

High Holy Day News

We won't be in our sanctuary this year, but we will still be together in prayer, song and celebration on Zoom. Everyone is working to help make the holidays meaningful. So get ready, find a special place in your home to join us and send in your Registration Form as soon as possible. Registration is *required* to receive unique links. The forms were mailed out last week, and duplicates can be found on pages 7 and 8.

We've made a change in our policy to help enable everyone to join us. We will be *waiving* the charge for attending our services for family members who do not live with you including adult children, siblings and parents.

If you have friends or neighbors who are unaffiliated and have not attended our High Holy Days services in the past, we encourage you to invite them and we will waive the charge for first time visitors but ask that they make a donation. We have reduced the usual charge for all other non-members from \$250 to \$100. (Again, registration is required.)

Below you will find a schedule for the holidays*.

S'lichot; Saturday, September 12th, 8pm

Rosh HaShanah Evening; Friday, September 18th, 7:30pm

Rosh HaShanah day 1; Saturday, September 19th, 10:30 to 12 noon

Rosh HaShanah day2 program; September 20th, 10:30 to 11:30 am

Tashlich ; September 20th, 12 noon – location to be determined

Yom Kippur & Kol Nidre; Sunday, September 27th, 7:30pm

**Yom Kippur day; Monday, September 28th; Service; 10:30 to 12 pm,
Meditation & Musical Interlude; 1 to 2:00pm**

Discussion session #1; 2:00 to 3:00pm

Mincha-afternoon service & discussion session #2; 3:30 to 5:00pm

Yizkor; 5:15pm to 5:45

N'ilah, Havdalah and sounding of the Shofar; 6:00 to 6:40pm

****Subject to changes***

RABBI'S COLUMN

By Rabbi Jerry Blum

Just days ago, we ushered in the Hebrew month of Elul, the month that leads us into our season of awe, the Yamim Noraim. It is our tradition during the month of Elul that we blow the shofar each day (except for Shabbat in traditional synagogues). The shofar has always been a symbol of the High Holy Days, and it acts as a spiritual alarm clock, making us aware that now is the time we take stock of our lives. We engage in the process of *Cheshbon haNefesh*, taking an accounting of our souls, seeking to renew ourselves as the New Year begins. Elul is the month of returning and a month of deep contemplation, but Elul is also significant for other reasons. Our Sages explain the name Elul (Babylonian in origin) can be viewed as an acronym for the Hebrew words "Ani L'dodi, v'Dodi Li," (I am to my Beloved, and my Beloved is to me). These words are often used during the Jewish wedding ceremony and as Shir HaShirim (The Song of Songs) attests, we have an ongoing relationship with Adonai and that love is reciprocated.



Another tradition during Elul is to recite Psalm 27 throughout the entire penitential season. The words speak to our need to return to our holy space, to dwell in the house of Adonai, and the Yamim Noraim have always been that time when many of us spend our days in our synagogues, seeing friends, neighbors and family and renewing those meaningful relationships, just as we renew our relationship with our traditions.

Achat sha'alti me'eit Adonai, otah avakesh, shivti b'veit Adonai kol y'mei chayai, lachazot b'noam Adonai u l'vakair b'heichalo:

One thing I ask, only this do I seek: to dwell in your house all the days of my life,
to behold your loveliness, in the light of the temple dawn.
(Psalm 27, the Psalm for Elul, translation-Siddur B'chol Levavcha)

The words of this psalm are simple; it says that we long to be in the presence of the Divine, and this year more than ever, we long to experience the warmth we feel by spending time with friends, loved ones and our Temple Isaiah family. Of course, this year we will have to find new ways to engage and seek out the blessings and joys usually found in the hugs of family and dear friends. It will be a huge challenge to sit in our homes as we read the words *B'rosh HaShanah Yikatevu* or listen to the haunting melody of the *Kol Nidre*. It will be our challenge to find holiness and spirituality as we stay socially distant, but one I know we can and will overcome. This has been a spiritually painful, and overwhelming time that has evoked a real sense of grief and loss, but the protection of life transcends every other Jewish obligation and though our doors may be closed, our temple is wide open, and ready to engage with all who join in with us

During the last many months, the cantor and I, along with the Ritual Committee and our lay leadership have worked to bring the warmth, and the spirit of the High Holy Days into your homes via the internet. We have spent long hours reviewing the liturgy, music and ideas that have been culled from the many conversations we have had with you, our Temple Isaiah family, and believe we have come up with ways to make our services and holidays meaningful, spiritual and thought provoking.

The music and liturgy will be familiar, making our prayer experience both touching and beautiful, but it takes more than just words and music to make this a sacred experience. It takes you, our members, your families and friends to bring this all together. The Kotzker Rebbe was once asked, "where does God dwell?" and he answered, "God dwells where God is welcomed," meaning that the sense of the Divine can be found anywhere it is invited in. Elul reminds us that love binds us all together and that we find renewal and strength from that love. Psalm 27 helps us to actualize that love by joining together in prayer and song in a holy space, and it is up to us to make wherever we are, a place where the Divine is welcomed into our hearts. Whether it be in our synagogues, our living rooms, with family or just seeing our loved ones in small boxes on a screen. That is where holiness lives.

We invite you, your family and friends to join us as we bring in the New Year together and create a virtual but loving community on Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur. Keep your eyes open for information in the mail about our holiday services, classes, discussion groups and time schedules, and remember to register your names with the office to get into the services.

Arlyn and I, and our entire family wish you all a *Shanah Tovah U Metukah* – a Happy and Sweet New Year.

Rabbi Jerry

CANTOR'S COLUMN

MIXED BLESSINGS



This has been a summer like no other. Against the backdrop of the pandemic, which has been informing our every decision for the past six months, we were hit with Tropical Storm Isaias, the irony of whose name has not been lost on me.

As I write this, we are in the fifth day with no power, which also means no internet, no Wifi, no air conditioning or fans, no refrigerator, no hot water. I use my cell phone sparingly since it means sitting in the car with the motor running for hours in order to recharge. The car is beginning to feel like another room of our home.

Cursing the morning and the thought of yet another freezing cold shower, it occurred to me that there are many people who would be grateful for clean water, no matter how cold.

With all that is happening to make daily life challenging, it's tempting to simply dwell on the negative. However, both life and our Jewish tradition teach us that it is a blessing to cope with all that life puts on our plate, be it good or bad or indifferent. It is a mistake to say that we have to learn to live with the part of life that tests our soul. In fact, the hurdles have equal value to those things we feel are "easy." In truth, all that we experience is part of the same life recipe. Although it is our natural tendency to push away that which is difficult, we need to use our energy to see our challenges in perspective, not as a failure of God or religion.

The alternative Torah reading for the morning of Rosh Hashanah is the story of Creation, and in our *machzor*, the reading stops just before the second Creation story, Adam and Eve. Adam and Eve are in the Garden of Eden and God warns Adam not to eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Eve is persuaded by the serpent to eat the fruit, which she also gives to Adam to eat. Their punishment, we all remember, is that they are driven from the garden, yet from then on, they have the ability to act creatively and independently. And what a mixed blessing that punishment turns out to be!



We each have the capacity for independent action, to think and react with compassion and insight. We can allow ourselves to become overwhelmed by challenges or we can experience them as chances to exercise our gifts of free will, resourcefulness and gratitude.

Steve and I wish you all a new year of good health and the ability to thrive even within the framework of many challenges!

Cantor Leslie Friedlander

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Terry Birnbaum-Horton



Dear Temple Isaiah members and friends,

The High Holy days are here and with them a new season. I have wonderful memories of the holidays and the fall season.

Most people seem to look forward to the spring and summer. The flowers bloom and the days are long. Then there are the people who love the fall like me; the sun is bright, the trees become colorful, the air brisk. Children get new school clothes and Jewish children get holiday clothes.

We would get together with friends as school starts and we are together with family and friends for one holiday after another. We gather around the table for Rosh Hashanah dinner. We might even have the opportunity to visit and eat in a sukkah. We are building memories.

This year we will continue to build memories! What can we do to make this fall and the High Holy Days special? We can, should, will, meet outside with friends. We can, should, will, cook our holiday comfort meals. We can experience our holidays together, joining our Zoom services and Temple Isaiah programs. We can sit outside in the cool air and share a meal with a friend. We can find ways to share the traditions and meaning of these High Holy Days. We will build memories this sunny September.

Hope to see you all at our many High Holy Day services and our Yom Kippur afternoon discussion group.

Shanah Tova,

Terry Birnbaum-Horton

Please remember to check your emails for Temple Isaiah news, programs, and events as we develop our new normal.

We hope that you reach out and join some of the future events or even consider hosting one. We also hope you reach out if you have technology issues and questions that we can help you with so that you can participate.

- Terry



**Reminder: Pledge Forms for 2020-2021 must be on file to receive
your High Holy Day Service links**

Additional pledge form can be found on page 10.

(If you want to contribute to ARZA, please make payment payable to Temple Isaiah.)

September 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Board Meeting, 7:30pm	2	3	4 Online Shabbat Services, 6:30pm	5 Summer Luncheon
6	7	8 Summer Luncheon	9	10 Book Club, 7:30pm	11 Online Shabbat Services, 6:30pm	12 Summer Luncheon; Selichot Program and Service, 8pm
13	14	15	16	17	18 Erev Rosh Hashanah, Service at 7:30pm	19 Rosh Hashanah Service, 10:30am to 12 noon
20 Rosh Hashanah Program, 10:30 to 11:30am; Tashlich, 12 Noon	21	22	23 Summer Luncheon	24	25 Online Shabbat Services, 6:30pm	26
27 Kol Nidre Service, 7:30pm	28 Yom Kippur, See inside for detailed schedule	29	30	<div> <p><i>Don't Forget to Vote! Voter Registration Forms and Absentee Ballot Applications Are Available at the Temple</i></p> </div>		

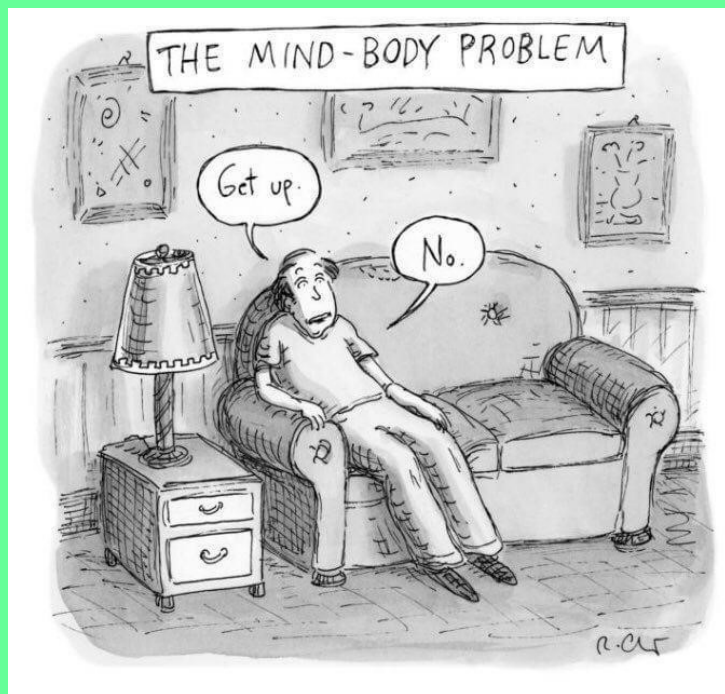
Our Shabbat Services Continue on Zoom

We hope everyone has been enjoying the ability to join our virtual Friday night services. Here are some helpful tips:

- Each week the link to joining the services will be sent out in an email to the entire congregation.
- When you sign on you will be muted (note icon of microphone on your square with a line through the microphone). Video will be off as well.
- The host will see your sign in and allow you to enter the service.
- If you need help with Zoom, call or email the office and someone will get back to assist you.

If you have followed these instructions correctly, you should only see on your screen the leader(s) and not see anyone else.

Happy Zooming.



Have you seen a cartoon that lightened your spirits in these trying times? If so, send it to the temple office and we'll try to share it with your fellow congregants.

HIGH HOLY DAY REGISTRATION FORM FOR INVITATION LINK TO SERVICES

Return this form by regular mail, an attachment via an email or in an email with all requested information.

- This year there will be no charge for services for your immediate family members including those that do not reside in your home.
- There will be no charge for 1st Time non-member guests to our High Holiday services though we encourage a donation.
- For returning non-member unaffiliated guests, there will be a \$100 charge per household email.

Temple Isaiah members: Please remember that we must have your pledge form on file and you must have made at least an initial payment against that pledge in order to receive the High Holy Day invitation link to services at no charge.

Category: Members/family members residing in your household

Charge: None

Names/relation:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**please contact the office if you have more than 2 individuals residing in your home.*

Category: Adult Children, parents, siblings residing outside member's household

Charge: None

Name/relation/address/phone#/email address:

See Next Page for Non-Member Registration Form

NON-MEMBER GUESTS

Category: Guests of Member : up to 2 Non-member First Time Guests

Charge: None

Name/address/phone#/email address

Category: Non-Member : First Time Guest

Charge: None

Name/address/phone#/email address

Category: Non-Member: Returning Guest

Charge: \$100 per person

Name/address/phone#/email address

Please send payment to Temple Isaiah at 1 Chelsea Place, Great Neck, NY 11021.

If payment is by credit card*, please provide the following information:

Name on card: _____ Card type: Amex, Visa or Mastercard

Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Authorization signature: _____

*All credit card payments will include a 3% surcharge.



Book Club News—September 10, 2020

Once a year, the Temple Isaiah Book Group deviates from its mandate to read books with a Jewish theme and reads something which is timely and challenging and reflects or inspires our Jewish values. This year we will be reading a contemporary memoir, *Heavy*, by Kiese Laymon. The Library has at least one copy and some online, but if you have a kindle it is available for 2.99!

Our Zoom discussion is scheduled for September 10th at 7:30 and although our name suggests that we are a group, everybody is welcome. I just ask you to RSVP to me, Shelley Sherman, at seeshell98@yahoo.com.

***Heavy* by Kiese Laymon**

In this powerful, provocative, and universally lauded memoir—winner of the Andrew Carnegie Medal and finalist for the Kirkus Prize—genre-bending essayist and novelist Kiese Laymon “provocatively meditates on his trauma growing up as a black man, and in turn crafts an essential polemic against American moral rot” (*Entertainment Weekly*).

Named a Best Book of 2018 by the New York Times, Publishers Weekly, NPR, B, The Washington Post (Nonfiction), and many more.

“*Heavy* is a gorgeous, gutting book that’s fueled by candor yet freighted with ambivalence. It’s full of devotion and betrayal, euphoria and anguish, tender embraces and rough abuse...the liberation on offer doesn’t feel light and unburdened; it feels heavy like the title, and heavy like the truth...Salvation would feel too weightless—as if [Laymon] could forget who he is and where he has been. This generous, searching book explores all the forces that can stop even the most buoyant hopes from ever leaving the ground.”

—*New York Times*



Shelley Sherman

We’re Having Parties and You’re Invited!

HOW: Backyard luncheons

No more than 6 people, including host(s), socially distanced, of course.

Choice of a home serving lunch or a home where you bring your own lunch (drinks and desserts provided at both).

WHY: We want to get together, see each other, socialize, say hello. Go to more than one luncheon if you’d like!

WHEN: Choice of dates – (Please note change to original dates)

9/5 – Bring Your Own

9/8 – Lunch

9/12 –Lunch

9/23 –Lunch

COST: Suggested donation of \$18, but more is always welcome!

Please contact Rona Levy to choose your date(s) and get more information.
ronalevy@yahoo.com or 516-353-8288

TEMPLE ISAIAH OF GREAT NECK

Membership Dues Form—June 1, 2020 to May 31, 2021

We're thrilled to have you join the Temple Isaiah family. As you review the membership categories below, remember that our founders mandated a voluntary dues system. While we provide recommended dues based on our budget requirements, the recommendations are always subject to your self-evaluation, and your pledge is entirely confidential.

Please select from one of our membership categories below.

_____ First year "check us out" membership \$ 995

_____ 35 and under Sustaining member \$ 995

_____ Sustaining member \$ 2,500

_____ Mitzvah member* \$ 3,600

_____ Isaiah's Circle member* \$ 4,500

_____ Torah member* \$ 5,400

_____ Gift from the heart pledge (*see the FAQ*) \$ _____

_____ Voluntary ARZA dues: I would like to support ARZA and have enclosed \$50 (payable to Temple Isaiah)

*These categories entitle the member to a credit towards the Journal Dinner. Credits are Mitzvah member - \$250; Isaiah's Circle member - \$500; Torah member - \$750; Credit expires at the end of the current fiscal year. Member must attend the Journal Dinner to use the credit.

Payment Options

Check One	Plan	Method (Circle One)	Billing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Full payment enclosed	Check PayPal** Credit card***	Make check payable to Temple Isaiah of Great Neck
<input type="checkbox"/>	Automatic Online Banking Payment	As scheduled	Monthly/quarterly/semi-annually scheduled with bank
<input type="checkbox"/>	1/2 Enclosed	Check PayPal** Credit card***	Second half due on December 1, 2019
<input type="checkbox"/>	1/3 Enclosed	Check PayPal** Credit card***	Subsequent thirds due on October 1, 2019 and February 1, 2020
<input type="checkbox"/>	Monthly	Credit card payments or Online Banking on-ly***	10 Automatic payments billed on the first of each month, June through March (Your first payment must include any prior months from June through the date of payment)

To use PayPal go to the Temple Isaiah web page at <https://templeisiahgn.org> (just type in templeisiahgn.org in your browser and you will automatically get a secure connection) and click on Donate in the upper right hand corner. This will take you to a new page with a link to click on and instructions for using PayPal – it's easy. **IMPORTANT – Please notify the temple office of the amount you are sending.

***Credit card information must be provided below if you wish to pay this way. All follow-up payments will be automatically charged to your credit card on the payment due date. All Credit Card payments will include a 3% surcharge.

If paying with stock, please inform the temple office when you submit the transfer request to your broker.

If you are 72 or older, you can donate directly from your traditional IRA to Temple Isaiah and it will count towards your RMD but it will be non-taxable – We encourage you to discuss this with your accountant.

General Donations

In Loving Memory of:

Tommy Foti, Husband of Pam Foti
Suzanne Branch
Leona Marks, Mother of Kathie Davis
Kathie Davis
Leon Epstein, Father of Irwin Epstein
Selma Dechter, Grandmother of Irwin Epstein
Rachel Rose Epstein, Grandmother of Irwin Epstein
Mary Morella & Irwin Epstein
Frida Lustig, Mother of Lia Hans
Emanuel Hans, Father of Mortimer Hans
Lia & Mortimer Hans
Raechel Israel, Aunt of Howard Israel
Murray Kalisher, Dear Relative of Mindy & Howard Israel
Mindy & Howard Israel
Rita Weissman, Mother of Jean Lesser
John Lesser, Husband of Jean Lesser
Jean Lesser
Lillian Fein, Mother of Steve Fein
Denise Miller & Steve Fein
Rose Shapiro, Mother of Jules Shapiro
Golda Shapiro
David Diamond, Husband of Shelley Sherman
Shelley Sherman
Evelyn Weiner, Mother of Richard Weiner
Alice & Richard Weiner



In Honor of:

The Speedy Recovery of Steve Fein
Terry Birnbaum-Horton
Suzanne Branch
Judy & Helman Brook
Kathie Davis
June & Allan Feldman
Gail & Robert Gordon
Carol & Bill Hersh
Denise Miller & Steve Fein
Judy Snow & Scott Schleifstein
Alisa & Martin Secofsky
Shelley Sherman
The Speedy Recovery of Meryl Menashe
Terry Birnbaum-Horton
Suzanne Branch
Judy & Helman Brook
Kathie Davis
June & Allan Feldman
Gail & Robert Gordon
Carol & Bill Hersh
Denise Miller & Steve Fein
Judy Snow & Scott Schleifstein
Alisa & Martin Secofsky
Shelley Sherman
The Special Birthday of Harriet Gellert
Terry Birnbaum-Horton
Judy & Helman Brook
Kathie Davis
June & Allan Feldman
Gail & Robert Gordon
Carol & Bill Hersh
Denise Miller & Steve Fein
Judy Snow & Scott Schleifstein
Alisa & Martin Secofsky
Shelley Sherman

Israeli Tree Certificate:

In Honor of Harriet Gellert

*It is a Tree of Life to those
who hold it fast.*

*And all who cling to it find
happiness.*

**Would you like to
celebrate a joyous event?
Honor a dear friend,
relative or loved one?**

**Contact the temple office
for details.**

**(Information on
Memorial Plaques is also
available.)**



PARTNERS IN CARING (PIC)

Sid Jacobson JCC's Partners in Caring offers an array of specialized services including support groups, counseling, information and community referrals, workshops, autism and Alzheimer's programs, as well as other social services. Together with UJA-Federation of New York and your synagogue, we are your partner in caring for you and your family.

PIC helps create a caring, responsive Jewish community by providing support for:

**Bereavement Parenting Life Cycle Issues
Marital/Family Concerns Caregiving Issues and more**

For assistance, contact us at 516-484-1545 ext. 196.

A licensed social worker will respond promptly to provide you with information and support.

**Partners in Caring is funded by a grant from UJA-Federation of New York and
partnering synagogues**



SJJCC.ORG

RIVERSIDE- Nassau North Chapels

55 North Station Plaza
Great Neck, New York 11021
(516) 487-9600

PRE-NEED COUNSELING AVAILABLE

DAVID M. RUBIN



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an FDIC insured fund for pre-paid funeral arrangements.



TEMPLE ISAIAH OF GREAT NECK

1 Chelsea Place
Great Neck, NY 11021

templeisaiahgn.org
isaiahgn@yahoo.com
Affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism

***Deadline for submissions
10th of the Month***

BULLETIN

President: Terry Birnbaum-Horton
Rabbi: Jerry Blum
Cantor: Leslie Friedlander
Production: Cathy Reibstein