# J.L.C. Connections

The Jewish Learning Connection's Weekly Newsletter



Matanos L'Evyonim

may be given to R. NIsenbaum

to be distributed on Purim

**Mazel Tov** 

Drs. Michael and Brenda Altose

upon the engagement of their

daughter

**Condolences** 

the family of Charles Zuchowski

upon his passing

Parshas Terumah February 24, 2023 / 3 Adar 5783

Volume 28, Issue 19 Candlelighting: 5:53 pm

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#### Friday, February 24

5:53pm Candlelighting 5:55pm Mincha / Maariv 9:00pm Shiur @ R. Nisenbaum's

#### Shabbos, February 25

8:45am Shacharis Kiddush is available

5:45pm Mincha / Shalosh Seudos / Maariy

#### Sunday, February 26

9:15am Parsha Class (R. Nisenbaum) 10:00am "The 613 Mitzvos" (R. Stoll)

#### Monday, February 27

8:00pm "The Rest of the Story"
- "Esther & Mordechai"

#### Tuesday, February 28

8:00pm Pirkei d'Rebbi Elazar (R. Stoll)

#### Wednesday, March 1

8:00pm Nach Still Speaks – Tehillim (R. Stoll)

#### Thursday, March 2

10:15pm Parsha Class (R. Nisenbaum)

#### **Torah Podcast**

Listen to Rabbi Nisenbaum's "Torah Podcast" at Spotify, Apple Podcasts, iHeartRadio, and more, or download at www.maverickpodcasting.com

New episodes twice a week!

#### Weekday Minyanim

7:00am Shacharis (M-F) 8:00am Shacharis (Sun) 10:00pm Maariv (Sun-Th)

#### **Class Connection**

**R.** Nisenbaum: 425-436-6200 #352171

"The Torah Podcast" weekly at all podcast locations

R. Stoll:

Zoom: 876-619-3551 Audio: 669-900-9128

### Parsha: Terumah

G-d instructed Moshe about the construction of the Mishkan, the Tabernacle. The Mishkan provided an opportunity for the people to create a dwelling place for G-d's presence to rest amongst them. The commentaries point out that prior to the sin of the

Golden Calf this would not have been necessary, as the people themselves would be a repository for His presence. Only after the sin did they have to build a dwelling place for G-d's presence.

The voluntary donation of materials for the *Mishkan* also served as atonement for the donations of gold that were used to build the Golden Calf.

The *Mishkan* was designed to be easily

assembled and disassembled in order for it to remain portable. The *Mishkan* accompanied the Jews for over five hundred years, from the forty years in the desert until King Solomon built the First Temple in Jerusalem.

Materials were collected for the various vessels needed in the *Mishkan*. The Ark, or *Aron*, was made of wood, covered on the outside and inside with gold. It was placed in the Holy of Holies, the innermost section of the *Mishkan*. The Torah and

the tablets of the Ten Commandments were kept in the Ark.

A wooden *shulchan*, or table, covered with gold, held twelve specially shaped breads. These breads remained on the table throughout the week and were

changed each Shabbos. An elaborate Menorah carved of pure gold. The Menorah was kindled each night and remained lit until morning. Two mizbeichos, or altars, were also built. One outside of the Mishkan was made of wood and covered with copper. This was used to offer sacrifices. Another one, inside the Mishkan, was made of wood and covered with gold. It was used to burn incense. A copper basin, the kiyor, was needed for the

kohanim to wash their hands and feet before their service.

Each one of these vessels also represented some element of G-d's relationship with the Jewish people in particular and the world in general. The *Aron* represented Torah, the *Shulchan* represented material success, and so on. By donating the materials, and building all the vessels needed for the *Mishkan*, the people would ensure G-d's continued influence.

## **Insights: Terumah**

You shall make the altar of acacia wood... (Exodus 27:1)

The Talmud (Chagiga 27) says that in the times of the Beis Hamikdash the mizbe'ach would offer atonement. Now, that the Beis Hamikdash is no longer here, one's table offers atonement. Pirkei Avos teaches (3:4) that one who does not share words of Torah at the table is as if he has eaten offerings of idolatry. One who does share words of Torah at the table is as if he has eaten from the table of the Almighty. Rabbi Abraham Twerski explains that Torah and hospitality at one's table transform a mundane dinner offering of physical nutrients into an offering of spiritual nutrients. In Yeshiva Be'er Yaakov, the mashgiach, Rav Shlomo Wolbe, would post a paper on the dining room wall assigning each student a designated seat. At the top of the paper he wrote, Zeh hashulchan asher lifnei Hashem, This is the table that is before G-d (Yechezkel 41:22). He would say that mealtime is meant to be part of the service of Hashem, no different than praying and studying.

## **Did You Know?**

On the Shabbos preceding Purim we read Parshas Zachor, the incident involving Amalek. This is the only Torah reading, according to most authorities, that is required by Torah law. Some authorities require women to listen to the reading too. If she cannot attend services in the morning, she may listen to the reading Purim morning, or she can read it to herself from a chumash (Bible). Some communities have a special reading on Shabbos afternoon; however, many authorities discourage this practice, especially if there is no quorum of men present. Women are obligated to listen to the Megillah on Purim both at night and in the morning. If she cannot attend services, the Megillah should be read for her privately.

Thought for the Week: When a man doesn't know where he stands, he is very likely to fall. (A Candle By Day)