

# KESHER ZION SYNAGOGUE

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF KESHER ZION

## JANUARY 2025



Tevet  
The 10th Month

טבת

### KESHER ZION MISSION

We are a Conservative synagogue serving Berks County, Pennsylvania since 1929. Keshet Zion is proud of our history as a kind, welcoming community, eager to share our love of Judaism throughout our area. We are affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. We strive to bring a love of prayer, halakhah, and learning through our Shabbat & holiday services and adult & youth education programs. With knowledgeable clergy, lay leaders, and staff, our congregation shares our joys and sorrows through life cycle events, services and other special activities. Our congregation warmly welcomes Jewish and interfaith families, couples and singles into our community. We are egalitarian in all aspects. Together we strive to connect with our local Jewish community and those living in Israel.

### JANUARY EVENTS

JAN 11  
BIRTHDAY-  
ANNIVERSARY  
SHABBAT  
9:30AM

JAN 16  
MINYAN  
7:30PM

JAN 17  
KABBALAT  
SHABBAT  
6:30PM

JAN 18  
FAMILY SHABBAT  
PARENTS AND  
CHILDREN PLEASE  
COME AT 10:00AM

### THIS ISSUE:

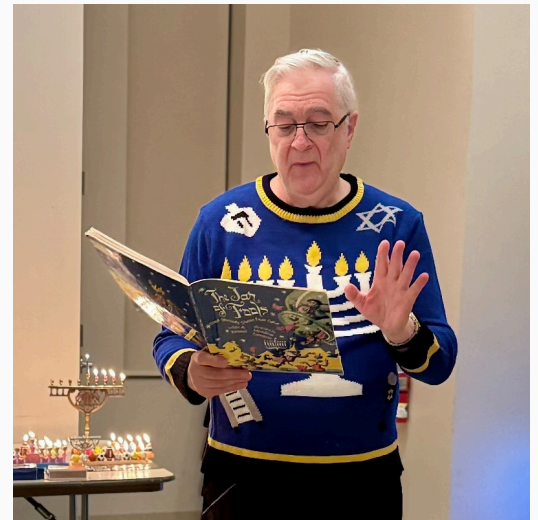
CANTOR'S MESSAGE  
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MESSAGE FROM  
OUR PRESIDENT  
PAGE 4

A LITTLE LAUGHTER  
PAGE 8

LOOKING FOR A FEW  
YIDDISHE MAMAS  
AND PAPAS TO  
OCCASIONALLY HELP  
MAKE SHABBAT  
KIDDISHES DELICIOUS  
AND NUTRITIOUS

CONTACT SUSAN IN  
THE OFFICE FOR  
MORE INFORMATION



**CANTOR  
PROSNITZ**

## MIRACLE OF REDEDICATION

Uniquely among the Jewish holidays, Hanukkah stretches from one month into another, from Kislev to Tevet. The successful Maccabean revolt enabled the Jews to practice their religion again and rededicate their sacred spaces, particularly the Temple in Jerusalem.

Shiviti Adoshem L'negdi Tamid / I keep the Lord in mind always (Ps. 16:8). Similarly, Jerusalem is always on my mind. This month, on the 10th of January, the beginning of the siege of Jerusalem that resulted in the destruction of the Temple is specifically recalled. From one of the Selichot /penitential prayers said on that day: "In the month of Tevet I was stricken sorely. The world changed its course..." In a time of change we can pray, as in another of the selichot, hazkenu b'yiratecha / strengthen us in reverence of You.

In Israel, the 10th of Tevet (which coincidentally is also the 10th of January) has been designated as a "general kaddish day" (yom hakaddish ha'klalli). Victims of the Holocaust and other people whose date and place of death are unknown may be remembered by relatives and mourners. How best to honor our dearly departed? Study our heritage, practice tzedakah-meaning charity and righteousness, and by doing good deeds in their memory.

Tevet/January also holds hidden possibilities. This is the month in which Esther, of Purim fame, was brought to the king's palace. With the renewal of each year, month, and day, we face the challenge and opportunity to be thankful for and make the best use of the gifts that we have been given.



**A DONATION WAS MADE  
TO KZ  
IN HONOR OF ADAM  
LEISAWITZ READING  
TORAH  
BY  
DEBBIE & DAVID  
GOLDBERG**

**A DONATION WAS MADE  
TO THE TORAH FUND  
WISHING A SPEEDY  
RECOVERY TO MAREITTE  
JACOBSON  
BY SYLVIA WENGER**

**A DONATION WAS  
MADE TO KZ WISHING  
DORIS LEISAWITZ A  
SPEEDY RECOVERY  
BY SUE WILSON**





**Happy Chanukah. The light is shining bright at KZ. We have had many exciting events in the past month and many going forward. Our Friday Night Service in December drew a crowd of 22 people including families and their children.**

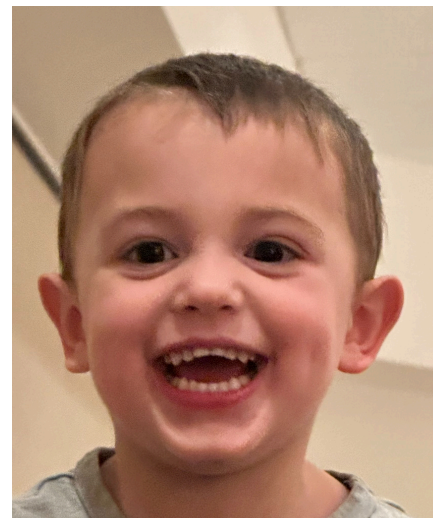
**Another successful Junior congregation was held in December with 11 children attending. Our next Junior Congregation service will be held on January 18th with our children and parents leading the service in the main sanctuary. Please come and support our young families and their children.**

## LARRY FOGELMAN

**Our Chanukah party was very successful with 40 people attending. Everyone brought menorahs and the candles were lit. (See photos on the next few pages) Prizes were given out and we all enjoyed latkes and donuts. Thank you to the Mintz's for the latkes. Special thanks to Sue Weiss for all of her help in preparing for the party and to the Flamholz family for providing prizes. Thank you to Lou Wertman for help during the Chanukah party. Lou is a student at Kutztown University who has been attending services at KZ regularly. Lou will also be leading our junior congregation going forward. Thank you to the Cantor for providing support throughout the month of December and to everyone who attended.**

**All in all 2024 has been a very successful year here at KZ. If you would like a program we are not providing, please contact the Cantor or myself. We look forward to a very successful 2025 with many programs and a few new ones.**

Larry







# CHANUKAH AT THE HIGHLANDS



PEOPLE GATHERED AT THE HIGHLANDS ON THE FIRST NIGHT OF CHANUKAH. TOGETHER WITH CANTOR PROSNITZ, THE HANUKKIAH WAS LIT, THE STORY AND MEANING OF THE HOLIDAY WAS SHARED, AND SONGS WERE SUNG. DREIDELS AND CHANUKAH GELT FOR EVERYONE!



# SOMETHING NEW BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY SHABBAT

Some special Keshet Zion members were honored at Shabbat services on December 14. Those who celebrated a birthday or anniversary during December were invited to come up for an Aliyah, a Peticha, lead an English reading, or accept some other honor.

Cantor Prosnitz will be reaching out to members who will celebrate birthdays and anniversaries in January to invite them to receive an honor at Shabbat services on January 11.



## THE RETURN OF FRIDAY NIGHT SHABBAT SERVICES



In December, Keshet Zion brought back its Friday night worship service including Kabbalat Shabbat. Members of Keshet Zion Z'marim (our choir) were present and helped lead the congregation in song and prayer. Many people came, and all felt a special ruach. A delightful oneg followed the service. We plan to continue gathering like this on the 3rd Friday of each month.

Some people prefer attending services Friday night, some prefer attending services Saturday morning (some attend both!) May you make your Shabbat observance an opportunity to *שבת וינפש* shavat vayinafash/ rest and refresh (Ex31;17.)

Our next Friday night service will welcome Shabbat on January 17th at 6:30pm



# FEEDING THE HUNGRY

KESHER ZION SYNAGOGUE HAS VOLUNTEERED ON CHRISTMAS DAY AT THE KENNEDY HOUSE SOUP KITCHEN IN READING FOR MANY MANY YEARS. THIS YEAR WE SERVED 80 INDIVIDUALS WITH A LUNCH. PARTICIPANTS VOLUNTEERING THIS YEAR WERE CAROLE ROBINSON, JUDY SCHWANK, THE FOGELMAN FAMILY, ZACK RICKETTS, MYRON KABAKOFF AND CINDY GERBER TOMLINSON.

THANK YOU TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS.



# Youth Events

## Synagogue Skills & Chinuch

**Ages 8-10 Meets Thursdays from 3:30 PM-  
4:30 PM**

**2 classes per month, approximately**

**1/2, 1/16, 1/30**

**Ages 11-13 Meets Tuesdays from 3:30 PM-  
4:30 PM  
weekly**



**FAMILY SHABBAT  
JANUARY 18**



## Junior Congregation

Held once a month, usually the 3rd Shabbat

(Sticker Board for attendance)

**UPCOMING JR. CONGREGATION**

**January 18th - Family Service**

**February 15th**

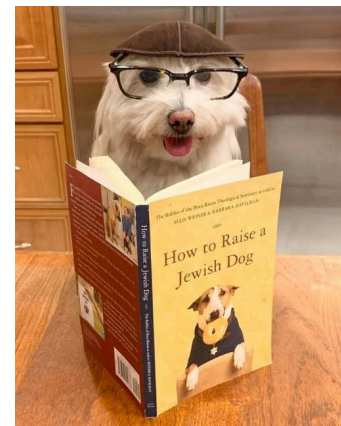
**March 15th**

**April 19th**

**May 17th**



# A LITTLE LAUGHTER



A guy gets a new dog, a nice Jewish dog. So he calls him Irving. Now he can't wait to show him off to his neighbor. So, a couple of weeks later when the neighbor finally comes over, the guy calls Irving into the house, bragging about how smart he is. The dog quickly comes running and stands looking up at his master, tail wagging excitedly, mouth open, tongue hanging out, eyes bright with anticipation.

The guy points to the newspaper on the couch and commands "Fetch!" Immediately, the dog climbs on to the couch and sits, his tail wagging furiously. Then all of a sudden, he stops. His doggie smile disappears. He starts to frown and puts on a sour face. Looking up at his master, he whines, "You think this is easy, wagging my tail all the time? Oy vey... This constant wagging of the tail puts me in such pain, you should only know! And you think it's easy eating that dreck you call designer dog food. Forget it...it's too salty and it gives me gas. And also the runs, but what do you care? Why don't you try it if you think it's so good? You try it.

Dreck I say! Then you push me out the door to take care of my business, twice a day. It's disgusting I tell you! And when was the last time you took me for a nice long walk? Must be over a year ago!"

The neighbor is absolutely amazed... stunned. In astonishment, he says, "I can't believe it. Irving can speak. Your dog actually talks. You asked him to fetch the newspaper and he is sitting on the sofa talking to us." "I know, I know." says the dog owner. "He's not yet fully trained yet. He thought I said, 'Kvetch'."

**Jewish man and a Chinese man are in a bar.**

**Suddenly, the Jewish man Punches the Chinese man in the face.**

**"Ow! Why did you do that?" asks he Chinese man.**

**"That's for Pearl Harbor," says the Jewish man.**

**"But the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor.**

**I'm Chinese!" says the Chinese man.**

**"Chinese, Japanese, what's the difference?"**

**asks the Jewish man.**

**So the Chinese man punches the Jewish man.**

**"Ow! What's that for?" asks the Jewish man.**

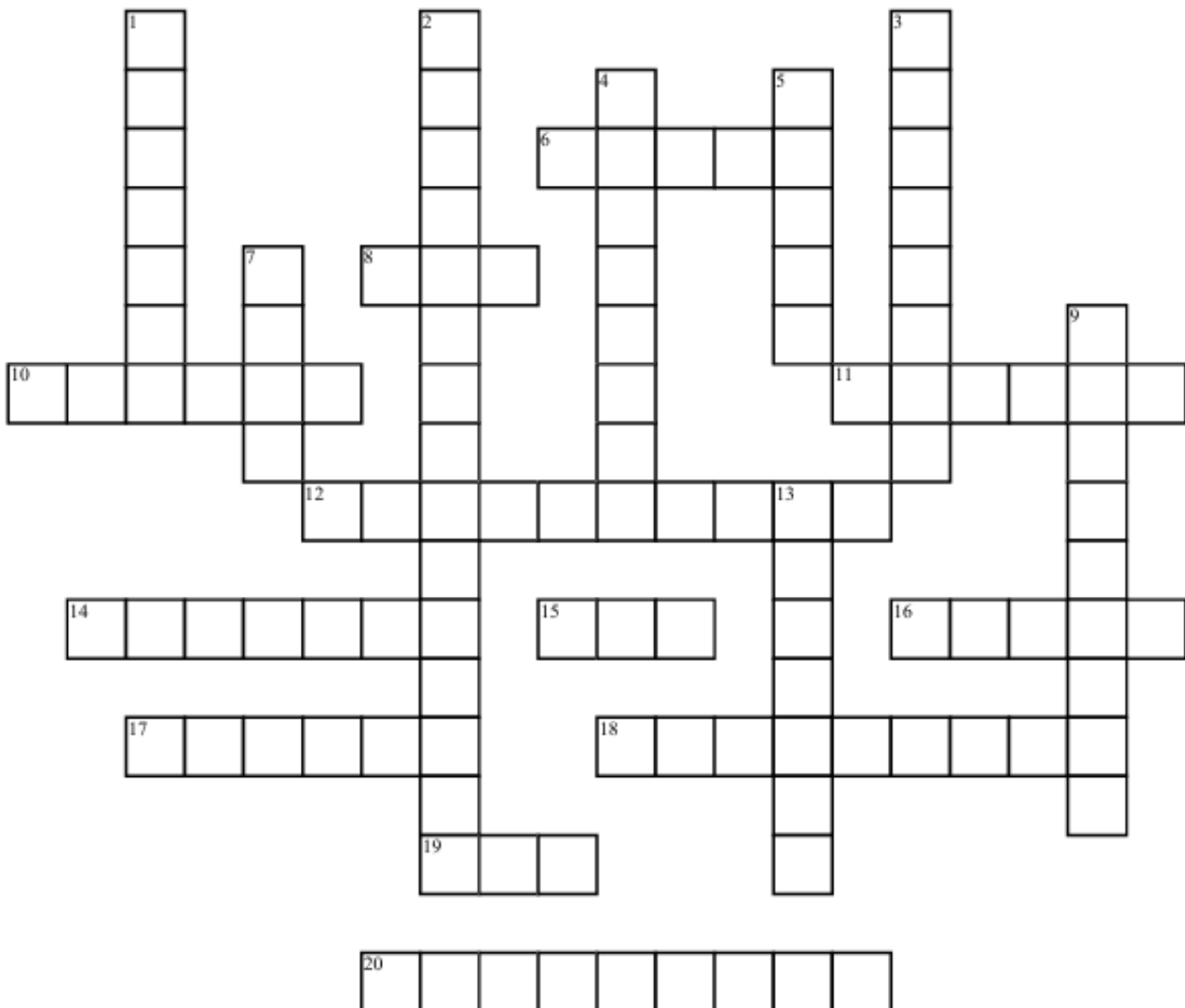
**"It's for the Titanic," says the Chinese man.**

**"What? That was an iceberg that brought down the Titanic!" says the Jewish man.**

**"Iceberg, Goldberg, what's the difference?"**



# JEWISH CROSSWORD PUZZLE



## ACROSS

- 6. What would you call a Jewish scholar or teacher?
- 8. What do Jews worship?
- 10. Building of worship
- 11. If someone was a good person, where would they go when they die?
- 12. What is it called when you believe in one god?
- 14. What is the monotheistic religion of the Jewish people called?
- 15. What would you call a member of one of the first religions to believe in only one god?

- 16. First five books of Hebrew scriptures
- 17. What area was known as 'Promise Land' for the Israelites?
- 18. Building for Jewish assembly or congregation meets for religious worship and instruction?
- 19. When you've done something immoral
- 20. What do you call a member of the ancient Hebrew nation?

## DOWN

- 1. Who is the Hebrew patriarch who started the Jewish people's descent?

- 2. What did Moses carry down Mount Sinai?
- 3. Which holiday commemorates Moses saving Israelites from Egyptian slavery?
- 4. Which Jewish festival lasts eight days?
- 5. What is referred to as "The Old Book of Jewish Fairy Tales"?
- 7. If someone was a bad person, where would they go when they die?
- 9. What is the holy city of the Jews called?
- 13. Which Jewish holiday sets a day aside for rest and worship?



## TORAH FUND 2024-2025



### Am Yisroel Chai

If you can translate this title (The People of Israel Live) you can thank a Hebrew school teacher, rabbi or lay leader.

I know we have been asked to donate to Israel in her hour of great need since the horrific attack by Hamas on October 7, 2023. We have seen protests world-wide against the state of Israel. And most unfortunately, some of our own Jewish people have rallied against Israel. Why? They are ignorant of history and the true struggles of the Jewish people. The Torah Fund of Conservative Judaism is also asking for your financial donations to help educate our future Jewish teachers and clergy. We must insure that future generations learn our history in order to work for Israel's survival!

“Am Yisroel Chai” is an expression of Jewish solidarity for the Jewish nation and the continuity of the Jewish people.

All contributions to the Torah Fund are welcome; a special donation of \$180 will be thanked with a pin saying, “Am Yisroel Chai”. Please include a Torah Fund donation with your Keshet Zion dues payment.

Remember Torah Fund all year with the purchase of cards for all occasions: Simchas, births, condolences and congratulation. The cost of a card is only \$5 and this includes the postage and mailing.

Call Arlene Ehrlich: 610-373-6648

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Keshher Zion Synagogue



Affiliated with the United Synagogue  
of Conservative Judaism

Cantor Ted Prosnitz.....Clergy  
Larry Fogelman.....President  
Susan Weiss.....Editor

Call the office for advertising  
information.

The deadline for submissions  
of articles for the  
Feb. Bulletin is Wednesday,  
Jan. 22, 2025

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Office hours:  
Mon-Wed-Fri  
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To advertise your business or services

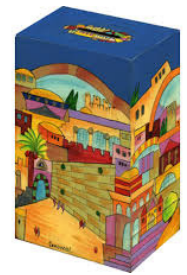
Contact KZ Office : 610-374-1763

Email: [keshherzionoffice@gmail.com](mailto:keshherzionoffice@gmail.com)



# Tzedakah

## צדקה



**CONTRIBUTE TO THE WEEKLY SHABBAT KIDDUSH FUND AND YOUR NAME WILL BE LISTED IN THE SHABBAT BULLETIN. THERE WILL ALSO BE A FRAMED ACKNOWLEDGMENT AT THE KIDDUSH IN THE SOCIAL HALL**

**KESHER ZION GENERAL FUND.....\$10 MIN  
DR. ROBERT N. GREENBERG SCHOLAR-IN-  
RESIDENCE PROGRAM FUND.....\$18 MIN  
KIDDUSH FUND.....\$36**

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO SUPPORT OUR SYNAGOGUE ARE DEEPLY APPRECIATED. WHENEVER YOU WISH TO REMEMBER FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES, IN JOY OR IN SORROW, PLEASE THINK OF THE FOLLOWING FUNDS. AN APPROPRIATE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT IS SENT. MAKE YOUR CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE APPROPRIATE FUND AND SEND/BRING TO; KESHER ZION SYNAGOGUE  
555 WARWICK DRIVE  
WYOMISSING, PA 19610**

**YARZEIT FUND EACH WEEK, KZ SENDS OUT REMINDER CARDS CONCERNING THE YAHRZEITS OF OUR BELOVED DEPARTED FAMILY MEMBERS AND ACCEPTS DONATIONS IN THEIR MEMORY.**

**ALL DONATIONS ARE ANNOUNCED AT SHABBAT SERVICES. SOME MEMBERS FIND IT CONVENIENT TO PAY FOR ALL OF THEIR YAHRZEITS( \$5 MINIMUM PER NAME) AT ONE TIME, ONLY ONCE PER YEAR. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS CONVENIENT WAY TO REMEMBER LOVED ONES AND TO DONATE TO KZ.....**

### **TORAH FUND**

**Cards available for all occasions. Funds are used to support the Jewish Theological Seminaries Programs and Scholarship Funds. Call Arlene Ehrlich at (610) 373-6648 to have cards sent for \$5 each.**

**SIMCHA FUND Cards available for all occasions call Sylvia Wenger at (610) 375-3422 to have cards sent for \$1.50 each or for purchase for personal use for \$1 each**