

Religious School...education and enrichment

Fun on Purim

Purim is one of my favorite holidays. I love getting dressed up in a silly costume and celebrating Purim with my friends and family. I use the four main mitzvot of Purim as my guideline for the holiday.



Hear the Megillah – Listening to the Megillah being read is a lot of fun. People are usually talking, visiting and the whole atmosphere is pleasant. Cheers ring out for Mordechai and Esther and loud boos and groggers drown out the name of Haman. A festive Purim Shpiel will often accompany the reading of the Megillah. The play usually contains humor and songs: two things that continue to make the holiday fantastic.

Mishloach Manot – Gifts of food to friends and family. This one we started doing as a family several years ago and it gives us all great satisfaction. Being able to share some sweets with our friends is just another wonderful dimension of this holiday.

Matanot la'evyonim – Giving gifts to the needy. Tzedekah is an important part of all of our lives. Traditionally, these gifts are supposed to be given directly to people of need. It's a chance for all of us to take a step outside of our regular everyday lives and help someone who is less fortunate than us. What a powerful statement on a joyous holiday!

Festive meal – Everyone loves to eat, but this meal isn't really about the food. It's about the camaraderie, spending time with each other and doing it all for a spiritual and cheerful purpose. It's just a continuation of the happy times celebrated during the day.

I know that this year Purim falls during spring break for many of our families. I hope that if you are in town, you will join us for our Anshai Torah Purim Doodle Dandy Shpiel, Megillah reading and carnival on March 12. It will be fun for all ages!

I'm looking forward to seeing you all on Purim!

Jason