

HAVURAT YISRAEL

41st Anniversary Gala Journal Dinner



Guests of Honor

RACHEL & LOUIS ORDENTLICH

SARA ELISHEVA PALALA

TOM HAMORI

HAVURAT YISRAEL

41ST

*ANNIVERSARY GALA
JOURNAL DINNER*

Honoring

RACHEL & LOUIS ORDENTLICH

SARA ELISHEVA PALALA

TOM HAMORI



*Sunday, December 4, 2022
10 Kislev 5783*



Rabbi David Algaze

A PLACE FOR RISING

In our prayers we find a special request of Hashem, “that He open our hearts to love and revere Him, so we may fulfill His will and serve Him with a full heart, in order that we do not toil in vain or produce nothingness.” The connection between serving G-d and the product of our lives is fascinating. The Rabbis who authored this prayer are stating that a life of toil and effort that lacks meaning, which is the essence of avodat Hashem (serving G-d), is futile and not worth living. The Psalmist famously sang, “*The years of our life are seventy, and if with health eighty, and most are just work and emptiness*” (Psalm 90).

But when one lives serving Hashem, when one’s life is filled with following His precepts and leading a life of morality and attention to our spiritual side, then that life is not in vain, and its product is not emptiness and nothing. This is the function of Havurat Yisrael: to inspire us to lead such a life of meaning and purpose that makes living worthwhile and joyous.

From its inception, our synagogue welcomed people of all levels and backgrounds and was not judgmental or critical of anyone. This became the first step for them to wish to study and grow. We have been blessed with leaders who always followed these guidelines, thus making Havurat Yisrael a unique place for growth and ascent.

From the halls of our synagogue came rabbis, authors, and leaders in communities from the USA to Latin America and Israel. Some who had come seeking entrance to the Jewish people were also served with dignity and affection. Some of the gerim who came out of our synagogue have incredible stories to tell, have become outstanding personalities on their own, and and they are always grateful to Havurat Yisrael.

Havurat Yisrael is then a place for rising. Rising above the din of a meaningless world and ascending in growth and love of G-d and Israel.

This evening we are delighted to welcome our honorees. **Rachel and Louis Ordentlich** are the emblematic leaders of Havurat, always attentive to the needs of our synagogue and concerned about each person who walks into the building. **Sara Elisheva Palala** has been a leader of those who have found the truth of our tradition and remains the “mother” and guide of those learning Judaism. **Tom Hamori**, one of the earliest members of our synagogue, is known for his immense quality of chesed, whether in keeping his unfailing attendance to the minyanim or in helping anyone who needs any assistance.

The honorees represent what is special about Havurat Yisrael, and we rejoice in giving them the recognition and honor they deserve.



President's Message

by
Jack Goldhaber

Celebrating Havurat Yisrael's 41st Anniversary Journal is a sure sign of the strength, vitality, and vision of our synagogue. Your presence here tonight and contributions to the shul have helped us maintain our Shabbat, holiday and daily services and enabled us to continue to be a source of strength to the Forest Hills community and beyond. From its inception, Havurat Yisrael has served the community and the Jewish people by creating a unique, warm, and welcoming environment that nurtures the Jewish soul. From the baal tshuva to those seeking ever higher levels of spirituality, our regular programs as well as our kiruv programs have continued to be very successful.

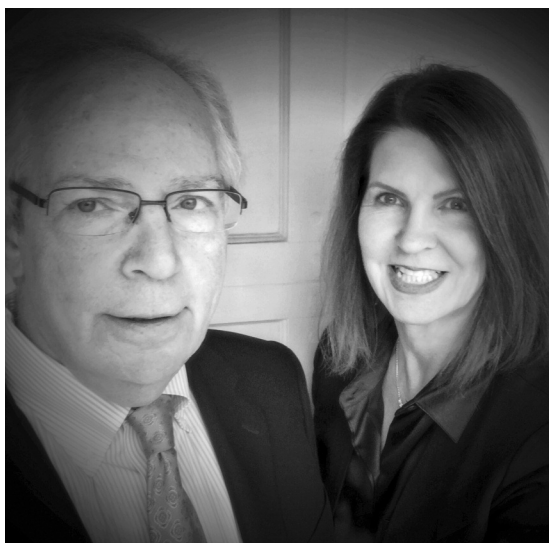
The one activity that has continued since our beginning is our education program. We attribute this success only to our Moreh D'Atra, Rabbi Algaze. With renewed vigor, Rabbi Algaze continues to provide the daily Talmud class, the weekly Parsha class, the Mishna class before Shabbat Shacharit, and the Shabbat Mincha shiur.

Rabbi Algaze's tireless efforts have been the key to the continuing vibrancy and communal link that Havurat Yisrael has provided in these challenging times. This is the legacy of Havurat Yisrael. Over the last forty-one years, we faced many challenges. However, with members of the congregation, including our honorees, **Rachel and Louis Ordentlich, Sara Elisheva Palala, and Tom Hamori**, we have always been up to the challenge.

Im tirzu ain zu agada. Theodore Herzl's famous slogan, "If you will it, it is not just a dream," has always been the motto of Havurat Yisrael.

Havurat Yisrael will continue to maintain its single-minded objective: to be a key place in Forest Hills that every Jew can enter to pray, to learn, and to grow spiritually.

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the Havurat Yisrael Journal Celebration.



Rachel & Louis Ordentlich

Louis has been attending Havurat Yisrael since 1994 when he moved to the neighborhood from Brooklyn, attracted by the friendly atmosphere created by Rabbi Algaze and the community's kiruv work. Louis' parents, Olga and Andor, emigrated to the US in 1948 after marrying in a Displaced Persons camp in Austria after the Shoah. As part of the Cluj Jewish community of Romania, the Klausenberger Rebbe was Louis' sandek.

He attended Yeshiva Torah Vodaath through high school and continued studying there while he pursued his undergraduate degree from Brooklyn College. After obtaining his MBA at the Bernard M. Baruch School of Business, he ultimately began working for Arthur Andersen in their Mergers & Acquisitions Valuation practice. Louis became the first Orthodox partner of Arthur Andersen in 1989, leaving the firm several years later to individually pursue his passion for investment advisory and finance. He served as Havurat's Treasurer for twelve years, during some of the more challenging parts of the synagogue's "journey" to its ultimate home.

Louis first met Rachel 35 years ago when she interviewed to join Arthur Andersen in 1987 after her graduation from the University of Pennsylvania with a BA in Economics. They worked together and became friends as well as colleagues. In 1992 Rachel left Arthur Andersen to join a small travel insurance company looking to be acquired by a public company. She stayed with Aon after its 1995 acquisition, leading its travel insurance business and ultimately assuming additional responsibilities across its consumer-focused insurance programs. Today, Rachel leads a team of 600 colleagues who provide insurance to healthcare professionals, travelers, pet parents, rent-to-own customers and credit card holders as well as high-net-worth individuals.

Rabbi Algaze officiated at Louis and Rachel's wedding in 2002, attended by many of their friends from Havurat. They had the honor of having Rabbi Algaze serve as Jake's sandek in 2005. They continue to be blessed by their dear friends, David, Debbie and Dorit (Gelman) Sosnowik, who have been their Forest Hills Gardens "spirit guides" and affectionately named "faux" family.

Louis and Rachel consider themselves privileged to have had the zchut to see their children Jake and Dara thrive in the HY community, with Jake and Louis regularly attending the Havurat minyan together. Their children now attend Marsha Stern Talmudical Academy and Stella K. Abraham high schools. Both have literally grown up in and with HY – in the shtiebel, the Y, and the storefront, and the family was thrilled to celebrate Jake and Dara's Bar/Bat Mitzvah in the synagogue's permanent home. Louis and Rachel look forward to their children learning in Israel and perhaps being privileged to settle there upon their retirement, inspired by Havurat, the Rabbi and visits to Israel.

Rachel and Louis consider themselves and their children enriched by their active participation in Havurat Yisrael. Its openness, warmth and ahavat Israel, coupled with the spiritual leadership of Rabbi Algaze and Tamara, create a truly special community.



*Sara Elisheva
Palala*

Sara came from the city of Mazatenango, about 100 miles west of the capital of Guatemala. She was one of eight children and had a large extended family. Her father owned land and cattle, and he was a butcher. Her mother owned many small businesses, including a tailor shop where Sara worked. Her great-grandmother owned inns in the area. Sara was raised by her grandmother and great-grandmother, who had a lasting influence on her.

Her grandmother often spoke to Sara of the importance of religion, good deeds and modesty. She gave her a Catholic Bible, but she specified that the facts and events described in that Bible are not all true. The references to Jerusalem in the Bible struck Sara as meaningful, although she couldn't explain why.

Sara's grandmother and great-grandmother had many habits that were unusual for the time and that they didn't explain, and that Sara only came to understand many years later. Her great-grandmother lit candles every Friday night and prayed. She stayed home on Saturdays and said prayers. Her grandmother didn't eat pork, and she would sometimes pour boiling water on pots. Sara's grandmother said she and her people were not from that area, and she often spoke about Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. She disdained the townspeople who carried statues of the saints in processions. When someone in the family died, she insisted they be buried far from the other graves in the cemetery. She taught Sara a love of Israel as a holy land, and she said the Jews are the chosen people. She used to sing a song about the beauty of the streets of Jerusalem, streets of gold and silver, and the song would bring her to tears. Sara can still sing that song her grandmother taught her.

After Blanca came to New York, she was referred to Rabbi Algaze and given the address of our synagogue. Unfortunately, when she arrived, there was no building. This was after our original building had been condemned, and we were meeting in various locations around the neighborhood. Eventually, after many attempts to find us, she was able to contact the synagogue, and she has been a grateful and devoted member ever since. She is quick to express her gratitude to Rabbi Algaze and to Tamara, for all the help they have given her and for how they changed her life. As she says, although she may not understand everything, "mi alma entiende todo," my soul understands everything. It gives us great pleasure to be able to honor Sara at this special celebration.



Tom Hamori

Tom Hamori was born in Hungary and escaped as a teenager with his family after the Hungarian Revolution. After a stay at a DP camp in Austria, they eventually settled in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. As a young man, Tom worked a series of jobs ranging from hotel busboy, waiter, short order cook, valet parking attendant, and others. Eventually he became a salesman, travelling across the country selling jewelry and novelty items. Tom is best known as “The Gooseman,” selling feather down pillows and comforters.

Tom first joined Havurat Yisrael in 1986. Old-timers may remember him as organizing Shabbat kiddushes that were justly renowned. Nowadays, he comes to our morning minyan whenever he can, and he blows the shofar for our morning minyan during the month of Elul.

But Tom's main occupation is chesed and tzedakah. Before COVID, he would weekly distribute challahs and Shabbat food to needy individuals and organizations. He would visit hospitals and nursing homes, organizing programs around Jewish holidays, helping men to put on tefillin, and running Shabbat services for the patients and residents. The list of names on his “Mi Shebayrach list,” to pray for ill people, is endless. He deserves our gratitude and esteem for all he has done for so many years for so many people.

Diamond Club

**WE WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS OUR APPRECIATION
AND GRATITUDE TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS
OF THE HAVURAT YISRAEL CONGREGATION WHO
RAISED OR CONTRIBUTED \$1000 OR MORE
TO OUR 2022 JOURNAL CAMPAIGN**

MEHRAN & RAHEL ARASHEBEN

DANIEL COHEN

JACK & SHULIE GOLDHABER

BRUCE & MIRIAM JACOBS

SEYMOUR KAPLAN

IRA & CATHY KLEIMAN

JERRY & JENNIFER REVICH

MARC & KAREN ROSE

MARK & GAIL SILVERMAN

DAVID & DEBBIE SOSNOWIK

JOSEPH & KIM TRIGOBOFF

JAY WAITZMAN

DANIEL & CAROL YAGHOUBIAN

L'chaim Society

**WE WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE EFFORTS
OF THE MEMBERS OF OUR**

2022 JOURNAL L'CHAIM SOCIETY.

**THE L'CHAIM SOCIETY IS A SPECIAL GROUP OF
HAVURAT YISRAEL MEMBERS WHO CONTRIBUTED
\$500 OR MORE BEFORE DECEMBER 1.**

**MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE A BOTTLE OF WINE
SPECIALLY SELECTED BY RABBI DAVID ALGAZE.
MAZAL TOV AND L'CHAIM TO ALL!**

DANIEL COHEN

JACK & SHULIE GOLDBABER

DAVID & RENEE HIRSCH

SEYMOUR KAPLAN

MIRIAM & BRUCE JACOBS

A BRIEF HISTORY OF OUR SHUL

It all started on a Purim night in 1981, when young families thirsting for spirituality and a genuine voice of Torah formed this beautiful congregation. We were told that we would not have a long life since we possessed no physical building and there were no empty spaces to build in Forest Hills. Yet by Hashem's will we found not only a wonderful space but it was located in the geographical heart of the neighborhood, allowing us to be home to people on both sides of Queens Boulevard! Mr. Solomon Oliner, z"l, had a special role in this, and may his name be always remembered for good.

Our beginnings were humble in material things but rich and blessed in matters of the spirit.

From our midst arose many rabbis, teachers and families who became observant and knowledgeable in our tradition. Whether in Israel, Latin America or any corner of the United States, there is hardly a place where we do not meet people who started their Jewish life at Havurat or did not hear about us and our activities.

It all began in January 1981, when a group of the recently formed havurot that had been organized by Rabbi Algaze initiated a strong protest to some ritual changes at the Forest Hills Jewish Center. This ultimately led to the exodus from the Center and a decision to follow Rabbi Algaze and create a new synagogue. A declaration of "independence" echoing themes of the founding of America was quickly drafted that attracted many others to this new group. At the home of the Amini family, some 30 families gathered on March 26 (21 Adar II, 5741) to incorporate the synagogue to be named Havurat Yisrael in honor of the havurot that had been at the front of this new movement. From place to place, from the Sephardic synagogue on 108th Street to the Senior Center on Austin Street and the Forest Hills Inn, we finally secured a place at the Continental Theater for Shabbat morning services. The Aron Kodesh was kept behind the movie screen and an arrangement was made for those men and women who preferred to sit separately. The morning services usually ended with the singing of Adon Olam and the aroma of popcorn as the theater was regaining its function. As we exited the theater, some would ask, "How did you like the movie?"

That first year we inaugurated our first Sefer Torah with a festive parade down Austin Street and a dedication at the Russell Sage Junior High School, concluding with a gala dinner at the Jewish Museum in Manhattan.

The last week of the summer brought many families to our first camp experience, this time at Camp Bournedale in Cape Cod. This was a foundational experience that cemented many friendships and gave Havurat the full flavor of friendship and camaraderie that would characterize it forever. The first High Holy Days services were held at the Midway Theater on Queens Blvd., which then consisted of two large halls. We occupied one of them with an attendance exceeding 400 people, and the other where children could relax and run around. It was a hectic time. It was an exhilarating time.

A strong bone of contention was the building of a mechitza, which had been Rabbi Algaze's intention from the start. It was sternly opposed by many in the congregation. After numerous classes and discussions, it was moved to install it on Hanukkah while at the Continental Theater.

A simple red velvet rope used to demark lines for people waiting to enter the theater was used to divide both sides of the aisle, with men sitting on the right and women on the left. Sadly, a few families opted to leave the synagogue never to return, but those who chose to stay saw their families grow in Torah and mitzvot and were privileged to see their children and now grandchildren studying in yeshivot and having fully observant families. This was the direct result of their decision to live a Jewish life in accordance with the Shulchan Aruch, which had been the stated purpose of the founding of Havurat from the first day. Today, many families recall those days of tensions and are grateful for what Havurat Yisrael and the Rabbi did for them.

Celebrations were always full of enthusiasm and cooperation. Purim was welcomed with dozens of people adding decorations to embellish the place, and Simchat Torah was effervescent and not contained within a building, often bursting into the street and MacDonald Park. On one occasion even the Mayor of the city came to see our festive dancing at the Park, but always our Simchat Torah was the place to be in Forest Hills and adjoining neighborhoods.

We built our shul on 70th Avenue in 1982, inaugurating our space on Rosh Hashanah. The building was simple and without luxury, but it was the host of many extraordinary programs. A yeshiva created by Rabbi Algaze together with Rabbi Eliahu Benhaim functioned every afternoon, and it invited laymen to study with them in the late evenings. It was here that some rabbis were first formed, including Rabbi Daniel Travis, Rabbi Haim Alcabes and Rabbi Yitzhak Benroubi. Important personalities visited us, including the Chief Rabbi of Israel, Shlomo Goren who became a regular featured speaker when he was in New York, as well as Rabbis Mordechai Eliyahu, Avraham Shapira and Rabbi Ovadia Yosef z"l. Many political dignitaries visited us in those early years, including Senator Alphonse D'Amato, Rep. Charles Schumer, Governor George Pataki, Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, and numerous figures from the Jewish world.

A legendary concert by Shlomo Carlebach was held in 1987 when over 700 people attended and danced enthusiastically till late hours of the night. In 1984 a second Sefer Torah was dedicated by our President Yehudah Goldfeder z"l at an event attended by the Rosh Yeshiva of Chofetz Chaim at an impressive dedication ceremony.

Havurat was innovative and creative beyond its time. A Singles group, largely unknown in Orthodox synagogues, was formed that created some beautiful Jewish marriages. A Beginners' Minyan was held every Shabbat, and a Drop-In-and-Learn with students of the Chofetz Chaim on Thursdays that attracted hundreds of students. A week-long Summer Camp retreat and a Ski Shabbaton every year were among the most innovative programs developed at Havurat.

After some years of expansion, we had the privilege of having a committee headed by Mr. Sol Givner, z"l, and yb'l, our own Rafi Katz, who renovated our shul in great form and style in 1992.

After a few years, however, our building was compromised by nearby construction and the city condemned our property. This was in August 1998, precisely on the day when a new Aron Kodesh, built in Eretz Israel and dedicated by the Sosnowik family, had been placed on a ship going to New York. The story of the Aron is emblematic of the story of Havurat. Exiled from its place, stored in uninviting conditions, the aron survived and even

prospered. The aron, stored in a warehouse in Long Island for over 15 years, when unwrapped was, to the amazement of carpenters and others, in perfect condition. Like the story of Havurat itself, this was truly a miracle.

After the city closed our old building, we moved from one corner of Forest Hills to the other, from the Central Queens Y on 108th Street, to the basement of Dov Revel Yeshiva, a house on 70th Road, the shtiebl on 69th Road, and finally, with the work of the Rebbetzin Tamara Algaze, we rented a little storefront on Austin Street that vibrated with energy every Shabbat. Every place offered us a welcome and yet we felt comfortable nowhere. As the Jews who left Jerusalem sang, “how can we sing in a land not our own?” we too dreamed of return and could not sing anywhere else but in our old home. We actually tried to sell our property several times, but Hashem did not let us. Like the dreamers in Psalm 126 (Shir Hama’alot) by the grace of Hashem, we now have the great merit of seeing our dreams fulfilled and have returned home. We often referred to the 15-year gap as reminiscent of the Second Temple, the construction of which was also stopped for 15 years. May Havurat Yisrael too be a beacon of light to those who enter our synagogue and may it continue to spread holiness throughout the community for years to come.



THE HAVURAT YISRAEL IDEA - WHO ARE WE?

Havurat Yisrael was born on Purim night in 1981, when a young rabbi, David Algaze, created a veritable revolution in Queens, leading a group of mostly Conservative Jews onto a path of learning and inspiration that was to become one of the leading Orthodox synagogues in New York. The smell of popcorn that permeated the early services – held in a movie house on Austin Street, Forest Hills – became the talk of the town as well as a symbol of the innovation, warmth and originality of this Torah center.

The early activities of the synagogue were the creation of a camp retreat in the summer, a ski Shabbaton in Vermont in the winter and a host of new ideas and programs in between. The common aspect of all these programs was the desire to reach Jews of all backgrounds in every environment and every venue that they felt comfortable. Although this concept raised many an eyebrow at the beginning, many communities were soon adopting its programs and vision. Rabbi Algaze advocated the idea that a synagogue needs to be more than a house of worship in the formal sense; it must serve as a bridge and a path to discovery. Havurat Yisrael was founded on the idea of creating a community of learning and experience that will facilitate the path of teshuvah. Until today, you can enter a program at Havurat and feel that there is something special in the air. Some call it warmth, others friendship, but the real secret is: community (havurah).

Havurat initiated the first outreach programs in Queens. The first Beginners' Services and the first Turn Friday Night into Shabbat dinners were held there. The synagogue became a hub for singles throughout the metropolitan area and Rabbi Algaze has made numerous shidduchim through these gatherings and shabbatonim. One of the most successful bridges has been the one that connected people with a yeshiva background and people who did not know the aleph-bet. The sense of duty and service to Am Yisrael is one of the distinguishing traits of a Havurat Yisrael member. Acceptance, the courage to innovate and accept diversity create a very profound atmosphere of unity of all Jews.

The "Drop in and Learn" program that was developed in conjunction with

the Chafetz Chayim Yeshiva soon developed into a half-day Kollel under the leadership of Rabbi Eliahu Benhaim and Rabbi Algaze. This kollel was to produce several talmide hahamim and rabbis who are serving communities in Israel and Latin America. It is no wonder that groups of “alumni” of Havurat keep in touch with the synagogue regularly and proclaim its uniqueness.

Havurat has always lived beyond its walls. Spilling with joy onto the streets during Simchat Torah or offering a Perek shiur in the park in summertime, distributing mishloach manot on Purim or hanukkiot on Hanukkah to passers-by have endeared the synagogue to its host community and enabled Havurat to continue to attract more Jews to Torah and mitzvot.

Havurat Yisrael believes that communities need bridging and connecting. It is therefore not uncommon to find at Havurat a mix of people in Hasidic garb mingling with people in jeans, Sephardim and Ashkenazim praying in an atmosphere of acceptance and sharing, people speaking different languages communicating with each other. But perhaps the most significant bridge has been to Eretz Israel. Havurat has always promoted an agenda of involvement in social issues and especially a connectedness and active involvement in the matters that affect the people and the land of Israel. Havurat has served for many years as the forum for many distinguished visitors from Israel, from politicians to rabbis, roshe yeshiva and activists. All have encountered an audience ready to learn and ready to act. That may be the most apt definition of Havurat: “learning in order to do”.



THE HAVURAT YISRAEL FAMILY – WHAT WE DO

Learning is the foundation of Havurat Yisrael. From early morning till late at night, the classes, lectures, seminars and informal discussions shape the Havurat landscape. It is a place vibrant with intellectual stimulation and spiritual elevation. From the Learn to Read Hebrew class to the Jewish Living Laboratory, from the Parashat Hashavua class to the advanced Gemara shiur, there is a class for every level. The courses service a diverse community that includes young single adults, young marrieds, and newly arrived immigrants from Russia or Latin America. There are courses to accommodate the needs of these diverse groups.

A full range of family-oriented programs that appeal from the oldest to the youngest members of the family are offered in order to strengthen the ties that bind us together and to utilize the opportunity to learn from one another. Special dinners around the holidays allow people who would not have the ability to share in these experiences to enjoy them at Havurat. They include meals at Rosh Hashanah, Pesach Seders for the community, Tu Bishvat Seders, Lag Ba'omer celebrations and parties and hagigot for every occasion in the Jewish calendar. Even during the all-day fast days, there is learning and lectures by guest scholars. Rabbi Algaze has always encouraged the involvement of other rabbis and teachers in this enterprise and Havurat has been very lucky to have many distinguished rebbeim and lecturers in its history.

Rabbi Algaze saw long ago the need to incorporate singles in a full way in the programs of the synagogue. Havurat was the first synagogue in the area to offer single memberships and made every effort to make singles feel comfortable in the synagogue. Havurat organized shabbatonim and trips to help singles meet. Rabbi Algaze created Priority Dating based on the concept that self-discovery precedes the finding of a soul mate. In his career, Rabbi Algaze has made well over 100 shidduchim.

During the Covid period, he has given many new classes and lecture series via Zoom. He has devoted much time and energy over the past few years to classes in Spanish that reach not only students in the New York City area but

also students located throughout the Spanish-speaking world, including in Colombia, Bolivia, Spain, and other countries. His eloquent and meaningful commentaries on the week's Parshah and other subjects provide a solid grounding in traditional sources for a wide variety of students. He created the foundation Portal al Judaismo that offers classes in Spanish throughout the world and also supports emerging Jewish communities in Latin America.

*Some people make a difference
She affected a whole community
She took us out from the shtibl when it
became oppressive
Brought us to the Austin store front
where we were reborn
Negotiated with the developer of our current
building to get a larger space
And is at the center of everything that
transpires at Havurat
She's a woman, she's a spouse, she's a mom
and she's a businesswoman
She is*

TAMARA ALGAZE

With gratitude,
Havurat Members and Rabbi Algaze

HAVURAT YISRAEL

Past Presidents

Norman Guttman

Herbert Jaffe

Yehuda Goldfeder

Yossi Tocker

Rafi Katz

Elliot Spitz

Serge Merkin

Fred Isaacs

Jack Goldhaber

Past Gabbayim

Bruce Schneider

Marty Weinstein

Ted Okun

Harvey Barnett

Haim Alcabes

David Better

Fred Gelber

Shep Levmore

Marc Rose

Shimon Mizrahi

Past Rabbis of Beginners' Minyan.

Rabbi Glatt

Rabbi Max

Rabbi Gottlieb

Rabbi Kraft

Past Editors of the Bulletins

Miriam Jacobs

Jeff Benkoe

Serge Merkin

Past Youth Director

Seth Shmuel Sackett

A Message From The Dinner Committee

We are very proud of the response to this 41st Anniversary Dinner from all of you. I am grateful for your support and participation. This is a synagogue with open arms to everyone and it is wonderful to see the warm atmosphere that has developed at Havurat. We have created an all-inclusive environment and this is reflected in the attendance at the Dinner tonight. Your support will allow Havurat to continue its work and all its programs and we are grateful for your participation. This is going to be a great Dinner event and we are happy to welcome you tonight.





GRACE MENG
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Washington, D.C. 20515

December 4, 2022

Havurat Yisrael
106-20 70th Avenue
Forest Hills, New York 11375

Dear Havurat Yisrael,

I am honored to extend my salutations to all gathered at this year's 41st Anniversary Gala Journal Dinner.

Since 1981, Rabbi David Algaze has created a haven where the Jewish community feels welcomed. The synagogue has overcome adversity and stands as a pillar transforming and enriching the lives of thousands of people within the congregation. Havurat Yisrael remains a center of light where individuals feel at home. The foundation of Havurat and its name stems from the meaning of friendship and community. Havurat Yisrael will always have a friend, and partner in me.

I would like to thank Havurat Yisrael for 41 years of excellence and camaraderie. I am also elated to congratulate Louis & Rachel Ordentlich, Sarah Elisheva Palala, and Tom Hamori for being this year's honorees as they continue to be a staple within the community.

Please accept my best wishes for this year's dinner as well as continued success.

Sincerely yours,

Grace Meng
Member of Congress

*P*latinum *C*ircle

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

PLATINUM
CIRCLE

Mazel Tov

to all the

**HONOREES,
RABBI ALGAZE**

and

HAVURAT YISRAEL

Rachel, Louis, Jake, and Dara

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

PLATINUM
CIRCLE

Mazal Tov

to our esteemed honorees and friends

**RACHEL AND LOUIS
ORDENTLICH,
SARA ELISHEVA PALALA,**

and

TOM HAMORI

*Your presence and unique contributions to
our community enrich us all*

*We are the ones who are honored to have you
be part of our diverse community*

*May you have the health and strength to continue to
strengthen and contribute to our community and all of Klal
Yisrael!*

*Thank you and Yasher Koach
With our gratitude and respect,*

Debbie Rubin and David Sosnowik

Chai Pages

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

CHAI
PAGE

En honor a mi querido

RABINO ALGAZE

y su esposa

TAMARA

Por todo lo que hacen por mí y por todos

los que entran a

HAVURAT YISRAEL

Con gratitud eterna

Sara Elisheva(Blanca) Palala

*D*iamond *P*ages ---

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

DIAMOND
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In Honor of

**LOUIS & RACHEL
ORDENTLICH
SARA ELISHEVA
(BLANCA) PALALA
TOM HAMORI**

Rabbi David & Tamara Algaze

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

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וכל מי שעוסקים בצרכי ציבור באמונה

*Congratulations to the Honorees of Havurat Yisrael's
41st Anniversary Journal Dinner*

**RACHEL & LOUIS
ORDENTLICH**

*Your steadfast support for our Shul and your family
serve as a model and inspiration to all of us
at Havurat Yisrael*

SARA ELISHEVA PALALA

*Your leadership for those who have recently become full
members of Havurat Yisrael continues to strengthen the Shul*

TOM HAMORI

*Your devotion to Havurat Yisrael and your indefatigable
Bikur Cholim activities set an enduring example
to Klal Yisrael*

Mazal Tov

Shulie and Jack Goldhaber

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

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PAGE

In Honor of

**RACHEL & LOUIS
ORDENTLICH**

SARA ELISHEVA PALALA

TOM HAMORI

Thank you for all you do as pillars of

HAVURAT YISRAEL

Bruce & Miriam Jacobs

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

DIAMOND
PAGE

*In Honor
of our friends*

**LOUIS, RACHEL, TOM,
AND BLANCA**

We appreciate your friendship and dedication to

HAVURAT YISRAEL

*May Hashem bless you with 100 more years of health,
happiness, prosperity and revealed good every day!*

Revich Family

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

DIAMOND
PAGE

In Honor of my co-honorees

**LOUIS & RACHEL
ORDENTLICH**

and

TOM HAMORI

And with gratitude to this beautiful community called

HAVURAT YISRAEL

Sara Elisheva (Blanca) Palala

To my wife

GAIL

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

*You are a terrific mother and grandmother
but most of all you've been the best thing
that has ever happened to me.*

Love you always,

Mark

TOM HAMORI

*It always amazes me the way you so passionately blow
the shofar every day during the month of Elul.*

May it inspire all of us to keep doing the mitzvahs.

Keep it up.

Sincerely,

Mark and Gail Silverman

RACHEL & LOUIS ORDENTLICH

*Louis, listening to you starting the shacharit service
every morning is very inspiring.*

*We hope all is well with you and Rache and hope
your kids are giving you plenty of nachas.*

With warmest regards,

Mark and Gail Silverman

*By the way, I wait in anticipation to hear your
wonderful daily comments regarding my backpack.*

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*Mazel Tov
to the*

HONOREES

And with heartfelt thanks as well to

RABBI DAVID ALGAZE

&

TAMARA ALGAZE

Kim, Joseph, and Alex Trigoboff

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Mazel Tov to

**LOUIS & RACHEL
ORDENTLICH**

SARA ELISHEVA PALALA

TOM HAMORI

Daniel, Carol, Gavriel and Ella Yaghoubian

Gold Pages

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In Honor of

**RABBI DAVID & REBBETZIN
TAMARA ALGAZE**

and

HAVURAT YISRAEL

Mazel Tov & Best Wishes

Seymour Kaplan

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Mazel Tov

to the

HONOREES

Gary & Emilie Rabinowitz

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Mazel Tov to our

HONOREES

RACHEL, LOUIS, SARA, & TOM

*Havurat Yisrael wouldn't be the same
without your dedication & support*

Thank you

**RABBI DAVID &
TAMARA ALGAZE**

*Your leadership & guidance along with your knowledge
& compassion have inspired so many in our community*

*May HASHEM bless you with many more
wonderful years in good health!*

Renee & David Hirsch

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Mazel Tov

to the

HONOREES

Muchas felicitaciones

al

**RABINO DAVID &
TAMARA ALGAZE**

Hashem bendiga a todos los miembros de

HAVURAT YISRAEL

y al klal Yisrael

Victorino & Rubenia Flores

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Mazel Tov

to the

HONOREES!

**RACHEL & LOUIS
ORDENTLICH
SARA ELISHEVA PALALA
TOM HAMORI**

May you go from strength to strength.

Thanks for all you do!

Marc & Karen Rose

We thank Hashem for putting in our lives

very special people

**RABBI DAVID & TAMARA
ALGAZE**

We love you and with gratitude

**Mehran, Rahel, Kayla,
& Avriel Arasheben**

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In Honor of our dear friends

**LOUIS & RACHEL
ORDENTLICH**

Leaders of our community with vision

and a gift of giving to others

Tamara & Rabbi David Algaze

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A Sincere Thank you to

**LOUIS & RACHEL
ELISHEVA**

and

TOM

for always supporting this beautiful Synagogue

Havurat Yisrael

and being an example of leadership and Kindness

to all of us

Best Wishes,

Jonathan Rieu & Rieu Family

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Mazel tov al

**RABINO DAVID
& TAMARA ALGAZE**

por un nuevo año mas de Aniversario

Mazel tov to

**RACHEL & LOUIS
ORDENTLICH
SARA ELISHEVA PALALA
TOM HAMORI**

and to all Havurat Yisrael

L'Chaim

Fernando & Yvelisse Leana

Congratulations and warmest wishes

to my friends and esteemed honorees

**RACHEL & LOUIS
ORDENTLICH**

SARA ELISHEVA PALALA

TOM HAMORI

It is great davening with you at Havurat.

Thank you for all you do.

Jay Waitzman

*F*_{ull} *P*_{ages}

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

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In Honor of

**RACHEL & LOUIS
ORDENTLICH
SARA ELISHEVA PALALA
TOM HAMORI**

Mazel Tov & Best Wishes

Seymour Kaplan

Thank you to

RABBI DAVID ALGAZE

for his leadership, wisdom, and outreach

Thank you to my dear friends at

HAVURAT YISRAEL

*B'ezrat Hashem, may there be unity & peace for us all,
both personally and community-wide*

A big Mazel Tov to the

HONOREES

With gratitude

Jane Pamela Stiefel (Hannah)

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

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In loving memory of our dear friend

DR. HADASSAH GUTTMANN Z"l

a pianist, soloist, educator & author

Your beautiful music will live on!



We miss you.

Karen Rose & Renée Feit

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

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Mazel Tov

to our dear friends

**RACHEL & LOUIS
ORDENTLICH**

SARA ELISHEVA PALALA

TOM HAMORI

Yasher Koach

Yehuda Mendieta

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Mazel Tov

to our

HONOREES

**RACHEL & LOUIS
ORDENTLICH**

&

TOM HAMORI

*For all you do to make HAVURAT YISRAEL
such a special place*

Mil de bendiciones

para

ELISHEVA

*por todo que haces para cada de nuestros
Te queremos mucho!*

Ruth Finkelstein

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

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RABBI DAVID ALGAZE & REBBETZIN TAMARA

*Every shul needs them
Not every shul has them
Luckily at Havurat Yisrael
We have them
We thank you for all your
devotion & dedication
to our shul & community*

Maddy & Bernardo Druker

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Congratulations & Best wishes

to

RABBI & TAMARA ALGAZE

and to this year's

HONOREES

**RACHEL & LOUIS
ORDENTLICH**

SARA ELISHEVA PALALA

TOM HAMORI

Warmest regards,

Alice & Michael James

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Mazel Tov to

**RACHEL & LOUIS
ORDENTLICH
SARA ELISHEVA PALALA
TOM HAMORI**

Thank you

Gracias a nuestro

RABINO DAVID ALGAZE

y su estimada esposa

TAMARA

Por su guía y enseñanzas

Todah rabah to

HAVURAT YISRAEL

For opening your doors to us

Betzalel Paniagua

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*Another great and productive year
at our special shul,*

HAVURAT YISRAEL

*Mazel Tov
to the*

HONOREES

Arlene Ross

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

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Mazel Tov

To

**LOUIS & RACHEL
ORDENTLICH**

SARA ELISHEVA PALALA

TOM HAMORI

Hashem bendiga a todo al klal Yisrael

y a nuestro querido

RABINO Y TAMARA ALGAZE

Felicia Kulaya

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

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Mazel Tov

To our honorees

**LOUIS & RACHEL
ORDENTLICH**

SARA ELISHEVA PALALA

TOM HAMORI

May Hashem bless all of you

Yasher Koach

Leon, Alicia & Rafi

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Mazel Tov and Best wishes

to

**RABBI DAVID &
TAMARA ALGAZE**

And to the honorees

**LOUIS & RACHEL
ORDENTLICH
SARA ELISHEVA PALALA
TOM HAMORI**

Thank you for all you do for Havurat Yisrael

Eileen Alter

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

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Mazel Tov to my dear friends

**RACHEL & LOUIS
ORDENTLICH**

on this well-deserved honor

SARA ELISHEVA PALALA

Hashem blessed us to put you in our life

Thanks for your kindness, friendship and support

Que el eterno te bendiga

TOM HAMORI

May Hashem always bless you my dear friend

Mehran, Rachel, Kayla, & Avriel

Havurat Yisrael 41st Anniversary Dinner

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PAGE**

*Bendito sea al creador es un año mas
de aniversario de*

HAVURAT YISRAEL

Gracias al

**RABINO DAVID &
TAMARA ALGAZE**

Por su esfuerzo grande de mantener unida a le sinogoga

Que honor tan grande que

HAVURAT YISRAEL le ha dado a

SARA ELISHEVA PALALA

*Una persona con grande virtudes; generosidad,
esfuerzo sin limite*

Mi gran heroina te aprecio muchisimo

**LOUIS & RACHEL
ORDENTLICH**

Mazel Tov

Thanks for all you do for HAVURAT YISRAEL

And my dear friend

TOM HAMORI

*May Hashem always bless you all with good health,
parnasa, & nachas*

Yosef Alvares

SARA ELISHEVA PALALA

*Eres un persona muy especial para mi,
eres como mi madre espiritual*

*Tu me haz adoptado como tu hija
con mucho cariño*

Sarah Reyes

Mazel Tov to all the

Honorees

**RACHEL & LOUIS
ORDENTLICH**

May Hashem bless all of you with lots of nachas

SARA (BLANCA) PALALA

*Tu eres como nuestra hermana, Eres una persona
muy fundamental en nuestra familia*

TOM HAMORI

Congratulations on this well-deserved honor

With love

Shimon & Sarah Mizrachi

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

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To very good

HAVERIM

whom have been there for me

Ephraim Grossbein

RACHEL AND LOU,

Mazel Tov on a well deserved honor! Our families have enjoyed sharing many of life's milestones together.

*You are appreciated more than you know,
for who you are and what you do, both overtly
and behind the scenes.*

*Wishing you continued nachat from your children,
happiness and success!*

Cathy, Ira and Zachary Kleiman

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

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Congratulations to the honorees

**RACHEL AND LOUIS
ORDENTLICH
SARA ELISHEVA PALALA
TOM HAMORI**

*May you continue to grace the Havurat community
for many years to come!*

Cathy, Ira and Zachary Kleiman

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

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*Mazel Tov to
Havurat Yisrael on its 41st Anniversary*

Congratulations to the Honorees

**RACHEL & LOUIS
ORDENTLICH**

SARA ELISHEVA PALALA

TOM HAMORI

for their dedication and love to Havurat Yisrael

and a Special Thanks to

**RABBI DAVID &
TAMARA ALGAZE**

Yael Yepez

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

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Mazel Tov to

**ALL THE HONOREES,
HAVURAT YISRAEL,
RABBI ALGAZE & TAMARA**

*May you continue in your unceasing commitment
to the Jewish Community*

Warmest wishes,

Rachelle Alkalay

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

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Mazal Tov
to the

HONOREES

Sammy Tocker

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

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Mazel Tov to
**ALL WHO HELPED BUILD
HAVURAT YISRAEL**

*May you always continue
to realize your dreams.*

JOSEF AND GITA TOCKER



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Felicitaciones a los Honrados

**RACHEL & LOUIS
ORDENTLICH**

SARA ELISHEVA PALALA

TOM HAMORI

Muchas Bendiciones a Nuestro querido

RABINO DAVID ALGAZE

y a su esposa

TAMARA

Que Hashem siempre le mande mucha salud y alegrías

Yael Dina Giraldo

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Mazel Tov to to the
HONOREES!

Oren Shmuel

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Felicitaciones a los honrados

**RACHEL & LOUIS
ORDENTLICH**

SARA ELISHEVA PALALA

TOM HAMORI

Muchas Bendiciones a nuestro querido

RABINO DAVID ALGAZE

y su espos

TAMARA

Cariños

Yael Dina Yopez

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Muchas Felicidades a

**RACHEL & LOUIS
ORDENTLICH**

SARA ELISHEVA PALALA

TOM HAMORI

Mazal tov y gracias al

**RABINO DAVID &
TAMARA ALGAZE**

por su apoyo, enseñanzas y paciencia!!!

Blanca Cifuentes

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Mazel Tov to

HAVURAT YISRAEL

on the 41st Anniversary

Special Love & Admiration to our Dear

**RABBI DAVID &
TAMARA ALGAZE**

The Azizi Family

Half Pages

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In honor of

RABBI DAVID ALGAZE

and the

HONOREES

Dr. & Mrs. Benjamin Arbesfeld

Best wishes to

THE RAV

and to all the congregants

Barbara & Joseph Tucker

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

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TOM HAMORI



Felicitaciones & Mazel Tov to

**RACHEL & LOUIS
ORDENTLICH
SARA ELISHEVA PALALA
TOM HAMORI**

Gracias al

RABINO DAVID ALGAZE

Por sus enseñanzas

Javier Orellana & Sarai Alvares

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

HALF
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To:

**MARC ROSE, MATTHEW
JACOBS, & JERRY REVITCH**

*Thanks & Mazel Tov on being our special and wonderful
Chattanim on Simchat Torah,
Always completing the end, and forever starting
the beginning of Torah, our guide to life!*

Karen Rose

Mazel Tov to

**RACHEL & LOUIS
ORDENTLICH
ELISHEVA PALALA
TOM HAMORI**

*On this well-deserved honor
With appreciation for your dedication to
HAVURAT YISRAEL*

Best wishes

Carol Krohn

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

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PAGE

In Honor of

**LOUIS & RACHEL
TOM
SARA ELISHEVA**

*In gratefulness for all this community
has given us over many years*

The Merkin Family

Mazel tov to all the

HONOREES

Anonymous

Quarter Pages

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

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Congratulations to the deserving

HONOREES

Carol & Hyam Reichel

Mazel Tov

TOM HAMORI

Mrs. Brown bas Sorah, Mrs. Schreiber bas Sorah, Tom Slovak ben Sorah, Yosef ben Sorah, Chaim ben Sorah, another Chaim ben Sorah, another Yosef ben Sorah, Janice bas Sorah, Pesel bas Zev Zelig, Zev Zelig Ha-Levi ben Sorah Tish, Sorah bas Sorah, another Sorah bas Sorah, Cholim at Castle Harbor ben/bas Sorah, Cholim at Margaret Tietz ben/bas Sorah, the ill Goyim those places not bnei Sorah.

In merit of Zev Zelig ben Dovid Ha-Levi, they should all have a Refuah Shilaymah!

Muchas gracias a mi

**RABINO DAVID
ALGAZE**

Hashem lo bendiga

Ladislá Perez

Mazel tov to the

HONOREES

and to

HAVURAT YISRAEL

Yael & Mark Shayne

Sixth Pages

Havurat Yisrael **41**st Anniversary Dinner

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Mazel Tov
to all the
HONOREES

Fred & Neva Hellman

In appreciation for all you do
TOM HAMORI

Debi, Stu and Ben Greenberg

Summit Camp for children and teens with
learning differences in Honesdale, PA

Thank you to our wonderful alumnus,

DANIEL COHEN,

who has been so thoughtful and
good to us for many years.

Shep, Leah, and all the Staff

Mazel Tov to
**RACHEL & LOUIS
ORDENTLICH
SARA ELISHEVA
PALALA
TOM HAMORI**

Irina Genis

Thank you, Gracias
**RABINO DAVID &
TAMARA ALGAZE**

Hashem Siempre lo Bendiga

Nechama Jimenez

Mazel tov a los
HONRADOS
Un Millon de Gracias al
**RABINO DAVID &
TAMARA ALGAZE**

Miriam Atiencia

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Mazal Tov

to the

HONOREES

and all our friends at

HAVURAT YISRAEL

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Mehran Arasheben

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HAVURAT - YISRAEL'S
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A BRIEF HISTORY OF HAVURAT YISRAEL

Created in 1981 by a group of young people eager to return to the authentic voice of Judaism. Led by Rabbi Algaze, the congregation grew into one of the prominent centers of Jewish life in New York. The synagogue came to its original building in 1982 and there it attracted hundreds of families that would have been otherwise lost to the Jewish people. Several thousands of individuals and families owe their start of Jewish allegiance to Havurat and, although some of them have moved away from the community, they have retained their love and gratitude to Havurat and Rabbi Algaze. Among its "graduates" are rabbis, teachers, administrators of Jewish schools and authors as far away as Latin America and Israel. In 1998, due to a building collapse, the synagogue endured its most difficult challenge: exile. Yet, with G-d's help and the loyalty of its members, Havurat has miraculously returned to its original site after 17 years of wandering. Our new and comfortable building is once again open to Jews of all levels with inspiration and joy. This is the message of Havurat: that the resilience of the Jewish people has maintained our people in challenging times and that the message of Torah will not perish. We invite you to join the campaign to bring more Jews to our tradition and to strengthen Am Israel.

HAVURAT YISRAEL

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