



Shabbat Announcements

Parshat Vayikra

April 1, 2017 5 Nissan, 5777

TORAH		Rabbi Jonathan Sacks on Parshat Vayikra		
ARTSCROLL 544		<p>The American Declaration of Independence speaks of the inalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Recently, following the pioneering work of Martin Seligman, founder of Positive Psychology, there have been hundreds of books on happiness. Yet there is something more fundamental still to the sense of a life well-lived, namely, meaning. The two seem similar. It's easy to suppose that people who find meaning are happy, and people who are happy have found meaning. But the two are not the same, nor do they always overlap. Happiness is largely a matter of satisfying needs and wants. Meaning, by contrast, is about a sense of purpose in life, especially by making positive contributions to the lives of others. Happiness is largely about how you feel in the present. Meaning is about how you judge your life as a whole: past, present and future.</p>	<p>with giving. Individuals who suffer stress, worry or anxiety are not happy, but they may be living lives rich with meaning. Past misfortunes reduce present happiness, but people often connect such moments with the discovery of meaning. Happiness is not unique to humans. Animals also experience contentment when their wants and needs are satisfied. But meaning is a distinctively human phenomenon. It has to do not with nature but with culture. It is not about what happens to us, but about how we interpret what happens to us. There can be happiness without meaning, and there can be meaning in the absence of happiness, even in the midst of darkness and pain. In a fascinating article in The Atlantic, 'There's more to life than being happy', Emily Smith argued that the pursuit of happiness can result in a relatively shallow, self-absorbed, even selfish life. What makes the pursuit of meaning different is that it is about the search for something larger than the self.</p>	<p>three years he spent in Auschwitz, Frankl survived and helped others to survive by helping them to discover a purpose in life even in the midst of hell on earth. It was there that he formulated the ideas he later turned into a new type of psychotherapy based on what he called "man's search for meaning". His book of that title, written in the course of nine days in 1946, has sold more than ten million copies throughout the world, and ranks as one of the most influential works of the twentieth century. Frankl knew that in the camps, those who lost the will to live died. He tells of how he helped two individuals to find a reason to survive. One, a woman, had a child waiting for her in another country. Another had written the first volumes of a series of travel books, and there were others yet to write. Both therefore had a reason to live. Frankl used to say that the way to find meaning was not to ask what we want from life. Instead we should ask what life wants from us. We are each, he said, unique: in our gifts, our abilities, our skills and talents, and in the circumstances of our life.</p>
HERTZ 410				
HAFTORAH		<p>Happiness is associated with taking, meaning</p>	<p>No one did more to put the question of meaning into modern discourse than the late Viktor Frankl, who has figured prominently in this year's Covenant and Conversation essays on spirituality. In the</p>	
ARTSCROLL 1165				
HERTZ 424		<p>KIDDUSH IS SPONSORED BY GREAT NECK SYNAGOGUE WITH FRUIT PLATTERS, SMOOTHIES & COCKTAILS SPONSORED BY ALBERT HALIMI IN WISHING A CHAG SAMEACH TO THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY</p>	<p>BIMA FLOWERS ARE SPONSORED BY ALINA & LEV DYNKIN IN MEMORY OF HER FATHER REUVEN CHERNYAVSKY, Z"l.</p>	<p>SEUDAH SHLISHIT IS SPONSORED BY MALKA GAD IN MEMORY OF HER MOTHER TVUZ HAKIMI, Z"l.</p>
Times				
Candle Lighting	7:01 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	6:00 pm			
Mincha	7:00 pm			
Shabbos Ends	8:10 pm			
R' Reisman Video	10:00 pm			
Sun. April 2	7:30/8:30 am			
Mon. & Thurs.	6:35/7:45 am			
Tues., Wed. & Fri.	6:45/7:45 am			
Mincha	7:05 pm			
Latest Times for Shema/Shemoneh Esrei				
April 1	9:48/10:52 am			
April 8	9:41/10:46 am			
Next Shabbat Tzav				
Candle Lighting	7:08 pm			
Mincha	7:00 pm			

For each of us, then, there is a task only we can do. This does not mean that we are better than others. But if we believe we are here for a reason, then there is a tikkun, a mending, only we can perform, a fragment of light only we can redeem, an act of kindness or courage or generosity or hospitality, even a word of encouragement or a smile, only we can perform, because we are here, in this place, at this time, facing this person at this moment in their lives. "Life is a task", he used to say, and added, "The religious man differs from the apparently irreligious man only by experiencing his existence not simply as a task, but as a mission." He or she is aware of being summoned, called, by a Source. "For thousands of years that source has been called God."

That is the significance of the word that gives our parsha, and the third book of the Torah, its name: Vayikra, "And He called." The precise meaning of this opening verse is difficult to understand. Literally translated it reads: "And He called to Moses, and God spoke to him from the Tent of Meeting, saying..." The first phrase seems to be redundant. If we are told that God spoke to Moses, why say in addition, "And He called"? Rashi explains as follows: And He called to Moses: Every [time God communicated with Moses, whether signaled by the expression] "And He spoke", or "and He said", or "and He commanded", it was always preceded by [God] calling [to Moses by name]. "Calling" is an expression of endearment. It is the expression employed by the ministering angels, as it says, "And one called to the other..." (Isa. 6:3). Vayikra, Rashi is telling us, means to be called to a task in love. This is the source of one of the key ideas of Western thought, namely the concept of a vocation or a calling, that is, the choice of a career or way of life not just because you want to do it, or because it offers certain benefits, but because you feel summoned to it. You feel this

is your meaning and mission in life. This is what you were placed on earth to do. There are many such calls in Tanakh. There was the call Abraham heard to leave his land and family. There was the call to Moses at the burning bush (Ex. 3:4). There was the one experienced by Isaiah when he saw in a mystical vision God enthroned and surrounded by angels: Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" (Isaiah 6:8)

One of the most touching is the story of the young Samuel, dedicated by his mother Hannah to serve in the sanctuary at Shiloh where he acted as an assistant to Eli the priest. In bed at night he heard a voice calling his name. He assumed it was Eli. He ran to see what he wanted but Eli told him he had not called. This happened a second time and then a third, and by then Eli realized that it was God calling the child. He told Samuel that the next time the voice called his name, he should reply, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.' It did not occur to the child that it might be God summoning him to a mission, but it was. Thus began his career as a prophet, judge and anointer of Israel's first two kings, Saul and David (1 Samuel 3).

When we see a wrong to be righted, a sickness to be healed, a need to be met, and we feel it speaking to us, that is when we come as close as we can in a post-prophetic age to hearing Vayikra, God's call. And why does the word appear here, at the beginning of the third and central book of the Torah? Because the book of Vayikra is about sacrifices, and a vocation is about sacrifices. We are willing to make sacrifices when we feel they are part of the task we are called on to do. From the perspective of eternity we may sometimes be overwhelmed by a sense of our own insignificance. We are no more than a wave in the ocean, a grain of sand on the sea shore, dust on the surface of infinity. Yet we are here because God wanted us to be, because there is a task He wants us to perform. The search for meaning is the quest for this task. Each of us is unique. Even genetically identical twins are different. There are things only we can do, we who are what we are, in this time, this place and these circumstances. For each of us God has a task: work to perform, a kindness to show, a gift to give, love to share, loneliness to ease, pain to heal, or broken lives to help mend. Discerning that task, hearing Vayikra, God's call, is one of the great spiritual challenges for each of us. How do we know what it is? Some years ago, in *To Heal a Fractured World*, I offered this as a guide, and it still seems to me to make sense: Where what we want to do meets what needs to be done, that is where God wants us to be.



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.
 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
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Lisa Septimus, Yoetzet Halacha 516-415-1111

PESACH PREPARATIONS

TWO WAYS TO GET A MITZVAH THIS PASSOVER

GNS - Passover Food Chesed Collection 2017

Got Matzah??

Please drop off Passover Matza, boxed & canned food items to donate to needy families!!

Please drop off at the

Lunzer Home, 91 Bayview Ave, Sunday - Friday until April 4th

Please ring bell so it can be brought into the house. Please leave all food in shopping or garbage bags. Do Not bring items in Glass containers.

Chometz Chesed Collection 2017

Don't throw out your Chometz! Please donate your Chometz now!!!

Please drop off your Chometz

at the Atlas home, 9 Brook Lane, Sunday - Friday: until April 4th

Please leave in bags at the garage door!

Thank you for being a part of this special Mitzvah!

UJA-PASSOVER PAPER GOODS COLLECTIONS

We are collecting new and unused paper goods which will be used on Passover by families that do not own Passover dishes!!

The items needed are: cups, plates, napkins, bowls, and plastic ware.

Please drop off at the GNS office.

Thank you for your help!!

For information contact Sharon Goldwyn 917.287.7334

Men's Club & Sisterhood want to thank the following businesses for donating individual raffle prizes at this past week's "Newlywed Game". Please patronage their business.

[Kosherketubot will donate a Family Tree](#)

[Super Fresh Flowers Gift Certificate](#)

[Bistro Burger Gift Certificate](#)

[De-Al salon Gift Certificate](#)

[Maya's Place Gift Certificate](#)

[Shop Delight Gift Certificates](#)

[Lake Success Wine & Spirits bottles of wine](#)

[Middle Cleaners Gift Certificate](#)

[Best Market Gift Certificate](#)

[Benny's Barber Shop Gift Certificate](#)

Also stay tune for more Sisterhood and Men's Club events to come!

SISTERHOOD GIFT SHOP

The gift shop is re-stocked. Come and shop for Pesach. Going out for meals? Need a gift? Support the Sisterhood Gift Shop!



**SUNDAY
APRIL 2ND @
10AM**



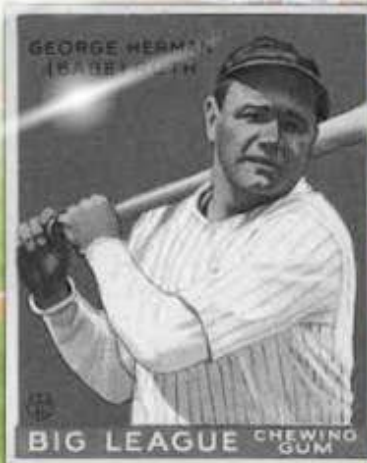
Complementary Breakfast
ALL WELCOME!



TALKING BASEBALL: HISTORY & TRIVIA

Ira Dornstein & Paul Fredericks share their encyclopedic knowledge of America's pastime by presenting an audio-visual feast for those who enjoy the game and its history.

A prize will be awarded to a winner of a baseball trivia contest!



Sunday April 9
Pre-Pesach GNS Youth Program
10:00am-12:00pm
Preschool-grade 4

Members: \$10/child \$25/family
Non Members: \$15 child, \$35/family

Sports with Coach Anthony

Grades 1-4

Play ball and games with your friends
led by Coach Anthony in GNS GYM

Crafts & Exotic Animals

Preschoolers
Get ready for Pesach with
Crafts with Morah Zehava &
exotic animal show



CHAVERIM AT GENS

DATE:

April 26th

11:30 - 2:00

ACTIVITY

Program after Pesach
TBA

LUNCH

RSVP by calling the shul office
or emailing Michelle

**LAST EVENT'S
SPONSORS**

Thank you to Cindy Hodkin & Roz Korman
for sponsoring lunch in memory of Bernard Korman
and Mahnaz Moalemi & Nassereh Youseffnia
for sponsoring lunch in honor of Anna Kaplan

Cindy, Erica, Michelle & Naeema
wish you all a
Chag Kasher V'Sameach!

Donations and Sponsorships are always welcome.



RSVP
REQUIRED

DIETARY
LAWS
OBSERVED

NO COST
TO
ATTEND

JNF and the Great Neck Synagogue Men's Club Invite You to the

GREAT NECK BREAKFAST FOR ISRAEL

Sunday, April 30, 2017

9:30 am Registration

10:00 am Program

Great Neck Synagogue

26 Old Mill Road, Great Neck, NY 11023

RSVP by April 25, 2017 at jnf.org/libbreakfast

Featuring Guest Speaker

REBECCA SHIMONI-STOIL



Rebecca Shimoni-Stoil is the Washington Correspondent for *The Times of Israel* and a PhD candidate at Johns Hopkins University. She was previously *The Jerusalem Post's* acting Washington, D.C. Bureau Chief and has served as both the Knesset and Internal Security Correspondent for *The Jerusalem Post*. After making aliyah, Rebecca talked her way into the IDF and became the deputy commander of combat medics in the "Eshet Battalion" of the Armoured Corps.

More Information
Howard Ingram,
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516.678.6800 x110.

EVENT COMMITTEE Great Neck Synagogue Men's Club



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

RABBI POLAKOFF'S SHABBOS DRASHA THROUGH 5777 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.

OFFICE HOURS FOR RABBI POLAKOFF

Wednesdays 10 am - 12 pm

Thursdays 1 pm - 3 pm

He is available at other times by appointment and can always be reached by email at dpolakoff@gns.org, or on his cell at 516-637-3674.

GNS CHESED PRE-PESACH

Drop off Passover food items to be donated to families at the Lunzer home, 91 Bayview Ave. and Chametz can be dropped off at the Atlas home, 9 Brook Lane.

KASHER-IN

Monday evening, April 3rd from 7:45-10:00 pm will be the Kasher-In. Please ensure that utensils have not been used for 24 hours and they are clean and polished.

HUNGER INITIATIVE

Great Neck Synagogue Hunger initiative delivers Passover food to needy families and elderly people living alone. As you are shopping and preparing, we ask you to think of others less fortunate and donate funds to the GNS Hunger Initiative.

Also, DRIVERS needed to deliver Passover food to those in need, **Wednesday April 5th at 1:00 pm**. Please contact Michelle Berman michberman@gmail.com. Don't pass over this chance to do Chesed! Help others enjoy Passover.

PESACH REMINDERS

Please begin to clean out your lockers and talit bags of all Chametz in preparation for Pesach.

BEREAVEMENT & GRIEF GROUP COUNSELING

Many of our members who have recently lost a beloved family member may benefit from a small group which provides advice, comfort and support to those who are having difficulty in dealing with their grief. If you would be interested in participating in such a group led by rabbis and certified therapists, please call the synagogue's office giving your name and phone number where you can be reached. We hope that by sharing our grief in a small group it will provide a healing process.

CHAVERIM CENTER

Chaverim will next meet after Pesach on **Wednesday, April 26th**.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT GREAT NECK SYNAGOGUE

Apr. 2: Men's Club Event: Talking Baseball
Apr. 3: Pesach Kasher-In
Apr. 6: Matzah Pick-Up
Apr. 9: Youth Pre-Pesach Event
Apr. 23: Yom HaShoah: Roman Kent
Apr. 26: Chaverim Center
Apr. 30: Men's Club & JNF Breakfast

MAZAL TOVS & COMMUNITY NEWS

Mazal Tov to **Mark & Beth Gersten**, on the Bar Mitzvah of his grandson, **Ezra Gersten**, son of **Betzalel & Fay Gersten**, in Eretz Yisrael.

Mazal Tov to **Lisa & Dov Weinstein** on the birth and brit milah of their son. **Mazal Tov** to grandparents, **Judy & Jerrald Weinstein**.

Mazal Tov to **Bracha & Chazzan Ze'ev Kron** on the birth of a granddaughter to their children, born to their children **Ruchie & Yoni Torgov** in Detroit.

Mazal Tov to **Laura & Scott Danoff** for being honored at the NSHA Annual Dinner this Sunday.

Mazal Tov to **Cheryl & Ronald Silverman** for being honored at NSHA Annual Dinner this Sunday.

SHOE GEMACH FOR PESACH

Sara's Shoes is in need of women's shoes in new or nearly new condition in advance of the Pesach season. Shoes can be dropped off by the Lunzers at 91 Bayview Ave. Please email Sarasshoegemach@gmail.com or call Ariella Lunzer at 516-241-1086 for more information.

Y A H R Z E I T

Saturday, 5 Nisan

Farid Adhami for Kian Adhami
Michele Wolf for Ruth Berman
Jacques Fouladi for Azam Fouladi
Jeffrey Kaufman for Martin Kaufman
Yonni Mrejen for Jacob Mrejen
Roselin Wagner for Miriam Seider
Lorraine Domnitch for Sidney Spiesel
Howard Wolf For Julius Wolf

Sunday, 6 Nisan

Alina Dynkin for Reuven Chernyavsky
Pearl Ginsburg for David Ginsburg
Deena Heisler for Rae Heisler
Eliot Heisler for Rae Heisler
Gedale Horowitz for Florence Horowitz
Amir Mardkha for Nassrollah Mardkha

Monday, 7 Nisan

Joyce Swartz for Seymour Zeff

Tuesday, 8 Nisan

Ron Braun for Renee Braun
David Bronheim for Lenny Bronheim
Mark Bunim for Gladys Bunim
Amy Goldberg-Reiss for Joseph Goldberg
Malka Gad for Tvuz Hakimi
Donna Hecht for Tvuz Hakimi
Nathaniel Weisel for Bessie Kaplan
Nechama Liss-Levinson for Morris Liss
Vivian Kron for Yvette Diana Mahlab
Joyce Dacher for Ida Wolfman

Wednesday, 9 Nisan

Randi Luxenburg for Bernard Beeber
Elie Cohen for Michael Cohen
Jack Cohen for Bessie Poretsky

Thursday, 10 Nisan

Iraj Kashani for Yousef Kashani
Bracha Kron for Sra bat Naftali Menachem

Friday, 11 Nisan

Paul Brody for Harvey Brody
Sharon Goldwyn for Belle Goldwyn
Laura Danoff for Ernest Herman
Phyllis Jadidian for Diana Shapiro
Lev Dynkin for Meishe Ber Shifman
Semyon Dynkin for Meishe Ber Shifman
Steven Zuckerman for Evelyn Zuckerman