

CONGREGATION BAIS TORAH

July 5, 2008 · 89 West Carlton Rd · Suffern, NY 10901 · (845)352-1343 · www.baistorah.org ב' תמוז שבת פרשת חקת

ערב שבת פרשת חקת

מנחה 7:00 PM *
הדלקת נרות 7:20 PM **
Regular Candle Lighting 8:14 PM
שקיעה 8:32 PM

שבת פרשת חקת

8:00 AM - Rabbi Gottlieb
שחרית 8:45 AM
סוף זמן קריאת שמע 9:15 AM

6:25 PM פרקי אבות
7:15 PM גמרא שיעור
8:00 PM מנחה
8:32 PM שקיעה
סעודה שלישית
9:14 PM מעריב

Sunday שחרית 7:45 AM

Weekday שחרית

Mon. and Thurs.: 6:20 and 7:45 AM
Tues. and Wed.: 6:30 and 7:45 AM

Weekday מעריב מנחה

Sun. through Thurs.: 8:20 PM

ערב שבת פרשת בלק

מנחה 7:00 PM *
הדלקת נרות 7:20 PM
Regular Candle Lighting 8:11 PM
שקיעה 8:29 PM

* Early Mincha for the Summer

** Shul Accepts Shabbos

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
היום I, Monday through Friday 5:25 AM and Sunday at 6:30 AM – Mordechai Rudman
היום II, Monday through Friday 7:00 AM – Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb
היום III, Sunday through Thursday 9:45 AM – Rabbi Yosef Fischer
Monday through Friday at 7 AM - ירושלמי - Mordechai Rudman
Monday through Friday after the second שחרית עם רשי - 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

סעודה שלישית is being sponsored by Carl Markowitz.

Men and women are invited to attend a special **Yom Iyun** for the Nine Days on Sunday, Aug. 3rd beginning at 10:00 AM. Our Morah D'Asrah, Rabbi Gottlieb, will address us on "Transforming the Ashes of Destruction into the Fertile Soil of Redemption." Shuli Taubes will be speaking on "Rite and Right: Ritual and Responsibility in the Prophecies of Amos" and Rabbi Chaim Jachter will talk about "The Fascinating Life of Yoshiyahu and How it Reverberates for Us Today." Light refreshments will be served. The event is being sponsored by Michael and Miriam Schiffer in memory of their mothers.

The entire membership is invited to a meeting on July 20th, at 10:30 AM for elections of officers and general membership information.

Everyone is invited to attend a **Mostly Mozart concert** at Avery Fisher Hall, August 19th at 8 p.m. Osmo Vanska will be conducting the Mostly Mozart Festival Orchestra in a performance of Mozart's Serenade for Winds in C minor, his Symphony No. 39 in E-flat major and Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3 in C minor. Tickets are \$45 each prepaid and may be obtained by contacting Sandra Thurm at 368-3418 or e-mailing her at sfthurm@optonline.net. Only a limited number of seats are available; they will be distributed on a first come, first served basis.

Order your tickets now for Shakespeare's hilarious comedy, "Twelfth Night," to be performed at the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival at Boscobel Mansion on Sunday evening, August 31st. Bais Torah has purchased a limited number of discount tickets for what is certain to be another sold out performance. If you're interested in attending, contact Marilyn Sapir asap at 369-3631 or email her at mshs1@aol.com.

An entertaining and informative day awaits those who sign up for Bais Torah's "Memories of the Lower East Side" on Sunday, September 14th. Participants will visit the landmark Lower East Side Eldridge Street Synagogue and go on a Tenement Museum walking tour. Round trip transportation from Bais Torah is included in the cost, which is only \$40 per person. Lunch at a local restaurant of your choice is additional. Since only a limited group can be accommodated on this special trip, be sure to contact Doris Newman promptly at 352-2816 or email dorism0805@aol.com to reserve your place.

The new **Ultimate Kosher Discount Card** is here and ready for you. There are wonderful discounts for Ruthie's Unique Boutique, Dunkin' Donuts, The Purple Pear, Wesley Kosher, and much more! They are available with Aviva in our shul office (352-1343) or Leslie Goldress (352-3257). Each card is \$18 (made payable to Jewish Family Service--Bais Torah makes \$5/card). The card is good for one year.

Bais Torah has been able to obtain additional **burial plots** in Eretz Hachaim in Beit Shemesh, Israel. If you are interested, contact Ronnie Herrmann at 356-9583 or email him at rherm@aol.com.

The shul has acquired **new seforim** that are available for sponsorship. See our web site, www.baistorah.org and click on resources and then seforim for the list or contact Jack Gross.

Mazel Tov

Chatz and Libby Lazarus on the birth of a grandson, born to Bracha and Yosef Pieprz.

Charlie and Shulamith Grandovsky on the birth of a grandson, born to Sarah and Ranan Gelberman of Baltimore.

Charlie and Shulamith Grandovsky on the bas mitzvah of their granddaughter, Sara Rivka, daughter of Esther and Yaakov Klein.

Shira Steinberg on the engagement of her daughter, Chaykee, to Yechiel Mor of Israel.

Joe and Judy Lowin on the birth of a granddaughter, Sophia Hadas, born to David and Tamara Lowin.

Irwin and Leslie Goldress on the birth of a grandson, Eitan Pesach, born to Gadi and Shira Goldress of West Hempstead.

Moshe and Eileen Frommer on the marriage of their children, Eli and Aviva Frommer.

Refuah Shelaimah

Henry Shapiro - חיים מאיר יחיאל בן מלכה לאה

Manny London - מנחם מונש בן חנה פרידא

Ken and Judy Gribetz's grandson, Eitan Witkin - איתן אפרים בן נחמה יטה

Tova Eizik's grandson - יעקב יונתן בן חנה רייזל

Joel Rosenwasser's parents -

Seymour - שמעון בן בלומא רבקה

Pesha - פשע לאה בת שפרינצא

Ben Zauderer - בנימין בן בילה

Lenny Wulwick - לייב יוסף בן חיה

Larry Seligson - אריה לייב בן רבקה

Bob Schore - חיים ראובן בן הענדל יהודית

David Lehmann - דוד בן שפרינצא

Moshe Lehmann - משה אליעזר בן רות

Esther Lutwak - אסתר מלכה בת קילה

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 Chukas – 5768 – Mi“Ma’ayan Beis HaSho’evah”

In this Parashah, Rabbi Shimon Schwab, ZT”L, discusses the Scriptural identification (BaMidbar 20:12) of the reason that Moshe and Aharon were not allowed entry into the Holy Land. We find there, *“HaShem said to Moshe and Aharon, ‘Because you did not believe sufficiently in Me, to Sanctify Me in the eyes of the Children of Israel, therefore you will not bring this congregation to the Land that I have given them.’”*

Rabbi Schwab cites Rashi, “For had you spoken to the rock (rather than hitting it), I would have been Sanctified in the eyes of the congregation, for they would have said, ‘This rock, which cannot speak and cannot hear, and has no need for Sustenance, **fulfills the Word of the Omnipresent**, how much more so should we!’” But Rabbi Schwab initially objects to the legitimacy of the “Kal VaChomer,” the specimen of “a Fortiori” reasoning which Rashi says the People would have used, based on the rock. “It is difficult; the ‘Kal VaChomer’ comes with its own refutation, for the People would have said, ‘The rock has no Evil Inclination, and is not capable of Choice, whereas we have an Evil Inclination and have Freedom of Choice!’”

But Rabbi Schwab refers to some counter-arguments he himself has made elsewhere: “At the time of the Splitting of the Sea of Reeds, we find (Shemos 15:8) the expression ‘...*Ne’ermu Mayim*’ – concerning which Rashi cites the translation of Targum Onkelos, ‘The waters were imbued with subtlety;’ meaning that they tricked (or seduced) the Egyptian Army into charging into them...But this is amazing! How could intelligence have entered into the water?” But he suggests the following explanation: “Certainly it is true that there is no wisdom in other life forms, or vegetation or inanimate objects. But we do find that **when there is a ‘Revealed Miracle’ being conducted in the World, even purely material entities assume qualities of knowledge and choice.** We find in the context of ‘Makkas Bechoros’ (Shemos 11:7) *‘And among all of Israel, no dog emitted a bark’* – and later in Shemos (22:30), we find *‘You shall not eat torn meat found in the field; rather, throw it to the dog.’* And Rashi explains that HaShem does not withhold reward from any of his creatures, rewarded here for their silence during ‘Makkas Bechoros,’ mentioned above.”

Todos, the Roman Jewish Scholar of Talmud, says in Pesachim 53b that Chananya, Mishael and Azarya entered the blazing furnace, based on a “Kal VaChomer” from the frogs. “If frogs, who are not commanded to sacrifice their lives to sanctify the Name of HaShem, were willing to enter the hot ovens of Egypt, as it says (*Shemos 7:28*), *‘...And they will come and enter your houses...and your ovens and your kneading bowls’* how much more are we obligated to enter the furnace of the King!” This “Kal VaChomer” only makes sense if we say that the frogs had “Freedom of Choice,” which from our point of view, is clearly absurd, unless we say that when a “Revealed Miracle” is in progress, even the beasts of the field are given the freedom to choose.

Rabbi Schwab identifies a source in the Talmud (Rosh HaShanah 11a) where Rabbi Yehoshua ben Levi says, “All that was created at the time of Creation, were created in their full dimension, with their complete intellectual faculties, and with all of their characteristics.” The explanation of the matter is that at the time of Creation, all the creatures were in the tight embrace of their Creator, such that they were filled with intelligence, and it was only when He ‘rested’ and left the Universe as a “Finished Product,” and established for it an Order and a Nature, that the material entities were left without intelligence, for the completion of their Creation was for them a **severance from the Source of Intelligence.** But at the time of a Miracle, when HaShem, as it were, returns to His Role as Creator, they have returned to them their Intelligence, and the Ability to Choose...”

“And is it not written in the Torah (*Bereshis 2:3*) *‘...for then He rested from all of His work;’* and Chaza”I said (*Bereshis Rabbah 11:10*) that with regard to the human being, His ‘rest’ did not cause any withdrawal from the Source of Intelligence, and of all the creatures, there was left only the human being, in the category of having Intelligence and Freedom of Choice, to serve His Creator with these abilities.” PF