



CONGREGATION OHR TORAH Weekly Newsletter

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

Chukat 10 - 16 Tammuz, 5779 July 13 - 19, 2019

Rabbi Marc Spivak, President David Goldstein

Schedule 07/12 – 07/19

Friday (07/12)

Shacharit	6:10am
Mincha/Maariv	7:00pm
Light Candles	7:10pm
Candle-Lighting B'zman	8:11pm
Shkia	8:29pm

Shabbat (07/13)

Shacharit	9:00am
Latest Shema	9:19am
SAY SHEMA BEFORE COMING TO SHUL	
Mincha	8:05pm
Maariv	9:11pm
Shabbat ends	9:18pm

Sunday - Thursday (07/14 - 07/18)

Shacharit Sun	8:15am
Shacharit Mon/Thu	6:00am
Shacharit Tue/Wed	6:10am
Mincha/Maariv Sun-Thu	8:10pm

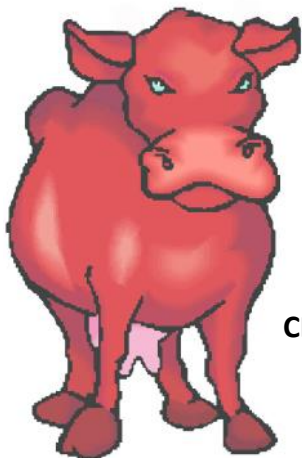
Friday (07/19)

Shacharit	6:10am
Mincha	7:00pm
Light Candles	7:10pm
Candle-Lighting B'zman	8:06pm
Shkia	8:24pm

Eruv Hotline: (973) 736-1407 x6

UPCOMING:

Fast 17th of Tammuz Sun	Jul 21
Rosh Chodesh Av Fri	Aug 2
Tisha B'av Observed Sun	Aug 11
Tu B'Av Fri	Aug 16



CHUKAT
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SHABBAT KIDDUSH and **SEUDAH SH'LISHIT** are sponsored by the Shul. There will be a D'var Torah during Seudah Sh'lishit from Rabbi Grosberg entitled, "The Lessons for Us from Miriam's Death."

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

MISHNA B'RURA CLASS will be held this Shabbat after Mincha.

RABBI SPIVAK'S WEEKLY CLASS will not meet this Wednesday evening or next Wednesday.



מזל טוב: Mazal tov to Mali & Steve Schwartz on the birth of a granddaughter in Los Angeles, to parents Debbie & Brian Schames and big sister Maddie. The recent addition to the family is shown here.

מזל טוב: Mazal Tov to Alitta Irwin upon the engagement of her granddaughter, Leora Kanner to Eliad Shapiro.

מזל טוב: Mazal Tov to Boni and Martin Moskovitz on the engagement of their daughter Paula to Zachary Levy, son of Susan and Steven Levy of Scarsdale, NY, to Paula's siblings Jake, Gabrielle and Kurt, nephew Noah Lev, Great Grandmothers Judith Moskovitz and Carol Lee Loebenberg, and to the entire Levy/Moskovitz Families.

HELP KEEP OHR TORAH CLEAN: Please return Siddurim and Chumashim to the shelves in the lobby after davening and remove any tissues or papers around your seat in the Sanctuary. And please do not take food out of the Kiddush Room into other parts of the Shul. We also ask that you tell your

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Sisterhood Events and Donations

THE CINDY TURKELTAUB GROSBERG WOMEN'S LIBRARY is available for all Ohr Torah members. It's a wonderful place to find books on many subjects that relate to us as Jewish women. There are books on family dynamics, halachot, the Jewish woman in society, and so much more. All books are free for the taking on an honor basis. Simply borrow what you like and return it at your leisure. All Women's Library books are marked with a green decal on the spine in the Beit Midrash. Please avail yourself of this wonderful resource. Remember to email the names of any books that you borrowed to rsharret@hotmail.com.

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

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children not to run in the Sanctuary as this disturbs the worshippers. Thank you.

REQUIREMENTS FOR TORAH THOUGHT

For those of you submitting a D'var Torah for Torah Thoughts, we thank you. Here is a summary of the requirements:

THE ESSAY: Your essay should contain between 600 and 800 words. All Hebrew text should include English translations for those who can't read Hebrew. Your final draft of the essay must be submitted to Rabbi Marc Spivak at Rabbi@CongregationOhrTorah.org by Monday evening of the week preceding publication so that he will have time to review it prior to sending it to the Newsletter editor.

BIO: A brief bio must be submitted preferably between 25 and 50 words. You can outline your occupation, family, and/or religious background, including if you graduated from a Yeshiva. Many people also include their spouse in this item.

PICTURES: As this is an Orthodox synagogue and the Newsletter will go out to hundreds of people of all Jewish religious stripes via our Shul email list, West Orange Shuls and shared with other Orthodox communities, we must uphold our Jewish values of modesty in the photographs.

MISCELLANEOUS: You may submit your D'var Torah as a Word document, or Google Docs. If you are submitting from Google, you must grant us editing privileges for the document. You can also use Corel Word or Open Office documents as long it is sent to us in Microsoft Word format.

WhatsApp Ohr Torah General Announcements: To join this important announcement group, sign up at <http://congregationohrtorah.org/whatsapp>

on your mobile phone (install WhatsApp first), tap the "Join Chat" button. Alternatively, you can email Anna at (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.

HELP US MAKE A MINYAN by joining a WhatsApp group for alerts when the shul needs help making a minyan. This group has been very successful in its mission, but we can always use more help. If you would like to be added to the group, please go to the following site:

<http://congregationohrtorah.org/minyanwhatsapp> on your mobile phone with WhatsApp already installed and tap the "Join Chat" button. Alternatively, you can email either Bruce Schlanger, Bruce.Schlanger@gmail.com, or David Goldstein davesmail@golddave.com with the phone number you use with WhatsApp and they will add you to the group.

Yahrzeits July 13 - July 19

15 TAMMUZ: Marvin Weintraub for his Mother, Leah bat Mordechai, Lillian Weintraub, on Thursday, July 18.

16 TAMMUZ: Sam Goldfischer for his Grandmother, Miriam bat Sholom Ha'Levi, Miriam Goldfischer, on Friday, July 19.

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



SMILE TIME: It was the coldest night of the year, windy, and snowing to beat the band. Chaim Mendel, an elderly fellow approaching his tenth decade, knew that the end was near. "Call the priest," he said to his wife Sadie, "and tell him to come right away." "The priest? Chaim Mendel, you're delirious. You mean the rabbi!" "No," he replies, "Sadie, I mean the priest. Why disturb the rabbi on a night like this?"

"I once wanted to become an atheist but I gave up . . . they have no holidays." Henny Youngman

"Television is a medium because it is neither rare nor well done." Ernie Kovacs

"An Israeli is someone who may not say 'please,' 'excuse me' or 'thank you' - but in your hour of need will walk through fire to lend you a hand." Source Unknown

Classified Ad: Jewish male, 33, very successful, smart, independent, self-made. Looking for girl whose father will hire me.

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@congregationohrtorah.org

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Rabbi Marc Spivak rabbi@congregationohrtorah.org

Office: Anna Chosak office@congregationohrtorah.org

Board: board@congregationohrtorah.org

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

Sisterhood President: Bertha Sharret, rsharret@hotmail.com

Chesed: Rabbi Spivak, Anna Chosak

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

Building Committee: Arnold Barton

Subscription Requests: listserv@congregationohrtorah.org

Monthly Calendar: Elia Weixelbaum

Newsletter: all submissions must be emailed by Wed., 4:00PM to:

ShabbatNewsletter@congregationohrtorah.org

Reading Torah: Avi Klein, otlaining@congregationohrtorah.org

Scheduling Calendar: Anna Chosak, e-mail to

Schedule@congregationohrtorah.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 Balser Youth@congregationohrtorah.org

Newsletter Advertising: Howard Charish

advertising@congregationohrtorah.org



Lawrence Rein

TORAH THOUGHT:

Chukat: Water, Water Everywhere....

Larry Rein has lived in West Orange for over 30 years, where he has held many leadership roles throughout Greater Metrowest, including President of JCC Metrowest, Partnership for Jewish Learning and Life, and Congregation AABJ&D. Currently he is treasurer of JSDD (Ohr Torah's neighbor), and a member of many Boards, including JKHA, JFS, Mikvah, and Keren Ness Foundation. Professionally, Larry's achievements include CIO of AT&T's Global Consumer Department, Global Crossing's CIO of Metro Networks, and the Senior Vice President of the Program Management Office of IDT.

This week's parsha, Chukat, is chock full of stories that changed the future of the leadership of Israel. After forty years of journeying through the desert, the people of Israel arrive in the wilderness of Zin. Miriam dies, and the people thirst for water. G_d tells Moshe to speak to a rock and command it to give water. Moshe gets angry at the rebellious Israelites and strikes the stone. Water flows, but G_d punishes both Moshe and Aaron by not allowing them to enter the Land of Israel.

The story of Moshe hitting the rock has baffled many a student for thousands of years. Let's now dive into the various rationale.

The water scandal truly started when Miriam passed away since the rock that supplied the Jews with water dried up. There was a miraculous well in Miriam's merit; but when she passed away, the well did not supply water anymore. This was not the first time the Jews had no water, but rather the third time.

The first time was when the Jews left Egypt and arrived in a place called Marah, where all the water was bitter. G_d told Moshe to throw a bitter tree branch into the water, and it miraculously sweetened the water and made it drinkable.

The second time was when the Jews were in Refidim and ran out of water. Moshe called on G_d for help, and G_d commanded him to strike a particular rock with his staff. The rock split open and water gushed forth, which became known as "Miriam's Well" for 40 years.

Many commentators have shared their insights on what happened.

Rashi's commonly accepted explanation is that Moshe hit the rock when G_d instructed him to speak to it. G_d specifically wanted him to speak to the rock so the Jewish people would realize that if even an inanimate object listens to the word of G_d.

Ramban's perspective is that Moshe and Aaron's sins were that they said, "Can we draw water for you from this rock?" implying that they had the power to perform

the miracle, and not that their power came from G_d.

Maimonides has an altogether different take on the story. His explanation is that Moshe's sin was his anger. The Jews were distressed over the lack of water. Moshe's anger and his branding them "rebels" were wrong.

Ibn Ezra explains that Moshe was supposed to hit the rock only once, and the water would have flowed. The problem was that Moshe got angry so he did not hit the rock in the manner he was supposed to.

So, would all this have happened if Miriam was still alive and the water remained flowing?

Miriam was a woman who inspired a whole generation of Jews enslaved in Egypt. She was a woman who put her life on the line to save infants when Pharaoh ordered them to be murdered. She was a woman who was so righteous that she prophesized the redemption.

After the Exodus, it was due to her merit that while traveling through the desert, the Jews had fresh water spouting from "Miriam's Well."

The Torah highlights one incident of her life, and ensures we always "remember what G_d did to Miriam on the way from Egypt."

Miriam discovered that Moshe had separated from his wife, Tziporah for spiritual reasons. She felt that Moshe wasn't justified in separating from her. G_d chastised Miriam: "How were you not afraid to speak against My servant Moshe?" For speaking improperly about Moshe, G_d afflicted Miriam with leprosy.

This remembrance is classically understood as a daily reminder about the severity of *lashon hara*, and how sensitive and careful we need to be with our words. Miriam loved Moshe, and her words carried no harmful intent. So reflecting on the stories of Moshe and Miriam, we learn that we need to be very careful of our actions and our words. Words and actions used properly will build beautiful nations and create a world where everyone cares and respects each other. Shabbat Shalom.

Larry Rein

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 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



STUNNING! 50 Mullarkey Drive in the Woodlands. Fantastic Aspen with upgraded kitchen, bathrooms and HVAC system! Only \$489,000.



TOTALLY UPDATED! 3 Dockery Drive. Close to AABJ&D. 3 bedroom ranch, 3 full baths. Fenced off backyard with deck. Finished Basement. Move in condition. Only \$499,000.



GREAT BUY! 41 Buckingham. Very close to NYC transportation and AABJ&D. Totally renovated. Magnificent kitchen. Fully finished Basement. Only \$399,000



LOW TAXES for the Woodlands! \$12,000. 78 Cummings Circle. 2 bedrooms, 4 baths, fully finished basement. Granite Kitchen Counters with SS Appliances.



JUST IN! 2 Harper Street, West Orange rental \$4,450 a month. Gorgeous 5 bedroom colonial. Won't last long. Walk to shul!



479 VALLEY STREET MAPLEWOOD. LEASING 20 UNITS IN BRAND NEW APARTMENT BUILDING.

43 NICHOLAS JUST SOLD!

2 PLEASANT VALLEY ROAD RENTED IN ONE HOUR!

31 LAKEVIEW JUST SOLD!

3 HARRIET ST. SOLD IN ONE DAY AND OVER THE ASKING PRICE!

30 SHREWSBURY UNDER CONTRACT!



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CHR TORAH SISTERHOOD

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM



Please renew your membership or become a Sisterhood member for the first time. Dues of \$36 provide the funds for chesed services, events, mailings, projects and more. Kindly send your membership dues by September 27, 2019.

Option 1: If you would like to renew/join via PayPal or your credit card, go to www.congregationohrtorah.org and hover over the DONATE tab, then click on the "Sisterhood Tributes and Membership" option. Click on the button next to "Annual Membership." Fill out all fields that have an asterisk. If your information has changed from last year's directory listing, please indicate this in the "Additional Information" field. Once you click Submit, you will be directed to the PayPal website. If you do not have a PayPal account, click on the gray button near the bottom that says "Pay with Debit or Credit Card."

Option 2: If you would like to pay with a check, fill out and return this form, along with your check, to Bertha Sharret, 17 Sherwood Place, West Orange, NJ 07052. Please DO NOT send it to the shul's PO box, or to the Shul or combine Mens/Sisterhood payments.

NAMES _____ TELEPHONE NUMBER () _____ - _____
EMAILS _____ CELLPHONE NUMBERS () _____ - _____
ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

NAME & AGES OF CHILDREN WHO WISH TO BABYSIT _____



Check here if you can be contacted to help in future programs



OHR TORAH MEN'S CLUB

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Please renew your membership or become a Men's Club member for the first time. Men's Club membership dues of \$36 provide funds for Ohr Torah's Chesed Services, Events, Special Projects and more. Kindly send your membership dues by September 27, 2019.

Option 1: If you would like to renew/join via PayPal or your credit card, go to www.congregationohrtorah.org and hover over the DONATE tab, then click on the "Men's Club Donation" option. Click on the button next to "Annual Membership." Fill out all fields that have an asterisk. If your information has changed from last year's directory listing, please indicate this in the "Additional Information" field. Once you click Submit, you will be directed to the PayPal website. If you do not have a PayPal account, click on the gray button near the bottom that says "Pay with Debit or Credit Card."

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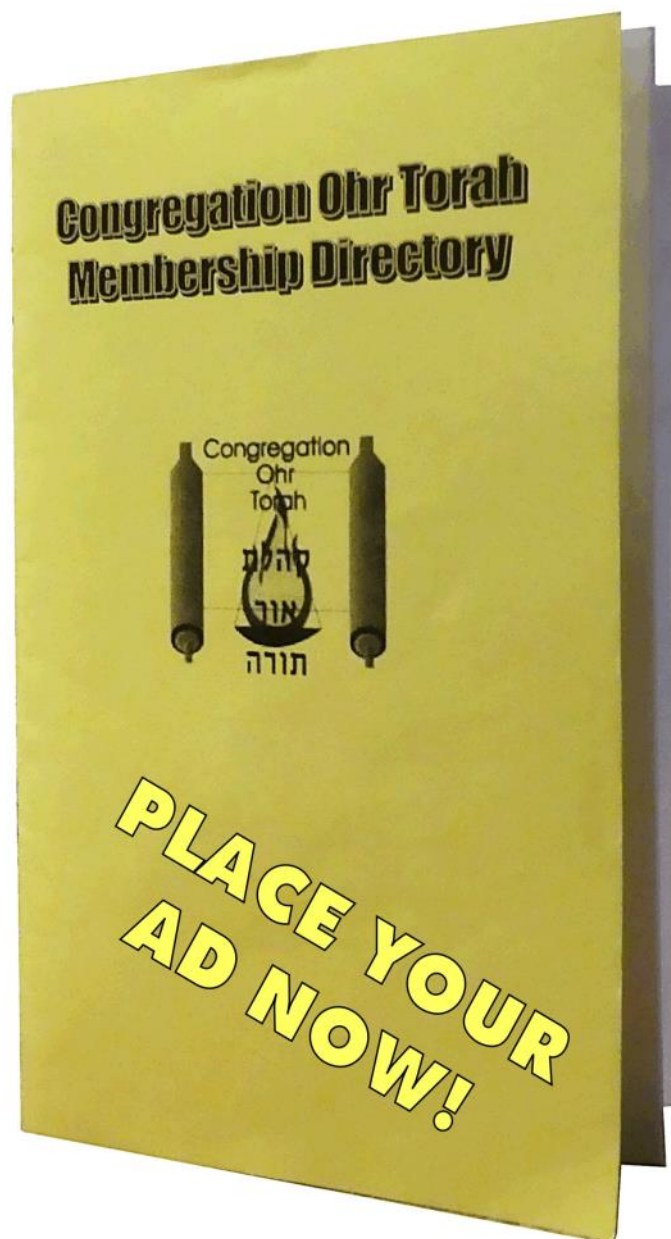
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EMAILS _____ CELLPHONE NUMBERS () _____ - _____
ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____



Check here if you can be contacted to help in future programs

5780 SHUL DIRECTORY

The Sisterhood is printing an updated membership directory for 2019/2020 - 5780. The directory will include "business ads" for \$54, full page is \$100. Get your friends and relatives to support the directory by advertising in it.



Please send this form, a business card and check of \$54 or wording for a full page ad and a check for \$100 payable to **Ohr Torah Sisterhood** by September 27, 2019 to:

Bertha Sharret, 17 Sherwood Place,
West Orange, NJ 07052

Do not send checks or ads to the Shul.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: (____) _____ - _____

Cellphone Number (____) _____ - _____

Email: _____

Ad enclosed: _____