

Rabbi Menachem Goldberger

בס"ד

הרב מנחם ראובן הלוי גולדברגר  
שליטא מרא דאתרא



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6th of Shevat, 5769 / January 31, 2009

5746-5769

Celebrating our 23<sup>rd</sup> year

1986-2009

**DAVENING SCHEDULE****Friday:**

Candle Lighting: 5:06pm  
Friday Mincha: 5:10pm

**Shabbos Day** כ"ח טבת תשס"ט

Mishna Chabura (Sanhedrin): 8:00am  
Shachris ( Mevorchim Shevat): 8:30am  
Youth Minyan: 9:00am  
Mincha: 4:45pm  
Sunset: 5:26pm  
Maariv: 6:30pm  
Shabbos is over after: 6:37pm  
Father / Son Learning: 7:30pm

**THERE WILL BE A DAILY MINCHA /  
MAARIV AT THE SHUL SUNDAY  
THROUGH THURSDAY AT 5:10PM.  
PLEASE CALL MORDECHAI BELECK  
IF YOU CAN ATTEND REGULARLY  
OR A FEW TIMES A WEEK**

**Sunday:**

Shacharis: 8:00am  
Mincha / Maariv: 5:10pm

**Monday - Friday:**

Shachris: 6:30am  
Mincha / Maariv (M-Th): 5:10pm

**Next Shabbos-Parshas Beshalach:**

Candle Lighting: 5:14pm  
Friday Mincha: 5:15pm

**MAZAL TOV!!**

➤ To Bruce & Sandra Orman and Abby & Marc Berman on the bris of their grandson, Levi Yitzchok Orman, son of Gidon and Bracha Orman. יהי רצון שתזכו ולגדלו לתורה לחופה ולמעשים טובים

**This Shabbos**

- Shalosh Seudos - sponsored by Fred and Rena Levi on the occasion of the yahrzeit of Rena's father.
- Melave Malka - There will be a men's melaveh malkah this Motsai Shabbos in the simcha hall beginning at 8:30, all men and teenagers are welcome to attend. Contact Saul Passe for details. Thanks to Saul for organizing the event

**On the Horizon**

- **February 7:** Shalosh Seudos sponsored by Michael Gordet in honor of his mother's yahrzeit.
- **February 15:** 1-2:30 pm. Upsherin for Yissochar Shalom Blaxberg at the shul - sponsored by his parents Nisan and Meira Blaxberg
- **March 22:** 23<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Banquet honoring Efraim Katz , Judy Schnidman and Elaine Witman

**CONDOLENCES**

The shul extends a nechama to Bryna Lazarus on the loss of her sister. Bryna is sitting shiva in Eretz Yisrael.

**The TY family needs your help.**

This is an opportunity to expand the base of support for TY beyond our own members. If each of us thinks of three to five businesses and asks them to place an ad in the journal, the worst that can happen is that they will say no. If they say yes, everybody wins: they get their names out, more people hear about our amazing kehillah and the shul gets support for our programs. Don't be shy, call Judy Schnidman (410-358-0440) or e-mail (judyschnidman@hotmail.com) for ideas, encouragement or just to brainstorm ways to get more advertising.

**CD's From Israel**

CD's featuring Israeli pianist Allan Sternfield have just arrived from Israel. For more information, please contact Rena Levi at 410-358-4817. A portion of all proceeds will benefit our shul

**TY Wisdom**

The goal isn't to think less of oneself but to think of oneself less

**TY Shiurim News**

- Rabbi Pinchas Goldfinger's Sunday night Navi Shiur has been discontinued.
- Women's Tehillim session will be this Sunday from 10:30 - 11:15am in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Beis Midrash
- Rebbetzin Bracha's women's tefila shiur Sunday mornings in the upstairs bais medrash 11:15 AM - 12 Noon
- Reb Shlomo Goldberger's Hilchos Shabbos Shiur will resume in February

**This week's Lev Echad is sponsored by:**

➤ Mordechai Belek, in memory of his father and aunt, Ze'ev ben Shimon haCohen, and Devorah bas Shimon haCohen

**DVAR TORAH**[www.torah.org](http://www.torah.org)

Rabbi Shlomo Jarcaig

**A Position Of Strength**

The ninth of the ten plagues to strike the Egyptians was darkness. The Torah relates that during this affliction "no [Egyptian] could see his brother nor could anyone rise from his place for a three day period; but for all the children of Israel there was light in their dwellings." (Shemos/Exodus 10:23) G-d created a tangible darkness through which the Jews were able to see but the Egyptians were not. Why was it necessary for G-d to create such a miraculous darkness? Could He not have temporarily blinded the Egyptians and accomplished the same thing?

Chasam Sofer explains that G-d did not want to blind the Egyptians because a natural outcome of blindness is a heightened sensitivity of the other senses. By engineering a circumstance that they were able to see but the darkness obstructed the function of that ability, not only were they practically unable to see, but their expended effort diverted their focus and attention from the other senses they could have utilized.

Rabbi Eliyahu Dessler expounds that it is ideal for a person to use a similar methodology in his service of G-d. Initially, a person should recognize his strengths and focus on them.

His improvement in these areas will have a ripple effect on the other areas of his life in which he is deficient; his certain success in his areas of strength will generate successes in his weaker areas as well.

Just as the blind person instinctively focuses his energies to the senses he can utilize and is more successful as a result, we should also focus on our own strengths and capabilities. If a person has a natural proclivity for acts of kindness or prayer, he should focus on that first rather than focusing all of his energies on his weak points. To ignore this advice is to condemn oneself to the curse of the Egyptians: wasting time attempting performance of the impossible, while squandering valuable energies and actual strengths that contain such vast potential.

***TY Shiurim Schedule*****Sunday:**

- Men's Gemara Brachos shiur given by the Rabbi. פרק ה', Rashi, selected Tosfos and Maharsha- following Shacharis.
- 11:15 – 12:00: Tehillim gathering for cholim for women
- 11–12pm: Rebbetzin's class on Tefillah, for women.
- 8- 8:45pm Hilchos Shabbos Shiur, given by R' Shlomo Goldberger, with the Sefer Shmiras Shabbos K'Hilchesa. All men are invited to attend.

**Monday:**

- Rambam Shiur, given by Jay Taffel 1 hour before Maariv (6:45pm).

**Tuesday:**

- Gemarah Chulin, given by Jay Taffel 1 hour before Maariv (6:45pm).

**Thursday:**

- Men's shiur given by the Rabbi on *Peirush HaRamban al HaTorah*, please bring chelek Breishis to the shiur.

**Daily Shiurim (M-F):**

- Every morning following davening- a chabura for strengthening Hebrew reading with Nesivos Shalom. Incentive: *fresh hot coffee!*
- 6 – 6:25am Chaburah learning Rashi on the weekly parsha given by Nisan Blaxberg. All men and (older) boys are invited to attend.
- **Shabbos Morning Chabura:** Learning, Discussion and Inspiration: 8-8:30am by Rabbi Shimon Apisdorf. **Text:** Shabbos Malkisa

**BATYA SKLAR CAMP****SPONSORS**

- In honor of Tiferes Yisroel - "a chavrusa for everybody"
- In memory of Batya Sklar

**SHEMEN LAMAOR**

- Ari & Caryn Blum
- Rabbi & Rebbetzin Goldberger

**YOUTH MINYAN**

- Ari & Caryn Blum

**Donations**

- In memory of Sylvie Grossman, by Gertrude Escann
- In memory of Sylvie Grossman, by Hilda Amster

**Father / Son Learning Sponsors – January**

- Lenny & Glenna Ross

*Thank you for your contributions!*

## Crash Course in Jewish History

By Rabbi Ken Spiro

### THE OPPOSITION

As it spread, the Hassidic movement also attracted tremendous opposition from those more traditionally and intellectually-minded Rabbis, the majority of whom were against the Hassidic movement.

The major personality who was opposed to the Hassidic movement was Rabbi Elijah ben Shlomo Zalman, known as the Vilna Gaon ("Genius of Vilna") and also the Gra (acronym for the "Gaon Rabbi Elijah") who lived in this time period (1720-1797). The Vilna Gaon was a brilliant scholar who made an enormous impact on Jewish learning. A person of wide-ranging interests and author of some 70 books on various subjects, the Vilna Gaon seemed to excel in every aspect of scholarship. He knew Jewish law, Kabbalah, mathematics, astronomy, physics, anatomy. He barely slept; he just catnapped four times a day for one hour, and the rest of the time he studied. Whenever he got tired, he stuck his feet in a bucket of cold water to wake himself up. He never wanted to waste a minute. Although he never made it to Israel, he sent many of his students to live there.

What worried the Vilna Gaon was not so much the Kabbalistic aspects of Hassidism (after all, he himself had studied Kabbalah) but the potential for producing another false messiah (like Shabbetai Tzvi whose story we covered in Part 51. The Vilna Gaon also objected to the Hassidic concept that God is "in all things" as too close to pantheism or the idea that everything was equally holy.(2)

He was also concerned about the concept of the *rebbe* (as the leader of each Hassidic sect was called) because he felt that the Hassidic concept that a person elevates himself spiritually simply by "attaching" himself to a holy person (a *rebbe*) was an idolatrous idea.

Another significant concern of the Vilna Gaon was de-intellectualization of Torah. The Hassidic movement was largely a movement of simple, uneducated Jews, and he worried that Jewish scholarship was going to be replaced by singing and dancing. A religion that was a synthesis of heart and mind would become all heart and no mind.

Finally, the Vilna Gaon, and many other rabbis strongly objected to the fact that the Hassidim had changed the text of the prayer as this was considered a serious break with tradition and wholly unacceptable.

The Vilna Gaon was so strongly opposed to the Hassidic movement that he and others like him came to be called *misnagdim*, which means "those who are against." In 1772, the *misnagdim* excommunicated the *hassidim*, but the ban did not stick. The following is excerpts from the excommunication of Hassidim (April 1772):

Our brethren, sons of Israel...as you know, new people have appeared, unimagined by our forefathers...and they associate amongst themselves and their ways are different from other children of Israel in their liturgy...they behave in a crazed manner and say that their thoughts wander in all worlds...And they belittle the study of the Torah, and repeatedly claim that one should not study much, nor deeply regret ones' transgressions...Therefore, we have come to inform our brethren, Children of Israel, from near and far...and top sound to them the voice of excommunication and banishment...Until they themselves repent completely....(3)

(For more on this subject, see *Triumph of Survival* by Berel Wein, pp. 86-119.)

While the creation of the Hassidic movement did initially cause a serious split in the Jewish world, it did not create a permanent separation. Today we can see *hassidic* sects who have become quite scholarship-minded, opening their own yeshivas and studying the Talmud intensely. In hindsight we see that the Hassidic movement contributed significantly to the revitalization of Eastern European Jewry. It kept a lot of people connected to Judaism who could well have been lost because they didn't have the time to study. And the pressure brought by the *misnagdim* against the *hassidim* acted as a brake in keeping them from going too far.

As a result of the Hassidic contribution, Judaism became stronger and more ready to face the assault from a new secular movement in the Western called "The Enlightenment."

### YAHARZEITS: 6<sup>th</sup> Shevat – 12<sup>th</sup> Shevat

ו' שבט – י"ב שבט

We apologize for any *yahrzeits* not listed in the *Lev Echad*. Please let us know if we missed a *Yahrzeit*.

- Leonard Sternfield, Arieh Leib ben Moshe a"h, 10 Shevat, Father of Rena Levi
- Ira Cohen, Yitzchak Malech ben David Mordechai HaKohen a"h, 10 Shevat, Father of Moshe Cohen
- Elise Gordet, Chasia bas Meyer Yoel a"h, 10 Shevat, Mother of Michael Gordet
- Frances Cohen, Feiga Brina bas Betzalel a"h, 12 Shevat, Mother of Saul Cohen

### Parsha Summary

[www.torah.org](http://www.torah.org)

Rabbi Aaron Tendler

**1st & 2nd Aliyot:** Moshe and Aharon forewarned Pharaoh about the Locust. His advisors begged Pharaoh to consider Moshe's request, and Pharaoh attempted to negotiate with Moshe and Aharon that the children should stay behind. When his offer was refused, all negotiations broke down and Pharaoh chased Moshe and Aharon away. The Locust swallowed up Mitzrayim (Egypt), but Pharaoh still refused to send away the Jews.

**3rd Aliya:** Darkness enveloped Egypt for three days. Pharaoh told Moshe that he could take out his people, but he had to leave the cattle behind. Moshe refused and Pharaoh forewarned Moshe that he could not come to him again. In truth, the next time they saw each other would be after the Death of the First Born, when Pharaoh went to Moshe.

**4th Aliya:** Moshe forewarned the Egyptians about the Death of the First Born. In 12:2 Hashem (G-d) commanded Moshe and Aharon with the very first Mitzvah to be given to the Nation. The very first Korban Pesach was described along with the Mitzvos of Matzoh, Chametz, and Pesach.

**5th Aliya:** The Bnai Yisroel were commanded to mark the inside of their doors with the blood of the Korban Pesach.

**6th Aliya:** The plague of the Death of the First Born left Mitzrayim in mourning. Pharaoh and the Egyptians hurried the Jews out of Mitzrayim. Approximately 600,000 men besides women, children, and the elderly (3,000,000 total) as well as about 1,000,000 non-Jews (the Eruv Rav) left Mitzrayim during the Exodus. It was the year 2448, and the Pasuk says that the Jews had been in Mitzrayim for 430 years. (exactly 430 years from the Bris Bain Habisarim - The Covenant Between the Halves) The laws of the Korban Pesach were reviewed.

**7th Aliya:** The Parsha concludes with a review of the laws of Pesach as well as introducing the Mitzvos of Pehter Chamor - the commandment to exchange all first born, male donkeys for a sheep; Pidyon Haben - redeeming the first born male child; and the Mitzvah of Tefillin.

**Camp Shabbos!**

Camp Shabbos has an exciting new program for children ages three through six. Camp Shabbos will now be run by our own teenage girls. We will have games, stories, Parsha, fun prizes and of course Kiddush. Future dates for Camp Shabbos: Feb. 7, Feb. 21

**Around Town**

- **February 1:** 8pm for men and women  
Author of Artsroll's Chinuch in Turbulent Times, Rabbi Dov Brezak will be speaking at Bnai Jacob Shaarei Zion on the topic, "The Shabbos Table, Source of Bracha," No fee for admission.
- **February 11:** from 6:00-9:00 pm. free one-on-one legal advice at a Foreclosure Solutions Workshop at the Jewish Community Center, 5700 Park Heights Avenue in Baltimore. This public service is sponsored by CHAI and Jewish Legal Services, a program of Jewish Community Services. Pre-registration is required by February 5 call CHAI at 410-466-1990, extension 0.

**Notice Regarding Shul Rentals**

If you are planning on having a Simcha, Shalosh Seudos, vort, l'chaim, party, meeting, or any other event that would require the use of the Shul's Simcha Hall please call Eileen Rosenbaum to reserve the use of the hall. Even if your event is in the planning stages or there's a chance that it might even be canceled, call Eileen so you can be penciled in on that date. There's no signup fee, we just want the scheduling to go as smoothly as possible. 410-764-8443 or [eileen@tiferesyisroel.org](mailto:eileen@tiferesyisroel.org)

If you just want to check whether the date you want is available, you can go to our website [www.tiferesyisroel.org](http://www.tiferesyisroel.org) and click on the "Calendar" button on the left. This online calendar is kept up to date continuously.

**SUPPORT OUR SHUL**

To be a sponsor in honor of your Simcha, Yahrzeit or whatever, please contact the Lev Echad to reserve your Sponsorship.

- Weekly Youth Minyan.
  - Sponsor- \$75
  - Cholent Sponsor - \$25.
- Batya Sklar Camp Shabbos
  - Full Sponsorship \$72
  - Co-Sponsorship \$36
- Shemen Lamaor \$36
- The Lev Echad \$36
- Father/Son Learning (seasonal)
  - Full Sponsorship \$72
  - Co-Sponsorship \$36
- Siddur: \$50
- Chumash: \$75
- Yahrzeit Plaque: \$300
- Other Seforim may be dedicated as well.

Contact Nisan Blaxberg, 410-358-3943

**Advertisements**

We're sorry, but the shul does not publish advertisements for personal, profit-based businesses in the Lev Echad.

**Peanut-Free**

The shul is peanut-free. Please do not bring in any products with peanuts. This includes personal snacks (for children and adults) as well as for any functions held in the shul, i.e. Kiddush, Shalosh Seudos, etc.

**FRAGRANCES**

A reminder for women and men -- please refrain from using fragrances (such as perfume, cologne, after shave) in shul. Many people are sensitive to these fragrances, and some people even experience severe allergic reactions. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding.

**OFFICERS:**

- President -  
Lenny Ross 410 358-1687  
[Lenny@tiferesyisroel.org](mailto:Lenny@tiferesyisroel.org)
- VP Facility – Mordechai Beleck
- VP Programming-  
Mo Margolese  
[mo@tiferesyisroel.org](mailto:mo@tiferesyisroel.org)
- VP Member Relations-  
Howard Reznick 410 825-8729  
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- Treasurer –  
Ken Gelula  
[ken@tiferesyisroel.org](mailto:ken@tiferesyisroel.org)

**VOLUNTEERS:**

- *Boys Club*  
Yehuda Severin 410-800-4456
- *Calendar*  
Eileen Rosenbaum 410-764-8443
- *Camp Shabbos*  
Alisa Mandel – 410-963-2977
- *Candyman* -  
Ari Blum
- *Chesed Committee*  
Chana Birnbaum (shiva) 410-358-7736  
Rivka Malka Perlman (other than shiva)  
410-358-3550
- *Cleaning Staff*- (Open for volunteers)
- *Davening Schedule*  
Jay "Tangy" Taffel 410-358-9029
- *Facilities Set Up/Events* (Open for volunteers)
- *Father/Son Learning*  
Dov Pear- 410-358-9825
- *Gabbai Rishon*  
Jay "Saltwater" Taffel 410-358-9029
- *Gabbai Sheni*  
Hillel "crazy fingers" Zeitlin 410-358-

7316

- *Gabbai Tzedakah*  
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[judyschnidman@hotmail.com](mailto:judyschnidman@hotmail.com)
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- *Shalosh Seudos Coordinator*  
Hinda Blum 410-764-2279
- *Sheimos*- (Open for Volunteers)
- *Simcha Hall Reserve*  
Eileen Rosenbaum 410-764-8443
- *Tzeschem L' Shalom Coordinator*-  
Mordechai Beleck
- *Yomim Noraim Seating*  
Ari "the bull" Blum 410-358-5478
- *Webmaster*  
Tzadik Vanderhoof 410-764-2258 or  
[Tzadik@tiferesyisroel.org](mailto:Tzadik@tiferesyisroel.org)
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[admin@tiferesyisroel.org](mailto:admin@tiferesyisroel.org)

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Congregation Tiferes Yisroel  
6201 Park Heights Ave  
Baltimore, MD 21215

**or go to [www.tiferesvisroel.org](http://www.tiferesvisroel.org) and click donate.**

**Questions? Comments? Something to add?**

Email [LevEchad@tiferesvisroel.org](mailto:LevEchad@tiferesvisroel.org)

**Deadline: 12:00pm on Thursday**

**Note: the Lev Echad staff reserves the right to edit any submissions.**

*Good Shabbos!*

שלום על ישראל