

# YOUNG ISRAEL OF THE MAIN LINE

## Weekly Update

Rabbi Avraham Steinberg  
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### Parshas Vayakhel

### פרשת ויקהל

כ"ד אדר א' תשס"ח—February 29–March 1

#### Shabbos Davening Times

Earliest candle lighting:	4:41pm
Candle lighting:	5:34pm
Mincha - Friday:	5:35pm
Sof Zman Krias Shema:	9:23am
Shacharis:	8:45am
Mincha followed by Chabura:	5:30pm
Maariv:	6:38pm

#### Weekday Davening Times

Shacharis Sunday:	8:00am
Mincha/Maariv Sunday:	5:45pm
Shacharis (Mon., Thu.):	6:40am
Shacharis (Tue., Wed.):	6:50am
Shacharis Rosh Chodesh Adar II (Fri.):	6:30am
Maariv (Mon.–Thu.):	7:45pm

#### Next Shabbos Times

Candle lighting:	5:42pm
Mincha - Friday:	5:40pm

משנכנס אדר מרבנים בשמחה!

## Calendar of Shiurim

DAY	TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER	NOTES
Shabbos	7:55am–8:15am	Parsha Chabura	R. Nosenchuck	ROTATES
Shabbos	8:15am	Parsha Shiur	R. Steinberg	
Shabbos	After Mincha	Chabura	R. Simon	
Shabbos	After Mincha	Medical Halacha	D. Eisenberg	
Sunday	After Shacharis	Sefer Hachinuch	M. Buchbinder	
Mon., Wed.	After Maariv	Mishna Berura	Eli Back	
Sun.-Fri.	15 min. before Shacharis	Chovos haLevovos	R. Steinberg	
Monday	9:00pm	Advanced Gemora: Makkos	R. Steinberg	
Thursday	10:10pm	Nefesh Hachaim	Rav Sholom Kamenetsky	

\*All shiurim are at YIML unless specified.

### THIS SHABBOS

#### Kiddush:

Kiddush this week is being sponsored by the Chases in honor of their Adar birthdays: Yeshaya Dov (3 Adar II), Michael Aharon (21 Adar), Betzalel Avraham (5 Adar) and Shmuel Zev (17 Adar).

#### Chabura:

This week between Mincha and Maariv: *The Official Artscroll Megillah? Kriat Megillah in English*, given by Rabbi Yaakov Simon.

#### Bnos and Pirchei:

Both Bnos and Pirchei will IY"Y meet this week from 3:30pm to 4:30pm at LMS.

There is a new entry on the YIML Internet Archive:

*White Lies: The Talmudic Approach* A talk by Rabbi Steinberg to students of the University of Pennsylvania School of Law. This shiur was originally given at the Maimonides "Lunch & Learn" Program, February 13, 2008.

All submissions, suggestions, and sponsorships should be directed (by Wednesday evening) to the editor of the Weekly Update, פלוגי בן פלוגי (weeklyupdate@yiml.org).

## YIML PURIM SEUDAH

Please join us for the YIML Purim Seudah:  
Purim Morning (Friday, March 21) 11:30am at YIML.  
Cost: \$18 per adult, \$10 children over 2.  
Please RSVP (so we know how many people to expect) to:  
Dini Steinberg nyds2002@aol.com or (610) 664-3796.

### Hakaras Hatov:

Please join us in thanking all of the women who take care of arranging the kiddush at YIML every week, and Gershon ben Shalom for the splendid chulent we have the pleasure of consuming.  
Thanks also to all the post-kiddush and post-Shabbos elves who work tirelessly to remove potato chips from the shul carpet. Volunteers are always welcome as apprentice elves; who knows, you could even grow up to be the chief shul president.

## ONGOING EVENTS

### Chevra Mishnayos:

The Chevra Mishnayos is now learning Seder Nashim.  
See the shul bulletin board to sign up.

### Women's Tehillim Group:

The Women's Tehillim Group meets Mondays at 9:45am at 345 Bala Ave.

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### Are you on our e-mail list?

To subscribe to the shul mailing list, send a message to [majordomo@chaseplanet.us](mailto:majordomo@chaseplanet.us) with the following in the message body (all one line): `subscribe yiml YOUR-EMAIL`

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### D'VAR TORAH by Rabbi Berel Wein

The haftorah for this week's parsha describes the efforts of the great King Shlomo in the construction of the First Temple. King Shlomo himself is a great and tragic figure. The attitude of the Talmud towards him is an ambivalent one.

On one hand, he is the builder of the Temple, the expander of the kingdom, the builder of great fortresses, and the administrator of twelve districts of his country. He is also the wisest of all men who understands even the sounds of animals and birds, the author of three of the great books of the Bible and someone upon whom the Divine Spirit itself has rested.

And yet on the other hand, the Talmud questions his right to immortality, criticizes his excesses and hubris, condemns his tolerance of the public support of idolatry by his foreign wives and even attributes the rise of Rome and the subsequent destruction of the Second Temple to his marrying the daughter of the Egyptian Pharaoh.

Jewish legend actually has him driven off of his throne by a demon and having to wander in exile for part of his life. All of this naturally dims the luster of his great earlier accomplishment of building the Temple.

The haftorah parallels the parsha in the description of the work in constructing the mishkan and its artifacts, with the same type of artisanship in the creation of the Temple and its artifacts.

Shlomo, so to speak, becomes the second Moshe in supervising the building of the house of God. But, in the case of Moshe, the building of the mishkan was only one of his career's accomplishments and was dwarfed by his major accomplishment of teaching and instilling Torah within the people of Israel. The building of the Temple by Shlomo was the highpoint of his career and afterwards he slipped off of the mighty pedestal of greatness that he had attained.

The Talmud teaches us that "happy are those whose later years do not shame their earlier accomplishments." My old law school professor taught us that every lawyer makes a bad mistake at least once in his professional career. He also stated that those who are fortunate enough to make that mistake early in their career are truly blessed because they can recover and advance.

Making it late in one's professional life can be disastrous to one's reputation and life. The reverse trend may be true of accomplishments.

Early accomplishments can be very dangerous because they set a standard and inspire a sense of self aggrandizement that will prevent any further achievements. Only a gradual ascent and mature considerations, which usually are part and parcel of advancing years, can guarantee that those early achievements become lasting and untarnished by later behavior.

The comparison between the two great builders of God's house—Moshe and Shlomo—is illustrative of this truth.

Building God's house is a great achievement in itself. Maintaining it and using it for greater spiritual influence and instruction to the people of Israel is an even greater achievement.

From: <http://www.rabbiwein.com/Weekly-Parsha/2008/02/237.html>