

APRIL 2024

ADAR II-NISSAN

KESHER ZION SYNAGOGUE

Official Bulletin of Keshet Zion

Keshet Zion Mission

We are a Conservative synagogue serving Berks County, Pennsylvania since 1929. Keshet Zion is proud of our history as a kind, welcoming community, eager to share our love of Judaism throughout our area. We are affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. We strive to bring a love of prayer, halakhah, and learning through our Shabbat & holiday services and adult & youth education programs. With knowledgeable clergy, lay leaders, and staff, our congregation shares our joys and sorrows through life cycle events, services and other special activities. Our congregation warmly welcomes Jewish and interfaith families, couples and singles into our community. We are egalitarian in all aspects. Together we strive to connect with our local Jewish community and those living in Israel.

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TRIVIA NIGHT
APRIL 14,
2024
7:00PM



*A Message
from the Chief*



Z'man Ḥeruteinu/ Season of our Liberation

This year, our religious concerns during the month of April are dominated by preparation for, and then observance of Passover. Passover will begin Monday night, April 22 at sundown (candle-lighting time is 7:33 PM). Ḥametz should be burnt, removed and/or sold by 11:53 AM on Monday, while the latest time to eat ḥametz is 10:45 AM.

If you would like to sell your ḥametz, you may use the contract below. Donations for maot chitim may be sent either to Keshar Zion Synagogue, or directly to Jewish Family Service, Reading/Berks, or to MAZON (mazon.org). The holiday will end Tuesday, April 30 at 8:43 PM.

One notable event during the month is Shabbat Hagadol (Saturday, April 20). One reason given for calling that day The Great Sabbath is because it was often the longest sermon of the year by the rabbi. The rabbi would go on at length about all the details of kashrut for Pesach. I will not do that, but if you have questions, I am here for you. Nevertheless, it is good to review. As we read in the Haggadah, “even if we are all learned and wise, all elders and fully versed in the Torah, it is our obligation to retell the story of the Exodus from Egypt. And the more one tells of the Exodus from Egypt, the more one is to be praised.”



TO HONOR THE TRADITION OF THE FIRST-BORN TO FAST ON THE DAY BEFORE PASSOVER, CANTOR PROSNITZ WILL HOLD A STUDY SESSION ON MONDAY, APRIL 22 AT 9:00 AM.

ANYONE, NOT ONLY FIRST-BORN, IS WELCOME TO COME. FOLLOWING THE STUDY SESSION WE WILL ENJOY A SEUDAH/FEAST WHILE WE CAN EAT OUR LAST CHAMETZ BEFORE THE CHAG/FESTIVAL.



Some tips to help make your seder successful:

- Make sure everyone has the same Haggadah.
- Review the Haggadah in advance. Consider getting one of the many new editions/bringing a new resource to your celebration. Plan who might say what/assign in advance Hebrew or English passages.
- Seder means order, but it does not have to be formal. Consider inviting contributions of text/song/thought from attendees.

Here is one way of understanding that there are four (yes, that ubiquitous number in our seder, four) separate tellings of the story, each with a question, an answer, and section of praise (per Dr. Ron Wolfson):

1. First Telling

- *Mah Nishtanah/The Four Questions*
- *Avadim Hayinu/We Were Slaves*
- *Barukh Hamakom/Praised be He*

2. Second Telling

- *Arba'ah Banim/The Four Children*
- *Mit'hila Ovdei Avodah Zarah/We Were Idol-Worshippers*
- *Barukh Shomer/Praised Be the Guardian*

3. Third Telling

- *Tzei Ul'mad/Go and Learn*
- *Arami Oved Avi/My Father Was*
- *Dayeinu/It Would Have Been Enough*

4. The Fourth Telling

- *Rabban Gamliel/Pesah, Matzah, Maror*
- *B'chol Dor Vador/In Every Generation*
- *L'fihach/Therefore We Praise*



May your observance of our Festival of Freedom include celebration of the past, connection with the present, and commitment for the future.

Contract for Selling Ḥametz /Prohibition of Chametz

On Pesach it is prohibited to possess ḥametz (leaven). All ḥametz that will not be eaten or burned before Pesach must be sold to a non-Jew. All ḥametz utensils that will not be thoroughly cleaned by then, should be stored away in closets or rooms while preparing for Pesach. The storage area is locked or tape-shut, and leased to a non-Jew at the time of the sale. You may use an agent both to sell the ḥametz to the non-Jew on the morning before Pesach starts and also to buy it back the evening after Pesach ends. Locking your ḥametz away and signing this contract is an easy way of observing one of the most important laws in the Torah. Ḥametz which remains in the possession of a Jew over Pesach may not be used, eaten, bought or sold even after Pesach.

Please identify all locations where you may own ḥametz, sign and date this contract, and give it to Cantor Ted Prosnitz, cantorprosnitz@gmail.com, Keshar Zion Synagogue, 555 Warwick Drive, Wyomissing, PA 19610 by 12 noon Sunday, April 21, 2024.

There is no charge for this, but a donation for Maot Hittin or other charity is encouraged.

DELEGATION OF POWER FOR SALE OF CHAMETZ

I hereby empower and authorize Cantor Ted Prosnitz to sell all Ḥametz that may be in my possession, wherever it may be - at home, a place of business or elsewhere. This includes all goods which may be delivered to me over Passover as well as stocks owned in full or in part in corporations which sell or deal with Ḥametz. Cantor Prosnitz has full rights to sell, dispose, and conduct all transactions, including rental of the property where the Ḥametz is stored and rental of right of way as he deems fit and proper, for such time which he believes necessary in accordance with detailed terms and forms explained in the contracts in his possession. The above power hereby being given, is meant to conform with all Torah and Rabbinic regulations and laws.

Name: _____

Address(es) where Chametz is stored (Home, Office, etc.):

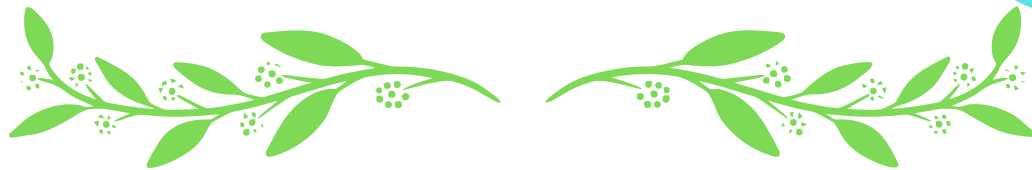
Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Passover Calendar @ Keshar Zion

2024



Monday, April 22 - 9:00am

To honor the tradition of the First-Born to Fast on the day before Passover, Cantor Prosnitz will hold a study session on Monday, April 22 at 9:00 AM. Anyone, not only first-born, is welcome to come. Following the study session we will enjoy a seudah/feast while we can eat our last chametz before the chag/festival.

Tuesday, April 23 - 9:30am service

Wednesday , April 24 - 9:30am service

Shabbat April 27 - 9:30am service

Monday, April 29 - 9:30am service

Tuesday, April 30 - 9:30am service

Yizkor - 11:00am

Services will be held in person and on Zoom

A light kiddush will follow services.



President



April has started with rain, rain, and more rain. Hopefully the sun will come out soon. As we move through the month of April several events will be occurring. Junior Congregation on April 13th, Trivia night on Sunday April 14th and Passover starts on the 23rd. My family will be gathering around our table to celebrate in between soccer and basketball for the grandkids. I sure do miss my Mom's homemade gefilte fish. We would like to start a Congregate of the month to be included in our monthly bulletin. A short interview will be conducted and listed in the monthly bulletin. If you are interested in telling your story of your involvement with KZ over the years please reach out to the office.

KZ Annual meeting will take place on Sunday May 5th. We will recognize our outgoing Board Members and welcome our new members.

If you have any questions or if we can help you please contact the office, Cantor or myself. Hope to see you at services or one of our events
Larry



A DONATION TO
KESHER ZION WAS MADE
IN HONOR OF
CANTOR TED'S BIRTHDAY
AND
KAREN AND TED PROSNITZ'
ANNIVERSARY
BY
SUSAN WILSON

"THANK YOU FOR THE WARM
HAPPY BIRTHDAY
WISHES
ELLIOTT LEISAWITZ



BOB CASTER WOULD LIKE TO
THANK EVERYBODY FOR THE
BIRTHDAY WISHES

AH FREILICHIN PURIM



A LITTLE LAUGHTER

A SYNAGOGUE IS HAVING AN ONGOING DISPUTE THAT STARTED SMALL, BUT IS NOW GETTING COMPLETELY OUT OF HAND. IT'S OVER WHETHER YOU SIT OR STAND DURING THE SHEMA. THE ARGUMENT IS INCREDIBLY BITTER. THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT TALKING TO EACH OTHER. THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO ARE THREATENING TO LEAVE THE SYNAGOGUE UNLESS THEY GET THEIR WAY. FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS HAVE BEEN DESTROYED. THE RABBI DOESN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO, SO HE FINDS OUT THAT ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF THE SYNAGOGUE, OLD MR. BERNSTEIN, IS STILL ALIVE IN THE HEBREW HOME. HE SITS ON THE PORCH IN A WHEELCHAIR WHEN THE DELEGATIONS FOR EACH VIEWPOINT PAY A CALL. BEFORE THE RABBI CAN COMPLETE HIS OPENING SPIEL, ONE OF THE PARTISANS BURSTS FORTH: "MR. BERNSTEIN, MR. BERNSTEIN, ISN'T IT THE TRADITION IN OUR SYNAGOGUE THAT YOU STAND DURING THE SHEMA, SO AS TO SHOW YOUR RESPECT TO GOD?" AFTER A COUPLE OF SECONDS PASS, HE JUST SHAKES HIS HEAD SLIGHTLY AND SAYS "NO." SO AN ADVOCATE FROM THE OTHER SIDE SAYS: "SO, ISN'T THE TRADITION IN OUR SYNAGOGUE THAT WE ALWAYS SIT TO SHOW OUR HUMILITY BEFORE GOD?" MR. BERNSTEIN SHAKES HIS HEAD AND AGAIN SAYS "NO." THE RABBI AND THE REST OF THE DELEGATION LOOK AT EACH OTHER. FINALLY THE RABBI SAYS, "MR. BERNSTEIN, THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT. IT HAS TO BE ONE OR THE OTHER BECAUSE THE SYNAGOGUE IS TEARING ITSELF APART. THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO HATE EACH OTHER AND FAMILIES THAT AREN'T SPEAKING TO EACH OTHER AND WE'VE PRACTICALLY GOT FIST FIGHTS IN THE PARKING LOT. WE'RE JUST CONSTANTLY AT EACH OTHER'S THROATS." AND OLD MR. BERNSTEIN SMILES, NODS AND SAYS, "THAT'S THE TRADITION!"

A JEWISH GIRL BECOMES PRESIDENT AND SAYS TO HER MOTHER, "YOU'VE GOT TO COME TO THE INAUGURATION, MOM." THE MOTHER SAYS, "ALL RIGHT, I'LL GO, I'LL GO. WHAT AM I GOING TO WEAR? IT'S SO COLD. WHY DID YOU HAVE TO BECOME PRESIDENT? WHAT KIND OF JOB IS THAT? YOU'LL HAVE NOTHING BUT TSURIS." BUT SHE GOES TO THE INAUGURATION, AND AS HER DAUGHTER IS BEING SWORN IN BY THE CHIEF JUSTICE, THE MOTHER TURNS TO THE SENATOR NEXT TO HER AND SAYS, "YOU SEE THAT GIRL UP THERE? HER BROTHER'S A DOCTOR."



Get To Know John Robbins

by Doris Persky Leisawitz

When next you see John Robbins, our synagogue security officer, you will know a bit more about this interesting fellow! Read on!



John, 57, grew up in Nescopeck Pa, a small town on the Susquehanna River, just northwest of Hazleton. He has a degree from PCT (Penn State) in Automated Manufacturing. In the past thirty years he has worked his way up the corporate ladder to the position of plant manager and is currently in the process of building a new plastics plant in Allentown, Pa. He will serve as plant manager when it is up and running, producing high-end cosmetic packaging. John has used his skills in industrial automation and robotics and worked in five states and abroad in recent years. Moving eleven times in fifteen years has been no easy feat. He now calls Kempton home and says that it is the best place he has ever lived with its beautiful rolling acres of land right outside his front door.

John enjoys spending time with his son, Justin, who recently graduated with a degree in economics and who works for a large bank in PA. Downtime with his greyhound rescue dog Ruby is always a welcome diversion.

He much prefers working on home projects rather than taking restful vacations which he finds stressful, certainly understandable for a guy used to working seventy to eighty hours a week! In his free time, he enjoys tinkering with his hot rods and race car collection, as well as refurbishing his childhood home in Nescopeck. An admitted news junkie, this busy guy will never pass up a good seafood dinner! A lifelong coin collector, he is most proud of his accumulated collection of mint Walking Liberty Half Dollars.

His interest in the security field originated while on a short break from full-time employment during the pandemic. Security seemed an interesting sideline and one which would keep him busy and engaged when he retires from industry. John also finds gratification in serving people and giving back to his community.

In addition to protecting us he is present at other houses of worship, active shooter drills at schools and numerous sporting events. He is grateful for the extensive training he received from his security firm and his ACT 235 training through the PA State Police.

The next time you see this friendly, outgoing and interesting fellow in the vestibule take a moment to express your gratitude for his service to us, maybe strike up a conversation. John Robbins plays an important role in our synagogue life. We are ever so grateful.

Thanks, John, you are a mensch.

KESHER ZION SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE MITZVAH PROJECT

HELLO KZ FAMILY,

PLEASE HELP US SUPPORT THE VALENTINE/FOGELMAN FAMILY AND THE EAGLES AUTISM CHALLENGE 2024.

THIS CHALLENGE IS DEDICATED TO RAISING FUNDS FOR INNOVATIVE RESEARCH AND CARE PROGRAMS TO HELP FAMILIES WHO HAVE BEEN IMPACTED BY AUTISM.

THIS IS A CYCLING AND FAMILY FRIENDLY 5K RUN/WALK, STARTING AND ENDING AT LINCOLN FINANCIAL FIELD ON MAY 18, 2024. LARRY PLANS TO CYCLE, AND LAUREN, JOSH, JOSEPH, LUCAS, STEPHANIE, SHELLEY, OLIVIA, CONNOR, AND ANDREA PLAN TO WALK TO RAISE FUNDS. 100% OF THE PARTICIPANT RAISED FUNDS WILL BE USED FOR AUTISM SUPPORT AND RESEARCH.

YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE BY GOING DIRECTLY TO:

[HTTPS://DONATE.HAKUAPP.COM/DONATIONS/NEW?TEAM=TEAM-LUCAS-4](https://donate.hakuapp.com/donations/new?team=team-lucas-4)

YOU CAN ALSO SEND A CHECK MADE OUT TO LAUREN VALENTINE AND MAIL IT TO:

LAUREN VALENTINE, 802 BLUE GATE LANE, SINKING SPRING 19608.

ANY CONTRIBUTION IS GREATLY APPRECIATED. PLEASE CONTACT LAUREN VALENTINE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS AT (484) 336-0129 OR LFSOCCER52@COMCAST.NET. THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THIS VERY WORTHWHILE CAUSE.



WE ARE OUR BROTHERS' KEEPERS

THE 2023-2024 TORAH FUND CAMPAIGN HAS SELECTED THE THEME OF RESPONSIBILITY.

KOL YISROEL AREVIM ZEH BE'ZEH

כל ישראל ערבים זה בזה

ALL THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ONE ANOTHER.

EVERY YEAR TORAH FUND MAKES A PLEA FOR DONATIONS.

WHEN YOU SUPPORT TORAH FUND,
YOU HELP TO EDUCATE STUDENTS IN NEW YORK, LOS ANGELES,
ISRAEL, LATIN AMERICA AND EUROPE.
YOU ARE SAYING, "I WANT TO STAND WITH THOSE WHO EDUCATE
COMMITTED JEWISH STUDENTS TO BECOME RABBIS, CANTORS,
EDUCATORS, SYNAGOGUE ADMINISTRATORS, SOCIAL WORKERS,
SCHOLARS, RESEARCHERS AND LAY LEADERS OF TOMORROW.

THANKS TO YOUR GENEROSITY, YOU ARE HELPING TO PROVIDE THE
LEARNING, KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS TO FORTIFY FUTURE
GENERATIONS OF JEWISH PEOPLE.

PLEASE CONSIDER ADDING A DONATION FOR TORAH FUND WHEN
YOU SEND IN YOUR KESHER ZION MEMBERSHIP FOR 2023-2024.
AND REMEMBER TO CALL ARLENE EHRLICH (610-373-6648) TO SEND A
TORAH FUND CARD FOR ANY OCCASION: CONGRATULATIONS,
CONDOLENCE, THANK YOU, GET WELL...

THE COST OF \$5.00 COVERS MAILING.
A SPECIAL TORAH FUND DONATION OF \$180.00 WILL EARN YOU A
BEAUTIFUL GIFT PIN STATING, "AREVUT", HEBREW MEANING
RESPONSIBILITY.

WISHING YOU ALL A HEALTHY, HAPPY NEW YEAR.

2023 GIFT PIN



50 YEARS CELEBRATING TOGETHER

Congratulations
to KZ and RCOS in 5784,
for celebrating together the 50th
Anniversary of both movements
recognizing women in the minyan
(8/29/1973)

Mrs. and Mr. Jennifer Gurwitz

A DONATION HAS BEEN MADE
TO KESHER ZION
IN MEMORY OF BORIS CORBIN
BY
ROBERT SCHNEIER
DORIS & ELLIOT LEISAWITZ
KAREN & MYRON KABAKOFF
JESSE PLEET

A DONATION HAS BEEN MADE TO
KESHER ZION SYNAGOGUE
IN MEMORY OF
DAVID PLEET
BY
KAREN & MYRON KABAKOFF

A DONATION WAS MADE
TO KESHER ZION IN
MEMORY OF
IRWIN KABAKOFF
BY
DEBBIE AND DAVID
GOLDBERG
ROBERT SCHNEIER
JUDY AND JIM SCHWANK
DORIS & ELLIOT
LEISAWITZ
ANDI & BILL FRANKLIN

The Keshet Zion Cemetery offers lots to members of Keshet Zion Synagogue and members of the broader Jewish community. To obtain information on purchasing lots, contact the Cemetery Association President, Robert M. Caster at 610-587-1985 or via email at robertmcaster@comcast.net, or you can contact Larry Fogelman at 610-507-5281 or via email at lfogelman@comcast.net.

KESHER ZION SYNAGOGUE
555 WARWICK DRIVE WYOMISSING, PA 19610

DO A MITZVAH

**PLEASE HELP US MAKE A MINYAN ON
THE FIRST AND THIRD THURSDAYS OF
EVERY MONTH SO THOSE NEEDING TO
SAY KADDISH ARE ABLE TO.**

ALL ARE WELCOME

**MINYAN STARTS AT 7:30 PM AND LASTS
20-25 MINUTES**

April 4-18	MAY 2 + 16
June 6+ 20	July 4+18

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL
ROBERT SCHNEIER
(484) 987-4805
ROBERTBSCHNEIER@GMAIL.COM**

LEAGRAM

IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR LEAGRAM
FORMS FOR MAY TO AUGUST
PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE IMMEDIATELY
AND WE WILL RESEND THEM TO YOU.

KESHERZIONOFFICE@GMAIL.COM

**The Kesher Zion Social Action Committee wants to
hear from you.....**



**We would like to know if you would like an
occasional ride to KZ to attend services?**

**Please respond to :
Robert Schneier**

robertbschneier@gmail.com (484) 987-4805

Junior Congregation

April 13, 2024

10:30am



KIDDUSH TO FOLLOW

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 610-374-1763

KESHERZIONOFFICE@GMAIL.COM

KESHER ZION SYNAGOGUE 555 WARWICK AVE WYOMISSING, PA 19610

KESHER ZION SYNAGOGUE
INVITES YOU TO



TRIVIA



NIGHT



WITH WINE AND NOSH



Sunday April 14, 2024

Doors Open At 7:00pm

\$ 15 for nonmembers \$8 for members

WE'D LOVE TO KNOW IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND

For more Info contact keshertzionoffice@gmail.com
or call (610) 374-1763

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WYOMISSING
610-374-3134



Keshher Zion Synagogue



Affiliated with the United Synagogue
of Conservative Judaism

Cantor Ted Prosnitz.....Clergy
Larry Fogelman.....President
Susan Weiss.....Editor

Call the office for advertising
information.

The deadline for submissions
of articles for the
MAY 2024 Bulletin is
Wednesday, MAY 1, 2024

Contact Us

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555 Warwick Drive
Wyomissing, Pa. 19610

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

keshherzionoffice@gmail.com
visit us on the web at
www.keshherzion.org

Office hours:
Mon-Wed-Fri
10:00am-3:00pm

To advertise your business or services

Contact KZ Office : 610-374-1763

Email: keshherzionoffice@gmail.com

TZEDAKAH

CONTRIBUTIONS TO SUPPORT OUR SYNAGOGUE ARE DEEPLY APPRECIATED. WHENEVER YOU WISH TO REMEMBER FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES, IN JOY OR IN SORROW, PLEASE THINK OF THE FOLLOWING FUNDS. AN APPROPRIATE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT IS SENT. MAKE YOUR CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE APPROPRIATE FUND AND SEND/BRING TO; KESHER ZION SYNAGOGUE
555 WARWICK DRIVE WYOMISSING, PA 19610

KESHER ZION GENERAL FUND.....MIN. \$6
DR. ROBERT N. GREENBERG SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM
FUND.....MIN. \$18
KIDDUSH FUND..... .MIN. \$36

CONTRIBUTE TO THE WEEKLY SHABBAT KIDDUSH FUND AND YOUR NAME WILL BE LISTED IN THE SHABBAT BULLETIN. THERE WILL ALSO BE A FRAMED ACKNOWLEDGMENT AT THE KIDDUSH IN THE SOCIAL HALL

YARZEIT FUND EACH WEEK, KZ SENDS OUT REMINDER CARDS CONCERNING THE YAHRZEITS OF OUR BELOVED DEPARTED FAMILY MEMBERS AND ACCEPTS DONATIONS IN THEIR MEMORY. ALL DONATIONS ARE ANNOUNCED AT SHABBAT SERVICES. SOME MEMBERS FIND IT CONVENIENT TO PAY FOR ALL OF THEIR YAHRZEITS(\$5 MINIMUM PER NAME) AT ONE TIME, ONLY ONCE PER YEAR. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS CONVENIENT WAY TO REMEMBER LOVED ONES AND TO DONATE TO KZ.....

TORAH FUND
Cards available for all occasions. Funds are used to support the Jewish Theological Seminary Programs and Scholarship Funds. Call Arlene Ehrlich at (610) 373-6648 to have cards sent for \$5 each.



SIMCHA FUND CARDS AVAILABLE FOR ALL OCCASIONS CALL SYLVIA WENGER AT (610) 375-3422 TO HAVE CARDS SENT FOR \$1.50 EACH OR FOR PURCHASE FOR PERSONAL USE FOR \$1 EACH

A Zissen Pesach – A Sweet Passover

Passover is a holiday of hope in dark times.
Our ancestors' slavery was bitter and their spirits
were crushed.

And yet – Miracles! Liberation! Song!

May the season of our freedom bring to you and
your family expansive freedom, embracing love,
complete joy, and pure sweetness.

