

CONGREGATION BAIS TORAH

January 28, 2005 · 89 West Carlton Road, Suffern, NY 10901 · (845)352-1343 · www.baistorah.org כ"א מנת שבת פרשת וארא

ערב שבת פרשת וארא

הדלקת נרות 4:49 PM

מנחה 4:55 PM

Rabbi Gottlieb's הלכות שבת shiur at 8:15 PM

שבת פרשת וארא

שחרית 8:45 AM

סוף זמן קריאת שמע 9:40 AM

מברכים החודש שבט

נמרא שיעור 3:55 PM

מנחה 4:40 PM

סעודה שלישית

מעריב 5:50 PM

Sunday שחרית 7:45 AM

Weekday שחרית

Mon: 6:15 and 7:35 AM (ראש חודש)

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

Thurs: 6:20 and 7:45 AM

Weekday מנחה-מעריב

Sun. -Thurs.: 5:00 PM

Second מעריב Mon. - Thurs. 8:00 PM

ערב שבת פרשת בא

הדלקת נרות 4:58 PM

מנחה 5:05 PM

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.

Tuesdays at 8:15 PM – Partners in Torah

Wednesdays at 8:15 PM - ספר עזרא - Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb

Monday through Friday after the second שחרית - ספר מדע - שחרית להרמב"ם – Rabbi Yosef Fischer

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

Friday night at 8:15 PM – Hilchos Shabbos shiur – Rabbi Gottlieb

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

דף היומי II, Monday through Thursday at 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

The next **Bais Torah oneg** will take place in the shul, next Friday evening February 3 at 8:30 PM. It is being sponsored by Yaakov and Phyllis Colman in honor of the bar mitzva of their son. Yossi.

The **Avot U'Banim Learning Program** continues this Motzoei Shabbos at 6:45 PM in the library. Parents, children and grandchildren are invited to enjoy the learning, the pizza and the prizes. This week's program is sponsored by Phil and Marcia Holzer and family.

Bais Torah invites everyone to "see the stars appear after Shabbos" at a fun-filled **melave malka** on March 25th. (Note the change of date.) There will be a delicious buffet, a live performance by comedian Marc Weiner and music by Omek Hadavar. Our own rav, Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb will be the emcee.

For details and further information on shul events, be sure to visit our **website**, www.baistorah.org. To subscribe to **e-mail updates** on late-breaking shul news, write to baistorah@aol.com.

Keep us informed. Are you planning a simcha or special event? To avoid scheduling conflicts, please call Esther Garber, our shul secretary. She is in the office Monday through Thursday, 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM.

Please reserve Sunday May 14th (Mothers Day) for the shul **Annual Dinner** honoring Steve and Jackie Fessel. Further details and journal ad blanks will be forthcoming shortly. Kindly see Laurence Gordon or Moe Tilson, Dinner Co-Chairs, for further information.

Mazel Tov

Elliot and Roberta Shapiro on the marriage of their children, Sorah and Eliezer Shaffren.

Refuah Shelaimah

Yis Helprin's mother, Dora - דבורה בת בריינה

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

Shirlee Aaronson - שרה חנה בת בלומא

Mr. Shapiro - חיים מאיר יחיאל בן מלכה לאה

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

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

Chevra 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@aol.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

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 Vaera – 5766 – Moshe Rabbeinu and the Power of Speech

When HaShem first offered the job of “Savior of Israel,” to Moshe at the Burning Bush, Moshe attempted to refuse it, saying “...for I am heavy of mouth and heavy of speech.” After much argument, HaShem finally consents to having Aharon be Moshe’s spokesman. And at the beginning of this Parashah, Vaera, Moshe also attributes his failure to persuade the Children of Israel that he is the legitimate representative of HaShem to the “fact” that he has “sealed lips” (Shemot 6:12), even though Scripture had testified that they did not listen because of “shortness of breath and hard labor.” (Shemot 6:9)

To what extent is Moshe’s self-deprecating view of his power of speech borne out later in the Chumash?

One piece of evidence is the “Shirah” recorded in Parashat Beshalach (Shemot 15:1-19) in which Moshe leads the People in extolling HaShem for His supernatural intervention in their behalf. There he sang, “...This is my G-d and I will celebrate His sublime beauty, the G-d of my father, and I will exalt Him.” (Shemot 15:2) When the enemy said, “...I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide plunder;... You blew with Your wind – the sea enshrouded them; the mighty sank like lead in water. Who is like you among the heavenly powers, HaShem! **Who is like You, Mighty in Holiness, too Awesome for praise, Doer of wonders!**” (Shemot 15:9-11)

Moshe was the Master of the Prophets, the only one who saw visions of HaShem through an “aspaklaria ha-me’ira,” a “clear lens.” And he was able to communicate his clarity of vision with his clarity of expression. Because even though the first four volumes of the Chumash were “dictated by HaShem,” HaShem spoke from “the throat of Moshe,” meaning with Moshe’s pattern of speech and clarity of expression. Moshe Rabbeinu was a Master of Tefila. After the sin of the Golden Calf, HaShem said to Moshe, “Leave me alone, and let My anger flare up against them, and I will make you into a great nation” (Shemot 32:10) – hinting to Moshe that he should pray for the forgiveness of the People. Moshe took up the challenge, as it says, “Moshe pleaded before HaShem, his G-d, and said, ‘Why, HaShem, should Your anger flare up against Your People, whom You have taken out of the land of Egypt, with great power and with a strong hand?...Relent from Your flaring anger and reconsider regarding the punishment against Your People. Remember for the sake of Avraham, Yitzchak and Yisrael, Your servants, to whom You swore by Yourself and You told them, ‘I shall increase your offspring like the stars of heaven, and this entire Land of which I spoke, I shall give to your offspring, and it shall be their heritage forever.’” (Shemot 32:11-13) And the result was “HaShem reconsidered regarding the punishment that He declared that He would do to His People.” (Shemot 32:14)

We see at the beginning of Parashat Vaetchanan that Moshe’s love for Eretz Yisrael was such that he prayed to HaShem with great intensity to cancel the decree that he could not enter the Land. “I implored HaShem at that time, saying, ‘My L-rd, HaShem Elokim, You have begun to show Your servant Your greatness and Your strong hand, for what power is there in heaven or on the earth that can perform according to Your deeds and Your mighty acts? Let me now cross-over and see the Good Land that is on the other side of the Yarden, this good mountain and the Levanon.’” (Devarim 3:23-25) But HaShem made him stop, because He could not have resisted Moshe’s continuing prayer.

Moshe Rabbeinu was “Rabban shel Yisrael,” the Teacher of all of Israel. He says, “See, I have taught you decrees and ordinances, as HaShem, my G-d, has commanded me, that you should perform them in the midst of the Land to which you come, to possess it. You shall safeguard and perform them, **for it is your wisdom and discernment** in the eyes of the peoples, who shall hear all these decrees and who shall say, ‘Surely a wise and discerning people is this great nation.’” (Devarim 4:5-6)

Sefer Devarim is unique, in that it was not “dictated” to Moshe, but rather consists of his own words, as his valedictory address to the People which he loved. Moshe concludes his words with another exalted song, “Give ear, O heavens and I will speak; and may the earth hear the words of my mouth. May my teaching drop like the rain and may my utterances flow like the dew; like strong winds upon vegetation, and like raindrops upon the grass. When I call out the Name of HaShem, ascribe Greatness to our G-d. The Rock! Perfect is His work, for all His paths are just; a G-d of Faith without iniquity, Righteous and Fair is He.” (Devarim 32:1-4)

Moshe Rabbeinu, about whom HaShem testified, “...Moshe was exceedingly humble, more than any other person on the face of the earth” (BaMidbar 12:3), uttered all his words (except for just a few, for he was after all, only a human being) from the clear depths of his righteous and holy soul.

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