



Address Correction Requested

Ahavath Achim – Hebrew Congregation
1850 N. Woodlawn
Wichita, Kansas 67208
(316) 685-1339

Administrator Office Hours:

Mon – Wed – Fri: 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon; 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Rabbi – Judah Kogen
President – Paul Wolff
Gabbai – Jan Hoffman

Member, United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism (USCJ)

All articles due by the 15th of the month

~ The Shofar ~ Hebrew Congregation ~

February 2020 (Shevat/Adar 5780)

From our Rabbi

With the opening of the new legislative session in Topeka, a proposed amendment to the Kansas constitution is being debated. The amendment concerns restrictions on abortions and is modeled on legislation already enacted in several other states. It is assumed that the amendment, if ratified, would only apply if the US Supreme Court overturns *Roe v. Wade*.

The Jewish community has opposed the amendment and several Rabbis and community leaders have submitted testimony to the House committee that is deliberating the matter. I was one of the people who submitted testimony. What I submitted is reproduced below.

I plan to devote a sermon to this topic later this month because I would like to make sure we understand the differences between Jewish and Christian views. In the opinion of all who testified from the Jewish community, this is religious legislation which is insensitive to the separation of Church and State.

Rabbi Judah Kogen

From:

Rabbi Judah Kogen, The Hebrew Congregation
Wichita, Kansas

Opponent

To:

Special Committee on Federal and State Affairs
Hearing Date: January 21, 2020
Room: 346-S

Topic: HCR 5019

Written Testimony Only

I write to you as Rabbi of The Hebrew Congregation, a traditional congregation in Wichita, Kansas.

I am ordained in the Conservative movement of Judaism.

I oppose HCR 5019 on the grounds that it would allow the state to prohibit members of the Jewish and other affected faith communities from making reproductive health decisions in accordance with their faith's tenets, in violation of the separation of church and state.

There is broad consensus in the Jewish community prioritizing the life of the mother over that of a fetus, making abortion permissible when the mother's life is at stake. Some Orthodox Jewish people, in addition to Conservative and Reform Jews, also consider rape, incest or the mother's physical health as other reasons for permitting the termination of a pregnancy. Thus, even under the strictest interpretation of Jewish law, there are circumstances that would justify an abortion. Therefore, HCR 5019, by removing the right to an abortion, would allow for the prohibition of reproductive health decision-making in accordance with Jewish law.

The United States was founded on the premise of religious freedom and pluralism with the separation of church and state as a core doctrine. I strongly urge you, as our elected representatives, to refrain from infringing upon citizens' rights to practice their faith by rejecting HCR 5019, thereby retaining the right of individuals to make their reproductive health decisions based upon the advice of family and health care providers and the tenets of their faith.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Judah Kogen



From our President

I want to thank everybody for their contributions to the Joint campus. While we have achieved our dollar objectives – if you have not contributed yet, **we need as much participation as possible.** The total contributions will allow us to build for the future of the Wichita Jewish community.

I also want to thank those members who increased their annual pledges. There is still the opportunity for those that have not participated, to increase their pledges.

These pledges will be matched dollar for dollar by our generous donor. The increases are essential to building a sustainable future for our Hebrew Congregation.

Royce and I have been in Florida for the last couple of weeks. We will be back in Wichita at the end of February. If you would like to contact me before then, please do so.

Paul Wolff, Congregation President

Phone: 841-1428

E-mail: paulwolff617@gmail.com



In memory of Betty Novick

It is with profound sadness that we inform you of Betty Novick's passing.

Betty Novick passed at 11:50 p.m., Wednesday, January 22, 2020 in St. Louis. She was born in Vilno, Poland, the daughter of Shmuel and Rosalia Mekel. A Holocaust Survivor, she met her husband, the late Bernard Novick, in a post WWII D.P. camp, and they were married July 6, 1948. They were married fifty-three years and owned a scrap metal recycling business in Wichita, Kansas. Bernard preceded Betty in death on September 28, 2001.

They immigrated to the United States in 1949 and settled in Wichita. She was an active member of the Ahavath Achim-Hebrew Congregation, Mid-Kansas Jewish Federation, and Hadassah. Survivors include: one son, Jay Novick and one daughter, Charlene Kass (Michael), both of St. Louis; grandchildren, William, Benjamin, David (Iris Amdur) and Paul Kass; great-grandchildren, Rebecca and Aaron Amdur-Kass and Sabine Kass; sister and sister-in-law of the late Meyer Mekel (late Estelle), the late Barbara Toporek (late Harry) the late Zena Freeman (late Jack) and late Zelig Novick (late Miriam). She was a dear aunt, great-aunt, and cousin.

Memorial contributions preferred to Ahavath Achim- Hebrew Congregation of Wichita, 1850 N. Woodlawn, Wichita, KS 67208; to Nusach Hari B'nai Zion, 650 North Price Road, St. Louis, MO 63132; or to the Holocaust Museum and Learning Center, 12 Millstone Campus Drive, St. Louis, MO 63146.

She will be missed by all who knew her. May her memory be a blessing.

Our condolences to her loving family and may they soon find peace.

Please keep Betty's family in your thoughts and prayers.

In Our Family

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Howard & Rose Marcus
Chris & Andi Bannister
Darl & Pat Cord



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Gillard Cohen
Dan Chocron
Dr. Jan Hoffman
Laura Black
Amos Leitner
Jason Smartt



REFU'AH SHLEMAH

Jodie Abels
Lori Atkins
Larry Frank
Stuart Frank
Rebecca George
Melvin Kahn
Jerry Marcus
Marilyn Mason
Andrea Stras
Judy Frank
Allie King
Allen Boge
Howard Marcus
Stanley Harder

Nan Joseph Bailey
Holly Robbins
Mary Ann Filbrick
Donald Fielding
Eunice Schonning
Carolyn Farris
Amos Leitner
Phyllis Leitner

*May the one who blessed
our ancestors, bless them
with a complete healing;
a Healing of Body and a
Healing of Spirit.*

Candle Lighting Time Jan-Feb 2020

January

FRIDAY 31.....BO.....5:34 PM

February

FRIDAY 7.....BESHALACH.....5:41 PM

FRIDAY 14.....YITRO.....5:49 PM

FRIDAY 21.....MISHPATIM.....5:56 PM

FRIDAY 28.....TERUMAH.....6:04 PM

Synagogue Board Meeting

The regular meeting of the Synagogue Board of Directors will be held on Monday, February 10th, at 7:30 p.m.

Contributions

Yahrzeit Fund

Helen Slutsky
Robert Soltz
Judy Frank
Idell Goldstein



SYNAGOGUE FUND RAISER – MOVIE & SNACKS

*Please join us for our
First Movie & Snack
Event!*

Sunday, February 2, 2020,
at the Synagogue, Beren
Resource Center, 12:00
Noon.



(The Superbowl football game is in the evening!)

12:00 Noon – Movie starts! It is both entertaining and serious.

1:00 PM – Snack Break – Hot Dogs, Chips, Popcorn, & Soda Pop. For sale at reasonable prices.

Come with family & friends to enjoy this afternoon together. Looking forward to seeing you!

Yahrzeit

February 2020

4 Mary Gollin

Remembered By:
Louis Gollin

7 Sarah Greenberg

Remembered By:
Sanford Greenberg

9 Robert Brose

Remembered By:
Kim Gollin

10 Joan Beren

Remembered By:
Adam Beren

13 Maynard Klein

Remembered By:
Jackie Klein

14 Matheas Anger

Remembered By:
Ed Anger

14 Belle Kourt

Remembered By:
Warren Kourt

15 Jeanne Weksler

Remembered By:
Rita Magidson

17 Sheldon Beren

Remembered By:
Robert Beren

17 Phyllis Braun

Remembered By:
Dr. Kenneth Braun

20 Joe Jarus

Remembered By:
Jackie Klein

**20 Helen Hope Kamen
Rothenberg**

Remembered By:
Sue Harder

22 Sara Zacker

Remembered By:
Stephen Zacker

23 Salomon Perez

Remembered By:
Melissa Chocron

25 Jennie Sheftel

Remembered By:
Sanford Greenberg

26 Esther E. Stekoll

Remembered By:
Bernard Stekoll

28 Allan Getson

Remembered By:
Cynthia Walker

28 Sidney Gladstone

Remembered By:
Royce Wolff

28 Alexander Rozhener

Remembered By:
Ludmilla Fridman



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2020

Sat, Feb 1	Shabbat Morning Service	9:00 AM
Sun, Feb 2	Morning Minyan	9:00 AM
	Movie & Snack Social	12:00 (Noon)
Tue, Feb 4	Introduction to Judaism	7:00 PM
Thur, Feb 6	Bible Class	7:00 PM
Sat, Feb 8	Shabbat Morning Service	9:00 AM
Sun, Feb 9	Morning Minyan	9:00 AM
Mon, Feb 10	Tu B'Shevat	
	Board of Directors Meeting	7:30 PM
Tue, Feb 11	Introduction to Judaism	7:00 PM
Thur, Feb 13	Bible Class	7:00 PM
Sat, Feb 15	Shabbat Morning Service	9:00 AM
Sun, Feb 16	Morning Minyan	9:00 AM
Mon, Feb 17	Presidents Day	
Tue, Feb 18	Introduction to Judaism	7:00 PM
Thur, Feb 20	MKJF Next Gen Happy Hour	5:30 PM
	Bible Class	7:00 PM
Sat, Feb 22	Shabbat Morning Service	9:00 AM
Sun, Feb 23	Morning Minyan	9:00 AM
Tue, Feb 25	Introduction to Judaism	7:00 PM
Thur, Feb 27	Bible Class	7:00 PM
Sat, Feb 29	Shabbat Morning Service	9:00 AM