**September Newsletter 2023**Koleinu - "Our Voice"

2014 Forest Road Lansing MI 48910

517-882-0049 www.kehillatisrael.net - Alul/Tishri -

Congregation

Kehillat Israel



#### Childcare and art activities will be available on the first morning of Rosh Hashanah and the morning of Yom Kippur

#### In this issue:

Page 2 - Service Schedule & Slichot Service

Page 3 - Rabbi's Column

Page 4 - Yom Kippur & HH Food Assignments

Page 5 - Tashlich

Page 6 - Kl's Future Survey

Page 7 - Backpackorama

Page 8 - Book Clubs

Page 9 - Klvunim

Page 10- Member News

Page 11- Thank You's

Page 12- Yahrzeits

Page 13 - Daniel Glickman Fund

Page 14 - Board of Directors

Page 15 - 17 - Community Events

#### **Saturday Service Schedule**

September 2, at KI and on Zoom with Rabbi Matthew at 10:00 am - Kol Haneshamah September 9, at KI and on Zoom with Rabbi Matthew at 10:00 am -- Sim Shalom September 23, at KI and on Zoom with Rabbi Matthew at 10:00 am- Sim Shalom September 30, at KI and on Zoom with Rabbi Matthew at 10:00 am - Kol Haneshamah-Sukkot



Please join Congregations Kehillat Israel and Shaarey Zedek For a special *Selichot* service and program In preparation for the High Holidays

> Saturday September 9, 2023 7:00 P.M. at Congregation Shaarey Zedek

Worship led by Rabbi Amy Bigman and Rabbi Dr. Matthew Kaufman Program to follow

#### From the Desk of Rabbi Matthew

For many of us, the power of the High Holidays liturgy lies in its music. Singing Avinu Malkeinu together as a community is one of the more significant experiences of the high holidays. Music is central to our experience of worship, and in some respects its importance overshadows that of the words the music is set to. Singing traditional melodies contributes to the feeling that the liturgy we are singing is "mi-sinai" (i.e., from Mt. Sinai and the source of revelation itself). I think that it is wonderful to feel grounded that way, but at the same time it is important to understand that even traditional Jewish liturgy changes over time. Avinu Malkeinu in particular is a wonderful example of liturgy that evolves. In its current received form, it focuses on our sinfulness and unworthiness. In its original (and much shorter) form, however, it did not treat of us and our sins, but simply focused on God and God's obligations to us. The Talmudic version has Rabbi Akiva arguing that God is both a good father and king to us, and so God should deal mercifully with us. It was, essentially, a two-line prayer saying only this. But over the centuries, prayer leaders improvised additions, and gradually it became a lengthy litany that emphasizes sin.

When we look at our machzor, we can find what is called an "alternative" version of Avinu Malkeinu, which, by the virtue of the fact that it is labeled an alternative, underscores all the more how the "original" text is perceived as fixed and permanent. Using the alternative version, then, is implicitly framed as a self-conscious deviation from a received text. In some ways, such alternatives delegitimize themselves in their self-presentation. It is true that new versions are a deviation, but they deviate from text developed during the Middle Ages, not from the Talmudic sages. We should remember, therefore, that as we develop new liturgies that express our own spiritual strivings, we are engaged in the same authentic process that centuries of worshippers and prayer leaders in far-flung Jewish communities have always engaged in. We would do well to remember that liturgical innovation is a feature, not an aberration, of Jewish worship.

Nefesh | Ruach |
Neshamah
Explore Fewish
understandings of
the soul with
Rabbi Matthew

Monday September 25
4:30 pm.

#### **High Holiday Food Assignments**

We are returning to a shared kiddush for the High Holiday services, the first and second day of Rosh Hashanah, and the break fast for Yom Kippur. I arbitrarily assigned either a salad or dessert to each member's family. In the newsletter, you will find your proposed assignment. The main course will be provided. If you cannot participate, please let Bettie know so we ensure plenty for our holiday celebration (menchikb@msu.edu or 517.402.3903).

Find the link for food assignment in the main body of the the September newsletter email or copy and paste this link https://kehillatisrael.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Copy-of-2023-High-Holiday-assignments.xlsx

### Tashlich – A time to cast away sins 9/17/23 @2:00pm

Have there been times since last Yom Kippur when you may have missed the mark in terms of doing the right thing? Tashlich is a tradition where one goes to a living body of water where fish swim and symbolically casts one's sins to flow away with the current.

Tashlich originated during the Middle Ages and was inspired by a verse uttered by the prophet Micah:

God will take us back in love; God will cover up our iniquities, You [God] will hurl all our sins Into the depths of the sea. (Micah 7:19)

Please join us following services (about 2:00pm) on the 2nd day of Rosh Hashana for a very short Tashlich service. This ritual usually takes place on the first day but since the first day is on Shabbat, we do it on the 2nd day.

It will take place at Crego Park which is east of Aurilious Rd. on Mt. Hope Rd. From KI, take Aurilious to Mt. Hope. Turn right. Turn left at the sign that points to Crego Park

This is a family friendly (and fairly short) service that includes a little prayer, a little poetry, a little song and of course, some self-reflection as we cast our "sins" (and feed the ducks and fish) into the river. This year, in order to make this ritual more ecologically friendly, we will not be tossing bread into the water but rather fish food which will be provided.

### Help decide KI's future - Please complete survey by September 15

Congregation Kehillat Israel (KI) is exploring location options that will profoundly impact our future. Regardless of what we choose to do, the location decision provides an opportunity for us to recommit ourselves to KI and bring new energy and ideas to our community.

A group of volunteers has created a report and survey to inform KI members, and invite you to engage in the decision-making process about whether to stay at 2014 Forest Road or move. The matter will be decided by a congregational vote at a Special Congregational Meeting, likely to be held sometime after the High Holidays 2023/5784. The report and survey have been approved by the KI Board of Directors.

#### The report

- (1) summarizes the work done so far and lays out some of the factors driving this conversation so that members can make an informed decision when it comes time to vote at the Special Congregational Meeting;
- (2) offers members an opportunity to ask questions after reviewing the ideas and options presented here; and
- (3) solicits input from members about how KI can thrive in the years to come.

Please take some time to review the **Future of KI report** (link in the body of the newsletter email) and fill out the accompanying **Future of KI survey** (link in the body of the newsletter email). The survey is your opportunity to ask questions and contribute your hopes and dreams about the KI of the future.

The survey will be open from September 1st to September 15th.

#### **BACKPACKORAMA**

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0a4da9a82aa3fa7-backpackorama#/

Back for the first time since the pandemic! On Saturday, 9/9 from 12:30-2:30 at the Hawk Island Peregrine picnic pavillion. See map! Join Kehillat Israel and the Tikkun Olam committee to provide backpacks and school supplies for local newcomer (aka refugee) children. Bring your own picnic, games/toys, and a contribution to filling backpacks! Klvunim and Tikkun Olam will provide an assortment of treats (vegan, gf etc).

In selecting your options, please pick GENDER NEUTRAL ITEMS (primary colors or black, no characters) for school backpacks, folders, etc. We're asking for specifically gender neutral backpacks as many of the children are in middle/high school and we don't know how many boys/girls are in need. If you're not able to attend the event, please drop any contributions at KI before 10 am on Saturday 9/9. Register for what items you will contribute with the link on the main page of this newsletter email.

Enjoy some time with friends and community and do a mitzvah at the same time! All Kehillat Israel is welcome!

Nicole and Kirsten

Visit our school website for information on KI's upcoming school year

https://kivunimschool.net/

We are the religious school at Congregation Kehillat Israel, a small-but-mighty synagogue in the heart of Michigan.

#### Hadassah Book Club

The September meeting will be September 27, 2023, 1PM on Zoom

We'll discuss Gateway to the Moon by Mary Morris. Fiction about people in New Mexico who discover they came from Jews living in Spain during the Spanish Inquisition.

Barbara Hyman will be our discussion leader.

#### SAVE the DATE for LIMMUD in Ann Arbor October 29, 2023

Limmud is a day of Jewish learning full of educational and thoughtprovoking seminars from knowledgeable people and attendees from all walks of Jewish Life and from all over Michigan. The event this year is at Washtenaw Community College. Find other KI members and form a carpool!

More information on LIMMUD is available at http://www.LImmudmichigan.org (Arthur Slabosky is a contact for this event)



Copy and paste the link below to check out KI's You Tube channel. We also have private videos available to view. If you missed a past program, we may have it on our channel. Just email the office for private link.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/ UCDk5UQSB1AztKBP9s7Bl4Kw

#### **KIvunim**

Yay! It's time for school to resume... our first day for Kitah Bet will be September 6, 2023. Both Kitah Gan/Alef and Kitah Bet will meet on Sunday, September 10th. Wednesday classes for Kitah Bet will be from 4:15-6 pm and both Kitot Gan/Alef and Bet will meet on Sundays from 10am-12:15 pm. Enrollment materials will be sent out shortly.

At the moment, we're expecting about 18 students, with perhaps a few more children to join. If you know of any kiddos who are between the ages of four and B-Mitzvah who are interested, please have them contact Nicole. We welcome back Jonny Kalt and Asher Froebe as assistant teachers and are delighted to announce Elijah Braiman, Rachel DuPuis, and Dalia Fermaglich as teacher apprentices following their B-Mitzvah.

We have been busy planning for the start of the year. Here are some fun tidbits to whet everyone's appetites. Our first chug for Kitah Bet will feature a ritual maker space, where children will have the chance to learn about different Jewish rituals, reconstruct them for their own lives, and create kits of materials to live out these rituals at home. In Kitah Gan/Alef, we will use some new materials to "build" Torah together. This activity is one developed by the Jewish Enrichment Center in Chicago and engages children in retelling stories from Torah using simple materials. Thanks to Yoav Ziv for his help in selecting materials at Home Depot this summer!

As always, it is our pleasure to teach the children of the KI community.

Sarah and Nicole

### **Member News**

KI's Bikkur Cholim - If you know of any KI member who is ill or injured please inform either Rabbi Matthew at kirabbim@gmail.com or 517- 582-4155 or Robin Willner at ronit24@sbcglobal.net of KI's Bikkur Cholim so that we may provide help and support as needed. Please let Rabbi Kaufman know if you or someone in your family is in need of special prayer support.

Rabbi Matthew's drop-in office hours are on Sundays from 11-1 and on Wednesdays from 3-5. Appointment times outside of drop-in hours may be arranged by emailing Rabbi Matthew at <a href="Milestendengen"><u>Kirabbim@gmail.com</u></a>. Rabbi Matthew's new regular work schedule is on Sundays, Wednesdays, and most Saturdays. Congregants can generally expect responses to non-urgent matters on one of those days. The rabbi will be available outside of his regular work schedule for urgent matters. In case of emergency, please phone Rabbi Matthew at (517) 582-4155.

#### Kroger fundraising to earn money for KI

Members can sign up by searching for Congregation Kehillat Israel and connecting KI to their Kroger plus card.

Our account number is nv535. You can go to the Kroger Community Funds home page for instructions.

Copy and paste this link to your browser or click:

https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards KI will earn a
percentage of your purchases. No cost to you.

# THANK YOU for your support

#### **Daniel Glickman Memorial Fund**

**Bud and Judy Shulman** 

Paypal donate button is up and running on our website.

Copy and paste the link below or scan the

QR code to donate to KI

https://www.paypal.com/donate/? hosted\_button\_id=DQ8JSHFW6G5VW





### **Yahrzeits**

Jonathan Schneider, 15 Elul, September 1 Daniel Glickman, 17 Elul, September 3 Margo Malchman, 18 Elul, September 4 Arthur Kohrman, 19 Elul, September 5 Jeffrey Austin, 20 Elul, September 6 Erni Goldstein, 23 Elul, September 9

5784

Janos Kende, 4 Tishrei, September 19
Pat Keller, 6 Tishrei, September 21
Emily Rose Swanson-Robbins, 9 Tishrei, September 24
Paula Bladen, 13 Tishrei, September 28

The KI Kiddush -- an easy KI volunteer job.
Only you can keep our KI Kiddush going.

To sign up to be the host of our volunteer KI kiddushes please do the following:

- 1) Go to https://kehillatisrael.net/
- 2) Click on "Member Section"
- 3) Click on Kiddush Sign-up Form
- 4) Pick a date when you can help out as the kiddush coordinator.

Easy job -- set up the social hall; clean after kiddush; defrost a challah from the freezer; bring a dozen bagels.

Contact Kate Farley at katefarley246@gmail.com

#### **Daniel M. Glickman Memorial Fund**

We are very proud of the DMG Fund's success and its many years of awarding camp stipends to our Klvunim students. This was the DMG Fund's 17th year of funding camp experiences. In this time, we have awarded over 150 scholarships, giving away a total of almost \$40,000.

Thank you to this year's DMG Memorial Fund committee members: Eileen Heideman, Sara Kalt, KI treasurer Leon Puttler, Michele Loree, and Deb Weiland with ex-officio members, David and Annie Glickman.

Klvunim students, preschool-seventh grade, are eligible to apply for a camp scholarship.

The committee awarded three Klvunim students a scholarship to Camp Tavor -- Dalia Fermaglich, Danny Kalt and Ari Fraiberg. Rachel Dupius was the one first time applicant at an overnight camp, and she attended Blue Lake fine Arts Camp.

We look forward to hearing about the students' camping experiences.

If you would like to help us carry on the tradition of awarding camp scholarships and bringing music programs to KI, please consider a donation to the Daniel M. Glickman Memorial fund. We could not have been this successful without the support of family, KI friends and the DMG Memorial Fund Board.

Thank you in advance for considering a donation

Karen and Ken Glickman, and the DMG Memorial Fund Committee

#### Monthly Board Meeting Wednesday, September 13, 7:00 pm Zoom

#### **Board of Directors**

Doug Moffat - President - 2024
Kirsten Fermaglich - Executive VP - 2024
Marc Speiser - Secretary - 2025
Leon Puttler - VP for Finance - 2024
Ody Norkin- VP for Facilities - 2024
Richard Block/Gail Richmond - VP for Religious Affairs - 2024
Arlene Sharkey - VP for Education - 2024
Liz Harrow - VP for Programs - 2024
Robin Willner - First Trustee - 2024
Alene Dixon - Trustee - 2025
Emily Schnurr - Trustee - 2025
Laura Yares - Trustee - 2025
Neil Gordon - Past President

### WE HAVE ADDED MORE DATES TO OUR TORAH & HAFTARAH SIGN-UP

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1273RVz5LmC8EDS3O3mvdtvU-PkZUMrzWpFH-0ylSl68/edit?ts=604a403d#gid=0 (copy and paste into your browser) sign up to give a dvar or chant Torah/haftarah. If you don't see the date you want, please reach out to kikatherineb@gmail.com.

**Zoom Gabbaim for Shabbat Services** - If you are comfortable using Zoom (or would like to learn more), please contact Judy Spanogle at kikatherineb@gmail.com (this is open to teens as well as adults).

### **Community Events**



#### "Only One" Program: Supporting Jewish Families

Please join the KI and SZ religious school communities for a one-time event to explore and process challenges associated with being a minority and at times the "Only One" Jewish person in a group setting. Light Refreshments will be provided.

Led by Jewish Mental Health Clinicians in the community, this two hour event will provide developmentally appropriate activities and discussions for children and their parents (divided by age/grade level for children and a separate space for adults/caregivers).

#### **Topics Covered:**

-Jewish minority identity development

-Navigating challenges associated with being the "Only One" in community settings
-Coming together as a community to build support and connection

-Working together as a community to address anti-semitism and advocate for Jewish children and their families

Date: Sunday, November 19th, 2023

Time: 10am-12pm

Address: Shaarey Zedek -- 1924 Coolidge Rd, East Lansing, MI 48823

Ages: Pre-K to 12th Grade and Adults/Caregivers

RSVP and submit questions/topics to be covered via the Google Form

Questions: Nicole Ellefson: nicole.ellefson@gmail.com OR Margot Valles: menahelet.margot@shaareyzedek.com



Exploring Judaism: More than Just the Basics

October 2023-June 2024

Looking to delve into the study of Judaism to learn more than just the basics? Join Rabbi Rena Blumenthal in this 16-session Reconstructionist-inspired program of Jewish immersion and learning. This program is perfect for those looking to convert to Judaism, new to Judaism, wanting a refresher, or looking for a way to kick-start their next steps in Jewish learning and practice.

Please reach out to Rabbi Matthew at kirabbim@gmail.com to learn more about this opportunity. Rabbi Matthew can make available financial assistance through his discretionary fund.

More information about this program can be found here: bit.ly/ExploringJudaism.

## Visit KI's Website kehillatisrael.net



### PLEASE CONSIDER HOSTING A COLLECTION DRIVE FOR OUR REFUGEE FAMILIES ARRIVING IN LANSING!

\*Twin bed sheet sets

\*Bath towels

\*Pots & pans

\*Silverware sets

\*Cereal bowls

\*Blankets
PLEASE NO THROWS

\*Trash bags

#### \*HIGHEST NEEDS

Laundry baskets

Mop buckets / mops /

Shower curtains

Toilet plungers Drinking glasses brooms Body lotion Pillows Hangers

Toothpaste Serving spoons/spatulas

9x13 baking pans

ONGOING NEEDS ARE SOFAS, LOVESEATS, DINING ROOM TABLE AND CHAIRS

TO COORDINATE a local furniture pick-up, contact STVCC Facilities Team.

#### CONSIDER SHIPPING

items directly to STVCC via Amazon.

For any questions, contact 517.323.4734 ext. x1050

**DELIVERY ADDRESS:** 2800 West Willow Street, Lansing, MI 48917