



Times of Services

2014

Friday 5 December
Shabbat begins: 3.38 pm
Mincha/
Kabbalat Shabbat: 4.45 pm

Shabbat 6 December
Shacharit: 9.30 am
Mincha: After Kiddush
Shabbat ends: 4.46 pm

Sunday 7 December
Shacharit: 8.40 am

Friday 12 December
Shabbat begins: 3.36 pm
Mincha/
Kabbalat Shabbat: 4.45 pm

Reading the Haftarah



If you would like to read Haftarah to mark a special event or just to make your personal contribution to the service, please let us know. Brian Robinson would be delighted to help with any preparation or revision that would be needed. Please contact him directly—Brian: 020 8567 6558.

Sponsoring an Event



If you are celebrating a Simcha or commemorating a family Yahrzeit, or if you are just feeling generous, please consider sponsoring a Shabbat morning Kiddush, Seudah or Sunday morning breakfast. Contact Joan Michaels: 020 8579 4261.

AJR—Meets the 1st Tuesday in every month at 2.30 pm. Contact Leslie Sommer: 020 8993 7574.

Israeli Dancing!



Every Tuesday evening at 8.00 pm at Ealing Synagogue. All welcome. No charge.

In the event of a bereavement, in the first instance please contact the Burial Office : 020 8950 7767.

Rabbi Hershi Vogel: 07970 829758
Brian Robinson: 020 8567 6558
Neil Shestopal: 020 8579 5099

Ealing Synagogue Newsletter

שבת שלום

Friday 5 December 2014/Shabbat 14 Kislev 5775

Sidra: [Vayishlach](#)



MAZAL TOV

To David and Eira Ruben on the birth of a new granddaughter. Gabriella Sylvia was born to Simon and Natasha Ruben on Wednesday 12 November at a bouncy 9lbs. Mazal Tov is extended to the whole family and we wish them every joy and nachat from the new addition to their family.

SHABBAT 6 DECEMBER

Ivor Gertler will be reading Haftorah.

SHABBAT 13 DECEMBER

The D'var Torah this week will be given by one of our younger members, Deborah Harris.

COMMUNITY CHANUKAH LUNCH THURSDAY 18 DECEMBER

The community lunches have become very popular. Please advise Alison Shindler-Glass if you would like to come to the next lunch for Chanukah.

Ealing Synagogue Library

All the books in the Library are available to borrow. Please sign your name and book details in the Register. If you have any books that you would like to donate to the Library, please call Michael Jacobs—020 8998 7932. Please do not leave them at the shul.

Ealing Synagogue,

15 Grange Road, London W5 5QN

Reg. Charity No. 242552

Minister: Rabbi Hershi Vogel, BA; Administrator: Mellissa Levitt

Tel: 020 8579 4894; Fax: 020 8567 2348; Email: office@ealingsynagogue.org.uk

Ealing Synagogue Newsletter: esnewsletter@btinternet.com

Ealing Synagogue Website: www.ealingsynagogue.org.uk

**MITZVAH DAY
TUESDAY 25 NOVEMBER**

Ealing Synagogue recognised Mitzvah Day by hosting residents and carers of the St David's Nursing Home for tea and chat. Entertainment was provided by our multi-talented Edward Cohen. Thanks to Mike Gettleson for providing the photos.



Snapshot Torah



GUIDE TO THE WEEKLY PARSHA

2ND EDITION / ISSUE 8

6th December 2014

VAYISHLACH

14th Kislev 5775

Kohen - First Aliya: Chapter 32, verses 4 -13

- Not wanting to enter the land of Edom unannounced, Yaacov sends out emissaries to Esav who was dwelling in Seir seeking permission to pass through on his way back home.
- Upon delivering the message that Yaacov had been sojourning with Lavan until now and had acquired much wealth; the emissaries returned informing Yaacov that Esav had gathered four hundred men and was now making their way out to meet him.
- Fearing the worst Yaacov divides up his entourage, herds, flocks and camels into two camps; so that if Esav attacked one camp the other camp would survive. He then prayed to Hashem to come to his aid once more and help him

Levi - Second Aliya: Chapter 32, verses 14 - 30

- Yaacov sends out his servants laden with gifts to try and appease Esav.
- In order to keep his family safe, Yaacov takes them across the Yabok River.
- Once alone, an angel of Esav came and wrestled with Yaacov but as both of their defences were strong the fight lasted all night.
- The angel injures Yaacov's thigh, but still Yaacov does not yield. Admitting defeat the Angel sends Yaacov on his way, but Yaacov refuses to go until the Angel blesses him.
- The Angel changes Yaacov's name to Israel.

Sh'lishi - Third Aliya: Chapter 32, verse 31 - Chapter 33, verse 5

- In recognition of Yaacov's bravery, despite his injured thigh, we are commanded not eat the 'gid hanasheh' (the hind quarter's) of any animal.
- Looking up Yaacov sees Esav in the distance, approaching with four hundred men.
- Yaacov then arranges his family so that Bilha and Zilpah along with their children lead the field, with Leah and her children following behind, leaving Rachel and Yoseph a short distance behind in the rear.
- Yaacov then prostrates himself in front of his brother seven times, before Esav rushes up and embraces him kindly.

R'Vti - Fourth Aliya: Chapter 33, verses 6 - 20

- Yaacov introduces his family to Esav who then grants them a safe passage through the land of Edom
- Yaacov and family continue their journey until they reached the land of Canaan and settled down in the city of Shechem.

Chamishi - Fifth Aliya: Chapter 34, verse 1 - Chapter 35, verse 11

- Yaacov's daughter Dinah is abducted by the King's Son who desires to marry her.
- Enraged her brothers convince the king and his son to circumcise themselves along with the rest of the men in the city. On the third day after their mass bris, Shimon and Levy loot the city, killing every male in the process.
- Hashem sends Yaacov and his family to Beit El asking him to build an altar there.
- Hashem then officially changes Yaacov's name to Yisrael and blesses him, saying his descendants will become a great nation and will one day receive the land that he promised Avraham and Yitzhak.

Shishi - Sixth Aliya: Chapter 35, verse 12 - Chapter 36, verse 19

- While journeying from Beit El to Efrat, Rachel gives birth to Binyamin but she unfortunately dies in childbirth. Yaacov buries her in Beit Lehem.
- Yaacov finally reaches his childhood home in Hebron and is reunited once more with his father Yitzhak.
- Yitzhak passes away aged 180. Esav returns and along with Yaacov buries Yitzhak in the cave of machpelah.

Sh'vi'i - Seventh Aliya: Chapter 36, verses 20 - 43

- The Chronicles of Esav and his descendants are recorded here.

Haftorah—Ovadiah chapter 1, verses 1 - 21

OVERVIEW:

- Ovadiah the prophet foretells what fate will be bestowed upon the nation of Edom.
- All the nations of the world will unite and wage war against them, leaving Edom no choice but to engage in a battle which they know deep down they would never win.
- Once Edom is defeated, Israel's survival is secured as Hashem's kingdom and will be established forever.

LINK TO SEDRA READING:

- True to the blessing given by his father 'Yitzchak' Esav becomes the father of a great nation. (The Edomites) who live and die by the sword, constantly oppressing us and our faith.
- In the Haftorah, Ovadiah warns Edom just as Yaacov triumphed over Esav; with Hashem's help the Jewish nation will ultimately triumph over you.

WEEKLY DISCUSSION:

Throughout life, we all have to wrestle with many things; but, at times, we also need to wrestle with ourselves, and emerge as a new, wiser person. This week's Sedra begins with Yaacov meeting for the first time with Esav since the 'deception of the beracha's'. Expecting a battle to happen, Yaacov prepares for the worst. The Torah tells us that the night before Yaacov meets Esav, a man/ angel wrestles with him all night. Victorious Yaacov refuses the man/ angel to leave until he had blessed Yaacov. When Yaacov and Esav do finally meet, instead of fighting they embrace and forgive each other for their past misdemeanors.

This portion has been interpreted in many different ways. For example; Nachmanides sees the battle as a symbol for the struggles that Israel faces as a nation and will have to go through. Rashi sees the man as Esav's spirit, trying to weaken Yaacov before the confrontation.

I believe that Yaacov was wrestling with himself. On one side there is a Yaacov who feels he should avoid the confrontation and run away from his troubles, and the Yaacov that knows deep down that's the wrong course to take. Yaacov knows he will have to face the conflict he created and left behind if he wants to move forward. The night he wrestled with the angel, Yaacov was discovering who he truly was. He goes into the fight as Yaacov, a weak and scared man and emerges from it as Israel, a stronger man who is prepared to face anything his brother might do to him. He looked inside himself and managed to find the better person he is able to be.

The maturing of Yaacov relates a lot throughout my personal journey in life. Over the years, I have learned an amazing amount about being Jewish and what it represents. Sometimes I still don't know for sure who I truly am but wrestling with myself has helped me discover who I really am and who we are as a Jewish nation.

Our inner Jewish selves should not run and hide from who we truly are and should have the belief and courage to show the world, as a nation we are not afraid and will fight for what is rightfully ours. I'm sure most of us don't want to be cowardly like Yaacov anymore, but want to be strong and more mature like Israel.

May Hashem bless us all with the physical, and spiritual strength to not walk away from all the recent tragedies and anti-Semitism happening all around us both locally and globally as though there is nothing anyone can do about it, but to take action and fight for what is right in order to bring everlasting peace back in Israel with no-one threatening our way of life or making us afraid to live as Jews.

שבת עכ"ל
S h a b b a t S h a t e m e t

Compiled, Designed & Written by Jeremy Symons

It's time to raise our voice.

We need to change the conversation

The ZF and The US invite you to a

ADVOCACY TRAINING DAY Sunday 7 December 2014

A day of learning and training to become a more effective advocate for Israel. Now is the time to stand up for Israel.

Guest speakers include

Dr Mordechai Kedar

Kedar is an academic at Bar-Ilan University on the Israeli Arab population. He served for twenty-five years in IDF Military Intelligence, where he specialized in Islamic groups, the political discourse of Arab countries, the media, and is one of the main Arabic-speaking Israeli pundits seen on Arabic satellite channels defending Israel.

Linda Lovitch

Lovitch has been working as a media consultant and advisor for over 15 years. Her trainees include the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs renowned Spokesman Mark Regev, Government Ministers, the Government Press Office and many more.

Time 10am - 5pm
Venue Central London
For more details email
dalia@zfuk.org

Tickets £15
£10 ZF Members
£10 US Members



The ZF is the UK's leading Israel Advocacy organisation www.zionist.org.uk office@zfuk.org

Donate a Toy...

to light up a child's face this Chanukah!

This Chanukah, when so many of our children end up with more toys than they have space for, Project Chessed is again working with the Toy Drop to collect items to send to Jewish and non-Jewish children in the Ukraine, the Philippines and the UK.

We are asking you to donate items that you own but no longer play with such as gently-used teddies, dolls, games and easy reader books.

**This Chanukah's collection will take place between:
14th - 24th December 2014**

There will be collection points available at your local United Synagogue.

A toy from you may well be their first experience of a gift.

Thank you!

For more information, contact:

Project Chessed: cheded@theus.org.uk
Toy Drop: shelley_schachter@hotmail.com



Project Chessed – caring about others – is an integral part of the United Synagogue's values, together with Jewish Living and Learning. Our aim is to help both our own members and the wider community in which we live

For more details visit www.theus.org.uk/cheded

Contact us at cheded@theus.org.uk or 020 8343 5688

Your local collection point

Things to do...



Registered Charity No. 242552

Securing the Jewish Future: Engaging with Israel

In partnership with
**Authentic
ISRAEL**

US Mission to Israel with The Chief Rabbi Thursday 15th – Monday 19th January 2015

There is an inextricable connection between the Jewish people and Israel. The events of recent weeks and months continue to remind us just how important our relationship is with our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land. We can never take for granted either the safety of Jewish communities around the world or the importance of Israel to our Jewish identity. The future of the Jewish people, wherever they are in the world, is eternally linked with Israel.

With the participation of the Chief Rabbi, this unique mission will give participants a practical way to engage with key issues of security and identity in Israel today. The mission will inspire participants and leave them better equipped to speak with greater knowledge and authority about this crucial facet of our community's life.

The programme* will include:

- Detailed security, political and operational briefings from leading figures
- A Shabbat programme in Jerusalem with special guests and educators
- A visit to Sderot neighbouring the Gaza border and Iron Dome facility

- Volunteering with organisations working with those affected by the conflict
- The Israeli launch event for the worldwide 70 Days for 70 Years project
- Visits to key sites including the Kotel, Yad Vashem and more

The mission, including four nights' hotel accommodation and all meals, costs:

£699 pp for US Members
plus the cost of flights.

£899 pp for non-US Members
plus the cost of flights.

Numbers are strictly limited.

*Programme subject to change

For more details and
to book visit:
www.theus.org.uk/mission

**WEST END
TRAVEL**

For assistance with flight
bookings please contact
Jeremy on 020 8958 3188



The US

United Synagogue Registered Charity No. 242552