

Welcome to  
Congregation Beth Ami  
**High Holiday Services**

*The Gift of a New Year: Let's open it together.*

שנה טובה  
Happy New Year

*May you and your loved ones be blessed with love,  
health and joy throughout this New Year*

For more information,  
contact our office at (707) 360-3000



4676 Mayette Avenue ♦ Santa Rosa, CA 95405

[www.BethAmiSR.org](http://www.BethAmiSR.org)

# WELCOME TO CONGREGATION BETH AMI'S

## DAYS OF AWE

We're so happy that you are here at Beth Ami as we approach the coming Jewish New Year, 5777.

We hope you will seize the opportunity take time out: to step back; to reflect on the past year in the unique way we call "T'shuvah"; to combine ancient traditions and modern perspectives; to listen to and join in chanting both new and familiar melodies; above all, we hope you find the way to "reconnect" with your True Source.

Perhaps this is your first time participating; perhaps it's part of your family's tradition; perhaps you simply decided to stop back after a hiatus of one or more years; *We want you to feel at home!*

We believe our Tradition can awaken in each of us the sense that every single moment in life is an opportunity and every day is a precious gift.

*L'Shanah tovah tikateivu!*

May you and all those you hold close be written in the Book of Life for a good and sweet year!

Thank you!

Mordecai Miller  
Rabbi

Laura Alexander  
President

Leah Frost  
Executive Director

### COME HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

**AT A TIME FOR OPENING OUR HEARTS, WE'RE OPENING OUR DOORS AS WELL.  
CONGREGATION BETH AMI WARMLY WELCOMES EVERYONE.**

**THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR TICKETS TO ANY OF OUR *High Holiday* SERVICES.**

**PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE BY FOR COMPLIMENTARY AND ADDITIONAL TICKETS.**

**DONATIONS ARE GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED.**

**(707) 360-3000**

**SERVICES LED BY RABBI MORDECAI MILLER, CANTOR Yael KRIEGER AND MEMBERS OF OUR  
CONGREGATION**

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## DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

**SELICHOT**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24**

The official beginning of the Season of Self-examination: we gather as a community to look into our hearts; to study, to visit and to pray. Do we have the courage to admit our errors and to seek forgiveness?

**ROSH HASHANAH  
October 3**

**SUNDAY, October 2-Monday,**



The “**beginning (head) of the year**” commemorates the creation of Adam and Eve, the first humans, and so, becomes the appropriate time for serious contemplation. Rosh Hashanah is known in the Torah as “Day of Remembrance” (Yom haZikaron) and “Day of Shofar Blasts” (Yom T’ru-ah). “Remembrance” has to do with the Creator “judging” the universe individually and collectively. The shofar blasts are the medium through which our thoughts and emotions transcend words.

**Children’s Services** allows families with children ages 2 – 18 the opportunity to celebrate the holidays together at Beth Ami, allowing age-appropriate activity for both parents and children (See insert: “Youth Happenings!”)

**Tashlich**, “to cast,” is based on verses which speak of “God *casting* our sins into the depths of the sea. “(Micah 7: 18 ff.) It is customary to go to a flowing body of water and to recite prayers while “casting” our sins (represented by bread crumbs) into the water. We will join Congregation Shomrei Torah at Lake Ralphine to symbolically express our desire to be free from sin and forgiven for past misdeeds. Please bring a dairy-veggie potluck to enjoy together with other families. (See insert: “Tashlich Services”)

**Mincha & Ma’ariv** are afternoon and evening prayer services, held outdoors at the park. Taking about fifteen minutes apiece, they provide further opportunity to meditate of the great themes of the day. *What does it mean to acknowledge the Divine as “Sovereign”?*

**ROSH HASHANAH**

**SECOND DAY**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4**

The **Second Day** is a little more relaxed in the Beth Ami Sanctuary. Since we are now more familiar with the flow of the service, it actually allows us to discover elements and moments of meditation and prayer that may elude us on the First Day. The Torah reading recounts the dramatic story of the “Binding of Isaac”, while the Haftarah (Prophetic Reading) taken from Jeremiah, is one of the most deeply moving statements of how much G-d’s compassion for the Jewish people.

During this service cantor Yael Krieger will give the sermon on the topic exploring the themes of father/child relationships, self-sacrifice, and overcoming fear and share her experience of donating her kidney to her father.

**SHABBAT SHUVAH**  
**OCTOBER 8**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7 - SATURDAY,**

The **Shabbat** that falls between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur: named after the opening words of the Prophetic reading (Hosea 14:2-4) “(Shuvah) Return, O Israel, to the Lord your God...” Are we willing to take an honest look at the consequences of our past behavior... and connect the dots?

**FAST OF GEDALIAH**  
**OCTOBER 5**

**WEDNESDAY,**

The **Fast of Gedaliah** (Dawn to Evening) is a day set aside to commemorate the assassination of Gedaliah, the Babylonian-appointed official charged with administering the Jewish population remaining in Judah following the destruction of the Temple and exile in 586 B. C. E. Gedaliah was an Israelite and was assassinated by Israelite zealots. This act of defiance caused the Babylonians to remove any vestige of Israelite sovereignty over the land of Judah.

**KEVER AVOT & GENIZAH- CEMETERY VISIT**  
**OCTOBER 9**

**SUNDAY,**

The **Kever Avot** ceremony honors those who have passed and supports those who mourn. It allows us to experience the High Holyday season connected to previous generations. Adults and children are welcome to learn and be comforted as we prepare for a fuller experience of the Day of Atonement.

**Genizah**, "hidden away:" Sacred Hebrew texts accumulated over the past year will be buried with love and respect. We learn cemetery etiquette and come to see the lives of those who have gone before us as beautiful and as holy as the Torah text. Please bring any sacred texts for burial to the synagogue office by October 7.

**YOM KIPPUR**  
**OCTOBER 12**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11 - WEDNESDAY,**

As we have done the past few years, we offer a pre-fast meal before the Kol Nidre service. Reservations are required by October 5.

**KOL NIDRE:** This solemn time begins with an “Earthly Court” absolving all participating of the sin of making a false oath. How often do we make commitments to others - or ourselves- and subsequently forget having made them? Our Tradition considers our need to be as good as our word. “Kol Nidre” provides a time to reflect on this very human frailty.

**YOM KIPPUR:** The "Day of Atonement," is a day on which we atone for sins committed against G-d or our fellow human beings. To atone before G-d for misdeeds against another person, one must seek reconciliation with that person, righting the wrong whenever possible. To demonstrate

our sincerity we “afflict our souls” by fasting from food and drink. The Talmud restrictions include: no washing, bathing, anointing one’s body, shaving, etc., wearing leather shoes, or engaging in sexual activities.

**Morning Service:** An essential part of the service allows us to participate in public confession. The words in our prayer book (*Machzor*) are intended to help us remember specific moments during the past year/s in which we have failed to remember that we are “created in God’s image”. Asking God to forgive us and being reassured that we can be forgiven, can allow us a fresh approach to the future and heal emotionally and spiritually.

**Kohen Gadol Service:** There are certain services that are performed only on Yom Kippur. One such service is the Ritual of the High Priest (*Kohen Gadol*). This takes us through the various rituals that the High Priest performed on Yom Kippur in the Temple in Jerusalem. There are three points in this service where we have the opportunity to prostrate ourselves out of a sense of submission to the Divine and a physical act of awe and humility. The service reminds us that Life has elements that go beyond our abilities to provide rational explanations. There are elements to the process of forgiveness that may be ineffable.

**Eyleh Ezkerah, “THESE I REMEMBER:”** Perhaps one of the most deeply moving parts of the Yom Kippur liturgy is the Eyleh Ezkerah. This is a martyrology which brings to light the various times in our history - from early ages and down to our times - when members of our people gave up their lives to express their belief in God and their commitment to Torah. It provides us with the realization that, at times, expressing our beliefs and values has come at a great price. Sadly, our own times appear to hang in the balance.

**Community Conversation:** We will continue in our custom of welcoming guests and have 1 on 1 conversations during morning services on Rosh Hashanah. We will have conversation during the afternoon break of the Yom Kippur services. The question on Rosh Hashanah is, “What makes you proud about our community and what would you like to do next year to make it better?”

**Teen T’Shuvah Service:** Rick Concoff leads this alternative service for teens (8th grade and up).

**Mincha, Torah Service & Yizkor:** As the day progresses, the mood shifts; a certain degree of inner-calm becomes perceptible. There’s a “lighter touch” to the proceedings. The Haftarah comprises the Book of Jonah - a dramatic narrative that contrasts G-d’s capacity to forgive and the brittleness of the human spirit over “small stuff”. Do “our possessions” matter more than “people”?

**Yizkor** allows the chance to focus on the impact that others have on our own lives - despite the fact that they may no longer be physically present. Can we recognize the degree to which we are inter-dependent and how that may impact our choices?

**Neilah,** ‘Locking the “Gates,” takes place at the time when the city gates would be locked for the night. While it marks the final moments of Yom Kippur, it reminds us that we “don’t have all the time in the world” to redirect our life choices and mend our broken relationships. As Yom Kippur comes to a close and our future is being sealed, we turn to G-d to accept our sincere repentance and ask to be sealed in the Book of Life. We pray that the Eternal One judge our thoughts and actions favorably and grant us a New Year filled with health and joy, prosperity and peace.

**Ma’ariv & Shofar Blowing:** Evening prayer service and final moment of Yom Kippur: Sealing the Book of Life for 5777.

**Breaking the Fast:** Please join us after services for to break the fast with our community and feast on traditional foods, **Reservations are required by October 10.** No one will be turned away for lack of funds. Please see Reservation page included with this packet.

<b>SUKKOT OCTOBER 23</b>	<b>SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16 – SUNDAY,</b>
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**Sukkot** (Booths) is a joyous holiday that celebrates the harvest in the land of Israel. It is a pilgrimage festival, when ancient Israelites traveled to the Temple in Jerusalem with gifts of the first fruits and offerings to G-d. The Sukkah is a temporary shelter and symbolizes the idea that our true and ultimate protection comes from G-d. According to the Torah we are commanded to “dwell” in it for seven days and no more. One interpretation of “dwelling” is “eating meals”. Today, Sukkot resembles Thanksgiving as a festival where we thank G-d for the blessings of the harvest. It is a time for sharing and hospitality and inviting people to join us for a meal in our Sukkah.

**SUKKOT LULAV & ETROG**



holiday to an integral part of the smell good, look funky, sound neat Besides, they make for a tangible and you’ve held one you’ll never forget it, and you’ll look forward to Sukkot all year. Your Lulav and Etrog will be available for pick up at Beth Ami fully assembled, with an explanation of how to use them, what the significance is and transliterated blessings.

If the High Holidays are coming, then Sukkot can’t be far behind. That means it’s time to order your Lulav and Etrog. *What’s that?* It’s a citron and palm/myrtle/willow combination that we use each day of the celebrate the harvest. *Why Should I have one?* They are synagogue service (except on Shabbat). They when shaken, and signify much that edifies us. memorable holiday practice, once



<b>SHEMINI ATZERET -SIMCHAT TORAH OCT 25</b>	<b>SUNDAY, OCT 23 - TUESDAY,</b>
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**Shemini Atzeret** is the last day of the Festival Season. While it comes at the end of Sukkot, it is a separate holiday. The rabbi’s interpreted its significance as the party after the party; an Indication that G-d “did not want to part” with the Israelites when they had to return home after all the other holidays. There is a custom to say the Yizkor memorial prayers on this festival, too.



**Simchat Torah**, “Rejoicing with the Torah,” falls on the second day of Shemini Atzeret! It is filled with joy and love for G-d, the Torah, and the Jewish community. It marks the completion of the yearlong cycle of weekly Torah readings. Everyone is called up to receive an *Aliyah* and there is a special honor to be given the person who is called up for the very last Aliyah over the Torah (Chatan/Kallat Torah) and the person who is called up for the very first in the new cycle (Chatan/Kallat Bereishit).

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Baby changing facilities are located in restrooms at the Friedman Center and Beth Ami.**

**Non-gender restroom facilities are located in the west wing of CBA between rooms 6 & 7 and in the lobby of the Friedman Center.**

**On Yom Kippur, bottles of water, for emergency only, are located in each bathroom.**

## **CONTRIBUTION TO FEED THE HUNGRY**



**To give greater meaning to our voluntary fast and to help end the involuntary fast of those who are poor and hungry, we ask that you contribute to Mazon: a Jewish Response to Hunger the amount you would have spent to feed yourself and your family on Yom Kippur, those dollars received from thousands in our Jewish community will, in turn, bring decency and sustenance to thousands in need of our help.**

### **Malk Fund**

**Another vehicle to help our community and Sonoma County is the Malk Food and Shelter Fund. Everett (Z'I) and Phyllis Shapiro generously created this fund in memory of Phyllis' father, mother, and sister. Its purpose is to provide food, shelter, and clothing for those in need in the Sonoma County Jewish Community.**

### **JFCS Food Bank**

**Each year Congregants are encouraged to make donations of non-perishable food to help meet the needs in our local community. This year's donations to Jewish Family & Children's Services will help stock the shelves of needy families and children right here in Sonoma County. Fill up a grocery bag and return it with healthy, non-perishable foods by Sept. 23. Please be mindful to bring items low in sodium and sugar; canned tuna & chicken, peanut butter, energy bars, tea, pasta, cereal, canned soup, toiletries, and single-wrapped rolls of toilet paper are always needed.**

**Now and throughout the year, remember that giving Tzedakah (Charity) helps others while improving ourselves. Join with many of us when you bring back your bag of food, contribute to Mazon and support the Malk Fund. Thank you!**



# CONGREGATION BETH AMI HIGH HOLIDAYS SCHEDULE

*Please note times since they change each year*

Service	Day	Location	Time
Selichot	Saturday, September 24	Sanctuary	7:00 p.m.

## Rosh Hashanah

Erev Rosh Hashanah	Sunday, October 2	Friedman Center	8:00 p.m.
1 <sup>st</sup> Day	Monday, October 3	Friedman Center	8:30 a.m.
Children's Services		Sanctuary/Social Hall	10:00 a.m.
Tashlich	Bring a picnic dinner if you wish	Howarth Park	4:00 p.m.
Mincha & Ma'ariv		Howarth Park	5:30 p.m.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Day	Tuesday, October 4	Sanctuary	8:30 a.m.
	Light lunch after services – No reservations necessary, no cost		
Mincha & Ma'ariv		Sanctuary	7:00 p.m.

## Shabbat Shuvah

Shabbat Shuvah	Friday, October 7	Sanctuary	7:30 p.m.
	Saturday, October 8	Sanctuary	9:30 a.m.

## Kever Avot & Genizah

Remembering the departed	Sunday, October 9	S.R. Memorial Park (section #2, rear of cemetery)	11:00 a.m.
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## Yom Kippur

Pre-Kol Nidre Shabbat Dinner	Tuesday, October 11 Reservations required \$14 per adult, \$8 ages 6-17	Social Hall	4:30 p.m.
Mincha followed by Kol Nidre	Tuesday, October 11	Friedman Center	5:45 p.m.
Yom Kippur	Wednesday, October 12	Friedman Center	9:00 a.m.
Children's Services		Sanctuary	10:00 a.m.– 12
Community Conversation		Sanctuary	During break
Mincha & Yizkor	(Yizkor after Torah service)	Sanctuary	3:45 p.m.
Teen T'Shuvah Service led by Rick Concoff		Room 12 -13	5:00 p.m.
Neilah		Sanctuary	Approx. 5:45pm
Shofar (followed by Maariv)		Sanctuary	Approx. 7 p.m.
Break-the-Fast	Reservations required \$18 per adult, \$8 6-17 years old	Friedman Center	7:30 p.m.

## Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret, Simchat Torah

Sukkot 1 <sup>st</sup> Evening	Sunday, October 16	Sanctuary	6:00 p.m.
Sukkot 1 <sup>st</sup> Day	Monday, October 17	Sanctuary	9:30 a.m.
Sukkot 2 <sup>nd</sup> Evening	Monday, October 17	Sanctuary	6:00 p.m.
Sukkot 2 <sup>nd</sup> Day	Tuesday, October 18	Sanctuary	9:30 a.m.
Hosha'na Rabbah	Sunday, October 23	Sanctuary	8:00 a.m.
Shemini Atzeret Evening	Sunday, October 23	Sanctuary	6:00 p.m.
Shemini Atzeret	Monday, October 24	Sanctuary	9:30 a.m.
Yizkor		Sanctuary	10:00 a.m.
Erev Simchat Torah	Monday, October 24 Hakafot (dancing with the torah)	Sanctuary	6:00 p.m.
Simchat Torah	Tuesday, October 25	Sanctuary	9:30 a.m.

# High Holidays 5777 Youth Happenings at Congregation Beth Ami

This year, we invite youth, ages 2 – 18, to celebrate the High Holidays. Here is the schedule of Services and Activities:

- **Monday, October 3: Rosh Hashanah *Youth Activities***

- For Ages 2 – 18: 10:00am – 12:00 noon. *Sponsored by Beth Ami Religious School*
- *Parents are asked to stay with children ages 2-4*

Kids ages 2 – 18 are welcome to come for Rosh Hashanah Jr Congregation with themed stories, games, discussion and guided play. Check your child(ren) in with us at 10:00am and go and enjoy Services for 2 uninterrupted hours! Kosher dairy snack provided; **Free with RSVP** to [rs@bethamISR.org](mailto:rs@bethamISR.org).

- **Wednesday, October 12: Yom Kippur *Youth Activities***

- For Ages 2 – 8: 10:00am – 12:00 noon. *Sponsored by Beth Ami Religious School*: This is a continuation of the High Holiday kids programming focused on Yom Kippur. Check your child(ren) in with us and participate in Services for 2 uninterrupted hours! Kosher dairy snack provided; **Free with RSVP** to [rs@bethamISR.org](mailto:rs@bethamISR.org)

- **Wednesday, October 12: Yom Kippur *T'Shuvah Services for Teens***

- 5:00pm: with Rick Concoff, in Rms 12 & 13

- **Sunday, October 16: Sukkot *fundraiser for USY***

- *All ages Welcome!* RSVP to [rs@bethamISR.org](mailto:rs@bethamISR.org)
- 6:00 – 6:30pm: Services
- 6:30 – 7:30pm: *Pizza in the Hut (kosher pizza, green salad and drinks)*

***Please register your children for attendance in any of the above programs. We are happy to have them and you participate!***

***Please Note:*** Congregation Beth Ami ***does not provide babysitting***: please have your child(ren) under your supervision unless s/he (they) are signed in for one of the programs above. The play yard of Beth Ami Community Nursery School will be open for children and parents following the Pray & Play programs; *a child must be accompanied by a parent or caretaker.*

The Nursery School play yard is geared for pre-school ages (2 – 5). If your child is six years and older, we ask that they play in the courtyard or grassy area. *Thank you* for helping us respect and care for the facilities that serve our youngest participants.

# Tashlich Service and Potluck Picnic

Congregations Shomrei Torah and Beth Ami

First Day of Rosh Hashanah

Bring Bread Crumbs to "Cast Away Your Sins"

Monday October 3rd, 2016

4:00 P.M.

Lake Ralphine at Howarth Park

630 Summerfield Road, Santa Rosa

Potluck will immediately follow the service

Please bring **DAIRY/VEGETARIAN** foods to share.

Last names beginning with:

A-H: Sides/Salads/Fruits

I-S: Main Dishes

T-Z: Desserts

**BYOB: Bring Your Own Beverages**

Please stay and join us for a Mincha-Ma'Ariv service in  
the park after the picnic.

From the Summerfield Rd. entrance, follow  
the road to the upper parking lot near Upper  
Oak Picnic Area and walk to the lake.

## High Holy Days RSVP – Thank you!

<b>Pre-Fast Dinner</b>			
	Price	Number Attending	Cost
Adults	\$14. 00		
Children 6-17	\$8.00		
Children 5 and under	\$0.00		
<b>Total Cost:</b>			
<b>Break-the-Fast</b>			
	Price	Number Attending	Cost
Adults	\$18.00		
Children 6-17	\$8.00		
Children 5 and under	\$0.00		
Additional Donation			
<b>Total Cost:</b>			

### Lulav & Etrog

<b>Category</b>	
Standard Set	\$42 per set
Quality Set	\$46 per set
Prime Set	\$52 per set
<b>Total Lulav &amp; Etrog cost:</b>	

### Payment & Contact Information

<b>Name:</b>		
<b>Address:</b>		
<b>Phone:</b>		
<b>Please circle payment method</b>	<b>Check enclosed</b>	<b>Credit Card (Visa/MC only)</b>
<b>Credit Card #</b>	<b>Exp. Date</b>	
<b>Total amount to be billed:</b>		

**Mail:**

**4676 Mayette Ave.**

**Santa Rosa, CA 95405**



**Phone: (707) 360-3000**

*(Over)*



# Pre-Order Your Challah Bags Today!



Full name (Please print clearly!) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Note: We are doing something different this year. You may order a bag for yourself or sponsor one for a Religious School student.**

**What is a "Challah Bag?"** On High Holy Days, in recognition of the New Year (5777 in the Jewish calendar), we celebrate with a special round Challah, apples and honey signifying sweet wishes for the year ahead. SCUSY teens and families will prepares these wonderful "Challah Bags. This fundraiser benefits our USY chapter.

### Challah Bag Orders:

I would like to order \_\_\_ challah bags @ \$15 each = \$\_\_\_\_\_

Choice of:

Raisin Challah

Plain Challah

I would like to order \_\_\_ Rosh Hashanah goodie bags @ \$18 each to be given to a Religious School student. = \$\_\_\_\_\_

I'm not ordering a challah bag, but please accept my donation to support Youth Education at Beth Ami. = \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Total due** = \$\_\_\_\_\_

### Payment

Enclosed is a check for the amount due.

Please bill my credit card for the amount due (remember the credit card costs us money to process. If you're using a credit card please add an additional 4% to process. Thank you!)

Credit Card Information:  Visa  MasterCard  ON FILE

Cardholder's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Acct # \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Sec Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**Challah Bags contain (all kosher items):** ♡ Apples ♡ Honey ♡ Round Challah

☆ ***Bags for Religious School students will not include a Challah but will include additional items such as Rosh Hashanah stickers, etc.***

*Thank You!*

All bags are lovingly constructed by  
**SCUSY,**

Your order **must** be received by  
**Wednesday, September 28**

Fax: 360-3003 or e-mail:office@bethamir.org

*Thank You!*