



בית אהרן

**SAVE THE DATE**

The Congregation Beth Aaron Annual Dinner will take place on Sunday, May 9, 2010, at Keter Torah. Guests of Honor are Renee & Harry Harcsztark. Service Awardees are Nechama & Steven Pudell.

**SAVE THE DATE**

The Beth Aaron Purim Carnival Extravaganza will take place on Sunday, February 21st.

**Congregation Beth Aaron**

950 Queen Anne Road, Teaneck, NJ 07666.  
 Phone: (201) 836-6210 • Fax: (201) 836-0005  
[www.bethaaron.org](http://www.bethaaron.org) • [bethaaron@optonline.net](mailto:bethaaron@optonline.net)  
 Laurence Rothwachs, Rabbi

Ronnie Schwartz, President

**Shabbat Announcements**

**Parashat Beshalach**  
**January 30, 2010 15 Shevat 5770**

- Latest Candles: 4:52 P.M.
- *Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat*: 4:55 P.M.
- *Shacharit. Hashkama*: 7:30 A.M.
- Rabbi Rothwachs' *Tefillah shiur*: 8:20 A.M.
- *Main Shul*: 8:45 A.M.
- *Youth Minyan*: 9:30 A.M.
- *Sof Zman Kriat Shema*: 9:39 A.M.
- *Early Mincha*: 1:45 P.M.
- *Daf Yomi*: 3:35 P.M.
- Women's Learning Group: 3:45 P.M. We will continue learning *Sefer Melachim*, chapters 3.
- *Mincha*: 4:45 P.M.
- *Maariv*: 5:52 P.M.
- *Havdalah*: 6:01 P.M.

Schedule for Week of January 31st:		Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri
		31	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Earliest Tallit</i>	6:07	6:06	6:05	6:04	6:03	6:02	
<i>Shacharit</i>	6:30	<b>5:55</b>	<b>5:54</b>	<b>5:53</b>	<b>5:52</b>	<b>5:53</b>	
	7:15	6:20	6:30	6:30	6:20	6:30	
	8:00	7:10	7:15	7:15	7:10	7:15	
	8:45	8:00	8:00	8:00	8:00	8:00	
<i>Mincha</i>	1:00						
<i>Mincha/Maariv</i>	5:00	5:00	5:00	5:00	5:00	5:05	
<i>Maariv:</i>	8:00	8:00	8:00	8:00	8:00		
	9:30	9:30	9:30	9:30	9:30		

**Weekly Shiurim:**

- *Daf Yomi. Shabbat*: 3:35 P.M. For other *Daf Yomi shiurim*, go to [www.teaneckshuls.org/daf](http://www.teaneckshuls.org/daf)
- *Chabura on Revadim method of Talmud Study*: Sunday evening at 8:15 P.M.
- *Parshat ha-Shavua shiur by Rabbi Neil Lauer*: Join us this week as we continue *Sefer Shemot*: "Matan Torah: Third Time's the Charm?." Tuesday evening, 8:45 to 9:30 P.M.
- *Rabbi Rothwachs' Bava Kama shiur*: Wednesday evening at 8:30 P.M.
- *Chabura by Rabbi Herschel Grossman on Sefer Nefesh ha-Chaim* - Thursday evening, 8:15 to 9:00 P.M.
- *Morning Mishnah Chabura*: Monday and Thursday - 6:55 A.M.; Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday - 7:00 A.M.

The next **iRabbi** program, which provides the youth of our *kehillah* with the opportunity to discuss issues of personal importance with the Rabbi, will take place on *Shabbat, Parashat Yitro*, February 5-6 for 11th-12th graders. On Friday evening, February 5th, at 8:00 P.M., boys in grades 11-12 will meet at the Rothwachs home. On *Shabbat*, February 6th, at 3:45 P.M., girls in grades 11-12 will meet at the Rothwachs home.

Participants are encouraged to come prepared with questions to ask the Rabbi about topics of concern to them--*hashkafa, halacha*, social issues, etc. You may also e-mail questions to [iRabbi@live.com](mailto:iRabbi@live.com).

On *Shabbat Parshat Mishpatim*, February 12th-13th, Beth Aaron is excited to welcome Jewish music sensation, **Eitan Katz**, for a very special weekend. Eitan's latest album release, *Boruch Hu*, is a continuation of Eitan's trademark style, in which he has been able to both entertain and spiritually uplift the listener. Eitan will be the guest *ba'al tefillah* throughout *Shabbat*, which will include an inspiring and *ruach*-filled davening on Friday night. There will be a spirited *Oneg Shabbat* with Eitan at the Rothwachs home at 8:15 P.M. on Friday night, which will include singing and *divrei Torah* and promises to be a very special experience. Eitan and his band will also be performing a concert on *motz'ei Shabbat* at the shul at 8:00 P.M. Admission at the door will be \$10 per person. For more information about Eitan, go to [www.eitankatz.com](http://www.eitankatz.com).

On Saturday night, February 6th, at 7:30 P.M., **Jeremy Gimpel**, the host of *Tuesday Night Live in Jerusalem*, the only Jewish TV show broadcast from Jerusalem to the world, will be speaking at Beth Aaron on "*Torah, Inspiration and Entertainment: The Settlement Freeze, Neo-Zionism and Yemot ha-Mashiach*." For more information, go to [www.thelandofisrael.com](http://www.thelandofisrael.com).

The next **Men's Club Multi-Sponsored Kiddush** is scheduled for February 27th, *Parshat Tetzaveh*. If you are commemorating a *yahrzeit* or celebrating a happy occasion, please consider being a sponsor of this Kiddush. Sponsorships are \$200. To sponsor, please contact David Goldberg, [goldbergda@yahoo.com](mailto:goldbergda@yahoo.com).

Introducing an innovative and intensive **Bar Mitzvah training class!** In this eight-week Sunday morning seminar, beginning February 7th at TABC, from 8:30 to 10:00 A.M., your son will have the opportunity to personalize his Bar Mitzvah experience through hands-on learning about (1) *tefilin*, (2) becoming a *chazan*, (3) preparing a Bar Mitzvah speech and project, and more. For more information, please contact Rabbi Stephen Knapp, [RabbiKnapp@gmail.com](mailto:RabbiKnapp@gmail.com), (917) 837-2810.

UJA Federation of Northern New Jersey's Israel Programs Center offers both **needs-based** and **merit scholarships** to high school and college students wishing to participate in an Israel Experience. For more information, go to [www.ujanni.org/ipc](http://www.ujanni.org/ipc). The deadline is **Friday, February 26th**.

**Miscellaneous Shul Announcements**

Our minds might be on the big football game in Miami, but pitchers and catchers are set to report in a few weeks. On Sunday, February 7th, the Men's Club is pleased to welcome **Bob Klapisch**, sports columnist for The Record and ESPN.com, back to Beth Aaron for a discussion of the 2010 baseball season. The talk will start after the last morning *minyan* (approximately 9:30 A.M.). There is no charge to attend, and a light breakfast will be served.

The next **Sisterhood Book Club** selection is "My Father's Paradise: A Son's Search for His Jewish Past in Kurdish Iraq," by Ariel Sabar. The date of the next meeting will be announced. For more information, contact Diane Fogel, (201) 837-0651, difogel@aol.com.

**Beth Aaron Youth:**

- The **learning group for 3rd grade boys** will meet this *Shabbat*, January 30th, at **3:00 P.M.**, at the Neugroschl home, 100 Edgemont Place. We will continue studying *Sefer Shmuel*. For more information, contact Doug Dubitsky, douglas\_dubitsky@glic.com.
- The **learning group for 4th grade boys** will meet this *Shabbat*, January 30th, at **3:30 P.M.**, at the Felsen home, 937 Prince Street. Please bring your own *Mishnah (Masechet Beitzah)*. For more information, please contact Rebecca Kurz, rkurz1@yahoo.com, or Esther Klavan, eskslp@aol.com.
- This *Shabbat* morning, January 30th, beginning at approximately 10:00 A.M., there will be a special *Tu bi-Shevat* program during *Shabbat* morning groups for children in Nursery to second grade. The program will include *Tu bi-Shevat* learning, games, and yummy foods to celebrate *Tu bi-Shevat*.
- This *Shabbat* afternoon, January 30th, there will be a *Tu bi-Shevat Seder* for children in grades 3 to 5 between *mincha* and *maariv*. Come enjoy the *Shivat ha-Minim*, as well as other foods, while we learn about *Tu bi-Shevat* and our connection to *Eretz Yisrael*.
- This *Shabbat*, January 30th, from 9:15 to 9:30 A.M., all 3rd-5th graders are welcome to join **Tefilah and Shoko**. Cookies and chocolate milk will be served.
- This *Motzaei Shabbat*, January 30th, at 6:30 P.M., there will be **Parent-Child Learning** in the *beit midrash*. Please join us for learning, great prizes and **pizza**.
- Want to celebrate your child's birthday with their friends in *Shabbat* morning groups? You can sponsor a **birthday kiddush** for your child's group for \$36.
- If you would like to sponsor any of these events, please contact Erica and Jason David, [bethaaronyouth@yahoo.com](mailto:bethaaronyouth@yahoo.com).

**Junior NCSY (grades 6-8):**

- This Sunday night, January 31st, at 6:00 P.M., we will be having a **Winter Regional Psych-Up Night** at the shul. Come eat pizza, learn the chapter cheers, and help us make a Chapter banner and tie-dye our Chapter t-shirts! The cost is \$10, and we hope you will come even if you are not attending Winter Regional.
- The **Winter Regional Shabbaton** will take place on the weekend of February 5th-7th in West Orange, at Congregation Ahawas Achim Bnai Jacob and David. **The deadline for registration is this Sunday, January 31st**, and the price is \$66. The buses will be leaving from school on Friday at 2:00 P.M. and returning to Beth Aaron on Sunday at 1:30 P.M. Busing will cost an additional \$20 (more information on the buses to follow). To register, go to [njncsy.org](http://njncsy.org) and click on the Winter Regional link. Scholarships are available. To obtain a scholarship, please call Danielle, (201) 247-7961.
- On Sunday, February 7th, from 6:00 to 9:30 P.M. (even if the game is not yet over), we will be having a **Super Bowl Party** at the home of Gavi Baron, 134 Minell Place. Come join all your friends to watch the Super Bowl and compete to make the biggest and best sub sandwiches! The cost is \$10.
- On Sunday, February 21st, we will be having a **Purim Carnival** at the shul. We are looking for volunteers to help run this event. If you are interested in helping us out by running a booth, please contact Danielle. *Chesed* hours can be awarded.
- If you have any questions about our events, please contact Danielle, [bethaaronjuniors@gmail.com](mailto:bethaaronjuniors@gmail.com), or (201) 247-7961.

**Beth Aaron Teens (grades 9-12):**

- On Friday, February 5th, Beth Aaron will be hosting Teaneck NCSY for a **Shabbat dinner!** All local 9th-12th graders are invited to the *shul* for lots of great *divrei Torah* and *zmirot*. It will begin with *mincha* at 5:00 P.M. The cost is \$10. For more information, visit [www.teaneckncsy.com](http://www.teaneckncsy.com).
- We'd love to hear feedback about past events and ideas for future events. We can be contacted at [bethaaronteens@gmail.com](mailto:bethaaronteens@gmail.com), or by calling Shiffy (Staiman) Friedman, (201) 341-6022, or Noam Friedman, (201) 937-6249.

**Parasha Questions for Parashat Beshalach:**

1. (a) Why did *Hashem* not lead *Bnei Yisrael* by the shortest route to *Eretz Yisrael* through the land of *Pelishtim* (5 reasons)? (b) How were *Bnei Yisrael* able to travel *yomam va-leila* (day and night) without exhaustion (3 explanations)? (*Shemot* 13:17,21)
2. (a) Why did *Hashem* tell *Moshe* not to pray, but rather lead *Bnei Yisrael* to the sea (5 explanations)? (b) At *Yam Suf*, (1) why did *Hashem* spare *Pharaoh*? (2) What 10 miracles did He perform for *Bnei Yisrael*? (3) What 10 plagues did He inflict on the *Mitzrim*? (*Shemot* 14:15,29-30)
3. What *halacha* do we learn from *Bnei Yisrael* saying about *Hashem* "*ve-anveihu*" (I will beautify Him) (2 explanations)? (b) Why did they call Him *Nora Tehilot* (fearsome of praises) (2 reasons)? (c) Why were the following terrified of *Bnei Yisrael*: (1) the dwellers of *Pelishtim*? (2) *Edom's* chieftains? (3) *Moav's* powers? (4) *Ca'anans*' inhabitants? (*Shemot* 15:2,11-15)
4. (a) How far may one walk on *Shabbat*: (1) according to *Torah* law; and (2) *mi-de-rabanan*? (b) *Avot* 5:6 states: "with 10 trials our ancestors tested *Hashem* in the *midbar*, which 6 are in *Parashat Beshalach*?" (c) In addition to *Hashem* testing *Bnei Yisrael* not to leave the *mun* overnight or collect it on *Shabbat*, what else did He test with the *mun* (2 tests)? (*Shemot* 14:11-17:2)
5. (a) Why does the *Torah* tell us that *Amaleik* attacked *Bnei Yisrael* at *Refidim*? (b) Why did *Moshe's* raising his hands cause *Bnei Yisrael* to prevail over *Amaleik*? (*Shemot* 17:8,11)
6. (a) Why is *Tu bi-Shevat* the *Rosh Hashana le-Ilanot* (New Year for trees)? (b) What are 3 agricultural laws of *Eretz Yisrael* that depend on this date? (c) May one chop down a fruit tree to sell the wood, if the monetary value of the wood is high?
7. In the *haftara*, why did *Hashem*: (a) drown *Sisera's* army in *Nachal Kishon*? (b) deposit the *Mitzrim's* corpses on shore (4 reasons)? (*Shoftim* 5:21)

## Community Announcements

**CareOne**, the kosher rehabilitation and nursing center located at 544 Teaneck Road, needs volunteers to help make a *minyan*. This Friday, *Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat* will begin at 5:00 P.M. *Shacharit* will be at 9:00 A.M., followed by a hot *Kiddush*. Youth groups begin at 9:30 A.M. *Mincha* will be at 4:40 P.M., followed by a *shiu*r on *Masechet Ketubot* at 4:55 P.M. *Maariv* will be at 5:55 P.M.

This *Motzaei Shabbat*, January 30th, at 8:00 P.M., Rav Yamin Goldsmith, *Menahel* of Shaalvim for Women, will be delivering a *shiu*r entitled "*Hallel, Shira* and *Yetziat Mitzrayim*," for Shaalvim alumni and the community at large, at the home of Linda and Murray Sragow, 1276 Princeton Road. For more information, please contact Murray Sragow, [murray.sragow@gmail.com](mailto:murray.sragow@gmail.com).

This Sunday morning, January 31st, **Sally Mayer** of Midreshet Lindenbaum will be giving a *shiu*r following the 8:00 A.M. *minyan* at Congregation Rinat Yisrael. Her topic is: ***Areivut and Tochacha in the Modern World***. Mrs. Mayer teaches *Talmud* and *Halachah*, and *Torah She-be-al Peh* at Midreshet Lindenbaum.

This Sunday, January 31st, at 8:00 P.M., at Congregation Rinat Yisrael, **Rabbi Yehuda Sarna**, University Chaplain and Rabbi of the Bronfman Center for Jewish Student Life at New York University, will speak on "**Orthodoxy and the New College Experience**."

On Thursday, February 4th, at 8:00 P.M., there will be an informational meeting on Yeshivat Yesodei ha-Torah (a post-high school *yeshiva* in Israel) at the Shafier home, 100 Cherry Lane. For more information, please contact Larry Shafier, [cbaexec@gmail.com](mailto:cbaexec@gmail.com).

On Saturday night, February 6th, at 8:00 P.M., at Ma'ayanot High School, 1650 Palisade Avenue, there will be a "**Girls' Night On**" presentation -- sponsored by an initiative that organizes performances for women, by women. Admission is \$15 (\$10 for students). Performers receive a \$5 discount. For more information, go to [www.girlsnighton.com](http://www.girlsnighton.com).

On Saturday night, February 6th, beginning at 8:00 P.M., **New Jersey Yachad**, which provides programs and services for families who have children and young adults with disabilities, will be sponsoring a **Game Night Benefit** at the Space Odyssey, 491 South Dean Street, Englewood. Admission is \$100 per person, which includes two raffle tickets. There will be delicious food, live music, a Chinese auction, a raffle drawing, and full use of Space Odyssey facilities. For more information, contact Chani Herrmann, (201) 833-1349, [herrmann@ou.org](mailto:herrmann@ou.org).

On Saturday night, February 6th, from 7:45 to 9:45 P.M., the **Brides of Girls Town Orphanage** in Jerusalem is sponsoring a fundraiser for Teaneck women at the home of Lisa and Ross Breen, 68 Edgemont Place. It will include a presentation on how girls struck by misfortune are nurtured into becoming productive young adults ready to marry, and will feature a presentation by the PeniNote Women's Choir. For more information, please contact Shulamis Hes, [meshanemazal@yahoo.com](mailto:meshanemazal@yahoo.com).

On Saturday night, February 6th, at 9:00 P.M., at Congregation Shomrei Torah, 19-10 Morlot Avenue, Fair Lawn, **Rabbi Dr. Abraham J. Twerski** ([www.gatewayrehab.org/drt.htm](http://www.gatewayrehab.org/drt.htm)) will speak on "**The Sun Will Shine Again**" in commemoration of the first *yahrtzeit* of Sarah Rein, Sara Dina Devorah bat Yaakov, a"*h*.

On Tuesday, February 9th, at 8:00 P.M., at the gymnasium of Yavneh Academy, 155 Farview Avenue, Paramus, the **Yavneh Parents Association & Auxiliary** will be presenting a "**Ladies Night Out**," featuring the show "**Mom's the Word**" -- a musical cabaret-style parody about the challenges and joys of motherhood. Admission is \$25 per person. For more information, please contact Deena Yellin, [dfuksbrumer@yavnehacademy.org](mailto:dfuksbrumer@yavnehacademy.org).

On Tuesday, February 9th, at 8:00 P.M., at the home of Sharon Schur, 1510 Jefferson Street, Chana Bracha Siegelbaum, founder of Midreshet B'erot Bat Ayin, will present a *shiu*r for women on the topic of "**Vashti's Tail or Esther's Hidden Face: Two Models of Feminine Empowerment**." For more information, please contact Sharon Schur, (201) 692-3757, [sharonschur@aol.com](mailto:sharonschur@aol.com).

On President's Day, Monday, February 15th, the **Funkey Monkeys** will present a **children's concert** at Ben Porat Yosef, East 243 Frisch Court, Paramus. There will be two shows -- at 11:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$18 at the door and can be purchased at [www.benporatyosef.org](http://www.benporatyosef.org). For more information, call (201) 845-5007 x10 or [funkeymonkeytix@gmail.com](mailto:funkeymonkeytix@gmail.com).

On Monday, February 22nd, from 7:00 to 8:30 P.M., at the office of the Jewish Family Service of Bergen and North Hudson, 1485 Teaneck Road, David Giller, Esq. will present a workshop entitled "**Beating the Economy: Debt Management during Troubling Times**." He will discuss strategies for managing and prioritizing debts, how to deal with creditors and outstanding debts, and how to avoid bankruptcy. For more information, call (201) 837-9090 and ask for IRA, or e-mail [IRA@jfsbergen.org](mailto:IRA@jfsbergen.org).

Registration for the **2010 Yavneh Youth League** season is now open for all 1st-8th graders (boys and girls) who attend any Hebrew day school in the North Jersey area. Yavneh Youth League provides students with an appropriately competitive season on Sunday mornings and weekday evenings in the spring. The focus is on baseball skill building, sportsmanship and fun. Games begins after *Pesach* (with practices scheduled for late March), and playoffs and championships conclude by the end of the school year. For more information, or to download registration materials, go to <http://yavnehyouthleague.com>.

**Beit Issie Shapiro**, an organization that provides services for children with developmental disabilities and their families in Israel, is selling ***mishloach manot packages for Purim***. Each beautifully designed box includes a few scrumptious treats, as well as a donation card for the special children of Beit Issie. Boxes are \$8 each or \$100 for 15. Checks should be made payable to AFOBIS (American Friends of Beit Issie Shapiro). To order, please contact Becky Wolf, (201) 928-0542, [gzwmom@yahoo.com](mailto:gzwmom@yahoo.com). For more information, go to [www.beitissie.co.il/eng](http://www.beitissie.co.il/eng).

**Sharsheret** is selling **Purim cards**, which are a wonderful way to send best wishes to loved ones in lieu of *Mishloach Manot*. The cards come in packages of 12 for a contribution of \$36. They can be purchased online at [www.sharsheret.org/purimcards.php](http://www.sharsheret.org/purimcards.php) or by calling (866) 474-2774.

The students of **The Sinai School** are offering a **free pick-up service of clothing donations** in good condition to community members. A ***tevilat keilim*** service is also available. All pick-ups are on Thursday evenings. Dishes will be returned within two weeks of pick up. There is a suggested donation of \$2 for *tevilat keilim*. For more information, contact Rochel Weitzman, [Rrodina@sinaischool.org](mailto:Rrodina@sinaischool.org), (646) 701-1255.

## Learning Opportunities

• The **Amud Yomi shiur** meets week nights at 9:30 P.M. at Rinat Yisrael.

### Motzei Shabbat

Rabbi Reisman's satellite *Navi shiur*: 7:30 P.M. at Keter Torah.

### Sunday

• On Sunday, January 31, Yeshiva University invites you to its **Midreshet Yom Rishon**, weekly Sunday morning learning for women. The program which will be held at the Shenk Shul in the Schottenstein Center (on West 185th Street, between Audubon and St. Nicholas Avenues) is open to participants of all ages, backgrounds, and learning levels. Admission is free, and no registration is required. This week, Midreshet Yom Rishon will feature **Rabbi Chaim Brovender** and **Mrs. Malki Bina**. The first *shiur* starts at 9:30 A.M.; second *shiur* starts at 10:30 A.M. For more information or to download *mar'ei mekomot*, visit [www.midreshetyomrishon.org](http://www.midreshetyomrishon.org) or call (212) 960-0041.

• On Sunday, January 31, Yeshiva University invites you to its **Kollel Yom Rishon**, weekly Sunday morning learning for men. The program, which will be held in Furst Hall Room 501 (500 West 185th Street, at the corner of Amsterdam

Avenue) is open to participants of all ages, backgrounds, and learning levels. Admission is free, and no registration is required. This week, Kollel Yom Rishon will feature **Rabbi Meir Goldwicht** and **Rabbi Chaim Brovender**. The first *shiur* starts at 9:30 A.M., second *shiur* starts at 10:30 A.M. For more information or to download *mar'ei mekomot*, please visit [www.kolleyomrishon.org](http://www.kolleyomrishon.org) or call (212) 960-0041.

### Monday

• Each Monday, from 9:00 to 10:00 A.M., a **Tehillim group** will meet at Rochi Lerner's home, 274 Johnson Avenue.

### Tuesday

• Rochi Lerner's **Tehillim shiur** takes place every Tuesday evening at 8:30 P.M. at Rochi Lerner's home, 274 Johnson Avenue.

### Wednesday

• On Wednesday mornings, at 10:30 A.M., Rochi Lerner presents a **Megillat Esther shiur**, in memory of the Seidenfeld children, at the Lerner home, 274 Johnson Avenue.

• Rabbi Zvi Sobolofsky's Wednesday evening *shiur* takes place at Bnai Yeshurun at 9:15 P.M.

### Thursday

• **Rabbi Yissocher Frand's** weekly *shiur* will be

broadcast at 9:00 P.M. at Keter Torah.

• Each Thursday evening, at 8:30 P.M., at the Yeshiva Gedolah, 1443 Palisade Avenue, **Rabbi Roberts** gives a **Parasha Shiur**, followed by *maariv* at 9:30 P.M.

• Rochi Lerner's Thursday morning *shiur* at Yeshivat Noam will continue on February 4th, at 11:00 A.M. The *shiur* explores the characters of *Yitzchak* and *Shimshon*.

### Friday

• The **Bergen County Kollel for Baalei Batim** now meets on Friday mornings from 8:00 to 9:45 A.M. in the library in the basement of Congregation Beth Aaron. *Shiurim* include *mussar*, *gemara* and *halacha*. You can attend one or more of the *shiurim*. For more information, call Bob Oppenheimer, (201) 280-1780, Hertzal Benji, (201) 261-1453, or David Sivetsky (201) 836-8291.

Each Tuesday and Thursday morning, **Keter Torah** presents **Torah in the AM**: 9:00 to 9:40 A.M. - *Navi chavura* on *Sefer Shmuel Bet*, 9:45 to 10:45 A.M. - Rabbi Menachem Meier's *Talmud shiur* on *Bava Metzta*, Chapter 5; 10:50 to 11:40 A.M.-Rabbi Meier's *shiur* on Jeremiah (Thursday only); 11:00 A.M. to 12:00 noon - Rabbi Baum's *shiur* on *Sefer Ezra* (Tuesday only)

## Answers to Parasha Questions:

- (a) (1) *Hashem* knew that if the *Pelishtim* attacked *Bnei Yisrael*, those afraid of warfare would want to return to nearby *Mitzrayim* (*Rashi*). (2) There were many travelers along this route, who could inform *Bnei Yisrael* that *Pharaoh* was pursuing them (*Rashbam*). (3) *Hashem* did not want *Bnei Yisrael* to attack the *Pelishtim*, since that would violate the treaty made between *Avraham* and *Avimelech* not to harm each other for 3 generations -- *Avimelech's* grandchildren were still alive (*Midrash Lekach Tov*). (4) *Hashem* spared *Bnei Yisrael* seeing the bones of members of *Sheivet Efrayim* who had escaped from *Mitzrayim* 30 years earlier but were slain by the *Pelishtim* (*Targum Yonatan*). (5) *Hashem* had to take *Bnei Yisrael* to the desert for *Matan Torah* and to provide the *mun* which would elevate their belief in Him before entering *Eretz Yisrael* (*Kli Yakar*). (b) (1) Since *Bnei Yisrael* were millions of people, they could travel only very slowly; some tribes traveled during the day while the others rested, and some traveled at night (*ibn Ezra*). (2) *Bnei Yisrael* traveled constantly only until *Pharaoh* realized that they were escaping, so he would pursue them (*Sforno*). (3) Their zeal to receive the *Torah* inspired them to travel constantly (*R. Bechaya*).
- (a) (1) In immediate danger, action must be taken, and *tefila* shortened; (2) *tefila* was unnecessary since *Hashem* had already taken responsibility to protect *Bnei Yisrael* (*Rashi*). (3) Salvation depended on *Bnei Yisrael's* actions to save themselves, not on *tefila* (*Nefesh ha-Chaim*). (4) *Moshe* prayed out of concern that *Bnei Yisrael* had insufficient faith to merit salvation; *Hashem* told him that He would save them (*Sforno*). (5) *Hashem* wanted *Bnei Yisrael* to demonstrate faith by traveling into the sea, so they would merit its splitting (*Ohr ha-Chaim*). (b) (1) To show the power of *teshuva*; when *Pharaoh* saw his army's death, he admitted the truth of *Hashem's* power, and He spared him (*Pirkei de-Rebi Eliezer*). (2) (i) The water split; (ii) it formed a roof-like protection above *Bnei Yisrael*; (iii) it split into 12 passageways, one for each *sheivet*; (iv) the ground was dry beneath *Bnei Yisrael*, and (v) like clay beneath the *Mitzrim*; (vi) the water hardened like rock, harming the *Mitzrim*; (vii) the solidified walls formed decorative mosaics for *Bnei Yisrael*; (viii) the walls were transparent, allowing each *sheivet* to see the others; (ix) if a Jew became thirsty, he could stretch out his hand and the wall melted; (x) as soon as he quenched his thirst, the wall solidified again; (3) (i) when morning dawned, the *Mitzrim* traveled in darkness behind the Cloud Pillar; (ii) The Cloud caused the ground under their feet to become soft as clay; (iii) the Fire Pillar's heat caused their horses' hoofs to fall off; (iv) when the heat burned their chariots' wheels off, He dragged the chariots into the sea; (v) the riders fell off their chariots and tumbled into the mud, unable to rise; (vi) the waves gushed towards them; they could not flee; (vii) the upper waters cast them downward, and the lower waters cast them upward; (viii) earth at the bottom of the sea covered some of them; (ix) some sank into the water as fast as lead; (x) the sea cast their corpses on the shore (*R. Yonah*).
- (a) We must: (1) beautify His *mitzvot* by using a beautiful *etrog* and *tefillin* (*Shabbat* 133b). (2) build Him a beautiful sanctuary (*Ramban*). (b) (1) People are afraid to praise *Hashem* since any praise they say is too little (*Rashi*). (2) *Hashem's* fearsome deeds are praiseworthy (*Ramban*). (c) (1) The *Pelishtim* feared *Bnei Yisrael's* revenge for their massacre of *Bnei Efrayim*, 30 years earlier; (2) *Edom* feared revenge for their ancestor *Eisav's* hatred of *Ya'akov*; (3) *Moav* feared punishment for their forefather *Lot's* dispute with *Avraham*; (4) The *Cana'anim* feared that *Bnei Yisrael* would destroy them and take their land (*R. Bechaya*).
- (a) (1) No more than 3 *parsa'ot* from the edge of the furthestmost house of the city, where a *parsa* equals 4 *mil*, and a *mil* equals 2,000 *amot*; thus, one is permitted to walk up to 24,000 *amot*; (2) *Chazal* made a *seyog* (precautionary fence) and forbade walking more than 2,000 *amot* outside the city (*Sefer ha-Chinuch – Mitzvah* 24). (b) (1) When the *Mitzrim* pursued *Bnei Yisrael* to *Yam Suf*, *Bnei Yisrael* told *Moshe* they would have preferred to remain slaves in *Mitzrayim* than to die in the *midbar* (*Shemot* 14:11); (2) they complained they had nothing to drink at *Mara* (15:24); (3) they complained when they ran out of food (16:3); (4) they left *mun* over after *Moshe* told them not to (16:20); (5) they left the camp to collect *mun* on *Shabbat* (16:27); (6) they complained against *Moshe* when their water ran out at *Refidim* (17:2) (*Arachin* 15a). (c) (1) Would *Bnei Yisrael* follow *Hashem* even though He did not provide food beyond the current day? (*Ramban*) (2) Since *Bnei Yisrael* did not work for their sustenance, would they spend their free time learning *Torah* and performing *mitzvot*? (*Ohr ha-Chaim*)
- (a) At *Refidim*, *Bnei Yisrael's* faith was weak, asking, "Is *Hashem* in our midst?" (17:7) (*Rashi*). (b) As long as *Bnei Yisrael* looked up to *Hashem* for help, as symbolized by *Moshe's* hands pointing heavenward, they succeeded (*Rosh Hashana* 29a).
- (a) By *Tu Bi-Shevat* (15 *Shevat*), according to *Beit Hillel* (or by *Rosh Chodesh Shevat*, according to *Beit Shammai*), the majority of the rain that trees need has fallen, and the fruits begin to form; *Hashem* then judges whether a tree's growth will be successful; (b) (1) this date is the dividing line, after which new fruit cannot be used as *ma'aser* for the previous year's fruit; (2) although the 3<sup>rd</sup> forbidden year of *orla* ends on 1 *Tishrei*, the 4<sup>th</sup> year's fruit cannot be eaten until after *Tu bi-Shevat*; (3) according to the *Shlah*, trees' *shemita* year begins on *Tu bi-Shevat* (*Rosh Hashana* 14a). (c) Yes – while it is prohibited to cut down a fruit tree destructively, one may cut it down for a useful benefit (*Sefer ha-Chinuch – Mitzvah* 529).
- (a) When *Hashem* drowned the *Mitzrim* after *yetziat Mitzrayim*, He caused *Yam Suf* to spit out the corpses on dry land; since He had deprived the fish of the *Mitzrim's* bodies as food, He paid the fish back by casting *Sisera's* army into the sea; (b) (1) since *Bnei Yisrael* were not convinced that the *Mitzrim* had drowned, He produced the corpses for them to see; (2) as they died, the *Mitzrim* saw that *Bnei Yisrael* were saved; (3) *Bnei Yisrael* were able to rebuke the dying *Mitzrim* for wronging them; (4) when the *Mitzrim* floated ashore, *Bnei Yisrael* were able to take their spoils (*Pesachim* 118b).