

Rabbi Menachem Goldberger

הרב מנחם ראובן הלוי גולדברגר
שליטא מרא דאתרא

בס"ד



בלויב אברהם

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

14 Adar 5781/February 26, 2021

5746-5781

Celebrating our 35th year

1986-2021

DAVENING SCHEDULE

***Please note that all Purim davening is for men only in the Main Shul. All Megilla readings for men are in the Main Shul, and for women in the Simcha Hall.**

Thursday- Taanis Esther

Fast begins:	5:33 am
Shacharis:	6:40 am
Mincha (Machatzis HaShekel):	5:15 pm
Maariv:	6:25 pm
1st Megilla:	6:45 pm
2nd Megilla:	8:00 pm
3rd Megilla:	9:00 pm

Friday - Purim Day

1st Shacharis:	7:15 am
1st Megilla:	8:10 am
2nd Shacharis:	9:30 am
*Sof ziman Krias Shema:	9:31 am
(Please say Shema before davening!)	
2nd Megilla:	10:25 am
3rd Megilla:	11:15 am
Mincha/Maariv:	5:40 pm

Guinness World Records

We are proud to announce that TY's own Aryeh Leib Goldberger has set a new Guinness World Record for the "fastest growth spurt." When interviewed by Guinness, Reb Shlomo Goldberger described this fantastic human anomaly: "When we went to buy Aryeh Leib a new suit for his bar mitzvah, he was only 4 feet 6 inches tall. That was just two summers ago. Now he is almost 7 feet tall and still growing!" Although Guinness stopped publishing its book, "The Guinness Book of World Records" in 1999, you may follow Aryeh Leib's growth spurt on www.guinnessworldrecords.com.

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 7:00 am during the week, 9:00 am on Shabbos, and 8:00 am on Sundays. **Maariv only** at 8:00 pm, Monday through Thursday nights; please check the seasonal davening schedule or the Lev Echad for exact times. Extra credit if you bring Dr. Nefario to be chazzan, or are one of the first ten Minions in shul to daven.

Where's Lenny?

Purim marks the one-year "anniversary" of Covid-19 in the Baltimore community. Since the pandemic started, no one has seen Lenny Ross anywhere in the shul. Where's Lenny? As levels of concern increase daily among most shul members, Lev Avraham Rosenstock and Mo Margolese will be organizing a search party to try and find Lenny! "Lenny has been missing long enough. We need to find him and bring him back to shul." A registration form will be sent out by shul email; **everyone will be required to wear a mask and practice social distancing during the search.** Thank you for supporting your shul (and Lenny!).

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!

KIPA MERICA GREAT

Back by popular demand! As a tribute to former president Donald Trump, Tiferes Yisroel is once again selling red "MAGA-Style" KIPA MERICA GREAT kippahs. Shul

president Binny Margolese has just received a new 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 info, please contact Binny at president@tiferesyisroel.org.

TY Sisterhood Event

Rachel Rosenstock will be giving a shiur for all women of the shul based on her top-ten-best-seller-list book, "Setting the Shabbos Table for a Meticulous Yeki Husband." Topics will include:

- How to perfectly center a tablecloth, making sure that the creases are equidistant and perfectly plumb to the table
- How to set the plates and silverware to be aptly symmetrical, with the bottoms of the forks in perfect alignment with the napkin
- The importance of facing the knife inward towards the plate with the soup spoon placed to the slight right 2.25 cm below the knife
- The precise method for lining up the Kiddush cups in chronological order according to the ages of the children, centered and faced

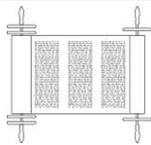
The event will take place via **ZOOM** on Sunday, April 7, from 8 to 9 pm, and is free of charge. Stay tuned for the **ZOOM** link.

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.

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 tihyeh 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 5782, noon
levechad@tiferesyisroel.org

Freilichen Purim!



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