



This week's Kiddush is sponsored Robert & Audrey Gutterman and Shirley Berman in honor of their daughter, Shari Berman, on her special birthday.



The Shalosh Seudos this week is sponsored by the Bnai Israel community in honor of the Sheva Brachos of Jenny & Shneur Wallach

Schedule for the week

<u>Friday, September 8th (17th Elul)</u>		<u>Tuesday, September 12th (21st Elul)</u>	
Shabbos Candle Lighting	7:05 P	Daf Yomi	6:00 A
Mincha/Kabalas Shabbos/Maariv	7:05 P	Shachris	7:00 A
		Mincha / Maariv	7:00 P
<u>Shabbos, September 9th (18th Elul)</u>		<u>Wednesday, September 13th (22nd Elul)</u>	
Shachris	9:00 A	Daf Yomi	6:00 A
BISLI	10:00 A	Shachris	7:00 A
<i>PLEASE SEE PAGE 2 FOR ADDITIONAL SHABBOS CLASSES</i>		Minchah / Maariv	7:00 P
Shabbos Kallah for Avigayil Simon		Rabbi Goder Beis Medrash - after Maariv	
at the Weissman home	5:00 P	Daf Yomi - after Maariv	
Daf Yomi	5:45 P	<u>Thursday, September 14th (23rd Elul)</u>	
Pirkei Avos Class with Rabbi Haber	5:55 P	Daf Yomi	6:00 A
Mincha	6:45 P	Shachris	6:45 A
Maariv / Havdala	8:00 P	Minchah / Maariv	7:00 P
<u>Sunday, September 10th (19th Elul)</u>		Daf Yomi - after Maariv	
Daf Yomi	7:00 A	<u>Friday, September 15th (24th Elul)</u>	
Shachris	8:00 A	Daf Yomi	6:00 A
Mincha / Maariv	7:00 P	Shachris	7:00 A
<u>Monday, September 11th (20th Elul)</u>		Mincha/Kabalas Shabbos/Maariv	6:50 P
Daf Yomi	7:00 A	Shabbos Candle Lighting	6:54 P
Shachris	6:45 A		
Mincha / Maariv	7:00 P		
Monday Night Class with Rabbi Haber	7:45 P		
Partners in Torah at the JCC	8:00 P		

CLASSES FOR EVERYONE

DAF YOMI

Morning Class: Sundays at 7:00 AM, weekdays at 6:00 AM
with Rabbi Loiterman

Evening Class: Sunday through Thursday after Ma'ariv

Shabbos & Yom Tov: both classes meet together one hour before Mincha
with Rabbi Loiterman

SHABBOS LEARNING FOR BOYS

Grades 5th - 8th Gemara class at the Harpaz home at 3:00 PM with Rabbi Harpaz

Grades 1st - 4th with Rabbi Lipman at shul 30 minutes before Mincha

Grades 5th - 8th Mishnayos Shiur with Rabbi Harpaz at shul 30 minutes before Mincha.

PIRKEI AVOS WITH RABBI HABER

Shabbos afternoons, 50 minutes before Mincha

How Pirkei Avos influenced the lives of the Rebbes; how Pirkei Avos should influence our lives.

MONDAY NIGHT CLASSES WITH RABBI HABER

9/11 (7:45) - Renewal: Can this year truly be New?

9/18 (7:45) - The Machzor and how to make it Meaningful

9/25 (7:15) - Yom Kippur: Cleaning Up

PARTNERS IN TORAH

Mondays from 8:00 PM to 9:00 PM

For both men and women, meets at the JCC in Room 238

Women's Tuesday Noon Learning Class

The Tuesday noon class for women is on hiatus until after Sukkos.

TALMUD CLASSES - 75 minutes before Mincha

Tuesday evenings: With Gershon Aronoff - Megilla

RABBI GODER OPEN BEIS MEDRASH LEARNING NIGHT

Wednesdays after Maariv at B'nai Israel

Join one of several informal study groups being offered.

HURRICANE HARVEY RELIEF

As our brothers and sisters in Houston seek to recover from the destruction of Hurricane Harvey there are several options for helping through the Orthodox Union and the local UJFT. In addition, Rabbi Haber will be working with Rabbi Litt - who is from Houston - on direct donations to families in need. Donations can be made to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund.

MR. JOHNNY H. TATE

Thank you to all of our members who contributed to help the Tate Family with the interment and related expenses. We were able to help significantly and Mrs. Tate was very grateful. Our understanding is that the service will take place over Shabbos

SHABBOS KALLAH FOR AVIGAYIL SIMON

Shabbos, September 9th at 5:00 PM

The celebration will be held at the home of the Weissman's

BISLI IS BACK!

Starting this Shabbos, September 9th at 10:00 AM in the Fred L. Aron Education Wing

Attention parents! A new season of the Bnai Israel Shabbos Learning Institute - aka **BISLI**.

Who: Both Boys & Girls (Kindergarten through 4th grade)

What: Learning the Parsha of the week, games, snacks & prizes

When: Starting this Shabbos, September 9th, continuing every Shabbos morning at 10:00 AM

Where: In the Fred L. Aron Education Wing

The leaders for this year's BISLI are Yehudis Loiterman and Sima Wilson. They are trained in CPR, first aid, and have past experience. (They were the BISLI leaders last year.)

Please let us know if your child will be attending BISLI this year! Please call either Yehudis or Sima (via their parents).

MONDAY NIGHT CLASSES WITH RABBI HABER

Rabbi Haber will be having a limited series of classes discussing topics which relate to the High Holidays

September 11th at 7:45 PM - Renewal: Can this year truly be New?

September 18th at 7:45 PM - The Machzor and how to make it Meaningful

September 25th at 7:15 PM - Yom Kippur: Cleaning Up

ISRAEL TODAY @ 70 PRESENTS: DAVID HAZONY

AMERICAN-BORN ISRAELI WRITER, TRANSLATOR, MAGAZINE

EDITOR DISCUSSES: ISRAEL AS A CIVILIZATIONAL FORCE

*Tuesday, September 12 | 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM at the Reba and Sam Sandler Family Campus
Free and open to the community*

Envisioned by its founders as much more than a refuge – Israel was a multifaceted attempt to reinvent Jewish life itself. Imploring people to move beyond what they already know, tap into Israeliness and find their own Israel, rediscovering the country, not the cause, therefore securing the future of American Jewry.

David Hazony is the Managing Director of The Israel Project and editor of its magazine, The Tower. He is also a contributing editor at The Forward, and has served as editor-in-chief of Azure, Israel's leading journal of public affairs. Hazony received his Ph.D. in Jewish

Philosophy from the Hebrew University. His book, The Ten Commandments was a finalist for the National Jewish Book Award. Hazony's writing has appeared in The New Republic, Commentary, Moment, New York Sun, Jewish Ideas Daily, The Jerusalem Post, and more. For more information and to make reservations, please call the JCC.

CEMETERY VISITS WITH RABBI HABER

Rabbi Haber will once again be conducting cemetery visits to Bnai Israel, Forest Lawn, Mikro Kodesh, and Workman's Circle. Visits are scheduled for 9/17 & 9/18. Please contact Rabbi Haber to request times.

Also, please note that the B'nai Israel Cemetery is now locked. Please contact Rabbi Haber or the office for access.

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE, WHRO PUBLIC MEDIA, CHRYSLER MUSEUM AND EVMS PRESENT LIVE EACH DAY: A TALK WITH JANE GARDNER

Sunday, September 17, 2:00 PM, Chrysler Museum of Art, free

Presented in conjunction with Jewish Family Service of Tidewater's ongoing commitment to provide cancer education with community partners - the Brock Institute of Eastern Virginia Medical School, WHRO Public Media, and the Chrysler Museum of Art, the event is free and open to the public. As there is limited seating, reservations are suggested.

For more information, call 757-664-6200. To register, go to tinyurl.com/reg4jane.

BNAI ISRAEL GENERAL BOARD MEETING

Monday, September 18th at 6:00 PM

The agenda for this meeting will be available soon.

SISTERHOOD FLOWER FUND

The Sisterhood provides fresh flowers for the Bimah for every Yom Tov. Contributions to the flower fund can be mailed to Irene Mazel or Frances Berger.

THE 5778 BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

The project is wonderful way one can fulfill their obligation (made during Yizkor) of donating tzedaka in memory of our loved ones. Even if you aren't obligated to say Yizkor, you can remember loved ones (grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc.) in this publication.

The charges are the same as in the past: \$18 for each of the first three names (Mr. & Mrs. are separate) and \$12 for each additional name. There are also special dedication pages for past presidents, past rabbis of the congregation, Mrs. Ann Zukerman, Mr. Bernard Ehrlich and Mrs. Caroline Miller. The charge for being a sponsor is \$100 (per family) per page. There are also opportunities to become a sponsor of the entire project. For more information, please contact Melissa Schoenfeld.

The deadline for submitting names is Friday, September 15th.

Thank You to our Contributors

To Aaron & Ruth Cohen for their contribution to the Bridge-Sturman Fund in honor of Rabbi Sholom & Tehilla Mostofsky on the engagement of their daughter, Leah Esther to Eli Krischer.

To Ruth Rothman for her contribution in honor of Rabbi Sholom & Tehilla Mostofsky on the engagement of their daughter, Leah Esther to Eli Krischer.

To Ruth Rothman for her contribution in honor of Nechama Werther on her engagement to Ian Cummings.

To Ruth Rothman for her contribution in honor of Ian Cummings on his engagement to Nechama Werther.

To Frances Berger for her contribution in memory of her sister-in-law, Julia Hirsch.

To Benn & Jackie Richels for their contribution to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund in honor of the engagement of Leah Esther Mostofsky to Eli Krischer.

To Dr. Behrooz & Trudy Dayanim for their contribution in honor of the engagement of Leah Esther Mostofsky to Eli Krischer.

To Jeff & Amy Brooke for their contribution in memory of Jeff's grandmother, Rebecca Brooke.

To Irene Ullman for her contribution in honor of Jeff & Amy Brooke for Chana's MS degree and her appointment to the position of Director Of Alumni Affairs at Touro college. May Chana find much happiness in her new position. We're all so proud of her.

To Irene Ullman for her contribution in honor of Herb Zukerman for his granddaughter, Chana's, MS degree and her appointment to the position of Director Of Alumni Affairs at Touro college. May Chana find much happiness in her new position. We're all so proud of her.

For the Week of Shabbos, September 9th through Friday, September 15th

BIRTHDAYS

Dovid Doniel Stein	5th	9/9	Nathan Drory		9/15
Rifkie Tessler	6th	9/10	Shifra Chana Harpaz	14th	9/15
Dr. Shaul Mansheim		9/11	Leah Miriam Richels	16th	9/15
Ro'ee Mor		9/12	Elka Shereshevsky		9/15
Obadia Sims	1st	9/12	Devorah Chana Zelikovich	3rd	9/15

YAHRTZEITS

Jenny Schwitzer	9/9	Joseph Zelig Epstein	9/12
Rachel Jaffe	9/10	Morton Levinson	9/12
Anna Beer	9/11	Bertha Shapiro	9/12
Milton Fine	9/11	John Abrons	9/13
Bernice Kreger	9/11	Samuel Hirsch	9/15
Micah Aaron Rosenberg	9/11	Ann Hobowsky	9/15
Edie Schloss	9/11	Sonya Eisenberg Lachman	9/15
Harry Weisberg	9/11	Marcella Levi	9/15

REFUAH SHELAIMA

Women

Men

Shoshana bas Miriam Vittel Zilke bas Leah Leah Adina bas Chaya Esther Yochana bas Chana Nava bas Fruma Leah Basha Leiba bas Baila Fruma Simcha bas Tzipporah Malka Esther bas Devorah Devorah bas Ruchel Sara Bas Sara Miriam Rochel bas Chava Elisheva Kayla Dodie bas Rochel Bracha Rochel Bracha bas Baila Tirtze Sorah bas Rochel Bracha Rivka Tehilla bas Sarah Hinda bas Dena Shula bas Carmela Eliana Chaya bas Nacha Adi Simcha bas Penina Leah Gilsom Gila bas Tzipporah Tzipporah bas Gilsom Gila Aida Batya bas Etta Chaya Tova Gittel bas Shulamis Sima Elka Gittel bas Basya Chana Yitta bas Bryna Yehudis bas Irma Bayla Mishka bas Devora Malka Chana bas Ruchel Miriam bas Tzipora Chaya Raizel bas Dena Chana bas Sarah	Devora Leah bas Civet Elkie Samecha Yehudis bas Esther Reva Raza bas Malka Shoshana bas Netta Adi Bat Miriam Chana Leah bas Fraydel Ruth bas Sarah Chaya bas Ruchel Tinokes bas Esther Hadassah Sheva bas Rivka Chaya Ruchel bas Zelda Shira bas Sarah Nechama Getzel bas Rachel Ruchama Malka Briendel bas Shaina Shifra Miriam bas Chava Leah Aviva bas Masha Rochel bas Tova Chaya Rochel bas Esti Rivka Rivka bas Chaya Ruchel Rivka bas Yocheved Tzippora Aviva bas Rivka Devora Rivka bas Tzipora Raizel Shoshana bas Faiga Leah Chana Shifra bas Freidel Orly Rachel Bat Yehudit Rus Leah Rivka bas Sarah Yehudis bas Chana Leah	Shalom Boruch ben Masha Yehuda ben Chasha Ruchel Moshe Yechezkel Halevi ben Sara Malka Reuven Simcha ben Naomi Rus Yonah Michael Alter ben Esther Sarah Shlomo Yaakov Yonason ben Chana Raizel Aryeh Nachman HaCohen ben Ita Shlomo ben Tzipporah David Shlomo ben Rivka Tehilla Noach HaLevi ben Miriam Koppel ben Bayla Yonatan ben Rivka Abraham ben Iza Yoel Meir ben Chaya Yehudah Ben Batya Rafael Messod ben Naomi Sarah Eliezer ben Sara Avraham Beryl HaLevi ben Miriam Yissachar ben Rachel Binyamin Leib ben Rachel Chana Zecharia Avraham ben Devorah Rivka Nossom Yitzhak Ben Leah Moshe ben Raizel Eliezer ben Penina Kaila Meir Yehoshua ben Penina Kaila Beryl ben Chava Shmuel Yeruchem ben Baila Eitan ben Sarah Yehoshua ben Nechama Aliza Menachem ben Tzipka Avraham ben Chana Asher Eliyahu ben Leah	Akiva Hillel Ben Cooki Tziporah Feige Gittel Yehuda Herschel ben Chaya Leah Dovid Leshem ben Esther Chaim Yaakov Dovid ben Avigail Abba ben Tzipora Pesach ben Baila Dovid Avraham ben Miriam Yosef Aaron ben Keren Shoshana Robert ben Jean Rachmiel Leib ben Mordechai HaLevi Yehuda Sema ben Alta Ruchel Chaim Rafael Yoel ben Shayna Golda Daniel Yosef ben Miriam Aaron Emanuel ben Tzippora Michoel Dovid ben Rivka Moshe Yosef ben Esther Reuven HaCohen ben Sarah Eitan Shmuel bas Chana Leah Eliezer Yehuda ben Chana Shaindel Yisroel Shmuel ben Sarah Chaim Avraham ben Feiga Chaim Shmuel ben Rivka Eliyahu Aron ben Hudel Sholom Yehuda ben Fayga Tinok ben Rochel Shlomo Yoel ben Chaya Leah Chanina Getzl ben Chana Fradel Meyer Yisroel Hirsch ben Zahava Zippora Yitzchak ben Emma
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THE B'NAI ISRAEL CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Week of September 3rd through September 9th

Shabbos, September 9th: Kiddush in honor of Shari Berman's special birthday

Shabbos, September 9th: Shabbos Kallah for Avigayil Simon (Weissman home)

Shabbos, September 9th: Shalosh Seudos Sheva Brachos for Jenny & Shneur Wallach

Week of September 10th through September 16th

Sunday, September 10th: Chasuna of Roe'e Mor & Avigail Simon

Monday, September 11th: Class with Rabbi Haber: "Renewal: Can This Year Truly be New?" (7:45 PM)

Tuesday, September 12: ISRAEL TODAY program at Simon Family JCC

Shabbos, September 16th: Shabbat Chatan of Ro'ee & Avigail

Shabbos, September 16th: Shalosh Seudos Sheva Brachos for Ro'ee & Abigail Mor

Motzei Shabbos, September 16th: Slichos for Yomim Noraim

Week of September 17th through September 23rd

Sunday, September 17th: Live Each Day: A Talk with Jane Gardner at the Chrysler Museum

Monday, September 18th: Bnai Israel General Board meeting at Bnai Israel at 6:00 PM

Monday, September 18th: Class with Rabbi Haber: "The Machzor and How to Make it Meaningful" (7:45 PM)

Wednesday, September 20th: Erev Rosh Hashana (Eruv Tashvilin)

Thursday, September 21st: First Day of Rosh Hashana (Tashlich)

Friday, September 22nd: Second Day of Rosh Hashana

Week of September 24th through September 30th

Sunday, September 24th: Tzom Gedalia (Nidche)

Sunday, September 24th: Toras Chaim 2017 Rosh Hashana Matching Campaign

Monday, September 25th: Class with Rabbi Haber: "Yom Kippur: Cleaning Up" (7:15 PM)

Friday, September 29th: Erev Yom Kippur

Shabbos, September 30th: Yom Kippur

Week of October 1st through October 7th

Wednesday, October 4th: Erev Sukkos (Eruv Tashvilin)

Thursday, October 5th: First Day of Sukkos

Friday, October 6th: Second Day of Sukkos

Shabbos, October 7th: First Day of Chol HaMoed

Week of October 8th through October 14th

Sunday, October 8th: Second Day of Chol HaMoed

Monday, October 9th: Third Day of Chol HaMoed

Monday, October 9th (night): Mostofsky/Krischer Vort - Bnai Israel Sukka

Tuesday, October 10th: Fourth Day of Chol HaMoed

Wednesday, October 11th: Hoshana Rabbah

Wednesday, October 11th (night): Erev Shmini Atzeres (Eruv Tashvilin)

Thursday, October 12th: Shmini Atzeres

Thursday, October 12th (night): Simchas Torah / Hakofos

Friday, October 13th: Simchas Torah / Hakofos

DARKNESS

By Rabbi Sender Haber

In the curses of parshas Ki Savo, we are told that we can get to a point where we are like a blind person groping in the dark (28:29).

It is terrible to be blind and inconvenient to be in the dark, but it is hard to understand what the curse of being "blind in the dark" is. It seems to be a redundancy.

The Netziv in Haemek Davar writes that there is a significant difference between a blind person and somebody who is stuck in darkness. When we are in the dark, we don't know where we are or what is around us, but once we feel around, we have a pretty good idea of what we are dealing with and what surrounds us. We are able to conjure up an image in our mind's eye. A person who is blind from birth does not have the same luxury. He can feel and grope and touch as much as he wants, but he will never get a really good feeling of what it is that he is touching.

The same is true of people who receive cochlear implants. If someone was deaf from birth, a cochlear implant will not help them enjoy music. But, if a person was able to hear in their youth – they can hear and enjoy a song that is played to them through the implant. The brain recalls the song and knows how to process the sounds.

As we get deeper and deeper into Galus and further from Hashem, we find ourselves in the dark. Luckily, we still have hope, because our collective memory knows what life is supposed to be like and how close we can get to Hashem. As dark as it is, we always have an idea of what things would and should look like.

The worst curse is to become like blind people. A blind person has no recall at all. He doesn't even know what was supposed to be, or that life can be better. He doesn't know what he is missing. That is the worst feeling and the worst curse.

Rabbi David Aaron tells the story of the time he met with the actress Goldie Hawn. She was excited because she had just found meaning in her life. Her meditation instructor had just given her an individual mantra that was designed just for her. Rabbi Aaron said. "Goldie", you don't need a mantra, you already have one. It is called a 'Shmantra', and he proceeded to teach her the value and the significance of the first line of Shema.

One of the most famous Israeli Baalei Teshuva is Uri Zohar. The first time he had a real conversation with a frum person was at some kind of a party and his friend's home. He had a lighthearted debate with a rabbi, possibly Rav Zilberman from the Old City, after which he went home. He found himself thinking back to all of the arguments and realizing that he wasn't as confident as he had made himself out to be. Even if he was right, he realized, it was a tragedy that all of this Torah had been kept from him all these years. He felt robbed and was driven to reclaim his heritage.

The Gemara in Megila also asks about the redundancy of the blind person in the dark. Reb Yosi says that this verse bothered him all his life until he came across a blind person walking at night with a torch. The torch wasn't for his own use, it was so that other people could see him and guide him and help him out if he was about to walk into something or to fall into a ditch.

A blind person in darkness is the loneliest person in the world. He doesn't know where he is and he doesn't even have any recall of where he could be. Because he is in the dark, nobody else can even see him to help him out. What could be more depressing than that?

We read this parsha right before Rosh Hashana because we want to get all of the curses out of the way before the New Year. 'תחל שנה וברכותי'. תכלה שנת וקללותי. We need to use Elul and Rosh Hashana to emerge from the darkness, to put an image of in our minds of who we are and who we should be.