

CONGREGATION BAIS TORAH

August 20, 2005

89 West Carlton Rd., Suffern, New York 10901, (845)352-1343

מ'ו' מנחם אב שבת פרשת ואתחנן

שבת נחמו

ערב שבת פרשת ואתחנן

* מנחה: 7:00 PM

** הדלקת נרות: 7:20 PM

Regular Candle Lighting 7:31 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 ואתחנן

שחרית 8:45 AM

מנחה-מעריב 9:35 AM

פרקי אבות 5:20 PM

גמרא שיעור 6:15 PM

מנחה 7:00 PM

סעודה שלישית

מעריב 8:29 PM

Weekday מנחה-מעריב

Sunday – Thursday 7:30 PM

ערב שבת פרשת עקב

* מנחה: 7:00 PM

** הדלקת נרות: 7:20 PM

* Early mincha for the summer

** Shul Accepts Shabbos

Shiurim

Sunday at 8:30 AM – מסכת עבודה זרה – Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb

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

Tuesday at 8:15 PM – Partners in Torah

Monday–Friday after the second שחרית – ספר החנוך – Rabbi Yosef Fischer

Monday-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, 7:00 PM and Sunday at 9:30 AM – Rabbi Yosef Fischer

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

Shul Announcements

Keep us informed. Our shul secretary, Esther Garber, is in the office Monday thru Thursday, 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM. Tel: 352-1343. Kindly **assist** us by making sure to return your Siddurim, Chumashim and other seforim to the bookcases or cart next to the Bimah. This week, **Shabbos Nachamu**, please join us at Shalosh Seudos to bid a special farewell to Kathi and Robin Resnick, who will be moving to Florida.

The entire congregation is invited to a **Kiddush** co-sponsored by Sam and Rena Wilen on the forthcoming marriage of their daughter Janina to Ari Madoff and by Robin and Kathi Resnick on the birth of their first grandchild, Gabrielle Hannah, born to Michael and Sari Resnick.

The Adult Education Committee would like to extend a **special thanks** to all those who helped make Tisha B'Av a stimulating and meaningful ta'anis. Special thanks to Chana and Noa Cooper, Yosef Gottlieb and Yossi Colman. A particular thanks goes to our Rav for his outstanding ability to make the words of the Kinot bring life to events that occurred over 2,000 years ago.

Mazel Tov

Sam and Rena Wilen on the forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Janina, to Ari Madoff.

Elliot and Roberta Shapiro on the engagement of their daughter, Sorah, to Eliezer Shafran of Riverdale.

Refuah Shelaimah

– Please remember to call or visit those that are ill and marked with an *.

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

Shirlee Aaronson - שרה חנה בת בלומא

Mr. Shapiro - חיים מאיר יחיאל בן מלכה לאה

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

Joel Rosenwasser's mother - פשע לאה בת שפרינצע

David Abramczik - דוד אריה בן בלימא

* Ellie Arnot's mother, Rachel Arnot - חיה רחל בת שושנה

Important Telephone Numbers

Red Hatzoloh Phone is in the hallway on the wall between the rear washing station and the Simcha Room.

Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb 357-3913, rabbigottlieb@yahoo.com

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

Yahrtzeit Tikun Moshe Tilson, 426-0976

Chesed Committee Charlie Grandovsky, 425-4683

Shabbos Kiddush Jack Gross, 357-4121

Bikur Cholim Eveline Kranzler, 352-8410 and

Mevorchim Hachodesh Kiddush Jack Gross 357-4121

Chosh Levy, 425-6827

Eiruv 362-4302

Shul Secretary Esther Garber, 352-1343

Mikvah 425-6101

Sisterhood Liaisons Betty Schloss, 369 – 1833

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

Lost and Found Michael Loebenstein, 425-8895

Youth Felise Katz 357-0129

Sisterhood Tribute Cards Esther Garber, 352-1343

Hachnosas Orchim Facility for homeless, Shea Jacobs 425-9617

Bais Torah Weekly Bulletin - Marty Ginsberg. Email baistorah@taxprof.net, Fax (845) 368-4172, or Call (845) 368-2222

Parashat Va'Etchanan – 5765 – Shabbat “Nachamu” and The Withdrawal from Azza

On the front page of Wednesday's N.Y. Times, there was a heartbreaking photograph taken in Neve Dekalim in Azza. It showed a little boy, around ten, “with tears and a shove,” trying to push away one of the border guards sent to evacuate the settlement. The guard, arms withdrawn against his body, was looking down at the boy with an expression of deep sympathy. Three other guards were nearby; one had covered his face, unable to look at the scene, one looked deeply troubled and the third looked on with an ambiguous expression of curiosity and concern. In the accompanying article, reference is made to a white van where there are sitting “...a young woman in a knitted cap with four children,...her eyes red and teary. Asked if she was O.K. she nodded weakly and said, ‘I can't do this anymore. I can't do this to my children.’ ”

“Klal Yisrael,” the People of Israel, had just emerged Sunday from the most severe “Taanit,” Fast Day, and the Saddest Day on the Jewish Calendar, “Tishah B'Av,” the Ninth of Av, when among other tragedies, both of the Holy Temples that stood in Jerusalem were destroyed, first by the Babylonians in 586 B.C.E., later by the Romans in 70 C.E. . In fact, according to our Tradition, the destruction by fire of the Second Temple began on the Ninth and was completed on the Tenth of Av. The timing of the withdrawal of some 9,000 Jewish settlers from their homes and livelihoods in Azza, a **very arguable** proposition under any circumstances, was originally scheduled for approximately the beginning of the “Three Weeks,” that time interval which connects the 17th of Tammuz, another day of historic tragedies, with the 9th of Av. Not wishing to bruise Jewish sensibilities, the withdrawal was rescheduled for a more “propitious” time, the 10th of Av, in the heart of the month in which Chaza”l advise avoiding dealing with non-Jews.

On the other hand, the withdrawal is also taking place in the week of Parashat Va'Etchanan, in which Moshe expressed his deep love for “Eretz Yisrael” by beseeching HaShem 515 times (the “Gematria” of Va'Etchanan) requesting the rescinding of the decree that barred Moshe from entering the Holy Land. Although in the end, Moshe is reconciled to the decree that will result in the installation of Yehoshua as the Leader of the Jewish People when they enter the Holy Land. The “moon” replacing the “sun,” great holiness and spirituality being replaced by a slightly lower level of spirituality, combined with greater practicality in dealing with the affairs of a nation engaged in the conquest of a Land and its territorial sub-division among the Tribes, based on a Divinely supervised “lottery,” if that is an accurate description of the exchange of national leaders that took place on the eve of the entry of the People of Israel into the Holy Land. But who but a Prophet can read the Mind of G-d?

And who but a Prophet can read the Mind of G-d this week? What is the meaning of this event? Should it be interpreted, G-d Forbid, in the light of the tragic events of 2600 and nearly 2000 years ago, as the beginning of another dark period of Jewish History?

Or should it be interpreted in the infinitely brighter light of “**Shabbat Nachamu,**” the **Shabbat of Comfort**, that is the first of seven Shabbatot which Chaza”l felt necessary to establish, by assigning seven specific “Haftarot,” Readings from the Prophets, to the seven upcoming “parashiot,” to raise the spirit of the Jewish People after their great losses in the Past?

We can only **hope**, using the theme of the national anthem of the State of Israel, the “HaTikvah,” the Hope, and **pray**, which we know is the way the “Ribono shel Olam,” the Master of the Universe, loves to hear our voice, the “Kol Yaakov.” We must continue sending our children to live in Israel, and go ourselves as well. We must have “Emunah Shelemah,” Perfect Faith, in the Coming of the “Mashiach” soon and in our time, and in the spiritual reconciliation of all of humanity, remote though that may seem by the light of today's events. And we must remember that “Yeshuat HaShem K'Heref Ayin,” the Salvation of HaShem comes in the “Blink of an Eye.”

PF