



ב"ה

Kol Hashofar



Young Israel of Lawrenceville

*2556 Princeton Pike
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648
www.yiol.com*

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SHAVUOT



President's Message

Wishing everyone an enjoyable summer.

As Shavous is the last major holiday and yizkor of the Jewish year, it is an opportunity to make a donation to the synagogue which will help us balance our budget for the year. If everyone can increase their Yizkor pledge. It will go a long way to putting our finances on a solid footing for the upcoming year. As part of Yizkor, we do pledge charity.



Charles Miller
President

VIEW FROM THE BIMAH

As we approach the holiday of Shavuos, we are reminded that the journey from Egypt to Mount Sinai was not merely a physical journey, but a spiritual one as well. From the very moment our ancestors left Egypt, they counted the days with anticipation and excitement, preparing themselves to stand before G-d and receive the Torah.

The giving of the Torah was the ultimate purpose of the Exodus: not simply freedom from slavery, but the opportunity to become a people guided by faith, purpose, and holiness. Each day of the counting period leading up to Shavuos offers us the opportunity to grow, reflect, and prepare ourselves spiritually for this special time.

Our tradition teaches that the Torah is not only something that was given once long ago, but something renewed each and every day. Every morning, we thank G-d as the One who gives the Torah in the present tense, reminding us that every day brings a new opportunity to connect to its wisdom and values with joy and sincerity.

As a community, may we use these final days before Shavuos to strengthen our commitment to learning, prayer, kindness, and unity. May we all merit to receive absorb and internalize the Torah this year with renewed inspiration and happiness.

We warmly invite the entire community of Young Israel of Lawrenceville to join us on Friday, May 22, at 11AM for the reading of the Ten Commandments, followed by a special ice cream party for families and children. Just as our ancestors gathered together at Mount Sinai united as one people, we look forward to celebrating together as a community.

Wishing everyone a joyful and meaningful Shavuos.



Rabbi Y. Goldenberg

Young Israel—Community Bulletin Board

YIOL offers a range of programs and services which enables opportunities for exploring Judaism in a non-judgmental way. Whether it be a prayer service, Torah class, or social gathering that you're seeking, you will be enthusiastically welcomed and celebrated, So come for a visit...and stay a while.

Adult Education Program

Please join us for our classes. All classes are conducted in English and are held at the Synagogue.

- **Tuesday evening class** -- Rabbi Goldenberg will be announcing a new series for his Tuesday night class.
- **Women's class** — Rebbetzin Goldenberg teaches a women's class every Wednesday at 7 pm.

There is no charge for participation. For further information, call the synagogue at (609) 883-8833 any day from Saturday at nightfall through Friday early afternoon. If there is no reply, leave a message on the answering machine

Tzedakah Fund



Our Shul has a Tzedakah fund to help those in special need of assistance. The fund is derived primarily from contributions collected from the "pushka" in Shul. If you know of such a person, please advise either Rabbi Goldenberg or Charles Miller.

Kiddushim

Our thanks to those who have sponsored kiddushim. For a full list of recent kiddush sponsors, please refer to Donations and Good Tidings. To celebrate your special occasion with a kiddush, please e-mail Dina Goldenberg:

dinagoldenberg@aol.com

When paying your dues, please send your Kiddush assessment (\$100) in a separate check, payable to the Sisterhood.

The Memorial Board

UPDATE

The Memorial Board in the Synagogue is a special way to honor, in perpetuity, the memory of departed loved ones. Plaques are \$250 each and may be ordered by contacting the Rabbi. *Pricing on the new Board is \$360 per plaque.*

SEE PAGE 5 FOR A LOOK AT THE NEW MEMORIAL BOARD

Sample of a Memorial Plaque



Yahrzeit Advisory

It is very important that our Shul provide a minyan to enable members and others to observe a Yahrzeit anniversary. Whenever you need to observe a Yahrzeit, please contact one of our gabbaim several days in advance so we can ensure a minyan will be available. Please contact Charles Miller (609) 530-1846.

Visiting the Sick



It is a religious duty (a *mitzvah*) to visit someone who is ill. If you become aware of someone who is unwell or infirm, please advise Rabbi Goldenberg or Charles Miller immediately so that the person may be contacted and visited at an appropriate and convenient time

Our New Memorial Board



There are eight available spaces for plaques on the original Memorial Board.
The cost of each plaque is \$250.

Plaques are now available on the new Memorial Board (pictured above).
The cost for plaques on the new Board is \$360.

If interested in ordering a plaque, please provide the Rabbi with **both** the English and Hebrew names of the deceased, and the English and Hebrew dates of passing. We can look it up if you don't know it.



Pesach In the Poconos

By Lynda Sacharov

Tradition is part of our heritage. We carry them on to honor those who came before us, and to educate those who come after us.

One can only imagine how life was for those during the days of the Exodus—with the thrill of freedom, they probably didn't complain about packing up and "hitting the road", so to speak.

Well, this Pesach, the Rabbi and Nechama Dina followed "tradition" and "hit the road", to meet their family in the Poconos. The family had only been together "en masse" in 2009, 2013 and 2016, and since then the "masse" has grown...A LOT thank G-d!

After some discussion with their family, the Rabbi and Nechama Dina, decided that this Pesach the Goldenberg family, along with siblings, nieces, nephews, in-laws and one great-grandmother, would all gather in the Poconos to carry on old traditions and build new memories.

The task of organizing approximately 50 people was taken on by the Rabbi's sisters Shterna Rapoport and Nechama Munitz, and their husbands.

Where would they stay? What about food? Transportation? So much coordination and planning. How to get family from California? Florida? France? Some members only spoke French. Will all that come together somehow?

It came in handy that sister Nechama and her husband reached out to a Jewish fellow they knew who was familiar with the area and helped them rent the 6 Airbnb properties



they would need for family members and their families, one of which also served as the “main” house for sedars and other meals.

The Rabbi and Nechama Dina planned on staying only the last two days of Yomtov, for as much as they wanted to be with family, they also wanted to experience a Seder with their “YIOL family”.

As Sister Shterna and husband Naftoli Rapoport were busy coordinating family coming in from different parts of the country and overseas, they began loading up a truck filled with essentials.

Upon arriving at their destination, they were greeted by nieces and nephews they had never met. The Rabbi sums up being with family this way... “A person isn’t a person unless he has a home, where you can be yourself.” Being with family felt the same way.

Everyone was gifted with a customized “Goldenberg Pesach in the Poconos” sweatshirt and water bottle by Nechama and Yis Munitz...



...and of course the family picture, shown above. The photographer was well known to his subjects, and he knows how to set the timer. He enjoyed the 10 seconds it took him to take his place in the picture while everyone was yelling at him to, “HURRY UP!”

The Rabbi’s sister, Levana and her husband Dovid Duchman, hired a chef for the first days, then everyone else added their own touches.

Although there were about 50 in attendance, there was enough food for 150! Well, you never know who could show up.



They might have been away from their physical home, but minyans were still made and services were led by different members of the family, and they were treated to the Priestly Blessing by the Rabbi's son in law, Avrohom Arnold, who is a Kohen.

Nechama Dina was interested in attending services, so a little creativity on her husband's part was needed for the mechitza, which came in the form of an upended couch. It's been said, "necessity is the mother of invention."

The Rabbi and Nechama Dina had been torn between being with family in the Poconos, and leaving YIOL for Pesach. They were very grateful that the YIOL community kept things running smoothly.

The time spent and reminiscing with family was heartfelt and heartwarming. Activities were intentionally planned for the children which proved to be fun, but also instructional.

An added bonus to their time spent in the Poconos, Nechama Dina learned that her close friend, whom she has known since first grade, lived within very close walking distance to where they were staying...so she paid a visit. It was wonderful to spend time with her and even say a L'chaim together in honor of Nechama Dina's grandmother's yartzeit which was that day.

By Divine Providence, her friend's husband runs the Yeshiva where Chatzkel attends.

The Goldenbergs will tell you that their time spent with family this Pesach was more than they could have hoped for – but after all is said and done....

“It's good to be home.”



Kiddush sponsors at Young Israel of Lawrenceville

Sponsors during April and May 2026

Goldenberg Family

In memory of
R'Yechezkel and Taibel Brod
Mrs. Chaya Goldenberg

Abrams Family

In honor of Tybie's birthday

Sacharov Family

In loving memory of their daughter,
Caryn Leigh Sacharov

Arthur Levner

His Bar Mitzvah anniversary

Goldenberg Family & Anonymous sponsor

Yartzeit of Dovid Hamelech
Nechama Dina's birthday



To sponsor a Kiddush, contact
Nechama Dina Goldenberg
609-213-8609
dinagoldenberg@aol.com



Question for the Rabbi

Rabbi, can you explain the significance of the Counting of the Omer?

(Editors Note: We are re-printing this Question For the Rabbi due to its timely connection with Shavuot)

The Torah instructs us to count seven complete weeks from the day on which an Omer measure of the new barley crop was brought as an offering in the Holy Temple. This day—the second day of Pesach—is known as the day of the barley offering. Since seven weeks after this day culminates in the festival of Shavuot, which commemorates the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai, the act of counting the Omer serves as a profound link between these two holidays.

This connection between Pesach and Shavuot is significant because it provides a meaningful context for understanding the nature of freedom we received during the Exodus. Having our shackles removed and no longer serving Pharaoh was a momentous achievement, but true freedom is more than the absence of oppression; it carries a purpose. Without guidance and purpose, freedom can be misused or squandered—akin to gifting a fortune to a young child without teaching them how to manage it.

From the very first instructions G-d gave to Moses about the impending Exodus, it was made clear that the journey to freedom was to be followed by the giving of the Torah. This emphasizes that true liberation involves not only physical freedom but also spiritual and moral responsibility.

Each year, as we fulfill the mitzvah of counting the Omer, we are reminded that each of the 49 nightly counts corresponds to a specific facet of the Sefirot—the divine attributes that manifest in the world. There are seven Sefirot, and by combining each with the other six and with itself, we arrive at 49. This practice encourages us to reflect on our own emotional and spiritual states, prompting us to make improvements or corrections where needed.

Through this sacred act, we connect ourselves to our history, our spiritual purpose, and the divine attributes that guide us toward growth and refinement.

We all have questions... send yours to
LSach@msn.com
 and you might see it here in our next newsletter.

Check this out...

If you copy and paste this link, it will take you to a site listing many kosher establishments around the world.

<https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fshare%2Fr%2F14dqL63pL56%2F%3Fmibextid%3DwwXlfr&data=05%7C02%7C%7C5ef1385ebd584729770808deb51e2d3d%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C639147338374980094%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIldiOiJXaW4zMilslkFOljoitWVpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=SUPIZjHqHvGtA%2Bii%2FzP%2Bee57vxfzlwKrshz%2Fs9tj7B8%3D&reserved=0>

YEAH THATS KOSHER

Thank you David Klein for this tip

Download their Kosher Restaurant Directory
mobil app

<https://yeahthatskosher.com/>

HERE'S A PAINLESS WAY TO DONATE TO YIOL

Young Israel has teamed up with the **GiveBack** program

A painless way for you to make purchases through

KosherWine.com

Judaica.com

Kosh.com

Challahandco.com

Just by placing your order using the websites below (copy & paste), a 2% commission will be sent to Young These websites are available all year long.

Kosher Wine website: <https://bit.ly/4hmxJOQ>

The “No-Hassle Kiddush Initiative”

Dear Fellow Shul Goer,

I would like to present the community with an opportunity that could benefit its members: I'll call it the “No-Hassle Kiddush Initiative”.

If you would like to sponsor a Kiddush but you can't (or don't want to!) deal with the headache of shopping, preparing, setting up, etc., no worries. I will do it for you. Yup, you read that correctly. I will prepare your entire Kiddush – all you need to do is show up! It's that simple.

I will offer you choices of delicious homemade salads and baked goods, pretty platters, tasty deserts, and more. I will even include the paper goods J Below, you will find a list of options, as well as other information that you might need.

Note: this offer is my own personal initiative. It is in addition to, not in place of, what is currently being arranged by the YI sisterhood.

If you have any questions, you can contact me:

dinagoldenberg@aol.com

609-213-8609



From Dina's Kitchen

BASIC KIDDUSH - \$150

Salads (vegetable): Choice of 3

(Each additional salad \$7)

Eggplant – marinated

Eggplant – babaganoush

Taboule (quinoa)

Coleslaw

Potato

Carrot – cooked or grated

Tomato

Egg Salad

Olive dip

Chummus

Platters: Choice of 1

Fresh vegetable

Fresh fruit (seasonal)

Fish: Choice of 2

(Each additional \$10)

Gefilte fish with horseradish

Tuna (plain or scallion)

White fish salad (store bought)

Herring (store bought)

Nosh: One of each

(Each additional \$5)

Cookies – 2 types (rugelach, biscotti, chocolate chip, etc.)

Potato chips or Tortilla chips

Pretzels or other chips

Crackers – 2 types

Drinks: 2 seltzers and 1 juice (Soda up-on request)

DELUXE KIDDUSH: \$225

Same as basic plus:

2 additional vegetable salads

Fish platter **OR** deli platter

Kugel – choice of potato, noodle or apple

Nuts or chocolate

Extras:

Cake for special occasion: \$50

*Price includes paper goods

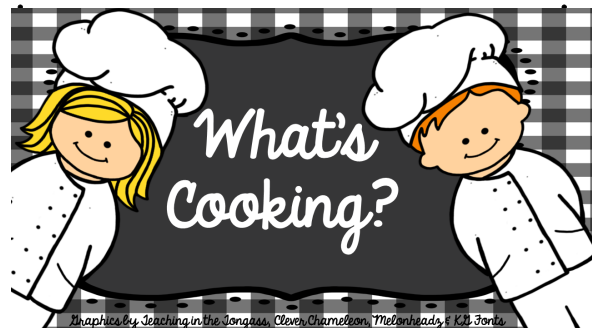
*Liquor provided by Kiddush sponsor

List is flexible. If you would like specific or select items, that can be arranged.

One week advance notice for all orders!

Orders must be pre-paid.

NOTE: If you are expecting a larger than usual crowd, please indicate approximately how many additional guests you expect. Prices will be adjusted accordingly.



Graphics by: Searching in the Jungles, Clever, Chameleon, Melonheads, & K.B. Jents

Bereavement Services

King Solomon said, "There is a time for all under the heavens — a time to love, a time to journey, a time to plant, a time to reap, a time to rejoice and a time to mourn."

In a most loving and caring way and with the greatest sensitivity, Rabbi Goldenberg will make it his business to offer all the comfort, guidance and bereavement support needed. In addition, he will be glad to offer his assistance in preparation, officiating at the funeral, making Shiva services, arranging for the kaddish to be recited, etc.

For assistance, or for more information, please call: (609) 882-4330.



THIS SPACE HAS TRADITIONALLY LAID OUT LIGHTING AND SERVICE TIMES FOR SHABBOS AND YOM TOV. HOWEVER, THANKS TO THE CHABAD OF LAWRENCEVILLE CALENDAR THAT THE RABBI MAILS OUT ANNUALLY AND TO THE RABBI'S WEEKLY E-TORAH E-MAIL, WE HAVE DECIDED THAT IT MAY NO LONGER BE NECESSARY TO INCLUDE THE

INFORMATION IN THE NEWSLETTER. PLEASE NOTIFY RABBI GOLDENBERG IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE THE CALENDAR OR BE ADDED TO THE MAILING LIST TO RECEIVE THE E-TORAH PLEASE FEEL FREE TO NOTIFY ELEANOR, LYNDA, OR THE RABBI IF YOU WOULD PREFER THAT THE NEWSLETTER ALSO PROVIDE THE INFORMATION.



The Children's Corner

Shavuot is a Jewish holiday celebrated every year 50 days after the holiday of Passover. What are we celebrating? Let's go back in time more than 3,000 years. What happened then? As you remember from the [Passover](#) story, Gd took the Jewish people out of Egypt and led them into the Sinai Desert.

After more than a month of walking through the desert, on Sivan 1, the people camped at the foot of a mountain known as Mount Sinai. They could feel that something special was going to happen. Everyone felt happier and more calm, and everyone kindly helped each other settle into their new campsite.

The next morning Moses, the leader, climbed up the mountain. There, he spoke with Gd, who had a very important message for the people waiting below: He would make them His special people. They would do the mitzvot, His commandments, and He would love them and care for them forever.

The people were so excited that they all said, *naaseh venishma*, "we will do and we will hear." As a reward, the angels came down from Heaven and gave each and every Jew two crowns to wear on their heads.

As the days passed, the people became more and more excited.

Finally, the moment arrived. On the morning of [Sivan 6](#), everyone woke up to see Mount Siani covered with thick clouds. "Look!" they said to each other. "There is thunder and lightning, and the mountain is smoking, with flames shooting out of it."

The people could hear the sound of a shofar that kept on getting louder and louder.

Everyone stood around the mountain. The old people were there, the little babies were there, even the souls of the people people who were not born yet (like you and me) were there.

Then they heard the voice of Gd, who told them the first two of the 10 Commandments: "I am the Lrd your Gd" and "you shall have no gods besides for Me."

But the sound of Gd's voice was too strong. The people asked Moses to act as Gd's messenger. Gd would speak to Moses, and Moses would tell them His messages.

Through Moses, Gd told us the rest of the 10 commandments, each of which gives us a special key to living a holy and good life.

This was a special day, one that everyone would remember forever. It was the day Gd told them that He loved them and that they would forever be His people.

Every year, on [Shavuot](#), we gather in synagogues to hear the 10 Commandments being read from the Torah scroll. When we do that it's as if we are standing at Mount Sinai, hearing Gd Himself.

And we also celebrate with dairy treats like ice cream, reminding us that Jewish life is sweet and delicious.

Happy Shavuot!

