



# Congregation Ohr Torah

## Weekly Announcements

<http://www.ohrtorah.net>

48 Edgemount Road Edison, NJ 08817

Rabbi Yaakov Luban – Rabbi

Allen Kessel - President

Parshas Va'era

5 Tevet 5768

January 5, 2008

Candlelighting:	4:25PM
Mincha & Kabbolas Shabbos:	4:35PM
Shacharis:	7:45 & 9:00 AM
<i>Rabbi Hoffman's Gemara Avoda Zara Shiur – after Hashkama</i>	
Z'man Krias Shma (G'RA):	9:42AM
Early Mincha:	1:30 PM
<i>Rabbi Luban's Gemara Yoma Shiur: 3:35 PM</i>	
Mincha:	4:20 PM
<i>Shalosh Seudos Speaker: Billy Gewirtz</i>	
Maariv:	5:30 PM
<u>Weekday Shacharis:</u>	
Sun	7:15, 8 & 9 AM
Mon. & Thur:	6:17, 7:05, 8 AM
Tues. (Rosh Chodesh)	6:15, 7:05, 8 AM
<i>Talis &amp; Tefillin: 6:23 AM Mon, Tue. &amp; Thur.</i>	
Wed & Fri :	6:30, 7:05 & 8AM
<u>Weekday Mincha/ Maariv:</u> 4:35 PM	
<u>Weekday Maariv:</u> 7:30 & 10:10 PM	
<i>Tuesday Tehillim 9:50 PM</i>	
<i>Rabbi Luban's Halachic Responsa Shiur: 9:10 PM Monday.</i>	
<u>WINTER DAF YOMI SCHEDULE</u>	
Monday – Thur: After 7:30 Maariv, Fri: After Maariv, Shabbos: 8:15 AM or after Hashkama	
Minyan, Sunday: After 8 AM Shacharis	

### BARUCH HABAH

Ohr Torah would like to welcome newcomers, visitors and guests who are joining us. If our President, Allen Kessel or Rabbi Yaakov Luban does not get a chance to welcome you personally, please come up and introduce yourself.

### KIDDUSH SPONSORSHIP

Kiddush sponsorship is available for: Jan. 19th & 26th and Feb. 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd. To sponsor a Kiddush or reserve the Kiddush room, please contact Mel Barenholtz in person, by phone or email: [mbarenh@yahoo.com](mailto:mbarenh@yahoo.com). To sponsor a Shalosh Seudos, please contact Moshe Wiesel.

### OHR TORAH NEWSLETTER

To subscribe to these Announcements, please email [info@ohrtorah.net](mailto:info@ohrtorah.net) and request to be added to the distribution.

### TREE OF LIFE and/or YAHRZEIT PLAQUES

To dedicate a Yahrzeit Plaque or a Leaf for the Lobby Eitz Chayim Tree, please contact Moish Nat by sending a detailed fax with all dedicatory wording to 732-442-8022. For more info. Call Moish at 732-442-5751 during work days or 732-572-4132 in the evening.

### RITUAL COMMITTEE

If you have any Ritual Committee issues or questions that need to be addressed, please E\_mail Rabbi Israel Poleyeff <[rspot@optonline.net](mailto:rspot@optonline.net)>

### SEFORIM DEDICATIONS

Book/Seforim Dedications of all types are available by contacting Barry Siegel at [siegelad@optonline.net](mailto:siegelad@optonline.net) or 732-572-4408.

### HOUSEKEEPING

For housekeeping issues and inquiries contact Lou Smith at [louis.w.smith@verizon.com](mailto:louis.w.smith@verizon.com) or 732-572-5633.

### OHR TORAH YOUTH PROGRAM EVENTS

Children can register for events on Ohr Torah's website "ohrtorah.net" or by calling Mayer Berg at 732-572-3429.

### MAZEL TOV

...to Ruth and Marc Kalton on the engagement of their son Ari to Aliza Goldofsky of Jamaica Estates. Mazel Tov to Aliza's parents, Seryl and Elliot Goldofsky.

...to Rabbi Dr. Bernhard and Charlene Rosenberg on the marriage of their daughter, Ayelet to Ari Feder of West Hempstead. Mazel Tov to his parents, Sharon and Elliot Feder and the entire families.

... to Janice and Arnie Lustiger on the birth of Miriam Esther to Noam and Shevy.

...to Ruchie and Yossi Stern on the engagement of their son Zev to Rachelle Lapin of Seattle, Washington.

...to Bonnie and Alan Borck, on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Jacob at Ohav Emeth this Shabbos. Mazel tov to the grandparents Harold & Francine Borck and Marty & Shirley Kaye, the great grandmother Mrs. Annette Felsen and the entire family.

...to Mrs. Goldie Meizlik on the marriage of her granddaughter Rena Ginsberg to Yoni Ray of Skokie, IL

### SHALOSH SEUDOS

Shalosh Seudos is sponsored by Debbie and Billy Gewirtz to commemorate the Yahrzeit of Billy's mother Chava Leah bas Zev Z"L

### BOARD MEETING

There will be a Board Meeting Tuesday January 8th @ 8:00 PM.

### ORTHODOX UNION PRESIDENT TO DELIVER DRASHA

Mr. Steven Savitsky is visiting our shul as part of a ten-city tour to discuss major issues facing contemporary Jewry. He will deliver the drasha in the main minyan as well as at Hashkama, and will be available for further discussion after davening. He will also be speaking at an Oneg Shabbos Friday night at Ohav Emeth, and Shalosh Seudos at Ahavas Achim.

### 2008 Membership Directory

We are currently preparing the 2008 Ohr Torah Membership Directory.

1. Please send name, address, and phone number updates to [memberdirectory@ohrtorah.net](mailto:memberdirectory@ohrtorah.net).
2. We will be publishing email addresses and children's names this year.

PLEASE DOUBLE CHECK ALL SPELLINGS BEFORE SUBMITTING.

### CONDOLENCES

...to Gedalia Reiss, on the loss of his father, Rabbi Philip Reiss, z"l.

May you be comforted among the mourners of Tzion and Yerushalayim.

### ANNOUNCING OT BEIS MEDRASH PROGRAM

We would like to open the Shul and the Beis Medrash each evening of the week, and invite the members of the congregation and general community (Olam) to come and learn there so the "Kol Torah" will be heard emanating from the Shul's Beis Medrash on a nightly basis. There is a special beauty and kedusha in learning with a group in a Beis Medrash. Currently, the Beis Medrash is accessible from the 7:30 Maariv through the learning of Daf Yomi on Monday through Thursday evenings, and this is a wonderful thing, but we would like to expand the hours. Many of us are koveiah itim latorah in our homes, yet if the Beis Medrash were accessible each evening for learning from 8:15 to 10:10, more members would begin to make use of the Beis Medrash. This will in turn hopefully inspire others to avail themselves of the wonderful array of Sefarim in the Beis Medrash and create a powerful learning environment throughout the evening.

To get this project off the ground, we'll need volunteers to commit to learn in the Beis Midrash for one hour, on one night each week so that we will be able to promote to the entire membership that the Shul is open for learning each evening from the Daf Yomi straight through until the Late Maariv at 10:10. We would also like open the Beis Midrash from 8-10:10 on Sunday evenings, so Sunday evening volunteers will be necessary as well. To volunteer to commit to one hour of learning in the Beis Midrash, please speak with Larry Greenman or contact him at 732-306-4850 or at [lgreenman@njop.org](mailto:lgreenman@njop.org) Tizku L'Mitzvos.

### TUESDAY TEHILLIM

The weekly recitation of Tehillim on Tuesday nights in the Beis Medrash was initiated five years ago as our response to the intifada, 9/11, as well as to the many people in our community who are seriously ill. Unfortunately, participation has dwindled in recent months, with often only 2 or 3 people participating. The needs of Klal Yisrael and our own community are as great as they ever were – please help us keep this worthy tradition alive in our shul - 9:50 PM on Tuesdays, followed by Maariv at 10:10 PM.

### TORAH TAPE LIBRARY UPDATE

The massive task of reorganizing and updating the tape [cd] library is coming to a close. While the final stages are being completed, there are still opportunities for dedicating NEW sets of cd's from well known speakers such as Rabbi Frand, Rabbi Wein etc. The dedication of the multi cd sets varies from between \$30-\$60 per set.

**REMINDER:** The emergency Defibrillator is in the Beis Medrash Chazzon's shulchan.  
PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR MORE OHR TORAH INFORMATION

Please contact Larry Greenspan at 732-828-5642 home, or 732-501-5455 cell, for details on how to make your dedication.

### CHUMASH DEDICATION OPPORTUNITY

The (teen minyan) has outgrown the OT Beis Medrash and now davens in the RPRY Beis Medrash on Shabbos. There is a great need to provide that minyan with proper Chumashim & Siddurim. OT has purchased 100 of the ArtScroll travel size combination Stone Chumash & Siddur. Dedications are available for \$30 per Chumash/siddur. Please let Barry Siegel ([Siegeldad@optonline.net](mailto:Siegeldad@optonline.net)), Mayer Berg or Harvey Atlas know if you would like to dedicate these. Thanks for your help To date 55 of the new Teen Minyan Chumash/Siddur have been dedicated, just 45 more to go.

### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### GUEST CHAZAN AT CONG. ETZ AHAIM THIS SHABBOS

Guest hazan Avinoam Harel, hazan of Beit Knesset Yahanan Ben Zakkai in Jerusalem, will be leading services at Congregation Etz Ahaim (230 Dennison St.) Shabbat Parshat Vaera. Shacharit services start at 8:45am.

#### EMUNAH ART AUCTION

Jan. 12th Annual Emunah ART SHOW/AUCTION at Ohr Torah. Decorate your house with beautiful art as you support our brothers and sisters in Israel- and have an exciting evening to boot! It's a no-lose proposition. Save the date.

#### A TIME OF NORTH JERSEY

A TIME of North Jersey invites women experiencing infertility to a Rosh Chodesh "Tea & Talk" on Tuesday 1/8 at 8 PM. Shayna Goldberg will lead a discussion group at the home of Rebetzin Chaviva Rothwachs, 288 Schley Place, Teaneck, NJ. For questions, please contact 201-289-5872 or [nj@atime.org](mailto:nj@atime.org).

#### THE ORTHODOX FORUM OF EDISON/HP

Announces the Winter 2008 Schedule  
Motzei Shabbat January 12, 2008 at 7:45pm  
Congregation Ohr Torah – 48 Edgemount Rd.  
Edison, NJ YOSEF PRAGER Session Chair: Rabbi David Moss "High Cost of Jewish Living"  
Motzei Shabbat February 9, 2008 at 8:00pm  
Cong. Ahavas Achim – 216 South First Ave. HP, NJ  
Rabbi Elazar Teitz/ Esther Mackner Session Chair: Debbie Teitz "The Agunah Crisis".  
The Orthodox Forum gladly accepts sponsorships of \$100-\$200. Please send your tax deductible check, made out to Congregation Ohr Torah Gemach Fund, to Henry Lerner, 1 Celler Rd.,

Edison, NJ 08817 For more info contact Joel Paul at [JHPaul@earthlink.net](mailto:JHPaul@earthlink.net). The Orthodox Forum of Edison/Highland Park. Chairperson: Dr. Mark Kligman

#### RPRY MISHMAR PROGRAM

Mishmar learning program is held at RPRY every Motzei Shabbat, This week @ 7:00. Please bring your own seforim. Cost is \$2.00 which includes, pizza, donuts, prizes and raffles.

#### SPIRITUAL EVENING PLANNED

The murder this past week of our dear friends David Rubin and Achikam Amichai Hy"d has been heartbreaking for us. We feel we all need to stop for a moment and try to connect our feelings to Hashem through prayer and praise and to make this loss as personal as possible for all of Klal Yisrael. We would like to invite you to a spiritual evening where we will sing, pray, and contemplate the trials that Hashem puts us through. We will tell stories about our dear friends in order for us all to gain the power to continue at this terrible time. We would also like to setup learning Mishnayot in their memory, with a Siyum Mishnayot to coincide with their Shloshim. To sign up please go to <http://www.lzechernishmas.com/signup.php?id=309> and look for David Rubin and Achikam Amichai. Please join us, teens and adults, at the home of Cindy and Alan Lichtbroun, 15 Redcoat Drive, East Brunswick, on Motzae Shabbat, Saturday night, Jan 5th, at 8PM. You are welcome to bring your own musical instrument.

#### ACTT SPONSORS EVENING

The ACTT organization (Achieving Change Through Torah) is sponsoring a community-wide inspirational evening at Congregation Ohav Emeth this Saturday night, January 5, 2008 at 8:30 PM. *Rabbi Yaakov Wasser*, Moreh D'Asra of Young Israel of East Brunswick and Vice President of the Rabbinical Council of America, will be discussing "The Art of Thinking Before Speaking - How to Control Your Tongue Before It Controls You". Admission is free and the entire community is encouraged to attend. Sponsors are welcome. For more info, call Jonathan Abrahams (732) 220-2946, Wendy Bar (732) 220-8765, Joe Friedman (732) 732-985-8014, Michael Lafond (732) 432-9860, Phil Rosen (732) 572-8762, or Aviva Siegel (732) 572-4408. Web-site: [www.actt613.org](http://www.actt613.org), e-mail: [info@actt613.org](mailto:info@actt613.org).

#### RJJ HALACHA SERIES

Halachos of Shabbos by Rabbi Zvi Goldman on 9:15 AM Sundays at RJJ, 1 Plainfield Rd.

#### JR NCSY EVENTS

If you have not signed up for membership yet, you can sign up online at [www.njnscy.com](http://www.njnscy.com) Membership is mandatory to attend any shabbaton but not an event. For more info please call Phili Hernandez at 609-647-6842 or Moshe Stern at 732-777-1325 or check us out online.

#### REBBITZEN EICHENSTEIN'S WOMEN'S NAVI CLASSES

Rebbitzen Eichenstein will be having her Navi class on Megillas Eichah, Sunday morning, Jan 6 at 10AM at Cong. Agudath Israel. Class will not be held on Monday evening, Jan 7. Classes are for women only. For more info, please contact Aviva Siegel at [siegelmom@optonline.net](mailto:siegelmom@optonline.net) or Ricki Stern 732-828-6939 [rickistern@yahoo.com](mailto:rickistern@yahoo.com)  
MRS. MIRI COHEN'S LADIES PARSHA CLASS  
Mrs. Miri Cohen's ladies Parsha class will meet Tuesday, Jan 8 at 9:15AM at the home of Lynn Hanfling, 47 Leslie St., Edison. For more info, please contact Azriella Jaffe 732-985-7613. Mrs. Miri Cohen's ladies Parsha class will also meet on Wednesday, Jan 9 at 9AM at the home of Mrs. Cohen, 115 South 8th Ave, Highland Park. For more info, please contact Chana Weinstein 732-572-0471.

#### PARK MIKVAH

Highland Park/Edison Mikvah hours are Saturday-Thursday, 8:30-10:30pm. Friday nights are by appointment only (732-249-2411). Fee is \$15. Out of hours: an ADDITIONAL \$20 fee.

#### EMPLOYMENT NETWORK OF RARITAN VALLEY

For info, go to [www.ENRV.org](http://www.ENRV.org), or contact Bob Lansley at [ENRV@verizon.net](mailto:ENRV@verizon.net) or 732-819-8651.

#### LOCAL ERUV

Please call 732-247-ERUV for status of the Eruv.

#### Parshas Bo

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|------------------|---------|
| • Candlelighting | 4:32 PM |
| • Mincha         | 4:40 PM |

#### VISIT OHR TORAH ON THE WEB!

Ohr Torah can now be found on the internet at <http://www.ohrtorah.net> You can join the email list for Weekly Announcements. Any ideas and comments about the site can be sent to [webmaster@ohrtorah.net](mailto:webmaster@ohrtorah.net) Announcements should be sent to [announcements@ohrtorah.net](mailto:announcements@ohrtorah.net) Submit all announcements by 7 PM Wednesday.  
TELEPHONE: Call 732-777-6840, press Newsletter option (spell all names)  
PLEASE NOTE: Please make sure that you leave a contact/callback name and phone # in case there is a question regarding the item you wish to be printed, otherwise it may not be included.

Sof davar....

by Rabbi Israel Poleyeff, research by Jonathan Falk

### American Jewish Communities: Charleston, S.C.

What better place to begin this series than with Charleston, SC, one of the oldest, if not *the* oldest Jewish community in the United States. Jews first arrived there in 1670. Some 25 years later, in 1695, records indicate that an unnamed Spanish-speaking Jew was an interpreter in the colony's dealings with the Indians. Jews were drawn to Charleston because of the religious freedom that prevailed there and they became, as you might expect, shopkeepers, traders and merchants. Records also indicate that a Moses Lindo was a surveyor and was Inspector General for the colony as well. After *davening* in private homes for more than 50 years a *shul* was finally built in 1749 called Kehilla Kedosha Bais Elokim. Like many early *shuls* in the U.S. it followed the sefardic *nusach*. A Moses Cohen was its first rabbi and its president was Joseph Tobias. Charleston's Jews sent several of its members to fight in the Revolutionary War, some of them achieving officer rank. In 1790 the Charleston Jews congratulated George Washington on his election as president in a special letter sent to the chief of state. As Jewish influence grew a number of them were elected to various public offices. The first of them was a Francisco Salvador whose tenure, unfortunately, was cut short as he was killed by an Indian in some military skirmish. The Civil War decimated the city of Charleston and the Jewish community suffered as well. By the late 1900s there were three *shuls* in Charleston, one orthodox (Brith Shalom Beth Israel, founded in 1854 and reputed to be the oldest Ashkenazic *shul* in continuous service), one conservative and one reform. Surprise of surprises the largest of the three is the orthodox *shul*. The city also has a day school, The Addestone Hebrew Academy. The Jewish community, 340 years old, though not a major player on the Jewish scene, still boasts a proud, vibrant *kehilla* that goes back further than any other community in the United States.

PLEASE HELP KEEP THE SHUL NEAT...PLEASE RETURN SIDDURIM & CHUMASHIM TO THE REAR OF THE SANCTUARY  
AFTER DAVENING.