

Tefilla Notebook

7 Elul • Parshat Shoftim

Stephen Rothman, President • **Rabbi Pini Dunner, Senior Rabbi** • **Nati Bar-Am, Chazan**
9261 Alden Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90210

310-276-7650 • office@yinbh.org



Sept 6-7, 2019



SHABBAT SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

6:54pm CANDLELIGHTING
6:30pm MINCHA/KABBALAT SHABBAT

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

8:30am	RABBI'S GEMARA SHIUR
9:15am	SHACHARIT
6:15pm	PRE MINCHA SHIUR
6:50pm	MINCHA
7:10pm	SEUDAH SHLISHIT
7:55pm	MA'ARIV
7:56pm	SHABBAT ENDS

WEEKDAY DAVENING TIMES

Sun. September 8	8:00am & 6:55pm
Mon. September 9	6:20am & 6:55pm
Tues. September 10	6:30am & 6:55pm
Wed. September 11	6:30am & 6:55pm
Thu. September 12	6:20am & 6:55pm
Fri. September 13	6:30am & 6:30pm

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday Sept 14th for a luncheon in honor of our guest scholar **Rav Stav** and in honor of **Margaret Feder a"h** and **Paul Feder z"l** by their Children, **Helene, Donald, Steven & Esther Feder.**

RSVP to rsvp@yinbh.org

MAZEL TOV



Mazal tov to **Janice and Philip Kaufler** on the marriage of their granddaughter **Shira Teichman to Daniel Sacks.**



If you would like to join the Mincha/Maariv WhatsApp Group, please send a message to the Rabbi on Whatsapp at 310-499-3407

Dearest Members and Friends,

Earlier this week, I briefly visited New York for a wedding, and once again I came face-to-face with the controversy that continues to rage over proposed education regulations formulated by the New York State Education Department (NYSED). Feelings are running high, and the campaign to thwart the said proposals is in full swing. Many within the orthodox community are convinced that this scheme is the thin end of a very insidious wedge, and they include those whose schools provide a very good general studies education. Quite a number of the people I spoke to believe that allowing the authorities to determine how and what is taught at Jewish private schools poses a grave danger to the future of orthodox Jewry in America.

But how did we get here? How is it possible that a bunch of bureaucrats in Albany has managed to rattle the orthodox community to this extent? Why is it, if so many schools are compliant with equivalency requirements, that NYSED wants to institute these draconian measures to regulate and oversee them? Incidentally, whatever happens in New York will surely foreshadow similar legislation in other states. There is a broad concern among education officials that Jewish private schools are not in compliance with basic educational requirements, and that children who attend these schools are being shortchanged by their institutions, to the extent that they will "graduate" without the basic skills required to provide for themselves and – once they marry and have kids – their families.

In the Satmar Hasidic community this whole episode is being painted in very stark terms. Last month, the various factions within Satmar (please note: it is no small feat to unite this very divided community) issued a powerful declaration regarding the dangers posed by the proposed regulations. In a vigorous call to arms, the leadership requested that the "honored parents" of students in their various institutions join a letter-writing campaign to the authorities to ensure the failure of the "evil education decree" which threatens the status-quo, and which – they claim – might result in the devastation and destruction of Torah-true Jewish education in New York. And this week twelve Hasidic institutions published a notice to announce that they would never include "common core" education books in their general studies curriculum under any circumstances, as they are full of "heresy", and their only intent is to prepare those who use them for a college education.

Meanwhile, thousands of parents within the Satmar community and other associated Hasidic communities, including many who have sent letters to NYSED so that they openly comply with the mandated letter-writing campaign, are secretly hopeful that the state will impose the regulations on their children's schools so that the next generation will be forced to learn English and math, and be properly equipped for life in twenty-first century America. I have received hundreds of emails and calls since my last article on this subject, the vast majority from Hasidic parents congratulating me for my stance, and imploring me not to abandon them and their children to a life of ignorance and penury.

One parent wrote to me that his children only speak Yiddish, as their school does not allow them to speak English at home, otherwise they are in danger of being expelled. This means, said my correspondent, that his children do not know the English names of the days of the week, nor do they know their English dates of birth, nor can they explain to the doctor what their symptoms are when they require medical attention. These children, it is worth noting, are all third-generation Americans. How is it that if they were Jews from the former Soviet Union, or living in low-income industrial towns in Israel, that we would do everything we could to help them gain a foothold in life, but just because they live in Williamsburg, or Monsey, or New Square, we do nothing to help them, and simply write them off? How does it make any sense that hundreds of thousands of Jewish children are being doomed to a life of poverty right under our very noses?

In the Torah portion of Shoftim we are informed that it is forbidden to use any kind of sorcery or to engage in fortune-telling to predict the future. Instead, God gave us prophets who would reveal to us what we need to know about the future, as and when we need to know it. Rabbi Naphtali Tzvi Yehuda Berlin, author of the seminal Torah commentary Haamek Davar, poses an obvious question. What if there is no prophet for us to consult? According to Rabbi Berlin, if that is the case, these ordinarily forbidden means may be utilized. In other words, when stark decisions need to be made and sorcery is the only method at our disposal – "a man's got to do what a man's got to do"! If so, he asks, how is it that King Saul was punished for consulting the witch of Endor? After all, if he was unable to obtain an answer from any legitimate source, and this method was his only recourse, surely he should not have been penalized?

Rabbi Berlin offers a stunning answer, one that should shake us all to our core. If it was Saul who created the situation of last resort, he says, how could he then use it as an excuse for flouting a Torah prohibition? Saul was the one who killed all the priests of Nob, and Saul was the one who had provoked God's anger. Now that he found himself isolated and rejected – how could he possibly use the results of his own misbehavior as an excuse to present himself as a victim?

The situation for Jewish schools in New York is not some tragedy thrust upon the strictly orthodox community by external forces bent on causing havoc. On the contrary, this has been a tragedy that has unfolded in plain sight over many years, with all segments of that community – not just Satmar – standing idly by as thousands of Jewish children were poorly served by retrograde schools. Those who have presided over these Dickensian institutions together with their enablers have no right to expect sympathy and latitude now that things have gone south. If they do expect sympathy and latitude, it is nothing but the height of arrogance and the epitome of hubris. They must immediately climb down from their high horses and ensure that all – yes, all! – Jewish children graduate school with a level of knowledge in English, math and social studies that will ensure that they can conduct their lives in dignity and with integrity, as the Torah expects of them. Nothing less will suffice.

Wishing you Shabbat Shalom and a great week ahead, Rabbi Pini Dunner

Sisterhood Corner

The Sisterhood proudly presents the following upcoming events!

September

The High Holidays are approaching...get your spiritual "fix" and join us for our annual

Pre-Rosh Hashanah Shiur,
Tuesday, September 24th
7:30pm, given this year by
Rabbi Pini Dunner.

Have a wonderful Shabbat!

Cecile & Ruthie
Sisterhood Co-Presidents

FOLLOW US

Photo Galleries, live streaming of classes and events, behind the scenes clips, and more! Updates every week!



ISRAEL HEADLINES

YINBH Beverly Hills Synagogue is now producing a weekly bulletin titled "Israel Headlines." You will find them on the tables every Shabbat. The mission of "Israel Headlines" is to make Jews in the Diaspora aware of current events in Israel. Sponsorship for Israel Headlines is available for \$100. If you are interested in sponsoring a weekly bulletin please email israelheadlines@gmail.com

YAHRTZEITS

Margarete Rosenfeld
Zipora bat David a"h
Mother of
Robert Rosenfeld
Yahrtzeit— 7 Elul

Benjamin Socolosky
Binyamin ben Chaya z"l
Father of
Rose Kemps
Yahrtzeit— 8 Elul

Leo Presser
Arieh Leib ben Yirachmiel
Shlomo Hacohen z"l
Father of
Marilyn Sohacheski
Yahrtzeit— 8 Elul

Helena Fixler
Henna bat Chaim a"h
Mother of
Sue Varon
Yahrtzeit— 9 Elul

Yael Hodara
Yael bat Avraham a"h
Mother of
Patrick Hodara
Yahrtzeit— 9 Elul

Anne Samson
Rochel Rivkah bat
Matisyahu Ha'cohen a"h
Wife of
Lee Samson
Yahrtzeit— 11 Elul

Happy Anniversary
Zalman & Aviva
Harari

PAUL FEDER Z"L GEMARA SHIUR

Join Rabbi Dunner for his Gemara shiur on Shabbat morning 45 minutes before Shacharit.

לע"נ פנחס אליהו בן שמישון הלו'

EXPLORING HALACHA

Join Nati Baram every Shabbat afternoon 35 minutes before mincha as he explores an interesting topic of Jewish law with the aid of ancient and contemporary texts.

WEEKLY PARSHA SHIUR

Join Rabbi Dunner each Wednesday morning at 8:30am for the weekly ladies Parsha Shiur as he explores the weekly Torah portion through the eyes of the classic commentators.

The class will not meet this week
and will meet next on
Wednesday, September 18th 2019 at 8:30am.



Andrew Fischmann

David Azouz

Eden Rambod

Eva Hogan

Evan Greenspan

Michael Silver

Reut Baram

Rav David Stav

Scholar in Residence September 13 - 14



Rabbi David Stav is the Chief Rabbi of the city of Shoham and the co-founder and chairman of Tzohar, an Israel organization that fosters vibrant and inspiring Jewish identity in order to guarantee the Jewish future of the State of Israel. Tzohar provides an array of Jewish lifecycle programs and services for hundreds of thousands of Israelis every year, shapes Jewish life in Israel through advocacy and legislation, and cultivates an influential and responsive Religious Zionist leadership. With over 1,000 volunteers and a firm commitment to Jewish Law, Tzohar is a socially conscious movement securing an ethical, inclusive, and united Jewish society.

Rav Stav is a graduate of Yeshivat Mercaz Harav and holds semicha for dayanut from the Chief Rabbinate of Israel. He is a leading rabbinic figure in the Religious Zionist community in Israel, and was recently a front runner to become Israel's Chief Rabbi. He is a noted posek who has written halachic works which address cutting-edge issues at the intersection of Jewish law and modern life. He and his wife, Aviva, live in Shoham and have nine children.

YINBH SISTERHOOD PRESENTS

Why Saying Sorry is the Key to Teshuva

Featuring Rabbi Pini Dunner

Sponsored by
Lee Samson
in loving memory
of our beloved
Anne Samson a"h

Tuesday, September 24th 7:30pm
at YINBH Beverly Hills Synagogue
9261 Alden Drive Beverly Hills



Rabbi Dunner began his rabbinic career in Russia, at the iconic Moscow Choral Synagogue. In the late 90s Rabbi Dunner presided over the launch of the trailblazing Saatchi Synagogue for young Jewish professionals in London's West End. Currently, Rabbi Dunner serves as the Senior Rabbi of YINBH Beverly Hills Synagogue in California. Rabbi Dunner is also on the Executive Committee of the Rabbinical Council of America (RCA), and on the board of the Israel Christian Nexus, an interfaith organization focusing on cross-communal advocacy and support for Israel.

Please RSVP: (310) 276-7650 or rsvp@yinbh.org



BEVERLY HILLS SYNAGOGUE
YOUNG ISRAEL OF NORTH BEVERLY HILLS

Invites you to a:

Selichot service

Motzei Shabbat
September 21st
10:00P.M .

Selichot speech by



Rabbi
Pini Dunner
"The Journey to Selichot"

followed by a
Selichot service with



Cantor
Netanel Baram

Rinat Shlomo Choir
Conducted by Prof Mark Kligman

9261 Alden Dr Beverly Hills CA 90210

For further details: E-mail: mkramer@yinbh.org or call: 310-276-7650



CHABAD
TREATMENT
CENTER

THE ADDICTION PLAGUE WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Protecting our families and communities

Sunday, September 15th from 6:00 pm-7:30 pm
5675 W Olympic Bl
Los Angeles CA 90036

Guest Speaker author Harry Nelson

"The United States of Opioids:
A Prescription for Liberating a Nation in Pain"

&

Dr. Donna Miller, Executive Director

Appetizers & Desserts

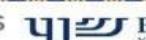
RSVP required
nina@chabadrehab.com



YULA GIRLS
HIGH SCHOOL



YOUNG
ISRAEL
OF CENTURY CITY



BEVERLY HILLS SYNAGOGUE
YOUNG ISRAEL OF NORTH BEVERLY HILLS



Beth Jacob
CONGREGATION



JEAN & JERRY FRIEDMAN
Shalhevet
High School

BEVERLY HILLS SYNAGOGUE
AND OU WEST COAST PRESENT

High Holy days Discovery Concert

GET INSPIRED BY THE MUSIC, MELODIES,
AND PRAYERS OF THE YAMIM NORAIM

Sunday, September 8th | 12pm

FEATURING

PROFESSOR MARK KLIGMAN
PROFESSOR OF ETHNOMUSICOLOGY AND MUSICOLOGY UCLA

RABBI JASON WEINER
SR. RABBI/DIRECTOR - CEDARS-SINAI SPIRITUAL CARE DEPT.
RABBI - KNESSET ISRAEL CONGREGATION

CANTOR NETANEL BARAM
CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
RINAT SHLOMO CHOIR
YAVNEH BOYS CHOIR



PRE-RSVP REQUESTED:
CALL: 310-276-7650 E-MAIL: CONCERT@YINBH.ORG
WEBSITE: BEVERLYHILLSSYNAGOGUE.ORG
E-MAIL: OFFICE@YINBH.ORG

TICKETS: \$18
PREMIER SEATS: \$35
9261 ALDEN DRIVE
BEVERLY HILLS 90210

SAVE THE DATE - SEPTEMBER 21ST

JONATHAN DAVIS



Jonathan Davis is Vice-President for External Relations at the Interdisciplinary Center, Herzliya, Israel's first private university. He heads the Raphael Recanati International School and is a Member of the Advisory Board of the International Institute for Counter-Terrorism. Mr. Davis also serves as a Lieutenant Colonel (Res) in the IDF Spokesman's office.

Jonathan served in a paratrooper reconnaissance unit that was commanded by former Minister of Defense Shaul Mofaz. This unit executed many behind-the-lines missions, including a mission on the Syrian-Iraqi border during the 1973 Yom Kippur War. He served as a reservist paratrooper during the first Lebanon war. He was an IDF Spokesperson during the intifada and the 2nd Lebanon war.

Mr. Davis was an active participant in the rescue of Ethiopian Jewry during "Operation Solomon". In 1978 he served as an emissary of the Prime Minister's office in the Former Soviet Union, visiting Stalingrad, Moscow and Uzbekistan, while meeting Jewish activists. Mr. Davis also served as emissary for the Jewish Agency for Israel in Cape Town, Boston, and Rome.

Born in England and raised in the United States, Mr. Davis was educated at Columbia University, the Jewish Theological Seminary, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv University.


Mr. Davis is married with four children and 7 grandchildren. He lives in Kochav Yair, a community located in the Sharon region. His hobby is mountain biking, and he rides extensively with the IDC Executive Education CEO biking group.

EVERY MEMBER BRING A MEMBER

BRING A FRIEND,
BRING A GUEST.

BRING THEM TO
SHABBAT SERVICES
AN EVENT
A CLASS



FOR MORE
INFORMATION:

Call: 310-276-7650

E-mail: office@yinbh.org

Visit: www.beverlyhillssynagogue.org

9261 Alden Drive
Beverly Hills 90210

DAYS OF AWE OR DAYS OF BLAH?

EXPLORING THE EMOTIONS
OF THE YAMIM NORAIM

DELIVERED BY
RABBI PINI DUNNER

Rosh Hashana, Aseret Yemei Teshuva and Yom Kippur are known collectively in Hebrew as 'Yamim Noraim', translated into English as 'Days of Awe'. What are the origins of this strange name and what does it mean? At this year's Shabbat Shuva drasha, Rabbi Dunner will explore the role of emotions and feelings in the performance of mitzvot, and focus on how Yamim Noraim must include an emotional reconnection with the "awe" of mitzvot that is so often missing from Jewish observance.

Shabbat Shuva
October 5, 2019

FOLLOWING KIDDUSH LUNCHEON
(APPROXIMATELY 12:30PM)

KIDDUSH LUNCHEON IS SPONSORED BY
RIVKA AND RAPHY NISSEL
IN MEMORY OF RIVKA'S MOTHER,
ILDIKO LIEBERMAN, PESLI BAT YOEL A"H,
WHOSE YAHRZITZ IS ON 5 TISHREI

RSVP to rsvp@yinbh.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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Visit: www.beverlyhillssynagogue.org

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