

Rabbi's Column – March 2, 2020

Purim is coming! Purim is coming! Everyone to your costumes - it's almost here!

Of course, if Purim is almost here, then we know that Pesach is just around the corner (and following a short 6 months later are the High Holydays, but why worry?) Thankfully every week we have Shabbat.

This coming Shabbat we will have two services. One on Friday night and one on Saturday morning. The hope is to have a minyan on Saturday morning, so the Gabbaim can practice some of their Torah Service skills. If we fail to have a minyan, rather than simply read the Torah portion as in the past, the discussion will focus on the Torah Service itself, as it has existed over time. Either way, the service will be followed by a kiddush lunch and study session, "Creation in depth" - or whatever title I gave it the last time I tried to figure one out. In any case, the learning experience will look at what is written about the first week in more detail than is often done.

Soon we will know whether there is a new government possibility in Israel, or simply the need for a fourth set of elections. There are no absentee ballots in Israel for the average person, so people who live elsewhere part of the year have either had to spend more money to go and vote, or they have had to just opt out. Glad we have both absentee and early voting here.

I continue to hope that we can all opt to be more kind to others in our interactions with them, and that our kindness will be returned.