

CONGREGATION BAIS TORAH

January 15, 2010 · 89 West Carlton Rd · Suffern, NY 10901 · (845)352-1343 · www.baistorah.org כט' טבת ערב שבת פרשת וארא

ערב שבת פרשת וארא
הדלקת נרות 4:34 PM
מנחה 4:40 PM
שקיעה 4:52 PM

שחרית Weekday
Sunday 7:45 AM
Mon. and Thurs.: 6:20 and 7:45
Tues., Wed., and Fri.: 6:30 and 7:45 AM

שבת פרשת וארא
דף היומי 8:00 AM
שחרית 8:45 AM
סוף זמן קריאת שמע 9:42 AM
ראש חדש שבט
Special Shiur 3:30 PM, See Below**
מנחה 4:25 PM
שקיעה 4:53 PM
מעריב 5:35 PM

מנחה-מעריב Weekday
Sun. thru Thurs.: 4:45 PM
Mon. thru Thurs.: 8:00 PM

ערב שבת פרשת בא
הדלקת נרות 4:42 PM
מנחה 4:50 PM
שקיעה 5:00 PM

Shiurim

****A Special Shiur will be given Shabbos afternoon by Dr. Yehuda Eliezri, in honor of the third yartzheit of his father, Rav Avraham Eliezri : "In the Shade of Your Wings- By the Light of Your Face."**

Women's תהלים group מנדל בת מנחם לז'ן פייגל meets on שבת 45 minutes before מנחה.

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

Tuesdays at 8:15 PM – Partners in Torah

Tuesdays at 8:15 PM – Ladies' Mishnayos Class - Rabbi Avromy Fein

Wednesdays at 8:15 PM – מלכים ב' – Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb.

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

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

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

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

Monday through Friday after the second שחרית - נבאים - Rabbi Yosef Fischer

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

Shul Announcements

סעודה שלישיית is sponsored this week by Avi Becker, for the yartzheit of his father, Shlomo ben Yaakov Yitzchak

Avos U'Banim: Meets Motzoei Shabbos at **6:45 pm** in the Bais HaMedrash. Bring your children and grandchildren for a wonderful evening of Torah learning, hot pizza and prizes for all. This week's learning is co-sponsored by Abe and Phyllis Frankel and Naftoly and Adele Katzenstein.

Please join us in the Simcha Room for a **breakfast THIS SUNDAY, January 17th** featuring Rabbi Binyamin Hamburger, founder of Machon Moreshe Ashkenaz, who will speak about Minhagei Ashkenaz, the history and source of Ashkenazic tradition, which he has researched extensively and actively supports through his organization. Donation \$10, free to Bais Torah members.

Ladies, **ZUMBA** is back! Classes are Mondays, at 8:15 p.m. in the MultiPurpose Room. If you'd like to join, please call Hinda Kimmel 357-9571

Board meeting this Tuesday evening, January 19th at 8:15 p.m.

New collection date for **Kosher Food Pantry** February 3rd.

Pesach already? **MATZAH BAKING** with Bais Torah, Sunday February 14.

SAVE THE DATE: THE BAIS TORAH ANNUAL DINNER is April 25 -Guest of honor - Bayla and Moe Tilson.

If you would like to add a d'var torah, or sponsor the **Bais Torah Youth Newsletter, Toras Habayis**, please send all submissions to: torashabayis.baistorah@gmail.com

The Shul has replenished its supply of Safety Reflectors. We ask the members to utilize them when necessary and then return them to the Shul. The Town of Ramapo has a new supply and distributes them free of charge. We encourage our members to get their own.

Please reserve Sunday evening, **February 21st for our Thirty-first Annual Siyum Mishnayos**. This year's featured speaker is Rabbi Ben Zion Shafir, the founder of Tiferes Bnai Torah and TheShmuz.com. His topic is "They Don't Make Anti-Semites Like They Used To." Couvert is \$25 per person. For reservations, please call the shul office, 352-1343, Yossi Fischer, 425-2785, or Moshe Kranzler, 352-8410.

Mazel Tov

Mickey and Mona Montal on the engagement of their daughter, Robyn to Boruch Adams.

Joyce Kurz on the engagement of her son Aryeh to Dr. Lisa Lavikoff

Roberta & Elliot Shapiro upon the birth of a granddaughter, Menucha Leah, born to their children, Sorah & Eliezer Shaffren of Teaneck, NJ

Max and Sandra Thurm on the birth of a granddaughter, born in Jerusalem to Ahuva and Michael Fichtenberg.

Refuah Shelaimah

Henry Shapiro - חיים מאיר יחיאל בן מלכה לאה

Manny London - מנחם מונש בן חנה פרידא

Tova Eizik's grandson - שלמה יעקב יונתן בן חנה רייזל

Esther Lutwak - אסתר מלכה בת קילה

Bob Schore - חיים ראובן בן הענדל יהודית

Suzie Kirshenbaum's father - יוסף בן שרה

Eddie Tager - צחק אייזק שמחה בן פייגא בילא

Ben Zauderer - בנימין בן בילה

Joel Rosenwasser's mother -

פשע לאה בת שפרינצא

Larry Seligson - אריה לייב בן רבקה

Leni Loebenstein - הילני בת רחל

Eileen Frommer's father - חיים יונה בן חנה

Irwin Citron - צחק מרדכי בן בלימה

Bella Helprin's mother - פיגע בת חיה 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 Helpin 494-7446

Shul Secretary Aviva Schmutter 352-1343 aviva@baistorah.org M-TH 9:00-3:00, To receive e-mail updates, write to baistorah@gmail.com

Simcha Room Reservations/Kiddushim Jack Gross, 357-4121

Bikur Cholim Eveline Kranzler, 352-8410 and

Chosh Levy, 425-6827

Eiruv 362-4302

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 Bulletin Email baistorahbulletin@gmail.com, or call (845) 371-5337. All submissions are subject to review and must be submitted by 9pm Wednesday evening.. 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.

Parshas Vaera - 5770

“And I Revealed Myself...” (Shemos 6:3)

Parshas Vaera begins as follows: *“And I revealed Myself to Avraham, to Yitzchok, and to Yaakov as ‘Almighty G-d’ but by My Name ‘HaShem’ – ‘Eternal, Faithful One,’ I did not make Myself known to them.” (Shemos 6:3)* Meaning that I made promises to the “Avos,” and they believed Me and trusted Me, but the fulfillment of those promises has not occurred until now. This mild rebuke was delivered to Moshe because at the end of Parashas Shemos, Moshe had expressed a slight degree of lack of trust in G-d, when he said, *“...My L-rd, why have You done evil to this people, why have You sent me? From the time I came to Pharaoh to speak in Your Name, he did evil to this people, but you did not rescue Your People.” (Shemos 5:23)*

This confrontation between HaShem and Moshe is followed by greater and still greater interventions by HaShem in history on the side of the Children of Israel through the Ten Plagues and the Splitting of the Yam Suf with the destruction of the Egyptian Army. Prior to the latter, the Torah records, with regard to the People of Israel, *“...and they believed in HaShem and in Moshe, His servant.” (Shemos 14:31)* Then Moshe led the People in the Song, *“...Who is like You among the powers of the universe, HaShem! Who is like You, Mighty in Holiness, too Awesome for praise, Doer of wonders!...” (Shemos 15:11)*

Mt. Sinai was the next stop, where they would receive the Ten Commandments from HaShem: *“I am HaShem, your G-d, Who has taken you out of the land of Egypt, from the House of Bondage. You shall not recognize the gods of others in My Presence...Remember the Day of Shabbos to keep it Holy. Six days shall you labor and accomplish all of your work; but the Seventh Day is Shabbos for HaShem, your G-d! You shall not do any work – you, your son, your daughter, your slave, your maidservant, your animal, and your convert within your gates – for in six days HaShem made the heavens and the earth, the bodies of water and everything that is in them, and He rested on the Seventh Day. Therefore, HaShem blessed the Seventh Day and sanctified it. You shall not murder!*

You shall not commit adultery!

You shall not steal (or kidnap)!

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor!

You shall not covet your neighbor's house! You shall not covet your neighbor's wife! Nor his manservant, his maidservant, his ox, his donkey, nor anything that belongs to your neighbor! (Shemos 20:2-3, 8-14)

We describe these events in the “Shofaros” Prayer on Rosh HaShanah: *“You revealed Yourself in Your cloud of Glory to Your Holy People to speak with them. From the heavens You allowed them to hear Your voice and revealed Yourself to them in thick clouds of Purity. Moreover, the entire universe shuddered before You and the creatures of creation trembled before You during Your Revelation, our King, on Mount Sinai, to teach Your People Torah and Commandments...”*

The Book of Shemos may be called the Book of Revelation because that is its climax and its highlight. The human being is a great moral creature, but he **was created with a conscience** and the potential for morality. In the Book of Yeshayahu, we find the verse, *“I am the One Who forms light and creates darkness, Who makes peace and creates evil; I am HaShem, Maker of all these.” (Yeshayahu 45:7)* Without the guidance of the Torah, Man would have a hard time indeed distinguishing between Good and Evil. And yet, Man is given Freedom of Choice. He may obey the Commands of his Maker, or he may disobey them. Were this not the case, all of human existence would be nothing but a game. Furthermore, most interestingly and counter-intuitively, a major principle in Judaism is that **“Greater is the one who performs a good deed because he is commanded to do so, than the one who does so voluntarily!”** For in doing so, he declares that he recognizes his place in the universe, as a servant of a Mighty and Righteous Creator.

Since we believe that the Creator is Mighty and Righteous, one might ask, *“Why did He need the human being?”* The answer may be, as “Adon Olam” expresses the idea, *“Master of the Universe, Who was King before anything was created; but when everything was created in accordance with His Will, then He was called ‘King’”* Cosmic loneliness, difficult as it is to conceive, may be a reality.

And when Avram was a mere three years old, according to the Midrash, he speculated as to who had created the magnificent palace he saw in the natural world. First he thought that it must be the dazzling sun. But when the sun set, and was replaced by the moon and the stars, he thought that the moon must be the Ruler. But when, in the morning, the moon also disappeared, he didn't know what to think. Until HaShem revealed Himself to him, and declared *“I am the owner of the palace.”*