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Dr. Jonathan I. Rosenblatt

Senior Rabbi
[O]718-548-1850 x115

Email: jir@rjconline.org

Rabbi Rosenblatt has been the Senior Rabbi of the Riverdale Jewish Center since 1985. A native of Baltimore, Rabbi Rosenblatt holds a BA and an MA from the Johns Hopkins University in Comparative Literature and a PhD from Columbia University in the field of Modern British Literature. Rabbi Rosenblatt studied in Israel at Yeshivat Har Etzion and was ordained by the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary of Yeshiva University in 1982. Before coming to Riverdale, he served communities in Seagate, Brooklyn and Teaneck, New Jersey. Rabbi Rosenblatt has been active in a wide range of communal and charitable causes with a special interest in the needs of children. He is an alumnus of the UJA-Federation National Young Leadership Cabinet – the first Orthodox Rabbi to serve on it. He directs Spiritual Care at the newly opened Jack and Mollie Zicklin Jewish Hospice in Riverdale. He has lectured widely in the United States, the United Kingdom, South Africa, and Israel. Rabbi Rosenblatt has a special interest in the training and mentoring of young Rabbis for the Diaspora. Under his guidance, the RJC has become a major training center of Rabbinic interns. He has a keen interest in herpetology and zoos. He and his wife,

Tzipporah Twersky Rosenblatt, a trusts and estates attorney, have four children.

Rabbi Yitzi Genack

Assistant Rabbi
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Email: genack@gmail.com

Rabbi Yitzi Genack studied at Yeshivat Derech HaTalmud from 2002-2005 and completed his undergraduate degree and semicha from YU/RIETS, where is currently a member of the Kollel Elyon and pursuing an MA in Jewish History. He has taught limudei kodesh in local area high schools and since 2008 has been an Assistant Editor at OU Press, responsible for compilation of the Halachic portions of the Soloveitchik Siddur, Haggadah and Kinot as well as multiple editions of the Mesorah journal. After interning at the East Hill Synagogue in Englewood from 2010-11, Rabbi Genack has served as Rabbinic Intern at the RJC since September 2011, where he has been involved in teaching, programming and pastoral work. He is married to Shoshana, a dietician practicing in Washington Heights, and they are the proud parents of Yaakov and Tani, ages 2 and 4.

Mr. Shimon Craimer

Chazzan
Email: shimcraimer@gmail.com

Chazzan Shim comes to us from London, England where he studied classical cantorial style with the Chief Rabbi. He first came to the attention of the Riverdale Jewish Center as a Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur guest cantor. Now, as the cantor of the RJC, Shim travels the country performing at various shuls, chagigahs, simchas, concerts and events. He has released 2 albums, the most recent of which earned him plaudits from the Jewish music world. Shim is married and has 4 kids, all of whom have 3 letter names.

Ms. Bracha Rutner

Yoetzet Halacha
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Bracha Rutner earned her Bachelor's degree in Judaic Studies from Stern College. She spent three years learning at Midreshet Lindenbaum's Bruria Scholar program and is completing a Masters Degree in Talmud from Hebrew University. She is a distinguished graduate of the Yoetzet Halacha Program of Nishmat, the Women's Torah institution in Jerusalem founded by Rabbanit Chana Henkin. She currently works as the Yoetzet Halacha in the Riverdale Jewish Center and teaches Talmud and Halacha at the Yeshiva of Flatbush. Nishmat's Yoetzot Halacha Program is the most advanced halachik program available to women. Graduates are rabbinically certified as Yoetzot Halacha (women halachik advisers). Upon completion of the two-year course of study, fellows pass a rigorous oral examination before a panel of four rabbinic experts—deans of well-known rabbinical institutions and recognized Poskim— before receiving certification as Yoetzot Halacha. Graduates of the program combine an exceptionally high level of scholarship with related medical knowledge, and an expertise gained in the practical application of halacha. A Yoetzet thus is available

for consultation on a wide variety of topics.

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