

# bulletin

## Kesher Zion Synagogue



Volume 84 Issue 4

Shevat-Adar 5781

February 2021

*Kesher Zion Mission Statement:* Kesher 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. Kesher 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.

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### *Purim 2021*



**Because of rising COVID-19 numbers in Berks County all in-person services have been suspended until further notice.**

**Saturday morning services are at 9:30 via Zoom.**

**Minyan will be held only on the first and third Thursday of every month at 7:30pm via Zoom**

**Check your weekly Google Group emails and the KZ Website for Zoom links and updates.**

**[www.kesherzion.org](http://www.kesherzion.org)**

*Kesher Zion Synagogue 555 Warwick Drive, Wyomissing, PA 19610 [www.kesherzion.org](http://www.kesherzion.org)*

*Office: 610-374-1763 Email: [kesherzionoffice@gmail.com](mailto:kesherzionoffice@gmail.com)*

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

## The Prez Sez- Dr. Jennifer Koosed

Do you have a pandemic project? I made a sourdough starter and I have been having fun trying new recipes with it. I bought a pound of worms and began composting with them. I planted a native plant pollinator garden, but unfortunately those plants mostly died for reasons I really do not understand. There are other projects I hope to do—like organize all of my photographs—but have not yet started. As we have all noticed, the days pass both too slowly and too quickly during this strange time of global crisis. I hope to complete all of my pandemic projects, but I hope even more for the pandemic quickly to end!



Soon it will be a year since Keshet Zion had to suspend its typical in-person services and programming. Even so, thanks to our wonderful congregants, we have continued to offer many opportunities for connection and community. A group of volunteers have been running services: Thursday minyan twice a month and Saturday morning services. Congregants on the Dues, Finance, Digital Media, and Fundraising committees have continued their work. Others have organized social events like Trivia Night. KZ's kids are still learning at RCOS and Chabad Hebrew Schools; and two adult education classes are meeting via Zoom—one on reading Hebrew and the other on reading the biblical books called the Ketuvim (Writings). Finally, the Personnel committee has begun the process of hiring a new spiritual leader for our congregation. Everything may seem quiet since only a few people come in and out of the building every week, but much is going on.

Serving Keshet Zion is not just a pandemic project, but if one of your goals is to get more involved in the community or to brush up on your Hebrew or finally to get around to reading the book of Proverbs—then KZ is the place where you can do all of that. If you want to join a committee or if you have an idea about programming or just want to learn more about worm composting (it's great!) give me a call. I would love to hear from you.

**If you want to pick up a weekday or Shabbat prayer book, or drop off your High Holiday book, kindly contact the office at 610-374-1763**

**There are many Mahzor Hadash books that have still not been returned. If you're unable to return them yourself please let us know and we can arrange a pick-up time and date.**

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**[www.kesherzion.org](http://www.kesherzion.org)**



**Stay connected  
with KZ.**

If you are currently not a member of KZ's Google Group and would like to be added to receive current updates and information. Please email [kesherzionoffice@gamil.com](mailto:kesherzionoffice@gamil.com) to request an invitation to our group

## 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 [kzsecretary@entermail.net](mailto:kzsecretary@entermail.net).

# FEBRUARY 2021

## SHEVAT- ADAR 5781

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	19 Shevat 1	20 Shevat 2	21 Shevat 3	22 Shevat 4 Minyan 7:30pm	23 Shevat 5	24 Shevat 6 Services 9:30am
25 Shevat 7	26 Shevat 8	27 Shevat 9	28 Shevat 10	29 Shevat 11 Adult Ed 6:30pm BOD Meeting 7:30pm	30 Shevat 12	1 Adar 13 Services 9:30am
2 Adar 14	3 Adar 15 President's Day Office Closed	4 Adar 16	5 Adar 17	6 Adar 18 Minyan 7:30pm	7 Adar 19	8 Adar 20 Services 9:30am
9 Adar 21	10 Adar 22	11 Adar 23	12 Adar 24	13 Adar 25 Purim Fast of Esther Reading of Megillah 6:00pm	14 Adar 26 Purim	15 Adar 27 Services 9:30am
16 Adar 28						

## KZ ADULT EDUCATION 2020-2021

with Dr. Robert Seesengood

## כְּתוּבִים

## Reading the Writings: The Ketuvim in Scholarship and Popular Culture

You know, very well, the stories of Ruth and Esther. You've read Qohelet often. But how far into Psalms have you gone? Are Jewish proverbs the source of both Jewish wisdom and Jewish comedy? Are Job and Shir Hashirim dramas (or the inspiration for modern movies)? And what about Chronicles? Or the weird and mysterious book of Daniel? The Ketuvim are a fascinating collection, tucked into the back of the Bible, that is brimming with strange and interesting content. They've been a regular interest to scholars; they tell us a great deal about how ancient Jews thought and lived, and about how the Bible came together. The Ketuvim have staying power; they show up in a great deal in popular culture, and their stories brim with witty language and with characters – Esther, Ruth, David, Solomon – who are integral to Jewish imagination. This class, over the winter and spring of 2020-2021, is an opportunity to read through the Ketuvim together and discover again these wonderful Writings.

This class will be held online on the second Thursday of the month: 6:30-7:30 pm, so that those who wish to attend minyan will have adequate travel time to come to the shul.

February 11 ~ March 11 ~ April 8 ~ May 13 ~ June 10

You must register for the course or for an individual class in order to receive the Zoom link. You can contact us at: [keshertzionoffice@gmail.com](mailto:keshertzionoffice@gmail.com)

Dr. Robert Seesengood (Th.M., Princeton Theological Seminary; Ph.D., Drew University) is Professor of Religious Studies and Associate Dean at Albright College, Reading, PA. He is the author of numerous articles and five books, all on the subject of biblical studies. He's currently at work on *American Standard: The Bible in U.S. Popular Media and Culture* (Blackwell).



Keshet Zion Synagogue



555 Warwick Drive, Wyomissing, PA 19610

610-374-1763

Email: [keshertzionoffice@gmail.com](mailto:keshertzionoffice@gmail.com)Web: [www.keshertzion.org](http://www.keshertzion.org)

**CHECK EMAIL AND WEBSITE FOR FURTHER PURIM DETAILS AND UPDATES**

**Happy Purim**  
2021 CELEBRATE PURIM 2021

**KESHER ZION SYNAGOGUE**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2021**

**MEGILLAH READING AT 6:00 p.m.**

**SERVICES WILL BE IN-PERSON AND VIA ZOOM**

**Zoom Link:**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86910394898?pwd=Y2ZwNUp2YXUzbWl4d3EyOS8yaXRqdz09>

**KESHER ZION SYNAGOGUE**  
555 WARWICK DRIVE, WYOMISSING, PA 19610  
YOUR RSVP IS APPRECIATED 610-374-1763— [KZSECRETARY@ENTERMAIL.NET](mailto:KZSECRETARY@ENTERMAIL.NET)



# THANK YOU NOTES

Thank you to everyone who sent us a leagram for our Anniversary

~ Andi & Bill Franklin

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### WINTER WEATHER



For current

Kesher Zion

bad weather closings:

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## Minyan —Prayer in place of Mourner's Kaddish

### *Prayer in Place of Mourner's Kaddish*

*When a Minyan Cannot Gather (to be used in exigent circumstances only)*

רבונו של עולם,

אלהי הרוחות לכל־בשר

Ribbono shel olam,  
elohei ha-ruhot l'khol basar —

Master of the world, God of the spirit of all flesh, it is revealed and known before You that it is my fervent desire to praise Your name, and to remember and honor my beloved:

*father/mother/son/daughter/ husband/wife/partner/brother/sister/\_\_\_\_\_*  
*[the name and relation of the person may be inserted]*

by reciting the Mourner's Kaddish in the company of a *minyan*. Though circumstances prevent me from doing so, may my yearning and prayers find favor in Your eyes, and be accepted and received before You as if I had prayed that Kaddish.

May you grant hope and healing to all who suffer, and may we soon be able to once again safely gather in holiness and joy.

May Your name, Adonai, be elevated and sanctified everywhere on earth and may peace reign everywhere.

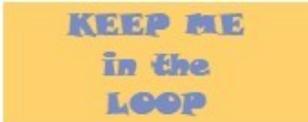


**Minyan will be held only on the first and third Thursday of every month at 7:30pm via Zoom**  
**Check weekly emails and website for updates**  
**[www.keshertzion.org](http://www.keshertzion.org)**

## Mazel Tov

**Ellen & Don Abramson on the birth of their granddaughter,  
Ruth Leora Abramson**

**Solange & Paul Mintz on the engagement of their daughter  
Rebecca Mintz to Marty Nachman**



Attention KZ congregants who do not receive email notices.

If you would like to be notified via telephone call of important community developments, please call the KZ office at 610-374-1763 and provide your name and phone number to be added to our call list.



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**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**

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WYOMISSING	DOUGLASSVILLE	MYERSTOWN
50 Berkshire Court Wyomissing, PA 19610 Phone: 610-374-3134	1050 Benjamin Franklin Hwy. W. Douglassville, PA 19518 Phone: 610-385-4333	356 West Main Avenue Myerstown, PA 17067 Phone: 717-866-1400

## CAFÉ SWEET STREET

(610) 929-0616  
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SATURDAY: 10-5

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# Tzedakah—Torah Rabah



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

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 the Social 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.*

**Donations to KZ can now be made online.**

**Visit our website at:**

**<https://www.kesherzion.org/donations>**

**and click on the donation button.**



**Kesher Zion Synagogue**



## TODAH RABAH

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

### General Fund:

*In memory of Sari Incledon's father Stanley Ferber*

- ~ Robert Schneier
- ~ Solange & Paul Mintz
- ~ Sarah & Sam Flamholtz
- ~ Carol Greenberg

*Mazel Tov to Solange & Paul Mintz on the engagement of their daughter Rebecca Mintz to Marty Nachman*

- ~ Carol Greenberg
- ~ Betsy & Al Katz

*Mazel Tov Rebecca Mintz & Mary Nachman on your engagement*

- ~ Jan & Jonathan Simon
- ~ Carol Greenberg

*Mazel Tov to the Kabakoff's on the marriage of their daughter Sarena Kabokoff to Max Gable*

- ~ Jan & Jonathan Simon
- ~ Debbie, David, Scott, Mark & Abby Goldberg

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

*Mazel Tov to the Abramson's on the birth of their granddaughter Ruth Leora Abramson*

- ~ Carol Greenberg



Kesher Zion Synagogue



## Affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

Dr. Jennifer Koosed.....President  
 Dr. Jennifer Koosed.....Educational Chair  
 Office.....Sisterhood  
 Betsy & Al Katz.....Proofreaders  
 Lenore Meyerson.....Editor

### Call the office for advertising information

*The deadline for submission of articles for the  
 March 2021 Bulletin is Monday, February 1, 2021*

## 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](http://www.kesherzion.org)

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

[www.kesherzion.org](http://www.kesherzion.org)

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



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## 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: Dr. Jennifer Koosed at 484-651-0122

Note: Regular office hours are 9am-3pm  
Monday-Friday

During COVID-19 we will be working both in the office and remotely. Kindly call the office to notify us before coming in.