

CONGREGATION BAIS TORAH

February 3, 2007 89 W. Carlton Road, Suffern, NY 10901 (845)352-1343 www.baistorah.org ט"ו שבט שבת פרשת בשלח

ערב שבת פרשת בשלח

הדלקת נרות 4:56 PM

מנחה 5:05 PM

הלכות שבת 8:30 PM – Rabbi Gottlieb

שבת פרשת בשלח

דף היומי 8:00 AM - Rabbi Gottlieb

שחרית 8:45 AM

זמן קריאת שמע 9:38 AM

שיעור גמרא 3:55 PM

מנחה 4:45 PM

סעודה שלישית

מעריב 5:57 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

Weekday מנחה-מעריב

Sun. through Thurs.: 5:05 PM

מעריב: Mon. through Thurs.: 8:00 PM

ערב שבת פרשת יתרו

הדלקת נרות 5:05 PM

מנחה 5:10 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

Tuesdays at 8:15 PM - מהר"ל - Dr. Murray Kuhr

Wednesdays at 8:15 PM – קהלת – Rabbi Gottlieb

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

Shalosh seudos is being sponsored by Steve and Jackie Fessel in honor of the marriage of their children. Everyone is invited to Sheva Brochos.

Our weekly **Avos U'Banim** learning program continues this Motzoei Shabbos, February 3rd, 7:00 PM and is being sponsored by the Colmans. 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.

Purim is on its way! Please complete the Bais Torah Sisterhood **Mishloach Manot** list and return it with your check before February 13. Thank you for your support. Any questions, call Hinda Kimmel at 357-9571.

Mark your calendar:

Monday, February 12th – "The Lighter Side of Aliyah" Laura (Ginsberg) Ben-David, guest speaker

Sunday, February 18th, - The annual **Bais Torah Matzoh Baking** trip with Jossie Lieder, Jay Kimmel and Akiva Gottlieb.

A sign-up sheet is hanging on the main bulletin board and matzoh requests (your name, # of pounds, regular or whole wheat) should be filled in by Friday, Feb 16, 2007.

Sunday, February 25th - Annual **Siyum Mishnayos** featuring Rabbi Jonathan Rietti, guest speaker

Shabbos, March 9th and 10th - **End the Madness weekend** and melave malka. To host young singles, please contact

Allen Nussbaum, 357-7284 or write to anussbaum@aol.com.

Sunday, March 18th - Breakfast with **Rabbi Berel Wein**

Sunday, May 13th, for the **Bais Torah Annual Dinner** which be held at the Crossroads Sheraton Hotel in Mahwah, New Jersey. This year's Guests of Honor are David and Ruthie Lehmann..

Details on all events are available on our website, www.baistorah.org

Mazel Tov

Steve and Jackie Fessel on the marriage of their children, Ariella and Bobby Faigen.

Avromie and Renee Fein on the engagement of their daughter, Dahlia, to Baruch Goldbrenner of Flatbush.

Ira and Leah Davidson on the engagement of their daughter, Hindy, to Yisroel Meir Schwarcz of Chicago. The vort will be on Sunday, 2/4 from 2PM to 5PM at their home, 27 Lyncrest Drive, Monsey. All are invited.

Leon and Rena Pachter on the birth of a grandson, born to Adiv and Sarah Pachter. The shalom zochor will begin at 8:30 PM at their home, 16 Briarwood Lane, Suffern. All are invited.

Michael and Leni Loebenstein on the birth of a great-grandson, born to Mordechai and Penina Kushner.

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

Miriam Schiffer's son, Zev Kessin - זאב דוד בן מרים

Mel and Betty Sinowitz's granddaughter, Rivka Sinowitz - רבקה בת מינא שטיסא

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

Yoel Adler - יואל בן מירלא

Leni Loebenstein - הלני בת רחל

How to Reach Us

Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb 357-3913, rabbigottlieb@yahoo.com – Daytime emergency 362-8362

President Peter Katz, 357-0129 president@baistorah.org

Treasurer Barry Lifschitz, 352-0226, Fax 352-0841 or barry@lifschitz.net

Maintenance Yis Helprin 494-7446

Shul Secretary Judy Scheiner 352-1343 judyscheiner@baistorah.org

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, 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 now 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.

Shabbat Parashat Beshalach – 5767 - “Shabbat Shira” - The Feminine Spirit of Prophecy

Parshat Beshalach contains the magnificent “Shirat HaYam,” the Song of the Sea, sung by Moshe and the Children of Israel after the miraculous splitting of the Sea of Reeds. Following the “Shirah,” the Torah relates (Shemot 15:20-21) “And Miriam the Prophetess, the sister of Aharon, took a timbrel in her hand, and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances. And Miriam called to them ‘Sing to the L-rd, for He has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider has He thrown into the sea.’” Miriam began her prophecy in Egypt, when she foresaw that Amram and Yocheved would produce the “redeemer of Israel.” And indeed, according to the Midrash, when Moshe was born, and light filled the house, Amram saw that his daughter’s prophecy had been fulfilled. It was Miriam also who succeeded in having Yocheved nurse her baby. And Miriam’s nurturing continued throughout the Generation of the Wilderness, as the miraculous Well of Miriam accompanied the people throughout its wandering.

The Talmud in Masechet Megilah 14a identifies the seven women in Jewish history who were endowed with the gift of prophecy: “...Sarah, Miriam, Devorah, Chanah, Avigayil, Chuldah and Esther.”

An incident in Sefer Bereshit is cited in which Avraham and Sarah are engaged in a conflict over whether to send Yishmael away. HaShem intervenes on the side of Sarah, who favors banishment, telling Avraham (Bereshit 21:12), “Whatever Sarah says to you, heed her voice.” On these words, Rashi comments, “We learn from this that Avraham was on a lower level than Sarah in prophecy.”

In the Haftarah, taken from the Book of “Shoftim,” Judges, Chapters 4 and 5, we encounter Devorah, the Prophetess and Judge, who was the leader of her generation. This alone was a unique situation, to have a woman as leader, as well as a Torah scholar, about whom it is written (Shoftim 4:5), “And the Children of Israel came up to her for judgment.” She is pictured as engineering the victory of Israel over Yavin, king of Canaan, and his huge army, commanded by the great general, Sisera. Devorah offers command of the army of Israel to Barak ben Avinoam, who refuses to go unless accompanied by Devorah. Devorah agrees but informs Barak that he has forfeited the chance to be remembered as a hero, for the victory over Sisera will be attributed mainly to herself and to Yael (who, as it turns out, will plunge a tent peg into the head of the sleeping general).

After the victory, Devorah sings a song to HaShem, which is the reason that this Haftarah was selected to be read on “Shabbat Shira,” the Sabbath of Song. Her song concludes with the immortal lines (Shoftim 5:31), “So will be destroyed all Your enemies, O G-d, but those who love Him, will be as the sun, rising in its might...”

Chanah, the mother of “Shmuel HaNavi,” Samuel the Prophet, whose story appears in I Samuel (1-2:11), prays for a son with such intention and devotion that many of the Laws of Prayer are derived from her behavior. When HaShem answers her prayers, she responds with another immortal song of gratitude and prophecy. The entire prayer of Chanah is also interpreted as a prophecy concerning Sancheriv, Nevuchadnezzar and Haman (Yalkut Shimoni, Shmuel).

Avigayil, the wife of Naval, who intercepts with a load of provisions David and his band of warriors who are on their way to kill her husband and his shepherds, because Naval has insulted David and denied him any provisions, blesses David and prophecies concerning him (I Samuel 25:28-29), “For the L-rd will certainly make my lord a sure house; because my lord fights the battles of the L-rd, and evil has not been found in you all of your days. Though a man rises to pursue you, and to seek your soul, yet the soul of my lord is bound in the bond of life with the L-rd your G-d, and the souls of your enemies shall He sling out, as out of the hollow of a sling...”

Chuldah the Prophetess, who appears in II Kings (22:14-20), identifies the holy manuscript that had been found in the Temple as the warnings of HaShem to the City of Yerushalayim that it faces destruction for its sins, but that Yoshiyahu the king will be spared because of his repentance. Chazal identify Chuldah as one of the three prophets of the generation, who prophesied to the women, as Miriam had sung to the women, and as the Midrash says concerning Avraham and Sarah, regarding the reference “...and the souls that they made in Charan” (Bereshit 12:5); namely, that Avraham would preach to the men and Sarah would preach to the women.

Queen Esther, the Prophetess, for whom the Megilah is named, of course needs no introduction, nor do her deeds require elaboration. The Sages (Megilah 14a) interpret the reference “And Esther put on her royal apparel” (Megilat Esther 5:1), as meaning that she clothed herself with the spirit of prophecy.

These seven great women who as bearers of life, had keen senses of human nature as well as an inexhaustible reservoir of love for their children and their people, were rewarded by HaShem with the gift of prophecy. PF