



Bet Israel Bulletin  
 רבעון של "בית ישראל"  
 בית כנסת מסורתי, נתניה

# חג מתן תורתנו - חג שמח

May 2013

Shavuot

5773

שבועות

סיון תשע"ג

## FESTIVAL OF SHAVUOT

זמני תפילות בחג השבועות

Schedule of Services

Leil Shavuot ליל שבועות

Tuesday 14 May at 7:20pm

ביום ג' 14 במאי בשעה 19:20

Mincha & Ma'ariv

מנחה וערבית

with shiur by Harvey Bordowitz

שיעור ע"י הרוי בורדוביץ



Shavuot Morning Services תפילת שחרית בחג השבועות

יום ד' 15 במאי בשעה 8:00 Wednesday 15 May at 8:00

Shacharit & Musaf

שחרית ומוסף

(including YIZKOR)

(כולל יזכור)

ולאחר מכן : followed by

B>I>C>A> Shavuot Festive Luncheon:

סעודת שבועות

Luncheon catered by B.I.C.A.

₪ 60 shekels (members) ₪ (לחבר)

₪ 70 sh. non-members ללא-חבר

Reservations with payment (checks to "B.I.C.A.") to the office by  
 Thursday 9 May

קהילת בית ישראל, מסורתי, נתניה

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רח' יהודה הנשיא 19

P.O.Box 437, 42103 Netanya, Israel

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Tel:09-862-4345 Fax: 09-882-5210 Email: [office@betisrael.org](mailto:office@betisrael.org) Website: <http://www.betisrael.org/>

Office: Sun.-Thu. 8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

משרד: ימי אי עד ה' 08:30 עד 14:00



Dear friends and members of Congregation Bet Israel, Netanya,

Since this is my first note to the congregation since the AGM, I want to thank the previous Va'ad for the time and effort everyone took to keep Bet Israel the vital shul it is. A big kol ha'kavod to Morrie Kaporovsky and Rachel Holman. Their leadership took us through many challenging events and circumstances in the past four years.

We should all feel blessed to have competent and intelligent board members as we face the challenging days and years to come. However, I have seen that the collective participation of so many individuals has been and will be the key to the continued success of our synagogue.

I read, again, Rachel Holman's message from last Shavuot. It referred in part to getting involved in the political system. I believe we did this by having Dov Lipman of "Yesh Atid" address us a few months ago: We invited all the major parties to send representatives but only Dov Lipman came. He really did not expect to gain a MK seat at the time. Now he is a member and in charge of Anglo-Saxon affairs. Let us use him when appropriate. Hopefully this is a sign of a positive future for non-orthodox shuls such as ours.

I am a relatively new member of Bet Israel, and also a new citizen of Israel, and I continue to be amazed at both our synagogue and Israel. The days from Yom Ha'Shoah through Yom Ha'atzmaut are filled with emotional roller-coasters of sadness and joy. Suzanne and I are so moved by Rabbi Birnbaum's incredible ability to create a memorable Yom Ha'Shoah presentation. The participants speak their parts with sincerity, expressing eloquently the feelings that we all are sharing. We also attended an event in Caesaria commemorating the beginning of Yom Ha'Zickaron. Hundreds attended the ceremony. We heard no cell phones or talking. Everyone left quietly.

I still think about the question of the long term needs of our synagogue. Besides being one of the few Masorti Synagogues between the coastal cities of Tel Aviv and Haifa providing an egalitarian alternative to orthodoxy, what do we offer? The answers are many and so important: Families can have Bar /Bat Mitzvahs with the participation of all members of their family -- mothers, fathers, grandparents, brothers and sisters. Our Shabbat Chatan ("aufruf") ceremony is also all-inclusive. Girls can see that they can participate in the services the same as the boys. And what about the Bar/ Bat Mitzvah ceremony for the special needs students of the Netanya Tushiyya School that I recently observed in our sanctuary? Where else could this be done in Netanya, if not Bet Israel? And, thanks in the main to Rabbi Ervin and Hadassa Birnbaums' efforts, we also serve the needs of the Russian Olim who count on Bet Israel for Shabbat Services, Dvar Torah, and community announcements.

We also provide a service to the community. We have a daily minyan available to anyone who needs a minyan. I have witnessed non-members who want to say Kaddish and can at our synagogue. I have also seen people come in and need some help from us. We give them that spiritual and/or monetary help. People in our synagogue have come forward with their expertise in many fields such as social services or helping new Olim traverse the Israeli bureaucracy and translating the many documents from Ivrit to English. If I mentioned the names of our congregants that do this it would be a very long list indeed!. We not only need Bet Israel -- Netanya needs Bet Israel!

With our membership declining -- and this is not due to people disliking what our synagogue represents, but to the unfortunate realities of age and illness -- we must discover other ways to insure the survival of Bet Israel. It will not be quick or easy. I feel, this is our number one mission. I know we all will think of ways to achieve our goal -- the continuation of Bet Israel for everyone!

Shavout is a significant moment in our history. It is as if every Jew past, present, and future was at Mount Sinai at the giving of the Torah. I wish everyone a Shavout Sameach and continued health and happiness.

*Howie Goodman, President*

חברים וחברי קהילת בית ישראל,

מכיוון שמדובר במאמר הראשון שלי לקהילה מאז האסיפה הכללית, אני רוצה להודות לוועד הקודם על תרומתם של כולם כדי לשמור על בית ישראל כקהילה חיה ותוססת. כל כבוד למורי קפורובסקי ורחל הולמן. ההנהגה שלהם לקחה אותנו דרך אירועים מאתגרים רבים בארבע השנים האחרונות.

כולנו צריכים להרגיש מבורך שיש חברי הנהלה מוכשרים ואינטליגנטיים כשנעמוד בפני הימים והשנים התובעניים הבאים עלינו. עם זאת, ראיתי כי ההשתתפות של אנשים רבים כל כך בועד החדש יהיה המפתח להצלחה המתמשכת של בית הכנסת שלנו.

אני קורא, שוב, את המאמר של רחל הולמן מהגליון של שבועות אשתקד. היא התייחסה בצורך להיות מעורב במערכת הפוליטית. אני מאמין שעשינו את זה על ידי כך שהזמנו את דב ליפמן מ"יש עתיד" (אנחנו הזמנו נציגים מתנועות פוליטיות אחרות אך רק דב ליפמן הגיע) לענות לנו על הצרכים הספציפיים של לנו כקהילה לא-אורתודוקסית. הוא באמת לא ציפה לזכות במושב ח"כ באותו הזמן. עכשיו הוא חבר ואחראי על עניינים אנגלו-סכסיים. בא נשתמש בו בעת צורך. אני מקווה שזה סימן לעתיד חיובי לבתי כנסת לא-אורתודוקסיות כמו שלנו.

אני חבר חדש יחסית של בית ישראל ועולה חדש בישראל, ואני ממשיך להיות מופתע גם בחברי בית הכנסת שלנו וגם בתושבי מדינת ישראל. הימים מיום השואה דרך יום עצמאות מלאים רגשיות של עצב ושמחה. סוזן ואני כל כך נרגשים מהיכולת המדהימה של הרב בירנבוים ליצירת טקס יום השואה בלתי נשכחת. כל המשתתפים בטקס. אנחנו גם השתתפנו באירוע בקיסריה לרגליום הזכרון לחללי מערכות ישראל. מאות נכחו בטקס, אך לא שמענו טלפונים סולרניים או אנשים מדברים. כולם עזבו בשקט.

אני עדיין חושב על שאלת הצרכים לטווח הארוך של בית הכנסת שלנו. מלבד היותו אחד מבתי הכנסת המסורתיים הבודדים בין תל אביב וחיפה שמספקים אלטרנטיבה שוויונית לאורתודוקסיה, מה אנחנו מציעים? את התשובות הן רבות וחשובות כל כך: משפחות יכולות לארוך בר / בת מצווה בהשתתפות כל בני המשפחה שלהם - אמהות, אבות, סבים וסבתות, אחים ואחיות; טקס שבת החתן שלנו ("aufwurf") הוא גם כולל כל בני המשפחה. ומה עם טקס הבר / בת המצווה לתלמידים בעלי הצרכים המיוחדים לתלמידי בית הספר "תושיה" בנתניה? איפה עוד זה יכול להיעשות בנתניה, אם לא בבית ישראל? והודות למאמצים של הרב ארווין והדסה בירמבאום, אנחנו גם משרתים לעולים מברה"מ לשעבר, שמרגישים חלק מכובד מבית ישראל.

כמו כן אנו מספקים שירותים לקהילה הרחבה. יש לנו מניין יומי זמין לכל מי שזקוק לו, בין אם חבר הקהילה ואם לא. יש גם שפונים אלינו לעזרה רוחנית וגם כספית, ואיפה שניתן אנחנו עונים. אנשים בבית הכנסת שלנו צריכים לבוא קדימה עם המומחיות שלהם בתחומים רבים, כגון שירותים חברתיים או לעזור לעולים חדשים לעבור את הבירוקרטיה הישראלית ותרגום מסמכים הרבים מהעברית לאנגלית. לא רק שאנחנו נהנים מבית ישראל – גם העיר נתניה נהנה מבית ישראל!

עם החברות שלנו בירידה, לא בגלל אנשים לשנוא את מה שמייצג בית הכנסת שלנו, אבל למציאות המצערת של גיל ומחלה, עלינו לגלות דרכים אחרות כדי להבטיח את הישרדותו של בית ישראל. זה לא יהיה מהיר וקל יותר. אני מרגיש, זו משימת המספר אחת שלנו. אני יודע שכולנו חושבים על דרכים כדי להשיג את המטרה שלנו - ההמשך של בית ישראל לכולם!

חג השבועות הוא רגע משמעותי בהיסטוריה שלנו. זה כאילו כל יהודי בעבר, בהווה ובעתיד היה במעמד הר סיני במתן התורה. אני מאחל לכולם חג שמח, בריאות ואושר מתמשך.

הווארד גודמן, נשיא בית ישראל

## **B.I.C.A.**

Can't believe it's already Shavuot, and soon 5733 will be on its way out, and we will be looking forward to the High Holidays. Our "snow-birds" have flown away to avoid the heat of summer and now we who stick it out are here to celebrate together the giving of the Torah, the harvest festival and Joshua's battle over the city of Jericho. There will be a study session on Erev Shavuot after mincha (at 7:20pm – tip: Have supper without making Kiddush before you come; we'll make Kiddush in shul.) with Harvey Bordowitz, and the next day, Shavuot itself, services – including Yizkor – will be followed by the BICA Annual Festive Luncheon. Please note: Reservations with payment no later than Thursday 9 May.

BICA has had a wonderful year which enabled us to donate NIS30,000 to the synagogue! This is all due to the dedicated work done by the BICA volunteers, so many that I daren't name names in case I forget some!! Some of our events, like the Purim party, just "happened", unplanned, spontaneously, but were nevertheless a rip-roaring success. Barry Resnick, our guest speaker ("Questioning the validity of "The Mascot"), was a big hit, as was the film, "Karua'a", about the Jewish-born Catholic priest who wanted to make *aliya*. Of course, Batya Fonda's "A lek and a shmek" on Ashkenazi food songs, with samples, was voted "the best", and everybody left with a full stomach and a beatific smile. And now of course we can all look forward to her presentation on Sephardi food, too. Our pre-Pessach Oneg Shabbat was once again professionally catered by Head Chef, with a delicious variegated menu.

So what's to come?? In addition to our Shavuot luncheon, there will be a closing lunch on 11 June, with speaker Barbara Blum, who will present the life, times and talent of Danny Kaye. We will also continue our Movie Nites, with pop-'n'-popcorn, during the summer months. And we have lots more planned for next season, so come and enjoy great programs together with good company and at the same time support Bet Israel: The best of all worlds!

Chag sameach to one and all,  
*Helen Brawer*

### **Miriam Liptscher**

At the "Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day" ceremony held at Yad Vashem this year (March, 2013), our beloved fellow-congregant Miriam Liptsher was chosen to light one of the six memorial torches. She told her story to Hebrew-speakers of the congregation at an evening in her honour hosted by Myrna and Don Silverberg, and has been invited to talk to the English-speakers at the Synagogue in the near future (her talk in Hebrew will be translated into English by Batya Fonda). For eleven years, from the year 2000, Miriam accompanied groups to Poland as a living witness, sometimes travelling twice or even three times a year. In all, she told 22 groups of schoolchildren, adults and soldiers about her experiences, regarding it as an imperative to take on such an arduous task so that our collective memory of the horrors will not fade. A documentary of one of these missions sponsored by the IDF will be screened at her talk.

In the following video from the Yad Vashem website, Miriam shows us her mother's ring, which she wears until this day. She tells how she managed to help some of her friends: "It was gratifying to know that I wasn't only living for myself - I was also helping others." Miriam has continued living her life selflessly, both as a living witness and as a volunteer at the Netanya Association for the Blind for the last 30 years. The evening at Bet Israel will be an opportunity to listen to Miriam's courageous story, and to learn from her exemplary personality.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=LFvJqWRCzgw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=LFvJqWRCzgw)

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In honor of Bet Israel  
Mazal Tov to Nadav Steinberg on his Bar Mitzva

## Yahrzeit

Joyce Frank  
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Marsha Stein  
Esti Yardeni & family

Beloved husband, Morton  
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Mother, Tzila Tzirel Bogushevsky  
Beloved father, Allen Joseph Kirschner  
Father, Abraham Polonsky  
Father, Elimelech Neuman

## Aliyot

David & Jacky Altman	Avraham ben Ephraim
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## Pessach donations

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Alla Zurachov	Rachel Maroco

## Tree of Life

Edith Garfinkle in honor of the Bat Mitzva of Karen Chen Garfinkle, 20 February 2013

## Special donation to B.I.C.A.

Myrna Silverberg

## Herring Fund

David & Jacky Altman

Bernard Burg

**Bet Israel mourns the loss of  
Max Stamler  
יהי זכרו ברוך**

*Greetings from the Russian-speaking members!*

Dear friends,

The Russian-speaking membership is very happy to be able to report that during this past year we have been joined by some new members and that they are very happy to have found a welcoming home in Bet Israel. Our members are continuing to buy siddurim and chumashim with Russian translations so that they may also have them for reading at home and not only in bet Kneset. As time passes the members are becoming more and more active in all the communal affairs of Bet Israel and it is their great pleasure to be called upon to help with kiddushim, dinners and, of course, the BICA bazaar. You may notice that there are many Russian names among those who have sold their chametz before Pessach and gave a Pessach donation; this shows that Jewish values and practices have, over the years, become a part of our lives, and that which we knew nothing of while we were living in what was, at that time, the Soviet Union, is now a part of us as it should be for all Jews.

We all of us know that there are still many things that need to be improved in our beloved country, but we should all be aware of how much good has been achieved and how much is being done every day to make things better, and we should be grateful and thank God for being the generation that sees the return to our own country.

Chag sameach to everybody,  
*Claudja Khenkin, Russian-speaking va'ad member.*

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# Kabbalat Shabbat in song

**Batya fonda invites everybody to come to a singing Friday evening service. beginning on 10 May. at 6pm**

During the summer months we start the Kabbalat Shabbat service before the onset of Shabbat, at 6pm. This allows us to add musical (guitar) accompaniment to the service, up to "Barechu". Come and enjoy!



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*We meet once a month on Erev Shabbat for a Jewish-calendar-based activity led by our member Elizabeth Fontanills (whose two daughters and their friends are in the picture on the left).*

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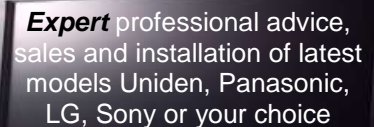
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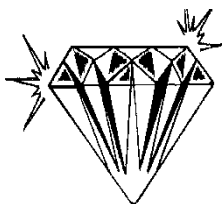
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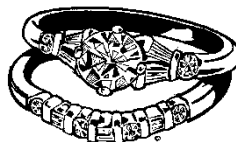
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