

Michtav Me'Eliyahu Shiur

The topic of Rabbi Steinberg's Michtav me'Eliyahu shiur this Shabbos between Mincha and Maariv will be, "From the Letters of Rav Yerucham zt"l."

Shovavim Shiurim - (Schedule Change)

In conjunction with the Philadelphia Community Kollel, Rabbi Steinberg will give two Taharas HaMishpacha review classes for men, starting this week:

Tuesday, January 9- 8:00 PM & Tuesday, January 16- 8:00

YIML Cookbook

YIML proudly presents our very own COOKBOOK. Sponsorships are still available at \$36, \$54, \$72 and \$180. Please contact Ilana Buchbinder (ij1927@aol.com) or Shani Daniel (shani314@yahoo.com).

Condolences

We regret to announce the passing of Jacob Perez, father of our member Dan Perez. (Shiva concludes this Shabbos.) *May the mourners be comforted among the aveilei Tzion ve'Yerushalayim*

Community Announcements

Lower Merion Community Women's Health and Learning Day

The Lower Merion Community Women's Health and Learning Day in memory of Dr. Rivka Ausubel Danzig z"l will take place on Sunday, January 7, 2007 at Lower Merion Synagogue from 9:00 a.m.-2:15 p.m. Leading medical professionals and religious educators will present topics pertaining to cancer, reproductive health concerns, Taharat Hamishpacha, and much more. The cost is \$25 in advance or \$36 at the door. Lunch is included. Babysitting will be available at \$5 per child. For more information, contact Judy Pomerantz at jpomerantz2@comcast.net or Kayla Warren at kaylakap@comcast.net. This event is for women only.

B'nos of Bala Cynwyd

B'nos of Bala Cynwyd will meet this Shabbos in the **Social Hall** at Lower Merion Synagogue from **3:00-4:00 p.m.** Please remind your daughters to come to B'nos prepared for a talent show starring each of them.

Pirchei of Philadelphia

Pirchei of Philadelphia will meet this Shabbos on the **upper level** of Lower Merion Synagogue from **3:00-4:00 p.m.**

R' Steinberg Info: Shul: 610-667-3255 ext. 1 E-mail: rabbi@yiml.org
Stan Sved, President Info: Home: 610-660-5002

Young Israel of the Main Line Weekly Update

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Stan Sved, President



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

January 5-12, 2007

Parshas Vayechi

פרשת ויחי

Shabbos Davening Times

Candle lighting:	4:31 p.m.
Mincha - Friday:	4:30 p.m.
Shacharis:	8:45 a.m.
Sof Zman Krias Shema:	9:45 a.m.
Mincha for Shabbos:	4:15 p.m.
Maariv:	5:35 p.m.

Weekday Davening Times

Shacharis- Sunday:	8:00 a.m.
Mincha- Sunday:	4:40 p.m.
Shacharis- Mon, Thurs:	6:40 a.m.
Shacharis- Tues, Wed, Fri:	6:50 a.m.
Maariv (Mon-Thurs):	7:45 p.m.

There will not be weekday Mincha until the Spring.

Next Shabbos Davening Times

Candle lighting:	4:38 p.m.
Mincha - Friday:	4:40 p.m.

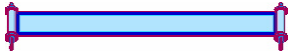
Special Chumash Shiur This Week

Rabbi Steinberg will be giving a special Chumash shiur on Shabbos morning at 8:15 a.m. based on the methodology of Rav Shamshon Raphael Hirsch zt"l.

Chevra Mishnayos

The Chevra Mishnayos has started learning Seder Moed. Please sign up by putting your name on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. For more information, please speak with Moshe Eisenberg.

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



Shiurim*



DAY	TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER	NOTES
Shabbos	8:15 a.m.	Parshas Hashavua	Rabbi Steinberg	Special shiur this week. See front for details.
Shabbos	Between Mincha and Maariv	Michtav me'Eliyahu	Rabbi Steinberg	Topic: From the Letters of Rav Yerucham zt"l
Shabbos	Between Mincha and Maariv	Medical Ethics Chabura	Dr. Daniel Eisenberg	CANCELLED
Sunday Morning	After Davening	Sefer Hachinuch	Moshe Buchbinder	
Mon., Wed.	Before Mincha	Mishna Berura	Eli Back	
15 minutes before Shacharis on Sun.-Fri.		Chovos Halevovos	Rabbi Steinberg	
Monday	9:30 a.m.	Women's Tehillim Group		345 Bala Ave.
Tuesday	8:00 p.m.	Gemora Kesuvos First Perek	Rabbi Steinberg	CANCELLED For two weeks
Wednesday	8:15 p.m.	Sefer Shmuel Bais	Rabbi Steinberg	Shiur for Women
Thursday night	10:15 p.m.	Nefesh Hachaim	Rav Sholom Kamenetsky	

*All shiurim are at YIML unless specified.

Parshas Vayechi

By Rabbi Yaakov Menken

"Yissachar is a strong donkey, who rests between the borders. And he saw rest, that it was good, and the land that it was pleasant, but he bent his shoulder to accept [the burden] and became an indentured servant." [49:14]

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In describing his son Yissachar, Yaakov describes prophetically how Yissachar's sons would conduct themselves in the Land of Israel. They were Torah scholars, who bore the burden of Torah and studied it intensely. The children of his younger brother Zevulun became merchants, and used their wealth to support the Torah learning of Yissachar. So the verse tells us that though Yissachar could have rested or engaged in agriculture, he instead devoted himself to the most difficult task of all.

The Rebbe of Belz, Rabbi Aharon Rokeach zt"l, parsed this verse in a different way after the Holocaust.

The Rebbe, who before the war had tens of thousands of Chassidim in Poland, Hungary and Slovakia, was pursued relentlessly by the Nazis. He was forced to cut his beard and disguise himself as a peasant, hiding himself in a cellar in an outlying village. When the danger grew still worse, several of his Chassidim helped him to escape, endangering their own lives in the process.

According to stories told by the Chassidim later, the Rebbe's rescue was one miracle after another. The problem was traveling across borders without identification. If they were stopped and captured, they could easily have been shipped back to Poland and murdered by the Nazis. And in order to reach Israel, they traveled over the Polish-Slovakian border to Hungary, Romania, Turkey, Syria and Lebanon, finally arriving at the northern border of the Holy Land.

Every time they approached a border, which was usually overrun with patrolling soldiers, the skies darkened, and an intense rain began to fall. The soldiers, of course, went for cover -- they could hardly see very far even if they stayed outside. And in this way, the Rebbe and his Chassidim were able to cross the borders without difficulty. And as soon as the danger passed, the clouds parted and they traveled on, enjoying extraordinarily pleasant weather until they reached the next border.

When they reached the Land of Israel, then called Palestine, in 1944, the Rebbe settled in Tel Aviv and many of the Chassidei Belz then in Israel moved to be close to him. At the end of the war, surviving Chassidim reached the Rebbe there, and told him of the horrors which had occurred. Tens of thousands of Belzer Chassidim were among those who perished in Treblinka and Auschwitz. The Rebbe's own family was wiped out, his only son murdered in Belz itself.

After mourning his horrific losses, the Rebbe turned to his brother, and said: "Our family is no longer alive. The majority of Chassidei Belz are lost -- but there are many who survived the fires of Europe. We must restore the trust and faith of Belz; we must build anew. And we must build here, in the Land of Israel, the home of Jews and Judaism."

And here is how he interpreted the verse, "And he saw rest, that it was good, and the land that it was pleasant, but he bent his shoulder to accept...:"

"Physical rest, one can find in America -- but the pleasantness, the goodness of Judaism, especially when there is a need to bend and accept a burden, that, we find in the Land."

Taken from torah.org