



# Shabbat Announcements

Parshat Shelach

July 2, 2016 26 Sivan, 5776

**TORAH**  
**ARTSCROLL 798**  
**HERTZ 623**

**HAFTORAH**  
**ARTSCROLL 1184**  
**HERTZ 635**

**SHABBAT MEVARCHIM**  
**TAMMUZ**  
**MOLAD:**  
**TUES. 7/5 1:28:1 AM**  
**ROSH CHODESH:**  
**WED. 7/6 & THURS. 7/7**

## Rabbi Jonathan Sacks on Shelach

One of the most powerful addresses I ever heard was given by the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, on this week's parsha: the story of the spies. For me, it was nothing less than life-changing. He asked the obvious questions. How could ten of the spies have come back with a demoralizing, defeatist report? How could they say, we cannot win, the people are stronger than us, their cities are well fortified, they are giants and we are grasshoppers? They had seen with their own eyes how God had sent a series of plagues that brought Egypt, the strongest and longest-lived of all the empires of the ancient world, to its knees. They had seen the Egyptian army with its cutting-edge military technology, the horse-drawn chariot, drown in the Reed Sea while the Israelites passed through it on dry land. Egypt was far stronger than the Canaanites, Perrizites, Jebusites and other minor kingdoms that they would have to confront in conquering the land. Nor was this an ancient memory. It had happened

not much more than a year before. What is more, they already knew that, far from being giants confronting grasshoppers, the people of the land were terrified of the Israelites. They had said so themselves in the course of singing the Song at the Sea: The peoples have heard; they tremble; Pangs have seized the inhabitants of Philistia. Now are the chiefs of Edom dismayed; Trembling seizes the leaders of Moab; All the inhabitants of Canaan have melted away. Terror and dread fall upon them; Because of the greatness of your arm, they are still as a stone (Ex. 15:14-16) The people of the land were afraid of the Israelites. Why then were the spies afraid of them? What is more, continued the Rebbe, the spies were not people plucked at random from among the population. The Torah states that they were "all of them men who were heads of the people of Israel." They were leaders. They were not people given lightly to fear. The questions are straightforward, but the answer the Rebbe gave was utterly unexpected. The spies were not afraid of failure, he said. They were afraid of success.

What was their situation now? They were eating manna from heaven. They were drinking water from a miraculous well.

They were surrounded by Clouds of Glory. They were camped around the Sanctuary. They were in continuous contact with the Shekhinah. Never had a people lived so close to God. What would be their situation if they entered the land? They would have to fight battles, maintain an army, create an economy, farm the land, worry about whether there would be enough rain to produce a crop, and all the other thousand distractions that come from living in the world. What would happen to their closeness to God? They would be preoccupied with mundane and material pursuits. Here they could spend their entire lives learning Torah, lit by the radiance of the Divine. There they would be no more than one more nation in a world of nations, with the same kind of economic, social and political problems that every nation has to deal with. The spies were not afraid of failure. They were afraid of success. Their mistake was the mistake of very holy men. They wanted to spend their lives in the closest possible proximity to God. What they did not understand was that God seeks, in the Hasidic phrase,

Times	
Candle Lighting	8:12 pm
Mincha	7:00 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	7:05 pm
Mincha	8:05 pm
Shabbat Ends	9:19 pm
Sun. July 3	7:30/8:30 am
Mon. July 4	7:30/8:30 am
Tue. & Fri.	6:45/7:45 am
Wed. & Thurs. <b>Rosh Chodesh</b>	6:30/7:45 am
Mincha	8:10 pm
Latest Times for Shema/Shemoneh Esrei	
July 2	9:13/10:28 am
July 9	9:16/10:30 am
Next Shabbat Korach	
Candle Lighting	8:10 pm
Mincha	7:00 pm

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**SYNAGOGUE**

**SEUDAH SHLISHT**  
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**SHEILA & MOOSA EBRAHIMIAN**  
**IN MEMORY OF HIS FATHER**  
**AMIN EBRAHIMIAN, Z"l.**

"a dwelling in the lower worlds". One of the great differences between Judaism and other religions is that while others seek to lift people to heaven, Judaism seeks to bring heaven down to earth.

Much of Torah is about things not conventionally seen as religious at all: labor relations, agriculture, welfare provisions, loans and debts, land ownership and so on. It is not difficult to have an intense religious experience in the desert, or in a monastic retreat, or in an ashram. Most religions have holy places and holy people who live far removed from the stresses and strains of everyday life. There was one such Jewish sect in Qumran, known to us through the Dead Sea Scrolls, and there were certainly others. About this there is nothing unusual at all. But that is not the Jewish project, the Jewish mission. God wanted the Israelites to create a model society where human beings were not treated as slaves, where rulers were not worshipped as demigods, where human dignity was respected, where law was impartially administered to rich and poor alike, where no one was destitute, no one was abandoned to isolation, no one was above the law and no realm of life was a morality-free zone. That requires a society, and a society needs a land. It requires an economy, an army, fields and flocks, labor and enterprise. All these, in Judaism, become ways of bringing the Shekhinah into the shared spaces of our collective life. The spies feared success, not failure. It was the mistake of deeply religious men. But it was a mistake.

That is the spiritual challenge of the greatest event in two thousand years of Jewish history: the return of Jews to the land and state of Israel. Perhaps never before and never since has there been a political movement accompanied by so many dreams as Zionism. For some it was the fulfillment of prophetic visions, for others the secular achievement of people who had decided to take history into their own hands. Some saw it as

a Tolstoy-like reconnection with land and soil, others a Nietzschean assertion of will and power. Some saw it as a refuge from European antisemitism, others as the first flowering of messianic redemption. Every Zionist thinker had his or her version of utopia, and to a remarkable degree they all came to pass. But Israel always was something simpler and more basic. Jews have known virtually every fate and circumstance between tragedy and triumph in the almost four thousand years of their history, and they have lived in almost every land on earth. But in all that time there only ever was one place where they could do what they were called on to do from the dawn of their history: to build their own society in accord with their highest ideals, a society that would be different from their neighbors and become a role model of how a society, an economy, an educational system and the administration of welfare could become vehicles for bringing the Divine presence down to earth.

It is not difficult to find God in the wilderness, if you do not eat from the labor of your hands and if you rely on God to fight your battles for you. Ten of the spies, according to the Rebbe, sought to live that way forever. But that, suggested the Rebbe, is not what God wants from us. He wants us to engage with the world. He wants us to heal the sick, feed the hungry, fight injustice with all the power of law, and combat ignorance with universal education. He wants us to show what it is to love the neighbor and the stranger, and say, with Rabbi Akiva, "Beloved is humanity because we are each created in God's image." Jewish spirituality lives in the midst of life itself, the life of society and its institutions. To create it we have to battle with two kinds of fear: fear of failure, and fear of success. Fear of failure is common; fear of success is rarer but no less debilitating. Both come from the reluctance to take risks. Faith is the courage to take risks. It is not certainty; it is the ability to live with uncertainty. It is the ability to hear God saying to us as He said to Abraham, "Walk on ahead of Me" (Gen. 17:1). The Rebbe lived what he taught. He sent emissaries out to virtually every place on earth where there were Jews. In so doing, he transformed Jewish life. He knew he was asking his followers to take risks, by going to places where the whole environment would be challenging in many ways, but he had faith in them and in God and in the Jewish mission whose place is in the public square where we share our faith with others and do so in deeply practical ways. It is challenging to leave the desert and go out into the world with all its trials and temptations, but that is where God wants us to be, bringing His spirit to the way we run an economy, a welfare system, a judiciary, a health service and an army, healing some of the wounds of the world and bringing, to places often shrouded in darkness, fragments of Divine light.



**Great Neck 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](mailto: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**  
**Dov Sassoon, President**  
**Harold Domnitch, Chairman of the Board**  
**Lisa Septimus, Yoetzet Halacha 516-415-1111**

**Work at not needing approval from others and  
 you will be free to be who you really are  
 Rebbe Nachman of Breslov**



**Join us for our next Chaverim Program  
on June 29th from 11:30 – 2 pm.**

This week **Marilyn Freedman** will be leading us in a whole body exercise program to build strength from within. You will come away with a toolbox to help you live stronger, improve your posture and participate more easily in the activities you love. Remember to wear comfortable clothing that will allow you to participate fully in the program.

As always a delicious lunch will be provided, so please let us know if you will be attending.

Play mah jong, scrabble and card games with your fellow Chaverim after lunch and the presentation.

Thank you to Dr. William Helmreich for a very interesting presentation on stereotypes and the truth behind them.

Thank you to Rita Gordonson for sponsoring the lunch in memory of her husband.

**Save the dates for upcoming programs.**

**Chaverim will be continuing through the summer –  
July 13, 27, August 10, 24**

**We are always looking for program ideas, so please  
share yours with us**

**Hope to see you on Wednesday,  
Cindy, Erica, Michelle and Naeema**

**SALLY & SEYMOUR OLSHIN  
ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM  
GNS SUMMER 2016  
LEARNING PROGRAM**

**Guest Speaker:**

**Dr. Edward Reichman**

**Goodbye Ebola Hello Zika:  
The Halakhik Ramifications of the  
Zika Virus**



Edward Reichman is an Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine and Associate Professor of Philosophy and History of Medicine at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine (AECOM) of Yeshiva University, where he teaches Jewish medical ethics. He received his rabbinic ordination from the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary of Yeshiva University and writes and lectures widely in the field of Jewish medical ethics. He is the recipient of a Kornfeld Foundation Fellowship and the Rubinstein Prize in Medical Ethics. He is a past member of the advisory board of the Institute for Genetics and Public Policy. His research is devoted to the interface of medical history and Jewish law.

**Tuesday, July 12  
7:15 pm  
Mincha 8:10 pm**

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**Series  
Sponsorships - \$180**

**Joshua & Erika Olshin**

**The Fox-Griffel Family  
in honor of  
Dr. Reichman**

**To dedicate a  
lecture, contact the  
synagogue office**

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**516.487.6100  
mtwersky@gns.org**



26 Old Mill Road  
Great Neck, NY 11023

**SALLY & SEYMOUR OLSHIN  
ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM  
GNS SUMMER 2016  
LEARNING PROGRAM**

**Guest Speaker:**

**SANDRA E. RAPOPORT**

***“What Makes Jacob Tick:  
Understanding Pre-heroic Jacob”***



**Sandra E. Rapoport** is an attorney, award-winning author, Torah scholar, and an inspiring speaker on biblical topics. Her third book, *Biblical Seductions*, won the National Jewish Book Awards Finalist Prize, and was a Boston Globe Top-Ten Bestseller.

Sandra teaches a decade-long popular Bible series at the Manhattan JCC, another Torah series at New York's Drisha Institute, and she lectures throughout the U.S.

Sandra was a Resident Scholar at Harvard University, where she taught classes in her specialty: bringing the Bible's personalities to vivid life. You can read Sandra's columns on the weekly Torah portion in New York's *The Jewish Week*. Sandra is listed in *Who's Who of American Women*.

**Tuesday, July 26  
7:00 pm  
Mincha 8:00 pm**

**Series  
Sponsorships - \$180**

**To dedicate a  
lecture, contact the  
synagogue office**

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**26 Old Mill Road  
Great Neck, NY 11023**

# GREAT NECK SYNAGOGUE

## CHESED COLLECTION



Who among us does not have old and unwanted shoes, eyeglasses or cell phones sitting in a closet or a drawer at home? Although enjoyed and treasured in their day, now these items sit awaiting their seemingly inevitable final reckoning with the Great Neck sanitation department.

It doesn't have to be that way! You can give these items a new lease on life and, more importantly, help those in need when doing so. All you need to do is drop off those items this week at one of the two convenient drop-off locations listed below. Here's how your items will help:

**Shoes** Your gently used shoes will go to Souls4Soles, a terrific charity dedicated to fighting poverty in the U.S. and around the world. Can read more about it at <http://soles4souls.org/>

**Eyeglasses and Sunglasses** Your glasses or sunglasses will go to New Eyes, an outstanding charity based in New Jersey dedicated to providing free prescription glasses for those in need. Read more at <http://www.new-eyes.org>

**Cell phones** Your used cell phone can help provide cost-free communications to the brave members of our military. Cell phones for Soldiers was founded in 2004 by a 12 and 13-year old brother and sister from Massachusetts and has since provided almost 200 million minutes of talk time allowing troops to have priceless conversations with their loved ones back home. You can read more about the program at <http://www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com/>

We hope that you will take a few moments in your day to go through your closets and drawers to find and donate these items. This is also a wonderful opportunity to teach your children the life-changing value of small acts of chesed.

Please drop your items off any time Sunday through Friday beginning Sunday May 22.

1. [88 Old Pond Road](#) (Please leave by the garage.) Contact, if needed: [Steve Blumner – 516-639-8941](#)
2. [11 William Penn](#) (Please leave by the garage.) Contact, if needed: [Jonny Ambalo – 347-971-8178](#)

JOIN US! ALL WELCOME!

AT CITIFIELD



**NY BRAGGING RIGHTS!**  
**MONDAY 08.01.2016 @ 7PM**

**THE METS VS  
THE YANKEES**

GREAT SEATS! CONTACT JACK LIPSKY 384-1482,  
jlipsky.lipsk01@insuremail.net or call GNS OFFICE

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\$70 per ticket, \$60 Mens Club members

# 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.**

## HASHKAMA MINYAN KIDDUSH

Hashkama Minyan Kiddush is sponsored by **Regina & Joseph Gil** in memory of his mother **Esther Gil, z"l.**

## ROSH HASHANAH SCOPE MAGAZINE

Thank you to our SCOPE sponsors (we have about 65!) for their strong support this past year by sponsoring 3 issues (Rosh Hashanah, Chanukah and Pesach) for a total cost of \$100 for the year. Without this important financial support, we would no longer be able to produce SCOPE which is enjoyed by so many people that are members and friends of Great Neck Synagogue. If you would like to continue to be a SCOPE sponsor, then it is not necessary to contact the shul. If you no longer would like to be a SCOPE sponsor please contact Mark Twersky by Monday, June 27th to remove your name from the list. We hope others who are not currently SCOPE sponsors will request to have their names added. You can dedicate the sponsorship in honor or in memory of a loved one. Thank you!

## GNS CHESED

We are collecting shoes, eyeglasses and cell phones to be dropped off at the Blumner home, 88 Old Pond Rd. or the Ambalo home, 11 William Penn, Sunday through Friday, until the end of June.

## UPDATE OF EIRUV ON GNS WEBSITE

The eiruv page on the GNS website has been updated with a new map and detailed description. Please familiarize yourself with it to ensure proper observance.

## CHAVERWEB

Please keep in mind that Chaverweb is the most convenient place to view your account status, pay your bills, manage your online profile and view the GNS directory. Accessible at [gns.org](http://gns.org) with your account password. See Mark Twersky for assistance.

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT GREAT NECK SYNAGOGUE

June 29: Chaverim Center  
 July 12: Dr. Reichman  
 July 16: Perek 'N the Park  
 July 26: Sandra Rapoport  
 August 1: Subway Series Game: Mets vs. Yankees

## MAZAL TOVS & COMMUNITY NEWS

**Mazal Tov to Michael & Sandra Stern** on the marriage of their daughter **Zoe** to **Sean Hack** from Woodmere.

**Mazal Tov to Sharon Goldwyn and David Birnbaum** on the birth of their grandson born to **Jordanna Birnbaum and Aryeh Amsel.**

**Mazal Tov to Shirley & Omid Rahmani** on the birth of a son.

## SAVE THE DATE

**NORTH SHORE HEBREW ACADEMY'S 13th ANNUAL GOLF, TENNIS & SPA CLASSIC - MONDAY JULY 11th AT FRESH MEADOWS COUNTRY CLUB - Honoring Charlie & Doreen Hadid and Tennis Honoree - Robin Muss Abada.** Please join NSHA on Monday July 11th at Fresh Meadows Country Club for a wonderful day of golf with an all day BBQ, ladies tennis followed by lunch and a mahjong/spa day, men's tennis and a sunset cocktail party followed by a buffet dinner, with prizes, raffles, auctions and evening entertainment. Event Brochure for Registration/Information will be mailed soon. For additional information re: sponsorships and participation, please contact Glenn Zuckerman, Jonathan Muller, Andrew Feldschreiber, Ryan Ostrow or email Arnie Flatow at [aflatow@nsha.org](mailto:aflatow@nsha.org) or call 487-8687 ext 133.

## Y A H R Z E I T

### Saturday, 26 Sivan

Steven Blumner for Chaya Sara bat Yehuda  
 Steven Blumner for Chaim ben Simcha Dovid  
 Steven Blumner for Chune ben Simcha Dovid  
 Steven Blumner for Dov ben Simcha Dovid  
 Steven Blumner for Tzvi ben Simcha Dovid  
 Steven Blumner for Simcha Dovid ben Yitzhak  
 Barry Maher for Javaher Maher-Afarin

### Sunday, 27 Sivan

Rebecca Soleimani for Miriam Bidgoli  
 Mahin Mardkha for Amin Ebrahimian  
 Moosa Ebrahimian for Amin Ebrahimian  
 Mali Meisel for Annie Maultasch  
 Mindy Leventhal for Charlotte Scheinkman  
 Gerald Traub for Mollie Traub

### Monday, 28 Sivan

Richard Lillien for Sol Engelhard  
 Joseph Gil for Esther Gil  
 Jerry Gil for Esther Gil  
 Betty Crane for Chuma Hochman  
 Benjamin Lunzer for Shoshana Lunzer  
 Herschel Flax for Joshua Pasvolsky  
 Mary Flax for Joshua Pasvolsky

### Tuesday, 29 Sivan

Myles Mittleman for Philip Mittleman

### Wednesday, 30 Sivan

Albert Benak for Jacob Benak  
 Stephen Rabinowitz for Abraham Getreu  
 Zahava Slonim for Mordechai Kukulka  
 Kitty Justin forolan Nagel  
 Gerald Nathel for Daniel Nathel  
 Richard Reiser for Freida Reiser

### Thursday, 1 Tammuz

Adina Abraham for David ben Nissan Prio  
 Sonia Weiss for Haim Klein  
 George Zobel for Alex Zobel

### Friday, 2 Tammuz

Jacques Aboaf for Albert J. Aboaf  
 Lev Dynkin for Zalman Dynkin  
 Halina Greenwald for Psachje Salpeter  
 Ebrahim Gabbazadeh for Jack Shaw  
 Peter Shrock for Rabbi Abe Tobie Shrock