

Q:

Israel doesn't need our money, right?

A:

Wrong.

The Jewish Federation helps the most vulnerable populations in Israel—those in need of social services, food and shelter, crisis relief, education and more.

For more than a decade, our special relationship with the desert City of Arad, and the neighboring Dead Sea region known as Tamar, has resulted in friendships, exchange programs, economic development and other "living bridges."

Federation provides significant resources for our youth to travel and study in Israel. And every known study on the subject documents the linkage between a visit to Israel and future Jewish leadership.

Federation provides resources for Israel advocacy on our local campuses. We also monitor our local media reporting on Israel, and we advocate when necessary with local and national officials.

And whether from the former Soviet Union, from Ethiopia, from South America, or most recently from Yemen, we pave the way for those who yearn to live in Israel.

It is less a matter of politics, and more a matter of caring for our People, in the homeland of our People.

Please help us.

To contribute please call 609-822-4404
or contribute online at
www.JewishByTheShore.org



**Jewish Federation of Atlantic
and Cape May Counties**
501 N. Jerome Avenue, Margate NJ 08402

▲ Weinreb

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lofty one; his subsequent dream, a comedown. His vision was diminished, from a glimpse of Heaven to earthly things.

But his second dream does not end with his vision of goats, speckled or otherwise. Rather, an angel appears to him and says that he, the angel, has observed

Jacob's dream and has "noted all that Laban has been doing to you." The angel in the dream is the better part of Jacob himself, the part that realizes that Laban's environment has contaminated his dreams.

The angel in the dream then goes on to say that he represents the God of Bethel and that it is time for Jacob to "leave this land and return to his native land." It is time for him to become mature in the first sense. It is time for him to reclaim his first dream and to do all that he can to make that dream real.

Jacob reaches true maturity when he decides not to yield to the temptation to compromise upon his original dream. When he realizes that his dreams are not what they once were and that he has lost his youthful vision of a ladder connecting heaven and earth, he does not merely settle for his new reality.

Rather, he learns, and this lesson

is imparted to him by God Himself, that one must not surrender to mundane dreams, abandoning old ideals. He learns that he can return to the dream of his youth. And he learns not only that he can go home again, but that he must go home again.

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There is, of course, another lesson that he learns. And this is an eternal lesson for the Jewish people.

The dreams of our national youth, the visions of our biblical heroes and of the Patriarchs and Matriarchs, can only be achieved in the Land of Israel. The dreams of the Diaspora are apt to be mundane, shortsighted, and a bit selfish. The dreams of the Land of Israel are noble dreams, exalted dreams, and dreams which ultimately connect us to heaven. Indeed, the dreams of Israel ideally connect all of the earth's inhabitants to their Father in Heaven.

We can revisit the dreams of our youth. We can go home again. The Land of Israel is the land of our dreams, and it is home. This is one lesson learned from this week's Torah portion: a lesson about being a Jew, and a lesson about true maturity.

Rabbi Dr. Tzvi Hersh Weinreb is the Executive Vice President, Emeritus of the Orthodox Union.

Jewish Community Calendar

Nov. 30 — Mon.

BJE Book Club and friends — with guest speaker Bertram Korn, Jr. speaking about the history of the Jews during the Civil War period — he will also speak about his late father, Rabbi Bertram Korn and his book *American Jewry & the Civil War*. Event led by facilitator, Meryl Rodgers. On Monday, November 30, from 10:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. at the Katz JCC. Includes bagels and coffee. No charge but reservations requested. Limited number of gently-used rare copies of this out-of-print book are available at the BJE for \$10 each. Call 822-1854 for reservations.

Dec. 5 — Sat.

JCC Parents Night Out — Parents get the night off while their children (grades K - 4) have a blast at the JCC. Children will spend the evening making crafts, swimming in the JCC pool and playing fun games. Then cuddle up in their PJ's and sleeping bag to watch the night's feature film. Includes a pizza dinner and dessert. Please bring bathing suit, towel, pajamas and sleeping bag for movie time. 6 to 9 p.m. \$10 for members; \$15 for non-members through Dec. 1, and \$15 M/ \$20 NM afterwards. Call Robyn King at 822-1167 ext. 112.

Dec. 6 — Sun.

Beth Judah Hanukkah Bazaar — 11:00 am to 2:00 p.m. The event, sponsored by the Beth Judah Sisterhood,

raises funds for youth programs and activities in the synagogue and surrounding communities. The Beth Judah Gift Shop will also be open, offering a fine array of Judaica and holiday items. A delicious kosher lunch will be for sale. Kids will enjoy hands-on crafts, video games and even face painting. Ample parking is available.

Dec. 16 — Wed.

Holiday Cocktail Party — 6:30-8:30 p.m. This event, hosted by By the Sea Singles Networking Group for the serious-minded single; 35-60 will be held at the Sandi Pointe Restaurant, Somers Point. This prepaid event is \$20.00. Send your check by 12/12 to Riana Milne, 7028 Ridge Ave., Egg Harbor Twp., NJ 08234. Upcoming events include Speed Dating, Sat. Jan 16th and Valentine's Party, Wed. 2/10. For more information, please call Host Riana Milne, MA LPC at (609) 631-7884.

Golda Meir Hadassah Chanukah Meeting — Mini luncheon. \$3.00. 11:30 a.m. Beth El Synagogue, 500 N. Jerome Ave., Margate. Latkes will be served. Cantor Deborah Stern will light the candles and say Chanukah prayers. Several of our members will read the history of Chanukah. It is suggested that a toy, with a value of \$1.00 to \$5.00, be brought for children from infancy to eleven years of age. Reservations are a must. Please call Ruth Kleiner at 822-5370. All guests are welcome.



JEWISH FEDERATION
OF ATLANTIC & CAPE MAY COUNTIES

To view the Calendar, go to www.jewishbytheshore.org & click on calendar