

Aliyot and Honors

Opening the Ark

Steven Marcus and Harriet Raphael—Cousin and Aunt

Carry the Torah

Jason Goldberg—Cousin

Kohain

Congregant

Levi

Allan and Deanna Raphael—Uncle and Cousin

Sh'lishi

Allan and Cynthia Freeman—Grandparents

Ri'vieve

Howard and Susan Marcus—Uncle and Aunt

Chamishi

Congregant

Shishi

Congregant

Sh'vieve

Fran and Jerry Koszer

Maftir

Scott Koszer

Hagbahah—Lifting of the Torah

Aaron Raphael—Cousin

Gelilah—Dressing of the Torah

Samantha Raphael—Cousin

Carry Torah

Richard Marcus—Cousin

Closing the Ark

Robert Freeman and Morton Silverman—Uncles

Prayer for Our Country

Ilene Clayman—Friend

Ashrei

Scott & Laura Koszer

Adon Olam

Laura Koszer

Welcome to the Bar Mitzvah Ceremony of Scott Sean Koszer

ש'עה שמחה



Parashat Noach
October 24, 2009
6 Cheshvan 5770

Congregation Gesher Shalom
The Jewish Community Center of Fort Lee
Fort Lee, New Jersey

Rabbi Kenneth Stern

Cantor Paul Zim

Dear Family, Friends, and Fellow Congregants,

Shabbat Shalom and welcome to Congregation Gesher Shalom. We are honored that you have joined us today to celebrate Scott's Bar Mitzvah ceremony.

This booklet has been prepared as a guide to familiarize you with our synagogue and some of the traditions of our Shabbat morning service.

As a sign of respect for G-d, all men and boys wear a kippah (head covering) when in our synagogue. At Congregation Gesher Shalom, women have the option of wearing a head covering as well.

Jewish men and some women wear a tallit (prayer shawl) during the service. In our synagogue, anyone who reads from the Torah (the handwritten scroll containing the first section of the Bible-The Five Books of Moses) or has a Torah honor must wear a tallit (prayer shawl). The eight fringes and five knots remind us to live our lives in a holy manner by following the 613 commandments in the Torah. "Bar Mitzvah" means "age of commandment". Today, Scott has the privilege of wearing a tallit for the first time since at thirteen, he is old enough to accept the responsibilities and privileges of adulthood in the Jewish religious community. Scott's tallit is a gift from his grandparents, Allan and Cynthia Freeman.

At the conclusion of services, you are all invited into the Social Hall for a Kiddush in honor of Scott's Bar Mitzvah.

We hope to celebrate many more happy occasions with you.

Warm regards,
Fran and Jerry Koszer

The Shabbat morning service consists of four parts. Birkhot HaShachar and P'sukei D'Zimrah (preliminary services), Shacharit (morning service), the Torah Service, and the Musaf service (additional service). We will use two books during services. The Siddur (the blue prayer book) and the Chumash (the large, red book contains readings from the Torah and the Prophets/Haftarah). The service begins at 9:00 and ends at approximately 12 noon.

The Torah reading is divided into weekly portions called "parshiyot". Jewish congregations throughout the world read the same portion on the same day and in the course of a year, the entire Torah is read. This week's Torah reading is Parshat No'ach and may be found on page 58 in the Chumash. As an honor, family, friends, and congregants are called to the Torah for an aliyah (to recite the blessing before and after each Torah reading). Aliyah literally means "going up or ascend". Scott will chant the first two Torah aliyot and later will be called to the Torah for the first time to recite the blessings before the final aliyah, the Maftir aliyah. He will conclude the weekly Torah reading by chanting the Maftir aliyah. After the Torah reading, Scott will present his D'var Torah, his interpretation of today's Torah portion. He will then chant the Haftarah which may be found on page 65 in the Chumash. The Haftarah is the concluding reading taken from the book of Prophets. Scott's Haftarah is from the Book of Isaiah.

It is customary to throw candy after Scott finishes the Haftarah reading and blessings to ensure a sweet and gentle transition into adulthood.

At the conclusion of the Torah service, and before the concluding Musaf/Additional service, Rabbi Stern will deliver a sermon.