

# YOUNG ISRAEL of STATEN ISLAND

פרשיות ויקהל-פקודי  
 Rav Yaakov Lehrfield, Rabbi  
 Rav Mendy Katzman, Assistant Rabbi

March 13, 2026 / 24 Adar  
 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

**CONDOLENCES**

- ★ Phyllis Zachter on the loss of her brother, Mr. David Sitzer. Shiva will be observed at 573 Grand Street, Apt #507, through Sunday morning.
- ★ Debbie & Fredi Berkovits on the loss of their son-in-law, Rabbi Simcha Lauer. Rena will be sitting shiva at 3 Rechov Mordechai Eliyahu in Ramat Beit Shemesh through Tuesday morning.

**MAZAL TOV**

- ★ **Dr. Judah & Sarah Chasky** on the upcoming wedding of their granddaughter Anna Bryn, daughter of Dr. Moshe & Ariella Chasky, to Avi Rothberg of Teaneck, NJ.
- ★ **Lewis Frohlich** on his milestone birthday - *Ad mea'ah v'esrim!*

**Contact Info**

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

- ★ Mazal Tov to Lori Guterman on the birth of a new grandson, born to Daniella & Tani Guterman.

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

- ★ Sandra & Marty Levine in memory of her parents Ida & Sol Altman, Chaya Hudel bas Yaakov Leib & Bezalel ben Avraham Yehuda.
- ★ Barbara J. Koltun in loving memory of her father, Sol Koltun ben Israel a"h on his yahrzeit 22 Adar.
- ★ Nicholas Harris for the yahrzeit of his mother Mrs. Frances Harris, Tzipora Hindel bat Nachman, on 24 Adar.
- ★ Susan & Leslie Klein on the yahrzeit of her father, Zelig ben Yosef, on 25 Adar.
- ★ Paul & Sandy Lebowitz on the yahrzeit of his mother Yetta, Yenta bas Pinchas, on 25 Adar - this Shabbat.
- ★ Fran Tambor for the 16<sup>th</sup> yahrzeit of her mother, Kayla bas Nusan, on 26 Adar. May her neshama have an aliya.
- ★ Lori Guterman in loving memory of Dr. Howie Guterman on his 29<sup>th</sup> yahrzeit on 29 Adar.
- ★ Pauline & Morty Shapiro for the yahrzeit of his beloved mother, Rachel Leah bas Mordechai Zalman, on 29 Adar.

**Shul Announcements**

**FOLLOW OUR SHUL ON WHATSAPP!** Join us at:  
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/KLaU8dEeB14GWcz403Hqbb>.

**Given recent events, SHUL SECURITY is on high alert this Shabbos.** We will have **extra security** to keep our members safe. We ask that everyone **enter through the main shul entrance only**. In addition, **please do not engage guards in conversation** while they are on duty, as they need to remain focused. If you observe anything unusual or concerning, please **alert the security team immediately**. Thank you for your cooperation.

- THE RABBI'S SHABBOS AFTERNOON SHIUR** is sponsored by:
- Debbie & Fredi Berkovits *l'iluy nishmas* Simcha Yitzchok ben Eliezer who lived Torah and taught us how to live a life of kedusha.
  - Valerie & Dr. Phil Harris for the yahrzeit of his mother, Tzipora Hindel bat Nachman, on 24 Adar.

**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
- Mon – Thu: YISI/Kollel Ba'al HaBatim Zichron Avraham Dov**
- 9:00 AM: Gemara Shiur with Rabbi Lehrfield in the MPR
  - 10:00 AM: Rabbi Gary Kopstick on Parshas HaShavua. In the MPR or via phone: 520-453-7185.
  - 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.

SHABBOS LUACH	
Eruv is up on both sides	
<b>Friday, March 13</b>	
Candle Lighting	6:05 / 6:43 PM
Mincha	5:40 / 6:55 PM
<b>Shabbos, March 14</b>	
Shacharis	7 (M), 8 (MPR), 9 (M), 9:30 Sfarad (F)
Rabbi's Parsha Shiur	8:25 AM
Z'man Krias Shema	10:07 AM
Women's Learning Group: Orchos Tzadikim (Main Shul – Women's Section)	4:00 PM
Daf Yomi	5:45 PM
Mishna Yomis	6:30 PM
Mincha	3:00 & 6:40 PM
Rabbi Lehrfield will speak on the topic: <i>Guests at a Seder - Who Owns the Matzah?</i>	Between Mincha & Maariv
Shabbos Ends	7:47 PM

WEEKDAY LUACH	
Earliest T&T	6:18 AM
Early Mincha	Sun-Th 1:45 PM
Mincha / Maariv	Sun, Wed-Th 6:55 PM
Late Maariv	Sun-Th 9:00 PM
Halacha of the Week	Why must I burn my chometz and then nullify it to render it ownerless? Either action removes the chometz from my possession. Why must I do both? In theory, nullifying the chometz should suffice. However, if the chometz is valuable, a person may recite the words of bitul (nullification) without wholehearted intent. Furthermore, Chazal were concerned that a person may come across a piece of chometz on Pesach and accidentally consume it. Therefore, in addition to nullification, chometz must be destroyed as well. Destroying alone is also insufficient, because one may not find all the chometz and will then transgress the prohibition of possessing chometz on Pesach. Therefore, both actions are necessary.
Sunday - Thursday	Oraysa Amud V'Chazara Program with Rabbi Yosef Goldstein – 7:30 PM in the Beis Medrash
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> Meeting ID: 560 851 5236 / Passcode: 12345
Wednesday	Rabbi Lehrfield: Semichas Chaver Program 9:00 PM in Beis Medrash. Chazara (review class) with Rabbi Katzman Mondays at 9:15 PM.
Wednesday	Rabbi Weiss – Inyanei Pesach 8:00 PM Via Phone: 425-436-6327, Code: 435236#

**KINDLY GIVE TO OUR MAOT CHITIM** appeal. Complete the Yom Tovim by fulfilling the mitzvah of helping those in need. Donate online at <https://www.yisi.org/online-payments/>, by check to "YISI Charity Fund" or via Zelle to [finances@yisi.org](mailto:finances@yisi.org). Note 'Maot Chitim' in memo.

**YISI YOM HASHOAH PROGRAM: Tues., April 14 at 7:30 PM** in the Main Shul. With Guest Speaker Marvin Raab, Vice Chair of the New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education.

**Save the Date**

**November 24 - December 6, 2026:** Chesed Mission/Tour of Eretz Yisrael led by Rabbi Lehrfield, under the sponsorship of Mizrahi. Sign up now and go with all your friends! For all traveling and cost details, contact Allan Gombert at 917-613-3101.

**YISI Book Club**

**Tues. March 24 at 7 PM** in the MPR. We are reading "Rock Paper Scissors" by Alice Feeney. Copies are reserved for us at the Todt Hill Library. We look forward to seeing you at the next discussion. If you have any questions, contact Sarah Spiler at 646-321-3309.

**Youth Announcements**

**SHABBOS GROUPS:** 9:30 AM (early drop-off 9 AM) every Shabbos morning. **Afternoon groups 3:00 - 4:30 PM - note the time change.**

"והשיב לב אבות על בנים ולב בנים על אבותם"



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**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.

**Little League**

Little League preparations are underway. Tryouts for Grades 3-8 will take place this Sunday - girls in the morning and boys in the afternoon. We are also looking for sponsors. If you would like to advertise your business on team jerseys, please contact Daniel Slomnicki.

**Community Happenings**

**S.I. WOMEN'S LEARNING CIRCLE:** The first women's wellness event will be held on Tues, March 17 at 7:45 PM at 176 Walcott Ave: *How to Step into your Day with Greatness - Tefillah, Positivity, Affirmation and Movement* - Stacey Emmer and Ofira Furhang. Rabbi Lehrfield's class on Megillas Rus starts this Monday at 10 AM in the Beis Medrash. For other learning opportunities visit [Women's Learning Circle](#).

**SUPPORT THE STATEN ISLAND CHAPTER OF RCCS:** Join us Motzei Shabbos, March 14 at 9 PM at YISI for an entertainment-filled **Night Out**. World-renowned mentalist **Yoel Spielman** followed by words of inspiration from our very own **Rabbi Mendy Katzman** and a personal account by **Rivky Orlik**. **The Ace of Wines** will provide a special wine tasting experience. Join friends and neighbors to support this vital organization that helps families deal with the financial and medical burden of caring for a loved one. Funds raised go directly to benefit Staten Island families. for more information and sponsorship opportunities contact Shea Weiss at [joshweiss10314@gmail.com](mailto:joshweiss10314@gmail.com).

**WAGNER COLLEGE HOLOCAUST CENTER 2026 COMMUNITY MITZVAH AWARDS:** Honoring **Rabbi Mendy & Malka Katzman**, Mr. Leo Ullman, Dr. Jane & Mr. Mark DeFazio, Kara Freedman '27, and Dr. Daniel Messina. Wednesday, March 18, 6:00 PM, Wagner College Union Building, Dining Hall. RSVP required. Register at: [Community Mitzvah Awards 2026 - Wagner College](#).

**JFS PASSOVER WINE SALE** will be on again this year at 400 Caswell Ave. Sun, March 22, 10:30 AM - 2 PM. Motzei Shabbos, March 28, 9 - 11:30 PM. Hundreds of bottles will be available. Cash or checks made out to JFS accepted. Sorry, no credit cards or Zelle.

**COJO PRE-PASSOVER FOOD DISTRIBUTION:** Wed. March 25, 5:30 - 6:30 PM, Aur Torah Sephardic Minyan, 1180 Rockland Ave. (corner of Rockland Ave. & Merrymount St. This is a drive-through distribution (first-come, first-served basis while supplies last).

**ONE MITZVAH LEADS TO ANOTHER – Until March 19:** Rachelit is collecting surplus Mishloach Manot. Your contribution will supply snacks to our families, children and hospital patients. Food can be left at front door of 1097 Willowbrook Rd. Sun-Thurs, 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM or call 718-673-7174. Closed packages only with appropriate kosher supervision. No home-made goods. **Thank you!**

**AMIT NEWS:** Purchase Mazel Tov, get well, and condolence cards. Call or text Aviva Brum at 718-801-2405.

**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.

**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.

**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 Aviva Brum 718-801-2405.
- ◆ **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 or 718-673-7174.
- ◆ **School Uniforms** - Rachelit 718 983-9664 or 718-673-7174.

- ◆ **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).

**Tehillim Circle**

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
- 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
- Rivka Leah bas Dvora Shoshana Raizel
- Esther Simcha bas Tziporah Leiba

**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 or 718-673-7174.
- **Beautiful ketubot available at no charge.** Medium and small sizes. Please contact Rachelit at 718-983-9664 or 718-673-7174.
- If you need help in **writing in Hebrew for a matzeva**, contact Rachelit at 718-983-9664 or 718-673-7174. 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**

- US tax preparation positions available in top US tax firm in Israel for US CPAs who made Aliyah. Great work environment. Offices in Bet Shemesh & Jerusalem (Har Chotzvim). Hybrid/remote options available. Please send resume to: [tovah@pstein.com](mailto:tovah@pstein.com).

**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 donate 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.