

# The Shul

at the Lubavitch Center

6701 Old Pimlico Road

Baltimore, MD 21209

410-486-2666

www.chabadshul.org



July 22, 2017

Matot-Masei – Shabbat M'vorchim

28 Tamuz, 5777

## The Crystal Bell

It's an old story.

A poor beggar goes from house to house collecting alms for his impoverished family. Knocking on the door of one glorious home, he is greeted graciously, given some money, and encouraged to join the family for supper.

At dinner, other beggars and wayfarers sup at the wealthy family's expansive table.

For each course, from appetizers to dessert, the host rings a crystal bell and waiters appear with delectable delights. Our beggar is totally amazed that simply by jingling a small bell, such lavish results can be achieved.

At the end of the meal the host offers the guests anything they want from amongst his many possessions. Our poor beggar asks for the wonderful crystal bell.

Arriving home, the beggar asks his wife to set their tiny table.

"But we have no food to eat. I was waiting for you to return before I went to buy some beets and potatoes."

"Just set the table, my dear. And leave all the rest to me," said the beggar confidently. "I have a surprise for you."

So the wife dutifully set the table and seated herself and all of the children around it.

Our beggar sat down and slowly and carefully unwrapped the crystal bell that had been in his pocket.

Boldly, he rang the bell and waited. Nothing happened. He rang the bell again and waited. Again nothing happened. He continued ringing, until he was afraid that the crystal bell would break.

"What are you doing?" his wife asked him.

The husband proceeded to describe what had happened in the wealthy man's house and how each time the bell was rung luscious food was served.

"My dear husband," the woman said patiently, "the bell works only for those who have labored in advance so that they have something to serve. Your wealthy host worked hard to earn the money to hire workers who purchase and prepare the food. It is only after a tremendous amount of energy is invested that there such an amazing result is achieved. Nothing comes without toil."

It's comparable to young children who, accustomed to seeing their parents using credit cards, paypal or square cash, are told by their parents when they want an expensive toy: "We don't have any money right now."

"Well, just take out your phone," is the inevitable and childish logical retort of the naive youngster.

The parent patiently explains, "You can't take money out unless you first put money in."

Nothing comes without toil; you can't take something out unless you put it in first.

What is true for a lavish meal or money is certainly true of Judaism.

If we want our children to appreciate and value their Jewish traditions, we have to work assiduously at developing that appreciation by surrounding them with Jewish traditions.

If we want to feel close to our Creator, we have to enhance our relationship with G-d through prayer and mitzvot.

If we want to better understand our purpose in life as individuals and as a people, we have to study Torah and Jewish philosophy.

We have to put effort in if we want to get something back. As the Talmud teaches, "According to the labor is the reward."

*(from <http://www.lchaimweekly.org/>)*

## Ramban: Why was Parshas Nedarim Given over Specifically to

Our parsha begins with Moshe Rabbenu telling the Jewish people the laws of Nedarim. The beginning of the parsha is unique in that it begins with the words "Speak to the heads of the tribes saying ..." Most of the Torah was either said directly to the children of Israel (Daber el bnei Yisroel) or it was said to the Kohanim (Emor el haKohanim). There is not any other section that was given over specifically to the heads of the nation (Roshei haMatos).

The early commentaries themselves were bothered by this question. The Ramban in his Chumash commentary suggests that Parshas Nedarim is something that should not be said over to the masses. The concept of taking oaths and vows is very stringent; and when people will hear that you can be "matir" a neder or a father or husband can be "mefir" a neder [halachic devices which permit the "undoing" of vow], they will come to take these matters lightly. Consequently, according to the Ramban, these laws were given only to the Roshei HaMatos, the leaders of the nation, who could be trusted to deal with these concepts with the level of sophistication and reverence that they deserve.

(by Rabbi Yissocher Frand from Project Genesis at [www.torah.org](http://www.torah.org))

**Bikur Cholim of Baltimore** will be hosting its fourth annual "**Biker Cholim Event**" a men's bike-a-thon on **Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017** with the start/finish line at Beth Tfiloh. **3 route options- 10, 25, or 50 miles.** **Family Fun and BBQ lunch following the ride.** To register or to sponsor a rider go to <https://www.wizathon.com/bikercholim/> and click on the appropriate button.

We happily wish Mazel Tov to  
**Mr. Yehudah and Mrs. Bracha Buchwalter and Family**  
 on the **Birth of a Grandson**, born to their children  
**Avi and Nechama Miriam Bernstein.**



We wish Mazel Tov to **Dr. Moshe and Mrs. Maggie Silver** on  
 the **engagement of their son**  
**Shmueli**

to

**Chaya Botwinick**

of Far Rockaway, New York.

We wish both of you much mazel, simcha and a long life together.



### SHUL DIRECTORY

**Rabbi:** Shmuel Kaplan . rabbikaplan@chabadmd.com  
**Treasurer:** Michael Frank . . . shul.chabad@gmail.com  
**Membership:** Jay Bernstein . . . bernstein1@msn.com  
**Kiddush:** Reuven Frank . . . . . rfrank82@gmail.com  
**Bulletin:** Howard Kaplon . . . . . hkaplon@towson.edu  
**Website:** Shoshana Zakar . . . . . sue.zakar@gmail.com

**Gabbaim:**  
 Yehudah Buchwalter . . . judahbuchwalter@verizon.net  
 Allan Genut . . . . . agenut@gmail.com  
 Ephraim Siff  
**Mikvah Mei Menachem** . . . . . 410-415-5113  
**Aleph Learning Institute** . Mrs. Rochel Kaplan, Director  
[www.alephlearninginstitute.org](http://www.alephlearninginstitute.org) / email: [alephjli@gmail.com](mailto:alephjli@gmail.com)

### Davening and Shiurim Schedule

**Friday, 7/21 – 27 Tamuz**  
 Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.  
 Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:00 p.m.

**Shabbat, 7/22 – 28 Tamuz**  
 Shacharit — 9:00 a.m.  
 Sof Z'man Kriat Shema — 9:33 a.m.  
 Berachot Gemara Shiur — 6:55 p.m.  
 Minchah & Seudah Shilishit — 7:55 p.m.  
 Ma'ariv — 9:11 p.m.

**Sunday, 7/23 – 29 Tamuz**  
 Shacharit — 8:00 a.m.  
 Minchah / Ma'ariv — 8:00 p.m.

**Monday – Rosh Chodesh Av, 7/24 – 1 Av**  
 Shacharit — 6:40 a.m.  
 Minchah / Ma'ariv — 8:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, 7/25 – 2 Av**  
 Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.  
 Mincha/Ma'ariv — 8:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, 7/26 – 3 Av**  
 Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.  
 Minchah / Ma'ariv — 8:00 p.m.

**Thursday, 7/27 – 4 Av**  
 Shacharit — 6:50 a.m.  
 Minchah / Ma'ariv — 8:00 p.m.

**Friday, 7/28 – 5 Av**  
 Shacharit — 7:00 a.m.  
 Candles — 8:03 p.m.  
 Minchah / Ma'ariv — 7:00 p.m.