In describing the journeys of the Jewish People during their forty years in the desert, the Torah not only mentions the various rest stops, but at each point states “they traveled from point A and camped at point B. They traveled from C and camped at D”. Why doesn’t the Torah just say they camped at A,B, C, etc.? Why all the extra verbiage? The commentaries explain that the forty years in the desert were a period of spiritual growth and development in order to prepare them to enter into the holy land of Israel. Each encampment symbolized another stop in their process of spiritual growth. At one point the Jews regressed and retreated eight encampments, (Bamidbar 21:4, Rashi) which represents the fact that there were ups and downs in their quest for spiritual greatness. While achieving spirituality is crucial it must proceed gradually. In enumerating the journeys in the desert the Torah therefore states they traveled from A and camped at B. To teach us that only after they had solidified their spiritual growth at a particular stop were they able to travel on to the next point, and if they faltered in their spiritual growth they had to go back and recoup the spirituality they had lost. In Rabbi Dr. Abraham Twerski’s rehab center for addiction in Pittsburgh, the recovery program uses the famous 12 step program for addiction. In the
building a sign is prominently displayed which says, “The elevator to recovery is out of order, please use the 12 steps”. The message is clear -- of course we want to grow, change, develop, and transform ourselves into spiritually accomplished people. But it takes hard work, tenacity perseverance and a resolve not to give up. There are no elevators to greatness, only stairs.

Sefer: Living each week, Rabbi Dr. Abraham Twersky

Wishing you an inspiring Shabbos!
Rabbi Moshe Gruenstein

We ask everyone to please review the statements that have been sent out recently, including the notices for membership renewal and High Holiday seat reservations. We ask all those with balances due, to please clear your accounts as soon as possible, while also renewing membership and ordering High Holiday seats. Please note that membership rates for High Holiday Seats are only available to members who have cleared their accounts for the shul fiscal year ending July 31. If you have any questions, please contact the office at your earliest convenience. Your support is greatly appreciated.

The talent of Stuart Harris z”l for continuously sustaining kiddush sponsorship on a weekly basis was truly amazing. Our wonderful kiddush tradition has allowed members and friends to get to know one another and socialize in a place of kedusha, holiness. We look forward to continuing this wonderful tradition, and we ask for your ongoing support.

Please contact Yakira (yakira@yicbh.org) or Shelly Lisbon (slisbon7346@aol.com) if you would like to sponsor a kiddush. We are currently looking for sponsors through August.

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.

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. Special thanks to Susan Gluck and Susan Packer for establishing and continuing this very important mitzvah.

The Refuah committee would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Refuah fund!

IF YOU ARE PLANNING A SIMCHA....
Please note that all members or non-members, planning to use our social hall for a private lunch on Shabbat or Yom Tov at the Young Israel will be able to have their private affair ONLY after our Congregants have finished their regular Shabbat or Yom Tov Kiddush in the FULL Social Hall. Reservations for a Simcha, by members or non-members, will be on a first come basis and the date will be finalized once the deposit is provided.

We appreciate everyone's cooperation.
Young Israel Congregation
Shmooze News
Parshas Matos-Masaei, July 14, 2018

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.
• Daf Yomi with Rabbi Aryeh Citron Sunday-Friday after Schacharis
• Summer learning session (Beis Midrash night) July 12, 19, 26 and August 2. Thursdays 7:00PM “Halacha Issues-From the Talmud to Modern Day Poskim”.

Congregational Family and Shul News

• Kiddush last week was sponsored by Morris & Judy Tuchman.
• Kiddush this week is sponsored by Steven Hamburg in honor of Debra Hamburg’s birthday.
• Early minyan Kiddush is sponsored by Shelly & Miriam Lisbon in gratitude to the community for saying Tehillim, Davening and Learning for Miriam’s Refua Shleima.
• Mazal Tov to Dr. & Mrs. Shmuel and Evelyn Katz on the birth of a granddaughter, Charlotte Grace (Sarah Anaelle), the daughter of JJ and Chantal Katz. Mazal Tov also to Chantal’s parents, Mr. & Mrs. Nathan and Lisa Low. May she be raised to Torah, Chupah and Maasim Tovim and be a source of much nachas.
• Mazal Tov to Susan and Jack Gluck on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson Aitan, son of Jonathan and Michele Gluck, which took place in Israel last Shabbos. May they continue to see much Nachas from Aitan Eliezer and all their children and grandchildren.
• We would like to thank Sura and Bert Fried and Ianna & Jack Sterenfeld for donating the books “Living Emunah” volumes 1 & 2 and the ArtScroll Tisha B’Av Kinos Le’ilui Nishmas Rabbi Simeon Schreiber z”l and Stuart Harris z”l.

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: Shlomo Mayer, Allen Packer, Minnie Schraga.

Youth Program

• Father and Child learning will continue this week during a special Seuda Shlishit 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
Yahrzeits July 14 – July 20, 2018

2 AV  Shlomo Mayer for his father, Rabbi Yehuda Aryeh Mayer, on Shabbos, July 14
3 AV  Moises Tabacinic for his mother, Shaindel Tabacinic, on Sunday, July 15
4 AV  Zohara Weiss for her father, Tzvi Hersh Glassman, on Monday, July 16
5 AV  Susan Weinberg for her father, Morris Fischer, on Tuesday, July 17
7 AV  Debra Hartman for her father, Zev Velvel ben Yitzchak Issac, on Thursday, July 19
7 AV  Basya Lowinger for her father, Yekusiel Yehuda ben Chaim Nosson, on Thursday, July 19

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

Hatzalah (305)919-4900

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 Yakira at (305) 866-0203.

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