

KOL EZRAS ISRAEL



Rabbi's Message

The fast of Shiva'as Beis Hamikdash ushers in the beginning of what is known as the Three Weeks. These weeks are a period of mourning for the destruction of the Beis Hamikdash, and the ensuing exile that followed. We know that Chazal say that this exile, known as Galus Edom, The Roman Exile, which we are currently in, was caused by Sina'as Chinam, senseless hatred. It would seem imperative that we use this three week period to reflect upon how we can each, on a personal level, rectify this situation, which would bring about an end to this long and bitter exile. This is a challenge that we have often referred to in past messages, but is important and bears repeating often.

Shlomo Hamelech says in Mishlei " , " טוב עין הוא יברך " , " One who possesses a good eye is blessed". In the fifth chapter of Pirkei Avos, the Mishna says that one who is a , טוב עין , amongst other character traits, is considered a disciple of Avrohom Avinu. We can see that being a Tov Ayin is a trait that we should all aspire towards. What is this trait? And how does one go about acquiring this trait? One of the attributes of a Tov Ayin is the ability to not only not begrudge, but to actually feel happy for someone else's good fortune. How does one go about becoming a Tov Ayin? A Tov Ayin emphasizes what he has, not what he doesn't. In his commentary on this Mishna in Pirkei Avos, the CHossid Ya'avits says that the Tov Ayin has the midda of Histapkus (being satisfied with little). This does not

mean that he has no appreciation for luxury, but rather that luxury is not necessary for his happiness. It is important to know that Hashem gives a person exactly what he needs. If a person focuses on what he has and understanding that he is given what he needs, it is easier for him to be happy for someone else's successes. What the other person has is what he needs, and what I have is what I need. Rav Moshe Rosenstein, HY"D , the mashgiach of the Lomza Yeshiva in prewar Lithuania, when giving practical advice on how to avoid the pitfalls of envy, used to say the following. What is the difference between one who has 5 million dollars, and twenty million dollars? And what is the difference between one who has 800 million, and one who has 815 million? When you get to such high numbers, the 15 million dollars is not nearly as significant as the difference between five and twenty million dollars. The difference between what we have and what our neighbors have is 15 million. Our perspective of that 15 million dollars is dependent upon where we start taking inventory. When we take all of the gifts that Hashem bestows upon us, and we don't take them for granted, rather we count them for what they are, gifts, then we are like the person who has 800 million dollars. Yes, perhaps my neighbor has 815 million dollars, but I have 800 million! Someone with a Tov Ayin can be happy for someone else, so there is less enmity, less discord, and less conflict. Rather, there is more happiness and good will which leads to friendship and unity. This will ultimately bring about the final redemption.

Eliezer Kreiser

President's Message

I went with my wife Tamira to the Eastern Shore recently, and we took a walking tour of the small city Chestertown. This "walking tour" had no tour guide; instead, the docent gave us iPods and earphones.

Being in the over-50 crowd, I look at iPods, iPhones, and anything else that is wireless with some suspicion. I stared at the iPod, fumbled with the dial, and then asked the docent, "How do you work this contraption?" "It's easy," he said, and proceeded with an explanation that was more complicated than much of Mesechet Pesachim.

Just as live tour guides are fast becoming a relic of the past, so are loose-leaf binders, paper mailings, and even telephone conversations. In their place we have email, web pages, and small thumb drives that can store all of the meetings, lectures, sermons, shared recipes, and kiddush conversations that have been held at Ezras Israel for the past 100 years. As a result, the

Board has brushed up the synagogue's by-laws to make them more appropriate for the modern age in which we live. Most of the changes are technical in nature—and show how much life has changed in the past ten short years.

We are also undertaking a new initiative to identify new members. We need new members for participation: organizing events, buying supplies, making the minyan, leading the services, and the many other items that individually are small but together make a vibrant community. We also need new members to sustain the synagogue's financial position. While it is true that for several years the synagogue's leadership has run our financial affairs prudently and responsibly, to continue funding expenses or enhancing programming, we do need long-term growth in members and support.

What, in turn, does Ezras Israel offer to its members, (new and existing)? A traditional approach to Judaism; a small, intimate atmosphere;

(cont. on page 2)

Notice of Membership Meeting to Consider By-law Changes; Barbecue to Follow

by Mark Disler

There will be a meeting of the members of Ezras Israel Congregation on Sunday, July 21, at 5:00 p.m. to vote on proposed changes to the By-laws of the Congregation. The meeting will take place at the home of Rachmil Jacobovits, 12019 Montrose Village Terrace, Rockville.

Pursuant to Article XV of the by-laws, the changes were proposed in writing to the Board, and were approved by a 6-0 vote, exceeding the two-third vote requirement.

Mark Lautman, President and Mark Disler, Recording Secretary, submitted the proposed changes to the members of the Congregation for their consideration, as required by Article XV, by letter dated June 17, 2013. The Board believes the modest changes the Board is proposing are in the best interests of the Congregation and reflect current realities in the operation of the Synagogue. If anyone has any questions about these proposals, please feel free to contact either Mark (mlautman@verizon.net; tel. 301-221-6510; mark.disler@yahoo.com; tel. 301-231-4857).

The proposed changes require support of two thirds of the membership. We URGE members to attend the meeting and vote; All "members in good standing", essentially as having paid full membership dues within the past twelve month, are eligible to vote. If you are unable to attend and vote in person, PLEASE provide a proxy. The June 17 mailing contains such a proxy and a stamped and addressed envelope for its return.

The Synagogue is sponsoring a barbecue at the Jacobovits' home following the meeting on July 21, at 5:30 p.m. Please let Rachmil Jacobovits know if you plan to attend the barbecue (milujaco@gmail.com; tel. 301-461-4984).

The Board hopes that all members will attend the meeting and the barbecue that follows it. If you are not currently a "member in good standing" you may become so by filling out membership application and paying membership dues. The application can be downloaded from our web site www.ezrasisrael.org and click on the "MEMBERSHIP" link.

Women gathering nights at Ezras Israel

Sounds mysterious and mystical? Indeed! You are invited to join the women of Ezras Israel congregation who meet a few times of times in a year to have fun together while discussing subjects related to the Jewish calendar and women.

Here are some examples of previous meeting we had this year:

- For the month of Shvat, we had a lovely dinner at the home of Rabbi and Perel Kreiser. We discussed the unique qualities of each of the seven species, adding a special wish before tasting them (Prosperity, good luck, patience, and so on).
- For the month of Adar, we met at the home of Agi and Rachmil Jacobovits. Each woman was asked to bring a joke... It was a funny evening!
- After Passover, on the month of Iyar, it was time to restock our freezers with challah. We met at shul and made wonderful challahs from scratch! While we waited for the dough to rise, we heard from Charlene Saportin-Disler about her experiences as a speech therapist. Everyone enjoyed it, including the men that were not invited but had homemade challah for Shabbat!



This summer we are planning to have our meeting on Aug 4th at my house. We will have a honey cake contest and other activities related to the month of Elul and Tishrei.

We hope to have many more women attend our rosh chodesh themed meetings in the coming year. Ideas for activities as well as sponsorship will be very much appreciated!

Your presence counts! Thank you, Inbar Friedrich Ben-Nun
fbninbar@gmail.com 1-301-526-5777



Inbar Friedrich Ben-Nun, PhD appointed to the Board.

Following Sheldon Needle's resignation from the Board, after fifteen years of service, four of which as President, the members of the Board unanimously elected Inbar to replace Sheldon to serve as a member focusing on women's programming and children's concerns. A brief auto-bio follows in the next column.

Inbar Friedrich Ben-Nun, PhD, born in Israel. Obtained Master and PhD in Molecular and Structural Biochemistry at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel. Married to Golan Ben-Nun, Architect. Relocated to CA on 2007 to pursue postdoctoral training. Have been living in Rockville since 2012. Have two children: Ori and Adi. Very happy to be part of Ezras Israel Congregation.

President's Message (cont.)

low membership costs; a dynamic rabbi; and a good location for those living in the area around the JCC and a warm and welcoming environment for Jews in all walks of life .

From all of you I ask two things. First, review the changes to the by-laws that should have arrived to you in a recent mailing, if you are a "member in good standing" as defined in they Bylaws. We will be having a membership meeting to ratify the updated by-laws, and we need everyone's participation, either physically present or by proxy, to achieve a quorum.

But most of all, please send me your ideas for attracting new members, and, if appropriate, send me some names of people whom you think may find our synagogue a good fit.

Have a nice summer, and a meaningful 9 Av (Tisha B'Av).

Mark Lautman

Yom Ha'Atzmaut Celebrated

On April 21 at Ezras Israel with great weather, Frisbees, knowledge of Israel puzzles, T-ball kites, games, pizza picnic and lots of fun for children and adults.



High Holiday Letters will go out in the week after Tisha B'Av (7/16). Please respond generously in the variety of High Holiday opportunities to help the shul. The High Holiday program is one of the shul's main source of funds for the year. So participate as much as you can—renew your membership for 2013, if you have not already done so, buy seats, submit names for Yizkor Book and bid on RH & YK allyot.

Learning Schedule

- **Chumash:** Shabbat mornings, Rabbi's shiur on the weekly **Parsha**, 8:15am at the shul. Open to all.
- **Talmud:** Sunday mornings following Shacharis, Rabbi's **Talmud Class** at the Ring House (men only) -
Look soon for community Kollel News—a joint Ezras Israel & Aish Hatora initiative to increase learning in Rockville.

Baruchim Habaim

New Members:

Are you receiving the weekly Ezras Israel e-mail update?
Davening times, upcoming events, and more! To subscribe, visit
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ezrasisrael>



Mazel Tov!

Dr. Vahid Yahoudain and family on Vahid's engagement to Rena Soleiman of LA.

Nate Druckman and the Druckman family on Nate's engagement to Chana Tzimmerman

Rabbi Eliezer and Perel Kreiser on their daughter, Tzirel Leah's Graduation from the Yeshiva of GW HS, and being named one of the three valedictorians of her class.

Leah Rosen, on becoming a great grandmother, Boaz & Dina Rosen on becoming grandparents to Moria—born to Lior & Rachel in Israel

Joel & Jane Lubin on the birth of their grandson, son of Hershel and Ariel Lutch

Rabbi & Ruth Baars on becoming grandparents to baby boy Eliezer Simcha born to Chava & Shmuel in Israel

Yasher Koach!



Mark Lautman & Michael Richman for their hard work and extensive preparations to read the Torah beautifully on Shabbat.

Inbar Friederich & Golan Ben-Nun for organizing this year's Yom Ha'atzmaut picnic and activities.

Ilene Van Houter for sponsoring the second Ricky Van Houter Memorial Lecture.

Mark & Charlene Disler for helping organize the Ricky Van Houter Memorial Lecture.

Jeremy Jacobson & Jordan Grubic for setting up and clean up for kiddush and seudat shlishit

For sponsoring a kiddush

Rachmi & Agi Jacobovits to commemorate his father's Shimon ben Meier Kopel, yahrzeit.

Yahoudain family in memory of Mordechai's father's, Chen ben Ezra, first Yahrzeit and mother, Motaram bat Khanoom, and Mona's brother, Zechariah ben Zechariah

Leah Rosen to commemorate family yahrzeits: husband Moshe ben Kalman, father, Yitzhak ben Arie and mother Sarah bat Arie

Sheldon Needle in honor of incoming Board of Directors.

Agi & Rachmil Jacobovits in memory of Agi's father, Itzhak Aharon ben David

Leah Rosen and family to celebrate the birth of Moria to Lior and Rachel Rosen in Israel

Sheldon Needle in commemoration of his father's yahrzeit Chaim ben Yisrael Zalman Ha'Levi, z"l

**Celebrate a family simcha.
Honor or remember a loved one—Sponsor a Kiddush!**

Refuah Sheleima

Norm Pollack
Ari Zymelman

Cemetery Spaces Available

Gan Zikaron (Garden of Remembrance) is a Jewish community owned and operated cemetery. Spaces are available in the section previously purchased by Ezras Israel Congregation of Rockville for \$1,900 each. You will have the benefit of a tax deduction. Please contact Morris Altschuler at (301) 770-5591 for further information and a tour of the site.

Sponsor a New Sefer to our growing Torah Library

There are opportunities to sponsor new sforim for the shul - from a \$50 donation to sponsor a regular Stone Edition Chumash, and \$36 for a new Art Scroll Siddur to a set of Mishnayot or a full Shas, for a small premium above costs. Interested in other sforim sponsorship? Ask Rabbi Kreiser or contact Rachmil.301-461-4984

Condolences



Mark Chaimovich on the passing of his father Shimon in Israel

Jerold Roschwalb on the passing of his sister Estelle Gottesman

Charlie Futrovsky & Kitty Strauss on the passing of their brother Richard Futrovsky

Memorialize a loved one with a Memorial Plaque or by Donating a Machzor, Siddur or Chumash
Call Rachmil at 301-770-4342 or 301-461-4984 or e-mail milujaco@gmail.com

Donate to the Ezras Israel Hachnosat Orchim Fund to support the hospitality the Rabbi extends to the community.

For the holidays and all your special occasions, send personalized **Chesed Cards** and Help Ezras Israel at the same time
Call June Graff 301.770.7129

**Celebrate a special occasion!
Sponsor a Kiddush**
Call Rachmil Jacobovits at 301-461-4984 or by e-mail milujaco@gmail.com or reserve online at www.ezrasisrael.org

Kol Ezras Israel

Congregation Ezras Israel
 P.O. Box 2281
 Rockville, MD 20847

Minyan Times

Luach Hazmanim

Date	Day	Parsha - Chag - Event	Candle Lighting	Friday / Erev Tov	Mincha	Shema	Yom Tov	Shab- bat / Yom Tov
5-6 July	Fri-Sat	Matos - Maasei (Mevorchim Av - Rosh Chodesh Monday)	8:19*	7:00	9:31	8:10	9:26	
12-13 July	Fri-Sat	Dvarim/ Shabbat Hazon	8:16*	7:00	9:33	8:05	9:22	
15-16 July	Mon-Tue	Tisha B'Av/Fast Start 8:33PM/ Shacharit 8:05AM/Mincha 4PM - Ring House Also Mincha@Shul 7:45P - Ends					9:20	
19-20 July	Fri-Sat	V'etchanan - Shabbat Nachamu	8:12*	7:00	9:36	8:00	9:17	
26-27 July	Fri-Sat	Eikev	8:07*	7:00	9:39	7:55	9:10	
2-3 Aug	Fri-Sat	Reh (Mevorchim Elul - Rosh Chodesh Tu & Wed)	8:00*	7:00	9:42	7:45	9:02	
9-10 Aug	Fri-Sat	Shoftim	7:52*	7:00	9:45	7:35	8:53	
16-17 Aug	Fri-Sat	Ki Teitzei	7:43*	7:00	9:48	7:30	8:43	
23-24 Aug	Fri-Sat	Ki Tavo	7:34*	7:00	9:50	7:20	8:33	
30-31 Aug	Fri-Sat	Netzavim - Vayelech	7:23*	7:00	9:53	7:05	8:21	
4-5 Sept	Wed-Th	First Day of Rosh Hashana (Food Prep for Day 2 only after 8:13)	7:15	7:15	9:54	7:15	8:13	
5-6 Sep	Th-Fri	Second Day of Rosh Hashana	After	7:15	9:54	7:15	8:11	
6-7 Sep	Fri-Sat	Hazinu - Shabbat Shuva (Shabbat Shuva Drasha 6:00 PM)	7:12	7:10	9:54	6:55	8:10	
8-Sept	Sunday	Tzom (Fast of) Gedaliah (Fast Begins 5:22 - Ends 8:08)	xxxx	xxxx	9:54	xxxx	xxxx	
13-14 Sep	Fri-Sat	Yom Kippur - KOL NIDRE 6:50PM	7:01	3:00	9:56	5:10	7:58	
18-19 Sep	Wed-Th	First Day Sukkot (Food Prep for Day 2 only after 7:50P)	6:53	6:50	9:57	6:50	7:50	
19-20 Sep	Th-Fri	Second Day Sukkot	After	6:45	9:57	6:45	7:47	
20-21 Sep	Fri-Sat	Shabbat Chol Hamoed - Kohélet	6:50	6:50	9:58	6:30	7:47	
25-26 Sep	Wed-Th	Hoshana Rabbah - Shemini Atzeret (Food Prep for 2nd day after 7:38)	6:42	6:40	9:59	6:35	7:38	
26-27 Sep	Th-Fri	Simchat Torah	After 7:39	6:35	9:59	6:35	7:37	
27-28	Fri-Sat	Shabbat Bereshit	6:39	6:40	10:00	6:20	7:35	

*Candle lighting is preferable at the time that the Ezras Israel Community Accepts Shabbos approx. 7:20PM in the summer

Shabbat at Ezras Israel: Call 240-627-1661 for Eruv status.
 Shacharit 9:00 a.m.
 Shacharit at Ring House, Activity Room 3:
 See above. Followed by Seudah Shishit and Maariv
 Mincha/ Maariv
 Mincha minyan - same location - 4:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday
 Sunday 8:30 a.m. Followed by Rabbi's shir (men only) 8:05AM Torah Reading Days & 8:15AM Non-Torah Reading Days.