

KOL MEVASSER

Community Message

by Dafna Ezran Young

Every one of us has the capacity to be a walking model of loving kindness on certain occasions. Sometimes simply being willing to witness suffering, sorrow or despair is enough. Visiting and offering a cup of tea. Bringing by groceries or a prescription. Sitting in discomfort, forsaking easy answers. Sharing life's unwanted moments.

Indirectly, our Torah portion for the week alludes to just this: the need for every member of society to be responsible and to act. Taken as a whole, Ki Tetse is a perplexing, paradoxical collection of mitzvot. However, looked at verse by verse, it is not difficult to understand. Numerous lines contain lessons in how to nurture freedom and protect all beings. Leave eggs in a nest if the mother bird is near. Treat captive women with respect. Help suffering animals. Give refuge to escaped slaves. Watch over and return what has been lost.

Even in sections that challenge modern values, the parasha emphasizes moral action, highlighting each person's capacity for choice and the imperative of choosing with conscience. Relationships are sacred. Trust is essential. Honorable behavior is paramount. Repeatedly and unflinchingly, Ki Tetse confronts moral questions and presents ethical challenges, addressing situations that jeopardize a peaceful, just and secure society. Such circumstances prod each of us to consider: how should we care for our family, our home, our walled city, our cultivated field, ourselves?

Yet, true to form, the Torah does not advocate either infinite generosity or unlimited responsibility. Looked at from a slightly different angle, Ki Tetse

is about interpersonal boundaries, about how to protect them and, occasionally, about when to relax them. One seemingly esoteric mitzva may explain the general idea. It is the requirement to build a fence on our roof to prevent accidental falls.

Looked at metaphorically, this mitzva suggests that we are responsible for protecting others and for guiding their behavior even when we are not around. At the same time, it suggests that we can only be accountable for our own actions, and not for others'—for our roof and not for our neighbors'. We need to remember where the limit of our ability lies and not overextend ourselves.

Through this vivid image, Ki Tetse reminds us to keep the balance, to ensure that too much is not asked of a single person. Communal tending must be a task shouldered by more than a few committed individuals. For instance, we should each look after our shared Jewish life and look beyond the rabbi, the Board members, the synagogue staff, or the stalwart volunteers who do it for us. Similarly, preserving the common good is in more hands than those of idealistic teachers, diligent engineers, dedicated doctors and conscientious public servants. And altruism is something we might all aspire towards, just like the handful of exemplary souls we admire—the devoted friends, the reliable family members.

A unique individual whom we recently lost, Anita Wozniak, z"l, was a woman who clearly considered such questions and strove to act in accordance with these ideals. One of the greatest gifts we can offer in her memory and in the memory of those whom we have cherished is to look after one another as they would have wanted. Because caring for our community is a responsibility we share. It is a mitzva that requires us all.

Parashat Ki Tetse

Fifth Week of Consolation

Torah: Deut. 21:10–25:19, 110 Pesukim

Hertz 840–857; Stone 1046–1067

Haftara: Is. 54:1–10

Hertz 857–858; Stone 1200

Tefillot: Morid Hatal, Birkat Halevana

Reminder: Selihot

Selihat take place before Shaharit each morning during the month of Elul. This week:
Sun 6:45 am, Mon 6:15 am, Tue-Fri 5:45 am

KJ Schedule

Erev Shabbat

Friday, September 2nd

Selihat	5:45 am
Shaharit	6:25 am
Candle lighting.....	7:00 pm
Minha	6:30 pm
Kabbalat Shabbat / Arvit	7:00 pm

Yom Shabbat

Saturday, September 3rd

Shaharit / Morning Prayer	8:30 am
Keri'at HaTorah	10:15 am
Musaf	11:40 am
Women's Tehillim	5:15 pm
Minha	6:15 pm
Se'uda Shelisheet	7:00 pm
Arvit	7:40 pm
Havdala	8:02 pm

(Continued on page 2)

Shabbat Kiddush

is sponsored by

Saul Levi

to celebrate the
Hakhnasat Sefer Torah
of his family Torah Scroll
commissioned in memory of
Elias Kelly Levi (1892-1954)

Seuda Shelisheet

and Hatima

are in memory of
Ramah Regina Mingail, z"l

Mazal Tov

Rabbi Raif & Jessica Melhado
on your 10th Wedding Anniversary

Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund

As you may know, 6 months worth of rain fell on Houston this past week. Along with millions of others, it's estimated that 71% of the Houston Jewish community lives in areas with massive flooding. This includes 12,000 elderly residents. As the flood water recedes, the rebuilding will begin.

From a distance, donations of money to help those on the ground can be the most useful. The Houston Jewish Federation is already in the midst of recovery efforts. See what they are doing and donate here:

www.facebook.com/HoustonJewish

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Sunday, September 3rd

Selihot / Shaharit 6:45 am / 7:30 am

Labor Day / Monday, September 4th

Selihot / Shaharit 6:15 am / 7:00 am

Tuesday-Friday, September 5-8

Selihot / Shaharit 5:45 am / 6:30 am

Next Shabbat / Fri-Sat, Sept 8-9

Shabbat Candle lighting 6:51 pm

Friday Minha 6:30 pm

Shaharit 8:30 am

Saturday Minha 6:15 pm

Havdala 7:53 pm

Refua Shelema

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



Charles Einy with Connor Lasken
Associate West Coast Director of AIPAC
at the El Cabellero Country Club Event

Condolences

We send our deepest condolences to the family
and friends of our dear member

Anita Wozniak, z"l

Hana bat Hilda (Kalman) z"l, who passed away on August 29th 2017, the 7th of Elul. She is survived by her parents, our longtime members Hilda & Karl Wozniak; her brother Jerome & sister-in-law Ronit Wozniak; her nieces & nephews Danny, Yoni, Eden, Yaniv & Ahava; and a large, loving extended family. Anita was a beloved and treasured member of our congregation. She was always there to offer support for her family, friends, students and community. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her family: may they be comforted together with all the mourners of Tsion. *Min hashamayim tenuhamu.*

In Memoriam

We remember these yearzeit anniversaries September 2 to 9, 2017. It is customary to light memorial candles, donate tzedaka & attend Shabbat services.

12 Elul / Sunday, September 3rd

Menasseh Saltoon *Menasseh ben Nissim*

13 Elul / Monday, September 4th

Sophie Solomon *Simhah bat Khatoon*

14 Elul / Tuesday, September 5th

Nathan Assia

Haim ben Haim Elazar

Harry Brook Moses *Haim Baruch ben Moshe Ezra*

15 Elul / Wednesday, September 6th

Sophie Meyer *Simha bat Rifka*

16 Elul / Thursday, September 7th

Flower Elias *Farha bat Yochevet*
Saleh Saleh

17 Elul / Wednesday, September 8th

Gala Nathan *Gala bat Sheikoory*

18 Elul / Shabbat, September 9th

Rahel bat Rahma Khatoon



**Talmud Torah
Open House
Sun. 8/27**

Join the fun!

Email Molly at
Molly@kahaljoseph.org
for more info or
register



Membership Benefits Everyone!

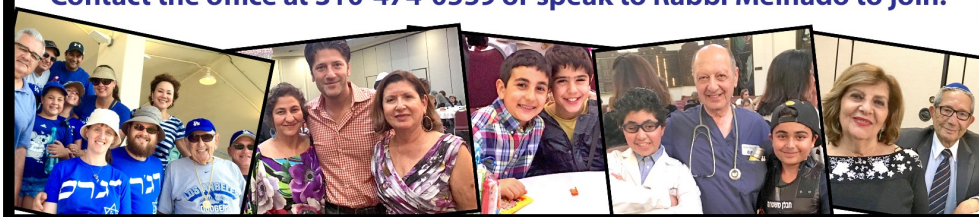
You get...

- *To be a part of the Kahal family
- *High Holy Days tickets
- *Rabbi for lifecycle events
- *Pastoral counseling
- *Preferential rates for space rentals, Talmud Torah tuition and children's programs

You support...

- *Adult Education programs
- *Social events
- *Children's education & programs
- *Prayer minyanim
- *Keeping Kahal here for you when you need it!

Contact the office at 310-474-0559 or speak to Rabbi Melhado to join!



**Honor a
loved one.**

**Celebrate a
milestone.**

**Place an ad
in the
High Holy Day
Booklet!**

**Donate \$18 or
more to Kahal to
put a 140
character greeting,
milestone or
memorial in the
booklet**

**Visit
www.kahaljoseph.org/hhd-booklet
by Wednesday,
September 13**

Ezra Levi Torah Rededication

With profound happiness, we welcome back the Ezra Levi Sefer Torah to Kahal Joseph after a full restoration by our sofer (ritual scribe).

Ezra Kelly Levi was born in Aleppo, Syria on July 8, 1892. He moved to Calcutta, India and became a shopkeeper, owning a gramophone store and two pastry shops. He had two children from his first marriage, Sarah & Aziza, and nine children with wife Matilda. He died on June 6, 1954 in London, England.

By family tradition, his son Saul Levi wanted to honor his memory with a Sefer Torah at his home congregation, Kahal Joseph. Saul designed the Torah casing, and with the help of his friend Ike Abraham, had it made in India. He acquired the parchment in Israel, and the two were united in the US in the 1960s. Twenty years later, he was inspired to include this iconic Torah in the Kahal stained glass, pictured to the left. The window is called "Jerusalem" and was dedicated to the memory of his son, Errol Levi.

Restoring a Torah scroll to its former glory is always a moment of celebration, and that is particularly true for this sefer, with its long history with Kahal. We are excited to have many members of the extended Levi family in attendance, including the Kurtzes and the Einys. The festivities commence with *Simhu Na* (words on page 5), and at Saul's aliya Rabbi Melhado will sing *Tenu Shebaha*, a traditional Portuguese Jewish prayer for the Hatan Torah.

Left: The Levi family. Ezra Kelly Levi and his wife Matilda, surrounded by their children, Rachel Joseph, Elias Levi, Saul Levi, Florence Levi, Trixie Ezekiel, Mollie Einy, Lily Jacob, Tiffy Borenstein and Louisa Hostic.



Simhu Na: A Song to Celebrate the Torah

שמחו נא שמחו נא. בשמחת התורה:

ישמחו אלהים. ישמחו ברוכים. ישמחו גאולים. בשמחת התורה: שמחו נא...
 ישמחו דגולים. ישמחו הדורים. ישמחו ותיקים. בשמחת התורה: שמחו נא...
 ישמחו זכאים. ישמחו חסידים. ישמחו טהורים. בשמחת התורה: שמחו נא...
 ישמחו ישראלים. ישמחו כהנים. ישמחו לויים. בשמחת התורה: שמחו נא...
 ישמחו מלכים. ישמחו נשיאים. ישמחו סופרים. בשמחת התורה: שמחו נא...
 ישמחו עניים. ישמחו פדויים. ישמחו צדיקים. בשמחת התורה: שמחו נא...
 ישמחו קדושים. ישמחו רחמנים. ישמחו שלמים. בשמחת התורה: שמחו נא...
 ישמחו תמימים. ישמחו תלמידים. ישמחו תמוכים. בשמחת התורה: שמחו נא...

Find your way through the High Holy Days

Join Rabbi Melhado online as we explore the meaning of the High Holy Days and prepare spiritually

Monday, Sept. 11 at 8PM

Reflect on Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday, Sept. 27 at 8PM

Prepare for Yom Kippur

RSVP to RabbiMelhado@kahaljoseph.org



Haga!

High Holy Day Musicale

An evening of Israeli & Arabic songs featuring Hazan Ben Atar and his band

Sunday, Sept. 24 at 7:30PM

Refreshments will be served

Tickets: \$30 in advance, \$40 at the door
 RSVP by Sept. 20 to the office or online at
www.kahaljoseph.org/events.html



CELEBRATE HIGH HOLY DAYS WITH KAHAL!

High Holy Day Tickets

Members - look for your tickets in the mail soon!

Guests - order your tickets now!

Order online at www.kahaljoseph.org/high-holy-days.html,
call 310-474-0559 or stop by in person!

MEMBERS RECEIVE:

- * Two adult tickets with family membership OR one single ticket with single membership
- * Free tickets for preregistered teens
- * Free playroom wristbands for preregistered children
- * Favorable rates for members' children in college

GUEST TICKET RATES:

Remember, your ticket package can be applied to the cost of a new membership!

* \$300 for adults

* \$150 for teens from bar mitzva through college

* \$50 for children under bar mitzva age



Children's Program



Join us for our exciting High Holy Days children's programming. We'll have engaging activities, lively entertainment, nutritious snacks, and an age-appropriate exploration of the holidays.

Registration required! Registration forms are in the mailing, or register online at www.kahaljoseph.org/hhd-kids.

Free for members, \$25 per holiday for non-members.

ROSH HASHANAH

Thursday, Sept. 21 - 10AM - 2PM

Friday, Sept. 22 - 10AM - 2PM

YOM KIPPUR

Friday, Sept. 29 - 5:45 - 10PM

Saturday, Sept. 30 -
10AM - 2PM, 3:45PM - 7:30PM

Welcome Back Hazan Ben Atar

We are thrilled that the wonderful voice of Hazan Michael Ben Atar will once again grace us from Jerusalem for Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur. He will join our beloved Hazanim Sassoon Ezra and Saeed Jalali, so that our prayers will be as beautiful to our own ears as they are to God.

Born into two Iraqi families, the Hazan avidly follows Mizrahi cantors Moshe Habusha, David Halabi, and Gourgy Yair. After studying at Yeshivat Oz Meir, he made music the centerpiece of his professional life. He plays the oud & violin, performs hazanut and at semahot, and teaches music to children and adults.



FALL HOLIDAY CALENDAR

Rosh Hashanah
September 20-22

Yom Kippur
September 29-30

Sukkot
October 4 - 11
Shemini Atzeret/
Simhat Torah
October 11-13

Mitsvot

Make a donation to reserve your
mitsva for the High Holy Days!

Call the office at 310-474-0559