



# Chabad News & Updates

Chabad Jewish Enrichment Center - A creative & inspiring Judaism

## Beyond Belief... A new course by JLI.

Are we rewarded and punished for our behavior?

How does G-d communicate with us?

How can we know what G-d wants?

Who wrote the Torah?

How did the universe get here?

Does G-d run the world or has he stepped into the background?

Is there an afterlife?

Maimonides identified thirteen

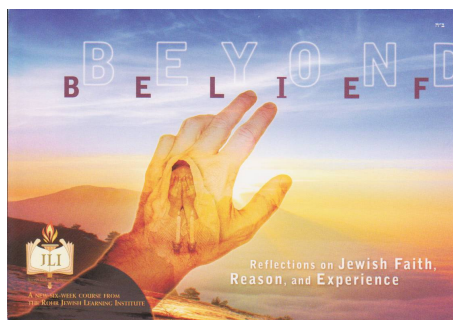
key beliefs that touch on all of the questions above.

In Beyond Belief, a new course by JLI, you will examine the logic and role each principle plays in shaping your world view. Jewish faith is a dynamic, powerful force within us that must be continually fed by thinking feeling and doing.

Like all JLI courses, Beyond Belief presents the fundamentals of Judaism in a way that is both challenging and practical.

Courses start next month in Lancaster & in York.

Call Rabbi Green at 368-6565 to join a class or for more information. There is a minimum needed for a class, so please call now.



Lesson 1 - Is G-d here?

Lesson 2 - Are there really prophets?

Lesson 3 - Torah is more than a holy book.

Lesson 4 - Why are we here?

Lesson 5 - Prayer. For you or for G-d?

Lesson 6 - What is G-d's 5,000 year plan?

**Volume 4, Issue 1**

**Friday, January 18, 2008**

### Did You Know?

- Purim & Good Friday are on the same day this year?
- There are 2 Adars this year?
- Last year we delivered over 200 shalach manot! (traditional Purim food gifts).

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## Purim Shalach Manot (Lancaster & York)



For the last 5 years we have delivered traditional Purim food gifts to members of the community. Many families have expressed their thanks, often with a tear or choked with emotion. Our goal? To spread awareness of the holiday and enable as many people as possible to celebrate with the traditional foods. Hamantaschen, the story of Purim, a

mask, Israeli Chocolate and other delicious foods have graced our presentation.

We love to share. We want to share this mitzvah with you.

**\$36 (or more!)** you can share in this mitzvah. A card will be in each package listing the names of all the people except of course for

those who wish remain anonymous.

**Last year we gave out over 200 packages.**

Can you help us this year?

Send your check to Chabad, 832 Marietta Avenue, Lancaster, PA. Put Purim in the memo.

## “Rabbis & Dogs”

By Aron Moss

Question:

Why are religious Jews scared of dogs? Whenever I walk mine past an observant family, all the kids hide behind their mother's skirt in terror. Is there some curse on dogs?

Answer:

I know exactly how your dog feels. I often get a similar reaction from Jews. While many observant Jews are scared of dogs, many unobservant Jews are terrified of rabbis. There's something in common between dogs and rabbis that make us both objects of trepidation. And it's not the facial hair.

People fear the unfamiliar.

Most religious homes do not have pets. Perhaps because families with many kids are less likely to seek non-human companionship, perhaps because it can be tricky to care for animals on Shabbat, or perhaps it's just a cultural thing, but other than the odd goldfish, pets are rare in observant communities.

So those who are unaccustomed to canine company are often scared of dogs. People are scared of rabbis for the same reason. Both dogs and rabbis are loved by those who know them, and instill fear into those who don't.

But that's where the similarity ends. The underlying causes of these two fears are very different, almost opposite. The fear of dogs (cynophobia) comes from the fear of being bitten. Fear of rabbis (rabbinophobia) comes from the fear of being inspired.

What many Jews fear the most is that if they learn a little bit about Judaism they might like it. And if they like it they might want more. And if they want more they may have to live more Jewishly. This means change - and change, even for the better, is scary.

The cure for cynophobia is to play with a few dogs and see that there is no basis for your fear. But the cure for rabbinophobia is to look into Judaism and to actually let your greatest fear come true - you will like it, and you'll want more.

## Advertise/Announce in the Susquehanna Valley Jewish News—Purim Edition.\*

Get your name in front of the Jewish community. Advertise in the S.V. Jewish News, the only direct mailed Jewish newspaper in the area. Starting at \$50.00, your business card size ad will be in the homes of 1,500 families and over 200 students. Other sizes are available. Call 368-6565 to place an ad. Space must be reserved by Feb 21.

Got something to say? Want people to hear it? Mazel Tov, Obituary, or announcement call us @ 368-6565 to place an ad.

\*The SVJN is a Jewish newspaper intended to be read by all ages. All advertisements and announcements are subject to editor approval and space limitations.



***“Got something to say?”***

***Place an ad or announcement in the S.V. Jewish News!”***

## Shabbat Dinner 4 F&M Students (Lancaster)

**Where the dinner is free but the experience is priceless!**

Join us Friday night for a 5 COURSE, HOME-COOKED, GOURMET SHABBAT DINNER! Great food, lively singing, exciting conversation, inspiring stories, stump the Rabbi & Shira, see old friends & make new ones!

Date: Friday, February 1, 2008

Time: 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Location: Chabad House

Come and bring a friend - ALL are invited!



Stay in the loop!

Join our Facebook group “Chabad@F&M”.

## Camp Gan Israel 2008 (York) - Help Needed

For 3 years now, your children, ages 3-8, have enjoyed a meaningful and memorable experience at Camp Gan Israel. Campers and parents stop us on the street to remark on how they miss our camp.

We need volunteers to help serve on a board that will direct and plan the future of camp. Please call or email us if you can serve. 717-368-6565 or [rabbi@jewishenrichment.com](mailto:rabbi@jewishenrichment.com).

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In other news, We are getting ready to plan summer 2008. As it stands right now, Camp will be early this year, beginning in late June. If you are interested in being updated on the final dates and location, and also when we open registration, then please let us know. We will have an older division for ages 9-11 with exciting trips and activities.



## Jail Report (Camp Hill)

According to Federal government statistics, religion in prison is the most successful tool in reducing recidivism. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has contracted with Chabad to visit and provide services and classes to the Jewish inmates. Rabbi Elazar Green visits the State Correctional Institute Camp Hill twice a month, providing prisoners with religious counseling, hope and guidance and when applicable, discharge plans for the inmates to be able to rebuild their lives. The last visit was on Tuesday, January 15 where 15 people attended a class and group discussion that lasted for over 3 hours.

This month Rabbi Green & Volunteer Gerry Eichner also visited York County Prison which doubles as the holding facility for Homeland Security. About 10 people were present, 3 of which put on tefilin. What was originally scheduled for a 45 minute session turned into 90 minutes as we explored the calendar, Jewish thought, and the weekly portion.

Chabad supplies with prisoners and chaplains with religious articles books and materials. If you would like to designate a contribution that will help us continue in this worthy effort, please call Rabbi Green at 717-368-6565.

***"...religion in prison is the most successful tool in reducing recidivism" - Federal Government Statistic quoted on Aleph North East's website.***

## Just Headlines

**The Four Faces of Israel** - a dramatic comedy about Religious Tolerance! Tuesday night, 7PM on January 22 at the JCC in Harrisburg.

**A new fund** is opened by Elliot & Sue Weinstein for Chabad of York operating expenses in the UJC of York Foundation. Anyone can donate.

**New Email.** For a long while, Rabbi Green had 2 emails. Now, only [Rabbi@jewishenrichment.com](mailto:Rabbi@jewishenrichment.com) will work.

**Do you get our emails?** Sign up for our list. [Rabbi@jewishenrichment.com](mailto:Rabbi@jewishenrichment.com)

**Shabbat@Chabad** - We host community dinners about every 2 months. The last one was on January 5, 2008. A great time was had by all. Desert was sponsored by the Feldman Family. Thank you! If you would like to join us for our next one, please let us know.

**Sponsorship Opportunities** - Chabad House of York has building opportunities to sponsor. This a great organization that relies on your support in order to function. Please contact Rabbi Green for a meeting.

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Chabad Jewish Enrichment Center was founded in 2002. With a kind, creative, and a hands on approach we help Jews from many backgrounds and of all ages learn, experience, and taste Judaism.

Chabad is a 501 c 3 organization and is 100% dependant on local contributions.

Your donation is tax deductible.

Chabad Jewish Enrichment Center serves the Jewish communities of Lancaster & York.

For more information visit us on the web at [www.jewishenrichment.com](http://www.jewishenrichment.com) or call Rabbi Elazar Green at 717-368-6565.



## From our Mailroom...

