

Purim is the ultimate joy, and the only way to experience that joy is to break out of yourself. Not by making yourself happy, not by doing those things you enjoy, not by sticking to your life, your friends, your family and remaining the person you are so comfortable being.

No. By playing the clown, wearing a costume and acting in a way that brings smiles to strangers on the street, uplifting all around, even those who had lost all hope for joy. Purim is that day of breaking out of the daily routine .

The light of Purim knows no bounds.

Everyone is Family!

JLI Teens enters 3rd Season

By Rabbi Zalman Minkowitz, Director of Chabad Chevy Chase

hen I was living in New York, I worked for the Released Time program; a program that brings Jewish education and values to nearly 1000 Jewish students who are enrolled in N.Y. Public Schools.

Once, a woman who had a 5th grader in our program told me that she had an older child who was part of Released Time some years earlier but has since graduated elementary

and now has very little Jewish involvement. She was concerned the little Mikey would soon be graduating elementary as well and wanted to know how she could keep him involved. Released Time is for grades K-5. I felt her frustration and gave her some ideas but could not personally help since our program stopped at 5th grade.

This family's story is all too common. Many families that we have gotten to know through our work in Chevy Chase provide their children with Jewish involvement while they are young but have a hard time finding viable Jewish options once their children reach their teen years. That's where JLI Teens comes in.

JLI Teens provides advanced Jewish involvement for high school students by challenging teenagers to incorporate Jewish thought into their everyday life. Each series incorporates ethics, philosophy, faith,

> history, community service, current events, and textual studies.

> The parents and children love the program. "My son looks forward to class each week with Rabbi Zalman. He is an engaging teacher, and the JLI course material is both

thought provoking and relevant to what is on the minds of Jewish teenagers. Mushka is a gem too!" Said Shana Zucker.

We are now starting our 3rd season called "Jewish MythBusters" which is a course that goes through many of the misunderstood facts about our Jewish culture and history. This passed Wednesday for example, the teens were surprised to discover that the forbidden fruit that Adam and Eve ate was not actually an apple.

To find out more, please email Mushka: Mushka@chabadcc.org





Friends of Lubavich

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The 4 Mitzvot of Purim:

1. Hear the Megillah

Head to a synagogue to hear the whole Megillah. The Megillah, a.k.a. "The Book of Esther," is the scroll that tells the Purim story. Listen to the public reading twice: once on Purim night, and again on Purim day. This year, that's Wednesday night, March 20 and Thursday, March 21, 2019.

2. Give to Needy (Matanot LaEvyonim)

On Purim day we place special emphasis on caring for the less fortunate.

Give money or food to at least two needy people during the daylight hours of Purim,

3. Send Food Gifts (Mishloach Manot).

On Purim day, March 21, send a package containing at least two different ready-to-eat food items and/or beverages (e.g., pastry, fruit, beverage) to at least one Jewish acquaintance during the daylight hours of Purim.

<u> 4. Feast!</u>

During the course of Purim day, March 21, gather your family, maybe invite a guest or two, and celebrate with a festive Purim meal. Traditionally, this meal begins before sundown and lasts well into the evening.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

- Tuesday, March 19th 7:30 PM Jewish Learning Institute; Crime & Consequence
- Wednesday, March 20th 7:45 PM Megillah reading and Happy Hour
- Thursday, March 21st 5:00 PM Purim Party Chinese Buffet