

# קהל דגל ישראל

CONGREGATION DEGEL ISRAEL

נוסד ע"י הרה"ג שר"ה מרגליות זצ"ל אבד"ק פרושקוב  
 דוד זוסמאן שיינפעלד מרא דאתרא

DAVID Z. SHEINFELD *Rabbi* · MALKIEL BIDERMAN, BINYOMIN MARTIN, YOSEF PERKAL, AVROHOM CHAIM SPEARMAN *Gabboim*

Dear Mispallel:

We would like to wish you and your family a טובה וחתימה טובה. Enclosed are notes about shul matters and a schedule.

1. Seats for Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur are now on sale. The seating committee - Mr. Malkiel Biderman, Mr. Moshe Kessler and Mr. Avrohom Chaim Spearman - would be pleased to try to accommodate any special requests that you may have. **Price for seats is \$180 per seat.** Children's seats are \$70 each for the first two seats and \$18 for additional children.

**Annual fee for dues (usually collected in Adar) is \$275 which includes the privilege of one seat.**

2. If you have not yet paid for seats, dues, pledges or other commitments made during the past year or have outstanding balances, please pay before the end of the year. An envelope is enclosed for your convenience.
3. Please let the Rabbi know if you have difficulty getting to shul on Rosh Hashana or fasting on Yom Kippur.
4. A special Shofar blowing for women will take place at 1:50 on Rosh Hashana.
5. **Please support our charity fund, Keren Hachessed Ateres Shaul Dovid**; named after the founder, our Rav זצ"ל. Money collected is sent to Israel for widows and orphans. Interest free loans are given to those in need in Israel and the USA. Money from the sale of P'sichos during holidays and Aravos on Hoshana Rabba goes for this charity.

6. Special thanks to coordinators of various shul programs:

▪ Mr. Yoel Eckstein	Maintenance & Beautification Committee
▪ Mr. Michael Elias	Schedule & Email
▪ Mrs. Rachel Finkel	Maternity Chesed Program
▪ Dr. Yisroel Finkel	5 Minute Kollel
▪ Mr. Gilami Goldfeder	Wednesday Night Iyun Chaburah
▪ Mrs. Judy Gottleib	Womens Pirkei Avos
▪ Mrs. Evelyn Ocken	Reservations for Grunberger Simcha Room
▪ Mr. Melech Hoschander	Purim Program
▪ Mr. Avi Konigsberg	Kiddush Program
▪ Mrs. Rivka Martin	Shalach Manos Program
▪ Dr. Yisroel Finkel, R' Yosef Rosen	Avos U'Banim Programs
▪ Mr. Yosef Perkal	Kiddush Program
▪ Mr. Yosef Perkal	Shalosh Seudos
▪ Mr. Shmuel Horowitz	Bikur Cholim Program
▪ Mr. Tzvi Sporer	Shalosh Seudos
▪ Mrs. Shari Vatch	Shalach Manos Program
▪ Various other individuals for many ענינים	of צבור

## Rabbi's Message:

Dear Mispalelim:

The upcoming period of Elul, Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur and Yomim Tovim is a time of great opportunity. It is time for introspection, inspiration and resolutions for future behavior. Our focus should always be מעלין בקודש!


It is a zechus to daven, learn and be involved in צרכי צבור with other yiden! We should be grateful for the opportunity to be part of a wonderful קהילה. We fell privileged to follow the rich traditions of our founder, the Rav זצ"ל and the many wonderful מתפללים who were part of our shul. It is our זכות to continue the great הקודש!

It would also be nice to spend more time together on an individual basis, It has been suggested that regular appointments should be scheduled to meet every family at least once per year. (We should think about this plan!) Meanwhile, if anyone has any halachic or personal questions or general comments, please feel free to contact me.

During the past year, Klal Yisroel experienced many tragedies and נסיבות. New episodes of classis anti-semitism and hatred took place in many parts of the world. Such events serve to remind us of the realities of the galus. We must be mispallel for all of ישראל collectively as well as individually. For our people in ארץ ישראל and all over the world.

In the following paragraphs, I have made some notes of important matters related to the everyday life of a Jew and some important matters related to ימים טובים. Please read them and think about them, especially during חודש אלול. If you have comments, please let me know.

ד קב"מ כ"ט ו' אב תשס"ג



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## כבוד בית הכנסת

1. The Torah encourages us to run to shul, not from shul! Running to shul is permitted even on שבת when running is otherwise forbidden. This also means, of course, to take seriously the responsibility to come to shul on time on a regular basis.
2. Saying אמן is a powerful means of תפילה for which חז"ל promise great rewards. Some people, unfortunately, miss many opportunities to answer אמן.
3. Elul is a perfect time to practice restraint from talking during davening. No one ("in their right mind") wants to carry the burden of such an עבירה. (See שלחן ערוך.)
4. The halacha discusses proper body posture in shul and during davening. People crossing their legs is observed at times in shul and is for various reasons inappropriate.
5. **Appropriate dress** – Wearing jeans, clothing with pictures and a general undignified appearance is not consistent with the image of one standing in awe before the Almighty. Needless to say, adherence to halachic requirements of צניעות are essential for overall שמירת מצוות in addition to one's appearance in shul. Wearing clothing of appropriate length, color and fit and women's covering of hair are all important aspects of צניעות and dignity for all members of דגל ישראל.
6. Is it too much to expect for **cell phones to be turned off in shul?** How often are we bombarded by intrusive phones sounding off during davening? Are we not entitled to a few moments of quiet and serenity to contemplate the greatness of our תפילות?
7. Setting an example for our children – Let us remember that all our behavior is observed and imitated by our children. In shul, at home with family or with others, we are transmitting messages to our children by the way we think and act.

## Davening by the Amud

It is a זכות to be a צבור. Please cooperate with the גבאים. To be an appropriate שליח צבור, one must:

1. be physically, mentally and emotionally prepared;
2. be appropriately dressed (e.g., jacket, hat, socks, etc.);
3. pronounce words correctly and clearly;
4. chant נוסח and נגינים correctly and clearly;
5. inspire the members of the congregation. Saying the words or נוסח without appropriate tempo, clarity, emphasis or feeling deprives everyone of an elevated experience of תפילה.

## תלמוד תורה

תלמוד תורה (סנהדרין ז') tell us that one of the first questions asked of us is about being תלמוד תורה. It is puzzling as to why some people do not have some type of learning in their regular schedule. The shul has various learning programs (see schedule) that should be joined. We are planning more שיעורים to accommodate whoever wants to learn. Please speak to me about this most important matter!

The bottom line is – תלמוד תורה כנגד כולם –  
Torah elevates us more than any other מצוה does!

## קדושת שבת

We all must work hard to provide the special royal and majestic atmosphere the שבת deserves. We must be careful to wear clothing that is dignified for שבת. Wearing baseball caps, for example, is not for שבת. Engaging our children in preparing for שבת and looking forward to this special day of the week is central to our role as parents. Utilizing the time wisely during the seudos and throughout the day requires planning and creativity. The image of שבת remains in a child's mind throughout life and has a significant impact on our overall level of piety.

## צדקה וחסד

We all know that תורה is a central theme in the תורה and that גמילות חסדים is one of the three pillars upon which the world stands. Many of our members are dedicated to helping individuals, the shul and the community in various extraordinary ways. We must also remember to teach our children that the needs of others are no less important than our own needs.

## זהירות ושמירת המצות וחינוך הבנים

It is important to learn about the details of הלכות of our everyday lives. Asking שאלות is often necessary to adhere properly to הלכה. We should also show our children that we are meticulous about הלכה and enthusiastic about שמירת מצוות! Also, parents who are in the process of selecting yeshivas for children should discuss such important matters with the Rav.

## עלי' תורה The Significance of

Special mention should be made about the honor of receiving an עליה to the Torah. It is mentioned in ספרים that if possible one should be called up to the Torah once per month. Clearly, the larger the congregation the less often one receives an עליה. Our גבאים try to distribute עלייות to everyone as often as possible. Of course, when one is a חיוב for having the עליה (yartzeit, חתן, other simchos, etc.) they will have priority. Also, anyone who desires an עליה for any reason should notify the גבאים before קריאת התורה; almost all requests are accommodated.

**נדבות** - It is traditional to make a contribution after one is privileged to have an עליה. Many ספרים compare this contribution to bringing a קרבן during the time of the בית המקדש. That is one of the reasons why a מי שברך is recited. Also, it is mentioned in שלחן ערוך to say חזק ואמץ to one who had an עליה. The ברכה for the person for having the עליה and for being honored with reciting התורה. One shows appreciation by giving a נדבה. Many פוסקים are not in favor of stating "מתנה" or "צדקה" when pledging a contribution. It is ambiguous and may not be properly paid. Also, many people never fulfill this type of pledge. It is therefore admirable, traditional and suggested to state a clear amount (e.g. Chai-18, 25, 36+, etc.). This is also a special opportunity to give צדקה and help the shul.

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## Laws & Minhagim of Note:

### A. ROSH HASHANAH

1. A NEW FRUIT is placed on the table for KIDDUSH on the SECOND night.
2. It is a minhag to eat an apple dipped in honey on ROSH HASHANAH evening. Some practice this minhag both nights. The ברוך יהי רצון should be said after eating the 1st bite, so as not to be a הפסק between the brocho העץ פרי and eating.
3. The minhag of dipping challah or bread into honey is for the entire period of ROSH HASHANAH through SHMINI ATZERES.
4. During ROSH HASHANAH, especially the 1<sup>st</sup> night, we eat foods with positive symbols (such as the head of a fish and carrots). A list of positive prayers for various foods can be found in a Siddur. Foods with negative symbols (such as nuts, vinegar, & bitter items) are to be avoided.
5. On ROSH HASHANAH evening it is customary to greet with the blessing of L'SHONO TOVAH TIKASEV V'SACHASEM L'ALTER L'CHAYIM (TIKASEVI V'SACHASEMI - for females).

### B. ASERES Y'MEI TSHUVAH

1. In DAVENING, remember זכרונו, מי כמוך, וכתוב, בספר חיים, המלך המשפט and המלך הקדוש. Most important is - המלך הקדוש which needs to be repeated if omitted.
2. On TZOM GEDALYEH, one may eat before daybreak if one made a condition to do so during MINCHA on the previous day. Drinking is permissible without a condition. It is customary to be more careful about SHMIRAS HAMITZVOS during this period. For example, those who accept lenient viewpoints on issues such as pas yisroel and cholov yisroel, may desire to choose a more rigid interpretation during this period (see Sefer Mateh Efraim). Needless to say, one needs to be extra careful about issues Ben Odom Lachavero as well!
3. The minhag of Kaporos can be performed with
  - (A) Chickens
  - (B) Fish
  - (C) Plants, if (a) & (b) are not available
  - (D) Money

### C. EREV YOM KIPUR & YOM KIPPUR

1. It is a minhag to be given cake by the Gabbai in Shul. The reason is that if (Heaven forbid) one is destined to be dependent on others during the year, the decree should be fulfilled through this act.
2. It is an old minhag (see Shulchan Aruch) "to hit malkos" and recite viduy after mincha. One wonders why this minhag has not been practiced much lately. (Some of us remember Rav Margulies ZT"L practicing this minhag.)
3. The mitzvah of immersion in a mikvah is practiced by men as well as women in many communities. No brocho is recited.
4. It is customary to smell Bsomim on YOM KIPPUR to be able to say 100 Brochos.
5. One may not eat after the fast prior to hearing Havdalah.
6. It is customary to eat a Seudah and light candles on Motzei Yom Kippur.
7. It is a custom to do some work in the Succah on Motzei Yom Kippur.
8. We daven early in the morning after Yom Kippur to show that we have not left our "commitments in the synagogue".

### D. SUCCOS

1. Be careful to build the Succah and purchase Arba Minim that are Kosher. For any specific questions, please consult the Rabbi. Make sure to place S'chach upon wood and not upon metal beams.
2. It is a special minhag to give Tzedaka on Erev Succos.
3. When reciting the Brocho on Arba Minim, one needs to choose one of the following three options:
  - a. Hold Esrog pitim downward and turn it upwards immediately after Brocho.
  - b. Hold Esrog and Lulav away from each other during the Brocho and bring together immediately after the Brocho.
  - c. Hold all minim, together properly but have intention not to fulfill the mitzvah until after completion of brocho.
4. On Chol Hamoed, if Yaleh V'yovo is omitted, one must repeat the Tefilloh at night as well as the daytime. Birchah Hamazon is not repeated if Yaleh V'yovo is omitted during Chol Hamoed. On Yom Tov however one must repeat Birchah Hamazon.
5. Chol Hamoed is a Yom Tov and requires appropriate dignity in manner of dress and behavior.

## Use of our Yitzchock Yakov Grunberger Simcha Room

It is a pleasure to have simchas in our shul. We are happy that our facilities are used for events of our members as well as the community. Payment for use of our facilities is one way the shul has financial support. Making a simcha is a special opportunity to donate money to the shul. Also, when making a simcha and requesting multiple aliyo, it is appropriate to donate on behalf of the aliyo. May we continue to have many such occasions!

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## Some Highlights of 5776

The various special shiurim:

- ספר מנחת הינוך – Monday evenings 9:45-10:30
- Wednesday evenings 8:30-9:30 – A special “Chaburah” covering various topics in depth is joined by many learners. Various shiurim have been given on a wide range of halachos. Yasher koach Reb Gilami Goldfeder for coordinating this program.
- Our 5-Minute “Kollel” on Shabbos mornings after Davening and the מחשבה וחסידות shiur on Thursday evenings had a successful year!
- **Daf Yomi**  
Early morning 5:40, Late morning 8:50,  
Evening between מעריב מנחה, Evening 8:30
- The beautiful Father & Son (אבות ובנים) learning program on Motsoai Shabbos during the fall-winter season organized by Reb Yosef Rosen and Dr. Yisroel Finkel was very successful. After almost an hour of learning the children are entertained with a story followed by a raffle with great prizes. לך יישר כח to Reb Yosef Rosen and Dr. Yisroel Finkel for doing a great job with this program! This year’s program starts לך יישר כח (Nov. 12) 6:30pm.
- A beautiful מלוה מלכה was highlighted by an inspiring drosho by Horav Fischel Schechter שליט"א.
- Early מנחה for summer time was held at 6:30
- We are working on
  - New safe for downstairs ארון קודש
  - Special program for annual מלוה מלכה

## Sponsorships Available:

<u>Sponsor</u>	
• For the Shul:	
▪ Bima	
▪ New chairs for Ezras Nashim	\$7200
▪ Paroches for Aron Kodesh (for Shabbos)	
▪ Paroches for Aron Kodesh (for Tishrei)	
▪ Downstairs Safe	\$5000
▪ Memorial Yartzheit Tablet	
▪ New Mechtizta Downstairs	\$1800
▪ Name on Yartzheit Tablet	\$720
• For Supplies	
▪ ConEd Bill per month (approx. average)	\$1500
▪ Facial Tissues for year	\$360
▪ Paper Towels for year	\$300
▪ Ner Lamaor Candles	
▪ Wine for Kiddush & Havdalah	\$200
• Sponsorships for various programs:	
▪ Shabbos Mevorchim Kiddush	\$80
▪ Weekly Shalosh Seudos	\$70
▪ Thurs. night Chulent for Shiur	\$20
▪ Coffee, etc.	\$54 per month
▪ Sodas	\$54 per month

We thank all our sponsors for their help in supporting various shul needs.  
(Please pay full amount indicated. The price indicated includes a “reduction” and is a bargain price!)

וכל מי שעוסקים בצרכי ציבור באמונה הקב"ה ישלם שכרם