

# CONGREGATION BAIS TORAH

Oct 22, 2010 · 89 West Carlton Rd · Suffern, NY 10901 · (845)352-1343 · [www.baistorah.org](http://www.baistorah.org) יד' מרחשון ערב שבת פרשת וירא

ערב שבת פרשת וירא  
הדלקת נרות 5:47PM  
מנחה 5:55 PM  
שקיעה 6:05 PM

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

שבת פרשת וירא  
דף היומי 8:00 AM  
שחרית 8:45 AM  
9:58AM סוף זמן קריאת שמע  
Contemporary Halacha Shiur: 4:50PM  
מנחה 5:35 PM  
שקיעה 6:04 PM  
מעריב 6:46 PM

מנחה-מעריב Weekday  
Sunday-Thursday: 5:45 PM

מעריב SECOND  
Mon-Thurs 8:00 PM

ערב שבת פרשת חיה שרה  
הדלקת נרות 5:38PM  
מנחה 5:45 PM  
שקיעה 5:56 PM

## Shiurim

Women's תהלים group מנדל בת מנחם לז'נ פייגל meets on שבת afternoon **30 minutes before** the shiur  
Sundays at 8:30 AM – מסכת סנהדרין – Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb  
Tuesdays at 8:15 PM – Partners in Torah  
Tuesdays at 8:15 PM Mishnayos class for women-Rabbi Avromi 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

is sponsored by Irving Rohinsky for the yartzheit of his mother, Sarah Leah bas Eliezer

**Our mispallilim are encouraged to please return all siddurim, chumashim and seforim to their proper location in the bookcases.**

**Join the new learning program, THIS SHABBOS**, Parshas Vayera, under the direction of Rabbi Yaakov Hauer. The program meets each week 45 minutes before Mincha in the old Bais Medrash. This week it will meet at 4:50 p.m. REFRESHMENTS will be served!

**Motzoei Shabbos Avos Ubanim program begins November 13-Parshas Vayetzei**, details to follow. If you would like to sponsor, please contact Jonathan Rosenstock at [jonathan.rosenstock@ge.com](mailto:jonathan.rosenstock@ge.com), or 369-6349. The schedule is available at our website, [www.baistorah.org](http://www.baistorah.org)

Is your birthday or anniversary in October or November? **Sponsorships for the Birthday- Anniversary Kiddush, NEXT Shabbos** Parshas Chayei Sarah, October 30, are only \$18 per name or couple. Hurry, Call Aviva to join in!!! 352-1343

Save the date: On Motzoei Shabbos, **October 30, meet Ahuvah Gray, an African-American former ordained minister**, who will tell us about her amazing journey from Christianity to Judaism. Her new book, titled "Journey to the Land of My Soul" will be available for purchase following the lecture. There is no charge for Bais Torah members; admission for non-members is \$10.

Our **Scholar in Residence** weekend will be held on **December 10th and 11th, Parshas Vayigash**. Our featured speaker, back by popular demand, is Rabbi Edward Davis, the mora d'asrah of the Young Israel of Hollywood-Ft. Lauderdale. It's never too early to contact Dr. Moshe Kranzler and tell him that you'd like to attend and be a sponsor of this annual event.

The next **Kosher Food Pantry** deadline for canned fruit is Monday November 15. Our quota is 120 cans of fruit per month.

## Mazal Tov

Shira Rus Steinberg on the birth of a granddaughter, born to her children Mattis Yehuda and Shira Steinberg

Ari and Adina Halpert on the birth of a grandson born to Gitty and Yossi Preiserowicz from Brooklyn

## Hamakom Yenachem

Shoshana Bekermus on the petirah of her father

## Refuah Shelaimah

Katie Tannenbaum's

הנתן משה בן דבורה טובה-Grandson  
Henry Shapiro- חיים מאיר יחיאל בן מלכה לאה  
Manny London- מנחם מונש בן חנה פרידא  
Esther Lutwak - אסתר מלכה בת קילה  
Bob Schore - חיים ראובן בן הענדל יהודית  
Suzie Kirshenbaum's father- יוסף בן שרה  
Tova Eizik's grandson- שלמה יעקב יונתן בן חנה רייזל

בנימין בן בילה-Ben Zauderer  
חיה עטיל בת שלימה  
חנה פרומא בת יהודית גיטל-Chana Mayerfeld  
Joel Rosenwasser's mother -  
פשע לאה בת שפרינצא  
Larry Seligson - אריה לייב בן רבקה  
Leni Loebenstein - הילני בת רחל

## How to Reach Us

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

**President** Michael Kronenberg president@baistorah.org

**Treasurer** Jay Kimmel, 357-9571

**Facilities** 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 **Eiruv** 362-4302

Chosh Levy, 425-6827

**Mikvah** 425-6101

**Chesed Committee** Charlie Grandovsky, 425-4683

**Youth** Jonathan Rosenstock 369-6349

**Sisterhood Liaison** Betty Schloss, 369 – 1833 and

Hinda Kimmel 357-9571

**Lost and Found** Michael Loebenstein, 425-8895

**Chevre 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](http://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.

## Parashas Vayera– 5771 –

– “Akeidas Yitzchak” – an Understanding and an Epilogue

The highlight of Parashas Vayera is the “Akeidah,” the tenth and final test of Avraham’s Faith in HaShem.

In his commentary to Parashas Lech-Lecha, Rav Shimon Schwab cites the Midrash which says that the expression “*Lech-Lecha*” appears twice among the ten tests of Avraham, and we would not have known which was more beloved to HaShem if not for the appearance of the word “*Moriah*” in connection with the “*nisayon*,” the test, of “Akeidas Yitzchak.” One interpretation of the word “*Moriah*” is teaching, and the teaching is as follows: that every Jew is required to fulfill the Command, “*You shall love HaShem your G-d with all your heart and with all of your life;*” even if He takes your life.” A difficulty is why this is called a “Test of Avraham” – after all, it was Yitzchak’s life, not Avraham’s, that was at risk!

In Parashas Vayera, Rav Schwab resolves this problem. Willingness to give up one’s life ; for example, as Avraham did, according to the Midrash, when he was thrown into Nimrod’s furnace, is one exalted level. However, there is a level even higher, a level that qualifies one to be called an “Av,” a “Founding Father,” a transmitter of emotion, of attitude, of conviction, of Faith, to a later generation. How much more so does this apply to the ability to transmit the willingness to give up one’s life, to be “*Moser Nefesh al Kiddush HaShem.*” This is what **Avraham achieved** at the “Akeidah,” with Yitzchak’s “*Mesiras Nefesh.*”

However, this explanation, attractive as it is, does not address the central mystery of “Akeidas Yitzchak;” namely, generally, “*Mesiras Nefesh*” is performed for a reason – to avoid being forced to perform a serious crime, idol worship, or sexual immorality. Here there seems to have been no reason for the “*Mesiras Nefesh.*” It was self-sacrifice for the sake of self-sacrifice alone, alien to the principles of Judaism! Midrash Tanchuma addresses this problem:

“In the text of the Parashah, we find that HaShem’s Angel says to Avraham, after the ‘Akeidah,’ *‘I have sworn by Myself’* and gives Avraham a great blessing. Avraham responds, ‘You have sworn. Now I swear that I will not leave this altar until I say my piece.’ HaShem says to him, ‘Speak.’ Avraham continues, ‘Did you not say to me, ‘...and count the stars, if you are able, such will be your descendants!’ HaShem answered, ‘I did.’ Avraham asked, ‘and through whom?’ HaShem answered, ‘through Yitzchak.’ Avraham said, ‘As much as I had it in my mind to respond to your Command (to sacrifice Yitzchak) with this contradiction, ‘Yesterday You told me that through Yitzchak would your seed be called, and now You command me to sacrifice him as a burnt Offering(!) and yet I held myself back from protesting in that manner, in that same manner I ask of you that when my descendants sin before you, and because of that face trouble, You should remember the Binding of Yitzchak, and that You should imagine **his ashes in a mound on the altar**, and You should forgive them, and redeem them from their trouble.’ The Holy One, Blessed be He, responded, ‘You have said your piece; I will now say mine: Your descendants will sin before Me, and I will judge them on Rosh HaShanah. If they wish to find merit, such that I should remember for them ‘Akeidas Yitzchak,’ let them blow on the horn of this creature.’ Avraham asked, ‘the horn of which creature?’ Hashem answered, ‘look behind you.’ Immediately, we find, *‘And Avraham lifted his eyes and saw that there was a ram caught by its horns in a thicket.’* The Holy One, Blessed be He, continued, ‘they should blow on the ram’s horn, and I will save them and redeem them from their sins.’ And this is reminiscent of David’s praise, *‘My Protector, the Horn of My Salvation, my Savior, and the One to Whom I flee’ (II Samuel 22:3).*...”

Our relationship with HaShem is to some extent irrational. “Love annuls common sense.” He can make what appear to be irrational requests of us. But then “Teshuvah,” Repentance, is also irrational. To have our sins wiped away as if they never happened and even more, that they should be converted to acts of merit, is also irrational, in our favor.

L’Illuy Nishmas beni, Aharon Baruch Mordechai ben Pinchas Menachem