

TEFILAT YAMIM



PARSHAT TERUMAH

4 Adar 5786 - 21 February 2026



Dear Community Family,

This week, as we read about the building of the Mishkan, we encounter something fascinating.

The very first furnishing Hashem commands us to build is not the menorah. Not the altar. Not the table with the showbread.

It is the Ark.

A gold-covered wooden box housing the Tablets of the Covenant. And on top? A golden cover crowned with two winged figures, the cherubim, with the faces of children.

Of all images to place at the holiest point in the holiest structure, Hashem chooses... children.

Why?

Because before Torah is law, before it is wisdom, before it is obligation, *it is connection.*

The cherubim had infant faces to teach us something radical and comforting: our bond with Hashem is not contractual. It is parental.

A contract can be broken. A partnership can dissolve. A friendship can cool. But a child remains a child. **Always.**

You can slam doors. You can say, "I don't want to talk." You can wander far from home. *But you never stop being someone's child.*

And that is how Hashem sees us.

We may fluctuate. We may struggle. We may

have weeks where we soar spiritually and weeks where we feel like we're crawling. But beneath it all is something unshakeable: we are His children.

The Ark teaches us this at the very foundation of Jewish life.

And notice something even more beautiful: Our sages teach that when we are connected to Hashem, the cherubim faced each other lovingly. When we drifted, they turned away.

Not because the relationship ended, but because relationships require engagement.

The Tablets beneath them represent Torah, Hashem's infinite wisdom, lovingly "contracted" into words we can grasp. Like a sensitive parent kneeling down to eye level, simplifying the infinite so a child can understand.

Torah is not Hashem speaking over us. *It is Hashem bending down to us.*

And the wings of the cherubim spread protectively above the Ark remind us of something else: the future of Torah depends on children. When we teach a child Alef-Bet, when we answer their questions patiently, when we show them that Judaism is warm and alive, we are spreading those wings again.

But here is the part I want to carry into this week.

If Hashem relates to us as a Father, then we must relate to Him as children.

A child doesn't hesitate before asking. A child doesn't calculate worthiness. A child doesn't say, "I messed up last week, so I guess I can't come home." A child runs home.

With scraped knees.
With tears. With messy
stories. With sticky
hands. And the door
opens. Just love.

So when life feels
overwhelming,
finances, health,
parenting, decisions,
fears about the world,
remember this image
from the Mishkan.

Above the Torah,
above the
commandments, above
the expectations, stand
two children.

That is who we are.

And no matter how old
we get, how

accomplished we
become, how
independent we
imagine ourselves to
be, we are still standing
beneath those wings.

We are never
negotiating for
Hashem's love. **We are
living inside it.**

May this Shabbat
remind us to lean in a
little more. To daven a
little more vulnerably.
To trust a little more
deeply.

Because our Father is
not distant. *He is
waiting for us to come
home.*

May we tap into the
"childish" joyful energy
of Adar this month, to
re-embrace our inner
child and experience
the Torah with
innocence, excitement
and passion.

Through this joyful
mentality G-d willing
we will merit to
experience a Purim 2.0
with the complete
victory over the
modern day Persia,
Iran.

With warmth, faith, and
a smile,

Rav Mendel Wuensch

Weekday Minyan Schedule

7:30 AM Shachrit @ Beit Chabad Ir Yamim

5:25 PM Mincha/Maariv @ Be Pharmacy On Piano

Shabbat Schedule

Friday

5:09 PM Candle Lighting

5:20 PM Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat - Dvar Torah by Rav Mendel Wuensch

Shabbat Day

8:30 AM Shacharit - Dvar Torah by Rav Mendel Wuensch

9:45-10:30 AM Kid's Program

10:30 AM Kiddush

11:00 AM Kolot Yamim: Anna Cohen on "Adar, Malkat Esther and The Power of the Seuda"

4:20 PM Shiur By Rabbi David Rue On "Can You Fulfill Mishloach Manot Through The Sisterhood"

5:05 PM Mincha Followed By Seudat Shlishit "Raava D'Raavin" With Rav Mendel Wuensch

6:04 PM Arvit

6:09 PM Shabbat Ends

Weekday Events & Lectures Schedule

9-11 AM Monday Men's Kollel By Rav Mendel Wuensch

@ Young Israel Of Poleg, Hanurit St. 33, Poleg

8 PM Monday Sages Of The Ages Series On "The Lubavitcher Rebbe" By Rav Mendel Wuensch @ Briga Towers, Ehud Manor 7 Beit Kneset/Tenants Room

10:30 AM Tuesday New! Taharas Hamishpacha/Family Purity Course For Women In Childbearing Years By Rebbetzin Itty @ Biscotti On Piano

5-6 PM Tuesday Women's Kollel & Youth Programming For Ages 0-18 By Rebbetzin Itty & Oryah Seminary @ Tefilat Yamim, Corner of Ben Berman & Uzi Hitman Streets

11 AM Wednesday Experience Prayer Series By Rav Mendel Wuensch

@ T-Towers, Uzi Hitman 11, Tenants Room

Kiddush Sponsors

Inbar and Alan Braude, in honor of the birth of a Grandson to their children, Liad and Dinah Braude. May they raise him to Torah, Chuppah, and Maasim Tovim!

Birgit, Allan and Gabriel in honour of our wonderful Rabbi and Community.

Myriam and Daniel Gartner in celebration of their new Grandson, Atay David, born on January 22 to their children Jessica and Amit.

Mazel Tovs

Barbara & Elliot Katzovitz on the birth of a grandson, may the Bris be at the right time and they raise him to Torah, Chuppah, and Maasim Tovim!

Myriam and Daniel Gartner in celebration of their new Grandson, Atay David, born on January 22 to their children Jessica and Amit. May they raise him to Torah, Chuppah and Maasim Tovim!

Contact Info

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Location: Chaim Guri School, Corner of Beni Berman & Uzi Hitman Streets,
Entrance On Uzi Hitman Streetk