



Shabbat Announcements

Parshat Eikev

August 12, 2017 20 Av, 5777

TORAH
ARTSCROLL 980
HERTZ 780

HAFTORAH
ARTSCROLL 1197

AUFRUF
OF
BRIAN GOTTLIEB

Times

Candle Lighting	7:40 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	6:30 pm
Mincha	7:30 pm
Shabbos Ends	8:46 pm
Sun. August 13	7:30/8:30 am
Mon. & Thurs.	6:35/7:45 am
Tue. Wed. & Fri.	6:45/7:45 am
Mincha	7:30 pm
Latest Times for Shema/Shemoneh Esrei	
August 12	9:30/10:40 am
August 19	9:33/10:41 am
Next Shabbat Re'eh	
Candle Lighting	7:30 pm
Mincha	7:00 pm

Parshat Eikev

It is one of the most important words in Judaism, and also one of the least understood. Its two most famous occurrences are in last week's parsha and this week's: "Hear O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one," and "It shall come to pass if you surely listen to My commandments which I am commanding you today, to love the Lord your God and to serve Him with all your heart and all your soul" – the openings of the first and second paragraphs of the Shema. It also appears in the first line of the parsha: "It shall come to pass, if you listen to these laws." The word, of course, is shema. I have argued elsewhere that it is fundamentally untranslatable into English since it means so many things: to hear, to listen, to pay attention, to understand, to internalize, to respond, to obey. It is one of the motif-words of the book of Devarim, where it appears no less than 92 times – more than in any other book of the Torah. Time and again in the last month of his life Moses told the people, Shema: listen, heed, pay attention. Hear what I am saying. Hear what God is

saying. Listen to what he wants from us. If you would only listen...Judaism is a religion of listening. This is one of its most original contributions to civilization.

The twin foundations on which Western culture was built were ancient Greece and ancient Israel. They could not have been more different. Greece was a profoundly visual culture. Its greatest achievements had to do with the eye, with seeing. It produced some of the greatest art, sculpture and architecture the world has ever seen. Its most characteristic group events – theatrical performances and the Olympic games – were spectacles: performances that were watched. Plato thought of knowledge as a kind of depth vision, seeing beneath the surface to the true form of things. This idea – that knowing is seeing – remains the dominant metaphor in the West even today. We speak of insight, foresight and hindsight. We offer an observation. We adopt a perspective. We illustrate. We illuminate. We shed light on an issue. When we understand something, we say, "I see."

Judaism offered a radical alternative. It is faith in a God we cannot see, a God who cannot be represented visually. The very act of making a graven image – a visual symbol – is a

form of idolatry. As Moses reminded the people in last week's parsha, when the Israelites had a direct encounter with God at Mount Sinai, "You heard the sound of words, but saw no image; there was only a voice." (Deut. 4:12). God communicates in sounds, not sights. He speaks. He commands. He calls. That is why the supreme religious act is Shema. When God speaks, we listen. When He commands, we try to obey. Rabbi David Cohen (1887–1972), known as the Nazirite, a disciple of Rav Kook and the father of R. Shear-Yashuv Cohen, chief rabbi of Haifa, pointed out that in the Babylonian Talmud all the metaphors of understanding are based not on seeing but on hearing. Ta shema, "come and hear." Ka mashma lan, "It teaches us this." Shema mina, "Infer from this." Lo shemiyah lei, "He did not agree."

A traditional teaching is called shamaytta, "that which was heard." And so on. All of these are variations on the word shema. This may seem like a small difference, but it is in fact a huge one. For the Greeks, the ideal form of knowledge involved detachment. There is the one who sees, the subject, and

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there is that which is seen, the object, and they belong to two different realms. A person who looks at a painting or a sculpture or a play in a theatre or the Olympic games is not himself part of the art or the drama or the athletic competition. He or she is a spectator, not a participant.

Speaking and listening are not forms of detachment. They are forms of engagement. They create a relationship. The Hebrew word for knowledge, da'at, implies involvement, closeness, intimacy. "And Adam knew Eve his wife and she conceived and gave birth" (Gen. 4:1). That is knowing in the Hebrew sense, not the Greek. We can enter into a relationship with God, even though He is infinite and we are finite, because we are linked by words. In revelation, God speaks to us. In prayer, we speak to God. If you want to understand any relationship, between husband and wife, or parent and child, or employer and employee, pay close attention to how they speak and listen to one another. Ignore everything else. The Greeks taught us the forms of knowledge that come from observing and inferring, namely science and philosophy. The first scientists and the first philosophers came from Greece from the sixth to the fourth centuries BCE. But not everything can be understood by seeing and appearances alone.

There is a powerful story about this told in the first book of Samuel. Saul, Israel's first king, looked the part. He was tall. "From his shoulders and upward he was higher than any of the people," (1 Sam. 9:2, 10:23). He was the image of a king. But morally, temperamentally, he was not a leader at all; he was a follower. God then told Samuel to anoint another king in his place, and told him it would be one of the children of Yishai. Samuel went to Yishai and was struck by the appearance of one of his sons, Eliav. He thought he must be the one God meant. But God said to him, "Do not be impressed by his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. God does not see as people do. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart" (1 Sam. 16:7). Jews and Judaism taught

that we cannot see God, but we can hear Him and He hears us. It is through the word – speaking and listening – that we can have an intimate relationship with God as our parent, our partner, our sovereign, the One who loves us and whom we love. We cannot demonstrate God scientifically. We cannot prove God logically. These are Greek, not Jewish, modes of thought. I believe that from a Jewish perspective, trying to prove the existence of God logically or scientifically is a mistaken enterprise. God is not an object but a subject. The Jewish mode is to relate to God in intimacy and love, as well as awe and reverence.

One fascinating modern example came from a Jew who, for much of his life, was estranged from Judaism, namely Sigmund Freud. He called psychoanalysis the "speaking cure", but it is better described as the "listening cure." It is based on the fact that active listening is in itself therapeutic. It was only after the spread of psychoanalysis, especially in America, that the phrase "I hear you" came into the English language as a way of communicating empathy.

There is something profoundly spiritual about listening. It is the most effective form of conflict resolution I know. Many things can create conflict, but what sustains it is the feeling on the part of at least one of the parties that they have not been heard. They have not been listened to. We have not "heard their pain". There has been a failure of empathy. That is why the use of force – or for that matter, boycotts – to resolve conflict is so profoundly self-defeating. It may suppress it for a while, but it will return, often more intense than before. Job, who has suffered unjustly, is unmoved by the arguments of his comforters. It is not that he insists on being right: what he wants is to be heard. Not by accident does justice presuppose the rule of audi alteram partem, "Hear the other side." Listening lies at the very heart of relationship. It means that we are open to the other, that we respect him or her, that their perceptions and feelings matter to us. We give them permission to be honest, even if this means making ourselves vulnerable in so doing. A good parent listens to their child. A good employer listens to his or her workers. A good company listens to its customers or clients. A good leader listens to those he or she leads. Listening does not mean agreeing but it does mean caring. Listening is the climate in which love and respect grow.

In Judaism we believe that our relationship with God is an ongoing tutorial in our relationships with other people. How can we expect God to listen to us if we fail to listen to our spouse, our children, or those affected by our work? And how can we expect to encounter God if we have not learned to listen. On Mount Horeb, God taught Elijah that He was not in the whirlwind, the earthquake or the fire but in the kol demamah dakah, the "still, small voice" that I define as a voice you can only hear if you are listening. Crowds are moved by great speakers, but lives are changed by great listeners. Whether between us and God or us and other people, listening is the prelude to love.



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: greatnekyoetzet@gmail.com.
 All conversations and emails are kept confidential.



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 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
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Exciting News!

Bella's hats

Come check out
Bella's
new collection of
trendy and affordable
hats, fascinators, and
other accessories.

BELLA'S HATS TRUNK SHOW
Tuesday, August 8, 2017
10 am - 12 pm & 7 pm - 9 pm
22 Nassau Dr, Great Neck 11021
***Portion of proceeds benefit GNS Sisterhood**



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For your shopping convenience, we accept cash, check or credit cards!



**SALLY & SEYMOUR OLSHIN
ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM
GNS SUMMER 2017
LEARNING PROGRAM**

Guest Speaker:

Dr. Edward Reichman

**Medical Halakhah Update 5777:
From Artificial Wombs to Self-Driving Cars**



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, August 15
8:00 pm
Mincha 7:30 pm**

**Sponsored by
Tricia & Michael
Moslin
for a
refuah sheleima for
Moshe Peretz ben
Bella Golda**

**And by Marty & Amy
Fox Griffel**

**516.487.6100
mtwersky@gns.org**



26 Old Mill Road
Great Neck, NY 11023

GNS CHESED 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

MEN'S CLUB BASEBALL GAME

GREAT NECK SYNAGOGUE
MEN'S CLUB PRESENTS

BASEBALL



WEDNESDAY AUGUST 16, 2017

7:10 PM | CITI FIELD | METS VS. YANKEES

TICKETS: \$65 FOR MENS CLUB MEMBERS \$75 FOR NON-MEMBERS
CALL SYNAGOGUE OFFICE TO PURCHASE 516.487.6100

MEN'S CLUB FISHING TRIP

Great Neck Synagogue Men's Club

7th Annual Fishing Trip

Sunday August 20th 4:15-8:30 PM

Dinner Included

Men's Club Members \$60 PP \$40 children 6-12

Non Members \$70 PP \$40 children 6-12

First 5 Children Free W/Adult one per Family



The Boat: Bigger Clean 65' Women's & Men's
Bathrooms, Dining Table, Sun Deck

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT BY AUGUST 14th

SOLD OUT EVERY YEAR

CONTACT Mark Friedman 516 384 5491

Hilly Milun 516 448 4890

GNS Office 516 487 6100

ADDRESS 540 GUY LOMBARDO AVE. FREEPORT NY 11520

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

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

SUMMER LEARNING LECTURES

Tuesday, August 15th at 8:00 pm Dr. Ed Reichman "From Artificial Wombs to Self-Driving Cars."

Thank you to our sponsors (still accepting):

a) **Tricia & Michael Moslin** for a refuah sheleima for Moshe Peretz ben Bella Golda and b) **Marty & Amy Fox Griffel** in honor of Dr. Reichman

HASHKAMA MINYAN KIDDUSH

Hashkama Minyan Kiddush is sponsored by **Raylene & Andrew Adler** in memory of his father Bernard Adler, z"l.

SUNDAY BREAKFAST

Sunday Breakfast is sponsored by **Pam & Jeff Bilfeld** in memory of his mother Florence Bilfeld z"l.

HUNGER INITIATIVE/PASS IT FORWARD

NEWS ALERT: Studies show people who volunteer are happier, healthier and more satisfied with life. Three opportunities from Hunger Initiative created just for you!

1) Computer savvy individual to assist in developing the **driving routes** for Rosh HaShana Pass It Forward drivers. Time limited and chance to learn from a master. Contact jack.lemonik@verizon.net

2) Organized person to be **driver coordinator** for Pass It Forward. Create a list of volunteer drivers to deliver food packages to those in need on Sunday Sept 17th. Easy and rewarding. Contact lisslev@verizon.net.

3) Looking for fun after Tisha b'Av? Host a **cooking party** for Pass it Forward. (Chic Chicken Party, Crazy Kugel Party, Super Soup Party) Get some friends together at your home and cook up a storm (and some great food for the needy). Contact koshercookinggn@gmail.com.

MEN'S CLUB UPCOMING EVENTS

August 16th - Mets vs. Yankees @ Citi Field: 7:10 pm Purchase tickets at the GNS office.

August 20th - 7th Annual Fishing Trip: 4:15-8:30 pm with dinner included. Tickets for members are \$60 per person and \$70 for non-members. Children ages 6-12 are \$40. Contact Mark Friedman or synagogue office.

BIKUR CHOLIM NEWS

If you are aware of anyone who may need volunteer services from our community for visiting, shopping, rides to the doctor, etc., please contact the synagogue office at [516-487-6100](tel:516-487-6100) or Robyn Blumner at [516-487-3859](tel:516-487-3859).

UPCOMING EVENTS AT GREAT NECK SYNAGOGUE

August 8: Sisterhood Hat Sale
August 15: Summer Series: Dr. Edward Reichman
August 16: Chaverim Center
August 16: Men's Club Mets/Yankees Game

MAZAL TOVS & COMMUNITY NEWS

Mazal Tov to **Beth & Marc Gottlieb** on the upcoming marriage of their son **Brian** to **Rebecca Bieber**.

Mazal Tov to **Sherry & Vanson Ahdout** on the birth of a son.

Mazal Tov to **Farrah & Issac Sachmechi** on the birth of a granddaughter, born to their children **Dr. Eldad & Amanda Mazlumi**.

Mazal Tov to **Kathy and Arnie Flatow** on the engagement of their son **Elie to Galila Shapiro** of Englewood.

NSHA - SAVE THE DATE

Join us at NSHA'S 14th annual golf, tennis & spa classic on **Monday August 14th** at Fresh Meadows Country Club, honoring **Steve Santodonato**. For additional information regarding sponsorships and participation, please contact Glenn Zuckerman, Jonathan Muller, Andrew Feldschreiber, Josh Lev or email Arnie Flatow t aflatow@nsha.org or call 487-8687 ext 133.

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:917-287-7334) 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.

The Kohannim & Farhadian families would like to thank Rabbis Polakoff & Lichter, Chazzan Kron, the entire community and GNS members and staff for their outpouring of support following the passing of their father and grandfather, Shokrallah Kohannim z"l.

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Saturday, 20 Av

Paul Weinberg for Ise Klein
Harriet Frederick for Ida Sillen
Rivka Rosenberg for Sara Zaharon

Sunday, 21 Av

Jeffrey Bilfeld for Florence Bilfeld

Monday, 22 Av

Ebrahim Gabbazadeh for Shoshana bat Shlomo Gabbai
Ebrahim Gabbazadeh for Dovid ben Meir
Carl Rosenberg for Bluma Miller
Lauren Abehsera for Eugene Stricker

Tuesday, 23 Av

Anne Gold for Morris Feinstein
Eva Bachrach for Gertrud Grunfarb
Morris Nasser for Victoria Hercz
Robert Knepper for Maxwell Knepper
Carl Rosenberg for Julia Muller

Wednesday, 24 Av

Andrew Adler for Bernard Adler
Mahin Aryeh for Yahya Aryeh
Jason Mayer for Max Mayer
Henry Schwartz for Ruth Schwartz

Thursday, 25 Av

Cindy Ludwig for Mary Gelber

Friday, 26 Av

Meryl Friedman for Lloyd Karten
Richard Lillien for Miriam Lillien
Jerrald Weinstein for Lewis Sachs
Rivka Rosenberg for Jacob Zaharon