

Torah & Blessings
Written in Honor of

THE INSTALLATION OF
RABBANIT
TANYA BELLA
FARBER

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Shabbat Shira



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Mazel Tov!

ABOUT THE BEIS COMMUNITY

The Beis is an intentional, inclusive, innovative Orthodox Jewish community that provides a home for people looking to explore their Judaism, to connect with others, and to be inspired. Started in 2013, the Beis continues to provide connection & community for Jews in Washington Heights & beyond.

Beis Values:

- **Creating a Home:** Cultivate a welcoming community that actively invites Jews of all or no backgrounds to engage with Jewish life and Judaism
- **Spirituality:** Infuse our lives with intention and Godliness through prayer, Torah study, and creativity that is innovative and renewed
- **Empowering Participation:** Create avenues for active participation to cultivate individual potential and help us to realize the potential of our kehillah
- **Human connection:** People-centered focus with an emphasis on welcomeness, inclusivity, and connecting people
- **Commitment:** To Halacha, to our tradition, and to our Godly mission

Find us at: 587 Ft Washington Ave | www.beiscommunity.com

HART LEVINE &

Co-Spiritual Leader

Yael BRODSKY LEVINE

Co-Founders of the Beis Community

“Beis family, heart & soul of Beis, my treasured spiritual chavrusas/colleagues & visionaries” -R'TBF

To our dearest friend, co-conspirator, and spiritual leader Reb Tanya – We like to say at the Beis that “all are welcome always”. We’re so grateful to you for bringing all the parts of yourself to share with the Beis Community. Whether it’s your: Gemara teacher self bringing weekly Torah learning to those looking for it, classroom self facilitating a thoughtful discussion, meditative self bringing a mind-body-soul intention, improv self creating space for laughter, shtark self upholding halacha, feminist self advocating for opportunities, or spiritual self leading song and dance.

It’s only fitting that we share gratitude for all the parts of you, because you see and care about every aspect of the Beis. The care, attention, and love that you put into every corner, every person, and every Tefilah at the Beis, are beyond compare.

We’ll end with a blessing - for you, for us, for this whole community and for all those who we visualize in joining us. **וְיִרְדְּתִי וְדִבַּרְתִּי עִמָּךְ שָׁמַיְם** וְיִרְדְּתִי וְדִבַּרְתִּי עִמָּךְ שָׁמַיְם וְיִרְדְּתִי וְדִבַּרְתִּי עִמָּךְ שָׁמַיְם וְיִרְדְּתִי וְדִבַּרְתִּי עִמָּךְ שָׁמַיְם (Bamidbar 11:17) These words adorn the Torah in our Aron Kodesh - depicting G'd descending, speaking with Moshe, drawing from the spirit in him and sharing with others. This moment fills us with confidence, gratitude, and excitement about sharing the blessings and burdens of leading this community with you.

May you always be able to draw down the spirit of G'd, share it with others, and be replenished.

With love, Hart & Yael

RABBA SARA HURWITZ

“My beloved Rabba whose rabbinate & life mission uplifts others and our world” -R'TBF

Founder of Yeshivat Maharat

Reb Tanya, you are the fulfillment of Rav Kook's "A Fourfold Song," where he lays out the four kinds of people who occupy our world. There is one who sings the song of self; one who sings the song of the Jewish people; one who sings the song of humanity; and one who sings the song of the universal world. But it is rare to find one "who rises with all these songs in one ensemble, and they all join their voices...and it rises to become the song of holiness..."

You, Reb Tanya, have sung this song. You have invested in your own dreams, following your heart to serve others. You have brought spirituality to the Maharat community and individuals at the Beis. You have also sung the song of justice for the Jewish people, and you have used your voices to rise and fall with the pain of all humanity, striving to create harmony throughout our world.

I am grateful that you have added your song to my life, to the lives of your students and colleagues at Maharat and to your lucky community members at the Beis, creating a world that is filled with melody, justice, and righteousness.

RABBI JEFFREY FOX

“My beloved Rav who uplifts the Torah and our yeshiva with compassion & integrity” -R’TBF

Rosh Yeshiva of Yeshivat Maharat

The Torah tells us that the Jewish People were not prepared to listen to Moshe Rabbeinu מֹשֶׁה רַבְעֵינוּ - from a shortness of breath (Shemot 6:10). The Torah that Reb Tanya brings to the Beis, to Yeshivat Maharat and to the Jewish Community at large gives space for others to breathe. Reb Tanya has a combination of depth and openness that makes space for others and helps us all grow as human beings and as Jews. May we all be blessed to breathe deeply in these difficult times and to continue to be inspired by amazing leaders and teachers like Reb Tanya.

RABBI MARIANNE NOVAK

“Treasured friend & wise colleague” - R’TBF

Yeshivat Maharat

R’ Tanya exudes the light of Torah wherever she goes. Her presence illuminates the Beit Midrash. When you talk to her , you feel this immediate connection to her נשמה. I have been so fortunate to have R’ Tanya as a friend and colleague and so happy that her luminosity will have a place to dwell , to inspire a wonderful community for Torah and mitzvot.

RABBI ADAM MINTZ

“My Gemara Rebbe in lomdus [scholarship]
& mentchlechkeit [character]” - R’TBF
Yeshivat Maharat

When Moshe sees an Egyptian beating an Israelite, the Torah tells us that Moshe “looked here and there and saw there was no man” and only then did he kill the Egyptian and save the Israelite. Moshe was afraid lest he be caught by someone and reported to Pharaoh. Only when the coast was clear did he proceed to do “the right thing”. Reb Tanya is a spiritual leader and teacher who does the right thing without looking to the right or to the left. She teaches Torah to everyone and welcomes everyone into her orbit. May Reb Tanya continue to serve as a role model of Jewish leadership for many years to come.

TALI ARONSKY

“Cherished soul-friend, chosen sister of a decade-plus, and soon-to-be rabbinic colleague” - R'TBF

Jerusalem, Israel | Formerly NYC | Yeshivat Maharat

In Shabbat Shira we sing a new song, one formed on the fly as Bnei Yisrael move into jubilee, into freedom, into the unimaginable. Reb Tanya helps teach us that new song, a song rooted in הודיה, in tradition, in reverence for the Torah but also in dialogue with what's new, with extending the tent of Torah, without fraying the holy fabric at its seams. May you go מחיל לחיל.

RABBANIT DEVORAH ZLOCHOWER

“My 'asey lecha [lach] Rav'-Rav for living, learning, & teaching authentic Torah” - R'TBF

Yeshivat Chovevei Torah | Formerly Drisha, Yeshivat Maharat

To my dear friend, student and teacher, Rabbanit Tanya Farber,

In תהילים קיט:צו, King David exclaims:

מה אהבתי תורתך כל היום היא שיחתי - how I love Your Torah, all day it is my sicha. The word שיחתי (sichati) is usually translated as my mediation or my musings but I would like to translate it as we do colloquially - conversation. Torah, for Reb Tanya, is not just a private musing; Torah inspires and informs the way she relates to people. All who have the privilege of confiding in and seeking advice and guidance from Reb Tanya are the beneficiaries of her wisdom, her concern and her attention. What Reb Tanya provides is a wisdom and sensitivity formed in a life of Torah study.

מה אהבתי תורתך - how I love Your Torah. The experience of learning Torah becomes a sicha when it is fundamentally a conversation with God. When a person learns Torah as a way of seeing God, it changes who you are. Beyond expertise and breadth of knowledge, it shapes character. To be a true student of Torah is to be an ovedet Hashem: a servant, an agent of God to bring God's presence and God's love into every interaction, every conversation. It is my honor to have spent as many years as I have knowing, learning and being friends with Rabbanit Tanya Farber. I wish her mazel tov and I wish this kehillah many long years with her. You have found an אוצר נחמד, a special treasure.

RABBA WENDY AMSELLEM

“My first Talmud teacher, 'Torat chesed al l'shona',
beloved Rebbe & friend-colleague” -R'TBF

Drisha | Yeshivat Maharat

“And you find that at the time that God appeared to Moshe in the bush, Moshe hid his face, as it is said And Moshe hid his face. God said, Now go and I will send you לכה to Pharoh . R. Elazar said You certainly, the ה at the end of the word לכה is to say that if you do not redeem them, no one else will redeem them.” (Vayikra Rabbah 1:5)

The midrash in Vayikra Rabbah 1:5 continues to describe Moshe as standing at the side of the sea until God encourages him to split it, and at the side of Mount Sinai until God cajoles him to come up. Finally, as the Mishkan is finished and Moshe is again standing to the side, God says to him, “How long will you continue to lower yourself. The hour waits only for you!” . . .

Why is Moshe so reluctant to lead in these situations? As my friend Channa Lockshin Bob pointed out, the first three stories we hear about the adult Moshe involve him leaping into action to rescue the Israelite from the Egyptian who is beating him, jumping to intervene between two fighting Israelites and hurrying to rescue Yitro's daughters from the bullying shepherds. Moshe does not need to be cajoled in those situations.

Here though, Moshe correctly realizes that what is required of him is not a quick fix, but rather sustained leadership. He is rightly aware of the gravity of this commitment and God persuades him each time that he is absolutely the leader required for the situation. Reb Tanya, as you are installed as the co-spiritual leader of the Beis Community, I know that you appreciate the seriousness of this commitment. And we all know that you are absolutely the leader that the community needs. The hour waits only for you!

RABBANIT GLORIA NUSBACHER

“Cherished chavrusa [study partner] and dear friend” -R’TBF
Yeshivat Maharat

I initially wrote this for the originally scheduled installation of Rabbanit Tanya Farber on parshat Lech Lecha, but I continue to feel that Avraham Avinu provides an appropriate lens through which to celebrate the spiritual leadership of Reb Tanya.

Like Avraham Avinu, Reb Tanya heard the call of God and embarked on a spiritual journey that shaped her life. She began life in a secular family, spent time in hareidi schools, and eventually ended up getting smikha from Maharat. But, unlike Avraham, she did not make a clean break with her pasts. Instead, she took her pasts with her, retaining strong relationships with both her family and the hareidi community, and incorporating the wisdom and values she learned from them. As a result, her Torah speaks to all members of the Jewish community. Moreover, mirroring Avraham’s rush to welcome strangers, Reb Tanya welcomes all who come to learn with her with both enthusiasm and sensitivity and makes each one feel valued.

Just as Avraham was willing to challenge God over the destruction of Sodom, Reb Tanya is not afraid to speak truth to power. She quit her job as weekend supervisor at a group home for developmentally disabled women – at great financial cost to herself – in protest when the management failed to take adequate patient safety measures at the start of the Covid epidemic.

And just as Avraham brought along the nefesh – persons or souls – that he acquired in Haran, Reb Tanya’s teaching and spiritual leadership brings people closer to the joy of Torah.

RABBANIT LIZ SHAYNE

“Semicha[ordination]-sister, mind-heart chavrusa, dear friend-colleague” - R’TBF

Yeshivat Maharat

In “The Lonely Man of Faith”, Rabbi Soloveitchik talks about the importance of covenantal community in providing respite from isolation. In a committed community, friendship and the capacity to know each other becomes possible, but only through the commitment of the community and, I would add, through the leader that cares enough to reach out to all those who feel alone and make them also feel like they belong. It is in our willingness, modeled by our leaders, to span the gap of unknowability between one person and another and nevertheless create community that true fellowship becomes possible. Leadership is in the moment we say “I am here too”.
תניא נמי הכי.

RABBI DR. ERIN LEIB SMOKLER

“My Manhiga Ruchanit [Spiritual Guide] & treasured friend-colleague” -R'TBF

Yeshivat Maharat

Celebrating in the midst of darkness is not an easy task, but it is one that was set before us at the very time of creation.

בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת הָאָרֶץ:
וְהָאָרֶץ הִיְתֵה תֵהוֹ וְבָהוּ וְחֹשֶׁךְ עַל־פְּנֵי תְהוֹם וְרוּחַ אֱלֹהִים מְרַחֶפֶת
עַל־פְּנֵי הַמַּיִם:
וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים יְהִי אוֹר וַיְהִי־אוֹר:

“When God began to create heaven and earth— the earth being unformed and void, with darkness over the surface of the deep and a wind from God sweeping over the water— God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light.” (Gen 1:1-3)

The world began in *tohu va’vohu* and, in this primordial mess, light was born. God declared that there be light and life in the midst of darkness and chaos.

We are charged to do the same. According to the *Kedushat Levi*, the subject of “*va’yomer*” in Gen. 1:3 is us human beings. We are to say, “*Elokim, yehi or! God, let there be light!*” When we find ourselves unmoored by the void of existence, we are to pray for light. Indeed, we are enjoined to demand it, or perhaps to create it.

Reb Tanya, you will light into being. Indeed, with you, “*vayehi or,*” there is always light.

RABBANIT ATARA LINDENBAUM

“Semicha[ordination]-Sister, chavrusa of mind-heart,
dear friend & colleague” -R’TBF

Yeshivat Maharat

Often what we are looking for is right in front of our faces. Every morning we say a beracha on learning Torah, sanctifying our learning as a mitzvah. We follow this blessing with some talmud torah, with a few lines from the Torah and the Talmud.

We say the following teaching- a baraita (a Tanya!!):

These are precepts, the fruits of which man enjoys in this world, [while] the principal [reward] is preserved for him in the World-to-Come. They are: honoring father and mother, deeds of kindness, early attendance in the House of Study morning and evening, providing hospitality to guests, visiting the sick, participating in making a wedding, accompanying the dead, concentrating on the meaning of prayers, making peace between fellow men and between husband and wife— and the study of Torah is equal to them all.

These actions listed the actions of a true spiritual leader.

These are the actions of a person invested in human relationships centered on spiritual values. The study of Torah and liturgy are woven into this list as both equal and greater to all of them; not because we are weighing one against the other but because they illuminate one another. A great Torah scholar is made greater when they tenderly help the other, and their actions are more tender because of the Torah study.

MORAH DEBORAH KLAPPER

“A new friend & chavrusa [study partner]! With both bekius [breadth] and depth of heart and Torah!” -R'TBF
Drisha

In the summer of 2023, I had the pleasure of learning the last chapter of Chulin with Reb Tanya. On page 139a, we saw Rabbi Yochanan say that when birds belonging to the Temple run away, they still belong to the Temple and they retain their holiness, because wherever they are, they are in God's treasury (on God's property). We spent a lot of time on this line, and we delighted together in the idea that God is making a "kinyan chatzer" (taking possession of something by having it on one's property) on the bird, since everywhere is God's chatzer. The holiness of God's presence is everywhere, and God owns everything, not just in abstract ideas, but also in concrete consequences.

I pray that Reb Tanya will feel that holiness surrounding her and uplifting her in all of her future teaching and leadership. She brings holiness and enthusiasm wherever she goes and I hope she can feel it reflecting back at her.

RABBI DANIEL COLEMAN & ANAT COLEMAN

“Ohavei Yisrael, wise friends, & true role models in their devotion to community and service” -R'TBF

The Beis Community

Dear Reb Tanya,

As you embark on this sacred journey of spiritual leadership...

May you forge a profound connection to both the divine and the community, deepening spiritual connection to the divine and each other.

May you uplift others and foster personal growth.

May you cultivate an environment where souls can flourish, and hearts can find solace.

May your leadership be a source of inspiration, foster unity, and nurture the spiritual well-being of each member of our community.

May you continue to lead with kindness, wisdom, empathy, compassion, and a deep sense of responsibility to the community.

May you guide others with authenticity.

May you inspire others to embark on their unique spiritual journeys.

May you find joy and fulfillment in this sacred calling.

Amen.

RABBI NEIL FLEISCHMANN

“Rabbi of heart, mind, humor, & soulful Shaleshudes” -R'TBF
The Beis Community

A prominent rabbi (who will remain nameless) gave a speech in which he looked carefully at the Hebrew words for “Educate a child according to their way” -

”חֲנוּךְ לְנַעַר עַל-פִּי דַרְכָּו” (Mishlei 22:6). The Hebrew word חֲנוּךְ is written here in its less than full version (חסר,

incompletely: חנך without the ם, rather than חנוך with the ם).

He said that this incompleteness suggests that we must teach all students. He said it's easy to teach the brilliant ones, but we're being exhorted here to teach imperfect students too.

I disagree with the message part of what this rabbi said. The honors students/humans are not more perfect than the students labeled in other ways. People are created in the image of our perfect G-d. If you look at the verse you'll see that the word that's missing a letter is not the word for student but the word for educate. The students are whole and fine. It's the educators that are flawed in how we teach.

Nevertheless we must try even though our efforts will always fall short.

Reb Tanya's manner of educating and leading in our community comes from a caring, humble, human and vulnerable place. May she continue in health and happiness for many years to come to pursue and fulfill her holy dreams in her tireless and sincere service of G-d.

YITZCHAK FRIEDMAN

“A gentleman & a scholar, a bar palugta [thought partner/debater] & Ba'al Koreh [Torah Reader]” -R'TBF
The Beis Community

ילד בן לנעמי

מסכת כלים מסתיימת (כלים ל:ד) "אשריך כלים שנכנסת בטמאה ויצאת בטהרה" כלומר המסכת מתחילה בדבר שדינו טמא והדין האחרון במסכת הוא "טהור" וחז"ל ראו בזה התפתחות רוחנית במשך המסכת. מבחינה זו אפשר להגיד על מגילת רות "אשריך רות שנכנסת בהתבוללות ויצאת בגאולה" שהרי תחילת המגילה מספרת על אלימלך שברח למואב ופירש"י שעשיר היה ולא רצה לפרנס את אחיו בימי הרעב. בניו התחתנו עם מואביות בפשוטו של מקרא ממש שנאמר "ויקחו להם נשים מואביות" והרי סופו מסביר שאחת מהנשים המואביות האלו הייתה הסבתא-רבה של דוד המלך וממנה יבוא המשיח.

אבל אפשר גם לומר "אשריך רות שנכנסת בהתבוללות ויצאת בלשון הרע" כי תולדות דוד המלך היא אחרית-דבר לסיפור עצמו. הסיפור עצמו מסתיים "וַיִּתְקַרְאֵנהּ לוֹ הַשִּׁכְנֹת שֵׁם לְאִמֶּהּ, יֶלֶד-בֶּן לְנַעֲמִי; וַיִּתְקַרְאֵנהּ שְׁמוֹ עוֹבֵד, הוּא אֲבִי-יְשִׁי אֲבִי דָוִד" אבל הבן היה של רות. במבט ראשון נראה שהשכנות, כמו מאז ומתמיד, הן חטטניות רכלניות שמתערבות בחיי המשפחה של הגיורת המסכנה הזאת, ומייחסות את הבן שלה לנעמי! או, כי רוצים להתעלם מ"נכריה" כאילו; או, כי רוצים לשלול ביחוסו.

וכאן הבן שואל. בראשונה, השכנות אמרו על רות "כי כלתך אֶשֶׁר-אֶהְבֶּתְךָ, יֶלְדְתוּ. אֶשֶׁר-היא טוֹבָה לָךְ, מִשְׁבֶּעָה בְּנִים" ונראה שקבלו אותה בלב מלא. וההבדל בין השאלות "מי האמא?" ו"מי האבא?" לא צריך שום ביאור כי הכל יודעים שאחד עובדה ואחד דעה, ואיזה מהן יכול להיות בסיס להוצאת לעז. לכן במקום לשון הרע צ"ל "לשון הרע גרוע שלא הגיוני ואפילו לא מעניין בכלל"

ואפשר ליישב כידוע (רות רבה פ' ב) ששמואל הנביא (בבא בתרא יד:) כתב ספר רות כתשובה הלכתית לדואג האדומי על סוגיית "מואבי ולא מואבית", ובהבנה פשוטה במקרא זה הוא סיפור הרקע המשפחתי של דוד המלך. בין כך ובין כך עוסקים בכשרותו למלך ישראל ובהרחבה, כשרותו של משיח צדקנו.

יש כמין ur-myth לתולדות גיבורי המקרא וכל קורא חומש מכיר אותו. הנקודה הראשונה היא שהגיבור נולד לעקרה מבן-זוג זקן. בשעת הדחק מותר רק זקנים (עמרם ויוכבד). שמואל ראה בזה דבר נחוץ. חייב לתחוב לסיפור, איכשהו, שדוד המלך ומלך המשיח יבואו מזקנה! אלמנה! עזובה. הגיורת הנכריה הענייה לא היה מספיק קיצוני. חייב "זקנתי מהיות לאיש" (רות א:יב).

כי אין לך קוצו של יו"ד בתורה שאין בתוכו תילי תילים של הלכות והליכות. וכל המגילה וכל המושג של משיח וגאולה בא להודיע לנו שכל דבר גדול שיבוא לידינו לעשות יראה בלתי אפשרי ונראה שאיננו כדאי והגון לכך. אבל אין להתייחס לאפשרויות ברצינות יותר מדי. זה סתם חלק מהסיפור.

AMALYA VOLZ

“Shabbos walking partner, dearest friend, and Rebbe of loving Mussar” -R’TBF

The Beis Community

One of the most celebrated features of Moshe’s personhood is his humility. However, our modern secular culture has severely warped our understanding of humility from the Torah’s ideal. The English word ‘humility’ is derived from the Latin humilitas, literally meaning “on the ground”. Far too many people—and women in particular—have been raised with the notion that to be humble means to lower ourselves, and to actively diminish our own worth and accomplishments. We are taught that to believe in ourselves is to be haughty and conceited. But how could Moshe have been a leader like no other if he saw himself as unworthy of the very role? The truth is, despite initially doubting his abilities, Moshe actually had an accurate perception of his role as a leader! In Parashat Yitro, we see Moshe give the following answer when Yitro asks why he alone is standing before the people all day: “It is because the people come to me to inquire of God” (Shemot 18:15). Moshe understands that it is exactly he who is needed to be a conduit between B’nei Yisrael and Hashem. That is, Moshe’s very ability to lead is dependent on a Mussar-based understanding of ענוה—not on a secular understanding of humility. From many of the great Mussar texts, we learn that ענוה is not about diminishing ourselves, but of understanding the exact role that Hashem has called us for. It is about appreciating and knowing our true value. All other middot flow from this one, because it is impossible to live an integrated life without knowing what unique benefit we provide to the world. By being too humble, not being confident and properly appreciating our own worth and being unbalanced in ענוה, we actually lessen our ability to help those who need us most as leaders.

JACOB KLEIN

“Gabbai extraordinaire, one of pillars (vav amudim) of the community, & the Beis’ minyangel!” -R’TBF

The Beis Community

Leadership isn’t innate. That may be the greatest lesson of the first 4 parshiyot of Shemot. Pharaoh is a monarch, born into governance, but his apathy to his people throughout the plagues isn’t leadership.

Moshe, by contrast, has to be rescued from a river, flees when stakes get too high and his Jewish brethren doubt him. G-d speaks to him, and he doubts himself. But Moshe has moral clarity at all times, recognizing injustice quickly. He just doesn’t think he can make a difference.

While G-d challenges Pharaoh’s heart, as we see from the word אֶקְשֶׁה, Pharaoh never rises to the occasion. Moshe is similarly challenged in the narrative. Moshe keeps falling back to being עֶרְל שִׁפְתָּיִם, and is afraid to do the right thing. Moshe nonetheless tries where Pharaoh doesn’t.

And Moshe’s willingness to try and listen to his moral judgment and those who believe in him, be it Yitro, Aharon, Miriam, and Hashem, pays off as he leads Bnei Yisrael to freedom.

This is leadership, turning “I can’t” and “You can’t” into “I can”. So too we see the momentous occasion of Reb Tanya Farber’s installation as co-spiritual leader, a turning point from women being told “you can’t”, to Reb Tanya demonstrating “We can!”

SHALHEVET & DVIR CAHANA

“Power-couple-partners who uplift others with rhythm, song, leining, art, poetic puns & deep Torah!” -R'TBF
The Beis Community

At the outset of emancipation, it is a free person's natural inclination to engage in an unobstructed frolick. Unbounded by constriction, it is easier to find the path of least resistance.

This was not the path of Bnei Israel. Rather, after being reprieved from Pharaoh's tight grip, they were conscripted to rules and laws.

Metaphysically they were asked to serve Hashem, concretely they were in their B-line for the holy land when they hit their first roadblock. Their path intersected with Yam Suf in front of them and the ruthless Egyptian on their heels behind them.

Though basking in the effervescent glow of liberation can place upon it ideals, it is not from a rose-colored lens where reality is formed. Driven to the sea, they were trapped and fated to a gloomy destiny. But this was not the truth on the ground. Squeezed into the position to push forward, one brave soul, Nachshon, stepped into the unknown. Soon it would be discovered that he found a path unchartered and the rest of the nation would trod the new paved path. With Nachshon leading the charge, there was a way forward for those that followed.

Centuries later, a modern Nachshon has taken to the scene. Reb Tanya Farber, afforded freedoms that would have been conceived unfathomable a generation ago, made her initial frolick with an incredible sense of duty. Breaking the glass ceiling, dispelling the illusion that Yam Suf is a border wall and us women have followed in her path.

Reb Tanya is the first Orthodox woman in Manhattan to have a pulpit, the first of many. Don't worry, I'm getting my timbrel, soon many women will dance and sing thanks to your courage to step into the unknown. Mazel Tov on this incredible milestone. It's time to celebrate.

DR. SUSAN HORNSTEIN

“My first feminist Orthodox Jewish role model & beloved friend-sister of decades” -R'TBF

Highland Park, NJ | Yeshivat Maharat

The moon is low-key amazing. It takes the light of the sun, the star of the celestial show, and reflects it onto the earth even at night. Its gravitational force creates tides in the oceans. It allows us to partition time into months, manageable chunks of time for humans, and to determine the festivals. In Bereishit, the moon is referred to as a light source which provides light to the world. It seems that there is some inherent light in the moon that we, despite our vast scientific knowledge, are unable to appreciate.

Just so Rabbanit Tanya Farber. Unassuming. Not inclined to be the star of the show. But what power. The ability to make people shine. To bring out the talents and abilities of others. And she is a source of light in her own right, spreading her Torah and spirituality, her warmth and love to all those in her orbit. As for partitioning things into manageable chunks, you only need to see her chart a sugya of Gemara to know that this, too, is one of her superpowers.

Reb Tanya, we are delighted that you will now have the opportunity to radiate your power to even more people.

DR. SUSANNE ARNEY & RABBI DR. DAVID RICEMAN

“My favorite rational mystics, beloved friends & chosen family” -R’TBF

Highland Park, NJ

Sukkot is distinct from Shemini Atzeret. Sukkot is boisterous. There are seventy additional sacrifices, and representatives of the seventy nations. There are processions. There are willows adorning the altar. There’s hakhel. There’s the Simchat Beit Ha Shoeivah, where, with dancing and singing, we draw divine spirit like water from a well.

On Shemini Atzeret everything stops. The gentiles return home; there’s only one additional sacrifice. There are no processions and no parties. We don’t draw divine spirit; it arrives.

When the geonim established Simhat Torah they used Sukkot as a model for how we would celebrate. Why is it on Shemini Atzeret?

Originally we finished the Torah in a three year cycle. Eventually the Jews of Bavel switched to an annual cycle. On Simhat Torah we commemorate the transition from Torat Eretz Israel to Torat Bavel. Torat Bavel is boisterous, with flamboyant debates, with people actively drawing hochmah. Torat Eretz Yisrael is orderly, passive, receptive. Torat Bavel is Sukkot; Torat Eretz Yisrael is Shemini Atzeret.

Tanya herself has made that same transition. When I first knew her her Torah was orderly, passive, receptive. Now her Torah has become boisterous and flamboyant. I hope she’ll bring these qualities to The Beis.

DR. REZA GREEN & RABBI MOSHE SILVER

“Chosen family, wise mentors, & neshama[soul]-
shabbos-anchors from afar” -R'TBF

Jerusalem, Israel | Formerly Highland Park, NJ

We have been blessed to know Reb Tanya for more than 15 years, during which time we've watched her develop into an exceptional Jewish leader. We value her immensely as a dear friend and teacher and we envy the Beis for their access to her wisdom and spirit. Reb Tanya blends the passion of a true Hassid with the intellectual honesty of a scholar in her constant devotion to Torah and to Am Israel, and we congratulate the Beis for having the wisdom to bring her into your midst. May you grow together in Torah and Mitzvot, working BE”H to build a better world.

כאיל תערוג על אפיקי מים כן תערוג נפש כל ישראל אל תורת רב תניא

Mazal Tov!

R' JOSH GOLDMAN

“Dearest cousin & treasured friend” -R'TBF

Family of Rabbanit Tanya Farber

What is the difference between Tznius (modesty) and Anava (humbleness)? Both project images of an individual uninterested in public accolades. Moshe Rabbeinu is the paradigm of humbleness. One example of modesty is the women of the song of the sea sung after the Exodus. These examples provide clues to the difference between modesty and humbleness. To be modest is to recognize one's differences relative to humanity without any sense of superiority. On the other hand, true humbleness is to recognize one's position in the larger scheme of things. Relative to Gd, what are we?

However, maintaining both of these perspectives can be challenging, each in their own way. Modesty is challenged when one possesses more of something than another. Will we show off what we have in an attempt to impress others through a meaningless contest? Humbleness is challenged when we have more power than another. Will we be fooled into thinking that power is a gift to us, and not a responsibility? These two traits not only personify Jewish ideals, but are basic building blocks of Jewish leadership. Reb Tanya, who embodies both of these traits, should be continuously blessed with the strength to share them with the Beis Community.

MESSAGES FOR
RABBANIT
TANYA BELLA
FARBER

CHALOMOT | DREAMS

Rabbanit Tanya: Thank you for making the Beis so inspirational, inclusive, educational, fun, warm, and motivating. You energize our community with your knowledge of Torah and your warm neshama. I hope you know how much your gentle and sincere spirit have uplifted so many "beisniks" who appreciate your gifts and receive your teachings with love. May you continue "מחיל אל חיל".

With heartfelt affection, Menachem

Mazal Tov Reb Tanya! Thank you for being your joyful self! Your energy is infectious, inspiring, and empowering. I hope this is the first of many simchas we can celebrate together. 320 Always <3

Love, Maia

CHALOMOT | DREAMS

The Beis and Tanya Bella Farber are leading lights in the neighborhood! We are so fortunate to have you here. Tanya, you will shine wherever you go, but we hope you will be here for a long time!

Freda Birnbaum, connoisseur of shuls and fellow traveler

Tanya is my special friend. Tanya loves me.
Love, Raia

You're a good spiritual leader and we love you so much. You helped the Beis become the Beis. Love, Hallel

Tanya has always been a part of the Beis. She has always brought new people. Thank you for being a part of the Beis! Love, Ben Ami

HODA'OT | GRATITUDES

To Reb Tanya – For many years, I have witnessed your journey to being a teacher, leader, mashgicha ruchanit, and Torah scholar. And now you are now assuming your rightful place among the other outstanding women clergy of shuls and communities. I am thrilled!

With Love and Joy, Zelda R. Stern

Mazal Tov Reb Tanya. The Beis is lucky to have you as a spiritual leader.

Rabbanit Gloria and Burt Nusbacher

Mazal tov to Rabbanit Tanya Farber, our colleague, our friend, our inspiration. You are a mashgicha ruchanit in every sense, emanating and inviting kedusha. The Maharat community joins the Beis community in celebrating your spiritual gifts. From this Shabbat Shira and onward, may you, like Miriam ha-neviah, continue to lead with strength, song, vision, and neshama.

Your Maharat Family

HODA'OT | GRATITUDES

Mazal tov, Rabbanit Tanya, as you officially join the unique spiritual home that is the Beis Community. Wishing you much hatzlacha, personal fulfillment, and joy in your new role.

With all our best wishes, Ann and Ilya Brodsky

Reb Tanya- Your spirit, torah, and warmth have given us a renewed sense of connection to the Beis. The time, care, and effort you put into making our Bris simcha special is indicative of the love and attention you put into elevating every Beis event. Congratulations on this welldeservedhonorweloveyou. -mikiandamanda

Mazel Tov to Reb Tanya and to the Beis Community on this momentous occasion! Reb Tanya, we are blessed by your insightful Torah, your compassionate heart, and your attentive leadership. With gratitude to Reb Tanya, Reb Hart and Yael Levine, and all those who built and continue to Build the Beis.

Love, Shimmy Feintuch and Rabba Yaffa Epstein

HODA'OT | GRATITUDES

In our one-eyed home, it's sometimes hard to see people as they are, but we know that you have truly seen all of us. Thank you and congratulations from an apartment where you have seen us and helped us see, where you have forever impacted us on our journeys to be accepted as we are and helped us discover our best selves.

With love and pride in our mentor, The Apt li Family:
Hilly, Jacob, Rafael, Jonah, and Joey & Tzophia

Excerpts from our correspondence (2012-2014): I am not excited, I promise. my left ear hurts, so I've been pouring herbs in it. hope that's safe... are you here for shabbas? if not, can we find another time to be together? I wore yesterday's smelly clothes as i just spontaneously slept by friend, but people nice to me even tho I smelled. What middos. Anyway, see you at maariv! Re: arm chair/couch philosophy... You are committed to a goal. a noble and important goal that matters. also, are you OK in your cave? Did you go shoveling? I'm sorry I've been distant. B"H B"H B"H B"H you are awesome! Thank you!!
Sydney Levine

HODA'OT | GRATITUDES

To our dear teacher, Reb Tanya: You rock our world!

עַל שְׁלֵשָׁה דְּבָרִים הָעוֹלָם עוֹמֵד,

עַל הַתּוֹרָה You make beautiful meanings in the most halachik of concepts.

עַל הָעֲבוּדָה You mindfully turn the mundane into holy work. (Trumat HaDeshin = our Beit Midrash.)

וְעַל גְּמִילוּת הַחֶסֶדִים: You give us hugs, patience and encouragement!

Love your students, Sarah, Yali, Neesa, Lillinaz, Amanda, Zan, Illana, Sara, Talia, Miriam, Emily, Brooke, Chana, Sofia, Kate, Karolyn, Tamar, Leah, Chanchkie, Sarah-Beth, Adina

Mazel tov, Rabbanit Tanya! I appreciate your thoughtful icebreakers, your lovingkindness, and your knack for drawing out our own d'varim Torah each Shabbat.

With love, Marly K

BRACHOT | BLESSINGS

Mazal tov to our dearest sister and aunt!
We love you, Julie, Danny and Abby

Mazal tov to the Beis community on appointing one of the greatest neshamot of our generation to be your co-spiritual leader. Reb Tanya: יהי רצון שעיניך יאירו במאור תורה, ופניך יזהירו כזוהר הרקיע, ושפתותיך יביעו דעת
Rabbanit Leah Sarna & Dr. Ethan Schwartz

”פיה פתחה בחכמה ותורת חסד על לשונה”

Dear Reb Tanya, Mazal Tov on this milestone in your life.
Wishing you and the Beis continued growth and success
”רבות בנות עשו חיל ואת עלית על כולנה”
Fondly, Rachel Oppenheim

פיה פתחה בחכמה ותורת חסד על לשונה

Reb Tanya- the true combination of Torah and Chesed!
B'ahava, Rabbi Marianne Novak

Mazal tov, Rabbanit Tanya! Wishing joy and fulfillment in your new role. The Beis is fortunate to have you. Love, Racheli and Yoni

Mazal tov Rabbanit Tanya - teacher, mentor, rabbi, friend extraordinaire. Wishing you the multitude of blessings you bring to each of us. -Amanda Shechter

Mazel Tov Reb Tanya: May you grow from strength to strength and so help build and enhance this community. -David and Anne Bergman

BRACHOT | BLESSINGS

The beis and I are so lucky to call you our rebbe and I am doubly lucky to also call you friend. Love, Liz

Mazal tov, Reb Tanya! May you continue to share your beautiful beautiful voice of authentic Torah and warmth with the community. We are so appreciative. Love, Leah and Jonathan

RTBF - we are so grateful for your wisdom, laughter, and leadership. Here's to many more afternoons learning Tosfot with pretzels. With love, Naima + Sarah K

Your intentional, personal, and devotional love for our community and Hashem inspires us. May Klal Yisrael be blessed with more leaders like you. -Ari Banner

Mazal tov! Eric, Penny and Josiah Shir
“Blessings for a sky that cries and a bird that flies. A fish that walks an' a dog that talks. You ain't going no where” -Bob Dylan

הרחיבי מקום אהלך ויריעות משכנותיך

Mazel tov to Reb Tanya and the Beis! May you always continue to grow in Torah and Community. -Yael Klausner

Mazal Tov Reb Tanya! I am in awe of how you connect to all in the community. May you go Mechayil el Chayil! -Davida Kollmar

BRACHOT | BLESSINGS

Rebbetzin Tanya, Continue creating a refuge for all of us through
.Yesod HaBeis עמו יחסו עניי ,
Mazal Tov, Zachary Rothblatt

My dear neighbor and friend, Reb Tanya: what a zchut and bracha
for the Beis to have you! May you continue to lead with your full
heart and to be nourished by this community.
With love and gratitude, Hannah Elovitz

R' Tanya- wishing you שפע ברכות now and always. And you have
always taught me : שְׁלֵא תְהֵא בְרַכְתְּ הַדְּיוּט קִלְהַ בְּעִינֶיךָ .
May you let each word lift you up the way you deserve.
Love, Atara

Reb Tanya - mazel tov on your formal installation at the Beis!
It was wonderful learning Bava Kamma with you last summer.
Wishing you many (more) years worth of teaching and learning
Torah with us! - Caroline

Bracha v'Hatzlacha Rabbanit Tanya! Thanks for your leadership.
May G'd bless and keep you always and may Shechinah dwell in
the works of your hands. -Gavriel Micha

Yasher koach! Wishing you much success at the Beis and in every
part of your life. -Mike Backman

Rabbanit Tanya may you bring light to this world and the
community you will serve through your wisdom and beautiful
soul! -Michal & Craig Miller

Messages for Rabbanit Tanya Farber

MAZEL TOV!

Mazal Tov, Reb Tanya! Such joy for you and for the Beis! With love, Yali

Mazal tov Reb Tanya, so proud to be your student! -Yael Turitz Kaplan

Reb Tanya - Thank you for your expansive warmth, wisdom, friendship, & guidance. Meira Wolkenfeld (CBI Berkeley)

Mazal tov Reb Tanya! You are an inspiration to us all. Kol hakavod, Zoë!

Mazal Tov! Love, Susan and Justin Hornstein

Mazels Rabbanit. Enjoying your journey from Breuers to HaBeis
-Sharon Gabin Lichtman

קִיְּקָרוֹב אֵלַיךְ הַדָּבָר מֵאִדּ בְּפִיךָ וּבִלְבָבְךָ לַעֲשׂוֹתוֹ:

Blessings and Mazel Tov Reb Tanya -Briah Cahana

Mazal tov to my teacher, classmate and colleague Reb Tanya!
Much love, Phoebe Ana

Mazal tov Reb Tanya. Warmly, Jennifer Feldman

Mazal Tov! We appreciate your warm presence and your commitment to Women's* Tefillah! (Esther and Jamie)

Mazal Tov Reb Tanya! Wishing you the best! With Love, Stacey B

Mazel Tov! Thank you for all you do!
With Blessings, Hannah Greenberg & Eliran Sobel

Mazal Tov, Reb Tanya. May you continue to go from chayil to chayil.
Abigail Tambor

Mazel tov Tanya!! Thank you for all you do! -Mirasha, Noam, & Family

Messages for Rabbanit Tanya Farber

MAZEL TOV!

Mazel Tov Reb Tanya on this well deserved honor! Rachel, Yair, and Eva

Mazel tov Reb Tanya, may you help build a Beis Ne'eman in the Heights! Shuli

Mazel tov, Rabbanit Tanya Bella Farber! We're so lucky to have your leadership.
-Adina Gerver

Am Yisrael & HaBais are blessed by your wisdom, compassion, soul.
With deep love, Bracha

Mazel Tov, R Tanya. You are such a joy to collaborate with at Maharat!
Liba (& Baby Ruth)

Mazel Tov! May you go **חיל אל חיל** and have continued success!
Love, Chani Fishman

Mazel tov to a wonderful spiritual leader and friend.
Shuli, Ari, Davidi and Sophia

Dearest Tanya, Mazel Tov, with so much love, pride and gratitude for your work.
Ayala

With deep admiration and gratitude for you and your Torah. Mazel tov! Rabbi
Elizabeth Richman and Ben Dreyfus

Mazel tov, Reb Tanya! Wishing you many blessings on this special occasion.
- Liz Offenbach

Mazel tov to Reb Tanya, our great teacher and beloved friend!
With gratitude, Allen Paisner & Miriam Kersey

Mazel Tov from Danny & Sally Frankel

Messages for Rabbanit Tanya Farber

MAZEL TOV!

Mazel tov R' Tanya! Your compassionate leadership makes the world better.
Love, Nechoma & Lavender

May you continue to be an inspiration through your dedication to the community, torah, and inclusivity. Mazel tov! B'ahava, Atara Lakritz

Mazel tov on this most wonderful moment for you and our whole community!
<3 Dvir+Shalhevet

Mazel Tov Reb Tanya! With love, Your Yom Kippur Neshama Buddy

R'Tanya, Mazel Tov! May you lead the Beis from strength to strength!
Maharat class 2018 (R' Dina Brawer)

Mazel Tov dear Reb Tanya! Wishing you much hatzlacha in all you do,
love, Michal Kohane

Mazel Tov Reb Tanya, with many thanks, Victor

Mazel Tov, Reb Tanya! Thank you for all that you do! -Rachel Zorbaron

Mazel tov Reb Tanya on this well deserved honor! Love, Sara Shatz

Mazel tov, Reb Tanya! Wishing the Beis Community continued success.
Yaelle, Nathaniel and Jacob Moldoff

Tanya guides me to speak my truth: "וְטוֹהַר לְבָנוּ לְעִבְדֶּךָ בְּאֵמֶת"
Love, Naima

Mazel tov Rabbanit Tanya! You are forever my rebbe and my rock.
Love, Ricki Heicklen

Mazel Tov, Reb Tanya! We're so excited to celebrate you!
Rabba Wendy and Rabbi Mike

Messages for Rabbanit Tanya Farber

MAZEL TOV!

Thank you for everything you do and will continue doing for our community!
-Eliyahu

Mazel Tov Reb Tanya, may you bring the Torah's sweetness, gold, and waters to many. -Gabriel Wasserman

Wishing you so much continued joy, fulfillment, and hatzlacha!
--Shoshana Sachs

Mazel tov to Rabbanit Tanya! From, Sarah and Yitzchak Ratner

Mazal tov to the extraordinary and inspirational Reb Tanya. Thank you for your leadership! - Rabbi Lila Kagedan

Mazel tov! May you continue bringing light and love everywhere you go.
Love, Talia Weisberg

Mazal tov & thank you for being part of the Beis community.
-Sara & Travis Ben Ezra

Mazal Tov! May your sincerity and success continue to thrive! -Neil Fleischmann

Mazel tov to Reb Tanya and the Beis, celebrating with you in spirit!
Dana (Schmalz)

Mazel tov!!! May you continue lifting the holy sparks in everyone you encounter and everything you do. With love, Roni & Ilan

May your wisdom inspire, your words teach, and your work bring peace.
-The Coleman Family

Thank you for your hard work in making the community more special.
- Hadar, Rivka and Yoni Oppenheim



The Beis
COMMUNITY

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