

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.

AUGUST 29-30, 2008 · 29 MENACHEM AV, 5768 · SHABBOS PARSHAS RE'EH
CANDLELIGHTING 7:36 PM · SHABBOS ENDS 8:37 PM

Kiddush this Shabbos is sponsored by Yoni and Abigail Ruttenberg in honor of our nephew and cousin Max's first visit to Dallas. Shalosh Seudos is sponsored by Shelly Newman in honor of Rabbi Rich and our community, and as a "Tzeischem L'Shalom" to Nava who will be travelling to Israel for a year of Torah study, B"H. Please contact Shalom Abrams at 903-918-9650 if you are interested in sponsoring kiddush or shalosh seudos in the future.

■ **SHABBOS SCHEDULE:**

August 29th

- » Candlelighting–7:36 PM (Preferably with the shul by 7:25)
- » Mincha/Kabbalos Shabbos–7:00 PM

August 30th

- » Shacharis (followed by Kiddush)–8:30 AM
- » Chumash Shiur (for men & women)–6:05 PM
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■ **WEEKDAY SCHEDULE:**

- » Sunday Shacharis (Rosh Chodesh Elul)–8:00 AM
- » Monday Shacharis (Rosh Chodesh Elul & Legal Holiday)–8:00 AM
- » Weekday Shacharis–6:40 AM
- » Mincha/Maariv–7:35 PM

■ **WHAT’S NU AT CTC**

- » **High Holidays, Seats and Child Care:** Rosh Hashana and Yom HaKippurim will, please G-d, be very uplifting. The shul has two exceptional chazzanim joining us—one from Israel and one from Lakewood, NJ—for Rosh Hashana and spending the entire ten days, through Yom HaKippurim, with us. They are not charging the shul a fee. Rather they are offering to lead our services out of their desire to daven with a young, growing, energized congregation. We are very grateful to Rabbi Moshe Kranz and Rabbi Tzvi Teitelbaum for their services. We want everyone to feel that davening at CTC is comfortable and affordable. We expect many people to be joining us for the High Holidays, and therefore, we have decided to rent space at Torah Day School of Dallas for our services. Child care, however, will still be at the shul, which is only one block from TDSD. The shul leadership has set the following prices for High Holiday seats (includes Rosh Hashana and Yom Hakippurim):

- Early Bird Price: \$150/seat (tickets paid for by August 31, 2008)
- Regular Price: \$175/seat (tickets paid for by Rosh Hashana)
- Child Care Price: \$20/day/child

You may pay by check, made out to Congregation Toras Chaim, or use the online payment interface. Please indicate in the “Special Instruction” box how many men and women’s seats are being purchased, and how many children are being registered for child care. We wish everyone a happy, healthy, sweet new year, filled with growth in all areas of one’s relationship with Hashem.

- » **Mazel Tov to our new officers & board members:** Mazel Tov to the shul and the following members, who were unanimously elected at the second congregational meeting, this past Sunday, to serve on the CTC Executive and Advisory boards.

Executive Board

- President – Wes Sutkin
- Vice President/Secretary – Etienne Quillon
- Treasurer – Larry Elewitz
- Past President - Shalom Abrams

Advisory Board

- Ellen Gutgold
- Shelly Newman
- Tamar Reynolds
- Lauren Lucks
- Eliot Litoff
- Abigail Ruttenberg
- Gavin Kam

- » **Exciting Childcare Announcement:** Beginning this Shabbos, Parshas Re’eh, August 30, 2008 childcare will be provided for infants through 8 year olds.
 - Starting at 10:00 AM, Arielle Newman will watch the infants

through 2 year olds in the playroom with the toys.

- Ages 3-5 will be with Sarah Chava Reynolds in the room to the right of the front door.
- 6-8 year olds will be with Hadassah Reynolds and Rachel Abrams in the room to the left of the front door.

Groups will include davening, Parsha, games, going to the park (with parental permission), and a treat. If your child would like to bring a Torah book to share, that would be welcomed. We respectfully request that all children over 8 be with their parents, and not disturb groups, and that children in groups understand that they must stay in groups until shul is over at around 11 AM. We look forward to seeing you and your children in shul this Shabbos. For information, please contact Tricia Sutkin at (972) 267-4747.

- » **Premium Kosher Meat for Rosh Hoshana:** (There will not be another meat sale before Succos) Congregation Toras Chaim is offering, as a service to the Dallas Jewish community, a limited selection of quality kosher beef produced by A. D. Rosenblatt Glatt Kosher Meat. These larger cuts are being bought at reduced prices with the savings being passed on to our Jewish friends and families.

Order Deadline and Pickup

Pickup is at Congregation Toras Chaim, 17912 Hillcrest Rd., Dallas, TX 75252, on Sunday, September 14, 2008 at 10:30 PM AM. Orders must be received no later than Monday, September 8, 2008 at 12 PM. All selections will show as “Free” on the order form to save you from paying online costs. Please pay by cash or check when picking up order. All weights are only approximations. For more information call Shalom Abrams at 903-918-9650.

Cuts for Sale

- Shoulder Roast (netted) \$6.25 per pound / 8 pound piece
- Whole Trimmed Brisket \$6.50 per pound / 10 pound piece
- Minute Roast \$7.50 per pound / 8 pounds (twin 4 lb packages)
- Boneless Chuck \$5.50 per pound / 25 pound piece 28 tickets
- Rib Eye Roast (netted) \$ 10.50 per pound / 13 pound piece
- Shank Meat (for stew) \$ 4.50 per pound / 15 pound piece
- Rib Eye Roast (bone-in) \$ 7.75 per pound / 16 pound piece
- Ribs \$7.00 per pound / 10 pound bags 26 tickets
- Tongue (very limited quantity) \$8.00 per pound / 2 Tongues per package 6 tickets
- Kobe Brisket (Special Order - Please call Shalom Abrams at 903-918-9650 for pricing)

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

Life is not as fleeting as one may imagine, for the needs of each day live on in eternity. It is in each person’s hands to define the eternity in which he, and his deeds, will live. The Chofetz Chaim turns to the Zohar to explain how every person must account for his usage of the days he was allotted. Each day testifies, as if to say,” this is how you used me.” Heaven records a person’s every activity, and the recording for ever plays and replays a day that the person thought was long forgotten. Each day one lives is a spiritual, eternal reality, the creation of one’s own hands, heart and mind. No day is insignificant.

How does one live a worthwhile day? The Chofetz Chaim prescribes a substantial amount of Torah study, for this leads to love of Hashem and fulfillment of His commandments. It inculcates a person with an awe of Hashem which inspires him to do all that is within his ability to emulate His ways. This leads naturally to an active form of goodness, a desire to find ways to help others. To the person whose days are rooted in Torah and chesed, Hashem

promises,” your light will shine even in the darkness, and your deepest gloom will be like the noon.” (Isaiah 58:10)

When the Sages discuss what is required to reach the loftiest levels of spirituality, they speak of one who is an “osek” in Torah and kind acts. The word osek denotes a commitment far stronger than simply learning Torah and performing deeds of kindness. It denotes someone to whom these activities are life’s enterprise. Just as one would put all the time and effort possible into running a business, one who is osek in chesed stretches himself to the limits of his ability to help others. To him, chesed provides the greatest satisfaction, the greatest joy in life.

The Chofetz Chaim expounds on this concept because, he says, many people erroneously believe that the obligation of chesed can be fulfilled on a once in a while basis. They believe that, if they loaned somebody money yesterday, they do not need to provide someone else a loan today. If they did their next door neighbor a favor last week, they are not expected to do him another favor this week. Such a philosophy misses the point. It fails to understand that chesed is not an episode; it is a perspective that informs every day of one’s life. Living with that perspective, one creates days that will bring joy and elation when they testify in Heaven.” This is how you used me.”

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.

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■ ONGOING CLASSES

Path of the Just: Wednesday, 8:30-9:30 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, 8:30-9:30 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 RE’EH

QUESTIONS

1. What were the sites designated for the “blessings and the curses” to be pronounced by the people?
2. On what condition will Bnei Yisrael receive the blessings from Hashem?
3. Why does the Torah use idolatry as an example when describing one who strays from the path that Hashem commanded?
4. What was to be the sign for the Jewish People that they would inherit the Land?
5. During the 14 years of the conquest and division of the Land, what types of offerings were permitted on private altars?
6. What must one do with consecrated animals that develop a blemish?
7. In what ways does a consecrated animal that develops a blemish retain a degree of kedusha (holiness) even after it has been redeemed?
8. Why was the tribe of Yehuda not permitted to conquer Jerusalem?
9. In consecutive verses, the Torah repeats the prohibition against eating blood. What two types of blood are referred to?
10. Why were the Jewish People allowed to see the extermination of the Canaanites?
11. What forms of idol worship are punishable by death?
12. If a person performs miracles in the name of Hashem and then says that the laws of the Torah have been revised, what is done to this person?
13. The Torah says, “to Him (Hashem) you shall cleave.” How does one fulfill this command?
14. The trial of a person accused of encouraging others to worship idols differs from the trial of other capital cases. How?
15. Who has the primary responsibility of inflicting the punishment on one who tried to entice others to worship idols?
16. What is the “source” of the Jewish People being an am kadosh (holy nation)?
17. How should the Jewish People maintain themselves as an am kadosh?
18. What is the order of priority regarding to whom one should give charity?
19. What mitzvah recalls the Exodus from Egypt?
20. Which four individuals are under Hashem’s “special protection”?

ANSWERS

1. 11:26 - Mt. Gerizim and Mt. Eval, respectively.
2. 11:27 - On condition that they listen to Hashem’s commandments.
3. 11:28 - Because those who worship idols are considered as if they have strayed from the entire Torah.
4. 11:31 - The miracles that would occur while crossing the Jordan River.
5. 12:8 - Vow offerings or free-will offerings.
6. 12:15 - They must be redeemed and may then be eaten.
7. 12:15 - Eating it is permitted, but use of its milk or fleece is forbidden.
8. 12:17 - When Avraham bought ma’arat hamachpelah, he made a covenant of peace with the Hittites who sold it. His descendants honored this pact regarding the Hittite descendants in Jerusalem.
9. 12:24-25 - Blood that seeps slowly from the incision as soon as the cut is made and again after it no longer gushes. Blood absorbed into the limbs of the animal.
10. 12:30 - To learn not to follow in their depraved ways.
11. 12:30 - Slaughtering or burning a sacrifice on an altar, pouring libations, prostrating oneself, and any normal manner of worshipping that idol.
12. 13:2-6 - He is put to death.
13. 13:5 - One should emulate Hashem’s actions by performing good deeds, assisting in burying the dead and visiting the sick.
14. 13:10 - If he was acquitted and new information of a condemning nature arises, he is retried. If he was judged guilty, he is not returned to court to plead in his favor.
15. 13:10 - The person whom the guilty one attempted to entice.
16. 14:2 - The kedusha is inherited from the avot.
17. 14:21 - By avoiding excesses even in permitted matters.
18. 15:7 - The most needy, a brother from one’s father, a brother from one’s mother, the poor of one’s city, the poor of another city.
19. 16:3 - Eating the korban pesach and the matzah on the night of Pesach.
20. 16:10 - A levi, convert, orphan, and widow.

Good Shabbos

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■ 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 8:30-9:30 PM)

» Path of the Just for men and women with Rabbi Yaakov Rich (Wednesday 8:30-9:30 PM)

» Chumash for men and women (Shabbos one hour before Mincha)

Unless otherwise noted, all classes are in the shul.

CONGREGATION TORAS CHAIM · RABBI YAAKOV RICH · 17912 HILLCREST RD., DALLAS, TX 75252 · 972-248-1324 · WWW.TORASCHAIMDALLAS.ORG