

# The Shul

at the Lubavitch Center

6701 Old Pimlico Road  
Baltimore, MD 21209

[www.chabadshul.org](http://www.chabadshul.org)



October 2, 2021

Bereshit — Shabbat M'vorchim

26 Tishrei, 5782

## Let There Be Light

"And G-d said, 'Let there be light.' And there was light" (Genesis 1:3)

Light has always been the most favored metaphor for all forms of revelation. We speak of "G-dly light," "Divine light," the "new light" of the Redemption. We use expressions such as, "Do you still walk in darkness or have you seen the light?"

As physical light brightens our path so we don't stumble over obstacles, so the light of G-dliness, our spiritual awareness, helps us avoid the pitfalls on the journey of life. Light represents truth, eternal values, the spiritual which transcends the mundane and the temporal.

The story is told of a wealthy man who had three sons. As he was uncertain as to which son he should entrust with the management of his business, he devised a test. He took his three sons to a room which was absolutely empty and he said to each of them, "Fill this room as best as you are able."

The first son got to work immediately. He called in bulldozers, earth-moving equipment, workmen with shovels and wheelbarrows and they got mightily busy. By the end of the day the room was filled, floor to ceiling, wall to wall, with earth.

The room was cleared and the second son was given his chance. He was more of an accountant type, so he had no shortage of paper: boxes, files, archives and records that had been standing and accumulating dust for years and years suddenly found a new purpose. At any rate, it didn't take long and the room was absolutely filled from floor to ceiling, wall to wall, with paper.

Again the room was cleared and the third son was given his turn. He seemed very relaxed and didn't appear to be gathering or collecting anything at all with which to fill the room. He waited until nightfall and then invited his father and the family to join him at the room. Slowly, he opened the door. The room was absolutely pitch black, engulfed in darkness. He took something out of his pocket. It was a candle. He lit the candle and suddenly the room was filled with light.

He got the job.

Some people fill their homes with earthiness — with lots of physical objects and possessions which clutter their closets but leave their homes empty. Our cars and clothes, our treasures and toys, all lose their attractiveness with time. If all we seek satisfaction from is the material, we are left with a gaping void in our lives.

Others are into paper — money, stocks, bonds, and share portfolios — but there is little in the way of real relationships. Family doesn't exist or is relegated to third place at best. On paper, he might be a multi-millionaire, but is he happy? Is his life rich or poor? Is it filled with family and friends or is it a lonely life, bereft of true joy and contentment?

The truly wise son understands how to fill a vacuum. The intelligent man knows that the emptiness of life needs light. Torah is light. Shabbat candles illuminate and make Jewish homes radiant with light. G-dly truths and the eternal values of our heritage fill our homes and families with the guiding light to help us to our destinations safely and securely.

As we begin a new Jewish year, may we all be blessed to take the candle of G-d and with it fill our lives and illuminate our homes with that which is good, kind, holy and honorable. Amen.

*(by Rabbi Yossi Goldman from <https://www.chabad.org/>)*



## The Kindness in Creation

Rashi z"l observes that the first verse of our Parashah attributes Creation to "Elokim." Rashi writes: It does not say, "Hashem created," because G-d would have liked (so-to-speak) for Creation to be placed under the Divine attribute of Din / Justice (alluded to by the Divine Name "Elokim"). However, He knew that the world could not thus endure; therefore, He gave precedence to the Divine attribute of Rachamim / Mercy (alluded to by the Name "Hashem"), allying it with the attribute of Din. The Torah alludes to this union when it states (Bereishit 2:4): "On the day that the Hashem Elokim made earth and heaven." [Until here from Rashi]

R' Shaul Yisraeli z"l (1909-1995; rabbi of Kfar Ha'roeh, Israel and a Rosh Yeshiva in Yeshivat Merkaz Harav) explains: We read (Tehilim 89:3), "The world will be built with Chessed/ Kindness." Hashem had no need to create the world; doing so was purely an act of kindness. But, there is kindness that is earned, and therefore is "justice" ("Chessed She'b'din"), and there is kindness that is not earned, but rather is performed purely out of mercy or compassion ("Chessed She'b'rachamim"). One who receives the latter form of kindness contributes nothing to his situation; he is solely a recipient, whereas G-d wants us to imitate Him and be givers and doers. Thus, G-d prefers to perform kindness that we earn through our good deeds—Chessed resulting from Din. Only because He knows that Creation does not always deserve kindness did He mix mercy into creation also. (Si'ach Shaul La'yamim Ha'nora'im p.3)

*(by Rabbi Mendel Zlotnick from Project Genesis at www.torah.org)*



We wish Mazel Tov to **Mr. Judah and Mrs. Bracha Buchwalter**  
on the **engagement of their daughter**  
**Esther Menucha**  
to  
**Yitzchak Asher Abberbock.**

We wish both of you much mazel, simcha and a long life together.  
Mazel Tov to Asher's parents **Dr. Gary and Mrs. Judy Abberbock.**

Yahrzeits This Week:			
Yossi Statman	26 Tishrei - Friday Night / Shannat	for father	Tzvi ben Naftali Meyer
Rebetzin Rochel Kaplan	30 Tishrei - Tuesday night / Wednesday	for mother	Chaya bas Chanoch Henech HaKohen
Dr. Moshe Silver	30 Tishrei - Tuesday night / Wednesday	for father	Binyomin ben Mordechai

SHUL DIRECTORY	
<p><b>Rabbi:</b> Shmuel Kaplan . . . rabbikaplan@chabadmd.com</p> <p><b>Treasurer:</b> Michael Frank . . . shul.chabad@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Security:</b> Jay Bernstein . . . jaybernsteinesq@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Kiddush:</b> Reuven Frank . . . . . rfrank82@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Bulletin:</b> Howard Kaplon . . . . . hkaplon@towson.edu</p> <p><b>Website:</b> Shoshana Zakar . . . . . sue.zakar@gmail.com</p>	<p><b>Gabbaim:</b> Yehudah Buchwalter . . . judahbuchwalter@verizon.net Allan Genut . . . . . agenut@gmail.com Ephraim Siff</p> <p><b>Mikvah Mei Menachem</b> . . . . . 410-415-5113</p> <p><b>Aleph Learning Institute</b> . Mrs. Rochel Kaplan, Director <a href="http://www.alephlearninginstitute.org">www.alephlearninginstitute.org</a> / email: <a href="mailto:alephjli@gmail.com">alephjli@gmail.com</a></p>

DAVENING AND SHIURIM SCHEDULE	
<p><b>Friday, 10/1 — 25 Tishrei</b> Shacharit — 7:00 a.m. Shabbat Candles — 6:30 p.m. Minchah / Ma'ariv — 6:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Shabbat, 10/2 — 26 Tishrei</b> Shacharit — 9:00 a.m. Sof Z'man Kriat Shema — 9:57 a.m. Minchah — 6:20 p.m. Ma'ariv— 7:31 p.m.</p> <p><b>Sunday, 10/3— 27 Tishrei</b> Shacharit — 8:00 a.m. Minchah / Ma'ariv — 6:25 p.m.</p> <p><b>Monday, 10/4 — 28 Tishrei</b> Shacharit — 6:50 a.m. Minchah / Ma'ariv — 6:25 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, 10/5 — 29 Tishrei</b> Shacharit — 7:00 a.m. Minchah / Ma'ariv — 6:25 p.m.</p> <p><b>Wednesday — Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan, 10/6 – 30 Tishrei</b> Shacharit — 6:40 a.m. Minchah / Ma'ariv — 6:25 p.m.</p> <p><b>Thursday — Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan, 10/7 – 1 Cheshvan</b> Shacharit — 6:40 a.m. Minchah / Ma'ariv — 6:25 p.m.</p> <p><b>Friday, 10/8 — 2 Cheshvan</b> Shacharit — 7:00 a.m. Shabbat Candles — 6:18 p.m. Minchah / Ma'ariv — 6:20 p.m.</p>