



ב"ה
Kol Hashofar



Young Israel of Lawrenceville

*2556 Princeton Pike
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648
www.yiol.com*

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President's Message

Wishing everyone a happy Purim and Pesach.

Hope that everyone is enjoying this wonderful winter we are having.

I would like to thank everyone who has made our minyans during this winter..

We wish a speedy recovery to our esteemed gabbai, Norman Ferstenberg.



I would like to wish everyone happy holidays.



Charles Miller
President

CHABAD OF
LAWRENCEVILLE

SHIPS, AHOY!

Join us for

PURIM
at
**at SEA**

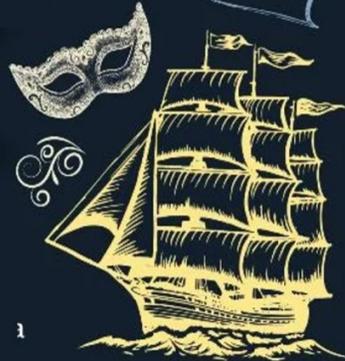
Tuesday, March 3 at 5:00 pm

MEGILLAH READING
SOUP AND SUSHI
HAMANTASHEN
CRAFT FOR KIDS

2556 PRINCETON PIKE
LAWRENCEVILLE

DONATIONS AND SPONSOR-SHIPS ENCOURAGED

RSVP BY 2/26 JEWISHLAWRENCE.COM/RSVP



VIEW FROM THE BIMAH

As we prepare for Purim, we are reminded of a powerful lesson from the *Megillah*. When Mordechai told Queen Esther about Haman’s dreadful decree, she answered, “Go and gather together all the Jews and fast for me for three days.” Her words weren’t only about fasting—

Esther understood something profound: Haman’s evil plot took root because the Jewish people had become divided. Haman himself pointed out that we were “scattered and separate,” not only across the empire, but in spirit. Disconnected from one another, we were vulnerable.

But Esther knew our true strength lies in *achdut*—in coming together as one. By gathering the people to pray, fast, and care for one another, she rekindled our sense of *ahavat Yisrael*, the deep love that binds every Jew to another. Once reunited, the decree could no longer stand.

At *Young Israel of Lawrenceville*, we see this same spirit every day—in our smiles on Shabbos morning, our shared Torah learning, and our outreach to those in need. As Purim approaches, we have a beautiful opportunity to strengthen those bonds even more. Through *mishloach manos* to our friends and *matanos l’evyonim* to those less fortunate, we reaffirm the truth that has carried us through every generation: when we come together in kindness and

May this Purim bring each of us the joy of friendship, the warmth of community, and the strength that comes only from unity.



Rabbi Y. Goldenberg



Enjoying Mishloach Manot

The Goldenberg Family

Bill Agress

The Abramowitz Family

The Altchek Family

Carol Aronoff

Eric Barash

Dr. Devin Belden

The Bitcover Family

Bernard Brown

The Eventoff Family

The Feinstein Family

The Ferstenberg Family

The Finkelstein Family

The Klein Family

The Lev Family

The Levin Family

Linda Levine

Arthur Levner

Mr. Charlie Leeder

Lisa Lonstein

The Miller Family

The Redel Family

Miriam Rogers

The Sacharov Family

The Seiden Family

The Strassfeld Family

The Stockhammer Family

The Vishevnik Family

C. Zucker

The Zur Family

4 MITZVOT OF PURIM

By fulfilling these four practices, we strengthen our relationship with God (megillah), our community (matanot l'evyonim), our friends (mishloach manot) and ourselves (seudah)!



Reading the Megillah

We read Megillat Esther, the story of Esther, twice over Purim: once at night and once during the day. It is a firsthand account of the events of Purim, written by the heroes themselves—Mordechai and Esther.



Seudah - A Festive Meal

During the course of Purim day we celebrate with a festive Purim meal, to commemorate the miracles with joy.



Mishloach Manot - Food Packages

When Haman wanted to destroy the Jewish people, he said that the Jews were "scattered and separate." To "prove" Haman wrong, we demonstrate our unity by sending gifts to our Jewish friends. One should send a food package to at least one friend on Purim, containing at least two food items and/or beverages.



Matanot L'evyonim - Gifts for the Poor

Purim is the most joyous of all festivals and our joy cannot be complete if those less fortunate than us aren't able to celebrate, too. On the day of Purim, one should give charity to at least two needy people.



Young Israel—Community Bulletin Board

YIOL offers a range of programs and services which enables opportunities for exploring Judaism in a non-judgmental way. Whether it be a prayer service, Torah class, or social gathering that you're seeking, you will be enthusiastically welcomed and celebrated, So come for a visit...and stay a while.

Adult Education Program

Please join us for our classes. All classes are conducted in English and are held at the Synagogue.

- **Tuesday evening class** -- Rabbi Goldenberg will be announcing a new series for his Tuesday night class.
- **Women's class** — Rebbetzin Goldenberg teaches a women's class every Wednesday at 7 pm.

There is no charge for participation. For further information, call the synagogue at (609) 883-8833 any day from Saturday at nightfall through Friday early afternoon. If there is no reply, leave a message on the answering machine

Tzedakah Fund



Our Shul has a Tzedakah fund to help those in special need of assistance. The fund is derived primarily from contributions collected from the "pushka" in Shul. If you know of such a person, please advise either Rabbi Goldenberg or Charles Miller.

Kiddushim

Our thanks to those who have sponsored kiddushim. For a full list of recent kiddush sponsors, please refer to Donations and Good Tidings. To celebrate your special occasion with a kiddush, please e-mail Dina Goldenberg: dinagoldenberg@aol.com
When paying your dues, please send your Kiddush assessment (\$100) in a separate check, payable to the Sisterhood.

Yahrzeit Advisory

It is very important that our Shul provide a minyan to enable members and others to observe a Yahrzeit anniversary. Whenever you need to observe a Yahrzeit, please contact one of our gabbaim several days in advance so we can ensure a minyan will be available. Please contact Charles Miller (609) 530-1846).

The Memorial Board UPDATE

The Memorial Board in the Synagogue is a special way to honor, in perpetuity, the memory of departed loved ones. Plaques are \$250 each and may be ordered by contacting the Rabbi. *Pricing on the new Board is \$360 per plaque.*

SEE PAGE 8 FOR A LOOK AT THE NEW MEMORIAL BOARD

Sample of a Memorial Plaque

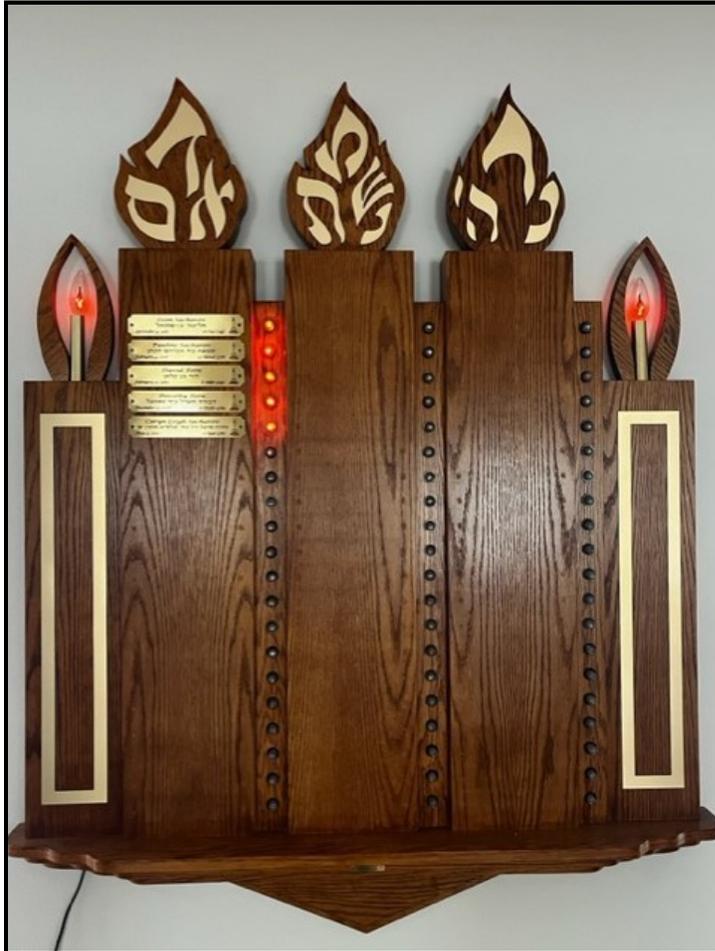


Visiting the Sick



It is a religious duty (a *mitzvah*) to visit someone who is ill. If you become aware of someone who is unwell or infirm, please advise Rabbi Goldenberg or Charles Miller immediately so that the person may be contacted and visited at an appropriate and convenient time

Our New Memorial Board



There are eight available spaces for plaques on the original Memorial Board.
The cost of each plaque is \$250.

Plaques are now available on the new Memorial Board (pictured above).
The cost for plaques on the new Board is \$360.

If interested in ordering a plaque, please provide the Rabbi with **both** the English and Hebrew names of the deceased, and the English and Hebrew dates of passing. We can look it up if you don't know it.

Donations and Good Tidings

“May G-d bless those who dedicate synagogues for prayer and those who enter them to pray, those who provide light for them, wine for Kiddush and Havdalah, bread for guests and charity to the poor and all who are involved faithfully in the needs of the community.”

(from the Yekum Purkan prayer said every Shabbot at the end of the Shacharis service).

Thank You
FOR YOUR SUPPORT

The Miller Family
In honor of the Shul's anniversary

The Levin Family
Donation

Charitable gift
Anonymous

The Ferstenberg Family
Yahrtzeit for Henry Ferstenberg

Did you know you can
now make a donation or
payment using a credit
card or VENMO on our
website.
www.YIOL.com

Kiddush sponsors at Young Israel of Lawrenceville



The Finkelstein Family

In memory of Joel's Father
Avi's 5th Birthday

Happy birthday to Menachem Mendel and Leah

The Sacharov Family

In memory of Aaron's Mother, Pearl

Moshe Eventoff

In honor of Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka
Joel and Danit Finkelstein
And Iv'd Cali Bear

The Levin Family

In memory of Henry Ferstenberg,
Norman and Jeanette's Father



To sponsor a Kiddush, contact
Nechama Dina Goldenberg
609-213-8609
dinagoldenberg@aol.com

Check this out...

YEAH THATS KOSHER

Thank you David Klein for this tip

Download their Kosher Restaurant Directory
mobil app

<https://yeahthatskosher.com/>

HERE'S A PAINLESS WAY TO DONATE TO YIOL

Young Israel has teamed up with the **GiveBack** program
A painless way for you to make purchases through
KosherWine.com
Judaica.com
Kosh.com
Challahandco.com

Just by placing your order using the websites below (copy & paste), a 2% commission will be sent to Young Israel. The order deadline for New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania for guaranteed Passover delivery is Wednesday, April 9th at 11 am, however, these websites are available all year long.

Kosher Wine website: <https://bit.ly/4hmxJOQ>



TAKE \$15 OFF YOUR ORDER
*Cart must total \$200 or more [SHOP NOW](#)

Use Code **PESACH15**
at Checkout

Challahandco website: <https://bit.ly/3FG7hCB>



Challah & Co.
KOSHER GIFTS, COMFORT
FOOD & BAKED GOODS

2% of your order will
support our organization.
[SHOP NOW →](#)

Judaica website: <https://bit.ly/3QOEEpd>



\$10 OFF your order
of \$100+

with code
PASSOVER10

Kosh website: <https://bit.ly/4iN7x1w>



KOSH Glatt Kosher Meat
Direct to your door

2% of your order will
support our organization.
[SHOP NOW!](#)

The “No-Hassle Kiddush Initiative”

Dear Fellow Shul Goer,

I would like to present the community with an opportunity that could benefit its members: I'll call it the “No-Hassle Kiddush Initiative”.

If you would like to sponsor a Kiddush but you can't (or don't want to!) deal with the headache of shopping, preparing, setting up, etc., no worries. I will do it for you. Yup, you read that correctly. I will prepare your entire Kiddush – all you need to do is show up! It's that simple.

I will offer you choices of delicious homemade salads and baked goods, pretty platters, tasty deserts, and more. I will even include the paper goods J Below, you will find a list of options, as well as other information that you might need.

Note: this offer is my own personal initiative. It is in addition to, not in place of, what is currently being arranged by the YI sisterhood.

If you have any questions, you can contact me:

dinagoldenberg@aol.com

609-213-8609



Bereavement Services

King Solomon said, "There is a time for all under the heavens — a time to love, a time to journey, a time to plant, a time to reap, a time to rejoice and a time to mourn."

In a most loving and caring way and with the greatest sensitivity, Rabbi Goldenberg will make it his business to offer all the comfort, guidance and bereavement support needed. In addition, he will be glad to offer his assistance in preparation, officiating at the funeral, making Shiva services, arranging for the kaddish to be recited, etc.

For assistance, or for more information, please call: (609) 882-4330.



THIS SPACE HAS TRADITIONALLY LAID OUT LIGHTING AND SERVICE TIMES FOR SHABBOS AND YOM TOV. HOWEVER, THANKS TO THE CHABAD OF LAWRENCEVILLE CALENDAR THAT THE RABBI MAILS OUT ANNUALLY AND TO THE RABBI'S WEEKLY E-TORAH E-MAIL, WE HAVE DECIDED THAT IT MAY NO LONGER BE NECESSARY TO INCLUDE THE

INFORMATION IN THE NEWSLETTER. PLEASE NOTIFY RABBI GOLDENBERG IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE THE CALENDAR OR BE ADDED TO THE MAILING LIST TO RECEIVE THE E-TORAH PLEASE FEEL FREE TO NOTIFY ELEANOR, LYNDA, OR THE RABBI IF YOU WOULD PREFER THAT THE NEWSLETTER ALSO PROVIDE THE INFORMATION.



A Strange Seder



By [Gershon Kranzler](#)

Published by [Kehot Publication Society](#)

It was shortly before Passover. The court of Rabbi Baruch was quickly filling with his faithful disciples and admirers who came from afar to spend the holiday of [Passover](#) with their beloved Rebbe.

Rabbi Baruch himself was restless. The house was perfectly ready. He himself had spent weeks not only clearing away the outer chametz, leaven, in every nook and cranny of the home, but searching within himself too for the "leaven" of possible sin or wrongdoing in his soul.

But something else was amiss, he could feel it, though he was cheered by the arrival of his good friends and followers.

There was hardly a minute when he did not have to greet one or another of his chasidim

The Children's Corner

who had come from afar, leaving their families behind to be with him at the seder. For the [seder](#) nights were a thrilling experience of learning for Rabbi Baruch's followers.

Suddenly, only two nights before Passover, the call came to him to leave the security and peace of his home and go forth on a mission.

Somewhere, near or far, he had something to accomplish. And there was no stopping Rabbi Baruch. His family and chassidim knew that there was no use in trying to argue with him.

The next morning Rabbi Baruch rose early and packed wine, matzot and other necessities for the seder.

He set out on a journey into the unknown while his stunned and disappointed chassidim sadly watched him depart.

Somehow, they hoped, and Rabbi Baruch hoped with them, that his mission would be a brief one that would allow him to return in time for the first seder.

But the day passed. The wind was strong, and snow kept piling up on the road as the coach covered mile after mile of slippery road. As they travelled eastward, the horse itself chose the way when they came to a crossroads.

thing.

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But finally the coachman turned to him and said, "I am afraid, Rebbe, we cannot go on. We'll have to stay here in the midst of the forest. The icy winds and snow are too strong, and my horse cannot hold out much longer. Let's try to spend the remainder of the night here."

Rabbi Baruch and the coachman bedded down in the wagon as best they could. They threw a heavy blanket over the horse and prepared to spend the night in this lonely spot, far from the comforts of Rabbi Baruch's court. The storm became increasingly strong.

The winds howled and the very earth seemed to shake and rumble under the onslaught of the elements. Suddenly, there was a terrifying roar in the distance. The ground shook, and the horse tore itself loose and ran away in terror.

"We must follow him and catch him, or else we shall have to spend the Yom Tov here in this terrible wilderness!" The coachman shouted. He took the wagon, lamp and whip and Rabbi Baruch put the small bundles of seder provisions in his coat pockets, and they set out to find the horse.

The storm did not let up. Snow, ice and howling winds made their attempt to follow the horse ever more difficult, until they were ready to give up and turn back to the wagon. But that, too, now seemed impossible.

Suddenly, the coachman pointed in the direction in which the horse had run. A small light

seemed visible from afar, shaking wildly to and fro. And then there was more wild rumbling underground, and the light was gone. To Rabbi Baruch it seemed as if he had heard human voices crying.

And even though it came from the far distance and was only a thin sound, it seemed more terrible than any cries he had ever heard.

"We must go there to see what happened," he said. Despite the protests of the coachman, who was frightened by the unusual events and worn out by the struggle against the elements, they pushed through the snow, step by step. Suddenly they heard the cry again, stronger than before and still terrifying.

"Faster, faster," urged Rabbi Baruch. "Someone over there needs our help."

After a long and painful struggle over every inch of the way, they finally came close enough to see that a whole piece of ground seemed broken off as if by a giant's hand and thrown into the depths. "There must have been a quake in the mines that end below the forest." This time even the coachman heard the voice, full of horror, that came from the depth.

Continued.../

"We must try to get down there, regardless of the risk."

In vain the coachman pointed out the impossibility of climbing down the steep, jagged edge.

Sliding, rolling from rock to rock, clinging desperately to roots of trees that were broken off like matches, they scrambled down the incline.

What they saw made them shudder. The quake had crushed a small settlement of several houses that now lay on the ground all split apart, with walls, roofs and beams sticking out at crazy angles. Worst of all, from the midst of the rubble heap came the moaning and occasional wild cries that had brought them here.

Quickly now, disregarding all danger to themselves, they made their way down to the remnant of the settlement.

Ignoring the lifeless bodies of men, women and children beneath the walls, crumbled roofs and tree trunks, they directed all their efforts to helping those whom they found alive, pinned under heavy objects, dazed, blinded, or seriously wounded.

Their weariness seemed to have vanished, and they did not feel their own scratches and wounds as they went from person to person, wiping away blood and tearing their clothes into strips to stop the bleeding.

The coachman managed to make a fire. They melted snow for hot water, and their bottle of

whiskey helped to dull the people's pain. They quickly realized that the place had been occupied by yishuvniks, Jewish settlers who lived here far from a town, at the edge of the forest.

Those who were able to speak believed the rabbi and the coachman were angels sent to them by G^d in their hour of need.

"We are human beings like you, but it was surely the hand of the Almighty who led us here," Rabbi Baruch told them. He kept on speaking in his kind voice, calming the terrified people who were searching about for their loved ones.

Continued.../

Morning dawned by the time they had finished administering first aid. They had found twelve adults and several children still alive.

Slowly, laboriously, they took them all into the cellar of one of the houses that had miraculously remained almost intact, and bedded them down on whatever clothes, rags or covers they could find.

It was almost evening when it occurred to Rabbi Baruch and the coachman that this was the seder night. Trying to help the unfortunate victims of the catastrophe, they had not had time to think of anything else.

But now they hurriedly set up the most primitive seder one can imagine. Together everyone prayed with Rabbi Baruch, who said the evening prayers word for word so that the poor yishuvniks could follow him. Then the small packages of Passover provisions from the deep coat pockets of the Rabbi took their place on the table which had been set up on a large rock in the cellar.

The small, dim wagon lamp provided light. But the genuine brightness of that unforgettable seder flowed from Rabbi Baruch. Although he had not rested a minute during the past thirty six hours, he did not feel his weariness.

All night he went through the ritual of the seder, sharing the [matzot](#), wine and vegetables with the people. He told them the beautiful stories of

the Exodus from Egypt as they had never heard them before.

His stories, examples and inspiring thoughts made them forget all their pains, worries and loss. At dawn they all went to sleep as well as they could, in a more festive mood somehow than they had even known in happier times.

The day of [Yom Tov](#) and the second seder passed almost as peacefully, although the wounded began to get restless again, as if the daylight made them forget the magic of Rabbi Baruch's beautiful and inspiring stories and prayers.

Suddenly, they heard voices from a distance. The huddled group watched for several hours until finally a group of rescuers made the dangerous climb down the steep edge. As the coachman had suspected, in the wake of the storm an earthquake had dislodged some of the old coal mine walls on which the small settlement was built.

The rescuers had come from a nearby village after finding the terrified horse running wild. They had discovered the catastrophe, and brought everything necessary to help the survivors.

With the help of strong ropes attached to make shift hoists, the rescuers lifted the wounded on stretchers. Wagons were waiting above to take them away. But, to the surprise of the rescuers, all said they would prefer to wait with Rabbi Baruch until the Yom Tov was over and then follow him to his town.

Continued.../

Only the seriously wounded, at Rabbi Baruch's request, agreed to be taken away at once.

Thus it was that on the first day of Chol Hamoed, the intermediate days of the holiday, a group of wagons pulled up in front of Rabbi Baruch's court. There the chassidim were waiting patiently, praying and enjoying the holiday quietly, hoping for the speedy return of their beloved Rebbe.

Although they knew that whenever Rabbi Baruch went on one of his missions it was because an urgent situation needed his personal attention, the story they heard from the survivors was even stranger than they had anticipated.

To all of the chassidim it seemed indeed a miracle that Rabbi Baruch had been nearby when the earthquake occurred and had noticed the light and the voices from afar.

The stories of the unusual seder nights in the cellar were a source of great satisfaction and a partial reward for their own disappointment at having to spend the Yom Tov without their Rebbe.

Now the rest of Passover was filled with joy and happy celebration, even more than usual, at the court of Rabbi Baruch where every Yom Tov was an unforgettable experience.

By Gershon Kranzler

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