



September 2021 Elul/Tishri 5781

Services

Welcome Shabbat with the Rabbi

Friday, September 3rd, 10th & 17th from 5:30 – 5:45 PM *Zoom only*

Kabbalat Shabbat

Friday, September 3rd, 10th & 17th from 5:45 PM – 6:30 PM *Zoom only*

(TGIS) Thank G-d its Shabbat Family Service at the Temple Sukkah

Friday, September 24th from 5:00 PM – 5:30 PM *In Person only*

Kabbalat Shabbat at the Temple Sukkah

Friday, September 24th from 5:45 PM – 6:30 PM *In Person only*

Morning Shabbat

Saturday, September 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th at 9:30 AM * In Person & via Zoom*

Tuesday Minyan

Tuesday, September 14th, 21st & 28th at 5:30 PM *Zoom only*

No Tuesday Evening Minyan on September 7th

High Holidays – Schedule of Services – See attached flyer

Erev Rosh Hashanah:

Monday, September 6th at 6:00 PM

1st Day Rosh Hashanah:

Tuesday, September 7th beginning at 9:30 AM

Rosh Hashanah Children's Service

Tuesday, September 7th beginning at 10:15 AM

(Pre-K – 1 w/Rabbi outside – weather permitting)

(Grs. 2 – 6 w/Andrea Allgood – in the chapel)

2nd Day Rosh Hashanah:

Wednesday, September 8th beginning at 9:30 AM

Yom Kippur Kol Nidre:

Wednesday, September 15th at 6:30 PM

Yom Kippur

Thursday, September 16th beginning at 9:30 AM

Yom Kippur Children's Service

Thursday, September 16th beginning at 10:15 AM

(Pre-K – 1 w/Rabbi outside – weather permitting)

(Grs. 2 – 6 w/Andrea Allgood – in the chapel)

Minhah (afternoon)/Ne'ilah Service

Thursday, September 16th at 6:30 PM

*Yom Kippur: Community Break-the-fast

Thursday, September 16th at 7:30 PM

*Sponsored by Shalom Memorial & Adam Smith

Sukkah Raising

Sunday, September 19th at 9:00 AM

Sukkot - Simchat Torah – Lulav Shaking

Sunday, September 26th at 11:00 AM

Shemini Atzeret & Yizkor Service

Tuesday, September 28th at 9:30 AM

*Simchat Torah Celebration

Tuesday, September 28th at 6:15 PM

*(preceded by a free, light family friendly dinner at 5:30 PM)

Temple Events

Congregational BBQ (see attached flyer): Sunday, September 12th at 12:00 PM

Teen Sukkot Apple Picking at Narrow Lane Orchard (see attached flyer): Sunday, September 19th at 3:00 PM

Pizza in the Hut at the Temple Sukkah (see attached flyer): Sunday, September 26th at 12:00 PM



Shalom Chevrei Friends,

Can you hear the sound of the shofar calling deep inside your heart and soul? The Days of Awe are upon us, the new year is being born and we are coming around again in the carousel of time. Joni Mitchell's famous song "The Circle Game" speaks of time as moving in circles, but most people nowadays think of time as moving in a straight line. The Jewish model of time is neither a circle nor a line but a combination of both. Jewish time unfolds in the pattern of a spiral of ever widening and ascending circles. Time is moving forward, but it moves around a seasonal cycle of festivals. Each year we pass through the same coordinates that hold the spiritual power of that particular holiday, but each time we engage with it differently because we are not the same people, we were last time around. Passover in the Springtime holds the power of spiritual freedom, and Chanukah in the winter gives us the power to plant seeds of light in the darkness. Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and Sukkot all hold tremendous power propel us into the new year with clarity, focus, gratitude, and a sense of purpose.

Rosh Hashanah means "Head of the Year." It is the time when we get our head on straight so that we can enter the new year with the right perspective. It is also called Yom Harat Olam "The Birthday of the World. It's a once-a-year opportunity to establish a fresh new direction in our lives. We ask ourselves, "If I was born this very moment, without the limitations of my past habits and patterns, what would I do? How would I really want to live?" Yom Kippur means "Day of Atonement or Day of Spiritual Cleansing." At first these holidays seem like they are in the wrong order. Wouldn't it make more sense to cleanse or fix up the damage and then after that we will be ready to reset our heads and begin in a brand-new way?

Rabbi Asher Resnick gives an excellent analogy to help us understand why the holidays fall in this particular order. He says, "Imagine a person whose car is full of dents and scratches because he has been such a poor driver. He goes to a body shop to get all of the dents and scrapes fixed up. The man in the body shop, however, tells him not to bother because this would likely end up being a waste of money. He recommends that this lousy driver first work on becoming a better driver. To merely fix up the damage to his car without first changing his poor driving habits would be pointless; it is inevitable that he will end up damaging his car all over again. Only once he has improved his driving, will it make sense for him to get his car fixed up."

On Rosh Hashanah and the seven days that follow, we examine our values and how they translate into our vision for the future. On Yom Kippur we are now ready to fix up the spiritual damage from our past mistakes in a way that will last. By doing the work in this order we set ourselves up to drive safely and in the right direction around the next unfolding spiral of time. I look forward to seeing everyone again in shul and celebrating another year with you!

L'Shanah Tovah Tikateivu – May we all be inscribed in the Book of Life and Goodness!

Rabbi Philmus

September

Services/Events

Erev Rosh Hashanah
Monday, September 6th;
6:00 pm. In Person & via
Streaming.

**1st Day Rosh
Hashanah**
Tuesday, September 7th;
beginning at 9:30 am. In
Person & via Streaming

**2nd Day Rosh
Hashanah**
Wednesday, September
8th; beginning at 9:30
am. In Person & via
Streaming

**Kol Nidre Yom
Kippur**
Wednesday, September
15th; at 6:30 pm. In
Person & via Streaming

Yom Kippur
Thursday, September
16th; beginning at 9:30
am. In Person & via
Streaming

**Minhah/Ne'ilah
Service**
Thursday, September
16th; beginning at 6:30
PM. In Person & via
Streaming.

**TGIS Thank G-d its
Shabbat Family
Service at the Sukkah**
Friday, September 24th;
5:00 pm – 5:30 pm.
Shabbat Songs and Story
with Rabbi Aaron. In
Person only.

**Kabbalat Shabbat
Service at the Sukkah**
Friday, September 24th;
5:30 pm – 6:15 pm.
Adult Service with Rabbi
Aaron. In Person only.

Congregational BBQ
Sunday, September 12th;
12:00 PM

**Teen Sukkot Apple
Harvest at Narrow
Orchard**
Sunday, September 19th;
from 3:00pm – 5:00pm

Pizza in the Hut
Sunday, September 26th;
12:00 PM



Shalom fellow Congregants.

September has arrived and with it the traditional end of summer. This year, the High Holidays are earlier than usual with the first day of Rosh Hashanah being Tuesday, September 7, 2021. Rabbi Aaron along with our cantorial soloist, David Wasser, will be conducting in person services in our sanctuary.

We will simultaneously be streaming all our High Holiday services which may be accessed from the toratysrael.org webpage, the Temple's Facebook page or on YouTube. Streaming will begin 10 minutes before the scheduled start of services. Services begin at 9:30AM and will conclude around noon on both days of Rosh Hashanah and on Yom Kippur, Thursday, September 16, 2021. Kol Nidre services will begin at 6:30pm on Wednesday, September 15, 2021. The Yom Kippur afternoon service begins at 6.30pm and will be followed by a congregational break the fast meal.

If you will be attending High Holiday services in person, please remember that face coverings must be worn during the entire time you are in the synagogue. There will be no communal singing. The only singing during services will be performed by Rabbi Aaron, David Wasser and our vocal soloist, Angela Libman. Please bring your own tallit and kippa as none will be available at the Temple. As you enter the sanctuary, please take your prayer book from the table and return it to the opposite table when you leave the sanctuary. If you have any COVID symptoms or do not feel well, please attend via streaming. An usher will seat everyone so that we may maintain social distancing of at least 3 feet between family groups. We will have police security at all services. The wall between the sanctuary and the social hall will be open during all services so that everyone may spread out.

This year's High Holiday services will be conducted in a similar manner to last year. Many congregants will be viewing services from home while others will be attending in-person services. Torat Yisrael will be one of a very few synagogues in Rhode Island that is holding both in-person services and streaming services via the internet. We are working to ensure everyone's safety and health while attending services at Torat Yisrael and are striving to present dignified and meaningful religious services in keeping with our tradition.

An anonymous donor will match dollar for dollar for all donations received for this year's Kol Nidre appeal, which are received by December 31, 2021. Please contribute as liberally as you can. All donations are used to defray the costs of operating our synagogue and is an important fund raiser.

We will be holding children's services on the first day of Rosh Hashanah and on Yom Kippur. Children's services will begin at 10:15AM on both days with Rabbi Aaron leading services for grades Pre-k - I outside in the backyard behind the synagogue, weather permitting, otherwise services for grades Pre-k-I will be held in the school wing, with Andrea Allgood leading services for grades 2-6 in the chapel. Face coverings are required for all.

Please join us for Torat Yisrael's free annual congregational BBQ on Sunday, September 12, 2021 beginning at 12:00pm.

This year, we are happy to announce the return of our free congregational Break the Fast on Thursday, September 16, 2021, immediately following the conclusion of Havdalah around 7:30pm. This year's Break the Fast is sponsored by Adam Smith and Shalom Memorial Chapel. There is no charge for the BBQ or Break the Fast, but we would appreciate your sending an RSVP to deanna@toratysrael.org so that we may plan accordingly.

Our Cohen Religious School classes will begin Sunday September 12, 2021 with in person learning. Face coverings for all students, faculty, staff and parents will be required when on the Torat Yisrael campus. We will be following the guidelines of the CDC and the State of Rhode Island for in person classes.

We look forward to the time when this pandemic will be over and we may resume our normal routines. We appreciate your continued support of Temple Torat Yisrael. Without you, there is no Temple Torat Yisrael.

These past 18 months have been trying for all, but we are encouraged by the availability of the COVID vaccine which we did not have last year. We are constantly reviewing our procedures and practices to bring Torat Yisrael into your home and keep our Torat Yisrael community together. I welcome your comments and suggestions.

L'shana tovah, May you have a healthy and sweet New Year!

Andrew G. Sholes



Torat Yisrael's Cohen School

Shanah Tovah Cohen School families!

We are so very excited to begin school on September 12th. We will be in person, and school will run from 9-12. Thankfully all of our teachers, Alyse, Tracey, Andrea and Brenda will be returning this year.

We are so grateful to have the best teachers and they are all working hard this summer to develop engaging and exciting lessons for the year. It will be wonderful to learn and celebrate the holidays together again, and explore our wonderful Torah stories. Each class will also have their own Tefillah (prayer) program this year that will hopefully encourage them to practice and lead the prayers from the bimah.

Leah Ross-Coke will also be returning to lead the Pre- K Sprouts program, along with Rabbi Philmus, and they will be putting together the dates and themes for the calendar soon.

Masks will be mandatory inside the building as well as outside (unless the student is socially distanced and/or eating a snack). Students playing on the playground, in the gaga court or next to each other must be masked at all times.

We will be utilizing the whole building and there will be no other events during school hours. My teachers will use indoor and outdoor settings for their lesson plans which will be weather dependent. Students will enjoy individually wrapped snacks every Sunday.

For the next few Sundays, my teachers will be evaluating the students' Hebrew levels. We ask that you please bring any books back to the school on the first day so that we can order the appropriate books for the year.

Parents are reminded to complete a quick health assessment of their children every Sunday morning and to not send any children that have cold or flu-like symptoms to school. We will have extra masks and hand sanitizer available.

There is a new procedure for drop off and pick up. We request that you drive up and drop off your child at the door. We will dismiss students the same way. There will also be an adult at the front door to assist and ensure the safety of your child.

There will be no registration at the door on the 12th, so we request that all parents please contact Sheryl in the office at 885-6600 before that day to ensure that we know your child will be registering for the school year.

We look forward to seeing everyone and cannot wait to start learning together again. Feel free to contact me at school@toratyisrael.org regarding school programs and policies.



Keshher's Corner

L'shanah Tovah. I hope this newsletter finds everyone in the congregation well, and I wish you all a year ahead filled with peace, happiness, and good health.

Jewish Collaborative Services programs, including Keshher services are available to the to assist with any challenges that may arise in daily life. If you or someone you know is in need of support, please do not hesitate to reach out to me by phone at (401) 428-4084, or by email at shana@jfsri.org. I am available to meet via telephone, virtual platforms, or in person.

What is Keshher and how can Keshher support me right now?

Keshher is the congregational outreach program of Jewish Collaborative Services, which offers services to congregants at Temple Torat Yisrael. All Keshher services are confidential and provided at no cost to congregants, as Keshher is generously funded by the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island, as well as private donors.

Shana Prohofsky, our Temple's Keshet worker, is currently available by phone and email. Congregants, families, and individuals can reach out for consultation, resource guidance, referrals for counseling, and just to talk.

Shana can provide specific guidance related to housing needs, homecare, eldercare, food programs, financial assistance and more. Shana has access to all the services currently running at Jewish Collaborative Services (tele-mental health and in person counseling sessions, case management, Lifeline emergency medical alert system monitoring and client support, kosher nutrition, and JERI outreach), as well as those provided through social service agencies throughout Southeastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island.



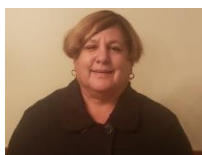
Librarian's Corner

Once We Were Sisters by Sheila Kohler

When Sheila Kohler was thirty-seven, she received the heart-stopping news that her sister Maxine, only two years older, was killed when her husband drove them off a deserted road in Johannesburg. Stunned by the news, she immediately flew back to the country where she was born, determined to find answers and forced to reckon with his history of violence and the lingering effects of their most unusual childhood—one marked by death and the misguided love of their mother.

In her signature spare and incisive prose, Sheila Kohler recounts the lives she and her sister led. Flashing back to their storybook childhood at the family estate, Crossways, Kohler tells of the death of her father when she and Maxine were girls, which led to the family abandoning their house and the girls being raised by their mother, at turns distant and suffocating. We follow them to the cloistered Anglican boarding school where they first learn of separation and later their studies in Rome and Paris where they plan grand lives for themselves—lives that are interrupted when both marry young and discover they have made poor choices. Kohler evokes the bond between sisters and shows how that bond changes but never breaks, even after death.

Laura Steele



Sisterhood

On behalf of the TTY Sisterhood board, Leah Ross-Coke & Marion Woolf (Co-Presidents), Anita Olinsky (Treasurer), Susan Gertsacov (Secretary) & myself, Judy Finkle (VP of Programming), we would like to welcome you all to a brand-new year of

Sisterhood!! We have a full year of events planned, starting with a kickoff event on October 3rd.

We want to wish you & your family a very happy, healthy and sweet New Year!! L'Shana Tova!! Let's make this a fabulous year! We hope to see you soon.

September 19 - Volunteers needed, Tamarisk is looking for adult volunteers to decorate their Sukkah early afternoon. **Please note:** The Sunday Hebrew School children will be making the decorations, but due to Covid restrictions, only vaccinated adults can go and decorate. Please help. Details to follow.

October 3 at 12:15 pm, we are having our kickoff event, a paid-up Membership Brunch with a program.

November 14 - Save the date - Working on a fun event, so stay tuned! **November** is also our Winter Clothing Drive month so keep us in mind!!

Please join Sisterhood and send in your dues, \$25 year + \$5 for the Mitzvah fund. The Mitzvah Fund pays for the candlesticks for our Bat Mitzvah girls as well as items needed for our Temple's kitchen. Bills will be coming out soon. Membership in Sisterhood & Men's Club for five years also entitles your child to apply for the \$5,000.00 Frederic G. & Lawrence G. Cohen College Scholarship. If you are a new member of Temple Torat Yisrael, your first year of dues to Sisterhood is free, so please come check us out!

Please join our Temple Torat Yisrael Sisterhood Facebook Page

Respectfully ~Judy Finkle Programming VP of Sisterhood - email Judy hotpinkjudy@yahoo.com with any new ideas

Operation Isaiah: Kol Nidre Food Drive

In conjunction with Conservative congregations throughout the country, we ask you to please plan to bring non-perishable food items with you to our Kol Nidre service on Wednesday, September 15th. We are collecting food for two community-based food support programs:

East Greenwich Food Closet hosted by St. Luke's Church: They are in need of cans and jars of tuna, soups, pasta sauces, peanut butter, vegetables and fruits, boxes of cereal & toiletries.

The Louis and Goldie Chester Full Plate Kosher Food Pantry: Please bring food with kosher certification with you to support our peers in the Jewish community who are food-insecure.

In Our Torat Yisrael Family



Mazal Tov to everyone celebrating a Birthday in September!

Miriam Viner (9 years old), Samuel Lev Singer-Leavitt (4 years old), Joseph Theroux, Jessica Pollard, Talia Theroux (5 years old), Brandon Salomon, Bonnie Epstein-Silverman, Samuel Binder (11 years old), Angela Libman, Charlotte Katz (8 years old), Seymour Brooks, Dr. Adam Niedelman, Liam Levy (14 years old), Barry Kaplan, Barry Golden, Tamar Weinberg (5 years old), William Binder (9 years old), Elaine Shapiro & Lily Salomon (9 years old).

Mazel Tov to everyone celebrating an Anniversary in September! Mr. & Mrs. Michael Smith (53 years), Dr. & Mrs. Keith Schoen (19 years), Mr. & Mrs. Steven Sholes (5 years), Mr. & Mrs. Steven Cohen (13 years), Mr. & Mrs. Brandon Salomon (20 years) & Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Silverman (25 years).

Our Torat Yisrael Community Acknowledges with Thanks the Following Generous August 2021 Donations:

GENERAL FUND

In Honor of Break-the-Fast
-Shalom Funeral Home & Adam Smith

In Memory of Ethel Cleinman
-Seymour Brooks

In Memory of Sema Davis
-Marc & Helen Davis

In Memory of Norma Gouse Goldman
-Laurie & Stephan Goldman

In Memory of Nadine Greene
-Berne M. Greene

In Memory of Irene Horowitz
-Phyllis Potash

In Memory of Rachel Jewett
-Helene Holland

In Memory of Eva Kagan
-Paula Meyerson

In Memory of Esther Meyerson
-Paula Meyerson

In Memory of Marsha D. Kirshenbaum
-Andrew G. Sholes

In Memory of David Korn
-Steve & Elaine Shapiro

In Memory of Milton Rubin
-Ruth & Arnold Blasbalg

In Memory of Libby Rudnick
-Ruth Ross

In Memory of Estelle Saltzman

-Karen L. Lubin
-Richard Saltzman

In Memory of Rosella "Cookie" Shwartz
-Marc & Helen Davis

In Memory of Edith C. Smith
-Michael & Marilyn Smith

In Memory of Samuel Snegg
-Susan & Vern Bryant

In Memory of Abraham Tobias
-Joan R. Coken

EDWIN & TRUDE ANTIN ENDOWMENT FUND

In Memory of Bernard Silver
-Ellen, Barry, Mitchell & Eddy Golden

MICHELE PAM ROSS ENDOWMENT FUND

In Memory of Albert Ross
-Ruth Ross

SECURITY FUND

In Memory of Shirley D'Andrea
-Mildred Beck

DAVID A. SMOLLER ENDOWMENT FUND

In Memory of Adam Kaydar
-Susan & Michelle Smoller

In Honor of Noa Hayden Yoskowitz's
Bat+ Mitzvah
-Susan & Michelle Smoller

STREAMING FUND

In Memory of Sarah Ross
-Lynn Field