

CONGREGATION BAIS TORAH

June 18, 2010 · 89 West Carlton Rd · Suffern, NY 10901 · (845)352-1343 · www.baistorah.org ח' תמוז ערב שבת פרשת חקת

ערב שבת פרשת חקת

מנחה 7:00 PM*
הדלקת נרות 7:20 PM **
Regular הדלקת נרות 8:14 PM
שקיעה 8:32 PM

שבת פרשת חקת

8:00 AM דף היומי
8:45 AM שחרית
9:10 AM סוף זמן קריאת שמע
6:25 PM פרקי אבות
7:15 PM Contemporary Halachic Issues
Doctors and Medical Professionals Whose Parents are Their Patients
8:00 PM מנחה
8:32 PM שקיעה
9:14 PM מעריב

שחרית Weekday

Sunday 7:45 AM
Mon, and Thurs 6:20, 7:45 AM
Tues., Weds., Fri., 6:30, 7:45 AM

מנחה-מעריב Weekday

Sunday-Thursday : 8:20 PM

ערב שבת פרשת בלק

מנחה 7:00 PM*
הדלקת נרות 7:20 PM **
Regular הדלקת נרות 8:15 PM
שקיעה 8:33 PM

***early mincha for the summer**

**** Shul accepts Shabbos**

Shiurim

Women's תהלים group מנדל בת מנחם לז'נ פייגל meets on שבת. **30 minutes before פרקי אבות**

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

Tuesdays at 8:15 PM – Partners in Torah

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

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

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

III דף היומי, 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

This week's Kiddush is sponsored by Sharon and Michael Kronenberg in honor of the births of their new grandsons: Chaim Noach Lifschitz, Nachshon Uriel Weinraub and Menachem Mendel Lisker and all the recent new Bais Torah arrivals.

סועדה שלישה is sponsored by the Prince family in honor of Emily and Barry Lifschitz, and also sponsored by Carl Markowitz for the yartzheit of his father, Avraham Zev ben Kalman and David Abramczik for the yartzheit of his father Hachaver Yosef ben Shimon

It's that time of year!!! All women are invited to the **Simcha Tea on Shabbos Parshas Chukas, June 19 at 4 pm**. We will be honoring Kallos and bas mitzvas, and great entertainment from the Bais Torah Players

THIS Motzei Shabbos, June 19 at 10:15PM, is the General Membership meeting including election of Officers and Board members. PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ATTEND

Many thanks to all those who made this past **Sunday's Book Signing** such a big success: Rabbi Berel Wein, Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb, and the Herrmann family, who sponsored the event in memory of Lou Herrmann. Yasher koach to the Adult Education Committee, including Fayge Deutsch, Marilyn and Jeffrey Sapir, Sandra Thurm and Malkie Zamore. Special thanks to Michael Roszman and Zippora for preparing such a beautiful spread.

Have a graduate you would like to honor? Participate in next week's Kiddush honoring graduates for just \$50. Call Aviva at the shul office or email Aviva@baistorah.org with the information.

The new **KOSHER DISCOUNT CARD** is available. Cost is \$18.00. The card benefits Bais Torah and Jewish Family Service. Call Aviva at 352-1343 or Leslie at 352-3257

The next **Kosher Food Pantry** deadline for canned fruit is Monday July 12.

Mazal Tov

Ed and Ruth Levi on the marriage of their grandchildren, Heshel and Aliza Teitelbaum, children of Adele and Naftoly Katzenstein

Irwin and Eve Hollander on the engagement of their son Tzvi to Jodie Shulman of Edison

Abe and Phyllis Frankel on the birth of a grandson, born to their children, Ari and Jenn Frankel

Laurence and Gloria Gordon on the birth of a grandson born to their children, Aron and Yaffa Gordon

Refuah Shelaimah

Katie Tannenbaum's

יהנתן משה בן דבורה טובה-Grandson

חיים מאיר יחיאל בן מלכה לאה - Henry Shapiro

מנחם מונש בן חנה פרידא - Manny London

אסתר מלכה בת קילה - Esther Lutwak

חיים ראובן בן הענדל יהודית - Bob Schore

יוסף בן שרה - Suzie Kirshenbaum's father

בנימין בן בילה - Ben Zauderer

חיה עטיל בת שלימה

חנה פרומא בת יהודית גיטל - Chana Mayerfeld

Joel Rosenwasser's mother -

פשע לאה בת שפרינצא

אריה לייב בן רבקה - Larry Seligson

הילני בת רחל - Leni Loebenstein

פיגע בת חיה רבקה - Bella Helprin's mother

יהודה בן סימא - Ed Furman

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, 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

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 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.

Haftoras Parshas Chukas – 5770

“Yiphtach in His Generation is like Shmuel in His Generation” (Rosh HaShanah 25b)

The Haftarah of Parshas Chukas is taken, according to both the Ashkenazic and Sephardic traditions, from Shophtim (11:1-33). It deals with the career of Yiphtach, the ninth of the fifteen “Shophtim” (Judges/Leaders), who ruled over Israel at a time when the Tribes were united in a loose confederation, and had not yet coalesced into a strong central government, under the rule of a king. Estimates of the total number of years that the Judges were the leaders of Israel range from 200 to 400. It was described as a period in which *“each man did what was good in his own eyes”* (Shophtim 17:6 and 21:25).

The quality of the individual Judges varied widely, as indicated by the title of this essay. The meaning of the expression is that Yiphtach, considered the least of the Shophtim, especially in light of an unbelievably cruel act that he commits, described in the text just after the Haftarah, but which I will mention below, was to be accepted as the leader in his generation, just as Shmuel, the last and greatest of the fifteen, about whom it is said, *“Moshe and Aharon were among His Priests, and Shmuel among those who called His Name”* (“Tehilim” 99:6) was accepted in his generation.

Yiphtach is described in the opening verse of the Haftarah as *“a man of valor, who was the son of a ‘zonah.’”* Whatever “zonah” means, it is not complimentary, and resulted in Yiphtach’s being ejected from his home by his brothers, who were born of a “regular” wife. Afterwards, Yiphtach assumes the leadership of a band of fighting men of loose morals, and they establish a reputation as a powerful fighting force.

A number of years pass, and the nation of Amon goes to war against Israel. Amon lays claim to land that was seized by Sichon, the Emorite King in the time of Moshe, from Moav, Amon’s “cousin.” Yiphtach engages in diplomatic negotiations by means of messengers, as did Moshe three hundred years earlier. He says to the King of Amon, *“What do you have to do with me, and what do I have to do with you, that you should suddenly make a claim to my land?”*

The King of Amon, confident of victory, ignores Yiphtach’s reasonable arguments, and prepares for imminent war against Israel. The Haftarah tells how the “Spirit of G-d” came upon Yiphtach, as he gathered his forces. But here Yiphtach made a terrible mistake. He made a vow to the L-rd that the first living thing that would come out of his door upon his return from victory, would be offered to G-d! Amon is indeed crushingly defeated. That is the end of the Haftarah. But the narrative continues to describe the scene upon Yiphtach’s triumphant return, His own daughter came bounding out of their home *“with timbrels and with dances”* (Shophtim 11:34). Yiphtach is seized with grief; he says that he has taken a vow, and that nothing can be done. The unknown fate of Yiphtach’s daughter is essentially the end of the Tragedy of Yiphtach.

“Yichus” means coming from the “right family.” It plays a role in choosing a leader and in choosing a mate. We see that Yiphtach suffered initially and perhaps was injured spiritually to the extent that he acted irrationally and lost his daughter, because he was chased away by his brothers, who felt that his “yichus,” his pedigree, wasn’t “good enough;” his mother was the “wrong kind.”

With reference to the choice of a mate, the consideration of “yichus” has unfortunately played the role of demanding satisfactory answers to such questions as, “How many years has the potential ‘chasan’ sat in ‘Kollel’?” and “Which seminary did the potential ‘kallah’ attend?” or whether the potential couple were “FFB’s” (Frum from Birth), or “Ba’alei Teshuvah?” A more desirable role for “yichus” to play might be to investigate whether input from other family members has served to inculcate a “giving” nature or a “taking” nature into the individual concerned. This characteristic could be measured by participation in “Gemilus Chassadim” Organizations such as “Tomchei Shabbos,” “Hatzalah,” “Camp HASC,” “Bikkur Cholim,” etc. Neither the length of the potential father-in-law’s beard, or whether or not the potential mother-in-law covers her hair, can shed any light on those crucial questions.

Someone who has inner worth is called a “bar uryan,” a person who has “his own light.” Someone who has good ancestry is called a “bar avhan.” It is certainly easier for a “bar avhan” to become a “bar uryan,” but it seems quite clear that the main thing to look for in assessing a leader, a mate, a friend, is that he or she should be a “bar uryan,” a source of light.