



**This week's Kiddush is sponsored by the Kiddush Club**



**This week's Shalosh Seudos is sponsored by the Shalosh Seudos Club**

## Schedule for the week

<b><u>Friday, September 1st (10th Elul)</u></b>		<b><u>Tuesday, September 5th (14th Elul)</u></b>	
Shabbos Candle Lighting	7:15 P	Daf Yomi	6:00 A
Mincha/Kabalas Shabbos/Maariv	7:15 P	Shachris	7:00 A
		Mincha / Maariv	7:10 P
<b><u>Shabbos, September 2nd (11th Elul)</u></b>		<b><u>Wednesday, September 6th (15th Elul)</u></b>	
Shachris	9:00 A	Daf Yomi	6:00 A
<b><i>PLEASE SEE PAGE 2 FOR ADDITIONAL SHABBOS CLASSES</i></b>		Shachris	7:00 A
Women's Shabbos Class at the Haber home	5:00 P	Minchah / Maariv	7:10 P
Daf Yomi	6:05 P	Rabbi Goder Beis Medrash - after Maariv	
Pirkei Avos Class with Rabbi Haber	6:15 P	Daf Yomi - after Maariv	
Mincha	7:05 P		
Maariv / Havdala	8:11 P		
<b><u>Sunday, September 3rd (12th Elul)</u></b>		<b><u>Thursday, September 7th (16th Elul)</u></b>	
Daf Yomi	7:00 A	Daf Yomi	6:00 A
Shachris	8:00 A	Shachris	6:45 A
Community Labor Day Weekend BBQ	5:00 P	Minchah / Maariv	7:10 P
Mincha / Maariv	7:10 P	Daf Yomi - after Maariv	
<b><u>Monday, September 4th (13th Elul) Labor Day</u></b>		<b><u>Friday, September 8th (17th Elul)</u></b>	
Special Early Shachris (Netz)	6:15 A	Daf Yomi	6:00 A
Daf Yomi	7:00 A	Shachris	7:00 A
Shachris	8:00 A	Shabbos Candle Lighting	7:05 P
Mincha / Maariv	7:10 P	Mincha/Kabalas Shabbos/Maariv	7:05P
Partners in Torah at the JCC	8:00 P		

## CLASSES FOR EVERYONE

### DAF YOMI

**Morning Class:** Sundays at 7:00 AM, weekdays at 6:00 AM  
with Rabbi Loiterman

**Evening Class:** Sunday through Thursday after Ma'ariv

**Shabbos & Yom Tov:** both classes meet together one hour before  
Mincha with Rabbi Loiterman

### SHABBOS LEARNING FOR BOYS

Grades 5th - 8th Gemara class at the Harpaz home at 3:00 PM with  
Rabbi Harpaz

Grades 1st - 4th with Rabbi Lipman at shul 30 minutes before  
Mincha

Grades 5th - 8th Mishnayos Shiur with Rabbi Harpaz at shul 30  
minutes before Mincha.

### PIRKEI AVOS WITH RABBI HABER

*Shabbos afternoons, 50 minutes before Mincha*

How Pirkei Avos influenced the lives of the Rebbes; how Pirkei Avos  
should influence our lives.

### PARTNERS IN TORAH

*Mondays from 8:00 PM to 9:00 PM*

**For both men and women**, meets at the JCC in Room 238

### Women's Tuesday Noon Learning Class

The Tuesday noon class for women is on hiatus until after Sukkos.

TALMUD CLASSES - 75 minutes before Mincha

*Tuesday evenings: With Gershon Aronoff - Megilla*

### RABBI GODER OPEN BEIS MEDRASH LEARNING NIGHT

*Wednesdays after Maariv at B'nai Israel*

Join one of several informal study groups being offered.

## HURRICANE HARVEY RELIEF

As our brothers and sisters in Houston seek to recover from the destruction of Hurricane Harvey there are several options for helping through the Orthodox Union and the local UJFT. In addition, Rabbi Haber will be working with Rabbi Litt - who is from Houston - on direct donations to families in need. Donations can be made to the Rabbi's discretionary Fund.

## SHABBOS CLASS FOR WOMEN

*Shabbos, September 2nd*

The class will be held at the home of the Habers. The speaker will be Mindy Rubenstein.

## COMMUNITY LABOR DAY WEEKEND BBQ"

*Sunday, September 3rd at Bnai Israel from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM*

What a way to start off the "new year." The cost is: \$7 for adults; \$5 for kids (3 till Bar/Bas Mitzva); \$30 family cap - **PAY AT THE DOOR**. We are planning to have a moonwalk and other fun kids activities.

## ISRAEL TODAY @ 70 PRESENTS: DAVID HAZONY

### AMERICAN-BORN ISRAELI WRITER, TRANSLATOR, MAGAZINE EDITOR DISCUSSES: ISRAEL AS A CIVILIZATIONAL FORCE

*Tuesday, September 12 | 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM at the Reba and Sam Sandler Family Campus  
Free and open to the community*

Envisioned by its founders as much more than a refuge – Israel was a multifaceted attempt to reinvent Jewish life itself. Imploring people to move beyond what they already know, tap into Israeliness and find their own Israel, rediscovering the country, not the cause, therefore securing the future of American Jewry.

David Hazony is the Managing Director of The Israel Project and editor of its magazine, The Tower. He is also a contributing editor at The Forward, and has served as editor-in-chief of Azure, Israel's leading journal of public affairs. Hazony received his Ph.D. in Jewish Philosophy from the Hebrew University. His book, The Ten Commandments was a finalist for the National Jewish Book Award. Hazony's writing has appeared in The New Republic, Commentary, Moment, New York Sun, Jewish Ideas Daily, The Jerusalem Post, and more.

For more information and to make reservations, please call the JCC.

## JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE, WHRO PUBLIC MEDIA, CHRYSLER MUSEUM AND EVMS PRESENT LIVE EACH DAY: A TALK WITH JANE GARDNER

*Sunday, September 17, 2:00 PM, Chrysler Museum of Art, free*

Presented in conjunction with Jewish Family Service of Tidewater's ongoing commitment to provide cancer education with community partners - the Brock Institute of Eastern Virginia Medical School, WHRO Public Media, and the Chrysler Museum of Art, the event is free and open to the public. As there is limited seating, reservations are suggested.

For more information, call 757-664-6200. To register, go to [tinyurl.com/reg4jane](http://tinyurl.com/reg4jane).

## CEMETERY ACCESS

There is now a lock on the Bnai Israel Cemetery. For access, or any questions about the cemetery, please contact the office or Rabbi Haber.

## SISTERHOOD FLOWER FUND

The Sisterhood provides fresh flowers for the Bimah for every Yom Tov. Contributions to the flower fund can be mailed to Irene Mazel or Frances Berger.

## THE 5778 BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

The project is wonderful way one can fulfill their obligation (made during Yizkor) of donating tzedaka in memory of our loved ones. Even if you aren't obligated to say Yizkor, you can remember loved ones (grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc.) in this publication.

The charges are the same as in the past: \$18 for each of the first three names (Mr. & Mrs. are separate) and \$12 for each additional name. There are also special dedication pages for past presidents, past rabbis of the congregation, Mrs. Ann Zukerman, Mr. Bernard Ehrlich and Mrs.

Caroline Miller. The charge for being a sponsor is \$100 (per family) per page. There are also opportunities to become a sponsor of the entire project. For more information, please contact Melissa Schoenfeld. The deadline for submitting names is Friday, September 15th.

## YESHIVAS AISH KODESH

The Yeshiva is looking for either a ping-pong or pool table. If you are interested in donating or selling (at a reduced rate) either item, please contact Rabbi Lefkowitz.

## **Thank You to our Contributors**

To Aaron & Ruth Cohen for their contribution to the Bridge-Sturman Fund in honor of Jon & Susan and family.

To Rebbitzin Chamie Haber for her contribution in honor of Chana Leah Rothman - with appreciation

To Michael & Inna Brodsky for their contribution in memory of Inna's father, Boris Leiberman

To Dr. Bruce & Lyla Longmen for their contribution to Bnai Israel Congregation

To Martin & Ina Leiderman for their contribution to the Eruv Fund in honor of Jordan & Laurie Slone's 30th wedding anniversary.

To Dorothy Slone for her contribution in memory of Howard Laderberg.

## For the Week of Shabbos, September 2nd through Friday, September 8th

### BIRTHDAYS

Andrea Meltzer		9/2	Bracha Weinreb	8th	9/5
Mordechai Schoenfeld	12th	9/3	Yehoshua Zelikovich	5th	9/5
Aryeh Leib Slone	5th	9/5	Dr. Ludwig Sternlicht		9/7

### ANNIVERSARIES

Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Preiser	32nd	9/2
Mr. & Mrs. Barney Siegel	52nd	9/5
Mr. & Mrs. Jordan Slone	30th	9/6

### YAHRTZEITS

Fannie Rosenblatt	9/2	Julia Hirsch	9/5
Walter Vogel	9/2	Rebecca Brooke	9/6
Carrie Garson	9/3	Kenneth Fox	9/7
Oscar Soroko	9/3	Sidney Bridge	9/8
Albert Louis Brenner	9/4	Shirley Harris	9/8
Betty Buckman	9/4	Lena Jacobson	9/8
Pinchos Katz	9/4		

### REFUAH SHELAIMA

#### Women

#### Men

Shoshana bas Miriam Vittel Zilke bas Leah Leah Adina bas Chaya Esther Yochana bas Chana Nava bas Fruma Leah Basha Leiba bas Baila Fruma Simcha bas Tzipporah Malka Esther bas Devorah Devorah bas Ruchel Sara Bas Sara Miriam Rochel bas Chava Elisheva Kayla Dodie bas Rochel Bracha Rochel Bracha bas Baila Tirtze Sorah bas Rochel Bracha Rivka Tehilla bas Sarah Hinda bas Dena Shula bas Carmela Eliana Chaya bas Nacha Adi Simcha bas Penina Leah Gilsom Gila bas Tzipporah Tzipporah bas Gilsom Gila Aida Batya bas Etta Chaya Tova Gittel bas Shulamis Sima Elka Gittel bas Basya Chana Yitta bas Bryna Yehudis bas Irma Bayla Mishka bas Devora Malka Chana bas Ruchel Miriam bas Tzipora Chaya Raizel bas Dena Chana bas Sarah	Devora Leah bas Civet Elkie Samecha Yehudis bas Esther Reva Raza bas Malka Shoshana bas Netta Adi Bat Miriam Chana Leah bas Fraydel Ruth bas Sarah Chaya bas Ruchel Tinokes bas Esther Hadassah Sheva bas Rivka Chaya Ruchel bas Zelda Shira bas Sarah Nechama Getzel bas Rachel Ruchama Malka Briendel bas Shaina Shifra Miriam bas Chava Leah Aviva bas Masha Rochel bas Tova Chaya Rochel bas Esti Rivka Rivka bas Chaya Ruchel Rivka bas Yocheved Tzipora Aviva bas Rivka Devora Rivka bas Tzipora Raizel Shoshana bas Faiga Leah Chana Shifra bas Freidel Orly Rachel Bat Yehudit Rus Leah Rivka bas Sarah Yehudis bas Chana Leah	Shalom Boruch ben Masha Yehuda ben Chasha Ruchel Moshe Yechezkel Halevi ben Sara Malka Reuven Simcha ben Naomi Rus Yonah Michael Alter ben Esther Sarah Shlomo Yaakov Yonason ben Chana Raizel Aryeh Nachman HaCohen ben Ita Shlomo ben Tzipporah David Shlomo ben Rivka Tehilla Noach HaLevi ben Miriam Koppel ben Bayla Yonatan ben Rivka Abraham ben Iza Yoel Meir ben Chaya Yehudah Ben Batya Rafael Messod ben Naomi Sarah Eliezer ben Sara Avraham Beryl HaLevi ben Miriam Yissachar ben Rachel Binyamin Leib ben Rachel Chana Zecharia Avraham ben Devorah Rivka Nossom Yitzhak Ben Leah Moshe ben Raizel Eliezer ben Penina Kaila Meir Yehoshua ben Penina Kaila Beryl ben Chava Shmuel Yeruchem ben Baila Eitan ben Sarah Yehoshua ben Nechama Aliza Menachem ben Tzipka Avraham ben Chana Asher Eliyahu ben Leah	Akiva Hillel Ben Cooki Tziporah Feige Gittel Yehuda Herschel ben Chaya Leah Dovid Leshem ben Esther Chaim Yaakov Dovid ben Avigail Abba ben Tzipora Pesach ben Baila Dovid Avraham ben Miriam Yosef Aaron ben Keren Shoshana Robert ben Jean Rachmiel Leib ben Mordechai HaLevi Yehuda Sema ben Alta Ruchel Chaim Rafael Yoel ben Shayna Golda Daniel Yosef ben Miriam Aaron Emanuel ben Tzippora Michael Dovid ben Rivka Moshe Yosef ben Esther Reuven HaCohen ben Sarah Eitan Shmuel bas Chana Leah Eliezer Yehuda ben Chana Shaindel Yisroel Shmuel ben Sarah Chaim Avraham ben Feiga Chaim Shmuel ben Rivka Eliyahu Aron ben Hudel Sholom Yehuda ben Fayga Tinok ben Rochel Shlomo Yoel ben Chaya Leah Chanina Getzl ben Chana Fradel Meyer Yisroel Hirsch ben Zahava Zippora Yitzchak ben Emma
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## THE B'NAI ISRAEL CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

### **Week of August 27th through September 2nd**

**Wednesday, August 30th:** Reservations for picnic (September 3rd) due into the shul office

**Friday, September 1st:** First "regular" Shabbos (for candle lighting)

### **Week of September 3rd through September 9th**

**Sunday, September 3rd:** Bnai Israel Community picnic at Bnai Israel

**Monday, September 4th:** Chasuna of Jenny Lefcoe & Shneur Wallach

**Shabbos, September 9th:** Kiddush in honor of Shari Berman's special birthday

**Shabbos, September 9th:** Shabbos Kallah for Avigayil Simon (Weissman home)

**Shabbos, September 9th:** Shalosh Seudos Sheva Brachos for Jenny & Shneur Wallach

### **Week of September 10th through September 16th**

**Sunday, September 10th:** Chasuna of Roe'e Mor & Avigail Simon

**Tuesday, September 12:** ISRAEL TODAY program at Simon Family JCC

**Shabbos, September 16th:** Shabbat Chatan of Ro'ee & Avigail

**Shabbos, September 16th:** Shalosh Seudos Sheva Brachos for Ro'ee & Abigail Mor

**Motzei Shabbos, September 16th:** Slichos for Yomim Noraim

### **Week of September 17th through September 23rd**

**Wednesday, September 20th:** Eruv Rosh Hashana (Eruv Tashvilin)

**Thursday, September 21st:** First Day of Rosh Hashana (Tashlich)

**Friday, September 22nd:** Second Day of Rosh Hashana

### **Week of September 24th through September 30th**

**Sunday, September 24th:** Tzom Gedalia (nidche)

**Friday, September 29th:** Erev Yom Kippur

**Shabbos, September 30th:** Yom Kippur

## HOUSTON: THRICE FLOODED IN THREE YEARS, A COMMUNITY KNOWN FOR ITS CHESED NEEDS OUR HELP

By Ariella Davis

I will never forget the first time my husband wrote a drasha to present in shul. We had been living in Houston for about a month, where he was serving as the assistant rabbi, and the senior rabbi felt it was time. Nervous but excited, he sat typing away on his laptop in the living room, debating which ideas he wanted to discuss, agonizing over words.

In the other room, I sat by our desktop, watching with morbid fascination at the forecast of Hurricane Ike barreling towards the city where I now lived.

Sometime during that day, I gently suggested to him that maybe he take a break from working on the drasha to buy some plywood and water bottles because it looked like we were going to get hit that Shabbat.

The category 2 storm did indeed hit that Friday night and shul was canceled; he never did give that drasha.

Aside from some trees that fell over and some water damage in the shul, our community was lucky that time and we were spared. We did however, lose electricity. For two weeks. Houston heat and humidity has a category of its own and let's just say that waiting for the power to come on gave me an inkling of the way we should feel about waiting for Mashiach.

But that experience shed light on who the Houston community truly is. Before the storm, we were impressed when countless people invited us to stay with them to ride out the storm on higher ground. But we were blown away when for two weeks after the storm, people who were blessed with power opened their homes to those who did not. People slept in friends' houses- or in our case, homes of people we barely knew. The "haves" made dinners each night for the entire community of "have nots" so we would all have food to eat. The chesed we saw those two weeks was natural and came from generous hearts; it was also, what we would learn in the four years we spent in that community, emblematic of the Houston Jewish community.

Unfortunately, the Houston Jewish community has had to show this kind of chesed again and again as the community suffered catastrophic flooding twice in two years, the first on Memorial Day Weekend in 2015 and the second in April 2016. During the floods, community members rescued each other with rowboats from the high water- including a now famous picture of Rabbi Emeritus, Rabbi Joseph Radinsky a"h, being saved from his home. After the floods, those who did not suffer flood damage did laundry en-masse to help those who had. They cooked meals for their friends whose kitchens were not usable and invited friends to move in with them- in some cases, for months.

This past weekend, Hurricane Harvey hit Texas as a category 4 storm and flooded the community with waters higher than they had ever seen before. Houses that were built up and had never flooded before, found themselves with water. The Fondren community which had previously escaped flooding—at least inside their homes—found themselves dealing with floods and an alligator swimming down the flooded streets. And those in the Willow Mead-

ows and Meyerland communities who had to throw out their valuables and rebuild twice in two years, found themselves looking at rebuilding a third time.

Michael Wadler, previous president of United Orthodox Synagogues was sleeping when his daughter, Maya saw water bubbling up from the doors and windows of their one-story home. She woke up her father and Michael stepped out of bed into a foot of water. He grabbed his Tefillin and left a rapidly flooding house, with neither, he nor Maya having a moment to grab their shoes and were rescued by a boat which took them to a fire station. Their house had previously flooded in May of 2015 and then again in April 2016. This time, their house sustained about four feet of flooding. "This flood was most devastating", Michael said.

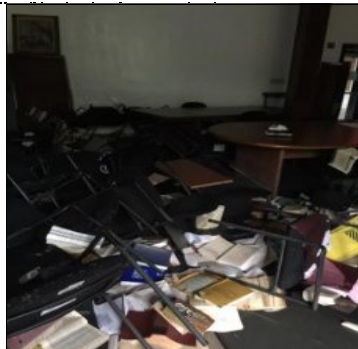
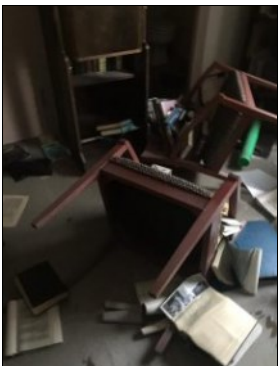
Mindy and Sam Pollak have lived in Houston for over 30 years. After the Memorial Day flood, their house took in 37 inches of water. During this storm, the home they own took in 6 feet of water; the rental home they have been occupying since the last storm—a home that has never flooded before, took in over a foot of water. As they were rescued by boat, they described a scene of cars covered with 5 feet of water and rumors of neighbors who had not survived the flood. Pictures taken of their street shows homes that are nearly submerged by water, with only a roof visible.



Pictured Above: The Home of Mindy and Sam Pollak; Mindy and Sam Pollak being rescued by boat

Rabbi Barry Gelman, rabbi of UOS and his wife, Gabi, also suffered irreparable damage to their home during the Memorial Day storm of 2015. After that storm, they rented an apartment nearby until they could decide on a course of action. They moved into their new house months before this storm hit. Their new home is currently flooded. Once again, they need to deal with their own damaged property, in addition to caring for a community, which is overwhelmed with loss.

The flood did not just destroy homes but also the heart of the Willow Meadows community, United Orthodox Synagogues. "It is a knife in our collective heart", wrote Robert Levy, a longtime community member, as he shared pictures of Pictures of United Orthodox Synagogues, after the flood



(Robert Levy photo credit)



The TORCH Outreach Center, whose new building opened recently, was also badly flooded. So was Congregation Torah Va'Chessed.

Yet, despite all they have lost, people shared messages of hope and gratefulness. "I believe the only things we now own are the clothes we are wearing," Michael said, "But we have our health."

And once again, the community of chesed is reaching out to help each other.

Community members whose homes are not flooded have opened their homes to friends and their pets. Many continue to travel through the flood waters by boat, rescuing those in need of help. A UOS relief group, consisting of three women, Jenelle Garner, Amy Goldstein and Holly Davis was set up to coordinate efforts to help those in need; all three women in this group volunteering to help others, despite the fact that all of them sustained flood damages in their own homes. And students at the Robert M. Beren Academy, Houston's modern Orthodox Jewish Day School have mobilized a group of volunteers, initially formed after the Memorial Day flood, and are once again ready to help families and the shul with the extensive clean up.

Michael's oldest daughter, Ariel, who was at a neighbor when her house flooded, wrote the following on her Facebook account from a local shelter: "I can't express how grateful I am. Everything that I have lost can be replaced, it is just stuff. Through tragedy comes something wonderful. I cannot express how grateful I am to have such great family and friends. I live in an amazing community who despite experiencing challenges of their own, have been constantly checking up on us... Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Feeling proud to be a Jewish Houstonian".

With so many affected by the storm, the Houston Jewish community needs our help. Here are three ways you can help:

**Donate:** As the extent of the damage becomes clear, it is obvious that this community will need significant financial help in order to rebuild. Please donate to the OU and RCA's disaster relief fund today

**Tehillim and Support:** Recite Tehillim and Send Messages of Support. Our prayers and good wishes are needed more than ever. Click here to commit to reciting Tehillim or to send your message of support.

**Volunteer:** Are you interested in volunteering in Houston to help the Orthodox community? We are in contact with community members on the ground to direct volunteers when and where they are needed. Click here to sign up to volunteer. the flooded synagogue.

