



"For the Jewish People there was Light, Gladness, Joy and Honor"

(Esther 8:16)

COME AND JOIN US — EVENING AND MORNING

**YOU ARE INVITED TO
OUR PURIM SERVICE
Wednesday Evening, March 22**

Mincha at 5:45 P.M.

Maariv in the Main Synagogue at 6:15 P.M.

Megillah Reading will follow.



Photo by Ittai Hershman

The Megillah readers, evening and morning, will be (left to right) Bennett Lindenbaum, Peter Miller, Steven Brown, Steven Eisman, Isaac Herzog, Steven Koppel, Nathan Lindenbaum, Roger Mosesson, Sandy Shapiro, Ethan Schwartz, Larry Kamerman, Carl Mosesson, Eugene Major and Matthew Lindenbaum.

Not shown: Keith Barany, Amiel Bender and Moshe Rosenberg.

Special Morning Reading

on Thursday, March 23 at 10:30

in the Etra Chapel

(details in the adjoining article)

**Reminder
YESHIVA UNIVERSITY BRUNCH**

This Sunday, March 12 at 10:00 A.M.

ALL WELCOME



**PURIM EVENING AND
THE CHILDREN**

All of us share in the joy of Purim, but perhaps those who enjoy it most are our children. In order to maximize their *simcha* and ours, we make special preparations for them and arrange proper supervision as follows:

Please bring all children from Nursery through Grade 6 to the Synagogue at 5:45 on Wednesday afternoon. The younger children (Nursery through First Grade) are to gather in the Etra Chapel on the first floor. The older children (Second through Sixth Grades) will meet in the Gymnasium. Youth leaders will bring the children to the special sections reserved for them in the Main Synagogue and they will also provide them with the appropriate noisemakers and Purim sweets. Parents are asked to join the regular service in the Main Synagogue until its conclusion, at which time they may pick up their children at the locations listed above.

**Ramaz Students to Conduct
Service and Sponsor a Fair
Following the Megillah**

As has been our custom for many years, students of Ramaz will read the Megillah and conduct the service on Wednesday evening. Following that service, a crafts fair will be sponsored by the Student Organization of the Joseph H. Lookstein Upper School of Ramaz. Items will be available for sale and snacks provided for visitors. Please see the notice for this fair elsewhere in the Bulletin.

Mishlo'ach Manot

Once again this year the students of Ramaz will make available packages of Mishlo'ach Manot which you

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Purim Evening (Cont'd)

can share with your friends in accordance with the requirement on Purim to send two types of food to at least one friend. The nature of the Mishloach Manot is also described elsewhere in this Bulletin.

Purim Morning

On Purim morning, Thursday, March 23, we will read the Megillah twice. The first reading will be done by Mr. Rosenberg — a unique treat — as part of the regular morning service which will begin that day at 7:00 A.M. Following the service, the congregation will be the guests of our Vice President, William G. Lebowitz, for a Purim breakfast with the traditional holiday fare.

10:30 A.M. Reading for Women and Children

The second reading will be for women and children — and anyone else who would like to join — at 10:30 A.M. on Thursday. Ramaz students will again read the Megillah. We especially urge women to attend this reading and, if they are blessed with children, to bring them along. Everyone will enjoy it.

Following the reading of the Megillah, a light collation of Hamantashen, milk and coffee will be served. This religious and social experience also provides a fine opportunity to exchange Mishlo'ach Manot.

Join with us, then, in celebrating Purim this year — evening and morning. We look forward to rejoicing with you and we hope that this season of the year will usher in a period of good fortune for Israel and all of world Jewry.

Crafts Fair Following Megillah Reading

Sponsored by the Ramaz High School Student Organization

Booths will feature the following crafts:

- Pottery
- Jewelry
- Needlepoint
- Woodcuts
- Greeting cards
- Wall hangings
- Knitted kipot

Assorted Israeli jams and cases of Jaffa oranges will be available for sale.

Falafel and Hamantashen will be served.

Special treats will be distributed to the children.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE PURIM PARTY

We look forward to greeting all former members and others interested in the Friendship Circle at our Purim Party which will take place on Thursday afternoon, March 23 in the Social Hall at 1:00. Music will be provided and refreshments will be served.

We hope to see everyone there after this long, hard winter.

Rabbi Bieler to Give Megillah Class

We are happy to announce that Rabbi Jack Bieler, Director of our Institute of Continuing Education, will give a pre-Purim class on the Megillah on Shabbat afternoon, March 18, one hour before Mincha services. All who are interested in studying the Megillah with Rabbi Bieler are invited to the Ward Library at 4.50. Rabbi Lookstein's class in *Hilkhot Shabbat* will not be held that day.

REMINDER ABOUT MEGILLAH TAPES

We would like to remind our readers that a tape of the reading of the Megillah and its blessings produced by Mr. Rosenberg is available. The recording, which sells for \$5.00, can be obtained by contacting Mr. Rosenberg in the Synagogue Office. These tapes would surely be an asset to the library of any Jewish home.

Parshat Ha-Shavu'ah Class

Rabbi Jack Bieler's class on *Parshat HaShavu'ah* will meet in his home at 8:30 on March 17 and April 1.

The portions to be discussed are *Vayikra* and *Shemini*. Rabbi and Mrs. Bieler live at 1641 Third Avenue, Apt. 2-K (corner 91st Street).

All are welcome!!! A most stimulating evening is promised for all who attend.

MISHLO'ACH MANOT ORDER FORM

Once again the Ramaz Student Government is selling pre-packaged Israeli-product *Mishlo'ach Manot*. We feel that this is a most meaningful way to help Israel during the Purim holiday. We will be packaging one type of box at a cost of \$3.50 each. All packages will come festively wrapped.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Ramaz Student Government
Mindy Lookstein
Rona Woldenberg
Chairpersons

Contents:

- Hamantashen*, Jaffa Orange, Bornibus Prepared Mustard, Osem Mediterranean Snack Crackers, Osem Extra Thin Cracker Bread, Nazareth Candy Drops, Nandy Milk Chocolate Bars and Nazareth Almond Caramels.

PLEASE SEND IN YOUR ORDER FORM AND CHECK TO RAMAZ STUDENT GOVERNMENT, 125 East 85 Street, BEFORE March 15, 1978.

NAME

ADDRESS PHONE.....

Please prepare.....packages @ \$3.50 each.

I enclose a check payable to the Ramaz Student Government.

CHECK ONE

.....I will pick up my pre-packaged box following Megillah Reading on Wednesday night, March 22.

.....My child,,

Grade....., will pick up my package on Wednesday, March 22, during the day.

THE DEEPENING POPULATION CRISIS IN THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Excerpts from a sermon delivered by Rabbi Haskel Lookstein on February 4, 1978. It is reprinted here because of its message for the Jewish community. A second installment dealing with proposed solutions to the problem will be published in the next issue of the Bulletin.)

On January 30 and 31 of this year, the Commission on Synagogue Relations of Federation sponsored a conference on Jewish population, to deal with a problem which, if not solved, could, God forbid, lead to the disappearance of the Jewish people.

Lest one be accused of crying demographic wolf, it might be helpful to quote Dr. Elihu Bergman, Assistant Director of the Harvard Center for Population Studies, in "The American Jewish Population Erosion," *Midstream*, October 1977. In that article Bergman estimated that a hundred years from now the American Jewish community is likely to number no more than 944,000 persons and conceivably as few as 10,420. While some argue with the severity of those figures, no student of Jewish communal life today doubts that we face a disastrous decline in the Jewish population in America over the next few generations — a decline which, if not halted, promises to make Jewish life as we understand it today, extremely difficult to maintain in this country.

There are two factors which are responsible for the decline and the gloomy prognosis for the future. The first is the very low birth rate of American Jews.

Demographers tell us that if the birth rate is 2.1 children per family, a society will have achieved zero population growth. That is, 2.1 children per family on the average will maintain the present generation size in the next generation.

The American Jewish birth rate right now seems to be at 1.6 children per family. This low birth rate alone would be enough to reduce the American Jewish population by one-third within seventy years.

The second part of the problem is the rising rate of defection from the

Jewish people. Sociologists estimate that the current rate of intermarriage among American Jews is at least 33 percent and probably a good deal higher. Religious dropping out is also on the increase. For example, in 1961 when *Jewish* college seniors were asked what religion they belonged to, 13 percent said "no religion." In 1969 that figure had risen to 21 percent.

The result of the low birth rate, the high intermarriage rate and the increased defection rate to "no religion" leads the most conservative demographers to assume that the Jewish population in America is losing 25 percent in each generation. This means that if the present Jewish population is a little over 5,000,000 (which is the new estimate, considerably reduced from the 6,000,000 estimate of just a few years ago), that number will be reduced to a little over 2,000,000 four generations from now. Imagine what this will mean in terms of the vitality of Jewish life, the survival of Jewish institutions (synagogues, yeshivot, community centers, hospitals, etc.) and the power of a Jewish electorate to influence governmental decisions affecting Jews here and in Israel. It all adds up to a terrible problem.

Things Are Getting Worse— Not Better

Moreover, a realistic prognosis would show that the trend toward a lower Jewish population is not even remaining the same; it is increasing. There are several reasons for this.

1. The divorce rate among Jews is increasing. One in four — and perhaps one in three — Jewish marriages are ending in divorce. It is axiomatic that fewer children are born when the divorce rate rises.

2. Marriage is being deferred to a later age by Jews as by the general population. The older the couple is when they get married, the fewer children they are likely to have.

3. More women are working than ever before and many of them are working in professional careers. The tendency is for working women to have fewer children than non-working women and for professional women to have even fewer children because they cannot afford frequent or prolonged breaks in their professional life.

Feminism, too, is an important factor in the lower birth rate among Jews. Despite whatever advantages feminism may have brought to women

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106th Annual Meeting on Sunday Morning, April 9, To Feature Dedication of New Chupah Presented By Sisterhood

A unique occasion in the history of Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun and in the religious life of the New York Jewish community, will be marked on Sunday morning, April 9, when the 106th Annual Meeting of the Congregation is convened in the Main Synagogue. The Annual Meeting, of course, will feature the induction of new members of the congregation and the election of officers and trustees. Its main function this year, however, will be to serve as the occasion to present a new Chupah to our community.

The Chupah has been a project of the KJ Sisterhood for more than a year. Some thirty women have created it with their needlepoint work under the inspired leadership of Mrs. Harry W. Baumgarten. It will be a

magnificent example of religious art at its best and, of course, it will be used by members of the community, please God, at their happy occasions in years to come.

We have been invited to lend the Chupah to the Yeshiva University Museum and the Jewish Museum for display on their premises. We expect that the presentation of the Chupah will be an important news event in the world of religious art.

The entire congregation is invited to participate in this momentous occasion by attending the 106th Annual Meeting and the service of dedication. Following the proceedings, there will be a special reception in the Kamber Auditorium for all the invited guests.

WITHIN OUR FAMILY

Mazel Tov to the Lerner's

We extend a hearty *mazel tov* to Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Lerner on a double *simcha* in their family life. They are celebrating the forthcoming marriage of their son Phillip to Shelley De Vaul, the *auf-ruf* for which will be observed on Shabbat, March 25. The Lerner's are also celebrating their 30th wedding anniversary during this season.

The congregation will be the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Lerner at Kiddush following services on March 25.

New Olim

We extend our best wishes to Seth and Janet Bulow, son and daughter-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Bulow, who recently went on *Aliyah*. The younger Bulows are resettling in Jerusalem.

We hope that they derive much satisfaction and fulfillment in their new home. We know that the State of Israel will surely benefit from the presence of these new residents.

Academic Enrichment

Our member Frederic Baumgarten has completed three weeks of study in Harvard Business School's Smaller Company Management Program. Mr. Baumgarten was one of 80 executives from all over the world participating in this program, which will be followed up with another session some time next year.

Communal Honors

Walter Koppel, our Men's Club President, recently served as Deputy President of the Borough of Manhattan for a day. This appointment was effective on Sunday, February 26. Mr. Koppel was granted this honor in recognition of his service to the community as an active Ramaz parent and KJ member, as well as for his participation in the Businessmen's Advisory Committee to the National Conference for Soviet Jewry.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

JK Inter-Generational Program

As many heard at the last Oneg Shabbat, JK is launching a program designed to bridge the generations in the KJ community. Anyone interested in meeting and working with some of the older members of our community is asked to contact Elana Bernstein (861-5222) or Steven Koppel (628-8181).

Rabbi Haskel Lookstein To Be Installed as Secretary of the New York Board of Rabbis March 19th

We are proud to announce that Rabbi Haskel Lookstein will be officially installed as Recording Secretary of The New York Board of Rabbis at a special ceremony to be held on Sunday, March 19, at 4:00 o'clock in the Hotel Biltmore. At that time Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein, a past President of The New York Board of Rabbis will serve as the installing officer.

Members of the congregation and the community who would like to attend the installation ceremonies for all of the officers of The New York Board of Rabbis are invited to come to the Biltmore at 4:00 o'clock on Sunday, March 19th.

U.J.A. Volunteers Active in Congregation

We are proud to announce that under the leadership of Stephen Kule a committee of active volunteers is soliciting members of the congregation for their contributions to U.J.A.-Federation for 1977-78. At the same time, Mrs. Abraham R. Kirshon is co-ordinating the women's effort in our congregation for the same purpose.

We hope that you will give the U.J.A. volunteers from K.J. your fullest cooperation and that you will respond to their calls generously. Never before have the needs been so pressing both in Israel and at home as they are this year. Inflation has taken a terrible toll both overseas and here at home. In the absence of a particular crisis, the collections in New York have fallen off. It is the obligation of members of Kehilath Jeshurun who understand the ongoing needs to respond more generously than ever before.

We know we can count on you.

Junior Congregation News

Although postponed once, the second Junior Congregation trip ("Operation Thunderbolt") was certainly worth waiting for. Thanks go to Eugene Major for his planning and managing of the outing.

The officers elected for the month of Adar II are:

Alan BrownPresident
Lenny SilvermanVice-President
Steven TanzSecretary
Larry TanzGabbai
Sara TanzKiddush Hostess

Bar Mitzvah



Joshua Kagan

Mazel tov to Mr. and Mrs. Irving Kagan on the forthcoming Bar Mitzvah of their son, Joshua, on Shabbat, March 18. Joshua, who is a student in Form II of Ramaz, will read the *Haftarah* during services that morning.

The entire congregation will be the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Kagan at Kiddush in honor of this happy occasion.

A Reminder About Congregational Sedarim

We would like to remind everyone that Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun will once again be sponsoring *Sedarim* this year. The *Sedarim*, on Friday and Saturday night, April 21 and 22, will be catered by Victor Mayer and conducted by the Rabbis of the congregation and Cantor Davis.

Members of the congregation and families of the wider community are cordially invited to join us for these *Sedarim*. The charge will be \$30 per plate for adults and \$18 for children twelve or under. Reservations, accompanied by check, must reach the Synagogue office by April 1.

AN EASY WAY TO HELP RAMAZ

A & P Donation Days for Ramaz will be held on Wednesday, March 15 and Wednesday, April 12, 1978. By shopping at participating A & P stores on these days, you will be supporting the Ramaz Parents Council.

This is how it works: You will receive Donation Day I.D. cards in the mail. The participating A & P stores will turn over to the Ramaz Parents Council 5% of the grocery receipts they collect from I.D. card holders on March 15 and April 12. If you won't be shopping on those days, pass your card on to someone else who will be able to use it. Extra I.D. cards will be available at both Ramaz buildings.

The four A & P stores participating in the Donation Day program are located at 87th Street and Madison Avenue, 83rd Street and Lexington Avenue, 70th Street and Third Avenue and 68th Street and Broadway.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Friday, March 10

Lighting of Candles5:37 P.M.
Evening5:45 P.M.

Saturday, March 11

Morning9:00 A.M.
Weekly Portion: Pekude
Evening5:45 P.M.
Conclusion of Sabbath...6:34 P.M.

Friday, March 17

Lighting of Candles5:45 P.M.
Evening5:50 P.M.

Saturday, Shabbat Zachor March 18

Morning9:00 A.M.
Weekly Portion: Vayikra
Evening5:50 P.M.
Conclusion of Sabbath6:41 P.M.

Friday, March 24

Lighting of Candles5:54 P.M.
Evening6:00 P.M.

Saturday, March 25

Morning9:00 A.M.
Weekly Portion: Tzav
Evening6:00 P.M.
Conclusion of Sabbath6:49 P.M.

Friday, March 31

Lighting of Candles6:00 P.M.
Evening6:10 P.M.

Saturday, Shabbat Parah April 1

Morning9:00 A.M.
Junior Congregation.....10:15 A.M.
Pre-School Service11:00 A.M.
Weekly Portion: Shemini

Rosh Chodesh Prayers

Rosh Chodesh Nisan will be on
Saturday, April 8.
Evening6:10 P.M.
Conclusion of Sabbath.....6:56 P.M.
Junior Congregation meets on Shab-
bat mornings at 10:15.
Pre-school services are at 11:00.

Weekday Services

Morning7:30 A.M.
Sunday Morning8:30 A.M.
Father and Son Minyan...9:30 A.M.
Evening5:45 P.M.

KEHILATH JESHURUN BULLETIN CONG. KEHILATH JESHURUN

125 East 85th Street
New York, N.Y. 10028
HA 7-1000

Synagogue Officials

Joseph H. Lookstein*Senior Rabbi*
Haskel Lookstein*Rabbi*
Avrum Davis*Cantor*
Israel D. Rosenberg*Ritual Director*
Maxine Diamond*Executive Sec'y*

Officers of the Congregation

Harry W. Baumgarten*Hon. President*
Max J. Etra*Hon. President*
Nathan Salzman*President*
William G. Lebowitz*Vice President*
Samuel M. Eisenstat*Treasurer*
Irwin B. Robins*Secretary*
Mrs. Walter Koppel*Pres. Sist'd*
Walter Koppel*Pres. Men's Club*

K.J. REACTS TO ARMS SALES TO ARABS

In response to an appeal made on Saturday morning, February 18 during services, more than 200 Congregants contributed \$1.00 each to send a telegram to President Carter expressing outrage over his decision to provide Egypt and Saudi Arabia with sophisticated arms. Until we are completely satisfied with United States policy in the Middle East, we must continue to let our voices be heard to our public officials. The text of the telegram follows:

"Mr. President:

"The undersigned wish to record their respectful but vehement opposition to the recent unfortunate turn of our country's foreign policy in the Middle East.

"We view with alarm the sending of sophisticated weapons of destruction to Saudi Arabia, a state that has not encouraged fruitful negotiations between Egypt and Israel.

"We are terribly disappointed that our country has failed to pressure Jordan to enter the negotiations and instead of that has begun to use pressure to force concessions upon Israel without negotiations between the parties to the dispute.

"We are all aware of the enlightened position you took as a candidate for the Presidency on August 31, 1976 and which played a significant role in our decision to support your candidacy. You said, in part: 'It's unfair for the world to blame the nation of Israel for the plight of the Palestinians; that's a major problem that must be shared with the whole of the Middle East. I know Resolution #242 of the United Nations as you know it—it calls on withdrawal of Israel from some of the territories that they acquired in 1967 and it also says that Israel must maintain defensible borders, and those decisions as that evolutionary process is continued, must be decided by the leaders and the people of Israel — not by outside forces.'

"We applauded that position at the time and we have watched with great satisfaction your elevating the issue of human rights to a high priority item on the agenda of mankind.

"We urge you to return to the basic policy of encouraging the process of negotiation in the Middle East without exerting pressure through statements, arms sales or the like. We are convinced that Prime Minister Begin and Israel in general appreciate Sadat's initiative, desire peace and are willing and able to settle all disputes—including the settlements in Sinai and the West Bank—if other Arab leaders will follow Sadat's example and negotiate without preconditions."

[The 200 signatures followed.]

About Plaques

We would like to inform our worshippers that Yahrzeit plaques will be available at the current price of \$300 for one more month than expected. The increase in price to \$400 will go into effect on April 15, not on the previously announced date of March 15.

Anyone interested in ordering a plaque can do so at the current price of \$300 until April 15. Just call Mr. Rosenberg in the Synagogue Office. He will be happy to be of service to you.

RAMAZ NEEDS A LIBRARY CLERK

in the 85th Street building
20 hours a week.
If interested, please call
427-1000 ext. 27.

In Case You Missed It . . .

Ramaz Alumni classes 1949 to 1968 are invited to a reunion and buffet evening at the school on Saturday night, March 18 at 8:30 P.M. Teachers and administration of those years have been invited as well. Please notify the school, 427-1000 ext. 32, if you are planning to attend.

SUBLET, ANYONE?

A Ramaz graduate is looking to sublet a one bedroom apartment in our neighborhood. If anyone knows of the availability of such an apartment, please notify the Synagogue Office.

Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun welcomes the children and parents of the Nursery and Kindergarten classes of Ramaz, who will be our guests at services and luncheon on Shabbat, March 11 and the children and parents of the Second Grade of Ramaz, who will be our guests on Shabbat, April 1.