



Shabbat Announcements

Parshat Mishpatim

February 6, 2016 27 Shevat, 5776

TORAH
ARTSCROLL 416
HERTZ 306

HAFTORAH
ARTSCROLL 1156
HERTZ 323

SHABBAT MEVARCHIM ADAR I:
MOLAD IS
MON. 2/8 AT 8:47:14 AM

ROSH CHODESH ADAR I
TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY
2/9 & 2/10

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks on Parshat Mishpatim

Our parsha takes us through a bewildering transition. Until now in Shemot we have been carried along by the sweep and drama of the narrative: the Israelites' enslavement, their hope for freedom, the plagues, Pharaoh's obstinacy, their escape into the desert, the crossing of the Red Sea, the journey to Mount Sinai and the great covenant with God. Suddenly, now, we find ourselves faced with a different kind of literature altogether: a law code covering a bewildering variety of topics, from responsibility for damages to protection of property, to laws of justice, to Shabbat and the festivals. Why here? Why not continue the story, leading up to the next great drama, the sin of the golden calf? Why interrupt the flow? And what does this have to do with leadership?

The answer is this: great leaders, be they CEOs or simply parents, have the ability to connect a large vision with highly specific details. Without the vision, the details are merely tiresome. There is a well-known story of three men who are

employed cutting blocks of stone. When asked what they are doing, one says, "Cutting stone," the second says, "Earning a living," the third says, "Building a palace." Those who have the larger picture take more pride in their labor, and work harder and better. Great leaders communicate a vision. But they are also painstaking, even perfectionist, when it comes to the details. Edison famously said, "Genius is one percent inspiration, ninety-nine percent perspiration." It is attention to detail that separates the great artists, poets, composers, filmmakers, politicians and heads of corporations from the merely average. Anyone who has read Walter Isaacson's biography of the late Steve Jobs knows that he had an attention to detail bordering on the obsessive. He insisted, for example, that all Apple stores should have glass staircases. When he was told that there was no glass strong enough, he insisted that it be invented, which it was (he held the patent).

The genius of the Torah was to apply this principle to society as a whole. The Israelites had come through a transformative series of events. Moses knew there had been nothing like it before. He also knew, from God, that none of it was accidental or incidental. The

Israelites had experienced slavery to make them cherish freedom. They had suffered, so that they would know what it feels like to be on the wrong side of tyrannical power. At Sinai God, through Moses, had given them a mission statement: to become "a kingdom of priests and a holy nation," under the sovereignty of God alone. They were to create a society built on principles of justice, human dignity and respect for life. But neither historical events nor abstract ideals – not even the broad principles of the Ten Commandments – are sufficient to sustain a society in the long run. Hence the remarkable project of the Torah: to translate historical experience into detailed legislation, so that the Israelites would live what they had learned on a daily basis, weaving it into the very texture of their social life. In the parsha of Mishpatim, vision becomes detail, and narrative becomes law. So, for example: "If you buy a Hebrew servant, he is to serve you for six years. But in the seventh year, he shall go free, without paying anything" (Ex. 21: 2-3). At a stroke, in this law, slavery is transformed

Times

Candle Lighting	4:58 pm
Friday Mincha	5:00 pm
Hashkama	8:00 am
Youth Minyan	8:30 am
Parsha Shiur	8:30 am
Main	9:00 am
Beit Midrash	9:15 am
Gemara Shiur	4:00 pm
Mincha	4:55 pm
Shabbat ends	6:08 pm
Rabbi Reisman Video Shiur	8:00 pm
Sunday, Feb. 7	7:30/8:30 am
Mon., Thur.	6:35/7:45 am
Tue., Wed.	6:30/7:45 am
Fri.	6:45/7:45 am
Mincha	5:10 pm
Latest Times for Shema/Shemoneh Esrei	
February 6	9:34/10:26 am
February 13	9:31/10:24 am
Next Shabbat Parshat Terumah	
Candle Lighting	5:07 pm
Mincha	5:10 pm

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SYNAGOGUE**

from a condition of birth to a temporary circumstance – from who you are to what, for the time being, you do. Slavery, the bitter experience of the Israelites in Egypt, could not be abolished overnight. It was not abolished even in the United States until the 1860s, and even then, not without a devastating civil war. But this opening law of our parsha is the start of that long journey.

Likewise the law that “Anyone who beats their male or female slave with a rod must be punished if the slave dies as a direct result” (Ex. 21: 20). A slave is not mere property. He or she has a right to life. Similarly the law of Shabbat that states: “Six days do your work, but on the seventh day do not work, so that your ox and your donkey may rest, and so that the slave born in your household and the foreigner living among you may be refreshed” (Ex. 23:12). One day in seven slaves were to breathe the air of freedom. All three laws prepared the way for the abolition of slavery, even though it would take more than three thousand years. There are two laws that have to do with the Israelites’ experience of being an oppressed minority: “Do not mistreat or oppress a stranger, for you were strangers in Egypt” (Ex. 22: 21) and “Do not oppress a stranger; you yourselves know how it feels to be foreigners, because you were foreigners in Egypt. (23:9). And there are laws that evoke other aspects of the people’s experience in Egypt, such as, “Do not take advantage of the widow or the fatherless. If you do and they cry out to me, I will certainly hear their cry” (Ex. 22:21-22). This recalls the episode at the beginning of the Exodus, “The Israelites groaned in their slavery and cried out, and their cry for help because of their slavery went up to God. God heard their groaning and he remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac and with Jacob. So God looked on the Israelites and was concerned about them. (Ex. 2:23-25).

In a famous article written in the 1980s, Yale law professor Robert Cover wrote about “Nomos and Narrative.” By this he meant that beneath the laws of any given society is a nomos, that is, a vision of an ideal social order that the law is intended to create. And behind every nomos is a narrative, that is, a story about why the shapers and visionaries of that society or group came to have that specific vision of the ideal order they sought to build. Cover’s examples are largely taken from the Torah, and the truth is that his analysis sounds less like a description of law as such than a description of that unique phenomenon we know as Torah. The word “Torah” is untranslatable because it means several different things that only appear together in the book that bears that name. Torah means “law.” But it also means “teaching, instruction, guidance,” or more generally, “direction.” It is also the generic name for the five books, from Genesis to Deuteronomy, that comprise both narrative and law. In general, law and narrative are two distinct literary genres that have very little overlap. Most books of law do not contain narratives, and most narratives do not contain law. Besides which, as Cover himself notes, even if people in Britain or America today know the history behind a given law, there is no canonical text that brings the two together. In any case in most societies there are many different ways of telling the story. Besides which, most laws are enacted without a statement of why they came to be, what they were intended to achieve, and what historical experience led to their enactment. So the Torah is a unique combination of nomos and narrative, history and law, the formative experiences of a nation and the way that nation sought to live its collective life so as never to forget the lessons it learned along the way. It brings together vision and detail in a way that has never been surpassed.

That is how we must lead if we want people to come with us, giving of their best. There must be a vision to inspire us, telling us why we should do what we are asked to do. There must be a narrative: this is what happened, this is who we are and this is why the vision is so important to us. Then there must be the law, the code, the fastidious attention to detail, that allow us to translate vision into reality and turn the pain of the past into the blessings of the future. That extraordinary combination, to be found in almost no other law code, is what gives Torah its enduring power. It is a model for all who seek to lead people to greatness.



GNS Yoetzet Halacha Lisa Septimus
 Welcomes your questions about mikvah, observance of taharat mishpacha (halacha relating to married life) and women’s health, as it connects to Jewish law. Reach out to her at:
 Phone: 516.415.1111
 Email: greatneckyoetzet@gmail.com.
 All conversations and emails are kept confidential.



Great Neck Synagogue
 26 Old Mill Road, Great Neck, NY 11023
 516-487-6100

Rabbi Dale Polakoff, Rabbi
Rabbi Ian Lichter, Assistant Rabbi
Dr. Ephraim Wolf ,z”l, Rabbi Emeritus
Zeev Kron, Cantor
Eleazer Schulman, z”l, Cantor Emeritus
Rabbi Sholom Jensen, Youth Director
Zehava & Dr. Michael Atlas, Youth Directors
Mark Twersky, Executive Director
Dr. James Frisch, Assistant Director
Dr. Hal Chadow, President
Harold Domnitch, Chairman of the Board
Lisa Septimus, Yoetzet Halacha 516-415-1111

If one searches (for Torah) like silver or seeks it out like hidden treasure, he attains awe of G-d and an understanding of His wisdom...
Proverbs 2:4

COMING SOON...

FORGET ANYTHING YOU HAVE TASTED BEFORE
IT'S THE ORIGINAL & MOST AUTHENTIC

CHOLENT BOWL

SHABBAT MISHPATIM

FEBRUARY 6, 2016

WHO WILL BE CROWNED
CHOLENT KING 2016?


PURIM IS COMING MARCH 24!!
GNS Sisterhood Purim Cards available

10 Cards for \$25

1 Card for \$3

Cards are available in the shul office
or

by calling Judy Lillian at 516-487-6845



FOOTBALL

SUPERBOWL PARTY

BRAUN YOUTH CENTER 6:30
FEBRUARY 7TH

*\$10 PERSON \$25 FAMILY
POPPERS, CANDY, PRIZE,
CHANCE TO WIN KNICKS TICKETS!!!*

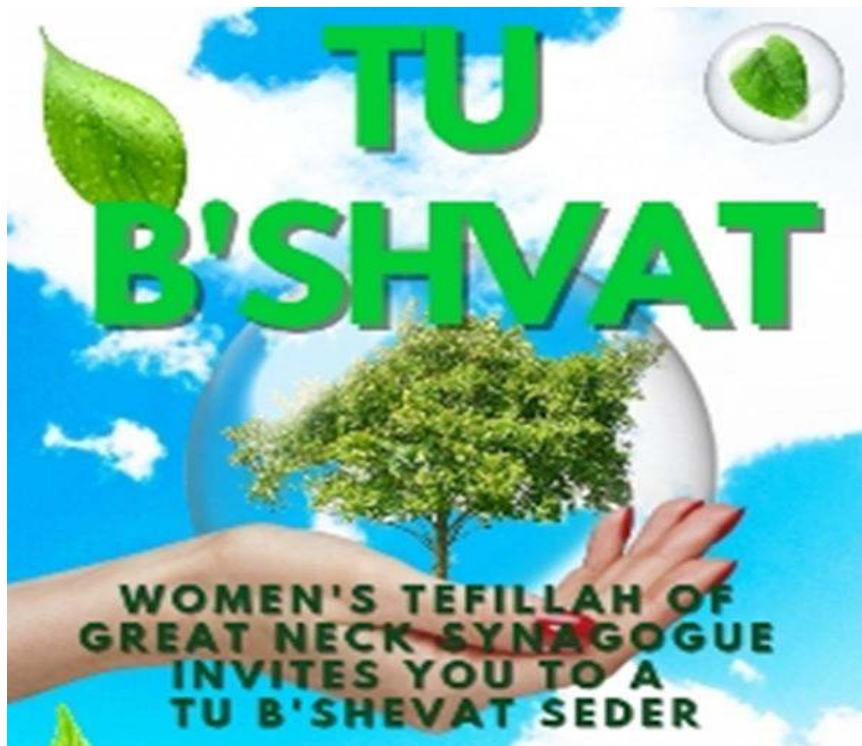
AIPAC ORIENTATION



The orientation has been
moved to

**Thursday evening
Feb. 4th at 7:30 pm.**

Julie Blinbaum will be at
GNS to answer any
questions for those
already signed up as well
as those still deciding to
join us this year.



New Date
Sunday
Feb.7
10 am
At the
Liss-Levinson
Home
13 Church St

RSVP
Sharon Mazur
516 482 0675

The Great Neck
Yoetzet Halacha Committee
Presents

FAMILY PLANNING: WHOSE PLAN IS IT?

Yoetzet Halacha of Great Neck, Lisa Septimus
 In Memory of
 Daniella Moffson, z"l

Tuesday Feb. 9th 2016
8:00 pm
at the home of
Rachel & Ben Feintuch
3 Sycamore Drive, Great Neck

For more information contact Yoetzet Halacha Lisa Septimus
 greatneckyoetzethalacha@gmail.com or 516 415 1111

A mother-daughter event
 for 5th-7th grade girls
 & their moms!

presenting
 Mrs. Amit Yaghoubi
 Journey Into "Real Life"

 What it means to
 become a Bat Mitzvah

Monday, February 22nd
8:00 pm
The Shusterman home
& Chestnut Drive

AIPAC POLICY CONFERENCE 2016

MARCH 20-22 WASHINGTON, D.C.

The AIPAC Orientation has been moved to Thursday Feb 4th at 7:30 pm. Julie Blinbaum will answer any of your questions for those who are attending as well as for those who are still undecided. Refreshments will be served.

Our goal is to have 180 people attend the AIPAC Policy Conference this year from Great Neck Synagogue. Registration form on gns.org.

Need Inexpensive Hotel? Need Transportation, questions about food?
Contact Steve Blumner at 516.639.8941 or sblumner@sjbqueens.com.

Sign up today and join Rabbi Polakoff and GNS members in support of Israel!

Arie Aboulafia
Sammy Ahdoot
Jonny Ambalo
Michelle Ambalo
Danny Askari
Robyn Blumner
Steve Blumner
Tara Blumner
Deborah Chadow
Hal Chadow
Gary Chubak
Lily Chubak
Betty Crane
Joel Crane
Eliyahou Elyassoff
Isaac Elyassoff
Jacob Elyassoff
Laden Elyassoff
Miriam Elyassoff
Mansour Farhadian
Yaffa Farhadian
Norman Fisher
Sylvia Fisher
Debbie Furst
Tommy Furst
Sharon Goldwyn
Rita Gordonson
Natan Hamerman

Adam Hecht
Donna Hecht
Joseph Hecht
Adam Hutt
Didi Hutt
Mitchell Hutt
Rachel Hutt
Erran Kagan
Leonard Kahn
Gloria Kaylie
Herman Kotler
Mina Kotler
Cindy Ludwig
Ann Lupkin
Stanley Lupkin
Tina Machnikoff
Adeline Markowitz
Benjamin Markowitz
Eddie Mehrfar
Hillel Milun
Jaime Mittleman
Brenda Parver
Ed Parver
Rabbi Dale Polakoff
Ellen Polakoff
Payman Rabiei
Galit Reichlin
Grant Reichlin

Carl Rosenberg
Ariel Sassoon
Dov Sassoon
David Schimel
Donna Schwechter
Leon Schwechter
Ferry Sedaghatpour
Vahid Sedaghatpour
Abraham Soleimani
Judy Soleimani
Karen Spitalnick
Robert Spitalnick
Alan Steinberg
Jill Swartz
Steven Swartz
Daniel Tavakoli
Farnaz Tavakoli
Kamyar Tavakoli
Jerry Traub
Devorah Wang
Maxine Wiesenfeld
Daniel Winter
Howard Wolf
Michelle Wolf
Vladimir Zyskind
Yuna Zyskind

ג"ה SUMMER 2016
Monday August 15TH to Thursday August 25th



You and your family, and relatives and friends ARE INVITED TO JOIN the
GREAT NECK SYNAGOGUE MEN'S CLUB TRIP TO THE

JEWELS OF RUSSIA

Enjoy friendship, fun, and faith adventuring with your fellow GNS "comrades" touring Moscow and St. Petersburg RUSSIA..... coupled with specially arranged Jewish historical, cultural and religious programs. We will be hosted by Keshet Kasher Tours a well-known and experienced tour operator.



Five nights in MOSCOW the Kremlin Red Square Congresses Palace Grand Palace Armory Museum Throne of Ivan the Terrible Faberge Eggs Memorial Park Tretyakov Gallery Choral Synagogue Moscow Metro
 Four nights in ST. PETERSBURG Great Synagogue Peter-Paul Fortress Tsarskoye Village Hall of Light Pavlovsk residence the Hermitage Neva River boat ride Peterhof Grand Palace Hydrofoil trip

➡ RESERVE THESE DATES NOW ON YOUR CALENDAR ➡ CHECK YOUR PASSPORTS
 ➡ PLAN \$3750 PER PERSON (which INCLUDES AIRFARE) FOR OUR 1st GNS MEN'S CLUB TRAVEL PROGRAM CONTACT Hilly Milun, gnsclub@gmail.com, or Rob Knepper, robknepper@gmail.com, or Keshet Kasher 1-212-481-3721

- Round trip air fare on Delta from New York
- First class hotels – 4 and 5 star
- Three kosher meals daily
- Etc, etc.



FEBRUARY 21ST SUNDAY 10AM ג"ה

ALL INVITED

The GREAT NECK SYNAGOGUE Men's Club

26 Old Mill Road

MICHAEL KARLIN, FSA



MAXIMIZING YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS

FEBRUARY 21ST SUNDAY at 10:00 AM

COME AND EXPERIENCE THE WARMTH OF THE CHAVERIM CENTER

Our next event will be held on February 3rd
11:30 am – 2:00 pm

Come and enjoy a presentation by Chuck Fishman, a world renowned freelance photographer who focuses on social and political issues. His photos have graced the covers of Time, Life, Fortune and the Economist. You may be familiar with his book of Polish Jews, photos of Life under Communism.

Following the presentation play Mah Jong, scrabble, bingo and card games with your fellow chaverim.

Rachel Singer will be starting a knitting group...which will be suitable for all levels, including those who have not yet taken their first stitch! Bring your own knitting supplies please.

Tech help will once again be provided by Rabbi Jensen's gang.

As always a delicious lunch will be provided. **Please RSVP** so we know how many to order for.

Many thanks to Naeema Pomerantz for sponsoring lunch at our last meeting in memory of her mother Kochavah Bat Yechezkel "ZL"

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR UPCOMING EVENTS:-

February 17th – Join us for a fun time doing decoupage.

March 2nd - Cindy Hodkin and Pam Bilfeld will be host a vegetable tasting, together with an informative presentation about the health benefits of many vegetables, their healing and nutritional properties and recipes. Stay tuned for more information.

March 16th - Book Group – we are reading the book "My Father's Paradise". If you signed up with the book group, the library will call you when they have a copy of the book for you.

March 30th - Report back from AIPAC

Hope you can join us!!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

RABBI POLAKOFF'S SHABBOS DRASHA THROUGH 5776, IS DEDICATED IN MEMORY OF **PINCHAS BEN YOSEPH** FOR OTHER SUCH OPPORTUNITIES PLEASE CONTACT HOWARD WOLF 212-843-4668

IF YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO IS MOVING INTO THE GREAT NECK AREA PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW.

AIPAC ORIENTATION

The orientation has been moved to **Thursday evening Feb. 4th at 7:30 pm.** **Julie Blinbaum** will be at GNS to answer any questions for those already signed up as well as those still deciding to join us this year.

MOTHER DAUGHTER

On Monday, **February 22**, there will be a mother-daughter event for 5th-7th grade girls and their moms.

Mrs. Amit Yaghoubi will talk about "What it means to become a Bat Mitzvah". The event will take place at the **Shusterman** home, 2 Chestnut Drive.

PURIM PACKAGES FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Got kids in college? Order a Purim package from the GNS Sisterhood and they will send it to your child. Each package will cost \$20. If you would like to be a sponsor of this project please let **Farla Frumkin** know.

PURIM CARDS

The Sisterhood will be once again selling Purim Cards. This year a new design by **Celia Lemonik** will be featured. Cost is 10 cards for \$25 dollars or 1 card for \$3.00. Cards will be available in the Shul office or by calling **Judy Lillien** at 516-487-6845.

CHAVERIM CENTER

Join us this **Wednesday, Feb. 3rd** from 11:30-2:00 for a presentation by Chuck Fishman. Lunch this week is sponsored by **David and Diane Rein** in memory of her mother, **Helene M. Fink z"l**, on the occasion of her 11th yearzeit.

SUPPORT GREAT NECK EIRUV

Our yearly fundraising for the Great Neck Eiruv will be in January. We depend on your generosity to maintain our Eiruv. The minimum suggested donation will remain at \$180.00, though, if you are able, a larger donation would be GREATLY appreciated. If you would like to make your fully tax deductible charitable donation you may do so by either:

A. Mailing a check to G N Eiruv Association, P.O. Box 234243, Great Neck, NY 11023

B. Donating on line at: <http://greatneckeiruv.org/donate>

Thanking you in advance for your support of our community Eiruv.
GN Eiruv Association

UPCOMING EVENTS AT GREAT NECK SYNAGOGUE

February 4: AIPAC Orientation
February 6: Cholent Competition
February 7: Youth Super Bowl Party
February 9: Yoetzet Halacha Event
February 20: Rabbi Jeffrey Wolf, Scholar in Residence
February 21: Mens Club "Social Security"
February 22: Mother Daughter Lecture

MAZAL TOVS & COMMUNITY NEWS

Mazal Tov to Michelle & Joseph Yehaskel on the birth of a son. **Mazal Tov** to grandparents **Magda & Sam Yehaskel & Ilana & Albert Amini.**

NSHA DINNER SAVE THE DATE

The North Shore Hebrew Academy's Annual Journal Dinner, celebrating its 61 year tradition of excellence, will take place on **Sunday, April 10**, at Old Westbury Hebrew Congregation honoring **Heidi & Glenn Zuckerman**, Guests of Honor, **Drs. Helen & Howard Zimmerman**, Grandparents of the Year and **Rabbi Sholom Jensen**, Distinguished Faculty Award.

Those wishing to serve on the Dinner committee, please contact Arnie Flatow at aflatow@nsha.org or call the Business Office at 487-868 ext 2.

SHAARE TZEDEK WOMEN'S HEALTH DAY

Please Save the Date for Shaare Zedek Women's Health Day which will take place **Wednesday, March 16, 2016** from 9:00-2:00 pm at the NY Academy of Medicine. This year the Health Day funds will be dedicated to the Trauma/Urgent Care area. For info, contact Sharon Goldwyn at sgoldwyn@acsz.org or **917 287 7334** Website/Registration will open February 4th www.acsz.org/healthday.

LOST & FOUND

Please claim your lost items from our lost & found box asap.

Y A H R Z E I T

Saturday, 27 Shevat

Sharon Herman for Joseph Adler
Uri Rosin for Miriam Aldouby
Michael Leventhal for Bertram Leventhal
Morris Seidman for Mala Seidman

Sunday, 28 Shevat

Frank Bachrach for Ludwig Bachrach
Oded Daskal for Dov Daskal
Shulamid Gavronsky for Israel Kopelowitz
Howard Lorber for Ronald Lorber

Monday, 29 Shevat

Ben Jampel for Henry Jampel
Murray Rabinowitz for Lea Rabinowitz
Stephen Rabinowitz for Lea Rabinowitz
Judith Weinstein for Fanny Weisman

Tuesday, 30 Shevat

Kenneth Magida for Abraham Bilsky
Victor Ancelson for Carolina Galateanu
Pamela Bilfeld for Arline Grant
George Schuman for Bernard Schuman

Wednesday, 1 Adar

Ronald Braun for Emil Braun
Paul Brody for David Brody
Paul Brody for Rabbi Abraham Brown
Ada Berkowitz for Aliza Hass
Lili Weiss for Zeev Krendel
Hindi Lunzer for Ruchel Mermelstein

Thursday, 2 Adar

Michele Wolf for Philip Berman

Friday, 3 Adar

Leon Schwechter for Israel Schwechter
William Wolff for Rebecca Rachel Wolff