Young Israel of Merrick

Spring 2020

Purim • Pesach • Shavuos
Dear Friends,

The Spring is a time of endless possibility. The cold weather is coming to an end, flowers are blooming, birds are chirping and the environment around us is shifting and becoming more open to growth and change. While the Winter can sometimes feel cold and isolating, the Spring is a time that we can finally come out of our caves and join the world once again.

This pattern can even be felt on the Jewish calendar. After the holidays in September and October there is a noticeable lull in our cycle of Jewish holidays. True we do have Chanukkah and Tu B’Shvat and other unique points of connection to our Judaism, but for the most part, our calendar reflects the silence and reserved nature that we often fall into during the cold months of the year. Yet, once Spring comes the holidays are in bloom once more! From Purim to Pesach followed by Sefiras HaOmer and Shavuos, we, once again welcome a new season of Jewish interaction and involvement.

On Pesach we will read the Haggadah which encourages us to invite all to our seder tables with the proclamation, “...כל דכפין ייתי ויכול...” - “All who are hungry, come and eat...” Indeed, many wonder what the nature of this statement is, do we really mean it? If we are honest with ourselves then we will quickly come to the conclusion that more often than not, we say this paragraph quietly enough to ensure that no one will hear us, lest someone actually take us up on this universal invite!

If we mean it, we should be saying this passage of the Haggadah at our doorstep so that we might have a chance encounter with a passerby who is in need of a meal. However, since most of us are not doing this I would suggest that there still is a reason, perhaps, an even deeper purpose to reciting these words. It might be that these words are not just meant to target those who do not yet have a meal but rather it is meant to speak to those who are already at the table! What, you will ask, is the purpose of inviting guests who are already joining you? Well now that we have redefined who we are speaking to, perhaps we should also redefine what we are inviting them to. I would further suggest that the invitation is not simply to the seder meal but rather it is also an invite to partake in the Jewish experience that is the seder night. Reworked, the phrase in its entirety is saying, “All who are here should come and partake in the incredible story that is the Jewish nation. Join us in our journey: past, present and future!”

We thus see that this is not just an invitation for one evening but rather an invitation to join us in all that it means to live and celebrate our Jewish identity, even today. With that, I would like to formally invite each and everyone of you to join us this Spring at YIM. As always there is so much going and this guide offers a taste of all that is to come this season. I hope you will join us!

Warm Regards,

Rabbi Dov Winston
YIM Board

President: Steven Gage
Vice-President: Stuart Daitch
Treasurer: Debby Gage
Secretary: Stanley Fish
Gabbai: Sam Sperling
Building Chariman: Howard Nathanson

Trustees:
Avi Abikzer
Larry Korman
Jan Levine
Sisterhood: Susan Abikzer and Stacey Nathanson
Past President: Jeffrey Maynard

YIM Committees

Building
Chairperson: Howard Nathanson

Education
Chairperson: Stanley Fish

Eruv
Mayer Gross

Hospitality
Chairpersons:
Larry and Lauren Korman

Kiddush
Chairperson: Jan Levine

Legal
Chairperson: Aaron Stein

Marketing
Chairperson: Loren Daitch

NextGen
Rena Winston

Newsletter
Howard Nathanson
Rabbi Dov Winston

Public Relations
Chairperson: Jeffrey Maynard

Ritual
Rabbi Dov Winston, Steve Gage and Sam Sperling

Social Calendar
Liza Rosenthal

Website and Social Media
Rabbi Dov Winston
Young Israel of Merrick Presents

Breakfast in the Beis

Sunday, March 8, 9:15 am
The Torah, Life and Thought of The Chasam Sofer

Cost: $5 per person!
Purim @ YIM

PLAYBILL

Young Israel of Merrick Presents

The Beverly Hillbillies

Starring: Michael Jacobson | Larry Korman | Renee Maynard | Liza Rosenthal | Ira Zimilover
Lyrics by: Ira Zimilover | Written and Directed by: Ira Zimilover | Choreography by: Larry Korman

Purim Night, March 9th

YIM

COSTUME CONTEST

PURIM NIGHT, MARCH 9

JUDGES TBA
Laws of Purim

Below is a brief synopsis of the laws of Purim, however there might be exceptions to the rule or extenuating circumstances. One should not hesitate to reach out to Rabbi Winston with any specific or personal questions. Rabbi Winston can be reached at rabbi@yimerrick.org.

Parshas Zachor: When we read the Torah it is generally considered a Rabbinic obligation. In contrast to this, Parshas Zachor, which is read once a year on the Shabbos before Purim to remind us of the nation of Amalek and what they did to our ancestors in the desert, is a Biblical obligation. Men, and ideally women as well, should therefore make every effort to come to shul on the Shabbos before Purim to hear Parshas Zachor.

Machtzis Hashekel: There is a requirement to give a “half-coin” to tzedakah before Purim. This is in commemoration of the half-shekel coin that the Jews donated annually to the Beis Hamikdash in Adar. Since the Torah mentions the word “Terumah” three times in the parsha, we actually give three half coins in commemoration of this. Generally, the custom is to do this mitzvah around mincha time on Taanis Esther, some do it before and some do it after. The man of the house can give Mach’tzis Hashekel for his spouse. The process is done by placing money in the collection box as a form of purchasing the three designated coins, then lifting the coins up “Zecher l’machtzis hashekel” and placing them back down again.

Purim: The dress code on Purim is “bigdei Shabbos” like any other holiday, however, there is a wide-spread custom to wear costumes. In general, it is said that there are four primary mitzvos of the day, all of which will be listed here and elucidated below. Typically, it is assumed that women are obligated in all of the mitzvos of the day. The four mitzvos are: 1) Krias Megillah – Hearing the megillah twice, 2) Seudas Purim – Eating a festive meal, 3) Mishloach Manot – Sending “gifts”, 4) Matanos L’evyonim – Gifts to the poor.

Krias Hamegilah: The megillah is read both in the evening and the daytime. One ideally should not do the daytime reading of the megillah before sunrise (neitz). In difficult circumstances (i.e. travel, work, etc) one may read after alos. One can read until sunset on Purim day. On Purim day the person making the brachos on the Megila should have in mind that the Shehechiyanu is for all the other Mitzvos (i.e. Mishloach Manos, Matanos L’evyonim, and Seudas Purim) as well. Those listening should also have these other mitzvos in mind. There is an obligation to hear every word of the megillah, which means that nothing else should be occupying a person’s attention during the reading. If a word(s) is missed then a person should read this word(s) on their own until they catch up to the baal korei.

Mishloach Manos: One is obligated to send two food items to one fellow Jew on Purim day. Mishloach Manos is said to have two potential underlying reasons: 1. To increase friendship among the Jewish people and 2. To provide food for the Purim seudah. In order to fulfill the first reason one should make sure
that the person who receives your mishloach manot is aware of it on Purim day. Two types of food must be
given, but it is a misconception that they need to have two different brachos. Ideally the food should be ready
to eat and therefore things like raw meat should be avoided. A husband can give Mishloach Manot on behalf of
his wife.

**Matanos L’evyonim:** One is obligated to give tzedakah to two poor people on the day of Purim. There is no set
dollar amount for this mitzvah but, much like mishloach manot, it is meant to be enough money that a poor
person can buy the minimum required amounts for a meal. Essentially that means that
ideally one should give enough money so that one could purchase a kzayis of meat, a kzyais of bread and a
revi’is of wine. This total dollar amount should be given to two separate people. In the spirit of this mitzvah, it
is customary to give to all who open their hands asking us for tzedakah on this day. One can give the total
dollar amount to a single organization, person or entity to fulfill this obligation assuming that the organization
says that they are collecting for the purpose of this mitzvah, as the money must be distributed on Purim day.
We will have a collection for Matanos L’evyonim in YIM on the days leading up to Purim.

**Seudas Purim:** One is obligated to eat a festive meal on Purim Day. It is of course still a holiday and there-
fore it is a nice idea to have a meal in the night as well. Typically, this happens anyways because Taanis Es-
ther has just ended. The meal can take place any time during the day, however most people start their meal
after mincha, simply because they are busy in the mornings delivering Mishloach Manos and the like. The
majority of the meal should take place in the daytime but there is also an idea to extend the meal into the
night following Purim.

**Getting Drunk on Purim:** There is a well-known Gemorah that is codified by the Shulchan Aruch that one
should get drunk enough on Purim so that they do not know the difference between “the cursed Haman and
the blessed Mordechai.” However, this halacha has become terribly distorted in this day and age. Many people
choose this mitzvah to be their most stringently followed one. It is beyond the scope of this short listing of
laws to explain why someone doing this mitzvah for the wrong reasons could not only result in not fulfilling
the mitzvah but also a desecration of God’s name. One opinion that should be noted is that of the Rama – he
says that one should drink a little bit of wine and then take a nap. If one does this, they will surely not know
the difference between Haman and Mordechai. One may even fulfill this commandment in the morning before
the seudah. Following davening in the morning, if one drinks a little wine and takes a nap for even a short
amount of time, they will have fulfilled this obligation. One may also then drink an additional revi’is of wine at
the seudah, in order to fulfill the notion of “ein simcha ela b’basar v’yayin.” – that a festive meal, requires
meat and wine to bring happiness.
Get Ready for Pesach @ YIM!

**Experiencing Egypt**

Join Rabbi Winston for this gripping 4 part Shabbat afternoon shiur series to prepare for the upcoming Pesach holiday!

- **Parshat Ki Tisa** - March 7th
  - The Prohibition to Return to Egypt

- **Parshat Vayikra** - March 28th
  - Does Eliyahu Really Visit the Seder?

- **Parshat Vayakhel Pekudei** - March 21st
  - The Paschal Lamb: Eliminating the God of Egypt

- **Shabbos HaGadol Drasha** - April 4th
  - Why Moshe: How One Man Changed Jewish History

---

**Sefer Hachinuch between Mincha/Maariv IS BACK!**

All classes will be recorded and put on the website. Class begins March 29, 2020!
Get Ready for Pesach @ YIM!

15 New Things to Say at Your Seder

Monday Evening, March 30, 7:45PM

Why Moshe? How One Man Changed Jewish History

Shabbos HaGadol Drasha 5780
April 4th, 2020 @ 6:00 PM
Seudas Moshiach
April 16, 8th Day of Pesach, 7:30pm

YI Merrick
“Give 3” Project

After the success of last year’s “Give 2” project, we’re calling on all members once again to get involved and contribute new ideas to make our shul an even more exciting place to be!

3 IDEA MINIMUM, NO MAXIMUM!

Send to rabbi@yimerrick.org
Tefillat Chagigit on Yom Ha’atzmaut

Wednesday, April 28th at 7:35pm

Young Israel of Merrick Presents

Breakfast in the Beis

Cost: $5 per person!

Sunday, May 10, 9:15 am
The Torah, Life and Thought of The Chazon Ish
TOT SHABBAT

EVERY SHABBAT MORNING
DOWNSTAIRS AT YIM | 10-11AM

OPEN TO ALL KIDS AGES 0-5

KIDS PROGRAM  SNACKS  FREE PLAY

Daf-A-Week @ YIM

YIM is joining the revolution! Master the Talmud by learning just one Daf-A-Week. Taught by Rabbi Winston, this class will meet once a week and is open to both men and women. Shiur recordings will be uploaded to the whatsapp group: bit.ly/defaweekyim

Masechet Ta'anit
Class Time: Wednesday Evenings at 8:15 PM
Join Rabbi Winston every day following Shacharis for 5 minutes of Mishnayos.

Can't make it to Minyan one day? Shiurim will be recorded and posted online daily at www.yimerrick.org.

Have a Yahrzeit coming up? Sponsor an entire Mesechta in memory of your loved one.

Email Rabbi Winston to learn more: rabbi@yimerrick.org

Join the Whatsapp! bit.ly/5mmyim

Like us on Facebook and Follow us on Instagram @YoungIsraelofMerrick

For all of the latest updates at Young Israel of Merrick!
YIM Sponsorship Opportunities

Tot Shabbat Sponsorship Levels
One Tot Shabbat - $50
New Toys for the Children - $150
One Month of Tot Shabbat - $200
Holiday Babysitting - $500
Outside Playground Sponsor - $1,500
One Year of Tot Shabbat - $2,500

Contact Rena Winston – renatwinston@gmail.com

Kiddush
Please note: For all personally sponsored kiddushes there is an additional $36 charge for utensils, tablecloths and other kiddush items.

Regular Kiddush - $100
Includes: cakes, cookies, herring, chips, nuts, salsa, etc

Simcha Kiddush Participant Levels:
Bronze - $36, Silver - $50, Golds - $100

Homemade Hot Cholent Kiddush - $75

Larger meat or dairy kiddushes should be arranged directly with an approved YIM caterer and should be confirmed with YIM.

Contact Jan Levine - jan.levine@gmail.com

Shiur Sponsorships
Shabbos afternoon - $36 one shiur
Breakfast in the Beis - $72
Thursday Night Chassidus - $18 one shiur
Sefer HaChinuch - $10 one shiur
Shabbos Shuva/Shabbos HaGadol – Speak to Rabbi Winston
Shiur Series – Speak to Rabbi Winston
Specialty Shiur - $36

5 Minute Mishnayos Sponsorship
One Shiur - $10
One Week of Shiurim - $54
One Month of Shiurim - $180
One Mesechta (appx 2 months) - $360
One Seder of Mishnayos (appx 1.5 years) - $1,800

Contact Rabbi Winston – rabbi@yimerrick.org

Shalosh Seudot
One Shalosh Seudot - $54
One Co-sponsored Shalosh Seudot - $45

Contact Jeffrey Maynard - jeffrey@jeffreymaynard.com
Move-to-Merrick Shabbaton
An In-Town Community With An Out-Of-Town Feel

May 1-2

Merrick Ammenities

- Two orthodox shuls
- Affordable housing
- 42-minute train to Manhattan and Brooklyn
- Close to major highways
- Brand new mikvah
- Kosher food in town and nearby
- Beautiful suburban community
- Gorgeous parks
- Great shopping
- Fun things to do in the area
- Large eruv
- Daily minyanim and shiurim
- Local Jewish pre-school
- Near many NY Jewish dayschools
- 10 minutes from the beach and boardwalk

For more details and to register:
www.yimerrick.org/shabbaton

Questions?
movetomerrick@gmail.com
Shavuot @ YIM!

Young Israel of Merrick
Presents

All Night Learning

First Night of Shavuos, May 28th

Learning starts at 11:45 pm

Take a break from all night learning with a

Late Night Shavuos BBQ
at YIM

BBQ begins at 2:30 AM
Shavuot @ YIM!

Young Israel of Merrick

Learning on the Lawn

Join Rabbi Winston and your YIM friends for an informal and interactive class during the Gala Simcha Kiddush on the 2nd Day of Shavuos
May 30th | 11:50am (aprx start time)

Gala Shavuos
Simcha Kiddush

Second day of yom tov, Shabbat, May 30th
Guaranteed to have great hot food, camaraderie, and liquid refreshments

Please email Jan Levine (jan.levine@gmail.com) to help co sponsor this Kiddush.
Sponsorships Available: Bronze - $36, Silver - $50, Gold - $100
Save the Date!

Scholar in Residence
Rabbi Jesse Horn

Rabbi Jesse Horn is a Senior Ram (Rosh Metivta) at Yeshivat Hakotel. He is known for his methodological and Brisker approach to Gemara, his creative shiurim in Tanach, and his warm personality. In his shiurim, he motivates students to rigorously dissect texts, to ask major questions on the sugya at hand, and to intuit the interpretations offered by the Rishonim.

Rabbi Horn also teaches at MMY and has taught in other seminaries, such as Shaalvim for Women and Midreshet HaRova. He regularly lectures as a scholar-in-residence in communities all over the world.

Rabbi Horn is the author of Double Take, a book about Biblical personalities, as well as numerous other articles for Beis Yitzhak, Arutz Sheva, World Mizrachi, and other scholarly publications. He also authors a weekly email in which he answers Halachic questions to an audience of almost 1,500 readers.

Rabbi Horn earned a B.A. in Judaic Studies and an M.A. in Jewish Education from Yeshiva University. He received his ordination from Yeshiva University/RIETS. Rabbi Horn resides in Neve Daniel along with his wife and six children.

Shabbat, June 26-27
**March**

6-7<sup>th</sup> – Parshas Zachor Shabbos
8th - Breakfast in the Beis—Chasam Sofer
9<sup>th</sup> – Purim @ YIM:
Including: Sisterhood Break-fast, Purim Costume Contest, Purim Play
10<sup>th</sup> - Sisterhood IDF Mishloach Manot
30<sup>th</sup> - “15 New Things to Say at Your Seder” Shiur and Re-Launch of Sefer HaChinuch Shiur

**April**

4<sup>th</sup> - Shabbos HaGadol Drasha – 6:00pm @ YIM
16<sup>th</sup> - Seudas Moshiach/Neilas HaChag
29<sup>th</sup> – Yom Ha’atzmaut Tefillat Chagigit + Sisterhood Program

**May**

2<sup>nd</sup> – Sisterhood Book Club
9<sup>th</sup> – Launch of the Give 3 Project
10<sup>th</sup> – Breakfast in the Beis – 9:15am @ YIM
28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> – Shavuos:
Including: All Night Learning, Late Night BBQ, Shavuos Women’s Learning, Shavuos Simcha Kiddush Luncheon, Learning on the Lawn

**June**

24<sup>th</sup> - Annual General Meeting – after maariv @ YIM
26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> - Rabbi Jesse Horn, Scholar in Residence @ YIM
At Young Israel of Merrick, you’re family the minute you walk through our doors. Our shul is a vibrant and welcoming environment; the kind of place where you can come in and make a difference right away. Said simply, we are an in-town shul, with an out-of-town feel. Through our diverse educational and social programming, we aim to foster the spiritual and religious growth of each of our members. Located in the beautiful suburban town of Merrick, Long Island, we are very close to major highways and just a short, direct, train ride away from Manhattan.

With our young and dynamic Rabbi and Rebbetzin, a beautiful mikvah, a well-maintained eruv, a plethora of kosher options in town and nearby and many schools just a short drive away, Young Israel of Merrick is the perfect place to raise your family.