

BAIS TORAH BULLETIN

פרשת ראה - פרקי אבות פרק ה' ראש חדש אלול

August 17, 2012

כ"ט 'אב תשע"ב

ערב שבת פרשת ראה

מנחה 7:00

הדלקת נרות:

Shul accepts שבת 7:20

Actual time 7:33

שקיעה 7:51

שבת פרשת ראה

דף היומי 8:00

שחרית 8:45

סוף זמן ק"ש 9:34

פרקי אבות שיעור 6:30

מנחה 7:20

שקיעה 7:50

מעריב 8:32

Weekday Schedule:

שחרית 8/18-8/24

Sun ראש חודש 7:45

Mon, Thurs 6:20, 7:45

Tues, Weds Fri
6:30, 7:45

מנחה - מעריב

Sun-Thurs 7:30

Next Week:

שבת פרשת שופטים

מנחה 7:00

הדלקת נרות:

Shul accepts שבת 7:20

Actual lighting time 7:23

שקיעה 7:41

WHAT'S NEW

This week's Kiddush is sponsored by Steve and Noga Romer

IT'S ROSH CHODESH ELUL is co-sponsored by Pinchas and Miriam Frankel for the yartzeit of their son Aharon Baruch Mordechai ben Pinchas Menachem, and by Yis Helprin for the yartzeit of his father Elchonon ben Ze'ev Dov.

Everyone is invited to attend a **farewell סעודת שלישיית** for **Manny and Suri Katz**. We wish them well on their move to Florida. Tzeschem L' Shalom!

Thank you Dr. Yehuda Eliezri for the Shabbos morning drasha, and Dr. Avraham Becker for the Pirkei Avos Shiur.

IT'S ROSH CHODESH ELUL! That means the Yomim Noraim are around the corner. Please be sure to mail back your **seating information and requests for Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur** as soon as possible. Or, contact Abe Frankel, Eveline Kranzler or Doris Newman.

THIS Sunday, August 26 join Bais Torah at the Museum of Jewish Heritage and the 9-11 Memorial in Battery Park. Call Doris Newman 352-2816 or Aviva in the shul office. Cost is \$35.00 per person which includes the bus. This is a docent-led tour.

Celebrate with us! The next **Birthday and Anniversary Kiddush is Shabbos Parshas Ki Tzei-Tzei, September 1.** If you are celebrating a birthday or anniversary in August or September help support our weekly Kiddush! Please contact the shul office or Sharon or Michael Kronenberg to be included, only \$18.00 per listing. The deadline is Tuesday August 28.

The next Kosher Food Pantry collection date is September 3. Bais Torah's commitment is 140 cans of fruit for the month. The Food Pantry cannot accept cans with expired dates.

Save the Date! Congregation Bais Torah will be hosting a special Daf Yomi Siyum Hashas for the Monsey community on Sunday, September 9th. The dynamic leader of the White Shul, **Rabbi Eytan Feiner**, will address the gathering. Reception begins at 3:30, siyum at 4:00, followed by the guest speaker and a sumptuous seudas mitzvah. Couvert is **\$35 per person** pre-paid for the seudah and couples are cordially invited to attend. To reserve, please call Aviva at the shul office, 845.352.1343. The guest speaker is sponsored by David and Ruth Lehmann in memory of Shprintze bas Moshe Gedalia; dinner sponsorships available.

MAZAL TOV

Manny and Chana Mayerfeld on the recent marriage of their grandson, Yosef Chaim and Shani Mayerfeld, children of Uri and Esther Mayerfeld of LA.

Rabbi Yaakov and Penina Hauer on the birth of a daughter

NICHUM AVEILIM

Philip and Marcia Holzer on the petirah of their daughter, Esther Semmelman

Refuah Shelaimah

Katie Tannenbaum's grandson - יהונתן משה בן דבורה טובה

Teddy Kallner - תודרוס בן הינדא

Henry Shapiro - חיים מאיר יחיאל בן מלכה לאה

Manny London - מנחם מונש בן חנה פרידא

Bob Schore - חיים ראובן בן הענדל יהודית

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

Rena Rossman's mother - שושנה בת לאה צירל

Leni Loebenstein - הילני בת רחל

Chana Mayerfeld - חנה פרומה בת יהודית גיטל

Larry Seligson - אריה לייב בן רבקה

Larry Seligson's son - רפאל אפרים בן סימא פריעדל

Felise Katz's father - חיים בן חנה

Ed and Helen Furman's son in law - רפאל צבי בן עיטא לאה

Manny Mayerfeld - מנחם בן קילה

SHIURIM

Women's Tehilim, l'zecher nishmas Feigel bas Menachem Mendel, meets Shabbos afternoon 30 minutes before Pirkei Avos Shiur

Sunday:

6:30 AM Daf Yomi
Rabbi Avromy Fein

8:30 AM Gemara Miseches Pesachim
Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb

Sun-Thurs:

10:00 AM Daf Yomi
Rabbi Yosef Fischer

Mon-Friday

5:25 AM Daf Yomi I
Rabbi Avromy Fein

7:00 AM Daf Yomi II
Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb

8:25 AM Navi Shiur
Rabbi Yosef Fischer

9:45 AM Gemara Shiur
Rabbi Leibel Reznick

Wednesday

8:15 PM Navi Yechezkel
Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb-will resume in the fall

Thursday

8:00PM Women's Mishnayos class-Will resume in the fall

Parashas Re'eh "Ma'achalos Asuros" – Forbidden Foods A Torah and Sociological Perspective

This week's Parashah, Re'eh, opens with Moshe placing, as it were, a classic choice before the Jewish People; namely, to choose between behavior designed to give someone a life of "brachah," blessing, or behavior that would result in a life of "K'lalah," curse. The litmus test would be whether one's behavior was in accord with the "Mitzvos," the commandments of HaShem, or not. One group of commandments presented in this Parshah, and tied in with our holiness as a People, are those relating to "ma'achalos asuros," food items forbidden by the Torah for its adherents to eat.

There are various ways of understanding these Divinely ordained laws based, of course, on the assumption that our understanding is **not necessary** in order for us to obey them. One classic approach, associated with the RAMBAM, Maimonides of the twelfth century, is that they are actually physically harmful. On the other hand, according to the RAMBAN, Nachmanides, of the thirteenth century, the eating of birds or animals of prey is psychologically harmful. And the Midrash emphasizes the aspect of "timtum ha-lev," "hardening," so to speak, of the spiritual arteries, that is a consequence of eating non-kosher foods.

There was an early debate among CHAZAL on the subject of how a Jew should feel when confronted with the smell of, let's say for argument's sake, a basic "treife meichel," bacon and eggs. One opinion is that the Jew should train him/herself to feel repulsed by the smell. The other opinion is that the Jew should be more intellectually honest assuming, of course, that the smell is experienced as being pleasant, and say inwardly, "I do desire it, but what shall I do? My Father in Heaven has forbidden it to me."

The OU alone, the largest Kashrus-Certifying agency in the world, supervises nearly half a million food products. That's a lot of cookies and candy bars. Nabisco (including Oreo), Three Musketeers, Godiva Chocolate (given the first three letters of the company name, they really had little choice) have all come, so to speak, "under the wings" of the OU. And even though there is still some opposition (mainly from Jewish quarters), it appears that Kashrus is now accepted as a rational, healthy, even moral, form of diet.

The subject presented here really has major sociological reverberations in the context of early twenty first century America, with Kashrus Organizations growing and proliferating, but remaining part of a picture "even bigger" than Kashrus, of general acceptance of Orthodox Jews at all levels of American society.

In addition, large factions of Orthodox Jewish families and individuals are streaming to Israel from America, and from elsewhere in the West, aided in many cases by the organization known as "Nefesh B'Nefesh," "Soul-to-Soul," which is now celebrating its tenth anniversary, and contributing in many ways, including 30,000+ Olim, more than 350 physicians, more than 640 marriages and 4,000 sabras, to the physical and spiritual accomplishments of Israel.

However, in order to capitalize on this potential "Kiddush HaShem," Sanctification of G-d's Name, the rest of us Jews who claim to be "Orthodox," and attempt to live according to the rules of the Torah, must shoulder the burden that now rests upon us, perhaps now even more than it did in the past. Issues of honesty, morality, ethics, "mentschlich-keit" arise in all of our lives; personal, social, business and professional. We must rise to the challenge of living the way our Father in Heaven wants us to; to act, and to be, "a holy People, to HaShem, your G-d..." our description, in today's Parashah, at the end of the section on "Ma'achalos Asuros."

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

How to Reach Us

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

President Steve Fessel 845 300 5106 ,sfessel@gmail.com

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 Sandy Lieder, 352-0122

Eiruv 362-4302 Mikvah 425-6101

Chesed Committee Charlie Grandovsky, 425-4683

Youth Jonathan Rosenstock 369-6349

Sisterhood Liaison Betty Schloss, 369-1833 Hinda Kimmel 357-9571

Lost and Found Michael Loebenstein, 425-8895

Chevra Kadisha Steve Fessel, 425-1713, Ephraim Pessin, 914-420-6714 Gloria Gordon, 425-1276

Misaskim - 917-217-1545

Sisterhood Tribute Cards, Mona Selzer 356-0219

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