

Newsletter

Etz Chaim

December 10, 2010

3 Tevet 5771

www.etzchaimnj.org



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Davening Times

Shabbat Vayigash

Friday, Dec 10

Candle lighting - 4:12 PM

Mincha - 4:20 PM

***Speaker about 5:15 PM**

Saturday, Dec 11

Shacharit

Main - 9:00 AM

Sephardic - 9:10 AM

Z'man Kriat Shema - 9:30

***Speaker about 11:30 AM**

Rabbi's Shiur - 3:30 PM

Mincha - 3:55 PM

***Speaker at**

Seudah Shlishit

Shabbat Ends - 5:17 PM

Sunday

Shacharit - 8:30 PM

Mincha/Ma'ariv - 4:15 PM

Daily

Shacharit - 6:45 AM

Ma'ariv - 7:45 PM

CLASSES

Sunday

Livingston Community Kollel

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Monday

R. Shlomo Krupka -

8:00 PM

Tuesday

KIDDUSH SPONSOR

**Caren and Larry Rothenberg in Honor of
Ruth Burkhoff,**

**Caren's mother who is celebrating her
75th Birthday.**

Happy Birthday!!

Till 120 healthy years.

Malcolm Hoenlein this weekend

**Executive Vice Chairman of the Conference of Presidents of
Major American Jewish Organizations.**

Mr. Hoenlein will speak

After Ma'ariv on Friday evening (about 5:15PM)

Topic: Post Election Challenges in US/Israel Relations.

On Saturday before Kiddush (around 11:30AM)

Topic: Uniting against the Pharaohs of Our Time.

During Seudah Shlishit (around 4:30PM)

Question and answer session.

Bowling SATURDAY NIGHT

**Join your friends for an evening of fun, 7:30 PM
at Hanover Lanes.**

Alon Rothschild and Neil Kaplan

THANK YOU...THANK YOU..

To Yoni Glatt for a stupendous Chanukah Chagigah. Chanukah

Arachim Lecture Series in
Hebrew - 8:30 PM
R. Natan Kapustin - 9:00 PM
@ the home of
Selene & Boaz Brickman

Wednesday
Mel Kapustin - History
9:00 PM

Thursday
Rabbi Shlomo Krupka -
Parsha Shiur - 11:30 AM

FAST of Asara B'Tevet
Friday - next week
10 Tevet/December 17
Fast begins - 6:00 AM
Shacharit - 6:40 AM
Fast ends - 5:09 PM

Quick Links
[Etz Chaim Website](#)
[kosher.com](#)
[kosher.com circular](#)

**THE COAT DRIVE IS STILL
GOING ON. PLEASE BRING
COATS THAT CAN BE
DISPERSED TO THOSE WHO
NEED THEM TO THE SHUL.
DEADLINE IS MONDAY!**

was celebrated with flash and dash and so much fun!!

And to the Doris Schwartz Fund for supporting our Youth!

Member News

Mike Rieber and I are being "affirmed in" to the Town Council on January 2. Our own Rabbi Krupka will be giving the invocation at the ceremony.

The Town is trying to arrange that the reception will have kosher food. Mike and I would be delighted if the Etz Chaim membership, who also did so much to support us, would be present. Thanks.

Deborah Shapiro

(For invitation [click here](#). It is also on the Shul bulletin board)

Promises in the Dark

In this parsha, Yosef instructs his brothers to return to the land of Israel to bring their father Yaakov to Egypt. Preparations were then made for the journey. At this point, the parsha tells us that "G-d spoke to Yaakov in the visions of the night and said 'Yaakov', to which Yaakov responded 'here I am.' And He said, 'I am the G-d of your father. Fear not to go to Egypt for there I will make a great nation from you'."

The phrase "fear not" indicated that Yaakov had certain reservations and concerns about going to Egypt. What could they be? Hazkuni presents a midrash to explain Yaakov's fear. The expression 'fear not' is only directed to one who is afraid. Yaakov was afraid and said "Now that I am about to go down to Egypt the days are at hand, foretold to my forefathers regarding the decree of bondage and affliction on my children in a land not their own." Yaakov at that moment was concerned with the destiny of his children in a foreign land. Thereupon Hashem set Yaakov's mind at rest, saying 'fear not to go to Egypt'. Although He had warned Avraham of the coming of the days of bondage and affliction, He also gave Avraham the blessing that He would make him a great nation.

Yaakov was concerned not with his personal safety or comfort, but rather with Jewish survival as a nation. Would his descendants want to leave Egypt and return to Eretz Yisrael when the period of exile and bondage ended? The Haamek Davar comments that Yaakov was afraid that his descendants would be absorbed by the Egyptian nation. He was concerned that only in the land of Israel could the unique Jewish spark be preserved through the ages. It was to this point that Hashem spoke when reassuring him to 'fear not...for there I will make a great nation from you'. Our sages interpret the phrase 'great nation' to mean that the Jews would preserve their identity and not be absorbed into Egypt.

The lesson taught to Yaakov is that Hashem's presence rests within the Jewish nation. Even in the night, even during our darkest times. Whenever Israel was exiled, the Divine Presence accompanied them, helping keep their Jewish neshama alive. Even today, in 21st century America, our goal is to reach for G-d. He is always with us and will always be there to bring us home.

Shabbat shalom
Rabbi Krupka
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