



YOUNG ISRAEL OF WEST HARTFORD
2240 ALBANY AVENUE
WEST HARTFORD, CT 06117
860-233-3084
Web Site: www.youngisraelwh.org

SHABBAT PARSHAT SH'MOT
January 14th, 2011 ☆ 19 Tevet 5772
Kiddush this Shabbat
Is sponsored by
The Shul!

YOUNG ISRAEL OF WEST HARTFORD

Shemot - Chief Rabbi Lord Sacks

She is one of the most unexpected heroes of the Hebrew Bible. Without her, Moses might not have lived. The whole story of the exodus would have been different. Yet she was not an Israelite. She had nothing to gain, and everything to lose, by her courage. Yet she seems to have had no doubt, experienced no misgivings, made no hesitation. If it was Pharaoh who afflicted the children of Israel, it was another member of his own family who saved the decisive vestige of hope: Pharaoh's daughter.

Recall the context. Pharaoh had decreed death for every male Israelite child. Yocheved, Amram's wife, had a baby boy. For three months she was able to conceal his existence, but no longer. Fearing his certain death if she kept him, she set him afloat on the Nile in a basket, hoping against hope that someone might see him and take pity on him. This is what follows:

Pharaoh's daughter went to bathe in the Nile, while her maids walked along the Nile's edge. She saw the box in the reeds and sent her slave-girl to fetch it. Opening it, she saw the boy. The child began to cry, and she had pity on it. "This is one of the Hebrew boys", she said.

Note the sequence. First she sees that it is a child and has pity on it. A natural, human, compassionate reaction. Only then does it dawn on her who the child must be. Who else would abandon a child? She remembers her father's decree against the Hebrews. Instantly the situation has changed. To save the baby would mean disobeying the royal command. That would be serious enough for an ordinary Egyptian; doubly so for a member of the royal family.

Nor is she alone when the event happens. Her maids are with her; her slave-girl is standing beside her. She must face the risk that one of them, in a fit of pique, or even mere gossip, will tell someone about it. Rumours flourish in royal courts. Yet she does not shift her ground. She does not tell one of her servants to take the baby and hide it with a fam-

Continued on Page 3

מזל טוב

מזל טוב to Rabbi Mordechai & Dvora Weiss on the engagement of their granddaughter Sarit Klugerman to Tuvia Newman of Beit Shemesh, Israel. מזל טוב to parents, Rabbi Tzvi & Yaffa Klugerman, and Yael & Rachel Newman. מזל טוב to the entire Weiss, Klugerman, & Newman families.

מזל טוב to Helen Weisel on the birth of a great grandson, Itai Shalom. מזל טוב to Itai's parents David & Aviva Eichler, and the entire Weisel and Eichler families. May Itai grow L'Torah, L'Chupah, u'L'Maasim Tovim!

מזל טוב to Margot Jeremias on the birth of a great granddaughter, Orly Rachel. מזל טוב to Orly's parents, Joshua & Sarah Korn, grandmother, Paulette Korn and the Jeremias, Korn & Loew families. May Orly grow L'Torah, L'Chupah, u'L'Maasim Tovim!

רפואה שלמה

To Helen Weisel.

WOMEN'S SHABBAT LEARNING GROUP

Shabbat, January 21st at 4:00 PM
At the home of Carolyn Ganeles
83 Brewster Road

ROSH CHODESH TEHILLIM GROUP

Next Tehillim Group will meet on
Tuesday, January 24th at 8:00 PM
Rosh Chodesh Sh'vat
At the home of Edie Perew, 41 Miamis Road

מהתורה

Editor: Judie Patel
E-mail: bulletin@youngisraelwh.org
Editors Emeritus: Sam Leichtberg & Moish Trencher

Rabbi Brahm Weinberg 860-233-3084 or rabbi@youngisraelwh.org
Judith Hesson, Coordinator 860-233-6042 or judith.hesson@gmail.com

Affiliate of the National Council of Young Israel Synagogues, Member of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, Sponsor of West Hartford NCSY, National Conference of Synagogue Youth, Kashrut Commission of Greater Hartford,

**Rabbi Weinberg's SEFER MELCAHIM CLASS
continues Tuesday nights
at 8:00 PM**

SAFETY AT YIWH:

If you drive to shul on erev *Shabbat* and are in a rush
PLEASE slow down when entering shul driveway. Better to
be a few seconds late for mincha
than to endanger those walking along the side
of the driveway."

BOOK CLUB MEETING

We have a long and varied list to choose from.
Thank you to all who contributed suggestions!

We've decided to start with

The Invisible Bridge--Julie Orringer.

Next meeting at the end of February.

Followed by

Jerusalem Maiden --Talia Carner

and The Lost Wife -- Alyson Richman

ERUV HOTLINE

It is important to check the Eruv Hotline every Friday
afternoon to make sure the eruv is up.

- 1) You can call 860-232-6417.
- 2) <http://twitter.com/WHartfordEruv>
- 3) Or <http://go.youngisraelwh.org/eruv>



BUY SCRIP! BUY SCRIP!

SHOP RITE, BIG Y, CROWN & STOP & SHOP

Buy Scrip then use it like cash!

Let's support our *Shul* by buying scrip!

Every dollar counts!

Contact: Judith Hessing at 860-233-6042

18 Grenhart Street

SODA BOTTLE COLLECTION

Eliza Katz is collecting bottles, cans, and glass to raise
money for the Rabbi's Fund. Please bring empties to:
24 Miamis Road; 860-680-9847

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Acknowledgment donations should be sent to
Debbie Luger at 37 Miamis Road

HOUSE COMMITTEE UPDATE

The House Committee has been busy and
we would like to update the Congregation about
the following.

Firstly, thank you to all for participating in
our highly successful chair campaign. We ex-
ceeded our goals.

The chair order has been put on temporary hold
for now due to the water damage sustained in the
social hall from the recent storm. We currently
have a pending claim with our insurance company
that may allow us to rethink the project down-
stairs and perhaps allow us to look at ordering a
different type of chair.

Our outside shingle roof is showing signs
of fatigue. Some small leaks have developed ne-
cessitating repairs. The board has approved the
work getting done. We are likewise moving for-
ward with planning for some significant upgrades
to the Sanctuary. A generous sponsor has agreed
to replace all the carpeting upstairs. We are also
pricing needed repairs and painting to our ceiling
and walls. A committee is being formed that will
research these projects and make recommenda-
tions to the board regarding materials used and
cost.. In turn these plans will be presented to the
Congregation. We likewise need to look into re-
pairs for our outside front portico which has dete-
riorating columns.

The House committee will keep the Con-
gregation aware of these projects with periodic
updates.

Barry Gordon

DOR L'DOR

Come & learn in a *Chavruta* format with
your child.

At Chabad House Grades: 1st – 8th

Next - January 21st @ 7:00 PM

February 4th & 18th at 7:00 PM

March 3rd at 7:00 PM

Dvar Torah - Continued from Page 1

lly far away. She has the courage of her compassion. She does not flinch. Now something extraordinary happens: The [child's] sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and call a Hebrew woman to nurse the child for you?" "Go", replied Pharaoh's daughter. The young girl went and got the child's own mother. "Take this child and nurse it", said Pharaoh's daughter. "I will pay you a fee." The woman took the child and nursed it.

The simplicity with which this is narrated conceals the astonishing nature of this encounter. First, how does a child - not just a child, but a member of a persecuted people - have the audacity to address a princess? There is no elaborate preamble - "Your royal highness" or any other formality of the kind we are familiar with elsewhere in biblical narrative. They seem to speak as equals.

Equally pointed are the words left unsaid. "You know and I know", Moses' sister implies, "who this child is; it is my baby brother." She proposes a plan brilliant in its simplicity. If the real mother is able to nurse the child, we both minimise the danger. You will not have to explain to the court how this child has suddenly appeared. We will be spared the risk of bringing him up: we can say the child is not a Hebrew, and that the mother is not the mother but only a nurse. Miriam's ingenuity is matched by Pharaoh's daughter's instant agreement. She knows; she understands; she gives her consent.

Then comes the final surprise:

When the child matured, [his mother] brought him to Pharaoh's daughter. She adopted him as her own son, and named him Moses. "I bore him from the water", she said.

Pharaoh's daughter has not simply had a moment's compassion. She has not forgotten the child. Nor has the passage of time diminished her sense of responsibility. Not only does she remain committed to his welfare; she adopts the riskiest of strategies. She will adopt it and bring him up as her own son. This is courage of a high order.

Yet the single most surprising detail comes in the last sentence. In the Torah, it is parents who gave a child its name, and in the case of a special individual, G-d himself. It is G-d who gives the name Isaac to the first Jewish child; G-d's angel who gives Jacob the name Israel; G-d who changes the names of Abram and Sarai to Abraham and Sarah. We have already encountered one adoptive name - Tsofenat Paneakh - the name by which Joseph was known in Egypt; yet Joseph remains Joseph. How surpassingly strange that the hero of the exodus, greatest of all the prophets, should bear not the name Amram and Yocheved have undoubtedly used thus far, but the one given to him by his adoptive mother, an Egyptian princess. A midrash draws our attention to the fact:

This is the reward for those who do kindness. Although Moses had many names, the only one by which he is known in the whole Torah is the one given to him by the daughter of Pharaoh. Even the Holy One, blessed be He, did not call him by any other name. (Shemot Rabbah 1: 26)

Indeed Moshe - Meses - is an Egyptian name, meaning "child", as in Ramses.

Who then was Pharaoh's daughter? Nowhere is she explicitly named. However the First Book of Chronicles (4: 18) mentions a daughter of Pharaoh, named Bitya, and it was she the sages identified as the woman who saved Moses. The name Bitya (sometimes rendered as Batya) means "the daughter of G-d". From this, the sages drew one of their most striking lessons:

The Holy One, blessed be He, said to her: "Moses was not your son, yet you called him your son. You are not My daughter, but I shall call you My daughter." (Vayikra Rabbah 1: 3).

They added that she was one of the few (tradition enumerates nine) who were so righteous that they entered paradise in their lifetime (Derekh Eretz Zuta 1).

Instead of "Pharaoh's daughter" read "Hitler's daughter" or "Stalin's daughter" and we see what is at stake. Tyranny cannot destroy humanity. Moral courage can sometimes be found in the heart of darkness. That the Torah itself tells the story the way it does has enormous implications. It means that when we come to people we must never generalize, stereotype. The Egyptians were not all evil: even from Pharaoh himself a heroine was born. Nothing could signal more powerfully that the Torah is not an ethnocentric text; that we must recognise virtue wherever we find it, even among our enemies; and that the basic core of human values - humanity, compassion, courage - is truly universal. Holiness may not be; goodness is.

Outside Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Memorial in Jerusalem, is an avenue dedicated to righteous gentiles. Pharaoh's daughter is a supreme symbol of what they did and what they were. I, for one, am profoundly moved by that encounter on the banks of the Nile between an Egyptian princess and a young Israelite child, Moses' sister Miriam. The contrast between them - in terms of age, culture, status and power - could not be greater. Yet their deep humanity bridges all the differences, all the distance. Two heroines. May they inspire us.

☆ YIWH Schedule of Services ☆

January 13th - 20th, 2012
Shabbat Parashat Shemot

It is easy to sponsor a Kiddush

Or Seudah Shlishit!

Friday, January 13th

Shacharit
Candle Lighting
Mincha/Maariv

6:45 a.m.
4:24 p.m.
4:29p.m.

Shabbat, January 14th

Rabbi Sheinkopf's Mishna Brurah Class
Shacharit
Sof Zman Kriat Shma
Shabbat Morning Youth Groups
Rabbi's Shabbat Afternoon Class
Mincha followed by Seudah Shlishit & Maariv
Shabbat Ends

8:00 a.m.
8:45 a.m.
9:38 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
3:55 p.m.
4:10 p.m.
5:25 p.m.

Sunday, January 15th - Thursday, January 19th

Earliest Tallit & Tefillin
Shacharit... Sunday
Followed by Rabbi Weinberg's Gemara Shiur on
Masechet Makot
Mincha/Maariv Sunday @ YIWH
Shacharit... Monday - Thursday
Mincha/Maariv...Monday - Thursday @HHNE
Late Maariv...Tuesdays @ YIWH

6:22 a.m.
8:15 a.m.
9:00 a.m.
4:30 p.m.
6:45 a.m.
4:30 p.m.
9:00 p.m.

Friday, January 20th

Shacharit
Candle Lighting
Mincha/Maariv

6:45 a.m.
4:32 p.m.
4:37p.m.

Shul handles set up & Clean up!
Contact Judie Patel at 236-4178
or judiep@gmail.com to
check the availability of the date
you need & call Fran Wittenberg
860-232-2320 to make the
arrangements for the type of
Kiddush you want to sponsor.
Checks need to be received
the Sunday prior to your
Kiddush date.
Send to David Cohen at
19 Mansfield Avenue.
There are three types
of Kiddushim:
Standard for \$150,
Semi-Deluxe for \$250
& Deluxe for \$350
With supplements available.

For Seudah Shlishit contact
Stan Rutstein at 232-3369

KIDDUSH SCHEDULE

1/21/12 Moss
1/28/12 Newman

Check out the weekly Schedule on the YIWH Website <http://go.youngisraelwh.org/times> Times from: www.ou.org/holidays/calendar

For Eruv Information: <http://twitter.com/WHartfordEruv> or <http://youngisraelwh.org/index.php/en/home/the-eruv>
(Hotline - 860-232-6417)

Ner La'Maor

Lights

Judy & Sam Leichtberg and Batsheva Goldfischer
in memory of

their parents and grandparents,

Israel Weiss ישראל בן דוד

Frida Weiss טוביא פרידה בת שמואל

Abraham Leichtberg אברהם בן שמואל

Yayin I' Kiddush Ve'Havdalah

Wine for Kiddush & Havdallah

Betty & Irving Wizenfeld

in memory of

Betty's Parents, Tobias & Esther Spira

טוביה בן צבי אלימלך

אסתר בת דוד הכהן

Irv's father, Sam Wizenfeld

שמואל מאיר בן יצחק הכהן

Pat La'Orchim

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& Gene's father, Binyamin ben Moshe

בנימין בן משה

Seudah Shlishit Supplement

Donna & Barry Gordon

לכל זמן; ועת לכל-חפץ, תחת השמים. קהלת 3.1

To honour our family and friends.

Barry and Donna Gordon

5772 Candy Man

Rabbi Mordechai Weiss

Handy Man

Steve Bernstein

You-Dah-Man

Judy & Sam Leichtberg

Good Humor Man

Debbie & Steven Luger

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☆ YIWH Schedule of Services ☆
January 20th - 27th, 2012
Shabbat Mevorchim Parashat Vaera

It is easy to sponsor a Kiddush
Or Seudah Shlishit!

Friday, January 20th

Shacharit
Candle Lighting
Mincha/Maariv

6:45 a.m.
4:32 p.m.
4:37p.m.

Shabbat, January 21st - Shabbat Mevorchim

Rabbi Sheinkopf's Mishna Brurah Class
Shacharit
Sof Zman Kriat Shma
Shabbat Morning Youth Groups
Rabbi's Shabbat Afternoon Class
Mincha followed by Seudah Shlishit & Maariv
Shabbat Ends

8:00 a.m.
8:45 a.m.
9:38 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
4:05 p.m.
4:20 p.m.
5:33 p.m.

Sunday, January 22nd - Thursday, January 26th

Earliest Tallit & Tefillin
Shacharit... Sunday
Followed by Rabbi Weinberg's Gemara Shiur on
Masechet Makot
Mincha/Maariv Sunday @ YIWH
Shacharit... Monday, Tuesday & Thursday
Shacharit...Wednesday **Rosh Chodesh Shevat**
Mincha/Maariv...Monday - Thursday @HHNE
Late Maariv...Tuesdays @ YIWH

6:18 a.m.
8:15 a.m.
9:00 a.m.
4:35 p.m.
6:45 a.m.
6:30 a.m.
4:35p.m.
9:00 p.m.

Friday, January 27th

Shacharit
Candle Lighting
Mincha/Maariv

6:45 a.m.
4:41 p.m.
4:46p.m.

Shul handles set up & Clean up!
Contact Judie Patel at 236-4178
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You-Dah-Man

Rabbi Mordechai Weiss

Judy & Sam Leichtberg

Handy Man

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Steve Bernstein

Debbie & Steven Luger

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Shabbat Parashat Bo

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Friday, January 27th

Shacharit
Candle Lighting
Mincha/Maariv

6:45 a.m.
4:41 p.m.
4:46p.m.

Shabbat, January 28th

Rabbi Sheinkopf's Mishna Brurah Class
Shacharit
Sof Zman Kriat Shma
Shabbat Morning Youth Groups
Rabbi's Shabbat Afternoon Class
Mincha followed by Seudah Shlishit & Maariv
Shabbat Ends

8:00 a.m.
8:45 a.m.
9:35 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
4:10 p.m.
4:25p.m.
5:42 p.m.

Sunday, January 29th - Thursday, February 2nd

Earliest Tallit & Tefillin
Shacharit... Sunday
Followed by Rabbi Weinberg's Gemara Shiur on
Masechet Makot
Mincha/Maariv Sunday @ YIWH
Shacharit... Monday - Thursday
Mincha/Maariv...Monday - Thursday @HHNE
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6:14 a.m.
8:15 a.m.
9:00 a.m.

4:45 p.m.
6:45 a.m.
4:45p.m.
9:00 p.m.

Friday, February 3rd

Shacharit
Candle Lighting
Mincha/Maariv

6:45 a.m.
4:49 p.m.
4:54p.m.

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