



The Mount Sinai Keshar

Marcheshvan Edition

October 16-17, 2009 • 29 Tishrei, 5770 • Parashat Bereishit • Shabbat Mevarchim

Shabbat Schedule

Candle Lighting	5:56 p.m.
Mincha	6:01 p.m.
Shacharit	7:00, 9:00 a.m.
Kri'at Shema before	9:55 a.m.
Tot Shabbat	10:45 a.m.
Early Mincha (BM)	2:15 p.m.
Rabbi Schwartz's Gemara shiur	4:35 p.m.
Mincha	5:35 p.m.
<i>Seuda Shlishit following Mincha</i>	
Women's Shiur	6:00 p.m.
Maariv/Shabbat ends	6:59 p.m.

Tefillah Schedule Week of October 18th

<i>Shacharit</i>	
Sunday	7:30, 8:30, 9:00 a.m.
Monday (Rosh Chodesh)	6:30, 7:10, 8:00 a.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday	7:00, 7:30, 8:00 a.m.
Thursday	6:45, 7:20, 8:00 a.m.

<i>Mincha/Maariv</i>	
Sunday - Thursday	5:55 p.m.

<i>Next Shabbat, Parashat Noach</i>	
Candles	5:45 p.m.
Mincha	5:50 p.m.
<i>Join us for Hospitality Shabbat! Details inside</i>	

NOTE: 8:30 Shacharit and 5:55 p.m. Mincha/Maariv on Sunday will be in the Main Shul.

Please send all announcements by 5pm on Wednesday to office@mtsinaishul.com and bulletin@mtsinaishul.com.

Tot Shabbat

Parents and children-under-5 are invited to a children's davening service during Mussaf (approx. 10:45) in the gym.



Welcome New Member

Menachem Butler



Sponsorships

The **ERUV and KESHER** are sponsored congratulating Leib ben Avrohom.

SEUDA SHLISHIT is sponsored by **Tehilla & Henry Rieser** in memory of Henry's parents, and co-sponsored by **Ruth Friesner** in memory of her husband, Justin Friesner.

The **SHABBAT MEVARCHIM KIDDUSH** is sponsored by:

- **Rabbi Ezra and Dr. Rivka Schwartz** in recognition of Craig and Allison Cohen's dedication to the Shul; and in celebration of the birth of their daughter, Rina.
- **Akiva Stechler** in recognition of the generosity to the shul of the following people: Aliza Abrams, Ariella Joel, Ari Levine, Ari Oxman, Avi Steinberg, Josh Gottlieb, Jeremy Heyman, Isaac Dayan, Michael Nahmias, Malki Lanner, Shlomo Benzaquen, Sepha Sheinbein, Talia Stechler, and Uri Miller.
- **Shuli and Ben Sandler**, thanking Malka Simon and Aviva Edelstein for arranging meals, and everyone who made meals, after Miya's birth
- **Michael and Asher Arzouane** in memory of Gavriel Yehudah Arzouane
- **Yehudis Isenberg** on the yahrzeit of her grandparents, Sam and Sarah Mermelstein
- **Aimee and Ari Davis** in honor of the first birthdays of their daughter Gabriella, Rivky Belsh, Gershon Rozenberg and Yosef Schwartz
- **Daniel and Akiva Coleman** in honor of Anat beginning her second shemittah cycle in Washington Heights.
- **Dashiell Ferguson** in honor of his birthday
- **Ezra Blumenthal** in honor of his birthday
- **Anonymous** in honor of a special anniversary

Thank you for the anonymous **SEFARIM DONATION** in memory of Avraham ben Menachem.



HATZOLAH
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Volunteer Emergency Ambulance Service

THE HEIGHTS IS FULL OF TZADDIKIM...

"You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to abandon it." - Rabbi Tarfon

It's a lesson we all know well, but yet somehow, all too often, performing acts of kindness and *chesed* seems to be at the bottom of our lengthy to-do lists. We don't know where to go, or what to do, or nobody wants to go with us - we've all used all the excuses before. But in the last couple months, our **Chessed Committee** has been hard at work providing easy and fun opportunities for us to engage in *tikkun olam* and *gemilut chasadim*.

The clothing drive was a great success. Drop-off locations throughout our WAHI neighborhood made it extra user friendly, and bags and bags of clothing were collected and donated.

HUGE props go to the Chessed Committee for their incredible efforts putting together the Community-Wide HeightsBridge Volunteer Day on Sunday, September 13. About 100 people participated in five different projects, and then everybody met up for a celebration in the afternoon. The project options addressed a number of ongoing concerns in the community. Participants chose from going to the Jewish Community Council of Washington Heights to **pack food packages** to be given away to people in need, **sorting clothing** for the Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty, **cleaning litter** in the park, helping out at a **soup kitchen**, and **visiting elderly patients** at the Fort Tryon Nursing Home.

Anat Coleman commented:

The Jewish Community Council has seen a huge increase in the number of people turning to us for food assistance. Last week we served 91 families in 2 hours! Having Mt. Sinai volunteers put together food packages meant the food pantry was able to run more smoothly and quickly, and made a difference to both our clients and staff.

While we're on the subject of good deeds, let's give a big yasher koach to the many Mt. Sinai members who participated in the **Susan G. Komen Race For The Cure**, also on September 13. I'm sure there are others who walked and raised money as well, but **Team Might of the Heights** gets a special nod for raising \$4,356!! And I have it on good authority that some do-gooders got up early to walk and THEN went on to HeightsBridge. **Way to go WAHI - keep the good deeds coming!**

-Abbey Nickinson, Keshet journalist

Message from the Rabbi and Rebbetzin

We would like to begin inviting members of the shul to our home for Shabbat meals. However, since we don't know when you're going to be home or what your schedule is, we ask shul members who are interested to let us know when you'd like to join us. Feel free to come with some friends if you'd like (but for now, please limit the groups to no more than six people.)

The best way to reach us about this is to e-mail rebeccapschwartz@gmail.com.

-Rabbi Ezra and Rivka Schwartz

Message from the Gabbaim...

We are planning on changing the Parochets, Torah and Bima covers from white to red this Saturday night, immediately after Ma'ariv. If you are willing to help, please meet at the Bima immediately after Ma'ariv.

Rabbi Schwartz's Office Hours

Monday: 9:00 - 10:00 p.m.
Wednesday: approx. 9:30 - 10:30 p.m.
(after the 8:45 p.m. shiur)

Holocaust Library Hours

Sunday: 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.
Monday: 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday: 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Friday: 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Education Committee

- Rabbi Schwartz's weekly, pre-mincha gemara shiur (Masechet Avoda Zara) will resume this Shabbat afternoon.
- This shabbat following mincha, there will be a **Women's Shabbat Mevarchim shiur** entitled, 'Adam, Eve and Man's Creative Capacity' given by Chana Wiznitzer. Seudah shlishit will be available.
- This Monday night, Matty Lichtenstein, professor at Touro College will begin a 4-part series on Jewish philosophy: "**The Good, The Bad, and the Holy: Ethics in Foundational Jewish Thinkers**"
 - Oct. 19: Medieval Certainty and Perplexion: Maimonides
 - Oct. 26: Renaissance (Wo)men: Maharal
 - Nov. 2: Modern Religion and the Ideology of Dogma: R. Dessler
 - Nov. 9: Conclusions and Confusions
- On **Saturday** night, October 24th at 8:30 pm, we will be screening the film, "**Unsettled**" about the disengagement from Gaza. Stay tuned for more details!
- For those of you who are wondering if/when our beloved **Rabbi Fohrman** will be back this year...he will!!! We're scheduled to start an exciting series with him mid-November. Details to follow soon.



This Week at Mt. Sinai

Sunday:

Men's Basketball, 7:30 p.m. Contact: Daniel Falik, daniel@danielfalik.com

Monday:

Women's Aerobics, 7:30 p.m. Contact: Anat Coleman, (212) 740 2740.

Lecture by Matty Lichtenstein, 8:15 p.m. The first in a 4 part series on Jewish Philosophy entitled "The Good, The Bad , and the Holy: Ethics in Foundational Jewish Thinkers". This week: Maimonides.

Women's Basketball, 9:00 p.m. Contact: Susanne Goldstone, susqhb@gmail.com.

Tuesday:

Women's Basketball, 9:00 p.m. Contact: Elie Appleson, elie.appleson@gmail.com.

Wednesday:

Men's Basketball, 8:00 p.m. Contact: Gilad Halevy, ghalevy@chipwiz.com.

Class with Rabbi Schwartz, 8:45 p.m. This is the 2nd shiur in a 5-part series on the laws of Yichud.

Shabbat, Parashat Noach

Hospitality Shabbat. Sign up online now! Contact: shabbosmeals@gmail.com.

Motza'ei Shabbat

Film Screening, 8:30 p.m. "Unsettled," about the disengagement from Gaza. Admission in \$5 members/\$7 non-members. Refreshments will be served.

Message from the President

As the Chagim are behind us and the new year begins, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge all the many people whose hard work and dedication made the holidays at Mount Sinai so beautiful and meaningful.

Firstly, I want to thank **Rabbi Schwartz**, who has worked diligently in his short time in the shul to give numerous derashot and shiurim, answer questions, and begin the process of getting to know our community during this busy season. A special thanks for making sure that the eruv was expanded so quickly, thereby making a historic step to unite the entire Washington Heights community; to **James Wolfe**, for negotiating the details of the construction; and to the eruv checkers, whose dedication keeps the eruv up every Shabbat.

I want to thank the Gabbaim — **Yoni Ray, Jeremy Stern, and David Mogilensky** — for all of their constant effort, ideas, and communication about how to make the Yamim Noraim occur as smoothly as possible. What went on during shul over the Chagim is largely due to their efforts and diligence. (Thank you also for your help in ghost-writing this message.)

I want to thank **Rebecca Saidlower, Sefi Kraut, and the entire Events Committee** and all those who assisted them. In the last five weeks, they executed two Yom Tov Dinners, a Simchat Beit HaShoeva, an oneg, and coordinated the whole Yom Tov schedule. Thanks also to **Ely Pinto** for his work on the Rosh Hashana dinner, and Eric Heine for his work on the Shemini Atzeret dinner.

I want to thank **Lisa Kellerman, Shmuel Kadosh, and the entire Education Committee** for coordinating a first-rate schedule of shiurim over the course of the holidays. I also want to thank those who prepared and gave shiurim over the Chagim.

I want to thank the gabbaim of our weekday morning minyanim — **Rabbi Hilewitz, Shlomo Wadler, and Julian Hamburger** — whose jobs are more complex than usual this time of year. Thank you also to **Akiva Stechler** who ran the late night Ma'ariv and Selichot that we had for the entire Selichot season.

I want to thank **Yaacov Kanner** who was responsible for nearly every Peticha over both Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur, taking care to ensure that the kibbudim were shared by the Kahal in the most equitable way possible. I want to thank **Rabbi Hilewitz**, who lained, blew shofar, and helped put up the sukka, among many other items big and small around the shul. I want to thank the **Anat Coleman, Judy Rieser, Malka Simon, and the entire Family Life Committee** for arranging babysitting this year, taking the time and energy to ensure that as many people as possible were able to join us for davening over the Yamim Noraim.

I want to thank those that who helped change Parochets, Torah Covers, and Bima covers and set up Machzorim and High Holiday tickets five weeks ago, as well as those who will help change them back after Shabbat.

I want to thank all of those who lained, davened from the amud, and participated in shul minyanim over the past month. All the arranging in the world would not have made a difference, had people not showed up and made the minyanim what they were. I especially want to thank our Baalei Tefilla over the Yamim Noraim: **Yaacov Kanner, Moshe Fruchter, Yoni Ray, Jeremy Stern, Moshe Moskovitz and Rabbi Schwartz**. I was privileged to be here for Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur with numerous family members, and I think we had the largest crowd in recent memory, and the davening was truly moving and inspiring.

I want to thank **Velvel Fermaglich** and those who ensured that davening went smoothly over the first days of Sukkot, when many of us were not around.

Simchat Torah at Mount Sinai was full of joyous energy as usual. I want to thank **Yoni** for coordinating the hakafot and laining, everyone who helped out with laining and shiurim throughout the day, and everyone whose participation in the hakafot which made the Yom Tov a real zman simchatenu. I also want to thank the **Kiddush Committee** for putting together the Kiddush on Simchat Torah, and **Shlomo Feldheim** for arranging with the police to block off the street for our outside hakafa on Simchat Torah.

I want to thank **Jerry Berkowitz and Josh Cohn** for working so hard in the office during the busiest time of the year and responding to all of the logistical challenges that go on over the Yamim Noraim, and to **William and his family** for smoothly and professionally getting the building through its many transitions throughout the month. I also want to thank **Alice Maltz** and all of the other volunteers for constantly helping the office.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who helped the shul financially during the Yamim Noraim — those who sponsored the eruv and bulletin, those who won auctions on Simchat Torah, those who helped sponsor events, and those who gave to the Kol Nidrei Appeal.

On a personal note, these Yamim Noraim were particularly meaningful for our family, as we were blessed with a baby girl, **Miya Miriam**, between Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur. Shuli and I would like to thank those who helped out in various ways: **Herbert Harwitt**, who filled in for me while I was unavailable; **Rabbi Schwartz**, who helped Shuli get through Yom Kippur and named our daughter in shul; and our many friends who brought over food to get us through those challenging first couple of weeks. We are privileged to be part of such a warm community.

With so many things happening, I'm sure I left someone out, and for that, I apologize. May we continue to spend many enjoyable and meaningful Shabbatot and Chagim together.

-Ben Sandler

president@mtsinaishul.com

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