

# HAVURAT YISRAEL WEEKLY NEWS

10 — 11 Shevat 5772

Shabbat Beshalach

February 3 — 4, 2012

4:57 pm Candle Lighting  
5:05 pm Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat

Parsha: p. 366, Haftorah: p.1152

8:45 am Mishnayot

9:00 am Shacharit

**9:35 am Latest time for Shema**

10:30 am Beginner's Minyan

10:30 am Youth Groups

11:00 am Drasha — R. Algaze

11:45 am Kiddush

4:00 pm Gemara Shiur — R. Algaze

4:55 pm Mincha, Seudah Shlisheet

5:58 pm Maariv, Havdalah

**Kiddush** is sponsored by Shoshi Bacon & Steve Golub and David & Rachelle Alkalay on the occasion of Avi Meisel's birthday and reading the Torah.

**Seudah Shlisheet** is sponsored by Havurat Yisrael members.

**Welcome!** to our new member, Jose Cedeno

**Happy Birthday** to Arlene Ross

**Tehillim for Tova**

The women of Havurat are reciting Tehillim for a complete recovery for Tova Katz. Please join in Shabbat mornings after services.

**Refuah Shlema** to: **Tova Katz** (*Tova Frida bat Esther*), **Sue Friedman** (*Shoshana bat Chana* ...mother of Judy Rosen), **Micha Zweibach** (Micha ben Devorah) and **Rabbi Flink** (Chaim Isaac Ben Rivka).

**Baruch Dayan Emet**

Our community mourns the passing of a great leader and talmid chacham and friend, **Rabbi Abraham Ginzberg**, z'l who served as an inspiring teacher at the Chafetz Chayim yeshiva and rabbi of the synagogue in the old building of the yeshiva on Kessel St. & 69th Ave. His kindness and smile will be missed. Shiva will be observed at the Ginzberg home, 68-12 Dartmouth St. until Wed. morning.

## Mark Your Calendar

**Mon. Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>, 8 pm** Sisterhood Planning Meeting.

**Sunday February 12<sup>th</sup>, 11 am** Challah Baking Class with Gitty Acker. Please RSVP to the shul office!

**Sun. Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm** we will host a very special Evening with Eli, our sister community in Israel including Eliana Passentin – Spokeswoman for the town, speaking on The history of Shilo - From Yehoshua Bin Nun to Mark Twain and Koby Elraz – Mayor of Eli, reserve officer in the Golani Brigade, political and military strategist. Presentations and films. Please attend this free event!

**Friday March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6:30 pm** Shabbat Across America

**Sat. March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 8 pm** Café Night by the Sisterhood.

**Sunday March 18<sup>th</sup>** at 10 am : Headache Relief with Tuvia Rosenbaum

## A Musical Soiree

At the home of Rabbi and Tamara Algaze

**Saturday February 4th**

(Motzae Shabbat Shirah)



A recital by renowned concert pianist Hadassah Guttman and Flutist Lauren Ausubel in a program of Handel, Chopin, Grieg and Faure and Jewish music. An elegant evening in a musical atmosphere with delicious hors d'oeuvres and desserts.

**This is a fundraising program for the Synagogue !You can still attend the program. If you are not able to make it , please make a contribution.**

Contribution \$50 per person. Space is limited, reservations recommended.

## MEMBERSHIP

Is not a luxury; it is a privilege

The new year is a great opportunity to join the shul. Please support your shul and all that it does for you, your family, your community!

Become a member and belong to a special and creative synagogue

**Havurat Yisrael invites you to a Tu Be'Shvat Seder Tuesday February 7th**

**Music and Activities begin @ 6:30 pm Seder @ 7:00 pm**

Celebrate the New Year of the trees with us!

Featuring a beautiful Seder with foods and wine of the earth, spiritual explanations by the Rabbi, live music and activities for children of all ages. Children will be planting parsley seeds, which will grow just in time to adorn your Pesach Seder plate! Contribution \$ 18 / person ; \$30 / family.

For reservations please call Havurat office 718-261-5500 or email [hyoffice18@yahoo.com](mailto:hyoffice18@yahoo.com)



SUNDAY Feb. 5 / 12 Shevat	MONDAY Feb. 6 / 13 Shevat	TUESDAY Feb. 7 / 14 Shevat	WEDNESDAY Feb. 8 / 15 Shevat	THURSDAY Feb. 9 / 16 Shevat	FRIDAY Feb. 10 / 17 Shevat
7:30 am Amud Yomi 8:00 am Shacharit	6:30 am Amud Yomi 6:50 am Shacharit  7:00 pm Hebrew Reading class will resume Feb. 13	6:30 am Amud Yomi 6:50 am Shacharit  6:30 Tu Be'shvat party Cost \$18 8:15 pm NO Kabbalah class - R. Algaze	6:30 am Amud Yomi 6:50 am Shacharit  7:30 pm An Introduction to the Siddur –David Alkalay 8:15 pm Ideas and Texts in Judaism - R. Kraft	6:30 am Amud Yomi 6:50 am Shacharit	6:30 am Amud Yomi 6:50 am Shacharit  5:05 pm Candle Lighting 5:15 pm Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat

## HAVURAT YISRAEL

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## WORRY'S END

By Rabbi David Algaze

***“They came to Marah, but they could not drink the waters of Marah because they were bitter...G-d showed him [Moses] a tree; he threw it into the water and the water became sweet. There He established [for the nation] a decree and an ordinance and there He tested them.” (Shemot 15: 23-25)***

After the miraculous salvation from Egypt and especially after the wondrous parting of the Sea, the people of Israel felt very insecure about from where they would have water to drink. The story of a nation complaining and questioning G-d's remarkable help after having been redeemed from the most oppressive society in history through spectacular and astonishing means and miracles that demonstrated without a doubt that G-d was with them appears incredible. How could they doubt that G-d would provide for them and be ready to assist them in every need? Rabbi S.R. Hirsch explains that the salvation from Egypt and the parting of the sea taught them that G-d could intervene in extraordinary circumstances and moments of great danger. However, they were unsure as to whether G-d would be available for daily, small needs. The entire journey through the desert was to teach them that indeed there is no need or request from any human being that is too small for G-d to hear and consider. Therefore, this experience of the bitter waters contained an important lesson: that He was present all the time and always ready to help.

The sight of the tree bark and the resulting sweetening of the bitter waters teach the people of Israel that G-d can convert bitterness into sweetness and deprivation into provision. The Torah says that “there He established a decree and an ordinance” because by means of this transformation the people learned that in G-d's laws and commandments lie the secret for a life of joy and physical and mental health. The Egyptian society and way of life were diseases affecting the health and well-being of people. However, by living a life guided by the principles of G-d's laws, the Jewish people will be spared the “diseases which I placed in Egypt.” G-d explains this phenomenon with the words, “For I am your Doctor.” Like a competent and experienced physician, G-d's instructions are not only curative but are essentially preventative of contracting serious illness. The Creator, Who knows the ways and functions of the Universe, is the best “specialist” to consult about how to preclude ailments. When we apply the lessons of the Torah to our life, we can change the bitterest situations into pleasant ones and inhibit any insalubrious condition. Observing G-d's will has the power to take us safely through dangerous places and enable us to bear the harshest environments and settings. In the desert the people of Israel grasped that He is our Doctor and Guide.

In this manner we can understand the process of absence and presence, the want and the fulfillment that occurs in the relationship between G-d and Israel. As it happened many times in the history of Israel, after a period of deprivation and crisis comes the relief. Feeling thirsty and hungry are very disturbing experiences and when G-d provides for us, at those moments we acquire a very powerful message: that everything does not depend on us alone but on G-d. It is for this reason that G-d led Israel through the desert, a place that lacks the bare necessities of life, where basic staples are unobtainable and where anxiety and fear are around the corner. This is in order that when G-d provided for them food and water they discovered that He would be the Provider and the source of supply for all their needs. He would always be there to sustain them and support them.

When Man feels that he is the only source of nourishment, when he believes that only through his efforts and skills he would be able to fulfill his needs, there is a natural worry that there will not be enough for tomorrow. This uncertainty feeds a powerful greed and he develops an insatiable and irrational tendency to accumulate assets far beyond his needs. This pursuit can become ruthless and immoral and the consequence of this may be amassing wealth not only for himself but for his children and descendants for generations to come to an extent that lacks logic. The ultimate result of this mad chase is that the worry never ends and the appetite to gather an ever increasing portion of the wealth of the world increases. This quest becomes so absorbing and compulsive that it leaves no time for any other pursuit in life. These traits and characteristics surface when we fail to see that ultimately everything comes from G-d and that He is the only source of our security.

### Sisterhood Dinner

The annual Sisterhood dinner at Cho-Sen Garden was a great evening. Everyone had a good time socializing and brainstorming on great ideas for active programming to help the shul. Come to the planning meeting Mon. Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>. 6 pm at the shul!

### Ski Shabbaton

The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Ski Shabbaton was a great success! Everyone commented on the creativity and warmth of Havurat Yisrael. We can all be very proud of the good name that Havurat enjoys in the larger community. Yasher Koach to the chair of this great program for the last 25 years, Serge Merkin. May there be many volunteers and leaders like him in Havurat!

