



אור חדש

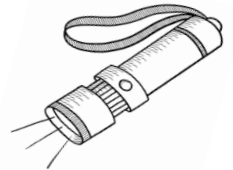
New Light Congregation

5915 Beacon Street, Pittsburgh PA 15217 • 412-421-1017 • info@newlightcongregation.org

New Light News March 2024

The Flashlight

The month of Adar is here! One who enters Adar must increase his joy! So goes the famous saying of our tradition. Every Friday night of this month, it has been our practice at New Light to tell Jewish jokes and other funny business by Jewish comedians. I encourage you to bring your own jokes next Friday night. In the meantime, here are some classic Jewish jokes that you may have missed:



In a kindergarten class, the teacher offers the kids \$5 if they can name the most famous person who ever lived.

Little Sean O'Sullivan says, "Saint Patrick!"

The teacher says, "No, I'm sorry Sean, that's not correct."

Little Johnny Williams says, "Abraham Lincoln!"

She says, "No, Johnny, I'm afraid that's not the answer."

Little David Goldberg says "Jesus Christ!"

The teacher says, "That's right, David, you get \$5!"

As he comes up to collect the money the teacher says, "You know David, being Jewish I'm surprised you said Jesus."

David replies, "In my heart I know it's Moses, but business is business!"

Old Max Greenberg lies on his deathbed. He asks, "Is my wife Sara here?" "Yes," says Sara. "I'm here with you!" "Are my children here?" "Yes, Max, your sons and your daughters are all here!" "Are my grandchildren here?" "Yes, all of the grandchildren are here. Max, your entire family is here with you!"

Then Max Greenberg lifts his head one last time and asks, "So why is the light on in the kitchen?"

This last joke is based on an actual Talmud case, the oven of Aknai (B. Talmud Baba Mezia 59 a-b) but a new punchline replaces the Talmudic outcome:

Four rabbis were having a Talmudic debate about an important matter regarding Jewish law.

Everyone stated their case and then they voted. It was three to one against Rabbi Eliezer.

But Rabbi Eliezer was sure that he was right! He cried out to heaven, "God, please send a sign to prove that I am right!"

Out a clear blue sky, it suddenly began to snow. Rabbi Eliezer said "You see!?"

One of the other rabbis says, "So, it's snowing in winter. This is a sign?"

Rabbi Eliezer said, "God, please make it clearer to them!"

Out of the sky, a massive icicle fell and split a tree in half. Rabbi Eliezer cried, "It's a miracle!"

The second rabbi said, "An icicle from the sky. This you call a miracle?"

Before Rabbi Eliezer could appeal to God one more time, the sky darkened and a booming voice called out from heaven, "The law is according to Rabbi Eliezer."

Eliezer says, "There! Now you see!"

The third rabbi says, "Meh. So now it's three to two."

If you have some funny ones to share, please send them to me at perlmanrav@gmail.com or show up yourself on Friday night and entertain our fellow members. Cantor Henry Shapiro and I are cooking up a funny shpiel for our Purim seudah (festival meal) on the evening of March 24 with our usual Megillah reading! Come one, come all and come happy!

Shalom,
Rabbi

March Board Meeting

The meeting is Sunday, March 3 at 10:30 AM, in-person in Helfant Chapel and on Zoom. Use the same Zoom connection as for Shabbat.

Purim Celebration

Our Purim celebration is Sunday, March 24, starting with dinner at 6:00 PM, followed by the Megillah reading at approximately 7:00 PM, and then a Purim spiel. Dinner is \$10 per person, please reserve your spot with Barbara (barbaracaplan@comcast.net or 412-421-1017) by March 18.

March Birthdays

Roselle Solomon
Barry Werber

March Anniversaries

Barbara & Arnold Eptstein

10.27 Healing Partnership Programs

The Partnership has a variety of new and ongoing program for the community, please check their web site at 1027healingpartnership.org often. One new program is **Healing with Nature Mosaic Project**, a six-week, ten session program at the Frick Environmental Center designed to respond to the human experience of grief and loss through the healing power of nature and of creative expression. For more information and to register go to <https://1027healingpartnership.org/event/healing-with-nature-mosaic-project/2024-04-06/>

Pittsburgh Police Changes

The city of Pittsburgh recently changed protocols. In particular, the Squirrel Hill Zone 4 will not be staffed from 3:00-7:00 AM. You should still call 911 in an emergency. Calls will be handled by Zone 5, on Washington Boulevard, so response time may be longer than usual.

March President's Report

At the January Board Meeting, the Board had an extended discussion about attendance on Friday night and Saturday morning services. Prior to COVID we routinely had a minyan on both Friday night and Saturday morning. With the introduction of zoom, we actually gained in the total number of people participating in both services. On Friday night, however, we almost never have an in-person minyan. On Saturday, we just barely make a minyan by the beginning of the Torah Service.

Please make an effort to come to shul Friday night or Saturday morning!

In order to help, the Board decided to change the time of Friday night services from 7 PM to 6 PM. It was hoped that the earlier time might attract more people. It has not.

But it has had the effect of opening a dialogue with Beth Shalom. They, too, have been having issues getting a minyan on Friday night. We are exploring whether it is possible to offer a combined Friday night service.

As we stand looking out our window and see the rain and hear the thunder it gives us time to think about the winter (or almost winter) we have had. In one respect it was mild and there were fewer days of worrying about loved ones getting back and forth to work. Many of us have the privilege of deciding we will just not go out in the cold or snow; others are not so lucky. So here's to March and spring and goodbye to winter - and a joyful Adar to everyone: (the following are borrowed from chabadrochester.com)

Changing

A poor village family was visiting the big city for the very first time in their lives. The father and son walked into a tall building and stood in awe. The son pointed at two metal doors and asked his father what they were. The father had no idea.

Suddenly the two doors slid open and a little old lady, leaning on her cane, walked slowly through the metal doors as they slid closed behind her. A few minutes passed. The light on the metal door rang and the door reopened. Out stepped a young woman, who briskly walked to the front door.

The father, hardly believing his eyes, whispered to his son, "Quickly, go get Mommy!"

The Game

A young boy enters a barber shop and the barber whispers to his customer, "This is the dumbest kid in the world. Watch while I prove it to you."

The barber puts a dollar bill in one hand and two quarters in the other, then calls the boy over and asks, "Which do you want, son?" The boy takes the quarters and leaves.

"What did I tell you?" said the barber. "That kid never learns!"

Later, when the customer leaves, he sees the same young boy coming out of the ice cream store.

"Hey, son! May I ask you a question?"

Why did you take the quarters instead of the dollar bill?"

The boy licked his cone and replied,

"Because the day I take the dollar the game is over!"

Barbara Caplan & Stephen Cohen
Co-presidents

Voting in the Pennsylvania Primary

This year's primary date in PA is April 23, which happens to be the first day of Pesach. If you would like to vote by mail it's very easy to apply for an absentee ballot. You can choose one of two methods.

If you have a valid PA driver's license number or a PennDot ID number you can use that to apply online <https://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/OnlineAbsenteeApplication/#/OnlineAbsenteeBegin>

You can apply with a paper application, attached here. You do not need a license or PennDot ID number to apply on paper.

Applications must be received by April 14, and the deadline to return your absentee ballot is 8:00 PM on April 23.

Reminders

- To purchase Memorial Plaques, Simcha Tree Leaves or Stones contact Ileen Portnoy.
- To purchase bricks for our "Garden of Freedom" contact Barbara Caplan.
- To purchase Giant Eagle gift cards contact Karen Coburn.
- For information on our cemetery contact Stephen Cohen.

NEW LIGHT CONGREGATION

5915 Beacon Street

412-421-1017

www.newlightcongregation.org

Rabbi

Co-President/Social VP/Yahrzeits

Co-President/Cemetery/Website

Membership

Sisterhood

Treasurer/Men's Club

Simcha Tree/Plaques

Religious Committee

Recording Secretary

Corresponding Secretary/Calendar

Jonathan Perlman

Barbara Caplan

Stephen Cohen

Debbi Salvin

Sharyn Stein

Harold Caplan

Ileen Portnoy

Eric Cohen, Bruce Hyde

Karen Coburn

Janet Cohen

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janet@newlightcongregation.org



New Light Congregation **March 2024** 21 Adar I 5784 - 21 Adar II 5784

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 🕒 5:22 Services, 6:00 PM	2 🕒 9:45 AM K1 Sisa Services, 9:45 AM
3 ▶ Board Meeting, 10:30 AM	4 24 ADAR I	5 25 ADAR I	6 26 ADAR I	7 27 ADAR I	8 🕒 5:30 Services, 6:00 PM	9 🕒 9:45 AM Vayakhel Parshas Shekalim Services, 9:45 AM
10 🕒 1 Rosh Chodesh Adar II - Day 🕒 2 Rosh Chodesh Adar II - Day	11 1 ADAR II 🕒 2 Rosh Chodesh Adar II - Day	12 2 ADAR II	13 3 ADAR II	14 4 ADAR II	15 🕒 6:38 Services, 6:00 PM	16 🕒 9:45 AM Pekudei Services, 9:45 AM
17 7 ADAR II	18 8 ADAR II	19 9 ADAR II	20 10 ADAR II	21 11 ADAR II 🕒 Fast of Esther	22 🕒 6:46 Services, 6:00 PM	23 🕒 9:45 AM Vayikra Parshas Zachor Services, 9:45 AM
24 🕒 6:00 PM Purim 🕒 6:00 PM Purim Celebration,	25 15 ADAR II 🕒 Shushan Purim	26 16 ADAR II	27 17 ADAR II	28 18 ADAR II	29 🕒 6:54 Services, 6:00 PM	30 🕒 9:45 AM Tzav Parshas Parah Services, 9:45 AM
31 21 ADAR II						