit</i> 8:45 am	Candle Lighting5:41 PM
Mincha/ Kabbalat Shabbat 5:35 PM	<i>Sof Zeman Keriat Shema</i> 9:15 am	Mincha/ Kabbalat Shabbat.....5:45 PM
	<i>Shabbat Mincha</i> 5:20 pm	
	<i>Seudah Shelishit / Shiur</i> 5:40 pm	
	<i>Shekiah</i>5:53 pm	
	<i>Motsaei Shabbat Maariv</i> 6:30 pm	
	<i>Shabbat Ends</i> 6:33 pm	

Weekday Ma'ariv: 9pm @ 1500 WTC #3

Welcome to

Alana and Steven Krul who recently moved into Westgate.
Shira and Yitz Glass who recently moved into Terrace Circle.

Thank You to everyone who helped make this year's Purim celebration so beautiful, including Ba'alei Kriah, people who helped with Mishloach Manos, and everyone who helped with organizing the chagiga events and food.

Pesach Ahavat Shalom will not be open during Pesach. This includes Shabbos Chol Hamoed, April 3rd.

Rabbi Yehuda Halpert will be here this Shabbos as well as the following weeks: 3/13, 3/27, 4/17, 4/24. Rabbi Halpert can be reached via email at rabbihalpert@verizon.net, or by phone in the evenings at 201-836-3828. In the event of an emergency Rabbi Halpert can also be reached at 212-909-6951.

Learning Opportunity Rabbi Neil Lauer's weekly parsha shiur continues this Tuesday night at 8:45. For more information please call 201-615-0850.

Sponsoring a Kiddush is a great way to celebrate a simcha, birthday, anniversary or yahrtzeit while giving back to the shul and community. A dairy Kiddush starts at \$45 and a meat Kiddush starts at \$180. For more information please contact Yoni Joszef at 201-694-4090.

Leining The Ritual Committee is looking for leiners for the following parshiyot: Vayikra, Tzav, and Shemini If you are able to help, please email ritual10@teaneckapartments.com.

Sisterhood The Sisterhood is readily available to organize meals for those who are new to the community, families who just had a baby, families who are sitting shiva and families who are experiencing any other hardship. To ensure that we reach of all those in need, we depend on the community to let us know if such a condition arises. If you are, or know of a family who can benefit from having meals prepared, please send an email to the Sisterhood Presidents, Dena Kranzler & Ally Steinberg at Sisterhood10@teaneckapartments.com, or contact the Vice President of your complex.

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We specialize in working with first time home buyers. Contact us anytime with any of your real estate questions.

Office - 201 837 6220, Cell - 201 522 9733, or Marc@VillageHomesNJ.com.

Please send all checks to PO Box 595, Teaneck NJ 07666-0595

Aliyot Please help the *gabbaim* track *aliyot* to ensure an equitable distribution. Please take a moment to email your "Aliyah Name" to names@teanekapartments.com or you can fill out an aliyah form by visiting www.teanekapartments.com and clicking on the link at the bottom of the page. Please include your name and whether you are a *kohen, levi, or yisrael*.

Staying in Touch To join our community e-mail list, which includes a weekly mailing of the *Achdus Newsletter*, send a blank e-mail to teanekapartments-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. To receive the *Achdus Newsletter* only, send a blank e-mail to AchdusNewsletter-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. To create your listing in the WhitePages, our community directory, visit <http://www.teanekapartments.com/whitepages/index.htm#add>.

D'var Torah

The Joy of Learning R' Yonasan Sacks

Commenting on the verse "*ve'asu Aron*," the Ramban says that building the *aron* is its own mitzvah. The Ramban points out that when the Torah uses the plural form in commanding a *mitzva*, it is indicating that the *mitzva* is incumbent upon individuals.

How is the commandment of *ve'asu Aron* fulfilled? The Ramban suggests three possibilities. Either he can donate materials, participate physically in building the *aron*, or "*sheyechavnu ladava*" - having the appropriate intentions represented by the *aron*. If a person has the proper passion and intensity in studying the Torah, and recognizes its primacy, he is fulfilling this aspect. The Ramban writes in *Parshas VaYakhel* that the Torah describes the people who contributed to the building of the *Mishkan* as those who were "*nesa'o libo*", those who were inspired. Where does one see that a measure of inspiration was necessary to be involved in the building of the *Mishkan*? The Ramban points out that if a person wants to build a magnificent edifice for G-d, one would normally look for experienced workers to build it. The Jewish people had no training, no experience, and no resume. How can an untrained laborer build such a stunning structure? Apparently, inspiration and dedication can overcome even objective difficulty. If a person is motivated and acts with effort, he can accomplish building the *Mishkan*, as the verse in Divrei HaYamim says, "*VaYigba Libo BeDarkei Hashem*" ("and his heart was elevated in the ways of G-d").

Sometimes, when studying Torah, one can fall into moments of despair. The Torah is so vast - how can one continue to acquire more Torah knowledge? Recalling and being proficient in past materials learnt is difficult enough, let alone achieving mastery of the entire Torah. The answer is that when a person is inspired, and has the proper passion, this can be accomplished.

The Sefer HaChinuch writes that *birchas haTorah* and *birchas hamazon* are both blessings of thanks, but with one major difference between the two. Whereas one cannot make a blessing of thanks on food until finishing eating and being satiated, one must make a blessing of thanks on learning Torah even before commencing to learn. This is because one must realize the splendor and privilege of studying Torah before actually doing so.

The *Gemara* in *Nedarim* (81) comments that the reason the land of Israel was destroyed was because they did not say *birchas haTorah* before studying Torah. The Elgei Tal writes in his introduction that many *bnei Torah* make the mistake of thinking that the process of maintaining concentration and achieving *hasmada* is an excruciating one. In fact, he writes, quite the opposite should be true - the study of Torah must be something accompanied by enjoyment. When Tosfos says that the blessing of *la'asok bedivrei Torah* is connected to the phrase *veha'arev na* - make pleasant - by a *vav*, and is therefore one blessing, that is not just by way of teaching us a *halacha* in *bracha hasmucha lechaverta*, but also teaching a life lesson in how to relate to the study of Torah.

Yeshiva Gedolah Weekday Minyan

7:35 AM Shacharit

3:00 PM Mincha

9:30 PM Maariv

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Please send all announcements to achdus09@teanekapartments.com by 8:00 am on Thursday if you would like them included in that week's newsletter.

Find community information online at www.teanekapartments.com.