

HIGH HOLY DAY ISSUE

Kehilath Jeshurun Bulletin



Volume LXX Number 1

September 22, 2000

22 Elul 5760

A KIDDUSH HASHEM IN A PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN

By Rabbi Haskel Lookstein

(This sermon was delivered by me on Shabbat Nachamu, August 12, 2000, immediately following the news of the selection of Senator Joseph Lieberman as a vice-presidential candidate. It is presented here as this year's High Holy Day message. Haskel Lookstein)

I.

I must begin with a disclaimer. Nothing that I am about to say should be construed as a public endorsement of any candidate in the forthcoming election. My father, of blessed memory, always felt that a Rabbi's vote is his own business and that it is inappropriate, except under the most extreme circumstances, for a rabbi to endorse a public candidate. I have followed that policy myself and I shall try to continue to follow it, to the best of my ability, in the coming election and beyond.

II.

When we awoke to the news this past Monday morning of Senator Joseph Lieberman's selection as the Democratic Party's candidate for Vice President, most of us had one of two reactions. One reaction was expressed to me by a member of the congregation who is a survivor of the Holocaust and whose wife still bears a number from Auschwitz on her arm. He said that he was worried about a Jew being too public in an election campaign and he felt that the selection of Senator Joseph Lieberman as the Vice Presidential candidate on the Democratic ticket would arouse anti-semitism and

many hurtful feelings. It was a natural reaction for one who has experienced much more than hurtful feelings in his life.

That reaction was echoed by an American-born Harvard graduate with whom I talked yesterday. He, too, was uneasy about a Jew being chosen for such a high post in the United States government. He pointed out that historically we haven't fared well when Jews

SELICHOT SERVICES

Saturday, September 23

10:00 PM

COLLATION

9:15 PM

POST SELICHOT

Youth Open Gym

Grades 9-12

achieved so much power in a country's affairs — a prime example is Don Isaac Abravanel in the Spanish court in 1492. There are other examples in medieval and modern times in central and eastern Europe. The news, in short, was cause for some concern.

Most of us, however, had a different reaction. We were excited, thrilled, energized, proud. One of our boys made it! Somebody remarked to me that it is now a reasonable possibility that an Orthodox Jew could be the President of the United

Continued on Page 8

PREPARE YOURSELF FOR THE HIGH HOLY DAYS

RABBI DAVID FLATTO

Saturday, September 23

Morning Sermon:

"The Justice in Compassion"

One Hour Before Mincha:

Talmud Class:

***"Being Happy on the
High Holidays"***

Seudah Shlishit

***"Today you are Standing
Before God"***

ROSH HASHANAH WORKSHOP

RABBI YITZ MOTECHIN

Monday, September 25

8:00 PM

YOM KIPPUR WORKSHOP

RABBI YITZ MOTECHIN

Monday, October 2

8:00 PM

TESHUVA SHIUR

RABBI SAUL BERMAN

***"Preparing Yourself for Atonement:
The Meaning of Innuy Nefesh"***

Tuesday, October 3

8:30 PM

SHABBAT SHUVA DRASHA

RABBI HASKEL LOOKSTEIN

"Can We Change Our Nature?"

Saturday, October 7

5:30 PM

SUKKOT WORKSHOP

RABBI YITZ MOTECHIN

Thursday, October 12

8:00 PM

**RABBIS ELIEZER RUBIN, JOSHUA CYPRESS,
AND DAVID FLATTO
TO ASSUME NEW RESPONSIBILITIES
New and Expanded Leadership Roles will be Played by
Three Rabbinic Personalities
at Kehilath Jeshurun**

Rabbi Eliezer Rubin, who has been a part of the KJ/Ramaz community for 11 years, has been named KJ's Scholar in Residence. Rabbi Rubin, who taught in the Ramaz Upper School and was the headmaster of the Lower School, is the first to hold that position now in the new Middle School. He will be teaching two Talmud shiurim for KJ on Tractate Brachot; One on Shabbat morning at 8:00 AM and the other on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM. In addition, he will deliver a series of presentations at Saturday afternoon Seudot Shlishit and occasional Shabbat morning sermons. Rabbi Rubin is also the leader of the Teen Minyan.

We are proud to now call our former Rabbinic Intern, "Rabbi Joshua Cypess." Rabbi Cypess will be the Rabbinic Assistant of the congregation. He will teach shiurim, including the Shabbat afternoon Parsha Foundations class, as well as a series of Seudah Shlishit presentations. He will occasionally speak from the pulpit and share other responsibilities. Rabbi Cypess will also be teaching at Yeshiva University's Stern College for Women

and Drisha Institute.

Rabbi David Flatto is the new Rabbinic Scholar of the congregation. He, himself, a graduate of Ramaz and Yeshiva University received his law degree from Columbia University. In addition to studying at Yeshivat Sha'alavim and Yeshivat Har Etzion, Rabbi Flatto received his Semikha from the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary of Yeshiva University. Having worked for the law firm of Kramer Levin, he will now be devoting his full efforts to KJ and Ramaz. He will be teaching Daf Yomi each morning before davening as well as an Advanced Talmud class on Wednesday evenings. Rabbi Flatto will be teaching Shabbat afternoon Talmud classes once a month and will be available for Chavruta learning. He will have pastoral responsibilities and will be part of the rotation for Seudah Shlishit presentations as well as At Home with the Parsha. Throughout all of this he will be busy teaching Jewish Philosophy at Ramaz.

We invite all members of the congregation to get to know these outstanding rabbinic personalities.

**AN ACT OF CHARITY
CAN CHANGE
ONE'S DESTINY!**

As the New Year begins it is time that we take a moment and think of the charitable contributions we have made in our past year. A contribution that has caused you an inconvenience; these are the ones that truly count. In this year, 5761, the year of change, we the members of Chesed (formerly known as 'The Social Action Committee') are going to facilitate your act of charity and act of kindness.

We have many divisions that need your assistance. Not full time. Not even part time. Just some of the time. We offer you the opportunity to participate in:

Bikur Cholim, Clothing Drives, Food Drives, Mitzvah Toy project, Dorot (assistance and programs for the elderly), and anything that is an act of KINDNESS.

We need your assistance. To be involved please contact us through the synagogue office. As a reminder, our Project Ezra Food Drive will begin the day after Rosh Hashanah and end on Kol Nidre. Please get those cans and boxes ready now! The following is a list of food needed:

Suggested Foods:

Canned Soups
Gefilte Fish
Tuna
Canned Vegetables
Instant Coffee
Sardines

OU or Kof K, please.

We wish you a year filled with happiness, success and good health!
Gemar Chatimah Tovah!

KESHER CLUB

SAVE THE DATES

<i>October 21</i>	Shemini Atzeret Luncheon
<i>November 18</i>	New Members Kiddush
<i>January 20</i>	Havdalah Service and Melaveh Malka
<i>March 3</i>	Progressive Dinner
<i>May 19</i>	Shabbaton Lunch

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Rabbi Haskel Lookstein's Shabbat Shuva Discourse

"CAN WE CHANGE OUR NATURE?"

Shabbat Afternoon, October 7, 2000 at 5:30

On Shabbat Shuva, October 7, following Mincha at 5:30 in the Main Synagogue, Rabbi Haskel Lookstein will discuss the question of whether or not a person can change his or her own nature.

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are all about change. During that ten-day penitential period we are supposed to engage in a process of *cheshbon hanefesh* — spiritual soul-searching — with a view toward revealing our shortcomings and correcting them. Most of that review, however, is associated with our actions rather than with our essence.

The Shabbat Shuva discourse this

year will deal with the question: Can we actually change our nature? For example, I may be by nature an angry person or a stingy person or a jealous person; can I change that? Is my basic nature fixed, whether inborn or influenced by the environment? Jewish sources, particularly Maimonides, have a lot to say about this subject. Through the Shabbat Shuva discourse, the Rabbi will consider those sources and offer concrete suggestions for change.

We invite men, women and children to what promises to be not just an intellectual exercise but an important penitential experience as well.



ANTICIPATING A NEW PRESIDENT

... AND VICE PRESIDENT

**PROFESSOR HENRY F. GRAFF RETURNS FOR
MEN'S CLUB SUKKAH SUPPER**

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 6:30 PM

MEN, WOMEN, AND STUDENTS INVITED

The historical relationship between American Jews and the Man in the White House has been at times proud, distressing, funny, and puzzling — and never more tense and fateful than in 2000. In that light, Professor Henry F. Graff will address this year's Men's Club Sukkah Supper on Tuesday evening, October 17 at 6:30 PM. The title of the talk will be: ANTICIPATING A NEW PRESIDENT... AND VICE PRESIDENT.

Professor of History at Columbia and former Chairman of its department, Dr. Graff has lectured at major colleges and universities

throughout the United States. He is widely published. His fields of specialization are United States foreign relations and the history of the United States presidency. He has been received with great enthusiasm in two previous appearances at KJ.

In treating the subject of this lecture, Professor Graff promises a reflective review appropriate to this presidential election year. The Supper will be preceded by Mincha and Ma'ariv in the chapel at 6:05 PM.

The cost for the Sukkah Supper is \$20. All students may make reservations at the rate of \$10 per person.

KOL NIDRE FOOD DRIVE

October 2-8

*Collection bins
will be available
in the lobby.*

Kol Nidre is the last chance.

The Next Young People's Minyan

will take place on

**Saturday, October 7
at 9:15 AM**

Women's Tefillah Group

Simchat Torah
Sunday, October 22
at 9:15 AM

In the Max J. Etra Chapel

SAVE THE DATE

KJ DINNER DANCE

*Come and Celebrate With Us
Dining, Dancing,
And Friends Galore*

**Saturday Evening,
December 9**

BEGINNERS PROGRAMS AT KJ

BEGINNERS COURSES

Co-Sponsored By
KJ and The National Jewish Outreach Program
Beginning Wednesday, November 1

Hebrew Reading Crash Course – Levels I and II
6:30-8:00 PM

Basic Judaism – Levels I and II
8:00-9:30 PM

*Hellenism, Judaism, and Rome:
An Exploration of the Second Temple Era*
Rabbi Yossi Weiser
7:00-8:00 PM

Practical Judaism: Laws of Kashrut
Rabbi Joshua Lookstein
8:00-9:30 PM

MORE CLASSES

Studies in the Weekly Portion
Mondays 7:00 PM Begins November 6

Intro to Talmud
Rabbi Yitz Motechin
Tuesdays 8:00 PM Begins October 31

HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS

Rosh Hashanah, Monday, September 25 at 8:00 PM
Yom Kippur, Monday, October 2 at 8:00 PM
Sukkot, Thursday, October 12 at 8:00 PM

COME TO DINNER AT KJ AND ENJOY THE FRIDAY NIGHT SHABBAT EXPERIENCE

Nov 17 » Dec 8 » Jan 19 » Feb 16 » Mar 23

... AND TO LUNCH AFTER SATURDAY MORNING
BEGINNERS SERVICES

Nov 4 » Dec 9 » Jan 20 » Feb 24
Mar 17 » Apr 28 » May 19

*THE SHABBOS FOR PEOPLE
WHO WANT TO KNOW MORE*

ULPAN HEBREW PROGRAMS

Beginner's Ulpán (6:30 - 8:00 PM)
Wednesdays November 8 - February 28
(Semester II) March 14 - June 27
Intermediate Ulpán (6:30 - 8:00 PM)
Advanced Intermediate (5:00 - 6:30 PM)
Mondays October 30 - February 19
(Semester II) February 26 - June 25

*Tuition: \$160 / Semester
Scholarships Available*

*Call Histadrut at 629-9443 for Information
Co-Sponsored by KJ and Histadrut Ivrit of America*

AT LAST — A HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICE FOR THE NOVICE WORSHIPPER



*Introducing a Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur Service
for adults with little or no background in Judaism:*

- ☞ Prayers and Rituals Explained
- ☞ Biblical Insights
- ☞ Historical Overviews
- ☞ Congregational Readings and Singing
- ☞ Over 100 Shofar Blasts
- ☞ Questions and Answers

Services will be conducted at:
CONGREGATION KEHILATH JESHURUN
Gottesman Center (across the street)
114 East 85th Street (between Park & Lexington Avenues)

Rosh Hashanah morning services will be held on Saturday
and Sunday, September 30th and October 1st at 8:00 AM.

Kol Nidre services will be held at 5:50 PM on Sunday
evening, October 8th followed by Yom Kippur services at
9:00 AM the next morning.

For Information Call:
CONGREGATION KEHILATH JESHURUN
(212) 774-5600 Tickets: \$60

SHABBAT BEGINNERS SERVICE

Saturday Mornings, 9:30 AM
KIDDUSH FOLLOWING SERVICES

ADULT EDUCATION FOR YOU AT KJ

NO ADULT ED CLASSES AT KJ IN 5761

Well, not exactly. All we are really doing is replacing the Monday and Tuesday Evening classes with a new program that will span the entire week (Saturday and Sunday included). The rest of the classes will be available in their regular time slots.

Due to the hectic life we all live, between work and family, it has become increasingly difficult for people to commit to learning Torah on a consistent basis or at a normal hour. Therefore, we would like to make it easier for everyone. **YOU TELL US WHEN AND WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO LEARN.** If you have a time that is best for you, and a topic in which you are interested, call us and tell us when and what. We will find you a Chavruta — someone to learn with, be it one of the rabbis in the synagogue, or a member of the community with similar time constraints and interests. If you have a friend or friends that would be interested in learning with you, then, the more the merrier.

The program will begin at the same time as the formal classes begin, October 23rd, immediately following Simchat Torah. For more information, please call the synagogue office: 212-774-5600.

We urge everyone to take advantage of this (once in a lifetime?) opportunity.

NEW PROGRAM MAKE YOUR OWN CHAVRUTA

Pick a Time

Sunday – Saturday 6:30 AM – 10:00 PM

Pick a Topic

Bible, Talmud, Law, Philosophy, Prayer,
Rambam...

Bring a Friend

Bring a Group of Friends

**WE WILL ARRANGE
A LEARNING PARTNER
FOR YOU!!!!**

Contact the Synagogue office to sign up:

774-5600

DAILY: Monday - Friday
6:30 AM DAF YOMI

SUNDAYS:
7:30 am DAF YOMI

MONDAYS:
9:00 AM WOMEN'S TALMUD CLASS
TRACTATE SANHEDRIN
Taught by Rabbi Joshua Lookstein

5:00 – 6:30 PM ADVANCED INTERMEDIATE ULPAN
Cycle I: October 30 – February 19
Cycle II: February 26 – June 25

6:30 – 8:00 PM INTERMEDIATE ULPAN
Cycle I: October 30 – February 19
Cycle II: February 26 – June 25

TUESDAYS:
12:00 PM MIDTOWN LUNCH AND TALMUD
TRACTATE BRACHOT
Taught by Rabbi Haskel Lookstein

WEDNESDAYS:
8:30 AM WOMEN'S PARASHAT HASHAVUAH CLASS
Taught by Rabbi Haskel Lookstein

12:00 PM LUNCH AND LEARN
Speakers to be announced

6:30 – 8:00 PM BEGINNER'S ULPAN
Cycle I: November 8 – February 28
Cycle II: March 14 - June 27

9:00 PM ADVANCED TALMUD CLASS
TRACTATE SANHEDRIN
At the Major's Home, 40 East 84th Street
Taught by Rabbi David Flatto

THURSDAYS:
7:00 PM TALMUD CLASS - TRACTATE BRACHOT
Taught by Rabbi Eliezer Rubin

SATURDAYS:
8:00 AM TALMUD CLASS - TRACTATE BRACHOT
Taught by Rabbi Eliezer Rubin

ONE HOUR BEFORE MINCHA
TALMUD CLASS –
TRACTATE SANHEDRIN
Taught by Rabbi Joshua Lookstein

ONE HOUR BEFORE MINCHA
PARSHA FOUNDATIONS
Taught by Rabbi Joshua Cypess
Classes will begin on Monday, October 23 and
Will end on Saturday, June 9

HIGH HOLY DAY SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

The Month of Elul

- Sounding of the SHOFAR each morning after Shacharit.
- Recitation of the entire Book of Psalms at KJ.
- Selichot Services each morning beginning Monday, September 25, a half hour before morning services.

ROSH HASHANAH

- Beginning of God's judgement.
- Sounding of the Shofar at 10:00 AM on Sunday. (Those ill at home or hospital contact Rabbi Joshua Lookstein for special arrangements.)

Rituals to Remember

- Lighting of candles and *Shehecheyanu*.
- Rosh Hashanah Kiddush
- Washing of hands and *motzi* over two round challahs and dipping the pieces in honey (continued through Hoshanah Rabbah.)

First Night

- Rosh Hashanah greeting upon leaving shul:

לשנה טובה תכתבו

“May you be inscribed for a Good Year.”

- Dipping of apple into honey with blessing over fruit and
“May it be Thy will to grant us a good and sweet year.”
יהי רצון מלפניך י-הו-ה א-להינו וא-להי אבותינו
שתחדש עלינו שנה טובה ומתוקה.

Second Night

- **Tashlich** - Sunday, October 1, 5:00 PM at Central Park Reservoir near 85th Street or Carl Shurz Park at the East River and 86th Street.
- Wearing a new garment. Keep in mind when reciting *Shehecheyanu* at Kiddush.
- Eat a new fruit not yet eaten this season and say the blessing over fruit.

Tsom Gedaliah (Fast of Gedaliah)

- First Weekday after Rosh Hashanah, Monday, October 2.

10 Days of Repentance

(Rosh Hashanah – Yom Kippur)

- Accept new, improved behavior responsibility in relationship to God and one another.

THE MIKVEH ON THE EVE OF YOM KIPPUR

Every year on the eve of Yom Kippur, there is a custom for men to immerse in the mikveh in preparation for this holy day.

One does not have to be a holy person to participate in this activity. On the contrary, for those of us who are just trying to be observant Jews, it is an added inspiration and preparation for a great day of introspection.

Our practice at KJ is that we observe this custom as a group before the morning service. All MEN are invited to assemble at the mikveh, 234 West 78th Street (East of Broadway) at 7:15 AM on Sunday, October 8. Everyone will have the opportunity to immerse and then we will return to KJ for Shacharit services.

For more information please call Rabbi Joshua Lookstein at the synagogue office (774-5660).

YOM KIPPUR – A day of denial

- Avoidance of food, drink, washing, lotions and oils.
- Refraining from wearing leather shoes (wear a pair of non-leather footwear).
- Men are strongly encouraged to wear a white *kitel*.
- Candlelighting available prior to 6:08 PM in the Synagogue House lobby before Kol Nidre on Sunday, October 8.
- Food Drive – each man, woman and child is urged to bring unopened cans or boxes of food to be distributed to needy Jews. Drop them in the lobby barrels on your way in Kol Nidre night.

SUKKOT Lulav and Etrog

Purchase Israeli Lulav and Etrog through KJ by contacting Mr. Chaim Ophir in the synagogue office. (Reservation forms will be sent to all members under separate cover.) Deadline is Friday, October 6.

Sukkah Meals in the KJ Sukkah

Friday, October 13 – Dinner

Saturday, October 14 – Lunch and Dinner

Sunday, October 15 – Lunch

(Reservation forms will be sent to members under separate cover.)

Deadline, *space permitting*, is Friday, October 6.

Members: Adults \$30 Children \$15

Non-Members: Adults \$35 Children \$25

Hoshanah Rabbah

- Friday morning at 6:30, October 20.
- Close of the penitential season.
- High Holy Day melodies. Seven circuits around the shul with *Lulav* and *Etrog* and beating of the *Aravot*.
- President's breakfast sponsored by Shlomit and Chaim Edelstein.

Shemini Atzeret

- Yizkor recited.
- Chatanim presented to the congregation.

Simchat Torah

- Evening – Saturday, October 21, 6:00 PM
BRING CHILDREN AT 6:00 PM
Nursery - Sixth Grade – Lobby Level
Teens – Main Synagogue
- Hakafot Unlimited – Singing and dancing celebration in the Auditorium following services. A light meal and Torah discourses will conclude the evening. All are invited!
- Simchat Torah Day. Sunday, October 22.
- Hakafot with singing and dancing.
- Chatanim called to the Torah.
- Women's Tefillah Group meets in Chapel.
- Buffet kiddush following services.

SCHEDULE OF HIGH HOLY DAYS

ROSH HASHANAH

Friday, September 29, Rosh Hashanah Eve

Selichot Service (Z'chor Brit)	.6:30 AM
Candle Lighting	.6:23 PM
Evening	.6:30 PM

Saturday, September 30, Rosh Hashanah I

Morning	.8:00 AM
Beginner's Service	.8:00 AM
Evening	.6:20 PM
Candle Lighting	.After 7:15 PM

Sunday, October 1, Rosh Hashanah II

Morning	.8:00 AM
Beginner's Service	.8:00 AM
Tashlich	.5:00 PM
Evening	.6:30 PM
Conclusion of Yom Tov	.7:14 PM

TSOM (FAST OF) GEDALIAH

Monday, October 2

Fast begins	.5:42 AM
Morning	.6:45 AM
Mincha	.6:10 PM
Fast ends	.7:10 PM

DAILY SERVICES:

Tuesday - Wednesday, October 3-4

Morning	.7:00 AM
Evening	.6:25 PM

Thursday, October 5

Morning	.6:45 AM
Evening	.6:25 PM

Friday, October 6

Morning	.7:00 AM
Evening	.6:20 PM
Candlelighting	.6:11 PM

SHABBAT SHUVA

Saturday, October 7

Morning	.9:00 AM
Evening	.5:30 PM
Shabbat Shuva Discourse by Rabbi Haskel Lookstein	
Conclusion of Shabbat	.7:05 PM

YOM KIPPUR

Sunday, October 8, Yom Kippur Eve

Morning	.8:10 AM
Mincha	.2:30 PM
Candle Lighting	.6:08 PM
Kol Nidre	.6:15 PM
Beginner's	.5:50 PM

Monday, October 9, Yom Kippur

Morning	
Main Synagogue	.8:30 AM
Auditorium	.9:00 AM
Gottesman Center Falk Auditorium	.9:00 AM
Beginner's	.9:00 AM

DAILY SERVICES - Week of October 10-13

Morning	.Tues, Wed & Fri 7:30 AM
Morning	.Thurs 7:15 AM
Evening	.6:15 PM

SUKKOT

Friday, October 13, Sukkot Eve

Candle Lighting	.6:00 PM
Evening	.6:15 PM

Saturday, October 14, Sukkot I

Morning	.9:00 AM
Beginner's Service	.9:30 AM
Evening	.5:55 PM
Candle Lighting	.After 6:52 PM

Sunday, October 15, Sukkot II

Morning	.9:00 AM
Evening	.6:10 PM
Conclusion of Yom Tov	.6:51 PM

DAILY SERVICES - CHOL HAMOE'D SUKKOT

October 16-19

Morning	.6:50 AM
Evening	.6:05 PM

CONCLUDING FESTIVAL DAYS

Friday, October 20, Hoshanah Rabbah

Morning Services	.6:30 AM
Candle Lighting	.5:50 PM
Evening	.6:05 PM

Saturday, October 21, Shemini Atzeret

Morning (Yizkor recited)	.8:30 AM
Beginner's service	.9:30 AM
Mincha	.5:45 PM
Ma'ariv and Simchat Torah Hakafot	.6:35 PM
Candle Lighting	.After 6:44 PM

Sunday, October 22, Simchat Torah

Morning	.9:00 AM
Women's Tefillah Group	.9:15 AM
Evening	.6:00 PM
Conclusion of Yom Tov	.6:43 PM

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCHEDULE

ROSH HASHANAH I AND II. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Junior Congregations (1st & 2nd, 3rd & 4th, 5th & 6th Grades)

Nursery - Kindergarten - Toddler Congregation (Ages 1-3)

YOM KIPPUR KOL NIDRE NIGHT 6:30 PM

Junior Congregations (1st & 2nd, 3rd & 4th, 5th & 6th Grades)

YOM KIPPUR DAY 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Junior Congregations (1st & 2nd, 3rd & 4th, 5th & 6th Grades)

Nursery - Kindergarten - Toddler Congregation (Ages 1-3)

The Officers

and Officials

Wish You

לשנה טובה
תבתיבו

A KIDDUSH HASHEM IN A PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN

(Continued from Page 1)

States while, ironically, it is most unlikely that an Orthodox Jew could become Prime Minister of Israel in the foreseeable future.

The newspapers covered this choice of candidates in a manner that was unprecedented. Poor Dick Cheney hardly merited more than a few headlines, while Joe Lieberman took up pages and pages of stories in the New York press and, interestingly,

“...he was worried about a Jew being too public in an election campaign.”

in the Israeli press as well. And the reportage and op ed pieces were almost uniformly supportive and laudatory about the Senator.

During the remaining days before Tisha B'Av, Jews were walking around with smiles and expressions of joy on their faces that contrasted so sharply with the worried frowns that one had seen just a few days earlier with the convening of the Camp David talks and their subsequent breakdown. It was almost too good to be true but, in fact, it was true and all of us were congratulating each other.

III.

What is the significance of this choice by Vice President Gore? It was clearly an earth-shaking event which required great courage on the part of Al Gore, a readiness to absorb criticism and risk and an openness and tolerance that he has always manifested, but which seemed to be even more pronounced with this decision.

Earth shaking, yes, but not a breakthrough. As Abe Foxman of ADL remarked, the nomination of Joe Lieberman for such a high office represents a confirmation of the position of the Jewish community in America. Let us remember that there

are 26 Jews in the House of Representatives and 11 out of the 100 members of the Senate are Jews. Sometimes we don't give America enough credit for the opportunities with which we have been blessed. Jews are a very important part of American society, far beyond our percentage of the population. There is no doubt that our opponents all over the world exaggerate what they call Jewish power in this country, but there is also little doubt that we underestimate the extent to which Jews play a very important role in American political life. The selection of Senator Lieberman is a

“Jews were walking around with smiles and expressions of joy on their faces that contrasted so sharply with the worried frowns that one had seen just a few days earlier”

confirmation of that role, not a breakthrough.

Somewhat illustrative of that role is a charming story that is told about the late Golda Meir and a conversation she had with Henry Kissinger when he was Secretary of State. Golda was trying to manipulate Mr. Kissinger, whereupon Kissinger said to her: “I think I should tell you three things,” he said, gesturing with his left hand. “First: I am the American Secretary of State; second, (moving his hand from left to right), I am a United States citizen; and only third: I am a Jew.” Golda is said to have responded: “That's okay, Mr. Kissinger, we read from right to left.”

So, the nomination, exciting as it is, is a confirmation rather than a breakthrough.

IV.

But I believe the significance of the choice of Senator Lieberman is even more pronounced in another aspect. I confess that when I heard the news on WINS and the announcer said, “Senator Lieberman is an Orthodox Jew,” I shuddered. The term Orthodox has been so besmirched in the last few years. Despite, thank God, the growing number of people who come to our synagogues, yeshivot and day schools, the revelations about the moral and ethical turpitude of a few have alienated so many Americans — Jews and non-Jews. Divisive policies by so many segments of our community, along with hurtful statements by rabbinic leaders, have given Orthodoxy a bad name.

For example: Last Saturday night, in a pre-Tisha B'Av shiur, a great sage in Israel referred to the 6,000,000 victims of the Holocaust as reincarnations of earlier souls who sinned time and again and did all sorts of things that should not have been done and were reincarnated so that things could be set right. Aside from the strange interpretation, how could a great Talmid Chacham utter words

“...the nomination of Joe Lieberman for such a high office represents a confirmation of the position of the Jewish community in America.”

that must bring so much pain to people living today who survived the horrors of Nazi brutality and who keep yahrzeits for entire families who were murdered. Were they all reincarnated sinful souls?

And, to make matters worse, after the outcry against such hurtful

A KIDDUSH HASHEM IN A PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN

remarks, Rabbi Ben-Zion Mutzabi of Shas said in a Tisha B'Av night radio broadcast that a 29 year old Staff Sergeant, Shai Green, who was killed in a training accident when a hand grenade exploded in his tank, suffered death because of "blemishes to the honor" of the sage referred to above.

This outrageous talk is part of what defames and dishonors Orthodoxy. But, the Lieberman candidacy promises that, with God's help, there will be a substantial change in the way the world will view Orthodox Judaism. That change is promised by Maimonides in a striking passage at the end of Chapter 5 of Hilchot Yesodei HaTorah. In that passage the Rambam tells us that the concept of Kiddush Hashem does not only mean dying in sanctification of God's name; it also means living a life that is a sanctification of God's name. The text is as follows:

פרק ו HILCHOT YESODEI HATORAH

וכן עם דקדק החכם על עצמו והיה דבר
בנחת עם הבריות ודעתו מערבת עמהם.
ומקבלם בסבר פנים יפות. ונעלב מהם
ואינו עולבם: מכבד להן, ואפילו למקלן לו,
ונושא ונותן באמונה,
ולא ירבה באריכות עמי הארץ וישיבתן,
ולא יראה תמיד אלא עוסק בתורה,
עמוף בציצת, מכבד בתפלין, ועושה
בכל מעשיו לפנים משורת הדין;
והוא, שלא יתרחק הרבה ולא ישתומם,
עד שימצאו הכל מקלמן אותו
ואוהבים אותו ומתאווים למעשיו —
הרי זה קדש את השם.
ועליו הכתוב אומר: "ויאמר לי עבדי
אתה, ישראל אשר כך אתפאר."

"[The converse is] also [true]. When a sage is stringent with himself, speaks pleasantly with others, his social conduct is [attractive] to others, he receives them pleasantly, he is humbled by them and does not humble them in return, he honors them — even the lowly among them — he does business faithfully, and does not frequently accept the hospitality of the common people or sit with them, and at all times is seen only studying Torah, wrapped in tzitzit, crowned with tefillin, and carrying out all his deeds beyond the measure of the law — provided he does not separate too far [from normal living] and thus becomes forlorn — to the extent that all praise him, love him, and find his deeds attractive — such a person sanctifies [God's] name. The verse [Isaiah 49:3]: "And He said to me: 'Israel, you are My servant, in whom I will be glorified' " refers to him."

Senator Lieberman may not quite be a sage, but he is clearly identifiable as a religious Jew. He is also identifiable as an honorable, honest, decent, refined, gentle, caring, and gentlemanly person. He has stood up to power with ringing words of moral integrity and he has taken positions — sometimes at variance with members of his own party — in the interest of ethical values and, yes, menschlich ideals.

In the coming campaign, millions of Americans and, among them, many Jews, will see that piety and principle, religious observance and honorable behavior go together and, in fact, mutually reinforce each other. That is the way in which Orthodox Jews ought to be seen.

Maimonides' comment quoted above is actually based on a Talmudic interpretation of a verse in the Shema, found in this morning's Torah portion. We read, "And you

shall love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy soul and with all thy might." On that statement, the Talmud (Yoma, 86a) asks the question: How does one fulfill the commandment of "And you shall love the Lord thy God?" The Talmud's answer is "that the name of God should become loved through your behavior" — that one should study Jewish texts, honor scholars, conduct one's affairs with honesty and integrity, and speak pleasantly with others. What will people say about him/her? They will say that this person who is committed to Torah demonstrates proper behavior and an admirable way of life." (And they will want to emulate him/her.)

"So, the nomination, exciting as it is, is a confirmation rather than a breakthrough."

This is what is about to happen in this election campaign. Win, lose or draw, the name of God, the Torah and religious observance will be appreciated more because of the example of Senator Joseph Lieberman. In the long run, that is the greatest significance of Al Gore's choice for Vice President. That is also the challenge for each of us as we move from Tisha B'Av toward the coming High Holy Days. Each and every one of us should strive to live a life that will cause the name of God to be loved because of our behavior. If we do this, we will all be winners in the most important campaign of all.

May we all be inscribed and sealed for a year of health, happiness and blessing.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ARI SEGAL, MSW

We are very happy to congratulate our Youth Director, Ari Segal, who during this past summer completed all the work for the degree of Master of Social Work at the Wurzweiler School of Social Work of Yeshiva University. This represents a wonderful achievement for a young man who has

given so much to the KJ/Ramaz community.

Ari will be continuing his studies at RIETS this year and, with God's help, should be receiving *Semikha* from Yeshiva University within the next twelve months. We look forward to that accomplishment as well.



KJ YOUTH 2000/5761

By: Ari Segal

Welcome back! Hopefully you had an enjoyable summer. Youth groups were an amazing success this past year and this year they will continue to improve. Many of the programs that have been so successful in recent years will continue, while new and innovative ones will be added.

One of the most important aspects of the Youth Department is the Shabbat and holiday program. Around 200 children attend age appropriate groups every Shabbat and holiday and even more on the High Holy Days. The groups are both fun and educational. The children learn about the day, practice the tefillot and have a great time during services and Shabbat afternoons. A curriculum is developed for each group to ensure maximum enjoyment and supervision.

The Sports Department is another crucial aspect of the youth programming. Children can participate in the intramural KJBL basketball and baseball leagues, an inter-synagogue basketball league and a hockey team. Regardless of athletic ability, every child can partake in these events.

We will continue to have frequent social activities including Open Gym and Video nights for all ages. Every month, children ages 5 to 10 learn about the Jewish holidays through Sunday morning Arts & Crafts/Pizza parties. They learn about special

mitzvot through programs like Challah Baking & Tzitzit Making.

Holidays are special times in the KJ Youth Department. Children celebrate with a Sukkah decorating party, Sukkot hospital visits, a gala Purim carnival attended literally by hundreds, a Chanukah hospital candle lighting ceremony, a Pesach trip to Great Adventure and a Shavuot Youth Learn-In & Ice Cream Party. Through these activities, children learn the value of Torah, the Jewish calendar and community responsibility and have a great time. This exemplifies the way the KJ Youth Department educates its youth while providing a safe, supervised social outlet in a Jewish setting.

A variety of new programs will be in place for high schoolers. We will offer teenagers a chance to socialize in a relaxed atmosphere at the Friday night teen dinners. They sing, eat, and most importantly, just "hang out." Another new program is our seudah shlishit. For grades 7-10, the "teen only" seudah shlishit is a great way to end a shabbat. Finally, 15 open gym nights are scheduled for grades 8-12. These have always been a huge success. A youth department brochure as well as a monthly calendar will be mailed out to you. Please keep these for reference and your children will thank you.

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BNAI TORAH



SARAH RUTH KOPPEL

Mazel Tov to Lynette and Steven Koppel on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Sarah Ruth which took place in Israel on Rosh Chodesh Elul, Friday September 1. Similar good wishes to the proud grandmother Yvonne Koppel-Kopans. Sarah read the Torah portion for Rosh Chodesh. She also gave a Dvar Torah on "*Why Rosh Chodesh is a Women's Holiday.*"

Sarah is a student in the seventh grade at the Rabbi Haskel Lookstein Middle School of Ramaz.



JOSHUA KRONEN

Mazel Tov to Dr. Jeri and Ken Kronen on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Joshua, which took place on Saturday, September 9th in the Main Synagogue. He read the weekly portion of Ki Tetze and the Haftarah and delivered a Dvar Torah.

Josh is a student in the eighth grade of the Rabbi Haskel Lookstein Middle School of Ramaz.



AARON GORDON

Mazel Tov to Goldie and David Gordon on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Aaron, which took place on Saturday, September 16th in the Main Synagogue. He read the weekly portion and Haftarah of Ki Tavo. He also delivered a Dvar Torah on "*Why we are Commanded to Give Our First Fruits to Hashem.*"

Aaron is a student in the seventh grade of the Rabbi Haskel Lookstein Middle School of Ramaz.



JOSHUA DAWIDOWICZ

Mazel Tov to Ellen and Samuel Dawidowicz on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Joshua, which will take place on Saturday, September 23rd at KJ. He will read part of the weekly portion of Nitzavim-Vayelech and the Haftarah.

Aaron is a student in the eighth grade of the Horace Mann School.



REBECCA WOLFF

Mazel Tov to Merle and David Wolff on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Rebecca, which will take place on Saturday, September 23rd at KJ. Similar good wishes to the proud grandparents Rita and Dr. David Woldenberg. She will also deliver a Dvar Torah on "*Women in the Bible.*"

Rebecca is a student in the seventh grade at the Abraham Joshua Heschel School.



DANIEL GORDON

Mazel Tov to Goldie and David Gordon on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Daniel, which took place on Saturday, September 16th in the Main Synagogue. He read the weekly portion and Haftarah of Ki Tavo. He also delivered a Dvar Torah on relating Tochecha to the parsha.

Aaron is a student in the seventh grade of the Rabbi Haskel Lookstein Middle School of Ramaz.

RABBI

DALE POLAKOFF TO BE HONORED AT GREAT NECK SYNAGOGUE ON SUNDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 17

We are very pleased to announce that our former Assistant Rabbi, Dale Polakoff, who has been serving for the past twelve years as the Rabbi of Great Neck Synagogue, will be honored by his congregation at its Annual Dinner on Sunday, December 17. At the dinner there will also be a fitting tribute to the memory of Rabbi Polakoff's beloved wife, Gail.

Rabbi Polakoff touched the lives of many members of our congregation during his five years of service in our community. It would be most appropriate, and very much appreciated by him, were the members of KJ to participate in this most deserving tribute to a dynamic rabbinic leader who is giving his life for the Jewish people.

Further information about the dinner can be obtained by calling the Great Neck Synagogue at 516-487-6100.

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In Memoriam

Ruth Alpert

We lost a matriarchal figure in our congregation in the person of Ruth Alpert. She was a lady with nobility, courage, great kindness and warmth.

She was the unquestionable matriarch of her family. Her children, including our members Gail Kramer and Lynn Scheck, were extraordinarily devoted to her and demonstrated their concern and love daily. Her grandchildren experienced a special kind of grandmother who related to each of them differently but always with great love and affection.

She did not have an easy life. But she had a very worthwhile one, filled with wonderful contributions to her family and to the community.

Hana Amini

She was a very quiet, unassuming lady from a rich Sephardic background. She occupied her seat in the center balcony Shabbat after Shabbat and truly loved to be part of our congregation.

She was the loving mother of Esther Krawitz and she was so proud of her grandchildren Aaron and Miriam. Together with them, we mourn her passing and we hope that the memory of her dignified and righteous life will inspire her family in the years to come.

Abraham Cohen

He was a wonderful man who ran a clothing business which was known for its quality, style and absolute integrity.

His coworkers respected him and admired his business and personal behavior. He was a wonderful husband to his first wife, and after her tragic passing, he was equally wonderful to his second wife, our member, Vera Cohen.

His sudden passing, while working in his office, leaves a terrible void for his family and friends and also the community of which he was a part.

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WITHIN OUR FAMILY

BIRTHS

Mazel tov to:

Naomi and Maks Birnbach on the birth of a granddaughter, Julia Kate, to their children, Joan and Jonathan Birnbach.

Jennifer and Jonathan Boyarsky on the birth of a son, Max Samuel. Similar good wishes to the proud grandparents, Shirley and Neal Boyarsky.

Suzie and Sandy Eisenstat on the birth of two grandsons, Jay Hillel to their children, Tamar and Abe Eisenstat and Ari Heller, to their children, Lilly and Zev Williams.

Nicole and Jeffrey Fisher on the birth of a son, Gabriel James. Similar good wishes to the proud grandparents, Shirley and Neal Boyarsky.

Suzanne and Dr. Norman Javitt on the birth of a grandson, Ezra Jacob, to their children, Gail and Samuel Osofsky.

M.J. and Dr. Barry Kanner on the birth of a son, Benjamin Zachary. Similar good wishes to the proud grandparents, Marjorie and Harvey Zuckerman.

Gail and Seymour Kramer on the birth of a grandson, Jakob Jeremy to their children, Temmi and David Kramer.

Carolyn and David Levy on the birth of a son.

Belda and Marcel Lindenbaum on the birth of a granddaughter, Nina Sadie, to their children, Rebecca and Bennett Lindenbaum.

Jessica and Meyer Orbach on the birth of a daughter, Eve Grace. Similar good wishes to the proud great-grandparents, Shirley and Paul Schuler.

Elissa Shay and Daniel Ordan on the birth of a daughter, Rebecca Alexandra.

Sarah and Ronald Rich on the birth of a daughter, Emma Summer. Similar good wishes to the proud grandparents, Judith and Dr. Alfred Tanz.

Amy and Howard Rubenstein on the birth of a grandson, Maxwell

Alexander, to their children, Amy and Richard Rubenstein.

Ellice and Bradly Schwab on the birth of a son, Jacob Maxwell. Similar good wishes to the proud grandfather, Mel Stein.

Jill and James Schwalbe on the birth of twins, Jacob Samuel and Hannah Kate. Similar good wishes to the proud grandparents, Janie and Robert Schwalbe.

Deena and Adam Shiff on the birth of a son, Samuel Jonah.

Deena and Dr. Jonathan Thurm on the birth of a son, Aidan Emanuel.

Leon Wildes on the birth of a granddaughter, Jaclyn Lindsay, to his children Amy and Michael Wildes.

May these children grow up in the finest tradition of Torah, chupah and ma'asim tovim.

ENGAGEMENTS

Mazel tov to:

Shlomit and Chaim Edelstein on the engagement of their son, Daniel, to Yardena Sustain, daughter of Sandy and Van Sustain of Lido Beach, Long Island.

Joyce Hirsch and Richard Hirsch on the engagement of their son, Daniel to Carolyn Lechter, daughter of Judith and John Lechter of Montreal, Canada.

May their weddings take place in happiness and blessing.

WEDDINGS

Mazel tov to:

Deborah and David Kahn on the marriage of their son, Fred to Adi Orkaby, daughter of Evelyn and Shalom Orkaby of Brooklyn. Similar good wishes to the proud grandmother, Mrs. Miriam Kahn.

Caren and Samuel Kohl on the marriage of his son, Alex to Rachel Billig, daughter of Gail and the late Peter Billig.

Diana and Ira Riklis on the marriage of their daughter, Jordana to Benjamin Cooperburg, son of Michelle and David Cooperburg from Manhattan.

Leon Wildes on his marriage to Carole Schulman.

May their marriages be filled with happiness and blessing.

CONDOLENCES

Our condolences to:

Daniel Azizo, on the passing of his sister, Lena Cymbrowitz.

Dr. Richard Born and Rita Distenfeld on the passing of their father, Robert Born.

Norman Bulow on the passing of his sister, Shirley Kaufman.

Dr. Edmond Cohen on the passing in Israel of his mother, Naomi Cohen.

Ms. Rochelle Mogilner, on the passing of her sister, Shirley Shapiro.

Dr. Terry Plasse, on the passing of his father, Herman Plasse.

Melvin Stein, on the passing of his sister Anne Nadelman.

Prof. Reuvain Zahavy, on the passing of his mother, Edith Zahavy.

May they be comforted among those who mourn for Zion and Jerusalem.

COMMUNAL HONORS

We are proud to congratulate our devoted member, William Goldberg, who will be honored for his pioneering efforts in behalf of the Gesher Foundation at Gesher's Annual Reception, which will be held this year on Wednesday, September 27 at 6:00 PM at the Center for Jewish History, 15 West 16th Street. Bill Goldberg has been a very strong supporter and leader in the work of Gesher for many years. It is nice to see that he is being honored in this fashion.

Those interested in attending the reception should call 840-1166 for further information.

COMMUNAL RECOGNITION

We are proud to announce that Marcelline Block, daughter of our member, Dr. Jenny Batlay, has been invited to join the American Mensa Society, a prestigious group which offers admission only to people with extraordinary intellectual gifts.

Congratulations to her.



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SHABBAT SCHEDULE

		<i>Lighting of Candles</i>	<i>Friday Evening Services</i>	<i>Saturday Afternoon Services</i>	<i>Sabbath Ends</i>
September					
22-23	Nitzavim-Vayelech	6:35 pm	6:45 pm	6:25 pm*	7:28 pm
October					
6-7	Shabbat Shuvah Ha'azinu	6:11 pm	6:20 pm	5:30 pm	7:06 pm
27-28	Bereishit	5:40 pm	5:55 pm	5:30 pm*	6:35 pm
November					
3-4	Noah	4:32 pm	4:45 pm	4:20 pm*	5:26 pm

*Seudah Shlishit

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Weekday mornings 7:30 am
Sunday mornings 8:30 am
Mondays and Thursdays 7:15 am
Rosh Chodesh Weekdays 7:00 am
Sabbath mornings 9:00 am

EVENING SERVICES

September 3-28 6:30 pm
October 10-12 6:15 pm
16-19 6:05 pm
23-26 5:55 pm
29-Nov 2 4:45 pm
November 5-9 4:35 pm

DATES TO REMEMBER**Monday, October 2*****Tsom Gedaliah***

Morning Services 6:45 am
Fast Begins 5:42 am
Fast Ends 7:10 pm
Evening Services 6:10 pm

Sunday and Monday, October 29-30***Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan***

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