

CONGREGATION BAIS TORAH

November 25, 2006 89 West Carlton Road, Suffern, NY10901 (845)352-1343 www.baistorah.org ד' כסלו שנת פרשת תולדות

ערב שבת פרשת תולדות

הדלקת נרות 4:13 PM
מנחה 4:20 PM
הלכות שבת 8:00 PM – Rabbi Gottlieb

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 תולדות

דף היומי 8:00 AM - Rabbi Gottlieb
שחרית 8:45 AM
זמן קריאת שמע 9:19 AM

Weekday מנחה-מעריב

Sun. through Thurs.: 4:20 PM
Second מעריב Mon. through Thurs.: 8:00 PM

שיעור 3:15 PM

מנחה 4:00 PM

סעודה שלישית

מעריב 5:13 PM

ערב שבת פרשת ויצא

הדלקת נרות 4:10 PM

מנחה 4:15 PM

Shiurim

שבת at 8:00 AM – דף היומי - Rabbi Gottlieb
Sundays at 8:30 AM – מסכת סנהדרין – Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb
Mondays at 7:30 PM – מסכת ברכות – Rabbi Chaim Wein
Tuesdays at 8:15 PM – Partners in Torah
Wednesday at 8:15 PM – קהלת – Rabbi Gottlieb
Thursday at 8:15 PM - עובדיה - Dr. Avi Becker
Monday through Friday after the second שחרית עם רש"י - Rabbi Yosef Fischer
Monday through 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 10:00 AM and Sunday at 9:30 AM – Rabbi Yosef Fischer
Women's תהלים group meets on שבת 45 minutes before מנחה.

Shul Announcements

Rabbi Gottlieb is giving his **hilchos Shabbos shiur** in the shul, Friday night at 8:00 PM. All are urged to attend; the continuing success of the shiur depends on our participation.

To help prevent traffic accidents while walking at night, please wear **reflectors** at night while walking on the street.

Shalosh Seudos this week is sponsored by Elle Arnot in memory of her mother, Rachel bas Avigdor Dovid.

Our weekly **Avos U'Banim** learning program continues this Motzoei Shabbos, November 18th at 6:15 PM and is being sponsored by The Markowitzes. Parents and grandparents are invited to bring the kids and enjoy a pizza Melave Malka each week. Contact Michael or Sharon Kronenberg at 845-368-1064 or mkron@optonline.net for information.

Join Us - Friday evening, December 8, 2006 – Parshas Vayishlach for Inspirational and Joyous Zemiros and Divrei Hisorerus **CARLEBACH SHABBOS** with Elli Kranzler Seudas Shabbos followed by Around the Rebbe's Tisch with Rabbi Mayer Schiller, Elli Kranzler and Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb Seudas Shabbos - \$36.00 per person prepaid by November 26th \$50.00 per person after November 26th For reservations, please call Rachel Gross 845-357-4121 or email rchlgrss@gmail.com
Hospitality for Shabbat is available!

Save the Date! Bais Torah Sisterhood is sponsoring a trip to **Avery Fisher Hall** on Tuesday, January 2nd to experience Peter Schickele and "The Very Least of P.D.Q. Bach." "Professor" Schickele is one of the today's most versatile composers, writers and humorists and "discovered" P.D.Q. Bach, the last and least son of J.S. and composer of the "1712 Overture," the "Schleptet in E-Flat" and "Eine Kleine Kiddiemusik." The fun begins at 7:30 p.m. and tickets are \$60. Contact Betty Schloss at 369-1833 or at bbless613@gmail.com for tickets or more information.

We are currently in the process of preparing the The Chanuka issue of the Bais Torah newsletter. Anyone interested in advertising should contact Ruth Lehmann for rates and deadlines at baiberuthfive@aol.com or at 426-6499.

Anyone interested in **knitting scarves** for the IDF, please contact Rena Wilen at 357-1588 for instructions and information.

The Rebbetzin Wein Sefer Torah Project is moving forward successfully. If you have not yet made a contribution or would like to increase the amount of your donation, please contact Michael or Sharon Kronenberg at 845-368-1064 or mkron@optonline.net. There are still many dedication opportunities available. Visit our website or stop by the shul bulletin board for a list of remaining sponsorships.

Now on our **website**: Seuda Shlishis availability, shiurim, calendar of events, Avos Ubanim and more. Visit www.baistorah.org for all the latest updates.

Mazel Tov

Elliot and Roberta Shapiro on the birth of a grandson, Yisroel Yitzchok, born to Sorah and Eliezer Shaffren of Teaneck.

Stuart and Pamala Erdfarb on Ari passing the NY and NJ bar exam.

Stuart and Pamala Erdfarb on Jody passing the NY and CT bar exam.

Jay and Helen Rosenfeld on the birth of a grandson, born to Gila and Aryeh Robinson.

Refuah Shelaimah

Michael Rossman's mother, Ilse Rossman - עטע בת שרה
Mr. Shapiro - חיים מאיר יחיאל בן מלכה לאה
Ben Zauderer - בנימין בן בילה
Shirlee Aaronson - שרה חנה בת בלומא
Miriam Schiffer's son, Zev Kessin - זאב דוד בן מרים
Ed Furman's sister, Marjorie Schwartz - מאשע בת שימא

How to Reach Us

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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** Felise Katz 357-0129
Sisterhood Liaison Betty Schloss, 369 – 1833 **Hachnosas Orchim Facility** for homeless, Shea Jacobs 425-9617
Lost and Found Michael Loebenstein, 425-8895 **Reb. Wein Sefer Torah Project** 368-1064
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@gmail.com. This bulletin is now downloadable from the web at www.baistorah.org.

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 Toldot – 5767 – “...until your brother’s wrath subsides...”

We find in Parashat Toldot the following sequence of verses following the incident where Yaakov, at his mother Rivkah's instigation, pretended to be his brother, Esav, and obtained the blessing of his father, Yitzchak that, at least according to the plain reading of the text, was meant for Esav: “Now Esav harbored hatred toward Yaakov because of the blessing with which his father had blessed him; and Esav thought, ‘When the days of mourning for my father draw near... (Rashi: This is to be understood literally, ‘So that I will not cause suffering to my father’) ...then I will kill my brother, Yaakov. When Rivkah was told... (Rashi: The Holy Spirit told her what Esav was thinking)...of the words of her older son, Esav, she summoned Yaakov, her younger son, and said to him, ‘Behold, your brother Esav is consoling himself regarding you, and intends to kill you. So now, my son, heed my voice and arise; flee to my brother, Lavan, to Charan and remain with him a short while, until your brother’s wrath subsides...’” (Bereshit 27:41-44) Unfortunately, we find in Amos 1:11, “So said the L-rd, ‘For three sins of Edom (Malbim: namely, the three cardinal sins: idolatry, immorality and bloodshed) I would have pardoned him, but because of the fourth, I will not save them from destruction...for they withheld their mercy and retained forever their anger, and bore their furious grudge forever. (Redak: This refers to the destruction of the Second Temple by the Romans)” Another example of the undying hatred of the Christian world (which is linked to Edom, the name which Scripture tells us was another name for Esav) is the horror of the Holocaust. Pretty discouraging! But we will now see some glimmers of light in the darkness.

When Yaakov meets Esav, we find the following puzzling verses: “Then he went on ahead of them and bowed earthward seven times until he reached his brother. Esav ran toward him, embraced him, fell upon his neck, and kissed him; then they wept (Rashi on the words ‘and he kissed him’- ‘There are dots appearing on this word, and there is a difference of opinion as to the significance of the dots, recorded in a Beraita in Sifri (Behaalotecha 69); some interpret those dots as signifying that he kissed him **insincerely**. But Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai stated the following: ‘It is a law of history that Esav hates Yaakov, but this time, Esav’s mercies were stirred and **he kissed him with all his heart.**’)” (Bereshit 33:3-4)

The Talmud tells us that Rabbi Yehudah HaNasi, Rabbi Judah the Prince, who compiled the Mishnah around 225 C.E., was a good friend of the Roman Emperor Antoninus, who had very enlightened policies with regard to the Jews and even considered converting to Judaism, if not for the fact that his Jewish friend advised him that he would be more helpful to the Jewish People as Roman Emperor. In Avodah Zarah 10b, we find, “Antoninus said to Rebbe (a name for Rabbi Yehudah HaNasi), ‘Will I be admitted to the World-to-Come?’ Rebbe answered, ‘Yes!’ Antoninus asked again, ‘But is it not written, ‘Nothing will remain of the House of Esav?’ Rebbe answered, ‘This is said regarding those who act in the manner of Esav.’” Rabbi Meir, a student of Rabbi Akiva and teacher of Rabbi Yehudah HaNasi, was a descendant of converts. “Onkelos the Convert,” author of the Targum Onkelos, was a nephew of the Roman Emperor, Titus.

The OU’s magazine “Jewish Action” in its summer 5766 issue featured an article “Choosing Judaism,” in which are printed mini-biographies of six unlikely converts to Judaism. Perhaps the least likely of this group was Dr. Daniel Brown (a pseudonym), Hitler’s nephew’s grandson. Brown, who came to Israel in 1977, took classes at the Hebrew U. in Hebrew Literature and Jewish Philosophy. He fell in love with Israel, and ended up studying at Yeshivat Mercaz HaRav. He now chairs the Jewish Studies Department at one of Israel’s leading universities. In a similar position is Rabbi Dr. Aharon Shear-Yashuv (formerly Wolfgang Schmidt), chairman of Jewish Studies at Bar Ilan University. Some other individuals whose lives have followed similar trajectories are Matthias Goering, great-nephew of Luftwaffe Chief Herman Goering, who keeps kosher, celebrates Shabbat and wears a kippah, Katrin Himmler, great-niece of SS Commander Heinrich Himmler, who married an Israeli and Oskar Eder, a former member of the Luftwaffe who changed his name to Asher, married a Holocaust survivor and currently works in Israel as a tour guide. Brown is quoted at the end of the article, “The meaning of my story, of my counterparts’ stories is that things **can be changed**: You can change your behavior, your location, your faith. Being and becoming is what we are doing every day.” In Jewish Action’s winter 5767 issue, there is an article entitled “Who are our Real Friends?” and sub-titled “Christians and the Jewish state,” by Yitzchak Adlerstein and Dassi Zeidel. Changes within the Catholic Church are described: “Anti-Semitism is regarded as a sin. The charge of guilt for deicide stands repudiated, and the debt the Church owes to the Jewish People is acknowledged. The previous Pope referred to the Jews not only fraternally, but as the ‘elder brothers’ of Christians.”

A key Evangelical attitude is described: “Supporting Israel is important to them because G-d’s covenant with Avraham, set forth in Bereshit, explicitly promises that those who bless the Jews will be blessed themselves.”

The Presbyterians initially endorsed a resolution of divestment from Israel. But grass-roots support of Israel has blocked its implementation. At a conference to discuss the issue, a dramatic moment came when James Woolsey, former Director of the CIA took the mic: “A vote for divestment is a vote for Hamas!” And he went on to back up that statement with cogent proofs. A growing movement within the Presbyterians is “Christians for Fair Witness on the Middle East,” founded by Sister Ruth Lauth, who has said that she and her partners “feel called to do this...it is a sacred duty that G-d has given us...We support Israel for...the theology of social justice...This is an issue of defending those who are oppressed.” PF