

As this newsletter goes out, many are celebrating Thanksgiving - a holiday of gratitude for the blessings that have been bestowed in the past year. In the shadow of the atrocities on October 7 and the ongoing captivity of many hostages, it is even more important than ever to appreciate the goodness around us. Whether it is the tremendous amount of *chessed* (good deeds) that is being done all over the world or the global solidarity and support being expressed for Israel. At this time when families gather together, please take a moment to also think of the hostages and their families who are anxiously awaiting to be reunited.

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We are saddened to inform you that Reuven Surkis z"l, former Vice President of JCT, passed away last week in Jerusalem. Reuven served in that position for almost 16 years.

After retiring, he continued his work for the college as a member of the Board of Trustees and the Friends of JCT. Reuven left a legacy of numerous initiatives benefiting the College and its thousands of students; one such project was the establishment and promotion of a special program for students from the Ethiopian community, which bears his name.

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Over 30 JCT faculty and staff have been conscripted to fight in the Swords of Iron War including JCT's Vice President Daniel "Doni" Fogel who has joined the recently created Phoenix Unit of "retired" tank combatants serving on the southern border. 550 students have been called up including 43 married students living in the JCT dorms. May they all achieve success in their mission and return home safe and sound.

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Meanwhile 50 JCT faculty and staff spent a morning volunteering at Latet where they packed 800 boxes of dry goods to be distributed to evacuee families throughout Israel. Another group will be volunteering at a kibbutz in the south next week, where they will be helping with the harvest of fruits and vegetables.





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JCT has established the “**Adopt a Soldier**” project whereby members of the JCT community who have not been drafted, can take on an obligation to study Torah for the benefit of one of his colleagues who is in the battlefield.

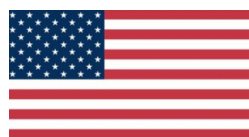
As JCT President, Prof. Chaim Sukenik explains, "We are very proud of our students, both those who are fighting and those who are studying on campus. We've established a project that matches a student who's studying with a student who's at the front. The idea is that the combatant student will know that someone is learning Torah for his merit and success, and that the student who is studying will recognize the importance of his Torah learning, and that by succeeding in Torah learning he can contribute to his fellow student's success in the battlefield. We pray and hope that all students, those studying and those currently drafted, will succeed in their mission and that the combination of the two will truly lead to victory."

**We invite you to join this learning project by registering here.**

(The website is currently only available in Hebrew.)

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To make a tax-deductible donation for JCT's support of the war efforts, please click here or on the flag of the country of your choice below.





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