# TEVET-SHEVAT-ADAR-NISAN 5783 SHAAREI SHOMAYIM



Photo credit: Liora Kogan

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#### Prayer - A Critical (And Underrated) Ingredient for Success



osef accuses his brothers of trying to spy on Egypt. He puts Shimon in jail and demands that the brothers bring Binyamin to him to prove that they are not lying. At first, Yaakov refuses to send Binyamin and so the brothers wait because they cannot return without Binyamin.

After some time, Yaakov relents and he allows them to take Binyamin too but he tells them that they have to prepare for their encounter with Yosef. "If it must be so, do this: take some of the choice products of the land in your baggage, and carry them down as a gift for the man—some balm and some honey, gum, ladanum, pistachio nuts, and almonds... And may Hashem dispose the man to mercy toward you, that he may release to you your other brother, as well as Benjamin." Rashi comments that Yaakov, in his last statement, was saying, "Now you lack nothing except prayer, and therefore I pray for you."

Yaakov was teaching the nation an important lesson. Sometimes people think that tefillah is necessary only when a situation is beyond our control. If someone we know gets sick and the doctors are not so hopeful, we daven because we know that only Hashem's mercy can help. If our security is threatened and we feel like there is no safe place in the world, we say Tehillim with greater devotion because we know that only Hashem can protect us. But when we take all of the necessary steps to prepare for a situation such as study hard for a test, or spend time and effort putting together a presentation, we tend to feel that tefillah is not as necessary.

That is the sentiment that Yaakov was trying to dispute with his last statement. What Yaakov was telling his sons is that of course the first step to achieve success is to prepare properly, which is why he instructs them to take a present and make other preparations, because the first thing one must do is position themselves for success. But just because one has all of the ingredients for success does not mean they will be successful. They still are in need of heavenly assistance.

Tefillah is so important not just before and during the period of preparation, but especially when a person steps

up to the plate feeling ready for the challenge ahead. At that time, it is so critical to take a step back and daven, to express how much we realise that without Hashem we would not be able to achieve anything. What's more, expressing thanks after a successful endeavor is even more important. Once a challenge has passed, a person is more likely to attribute the success to their own abilities and talents. Giving thanks demonstrates that a person recognises the divine assistance which enabled his accomplishments.

The Sefer HaChinuch explains that this is the purpose of the mitzvah of bikkurim, the first fruits. Once a farmer sees the fruits of his labour, they tend to forget the divine intervention that helped bring him success. The Torah obligates the farmer to offer his first fruits to Hashem, and to express his thanks by reading the parsha of bikkurim to help them internalise the important message that Hashem is the source of the bounty.

Similarly, the Torah obligates a person to recite Birkat Hamazon after eating, but it does not require of a person to recite a bracha before eating. That obligation was added later by our Sages. The Talmud in Brachot 35a initially suggests that there is no need for a Torah source to recite a bracha before eating because it is a matter of simple logic. If one is obligated to thank Hashem after eating when one is satisfied, then certainly one should be obligated to recite a bracha when one is hungry. But this reasoning is rejected. The conclusion of the Gemara is that it is more incumbent on a person to say a bracha after eating, because once we are satisfied we are less likely to recognise Hashem's hand in the creation of the food that is eaten. That is why the Torah obligates a person to recite Birkat Hamazon only after eating.

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#### Prayer - A Critical (And Underrated) Ingredient for Success

On Chanukah we celebrate two miracles, the military victory of the Jewish people over the Greeks and the fact that the lights of the menorah burned for eight days with only one jug of oil. Yet, in the text of Al Hanisim our expression of praise and thanksgiving focuses exclusively on the military victory. Why not mention the miracle of the jug of oil as well? Perhaps the answer is that our Sages understood that people often fail to recognise the hand of G-d in any historical event which appears to be natural, and even if initially they view the event in the proper perspective, nevertheless with the passage of time things tend to become less clear. That is why our Sages highlighted the military victory to emphasise that we have to express our thanks for the natural miracles of life and of history, no less than for the supernatural miracle of the jug of oil.

In the merit of our heartfelt tefillah throughout various points in our lives, may we merit to witness His miracles and glory in this world.

# DO YOU RECEIVE RABBI SAM TAYLOR'S WEEKLY TORAH FOR YOUR LIFE EMAILS?

If not, please contact the shul office to be included in the email list.



JONATHAN OSTRO



#### Be the Shamash

he word Shamash translates to "Attendant", and in the context of Chanukah, the Shamash is used to help light all the other candles. However, if the purpose were only to light the other candles why not extinguish the Shamash once the required candles are lit?

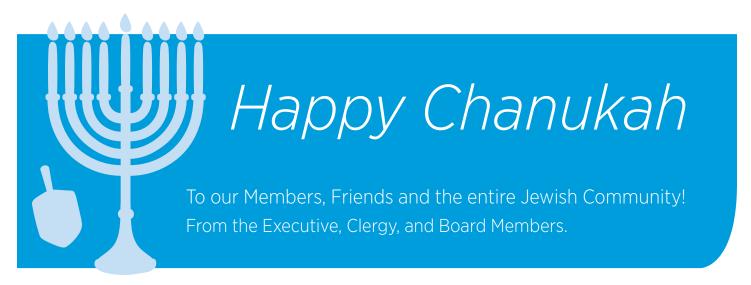
The reason revolves around the prohibition of benefitting from the light of the Chanukah candles. If one candle went out, we couldn't light it from one of the other Chanukah candles. Similarly, we are not allowed to use the light of the Chanukah candles to light up a room, or to learn or read by the chanukiyah, however we can use the light of the Shamash, which is illuminating brighter than the rest of the candles. Lighting the Shamash itself is not a mitzvah you actually light it before even saying the Brachot - yet it is the instrumental candle in that it enables us to perform the mitzvah.

It's not easy being Jewish in 2022. It's a tale that never gets old; we are always a minority. Currently the Jewish population is under 0.2% of the world's population, no different than it was in the time of Chanukah. In Al HaNisim we say "ביד חלשים, ורבים ביד מעטים מסרת גבורים"; "You delivered the mighty into the hands of the weak, the many into the hands of the few." Judah the Macabee and his brothers faced off against an entire army, and although they were greatly outnumbered - they won.

In my profession as an accountant, 0.2% is rounded to zero, and ignored. Yet we, the Jewish people, are anything but ignored. In fact we are forefront in the news. Recently we read about athletes and celebrities who rationalize their own anti-Semitism through social media. They want the world to know that they hate the Jewish people, yet if you read on, there has always been and will always be those who stand up for us. When incidents like this happen, it is our duty to extinguish the darkness and light up the room. It is our duty to be the brightest candle and illuminate the world with mitzvot. We lead by example, and by standing together as a united community. We join together and light up the lives of those we meet, and show how much positive 0.2% can bring to the world.

Remember, when the Shamash lights one candle, its flame does not extinguish; it continues on and continues to light other candles as well. Lighting up the lives of those we meet and show how much positive 0.2% can bring to the world will always ignite more candles, and never allow our flame to be extinguished. Be the Shamash.

Wishing you and your families a wonderful and illuminating Chanukah. **2** 





#### Good. Better.

gutte vinter" – that's what one of the people in shul said at the conclusion of Hoshana Rabah. "A good winter" – a prayer or blessing that the coming months which are often lacking in both sun and celebration – be kind and gentle to us.

The season during which the hours of sunlight shrink, and the length of the night grows is usually not associated with simcha, excitement or personal growth. In literature, winter is the symbol of dormancy, darkness and withdrawal, and, especially in our climate, winter, and the cold weather that it brings, also often pushes people into the warmth of their homes and signals a slow down in social connection.

And yet....

And yet winter may be the perfect time of the year to bring out the central quality that defines our lives as Jews. In Hebrew, we are called "Yehudim", derived from the name "Yehudah" which comes from the word "Toda" which means "thank you". The etymological trail suggests that as Jews, we ought to be sensitive to and best adept at expressing gratitude. And why is winter the best time of the year to strengthen this quality in ourselves? It's easy to be grateful for the obvious and evident blessings that embrace us; "counting our blessings" when the sun is shining and it's warm outside seems like a much easier task. Gratitude in the winter moments is certainly more of a challenge. But what better time is there to work on gratitude than when it may not come so easily to us?

But how? What steps should one take to strengthen our ability to be grateful? What does one do that helps us deepen the gratitude within us?

There's no magic formula but there are some valuable ideas to consider:

#### Ask Yourself 3 Questions

Meditate on your relationships with parents, friends, siblings, work associates, children, and spouse using these three questions: "What have I received from \_\_\_\_\_?", "What have I given to \_\_\_\_\_?", and "What troubles and difficulty have I caused?"

#### Come to Your Senses

Through <u>our senses</u>—the ability to touch, see, smell, taste, and hear - we gain an appreciation of what it means to be human and of what an incredible miracle it is to be alive. Seen through the lens of gratitude, the human body is not only a miraculous construction, but also a gift.

#### Blessing in Disguise

It is so hard to consider that when something that we experience as bad happens, we ought to be grateful. We may not understand in the moment what good Hashem has planned for us. "Gam zo letova" – "and that too is also for the good" – try to say those words.

#### Go Through the Motions

Grateful motions include smiling, saying thank you, and writing letters of gratitude. By "going through grateful motions," you'll trigger the emotion of gratitude more often.

#### Share Your Gratitude with Others

Don't keep your gratitude to yourself. If something happens for which you are grateful let other people know about it. It will make you feel good and will encourage others to consider the things in their own lives for which they are grateful.

Yes. It's winter. Yes. It may be cold and not sunny or warm. But − Gam zo letova! ■

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#### From the Executive Director's Desk

NICOLE TOLEDANO



#### Vacation

ccording to the Oxford Language Dictionary, Vacation is "an extended period of leisure and recreation, especially one spent away from home or in traveling". Now some may say that I vacation often, traveling to and from Passaic New Jersey, but when visiting your kids, it's not really a vacation. There is definitely no time for "leisure and recreation". I'm not saying that I don't enjoy visiting with my kids and grandkids, but it's not a break.

About six months or so ago, I was reading an article in Mishpacha Magazine written by a woman who had taken a "babymoon" with her husband. This, I understand, is when a pregnant couple go on vacation before their baby is born. The location mentioned looked interesting (Nassau, Bahamas) and there was a recommended kosher restaurant on the site of the resort that they stayed in. To my mind, a vacation is something that you go on where you don't have to do any housekeeping or cooking, just sitting and relaxing. My husband and I, like most people, had not gone away for a long time, so decided to go for it. It was after the High Holidays and I would be ready for some time away.

My husband discovered the Chabad in the Bahamas and hooked in to a WhatsApp group for davening before leaving. We arrived in Nassau with all our bags, but without my husband's credit card (lost at the airport) and my credit card being compromised - but that's a story for another time. Just note that you should ALWAYS have a secondary credit card available for unexpected times like this. He checked his WhatsApp and noted when Mincha would be and where the kosher restaurant that was in the resort. He then began to notice who was responding to the WhatsApp messages. Some friends of ours had just left the island and another person who my husband knew seemed to be a constant on the messaging. After attending Mincha - with a Minyan, he informed me that someone he knew well actually lived in the Bahamas and pretty much coordinated the davening in the restaurant. There was also the accounting firm from Toronto that went to Nassau for their partners' meeting - you just can't get away from everyone. He met people from Miami (it's just a half-hour flight from there), Israel, and New York.

My husband was lucky enough to have a minyan to attend pretty much every morning and evening. Only Jews can be ones that respond to a WhatsApp chat when it notes, "we only need one more for a minyan". He met people from all over North America and the occasional European, and they were all able to daven together. Sephardi, Syrian, Bukharin, Ashkenazi - it didn't make a difference. We had the opportunity to have a Shabbat meal in the restaurant, daven on Shabbat, light candles, and enjoy the tropical weather outside. We were also able to go for Shabbat Lunch at someone's house, overlooking the Ocean and talk about their travels and the people they knew in Toronto.

What's clear about our vacation experience - if you stick to the kosher establishments, you stick to Jews. And, no matter where they are from, we all read from the same Torah and understand the davening.

We hope to take our next trip to Morocco so my husband can pilgrim his grandparents and see where his parents grew up – who knows who we will run in to there.

ASSISTANT RABBI



# The Ultimate Partnership

ho has the ultimate responsibility of ensuring the success and vibrancy of a shul? Inevitably, if you asked this question to a crowd of people you would receive a great variety of answers. Some might suggest that responsibility lies with the lay leadership who make pivotal decisions to determine shul policy and maintain financial solvency. Others might argue that the clergy who lead the davening and Torah learning, and work to heighten the religious awareness of the community play the most essential role. The answers could include an endless collection of important groups in the shul from committee leaders to office staff, to chairs of the youth department.

While each of these answers are correct and all the roles mentioned are crucial, I believe they all miss an essential aspect of what it means to create a *Beit Knesset*. A lesson from the Chanukah liturgy provides a helpful perspective. In *Haneirot Hallalu*, a prayer one traditionally recites after lighting one of their Chanukah candles, we mention "the miracles and wonders...that You performed... through your holy priests the Chashmonaim". Similarly, the prayer of *Viyhiy Noam*, another paragraph many have the custom to recite after lighting Chanukah candles, begins: "May the pleasantness of the Lord our God be upon us, and the work of our hands establish for us". Each of these tefillot express a partnership between Hashem and the Jewish people. Why do we emphasize this partnership when lighting Chanukah candles?

Rabbi Levi Yitzchak of Berditchev (Kedushat Levi Derashot on Chanukah) explains that unlike other times in our history when Hashem intervened openly and miraculously to redeem our people from persecution, human beings brought about the salvation we celebrate on Chanukah. The Maccabees led an uprising against King

Antiochus and his armies. They utilized their own physical strength and military tactics to defeat the Greeks and liberate the Beit Hamikdash. Analyzing the victory, one might come to the erroneous conclusion that the Chashmonaim marched to victory without divine assistance. We therefore sing loudly as we light the Chanukah candles of the miracles Hashem performed through the Chashmonaim. We highlight the divine-human partnership which produced the miracle of Chanukah. We acknowledge that the Maccabees and their followers acted as agents of Hashem with heavenly inspiration and assistance.

Indeed, Maharal (Neir Mitzvah) argues that the miraculous flask of oil which lasted eight days, served as a sign that Hashem had guided the Chashmonaim from the beginning of their uprising until they rededicated the Beit Hamikdash. We pray that today too, Hashem continues His partnership with us and imbue our handiwork with His pleasantness.

As the Maccabees demonstrated so long ago in the Beit Hamikdash, we must see our task of caring for our shul as partnership between our community and Hashem. It is upon each of us to ensure our synagogue has appropriate social programming, inspiring tefillot and shiurim, and financial support. However, we must bear in mind that the shul is Hashem's house and we act as His agents.

If we wish to encounter Hashem when we enter the Sanctuary, we require the blessing of His pleasantness in our handiwork. Our awareness that we ultimately serve Hashem must colour the conversations we have and the decisions we make about our shul.

May we be blessed to partner with Hashem and use our talents to continue creating a beautiful, accepting, inspirational shul community. And may Hashem bless our efforts by residing in our Sanctuary.

YOUTH DIRECTOR



#### Youth Matters

The snow is coming down hard as I write this. Every year, I forget exactly how wintery it can get here. And somehow, even though I know it does, it seems impossible that summer will come again. Perhaps it's a symptom of hailing from a milder climate, but when remarking on it to a friend, he assured me that despite being here 30 years, he hasn't gotten used to it, either.

It can be hard to imagine any reality other the one I'm currently occupying. As Youth Director, I often find myself trying to put myself in the kids' shoes. How would an 8-yearold interpret this comment? What does a Shomayim Shekel mean to a 5-year-old? I'm no pedagogue, but I encourage everyone to give this exercise a shot.

Getting to shul news, the Youth have been thriving! On Shabbat, we opened a new Grade 5-6 room and an option to start 15 minutes early with Pre-Groups. In total we see over 40 kids a week! Parent-Child Learning on Motzei Shabbat is off to a great start! There are now two parts to PCL: for younger kids we have colouring and parsha sheets, and for kids 8-12 there is a shiur with Rabbis Taylor or Anstandig.

We had very successful fall programs such as Parshat Noach Animal Show in October, and Chanukah & Chessed Fair in loving memory of Suzanne Burger<sup>z</sup>, sponsored by her husband, children and grandchildren.

Teen programming is also on the rise with programs such as Teen Kabbalat Shabbat and dinner and a vibrant minyan, which are spearheaded by a parent committee and Jay Karon, respectively.

I have a lot of people to thank! First, to our incredible Committee Co-Chairs Sara Lass and Dara Dishy, backed by the Youth Committee who provide so much dynamism and excitement. Equally important are the clergy: Rabbi Taylor, Rabbi Bergman and Rabbi Anstandig; the shul office staff: Nicole, Lejla, Meital, Ellen and Tova; and the custodial staff: Anthony, Mark, Joven, and Alina. Thank you all for your integral part in the shul!

Thank you to the kids and parents for your trust and participation. And as always, see you in shul!





HEAD OF SCHOOL NETIVOT HATORAH





# The Wisdom of Extremes

I struggle with this question, and am fascinated when people, who seem otherwise balanced, take extreme positions. I recently read a book by Rabbi Dr. Hillel Goldberg about Rav Yitzchak Hutner, the *Rosh Yeshiva* of *Torah Vodaath* for almost 40 years, and one of the great gedolim who came from Europe to America in the 1930s.

He was a very unusual individual. He spent his teenage years in a series of Lithuanian *yeshivot*, then moved to Israel, and back to Lithuania. From there he spent time at the University of Berlin before moving to America. In Israel, he became a great admirer of Rav Yitzchak Kook, and through his time in Berlin, and later in America, he became deeply knowledgeable about Western philosophy and thought. And, yet, just a few years after moving to America, he did an about-face on Rav Kook, even removing Rav Kook's picture from his succah. And, despite his broad learning, he never mentioned or endorsed the secular philosophy that a keen reader can find implied and buried in his published works. The question of course is: Why the change?

The answer given by Rabbi Dr. Goldberg is that Rav Hutner saw that in America, Torah was under threat, and what was needed was a return, in an uncompromising way, to its total devotion. Torah needed a purity to regain its strength. Not the openness that Modern Orthodoxy offered, or the boundary breaking thinking and practice of Rav Kook. Torah needed to regain its solid ground, and that had to be at the expense and purging of all foreign elements - however valuable he knew they were. It was an extreme position in an effort to prioritize the Torah that was in jeopardy.

I was reminded of this when I read the following question from, of all people, Rav Kook. We know that one of the miracles of Chanukah was that the *Kohanim* found a bottle of pure oil to light the menorah in the *Beit Hamikdash*. By way of background - the Kohanim could have used impure oil (tumah hutrah be'tzibur), so it was not a question of lighting the menorah or not. Rather, it was how they were going to light it - with pure or impure oil. So, why was the miracle only with pure oil? Why didn't G-d make a second miracle, and have the *Kohanim* find a pure menorah as well

and complete the moment of purity?

Rav Kook explains: The menorah is a means to the lighting of the flame that comes from the burning of the oil. The oil and flame, he says, represent the spiritual, the ends, while the menorah represents the physical, the means. In a normal world these two elements exist in a balance, and we even try to find ways to make the physical holy. But, in the Chanukah moment, the Greeks embodied the physical, and not only rejected, but threatened the spiritual. As such, the Maccabees' response, Hashem's response, was to double down on the spiritual core of Torah and Jewish life. G-d and his Torah were at stake, and an extreme response was called for. As such, it was only the pure oil, the pure spirituality, that was miraculously found, not the menorah, the embodiment of physicality. At that moment, the physicality that the Greeks represented had to be rejected in favour of the spiritual core, in order to re-create the right balance.

There are moments, like Chanukah, like 1930s America, where extremism is called for; where the entire system of Torah values is under threat and balance is not the solution. This is like what the Rambam means when he says that sometimes one needs to go to an extreme in order to ultimately make one's way back to the middle. Chanukah reminds us each year that there are such moments and we must keep our eyes out for them – both on a personal and societal level. It reminds us that there are times when the *shvil hazahav*, the golden rule, is not called for – quite the opposite – in order to make our way back to the place of balance. This might be because of where a person is individually, or an awareness of what we need as a community. Knowing when, however, and being prepared to act, requires a keen and deep wisdom to discern.

# Cemetery Committee Update

BY BRIAN CANTOR AND SOL ZEIFMAN, CO-CHAIRS, CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Te are pleased to report that a new bench has been installed at our McCowan Road Cemetery in memory and in honour of Carolz<sup>r</sup>l and Marvin Kravetskyz<sup>r</sup>l. A plaque with an inscription says "In recognition of their years of devotion and commitment to Shaarei Shomayim Congregation".









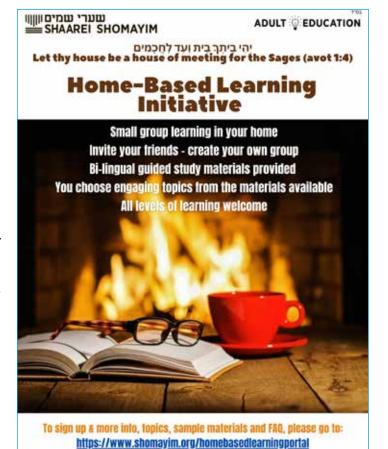
#### Adult Education

his year has seen the return of many longstanding events in the world of Adult Education at Shaarei Shomayim, as well as some exciting innovations! On Shavuot the Tikkun featured a range of presenters and topics, punctuated by a midnight barbecue. Learning and growth continued through Elul, with a month of shiurim and activities centered on personal growth and teshuva.

The *Women's Divrei Torah* program on Simchat Torah returned to a packed Sisterhood Hall, and its sister-program *Women Teaching Torah for Rosh Chodesh* has continued to go strong on Zoom every month. Scholars in Residence have included Rabbi Dr. Akiva Tatz, David Zvi Kalman, and Dr. Henry Abramson, with more to come as the year goes on.

We also have a series of museum tours planned to sites of Jewish interest, such as a walking tour of downtown Toronto, the ROM, and Robarts Library at U of T. An innovation that has the potential to be transformative is our new *Home Based Learning Program*, in which self-selected groups choose from an array of sources we have curated, then come together to learn at the times of their choosing, at their own pace, in their own homes. We are very thankful to Mizrachi Canada for sponsoring entire volumes of their Tzurba MeRabanan series for those who are interested.

Please see the flyers in this Bulletin for more details about these – and other – Adult Education programs!







In-person, guided tour of the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto

#### **Chessed Committee**

BY DALYA HAKIMI, FRANCINE GOLDRICH, KITTY WINTROB, CO-CHAIRS, CHESSED COMMITTEE

s we emerge from all the restrictions of Covid we look forward to doing more in person activities. We continue to provide members a meal when they are sitting shiva, coming home from the hospital, are ill, or have just welcomed a new baby into their family. In addition, the Meal Train app allows us to offer more than one meal per day.

Rebbetzin Emma Taylor has established a new Whats App group for our Chessed Committee members who need to be informed of members' needs and emergencies so that we can provide better help.

We send birthday cards that are hand addressed and signed by Rabbi Sam Taylor and President Jonathan Ostro, for members over the age of 80.

We are always in need of members who can make phone calls to help publicize events and check on other members who are ill. If this is something you can help us with, please let the office know and we will contact you.

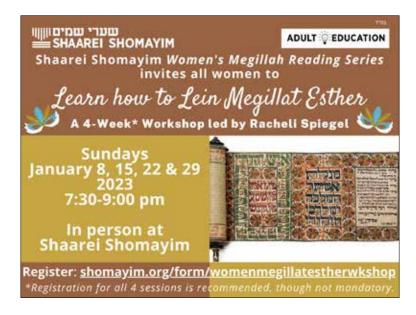
Last year we started a new initiative called *Tech Buddies*. With the help of our more tech savvy members we tried to help more tech challenged members to get on Zoom, learn to download, and figure out how to use their smartphones and tablets. We are exploring options to continue this in small, in

person groups. If you would like to either give or receive tech help, let the office know and we will contact you.

The Lunch & Learn programs for the 50+ crowd are very successful. Last summer and over Chanukah we were able to offer the Lunch free of charge thanks to two generous donors, Danielle & Stewart Turk and Helen & Alan Cohen. We had a wonderful Lunch & Learn on December 20 with Latkes, singing, divrei Torah, and sufganiyot decorating.

We look forward again to sending Mishloach Manot to members who have recently had a loss, been facing challenges with illness, poor health and other infirmities. Packages usually include cards decorated by our Youth as well as special homemade hamantaschen that Rebbetzin Rochelle Diamond makes with her Netivot students. We always need volunteers to pack and deliver the packages. If you would like to help, let the office know and we will contact you.

Chair of Birthday Greetings: Brondell Shapiro Chair of Tech Buddies: Jordan Lass Co-Chairs of New Baby Welcome Meals: Dara Dishy and Gila Spiegel



#### Good evening and Shavua tov.

Thank you so much for hosting our Beit Midrash Shabbaton this Shabbat! Thank you for all of the speaking opportunities at the various minyanim, the warm public welcomes of our Beit Midrash, and your flexibility when we ran into illness issues that changed our schedule. It was wonderful to spend Shabbat at Shaarei Shomayim, to learn Torah together, and to continue the post-COVID recovery of our community.

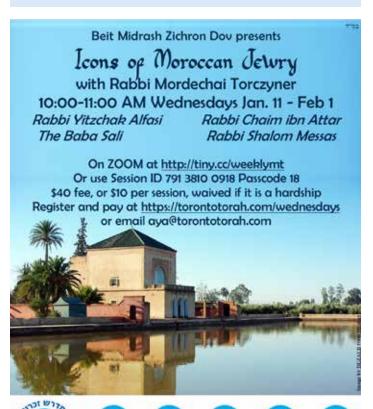
I expect to be in touch with the office regarding dates for a Spring Shabbaton soon! And Rabbi Taylor, I believe we will indeed take you up on your gracious offer to host the Beit Midrash for lunch; everyone in the Beit Midrash really appreciated your welcome and enjoyed spending time with you, and wants to spend even more time with you.

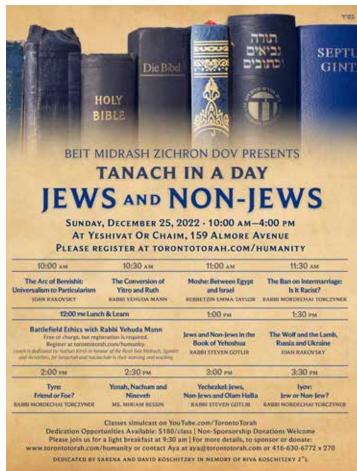
Rabbi Mordechai Torczyner Rosh Beit Midrash

#### Dear Rabbi Torczyner,

We had a wonderful Shabbat with you and Rabbis Anstandig, Mann and Gotlib. I thank you for putting it all together and enabling the teaching of Torah in our shul. Also on a personal level, it was great to spend time with you and I can't wait to do it again in the spring. I also wanted to thank you for stepping in on Shabbat morning to help out with the leining. Wishing you continued hatzlacha with all the incredible work you do for our community.

Rabbi Sam Taylor







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#### **MEDICAL ETHICS**

#### **Тне Shoteh:**

#### **JUDAISM AND THE IRRATIONAL PATIENT**



with Rabbi Mordechai Torczyner 7:30 - 9:00 PM Monday February 13, 2023 Via **ZOOM**: http://tiny.cc/mtethics

Registration: https://torontotorah.com/cme Men and women are welcome, Non-physicians welcome

No advanced knowledge required. No charge, For information, email info@torontotorah.com

This one-credit-per-hour Group Learning program meets the certification criteria of the College of Family Physicians of Canada and has been certified by Continuing Professional Development, Temerty 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, Temerty Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto. You may claim a maximum of 1.5 hours.



















Beit Midrash Zichron Dov **BAYT & Shaarei Shomayim Congregation present** 

#### LEGAL ETHICS

#### THE MENTAL HEALTH

#### OF THE LAWYER

with Rabbi Mordechai Torczyner

8:00-9:30 PM Monday March 13, 2023 On ZOOM at http://tiny.cc/mtethics



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























- Gambling: A Torah Perspective
- Is Shabbat Observance for Non-Jews?
- Israel's Yanuka: Who is He and Why Christians Misunderstand Him

#### March 16th

- What Does Judaism Say About Revenge?
- The Abortion Debate and Judaism
- The Bitachon Concept: Understanding Trust in G-d

Two Consecutive Thurs - Mar 9 to Mar 16, 2023 at 8 PM ET ZOOM only \* Registration required to receive Login ID & PW To register or for curriculum go to jewsforjudaism.ca/intro23 For more info: info@jewsforjudaism.ca \* Tel: 416-789-0020





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#### Menchens wishes the entire Shaarei Shomayim Congregation a Happy Chanukah!

For all inquiries please email naomi@menchens.ca or call 416-638-8381



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May Chanukah be more than a Festival of Lights. May it also be a Festival of Togetherness, Health, Joy, and Peace.

חנוכה שמח



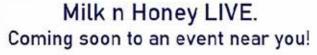
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# **DECEMBER 2022**

Kislev / Tevet 5783

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
24 Kislev 18	18 25 Kislev 19	19 26 Kislev 20	<b>20</b> 27 Kislev <b>2</b> 1	<b>21</b> 28 Kislev <b>22</b>	22 29 Kislev 23	23 30 Kislev 24
8:30 am Shacharit	1st Day of Chanukah	2nd Day of Chanukah	3rd Day of Chanukah	4th Day of Chanukah	5th Day of Chanukah	Shabbat Chanukah
	7:05 am Shacharit	7:05 am Shacharit	7:05 am Shacharit	7:05 am Shacharit	7:05 am Shacharit	Shabbat Rosh Chodesh
					Light 6 Chanukah Candles	מקץ Shacharit אקא 9:00 am Shacharit
Erev Chanukah					before Shabbat Candles	4:15 pm Mincha
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 4:30 pm	4:30 pm				4:26 pm 🕯 🕯	5:31 pm Shabbat Ends
1st candle after 5:16 pm 2 candles after dark	2 candles after dark	3 candles after dark	4 candles after dark	5 candles after dark	4:35 pm Mincha	7 candles after Havdallah
1 Tevet <b>25</b>	25 2 Tevet 26	26 3 Tevet 27	27 4 Tevet 28	28 5 Tevet 29	29 6 Tevet 30	30 7 Tevet 31
7th Day of Chanukah	8th Day of Chanukah	8:30 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	7:10 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	9:00 am Shacharit
II Rosh Chodesh	8:30 am Shacharit					ויגש Parsha
8:30 am Shacharit						
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 4:30 pm	4:30 pm				4:31 pm 🕯 🖟	4:20 pm Mincha
8 candles after dark					4:40 pm Mincha	5:36 pm Shabbat Ends

# You can view our full calendar of services and events at

# shomayim.org/calendar



Tevet / Shevat 5783

## JANUARY 2023

) chair	N	Tiongram	Verboorbo/W	V. Chamilton	7.7	Catuata
Sullday	Moliday	ı nesnay	wedilesday	Hursday	riday	Saturday
8 Tevet	1 9 Tevet 2	<b>2</b> 10 Tevet <b>3</b>	11 Tevet			6 14 Tevet <b>7</b>
8:30 am Shacharit	8:30 am Shacharit	Fast of 10th of Tevet	7:15 am Shacharit	7:10 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	9:00 am Shacharit
		6:42 am Fast Begins				Parsha 'n'I
		7:00 am Shacharit/Slichot				
		4:20 pm Mincha				
Sun - Mon: Mincha/Maariv 4:35 pm	4:35 pm	5:00 pm Maariv	Wed - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 4:40 pm	v 4:40 pm	4:37 pm 🗂	4:25 pm Mincha
		5:26 pm Fast Ends			4:45 pm Mincha	5:43 pm Shabbat Ends
15 Toylot		01	18 Tourst	11 10 Tougt		11 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
			level			
8:30 am Shacharit	7:10 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	7:10 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	9:00 am Shacharit
						שמות Parsha
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 4:45 pm	/ 4:45 pm				4:45 pm ââ	4:35 pm Mincha
					4:55 pm Mincha	5:51 pm Shabbat Ends
22 Tevet <b>15</b>	23 Tevet	16 24 Tevet 17	25 Tevet	<b>18</b> 26 Tevet		20 28 Tevet 21
8:30 am Shacharit	7:10 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	7:10 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	Shabbat Mevorchim
						9:00 am Shacharit
						Parsha
Man OF: Nines Medanis: Mines Medanis	7.50 pm				000 of C	7.75 pm Mincha
Juli - IIIuls, Fillicila/Flagily	1:000:1				בה ל ל	4:4
					ı Mincha	5:59 pm Shabbat Ends
29 Tevet <b>22</b>	22 1 Shevat 23	23 2 Shevat 24	<b>24</b> 3 Shevat <b>25</b>	25 4 Shevat 2	<b>26</b>   5 Shevat 27	<b>27</b> 6 Shevat <b>28</b>
8:30 am Shacharit	Rosh Chodesh	7:15 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	7:10 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	9:00 am Shacharit
	7:00 am Shacharit					בא Parsha
					:	
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 5:05 pm	, 5:05 pm				5:03 pm 🕮	4:50 pm Mincha
					5:10 pm Mincha	6:09 pm Shabbat Ends
7 Shevat 29 8:30 am Shacharit	<b>29</b> <i>8 Shevat</i> <b>30</b> 7:10 am Shacharit	<b>30</b> <i>9 Shevat</i> <b>31</b> 7:15 am Shacharit				
Sun - Tues: Mincha/Maariv 5:10 pm	5:10 pm					
	_					



Shevat / Adar 5783

# FEBRUARY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			10 Shevat	11 Shevat		<b>3</b> 13 Shevat <b>4</b>
			7:15 am Shacharit	7:10 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	Shabbat Shira
						9:00 am Shacharit
						בשלח Parsha
			Wed - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 5:10 nm	   5:10 pm	5·12 nm ##	5.00 mm Mincha
						21.00 (1.00
		-			5:20 pm Mincha	nabbat Ends
14 Shevat 5	15 Shevat	<b>6</b> 16 Shevat <b>7</b>				10 20 Shevat 11
8:30 am Shacharit	Tu BiShvat	7:15 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	7:10 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	9:00 am Shacharit
	7:10 am Shacharit					יתרו Parsha
H	CC				C ( )	
sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 5:20 pm	7 5:20 pm				2:22 pm @@	5:10 pm Mincha
					5:30 pm Mincha	6:28 pm Shabbat Ends
21 Shevat <b>12</b>	<b>12</b> 22 Shevat <b>13</b>	13 23 Shevat 14	24 Shevat	15 25 Shevat 1		17 27 Shevat 18
8:30 am Shacharit	7:10 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	7:10 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	Shabbat Mevorchim
						Parshat Shekalim
						9:00 am Shacharit
						Parsha Diogena
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 5:30 pm	7 5:30 pm				5:31 pm 88	5:20 pm Mincha
					5:40 pm Mincha	6:37 pm Shabbat Ends
28 Shevat 19	29 Shevat 20	30 Shevat 21	1 Adar	22 2 Adar 2		24 4 Adar 25
8:30 am Shacharit	Family Day	Rosh Chodesh	II Rosh Chodesh	7:10 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	9:00 am Shacharit
	8:30 am Shacharit	7:00 am Shacharit	7:00 am Shacharit			תרומר Parsha
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 5:40 pm	75:40 pm				5:41 pm âê	5:30 pm Mincha
					5:50 pm Mincha	6:47 pm Shabbat Ends
5 Adar 56.30 am Shacharit	<b>26</b> 6 <i>Adar</i> <b>27</b> 7:10 am Shacharit	<b>27</b> <i>7 Adar</i> <b>28</b> 7:15 am Shacharit				
Sun - Tues: Mincha/Maariv 5:45 pm	5:45 pm	_				



Adar / Nisan 5783

**MARCH 2023** 

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1		2 10 Adar	3 11 Adar 4
			7:15 am Shacharit	7:10 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	Parshat Zachor
			5			1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
						II SIIdeilai IL
						תצור Parsha
			Wed - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 5:45 pm	, 5:45 pm	5:50 pm 🕯 î	5:40 pm Mincha
					6:00 pm Mincha	6:56 pm Shabbat Ends
12 Adar <b>5</b>	5 13 Adar 6	6 14 Adar 7	15 Adar	<b>8</b> 16 Adar <b>9</b>		10 18 Adar 11
8:30 am Shacharit	Ta'anit Esther	Purim	Shushan Purim	7:10 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	Parshat Parah
	5:44 am Fast Begins	7:00am Shacharit/Megillat	7:15 am Shacharit			9:00 am Shacharit
	7:00 am Shacharit/Slichot	Esther*				כי תשא
	5:40 pm Mincha					
	6:15 pm Maariv/					
Mincha/Maariv 5:55 pm	Megillat Esther*	Mincha/Maariv time TBD	Mincha/Maariv 6:05 pm	Mincha/Maariv 6:00 pm	5:59 pm <sup>88</sup>	5:50 pm Mincha
	6:41 pm Fast Concludes				6:05 pm Mincha	7:04 pm Shabbat Ends
10 10 101		12 21 ALL 11	11 22 A 22 TE	7.CV 7.C		17 مور 10
	:	:	<u> </u>	23 Audi = 10 0: :	:	23 Audi
8:50 am Shacharit	7:10 am Shacharit	/:15 am Shacharit	/:ls am Shacharit	/:I0 am Shacharit	/:l5 am Shacharit	Shabbat Mevorchim
2am Turn clocks forward						Parshat HaChodesh
one hour						9:00 am Shacharit
						ויקהל-פקודי Parsha
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 7:05 pm	7:05 pm				7:00 pm Mincha	6:55 pm Mincha
					7:07 pm 🕯 (6:12*)	8:13 pm Shabbat Ends
26 Adar 19	19 27 Adar 20	20 28 Adar 21	29 Adar	22 1 Nisan 23		24 3 Nisan 25
8:30 am Shacharit	7:10 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	Chodesh	Shacharit	9:00 am Shacharit
				7:00 am Shacharit		lind Parsha
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 7:15 pm	7:15 pm				7:00 pm Mincha	7:05 pm Mincha
					7:16 pm 🗂 (6:18*)	8:21 pm Shabbat Ends
4 Nisan 26	<b>26</b> 5 Nisan <b>27</b>	<b>27</b> 6 Nisan <b>28</b>	28 7 Nisan 29	29 8 Nisan 30	<b>30</b> 9 Nisan	31
8:30 am Shacharit	7:10 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	7:10 am Shacharit	7:15 am Shacharit	
Sun - Thurs: Mincha/Maariv 7:25 pm	7:25 pm				7:00 pm Mincha	
					7:24 pm 👸 (6:24*)	
					*	*Earliest time for this activity.



**APRIL 2023** 

Nisan / Iyyar 5783

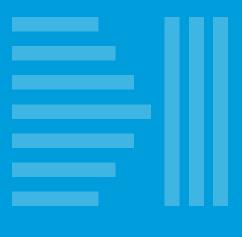
	-			2				ω			
Saturday	10 Nisan	Shabbat Hagadol	9:00 am Shacharit	Parsha	6:15 pm Rabbi's Drasha	7:15 pm Mincha	8:30 pm Shabbat Ends	7 17 Nisan	Shabbat Chol HaMoed*		
Friday								<b>6</b> 16 Nisan	II Pesach*		
Thursday								<b>5</b> 15 Nisan <b>6</b> 1	I Pesach*		
Wednesday								4 14 Nisan	Fast of the Firstborn*	Erev Pesach*	
Tuesday	:h/Spring Bulletin.							<b>3</b> 13 Nisan	7:15 am Shacharit		
Monday	*The Pesach Zmanim will be included in the Pesach/Spring Bulletin.							<b>2</b> 12 Nisan <b>3</b>	7:10 am Shacharit		7:35 pm
Sunday	*The Pesach Zmanim wi							11 Nisan	8:30 am Shacharit		Sun - Tues: Mincha/Maariv 7:35 pm

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shomayim.org/payment.php





#### **COR TRAINING**

Rabbi Heber and Rabbi Brogna from COR ran a training session for our Shaarei Shomayim community mashgichim.





#### MISHMAR LEARNING PROGRAM

Rabbi Taylor taught a class to Or Chaim students as part of their Mishmar Learning Program.





#### CHAZZAN SHAI ABRAMSON

On Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur, we were honoured and thrilled to once again welcome Chazzan Shai Abramson, Representative Cantor for the State of Israel, and his Choir. We thank them for the meaningful and inspiring Ruach they brought to our tefillot.



#### HACHNASAT SEFER TORAH

On Monday September 5, we celebrated the Sifrei Torah generously donated by: David, Bernice and Adina Walerstein; The Shiff Families; Michael & Francine Goldrich and Family; The Strauss, Brown and Krakowsky Families. The program started with a Hachnasat Sefer Torah Procession, continued with a Dedication Ceremony in the Sanctuary, and concluded with a festive *Welcome Back to Shul* Event in the parking lot.



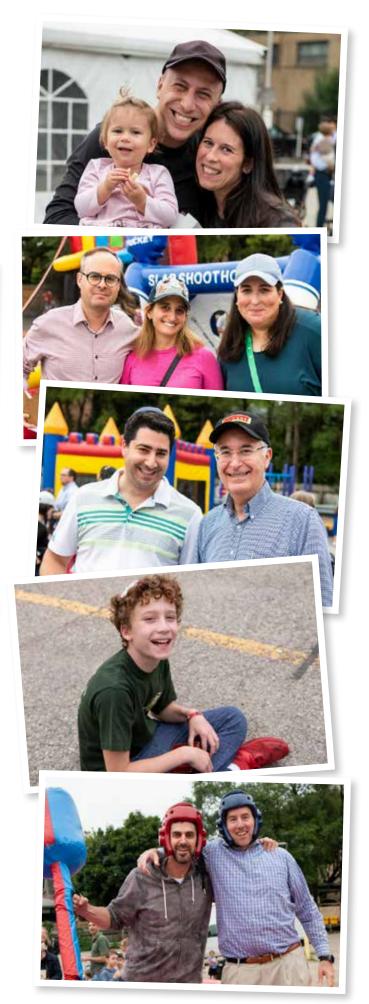




#### WELCOME BACK TO SHUL

Monday September 5

























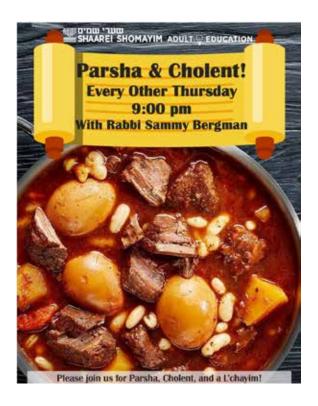
#### PARSHAT NOACH ANIMAL SHOW











#### PARSHA AND CHOLENT WITH RABBI SAMMY BERGMAN



#### TEENS MATTER

Monday Night Learning with Bnei Akiva Toronto, Nov. 28, 2022.







#### THE BAR AND BAT MITZVAH **CLUBS ARE BACK!**

The sessions for the girls led by Rebbetzin Emma and the boys led by Rabbis Taylor and Bergman will focus on experiences and skills to equip students for the next stage in their Jewish life. Through hearing from inspirational people, exploring our heritage, edible crafts and sports sessions, the attendees will not only have a wonderful time but also learn lots in the process!





#### **LUNCH AND LEARN**











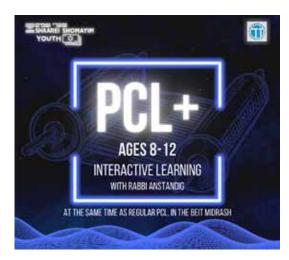


#### Sign Up to Receive Shaarei Shomayim's Emails!

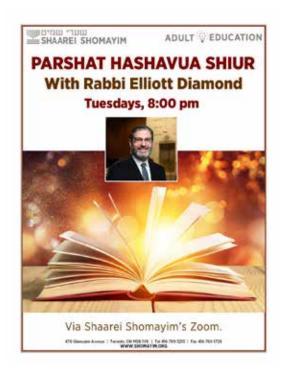
Sign up at https://tinyurl.com/shomayimemails to get news and updates delivered to your inbox. Keep up to date and All That Matters at Shaarei Shomayim.



#### PARENT CHILD LEARNING







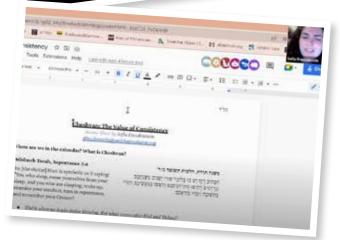


#### WOMEN TEACHING TORAH FOR ROSH CHODESH











#### WOMEN TEACHING TORAH For Rosh Chodesh

**Winter-Spring 2023 / 5783** 



#### Rosh Chodesh Shevat Miriam Bessin

#### **Rosh Chodesh Adar**

If you would like to be a presenter, please contact the shul office  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right)$ 

#### **Rosh Chodesh Nisan**

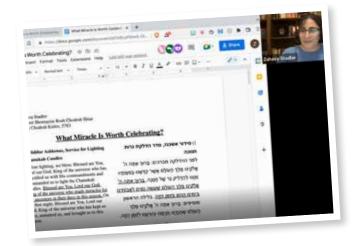
Shayna Kravetz

#### **Rosh Chodesh lyyar**

Shoshana Helfenbaum

Via Shul's Zoom | Women and Men Welcome







Rabbi Dr. Akiva Tatz was born in Johannesburg, South Africa. He studied medicine at the University of Witwatersrand. He spent a year in St. Louis, Missouri, as an American Field Service Scholar, and worked in internal medicine at Washington University. He subsequently moved to Israel where he practised in hospital and general medicine in Jerusalem, as well as engaging in Yeshiva study. He undertook a number of years of Talmudic study and teaching in Jewish thought and medical ethics in Jerusalem.

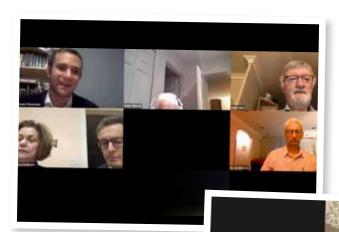
Rabbi Dr. Tatz founded the Jerusalem Medical Ethics Forum, of which he is Director, for the purpose of teaching and promoting knowledge of Jewish medical ethics internationally. He is the author and co-author of many books on the subjects of Jewish Medical Ethics, Jewish thought and philosophy. He currently lectures on Jewish Thought and Medical Ethics at the Jewish Learning Exchange in London where he has been based for over 20 years He is also a regular speaker for Olami.

#### RABBI DR. AKIVA TAT7

On Sunday November 13, we welcomed world renowned guest speaker Rabbi Dr. Akiva Tatz for a shiur and a special breakfast following Shacharit. We were honoured and privileged to host Rabbi Dr. Tatz, and thank him for his inspiring and insightful shiur.



#### RABBI SAMMY BERGMAN'S SHIURIM



Chaim Freund



#### Member News We wish Mazal Tov to the following:

#### **BIRTHS**

SUSAN & BRUCE BATIST and Sherri & David Taras on the birth of a grandson, Ellis Gabriel, born to Jacob Batist & Jill Taras. Delighted great-grandparents are ROSLYN BERGER, and Judy & Eli Cohen. Excited aunts and uncles are Noah & Abby, Judah & Ruth, Aiden & Brooke, Adam, and Jennifer. Excited big sister is Micah Orlee.

ROM AUGUST 20 TO DECEMBER 10, 2022

MINDY GREEN on the birth of a greatgranddaughter, Rivkala, in Brooklyn, NY, born to Rochel & Meir Gurkow. Proud grandparents are Zahava & Rabbi Barruch Green.

MINDY GREEN on the birth of a greatgranddaughter. Rivka. in Melbourne. Australia, born to Richel & Yudi Green. Proud grandparents are Zahava & Rabbi Barruch Green.

MINDY GREEN on the birth of a greatgrandson, Moshe, in Baltimore. born to Chani & Barruch Osterynski. Proud grandparents are Zahava & Rabbi Barruch Green.

MINDY GREEN on the birth of a great-greatgranddaughter, Rivkala, in Montreal, born to Menucha & Yossi. Proud great-grandparents are Zahava & Rabbi Barruch Green

LORRAINE HANSER on the birth of a greatgrandson, Solomon (Solly) Charles in New Jersey, born to Lee & Tali Abrams. Excited brother is Coby James. Proud grandparents are Kim & Jon Abrams and Sue & Shulie Moskowitz of New Jersey. Happy aunts, uncles and cousins are Dale, Falyn Cole, Paige and Chase Abrams; Jesse, Shani, Mateo and Juliet Abrams; Ryan, Sarah and Ahron Abrams; and Arye, Aliza and Yael Moskowitz.

DALYA & FAROKH HAKIMI and Sally & Roger Rafson of Pittsburgh on the birth of their new granddaughter, Eloise Raven (Tovah Rivka) Hakimi, born to Jedd & Sarah Hakimi. Proud brother is Asa Hakimi. Proud uncles and aunts are Ari & Lindsay Hakimi, Isaac & Tamar Hakimi, Sharona & Elie Sternberg, and Ben & Lily Rafson

ANNE BURGER on the birth of a second grandson, Jake Michael, a first child for Toreigh & Chad. Uncles, aunts and cousins share in the bliss. Very much missed at this special time are beloved parents, grandparents and great-grandparents Karl & Katy Burgerz"l.

SIMHA & NELLY MENDELSOHN and Larry & Lilly Tobis on the birth of a grandson, Mason Remy, born to Elan Mendelsohn & Rachel Tobis.

PAUL BROWN and Rabbi Avraham & Frada Stone of West Orange, N.J. on the birth of a grandson, Asher Zelig, a son to Rabbi Reuven & Dr. Rivky Brown in Miami Beach. Excited siblings are Dena, Dovid, Dovi and Sara.

ZEV & DANIELLE GASNER on the birth of their son, RAZIEL (RAZ) MAOZ. Excited sister is BAR. Proud grandparents are JON & ELLISE GASNER and Ron & Joanne Schwarz. Sorely missed at this time is greatgrandmother CYNTHIA GASNERZ"L.



#### **BIRTHS**

RABBI SAMMY & DR. AHUVA BERGMAN on the birth of their daughter, TEMIMAH. Excited sisters are MIRIAM and DEVORAH. Proud grandparents are Dr. Michael & Jeri Bergman and Drs. Avi & Elin Freilich.

RALPH & KAREN ANGELL on the birth of their daughter, LILY. Excited siblings are NOA and JAKE. Proud grandparents are Sandra Johnstone together with Elaine and Frank Angell.

ELFRIEDA VALE on the birth of a greatgrandson, David, to Aaron & Abby Vale of Toronto. Proud grandparents are Rabbi Richard & Devorah Vale. Excited siblings are Naftali Tzvi, Aryeh Leib and Rifky.

MELISSA LASS & ROSS LINKER on the birth of a son, MICAH. Excited brothers are RILEY and IZZY. Proud grandparents are BRENDA & BRIAN LASS and Michal & Paul Linker of New Jersey. Elated great-grandparents are Myrna Lass, and Elisheva Kilion of New York. Sorely missed at this time is great-grandmother CYNTHIA GASNER<sup>Z\*L</sup>. Ecstatic aunts and uncle are SARA & JORDAN LASS, SHIRA LASS, and Wallis Linker. Thrilled cousins are MIA and ANNIE LASS.

JESSICA & DAVID BARMHERZIG on the birth of a daughter, REBEKAH RACHEL. Proud grandparents are Sheryl & Jeffrey Goldman and Bette & Moris Barmherzig.

ALA GAMULKA (LARRY<sup>Z"L</sup>) on the birth of a grandson, Ari Houde Gamulka (Aryeh Yehuda), son of Rivka Houde and Jonathan Gamulka. Delighted grandparents are Darlene Piche and Sue and Roger Houde. Ecstatic big brother is Isaac.

LINDA LEVENSTEIN on the birth of a great-grandson, Kai Coleman (Kalman Yonatan), born to Eli & Samara Lesser. Proud grandparents are Carol & Stewart Lesser and Karen Bernstein & Ian Hendry, and great-grandfather is Mr. Hendry. Excited sister is Ley Isla.

NOAH & ADI GASNER on the birth of their daughter, EDEN RAE. Proud grandparents are JON & ELLISE GASNER and Shmulik & Nadine Sheinberg. Excited greatgrandparents are Arnie & Roneen Weingarten, Lily Sheinberg, and Monty & Eileen Kobrin. Sorely missed at this time is great-grandmother CYNTHIA GASNER<sup>Z"L</sup>.

NANCI TURK on the birth of a greatgranddaughter, Eden Maya Pesach Turk, born to Michael & Avital Turk. Proud grandparents are David & Ellen Turk and Leah & Menachem Zelver. Proud greatgrandmother is Arline Bernstein. NAPHTALI & AVA SILVERMAN on the birth of their son, ZACHARY. Excited brothers are JACOB and JOSHUA. Proud grandparents are Murray & Susan Silverman, and PETER & ADRIANNE KLEMENSBERG. Proud greatgrandparents are Dr. Harry Cohen and Mrs. Edit Galfi. Excited aunts and uncles are Avi & Erin Silverman, NACHUM & YAEL SILVERMAN, Binyamin & Leora Silverman, JASON & LAURA KLEMENSBERG, and EMILY KLEMENSBERG.

DAVIDA SHIFF & IAN KESSLER on the birth of a son, BENJAMIN SIDNEY. Excited brothers are JOSEPH and EZRA. Thrilled grandparents are RANDY & DONNA SHIFF and Joel & Leslie Kessler. Proud greatgrandmother is DOROTHY SHIFF. Mazal Tov to aunts and uncles JACOB SHIFF, ILANA SHIFF & JEREMY ROSH, and Jennifer, Yael, and Jeffrey Kessler.

YAEL & NACHUM SILVERMAN on the birth of their daughter, NESSA. Little sister to AYDEN. Excited grandparents are REUVEN & DEBBIE SPIEGEL and Susan & Murray Silverman. Happy aunts, uncles and cousins are AKYVA & GILA SPIEGEL, ARLEY, AYAL and ROMY; Miryam & Geoffrey Michael Kiderman, Judah, Sammy, Ellie and Keira; KOBY & RACHELI SPIEGEL, and ILAN; Avi & Erin Silverman, Isaac, Evan and Ezra; NAPHTALI & AVA SILVERMAN, JACOB, JOSHUA and ZACHARY; Binyamin and Leora Silverman. Great-grandparents are Beatryce Spiegel and Dr. Harry Cohen.

JON & ELLISE GASNER on the birth of a granddaughter, Rachel Serach, born to Nadav & Pearl Gasner. Proud grandparents are Bev Aron and Ken Kraft. Proud greatgrandparents are Harry & Libby Kraft and Roneen & Arnie Weingarten. Sorely missed at this time is great-grandmother CYNTHIA GASNER<sup>Z"L</sup>.

ALBERT & SYLVIA BENZAQUEN and Eli & Feiga Eidelshtein on the birth of a grandson, Uriel Yechiel Moshe Eidelshtein, born to Ari & Camilla Eidelshtein. Excited uncles and aunts are Adam and Aaron Benzaquen, and Miriam, Joshua and Joseph Eidelshtein. Proud greatgrandmothers are Chana Eidelshtein and Rachel Siyak.

REBECCA & JOEL FRIEDMAN on the birth of a son, MAX. Little brother to AVITAL. Thrilled grandparents are STEPHEN & BLIMA DREEZER and Aubrey Friedman. Happy aunts, uncles and cousins are PAUL & HARRIET GREENWOOD, ELIAS, JOSH and TALIA; CHARLES DREEZER; Aaron & Danielle Friedman and Sarah; Alysha Friedman.

LILLIAN COOPER and the Kochman Family on the birth of a great-grandson, Isaac Natan Dov Kochman, born to Noah & Rebecca Kochman.

STEPHEN & LINDA OFFENHEIM on the birth of a granddaughter, Hadar Rosie Carmel, born to Ashley & Sagi Carmel of Jerusalem. Proud grandparents are Ranit & Nissim Carmel. Excited aunts and uncles are RACHEL OFFENHEIM and JAKE OFFENHEIM, Adi and Tzuriel Friedman and Tamir Carmel. Proud great-grandmother is Sandy Offenheim.

BARUCH & SARAH HARARI on the birth of their daughter, AYLA CHANA. Excited brother is IZZY. Proud grandparents are STEWART & DANIELLE TURK and Amichai & Ruchel Harari. Proud great-grandparents are Clara Turk, Shirley Amar, Joseph Benetar, Zipora Harari and Pauline Posner.

DAVID & TAMAR SUTTNER on the birth of their daughter, MIA REBECCA (MIA RIVKA). Proud grandparents are Rob and Pam Gross and Errol and Sharon Suttner. Elated greatgrandparents are Dr. Martin and Eleanor Lipson and Cyril Touyz.

BRIAN & ROBBIE SCHWARTZ, Ofra Svorai, and Zev Nadel & Toby Harrison on the birth of their grandson, Shimon Lev, son of Moshe Schwartz & Maya Nadel. Excited sisters are Sari, Hadas, Noa, Binah, and Ora.

SHOSHANA ELHARAR on the birth of a grandson, born to Mayer & Inbal Elharar, and brother of Yair.

PAUL BROWN on the birth of a greatgrandson, Adin Yehuda Barron, born to Akiva & Rivky Barron in Givat Shmuel. Proud grandparents are Dan & Bayla Barron of Bet Shemesh and Rabbi & Mrs. Daniel Schreiber of Alon Shvut. Thrilled big brother is Betzalel.

SUSAN & BRUCE BATIST and Sue & Mike Andrew on the birth of a granddaughter, Chloe Paige, born to Noah Batist & Abby Andrew. Delighted great-grandmother is ROSLYN BERGER. Elated aunts and uncles are Jacob and Jill, Judah and Ruth, Aiden and Brooke, Rachel and Doron, and Jonathan. Excited big cousins are Micah and Ellis Batist.

#### BAR / BAT MITZVAH

MARK LICHTBLAU & ANITA SCHMIDEG-LICHTBLAU on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, SAMUEL. Excited brothers are JACOB, ELI and EZRA. Proud grandmothers are Fela Lichtblau and Miriam Schmideg.

HART & GILA HELLER on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, NOA. Excited siblings are HARRY and YAEL.

ILAN & REBECCA BERGEL on the Bnei Mitzvah of their twin sons, BENJAMIN and JONAH. Excited sister is MIA. Proud grandparents are GARY & FERN ORZECH and Hy & Helen Bergel.

#### BAR / BAT MITZVAH

ROBERT & DANA KLEIN on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, SHIA. Excited siblings are LEV and ALIYAH. Proud grandparents are BRIAN & BRYNA BLOOM and Murray & Susan Klein.

RABBI ELLIOTT & ROCHELLE DIAMOND and Hershy & Elaine Weinberg on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson Yaakov, son of Rabbi Avi & Sonia Diamond. Excited siblings are Miri, Kayla, Zalman, Rikki and Alexander. Proud great-grandmother is Adele Meister.

JOHN & LORI ULMER on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter Harper, daughter of Ilan & Stephanie Ulmer. Excited siblings are Poppy, Monty and Momo. Proud grandmother is Marsha Goldberg.

YONATAN & YOCHEVED MILEVSKY on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, YIDDLE. Excited siblings are YONAH, ETHEL, JJ and FRANCIS. Proud grandparents are Dr. Chaya (Rabbi Uziel<sup>2"</sup>) Milevsky and Simcha & Esther Dick.

#### ENGAGEMENTS

LINDA LEVENSTEIN on the engagement of her grandson, Elnatan Levenstein, son of Michael<sup>z-1</sup> & Leora Levenstein, to Tal Ezra, daughter of Tami & David Ezra of Israel. Proud grandparents are Dr. Chuck & Connie Solomon of Israel.

BONNIE & DOV BEGUN on the engagement of their daughter, TAMAR to Benjy Schwartz, son of Debbie & Daniel Schwartz of New York. Proud grandparents are Janice & Howard Langer, Debby Begun, Gabriella Major and Phil and Faygie Schwartz. Excited siblings are YAKIRA, ISAAC and ADIN; Yishai and Nina and niece Ella, Elianna and Alex Agus, and William.

TARA DUBROW & DAVID NADLER on the engagement of their son EZRA to Yona Grossman, daughter of Daphna & Matthew Grossman. Excited siblings are Zoe Nadler & Zack Bratin, Gaby and Lee Nadler, and Ayala Grossman. Proud grandparents are PAULA & ARNOLD DUBROW, Doris & Joseph Y. Nadler<sup>z"</sup>, Alisa and Meir Schwartz, Brenda<sup>z"</sup> and Murray Grossman, and Lucy Sheer.

STEWART & DANIELLE TURK on the engagement of their daughter EMILY, to Koby Welman, son of Allen & Donna Welman. Grandparents are Clara & Israel<sup>z"</sup> Turk, Shirley & Joseph Amar, Israel<sup>z"</sup> & Marsha Glassman, and Devorah & Menachem Welman. Excited siblings are SARAH & BARUCH HARARI, Jamie & Jacquie Turk, Sean Turk, Shira Welman, and Avi & Uuna Lieberman.

LORRAINE HANSER on the engagement of her granddaughter Marlee Green, daughter of Alison & Steven Green to Jake Fine, son of Shelley Goldkind Fine & Jonathan Fine. Proud grandmothers are Sue Green and Helen Goldkind. Excited siblings are Jared Green & Hannah Golden, Corby & Roz Fine, Jamie Fine & Jory Fine.

KAREN CHODIKOFF JESIN & GARY LITWACK on their engagement. Thrilled children and grandchild are Daniela Jesin & Seth Giddens and Isabel Dawn, Josh Jesin and Emily Jesin; and Elizabeth Litwack Landsberg & Corey Landsberg, Daniel Litwack & Rebecca Joy Litwack. Parents are Leah & Donald<sup>z\*l</sup> Chodikoff, and Rose<sup>z\*l</sup> and Moe<sup>z\*l</sup> Litwack.

YVETTE ROSENBERG & TED SHOUB on the engagement of their son JONAH, to Rachel Schechter, daughter of Debbie & Jeff Schechter of Roslyn, New York. Excited siblings are ELLA, LAUREN, LEA and JAMIE SHOUB and Daniel and Matthew Schechter. Honoured grandparents are Susan Rosenberg, Cyrele & Bernard Shoub, Elinore West and Barbara Schechter.

JUDITH LAXER & JEFFREY LIPSITZ on the engagement of their daughter MICHAL to Boaz, son of Nitza & Tzvi Abramson of Jerusalem. Excited siblings are Avi Lipsitz, Yonatan & Lauren Lipsitz, and Orly Lipsitz; and Dan and Michal Abramson. Thrilled niece is Lily Lipsitz. Proud grandmothers are Betty Laxer and Shulamit Yakir.

ROBIN & TIM GOFINE on the engagement of their daughter MIRIAM to Roee Ramot, son of Pnina & Danny Ramot. Excited siblings are Naomi Gofine, Daniel Gofine, Ben & Melissa Ramot and Sharon Ramot. Proud grandmother is Miriam Grunwald.

#### **MARRIAGES**

RICK & LAURA ORZY on the marriage of their son ILAN to Madison, daughter of Ron and Maura Bettle. Excited siblings are Noa & Jake Flaster and Zev Orzy.

MALKA LEWITTES & ELAN PRATZER and Annegail & Ian Rosen on the marriage of their children, Aviva Pratzer to Neil Rosen, and on Neil's Aufruf. Thrilled siblings are Ariella Pratzer & David Rosenberg, Noam & Yael Pratzer, Casey Rosen & Max Stone, and Jamie Rosen. Excited grandmothers are Ida Pratzer, Betty Cohen and Sherry Kelner; and niece, Izzy Rosenberg.

IRA POVITZ on his marriage to Rachel Cappe. Proud parents are Bill & Marilyn Povitz and Stan & Carol Cappe. Special thanks to Marla Figdor.

ALBERT & SYLVIA BENZAQUEN on the wedding of their son ADAM to Sarah Kuighadush, daughter of Danny & Esther Kuighadush of Kew Gardens, New York. Excited siblings are Camilla & Ari Eidelshtein, and Avi Kuighadush. Proud grandparents are Dina Kuighadush and Moshe & Rachel Neman

#### ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS

AARON RIFKIND on his 80th birthday.

AARON & JOYCE RIFKIND on their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

CAROLE & BRIAN CANTOR on their  $40^{\text{th}}$  wedding anniversary.

JOYCE & ARTHUR EKLOVE on their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

SOL NAYMAN on his 87th birthday.

CHAIM EISENSTAT on his birthday.

Our Gabbai, LOUIS VANDERSLUIS on his  $65^{th}$  birthday.

GORDON STRAUSS on his special birthday.

JOYCE EKLOVE on her 80th birthday.

WARREN GROSSMAN on his birthday.

ELLEN & WARREN GROSSMAN on their special anniversary.

#### **SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mazal Tov to MYRNA LAMBERT on the of her achievements grandchildren: granddaughter Chevn Lambert's graduation with a Summa Cum Laude in Architecture from the Technion and receiving an Azrieli scholarship; granddaughter Adi Lambert's graduation with a degree in Reflexology; grandson Yonatan Lambert's completion of his army service; and grandson Ariel Lambert's participation in the Silver Medal winning Israeli baseball team at the Maccabiah games. Proud parents are Noa & Michael Lambert, and grandparents are Sara & Avraham Sternlieb.

B'hatzlacha to Channah Rifka Swirsky on starting her service and entering the Israeli Defence Forces. Proud grandmother is MYRA MECHANIC. Sorely missed at this time is great-grandmother CYNTHIA GASNER<sup>Z\*L</sup>. Proud aunts and uncles are MEYER MECHANIC and DEBORAH MECHANIC, BRENDA & BRIAN LASS, Robert & Julea Gasner, and JON & ELLISE GASNER. Am Yisrael Chai!

Mazal Tov to KITTY WINTROB whose tribute to the late Queen is given a full page in HELLO! Canada Magazine's commemorative issue on the Queen. It was prepared with the help of SUZANNE WINTROB, long-time contributing editor.

Mazal Tov to DEBBY & BARRY GOLDMAN on the achievements of their children: Nessa Goldman on completing her Masters of Arts and Biological Sciences, Miami University; and Captain Noah Goldman on successfully completing his type rating as Captain on the Embraer E-175 passenger jet for Air Canada Express.

Mazal Tov to RANDALL & LINDA CRAIG on the occasion of their daughter, SABRINA CRAIG being honoured by Toronto Metropolitan University (Ryerson) with their Alumni Achievement Award.

Mazal Tov to RABBI SAMMY BERGMAN and the participants of the morning Gemara Shiur who celebrated the Siyum of Masechet Avodah Zarah: FRANK ANDER, MELECH HALBERSTADT, STEVEN LIPARI, BRIAN SCHWARTZ, and BRADLEY STRAUSS.

Mazal Tov to SARITTE PERLMAN, daughter of KUSIEL AND RONITTE for getting 100% in the Oral Defence of her Masters Thesis in Health Science at Ben Gurion University. A nice match with the 98% she received on the written thesis. PhD here she comes!

#### CONDOLENCES TO

Dr. Ronald and Susan Smith, Harvey and Susan Smith, ALLAN & MINDY SMITH, Lauren and Michael, Ryan, Jaclyn and Michael, Derek and Tracy, Trevor and Meghan, Jaclyn and Roei, DEAN, MATTHEW, NICOLE, Rita Aber and families, on the loss of their father, father-in-law, grandfather, great-grandfather and brother-in-law, Murray Aber<sup>z"</sup>.

JUDY & GARY NEINSTEIN, Stan & Carolyn Fromstein, Greg & Jill, Jeff & Michelle, David & Ioana, Bryan & Karen and Jordan on the loss of their brother and uncle, Bernard Fromstein<sup>2"</sup>.

SHAYNA KRAVETZ on the loss of her sister, Sarah Kravetz<sup>z\*1</sup>.

Aaron & Miriam Rosen, Miriam & Tom Hadar, HINDA & ALLAN SILBER, and Yona & Bernard Sperber on the loss of their father, brother and grandfather, Stanley Rosen<sup>2"</sup>.

Janice Rubin, Miriam Walfish, Joe & Sharon Goldstein and families, on the loss of their mother, sister and sister-in-law, FLORENCE ANNE BARIK $^{\mathbb{Z}^rL}$ .

Rose Edelson, Asher Pertman, JEREMY & HADASSA PERTMAN, Tyler Pertman and families, on the loss of their daughter, wife, mother, mother-in-law and grandmother, Sharon Pertman<sup>2"</sup>l.

NANCI TURK, David & Ellen Turk, Peter Turk & Debbie Cherry, Robert Turk & Julie Feldman, Carol Zweig, Lisa Turk, Minnie Ross, Betty Cohen, Margo Brown and families, on the loss of their husband, father, father-in-law, brother, brother-in-law, grandfather and great-grandfather, PHILIP TURK<sup>Z\*L</sup>.

BERNIE & ANNA KLEINBERG, Brian & Simmi Kleinberg, Marla & Jack Samuel, Ariella and Dani Goldstein, Rabbi Effie & Tamar Kleinberg, Talia & Dave Apter, Eliana & Zack Husynni, NATALIE KLEINBERG, JOSH KLEINBERG, Adam & Galit Samuel, Aryeh & Chana Samuel, KOBY & RACHELI SPIEGEL and families, on the loss of their mother, mother-in-law, grandmother and great-grandmother, Nancy Kleinberg<sup>z\*I</sup>.

Sandra, Jeffrey & Orly, Rick & Manon, Ellie Peters and families, on the loss of their father, father-in-law, brother, brother-in-law, grandfather and great-grandfather, HENRY GLATT<sup>Z"L</sup>.

Jordana Huber (Daniel Debow), Robert Huber (Louise), Bonnie Kirsh and families, on the loss of their step-grandfather, greatgrandfather, step-father and father, HENRY KIRSHZ"L.

Sandy Offenheim, Nadine & Barry Rapps, STEPHEN & LINDA OFFENHEIM, Art & Carole Offenheim, Marty & Raizel Offenheim, Elaine & Arnie Rose and families, on the loss of their husband, father, father-in-law, brother, brother-in-law and grandfather, Harold (Hainny) Offenheim<sup>z\*|</sup>.

ROBERT SPIEGEL & RENEE SANANES, Lynn Spiegel & Lawrence Feld and families, on the loss of their mother, mother-in-law, grandmother and great-grandmother, Nina Mae Spiegel<sup>z"</sup>l.

MYRA MECHANIC, BRENDA & BRIAN LASS. Robert & Julea Gasner. JON & ELLISE GASNER, RENEE & HARVEY SOLURSH, Stan Gasner, MEYER MECHANIC, DEBORAH MECHANIC, MELISSA LASS & ROSS LINKER, JORDAN & SARA LASS, SHIRA LASS, Orly & Nathaniel (Gibby) Gibson, Kayla & Eitan Rapps, Elisheva Gasner, Micha & Sean Haber, Rafi & Benjy Brandwein, ZEV & DANIELLE GASNER, NOAH & ADI GASNER, Avishai Gasner, Naday & Pearl Gasner, Atara Gasner, Yakira Gasner and families, on the loss of their mother, mother-in-law, sister, sister-inlaw, grandmother and great-grandmother, CYNTHIA GASNERZ"L. To view Cynthia's interview as part of the shul's Storytelling Project on March 30, 2021, please visit facebook.com/watch/?v=210154724202123.

Howard and Leslie, Robbie and Suzanne, JACK & MARLENE BRUDNER, Harold & Ruth Brudner, Alan & Fern Brudner and families, on the loss of their mother, mother-in-law, sister, sister-in-law, grandmother and greatgrandmother, Molly (Micki) Brudner<sup>z\*|</sup>.

SHARON KNOPMAN and family, on the loss of IRVING KNOPMAN<sup>Z"L</sup>.

Elliot Godel, JULIE & RODNEY BERGMAN, Cheryl & Douglas Sherman, Alan & Lisa Godel, Gail & Martin Bergman, Bonnie Wener Swartz, Morris (Nassie) & Raylene Godel, Deanna Godel and families, on the loss of their wife, mother, mother-in-law, sister, sister-in-law, grandmother and great-grandmother, Marilyn Wener Godel<sup>2"</sup>.

Harriet Train & Geary Shorser, Roz Train, LESLIE & SHAYNE TRAIN, Marshall & Tova Train and families, on the loss of their mother, mother-in-law, grandmother and great-grandmother, Shirley Train<sup>2"</sup>.

FRANCINE & MICHAEL GOLDRICH, Joelle & Seymour Stein, Yitzchak & Batsheva Alloul, Joseph & Jacqueline Alloul, LANA & YECHIEL BOBROWSKY, YAAKOV & TAMARA GOLDRICH, KAYLA & JOSH BERNICK, SHIMON GOLDRICH and families, on the loss of their father, father-in-law, brother-in-law, grandfather and great-grandfather, David Alloul<sup>2"</sup>.



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#### **ENDOWMENTS**

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

#### DATES TO REMEMBER

JAN 3	Fast of 10 <sup>th</sup> of Tevet
JAN 4,11,18,2	25 BMZD Icons of Moroccan Jewry Rabbi Mordechai Torczyner
JAN 8,15,22,	29 Women's Megillah Reading Series: Learn How to Lein Megillat Esther with Racheli Spiegel
JAN 15	BMZD Midreshet Yom Rishon for Women
JAN 16	BMZD Medical Ethics: Eating Disorders in Judaism Rabbi Mordechai Torczyner
FEB 4	Shabbat Shira
FEB 6	Tu BiShvat
FEB 13	BMZD Medical Ethics: The Shoteh Rabbi Mordechai Torczyner
MAR 6	Ta'anit Ester / Erev Purim
MAR 7	Purim
MAR 8	Shushan Purim
MAR 9,16	Shaarei Shomayim and Jews for Judaism Winter Mini-Lectures
MAR 13	BMZD Legal Ethics: The Mental Health of the Lawyer Rabbi Mordechai Torczyner
MAR 25	Shabbat with Rabbi Dr. Meir Soloveichik
APR 1	Shabbat Hagadol and Rabbi Taylor's Shabbat Hagadol Drasha
APR 5	Ta'anit Bechorot / Erev Pesach
APR 6	l Pesach
APR 7	II Pesach
APR 8	Shabbat Chol Hamoed Pesach
APR 9-11	Chol Hamoed Pesach
APR 12	VII Pesach
APR 13	VIII Pesach