

# YOUNG ISRAEL OF THE MAIN LINE

## Weekly Update

Rabbi Avraham Steinberg  
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### Parshas Ki Sisa פרשת כי תשא

February 22-23—ח' תשס"ח—ז' אדר א'

#### Shabbos Davening Times

Earliest candle lighting:	4:35pm
Candle lighting:	5:26pm
Mincha - Friday:	5:25pm
Sof Zman Krias Shema:	9:28am
Shacharis:	8:45am
Mincha followed by Chabura:	5:20pm
Maariv:	6:30pm

#### Weekday Davening Times

Shacharis Sunday:	8:00am
Mincha/Maariv Sunday:	5:35pm
Shacharis (Mon., Thu.):	6:40am
Shacharis (Tue., Wed., Fri.):	6:50am
Maariv (Mon.-Thu.):	7:45pm

#### Next Shabbos Times

Candle lighting:	5:34pm
Mincha - Friday:	5:35pm

משנכנס אדר מרבנים בשמחה!

## Calendar of Shiurim

DAY	TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER	NOTES
Shabbos	7:55am–8:15am	Parsha Chabura	R. Fine	ROTATES
Shabbos	8:15am	Parsha Shiur	R. Steinberg	
Shabbos	After Mincha	Chabura	R. Y. Seif	
Shabbos	After Mincha	Medical Halacha	D. Eisenberg	
Sunday	After Shacharis	Sefer Hachinuch	M. Buchbinder	
Mon., Wed.	After Maariv	Mishna Berura	Eli Back	
Sun.-Fri.	15 min. before Shacharis	Chovos haLevovos	R. Steinberg	
Monday	9:00pm	Advanced Gemora: Makkos	R. Steinberg	
Thursday	10:10pm	Nefesh Hachaim	Rav Sholom Kamenetsky	

\*All shiurim are at YIML unless specified.

### THIS SHABBOS

#### Kiddush:

Kiddush is community sponsored.

#### Chabura:

This week between Mincha and Maariv: *Haliteyhu l'Rasha v'Yamus: Ignoring the Wicked as they Die for their Sins: Theory and Practice*, given by Rabbi Yehuda Seif.

#### Bnos and Pirchei:

Bnos will IY"YH meet this week from 3:30pm to 4:30pm at LMS. There is no Pirchei this week.

### YIML PURIM SEUDAH

Please join us for the YIML Purim Seudah:

Purim Morning (Friday, March 21) 11:30am at YIML.

Cost: \$18 per adult, \$10 children over 2.

Please RSVP (so we know how many people to expect) to:

Dini Steinberg nyds2002@aol.com or (610) 664-3796.

All submissions, suggestions, and sponsorships should be directed (by Wednesday evening) to the editor of the Weekly Update, פלוגי בן פלוגי (weeklyupdate@yiml.org).

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### **Torah Academy's 44th Annual Scholarship Banquet:**

This Sunday night, Feb. 24 is Torah Academy's 44th Annual Scholarship Banquet at the Crystal Tea Room.

**Mazel Tov** to our member, Mrs. Miriam Lichtenstein, who will be receiving the Rabbi Israel M. Axelrod Excellence in Education Award.

### **Kollel Masmid Program End-of-Year Banquet:**

Join the Kollel in celebrating four months of incredible Torah learning of *tin-nokos shel beis rabbun!*

The first end-of-season Masmid banquet will take place this Tuesday night, February 26th, in the LMS Social Hall, from 6:00-7:00pm. A full fleishig meal will be served, and there will be a special guest storyteller. All adults and children who participated in this year's program are invited to join.

The Masmid program for 5768 will conclude this Motzoei Shabbos with the last program for the season which will begin at 7:30pm.

## ONGOING EVENTS

### **Chevra Mishnayos:**

The Chevra Mishnayos is now learning Seder Moed. See the shul bulletin board to sign up.

### **Women's Tehillim Group:**

The Women's Tehillim Group meets Mondays at 9:45am at 345 Bala Ave.

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### **Are you on our e-mail list?**

To subscribe to the shul mailing list, send a message to [majordomo@chaseplanet.us](mailto:majordomo@chaseplanet.us) with the following in the message body (all one line): `subscribe yiml YOUR-EMAIL`

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### **Rabbi Steinberg Contact Information**

Shul: (610) 667-3255 E-mail: [rabbi@yiml.org](mailto:rabbi@yiml.org)

### **President Stan Sved Contact Information**

Cell: (215) 219-9231

### D'VAR TORAH by Rabbi Berel Wein

After all of the commentaries and explanations regarding the event of the Golden Calf that is the centerpiece of this weeks' parsha, one is still left, somehow, with an empty feeling of not understanding how such an event could have in fact occurred.

After all, did not the splitting of the sea, the war against Amalek, the manna and the miraculous wells of water, the revelation at Sinai, make an impression upon them? No doubt that all of the answers and explanations have validity, but how do we deal with this story? What is the relevance of this story to us, a generation that has many Golden Calves but certainly not that Golden calf of the parsha?

I think that the most direct and simple answer to this is to view the event in its simple realit. It is enough to know that such an event, though not understandable or rational, can and does occur. It should teach us about the irrationality of people, nations and political leaders. It should put us on notice that nothing in human affairs is unlikely or impossible.

The possibility of a Golden calf incident is always with us. By discounting the vagaries of human nature we expose ourselves to such sad incidents as described in this week's parsha. Moshe never imagines that such an event can occur amongst the people of Israel and so he ascends the mountain for his own spiritual development and to bring the Torah down to the Jewish people. Aharon also never thinks that a Golden calf can spring forth from his attempts to mollify the frenzied mob that now surrounds him. But, no matter, the Golden Calf arrives, alive and snorting fire. And that is life's lesson—that the unexpected and impossible is itself always present in our lives and society.

Anyone who reviews the events of the twentieth century will stand amazed at the events, wars, changes and profound diplomatic and political errors that shaped its story. Nothing that happened was rational or predictable in 1901.

Who could have thought that the great empires of Germany, Russia, France, England, Austria and the Ottomans would never survive that century? And who could have imagined the State of Israel arising and the destruction of European Jewry? That disaster of the Holocaust is a Golden Calf of unbelievably major proportions.

All rumors later circulated to the contrary notwithstanding, no one really envisioned such a catastrophe of so great a proportion. Since prophecy is no longer present amongst us, the future is always murky and undecipherable. Therefore the only thing certain in our lives, both personal and national, is uncertainty.

And that is the basic and troubling message of the Golden Calf incident. The parsha is here to warn us of trusting only in our judgments, conclusions and prescience. That is not how life really works and not how events play themselves out.

The events of the Golden Calf constantly repeat themselves in our life story. Fortunate are those who are not seduced by that idol and are wary initially of the attempts to construct and deify it.

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