



YOUNG ISRAEL OF WEST HARTFORD  
 2240 ALBANY AVENUE  
 WEST HARTFORD, CT 06117  
 860-233-3084  
 Web Site: [www.youngisraelwh.org](http://www.youngisraelwh.org)

YOUNG ISRAEL OF WEST HARTFORD

**Rabbi's Corner**

Since we transitioned so quickly last week from Shavuot back to Shabbat I did not have a chance to speak of Shavuot in last week's bulletin. Shavuot was pretty wonderful in our shul and was an experience admired by so many from within our shul and beyond. We created real opportunities for learning both during the night and the day for people of all ages and interests. We had over 70 teenagers for the teen program and that was amazing to see! The shul was bustling with life, with vibrancy, and with a yom tov feeling. I was so inspired by the many members of our own shul who gave classes exhibiting a real excitement for learning and a knack for teaching. It says a lot about who we are.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped to make this a wonderful Shavuot holiday and would like to thank some people by name.

Thanks to those who gave classes:

Tsion Cohen            Elie Wolfe  
 Stu Miller              Lenny Margulis  
 Rabbi Weiss

Our 2 visiting female scholars

Thanks to Chanie Loew for arranging the parent-child learning.

Thanks to Rachel and David Cohen for hosting the women's class.

Thanks to the Loews, Trenchers, and Elbaums for hosting our scholars.

Thanks to Judith Hessing and Judie Patel for shopping for all the food and setting up.

Thanks to Jordie Meisler and NCSY for arranging our teen program.

Thanks to all those who leined, and, davened, and did gabbai work.

Thanks to Sam and Judy Leichtberg for their sponsorship.

**Shabbat Parshat Shlach**  
**June 18th, 2011** ✨ **16 Sivan 5771**  
**Kiddush this Shabbat**  
**Is sponsored by the Shul**

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
 Sunday evening, June 19th  
 7:00 PM Mincha  
 Meeting at 7:30 PM (followed by Maariv)  
 Items on the agenda include: the Rabbi's contract, proposed changes to the bylaws.

**ברוכים הבאים**  
 Welcome to Dor & Lissie Markush who have moved into our community this week!

**FAMILY IN CAPTIVITY**  
 Screening of the film about Gilad Shalit's family  
 Commemorating the 5th year of his captivity  
 Tuesday, June 21st  
 At 7:30 PM  
 At the Mandell Jewish Community Center

**מזל טוב**  
**מזל טוב** to Dovi Weinberg on his Bar Mitzvah!  
**מזל טוב** to proud parents, Nechama & Noam, and siblings, Atara, Ellie, Ruchi & Aviel; proud grandparents, Eileen & Bernie; aunts, uncles and cousins, P'nina, James, Ezra, AJ & Suri Sepowitz; Dena, Neil, Nachi & Sarah Rich.  
**מזל טוב** to Leora (Petashnick) and Yoni Illouz on their recent marriage. **מזל טוב** to Debbie & Mendie Tepler, and Maya & Talya Petashnick; Dan Petashnick and the entire Benovitz & Petashnick families.

**ברוך דין האמת**  
 It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Jonas Hochman, (a past member of YIWH) over Shavuot. Miriam's address & phone number: 7 Fairway Oval, Spring Valley, NY 10977. Miriam's phone # is 845-354-6802 May Hashem comfort Miriam, and the entire Hochman family among the mourners of Zion & Yerushalayim.

Editor: Judie Patel  
 E-mail: [bulletin@youngisraelwh.org](mailto:bulletin@youngisraelwh.org)  
 Editors Emeritus: Sam Leichtberg & Moish Trencher

Rabbi Brahm Weinberg 860-233-3084 or [rabbi@youngisraelwh.org](mailto:rabbi@youngisraelwh.org)  
 Judith Hessing, Coordinator 860-233-6042 or [judith.hessing@gmail.com](mailto:judith.hessing@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, Mikveh Bess Israel of Greater Hartford, Eruv of West Hartford

**SAVE THE DATES**  
**UPCOMING YIWH & COMMUNITY EVENTS**

**KOSHER FOOD PANTRY DRIVE**

The Jewish Family Services Kosher Food Pantry is running low to empty. Summer is a tough time for any pantry; so why not help ours. A box will be placed in the basement and lobby of the Shul through June 30th. PLEASE-HELP, cans, boxes, staples, paper products, toiletries, and cleaning products accepted.

**FIRST ANNUAL YIWH**

**ROSH HASHANAH BAKE SALE!**

Break out your mixers, blenders, and kitchen aids - announcing the first annual YIWH Rosh Hashanah

**BAKE SALE!**

We will be asking for participants to donate their delicious baked goods, which will then be purchased by other members to enjoy on Rosh Hashanah.

Detailed email to be sent shortly!

**BUY SCRIP! BUY SCRIP!**

**BIG Y SCRIP & SHOP RITE SCRIP AVAILABLE NOW!**

Don't forget Crown & Stop & Shop too!

Let's support our Shul by buying scrip!

Every dollar counts!

Contact: Judith Hessing (860-233-6042)  
at 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 her address: 24 Miamis Road;  
860-680-9847



**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

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

**Debbie & Steve Luger**

Refuah Shleimah to Jason Wolfe

**Judie & Lal Patel**

Refuah Shleimah to Jason Wolfe

**רפואה שלמה**

Refuah Shleimah to Jason Wolfe

**מזל טוב**

Mazel Tov on beautiful graduations from both  
Hebrew High School of New England

&

The Bess and Paul Sigel Hebrew Academy



**URGENT ERUV ALERT- PLEASE BE ADVISED:**

Due to complications the ERUV has been

RE-ROUTED for a few weeks.

**SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS**

<http://youngisraelwh.org/index.php/en/home/the-eruv>

**The Eruv DOES NOT INCLUDE (i.e. - do not carry in the following areas):**

-The North Sidewalk of Mohawk from Norwood to Mohegan

-Both sides of Mohegan from Mohawk to Emanuel Synagogue

-Lyman Rd East of Mohegan and all of Seminole Circle

Parshat Shlach  
Rabbi David Silverberg  
www.vbm-torah.org

The sin of the *meraglim* (spies), told in *Parashat Shelach*, ranks among the gravest sins committed by *Am Yisrael* in the *Torah*. Testament to this is the fact that in response to this incident, God prepares to destroy the entire nation and begin a new one with *Moshe* (14:12). Only after the sin of the golden calf (*Shemot* 32:10) and in response to *Korach's* rebellion (*Bemidbar* 16:21; 17:10) does God react similarly by proposing such a severe punishment. In all three instances, of course, *Moshe's* appeal on the nation's behalf softens the divine response.

A close look at *Moshe's* prayers in these instances, however, reveals at least one important distinction. In truth, we need compare only *Moshe's* entreaties after the incidents of the calf and the spies. During *Korach's* rebellion, *Moshe* and *Aharon* claim that the nation should not be destroyed on the account of one man's incitement to insurrection: "When one man sins, will You be wrathful with the whole community?" (*Bemidbar* 16:22). This simple argument, of course, could never have been raised in the two earlier cases, when the entire nation, or at least the vast majority, participated in the given wrong (the worship of the calf or the refusal to continue to *Canaan*). We therefore need only to compare *Moshe's* appeals after these two sins. A cursory reading of the two petitions - *Shemot* 32:11-13; *Bemidbar* 14:13-19 - indeed reveals a general parallel between them. In both, *Moshe* warns of the conclusion other nations will reach should God destroy His people, namely, that He did so due to His inability to take them to the Promised Land. One important element, however, which *Moshe* includes in his appeal after the golden calf, is omitted from his prayer in our *parasha*: "*zekhut avot*." When defending the people after the calf, *Moshe* invokes God's promise to the patriarchs that would remain unfulfilled should their offspring be annihilated. Here, however, *Moshe* makes no reference to the divine covenant to *Avraham*, *Yitzchak* and *Yaakov*. Why?

*Rabbenu Bechayei* explains that "*zekhut avot*" serves as an effective argument only to the extent to which *Benei Yisrael* avow their commitment to the patriarchs whose merit they seek to invoke. The sin of the spies, however, marked the people's refusal to fulfill the destiny and purpose for which God had made His promise to the patriarchs in the first place. Fearful of the armies of *Canaan*, *Benei Yisrael* declare, "Let us appoint a leader and return to Egypt" (14:4). In effect, then, they sought to reverse the process of God's fulfillment of His "*berit bein ha-betarim*" - His promise to *Avraham* to save his descendants from oppression and bring them to *Canaan* (*Bereishit* 15). Quite reasonably, then, *Moshe* realized that the merit of the patriarchs would have no effect in his appeal to the Almighty on the nation's behalf. The merit of our forefathers can protect us only if we commit ourselves to fulfilling the destiny they so strongly desired for their offspring.

*pipe nse*



