

# YOUNG ISRAEL OF THE MAIN LINE

## Weekly Update

Rabbi Avraham Steinberg  
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### Parshas Tazria Shabbos haChodesh

### פרשת תזריע שבת החודש

כ"ט אדר ב' תשס"ח—4-5 April

#### Shabbos Davening Times

Earliest candle lighting: 6:08pm  
Candle lighting: 7:11pm  
Mincha - Friday: 7:00pm

Sof Zman Krias Shema: 9:50am  
Shacharis: 8:45am  
Mincha followed by Chabura: 6:55pm  
Maariv: 8:15pm

#### Weekday Davening Times

Shacharis Sunday, Rosh Chodesh Nisan: 8:00am  
Shacharis (Mon., Thu.): 6:40am  
Shacharis (Tue., Wed., Fri.): 6:50am  
Mincha/Maariv (Sun.-Thu.): 7:20pm

#### Next Shabbos Times

Candle lighting: 7:18pm  
Mincha - Friday: 7:20pm

משנכנס אדר מרבנים בשמחה!

## Calendar of Shiurim

DAY	TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER	NOTES
Shabbos	7:55am–8:15am	Parsha Chabura	N. Perlberger	ROTATES
Shabbos	8:15am	Mishlei Shiur	R. Steinberg	OFF WEEK
Shabbos	After Mincha	Chabura	J. Weinberger	
Shabbos	After Mincha	Medical Halacha	D. Eisenberg	
Sunday	After Shacharis	Sefer Hachinuch	M. Buchbinder	
Mon., Wed.	After Maariv	Mishna Berura	Eli Back	
Sun.-Fri.	15 min. before Shacharis	Chovos haLevovos	R. Steinberg	
Monday	9:00pm	Advanced Gemora: Makkos	R. Steinberg	
Thursday	10:10pm	Nefesh Hachaim	Rav Sholom Kamenetsky	

\* All shiurim are at YIML unless specified.

## THIS SHABBOS

### Kiddush:

Kiddush this week is being co-sponsored by:  
Miles & Adina Spiller on the occasion of the Yahrzeit of Miles' father, Julius Spiller, Yosef ben Moshe Hersh.  
Rabbi Chezky & Aviva Weiss in honor of their new daughter, Chana Deena.

### Bnos and Pirchei:

Both Bnos and Pirchei will א"י meet this week from 4:00pm to 5:00pm at LMS.

## MAZEL TOV!

To Rabbi & Mrs. Aharon Feuer and Family...

... on bris of Binyamin Tzvi.

All submissions, suggestions, and sponsorships should be directed (by Wednesday evening) to the editor of the Weekly Update, פלוגי בן פלוגי (weeklyupdate@yiml.org).

## PESACH IS COMING!

### Shabbos Haggadol Drasha:

Shabbos Metzora, April 12, given by Rabbi Steinberg.

*B'inyan: Heseiba v'Arba Kossos (A New Angle on Reclining).*

After Mincha at the YIML. Source Sheets Provided.

### Cleaning, Kashering and Otherwise Disposing of your Chometz:

Look for Rabbi Steinberg's Pesach Information Sheet and Shtaar Harshaa in the mail at the beginning of the week.

### Where, oh where, has that lollypop gone?:

Please remember that members are responsible for cleaning out their lockers and shtenders in advance of Bedikas Chometz. It is also an appropriate time to see if any of the unclaimed garments on the coat rack belong to members of your family.

### Kollel Star-K Pesach Lecture:

The Philadelphia Community Kollel's annual Star-K Pesach Lecture this year will feature Rabbi Zvi Goldberg.

When: Tuesday, April 8, 7:30pm–8:30pm. Maariv will follow.

Where: At the home of Marc and Debbie Frankel,  
215 Old Lancaster Rd., Bala Cynwyd.

Topic: *What Could Be the Problem With...?*

*An Upclose Look at Specific 2008 Pesach Products.*

## ONGOING EVENTS

### Chevra Mishnayos:

The Chevra Mishnayos is now learning Seder Nashim.

See the shul bulletin board to sign up.

### Women's Tehillim Group:

The Women's Tehillim Group meets Mondays at 9:45am at 345 Bala Ave.

### Are you on our e-mail list?

To subscribe to the shul mailing list, send a message to [majordomo@chaseplanet.us](mailto:majordomo@chaseplanet.us) with the following in the message body (all one line): `subscribe yiml YOUR-EMAIL`

### Rabbi Steinberg Contact Information

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### President Stan Sved Contact Information

Cell: (215) 219-9231

### D'VAR TORAH by Rabbi Berel Wein

From the time of our father Avraham, circumcision has been the cornerstone of Jewish identity. We acknowledge this in our prayer after meals daily "We are grateful to You for your covenant that you have sealed into our flesh."

The rabbis of the Talmud indicated to us that the Jewish people accepted this commandment of circumcision willingly and happily and therefore it has persisted amongst Israel uninterruptedly for all of these many generations since the time of Avraham.

Though many claims of physical health benefits have been made over time for the efficacy of this procedure, the Jewish people have always viewed it as being the supreme symbol of personal Jewish identity and role.

Over the ages the enemies of the Jewish people have attempted to ban Jewish circumcision. The great classical Greeks considered it to be a mutilation of the body and, in that body worshipping culture, it was held to be repugnant and unacceptable.

Much more recently the "progressive, democratic, peace-loving" Soviet Union prevented Jewish circumcision. In all cases, from Antiochus to Gorbachev, there were Jews who risked all to fulfill the commandment of circumcision.

However, it bears note that the enemies of the Jews saw in Jewish circumcision a spiritual weapon that would help guarantee the Jews survival against the prevailing government, mores and culture.

As is often the case, our enemies are more astute in recognizing and identifying our true strengths than we Jews are ourselves.

The commandment of circumcision is that the procedure is to take place on the eighth day of the young boy's life. There are physical circumstances that can allow for a postponement of the actual circumcision but the obligation remains a personal responsibility upon the Jew throughout life.

For instance, the Talmud records that a person who is a hemophiliac obviously should not undergo a possible life-threatening procedure such as circumcision. However, even though that person has more than a legitimate excuse for remaining uncircumcised he is still considered to be uncircumcised according to halacha and is therefore excluded from those rituals that the Torah explicitly requires that only circumcised Jews may participate in.

This is a further indication of the stress and importance that the Torah places upon this commandment and how vital it is to the Jewish being and future.

It is therefore most understandable why the performance of this commandment occasions the necessity for a festive meal and a great gathering of friends and family.

It is not only the circumcision of that actual child that is being celebrated as much as it is a celebration of the ceremony itself—an affirmation of Jewish tradition and identity that is millennia old.

Over the centuries, Jews have paid with their lives for being circumcised but the ceremony itself is seen as an affirmation of life and holy commitment. Physical health benefits have been ascribed to the procedure and its result. But, Jews perform this commandment out of belief, joy and conscience and not out of any other considerations.

From: <http://www.rabbiwein.com/Weekly-Parsha/2008/04/248.html>