



bulletin

Keshher Zion Synagogue



Volume 83 Issue 2

Tishrei—Cheshvan—Kislev 5780

October/November 2019

Keshher Zion Mission Statement: Keshher Zion Synagogue seeks to encourage the involvement of its members and create a special sense of belonging, while stressing the joy within Judaism. Our egalitarian synagogue is committed to meeting the religious, social, educational, and cultural needs of its members within the framework of the Conservative Movement. Keshher Zion Synagogue also recognizes its responsibilities to provide a public place of worship, to observe Jewish life cycle events, and to support the local community and the State of Israel.

Keshher Zion Synagogue
555 Warwick Drive
Wyomissing, PA 19610
610-374-1763
www.keshherzion.org

*Committed to meeting the
religious, social, and
educational needs of its
members within the
framework of the
Conservative movement.*

- Keshher Zion Synagogue



In This Issue

- Donation page
- The Prez Sez
- Rabbi/Hazzan Sislen
- Advertisements
- October/November Calendars
- High Holiday Schedule

Rabbi/Hazzan David B. Sislén



NOTES FROM THE RABBI / HAZZAN

As I write this in late August, the annual fall yuntif-a-thon is almost upon us. Following the weeks of preparation, we will embark upon the annual journey which takes us through an Intensive spiritual and physical process – the solemnity of Rosh Hashana, the intensity of Yom Kippur, the celebration of Sukkot, the significance and memories shared on Shmini Atzeret, and finally the joy and lunacy of Simchat Torah. It's a routine which we've repeated over and over again for centuries, but that never loses its motivational power. I find it apt that this most intensive period of the Jewish year always comes when it does in relation to the secular calendar. Just as we are gearing up for our return to school and work, so, too, do we psych ourselves into our spiritual and ritual routine for the start of a new Jewish year. For a student, the start of the school year is a time of new classes, different subjects, and new challenges to be met. At our jobs, we return from our summer vacations energized, able to take on our tasks with an enthusiasm which we were lacking when we took a well-deserved break a month or two prior. It stands to reason that the holidays of Tishrei should motivate us to bring that same motivation and energy to our Jewish lives. If we re-live the spiritual/ritual cycle of the fall holidays, but then fall back into the regular routine of our Jewish lives, then we've missed the point. The intensive re-introduction to the cycle of Jewish life is meant to be a motivator which draws us in, making it easier and inevitable that we will incorporate more of our shared ritual practice into our lives. Even making one small change can have enormous rewards. As you journey through the first holidays of 5780, think about what you could add to your plate to make this new year be a more meaningful one for you. Will this be the year you add to your family's Shabbat observance? *Kasher* your kitchen? Resolve to attend services on a more regular basis? Learn to read Torah or Haftarah? Increase your ability to participate in regular services? Learn to lead a service? Learn to read Hebrew? Anything and everything is available to you, and we at KZ are here to help. Feel free to contact me for ideas or suggestions of ways you can increase your connection to our customs, practices and history. Just as the fall holidays are the kickoff event for an entire year's worth of holidays and occasions, so, too, can one small addition to your routine be the start of an enriching and meaningful process which will last you far beyond this one New Year.

L'shana Tova T'kateivu!

Rabbi/Hazzan David B. Sislén



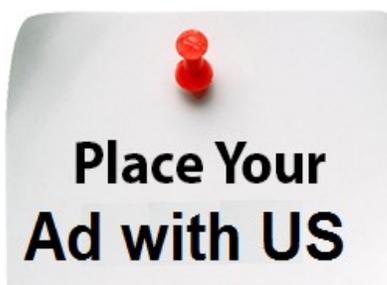
We erected our first sukkah six or seven years ago. At the time, our son was a toddler and we figured that this funny backyard booth would be fun for him. Little did we anticipate how fun it would be for us.

It started simply. We mentioned to a few people that they should swing by after dinner for a drink in the sukkah. And they came. One year, we decided to make it more official and we sent out invitations to an open house we entitled “Whiskey in the Sukkah.” Dozens more came; and then dozens more. Every year it gets bigger and we have added other events, like lunches and playtimes for children. We have already been asked this year when we will be hosting our Sukkot open house—it is not just our tradition anymore, but has become an anticipated part of the Fall for many of our friends and family.

During one of our first “Whiskey in the Sukkah” evenings, I sat with a good friend, sipping (of course) whiskey in the sukkah. It turned out that he had never sat in a sukkah before now. I was surprised. I asked: but didn’t you grow up in a fairly observant family, members of an Orthodox shul, in a large Jewish community? He responded, yes, but we never did any of the fun stuff. He paused and then added: had we done more of the fun stuff when I was a kid, maybe I would be more active today.

Attending High Holiday services is important for living a Jewish life. They embody so many of the core values of Judaism. I think, however, sometimes we are so tired after the Holidays—from family, from long services, from the emotional labor of reflecting back on the year and making emends—that we fail to keep going. We fail to celebrate Sukkot and Simhat Torah with the same intensity. Yet, it is these holidays that so perfectly counterbalance the solemnity and seriousness of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. These are the holidays that contain more of the “fun stuff.”

This year, find your “fun stuff.” For me, I love having an open sukkah. For you, it might be a different holiday or tradition that you want to incorporate more into your life. It doesn’t matter what it is, but find the part of Judaism that gives you joy and then go do it! And if you aren’t sure what to do, start by swinging by our house after dinner during Sukkot. We will have a glass of whisky or apple cider waiting for you.



October 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Rosh Hashana II See schedule page 8	2	3 Minyan 7:30pm	4	5 Shabbat Shuvah Services 9:30am
6 Kever Avot Memorial Service 10 :30am at KZ cemetery	7	8 Erev Yom Kippur See schedule page 8	9 Yom Kippur KZ Office Closed See schedule page 8	10 Minyan 7:30pm	11	12 Services 9:30am
13	14 Sukkot I KZ Office Closed Lunch & Learn See schedule page 8	15 Sukkot II KZ Office Closed Lunch & Learn See schedule page 8	16 Sukkot III (CH" M)	17 Sukkot IV (CH" M) Minyan 7:30pm	18 Sukkot V (CH" M)	19 Sukkot VI (CH" M)
20 Sukkot VII (Hoshana Raba)	21 Sherini Atzeret KZ Office Closed See schedule page 8	22 Simchat Torah KZ Office Closed See schedule page 8	23	24 KZ BOD meeting 7:00 pm Minyan 7:30pm	25	26 Services 9:30am
27	28	29 Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan	30 Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan	31 Minyan 7:30pm		

November 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Services 9:30am
3 Dawnlight Savings time ends set clock back 1 hour	4	5	6 Miryan 7:30pm	7 Miryan 7:30pm	8 Services 9:30 am	2 Services 9:30am
10	11	12	13 Miryan 7:30pm	14 Miryan 7:30pm	15 Services 9:30am	16 Services 9:30am
17	18	19	20 KZ Bod Meeting 7:00pm Miryan 7:30pm	21 KZ Bod Meeting 7:00pm Miryan 7:30pm	22 Services 9:30am	23 Services 9:30am
24	25	26	27 Thanksgiving Day KZ Office Closed Miryan 7:30pm	28 Thanksgiving Day KZ Office Closed Miryan 7:30pm	29 KZ Office Closed	30 Services 9:30am

KZ's 5th Annual

TRICKY TRAY/ CHINESE AUCTION

Gift baskets | 50/50 Raffle | Gift Certificates

SUNDAY
**DEC
08**

Doors open at noon
Drawing starts at 1:00

Kesher Zion Synagogue
555 Warwick Drive
Reading, PA 19610

Questions? Call (610) 374-1763



Torah Fund Campaign

What The World Needs Now...

Sponsor a Kiddush



Celebrate your special occasion with your congregational family.

For more information on sponsoring a Kiddush...

please contact the Synagogue office at: (610) 374-1763 or email:

In 1965 a popular song written by the successful team of Hal David and Burt Bacharach answered this question with "Love". Perhaps the Jewish duo was familiar with the Hebrew term "Chesed" which translates as "kindness" or "lovingkindness". This word, chesed, conveys a deep love that evokes acts of kindness without thought of reward or even acknowledgement.

The Bible tells many stories of chesed: Abraham and Sarah welcome 3 strangers to their tent in the heat of the day. Rebecca offers water to Isaac and to his camels. And Ruth sticks steadfastly to her mother-in-law, Naomi, adopting her religion and people, after Naomi experiences great loss.

Judaism is deeply committed to the attribute of kindness as a central pillar of Jewish life. In Pirke Avot 1:2 it states "The world rests on 3 things: on Torah, on service to G-d, and on deeds of kindness."

The annual Torah Fund Campaign supports the education of Jewish teachers and Clergy. All monies collected go directly to the cause for Conservative Judaism. Please consider giving as generously as you can in order to continue the education of future Jewish generations. A special donation of \$180.00 will merit the gift of the Torah Fund pin for 5780 (2019-2020).

This pin depicts a heart surrounded by 3 circles, growing in size. This symbolizes the heart of kindness which Jews perform in ever-widening realms of generosity. Perhaps the kindness spreads from family to community to the world. As it is said in Psalm 89: May we build a world of kindness.

Wishing everyone a Healthy, Happy New Year 5780
Arlene Ehrlich (610-373-6648)

And remember to consider calling me for our beautiful Torah Cards. We have cards for all occasions: New Baby, Simchas, Get Well and Sympathy. The cards are addressed, stamped and mailed—all for just \$5.00



Receive the Torah Fund pin for 5780 as
OUR GIFT TO YOU
in recognition of your generous support.



"People Making You Look Good"

Main Office: 1700 Fairview Street
Reading, PA

Reminder: If you haven't already returned your KZ dues declaration letter please do so, it's past due. We need your response in order to bill for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. If you don't have the form, call or email the office and we will send you another one.
610-374-1763 or kzsecretary@entermail.net



*Keshet Zion Synagogue
High Holidays
Tishrei 5780*

Rosh Hashanah

Tuesday, October 1, 2019
at The Inn at Reading
Morning Service 9:00 a.m.
Israeli Kiddush Luncheon to follow
services

Shabbat Shuvah

Saturday, October 5, 2019
Morning Service 9:30 a.m.

Kever Avot

Sunday, October 6, 2019
(at the Keshet Zion Cemetery)
Memorial Service 10:30 a.m.

Erev Yom Kippur

Tuesday, October 8, 2019
at The Inn at Reading
Mincha 6:00 p.m.
Kol Nidre 6:30 p.m.

Yom Kippur

Wednesday, October 9, 2019
at The Inn at Reading
Morning Service 9:00 a.m.
Yizkor 10:30 a.m.
Mincha 6:15 p.m.
Neilah 7:00 p.m.
Shofar 7:45 p.m.
Maariv & Havdalah to follow
Communal Break the Fast

Sukkot

Monday, October 14, 2019
Morning Service 9:30 a.m.
Lunch and Learn in the Sukkah
12:00 noon

Tuesday, October 15, 2019
Morning Service 9:30 a.m.
Lunch and Learn in the Sukkah
12:00 noon

Shemini Atzeret

Monday, October 21, 2019
Morning Service 9:30 a.m.
Yizkor Recited
Kiddush Luncheon following services

Simchat Torah

Monday, October 21, 2019
Maariv and Hakafot 7:15 p.m.

Tuesday, October 22, 2019
Morning Service 9:30 a.m.
Kiddush following services

Minyan

We need more Minyan Participants for the New Year.

Only 20 minutes on average once a month.

Your continued support will allow for a weekly Minyan.

Everyone is welcome to participate.

Please call Robert Schneier for more information at
(484)987-4805.



(Burial Society)

“The highest act of *gemilut chesed* (acts of loving kindness) is that which is done for the dead, for there can never be any question of repayment”. (Tanhuma Vayehi 107A)

Kesher Zion Synagogue has been providing Tahara (ritual washing) services for the entire Berks County Jewish Community for many years. Participation in tahara is a mitzvah of the highest order. It is performed by Jews to honor a deceased person who is Jewish. Generally, women perform tahara on women and men for men. Kesher Zion has a women’s group and a men’s group with chair people for each.

There are two major elements to the service. First is the cleaning of the body and second is the ritual washing and dressing in a shroud. The entire process takes place at the funeral home and should be done a few hours before the funeral service. Because there is a need to physically move the body during both processes, at least 3 people (ideally 4) are needed.

It is critical that the chair people have a sufficient number of people on their lists to accommodate everyone’s vacation/travel/ work schedules. The more people that are on the lists, the less frequently one is called. No one does this alone! It is a communal effort.

If you would like to learn more about chevrah kadisha, either talking to the chair people or attending a washing, please call the Kesher Zion office (610.374.1763) or email kzbookkeeper@entermail.net.

Please Remember

Your call is very important to us!

If you reach our answering machine, we are either on the other line, at a meeting, or stepped out for a break.

Please leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

If you have an emergency that can’t wait, and you cannot reach us during or after business hours, call:

KZ President
Dr. Jennifer Koosed
at: 484-651-0122

WINTER WEATHER

For current

Kesher Zion bad weather closings:

Call the office

(610) 374-1763

Listen to Y102



THANK YOU NOTES

Thank to all our friends fir the anniver-
sary wishes You helped make our day
extra special!

~Carole & Mike Robinson

Many thanks to Jan & Jonathan
Simon for providing Kiddush on
August 24, in honor of Zach Simon &
Katherine Sherbins's aufruf

Dearest Friends, Heartfelt thanks for
all your good wishes on our 50th
anniversary , both our birthdays, and
especially for our Florida safety during
Hurricane Dorian!

~ Fred & Eileen Knoblauch Wagner

Our thanks to all who wished us a
Happy Anniversary. It is wonderful to
be thought of so kindly by our Keshet
Zion Family. Thanks so much.

~ Arlene & Irving Ehrlich

MAZEL TOV

To Zach Simon and Katherine Sherbin on their *aufruf* ,

Son of Jan & Jonathan Simon

To Sue & Mike Farrara on their son's marraige

CONDOLENCES

To Larry Fogelman & Family

on the passing of Larry's mother,

Miriam Fogelman

WYOMISSING OPTOMETRIC CENTER

The Best Care In Sight!

24/7 Medical Eye Emergencies
Comprehensive Vision Care
Post Concussion Syndrome
Specialty Contact Lenses
Diabetic Retinopathy
Pediatric Eye Care
Contact Lenses
Optical Services
Orthokeratology
Dry Eye



Glenn S. Corbin, OD
Kerry J. Burrell, OD
Karen L. Heaney, OD
Heidi L. Sensenig, OD, MS, FCOVD
Amanda S. Legge, OD
Perry C. Umlauf, OD
Jeffrey S. Stefanick, OD

Refractive Surgery Co-management
Vision Therapy/Orthoptics
Low Vision Rehabilitation
Color Blindness Glasses
Macular Degeneration
Routine Eye Care
Glaucoma
Cataracts
Infection
Allergy

wyo-opto.com

WYOMISSING

50 Berkshire Court
Wyomissing, PA 19610
Phone: 610-374-3134

DOUGLASSVILLE

1050 Benjamin Franklin Hwy. W.
Douglassville, PA 19518
Phone: 610-385-4333

MYERSTOWN

356 West Main Avenue
Myerstown, PA 17067
Phone: 717-866-1400

Henninger
Funeral Home Inc.

229 North 5th St. Reading PA 19601

610-373-4500

Robert R. Nye, Supervisor

BOSCOV'S *A La Carte* CATERING SERVICE

From a small, intimate gourmet dinner
to a banquet for several hundred...
from a cocktail party to a formal dinner...
Boscov's A La Carte makes entertaining easy.
We'll bring the party to you...
or prepare it in your kitchen, if you prefer...
perfectly tailored to your specifications,
and very affordably priced.

The best party you ever gave
is just a phone call away.

(610) 370-3718

www.Boscovsalacartecatering.com & Event Planning - Dave Reppert@Boscovs.com





Contributions to support our Synagogue and Sisterhood are deeply appreciated. Whenever you wish to remember friends and loved ones, in joy or sorrow, please think of the following funds. An appropriate acknowledgment is sent. Make your check payable to the appropriate fund and send to the office.

KESHER ZION SYNAGOGUE GENERAL FUND: Minimum \$ 6.00
 Windows of Kesher Zion cards Minimum \$10.00

MORRIS HASSEL RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUNDS:
 Camp Ramah Scholarship Fund Minimum \$ 6.00
 Hebrew School Scholarship Fund Minimum \$ 6.00
 David & Rebecca Schein Scholarship Fund Minimum \$ 6.00
 Windows of Kesher Zion cards Minimum \$10.00

LEONARD C. LEVIN FUND FOR IMPROVEMENT AND BEAUTIFICATION OF KESHER ZION SYNAGOGUE:
 (Please make check payable to Leonard C. Levin Fund) Minimum \$ 6.00
 Windows of Kesher Zion cards Minimum \$10.00

HELEN RUDOLPH MUSEUM FOUNDATION OF KESHER ZION SYNAGOGUE: (Please make check payable to the Foundation.) Proceeds are used to support the museum collection Minimum \$ 6.00

HARRY G. BARRER YOUTH FUND OF KESHER ZION SYNAGOGUE:
 (Please make check payable to the Harry G. Barrer Youth Fund) Proceeds are used for U.S.Y. and Kadima activities Minimum \$ 6.00
 Windows of Kesher Zion cards Minimum \$10.00

DR. ROBERT N. GREENBERG SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM FUND: Minimum \$18.00

KIDDUSH FUND:
 Contribute to the weekly Shabbat kiddush and your name will be listed in the Shabbat bulletin. There will also be a framed acknowledgement at the kiddush in Sisterhood Hall Minimum \$36.00

SISTERHOOD FUNDS:
TORAH FUND:
 Cards available for all occasions. Funds are used to support the Jewish Theological Seminary's programs and scholarship fund. Call Arlene Ehrlich (610-373-6648) to have cards sent for \$5.00 each

SIMCHA FUND:
 Cards available for all occasions. Call Sylvia Wenger (610-375-3422) to have cards sent (\$1.50 each) or to purchase them for personal use (\$1.00 each).

Contributions to the Synagogue and the Sisterhood funds must be paid before cards are processed. Mail or bring your check with complete information to the synagogue office. If you have an account or wish to start one, please contact the office. Money should be added when the account gets low. This will eliminate writing numerous checks.



TODAH RABAH

Our warmest thanks are extended to those who have contributed to the following funds:

General Fund:

Mazel Tov to Lisa & Alan Levine on the birth of their grandson, Liam ~ Debbie & David Goldberg and family ~ Judy & Jim Schwank

Mazel Tov to Jan & Jonathan Simon on their son Zach's forthcoming wedding ~ Debbie & David Goldberg ~ Sylvia Wenger

Mazel Tov to Sue & Mike Fararra on their son's marriage ~ Debbie & David Goldberg ~ Gayle & Mike Kastenbaum

In memory of Miriam Fogelman ~ Gayle & Mike Kastenbaum ~ Mara & Randy Winn ~ Lynn & Jeff Driben

Dr. Robert Greenberg Scholar-In-Residence Program Fund:

In memory of Molly Greenberg ~ Pam & Jerry Weisberg ~ Naomi & Alex Weisberg ~ Lila Shapiro ~ Gaye & Glenn Corbin

In memory of Dr. Robert Greenberg ~ Carol Greenberg & Family

CAFÉ SWEET STREET

(610) 929-0616
 MONDAY-FRIDAY: 9-6
 SATURDAY: 10-5

722 HIESTERS LANE
 READING PA 19605
 CAFESWEETSTREET.COM

HAND TOSSED SALADS
ANGUS BEEF BURGERS
LUSCIOUS DESSERTS

HOUSEMADE SOUPS
GOURMET SANDWICHES
HANDMADE SODAS

UNIQUE OUTDOOR DINING!

RHOADS MEMORIALS, LLC

Cemetery Memorials, Bronze Plaques, Stone Cutting & Cleaning

Office-Same as LAURELDALE CEMETERY

Richard H. Rhoads, Jr.
 4631 Pottsville Pike, Reading, PA 19605
Phone: (610) 921-3240 **Cell:** (484) 269-1783
Email: RHOADSMEMORIALS@COMCAST.NET



Kesher Zion Synagogue



Contact Us

**Kesher Zion
Synagogue**

555 Warwick Drive
Wyomissing, PA 19610

Office: (610) 374-1763
Fax: (610) 927-1763

kzsecretary@entermail.net
Visit us on the web at
www.kesherzion.org

Office Hours:
Monday thru Friday
9:00a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



Affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

Rabbi/Hazzan David B. Sisen.....Rabbi
Dr. Jennifer Koosed.....President
Dr. Jennifer Koosed.....Educational Chair
Office.....Sisterhood
Al Katz.....Proofreader
Lenore Meyerson.....Editor

Call the office for advertising information

*The deadline for submission of articles for the December 2019/
January 2020 Bulletin is Monday, November 4, 2019*

To advertise your business or services Contact KZ Office: 610-374-1763
Email: kzsecretary@entermail.net



KESHER ZION JUDAICA SHOP

Need a Gift Idea?

Visit our Judaica Shop where you will find a wide
selection of giftware, books, jewelry and ritual items.

Contact Solange Israel-Mintz
610-372-4553 or simassoc20@aol.com

We are often able to beat the price of catalog items.



SAVE THE DATES FOR

UPCOMING KZ EVENTS FOR OCT & NOV

ROSH HASHANAH October 1, 2019

YOM KIPPUR October 8-9, 2019

SUKKOT October 14-15, 2019

Shemini Atseret/Simchat Torah

October 21-22, 2019

KZ TRICKY TRAY

December 8, 2019- Doors open at Noon