



# KEHILATH JESHURUN

## BULLETIN

Volume LXXXIV, Number 3

April 4, 2014

4 Nisan 5774

### ANNUAL SYNAGOGUE SHABBATON

**April 11-12**

Sponsored by Suzanne and Dr. Norman B. Javitt



*KJ Scholar-in-Residence*  
**Rabbi Dr. Jeremy Wieder**

April 11th- Friday Evening Dinner

**"OAT MATZAH & CHEERIOS:**

**A HALAKHIC RESPONSE TO CHANGES IN SCIENCE"**

April 12th- Shabbat HaGadol Drasha following Mincha

**"TO LEAN OR NOT TO LEAN AT THE SEDER:**

**WHAT IT MEANS TO BE FREE TODAY"**

**R**abbi Jeremy Wieder, PhD, is Yeshiva University's Joseph and Gwendolyn Straus Professor of Talmud in the Mazer Yeshiva Program; a Rosh Yeshiva at the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary; and an Adjunct Professor of Bible at Yeshiva College. A *summa cum laude* graduate of Yeshiva College, he was ordained at RIETS, received an MA in American Jewish History from the Bernard Revel Graduate School of Jewish Studies, and holds a PhD in Judaic Studies from New York University. Rabbi Wieder is a prolific scholar on issues of Torah's relationship

### DINNER AND/OR LUNCH

**The Shabbat Before Passover**

**NO COOKING FOR YOU!**

*Prices are per person, per meal*

	Members	Non Members
Adults:	\$35	\$40
Juniors (ages 12-18):	\$30	\$35
Children (ages 2-11):	\$18	\$30

with modernity, with more than 900 lectures on Judaism captured on audio and video and available online.

### MEANINGFUL RAMAZ

**PERFORMANCE TO BE**

**FEATURED AT**

**YOM HASHOAH PROGRAM**



**Sunday, April 27 at 7:00 p.m.**

**T**he cornerstone of this year's Yom haShoah program will be the performance by Ramaz Upper School students of Barbara Lebow's powerful play "A Shayna Maidel" under the able direction of Carroll Goldberg, the Director of Theatre at the Upper School.

The term "a shayna maidel" is Yiddish for "a pretty girl." Barbara Lebow's play is the story of two sisters, one who as a young girl escaped to America with her father, and the other who had scarlet fever and had to stay behind in Poland with her mother. Twenty years after the Holocaust, the two young women are reunited and awkwardly renew their relationship. Rose (Rayzel) has become Americanized and accustomed to the modern world, while her sister Lusie is still entrenched in the old world.

How does one perceive beauty after witnessing the horrors of hell? Is it physical beauty - or is it strength and integrity? Valuable lessons are learned about honoring your past and living for your future. It is the story of two people who have little in common yet find the common ground that makes them family. It's about forgiveness. It's about hope.

The program will begin with Ma'ariv, conducted by Cantor Mayer Davis. Joining KJ this year will be members of our sister congregation, Orach Chaim, led by Rabbi Ben Skydell, who will lead

### 142ND ANNUAL SYNAGOGUE MEETING

**Wednesday, April 9, 2014**

**7:30 P.M.**

**AN EVENING OF RECOLLECTION AND SYNAGOGUE TRADITION**

**M**any things of note occurred in 1872. The first patent list was issued by the U.S. Patent Office and patents for the fire extinguisher, the gasoline powered engine, dried milk, a doughnut cutter, and wireless telegraphy, were granted. Yellowstone became the world's first National Park. Illinois became the first state to require gender equality in employment. Ulysses S. Grant was re-elected U.S. President.

On the Jewish front there was an International Jewish Conference in Brussels, but most relevant to us was the founding of Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun, despite it being a time of decline in traditional Judaism. The synagogue adhered to Orthodox practice and custom, and soon expanded to include functions such as a Ladies Auxiliary and a Religious School. One

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## RITA WOLDENBERG AND ALISSA SHAMS TO RECEIVE TWELFTH ANNUAL JUDITH KAUFMAN HURWICH KETER TORAH AWARD ON SHAVUOT

*The Officers and Executive Committee of the Congregation are pleased to announce that the Twelfth Annual Judith Kaufman Hurwich Keter Torah Award will be presented to Rita Woldenberg and Alissa Shams on the second day of Shavuot, June 5, 2014. The practice of conferring such an award is to appropriately recognize women in our congregation on the holiday when we celebrate the lives of two great Jewish heroines, Naomi and Ruth. It offers us an opportunity, as part of a religious ceremony, to express our appreciation for the services rendered to our community by women.*

*The award is named in memory of Judith Kaufman Hurwich, daughter of Rita and Benjamin Kaufman, of blessed memory, mother of our members - yibadlu l'chaim tovim - Meryl Jaffe and Adam Hurwich, and grandmother of three former Ramaz students: Talia, Leah, and Zev Hurwich. Her family continues her tradition of association with KJ and Ramaz in fostering opportunities for women to study Torah.*

**L**ong-time supporters of the K.J. community, Rita and David Woldenberg joined the synagogue in 1968. Both Yeshiva graduates, Rita from the Yeshiva of Flatbush and David from Yeshiva Torah Vodath and Yeshiva University, the Woldenbergs were deeply committed to building a Jewish life for their family. Ramaz was, therefore, the obvious choice as to where to educate their daughters, Merle and Rona. Rona became the first female president of the Ramaz G.O. in 1978 and was honored with offering a blessing at the groundbreaking of the 78th street building. Rona's husband, Reuben Askowitz, is also a graduate of Ramaz.

From the beginning, Rita became involved in activities that centered around the shul. When the Sukkah was being decorated by the Sisterhood, Rita and her young daughters were there hanging fresh fruit from the bamboo polls and drawings of the Ramaz students on the walls. Throughout her daughters' years at Ramaz, Rita served as a class mother, and worked on the auction committee. She served on the luncheon committee for the Sisterhood of K.J. and as Vice President of the sisterhood Board of Trustees. Many of her other contributions to the sisterhood stem from her interest in art as she has co-chaired many gallery and museum events. More recently, Rita and David have served as co-chairmen for the K.J. annual fundraising dinner and Rita is a participant in the Sisterhood book club, hosting their most recent event in her home.

Rita and her daughter, Merle, are the managing partners of Rita Realty, a commercial real estate company located in the tri-state area. They both share a strong commitment to UJA, working on several Met Council projects including Passover relief. Through Rabbi Lookstein's introduction, Rita became involved in Miklat, a home for abused women and children in Jerusalem, and serves on the board of this organization.

The Bikur Cholim society has been where Rita has shown her true devotion to Chesed. For the past thirty five years, Rita has visited Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center with her fellow dedicated shul members, including mentors Tova Bulow and Sue Robins and current leader Judge Jerome Hornblass, on a regular basis. This experience has allowed her to bring Shabbat and *Yahadut* to those who are facing challenging times and in need of some spiritual reinforcement.



**A**lissa Shams has always been a passionate advocate and practitioner of the values and ideals of modern-orthodox Judaism. She views herself as the synthesis of her father, an early graduate of Yeshiva of Flatbush and Yeshiva University (and thus a learned Zionist), and her mother, a creative homemaker strongly at the helm of her family environment. Herself a product of Yeshiva University, Alissa was a graduate student of Jewish History at Columbia when she married her husband Howie and began her family (which would eventually include five wonderful children, all of whom are, or are expected to be, Ramaz graduates).

Alissa has always believed that in the right environment, Jewish ideals flourish and that those who can, have a responsibility to stimulate or create those environments. Even before moving to New York, she helped found a synagogue and a number of youth initiatives in suburban Rockland County.

Once in the city, Alissa became involved in the then newly-opened Edmond J. Safra Synagogue. What began as a volunteer commitment grew into a ten-year career as Programming Director. As Alissa remembers, there was a beautiful building with not much community to fill its space. With the help of willing resources like Lenny Silverman, Executive Director of KJ, Alissa was able to develop strong community infrastructure for the then-seedling Sephardic Syrian community of the Upper East Side. Alissa's programming sought to inspire using chesed and a Jewish ethos as her touchstone. Alissa thought it important to create a bridge with the KJ/Ramaz community, and during her tenure at Safra, she began to work closely with Kenny Rochlin to develop a voice for the Sephardic community at Ramaz. She founded the Middle School Sephardic Minyan, helped organize the Upper School Sephardic Minyan, and worked tirelessly to educate all the divisions of the school to better represent Sephardic traditions within the Ramaz curriculum. In 2010, Alissa and Kenny organized a Sephardic Heritage trip to Spain led by Rabbi Lookstein and joined by Ms. Judy Fagin, then Head of School. Then as always, Alissa saw her mission as breaking down social barriers that might exist between Sephardim and Ashkenazim. She sought to create a unified Jewish community celebrating the best traditions of both cultures. Interestingly, despite her Middle

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*We honor these extraordinary woman for their service to our community and to the Jewish People in general. We pray that God reward them with many years of health and happiness and with much nachas from their families. May they continue to serve as stellar examples of Jewish commitment and service to this entire community, which loves them and blesses them.*

**KJ SISTERHOOD SAVE THE DATES**

**SHOP AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE!  
CELEBRATE PRE-MOTHER'S DAY WITH THE SISTERHOOD**

**10% OF ALL PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT  
THE SISTERHOOD'S CHARITABLE CAUSES.  
COME FOR AN AFTERNOON OF SWEETS, FRIENDS, AND FUN!**

**FIVESTORY SHOPPING EVENT  
18 EAST 69TH STREET  
THURSDAY, MAY 1ST  
1:00 - 7:00 PM**

**SPRING LUNCHEON  
SUNDAY, MAY 4TH**

**KESHER UPCOMING EVENTS**

**SPRING LUNCHEON  
SATURDAY, MAY 10TH**

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Eastern appearance, Alissa comes from a completely Ashkenazi background, with roots in Poland rather than Aleppo. (Her husband Howie is the authentic Sephardi, with grandparents hailing from Syria and Lebanon.)

Since leaving her position at Safra in 2010, Alissa has been embraced by, and has returned the embrace of, the KJ/Ramaz community. She was asked to volunteer as the Family Connections Coordinator at Ramaz, and in that capacity worked with Rabbi Elie Weinstock to create programs for (especially young or new) families at the school. Since then, Alissa has also (i) co-founded the wildly successful and growing KJ Sephardic Minyan, (ii) co-chaired the Chesed Day program, and (iii) co-Founded Natan at Ramaz, a lauded initiative dedicated to providing support to members of our Ramaz family during life

cycle events. Finally, Alissa is currently serving a two-year term as Parents Council President at Ramaz. Along with her dedicated Council co-officers, Alissa hopes to bring a new sense of Jewish spirit and spirituality to Ramaz, involving as many students, parents and faculty along the way as possible.

When not at KJ or Ramaz, Alissa mentors high school students through a leadership program known as ILEAD, sponsored by the Sephardic Community Alliance (SCA). Alissa consulted for Congregation Magen David of Manhattan on Sullivan Street and is the Chair of the Advisory Board of the Jewish Studies program at Baruch College.

Alissa feels great satisfaction in being part of the KJ/Ramaz community and looks forward to spearheading many more initiatives.

**SPRING TIME LEARNING  
AT KJ**

**WEDNESDAY NIGHTS**

**Continuing Hebrew**  
6:30 p.m.  
**Advanced Hebrew**  
8:00 p.m.  
**with Sara Rosen**

**The Book of Samuel**  
**with Rabbi Yitz Motechin**  
7:15 p.m.

**The Laws of Berachot**  
**with Rabbi Yitz Motechin**  
8:00 p.m.

**THURSDAY NIGHTS**

**Living Judaism**  
**with Rabbi Yossi Weiser**  
7:00 p.m.

**1947: A Year of Decision**  
May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

**Prayer Essentials**

June 12, 19, 26

*followed by*

**Studies in the Weekly Portion**  
8:00 p.m.

**Timely Torah**  
**Holiday Workshops at KJ**  
**with Rabbi Daniel**  
**and Rachel Kraus**  
**PASSOVER**

Tuesday, April 8

**MODERN HOLIDAYS**

Tuesday, April 29

**SHAVUOT**

Tuesday, May 27

**THREE WEEKS**

Tuesday, July 8

**7:30 p.m. for all workshops**



## KJ Annual Meeting

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hundred and forty-two years later, KJ has almost 1,100 member households and provides a broad range of services and activities. Its Sisterhood has grown to become a vibrant, socially conscious group of women dedicated to doing chesed for the shul and other Jewish organizations world-wide. We now know the Religious School as Ramaz, a coeducational yeshivah day school with a dynamic learning environment for both Jewish and Secular Studies. It is dedicated to helping its students develop a personal commitment to a life of Torah and mitzvot, and provides a passionately Zionist environment for students to develop a lifelong love of Israel and its people. KJ proudly and significantly sponsors Ramaz School.

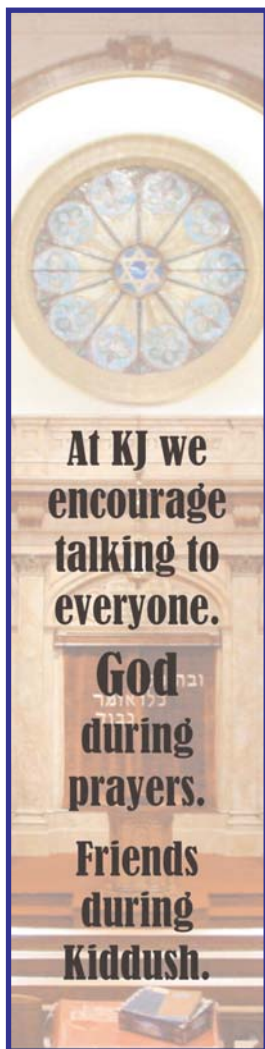
On April 9, we will recognize KJ for the vibrant institution it is at our Annual Meeting. The program will include tributes to anniversarians, memorials to departed members, the induction of new members, and the election of new officers and trustees.

Adding great significance to this evening will be an important presentation by KJ member Fanya Gottesfeld Heller upon the 70th anniversary of the

liberation of her village in Eastern Galicia by the Russians at the close of the Second World War. This coincides with the 70th anniversary of the tragedy of Hungarian Jews, 500,000 of whom were murdered in Auschwitz between April and July of 1944.

Speaking in counterpoint to Mrs. Heller will be a senior at Ramaz who just returned from the Upper School's Berlin, Poland, Israel Mission, who will share some of the experiences and perspectives of the class after this life-altering trip. A musical touch will be the performance of the Kol Ram Community Choir under the direction of Daniel Henkin.

The evening will conclude with a supper of frankfurters, sauerkraut and ice cold beer, courtesy of Foremost Caterers.



### SPONSORSHIPS ARE WELCOME

To support synagogue programs, we invite prospective Kiddush and Seudah Shlishit sponsors to contact Riva Alper in the synagogue office at 212-774-5670 or Riva@ckj.org. The base cost of a cake-and-wine Kiddush sponsorship is \$350, to which is added the cost of any extra catered food ordered through Foremost Caterers. Multiple Kiddush sponsors may, at their discretion and initiative, agree to share the expense of extra catered food, but every co-sponsor must pay, separately and individually, the \$350 base fee. Similarly, sponsoring Seudah Shlishit costs every co-sponsor \$250.

## YOM HASHOAH

Sunday, April 27, 7:00 p.m.

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the communal recitation of the "Av Harachamim" prayer for all the Martyrs of Israel. These moving renditions will be followed by the play and the poignant candle-lighting ceremony, accompanied by the Ramaz Upper School Choir under the direction of Daniel Henkin.

This evening, marked by prayer, remembrance, and reflection, is a most fitting way to honor those who perished and those who survived. As time moves on and the number of survivors is diminished, it behooves every one of us to make remembering a priority so that the next generation, learning by example, will also recognize the importance of remembering.

# זכור

*To participate in KJ's meaningful candle lighting ceremony, please contact*

*Elisa Gage at [elisabgage@yahoo.com](mailto:elisabgage@yahoo.com) or Yaira Singer at 212-600-0119.*

## WELCOME

Kehilath Jeshurun warmly welcomes the following new members who have joined the Congregation between the printing of the last Bulletin on November 5, and this Bulletin, which went to press on March 14.

Mara and Elliot Attie  
Ada and Mitchell Benarofe  
Mark Benun  
Susan and Michael Castle  
Natali and Jason Ganfer  
Lorraine and David Gold  
Natanya and Benjamin Gordon  
Jamie and Philip Katz  
Talya and David Kaye  
Amy and Benjamin Kellogg  
Gail and Robert Richardson  
Daniel E. Rosen  
Benjamin E. Sberro  
Elisa and Andrew (Mo) Septimus  
Joyce and Daniel Straus  
Adam Benjamin Struck  
Matanya and Pinchas Zekry  
Nina and Doni Zupnick

## *A Special Letter from Rabbi Lookstein*

Purim 5774  
March 17, 2014

Dear Friends,

Passover Relief is the first order of business in preparing for Pesach. Before we take care of our own food needs or reservations for far-off places, we have to think of those less fortunate than we and **do everything we can to help them not only have a happy Pesach but have an economically viable life.**

**This is true in our relationship with the larger Jewish community, but it is also painfully true in our KJ family as well where some former, generous donors to Passover Relief cannot pay their rent, may have huge debts and are actually having trouble putting food on the table every day, let alone making Pesach.**

**Yes, dear friends, it is as bad as that! Ma'ot Chitim (literally, funds for matzot) is a living reality on the Upper East Side.**

So, of course, the KJ Benevolent Fund has to give in an extraordinarily generous manner to Met Council and to other poverty relief organizations which help Jews in need in New York, in Israel, and around the world. At the same time, we have an absolute obligation to help our friends and neighbors right here in our community who are suffering now. **You do not know who they are, but I do. If you knew their identity I assure you, you would give with extraordinary generosity. Please give as if you know personally the members of the family in need.**

**These days, our Ma'ot Chitim Appeal is not a normal one and our response cannot be normal either.** Audrey and I have, once again, already contributed \$1,000, which is four times what we used to give to Passover Relief in the past. I hope you will respond in a similar fashion in accordance with your own ability to help others in need.

May God respond to our generosity by blessing us all with a very Happy and Kosher Passover.

Haskel Lookstein

P.S. Please make your check payable to the KJ Benevolent Fund, or you can make your donation on-line at [www.ckj.org/pay](http://www.ckj.org/pay)

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE KJ FOOD PANTRY**

- ♦ Staffing the food cart Mondays from 4:45-6:00 p.m.
- ♦ Packing food bags on Mondays

For more information contact  
Stacy Scheinberg at [Stacyron@aol.com](mailto:Stacyron@aol.com)

## **PASSOVER SCHEDULE**

### **Sunday, April 13**

*Search for Chametz* . . . . .After 8:10 p.m.

### **Monday, April 14, Passover Eve**

Morning Services and

Siyum B'chor (Firstborn) . . . . .7:00 a.m.

Chametz may not be eaten after 10:43 a.m.

Burn chametz no later than . . . .11:49 a.m.

Candlelighting . . . . .7:16 p.m.

Evening Services . . . . .7:30 p.m.

Start Seder . . . . .After 8:12 p.m.

### **Tuesday, April 15, Passover I**

Morning Services . . . . .9:00 a.m.

Evening Services. . . . .7:30 p.m.

Candlelighting & Seder.....After 8:13 p.m.

### **Wednesday, April 16, Passover II**

Morning Services . . . . .9:00 a.m.

Evening Services . . . . .7:30 p.m.

Conclusion of Yom Tov . . . . .8:14 p.m.

### **SERVICES DURING**

### **THE WEEK OF CHOL HAMOED**

### **Thursday, April 17, Passover III**

Morning Services . . . . .7:00 a.m.

Evening Services . . . . .6:45 p.m.

### **Friday, April 18, Passover IV**

Morning Services . . . . .7:00 a.m.

Evening Services . . . . .6:45 p.m.

Candlelighting . . . . .7:20 p.m.

### **Saturday, April 19, Passover V**

Morning Services . . . . .9:00 a.m.

Evening Services . . . . .7:15 p.m.

Shabbat concludes . . . . .8:18 p.m.

### **Sunday, April 20, Passover VI**

Morning Services . . . . .8:30 a.m.

Evening Services . . . . .6:45 p.m.

Candlelighting . . . . .7:22 p.m.

### **CONCLUDING DAYS OF PASSOVER**

### **Monday, April 21, Passover VII**

Morning Services . . . . .9:00 a.m.

Evening Services . . . . .7:35 p.m.

Candlelighting . . . . .8:20 p.m.

### **Tuesday, April 22, Passover VIII**

*(Yizkor is recited)*

Morning Services . . . . .9:00 a.m.

Evening Services . . . . .7:35 p.m.

Conclusion of Yom Tov . . . . .8:21 p.m.

# A PASSOVER TIMELINE

## STEP #1: Removal of Chametz – Cleaning the House

### STEP #2: Kashering Appliances

Gas ovens, both the stove-top and inside (racks as well), should be cleaned with an oven cleaner, and then not used for 24 hours. After 24 hours, invert the metal spiders and turn the burners on to the highest setting for 15 minutes. (If using an electric oven, turn the burners on the highest setting for 15 minutes as well.) After this is done, cover the stovetop with aluminum foil for the duration of Pesach. The inside oven should be turned on to broil for one hour.

If the oven is self-cleaning, go through one cycle.

Microwave ovens should be cleaned, and not used for 24 hours, after which a bowl or cup containing a few ounces of water should be put in and 'cooked' until the water is vaporized into steam.

Stainless steel sinks should be cleaned with a cleaning solution, and not used for 24 hours, after which boiling water should be poured on every area of the sink and its parts. Porcelain sinks cannot be kashered. They must be cleaned and covered.

Dishwashers may be kashered for Pesach after standing unused for 24 hours. They should be put through 3 complete cycles, using soap in the first one.

### Kashering Utensils

While it is preferable to have as many utensils as possible specially reserved for use only on Pesach, many utensils used throughout the year may be kashered for use on Pesach. Items that are 'kasherable' include: metal utensils used for hot and cold, providing they are not difficult to clean (i.e., a sieve, parts that are glued together), and glass utensils that were used strictly for cold food.

Items that may not be kashered are: glassware that is used for cooking, earthenware, pottery, porcelain, pyrex, and chinaware.

The easiest way to kasher utensils is to bring them to the **KJ Kasher-In on Sunday, April 6 from 9:00 a.m.-noon or Monday, April 7, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.**, where our rabbis will supervise the immersion of metal utensils in a large sink of rapidly boiling water.

It is also possible to kasher in the privacy of your own home. The procedure for kashering is as follows: Metal utensils should be thoroughly cleaned with a cleaning solution and then not used for 24 hours. Small utensils such as silverware or other cutlery should be immersed briefly in a large pot containing rapidly boiling water. If the pot is very large, more than one piece may be immersed at a time. Each piece should then be rinsed with cold water.

Pots are kashered by bringing water in them to a boil and then immersing a hot stone or iron such that the water will overflow onto the sides of the pot. Then rinse the pot in cold water. Items which came into direct contact with chametz, without the medium of water (e.g. a broiler, frying pan) may be kashered by heating them until they are literally 'redhot' or by placing them in a self-cleaning oven during the self-clean cycle.

Glass utensils should be cleaned with a cleaning solution and then immersed in water (a bathtub works) for three days, changing the water every 24 hours.

### STEP #3: The Search For Chametz

One of the most beautiful and meaningful ceremonies associated with Passover is *b'dikat chametz*—the search for chametz. The ceremony is composed of five parts.

1. Reciting a special blessing over the mitzvah of the removal of *chametz*.
2. The search of the house by the light of a candle to find vestiges of *chametz*.
3. The reciting of the formula of nullification of *chametz*.
4. The burning or disposal of any

*chametz* found during the search.

5. The reciting of a final, more inclusive formula of nullification.

The first three parts of this ceremony will be observed this year on Sunday evening, April 13, after nightfall, 8:10 p.m. The disposal should be on Monday morning, April 14. Children especially will be impressed by the ceremony. It should, therefore, be performed with enthusiasm and dedication.

The children should be asked to place pieces of *chametz* in the various rooms — a practice which ensures that the search will not be in vain. They can hold the candle and the feather and they should examine their own possessions, dressers and desks, for long forgotten relics of *chametz*.

Passover is a beautiful festival. It is a serious one, too. Both these aspects can be captured in advance of the festival by a careful observance of *b'dikat chametz*.

### Disposal of Chametz

No *chametz* may be eaten on Monday morning, April 14 after 10:43 a.m.

### STEP #4: The Sale of Chametz

The ritual sale of *chametz* must be completed by early Monday morning, April 14. There are those who prefer to perform the ritual in person. For those who cannot attend to the matter in person, there is a form provided on page 7 of this Bulletin which authorizes Rabbi Weinstock to sell our *chametz*. **THIS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE SYNAGOGUE BY MONDAY MORNING, APRIL 14, NOT LATER THAN 8:30 a.m.**

Individuals who will be in Israel for Passover should consult the rabbis in advance to make special arrangements.



## RABBI DR. JEREMY WIEDER TO DELIVER THE SHABBAT HA-GADOL DRASHA

SPONSORED BY  
SUZY AND LARRY PRESENT

**"TO LEAN OR NOT TO LEAN AT THE SEDER:  
WHAT IT MEANS TO BE FREE TODAY"**

**Shabbat afternoon, April 12  
following Mincha at 6:40 p.m.  
in lieu of Seudah Shlishit**



**STEP #5: The Burning of Chametz**

On Monday morning, April 14, it is customary to burn the chametz. The synagogue provides a large, contained fire for this purpose. No bracha should be said, since the one said before the search applies to the burning as well.

**STEP #6: After Pesach**

According to Jewish Law, chametz that was owned by a Jew during Pesach may never be eaten by a Jew. Therefore, it is preferable that after Pesach one buys food from establishments owned by non-Jews, establishments owned by Jews who properly sold their chametz before Pesach, or after a month (time that a store's stock has been used up) from any establishment.

***"Let all who are hungry,  
come and eat..."***

If you are able to host guests at your Seder table, please contact Rabbi Elie Weinstock at 212-774-5636 or [ravelie@ckj.org](mailto:ravelie@ckj.org)

**SHMURAH MATZAH**

Kehilath Jeshurun is again pleased to offer to its membership the opportunity to purchase Shmurah Matzah through the synagogue. The Matzahs are available at \$22.00 per pound.

The pick up will be on Sunday, **April 6th** in the synagogue lobby from 9 a.m.-noon.

**All orders must be prepaid and ordered by Sunday, March 30.**

Make checks payable to the KJ Special Projects Fund.

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ pounds of Shmurah Matzah at \$22 per pound.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (Day) \_\_\_\_\_

(Evening) \_\_\_\_\_

## PASSOVER PREPARATIONS AT KJ:

**"Kasher-In"**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 6TH  
9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.  
MONDAY, APRIL 7TH  
6:30 P.M. - 9:30 P.M.**



### Shmurah Matzah Pick-Up

**SUNDAY, APRIL 6TH  
9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.**

*(see order form at left)*



## FREE LARGE PRINT HAGGADAHS FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED AND READING DISABLED

If you or someone you know needs a Large Print Haggadah this year, please call JBI toll-free at 800-999-6476 before April 7th and they will be happy to send you a Large Print Haggadah, completely free of charge.

Enjoy the Seder!

**KJ BEGINNERS PROGRAM TO HOST COMMUNAL SEDER**

Want to experience a Seder with great food, insightful explanations, and all the trimmings? Want to be in a warm, friendly environment on Seder night? Don't want to hassle with preparing a Seder both nights? Well, have we got the answer!

Under the leadership of Rabbi Elie Weinstock and Rabbi Daniel & Rachel Kraus, and with the sweet melodies of KJB Chazan Shilo Kramer, KJ will once again host a Seder designed and planned as a learning experience. It is intended for those who wish to understand more about the content and meaning of the Seder and how to conduct it properly. This special Seder will be held on the first night of Passover, Monday, April 14, at 8:00 p.m.

The cost is \$90 per person. (Children under 3 may be seated with parents at no charge without their own meal.)

Reservations can be made by check to the synagogue office or online at [www.ckj.org/pay](http://www.ckj.org/pay). The deadline for reservations is Wednesday, April 9.

**FORM FOR SALE OF CHAMETZ**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby authorize **RABBI ELIE WEINSTOCK**, of 125 East 85th Street, City, State and County of New York, to sell, transfer and assign all Chametz of whatever kind and nature which I possess, or in which I may have an interest, wherever situated, in my residence at: \_\_\_\_\_ or in my place of business at: \_\_\_\_\_ or in any other place, without reservation and limitation. I further authorize him to lease all places in which chametz might be found.

If you plan to spend Passover in Israel or Europe, please check this box: ☐

If you plan to spend Passover in another US time zone, please circle below:  
Central                      Rocky Mountain                      Pacific

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please return to the Synagogue office by Monday, April 14th, by 8:30 AM.*

# Just Judaism

Sermon given by Rabbi Elie Weinstock on *Shabbat Parashat Shemot*

**V**'eileh shemot bnei Yisrael - The book of Exodus begins with names. How important are names? The Midrash comments:

בשכיל ד' דברים נגאלו ישראל ממצרים,  
אחד שלא שנו שמותם

There are four things that contributed to the Jewish people meriting redemption. One of them is that they did not change their names.

Commitment to maintaining a Jewish name appears to be a religious value. What exactly is a Jewish name? The sons of Yaakov were given names based on the reactions of the matriarchs. Moshe's name is bestowed by the daughter of Pharaoh. Do Jews avoid adopting foreign names? Legend tells of Alexander the Great, upon his visit to Jerusalem, being honored with the promise that the children of priestly families born that year would bear his name. Names like Papa and Huna are not inherently Jewish. Fast forward to the period of the *Rishonim*, and, on *Gittin* 8a, Rabbeinu Peter asks Rabbeinu Tam a question in *Tosfot*.

In the modern era, especially, Jews have changed their names. In 19th century Western Europe, Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch addressed the practice of *chol-kreish*, the formal bestowing of a secular name on German Jewish children. By a show of hands, who here today does not have a secular name?

What exactly do the rabbis mean by *lo shinu shemotam*?

We may understand why preserving a Jewish name is important by looking at the other three elements to which the Jews remained committed:

ולא שנו את לשונם, ולא גלו מסתרים שלהם,  
ולא נפרצו בעריות

The Midrash says that the Jews maintained their language, upheld a sense

of privacy and dignity, and did not engage in inappropriate sexual relationships. Together with not changing their names, these priorities represent a commitment to essential values. The Jewish people were able to leave the exile and become the Jewish people because they recognized what made them unique and remained committed to those ideals. *Lo shinu shemotam* signified a strong connection to their identity. This mentality is the way to ensure redemption.

Rabbi Berel Wein notes that the experience in Egypt embedded within the Jewish consciousness the importance of Jewish names. Over the centuries, the Jewish people have continually struggled to retain their identity. Throughout this struggle, the Jewish name has represented a sense of continuity and purpose. Even as secular names are widely utilized by Jews, Jewish names remain an anchor to the values that define who we are.

While there are halakhic opinions forbidding secular names, they are not in the majority. It is much more important to

know what Jewish names represent than not to change them. That is the key to redemption, to successful Jewish living.

It is against this backdrop that I want to examine a name we all share that seems ready for a change: Orthodox. We all identify as Orthodox Jews. What is Orthodox? It is used to describe the more traditionalist segment of the Jewish community. Rabbi Norman Lamm often spoke of our community as Centrist Orthodox. Rabbi Riskin spoke here last month about being Modern Orthodox. Just last week, we heard Rabbi

Asher Lopatin address the idea of being Open Orthodox. Last Saturday night, radio talk show host Zev Brenner hosted a debate between Rabbi Shmuel Goldin and Rabbi Lopatin regarding Open Orthodoxy. He said he had invited a representative of

the Agudah - the ultra-Orthodox group -

to participate.

The

individual declined

since the

Agudah doesn't

recognize Open

Orthodoxy as Orthodox.

Really!

Lest you think it is only recently that Orthodoxy seems to be going crazy, there was a symposium published in Tradition, the RCA journal of Jewish thought, in 1982 on the state of Orthodoxy. Rabbi Aharon Lichtenstein writes that one of the major challenges he sees is a certain narrowness which can lead to intolerance, insularity, and misplaced priorities. He writes: "On one of my visits (to America) I recall being almost overwhelmed by the impression that the major challenges confronting American Orthodoxy were neither demographic nor ideological, not how to deepen Jewish identity and weld the community, and not how to come to grips boldly with the social and intellectual impact of secular culture. These (the challenges) were, rather, determining the status of metropolitan *eruvim* and finding the right (kosher) tuna fish."

The state of the term Orthodox has not improved one bit since 1982! More and more, I find myself agreeing with Rabbi Yitz Greenberg, who is quoted as saying, "I personally don't care which denomination in Judaism you belong to as long as you're ashamed of it." I am tired of the noisy debate over what constitutes

I am tired of the  
noisy debate over what  
constitutes Orthodox  
Judaism.





Orthodox Judaism. With all of our successes, only 10% of American Jews are Orthodox! Maybe we should revisit whether the name Orthodox serves us well. Technically, there really is no such thing as Orthodox. It is a name we got stuck with.

Rabbi Samson Rafael Hirsch wrote in his essay entitled *Religion Allied to Progress*, "It was not the 'Orthodox' Jews who introduced the word 'orthodoxy' into Jewish discussion. It was the modern 'progressive' Jews who first applied this name to 'old', 'backward' Jews as a derogatory term. This name was at first resented by 'old' Jews. And rightly so. 'Orthodox' Judaism does not know any varieties of Judaism. It conceives Judaism as one and indivisible."

Why keep it? What benefit is there in the name Orthodoxy if it generates more heat than light? The importance of not changing a name, as in Egypt, is when the name accurately connects to the essential values. We are better off focusing on the principles that are important rather than standing up for and arguing over a name we didn't even choose for ourselves. If we want our own *geulah*, a more meaningful and engaged Jewish community, it is time for a name change. I propose *Just Judaism*.

What is *Just Judaism*? It contains 3 components. (Avot 1:2)

שמעון הצדיק היה משיירי כנסת הגדולה הוא  
היה אומר על שלשה דברים העולם עומד:  
על התורה ועל העבודה ועל גמילות חסדים

The world stands upon three things: *Torah*, *Avodah*, and *Gemilut Chasadim*. Embracing and promoting these three values can provide us with the tools to live meaningful Jewish lives and engage so many more Jews in a common bond.

Torah: *Just Judaism* stands for the need to study Torah and explore the rich literature of Judaism for teachings and lessons from which we all can benefit.

Rabbi Naftali Tzvi Yehudah Berlin (the Netziv) of Volozhin said it very well 120 years ago. In a famous responsum (*Meishiv Davar* I:44) addressing those who wished

to divide the Jewish community into separate camps, he wrote:

The bottom line is that if we really and truly wish to strengthen Judaism, there is no other way to do it other than Torah study. It doesn't matter if it is for the right reasons or the wrong ones - that is for God to determine and not us. Those who study Torah will increase and all will recognize that Torah study helps ensure the future of the Jewish people.

Torah study brings Jews together. Our community participates in the Torah Learning Coalition on the Upper East Side along with other Orthodox, Conservative and Reform congregations. We studied Pirkei Avot together, we studied to prepare for the High Holidays together, and, most recently, we studied about Chanukah together at Central Synagogue.

This week, you may have read about another example of Torah study's ability to engage and inspire. It is also taking place right here in our neighborhood. Rabbi Burt Siegel, the leader of the Reform "Shul of New York: A Synagogue for Spiritual Judaism" that meets in various locations on the Lower East Side, has been praying and studying daily at Chabad of the Upper East Side in their morning Kollel program. In an interview with a Chabad website, he spoke of his rabbinical studies at HUC:

It really was devoid of a sense of spirituality... Studying Talmud...I began to appreciate the legitimacy of holding two different opinions and striving to find the authenticity in both.

Rabbi Siegel's Torah study is not about leaving Reform or embracing some other denomination. He explained:

I don't feel any disconnect between serving my liberal synagogue and my growing traditionalism. My spiritual journey has actually helped me bring even more spirituality to my wonderful members.

This is the power of Torah study. Instead of arguing about what Orthodoxy

is, is not, or should be, we are better served by opening up a *sefer* (book) and having a *chavruta* (study session with a partner) regarding issues of disagreement. That is *Just Judaism*, Judaism as expressed through the study of Torah.

*Just Judaism* also includes *avodah*. The term classically refers to *korbanot* (sacrifices) and, nowadays, prayer. At its core, though, *avodah* is about developing a relationship with God. Orthodox Judaism doesn't talk that much about God. Instead, we focus on the intellect or the practice of

ritual law. Judaism is a balance between what I call deed and creed. There are religious obligations - the deeds, and there are religious feelings - the creed. Mitzvot, the deeds, represent the body while the religious feeling of Judaism, the creed, represents the soul. Rabbi Norman Lamm notes how essential it is to properly appreciate both. A soul without a body is a ghost. Religious feeling alone is not anchored in reality. At the same time, a body without a soul is a corpse. Actions alone are not enough. They must be suffused with meaning and life.

Rabbi David Aaron, founder of Isralight, illustrates what happens when there is a disconnect between actions and religious feelings with an experience he had trying to introduce a Shabbat program to the Jewish youth group he once worked for. He presented his plan to the teenage leaders, and a girl of about 16 responded with a look of total shock. She said, "Shabbat!? Do you mean no tearing toilet paper?" That was her initial association with Shabbat. Rabbi Aaron responded in jest, "Yes. Haven't you tried that? For

*continued on page 15*

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there really is no such  
thing as Orthodox.  
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## DEDICATE

Members of the Congregation and others are invited to honor a friend or relative, celebrate a milestone event or memorialize a loved one by dedicating *Chumashim* or *Siddurim*.

**CHUMASHIM** - \$45 each

**SIDDURIM** - \$25 each

For more information  
call Riva Alper at 212-774-5670

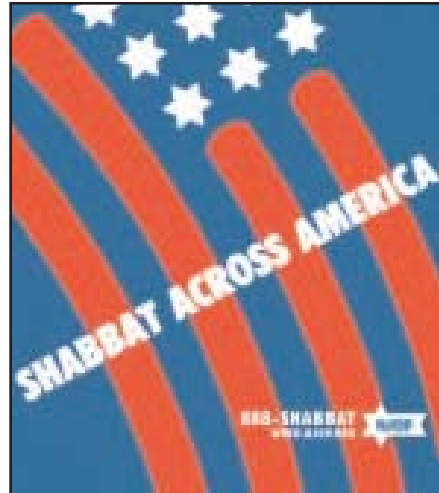
# HISTORIC SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA AT KJ

by Rabbi Daniel Kraus

If you thought 500 people attending Shabbat Across America last year at KJ was impressive, think again. On Friday night March 7th, over 600 people came together to celebrate Shabbat. From infants and toddlers and their parents at Tot Shabbat Across America, to a capacity crowd in the Gottesman Center Falk Auditorium and Lindenbaum Gymnasium for a delicious and spirited dinner, it was an evening to remember. This year marked the 18th time that KJ has participated in NJOP's program to share the beauty and warmth of Shabbat with as many people as possible. The evening highlights the many beautiful layers of the KJ community with strong representation from- Beginners, young families, long-standing KJ members, and a vibrant representation of singles.

The evening began with a capacity crowd in the Heyman Auditorium for a Carlebach Service led by Rabbi Elie Weinstock and KJB Chazan Shilo Kramer. Rabbi Daniel Kraus kicked off the

evening's program with inspirational words about the power of Shabbat and community before the crowd headed



across the street for dinner. An electric energy could be felt in both rooms with guests mingling and enjoying meeting new people, enjoying resident singing sensation Jewbilation (Andy Dimond and Richard Seaman) and a Dvar Torah from Rabbi

Lookstein about the importance of disconnecting one day a week and engrossing ourselves in the beauty of Shabbat.

More than a sellout crowd, an important goal of Shabbat Across America is to create a stronger sense of community. Through exposing many first time attendees to a beautiful Shabbat, many are inspired to return for services, for classes, for Shabbat and holiday programming, and become part of our community and the Jewish people.

Save the date  
for next year's  
Shabbat Across  
America!  
**March 13, 2015**

**TWEET.  
POST.  
#HASHTAG.  
COMMENT.**

**However you want to connect with us,  
we're listening!**

Join our CKJ and KJ Beginners pages on Facebook and Twitter, and stay updated with content from the website, share experiences and ideas with others and stay connected to our events and initiatives.

**We like you. Now LIKE us!**



facebook.com/CongregationKehilathJeshurun  
www.facebook.com/KJBeginners



twitter.com/CongregationKJ  
twitter.com/KJBeginners

Here's a Glimpse  
of Tot Shabbat Across America



Photo credit: Rabbi Elie Weinstock



# East Meets West: A Model of Synagogue Partnership

by Rabbi Daniel Kraus

**KJ** and the Jewish Center (JC) on the Upper West Side are just one mile apart. Yet, Central Park creates more than just a geographical divide in Manhattan. For the city's young modern orthodox professionals, it creates two very separate and distinct communities. In a time when social networking makes it easier than ever to connect with people across the world and advertise the myriad of parties and benefits sponsored by local Jewish organizations on any given night, programming that brings together young professionals from both sides of town was conspicuously absent on Shabbat and other Jewish holidays. Two young Rabbis - who had a connection from a time they were neighbors - decided to bring their two communities together.

Rabbi Daniel Kraus, KJ's Director of Community Education, partnered with his friend Rabbi Dovid Zirkind, Assistant Rabbi at The Jewish Center, on an innovative program they dubbed "East Meets West," with the goal to bridge the gap between these two communities: "My idea was simple: use our geographical divide to bring two communities closer together," said Rabbi Kraus. "Jewish

organizations and synagogues need to look towards greater models of collaboration," he added.

On November 1, members of the two communities

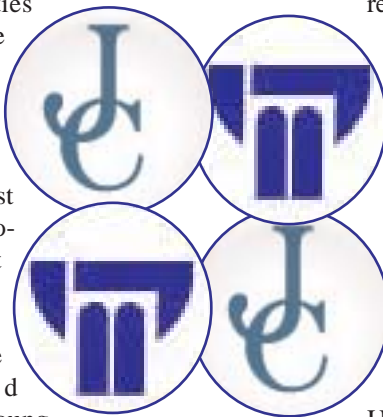
came together at The Jewish Center for the first in a two-part dinner series. One hundred fifty young

professionals from both the Upper West Side and Upper East Side gathered for a special wine tasting, provided by the Israeli Wine Producers Association and Herzog Wine Cellars, followed by a dinner where each table was split between the two neighborhoods, which allowed for the participants to meet new people. "After attending a Shabbat dinner on the Upper East Side last winter, I realized that there were hundreds of young, involved Jewish professionals on the East Side who

would rarely consider attending an event on the Upper West Side because it was on the Upper West side - and vice versa," commented Dina, 27, an Upper West Side resident.

Three weeks later, East Meets West reconvened at KJ for a second dinner that sold out. Over 165 young professionals had the opportunity to meet and mingle and were exposed to the community on the other side of the park. "The dinners highlighted an obvious similarity - we are all looking to expand our social horizons, and meet new, interesting people, particularly in the context of a Jewish environment," said Josh, 34, a single Upper East Side resident.

With over 230 individual participants in the East Meets West program, KJ and JC hope to continue this partnership in the future with additional Shabbat events and by inviting each other to their own synagogue's young professionals' events. The dinners were a great first step in growing our network and providing for our community by opening it up to new and exciting possibilities.



## 2014 - 2015 Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun Book of Remembrance

Once again during the spring, Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun will publish a BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE in which the names of departed dear ones are recorded by their living relatives who recite Yizkor for them four times a year. At the Yizkor service there is a prayer which says that an offering has been made in memory of those for whom Yizkor was recited. Members of the congregation and the community-at-large may authorize us to publish the names of their departed relatives by making a token contribution of \$18 or more for each name to be memorialized. Please use the form below if you wish us to record names for you.

The Book will go to press on Wednesday, May 21, so that it will be ready in time for Shavuot.

Enclosed please find my Yizkor offering\* for the entire year in memory of those listed below, who are to be recorded in the KJ BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE published by the congregation.

- ☐ Please duplicate last year's listing(s)  
Offering \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ people.  
Please add the following:

FULL NAME IN ENGLISH (PLEASE PRINT)

OFFERING

Name _____	\$ _____
Name _____	\$ _____
Name _____	\$ _____
Name _____	\$ _____

YOUR NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Please check here if you did not have a listing last year.

*\*This offering is a token of reverence and is designed to be within reach of all.  
We suggest a contribution of \$18 or more for each name.*

This form should be returned to our office by Wednesday, May 21.



# AIPAC Policy Conference 2015

*March 1-3*

**Save \$100 by Registering Today!**  
**Use the MyAIPAC section of the AIPAC App**  
**or visit [aipac.org/pc](http://aipac.org/pc) to register**

***Special Discount Ends on November 14***

*Experience the*



## ROSE AND CHARLES LANGER LUNCH & LEARN PROGRAM

*The Rose & Dr. Charles Langer Lunch and Learn Program for seniors, hosted by Donna Silverman, will continue through June 2014. The free program for seniors is made possible by an endowment created by the Buchwald, Edelsburg, and Stern Families.*

April 2 - Robert Sugarman  
 April 9 - Rabbi Elie Weinstock  
 April 23 - Robyn Barsky  
 April 30 - Dr. Taryn Fishman  
 May 7 - Rabbi Daniel Kraus  
 May 14 - Janie Schwalbe  
 May 21 - Dr. Gilbert Kahn  
 May 28 - Gilah Kletenik  
 June 4 - Shavuot Break - no class  
 June 11 - Israel Max  
 June 18 - Rabbi Elie Weinstock

***The program takes place at 12 noon  
 preceded at 11:30  
 by Dus Haimische Shtiebel:  
 "The Yiddish Schmoozers."***

## Opportunities for **Volunteers**

### DOROT's Passover Package Delivery

*Brighten the day of a senior!*



Deliver a Holiday Package and visit an older person in Manhattan.

**Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014**  
**10:00 AM — 12:00 PM**

**DOROT**

171 West 85th Street near Amsterdam Avenue

PHOTO ID REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE

Register online at [www.dorotusa.org](http://www.dorotusa.org) or call 212-769-2850.

DOROT deeply appreciates the generosity of Marilyn and Stanley Katz who help sustain our Passover Package Delivery Program. We are also grateful to the estate of Sanford H. Goldstein for its support of DOROT's Holiday Package Delivery programs.



## Soul Cycle A Monthly Spiritual Workout

Led by Rachel Kraus

April 3; May 1; June 11,

*Women of the community  
 are invited to participate  
 in a monthly learning series  
 to provide an opportunity to learn, share,  
 engage and inspire each Rosh Chodesh.*

*A variety of topics will be addressed  
 in different homes each month.*

RSVP to [roshchodesh.org](http://roshchodesh.org)

# Catch the Spirit of Bnei Akiva!



It is always a jolly holiday in the company of our effervescent Bnei Akiva shlichot, Mali Brachya and Noga Mark. Programming that pairs a measure of fun with the spirit of Ahavat Eretz Yisrael is a winning combination, and the creative Pre-Chanukah program at *Make Meaning* on Third Avenue brought out the artist in everyone.

## KJ Service Directory

Foremost Caterers .....201-664-2465  
 Judaica Classics (Doina Bryskin) .. .212-722-4271  
 Aryeh Leifert, Licensed Israel Tour Guide  
 (U.S. number, rings in Israel) .....305-454-4050  
 McCabe's Wine & Liquors .....212-737-0790  
 Park East Kosher Butcher .....212-737-9800

Plaza Jewish Community Chapel ...212-769-4400  
 Seasons Kosher Supermarket .....212-222-6332  
 Shirley Serure, Photographer .....917-371-9146  
 Tauber Fish Market .....718-338-5380  
 Sofer Stam (for Tefillin and Mezuzot)  
 Rabbi Yoseph Lasdun .....212-927-1655

*For Shaatnez checking (the biblical prohibition against mixed fabrics typically found in the collars of expensive men's suits), leave suits at Kent's Fashion House, 1596 Third Avenue (between 89th & 90th Streets), and they will be inspected by the Shaatnez checker. Phone: 212-876-0088.*



# BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE MEN'S CLUB

*Dr. Mark Meirowitz, President*



**February 22, 2014**

Rachel Roth, KJ Member and author of "Here There is No Why" spoke to an audience of 350 at a Men's Club Kiddush Discussion about her experiences during the Holocaust. Her talk was moving and riveting, and many students of Ramaz School were present to hear her incredible tale of survival. "I'm speaking because my family is dead, our people were murdered and they can't talk," she said.



*Mark Meirowitz and Ryan Mauro*

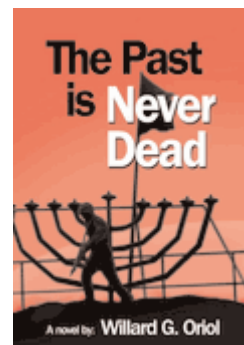
**January 26, 2014**

An overflow crowd was mesmerized by the film *Turkish Passport*, the story of the heroic efforts of Turkish diplomats to save Jews during the Holocaust. Bernard Turiel, who was saved by Turkish diplomat Selahattin Ulkumen in Rhodes during the Holocaust, was a guest speaker.



**December 22, 2013**

Ryan Mauro (right) National R Security Analyst, Clarion Project, spoke at KJ at a screening of "Iranium the Movie." (Men's Club President Dr. Mark Meirowitz, left)



**January 5, 2014**

Willard G. Oriol, author of *The Past is Never Dead*, spoke about the miraculous events that resulted in 50,000 Bulgarian Jews being saved during the Holocaust.

## UPCOMING YOUTH DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

**March 29** - Tot Shabbat (Day)/  
Junior Congregation Shabbaton

**March 30** - "Frozen" Sing-along

**April 20** - KJSL Opening Day

**April 27** - KJSL

**May 3** - Tot Shabbat (Day)

**May 4** - KJSL

**May 10** - Youth Shabbaton

**May 11** - KJSL

**May 18** - KJSL

**May 25** - KJSL

**June 3** - Shavuot Learning

**June 7** - Tot Shabbat (Day

**June 15** - KJSL

**June 22** - KJSL

**June 29** - KJSL

## SHABBAT AT KJ

**YOUNG PEOPLE'S MINYAN**

9:15 a.m.

**April 5, May 17 & June 14**

**HASHKAMA MINYAN**

7:15 a.m.

**April 5 & 26, May 10 & 24,  
June 7 & 21, July 5 & 19,  
August 2 & 16**

**LEARNERS SERVICE**

9:30 a.m. Every Shabbat

**INTERMEDIATE SERVICE**

9:30 a.m. Every Shabbat



## JUST JUDAISM

continued from page 9

thousands of years, Jews get together, put a roll of toilet paper on a table, sit around and chant, don't tear it, don't tear it." To the uninitiated or uninspired, rituals may seem empty of meaning.

Rabbi Aaron sees a lack of understanding at the root of feeling uninspired by Judaism. It's not enough to be told that we should live Jewish lives. People don't always do what they should do. But most people do what they love to do. The goal is to find a way to love to do what we should do. We need to explore what it is that we love about Judaism and then do it. Do we love singing soulful songs? Do we love the opportunity to celebrate holidays with friends and family? Do we love to come to shul to daven (or hear the sermon)? Finding what we love will strengthen our connection to God and improve our religious experience. That is the avodah of *Just Judaism*.

Torah study and seeking a genuine connection with God are two of the essential keys to unlocking a religious world view that can redeem our Jewish world. The third key of *Just Judaism* is *gemilut chasadim*.

What is *gemilut chasadim*? It is often translated as acts of kindness or charity, but it is more. *Gemilut chasadim* means (a) taking action informed by Jewish values and (b) doing kindness for Jewish causes.



While Jews are proportionally more charitable than the general population, not enough of those charitable Jews give often enough to Jewish causes. While generosity to all is the mitzvah of tzedakah, *gemilut chasadim* is an imperative that our giving and doing be informed by our Judaism. This means we need to give to Jewish causes.

As Jews, we are ingrained with the value of helping others and the world around us. A Jew, like any other compassionate person, wants to help the poor and hungry and stand up in the face of injustice. When we act, we also act with the awareness that our kindness and justice are Jewish values. In this way, our good deeds are also an outgrowth of our Judaism.

While we often look to ritual observance as an indicator of commitment to Judaism, the prophets tell us there is another gauge that measures our loyalty to God. (Hoshea 6:6)

כי חסד הפצתי ולא זבח

*For it is kindness that I desire and not sacrifice.*

A Jew's commitment is measured by the level of compassion and acts of kindness towards another. *Gemilut chasadim* - supportive actions informed by Jewish values - play a crucial role in being Jewish. In addition to generosity and action, we should analyze the causes for which we stand up and the charities we support through the prism of *gemilut chasadim*. In this way, our kindness becomes part of our religious activity, and

that is *Just Judaism*.

How can we bring Torah to all Jews? What can we do to bring more religious meaning to all Jews? How can we act in a Jewish way for the benefit of our community and all people? If we continue to insist that the answers to these questions come from our own definition of a denomination, we will miss out on the potential of *Just Judaism* to inspire the masses. To quote Rabbi Hirsch again:

[Judaism] does not know a Mosaic, prophetic and rabbinic Judaism, nor Orthodox and Liberal Judaism...It does not know Orthodox and Liberal Jews. It does indeed know conscientious and indifferent Jews, good Jews, bad Jews or baptised Jews; all, nevertheless, Jews with a mission which they cannot cast off. They



are only distinguished accordingly as they fulfill or reject their mission... It knows just Judaism and non-Judaism.

*Torah, avodah, and gemilut chasadim.* Teaching and studying Torah, enabling a deeper encounter with the Divine, and taking action informed by Jewish values are the keys for redeeming today's Jewish world and elevating the level of discourse and commitment in our contemporary fractured Jewish community. Promoting these essential Jewish elements will be far more effective than any denomination.

It's *Just Judaism*.

### Save the Dates!

KJ Annual Dinner  
Saturday night  
December 6, 2014

KJ/Ramaz Blood Drive  
Sunday, December 7, 2014

### Join Us in Welcoming Guest Scholars

**Eric Goldstein**  
UJA-Federation of NY Incoming CEO  
Shabbat morning, April 5

Avivah Zornberg  
Torah Scholar and Author  
Shabbat, morning, May 10



## KJ BEGINNERS PRESENTS FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE

**APRIL 4**

WITH THE KOL HANESHAMA COMMUNITY  
FEATURING DR. ADENA BERKOWITZ

**MAY 2**

**GUEST SPEAKER: REV. ROBERT STEARNS**  
FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF EAGLES WINGS  
"THE MANY FACES OF PRO-ISRAEL ACTIVISM TODAY"

**JUNE 13**

**SEASON FINALE**

**Friday Night Carlebach Services followed by dinner**  
**RSVP to 212-774-5678 or Beginners@ckj.org**

## SHAVUOT AND TIKUN LEYL

**TUESDAY NIGHT, JUNE 3**

Candlelighting 8:03 p.m.

Evening services at 8:15 p.m.

Shavuot Dinner at 9:15 p.m.

Opening Class at 11:30 p.m.  
followed by All-night Learning  
and Sunrise Minyan at 5:00 a.m.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4**

Morning Services at 9:00 a.m.

Evening Services at 6:45 p.m.

*Early Yom Tov:*

*Preparations, Candlelighting  
and Kiddush after 6:50 p.m.*

*but before 8:22 p.m.*

Regular Candlelighting  
after 9:06 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 5**

Morning Services at 9:00 a.m.

Evening Services at 8:20 p.m.

Yom Tov ends at 9:06 p.m.

JOIN US AS WE WELCOME  
GUEST SHAVUOT SCHOLAR  
RABBI SHLOMO BRODY  
SENIOR INSTRUCTOR  
AT YESHIVAT HAKOTEL

## JEWISH LEARNING INSTITUTE AT KJ

### PARADIGM SHIFT

*Transformational Life Teachings  
of the Lubavitcher Rebbe*  
with Rabbi Elie Weinstock



Who am I? Why am I here? How do I achieve my purpose in life? Examine the unique perspective of Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, the late leader of the Chabad-Lubavitch movement, towards life's bigger questions -- an outlook responsible for reviving Jewish life worldwide and a vision that has empowered so many to realize their inherent goodness and to discover the same within others. Embark on a fascinating journey as we encounter the life, outlook, and philosophy of the Lubavitcher Rebbe.

**Six Mondays at 7:00 p.m. starting May 19**

\$79 per person; \$135 per couple.

Try the first class for free!

No one is turned away for lack of funds

*JLI is a creative presentation of traditional Judaism  
in a highly professional, innovative, academically  
rigorous yet accessible format.*

## KJ SISTERHOOD: SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

A Soul Cycle spin class full of women bicycling to honor the memories of loved ones.

A health forum featuring Emily Sonnenblick and Ken Offit, addressing current concerns about cancer testing and treatment.

Educational Museum Tours, whetting the cultural appetites of scores of women, followed by wonderful brunches which satisfied the appetite for food after a morning of art appreciation.

"Saffron and Rosewater: Songs and Stories from Persian Jewish Women," portraying the experiences of Iranian Jewish women, explored in a series of pieces based on literary works featuring KJ's own Esther Amini Krawitz.

A Judaica Event at Sotheby's. The Annual Chanukah Boutique. Cooking Events with outstanding chefs. A wine tasting. A book review of *The Watchmaker's Daughter* by Sonia Taitz with the author, a graduate of the Ramaz Upper School.

An evening coordinated with

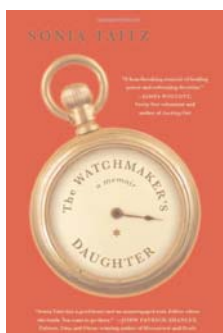
Natan Ramaz featuring Rabbi Haskel Lookstein explaining the rudiments of paying a shiva visit, at which time the Rabbi explained the shiva



rules for a mourner and gave advice for the one visiting the mourner. A most appropriate topic given that the hallmark of Sisterhood chesed is the setting up of a shiva home and providing the first meal for the mourning family.

Still to come are a great shop-

for-charity event at FiveStory, and the annual



Sisterhood Luncheon. In all, a very successful year -- rich in varied programming and social opportunities,

but what underscores it all is the dedication of the Sisterhood to supporting charitable causes locally and in Israel. The Sisterhood is always there for the community, whether making the weekly Kiddush possible or setting up a shiva home. KJ is truly blessed by all the Sisterhood does.



photo credit: Brenda Bernstein

## THREE COMMUNITY MIKVAHS

### The Jacques & Hannah Schwalbe Mikvah

419 East 77th Street  
(bet. 1st & York Avenues)  
Telephone: 212-359-2020

### The Rennert Mikvah at 5th Avenue Synagogue

5 East 62nd Street  
(just off Fifth Avenue)  
Telephone: 212-753-6058

### The West Side Mikvah

234 West 74th Street  
(East of Broadway)  
Telephone: 212-579-2011

### KJ Sisterhood Circle of Life™ Cards

Acknowledge and celebrate community smachot or honor the memory of a lost loved one. Proceeds benefit deserving families and individuals in our community and around the world.

\$25 for a package of 5 cards; \$18 for 2 cards; and \$10 for single cards. Please contact SharonGarfunkel@hotmail.com for more information or to purchase.

## East Side Torah Learning Coalition Back for a Second Season

After a successful inaugural Pirkei Avot series followed by popular High Holiday and Chanukah sessions, the East Side Torah Learning Coalition (TLC) will kick off its second year of programming with "The Pirkei Avot Dialogues." Two or three rabbis of different denominations will jointly discuss a different chapter of Pirkei Avot each week in different synagogues throughout the Upper East Side. These sessions will unite Reform, Conservative and Orthodox synagogue members to examine the ethical lessons of the Rabbis of the Mishnah.

Three classes will be at lunchtime and three in the evenings. Rabbi Weinstock will kick off the season by teaching the first chapter with neighborhood colleagues on Thursday, April 24th, at 7:30 pm at KJ in the Ramaz Middle School Auditorium.

The remaining schedule is as follows:

Park Avenue Synagogue, Thursday, May 1st, 1pm

Orach Chaim, Thursday May 8th, 7:30pm

Temple Israel, Thursday, May 15th, 1pm

Congregation Or Zarua, Thursday May 22, 7:30pm

Sutton Place Synagogue, Thursday May 29th 1pm



The East Side Torah Learning Coalition, is a partnership of Upper East Side congregations aiming to expand the boundaries of communal collaboration. Conceived by Rabbi Weinstock and Rabbi Scott Bolton of Congregation Or Zarua, the goal is to build a greater sense of Jewish community through the study of Torah. The collaboration currently includes ten Upper East Side congregations.





# UJA @ KJ

## A Chesed Partnership Par Excellence

“UJA at KJ” has been busy with several events this year, all around the city. We kicked off the year by serving a delicious Thanksgiving meal at Project ORE in the East Village. KJ families made Thanksgiving decorations and cards to hand out to the Project ORE seniors with packages of donated food, and UJA at KJ volunteers of all ages helped to serve a meal to seniors from all over the community and brighten their holiday season. Project ORE, a program of the Educational Alliance, a

UJA-Federation of NY beneficiary agency, works with homeless and isolated elderly Jews throughout Manhattan to provide Kosher meals, counseling, case management and other supportive services. Project ORE has served more than 400,000 emergency kosher meals and provided counseling, case management, and other supportive services to



provides healthcare services and assistance for elders. With more than 160 years of experience as a not-for-profit elder care system, Jewish Home Lifecare provides a broad spectrum of care and serves as a resource on concerns of aging for elders and caregivers.

On Sunday morning, March 9th, the Heyman Auditorium at the Ramaz Lower School was buzzing with children and parents as our “UJA at KJ” community came together to create food

packages and make Purim Decorations as we “Packed it up for Purim.” Almost 70 people from the KJ community came together to participate in a community-wide effort to provide food packages for the neediest New Yorkers during Purim. These healthy food items were delivered by the Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty to needy New Yorkers, and some of the packages were distributed by the KJ food pantry. Met Council, a UJA-Federation of NY beneficiary agency, is one of New York’s largest human service agencies, providing 100,000 New Yorkers with critical services in their fight against poverty each year. Services range from domestic violence counseling to kosher food pantries to career training, and Met Council helps individuals find immediate relief and lasting solutions. Together, parents and children packed each bag of food, which included rice, pasta and cereal, cans of vegetables, beans, fruit, and tuna, fruit juice, raisins and peanut butter, along with recipe cards with healthy and innovative ideas for using these products, and a hand-made card from one of the KJ kids.

In addition to packing 96 bags of food, we made many decorations for the upcoming Purim Dinner at Project ORE. The decorations will be used to brighten

### ISRAEL ACTION

Check out “Artzeinu”  
The Weekly Israel News Update

<http://artzeinu.org>

edited by fellow KJ members  
Aliza Hornblass  
Jonathan Hornblass,  
Erica Schwartz  
Founder: Deena Shiff

This site provides easy access to numerous news sources and videos, and is well organized by general topic.



Bringing Light to Project Ore.  
Three photos credit: Abby Kaufthal

isolated, poor, homeless, mentally ill, elderly Jews in New York City since 1987. UJA at KJ supports Project ORE throughout the year in addition to the Thanksgiving meal, with individually sponsored Shabbat ORE monthly meals. If you are interested in sponsoring a Shabbat ORE Meal, please contact Erica Cohen at [cohen@ujafedny.org](mailto:cohen@ujafedny.org).

As the weather turned chilly, and the holidays had just passed, UJA at KJ celebrated Tu B'Shevat by making tissue paper flowers and visiting with seniors at Jewish Home Lifecare on the Upper West Side. Families had the opportunity to visit one-on-one with seniors in their rooms and brighten their winter with color paper flowers and cards. Jewish Home Lifecare, a UJA-Federation beneficiary agency,

## UJA @ KJ

up the room when seniors from Project Ore arrive to enjoy a festive Purim meal. Masks, flags and cards will certainly add an element of festivity! Among the decorations was a record-breaking paper chain, possibly the longest in history!

There are a few more events coming up to round out the year. KJ will celebrate "UJA Shabbat" on April 5th, with incoming UJA-Federation of NY CEO, Eric Goldstein. On Sunday, April 27, Yom HaShoah, KJ will come together with Park Avenue Synagogue and UJA-Federation's Families Division to serve a meal to Holocaust survivors and learn about the seniors' experiences. On April 30, the Annual UJA at KJ Cocktail party will be held at the home of Judy and David Lobel. To finish out the year, on May 7, seniors from SelfHelp, a UJA-Federation beneficiary agency that addresses the needs of Holocaust survivors in New York City, will join the KJ Lunch and Learn program and be treated to a performance by the Lower School choir.

These wonderful events were made possible thanks to the "UJA at KJ" chairs, Rebecca Feit, Abby Kaufthal, and Nicole Meyer, and the amazing support of the KJ staff and community.

For those who would like to participate in our next opportunity, please contact UJA at KJ chairs, Rebecca Feit at [rebeccafeit@yahoo.com](mailto:rebeccafeit@yahoo.com), Abby Kaufthal at [akaufthal@gmail.com](mailto:akaufthal@gmail.com), and Nicole Meyer at [nicole.meyer@ralphlauren.com](mailto:nicole.meyer@ralphlauren.com), or our UJA staff liaisons, Erica Cohen at [cohene@ujafedny.org](mailto:cohene@ujafedny.org) or 212.836.1114. We hope to see you all at future events!

אלו דברים  
שאינ להם  
שעור

## KESHER: NON-STOP PROGRAMMING

Over the past few months, Keshet has hosted various programs for individuals, young couples, and families in the community that were a great success.

We kicked off the Keshet calendar with a very enjoyable Shemini Atzeret Luncheon in the sukkah for over 100 people. This gave people the opportunity to enjoy a nice meal with old and new friends.

The New Mothers Breakfast was graciously led by Paolina Weber, a Certified Pilates Instructor. She was an exceptional instructor, taking a refreshingly holistic approach, considering the whole person, mind, body and spirit. Paolina engaged all the moms and moms-to-be who joined the breakfast, and it was a great opportunity for ladies in the same place in life, sharing similar experiences, to meet.

Keshet's Chanukah Concert was a HUGE hit! One Trek performed Chanukah songs that left everyone dancing and bouncing around the room. The ruach in the room was palpable!

Guys Night Out took place at EastSide Billiards. It's a nice, relaxed environment for young men to meet and greet without having to wear their shul suits.

This year's Progressive Dinner was hosted at 18 Restaurant and had over 50 people in attendance. It was a full house! 18 served a family-style meal, giving everyone the opportunity to eat, drink, and mingle without reservation.

On March 9th, we hosted mask and grogger decorating to prepare for Purim. This year we partnered with ChasingPeace.org, giving children the chance to decorate shoes that will be donated to Jewish children in need around the world. Guitarist David Glazer performed Purim songs for the children. Following lots of arts and crafts and song, pizza and hamantaschen was served, adding to the merriment.

We are looking forward to our annual Spring Luncheon on May 10th. This year we are hoping to host the lunch on the KJ roof and welcome the beautiful spring weather! Children in attendance will be able to play alongside as well.

Last, but most certainly not least, Keshet's YPM (Young People's Minyan) has been hosted once a month and continues to attract a friendly, enthusiastic, young-professional and young-family crowd. The gabbaim continuously make the effort to create a warm, welcoming, kid-friendly environment for all who attend. We look forward to many more, successful minyanim!



photo credit: Gealia Friend



photo credit: Gealia Friend

**Natan@Ramaz**

invites the entire community to an important lecture.

**"Prayer in Crisis - and in Normalcy"**  
by Rabbi Haskel Lookstein

Thursday, May 22 at 7:30 p.m.

Location given with RSVP to [Natan@Ramaz.org](mailto:Natan@Ramaz.org)

Co-sponsors: KJ Beginners, Bikur Cholim, Keshet,  
Men's Club, and Sisterhood

## BNEI MITZVAH



**CLAIRE SCHWEITZER**

Mazal Tov to Valerie and Theodore Schweitzer upon the Bat Mitzvah ceremony of their daughter, Claire (Meira), at Congregation Shearith Israel on January 18th, at which time Claire delivered a D'var Torah on the Torah portion of week, Parashat Yitro. She compared and contrasted the meanings of the 4th commandment, the mitzvah of Shabbat, as it appears in Parashat Bereishit and Parashat Yitro. Claire is a sixth grade student at the Ramaz Middle School.



**LUCY DOFT**

Mazal Tov to Abby and David Doft upon the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Lucy, on February 23. Lucy delivered a Dvar Torah on Miriam. In a chesed project related to her Bat Mitzvah, Lucy is pleased to be building a chicken farm to support orphans in Malawi through GoodsForGood. Lucy is a sixth grade student at the Ramaz Middle School. Mazal Tov to proud KJ grandparents Arlene and Avrom Doft.



**MAYA HOFF**

Mazal Tov to Rachel and Eliot Hoff upon the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Maya, on February 28 at Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun. Maya delivered a Dvar Torah at a Shabbat dinner in her honor on the theme of unity relating to Parashat Pekudei and Shabbat Shekalim. As her chesed project, Maya is raising funds for the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation. Maya is a sixth grade student at the Ramaz Middle School.



**CAYLA TODES**

Mazel Tov to Lisa and Mark Todes upon the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Cayla, on March 9, at which time she delivered a D'var Torah on Megillat Esther. Cayla is a sixth grade student at the Ramaz Middle School.



**EVELYN LANDY**

Mazal Tov to Amy and Darren Landy upon the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Evelyn, on April 6th. Evelyn is a sixth grade student at the Ramaz Middle School. Mazal Tov as well to proud KJ grandparents Dr. Sherry and Joel Wiener.



**ALIZA FREILICH**

Mazal Tov to Drs. Stephanie and Jonathan Freilich upon the Bat Mitzvah celebration of their daughter, Aliza, which will take place on Chol Hamoed Pesach in Jerusalem. Aliza will deliver a Dvar Torah on female heroines of Israel and read a portion of Shir Hashirim. Aliza is in the sixth grade at the Ramaz Middle School.



## KJ Torahs Travel the Globe

**K**ulanu is an organization that is shaping Jewish history by working to develop communities to join the family of the global Jewish world.

KJ recently had the merit of being able to provide five Torahs from the Congregation's geniza. The Torahs were distributed around the world to returning, emerging, and isolated Jewish populations. Returning populations are those that claim Jewish origins or are thought to be "Lost Tribes" like the Ethiopians. Emerging populations are those that have embraced Judaism as their new faith in communities as far-reaching as Uganda. Isolated populations are those established small Jewish communities that are considered remote and do not have easy access to Jewish resources, such as the community Kulanu works with in Nicaragua.

The newest community where Kulanu is putting their efforts is the Lemba of South Africa and Zimbabwe who have genetically tested positive for Jewish descendency having what is commonly known as the "Cohen" gene.

Already one Torah has been promised to an emerging population in Madagascar who recently incorporated 1,000 individuals as the Jewish Community of Madagascar, and one to a small emerging population on Cameroon.



## WITHIN OUR FAMILY

### BIRTHS

Mazal Tov to:

Brittany and Jonathan Cogan upon the birth of their first child and son, Brody Jack (Reuven Yaakov). Mazal Tov as well to proud KJ great-grandparents Brenda and Albert Bernstein, and proud KJ grandparents Elysee and Myron Rumeld.

Rosie Gluck ('68) and Dr. Mark Friedman upon the birth of a 17th grandchild, Yaakov Tzvi, born to their children, Yael ('01) and Pinny Farkas of Woodmere. Pinny and his band, One Trek, recently performed at the annual Keshet Chanukah concert.

Gabby and David Fridman, upon the birth of their first daughter and second child, Flora Delphine Eve (Tziporah Devorah Chavah). Mazal Tov to proud KJ grandparents Anne and Natalio Fridman.

Aviya and Alexander Halpern, upon the birth of their second child and first daughter, Yisca Sasha. Mazal Tov to proud KJ grandparents Cheryl and Fred Halpern.

Judith and Robert Hara upon the birth of their second granddaughter, Lillia Joy Hara.

Sue and Dr. Norman Javitt upon the birth of a girl, Layla Sahara, to their grandchildren Michael Javitt and Tovah Chouake of Tel Aviv. Congratulations also to the grandparents Daniel Javitt and Reba Kizner of Jerusalem.

Aaron and Emily Krawitz upon the birth of their first child and son. Mazal Tov as well to the proud KJ grandparents Esther and Ira Krawitz.

Edith and Salomon Lipiner upon the birth of their fourth great-grandchild, Raquel Rose

(Rivka Rochel), born to Aviva and Michael (Ramaz '07) Epstein.

Sandy and Dr. Norman Magid upon the birth of a daughter, Eliana Rachel, born to their children Shoshana & Rafi Magid of Givat Shmuel, Israel.

Vida and Arthur Mantel upon the birth of a baby girl, Josephine (Zisel Semira), born to their children, Blair and Kenneth Mantel.

Jillian and Dr. Daniel Miller upon the birth of their first child and son, Samuel Sheldon (Shneur Zalman). Mazal Tov as well to KJ grandparents Georgie and Steve Gross, and to proud KJ aunt Alice Smokler. Mazal tov to grandmother Mara Miller of Teaneck, NJ, and great grandmothers Guitelle Cumsky and Blanch Miller.

Roni and Dr. Robert Y. Pick upon the birth of twins, Nava Chana and Chanoch Avraham (Harvey), to their children Meredith Weiss and Joseph Pick.

Meredith and Michael Rishty, upon the birth of a second child and son, William David (David). Mazal Tov as well to proud KJ grandparents Perri and Akiba Stern upon the birth of their sixth grandson.

Samantha and Jonathan Rubenstein, upon the birth of their third child and first daughter, Annie Deborah (Serach Channah Rivka).

Gail and Marvin Schaffer upon the birth of their granddaughter, Liat Bracha, born to their children Ilisa ('97) and Ezra Cappell.

Dr. Alison and Marc Schuler upon the birth of their second child and first son, Penn Rafael (Pinchas Rafael).

Nechi Shudofsky upon the birth of a great granddaughter, Odeya Shayna Chesner, in Israel.

Miriam and Jack Simony upon the birth of their third child and son, Chase Ascher (Ariel Israel).

Perri and Akiba Stern, upon the birth of a grandson, Leo Sigmund (Simcha Zimmel), born to their children Tamar and Ari Freundlich.

Drs. Shera Aranoff Tuchman and Alan Tuchman upon the birth of a grandson, Eli Gabriel, the third son and fourth child born to their children Drs. Micole and Oren Koslowe.

Tamar and David Wise upon the birth of their second child and daughter, Arielle.

Vicki and Matt Zimmerman upon the birth of their first child and son, Ethan James, (ElAd MichaEl).

*May these children grow up in the finest tradition of Torah, chupah, and maasim tovim.*

### BNEI MITZVAH

Mazal Tov to:

Suzie and Sandy Eisenstat upon the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Esther Leora, daughter of Tamar and Abraham Eisenstat.

Dr. Tikva and Zalmie Jacobs upon the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Danya.

Jean and Armand Lindenbaum upon the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson AJ, son of Jessica and Amiel Lindenbaum of Hollywood, FL.

Sheira and Steven Schacter upon the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Natalie.

Roselyn and Dr. Walter Weitzner upon the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Yonatan Weitzner.

## BNEI MITZVAH



**MATTHEW GUREWITSCH**

Mazal Tov to Karen and Steven Gurewitsch on the forthcoming Bar Mitzvah of their son Matthew, which will take place on Chol Hamoed Pesach, April 16, in Jerusalem. Mazal Tov, as well to the proud KJ grandparents, Rae and Stanley Gurewitsch. Matthew is a seventh grade student at the Ramaz Middle School.



**SAMANTHA GROSSMAN**

Mazal Tov to Laura and Dr. Leonard Grossman upon the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Samantha, on April 27. Samantha will deliver a Dvar Torah and talk about Rabbi Akiva and his students, emphasizing the importance of connecting one's feelings to one's actions - a timely topic, given the proximity of Lag b'Omer to Samantha's Bat Mitzvah. Samantha is a sixth grade student at the Ramaz Middle School.



**HANNAH DOFT**

Mazal Tov to Suzanne and Jacob Doft, upon the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Hannah, on May 3rd. She will be davening mincha and reading Parashat Behar at the KJ Women's Tefilah Group. Additionally, she will deliver a Dvar Torah on The Significance of Lag B'Omer. Mazal Tov to proud KJ grandparents Arlene and Avrom Doft. Hannah is a sixth grade student at the Ramaz Middle School.

## WITHIN OUR FAMILY

### ENGAGEMENTS

Mazal Tov to:

Rivka Gansburg, KJ Outreach Administrator, upon her engagement to David Spivak.

Judy and Dr. Philip Wilner upon the engagement of their daughter, Gabi, to Chaim Grushko, son of Judy and Moishe Grushko of Cedarhurst, Long Island. Mazal Tov as well to proud KJ grandfather Henry Wilner.

*May their weddings take place in happiness and blessing.*

### MARRIAGES

Mazal tov to:

Elisabeth and Alan Doft upon the marriage of their daughter, Rachel, to John Wareck, son of Barbara and the late Stephen Wareck, of New Haven, CT.

Goldie & I. David Gordon upon the marriage of their son, Benjamin, to Natanya Hochshtein, daughter of Giselle & Dr. Paul Hochshtein of Woodmere. Tani and Ben are now KJ members.

Sue and Dr. Norman Javitt upon the marriage of their grandson, Shlomo Javitt (Ramaz '02) to Zivia Brunschwig. The young couple live in Jerusalem, where Shlomo is a Resident in Pediatrics at Hadassah Medical Center.

Gail Propp, upon the marriage of her daughter, Anna, to Gedaliah Riesenberg of Melbourne, Australia, son of Sheyna and Rabbi Yitzhok I. Riesenberg. Anne is the daughter of the late Ephraim Propp z"l.

### MILESTONES

Congratulations to

Henry Wilner upon celebrating his 90th birthday.

### COMMUNAL HONORS

Congratulations to

Nicole Schreiber Agus, Assistant Professor of Molecular Genetics at Yeshiva University's Albert Einstein College of Medicine, and Program Director of the Program for Jewish Genetic Health, which was established to ensure that members of the Jewish community facing genetic health issues wouldn't be deprived of proper care due to lack of awareness, financial barriers, or difficulty navigating the health care system. Nicole was honored at the Yeshiva University Hanukkah Convocation as one of eight Points of Light, comprised of students, faculty and alumni who embody the mission of Yeshiva University.

Virginie and Mark Cohen upon receiving the Jewish Continuity Award from the Gateways Organization and The Brownstone (connected outreach organizations).

Jacob Doft upon receiving the inaugural Daniel S. Och Investment Management Division Award at the May 20 UJA-Federation of NY Investment Management Division Event.

Deborah Weinswig and Maxwell Kahn upon being the Guests of Honor at the Shalva dinner.

Elena Neuman Lefkowitz and Jay Lefkowitz upon receiving the Zamir Choral Foundation's Kinor David Award at HaZamir's Carnegie Hall concert.

Dr. Leora and Richard Linhart, recipients of the Leadership Award at the Chabad of the Upper East Side's Annual Auction and Gala.

Dr. Steven Lorch, Head of School at The Solomon Schechter School of Manhattan, upon receiving the *Vision in Education Award* at their March 26 "Chai Anniversary Dinner and Auction.

Robin Rothman upon being honored at a Benefit for the PKD (Polycystic Kidney Disease) Foundation for her twelve years of service as a volunteer and coordinator of the New York City Chapter of the PKD Foundation. (Both Robin's father and grandmother succumbed to complications from PKD. She feels her activism is a powerful way to honor their memories and also leave a legacy of which her son can be proud.)

Sara Rubenstein upon being named by a prominent trade association as one of New York's "Top 20 Under 40" for contributions made to the Real Estate and Construction community.

### PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to

Hon. Judy Kluger upon being appointed Executive Director of Sanctuary for Families, a non-profit organization that aids domestic violence victims and sex trafficking victims and their families.

Sarah Schlesinger upon her presenting on childhood immunizations from her perspectives as a biomedical investigator and a parent, at The Rockefeller University's Parents & Science event on December 12.

### CONDOLENCES

Our condolences to:

Riva Alper, upon the passing of her father, Bezalel Alper.

Barry Berg, upon the passing of his mother, Alice Berg.

Ellen Dawidowicz, upon the passing of her father, Harris E. Fischer.

Vanessa Gad, upon the passing of her mother, Diana Cohen.

Hon. David Cohen, upon the passing of his grandmother, Sylvia Diamond.

Miriam Humbach Infantino, upon the passing of her father, William W. Humbach.

Martin Kartin, upon the passing of his father, Joseph Kartin.

Joshua Kaufthal, upon the passing of his grandmother, Edith Kaufthal.

Abby Kaufthal, upon the passing of her

grandfather, Max Kluger.

Mottie Kremer, upon the passing of his grandmother, Charlotte Kremer.

Barry Kluger, upon the passing of his father, Max Kluger.

Donald Olenick, upon the passing of his mother, Felice Olenick.

Rachelle Sachs Ryp, upon the passing of her husband, Hon. Norman C. Ryp.

Phylise Sands, upon the passing of her sister, Jacklyn Devitt.

Benjamin Sberro, upon the passing of his father, Max Sauueur Yeshua Sberro.

Gail Suchman, upon the passing of her mother, Etta Suchman.

Seymour Zises, upon the passing of his father, Bernard Zises.

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

## PERMANENT MEMORIAL OPPORTUNITY FOR DEPARTED LOVED ONES

On the walls of the Main Synagogue are mounted seven tablets bearing memorial plaques, representing a permanent and dignified memorial to loved ones. At KJ, now in its 141st year, we keep the lights lit on either side of the plaque each year during the full month of the Yahrzeit and also when we recite Yizkor on Yom Kippur, Shemini Atzeret, Pesach and Shavuot. The cost of a plaque is \$1,000.

**To purchase, please contact  
Leonard Silverman at  
212-774-5680 or  
LSS@CKJ.org**

## In Memoriam

### EDITH GOLDNER

An aristocratic lady from Hungary, Edith Goldner was a very generous member to KJ. From year to year she was unfailingly supportive of everything that we do.

Throughout her decades of membership in KJ she never missed a Shabbat or a Yom Tov in shul together with her beloved, late husband, Deszo Goldner. She came to shul on a most regular basis until feebleness made it impossible.

She was a lady from the old school, proud of her children, one of whom is a distinguished alumnus of Ramaz. She loved Judaism, Torah and mitzvot and our community.

### BERNARD JERESKI

He was a member of our congregation for close to thirty years. A very accomplished businessman, we knew him as a worshipper in shul who very much enjoyed his presence in our synagogue on the holidays.

Bernie was one of the principals of the largest concrete subcontractor east of the Mississippi River. In fact, the superstructures of many of New York's most well-known buildings of the modern era were built by his firm, including all the concrete work on the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center. Their word was their bond. Those huge superstructures would often be built on an oral agreement reflected on nothing more than pencil notes on a paper napkin, which would retroactively be converted to short subcontracts after the job was done, signed merely "for the record."

He never failed to support the Annual Synagogue Appeal with exceptional generosity. When approached for the mitzvah of tzedakah, his answer always was: "Of course."

He was a proud Jew and a real mensch.

### ELLI KRAKOWSKI

She was the grande dame of the Krakowski family, the loving wife of her exceptionally devoted husband, Israel, who predeceased her by about a half year. She was the devoted mother of Lili and Harry and an adoring grandmother to their children. Elli Krakowski ran an open and gracious home over which Israel presided as king and she as queen. They were both extraordinarily active in the Jewish community and very generous to KJ and to Ramaz, as well as to many other important Jewish causes.

Having spent a good number of her childhood years in Israel, following her escape from the horrors of Nazi Europe, Elli was fluent in Hebrew and she was a passionate Zionist throughout her life.

During her last years she was afflicted with a very difficult illness which left her largely immobilized. She was nevertheless the lady right up to her passing, cared for in the most loving way by Israel and the children and grandchildren. They never let her lose her dignity and her regal nature. She, in turn, had so much nachas from them, nachas that you could see radiating from the smile that was always on her lips.

### ROSLYN ORENTREICH

Roz Orentreich was a member of the congregation, together with her husband Dr. Norman Orentreich, for close to fifty years. They were generous to every cause in which we were involved.

She raised her three children in Ramaz and she was very active in the Parents Council as well as in the KJ Sisterhood. She very much enjoyed her association with the KJ/Ramaz family and many of its members.

We mourn her passing; we extend our condolences to her dear and devoted husband and to all the members of the bereaved family.

### HERMAN SMILOW

After his liberation from the death camps of Europe, Herman and his late wife, Lilly, came to New York and became vital parts of KJ and Ramaz. Their two children, Marilyn and Alvin are alumni of the school. Marilyn's children are all alumni of the High School. Alvin's children are also alumni of Yeshiva Day Schools.

He was incredibly proud of his children and grandchildren and deeply grateful for the fact that from the ashes of destruction he was able to create the seeds for continuity in life, in Torah, in mitzvot and in service to KJ and Ramaz.

For many years, he was the most regular worshipper on Shabbat and weekdays. He loved to daven for the Amud and he did so with great feeling and love for God and for Israel. We can still hear his Rosh Chodesh Hallel with his European nusach and his inspiring kavanna.

In the Spring of 1944, Herman and his entire family were deported to Auschwitz where he suffered the murder of his mother, father, and several siblings for all of whom he had *yahrzeit* on the same day in Iyar. Thank God, he and a number of his siblings were liberated and he was able to reconstruct a life that was meaningful, impactful and in which he could see the blessed continuity of a life of Torah and mitzvot.

### HOWARD WEINREICH

Our community lost Howie Weinreich much too soon, after a long, difficult and courageous struggle with an unyielding disease. His courage, his unshakable optimism and his cheerful countenance were an inspiration to his family and to all of us.

Howie was a wonderful husband to Gaby, and a very devoted and loving father to Steven and Matthew who are both Day School graduates. He was very proud of them and had a great deal of *nachas* from them.

He had a host of friends at KJ who were extraordinarily supportive of him and the family throughout their ordeal. They loved him for his good humor, his fun-loving nature, his warmth and even for his tennis.

The Assistant *Gabbai* at one of our High Holy Day services, Howard was always interested in doing everything for everyone while taking nothing for himself. He was a truly devoted Jew who enjoyed the great love of Gaby and the children and the care of so many friends.



## KJ SYNAGOGUE MEMBERSHIP:

### BE A PART OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE

Contact Synagogue  
Executive Director  
Leonard Silverman  
at 212-774-5680 or  
LSS@CKJ.org

KEHILATH JESHURUN BULLETIN  
Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun  
125 East 85th Street, New York, NY 10028  
212-774-5600

#### Synagogue Officials

Dr. Haskel Lookstein ..... *Rabbi*  
Elimelech Weinstock ..... *Associate Rabbi*  
Rabbi Dr. Jeremy Wieder .....  
..... *Scholar-in-Residence*  
Rabbi Daniel Kraus & Rachel Kraus .....  
..... *Directors of Community Education*  
Gilah Kletenik ..... *Congregational Intern*  
Roy. Y. Feldman ..... *Rabbinic Intern*  
Mayer Davis ..... *Cantor*  
Leonard Silverman ..... *Executive Director*

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Nancy Newhouse ..... *Pres. Sisterhood*  
Shirley Serure ..... *Pres. Sisterhood*  
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..... *Communications and New Media*  
Dina Farhi ..... *Executive Assistant*  
Gal Feinstein ..... *Assistant Comptroller*  
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## KEHILATH JESHURUN BULLETIN

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In preparing the Bulletin, we welcome all KJ members' announcements of communal, academic and professional achievements. Please e-mail Riva@CKJ.org or mail news to the synagogue, marked "ATTN: KJ Bulletin"

### SHABBAT SCHEDULE

		<i>Lighting of Candles</i>	<i>Friday Evening Services</i>	<i>Saturday Afternoon Services</i>	<i>Sabbath Ends</i>
<b>April</b>					
4-5	Metzora	7:06 PM	6:45 PM	6:55 PM	8:01 PM
11-12	Ahare Mot/HaGadol	7:13 PM	6:45 PM	6:40 PM	8:09 PM
18-19	Shabbat Chol Hamoed	7:20 PM	6:45 PM	7:15 PM	8:18 PM
25-26	Kedoshim	7:28 PM	6:45 PM	7:20 PM	8:26 PM
<b>May</b>					
2-3	Emor	7:35 PM	6:45 PM	7:25 PM	8:33 PM
9-10	Behar	7:43 PM	6:45 PM	7:35 PM	8:41 PM
16-17	Behukotai	7:48 PM	6:45 PM	7:40 PM	8:48 PM
23-24	Bamidbar	7:55 PM	6:45 PM	7:50 PM	8:56 PM
30-31	Naso	8:00 PM	6:45 PM	7:55 PM	9:02 PM
<b>June</b>					
6-7	Behaalotekha	8:05 PM	6:45 PM	8:00 PM	9:07 PM
13-14	Shelah	8:09 PM	6:45 PM	8:05 PM	9:12 PM
20-21	Korah	8:12 PM	6:45 PM	8:05 PM	9:15 PM
27-28	Hukkat	8:13 PM	6:45 PM	8:05 PM	9:15 PM
<b>July</b>					
4-5	Balak	8:12 PM	6:45 PM	8:05 PM	9:14 PM
11-12	Pinhas	8:10 PM	6:45 PM	8:05 PM	9:12 PM
18-19	Mattot	8:06 PM	6:45 PM	8:00 PM	9:06 PM
25-26	Masei	8:01 PM	6:45 PM	7:50 PM	8:59 PM

### 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

April 6-June 12.....6:45 PM      June 15-July 10.....6:50 PM      July 13-31 .....6:45 PM

### DATES TO REMEMBER

**Monday-Tuesday, April 14-22**  
Passover (See schedule on page 5)  
**Wed.-Thursday, April 30-May 1**  
Rosh Chodesh Iyar  
Morning Services at 7:00 AM  
**Monday, May 5**  
Yom Hazikaron  
**Tuesday, May 6**  
Yom Ha'Atzmaut  
Morning Services at 7:00 AM

**Sunday, May 18**  
Lag B'Omer  
**Monday, May 26**  
Memorial Day  
Morning Services at 8:30 AM  
**Wednesday, May 28**  
Yom Yerushalayim  
Morning Services at 7:00 AM  
**Friday, May 30**  
Rosh Chodesh Sivan  
Morning Services at 7:00 AM

**Tuesday-Thursday, June 3-5**  
Shavuot (see schedule on page 16)  
**Friday, July 4**  
Morning Services at 8:30 AM  
**Tuesday, July 15**  
Fast of 17th of Tammuz  
Fast begins 4:25 AM  
Morning services at 6:50 AM  
Evening services at 8:00 PM  
Fast ends 9:06 PM