

20 Iyar 5776

28 May 2016

KOL MEBASSER

Rabbi's Message

The theme of recuperation and revitalization drives Parashat Behar, which sets up a cycle of sabbatical years for the Land of Israel just one week after the Torah assigned a timetable of rest days to the Children of Israel.

Hence it seemed quite fitting that this would be the week of the 8th annual conference of the International Rabbinic Fellowship, which offers professional development and nurturing for Jewish clergy across the globe. This was such an uplifting experience for me that I could not help but to share some of the highlights in the pages of our newsletter.

I was impressed most of all by the sheer number of rabbinic professionals in attendance: of the IRF's total membership of 200, fully half trekked across the country to participate in person, including one third of all the rabbis that my seminary has ever graduated. From newly minted clergy to decades-long veterans of the rabbinate, we all converged on Baltimore for three inspirational days of teaching and learning from one another.

The overall discussion was shaped by the writings of Rabbi Irving Greenberg, an accomplished Modern Orthodox thinker with a career spanning six decades and counting. We were blessed both by his personal presence at the conference and by his humility, which led him to put all of us in the driver's seat of a conversation in which he could easily have taken the commanding voice himself.



One of the most thought-provoking sessions was taught by guest lecturer Dr. Yehuda Kurtzer of the Shalom Hartman Institute. Entitled "Orthodoxy and American Public Life," it probed the challenges of crafting rabbinic messages given that rabbis are talking to a wide swath of people with very diverse political beliefs. If a moral message is too pointed, it might alienate the audience that it is meant to reach, but if it never pushes anyone out of their comfort zones, it could send the message that Judaism doesn't address the most meaningful topics of life. Trying to strike that balance is a constant feature of every American pulpit.

This and the other formal sessions were enhanced by the opportunity to meet with fellow clergy and hear about their work in other pulpits, day schools, and communal organizations. Making new friendships and rekindling old ones, I felt connected to a wider world of what it means to serve God and His followers.

For this experience and those in the future that it has seeded, I extend my eternal gratitude to the Kahal Joseph community. I am humbled to work in this very special congregation, and now I have a deeper understanding of how that service fits into a larger picture of Jewish clerical work.



Parashat Behar

Memorial Day Weekend / Omer 35

Torah: Lev. 25:1–26:2, 57 Pesukim

Hertz 531–539; Stone 696–707

Haftarah: Jer. 32:6–27

Hertz 539–541; Stone 1177–1178

Tefillot: Morid Hatal

KJ Schedule

Ereb Shabbat

Friday, May 27th

Shaharit 6:25 am

Shabbat Candle Lighting 7:38 pm

Minha 6:30 pm SHARP

Yom Shabbat

Saturday, May 28th

Shaharit /Morning Prayer ... 8:30 am

Keri'at HaTorah 10:15 am

Musaf 11:30 am

Minha 7:00 pm

Se'uda Shelisheet 7:45 pm

Arbit 8:30 pm

Habdala..... 8:42 pm

(Continued on page 2)

The conference may have taken me out of action for a few days, but I am returning refreshed and encouraged to serve the community better, just as the shemita cycle of this week's parashah might have envisioned.



17th Annual Jewish Community Day at Dodger Stadium

Los Angeles Dodgers v. Chicago Cubs

Sunday, August 28, 2016

Game time 1:10 PM

Seats are limited and may be purchased through Sarah at the Kahal Joseph office by calling 310.474.0559.



Tickets are in the Infield Reserve @ \$34 each & include a Dodgers T-Shirt

The last day to purchase tickets is Friday, June 10th 2016.

Shavuot Program for Kids



On Shabuot, we commemorate receiving the Torah. What better way to do it than to help pass Judaism on to our kids? Join us and bring a friend for a fun morning with special dairy snacks!

Torah and Tots - ages 0 to 4

Tots & guardians (at least 18, please) join together for stories, activities, songs & games on Shabuot. Special snack included!

Yeladenu - ages 5 to 12

Find out what Shabuot is all about! The morning will include special snacks and a raffle for prizes!

Please RSVP to Jessica by Friday, June 10 so we have enough materials.

KJ Schedule (continued)

Weekdays / Sunday, May 29th

Shaharit 7:30 am

Memorial Day / Monday, May 30th

Shaharit 7:30 am

Tuesday to Friday, May 31 to June 3

Shaharit 6:25 am

Ereb Shabbat / Friday, June 3rd

Shabbat Candle Lighting..... 7:42 pm

Minha 6:30 pm SHARP

KJ Welcomes Rabbi Daniel Bouskila

We invite you to join us this Shabbat for a special guest sermon by Rabbi Daniel Bouskila of the SEC. The title of his derasha will be:

Does Judaism Have a Mission Statement?



Mommy & Me

First Round SOLD OUT!

Want to sign up? There are two groups, one for 6-12 months and one for 12-18 months. The next round begins in June, so to reserve email Jessica@kahaljoseph.org

Refuah Shelemah

Abe Abraham • Moselle Amron • Sylvia Cohen
Sally Amron • Tilda Levy • Esther Duke
Mordechai Cohen • Lev Hakak • Maurice Ovadia
Gracie Tizabi • Florice Newberry • Katie bat Farha
Miriam bat Yetta • Sassoon Ezra • Doris Moshi
Aliza bat Rahel • Aliza bat Victoria

In Memoriam

We remember yahrzeit anniversaries from May 28 to June 4, 2016. It is customary to light a memorial candle, donate tzedaka & attend Shabbat services.

21 Iyar / Sunday, May 29th

Lulu Ezra Azory *Lulu Khatoon bat Masooda*
Michael David Adrian Meyer *Michael David ben Yoseph Meir*

Murad Saddick *Mordechai ben Sasson*
Maisie Solomon

22 Iyar / Monday, May 30th

Ezekiel Joseph *Yehezkel ben Yitzhak Yoseph*
Grace Mussry *Grace bat Toba*
Iran Rojhani *Iran bat Monavar*

23 Iyar / Tuesday, May 31st

Moshe Bensabat *Moshe ben Clara*
Sally Saul *Salha bat Simcha*

24 Iyar / Wednesday, June 1st

Judah Freddy Bekhore *Yehuda Faraj ben Yosef*

25 Iyar / Thursday, June 2nd

Simkha Nazarian *Simkha bat Michael*

26 Iyar / Friday, June 3rd

Sarah Elias *Sarah bat Ester*

27 Iyar / Shabbat, June 4th

Sassoon Elisha *Sassoon Yoseph*



Tree of Life Milestones

Dedications Available

What a great opportunity to commemorate a happy occasion—an anniversary, wedding, birth, or bar or bat mitzvah! Engrave a Milestone for a donation of \$1800.

Contact Sarah at 310.474.0559