CHANUKAH/PURIM ISSUE



KEHILATH JESHURUN BULLETIN

Volume LXXXVI, Number 2

November 30, 2015

18 Kisley 5776

HAVING IT ALL

Chayei Sarah 5776 Sermon by Rabbi Elie Weinstock

alk is cheap, and actions speak louder than words.

That said, statements make headlines. Think of the 2016 presidential campaign. Are you familiar with who made these statements?

"I will build a great, great wall on our southern border and I will make Mexico pay for that wall."

"My own personal theory is that Joseph built the pyramids to store grain."

"It's time to make college tuition free and debt free."

Say what you want about each of them, but they make headlines. Candidates need attention. None of them want to be relegated to the second tier in the next debate.

At times, there are loud headlines in the Orthodox world. Like this one: "Women Rabbis Officially Banned by Rabbinical Council of America" (JTA 11/2/15).

Recently, RCA members passed a resolution that essentially restated previous opposition to female rabbinic ordination regardless of the title used. The resolution also called on rabbis not to hire women with "rabbinic titles" or for "rabbinic" positions in synagogues and schools.

The resolution was the endeavor of a group of rabbis who felt the need to articulate red lines and create specific red lines of acceptable titles and roles for women in Jewish life. The way the RCA resolution process works, members may submit a resolution by collecting enough signatures to put it to a vote.

Along with many colleagues - including some RCA leaders, I think this is an unfortunate resolution that is more about politics than halakhah.

There are many Orthodox Jews who don't feel the need for this change. Thousands of Rebbetzins, educators, and Chabad Center co-directors are quite happy changing the Jewish world without new titles or degrees for women.

And some in the Orthodox community feel the time has come to revisit who is called rabbi and who can get semicha.

We have a vibrant Orthodox community with various viewpoints. Does every nuance or disagreement require a statement?

It certainly seems like it.

The *Moetzes Gedolei Torah* - the Agudath Israel Council of Torah Sages -

SAMUEL S. SILVERSTEIN SHABBATON

DECEMBER 18-19, 2015
OUR FEATURED SCHOLAR:

Professor Adam S. Ferziger

S.R. HIRSCH CHAIR FOR RESEARCH OF THE TORAH WITH DEREKH EREZ MOVEMENT,
THE ISRAEL AND GOLDA KOSCHITZKY DEPARTMENT OF JEWISH HISTORY AND
CONTEMPORARY JEWRY, BAR-ILAN UNIVERSITY
(See detailed biography on page 14)

4:25 p.m. Shabbat Services followed by Dinner and Lecture: **BEYOND BAIS YAAKOV: THE SILENT REVOLUTION OF HAREDI WOMEN**

Sermon at 9:00 a.m. Shabbat Services:

THE LOOKSTEIN LEGACY: KJ/RAMAZ AND THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN ORTHODOXY

Pre-mincha class at 3:30 p.m.:
On Fragmentary Judaism:
The Jewish "Other" in the Worldview of
Rabbi Aharon Lichtenstein z"l

Following 4:05 p.m. Mincha, Seudah Shlishit talk:
Between East and West: Israeli Religious Zionism and
American Modern Orthodoxy

FRIDAY EVENING SHABBAT DINNER

 Members Non-Members

 Adults:
 \$40
 \$45

 Juniors (ages 12-18):
 \$35
 \$40

 Children (ages 2-11):
 \$20
 \$35

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KJ Service Directory

ı	
	Aryeh Leifert, Israel Tour Guide (U.S number, rings in Israel)
	Foremost Caterers
	Judaica Classics (Doina Bryskin)
	Rabbi Yoseph Lasdun, Tefillin and Mezuzah Checking212-927-1655
	Ketubot by Hand646-420-0743
	McCabe's Wine & Liquors
	Park East Kosher Butcher212-737-9800
	Plaza Jewish Community Chapel
	Riverside Memorial Chapel
	Seasons Kosher Supermarket
	Tablecloths 'n' More
	Tauber Fish Market
	For Shaatnez checking (the biblical prohibition against mixed fabrics typically found in the collar.

Kent's Fashion House, 1596 Third Avenue (between 89th & 90th Streets, phone: 212-876-0088). Suits may be left at and they will be inspected by the Shaatnez checker.

Morris Organic Dry Cleaners and Custom Tailors, 346 East 86th Street (between 1st and 2nd Avenues), 212-828-5681 (specializing in Shaatnez testing and fixing tallitot, tzitzit).

Advanced Talmud Shiur in Tractate Avodah Zarah in memory of Dr. William Major with

Rabbi Dr. Jeremy Wieder

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

> Following 8:30 a.m. Sunday morning services and breakfast in the Major-Ward Beit Midrash at 125 East 85th Street

> > Childcare available for children over the age of 3 by contacting Aryana@ckj.org for details

Questions regarding matters of Jewish family law and women's health should be addressed to Julia Baruch, KJ's Yoetzet Halakhah, who can be contacted at (929) 274-0628 or at JB.Yoetzet@gmail.com

KJ'S BAT MITZVAH PROGRAMMING

A Unique Learning Opportunity for Mothers and Daughters

The KJ Bat Mitzvah Program was developed in order to provide a meaningful opportunity for mothers and daughters to explore, in creative and interactive ways, the challenges and opportunities of reaching Bat Mitzvah.

of expensive men's suits):

Taught by Rachel Kraus, the Bat Mitzvah Program follows the curriculum developed by MaTaN, the world-renowned Jerusalem academy for women's Torah scholarship founded by Rabbanit Malka Bina, and focuses on Jewish female role models from the matriarchs to Nehama Leibowitz.

Through text study, projects and interactive learning, each parent/child "chavruta" will connect with Jewish sources and become partners on the spiritual journey of what it means to be a Jewish adult today.

To register or inquire, please contact Rabbi Weinstock at ravelie@ckj.org or at 212-774-5636.

BAT MITZVAH CLASSES Led by Rachel Kraus 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. January 10, 17, 24, 31 February 7, 21, 28 March 6, 13, 20

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

WELCOME

Kehilath Jeshurun warmly welcomes the following new members who have joined the Congregation between the printing of the last Bulletin, August 26, and this Bulletin, which went to press on November 23:

Stephanie and Craig Basman Adam Bedzow Ingrid and Bruno Calvo Geraldine and Jeremie Cohen Karynne & Rabbi Eric Grossman Vanessa and Michael Hosana Tammy & Jason Kahane Erica and Max Levine Daniela and Steven Niditch Ilana and Ronny Shmoel Rachel and Jonathan Sopher Lisa and Rabbi Chaim Steinmetz Ariel and Jonathan Stern Sam Waksal Marion and William Weiss Marilyn and David Zarabi



KJ Teens Enjoy a Shiur with Rabbi Kenny Schiowitz and Snacks in the Sukkah of Suzy and Larry Present!



REMEMBERING THE NIGHT OF BROKEN GLASS, NOVEMBER 9-10, 1938 KRISTALLNACHT COMMEMORATION

ristallnacht. The night of broken glass reference to the untold number of windows broken the night of November 9, 1938. This was a pogrom carried out by Nazi Party officials, storm troopers, the SS, Hitler Youth, and civilians against Jews throughout Nazi Germany and Austria. Thirty thousand Jews were arrested and sent to concentration camps. One thousand synagogues were burned. Seven



Eli Rosenbaum and Rabbi Lookstein

thousand businesses were damaged or destroyed. Jewish homes, schools, and hospitals were singled out for attack. Two days later, faced with complaints from Germany's major insurance companies that they were responsible for paying vast claims for property damage inflicted during the anti Jewish rampage, the German government ordered the Jewish population to pay upwards of a billion Reichsmarks to cover the damage.

On November 10, KJ and Ramaz welcomed Eli Rosenbaum, former Director of the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Special Investigations (OSI), which was primarily responsible for identifying, denaturalizing, and deporting Nazi war criminals. He shared highlights of his 16 year career by tracing the echoes of the Holocaust through the ages and outlining what has been done to bring to justice the Nazi perpetrators of ghastly crimes against Jews and humanity.

Mr. Rosenbaum stated the tragic fact that the vast majority of the tens or even hundreds of thousands of perpetrators of the Holocaust got away scot free, but it is also the case that efforts to secure a measure of justice on behalf of the victims of Nazi inhumanity have achieved some important successes. He and his OSI colleagues have brought to trial concentration camp guards, and many Nazi officials, including a cabinet-level Nazi official who immigrated to the US and was eventually extradited, tried, and convicted of his crimes.

The speaker noted that it took 30 years for the US government to take action against Nazi criminals -- a fact not entirely surprising since our government had brought some of them here men like Arthur Rudolph, who used and abused concentration camp inmates to build Hitler's V-2 missile and then, after the war, was brought here by the U.S. military, along with his mentor,

Wernher von Braun and other engineers and scientists, to work on U.S. military projects. It is a sad part of our nation's history that the man who built the rocket that took humankind to the moon in 1969 was a Nazi slave-master.

The best-known and longest running case Mr. Rosenbaum was involved in is that of John Demjanjuk, an SS auxiliary guard at the infamous Sobibor death camp in German-occupied Poland. In 2009, after literally more than 3 decades of

litigation, OSI succeeded in deporting him to Germany, and two years later, following a trial in Munich, he was convicted there of serving as an accomplice in more than 28,000 murders of Jews.

Mr. Rosenbaum shared many more stories of Nazi criminals -- many of whom were brought to justice and others, living among us, who are yet to be. He urged the audience to recommit themselves to eradicating the virus of hatred that produced the Holocaust. By fighting hatred and fighting for justice, he said, we will continue to honor the memory of our 6 million Kedoshim.

This compelling program was chaired by Yonina Gomberg, Julie Kopel, Caroline Massel and Yaira Singer. They worked in tandem with the KJ Holocaust Education Task Force in support of the KJ/Ramaz Community Library, created for the enrichment of community-wide Holocaust education. KJ will be devoting a portion of the new Major-Ward Beit Midrash to books, documents and artifacts from the Holocaust to serve as a resource for our community. Anyone having items in their possession appropriate for the library is invited to contact Matthew Binstock at mattybins@yahoo.com.

SAVE THESE DATES Wednesday, May 4, 2016: Yom Hashoah Commemoration, 7:00 p.m.:

A night of remembrance featuring Witness Theater at Ramaz, a collaboration between a select few Ramaz high school seniors and local Holocaust survivors, which will provide the basis for a live performance by the participants.

Wednesday, November 9, 2016: Kristallnacht Remembrance Program, 7:30 p.m.



LUNCH-AND-LEARN EXPERIENCES INTERGENERATIONAL LEARNING WITH RAMAZ UPPER SCHOOL TALMUD STUDENTS

Here's what one of our seniors said after spending lunch studying gemara with Rabbi Kenny Schiowitz's Talmud class: "It was such a WONDERFUI experience today speaking with the students from Ramaz about the Gemara and about life (ours and theirs). They are the hope of tomorrow. They are clean innocent and beautiful, inside and out. It gives you hope for a wonderful tomorrow, as this special generation is the future of the Jewish people. I was so impressed; I cannot stop telling my friends about these special young people!"

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CHANUKAH BEGINS SUNDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 6

hanukah celebrates the miracles of the spiritual and military victories of the Maccabees against the Hellenist tyrants that imposed antireligious rule and desecrated the Holy Temple in 165 BCE. The 25th of Kislev was the day the Maccabees entered the Temple following the battle and wanted to restart the Holy Service that had ceased under the foreign rule. The Maccabees found only one day's supply of oil that they could use to rededicate the Menorah. Yet that tiny flask lasted until they were able to create new, pure oil – a delay of eight days.

The victory established Jewish religious and political sovereignty in Israel during the second Temple times. This miracle of Jewish independence had not been seen since the destruction of the First Temple and the assassination of the then governor, Gedalyah.

Primarily, we celebrate Chanukah with spiritual expressions: (1) lighting candles in commemoration of the miracle of the rededication of the Temple, (2) singing Hallel in praise of God's deliverance from our enemies, and (3) adding *Al Ha-Nisim* in our prayers of thanksgiving in recognition of both aspects of the miracle of Chanukah. We also have physical pleasures and celebrations by having (4) special foods, (5) gift giving, and even (6) parties.

The Candles

The prevailing custom is for each member of the family to light his or her own menorah which will have as many candles as that night of the holiday plus the shamash. Since the Chanukah candles are to commemorate the Menorah of the

Temple, we apply the same rules to both: the candles and their flames become holy and as such cannot be used for any other purpose. With the exception of the Shamash, we cannot read by their lights or use them to light another candle.

Time for Lighting

Candles must be lit after nightfall (about 40 minutes after sunset) and burn for at least a half-hour. On Friday afternoon, Chanukah candles should be lit before Shabbat candles, and should be of a type that will last over an hour (this leads to many adopting the custom of using olive oil-based lamps). On Saturday night, the candles are lit after Havdalah.

Candle Arrangement

The candles are set from the right side of the Menorah as the candle lighter faces it. The Menorah should be placed in an area where it will not need to be moved after being lit. Safety is also a major concern, so please do not leave the home with the candles unattended.

Lighting the Candles

The lights are lit from left to right – starting with the newest candle first. We begin by lighting the shamash, then we say the blessings: (1) ner shel Chanukah, (2) she-asa nisim, and on the first night we add (3) shehecheyanu. Once the blessings are said, we light the first candle and begin singing the songs Hanerot Hallalu – which explains the reasons for the ceremony – and Maoz Tzur which describes all the salvations wrought by God for the Jewish People.

Publicizing the Miracle

We light the Menorah so we can publicize the miracle to as many people as possible. We start with our own family but we often place the Menorah in the window to proclaim our belief to others.

Moreover, we publicize the miracle by singing the complete Hallel in the morning service and by adding *Al Ha-Nisim* in our daily *Shemona Esrei* and in *Birkat ha-Mazon*.

Material Pleasures

In addition to the spiritual nature of the holiday, we have added, in later times, the physical pleasures of special foods (latkes, jelly donuts), gift-giving (never a bad idea, especially Jewish books), and parties (that serve as a means for fellowship and for publicizing the miracle).

Chanukah is a time when we should renew our commitment and devotion to God. The brave Maccabees who risked their lives for religious freedom should serve as a model for us to celebrate those freedoms and our joy in service to God.

For Information about the weekly status of the Manhattan Eruv Call the ERUV HOTLINE 212-874-6100, ext. 3 (Recorded Message)

THREE COMMUNITY MIKVAHS

The Jacques & Hannah Schwalbe Mikvah

419 East 77th Street (between 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

SHABBAT AT KJ

KESHER YOUNG PEOPLE'S MINYAN 9:15 AM

December 12, January 9 & 30 February 20, March 12, April 9

HASHKAMA MINYAN

Major-Ward Beit Midrash - 7:15 AM

December 5 & 19, January 2, 16 & 30

February 13 & 27, March 12 & 26

April 2 & 16

YACHAD SHABBATON February 26-27

Join the Ramaz Upper School and KJ and give of yourself by reaching out to the special members of Yachad.

Come discover how they bring happiness and joy to so many.

Why is This Light Different From the Lights of Past Years?

The KJ Benevolent Fund addresses the needs of people in our community and beyond. The current economic climate has only served to increase the number of calls we receive requesting help with housing costs, medical care, and other special needs which we endeavor to fill in a manner that preserves the dignity of those who are so hard-pressed.

Please ensure a bright and light-filled Chanukah to the many who need the help of the KJ Benevolent Fund by remitting a tax-deductible check or by using your preferred credit card and earning miles and "points" in the process at www.ckj.org/pay. Just indicate that your gift is for the Benevolent Fund. You will earn "points" not only in this world, but in the World to Come!



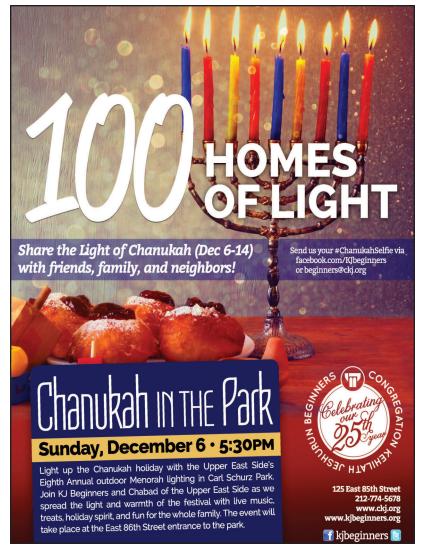
Soul Cycle

A Monthly Spiritual Workout Led by Rachel Kraus

December 16, January 13, February 10, March 9, April 13 at 7:30 p.m.

Women of the community
are invited to participate in a monthly learning
series, providing an opportunity to learn, share,
engage and inspire
each Rosh Chodesh.
A variety of topics will be addressed
in a different home each month.

To learn more, contact roshchodesh@cki.org



SAVE THE DATE!

144TH KJ ANNUAL MEETING

THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 7:30 P.M. 125 EAST 85TH STREET



Enhance Your Religious and Ethical Engagement. Connect More Deeply With Your Community.

Lively monthly conversations with Rabbi Roy Feldman The Major-Ward Beit Midrash at 125 East 85th Street

For more information please e-mail roy@ckj.org

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PURIM SCHEDULE



FAST OF ESTHER, Wednesday, March 23

Fast begins at 5:41 a.m. and ends at 7:44 p.m. Shacharit at 6:50 a.m. & Mincha at 6:45 p.m.

Please remember to bring Tzedaka for machazit ha-shekel and other holiday obligations.



MINCHA, MAARIV & MAIN MEGILLAH READING

Wednesday evening, March 23

Mincha is at 6:45 p.m in the Main Sanctuary. Maariv, there and in the Middle School's Falk Auditorium, followed by the reading of Megillat Esther, will begin at 7:35 p.m. The reading in the Main Sanctuary will be followed by a Purim Pizza and Ice Cream Party in both the Heyman Auditorium and the Riklis Social Hall, featuring beloved Lower School music teacher Morah Chaya. Thanks to an anonymous benefactor, there is no charge.



CHILDREN

Wednesday evening, March 23

At 7:30 p.m., children in 3-year-old Nursery through 1st grade should assemble in the Riklis Social Hall while children in 2nd through 6th grade should assemble in the Multi-purpose Room. All children will receive groggers, and will be escorted by Youth Department staff from their respective assembly locations into the Main Synagogue for Megillat Esther. Throughout the service, children are expected to be participating in their special youth groups or sitting quietly next to an adult. Parents are asked to join the regular service in the Main Synagogue until its conclusion, at which time they may pick up their children from the specially designated child seating areas in the front of the Synagogue.



ADULTS ONLY READING

7:35 p.m. - Maariv followed by second reading (quiet, no

children) of Megillat Esther in the Falk Auditorium of the Gottesman Center, 114 East 85th Street.



SEPHARDIC MINYAN

Mincha at 6:45 p.m. followed by Maariv and Megillah reading with the nusach of Aram Soba - Eidot haMizrach, at 7:35 p.m. in the Rohr Chapel, followed by the community Pizza and Ice Cream Party in both the Heyman Auditorium and Riklis Social Hall.



PARENTS AND TODDLERS READING

7:35 p.m. - Megillah reading for parents and "can't sit still" toddlers and infants in the Nakash Gymnasium of the Ramaz Lower School followed by a community Pizza and Ice Cream Party in both the Heyman Auditorium and Riklis Social Hall.



BEGINNERS MEGILLAH READING

8:30 p.m. - Beginners Megillah Reading and Purim Party in the Gottesman Center at 114 East 85th Street with Rabbi Daniel & Rachel Kraus, Rabbi Elie Weinstock, and Shilo Kramer.



MORNING SERVICES AND MEGILLAH

Thursday, March 24

Morning Services at 7:00 a.m. and again at 9:30 a.m. in the Main Synagogue, each followed by Megillah reading and breakfast in the Heyman Auditorium. The Sephardic morning minyan will take place in the Rohr Chapel at 6:45 a.m., where the Megillah will also be read. Matanot l'Evyonim will be collected at all services.



PURIM YOUTH CARNIVAL

In the Gottesman Center from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., 114 East 85th Street. Contact KJ Youth Director Aryana Ritholtz at aryana@ckj.org to purchase tickets in advance.

משנכנם אדר מרבים בשמחה

K.IYD WINTER YOUTH ACTIVITIES

December 4 - Friday Night Tefillah Together

December 4 - Shabbat Family Dinner

December 4 - Tot Shabbat Daytime

December 5- Shabbat Tefillah Together

December 6 - KJBL

December 12 - Youth Shabbaton (grades 4-8)

December 12 - Musical Havdalah/

Ice Cream Party

December 12 - Chanukah Dodgeball

in the Dark

December 19 - Tot Shabbat Daytime

December 20 - KJBL

January 9- Musical Havdalah / Ice Cream Party February 21 - KJBL

January 10 - KJBL

January 15 - Friday Night Tefillah Together

January 15 - Shabbat Family Dinner

January 16- Shabbat Tefillah Together

January 17 - KJBL

January 23 - Tot Shabbat Daytime

January 24 - KJBL

January 31 - KJBL

February 6- Musical Havdalah/Ice Cream Party March 13 - KJBL

February 7-KJBL/Super Bowl Party

February 13- Shabbat Tefillah Together

February 19 - Friday Night Tefillah Together

February 19 - Shabbat Family Dinner

February 27 - Tot Shabbat Daytime

March 19- Tot Shabbat Daytime

February 28 - KJBL

March 5- Musical Havdalah / Ice Cream Party

March 6 - KJBL

March 23 - Purim Bash

March 24 - Purim Carnival

March 26 - Youth Shabbaton (grades 1-3)

March 19 - Tot Shabbat Daytime

March 20 - KJBL

March 27 - KJBL

April 3 - KJBL

April 10 - KJBL

PURIM: THE JEWISH WAY TO REJOICE - March 23-24, 2016

WHAT IS PURIM?

Purim, the holiday on the 14th of Adar, is one of the happiest days of the Jewish calendar. The Talmud (Taanit 29b) states "when Adar begins we increase in Joy" because Adar and Purim are hallmarks of God's salvation of the Jewish people.

Even though Purim is not a Torah holiday, there is a Biblical book (The Scroll of Esther) which details the action of the holiday and the history of the events. Being of *Biblical* level gives the holiday a great deal of importance and authority.

MESSAGE OF THE HOLIDAY

Purim is a festive day because God

rescued us from our enemies. Yet, as seen in the ancient work *Megillat Taanit*, there were hundreds of days of the year that were considered minor festivals of thanksgiving. Only two, Purim and



Chanukah, were applied to all Jewish communities at all times because their inherent messages were considered all encompassing.

Tradition teaches us that Purim is about how God rescues the Jews in the Diasporawhere God needs to operate in a hidden manner with hidden miracles. A popular lesson about the name *Megillat Esther* is that the word Esther means "hidden" (like *hester panim*) and Megillah means "revealed." Hence *Megillat Esther* is the "revelation of what's hidden."

God is hidden in the Megillah; the story is a set of confounding coincidences that appear to be catastrophes until the critical turnabout when the Jews emerge mighty and victorious. God's name is not mentioned in the Megillah, but God's invisible touch is active throughout.

The name of the holiday, Purim, comes from the Persian word for randomness: pur. Our enemies used a lottery (purim) to determine the date for the Jewish extermination. In the earthly realm, our enemies see randomness and chaos, but we see God's intervention especially in those events that go beyond human power. The holiday of Purim is, as a result, a holiday where we in the Diaspora learn how God

interacts and communicates within the hidden.

THE HISTORY OF THE HOLIDAY

The Story of Esther

The story of Esther takes place while the Jews lived in the Persian empire, during the exile of 70 years (circa 366-355 BCE). The main characters are: *Mordechai* (rabbi, hero), *Esther* (his cousin, becomes queen of Persia), *Achashverosh* (king of Persia, easily swayed to either side), and *Haman* ym"sh (from Amalek; hates Jews, tries to commit genocide).

Action of the Megillah

The life for the Jews in exile is precarious. Achashverosh holds a party where he kills his wife in response to her insolence. The king then searches for a new queen and chooses the youthful Jewess Esther who was counseled by her uncle Mordechai. Later on, Haman is insulted that Mordechai does not pay him proper respect and Haman convinces Achashverosh to allow him to kill all the Jews. Haman chooses the date of warfare by rolling dice (which are called pur in Aramaic, see above). He rolls the date of the 13th of the month of Adar. Mordechai hears of the plot and impresses on Esther to plead with the King to spare her people. At first she refuses, for fear of her life, but then risks everything to appeal to the king. The appeal is successful, Haman is thwarted, and the favor of the king is such that he allows Esther's people, the Jews, to fight back on the 13th of Adar. We were able to fight back so successfully that we created a holiday on the day afterwards as a remembrance of God's miraculous salvation that worked behind the scenes.

HOW WE COMMEMORATE AND CELEBRATE

Shabbat Zachor

The Shabbat preceding Purim (this year, March 19, 2016) is called Shabbat Zachor. We choose this Shabbat to observe the commandment to remember the evil of the nation of Amalek who are central to Purim as well. In Exodus 17:8-16, we read about their terror war against the Jewish people when they attacked us without mercy. The command in Deut. 25:17-19 states: "Remember what Amalek did to you, on your way as you departed from Egypt...

you shall obliterate the memory of Amalek, you shall not forget." According to most authorities, it is a Torah level commandment to hear this portion read in synagogue.

Taanit Esther (13th of Adar)

The day preceding Purim is a thematically connected fast day. The 13th of Adar is mentioned in the Megillah as the day chosen by Haman to destroy the Jewish people. We fast in memory of the war that took place on that day and, like the fast of the first born, we use the fast to recognize our salvation. (cf. Esther 9:31). Taanit Esther is unlike the other fasts of the Jewish calendar, insofar that it is a day of thanksgiving and not sadness.

Customs of the Fast Day

The "half-shekel" is donated at the afternoon service (in commemoration of the half-shekel census, cf. Exodus 25:11-16, we use the half currency of the realm, e.g. three half-dollars.) The money is used for communal funds and synagogue repair.

We go straight from the fast to the Megillah reading - only eating after we have fulfilled that mitzvah.

PURIM (14TH OF ADAR)

Work is not forbidden on Purim, but we also have no *tachanun*, eulogies or fasting; a mourner displays no outward signs, like on Shabbat. There are a number of commandments to fulfill on Purim (that apply equally to men and women):

Night

Megillah: The sages tell us we must hear every word of the Megillah reading. Please help others fulfill this mitzvah by following the instructions of the community leaders as to when to cease noisemaking.

Day

Megillah: The obligation is both at night and during the day. We cannot hear two at night or two during the day to count for the whole holiday.

Mishloach Manot: Sending gifts of food to friends: Two foods to one person is the minimum. The foods must be ready-to-eat.

Matanot l'evyonim: Gifts of money to the poor. Two coins to each of two poor people. Money can be collected ahead of time with the intention that it will be

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dispensed on Purim day. We have a special collection in synagogue for this purpose.

Seudah: Festive meal with rejoicing. Invite family and friends to your home or join our catered community celebration.

Intoxication: We are enjoined to drink intoxicating spirits on Purim. Many authorities limit the drinking to the seudah, and even then, the command is just to drink a bit more than we are used to. In no fashion should we become so intoxicated that we would harm ourselves or others.

Special Prayers: We add Al Ha-Nisim to our shemona-esrei and to bircat hamazon. Yet, we do not say Hallel on Purim. Three reasons are given for the lack of Hallel. The first is that the Megillah acts as Hallel; the second is that the miracle of the day occurred secretly and outside the land of Israel; the third is that (in the words of the Talmud): "we are still servants to Achashverosh."

Purim Customs

During the readings of the Megillah, we fulfill the commandment to "blot out" the name of Amalek by making loud noises whenever Haman's name is read aloud.

Historians tell us that the custom started when people would write Haman's name on the soles of their shoes and then stamp their feet during the Megillah reading. Nowadays, we use **groggers**: specially made noisemakers. Another custom is to recite a few specific verses aloud as a congregation before the reader recites them. We read aloud four verses: 2:5, 8:15, 8:16, 10:3 and the list of the ten sons of Haman, 9:7-9.

Another widespread custom is to wear **costumes**, while some authorities hold that "yom-tov" clothing should be worn (because it is called a Yom Tov in Esther 9:19). Costumes are to depict the "hiddenness" of the miracle of Purim, and also to heighten the "turnabouts" of the day

SHUSHAN PURIM (15TH OF ADAR)

Any city with walls since the time of Joshua celebrates Purim one day later on Adar 15. The Megillah relates how the war against our enemies lasted one day later in the city of Shushan. Nowadays, Shushan Purim only applies to Jerusalem (although a few other cities in Israel have taken on both days as a longstanding custom, e.g. Acco, Yaffo, Tiberias). May you have a healthy, happy, *freilichen* Purim!

חג פורים שמח!

ISRAEL ACTION

Check out "Artzeinu" The Weekly Israel News Update

http://artzeinu.org

edited by fellow KJ members Ava Hornblass, Jonah Hornblass, JJ Hornblass, Erica Schwartz Founder: Deena Shiff



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

Kesher

offers an array of

programs and events for

programs and couples in their
individuals and couples in their
individuals and forties, and families
twenties, thirties, and forties. Shown here are
who have young children. Shown here are
who have young children. Shown here of
participants in a Kesher New Mothers'
participants in a Kesher New Hothers'
Breakfast that was held in the home of
Breakfast that was held in the home of
Kesher co-President Gealia Friend and
Kesher co-President Gealia Friend and
that featured a presentation on the
importance of pre- and postimportance of pre- and post-



UPCOMING KESHER EVENTS

Saturday Morning Tot Shabbat December 19, January 23, February 27, March 19

Tot Shabbat Friday Night Family DinnersJanuary 15, February 19

Super Bowl Party February 7

Tot Shabbat Across AmericaMarch 4

Children's Pre-Purim Event March 19



The youngest
Kesher members
enjoy a pre-Chanukah
concert featuring
Shira and Friends



HAVING IT ALL

(continued from page 1)

recently issued a statement saying that "Open Orthodoxy and its leaders and affiliated entities have shown countless times that they reject the basic tenets of our faith, particularly the authority of the Torah and its Sages. Accordingly, they are no different than other dissident movements throughout our history that have rejected these basic tenets. We therefore inform the public

Let's

prioritize and

strengthen the

that in our considered opinion, 'Open Orthodoxy' is not a form of Torah Judaism (Orthodoxy)."

The Moetzes disagrees with lots of Modern Orthodox viewpoints and communal norms. But does this need to rise to the level of writing Jews out of Orthodoxy?!

We have plenty of issues in Jewish life. The role of women is vitally important to the Jewish future. I say that as a rabbi and one who is outnumbered 4-2 in my home.

Does the *Moetzes* really need to proclaim Open Orthodoxy as denying the basic tenets of Judaism? Is this the biggest issue facing the Jewish world today?

As a member noted to me, the headline about the RCA and the Agudah rabbis "protecting Jewish values" shared space with the results of a recent Pew survey that found 57 percent of Jews eating pork, as well as an article about the increase in businesses open on Shabbat throughout Israel.

It is mind boggling. Some rabbis feel the need to comment on how some women are ordained and take roles in shuls and schools that they've been playing for years. All over the words "clergy" and "ordination." You care to disagree? Go right ahead, but might there be other issues to worry about?

Ikar chaseir min ha-sefer! The main topic is missing from this story! My friends, we need to take a step back and look at what really matters.

Let's study a little Torah. If we are looking for a role model in living the good and complete life, for a role model in identifying the right priorities, let's take a look at Avraham, our patriarch Abraham.

Hashem beirach et Avraham ba-kol. God blessed Avraham with everything. Avraham had it all.

What does having it all mean?

The expression is most closely associated (at least according to Google) with modern women trying to thrive at work and in the home. After reading numerous articles on the subject, I am convinced of two things:

1. I am not sure that men have it so easy in having it all. I know that I can use some improvement in balancing the work/life dynamic.

2. It is impossible to be a perfect parent, totally devoted spouse, and a 24/7 employee. You can't be excellent at all three at any given moment. You'll have to do your best and settle for being adequate sometimes.

For Avraham, the commentators understand *ba-kol* as living a life blessed with the right priorities.

1) Having it all means to prioritize the focus on family.

Rashi mentions how the word ba-kol has the gematriya (numerical value) of 52 which is the same as the word *ben*, son. For Avraham, having it all meant having a son to carry

forward his legacy. The T a 1 m u d (Bava Batra 16b) quotes one opinion t h a t Avraham was blessed ba-kol in that he did not have

Let's make it a priority to add religious meaning to our lives and our communities.

daughter for whom to worry about finding a suitable husband. Another opinion is that being blessed *ba-kol* refers to Avraham having a daughter as well as a son.

Family is everything.

Avraham had everything because he had his children. He appreciated the importance of family.

When I asked the Ramaz 3rd graders in parsha class about what it meant to have it all, one student said, "Stuff like toys is OK,

but you need to divide your time. 80% with the family." How true.

Each of us should make an effort to spend extra time with family, schedule an extra activity with a child, grandchild, spouse, or friend, and grab each opportunity to create a special memory with the people we love.

Avraham had everything because he prioritized his family. We can have it all by making it a priority to strengthen ours.

2) Having it all means to prioritize a life of religious purpose.

The Ramban (Nachmanides) explains that Avraham achieved a very high level of spirituality and closeness to God. He "had it all" religiously. Avraham worked hard at this relationship. It started when he was three years old and he started questioning how the world came into being. Throughout his lifetime, Avraham developed a closeness to God.

What about us? Do we consider spirituality a priority? How do we connect to God? We can look to Sarah and Rivkah for how to have it all from this perspective.

The Torah tells us of Yitzchak's marriage to Rivkah. Yitzchak brought his bride "into the tent of his mother, Sarah, and loved her" (24:67). Rashi, citing the Midrash (Bereishit Rabba 60:16), explains

this verse to mean that three miraculous phenomena that occurred in the tent during Sarah's lifetime returned when Yitzchak married Rivkah: the candle remained lit from one Friday to the next, the dough was blessed and always sufficed for the family and guests, and a cloud "was attached" to the tent.

Rabbi Yehuda Amital noted that the term anan kashur ("a cloud attached") represents a degree of spiritual sensitivity and insight, the ability to look beyond the physical realities of the world and see the spiritual meaning and purpose behind them. A person who fails to see the anan kashur, who sees only the external without perceiving the deeper meaning underlying it, is missing something.

This is the message of the cloud hovering over Yitzchak's tent. A household must have a higher purpose and meaning than its own maintenance and

continued on next page

continued from previous page

functioning. Yitzchak's tent was blessed with the "candle" and the "dough," it always had sufficient light and food, but this was not enough. A Jewish home is not complete without the *anan kashur*, a spiritual purpose toward which it strives.

Amidst our efforts to provide for our family's basic physical needs, we must also see to it that the "cloud" hovers constantly over the home, that we infuse it with a higher meaning, purpose and direction beyond its basic functioning.

Which rituals make up the cloud over our homes? There are plenty to choose from such as: prayer, blessings, Torah study, zemirot (singing songs at the Shabbat table), or *hachnasat orchim* (inviting guests). These are the simple yet essential activities which help us develop homes and lives of religious purpose, to "have it all."

Having it all means to have the right priorities. Like Avraham, we should place a premium on our families and in expanding our religious horizons. There is one additional element upon which we must prioritize.

3) Having it all will never occur if we focus only on ourselves.

Rabbi Levi Yitzhak of Berditchev taught that God did not bless Abraham with "everything;" rather He blessed "everyone."

Ksherotzim l'varekh et hatzadik, m'varkhim et haklal kulo... Habrakha hayta bazeh sheberakh et hakol - For the righteous person to be blessed, everyone must be blessed. Avraham's blessing was in the fact that everyone received a blessing.

According to Reb Levi Yitzkak, a righteous person like Abraham would never be satisfied if he alone was blessed by God. To be blessed - to really have it all, God must bless the entire community. It is also true for us: Until all of us are blessed, none of us truly are.

The only way to have it all is when we want to see the same good for others.

Judaism is rife with opportunities to bless others materially, emotionally, and spiritually. We can give tzedakah. We can ask people how they're doing. Better yet, we can proactively ask, "Can I help you in any way?" We can daven for those in need of healing or relief.

There is one other timely way to help. In Parshat Chayei Sarah, we read about the first Jewish marriage. Understandably, it was arranged with the bride and groom basically meeting under the chuppah, but steps were taken to make sure Yitzchak got married.

Here, in Manhattan, we have the largest Jewish singles population in the

US. People sometimes mention a singles crisis. All I know is that we should be thinking about how to facilitate more Jewish marriages.

There are so many important issues in the world today. We must identify priorities. Instead of pointless resolutions or writing people out of Orthodoxy, let us focus on some of the issues close to home that are so critical. Let's prioritize and strengthen the family. Let's make it a priority to add religious meaning to our lives and our communities. Let's make sure that we make it a priority to enhance the lives - and add blessings - to those around us.

I doubt we've heard the last of the crazy campaign statements. I'm also quite certain we haven't heard the last word on women's ordination or criticism of one segment or another of the Orthodox community. What I hope is that we can find a way to focus on the more important areas of Jewish life. Like Avraham, we can have it all.

We just need to remember what "all" is all about.

The only way to have it all is when we want to see the same for others.

WIDOWS CONNECTION PROGRAM AT K.J

osing a spouse is often one of life's most difficult adjustments. It can be a time of profound sadness giving rise to powerful feelings of isolation. Those who have experienced such loss know how hard it can be, and understand the many feelings and challenges that arise.

KJ is proud to host *W Connection*, a program aimed at providing newly widowed women with support and guidance from other widows within the KJ community. The program matches widows/grieving partners with a trained and supervised widowed volunteer.

With the support of a caring, knowledgeable individual, a widow can better cope with this normal but painful period in life.

If you or someone you know can benefit from this kind of support, please join the W Connection on December 17, January 21, and February 18, from 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at the Ramaz Lower School, 125 East 85th Street (between Park and Lexington Avenues). Future dates can be found at www.ckj.org.

For more information, please contact Judy Tanz at: 212-535-7571.



THURSDAY NIGHT LEARNING WITH RABBI YOSSI WEISER

The Jew in the Modern World
Starts December 3

Chumash with Rashi Starts February 4

Who Knows 13? The Foundations of Faith

Starts March 17

All classes start at 7:00 pm

Studies in the Weekly Portion at 8:00 pm



On September 10, 2015, the KJ/Ramaz community celebrated the grand opening of the Main Synagogue and renovated Lower School. These images record our collective joy and gratitude.

TUESDAY NIGHT LEARNING

iLearn@CKJ

with Rabbi Daniel and Rachel Kraus

7:00 pm

Not another app, but a weekly appointment with your heritage!

Be a part of the discussion as you delve into Jewish fundamentals as well as the important issues facing contemporary Judaism.

Exploring the Guide

with Martin Kaufman
8:00 pm
A Study of
Guide of the Perplexed
specifically examining a
Maimonidean approach to studying
and understanding the literary
methodology of the Prophets

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LEARNING

Navigating Nach Bible Course

with Rabbi Hayyim Angel
A Survey of the Books
of the Prophets

Join Rabbi Angel on a two-year journey through the nineteen books of the Bible from Joshua through Chronicles.

7:00 pm

Co-sponsored by KJ and the Institute for Jewish Ideas and Ideals

KJ SYNAGOGUE MEMBERSHIP: BE A PART OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE

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

WINTER LEARNING AT K.I

Crash Course in Basic Judaism

with Rabbi Daniel Kraus January 5 and 12 at 7:00 pm March 29, April 5

Crash Course in Jewish History

with Rabbi Daniel Kraus

Tuesdays at 7:00 pm

beginning February 9

Crash Course in Hebrew Reading

with Sara Rosen Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. starting January 6, April 6

Prayerbook Hebrew

with Sara Rosen Wednesdays at 8:00 pm starting January 6, April 6

Holiday Workshops

with Rabbi Daniel & Rachel Kraus

Chanukah

Tuesday, December 1, 7:00 pm

Purim

Tuesday, March 15, 7:00 pm

Passover

Part I: Tuesday, April 5, 7:00 pm Part II: Tuesday, April 12, 7:00 pm

Model Seder

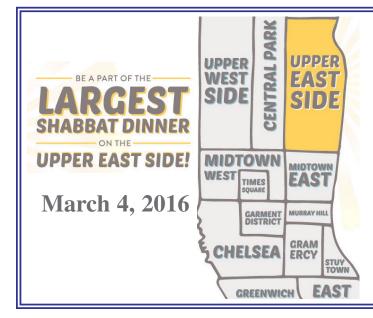
Tuesday, April 19, 7:00 pm

To find out about other learning opportunities at KJ, call 212-774-5678.

Generic Order Form for Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun

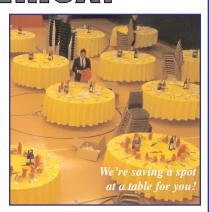
KJ has gone paperless. All business, including event registration and purchases, can now be transacted at

www.ckj.org. If you are unable to conduct your business online, please use this form to place your order, submit your payment and mail it to Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun, 125 E. 85th Street, NY, NY 10028.
Name: Telephone number
Ordering for:
Enclosed is my payment: of:
Comments for office (i.e. seating requests, special meals):
Generic Order Form for Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun
KJ has gone paperless. All business, including event registration and purchases, can now be transacted at www.ckj.org. If you are unable to conduct your business online, please use this form to place your order, submit your payment and mail it to Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun, 125 E. 85th Street, NY, NY 10028.
Name: Telephone number
Ordering for:
Enclosed is my payment: of:
Comments for office (i.e. seating requests, special meals):



SHABBAT ACROSS

To host a table or to help plan this incredible Shabbat of unity across the Upper East Side, please email Rabbi Daniel Kraus rdk@ckj.org



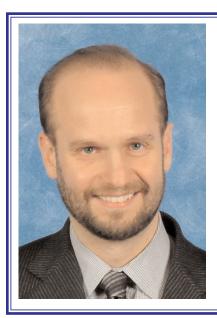


Bringing Good Things to Living

UJA@KJ is planning two great programs. On December 13 you can help bring Chanukah cheer to the seniors at Jewish Home Lifecare, 120 West 106th Street between Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues, from 10:30 a.m. - noon. Advanced registration is required.

Get in the Purim Spirit by preparing packages of Mishloach Manot to benefit the KJ Food Pantry. Contact the UJA@KJ representatives below for more infromation.

To RSVP or for more information, please contact "UJA at KJ" chairs Talya Kaye at TalyaKaye@gmail.com, Lani Kollander at melanie.kolander@gmail.com, or our UJA-Federation liaison Rebecca Zimilover (zimiloverr@ujafedny.org or 212-836-1356)



Rabbi Chaim Steinmetz to Teach Pre-Shacharit Shiur Shabbat Mornings in the Main Synagogue at 8:30 a.m.

The "Halakhic Rulings of Rav Ovadiah Yoseph"

Preview December 12 and 19!

Regularly Scheduled Classes to Begin January 1

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 2016. The free program for seniors is made possible by an endowment created by the Buchwald, Edelsburg, and Stern Families.

December 9- Rabbi Roy Feldman December 16-Janie Schwalbe December 23, 30 - Winter Break 2016

January 6- Dr. Gilbert Kahn

January 13- Israel Max January 20 - Shira Felberbaum

January 27- Rabbi Elie Weinstock

February 3- Shira Felberbaum February 10- Rabbi Roy Feldman February 17- Dr. Gilbert Kahn February 24- Rabbi Yossie Weiser

March 2- Robert Sugarman

March 9- Gilbert Kahn

March 16- Shira Felberbaum March 23- Rabbi Roy Feldman

March 30- Israel Max

April 6- Rabbi Yossie Weiser

April 13- Israel Max

April 20- Dr. Gilbert Kahn

The program takes place at noon in the Heyman Auditorium, 125 East 85th Street preceded at 11:30 by Dus Haimische Shtiebel: "The Yiddish Schmoozers"

PANEL DISCUSSION WITH "JEWISH NOIR" WRITERS KEEP THE AUDIENCE AT THE EDGE OF THEIR SEATS



The November 8 program featured mystery writers discussing the new book "Jewish Noir: Contemporary Tales of Crimes & Other Dark Deeds." I to r front row: Kenneth Wishnia, S.A. Solomon, S.J. Rozan; I to r back row: Jason Starr, Men's Club President Dr. Mark Meirowitz, Alan Gordon.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE GREAT UPCOMING PROGRAMS FROM KJ'S MEN'S CLUB!

January 24:

Ottoman Jewish History Symposium

March 6: Film Screening
Every Word Has Power:
The Poetry of
Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel
featuring writer and producer
Debra Gonsher Vinik

Details available at www.ckj.org

16TH ANNUAL VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION EVENT

Special Gala Seudah Shlishit

Honoring Members of:

Chevra Kadisha
Bikur Cholim
Hatzolah
Congregational Chesed Volunteers

March 19 Following 6:35 p.m. Mincha

This event is held in conjuction with Moshe Rabbeinu's yahrzeit (Adar 7)

There is no charge, but we ask that you please confirm your attendance by contacting Esther@ckj.org

Page 14 KEHILATH JESHURUN BULLETIN

KJ Sisterhood: There's Something for Everyone

The Fall has been an exciting time for the KJ Sisterhood. We began the year with an open board meeting for all the women of the community. Attendees learned about upcoming programming, volunteer opportunities, and about the important work of Sharsheret, a group dedicated to helping women and their families cope with breast and ovarian cancer.

Our Fall events included:

Tel Aviv on the Highline Chelsea Art Tour
chaired by Monita Buchwald,
Gabrielle Gononsky, and Judy Wilner

A Tasting with Kim Kushner Cooking Event chaired by Gabriella Fridman, Sophia Gomberg, Stacey Kanbar, and Victoria Sutton

Annual Chanukah Boutique chaired by Jessica Kobrin Bernstein, Mindy Miller, and Nancy Newhouse

Sotheby's Judaica Tour chaired by Joanna Kleinhaus and Elisa Gage





Sisterhood programming offers something for everyone!

The Spring will bring more opportunities to participate, volunteer, raise money and share an afternoon or evening with your friends. Of special interest is the *KJ Sisterhood's Annual Spring Luncheon* which will be taking place earlier than usual this year. Hold the date: *Sunday, April 3rd*. Chairs Barbara Braffman and Carla Tanz are working with their committee on what's going to be an inspiring and fun event.

Also coming up this Spring is a visit to the Jewish Museum to see the Isaac Mizrahi exhibit; the annual Spring Boutique; and a "Pink Shabbat" to raise awareness about breast cancer which will feature challah baking on Thursday, March 3, and special Shabbat programming on March 5.

Get involved! Come to an event to be with friends or meet new people. You are welcome to co-chair an event or offer your home as a venue. For more information on how to get involved, please contact:

Stephanie Katz, President (stephanieskatz@gmail.com)

Julie Kopel, Vice President (juliekopel@gmail.com)

SAMUEL S. SILVERSTEIN SHABBATON FEATURED SCHOLAR DECEMBER 18 - 19

r. Adam S. Ferziger is the Gwendolyn and Joseph Straus

Fellow in Jewish Studies at Bar-Ilan University, where he teaches and serves as associate director in the Graduate Program in Contemporary Jewry. He has lectured and published extensively on Jewish religious denominations and their ideologies, modern Jewish identity formation, the history of the modern rabbinate, American Orthodoxy and encounter between halakhah and contemporary social realities. He is the author of Exclusion and Hierarchy: Orthodoxy, Nonobservance and the Emergence of Modern Jewish Identity.

In his capacity as a senior research fellow at Bar-Ilan's Rappaport Center for Assimilation Research, he has authored major studies on the role of rabbis in confronting assimilation and on the community kollel as a cutting-edge framework in American Jewish life. Prior to embarking on a full-time academic career, he served for seven years as founding director of Bar-Ilan's Mechina for New Immigrants and as rabbi of the Beit Binyamin Synagogue in Kfar-Sava.

A native of Riverdale, New York, he was graduated from the S.A.R. Academy and the Ramaz Upper School and studied at Beit Midrash l'Torah (BMT) in Jerusalem, and Yeshivat Har-Etzion (Gush). He received his B.A., M.A. and rabbinical ordination from Yeshiva University (RIETS) and his Ph.D. summa cum laude from Bar-Ilan. He and his wife, Naomi (nee Weiss) moved to Israel in 1987. They live with their six children in Kfar-Sava, where they are involved in activities aimed at providing religious and educational services to Jews from a broad spectrum of backgrounds.

MORNING CLASSES AT KJ

Mondays at 9:00 a.m.:

In-Depth Talmud with Rabbi Roy Feldman Tuesdays at 8:15 a.m.:

Parsha Foundations with Rabbi Elie Weinstock Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m.:

Parashat haShavua with Rabbi Haskel Lookstein Thursdays at 8:30 a.m.:

Prophetic Women with Dr. Shera Aranoff Tuchman For more information, call (212) 774-5600.

SHABBAT SCHOLARS:

JANUARY 30

Seth M. Siegel is a writer, activist, and successful serial entrepreneur. He is the author of *The New York Times* bestselling book *Let There Be Water: Israel's Solution for a Water-Starved World*, published by St. Martin's Press in September, 2015. Seth

September, 2015. Seth
Siegel's essays on water and other
policy issues have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal, the Los Angeles Times*, and in leading publications in Europe and Asia. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and is the co-founder of several companies, including Beanstalk, the world's leading trademark brand extension company. He is married and lives in New York City. For more information, visit www.SethMSiegel.com.

MARCH 26

r. Robert Stearns is the founder and executive director of Eagles' Wings, an international Christian organization involved in a variety of outreaches and strategic projects around the world, including three main Israel initiatives.

Robert is the visionary behind

the worldwide prayer initiative, "The

Day of Prayer for the Peace of Jerusalem" which is observed every year on the first Sunday in October throughout the globe in over 175 nations. More than 300,000 churches participate annually, representing millions of Christians praying. With a focus on education and action, Robert is the executive director and founder of the Israel Experience College Scholarship Program. This annual, three-week intensive study tour of the land of Israel brings the best and brightest Christian students from universities in America and around the world and gives them an educated heart for Israel. These students return to their campuses as ambassadors for Israel and our Judeo-Christian worldview. Robert has consulted and met privately with current and past Prime Ministers of Israel concerning Israel and Christian relations including: Ehud Olmert, Ariel Sharon and Benjamin Netanyahu. A gifted musician and singer, he sang for the last four Prime Ministers, including a special concert for Benjamin Netanyahu.



VISITING SCHOLAR RABBI JACOB J. SCHACTER RETURNS TO KJ



Yeshiva University Professor of Jewish History and Jewish Thought Senior Scholar at the Center for the Jewish Future at Yeshiva University

January 22-23

Dr. Walter Weitzner Memorial Shabbat March 11-12

Sponsored by Rozy Weitzner and her children commemorating the remarkable neshama that was her late husband and their father.

Page 16 KEHILATH JESHURUN BULLETIN

KJ BEGINNERS PRESENTS

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11 AT 5:30 PM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22 AT 6:00 PM

March 4, 2016 at 6:45 pm Shabbat Across America Featuring Rabbi Haskel Lookstein

JEWISH LEARNING INSTITUTE AT KJ



"The Jewish Course of Why"

with Rabbi Elie Weinstock

You have questions; we have answers.

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

Try the first class for free!

No one is turned away for lack of funds.

6 Mondays at 7:00 PM, starting February 8

HISTORY AT HOME:

"SATURDAY NIGHT FIGHTS"

PRESENTED IN CONJUNCTON WITH THE INSTITUTE FOR JEWISH IDEAS AND IDEALS

"Controversies Over the Historicity of Bibilical Passages in Traditional Commentary"

with Rabbi Hayyim Angel on January 23

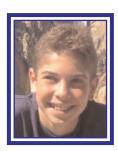
"Rambam vs. Spinoza:
Approaches to Religion and Reason"
with Rabbi Marc Angel on March 5

Presentations begin at 8:30 p.m. at Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun, 125 East 85th Street followed by a post-lecture dessert reception



SOFIA COHEN

Mazal Tov to Dana and Dr. Michael Cohen, upon the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Sofia, on Friday, November 6, at Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun. After evening services in the KJ sanctuary, she recited the Haftarah of Parashat Chayei Sarah and delivered a Dvar Torah entitled "God Promises, but We Have to Act." Sofia is in the sixth grade at the Ramaz Middle School. Mazal Tov as well to proud KJ grandparents Lillian and Elliott Eisman.



MICHAEL OLENICK

Mazal Tov to Judy and Donald Olenick upon the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Michael, on January 16, at Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun. He will layn Parashat Bo and the Haftarah, and deliver a Dvar Torah on the parahsah. Michael is a seventh grade student at the Ramaz Middle School.



MARK ADLER

Mazal Tov to Marilyn and Greg Adler upon the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Mark, at Congregation Orach Chaim on Shabbat morning, February 27, at which time he will read Parshat Ki Tisa and deliver a Dvar Torah. Mark is a seventh grade student at the Ramaz Middle School.

BNEI MITZVAH



TALIA KAHAN

Mazal Tov to Andrea Fastenberg and Professor Marcel Kahan upon the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Talia, which will take place on November 14, at Darkhei Noam. Talia will read Parashat Toldot and the Haftarah, and will deliver a Dvar Torah on Yaakov's character. Talia is a seventh grade student at the Heschel Middle School.



SPENCER RUBINSTEIN

Mazal Tov to Esther and Kenneth Rubinstein, upon the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Spencer, on Shabbat, January 23, at Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun, where he will read Parashat Beshalach and deliver a Dvar Torah on the parashah. Spencer is a seventh grade student at the Ramaz Middle School.



SARAH BOURKOFF

Mazal Tov to Elana and Aryeh Bourkoff, upon the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Sarah, who will read Megillat Esther on Purim Day, March 24, at Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun. Sarah is a sixth grade student at the Ramaz Middle School.



DARREN CLEEMAN

Mazal Tov to Tami and Dr. Edmond Cleeman, upon the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Darren, on December 19 at Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun. He will layn Parashat Vayigash and deliver a Dvar Torah. Darren is a seventh grade student at the Ramaz Middle School.



SAMANTHA STERN

Mazal Tov to Pamela and Douglas Stern, upon the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Samantha, at Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun on January 9, at which time she will deliver a Dvar Torah abour Parashat Vaera. Samantha is a sixth grade student at the Ramaz Middle School.



JEREMY BARUCH

Mazal Tov to Shira and Larry Baruch, upon the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Jeremy, on Shabbat, February 6, at Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun, where he will read Parashat Mishpatim. Jeremy is a seventh grade student at the Ramaz Middle School. Mazal Tov also to proud KJ grandparents Audrey and Rabbi Haskel Lookstein.



JACOB SCHWARTZ

Mazal Tov to Suzy and Robert Schwartz upon the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Jacob, at Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun on Shabbat, February 20. He will read Parashat Tetzaveh and deliver a Dvar Torah. Jacob is a seventh grade student at the Ramaz Middle School. Mazal Tov also to proud KJ grandparents Marina and Sam Schwartz.

WITHIN OUR FAMILY

ENGAGEMENTS

Mazal Tov to:

Helen and Ruby Davis, upon the engagement of their son, Jonathan to Mindie Erreich, daughter of Renee and Harry Erreich of the Upper East Side.

Jackie Leifert upon the engagement of her daughter, Dina, to Michael Basin, son of Ludmilla and Gregory Basin of Fort Lee, NJ. Dina is also the daughter of the late Robert Leifert, of blessed memory.

Edith and Sal Lipiner upon the engagement of their granddaughter, Zeva ('10), daughter of Linda ('80) and Seth Epstein of Engelwood, NJ, to Noah Adelsberg, son of Ellen and Irwin Adelsberg of Great Neck, NY.

Eleanore Reznik upon the engagement of her grandson, Samuel K. Reznik, son of Elizabeth and Dr. Alan Reznik of Milford, CT, to Danielle Bitterman, daughter of Sherrie and Dr. Jeffrey Bitterman of Woodbridge, CT.

Eleanore Reznik upon the engagement of her granddaughter, Atara L Beller, daughter of Michael Beller and Beth Reznik Beller z"1 of Jamaica Estates, to Jonathan Gatswirth, son of Ellen and Joseph Gatswirth of Flushing.

Gabriela and Jack Shnay upon the engagement of their daughter, Vanessa, to Oren Neiman, the son of Ronit and Joseph Neiman of Teaneck.

May their weddings take place in happiness and blessing.

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WITHIN OUR FAMILY

BIRTHS

Mazal Tov to:

Julie and Jonathan Art upon the birth of their first child and son, Benjamin Daniel (Binaymin Yitchak).

Linda and Shane Barbanel upon the birth of a baby girl, Alexandra Toby.

Deborah and Barry Berg upon the birth of a grandson, William Gold Berg (Ze'ev Hershel), the first child born to their children, Marissa and Zachary Berg.

Mindy and Dr. Jay Cinnamon upon the birth of a granddaughter, Theodora Violet (Tova Hadara), born to their children Rebecca and Dr. Noam Green. Mazal Tov to proud KJ grandparents, Audrey and Rabbi Haskel Lookstein.

Brittany and Jonathan Cogan upon the birth of their second child and son, Grayson Leo (Gil Yehuda). Mazal tov as well to the proud KJ great-grandparents, Brenda and Albert Bernstein.

Lisa and Richard Cohen upon the birth of their third child and second son, Benjamin Aharon.

Rachel and Joshua Crane upon the birth of their third child and second daughter, Georgia Naomi (Noa). Mazal Tov to proud KJ grandfather, Dr. Daniel Crane.

Martine and Leo Fox, upon the birth of a grandson, Dean Oliver (Chaim Yaakov), born to their children Talia and Abraham Shulman.

Aviya and Alexander Halpern, upon the birth of their third child and second daughter, Ra'aya Luna. Mazal Tov as well to proud KJ grandparents Cheryl and Fred Halpern.

Dr. Sarah and Elie Hirschfeld and Marcia Riklis upon the birth of their first grandchild, Noa, born to their children Daniella Hirschfeld and Will Weddig.

Elizabeth and Dr. Shaun Honig upon the birth of their third child and first daughter, Leah Heller Honig (Leah Bracha).

Sue and Dr. Norman Javitt on the birth of a great-grandson, Rafael David, born in Tel Aviv to their grandchildren Michael Javitt and Tova Chouake.

Tali and Dr. Josh Leinwand upon the birth of their first child and daughter Stella Ossi (Yifat Nechama). Mazal tov as well to proud KJ grandmother Marlene Warshawski Yahalom and to proud KJ great-grandmother Judith Warshawski.

Sandy and Dr. Norman Magid, upon the birth of a grandson, born to their children, Shoshana and Rafi ('05) Magid, of Givat Shmuel, Israel.

Naomi and Dr. Noah Moss upon the birth of twin boys and their second and third sons, Benjamin and Alexander (Binyamin and Avraham). Nikki and Tuvy Meyer upon the birth of their fourth child and second son, Samuel Morris (Shmuel Elyakim). Mazal tov as well to proud KJ grandparents Seryl and Charles Kushner.

Bonnie and Isaac Pollak upon the birth of a granddaughter, Yakira Leah, born to their children Elianna and Chaim Mitnick.

Dr. Lauren and Sam Rascoff upon the birth of their second daughter and third child, Joely Elizabeth (Leah Yehudit).

Dr. Miera and Professor Alan Rechtschaffen upon the birth of their fourth child and daughter, Emunah Leah. Mazal tov as well to proud KJ grandfather Rabbi Manfred Rechtschaffen, and to Alan's mother, Marcia Drake.

KJ Youth Director Aryana Ritholtz and her husband, KJ Teen Coordinator Steven Ritholtz, upon the birth of their second child and first son, Yosef Baruch Leib.

Sue and Win Robins upon the birth of their great granddaughter, Annael Nili Goldstein, born to their grandchildren Eitan Goldstein and his wife, Avigail Schondorf. Eitan is the son of Frannie (Robins) and Jackie Goldstein of Bet Shemesh. Avigail is the daughter of Drs. Susan and Ron Schondorf of Montreal.

Larry Steinberg on the birth of a great granddaughter, Ayelet Miriam, the first child born to grandchildren Estie and Jonah (Ramaz 08) Mermelstein of Washington Heights.

Tzivya and Seth Steinmetz upon the birth of their first child and son, Remy Raphael (Avraham Zev Rafael).

Randi and David Sultan upon the birth of their sixth child and fourth son, Joshua Isaac (Yehoshuah Yitzchak).

Eliana and Samuel Tisch upon the birth of their first child and son, Theodore Emet (Dov Emet). Mazal Tov to proud KJ grandparents, Merryl and James Tisch.

Hannah and Scott Topiel upon the birth of their first child and son, Jonah Oliver (Yonah Chaim).

Grace Weil upon the birth of a greatgrandson, Max Nathaniel (Moshe Netanel), son of Carly and Raffi Sturm.

Maeira and Michel Werthenschlag upon the birth of their fourth child and third son. Mazal Tov to proud KJ grandparents - Cheryl and Fred Halpern.

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

MARRIAGES

Mazal Tov to:

Beth and Marc Bengualid upon the marriage of their daughter, Elana, to Jack E. Harary, son of Rochelle and Ely Harary of Brooklyn.

Stefanie Hirsch and Patrick Coyle upon their marriage. Mazal Tov as well to the KJ parents of the bride, Rochelle and David Hirsch.

Wendy and Sholem Greenbaum upon the marriage of their son, David, to Gabby Goldberg, daughter of Irene and Andrew Goldberg of Lawrence.

Dr. Howard Levy upon his marriage to Sonya Finkel.

Sue and Win Robins upon the occasion of the wedding of their eldest grandson, Amichai Goldstein (son of Frannie and Jackie Goldstein), to Gali Taragin, daughter of Rabbi Moshe Taragin of Yeshivat Har Etzion, and Atara Taragin.

Jillian Zurcher and Sam Genet on their recent wedding.

May the new couples be blessed to build homes faithful to the traditions of the Jewish people.

COMMUNAL HONORS

Congratulations to:

Devora W. Allon upon being honored by the Southern Connecticut Hebrew Academy as a distinguished alumna at their 70th anniversary gala on November 1.

Dr. James Cleeman upon receiving the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary's Award for Distinguished Service, the Department's highest honor, for his achievements in reducing hospital-acquired infections. Dr. Cleeman is the Director of the Division of Healthcare-Associated Infections in the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

Gabriella Fridman and Kim Kushner upon their co-chairing the Second Annual Women's Luncheon to benefit the Jacques & Hanna Schwalbe Mikvah, featuring Guest Speaker Lt. Commander Laurie Lans, a "Profile in Courage" awardee for her military service while also being a rabbi's wife!

Jane Gol upon being honored with her mom as "L'Dor V'Dor" Honorees at SHALVA's Expectations 2015 event to benefit the 'Me & My Mommy' program.

Andrew Rechtschaffen, upon being honored with the Alan C. Greenberg Young Leadership Award at the UJA-Federation Wall Street Dinner

Deena and Adam Shiff upon chairing the "AMIT's Got Talent!" Annual Dinner.

Ethan Stein, son of Dr. Meg Rosenblatt and David Stein, upon being honored by Chabad's Children of Chernobyl ("CCOC"), with their New Leadership Award at CCOC's annual gala dinner and auction. The charity provides food, clothing and medical equipment to the Chernobyl region, and permanently relocates

WITHIN OUR FAMILY

affected children to Israel wherever possible.

Dr. Andrea Thau and John Lieberman, and their sons Evan and Richard, upon being named Guests of Honor at the Chabad of Binghampton's 30th Anniversary Gala Celebration.

To KJ's own Rabbi Elie Weinstock upon receiving two honors: first, the recognition as a "Distinguished Alumnus" by his alma mater, the Southern Connecticut Hebrew Academy in New Haven, and second, the "Rabbi Israel and Libby Mowshowitz Award" from the New York Board of Rabbis. This award recognizes Rabbi Weinstock's broad leadership role in the New York rabbinate.

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to:

Jeffrey Fisher, upon the publication of his book *Private Clients*, sold exclusively at the Strand Bookstore in New York City.

Nick Gura upon the recent publication of his book "Divine Wisdom and Warning: Decoded Messages From God." Nick has devised a new way of using the ancient system of *gematria* that uncovers hidden, encoded messages within both biblical and modern Hebrew.

Robert Garson upon winning a Society of Voice Arts Award in the category of "Outstanding Performance in a National Television Commercial."

Richard Klass upon his appointment to the New York State Grievance Committee for the Second, Eleventh and Thirteenth Judicial Districts for a four-year term.

Jacob Olidort upon the publication in Lawfare of his article Fall of the Brotherhood, Rise of the Salafis.

Andrea P. Thau, O.D., owner of Dr. Andrea P. Thau and Associates, a private practice on Park Avenue in Manhattan, upon being elected president-elect of the American Optometric Association (AOA), which represents approximately 39,000 doctors of optometry and other eye care professionals.

CONDOLENCES

Our condolences to:

Elliott Adler, upon the passing of his father, Arthur Adler.

Susan Blinken, upon the passing of her father, Jerome Israel Lazarowitz.

Alvin Broome, upon the passing of his mother, Evelyn Broome.

Estelle Freilich and Goldie Zwiebel, upon the passing of their mother, Anna Feld, grandmother of Jonathan Freilich and Elliot Freilich. Melissa Garmaise, upon the passing of her mother, Fran Schapiro.

Stacie Glick, upon the passing of her father, Jerry Glick.

Judy Grumet, upon the passing of her father, Dr. Jacob L. Brener.

Jane Katz, upon the passing of her father, Howard Friedman.

Ariel Kwacz, upon the passing of his grandmother.

Susan Mukasy, upon the passing of her mother, Etta Bernstock, grandmother of Marc Mukasey and Jessica Barkoff.

Joy Pravda, upon the passing of her father, Michael Altheim.

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

CREATE AN ENDURING LEGACY

Consider participating in the Congregation's Endowment and Planned Giving Program.

Contact Leonard Silverman at 212-774-5680 or lss@ckj.org for information

In Memoriam

PEARL HACK

She passed away just short of her 90th birthday. Pearl was a grande dame in the Jewish community. She and her late husband, Zev, were major forces in UJA, many worthy charities and in KJ and Ramaz. Their generosity was expressed with love and enthusiasm, particularly toward the children of our school of whom they were so proud.

When Pearl attended services, she was all in. She loved our services. She commented on sermons, she believed fervently in what we were doing in both shul and school.

A city planner by training, she earned advanced academic degrees which reflected her excellent mind and very good judgment. She was extraordinarily proud of her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Her greatest love, however, was reserved for the State and people of Israel. She and Zev traveled regularly to Israel and cherished every moment that they spent in the Jewish State. She was a presence! We will miss her.

ASHELLA PERLBERGER

The passing of Ashella Perlberger had a special poignancy for veteran members of the congregation. Her association with us began about fifty years ago when she married the late Jack Perlberger, the son of Claire and Oscar Perlberger, who were leaders in this congregation in the 50's and 60's.

Ashella was an officer in the IDF during the War of Independence. She and Jack were original members of our young marrieds group which, at the time, numbered fewer than ten couples. She loved our community and was always ready to work for it.

Her final years were difficult ones as she was enfeebled by illness and incapacity. Her brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Ralph and Carol, together with a few of us from KJ, participated in a very moving graveside service. An Israeli hero is gone, but what she fought for and loved lives on.

MICHAEL SIGALL

The son of the late Leon and Herta Sigall and an alumnus of Ramaz, Michael was a long-time member of the congregation and maintained his connection with us even though his primary affiliation was in The Jewish Center on the West Side. He and his wife, Roberta, sent their two children, Jessica and Jeremy, to Ramaz from which they were both graduated. A brilliant lawyer and very thoughtful scholar, Michael was primarily known for his passion and loyalty to Judaism and to the Jewish people.

We extend our condolences to his entire family and express our hope that they should have no sadness for a long time to come. Page 20 KEHILATH JESHURUN BULLETIN

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

Contact the Synagogue office at 212-774-5600

KEHILATH JESHURUN BULLETIN

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

www.cki.org

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Elimelech Weinstock				
Hayyim AngelRabbinic Scholar				
Haskel Lookstein				
Rabbi Dr. Jeremy Wieder				
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Directors of Community Education				
Roy Y. Feldman Rabbinic Assistant				
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KEHILATH JESHURUN BULLETIN

Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun 125 East 85th Street New York, NY 10028-0928

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Are you receiving your KJ Bulletin late in the mail? Are you receiving double copies of the Bulletin? We need to know! Please e-mail Riva@ckj.org or call 212-774-5670.

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					
		Lighting of candles	Friday Evening Services	Saturday Afternoon Services	Sabbath Ends
December		·			
4-5	Vayeshev	4:10 PM	4:25 PM	4:05 PM	5:08 PM
11-12	Miketz	4:10 PM	4:25 PM	4:05 PM	5:09 PM
18-29	Vayigash	4:12 PM	4:25 PM	4:05 PM	5:11 PM
25-26	Vayehi	4:16 PM	4:30 PM	4:10 PM	5:14 PM
January	·				
1-2	Shemot	4:21 PM	4:35 PM	4:15 PM	5:20 PM
8-9	Vaera	4:27 PM	4:40 PM	4:20 PM	5:26 PM
15-16	Во	4:34 PM	4:45 PM	4:25 PM	5:33 PM
22-23	Beshalach	4:43 PM	4:55 PM	4:35 PM	5:41 PM
29-30	Yitro	4:51 PM	5:05 PM	4:45 PM	5:49 PM
February					
5-6	Mishpatim	5:00 PM	5:15 PM	4:50 PM	5:56 PM
12-13	Terumah	5:08 PM	5:20 PM	5:00 PM	6:04 PM
19-20	Tetzaveh	5:17 PM	5:30 PM	5:10 PM	6:13 PM
26-27	Ki Tisa	5:25 PM	5:40 PM	5:15 PM	6:20 PM
March					
4-5	Vayakhel/Shekalim	5:33 PM	5:45 PM	5:25 PM	6:28 PM
11-12	Pekudei	5:41 PM	5:55 PM	5:30 PM	6:35 PM
18-19	Vayikra/Zachor	6:48 PM	6:45 PM	6:35 PM	7:42 PM
25-26	Tzav	6:56 PM	6:45 PM	6:45 PM	7:50 PM
April					
1-2	Shemini/Parah	7:03 PM	6:45 PM	6:55 PM	7:57 PM
8-9	Tazriah/HaChodesh	7:10 PM	6:45 PM	7:00 PM	8:06 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

Nov. 22 - Dec. 244:25 PM	Jan. 17-214:50 PM
Dec. 27- 314:30 PM	Jan. 24-285:00 PM
Jan. 3-74:35 PM	Jan. 31-Feb. 45:10 PM
Jan. 10-144:45 PM	Feb. 7-115:15 PM
	Feb. 14-185:25 PM

Feb. 21-25	5:35 PM
Feb. 28- Mar. 3	5:40 PM
Mar. 6-10	5:50 PM
Mar. 13-June 16	6:45PM

DATES TO REMEMBER

Mon.-Fri., December 7-11 Chanukah Service at 7:10 am Sunday, December 13 Chanukah/Rosh Chodesh Tevet Morning Service at 8:30 am Monday, December 14 Chanukah Service at 7:10 am Tuesday, December 22 Fast of the 10th of Tevet Fast Begins at 6:05 am Morning Service at 6:50 am

Afternoon Service at 4:05 pm Fast Ends at 5:09 pm Friday, December 25 Morning Service at 8:30 am Friday, January 1 Morning Service at 8:30 am Monday, January 11 Rosh Chodesh Shevat Morning Service at 7:00 am Monday, January 25 Tu B'Shevat

Tues.-Wed., February 9-10 Rosh Chodesh Adar I Morning Services at 7:00 am Monday, February 15 Morning Service at 8:30 am Thurs.-Fri.., March 10-11 Rosh Chodesh Adar II Morning Services at 7:00 am

For Purim Schedule see page 6