

KOL MEVASSER

Song in Our Hearts

By Rabbi Hagay Batzri

Dear Kahal,

The energy that exists in this week's Torah portion, "Beshalach" is also seen in the name given to this Shabbat, "Shabbat Shirah" or the Shabbat of Song. During the Torah reading we feel the energy of songs as we chant the song of joy sung by the Jewish people after Hashem rescued them on the shores of the Red (or, more correctly, the Reed) Sea, "Az yashir Moshe" shirat hayam, which translates as "And then Moses sang" the song of the Sea.

From the time I was a child in Jerusalem, the way Shabbat Shira was treated by my family and the Rabbis in my neighborhood was amazing. When the words "Shabbat Shirah" were mentioned I immediately felt elevated. I experienced deep happiness and a sense of belonging as if I were in the garden of Eden, where birds were singing, perching on beautiful trees, and all my senses were full of joy, security, and purity. My neshama, my soul, was just filled up with smell of this garden for the senses.

Even when I think of Shabbat Shira in my memory, these feelings come over me. It is as though a wind from this garden blows

over me when I just think about this Shabbat in Jerusalem. What kind of powerful experience was that? Where did it come from? Was I the only the one who experienced this kind of unexplained joy? What really happened there?

In my childhood, during the days before Shabbat Shira, everyone knew it was coming. Even in the "shuk," the old market called "Mahane Yehuda," located in the center of Jerusalem, we could hear the sound of sellers calling out their products and encouraging people to buy special things in honor of the Shabbat table of Shabbat Shira. Vendors inherited this tradition and learned these special call from their fathers. And, in one neighborhood people started a "Marathon Bakashot" that took place in Bet Keneset Ades. Residents invited everyone to take part and hear the greatest Hazzanim start singing on Shabbat Shira beginning at two am in the morning

Yes! It was two o'clock in the morning when the singing started! Hundreds of people would get ready for it. The excitement was unbelievable, and there was a holy atmosphere. Boys and fathers would come in the middle of the night to sing ancient songs from the soul for five hours. Girls with their mothers would join us in the "ezrat nashim" or women's section, from 2nd floor.

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KJ Schedule

Erev Shabbat / Erev Tu B'Shvat

Friday, January 25, 2013

Shaharit/Morning Prayer	6:30 am
Shir Hashirim	4:43 pm
Shabbat Candle Lighting	4:58 pm
Minhah/Arbith	4:58 pm

Shabbat Shira / Tu B'Shvat

Saturday, January 26, 2013

Shaharit/Morning Prayer	8:30 am
Kj Youth Choir	<i>during services</i>
Tu B'Shvat Members Lunch. after services	
Minha, Seudah Shlisheet, Arvit	4:15 pm
Motzei Shabbat / Havdallah	5:45 pm

Weekdays

Sunday, January 27, 2013

Shaharit	7:30 am
Talmud Torah	9:30 am
KJ Youth Choir	11:00 am

Monday to Friday, Jan. 28 to Feb. 1, 2013

Shaharit	6:30 am
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Monday, January 21, 2013

Women's Tehillim at private home, 10:30 am	
RSVP to orlysbatzri@gmail.com	

Wednesday, January 30, 2013

KJ Women's Group	10:00 am
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Erev Shabbat

Friday, February 1, 2013

Shaharit/Morning Prayer	6:30 am
Shir Hashirim	4:50 pm
Shabbat Candle Lighting	5:05 pm
Minhah/Arbith	5:05 pm

Tu B'Shvat Member Luncheon

is sponsored
In memory of
Rebecca & Saul
Mizrahie, z"l

Seudah Shlisheet & Brachot for Tu B'Shvat

are sponsored in memory of
Ezat bat Avraham Partiyeli, z"l
by The Partiyeli Familiy

Refuah Shlemah

Gery Shapiro, Yocheved bat Rachel, Mazal bat Mal-
ka, Dan Herdoon, Mazal Tov bat Salha Mat-
ana, Moshe ben Ezra, Sasson ben Rahel / Sas-
soon Moses, Penina bat Henia, Dov Ber ben
Sonia, Elyahu ben Avigail, Maurice Ovadia /
Moshe ben Noosha, Dana bat Ruth

SHABBAT READINGS

Torah 265-281, Haftara 281 to 287

*Listen to Rabbi Batzri sing the Haftara
From Shoftim / Judges Chapter 5*

<http://youtu.be/FsPG3FPMcxo>

In Memoriam

We remember these yearzeit anniversaries for
January 26th to February 2nd, 2013. It is custom-
ary to light a memorial candle, donate tzedaka, and
attend services the preceding Shabbat.

15 Shevat / Shabbat, January 26th

Ezekiel Albert *Yehezkel ben Abdullah*
Joseph Mussry
David Sarraf *David ben Ezra*

16 Shevat / Sunday, January 27th

Yehudah Hai Judah *Yehudah Hai Yehudah*
Menashe Sarraf *Menashe ben Youssef*
Yehudah Sarraf *Yehudah ben Mordechai*

17 Shevat / Monday, January 28th

Simon Irani *Shimon ben Eliyahu*
Ahraf Nassi

18 Shevat / Tuesday, January 29th

Raphael Mizrahie *Raphael Hai ben Eliyahu Mordechai*

19 Shevat / Wednesday, January 30th

Doris Shemtov David *Doris bat Kahela*

20 Shevat / Thursday, January 31st

Edward David *Ezra ben Meir Shemtov*
Nissim Moondani
Georgette Solomon

21 Shevat / Friday, February 1st

Avraham Lubovsky *Avraham Yedidyah ben Aryeh*

A Car for Penina

Our amazing staff member, Penina Solomon, had the misfortune of losing her car in an accident. She is seeking a replacement vehicle. Penina is responsible for running errands for Kahal—preparing for Kiddush, cooking, shopping etc. If you have a car that you are willing to part with at low or no cost, please contact Sarah in the office at [310.474.0559](tel:310.474.0559). Your generosity will help both Penina and our community.

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Everyone was singing. The Hazzanim sang solos in between the community's songs. And no instruments were involved.

I experienced this from the time I was 3 years old, every Shabbat Shira, until I became a teenager. I used to attend with my father or my older brother Moshe. I woke them up as early as 1 o'clock in the morning and we would walk to the synagogue through the Jerusalem winter even though the temperature was near freezing. A few years ago when I visited Jerusalem I saw many advertisements posted on the walls inviting the public to these special services of "bakashot" or poetic songs sung by the greatest hazzanim.

Ar"y Hakadosh said that the whole purpose of this world is to get to the level of singing "shirah," a song to the Almighty with the angels, the animals, and the birds singing too. They sing because they feel compelled to; that's how they were created.

However, human beings may face many obstacles in life, difficulties that make them feel they cannot sing. Then, we should remember David HaMelech. King David sang to Hashem even when, maybe especially when, he was facing difficulty. Like King David, we should make the effort to sing always at all times. Hashem promises us that if we sing for Him in this world, we will sing for Him in the world to come.

Shabbat Shalom

FUN Rides & GAMES

Prizes, PRIZES, Prizes!
CANDY! Hamburgers!
Fries! Hot Dogs!

Kahal Joseph Congregation



Purim Carnival

Sunday, February 24th
11 am to 4 pm



Kahal Joseph Congregation

Tree of Life

On the occasion of Tu B'Shvat we would like to thank our donors who have added one or more leaves to our Tree of Life.



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|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Tooraj Aghalar, 3 | Mollie & Norman Konigsberg, 2 | Aviva & Ezra Sagi, 2 |
| Sol Basha, 5 | Michelle & Stan Kurtz, 2 | Evelyn & Fred Salem, 1 |
| Diane & Hal Cohen, 1 | Vera Levi, 2 | Odette Sarraf, 3 |
| Hilda & Mark Dallal, 5 | Latif Levy, 1 | Shoshana & Eli Sawdayi, 5 |
| Genevieve & Parviz Daniels, 5 | Judy & Fred Lurie, 1 | Florence Shamash, 1 |
| Arlette Darwish, 3 | Rivka & Alber Mangoli, 1 | Faribeh & David Simanian, 3 |
| Eva Dloomy, 3 | Yvonne & Zvi Moalim, 3 | Elsa Singman, 1 |
| Tikva & Yoel Iny, 6 | Doris & Shaoul Moshi, 5 | Diana Solomon, 5 |
| Joy & Michael Jonah, 3 | Rosy & Albert Nissan, 2 | Myrtle & Reuben Solomon, 1 |
| Lisa & Brian Joyce, 1 | Caroline & Pejman Rahnama, 1 | Alice Zekaria, 6 |
| Hannie Kelly, 5 | Diane & Edward Sabin, 2 | |

Purim Megillah

Saturday, February 23rd
7:30 PM with Rabbi Batzri



Kol Mevasser
Kahal Joseph Congregation
Rabbi Hagay Batzri
Sarah Bouchoucha
Administrator
Dafna Ezran-Young, Editor
310.474.0559
10505 Santa Monica Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90025

KJ YOUTH CHOIR
w/Rabbi Batzri
Sunday, January
27th@11 am

Purim

Baking for Community Gift Baskets



Sunday, February 10th
10:00 am to ?
Do a Mitzvah! Help others!
Give on Purim!

Do you think you have what it takes?

Maurice Zekaria Backgammon Tournament

Entrance fee: \$35.00

Winning the title: Priceless

Sunday Feb. 17, 2013, 2:00 p.m.

Card game entrance fee: \$10.00
Sandwiches and refreshments will be served

First Prize: \$400

Second Prize: \$200

Third Prize: \$100

*Please bring your backgammon set

Kahal Joseph Social Hall
10505 Santa Monica Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90025

Reserve your spot by Feb. 12
Call the office at 310-474-0559 or
email yvettedabby@gmail.com

(Must be 18 years or older to enter)

Sponsored by the Zekaria Family

