

# KOL MEVASSER

## Rabbi's Message

This summer, I enjoyed catching up with an old friend from my days at the Pardes Institute in Jerusalem. As a fellow millennial, he was drawn to the old Nintendo Entertainment System in our living room, and we had fun reminiscing about childhood hours spent solving puzzles and stomping bad guys. Our conversation naturally turned to the memorable sound tracks of some famous games, and he rushed to his smart phone to introduce me to a man called "Smooth McGroove."



As we came into parashat Noah, I thought of these videos with a new eye. In two separate places in the parasha, humanity has the opportunity to select a course for itself, and in both cases we choose something frivolous. Of all the crops Noah could have planted after the flood, he selected grapes, which gave him the wine with which he later publicly humiliated himself. And of all the projects his descendants could have worked on, they selected a tower of senseless pride that enhanced their own glory with no socially beneficial outcome.

Does the success of Smooth McGroove point to a similar problem of misplaced priorities? For his videos to have any cachet, his audience must have played enough video games for enough time that they would be emotionally invested in watching them for fun. And he himself must spend vast amounts of time preparing each of the several takes of which each single clip is composed. As we might have asked the builders of the Tower of Babel, don't they have anything better to do?!

Yet I will suggest that like the tower itself, it all comes down to intention. Gleason is clearly much happier now: he has nearly 2 million YouTube followers, more than enough for him to earn a living wage and quit the job that bored him. Meanwhile, a quick search on the Internet shows that many find his story inspiring: they read him as a struggling artist whose creative vision came to reality through hard work that finally paid off. How many people with "conventional" jobs can say that? The difference between success and bad priorities is perhaps more slight than we wish to admit, which is a wakeup call to us all. How comfortable are we with what we spend most of our effort on? Let's make the time to find out.

What I found was as astonishing for its artistry as it was for its apparent triviality. "Smooth McGroove" is the stage name for Max Gleason, an Oklahoma native who loves music and was bored at his day job. To blow off steam from real life, he made an *a capella* recording of the jingle for one of his favorite childhood video games, and the result was so popular it broke the Internet.

His videos, of which there are now any great number, are all built around the same successful model. In the center of the screen is a clip of someone playing a video game, and this action is ringed by a Brady-Bunch-style arrangement of cameras that each features Smooth McGroove singing a single track. When all of them are played simultaneously, they produce an exact arrangement of the game's music, made all the more charming by Gleason's melodic tenor. Comic styling is added through his physical appearance, with a full beard and straight hair past his shoulders, as well as the tolerant presence of his cat on the percussion screen.

## Parashat Noah

### Rosh Hodesh Heshvan

Torah (§): Gen. 6:9–11:32, Num. 28:9–15

Hertz 26–40, 695; Stone 30–53, 890

Haftara: Is. 66:1–24 & 23

Hertz 944–947; Stone 1208–1210

Tefillot: Mashiv Haruah, Ya'ale Veyavo, Half

Hallel, Ata Yatsarta in Musaf; no Tsidkatekha

## KJ Schedule

### Erev Shabbat

*Friday, October 20th*

Minha.....	5:45 pm
Arvit .....	6:00 pm
Candle lighting.....	5:54 pm

### Yom Shabbat

*Saturday, October 21st*

Shaharit.....	8:30 am
Keri'at HaTorah .....	10:15 am
Musaf.....	11:40 am
Women's Tehillim .....	right after kiddush

Minha.....	5:15 pm
Se'uda Shelisheet .....	6:00 pm
Arvit .....	6:45 pm
Havdala .....	6:57 pm

*(Continued on page 2)*

(Continued from page 1)

*Sunday, October 22nd*

Shaharit ..... 7:30 am

**Talmud Torah ..... 9:45 am**

*Monday-Friday, October 23-27*

Shaharit ..... 6:25 am

**Next Shabbat**

*Friday-Saturday, October 27-28*

Candle lighting ..... 5:46 pm

Friday Mincha ..... 5:30 pm

**Shaharit ..... 8:30 am**

Saturday Mincha ..... 5:00 pm

Havdala ..... 6:49 pm



## KJ Welcomes Guest Speaker Sammy Samuels

Sammy Samuels is the third generation caretaker of the synagogue and Jewish interests in Yangon, Myanmar. Together

with his wife, Zahava, and sisters, Dina and Kuzna, they oversee Jewish landmarks in former Burma. The synagogue, *Musmeah Yeshuah*, the eighth "must see" venue in Yangon, hosts travel groups and interfaith conferences.

Sammy is a graduate of Yeshiva University in New York. For his work in promoting peace through travel and working for peace in Myanmar, recently meeting with Former UN Secretary General, Kofi Anan, to discuss the Rohingya unrest in Myanmar, Sammy was awarded the Eisenhower Award. In this connection, he has been travelling around the United States and meeting with people in the travel industry and the political arena.

The condition of the synagogue in Myanmar is pristine, and we have to thank the Samuels family for this, so that those of us who can go back, can revisit our life in Myanmar when we lived there and attended services with our families.

## Seuda Shelisheet

is sponsored  
in loving memory of

**Mary Mussry z"l**

by  
The Mussry Family

## Condolences

We offer our deepest condolences  
to the family and friends of

**Mary Mussry, z"l**

*Miriam bat Toba (Yaakov Saleh)*, who was born in Indonesia and passed away in Los Angeles on 21 Tishre 5778, Hoshana Rabba. She is survived by her sister Elsa Singman and brother David Mussry. She was predeceased by her siblings Hilda Sassoon, Rebecca Mizrahie, Florence Nathan, Charles Mussry, Lily Judah, Joseph Mussry, Edward Mussry, Ruby Mussry, Nassim Hay Mussry, and Grace Mussry. May Hashem comfort them together with all the mourners of Tsion.

**Thank You  
Diana Gazal**

for donating candy bags  
for the children on Simhat Torah

## In Memoriam

We remember these *yahrzeit* anniversaries from October 21 to 28, 2017. It is customary to light memorial candles, donate *tzedaka* & attend Shabbat services in honor of loved ones.

**1 Heshvan / Shabbat, October 21st**

Nissan Gad *Nissan ben Avraham*  
Joseph Aaron Judah *Yoseph ben Aharon*  
Yehuda

**2 Heshvan / Sunday, October 22nd**

Ovadia Drori *Ovadia ben Avraham*  
Khalil Naghdi *Matatyahou ben Eliyahu*  
David ben Yaacov Shalom

**3 Heshvan / Monday, October 23rd**

Yaacov Levy *Yaacov ben Shaul Levy*  
Sassoon Jacob Joseph Solomon Sassoon  
Yaacov Yosef Shlomo

**4 Heshvan / Tuesday, October 24th**

Sam Bekhor *Shmuel ben Yaacov Bekhor*  
Hilda Gillis *Habiba Gillis*  
Grace Saltoon *Garziee bat Masouda*

**5 Heshvan / Wednesday, October 25th**

Ruby Cohen *Rivka bat Salha Khatoun*  
Salha Hoory *Salha bat Noona*  
Jacob Izaac *Itzhak ben Yaacov Itzhak*  
Menashe Levi *Menashe Hai ben Yoseph HaLevi*

**6 Heshvan / Thursday, October 26th**

Meyer J. Jonah *Meir ben Yaacov Yonah*  
Saul Sopher *Shaoul ben Avraham Shalom*

**8 Heshvan / Shabbat, October 28th**

Eliezer Chammou *Eliezer ben Yosef*

## 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 • Moshe Haim ben Sara • Oren ben Aliza



## The Shabbat Project presents....



**Thursday, October 26, 2017**

Dessert Reception 7:00PM

Program 8:00PM

Admission: \$36

**ADAS TORAH, 9040 W. Pico**

Register at [theshabbosproject.org/la](http://theshabbosproject.org/la)

Join 100s of women for music, inspiration & challah baking!

**Saturday, October 28 at Kahal Joseph**

**Special Seuda Shelisheet at 4:45PM**

*Featuring Rebbetzin Jessica Melhado*

*Men & women welcome*

## YOUNG PROFESSIONALS SHABBAT DINNER FRIDAY, November 3 AT 7:30 PM

Interested in....

a delicious dinner?

meeting new people?

invigorating discussion?



Join Rabbi Melhado and his family at home for a relaxed, joyful Shabbat dinner with good people.

Open to members and friends in their 20s and 30s.

Register now by emailing Rabbi at [rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:rabbimelhado@kahaljoseph.org).

## HOSHANA RABBA AT KJ





## SHESHBESH AT KAHAL



JIMENA and Kahal Joseph Congregation  
invite you to an

### All-Ages Backgammon Tournament

Sunday, November 12th  
10505 Santa Monica Blvd

10am-4pm

10am: Tournament check-in and warm-up

11am: Tournament begins

Enjoy Middle Eastern music and food

Pre-registration: \$10 adults, kids FREE, \$20 Tournament Entry

At the door: \$10 adults, \$5 kids, \$30 Tournament

Prizes for top players and raffle giveaway  
(bring your own board for a free raffle ticket!)

Tickets: [bit.ly/kjsheshbesh](http://bit.ly/kjsheshbesh)

Share on facebook: [bit.ly/kjsheshbeshfb](http://bit.ly/kjsheshbeshfb)

Questions or purchase over the phone: (646) 894-0052

## Kahal Joseph Shabbat Children's Program!

Starting Saturday, November 11  
Shabbat Haya Sarah

\* Singing \* Stories \* Games \*  
\* Snack \* Discussion \* & more!



Tot Shabbat  
0 to 5



Torah & Me  
6 to 12



Watch the Kol Mevasser to find out more!  
To sponsor or help out - email [Jessica@kahaljoseph.org](mailto:Jessica@kahaljoseph.org)

## Announcing Kahal Joseph's 5778 Speaker Series

Kahal Joseph is proud to welcome speakers from across  
the country, around the city and in our community.



### Rabbi Asher Lopatin

Monday, November 13 at 7PM

Currently the President of YCT Rabbinical  
School in New York City, Rabbi Lopatin served  
as the spiritual leader of Anshe Sholom B'nai  
Israel in Chicago for 18 years.

He was ordained by Rabbi Aharon Soloveichik and Yeshivas  
Brisk. A Rhodes Scholar, he has an M.Phil in Medieval Arabic  
Thought from Oxford and has authored many articles.