

CONGREGATION BAIS TORAH

July 22, 2006 89 West Carlton Road, Suffern, NY 10901 · (845)352-1343 · www.baistorah.org כ"ו תמוז שבת פרשת מטות-מסעי

Bar Mitzvah of Yosef Gottlieb

ערב שבת פרשת מטות-מסעי

* מנחה 7:00 PM
** הדלקת נרות 7:20 PM
Regular Candle Lighting 8:05 PM

שבת פרשת מטות-מסעי

8:45 AM שחרית
9:23 AM סוף זמן קריאת שמע
מברכים החודש אב
6:20 PM פרקי אבות
7:10 PM גמרא שיעור
7:55 PM מנחה
סעודה שלישית
9:05 PM מעריב

Sunday שחרית 7:45 AM

Weekday שחרית

Mon. and Thurs.: 6:20 and 7:45 AM
Tues. and Fri.: 6:30 and 7:45 AM
Wed.: 6:20 and 7:35 AM (ראש חודש)

Weekday מנחה-מעריב

Sun., through Thurs.: 8:05 PM

ערב שבת פרשת דברים

* מנחה 7:00 PM
** הדלקת נרות 7:20 PM
Regular Candle Lighting: 7:59 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
Wednesdays at 7:30 PM - איכה - Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb
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
I דף היומי, Monday through Friday 5:25 AM and Sunday at 6:30 AM – Mordechai Rudman
II דף היומי, 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

The entire shul is invited to a Kiddush sponsored by the Gottlieb family in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Yosef.
This week's סעודה שלישית is sponsored by Moe Tilson in memory of his father and Rabbi and Mrs. Gottlieb in honor of their son Yosef's bar mitzvah.
Rabbi Israel Ettinger, representing **Yad L'Achim**, the anti-missionary organization of Israel will be speaking during shalosh seudos this shabbos. Besides countering the massive Christian effort to convert Jews, Yad L'Achim is also actively saving young girls that have been deceived by Arabs and taken to Arab villages where they are subject to horrendous abuse, not to mention the loss of themselves and their children to Islam. All are invited to attend.
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

Rabbi Yisroel and Amy Gottlieb on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Yosef..
Marty and Carol Ginsberg on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Yosef Gottlieb.
Fred and Esther Gottlieb on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Yosef Gottlieb.
Arnold and Diane Jutkowitz on the birth of a grandson, Yaakov Gilad, born to Steve and Andrea Jutkowitz.

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
Sara Markowitz's father, Eli Muller - חיים אליעזר בן בתיה

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.

Parashiot Matot-Masei – 5766 - “Tikvah,” Hope and “Tefilah,” Prayer

This week, the Israel Defense Force is engaged in a major battle with the Arab Terrorist Organization that calls itself “Hezbollah” (Party of god (sic!)). The latter organization is supplied surreptitiously with long-range missiles capable of reaching Israel, by Iran, the state whose religious-political leader Ali Khamenei calls openly for the destruction, G-d Forbid, of the State of Israel. In the first of the parashiot that we read this Shabbat, Parashat Matot, we find the People of Israel engaged in a victorious confrontation with Midian, that hopefully foreshadows the outcome of the State of Israel's present confrontation. My feeling is actually a combination of “Tikvah,” Hope, and “Tefila,” Prayer to HaShem, that He has something like that in Mind.

In Parashat Matot, we find HaShem speaking to Moshe as follows: *“Exact the **vengeance of the Children of Israel** from the Midianites...”* (BaMidbar 31:2) Then Moshe speaks to the People, saying *“Choose your bravest men for the army, and let them attack Midian, to exact the **vengeance of HaShem** from Midian.”* (BaMidbar 31:2-3) We notice immediately that HaShem spoke of the *“vengeance of the Children of Israel”* whereas Moshe referred to the same battle as exacting the *“vengeance of HaShem”*! Rashi, commenting on this discrepancy, says, *“It is because someone who stands against Israel is as if he stands against the Holy One, Blessed is He.”* Would that we still deserve to have our enemies considered as enemies of HaShem!

In the Battle against Midian, we find (BaMidbar 31:4), *“One thousand from each Tribe, a thousand per Tribe, from all the Tribes of Israel, send the fighting force.”* Apparently, only twelve thousand soldiers were sent by the People of Israel against the huge army of Midian, by whom they were vastly outnumbered. But in the Battle of Avraham and his small force (Bereshit 14), which Scripture literally describes as 318 members of his household (another opinion reduces that force to only one individual; his servant, Eliezer), we've already seen that numbers of troops are irrelevant to the victories of the Jewish Army, **when HaShem is on their side**. Using HaShem's Presence, the human leadership of Pinchas, and the presence of holy vessels of the “Mishkan” to adjust the effectiveness of the Jewish fighting force, it is not surprising that we find, *“The Officers of the thousands and of the hundreds came before Moshe and said, ‘Your servants counted the troops returning from battle, and **we did not lose a man**’”* (BaMidbar 31:49). They knew to whom their victory was to be attributed – *“...And we have brought an Offering to HaShem...to atone for our souls before HaShem”* (Bamidbar 31:50).

The logical extension of today's events may be that Iran itself will enter the fight against Israel. If so, May the result be similar to the experience of the Jewish Army recounted in the Parashah, *“...And, as for the Kings of Midian, they were killed, falling on the carcasses of their troops: Evi, Rekem, Tzur, Chur and Reva, the Five Kings of Midian; and Bilam ben Be'or, they slew by the sword.”* May the forces of Israel succeed in destroying the “secret weapon” of Iran, their nuclear facilities, as the Jewish warriors of old killed the “secret weapon” of Midian, Bilam ben Be'or, who possessed the evil “gift” of destruction, by his unique ability to curse.

At the conclusion of Parashat Matot, the subject of the decision of the Tribes of Reuven, Gad and half the Tribe of Menashe to be settled on the East Bank of the Yarden is discussed. Their decision is based on their having abundant flocks, and the fact that the East Bank has excellent pasture-land. At some point in their conversation with Moshe, they say, *“We will not share their inheritance on the other side of the Yarden with the rest of Israel, for our portion has already come to us, on the eastern side of the Yarden.”* (BaMidbar 32:19) Rashi interprets their words harshly, as an illegitimate demand, while the Ramban softens them to a request. In any case, Moshe rebukes them for their lack of emotional attachment to the Land of Israel, and compares them to the “Meraglim.” Eventually, the Tribes agree to a two-sided condition, obligating them to fight at the head of the other Tribes, until the entire Land is conquered, before returning to their “Chosen Land.” But nevertheless, the sting of Moshe's criticism is not lost.

Parashat Masei recounts the 40-year sojourn of the Children of Israel through the Wilderness, which they began by experiencing Miracles and engaging in rebellions until they were finally punished, and barred from the Holy Land. The Jewish People has experienced a 2,000-year sojourn through Jewish History in their longest and most painful Exile since the destruction of the Second Temple in Jerusalem by the Roman Legions, before Jews of the last century finally re-established, with the help of HaShem, the independent State of Israel, in which we have begun to hear the “footsteps of the Mashiach.”

At the end of Parashat Masei, the Torah explains a crucial difference between the Land of Israel and the rest of the world. The Holy Land reflects the Holiness of the Torah and the expected and desired Holiness of the People of Israel. The Torah says, in fierce distinction between its Laws and the Laws of the Koran, for example, regarding the preciousness of life and the prohibition against taking it for no reason, *“And do not accept a ransom for the life of a murderer, who is wicked and deserves to die; rather he is to be put to death... And do not defile the Land where you live, **for blood defiles the Land, and the Land will have no atonement, other than by the blood of the one who spills it. And do not render the Land unclean; for I am HaShem, Who dwells among the Children of Israel.”*** PF