

CONGREGATION BAIS TORAH

August 5, 2006 89 West Carlton Road, Suffern, NY 10901 · (845)352-1343 · www.baistorah.org ל"א מנחם אב שבת פרשת ואתחנן

ערב שבת פרשת ואתחנן

* מנחה: 7:00 PM

** הדלקת נרות: 7:20 PM

Regular Candle Lighting 7:51 PM

שבת פרשת ואתחנן

שחרית 8:45 AM

סוף זמן קריאת שמע 9:29 AM

פרקי אבות 6:05 PM

גמרא שיעור 6:55 PM

מנחה 7:40 PM

סעודה שלישית

מעריב 8:50 PM

Sunday שחרית 7:45 AM

Weekday שחרית

Mon. and Thurs.: 6:20 and 7:45 AM

Tues. Wed., and Fri.: 6:30 and 7:45 AM

Weekday מנחה-מעריב

Sun., through Thurs.: 7:50 PM

ערב שבת פרשת עקב

* מנחה: 7:00 PM

** הדלקת נרות: 7:20 PM

Regular Candle Lighting: 7:43 PM

* Early mincha for the summer

** Shul Accepts Shabbos

Shiurim

Sundays at 8:30 AM – מסכת סנהדרין – Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb

Mondays at 6:30 PM – מסכת ברכות – Rabbi Chaim Wein

Mondays at 8:00 PM - Hachnosas Kallah of Monsey lectures for women. – No lecture this week.

Tuesdays at 8:15 PM – Partners in Torah

Monday through Friday after the second - פרשת השבוע עם רש"י – Rabbi Yosef Fischer

Monday through Thursday at 9:45 AM - גמרא shiur - Rabbi Leibel Reznick

דף היומי I, Monday through Friday 5:25 AM and Sunday at 6:30 AM – Mordechai Rudman

דף היומי II, Monday through Thursday 1 hour before מנחה and Sunday at 9:30 AM – Rabbi Yosef Fischer

Women's תהלים group meets on שבת 45 minutes before מנחה.

Shul Announcements

New! Do you have a business or professional practice you'd like to **advertise** to Bais Torah members? Our quarterly newsletter, Bais Torah Highlights, is now accepting ads for the Rosh Hashana issue. Your ad will also appear on our online edition of Highlights. Rates are extremely reasonable, but don't delay; the deadline is September 1st. Contact Ruth Lehmann at bareruthfive@aol.com or at 426-6499 for details.

New Pricing for **Bais Torah Sisterhood Occasion Cards**--Cards may be purchased and picked up from Esther Garber at the Bais Torah office for \$5 per card or \$100 for 25 cards . Cards sent out from the shul will be \$10 per card.

Our shul is embarking on a fitting tribute to the memory of our founding rebbetzin: **The Rebbetzin Wein Sefer Torah Project**, The writing of a new Sefer Torah for Bais Torah. There are various dedication opportunities available, from writing letters at \$54 to donating silver and the mantel. Please join us in this beautiful tribute to a very special woman. For details and updates on dedication availability, visit the Bais Torah website, www.baistorah.org or write to mkron@optonline.net or call Michael or Sharon Kronenberg at 845-368-1064.

DVDs of the **Azkarah for Rebbetzin Jackie Wein** are available for free by calling the office at 352-1343. A donation of \$10 is suggested to cover the cost of production and distribution.

Mazel Tov

Pinchas and Miriam Frankel on the birth of a grandson, born to Baruch and Elisheva Frankel.

Mel and Betty Sinowitz on the birth of a grandson, born to Daniel and Shoshana Sinowitz of Israel.

Refuah Shelaimah

Michael Rossman's mother, Ilse Rossman - יעטע בת שרה

Mr. Shapiro - חיים מאיר יחיאל בן מלכה לאה

Ben Zauderer - בנימין בן בילה

Shirlee Aaronson - שרה חנה בת בלומא

Jerry and Roz Seigel's son, Yoni - יהונתן יהויקים בן שושנה רייזל

How to Reach Us

Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb 357-3913, rabbigottlieb@yahoo.com – Daytime emergency 362-8362

President Peter Katz, 357-0129 peter@pkatech.com

Treasurer Barry Lifschitz, 352-0226, Fax 352-0841 or barry@lifschitz.net

Maintenance Yis Helprin 494-7446

Chesed Committee Charlie Grandovsky, 425-4683

Bikur Cholim Eveline Kranzler, 352-8410 and

Chosh Levy, 425-6827

Shul Secretary Esther Garber, 352-1343

Sisterhood Liaison Betty Schloss, 369 – 1833

Lost and Found Michael Loebenstein, 425-8895

Chevre Kadisha Steve Fessel, 425-1713, Ephraim Pessin, 914-420-6714 or Gloria Gordon, 425-1276

Sisterhood Tribute Cards Esther Garber, 352-1343

Bais Torah Bulletins Email baistorah@taxprof.net, Fax (845) 368-4172, or call (845) 368-2222. To receive e-mail updates, write to baistorah@gmail.com. This bulletin is now downloadable from the web at www.baistorah.org.

Simcha Room Reservations/Kiddushim Jack Gross, 357-4121

Eiruv 362-4302

Mikvah 425-6101

Youth Felise Katz 357-0129

Hachnosas Orchim Facility for homeless, Shea Jacobs 425-9617

Reb. Wein Sefer Torah Project 368-1064

In Case of Emergency

The **red Hatzoloh phone** is in the hallway on the wall between the rear washing station and the Simcha Room.

The **defibrillator** is in a cubby in the coat room opposite the Hatzoloh phone.

Parashat VaEtchanan – 5766 – Three Covenants

This is a time of emergency for the Jewish People, in Lebanon, facing Hezbollah, and in Gaza, facing Hamas, with world opinion virtually united against them, with the exception of the United States and, to a somewhat lesser degree, the United Kingdom.

One of the chapters of Tehilim we have been saying during these frightening weeks has been Chapter 83, in which we find the following:

“Be not silent, O G-d; hold not Your peace, and be not still, O G-d.

*For lo, Your enemies make a tumult; and those **who hate You** have lifted up their head.*

They have taken crafty counsel against Your People, and conspired against Your protected ones.

They have said, ‘Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may no longer be mentioned.’

*For they have conspired together with but one aim, **it is against You that they have made a Covenant.**” (Tehilim 83:2-6)*

And who are these conspirators, who merge in a “Bris,” a Covenant, against G-d and Israel?

“The tents of Edom, and the descendants of Yishmael, Moav, and descendants of Hagar.

Gebal, Ammon and Amalek; the Philistines (Palestinians?) with the inhabitants of Tyre.

Assyria is also joined with them; they provide the force for the descendants of Lot. Selah” (Tehilim 83:7-9)

We pray to HaShem to help us against these formidable enemies:

“O my G-d, pick them up by a whirlwind; make them stubble before the wind...

In that manner pursue them with Your fierce storm, and make them afraid with Your raging tempest.” (Tehilim 83:14. 16)

That is one type of Covenant, the Covenant **against HaShem**.

But Parashat VaEtchanan speaks of a different Covenant, **a Covenant with HaShem**:

“HaShem, our G-d, made a Covenant with us at Chorev. It was not only with our fathers that HaShem made this Covenant, but rather also with us; we, these people, who are here today, all of us alive.” (Devarim 5:2-3)

The **Covenant with HaShem** is the Torah, which describes the “Way of Life” of the Jew. And this is made clear earlier in the Parashah, where we find, *“And He expressed this Covenant with you, which He commanded you to fulfill; the Ten Utterances...” (Devarim 4:13)*

A third kind of Covenant is one which human beings make with HaShem, in fulfillment of His specific command, given to Avraham as a condition for his descendants receiving “Eretz Yisrael,” and being His “Chosen People:”

*“When Avram was ninety-nine years old, HaShem appeared to Avram and said to him, ‘I am E-L Shad-dai; walk before Me, and be perfect. I will set My Covenant between Me and You, and I will increase you most exceedingly. Avram threw himself upon his face, and G-d spoke with him, saying, ‘As for Me, this is My Covenant with you... Your name will no longer be called Avram, but your name will be called Avraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations... I will ratify My Covenant between Me and you and between your offspring after you, throughout their generations, as an everlasting Covenant... and I will give to you and your offspring after you the land of your sojourns – **the whole of the land of Canaan – as an everlasting possession; and I shall be their G-d.**” (Bereshit 17:1-8)*

That was HaShem's side of the “bris;” what was Avraham's? HaShem spelled it out for him, *“G-d said to Avraham, ‘And as for you, you shall keep My Covenant – you and your offspring after you throughout their generations... Every male among you shall be circumcised. You shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin, and that shall be the Sign of the Covenant between Me and you. At the age of eight days every male among you shall be circumcised, throughout your generations... Thus, My Covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting Covenant’...” (Bereshit 17:9-11,13)*

At the celebration of a “Brit,” the “Mohel,” the individual who performs the procedure, recites the following blessing: “Blessed are You, HaShem, our G-d, King of the Universe, Who has sanctified us with His commandments, and has commanded us regarding circumcision.”

Then the father of the child recites this blessing regarding his son: “Blessed are You, HaShem, our G-d, King of the Universe, Who has sanctified us with His commandments, and has commanded us to bring him into the Covenant of Avraham, our forefather.” Then all who are present respond, loudly and joyfully, “Amen. Just as he has entered the Covenant, so may he enter into the Torah, the marriage canopy and good deeds.” This Covenant should open the door for him to enter the Covenant of Torah, the “Bris,” or covenantal relationship of marriage, and the “Bris” of positive and healthy interaction with society.

“Brit Milah” is a sign of holiness in the flesh of the Jewish People. In the merit of this Covenant, and the holy life style it represents and which is practiced by a large percentage of our People, May HaShem come to our aid in these perilous times. PF