

Young Israel of the Main Line Weekly Update

273 Montgomery Ave.
(610) 667-3255
Stan Sved, President



Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004
www.yiml.org
Rabbi Avraham Steinberg

Women's Pre-Shavuot Shiur

Rebbetzin Chani Juravel, a noted educator and lecturer, will be giving a shiur for women on Sunday, May 28th at 11:00 a.m. at the YIML entitled, "Preparing for Sinai: The Renewal of Self." \$10 Suggested Donation, \$72 Sponsorships Welcome.

Chevra Mishnavos

The Chevra Mishnavos has started learning Seder Nezikin. Please sign up by putting your name on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board or speak to Moshe Eisenberg.

Aish Philadelphia Annual Community Gala

Aish Philadelphia is holding its annual Community Gala on Tuesday, May 23rd at 6:00 PM at the Natural History Museum. Honorees this year include our own members, **Janis and Richie Fine**. The guest speaker will be Rabbi Lawrence Keleman speaking on *Good to Great: Why Some People Make the Leap...and Others Don't*.

Stern Hebrew High School Annual Gala Reception

Stern Hebrew High School is honoring Rabbi Simkovich with the Distinguished Educator Award on June 4 at their sixth annual gala reception at the National Constitution Center.

Triple-Twin Mazel Tovs

Mazel Tov to the following three couples on the birth of twins this past week!

Mazel Tov to **Rabbi Yehuda and Orit Seif** on the birth and brisos of Yisroel Alter and Uriel Yosef.

Mazel Tov to **Dov and Shani Daniel** on the birth of a boy and a girl. (Shalom Zachor info on front page.)

Mazel Tov to **Avraham Simcha and Aviva Adler** on the birth of twin girls.

Mazel Tov to...

...Gary and Andrea Diamond on being chosen as honorees at the upcoming National Council of Young Israel Annual Dinner.

...Janis and Richie Fine on being chosen as honorees for the upcoming Aish Philadelphia's Annual Community Gala.

...Rabbi Simkovich on being chosen for the Distinguished Educator Award at the upcoming Stern Hebrew High School Annual Gala Reception.

R' Steinberg Info: Home: 610-664-3796 E-mail: rabbi@yiml.org
Stan Sved, President Info: Home: 610-660-5002

All submissions, suggestions, sponsorships, and advertisements should be directed to Moshe Eisenberg, creator of this Weekly Update.

May 19-26, 2006

Parshas Behar-Bechukosai פרשת בהר-בחקותי

Shabbos Davening Times

Candle lighting:	7:54 p.m.
Mincha - Friday:	7:00 p.m.
Sof Zman Krias Shema:	9:19 a.m.
Shacharis:	8:45 a.m.
Mincha- Shabbos followed by Shalosh Seudos:	7:40 p.m.
Maariv:	8:58 p.m.

Weekday Davening Times

Shacharis - Sunday:	8:00 a.m.
Shacharis- Mon and Thurs:	6:40 a.m.
Shacharis- Tues, Wed, Fri:	6:50 a.m.
Mincha /Maariv- Sun-Thurs:	8:05 p.m.

Shalom Zachor

There will be a Shalom Zachor this Friday night for the son of Shani and Dov Daniel at the home of Abba and Ruthie Krieger (501 Waldron Terrace.)

Shavuot All Night Learning Schedule

Refreshments and coffee will be served.

Time	Topic	Speaker
12:30 AM	'What is Olam Habah?': A Fundamental Machlokes Rishonim	Rabbi Steinberg
1:30 AM	Lefty Laws: "The Torah's View of the Iter Yad"	Dr. Danny Eisenberg
2:30 AM	Driving Home from Medical Emergencies on Shabbos	Rabbi Steinberg
3:30 AM	Gilgulim: The Torah's Concept of Reincarnation	Rabbi Steinberg

SHACHARIS: 4:45 a.m. (Sunrise: 5:31 a.m.)



Shiurim*



DAY	TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER	NOTES
Shabbos	8:15 a.m.	Parshas Hashavua	Rabbi Steinberg	
Shabbos	45 minutes before Mincha	Gemara Sukka	Rabbi Steinberg	
Shabbos	Between Mincha & Maariv	Chabura Topic and speaker vary from week to week.	TBA	
Sunday Morning	After Davening	Sefer Hachinuch	Dov Gottlieb	
Mon., Wed.	After Maariv	Mishna Berura Hilchos Shabbos	Eli Back	
15 minutes before Shacharis on Sun.-Fri.		Shaarei Teshuva	Rabbi Steinberg	
Monday	9:30 a.m.	Women's Tehillim Group		At the Eisenberg home
Wednesday	8:30 p.m.	Practical Halacha Shiur for Women	Rabbi Steinberg	
Thursday night	10:15 p.m.	Nefesh Hachaim	Rav Sholom Kamenetsky	

*All shiurim are at YIML unless specified.



Kiddush this Shabbos is sponsored by Avraham Simcha and Aviva Adler in honor of the birth of twin daughters.

B'nos of Bala Cynwyd

Bnos of Bala Cynwyd will meet this Shabbos at Lower Merion Synagogue from 4-5 p.m.

Pirchei of Philadelphia

Pirchei of Philadelphia will meet this Shabbos at Lower Merion Synagogue from 4-5 p.m.

Softball News

This Sunday, May 21, Four Corners vs. Beth Am at Belmont Field. See bulletin board for directions and to sign up for fan club emails.

Parshas Bechukosai

by Rabbi Yaakov Menken

In this week's reading, G-d promises His blessings if we follow in His ways, and, may we see no more, curses if we do not.

Rabbi Avraham Ibn Ezra questions why the curses are so much longer than the blessings. There are eleven verses of blessing, while the section of curses is three times as long. This is strange, especially because we find throughout Jewish thought that G-d's attribute of goodness is stronger than any attribute of punishment.

The Tosefes Bracha provides an insightful answer. The good must be said briefly, he says, because if anything is missing from it, then it is no longer so good. Meaning, if a person is wealthy he is in a "good" situation, but if he is ill you can no longer call his situation "good." If he has both wealth and health, but has not been blessed with children, than once again his circumstances are no longer entirely "good." And if he has children, but they are rebellious and have nothing to do with him, again it's not good. So whenever "good" is specified, it must be fulfilled in its entirety.

When it comes to misfortune, just the opposite is true. Even a single misfortune is bad, and piling one upon another simply makes matters worse. If an impoverished person is also sick, his misfortune is still greater than if he suffered only one or the other.

So this is the reason, says the Tosefes Bracha, that the blessings are stated briefly: for if there is any deviation from them, then the blessing is defective and not truly good. When any type of blessing is specified, there is an expectation that it will be fulfilled -- and if it is not, then the person feels the lack of that particular type of blessing, and the "good" is missing. But on the negative side, one bad thing can be piled upon the other without limit, and thus the curses can be stated at length.

The truth of the matter is that no one is entirely blessed in this world. There isn't a person on the planet who has nothing to worry about.

This being the case, a person cannot escape from worry by building a successful business, exercising daily, or by consulting the best of psychotherapists. The only thing one can do is develop trust in G-d. Religion is hardly an "opiate" -- but a religious outlook is necessary for true satisfaction to be possible.

One of the most fundamental concepts in Jewish thought is that G-d cares about each individual, and creates a situation for him or her which is in fact ideal -- not ideal as in relaxed or free from worries, but ideal for spiritual growth. This is true no matter how it might appear to our eyes, and therefore our situation is "good" after all. Whatever the test is, we can pass it and grow in the process.

The only thing we must do, then, is realize that this is true. Spiritual giants are capable of suffering even the worst of situations with a smile and true satisfaction with their station in life. That is a treasure worth far more than a vault full of diamonds -- and one which all of us can hope to unearth within ourselves!

Taken from torah.org