

CONGREGATION BAIS TORAH

February 10, 2007 89 W. Carlton Road, Suffern, NY 10901 (845)352-1343 www.baistorah.org כ"ב שבט שבת פרשת יתרו

Aufruf of Benjay Tilson

ערב שבת פרשת יתרו

הדלקת נרות 5:05 PM

מנחה 5:10 PM

הלכות שבת 8:30 PM – Rabbi Gottlieb

שבת פרשת יתרו

דף היומי 8:00 AM - Rabbi Gottlieb

שחרית 8:45 AM

סוף זמן קריאת שמע 9:34 AM

גמרא שיעור 4:05 PM

מנחה 4:55 PM

סעודה שלישית

מעריב 6:06 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.: 5:15 PM

Second מעריב: Mon. through Thurs.: 8:00 PM

ערב שבת פרשת משפטים

הדלקת נרות 5:13 PM

מנחה 5:20 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

Moe and Bayla Tilson invite the entire congregation to a **Kiddush** following davening in honor of the aufruf of their son, Benjay.

Shalosh seudos is being sponsored by Moe and Bayla Tilson in honor of the aufruf of their son, Benjay.

Our weekly **Avos U'Banim** learning program continues this Motzoei Shabbos, February 10th, 7:00 PM and is being sponsored by the Rhines. 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.

This Monday, February 12th at 8:15 PM—Come hear the inspiring stories of **Laura (Ginsberg) Ben-David** as she shares some humorous and inspirational reflections on making Aliyah. Books will be available for purchase and signing by the author. Light refreshments will be served.

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.

A full complement of domestic and imported **wines** can once again be purchased from Bais Torah for Purim. The list and order form are in the mail and also on our website, www.baistorah.org. For further information, contact Miriam Frankel at 893-4983. The deadline for orders is February 23rd.

Mark your calendar:

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

Jonathan and Chavy Rosenstock on the bar mitzvah of their son, Meir Amram.

Alan and Debra Rosenstock on the bar mitzvah of their son, Shimon.

Leslie Goldress on receiving an Honorary Doctor of Pedagogy Degree from the Jewish Theological Seminary and The Jewish Educators Assembly in recognition of leadership and dedication in Jewish education.

Hamakom Yenachem

Elliot Eichler on the p'tira of his wife, Joyce. He will be sitting shiva at his home, 46 College Rd. until Thursday morning.

Diane Schmeltz on the p'tira of her sister. She will be sitting shiva at home until Wed. morning at 3 Miriam Lane.

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

Leni Loebenstein - הלני בת רחל

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

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.

Parashat Yitro – 5767 – A Great Soul

This Shabbat, we read Parashat Yitro, the highlight of which is the “Aseret HaDibrot,” the Ten Utterances, which lay down the basics of the Torah, the basics of what HaShem demands from the Jewish People and, ultimately, from all of Mankind. They encapsulate the Purpose of Creation, which HaShem also accomplished by Ten Utterances. It also provides information about Yitro, “Choten Moshe,” the Father-in-Law of Moshe, who had fled the Council of Advisors when Pharaoh had sought counsel concerning his plan to genocidally attack the male population of the Jewish People. Yitro added a Section to the Torah having to do with the establishment of a court system, and he ultimately converted to the Jewish Faith. He possessed a great soul.

A fundamental belief of the Jewish Religion is that the human being possesses a “Neshamah,” an immortal soul.

Time Magazine dedicated its January 29, 2007 issue to a discussion of “The Brain – A User’s Guide.” Rabbi Berel Wein said that when one writes, he always writes with a bias. In his case, the bias was towards the viewpoint of Orthodox Judaism. But we shall see, as we might have expected, that this “Law” of Writers’ Bias cuts both ways; sometimes in ways that are alien to our way of thinking and believing. Time presented about ten essays; their authors distinguished scholars all, with medical, experimental and theoretical experience, discussed most of the topics currently in vogue, in connection with the brain. Each seemed to be saying that the notion of consciousness, of unique identity, is an illusion; the product of a random set of biochemical reactions. I was about to put down the magazine with disappointment that ten or so extremely intelligent authors could not recognize and reject their secular, anti-spiritual bias. After all, was it not the famous Crick of the Watson-Crick team of researchers who had discovered DNA who had asserted that it was more reasonable (!?) for life to have arisen on earth as a result of some sort of “seeding” by extraterrestrials, than to invoke the idea of a Creator!

Until I came upon an essay which seemed to be an exception; “The Power of Hope,” by Scott Haig, M.D., Assistant Clinical Professor of Orthopedic Surgery at the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. In his essay, he writes: “David’s head was literally stuffed with lung cancer...I dreaded making rounds on a patient for whom there was no good news, no good plan. When his doctors rescanned his head, there was barely any brain left...It was particularly bad in the room that Friday when I made evening rounds. The family was there, sad, crying faces on all of them. I fussed with the hip a bit. His respirations had become agonal – the gulping kind of breathing movement that immediately precedes death...Saturday morning the sun poured in as I checked the room. The bed was at chest height, made up and empty, with clean, fresh sheets over the vinyl mattress. As I turned to leave, I was blocked by a nurse, an older Irish lady with a doleful look on her face. She had taken care of David last night. ‘He woke up, you know, doctor – just after you left – and said goodbye to them all. Like I’m talkin’ to you right here. Like a miracle. He talked to them and patted them and smiled for about five minutes. Then he went out again, and he passed in the hour.’ But it wasn’t David’s brain that woke him up to say goodbye that Friday. His brain had already been destroyed. Tumor metastases don’t simply occupy space and press on things, leaving a whole brain. The metastases actually replace tissue...”

“What woke my patient that Friday was simply his mind, forcing its way through a broken brain, a father’s final act to comfort his family. The mind is a uniquely personal domain of thought, dreams and countless other things, like the will, faith and hope. These fine things are as real as rocks and water but, like the mind, weightless and invisible, maybe even timeless. Material science shies from these things, calling them epiphenomena, programs running on a computer, tunes on a piano. This understanding can’t be ignored; not too much seems to get done on earth without a physical brain. But I know this understanding is not complete, either.

I see the mind have its way all the time when physical realities challenge it. In a patient stubbornly working to rehab after surgery, in a child practicing an instrument or struggling to create, a mind or will, clearly separate, hovers under the machinery, forcing it to a goal. It’s wonderful to see, such tangible evidence of that fine thing’s power over the mere clumps of particles that, however pretty, will eventually clump differently and vanish... But many think the mind is only in there – existing somehow in the physical relationship of the brain’s physical elements. The physical, say the materialists, is all there is. I fix bones with hardware. As physical as this might be, I cannot be a materialist. I cannot ignore the internal evidence of my own mind. It would be hypocritical. And worse, it would be cowardly to ignore those occasional appearances of the spirits of others – of minds uncloaked, in naked virtue, like David’s goodbye.”

When a Jew puts on his “Tephilin shel Rosh,” he recites the following prayer, “...and on the head, opposite the brain, that the **soul in my brain**, together with all my senses and potentialities, should all be bound in His Service, May His Name be Blessed.” PF