

CONGREGATION BAIS TORAH

November 17, 2007 · 89 West Carlton Rd · Suffern, NY 10901 · (845)352-1343 · www.baistorah.org · ז' כסלו שבת פרשת ויצא

ערב שבת פרשת ויצא

הדלקת נרות 4:19 PM

מנחה 4:25 PM

שקיעה 4:37 PM

שבת פרשת ויצא

היומי 8:00 AM - Rabbi Gottlieb

שחרית 8:45 AM

סוף זמן קריאת שמע 9:14 AM

גמרא שיעור 3:20 PM

מנחה 4:05 PM

שקיעה 4:36 PM

סעודה שלישית

מעריב 5:18 PM

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.: 4:20 PM

Second מעריב 8:00 PM

ערב שבת פרשת וישלח

הדלקת נרות 4:14 PM

מנחה 4:20 PM

שקיעה 4:32 PM

Shiurim

Sundays at 8:30 AM – מסכת סנהדרין – Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb

Tuesdays at 8:15 PM – Partners in Torah

Wednesdays at 8:15 PM – מלכים א – Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb

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

Monday through Friday at 7 AM - ירושלמי - ברכות – Mordechai Rudman

Monday through Friday after the second שחרית עם רשי - פרשת השבוע – Rabbi Yosef Fischer

Monday through Thursday at 9:45 AM - גמרא שיעור - Rabbi Leibel Reznick

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

סעודה שלישית is being sponsored by Kate Tannenbaum in memory of her father, מרדכי בן יעקב.

Bais Torah's popular **Avos U'Banim** program continues this Motzoei Shabbos, November 17th at 6:15 in the Library. This week's program is being sponsored by Allen and Miriam Nussbaum. Bring your children or grandchildren each week - everyone is welcome! There will be hot pizza on hand and a chance for participants to win prizes. Sponsorships are invited at \$50 per session and all information will be listed on our website. For further details, please contact Michael Kronenberg at mkron1950@gmail.com or call 368-1064.

This Sun., Nov. 18th, at 9:45 Bais Torah Sisterhood will be hosting its **annual brunch** featuring Ilana Perles, a professional antique dealer. Ilana will discuss using antiques as a focal point for decorating ideas. The \$36.00 admission will include sisterhood dues, a delicious brunch and an on the spot appraisal of one item. Please be sure to come on time.

Save December 14th and 15th for our **Carlebach Shabbos**. Dr. Eli Kranzler and Rabbi Abraham Twerski will be joining us for davening, the seudah Friday Night, zmiros and an oneg. More Information to follow.

Get great discounts with the **Ultimate Kosher Discount Card** for \$18. Available from Aviva at our shul office (352-1343) or Leslie Goldress (352-3257).

All **coats left** in the coatroom from last year will be given away after November 30. Please check that there is nothing that you want in the coatroom that belongs to you.

Nefesh B'Nefesh Presents - PRE-ALIYAH SEMINAR: Short & Long Term Aliyah Planning - Wednesday, November 28th, 2007 • 8:00PM-10:00PM. Holiday Inn Suffern. Meet with our professional staff and get practical information and advice on Aliyah. For more information and to register for this event, please visit: www.nbn.org.il. PERSONAL MEETINGS - Holiday Inn Suffern. One-on-One Employment and Pre-Aliyah Counseling meetings. Call 1-866-4-ALIYAH to schedule an appointment.

Mazel Tov

Stuart and Pamela Erdfarb on the marriage of their children, Dov and Rachel Erdfarb.

Josef and Barbara Fischer on the birth of their first great granddaughter, Aila, born to Ayal and Inbar Weissman, children of Haim and Atara Weissman.

Nachum and Miriam Rosenberg on the bas mitzvah of their daughter, Ettie.

Edwin and Ruth Levi on the bas mitzvah of their granddaughter, Ettie Rosenberg.

Irwin and Leslie Goldress on their son-in-law, Dr. Andrew Eisenberger, being honored with the Physician of the Year Fellow Award in the Department of Hematology/Oncology at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital.

Hamakom Yenchaim

Walter Baum on the p'tira of his wife, Chana.

Refuah Shelaimah

Mr. Henry Shapiro -

חיים מאיר יחיאל בן מלכה לאה

Ben Zauderer - בנימין בן בילה

Manny London - מנחם מונש בן חנה פרידה

Ken and Judy Gribetz's grandson, Eitan Witkin -

איתן אפרים בן נחמה יטה

Yoel Adler - יואל בן מירלא

Tova Eizik's grandson - יעקב יונתן בן חנה רייזל

Renee Rosenbaum's mother, Fanny York -

רחמה פינגל בת רבקה

Yossie Stern's granddaughter -

ציפורה יהודית בת דינה רבקה

How to Reach Us

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

President Allen Nussbaum president@baistorah.org

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

Maintenance Yis Helprin 494-7446

Shul Secretary Aviva Schmutter 352-1343 aviva@baistorah.org M-TH 9:00-3:00

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 Michael Kronenberg 368-1064

Sisterhood Liaison Betty Schloss, 369 – 1833

Hachnosas Orchim Facility for homeless, Shea Jacobs 425-9617

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, 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 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 Vayetze – 5768 – Depiction of Evil in the Bible; with Four Examples

We find in Yeshayahu (45:7) the intriguing verse in which HaShem says, *“I am the One Who forms light and creates darkness; Who makes peace and creates **evil**; I am HaShem, Maker of all these.”* In our prayers, we modify this to *“Who makes peace and creates **everything**,”* but this is the actual verse. How HaShem, Who is Altogether Good is able to do this is a major mystery. But we do see representatives of “another side” in the Book of Iyov, where Satan attempts to seduce Iyov into rejecting his faith. Also, Gan Eden was inhabited by the “nachash,” who is described as *“...cunning beyond any beast of the field that HaShem G-d had made.”* (Bereshit 3:1) Not three verses after Adam and Chavah appear together in the Garden, does the serpent make his appearance and begin his seductive speech to Chavah. But of course, **“Bechirah Chofshit,” Free Choice, is part of the inalienable spiritual make-up of the human being,** giving him and her moral superiority over all other creatures fashioned by HaShem.

Yaakov flees from the wrath of Esav to the home of Lavan, known to Jewish posterity as “Lavan HaRasha,” the Wicked Lavan, belying the implication of white innocence, suggested by his name. Lavan exhibits a character trait that is perhaps most common among the wicked of the Bible, lust for money. When Lavan first encounters Yaakov, he remembers that Eliezer, servant of Avraham, had come with vast amounts of his master’s wealth on a mission to find a suitable wife for Yitzchak. He is vastly disappointed when he discovers that Yaakov is indeed penniless (because he has been robbed by Eliphaz, the son of Esav). He immediately begins a pattern of cheating his newest employee. The first compensation agreed upon is the hand of Rachel, Lavan’s daughter, in marriage. Yaakov works for seven years, but Lavan gives him Leah, his older daughter. When Yaakov justifies his intention to leave Lavan’s house, he says that he’s been cheated and his compensation redefined ten times! Finally, when Yaakov does escape with his family, Lavan overtakes him, but HaShem appears to him in a dream, and warns him, *“Beware lest you speak with Yaakov either good or bad.”* (Bereshit 31:24) In his confrontation with Yaakov, Lavan says that if not for his dream, **“It is in my power to do you all harm...”** and later makes the outrageous claim, *“...the daughters are mine, and the sons are mine, and the sheep are mine, and everything that you see is also mine...”* For his destructive and murderous greed, the Pesach Haggadah, in comparing Lavan to Pharaoh, says that Lavan was far worse, because Pharaoh’s evil decree affected only the male Jewish children but Lavan wanted to **uproot everything!**

Pharaoh was the one who said, *“Who is HaShem that I should obey Him, to release the People of Israel; I don’t know HaShem, nor will I release His People!”* (Shemot 5:2), thus raising the stakes from a battle with human beings to defiance of the Creator! He is the one who came up with the idea of murdering the Jewish infant boys, saying to the mid-wives, *“...When you deliver the Hebrew women and you see them on the birthstool; if it is a son, you are to kill him, but if it is a girl, she shall live.”* (Shemot 1:16) For his cruelty against his fellow-man and his defiance of G-d, and going far beyond the permission granted Egypt to enslave the Jewish People, he and his people were punished with the Ten Plagues. Bilaam, the evil heathen prophet, who had the potential to be as great as Moshe, but who squandered it by using his prophecy as a weapon to curse, is next on our list. He could have been a force for good, as was Moshe, but he chose to attach his great gift to the momentary Anger that HaShem allowed into His Nature, possibly for the purpose of being able to create Evil in the World. Pirkei Avot (5:22) contrasts the disciples of Avraham and the disciples of Bilaam. The former are described as having *“...a good eye, a humble spirit and a meek soul,”* while the latter are described as having *“...an evil eye, an arrogant spirit, and a greedy soul.”*

“Haman HaRasha,” Haman the Wicked, was a descendant of Amalek, and a spiritual ancestor of Hitler, May his name be erased, who also wanted to destroy all the Jews; men, women and children. But, due to the efforts of Mordechai and Esther, and the behind-the-scenes miraculous intervention of HaShem, using the technique of the Hidden Miracle, darkness was converted to light. *“Then, in the twelfth month, which is the Month of Adar, on its thirteenth day, when the King’s command and edict were about to be enforced, on the day that the enemies of the Jews expected to prevail over them, it was turned about – and the Jews prevailed over their enemies.”*

“So may be utterly destroyed all Your enemies, HaShem, but may those who love Him, burst forth as the sun in its Glory!”
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