

VOL. 1, ELUL 5786

 **ETZ CHAIM**
THE ENGLEWOOD SHTIEBEL

419 DOUGLAS STREET
ENGLEWOOD, NJ 07631

The Shtiebel Hock

All the news
fit to schmooze

What's happened.
What's happening.
What's next.

A Letter From the Rabbi & President

Dear Shtiebel Family,

Looking back on this remarkable year, we are filled with gratitude for how far Etz Chaim: The Englewood Shtiebel has come, and even greater excitement for where we are going together.

Our first year at 419 Douglas Street has shown us what it means to have a home of our own. The building is alive throughout the week: with the sound of daily minyanim, the energy of Torah learning, children filling the halls (and at times the sanctuary!) on Shabbos and Yom Tov, and families gathering to celebrate and connect.

This year, our membership grew to **more than 125 member families**. That is because...

Our weekly **Shabbos davening is filled with ruach and joy**. We've sang together at Mevorchim Rosh Chodesh Tishes and Friday night Tisches at the Goldberg home. We've welcomed the whole Englewood community to celebrate with us for a musical Simchas Beis Hashoeva, Zos Chanukah farbrengen, and a Purim Mesiba.

Our commitment to Torah learning reached an exciting new level with the launch of our Kollel Boker, engaging dozens of community members in daily one-on-one Torah study, bringing consistency, connection and the sound of Torah into our building at the start of every day. We've held regular women's shiurim on Tefillah, a weekly Germara Makkos Shiur for men, Shabbos afternoon Daf Yomi (thank you, Almog!), and Pirkei Avos learning for teens.

We've said Tehillim with the Rebbetzin and went on a spiritual safari to the Rebbe's Ohel. We've been inspired by Rabbi Menachem Bombach and Rabbi Chaim Wolfson. We've enjoyed each other's good company and grown closer each Shabbos in our Great Big Beautiful Kiddush tent, at our Chanukah Family Party, Shavuot Ice Cream Social, and at the sold-out women's Mahjong event. Plus, we've launched a brilliant, user-friendly website to keep us all informed and connected.

Oh, and we are just getting started...

This coming year we are taking things to the next level.

We have made an important investment in the next generation. **We are excited to announce that we have hired Youth Directors, David and Shoshana Kleiman!** Under their leadership our youth department will become an even more inviting, religiously enriching, and structured experience for our children. (David will also be joining the Kollel- contributing to our community in yet another way!) We are also thrilled to be adding a **brand new outdoor playground and updated basketball court for the youth**. In 5787, ECES will be *the* place to be for kids on Shabbos and beyond!

We are excited to be relaunching our Kollel- as the **Kollel Dovid Rafael in memory of Jacob and Daniella Schulman's son**. Jacob is a member of our kollel and his and Daniella's emunah and strength in the face of tragedy have been inspiring. All of our learning this coming year will be in the merit of Dovid Rafael ben Mordechai Melech a'h. We are excited that the kollel is expanding from six to eight Kollel fellows and look forward to bringing in more community members to learn and grow!

We are proud to announce that we have engaged **Dr. Nechama Price as our Yoetzet Halachah** for the coming year. Nechama is available to guide families on Taharas Ha'Mishpacha and related matters. While Rabbi Goldberg remains available for all questions, we hope that this will be an additional, comfortable place to turn to with sensitive questions. Nechama is a world-class Yoetzet who will work together with the Rabbi to help guide your family.

In addition, we are thrilled to add a **Baal Koreh, Nathan Shapiro**, to our roster. Nathan will be moving into the community and joining the kollel. Of course, we look forward to welcoming back **Avi Ganz** for his 6th year serving as our Yomim Noraim Chazzan. And we eagerly anticipate welcoming **Rabbi Willie Balk** as our guest Chazzan for eight Shabbosim this year!

None of this happened on its own. **It happened because you showed up.** You learned, davened, invested, celebrated and supported one another. Together, you helped transform a vision into a building, a building into a shul, and a shul into a true home for our community.

Thank you for being part of Etz Chaim: The Englewood Shtiebel and for helping build something meaningful for ourselves and our children in the service of Hashem.

May we continue to share many years of growth, simcha, and bracha together.

These are the good old days...

Rabbi Daniel Goldberg, Rodger Cohen & The Board

Our Community in Numbers

125+

Member families, and counting

3X

Daily Minyanim
Seven days a week

Dozens of Shiva meals
feeding mourners and their families
by our dedicated sisterhood
Shiva Committee

11:26 Minutes

Average Rabbi's speech
(Feels like 5)

30+

Community Members
learning morning seder
at Kollel Dovid Rafael

13

Dappim of Gemara
Learned at the
Rabbi's Wednesday
night Gemara
Makkos Shiur

98

Warm sourdough loaves
consumed at Seudah
Shlishit

\$35,000+

Distributed through the Rabbi's discretionary
fund to people in need and vital organizations

398

Mazza Platters
consumed
(approx 4,000,000 calories)

ETZ CHAIM
THE ENGLEWOOD SHTIEBEL

ETZ CHAIM
THE ENGLEWOOD SHTIEBEL

ETZ CHAIM
THE ENGLEWOOD SHTIEBEL

Musical Midnight Selichos
Shabbos Shuva Drasha
Tehillim + Tea with Rebbetzin

8 PM | SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1ST
AT ETZ CHAIM: THE ENGLEWOOD SHTIEBEL
419 DOUGLAS STREET

Rabbi's Open Sukkah
Simchas Beis Hashoeva
Friday Night Tisch

ETZ CHAIM
THE ENGLEWOOD SHTIEBEL
A SPEAKER SERIES
AN INTIMATE CONVERSATION WITH LEADERSHIP

Conversations @ ECES

Shabbos Mevorchim Tish

Women's Tefillah Shiur

Chanukah Melave Malka

As the founder and director of the Netzer Educational Network, he has pioneered innovative yeshiva high schools that integrate rigorous Torah studies with secular subjects like science, English, and civics, helping students thrive in a modern world.

Shabbos with Rabbi Wolfson

Sisterhood Chanukah Party

AT ETZ CHAIM: THE ENGLEWOOD SHTIEBEL
419 DOUGLAS STREET

Gemara Makkos Shiur

Men's trip to the Rebbe's Ohel

Purim Mesibah

All-Night Shavuot Learning

ETZ CHAIM
THE ENGLEWOOD SHTIEBEL
PURIM MESIBAH
FEATURING RABBI SIMCHA WILLIG

MONDAY, MARCH 2ND
8:30 PM

370 HILLCROFT AVE

370 HILLCROFT AVE

Ladies Mahjong Event

MOTZEL SHABBOSES
SEPTEMBER 4TH
10 AM - 12 AM

Save The Date
ETZ CHAIM SHTIEBEL

LADIES
MAHJONG
Soiree

AUGUST 4TH
7 - 10 PM



We are going

BIG

on Youth at ECES!

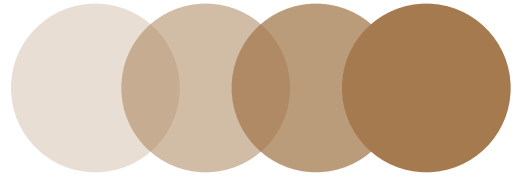
At last...Youth Directors

This past year, Etz Chaim launched dedicated youth programming, giving our children a Shabbos and Yom Tov experience of their own in our newly finished basement.

This coming year, our new Youth Directors, David and Shoshana Kleiman will take things to the next level.

David and Shoshana bring warmth, energy and a love of working with children to everything they do. We are excited to have them helping our youngest members develop their own connection to Shabbos, Yom Tov and the Etz Chaim community.

MEET OUR NEW YOUTH DIRECTORS



DAVID KLEIMAN

David grew up in Oak Park, Michigan, and studied at Farber Hebrew Day School, Yeshivat Sha'alvim and Yeshiva University. He is starting semicha at RIETS in the fall, and is also a NASM-certified personal trainer.

SHOSHANA KLEIMAN

Shoshana grew up in Clifton, New Jersey, and studied at Ma'ayanot, MMY and Stern College. She works as a project manager at Empowered ABA and brings years of experience working with Yachad and directing youth programming.

STARTING SHABBOS
AUGUST 14TH

Start Your Day with Torah

(re)Launching Kollel Dovid Rafael

Kollel Schedule

6:15 – 7:10am

Open Beis Midrash

7:10 – 7:45am

Chevrusa Learning

7:45am

Daily Shacharis

Each morning, Monday through Friday our shul is filled with the sound of Torah learning, **and you can be part of it!**

Our morning Kollel enters an exciting new chapter this year with a new name: Kollel Dovid Rafael, in memory of Dovid Rafael ben Mordechai Melech, and with expanded offerings.

We have eight Kollel fellows eager to learn whatever you are interested in! Of the 30+ participants in the Kollel, some Chevrusas learn Gemara, others Halacha, Parsha, Siddur, or Machshava. What they have in common is personalized one-on-one learning and growth.

If you want to be set up with Chevrusa 1-3 mornings a week for 35 minutes, reach out to Rabbi Goldberg. You will be happy you did.

Give it a try!



CAPITAL Improvements

Our New Playground and Outdoor Space

This year, we are breaking ground on a new playground and we are refinishing our basketball court.

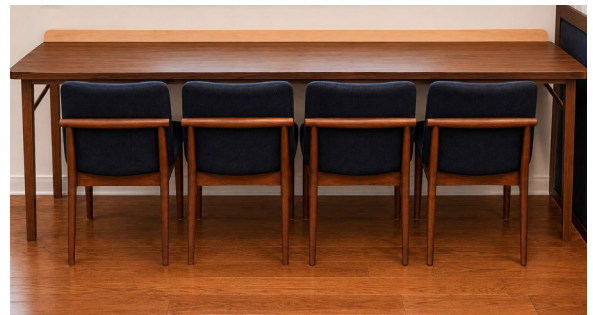
The new area gives our children somewhere to run and play—and gives families a comfortable place to remain together after davening. It promises to become one of the building's most popular and well-used spaces.

When children look forward to coming to shul, families build stronger roots and community becomes something the next generation can call its own.



New (Plastic-Free) Shul Tables

Our new custom wooden tables are currently in production and are expected to be completed in approximately eight weeks.



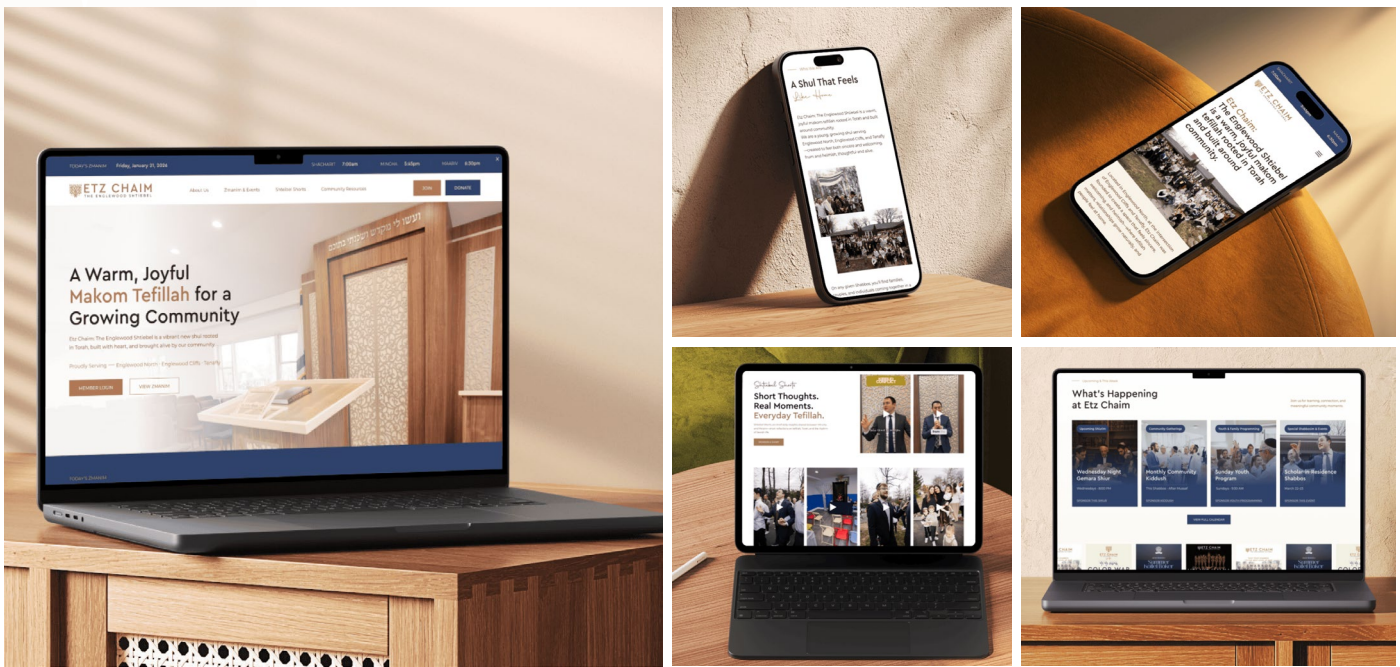
Interior Upgrades

Interior upgrades are underway at the Shtiebel! Painting and the transformation of our walls to a beautiful Bone White Venetian Plaster finish will begin this week.

We're also excited to share that we have a new Kisei Shel Eliyahu for brissim.



A New Digital Home



The Etz Chaim Website

Our sharp new website is now a home base for minyan times, program information and everything happening at Etz Chaim.

Whether you are looking for the daily schedule, details about an upcoming event or a way to become more involved, the website makes it easier to stay connected to the Shtiebel throughout the week.

Visit us at: englewoodshtiebel.com

Shtiebel Torah.

The talk of the town

The Growth of Shtiebel Shorts

What began as a way to share Rabbi Goldberg's Daily Dvar Halacha with our members has grown into something much bigger.

Through Shtiebel Shorts, Torah from Etz Chaim is reaching people around the world. Short, accessible videos allow a substantive idea from the Rabbi to travel from the Shtiebel to thousands of viewers on social media.



1,800+

Instagram
Followers

80+

Videos
Shared

276,338

Total
Instagram
Views

Our Team is Growing at ECES



**Rabbi Daniel & Dina
Goldberg**

Rabbi Daniel and Dina Goldberg are the Rabbi and Rebbetzin of Etz Chaim: The Englewood Shtiebel, serving the shul since its inception in 2025. Previously, Rabbi Goldberg was the Associate Rabbi of Congregation Ahavath Torah where he served for eight years.

Rabbi Goldberg, originally from Teaneck, received his BA in English Literature, MA in Biblical Studies, and Rabbinical Ordination from Yeshiva University. He is the recipient of graduate fellowships from the Wexner Foundation, AIPAC, UJA-Federation, The Museum of Jewish Heritage, and The Straus Center for Torah and Western Thought. In 2019 he received the Emerging Leadership Award from the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary. He has served on the executive committee of the Rabbinical Council of America and currently serves on the executive committee of the Rabbinical Council of Bergen County.

Rabbi Goldberg's rabbinate benefits immensely from his partnership with Dina who was quite literally born to be a rebbetzin. She is a third generation rebbetzin on her mother's side and a fourth generation rebbetzin on her father's side. As the Chief Development Officer of Sharsheret, she is a world-class fundraiser and event coordinator. She was awarded a Ruskay Fellowship and was named one of the Jewish Week's "36 Under 36." Dina is a Nishmat certified Kallah Teacher and a founding board member of Yesh Tikva. She is sought out for her guidance on matters pertaining to practical halacha and women's health. In addition, Dina enjoys honing her craft as an amateur cake artist, constantly plotting her next baking feat.

Dina and Rabbi Goldberg are the proud parents of Moshe, Shaya, Esther, and Sarit.



**David & Shoshana Kleiman
Youth Directors**

David grew up in Oak Park, Michigan, and studied at Farber Hebrew Day School, Yeshivat Sha'alvim and Yeshiva University. He is starting semicha at RIETS in the fall, and is also a NASM-certified personal trainer.

Shoshana grew up in Clifton, New Jersey, and studied at Ma'ayanot, MMY and Stern College. She works as a project manager at Empowered ABA and brings years of experience working with Yachad and directing youth programming. David and Shoshana bring warmth, energy and a love of working with children to everything they do. We are excited to have them helping our youngest members develop their own connection to Shabbos, Yom Tov and the Etz Chaim community.



Dr. Nechama Price
Yoetzet Halacha

Dr. Nechama Price is the Director of Yeshiva University's Graduate Program for Advanced Talmud and Tanach Studies and teaches Tanach and Halacha at Stern College. She is the author of Tribal Blueprints and a sought-after speaker in communities throughout North America.

As a certified Yoetzet Halacha, Nechama serves women in Englewood and neighboring communities. She is a knowledgeable, warm and approachable resource for questions relating to taharat hamishpacha—no question is too small.

Contact: 201-888-6999

Email: englewoodyoetzet@gmail.com



Nathan Shapiro
Ba'al Korei

Nathan Shapiro grew up in Skokie, Illinois, and studied at Yeshivat Kerem B'Yavneh and Heichal HaTorah Beis Medrash before earning his bachelor's degree in Psychology from Yeshiva University. He is currently pursuing semicha at RIETS.

Nathan brings care, consistency and a genuine passion for leining to his role as Etz Chaim's baal koreh. In addition, Nathan is a fellow in our Kollel Dovid Rafael, eager to learn and connect with you. We are grateful for everything he adds to our shul on a daily basis.



Avi Ganz
Chazzan – High Holidays

Returning for his sixth year, Avi Ganz leads our Yamim Noraim davening with his soaring voice and sensitive heart. Each year, he brings his extensive chazzanus experience to Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur at Etz Chaim.

Avi has served as chazzan at congregations across the United States and Canada. He is also the Program Director of Ohr Torah Stone's Yeshivat Darkaynu.

Avi lives in Gush Etzion with his wife and five children. We are grateful for the heart, experience and inspiration he brings to our High Holiday tefillos.



Rabbi Willie Balk
Guest Chazzan

Rabbi Willie Balk will be joining Etz Chaim as a guest chazzan for eight Shabbosim this year, which will certainly be a highlight of our calendar.

Rabbi Balk studied at Yeshivat Netiv Aryeh and Yeshiva University before receiving semicha from RIETS, a master's degree in Jewish Education from Azrieli and an MSW from Wurzweiler. He currently serves as an academic adviser for Yeshiva University's Undergraduate Torah Studies programs.

His voice, energy and presence bring something special to our tefillah, and we are always excited to welcome him back.

A Powerful Start to the New Year

August 24th

Launch of Kollel Dovid Rafael

*Sign up for a chevrusa slot before
they are all gone!*

September 4th

Friday Night Tisch
at the Goldberg Home
9:30 PM – 370 Hillcrest Rd

September 5/6th

Musical Midnight Selichos
12:50 AM

Featuring Rabbi Yitzzy Weinberg and Rabbi Simcha Willig

September 19th

Shabbos Shuva
Elisha Ben Abuyah,
Acher, and All of Us
6:30pm

September 26th

(Iced) Tea & Tehillim with the
Rebbetzin in the Sukkah
For Women,
The Goldberg family sukkah
(370 Hillcrest Rd)

September 28th

Simchas Beis HaShoeva
ft. Duvid'l
in the Sukkah
