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Kesher Zion Synagogue



Volume 85 Issue 3

Kislev-Tevet-Shevat 5782

December 2021 / January 2022

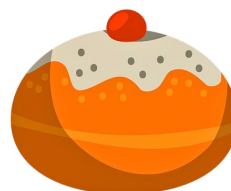
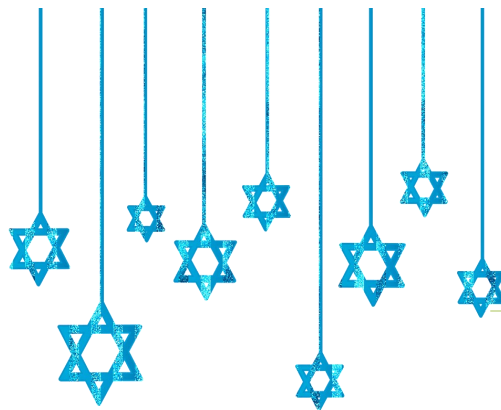
Kesher Zion Mission Statement: Kesher Zion Synagogue seeks to encourage the involvement of its members and create a special sense of belonging, while stressing the joy within Judaism. Our egalitarian synagogue is committed to meeting the religious, social, educational, and cultural needs of its members 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.

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

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

- Kesher Zion Synagogue

Happy Hanukkah



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Notes from Cantor Kevin D. Wartell

MITZVAHS...MITZVAHS...MITZVAHS!

It's wintertime...the cold weather is upon us for those who have not escaped to the warmer regions of our world!

It is so easy to hibernate...to stay warm and isolated in our homes during the winter months.



That, however, does not equate to the hibernation of our souls

I would like to highlight for you the ways in which we attempt to teach Jewish moral behavior as our children evolve into becoming Bar or Bat Mitzvah.

By doing Mitzvot they become God's angels and do G-d's work on earth.

The challenge has always been how to accentuate the Mitzvah part of the bar or bat Mitzvah ceremony.

One does not become **BAR MITZVAHED OR BAT MITZVAHED**.

Becoming a Jewish adult is the attainment of a lifelong state of being. Once we turn that magical age, a life of conduct begins in which we perform Mitzvot to make the world we live in a better place for our neighbors, for ourselves, and for the next generation of humanity.

Therefore, ask yourself, even as we tend to physically hibernate from the winds of winter...how can I change this world into a better place than when I came into it?

During the chilliest of the winter nights, try warming up your Soul by caring and giving to others. Trust me, that warmth you will feel inside is much more rewarding than eating all those comfort foods we crave to digest during the midst of the winter season.

Very early in my career, I was introduced to **Danny Siegel**, the maven of Moral Jewish Education in America.

Danny teaches us that finding Mitzvah heroes and allowing them to be role models for our own positive behavior is the key to living a moral and ethical life.

If you want to learn more about Mitzvah Heroes, go to the website www.mitzvahheroesfund.org

We all need "hearing hearts"... "Oh G-d, give me a hearing heart.

Let my heart hear the wings of a hawk,

The crane, the eagle, and the owl,

The angelic reds and blues of the macaw,

The angels.

Let my heart hear the tides,

The sap flow to syrup in the trees,

The fires in the rock in the heart of the earth,

The conversation of the stars.

Let me hear sweet Torah,

Truths unshakeable,

Prophecy alive.

Let my heart, human, hear tearing hearts,

In the final stages of repair,

Tears wiped away by kindly hands

Soft as irises unfolding.

In whatever my heart hears,

Let me hear Your voice.

(1st Kings 3:9)

We have a choice. We can look into a mirror and see a person unable to see the need of others or we can be heroes by reaching out to others, made in G-d's image.

As **Dr. Ron Wolfson**, eminent Family Jewish Educator teaches, "the difference between feeling like a lump of dust and feeling as if the whole world was created for you depends on whether you can activate the spark of divinity within!"

Happy Mitzvah making to all!

Cantor Kevin

DECEMBER 2021 – JANUARY 2022

KISLEV–TEVET - SHEVAT 5782

KZ will be holding In-person and Virtual services on Saturday mornings at 9:30 You can still attend services via Zoom. Minyan led by Cantor Wartell will continue on Zoom the first and third Thursday of every month at 7:30pm via Zoom

DATE	HEBREW DATE	SERVICE	TIME
Wednesday, December 1	27 Kislev	KZ & RCOS Virtual Menorah lighting	5:30 PM
Thursday, December 2	28 Kislev	Minyan	7:30 PM
Saturday, December 4	30 Kislev	KZ morning services with Cantor Wartell	9:30 AM
Saturday, December 11	7 Tevet	KZ morning services	9:30 AM
Thursday, December 16	12 Tevet	Minyan	7:30 PM
Saturday, December 18	14 Tevet	KZ morning services with Cantor Wartell	9:30 AM
Friday, December 24	20 Tevet	KZ Office Closed	
Saturday, December 25	21 Tevet	KZ morning services	9:30 AM
Friday, December 31	27 Tevet	KZ Office Closed	
Saturday, January 1	28 Tevet	KZ morning services	9:30 AM
Thursday, January 6	4 Shevat	Minyan	7:30 PM
Saturday, January 8	6 Shevat	KZ morning services	9:30 AM
Wednesday, January 12	10 Shevat	Schmooze with the Cantor	12 Noon
Saturday, January 15	13 Shevat	KZ morning services	9:30 AM
Sunday, January 16	14 Shevat	Tu Bishvat services	TBA
Thursday, January 20	18 Shevat	Minyan	7:30 PM
Saturday, January 22	20 Shevat	KZ morning services	9:30 AM
Thursday, January 27	25 Shevat	BOD Meeting Minyan	7:00 pm 7:30 PM
Saturday, January 29	27 Shevat	KZ morning services	9:30 AM

KESHER ZION SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Book Donation Drive

Nov 1st - Dec 31st



We are accepting new and slightly used books to be distributed to the following organizations:

Olivet Boys and Girls Clubs of Reading

*The Food Pantry at Hampden Heights 7th Day Adventist Church
– Supported by the Jewish Federation of Reading/Berks*

BINS WILL BE PROVIDED FOR DROP OFF AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

Kesher Zion Synagogue
555 Warwick Drive
Wyomissing, PA 19610

Jewish Federation of Reading
1100 Berkshire Blvd – Suite 125
Wyomissing, PA 19610

Children's and adult books accepted. No outdated reference books or academic books, please.

Please direct all questions to: Robert Schneier at Robertbschneier@gmail.com



Kesher Zion Synagogue



The KZ Social Action Committee thanks everyone for donating school supplies to benefit Safe Berks.

Our donations were very much appreciated.

Pictured left to right: Mindy McIntosh and Cynthia Balchunas. Cindy is dropping off the KZ donations to Safe Berks.

Mazel Tov Cantor Wartell!

The Jewish Theological Seminary of America is honoring Kesher Zion's Cantor Kevin Wartell.

Cantor Kevin will receive his honorary doctoral degree in a ceremony which will take place on February 2, 2022 in New York.

The JTS extends this award to only a select group of cantors to recognize their important achievements and excellence in leadership.

This will be Cantor Wartell's second honorary doctorate as he was awarded his first in April, 2010 from the Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion.

Congratulations Cantor Wartell. It is an honor well deserved.

Kesher Zion BOD

MAZEL TOV

To Beth and Robert Caster on the birth of their grandson
Everett Shia Caster

To Jan & Jonathan Simon on the birth of their grandson,
Grant Benjamin Simon

To Carole & Michael on the birth of their granddaughter,
Brooks Acadia Shipe



WINTER WEATHER

**For current Kesher Zion
bad weather closings:**

Call the office

(610) 374-1763

Torah Fund Campaign

Five Wonderful Reasons To Support Torah Fund

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:

I have written about Torah Fund for many years. I have asked all of you to give whatever donations you could to support this facet of The Jewish Theological Society for Conservative Judaism. This year is no different. The only difference is that COVID-19 has changed the way we look at the world and life. Torah Fund Campaigning has taken a pause and will not have a new theme or a gift pin. They are continuing the B'Yachad (together) Campaign as we are all still "in this together" and our goals and needs have not changed.

The Women's League for Conservative Judaism has sent me material to help in my solicitations. Since there is no point in changing their words I am unashamedly passing them along to you:

Reason #5: It's an opportunity to continue to demonstrate your commitment to our work in helping provide quality education, resources and scholarships at our Jewish institutions of higher education.

Reason #4: Your donation shows your gratitude for the ways our rabbis, cantors, educators, professors, social workers, Jewish professionals and camp staff continued to provide essential care, services, training and guidance to our Jewish communities throughout the pandemic.

Reason #3: The costs of quality education continue to rise and many academic institutions cut budgets and resources. Your gift will help to maintain excellence in Jewish education and in the development of our future leaders.

Reason #2: When you give to Torah Fund you are in sync with caring individuals who value knowledge and learning and recognize the importance of equipping our future generation with leadership skills.

And the #1 reason: Your contribution helps fortify the Jewish people and ensure our bright future.

So I am asking you to add a donation to The Torah Fund when your New Year dues statement to Keshar Zion arrives. Please help by giving!

Wishing you all a Happy, Healthy, COVID-free New Year
Arlene Ehrlich

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THANK YOU NOTES

Thank you for the Leagrams and birthday wishes, they brightened my day.

~ Lila Shapiro

Thank you for all of your cards, Leagrams, and phone calls for our 66th Wedding Anniversary.

~Shirley & Bob Kauffman

Thank you for the kind birthday wishes!

~Doris Leisawitz

A big thank you for all of the lovely Leagrams and good wishes received for our 47th wedding Anniversary.

~Doris & Elliott Leisawitz

I appreciate everyone for their thoughtfulness, and for remembering my birthday.

~Louise Zeidman

Thank you Debbie and David Goldberg for your High Holiday donation.

~ Keshar Zion Synagogue

Thank you Gary Mintz for your High Holiday donation.

~ Keshar Zion Synagogue

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Robert R. Nye, Supervisor

CONDOLENCES

To Brett Miller, Dr. Ellis Freidman
and family on the passing of
Pamela Friedman Wolf

To Carol Goldberg
and family on the passing of
Mark Goldberg

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610-374-3134

KZ Google Group KZ uses Google groups to email weekly information, such as our weekly Shabbat Bulletin (Catch-Up Flier). We also use this platform to email updates, events, announcements, etc.

If you are currently **not** receiving emails from our group, please let us know if you would like to be added. Email: kesharzionoffice@gmail.com

KZ Website: www.kesharzion.org **Facebook Page:**

Lenore Meyerson
KZ Bulletin Editor
kzsecretary@entermail.net





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 Keshet 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 Keshet 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 Keshet 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 Keshet 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:

In memory of Mark Goldberg
 ~Joyce Keller
 ~Chris Earl
 ~Susan L. Engler

In memory of Pamela Wolf Friedman
 ~Sue Wachs
 ~Phillip Boger

In Cantor Wartells honor
 ~Carol Goldberg
 ~Don & Pen Keller

Mazel Tov to Cantor Wartell in honor of his honorary doctoral degree from the JTS
 ~Debbie & David Goldberg

In honor of Louise Zeidman's birthday
 ~Louise Zeidman

Mazel Tov to Beth & Bob Caster on the birth of their grandson, Everett Shai Caster
 ~Solange & Paul Mintz

Mazel Tov to Jan & Jonathan Simon on the birth of their grandson, Grant Benjamin Simon
 ~Solange & Paul Mintz

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

In memory of Pamela Wolf Friedman
 ~Doris & Elliott Leisawitz

C A F É S W E E T S T R E E T

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

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HANUKAH 2021/5782

Rabbi Michelson and Cantor Wartell
invite you to join them virtually in
lighting the Chanukiyot (menorahs)

together on Zoom:

<https://tinyurl.com/Hanukah2021>

Join KZ & RCOS on:
Wednesday, December 1
at 5:30 pm

Fourth Night of Hanukkah

We will light the candles, sing a few
songs and enjoy a short video together



KZ SHABBAT HANUKKAH 2021

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

Services: 9:30 AM

**Followed by a wonderful Kiddush
to include Potato Latkes with
all the trimmings.**

Please RSVP on or before

Monday, November 29

Office: 610-374-1763

Email: kzsecretary@entermail.net

To join services virtually, check your weekly email for the Zoom link,
or send your request to kzsecretary@entermail.net

555 Warwick Drive
Wyomissing, PA 19610
610-374-1763



KESHER ZION ADULT EDUCATION 2022 “RELIGION AT THE MOVIES”

Taught by:

**Dr. Rob Seensengood and
Dr. John Incledon**

**Classes will begin in
February,
more details
to follow later.**



Happy Hanukkah





KESHER ZION SYNAGOGUE WINTER ADULT EDUCATION 2022

SCHMOOZE WITH THE CANTOR

JANUARY 12, 2022 12 noon at KZ Lunch included with pre registration

Come and enjoy an opportunity to engage with your fellow congregants on a variety of issues as Cantor Wartell will facilitate a lively discussion.

Together we will enjoy a leisurely lunch and delve into the issues of the day from a Jewish perspective.

PRE PASSOVER WORKSHOP WITH THE CANTOR

March 30, 2022 12 noon at KZ Lunch included with pre registration

Cantor Wartell will lead the group thru some innovative ways to make your Seder this coming year user friendly for families and also timely for those who want to use the Seder meal to reflect on how Jews can effectively participate in social action projects to make our world a better place for all of G-d's children.

LEARNING HOW TO LEAD A SHABBAT SERVICE

Cantor Wartell will meet with you privately to assist you in learning various parts of leading a Shabbat service.

Want to chant a Haftarah?

Want to learn Torah Trope?

Want to improve your Hebrew?

A special opportunity to learn in the privacy of a one-on-one tutorial session with our Spiritual leader.

For more information and to arrange an appointment, contact Cantor Wartell

by email (kzcantor@gmail.com) or call the KZ synagogue office.



Keshet Zion Synagogue
555 Warwick Drive
Wyomissing PA
Phone: 610-374-1763
Email: kzsecretary@entermail.net
www.keshetzion.org



Kesher Zion Synagogue



Affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

Kevin D. WartellCantor

Susan Wilson.....President

Dr. Jennifer Koosed.....Educational Chair

Betsy & Al Katz.....Proofreaders

Lenore Meyerson.....Editor

Call the office for advertising information

The deadline for submission of articles for the

Feb 2022 Bulletin is Monday, January 10, 2022

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.



To advertise your business or services Contact KZ Office: 610-374-1763

Email: kzsecretary@entermail.net

Yahrzeit Fund 5782

Yahrzeit Fund 5782

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 in the weekly bulletin & announced at Shabbat services. Some members find it convenient to pay for all of their yahrzeits (\$5.00 minimum per name) at one time only once per year. Please send your checks made out to **Kesher Zion Synagogue to Cynthia Balchunas, 511 Thomas Place Sinking Spring PA 19608** if you would like to take advantage of this convenient way to remember your loved ones and donate to KZ.



**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.kesherzion.org**