



The Jewish Community of Hamelin Newsletter

April 2016 • Adar II–Nissan 5776

[JGH Home](#) [Program](#)



Dear members, friends and supporters,

Please remember to pay your annual membership dues. The congregation depends on everyone to pay promptly to enable us to continue our work. Please note our new bank information: Sparkasse Weserbergland IBAN: DE47 2545 0110 0031 030380 BIC: NOLADE21SWB

It's been a long winter! Let's hope spring's sun stays with us and warms our hearts and bodies as we approach the week of Passover. Let's look back to last month's activities, reminiscing the special moments we shared together. Enjoy the photos on page 2.

International Women's Day on March 8th was celebrated with a concert, lovely flowers and a festive table. Our thanks go out to Polina Pelts and Valerij Bogatchyck for organizing the celebration and to Dorit Bogatchyck for all the cooking and baking.



On Sunday, March 13th, we held our annual membership meeting. Although we weren't holding elections this year, the meeting was well-attended. President Rachel Dohme offered a printed report of activities. The five-page report was not, as in previous years, read aloud. This year Rachel Dohme gave a presentation of special events from the year 2015. Among other topics, she reported that we gained eternal resting rights for our cemetery from the city of Hamelin, explained the reorganization of our children's educational program, shared the happy news of our congregation's rabbinical position, described two new building projects in the synagogue and informed the membership about the responsibilities of our BUFDI positions.

Treasurer Olga Gerr gave an excellent presentation of the congregation's finances. The auditors praised her work and found everything to be in order. The minutes of the meeting are available to members in the synagogue office.

Certainly the highlight of the month of March was our Purim celebration. Since it was Good Friday some of our neighbors may have wondered why American soldiers, pirates, kings, princesses, skeletons and cowboys were coming to the synagogue.

Our celebration began with the reading of the Megillat Esther. Rachel read the first verse in Hebrew from the scroll and Eva Schkolnikova read the Book of Esther in German and Russian.

An absolutely delightful retelling of the story by our youth group followed. The children were dressed in costume and finished their performance with two Purim songs, using the graggers they had cleverly made and decorated from Tic-Tac boxes. Faina thanked each of the children for their hard work with chocolates, adding to their collection of sweets and raising the din of little voices. What a sweet sound!

Valerij Bogatchyck and his thespians treated us to a Purim Spiel in Russian. It's hard to believe that he managed to top the Purim Spiel from last year, but he did. The costumes, music and special effects were dazzling, and the play is ready for the great stages of the world.

Polina Pelts and her culinary crew satisfied every sweet tooth with their delicious and mouth-watering plum and poppy seed homemade Hamentaschen cakes.

It was an amazing evening with an amazing congregation, and we thank everyone for their enthusiasm and dedication.

Our Internet Presence

Those of you reading this newsletter in English are reading the Internet version. The newsletter is also available in print form in [German](#) and [Russian](#) for members and supporters here in Germany. Many hours and many hands and heads go into producing this monthly informational newsletter. Keeping us online is no small expense for our small community of 90 percent Russian Jewish immigrants. We recognize the importance of this media tool in connecting and informing others of our congregational efforts and developments. And this newsletter has been the most efficient and successful outreach tool in our attempts to network internationally. Many new relationships have been established and built as a result of this newsletter, and we are grateful to all involved. If you would care to help us stay online, please contact Rachel Dohme at racheldohme@jghreform.org. We appreciate any and all support!

Purim



Youth Activities

Our wonderful Madricha Patrizia Berhovski is spending a year in Israel in the Netzer Olami Schnat program. She is still shy of the funds needed. If anyone can contribute to her year, please contact Rachel Dohme at racheldohme@jghreform.org.

Name	Polina und Julia	Datum	20.3.16	Blatt	
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Am 13.03.2016 sind wir nach Hildesheim ins Römer-Peltrius-Museum zu einer Mumien-Ausstellung gefahren. Wir waren 3 Kinder und 3 Erwachsene. In Hildesheim wars kalt und windig aber die Mumien haben auf uns gewartet. Wir haben Mumien von Tieren und Menschen gesehen. Die Führerin Vanessa hat uns alles über Mumien und Tieren erzählt. Danach konnten wir die Sachen nochmal angucken und fotografieren. Danach sind wir zu Pizzeria gegangen und haben Pizza gegessen. Und wir waren im Dom und da war ein Flohmarkt. Auf der Rückfahrt haben alle Kinder gespielt und Erwachsene haben die ganze Zeit über irgendetwas gequatscht.

Last month Iuolia Berhovski took 19 children and parents on an outing to Hildesheim Museum. The trip was enjoyed by one and all. Here is a thank you letter from Polina Reznik.

Back in the synagogue, Faina Pelts taught the children about Purim and practiced the Purim Spiel and songs with them.

Thanks to all our great teachers and kids!



Jewish April

We will celebrate Pesach with a community Seder on April 22nd. Our members Peter Wendt and Vladimir Pesok will lead us through the reading of the Haggadah. To meet the needs of all our members, we will conduct the Seder in Hebrew, German and Russian. The children of our Netzer Hameln group will recite the Four Questions and search for the Afikomen. The melody of Dayenu will dance through the air as we enjoy, as one big family, the tradition of our ancestors on this Festival of Freedom.

Koscher Pesach products can be purchased in the synagogue in April.

Our community prides itself on not charging a fee for the Seder and the delicious meal to follow.

The synagogue will be made Kascher l'Pesach on Thursday, April 21st. We remind all members and guests to not bring any Chametz during the Pesach week!

Hag Kasher v' Sameach! A happy and kosher Pesach!

“Aktion Mensch”

Last month “Aktion Mensch”, organized by Polina Pelts, helped support our Women’s Day and Hamentaschen Bakery activities. This month the project will assist us in three event:

On Sunday, April 10th, seniors (and all others) are invited to an afternoon of refreshments and a sing-along of melodies from days gone by.

On April 19th, Mrs. Ira Liubich will give a lecture, “The Maccabees Legacy—armed opposition of European Jews during the Holocaust,” certainly informative and important.

The end of the month will see an outing to Celle and a visit of the historic synagogue there.

New German class

Back by popular demand—Polina Pelts will offer a beginner’s German class on Mondays from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Language is the key to integration and independence!

New Members

With the more than 1,000 new Syrian refugees in Hamelin, suitable apartments have become harder to find. If you know of an available apartment, please inform us in the synagogue office.

Refu’ah shlemah

We pray for the complete recovery of all who are ill, and everyone who is going through difficult times. We will recite Misheberach for them during services.



Donations — Tzedakah

We thank all those who donated to either the congregation, for the Youth Fund or the synagogue foundation: We acknowledge and thank Mr. Dieter Schulz, Mrs. Nicole Schwigon, Mrs. Zischkale-Hensen and her BUFDI groups, Mrs. Von Bukow and the Kielhorn Special School class, Mrs. Breiter and the Pesalotzi School 8th grade, the Society of Christians and Jews, Mrs. Rachel Dohme und Mrs. Ute Gibas.

May you all be blessed for your generosity.

Mazel Tov

Tell us if you have Naches—good news to share, and we will be happy to add it to the newsletter!

Thank you — Todah Rabah

We thank everyone who helps in making our holiday and cultural events very special. Our thanks go to everyone who plans and organizes activities in our community.

Etz Chayim — Tree of Life

Spring is just around the corner, hopefully encouraging our tree to sprout a new leaf or two. The tree offers our members, friends and supporters the opportunity for two mitzvot (good deeds) at once. One can commemorate special occasions, such as births, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, weddings, Yahrzeits and special honors, and also support the maintenance of our synagogue.

Jahrzeit in April

Tetyana Khodos	April 4, 1998 / 8. Nissan 5758
Anna Pototcaia	April 11, 2000 / 6. Nissan 5760
Eugenia Borishanskai	April 26, 2004 / 5. Iyar 5764
Boris Frid	April, 28, 2011 / 24. Nissan 5771
Juriy Lebedinskiy	April 4, 2012 / 10. Nissan 5772
Alex Voronov	April 10, 2012 / 18. Nissan 5772
Ryssja Kotschergina	April 27, 2015 / 8. Iyar 5775

May the memory of our loved ones be for a blessing. Please join family members during Sabbath services as we recite Kaddish. Yahrzeit candles are available in the office.

Shalom

The Congregation Board



Program for April 2016 • Adar II–Nissan 5776

Office hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.; Tuesday & Thursday: 10.00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 7	11:00 a.m.	Monthly board meeting
Friday, April 8	5:30 p.m.	Friday night services with H. Braun
Saturday, April 9	10:00 a.m.	Saturday morning services and Torah study with H. Braun and R. Dohme
Sunday, April 10	3:00 p.m.	Sunday Senior's Café: Sing-along with P. Pelts and V. Bogatchyck. With friendly support of "Aktion Mensch"
Saturday, April 16	10.00 a.m.	Saturday morning services and Torah study with V. Pesok
Tuesday, April 19	11:00 a.m.	Senior Breakfast: Lecture with Ina Liubich: "The Legacy of the Macca-bees-armed Jewish European resistance during the Shoah." With friendly support of "Aktion Mensch"
Friday, April 22	5:30 p.m.	Congregational Pesach Seder led by Peter Wendt and Vladimr Pesok
Friday, April 29	9:00 a.m.	Trip to Celle, led by Polina Pelts. Sign up in the office. With friendly support of "Aktion Mensch"

Activities outside the Synagogue

Saturday, April 9	5:00 p.m.	Concert "Musica del Paradiso", Inter-religious musicians and music in St. Bonifatius Church, Free of charge
Tuesday, April 12	7:00 p.m.	Annual membership meeting Society of Christians and Jews Lutheran Reformed Church, Hugenottenstrasse



[Newsletter Archives](#)

Jewish Community of Hamelin

Member of the Union of Progressive Jews in Germany, the World Union of Progressive Judaism, and the Central Council of Jews of Germany

Bürenstrasse, Synagogenplatz 1, 31785 Hameln • Tel/Fax: 05151/925625

Web site: www.jghreform.org • Email: jgh@jghreform.org

Office: Neue Heerstraße 35, 31840 Hess. Oldendorf

Tel.: 05152/8374 • Fax: 05152/962915

Email: racheldohme@jghreform.org