



# CONGREGATION OHR TORAH Weekly Newsletter

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

**VA'ERA** 28 Tevet - 5 Shevat, 5779 January 5 - 11, 2019

Rabbi Marc Spivak, President David Goldstein, Rabbinic Intern Shlomo David

## Schedule 01/05 – 01/11

### Friday (01/04)

Light Shabbat Candles	4:24pm
Mincha/Maariv	4:30pm
Shkia	4:42pm

### Shabbat Mevarchim (01/05)

Shacharit	9:00am
Latest Shema	9:42am
Mincha	4:15pm
Maariv	5:22pm
Shabbat ends	5:29pm

### Sunday - Friday (01/06 - 01/11)

Shacharit Sun	8:15am
Shacharit MON ROSH CHODESH	5:50am
Shacharit Thu	6:00am
Shacharit Tue/Wed/Fri	6:10am
Mincha/Maariv Sun only	4:30pm
Maariv Mon to Thu	7:30pm

### Erev Shabbat - Friday (01/11)

Light Candles	4:31pm
Mincha	4:35pm
Shkia	4:49pm

**Eruv Hotline: (973) 736-1407 x6**

### UPCOMING:

Tu B'Shevat Mon	Jan. 21
Rosh Chodesh Adar 1 Tu/We	Feb. 5, 6
Purim Thu	Mar 21

**WEEKDAY MINCHA:** During Eastern Standard time, Ohr Torah only holds weekday Maariv Services and not Mincha, Monday through Thursday, except on legal holidays. Mincha is available in West Orange on these days at Congregation AABJ&D and Chabad of West Orange.



## KIDDUSH AND SEUDAH SH'LISHIT:

This week is our special Anniversary & Birthday Shabbat Kiddush for Shevat sponsored by the following people:

**Gail & Bruce Bukiet**, in honor of their son Etan's 34th birthday  
**Sarah & Michael Diamond**, in honor of their daughter Sophie's birthday  
**Margot & Larry Freedman**, in honor of Bertha & Raphie Sharret's anniversary  
**Richard Harrison**, in honor of his daughter Maren Magid's birthday  
**Bertha and Raphie Sharret**, in honor of their 44th wedding anniversary  
**Seudah Sh'lishit is sponsored by the Shul and will feature a Shi'ur given by Rabbi Robert Grosberg. Men and women are invited to attend.**

To sponsor a Shabbat Kiddush or Seudah Sh'lishit at the Shul, please contact Anna Chosak at [office@congregationohrtorah.org](mailto:office@congregationohrtorah.org).

**MISHNA B'RURA CLASS** with Rabbi Grosberg will be abbreviated this Shabbat. Rabbi Grosberg will give a shi'ur during Seudah Sh'lishit entitled, "Was the G-d of the Exodus the G-d of our forefathers?"

**RABBI SPIVAK'S WEEKLY CLASS** will meet Wednesday at 8:00pm.

**CONGREGATION OHR TORAH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:** Sunday, January 13, 2019 at 8:00 pm. This meeting will include a membership vote on whether Congregation Ohr Torah should enter into a new contract negotiation with Rabbi Marc Spivak. Anyone who cannot attend the meeting may cast a vote through absentee ballot. A PDF with all the information has been sent to the listserv. If you would like a paper copy sent to you via postal mail, please contact the office at 973-669-7320, extension 1.

**FUN BUS AND KOSHER MARTIAL ARTS:** "Let's Get Moving Event" for kids four to eight years old. This Sunday, January 6th, 11am to noon, at Ohr Torah. Taught by Sensei Mark Grebenau. Full details on Page 3. Admission only \$10 per child. RSVP to [youth@CongregationOhrTorah.org](mailto:youth@CongregationOhrTorah.org).

**KUSHNER ACADEMY BRACHA EXPERIENCE:** Join the Joseph Kushner Hebrew Academy Early Childhood Program for an exciting Bracha experience! Come learn how brachot are connected to all five of our senses in a fun, hands-on, interactive program! Sunday, January 6th, 3:30pm - 5:00pm. Open to all JKHA current and prospective families.

**OHR TORAH MEMBER TO BE HONORED:** Please join BINA, Stroke and Brain Injury Assistance, in honoring Dr. Steven Kirshblum with the Physician Leadership Award at their Annual Dinner on Sunday, January 13, 2019, at the El Caribe Country Club in Brooklyn. For journal advertising and/or dinner reservations, please go to [www.binausa.org/dinner](http://www.binausa.org/dinner) or call 718-645-6400.

**TOGETHER ON TUESDAY:** January 8, 1:00PM: "Jewish Humor: Part 2; Even Funnier than Part 1" by Chaim Lauer, educator. Topics include Jews and

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## 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](mailto:deborahdruce@gmail.com)

Chinese food, mother-in-law jokes, Yiddish curses, off-color Jewish jokes, plus, the answer to the question, "What makes G-d laugh?" Sephardic Wing of Congregation AABJ&D. Light lunch 12:30pm, 1:00pm for the program. On Tuesday, January 15 at 12:30PM- In honor of the upcoming holiday, *Tu B'Shevat*, the Jewish New Year for the Trees, enjoy a festive lunch with olive tasting, and hear guest speaker, Barbara Israel Bortniker, JNF board member for Central NJ, Makor Speaker and artist, present, "How JNF partners with *Hashomer Hachadash* to revitalize Zionism amongst Israeli youth to protect the land and farmers of Israel." Barbara will describe her recent visit to Israel with photos and drawings that highlight an olive harvest celebration attended by thousands of Israelis at an agricultural high school in the Northern Galilee. Please RSVP by Friday Jan. 10. Cost \$8.00.

**ESCAPE THE ROOM!** Plan for a night out filled with puzzles, challenges and a lot of laughs... Sat, Jan 12, 2019 at 8:45PM. Join Ohr Torah at Last Minute Escape in Wayne, NJ. Find out if you and your fellow teammates can solve the clues, piece together the mystery and escape the room in under an hour. (If you've attended this event in previous years, new challenges await!) Children ages 10 and up can attend if accompanied by their parents. Only \$23 per person. Spots are limited and we once again expect to sell out, so sign up asap!

<http://congregationohratorah.org/escape>.

Questions? [Karenbbarrow@yahoo.com](mailto:Karenbbarrow@yahoo.com).

**CELEBRATE** a Birthday or an Anniversary at one of our monthly Shabbat Mevarchim. If you, or a family member, or a friend are celebrating a birthday or anniversary during a particular month, for contributing just \$36 per birthday or anniversary, you can co-sponsor a kiddush in their honor. Contact Anna, at

[office@congregationohratorah.org](mailto:office@congregationohratorah.org),

or call the office, 973-669-7320 ext. 1. Sign up for sponsorship by the Tuesday night preceding the Shabbat Mevarchim Kiddush so we can list the sponsors in the Weekly Newsletter. The next Mevarchim Kiddush is February 2nd for the month of Adar I so you must sign up by January 29th.

**AMAZON SMILE:** Your Amazon purchases can help Ohr Torah through the Amazon Smile program. To set up your account go to

<https://congregationohratorah.org/amazon>

and follow the instructions. Once your account is set, Amazon will donate a small percentage of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Ohr Torah with no additional charge to you. To start making purchases to benefit Ohr Torah go to

<https://smile.amazon.com>

and shop. If an item is already in your Shopping Cart or Wish List you can still go to Amazon Smile to complete your purchase and support our shul.

## Yahrzeits January 05 - 11

**28 TEVET:** Tsiza bat Aharon Ben-Zion, Celia Sorkin, on Shabbat, January 5.

**28 TEVET:** Lydia Eckstein for her Husband, Aryeh ben Avroham, Louis Eckstein, on Shabbat, January 5.

**29 TEVET:** Marcia Feldman for her Father, Dov ben Mordechai Tzvi, Bernard Weiss, MD, on Sunday, January 6.

**1 SHEVAT:** Murray Laulicht for his Grandfather, Yaakov ben Yechezkel Hacoheh, on Monday, January 7.

**1 SHEVAT:** Adley Mandel for his Wife, Chayei Sara bat HaRav Zev, Susan Mandel, on Monday, January 7.

**1 SHEVAT:** Micha Mandel for his Mother, Chayei Sara bat HaRav Zev, Susan Mandel, on Monday, January 7.

**2 SHEVAT:** Yitzchak Nachman ben Berel Leib, Isidore Sorkin, on Tuesday, January 8.

**2 SHEVAT:** Karen Berger for her First Husband, Yom Tov Zev ben Yaakov, Jeffrey Berger, on Tuesday, January 8.

**4 SHEVAT:** Linda Rosen for her Mother, Tzirel bat Elya Chaim, Lee Weiss, on Thursday, January 10.

**4 SHEVAT:** Chana Tokayer for her Father, Baruch Mordechai ben Naftali Eliezer, Mark B. Dumler, on Thursday, January 10.

**5 SHEVAT:** Irwin Krasna for his Grandfather, Shmuel Yosef ben Menachem Ber Ha'levi, on Friday, January 11.

**5 SHEVAT:** Alan Routhenstein for his Grandfather, Lev ben Moshe Ha'Cohen, Louis Routhenstein, on Friday, January 11.

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

**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](mailto:shabbatnewsletter@congregationohratorah.org)

### CONTACT INFORMATION:

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**Office:** Anna Chosak [office@congregationohratorah.org](mailto:office@congregationohratorah.org)

**Board:** [board@congregationohratorah.org](mailto:board@congregationohratorah.org)

**Men's Club President:** Larry Freedman, [larry@18thstory.com](mailto:larry@18thstory.com)

**Sisterhood President:** Bertha Sharret, [rsarret@hotmail.com](mailto:rsarret@hotmail.com)

**Chesed:** Rabbi Spivak, Anna Chosak

**Shiva Assistance:** Rabbi Robert Grosberg, Judy Carmeli, Stuart Rosenblum

**Building Committee:** Arnold Barton

**Subscription Requests:** [listserv@congregationohratorah.org](mailto:listserv@congregationohratorah.org)

**Monthly Calendar:** Elia Weixelbaum

**Newsletter:** all submissions must be emailed by Wed., 4:00PM to: [ShabbatNewsletter@congregationohratorah.org](mailto:ShabbatNewsletter@congregationohratorah.org)

**Reading Torah:** Avi Klein, [otlaining@congregationohratorah.org](mailto:otlaining@congregationohratorah.org)

**Scheduling Calendar:** Anna Chosak, e-mail to

[Schedule@congregationohratorah.org](mailto: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](mailto:leron.Thumim@gmail.com) and [ebtrenk@gmail.com](mailto:ebtrenk@gmail.com)

**Youth Director:** Rivky Balsler [Youth@congregationohratorah.org](mailto:Youth@congregationohratorah.org)

**Newsletter Advertising:** Howard Charish

[advertising@congregationohratorah.org](mailto:advertising@congregationohratorah.org)



**Debra Goldberg**

**TORAH THOUGHT:**

## Va'era: What Can We Learn from Moshe?

*Debra Goldberg is a longtime member and pillar of our community, a former First Lady of Ohr Torah, and a former head of the Youth Committee. She has taught children for the past 17 years and for the last six years, she has taught English at the Clifton Cheder/Bais Yaakov.*

In this week's Parsha, Hashem appears to Moshe and commands him to go speak to Pharaoh and inform him that Hashem wants his people to be set free. Moshe does not feel he is worthy enough.

Who is he? He has a speech impediment. Is Moshe being too humble?

What can we learn from Moshe Rabeinu? How do we know when we are being too humble and when we are not being humble enough? What if we were given the opportunity to set Klal Yisroel free? Would we feel worthy? Would we jump at the opportunity to help?

There are those who would say yes, while others would feel unworthy. Then there are those who would contemplate, concerned if they would be listened to or believed. We are given this opportunity every day. Of course, not to the same extent as Moshe Rabeinu, there was only one Moshe Rebeinu! However, we can step up every day and help our brothers and sisters. We can do so quietly, without constant recognition and we can do so, with recognition. So many people help make Ohr Torah what it is.

Perhaps now is as good a time as any to start noticing those people who are always doing, with or without the recognition. These are our generations' versions of Moshe Rabeinu. Always willing to whatever is needed, what is necessary. We should be showing our Hakaras HaTov, we should be wanting to be like Moshe and to do what is expected of us, even if we don't always feel so comfortable or worthy. Now is the time to be one nation, to stop judging, and to be more like Moshe Rabeinu. **Debra Goldberg**

*Over the course of the next few months, we will 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](mailto: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**

### New Board for Ohr Torah Men's Club

The Ohr Torah Men's Club is pleased to announce new slate of officers for 2019-2021.

President	.....	Larry Freedman
Secretary	.....	Howard Charish
Treasurer	.....	Raphie Sharret
Programming	.....	Leron Thumim
Membership	.....	Michael Diamond
President Emeritus	.....	Ari Katz

Please hold the date of Sunday, February 10th, 2019 for a general Men's Club breakfast in the social hall. Other new events will be announced shortly.



**SMILE TIME:** Renowned lady golfer, Shana Klonkiwitz, visits a driving range to tone up before her next tournament. She is about to drive her first ball off the mat when she notices the man next to her. "Pardon me, sir," she said, "You are aiming in the wrong direction - back towards the golf shop." "Oy! - tanks for dat. Vitout you, I wouldn't know. I don't see very vell." He then turned around and started hitting out into the range. After a few minutes, he asked the lady how he was doing. "Not bad," she answered, "Most of your shots are straight and fairly long. Only a few of them are slicing." "Tanks, again, Miss," he replied, "Vitout you telling, I wouldn't know dese tings." A few shots later, he inquired again, "Do you mind I should ask a poisonous question?" "Not at all," she replied. "I don't do vell vit the ladies. Am I ugly or fett?" "You're quite presentable," she replied. "I don't think that should be a problem." Smiling now, he's exulted, "Vat a relief. I vas always afraid to ask. Again, I got to tank you." He was about to hit another ball when the girl interrupted him. "Do you mind if I give you a bit of advice?" she asked. "Vit gladness. All the help you got I will take," he answered. "Lose the Jewish accent," she replied, "You're Chinese."

**OHR TORAH**  
**LETS GET MOVING EVENT**  
 Fun Bus and kosher Martial Arts  
**FOR KIDS 4-8 years old**  
**Sunday January 6th 11am-12pm**  
 \$10 per child  
 A 30 minute experience inside the Fun Bus and a 30 minute intro to Torah Dojo class that you don't want to miss!

**MARTIAL ARTS IS MORE THAN KICKING & PUNCHING**  
 It's about respect, discipline, and becoming a goal-oriented achiever in every aspect of life.

The Fun Bus is an exciting, interactive program that brings FUN, fitness and learning to children everywhere.

**RSVP REQUIRED**  
[Youth@congregationohrtorah.org](mailto:Youth@congregationohrtorah.org)

**Taught by Sensei Mark Grebenu**