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Rabbi Mitchell Kornspan

President Mark Schneider

December 2013

Kislev / Tevet 5774

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### Rabbi in the Community

Rabbi Kornspan opens up our synagogue for tours and learning about Judaism. Recently, he met with Pastor Joseph Gudel's senior high school classes from Concordia High School, with the Adult Education class from Auburn Presbyterian Church, and with visiting students from Bluffton University and from South Side High School.

Rabbi Kornspan was also the guest speaker at Faith U.C.C. and a participant in the Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at Temple Achduth Vesholom.

# B'nai Jacob Bulletin

Celebrating 100 Years ... 1912-2012



## The Little Known Observance

Dear B'nai Jacob family,

We are celebrating the last days of Chanukah through December 5th. When you first receive this bulletin, I want to repeat a Chag Chanukah Sameach, a happy Chanukah from Penny and me.

Of course, everyone knows about Chanukah! What is not so well known is the commemoration occurring on Friday, December 13th. It is the 10th of the Hebrew month of Tevet, and is a fast day. Why was this fast fixed into the Jewish calendar, despite it being on Erev Shabbat?

It is because in 425 B.C.E., Nebuchadnezzar of Babylonia began the assault on Jerusalem. This was the start of the closing stages of Jewish independence and freedom in Israel. Less than three years later, the walls of Jerusalem were breached and the First Temple was destroyed. Our ancestors were exiled, forcefully taken into Babylonian captivity.

In our modern calendar, this is the only fast that can fall on a Friday! Why wasn't it moved? Why not treat it as other fasts, some that would be moved early to Thursday, and others postponed until Sunday?

There are two fascinating answers! One is that there is a relationship in our Tanakh (our Bible) between the 10th of

Tevet and another fast day, whose date must be the 10th, even if we adjust the calendar otherwise. This is the major fast of Yom Kippur. In Leviticus 23:28, Yom Kippur is described as "B'etzem Hayom Haze", i.e. on the very day. Similarly, in Ezekiel 24:2, the 10th of Tevet has a similar description: "Etzem Hayom Haze", i.e. the very day).

A second reason is that the 10th of Tevet is the only one of the four historical fasts whose precise date is mentioned in Tanakh! (II Kings 25:1, Jeremiah 52:4, and Ezekiel 24:1.)

What is the deeper meaning of this observance? Whenever we fast, we are looking into ourselves. We are searching for ways to grow and become better. In a sense, just as the Temple stood for a way of reaching out to all peoples, being an "or lagoyim", a light to the nations, so too do we, by our positive or negative deeds, serve as an example to inspire or disillusion others. With this fast, we do our own soul searching, taking our own inventory.

On the 10th of Tevet, we feel the consequences, of what it means to not have the Temple in Jerusalem, and an Israel that has peace. We feel the consequences of what it means to be in exile, including the loss of six million of our people. It is no wonder that the great Rabbis of these last generations have said that on the 10th of Tevet we should say kaddish for the victims of the Shoah, many whose date of death is unknown. After all, is there any greater loss than this? Isn't it reflected in our lack of numbers, in each synagogue and religious school? How different a scenario it might have been, if the six million had not been murdered!

When you reflect on our history of the diaspora, it all originates from being in exile, from the destruction of the Temple, and yes, to the 10th of Tevet.

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## The Little Known Observance

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Should this bring us down? Absolutely not! If anything it should strengthen our resolve to support Israel, our Jewish community, our synagogue and our religious school.

It should also firm our resolve to be the best representatives of what it means to be a Jew!

B'shalom,

*Rabbi Mitchell Kornspan*



### Light It Up Party!

**Tuesday, December 3rd  
5:30pm-7:30pm**

Hot dogs, cole slaw, salad, chips, and of course potato latkes and dessert will be served at 5:30pm. The evening will include a silent auction and an adult and kid friendly white elephant exchange. Plus, Bingo will be played for a quarter per card and a craft will be made by the children.

**Bring your menorah for a congregational candle lighting!**

A donation of \$1.00 per person in support of our Religious School will be collected at the door. (The party follows Religious School, which begins at 4:00pm.)

**RESERVATIONS DUE BY  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 2.**

## Let's Talk Tourkow



*Aliza Tourkow and John Wallace shown holding "Gold Excellence in Economic Award". They are flanked by members of IEDC.*

**Aliza Tourkow**, Grant Administrator for the City of Fort Wayne's Redevelopment Department, recently travelled to Philadelphia where she and Redevelopment Assistant Director John Wallace accepted the "Gold Excellence in Economic Development Award", from the International Economic Development Council, for the City's Commercial Facade Grant Program. The program is a dollar-for-dollar matching grant that provides up to \$20,000 to single-tenant buildings and \$40,000 to multi-tenant buildings for transformation and revitalization of the exterior of older buildings in the City's core. Since its inception in 2008, 63 facade improvement projects have been completed or are in the process of completion, generating a private investment of nearly \$3 million. **Congratulations to B'nai Jacob's Aliza Tourkow for this recognition of her work toward making Fort Wayne a more vibrant community in which to live!**



**Josh Tourkow** is a family law attorney and the senior attorney at Tourkow Crell Rosenblatt and Johnston. In October and November he was a featured guest on ABC 21Alive's INsight, a local program aired at 12:20pm weekdays and dedicated to providing an in-depth view of business, services, events and people in the community. Topics of Josh's discussions: the dangers of social media postings while going through a divorce; and adoption. **Great going, Josh!**

**Donna Tourkow** is our gift shop manager and is announcing a **BIG SALE!** - see next page of this bulletin.

## Religious School

- **Tuesday, December 3**  
4:00pm Classes  
5:30pm-7:30pm Chanukah Party
- **Friday, December 13**  
6:00pm - K.I.S.S. followed by Shabbat Dinner
- **Sunday, December 15 @ Temple**  
9:45am Maccabiah Games  
12:30pm "Chaverim" lunch and craft sponsored by Federation

*Religious School takes a winter break following classes on Saturday, December 21. Classes resume on Tuesday, January 7.*

## CONGREGATIONAL DONATIONS - DECEMBER

### General Fund

In memory of father Max Konigsberg  
- *Dan and Annie Appel*

### Kiddush Fund

In honor of Diane Wolf's 85th birthday  
- *Dan and Annie Appel*

In appreciation

- *Adolph and Adrienne Brateman*

In memory of mother Pauline Brateman

- *Adolph and Adrienne Brateman*

In appreciation

- *Austin and Nancy Fergusson*

In honor of all who celebrated birthdays -

"Happy Birthday!" - *Ovadya*

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In appreciation

- *Adolph and Adrienne Brateman*

In appreciation of Rabbi

- *Mark and Donna Cole*

In appreciation

- *Austin and Nancy Fergusson*

### Seth Horwitz Education Fund

In memory of Seth Aaron Horwitz

- *Phillip and Zelma Horwitz*

### Torah Maintenance Fund

In appreciation

- *Adolph and Adrienne Brateman*

In honor of Ron Friedman for leading services at Ahavas Sholom in Ligonier, IN

- *Austin and Nancy Fergusson*

In honor of all who celebrated wedding and Bar/Bat Mitzvah anniversaries -

"Mazel Tov!" - *Ovadya*

### Yahrzeit Fund

In memory of grandfather David Appel

- *Dan and Annie Appel*

In memory of Bessie Schmitz

- *Elsa and Steven Jakob*

In memory of father Frederick R. Tourkow

- *Joshua and Donna Tourkow*



50% off all Hanukkah items and 25% off everything else in our Gift Shop

Now through December 16.

"SUCH A DEAL" says Donna!

### December Birthdays

- 1 Linda Snitzer
- 6 Barry Snitzer
- 8 Michal Spanjer
- 8 Daniel Goltz
- 10 Bob Serdinak
- 12 Kathy Shulkin-Jensen
- 12 Marc Spanjer
- 20 Lisa Bradley
- 20 Julian Schuler
- 22 Kasey Bussell
- 22 Virgil Mocle
- 25 Bernard Gandin
- 26 Estelle Greenberg
- 27 Vicki Goltz
- 29 Pam Friedman

### December Anniversaries

- 24 Art and Julie Kupersmith
- 27 David and Mary Bosell



## Happy New Year from Bella Boosta!

Dear Bella, My whole family consists of professional cooks and I can barely boil water. Problem: It's my turn to host the New Year's Eve dinner. What can I do? I don't want to be embarrassed again. **Dee Frosst**  
Dear Dee, I can't help you this year, but I will be opening a food service business next year with the name "Scratch, Inc." Then, anything you serve will really be from Scratch! ☺☺☺☺☺☺☺☺☺☺



Special Thanks to:

- *Adolph and Adrienne Brateman for their generous gift toward the kitchen renovation.*
- *Austin and Nancy Fergusson for sponsoring Shabbat Dinner the weekend Arthur Kurzweil was with us.*
- *Mark and Melissa Schneider, Pam Friedman, Iris Fuchs, Rebbeztin Penny and Keith Groman for their preparation of November Kiddushim.*
- *Keith Groman for sponsoring Kiddush on November 16 in celebration of his Bar Mitzvah anniversary.*

## Confronting the Shoah

The Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne invites you to attend a five-session program, "Confronting the Shoah." The course will provide participants with a solid background regarding the Nazi Holocaust. Taught by IPFW Professor and USHMM Mandel Fellow, Dr. David Lindquist, the sessions will



be held at the Campus @ 5200 Old Mill Road. The two hour classes will begin at 7:00pm and will be held on the

following Tuesdays: January 14, 21, 28, February 11, 18, and 25 (make up).

The program is open to any adult and junior or senior in high school in the greater Fort Wayne area. There is no cost for the series to Federation members. There is a \$5.00 non-member fee to cover the costs of materials.

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**Confronting the Shoah**

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The program is supported by the **Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation, and gifts from our members to the Annual Campaign.** Registration in advance by telephone will be appreciated. A commitment to attend all five sessions is not necessary, but suggested. Please call the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne at 422-8566 or register by email to office@fwjf.org.



**December Yahrzeits יזכור**

**Kislev / November**

7	9-10	Bessie Meyer
7	9-10	David Weiss
8	10-11	Frances Groden Bussell
8	10-11	Yetta Jacobson
8	10-11	Dora Sains
9	11-12	William Brosler
10	12-13	Dorothy Levant Dicker
10	12-13	Morris Forlander
10	12-13	Rosalie Freund
10	12-13	Joseph Latker
10	12-13	Sally Rosenberg
10	12-13	Toba Weinstein
11	13-14	Salomon Efroim Borenstein
11	13-14	Clyde R. Gaddis
11	13-14	Sidney Katz
11	13-14	Sam Krantzle
12	14-15	Max Zinn
13	15-16	Rebekah Schwartz
13	15-16	Jeanette Sunshine
14	16-17	Howard Dinnerstein
14	16-17	Thomas Portman
15	17-18	Fannie Franklin
15	17-18	Joseph Wiesenthal
16	18-19	Henry J. Friedman
18	20-21	Pauline Brateman
18	20-21	Frederick Gee
18	20-21	Norma Levin
18	20-21	Benjamin Ochstein
19	21-22	Stanley Kornspan
19	21-22	Emanuel Levy
19	21-22	Michelle Lundmark
20	22-23	Norma Jean Rifkin
20	22-23	Morris Abraham Ruchman
21	23-24	Samuel Finkelstein
21	23-24	Deborah Gorelick
21	23-24	Marlene Ochstein
21	23-24	David Siegel
22	24-25	Herman Lowenhar
22	24-25	Sam Nemoff
23	25-26	Ethel Schecter
23	25-26	Jeanne Winnick
24	26-27	Sol Bronstein
24	26-27	Maureen Gilbert
24	26-27	Fannie Kravitz
24	26-27	Sarah (Sally) Masursky
25	27-28	Minnette Ruchman
27	29-30	Sam Jaffe
28	30-31	Herman Ivan Messe
28	30-31	Harry Papier
28	30-31	Hannah Royter
28	30-31	Hyme Sains
28	30-31	Bonnie Weiler
28	30-31	David Weinberg
29	31-1	Tillie Auerbach
29	31-1	Philip Dorman

**If you would like to make a donation in honor/memory of someone, please fill out the form and submit it with your check to:**

Congregation B'nai Jacob  
7227 Bittersweet Moors Drive  
Fort Wayne, IN 46814

I have enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in honor/memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

**Fund Preference: Please indicate which fund you prefer to donate to:**

- A.J. Ochstein Fund**
- Building Fund**
- David Siegel Memorial Fund**
- General Fund**
- Kiddush Fund**
- Levy/Levin Endowment Fund**
- Library Fund**
- Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**
- Seth Horwitz Education Fund**
- Simon/Hannah Crell Education Fund**
- Sisterhood Nursery Fund**
- Torah Maintenance Fund**
- Winnick Memorial Garden Fund**
- Yahrzeit Fund**

**December Yahrzeits יזכור**

**Kislev / December**

29	1-2	Rebitzin Gute Golden
29	1-2	Manuel Margulis
29	1-2	Mickey Pass
29	1-2	Sarah Weiss
30	2-3	Anna Bussell
30	2-3	K.J. Miller
30	2-3	Golda Sheray
30	2-3	Fannie Siegel

**Tevet / December**

1	3-4	Lou Hoffman
1	3-4	Florence Katz
1	3-4	Harry Levin
3	5-6	Benjamin Cahn
3	5-6	Solomon Safirstein
4	6-7	Joseph Kaplan
4	6-7	Bernard Kroot
4	6-7	Candy Stinnett
4	6-7	Louis Samuel Superior
5	7-8	Rosa Rappaport McKinney
5	7-8	Morris Tillinger
6	8-9	Herman Komisarow
6	8-9	Sarah Leah Komisarow
6	8-9	Dorothy Margulis
7	9-10	Nathan Bialick
7	9-10	Morris King
7	9-10	Anna Krantzle

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**Congregation  
B'nai Jacob**

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- Ron Friedman, 1st Vice President
- Josh Tourkow, 2nd Vice President
- Pam Friedman, Recording Secretary
- Paul Schuler, Treasurer
- Mike Adams, Financial Secretary
- Ron Friedman, Past President
- David Bussell, Past President
- Josh Tourkow, Past President

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- |              |                  |
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