



CONGREGATION OHR TORAH Weekly Newsletter

270 Pleasant Valley Way ☐ PO Box 6169 ☐ West Orange, NJ 07052

Miketz 30 Kislev - 6 Tevet, 5780 December 28, 2019 - January 3, 2020

Rabbi Marc Spivak, President David Goldstein, Rab-

SHABBAT KIDDUSH is sponsored by the Shul. **SEUDAH SH'LISHIT** is sponsored by Susan & Robert Grosberg in memory of Robert's father, Shmuel Yehudah ben Reuven, Samuel Judah Grosberg, A"H.

To sponsor a Shabbat Kiddush or Seudah Sh'lishit at the Shul, please contact Tami Puder at office@congregationohrtorah.org.

ROSH CHODESH TEVET starts this Friday evening and ends Sunday night. Chodesh Tov.

MISHNA B'RURA CLASS with Rabbi Grosberg after Shabbat Mincha will be held this week in the Beit Midrash. It will be a shortened class. At Seudah Shlishit, in memory of his father, Rabbi Grosberg will deliver a Dvar Torah entitled, "Is Chanukah Really a 'Minor' Holiday?" Men and women are invited to attend.

RABBI SPIVAK'S WEEKLY CLASS will meet this Wednesday evening at 7:45pm following Maariv.

CHANUKAH ON ICE: Bring your skates, or rent them there. There will be refreshments so you don't need to bring your latkes. Saturday, Motzei Shabbat, December 28th at 6:30pm. Clary Anderson Arena in Montclair. See page 5.

FOR SENIORS: Together on Tuesdays. No meeting this Tuesday, December 31, 2019. **Tuesday, January 7**, "Names Not Numbers", a heartwarming documentary by the 8th grade students of JKHA interviewing community members who survived the Holocaust. Our meeting takes place on a lesser known fast day, the Tenth of Tevet, which is one of the four fast days in the year related to the destruction of the Beit Hamikdash, the Holy Temple. As one student stated in the documentary, "I can read books about the Holocaust, but nothing compares to meeting individuals who experienced the Holocaust and hearing their story." These young people are among the last generation to hear firsthand accounts from the generation of the Holocaust. The documentary concludes with a message of hope, dignity and encouragement to live life fully and uphold the values of being a Jew. 12:30-1:00pm- Light lunch of soup, salad, dessert, coffee and tea (Cost \$3.00). 1:00-2:15pm- Featured Program. At AABJ&D Sephardic Wing. In case of inclement weather and the possibility of cancelling a program, call (973) 736-1407 x240. and listen for the recorded message.

OT SECURITY: Thank you to our security volunteers this week who stepped up to keep us all safe. **We need volunteers for January.** Even if you've never volunteered in the past, please try it out! Sign up by sending Dov Chelst an email message at dachelst@gmail.com and he can tell you what is required.

Schedule 12/27 – 01/03

Friday (12/27)

Shacharit	5:55am
Mincha	4:15pm
Light Candles	4:17pm
Shkia	4:35pm

Shabbat (12/28) Rosh Chodesh

Shacharit	9:00am
Latest Shema	9:39am
Mincha	4:10pm
Maariv	5:16pm
Shabbat ends	5:23pm

Sunday (12/29) Rosh Chodesh

Shacharit	8:15am
Mincha/Maariv	4:25pm

Monday - Thursday (12/30 - 01/02)

Shacharit Mon/Thu	6:00am
Shacharit Tue	6:10am
Shacharit Wed	8:15am
Mincha/Maariv Su/Tu/We	4:25pm
Maariv Only Mon/Thu	7:30pm

No Mincha Service Mon/Thu

Friday (01/03)

Shacharit	6:10am
Light Candles	4:23pm
Mincha	4:30pm
Shkia	4:35pm

Eruv Hotline:

(973) 736-1407 x6



Sisterhood Events and Donations

Sisterhood Tribute Fund:

Please consider making a donation to honor or in memory of someone in any of the following categories. Tributes—\$5; Sefer Fund—\$10; Youth Fund—\$18; Siddur or Machzor—\$40; Chumash—\$60. For more information, please contact Debbie Druce deborahdruce@gmail.com

Yahrzeits December 28 - January 03

30 KISLEV: Stephen Flatow for his Mother, Feigel bat Nossan, Fay Flatow, on Shabbat, December 28.

30 KISLEV: Bertha Sharret for her Grandmother, Yoche bat Sender, Irene Lifshitz, on Shabbat, December 28.

1 TEVET: Jeff Raskin for his Father, Yitzchak ben HaRav Chaim Yosef, Irving Raskin, on Sunday, December 29.

3 TEVET: Adley Mandel for his Grandfather, Yitzchak Tzvi ben Dovid, Issac Mandel, on Tuesday, December 31.

3 TEVET: Jeff Rogers for his Father, Yisrael ben Ya'acov, on Tuesday, December 31.

4 TEVET: Adley Mandel for Susan's Father, R' Ze'ev ben Lipman, William Seligman, on Wednesday, January 1.

4 TEVET: Bertha Sharret for her Father, Yitchak Nachum ben Meir Ha'Lavi, Issac Lechuk, on Wednesday, January 1.

5 TEVET: Robert Grosberg for his Father, Shmuel Yehuda ben Reuvain, Samuel Judah Grosberg, on Thursday, January 2.

5 TEVET: Suzanne Grossman for her Father, Meyer Yankel ben Shmuel, Marvin Klenosky, on Thursday, January 2.

5 TEVET: Sam Goldfischer for his Grandfather, Yehudah Leib ben Shimshon Aryeh, Judah Isseroff, on Thursday, January 2.

5 TEVET: Marcia Schoppik for her Father, Reuven ben Yisroel Hachohen, Raymond Dorfman, on Thursday, January 2.

6 TEVET: Marilyn Croman for her Father, Dovid ben Yitzhak Shimon, David Kaplan, on Friday, January 3.

6 TEVET: Jeff Stiel for his Father, Yonah ben Avroham Yehuda, Jonas Stiel, on Friday, January 3.

For changes/corrections to this list, please contact Elia Weixelbaum or send an e-mail to : ShabbatNewsletter@congregationohratorah.org

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THANK YOU

"A Kiddush for the Rest of Us" has come and gone. Grievances were aired, and the The Ohr Torah Men's Club pulled off the Festivus miracle and added many food items (highlighted as to their Seinfeld significance) and more this year. Special thanks to Jay Goldberg, David Goldstein, Leron Thumim, Raphie Sharret and Larry Freedman. Our sponsors really stepped up this year and gave us a successful fun filled event. Thank you to the following sponsors:

\$36 -- Aired of Grievances

Karen Berger & Elia Weixelbaum	Nancy & Richard Perl
Sarah & Michael Diamond	Holly & Howard Sragow
Lee & Neal Alexander	Joan Lieser & Dominick Mobilio
Samara & Eric Feiler	Leslie & David Gleaner
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\$54 -- Contribution to the Human Fund

Bertha & Raphie Sharret	Annie & Sam Goldfischer
Daniella & Chaim Nath	Dina & David Goldstein
Eli Feiler	Debbie & Jay Goldberg
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\$90 -- A Festivus Miracle

Margot & Larry Freedman	Shuly & Aaron Spool
Karen Leron Thumim	Leora & Zev Weiner
Davita & Tzvi Robinson	Michal & Aaron Strauss
Roberta & Barry Schwartz	Arielle & Jonathan Newcombe
Nicole & Sam Reinman	

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS: Items for the Newsletter must be submitted **before 4:00pm on the Wednesday before publication**. Anything submitted after that time will be considered for the following issue.

Email to: shabbatnewsletter@congregationohratorah.org

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Rabbi Marc Spivak rabbi@congregationohratorah.org

Office: Tami Puder office@congregationohratorah.org

Board: board@congregationohratorah.org

Men's Club President: Larry Freedman, larry@18thstory.com

Sisterhood President: Bertha Sharret, rsharret@hotmail.com

Chesed: Rabbi Spivak, Tami Puder

Shiva Assistance: Rabbi Robert Grosberg

Shiva Meals: Gail Bukiet

Building Committee: Arnold Barton

Subscription Requests: listserv@congregationohratorah.org

Monthly Calendar: Elia Weixelbaum

Newsletter: ShabbatNewsletter@congregationohratorah.org

Reading Torah: Avi Klein, otlaining@congregationohratorah.org

Scheduling Calendar: Tami Puder, e-mail to

Schedule@congregationohratorah.org

Tributes/Siddurim/Chumashim/Machzorim Donations: Debbie Druce

Bookplate Design-Bar, Bat Mitzvah Inscriptions: Debbie Druce

Yahrtzeit/Tree of Life Plaques: Jack Rosen

Youth Committee: Leron Thumim and Chavi Trenk (co-chairs)

leron.Thumim@gmail.com and ebtrenk@gmail.com

Youth Director: Rivky Balsler Youth@congregationohratorah.org

Newsletter Advertising: Howard Charish

advertising@congregationohratorah.org

INSERT CANDLES FROM THE RIGHT, BUT LIGHT FIRST FROM THE LEFT



HANUKKAH BLESSINGS OVER THE MENORAH

ברוך אתה יי א-להינו מלך העולם, אשר קדשנו במצותיו וצונו להדליק נר של חנכה.

ברוך אתה יי א-להינו מלך העולם, שעשה נסים לאבותינו בימים ההם בזמן הזה.

On the first night of Hanukkah recite:

ברוך אתה יי א-להינו מלך העולם, שהחיינו וקיימנו והגיענו לזמן הזה.

After Lighting the Candles recite:

הנרות הללו אנחנו מדליקים על הנסים ועל הנפלאות ועל התשועות ועל המלחמות, שעשית לאבותינו בימים ההם בזמן הזה, על ידי פהניך הקדושים. וכל שמונת ימי חנכה הנרות הללו קדש הם, ואין לנו רשות להשתמש בהם, אלא לראותם בלבד, כדי להודות ולהלל לשמך הגדול על נסיה ועל נפלאותיה ועל ישועתך.

יונים נקבצו עלי אזי בימי חשמנים,
 ופרצו חומות מגדלי וטמאו כל
 השמנים,
 ומנותר קנקנים נעשה גם לשושנים,
 בני בינה ימי שמונה קבעו שיר ורננים.

חשוף זרוע קדשך וקרב קץ הישועה,
 נקם נקמת דם עבדיך מאמה הרשעה,
 כי ארכה לנו הישועה, ואין קץ לימי
 הרעה,
 דחה אדמון בצל צלמון הקם לנו רועים



מעוז צור ישועתי לך נאה לשבח,
 תפוז בית תפלתי ושם תודה נזבח,
 לעת תכין מטבח מצר המנבח,
 אז אגמר בשיר מזמור חנפת המזבח.

רעות שבעה נפשי בגון פחי כלה,
 חיי מררו בקשי בשעבוד מלכות עגלה,
 ובידו הגדולה הוציא את הסגלה,
 חיל פרעה וכל זרעו ירדו כאבן מצולה.

דביר קדשו הביאני וגם שם לא שקטתי,
 ובא נוגש והגלני, כי זרים עבדתי,
 ויין רעל מסכתי כמעט שעברתי,
 קץ בכל, זרבל, לקץ שבעים נושעתי.

פרת קומת ברוש בקש אגני בן המדתא,
 ונהיתה לו לפח ולמוקש וגאותו נשבתה,
 ראש ימיני נשאת, ואויב שמו מחית,
 רב בניו וקניניו על העץ תלית.

CONTINUED NEXT COLUMN



TORAH THOUGHT:

Lighting the Menorah Opposite the Mezzuzah

Eitan Maron is a past leader and gabbai of the OT Youth Minyan. He graduated RKYHS in 2019 and is currently a shana aleph student at Yeshivat Hakotel in the Old City of Jerusalem. When he returns to the US, he will attend Yeshiva University, apparently a family tradition.

Eitan Maron There is no more pleasant feeling than walking into a warm home on Chanukah, smelling the aroma of frying latkes, hearing the sound of dreidels spinning, and seeing the soft glow of the Chanukah candles. This is the sight that most Jews experience every year on Chanukah. However, hundreds of years ago, rather than lighting inside, it was common practice to light the candles on the left side of the doorway, across from the mezuzah. This is brought down in the Shulchan Aruch, Orach Chaim, 671:7: *מזוזה מימין ובר משמאל* The mezuzah is to be on the right side, the Hanukkah candles on the left. The conventional answer for why we place the Chanukah candles in that location is that by placing the chanukiah on the left and mezuzah on the right we are surrounded with mitzvot as we enter our homes. This is a great idea that can be greatly expounded upon, but I would like to offer two other insights that can bring a deeper appreciation for both the juxtaposition of the mezuzah and chanukiah, and for the chag itself.

Rabbi Yosef Stern explains a profound idea by the Sfas Emes on this topic. He delineates that the mezuzah is an eternal reminder of Hashem in our everyday lives. When we walk into our homes, we are reminded how every aspect of our lives need to be done Leshem Shamayim, that our homes need to be filled with Torah and mitzvot. The chanukiah, sitting across from the mezuzah, represents our ability to return to Hashem, albeit our straying from Him.

During the story of the Maccabim, a large percentage of the Jewish nation was caught up in the Hellenistic ideals, valuing knowledge and human perfection over the truth of the Torah and humanity's responsibility to serve Hashem. When we set our gaze on the chanukiah and then reach to kiss the mezuzah, we are reminded of the past victory over those who tried to make us stray from our life mission as well as our ability to fix our ways in order to return to or strengthen our Avodas Hashem, as represented by the mezuzah.

Rabbi Benjamin Blech illuminates the importance of a doorway in society; it is the divider between our public life and our private life. When we walk into the house, we leave the peer pressure of the outside world and the countless strangers and friends that we interact with throughout the day. It feels as if no one is around. In contrast to the feeling of conformity apparent in public, within the home there appears to be no pressure to keep the ideals that society imposes nor is there the feeling of the necessity to hide ideals that others may disagree with.

The placement of the mezuzah and the chanukiah in the doorway highlights the effect that both symbols should have on our lives. The Shulchan Aruch brings down that the mezuzah is on our right as we walk through the doorway as seen in Yoreh De'ah 289:3: *בדרך לו שנכנסים ימין* on the right side as one enters. The mezuzah is thus situated as a reminder to us as we enter our homes that Hashem is with us constantly throughout our lives even when no one else is watching. Thus, as we leave the public space, where we restrain from sinning in order to not be reproached by people, we enter the privacy of our homes.

The chanukiah, situated on your right when you leave your home, acts as a similar reminder. For many it is easier to be diligent in all of the halachot and Talmud Torah while in the safety of their own home. However, it is more difficult in the outside world to show pride for our values since others may not value those same ideals. Chanukah is a reminder of the greatest example of this struggle. The Jews were surrounded by the Hellenistic society which vehemently was against the Jewish religion, and as a result, many felt pressured to fully assimilate in order to be accepted. Therefore, when we walk out of our homes and see the chanukiah glistening on our right, we are reminded that we are capable of staying true to our ideals and showing our pride in our values both inside and outside.

Chag Chanukah Sameach and Chodesh Tov!

A regular feature of the newsletter is to have different people write a D'var Torah for the newsletter. The goal is to hear words of Torah from other Ohr Torah members and learn a little about who they are. I encourage everyone to participate. Please email me at Rabbi@congregationohrtorah.org if you would like to volunteer to share your ideas with us. Torah unites our nation. We are really excited about this project and I hope it will strengthen our bonds as a community. **Rabbi Marc Spivak**

- AROUND OUR TOWN -

CHANUKAH ON ICE: Or is that Hanukkah on Ice, or maybe Hanukah on Ice? Whichever way you spell it, it looks like it will be the best of the best this year. Bring your skates, or rent them there. There will be refreshments so you don't need to bring your latkes. Saturday, Motzei Shabbat, December 28th at 6:30pm. Clary Anderson Arena in Montclair.

FOR SENIORS: Together on Tuesdays **Tuesday, January 7**, "Names Not Numbers", a heartwarming documentary by the 8th grade students of JKHA interviewing community members who survived the Holocaust. See more information on page one.



SMILE TIME: - Hello.
 - Hello -that's you, Abe?
 - Yes, dis is Abe...
 - It doesn't sount like Abe
 - Vell, dis is Abe all right.
 - You're positive it's Abe?
 - Absolutely.
 - Vell, listen Abie, dis is Moe. Can you lend me feefy dolluhs?
 - Ven Abe comes in, I'll tell him you called...

WHATS APP GROUPS: General Announcements: To join the Ohr Torah General Announcements group, go to <http://congregationohrtorah.org/whatsapp>. on your mobile phone (be sure WhatsApp is installed first) and tap the "Join Chat" button. Alternatively, email Tami (office@congregationohrtorah.org) or David Goldstein (davesmail@golddave.com) with the phone number you use with WhatsApp and they will add you to the group.

MINYAN HELP: Help us make a minyan by joining the WhatsApp group for alerts when the shul needs help. To join this group, please go to: <http://congregationohrtorah.org/minyanwhatsapp> (be sure WhatsApp is installed first) and tap the "Join Chat" button. Alternatively, you can email Bruce Schlanger (Bruce.Schlanger@gmail.com) or email David Goldstein (davesmail@golddave.com) with the phone number you use with WhatsApp and they will add you to the group.

SENDING IN A CHECK FOR A PAYMENT TO OHR TORAH? Assist us in our record keeping by writing on the memo line or include a note about the reason for the check. Also, remember that mail should always be sent to PO Box 6169, West Orange, NJ 07052, and not to 270 Pleasant Valley Way. Thank you!

If you davened at Ohr Torah on Rosh Hashanna and/or Yom Kippur, please take a moment to provide your feedback in our Yomim Noraim Survey at <https://congregationohrtorah.org/survey> . Results of the survey will help us plan for improvements next year.



Ohr Torah
CHANUKAH ON ICE
Shul, Youth, Sisterhood, and Mens club Event

PRIVATE SKATING RINK!
 Ugly Chanukah Sweater Contest
 Refreshments, Prizes, and More!
 Fun for the whole family!

Member: \$ 10 Per child, \$12 Per Adult
 Non- Member: \$12 per child, \$15 Per Adult
 \$5 entrance fee for Non-skaters

Saturday Night December 28th 2019
6:30PM-8:00PM
CLARY ANDERSON ARENA
 47 Chestnut St. Montclair NJ 07042
 RSVP @ Youth@congregationohrtorah.org



YOU CAN BE A 'HEART-SAVER'
Sunday Jan. 5th 9:15am
CERTIFIED CPR INSTRUCTION FROM THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

Be prepared for emergencies and learn CPR, how to use an automated external defibrillator (AED), basic first aid and Heimlich maneuver for adults, children and infants. Class size limited.

\$65 includes materials and course completion certificate

WORLD OUT

RSVP by December 26th.
 Call or email Deborah Druce at 973-609-6339 or deborahdruce@gmail.com

SPONSORED BY THE OHR TORAH SISTERHOOD

Must be at least 18 years old to attend. Bring check payable to "American Heart Association" to the course.

CONGREGATION OHR TORAH
270 PLEASANT VALLEY WAY, W.O.