

TEFILAT YAMIM

# PARSHAT BEHAALOTECHA

14 Sivan 5786 - 30 May 2026

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*Dear Community Family,*

A rabbi, a priest, and a minister are arguing about who does the best job of bringing people into the faith.

The priest says, "We bring people to church, teach them the

catechism, and welcome them into the community with warmth and ceremony."

The minister says, "We hold revivals, the spirit moves, and lives are

transformed overnight."

The rabbi thinks for a moment and says, "We throw them in the mikveh, say a few brachos, and mail

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them the bill. Who has time for more?"

On a more serious note, there is a woman in this week's parshah who deserves our full attention, not for her failures, but for everything she represents.

Miriam was extraordinary. As a young girl in Egypt, she defied Pharaoh alongside her mother, midwifing Jewish babies into a world that had decreed their death. When her father Amram, crushed by despair, separated from her mother, it was Miriam, a mere child, who confronted him: "Pharaoh only decreed against the boys. You have decreed against

everyone." Her words reunited her parents, and Moshe was born. She stood in the reeds watching over her infant brother's basket. She led the women in song at the sea. She was, in every sense, a mother of the Jewish people.

And yet, in this parshah, she speaks critically of Moshe, and is struck with leprosy.

How do we understand this?

The Torah tells us that Miriam learned that Moshe had separated from his wife Tzipora. She was troubled. Her entire life had been dedicated to one thing: family. Building it, protecting it, fighting for it. When she saw what appeared to be a

husband distancing himself from his wife, everything in her rose up in protest. Her intentions were pure. Her concern was genuine.

But she made two mistakes. First, she misjudged Moshe. Moshe was unlike any other prophet. He had to remain ready to receive divine communication at any moment, which required a standard of preparation no one else could be held to. What looked like neglect was actually sacred devotion of a completely different order.

Second, and this is the deeper lesson, instead of going to Moshe directly, she spoke to

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Aaron. The one time in her life that Miriam didn't speak up fearlessly and directly, the one time she went around rather than straight, is the one time she fell short.

She was punished not despite who she was, but because of who she was.

This is the profound teaching hidden in Miriam's story: G-d does not judge everyone on the same curve. Each of us is held to the standard of our own potential. For an ordinary person, what Miriam did might have been considered admirable. Speaking up for family values, caring about a friend's marriage. But Miriam was Miriam. From her,

a higher standard was expected: to go directly, to confront with courage, to judge favorably before speaking at all.

We remember this every single morning. The Six Remembrances we recite daily include: Remember what G-d did to Miriam. Not as a cautionary tale about gossip, but as a reminder of something far more personal. G-d sees each of us exactly as we are, knows exactly what we are capable of, and loves us enough to hold us to it.

The Talmud teaches that Miriam's soul was so elevated that the angel of death had no power over her. She died, like Moshe and

Aaron, through G-d's own kiss. Her stumble in this parshah does not define her. It illuminates her.

And perhaps it illuminates us as well. Each of us has a standard that is uniquely ours, shaped by our gifts, our history, our relationships. The question G-d is always asking is not "did you do what was expected of the average person?" but "did you live up to who you are?"

That is a more demanding question. It is also a more loving one.

Which brings us to this Shabbat.

A community, too, has its own standard, one

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shaped by its history, its values, and its aspirations for what it wants to become. And part of living up to that standard is constantly elevating itself to new heights.

This Shabbat we have the privilege of welcoming Rabbi Yossi and Rebbetzin Sarah Fachler, who are joining us for a trial Shabbat as we explore building something meaningful together. They bring with them a remarkable track record as educators,

people who don't just teach Torah but make it come alive, who connect with people across every background with warmth, depth, and yes, a genuinely good sense of humor. People who have learned with them or been around them for five minutes know that they bring the complete package: serious Torah, real relationships, and the kind of joy that makes a community feel like a community.

Miriam's lesson this week is that we are each held to the highest version of ourselves. And we are excited to see the new prospective Rabbi & Rebbetzin elevate everyone to those levels.

Please join us in giving Rabbi Yossi and Sarah Fachler the warmest Tefilat Yamim welcome,

*Rav Mendel Wuensch*

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## Kiddush Sponsors

Phyllis and Sid Ulreich in honor of the Yahrzeits of Phyllis's parents, Clara and Ted Scholnick, and the birth of their Great-Granddaughter, Alumah Tair, born to Ahuva and David Gellis.

Allan, Birgit and Gabriel in honour of our wonderful Rabbi and Rebbitzin who we will miss very much.

Sharon and Larry Finegold to celebrate their Granddaughter's Bat Mitzvah, to wish Mendel and Itty great happiness, success and robust health in their new endeavors and to wish a good summer to our wonderful TEFILLAT YAMIM Congregation 🇮🇱🇮🇱.

Shari & Bobby Alter in honor of the engagement of their son Jason, to Rafa Rosenberg, daughter of Ljiljana Damiyano & Stephen Rosenberg.

Stacy and Harold Ullman in honor of their 35th wedding Anniversary.

## Weekday Minyan Schedule

**7:30 AM Shachrit** @ Beit Chabad Ir Yamim

**7:35 PM Mincha/Maariv** @ Be Pharmacy On Piano

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## Shabbat Schedule

### Friday

7:18 PM Candle Lighting

7:00 PM Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat - Dvar Torah by Rav Yossi Fachler

### Shabbat Day

8:30 AM Shachrit - Dvar Torah by Rav Yossi Fachler

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

10:30 AM Kiddush

11:00 AM Kolot Yamim by Rav Yossi Fachler

6:00 PM Rabbi David Rue Shiur

7:20 PM Mincha Followed By Seudat Shlishit "Raava D'Ravin" with Rav Yossi Fachler

8:18 PM Arvit

8:23 PM Shabbat Ends

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## Weekday Events & Lecture Schedule

**9-11 AM Monday** Men's Kollel By Rav Mendel Wuensch @ Young Israel Of Poleg,  
Hanurit St. 33, Poleg **Finale!**

**8:30 PM Monday** Sages Of The Ages Series By Rav Mendel Wuensch on "The  
Klausenberger Rebbe" @ Briga Towers, Ehud Manor 7 Beit Knesset/Tenants Room  
**Finale!**

**10:30 AM Tuesday** Family Purity Perspectives By Rebbetzin Itty @ Biscotti For  
Women In Childbearing Years

**11 AM Wednesday** Experience Prayer Series By Rav Mendel Wuensch **Finale!**

## Contact Info

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