

## Bottoms Up

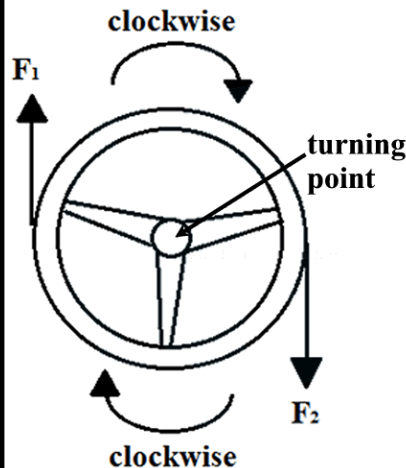
This month shall mark for you the beginning of the months; it shall be the first of the months of the year for you. (Shemos 12:2)

There is a famous story told about a Chassidishe Jew who was extremely poor. Everything that he tried to do turned sour. He came to a point of despair, sat down and thought about his lowly position. But then he suddenly jumped up and began dancing! "Reb Yid must have cracked!" said the people around him, shaking their heads sadly. "Nothing could be farther from the truth!" he explained. "I was in the worst possible situation and I saw no way out. The wheels of fortune spun me to the very bottom. But then I realized that every wheel has a part which is on the bottom, and if the wheel is still turning then that lowest point must soon rise to become the highest point. Therefore, it is clear to me that my fortune will change, and I will rise to a status of being financially solvent." In fact, that is actually what happened to this man.

We know the Jews in Egypt were at the 49<sup>th</sup> level of impurity and if they would have remained in Egypt even a moment longer there would have been no way to extricate them from their lowly impure state. We assume that this forced redemption happened because Hashem had, so to speak, no choice. However, I believe that there must be a deeper meaning as to why we were redeemed, specifically when we were at rock bottom.

The Jews are compared to the moon, and the first commandment that the Jewish nation was given was to sanctify the lunar month. There is a story told in the

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## Masks

Due to the unprecedented surge in the corona and flu virus, for the well-being of yourself and others, we recommend our *misapllelim* to wear a mask in shul.

Please do not attend shul if you:

- Feel unwell
- Have a sore throat
- Are coughing frequently



For the purpose of *Bein Adam l'Chaveiro* we trust that everyone will act responsibly. This will allow everyone to daven with *kavana*.

Please be in contact with a vaad member if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your understanding.

The Rav, The Vaad and the Gabbaim

## The Rav will be away this Shabbos.

There will be a speaker for Friday night's *drasha*. **Maariv** on Friday night might begin as early as **20 minutes** after sunset (17:15). The Rav's *Beis Elokim* and *Pele Yoetz* shiurim will **not** take place.

THE RAV  
IS OUT

### Shabbos Schedule Parshas Bo לוח שבת פרשת בא

Erev Shabbos		ערב שבת
Mincha 1	12:30	מנחה א'
Candle Lighting	16:15/16:35	הדלקת נרות
Mincha 2	16:37	מנחה ב'
Sunset	16:55	שקיעה
Shabbos Day		יום השבת
Brachos	8:00	ברכות
Shochein Ad	8:30	שוכן עד
Latest Shema – M. A.	8:26	סוף זמן ק"ש למג"א
Latest Shema – G'ra	9:14	סוף זמן ק"ש לגר"א
Mincha 1	13:00	מנחה א'
Mincha 2	✗	מנחה ב'
Pele Yoetz	✗	פלא יועץ
Mincha 3	16:10	מנחה ג'
Sunset	16:56	שקיעה
Ma'ariv 1	17:33	מעריב א'
Ma'ariv 2	17:56	מעריב ב'

(Continued from page 1)

*Gemora* in *Chulin* (60b) explaining why the moon waxes and wanes. At the time of Creation, the moon complained to Hashem that two kings can't wear one crown, and as there is no difference between him and the sun, one of the two had to be made smaller than the other. Hashem therefore told the moon to make himself smaller. When one looks at the *Gemora* it seems that the moon's original statement was considered a sin. Therefore, the significance of a new moon reappearing every month may be to remind us that there are opportunities to start a new phase; a new page; a new beginning. We may have sinned in the past, but we can start fresh again.

*Klal Yisrael* was redeemed from Egypt not only from their physical bondage but from their attachment to the world of idol worship. As the angels asked, "What is the difference between the Jews and the Egyptians, as both serve idols!?" The answer is that we have the ability to change. We can leave the most negative environment and grow to become a strong and vibrant Torah-observing nation. This capacity is not really found in other nations. Other nations may come and go. Sometimes they may seem to reappear years later, but they are actually totally new entities (e.g. the modern day Greeks and Egyptians have no connection to the Ancient Greeks or Egyptians).

The Jewish nation sometimes might be at the top and sometimes might be at the bottom, but we are here forever and thriving.

The first commandment given to the Jewish Nation is to sanctify the month of Nisan. Rebirth from the point in which the moon was totally obscured, but with the potential to become vibrant and full on the fifteenth of the month – exactly the day that we left Egypt.

It is essential that we all believe in this concept of cycles in life: no matter how far away we have ventured, we can always repent and return and be liberated from our circumstances; *Uva letzion go'al* – we should merit the ultimate redemption speedily.

This is Shlomo Zalman Woodrow

Whenever he uses a *sefer* in the Ahavas Shalom library, he makes sure to return it to the proper place.

Be like  
**Shlomo Zalman!**



**SIX YEARS AGO**, when random acts of terror were on everyone's mind, Ahavas Shalom took on a campaign of "*Fighting Terror with Chesed*": Perform a random act of *chesed* to fight a random act of terror. Members then shared their own stories with the kehilla to encourage others to continue this fight.

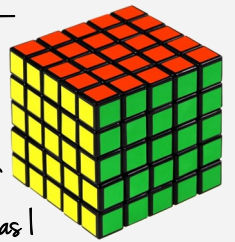
**Fighting  
TERROR  
with  
Chesed**

**TODAY** fear of "terror" has been replaced with fear of a deadly virus. Perhaps doing extra *chesed* today can help *Klal Yisrael* against this new danger.

We therefore present some stories from the AhavasShalom.org/do-chesed archives to inspire members to continue doing *chesed*.

### *Chesed: Cubed*

I was in class playing a game—not "tag" but similar—with my friends when I took out my 5x5x5 Rubik's cube, and "Moshe" knocked it out of my hand and a piece cracked off! The Rebbe said that because we were playing a "tag" game he was not sure if "Moshe" was responsible to pay. I was really sad, as I had just gotten the cube from my grandmother for Chanukah. My other friends saw how sad I was, and the next day they collected money amongst themselves and gave it to me so that I could buy a new cube!



### **Shul's Sheimos Bin**

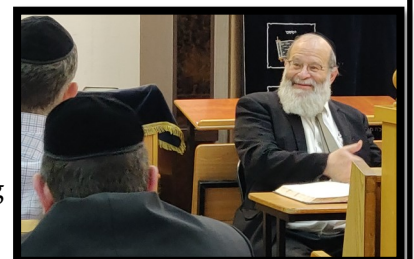
The shul's bin for *Sheimos/Geniza*, is **NOT** for *private use*. That means that you cannot bring your books and papers from home, and put them in there. The shul pays money to maintain the *Sheimos* bin, and there is a lot of *tircha* involved in it. If you have something that you are using at shul, and it needs to go into the *Sheimos* bin, that's fine.

Your home *Sheimos* should be taken to the public גניזה bins. The nearest one is located on Nachal Gilo, next to the Ma-kolet.



### **Shiurim with the Rav**

The Rav will be giving TWO shiurim this coming week.



SUNDAY 21:15: *Mishnayos*.

TUESDAY: 20:15 *Hilchos Beis Haknesses*

Both shiurim are given in shul and via ZOOM at this link:  
[cutt.ly/AhavasShalomZoom](https://cutt.ly/AhavasShalomZoom)

Shiurim are archived at [ahavasshalom.org/youtube](https://ahavasshalom.org/youtube)



# אבות ובנים



**Motza'ei Shabbos at  
19:00**

**PRIZES &  
TREATS  
FOR ALL!**



**THANK YOU TO  
THE  
HOLLANDERS  
FOR THE  
Pizza**



AuB for ages 3-7 is still Shabbos Afternoon  
30 minutes before the last mincha  
15:40-16:10

## Netziv Hayom

Sponsor *Netziv Hayom* in memory of your loved ones or in honor of a special occasion, and all the learning and davening that take place in our shul during that day will be to your merit. Just 120₪ per sponsorship, which is announced via a notice on the "Netziv Hayom" board in the shul, as well as an announcement in this newsletter. To sponsor a day please contact [Netziv@ahavasshalom.org](mailto:Netziv@ahavasshalom.org).

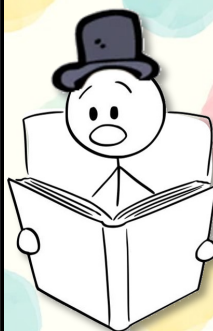


6 Shevat sponsored by the Disen family

**ר' ישראל יעקב בן פרץ ז"ל**

## Ahavas Shalom Office

Mrs. Zakoo, the Ahavas Shalom Administrative Assistant, can be reached Sunday and Tuesday 11:00-13:00 and Thursday 16:00-18:00 by calling **058-3263914** or writing to [office@ahavasshalom.org](mailto:office@ahavasshalom.org). She can help you live with donations, scheduling time with the Rav, sorting out membership issues, and other shul-related matters. Please note that if you send an email outside of her work times, she will not respond until she next logs in for work.



## Story Time!

With  
**Rabbi Akiva Teichtal**

This Shabbos between  
Kabbalas Shabbos and Maariv

המשך מעמוד 4

אחרות, שהן עלולות להופיע ולהיעלם. לפעמים הן נראות שמופיעות שוב שנים מאוחר יותר, אבל הן למעשה אומות חדשות לגמרי ולמשל, ליוונים ולמצרים הנוכחיים אין קשר ליוונים או למצרים הקדמונים.

בני ישראל לפעמים יכולים להיות בפסגה הכי גבוהה ולפעמים בגיא הכי נמוך, אבל אנחנו כאן לנצח, ואנחנו פורחים.

המצווה הראשונה שניתנה לעם היהודי הייתה לקדש את חודש ניסן. תחיה חדשה מזמן שבה הירח היה נסתר לחלוטין, אבל עם יכולת להיות מלא וזוהר בחמשה עשר לחודש - בדיוק היום שבו יצאנו ממצרים.

חשוב לנו להאמין במושג זה של "גלגלים חוזרים": לא משנה כמה התרחקנו, תמיד נוכל לחזור בתשובה ולהשתחרר מנסיבותינו; "ובא לציון גואל" - שנזכה לגאולה שלימה במהרה בימינו.

## מטה-מעלה

החדש הזה לכם ראש חדשים ראשון הוא לכם לחודש השנה:  
(שמות יב:ב)

יש סיפור מפורסם על חסיד שהיה עני מאוד. כל מה שהוא ניסה לעשות לא הצליח. הוא הגיע למצב של ייאוש, התיישב וחשב על מעמדו הנמוך. אבל פתאום הוא קפץ והתחיל לרקוד! "רב ייד בטח השתגעתי!" אמרו האנשים סביבו, ונענעו בראשם בעצב. "שום דבר לא יכול להיות רחוק יותר מהאמת!" הוא הסביר. "הייתי במצב הגרוע ביותר האפשרי ונראה היה שאין דרך לצאת מזה. גלגלי המזל סובבו אותי ממש לתחתית. אבל אז הבנתי שלכל גלגל יש חלק שנמצא בתחתית, וכל עוד הגלגל עדיין מסתובב אז הנקודה הנמוכה ביותר צריכה לעלות בקרוב כדי להפוך לנקודה הגבוהה ביותר. לכן ברור לי שהמזל שלי ישתנה, ואני אתעלה למעמד איתן כלכלית." למעשה, זה בעצם מה שקרה לאיש הזה.

אנו יודעים שהיהודים במצרים הגיעו לשער המ"ט בטומאה, ואם הם היו נשארים במצרים אפילו עוד רגע היו יורדים לשער החמישים, היו נטמעים שם ואי אפשר היה להוציא אותם. אנו מניחים שהגאולה הייתה צריכה להתרחש אז כי לה', כביכול, לא הייתה ברירה. עם זאת, אני מאמין שצריכה להיות משמעות עמוקה יותר למה נגאלנו דווקא כשהיינו בנקודה הנמוכה ביותר שלנו.

היהודים משולים לירח. בנוסף, המצווה הראשונה שניתנה לעם ישראל הייתה קידוש החודש. יש סיפור בגמרא (חולין ס"ב) המסביר מדוע הירח דועך והולך. בזמן בריאת העולם, "אמרה ירח לפני הקב"ה רבש"ע אפשר לשני מלכים שישתמשו בכתר אחד? אמר לה, לכי ומעטי את עצמך". כשמסתכלים על הגמרא נראה שהאמירה המקורית של הירח נחשבה לחטא. לכן, המשמעות של ירח מחודש שמופיע בכל חודש עשויה להזכיר לנו שיש הזדמנויות להתחיל שלב חדש; דף חדש; התחלה חדשה. אולי חטאנו בעבר, אבל אנחנו יכולים להתחיל מחדש עכשיו.

בני ישראל נגאלו ממצרים לא רק משעבודם הפיזי אלא מדבקותם בעבודה זרה. כפי ששאלו המלאכים, "מה ההבדל בין היהודים להמצרים, הלא שניהם עובדי עבודה זרה?" התשובה היא שיש לנו את היכולת לשנות. אנחנו יכולים לצאת מהסביבה השלילית ביותר ולצמוח להיות אומה חזקה ששומרת תורה בהתלהבות. יכולת זו לא ממש נמצאת באומות

המשך בעמוד 3

# About the Chesed Project

The aim of the 'Ahavas Shalom Chesed Project' is to provide support and care for it's Shul members. Support will include meals for new mothers, the sick and bereaved; visiting and helping the sick and lonely; and hachnasas orchim for new members and neighbors on Nachal Lachish and surrounding streets. It will also include emergency Shabbos food and prayer groups where necessary.



Sign up at [ahavasshalom.org/chesed](http://ahavasshalom.org/chesed)

כי אהבתי  
צולמ חסד יבנה  
(תהלים 89)

## Quick Pay!

Aliyos. Pledges. Seats. ANYTHING you want. It's so easy. Just go to

[www.ahavasshalom.org/nedarim](http://www.ahavasshalom.org/nedarim) and pay via

Nedarim Plus. Or use the terminal near the front door.

**Click. Pay. Done!**



Weekday times until Parshas Beshalach	ו' (Fri)	ה' (Thu)	ד' (Wed)	ג' (Tue)	ב' (Mon)	א' (Sun)	יום שחרית מנחה מערב	זמנים לימי חול עד פרשת בשלח
	06:20, 07:15, 08:15	06:20, 07:15, 08:05	06:20, 07:15, 08:05	06:20, 07:15, 08:05	06:20, 07:15, 08:05	06:20, 07:15, 08:05		
	12:30, 16:43	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15	13:00, 15:15		
	*Hall	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00	19:00, 21:00		

HaRav Avrohom Baruch Zachariash, Sh'lita, Rav  
Cellphone: 052-763-5938  
Binyomin Rubenstein, Chairman  
binyomin@ahavasshalom.org 054-237-0028

Administrative Secretary: Miriam Zakoo  
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Shul Address: 33 Nachal Lachish  
Ramat Beit Shemesh, Israel

Main Ahavas Shalom lists:  
Email List: [ahavasshalom.org/list](mailto:ahavasshalom.org/list)  
WhatsApp: [ahavasshalom.org/WhatsApp](https://www.ahavasshalom.org/WhatsApp)

Newsletter Design: Lev Seltzer lev@ahavasshalom.org  
Newsletter Contact: Send your lifecycle events, news, comments, etc. to [lifecycle@ahavasshalom.org](mailto:lifecycle@ahavasshalom.org). Remember: If we don't know about your event, we can't publish it!