

Rabbi Menachem Goldberger

בס"ד

הרב מנחם ראובן הלוי גולדברגר
שליטא מרא דאתרא



בלב אברהם

Pushka total: \$1,613,330.18 (see p. 3)

14 Adar 5780/March 10, 2020

5746-5780

Celebrating our 34th year

1986-2020

DAVENING SCHEDULE

Monday -Taanis Esther

Fast begins:	6:15 am
Shacharis:	6:30 am
Mincha (half Shekels):	6:30 pm
Maariv:	7:40 pm
Megilla:	8:00 pm
Purim Shpiel following Megilla	
Second Megilla:	10:15 pm

Tuesday - Purim Day

Shacharis:	8:00 am
Megilla:	8:50 am
Second Megilla:	11:30 am
Mincha:	3:30 pm

Impeachment

In a recent press conference, Speaker Nancy Pelosi announced a new impeachment trial to begin after the primary elections. She was quoted as saying: "It has come to light that President Trump did not act alone in his collusion with Russia and the Ukraine. We recently discovered several hundred texts, emails and tweets to an agent called "Binster," and after a thorough investigation, we have identified this to be an elusive secret government agent named Benjamin "Binny" Margolese, who has been posing as the president of a small synagogue in Baltimore, Maryland, called Tiferes Yisroel. Since we could not get President Trump, we plan to proceed with articles of impeachment against President Margolese instead." Binny denies all charges against him and responded, "There is no collusion, and I did not inhale."

Sock Gemach

Have you noticed a hole in one of your favorite pair of socks? Does your dryer seem to eat a sock every now and again, leaving you with one odd sock? No need to worry –TY's own Elka Rottman has started a sock gemach in her basement. There are hundreds of socks

from which to choose, including a variety of striped, polka-dotted, and of course, solid black or white. Please be sure to wash the sock thoroughly before returning. For more information or to donate socks, please contact Elka at sockgemach@gmail.com or 410-SOC-KS4U.

Siyum for Berachos

In honor of completing our first Gemara, Maseches Berachos, the TY Daf Yomi group will be making a siyum in the court of the garden of the King's palace, with hangings of white, fine cotton, and blue wool, held with cords of fine linen and purple wool, upon silver rods and marble pillars, and couches of gold and silver on a pavement of green and white, and shell and onyx marble. Drinks will be served in golden goblets – no two goblets alike – and royal wine in abundance, according to the bounty of the King, according to every man's pleasure. This siyum is for men and women; the entire kehillah is invited and encouraged to attend. To help sponsor this event, please go to the shul website Events page. To donate your gold or silver couches for this event, please email Yehuda Tenenbaum at yehuda.tenenbaum@gmail.com.

Thank You

Today's special thank you goes out to Gabbai Extraordinaire, Jay "Trombone" Taffel for his traditional musical accompaniment during the reading of the Megilla and the hanging of Haman and his sons. Yasher koach!

Want to Be a "Minyanaire"?!

Want to impress your Creator? Looking for a way to increase your "spiritual equity"? Come join the TY Minion minyan. We are looking for a few (10+) good, short, yellow men with blue overalls, ages 13-120, to join our

Minion minyan. **Shacharis** is at 6:30 am during the week, 8:30 am on Shabbos, and 8:00 am on Sundays. **Mincha/Maariv** begins 10 minutes before shkia, Monday through Thursday nights; please check the seasonal davening schedule or the Lev Echad for exact times. Extra credit if you are one of the first ten Minions in shul to daven.

KIPA MERICA GREAT

Want to show your support for the shul and for Trump 2020? Tiferes Yisroel is now selling red "MAGA-Style" KIPA MERICA GREAT kippahs. Shul president Binny Margolese has just received a truckload of these trendy, red kippahs, and is selling them for just \$24.99 through the shul website; all sizes available for both boys and men. Order yours today! For more information, please contact Binny at president@tiferesyisroel.org.

Moving On

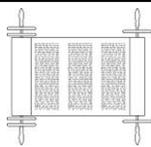
This summer, our beloved Rabbi and Rebbetzin Goldberger will be moving to Grafarholt og Ulfarsardalur in Reykjavik, Iceland, to establish a new shul and be *m'karev* the three Jews that live there. "We feel that it is important to reach out to all Jewish people around the world. Clearly our work is done here, and we feel that it is time to move on." Replacing his father as Rav of the shul will be this year's CauseMatch Concert honoree and shul hipster, Keely Goldberger, who will reinstitute a new dress code to include plaids, stripes and shades of brown, blue and tan. We wish the Rabbi and Rebbetzin *hatzlacha rabbah* on their new endeavor!

Mazel Tov to

- Akiva Simcha and Yehudah Shalom Rosenstock for having another 613 submissions printed again this year in the Circle Magazine. Yasher koach!

This Purim Lev Echad is sponsored by:

Yaakov "Jack" Daniels, Boruch "Bud" Weiser and Yonatan "Johnny" Walker. Have a freilichen and festive Purim!



Purim – Megillas Esther

By Rabbi Ozer Alport

“The lot was cast in the presence of Haman from day to day... to the 12th month, which is the month of Adar” (3:7)

Rav Gedaliah Schorr points out that since the Jewish months are counted from Nissan, Adar is the final month of the year. On a spiritual level, Nissan represents renewal. It is the beginning of a new year and the first month of spring, when the earth begins to awaken from its winter slumber. It is full of potential and energy, and for that reason, it was chosen as the month for the redemption from Egypt.

The further a month is from the source of light, the darker and more hidden it will seem. For this reason, Haman was ecstatic at the choice of Adar, the last month of the year and not surprisingly the month in which Moshe was taken from us, as the most auspicious time for the annihilation of the Jews.

However, Rav Schorr explains that within the apparent concealment, a pool of light is hidden away. In fact, this source must be even stronger than at other times in order to allow it the ability to penetrate the darkness and not be completely swallowed up. In the midst of the great darkness, the month of Adar contains within it a tremendous source of radiance. When the Jewish people were inspired to properly repent, they were able to access and reveal this brilliant light, reversing all of the negative energy into forces for good. This potential energy is present every Adar, available and waiting for us to tap into it in order to reveal the ultimate light – *la'Yehudim haysa orah, kein tiyeh lanu!*

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Who Was Memuchan?

Megillas Esther begins with the elaborate feast that King Achashverosh made to celebrate the third year of his reign and to display the “riches of his glorious kingdom and the splendor of his excellent majesty” (Esther 1:4). As we all know, the king got a little too drunk and ordered his chamberlains to “bring Vashti the Queen before the King wearing [nothing but] the royal crown” (ibid. 1:11). Outraged by his request, Vashti refused, and “the King therefore became very incensed and his anger burned in him” (ibid. 1:12). Not sure

what to do with Vashti, the King summoned the counsel of his closest advisors: “Carshena, Shethar, Admatha, Tarshish, Meres, Marsena and Memuchan, the seven officers of Persia and Media” (ibid. 1:14). It was Memuchan who first approached the King and proposed that “Vashti never again appear before King Achashverosh. This proposal pleased the King... and the King did according to the word of Memuchan” (ibid. 1:19-21). Of course, Vashti was put to death, and the king was now in need of a new queen.

So, who was this Memuchan, and why was he chosen to determine the fate of the queen and alter the course of history? Was he just some “schmo” who played cards in the king’s Thursday night pinochle game, or was he someone of a higher nobility? There are several opinions, but most commentators suggest that Memuchan was either the prophet Daniel or the wicked Haman.

When he became the king, Darius the Mede appointed Daniel to serve as vizier over the land, “because of extraordinary spirit in him; and the king thought to appoint him over the whole kingdom” (Daniel 6:4). The Persian government had issued a decree prohibiting prayers to any god for a thirty-day period, and when Daniel violated it by praying to G-d, he was cast into the lion’s den. Since he was willing to risk his life for G-d, he was worthy of miracles and saved. Witnessing this miracle, Darius proclaimed, “In all the dominion of my kingdom, people shall tremble and be in fear before the G-d of Daniel... Who has saved Daniel from the clutches of the lions... Daniel met with success in the reign of Darius and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian” (ibid. 6:27-29). Daniel was given the name Memuchan (ממוכן), which literally means “prepared,” for he was prepared to suffer martyrdom and prepared to experience miracles. Daniel had good reason to advise against Vashti, as she was the daughter of King Belshazzar. After he was made an advisor to the king, Daniel was given a Persian wife by Belshazzar, and because of her great wealth and prestige, she lorded over him. With Vashti’s fate in his hands, Daniel was able to avenge this wrong, and Providence decreed that she be judged by Daniel (Me’am Lo’ez).

The other opinion is that Memuchan was none other than the wicked Haman. He was called Memuchan because he was “prepared” to cause trouble in the kingdom. The first trouble that he caused was Vashti’s death sentence. Haman bore a grudge against Vashti because she went out of her way to snub him; when Vashti invited all the women of Shushan to her feast, she deliberately neglected Haman’s wife in order to further degrade him and his family. Also, Haman had a daughter, and he hoped that with Vashti out of the way, his daughter would be chosen by Achashverosh to become the new queen. The royal astrologers informed Haman that the “king’s

wife” would point the finger at him and have him killed. Assuming that this referred to Vashti, Haman wanted her out of the way. He reasoned that if his own daughter were queen, such a danger would not exist. It was poetic justice that Haman was the one to bring about the downfall of Vashti, as Esther became the new queen, and it was indeed Esther who brought about Haman’s downfall (ibid.).

Achashverosh did not actually hate Vashti for what she had done, but killed her impetuously because of Memuchan’s advice. She was burned alive (Midrash). Deep down, Achashverosh now fostered a deep hatred toward Haman for what he had done. Instead of openly punishing Haman, the king treated him like his best friend, eventually elevating him to the highest position in the kingdom, with the intention that his downfall should be all the greater (Me’am Lo’ez). A freilichen Purim.

-Lev Avraham Rosenstock

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Next Purim Lev Echad Deadline:

10 Adar 5781, noon
levechad@tiferesyisroel.org

Freilichen Purim!



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