



# Shabbat Announcements

Parshat Matot-Masei

August 6, 2016 2 Av, 5776

<b>TORAH</b> <b>ARTSCROLL 900</b> <b>HERTZ 702</b>		<b>Rabbi Jonathan Sacks on Matot-Masei</b>		
<b>HAFTORAH</b> <b>ARTSCROLL 1193</b> <b>HERTZ 725</b>		<p>The book of Bamidbar comes to a close that is very strange indeed. Earlier in the parsha of Pinchas we read of how the five daughters of Tzelophehad came to Moses with a claim based on justice and human rights. Their father had died without sons. Inheritance – in this case, of a share in the land – passes through the male line, but here there was no male line. Surely their father was entitled to his share, and they were his only heirs. By rights that share should come to them: “Why should our father’s name be disadvantaged in his family merely because he did not have a son? Give us a portion of land along with our father’s brothers” (Num. 27:4). Moses had received no instruction about such an eventuality, so he asked God directly. God found in favor of the women. “The daughters of Tzelophehad are right. You shall give them possession of an inheritance among their father’s brothers and transfer the inheritance of their father to them.” He gave Moses further instructions about the disposition of inheritance, and the narrative then</p>	<p>passes on to other matters. Only now, right at the end of the book, does the Torah report on an event that arose directly from that case. Leaders of Tzelophehad’s tribe, Menasheh, son of Joseph, came and made the following complaint. If the land were to pass to Tzelophehad’s daughters and they married men from another tribe, the land would eventually pass to their husbands, and thus to their husband’s tribes. Thus land that had initially been granted to the tribe of Menasheh might be lost to it in perpetuity. Again, Moses took the case to God, who offered a simple solution. The daughters of Tzelophehad were entitled to the land, but so too was the tribe. Therefore, if they wish to take possession of the land, they must marry men from within their own tribe. That way both claims could be honored. The daughters did not lose their right to the land but they did lose some freedom in choosing a marriage partner. The two passages are intimately related. They use the same terminology. Both Tzelophehad’s daughters and the leaders of the clan “draw near”. They use the same verb to describe their potential loss: yigara, “disadvantaged, diminished”. God replies in both cases with the same locution, “kein... dovrot/dovrim,” rightly do they speak. Why then are the two episodes separated in the text? Why does the book of Numbers</p>	<p>end on this seemingly anticlimactic note? And does it have any relevance today?</p> <p>Bamidbar is a book is about individuals. It begins with a census, whose purpose is less to tell us the actual number of Israelites than to “lift” their “heads”, the unusual locution the Torah uses to convey the idea that when God orders a census it is to tell the people that they each count. The book also focuses on the psychology of individuals. We read of Moses’ despair, of Aaron and Miriam’s criticism of him, of the spies who lacked the courage to come back with a positive report, and of the malcontents, led by Korach, who challenged Moses’ leadership. We read of Joshua and Caleb, Eldad and Medad, Datham and Aviram, Zimri and Pinchas, Balak and Bilam and others. This emphasis on individuals reaches a climax in Moses’ prayer to “God of the spirits of all flesh” to appoint a successor – understood by the sages and Rashi to mean, appoint a leader who will deal with each individual as an individual, who will relate to people in their uniqueness and singularity. That is the context of the claim of Tzelophehad’s daughters. They were claiming their rights as individuals. Justly</p>
<b>Times</b>				
Candle Lighting	7:47 pm	<p><b>KIDDUSH IS SPONSORED BY GREAT NECK SYNAGOGUE</b></p> <p><b>BIMA FLOWERS ARE SPONSORED BY RIFKA &amp; CARL ROSENBERG IN MEMORY OF HIS MOTHER BLANCHE ROSENBERG, Z"l.</b></p> <p><b>SEUDAH SHLISHIT IS SPONSORED BY GALIT &amp; GRANT REICHLIN IN MEMORY OF HIS BROTHER RICHARD, Z"l AND BY THE ATTENDEES OF THE SHABBAT AFTERNOON GEMARAH SHIUR FOR FINISHING MESECHET BRACHOT, MICHAEL HOENIG, HOWARD WOLF, SAM YEHASKEL AND STEVE ZUCKERMAN.</b></p>		
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	6:40 pm			
Mincha	7:40 pm			
Shabbat Ends	8:54 pm			
Sun. August 7	7:30/8:30 am			
Mon. & Thurs.	6:35/7:45 am			
Tues., Wed. & Fri.	6:45/7:45 am			
Mincha	7:40 pm			
Latest Times for Shema/Shemoneh Esrei				
Aug. 6	9:28/10:39 am			
Aug. 13	9:31/10:40 am			
Next Shabbat Devarim				
Candle Lighting	7:38 pm			
Mincha	7:00 pm			

so. As many of the commentators pointed out, the behavior of the women throughout the wilderness years was exemplary while that of the men was the opposite. The men, not the women, gave gold for the golden calf. The spies were men: a famous comment by the Kli Yakar (R. Shlomo Ephraim Luntschitz, 1550 –1619) suggests that had Moses sent women instead, they would have come back with a positive report. Recognising the justice of their cause, God affirmed their rights as individuals.

But society is not built on individuals alone. As the book of Judges points out, individualism is another name for chaos: "In those days there was no king in Israel, everyone did what was right in their own eyes." Hence the insistence, throughout Bamidbar, on the central role of the tribes as the organizing principle of Jewish life. The Israelites were numbered tribe by tribe. The Torah sets out their precise encampment around the Mishkan and the order in which they were to journey. In Naso, at inordinate length, the Torah repeats the gifts of each tribe at the inauguration of the Mishkan, despite the fact that they each gave exactly the same. The tribes were not accidental to the structure of Israel as a society. Like the United States of America, whose basic political structure is that of a federation of (originally thirteen, now fifty) states, so Israel was (until the appointment of a king) a federation of tribes. The existence of something like tribes is fundamental to a free society. The modern state of Israel is built on a vast panoply of ethnicities – Ashkenazi, Sefardi, Jews from Eastern, Central and Western Europe, Spain and Portugal, Arab lands, Russia and Ethiopia, America, South Africa, Australia and other places, some Hassidic, some Yeshiva-ish, others "Modern", others "Traditional", yet others secular and cultural. We each have a series of identities, based partly on family background, partly on occupation, partly on locality and community. These "mediating structures", larger than the individual but smaller than the state, are where we develop our complex, vivid, face-

-to-face interactions and identities. They are the domain of family, friends, neighbors and colleagues, and they make up what is collectively known as civil society. A strong civil society is essential to freedom.

That is why, alongside individual rights, a society must make space for group identities. The classic instance of the opposite came in the wake of the French revolution. In the course of the debate in the French Revolutionary Assembly in 1789, the Count of Clermont-Tonnerre made his famous declaration, "To the Jews as individuals, everything. To the Jews as a nation, nothing." If they insisted on defining themselves as a nation, that is, as a distinct subgroup within the republic, said the Count, "we shall be compelled to expel them." Initially, this sounded reasonable. Jews were being offered civil rights in the new secular nation state. However, it was anything but. It meant that Jews would have to give up their identity as Jews in the public domain. Nothing – not religious or ethnic identity – should stand between the individual and the state. It was no accident that a century later, France became one of the epicenters of European anti-Semitism, beginning with Édouard Drumont's vicious *La France Juive*, 1886, and culminating in the Dreyfus trial. Hearing the Parisian crowd shout "Mort aux Juifs", Theodor Herzl realized that Jews had still not been accepted as citizens of Europe, despite all the protestations to the contrary. Jews found themselves regarded as a tribe in a Europe that claimed to have abolished tribes. European emancipation recognized individual rights but not collective ones. The primatologist Frans de Waal, whose work among the bonobos we mentioned in this year's Covenant and Conversation on Korach, makes the point powerfully. Almost the whole of modern Western culture, he says, was built on the idea of autonomous, choosing individuals. But that is not who we are. We are people with strong attachments to family, friends, neighbors, allies, co-religionists and people of the same ethnicity. He continues: A morality exclusively concerned with individual rights tends to ignore the ties, needs and interdependencies that have marked our existence from the very beginning. It is a cold morality that puts space between people, assigning each person to his or her own little corner of the universe. How this caricature of a society arose in the minds of eminent thinkers is a mystery.

That is precisely the point the Torah is making when it divides the story of the daughters of Tzelophehad into two. The first part, in parshat Pinchas, is about individual rights, the rights of Tzelophehad's daughters to a share in the land. The second, at the end of the book, is about group rights, in this case the right of the tribe of Menasheh to its territory. The Torah affirms both, because both are necessary to a free society. Many of the most seemingly intractable issues in contemporary Jewish life have appeared because Jews, especially in the West, are used to a culture in which individual rights are held to override all others. We should be free to live as we choose, worship as we choose, and identify as we choose. But a culture based solely on individual rights will undermine families, communities, traditions, loyalties, and shared codes of reverence and restraint. Despite its enormous emphasis on the value of the individual, Judaism also insists on the value of those institutions that preserve and protect our identities as members of groups that make them up. We have rights as individuals but identities only as members of tribes. Honoring both is delicate, difficult and necessary. Bamidbar ends by showing us how.



**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**

**To speak Lashon Hara in Shul shows a defect in one's awe of Hashem...  
 Chofetz Chaim**

Sally & Seymour Olshin Adult  
Education Program

Great Neck Synagogue Summer Learning Program  
**Roshei Yeshiva Lecture Series**



Tuesday August 2, 2016 at 8:15 pm (Mincha at 7:50 pm)

**Rabbi Baruch Simon**

*“Early Shabbos: Pushing the Halachik Envelope”*

Rabbi Simon is Rosh Yeshiva at Yeshiva University. He graduated magna cum laude, with a B.A. in Judaic Studies from Yeshiva College. He was chosen to deliver the Birkat Preidah, or farewell address, a singular honor given the Yeshiva Program valedictorian. Rabbi Simon is the author of a sefer of divrei torah on the parsha entitled Imrei Baruch, which has been published in numerous volumes. Rabbi Simon has given over thirteen hundred shiurim at Yeshiva University that cover topics such as Talmud, Jewish Law, ethical discourses and weekly Torah sermons.



Tuesday August 9, 2016 at 8:15 pm (Mincha at 7:40 pm)

**Rabbi Chaim Schwartz**

*“Behind the Scenes at the Va’ad”*

Rabbi Schwartz is the Executive Vice President of the Va’ad Rabbonim of Queens and oversees the kashrut division. His presentation will discuss many topics in kashrut including how a restaurant becomes kosher as well as debunking certain myths about standards of the Va’ad. It will sure to be a very enlightening discussion with a Q&A to follow.



Sunday August 21, 2016 at 9:15 am (Shacharit at 8:30 am)

**Rabbi Dovid Hirsch**

*“Respecting Parents: When the Going Gets Tough”*

Rabbi Hirsch is a graduate of Yeshiva College, receiving the Rothman Award for Excellence in Talmud. He earned his M.S. degree in Jewish Education from Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration in 1993. That same year, he was ordained at the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary (RIETS). He was named a fellow of the Gruss Kollel Elyon. Rabbi Hirsch was appointed Rosh Yeshiva in 2000 and has taught Talmud, halakhah and Jewish Thought in his lectures.

# GNS CHESED DRIVE FOR JULY

**WE ARE COLLECTING SCHOOL SUPPLIES**



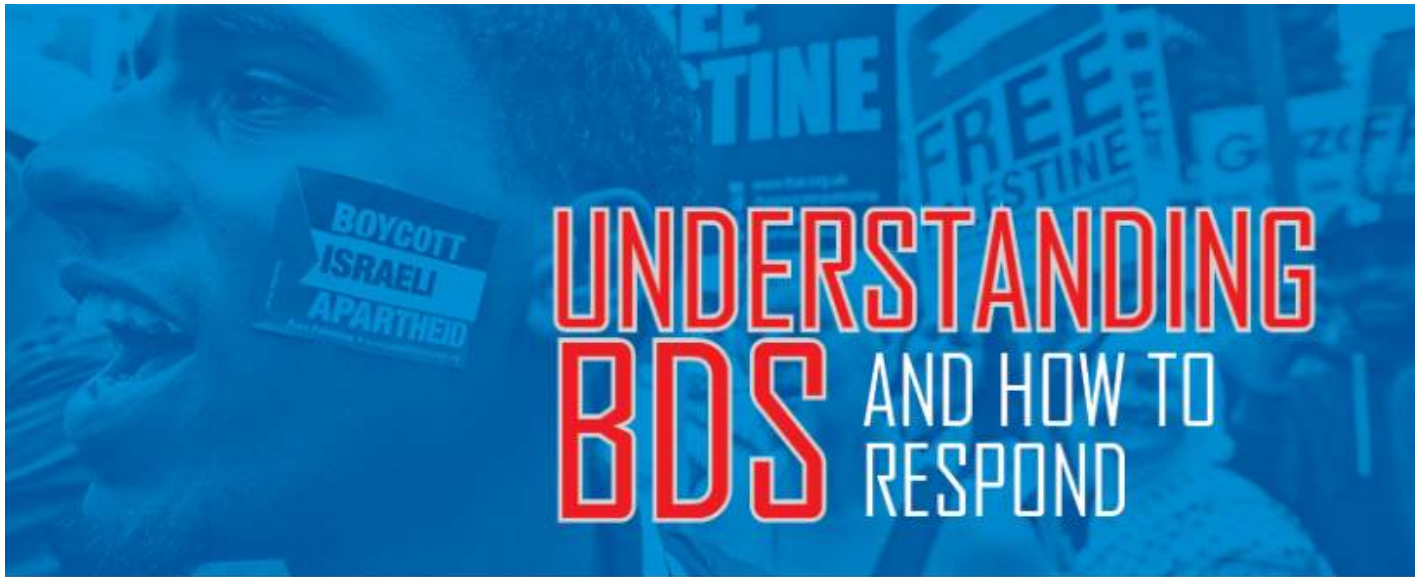
**ITEMS WILL BE DONATED TO CHAI LIFELINE**

THE SUPPLIES WILL BE USED BY FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN FROM KINDERGARTEN - HIGH SCHOOL.

KNAPSACKS, NOTEBOOKS, MARKERS, LOOSELEAFS, GLUE, SCISSORS, PAPER, RULERS, ETC.

**PLEASE DROP OFF AT 2 BRENTWOOD LANE  
HOME of JOE ROSENTHAL AND JAYNE ALTMAN  
SUNDAY - THURSDAY THROUGH AUG. 8TH  
PLEASE LEAVE NEAR FRONT DOOR**





# UNDERSTANDING BDS AND HOW TO RESPOND

## Event Sponsors:



**StandWithUs**

College and college-bound students are invited to join StandWithUs for a special and exclusive event to further understand and defeat the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) campaign against Israel and the anti-Israel movement.

Hear from student leaders who have experienced anti-Israel and anti-Semitic activities on campus. Learn tangible actions you can take, and Know Your Rights.

## MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 2016

The Inn At Great Neck, 30 Cutter Mill Road, Great Neck, NY  
(one block from LIRR Train Station)

7:00-7:45 PM: Lite dairy dinner & refreshments (Kosher dietary laws observed)

7:45-9:30 PM: Program to start promptly

9:30 PM: Dessert reception

\*Photo ID will be checked at registration. FREE OF CHARGE.

Free \$250 Apple gift certificate raffle.

Please come early.

## Community Partners

Ahavat Shalom Synagogue • Babylonian Jewish Center Congregation • Shaare Zion of Great Neck • Mashadi Jewish Center  
Great Neck Synagogue • Iranian Jewish Center/Beth Hadassah Synagogue • Cherry Lane Synagogue • NCSY  
North Shore Hebrew Academy • Temple Beth El of Great Neck • Temple Israel of Great Neck • Young Israel of Great Neck

# BOOK SALE

GNS is doing some Pesach cleaning (just seeing if you're paying attention!)

Due to an accumulation of visiting author's books, we are selling our limited stash at big discounts. The following books are available for **\$10 each**:

The Prime Ministers by Yehuda Avner **SOLD OUT**

Subversive Sequels in the Bible (Paperback) by Judy Klitsner

The Mystery of the Milton Manuscript (A Novel) by Barry Libin

Table Talk – Shabbos and Yom Tov Divrei Torah by Rabbi Raphael Pelcovitz

Yoni's Last Battle – The rescue at Entebbe (Paperback) by Ido Netanyahu

This is a Soul – The Mission of Rick Hodes by Marilyn Berger

Legacy by Harry Ostrer

I Believe – The Story of One Jewish Life by Leibel (Leo) Zisman

When They Come For Us We'll Be Gone – The Epic Struggle to Save Soviet Jewry by Gal Beckerman

Wake Up to the New Year – Stories and Insights by Yehuda Cahn

Precious Objects – A Story of Diamonds, Family and A Way of Life by Alisia Oltusks

Travel in Halacha – A Contemporary Halachic Guide for the Jewish Traveler

There is a very limited supply available in the office. First come first served. No limits. Cash or check only.





# **6th ANNUAL FISHING TRIP**

## **Sunday August 28**

**Boat departs from Freeport Boat Dock at  
9am & returns at 2pm**

**\$55 Per Person**

**\$40 Children 6-11**

**\$50 Men's Club Members**

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

**FANTASY III**

**First 6 Children under 12 yrs FREE with adult - 1 per family**

**BREAKFAST & LUNCH INCLUDED**

**Contact:**

**Mark Friedman 482-1062 MFriedman@aol.com**

**Hilly Milun 448-4890 gnsmensclub@gmail.com**

# 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.**

## SUNDAY BREAKFAST

Sponsored by **Joan & Leon Goodman** in memory of **Estelle Goodman, z"l** and by **Aaron Eliach** in memory of **Meyer Eliach, Meir ben Aharon Yehoshua, z"l**.

## SUMMER SERIES LECTURE THIS WEEK

Tuesday August 2nd at 8:15 pm following Mincha/Maariv, Rabbi Baruch Simon will speak on "Making Early Shabbat".

## GNS JULY CHESED COLLECTION

Collecting school supplies to be donated to Chai Lifeline, please drop off at home of Joe Rosenthal & Jayne Altman, 2 Brentwood Lane at front door, Sun. - Thurs. until Aug. 8.

## TOYS FOR YOUTH PROGRAM

The Youth Department Toddler program is in need of new or gently used toys for use on Shabbat. Please bring to the Shul office.

## MEN'S CLUB EVENT

**August 28:** 6th Annual Fishing Trip, 9am-2pm from Freeport Boat Dock. Men's Club Members \$50, non-members \$55, children 6-11 yrs. \$40. First 6 children under age 12 are free with one adult ticket, limited one per family. Breakfast & lunch included. Please contact for more information:

Mark Friedman 482.1062 or [MFriedman@aol.com](mailto:MFriedman@aol.com) or Hilly Milun 448.4890 or [gnsmensclub@gmail.com](mailto:gnsmensclub@gmail.com).

## HUNGER INITIATIVE

The three weeks are here and Rosh HaShana can't be far behind...Time for introspection and increasing good deeds. Here's a plan:

- 1) When you are cooking for Shabbat, PLEASE COOK AN EXTRA CHICKEN OR TWO.
- 2) When the chicken is cooled, FREEZE it in a foil pan or a plastic bag in YOUR freezer.
- 3) Email the Hunger Initiative [yomtovchicken@gmail.com](mailto:yomtovchicken@gmail.com) to let us know EVERY time you've cooked an extra chicken.
- 4) DELIVER chicken to GNS in September when we are delivering food for Pass It Forward. We deliver food to those in need. Be part of the solution...

Looking for something meaningful at this time of year? We are looking for new members for the HUNGER INITIATIVE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. We provide food for those in need! Please join us this coming Tuesday Aug. 2nd at 3 pm at the home of Cindy Hodkin, 18 Birchwood Lane. Please email Cindy at [koshercookinggn@gmail.com](mailto:koshercookinggn@gmail.com).

## CARDS, MAGAZINES & CALENDARS

**Mazal Tov and Condolence cards** sent by GNS are going to cost \$10 each as of August 1.

**Magazines** are still being collected for N.S. Hospital. Please cut out address labels and make sure they are within 3 months.

2016-2017 **Caleendars** may be picked up at GNS office.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### SHARSHERET

Join the LI BBQ Dinner & Siyum in support of Sharsheret on **Wed. August 10 at 7:00 pm** at Lawrence Yacht & Country Club, 101 Causeway Rd. in Lawrence. \$90 per person, register by August 1 at [sharsheret.org/libbq](http://sharsheret.org/libbq)

### SCHOLARS' KOLLEL SIYUM

The annual 9 days siyum for the Scholars' Kollel will be **Wednesday August 10th** at Chattanooga Restaurant. Hors d'oeuvre at 7:15 pm followed by Mincha, Siyum & Dinner for \$35 per person. All are welcome, reservations required with Steve Zuckerman at [zkster@aol.com](mailto:zkster@aol.com).

### UPCOMING EVENTS AT GREAT NECK SYNAGOGUE

- August 1: Subway Series Game: Mets vs. Yankees
- August 2: Rabbi Baruch Simon
- August 9: Rabbi Chaim Schwartz
- August 10: Chaverim Center
- August 21: Rabbi Dovid Hirsch
- August 28: Men's Club Annual Fishing Trip

### Saturday, 2 Av

Sheila Ebrahimian for Devorah Aminoff  
Gladys Moslin for Seymour Moslin  
Michael Moslin for Seymour Moslin  
Osnass Shein for Joseph Shein  
Lauren Abeshera for Evelyn Stricker

### Sunday, 3 Av

Mansour Farhadian for Joseph Farhadian  
Zoltan Justin for Herman Juskovic  
Susan Mandelbaum for Tillie Justin  
Gloria Miller for Frank Saltzman  
Phillis Safdieh for Bella Shampam  
Michael Weiss for Ignatz Weiss  
Alex Weiss for Ignatz Weiss  
Madeline Belonsky for Monty Wine

### Monday, 4 Av

Elaine Schneider for Elfrieda Rosa Mayer

### Tuesday, 5 Av

Anne Gold for Harry Feinstein  
Stephen Rabinowitz for Rose Getreu  
Carol Kaufman for Frank Morgenstern  
Brian Smith for Louis Smith  
Edward Wydra for Helen Wydra

### Wednesday, 6 Av

Michelle Rutta for Leon Birnbaum

### Thursday, 7 Av

Marion Kapner for David Eisenberg  
Stanley Fischer for Harry Fischer  
Alan Levy for William Levy  
Dassie Barth for Roslyn Orenstein  
Grant Reichlin for Richard Reichlin

### Friday, 8 Av

Paul Brody for Bea Brody  
Sheila Bachman for Max Gur  
Israel Rosenzweig for Evelyn Rosenzweig

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