



Purim is celebrated by the reading of the Scroll of Esther, known in Hebrew as the *Megillat Esther*, which relates the basic story of Purim.

Under the rule of King Ahasuerus, Haman, the King's prime minister, plots to exterminate all of the Jews of Persia. His plan is foiled by Queen Esther and her cousin Mordechai, who ultimately save the Jews of the land from destruction. The reading of the *Megillah* is typically a rowdy affair, punctuated by booing and noise-making when Haman's name is read aloud.

Purim Celebration: on Erev Purim, we have dinner at 6:00 p.m. and service at 7:00 p.m. (check the temple calendar for date). Our celebration includes a themed dinner, complete with Hamantaschen; fun games, singing, and activities for the everyone; followed by a service with a hilarious themed skit and the reading our *Megillah*, which was handmade by our Religious School students. Don't forget to come in costume!

For more information or to RSVP for dinner, contact Kathy at klaws@cgoh.org or 518-374-8173.