

# KOL MEVASSER



## President's Message: A Thank You

Dear Members and Friends,

I am so grateful to all of you for making our High Holy Day services at Kahal Joseph such a wonderful success.

It was so heartwarming for me to see the highest attendance ever in our synagogue (over 850 during Yom Kippur). There is nothing more pleasurable than hearing our many congregants chanting in unison our beautiful melodies with such a robust enthusiasm and feeling.

I am most appreciative to our wonderful Hazzanim, Sassoon Ezra, Saeed Jalali, and from Jerusalem, our guest Hazzan Yoram Azran for the great beauty of their voices, and magnificence of their spirit. Together, they each conducted a most memorable service and touched our deepest emotion.

We were honored this year to have The Consul General of the State of Israel, the Honorable David Siegel address our congregants on Yom Kippur. His words to us were both touching and

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## Sukkot: Life Beyond the Newest iPhone

Rabbi Daniel Bouskila  
SEC Director

To many people, Sukkot seems like a paradox. In our prayers, Sukkot is referred to as *Zman Simhatenu* – the “Season of Our Joy.” One would think that joy includes all of the physical comforts in life. Yet one of the main commandments of Sukkot is to build and live in a modest, temporary structure called a “Sukkah.” We are commanded to celebrate this joyous festival specifically by *leaving* the comfort of our homes.

Rabbi Yitshak Arama (Spanish Talmudist/Philosopher, 1420-1494) offers a deep insight as to the symbolism of dwelling in a Sukkah during *Zman Simhatenu*:

*On Sukkot, everyone leaves behind his money matters, merchandise and produce, and all of his material possessions, and goes into a tiny booth which contains nothing but the meal for one day and usually nothing more than a bed, table, chair and lamp. This serves as a remarkable reminder for us not to indulge in building imposing structures, impressing on us that the minimum is all that we need during our temporary stay in this*

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## KJ Schedule Sukkot

### Erev Sukkot

#### Wednesday, October 8th

Shaharit/Morning Prayer .... 6:30 am  
Eruv Tavshilin Before Candles  
Candle Lighting ..... 6:10 pm  
Minha/Arbit ..... 6:00 pm

### Sukkot, 1st Day

#### Thursday, October 9th

Shaharit/Morning Prayer .... 8:30 am  
Minha/Arbit ..... 6:30 pm  
Candle Lighting ..... after 7:12 pm  
Children's Room Closed for Sukkah

### Sukkot, 2nd Day &

#### Erev Shabbat

#### Friday, October 10th

Shaharit/Morning Prayer .... 8:30 am  
Minha/Arbit ..... 6:00 pm  
Candle Lighting ..... 6:07 pm  
Children's Room Closed for Sukkah

### Sukkoth & Shabbat Day

#### Saturday, October 11th

Shaharit/Morning Prayer .... 8:30 am  
Minha, Seudah, Arvit ..... 5:30 pm  
Motzei Shabbat / Havdallah 7:09 pm

### Chol Hamoed Sukkot

#### Sunday, October 12th

Shaharit ..... 7:30 am  
Talmud Torah Sukkoth Break

### Monday, October 13th

Shaharit/Morning Prayer .... 6:30 am

### Erev Hoshana Raba

#### Tuesday, October 14th

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

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timely, as he spoke of the current situation in Israel, and how the international community reacts to it.

Mr Siegel inspired us all with a renewed commitment and hope for the future of the State of Israel. He remained with us as Rabbi Bouskila lead a moving and emotional memorial service for the sixty eight Israeli soldiers and six Israeli civilians who were killed during the recent bombings. As we called out each one of their names, we all remembered their ultimate sacrifice, and prayed for an everlasting peace in our homeland. I thank Rabbi Bouskila for inviting the Consul General to speak to us.

I can also never thank Rabbi Daniel Bouskila enough for leading our High Holy Day services this year with such grace and elegance. His several introductions to the prayers, his explanations, and his translations for us made these services have much greater meaning and deepened our understanding. I am also grateful for his many sermons that touched upon each subject with a deep rooted intellect and knowledge, and gave us so much to think about and remember. The transliteration booklet he published for us this year made the beautiful songs easy to follow. I was so happy that our community enjoyed reading and singing from the booklet. This year we felt just how important it is for us to participate in the services in a more interactive manner.

I am so thankful to Rabbi Bouskila for orchestrating each important aspect of our services with our Hazzanim to ensure their seamless continuity. Just before the Neilah service, Rabbi Bouskila spoke about how important our continued commitment is to our homeland, the State of Israel and our spiritual home in America, Kahal Joseph.

The Rabbi appealed to our congregants for donations that would be divided equally (half going to Israel and the other half to our synagogue). He touched upon the positive feelings we all had. Within just a few minutes, it was incredible to see the tremendous generosity exuded by so many of you.

Throughout the prayer services, the younger members of our community could enjoy wonderful care upstairs in the children's room. Noga and Ilan Saig led a team of dedicated caregivers, and Noga and Ilan provided short educational programs to supplement and enrich our children's experience of these important days.

During Yom Kippur, the kids were enchanted night and day by entertainers, amazing magicians, and an extraordinary bubble show thanks to Sigal and Jonathan Kelly. Plus the Board of Directors generously donated abundant and healthy snacks to take care of the kids' needs and help out the parents.

Finally, I wish to thank our devoted administrator, Sarah Bouchoucha who dedicated

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## **In Memoriam**

We remember these *yahrzeit* anniversaries for October 9 to 18, 2014. It is customary to light a memorial candle, donate *tzedaka*, & attend services the preceding Shabbat.

### **15 Tishri / Thursday, October 9th**

David Sulman Aslan  
Raina Murad Aslan

### **17 Tishri / Shabbat, October 11th**

Salim Yoseph Meir *Salim ben Yoseph Meir*  
Ezekiel Moses *Yehezkel ben Sassoon*  
Salim Youssefmir *Salim ben Amin*

### **18 Tishri / Sunday, October 12th**

Jacob Ephraim *Yaacov ben Ephraim*  
Rosy Hyam *Rosy bat Mazli*  
Paul Hyman *Ya'akov Pesah ben Yitzhak*

### **19 Tishri / Monday, October 13th**

Girjee Ezra *Gurjiyee bat Sarah*  
Peninna Klein *Peninna bat Eliyahu*  
Regina Mizrahie *Regina bat Habiba*

### **21 Tishri / Wednesday, October 15th**

Menashe Ezra *Menashe ben Ezra*  
Allon Iny  
Menashi Jacob *Yaacov ben Menashi*

### **22 Tishri / Thursday, October 16th**

Ezra Hayim Ezra *Ezra Hayim ben Norman*  
Joyce Jacob *Ester bat Sarah*  
Solomon Moses *Salman ben Haskel*

### **23 Tishri / Friday, October 17th**

Naima Somekh *Naima bat Lulu*

### **24 Tishri / Shabbat, October 18th**

Flora Cohen *Farha bat Salha*  
Miriam Solomon *Miriam bat Rachel*

## **Refuah Shlemah**

Moselle Amron • Tilda Levy  
Joseph Sharaf • Maurice Ovadia  
Michael Herzbrun • Saul Sassoon

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*(President's Message—Continued from page 2)*

herself to preparing the sanctuary and building; organizing the tickets, seating and security; and taking care of myriad details, changes, and requests with the assistance of Penina Meghnagi-Solomon. They went above and beyond to make sure things ran smoothly.

I am so pleased with the numerous positive comments, compliments and reactions to this year's High Holy Day services. I thank you for your many e-mails and phone calls that reflect your enthusiasm and happiness. So many of you felt that these were the most inspiring and uplifting services ever, and it makes me feel so gratified.

I thank each of you for joining us at Kahal Joseph and I look forward to seeing you and your families on Sukkot, Simchat Torah, and on Shabbat.

Ronald Einy

## **Kahal Joseph Membership**

**We want you to be a member!**

*Did you join us over the High Holy Days? Whatever you spent for tickets will be applied towards an annual membership in Kahal Joseph.  
Join our wonderful community!  
Call Sarah at 310.474.0559*

**Hag Same'ah Happy Holiday**

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*(Rabbi Bouskila—Continued from page 1)*

*physical structure called planet earth, which is also a temporary abode. The minimum area for a Sukkah, seven hand-breadths square and ten high, indicates a life of modesty and frugality. It is as if the halakha here is teaching us: limit yourself to the minimum, and do not aspire to luxury. If you accustom yourself to frugality, you will never lack anything; whereas if you allow yourself too many luxuries, you will feel as if you never have enough.*

Rabbi Arama's teaching brings to mind the timeless principle taught by Ben Zoma in *Pirkei Avot*:

*Eizehu ashir? Ha-Sameach B'helko.  
Who is wealthy? He who is happy with his lot in life. (Pirkei Avot 4:1)*

By dwelling in a Sukkah during a weeklong festival of joy, we are reminded that happiness is not measured by the size of a home or the luxurious furnishings within it; rather, life is ultimately about the inner joy that one feels in his or her heart. Sukkot teaches us that life is about family, friends, health, intellectual exchanges, spiritual enlightenment, and many other substantive features of life that go beyond material possessions. Life measured exclusively in material wealth, large buildings, bank accounts, zip codes, automobiles and financial status is a life void of meaning. As Rabbi Aramah teaches, life with too many luxuries builds a mentality that "this is not good enough, I need the better one." Think about how we spend thousands of dollars on electronic products – phones, tablets

and laptops – and just a few short months later, when the newer model comes out, we are convinced that the one we have is no longer good, and we must "upgrade." Sukkot challenges us to think differently.

Dwelling in a Sukkah also reminds us that life is temporary, and that we must learn to value our time here on earth. Dwelling in a Sukkah reminds us of the frailty of life. Much like a sudden, unexpected gust of wind can knock our Sukkah down, so, too, can our situation in life change so quickly. Sukkot is a time when we are reminded to appreciate our lives, and to thank God and those who surround us for the blessings we may have. In this minimal structure of temporary walls and a roof of palm fronds, we are called upon to celebrate life, be thankful for what we have, and enjoy every moment.

A Kabbalistic tradition teaches that as part of the expression of celebrating life, it is a mitzvah on Sukkot to invite guests into our Sukkah. On each night, in addition to any family or friends, we also invite and welcome the *Shiva Ushpizin*, the "Seven Guests," each of which joins us on a different night of Sukkot: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Aaron, and David.

In the spirit of what Sukkot teaches us about life, perhaps we should invite one more symbolic guest -- Abraham Lincoln -- who had a very profound teaching about life, one that is most definitely applicable to our dwelling in joy in a Sukkah: **"It's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."**

*Hag Sukkot Sameach & Moadim L'Simha.*

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**Tuesday, October 14th**

**Limud Lel Hoshana Raba ..... TBA**

**Hoshana Raba / Erev Shemini Atzeret**

**Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>**

Shaharit/Morning Prayer ..... 6:30 am

Minha /Arbith ..... 5:45 pm

Eruv Tavshilin ..... before candle lighting

Candle Lighting..... 6:01 pm

**Shemini Atzeret / Erev Simhat Torah**

**Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup>**

Shaharit/Morning Prayer ..... 8:30 am

Minha /Arbith ..... 5:45 pm

Candle Lighting..... after 7:03 pm

**Simhat Torah Celebration & Hakafot**

**Dancing w/the Torah after prayers**

**Simhat Torah / Erev Shabbat**

**Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup>**

Shaharit/Morning Prayer ..... 8:30 am

Morning Hakafot ..... during services

Shabbat Candle Lighting ..... 5:58 pm

Minhah/Arbith ..... 5:45 pm

## Thank You

to the  
Norma & Sam Dabby  
Talmud Torah &  
Sunday School  
Students  
for crafting paper chains  
and creating posters to  
decorate Kahal Joseph's  
community sukkah  
and to  
**Penina Solomon**  
for arranging and  
hanging all the posters  
paper chains &  
decorations



*KJ Kids in the Norma & Sam Dabby Talmud Torah take turns eagerly finding clues, collaborating and guessing the mystery items in a Rosh Hashana Seder Game before enjoying a Round Challah Baking project.*

## Save the Date

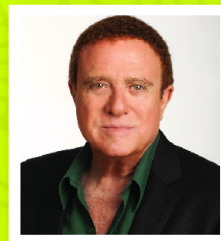
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