

# KOL MEVASSER

## Rabbi's Message

From the time of my own bar mitzva until I finished college, I tutored a lot of bene mitzva students. I loved to teach skills that opened synagogue participation to people who weren't that much younger than myself, and to share my love of Jewish tradition and values with them.

As the big day approached, I would take each student on one or more trips to read from the actual Torah scroll that would be used during their service. It's one thing to practice from a book in the comfort of your home, and quite another to use the real Sefer in the open space of the synagogue. Despite its intimidation factor, my students would get excited – it made the whole event seem tangible and real.

Sometimes, though, even these little milestones can take an interesting turn. One of my students had this week's parasha, Behar-Behukotai, and we had just reached Vayikra 27:13. He read "*ve'im ga'ol yig'alenu...*" when I interrupted: "*yig'alena* – we're talking about a shel!" Undaunted, my student jabbed the *yad* at the parchment and declared, "Well, it says *yig'alenu* in the Torah!"

Incredulously, I followed the *yad* to the offending word, where I was astonished to see that he was correct! I showed him the *yig'alena* in my print Humash, and then, to make sure, we checked the five other Sifrei Torah in the Ekhal. Sure enough, it was *yig'alena* in all of them except for ours! With an odd mixture of duty and remorse, we informed the Gabbai that the sefer was pasul,



and my student chose a different scroll to use at his celebration.

How had no one noticed this mistake? The scroll had been used regularly in Czechoslovakia before WWII, and when the Nazis failed to destroy it, the Memorial Scrolls Trust repaired it and dispatched it to the synagogue in Champaign, Illinois. Not only had the original sofer made an error, but the Memorial Scrolls Trust sofer had not noticed it either! Could it really be that a college kid and a 12-year-old were the first to see it?!

Perhaps we found it precisely because we were young and inexperienced, looking at the Torah with new eyes. We had fewer preconceived notions, giving us the freedom to say something about the scroll that was very important. And once we did notice the problem, it gave us a whole new perspective on human error in an area that we had taken for granted before.

The most important lesson, however, might be learned from the community's response. Understandably, the historic scroll held a special place in the congregation, and there was a lot of sadness that the scroll could no longer be used. But the experience made them realize that they had an opportunity to reassess their whole collection and ensure a future where there was always more than one kosher Sefer available for their divine worship. After a meaningful deliberation, they decided that the best way to do this was to commission a brand new Sefer Torah in honor of the Czech scroll that was being retired. With any luck, the new scroll will be used in the congregation for another 150 years, serving through many *semahot* and community events. May God grant that all our mistakes be rectified in such beautiful, constructive ways!

## Parashat Behar/Behukotai Omer 39 / End of Vayikra

Torah: Lev. 25:1–27:34, 135 Pesukim  
Hertz 531–550; Stone 696–723  
Haftara: Jer. 16:19–17:14  
Hertz 551–553; Stone 1179  
Tefillot: Morid Hatal, Hakhrazat  
Sivan (Fri)

## KJ Schedule

### Erev Shabbat

Friday, May 19th

Shaharit..... 6:25 am  
**Candle lighting..... 7:32 pm**  
Minha ..... 6:30 pm  
Kabbalat Shabbat / Arvit..... 7:00 pm  
Young Professionals Shabbat ..... 7:30 pm  
at Rabbi Melhado's home

### Yom Shabbat

Saturday, May 20th

**Shaharit / Morning Prayer ..... 8:30 am**  
Keri'at HaTorah ..... 10:15 am  
Musaf ..... 11:40 am

Women's Tehillim ..... 5:45 pm  
Minha ..... 6:45 pm  
Se'uda Shelisheet..... 7:30 pm  
Arvit ..... 8:20 pm  
Havdala ..... 8:36 pm

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## Talmud Torah on Lag La'omer

Last Sunday the Talmud Torah students enjoyed exciting classes on Shavuot and the period of the Omer. Their special projects Included donut bonfires and Hebrew Mother's Day cards. Appreciation to Mora Molly for making all the arrangements.



## Mazal Tov to Adina Jalali

on her Tekes Hashba'a  
(swearing-in ceremony)  
to the Israel Defense Forces!

Besiman Tov to proud parents  
Hazan Saeed Jalali and Mora Molly Jalali.  
Molly was able to attend the ceremony  
through the generous support  
of Nefesh B'Nefesh.

Blessings of the happy occasion  
to the entire Jalali family!

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### Weekdays

*Sunday, May 21st*

Shaharit ..... 7:30 am  
Talmud Torah ..... 9:45 am to 12:30 pm

*Monday to Thursday, May 22 to 25*

Shaharit ..... 6:25 am

### Yom Yerushalayim

*Wednesday, May 24th*

### Rosh Hodesh Sivan

*Friday, May 26th*

Shaharit ..... 6:15 am

### Next Shabbat / Fri-Sat, May 26-27

Shabbat Candle lighting..... 7:37 pm  
Friday Minha ..... 6:30 pm  
Shaharit ..... 8:15 am  
Saturday Minha ..... 6:45 pm  
Havdala ..... 8:41 pm

## Happy Birthday Jessica Melhado!

Everyone is invited to  
celebrate with delicious  
cake at Kiddush.



## In Memoriam

We remember these yahrzeit anniversaries  
from May 20 to 27, 2017. It is customary to light  
a memorial candle, donate tzedaka & attend  
Shabbat services.

### 24 Iyar / Shabbat, May 20th

Judah Freddy Bekhore Yehuda Faraj ben Yosef  
Simcha bat Habiba

### 25 Iyar / Sunday, May 21st

Simcha bat Habiba

### 26 Iyar / Monday, May 22nd

Sarah Elias Sarah bat Ester

### 27 Iyar / Tuesday, May 23rd

Sassoon Elisha Sassoon Yoseph Elisha

### 28 Iyar / Wednesday, May 24th

Hannah Sassoon Hannah Khatoon bat Mozelle Tov  
Joseph Hai Ezra Shimon

### 1 Sivan / Friday, May 26th

Ezra Shalom Avraham

## Refu'a Shelema

Moselle Amron • Sally Amron • Sylvia Cohen  
Simcha bat Rooha • Mordechai Cohen  
Esther Duke • Sassoon Ezra • Tilda Levy  
Haskell Avrahamy • Florice Newberry  
Miriam bat Yetta • Aliza bat Rahel  
Aliza bat Victoria • Yvonne Moalim  
Miryam bat Malka • Moshe Ezra ben Mazal Tov  
Malka bat Rahel • Chaya Chana bat Batya  
Mehry bat Miriam Hakimipour • Katie bat Farha



# Young Professionals Shabbat Dinner Friday, May 19 at 7:30 PM

In February, March and April, 10 to 15 people have joined us for an interesting discussion and a really delicious Shabbat meal - and we are excited to do it again!

Join Rabbi Melhado and his family at home for a great evening. Open to members and friends in their twenties and thirties

Space is limited, so register now by emailing Rabbi at [rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org).

## Blessings for Counting the Omer

Count after dark each evening between the second day of Pesah and the beginning of Shavuot

ברוך אתה ה'. אלהינו מלך העולם. אשר קדשנו במצותיו. וצונו על ספירת העומר:

היום \_\_\_\_\_ לעומר. שהם \_\_\_\_\_:

הרשמן הוא יחזיר עבודת בית המקדש למקומה במהרה בימינו. אמן:

Ba-ruk h a-ta a-do-nai, e-lo-he-nu me-lekh ha-o-lam,  
a-sheer kee-de-sha-nu be-meets-vo-tav, ve-tsee-va-nu al  
se-fi-rat ha-o-mer.

Ha-yom \_\_\_\_\_ la-o-mer, she-hem \_\_\_\_\_.

Ha-ra-ha-man hu ya-ha-zeer a-vo-dat bet ha-meek-dash  
leem-ko-ma beem-he-ra ve-ya-me-nu a-men.

Blessed are you, God, King of the Universe, who has sanctified us with His commandments, and directed us to count from the Omer.

Today is the [blank] day of the Omer, which is [insert weeks and days]  
May the Compassionate One, restore the service of the Temple to us promptly and in our lifetime. Amen.



# Shavuot May 30-31, June 1

## Tikkun Le Shavuot - May 30

8:30 PM - Arvit

8:45 PM - Dinner

RSVP to [rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org)

9:30 PM - Matan Torah's Missing Pieces

10:30 PM - Shavuot Readings

## Shavuot I - Wednesday, May 31

8:15 AM - Shaharit

7:00 PM - Azharot

10 - 12 - Kids Room

7:20 PM - Minha

11:30 - Book of Ruth

7:50 PM - Arvit

## Shavuot II - Thursday, June 1

8:30 AM - Shaharit

7:20 PM - Minha

10 - 12 - Kids Room

7:45 PM - Seuda

7:00 PM - Azharot

8:30 PM - Arvit



Like us on facebook! [facebook.com/kahaljoseph.congregation](https://facebook.com/kahaljoseph.congregation)



## Color Me Mine at Kahal! Sunday, June 4, 1 to 3PM

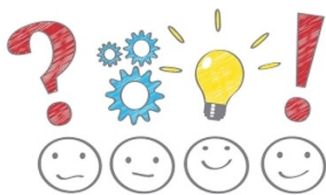
Express your creativity!  
Connect with friends, new and old!

A variety of pottery pieces will be available, tons of paint colors, and a Color Me Mine staff member.

\$50 registration fee includes  
piece, paint, glaze, fire and snacks!

RSVP at [www.kahaljoseph.org/events.html](http://www.kahaljoseph.org/events.html) by May 29

## Living Room Learning



**Got a pressing Jewish question?  
Something on your mind? A topic of interest?**

Host Rabbi Melhado in your home for a class to explore a topic of your choice, or work with the rabbi to find something that interests you. Invite your friends, and learn together with the rabbi in a relaxed environment.

Interested? Questions?  
Email the rabbi at [RabbiMelhado@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:RabbiMelhado@kahaljoseph.org).

# Shabbat Matters!

## Rules, Rituals and Meaning Mondays at 8PM live on YouTube!

Join Rabbi Melhado for an interactive,  
online series on all aspects of Shabbat

Email [rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org) for the direct link

### Session I:

**May 22:** What's it all about? The Philosophy of Shabbat

**May 29:** Get the Spirit: Honoring & Protecting Shabbat

**June 5:** Who/What/Why? Candles, Kiddush, Meals & Havdala

**June 12:** Trumped! Shabbat v. Special Circumstances



### Session II:

**July 3:** What are we resting from: The 39 Labors

**July 10:** Is that Practical? Food & Transportation

**July 17:** Bend Me, Break Me: Shabbat & Other Values

**July 24:** Crescent & Cross: Shabbat & Non-Jewish Society