

CONGREGATION TORAS CHAIM

Toras Chaim means a Torah of life and a living Torah, a Torah which permeates every part of our existence, and is relevant to all that we do. It is vibrant, exciting and meaningful. The goal of Congregation Toras Chaim is to create a center for Jewish living that is built on these principles.

JUNE 20-21, 2008 · 18 SIVAN, 5768 · SHABBOS PARSHAS SHELACH
CANDLELIGHTING 8:20 PM (NOT BEFORE 7:08 PM) · SHABBOS ENDS 9:23 PM

Kiddush this Shabbos is sponsored by Rabbi Yaakov Rich in honor of his wife, Susan, who just completed an outstanding year as the new assistant principal at Mesorah High School for Girls. Shalosh Seudos is sponsored by Bruce & Ilaina Dunn in memory of Ilaina's father, Moshe Shlomo Figlin, whose yahrtzeit was last Shabbos.

Please contact Shalom Abrams at 903-918-9650 if you are interested in sponsoring kiddush or shalosh seudos in the future.

■ SHABBOS SCHEDULE:

June 20th

- » Candlelighting–8:20 PM (Not before 7:08 PM, Preferably with the shul by 7:25)
- » Mincha/Kabbalos Shabbos–7:00 PM

June 21st

- » Shacharis (followed by Kiddush)–8:30 AM
- » Chumash Shiur (for men & women)–6:55 PM
- » Mincha/Shalosh Seudos–7:55 PM
- » Shabbos Ends–9:23 PM

■ WEEKDAY SCHEDULE:

- » Sunday Shacharis–8:00 AM
- » Weekday Shacharis–6:40 AM
- » Mincha/Maariv–8:25 PM

■ WHAT’S NU AT CTC

- » **Welcome To The Neighborhood:** Welcome to Dr. Moshe and Leah Feldhandler, who just moved into to the north eruv.
- » **On Vacation:** Please note: Rabbi Rich will be on vacation from July 7 through July 23, 2008. All classes will be cancelled during that time period. In case of great need you may contact Rabbi Rich at 972-835-6016.
- » **Our Deepest Condolences:** We are sad to inform the congregation about the passing of Lea Rae Elewitz’s mother in Houston, TX. Lea Rae is sitting shiva at her home, 6630 Hyacinth Lane, Dallas 75252. May the Elewitz family be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.
- » **Our Deepest Condolences:** We are sad to inform the congregation about the passing of the father of Jeff Burstein. Jeff completed his shiva with his siblings in New York, and is currently attending our daily minyan, leading services and saying kaddish. May the Burstein family be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.
- » **Aishes Chayil Dessert Reception:** Mesorah High School for Girls invites you to a dessert reception honoring Women Who Make Us Great on June 22, at 8 p.m., Congregation Ohr HaTorah, 6324 Churchill Way. **Special Tribute Honorees:** *Devora Herskovits, Ann Margolin, Gussie Rosenberg, Rachel Leah Rosenberg, Roni Rothstein, and Devorah Zakon.* If you would like to honor one of the tribute honorees or a woman or women who have made your life special, please submit your sponsorship. With your generous contribution, you will support our future, as this event is one of the two major fundraisers for Mesorah. **Tickets:** \$36 per person (event for men and women) **Levels of Sponsorship:** Diamond (\$5000) / Platinum (\$1800) / Gold (\$1000) / Silver (\$500) / Bronze (\$360) Copper (\$180). Honoree sponsorship includes two dessert reception tickets for pick up at the door the evening of the event. Please help us honor the accomplished women who have changed our lives. By doing so, you will support our future.

■ AHAVAS CHESED (LOVING KINDNESS) BY THE CHOFETZ CHAIM:

There are kind-hearted, generous people who are perfectly happy to share their wealth. They are not prepared, however, to invest it in chesed. The money is not the issue; their obstacle is the effort involved in making the loan, arranging repayment terms and collecting the money.

Such people consider themselves far too busy to be occupied with such matters – or any religious obligation that threatens to usurp productive time. Yet such people do not expressly state, “I will never loan money to a needy person.” Instead, they tell themselves, “Next

time around, I’ll help out. There’s no time for it right now. I’m in the middle of a busy period.” The concept of “tomorrow” is what preserves their self-image as righteous men; they feel like doers, even as they sit back and do nothing. The tomorrows mount, until at last they run out. In the end, all that remains is a swath of empty yesterdays.

Time and time again, the Torah emphasizes the concept of acting today, now. “And now, Israel, what does Hashem your G-d ask of you?” (Devarim 10:12). “Now,” the Chofetz Chaim observes, “is the relevant word. What one does for Hashem, one must do at the earliest possible moment. “This day, Hashem you G-d commands you to perform His laws and statutes,” says the Torah (Devarim 26:16). The present is the only relevant moment, the Sages teach, because the future is never certain.

To comprehend the urgency of acting today on whatever can be accomplished today, one must understand that the entire world depends upon it. Hashem places before each person the tasks that only that person can accomplish. Each person is required to look at the situation before him and ask himself, “What does Hashem ask of me?” The answer that he perceives must then become, in his mind, the only task in the universe that commands his effort at that moment. The inclination to see service to Hashem as a futile, intractable burden is then defeated. He has only this one deed to perform – whether it is to learn Torah, to pray, to help another person, to earn money for his family, to say a word of encouragement – and only he can perform it, for it lies before him alone.

In the prayer “Shema Yisroel,” one says the words: “And these things which I command you this day.” Every day, the small things Hashem command each Jew, individually, are arrayed before him. Each person has his own private commandments assigned to him on “this day.” They are his, and his alone.

From the Appel Edition: Chofetz Chaim Loving Kindness by ArtScroll

■ 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 972-248-1324 by Thursday afternoon to place your greeting.

- » In loving memory of Lea Rae Elewitz’s mother.
Josh & Lisa Rothstein

■ ONGOING CLASSES

The Kosher Kitchen: Tuesday, 8:45-9:30 PM

The Kosher Kitchen is a course designed to help in the intricacies of what goes into the making and upkeep of a kosher kitchen. This course is for you, whether you do, or don’t, have a background in kosher living. Topics to be covered include: Koshering Treif Utensils, Koshering Ovens, Sinks, Appliances and Tabletops, Tevilas Kalim, Pas Akum / Pas Palter, Bishul Akum / Maids, Introd. to Mixtures of Meat and Milk / Types of Cooking / Chanukah candles, Maris Ayin / Pareve Eggs/ Cheese / Gelatin, Serving Meat and Milk/ Waiting Between Meat and Milk, Eating on non-Kosher plates / non-Kosher Restaurant, Food Flying Around the Kitchen, Splashes During Cooking, Using the Wrong Spoon at the Wrong Time, Separating Meat and Milk, Washing Dishes/ Dishwasher Problems

Path of the Just: Wednesday, 8:45-9:30 PM

Rabbi Moshe Chaim Luzzato, better known as the RaMCHaL, authored a book on spiritual and character development that is widely considered to be the quintessential book of its kind. In fact, the Vilna Gaon said of himself that he would crawl across

Europe to learn in the dust of the RaMCHaL's feet. Spend an hour each week with Rabbi Yaakov Rich, developing a Torah approach to personal growth using the ultimate self-help book. Discover qualities and potential you never knew you had, as you climb the ladder toward spiritual greatness. There is no cost for the class, but participants will need to purchase a copy of Path of the Just, which is available by Feldheim in Hebrew with an English translation. Books are available for purchase from Lone Star Judaica, at the corner of Hillcrest and Frankford. This class is for men and women, from beginner to advanced. The class is taught every Wednesday, 8 PM at Congregation Toras Chaim, 17912 Hillcrest Rd., Dallas, TX 75252.

Women's Chumash: Sunday, 8:45-9:45 PM

There is no cost. All Hebrew is read from the original source and translated. Various commentaries are presented, primarily Rashi's, and a lively discussion ensues, as we try to understand the profundity of the text. For women beginner to advanced. Please bring a chumash that contains at least the text of Shemos (Exodus) preferably with Rashi's commentary.

■ PARSHA Q&A: PARSHAS BECHUKOSAI

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"?
11. Besides the incident of the meraglim, what other sin led to the decree of 40 years in the desert?
12. On what day did Bnei Yisrael cry due to the meraglim's report? How did this affect future generations?
13. "Don't fear the people of the land...their defense is departed." (14:9) Who was their chief "defender"?
14. Calev and Yehoshua praised Eretz Canaan and tried to assure the people that they could be victorious. How did the people respond?
15. "How long shall I bear this evil congregation?" G-d is referring to the 10 meraglim who slandered the Land. What halacha do we learn from this verse?
16. How is the mitzvah of challa different from other mitzvot associated with Eretz Yisrael?
17. What is the minimum amount of challa to be given to a kohen according to Torah Law? Rabbinic Law?

18. Verse 15:22 refers to what sin? How does the text indicate this?
19. Moshe's doubt regarding the punishment of the mekoshesh etzim (wood-gatherer) was different than his doubt regarding the punishment of the blasphemer. How did it differ?
20. How do the tzitzit remind us of the 613 commandments?

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.
11. 13:33 - The golden calf.
12. 14:1 - The 9th of Av (Tisha B'av). This date therefore became a day of crying for all future generations: Both Temples were destroyed on this date.
13. 14:9 - Iyov.
14. 14:10 - They wanted to stone them.
15. 14:27 - That ten men are considered a congregation.
16. 15:18 - The obligation to observe other mitzvot associated with Eretz Yisrael began only after the possession and division of the Land. The mitzvah of challa was obligatory immediately upon entering the Land.
17. 15:20 - No fixed amount is stated by the Torah. Rabbinic Law requires a household to give 1/24 and a baker to give 1/48.
18. 15:22 - Idolatry. "All these commandments" means one transgression which is equal to transgressing all the commandments - i.e., idolatry.
19. 15:34 - Moshe knew that the mekoshesh etzim was liable for the death penalty, but not which specific means of death. Regarding the blasphemer, Moshe didn't know if he was liable for the death penalty.
20. 15:39 - The numerical value of the word tzitzit is 600. Tzitzit have eight threads and five knots. Add these numbers and you get 613.

Good Shabbos

SHABBOS TEFILLAH TIMES

- » Friday, June 20th
- » Candlelighting—8:20 PM (Not before 7:08 PM, should preferably light with shul before 7:25 PM)
- » Mincha / Kabbalos Shabbos—7:00 PM
- » Shabbos, June 21st
- » Shacharis—8:30 AM
- » Chumash Class (men & women)—6:55 PM
- » Mincha / Shalosh Seudos—7:55 PM / Sunset—8:38 PM
- » Maariv / Shabbos Ends—9:23 PM

WEEKLY TEFILLAH TIMES (for the week beginning June 22, 2008)

- » Sunday Shacharis—8:00 AM
- » Weekday Shacharis—6:40 AM

- » Mincha/Maariv—8:25 PM

WEEKLY CLASSES

- » **Amud Yomi: Gemara** for men with Rabbi Yaakov Rich (M-Fr, 6-6:35 AM)
- » **Chumash** for women with Rabbi Yaakov Rich (Sunday 8:45-9:30 PM)
- » **Kosher Kitchen** for men and women with Rabbi Yaakov Rich (Tuesday 8:45-9:30 PM)
- » **Path of the Just** for men and women with Rabbi Yaakov Rich (Wednesday 8:45-9:30 PM)
- » **Chumash** for men and women (Shabbos one hour before Mincha)

Unless otherwise noted, all classes are in the shul.