# CONGREGATION BAIS TORAH

October 17, 2009 · 89 West Carlton Rd · Suffern, NY 10901 · (845)352-1343 · www.baistorah.org

ערב שבת פרשת בראשית 5:56 PM : הדלקת נרות 6:05 PM \* מנחה 6:14 PM שקיעה שבת פרשת בראשית 8:00 AM

שבונ פו שונ ב דף היומי 8:00 AM דף היומי 8:45 AM פוף זמן קריאת שמע 9:55 AM מברכים החודש מרחשון Contemporary Halachic Issues 4:55 PM מנחה 6:11PM שקיעה 6:53 PM Sunday אחרית 7:45 AM (ראש חודש) Weekday שחרית

Mon.: 6:10 and 7:35 AM (ראש חודש) Tues., Wed. and Fri.: 6:30 and 7:45 AM

Thurs.: 6:20 and 7:45 AM Weekday מנחה-מעריב Sun. thru Thurs.: 5:55 PM

ערב שבת פרשת נח הדלקת נרות: 5:45 PM מנחה: 5:50 PM שקיעה 6:03 PM

#### **Shiurim**

## Shul Announcements

this week is co-sponsored by Michael Loebenstein and Abe Rovner..

Ladies, just when those post-yom tov calories won't leave, Sisterhood has the perfect antidote—a fat-burning, metabolism-boosting, figure-enhancing, 8-session Zumba exercise class for your healthy pleasure for only \$80. The class schedule is: 10/12, 10/26, 11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/23, 11/30, and 12/7—8:15 PM in the Multipurpose Room. Call 357-9571 or 369-1833 for reservations (class size is limited).

On October 25th, you are invited to join our very special tour of two New York historic sites. First we'll visit Shearith Israel (The Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue), which is the first Jewish congregation to be established in North America. Its Rabbi Emeritus, Rabbi Marc Angel, has graciously agreed to give us an insider's tour of the shul, its archives and its history. Then we'll head downtown to Tribute WTC 9/11, where we'll get a private tour around the perimeter of the World Trade Center site and visit the Tribute Center's five galleries. The cost of \$40 per person pre-paid includes admission and transportation; the bus leaves Bais Torah at 9:15 AM. We urge you to make your reservations promptly; there are a limited number of tickets and they will be distrubuted on a first-come, first served basis. To reserve, call Aviva in our shul office at 352-1343 or email aviva@baistorah.org.

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New date for Kosher Food Pantry: November 9t<sup>iii</sup> Please bring your cans of fruit by that day and drop it into the bin in shul. Wome"n's Ahavas chesed chaburas are being formed to bring an aliya for the neshama of Baruch Frankel, a"h. For further information, please contact Sandy Lieder at eiyintova@optonline.net or at 845-352-0122.

The Sisterhood extends many thank yous and praise to Michael Rossman for the wonderful Simchat Torah Kiddush and to Sandy Lieder for the plentiful and lovely Simchat Torah "pekelech."

After 13 years, your very favorite editor of this excellent bulletin wants to retire from this job. We are still looking for someone to take over the reins. Please email Marty Ginsberg at <a href="mailto:baistorah@taxprof.net">baistorah@taxprof.net</a> if you are interested and capable. I have not been overwhelmed with applicants but I am still hoping. We are offering double the salary and stock options.

## **Mazel Tov**

Moe and Bayla Tilson on the birth of a grandson, born to Benjay and Miri Tilson of Los Angeles.

Allen and Miriam Nussbaum on the bas mitzvah of their granddaughter, Adina, daughter of Aryeh and Keri Adler of Edison, NJ Marty and Carol Ginsberg on the bar mitzvah of their grandson, Ezra, son of Laura and Lawrence Ben David of Neve Daniel, Israel.

#### Refuah Shelaimah

Henry Shapiro - חיים מאיר יחיאל בן מלכה לאה מנחם מונש בן חנה פרידא מנחם מונש בן חנה פרידא שלמה יעקב יונתן בן חנה רייזל- בת קילה אסתר מלכה בת קילה - Bob Schore - חיים ראובן בן הענדל יהודית Suzie Kirshenbaum's father יוסף בן שרה צחק אייזק שמחה בן פייגא בילא – Eddie Tager צומין בן בילה – Ben Zauderer בנימין בן בילה – מנחם בן קילה Joel Rosenwasser's mother -פשע לאה בת שפרינצא אריה לייב בן רבקה - Larry Seligson הילני בת רחל - Leni Loebenstein חיים יונה בן חנה - Eileen Frommer's father יצחק מרדכי בן בלימה - Irwin Citron הנה בת תמרה Helen Furman פיגע בת חיה רבקה - Bella Helprin's mother

#### How to Reach Us

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President Allen Nussbaum president@baistorah.org

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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

Hachnosas Orchim Facility for homeless, Shea Jacobs 425-9617

Sisterhood Liaison Betty Schloss, 369 – 1833 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.

## Parshas Bereshis - 5770 - A Month of Prayer and Spirit

On "Rosh HaShanah," in the Prayer of "Malchiyos," Kingship, we declare that HaShem is the King of the Universe. We pray that "...everything that has been made know that You are its Maker, and everything that has been formed realize that You formed it, and let everything with life's breath in its nostrils proclaim: 'HaShem, the G-d of Israel, is Kingl.'"

In "Zichronos," Remembrances, we acknowledge that we stand before a Judge Who cannot be deceived. "Before You all hidden things are revealed... for there is no forgetfulness before Your Throne of Glory... You remember everything ever done and not a single creature is hidden from you... Who keeps watch and sees to the very end of all generations..."

In "Shofaros," we stand again at Sinai, where "You were revealed in Your Cloud of Glory to Your Holy People to speak with them. From Heaven You allowed them to hear Your voice...when You revealed Yourself, our King, on Mount Sinai to teach Your People the Torah and its Commandments..."

Following "Shemoneh Esray" in the Maariv of Yom Kippur, the chazzan recites the prayer that describes the hopes of the Jewish People for success in obtaining "Kapparah," Atonement, for their sins: "May our supplications ascend from evening, and may our cry arrive from morning, and may our praise find favor by evening."

We confess: "The soul is Yours and the body is Your handiwork, have mercy on the fruit of Your labor. The soul is Yours and the body is Your handiwork, O HaShem, act for Your Name's sake... for 'Gracious and Merciful G-d' is Your Name." We beseech the Almighty to have mercy on His weak and fragile creation: "Like the clay in the hand of the potter – He expands it at will and contracts it at will – So are we in Your Hand, O Preserver of Kindness. Like the glass in the hand of the blower - He shapes it at will and dissolves it at will – so are we in Your Hand, O Forgiver of willful sins and errors..."

The essence of the Day is Atonement. We plead our case, knowing that it is weak:

"Our G-d and the G-d of our fathers, may our prayers come before You. Do not ignore our supplication, for we are not so brazen and obstinate as to say before You, HaShem, our G-d and the G-d of our fathers, that we are righteous and have not sinned – rather, we and our fathers have sinned."

Several times during the Day, we recite the lengthy "Al Chet," (Forgive us) for the sin of \_\_\_\_, where we list a total of fifty-four separate categories of sin, with which we sinned against You. The question is raised, "How could any single individual do all those sins, even if sinning were the only thing he did all year?!" I think two answers are possible: 1) Even if an individual may not have actually engaged in performing those sins, he or she may indeed have **thought about performing all of them** and we are asking forgiveness for our sinful thoughts as well as deeds. 2) We are here not confessing and requesting forgiveness as individuals, but rather for the entire Jewish People. And unfortunately, there is little doubt that among the whole of our People, all of the sins mentioned were **undoubtedly** actually performed.

In the "Neilah," "Closing" of the Heavenly Gates, as the Day wanes, which serves as the climax of the spiritual exertions of the Day, we find that our petition has changed from being **written** in the Book of Life to being **sealed** with the seal of HaShem, which is Truth. The chazzan, followed by the congregation, recites: "This Day will fade away, the sun will set and be gone; let us enter Your Gates."

And, later in the Prayer, "Israel is saved by HaShem with an eternal salvation (Yeshayahu 45:17); Today, too, may they be saved by Your Word, You Who dwells in the heights – For You are abundantly forgiving and the Master of Mercies."

At the end of "Neilah," we recite the verse, "Hear, O Israel, HaShem is our G-d, HaShem is One" once, then "Blessed is the Name of His Glorious Kingdom for all Eternity" three times and "HaShem is the only G-d" seven times. Then the chazzan begins "Kaddish." In the middle, a "Tekiah Gedolah" is blown on the Shofar to signify that HaShem is returning to Heaven, we call out "Next Year in Jerusalem!" to express our longing for Mashiach.

The prayers of "Sukkos," "Zeman Simchaseinu," the "Time of our Happiness," involve the recitation of Hallel and waving the "Arba Minim," the Four Species: the Lulav and Etrog, Hadasim and Aravos, in all six directions, to signify that HaShem rules over the entire Universe. These wavings are performed with the recitation of "Give thanks to HaShem for He is Good; His Kindness endures forever" and the recitation of "Please, HaShem, save us" from our enemies!

The "Holiness of the Day," embedded in the "Shemoneh Esray" of each of the Holiday Prayers – evening, morning and afternoon – begins "You have chosen us from all of the other nations. You loved us and found favor in us...and You sanctified us with Your Commandments. You drew us close, our King, to Your Service and proclaimed Your Great and Holy Name upon us."

"Shmini Atzeres" is celebrated on the eighth day of Sukkos; yet it is considered a separate Holiday. While "Sukkos" was a Holiday for all of humanity, "Shmini Atzeres" is an intimate celebration between HaShem and His Chosen People. On it, there are no other "Mitzvos" – we simply finish reading the Torah with the conclusion of Parshas "VeZos HaBerachah," and begin it again – with the first part of Parshas "Bereshis," celebrating the completion and renewal of the cycle with joyous singing and dancing. Parshas "Bereshis" is the Parshah we read as well on this Shabbas, which speaks of the Creation of the Universe "Yesh Me-Ayin," and the investment within it of Holiness by HaShem, our Holy King.

L'Illuy Nishmas Aharon Baruch Mordechai - PF