

December 19, 2025 / 29 Kislev  
Rav Yaakov Marcus שליט"א, Rabbi Emeritus  
Robert Rosenberg, President

**MAZAL TOV**

- ★ **Judi & Yoni Jacobs** on the birth of their granddaughter Orië Penina, born to their children Hillel & Debbie in Israel.
- ★ **Caryn & Yussie Weinblatt** on the birth of their granddaughter, Michal, born to their children Gilah & Jason.
- ★ **Elaine & Jack Weintraub** on the birth of a great granddaughter, born to Paige & Yosef Weintraub, children of Naomi & Steven Weintraub.

**TO HAVE A NOTICE LISTED IN THE WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS, NOTIFY THE OFFICE BY NOON THURSDAY at [office@yisi.org](mailto:office@yisi.org) or 718-494-6700, Ext. 0** with the wording and spelling of names that you want placed in the announcements. Should you choose not to notify the office directly, please note that correct spelling of names cannot be guaranteed. **Resident Members only.**

## Contact Info

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 Office [Office@yisi.org](mailto:Office@yisi.org)  
 Contact the following for requests to utilize shul facilities:  
 Building use [ugertelman@gmail.com](mailto:ugertelman@gmail.com)  
 Catering/Space Rental [Bookings@yisi.org](mailto:Bookings@yisi.org)

**We would like to thank the following for their Simcha Contribution:**

- ✧ Elaine & Jack Weintraub in honor of their great granddaughter,  
born to Paige & Yosef Weintraub.
- ✧ Esther Kornecki in honor of the marriage of her daughter Perel  
to Michael Shemtov.

**We would like to thank the following for their Charity Fund Contribution:**

- ✧ Shelly & Heshie Chesner and family in memory of Rabbi Yaakov (Jay) Marcus - a builder and visionary who we called our Rav and our friend for over 30 years. May his memory be a blessing and his neshama have an aliyah.
- ✧ Yehudis & David Raab for the yahrzeit this Shabbos of David's mother Esther bas Uziel a"h.
- ✧ Sarah & Judah Chasky for the yahrzeit of Sarah's father Moshe ben Sherel a"h on 29 Kislev, the 5<sup>th</sup> day of Chanukah.
- ✧ Linda & Scott Diamond l'iluy nishmas Yaakov Eliezer ben Mordechai, a"h.
- ✧ Emily & Edward Leibowitz for the yahrzeits of Emily's father Samuel Propp, Shmuel ben Yitzchok Leib & Chaya Leah, and her sister Audrey Propp Ward, Chaya bat Chana Leah & Shmuel Propp.
- ✧ Roy and Janet Schmukler for the yahrzeit of Roy's father, Tzvi Herschel ben Elimelech Halevi a"h, on 29 Kislev, 5th night of Chanukah.
- ✧ Phyllis & Mel Zachter for the yahrzeit of Phyllis' mother Ruth Sitzer, Rachel bas Yehuda, on 6 Teves.
- ✧ The Kaplan family thanks Rabbi Lehrfield for all his guidance, compassion and support during this difficult time.

## Shul Announcements

The next **YISI GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING** will take place on Tuesday, December 23, 2025, at 9:15 PM in the Main Shul. The proposed budget and agenda items have been mailed out to all Resident Members.

**YISI COMEDY NIGHT: Join us Motzei Shabbos, Dec. 27.** Enjoy a dairy buffet and a night of laughter with the hilarious Dovi Neuberger. Purchase your tickets before Dec. 24 at the member price of \$50 per person (after 12/24, member price is \$60 per person); \$75 for non-members. Register at <https://www.yisi.org/comedy-night/>.

**FOLLOW OUR SHUL ON WHATSAPP!** Join us at:  
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/KLaU8dEeB14GWcz403Hgbb>.

**SEMICHAS CHAVER PROGRAM:** Revolutionize your Torah Learning. Master the most common halachos that arise daily. Join over 4500 participants worldwide who are learning the same halachos. Given by Rabbi Lehrfield Wednesday evenings at 9 PM in the Beis Medrash. Chazara (review class) with Rabbi Katzman Mondays at 9:15 PM.

**ORAYSA AMUD V'CHAZARA PROGRAM:** Learn one amud a day, with a review of the previous day's amud. Sunday-Thursday at 7:30 PM in the Beit Medrash. Given by Rabbi Yosef Goldstein. Please contact Louis Emmer with any questions.

# SHABBOS LUACH

## Rosh Chodesh

Eruv is up on both sides

**Friday, December 19**

|                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Candle Lighting | 4:13 PM         |
| Early Mincha    | 12:40 & 3:00 PM |
| Mincha          | 4:15 PM         |

## Shabbos, December 20

|   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Shacharis   | 7 (M), 8 (MPR), 9 (M), 9:30 Sfard (F) |
| Rabbi's Parsha Shiur  | 8:25 AM                               |
| Z'man Krias Shema   | 9:35 AM                               |
| Women's Learning Group: Orchos Tzadikim (Main Shul – Women's Section) | 3:00 PM                               |
| Daf Yomi  | 3:15 PM                               |
| Mishna Yomis  | 4:00 PM                               |
| Mincha  | 2:30 & 4:10 PM                        |
| Rabbi Lehrfield will speak on the topic:<br><i>HaNerot HaLalu</i>     | Between Mincha & Maariv               |
| Shabbos Ends  | 5:17 PM                               |

## WEEKDAY LUACH

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Earliest T&T        | 6:23 AM   |
| Early Mincha        | Sun 1:45 PM; Mon-Th 12:40 PM  |
| Mincha / Maariv     | Sun-Th 4:25 PM  |
| Late Maariv         | Sun-Th 9:00 PM  |
| Halacha of the Week | <p>Shulchan Aruch writes that it is forbidden to use the light from the Chanukah candles. The Mishnah Berurah gives two explanations:</p> <p>(1) According to Rashi, this is to make evident that the candles were lit for the mitzvah. If one is permitted to use the light of the candles, it would not be apparent that they were lit for the mitzvah.</p> <p>(2) The Ran writes that this is derived from the menorah of the Beis Hamikdash. Just as it was forbidden to use the light of that menorah since the oil in it was Kodesh, so too did Chazal forbid using the light of the Chanukah menorah.</p> <p>For these reasons, we always add a shamash (accompanying flame) so that we do not derive benefit from the candles lit for the mitzvah. Though there is light added by the other candles, one may still read next to a menorah that has a lit shamash. The Mishnah Berurah writes that after the shamash goes out, even if the candles have already burned for half an hour, one should still not use the lights since they were originally lit for the mitzvah.</p> |
| Motzei Shabbos      | The Chaim Ozer Father-Son Learning Program<br>6:30 PM in the First Shul   |
| Monday - Thursday   | Rabbi Lehrfield Gemara Shiur 9:00 AM in MPR or via Zoom: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5608515236">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5608515236</a><br>Meeting ID: 560 851 5236 / Passcode: 12345  |
| Wednesday           | Rabbi Weiss – Tefilla 8:00 PM & Parsha 8:30 PM<br>Via Phone: 425-436-6327, Code: 435236#  |

**YISI CHANUKAH ONEG:** This Friday evening, Dec. 19 in the MPR. Hot food. Drinks. Singing. Bring a friend!

**THE RABBI'S SHABBOS AFTERNOON SHIUR** is sponsored by:

- The Kornecki Family in honor of the marriage of Perel Kornecki to Michael Shemtov.

**YISI BOOK CLUB:** Monday, Dec. 22 at 7:15 PM in the MPR. We are reading "We Were the Lucky Ones" by Georgia Hunter. There are copies reserved for the group at the Todt Hill Library. Please return after reading so others can enjoy it as well. If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Spiler at 646-321-3309.

**DAILY LEARNING AT YISI:** A meaningful way to start your day!

**Sun – Fri: Daf Yomi**

- Rabbi Rosenberg: Mon - Fri after 6:30 AM Shachris
- Rabbi Perlstein: Mon & Thu at 6:25 AM; Tue, Wed, Fri at 6:30 AM; Sun at 8:30 AM
- Rabbi Winzelberg: Sun at 7:45 AM

**"והשיב לב אבות על בנים ולב בנים על אבותם"**



# YOUNG ISRAEL of STATEN ISLAND

שבת חנוכה – פרשת מקץ  
Rav Yaakov Lehrfield, Rabbi  
Rav Mendy Katzman, Assistant Rabbi

December 19, 2025 / 29 Kislev  
Rav Yaakov Marcus שליט"א, Rabbi Emeritus  
Robert Rosenberg, President

718.494.6700 / [www.yisi.org](http://www.yisi.org)  
P.O. Box 140100 • Staten Island, NY 10314

- Mon – Thu: YISI / Kollel Ba'al HaBatim Zichron Avraham Dov**
- 9:00 AM: Gemara Shiur with Rabbi Lehrfield in the MPR
  - 9:50 AM: Rabbi Gary Kopstick on Parshas HaShavua. Via Zoom or phone: 520-453-7185. Saved on: [www.kolhalashon.com/ToraBank/](http://www.kolhalashon.com/ToraBank/).
  - 10:30 AM: Rabbi Goldberger on Tanach in the MPR or via phone: 605-313-5890, code: 399719.
  - 11:35 AM: Rabbi Goldstein on Gemara Beitza in the MPR or via phone: 425-436-6399, code 489260.

**A Day of Learning** at the YISI Kollel Ba'al HaBatim may be sponsored for \$135. Please see Gil Cohen or the office for a request form.

**Youth Announcements**

**SHABBOS GROUPS:** 9:30 AM (early drop-off 9 AM) every Shabbos morning. Afternoon groups from 2:30 - 4:00 PM.

**JR. CONGREGATION** with Rabbi Ben Schofield: Shabbos morning at 9:30 AM in the Social Hall.

**TEEN MINYAN:** Shabbos morning at 9:30 AM in the Beis Medrash. Parents are encouraged to send their kids to the teen minyan.

**Community Happenings**

**Inviting all women and high school girls to a COMMUNITY-WIDE TEHILLIM-A-THON.** Monday, Dec. 29 at 8:00 PM at the Young Israel of Staten Island. Special Guest Speaker Jackie Bitton.

**RJJ CHARITY CAMPAIGN:** Thank you to all who participated! Your donation is helping RJJ thrive and grow to educate our community's children. **Pledge payments can be mailed to RJJ, paid online at [secure.cardknox.com/rabbijacobjosephschool](http://secure.cardknox.com/rabbijacobjosephschool), or paid by Zelle to [businessoffice@rjjsi.org](mailto:businessoffice@rjjsi.org).**

**CHAI DEFENSE:** Krav Maga based self-defense, situational awareness and de-escalation techniques taught by former IDF Special Forces veterans. Every Tues. & Thur. 7:30-8:30 PM at the Manor Rd JCC.

**AMIT NEWS:** AMIT cards for most occasions can be purchased from Aviva Brum.

**DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE:** Call Dave Bodner at 718-761-0707.

**SHAATNEZ TESTING** in the Willowbrook area: Same day service available. Contact Rabbi Avraham Zachter @ 646-286-4658.

**BAR MITZVAH LESSONS:** Learn how to lain and daven. Call Rabbi Yaakov Gifter at 917-691-8477.

**Let Willowbrook Shoe Shine** take the edge off your Erev Shabbos! Call/text/WhatsApp: 917-691-8477.

**Tehillim Circle**

List will be updated at the beginning of each month. If you have a name you want listed, contact Yehudis Loewenstein at 917-868-5417, or [yudisl@aol.com](mailto:yudisl@aol.com). Names given should only be people of our community or their relatives. Please continue to say Tehillim for those seeking refuah.

- Reb Yosef ben Rebbetzin Tilla Roiza
- Reuven Zev ben Rivkah
- Mordechai Meir ben Fryda Mah-ree-am
- Yisroel Alter ben Chava Chana
- Boruch Tzvi ben Chana Gittel
- Simcha Yitzchok ben Mireleh Yudka
- Menachem Mordechai ben Zeesel
- Raphael Pesachya Yaakov Halevi ben Aviva Sarah
- Yisroel Gedalia HaKohen ben Chana
- Leah bat Golda
- Sorah Shoshana bas Dreiza Leah
- Pessel bat Rochel
- Chaya Esther bas Rochel Leba
- Tehilla Basya bas Chaya Tova
- Shayna Golda bat Chaya Gitel
- Devorah Aliza bat Chana Liba
- Bracha Devorah bat Sarah Henna
- Bracha Rivka bat Miriam Leba
- Etel Feiga bas Henya Ruchel
- Esther Bat Golda Perel
- Zeesel Perel Bat Leah Gittel
- Breindel Bat Chana Raizel

**Community Gemachs**

- ♦ **Free Apartment available** for weekends or if someone has a simcha. Joseph Avenue. Text 347-488-1536 to reserve.
- ♦ **Precharged phone battery chargers** (with AC connection to recharge). Comes with built-in connector for iPhone and USB. Leave a \$5 deposit check which will be returned. Text 917-710-5611 or 718-570-5920.
- ♦ **Chuppah Tefillah cards** – Please contact Rivka Gold 917-836-1408.

- ♦ **Simcha Gowns** – Contact Debbie Berkovits 718-494-1905.
- ♦ **Chair Gemach** – If you need to borrow chairs for company or a simcha, call Chana Reichman at 718 404-6708.
- ♦ **Be'er Miriam v'Rachel Centerpiece Gmach** – Rachelit 718 983-9664.
- ♦ **School Uniforms** - Rachelit 718 983-9664.
- ♦ **Bris Pillow & Outfit** - David at 347 661-4760 or Emunah at 718 813-1977.
- ♦ **Baby on the go Gemach** - Liluy Nishmat Rafi Toback - items available for loan for newborn needs and baby travel. Call Emunah Toback, 718 813 -1977.
- ♦ **Mom to Mom** - Fresh, hot, kosher lunches for a week delivered to new moms on Staten Island, absolutely free. To order, call or text 347-254-8112.
- ♦ **Mezuzot Inspections** - Have your Mezuzot picked up, inspected, repaired, replaced, and returned. No charge for transporting the Mezuzot! Contact Scott Diamond for info: 917-674-3317/[slzdiamond@hotmail.com](mailto:slzdiamond@hotmail.com).

**Chessed Opportunities**

- **Any member of the congregation in need of assistance** due to infirmity or age, please contact 718 494-4343. Help is a phone call away no matter how big or small the need is!
- **Bikur Cholim** is looking for: Volunteers to visit Jewish residents in Staten Island nursing homes. Call Brenda Kellerman at 718-761-6521. Volunteers to straighten out Bikur Cholim room at Staten Island University Hospital once a week. Contact Sheryl Jacobowitz at 917-445-8887.
- **Hebrew Free Burial Association** has a constant need for men, Bar Mitzvah age and up, to help in the performance of "Chesed Shel Emet" by serving as Levaya Minyan Volunteers at the Mt. Richmond Cemetery, 420 Clarke Ave. Contact Scott Diamond at (917) 674-3317 or [slzdiamond@hotmail.com](mailto:slzdiamond@hotmail.com).
- **Clothing Donation – BY APPOINTMENT ONLY – no drop-offs.** In good condition - nothing torn, soiled or outdated. Goes directly to people in our neighborhood. All sizes needed. Teachers, call if you have a student in need! If you need clothing, or to schedule a drop-off, call Rachelit at 718-983-9664.
- **Beautiful ketubot available at no charge.** Medium and small sizes. Please contact Rachelit at 718-983-9664.
- If you need help in **writing in Hebrew for a matzeva**, contact Rachelit at 718-983-9664. No charge. Also available for writing in Hebrew for a simcha.
- **The Willowbrook Pantry** is open by appointment only. Call Beverly Israel at 646- 530-1495. Cleaning items & toiletries can be dropped off at 511 Buchanan Ave. anytime.
- **Israel Connect:** In Israel, English proficiency is the biggest barrier to university entry for underprivileged students. Using Zoom, you can tutor a student in Israel from the comfort of your home. The interaction is simple and enjoyable, and makes all the difference for the student. Click on the video [here](#) to see more or email [israelconnectscheduling@gmail.com](mailto:israelconnectscheduling@gmail.com).

**Job Opportunities**

- Congregation B'nai Jeshurun is looking to hire two teachers for January-June 2026, Sunday mornings 9:00-12:00. Need one Pre-Aleph teacher (ages 5-7) to teach Shabbat, Jewish holidays, arts and crafts, music and games. Need one Jewish Studies Teacher (ages 8-12) to lead morning prayers, Shabbat, holidays, parsha, culture, ethics, etc. Please forward your resume to [principal@cbjsi.com](mailto:principal@cbjsi.com).
- The JCC of Staten Island seeks full time Russian speaking Case Assistant for older adults. Responsibilities include intakes, benefits/ entitlements, and other assistance to English and Russian-speaking adults ages 60+. Enter case notes into DFTA software system and other data entry; programmatic support; Holocaust related assistance and tracking; assist with evening or weekend meal and special events as needed. Experience working with constituents on a one-to-one basis and working with active adults a plus; Russian speaking required; fluency in English required; knowledge of Holocaust survivor resources a plus. Contact Michele Weinstein at 718-517-7449 for more information, or send resume to [mweinstein@sjicc.com](mailto:mweinstein@sjicc.com).
- The Jewish Foundation School of SI is looking to hire a part-time (mornings) secretary/class assistant. Candidates must be computer proficient. Please send resumes to [office@jfsi.org](mailto:office@jfsi.org).

**Real Estate Listings**

If you would like to list an apartment for rent or a house for sale on the YISI website, please call 718-494-6700 or email [office@yisi.org](mailto:office@yisi.org). If you know of anyone looking to move into our community, please point them to our listings at <https://www.yisi.org/community/real-estate/>.

**We want to share in your Smachot!** Please notify the shul office of major life events such as births, bar mitzvahs and weddings so that we can wish you a Mazal Tov in our weekly announcements (**Resident Members only**; non-Resident members can make a donation to the Simcha Fund). Donations to the **Simcha Fund and Charity Fund of \$54** or more will be acknowledged in the corresponding section of announcements. You may **sponsor a shiur** in honor of or in memory of a loved one with a donation of **\$100** or more.  
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