



YOUNG ISRAEL OF WEST HARTFORD  
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 860-233-3084  
 Web Site: [www.youngisraelwh.org](http://www.youngisraelwh.org)

YOUNG ISRAEL OF WEST HARTFORD

**Rabbi's Corner**

REFLECTIONS ON A VISIT

This past Sunday evening Elana and I went to New York to attend the fundraising dinner for our former shul in Washington Heights. It was an interesting experience and I would like to share some of my thoughts with you.

It was nice to be back in our old neighborhood and see some of our friends and neighbors. However, as much as we were there, we were still here: Wherever we go and whatever we are doing our conversations seem to lead us back to YIWH. All night we kept saying "we could do something like this at YI," "oh this would be great for our shul..." And we really did pick up some nice ideas for our shul dinner. This type of thinking showed us just how connected we feel we have become to West Hartford.

Something else about our visit made us feel this way as well. Whenever we used to travel back to Washington Heights we used to get very nostalgic; we felt like we were returning home. Living for 9 years in a place will do that to you...

This time when we went back things felt different. We still felt very nostalgic, we still reminisced about the wonderful memories we have, the times we spent walking the streets and the parks, the times we spent in shul etc... We even went back to our old building for a few minutes to see some of the elderly women who I befriended while I lived there. We felt very welcomed and very happy to be back but it no longer felt like home. We felt like guests or visitors rather than like we really belonged. On the one hand this was sad for us, but on the other hand it once again reinforced just how at home we feel in West Hartford and in YIWH. It is special to have reached the point where we feel like West Hartford is our real home. We feel fortunate and hope it continues.

GOING AWAY

As much as we feel at home here...we do like to go away sometimes! Elana and I will be away for a few weeks this summer. **We will be away from July 5-19<sup>th</sup> and then July 31<sup>st</sup> - August 4<sup>th</sup>.** While I am away please contact Rabbi Ari Weiss for any halachic questions. Rabbi Ari Weiss will also be filling in for me between Mincha + Maariv during the week. Others will give divrei torah at seudah shlishit.

Shabbat Shalom!

**Shabbat Rosh Chodesh  
 Parshat Chukat  
 July 2nd, 2011 ✨ 1 Tamuz 5771  
 Kiddush this Shabbat  
 Is sponsored by  
 The Shul**

מזל טוב

**מזל טוב** to Rabbi Mordechai & Dvorah Weiss on the birth of a grandson to their son and daughter-in-law Shimi & Miriam Weiss. Just as he has entered into this covenant, so may he enter into the Torah, the wedding canopy and good deeds.

**מזל טוב** to Ora Chaya Halpern on her Bat Mitzvah! **מזל טוב** to proud parents, Lisa & Eric, and sister Avigayil! **מזל טוב** to proud grandparents, Fran & Steve Ohayon & Linda & Phil Halpern; aunts, uncles and cousins, Deby, Jordan & Jady Turner; and Dan, Lisa and Benjamin Halpern!

**מזל טוב** to Noam Klugerman on his recent Bar Mitzvah! **מזל טוב** to proud parents Yaffa & Tzvi; **מזל טוב** to proud grandparents Rabbi Mordechai & Dvorah Weiss; **מזל טוב** to the entire Weiss & Klugerman Families!

Seudah Shelishit is sponsored this Shabbat by Barry and Donna Gordon in memory of Barry's mother, Batya bat Yeor Mordichai ve-Sara Feiga, whose yarzeit is this Shabbat. Micah Gordon will be speaking in her memory.

מזל טוב

To Inna Stein & Arie Shteyntsayg and their daughters Sara & Rivka, on their move to their new home at 88 Lawler Road!

ברוכים הבאים

Welcome to Beth Blumen and her children Or- en and Chavy who will be staying West Hartford for the Summer.

Editor: Judie Patel  
 E-mail: [bulletin@youngisraelwh.org](mailto:bulletin@youngisraelwh.org)  
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**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!**

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

Don't forget Crown & Stop & Shop too!  
 You can buy scrip for so many more stores with your scrip at any of these venues!  
 Let's support our Shul by buying scrip!  
 Every dollar counts!  
 Contact: Judith Hessing (860-233-6042)  
 at 18 Grenhart Street

**JULY 4TH WEEKEND TORAH LEARNING**

Special Torah Learning about  
 Being Jewish and Being American

**SHABBAT MORNING DRASHA**  
 Lessons from the Revolution

**SHABBAT AFTERNOON CLASS**  
 7:10 pm YIWH  
 Loyalty to our Country

**MONDAY July 4th AFTERNOON**  
 7:00 pm YIWH  
 Prayer for the Welfare of the Government

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

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

**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

**Chai Mitzvah**

Many of you have heard of Chai Mitzvah from me, or from Audrey Lichter, or from those in our shul who have participated in this program. Chai Mitzvah is now beginning its third year and are recruiting participants.

Chai Mitzvah is an opportunity to create a structure of Jewish growth that will help you to:

- § Learn about our heritage
- § Deepen your connection to a particular mitzvah
- § Engage in social action with a Jewish flavor
- § Join a community discussion
- § Celebrate your achievement

Chai Mitzvah is celebrated roughly every 18 years after the traditional age of Bar or Bat Mitzvah, between the ages of 26 and 33, 47 and 51, 65 and 69, and 80+. You choose what you want to study, which mitzvah/ritual you might want to work on, what kind of social action you would like to engage in. You decide the amount of time commitment that is comfortable for you. You decide where and how you want to grow.

A Chai Mitzvah educator and/or peer mentor is available to help you think through your choices (guidance, not pressure!).

Visit [www.chaimitzvah.org](http://www.chaimitzvah.org). You'll see examples of study, ritual, and social action that past Chai Mitzvah participants have pursued.

If you are interested in learning more or in participating, please contact me. I'll help you get started.

Sincerely,  
 Rabbi Weinberg

**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

**Leveraging Futility in Avodas Hashem**  
**Rabbi Yaakov Neuberger (www.torahweb.org)**

For many years, one of Rashi's themes puzzled me and I attributed that to flawed faith and wanting *emunah*. However having recently discovered that one of the most respected minds and souls of our time, Harav Shteinman *shlit"a* (*Ayelet Hashachar, Shmini, 10:3*) was also troubled by the Rashi, I was encouraged to reconsider.

I am referring to Rashi's closing comment on the *parsha* of the *mei meriva*, that brief episode that wipes away the life long dream of both Moshe and Aharon. After recording that they have been denied ever entering the Land of Israel, the text concludes with the comment: "and [Hashem] was sanctified through [these waters]". In order to explain to us how this debacle distinguished Hashem, Rashi (20:13) reminds us that when Hashem metes out punishment to the righteous, He instills both His awe and His sanctity amongst people.

Rashi (*Vayikra 10:3*) introduced us to this idea in his commentary to the death of Nadav and Avihu, Aharon's two sons who were punished as they added their own service to the celebration of opening of *themishkan*. Here too, Aharon was told that the loss of his children brought greater awe and admiration to Hashem's name. According to Rashi, Moshe reminds his brother that Hashem had already announced that He will be sanctified by those whom He holds to be His closest. Understanding that through their tragic and untimely demise his children had been chosen for this great service brought the grieving father some measure of solace.

No doubt receiving Moshe *Rabbeinu's* reassurance on any matter consoles and strengthens, yet I never understood how exacting punishment against our greatest can inspire and uplift. Within me it generates confusion, disappointment and even a sense of personal futility.

I did chance across an interesting and creative response to this, penned by Harav Zilbershtein *shlit"a*, one of the sages and great teachers of our time. In his widely acclaimed *Aleinu Leshabeach*, he suggests that it is not the punishment of our holiest per se that promotes compliance and sanctity. Rather it is the discerning eye that watches how Aharon reacts to his son's death and learns from the greatness of that moment and from the faith upon which his reaction is built. Moshe and Aharon are faulted for a lapse that we will forever speculate to understand, but they accept with perfect faith their censure from Hashem in face of the enormous disappointment that they suffer. Observing those measured reactions will move us and inspire us, and from them we can draw spirituality and awe.

However the simple reading of Rashi does not refer to the response of Moshe, Aharon or of his children, though it must have been stirring beyond question. Rashi only refers to the *midas hadin* and leaves us asking how are we to absorb the *midas hadin* that we witness in a way that will give greater honor to Hashem? Certainly the punishments dealt to Moshe, Aharon and his children will discourage all but absolute compliance to Hashem's instructions, and will powerfully remind us that ours is not to improvise or to adlib rather to carry out. But there must be more than that if we are to find our way from Moshe's punishment to awe filled reverence of Hashem.

Perhaps the sense of futility that this Rashi may generate can indeed be skillfully morphed into an *avodas Hashem* that is positive and knows no ulterior motive. Perhaps, the understanding that nothing guarantees for us what we may want in this world - not even Moshe's and Aharon's unflagging pursuit of Hashem's will - can shape for us a profoundly sincere and genuinely focused service of Hashem. It is in that moment of futility, that this Rashi may thrust upon us, that we are to pick ourselves up and through our continued dedication to Hashem announce uniquely and consistently our awe and our love for the Ribbono Shel Olam.

*pipe nse*

☆ YIWH Schedule of Services ☆ July 1st - 8th, 2011 <b>Shabbat Rosh Chodesh Parshat Chukat</b>		<u>It is easy to sponsor a Kiddush</u> <u>Or Seudah Shlishit!</u>
<b>Friday, July 1st</b> Shacharit Mincha/Maariv Candle Lighting <b>Shabbat, July 2nd - Rosh Chodesh Tamuz</b> Rabbi Sheinkopf's Mishna Brurah Class Shacharit Sof Zman Kriat Shma Rabbi's Shabbat Afternoon Class Mincha followed by Seudah Shlishit & Maariv Shabbat Ends <b>Sunday, July 3rd - Thursday, July 7th</b> Earliest Tallit & Tefillin Shacharit... Sunday - Rosh Chodesh Tamuz Followed by Rabbi Weinberg's Gemara Shiur on Masechet Makot Shacharit... Monday - July 4th Shacharit... Tuesday - Thursday Mincha/Maariv <b>Friday, July 8th</b> Shacharit Mincha/Maariv Candle Lighting	6:45 a.m. 7:00 p.m. 8:12 p.m.  8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 9:07 a.m. 7:10p.m. 7:55 p.m. 9:12 p.m.  4:16 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m.  8:15 a.m. 6:45 a.m. 8:15p.m.  6:45 a.m. 7:00 p.m. 8:10 p.m.	Shul handles set up & Clean up! Contact Judie Patel at 236-4178 or <a href="mailto:judiep@gmail.com">judiep@gmail.com</a> 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. <u>Checks need to be received</u> <u>the Sunday prior to your</u> <u>Kiddush date.</u> 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  <u>KIDDUSH SCHEDULE</u>

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

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Ner La'Maor</u>            Lights            Judy &amp; Sam Leichtberg and Batsheva Goldfischer            in memory of            their parents and grandparents,            Israel Weiss                      <b>ישראל בן דוד</b>            Frida Weiss                      <b>טויבא פרידה בת עזרא</b>            Abraham Leichtberg            <b>אברהם בן שמואל</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Yayin l' Kiddush Ve'Havdalah</u>            Wine for Kiddush &amp; Havdallah            Betty &amp; Irving Wizenfeld            in memory of            Betty's Parents, Tobias &amp; Esther Spira  <b>טוביה בן צבי אלימלך</b>  <b>אסתר בת דוד הכהן</b>            Irv 's father, Sam Wizenfeld  <b>שמואל מאיר בן יצחק הכהן</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Pat La'Orchim</u>            Challah rolls for Seudah Shlishit            Fran &amp; Gene Wittenberg            in memory of            Fran's father, Tzvi ben Yitzchak Meir HaCohen  <b>צבי בן יצחק מאיר הכהן</b>            &amp; Gene's father, Binyamin ben Moshe  <b>בנימין בן משה</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Seudah Shlishit Supplement</u>            In Memory of Al Weisel</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5771 Candy Man:            Gil Fried</p>
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Want to join the Listserve?

If you are interested in subscribing to the yiwhevents listserv, send an e-mail to [webmaster@youngisraelwh.org](mailto:webmaster@youngisraelwh.org) and he will add your name. If you are a member of the group, you can send an e-mail to the entire group by addressing your e-mail to [yiwhevents@yahoo.com](mailto:yiwhevents@yahoo.com).



☆ YIWH Schedule of Services ☆ July 15th - 22nd, 2011 Shabbat Parshat Pinchas		It is easy to sponsor a Kiddush Or Seudah Shlishit!
<b>Friday, July 15th</b> Shacharit Mincha/Maariv Candle Lighting <b>Shabbat, July 16th</b> Rabbi Sheinkopf's Mishna Brurah Class Shacharit Sof Zman Kriat Shma Rabbi's Shabbat Afternoon Class Mincha followed by Seudah Shlishit & Maariv Shabbat Ends <b>Sunday, July 17th - Thursday, July 21st</b> Earliest Tallit & Tefilin Shacharit... Sunday Followed by Rabbi Weinberg's Gemara Shiur on Masechet Makot Shacharit... Monday, Wednesday & Thursday Mincha/Maariv <b>Tuesday, July 19th - Shva Asar b'Tamuz</b> Alot Hashachar Shacharit... Tuesday Chatzot Mincha/Maariv Fast Ends <b>Friday, July 22nd</b> Shacharit Mincha/Maariv Candle Lighting	6:45 a.m. 7:00 p.m. 8:07 p.m.  8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 9:12 a.m. 7:10 p.m. 7:50 p.m. 9:06 p.m.  4:28 a.m. 8:15 a.m. 9:00 a.m.  6:45 a.m. 8:15p.m.  4:20 a.m. 6:30 a.m. 12:57 p.m. 8:15 p.m. 9:04p.m.  6:45 a.m. 7:00 p.m. 8:02 p.m.	Shul handles set up & Clean up! Contact Judie Patel at 236-4178 or <a href="mailto:judiep@gmail.com">judiep@gmail.com</a> 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. <u>Checks need to be received            the Sunday prior to your            Kiddush date.</u> 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  <u>KIDDUSH SCHEDULE</u>

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