

# CONGREGATION BAIS TORAH

January 26, 2008 · 89 West Carlton Rd · Suffern, NY 10901 · (845)352-1343 · www.baistorah.org · י"ט שבט שבת פרשת יתרו

## ערב שבת פרשת יתרו

הדלקת נרות 4:46 PM

מנחה 4:55 PM

שקיעה 5:04 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

## שבת פרשת יתרו

היומי 8:00 AM - Rabbi Gottlieb

שחרית 8:45 AM

סוף זמן קריאת שמע 9:41 AM

גמרא שיעור 3:50 PM

מנחה 4:35 PM

שקיעה 5:05 PM

סעודה שלישית

מעריב 5:47 PM

## Weekday מנחה-מעריב

Sun. through Thurs.: 4:55 PM

Second מעריב 8:00 PM (Mon.-Thurs.)

## ערב שבת פרשת משפטים

הדלקת נרות 4:55 PM

מנחה 5:00 PM

שקיעה 5:13 PM

## Shiurim

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

Tuesdays at 8:15 PM – Partners in Torah

Wednesdays at 8:15 PM – מלכים א – Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb

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

היומי II, Monday through Friday 7:00 AM – Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb

היומי III, Sunday through Thursday 9:45 AM – Rabbi Yosef Fischer

Monday through Friday at 7 AM - ירושלמי - מסכת ברכות – Mordechai Rudman

Monday through Friday after the second שחרית עם רשי - פרשת השבוע – Rabbi Yosef Fischer

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

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

## Shul Announcements

This Friday night, January 25<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30 PM fisa special parsha class at Congregation Bais Yosef Meir, 19 Olympia Lane. We will be honored to hear from **Rabbi Herschel Schachter**, speaking about the Ten Commandments. Rabbi Gottlieb's shiur will not be given this evening.

סעודה שלישית is being sponsored anonymously.

Bais Torah's **Avos U'Banim** program continues this Motzoei Shabbos, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM in the Library. Bring your children and grandchildren for hot pizza and a chance to win prizes. This week's Avos U'Banim sponsors are **David and Ruthie Lehmann** in memory Ruthie's father, Yehuda ben Eliezer z"l. For further details on this program, please contact Michael Kronenberg at [mkron1950@gmail.com](mailto:mkron1950@gmail.com) or call 368-1064.

On February 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, Bais Torah will be hosting a **Shabbaton for Our Way**, an NCSY-affiliated organization for the hearing impaired. If you are able to provide housing for couples or singles that Shabbos, please speak to Moshe Lehmann or write to [ourwaymonsey@aol.com](mailto:ourwaymonsey@aol.com).

On February 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>, Bais Torah will be holding two special events, "**Remembering the Rav**." On Saturday night, we will show a new documentary film entitled, "Lonely Man of Faith, The Life and Legacy of Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik." Admission to the film is free to Bais Torah members and \$7 for non-members. On Sunday morning, Rabbi Dr. Aaron Rakeffet, a noted author, lecturer and former student of the Rav, will speak at a breakfast on the topic of, "**The Uniqueness of the Lonely Man of Faith**." Everyone is invited to attend.

"**Israel Update: Politics Behind the Scenes**" will be the subject of a February 9<sup>th</sup> talk given by Michael Tuchfeld, political analyst and editor for the Knesset Channel. A parliamentary correspondent for Kol Israel, Mr. Tuchfeld will share his in-depth knowledge about the forces and personalities that shape Israel's political policies. The program will begin at 8:30 PM and all are invited.

**JEP breakfast** on February 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM. The honorees are Murray and Phyllis Kuhr.

**Matzah baking** on Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00 PM.

Mondays at 8:15 PM on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, everyone is invited to a series of lectures on the topic of, "**Leadership Defined: Reuvain, Yehuda and Yosef**." The lecturer, Elana Flaumenhaft, is an award-winning Tanach instructor who gives shiurim and is featured at yemei iyun throughout the New York area. The event is being sponsored by Bracha and Moshe Ollech and family in memory of their father and grandfather, Marvin Hochbaum, Menachem Mendl ben Eliezer a"h.

The annual **Siyum Mishnayos** will take place on March 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. The speaker will be Rabbi Ephraim Shapiro of N. Miami Beach. Save the Date - Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup> 2008 - **Annual Bais Torah Dinner** honoring Yis and Bella Helprin.

Get great discounts with the **Ultimate Kosher Discount Card** for \$18. Available from Aviva at our shul office (352-1343) or Leslie Goldress (352-3257).

The DVD of the **Hachnosas Sefer Torah** is available upon request. Suggested donation is \$10. Email [mkron@optonline.net](mailto:mkron@optonline.net) or call 368-1064 to place your order.

## Mazel Tov

Manny and Chana Mayerfeld on the marriage of their grandchildren, Avrohom Aharon and Nechama Mayerfeld.

Miriam Pomeranz on her making aliyah this week.

Sam and Rena Wilen on the birth of a granddaughter, Eliza, born to Sari and Avi Wilen of Denver.

## Refuah Shelaimah

Henry Shapiro -

חיים מאיר יחיאל בן מלכה לאה

Ben Zauderer - בנימין בן בילה

Manny London - מנחם מונש בן חנה פרידא

Ken and Judy Gribetz's grandson, Eitan Witkin -

איתן אפרים בן נחמה יטה

Sam Colman - שמואל בן שרה רחל

Tova Eizik's grandson - יעקב יונתן בן חנה רייזל

Renee Rosenbaum's mother, Fanny York -

רחמה פייגל בת רבקה

Yossie Stern's granddaughter -

ציפורה יהודית בת דינה רבקה

Esther Lutwak - אסתר מלכה בת קילה

Kathy Resnick - אביה בת שרה

## How to Reach Us

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

**President** Allen Nussbaum president@baistorah.org

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

**Maintenance** Yis Helprin 494-7446

**Shul Secretary** Aviva Schmutter 352-1343 aviva@baistorah.org M-TH 9:00-3:00

**Simcha Room Reservations/Kiddushim** Jack Gross, 357-4121

**Bikur Cholim** Eveline Kranzler, 352-8410 and

**Eiruv** 362-4302

Chosh Levy, 425-6827

**Mikvah** 425-6101

**Chesed Committee** Charlie Grandovsky, 425-4683

**Youth** Michael Kronenberg 368-1064

**Sisterhood Liaison** Betty Schloss, 369 – 1833

**Hachnosas Orchim Facility** for homeless, Shea Jacobs 425-9617

**Lost and Found** Michael Loebenstein, 425-8895

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

**Sisterhood Tribute Cards**, Mona Selzer 356-0129

**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 downloadable from the web at www.baistorah.org.

## In Case of Emergency

The **red Hatzolah 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 Hatzolah phone.

## Parashas Yisro – 5768 – Receiving the Torah

Parashas Yisro begins, “*VaYishma Yisro...*” - “*And Yisro heard...*” Rashi cites Midrash Mechilta asking, “What did Yisro hear that caused him to come?” The answers given are that he heard about the Splitting of the Yam Suf and about the successful battle against Amalek. In this piece, we will explore briefly Yisro’s remarkable sense of hearing, the sense of hearing in general and the link between “hearing,” understanding and music in the Service of HaShem.

We first encounter Yisro participating in a meeting of a panel of advisors to Pharaoh regarding the plan to drown Jewish baby boys in the Nile. For suggesting that genocidal idea, and for being so caught up in hatred of Israel and its G-d that he lost all common sense, Bilaam met a violent and bloody end. For remaining silent, Yisro was punished with great, but temporary, suffering. For hearing the idea, **understanding its implications**, and fleeing, Yisro was rewarded by becoming the father-in-law of Moshe.

Kedushas Levi often invokes the Kabbalistic Idea of the existence of four Worlds: the highest, the World of “Atzilus,” Emanation, “Beriah,” Creation, “Yetzirah,” Formation and the lowest World, that of “**Asiah**,” **Action, Performance, or Doing**. This lowest World is our World, “Olam Haze,” “This World,” the World beneath the level of all the Heavenly Worlds inhabited by the Angels, but whose creatures, specifically the human being, “created directly by the ‘hands’ (so to speak) of the Holy One, Blessed is He” has the potential to elevate himself to a level of Holiness above the level of the Angels.

In Parashas Yisro, we find the response of the People of Israel to being commanded by HaShem to accept the Torah, and thereby to become “*the most treasured of all the nations.*” (*Shemos 19:5*) Moshe takes this offer to the People and “*All the People together responded and said, ‘Everything that HaShem has spoken, we will do.’*” (*Shemos 19:8*) In the midst of thunderous lightning, HaShem pronounces the Ten Utterances, and Moshe is called to ascend the mountain again to learn the details of the Torah. There is confusion among the People as to when Moshe will return. The People demand new leadership, Aharon is forced to comply, and the tragedy of the “Golden Calf” ensues. What became of the promise of the People **to do** all that HaShem commanded?

HaShem threatens to destroy the Jewish People and begin again with Moshe. Moshe will have none of it; instead, He prays that HaShem forgive the Jewish People and give them a second chance, a request that HaShem accepts. This time the People say, “*...with one voice, ‘Everything that HaShem has spoken, we will do and we will hear (we will understand).*’” (*Shemos 24:7*) This time it will not be mere action, but performance of the “Mitzvos,” combined with an attempt to understand them. Great wonderment is expressed regarding how the People of Israel were able to learn this secret of the Angels. But the answer is that Moshe, in his travels in Heaven, was taught the secret by them, and he, in turn, taught it to the People of Israel.

We also find the verb “to hear” critically placed in a verse in “**Hear O Israel, HaShem is our G-d; HaShem is One**” – where the basic meaning is to understand the Unity of HaShem to the best of one’s ability.

There was an item in the news recently concerning someone who went into seizures whenever he heard music. This brought to mind the miraculous destruction of the entire army of Sancheriv, at the gates of Yerushalayim. According to the Midrash, their deaths were caused by the “Shiras HaMalachim,” the Singing of the Angels. We also see the opposite effect in the Tanach, where King Shaul was brought out of his deep depression by the singing and playing of young David, known as the “Ne’im Zemiro Yisrael,” the Sweet Singer of Israel.

Last week, we read the great “Shirah” of Moshe, Miriam and the People of Israel, as well as “Shiras Devorah,” the victorious Song of Devorah; examples, together with all the Psalms of David, of the crucial role of music in the World of the Spirit. The primary role of the Levi’im in the Temple was the singing of the “Shir shel Yom,” the Psalm selected by Chaza”l as appropriate for the given day. The Mishnah in Tamid 7:4 identifies the Daily Psalms and concludes, “*On the Shabbos, they would say, ‘A Psalm, a Song for the Day of Shabbos.’ A Psalm, a Song for the time to come, to the day that will be entirely Shabbos, and contentment for eternal life.*” PF