AISH THORNHILL COMMUNITY SHUL & LEARNING CENTRE
ק"ק בית ישראל

AISH THORNHILL COMMUNITY SHUL *bulletin*

SHABBAT WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

October 30 & 31 2026 **20th of Cheshvan**

Parsha Vayera

Candle Lighting **5:07 / 5:53 pm**

Havdalah **6:56 pm**

Rabbi Avram Rothman
905.764.1891 ext. 214
C: 416.876.0691
Ravavi@rogers.com

President:
Steve Fleischer
stevefleischeratcs@gmail.com



Friday Evening	**October 30**		
Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat/Maariv		Main Sanctuary	6:00 pm
Shabbat Morning	**October 31**		
Hashkama Minyan		Beit Midrash	7:15 am
Class After with Rabbi Yeres: If Rocky the Flying Squirrel crashed and drowned in a keg of Canadian beer, who would be most upset: (A) Bullwinkle the Moose, (B) Donald Trump (C) Rav Sheishet in the Talmud?			
Class with Rabbi Rothman		Main Sanctuary	8:45 am
Shacharit: Shabbat Drasha: Rabbi Rothman		Main Sanctuary	9:15 am
Shacharit – YAYF Minyan		Beit Midrash	9:15 am
Zman Kriat Shema (Magen Avraham / GRA-Vilna Gaon)			***9:43 am 10:26 am***
Torah Portions: Vayera pg 78, Maftir pg 104 Haftorah pg 1134			
Class with Dr. Kirzner		2nd floor classroom	10:30 am
Shabbat Classes		See Schedule	11:30 am
Kiddush		Jerusalem Hall	12:20 pm
Shabbat Afternoon	**October 31**		
Mincha followed by Seudat Shlishit		Main Sanctuary	5:35 pm
Maariv & Havdalah		Main Sanctuary	6:56 pm

WEEKDAY DAVENING	**Sunday, November 1– Friday, November 6**	
Shacharit | Sunday	Main Sanctuary	8:00 am
YAYF Shacharit Minyan | Sunday	Beit Midrash	9:00 am
Shacharit | Monday - Friday	Main Sanctuary	6:45 am
Mincha/Maariv | Sunday - Thursday	Main Sanctuary	4:55 pm
Next Shabbat: November 6-7		
Friday, October 30, 2026: Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat/Maariv	Main Sanctuary	4:50 pm
	Candle lighting	3:59 pm / 4:44 pm
Shabbat, November 7, 2026: Maariv & Havdalah	Main Sanctuary	5:46 pm

MAZAL TOV TO:

- **Lev & Viola Mirlas**, Lily Kovan, and Nathan and Judy Choran on the engagement of Avishai and Channah Leah.

KIDDUSH IS SPONSORED BY:

- Martin and Brenda Hoffman and family express their gratitude to Hashem for his many blessings, to commemorate the Yahrzeit of Martin's father, Itzchak ben Mordechai z"l, and Brenda's father, Yisrael Reuven ben Zacharia z"l, and to celebrate their 47th wedding anniversary.

HASHKAMA IS SPONSORED BY:

- Igal and Chana Zahavi in honour of the 8th Yahrzeit of Igal's father, Zeev ben Shulem z''l, on the 26th of Cheshvan.



ATCS SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Library Book Fund	$72
Monthly Coffee Cups Fund	$65
Third Meal	$150
Security	$154
Kiddush	$250
Hashkama Kiddush	$120
Entire Shabbat Learning Program (For designated Shabbat of choice)	$180

Kiddush sponsorships must be fully paid by the Tuesday prior to the kiddush.
Please email theshul@aishlive.ca to sponsor or for more information.

Deadline for Kiddush order is Tuesday at **4:00 PM**

Cholim list - please remember them in your Tefillot.

Men	Women
PLEASE HAVE ALL THE CHOLIM IN MIND	PLEASE HAVE ALL THE CHOLIM IN MIND
Betzalel ben Ethel	*Bayla Shayna Shifra bas Esther*
Yichyah Yitzchak ben Ramo	*Chuma Michal bat Sarah Yenta*
Yakov ben Berta	*Tamara bat Ziske Raizel*
Evgeni ben Tamara	*Galina bat Luba*
Matityahu Shmuel ben Shiran	*Victoria bat Svetlana*
Moshe ben Raizel	*Ora Ira bat Pesya*
Dovid Menachem ben Nechamah Reizel	*Maayan Bayla bat Malka Zahava*
Eden Hen ben Alona	*Haya bat Sara*
Gaston ben Suzanne	*Mira bat Ziske Raizel*
Abraham Ben Deena Rochel	*Viki bat Ilana*
Eliezer Ben Esther	*Chana Ina Galit bat Svetlana*
David Ben Esther	*Alona bat Mira*
Daniel Zev ben Avigail	*Leah bat Gittel*
	Leah bat Rifka
	Sarah Frumat bas Masha Reva
	Chana Freyda bas Tzipa
	Chana Simcha bat Sheindel Leah
	Yetta Menachma bat Hanna Faiga
	Sara bat Miriam
	Svetlana bat Asya
	Riva Ahuva Bat Shlima Chana

CHOLIM LIST REMINDER
The Cholim List will be updated every Rosh Chodesh.
TO ADD THE NAME OF A GRAVELY ILL PERSON
TO THE CHOLIM LIST, PLEASE CONTACT theshul@aishlive.ca

SHABBAT CLASSES

RABBI MOSHE YERES

Early Morning Torah Topics Following the Hashkama Minyan

LEV MIRLAS

The Rambam on Courts & Kings: The Halachic Government

RANDY GOLDMAN

Mishnayot: The Foundation of the Oral Law, Text Based

DR. MICHAEL KIRZNER

A Gift of Life: The Precious Legacy of Wisdom

BINA ESTER BOTWINIK

RABBI AVRAM ROTHMAN

The Guy's Thing (Men's Presentation)

ILYA FELDMAN & YOSEF SHARIVKER

Lectures of Rabbi Oury Amos Cherki on The Kuzari by Judah Halevi (Primarily in Russian. Hebrew and English are optional)

RABBI MITCH MANDEL

Lessons in Character Development

DAVID LEVY

Critical Review of the Parsha

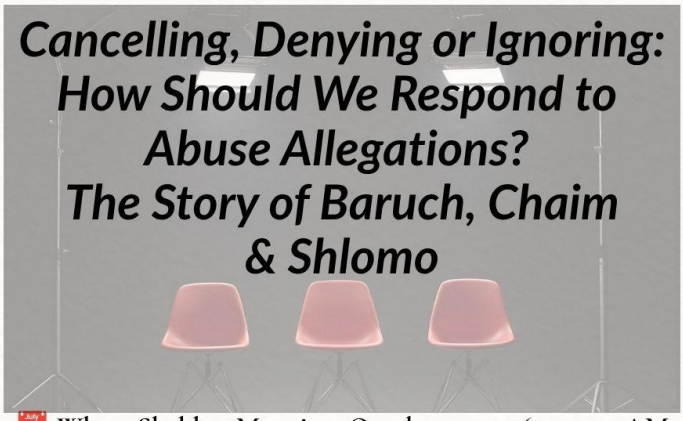
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AISH THORNHILL COMMUNITY SHUL & LEARNING CENTRE
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'THE GUYS THING'

Featuring Rabbi Avram Rothman



17 When: Shabbat Morning, October 31, 2026 at 11:30 AM

📍 Where: Jerusalem Hall

👥 Who: All men welcome – bring your questions and insights!

AISH THORNHILL COMMUNITY SHUL & LEARNING CENTRE ק"ק בית ישראל | MIZRACHI CANADA | BETH MIDRASH ZICHRON DOV

FAITH
THEN AND NOW

Is It Harder to Believe Today?



With
Rabbi Chaim Singer

Every Shabbat
Following services, before Kiddush

Aish Thornhill Community Shul
949 Clark Ave W
The Chaburah Room
Located on the second floor, north corner

New Shabbat Class

A Gift of Life:
The Precious Legacy
of Wisdom

with
Dr. Michael Kirzner
Shabbat Mornings following Mussaf
2nd Floor Moriah Room

Aish Thornhill Community Shul
949 Clark Ave West - Second Floor

AISH THORNHILL COMMUNITY SHUL & LEARNING CENTRE ק"ק בית ישראל

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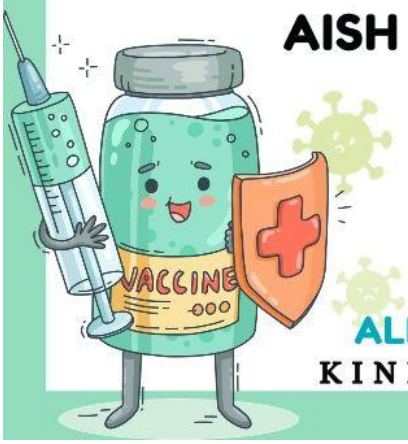
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FLU SHOT CLINIC

WITH DR. BERNHOLTZ

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 1, 2026
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
AISH THORNHILL COMMUNITY SHUL
949 CLARK AVENUE W.
MAIN FLOOR



ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY WELCOME
KINDLY BRING YOUR VALID HEALTH CARD





Thank you to everyone who attended our first class on Wednesday, October 28, 2026!

On October 27, 2026, women from the Challah Club came out to help measure and pack all the ingredients into individual portions for the We Knead Each Other challah bake that took place at the BAYT on Wednesday, October 28, 2026.



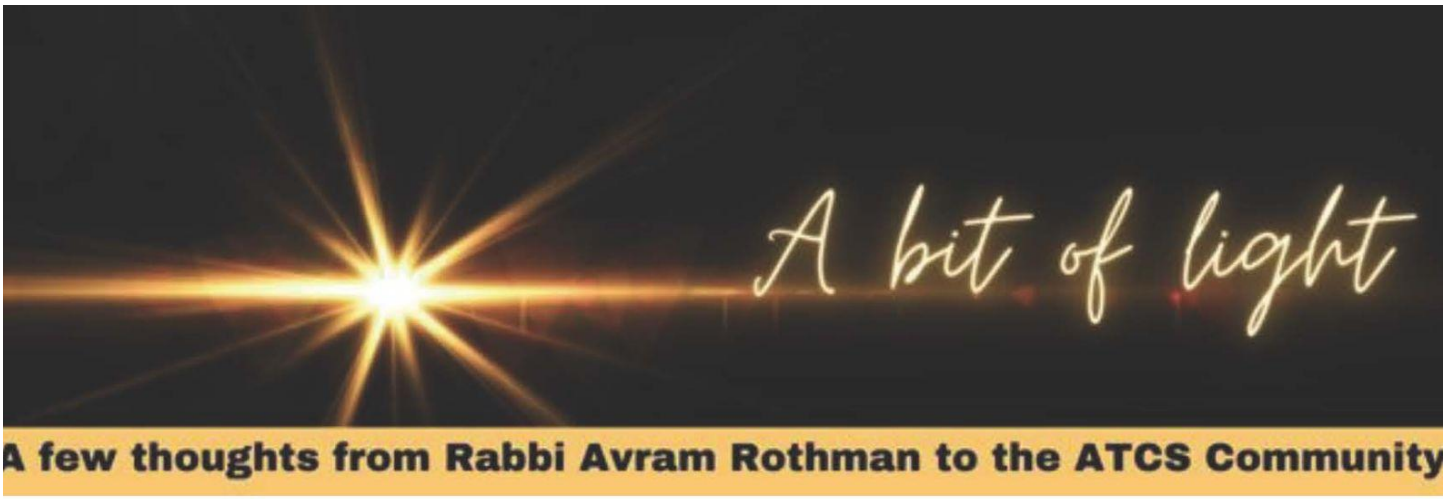




On October 28, 2026, the ladies of the Thornhill Jewish Book Club gathered for their monthly meeting to discuss *Itzik* by Leah Gorlicky. It was an extra-special occasion, as the author herself joined the group!







Parshat Vayera: Kindness Beyond Our Comfort Zone

Parshas Vayera is universally recognized as the Torah's example of Chesed. We picture Avraham sitting at the entrance of his tent on a scorching day, recovering from his bris, eagerly searching the horizon for weary travellers. He rushes to greet three strangers, offering food, drink, and escort.

From this, the Rabbis derive the famous acronym Eishel (Aleph-Shin-Lamed): Achilah (food), Shtiyah (drink), and Levaya (accompaniment). Avraham's entire existence was defined by the Divine attribute of Chesed.

Yet, a closer look at the narrative reveals a striking puzzle. Rav Yaakov Kamenetzky points out that explicit descriptions of Avraham's personal hospitality appear almost exclusively in this single narrative. We do not see detailed accounts of him serving guests in any other Parsha in the Torah.

Why is this short incident at the beginning of Vayera treated as the ultimate paradigm of Avraham's kindness?

Rabbi Kamenetzky suggests that the true proof of Avraham's extraordinary chesed comes not from the incident with the angels alone, but from its direct juxtaposition with the story that immediately follows: the destruction of Sodom.

Sodom was the moral polar opposite of Avraham. They did not merely lack hospitality; they outlawed it. Sodomite legislation strictly forbade helping the needy or hosting strangers, punishing acts of compassion with torture and death.

Every principle Avraham stood for—generosity, empathy, and open arms—was mocked, rejected, and actively undermined by Sodom.

Human nature dictates that when our core values are abhorred and attacked by an ideological adversary, we naturally harbour resentment toward them. When we see a system dedicated to cruelty and malice, our instinctive reaction to its downfall is satisfaction—a feeling of "good riddance."

It would have been entirely understandable for Avraham to feel relieved, or even triumphant, upon hearing that Hashem intended to destroy Sodom.

Instead, the Torah tells us "Vayigash Avraham"—and Avraham drew near to pray for Sodom. Rashi notes that the word Vayigash carries three distinct meanings:

1. drawing near for prayer, 2. for appeasement, 3. for battle.

While prayer and appeasement fit Avraham's conversation with God, how do we understand "drawing near for battle"?

The battle Avraham fought was an internal one. Within his own heart, a tension existed between his righteous indignation toward Sodom's wickedness and his deep-seated love for humanity.

The battle was against his own natural inclination to write off those who represented everything he loathed. Avraham conquered that internal impulse, stepping forward to fight for the lives of the wicked Sodomites through a passionate, sustained dialogue with the Almighty. He begged for their survival, pleading for even a small merit that might save them.

In our current world of 2026, society often feels increasingly polarized and fractured. It has become far too easy to extend kindness only to those who share our views, while holding disdain for those whose values oppose ours.

True chesed, as modelled by Avraham Avinu, requires us to transcend this instinct.

It demands that our empathy not be limited by ideology or personal grievance, but extended even to those who seem most distant from us.

This is the ultimate paradigm of Avraham's chesed. It is not merely that an elderly, recovering man ran to serve travellers on a hot day. The true depth of Avraham's spirit is revealed when, immediately after displaying ultimate hospitality, he marshals every ounce of his spiritual power to pray for the rescue of an anti-hospitality society. His love for Hashem's creations was so profound that it overrode all personal biases and emotional barriers.

As we read Parshas Vayera this year, Avraham challenges us to look beyond our comfort zones and embody a kindness that is unconditional, expansive, and truly transformative.

Have a Wonderful Shabbat

Rabbi Avram Rothman

"A BIT OF LIGHT, DISPELS A WORLD OF DARKNESS"

BS"D

YOU ARE INVITED
TO AN INSPIRING EVENING WITH

Jen Airley

Speaker • Writer • Co-Founder of Beit Binyamin

Faith. Resilience. Responsibility.
Loss. Purpose. Rebuilding.



On November 18, 2023, Jen and Rob Airley's 21-year-old son, Binyamin Meir Airley, HY"D, fell in Gaza while heroically serving Israel.

Turning unimaginable heartbreak into a living legacy of hope, Jen and Rob founded Beit Binyamin, a retreat home in Tzfat offering soldiers, families and survivors affected by war and loss a place of rest, comfort and healing.

בית בנימין

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST
7:30 PM

AISH THORNHILL COMMUNITY SHUL
949 Clark Avenue West
OPEN TO MEN AND WOMEN – NO RSVP REQUIRED

SPARKS · NCSY · THORNHILL WOODS SHUL · aish · AISH THORNHILL COMMUNITY SHUL & LEARNING CENTRE קה"ק בית ישראל · aish LIVE · 50

YOATZOT HALACHA NISHMAT · CYI CANADIAN YOATZOT INITIATIVE

WOMEN'S HEALTH & HALACHA DAY



Exploring contemporary health issues through a halachic lens with leading educators and medical professionals.

Sunday, November 1, 2026
9:00 AM - 1:45 PM
BAYT | 613 Clark Ave. W, Thornhill

Cost | $36 | At the Door | $45

SPONSORED BY:

Sarena & David Koschitzky in memory of Mira Koschitzky z'l and Julia Koschitzky z'l

Marsha & Michael Lax in memory of Hania Sporer z'l and Lea Lax z'l

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

GLP1-RA: A NEW ERA IN WEIGHT LOSS MEDICATIONS
with Dina Reiss and Atara Eis

Featured Topics Include

- Know Your Normal: Understanding Your Body
- Fertility & Egg Freezing
- Cancers That Affect Women
- How to Talk with Kids About Intimacy

For a complete schedule and to register | yoatzot.ca/health

For more information on sponsorship opportunities | yoatzot.ca/healthdonate

Partner Organizations

OR CHAIM MINYAN · SHAAREI SHOMAYIM · משכן אברהם · BAYT · Shaarei Tefillah · AISH THORNHILL COMMUNITY SHUL · AFIKI'TZION ZICHRON YISROEL CONGREGATION · בית ציון Beit Tzion



By Women For Women Presents:

Stitch and Torah Program

Open to Jewish women of all ages and abilities

We will continue our study of Ayshet Chayil: about strong Jewish women in the Torah.

Program Dates:
October 18 and 25, 2026
November 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026



Aish Thornhill Community Shul
Library 7:30 PM
949 Clark Ave West

No charge, but registration is required
https://www.thornhillshul.com/bwfw26stitch_torah

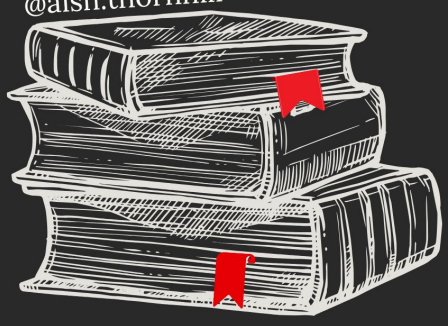
Sponsorship opportunities please email
sharlenegoldstein2021@gmail.com



Critical Review of the Torah

WITH DAVID LEVY
WEDNESDAYS 1:00PM
ZOOM ID: 3981914957

@aish.thornhill



AISH THORNHILL COMMUNITY SHUL & LEARNING CENTRE
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It's Popcorn & Torah



8:00PM ~ THURSDAYS IN THE LIBRARY FOLLOWED BY MAARIV

JOIN US EVERY THURSDAY
FOR ONE HOUR OF VERY SPECIAL TORAH STUDY
One on One Partner (Chavrusa)
Small Groups (Chaburos)
We can organize or you can come "Ready to Go"
Weekly guest D'var Torah & Special Nights
Popcorn, Snacks & soft drinks will be served
RSVP: YONASANSHERRINGTON@GMAIL.COM

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the THORNHILL JEWISH BOOK CLUB

The Aish Thornhill Community Shul &
Rabbi Avram Rothman invite you to join us for a monthly
Jewish Book Club for
"The Golden Girls"! 55+

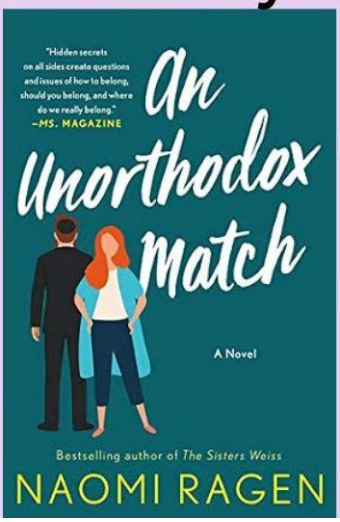
On the final Wednesday of the month at 2:00 PM
meet at The Aish Thornhill Community Shul,
949 Clark Ave West to discuss a captivating
Jewish-themed book.

Enjoy coffee, snacks, and great conversation with friends!

Next meeting: November 26, 2026

Questions? Email theshul@aishtoronto.com

This month's book:
An Unorthodox Match by Naomi Ragen



AISH THORNHILL COMMUNITY SHUL & LEARNING CENTRE
ק"ק בית ישראל

ATCS YOUTH MOTZEI SHABBAT PARENT CHILD LEARNING IS BACK!

JOIN US STARTING NOVEMBER 7, 2026 FROM 7:00 - 8:00 PM AND EVERY MOTZEI SHABBAT THROUGHOUT THE WINTER FOR AN AMAZING EVENING OF:

TORAH LEARNING & STORIES
FOOD & FUN
RAFFLES & PRIZES

THIS YEAR'S GRAND PRIZES INCLUDE A NINTENDO SWITCH AND TORONTO RAPTORS TICKETS!



EVERY WEEK YOU ATTEND EARNS YOU ANOTHER ENTRY INTO OUR GRAND RAFFLE PRIZE!

COST: FREE FOR MEMBERS | $5 FOR NON-MEMBERS

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE! HELP US MAKE THIS YEAR'S PROGRAM EXTRA SPECIAL!

REGISTER/SPONSOR HERE:

www.thornhillshul.com/26youthlearning

AISH THORNHILL COMMUNITY SHUL, 949 CLARK AVE W

For more information, please contact DAVIDTOLEY@GMAIL.COM

YOUTH SHABBAT SCHEDULE

AISH THORNHILL COMMUNITY SHUL & LEARNING CENTRE ק"ק בית ישראל

YOUTH DIRECTOR : DAVID TOLEDANO

PRESCHOOL

Location: Lower Level Multi Purpose Room
Ages: 2-5

Groups Leaders :
Neshama Friedmann, Tzipporah Klein, Shoshana Farber, Bracha Paskovatyi, Leba Berger

GIRLS GROUP

Location: Second Floor Classroom
Ages: 6-12

Groups Leaders :
Libby Finkelshtein, Isabelle Kanner

BOYS GROUP

Location: Lower Level South Side of Social Hall
Ages: 6-12

Groups Leaders:
Isaac Rothman, Shaya Fleischer, David Paskovatyi

SCHEDULE

9:30-10:00 Babysitting in the lower level multi-purpose room
10:00-10:30 Groups start and free play
10:30-11:00 Organized games
11:00-11:15 Davening
11:15-11:45 Kiddush, snack and parsha questions
11:45-12:05 Free play outside followed by raffle and prizes

STAY TUNED



Questions? Please contact David at davidtoley@gmail.com
Follow us aish.thornhill for updates

THE ATCS SHABBAT KIDS CLUB



PLEASE PICK CHILDREN UP ON TIME SO OUR DEDICATED STAFF CAN END THEIR DAY ON TIME AS WELL.

EVERY SHABBAT
9:30AM-12:05PM

Davening/Circle Time
Interactive Parsha
Games
Snacks
Prizes
and so much more

SHABBAT SHALOM

Offering programs for kids of all ages:

- 0-2 TINY TOTS
- 3-5 PRESCHOOL
- Grades 1-6 BOYS Division
- Grades 1-6 Girls Division

AISH THORNHILL COMMUNITY SHUL
949 CLARK AVE W.

AISH THORNHILL COMMUNITY SHUL & LEARNING CENTRE ק"ק בית ישראל

For More Info Please Contact:
Youth Director - David Toledano
davidtoley@gmail.com


בס"ד
BAYT
Young Adults
Young Families
aish LIVE
JLIC
PRESENTS:
MEN'S
TISCH
AN EVENING OF MUSIC, INSPIRATION, AND CONNECTION
DIVREI CHIZUK • HOT FOOD
KUMZITZ
LED BY R' MOSHE LEXIER
THURSDAY NIGHT
NOV 5
2026
8:45 PM
R' JUDY TAUB HALL
BETH AVRAHAM YOSEF OF TORONTO
613 CLARK AVE W
BAYT
AVIN L'TZION ZICHRON YISROEL CONGREGATION
MAIMONIDES
AISH THORNHILL COMMUNITY SHUL
THORNHILL WOODS SHUL
KAHAL YEREIM
PROJECT INSPIRE
CLANTON PARK
JEWNITY SPORTS
CANADA NCSY
JFIO
OLAMI TORONTO
The Shabbat Project

AISH THORNHILL COMMUNITY SHUL & LEARNING CENTRE
ק"ק בית ישראל

BODY, SOUL & BEYOND

Exploring the Afterlife, the Meaning of Jewish Burial, and the Bonds That Connect Us

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2026

APPROXIMATELY 11:30 AM FOLLOWING SERVICES

MAIN SANCTUARY

PRESENTED BY YAEL DAVIDOWITZ



Yael Davidowitz is the Director of Project Last Kindness at NASCK, the National Association of Chevra Kadisha, where she educates Jews of all backgrounds about Jewish perspectives on life, death, burial, and the journey of the soul.

A dynamic and engaging educator, Yael brings warmth, sensitivity, and a deep respect for the questions people carry around these often-unexplored topics. A Columbia University–trained nurse, adult-geriatric nurse practitioner, and longtime Chevra Kadisha volunteer, she brings a unique perspective to her work.

When she's not talking about the soul or the sacred way Jews care for the deceased, you can find her learning Torah, kickboxing, spending time with her rabbi husband, or trying to keep pace with their five sons.

AISH THORNHILL COMMUNITY SHUL & LEARNING CENTRE
ק"ק בית ישראל

Board Members

Rabbi
Rabbi Avram Rothman

President
Steve Fleischer

Board Members
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Jody Gelberger
Jeremy Herman
Nava Hoffman
Leora Mandel
David Orgel
Moshe Rothman
Neilia Sherman

Seudat Shlishit Challenge

Chicken Smuggling?

It was the week before Yom Tov. and a large group of families organized a bulk order of chickens from a butcher in a nearby city. They had to organize delivery of the chickens as well. One of the members of the group drove a minibus, and offered his services, at a reduced rate. The group accepted the offer. and asked him to pay for the entire order on his credit card. They planned to compensate him for both the money he laid out and the delivery, once the chickens were distributed. The driver picked up forty crates of chickens from the butcher, stacking them up until his minibus was packed full. While he was driving, a police car pulled him over and inspected his cargo. When the policeman discovered what he was transporting, the policeman spoke sternly and informed him that the law requires that such a large quantity of chickens must be transported in a refrigerated vehicle. The law did not differentiate between a supplier or a private customer. The result was that the chickens were confiscated, and the driver was fined $200. At that point the driver turned to the group and asked them to pay for the money he laid out, as well as the delivery. The group refused. They claimed that he was a paid watchman who is responsible to pay for theft or loss, and therefore the liability is his alone. The driver defended himself, claiming that he was guiltless. How should he have known about such an obscure law? The driver added that he should be paid for the chickens, his work, and his fine as well. Who is right?

RABBI
Avram Rothman
905-764-1891 x 214
(C) 416-876-0691
Ravavi@rogers.com

PRESIDENT
Steve Fleischer
stevefleischeratcs@gmail.com

RABBI
YOUNG ADULTS & YOUNG FAMILIES MINYAN
Gavry Mandel
gavrymandel@gmail.com

BOOKKEEPER
Wendy Sacks
905-764-1891 x 212
wsacks@aishlive.ca

REBBETZIN
Ruth E Rothman
647-989-5821
ruthrn@rogers.com

GABBAI
David Grabel
dgrabel@rogers.com

SHUL SECURITY
Josh Otis
joshua.otis@yahoo.ca
647-986-6847

Joe Azaria
joeazaria.atcs@gmail.com

BY WOMEN FOR WOMEN COMMITTEE
Sharlene Goldstein, Claire Sacks,
Randyl Gavert & Dionne Liebenthal

RABBI'S ASSISTANT
Arielle Giblon
905-764-1891 x 210
theshul@aishlive.ca

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
Rabbi Josh Stein
jstein87@gmail.com

YOUTH DIRECTOR
David Toledano
davidtoley@gmail.com

INCLUSION COMMITTEE
Brian & Neilia Waterman
njwaterman@gmail.com

CATERING
Levy's Catering
levyskoshercatering@gmail.com