

# Congregation Ohr Torah

270 Pleasant Valley Way, West Orange, Web: [www.congregationohrtorah.org](http://www.congregationohrtorah.org)

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 6169, West Orange, New Jersey 07052

Rabbi Marc Spivak, Shul President: Ed Croman

Sisterhood President: Jacki Routhenstein, Men's Club President: Michael Diamond

Phone: (973) 669-7320, Eruv Hotline: (973) 736-1407 x6



## Weekly Newsletter – Ki Tisa, Shabbat Parah

20-26 Adar, 5770, March 6 –12, 2010

### Mazel Tov

Mazel Tov to Kimberly and Nachum Amsel and the entire Amsel family on Benji's Bar Mitzvah.

### Kiddush & Seudah Shlishit Sponsor

The **Amsel Family** in honor of Benji's Bar Mitzvah.

To sponsor a Shabbat Kiddush or Seudah Shlishit, please contact Jay or Debbie Goldberg.

### Condolences

To **Alan Routhenstein** on the passing of his brother, Larry Routhenstein. Alan will be sitting shiva at his house, 2 McGuirk Lane (in the Woodlands) until Tuesday morning.

*Shacharit*: Sunday: 8:15am  
Friday, Monday, Tuesday: 7:00am;

*Mincha/Ma'ariv*: Thursday: 5:35pm; Sunday and Monday: 5:40pm

May Hashem comfort the family with all those who mourn for Zion and Jerusalem.

### Newsletter Editor Wanted

Ohr Torah is seeking an editor for Weekly Newsletter. If you are interested or want further information, please contact Ed Croman.

### Sof Z'man Kriat Sh'ma

Due to the earlier time for Sof Z'man Kriat Sh'ma, please remember to say Sh'ma before coming to Shul.

### Schedule, Week of March 6-12

#### Friday Evening

Candle Lighting ..... 5:34pm  
Mincha ..... 5:40pm  
Sh'kia ..... 5:52pm

#### Shabbat Day, Parshat Ki Tisa

Shacharit..... 9:00am  
Sof Z'man Kriat Sh'ma ..... 9:15am  
Youth Groups ..... 10:00-11:30am  
Mincha ..... 5:25pm  
Maariv ..... 6:28pm  
Shabbat Ends..... 6:35pm

#### Weekday

Sun Shacharit ..... 8:15am  
Sun Mincha/Maariv ..... 5:40pm  
Mon/Thurs Shacharit ..... 6:00am  
Tue/Wed/Fri Shacharit..... 6:10am  
Mon-Thurs Maariv ..... 7:30pm

#### Next Friday Evening

Candle Lighting ..... 5:42pm  
Mincha ..... 5:45pm

### Teen Minyan this Shabbat

There will be a Teen Minyan this Shabbat, Parshat Ki Tisa, beginning at 9:15am.

Thank you to the following people for making this past teen minyan so successful:

Lior Fishman ..... pisukei dizimrah  
Ben Druce ..... shacharis  
Elie Fishman ..... laining  
Josh Fishman..... laining  
Moshe Weinstein ..... laining  
Nat Druce ..... gabbai rishon  
Eli Hafner ..... gabbai sheni  
Ezra Kaplan ..... kohen  
Max Kirshblum ..... mussaf  
Ezra Kaplan ..... Torah holder

For more information about Teen Minyan, contact Rabbi Richard Kirsch at [Kirsch0625@aol.com](mailto:Kirsch0625@aol.com).

### Parsha Questions

1. Why did Hashem command males to contribute ½ shekel to the Mishkan, rather than a full shekel (7 reasons)? (b) For the ½ shekel, the Torah commands: "ve-natnu ish" (a man shall give); Ish is singular, why is ve-natnu plural? (Shemot 30:12-13)
2. How old was Betzalel when Hashem assigned him to design the Mishkan? (b) What did Hashem convey by saying: "I have called him by the name Betzalel" (4 explanations)? (c) How do we know that one should not appoint a leader of a community before first consulting the community? (Shemot 31:2)
3. How was the cheit ha-eigel Moshe's fault? (b) Why did the idolaters want the image of a calf? (c) After Aharon made the eigel, why did Hashem reward him by appointing him Kohen Gadol? (d) Why and how was Aharon later punished for this? (e) When Moshe prayed that Bnei Yisrael be spared after the

cheit ha-egel, he said: “zechor le-Avraham le-Yitzchak u-le-Yisrael avadecha (remember for the sake of Avraham, Yitzchak and Yisrael, Your servants); what is the significance of Moshe saying “Yisrael”, rather than “Ya’akov”? (Shemot 32:4-5,13)

4. Why did Moshe move the ohel mo-ed (his tent) outside Bnei Yisrael’s camp? (b) For what period did he move his tent outside the camp (2 opinions)? (Shemot 33:7-11)
5. In Hashem’s 13 Attributes of Mercy, (a) why is “Hashem” stated twice? (b) what does the attribute “ve-emet” (and truth) convey about His way of punishing sinners? (c) to what attribute of reward and punishment does “ve-chata’ah” refer? (Shemot 34:6-7)
6. (a) How is the para aduma’s (red cow’s) function of removing tuma (impurity) explained to be atonement for the cheit ha-eigel? (b) What are 6 aspects of the para aduma procedure that relate directly to atonement for the cheit ha-eigel? (c) How many para adumas have been burnt since matan Torah? (Bamidbar 19:2)
7. In the haftara, when will Hashem “sprinkle pure water upon you, to cleanse you”? (Yechezkel 36:25)

Questions and answers courtesy of *Alvin Reinstein*.

Answers appear at end of newsletter.

### Sisterhood Book Club

The Book Club of the Sisterhoods of AABJ&D & Ohr Torah Synagogues is having its next meeting, Tuesday, March 9, 8:00pm at the home of Elaine Woods, 88 Cummings Circle, West Orange. The meeting will cover the book, *The Girl from Foreign*, by **Sadia Shepard**. See the flyer at the end of the newsletter for more information.

### Rabbi Spivak’s Wednesday Night Class

Rabbi Spivak’s Wednesday night class will meet this coming week, Wednesday, March 10, in the Shul at 7:45PM.

### Sisterhood Tributes

Sisterhood acknowledges the following recent donations:

Chumash given in honor of **Marilyn and Ed Croman** on their marriage by **David and Gary Stadtmauer**

Sending tributes and making donations to the Sefer, Youth or Chesed Funds are excellent ways to reach out to others and to support the Shul. Contact Debbie Druce at 973 325-3749 for your order.

- Tributes – \$5.00 (cards are designed by Leah Marks)
- Sefer Fund – \$10.00
- Chesed or Youth Funds – \$18.00
- Siddur or Machzor – \$36.00
- Chumash – \$54.00

### Yahrtzeits

#### Week of February 27 – March 5

- 21 ADAR-II **Deborah Druce** for her Cousin, Reuvan ben Abish Leib, Richard Handros, on Sunday, March 7, 2010.
- 22 ADAR-I **Simi Schwartz** for his Mother, Hannah Naomi bat Elchanan, on Monday, March 8, 2010.
- 23 ADAR **Morris Bocian** for his Father, Yerachmiel Yisroel Yitzchak ben Moshe Chaim, Raymond Bocian, on Tuesday, March 9, 2010.
- 25 ADAR-II **Larry Freedman** for his Father, Ze’ev ben Avraham, William Freedman, on Thursday, March 11, 2010.
- 26 ADAR-II **Jacki Routhenstein** for her Father, Menachem Mendel Mayer ben Yehoshua, Max Wagner, on Friday, March 12, 2010.

For changes/corrections to this list, please contact Rich Maron or send e-mail to [ShabbatNewsletter@congregationohrtorah.org](mailto:ShabbatNewsletter@congregationohrtorah.org).

### Executive Board

- President**..... Ed Croman
- First Vice President**.....Arnold Barton
- Second Vice President** .....Mark Grebenau
- Secretary**..... Richard Maron
- Treasurer** ..... Seth Rinn
- President Emeritus** ..... Jay Goldberg
- Sisterhood President** ..... Jacki Routhenstein
- Men’s Club President**..... Michael Diamond

### Ongoing Shiurim

- Rabbi Marc Spivak** – Shiur during Seudah Shlishit.
- Rabbi Marc Spivak** – Chumash Class every Wednesday night at 7:45pm, at the Shul.
- Rabbi Yissocher Frand** – Shiur on Parsha/Halacha every Thursday at 9:00pm at the Shul via video feed.
- Rabbi Yisroel Reisman** – Navi/Hashkafa Shiur every Motzei Shabbat at the Shul live via video feed.

### Membership Plus (2009-2010)

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Sustainer</b>          |                          |
| Edward Croman             | Mark & Ruth Grebenau     |
| Joe & Hedy Falkenstein    | Murray & Linda Lauicht   |
| Larry & Margot Freedman   | Larry Rein               |
| Glenn & Florence Goldberg |                          |
| <b>Benefactor</b>         |                          |
| Jeffrey & Gail Gruber     | Ed & Daryl Shapiro       |
| Yoav & Carrie Rosenblat   | Jonathan & Suri Winograd |
| <b>Patron</b>             |                          |
| Bruce & Gail Bukiet       | Howard & Renee Spear     |

### Sponsor

Arnold & Beverly Barton  
Sam & Arlene Kaye  
David & Susan Lando

Eva & Karen Miller  
Eve & Daniel Sperling  
Rivki & Moshe Weinstein

### Donor

David & Barbara Bortniker  
Michael & Sarah Diamond  
Howard & Deborah Druce  
Benjamin & Arden Fusman  
Shlomo & Jacqui Kimmel  
Stephen & Joanne Loeb  
Eric & Pearl Mattenson

Harvey & Shani Okin  
Alan & Jacki Routhenstein  
Barry & Roberta Schwartz  
Stan Schwartz & Marion Jacobsen  
Howard & Holly Sragow  
Gary & Davida Stadtmauer  
Joel & Shoshana Tennenberg

For further information on Membership Plus, please contact Ed Croman.

---

### Contact Info

**Adult Education Programming and Sponsorship:** Nachum Amsel, Karen Berger, Irv Cantor, Debbie Druce, Roberta Schwartz, Rabbi Marc Spivak

**Bikur Cholim:** Rabbi Spivak, Jay Goldberg, Susan Teichman

**Bookplate Design-Bar, Bat Mitzvah Inscriptions:** Karen Miller

**Chesed:** Gail Bukiet, Debbie Goldberg, Jacqui Kimmel, Naomi Maron, Jacki Routhenstein

**Building Committee:** Arnold Barton

**Anim Z'mirot Gabbai:** Gabriel Maron

**Listserv:** Marc Goldberg, requests to:  
[listserv@congregationohrtorah.org](mailto:listserv@congregationohrtorah.org)

**Monthly Calendar:** Elia Weixelbaum

**Newsletter:** Elia Weixelbaum – all submissions must be emailed by Wed., 4:00PM to:  
[ShabbatNewsletter@congregationohrtorah.org](mailto:ShabbatNewsletter@congregationohrtorah.org)

**Reading Torah:** Shlomo Kimmel

**Scheduling Calendar:** Mark Grebenau, e-mail to  
[mark.grebenau@prodigy.net](mailto:mark.grebenau@prodigy.net)

**Tributes/Siddurim/Chumashim/Machzorim Donations:** Debbie Druce, Karen Miller

**Yahrtzeit Information:** Rich Maron

**Yahrtzeit/Tree of Life Plaques:** Jack Rosen

**Youth Committee:** Debra Goldberg (head of committee), Debra Spivak, Eliot Fishman, Michael Dyckman, Lauren Poleyeff, Holly Sragow

**Youth Director:** Julie Stiel

---

### UJA Benefit Concert

The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual UJA Benefit Concert, featuring the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra will take place Wednesday, May 12, 2010, 7:30 pm.

The Annual UJA Benefit Concert is an elegant gala event of music, community celebration, and philanthropic spirit. Proceeds from this extraordinary evening go to United Jewish Appeal (UJA) to benefit the MetroWest community. The concert will be held at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, and all attendees are invited to the Community Dessert Reception at 6:30pm. The concert's honorees are Ruth and Martin Barber, distinguished community leaders.

The New Jersey Symphony Orchestra salutes legendary composer Leonard Bernstein with some of his most iconic music—the Overture to Candide opens the program with flair, and West Side Story Symphonic Dances culls the musical's most intoxicating rhythms and melodies. Gifted pianist Benjamin Hochman explores the classical and jazz fusion of George Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue, led by the talented, dynamic conductor, Gerald Steichen.

For further information please contact Belle Schwartz at 973 929-3032 or [ujabenefitconcert@ujcnj.org](mailto:ujabenefitconcert@ujcnj.org).

---

### Parsha Answers

- (1) To teach that No one can complete his life's work by himself – he needs Hashem's help; if a man does his part, represented by the ½ shekel, Hashem will do the rest (Oznayom le-Torah). (2) These contributions atoned for the cheit ha-eigel, which was made at midday; Bnei Yisrael did not wait another ½ day, symbolized by the ½ shekel, for Moshe's return; (3) a shekel equaled 20 geirot; in the cheit ha-eigel, Bnei Yisrael violated all 10 Aseret haDibrot; they had to give 10 geirot (½ shekel) to atone for the 10 sins; (4) Yosef's brothers sold him for 10 silver dinarim that equaled 5 shekels; thus, each of the 10 brothers received a ½ shekel; these ½ shekel contributions atoned for Yosef's brothers' sin (Shekalim 3b). (5) The ½ shekel conveys that a person can never fulfill all his desires; (6) a man without a woman is called peleg gufa (½ a body); since only the men, and not the women, took part in the cheit ha-eigel, Hashem commanded each man to give ½ shekel, because only "½" of him sinned; (7) since kol Yisrael areivim zeh la-zeh (all of Bnei Yisrael are responsible for one another), each of us individually is less than whole, as symbolized by the ½ shekel; we must join others to be complete iservice to Hashem (Alshich). (b) The Hebrew word ve-natnu is a palindrome, i.e., it is spelled the same forward and backwards, telling us that what a person gives to tzedakah (charity) will come back to him; he will not be missing anything as a result (Ba'al haTurim).
- 13 years old (Sanhedrin 69b). (b) (1) Hashem called Betzalel by name to build the Mishkan because there was no other capable of doing it (ibn Ezra). (2) When Moshe was on Har Sinai, Hashem showed him Sefer Ha'adam (the Book of Adam), which lists the leaders of every future generation; Moshe saw that He had named Betzalel to build the Mishkan from the time of creation (Shemot Raba). (3) Betzalel stands for "be-tzeil keil" (in Hashem's shadow); he knew exactly how Hashem wanted Mishkan built; (4) Betzalel knew the art of combining the letters with which heaven and earth were created; the building of the Mishkan was like creating the universe, and Betzalel understood its secret; (c) Hashem first asked Moshe, and Moshe asked Bnei Yisrael to consider appointing Betzalel to build the Mishkan, and they agreed (Berachot 55a).

3. Hashem did not want Moshe to take the eirev rav with Bnei Yisrael from Mitzrayim. When he insisted on taking them out to bring them closer to Hashem, Hashem agreed. The eirev rav demanded that Aharon make a god as a leader to substitute for Moshe, and they worshipped the eigel (Abarbanel). (b) When Hashem appeared at matan Torah, Bnei Yisrael saw the 4 faces of the Divine Chariot – a cow, man, lion and eagle; since the eirev rav would not worship a carnivore, an abomination to the Mitzrim, they selected the creature which was not carnivorous – the calf (Shemot Raba). (c) Aharon believed Bnei Yisrael had a deep-seated longing for idol worship; he wanted to expose the sinners to cure the sin. Aharon agreed to their request, and Sheivet Levi, under Moshe's direction, was able to exterminate them. Aharon was rewarded for this. (d) Aharon erred because the sin was not intrinsic to Bnei Yisrael, only to the eirev rav; he could have separated Bnei Yisrael from any desire for idol worship through persuasion. Because he did not do this, Hashem punished him by decreeing death for two of his sons (Tiferet Tzion). (e) When Hashem named Ya'akov "Yisrael", He said: "a nation and a congregation of nations shall descend from you" (Bereshit 35:11), with "a nation" referring to Binyamin, who had not been born yet, and "a congregation of nations" referring to Yosef's children, Efrayim and Menashe. Since the promises of these "nations" could not be fulfilled through Moshe, who was from Sheivet Levi, he "reminded" Hashem to carry out His promises by keeping alive all of Yisrael's shevatim (Maharil Diskin).
4. Because of the tumah (impurity) caused by the eigel, Hashem did not want to speak to Moshe in Bnei Yisrael's camp at this time (Rashbam). (b) (1) Moshe moved his tent on 18 Tamuz, the day after breaking the luchot, until Rosh Chodesh Nisan, when the Mishkan was dedicated as the new ohel mo-ed (Ramban). (2) Moshe moved his tent on 11 Tishrei, the day after returning from Sinai with the 2nd luchot, until Rosh Chodesh Nisan, the period in which the Mishkan was constructed (Rashi).
5. To tell us that Hashem has the same compassion before a person sins, as He has after he sins and repents; (b) Hashem joins chesed (mercy) to emet, to delay punishment, even if, based on truth, a person deserves instant punishment; (c) if a person's merits equal his sins, Hashem decreases the sins' weight so the scales tip in his favor (Rosh Hashana 17b).
6. After matan Torah, Hashem elevated Bnei Yisrael above the power of the Malach ha-Mavet; since Bnei Yisrael no longer were subject to dying, they were no longer subject to death's tuma; after the cheit ha-eigel, death and its tuma returned to Bnei Yisrael. Hashem designated the para aduma to represent the eigel's mother, which "cleans up" the tuma caused by her "child", the eigel (Tiferet Tzion). (b) (1) It had to be red because red represents sin (Yeshayahu 1:18), and the cow takes the calf's sin and cleanses it; (2) the cow had to be temima (perfect) because Bnei Yisrael were in a state of perfection before the cheit ha-eigel, and an unblemished cow is used to help return Bnei Yisrael to perfection; (3) the cow could never have a yoke on it to atone for Bnei Yisrael's throwing off Hashem's yoke by worshipping the eigel; (4) the 3 items mixed with the cow's ashes – eitz erez (cedar wood), eizov (hyssop) and shenie tola'at (crimson wool) – allude to the 3,000 people who died on account of the eigel; (5) just as the cheit ha-eigel would be transmitted in the sins of all future generations, the para aduma is a chukat olam (an eternal decree); (6) just as Moshe purified Bnei Yisrael using the eigel's ashes, the para aduma's ashes remove Bnei Yisrael's tuma (Rabeinu Bechaya). (c) 9 – the 10th will be prepared by the Mashiach (Rambam – Para 3:5).
7. After Hashem gathers in Bnei Yisrael in Eretz Yisrael, He will eradicate their sins and remove their tumah, just as the sprinkling of the para aduma's ashes removes tumat ha-meit (impurity caused by a dead body) (Rashi).

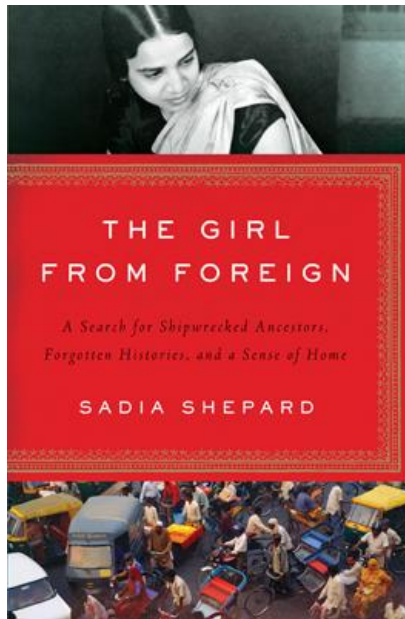


**BOOK CLUB**  
**Of the Sisterhoods of**  
**AABJ&D & OHR TORAH SYNAGOGUES**

*The Girl from Foreign*

**A Search for Shipwrecked Ancestors, Forgotten Histories and a Sense of Home**

**By Sadia Shepard**



**Synopsis:**

In this memoir, the author set out to fulfill her grandmother's dying wish that she learn about her heritage. Her grandmother grew up among the Bene Israel, a small Jewish community in India. When she married a Muslim, she left Judaism and, eventually India, and adopted the name Rahat Siddiqi. Shepard herself is the product of a mixed marriage: Her mother is Pakistani and Muslim, her father American and Christian. After receiving a Fulbright, she left her life in the U.S. to learn and write about her grandmother's history; the story of Bene Israel, and her own self discovery.

**Tuesday, March 9, 2010**

**8:00 PM**

At the home of Elaine Woods  
88 Cummings Circle, West Orange

For more information, please call  
**Elaine Woods: 973-669-0938**