

January 16, 2026 / 27 Tevet  
Rav Yaakov Marcus ז"ל, Rabbi Emeritus  
Robert Rosenberg, President

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





# YOUNG ISRAEL of STATEN ISLAND

פרשת וארא  
Rav Yaakov Lehrfield, Rabbi  
Rav Mendy Katzman, Assistant Rabbi

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**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.

**YISI BOOK CLUB:** Monday, Jan. 26 at 7:15 PM in the MPR. We are reading "Absolution" by Alice McDermott. 20 copies are reserved for the group in the Todt Hill Library. We hope you can join us. If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Spiler at 646-321-3309.

**Youth Announcements**

**SHABBOS GROUPS AND JR. CONGREGATION WILL NOT TAKE PLACE THIS SHABBOS OR NEXT** due to Yeshiva Week. We hope everyone enjoys their vacation and look forward to seeing everyone when we resume!

**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**

**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:** Work has begun on our 2026-27 calendar. We need help in securing ads from local businesses. Please contact Myra. 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@sjcc.com](mailto:mweinstein@sjcc.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@ifssi.org](mailto:office@ifssi.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.

**TO HAVE A NOTICE LISTED IN THE WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS, PLEASE NOTIFY THE OFFICE BY NOON THURSDAY at [office@yisi.org](mailto:office@yisi.org) or 718-494-6700 ext. 0.**