

SCHEDULE

ליל שבת קדש

Early Mincha & Shabbos @Main Shul **7:00 PM**

Candle Lighting &

On Time Mincha @Main Shul **7:54 PM**

יום שבת קדש

Daf Yomi - By Rabbi Teichman **7:30 AM**

Shacharis- Followed by Kiddush **8:30 AM**

-Sof Zman K"Ts- א"ג 9:27 א"ח 8:40

Mincha - **2:15 PM**

Pirkei Avos - By Rabbi Teichman **7:00 PM**

Mincha - **7:45 PM**

- Followed by Shalosh Seudos

Maariv - **9:04 PM**

CANDLES NEXT SHABBOS - 8:01PM

חג השבועות - זמן מתן תורתנו!!

As Shavuot approaches the final details of an inspiring Shavuot night will be announced mid-week. Highlights will include an all night learning Seder with open Bais Hamedrash and Shiurim from Rabbi Teichman, R' Mordechai Gholian, R' Binyomin Moss, R' Motty Rabinowitz and more! Please bring your Chavrusa's and Sedarim to the Shul to enhance and build up the energy!

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

Flowers - \$360	Night Seder Limud - \$613	2nd day Kiddush - \$180
Shabbat Kiddush - SPONSORED	Sponsor a Shiur - \$180	Neilas HaChag - \$100
Overnight food - SPONSORED	Netz'fast Kiddush - \$180	Learning Torah - Priceless

Weekday Minyanim

Sunday

Shacharis I **6:50 AM**

Daf Yomi **7:30 AM**

Shacharis II **8:30 AM**

Mincha / Maariv **8:00 PM**

Weekdays

Daf Yomi **5:45 AM**

Shacharis:

-Monday & Thursday **6:40 AM**

-Tue 6:30 (Rosh Chodesh), Wed & Fri **6:45 AM**

Mincha (Mo -Th) **1:45 PM**

MINCHA/MAARIV **8:00 PM**

Daf Yomi (Take II) **9:00 PM**

Maariv (Mo - Th) **9:45 PM**

SPONSORSHIPS

Kiddush

Sponsored by:

Mr. & Mrs. Anonymous
Just because!

Shalosh Seudos

Sponsored by:

Josh Gamzeh

In memory of his Grandmother

Blima Bat Avraham

To Sponsor please contact Donny or Miri Adler at
Kiddush@OhelMosheBaltimore.com

Social Hall Beautification Project!

Much progress was made this week thanks to the efforts of many who volunteered their time, contacts, purchasing power, and energy to improving the esthetics of our social hall on a small budget so that we can celebrate and gather in a more presentable setting. *More to come this week!*



Special thanks to: Rocky Caine, Avi Mandel, Chaim Meister, Azi Rosenblum, Shuie Steinharter, and Benjamin, Dovid, & Moshe Wealcatch for their efforts & contributions.

What would have cost well over \$10,000 at retail rates was completed on a budget of approximately \$3,500 thanks to everyone who donated time & expertise & saved us on material costs by leveraging contacts or connections for discounts!

Please consider contributing **any amount** toward these costs online (Select "building campaign" as donation type, or by check with "social hall fix-up" in the memo. Donations over \$300 will include one (non-transferable) hall rental any time in the next 12 months.

THANK YOU!!

Shul Contacts

@OhelMosheBaltimore.com

Rabbi Teichman

410-570-3333 or ravzt@ohelmoshebaltimore.com

Gaboim:

Naftali Miller (Rishon) & Chaim Meister (Sheni)- Gabbai@

Laining Schedule:

Pinchas Friedman- Lain@

Kiddush, Shalosh Seudos Sponsorship, Hall rental:

Donny & Miri Adler - Kiddush@

Building Fundraising Committee:

Ethan Berner & Yaakov Berkowitz- Building@

Sforim & Siddurim:

Dovi Becker- Library@

Repair & Maintenance:

Shuie Steinharter & Dovid Wealcatch- FixIt@

CONGREGATION OHEL MOSHE

שבת קודש

פרשת בהר-בחקתי

מברכין חודש סיון

כ"ז אייר תשע"ה

אהל משה



Rabbi Zvi Teichman

CONGREGATION OHEL MOSHE
2808 SMITH AVE
BALTIMORE, MD 21209
WWW.OHELMOSHEBALTIMORE.COM
DAVEN@OHELMOSHEBALTIMORE.COM
(410) 878-7521

Issue #381

RABBI'S MESSAGE:

Social Insecurity

The Torah foretells of a time when the Jewish nation will fall short in their commitment to G-d and suffer the terrible consequences of their poor choices. They will suffer terrible losses.

The survivors among you- I will bring weakness into their hearts in the lands of their foes; the sound of a rustling leaf will pursue them, they will fall, but without a pursuer.

וְכָשְׁלוּ אִישׁ בְּאָחוּז כַּמְּפִי חָרֵב וְרֹדֵף אֵין, They will stumble over one another, as in flight from the sword, but there is no pursuer;

וְלֹא תִהְיֶה לָכֶם תְּקוּמָה לִפְנֵי אִיבֵיכֶם (ויקרא כו לו-לז), you will not have the power to withstand your foes.

We will become so insecure that even an innocent sound will frighten us. We will imagine that we are being pursued by the enemy, stumbling over each while desperately seeking to escape danger, only to realize we aren't even being chased.

Why does the verse need to reiterate twice the fact that 'there is no pursuer'? Might there be an intimation of two distinct groups of foes?

Rashi reveals that this 'stumbling' over one another refers to the famous adage: כל ישראל ערבים זה לזה, all Jews are guarantors for one another, the notion that we accept responsibility for a fellow Jew's sins and are culpable as well when we fail to correct their behavior.

Why is this idea inserted precisely here at this juncture?

Why is that responsibility described in terms of 'stumbling'? Stumbling implies a consequence of not having realized that an obstacle lies in our way, while ערבות, surety, or the lack of it, is something we do consciously.

Furthermore, even if somehow we can reconcile how this lapse in assuming responsibility for others is appropriately portrayed as 'stumbling', but how does it jibe with the very next two words, כַּמְּפִי חָרֵב, as if in flight of the sword? What is this imaginary sword we are fleeing from when we fail to live up to our guaranteeing the actions of others?

A dear friend relayed to me a very startling conversation he recently had with his non-Jewish co-worker.

This gentile colleague found herself one day visiting the New York area amidst one of the many Ultra-Orthodox enclaves there. She went on to make some comment about the unusually large families there. My friend instinctively 'apologized' that he was not as 'religious' as 'those' groups of Jews.

Upon hearing his response she blurted out, "Now I know that you are really Jewish!"

He was incredulous and promptly inquired as to what exactly she meant by that statement. She went on to relate to him that every Jew she had ever met, when comparisons to other sects of Jews ever came up, had reacted with that same level of insecurity he had just displayed.

"You guys have a beautiful and very rich culture and are a wonderful people, why are you all so insecure in your religion?!", she challenged.

My friend was left with a pit in his stomach, wondering to himself why indeed he felt

the need to distant himself from his fellow Jew.

What often compels us to distinguish ourselves from other groups of Jews is twofold. When we perceive someone pointing out something negative about other Jews we 'defend' ourselves by saying 'we are different' and not of their ilk. But it can go the other way as well. When someone is admiring a greater quality observed in others we feel threatened in the fact that we are not up to par or meeting the expectations others have from us, so we react by 'admitting' we aren't as 'pious'. Either way it is a defense mechanism that secures our safety zone, I now don't have to feel guilty about others misdeeds because 'I'm not one

of them', nor do I have to feel the need to emulate them because 'I am out of their league'.

We see others as a threat to our own standing, and flee from them 'as in flight from the sword', because they make us uncomfortable in our convenient presumptions of our own identity.

Feeling insecure 'we stumble over one another', giving lame and pitiful responses, pathetically distancing ourselves from those whom we feel are 'pursuing' and challenging our self-image.

The noble ideal of ערבות, of being guarantors for one another, doesn't stem from Judaism's call for a 'police-state', with each one of us deputized to enforce the law. It rather generates from a deep love and bond we have between us that saddens us when observing the failures of our 'brothers and sisters', and that compels us to seek ways to improve their lot, their behavior and their standing. After all they are our cherished kin.

וְרֹדֵף אֵין, but there is no pursuer!

The Torah talks of two imagined pursuers.

We will be so frightened from our real enemies that when hearing the rustle of leaves we will think we are being chased, only to realize it is our own insecurity that feeds that fear and no one is actually hunting us.

Similarly, but much more significantly, we will become so unconfident in our understanding of who we are and what our relationship to our fellow Jew entails, that we will imagine those others as foes, when in fact we are our very own worst enemy, betraying our own 'family'.

In reality 'there is no pursuer'!

The great Tunisian scholar and teacher, Haham Shaul Sheli Mekikatz in his work Midrasho Shel Shem, offers a creative interpretation of our verse.

בְּקֶשׁ שְׁלוֹם וְרַדְפּוֹ (תהלים לד טו), Seek peace and pursue it

The Midrash notes that by no other mitzva does the Torah call for us to 'pursue' its opportunity.

If you come across a bird's nest... If you come across your enemy's ox... When you come in your neighbors vineyard

This goal of peace is the sole one we are summoned to pursue.

The problem is however, that וְכָשְׁלוּ אִישׁ בְּאָחוּז, we busy stumbling clumsily over each other, and מִיִּרְדָּף אֵין, one is interested in pursuing peace!

The next time you hear something negative about a fellow Jew that bothers you, don't reject him and deny your connection, but rather feel as if your only brother was in trouble and how you'd certainly feel badly for him and wish he were different. Think about all the positive things you admire in him and express the eternal hope that one day he will get it.

When you hear praise of another Jew don't retreat in inferiority, but rather evince feelings of admiration and express your desire to emulate him or at the very least remain proud of your 'brother's' stature and accomplishments.

Remember the only thing pursuing you is your own personal insecurities.

May we pursue peace with a vengeance, lovingly assisting our brethren in getting up from their having stumbled.

באהבה, צבי טייטלבוים

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!!!HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

Binyomin Wealcach, Rachel Goldsmith, Suri Schwartz, Maya Bier

!!!HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!!

Moshe & Ilana Grosberg, Sholom & Pessy Michael, Shlomo & Emily Kushner

This info is provided by YOU through the member database. Please be sure to update so we can celebrate and commemorate important dates with you!

Yahrtzeit:

Joe Berkowitz, for his father חיים בן ישראל יעקב

Moshe Aron Burstyn

On his bris this week!

And to his parents Chavie & Shawn

SISTERHOOD EVENT: THANK YOU!

The sisterhood would like to thank everyone who joined us for an amazing event this week. Special thanks to Mrs. Renee Chermín, Ruby Lasker, & Shirah Wealcach for their special efforts to make the event a huge success. **Looking forward to the next one!**

WOMEN'S RUN - 5/31 , MEN'S RUN 6/21

JOIN ONE OF OUR TEAMS NOW!!!!

2 RACES
ONE GREAT CAUSE
Walk or Run and... Make a Difference!

Visit www.jewishcaringnetwork.org for details and to register for or support the Ohel Moshe Men's or Women's teams. The teams are dedicated as a Zechus for a refuah Shelaimah for דבורה יעל בן דבורה יעל.