JOLIET JEWISH CONGREGATION

Mark Turk President

The Jewish Bulletin

Jenny Steinberg Kuvin Rabbi



Charles Rubovits Rabbi Emeritus

December 15, 2021 11 Tevet 5782

Candle Lighting Times

December 1	7, 2021	4:05 <i>pm</i>
December 2	4, 2021	4:09 <i>pm</i>
December 3	1, 2021	4:14 <i>pm</i>

Friday Evening Services

Shabbat Morning Services - 9:30*am*

Saturday services are in-person

December 18, 2021 Torah portion of the week.....Miketz Genesis 41:1-44:17; Numbers 28:9-15 Haftorah portion of the week.....Zechariah 2:14-4:7

December 25, 2021 Torah portion of the week.....Vayyigash Genesis 44:18-47:27 Haftorah portion of the week.....Ezekiel 37:15-28

Join us for Shabbat Services Via Zoom - Saturday mornings - 9:30 AM

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DARE TO BEGIN AGAIN!

By

Rabbi Jenny Steinberg-Kuvin, JD

"There is always a new beginning."
- Rabbi Joseph Gelberman Phd

One of the marvelous guarantees about life is that endings are only a signal that a *new beginning* is just around the corner.

How do you *deal* with something new? Do you embrace the *new beginning* as a time to clear the slate and start anew? Or, do you become anxious at the thought of having to start over again? It's true that sometimes the new beginning is shrouded in mystery and starting over again can usher in an unsettling sense of the unknown. When we view "change" as a "disruptor" we tend to become anxious and afraid of what is to come. So what's the prescription for remaining calm and welcoming a *new beginning*? Exercise compassion and kindness to ourselves and others. For Torah is all about the cycle of endings and beginnings and the challenge of choosing life and embracing change.

Altering our mindset is a way of "reframing" how we think about something. Reframing our thinking allows us to have an understanding attitude and in doing so, we allow the essence of Torah to emanate from our hearts. Thus, we are positioned to face any obstacle or adventure to come. When we are filled with hope and faith we have the fortitude to keep moving forward into the "new and exciting" unknown.

In Torah, and in our Western world, we are at a time of endings. The Book of Genesis ends this month along with the calendar year 2021. Both this year and Jacob's journey have been riddled with a tapestry of

many different colored strings. And not unlike Jacob's journey, in 2021 we have all celebrated, ruminated, been vaccinated, and contemplated. In the end we have come together as a Community.

These last few weeks have been packed with Hanukkah Joy, Jewish Music, Simchas, and important visits with Israeli connections and connections with other congregations. We have shone brightly! A true success!

As we enter 2022, we begin the journey of Moses and his quest for freedom. It is our time to focus on the *New Beginning*. It is time to DARE TO BEGIN again!

PRESIDENTS CORNER

It is my opinion that we need to concentrate our decisions considering as "we" vs. "me" for a successful future. We need to make decisions based upon what's good for we, the congregation vs what's only good for me, the individual.

Our elected Board members have accepted the responsibilities to not only attend meetings, both Board and committees, but also attend services and share and contribute their time and financial support as needed to accomplish their goals.

The congregations successful future rests upon a myriad of solutions to serious issues and those solutions will become the responsibility of this and future Boards.

Recently the Board surveyed a list of issues, rated them as to most important and committees were assigned the task of dealing with them. The method of dealing with them was "painstorming", a subject of many recent books vs. simply brainstorming. The idea is if you can identify the pain caused by the situation and find solutions to elevate the pain, the issue you're dealing with will most likely get resolved.

Our congregations future can and will be bright and fruitful if we can collectively work toward resolving many important issues. We must think of "we" in resolving these issues vs "me". Together "we" can, together "we" must, and together "we" will be the warm, loving, and successfully spiritual congregation for the future.

Mark Turk

PLEASE NOTE: TIME CHANGE FOR FIIDAY EVENING SHABBAT SERVICES. THEY ARE NOW AT 7:00 PM.



Please join us or Lunch & Learn as Rabbi Rubovits leads the discussion on Thursdays at Noon. Bring your own **dairy** sandwich unless otherwise announced. We'll provide water, chips & dessert. Attendees should be fully masked. You can still participate via Zoom.

HADASSAH BOOK CLUB

HADASSAH BOOK CLUB

Thank you to Monica Wendy for directing the Zoom on last week's book club meeting to Louise for leading the discussion! The next meeting of the Book Club is scheduled for Tuesday, January 25, 2022 at 7:00 PM. The next book is called "The Matzah Ball" by Jean Meltzer. It's described as heartwarming, hilarious and a joy to read! It has a scene stealing bubbe! What more could we ask for?

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

It's time for celebrations, family & friends so we need snacks and what's better than "Ritz Bits Snacks" of Bettie Berest, Of Blessed Memory.

Bettie as you know was a great wife, mother, grandmother, a caring educator, and an outstanding cook.

So make the snack and think of Bettie with every tasty bite. Happy days of celebrations.

RITZ BITS SNACKS

Bettie Berest

2 boxes Ritz Bits crackers 1/2 cup light corn syrup
1 1/2 cups chopped pecans 1 tsp vanilla
1/2 cup margarine 1 tsp baking soda
1 cup sugar

Mix crackers and pecans together and put on large greased cookie sheet. Cookie sheet must have lip. In a saucepan mix margarine, sugar and corn syrup. Bring to boil and boil for 5 minutes stirring constantly. Add baking soda and vanilla. Mixture will foam and while foaming, pour on Ritz Bits and pecan mixture and mix in as much as possible. Bake in 275°F oven for 45 minutes, stirring every 15 minutes. Pour onto wax paper and cool. Break into small pieces. Store in air tight container.

Hint: I do not bake as long as 15 minute intervals. Watch closely, because mixture can burn.

Condolences to **Ken & Krisanne Pollock** on the passing of Ken's brother, **Randall Pollock** as well as cousins **Howard, Bernie, Allen & Lawrence** and the entire Pollock family. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends at this time.

Yahrzeits

(Week of December 12-18)

None

(Week of December19-25)

Ron Galowich 19 Tevet December 23
Judy Block 20 Tevet December 24

(Week of December 26-January 1)

Dr. Gary Trager24 TevetDecember 28Bea Scholar24 TevetDecember 28Jim Kaplan24 TevetDecember 28Ken Pollock24 TevetDecember 28

The Yahrzeit light is lit on the evening before the date noted above.

Yahrzeit lights will be lit on our Memorial Tablets in memory of:

<u>Week of December 12-18:</u> Louis E. Moss, Dr. Samuel Klein, Sam Paul Freeman, Martin Aronowitz, Harry Festenstein, Etta Aronson

Week of December 19-25: William Melcher, Carl Sohn, Dr. George F. Glaser, Lena Maddis, Harry W. Sanders, Morris Fisher, Mrs. Rose Lewis, Mrs. Sarah Press, Abraham Kahn, Isadore Lewis

Week of December 26-January 1: Joseph Deutsch, Ruth Festenstein, Mrs. Sara H. Singer, Mrs. Rae Cohen, Samuel W. Fisher, Leonard Saper, Irwin Eisen, Louis Markle, Augusta Freeman, Joseph Lewis, Daniel Mann, Lilian Lewis, Irving Hirshfield, Maurice Press

Hattie & Harry Brown Funds

Recovery

None

Happy Day

In Honor of **Stephanie & Daniel Bradley** on the baby naming of their son, **Raymond**

Mr. & Mrs. Mark Turk

Memorial

In Memory of Mr. Randall Pollock

Mr. & Mrs. Mark Turk



THANK YOU

I want to take this time to personally thank each and every one of you who helped make the Hanukkah Bazaar such a huge success! I could not have done this Bazaar without all your help - Jeannie Lewin, Fred Lewin, Amy Cohen, Wendy Berman, Monica Wendy Swire, Louise Freeman, Beth.

Sincerely, Jan Stone



SCRIP PROGRAM

A new order form will be included in the next newsletter. Thank you to all who participate in this

program More is better!



ONGOING FUNDRAISERS

Joliet Jewish Congregation collects inkjet cartridges & cell phones to recycle. Please drop them off at the office.

We also have a newspaper recycling container at the Campbell St. entrance.



HELP THE JOLIET NOON LIONS

Please bring in pop top tabs, old keys, used glasses & hearing aids and leave in the office.

Help the Lions help those in need.

BOARD MEMBERS WANTED

Want to give back to your synagogue? Apply to be a Board member. Contribute your time and talents to help your congregation thrive.

If you are interested, please call President Mark Turk, 815-922-4065, for a copy of what is expected pf a Board member.



GIFT SHOP

Shop our gift shop. New items have arrived, come check them out! Shop for you, for a gift, or for a special occasion.

Contact Jan at 630-531-7885 or Beth during office hours M-F from 11 AM-3PM.

COVID-19 REQUIREMENTS:

ALL PERSONS ENTERING THE SYNAGOGUE REGARDLESS OF VACCINATION STATUS MUST WEAR A MASK.

THIS POLICY IS SUBJECT TO ANY NEW STATE OR LOCAL REGULATORY CHANGES

December 2021 Kislev-Tevet 5782

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			} -	2 No Lunch & Learn Scheduled	3 Shabbat Services 7:30 PM	4 Shabbat Services 9:30 AM
				Healthy Jew is a Happy Jew 7 PM		į
5 Hebrew/Religious School 9 AM/ 10AM	6	7	∞	9 Lunch & Learn 12:00 Noon	10 Shabbat Services 7:00 PM	11 Shabbat Services 9:30 AM An Evening of Jewish Music w/ Cantor Jessica 7:00 PM on Zoom
12 Hebrew/ Religious School 9 AM/ 10AM Hanukkah Party 11 AM	13 Tal Schneider Program 7:00 PM	14	15	16 Lunch & Learn 12:00 Noon	17 Shabbat Services 7:00 PM	18 Shabbat Services 9:30 AM
19 No Hebrew/ Religious School	20	21 Board Meeting 7:00 PM	22	23 Lunch & Learn 12:00 Noon	24 No Shabbat Services Scheduled	25 Shabbat Services 9:30 AM
26 No Hebrew/ Religious School (Winter Break)	27	28	29	30 Lunch & Learn 12:00 Noon	31 No Shabbat Services Scheduled	p—

Joliet Jewish Congregation 250 N. Midland Avenue Joliet, IL 60435 (815) 741- 4600

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Most investment firm insiders don't recommend highlighting investment performance.

We're happy to lead with it.



My name is Mark Brown, CFP®, AIF® (pictured lower-right). I am a long-time member of the Joliet Jewish Congregation. We invite you to visit us, or I will be happy to visit you.

Our completely independent firm provides plain-English solutions for your financial needs. Please consider stopping by our office, where **second opinion reviews** and a cup of coffee are always **free**!



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