

CONGREGATION BAIS TORAH

February 23, 2008 · 89 West Carlton Rd · Suffern, NY 10901 · (845)352-1343 · www.baistorah.org י"ז אדר א' שבת פרשת כי תשא

Aufruf of Shimon Frankel

ערב שבת פרשת כי תשא

הדלקת נרות 5:20 PM

מנחה 5:25 PM

שקיעה 5:38 PM

Rabbi Gottlieb's שיעור שבת הלכות Closed for the season.

שבת פרשת כי תשא

היומי 8:00 AM - Rabbi Gottlieb

שחרית 8:45 AM

סוף זמן קריאת שמע 9:25 AM

גמרא שיעור 4:25 PM

מנחה 5:10 PM

שקיעה 5:40 PM

סעודה שלישית

מעריב 6:22 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 מעריב

Sun. through Thurs.: 5:30 PM

Second מעריב 8:00 PM (Mon.-Thurs.)

ערב שבת פרשת ויקה

הדלקת נרות 5:29 PM

מנחה 5:35 PM

שקיעה 5:47 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

היומי II, Monday through Friday 7:00 AM – Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb

היומי III, Sunday through Thursday 9:45 AM – Rabbi Yosef Fischer

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

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

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

Women's תהלים group meets on שבת 45 minutes before מנחה.

Shul Announcements

The entire congregation is invited to a **Kiddush** sponsored by Pinky and Miriam Frankel in honor of the aufruf of their son, Shimon.

סעודה שלישית is being sponsored by Charlie Ackerman and Mendy Rosenbaum.

Bais Torah's **Avos U'Banim** program finishes this Motzoei Shabbos, February 23rd, 7:15 PM in the Library. Bring your children and grandchildren for hot pizza and a chance to win prizes. This week's Avos U'Banim sponsors are **Mr. and Mrs. Ed Levi**.

Reserve Feb. 29 at 8:15 PM for an **Oneg** at the Landau's, 77 Carlton Rd.

Matzah baking on Sunday, March 2nd at 2:00 PM. You can order matzoh either by posting your name on the list hanging outside of the simcha room or email your orders to eivintova@optonline.net.

Please remember that the **shalach manot** lists must be in by March 3rd.

Mondays at 8:15 PM on March 3rd, 10th and 17th, everyone is invited to a series of lectures on the topic of, "**Leadership Defined: Reuven, Yehuda and Yosef.**" The lecturer, Elana Flaumenhaft, is an award-winning Tanach instructor who gives shiurim and is featured at yemei iyun throughout the New York area. The event is being sponsored by Bracha and Moshe Ollech and family in memory of their father and grandfather, Marvin Hochbaum, Menachem Mendl ben Eliezer a"h.

Everyone is encouraged to attend Bais Torah's 29th Annual **Siyum Mishnayos** on Sunday, March 9th at 6 PM. The guest speaker will be Rabbi Ephraim Eliyahu Shapiro, morah d'asrah of Congregation Shaaray Tefilah of North Miami Beach. The topic is "The Power of Uniting with Torah" and covert for the dinner is \$20 per person. To make a reservation, please call Yossi Fischer at 425-2785, Moishe Kranzler at 352-8410 or the shul office. Those who would like to send out additional invitations should contact our shul secretary.

It's back by popular demand! Bais Torah's fun-filled non-annual **PURIM SEUDAH**, Friday, March 21st at 12 noon. Bring your family - bring your friends! The cost is \$20 per person for those with a costume, \$25 per person without. Kids under 3 are free. For reservations, call Shirley Landau at 352-9092, David Lehmann at 426-6499 or write to baberuthfive@aol.com.

Save the Date - Sunday, May 18th 2008 - **Annual Bais Torah Dinner** honoring Yis and Bella Helprin.

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).

Bais Torah has been able to obtain additional burial plots in Eretz Hachaim in Beit Shemesh, Israel. If you are interested, contact Ronnie Herrmann at 356-9583 or email him at rherrm@aol.com

Mazel Tov

Marvin and Sally Borgen on the bar mitzvah at the kotel of their grandson, Avi, son of Jaqueline and Dov Borgen.

Yussie and Fayge Deutsch on the engagement of their daughter, Devorah, to Schachar Kahati of Israel.

Pinky and Miriam Frankel on the aufruf of their son, Shimon.

Arnold and Diane Jutkowitz on the birth of a granddaughter, born to Steve and Andrea Jutkowitz.

Shloime and Chaya Pollak on the marriage of their children, Sara and Tevie Kagan.

Josef and Barbara Fischer on the birth of a granddaughter, born to David and Tanya Fischer.

Refuah Shelaimah

Henry Shapiro - חיים מאיר יחיאל בן מלכה לאה

Ben Zauderer - בנימין בן בילה

Manny London - מנחם מונש בן חנה פרידא

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

Sam Colman - שמואל בן שרה רחל

Tova Eizik's grandson - יעקב יונתן בן חנה רייזל

Renee Rosenbaum's mother, Fanny York - רחמה פייגל בת רבקה

Yossie Stern's granddaughter - ציפורה יהודית בת דינה רבקה

Esther Lutwak - אסתר מלכה בת קילה

Yosi and Debbie Rosenberg's Son-in-law, Josh Zern - יהודה הנדל בן דבורה רחל

Joel Rosenwasser's father, Seymour Rosenwasser - שמעון בן בלומא 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 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.

Parashas Ki-Sisa – 5768 - A Model for Leadership

Certainly here in the United States and, sadly, to some degree even in the State of Israel, standards of leadership seem to have fallen. Gone, at least for the time being, are the likes of P.M. Menachem Begin, who combined a good heart with eloquence and absolute integrity, together with knowledge of and loyalty to Jewish values and traditions, which implied loyalty and devotion to his beloved wife.

In Parashas Ki-Sisa, we find a demonstration of leadership par excellence in the behavior of Moshe, upon hearing the shocking news from G-d that the Jewish People were worshipping the Golden Calf. This behavior is highlighted in the context of a discussion among Tannaim in the Zohar, quoted by Rav Yissachar Yaakovson in "Binah BaMikra," as to which of our Biblical heroes qualifies for the title of "av harachaman," merciful father.

The first candidate, Noach, described in the Torah as "tamim haya b'dorosav," he was perfect in his generation, is rejected without much discussion. For he was apprised of what was to be the fate of humanity one hundred twenty years before the rains and eruptions of the "Mabul," the Great Flood, began. To build a boat the size of the Ark with a construction crew the size of Noach's family (not to mention union rules against excessive overtime) took that long! And yet, during all that time, he neither prayed nor argued in defense of his generation in a manner sufficient to cause G-d to change, as it were, "His Mind." Other Midrashic Traditions are not so hard on Noach, and maintain that during all those years of Ark-building, Noach attempted to give "mussar," ethical reproof to curious observers of his activities. Thus, he was not guilty, according to those traditions, of not trying, but of simply being an ineffective preacher, and he would qualify for the title of "av," father, as in "Shema b'ni mussar avicha," Pay attention, my son, to the reproof of your father.

Avraham is presented by Rabbi Yehudah as the next candidate, based on his behavior when he learned from G-d of the imminent destruction of Sodom. Avraham, though he was made of dust and ash, immediately challenged his Creator, "Would You destroy the good with the wicked?" And he bargains with Hashem down to a "Minyan," a quorum of ten decent men, which Sodom did not even number among its residents. Only then does Avraham give up his defense. Surely he deserves the title of "av harachaman," merciful father! Perhaps. But Rabbi Eliezer finds fault even with the behavior of Avraham who, after all, prayed, or argued in behalf of, only the righteous! He was prepared to let the wicked Sodomites meet their fate. This, according to Rabbi Eliezer, prevents even Avraham, the "Amud HaChessed," the "Pillar of Kindness," from receiving the coveted title.

Who is left? Only Moshe, according to Rabbi Eliezer, who, upon learning that Hashem intended to destroy the People of Israel for their lack of faithfulness, immediately began to pray in their behalf and, in his prayer, **made no distinction between the righteous and the wicked**. As the verse implies, "Vayechal Moshe," And Moshe pleaded, and he said, "veata im tisa chatasam, v'im ayin - mecheni na mi-sifrecha asher kasavta," "And now, if You forgive them, well and good. But if not, erase me as well, I beg of You, from the Book which You have written!" And Moshe did not relent, so to speak, until Hashem said "I have forgiven, according to your words." Therefore, Moshe gets the crown, not only of "merciful father," but also of "faithful shepherd," who knew best how to protect his flock against danger.

Who will plead for us, in our sinful generation? We certainly have no Moshe, who was able to speak to G-d **at any time!** With equal certainty, we have no Avraham, who established merit for all generations by the Act of the Akeidah. It is doubtful that we even have a Noach, to whom G-d spoke.

We have none other than the One we call upon in prayer as "Avinu, Av HaRachaman," Our Father, the Merciful Father, Who will stand in the breach and defend us against our enemies. May He fulfill his vow to our "Avos" our forefathers, by letting us keep Eretz Yisrael, even if we don't deserve it. By giving us a "second chance" **again**, even if we don't deserve it, to work on ourselves and on spreading His Torah, until we become again a Holy Nation, deserving of the Holy Land. PF