

# Congregation Ohr Torah Weekly Announcements

http://www.ohrtorah.net 48 Edgemount Road Edison, NJ 08817

Rabbi Yaakov Luban - Rabbi

Jeff Klein - President

Rabbi Sariel Malitzky - Assistant Rabbi

November 4, 2017

Parshas Vayera

Candlelighting:

5:33PM 5:40PM

Mincha: 5:40PM Shacharis: 7:45, 9:00 & 9:15AM

Rabbi Hoffman's Halacha B'iyun Shiur after Hashkama

Sof Z'man Krias Shma (GR"A): 10:06AM Rabbi Luban's Taanis Shiur –cancelled this week Rabbi Malitzky's Mishna Shiur –cancelled this week Mincha: 1:45 PM & 5:25 PM

Shalosh Seudos speaker: Rabbi Tzvi Hoff

Maariv: 6:35 PM
Shabbos Ends: 6:41 PM

Daylight savings time ends – Remember to turn our clocks back one hour before going to sleep tonight.

### Weekday Shacharis

Sun 7:15, 8 & 9AM
Mon. & Thurs 6:20, 7:05, & 8 AM
Tues, Wed, Thurs. & Fri 6:30, 7:10 & 8 AM
Sunday Mincha 1:45 & 4:30 PM
Mincha/ Maariv: 4:30 PM
Late Maariv: 7:30 and 10:10 PM

### **SHIURIM**

- Rabbi Akiva Sauer's Shiur on Daf Yomi Be'Iyun after 7:15 Shacharis
- Rabbi Luban's Monday night Shiur on Sh'eilos Uteshuvos *9:10PM*.
- Rabbi Malitzky's Thursday night live (TNL) shiur -Keeping Our Feet Together and The Steps We Take Before and After Shemona Esrei – 9:15 PM Daf Yomi Schedule

Monday-Thursday-after 7:30 Maariv Friday -after Maariv

Shabbos-8:15 am & after Hashkama

Sunday-after 8am Shacharis. *Daf Yomi is starting a new Masechta, Masechta Rahos, this Tuesday Nov. 7.This Masechta can be completed in around 3 weeks & is an ideal time to start Daf Yomi* 

**Every Friday night**, all young children in Shul on Friday nights are invited to come to the front of Shul immediately following Yigdal for 5-8 minutes of Parsha questions. Jon Teiltelbaum will be leading the questions this week.

### **KIDDUSH**

Kiddush sponsorship is available for Nov 25th and Dec 9th & 16th.

# **SHALOSH SEUDOS**

Shalosh Seudos this week is being cosponsored by: Esther and Michael Reiss in honor of the Yahrzeit f Michael's mother, Tamar Bat Pinchas, A"H. and Lorraine and Ira Spiler in memory of the Yahrzeits of Lorraines's father Mr. Marcus Amigo, Mordechai ben Avraham A"H, and Ira's father Abraham Spiler, Avraham ben Simcha A"H.

### **TNL WITH RABBI MALITZKY**

Rabbi Malizky's Thursday night live (TNL) shiur at 8:30 PM - Keeping Our Feet

15 Cheshvan 5778

Together and The Steps We Take Before and After Shemona Esrei. 9:15 PM in YFM

### **SECURITY TEAM**

The Ohr Torah security team is looking for additional volunteers. Please consider joining so the shul can have a more secure environment for all our families. Easy Training provided. See Jonathan Teitelbaum, Keith Peckman, Hesh Granek or Marc Hanfling.

### **MAZEL TOV**

... Michael and Toby Eleff on the birth of a son to their children Rabbi Eli & Dr. Tybee Eleff

... to Zelda and Danny Wildman on the birth of a son to their children Temima and Eli Lebowicz. The Shalom Zachor is being held in Washington Heights. The bris will be this Tuesday at 7:30am, following the 7:00am Shacharit, at Mount Sinai Jewish Center in Washington Heights. Mazel Tov to Eli's father Michael Lebowicz of Chicago, and to all the aunts and uncles and cousins.

# **EXCITING NEW SHIUR!**

Most of us speak between 12 and 15 thousand words a day. Be inspired to use them the right way!

We are excited to announce a new Shiur! Every Wednesday night from 8:30-8:50 Rabbi Malitzky will be giving a Shiur on the classic work, Chafetz Chaim. Men and women of all backgrounds and levels are encouraged to attend.

For those who missed the first Shiur in the new series on Sefer Chafetz Chaim with Rabbi Malitzky, the recording can be heard here

http://www.yutorah.org/sidebar/lecture.cfm/886588/rabbi-sariel-malitzky/sefer-chafetz-chaim-shiur-1/

We hope to see you next week!

### **OHR TORAH YOUTH PROGRAM**

The Ohr Torah Youth Program is proud to announce our newest addition to the staff, Adina Bodlander, as our Teen Girls Coordinator! We kindly request that all teenage girls in grades 7-12 please reach out to Adina at her email address adinabee@gmail.com and help her build a database of names and phone numbers so we can start our first ever Teenage Girls What's App group. Thank you for your cooperation!

# **ELECTIONS -- THIS TUESDAY**

The municipal services that our frum community have come to take for granted, such as trash disposal, recycling and chometz burning on Erev Pesach, the Eruv, and funding for special education needs, result from relationships that we have carefully built with our elected officials over many years. These relationships cannot be taken for granted, and it is therefore critical that we have a high turnout for the vote Tuesday.

Polls are open from 6AM-8 PM this Tuesday. For further info please see Izzy Rivkin, Jonathan Teitelbaum, Alan Singer, Rachel Callen or Fran Bar-Eli.

### **THANK YOU**

On behalf of Tova (My mother In Law) and the whole Salomon family, We are touched on your kind words and condolences for our loss. We thank the whole congregation deeply for your donation. May we all never feel sorrow. Thank you, - Dror Marcus on behalf of the Salomon family Israel

### **HAMAKOM YENACHEM**

The entire shul mourns the passing of our dear member Moshe Greenblatt Martha Greenblatt and her children are sitting shiva in Israel at the home of Julie Waldman, 421/1 Elonai Mamreh, Nevei Daniel.

Shiva will conclude Tuesday morning, November 7. Martha can be reached on her cell phone at 732-343-4144 or on the Wildman's home phone at 011-972-2-993-1468.

# COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS YAD ELIEZER

On behalf of American Friends of Yad Eliezar, a resounding Yasher Koach to the Edison-Highland Park community for your strong support. Your generosity provided so many impoverished families with plentiful food to enjoy their Yom Tovim.

Wishing everyone a blessed New Year. Jack and Rifky Atkin Harvey and Charyn Atlas Barry and Rosa Katz

#### **ACTT**

Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Weinberg will speak at the ACTT Happiness Module 2 kickoff event on Sunday, Nov 12th at 7:30PM at Cong Ohr Torah, 48 Edgemount Road, Edison. Title: "Serve Hashem with Joy: Can we work on being happier?" Source book: Artscroll's "Living Simchah: Finding the joy in everything" by Rabbi Hadar Margolin. Rabbi Weinberg is a nationally acclaimed speaker and scholar in residence, Maggid Shiur and Mashgiach

REMINDER: Emergency Defibrillators are located on the upstairs wall hallway & the entry hallway downstairs.

Please note the location of the new First Aid Kits mounted on the wall below/above each Defibrillator.

CHEVRA HATZOLAH OF MIDDLESEX COUNTY 732-456-6666

Ruchani at YU's Beit Midrash Program, Mashpia at Congregation Beth Abraham in Bergenfield, NJ, and Rebbe at Heichal HaTorah in Teaneck. Admission is free. Donations are welcome. For more info, e-mail <a href="mailto:info@actt613.org">info@actt613.org</a> or call Phil Rosen (732) 572-8762.

### **KRISTALLNACHT**

Thur Nov 9<sup>th</sup> 7PM. Rabbi Dr. Bernard Rosenberg "Can We Preserve the Memory of the Holocaust?" Rabbi Dr. Bernhard H. Rosenberg is Rabbi Emeritus of Cong Beth-El, Edison, NJ. He received his ordination and Doctorate of Education from Yeshiva University. Among his many articles and books is "Theological and Halachic Reflections on the Holocaust", now in its second printing. He serves in the NJ State Holocaust Commission and is the Chair of the Holocaust Commission of the NY Board of Rabbis. Mount Sinai Jewish Center 135 Bennett Ave. New York, NY 10040 (212) 568-1900 mtsinaishul.com

# THE STATE OF WORLD JEWRY: JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN A CHANGING WORLD

The Orthodox Forum of Edison/HP presents Betty Ehrenberg on Sat night, Nov 11th, 8pm at Cong Ohev Emeth. Ms. Ehrenberg will discuss the extensive behind the scenes work being done by the WJC in support of Jewish communities around the world. She is Executive Director of North America for the World Jewish Congress, and formerly at the Institute for Public Affairs, the political action and public policy arm of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America. The program is free of charge. The Orthodox Forum gladly accepts season sponsorships, as well as program sponsorships. For more info go online to <a href="https://www.orthodoxjewishforum.org">www.orthodoxjewishforum.org</a>

### **RABBI YISROEL WEISS SHIUR**

Rabbi Yisroel Weiss shiur, "Living with Parsha", for men and women: Wednesday evenings at 8:30 PM in the Khal Chassidim dining room, entrance through front door of house. For more info, please call Marsha at 732-777-1155.

# EMPLOYMENT NETWORK OF RARITAN VALLEY

Looking for work? We can help. Go to <a href="https://www.ENRV.org">www.ENRV.org</a> or contact Bob Lansey at <a href="https://eNRVInfo@gmail.com">ENRVInfo@gmail.com</a>. We post over 100 jobs each month, and help people with their resume and search strategies.

**Please help:** If you know of any professional, part-time, or temporary job openings, please e-mail the info to <a href="mailto:ENRVInfo@gmail.com">ENRVInfo@gmail.com</a>.

# TRIP TO ISRAEL FOR YOUNG ADULTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Do you know a Jewish young adult, ages 25-37 with special needs? If so, be sure to tell them about the new Israel 4 All Adventure Tour with young adults with disabilities. Jewish Federation of Northern New Jersey and Yachad participants to join them for a 7day trip to Israel for Young Adults with Special Needs. Explore Israel with other Jewish young adults, strengthen personal Jewish identity and connection to Jewish people, and enjoy an enriching life experience. Trip Dates: February 19-26, 2018. Please contact Schwartzman at kimberlys@jfnnj.org 201.820.3936 or Chani Herrmann herrmann@ou.org 201.833.1349 for further info

### CENTRAL JERSEY YACHAD PRE-CHANUKAH FUN

Pre Chanukah fun with Central Jersey Yachad on Sun, Nov 12th from 12-2pm @Rutgers Chabad, 170 College Ave. Join us for some Fresh Theater Arts fun and a menorah-making workshop with Chabad's Rabbi Mendy Pevzner. Please go to www.Yachad.org/Rutgersevent to register \$5 fee; open to kids ages 10 &up

Also- Moms of kids with special needs- save the date for a fabulous Moms Night Out! Come for support, networking and FUN with jewelry making and dinner on us. Sun evening, Nov 12th 7-9:30PM RSVP to <a href="mailto:avrahamb@ou.org">avrahamb@ou.org</a> Yachad is generously sponsored by The Federation in the Heart of New Jersey.

### **RPRY**

-Again this year, RPRY will be participating in the Names Not Numbers Holocaust program. If you know of a Survivor of the Shoah willing to share their story with our students and community, please have them contact Penny Kaplan at 732 887-2839 or email at pkaplan@rpry.orq

### **RPRY OPEN HOUSE**

You are invited to our upcoming Open House on Tuesday, Nov 7th, from 7:30pm-9pm. Info: Shoshana Madsen Dir of Adm 732-572-5052x204 smadsen@rpry.org.

# HIGH SCHOOL LEARNING PROGRAM FOR GIRLS

Saturday night learning program for high school girls begins Saturday night, Nov 4th, 8-9:30pm at Ohav Emeth. All are welcome to join! For more info Shoshana Snow at <a href="mailto:shoshanasnow@gmail.com">shoshanasnow@gmail.com</a>

### **BIKUR CHOLIM**

Bikur Cholim seeks volunteers to visit a male patient at the AristaCare facility in So Plainfield. It is a 10 minute drive from our community. Also looking for a male to sit, schmooze and learn with a male patient at AristaCare. Family willing to pay. For more info contact Nitza Adler (732)819-9294

# ANNUAL NEW JERSEY FIDF TRIBUTE DINNER

Please join us as we pay tribute to NJ's Lone Soldiers and celebrate the heroes of the IDF. You're invited to the 13th Annual New Jersey FIDF Tribute Dinner on Dec 10<sup>th</sup> AT 5pm. This year's event will be at the Teaneck Marriott. Special Guest: Avi Issacharoff, Co-Creator of Netflix original series Fauda and expert on Arab affairs. To order Tickets or for Info: Monica Steinberg@FIDF.org or 646-274-9646

### **RKYHS OPEN HOUSE**

Rae Kushner Yeshiva High School invites all 8th graders and their parents to join us at our Open House Sun, Nov 12TH. Registration begins at 9:00 am followed by program 9:30am. Please register at <a href="https://www.jkha.org/RKYHSOpenHouse">www.jkha.org/RKYHSOpenHouse</a>. For info contact Shawn Tarzik at <a href="mailto:starzik@jkha.org">starzik@jkha.org</a> or <a href="mailto:862-437-8064">862-437-8064</a>.

### **MA'AYANOT PARLOR MEETING**

Please join us for an informative parlor meeting with Ma'ayanot administration, students and parents to learn about the school and have any questions answered Mon Nov 13th, 8pm at the home of Neer and Lynn Even-Hen, 10 Harrison St, Edison.

### **BLOOD DRIVE**

Just as your calendar begins to free up, here come Thanksgiving, Chanukah, and yes, another blood drive. On Sun, Nov 19th, we will be holding our next community blood drive from 9AM to 3PM, At Ahavas Achim, 216 S. First Ave., HP. Donors can be as young as 16 (with parental permision and meeting weight requirements). For further info, please contact Ira Rosen at 732-318-0798 or ira\_rosen@yahoo.com.

### WHEELS OF LOVE CHARITY BIKE RIDE

For the third year in a row Bruce Jacobi will be participating in the Wheels of love charity bike ride to benefit Alyn Hospital, Israel's only pediatric and adolescent rehabilitation facility. The hospital receives very limited gov funding and needs our support. Please consider making a donation to this worthwhile cause. To donate online: <a href="https://www.jgive.com/en/alyn/donation\_targets/1752...">https://www.jgive.com/en/alyn/donation\_targets/1752...</a>

#### **JEC OPEN HOUSE**

The Jewish Educational Center High School of Elizabeth NJ invites all 8th grade boys and their parents to join us at our annual open house on Nov 14th. Registration/refreshments start at 6:30. Program begins 7:15. Pre register at jechs.org/openhouse. To apply for the 2018-19 school year follow the link at jechs.org/admissions/application. For more info please email smalitzky@thejec.org.

### **MTA OPEN HOUSE**

Yeshiva Univ, High School for Boys (MTA) invites you to our Open House Sun Nov 12th 9:30am. Register online <a href="mailto:yuhsb.org/openhouse">yuhsb.org/openhouse</a> Info: Jono Fuchs, Dir of Adm at <a href="mailto:jfuchs@yuhsb.org">jfuchs@yuhsb.org</a> or 212-960-5400 x6676.

### **AHAVAS ACHIM NEWS**

-Practiacl Halacha Tuesdays 8:45-9:30PM Starts Nov 7<sup>th</sup>. AA University invites the community to join their new weekly class in which they will journey thru the world of halach with an eye toward the practical laws that guide us on a daily or weekly basis. Tuesday Nights 8:45PM to 9:30PM in the Beis Midrash. Begins Nov 7<sup>th</sup>. This new learning opportunity is generaously sponsored I memory of Joel Cohen, z"I and is free and open to the public. Instructor is Rabbi Yehoshua Lewis Dir of Mesorah NJ.

### -YAD LEAH CLOTHING DRIVE -NOTE NEW LOCATION

When: Sun, Nov 12th from 9:30AM-12:30PM. Where: Cong Ahavas Achim (A.A), 216 South 1st Ave, HP (parking lot). Please donate clothing in good wearable condition only. Winter coats & sweaters are appreciated this time of year. Also accepting in good condition: Linens, towels, tablecloths, handbags, cosmetics & hair accessories, Shoes in "like new condition, Men's and Boy's black hats. Bring all in tied garbage bags. Yad Leah will distribute to the communities throughout Israel. A min. \$18 donation is requested per donor (checks made out to American Friends of Yad Leah) to help defray shipping & processing costs. We are looking for sponsors to help cover the shipping costs to Israel. Receipts will be provided by Yad Leah for the money & clothing (&/or miscellaneous items) contributed. We are looking for volunteers at the collection site to help with the bags and the paperwork. If anyone has any questions or would like to volunteer or sponsor shipping costs, please call David Moskovic at 732-580-1052 or e-mail at DMOSKOVIC@AOL.COM

### **HP/EDISON CONNECTS EVENT**

The Highland Park/Edison Connects is proud to present **Cocoa and Crafts**, our next event open to all women in the community! Join us as we create crafts and friendships on Motzai Shabbat, Nov 4th at 8PM at Cong Ahavas Yisrael (1587 Route 27, Edison). You can take home what you make or donate it to hospitals in the area! The cost is only \$10 and advanced registration is required; space is limited so reserve yours today! RSVP can be made to Leah Epshteyn at pollack.leah@qmail.com. Any questions feel free to reach out to Hannah Farkas, Faygie Lobel, or Leah Epshteyn.

### **FOR WOMEN**

-Mon Nov 5<sup>th</sup> 7:30PM: Shimiras Haloshon class by Mrs. Leah Drillman: 407 North 8<sup>th</sup> Ave, Edison. For Info Ellen at 201-410-1893 or 732-777-6787.

- Tues Nov 7<sup>th</sup> 9:30AM: Parsha class by Mrs. Miri Cohen at the home of Leah Epshtein, 253 Lawrence Ave, HP. Info Leah at 917-763-1848.

-Tehillim group: There is a new Woman's Tehillim group every Shabbos afternoon at 3:45PM at Cong Etz Ahaim, 230 Dennison St, HP P. Please join us.

- Tiferes: DVD for women Motzai Shabbos, Nov 4th at 8:30PM at the Siegel house. Title: "Attitude of Gratitude – the secret to a life of happiness". Speakers: Rabbi Avigdor Miller z"l, Rabbi Ephraim Eliyahu Shapiro, Rabbi Meir Wikler, and Mrs. Bassheva Alpert.

Weekly teleconferences with topics such as shalom bayis and parenting are available to Tiferes members. Current teleconference: "Between You and Me – The Torah's Wisdom on Relationships". Speaker: Mrs. Rochel Goldbaum. For more info contact Aviva <a href="mailto:siegelmom@optonline.net">siegelmom@optonline.net</a>. The HP/Edison group of Tiferes is zecher l'nishmas Malka bas Shalom.

- -The Women's AMEN Group meets **monthly** on the Sundays following the Shabbos in which one bensches Rosh Chodesh, at 9:30AM in a downstairs classroom at Cong Ohr Torah. The group meets in the zechus of a refuah shelaimah for Menachem Mordechai ben Ophira and the other Cholim in the community.
- Collecting Sheitels: Keren Kol Kallah established to provide orphan and destitute kallahs in Israel with essential needs. Donated custom sheitels, some brand-new, some gently worn, are sold to women in Israel who would not otherwise have the funds to buy a quality wig. All the money raised at the sale goes towards a hachnasas kallah fund which helps needy brides in Eretz Yisrael. Sheitels can be dropped off by Aviva, 16 Edgemount Road, Edison. For more info, please see contact Aviva Siegel (732) 572-4408 siegelmom@optonline.net

#### **GEMACHS**

-Diaper Gemach: Diapers, pullups, wipes needed for HP/Edison Gemach. Email diapergemach@gmail.
-The Edison/HP Gown Gemach, L'iluy Nishmas R' Yitzchok Ben Binyomin Gemach Gowns for children thru adult. Donations of good condition gowns sought. Tax deduct given/pick up of gowns arranged. Info/appt Sara Scott 516-526-0941.
-New kittel gemach has started. If you – or someone you know--needs to borrow a kittel, please call Jeff or Lee Ann Schein at 732-545-9353. Four sizes available. Kittel gemach is in memory of Lazar Lipman ben Chaim Yitzhak.

#### **PARK MIKVAH**

- Support the mikvah while purchasing on Amazon. Use link:

http://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7037953 . A donation will be made to Park Mikvah.

**Hours:** Sun-Thur hours are 9PM–11PM. Fri night by appt only-leave message at <u>732-249-2411</u> or via the website. Motzai Shabbos, Nov 4: 9PM–11PM PM Nov 11, 18, 25: 7:30–10 PM. Starting Nov 5, Sun–Thur

hours 8PM –10:30PM. We appreciate your patientce and financial support. Continue to check <a href="https://www.parkmikvah.org">www.parkmikvah.org</a> and voice message at <a href="https://www.parkmikvah.org">732-249-2411</a> for updates.

- Have you participated in this incredible mitzvah campaign yet? Go to www.parkmikvah.org/donate to help raise the remaining funds!

OHR TORAH NEWSLETTER: To subscribe to Announcements, go to <a href="https://www.ohrtorah.net">www.ohrtorah.net</a> **E-MAIL LIST:** To join OT email list, contact Gene Wasserman at <a href="mailto:genew@compugene.com">genew@compugene.com</a>.

**KIDDUSH SPONSORSHIP:** To sponsor Kiddush or reserve Kiddush room contact Mel Barenholtz email: mbarenh@yahoo.com.

**SHALOSH SEUDOS SPONSORSHIP:** To sponsor Shalosh Seudos, contact Moshe Wiesel.

**BUILDING DEDICATION OPPORTUNITIES**Contact Moshe Schneider at 732-618-4702.

**TREE OF LIFE / YAHRZEIT PLAQUES:** To dedicate a Yahrzeit Plaque or Leaf for the Lobby Eitz Chayim Tree, contact Moish Nat by sending detailed fax with all dedicatory wording to 732-759-8558. For more info, call Moish at 732-759-807 work days or 732-572-4132 in the evening.

**SEFORIM DEDICATIONS:** Book/Seforim Dedications of all types are available contact Barry Siegel siegeldad@optonline.net.

**HOUSEKEEPING:** For housekeeping issues and inquiries contact Lou Smith at <a href="mailto:ludeeju@gmail.com">ludeeju@gmail.com</a> or 732-572-5633.

### **KEILIM MIKVAH HOURS**

Ohr Torah Keilim Mikvah hours are officially Sundays from 7AM-10AM. If you need special access during non-open hours, contact Barry Siegel 732- 572-4408 or siegeldad@optonline.net.

**OHR TORAH YOUTH PROGRAM EVENTS:** Children can register for events on OT's website "ohrtorah.net" or call Mayer Berg at 732-572-3429.

**REFUAH SHLEIMAH LEARNING:** See the OT website, <u>www.ohrtorah.net</u>, for various schedules of learning as a Z'chus for a Refuah Shleimah

### FUNERAL/ SHIVA ANNOUNCEMENTS:

For funeral and Shiva email and phone mail announcements contact Reena Greenspan 732-828-5642 (home) 732-678-8848 (cell),

reenagreenspan@yahoo.com or Gene Wasserman 732-397-0130 or genew@compugene.com

YAHRZEIT DATABASE: To register a family member in the Yahrzeit database, go to <a href="https://originalstructure.com/originalstruct

**LOCAL ERUV**: If you depend on the eruv for carrying on Shabbat you are responsible to check the status of the eruv before Shabbat starts. We now have *six* different ways you can check the eruv's status:

-Twitter: You can get a free Twitter account and follow the user <a>hp</a> eruv.

-Text Messaging: You can get text message updates of the eruv's status on your cell phone. You need a Twitter account Twitter accounts are free. Follow hp\_eruv to 40404. Go to the Eruv webpage for complete directions on setting up text messaging the Highland Park Eruv website.

-Facebook: Follow the *@hperuv* Facebook group. Webpage: The <u>Highland Park Eruv</u> webpage displays the Twitter updates on the <u>Home</u> page and on the <u>News</u> page.

-Phone Hotline: The Phone hotline at 732-246---ERUV is updated before Shabbat.

-Email Alerts:. Go to the <u>Highland Park Eruv</u> webpage, and sign up.

### Parshas

Candlelighting: Mincha 4:35 PM 4:26 PM

Ohr Torah can be found at <a href="http://www.ohrtorah.net">http://www.ohrtorah.net</a>. Join the email list for Weekly Announcements. Announcements should be sent to announcements@ohrtorah.net by 7PM Wed. Please make sure to leave a contact/callback name and phone number.

by Moshe Sherman

Sof Davar

## Rabbi Shimon Schwab (1908-1995)

The last item of *Sof Davar* discussed the career of Rabbi Samson R. Hirsch's grandson, Rabbi Joseph Breuer, who fled Nazi Germany in the 1930s, and rebuilt a community in Washington Heights, N.Y., resembling the multi-faceted Frankfurt kehilla based on the principals of *Torah im Derech Eretz*. R. Breuer handpicked his successor, Rabbi Shimon Schwab, who had deep roots in the German Jewish tradition.

Born in 1908, Shimon Schwab was raised in <u>Frankfurt am Main</u>, <u>Germany</u>, where his family had been longstanding members of Rabbi <u>Samson R. Hirsch</u>'s Khal Adath Yeshurun. Like R. Joseph Breuer, Shimon Schwab attended the *Realschule*, an elementary school that combined religious studies and general subjects consistent with the <u>Torah im Derech Eretz</u> ideology. Following primary school, he attended the gymnasium high school, *Torah Lehranstalt*, the local yeshiva founded by Rabbi Solomon Breuer.

It was not common, at that time, for German-Jewish students to study at Eastern-European yeshivot. But in 1926, at age 17, Shimon Schwab left Germany and enrolled in the Telshe yeshiva, where he studied for three years, followed by an additional year and a half at the Mir yeshiva. For the rest of his life, Rabbi Schwab would reflect an unusual blend of Eastern and Western European tradition. He returned to Germany in 1931 to become an assistant rabbi in Darmstadt. Two years later, in 1933, the year Hitler was appointed to power, he accepted a position as communal rabbi of Ichinhausen, Bavaria, southern Germany. As Ichenhausen's young rabbinic leader, Rabbi Schwab attempted to establish a new yeshiva. But the yeshiva did not succeed as local Nazi activists taunted the students and threatened the Jews. The growing atmosphere of overt anti-Semitism prompted R. Schwab to look for a position abroad. In 1935, he spent a month in eretz Israel searching for a suitable position but without success.

One year later, in 1936, while in Zurich, he met with the prominent leader of New York's Jewish Center, Rabbi Dr. Leo Jung, who advised Rabbi Schwab to contact the president of Congregation Shearith Israel in <u>Baltimore</u>. Travelling to the United States, and following a trial period, Shearith Israel appointed Rabbi Schwab as their synagogue rabbi. This permitted the entire Schwab family to apply for visas and escape the consequences of Nazi Germany.

Congregation Shearith Israel, Baltimore was a particularly appropriate shul for Rabbi Schwab in that they followed German *minhagim* and *tefillos*. The well known "Rodelheim" *siddur* and *machzor* were the official editions used by the shul. Rabbi Schwab spent more than twenty years in Baltimore before being invited, in 1958, at the age of 50, to join Rabbi <u>Joseph Breuer</u> in the leadership of the German-Jewish kehilla in <u>Washington Heights</u>. It is interesting to note that while Rabbi Schwab had significant roots in Khal Adath Jeshurun of Frankfurt, and shared its ideology, the rabbinic leadership of Khal Adath Jeshurun, including Rabbi Samson R. Hirsch, his son in law, R. Shlomo Breuer, and his son, R. Joseph Breuer had all achieved university Ph.D degrees. By contrast, Rabbi Schwab, though broadly devoted to the principals of *Torah im Derech Eretz* had no university education. It is also noteworthy that Rabbi Schwab was far more prolific than his predecessor. Three volumes entitled, *Selected Writings, Selected Speeches*, and *Selected Essays* represent a small part of his published work. At the recommendation of Rav Breuer, Rabbi Schwab composed a *kinah*, in memory of the six million *kedoshim*, who were killed during the holocaust. The *kinah* is still recited every *Tisha b'Av* at Khal Adath Jeshurun.

On Purim Katan, the 14th of Adar I, February 13, 1995, Rabbi Schwab died at the age of 86.

