

THE FOCAL POINT

VOL. 60, Issue 2

FEBRUARY 2024

SHEVAT - ADAR I 5784

From Your Rabbi...



The Mishnaic Rabbis instruct us: "When the month of *Adar* begins, we increase our joy." What is it about *Adar* that makes it so joyous? Rashi explains that the onset of *Adar* begins the celebration of two springtime holidays of liberation: First *Purim*, and then, one month later, *Pesach*. Both of these holidays encapsulate the classic Jewish sentiment of, "They tried to kill us, we won, let's eat!"

On *Purim*, it was the ancient Persians who tried to kill us; on *Pesach*, it was the Egyptians, centuries earlier. These two holidays also usher in the springtime, when the weather gets better and things begin to bloom again. All of this is good reason to increase our joy in *Adar*.

According to Rashi's interpretation, the joy that begins in *Adar* culminates in *Pesach*. But later, the *Hasidic* tradition taught the increased joy should extend all the way to *Shavuot*, 7 weeks after *Pesach*. This date, on which we received the *Torah*, constitutes the highest level of joy.

This year is a Jewish leap year, in which we have two months of *Adar*. *Purim* is observed in the Second *Adar*, in order that it should fall one month before *Pesach*. But we begin to increase our joy already with the First *Adar*.

The Rabbinic Sages figured out that in order to sync up the lunar and solar cycles, we need to have seven leap years every 19 years. We can certainly use some increased joy this year. Four months have passed since the *Simchat Torah* massacre of October 7th in Israel. We have reasons to be joyous, even in our continued grief. Israeli society has proven remarkably resilient, hopeful, and strong in the face of tragedy.

We in the diaspora must continue to show solidarity with them by continuing to be proudly Jewish, and joyously Jewish. Let's commit to being Jewish more joyously as *Adar* begins!

Rabbi Moshe Grussgott

From The President...



The New Year 2024 has arrived and we are all probably, thinking of the "new me" and our resolutions. My resolution as the person at the helm of our organization is to be more approachable and advocate the following. *K.I. strives to be warm and welcoming and proud of our traditional values and engage in performing acts of loving kindness.*

I also hope to explore ways to balance our budget where we won't have a deficit. This last one is going to be a collaborative effort where our members' assistance is going to be needed.

Looking back at last year, 2023, among other things, I am proud of our religious school that has grown the number of students with the leadership of **Shelley Rissien**. She and her staff have also redecorated the school wing to a friendlier, warm, and welcoming environment for the children. Thank you Shelley and staff.

Our Men's Club and Women's group, "the WoKIs" have been ramping up their activities. Stay tuned for more functions coming up from each group.

This would be the appropriate time to acknowledge our last *Chanukah* party. It was embraced well by our members, especially members with young children. The lighting ceremony and the food, prepared by the **Speiers**, that followed were both delightful and enjoyed by all.

For those of you who were not present, I would like to mention that on *Shabbat*, December 23, we welcomed two young people, Dr. Joel Gutovitz, who grew up at K.I., and Daniel Jezmir, who were associated with the IDF, came to K.I. and gave an accounting of how things are going in Israel from their perspective.

In the coming weeks, we will be welcoming two "Lone Soldiers," soldiers with no family in Israel at K.I. who will talk to us and give us their thoughts on the war situation in Israel.

I am looking forward to our upcoming *Purim Seudah* program that is in the works. It will include a *Purim* play and an authentic Persian meal.

I would like to give a *mazel tov* to **Barbara** and **Rabbi Mandl** on the birth of a grandson, Jude, born to **Miriam** and **Ian Guffy** on January 3rd.

Finally, I would like to inform everyone that our **annual congregational meeting** will take place on **Sunday, April 7**. This is where we practice our democratic process at K.I. and I would encourage everyone to attend. A delicious brunch will follow the event.

Please stay warm and be careful walking during snow and/or ice episodes.

Joseph Adamous

SHABBAT SERVICES

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Candlelighting*.....5:23 PM
Kabbalat Shabbat.....5:35 PM

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3

BLESSING OF THE NEW MONTH OF ADAR I

Morning Service.....9:00 AM
KI KIDZ.....10:00 AM
Rabbi's Parsha Class.....4:15 PM
Mincha.....5:00 PM
Havdalah.....6:16 PM



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Candlelighting*.....5:31 PM
Kabbalat Shabbat.....5:45 PM

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10

ROSH CHODESH ADAR I

Morning Service.....9:00 AM
Womens Well Circle.....10:00 AM
Kids' Mensches & Minyans.....10:00 AM
Rabbi's Parsha Class.....4:20 PM
Mincha.....5:05 PM
Havdalah.....6:24 PM



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Candlelighting*.....5:39 PM
Kabbalat Shabbat.....5:50 PM

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

CHAI ANNIVERSARY KIDDUSH

Morning Service.....9:00 AM
Nin Jews (formerly Mini-Minyan).....10:00 AM
Rabbi's Parsha Class.....4:30 PM
Mincha.....5:15 PM
Havdalah.....6:31 PM



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Candlelighting*.....5:48 PM
Kabbalat Shabbat.....5:55 PM

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Morning Service.....9:00 AM
Kids' Mensches & Minyans.....10:00 AM
Rabbi's Parsha Class.....4:40 PM
Mincha.....5:25 PM
Havdalah.....6:39 PM

*NO LATER THAN THESE TIMES

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT
ISSUE OF THE FOCAL POINT
IS MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5.
WE APPRECIATE YOUR
COOPERATION!
THANK YOU**

HAMENTASHEN TIME



Can you believe it? It's time to order delicious, homemade *Hamentashen*.

We are taking orders **until March 1, 2024.**

\$18.00 for baker's dozen (13). Please indicate number of dozen.

Chocolate Chip _____ Mun _____ Cherry _____ Apricot _____

Apple _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Mail this form and your payment to:
Kehilath Israel Synagogue,
10501 Conser, Overland Park, KS 66212

PURIM IS MARCH 23 & 24! SEND MISHLACH MANOT!

Wish your friends and family a happy *Purim*. You can do this with a *Mishloach Manot* basket from K.I. Let us do the work; it's easier than shopping all over town!

Become a *Purim* Patron for only \$216 and send baskets to the ENTIRE congregation, or choose individuals where the first basket is \$15 and additional ones are \$10 each.

Look for an eblast with K.I. members' names for you to circle. If you are going to be a *Purim* Patron, just send your check for \$216 to the synagogue and notate *Purim* Patron in the memo line (**You do not need to circle names as a *Purim* Patron.**) **Deadline is March 1.**

We thank you so much for participating in this project and sending K.I.'s *Mishloach Manot* baskets for *Purim* this year.

With good wishes for a Happy *Purim*,
The *Mishloach Manot* Committee

IN MEMORIAM

May the G-d of Mercy sustain and comfort those who have suffered the loss of dear ones. The Kehilath Israel family extends deepest sympathy to our bereaved families of:

DOROTHY MAUPIN

(Mother of Ruth Levine)

PHILLIP GOODBINDER

(Husband of Barbara Goodbinder)

Father of Deborah Goodbinder, Aaron Goodbinder,
Brother of Charles Goodbinder, Charlene Goodbinder)



Allan Greenberg Memorial K.I. Synagogue Golf Tournament

SAVE THE DATE
Monday, June 10
8 am Shotgun Start

17501 Midland Drive Shawnee, KS 66217

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES



- 5 Barbie & Richard Glass (58)
- 14 Biana & James Clark (11)
- 19 Anzhelika & Anatoly Khalemsky (30)
- 24 Nancy & Jeffrey Shniderman (39)
- 26 Mary Jane & Reuben Stern (56)
- 28 Cristi & Clint Gillom (22)

CONGREGANTS' FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

We want to wish a Happy Birthday to all of the following congregants who are celebrating birthdays:

 Fani Schifman, Audrey Brand, Karen Lesky, Shirley Peneer, Rosemary Gorin, Hillary Hirshberg, William Schifman, Bonita Krutz, Melissa Rosenthal, Kayla Goldenberg, Eleanor Belingloph, Sharon Levin, Beverly Mallin, Yale Winston, Esti Mandl, Erin Schwartz, Svetlana Kapustin, Alan Fuchsman, Charlene Rubin, Ronald Bronstein, Gena Agron, Stella Hoffman, Bridey Stangler, Sally Cohen, Sharon Levitan, Barbara Molotsky, Sharon Noorollah, Frank Tankard, William Greenberg, Abbott Zolotor, Martin Gorin, Vlad Kaufman, Rochelle Solomon, Jason Smartt, Karen Gortenburg, Civia White, Valerie Bordy, Hailey Gershom, Maurice Eastman, Adam Rich, Charles Kuluva, Jacob Margolies, Jacob Abrams

FEBRUARY YOUTH BIRTHDAYS

Matan Pader, Farrah Kass, Samara Krupnik, Chloe Stone, Eitan Silver, Moshe Cohavi.

תודה רבה

...to our office volunteers who assist in so many ways: **Jake Schulzinger, Eunice Snitz and Amy Stoltz.**

...to **Max Jevinsky** for taking the *Focal Point* to the main KC, MO post office each month, so that you can receive a print version.

...to **Brenda Fishman, Maureen Minoofar, Phyllis and Maury Kohn, Rachel Lubowicz, Ileen Neufeld, Katie Rosenbaum, Janet Stone** for fixing the *Shabbat Kiddushim*.

רפואה שלמה

The congregation expresses sincere wishes for a speedy recovery to **Craig Caplan, Rebecca Speier** and to all other members of the congregation and community who have been ill or hospitalized.

מזל טוב



Jude Guffy

...to **Miriam Guffy-Mandl and Ian Guffy** on the birth of a son, Jude Guffy. Also to the grandparents, **Barbara and Rabbi Herbert Mandl.**

...to **Hillary and Sean Hirshberg** on the birth of a daughter, Avery Rae Hirshberg. Also to the grandparents, **Susan and Dr. Sam Gutovitz.**

...to **Shira Levine and Michael Block** on the birth of a daughter, Noa Arielle Block. Also to the grandparents, **Toby and David Levine.**

THE FOCAL POINT OF KEHILATH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE

913.642.1880 FAX: 913.642.7332

RABBI MOSHE GRUSSGOTT
Senior Rabbi

CANTOR ARON HAYOUN
Hazzan

RABBI HERBERT J. MANDL, PH.D.
Rabbi Emeritus

ELIZABETH PEDEN
Executive Director

SHELLEY RISSIEN
Director, K.I. Fred Devinki Religious School

BRIDEY STANGLER
Program Director

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JOE ADAMOUS, President

SAM DEVINKI,
Honorary President for Life

The Focal Point (U.S.P.S. 292-040) is published monthly except the June/July issue by The Kehilath Israel Synagogue, 10501 Conser St., Shawnee Mission, KS 66212-2643. Periodical postage paid at Kansas City, MO
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Focal Point, c/o Kehilath Israel Synagogue, 10501 Conser St., S.M. KS 66212-2643

ESRIG-GOULD MEMORIAL ALCOVE

With Reverence We Record the Following Yahrzeits

MEMORIAL TABLETS

22 SHEVAT-FEB 1

SAMUEL EPSTEIN
SAMUEL FRANKLIN
J. LOUIS GLASBERG
BRIAN KRAFT
LILLIAN KRAITCHMAN
MORRIS TITENSKY
TEMMA TRANIN

23 SHEVAT-FEB 2

EFRAIM ADAMOUS
SYLVIA BRATMAN
BARRY EISMAN
EMANUEL ENTIN
GRACE GOLDBERG
HAZEL HERMAN
IRMA JACOBSON
GLORIA PLANZER

24 SHEVAT-FEB 3

ISSIE CAVIAR
NADELIN EILER
GILBERT FEDER
MILTON FRIEDMAN
ESTHER JABEN
MARY LEVINE
LAWRENCE LEVINSON
LUDWIG RUSCHIN
LEIB ZEMELMAN
YEHUDA ZUCKERMAN

25 SHEVAT-FEB 4

HERSH GORIN
SAM KRUTE
MAX LEVIN
LEIBUSH LEWKOWITZ
MEYER OXMAN
JACOB RUDNICK
ABBOTT SHER

26 SHEVAT-FEB 5

ARTHUR BLACKMAN
NATHAN CAPITO
JACOB CONE
MALKA DWORIN
ANN FEDERRMAN
SARAH KAPLAN
MARGARET KRASHIN
ELINORE KUTLER
EUGENE LEVINE
ELIEZER WANG

27 SHEVAT-FEB 6

DORIS BASSIN
SAM BEISER
HENRY DWORK
MAX GELPHMAN
ROSE GOLDSTEIN
DAVID GREENSTEIN
ERNA HUEBNER
ESTHER KAHN
MILTON POLLMAN
ELMER PRICE
JOSEPH WEINSTOCK
MARCUS WEISBERGER

28 SHEVAT-FEB 7

EARL CONE
ERNEST HOROWITZ
EUNICE RUBEN

29 SHEVAT-FEB 8

LILLIAN BULAVSKY
CHARLOTTE GLASS
AMALIE KORNFEIN
SIMCHA LAZERWITZ
MORRIS STERN

30 SHEVAT-FEB 9

CELIA AARON
MICHAEL AARON
ELIZABETH FRANK
ISSACHAR GUROVITZ
ROSE JERWICK
HIMIE KAPLAN
HELEN KATZ
MEYER KOCHEROV
ABRAHAM LEVINE
CHARLES POLLACK
WAYNE ROTHBERG
BESSIE RUBEN
ABRAHAM SPECTOR

1 ADAR I-FEB 10

MAX FLEITMAN
SARAH GORDON
CHAVA GUROVITZ
ADOLPH KOCH
RAISEL LADINSKY
WILLIAM MILLER
SAM MOGEL
IDA SEBERT
MANYA SLOTKIN
RACHEL WEINER
SOLOMON WISMAN

2 ADAR I-FEB 11

BERTHA ABEND
MOSES BECKENSTEIN
JOSEPH GOLDMAN
HARRY JACOBSON
PHILLIP KATZ
SAUL KLEIMAN
LOUIS MALLIN
ELIC MENDELSON
JEROME NERMAN
OSCAR RUBIN
ROSE SHRON
ANN WEINBERG

3 ADAR I-FEB 12

ANNA GERTLER
BELLE GLASS
ESTER JEVINSKY
AHRON KRAITCHMAN
ANN YEDDIS

4 ADAR I-FEB 13

ROSE AARON
JOE ADELMAN
BLANCHE BLUMENTHAL
ROSE FILSON
LEIB FISHMAN
BENJAMIN HARRIS
BEILA JABEN
MAX MOLOTSKY
SOPHIE PRESS
MARTIN SPITCAUFSKY

5 ADAR I-FEB 14

LINDA DORFMAN
MORRIS EISEN

ABRAHAM EISSMAN
HARRY KAPLAN
NATHAN MAISSELL
LEONARD ROSEN
BERTHA RUBIN
IRMA SCHILD

6 ADAR I-FEB 15

BENJAMIN BAKER
JOSEPH BERNSTEIN
FREDA BODKER
JULIUS GUCKENHEIMER
FANNIE PELTZMAN
PHILIP SPECTOR
JACK WEINBERG

7 ADAR I-FEB 16

GERTRUDE BURSTEN
PESACH COHEN
BARNEY FRIEDSON
MOLLIE GANDAL
ABRAHAM GUTOVITZ
BENNIE KUSNETZKY
EDITH MANN
PAUL MANN
SARAH MILOVITZ
YEHUDAH MNOOKIN
GUS SNITZ
FANNY SOLTZ
ISADOR TENENBAUM
MEYER WINEGAR

8 ADAR I-FEB 17

HYMAN GLASSMAN
LOUIS KRASNOY
EDNA KUSHNER
GERALD MACK
DAVIDA MARKOWITZ
ROSE MORGAN
PHILIP SLOBOSKY
WILLIAM TIGERMAN

9 ADAR I-FEB 18

SHERMAN BERNSTEIN
MARTHA LEVI
SAMUEL PREVAN
ZVIYAH SILVER
MOLLIE SINGMON
PHILLIP SOLSKY
ALEX WACKNOV
ZLATA ZENITSKY

10 ADAR I-FEB 19

SAM CAPLAN
ESTHER COHEN
BENJAMIN DELEVE
KATIE FEINGOLD
PEARL FOX
ABRAHAM GALLAS
MEYER GILGUS
SARAH GORTENBURG
HENRIETTA JACOBSON
JACOB LANSKY
JOSEPH PRICE
ROSE SCHAFFER
REBECCA TRANIN
YOSEF YEDDIS

11 ADAR I-FEB 20

ELINOR FRIEDMAN
BASIA GORIN
IZZY HAMMER
DORA KAHN
RACHEL SHEFFEL

12 ADAR I-FEB 21

ISSY BERMAN
MEYER FEDER
BETTY SOLOMON
EARL TRILINSKY
MORRIS YEDDIS

13 ADAR I-FEB 22

BETTY GLASS
ISRAEL GOTTLIEB
MIRIAM GOTTLIEB
RIFKA GOTTLIEB
SARA GOTTLIEB
MAX GREEN
LEAH KALISH
SADIE WACKNOV

14 ADAR I-FEB 23

SAMUEL GLADSTONE
SAMUEL GREENBERG
SAM INDYK
SOL KATZ
IKE RUBEN
HARRY SAGER
LEVI SINGMON

15 ADAR I-FEB 24

SAM GUDINSKY
RAYLA LESKI
SIMCHA LESKI
MARY MARGOLIS
BETTY MASLAN
CARL MYERS
ROSE ROVEN
DORA SANDLER
JEANNE SUBERS

16 ADAR I-FEB 25

PEARLE COHN
JUDITH COOPER
JOSEPH ESRIG
SANDRA GOLDSTEIN
ESTHER GREENSTEIN
ITA LICHTOR
WILLIAM LIPKIN
KIVA MAGADY
CELIA SCHIFMAN
SANDRA WEISBERGER

17 ADAR I-FEB 26

EMMA CHERNOFF
JACOB COHN
MOLLY MEYERS
SYLVIA SPECTOR

18 ADAR I-FEB 27

LENA COHN
HARRIS GOLDIN
BETTY KOOK
ROSE LINDMAN
SOLY MIZRAHI
MINNIE SALWINSKY
DAVID SHAPIRO
SARAH TENENBAUM

19 ADAR I-FEB 28

MOSHE CUKROWSKI
NATHAN DUNN
DAVID FRANK
FISHEL JABEN
LOTTE KOESTEN
HINDA LEWKOWITZ
MAX PITLUCK
DAVID STEINBERG
JEAN TAXMAN

20 ADAR I-FEB 29

NATHAN JACOBSON
JOSEPH JACOB KRUG
SOLOMON LEVIN
NATHAN MATTERS
NELLIE MLLSTEIN
ELIZABETH PFEFER



We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions...

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Marvin & Sandra Romer

February 2024

22 Shevat 5784 - 20 Adar I 5784

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
					5:23	Yisro Isaiah 6:1-7:6, 9:5-6 Shabbos Ends: 6:16 KI KIDZ-10:00 am Rabbi Grussgott's Class-4:15 pm
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Religious School - 9:15-11:30 am	Rabbi Mandl's Talmud Class - 7:00 pm		Religious School - 4:30-5:45 pm Women's Study Class - 7:00 pm	K.L. Board Meeting - 6:30 pm	Rosh Chodesh Adar I - Day 1 Mishpatim Isaiah 66:1-24 Shabbos Ends: 6:24 NinJews - 10:00 am Women's Circle-10:00 am Rabbi Grussgott's Class-4:20 pm	Rosh Chodesh Adar I - Day 2 Mishpatim Isaiah 66:1-24 Shabbos Ends: 6:24 NinJews - 10:00 am Women's Circle-10:00 am Rabbi Grussgott's Class-4:20 pm
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Religious School - 9:15-11:30 am	Lincoln's Birthday Rabbi Mandl's Talmud Class - 7:00 pm		Religious School - 4:30-5:45 pm		5:39	Terumah Kings 5:26-6:13 Shabbos Ends: 6:31 M and M-10:00 am Chai Anniversary Kiddush Rabbi Grussgott's Class-4:30 pm
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Religious School - 9:15-11:30 am	Washington's Birthday (observed) Rabbi Mandl's Talmud Class - 7:00 pm		Religious School - 4:30-5:45 pm Women's Study Class - 7:00 pm		Purim Katan 5:47	Tetzaveh Ezekiel 43:10-27 Shabbos Ends: 6:39 NinJews - 10:00 am Rabbi Grussgott's Class-4:40 pm
25	26	27	28	29		
Religious School - 9:15-11:30 am	Rabbi Mandl's Talmud Class - 7:00 pm		Religious School - 4:30-5:45 pm			



**The Focal Point of
Kehilath Israel Synagogue
10501 Conser
Overland Park, KS 66212
913.642.1880
FAX 913.642.7332
kisyn.org**

Periodical Postage Paid at Kansas City, MO

**WEEKLY SERVICES
ROSE MORGAN CHAPEL**

Sunday Shacharit 9:00 AM

Monday-Friday Shacharit 7:00 AM

**Sunday-Thursday
Mincha and Maariv**

February 1 5:25 PM

Week of February 4 5:35 PM

Week of February 11 5:45 PM

Week of February 18 5:50 PM

Week of February 25 5:55 PM

ROSH CHODESH ADAR I

Friday, February 9

Saturday, February 10



A Kitchen Shower for K.I.

After 38 years: Both the dairy and meat kitchens are in need of new cookware, serving pieces and utensils.

Join us in creating a better experience in the kitchen!
You can help by buying a gift for the K.I. kitchen.



Links are at kisyn.org: Go to the K.I. website to see the items that are needed to continue to provide kosher kitchens for the congregation and the community. We encourage members to go online to kisyn.org and shop for specific items. However, if you prefer, you are welcome to donate money to K.I. so the committee can purchase items that have not been selected.

Shop now, view later! We hope to receive the items at the synagogue in March to display for the Kitchen Shower. All who donate will be invited. At that time everyone will get to see all the new kitchen accoutrements and celebrate.

Join us to celebrate: March 10, 2024, in Kehilath Israel's social hall.

Refreshments will be served.

Invitations will be sent to those who contribute.

We look forward to celebrating with you!

The K.I. Kitchen Shower Committee--

Brenda Fishman and Ellen Portnoy, Co-chairs

Pete Cabell

Jasmine Kaplan

Maureen Minoofar

Jay Portnoy

**LINKS TO ITEMS ON OUR WISHLIST
ARE AT KISYN.ORG**