



CONGREGATION TORAS CHAIM

An intimate space...Grow at your pace.

January 29, 2016 ▪ 20 Shevat, 5776 ▪ Shabbos Yisro
Candlelighting: 5:39P ▪ Shabbos Ends 6:48P

Kiddush this Shabbos is sponsored by Eli Goldberg on the Yahrtzeit of his wife, Marlene Sandra Goldberg, A”H (Malka Shulamis bas Yoseif Yaakov). Shalosh Seudos this Shabbos is sponsored by the shul. Please contact Rabbi Yaakov Rich at 972-835-6016 if you are interested in sponsoring kiddush or shalosh seudos in the future.

■ SHABBOS SCHEDULE

Friday Night, January 29th

- » Mincha/Kabbalos Shabbos/Maariv-5:40P
- » Candlelighting-5:39P

Shabbos Day, January 30th

- » Shacharis-8:30A
- » Junior Congregation for boys in shul-9:30A
- » Mommy & Me Young Children’s Minyan-10:00A
- » Chumash Class for men & women -4:30P
- » Mincha/Shalosh Seudos for men in shul-5:30P
- » Shalosh Seudos for women & young children at the Rich home - 5:30P
- » Maariv/Shabbos Ends-6:48P
- » Avos U’Banim-8:00P

■ WEEKDAY SCHEDULE

- » Weekday Shacharis-6:40A
- » Mincha-6:00P / Maariv-9:00P (Sunday-Thursday)

■ REFUAH SHELAIMA

MEN

- » Yechiel Mordechai ben Devorah (Brother of Ken Jarmel)
- » Itai ben Shoshana (Son of Ehoud & Shoshana Wilson)
- » Mattisyahu Chaim ben Ettl (HaRav Mattisyahu Solomon)

WOMEN

- » Pesha Chaya bas Sora Feiga (Tricia Sutkin’s Aunt)
- » Leah Esther bas Yenta Leah (Lori Jarmel)
- » Yenta Leah bas Shayna (Mother of Lori Jarmel)

■ WHAT’S NU AT CTC

- » **Ongoing Lawsuit with City of Dallas:** In our ongoing, and we can now see the light at the end of the tunnel attempt to get our Certificate of Occupancy from the city, the shul will be undergoing many changes in the next couple of weeks. Everything we are doing is absolutely necessary, legal and under the advisement of our lawyers, well-considered, and actually huge upgrades in terms of safety, comfort and design from what we already have. Be at kiddush tomorrow to hear Rabbi Rich speak about what is going to be happening.
- » **Membership Renewal & Makov Kevuah Program:** Time to pledge our allegiance to the shul. Not just with words, but with dollars and cents. In addition, we have a very exciting program to announce that everyone will love. For men and women. Ben Nise will be speaking about this at kiddush tomorrow.
- » **Bnos Yisroel Melava Malka:** January 30, 2016 for girls ages 6-12, from 8-9 PM at the Rich home.
- » **CTC Boys Shabbos Gemara Shiur:** The CTC Boys Shabbos Gemara shiur, which takes place each Shabbos during kiddush, has now become an officially sanctioned National Pirchei Shiur. All boys who attend will be eligible to attend the annual Pirchei Siyum Mishnayos trip to Detroit, Chicago or Cleveland. Encourage your boys to attend the shiur so they can attend this amazing trip. They will need their own gemara Shabbos.

■ AUTHENTIC GOOSE BUMPS: RABBI LABEL LAM

And Moshe told his father-in-law all that HASHEM had done to Pharaoh and to the Egyptians for Israel’s sake, and all the hardship that had come upon them by the way, and how HASHEM saved them. And Yisro (vayiChad) rejoiced because of all the goodness which HASHEM had done to Israel, whom he had delivered from the hand of the Egyptians. (Shemos18:8-9)

Yisro had heard about all these events before! He responded to the events of the exodus and the war with Amalek. He heard what

millions others also knew about and he was uniquely responsive. He did something. He came to join the Jewish Nation. Now what is it that Moshe tells him that electrifies his reaction? He experiences goose bumps, as Rashi explains, accompanied by a sense of unification as the word “VayiChad” implies.

One of my teachers told us that there is a world of difference when one hears about events through general media as opposed to when one hears through the lens of a Moshe- Daas Torah. Sure Yisro was sufficiently motivated to take an action. After hearing about the splitting of the sea and even still a war with Amalek he knew there was no room for neutrality in this world. However, when Yisro heard Moshe’s perspective, puzzle pieces begin to fall into place and new insights and deeper appreciation is suddenly available producing goose bumps and a rush of joy!

On a different scale and by way of paying tribute to our dear friends’ daughter, perhaps we can refer here to a recent local tragedy in our community. A few of the sad and tragic details of the event went out through the radio and TV news media. Many Jewish volunteers were moved into action to search for Devorah Stubin. Her funeral was reportedly one of the largest in the Passaic community’s history. After all the fact reporting it takes a Torah sensitive mind to offer insight and perspective so we can discern the difference between what we hear and what we hear.

Here is what Rabbi Moshe Don Kestenbaum of Rebbe in Waterbury, Connecticut wrote; “I feel privileged to have begun to get to know Devorah Stubin a”h and her incredible family. As a rebbi of her brother Nossan, I was afforded the opportunity to be with the family last Motzoei Shabbos, not long after they received the tragic news. The remarkable display of emunah by her parents and siblings has left an indelible mark on me, hopefully for the rest of my life.

The Mishnah tells us (Avos 4:5), “Anyone who desecrates Hashem’s name in private is punished in public.” If this is so, then we know that the converse is true, too. One who honors Hashem’s name in private will be honored in public.

Here was an exceptionally modest young lady, who unassumingly invested her energies in taking care of her family and others, and now the entire world has become privy to her greatness. Hashem chose her to be a conduit of kiddush Hashem and inspiration for all of us.

There is so much to talk about regarding Devorah’s greatness; in fact, there is far more than I know. She had many challenges - academic, medical and physical - yet she was an absolute warrior and refused to give in to them. She defied all odds. She had just finished college and was about to begin her first job, working with special needs children. In order to help her mother, who began working full-time, she took over the entire house - cooking, cleaning, delegating jobs, and more. I found out that it was none other than Devorah who had typed up the sheet I spotted in the kitchen with an assigned rotation of household chores among her siblings.

Rather than wallowing in self-pity over her constant fatigue and pain, she devoted herself to chesed and bringing joy to others. She tutored a young girl in math for over a year free of charge because she sympathized with her. She would invite neighborhood children to come over and bake cookies with her. Devorah just loved to help and accomplish good things with her time. Devorah would offer her services to expectant mothers, making herself available to be on call in middle of the night. Despite having less physical energy than most of us, she gave all her energy for others.

The world at large was deeply moved and inspired by the magnificent kiddush Hashem displayed by the Passaic community and Jews from near and far. All types of Jews united to come to the aid of

this precious neshamah and her family. “Mi ke’amcha Yisroel goy echad ba’aretz – Who is like you Yisroel, one nation in the land.” In light of such events, we understand the posuk as expressing the following: Who is like you, Yisroel, who unifies as one. Who is like you that everyone cares about each other as one big family. There is simply no other nation that remotely resembles us.

In times of terrible crisis, we do not witness an exception to our usual separation and disunity, but rather a revelation of the true love and achdus that are really there all the time.

I would like to leave you with you a powerful thought that Rabbi Daniel Kalish shared with our yeshiva at a special gathering in honor of Devorah a”h. Devorah treated others with great care and respect. She appreciated and valued all types. She did not hold grudges against others, even those who treated her with less respect because of her challenges. Perhaps, this was why Hashem arranged for her lofty neshamah to leave the world with this very lesson, a lesson among the many others that she so beautifully embodied.

When Devorah went missing, hundreds of people went desperately searching for her. The value of a person is so great that even Shabbos does not stand in the way. Now, after her passing, everyone is taking a step back and admiring her sheer greatness. But while those who were fortunate to know her appreciated her during her lifetime, how many people walked right by her, looking at her with pity for her impaired walk? How many, instead of seeing the tzadeikes and hero she truly was, just saw a girl with challenges?

The Gemarain Maseches Bava Basra (10b) states that the tachtomim, the “low ones” in this world, will be the elyonim, the “lofty ones,” in the next world, and vice versa. How embarrassed will we be in the World of Truth when we have to look up to people who we chalilah stepped on or disregarded? We must stop being so superficial and start understanding the greatness of every person. Whether they look less sophisticated or accomplished, or even less religious, we don’t really know where they stand in Hashem’s eyes. We must cherish every Yid, embrace them, and see their greatness. Like Devorah, we must treat every person with dignity and respect.

As Rabbi Kalish poignantly concluded, we must ensure that Devorah becoming lost will cause others to be found.”

Even after having digested all the facts and after being moved into action there is a Torah look that adds new depth and dimension, breathing meaning into even tragic situations. When some part of that shattered picture is made complete one experiences authentic goose bumps!

■ PARSHA Q&A: BESHALACH

1. Yitro had 7 names. Why was one of his names Yeter ? 18:1 - Because he caused a parsha to be added to the Torah. Yeter means addition.
2. News of which two events motivated Yitro to come join the Jewish People? 18:1 - The splitting of the sea and the war against Amalek.
3. What name of Yitro indicates his love for Torah? 18:1 - Chovav.
4. Why was Tzipora with her father, Yitro, and not with Moshe when Bnei Yisrael left Egypt? 18:3 - When Aharon met Moshe with his family on their way down to Egypt, Aharon said to Moshe: “We’re pained over the Jews already in Egypt, and

you’re bringing more Jews to Egypt?” Moshe, hearing this, sent his wife and children back to Midian.

5. Why does verse 18:5 say that Yitro came to the desert — don’t we already know that the Bnei Yisrael were in the desert? 18:5 - To show Yitro’s greatness. He was living in a luxurious place; yet he went to the desert in order to study the Torah.
6. Why did Moshe tell Yitro all that G-d had done for the Jewish People? 18:8 - To draw Yitro closer to the Torah way of life.
7. According to the Midrash quoted by Rashi, how did Yitro respond when he was told about the destruction of Egypt? 18:9 - He grieved.
8. Who is considered as if he enjoys the splendor of the Shechina? 18:12 - One who dines with Torah scholars.
9. On what day did Moshe sit to judge the Jewish People? 18:13 - The day after Yom Kippur.
10. Who is considered a co-partner in Creation? 18:13 - A judge who renders a correct decision.
11. “Moshe sat to judge the people, and the people stood before Moshe...” What bothered Yitro about this arrangement? 18:14 - Yitro felt that the people weren’t being treated with the proper respect.
12. Why did Yitro return to his own land? 18:27 - To convert the members of his family to Judaism.
13. How did the encampment at Sinai differ from the other encampments? 19:2 - The Jewish People were united.
14. To whom does the Torah refer when it uses the term “Beit Yaakov”? 19:3 - The Jewish women.
15. How is G-d’s protection of the Jewish People similar to an eagle’s protection of its young? 19:4 - An eagle carries its young on top of its wings to protect them from human arrows. So too, G-d’s cloud of glory separated between the Egyptians and the Jewish camp in order to absorb Egyptian missiles and arrows fired at the Jewish People.
16. What was G-d’s original plan for Matan Torah ? What was the response of the Jewish People? 19:9 - G-d offered to appear to Moshe and to give the Torah through him. The Jewish People responded that they wished to hear the Torah directly from G-d.
17. How many times greater is the “measure of reward” than the “measure of punishment”? 20:6 - 500 times.
18. How is it derived that “Don’t steal” refers to kidnapping? 20:13 - Since it is written immediately after “Don’t murder” and “Don’t commit adultery,” it is derived that “Don’t steal” refers to a crime carrying the same penalty as the first two, namely, the death penalty.
19. In response to hearing the Torah given at Sinai, how far backwards did the Jewish people retreat in fear? 20:15 - They backed away from the mountain twelve mil (one mil is 2000 cubits).
20. Why does the use of iron tools profane the altar? 20:22 - The altar was created to extend life; iron is sometimes used to make weapons which shorten life.

Good Shabbos

■ SHABBOS SCHEDULE

Friday Night, January 29th

» Mincha/Kabbalos Shabbos/Maariv-5:40P

» Candlelighting-5:39P

Shabbos Day, January 30th

» Shacharis-8:30A

» Junior Congregation for boys in shul-9:30A

» Mommy & Me Young Children’s Minyan-10:00A

» Chumash Class for men & women -4:30P

» Mincha/Shalosh Seudos for men in shul-5:30P

» Shalosh Seudos for women & young children at the Rich home - 5:30P

» Maariv/Shabbos Ends-6:48P

» Avos U’Banim-8:00P

■ WEEKDAY SCHEDULE

» Weekday Shacharis-6:40A

» Mincha-6:00P / Maariv-9:00P (Sunday-Thursday)

■ CLASSES

» Before Shacharis Gemara Taanis for men (M-Fr, 6-6:35A)

» NQ Daf HaYomi Chagigah for men (Sunday-Thursday 8-9P)

» Chumash for men & women (Shabbos one hr before mincha)

» Hilchos Taaruvos for men (Sunday 7:00-8:00A)

» Supercharge Your Sundays for men (Sunday after Shacharis for 45 mins. with R’ Noach Klug)

» Marriage Chaburah for women (Tuesday 7:15-8:00P)

» In-Depth Hilchos Shabbos for women (Wed, 11:30-12:15P)