



# Carnegie Shul Chatter

## November 22, 2023



### Being Thankful

This week we celebrate the American holiday of Thanksgiving, and although I agree that it is wonderful to set aside a special day to offer thanks to God, shouldn't every day be a day of thanksgiving? Isn't every day a gracious gift from God? And isn't life the greatest gift from God?

Sadly, this year celebrating life and God's gift was not possible for those who were slaughtered in Israel when Hamas invaded and barbarically killed many innocent Israelis. And what has life been like for those who were kidnapped and taken as hostages by Hamas? And what has life been like for the loved ones of those who were killed or taken hostage? Or for all of those whose lives have been disrupted both in Israel and elsewhere by the vile acts of this evil terrorist group?

I am always thankful for all that Hashem has given to me. Now I want to have the opportunity to be thankful for peace in Israel and in the diaspora. May it come tomorrow if not today.

## Shabbat Services

The Carnegie Shul hybrid services begin at 9:20am. Join us in the synagogue, or attend virtually. Watch your email for a Zoom link or contact Rosalyn Hoffman at [rjlynman@yahoo.com](mailto:rjlynman@yahoo.com). The complete Torah reading, in Hebrew and English, can be found at [https://www.chabad.org/parshah/torahreading\\_cdo/aid/2492510/jewish/Vayetze-Torah-Reading.htm](https://www.chabad.org/parshah/torahreading_cdo/aid/2492510/jewish/Vayetze-Torah-Reading.htm)

Light candles 4:38pm

Shabbat Services 9:20am



**Please continue reciting the Prayer for the Welfare of the State of Israel daily and pray for the wellbeing of all of our Israeli brothers and sisters.**

## **Prayer for the Welfare of the State of Israel**

**“Our Father Who art in Heaven,** Protector and Redeemer of Israel, bless Thou the State of Israel which marks the dawn of our deliverance. Shield it beneath the wings of Thy love. Spread over it Thy canopy of peace; send Thy light and Thy truth to its leaders, officers, and counselors, and direct them with Thy good counsel.

**“O God,** strengthen the defenders of our Holy Land; grant them salvation and crown them with victory. Establish peace in the land, and everlasting joy for its inhabitants.

**“Remember our brethren,** the whole house of Israel, in all the lands of their dispersion. Speedily let them walk upright to Zion, the city, to Jerusalem Thy dwelling-place, as it is written in the Torah of Thy servant Moses: ‘Even if you are dispersed in the uttermost parts of the world, from there the Lord your God will gather and fetch you. The Lord your God will bring you into the land which your fathers possessed, and you shall possess it.’

**“Unite our heart to love and revere Thy Name,** and to observe all the precepts of Thy Torah. Shine forth in Thy glorious majesty over all the inhabitants of Thy world. Let everything that breathes proclaim: The Lord God of Israel is King; His majesty rules over all.” Amen.



# Vayetze in a Nutshell

*From Chabad.org*

## Genesis 28:10–32

The name of the Parshah, “Vayetze,” means “And he left” and it is found in Genesis 28:10.

Jacob leaves his hometown of Beersheba and journeys to Charan. On the way, he encounters “the place” and sleeps there, dreaming of a ladder connecting heaven and earth, with angels climbing and descending on it; G-d appears and promises that the land upon which he lies will be given to his descendants. In the morning, Jacob raises the stone on which he laid his head as an altar and monument, pledging that it will be made the house of G-d.

In Charan, Jacob stays with and works for his uncle Laban, tending Laban’s sheep. Laban agrees to give him his younger daughter, Rachel—whom Jacob loves—in marriage, in return for seven years’ labor. But on the wedding night, Laban gives him his elder daughter, Leah, instead—a deception Jacob discovers only in the morning. Jacob marries Rachel, too, a week later, after agreeing to work another seven years for Laban.

Leah gives birth to six sons—Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar and Zebulun—and a daughter, Dinah, while Rachel remains barren. Rachel gives Jacob her handmaid, Bilhah, as a wife to bear children in her stead, and two more sons, Dan and Naphtali, are born. Leah does the same with her handmaid, Zilpah, who gives birth to Gad and Asher. Finally, Rachel’s prayers are answered and she gives birth to Joseph.

Jacob has now been in Charan for 14 years, and wishes to return home. But Laban persuades him to remain, now offering him sheep in return for his labor. Jacob prospers, despite Laban’s repeated attempts to swindle him. After six years, Jacob leaves Charan in stealth, fearing that Laban would prevent him from leaving with the family and property for which he labored. Laban pursues Jacob, but is warned by G-d in a dream not to harm him. Laban and Jacob make a pact on Mount Gal-Ed, attested to by a pile of stones, and Jacob proceeds to the Holy Land, where he is met by angels.



# Haftorah in a Nutshell

## Hosea 11:7-12:14

This week's haftorah mentions Jacob's flight from home to the "field of Aram," an episode that is recounted in this week's Torah reading.

The haftorah begins with the prophet Hosea's rebuke of the Jewish people for forsaking G-d. Nevertheless, Hosea assures the people that G-d will not abandon them:

"How can I give you, Ephraim, and deliver you [to the hands of the nations]? . . . I will not act with My fierce anger; I will not return to destroy Ephraim."

The prophet discusses the misdeeds of the Northern Kingdom of Israel, and the future degeneration of the Kingdom of Judea. He contrasts their behavior to that of their forefather Jacob who was faithful to G-d and prevailed against enemies, both human and angelic.

The haftorah also makes mention of the ingathering of the exiles which will occur during the Final Redemption: "They shall hasten like a bird from Egypt and like a dove from the land of Assyria; and I will place them in their houses, says the Lord."



## Rabbi Stanley Savage

Rabbi Stanley Savage, the Carnegie Shul's last rabbi, passed away on Friday, November 17. Below is his obituary:

### Rabbi Stanley Savage

**August 3, 1949 - November 17, 2023**



**RABBI STANLEY SAVAGE:** There is less laughter in the world today. Rabbi Stanley Savage was known for his quirky sense of humor, always having a "Dad Joke" at the ready. But on Friday evening, November 17, Rabbi Savage passed away peacefully following a two-year long battle with cancer. Rabbi Stanley was born in Belgium on August 3, 1949. His parents, Sam Savage (z"l) and Jolan "Yetta" Savage (z"l), were both Holocaust survivors, and emigrated to the United States following Stanley's birth. Stanley grew up in Pittsburgh, but went to high school in Baltimore and studied at the Brooklyn College in New York. He obtained his smicha

(ordination) from the Yeshiva Gadol (Talmudical Institute of Pittsburgh), which is no longer in existence. As a young man, Stanley taught at several Jewish schools and did various jobs throughout the community, including being a shomer at the Jewish funeral homes that were in Pittsburgh at the time. He was the rabbi at Congregation Ahavath Achim in Carnegie, PA, New

Light Congregation in Squirrel Hill and Tree of Life Congregation in Uniontown, but his longest tenure was at Beth Hamedrash HaGadol-Beth Jacob Synagogue in downtown Pittsburgh. Stanley served this synagogue from 1983 - 2021. His assistance was invaluable to the congregation in the transition period during which they were relocated to their current home, and the previous building was demolished for the construction of the new Penguins' hockey arena. Although still enjoying his place at the synagogue, when the pandemic no longer allowed for daily minyanim, he retired. Rabbi Stanley's offbeat sense of humor was legendary. His home contained framed pictures of the Marx Brothers, cardboard cutouts of the Three Stooges, and a life-sized family of stuffed giraffes. His passion, other than studying Talmud and Torah, was sports, particularly wrestling. But mostly, he enjoyed interacting with people. His home was open to all who wished to sit and "schmooze" either over a bagel or a glass of peach schnapps. When at a restaurant, he would walk into the kitchen and thank the food preparers. On the street he would stop to talk with everyone: he would admire a baby in a stroller, help an elderly person to maneuver, or give money and food to a homeless person. Stanley loved his children, Adina (Brad) Cohen and Daniel (Angelina) Savage; also his three grandchildren, Frank, Nora and Sophia Cohen. Devoted to his beloved family, Stanley is survived by his sister Faye (Leslie) Unger and his brother Eugene (Michelle) Savage, his many nieces and nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews, and his Aunt Marlene Lebovitz and his cousins. Stanley was very grateful for his many friends, especially those on the team that looked after him during his illness. Rabbi Stanley Savage was one of a kind, and will be truly missed by all who knew and loved him.

## Yahrtzeits

This week the Carnegie Shul acknowledges the yahrtzeits of:

**Hannah Moskowitz**  
**Ervin H. Peresman**  
**Jack Levine**

**Julius Shutzberg**  
**Ethel S. Peresman**

May their memories be for a blessing.