

July 2009

Tammuz-Av, 5769

בס"ד
תמוז-אב תשס"ט



Stony Brook Hebrew Congregation Newsletter

This month's services schedule

Date: July	Candle lighting	Evening Service*	Shacharit	Kriat Shema	Mincha/ Maariv	Shabbat Ends
3-4	8:09 pm	8:00 pm	9:30 am	9:11 am	8:00 pm	9:10 pm
10-11	8:07 pm	8:00 pm	9:30 am	9:14 am	8:00 pm	9:08 pm
17-18	8:03 pm	8:00 pm	9:30 am	9:17 am	8:00 pm	9:03 pm
24-25	7:58 pm	8:00 pm	9:30 am	9:20 am	7:50 pm	8:58 pm
31-1 Aug	7:51 pm	7:50 pm	9:30 am	9:23 am	7:50 pm	8:51 pm

* Confirm with Rabbi for times.

Learning

Tuesdays at 8:00 pm – The weekly Talmud class will continue on July 21st at the Beit Midrash (51 Hawkins Rd).

Special events in July

Independence Weekend Picnic – Sunday, July 5th, at 2:30 pm. Picnic will be at the Rezak house at 5 Shore Dr in Setauket. In case of rain, the picnic will be at the Ebin house at 19 Poplar Ave.

17th of Tammuz – Thursday, the 9th of July. Fast starts at 4:17 am and ends at 9:08 pm.

Rosh Chodesh Av – Starts the night of Tuesday, July 21st, and ends the night of Wednesday, July 22nd.

Tisha B'Av –

Fast times - The fast starts on Wednesday, July 29th, at 8:11 pm and ends on Thursday, July 30th, at 8:53 pm.

Maariv on 29th – 9:00 pm on Campus.

Shacharit – 9:00 am on Campus.

Midday – 12:59 pm.

Mincha/Maariv – 7:40 pm in Beit Midrash (51 Hawkins Rd).

Nachas News

- Happy Birthday to David Klonsky, Lilia Lyubich, Eva Lyubich, Rachmiel Linkoff, and Abi Ebin.

Kiddush

Kiddush this month is sponsored by the Zlochower family.

Rabbi Roffman's Monthly Message

The 17th of Tammuz and the 9th of Av mark a three week period of mourning the fall of Jerusalem and the destruction of the Temple. On the 17 of Tammuz, the walls of Jerusalem were breached prior to the destruction of the Second Temple in 70 CE. After years of occupation and oppression, both the Romans and their predecessors, the Babylonians, came to understand that the only way to break the Jewish people was by evicting them from their most holy place. But even in exile, the Jews prayed toward and lamented Jerusalem as it says in Psalms 137, "If I forget Jerusalem, let my right hand forget its skill."

Therefore, I think that it is important that we ask ourselves if history is repeating itself. The last century saw the miraculous return of the Jewish people to their homeland and to Jerusalem. Many nations oppose any Jewish state, but most will not openly say it. Yet where do all of our enemies unanimously and openly advocate our expulsion? All eyes are again set upon Jerusalem's downfall. No one talks of partitioning Tel Aviv or Haifa. Let the Jews pray toward Eilat! Even amongst the Jewish people, only those who cling to their faith refuse to leave again.

When Jerusalem fell to the Romans, a day of fasting and lamenting was established for all generations. This day was to be observed until the full restoration of Jerusalem with the building of the Temple. When the Israelis reclaimed control of Jerusalem, a day of celebration was established over a partial restoration of Jerusalem's ancient glory. Perhaps we should ponder what will happen if Jerusalem is taken from us again. Will we establish another day of mourning? Will we rend our clothes and write new lamentations? Will we once again witness an eventual exile from our homeland? Perhaps a better question to ask is what can we do to ensure that we will never have to answer the previous questions.