

KESHER ZION SYNAGOGUE

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF KESHER ZION



MARCH 2025

5785 ADAR

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.

MARCH EVENTS

MARCH 6
MINYAN
7PM

MARCH 8
**BIRTHDAY-
ANNIVERSARY**
SHABBAT
9:30AM

MEGILLAH READING
THU, MARCH 13
6:00PM



MARCH 15
JR.
CONGREGATION
10:30AM

MARCH 20
MINYAN
7PM

MARCH 21
KABBALAT
SHABBAT
6:30PM

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THE OFFICE WILL BE
UNATTENDED FROM
2/27-3/17
FOR URGENT MATTERS
PLEASE CALL
LARRY AT
610-507-5281
OR
CANTOR PROSNITZ AT
201-321-3030

CANTOR PROSNITZ



THIS YEAR, EXTRA JOY!



מִשְׂנֵכָנִס אֶדָר מֵרַבִּין בְּשִׂמְחָה

When (the month of) Adar enters, our joy increases (Taanit 29a).

Why does our joy increase? Because in this month we celebrate Purim, perhaps the happiest holiday in the Jewish calendar. The story of Purim is told in the Book of Esther, one of the Five Scrolls/Megillot. A silly king, manipulated by a wicked man, authorized the wholesale destruction of people they considered aliens. But Esther and Mordecai helped save the Jews. On the 13th of Adar, the date when all the Jews were supposed to be attacked, the Jews fought for their survival and defeated the Jew-haters and evil-minded minions. The next day, on the 14th of Adar, they thanked God and celebrated; that day is now named, Purim.

But a second day of fighting continued on the 14th in walled cities-like the city of Shushan. This second day became celebrated as Shushan Purim in walled cities or cities that once had walls. Neither Purim nor Shushan Purim is ever observed on Shabbat.



This year, a very rare thing happens with the timing of the Hebrew calendar. Purim falls on Friday, March 14. That makes Shushan Purim, the next day, fall on Shabbat. Because Shabbat takes precedence, some of the customs ordained in the Bible (Megillat Esther is one of the Writings/Ketuvim, which together with the Prophets/Nevi'im and the Five Books of Moses/Torah comprise the Hebrew Bible/Tanach) are put off to the next day. This third day is called Purim Meshulash. So, this year in Jerusalem, a walled city, Purim will be celebrated for three days!

How rare is this? The next time this will happen will be in twenty years, in 2045!

The mitzvot of Purim are:

1. Hear the Megillah
 2. Have a festive meal
 3. Send gifts of (of food)/Mishloach Manot to friends
 4. Give to the poor/Matanos L'evyonim
- Chag Purim Sameach! Happy Purim!





PRESIDENT

LARRY FOGELMAN

Let me tell you about the past few weeks in the Fogelman household. A visit to Lincoln Financial Field to see the Eagles defeat Green Bay! Basketball games for the grandkids. Flu hit a few of them and yes, Connor and I were the only ones who could go to the Super Bowl Parade. Memories that we will both cherish. Just ask Connor about Dunkin Donuts and the all the people around us. It was a great day.

Speaking of memories thanks to all the people who responded with Hebrew school teacher names. That would be all 5 of you. LOL

Coming up this month we will continue with our birthday/anniversary celebrations on March 8. We will celebrate Purim on Thursday the 13th and Junior Congregation will be held on March 15. Our Friday night service will be on March 21. And Minyan will be on March 6 and 20.

Hope to see you at one of our many events.

Larry



March

**MARCH 5
MINYAN
7PM**



**MARCH 15
JR. CONGREGATION
10:30AM**



**MARCH 8
BIRTHDAY
ANNIVERSARY
SHABBAT
9:30AM**



**MARCH 20
MINYAN
7PM**



**MARCH 13
PURIM
SERVICE AND
MEGILLAH
READING
6:00PM**



**MARCH 21
KABBALAT
SHABBAT
6:30PM**





Purim Time

AT KESHER ZION SYNAGOGUE

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED
TO HEAR

THE GANTZE MEGILLAH

(in the shortest amount of time)

COME SHAKE YOUR GROGGER TO THE EVIL HAMAN'S NAME

THURSDAY MARCH 13TH
@ 6PM

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

**Please join us for Kabbalat Shabbat on
FRIDAY MARCH 21st, 2025 at
6:30PM**



DESSERT TO FOLLOW

**For more information please contact
KESHERZIONOFFICE@GMAIL.COM
(610) 374-1763**

KESHER ZION

Youth Events

Synagogue Skills & Chinuch

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

2 classes per month, approximately

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



Junior Congregation

Held once a month, usually the 3rd Shabbat

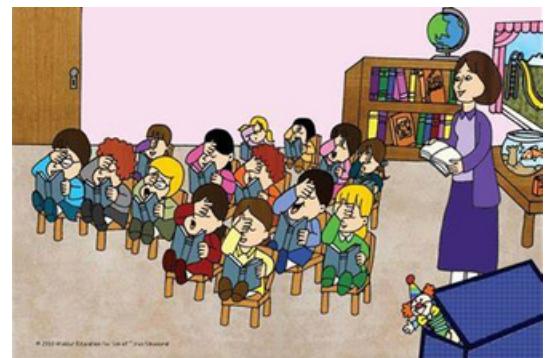
(Sticker Board for attendance)

UPCOMING JR. CONGREGATION

March 15th

April 19th

May 17th





A LITTLE LAUGHTER



THE RESTAURANT ON THE OTHER SIDE OF CHELM

A young, single man, having no family, often ate at a restaurant in the center of the city of Chelm. He knew the owner Moishe and he ate there regularly. The only other restaurant in Chelm, Chaim's, was located directly across the street from Moishe's.

One day, the young man went to eat at Chaim's and when Moishe saw what happened, he was totally distraught. He said, "how can you not eat at my place? Are we not like family?" The young man replied that indeed they were. Moishe asked, "Isn't my food good?" The young man replied that the food was delicious and that the portions were exceedingly generous. Moishe then asked, "so why did you go eat at Chaim's restaurant on the other side of the street?"

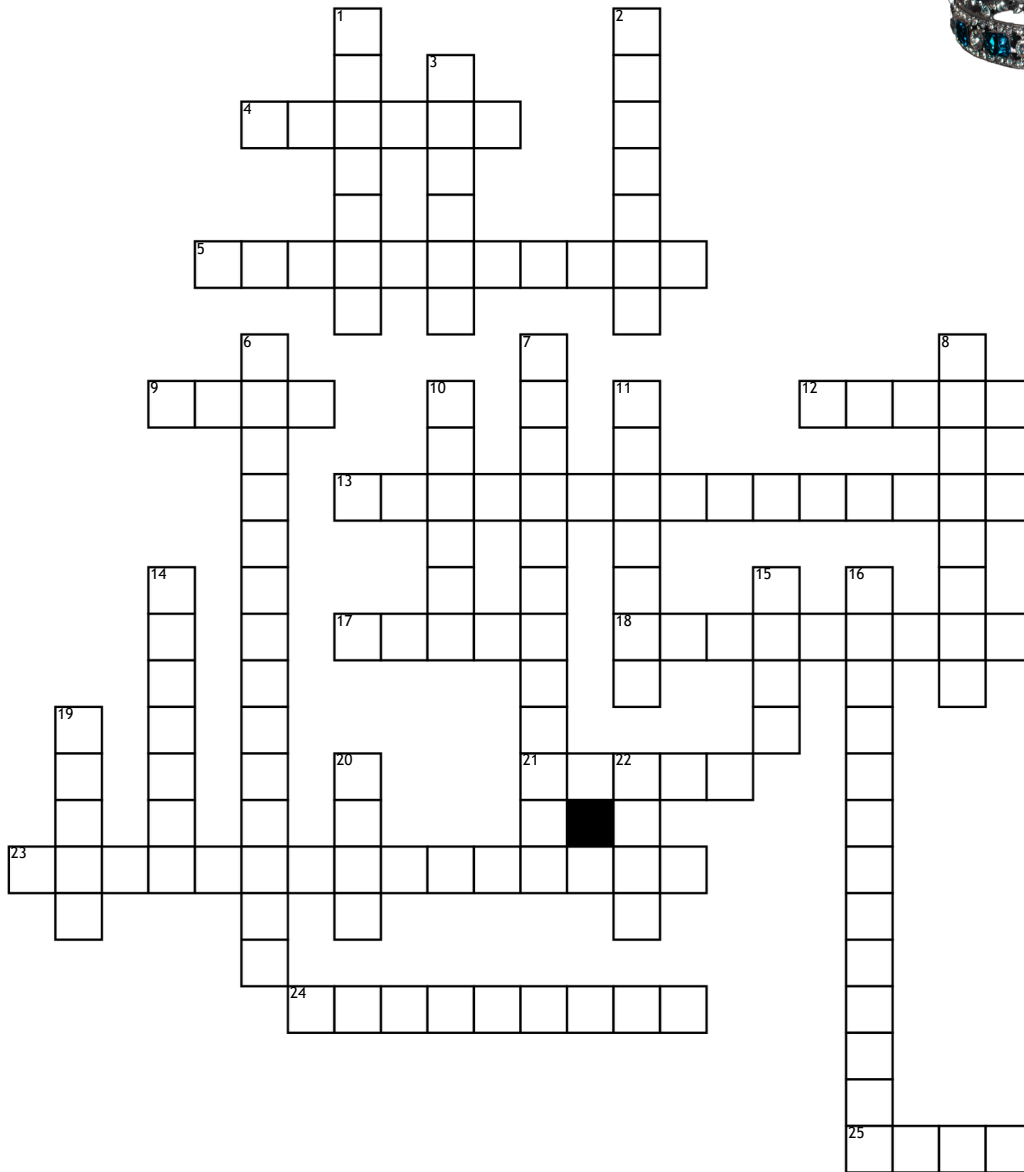
The young man replied that he had terrible toothache on his molar on the far left side of his mouth. He was told that the itinerant dentist would not be in town for another week. Therefore, the young man explained to Moishe, "I went to the Rabbi and asked what to do to ease the pain. The Rabbi replied, 'eat on the other side,' so, I went to the other side and ate at Chaim's."



Chelm: Rabbi, why is the sea so salty? Because of all the herring that live there.

Rabbi, why do dogs wag their tails. Because the dogs are stronger than their tails. If it were the other way, then the tails would wag the dogs.

Purim Crossword



Across

- 4. A special meal
- 5. a triangle shaped biscuit
- 9. Vasti had a wiggly one
- 12. Opposite of King
- 13. Give charity
- 17. You can ride one
- 18. I will not bow down to Haman
- 21. What a show off!
- 23. Troublemakers

- 24. Don't forget or you will have to repeat
- 25. Haman was _____ on the gallows

Down

- 1. The capital of Persia
- 2. Makes a loud noise
- 3. Full of pimples
- 6. A yummy Pekelach
- 7. No food or drink
- 8. Read by night and day

- 10. Green was her colour
- 11. I wonder who will have the best _____
- 14. 50 Amos
- 15. Comes after Shvat
- 16. The host of the feast
- 19. We are merry and happy on this day
- 20. Don't drink too much!!!
- 22. Use to disguise yourself

**KESHER ZION
SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE
MITZVAH PROJECT
TO BENEFIT COMMUNITYAID**

CommunityAid is a faith-based nonprofit that is partnering with Jewish Family Service. A percentage of sales from CommunityAid's thrift store is given back to JFS.

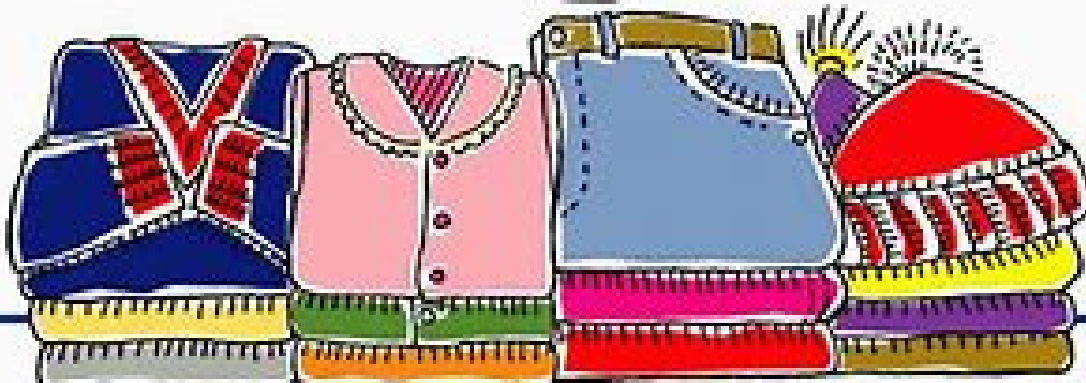
Items being accepted are new or lightly used clothing and accessories for men, women, and children.

Please place donations in the bin located in the lobby of the synagogue at 555 Warwick Drive, Wyomissing

Donations will be collected until April 7th.

If you have questions or need an at home pick up of items, please call the KZ office at 610-374-1763

Clothing Drive



TRADITION!

WYOMISSING AREA HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB



PRESENTS

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF

April 4, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

April 5, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Wyomissing Area High School Auditorium ~ 630 Evans Ave. Wyomissing, PA

Tickets on Sale March 1
WyoDrama.Eventbrite.com

Follow Us on Social Media: @wyodrama
Facebook Twitter/X Instagram



Gun violence leaves a devastating impact on families and communities, creating an urgent need for healing, awareness, and advocacy. 23: The Aftermath of Gun Violence is an event dedicated to addressing these needs through art, discussion, and action. The event will feature a gallery exhibition and The Grief Project, a 50-minute immersive performance by JCWK Dance Lab. Inspired by Shaykayarira Delrio-Gonzalez's story and others who have experienced profound loss, this performance blends contemporary dance, original music, visual art, and storytelling to complement the themes of the evening.



23: The Aftermath of Gun Violence

March 28-29 at 7pm

Alvernia University, Francis Hall

An event inspired by local stories of gun violence, grief, and hope, RIZE Program, JCWK Dance Lab and Berks4Peace join forces for an evening of contemporary dance, new music, visual art, and story telling.

www.jcwkdancelab.org/23theaftermathofgunviolence

GALLERY EXHIBITION OPENS AT 7PM. THE GRIEF PROJECT BEGINS AT 8PM. A TALKBACK WITH COMMUNITY LEADERS AND THE ARTISTS WILL FOLLOW THE PERFORMANCE.

PARTNERS INCLUDE: JCWK DANCE LAB, RIZE PROGRAM, BERKS4PEACE, BERKS NOT ONE MORE, ALVERNIA UNIVERSITY. ORIGINAL MUSIC IS SUPPORTED BY READING MUSICAL FOUNDATION.

This ad is sponsored by Serena Kabakoff Gable and the Kabakoff Family

YOUR **VOTE** FOR ISRAEL'S FUTURE

March 10 - May 4, 2025



Between **March 10 and May 4, 2025** American Jews will vote for their delegates to the 39th World Zionist Congress, the “parliament of the Jewish people,” which will convene in Jerusalem in October 2025.

To be eligible to vote in the US Elections to the 39th World Zionist Congress, you must:

- Be Jewish
- Be 18 years or older by June 30, 2025
- Be a US citizen or a legal permanent resident in the US
- Maintain your primary residence in the US
- Affirm your commitment to the Jerusalem Program (the Zionist movement platform)
- Have not voted in the last Knesset election

The election serves as the unifying force for world Jewry, with Israel at its center. Participate in the process to make decisions regarding key institutions that allocate over \$1 billion annually to support Israel and Jewish communities.

The election is organized and facilitated by the American Zionist Movement (AZM). Vote for one of 22 slates of candidates submitted by Zionist groups.

**Register For Updates And
Learn More About How To Vote.**



**Scan for registration info
Visit ZionistElection.org**

Help spread the word across your community

YAHRZEIT MESSAGES

Because of our recent upgrade to Shalom Cloud software, we will be sending the Yahrzeit notices as letters rather than post cards, starting with the Adar (and Adar 1 and Adar 2) notices. The information will be the same, it will look slightly different and will be on a full page letter. You can still send the donation (\$5.00 minimum) to Cynthia at her address, writing a check to Keshet Zion Synagogue. And you can continue to pay in advance so that your notice will be marked "PAID".

We will also have the option now of sending the notices by email. If you prefer to receive your notices by email (saving trees and also money for KZ) please let Cynthia know at crbalchunas@comcast.net

Sincerely,
Cynthia Balchunas



**BOB CASTER
WISHES TO
THANK
EVERYBODY
FOR THEIR
BIRTHDAY
WISHES**

**THANK YOU
TO
ELLIOT AND DORIS
LEISAWITZ
FOR SPONSORING
THE KIDDISH
ON MARCH 1.**



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

LET'S STAY CONNECTED



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Kerry J. Burrell, OD
Amanda S. Legge, OD
Leslie B. Miller, OD

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610-385-4333

WYOMISSING
610-374-3134



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
April Bulletin is Wednesday,
March. 18, 2025

Contact Us

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555 Warwick Drive
Wyomissing, Pa. 19610

Office: (610) 374-1763
Fax: (610) 927-1763

keshherzionoffice@gmail.com
visit us on the web at
www.keshherzion.org

Office hours:
Mon-Wed-Fri
9:00am-2:00pm

To advertise your business or services

Contact KZ Office : 610-374-1763

Email: 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