“(I am G-d) who rests among them even amidst their impurity.” Vayikra 16:16

No one has the right to say, “I am too far gone to live a Torah lifestyle. I cannot change, and I have done too many sins to be able to repent.” For that is simply not true. No matter how far a person may have strayed, regardless of how much a person may have sinned, G-d never rejects anyone. Rav Nachman of Breslov wrote about the intensity of depression he once experienced and said that at times he felt that he was in the very depths of hell, so crushed that he believed no greater pain could exist. His only comfort was in the verse in Psalms (139:8), “If I rise to the heavens, you are there, and if I am in the depths of hell, you are there too.” Since there is no place devoid of G-d, one is never alone. Dr. Abraham Twerski had patients with alcohol and drug addictions who wished to be diagnosed as having severe mental illness or brain damage,
because that would absolve them of the responsibility of recovery. It is not uncommon for people to consider themselves hopeless in order to avoid the responsibilities that success might bring. There is a bizarre type of comfort in feeling hopeless; this way one does not have to do anything. To people who say, "I am tamei (unclean) and beyond redemption," G-d says, “I am with you even then.” Rav Levi Yitzchok of Berdichev said, “You can be for G-d, and you can be against G-d. You just can’t be without G-d.” In light of the verse cited, we can understand what the Berdicheve Rebbe is saying, because even if man abandons G-d, G-d never abandons man. Since G-d is always with us, let us take advantage of this special relationship.

(Sefer- Living Each Week Rabbi Abraham Twerski M.D.)

Wishing you an inspiring Shabbos!
Rabbi Moshe Gruenstein

Lag Ba’Omer is Wednesday night and Thursday this week!

The Refuah Fund, established about a year ago to provide meals for families that are experiencing an illness or sitting shiva, needs a desperate replenishment of funds. Please donate directly to the Young Israel indicating on your check, or alternative payment, that it is specifically for the Refuah Fund. We take this opportunity to thank Susan Gluck and Susan Packer for establishing and continuing this very important mitzvah.

Yahrzeit Plaques Now Available
If you are interested in purchasing a permanent satin brass Yahrzeit Plaque for a dearly departed loved one on the newly installed automated Yahrzeit memorial displays in our main sanctuary, space is limited, so please fill out the form recently emailed as well as mailed to you and return to our office. If you have any questions, please speak to David Herman. To order a plaque online, please use the website www.yiplaques.com

Like us on Facebook
Search for Young Israel of Bal Harbour
Classes and Upcoming Events

- Father & child learning will take place upstairs during Seudah Shlishit.
- Mondays at 10:30AM – Ladies Tehillim Group in the Beis Midrash.

Congregational Family and Shul News

- Kiddush this Shabbos is sponsored by Belinda & Larry Zaret in honor of their daughter Levanna’s Bat Mitzvah. Mazal tov to the whole Zaret family!
- Seuda Shlishit this Shabbos is sponsored by Cathy & Jeff Weiss commemorating the yahrzeits of Jeff’s father, Morton Weiss.
- Early Minyan Kiddush this Shabbos is sponsored by Miriam & Sheldon Lisbon in honor of the engagement of their granddaughter Dena Schreiber to Shmuel Katz. Mazal Tov to Miriam & Shelly, to parents Julie & Chezkel Schreiber of Silver Spring, Maryland and Rabbi & Mrs. Dovid Katz of Baltimore. Mazal Tov to all Dena’s siblings and to her uncle and aunt, Dennis and Rachel Lisbon.
- Mazal Tov to Stanley & Ellen Wasserman on the birth of their great grandson, Aryeh Zalman. Mazal Tov to the grandparents Mark & Anne Wasserman and to the parents Bailey & Andrew Stein.

Building Fund

Please pay your Building Fund pledge as soon as possible. We would like to pay off our Building Fund loan obligation to the bank to avoid paying continued loan interest.

Refuah Sheleimah

We wish refuah sheleimah to: Yakira Navarro, Shlomo Mayer, Allen Packer, Rabbi Simeon Schreiber, Minnie Schraga.

Youth Program

- Any High School Teens that are interested in signing up for an exciting Shabbaton (May 27th-29th) in Orlando please speak to Rabbi Fried for more details.
- On June 13th, there will be a special Middle School trip for all 6th, 7th and 8th graders to Busch Gardens in Tampa. To reserve your spot please email RabbiFried@Yicbh.org
- Father and Child learning will continue this week during a special Shalosh Seudos upstairs. There will be learning, ice cream, and prizes!!!
- High School teens are invited to Learning and Frozen Yogurt every Wednesday night. Please contact Rabbi Fried for timing and location details.
- Any teen that would like to get more involved with advocating for Israel by being a part of a weekly Israel Advocacy meeting on Mondays or attend via. Skype please email RabbiFried@YICBH.org

PLANNING A SIMCHA?

In order to avoid any conflicts, please book the social hall well in advance of your simcha.
Yahrzeits April 28 – May 04, 2018

13 IYAR  Rachel Neuman for her sister, Eva Feldman, on Shabbos, Apr. 28
14 IYAR  Helen Ratzker for her father, Albert Moses, on Sunday, Apr. 29
14 IYAR  Edward Senker for his father, Jerome Senker, on Sunday, Apr. 29
17 IYAR  Anne Kirschner for her father, Avigdor, on Wednesday, May 2
17 IYAR  Shoshana Halpern for her mother, Lea Jakubovic, on Wednesday, May 2
17 IYAR  Jeff Weiss for his father, Morton Weiss, on Wednesday, May 2
18 IYAR  Judy Tuchman for her father, Benjamin Gruss, on Thursday, May 3
18 IYAR  Stephen Eskin for his father, Herbert Eskin, on Thursday, May 3
19 IYAR  Greta Hirmes for her father, William H. Cohen, on Friday, May 4

Please report any errors or omissions to the Young Israel office or email stevenbarryschwartz@gmail.com

Support our Shul with Amazon Smile
When you shop on Amazon through the program called Amazon Smile, a portion of your purchases can be donated to the Shul. Please visit www.smile.amazon.com and sign up your amazon account with Young Israel Congregation (National Council of Young Israel – Surfside). Amazon Smile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Young Israel every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to our Shul. Click here to go to smile.amazon.com and begin supporting the shul.

E-mail communication
When you e-mail the office please make sure your e-mail is to yakira@yicbh.org NOT yibh.org
The e-mail for Florence, our receptionist/secretary, is florence@yicbh.org

Community notice
Motion activated lights were installed in the pedestrian crosswalk at Collins Avenue and 99th Street. Use of this crosswalk should be avoided on Shabbos and Yom Tov as the lights are motion activated and are turned on as pedestrians cross Collins Avenue.

ATTENTION ALL MEN!
Please do not walk behind the 2 ladies’ sections during services.
Please use side doors to enter and exit Sanctuary after 10:00 AM.
Thank you for your cooperation.

If you are interested in sponsoring Kiddush or Seudah Shlishis, please contact Stuart Harris or Yakira at (305) 866-0203.

Please submit all insertions for the Shmooze News to yakira@yicbh.org by noon on Thursday.