



Shabbat Announcements

Parshat Shoftim

August 26, 2017 4 Elul, 5777

<p>TORAH ARTSCROLL 1024 HERTZ 820</p> <p>HAFTORAH ARTSCROLL 1199 HERTZ 835</p>	<h2>Parshat Shoftim</h2>	
<h3>Times</h3>	<p>At a dinner to celebrate the work of a communal leader, the guest speaker paid tribute to his many qualities: his dedication, hard work and foresight. As he sat down the leader leaned over and said, "You forgot to mention one thing." "What was that?" asked the speaker. The leader replied, "My humility." Quite so. Great leaders have many qualities, but humility is usually not one of them. With rare exceptions they tend to be ambitious, with a high measure of self regard. They expect to be obeyed, honored, respected, even feared. They may wear their superiority effortlessly – Eleanor Roosevelt called this "wearing an invisible crown" – but there is a difference between this and humility.</p> <p>This makes one provision in our parsha unexpected and powerful. The Torah is speaking about a king. Knowing, as Lord Acton put it, that power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely, it specifies three temptations to which a king in ancient times was exposed. A king, it says, should not accumulate many horses</p>	<p>or wives or wealth – the three traps into which, centuries later, King Solomon eventually fell. Then it adds: When [the king] is established on his royal throne, he is to write for himself on a scroll a copy of this Torah ... It is to be with him, and he is to read it all the days of his life so that he may learn to be in awe of the Lord his God and follow carefully all the words of this law and these decrees and not feel superior to his brethren or turn from the law to the right or to the left. Then he and his descendants will reign a long time in the midst of Israel. (Deut. 17:18-20) If a king, whom all are bound to honor, is commanded to be humble – "not feel superior to his brethren" – how much more so the rest of us. Moses, the greatest leader the Jewish people ever had, was "very humble, more so than anyone on the face of the earth" (Num. 12:3). Was it that he was great because he was humble, or humble because he was great? Either way, as R. Johanan said of God himself, "Wherever you find his greatness there you find his humility."</p> <p>This is one of the genuine revolutions Judaism brought about in the history of spirituality. The idea that a king in the ancient world should be humble would have seemed farcical. We can still today see, in the ruins and relics of</p> <p>Mesopotamia and Egypt, an almost endless series of vanity projects created by rulers in honor of themselves. Ramses II had four statues of himself and two of Queen Nefertiti placed on the front of the Temple at Abu Simbel. At 33 feet high, they are almost twice the height of Lincoln's statue in Washington. Aristotle would not have understood the idea that humility is a virtue. For him the megalopsychos, the great-souled man, was an aristocrat, conscious of his superiority to the mass of humankind. Humility, along with obedience, servitude and self-abasement, was for the lower orders, those who had been born not to rule but to be ruled. The idea that a king should be humble was a radically new idea introduced by Judaism and later adopted by Christianity. This is a clear example of how spirituality makes a difference to the way we act, feel and think.</p> <p>Believing that there is a God in whose presence we stand means that we are not the centre of our world. God is. "I am dust and ashes," said Abraham, the father of faith. "Who am I?" said Moses, the greatest of the prophets. This did not render them servile or sycophantic. It was precisely at the moment Abraham</p>
<p>Mincha 7:19 pm</p> <p>Mincha 7:00 pm</p> <p>Hashkama 8:00 am</p> <p>Youth Minyan 8:30 am</p> <p>Parsha Shiur 8:30 am</p> <p>Main 9:00 am</p> <p>Beit Midrash 9:15 am</p> <p>Gemara Shiur 6:10 pm</p> <p>Mincha 7:10 pm</p> <p>Shabbos Ends 8:26 pm</p> <p>Sun. August 20 7:30/8:30 am</p> <p>Mon. & Thurs. 6:35/7:45 am</p> <p>Tue. & Wed. 6:30/7:45 am</p> <p>Fri. 6:45/7:45 am</p> <p>Mincha 7:10 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Latest Times for Shema/Shemoneh Esrei</p> <p>August 26 9:36/10:42 am</p> <p>September 2 9:38/10:43 am</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Next Shabbat Ki Teitzei</p> <p>Candle Lighting 7:08 pm</p> <p>Mincha 7:00 pm</p>	<h2>KIDDUSH</h2> <p>IS SPONSORED BY</p> <h3>GREAT NECK SYNAGOGUE</h3> <p>IN HONOR OF CHAZAN ZEEV & BRACHA KRON</p>	

called himself dust and ashes that he challenged God on the justice of His proposed punishment of Sodom and the cities of the plain. It was Moses, the humblest of men, who urged God to forgive the people, and if not, "Blot me out of the book You have written." These were among the boldest spirits humanity has ever produced.

There is a fundamental difference between two words in Hebrew: anivut, "humility", and shiflut, "self-abasement". So different are they that Maimonides defined humility as the middle path between shiflut and pride. Humility is not low self-regard. That is shiflut. Humility means that you are secure enough not to need to be reassured by others. It means that you don't feel you have to prove yourself by showing that you are cleverer, smarter, more gifted or successful than others. You are secure because you live in God's love. He has faith in you even if you do not. You do not need to compare yourself to others. You have your task, they have theirs, and that leads you to co-operate, not compete. This means that you can see other people and value them for what they are. They are not just a series of mirrors at which you look only to see your own reflection. Secure in yourself you can value others. Confident in your identity you can value the people not like you. Humility is the self turned outward. It is the understanding that "It's not about you."

Already in 1979 the late Christopher Lasch published a book entitled *The Culture of Narcissism*, subtitled, *American life in an age of diminished expectations*. It was a prophetic work. In it he argued that the breakdown of family, community and faith had left us fundamentally insecure, deprived of the traditional supports of identity and worth. He did not live to see the age of the selfie, the Facebook profile, designer labels worn on the outside, and the many other forms of "advertisements for myself", but he would not have been surprised. Narcissism, he argued, is a form of insecurity, needing constant reassurance

and regular injections of self-esteem. It is, quite simply, not the best way to live. I sometimes think that narcissism and the loss of religious faith go hand in hand. When we lose faith in God, what is left at the centre of consciousness is the self. It is no coincidence that the greatest of modern atheists, Nietzsche, was the man who saw humility as a vice, not a virtue. He described it as the revenge of the weak against the strong. Nor is it accidental that one of his last works was entitled, "Why I am So Clever." Shortly after writing it he descended into the madness that enveloped him for the last eleven years of his life. You do not have to be religious to understand the importance of humility. In 2014 the Harvard Business Review published the results of a survey that showed that "The best leaders are humble leaders." They learn from criticism. They are confident enough to empower others and praise their contributions. They take personal risks for the sake of the greater good. They inspire loyalty and strong team spirit. And what applies to leaders applies to each of us as marriage partners, parents, fellow-workers, members of communities and friends.

One of the most humble people I ever met was the late Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson. There was nothing self-abasing about him. He carried himself with quiet dignity. He was self-confident and had an almost regal bearing. But when you were alone with him, he made you feel you were the most important person in the room. It was an extraordinary gift. It was "royalty without a crown." It was "greatness in plain clothes." It taught me that humility is not thinking you are small. It is thinking that other people have greatness within them. Ezra Taft Benson said that "pride is concerned with who is right; humility is concerned with what is right." To serve God in love, said Maimonides, is to do what is truly right because it is truly right and for no other reason. Love is selfless. Forgiveness is selfless. So is altruism. When we place the self at the centre of our universe, we eventually turn everyone and everything into a means to our ends. That diminishes them, which diminishes us. Humility means living by the light of that-which-is-greater-than-me. When God is at the centre of our lives, we open ourselves up to the glory of creation and the beauty of other people. The smaller the self, the wider the radius of our world.



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
Zehava & Dr. Michael Atlas, Youth Directors
Mark Twersky, Executive Director
Dr. James Frisch, Assistant Director
Dov Sassoon, President
Rabbi Jesse Shore, Rabbinic Intern
Harold Domnitch, Chairman of the Board
Lisa Septimus, Yoetzet Halacha 516-415-1111

GREAT NECK SYNAGOGUE'S FAREWELL GALA KIDDUSH TO CHAZAN ZE'EV & BRACHA KRON



AS WE THANK THEM
FOR THEIR YEARS OF INSPIRATION, FRIENDSHIP & TREMENDOUS SERVICE
TO OUR SYNAGOGUE AND COMMUNITY

THIS SHABBAT PARSHAT SHOFTIM AUGUST 26TH 2017

GNS Youth Carnival!!! Kickoff Event

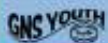
THURSDAY AUGUST 31
PRESCHOOL-8TH GRADE
GNS PARKING LOT
4:00-6:00PM



PREPARE TO GET WET!!
WATER SLIDES, FOOD AND MORE!

*Be mindful this is a shul event so please dress accordingly.

\$25 per family (members)
\$36 per family (non members)
BBQ Dinner options available for purchase



GNS CHESSED DRIVE FOR AUGUST

WE ARE COLLECTING NEW SCHOOL SUPPLIES



ITEMS WILL BE DONATED TO
ONEG SHABBOS

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

BACKPACKS, BINDERS, CRAYONS, MARKERS,
GLUE, SCISSORS, PAPER, RULERS, ETC.

PLEASE DROP OFF AT THE KESSLER HOME
9 VISTA DRIVE

SUNDAY - THURSDAY

PLEASE LEAVE IN BOX ON FRONT PORCH

**GNS 10TH ANNUAL ROSH HASHANA
PASS IT FORWARD HUNGER INITIATIVE**

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17th, 2017

BRING THE SWEETNESS OF ROSH HASHANA TO THOSE IN NEED!

Now in its 10th year, the PASS IT FORWARD program of the GNS Hunger Initiative provides food to families for Yom Tov. Last year, volunteers packed and delivered over **1000** meals to needy individuals, families and kosher food pantries.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP!

Donate Food: If you have a kosher kitchen (separate meat and dairy utensils and kosher certification on all processed foods), make extra food (soup, main, side or dessert) and pack it in containers serving 4-8 (no bags please!). Brownie mixes, aluminum pans & plastic containers available at 11 Margaret Court and 9 Myrtle Drive. Special request for matzah balls!!

Deliver food to GNS COAT ROOM LOBBY on SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17th between
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm.

Donate Funds: Purchase a special meal for an \$18 contribution from Great Neck Glatt or Everfresh, which will be delivered on your behalf. You can also make a donation directly to the GNS Hunger Initiative.

Donate Time: We need packers (from 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm) and drivers for about 25 different routes, starting from 3:00 pm on SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 21st meeting at GNS Coat Lobby.

All Volunteers, please email Michelle Berman at michberman@gmail.com

Do A Mitzvah... Make Life Meaningful.... Rosh HaShana is coming....

Great Neck Synagogue High Holidays 5778 Chazzanim & Ba'alei Tefilah



**Chazzan Srulik Hershtik for
Rosh Hashana & Yom Kippur
Main Sanctuary**

Chazzan Yisroel "Srulik" Hershtik was born in South Africa and raised in Israel. He is a well-known chazzan, singer, choir director and conductor. He has led Rosh Hashana & Yom Kippur services in the YI of Woodmere for the last ten years.

Srulik is part of the Hershtik family musical dynasty, son of world famous chazzan Chaim Eliezer Hershtik and cousin of Netanel Hershtik of the Hampton Synagogue.



**Shloimi Dachs
Mender Auditorium**



Sruli Hirsch

Main Sanctuary & Beit Midrash



Evan Twersky

Slichot & Beit Midrash

Simcha Leiner
Chazzan for 1st Days of Sukkot
Main Sanctuary & Beit Midrash



Since 2009, Simcha Leiner has been wowing audiences around the world. At the mere age of 12, he began studying at the Belz School of Jewish Music (Yeshiva University) under the tutelage of Cantor Sherwood Goffin. He has performed at hundreds of events in over 10 countries. Together with his producer, Yochi Briskman, they have released 3 solo albums to critical acclaim, the latest being Leiner Live in Odessa.

In addition, Simcha and Baruch Levine have joined forces to release 2 incredibly popular Project albums. Simcha serves as a chazzan in communities around the world on Shabbosim and Yom Tovim.

Great Neck Synagogue Guest Speaker Series



Shabbat
September 16, 2017

Michal Horowitz

Shabbat Drasha

Rebuilding Ourselves:
The Power of Repentance

Seudah Shlishit

Loving G-d:
Practical Application of
Three Modes of Divine Service

Mrs. Michal Horowitz has a Bachelor of Science from combined studies at York University, Toronto and Brooklyn College and a Masters of Science from Brooklyn College.

Mrs. Horowitz teaches weekly classes at venues in the Five Towns and Far Rockaway. As a dynamic and inspiring teacher and speaker, Mrs. Horowitz has been a guest lecturer and scholar in residence in many communities, both nationally and internationally.

Michal serves as a Scholar in Residence at the Yeshiva University RIETS Annual Shavuot Retreat. Her website is michalhorowitz.com.

Mrs. Horowitz lives in Woodmere with her husband and children.

Motzai Shabbat Pre-Selichot Inspiration 10:00 pm

Exploring & Understanding the Efficacy of Prayer:
Can We Really Change the Decree?

SLICHOT PROGRAM



Great Neck Synagogue
Guest Speaker Series

Motzai Shabbat Selichot Program
September 16, 2017

Pre-Selichot Inspiration
10:00 pm Beit Midrash

Exploring & Understanding the Efficacy of Prayer:
Can We Really Change the Decree?

Mrs. Michal Horowitz has a Bachelor of Science from combined studies at York University, Toronto and Brooklyn College and a Masters of Science from Brooklyn College. Mrs. Horowitz teaches weekly classes at venues in the Five Towns and Far Rockaway. Mrs. Horowitz, a dynamic and inspiring teacher and speaker has been a guest lecturer and scholar in residence in many communities, both nationally and internationally.

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Slichot in the Beit Midrash
led by Evan Twersky 10:45 pm

Born and raised in Great Neck, Evan Twersky has been leading High Holiday services in the Great Neck Synagogue for the last 12 years.

He grew up listening to Cantor Schulman, Cantor Kron, Rabbi Jensen, Dovid Erblisch lead the davening and credits them for his appreciation of nusach and melody.

When not davening, Evan is an IT Professional managing the global IT infrastructure for a financial software firm. He, and his wife Tamar, and their four children currently live in West Hempstead.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

RABBI POLAKOFF'S SHABBOS DRASHA THROUGH 5777 IS DEDICATED IN MEMORY OF **PINCHAS BEN YOSEPH** FOR OTHER SUCH OPPORTUNITIES PLEASE CONTACT HOWARD WOLF 516-643-3344

COMMUNITY NEWS

Mazal Tov to **Rhonda & Jack Lipsky** on the birth of a grandson, born to their children **Rachel & Michael Bohnen**.

Mazal Tov to **Jack & Hadassah Wachstock** on their children, **Oren & Esther Wachstock** making aliyah.

Mazal Tov to **Cantor Zeev & Bracha Kron** on becoming great grandparents to a baby girl, Ahuva, born to **Esty & Yaakov Drebin** of Lakewood NJ. Also, **Mazal Tov** upon the engagement of their grandson, **Dovi Drebin**, to **Rivki Ehrman** of Flatbush.

Mazal Tov to **Ira & Lori Rosenfeld** on the birth and brit milah of a grandson, born to their children, **Dena & Daniel Fromm**.

SHAARE ZEDEK COLLEGE BOWLATHON

An amazing event at Chelsea Piers with more than 200 college students. Be a captain and make a team of 6-10 people and join us **Sept. 5th** Text Sharon for details [917 287 7334](tel:9172877334) or go to www.bowl4israel.com and sign up your team!

KIDNEY DONATION FOR SISTER OF KAREN WYDRA

If you know anyone who is willing to save a life by donating a kidney - no matter what their blood type, please have them contact R23229@Renewal.org. This is my sister's renewal number. My sister would be given the consideration for the donation and a matched donation could be set up.

LEFTOVER FOOD

If you have leftover food from a celebration or a shiva house, please call Hirshel Minster [718-279-3989](tel:718-279-3989) for pickup to be delivered to needy Jewish families.

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

HUNGER INITIATIVE/PASS IT FORWARD

A) Looking for drivers to deliver care packages to those in need for Rosh HaShanah on **Sunday, September 17th from 3:00-5:00 pm**. Contact Michelle Berman at michberman@gmail.com. Start the year out right...

B) Want to do something fun? Bake brownies or cakes for those in need for Rosh HaShanah. Mixes and pans are available at 11 Margaret Court and 9 Myrtle Drive. Bring your baked goods to GNS Coat Room Lobby on **Sunday September 17th from 11:00-1:00 pm**. Feel good; Do the Right Thing.

C) When you're cooking, cook for one more for those in need. Freeze it and deliver on **Sunday Sept 17 to GNS coat lobby at 11:00-1:00 pm**. Let us know at yomtovchicken@gmail.com.

SISTERHOOD ROSH HASHANA CARDS

Sisterhood will be selling beautiful Rosh Hashana cards that were designed by Celia Lemonik. Cards are being sold in packs of 10 for 18 (chai) dollars or 2.50 each. Cards may be purchased in the shul office or by Judy Lillien [516 487 6845](tel:5164876845). Sisterhood supports many programs throughout the year by the monies raised. Thank you for your continued support!

CHAVERIM CENTER

Join the Chaverim Center on **Wednesday, August 30th** from 11:30-2:00 to make containers of soup for needy families fro Rosh Hashana, part of the Hunger Initiative Pass it Forward Program.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Steve Blumner and Jonny Ambalo for chairing our GNS July Chesed Collection. With everyone's help we collected: 125 pairs of glasses, 164 pairs of shoes and 29 phones. Thank you to all who participated!!

KEREM HALLEL

Donations can still be made in memory of Hallel Ariel z"l. There are two ways to donate: A) Send checks to the GNS office made out to the Emergency Fund with "One Family" in the memo line. B) go to onefamilytogether.org and click on donate on top right. Under comments, must write-in Kerem Hallel. Thank you.

CHAVERWEB

Chaverweb is the most convenient place to view your account status, pay your bills and manage your online profile. Accessible at gns.org with your account password.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT GREAT NECK SYNAGOGUE

August 26: Kiddush in honor of Chazan & Bracha Kron
August 30: Chaverim Center
August 31: Youth Carnival

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Saturday, 4 Elul

Gisele Katz for Fay Gastwirth
Elana Flax for Morris Matzkin
Cheryl Sneag for Morris Matzkin
Anita Beretz for Erna Levi Reichenberg

Sunday, 5 Elul

Sandra Gold for Nita Barak
Janet Kashani for Jacob ben Avraham
Harriet Cooper for Jacob Rothstein

Monday, 6 Elul

Marlene Rutkin for Morris Fishman
Chava Shalmon for Esther Griszpan
William Helreich for Leo Helmreich
Grace Oster for Michael Horowitz

Tuesday, 7 Elul

Elly Engelstein for Renee Jeret
Vera Bernstein for Jacob Lefkowitz

Wednesday, 8 Elul

Rita Gordonson for Dora Gershkowitz
Stanley Lupkin for David Lupkin
Hersel Rabanipour for Gohar Rabinipour
Jacob Wachstock for Judith Wachstock
Harriet Cooper for Celeste Weber

Thursday, 9 Elul

Phyllis Weinberg for Jack Herschkowitz
Judith Edelstein for Rabbi Daniel Lewin
Arthur Kirsch for Tessie Zuckerman

Friday, 10 Elul

Evelyn Henis for Marshall Henis
Anita Beretz for Joseph Levi
Avraham Markowitz for Bernard Markowitz
Polakoff Family for Gail Polakoff
Alan Steinberg for Philip Steinberg
Sharyn Falkenstein for Philip Steinberg