

# KOL MEVASSER

## Rabbi's Message *It All Starts with the Alef-Bet*

This vacation has been challenging for me because one of its goals has been to clean out my childhood treasures from my parents' house and help them downsize into simpler living. While I am looking forward to retrieving some toys to pass on to Penny, it has been hard to let go of many now-useless things that had once been so important to me as a boy.

As we were going through the boxes, a beautiful relic from my past caught my eye: a little blue workbook from 1987 in which I had first learned the Hebrew alphabet. It was touching to see this booklet through the lens of my life today: while I am now so blessed as to lead a Jewish congregation of 300 member families, 30 years ago I could hardly even write the alphabet!

Looking at this little artifact of my childhood, I immediately made a connection to Bene Yisrael in this week's parashah. We often don't think about this, but when God commanded them to make the Mishkan with all of its finery and rituals, they were not that far removed from total ignorance of the most basic principles of Judaism. Just 21 chapters ago (Ex. 6:9), they



## Rabbi Yosef Khakshoor

*Shabbat Speaker*

Kahal Joseph welcomes Rabbi Khakshoor as the guest speaker for this week's Shabbat sermon



could not even take Moshe's promise of liberation seriously, and now we see them laying the foundations for a detailed ritual display that was carried out every day for centuries.

This got me thinking about what it might have been like for them to be the first people to receive the Torah. On the one hand, they were probably bubbling with excitement to get a taste of our new spiritual heritage. But on the other hand, it must have seemed painfully slow with everyone starting out as illiterate former slaves. How could they possibly have achieved a goal like making the Mishkan when their first voices of Torah scholarship were as remedial as a child's humble workbook?!

But achieve it they did, down to every last detail, to every last piece of clothing and every special ritual action. Our Kohanim and Levi'im really were up to the challenge, and when push came to shove, they put in the hard work and reaped

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Parashat Tetsaveh

*Torah:* Ex. 27:20–30:10, 101 Pesukim  
Hertz 339–349; Stone 464–483

*Haftarah:* Ezek 43:10–27

Hertz 350–351, Stone 1159–1160

*Tefillot:* Mashib Haruah, Birkat Halebanah

## KJ Schedule

### Ereb Shabbat

*Friday, February 19th*

Shaharit ..... 6:25 am  
Minhah..... 5:30 pm SHARP  
**Shabbat Candle Lighting 5:22 pm**  
Arbit / Kabbalat Shabbat.... 5:40 pm

### Yom Shabbat

*Saturday, February 20th*

Shaharit / Morning Prayer.. 8:30 am  
Keri'at HaTorah ..... 10:15 am  
Musaf ..... 11:30 am  
  
Minhah..... 5:00 pm SHARP  
Se'udah Shelisheet..... 5:45 pm  
  
Arbit ..... 6:15 pm  
Habdalah ..... 6:26 pm

*(Continued on page 2)*



Norma & Sam Dabby Jewish Education Center  
**Kahal Joseph Talmud Torah**  
 Friends Creativity Jewish Learning  
 For information contact Mrs. Hanna  
 Elkouby, Director at 424-283-0893

## KJ Schedule (continued)

### Weekdays

*Sunday, February 21st*

Shaharit..... 7:30 am  
 Talmud Torah..... 10:00 am

*Monday to Friday, February 22 to 26*

Shaharit ..... 6:25 am

**Ereb Shabbat / Friday, February 26th**

Shaharit ..... 6:25 am  
 Minhah ..... 5:30 pm

**Shabbat Candle Lighting.....5:28 pm**

Arbit / Kabbalat Shabbat ..... 5:40 pm

## In Memoriam

We remember yahrzeit anniversaries from February 13 to 20, 2016. It is customary to light a memorial candle, donate tzedaka & attend Shabbat services.

**12 Adar I / Sunday, February 21st**  
 Rooholah Haykani

**13 Adar I / Monday, February 22nd**  
 Esther Jacob D'Cruz *Esther HaMulka bat Rahel*  
 Elliot Zvi Wyner *Yechiel Zvi ben Yitzhak*

**14 Adar I / Tuesday, February 23rd**  
 Joseph Mingail *Yosef ben Haim Baruch*

**15 Adar I / Wednesday, February 24th**  
 Nuriel Daizadeh *Nuriel ben Yochanan*  
 Jack Jacob Meir *ben Yaacov*

Hanna Klein *Hanna ben Avraham Hayim*  
 Vera Rosenfeld *Vera bat Hannah Hatoun*

**18 Adar I / Shabbat, February 27th**  
 Naim Moshi *Naim ben Yehoshua*

## KJ Bereavement Booklet

Rabbi Melhado is pleased to announce that our graveside service booklet for visits on the *shiba*, *sheloshim*, and *yahrzeit*, has been reformatted with English translation. The booklets that we used for almost 40 years were Hebrew-only, and just a handful of copies remain from the original 100. Though we wish that no family will need them anytime soon, those who do will find a legible, accessible text in Hebrew & English.

## Refuah Shelemah

Abe Abraham • Moselle Amron  
 Sally Amron • Tilda Levy • Esther Duke  
 Mordechai Cohen • Sylvia Cohen  
 Miriam bat Yetta • Sassoon Ezra  
 Maurice Ovadia • Florice Newberry  
 Lev Hakak • Doris Moshi

## Mommy and Me

**starting Thursday, April 14!**

Kahal Joseph and PlayCreations Kids are thrilled to announce *Mommy and Me* classes starting Thursday, April 14 in the Kahal Joseph playroom. Each class will start with 30 minutes of music, instruments, scarves, and parachute time, followed by a sensory art project, like finger painting or edible sand. Each class is divided into age groups, and is carefully thought out to engage all five senses, and encourage development of motor and language skills.

**Eight sessions, starting Thursday, April 14**

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM - 6 months to 1 year

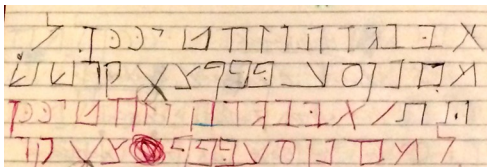
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM - 1 year to 18 months

Cost: \$215 for 8 weeks

Each class is limited in size, so register early! For more information, contact Jessica at [jessica@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:jessica@kahaljoseph.org) or 217.972.8993. For more information about PlayCreation Kids visit their website at [www.playcreationkids.com](http://www.playcreationkids.com).







Rabbi Melhado's Hebrew workbook, 1987

## Rabbi's Message

*(Continued from page 1)*

the rewards when it counted the most. And it all started from the humble building blocks of the Hebrew language, out of which anything can be built if only we try hard enough.

Some of the Israelites were old, or feeble, or didn't have much free time, or experienced any of the myriad of obstacles that might have stood in their way. But they wanted to know what it meant to be a Jew, and they knew that they had to do it in the language that God used to communicate His will.

So they learned it, from the youngest children to the most aged adults. They struggled with it, they made it their own, and enough of them mastered it that they were able to do astonishing things with it. Enough of them mastered it that we are still talking about what they used it to do 3,000 years after the fact.

And it all started with the alef-bet.

## Events at KJ



### Purim Carnival

Sunday, March 20

*KJ's celebration with amazing games, fun rides & BBQ*



### Interactive Family Haggadah

Sunday, April 17 @ 12 pm

*Kids, parents & grandparents, join us for an interactive presentation of the Passover story with something for toddlers through grade schoolers. Enjoy a delicious lunch, and make a craft to use at your seder! Email Jessica at [Jessica@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:Jessica@kahaljoseph.org) for more information or to RSVP.*



### Mimouna

Sunday, May 1st

*Traditional celebration & community gathering after Passover*

# Purim

## Baking for Community Gift Baskets



Sunday, March 13th

10:00 am

**Do a Mitzvah, Help Others & Give to the Community on Purim!**

**Have fun & bake traditional Iraqi treats for KJ's Purim gift baskets. Purim baskets are delivered to many individuals who live at a distance from our community or may be homebound and recovering on this festive holiday.**

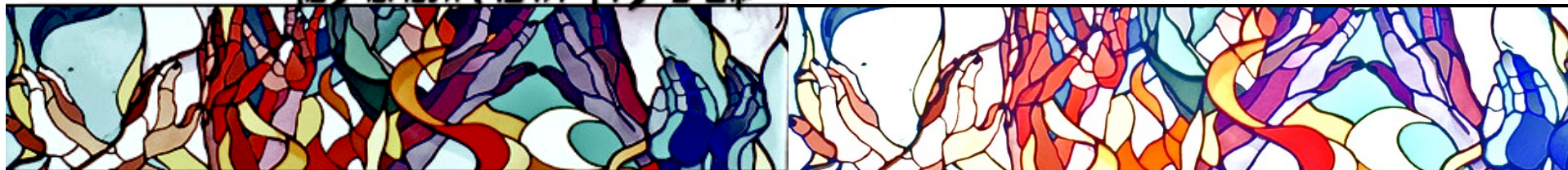
Donations in support of KJ Purim Baskets are greatly appreciated. Please send to:

**Kahal Joseph Congregation—Purim Baskets**  
10505 Santa Monica Blvd., L.A. CA 90025

For more information call the office at 310.474.0559 or e-mail [yvettedabby@gmail.com](mailto:yvettedabby@gmail.com)



קום כי עליך הדבר, ואנחנו עמך



Arise, for this is your task, and we are with you

## Guest Speakers at the Installation Ceremony

*Kahal Joseph Congregation*

JOYOUSLY INVITES YOU

TO CELEBRATE WITH US AT

THE INSTALLATION OF

*Rabbi Raif S. Melhado*

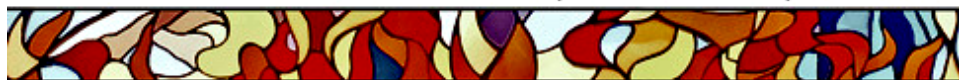
**KEYNOTE SPEAKER: RABBI ASHER LOPATIN**  
**PRESIDENT, YESHIVAT CHOVEVEI TORAH**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 6 - 26 ADAR I**

**INSTALLATION AT 5:30PM**

**CELEBRATORY DINNER TO FOLLOW**

10505 SANTA MONICA BLVD, LOS ANGELES, CA



**RSVP BY SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28**

**KAHALJOSEPH.ORG/INSTALLATION | 310.474.0559**

### ***Rabbi Asher Lopatin***

Rabbi Asher Lopatin is the president of Yeshivat Chovevei Torah Rabbinical School, an Orthodox rabbinical school that teaches an inclusive, open and welcoming Torah. Previously, he was the spiritual leader of Anshe Sholom B'nai Israel Congregation, a modern Orthodox synagogue in Chicago, for 18 years. He received his ordination from Rav Ahron Soloveichik and Yeshivas Brisk in Chicago, and from Yeshiva University, as a Wexner Graduate Fellow. A Rhodes Scholar with a M.Phil. in Medieval Arabic Thought from Oxford University, Rabbi Lopatin is the author of numerous scholarly and popular articles.

### ***Rabbi Chaim Marder***

Rabbi Chaim Marder has served as the Rabbi of the Hebrew Institute of White Plains since 1995, having formerly served as the Rabbi of Congregation Beth Sholom in Providence, RI and associate rabbi at the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale. He is a graduate of Yeshiva University, holds a Masters degree in Jewish History, and received his Rabbinical Ordination from RIETS, the rabbinical seminary of YU. He has served as a Vice President of the Rabbinical Council of America (RCA) and the Westchester Board of Rabbis, and is a member of the board of both the RCA and IRF (the International Rabbinic Fellowship). In addition to his work at the Hebrew Institute, he is a faculty member in the Department of Leadership and Professional Rabbinic Training at YCT Rabbinical School.

He and his wife Suzie have 7 children: Shira (and Jason Saibel); Ari. Akiva, Shoshanah, Ayelet, Yonina and Doni.