

# Young Israel of the Main Line

273 Montgomery Ave  
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004  
www.yiml.org  
www.chaseplanet.us/yiml

Rabbi Avraham Steinberg  
610-667-3255  
rabbi@yiml.org

Sherman Frager, President  
610-667-7063



## Weekday Shiurim

Mussar Chabura: 15 mins before Shacharis.  
Mishna Brura: Mon and Wed after Maariv  
Ruach Chaim: Thursday at 10:15pm  
Mussar Shiur for Women: Mon at 9:30am at 8 Concord Circle.

## Chevra Mishnayos

The Chevra Mishnayos is learning Seder Zeraim. Sign up on shul bulletin board or email eisenber@pol.net with your name and the masechta and chapters you intend to learn.

## Ruach Chaim Shiur – Starting Date

The starting date for Rav Sholom Kamenetsky's new shiur on the Sefer Ruach Chaim will be NEXT Thursday night, October 18, 2012. Questions can be addressed to Dr. Daniel Eisenberg.

## Bnos and Pirchei

Bnos and Pirchei-Torah Youth will meet from 4 to 5pm at LMS.

Parshas Bereshis

פרשת בראשית

Stone Chumash page 2; Haftarah: 1130.

October 12-13, 2012

כ"ז תשרי תשע"ג



## Shabbos Schedule Mevorchim haChodesh



**Molad for Cheshvan: Monday, Oct 15th 2:41pm and 9 chalakim.**

Light Candles:	6:07pm
Mincha and Kabbalas Shabbos:	6:07pm
Parsha Chaburah given by Dennis Rosen:	7:55am
Shiur on Sefer Tehillim with the Malbim's Commentary:	8:15am
Shacharis:	8:45am
Sof Zman Krias Shema:	9:58am
Shabbos Groups, upstairs, for ages 2 and up.	9:45am
Kiddush is sponsored by Shmuel and Henya Novick, "With gratitude to Rabbi & Rebbetzin Steinberg for being with us every step of the way through our challenges and to all our friends here who with their tefilos, visits, food packages, helped us in a kind, caring way. We wish you a winter where you see Hashem's beauty shine forth; black branches against a dove gray sky, a cardinal singing Hashem's praises, scampering squirrels, yellow school buses, rosy cheeks, knitted hats, colorful scarves, warm mittens, open hearts and sunny smiles. We miss you already."	
Mincha:	6:00pm
Medical Halacha Shiur given by Dr. Daniel Eisenberg.	
Maariv:	7:08pm

Sun, Oct 14	Mon, Oct 15	Tue, Oct 16	Wed, Oct 17	Thu, Oct 18	Fri, Oct 19
Shacharis 8:00am Mincha/Maariv 6:05pm	Shacharis 6:40am Mincha/Maariv 6:05pm	<i>Rosh Chodesh</i> Shacharis 6:30am Mincha/Maariv 6:05pm	<i>Rosh Chodesh</i> Shacharis 6:30am Mincha/Maariv 6:05pm	Shacharis 6:40am Mincha/Maariv 6:05pm	Shacharis 6:50am Light Candles 5:56pm Mincha 5:56pm
28 Tishrei	29 Tishrei	30 Tishrei	1 Cheshvan	2 Cheshvan	3 Cheshvan

## Thought of the Week

In the beginning G-d made the heavens and the earth and the earth was void and astonishingly empty and darkness was on the face of the deep and the spirit of G-d was hovering over the face of the water. And G-d said, "Let there be light!" and there was light! (Breishis 1:1-3)

What's wrong with this picture? If you're reading the "Bible" in English perhaps everything is hunky dory. However if one is learning Torah in the original Holy Language then problems begin to percolate all over the place. A case in point: What was created first? According to the translation above you would be correct to guess; "heaven and earth". Upon careful examination Rashi informs us that that is not the intent of the verse to tell us 'what was created first'. So what was created first!

First of all the word "Breishis" is a compound word. The letter "Beis" at the beginning can be translated, "for" or "in" hence the misleading reading "In the beginning G-d created..." Rashi goes on to explain that the second part of that first word – "Reishis" is always used in connection to another word that follows. It does not mean "In the beginning" but rather "In the beginning of- G-d creating the heaven the earth and the earth was void and empty..." If the Torah was a cosmology book that wanted to teach chronology then the first word should have been "B'rishona" – "At first". "Breishis" is something entirely different altogether.

Just as a point of curiosity, what was created first? Here comes the surprising answer! Why does the Torah start with the letter "Beis". Every school child knows that the first letter in the "Aleph –Beis" is Beis! Why start with the second letter, and large version of the letter Beis to boot!? It's interesting to note that the dominant theory at the end of the 20th century explaining how the universe came to be is known as the "Big Bang" theory! Prior to that the preeminent premise was a "static state" notion that everything always was the way it is! Hmmm! After detecting hints of expanding universe that new assumption is that everything started from a singular dense point of "whatever" that exploded forming the stuff of the world. This is more in agreement with what we have always understood. We have might call it "The Big Beis Theory". History has both a start and a direction!

I asked scientists at NASA if anyone has a slight idea or a theory or a hint about what may have preceded the "Big Bang" and the answer was unanimously "no". What preceded the Beis of Breishis? Guess! You got it! The ALEF of "Adon Olam asher Malach b'terem kol y'tzir nivra- He was Master of the world that ruled before anything was created! What predated the creation of the world was HASHEM Whose name is a contraction of three terms "He was, is, and will be" and is essentially beyond the boundaries of time.

Imagine an ocean of endless light, what the Zohar calls "Ohr Ain Sof". We cannot call it infinity because it's beyond our ken but rather what's it's not "light without end"! Now imagine in the middle of that ocean of endless light a dark bubble is created through the seeming withdrawal of the light. That dark empty space becomes the arena the stage for the drama that will be creation and human history. The Tanya quotes the Zohar in stating that although the physical world was created "something from nothing" in actuality it was created "nothing from something"! HASHEM is enduring existence while everything in the physical world has a "half-life", an expiration date if you will. WOW! Now we can go back to our original question! What was created first? The answer, based on the first verse is not heaven and earth, but the "big void" via the withdrawal of obvious Divine presence and hence the illusion of nothingness.

Adapted from <http://torah.org/learning/dvartorah/5773/berishis.html> by Rabbi Label Lam.

## Kiddush Committee Volunteers

The Young Israel of the Main Line Kiddush Committee NEEDS a few more volunteers to be part of the rotation to set-up and clean-up each week for the shul's kiddushim. We currently have 5 women which means each woman sets up once every 5 weeks. Our hope is to get a few more in the rotation in order to spread out the rotation over more weeks. There will be a brief training session (no more than 1/2 hour) for each new volunteer.

I know we all enjoy the kiddushim we have each Shabbos. The success of these kiddushim depends on all of us doing our share. PLEASE volunteer today. Contact Janis Fine at [jfine@comcast.net](mailto:jfine@comcast.net) or call her at 610-888-0477 (c) or 610-617-0913 (h). The entire kehillah gives you their appreciation!