



## CONGREGATION SINAI



High Holy  
DAYS  
5781



**Congregation Sinai**  
**8223 N. Port Washington Road • Fox Point, WI 53217**  
**414.352.2970**

**[www.congregationsinai.org](http://www.congregationsinai.org)**

Rabbi David B. Cohen • Cantor Richard Newman • Rabbi Emeritus Jay R. Brickman  
Director of Youth Education Brian Avner, RJE • Director of Administration Karen Berk  
Director of Engagement Jen Friedman • School Administrator Jeri Danz  
Bookkeeper Ilene Wasserman

## From Rabbi Cohen

In 1849, French writer and *Le Figaro* editor Jean-Baptiste Alphonse Karr wrote: “*plus ça change, plus c’est la même chose* “ – the more things change, the more they stay the same...

As I approach the High Holy Days most years the assertion seems apt. The core themes of the holy days don't vary year to year – the importance of self-reflection, taking responsibility for our actions, the potential to do Teshuva and through repentance achieving a measure of enduring change.



And then, there are years like this, filled with rapid, dislocating, scary changes. Punctuated by what we don't know: what tomorrow may bring, let alone next month. A change in conditions that challenges our sense of community, society and personal freedom.

A time we scarcely could have imagined last Rosh HaShanah.

There is a verse from our Torah service that has served me as both an anchor and a compass for me these past months.

הַשִּׁיבֵנו יְיָהוָה | אֵלֵינוּ וְנָשׁוּב [נְשׁוּבָה] חֲדָשׁ יָמֵינוּ כְּקֶדֶם:

Bring us back, O God, to you and we shall return. Renew our days as of old (Lamentations) 5:21).

The verse paints an appropriate image for the Days of Awe. The word for “return” also means “to repent” signaling a return to a better path of behavior and life.

The second half of the phrase, in particular, hits home.

While it seems to be saying “bring us back to the good old days,” the phrase “Renew our days as of old” presents a paradox. “Bring us back” refers to a tie to our past, a heritage richly veined with wisdom and insight. And while it's translated “Renew our Jewish days as of old” it more accurately means “make new,” looking more toward our future.

Therein lies the paradox: we end every Torah service with a phrase that simultaneously underscores the value of maintaining a link to our traditions and heritage, even at the same time, it inspires us to innovate and make new, and to relate that ancient wisdom to our present day and future possibilities. Looking backwards and ahead has always been the Jewish way and now it's more essential than ever.

As we reimagined what the High Holy Day season could be, given limitations on gathering at Sinai, we tried both to retain a measure of what is our traditional observance as well as new, creative ways to adapt to new technology and possibilities. Sinai has always embraced the spirit of innovation and experimentation with our Jewish heritage. This year, such a strategy is our blueprint.

Some of our ideas may successfully transcend our inability to gather as usual. Others may fall flat. Some ideas may prove to be inspired and we might consider keeping them once we are able to gather together. Either way, we look forward to sharing these precious High Holy Days with you and your loved ones.

B'Shalom Uveracha – In peace and blessing and Shanah Tovah!

David B. Cohen  
Rabbi

# How to Make Your Home into a Place to Pray for the High Holy Days

*They will make me a sanctuary and I will dwell among them. (Exodus 25:)*

ועשו לי מקדש ושכנתי בתוכם



For months now, we've all become accustomed to working from home—it's gone more smoothly for some than for others. Social media has been replete with work-from-home fails: toddlers barging in on important calls, dogs disrupting meetings with intrusive background noise and even partially clad family members being caught on camera. Convenience aside, there's a reason why work is kept in the workplace.

What we haven't heard nearly as much about is praying from home. Without access to our beautiful facility, congregants have had to avail themselves of the various online services that Sinai has hosted. For some, setting up a laptop on the kitchen counter and "playing" Friday night services is just fine. You can listen to the cantor, hum along with the familiar tunes, hear what the rabbi has to say—all while cleaning up after dinner and loading the dishwasher. Sometimes praying from home is just as convenient as working from home.

But wouldn't you agree that your High Holy Day experience should be a little more meaningful? So, what will that look like in your home? To enhance your High Holy Days, you will need to transform some place in your home into a Mikdash M'at – a holy place. Here are some ways that you can accomplish that:

**The Space:** Find somewhere in your house that's spacious enough for everyone to sit comfortably and see the computer. Even better—and well within many people's technical capability—connect your computer to your TV so you aren't all crowding around a small screen. Most sanctuaries in North America are situated so that people face east when they pray—towards Jerusalem. Do you know which direction east is when you're sitting in your designated prayer space? If it's possible, try to face east when you participate in services. Even if you don't, it's nice if you at least know where it is. Set the Shiviti, the framed artwork you received in your High Holy Day Kit, inscribed with the Hebrew verse "I have set the Lord always before me" (Psalms 16:8) to remind us of God's presence, where it will be visible and will help make your space sacred and holy. We hope you enjoy this gift from Sinai.

**Participate:** It can be awkward and foreign to sing at a computer screen when it is just you (and others in your home) and the cantor singing. Try anyway. If you look closely you'll see many other congregants singing, though you won't hear them. Have a Machzor (a High Holy Day prayer book) in front of you. Respond Amen when appropriate. Stand up and be seated at the usual times, when the rabbis indicates. If it is your custom, put on a tallit and kippah, and otherwise engage in all the usual choreography of the service. Just as you would come to synagogue with your family, make sure that everyone is present in your newly created prayer space. Chances are, your children will be less inhibited than you are to sing out loud and participate in front of the screen.

**Get Dressed:** Months of Zoom conversations have required all of us to make sure that we look professional on screen – at least from the waist up. For High Holy Day services, wear pants! You can probably do just fine without the usual formal suit and tie or dress, but don't attend services in jeans or sweats even though you might be sitting on your den couch. Before you hear a single word of prayer, being dressed a certain way will begin the process of transforming your home into a personal sanctuary.

## How to Make Your Home into a Place to Pray for the High Holy Days continued

**Be On Time:** In the old days (that is, 2019), all congregants arrived at Sinai at various times throughout the service, stayed for however long, and then left. Then there were those who were in their seats an hour before the rabbi and cantor even began the service and wouldn't think of leaving before services was over. We have taken care to shorten our virtual High Holy Day services. It's simply not realistic to expect to remain engaged and attentive for hours on end. So make every effort to tune in for the whole time. Those few hours will contain the most recognizable and significant portions of the service.

**Be Open:** Sitting in the sanctuary for High Holy Day services last year, no one could have ever imagined that this would be the way we'd usher in the year 5781. While it may not be what we want, it's what we have. Take advantage of these unusual circumstances to experience something new. Sitting in your den, surrounded by family and your familiar possessions, (even as you can hardly separate yourself from the tumult of our world and the threat of COVID-19) – the message of Unetaneh Tokef about the fragility of life and our tenuous mortality may take on a whole new meaning. This is a unique opportunity to understand and appreciate the liturgy and message of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur differently than you ever have.

This year, you may not have to face the crowds or remember to bring your tickets, but transforming your home into a sacred place of holiness will help establish the mood most conducive to this holy season.

## Preparing for the Holy Days

### Sound the Shofar!

Learn (via video) how to blow the "Tekia", "Shevarim", and "Teruah" Shofar calls along with Shofar expert, Jim Salinsky, who has prepared a short lesson, "Shofar for Dummies."

Visit [congregationsinai.org/HHD2020/videos](http://congregationsinai.org/HHD2020/videos)



### Reflection - see where you are come 5782

Receive a question a day this year for the 10 days in between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Afterwards, you send your answers to the secure online vault. One year later, your answers are unlocked and returned and the process begins anew.



**Signup at [www.renewyear.com](http://www.renewyear.com)**

*10Q: Reflect, React Renew is a project of Reboot, an arts and culture non-profit that reimagines and reinforces Jewish thought and traditions.*

## Preparing for the Holy Days

A series of short videos on the major prayers of the High Holy Day Services.

Visit [congregationsinai.org/HHD2020/videos](http://congregationsinai.org/HHD2020/videos)

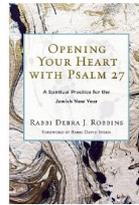


An invitation to get ready for the High Holy Days in a special and meaningful way!

*Join us to read and discuss:*

**Opening Your Heart with Psalm 27:**  
**A Spiritual Practice for the Jewish New Year**

by Rabbi Debbie Robbins, with a foreword by Rabbi David Stern



This volume is a compelling invitation to meditate on the deeper meaning of the fourteen verses of Psalm 27. During the month of Elul and the High Holy Day and Festival season, we reflect on our relationships, choices, beliefs, and practices, considering where to make repairs, adjustments, and atonement. *Opening Your Heart with Psalm 27* provides gentle guidance through this journey of reflection, offering heartfelt insight, profound translation, and an invaluable framework for meaningfully participating in this annual spiritual practice.

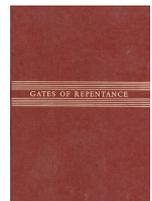
**We'll have an online conversation about the book and our responses Thursday, September 24th, at 7:00 PM. To join the conversation that evening, look to your Enews for the Zoom link.**

To order the book, go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) (Amazon's Smile program gives a small donation to Congregation Sinai or another not-for-profit of your choice). The current cost is \$9.00.

## Important Holy Day Information

### **PRAYER BOOKS**

Congregation Sinai will use the maroon "Gates of Repentance" prayer book. A supply is available from Sinai for the Holy Days. **Please contact Jeri Danz at [jdanz@congregationsinai.org](mailto:jdanz@congregationsinai.org) or call 414-352-2970** to arrange a time to pick up a High Holy Day prayer book. One per household please.



### **SECURITY**

Congregation Sinai's building will remain closed during the Holy Days unless otherwise specified for particular programming. Fox Point Police has been notified and be watching our building.

## Zoom for the Holy Days

### Pre-Registration for Zoom Links

All High Holy Day programming will take place via Zoom, unless otherwise indicated. **All but 3 Zoom links will be published in the Sinai Enews.**

**In order to protect our services, the following Zoom services will require you to pre-register using the link provided in the Enews:**

Saturday, September 19 - Rosh Hashanah Morning service at 10:00 PM

Sunday, September 27 - Kol Nidre service at 8:00 PM

Monday, September 28 - Yom Kippur morning service at 10:00 PM

Upon registration, you will receive a personalized email from Congregation Sinai containing the Zoom link for the service. This link is specific to you. Please save this link either by keeping it in your inbox marked ★ or 📧 or create a High Holy Day email folder where you can safely store these links for easy access. You will only be emailed your personal link one time. Should you misplace your personal link, contact Karen Berk at [kberk@congregationsinai.org](mailto:kberk@congregationsinai.org).

Once again, all other links for other services, discussions, etc. will be accessible via the Enews which you will receive twice weekly.

### Zoom Tips and Protocols

- Upon entry into Zoom rooms you will enter into a waiting room and be welcomed in by Sinai ushers.
- It is easiest to use a laptop or desktop to Zoom.
- Please use your first and last name for your Zoom profile.
- Please look to the Sinai Enews for a video Zoom tutorial and graphics to assist you.



#### TECH SUPPORT

If you require some assistance to connect on your device for Zoom please contact congregant



**Mitch Colton.**

**Cell/text (414) 305-3759** (please leave a voicemail message)  
or email at [mcc2525+CS@gmail.com](mailto:mcc2525+CS@gmail.com)

## Visit with Friends during the Holy Days on Zoom!

We want to be sure you can wish everyone L'Shanah Tovah Umetukah! Use the Zoom link in the Enews or your personal Zoom link you received when you preregistered for services to schmooze, connect and socialize.

**The Sinai Zoom room will be open during the following times:**

**Erev Rosh Hashanah - Friday, September 18, 2020**

6:00 PM prior to Erev Rosh Hashanah Seder

**1st Day of Rosh Hashanah - Saturday, September 19, 2020**

9:00 AM prior to Rosh Hashanah morning service

1:00 PM prior to Rosh Hashanah family service

**2nd Day of Rosh Hashanah - Sunday, September 20, 2020**

9:00 AM prior to 2<sup>nd</sup> day Rosh Hashanah morning service

**Erev Yom Kippur—Sunday, September 27, 2020**

7:00 PM prior to Kol Nidre

**Yom Kippur— Monday, September 28, 2020**

9:00 AM prior to Yom Kippur morning service

1:00 PM prior to Yom Kippur Family Service

2:00 PM prior to the Service of Forgiveness and Healing

**Look to your Enews for Zoom links or your preregistered Zoom links.**



## President's Message

Happy New Year! It must be said. Despite the ongoing hardships of disease and economic uncertainty, of systemic injustice and civil discord, it must be said. Happy New Year.

It is easy to look at the world now and lament its imperfections, to cry out to the higher powers of our beliefs and institutions, to despair. But upon reflection, we have to remember that until recently, 5780 was, as Frank Sinatra put it, a very good year. In the past year, we grew closer as a community and strengthened the ties of our Sinai family. We came together to worship and to celebrate, at times to comfort each other in trouble and grief. We welcomed mah-jongg players and bridge clubs, hosted game nights that evolved into family trivia. Our Sinai brewers aided our merriment at holidays from Hanukkah to Purim. We were honored to again volunteer with the Wok Hard to Fight MS Pop-Up Restaurant. We danced with a purpose at the Boogie Without Borders fundraiser for HIAS and our Social Justice Committee continued their work advocating, educating, and acting on behalf of oppressed communities in Milwaukee and around the globe.

In the coming year, having many of these same events may well be impossible. Paradoxically, it is also far easier to come together as a virtual community. These days, attending Shabbat services or Torah study is a simple matter of "clicking through" an email rather than making the schlep at the end of a long week. It is heartening to see so many members of our Sinai family at our online events. It is such a joy to encounter new faces amongst the familiar ones, including those who just a few months ago would have found the notion of zoom calls and virtual chats to be beyond their technological ability. I look forward to many more faces, old and new, filling my computer screen this year. Won't you please be one of them?

We all hope that 5781 will be a year filled with medical breakthroughs, social change, and plenty of hugs and handshakes. Until that moment, I am grateful for our enduring community. May we always have the love and means to stay together.

Shanah Tovah!  
Josh Parkes, President



## Selichot

### SELICHOT

Saturday, September 12

8:00 PM

Discussion & Selichot service via Zoom

The month of Elul is a time of introspection and contemplation as we prepare for the High Holy Days.

The Selichot service includes prayers and music to inspire self-examination, confession, pardon and renewal.

We are sharing an online Selichot study session and short service with Beth Hillel Temple of Kenosha and Congregation Emanuel-Waukesha. Come join us! We will begin with Havdallah.

*Look to your Enews for Zoom link.*



## Rosh Hashanah

## 1 Tishrei 5781

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Friday, September 18, 2020

6:30 PM Erev Rosh Hashanah Seder via Zoom

1<sup>st</sup> Day of Rosh Hashanah

Saturday, September 19, 2020

10:00 AM Rosh Hashanah Morning Service  
via Zoom (pre-registration required)

2:00 PM Rosh Hashanah Family Service via Zoom

3:30 PM "Not so Close, but SHOFAR!" LIVE - *Come hear the shofar blown in the Sinai parking lot (see pg. 9 for details)*

2<sup>nd</sup> Day of Rosh Hashanah

Sunday, September 20, 2020

10:00 AM 2<sup>nd</sup> Day Rosh Hashanah Service via Zoom

Shabbat Shuvah

Friday, September 25, 2020

5:30 PM Wine and Cheese via Zoom

6:00 PM Shabbat Shuvah Service via Zoom

*Look to your Enews for Zoom links or your preregistered Zoom links.*



## Erev Rosh Hashanah Seder

**Erev Rosh Hashanah Seder via Zoom**  
**Friday, September 18, 2020**  
**6:30 PM**

Join us as we start the New Year together! Gather around the table. On the first night of the holiday, we will hold a special ceremony at home during which we recite blessings over a variety of foods that symbolize our wishes for the year ahead. A Sephardic (from Spain) tradition, a Rosh HaShanah seder uses symbolic foods to introduce the meaning and message of Rosh HaShanah and the High Holy Days. We will use a Haggadah for the seder and the seder will include music, and the mourner's kaddish for those observing yahrtzeit. The seder will be fun, thought provoking, fast paced and less than an hour long.



A copy of the Seder has been provided to you in your High Holy Day Kit. You may also download a version [HERE](#) or available through your Enews.

*Look to your Enews for Zoom link.*

## “Not So Close, but SHOFAR!”

**Come Hear the Shofar LIVE**  
**on Rosh Hashanah from**  
**your car in the Sinai**  
**Parking lot!**

**Saturday, September 19, 2020**  
**3:30 pm**



One of the central Mitzvot and rituals of Rosh HaShanah is "hearing" the blowing of the shofar. Pack up the car, some sweet snacks and come hear the Shofar live from the comfort of your car in the Sinai parking lot!

Long-time, ba'alei t'kiah, Shofar blowers, Jim and Jerry Salinsky will sound the Shofar for all to hear.

*Please use the [Sign-up Genius link in the Enews](#) to reserve your parking spot.*

## Tashlich

ON ROSH HASHANAH we cast away our sins and transgressions, at least symbolically. This year we have two ways to do so:

- The first is to write down your mistakes on a piece of special paper that is included in your High Holy Day Kit. Then you can put the paper in a bowl of water and watch it magically dissolve and disappear (of course, as Maimonides reminds us, we haven't completed the work of the Holy Days until we've made things right with the people we hurt over the past year).
- The second way is to take a handful of birdseed in your High Holy Day Kit and scatter it to the wind (preferably outside). Our cast off mistakes then become a treat for the birds. Kind of nice! Of course, you could do both ways!



Everyone will receive a one-page service of Biblical verses and modern poetry connected with Tashlich. Like this first verse of a poem by Rabbi Jill Hammer:

I cast this gift to the water.  
It is my past: blessing and regret.  
It is my present: reflection and listening.  
It is my future: intention and mystery

## Rosh Hashanah

## 2 Tishrei 5781

**Second Day Rosh  
Hashanah Services  
via Zoom!**  
Sunday, September 20  
at 10:00 AM



The second day services for Rosh Hashanah are more relaxed and intimate than the day before, which often makes the contemplative work of the High Holy Days easier. Come join us as we take a closer look at the themes of repentance and renewal that mark this season.

***Look to your Enews for Zoom link.***

## Aseret Yamei Teshuvah – 10 Days of Repentance

### Spend some time in the sanctuary

**Between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur**  
**Monday, Sept. 21 - Thursday, Sept. 24**  
**9:30 - 4:30 PM**



We know how important it is for you to reflect in our sanctuary and with the Torah during this time of year.

We want to do everything possible to make these Holy Days personal and meaningful for you. Twenty-minute reservations are available to have time to pray, reflect or meditate, standing before the ark and the Torahs or sitting in the sanctuary listening to classical music by eastern Jewish Composers, recorded by pianist Stefanie Jacob and cellist Scott Tisdell.

***Please use the Sign-up Genius link in the Enews to reserve a time slot.***

**Safe at Sinai protocols will be followed including:**

- Thermal temperature taking and health questions upon entry.
- Masks covering nose and mouth are required at all times.
- Individual household at a time.
- There will be time allotted between visitors to insure social distancing.

### High Holy Day Food Drive

#### Fill up those Red Sendik's Bags provided!

Every High Holy Day season the Milwaukee Jewish Community comes together for a food drive specifically for the Jewish Community Pantry. Sinai is well known for being one of the largest donors not only during the holy days, but year round. Please Donate to the Jewish Community Food Pantry!



Please fill the Sendik's Red Bag provided with any of the following items:

Tuna	Beans (dried or canned)	Canned fruit	Canned beef
Salmon		Canned veggies	stew
Peanut butter	Cereal (no sugar added)	Pasta	Any other non-perishable food items
Mac n Cheese		Spaghetti Sauce	
Brown Rice	Canned soup	Ravioli	

**Please return bags to the carts outside of Sinai's front door between**  
**Monday, September 21 and Wednesday, September 23**  
**Donations will be picked up by the JCF Pantry, Thursday, September 24**  
**THANK YOU!**

## Aseret Yamei Teshuvah – 10 Days of Repentance

### Soup for Our Caring Community - Chesed

Every year on Rosh Hashanah, Youth Programming creates soup for our Caring Community (Chesed) to provide to those in need during the year. The children wash and chop vegetables and create soup kits that are taken home with instructions to make soup. Families return the soup on Yom Kippur and we store it in our freezer for future delivery.



This year, though we may be apart, we can still fulfill this mitzvah.

Please use the soup containers provided in your High Holy Day Kit to prepare your favorite soup. Consider sharing one with a friend or neighbor these holy days and donating one to the Sinai freezer for our Chesed Committee to deliver to our congregants in times of need.

**Please deliver the soup to Sinai between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur (Monday September 21 - Thursday, September 24) during business hours. There will be a cart outside the building with labeling instructions.**

Thank you!

## Shabbat Shuvah

### Shabbat Shuvah via Zoom

Friday, September 25  
5:30 PM Wine and Cheese  
6:00 PM service



Shabbat Shuvah falls during the Aseret Yamei Teshuvah – the ten days of repentance, which is the period of contemplation between Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur. This Shabbat Shuvah, we'll enjoy a service of invigorating Kabbalat Shabbat singing with the addition of special readings, a perfect combination for the High Holy Days season.

***Look to your Enews for Zoom link.***

## Cantor's Notes

The High Holy Days are a time for contemplation, something that has never been as challenging in my lifetime as it is now, as we bring the Jewish year 5780 to a close and enter 5781. As I write this, I struggle to comprehend that in the past few months, over 773,000 people have died and 21.5 million people have been infected by a virus that was unheard of just a year ago.

At this time last year, we had many concerns: stalling nuclear talks with North Korea, an ongoing trade war with China, and humanitarian disasters around the world, to name a few, as well as ever-increasing anger and resentment within our own society, perhaps most evident in the political realm, but also gaining prominence within divided local communities. Today, these challenges remain, albeit obscured by the looming, ever-present threat of COVID-19.

Every year, throughout the month of Elul, our tradition encourages us to try to pause and think seriously about what the past year has meant, both on a personal level and for those around us. What have been our best times? What our worst? Where have we excelled, and where have we failed throughout the year? This year is clearly unique. As our society has adjusted to what COVID-19 means for us, I have seen much to give me hope, but I have also seen much that worries and disturbs me. I have no doubt that humanity will find ever more effective treatments, and, in time, cures for the virus itself, but I am more concerned about how our challenging circumstances have affected the ways we treat one another.

With dismay, I have watched our society fragment further, watched us pit ourselves against one another. Our concerns are valid: we worry about the risks isolation and distance learning pose to our children's development and mental health; we also worry about the health and welfare of teachers and of school children's more vulnerable family members. We worry about the needs of older people, for whom the risks posed by the virus are especially great; we also worry about feelings of loneliness among younger people and their need to socialize with one another. However, when these worries and needs conflict, they can bring out some of the worst aspects of our natures. When our priorities are threatened, there is a strong temptation to rationalize them as universal or as superseding all others. Anytime we find ourselves thinking that what we want is really for the good of someone else, we should immediately become wary. We must continually reflect upon our own motives and how our desires may impinge upon the needs of others.

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur encourage us to take ownership of our own shortcomings. Not to wallow in our failings, but to honestly reflect on our motives, to recognize when they are insincere or compromised, and to rein them in as needed. The High Holy Days also ask us to take ownership of societal shortcomings, to recognize how our actions, or inaction, may contribute to social ills.

Right now, it is painful, but unfortunately necessary, for us to spend our days wearing masks, knowing that what comes out of our mouths could, quite literally, kill another person. We can use this as an opportunity to reflect on the damage our words can cause, and to be honest with ourselves about why we say the things we say. Unlike the coronavirus, which invades our bodies from without, the harmful things we say arise from the darkness that is already within. The only way to dispel this darkness is to examine it, to shine as much light on it as we can.

The next time we feel frustration at someone's inability to comprehend our viewpoint, or struggle to accept their decisions; the next time we experience frustration



that someone can possibly believe or behave as they do, may we be reminded of our Rosh Hashanah liturgy: תַּעֲתֶעְנֻנוּ. עֲרַף קִשְׁיֵנוּ. צָרָרְנוּ. לָצַנּוּ. כִּזְבְּנוּ.

We, ourselves, have deceived; we have mocked; we have refused to admit the suffering we have caused others; we have caused our friends pain; we have led others astray. And we can be better, if only we are willing to approach ourselves with honesty, and our fellow human beings with compassion.

L'shanah Tovah,  
Cantor Richard Newman

## Yom Kippur

## 10 Tishrei 5781

### Erev Yom Kippur

Sunday, September 27, 2020

8:00 PM Kol Nidrei Service via Zoom  
(pre-registration required)

גמר חתימה טובה

*May you be inscribed  
in the Book of Life*



### Yom Kippur

Monday, September 28, 2020

10:00 AM Yom Kippur Morning Service via Zoom  
(pre-registration required)

12:30 PM Adult Study Session via Zoom

2:00 PM Yom Kippur Family Service via Zoom

3:00 PM Service of Forgiveness & Healing via Zoom

4:00 PM Yizkor (Memorial) Service (approximately)

4:40 PM N'ilah (Concluding) Service (approximately)

*Look to your Enews for Zoom links or your preregistered Zoom links.*

### Adult Study Session via Zoom

Monday, September 28, 2020 at 12:30 PM



In partnership with Westchester Reform Temple, HUC-JIR will share a series of Yom Kippur Afternoon videos in memory of Rabbi Aaron Panken. The videos will be presented by four distinguished scholars of HUC-JIR: Rabbi Dvora E. Weisberg, who'll present on the Book of Jonah; Rabbi Joseph A. Skloot, who'll present on the Eileh Ez'kra (part of the Yom Kippur afternoon service); Jennifer Grayson, who'll present on Un'taneh Tokef; and Rabbi Dalia Marx, who'll present "The Emergence of Yom Kippur," or: "Who Invented Yom Kippur and Why?"

*Look to your Enews for Zoom links.*

### N'ilah (Concluding) Service via Zoom

Monday, September 28 at 4:40 PM

*Join us for the final opportunity to reflect on High Holy Day themes before the gates of repentance close.*



## Sukkot

## 15 Tishrei 5781

### Erev Sukkot

Friday, October 2, 2020

5:30 PM Wine and Cheese via Zoom

6:00 PM Erev Sukkot Shabbat Service & Affirmation via Zoom  
*Service will be led by our 2020 Affirmation graduates. Honor them with your presence!*



### 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Sukkot

Saturday, October 3, 2020

10:00 AM Sukkot Morning Service via Zoom

*Festival service booklet available for pick up at Sinai.*

*Look to your Enews for Zoom link.*

### Decorate the Sinai Sukkah!

September 21 - 24, 28 - 31

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Yes! Congregation Sinai will have a Sukkah in the back yard and we need you to come and help decorate it! Please make a decoration using the instructions provided in your High Holy Day kit or make a decoration of your own using gourds, pumpkins etc.

*In order to maintain social distancing, Please use the Sign-up Genius link in the Enews to reserve a time slot. Masks required.*



### Shake the Lulav in the Sinai Sukkah!

October 5 - 8

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

*“On the first day you shall take the product of hadar trees, branches of palm trees, boughs of leafy trees, and willows of the brook, and you shall rejoice before the LORD your God seven days” Leviticus 23:40*

Come fulfill the Mitzvah of Shaking the Lulav and Etrog in the Sukkah and reciting the blessings!

*In order to maintain social distancing, Please use the Sign-up Genius link in the Enews to reserve a time slot. Masks and gloves required.*



# Simchat Torah

# 22 Tishrei 5781

## Erev Simchat Torah & Shabbat Friday, October 9, 2020



4:00 PM            Totally Torah Live!  
*Come drive to Sinai to see  
the Torah unrolled and grab some taffy apples!*

5:15 PM            Shabbat Shelanu (family education) via Zoom

5:30 PM            Wine and Cheese via Zoom

6:00 PM            Erev Simchat Torah & Shabbat Service with  
Consecration and New Member Welcome

## Simchat Torah Saturday, October 10, 2020

10:00 AM          Simchat Torah Morning Service with Yizkor  
*Festival service booklet available for pick up  
at Sinai.*

*Look to your Enews for Zoom link.*

## Totally Torah LIVE!

### Friday, October 9, 2020

### 4:00 PM

Hop in the car, and follow the traffic cones to drive through the Sinai parking lot to see the Torah unrolled outside! Taffy apples await you to help celebrate Simchat Torah! Sinai Brews will be offering their latest bottled brew and soda for you to take home and enjoy!



**Welcome our new member families who joined us in 5780  
(AS OF 9/1/2020)**

Vincent & Wendy Baron  
Liddie Collins  
Marc & Robyn Eiseman  
Ellen Fine  
William Fine

George & Leonor Friedman  
David Janis  
Eddie Lichtman & Kaleigh Kozak  
Howard & Judith Tolkan

## Educator's Message

One of my philosophies in life is to “begin with the end in mind.” In my education classes, we called that backwards design. We start with what we want students to be able to do at the end of the class/project/school year and then put in the steps and process to achieve that.



As we move towards the High Holy Days, I believe this is also the right time to backwards design the next year of my life. With everything going on in the world, it has made me more acutely aware of how my actions can have a real impact in the world. My hope is that by accomplishing good things, it will also bring good into the world. These goals are not the full extent of what I want to do in the next 12 months, but an ideal, and hopefully accessible, list of accomplishments.

Below is the beginning of my list of what I plan to accomplish by Rosh HaShanah next year, and I invite you to make your list as well, and if you'd like, share it with me at [bavner@congregationsinai.org](mailto:bavner@congregationsinai.org). Next fall, we can reflect together on what we achieved and make a new plan for what we will achieve the following year.

By next Rosh HaShanah, I want to have done the following:

- Read 24 books
- Lost 15 pounds
- Trained for and completed a triathlon of any distance
- Volunteered monthly
- Spent at least 1 day a month without my cell phone
- Doubled the size of my home garden
- Completed an entire book of crossword puzzles
- Completed a Whole30 to eat healthier
- Explored 5 new neighborhoods in Milwaukee
- Reached out to at least 1 old friend every week
- Taught my oldest son to bike without training wheels
- Potty trained my youngest son
- Learned 3 new card/board games

Some of these I can start on now, and others will have to wait some time. Some have very straight forward steps (read 2 books a month to get to 24 in the year), and others are more complicated (potty-training again?!). I plan on putting this list up in my home as a reminder of what I'm trying to accomplish this year. As you move into the New Year, I invite you to not just reflect on mistakes you may have made in the past year, but to also envision what you'd like to accomplish before September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 (next Rosh HaShanah).

May you have a Shanah Tovah U'Metukah, a sweet and happy new year and may you achieve all you aspire to in the upcoming year.

Brian Avner  
Director of youth Education, RJE

## High Holy Day Youth Programming for Families

There are a number of High Holy Day activities geared for families. While children of all ages are invited to all of our digital programming, the following events are tailored specifically for our families with students in grades K-7. Unless noted, all activities are on zoom and links to registration and sign up will be in the Enews.



- Rosh Hashanah Family Service – Saturday, September 19, 2:00 PM
- No So Close, but SHOFAR – Saturday, September 19, 3:30 PM  
(IN SINAI'S PARKING LOT!)
- Yom Kippur Family Service – Monday, September 28, 2:00 PM
- Erev Sukkot Service with Affirmation – Friday, October 2, 6:00 PM
- Simchat Torah – Friday, October 9  
Totally Torah Live! – 4:00 PM (IN SINAI'S PARKING LOT!)  
Taffy Apples for all!  
Shabbat Shelanu – 5:15 PM  
Simchat Torah Services with Consecration – 6:00 PM

You can also help decorate the Sukkah with the objects in your school basket or your own decorations! Sign up in advance for times to decorate as well as visiting the Sukkah to shake the lulav and etrog during Sukkot.

## A Little Wisdom From Bubbe!

Shush! It's great to catch up with friends and fellow congregants. During services is not the time, remember to mute your computer on the bottom left hand side of your screen. In this case, it is best to be seen and not heard.



Of course you should visit and kibbitz! Come to the Zoom room before the service begins. I should love to see you there.

Technology can be hard. Oh my Shayna spent such time to make sure I could connect. Need help? Just call text congregant Mitch Colton at (414) 305-3759 (leave a voicemail of course) or email at [mcc2525+CS@gmail.com](mailto:mcc2525+CS@gmail.com). God bless him! Such a talent!

Not everyone is as fortunate as we are! This year you received a Red Sendik's bag. Fill it up (with non-perishable food, of course). Return it by Yom Kippur to Sinai (during business hours please) for the Jewish Community Pantry. And make some soup! It's a MITZVAH!

I (and Congregation Sinai) wish you and your family Shanah Tovah U'Metukah! May you have a happy and a sweet new year! And please, stay safe and healthy!

All my love, Bubbe!

# CAMPAIGN FOR TOMORROW



INTIMATE



INNOVATIVE



INTENTIONAL



INCLUSIVE

## INVEST IN SINAI

**Thank you to our Campaign for Tomorrow Donors. You have helped ensure many good sweet years to come! (as of 8/31/20)**

When making a contribution to Sinai, please consider the Campaign for Tomorrow Fund. Every contribution thru 12/31/2020 receives a 50% match.

Visit <http://congregationsinai.org/campaignfortomorrow/> or call 414-352-2970.

Thank you for your commitment to Sinai's future!

Ann Abele  
Anonymous (8)  
Jim & Joni Ansfield  
Scott Arbit  
Marjorie & Michael Arena  
Martin Barnes & Jan Rosenberg  
Margery H. Becker  
Dorothy Bein-Arenzon  
Jamie, Zach & Jordan Berger  
Sanford Berger  
Murry M. Bernstein  
Robin & Jim Berzowski  
Marlene & Bert Bilsky  
Sharon Bloomgarden  
Mort Blutstein  
Maris & Harvey Bock  
Henry Borkovitz  
The Bott Family  
Herb Bratt  
Adam & Krista Brookman  
Marcia Cherniak  
Melissa Chudnow & John Yopps  
David & Naomi Cobb  
Elyse & BJ Cohn  
Toby & Mitch Colton  
Judy & David Coran  
Laura Creswell  
Jeri & Michael Danz  
Donna Davidoff & Michael Hansen  
William Domer & Randee Zitelman  
Dr. Howard & Ilene Dubner  
Ellen & Fred Eckman

Rachel & Chad Eixenberger  
Dan & Lisa Elias  
Dean & Wendy Ellis  
Susie Ettinger  
Barbara Federlin  
William & Meredith Feldman  
Ted & Janet Fine  
Jim & Ellen Flesch  
Jeffrey A. Frank & Family  
Douglas H. Frazer & Karen Schapiro  
Susan & Michael Freeman  
Gloria & Larry Freschl  
Roberta Fried  
Barbara & Ariel Friedlander  
Ari & Jen Friedman and Family  
Joan & Michael Friedman  
Jane Gellman  
Edith Gilman  
Mark Glass & Ingrid Reis-Glass  
Joe Glassman  
Larry Glusman & Caroline Hogan  
Gordon & Jennifer Goldbaum  
Ruth Goldmann  
The Anne & Larry Golding Family  
Marion Golding  
Idy & William Goodman Family  
Nancy & Gary Gorchoff  
Mary Ann Greenebaum  
Marisa B. Grossman  
Rachel Hafemann  
Eva Hagenhofer  
Donald & Elaine Harvey

## Campaign for Tomorrow Donors continued

Toots Hassel	Rick Meyer & Gail Hoffman
Leslie Hayes	Dorothy & Al Meyers
The Hieb Family	The Mirer Family
Sharon Hiken	Susan & Gerald Mortensen
Robin & Hugh Hoffman	Sally & David Moskol
Alan & Jodi Holman	Bob & Donna Neubauer
Michael & Penny Hool	Amy & Dan Newman
Miriam Horwitz	Jay & Ellen Nocton
Alan & Shirley Horowitz	Nick & Janet Padway
Sarah & Milton Hwang Family	Helen Padway
Stefanie Jacob & Scott Tisdell	Monica & Josh Parkes
Terry & Diane Jacobs	Jean Pereles-Strouse & Martin Strouse
Lori & Marc Jacobson	John & Susan Pereles
Stan Jolton & Rosalie Gellman	Bev & Lew Perlson
Richard L. Kahn & Family	Jim Phillips
Marc & Cynthia Kartman	Larry & Bobbi Polacheck
Karmazin Family	Avner & Rena Porat
Sarah & Hutch Kealy	Jordan Primakow & Annie Prak- Primakow
Joan & Pat Kerns	Sheryl & Mike Primakow
Judi & Michael Ketten	Lisbeth & Gary Rattner
Dr. Robert & Mrs. Andrea Kitsis	Marleen Pugach & Bill Rickards
Wendy & Steve Koppel	Allen & Patricia Rieselbach
Mari Katz & Bill Kravit	Joanne & Keith Roberts
Steve & Anne Kravit	Gillian Rodger
Dave & Alysandra Lal	The Rectors
Aaron & Kelly Lauwasser and Family	Judith Ross & Ronald Sinclair
Marlene & Marv Lauwasser	Daniel Rosler & Nilsa Cruz
Sam & Rosalie Leib	Alfred & Bunny Roth
Janice Letven	Rob & Lauri Roth
Laurie Lerner	Sara & Michael Reuben
George Levin & Sheila Smith	Marlee Sabo & Steve Colburn
Jenny & Ted Levin	Michael & Julie Sadoff
Sheri & Lloyd Levin	Salinsky Family
Tom St. John & Micaela Levine	Sandy Saltzstein & Darrin Lile
Susan LeVine & Kevin Mackey	Mildred Schapiro
Jerry & Ellin Levy	Michael Scheferman
Patti & Doug Levy	Pam Scheferman
Paul Loewenstein & Jody Kaufman Loewenstein	Deborah & Brian Schermer
Gordon Lookatch	Schlesinger Family
Tedd & Julie Lookatch Family	Barbara & Larry Schuh
The Lubar Family	Caroline & William Schulhof
Allan & Shari Luck	Shelly & Dick Seesel
Sharon Madnek & Andrew Pokrass	Laurie & Dean Segal
Lois Malawsky	Barbara Shafton & Family
Bob Mandel & Claire Michelstetter	Beth & Ron Shapiro
Audrey Mann	Doje Sherman
Kate & John Mann	Andy & Judy Shor
Kathy & Doug McTavish	Dr. Jeffrey & Mrs. Pamela Shovers
Lise Meissner	The Silverman Family
Alan Mendeloff & Susan Lederman	Sinai Brotherhood

## Campaign for Tomorrow Donors continued

Diane Slomowitz  
 Mark & Nancy Smuckler  
 Nita Soref  
 Brian & Mara Spring  
 Brian Stark & Deb Altshul-Stark  
 Marc & Brenda Stelzer  
 Terri & Jeffrey Stern  
 Jim & Nancy Stillman  
 Tim & Danielle Strauss  
 Richard & Susan Stuckert  
 Jill & Lawrence Tarnoff  
 Tarnoff Family  
 Kim Temkin-Taylor & Richard Taylor  
 Libby Temkin  
 Ramona Tenorio

Barry & Leslie Usow  
 Merle Wasserman  
 Laura & Charles Waisbren  
 David Weissman & Mimi Schechter  
 Andrea & Michael Waxman  
 Jill & Mike Weinschel  
 Sue Wile & John Hirsh  
 Bernalee (Bunny) Winter  
 Bruce & Susan Winter  
 Rona & Gary Wolfe  
 Women of Sinai  
 Mary Wurzburg  
 Peggy & Albert Yee  
 Gabe & Ali Ziskin

## Legacy Circle Donors



We would like to  
 acknowledge and thank  
 our Legacy Circle donors  
 who are helping assure  
 Sinai's future.



Anonymous  
 Margery Becker  
 Karen Berk  
 Ellis Bromberg  
 Nancy Carruth  
 Melissa Chudnow & John  
 Yopps  
 Rabbi David Cohen &  
 Julie Turetsky  
 Judy Flegel  
 Jen & Ari Friedman  
 Joan Becker Friedman &  
 Mike Friedman  
 Rob & Tracy Golub  
 Bill (z"l) & Idy Goodman  
 Alan & Jodi Holman  
 Michael & Penny Hool  
 Terry & Diane Jacobs  
 Dick Kahn  
 Marc & Cynthia Kartman  
 Michael & Judi Ketten

Marv & Marlene Lauwasser  
 Lloyd & Sheri Levin  
 Lois LeVine  
 Doug & Patti Levy  
 Dr. Paul Loewenstein &  
 Jody Kaufman Loewenstein  
 Tedd & Julie Lookatch  
 Chip & Kate Mann  
 Nick & Janet Padway  
 Mike & Sheryl Primakow  
 Paul & Bobbi Rector  
 Bill & Caroline Schulhof  
 Jerry & Judy Salinsky  
 Jim & Lori Salinsky  
 The estate of Arthur & Judith  
 Saltzstein  
 Tom St. John & Micaela  
 Levine  
 Dick & Shelly Seesel  
 Diane Slomowitz  
 Mike & Jill Weinschel

## **Todah Rabbah – Thank You!**

**Congregation Sinai is a community of unique individuals, the sum total of which comprises our congregational family. Beyond the efforts of our staff, it is our volunteers who distinguish Sinai. At no time is that more evident than at the High Holy Days when scores of volunteers create the warm, welcoming and vibrant community we've come to value.**

**There are many whose efforts are especially important at these High Holy Days:**

Thank you Rabbi Cohen for leading us in worship, being our spiritual guide and sharing your thoughtful insights. We appreciate the talents of Cantor Richard Newman, our accompanist Karen Horwitz, our conductor Nathan Wesselowski and our musicians Steve Colburn, Stefanie Jacob and Scott Tisdell. We also thank Guy Fiorentini, Dena Aronson, Kathy Fischer and Kurt Denissen for your help in preparing the pre-recorded portions of our service.

We thank the members of our choir: Marc Cohen\*, Sarah Hwang, Kaleigh Kozak, Joey Krohlow\*, Eddie Lichtman, Ydelle Litwack, Julie Lookatch, Bobbi Rector, Gillian Rodger, Jan Rosenberg, Kerry Saver\*, Jim Stillman and Rebecca Whitney\*. (Guest artists indicated by \*)

We are grateful to Rabbi Jay Brickman and Bobbi Rector for reading Torah, and Lori Jacobson for reading Haftarah.

Thank you to Susan Stuckert for coordinating the bima honors.

While there is no way to fully thank our most engaged congregants, one way we honor them is by inviting them to help us during the High Holy Days by leading the service, reading from our sacred scrolls, and other essential tasks. Their efforts reflect commitments of the heart. We thank you. A full listing of all Bima honors will be published following the Holy Days.

A special thanks goes to Alan Mendeloff, our head usher, for leading our volunteer ushers in this significant role. A full listing of ushers will be published following the Holy Days.

Thank you to Mitch Colton for the High Holy Day Technology support to our congregants.

Many thanks to Brian Avner, Director of Youth Education, RJE, for visiting our school families to personally blow the Shofar and engage them in youth programming these High Holy Days. Many thanks to Co-chairs Velia Tarnoff and Natalie Black, and board liaison Rachel Eixenberger, for their work on planning the Youth Programs.

Special thank you to our ba'alei t'kiah, shofar blowers, Jim and Jerry Salinsky.

## Todah Rabbah – Thank You!

Thank you Milt, Sarah and Ethan Hwang, Pam, Mike, Rachel and Sammy for assisting with the High Holy Day Kit Assembly.

Thank you Julie Lookatch for her creative design contributions for the High Holy Days.

Thank you to Jenni and Gordy Goldbaum for the donation of gourds to all our school families to decorate the sukkah.

Thank you to the Women of Sinai and the Brotherhood for their sponsorship of the Challot and Yahrzeit candles in the High Holy Day Kits.

Thank you to The Brotherhood for constructing and deconstructing the Sinai Sukkah.

Thank you and Mazel Tov to our 2020 Affirmation students for leading Erev Sukkot Services: Abe Blumin, Ethan Hwang, Lydia Lancina, Nason Lancina, Cece Parkes, David Rector and Ellie Sweet.

A Special thank you to the synagogue staff: Director of Administration Karen Berk, Director of Engagement Jen Friedman, Director of Youth Education Brian Avner, RJE, School Administrator Jeri Danz, Bookkeeper Ilene Wasserman and Custodian Lee Johnson for their hard work making these holidays a meaningful time for us all at a particularly challenging time.

And finally, a heart-felt thank you to our Executive Committee: President Josh Parkes, Vice Presidents Mike Weinschel, Jenni Goldbaum and Dick Seesel, Treasurer Michael Hool, Board Secretary Gillian Rodgers and Past Co-President's Nick and Janet Padway. We also thank our Board of Trustees: Scott Arbit, Adam Brookman, Mitch Colton, Melissa Chudnow, Rachel Eixenberger, Reva Fox, Doug "Zvi" Frazer, Larry Glusman, Gordy Goldbaum, Eva Hagenhofer, Bill Kravit, Julie Lookatch, Chip Mann, Joanne Roberts, Andy Tarnoff, Alan Mendeloff, Steve Stall, and Nancy Stillman.



·אמוּת·

KEEP ME EVER MINDFUL

שׁוֹדֵדִי

יְהוָה יְהוָה

לְצַדִּיק וְצַדִּיק

OF GOD'S PRESENCE

בְּכֹל דְרֹכְךָ דַּעְהוּ

MAY ALL YOUR PATHS  
BRING YOU CLOSER TO GOD