

KOL MEVASSER

President's Message

Dear Members & Friends,

As the High Holy Days begin, I want to extend my warmest wishes to the entire Kahal Joseph family.

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are wonderful opportunities for reflection. They represent a chance to take stock of our lives and look ahead to the coming year with a clear vision and renewed purpose.

Our tradition teaches us that one of the most important duties we have during this period is the act of reconciliation. We're called to seek each other out and make amends for those moments when we may not have lived up to our values as well as we should.

When society too often focuses on what divides us instead of what unites us, I hope that each of us can recognize ourselves in one another, and renew the unbreakable bond we share with our families and friends.



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To Be a Head & Not a Tail: Thoughts on Rosh Hashana

Rosh Hashanah is not just a date on the calendar, it is an opportunity to begin to live life in a new way, to purify the mind, and to clarify. When we split the name "Rosh Hashanah" into two we end up with two words, "head" (rosh) and "year" (shana). The "head" refers to the part of us that has mastery over the body, the highest part of us, the center that has control over the entire body, all its parts.

Just as we bless the various symbols of the holiday and say "that we will be like a head and not a tail" we wish for ourselves that we will make conscious choices and direct our actions with wisdom. And the word "shana" (year) is cognate with the word for "to change" in Hebrew—"le'shanot." Rosh Hashanah is an opportunity for us to change ourselves and our lives, to act with intention. In this holiday, Judaism gives us an opportunity to renew ourselves and our actions.

On this day, according to tradition, the first human being was created. He sinned by eating a fruit that was not intended for him, and on this day he was chased out of the Garden of Eden to



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KJ Schedule

EREV ROSH HASHANAH
Wednesday, September 4th

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Selichot | 5:30 am |
| Shaharit & Hatarat Nedarim | 6:30 am |
| Eruv Tavshilin | before candle lighting |
| Minha | 6:45 pm |
| Candle Lighting | 6:56 pm |
| Children's Room..... | 6:30 to 9:30 pm |

ROSH HASHANAH, First Day
Thursday, September 5th

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Shaharit | 8:00 am |
| Sermon by Rabbi Bouskila . | during services |
| Children's Room..... | 10:00 to 2:00 pm |
| Minha & Arbit..... | 6:45 pm |
| Candle Lighting | after 7:58 pm |

ROSH HASHANAH, Second Day
Erev Shabbat
Friday, September 6th

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Shaharit | 8:00 am |
| Sermon by Rabbi Bouskila . | during services |
| Children's Room..... | 10:00 to 2:00 pm |
| Minha & Arbit..... | 6:45 pm |
| Candle Lighting | 6:53 pm |

Shabbat Shuva / Haazinu
Saturday, September 7th

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Shaharit/Morning Prayer | 8:30 am |
| Women's Tehillim..... | 5:15 pm? |
| Rabbi's Class | 5:15 pm |
| Minha, Seudah Shlisheet, Arvit | 6:00 pm |
| Motzei Shabbat / Havdallah | 7:38 pm |

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It has been a wonderful year for Kahal Joseph in large part due to the love and support of our members, our Board of Directors, and the excellence of our clergy, Rabbi Hagay Batzri, Hazan Sassoon Ezra, and Hazan Saeed Jalali. We are also honored to have Rabbi Daniel Bouskila praying with us both days of Rosh Hashanah. We are so blessed.

May the New Year bring peace to our world, and may we see a strong and peaceful State of Israel.

In that spirit, Letizia and I wish you and your families a sweet year full of good health, happiness and contentment.

L'Shanah Tovah

Ronald Einy

Children's Room Hours
Wednesday Eve 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm
Thursday Morning 10:00 am to 2:00 pm
Friday Morning 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Mazal Tov

Melissa & Dennis Ironi
on the birth of your son

Congratulations
to the Bilboul family
Ironi family & Kamara family

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**Tzom Gedaliah / Fast of Gedaliah
Sunday, September 8th**

Fast Begins 5:16 am
Selichot 6:30 am
Shaharit/Morning Prayer..... 7:30 am

**KJ Sunday School
Talmud Torah First Day
Registration & Welcome Projects
10:00 am**

David Kelly Youth Choir of KJ 11:00 am
Minha & Arbit TBA
Fast Ends 7:33 pm

**Monday, September 9th
SEC Soul Music Selihot Concert 5774
Rabbi Hagay Batzri & Rabbi Daniel Bouskila
Concert Begins..... 7:30 pm**

Monday to Friday, September 9 to 13th
Selihot 5:30 am
Shaharit/Morning Prayer 6:30 am

**Erev Yom Kippur
Friday, September 13th**
Selihot 5:30 am
Shaharit & Kapparot 6:30 am
Minha 2:00 pm
Candle Lighting 6:44 pm
Fast Begins 6:44 pm
Kol Nidre 6:45 pm

Mazal Tov

Dinah & Michael Irani
on your marriage

Congratulations to parents
Shahla & Bahram Zaghi
Mitra & Moshe Irani
and to both families

In Memoriam

We remember these yahrzeit anniversaries for September 7th to 14th, 2013. It is customary to light a memorial candle, donate tzedaka, and attend services the preceding Shabbat.

5 Tishri / Monday, September 9th
Seemah Manasseh *Simha bat Salha Ekai reb*
Naim Mezrahie *Naim ben Ephraim*
Ester Sarne *Ester bat Toba*

8 Tishrei / Thursday, September 12th
David Hai Menashe Sasson

9 Tishri / Friday, September 13th
Rachel Cohen *Rahel bat Simha*

10 Tishri / Shabbat, September 14th
Flora Jacob *Farha bat Dina*

Refuah Shlemah
Yocheved bat Rachel Mazal bat Malka,
Dan Herdoon Mazal Tov bat Salha Matana
Moshe ben Ezra Vera Levi Penina bat Henia
Sasson ben Rahel/Sassoon Moses Ruth bat Aliza
Maurice Ovadia / Moshe ben Noosha Dina bat Simha
Shoshana Goury/ Shoshana bat Rahel Yossef ben Jamila
Yehoshua ben Channah Prina bat Esther
Chaim Aryeh Yehuda ben Yocheved Dov Ber ben Sonia
Farid ben Odette Levy

Condolences
to the family of
Naji Solomon David, z”l
He will be sadly missed by his wife, Rachel
and by countless nieces and nephews
including our dear member
Hannie Kelly & Ruby Maytal

Dear Congregants, we ask that you refrain from wearing perfumes or colognes in the sanctuary

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go down to our world in order to repair his transgression, his sin, the first sin. We are given at Rosh Hashanah the opportunity, another chance to eat from this world and to enjoy what has, in fact, been prescribed and given to us by G-d. We should look at our own portion, at what we have been given and not at what others have been given. Rosh Hashanah is an opportunity, an opening in the passage of time, to reveal the mistake of seeking that which does not belong to us and to direct ourselves towards what is our province.

For this reason the Torah suggests the mitzvot and customs associated with Rosh Hashanah—the Kiddush, the eating of the symbolic foods at the Rosh Hashanah Seder, the special prayers of the holiday, the shofar, and the custom of Tashlich when we throw our sins like bread crumbs into the water. These are tools to help us connect with the central concepts and the intention of this holiday.

The Sanctification of Rosh Hashanah

On the two nights of Rosh Hashanah it is customary to wear white or light colored clothing symbolizing our renewal and opening a clean, new page in the book of our lives. It is also customary to cover the table with a white table cloth and to set the table in a pleasant, beautiful manner. Women light the candles and during the prayer, bless their relatives and those they are close to for renewed, positive, loving relationships. Through this prayer women create a feeling of connection between people and warmth in the home. A wife also blesses her husband with success so that she will see Hashem's kingship in the world. During Kiddush, the husband blesses the full cup of wine

and endows his household with blessing.

Rosh Hashanah Seder and Symbolic Foods

We have the custom of eating certain symbolic foods that have in them a spiritual connection with the abundance of nature and with physical renewal: dates, pomegranates, apples and honey, a fish or ram's head. These foods and the intentions we express help us to receive within ourselves the will to forgive, to release, and to be optimistic in anticipation of the future. We express these verbal intentions at the moment of eating the foods in an effort to live in the present moment. We should remember that Rosh Hashanah contains within it the seed of all the coming days of the year. We are not obligated to eat the symbolic foods, however; it is enough to express the intention.

Blowing the Shofar

Why do we blow the shofar on Rosh Hashanah? The call of the shofar goes straight to our core, right to our hearts. It brings us to the truth. There is no getting around it. Hearing the call of the shofar gives us an opportunity to rise up spiritually with the hazzan, to feel the innermost cry of the heart that exists beyond language, the desire to purify ourselves and to renew ourselves.

It is important to hear the shofar blown by a hazzan who understands its significance and who intends to raise the voices of the congregation up to Hashem with the voice of the shofar. Otherwise, if the shofar blower does not have this intention, it removes the inner conviction of the shofar's call and it wastes an opportunity we have only twice a year. So, choose a place of prayer and a hazzan who understand the importance and intention of the shofar's call so that your prayers will be assisted in coming to fruition. That will enable us to open our hearts, to

renew ourselves, and to reach towards a positive future.

Tashlich

In the afternoon of the first day of Rosh Hashanah we engage in the custom of Tashlich. Commentaries from the Zohar say it is best to do tashlich at the seashore or on the banks of a river when the intention is to meditate on what we are casting away. We should not get caught up in the mistakes we are attempting to cast away, to become embarrassed or fearful about what has already been done or about difficult times we have already passed through. Instead, we should focus on the intention to cast such things away from ourselves into the depths of the ocean, to a place from which such things will not emerge and bother our new growth, blossoming and flourishing. The reason we review and go back over our errors is to rid ourselves of them and to prepare ourselves for the future. We pour a lot of light on ourselves in order to rid ourselves of the darkness. People who engage in the ritual of tashlich say that they feel great relief and spiritual strength to continue in a healthy, positive way in their life.

So, I wish to everyone that we will take the opportunities of this time of Rosh Hashanah and use it, even if we have not done so in the past. Rosh Hashanah should renew us and begin for us a sweet year. Believe me, if you only begin to see the beauty that is in everything and especially in our dear Jewish community and congregation that we have here in our city, in Los Angeles, you will see that we all have sweetness within us.

With love for you all,

Rabbi Hagay Batzri



Sephardic Educational Center

Presents

3rd Annual



"Soul Music - A Selihot Concert"

A Musical & Spiritual Extravaganza, featuring some of the world's leading Sephardic Hazzanim accompanied by live musicians joining together for an uplifting evening of Selihot.

Monday September 9th 2013

7:30 p.m.

Kahal Joseph Congregation

10505 West Santa Monica Blvd., West Los Angeles, CA 90025

Refreshments will be served
Valet parking provided

We thank our generous sponsors

Moussa & Sholeh Shaaya
and

Ron & Paulette Nessim



\$15 Donation

Food Contributions for Children's Room

One special feature of our High Holidays playroom are the healthy, kosher snacks we provide for kids. Please donate kosher, nonperishable items to help continue KJ's hospitality. Or simply give to the Children's Room Fund.

Thank You!

Kahal Joseph Congregation

Norma & Sam Dabby Jewish Education Center

Dafna Ezran-Young, Educational Director

Sunday School for KJ Kids

Nurture Creativity

Explore Spirituality

Learn Jewish Heritage



THINK



Arts & Crafts
Culture & History
Music & Drama
Shabbat & Holidays

\$60 a month for
KJ Members
\$110 a month
Guests of KJ

Out of the Box

The fun & learning start
Sunday, September 8th

For information contact
Dafna Ezran-Young,
our Educational Director
at 310.502.8548 or
dafnayoung@gmail.com



♥ Sunday
Buddies ♥

Friends &
Community



Home ♥ Study
with Computers



Errol Levi Social Hall & Ballroom

Did you know that Kahal Joseph has one of the most beautiful ballrooms on the Westside for your private event? Do you know that we have an amazing, kosher catering kitchen? And a children's playroom for young visitors? Kahal Joseph is fabulous for parties up to 200 guests. Contact Sarah Bouchoucha at 310.474.0559 for information.