CONGREGATION Beth Am בית עם Choose Kindness. Find Joy. Repair the World. www.bethambg.org

B. Mitzvah D'var Torah Outline

The purpose of the D'var Torah (a teaching of Torah) is to help understand your Torah portion, what it might teach us today, and what lessons we might learn from it.

To help you understand your Torah portion, please search for your Torah portion by name, online at https://reformjudaism.org/learning/torah-study and other sites such as Chabad.org, and discuss with members of your family.

There are summaries, commentaries, essays, and stories on your portion online. You will also want to read your Torah portion in English. Please read through the entire English text of your Torah portion (not just the verses you are studying). Rabbi Bellows is happy to meet to study your Torah portion with you before she meets with you to go over the D'var Torah. **Please email Rabbi Bellows (rabbibellows@bethambg.org) to schedule either one or two meetings at three months before your service**.

The outline below will help in writing your D'var Torah. Please complete (to the best of your ability before your meeting with Rabbi Bellows and bring it with you to your meeting with her.

Please use additional paper to complete your outline.

OUTLINE

I. **Introduction to D'var Torah**: Questions to ask the people there that might relate to your portion, tell a story, or give an example of something that relates to your portion.

II. **Summary of the important points in your Torah portion.** What is your Torah portion about? Please offer a brief summary of the portion and conclude this section/paragraph with your *"teaching point"- what stands out most to you that you might want to talk about/teach us.*

III. Explain the point you want to teach and apply it to life today:

III A: What is the message of your teaching point and why is it important to learn about and understand today?

IIIB: Give some examples from life today—whether in school, in the community, the country, etc.- that help teach your point.

IV. Please describe one or two of your Mitzvah projects and how they might relate to your portion.

V. Thank You paragraph. You will want to thank the people who helped you not only prepare for your service, but who help you in life!

VI. Concluding sentence or two, reiterating your point.

Please note:

- Begin your D'var Torah with "Shabbat Shalom" and end it with "Shabbat Shalom."
- Double-space and use a large font.
- Number the pages

B. Mitzvah D'var Torah Outline

- Title your D'var Torah with your name and date of your Mitzvah service at the top of the page.
- The first draft of your D'var Torah is due 1-2 weeks after your speech appointment and at least 3 weeks before your service. Please email it to Rabbi Bellows at rabbibellows@bethambg.org. Thanks!