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SHABBAT SHIRA

MOTZEI SHABBAT SHIRA

FEBRUARY 8, 2020 AT 8:00 PM

A Soulful Evening of Song & Inspiration

With Rabbis Jesse Shore, Elliott Diamond,
and Sammy Bergman.

Soup, hot drinks and desserts will be served.
Free for all.



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From the Rabbi's Desk

The Purpose Driven Shul



On November 20, anti-Israel groups at York University resorted to violence in an attempt to disrupt a school-sanctioned panel discussion with Reservists on Duty, an organization of former members of the Israel Defence Force. This incident fits a pattern of conduct on university campuses, in which protestors attempt to silence speakers on topics they deem threatening. These incidents raise questions regarding what a university education should accomplish – for our own children and for society, as a whole.

Aristotle evaluated all things with respect to their “telos” – their purpose and goal. The telos of a knife is to cut. The telos of a surgeon is health or healing. What makes a knife a good knife? It achieves its telos by allowing a surgeon to perform a good incision. If it does not cut well – it is a bad knife – no matter how pretty it looks.

In their 2018 book, *The Coddling of the American Mind*, NYU Professor Jonathan Haidt and Greg Lukianoff question what a university’s telos is. They suggest the most obvious answer, “truth.” However, they note, many universities now embrace social justice as a competing telos to truth.

They explain how truth and social justice come into conflict. As political diversity among professors has plummeted and as cross-partisan hostility has risen, the conflict has reached a tipping point. Students demand safety from ideas that they feel threaten them; students silence guest-speakers with whom they disagree; and students call for mandatory courses in social justice for everyone. (They do not address the philosophical frontal attack on “capital T truth.”)

Haidt and Lukianoff show that the problem on campus is not one of politics but one of purpose. Some universities have forgotten why they exist. In sacrificing truth (and the academic freedom that enables it) upon the altar of social justice, these universities are no longer “good universities.”

A similar problem arises when we speak of a synagogue or Jewish community.

What is the telos of a synagogue? A synagogue exists to further the Jewish mission. What is that mission? Our goal

as a people is to sanctify God’s name in this world. When our father Avraham spoke out in God’s name, he initiated this mission. We continue it every time we respond in Kaddish with the words, “May God’s great name be eternally blessed.” We can participate in this mission by living a life of righteousness and kindness – Torah and *mitzvot*. If a synagogue sanctifies God’s name, then it can be called a good synagogue. A great synagogue achieves this mission in a way that an individual cannot. It allows us to do together that which we cannot do alone. (This is even more true for a Jewish state.)

When I meet with Shaarei Shomayim’s new members, I emphasize this point. After discussing how the shul can serve their religious and social needs, I inquire, “How might you use the shul to gather like-minded people to do good things together that you cannot do alone?” “How can we utilize the synagogue as a platform to further our collective Jewish mission?”

In teaching the laws of prayer at shul between *mincha* and *maariv*, I recently came upon an argument by Rabbi Yechiel Michel Epstein (in his book *Aruch Hashulchan*) that underscores this point. Rabbi Epstein speaks about the difference between public prayer and the public reading of the Torah. He explains that public prayer is an outgrowth of our personal obligations to pray. However, Torah reading is an obligation that only exists, when we come together

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The Purpose Driven Shul

as a community. There is no personal obligation to read from a Torah scroll; the opportunity materializes only when we come together as a community. Similar to the modern university, the telos of the modern Jewish community is subject to competition. In some corners of the Jewish world, the competition is social justice. This is a limited threat in Orthodox circles. Yet, a greater threat exists, and it exists in all corners of the Jewish world. Let us call it, “mere continuity,” i.e. survival for survival’s sake, alone. To a great degree, this threat to the purpose-driven Jewish life exists regardless of how “religious” a community is. Ritual can become rote and devoid of meaning. Babies are born; children are educated; couples are married; families are formed; everyone ages; and the deceased are buried and mourned. Young and old, Jewish women and men can go through the motions. We eat, drink, work, study and pray. A synagogue community might pretend that this is sufficient. Yet, if a community’s Judaism is only this, not only will it not achieve its telos – it will not even achieve continuity. Our people will hollow out, opt out, or both. No matter the amenities with which we laden our Jewish communities, a synagogue cannot survive without a sense of purpose. A synagogue must be a small embassy of Jewish sovereignty, a beacon that proclaims that the women and men who gather, pray and volunteer here are a people working

toward a unique destiny. That’s what it means to matter.

I recently received a letter from Israel. Writing from his community (Moshav Mivtachim) six kilometres from the border with Gaza, while under missile attack in November, Rav Shachar Butzchak wrote to us:


You, the Jewish people who are not on the front line, you too need to ask yourselves: “What is our purpose?” No Jew is without a purpose – that just couldn’t be. Wherever I am, wherever I decide to live with my family, I must

“What can I give to the Jewish people, to the Land of Israel and to the Torah?”

grapple with this fundamental question: “What can I give to the Jewish people, to the Land of Israel and to the Torah?” We don’t need you to appreciate our heroism while watching the never-ending TV coverage of the hundreds of murderous missiles aimed to kill us. We need you to take that appreciation and to translate it to action, to give it a purpose. To give as much of yourselves as you can to be G-d’s messenger in the world.

This is more than a call to arms. This is a call to purpose. “What can I give to the Jewish people, to the Land of Israel and to the Torah?” This question is for each of us to answer. This question is for us to answer together, as a synagogue community.

Shaarei Shomayim allows us to pool our resources in caring for the needs of the disheartened within and the weak beyond our community. Shaarei Shomayim is a platform for us to advocate with political leaders on behalf of our community and its values. This is true perennially. Yet, in this moment, there is a unique opportunity. Shaarei Shomayim can answer one of the great challenges facing our people and all people. We live at a time of intense secularism and assimilation. Shaarei Shomayim embodies a method for cross-generational religious observance and – at the same time - socio-economic engagement with our wider society. For generations, Orthodox synagogues were bereft of young people. Today, strollers inundate our building. We have something that works. We have something worth offering young Jews who want a meaningful value-laden communal life. We must work to share our formula for success with as many of our brothers and sisters, as we can.

“What can I give to the Jewish people, to the Land of Israel and to the Torah?” We can and must utilize our shul, Shaarei Shomayim, to help us answer that call. 

DO YOU RECEIVE RABBI STRAUCHLER’S WEEKLY TORAH FOR YOUR LIFE EMAILS?

If not, please contact the shul office to be included in the email list. Or you can visit our website at shomayim.org, and on the right-hand side, go to “Sign up to Shaarei Shomayim emails”. Please visit his regularly updated blog: shomayim.org/rabbi-strauchlers-blog

A Year of Opportunity

RANDALL CRAIG



We may not realize it, but we all have them. We live with them, we see them at the bakery, the grocery store, and at the bank. We see them at shul.

Sometimes they come in the form of advertisements, newsletters, or posters. They come during meetings, over dinner table conversations, and in private conversations with friends and family. And they come during drashot, shiurim, in conversations with the Rabbi (and sometimes from the President).

What is it that surrounds us? The answer is simple: opportunity.

We each are on our individual journeys. Many people are focussed on making progress with their careers. Young families are worried about their children. And they are certainly worried about the cost of Jewish day school and the cost of housing. Others are spending time with older parents, concerned about their health challenges. Or perhaps, like me, they are dealing with their own health challenges. Many people are concerned about their upcoming “journey” to the promised land – either Israel, or Florida.

Some of us have had the benefit of a thoroughly observant upbringing and Jewish education, while others of us must do “double time” learning now what we didn’t learn in our youth. Some of us are exceptionally stringent in our observance, and some of us have family customs that are more lenient.

The beauty of our community is that no matter which journey you are on, and no matter how far along you are on your journey, we all have the same opportunity.

Let me explain. We have literally dozens of flyers advertising upcoming activities at the shul. Classes that start from the crack of dawn to late at night, almost every day. Music under the Schach, Women’s Megillah Reading series, Walkie-Talkies, Musical Lunch & Learn, Pray & Learn, Catch the Spirit lecture series, Bar and Bat Mitzvah programs, Teen programming, and an ENTIRE booklet of Youth programs.

We have two morning minyans, as well as daily Mincha and Maariv minyans. These take place in our Weinbaum Beit Midrash, which contains a huge library filled with Jewish books. The Rabbi sends a weekly email that also contains wonderful insights, and links to thoughtful articles and

videos elsewhere. All of these are opportunities.

No one knows what your priorities are. Nor does anyone know what interests you. But we are a large enough shul to have a smorgasboard of possibilities – and if you are reading this – let me share a big secret: there is something here that you will find interesting. There is something that will pique your curiosity. There is something here that will help you grow, in ways that you didn’t think possible. Rabbi Strauchler and Avital, as well as Rabbi Diamond, Rabbi Shore, Rabbi Bergman, and Ralph Levine are all available as guides. I encourage you, as you consider the next year, to also consider the opportunities available to you – they are literally here for the taking.

When my wife Linda and I showed up at Shaarei Shomayim a number of years ago, we weren’t members, and we knew exactly two people; at that time, we weren’t shomrei Shabbat, and we didn’t even live in the neighbourhood. We started nibbling at the opportunities, and we found a few things that we hadn’t expected – or even knew that we were looking for. We’ve certainly grown Jewishly. But we also found a community of caring, kind, and generous people.

For those who don’t come so often to shul, here’s my message especially for you. We’re a big tent, we’re not judgmental, and the opportunities are waiting for you, whenever you are ready.

As I was writing this, I noticed a new program that was being put on that very evening – the “Night Seder Chavrutot and Shiur for men and women.” The weather was gloomy, and as many of you might know, I get tired very easily. The question in my mind was simple: do I go? On one hand, turning in for the night was very appealing. On the other hand, perhaps I should heed my own advice: this program was precisely the “opportunity” that I was referring to. I decided to give it a try: it was worth it.

This brings me to another group of opportunities.

All of these programs, classes, activities, and shiurim don’t happen by themselves. They take time to organize, plan, and communicate.

cont. on page 7

PRAY AND LEARN SESSIONS
WITH DR. ELLIOTT MALAMET



SHABBATOT @ 9:30 AM

PLEASE ADD TO YOUR CALENDAR:

February 1, 2020

March 7, 2020

June 20, 2020

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A Year of Opportunity

They happen because a huge number of people give their time to make this happen, starting with Rabbi Strauchler and Avital, along with all of our clergy, the office staff, and a hundred-plus volunteers, committees, and your board. They happen in an environment where we care for those who are not well. They happen in a shul that is friendly to youth, engaging for teens, and attractive to our many new members. They take place in a building that needs to be cared for. And a building that is properly secured.

With this in mind, I wanted to say thank you to a special group of volunteers: the Executive – Larry Zimmerman, Robin Gofine, Jonathan Ostro, Rachel Libman, Louis Vandersluis, and Brian Cantor, along with all of the board members, all of the committee chairs, all of our volunteers, and our past presidents. I also wanted to recognize the families of these leaders, including my own, who are also intimately involved along the way. All of these people care deeply about building our community, and contribute so much time, selflessly, on our behalf. When you see these volunteers, please say thank you.

My question though, is **why** do all of these hundred-plus volunteers spend their nights and weekends doing all of this?

The answer is simple. They realize that giving the gift of their time and expertise is itself an opportunity. They know how good it feels to give a gift, not just to receive it. They understand “pay it forward.” And they know that when they are doing this good work, they will also connect with other caring, kind, and generous people. That’s how we build a community – when we take the opportunity... to take the opportunity.

I joke that much of the president’s job is to say please, thank you, and I’m sorry. Even with the holidays behind us, let me say that if I have offended you in any way, knowingly or unknowingly, please accept my humble apologies, along with my pledge to do better.

There are some things we can only do together, that we cannot do by ourselves alone: when we act as a group we are very powerful. We pray, together, that we have a good year. We pray, together, for a healthy year. And we pray, together, that we can live fully as Jews in this wonderful country. And we also celebrate together, our shul’s 90 year history – and our exciting future.


It’s hard to believe that an entire year has passed by, literally in the blink of an eye. So often, we say to ourselves, I only wish that I started this, or did that, or reconnected with this person or that one.

Yes, there are some things we can only do together – but let me suggest that there are some things that only we can do, as individuals. Only each of us knows our priorities – and only each of us can choose what they are.

When you think about your priorities, think of the opportunities in front of you. When it comes to filling out your schedule, why not try something new? The Night Seder Chavrutot and Shiur was pretty cool. When you decide that you are going to be a giver of time or dollars, why not do it right here at Shaarei Shomayim? This year, we have been inspired by Chazzan Shai Abramson and his choir, and this is because of the foresight and generosity of a number of families. When you give your time or dollars, you’re building opportunities for others to grow Jewishly and socially.

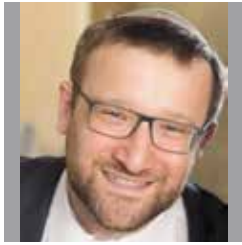
In the coming year, we have 52 Friday night Shabbat dinners, and 52 Shabbat lunches: These are 104 opportunities each year to make someone else feel special – why not invite someone new for a meal? And the classes, and the programs, and the social events, and yes, the davening. The more we take advantage of each opportunity, the more we each get.

My wish for each of you is that this be a year where you take advantage of all opportunity that comes your way.

On behalf of the board and the executive, thank you for allowing us to serve. 

LET’S MAKE OUR SHUL WARM AND HOSPITABLE

We are looking for members who can host young singles, new members or visitors for Shabbat and Yom Tov meals. We would like to make sure that every person who comes to our shul has a place to go. If you are interested, please fill out the online form at shomayim.org/form/providehospitality, or contact the shul office.



Bageled and Latkes

Oddly enough, what secured my first position as a rabbinic intern was that during my interview I mentioned that I used to go busking (playing guitar and singing for petty cash) in the New York City subway. It wasn't a demonstration of my learning. It wasn't my personal interests and passion for community building. It certainly was not the fact that there was a water stain on my tie from washing my hands before the interview in the shul bathroom.

What caught my rabbinic mentor's interest was a passing comment about my being "bageled" in the subway. He didn't know what being bageled meant. So I explained that it means how people find some way to connect with you through your Jewish identity. They wink at you and point to their kippah or Star of David necklace; say "Shalom" or ask what shul you go to. They nonchalantly ask when evening services are. I cannot be sure that this constitutes bageling, but I distinctly remember a woman abruptly raising her voice to discuss the drama of chuppah preparations for her daughter's wedding, with someone who was way too close for her to be using an outside voice. Whether it was intentional or not, I was included as a listener to her stressful but happy story. We shared a smile.

It was an embrace of my Jewish identity and my unabashed showcasing of it while busking (the impetus for being bageled so often) that tipped the decision for my mentor towards


hiring me. He works towards building a Judaism in his community that can merge with the hustle and bustle of the modern world, and can contribute to the peculiarities of secular culture, while remaining distinct in a good-natured and dignified way. This was a meeting of the minds between us. Admittedly, I haven't gone busking in a while. I miss it.

If by telling you this story I come off as prideful, then good. Given the rise in antisemitism, given a widespread disinterest for religious commitments, given a numbness towards spiritual growth and national destiny, I am happy to confess that I am prideful about these aspects of my Judaism, and it feels so good. These three things: (1) our religious commitments, (2) spiritual growth, and (3) our sense of national destiny, are what we celebrate on Chanukah. These things are also what our community is championing.

For example, in the hustle and bustle of Yorkdale Shopping Centre on Wednesday mornings, you are sure to find Shaarei Shomayim members walking there. We often get bageled by strangers and friends from the larger Toronto Jewish community! One time, we were discussing the halachot of conducting ourselves in the marketplace. As the discussion moved towards driving in the mall's parking lot, I could see strangers begin to lean in and listen. Some of them were nodding to themselves as we discussed the difficulties of being courteous to strangers looking for parking spaces closest to the mall entrance. We were at the Starbucks cafe, and we contributed

an authentic voice of Torah and Derech Eretz to the din of our surroundings. Jew or non-Jew, it drew the interest and appreciation of fellow cafe goers.

Another example: Rabbi Bergman and I have been learning on Wednesday evenings in the Beit Midrash and offer shiurim and chaburahs about Shabbat. Over the past few months, friends from different backgrounds and degrees of familiarity with formal learning have come to check it out. Our challenge is that the variety of interests is so broad, that we will be adapting the Night Seder program to address them in a series of topics! At the time of Chanukah, Shabbat was one of the major Jewish practices that the Greeks had outlawed. This broad embrace of Jewish learning about Shabbat is definitely a blessing and a point of pride for me. God willing, one thing is for sure: there will be cholent at each Night Seder. Maybe there will even be some singing afterwards!

When we light the menorah and sing Maoz Tzur, we perform a public display of pride. In fact, the activity and traffic in the marketplace is the barometer that the Talmud (Shabbat 21b) utilizes in determining the ideal time to light the menorah! We wear our identities on our sleeve (or, more literally, on our windowsill). We bagel one another with the lights of our menorah. We also express gratitude to Hashem, Who has brought us to this auspicious season. Perhaps our gratitude to Hashem prevents our pride from becoming a pitfall into arrogance. So Lauren, Zachy and I wish you a warm and glowing Chanukah; warm with gratitude and glowing with pride. 



It's a Date!

Date night. One of the suggestions that relationship consultants offer to couples who struggle to maintain their depth of connection and excitement after years of marriage, is to set aside special time on a regular basis to go on a date. What once was associated with the singles' life of men and women, "going out" has come around as a solution to harried married couples who yearn to find that spark that once existed when they were dating or newly married. Life happens. Stuff gets in the way. I think most of us can easily understand just how this unintentional distance creeps up upon us and surprises us.

There is a story of a man whose girlfriend had a beautiful voice that so enchanted him, he decided to marry her. This humorous (?) story is a reminder of what can happen. Years after they married, he woke up in the middle of the night and couldn't sleep. Looking around, he saw his wife lying in bed, hair undone, no make-up, breathing deeply. Anxiety gripped him as he momentarily felt that his life had taken a wrong turn. In a panic, he shook his sleeping wife and shouted: "Honey, wake up! Sing something!"

It is true that sometimes we have to be "shaken" a little in order to remind ourselves of how things were or, at least, how they are supposed to be. Relationships need attention and care. You don't have to be an expert to realize that. But just like that statement is true for human relationships, it is also true for our relationship with God. Our relationship with God also needs care.

We all know that scene from *Fiddler on the Roof*, when Tevye turns to Goldie as they lie in bed, and asks her: "Do you love me?" We yearn to be needed and loved, to feel that someone cares deeply for us and misses us when we are gone. So, perhaps it's time to ask ourselves about another relationship which has the power to affect our lives in the most dramatic way.


"What sort of relationship do I have with God?" "What sort of relationship does God have with me?"

The notion that I can have a personal relationship with God, for some of us, seems strange. But, if within the realm of our human relationships, we recognize the need to nourish our affection to each other, then perhaps the same conclusion also applies to our connection to the Divine. The perceived distance that we may feel to God may be, in part, because we just don't take the time to talk to each other.

On a professional retreat that I attended, the facilitator encouraged us to have a conversation with God. I admit to my initial discomfort with this exercise. We were led outside to the pretty grounds, and were told to walk around at our leisure and begin to talk to God as if we were both taking a walk together. Just talk to God, almost in a stream of consciousness conversation. This activity was based on the teaching of Rav Nachman of Breslov who strongly urged daily conversation with Hashem. While it initially seemed contrived, by the end of the 20 minutes my "conversation" seemed much freer and genuine.

I have come to cherish, whenever possible, the quiet car ride home from work. No radio, no phone calls, no podcasts. Silence and the occasional conversation with the Almighty. Just Him and me. And I get to speak my mind.

Like other relationships that I care about, I need to nurture my connection with God with some degree of attention. Conversation is certainly one way that I demonstrate that I am invested and that I care. The more that I share with my partner, the more that I get out of the relationship. It is time that helps me strengthen the bond.

Sort of like a date... 

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NICOLE TOLEDANO



What is the Job of the Executive Director?

I recently attended the annual OU (Orthodox Union) Executive Directors Conference. It is put on by the OU for affiliated synagogues in the USA and Canada. This year it took place in the windy (and very cold) city of Chicago. It was attended by 25 staff from places including San Diego, Omaha, Miami, Boca, Houston, and four of us from Toronto. I often joke with the Executive Director from Boca Raton as I get to see the materials that he produces quite regularly – as a number of our snowbirds attend his shul and like to show me what they are doing so well.

What is quite clear is that each shul has its own identity and own way of doing things. It is also clear that we are all dealing with the same issues – security, cash flow, active lay leaders, non-active lay leaders, relationship between clergy and staff, and boards. We had the opportunity to learn from our peers – discussing fundraising, conflict management, facility management, shul software systems, and security protocols and procedures. I often get excited when a facilitator asks the group, “who has a harassment policy” - Shaarei Shomayim does. Yay – we’ve done something that we have been talking about. We haven’t however, looked it over in a while. The facilitator was able to remind us all that a policy is only good if it is distributed, posted and updated on a regular basis.

We discussed crisis management and developing a team to address it. Some shuls had to deal with floods (three times), another one had to deal with a Rabbi arrested for inappropriate behaviour, another one had to deal with hurricane coming through their city. How do you react? How do you respond? Who and/or what must be in place so that the shul’s members, staff, clergy, etc. can hit the road running and be already set for dealing with crisis?

Professional development is and always should be a priority. Why:

- To learn something new you can immediately implement.
- To expand skills, learn more about the job, discover specific knowledge that can help you grow personally and professionally.
- To meet leaders from the community - to ask questions, share ideas and expand on what is covered.

- To network with others who are in the same business as you – the people business.
- To meet people in person whom you have made connections with thru social media (there is a WhatsApp group as well as a list serve for OU Executive Directors and Administrators). It’s very comforting to know that you can send a question out to the group and usually receive several responses within the hour.
- To learn from the experiences of your peers – networking with others who may have gone through something similar and can help navigate through the issue is invaluable.
- To learn about valuable resources relevant to the shul business (Techsoup is a software provider that greatly reduces pricing on various software for non-profits).
- To gain insights and ideas that you can use to establish/increase your credibility and expertise.
- To show a commitment to your profession – we are all in it because we love our community and the people we work with.
- To visit interesting new locations where the conference is being held - I much prefer, as do the others, Florida to Chicago.

There is no substitute for attending live, face-to-face professional development conferences relevant to the shul business and needs. When the shul makes the investment of time and money, I return to the workplace with a renewed sense of purpose, as well as being armed with new knowledge and tools. These benefits will help me grow personally and more importantly – professionally. [📄](#)



Youth Matters

I hope everyone enjoyed the first few months of the 5780 Youth Programming! I really love being part of Shaarei Shomayim and enjoy seeing everyone on Shabbat morning. I am excited about our events coming up! I would like to thank the Youth Leaders in the various rooms:

Stay & Play, Nursery, Grades 1-2, Grades 3-5 Boys and Girls. Everyone works so hard and we truly appreciate everything you do for the children – *Yshar Koach!* Looking forward to an amazing winter / spring! 🌨️

Join Didi Rosenzweig, Ari Karon and the Youth Leaders for a winter & spring of fun and meaningful programs!

- Junior Minyan
- Movie Night
- Family Bowling Night
- Purim Carnival
- Musical Kabbalat Shabbat
- Young Families Sunday Morning Programs
- Parent Child Learning

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**Youth Program
Winter 2020 / 5780**

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CAN YOU BE A GREETER?

We need volunteers for special Shabbatot when we have a Simcha or Scholar-in-Residence. Please contact the office at 416-789-3213.

Bar Mitzvah Program

BY RABBI JESSE SHORE



Our program provides boys preparing for their Bar Mitzvah with unique and fun opportunities. Boys from different schools come together to create a community of friends at our shul that transcends the boundaries of the classroom. With the help and input from one of our parents, Bonnie Langer, we've also made fundamental improvements, including lowering the cost of admission, as well as creating a Parent Whatsapp group to better accommodate families schedule changes and programs.

We've had Sgan Rosh Beit Midrash, Rabbi Sammy Bergman, talk to us about the challenges and opportunities of being a Bar Mitzvah. We've also joined the Teen Minyan to better familiarize ourselves with how to participate and lead Shabbat davening. We've played street hockey in the shul's parking lot on Saturday night. We've had musical Havdallah with Rabbi Shore and Zev Bell, a star in the Teen Minyan. We've made our own tzitzit and joined the shul in skating!

We rolled up some of our very own Havdallah candles, and talked with Lauren Shore about what it means to be a part of the chosen people. We are also learning about chess with Yakira Began and Yachad. Finally, we are working on editing a Purim themed film for your viewing pleasure, and we think you will get some good laughs from watching it! There is so much more we have yet to do in our program. If you know someone whose Bar Mitzvah will take place in 2020, it's not too late for them to join in on the fun and adventure! Email rabbishore@shomayim.org. 📧



ShulCloud Registration / Login

If you have not already done so and have an email registered with us, please login to your account at shomayim.org, set up your password, and look to see if the information that we have for you is correct. You can check birthdates, yahrzeits, children's details, and your account – all the information we have for you and your family. Please call the office for assistance at 416-789-3213.

Bat Mitzvah Program

BY AVITAL STRAUCHLER

The Shaarei Shomayim Bat Mitzvah Program is now in its ninth year. When speaking to parents of past participants, I have found agreement that the program has enriched the year of “Bat Mitzvah preparation” for many young women. The program’s design was only possible with the help of parents and community members. The real success is not just the Torah learned and chessed integrated through hands on activities, which are both quite remarkable. A successful program is built upon the friendships formed between young women from diverse backgrounds and from many schools, coming together under the roof of one shul. Sometimes, friendships develop after the Bat Mitzvah program has finished. Girls often point to their Bat Mitzvah program at Shaarei Shomayim, when describing the roots of relationships with friends outside their schools.

Our 5780 Bat Mitzvah program has sixteen girls who are creative, fun and excited about learning. We have started with our Women in Tanach series - discussing Miriam, Avigayil, Batsheva and Esther. We found sources of inspiration for Tefillah in rabbinical texts and books by JK Rowling, Judy

Blume and Madeline Lengel, while participating in an exiting interactive shiur with Zehava Stadler. Enthusiastic parents and kids joined Avital Strauchler for mother-daughter learning and Rabbi Strauchler for father-daughter conversations. Discussions on Self-Esteem and Body Image with Jodi Katzeff Klein and Mindful Eating with Susan Osher introduced the group to topics that are already relevant at their age, but are often only presented to older girls. For some fun we have been scrapbooking, learned Krav Maga, and joined in the Shaarei Shomayim Skate Night. We look forward to our many chessed activities, coming up! 📖



ARI RUBIN



SERENA RUBIN



JAY KARON



Teen Minyan

Teen Minyan is always looking for new members, boys and girls. Please contact Ari & Serena Rubin at teens@shomayim.org if you'd like learning opportunities, or to join the Teen Minyan. We also have excellent Middle School programming with Jay & Naomi Karon. We'd love to have you! 📖

 **JERUSALEM MARATHON'S Team Shalva**  **SHAAREI SHOMAYIM** שַׁעְרֵי שׁוֹמַיִם

SHAAREI SHOMAYIM TEEN MINYAN TEAM
Running the *Shalva Jerusalem Marathon*



JERUSALEM WINNER MARATHON

MARCH 20, 2020



Shaarei Shomayim's Teen Minyan is running the *Shalva Jerusalem Marathon!*
The Marathon will take place on Friday, March 20, 2020.
Runners are: Isaac Begun, Zev Bell, Jake Bloom, Isaac Golombek, Justin Goodman, Caleb Mansell, and Isaac Mansell.
More spots available - please contact the shul office.
For more information go to run4shalva.org

Young Professionals

The Shaarei Shomayim YP community got together for a beautiful Kiddush on Shabbat, October 26. There was a great turnout, lots of fun and of course – food! Thank you to Adir & Dara Dishy and Yoni & Bailey Roth for sponsoring the Kiddush in honour of Izzy and Bailey's birthdays. If you would like to sponsor a YP Kiddush, please contact Rabbi Shore at rabbishore@shomayim.org. 





CAMP AHS!

SUMMER 2020

(AGES 2-4)

Give your child a
S.M.A.R.T. Start at
Associated
this Summer!

Sessions:

June 29 - July 17

July 20 - August 7

August 10 - August 28

*A minimum number of campers per session is required



Cost per session:

Morning (9am-12pm)

\$625/ 3-week session

Full Day (9am-4pm)

\$1050/ 3-week session

Cost per week:

Morning (9am-12pm) - \$225

Full Day (9am-4pm) - \$375

*Sign up for 2 sessions or more and get 50% of your camp fee credited towards your child's tuition for the 20/21 school year!

Outdoor Play . Games . Sports .
Yoga . Science & Math Explorations
Drama . Art . Cooking . Water &
Sand Play . Dance . Music .
Robotics . Jewish & Israel
Connections . Weekly Shabbat
Celebrations & More!

To register, email:
camp@ahschools.com

Associated Hebrew Schools



Every Jewish child has at least four homes. Their first home is their family home, the house in which they grow up. They are also entitled to our national home of Israel, to their community home, the *Beit Kneset*, and to their daytime home – their school, the *Beit Sefer*.


Both the school and the shul are called homes – in Hebrew, *bayit*, or *beit* – and the two are closely connected. The school is called a *Beit Sefer*, home of the book or the story, and this is where children learn our shared story, the story of the Jewish People. And the shul is a *Beit Kneset*, a home for gathering, a home for the community – this is where they meet the people who are, with them, a living part of the story they have learned.

Both the *Beit Sefer* and the *Beit Kneset* are homes of learning, centres of Jewish life. Jewish children need community, and the community, in turn, needs children – we complete one another's stories; together we provide a sense of wholeness, togetherness, unity.

The *Beit Kneset* is also known as a *mikdash m'at*, a microcosm of the Temple. This is an apropos comparison

particularly around *Chanukah*, when we celebrate the *chanukat ha'bayit*, the rededication of the Temple. This, too, calls to mind yet another connection between the shul and the school, where we engage in education, *chinuch*, sharing a root word with *Chanukah* and *chanukat ha'bayit*.

In both education and dedication, sometimes the smallest thing can make a significant difference. When they learn something new, our students, our *chanichim*, are continually rededicated and refreshed; they see the world through new eyes. So, too, a small change to our home can often be an opportunity for renewal and rededication – for *chanukah*.

We at AHS want to wish the Shaarei Shomayim a *Mazal Tov* on the auspicious occasion of your *Beit Kneset's* 90th anniversary. May this be an opportunity for renewed dedication in the community, and may we both continue to prepare kids for Jewish life in our community, by providing them with meaningful Jewish experiences and a strong sense of belonging in the many homes we have dedicated to them. 

שערי שמים
SHAAREI SHOMAYIM



AGES 4 TO 7

AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM - WINTER/SPRING 2020

Tuesdays, 4:00-5:00PM

19 Sessions:

January 7, 21, 28

February 4, 11, 18, 25

March 17, 24, 31

April 21, 28

May 5, 12, 26

June 2, 9, 16, 23

\$483/child member
\$561/child non-member



Limited space available

Register at:

shomayim.org/form/art2020

Shaarei Shomayim reserves the right to cancel classes if the minimum enrollment is not met.

For inclement weather, every attempt will be made to schedule a make up class.

Please note that there will be no refunds for missed classes.



Is Our Celebration of Chanukah a Biblical Obligation?

Ask a young child whether celebrating Chanukah is a biblical or a Rabbinic commandment, and she will tell you the obvious answer – it was created by the Rabbis! And yet, the Ba'al Halachot Gedolot (BeHaG), one of the great 9th century Torah scholars, maintains that the mitzvah to say Hallel is *למדאורייתא*! How is this possible if the holiday itself is Rabbinic? And moreover, riffing on Rav Yosef Karo well known question about why we have eight days of Chanukah, since for the first there was no miracle at all, why do we say a full Hallel each day of a holiday that commemorates a single miracle?

To help us think through the above questions, Rav Shimon Bitton points to the Sefer HaMakabim, the apocryphal book that tells the full story of Chanukah. There, in Book 2, Chapter 1, pasuk 21, it says, “And now our souls should celebrate the day of the *chanukat hamizbeach* (the consecration of the altar) on the 25th of the month of Kislev... **and you should celebrate it like the days of Sukkot...**” In what sense is Chanukah like Sukkot? On Sukkot, a new set of sacrifices are brought each day of the chag as a way of marking the fact that each day is a unique religious experience, and as a result of its uniqueness we say a full Hallel each day (in contrast, on Pesach we only say full Hallel on the first day(s), since the chag is seen as a whole block without the same differentiation for each day). Chanukah, Rabbi Bitton says, is similar; that the oil burned each day is not the extension of one long miracle, rather each day gave a renewed sense of awe and gratitude for the continued miracle in our national life. Gratitude is a consequence of a person having a presence of mind, or literally being present with one’s mind, and recognizing the bounty of what one has. This is not an ongoing state but something that has to be renewed, and as

such, is valuable each time we are able to be in this mental space. As a result, each day in which we are grateful for the miracle of Chanukah is a separate experience which merits a separate, full Hallel.

This helps explain the unusual position of the BeHaG. Relying upon the ideas of Rabbi Daniel HaBavli (a Chacham quoted in the works of Avraham ben HaRambam), Rav Bitton says that the biblical mitzvah of Hallel is triggered whenever we have a vital need to show our gratitude for what Hashem has given us. And since each day of Chanukah is a separate experience of gratitude, our saying Hallel on those days is a biblical, not a Rabbinic obligation, just as the BeHaG said.

With all this, it is the consequences that Rav Bitton draws that are most fascinating. If it is true that every experience of profound gratitude demands a biblically mandated Hallel, this means that saying Hallel on Yom Ha'atzmaut, Yom Yerushalayim (and potentially other national days of gratitude) are also biblically mandated! Taking this position seriously one must wonder: what else are we so grateful for that would trigger this expectation of biblically mandated Hallel? And even if one said it had no further halachik application, either because it only applies to national gratitude, or because no other events rise to this level of gratitude, it still leaves each of us with a powerful implication -- that when Hashem gives us something in our lives for which gratitude is the proper response, it is not simply good manners or character that holds us accountable. Rather, the Torah values gratitude so much that it makes the response of gratitude, literally, of biblical proportions.


On behalf of Netivot HaTorah, may we all find inspiration in the days of Chanukah, and be able to experience and express gratitude for the many gifts Hashem has given us. 📖

Thinking Torah

On Wednesday afternoons, we have a discussion group about ideas in Jewish thought. We select essays and articles on various topics to read during the week and we examine them when we come together. The topics we have covered so far are: the purpose of prayer, the defining idea of commandments in Judaism, repentance, the potency of religious experiences, rabbinic authority in Judaism, and a world of ethics that is beyond the 613 commandments.

Much of the material is inspired by the writings of esteemed scholar Rabbi Shalom Carmy, the previous editor of *Tradition* Journal. Rabbi Carmy's writings serve as the springboard to launch us into a diverse array of thinkers on Jewish themes. A sampling of thinkers we've encountered include C.S.

Lewis, Phillip Roth, and Yeshayahu Leibowitz. Everyone has something to contribute to the class. We continue to nurture a friendly and adversarial learning process, where there are no-holds-barred on arguing our viewpoints, while everyone can feel comfortable having their opinion heard.

Philosophy, and Jewish philosophy especially, often begins with questions. Rabbi Jonathan Sacks remarks that "questioning is at the heart of Jewish spirituality." If you've ever been struck by questions, perhaps you would like to open your mind to the breadth and depth of Jewish philosophy? Would you like to contribute your thoughts and insights to our conversations? We would love to have you join us! Please reach out to rabbishore@shomayim.org to be included in our group email. 

 שַׁעְרֵי שְׂמַיִם
SHAAREI SHOMAYIM



Thinking Torah

Rabbi Shalom Carmy

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WEDNESDAYS

WEINBAUM BEIT MIDRASH

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Musical Lunch & Learn

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Tuesdays

Friends

January 14

Live music*

12:00pm

February 11

Torah

Main Lobby

March 24

To register, call the office at 416-789-3213

*Learn zmirot!
Request songs!



Shaarei Shomayim Congregation
470 Glencairn Avenue | Toronto, ON M5N 1V8 | 416-789-3213

Musical Lunch & Learn

Once a month we come together to listen and sing to live music, learn some Torah, and eat delicious food. Our Musical Lunch & Learn is an opportunity for many of us to learn or teach a Shabbat Zemer and to appreciate the poetry and understand its words. For example, on the Shabbat where we read Parshat Noach, we read a stanza and refrain from a popular Shabbat Zemer that relates how the dove that Noah sent found a place to rest on Shabbat. This was a reference to a midrash that we explored and discussed in greater detail.

In our repertoire, we enjoy Israeli, English, and Yiddish songs, accompanied by Rabbi Shore on the guitar and President Randall Craig on the piano. The music helps to lift our spirits and encourages us to sing along. If you want to join your friends, meet new ones, and participate in a musical and Torah-filled experience, please join us! Contact the shul office to register for the next program. 📞

Chessed Committee

Our mission is to help our fellow members in times of need or celebration. With the help of our volunteers, who are members or friends of Shaarei Shomayim, we send out meals and form meal trains at times of illness, bereavement or new babies. We send out birthday cards to our members who are 80+. We help out the Youth Committee on their Chanukah & Chessed event. As we do every year, we will deliver Purim Mishloach Manot packages and try to visit with those members who have had a loss in the last year, or have difficulties getting to shul for various reasons. We try to visit or call members who have been ill or have difficulties getting out in order to keep in touch.

We would like to inform our members of a new hospitality initiative from our shul. The Chessed Committee has been inspired by other shul's initiatives to create a more helpful environment at our shul with regards to *Hachnasat Orchim*. We will have helpful links for Kosher take out food, and

also ask visitors for information about themselves so that we can match them with appropriate families in terms of age, eating requirements etc. We will try our best to accommodate the needs of a few categories of guests. For more detailed information please go to our website: shomayim.org/form/providehospitality.

This new form is for those members who volunteer to be asked by the shul to invite guests in need of hospitality, when the need arises. We are a large shul so there will never be pressure to accept a guest when it is not convenient.

We would also love to have a few volunteers who will help manage the website and find families off of the shul's data base, for those needing help.

Please let Dalya Hakimi, Chessed Committee Co-chair, know if you can help out on this initiative, as a host or to help in placing guests: chessedhotline@shomayim.org. 📞

הרב חיים שטראוכלר

תכנית רבני חו"ל וישראל: הסתדרות הרבנים דאמריקה - ברקאי

פרשת ויגש

4 לינואר, 2020 - ז' בטבת תש"פ



בית הכנסת חזון הדור הצעיר

דבר תורה לפני תפילת ערבית - "יהודה ויוסף: אחים מנוכרים"

שיחה בסניף בני עקיבא

"מה זה אורתודוקסי מודרני?"

בית הכנסת חוני

דבר תורה לפני קריאת התורה

"איך מתוכחים - מה ניתן ללמוד מיוסף ויהודה בנושא זוגיות בימינו"

שיעור הלכה לאחר התפילה

"נשק בשבת: חילוקי דעות בין צפון אמריקה וישראל"

בית הכנסת חזון הדור הצעיר

שיעור גמרא: סוטה ח' - "במידה שאדם מודד בה, מודדין לו"

תפילת מנחה ואחריה סעודה שלישית - שירה ודברי תורה

הרב חיים שטראוכלר מכהן מעל ל-10 שנים כרב הראשי של בית הכנסת שערי שמים, בית כנסת אורתודוקסי מודרני בטורונטו, אונטריו, קנדה, שבו חברות 700 משפחות, ומעל 2000 איש. הוא מאמין שבית הכנסת הוא מקום אותו אנו פוקדים במטרה ליצור קשרים רוחניים ולשנות את העולם, לתת חשיבות לחיינו, ולחנך את הדור הבא על פי ערכינו. בית הכנסת הוא המקום בו אנו פועלים יחד על מנת להשיג מטרות חשובות.

הרב שטראוכלר קיבל סמיכה מהשיבה על שם הרב יצחק אלחנן ב- Yeshiva University. הוא בעל דיפלומה בתיאולוגיה ותואר שני בלימודי דת מ- Oxford University, וכן בעל תואר שני בלימודי תנ"ך מ- Bernard Revel Graduate School, ובוגר ה- Wexner Graduate Fellowship. בעודו סטודנט, הרב שטראוכלר יסד את העלון הספרותי ממעמקים.



לפני שהצטרף לשערי שמים, הרב שטראוכלר שירת כרב בית הכנסת בית חברים בווספורט, קונטיקט, ארה"ב. הרב שטראוכלר משרת כחבר בצוות ההנהלה של הסתדרות הרבנים דאמריקה ושל מועצת הכשרות בטורונטו. כמו כן הוא עורך משנה של העלון Tradition, העוסק במחשבה יהודית.



Connecting North American and Israeli Communities

On January 1, 2020, Rabbi Chaim Strauchler will lead a project on behalf of the Rabbinical Council of America and the Barkai Center for Practical Rabbinics. Six rabbis of North American communities will pair with six rabbis of Israeli communities. They will meet for a day conference in Jerusalem to learn about each other's work and communities. The North American rabbis will then join their Israeli colleagues for Shabbat, where they will serve as scholars in residence within their synagogues. Rabbi Strauchler will spend Shabbat, January 4 with Rabbi Moshe Shilat in Hatzor HaGlilit. The Israeli rabbis will participate in the RCA annual conference in May, and then join their pairs for Shabbat in their North American communities.

The relationship between Israel and North America is essential to the Jewish people. Recent controversies


have led some to question the strength of these bonds. The Rabbinical Council of America recognizes the need to deepen our understanding of Israeli religious life, and in turn to enhance awareness and familiarity for our Israeli colleagues of North American religious life.

In addition, our communities can and indeed must learn from and teach one other. Most Dati Leumi (National Religious) Israelis are not aware of the riches, sophistication and intricacies of North American Orthodox communal life. In fact, the model of community centered Judaism is just starting to take root in Israel, and North American Jews have the potential to contribute greatly to this growing positive development.

At the same time, while many Orthodox Americans are very connected to Israel and have visited many times, most are unaware of the real issues with which Dati Leumi

communities struggle.

This initiative will bring Israeli and American communities together as equals – into meaningful dialogue with one another. The initial component of the initiative will begin with rabbis. Most rabbinic meetings between Israeli and American rabbis take place around hot button national and international matters, where most of the speakers are “big name” types who speak at the participants instead of there being a true dialogue. We propose a different model: an open dialogue on the grassroots level where rabbis from each side of the ocean can speak openly, share best practices, and genuinely connect on a personal and professional level.

This initiative can greatly enhance community living on both continents by increasing awareness and knowledge that Israeli and North American communities have of one another. 

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Did you know that you can now make donations, sponsor kiddushim / breakfasts, make a payment on your account, etc. online – right from our website, anytime you want! You can also access your account from our web portal. Please call the office to get this access.

Donate, sponsor, and make a payment on account

shomayim.org/payment.php

Religious Committee

RON CUPERFAIN AND HYIM BESSIN, CO-CHAIRS

The Religious Committee has been busy over the past year with our regular work pertaining to ritual policies, in addition to multiple discussions regarding the Ba'al Tefillah search process, as well as the exciting hire of IDF Chazzan Shai Abramson for the Yamim Noraim this year. The annual High Holidays Survey process has recently concluded, with 151 responses this year compared to only 108 responses last year. We attribute the higher response rate to the survey being e-mailed out an hour after Simchat Torah concluded, rather than the next day, as well as to the desire of many members to share their positive comments about Chazzan Abramson. The results this year regarding the davening and the general atmosphere in shul were incredibly positive, which aligns with the sentiment that many members expressed to us during the Chagim.

One of the action items that emerged from last year's survey was the need to decorate our Sukkah more beautifully, which was done this year. We thank Avital Strauchler and the Youth as well as Nicole, for ensuring the beauty of our Sukkah.

To view the summary results of this year's survey, please go to shomayim.org/hhsurvey.

We would like to take this opportunity to encourage each of you to attend as many weekday minyanim as you can, particularly during the winter months. Please also join the shul minyan WhatsApp group by texting 647-404-4801.

Please contact us anytime if you have any suggestions or comments regarding the work of the Religious Committee. Have a safe and pleasant winter. 📞



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Am Israel Chai

By Randall Craig

We sing this song, and understand what it means for us as a people. But for me, it is also quite personal. I had just recently received an email – for the first time – from my stem cell donor. Shortly thereafter, I had an opportunity to meet him: he was flown to Canada from Israel by Ezer Mizion, the Israeli Bone Marrow Donor Registry. Without his generosity, I wouldn't be here today: Am Israel Chai!

Hi Randall!

How are you? I'm Amiel, from the bone marrow donation. I thought that perhaps I'd tell you a little bit about myself, so we could begin to get acquainted with each other – only if you want to, of course.

My name is Amiel Finkelstein, 24, married to Reut and waiting, at this very time, for our first birth, G-d willing. I am an avreich (Torah scholar), studying at Yeshivat Ohr Etzion, headed by Rabbi Chaim Druckman, and my wife is a ninth grade homeroom teacher at the Ulpanah. I served in the army for a year and a half, in the paratroopers' unit. It was in the army that what brought us together took place – the donation.

Perhaps I'll tell you, again, a bit of how it was on my part. One Sunday, I got a call from Ezer Mizion, asking me to get back to them. Already then, I started getting excited: Maybe I was lucky enough to have been found to be a match for a donation? Indeed, they informed me on the phone that an initial match was found between us for a donation. I felt as if I'd won the lottery, and even more; it was such a great privilege. Of course, I did the entire process, which you probably are more familiar with than I am, and the whole thing went smoothly and easily from my end.

I was so happy to hear, a year later, that the transplant was a success! I'll also admit that I was especially happy to hear that you were Jewish. Wishing you continued robust health and much happiness!

Amiel



Reut, Shira Rachel, and Amiel Finkelstein,
Randall, Linda, and Sabrina Craig

Dear Amiel...

Writing to you has been on my to do list for the last several months. I can't describe how difficult it has been to figure out HOW to say thank you for your generous gift as a donor. Literally, it was a gift of life.

Here's my story. In April 2017, I wasn't feeling so well and went to my doctor, who got me to take a blood test. The next day I was told that I had leukemia. This was followed by months of difficult chemotherapy. While I was beating the cancer back, the doctors said that my Leukemia was particularly aggressive, and that further chemo was pointless – I had a zero percent chance of surviving. My last resort option was a bone marrow transplant, if a donor could be found. And if someone could be found, only half of the transplant people survived two years post-transplant. And only 25% made it to 5 years. As far as I was concerned, 50% was a heck of a lot better than 0%!

Sadly, no one in my family was a match, so the transplant team went to the world database to search for a match. Of everyone, everywhere, one perfect match was found: you.

The transplant itself was very, very difficult, but it is now in the past, and God willing, I will never need to have this done again. I can share details in another note if you're interested. I am SO thankful both for your generosity, and also that after two years, I'm still here, with good momentum, and relatively healthy.

A bit about me. I'm 56 years old, but I still think I'm 24 years old. I'm very happily married to my wife Linda for 33 years; we have 3 kids, Sabrina, Jacqueline, and Shale. Because of the transplant, I was able to attend Jacqueline's wedding a year ago. Thank you again.

I am an author, management consultant, and speaker, but currently on medical leave: the recovery is a long one. I've written 8 books on digital strategy, and am now writing my first musical. My wife is an expert on supply chain and is also a consultant.

While neither my wife nor I speak Hebrew, my children all do – sorry for the English reply! We're quite involved in our Shul, Shaarei Shomayim, which is the largest Orthodox Shul in Toronto, where I am the president. I work very closely with Rabbi Chaim Strauchler, along with a number of other rabbonim in the city.

We've been to Israel many times, and look forward to coming "home" again. (I am still immunocompromised, so must be exceptionally careful to not pick up an infection when travelling.) I'm a bit jealous of my children, as they've all been to Israel, again, within the last year.

I am looking forward to meeting you, as I feel like I suddenly have a new "brother". Who knew that our genetics – at least our blood DNA – would be so compatible? Thank you, and thank your parents!

And thank you to the brilliant minds at Ezer Mizion, who came up with the idea of "swabbing" each IDF inductee for the registry. Think of the gifts from Israel to the world: Torah, Technology, Innovation, Farming, and so much more; we need to add Ezer Mizion's work to this list. Who would have thought that Israel would be a huge exporter of life itself?

I look forward to meeting you (and Reut) in person: I don't know how or when, but I do want to make it happen. And I look forward to meeting your new baby!

Randall



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שַׁעֲרֵי שְׁמַיִם
SHAAREI SHOMAYIM

JANUARY 2020

Tevet/Shevat 5780

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			4 Tevet Statutory Holiday 8:30 am Shacharit	1 5 Tevet 7:20 am Shacharit	2 6 Tevet 7:20 am Shacharit	3 7 Tevet 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha
8 Tevet 8:30 am Shacharit	5 9 Tevet 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	6 10 Tevet Fast of 10th of Tevet 6:42 am Fast Begins 6:45 am Shacharit & Slichot 7:45 am Shacharit & Slichot 4:20 pm Mincha 5:15 pm Maariv 5:29 pm Fast Ends	7 11 Tevet 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	8 12 Tevet 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	9 13 Tevet 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	10 14 Tevet 4:25 pm Mincha 5:36 pm Shabbat Ends
Sun - Mon: Mincha 4:40 pm, Maariv 5:05 pm			Wed - Thurs: Mincha 4:45 pm, Maariv 5:10 pm			11 15 Tevet 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha
15 Tevet 8:30 am Shacharit	12 16 Tevet 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	13 17 Tevet 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit 12 pm Musical Lunch & Learn	14 18 Tevet 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	15 19 Tevet 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	16 20 Tevet 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	17 21 Tevet 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha Yachad Shabbaton
Sun - Thurs: Mincha 4:45 pm, Maariv 5:10 pm						18 22 Tevet 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha Shabbat Mevorchim
22 Tevet 8:30 am Shacharit	19 23 Tevet 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	20 24 Tevet 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	21 25 Tevet 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	22 26 Tevet 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	23 27 Tevet 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	24 28 Tevet 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha
Sun - Thurs: Mincha 4:55 pm, Maariv 5:20 pm						25 29 Tevet 8:30 am Shacharit
29 Tevet 8:30 am Shacharit	26 1 Shevat Rosh Chodesh 6:45 & 7:45 am Shacharit	27 2 Shevat 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	28 3 Shevat 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	29 4 Shevat 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	30 5 Shevat 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	31 6 Shevat 4:50 pm Mincha 5:59 pm Shabbat Ends
Sun - Thurs: Mincha 5:05 pm, Maariv 5:30 pm						



שַׁעֲרֵי שׁוֹמַיִם
SHAAREI SHOMAYIM

FEBRUARY 2020

Shevat / Adar 5780

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7 Shevat 8:30 am Shacharit	2 8 Shevat 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	3 9 Shevat 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	4 10 Shevat 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	5 11 Shevat 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	6 12 Shevat 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	1 6 Shevat 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha בא 9:30 am Dr. Elliott Malamet Pray & Learn 4:55 pm Mincha 6:08 pm Shabbat Ends
Sun - Thurs: Mincha 5:15 pm, Maariv 5:40 pm						7 13 Shevat 8 Shabbat Shira 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha בשלה 5:05 pm Mincha 6:17 pm Shabbat Ends 8 pm Souful Evening of Song
14 Shevat 8:30 am Shacharit	9 15 Shevat Tu B'Shevat 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	10 16 Shevat 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit 12 pm Musical Lunch & Learn	11 17 Shevat 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	12 18 Shevat 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	13 19 Shevat 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	14 20 Shevat 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha יתרו
Sun - Thurs: Mincha 5:25 pm, Maariv 5:50 pm 7:30 pm Medical Ethics						15 21 Shevat 5:15 pm Mincha 6:26 pm Shabbat Ends
21 Shevat 8:30 am Shacharit	16 22 Shevat Statutory Holiday 8:30 am Shacharit	17 23 Shevat 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	18 24 Shevat 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	19 25 Shevat 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	20 26 Shevat 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	21 27 Shevat 22 Shabbat Mevorchim Shabbat Shekalim 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha משפטים 5:25 pm Mincha 6:35 pm Shabbat Ends
Sun - Thurs: Mincha 5:35 pm, Maariv 6:00 pm						22 28 4 Adar 29 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha תרומה
28 Shevat 8:30 am Shacharit	23 29 Shevat 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	24 30 Shevat I Rosh Chodesh 6:45 & 7:45 am Shacharit	25 1 Adar II Rosh Chodesh 6:45 & 7:45 am Shacharit	26 2 Adar 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	27 3 Adar 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	28 4 Adar 5:46 pm Mincha 5:55 pm Mincha
Sun - Thurs: Mincha 5:45 pm, Maariv 6:10 pm						29 5:35 pm Mincha 6:44 pm Shabbat Ends

שנתי שמיים SHAAREI SHOMAYIM

MARCH 2020

Adar / Nisan 5780

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 Adar 8:30 am Shacharit	6 Adar 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	7 Adar 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	8 Adar 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	9 Adar 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	10 Adar 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	11 Adar Shabbat Zachor 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha תצוה
Sun - Thurs: Mincha 5:50 pm, Maariv 6:15 pm						
12 Adar 2:00 am Turn clocks forward 1 hour 8:30 am Shacharit	13 Adar Ta'anit Esther 6:38 am Fast Begins 6:45/7:45 am Shacharit/Slichot 6:45 pm Mincha 7:20 pm Maariv/Megillat Esther 7:46 pm Fast Concludes 9:30 pm Second Reading Purim Carnival	14 Adar Purim 7:00 am Shacharit/Megillat Esther 9:30 am Women's services 9:50 am Women's Megillah Read 4:30 pm Last Megillah Reading 5:15 pm Mincha 7:30 pm Maariv	15 Adar Shushan Purim 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	16 Adar 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	17 Adar 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	18 Adar Shabbat Parah 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha כי תשא
19 Adar 8:30 am Shacharit	20 Adar 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	21 Adar 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	22 Adar 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	23 Adar 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	24 Adar 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	25 Adar Shabbat Hachodesh 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha ויקהל-פקודי
Sun - Thurs: Mincha 7:10 pm, Maariv 7:35 pm						
26 Adar 8:30 am Shacharit	27 Adar 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	28 Adar 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit 12 pm Musical Lunch & Learn	29 Adar 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	1 Nisan Rosh Chodesh 6:45 & 7:45 am Shacharit	2 Nisan 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	3 Nisan 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha ויקרא
Sun - Thurs: Mincha 7:20 pm, Maariv 7:45 pm						
4 Nisan 8:30 am Shacharit	5 Nisan 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	6 Nisan 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	8:00 pm Legal Ethics			
Sun - Tues: Mincha 7:30 pm, Maariv 7:55 pm						

*Earliest time for this activity.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>CHAMETZ TIMES FOR EREV PESACH Tuesday April 7: Search for Chametz after 8:22 pm. Wednesday April 8: Last time to eat Chametz is 11:08 am. Chametz must be burned and nullified by 12:14 pm. At the 1st and 2nd seders, afikoman must be eaten by 1:18 am.</p>						
17 Nisan 8:30 am Shacharit	5 12 Nisan 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	6 13 Nisan 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	7 Nisan 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	8 Nisan 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	9 Nisan 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	10 Nisan Shabbat Hagadol 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha 11:15 am Rabbi's Drasha pt. 1 6:15pm Rabbi's Drasha pt. 2 7:20 pm Mincha 8:28 pm Shabbat Ends
Sun - Tues: Mincha 7:40 pm, Maariv 8:05 pm	8:22 pm Search for Chametz*	8:22 pm Search for Chametz*	8:22 pm Search for Chametz*	8:22 pm Search for Chametz*	8:22 pm Search for Chametz*	8:22 pm Search for Chametz*
18 Nisan 8:30 am Shacharit	12 19 Nisan Chol Hamoed 6:45 & 7:50 am Shacharit	13 20 Nisan Chol Hamoed/ Erev Chag 6:45 & 7:50 am Shacharit	14 21 Nisan VII Pesach 8:45 am Shacharit	15 22 Nisan VIII Pesach/Shir Hashirim 8:45 am Shacharit 10:45 am Yizkor (approx.)	16 23 Nisan 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit Parsha	17 24 Nisan Shabbat Mevorchim 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha שמעוני
Sun - Mon: Mincha 7:45 pm, Maariv 8:10 pm	7:00 pm Mincha 7:42 pm $\text{ה} \text{ה}$ (6:37*)	7:00 pm Mincha 8:42 pm $\text{ה} \text{ה}$ *	7:50 pm Mincha 8:43 pm Chag Ends	7:50 pm Mincha 8:43 pm Chag Ends	7:00 pm Mincha 7:45 pm $\text{ה} \text{ה}$ (6:40*)	7:35 pm Mincha 8:46 pm Shabbat Ends
Count Omer 4 after Maariv	Count Omer 5 after Maariv	Count Omer 6 after Maariv	Count Omer 7 after Maariv	Count Omer 8 after Maariv	Count Omer 9 after dark	Count Omer 10 after Maariv
25 Nisan 8:30 am Shacharit	19 26 Nisan 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	20 27 Nisan Yom HaShoah 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	21 28 Nisan 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	22 29 Nisan 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	23 30 Nisan I Rosh Chodesh 6:45 & 7:45 am Shacharit	24 1 Iyar Shabbat Rosh Chodesh 9:00 am Shacharit Parsha מרתיע-מאורע
Sun - Thurs: Mincha 7:55 pm, Maariv 8:20 pm	7:00 pm Mincha 7:42 pm $\text{ה} \text{ה}$ (6:37*)	7:00 pm Mincha 8:42 pm $\text{ה} \text{ה}$ *	7:50 pm Mincha 8:43 pm Chag Ends	7:50 pm Mincha 8:43 pm Chag Ends	7:00 pm Mincha 7:45 pm $\text{ה} \text{ה}$ (6:40*)	7:35 pm Mincha 8:46 pm Shabbat Ends
Count Omer 11 after Maariv	Count Omer 12 after Maariv	Count Omer 13 after Maariv	Count Omer 14 after Maariv	Count Omer 15 after Maariv	Count Omer 16 after dark	Count Omer 17 after Maariv
2 Iyyar 8:30 am Shacharit	26 3 Iyyar 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	27 4 Iyyar 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit Yom HaZikaron	28 5 Iyyar 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit Yom HaAtzmaut	29 6 Iyyar 6:55 & 7:45 am Shacharit	30 Iyyar 7:00 & 7:45 am Shacharit	Count Omer 18 after Maariv
Sun - Thurs: Mincha 8:00 pm, Maariv 8:25 pm	8:22 pm Search for Chametz*	8:22 pm Search for Chametz*	8:22 pm Search for Chametz*	8:22 pm Search for Chametz*	8:22 pm Search for Chametz*	8:22 pm Search for Chametz*
Count Omer 18 after Maariv	Count Omer 19 after Maariv	Count Omer 20 after Maariv	Count Omer 21 after Maariv	Count Omer 22 after Maariv	Count Omer 23 after Maariv	Count Omer 24 after Maariv

*Earliest time for this activity.

New Members Welcome

Rabbi Chaim and Avital Strauchler hosted a beautiful Melaveh Malka in their home. It was nice to meet and greet many new members and their families, enjoy delicious food and celebrate our growing community. May we become a stronger and tight-knit community together. 🇺🇸

We wish a warm welcome to the following new members:

Yossi Adler & Miriam Weinstein
Yehuda & Shira Bendavid
Martin R. & Pamela Chasen
Jerome & Michelle Edelstein
Ari & Camilla Eidelstein
Andrew Elbaz & Rebekah Price
Abraham Elmaleh & Naomi Benmergui
Yaacov & Chaya Feldman
Adam & Joanne Franklin
Elan Hahn & Batya Berman
Baruch Harari & Sarah Turk
Daniel Katzin & Esther Drenfeld
Daniel & Orah Leah Klein
Daniel Korman & Lauren Goldberg
Jonathan Levy
Edward McCloskey & Tara Disenhouse
Danijel Pister & Nicki Perl
Iris Rosenfeld
Alvin & Jacqueline Snider
Peter Tanenbaum & Marni Appleby
Jamie & Jacqueline Turkenicz
Kenny & Sherri Wise
Samuel Zimmerman & Rachel Davis
Jonathan Zion



The Nusbaum Family Medical Ethics Institute of Beit Midrash Zichron Dov presents

MEDICAL ETHICS

BEREAVEMENT AND THE PHYSICIAN

How do Judaism's mourning rituals apply to medical professionals?
What happens when ritual conflicts with patient care?

with Rabbi Mordechai Torczyner

7:30 - 9:00 PM Monday February 10, 2020

Shaarei Shomayim, 470 Glencairn Ave. Toronto

Men and women are welcome / Open to non-physicians
No advanced Jewish knowledge required / There is no charge.
For information, call 416-783-6960 or email info@torontotorah.com.



This Group Learning program meets the certification criteria of the College of Family Physicians of Canada and has been certified by Continuing Professional Development, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto for up to 1.5 Mainpro+ credits.

This event is an Accredited Group Learning Activity (Section 1) as defined by the Maintenance of Certification Program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, approved by Continuing Professional Development, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto up to a maximum of (1.5 hours).

שַׁעְרֵי שׁוֹמַיִם
SHAAREI SHOMAYIM



תש"פ

Beit Midrash Zichron Dov
presents

LEGAL ETHICS

SUPPORTING THE

EMOTIONALLY UNSTABLE CLIENT

From the perspective of Jewish Ethics and the LSO

with Rabbi Mordechai Torczyner

8:00-9:30 PM Monday March 23, 2020

Shaarei Shomayim Congregation
470 Glencairn Ave. Toronto



Open to non-lawyers
No advanced Jewish knowledge required.
This program contains
1.5 Professionalism Hours

שַׁעְרֵי שׁוֹמַיִם
SHAAREI SHOMAYIM



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Beit Midrash Zichron Dov Fall Shabbaton "Shabbat Chevron: A Shabbaton of Thought and Inspiration"

Thank you very much for hosting our Beit Midrash Fall Shabbaton this Shabbat. Beyond giving us opportunities to speak, you welcomed us so warmly and positively at each minyan, all of us felt entirely at home.

Our relationship with Shaarei Shomayim remains one of the most important ties we have in Toronto; the shul is not only a home for our shiurim and programs and a partner for a rabbinic assistantship, but a like-minded and like-missioned institution and trusted friend. I look forward to continuing and building together in the years ahead, God willing.

Thank you,

Rabbi Mordechai Tarczyner
Rosh Beit Midrash

BEIT MIDRASH ZICHRON DOV & SHAAREI SHOMAYIM CONGREGATION PRESENT

SHABBAT CHEVRON

A Shabbaton of Thought and Inspiration
at Shaarei Shomayim
Shabbat Parshat Chayei Sarah, Nov. 23, 2019

Dvar Torah during Hashkama, Ezer Dena
The Worst City in Israel?



Shiur after Hashkama, Ezer Dena
The City of Fours

Derashah, Main Shul, R' Sammy Bergman
Is Chevron Worth It?







Derashah, Downstairs Minyan, R' Mordechai Tarczyner
Sarah Died Alone in Chevron; It Matters Today

3:55 PM Mini-Shiur, R' Alex Hocht
Chevron 2019: Should We Be There?

Seudah Shlishit, Ezer Dena
Chevron First, Jerusalem Second

SHAAREI SHOMAYIM

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בית מדרש לנשים
A BET MIDRASH FOR WOMEN

בית מדרש לפרוֹפֵּסיוֹנִים
A BET MIDRASH FOR PROFESSIONALS

FAMILY SKATE NIGHT

We had a blast at our annual Family Skate Night, sponsored by **Alan Burger and family** in loving memory of **Suzanne Burger**^{z"l}. With Parent-Child Learning with Rabbi Sammy Bergman, special Bar and Bat Mitzvah programs, skating and pizza, it was fun for all!



**FAMILY
SKATE
NIGHT**

Sponsored in Loving Memory of Suzanne Burger ^{z"l}
by her husband, children and grandchildren

Motzei Shabbat, November 23, 2019
6:45 - 8:45 pm
At Chesswood Arenas
4000 Chesswood Drive, North York





SKATE NIGHT - TRIBUTE TO SUZANNE BURGER^{z"l} BY RABBI CHAIM STRAUCHLER

Thank you to Alan Burger and his family for sponsoring this annual program in memory of Suzanne Burger, A"H.

Most of the kids here never met Suzanne. I want to tell you a little about her.

Suzanne was a wonderful teacher and a loving friend. She loved children. She loved everyone.

She was a giving person who always went the extra mile for others. It is so meaningful to remember Suzanne with a program like this one.

Children and friends can come together and have a healthy fun time.

We want to thank Alan Burger and his family for allowing us - Suzanne's community - to remember her in this meaningful way.





שערי שמים

SHAAREI SHOMAYIM



Music Under the Schach

 Wednesday, October 16

 7:30 - 9:30 PM

 Hot cocoa, marshmallows, teas & refreshments

 Bring your instruments!



Shaarei Shomayim Congregation

 470 Glencairn Avenue | Toronto, ON M5N 1V8 | 416-789-3213



NIGHT SEDER





שערי שמים

SHAAREI SHOMAYIM



NIGHT SEDER

 FOR MEN AND WOMEN

Rabbi Bergman Rabbi Shore


 with your hosts
 

ADVANCED GEMARA:

LAWS OF SELECTING ON

SHABBAT

BEGINNERS GEMARA:

MUKTZEH ON

SHABBAT

Wednesdays

 7:30 - 9:00pm

 Weinbaum Beit Midrash

Refreshments will be served!

Oh yeah and Chulent!

 (because chulent)

Shaarei Shomayim Congregation

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ANNUAL COMMUNITY BBQ

On Monday September 2, Shaarei Shomayim hosted its annual Community BBQ on our shul's front lawn. We enjoyed friendship, great food, arts and crafts, bouncy castle and games for the kids, and fun for everyone! We introduced our incoming Youth Director, Didi Rosenzweig. Thank you to everyone who volunteered and attended the BBQ, and helped make it a great success!




שַׁעְרֵי שׁוֹמַיִם
SHAAREI SHOMAYIM


ANNUAL WELCOME BBQ
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2
4:00 pm-7:30 pm

5:00 pm
Annual CPR &
Defibrillator
Demonstration

JOIN US ON THE FRONT LAWN!
(In case of rain, please join us inside)




 SHAAREI SHOMAYIM AND
 YESHIVA UNIVERSITY-TORAH MITZION BEIT MIDRASH ZICHRON DOV
 PRESENT
PARENT-CHILD LEARNING
 2019-2020



Join us this year as Rabbi Sammy Bergman of the YU Torah Mitzion Beit Midrash leads our Parent-Child Learning program. Each session will last one hour which will include time to study with your child/ren, a short overview of the learning with Rabbi Bergman and, of course, pizza, pop, Parsha questions and prizes. For all Parent-Child learning is the perfect way to welcome the new week with your family. We look forward to seeing you there.

For more information please contact Rabbi Bergman at sbergman@torontotorah.com

PARENT - CHILD LEARNING SCHEDULE


NOVEMBER 15, 6:30 PM OPENING PROGRAM	JANUARY 4 - NO PCL
NOVEMBER 21, 6:30 PM	JANUARY 11, 8:50 PM
NOVEMBER 30, 8:15 PM	JANUARY 18, 6:45 PM
DECEMBER 7 - NO PCL	JANUARY 25, 8:45 PM
DECEMBER 14, 6:15 PM	FEBRUARY 1, 7:00 PM
DECEMBER 21, 6:15 PM	FEBRUARY 8, 7:15 PM
DECEMBER 28 - NO PCL	FEBRUARY 15, 7:15 PM
	FEBRUARY 22, 7:30 PM
	FEBRUARY 29, 7:30 PM
	MARCH 7, 7:45 PM

PARENT CHILD LEARNING


Parent Child Learning is a great way to start off the new week with fun learning and quality family time. With pizza, prizes, parsha review sheets, colouring and more, children of varying ages can learn and enjoy! Please join us for this weekly opportunity on Motzei Shabbat, with our rabbinic assistant from Beit Midrash Zichron Dov, Rabbi Sammy Bergman. For more information email Rabbi Bergman at sbergman@torontotorah.com.

TOT SHABBAT

If you are a parent (or grandparent) who would like to enhance your davening experience with your child, there are seats for you at Tot Shabbat! From 10:30 to 11:30 am on special Shabbatot, we provide a structured space where children ages 1 to 4 can appreciate the choreography, ideas, and beauty of Shabbat and tefillah services. Learn fun, new tefillah songs, listen to Torah stories, and have a blast with your little one! Thank you to Daniel Held for making our Tot Shabbat a big success!


 SHAAREI SHOMAYIM

WHERE KIDS MATTER



TOT SHABBAT
 New Monthly Program

10:30-11:30 am
 Parents & Tots ages 1-4
 Parent Participatory Tefillah Songs and Stories
 With Daniel Held and Rabbi Shore
 Lower Level Social Hall

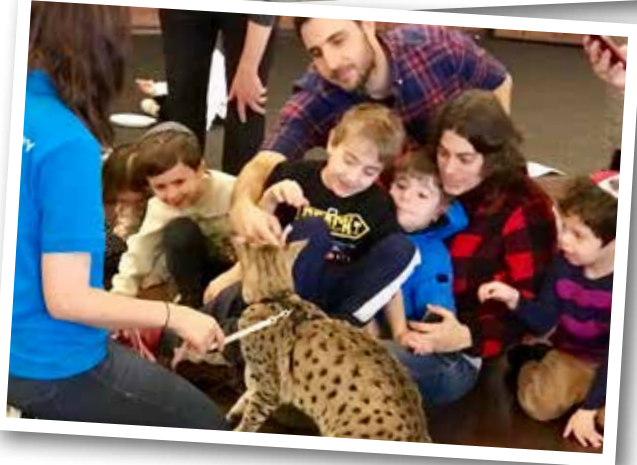
470 Glencourt Avenue | Toronto, ON M2N 1Y8 | Tel: 416-789-3211 | Fax: 416-789-1728
WWW.SHOMAYIM.ORG

NOAH'S ARK LIVE ANIMAL SHOW

בס"ד
שַׁעְרֵי שׁוּמַיִם
SHAAREI SHOMAYIM
Young Families

**NOAH'S ARK
LIVE ANIMAL SHOW**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3
10:15 AM - 11:45 AM**



YOU AND ME: INTERGENERATIONAL ART PROGRAM

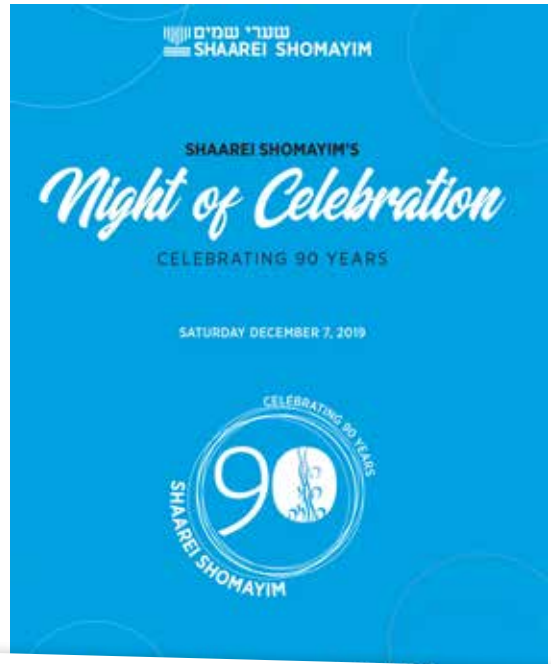
The YOU AND ME: Intergenerational Art Program was held, with great success, on Sunday, November 24. This was an opportunity for children to work closely with their grandparents, uncles, aunts, or anyone older – who would like to spend time bonding with the kids they love, creating artwork and memories. Make sure to watch for it next year – it is an event you don't want to miss!





90TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Photos Credit: Liora Kogan



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90TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Photos Credit: Liora Kogan



90TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

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CHANUKAH & CHESSED

On Motzei Shabbat, December 14, we made sandwiches and collected supplies for Ve'ahavta's drive for the homeless (1), baked cookies for Mazon funded food banks (2), labelled candles for Bikkur Cholim (3), painted Chanukah cards for Baycrest residents (4), donated and organized books (and bookmarks) for Toronto's Children's Book Bank (5), put together a fun art activity for KCC winter camp (6), created adorable pillow cases for Chail Lifeline (7), and packaged gratitude gifts for our city's firefighters and police officers (8). One of the event's volunteers dropped off the gratitude gifts at the police station. He told them about the Chanukah & Chessed theme of kindness and thankfulness, and let them know how much we appreciate all that they do. They were very grateful!

Shaarei Shomayim's Chanukah party was all about Chessed, and everyone left feeling great for having made a difference! Thanks to the amazing team who put this together, and to all the parents who came to teach kids the values of Chessed with laughter and fun!

We thank the following people for their help with the event:

Chanukah & Chessed Program Organizers: Avital Strauchler and Didi Rosenzweig

Chanukah & Chessed Committee: Ilana Arje-Goldenthal, Lana Bobrowsky, Deena Eizicovics, Eli Javasky, Yael Jakubovic

Chessed Committee Volunteers: Dalya Hakimi, Miriam Allman Klein, Hyim Bessin, Rochelle Diamond, Barbara Held, Shoshana Kagedan, Bonnie Langer, Aurelia Ostro, Mihal Tylman, Mark Usher, Blanca Zimmerman.

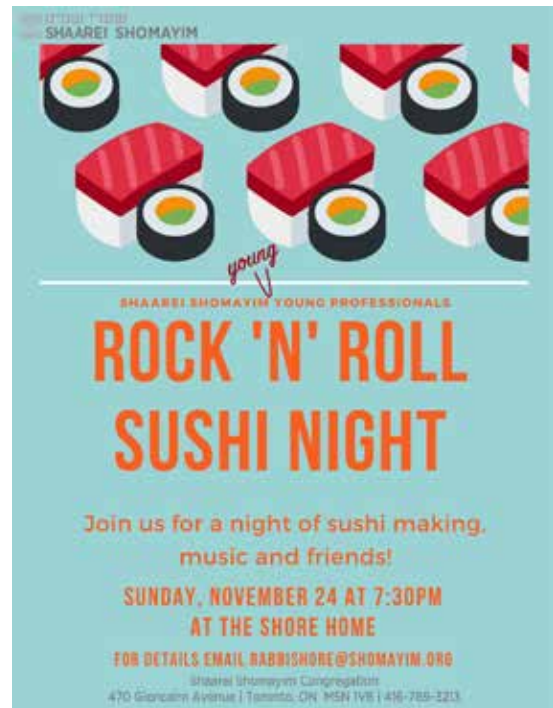


CHANUKAH & CHESSED



YYP SUSHI NIGHT

After a huge turnout for our YP Post-Hakafot Tisch on Simchat Torah, we are inspired to do more for our younger YPs. Young Young Professionals from Downtown to Thornhill shared an evening at the Shores to hand craft their sushi dinner. A great time was had by all with good food, good music, and great company. Up next is Improv Night! Stay tuned for details. Rabbi Jesse really wants to host a movie night featuring his favorite Avenger, Chris Evans, as an Israeli Mossad agent. If you are a YYP and would like to join us, contribute to future events, or to save the rest of us from Rabbi Jesse's fanboy ideas or his fondness for the popcorn machine he got on Chanukah, please reach out to Lauren Shore at LaurenGlassmanShore@gmail.com.



THE WALKIE TALKIES RETURN!



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This winter, we will walk through Yorkdale Mall, a fun, grand, and temperature-controlled testament to Canadian consumerism.

Good health, personal connections & wholesome Torah can be found here too. We'll discuss what the Torah has to say about etiquette in the marketplace (and the parking lot). Walk the halls, grab a drink or snack, and we'll make some key educational rest stops along the way!

All ages are welcome.

For details and to register email Rabbi Shore at RabbiShore@shomayim.org

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Member News

We wish Mazal Tov to the following:

FROM JULY 28 TO NOVEMBER 30, 2019

BIRTHS

Rabbi Hartley & Stacie Perlmutter on the birth of their son, Ezra in Edmonton, Alberta. Excited big sister is Lielle. Proud grandparents are Joanne & Jeffrey Perlmutter, and Elynn & Gary Rosenberg. Proud great-grandparents are Mervin & Myrna Lass, and Burt Birnbaum and Barbara. Proud uncles are ZACHARY and MITCHELL PERLMUTTER, and Andrew and Matthew Rosenberg.

PAUL BROWN and Carol Brown on the birth of their first great-grandchild, Betsalel Maor, born to Akiva & Rivky Barron in Israel. Proud grandparents are Bayla & Daniel Barron of Bet Shemesh, and Rabbi Doniel & Aviva Schreiber of Alon Shvut. Delighted great-grandmother is Joyce Barron. Excited aunts and uncles are Uriel, Tehila, Meira and Yehoshua Barron.

AARON & JACKIE ORZECH on the birth of their son, JAYDEN. Excited siblings are MADISON and COBY. Proud grandparents are GARY & FERN ORZECH and Robert & Gloria Bielak. Delighted great-grandmother is Marsha Bielak. Thrilled aunts, uncles and cousins are ILAN & REBECCA, MIA, JONAH and BENJAMIN BERGEL; Josh & Yael, Gabriella, Hailey and Noah Orzech; Nati & Rachel, Max and Ari Philosophie; and Leslie Bielak.

LEXI & ROBERT KOTZER on the birth of a son, ELLIS SAMUEL KOTZER. Excited grandparents are JUDY & BRIAN KOTZER and Laura & David Rose. Proud great-grandfather is ANDREW RAAB.

ATTA & HENRY ZIELENIEC on the birth of their great-grandson, Nachman Melech, son of Shoshana & Baruch Batt. Ecstatic grandparents are Naomi & Zev Rosenblum.

REBECCA & BERL NADLER and Brenda & Steven Albert on the birth of their grandson, Adin Yosef, born to Batya Nadler & Matt Albert. Excited brother is Charlie. Thrilled uncles and aunts are Ariella & Hody, Hillel & Tova, and Tova & Seth, and cousins are Yosef, Shoshana, Rose, Adina and Shaya.

SARAH & DAVID GREEN on the birth of a daughter, SAVANNAH EMMA (CHAVA EMUNAH). Proud grandparents are Marjorie & Gershon Green and Brenda & Alan Halpert. Thrilled great-great aunt and uncle are VIVIANE & TITO MASSOUDA.

JEREMY & TALYA SILVER on the birth of their son, AVERY AUBIE. Excited big sister is LAYLA. Proud grandparents are BONNY SILVER and Jeff & Marcia Shumacher. Elated great-grandparents are Dr. Harry & Helen Cohen. Thrilled uncles and aunts are JEFFERY & DANIELLA SILVER, HANANEL SEGAL & SHERRI SILVER, Azari & Navah Shumacher, Aleeza Shumacher, and Yoav Shumacher.

ROSS LINKER & MELISSA LASS on the birth of their son, RILEY MILES LINKER, in San Francisco. Proud grandparents are BRIAN & BRENDA LASS and Michal & Paul Linker of New Jersey. Elated great-grandparents are CYNTHIA GASNER, Mervin & Myrna Lass, and Elisheva & Shaul Kilion of New York. Ecstatic aunts and uncle are JORDAN & SARA LASS, SHIRA LASS, and Wallis Linker. Thrilled cousin is MIA SUNNY LASS.

REBECCA & BERL NADLER and Isaac & Geri Wiener on the birth of their grandson, Avraham Moshe, born to Hillel & Tova Nadler of Boston. Excited siblings are Yosef and Shoshana. Thrilled uncles and aunts are Batya & Matt, Ariella & Hody, and Tova & Seth, and cousins are Rose, Charlie, Adira, Shaya and Adin.

JESSE & ALEXA TEPPERMAN on the birth of their son, BILLY. Proud grandparents are Casey Tepperman and Noel & Andie Solomon. Elated great-grandparents are Joe Tepperman and Rica Solomon. Ecstatic aunts and uncles are Katie Tepperman, Jeremy Elhadad, and Rachel Solomon.

ROSE (TOGMAN) & MICHAEL HEILBRONN on the birth of their granddaughter, Noa Yehudit Gali, born to Rachel Wortzman & Tovi Heilbronn. Loving brother is Lev Heilbronn. Elated maternal grandparents are Debby & Howard Wortzman. Dear aunts and uncle are Leora Heilbronn, Mike Wortzman & Dana Mayer. Beloved great-grandmother is Anne Togman.

SHAUNA & JEREMY BORNSTEIN on the birth of their son, LEVI. Excited siblings are HANNAH and JUDAH. Proud grandparents are GILDA & BARRY WALTMAN and Brenda & Eric Bornstein.

AVI & SARA FELD on the birth of their son, MORDECHAI LEV (LEVI MORRIS). Excited siblings are TANI and CHARLEY FELD.

ORITTE & KEN NOVACK and Alison & Brian Kashin on the birth of their grandson, Ari Lev (Baryl Zev) Novack, born to Jordana Kashin & Jordan Novack. Excited uncles and aunts are Corey and Daniel Novack, Andrew and Morgan Kashin. Ecstatic great-grandparents are Miriam Mozes, Diane Novack and Marion & Ron Kashin.

FAROKH & DALYA HAKIMI on the birth of twin grandchildren, Lev Simcha and Ahuva Shulamit, born to Isaac Hakimi & Tamar Schiller, daughter of Izzy & Ariela Schiller of Riverdale, New York. Excited siblings are Matan, Aiden and Gabriela.

LIDDY BECK & STEVE GOTTESMAN and Ilene & Stephen Flatt on the birth of their grandson, Henry Lev, born to Sophie Gottesman & Bryan Flatt. Proud aunts and uncles are ELIZABETH GOTTESMAN & JEFF PELCHOVITZ, JONATHAN GOTTESMAN, MADELEINE GOTTESMAN, Dana Flatt and Laura Flatt. Excited cousin is ZOE PELCHOVITZ.

REBECCA & BERL NADLER and Jeff & Rhonda Avner on the birth of their grandson, Yonah Joseph, born to Tova & Seth Avner. Thrilled siblings are Rose and Adira. Mazal Tov to uncles and aunts Batya & Matt, Ariella & Hody, and Hillel & Tova, and cousins Yosef, Shoshana, Charlie, Shaya, Adin Joseph and Abie.

BAR / BAT MITZVAH

ETHEL RACHEL & MICHAEL CHALOM TOUITOU on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, SAMUEL in Israel. Excited brothers are RAPHAEL and GABRIEL. Proud grandparents are William Yitshak Mettoudi & Chantal Maya Mettoudi, and Roger Fradji Touitou.

JEFFERY & DANIELLA SILVER on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, EMILY. Excited siblings are ALISHA, SORELLE and ABIE. Proud grandparents are BONNY SILVER, ARIEH GLUSTEIN and Resa & Alan Litwack, and great-grandparents are Noreen & Cyril Lax. Thrilled uncles and aunts are JEREMY & TALYA SILVER, HANANEL SEGAL & SHERRI SILVER, ZVI & NAOMI GLUSTEIN, and GADI & ATARA YUNGER.

BAR / BAT MITZVAH

BETTY CHARNAW and ALAN BURGER on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Ari Burger, son of Jill & Marc Burger. Excited siblings are Lia and Zoe. Thrilled great-grandmother is Margaret Frohlich. Excited aunts and uncles are ADAM CHARNAW, Lorne & Ashley Burger, and Naomi Burger. Late grandparents are ZELICK RON CHARNAW^{ZL} and SUZANNE BURGER^{ZL}.

YAAKOV & DEENA EIZICOVICS on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, NOAM. Excited siblings are AVIVA, RONNY and SOLLY. Proud grandparents are Nachum & Sorel Eizicovics and Sid & Denise Levin. Mazal Tov to all the aunts, uncles and cousins. Happy 13th Birthday to twin sister AVIVA!

VICKY & RALPH LEVINE on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Ari, son of Chaya Laya & Avromi Kaplan. Proud siblings are Chanala, Zevi, Dovi and Reena.

RANDAL & SHIRLEY SLAVENS on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, ISAAC. Excited sister is SAMARA. Proud grandparents are ERIC & MARSHA SLAVENS and Arie & Vera Avraham.

REBECCA & YISSY LAUTERPACHT on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, ASHER. Proud grandparents are Jacob & Beatrice Herzog and Jack & Ruth Lauterpacht. Excited siblings are TEHILA, AKIVA, ATARA, YAEL and NOAM.

HELENE & BERNIE GREEN and Charlotte Price on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Micah Green, son of Jared & Barbie Green. Excited sister is Miranda. Proud cousins are Noa, Avi, Mara, Gavin, and Mia.

IRWIN & ROZ WOODROW on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Shlomo Zalman, son of Spencer & Sharon Woodrow. Excited siblings are Yaakov, Yonah, Aviva, Dina, and Elisheva.

ELIE & JUDY ROTH on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, HILLEL. Excited twin sister is SOPHIE. Proud grandparents are Simone & Jack Oziel and Leah & Steve Roth. Thrilled great-grandmothers are Mrs. Sylvia Slomovits and Mrs. Esther Benarroch.

ILAN & REBECCA BERGEL on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, MIA. Excited brothers are JONAH and BENJAMIN. Proud grandparents are GARY & FERN ORZECH and Hy & Helen Bergel.

HAIM & MARDI HIRSHBERG and Rick & Linda Dufour on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Simon. Proud parents are Eshai & Renee Hirshberg. Excited sisters are Liora and Rosie.

MINDY GREEN on the Bnei Mitzvot of her great-grandsons, Menachem Mendel, son of Rabbi Elazar & Shira Green of Lancaster, Penn.; and Srulick, son of Mayer & Rochel Gurdow of Crown Heights, NYC.

IRWIN & ROZ WOODROW on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter Gabriella, daughter of Scott & Devorah Woodrow. Proud grandparents are Arthur & Georgeanne Burke. Excited siblings are Eli, Ari and Leeba.

DR. HAL & JULIE KERSHEN on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Noam Gabriel Goldberg, son of Dr. Rachel & Guy Goldberg. Excited siblings are Lauren and Leeya. Proud grandmother is Jocelyn Goldberg of Israel.

VICKY & RALPH LEVINE on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter Chana, daughter of Yossi & Malkie Levine. Proud siblings are Ari, Pinny and Lea. Mazal Tov to grandparents Maish & Miriam Shiff, and to the great-grandfather Dr. Moshe Katz.

YECHIEL & LANA BOBROWSKY on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, NAOMI. Excited brothers are ARI and MAX. Proud grandparents are MICHAEL & FRANCINE GOLDRICH and Rabbi Sinai & Malya Bobrowsky. Thrilled great-grandparents are PEARL GOLDRICH, David Alloul, Lillian Bobrowsky and Chaya Popack. Delighted uncles, aunts and cousins are YAAKOV & TAMARA and NOAH GOLDRICH, KAYLA & JOSH, JACKSON and SADIE BERNICK, SHIMON GOLDRICH, Yoni & Esther Rochel Shields and family, Mordechai & Goldi Bobrowsky and family, Avrohom & Chavi Bobrowsky and family, Avi & Baila Vaturi and family, and Mordechai & Faigie Grunwald and family.

ENGAGEMENTS

ELAN PRATZER & MALKA LEWITTES and Michael & Karen Rosenberg and families on the engagement of their children, ARIELLA PRATZER to David Rosenberg. Excited family members are siblings NOAM and AVIVA PRATZER, Eric Rosenberg, and Ariella's soon to be sister-in-law Yael Wertenteil. Proud grandparents are Betty Cohen and Ida Pratzer.

Dr. Jon & Ellise Gasner on the engagement of their son, Zev to Danielle Schwarz, daughter of Ronnie and Joanne Schwarz. Proud grandparents are CYNTHIA GASNER, Dr. Roni and Arnie Weingarten and Samieth Mintz. Happy aunts and uncles are MYRA MECHANIC, BRENDA & BRIAN LASS and Robert & Julea Gasner of Jerusalem.

FRANK & KAREN ANDER on the engagement of their daughter, TOVI to Yonatan, son of Eric Pellow & Rachel Blumenfeld. Proud grandparents are Max & Lil Ander and Morry & Charlotte Blumenfeld. Excited siblings are ADINA, DAVIDA and SHIRA ANDER, David and Adin Pellow.

ELISE HERZIG & RONNIE CUPERFAIN on the engagement of their son, JUSTIN to Orli Bogler, daughter of Avi & Susy Bogler of Thornhill. Very thrilled grandparents are Adam Herzig, David & Reni Cuperfain and Shmuel & Shoshana Bogler. Excited siblings are ALLIE CUPERFAIN, Yael Bogler & Daniel Bernholtz, and Tali Bogler & Nathan Stall. Very excited nieces and nephews are Jonah, Ezra, Simone, and Ellie.

RALPH & VICKY LEVINE on the engagement of their grandson Ari, son of Yossi & Malkie Levine, to Elana Eisenberger, daughter of Eli & Nechama Eisenberger of New York. Excited siblings are Pinny, Lea and Chana Levine, and Baruch and Leah Eisenberger. Mazal Tov to the proud grandparents and great-grandparents.

PETER & ADRIANNE KLEMENSBERG on the engagement of their son, JASON KLEMENSBERG to Laura Shnall, daughter of Jeff Shnall and Adriana (Adi) Shnall. Proud grandparents are Edit Galfi, Arlene Shnall, Ruth Schweitzer and Daniel Rozenberg. Thrilled siblings are AVA & NAPHTALI SILVERMAN, EMILY KLEMENSBERG, Joanna and Ben Shnall.

ARTHUR & JOYCE EKLOVE on the engagement of their grandson Yehuda, son of Harley & Susan Eklove, to Daniella, daughter of Alvin & Cheryl Einhorn. Mazal Tov to grandmother Annette Needleman, and to all the extended family.

CYNTHIA GASNER on the engagement of her grandson Nadav, son of Dr. Jon & Ellise Gasner, to Pearl, daughter of Bev Aron and Ken Kraft. Delighted grandparents are Dr. Arnie & Roneen Weingarten, Issy Aron, and Libby & Harry Kraft. Mazal Tov to aunts and uncles MYRA MECHANIC, BRIAN & BRENDA LASS, STANLEY & ELLEN MARKIN, and Robert & Julea Gasner of Jerusalem, and to all the extended family.

DAVID EISENSTAT & AMANDA SALEM on the engagement of their daughter, LEORA to Josh Stern, son of Larry & Alicia Stern of Silver Spring, Maryland. Excited siblings are ARIELLA EISENSTAT and JOSHUA EISENSTAT. Proud grandparents are CHAIM EISENSTAT, Ketty Salem, and Joseph Salem. Mazal Tov to the Stern family.

MARRIAGES

RICHARD & RENA LEVY on the marriage of their daughter, JOANNE to Adam, son of Lorraine & Mark Franklin. Excited siblings are Jason & Sharon, Melissa & Ran Kafri, David & Robin, Elana & Lawrence Mandel, Russell & Miriam, Elyse & Michael Epstein, and Jonathan; and Tenielle & Jason Goldlist, and Aaron Franklin. Proud grandmother is Helene Berger. Proud uncle is Lionel Train. Nieces and nephews are ecstatic.

RICHARD & IRINA KAY and Jewel & Ted Edelman on the marriage of their children, JEFFREY KAY to Andrea Edelman. Excited siblings are Greg, Deena and their son Benji Kay, ARI & SERENA RUBIN, and Dayna & Jason Edelman. Proud grandparents are Trina Cleeman and Julian Edelman.

JERRY & HELEN GRAD on the Aufruf and the marriage of their son, KENNETH to Arlee, daughter of Lionel & Esther Rosenberg. Excited siblings are David Grad and Ryan Rosenberg.

KAREN DONIN on the marriage of her grandson, Tzvi to Noa, in Israel. Proud parents are Cheryl & Gerry Rosen. Thrilled grandfather is Milton Rosen.

RICK & YVONNE GOLDBERG on the marriage of their daughter, LAUREN to Daniel Korman, son of Ian Korman and Michele Korman. Excited siblings are CARLY and DANIEL GOLDBERG, Jon and Melissa Korman. Proud grandmothers are Andrea Goldberg and Sabina Korman.

FRED & LINDA WAKS on the marriage of their daughter, ARIEL to Zachary Tobe, son of Pamela Tobe and Shale Tobe. Proud grandparents are Bella Wolman and Arthur & Blossom Tobe. Excited siblings are Jessica Waks & David Goodman, Marlie & David Cohen, Whitney Waks; and Austin, Chase, Sammi and Chloe Tobe.

MIGUEL & BETH SINGER on the marriage of their daughter, DANIELLE SINGER to BRAHM KLAR, son of Brian & Karen Klar. Excited siblings are DAVID, AARON, Erin and Andrew. Proud grandparents are ERNEST & HELEN SINGER, Beverly Stern, Helen Moscovitch and Alan Abelson.

DAVID SOCKEN & GALE BORISON-SOCKEN on the marriage of their son, DANIEL to Amanda Robertson, daughter of Nichola

& Gordon Robertson. Elated grandmother is Donna Robertson. Excited siblings are ALLAN & MICHELLE SOCKEN, HEATHER & GERSHON HURWEN and Chris Robertson. Ecstatic nephews and niece are NOAH, JAKE and COLE HURWEN and ANN SHIRLEY SOCKEN.

SHELDON & NORMA FINKELSTEIN on the marriage of their son, MATTHEW to AMY ELVIDGE, daughter of Carla & Ron Elvidge. Excited siblings are Richard & Caren Finkelstein, Dan Elvidge and Kaitlyn Elvidge. Thrilled nephews are Teddy and William Finkelstein. Proud grandmother is Molly Finkelstein.

ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS

ARTHUR EKLOVE on his special birthday.

SOL NAYMAN on his special birthday.

GARY ORZECH on his special birthday.

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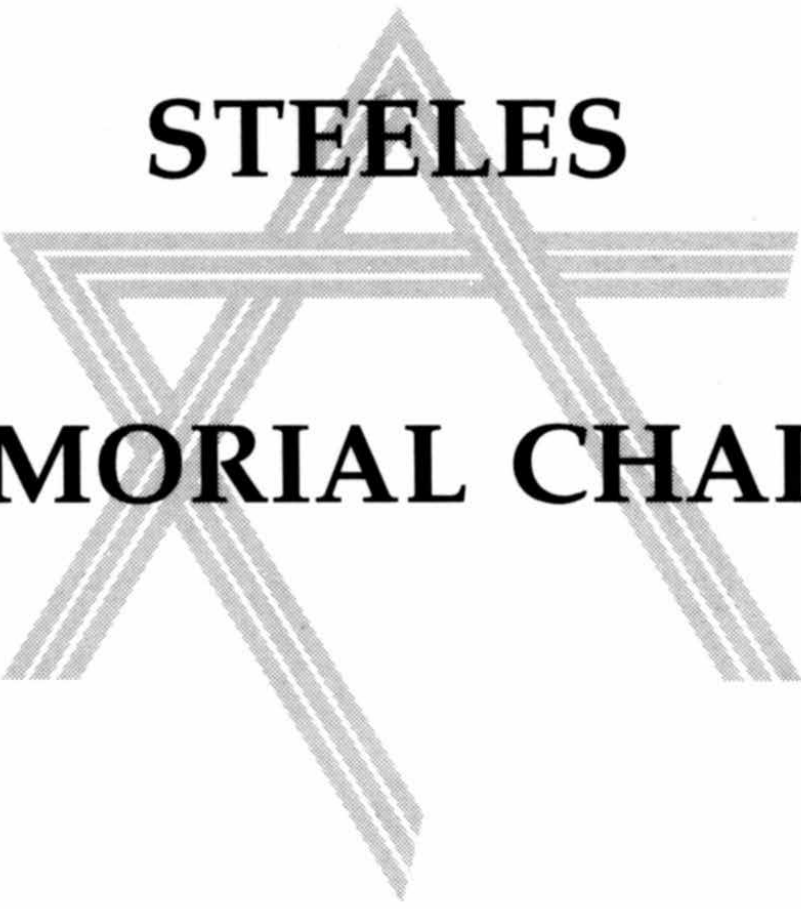
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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

DANIELLA SILVER on the release of her third cookbook, *Variations*.

B'hatzlacha to the students who are in Israel for their year of study: ROBERT DISENHOUSE, ADELE FINKELSTEIN and MEIR WEINBERG.

DR. MARK GREENBERG for being appointed Adjunct Lecturer, Department of Family and Community Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto; and Clinical Associate, Department of Psychiatry / Department of Family and Community Medicine, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre.

CHAIM EISENSTAT on the 70th anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah.

RANDALL CRAIG, who met Amiel, his bone marrow donor - a 24 year old former IDF Paratrooper and a full-time Torah scholar, who flew to Canada from Israel.

CONDOLENCES TO

Marsha Neinstein, Morley & Fran Neinstein, GARY & JUDY NEINSTEIN, Jennifer & Robert Schwartz, Ryan & Lauren Neinstein, Lauren Ford and families, on the loss of their husband, brother, brother-in-law, father, father-in-law, stepfather and grandfather, Stanley Neinstein^{z"l}.

Adam Herzig, ELISE HERZIG & RONNIE CUPERFAIN, Jack Herzig & Heather Shay-Herzig, Elizabeth Swift, Tzyduck Mandelcorn, ALLIE and JUSTIN CUPERFAIN, and Marissa and Gavin Herzig, on the loss of their wife, mother, mother-in-law, sister, sister-in-law, and grandmother, Anne Hunni Herzig^{z"l}.

Sasha Gervasi & Jessica de Rothschild, MARTIN & ESTELLE KOSOY, PHILLIP & ADA KOSOY and families, on the loss of their mother, mother-in-law, sister, sister-in-law and grandmother, Mildred (Milli) Kosoy-Gervasi^{z"l}.

The family of RALPH SUTTON^{z"l}.

Shira Benson, David Hershenhorn, YETTA GOODMAN and families, on the loss of their mother, sister-in-law, grandmother and great-grandmother, GERTRUDE HERSHENHORN^{z"l}.

Fern Melnick, Andrew, Matthew and Ashley, Lisa & Jonathan Hemi, Jodi & Ilan Shpigel, SANDY & DAVID KAMINKER and families, on the loss of their husband, father, father-in-law, step-father, step-father-in-law, brother, brother-in-law, grandfather, uncle and great-uncle, Saul Donald Gould^{z"l}.

Shira Benson, David Hershenhorn, YETTA GOODMAN, Zelda Hershenhorn and families, on the loss of their father, brother, brother-in-law, grandfather and great-grandfather, Samuel Hershenhorn^{z"l}.

Evvie Craig, RANDALL & LINDA CRAIG, Kelly and Arthur, Melanie, David and Christy, Ken and Anne Craig and families, on the loss of their husband, father, father-in-law, brother, brother-in-law and grandfather, John Grant Craig^{z"l}.

David & Naomi Tal and family on the loss of their mother and mother-in-law, Pearl Tucker^{z"l}.

SAHRI & BERNARD BAUM, BRENDA WOODS & STEPHEN BROWN, Ahuva Woods and families, on the loss of their mother, mother-in-law, grandmother and great-grandmother, Esther Woods^{z"l}.



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 Shabbat, SundayClosed

WHO'S WHO

Rabbi.....Chaim Strauchler
 Rebbetzin.....Avital Strauchler
 Assistant Rabbi.....Jesse Shore
 Shamash / Baal KorehRalph Levine
 Rabbi, Downstairs Minyan.....Elliott Diamond
 PresidentRandall Craig
 Executive Director.....Nicole Toledano
 Youth Director.....Didi Rosenzweig
 Bulletin ContributorLawrence Savlov

DONATIONS

Capital Fund.....\$18 and up
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 Weekday Breakfast: per week.....\$360
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ENDOWMENTS

Endowment funds can be set up to suit your individual requirements. For further information, please contact the shul office.w

DATES TO REMEMBER

JAN 7	Fast of 10 th of Tevet
JAN 14	Musical Lunch & Learn
JAN 17 - 18	Yachad Shabbaton
FEB 1	Dr. Elliott Malamet Pray & Learn
FEB 8	Shabbat Shira / Soulful Evening of Song & Inspiration
FEB 10	Tu B'Shevat
FEB 10	Medical Ethics with Rabbi Torczyner
FEB 11	Musical Lunch & Learn
FEB 17	Blood Donor Clinic at Shaarei Shomayim
MAR 7	Dr. Elliott Malamet Pray & Learn
MAR 9	Taanit Ester / Erev Purim
MAR 9	Purim Carnival
MAR 10	Purim
MAR 11	Shushan Purim
MAR 23	Legal Ethics with Rabbi Torczyner
MAR 24	Musical Lunch & Learn
APR 4	Shabbat Hagadol / Rabbi Strauchler's Shabbat Hagadol Drasha
APR 8	Ta'anit Bechorot / Erev Pesach
APR 9	I Pesach
APR 10	II Pesach
APR 11 - 14	Chol Hamoed Pesach
APR 15	VII Pesach
APR 16	VIII Pesach
APR 21	Yom HaShoah
APR 28	Yom HaZikaron
APR 29	Yom HaAtzmaut