



CONGREGATION
Beth Ami

4676 MAYETTE AVENUE, SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA 95405

Shofar

707-360-3000

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2016

5776-5777

5777



Shana Tova Tikateru

Congregation Beth Ami

4676 Mayette Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

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Fax 707/360-3003

Email office@BethAmiSR.org

Website BethAmiSR.org



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Office, Library, and Gift Shop Hours

Mon.–Thurs. 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Fri. 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Mission Statement

Congregation Beth Ami enriches our lives, transforms our hearts, helps heal the world and sustains our Jewish heritage. We are deeply rooted in Jewish tradition and welcome all to our community through celebration, learning, education, and prayer.

Personnel

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Deadline for Nov./Dec. 2016 Shofar is Oct. 15

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Hillel of Sonoma County

Ilana Stoelting, (707) 795-5464

www.sonomahillel.org

JCC, Sonoma County

Beth Goodman, 528-4222, www.jccsoco.org

Jewish Community Federation

Barbara Levinson, 568-6207, www.sfjcf.org

Jewish Community Free Clinic

Donna Waldman, 585-7780,

www.jewishfreeclinic.org

Jewish Community Relations Council

Suzan Berns, 415/957-1551, www.jcrc.org

Jewish Family & Children's Services

Diana Klein, 571-8131,

www.jfcs.org/sonoma-county



RABBI'S REMARKS

Rabbi Mordecai Miller

As Good as Your Word!

As human beings we come into this world with many gifts: the power of intellect, complex emotions, an opposable thumb and amazing manual dexterity, walking upright. One of the greatest gifts we possess is the power of speech. Above all else, it distinguishes us from all the other species. True, the ability to communicate in some way or other is shared by almost all members of the animal kingdom, but our innate ability to create language, to be able to articulate the myriad combinations of sounds that form the spoken word, results in a level of communication that is one of a kind.

The book of Proverbs notes: "The power of life and death is in the tongue." (18:21)

Yet our ability to engage in speech comes to most of us so easily—sometimes without even thinking (as when we react emotionally)—that often we fail to recognize the truth that with power comes responsibility. In commenting on the third of the Ten Commandments the Talmud states: "One who plans to swear an oath is told, 'Be aware that the entire universe trembled at the moment when the blessed Holy One stated, "You shall not take the name of Ad-nai, your God, in vain."'

"For what reason? Because with regard to all other transgressions it states 'God will clear (you)' (Ex. 34:7), but here it explicitly states 'God will not clear you.'" (Shevuot ("Oaths") 39a).

One of the names for Rosh Hashanah is "Yom haDin—Day of Judgment." Our Tradition views this as the day on which all Creation is judged annually before the Creator. From a personal perspective this becomes a time for us—at the fall of the year—to judge ourselves. It's an opportunity to try to focus, as best as we can, the light of truth on what Life in general—and our own lives in particular—are about. We might well start with that part of our anatomy which is quite probably the most

responsible of all for committing damage; our tongues!

How have we used this incredible gift that we each possess?

To what degree have we used it to express words of appreciation? encouragement? forgiveness?

Have we spoken respectfully—or without concern for the injury we might perpetrate on someone else—stranger or relative?

To what degree have we engaged in disgusting speech to express our anger or frustration—when we could have chosen just as good an alternative without resorting to expletives?

And, perhaps, the most significant of all: how many times have we made verbal commitments—meaning them at the time—and then failing to honor those commitments simply from forgetfulness, laziness, or inconvenience? Our own self-worth is directly related to the degree that others take us seriously. Yet, if we fail to take our own words seriously then how can we expect others to do so when those words reveal our true nature to them?

We are what we say!

May your revealed thoughts and actions be blessed in the coming year. K'tivah v'Chatimah tovah! May you and those you love be written and sealed in the Book of Life!

Larry Gregg

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email: srbd@att.net

web: santarosabujinkan.com



ERASED: Babi Yar, the SS and Me



written and performed by **Corey Weinstein**
directed by **Maya de la Rosa-Cohen**
with Saralie Pennington and Tom Herz

On two days, September 29 and 30 in 1941, Nazi Death Squads murdered 33,771 Jews at the Babi Yar ravine in Kiev, Ukraine.

Erased: Babi Yar, the SS and Me is a dramatic memoir with song that commemorates the tragic events at Babi Yar, and explores the author's personal and communal response to the Holocaust.

Lest We Forget!

Join Us for a Dramatic
Performance
Commemorating the 75th
Anniversary of Babi Yar

**Sunday,
September 18, 2016
2:00 p.m. at
Congregation Beth Ami**

4676 Mayette Avenue, Santa Rosa

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Sonoma State Center for the Study
of the Holocaust and Genocide

Congregation Beth Ami

Admission: Free of Charge

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Please call 707-360-3000 or email
office@BethAmiSR.org with the
number of seats you need.



CONGREGATION
Beth Ami

4676 Mayette Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
707-360-3000
office@bethamistr.org



EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to New Members:

Janet Rae & Paisha Jorgensen
and their daughter, Arielle, age 5
Anne Tedder

Our Condolences to the Families of:

Max Graff

Sylvia Buckfire, mother of Julie Simkovitz
Harvey Lubar, husband of Danella Lubar

8th–12th Graders! Sign up for Chaverim

Attention 8th–12th graders...now is the time to sign up for Chaverim 2016–17. Join this great social/learning/dinner gathering experience twice monthly beginning in Sept. Register now at jccsoco.org, Chaverim Registration 2016–2017. This program, now in its 23rd year, has served over 400 Jewish teens in Sonoma County. See you this Fall!

*For more information, contact Rick Concoff,
JCCSOCO Chaverim Teen Director*

WANTED:

Inexpensive Place for Israeli Folk Dance Classes, with a Wood Floor!

The Israeli folk dancers are grateful for having the use of the Friedman Center all these many years. If anybody knows of a wood-floored dance space with inexpensive hourly rental, let me know!

We are continuing to dance in the Social Hall, but we can really feel the tiles-on-concrete floor in our aging rickety knees.



We are scheduled in the **Social Hall, Sept. 7 & 21**. Please check the website for October dates, since October is full of holidays.

*For more information,
contact Leanne Schy,
Leanne@sonic.net*

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Wishing all my friends a good and sweet year.

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Laura Alexander, President

With the school year in full swing and the High Holidays on the horizon, I am feeling reflective on CBA's accomplishments of the past year. The work of the Board, committees and numerous volunteers, along with Rabbi Miller and ED Leah Frost, have all contributed and continue to contribute to the success, the sense of community and well being of Beth Ami.

Here are some of the highlights:

- Hiring of Leah Frost as Executive Director.
- Updating of the Employee Handbook.
- Repair and restoration of the Library – still in progress, but nearing completion.
- Installation of the Security Gate and update to make it rain proof — paid for by anonymous donors.
- Purim Spiel written by our very own talented Leanne Schy.
- Increased enrollment in the Nursery School, the Religious School, and USY.
- Nursery and Religious Schools collaboration on many events.
- Our USY chapter grew from 1 to 10 and was awarded Chapter of the Year for growth.

- Josh Simkovitz is on the Regional USY Board and Daniel Sherman was recognized as USY Board member of the year.
- Yom HaAtzmaut celebration that brought in 100 people from the Sonoma County Jewish community and was supported by a \$2000 grant from the Jewish Community Federation.
- New Member dinner honoring members who have joined within the past year.
- Remodeling of the Friedman Center and collaboration between Beth Ami and FC to alleviate parking challenges during major events.
- Creation and expansion of the Sustainers' Circle, thanks to the work of Barbara Tomin and Carolyn Metz.
- Revision of the By-Laws by Alan Krubiner, Myrna Morse, and Anne Brown.

I hope that you'll take a moment to thank a volunteer and think about stepping up to become an active part of our community.

G'mar Hatimah Tovah—May You Be Sealed for a Good Year in the Book of Life.

SHABBAT & PRE-FAST DINNER RSVP

Shabbat Dinner:

☐ Friday, September 2

☐ Tuesday, October 11 (pre-fast dinner)

of Beth Ami Member Adults ___ @\$14 = ___

of Non-member Adults ___ @\$18 = ___

of Youth (ages 6–17) ___ @\$10 = ___

of Families ___ @\$46 = ___

Please return payment and forms to:

Congregation Beth Ami
4676 Mayette Ave.
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

Name _____

Phone _____

I want to volunteer for (indicate which event)

Total amount enclosed

☐ Check ☐ Visa/MC

Credit Card # _____

Expiration Date ____ / ____

Billing Zipcode _____



NURSERY SCHOOL NOTES

Jenny Levine-Smith

Nursery School Director

The school year starts on August 22 and we will have a packed couple of months here at Beth Ami Community Nursery School!

We have named our classrooms this year and will be having a naming ceremony to reveal our signs and bless our classes this September. The classroom for two- and three-year-olds, the foundation of our school, will be named Shorashim. Our three- and four-year-old class will be named Shtilim. And our two oldest classes will be named Alim and Anafim.

On Tuesday, August 30, we will be hosting parents for Back to School Night. This is a time for families to learn more about our curriculum, enrichment classes, and parent education.

Speaking of parent education, we are thrilled to welcome the Triple P Positive Parenting program to our school. We will be running three classes. The first, on September 15, is titled, *The Power of Positive Parenting*. September 22nd's topic will be *Raising Confident, Competent Children*. And finally, September 29th's session will be regarding *Raising Resilient Children*. The sessions will all be from 6-7:30, and are open to the public, but do require an RSVP. Please RSVP to nsdirector@bethamir.org if you are interested in joining.

Autumn of course also brings the High Holy Days, and we are looking forward to introducing a new group of children and families to the joys of the Jewish holidays. We invite all of our families to join us for our Apples and Honey Social during the middle of the day on Wednesday, September 28, and will be offering Yom Tov Holiday Camps on Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret, and Simchat Torah.

We hope that you have all had as wonderful a summer as we have here at BACNS.

.....

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Jeff Cox, Santa Rosa Magazine



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RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REPORT

Judy Kupfer—Interim Director of Youth Education

Changes, Returning Teachers, and New Classes!

We will continue to provide a spectrum of quality youth programs for toddlers through High School students—Religious School on Tuesdays and Fridays, Family Shabbat dinners the 3rd Friday of the month, Rocking Shabbats, collaboration with Nursery school students and staff for holiday programs, and USY & Kadima participation in services.

Some of our favorite teachers are returning; Janet Rae will teach K-1 students, Miriam Lane will teach 5–6th grade, Stephanie will continue to assist the classes on Fridays and Anya will be teaching all students on Fridays as a Hebrew Educator. We are seeking new teachers for the 2–4th grade class, pre-school class, and new substitutes.

This year we are starting a Family Dinner Club for parents and kids to come together once a month. All meals include gluten free options and organic, healthy food. A new class just for 4 and 5 year old kids is being added. Parents are *encouraged* to come and join in on the fun.

Your suggestions, ideas, thoughts and contributions are important for our success. My door is open! Call 360-3012 or email RS@bethamISR.org

Registration Packets are available at the office or available to download (<http://bethamISR.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/RS-Registration-Packet-2016-17-2.pdf>).

Holiday Programming for Kids

High Holiday songs, themed stories, games, food, discussion and guided play. Check-in and drop off your children with Miriam and go enjoy services for 2 uninterrupted hours! Children ages 2–3 are welcome with an adult. Kosher snacks will be provided.

Free with RSVP by September 27th
rs@bethamISR.org.

Rosh Hashanah, Monday, October 3rd Yom Kippur, Wednesday October 12th

Youth Schedule—10 a.m. check-in

10 a.m.–noon—Programs:

- Toddlers—pre-readers (parents join with children ages 2–3)
- Elementary kids
- Middle school kids through high school

Noon–1 p.m.—Playground open with parents' supervision

Sukkot Family Celebration/Fundraiser for Youth Programs

Sunday, October 16th

Come to the service and join us for *Pizza in the Hut*, a fundraiser for Youth Programs. Serving kosher pizza, green salad and drinks.

6–6:30 p.m. Sukkot Services

6:30–7:30 p.m. *Pizza in the Hut* fund raiser Youth Programs

7:30–8:30 p.m. Spooky Stories

Tickets for Pizza:

\$10 for adults

\$8 for youth

Kids 4 and under are free.

All are welcome. Please RSVP by September 27th to office@bethamISR.org





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ISRAEL FROM THE LEFT COAST

Bob Raful

The normal focus of this column is past-tense travel experiences in Israel: first person adventures when we are/were in Jerusalem; or *as told to* stories from family, friends, USY trips and/or Birthright tours.

This column is different because it is a *preparation* story:

In his first week in a new pulpit, a *young rabbi is asked by his just retired predecessor, to give a farewell blessing to 20 congregants who will accompany the older rabbi on an Israel experience. We think it is a blessing so spiritual, so accurate that it is one to cherish. It reads:

“Mi Sheberach Avotienu V'imotienu, Avraham, Yitzchak, V'yakov, Sarah, Rivka, Rachel, V'Leah. May the One who blessed our ancestors, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah, bless you all as you set out on your journey to the Land of Israel.

May you be filled with rugalach, hummus, falafel and Schwarma, and love and questions and a sense of belonging to the Jewish people that can only be felt in the Land of Israel.

May your feet touch the earth where Tel Aviv folk dancers twist and twirl, where Abraham walked, and where the Palmach stood strong as they secured the land.

May you touch the stones that Kings David and Solomon placed, may your hands feel the smoothness of 2000 years of prayers and fingers and tears.

May you hear the call to prayer during Shabbat services and 5 times a day echoing from the green hued minaret of the nearest mosque. May your ears fill with the song of the shuk as customers and venders haggle over the price of the best cucumbers and tomatoes and olives you ever taste.

The Talmud teaches, ‘Ten measures of beauty descended to the world, Jerusalem took 9 and the rest of the world in its entirety took one.’ May you come to see the beautiful com-

plexity of a place that is a part of each Jew, a place that the Jewish soul still yearns to see whole and at peace.

Baruch Atah B'voecha, U'varuch Atah B'tzetecha, May you be blessed in your coming, and may you be blessed in your going out.

Amen.”

And, may we all be blessed to see the peace of Jerusalem. If not now...

*Full Disclosure—The young rabbi is Josh Whinston, just beginning his service at Temple Beth Emeth, Ann Arbor Michigan. Josh is our Grandson by marriage.



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THE KITCHEN CORNER

Jeffrey & Janet Stein-Larson (Co-Chairs)

What's Happening in the CBA Kitchen? A lot to say the least!!

For those of you who weren't already aware, Janet & Jeffrey (aka j&j) have stepped down from being co-chairs of the Kitchen Committee. They have held that position since the inception of this sub-committee (over 5 years ago). They will continue to be active members. Right now, because of the increasing complexity of the Kitchen Committee, this committee is being rediscovered and restructured into 4 main components; 1. Kashrut with Rabbi Miller in charge, 2. Food Safety with Andrea Nett in charge of training and disseminating this information. Leah Frost, Exec D. will be in charge of enforcing the safety precautions, 3. Event Planning coordination with mashgichim with Leah responsible for getting the word out when mashgichim are needed as the events are being planned, and lastly 4. Kitchen organization and maintenance.

A call for a new Kitchen Committee chairperson has been sent out so if you are interested in doing this or if you are interested in being an active member, please contact Betty Boyd (Chair of the Religious Practices Committee, bettyboyd@informingscience.org) or Leah Frost (Executive Director, execdirec@bethamistr.org).

As the kitchen use is increasing with volunteers cooking for larger groups, a need developed to make certain that steps are being taken to help enforce Food Safety issues. A sub-committee was formed under Nancy Tisman to gather information, to create training programs and establish periodic reviews on Food Safety; involving food storage, food handling, and food serving. The goal is to have this information available to all who cook in the CBA kitchen. This training will also be incorporated in the mashgiach training. Unfortunately, we are losing Nancy and Glenn Tisman as they will be moving to Southern California.

We owe Nancy a big thank you for all of her hard work on this committee, and we wish both of them good fortune in their new life. We also owe Andrea a big thank you for continuing the development of this important sub-committee. Since this work is extremely important for our event planning functions, Leah Frost (Exec. D) will help by making certain that the Food Safety & Food Handling procedures will be observed.

Some gentle reminders for your events; when you start planning your event (big or small) and you fill out the event planning form in the office; think about if you are going to need the kitchen. A lot of event planners don't realize that they will probably be needing the kitchen. Even if it is just desserts brought in with coffee & tea served, you will need the kitchen for cleaning up. Any trays or flatware you used from CBA or the coffee pots will need to be washed in the CBA kitchen. Remember, anytime you use the CBA kitchen, you will need a mashgiach. Even if you need food put in the refrigerator and taken out, a mashgiach will have that kitchen key. Since arrangements need to be made for a mashgiach volunteer and because there are frequently competing demands for times in the kitchen, please fill out the event planning form as soon as possible. The more advance notice we have, the better.

Because events are often happening back to back, we have a new unofficial slogan involving using the CBA Kitchen...during clean-up after your event, wash it, dry it, and put it away, please...it is hard when you come in the next morning to cook or set-up for your event, and last night's stuff is still there.

We are reorganizing and labeling the kitchen and storage room. Everyone knows the frustration of not being able to find things, so we hope this will help with the putting away items where they belong after they have been



THE KITCHEN CORNER

continued...

cleaned and dried. We have begun labeling shelves and cabinets. Hopefully, this will help make clean-up a bit easier, especially when you didn't get the platters or bowls in the first place and you are cleaning up...

Events Coming up

The High Holy Days are coming, and once again we will want to have enough home-made honeycakes to share from Rosh Hashana through Simchat Torah. We are requesting pareve honeycakes. You don't need to cut them, we will do that for you, but please remember to label them. Include on your label if your HHD honeycake has nut or nut by-products, or has no nuts or nut by-products, and if it is gluten free. Deadline for receiving honeycakes is Thursday morning September 29th. If you wish to bake honeycakes for us, please contact Elizabeth at office@bethamir.org or call 707-360-3000 to let her know how many you plan to make. If you have any questions you may contact j&j at 707-539-6612 or JSL2602@sonic.net.

We thank all who have participated to making the CBA Kitchen a happening place!

Mashgiach Training

Sun., Sept. 11, 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Social Hall

What is a mashgiach and why should you care?

We are a congregation comprised of those who keep Kosher and those who do not. Because we want all of our members to be able to participate in congregational activities involving food, we follow the Kosher guidelines established by our Rabbi for our kitchen and for the food that we serve at the synagogue. A mashgiach is one who knows these guidelines and typically supervises food related activities to make sure they are followed. Whether you wish to become a Beth Ami mashgiach, im-

prove your understanding of Kashrut, or just want to learn about the guidelines, we invite you to attend this class. If you are interested in learning what mashgichim do, or interested in being a mashgiach, or interested in reviewing, come join us.

Contact Mark Rosen at (860) 202-8953 or email Beth Ami at office@bethamir.org. before September 1st to join this training.

In preparation for and in adding more sweetness to our celebration of the High Holy Days, honey cakes are needed!

Honey cake is one of our special traditions for Rosh Hashanah and we want to have plenty at Beth Ami for the holiday season from Rosh Hashanah through Sukkot. You can make them at your convenience, bring them to the synagogue, and we will put them in the freezer.

Because many Yom Tov dinners are meat, we are requesting that that your recipe be pareve and that you follow the Food and Potluck guidelines. No serving plates are necessary and please, do not cut your cake, we will do it for you. Just wrap the cake and label it; "Honey cake for HHD" and whether it has any nut and/or nut by-products or is nut and/or nut-product free. If your recipe is gluten-free, mark that as well.

If you want to help, please contact the office at 707-360-3000; to give us an idea of how many loaves you wish to bake. Then, please, have it brought to the synagogue by no later than Thursday morning, September 29. If there is no one in the kitchen, you may bring it to Elizabeth or Leah who has a key to the kitchen.

If you have any questions, you may reach us at JSL2602@sonic.net or by calling 707-539-6612.



THE KITCHEN CORNER

continued...

A Kosher Question for Rabbi Miller

Rabbi Miller,

Will you explain the background behind the potluck guidelines on bringing cheese to CBA? If you could go over when is and why is domestic hard cheese with rennet okay vs non domestic cheese with rennet; and why we prefer that everyone only bring sliced cheese that is in a sealed unopened package from the manufacturer?

Thank you,

Curious Kitty

Dear Curious Kitty,

Hard cheeses present an interesting “problem” as regards kashrut.

To help the cheese to become hard, a substance called *rennet* is introduced to the mixture. This causes the milk to separate into *curds* (the solid part) and *whey* (the watery part). Originally the rennet, an enzyme, chymosin, was taken from the fourth stomach of calves where it helped in the digestion and absorption of the mother's milk.

The question from a Kashrut standpoint: Is this rennet to be considered fleishig since it comes from an animal?

If it is fleishig, then such cheese would violate the prohibition against mixing meat and milk.

In January, 1972 writing on behalf of the Committee of Jewish Law and Standards of the Rabbinical Assembly, Rabbi Isaac Klein z'l wrote, “The rennet used today cannot be considered forbidden because, first of all, most of it is derived from dried up skins that have become like a piece of wood. In addition, the extraction is brought about by the use of strong chemicals and acids which removes the substance from the status of a food fit even for a dog. And third, the rennet goes through a number of chemical changes that transform it

into a new substance (davar chadash). Finally, the rennet is not put into the milk in a pure form but is diluted with other substances so that it is batel b'shishim annulled in sixty times its bulk.”

For these reasons, Rabbi Klein concluded that domestic hard cheese which is manufactured under controlled conditions and subject to the standards of USFDA should be considered kosher.

Cheese produced outside of the US was often, according to Rabbi Klein's research, a cottage industry and subject to little or no supervision. Consequently such cheese should be considered non-kosher.

At present, Congregation Beth Ami operates under such guidelines.

Soft cheeses such as cream and cottage cheese are considered soft cheeses and do not require rennet in their processing. Many are readily available with a Hechsher. (Kosher certification).

Domestic hard cheeses such as Cheddar or Gouda are acceptable in their original, factory sealed packaging either whole or sliced. Cheese can often be found put up as a sliced cheese plate found in the grocery store or deli. These are not acceptable at CBA because the slicer might have been previously cutting meat or be otherwise unkosher. We assume that when the cheese comes sliced in a factory sealed packaged, the machinery used for this is dedicated to this process alone.

I've learned that there are a lot of kosher certified cheeses available in Santa Rosa, so you have that option as well. Kosher cheeses have been located at Oliver's, at Trader Joe's, and at Whole Foods to name a few stores.

Dear Kitty, I hope this addresses your concerns for the time being.

Sincerely,

Mordecai



SPOTLIGHT ON A NEW MEMBER—LEAH FROST

by Esther Baruch

Our spotlighted new member is also our talented and enthusiastic new Executive Director. The greater Jewish community has already noticed Leah's abilities. She was one of only a few applicants accepted as a Federation Fellow, a position of studying and interning designed to give Jewish nonprofit professionals new skills and experience to bring back to their jobs. The Federation Fellows is a two-year leadership-building program. Leah was very flattered to be accepted to both of her first-choice organizations (most successful applicants are accepted to one), Urban Adamah and Sinai Memorial Chapel.

Urban Adamah is an educational farm and community center which offers leadership training incorporating social justice work and Jewish values. Sinai Memorial Chapel helps families in the greater Bay Area honor the death and memory of their loved ones.

As a Federation Fellow, Leah will have many opportunities to network with other congregations and organizations. "We tend to get ignored up here in Sonoma County. It's time to change that," declares Leah.

Having a representative of Beth Ami at local and Bay Area events will be an excellent boost for Beth Ami's image in the community. "I am extending a hand as a citizen of the community. I believe in reaching out, not waiting for the community to come to me," says Leah.

An important priority on Leah's agenda is cultivating and incorporating more young families into Beth Ami, starting with our own Nursery School families and working collaboratively with our highly-regarded Nursery School director.

Another priority is our security. While Sonoma County is relatively safe, we all want to feel more secure in the light of national and

world events. I didn't know this, but Leah has years of experience in the security industry and has held every position in that field. She is eagerly waiting to hear about the status of a grant she applied for through Homeland Security. Elements of the funding which target security concerns will have an added benefit for our older members. Nighttime lighting, for example, will serve as a fall deterrent.

"We can't be too careful or too prepared," Leah emphasizes. "It's my responsibility to protect our kids, and I took it upon myself to apply for the grant shortly after I arrived here."

We are fortunate to have an Executive Director with an extensive background in facilities management. She enjoys the challenges of an aging building, and has that hands-on, get-things-done attitude we so value.

"I see myself as a leader rather than a boss. I lead by example," says Leah. What she doesn't say, but we've all noticed, is how she has worked tirelessly, on her own time, volunteering for many events such as the Purim spiel, the Yom Ha'Atzmaut celebration, the seder, and the new members' Shabbat dinner.

What is Leah most proud of, looking over her first seven months on the job? Saving the congregation thousands of dollars on big-ticket items such as the phone system and color copier is certainly on the list. Even higher on the list is building relationships with staff and congregants, who have responded positively to Leah's warmth, humor, and sincerity. "They know my door is always open, and that they can feel safe, comfortable, and accommodated here."

If you haven't had the opportunity yet, be sure to say hi to our capable, devoted, and friendly new Executive Director over the High Holidays.



SOCIAL ACTION SCOOP

Lyla Nathan

Happy New Year to all,

As we begin the new year, I want to wish everyone a healthy and sweet one. Rosh Ha-Shana is always a time of reflection and hope. The social action committee continues to have a vision to make a better world where we are kind to each other and help our friends and neighbors in their times of need.

We will continue to prepare soups and kugels for our kehilla

We will continue our monthly volunteering at the Redwood Empire Food Bank.

We will continue to support the food pantry at JFCS.

We will participate in the warm clothing drive this winter with sister synagogue Shomrei Torah.

We will once again make and distribute bags for the homeless and needy people in our community.

We will, along with the keshet committee, do all we can to make Beth Ami a welcoming community for the LBGTQA community.

We will support the Interfaith Council of Sonoma County as well as Of One Soul in their activities to bring greater understanding and friendship to the many people of different faiths in our community.

We also have begun a sub committee called Racial Justice. We are looking for ways to support the minority communities in Sonoma County. We are trying to build bridges and reach out in a constructive and helpful way with activities that build community.

As always, during the holidays, we will have a food drive to fill up the pantry at Jewish Family and Children Services. Thanks to all in advance for everyone's continued support and generosity.

We will also have community conversations during the High Holidays.

Shana Tova to all, Lyla Nathan



GREEN COMMITTEE

GREENING the Shul Progress Report

The GREEN Committee Needs You!

The GREEN Committee is looking for a few good folk to join us in helping to make Beth Ami a greener shul, living out our commitment to Tikkun Olam. We have several projects we wish to undertake, including setting up a comprehensive recycling and composting program, establishing a garden that will also raise food for the larger community, continuing to lower our use of water and energy, and to eventually have solar power for Beth Ami. However, there are just not enough bodies to get it all done. If a few more people join us, we can truly make Beth Ami a model synagogue for acting on climate change.

Update on recent projects.

The tomato and herb plants we planted with the religious school last spring are now planted in the Nursery School garden. They volunteered to take care of them during the summer, but felt they could do a better job if they were in their garden. The Kitchen Committee has access to this garden to get food for Shabbat potlucks.

The lemon trees are growing, and we want to add 2-3 more trees to them in the area back of the Social Hall.

Phil Weil continues to regularly take all the CRV (California Redemption Value) recycling in and collect the money for Youth programs at CBA. So far, we have raised over \$75. Please bring your CRV items to shul and put them in the container on the patio. You will help our youth and the environment both!





ADULT EDUCATION

Doorway to Davening—An Introduction to High Holiday Prayer

Join with us for a four-session class on the High Holiday prayers taught by Rabbi Miller beginning on Thursday, September 8 at 7:30 PM. The class will lead you to a better understanding of the High Holiday Liturgy with the goal of a more meaningful experience of the Holidays. The class is free and available to all Beth Ami members, families and friends.

The first session will include topics such as: What does prayer accomplish; What are the Jewish concepts of sin and repentance; What does the Shofar stand for; the basic terminology of Prayer with an emphasis on the High Holidays; and an introduction to the uniqueness of the High Holiday prayers. The remaining sessions will explore the special prayers and services during Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur such as the Shofar Service and the Torah and Haftarah portions.

Classes will be held in the Sanctuary Thursdays, Sept. 8, 15, 22 and 29 at 7:30 p.m. After the High Holidays, Rabbi Miller will teach classes on the daily and Shabbat prayers.

Rabbi Miller and the Adult Education Committee are looking forward to seeing you at the Doorway to Davening.



USY REPORT

Beth Ami is "Chapter of the Year!"

This past year has been a big one for Sonoma County United Synagogue Youth, or SCUSY, which won Chapter of the Year award for the USY region of New Frontier. This honor was bestowed upon our small but mighty chapter after a year of fun and instructive events ranging from cooking delicious food, hiking amongst the majestic redwoods at Armstrong Woods, leading a Friday Night service, and so much more. Even though last year was incredible, this upcoming year will be building on the strong base created previously and will continue to strive for greatness.



BETH AMI GIFT SHOP

The High Holidays will be here before you know it!

Your Beth Ami Gift Shop has individual New Years cards on sale for \$.50 each as well as packages of 8.



If you are considering blowing the shofar this year, come in and try them out!



L' Shana Tova!

We have a variety of honey jars, Rosh Hashana cookie cutters and decorative boxes for your Etrog



M-W 10-4:30 • Th 10-6 • F 10-2

Located in Beth Ami Gift Office • Call Bonnie Boren for special orders—528-1628

Services at Beth Ami

Please join us for services. For additional information or to verify the times, call the office at (707) 360-3000. The High Holy Days begin with Selichot on September 24 and continue through October.

September Shabbat and other Services

Sept. 2 (Fri.)—6-6:30 p.m. Shabbat evening services followed by dinner (Reservations necessary*)

Sept. 3 (Sat.)—9:30 a.m. Shabbat morning service followed by dairy potluck

Sept. 9 (Fri.)—7:30 p.m. Shabbat evening service

Sept. 10 (Sat.)—9:30 a.m. Shabbat morning service followed by dairy potluck

Sept. 16 (Fri.)—7:30 p.m. Shabbat evening service

Sept. 17 (Sat.)—9:30 a.m. Shabbat morning service followed by dairy potluck

Sept. 23 (Fri.)—7:30 p.m. Shabbat evening service

Sept. 24 (Sat.)—9:30 a.m. Shabbat morning service followed by dairy potluck; **8:30-11:30 pm**—Selichot study program and service

Sept. 30 (Fri.)—7:30 p.m. Shabbat evening service

October Shabbat and other Services (exact times may change, verify with office)

Oct. 1 (Sat.)—9:30 a.m. Shabbat morning service followed by dairy potluck

Oct. 2 (Sun.)—8-9:30 p.m. Rosh Hashanah evening service (in Friedman center). Reception after service

Oct. 3 (Mon.)—8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Rosh Hashanah first day service (in Friedman Center). **10 a.m.-noon**—Children and family services. **4 p.m.**—Tashlich service with Shomrei Torah at Lake Ralphine in Howarth Park, followed by potluck dairy picnic and Mincha-Ma'Ariv services in the park

Oct. 4 (Tues.)—8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Rosh Hashanah second day service (in Beth Ami sanctuary); followed by a light lunch prepared by Beth Ami volunteers (Reservations not necessary). **7 p.m.**—Mincha, Ma'Ariv, Havdalah in Beth Ami sanctuary

Oct. 7 (Fri.)—7:30 p.m. Shabbat evening service (*no dinner* this week)

Oct. 8 (Sat.)—9:30 a.m. Shabbat morning service (Shabbat Shuvah) followed by dairy potluck

Oct. 9 (Sun.)—11 a.m. Kever Avot. Service at Santa Rosa Memorial Park Cemetery

Oct. 11 (Tues.)—4:30-5:30 p.m. Pre-fast dinner (in Beth Ami Social Hall) Reservations necessary. * **5:45-8:45 p.m.**—Kol Nidre and Mincha service (in Friedman center)

Oct. 12 (Wed.)—9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Yom Kippur morning service (in Friedman center). Children and family services to be determined. **3:45-7:30 p.m.**—Yom Kippur afternoon service (in Beth Ami sanctuary). **7:30 p.m.**—Break-the-fast (in the Friedman Center); reservations necessary*

Oct. 14 (Fri.)—7:30 p.m. Shabbat evening service

Oct. 15 (Sat.)—9:30 a.m. Shabbat morning service followed by dairy potluck

Oct. 16 (Sun.)—6-6:30 p.m. Sukkot Day 1 evening service

Oct. 17 (Mon.)—9:30 a.m.-noon Sukkot Day 1 morning service. **6-6:30 p.m.**—Sukkot Day 2 evening service

Oct. 18 (Tues.)—9:30 a.m.-noon Sukkot Day 2 morning service

Oct. 21 (Fri.)—7:30 p.m. Shabbat evening service

Oct. 22 (Sat.)—9:30 a.m. Shabbat morning service followed by dairy potluck

Oct. 23 (Sun.)—8 a.m. Hosha'na Rabah; a.m. service, last day of Sukkot. **6-6:30 p.m.**—Shemini Atzeret—evening service

Oct. 24 (Mon.)—9:30 a.m. Shemini Atzeret with Yizkor; morning service. **6 p.m.**—Simchat Torah eve; Festive celebration

Oct. 25 (Tues.)—9:30 a.m. Simchat Torah Morning service

Oct. 28 (Fri.)—7:30 p.m. Shabbat evening service

Oct. 29 (Sat.)—9:30 a.m. Shabbat morning service followed by dairy potluck

*Reservations necessary by the preceding Wednesday. Call the office at (707) 360-3000 or email office@BethAmiSR.org to make your reservation and arrange payment.

Daily Daven

Sundays & National Holidays—

8:30 a.m. Morning Minyan in the Chapel or Rooms 12-13, followed by a light breakfast on the 1st and 3rd Sunday

Mon.-Fri.—7 a.m. Daily Daven in the Chapel or Rooms 12-13, except for Jewish and Secular holidays

Sun.-Thurs.—6-6:30 p.m. Daily Daven in the Chapel or rooms 12-13, except for Jewish and Secular holidays

SIMCHA BOARD TREE OF LIFE

Honor thy mother...also thy aunt, uncle, cousin, child, best friend, teacher with an engraved leaf on our Simcha Board commemorating any joyous occasion, bestowal of an honor, or cause for thanksgiving.

Leaf \$360
Small Stone \$1000
Large Stone \$2500



We also provide the opportunity for you to memorialize loved ones.

YAHREZEIT BOARD

A plaque is \$450

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GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR CONGREGATION

The next time you are looking for a meaningful way to celebrate a joyous occasion, remember a loved one, or comfort a mourner, please consider a donation to Congregation Beth Ami. When you make a gift, a card is sent to the honoree or the family and your donation is proudly acknowledged in the Shofar. The minimum donation for each occasion is \$7.50. Congregation Beth Ami truly appreciates your support.

General Fund

In memory of Andy's brother, Tom Fleming—*Andy & Nancy Fleming*

In memory of Lillian Judd
—*Arnold & Karen Herskovic, Asher & Lyla Nathan*

In appreciation of Bob & Susy Raful—*Barbara Boren & Barbara Tomin*

In memory of Sylvia Sucher
—*Carol Swanson*

In memory of Lillian Judd
—*Carol Swanson*

In memory of Sylvia Sucher
—*The Ballo family*

Thank you to Lee & Paul Feinstein
—*The Ballo family*

Continuing better health for Paul Zygielbaum—*The Ballo family*

Continuing better health to Arnold Drake—*The Ballo family*

In loving memory of Lillian Judd with greatest sympathy to Dennis and family—*The Ballo family*

In memory of Bluma Rudnitskaya
—*Iosif & Marina Voulfson*

In celebration of lotto winning
—*Ivan Barta*

In honor of being called to the bimah—*Ivan Barta*

In memory of my friend, Alex Tarics—*Ivan Barta*

In memory of Sylvia Sucher
—*Pat Thomas*

In memory of Lillian Judd
—*Pat Thomas*

In memory of my father, Benjamin Tannenbaum—*Pat Thomas*

In memory of Amelia & Abraham Olchevy—*Raynore Paule*

In memory of my mother, Ellen Jane Rosenthal—*Roberta Rosenthal & Margaret Schadler*

In honor of the friendliness shown to me, for the services attended, and for the lectures offered & attended. Thanks and Shalom—*Stan Roodman*

In honor Avi Ballo's graduation from Berkeley—*Stuart & Ethel Schy*

In honor of Ruth Rosenberg's birthday—*Stuart & Ethel Schy*

In honor of Ira Rosenberg's birthday—*Stuart & Ethel Schy*

In memory of Lillian Judd
—*Stuart & Ethel Schy*

In memory of Berht Schy, Stuart's mother and Leanne's grandmother
—*Stuart & Ethel Schy*

General Fund Shabbat Lunch

In honor of all of all the kitchen helpers—*The Ballo family*

In memory of Sylvia Sucher
—*Barbara & Michael McCaffry, Susan L. Miller, Gerald Lakins & Susan Miller*

Harris Fund

In memory of Jonathan Simkovitz
—*Julie Simkovitz*

Israel Programming Fund

In memory of Bob's Uncle, Lou Stein—*Robert & Susy Raful*

Library Fund

In memory of Irving Streitfeld
—*Ricki Streitfeld*

Malk Fund

Happy Birthday to Marge Gordon with love from Phyllis Shapiro
—*Phyllis Shapiro*

Nursery School Fund

In memory of Vivian Frye
—*The Ballo family*

In memory of Fredric Zucker
—*Todd & Fara Elizalde*

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In memory of Lillian Judd
—*Alan Krubiner & Jane Meyer*

In memory of Benny Friedman
—*Bill & Suzie Friedman*

In gratitude for aliyahs—*Branagan*

In memory of Leo Gurevitch
—*Dr. Russ & Terry Gurevitch*

In memory of Sylvia Sucher—*Ivan Barta, Jeffrey & Janet SteinLarson*

In memory of Lillian Judd
—*Jeffrey & Janet SteinLarson*

In memory of Margaret Close
—*Joseph & Signe Minuskin*

Thank you to Rabbi Miller for visiting my father, Max Graff
—*Martin Reis*

In memory of my wife, Lillian Graff—*Max Graff*

Religious School Fund

In memory of the victims of Orlando—*Elisabeth & David Van Nuys*

In memory of Lillian Judd
—*Elisabeth & David Van Nuys*



September Yahrzeits

Secular dates correspond to Hebrew date of death.

Observance of yahrzeit begins at sundown the previous day.

All yahrzeits observed at Beth Ami.

Announced on Sept. 2 & 3

- Sept. 3 Josephine Sherman,
Mother of
Edward Sherman
- Sept. 7 Joseph Raful,
Father of Bob Raful
- Sept. 8 Ernest Rosenthal,
Father of Bobbie Rosenthal
- Sept. 9 Ida Mann, Grandmother
of Judith Helman

Announced on Sept. 9 & 10

- Sept. 10 Myrna Drake,
First Wife of Arnold Drake
- Sept. 10 Joyce Vrobel,
Mother of Laura Alexander
- Sept. 12 Sylvia Golemb,
Mother of Sherrill Golemb
- Sept. 13 Dorothy Drain,
Grandmother of
Janet Stein-Larson
- Sept. 14 Elie Negrin,
Father of Ronit Glickman
- Sept. 15 William Hahn,
Father of Edith Newman
- Sept. 16 David Katz,
Father of Audrey Darby
- Sept. 16 Selby Morse,
Husband of Myrna Morse

Announced on Sept. 16 & 17

- Sept. 17 Susan Yelin,
Mother of Francie Rogovin
- Sept. 18 Yechezkiel Rivkin,
Father of Adolph Rivkin

- Sept. 19 Max Lachman,
Father of Vivian Salmon
- Sept. 19 Audrey Schoen,
Sister of Phyllis Shapiro
- Sept. 20 Angela Kupperberg, Wife
of Michael Kupperberg
- Sept. 21 Dan Ben Hershel, Nephew
of Evelyn Gurevitch
- Sept. 21 Jennie Klein,
Mother of Ricki Streifeld
- Sept. 22 Barbara Wallace,
Sister of Arnold Drake
- Sept. 23 Joshua Cohen,
Father of Leonard Cohen
- Sept. 23 Morris Marks, Grandfather
of Myrna Morse

Announced on Sept. 23 & 24

- Sept. 24 Vivian Frye,
Friend of Ellen Mundell
- Sept. 25 Carolina Gordon,
Granddaughter of
Marjorie Gordon
- Sept. 27 Naftali Morse,
Father-in-law of
Myrna Morse
- Sept. 29 Irving Nathan,
Father of Asher Nathan
- Sept. 29 David Sternfeld,
Father of Jeffrey Sternfeld
- Sept. 30 Frances Spiegelman,
Grandmother of
Ronit Glickman

September Birthdays

- 2 Myra ThomasStern
- 5 Phil Weil
- 6 Bonnie Boren
- 8 Leanne Schy
- 11 Jane Meyer
- 13 Barbara Boren
- 13 Brian Gross
- 13 Adrea Moss
- 15 Esther Pilch
- 16 Ethel Schy
- 18 Elaine Golemb
- 18 Dr. Gary Herzberg
- 18 Florence Metz
- 18 Carol Newman
- 18 Sherri Weinstein
- 20 Randy Weinstein
- 22 Ahuva SimonSa'ar
- 25 Susanne Batzdorff
- 26 Leonard Cohen
- 30 Blair Dub
- 30 Gerald Lakins

September Anniversaries

- 3 Todd & Fara Elizalde
- 7 Daryl & Joan Schloss
- 10 Howard & Ronit Glickman
- 14 Adolph & Rimma Rivkin
- 14 Phil Dwight & Jane Rogan
- 15 Ross Jones & Jane Paul
- 25 Russ & Terry Gurevitch
- 29 Ira & Ruth Rosenberg

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Introducing Your New Beth Ami Board!





October Yahrzeits

Secular dates correspond to Hebrew date of death.

Observance of yahrzeit begins at sundown the previous day.

All yahrzeits observed at Beth Ami.

Announced on Sept. 30 & Oct. 1

- Oct. 3 Arthur Levine, Former husband of Gussie Levine
- Oct. 3 Rose Zittin, Grandmother of Bill Friedman
- Oct. 4 Myer Brust, Grandfather of Barbara McGee
- Oct. 4 William Colton, Brother-in-law of Evelyn Gurevitch
- Oct. 5 Avar Metzger, Mother of Joslyn Metzger
- Oct. 5 Henry Tausk, Father of Gloria Glickman
- Oct. 6 Jenny Wiesenthal, Mother of Natalie Friedman
- Oct. 7 Helene Senzer, Mother of Adrea Moss

Announced on Oct. 7 & Oct. 8

- Oct. 8 Susan Dove, Niece of Betty Franks
- Oct. 9 Frances Brust, Grandmother of Barabara McGee
- Oct. 9 Lillian Kahn, Mother of David Kahn
- Oct. 9 Raymund Mundell, Father of Michael Mundell
- Oct. 10 Hilda Meyer, Mother of Jane Meyer
- Oct. 11 Joseph Diamond, Father-in-law of Marilyn Diamond
- Oct. 11 Shulamit Sapojnikov, Mother of Ahuva Simon-Sa'ar
- Oct. 14 Carl Connors, Father of Tish Levee

- Oct. 14 Ruth Hess, Mother of Barbara Tomin
- Oct. 14 Ester Pekker, Mother of Semyon Pekker

Announced on Oct. 14 & 15

- Oct. 15 Joaquin Boadella, Brother of Lillian Judd
- Oct. 16 Florence Zivin, Mother of Edee Sternfield-Squires
- Oct. 18 George Barta, Father of Ivan Barta
- Oct. 19 Abraham Jones, Brother of Maury Jones
- Oct. 19 Dorothy Yelin, Grandmother of Francie Rogovin
- Oct. 20 Mollie Raful, Mother of Bob Raful
- Oct. 21 Dean Darby, Husband of Audrey Darby

Announced on Oct. 21 & 22

- Oct. 23 Morris Edelberg, Father of Marjorie Gordon
- Oct. 23 David Friedman, Brother of Harry Friedman
- Oct. 25 Michael Letourneau, Son of Pam Jacobs Letourneau
- Oct. 25 Lester Schloner, Father of Carol Swanson and Fred Schloner
- Oct. 26 Brukha Vilenskeya, Mother of Malvina Tsipan

Announced on Oct. 28 & 29

- Oct. 30 Mitchell Boyd, Father of Elizabeth Boyd
- Oct. 30 Adolph Stern, Father of Myra Thomas-Stern

October Birthdays

- 7 Earl Goldberg
- 7 Carl Servin
- 8 Ruth Weiss
- 9 Laura Alexander
- 10 Sanford Bressick
- 11 Blair Pleasant
- 12 Malvina Tsipan
- 13 Eli Miller
- 14 Jeffrey Sommers
- 18 Judi Hyman
- 19 Richard Kahn
- 19 Rabbi George Schlesinger
- 19 Jeffrey Sheff
- 20 Andrew Brown
- 20 John Whitaker
- 23 Judy Gunnar
- 25 Marge Brody
- 25 Gerald Petlock
- 27 Rimma Rivkin
- 30 Rick Concoff

October Anniversaries

- 6 Phil Weil & Bonnie Boren
- 12 Ben & Tara Winkler
- 25 Don & Gloria Glickman
- 25 Joe & Signe Minuskin
- 25 Stephen & Andrea Nett
- 29 Paul & Michelle Zygielbaum
- 31 Eli & Yona Miller

- Nov. 1 Mary Diamond, Mother-in-law of Marilyn Diamond
- Nov. 1 Harold Rosen, Father of Mark Rosen
- Nov. 1 Al Sherman, Father of Edward Sherman
- Nov. 4 Tillie Edelberg, Mother of Marjorie Gordon



Congregation Beth Ami

4676 MAYETTE AVENUE, SANTA ROSA, CA 95405

Address service requested

September Shabbatot

September 2

Parshah: Re'eh

Candle Lighting: 7:20 p.m.

Havdalah: 8:17 p.m.

September 10

Parshah: Shoftim

Candle Lighting: 7:09 p.m.

Havdalah: 8:05 p.m.

September 16

Parshah: Ki Teizei

Candle Lighting: 8:05 p.m.

Havdalah: 6:58 p.m.

September 23

Parshah: Ki Tavo

Candle Lighting: 6:47 p.m.

Havdalah: 7:43 p.m.

September 30

Parshah: Nitzovim

Candle Lighting: 6:36 p.m.

Havdalah: 7:32 p.m.

October Shabbatot

October 2—Rosh Hashanah, 1st Day

Parshah: Special

Candle Lighting: 7:29 p.m.

Havdalah: 7:27 p.m.

October 3—Rosh Hashanah, 2nd Day

Parshah: Special

Candle Lighting: 7:29 p.m.

Havdalah: 7:27 p.m.

October 7

Parshah: Vayelech

Candle Lighting: 6:25 p.m.

Havdalah: 7:21 p.m.

October 10—Yom Kippur

Parshah: Special

Candle Lighting: 6:19 p.m.

Havdalah: 7:15 p.m.

October 14

Parshah: Ha'azinu

Candle Lighting: 6:15 p.m.

Havdalah: 7:11 p.m.

October 16—Sukkot, 1st Day

Parshah: Special

Candle Lighting: 6:12 p.m.

October 17—Sukkot, 2nd Day

Parshah: Special

Candle Lighting: 7:08 p.m.

October 21

Parshah: Special

Candle Lighting: 6:05 p.m.

Havdalah: 7:02 p.m.

October 23—Shemini Atzeret

Parshah: Special

Candle Lighting: 6:03 p.m.

October 24—Simchat Torah

Parshah: Special

Candle Lighting: 7:00 p.m.

October 28

Parshah: Beresheet

Candle Lighting: 5:57 p.m.

Havdalah: 6:54 p.m.