



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**.

Q: What's the single most important thing you can do this year to help Israel? A: see p. 2

**Congregation Beth Aaron**

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 Laurence Rothwachs, Rabbi

Ronnie Schwartz, President

**Shabbat Announcements**

**Parashat Yitro**  
**February 6, 2010 22 Shevat 5770**

- Latest Candles: 5:01 P.M.
- *Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat*: 5:05 P.M.
- *Shacharit Hashkamah*: 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*: 9:36 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., followed by *seudah shlishit*.
- *Maariv*: 6:01 P.M.
- *Havdalah*: 6:10 P.M.

Schedule for Week of February 7th:		Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri
		7	8	9	10	11	12
<i>Earliest Tallit</i>		6:00	5:58	5:57	5:56	5:55	5:54
<i>Shacharit</i>		6:30	<b>5:47</b>	<b>5:53</b>	<b>5:53</b>	<b>5:44</b>	5:55
		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>		5:05	5:05	5:05	5:05	5:05	5:15
<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.teanekshuls.org/daf](http://www.teanekshuls.org/daf)
- Rabbi Baruch Simon *Shiur* - Monday, at 8:15 P.M.: "*Kiyumu ve-Kiblu: Kabbalat ha-Torah on Purim*"
- **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*: "G-d is in the Details" 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.

**Mazal Tov:**

- *Mazal Tov* to David and Alona Shapiro on the birth of their granddaughter Chaya Bracha, born to their children Adena and Yechiel Webberman.
- *Mazal Tov* to Ira and Roz Friedman on the marriage of their daughter Tova to Roni Katzir.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

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

**SAVE THE DATE!**

On *Motzaei Shabbat*, March 13th, at 8:30 P.M., the BAFriendly Committee will be having a special event at the shul, with free food (dinner), fun and prizes for all! Stay tuned for more details!

We are pleased to announce that the next **iRabbi** program will be held this *Shabbat*. This Friday evening at 8:00 P.M., boys in grades 11-12 will meet at our home, 288 Schley Place. On *Shabbat* at 3:45 P.M., girls in grades 11-12 will meet at our home. Participants are encouraged to come prepared with questions to ask or discuss; any topics of interest to them -- *hashkafa*, *halacha*, social issues, etc. If they prefer, questions may also be sent to [irabbi@live.com](mailto:irabbi@live.com) and will be forwarded to me *anonymously*. Please encourage your children to participate in this program. I look forward to welcoming them. —LR

This 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).

Next *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 *motzaei 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).

**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. This 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.

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.

On Sunday, February 21st, the **Zayin Adar Seudah of the Chevra Kadisha** will be held at Care One, 544 Teaneck Road. The cost is \$10 per person, payable at the Bnai Yeshurun office. For more information, please contact Joseph Appel, [zaidy54@aol.com](mailto:zaidy54@aol.com).

The next **Men's Club Multi-Sponsored Kiddush** is scheduled for February 27th, *Parshat Tetzaveh*. If you are commemorating a *yahrtzeit* 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).

The next **Sisterhood Book Club** meeting will be held on Sunday, March 6th. We will discuss "My Father's Paradise: A Son's Search for His Jewish Past in Kurdish Iraq," by Ariel Sabar. For more information, contact Diane Fogel, (201) 837-0651, [difogel@aol.com](mailto:difogel@aol.com).

WANT TO HELP ISRAEL? If you care about Israel and want to translate that care into action, join Rabbi Rothwachs, his family and dozens of fellow Beth Aaronites on the **NORPAC lobbying mission in DC on Wednesday, May 12th**. Early registration and student discounts available. Register online, [www.norpac.net](http://www.norpac.net), or call NORPAC, (201) 788-5133, or Allen Friedman, (201) 906-3715.

**Beth Aaron Youth:**

- This *Shabbat*, February 6th, 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*, February 6th, at 6:45 P.M., there will be **Parent-Child Learning** at the shul. Please join us for learning, great prizes, and ice cream!
- 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).
- The **learning group for 3rd grade boys** will meet this *Shabbat*, February 6th, at **3:30 P.M.**, at Schwartz home, 641 Cumberland Avenue. We will continue studying *Sefer Shmuel*. For more information, contact Doug Dubitsky, [douglas\\_dubitsky@glic.com](mailto:douglas_dubitsky@glic.com).
- The **learning group for 4th grade boys** will meet this *Shabbat*, February 6th, at **3:40 P.M.**, at the Kurz home, 200 Edgemont Place. Please bring your own *Mishnah (Masechet Beitzah)*. For more information, please contact Rebecca Kurz, [rkurz1@yahoo.com](mailto:rkurz1@yahoo.com), or Esther Klavan, [esksp@aol.com](mailto:esksp@aol.com).

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

- The **Winter Regional Shabbaton** will take place this weekend, February 5th-7th, in West Orange, at Congregation Ahawas Achim Bnai Jacob and David. The bus will be returning to Beth Aaron on Sunday between 1:30 and 2:00 P.M. If you need to contact Danielle any time over the *Shabbaton*, please call her cell phone, (201) 247-7961.
- This 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 *Motzaei Shabbat*, February 20th, from 8:00 to 10:00 P.M., we will be **setting up** the basement and making signs for the **Purim Carnival**, and we need your help! Come for pizza, fun and to help out!
- 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.
- We now have **tie-dyed chapter t-shirts!** If you would like one, please e-mail the size you want to Danielle. Each t-shirt costs \$7.
- 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):**

- Due to the impending snow storm, the NCSY Friday night dinner will be rescheduled. BA Teens, however will still be having a great Friday night dinner tonight after shul! Thank you to everyone for your flexibility.
- On *Shabbat*, February 19th, at 8:00 P.M., we are invited to join Arzei Darom for an **Oneg** at the Alt home, 200 Chadwick Road. As always, all 9th-12th graders are invited for games, *divrei Torah*, *zmirot* and, of course, a little nosh.
- Purim is right around the corner, which means that the annual shul **Purim carnival** is coming! All teens are invited to meet at the shul on *motzaei Shabbat*, February 20th, from 8:00 to 10:00 P.M., to make posters and set up booths. Snacks will be served. We also need your help to run booths, sell food and give out prizes at the carnival, which will take place on Sunday, February 21st, from 1:00 to 4:00 P.M. Please let us know if you would like to volunteer.
- 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 Shifty (Staiman) Friedman, (201) 341-6022, or Noam Friedman, (201) 937-6249.

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.ujannj.org/ipc](http://www.ujannj.org/ipc). The deadline is **Friday, February 26th**.

**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 5:10 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 4:50 P.M., followed by a *shiur* on *Masechet Ketubot* at 5:05 P.M. *Maariv* will be at 6:04 P.M.

This Friday night, February 5th, at 8:00 P.M., there will be a *tisch* with **Rabbi Dr. Abraham Twerski**, accompanied by Dr. Elii Kranzler, at Kehilas Zichron Mordechai, 268 West Englewood Avenue, sponsored by Rinat Yisrael and Zichron Mordechai. Please join us for *chassidische Torah, cholent* and other refreshments.

This 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).

This Saturday night, February 6th, beginning at 8:00 P.M., **New Jersey Yachad**, which provides 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).

This 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).

This 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.

This Sunday, February 7th, following the 8:00 A.M. *shacharit minyan* at Congregation Rinat Yisrael, **Rabbi Ozer Glickman**, Rosh Yeshiva at RIETS, will speak on "**Halachah and Human Reason: Can a Command-Based Legal System Accommodate Rationality?** Evidence from *Sugyot, Rishonim, the Rav* and the Modern *Poskim*."

This Tuesday, February 9th, at 8:00 P.M., at Yavneh Academy, 155 Farview Avenue, Paramus, the **Yavneh Parents Association & Auxiliary** presents a "**Ladies Night Out**," featuring the show "**Mom's the Word**" -- a 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).

This 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 *shiur* 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).

**Yeshivat Ben Porat Yosef** will hold its **eighth annual dinner** on Monday, February 15th, at 7:00 P.M., at Lubavitch on the Palisades in Tenafly. Among the honorees are Stanley Fischman (father of Beth Aaron member Aharon Fischman) and Galit and Jeffrey Cohen of Teaneck. For more information, to purchase tickets, or place a listing in the Scroll of Honor, call (201) 845-5007, ext. 11.

**The Moriah School** will hold its **44th Annual Dinner** on *Motzaei Shabbat*, February 20th at Congregation Keter Torah. This year's honorees are Shari and Nathan Lindenbaum, Morah Odelia Danishefsky and Mrs. Robin Wexler. To make a reservation or contribution, contact Director of Development Amy Vogel, (201) 567-0208 x373, [avogel@moriahschool.org](mailto:avogel@moriahschool.org) or online at [www.moriahschool.org](http://www.moriahschool.org).

**Beit Issie Shapiro**, an organization that provides services for children with developmental disabilities and their families in Israel, is selling **mish-loach manot packages for Purim**. Boxes are \$8 each or \$100 for 15. Checks should be made payable to AFOBIS (American Friends of Beit Issie Shapiro). To order, 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**. 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.

**Parasha Questions for Parashat Yitro:**

1. (a) (1) About which 2 events did *Yitro* hear what *Hashem* had done for *Bnei Yisrael*? (2) Why did *Yitro* have to hear about both events before having faith that *Hashem* had selected *Bnei Yisrael*? (b) (1) When did *Yitro* arrive at *Bnei Yisroel's* camp (2 opinions)? (2) When did *Moshe* start judging the people? (3) Why did *Yitro* suggest that judges be: (i) *anshei chayil* (accomplished men)? (ii) *yirei Elokim* (who fear *Hashem*)? (iii) *anshei emet* (truthful men)? (iv) *sonei batza* (who despise money)? (*Shemot* 18:1,5,13,21)
2. (a) Before *Matan Torah*, which group did *Hashem* command *Moshe* to speak to first? (b) Why (5 reasons)? (*Shemot* 19:3)
3. (a) Why did *Hashem* term *Bnei Yisrael* a *mamlechet kohanim* (kingdom of priests) (3 reasons)? (b) When *Bnei Yisrael* said, "We will do everything that *Hashem* has spoken," why did *Moshe* need to tell this to *Hashem* (2 explanations)? (*Shemot* 19:6,8)
4. (a) How many letters are in the *Aseret ha-Dibrot*? What does this signify? (b) How many of the 613 *mitzvot* are specified in the *Aseret ha-Dibrot*? (c) Which *mitzvot*? (d) How many did *Bnei Yisrael* hear directly from *Hashem* (2 opinions)? (*Shemot* 20:1-14)
5. (a) What 4 kinds of oaths are considered "oaths in vain"? (b) What does the *Torah* add by stating that observing *Shabbat* applies to "you and your son and your daughter" -- by saying "you," aren't your son and daughter commanded not to violate *Shabbat* in their own right? (c) If one does not have wine for making *kiddush*, he may use bread; why may he not use bread to make *havdala* if he has no wine? (d) What are four negative results from violating *lo tin'af* (do not commit adultery)? (e) Why does the *Torah* prohibit us from coveting other people's possessions (2 explanations)? (*Shemot* 20:7-14)
6. (a) Why does the *Torah* repeat the prohibition of making silver and gold idols after stating in the *Aseret ha-Dibrot* that making idols is prohibited (*Shemot* 20:3-5) (6 reasons)? (b) Why did the *Torah*: (1) prohibit using metal instruments to shape the *mizbeich's* stones? (2) command that the *mizbeich's* ramp may not have steps resulting in the immodesty of separating one's legs by climbing steps, when the *kohanim* who ascended to the *mizbeich* had to wear pants to protect their modesty (2 reasons)? (*Shemot* 20:20-23)
7. In the *haftara*, when the angels proclaim "*kadosh, kadosh, kadosh Hashem*" (*Hashem* is holy, holy, holy), why do they say "*kadosh*" three times? (*Yeshayahu* 6:3)

## 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*: 8:00 P.M. at Keter Torah.

### Sunday

· On Sunday, February 7, 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 David Lebor** and **Mrs. Atara Eis**. 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, February 7, 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 Yitzchak Etshalom** and **Rabbi Shalom Rosner**. 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.kollelyomrishon.org](http://www.kollelyomrishon.org) or call (212) 960-0041.

· The **Chofetz Chaim Women's Learning Group** will meet this Sunday, February 7th, at the Rita Rivka Lewy, 138 Grayson Place.

### 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 11th, 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 Metzia*, 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) (i) The splitting of *Yam Suf* and (ii) the defeat of Amalek (*Rashi*). (2) The splitting of *Yam Suf* could be interpreted as Pharaoh's punishment for defying Hashem, rather than a benefit for *Bnei Yisrael*; the defeat of Amalek was clearly for *Bnei Yisrael's* benefit (*Ohr ha-Chaim*). (b) (1) (i) Before *Matan Torah*; (ii) after *Matan Torah* (*Ramban*). (2) On the day after *Yom Kippur*, when he brought down the second *luchot* (*Rashi*). (3) (i) *Anshei chayil* are wealthy and do not need to flatter others or play favorites (*Rashi*). (ii) *Yirei Elokim* are not afraid of other people (*ibn Ezra*). (iii) *Anshei emet* inspire confidence that their word is reliable (*Rashi*). (iv) *Sonei batza* promote fairness because they spurn improperly obtained money (*Ramban*).
- (a) *Moshe* spoke first to the women, whom the *Torah* calls *Beit Ya'akov*, then to the men, called *Bnei Yisrael* (*Rashi*). (b) (1) Since women are obligated in *mitzvot* at age 12, a year before men, *Moshe* prepared them first for accepting the *mitzvot*; (2) since mothers at home are the primary transmitters of *mitzvot* to children, they came first; (3) when Hashem conveyed the first *mitzvah* to Adam, but not to Chava, she sinned; Hashem wanted women to know that their observance is no less important than men's; (4) *Moshe* wanted the women to accept the *Torah* first so they could not claim that they accepted the *Torah* only to satisfy their husbands; therefore, they would receive the same punishment as men for violations of the *Torah*; (5) women were honored first because *Bnei Yisrael* were redeemed from *Mitzrayim* in the merit of righteous women (*Shemot Raba*).
- (a) (1) When *Bnei Yisrael* received the *Torah*, they were on such a high spiritual level that they were all worthy of partaking of *korbanot* like *kohanim*; after the *cheit ha-eigel*, this privilege was withdrawn, except from *Sheivet Levi*, who did not commit this sin; (2) Hashem wanted *Bnei Yisrael's* role as *kohanim* to be aloof from other nations' repulsive practices (*Mechilta*). (3) A role of a *kohen* is to teach the words of Hashem to others; all of *Bnei Yisrael* are destined to teach all mankind to recognize and serve Hashem (*Sforno*). (b) To: (1) teach that a messenger sent to get a response should transmit the response to the sender, even if the sender already knows the answer (*Rashi*). (2) praise *Bnei Yisrael* for accepting everything (*Ohr ha-Chaim*).
- (a) 620 letters, signifying that the *Aseret ha-Dibrot* represent the essence of the *Torah's* 613 *mitzvot* and 7 *mitzvot de-rabannan* (*Mechilta*). (b) 14; (c) (1) To believe in Hashem's existence; not to: (2) believe in any divinity except Hashem, (3) make a graven image, (4) bow down in idol worship, (5) worship an idol in any other customary way, (6) swear in vain; (7) to sanctify the *Shabbat*; (8) not to work on *Shabbat*; (9) to honor one's parents; not to: (10) murder an innocent person, (11) commit adultery, (12) kidnap, (13) bear false witness, (14) covet what belongs to another (*Sefer ha-Chinuch, Mitzvot* 25-38). (d) (1) *Bnei Yisrael* heard all of the *Aseret ha-Dibrot* from Hashem in one utterance (*Rashi*). (2) *Bnei Yisrael* heard the first and second *dibrot* directly from Hashem and the other eight from *Moshe* (*Makkot 24a*).
- (a) Swearing that: (1) something known is not so, e.g., that a marble pillar is made of gold; (2) something known is so, e.g., that a stone is a stone; (3) he will violate a *mitzvah*; (4) he will do something that he does not have the power or strength to do, e.g., he will not sleep for 3 days in a row (*Sefer ha-Chinuch, Mitzvah* 30). (b) The *Torah* requires that parents ensure that their minor children, who are not yet obligated to observe *mitzvot*, do not violate *Shabbat* (*Rashi*). (c) People have a greater desire to drink rather than eat when *Shabbat* leaves, having already had a large meal during the day in honor of *Shabbat* (*Mitzvah* 31). (d) (1) A child will be unable to fulfill the *mitzvah* of honoring his/her father, if he/she does not know who he is; (2) a person will be unable to avoid prohibited intimacy with a sibling or other relative because he will not be sure who they are; (3) it constitutes *gezeila* (theft) of a man's relationship with his wife; (4) it leads to jealousy which can result in murder (*Mitzvah* 35). (e) (1) Coveting someone else's possession may cause us to stop at nothing to obtain it, including theft and murder (*Mitzvah* 38). (2) When we recognize that a possession is not available to us because Hashem has granted it to another person, we demonstrate our faith in Hashem by not desiring it (*ibn Ezra*).
- (a) This verse prohibits: (1) making images of angels or other heavenly beings; (2) making an image of Hashem and worshipping it; (3) cursing Hashem when something bad happens, as people do with idols – we must praise Him for the good and the bad (*Mechilta*); (4) appointing judges (termed "elohim") who pay for their appointment with gold or silver (*Sanhedrin* 7b); (5) creating an intermediary between Hashem and man (*Sefer ha-Ikarim*). (6) making an image, not for worship, but only as an ornament (*Sefer ha-Chinuch, Mitzvah* 39). (b) (1) Since the *mizbeiach's* purpose is to grant forgiveness of sins and blessings of peace, metal, which is used to fashion weapons of destruction, was inappropriate in its construction (*Mitzvah* 40). (2) (i) Although there would be no actual immodesty in using steps, even the appearance of immodesty had to be avoided (*Rashi*). (ii) If we have to be concerned about "shaming" stones, we must certainly avoid shaming people (*Mitzvah* 41).
- They declare that Hashem is: (a) *kadosh* in the high heavens above; (b) *kadosh* on the earth; and (c) *kadosh* forever and to all eternity (*Targum Yonatan*).