



CONGREGATION TORAS CHAIM

Vibrant, Relevant, Meaningful . . . and Orthodox

June 4-5, 2010 ▪ 23 Sivan, 5770 ▪ Shabbos Parshas Shelach
Candlelighting: (See below) ▪ Shabbos Ends 9:17 PM

Kiddush is sponsored by the shul. Shalosh Seudos is sponsored anonymously.

Please contact Rabbi Yaakov Rich at 972-835-6016 if you are interested in sponsoring kiddush or shalosh seudos in the future.

■ SHABBOS SCHEDULE:

June 4th

- » Mincha/Kabbalos Shabbos/Maariv-7:00 PM
- » Candlelighting-Preferably light by 7:25 PM. In case of great need on may rely on 8:14 PM candlelighting time.

June 5th

- » Shacharis (followed by Kiddush)-8:30 AM
- » Childcare Begins-10:00 AM
- » Last Time for Childcare Drop-off-10:20 AM
- » Chumash Shiur (for men & women)-6:45 PM
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■ WEEKDAY SCHEDULE:

- » Sunday Shacharis-8:00 AM
- » Weekday Shacharis-6:40 AM
- » Mincha/Maariv-8:15 PM

■ WHAT'S NU AT CTC

- » **Special Lecture for Men & Women: Korach's Coalition & the Cohen's Cane (Monday, June 7, 8 PM at Congregation Toras Chaim by Rabbi Yaakov Moshe Poupko: Mincha will be 7:45 PM. Maariv immediately after the lecture.)** Rabbi Yaakov Moshe Poupko was ordained by Yeshivath Ner Israel where he earned his Master's Degree in Talmudic Law in 1969. He continued his post-semicha studies in the famed "Kodshim Chabura" of Beth Midrash Govoha of Lakewood where he held a select graduate instructorship in Jewish philosophy. He founded the Talmudic College of Florida and served as its associate dean until his aliya in 1977. In Israel he served as dean of Yeshivat Ohr Torah in Efrat. In 1986 Rabbi Poupko founded Kneseth Beth Eliezer, a yeshiva training students with a background in public and organizational life for the rabbinate and offering programs for laymen as well.
- » **Annual Shul Meeting:** Dear Members and Friends of CTC:

The past year was one of tremendous growth for the shul; we nearly doubled our membership, established classes and Gamara shiurim on nearly every day of the week, and created a building committee to begin the critical task of building a new building for the shul to take us into the future.

The purpose of this letter is to ask you to save Sunday, June 6, 4:00 PM, as the date for the annual CTC shul meeting. You will not want to miss this, as not only will we be electing and installing our new slate of shul leaders on the Executive and Advisory Boards, but I also plan to take this opportunity to reveal in detail to the members of the shul the plans for our building across the street from the current shul. The building committee had an exciting meeting last night with the architect who will be creating our initial floor plan drawings and schematics, and I look forward to sharing those with you at the annual meeting. And, I'm excited to say there will be some nice surprises about the building to reveal as well.

Back to the subject of the candidate slate we will be voting on: I'm pleased to announce that we have continued to develop new leaders in the shul, and that we have augmented our board with several new talented people to take us into 2011/2012. Continuing to serve on the executive board in the role of Immediate Past President is **Shalom Abrams**. Continuing to serve on the advisory board (their terms are not up until the summer of 2011) are **Ina Cohen** and **Abigail Ruttenberg**. **Rabbi Avi Bloomenstiel** and **David Wiseman** will also continue to serve as Appointed Advisers. I am also pleased to announce that we will be voting on two new members to join the Advisory Board: **Rina Esther Teitlebaum** and **Ben Nise**, as well as the return of **Shelly Newman** and

Ellen Gutgold to serve out new 2 year terms.

In addition to the Advisory Board candidates listed above, I am thrilled to announce the nomination of the newest addition to the Executive Board, **David Lipsitz**, who will be moving from the Advisory Board to the Executive Board in the critical role of shul Treasurer. David brings to the Executive Board strong accounting skills and an even stronger commitment to the success of the shul. Listed below is the new Executive Board and Advisory candidate slate we will be voting on at the annual meeting:

Executive Board Candidates

- President: Wes Sutkin
- Vice President: Yehudah Palmer
- Treasurer: David Lipsitz
- Secretary: Ken Jarmel

Advisory Board Candidates

- Ellen Gutgold
- Shelly Newman
- Ben Nise
- Rina Esther Teitlebaum

In preparation for the annual meeting on June 6th, please be sure your membership is in good standing. If you have any questions or would like to make special arrangements, feel free to call me at 972-267-4747. CTC has exciting times ahead, and with Hashem's help, we look forward to davening in a new building in the near future and to seeing continued growth for the shul.

Best Regards, Wes Sutkin, CTC President

- » **CTC Kids: Children's Program & Childcare:** Thanks to the efforts of our dedicated mothers and teenage girls, Congregation Toras Chaim is very proud to announce its New and Very Improved CTC Kids: Children's Program & Childcare for Shabbos morning. Beginning, this Shabbos at 10 AM boys and girls, ages 3-7, are invited to spend some time playing in our brand new childcare facility, fully stocked with table and chairs, tea sets, hopscotch, and an outdoor camping tent for real fun, and much, much more! At 10:15 AM, the teenage girls will begin to daven with the children, read them a story, learn about the parsha, and play an educational game with all present, ending at 10:55 AM, just in time for the start of kiddush. There is no cost for the Children's Program and all are welcome if you plan on staying in the building during the session. We do ask that the following rules be observed: 1. Parents, please be responsible for your own children's behavior. Children who cannot or will not follow the rules will be asked to leave the room. 2. Children will be gladly admitted to the room between 10:00-10:20 AM. Past 10:20 AM parents are kindly asked not to drop off children as it is very distracting to the successful running of the program. If you have young ones below the age of three, our other childcare room is available at the back right of the building, where mothers can sit with other mothers while the toddlers quietly play. Drop off your children, focus on davening, and enjoy a sumptuous kiddush after all is said and done. Shabbos at Congregation Toras Chaim couldn't be better! For more information please contact Vivian Block at (214) 564-4357.
- » **Tupperware Fundraiser:** Now's the time to order Tupperware online to support Congregation Toras Chaim. Just click on the link and you can view all the fundraising products available. And don't forget to forward the link to friends and family. This is a great way to enjoy the benefits of Tupperware while benefitting CTC. You can also order from the order forms available at Toras Chaim. If you have any questions please contact Lisa Rothstein 972-407-0305 or lisa@rothsteinfamily.net.
- » **Free Classifieds at CTC:** Congregation Toras Chaim provides

FREE CLASSIFIED ADS for its members and friends, (and anyone else who wants to place an ad — all ads are moderated by the shul) for cars, jobs, real estate, and everything and anything else you may want to buy and sell. Find what you are looking for . . . or create your own ad – FOR FREE! Go to <http://www.toraschaimdallas.org/classifieds/>

■ REFUAH SHELAIMA

- » Dina bas Chava (Friend of Josh Mann)
- » Baruch Tzadik ben Chava (Relative of Jill Lichtenstein)
- » Leib ben Basha Gittel (Relative of Jill Lichtenstein)
- » Michoel ben Esther (Uncle of Shelly Newman)
- » Eliyahu Heschel ben Sharon (Friend of Ben & Lauren Nise)
- » Michoel Yaakov ben Yosefa Israeleta (Friend of Wes & Tricia Sutkin)
- » Peretz Yaakov HaLevi ben Chana Yaffa (Nephew of Josh & Lisa Rothstein)

■ RECOLLECTION AND RECOGNITION

For \$18 you can sponsor a greeting in memory of a loved one, in honor of a deserving friend or family member, or in recognition of an outstanding achievement. Please call Rabbi Rich at 972-835-6016 by Thursday afternoon to place your greeting.

■ A COMMON THREAD: BY RABBI LABEL LAM

But the men who ascended with them said, “We cannot ascend to that people for it is too strong for us!” They brought forth to the Children of Israel an evil report on the Land that they had spied out, saying, “The Land through which we have passed to spy it out, is a Land that devours its inhabitants! All the people we saw in it were huge! There we saw the Nephilim, the sons of the giant from among the Nephilim; we were like grasshoppers in our eyes, and so we were in their eyes!” (Bamidbar 13:31-33)

What does it say about the spies that they included in their report that they felt- “like grasshoppers” in “their own eyes” and in “their eyes”? What type of subjective evidence is this? How do they know how they are perceived in the eyes of the inhabitants? What does it matter? What was their tragic flaw? Maybe we can determine from the cure, from the medicine prescribed at the very end of the Parsha what was the fault, the disease at the beginning.

HASHEM said to Moshe saying: “Speak to the Children of Israel and say to them that they shall make for themselves Tzitzis on the corners of their garments, throughout their generations. And they shall place upon the Tzitzis of each corner a thread of turquoise wool. It shall constitute Tzitzis for you that you may see it and remember all the Commandments of HASHEM and perform them; and not explore after your heart and after your eyes after which you stray. So you may remember and perform all My Commandments, and be holy to your G-d. I am HASHEM your G-d, who has removed you from the Land of Egypt to be a G-d unto you; I am HASHEM. (Bamidbar 14:37-40)

It seems, the remedy involves “seeing” or “perceiving” differently. That’s the part of the psyche that needs continuous prompting. Tzitzis are for all generations and for some reason are meant to remind of HASHEM’s Mitzvos and that we were taken from Egypt!

This past Shevuos at a hotel program there was a symposium about “Jewish Outreach”, and the floor was open for questions. A fine gentleman raised his hand and asked the ensemble of Rabbis in the front of the auditorium, “While walking home from Shul on Shabbos I

sometimes see a Jewish neighbor who is involved in a garage sale. He’s not doing anything related to Shabbos. What should I do Rabbis? Should I wish him a “good Shabbos” or just leave him be and walk on by?”

The Rabbis exchanged glances until one felt compelled to answer. He cleared his throat and hesitatingly said, “Let me tell you a story! A few years back I was walking in Kew Gardens in Queens on Shabbos on my way to Shul when my eyes met a man in a cherry picker high up amongst the wires doing his work. I said to him, “good Shabbos” and a conversation ensued. Since then we have become the best of friends. He became Shomer Shabbos and now his entire family is involved in the learning and teaching of Torah.” The Rabbi stopped abruptly, “That’s all I’m gonna say!” The answer was clear and definitive and the audience was sufficiently impressed with the possibilities in simply wishing someone a friendly “good Shabbos”, but that’s not the end of the story.

Later this Rabbi who gave the answer came over and told me an amazing and curious piece of information. The fellow who asked that question was the man in the cherry picker. Amazing! How can someone forget a true historical fact like that?

The Torah tells us the very same thing, so to speak, “Don’t worry about managing results! Honor the process! That’s the nature of partnerships- being to you a G-d. You remember to do all the Mitzvos- what you are Commanded to do, and remember daily I took you out of Egypt. You stay focused on your job and I’ll do Mine. That just may be the common thread!

■ PARSHA Q&A: PARSHAS SHELACH QUESTIONS

1. Why is the portion about the spies written immediately after the portion about Miriam’s tzara’at?
2. To what was Moshe referring when he asked the spies “Are there trees in the Land”?
3. Who built Hebron?
4. Which fruits did the meraglim bring back?
5. How many people carried the grape cluster?
6. Why did G-d shorten the meraglim’s journey?
7. Why did the meraglim begin by saying the land is “flowing with milk and honey”?
8. Why did the meraglim list Amalek first among the hostile nations they encountered?
9. How did Calev quiet the people?
10. Why did the Land appear to “eat its inhabitants”?

ANSWERS

1. 13:2 - To show the evil of the meraglim (spies), that they saw Miriam punished for lashon hara (negative speech) yet failed to take a lesson from it.
2. 13:20 - Were there any righteous people in the land whose merit would “shade” the Canaanites from attack?
3. 13:22 - Cham.
4. 13:23 - A cluster of grapes, a pomegranate and a fig.
5. 13:23 - Eight.
6. 13:25 - G-d knew the Jews would sin and be punished with a year’s wandering for each day of the spies’ mission. So He shortened the journey to soften the decree.
7. 13:27 - Any lie which doesn’t start with an element of truth won’t be believed. Therefore, they began their false report with a true statement.
8. 13:29 - To frighten the Jews. The Jewish People were afraid of Amalek because Amalek had once attacked them.
9. 13:30 - He fooled them by shouting, “Is this all that the son of Amram did to us?” The people quieted themselves to hear what disparaging thing Calev wished to say about the “son of Amram” (Moshe).
10. 13:32 - G-d caused many deaths among the Canaanites so they would be preoccupied with burying their dead and not notice the meraglim.

Good Shabbos

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■ WEEKLY CLASSES

- » **Amud Yomi:** Gemara for men with Rabbi Yaakov Rich (M-Fr, 6-6:35 AM)
- » **Talmud for Beginners** for men with Rabbi Yaakov Rich (Mon. & Thurs. 8:30-9:30 PM)
- » **The Power Potential/Jewish Marriage** for women with Rebbetzin Susan Rich (Tuesday 8:30-9:30 PM)
- » **Jewish Marriage** for men with Rabbi Yaakov Rich (Wednesday 8:30-9 :30 PM)
- » **Chumash for Men and Women** (Shabbos one hour before Mincha)
- » **Torah Today: Hashkafa and Halacha Unique to Our Times** for men and women with Rabbi Avraham Chaim Bloomenstiel (Sundays, 9 AM)

Unless otherwise noted, all classes are in the shul.