

# KOL MEVASSER

## President's Message

After the High Holy Days' spiritual journey, we move into the celebration that is Sukkoth.

Sukkoth is a time of joy. The Sukkah, a shelter with only temporary walls and a roof made of vegetation, represents G-d's shelter and protection. We eat within the Sukkah gladly, trusting in G-d, even with only the sky and a few bamboo sticks or palm leaves above our heads.

Another tradition of Sukkot is to share the joy and pleasure of the Sukkah with others. We encourage you, if you are fortunate enough to have a family sukkah, to share it freely with your relatives and friends.

And we invite you to join us for Kiddush after services in Kahal Joseph's own community sukkah, upstairs beneath the skylight. As we share the celebration of Sukkot, we wish you and your family all the blessings of this holiday.

May you enjoy peace and tranquility, joy and abundance. Hag Sameah, Moadim L'Simcha. Happy Holidays,

Ronald Einy



## Transience and Permanence: Thoughts for Succoth

By Rabbi Marc D. Angel

Sometimes it takes a crisis to remind us of the transience of life. It might be an illness, the death of a loved one, an accident, a shocking and tragic news report. At these crisis moments, we suddenly and starkly remember that we are mortal, that life on this earth is temporary.

When people confront their own mortality, they often come to the realization that time is precious; that life is too valuable to be frittered away on nonsense; that it is self-destructive to engage in petty feuds or ego-tistical competitions. It can take a crisis to help us live on a higher, happier level. Facing the transience of life, we take our living moments more seriously.

Succoth is a festival tuned in to the issue of life's transience. The sukkah is a temporary structure, reminiscent of the wanderings of the Israelites in the wilderness in ancient times. It doesn't have a roof, reminding us that we are subject to the vicissitudes of

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## KJ Schedule

### Erev Sukkoth

#### Wednesday, September 18th

Shaharit/Morning Prayer .....	6:30 am
Minha /Arvith .....	6:30 pm
Eruv Tavshilin .....	before candle lighting
Candle Lighting .....	6:38 pm

### Sukkoth, First Day

#### Thursday, September 19th

Shaharit/Morning Prayer .....	8:30 am
Minha /Arvith .....	6:30 pm
Candle Lighting .....	after 7:36 pm

### Sukkoth, Second Day & Erev Shabbat

#### Friday, September 20th

Shaharit/Morning Prayer .....	8:30 am
Minha /Arvith .....	6:30 pm
Shabbat Candle Lighting .....	6:35 pm

### Sukkoth & Shabbat Day

#### Saturday, September 21st

Shaharit/Morning Prayer .....	8:30 am
Women's Tehillim .....	5:00 pm?
Rabbi's Class .....	5:00 pm
Minha, Seudah Shlisheet, Arvit .....	5:45 pm
Motzei Shabbat / Havdallah .....	7:20 pm

### Chol Hamoed Sukkot

#### Sunday, September 22nd

Shaharit .....	7:30 am
KJ Kids Sunday School .....	10 am to 12 noon

### Monday September 23<sup>rd</sup>

Shaharit/Morning Prayer .....	6:30 am
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### Erev Hoshana Raba

#### Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>

Shaharit/Morning Prayer .....	6:30 am
Minha /Arvith .....	TBA

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**Hatima & Tikkun for Lel Hoshana Raba**  
**Night of Learning ..... 10:00 pm**

**Hoshana Raba / Erev Shemini Atzeret**  
**Wednesday, September 25th**

Shaharit/Morning Prayer .....6:30 am  
Minha /Arbith .....6:15 pm  
Eruv Tavshilin..... before candle lighting  
Candle Lighting .....6:28 pm

**Shemini Atzeret / Erev Simhat Torah**  
**Thursday, September 26th**

Shaharit/Morning Prayer .....8:30 am  
Minha /Arbith .....6:15 pm  
Candle Lighting .....after 7:22 pm

**Simhat Torah Celebration & Hakafot**  
**Dancing with the Torah ..... TBA**

**Simhat Torah / Erev Shabbat**  
**Friday, September 27th**

Shaharit/Morning Prayer ..... 8:30 am  
Morning Hakafot .....during services  
Shir Hashirim.....6:00 pm  
Shabbat Candle Lighting.....6:25 pm  
Minhah/Arbith .....6:13 pm

## 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  
Pnina bat Esther  
Chaim Aryeh Yehuda ben Yocheved  
Dov Ber ben Sonia  
Farid ben Odette Levy

To update this list, please send names to be added or removed to [dafna@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:dafna@kahaljoseph.org)

## In Memoriam

We remember these yahrzeit anniversaries for September 21st to 28th, 2013. It is customary to light a memorial candle, donate tzedaka, and attend services the preceding Shabbat.

**17 Tishri / Shabbat, September 21st**  
*Salim ben Yoseph Meir*

Ezekiel Moses *Yehezkel ben Sasson*  
Salim Youssefmir *Salim ben Amin*

**18 Tishri / Sunday, September 22nd**  
Jacob Ephraim *Yaacov ben Ephraim*  
Rosy Hyam *Rosy bat Mazli*  
Paul Hyman *Yaakov Pesah ben Yitzhak*

**19 Tishri / Monday, September 23rd**  
Girjee Ezra *Gurjiyee bat Sarah*  
Peninna Klein *Peninna bat Eliyahu Klein*  
Regina Mizrahie *Regina bat Habiba*

**21 Tishri / Wednesday, September 25th**  
Allon Iny  
Menashi Jacob *Yaacov ben Menashi Yaacov*

**22 Tishri / Thursday, September 26th**  
Ezra Hayim Ezra *Ezra Hayim ben Norman*  
Joyce Jacob *Ester bat Sarah*  
Solomon Moses *Salman ben Haskel*

**23 Tishri / Friday, September 27th**  
Naima Somekh *Naima bat Lulu*

**24 Tishri / Shabbat, September 28th**  
Flora Cohen *Farha bat Salha*  
Miriam Solomon *Miriam bat Rachel*

## Books on Iraqi Jewish Literature

Written by UCLA Professor, Lev Hakak., these books offer analysis and refreshing insights into our heritage. For information or to purchase contact Sarah at 310.474.0559.

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

Parties Shouldn't Be This Difficult



Engagement Party ♥ Wedding  
Baby Naming ♥ Brit Milah  
Birthday Party ♥ Bar/Bat Mitzvah  
Company Event ♥ Anniversary

## 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 modern playroom for younger visitors? KJ is fabulous for parties up to 200 guests.

Do you know someone looking for a beautiful location for their special event? Let them know Kahal Joseph is available! Please contact Sarah Bouchoucha at [310.474.0559](tel:310.474.0559) for information.

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nature. The lulav, etrog, aravot and hadasim remind us of the harvest, of the recurring cycles of nature, the cycles of birth, growth, decline and death.

Interestingly, Succoth is known in our tradition as Zeman Simhateinu, the time of our rejoicing. On one level, this refers to the rejoicing of the harvest. On a deeper level, though, it may be alluding to the joy and inner freedom we attain when we confront the transience of life.

If we sulk in gloomy thoughts of the ephemeral quality of life, we can become grim and depressed. Succoth teaches that thoughts of life's transience actually lead to happiness—not self-pity. It is our very mortality which provides the intensity and excitement of life.

That being said, we are strengthened when we turn our minds from human mortality to God's eternality. There is an all-encompassing, undying Power that embraces and transcends all time and all change.

In Psalm 121, the Psalmist muses: "I lift my eyes unto the mountains, whence comes my help? My help is from the Lord, Maker of heaven and earth." Why does the Psalmist look to the mountains? What do mountains have to do with the Psalmist's call for help?

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Most natural phenomena reflect change. The sun rises and sets. The moon goes through its phases. The stars sparkle at night, but are not visible during the day. Oceans, rivers and lakes are in constant motion. Mountains, though, are steady and unchanging (at least to the human eye). The Psalmist is crying out for help, and is seeking an image of something with permanence, something that can be depended upon: mountains.

In a similar vein, one of the names attributed to God is "Tsur"—Rock. In turning to the Lord, we seek an image of something powerful and unchanging.

While Succoth highlights the transience of life, it also turns our thoughts to the Eternal God who is not transient. The succah recalls the wanderings of the Israelites—but also the Divine Providence that watched over them for forty years. The lulav and etrog remind us of the changing seasons; but also of the Eternal God who created nature and the natural rhythms. We wave the lulav and etrog in all directions, as a symbol that God's presence is everywhere, all-encompassing, and complete.

There is a story of a man who was given one wish by God. The man said: "I don't want to die suddenly. My wish is that You give me fair warning before I die." God agreed to this request.

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Years later, the angel of death came to the man and said his time had come. The man objected, and called out to God: "But You promised that I would not die suddenly. You agreed to give me warning before I would die."

God replied: "I gave you plenty of warnings. Look at your hair; it is all gray. Think of how your body has weakened and declined over these past years, how you walk so slowly, how your hands tremble when you write. All of these were warnings. You are not dying suddenly."

The man bowed his head, and gave himself over to the angel of death. He realized that he had been given many warnings, but had never taken heed.

Succoth reminds us to pay attention to the warnings, to keep things in perspective, to appreciate the transience of life and the Eternity of God. It is the time of our rejoicing in the beauties of life, and the meaning of life.

Moadim leSimha

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### **Please Return Missing Kahal Joseph Library Books**

Many people enjoy our amazing library. But a number of books—including Ladies Tehillim Group books #1, 2, 19 & 21—are missing. If you have a KJ library book, please return it soon. ***We thank you in advance!***

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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 ♥



Home ♥ Study  
with Computers

Friends &  
Community

