



CONGREGATION SONS OF ISRAEL

WOODMERE • NEW YORK



Our ninety second year

www.csoiwoodmere.org

September/October 2020/5781

CALENDAR

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Kabbalat Shabbat 7:00 p.m.
Candle Lighting 7:03 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.
Torah Reading: KI TAVO
Deuteronomy 26:1- 29:8
Bat Mitzvah of Yvette Borohov
Daughter of Yelena and Serge Borohov
Anniversary Shabbat

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Candle Lighting 6:52 p.m.
Kabbalat Shabbat 6:55 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.
Torah Reading: NITZAVIM -VAYELECH
Deuteronomy-29:9-31:30
Joint Selichot Services -
Temple Beth El 10:00 p.m.
Birthday/Family Shabbat

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 ROSH HASHANAH SERVICES

Candle Lighting 6:40 p.m.
Mincha/Maariv 6:45 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Shacharit 8:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
11:30 a.m.- 1:45 p.m.
Mincha/Maariv 6:45 p.m.
Candle Lighting 7:38 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Shacharit 8:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
11:30 a.m.- 1:45 p.m.
Tashlich/Minchah -
Woodmere Docks 5:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 - SHABBAT SHUVA

Candle Lighting 6:28 p.m.
Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.
Torah Reading: HAAZINU
Deuteronomy 32:1-52

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 YOM KIPPUR SERVICES

Candle Lighting 6:26 p.m.
Kol Nidre 6:30 p.m.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Shacharit 8:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
11:30 a.m.- 1:45 p.m.
Mincha followed by Neilah 5:30 p.m.
Rabbi Bruce Ginsburg and Cantor Moshe Weiss will chant the
services in the Sanctuary/Ballroom. Other services will be lay led.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2 SUKKOT SERVICES

Candle Lighting 6:16 p.m.
Kabbalat Shabbat 6:20 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.
Mincha/Maariv 6:20 p.m.
Candle Lighting 7:14 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9 HOSHANAH RABBAH/ SHEMINI ATSERET/SIMCHAT TORAH

Candle Lighting 6:05 p.m.
Kabbalat Shabbat 6:05 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.
Yizkor Memorial Service will be recited
Mincha 6:05 p.m.
Candle Lighting 7:03 p.m.
Maariv followed by Hakafot after 7:05 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16

Candle Lighting 5:54 p.m.
Kabbalat Shabbat 5:55 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.
Torah Reading: BEREISHIT
Genesis 1:1-6:8
Anniversary Shabbat

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

Candle Lighting 5:44 p.m.
Kabbalat Shabbat 5:45 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.
Torah Reading: NOACH
Genesis 6:9- 11:32
Birthday/Family Shabbat

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30

Candle Lighting 5:35 p.m.
Kabbalat Shabbat 5:35 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.
Torah Reading: LECH LECHA
Genesis 12:1-17:27
Minyannah Shabbat



Rabbi
Bruce Ginsburg

2020 HIGH HOLY DAYS – 5781

SELICHOT
SATURDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 12- 10:00 P.M.

ROSH HASHANAH EVE
FRIDAY, SAT., SEPTEMBER 18,19 - 6:45 P.M.

ROSH HASHANAH
SATURDAY, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 20
FIRST SHIFT 8:30 A.M., SECOND SHIFT 11:30 A.M.

YOM KIPPUR EVE- Kol Nidre
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 6:30 P.M.

YOM KIPPUR
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, FIRST SHIFT 8:30 A.M.,
SECOND SHIFT 11:30 A.M.

CANDLE LIGHTING-2020 BLESSINGS FOR LIGHTING OF CANDLES

ROSH HASHANAH
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18-6:40 P.M.

*Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheynu Melech Ha-olam
Asher Kiddishanu B'mitzvotav V'tzivanu L'hadlik
Ner Shel Shabbat V'Shel Yom Tov.*

*Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheynu Melech Ha-olam
Shehe-che-yanu V'kimanu V'higi-anu Lazman Hazeh.*

SATURDAY,SEPTEMBER 19-7:38 P.M.

*Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheynu Melech Ha-olam
Asher Kiddishanu B'mitzvotav V'tzivanu L'hadlik
Ner Shel Yom Tov*

*Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheynu Melech Ha-olam
Shehe-che-yanu V'kimanu V'higi-anu Lazman Hazeh.*

YOM KIPPUR
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 - 6:26 P.M.

*Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheynu Melech Ha-olam
Asher Kiddishanu B'mitzvotav V'tzivanu L'hadlik
Ner Shel Yom Hakippurim*

*Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheynu Melech Ha-olam
Shehe-che-yanu V'kimanu V'higi-anu LazmanHazeh.*

BECOMING OUR BETTER SELVES

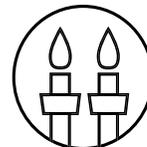
No doubt, this will be an unusual High Holiday season. Coronavirus has utterly shaken and tragically taken human lives throughout the world; and soon, it will be playing havoc with age-old Jewish traditions we hold so dear. Rather than spending Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur in packed sanctuaries amidst exuberant crowds of family, friends, and fellow congregants, Jews all over will find themselves socially distanced in synagogues deliberately capped at a fraction of their capacity. Some will even spend the holidays at home, alone.

That said, there is no doubt that the pandemic's challenge has brought out the best in Congregation Sons of Israel. For the first time, we have initiated the holiday season a full month in advance with the Chodesh Elul Zoom series. In unprecedented fashion, we will be offering on-premises prayer experiences both outside as well as inside our building. And unlike anything we have ever done before, we will be providing the homebound with Machzorim and guidance on conducting meaningful services in their own living-rooms.

That is not to say that this will be the most happy-go-lucky High Holiday season ever. There is no denying that the experience will be different and sometimes frustrating. In shul, there will be no handshakes, hugs, and kisses for friends we haven't seen in months; no traditional ark openings and Aliyot to the Torah; and no guarantee of sitting in our customary seats. Some will need to arrive earlier than usual and others will need to leave later. For those in the Sanctuary/Ballroom, hearing the Rabbi and Cantor might be even more challenging than usual; and for those in supplementary or parallel venues, getting used to prayers led by lay volunteers will require an adjustment. Those who participate in our array of pre- and post-holiday Zoom programs will contend with inevitable glitches; and those who conduct their services at home might struggle to find the right page -- despite our congregation's best attempts to offer preparatory guidance.

But while this won't be the most carefree High Holiday season in Congregation Sons of Israel's long history, it can be the most meaningful. By smiling with our eyes above our masks, by leveraging social distancing to immerse ourselves in prayer, by demonstrating self-restraint and grace when we might otherwise show anger, by letting the small stuff go and appreciating the larger picture, by seeking forgiveness for our shortcomings and by expressing gratitude to God for enabling us to reach this sacred season, we can rise to the occasion and become our better selves.

Rabbi Bruce Ginsburg





President
Mark Kavarsky

In response to your answers on our survey, we have developed a comprehensive series of opportunities for you to participate in the High Holidays. It is our goal to ensure that we meet the needs of all CSOI congregants as we face the challenges of COVID-19. We offer you CHOICE!

Here are your On-Premises and Off-Premises choices:

1) ZOOM: The Chodesh Elul Zoom Series aka “Getting Set for the High Holidays of a Lifetime.” Join our spiritual leaders and religious school faculty from the comfort of your home on 4 Thursday evenings (8/20, 8/27, 9/3, 9/10) at 7:00pm. Watch your email for Zoom log-in information.

2) A High Holiday Kit of Machzorim and Sweets: If you choose to daven at home but you need a Holiday Prayer Book, we are sponsoring a Curbside/Drive By pick-up outside CSOI on Wednesday, 9/9 at Noon. The Rabbi, Cantor, Harriet Gefen and I look forward to greeting you at that time. There will be home delivery on Thursday, 9/10 for those who cannot drive-by. Call CSOI at 516-374-0655 or email hagefencsoi@aol.com. (Sweets sponsored by Woodmere Sisterhood).

3) SELICHOT: Join us at Beth El Saturday night, 9/12 at 10pm as Rabbi Ginsburg offers us a lesson. ZOOM services will be conducted by Rabbi Claudio Kupchik of Temple Beth El at 11pm. Watch your email for Zoom log-in information.

4) ZOOM: Erev Rosh Hashanah Forshpeis. Join Rabbi Ginsburg and Cantor Weiss for “The Highlights of the Rosh Hashanah Service” on Friday 9/18 from Noon to 1pm. Watch your email for ZOOM log-in information.

5) Leil Rosh Hashanah Services at CSOI in the Main Sanctuary/Ballroom on Friday, 9/18 and Saturday, 9/19 at 6:45pm.

6) Rosh Hashanah Services at CSOI in the Main Sanctuary/Ballroom on Saturday, 9/19 and Sunday 9/20. We offer TWO shifts. First Shift: 8:30am-10:45am Second Shift: 11:30am-1:45pm Outdoor service on blacktop 8:30 am-10:45am.

7) A Half- Hour Outdoor Shofar Service on the CSOI Playground Blacktop will be conducted by Rabbi Ginsburg, Cantor Weiss, and Daniel Feldman on Sunday, 9/20 at 10:45-11:15am

8) Tashlich/Mincha at the Woodmere Docks on Sunday 9/20 at 5:30pm.

9) ZOOM: Erev Yom Kippur Forshpeis. Join Rabbi Ginsburg and Cantor Weiss for “The Highlights of the Day of Atonement Service” which will include Kol Nidre and Yizkor on Sunday 9/27 from Noon to 1pm.

10) Kol Nidre Service at CSOI in the Main Sanctuary/Ballroom on Sunday 9/27 at 6:30pm.

11) Yom Kippur Service at CSOI in the Main Sanctuary/Ballroom on Monday 9/28. We offer TWO shifts. First Shift: 8:30am-

10:45am Second Shift: 11:30am-1:45pm. Outdoor service on blacktop 8:30 am-10:45am. Mincha followed by Neilah will begin at 5:30pm. Prepacked treats and water will be available at the close of the Neilah/Maariv service. The sounding of the shofar will conclude the Yom Kippur Service.

12) ZOOM: Abbreviated Neilah Service on Monday 9/28 from 7:25 – 7:35pm.

Noteworthy:

A. All On-Premises Services in the Main Sanctuary/Ballroom will be conducted by Rabbi Ginsburg and Cantor Weiss. Parallel services will be lay led.

B. Assigned seating must be strictly adhered to as we ensure physical distancing. Ushers will be assisting our members to find the correct seats.

C. The wearing of masks is mandatory in both indoor and outdoor services. Masks will be available at the entrance to the synagogue.

D. Hand sanitizers will be available throughout the building. The custodial staff will be disinfecting the Main Sanctuary/Ballroom during the change of the shifts. The bathrooms will be routinely and frequently cleaned.

E. Machzorim/Prayer Books will be changed between shifts.

F. Leil Rosh Hashanah Services and Kol Nidre Service will offer seating on a first come/first served basis rather than on the assigned seat indicated on your ticket. Again, ushers will be assisting our members to ensure appropriate physical distancing.

G. The offering of Aliyot and Honors is not possible due to the restrictions of social distancing.

H. Screening may be executed upon entrance to the Synagogue building. Please allow extra time for the screening.

WE care about your safety and Health! WE value your support! WE offer you CHOICE!

L'shanah tovah tikateivu v'teichateimu,

Mark Kavarsky

SELICHOT SERVICES

Please join us at
 Temple Beth El, Cedarhurst for Selichot Services
 Saturday Night, September 12 at 10:00 p.m.
 For
 Rabbi Bruce Ginsburg's Lecture
 "That Was the Year That Was: A Glance Backward, A
 Look Forward"
 Followed by Services Conducted by Rabbi Claudio
 Kupchik and Cantor Ethan Leifer

*This program – which is co-sponsored by Congregation
 Sons of Israel – is free and open to the public*

The Congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions

SIRULNICK FUND FOR FAMILY ED.

Michele Friedman for the Yahrzeit of her mother, Thelma Hurwitz, her father, Rabbi Abraham Herten and her sister, Barbara Herten

TORAH FUND

Dr. Jerome Lish for the Yahrzeit of his father, Nathan Lish.
Marion Lish for the Yahrzeit of her grandmother, Ida Bernstein.
Ruth Stern for the Yahrzeit of her mother, Brucha Green.

WEEKLY TORAH BOOKLET SPONSORSHIP

Joan and Mark Kavarsky
Mara and Alex Kostovetsky
Harriet Schneier
Richele and Randy Alpert
Nancy and Stephen Kronick
Breina and Joseph Lampert
Mindy and Peter Savitt
Vicki and Alex Sreter

SYNAGOGUE FUND

Sol Freedman

In memory of Charlotte Koss:

Jill and Ed Bernstein
Jennifer, Jason, Jamie, Mark, Rylie, and April
Woodmere Sisterhood
Kate Kreiss
Pam and Geoff Gauger
Bonnie and Gregg Rubenstein
Tina and Richard Kaplan
Lynne and Arnie Gordon

Friends and Colleagues of Rachel Kreiss, in memory of her father, Steve Kreiss.
Helen Ingerman in memory of Debbie Segal's mother.
Ernest Heller in memory of Helaine Shusterman.
Ann Wertheim in memory of Arthur Spector.
Michele and Mitch Benesowitz in memory of Sammy Adwar.
Lynne and Arnie Gordon in memory of Eli Alfassy.
Ann Wertheim Ann for the Yahrzeit of her mother, Florence Kaufman.

Carol Gursky for the Yahrzeit of her father, William Bass.

Helen Ingerman for the Yahrzeit of her father-in-law, Sol Ingerman.
Hope Freilich for the Yahrzeit of her mother, Rhoda Anstendig.
Kate Kreiss for the Yahrzeit of her mother-in-law, Mildred Kreiss.

Sara Rolnick for the Yahrzeit of her mother, Genevieve Putter.
Paulette Korson for the Yahrzeit of her father, Paul Miller.
Steven Poster for the Yahrzeit of Abe Lerner.

Rochelle Rabinowitz for the Yahrzeit of her grandmother, Clara Rabinowitz.
Craig Meltzer for the Yahrzeit of his mother, Joan Meltzer.

Lynne Gordon for the Yahrzeit of her grandfather, Samuel Gurian.
Susan Held for the Yahrzeit of her father, Arthur Kotel.

Miriam Ditchek for the Yahrzeit of her father Morris Friedman.

Lynne Jacobs for the Yahrzeit of her husband, Sheldon Jacobs.

Helana and Barry Schreiber for the Yahrzeit of his father, Ira Schreiber.
Gloria Strauss for the Yahrzeit of her husband, Fred Strauss.

Fred Hirsh for the Yahrzeit of his father, Abraham Hirsh.

Rhoda Friedland for the Yahrzeit of her brother, William Stocknoff and her mother-in-law, Anne Friedland.

Martha Berman for the Yahrzeit of father, Areyeh Ben Yehida.

Tova Pesahovitz for the Yahrzeit of her mother, Bella Robisa.

David Haspel for the Yahrzeit of his father, Abraham Haspel.

David Haspel for the Yahrzeit of his sister, Suzanne Posner.

Philip London for the Yahrzeit of his mother, Rebecca London.

Paul Waldman for the Yahrzeiten of his parents, Annette and Abe Waldman.

Joan Greenfield for the Yahrzeit of her husband, Samuel Greenfield.

Barbara Benimowitz for the Yahrzeit of her mother, Mildred Levin and her husband, Michael Benimowitz.

Lynne Gordon for the Yahrzeit of her great uncle, Al Kaplan.

Lynne Gordon for the Yahrzeit of her

mother, Rhoda Anstendig and her grandmother,
Sylvia Anstendig.

Breina Lampert for the Yahrzeit of her father, Isaac Salem.

Deborah Rick for the Yahrzeit of her husband, Lester Rick.

TZEDAKAH FUND:

Richele and Randy Alpert
Bonnie Pinkow

In memory of Charlotte Koss:

Honey and Leonard Slavitt
Rabbi Burton Cohen
Michelle and Mitch Benesowitz in memory Lena Sharaby.

In memory of Michael Solomon:

Vicki and Alex Sreter
Dana and Scott Greissman
Ann Israeli for the Yahrzeit of her mother, Fay Lieberman.
Rabbi Burton Cohen for the Yahrzeit of his mother, Sareta Cohen.
Elayne Cheslow Flores for the Yahrzeit of her father, Abraham Cheslow.
Sherry Bass for the Yahrzeit of her father, William Bass.
Sol Freedman for the Yahrzeit of his father, Theodore Freedman.
Leonard Slavitt for the Yahrzeit of his father, Abraham Slavitt.
Les Blacksburg for the Yahrzeit of his father, Jack Blacksburg.
Trudi Haberman for the Yahrzeit of her mother, Lucille Lowenstein.
Joel Kaplan for the Yahrzeit of his father, Abraham L. Kaplan.
Isidore Sheps for the Yahrzeit of his mother, Sara Sheps.
Ann Acriche for the Yahrzeit of her father, Howard Miller.
Gloria Strauss for the Yahrzeit of her husband, Fred Strauss.
Patricia Thaller for the Yahrzeit of her husband, Jack L. Thaller.
Judith Baum for the Yahrzeit of her father, Louis Solomon.
Judith Baum for the Yahrzeit of her mother, Elsie Solomon.
Steven Kirman and Family for the Yahrzeit of father/grandfather, Daniel Kirtman.
Sol Freedman for the Yahrzeit of his wife, Phyllis Sharon Freedman.

Florence Greenberg for the Yahrzeit of her mother-in-law, Bessie Greenberg.
Helga Pfeffer for the Yahrzeit of her husband, Jerry Pfeffer.
Susan Weiss for the Yahrzeit of her father, Jerome Wallach.
Mark Kavarsky for the Yahrzeit of his father, Sam Kavarsky.
Dolores Sagalow for the Yahrzeit of husband, Daniel Sagalow.
Robert Douglas for the Yahrzeit of his father, Arnold Douglas.
Helana Schreiber for the Yahrzeit of her father, Herbert Miskin.
Helga Pfeffer for the Yahrzeit of her mother, Elsie Gideon.
Manny Weiss for the Yahrzeit of his mother, Rhoda Weiss.
Isaac Gefen for the Yahrzeit of his mother, Mazal Gefen.

BUILDING IMPROVEMENT FUND:

Judy Cohen for the Yahrzeit of her grandmother, Regina Frisch.
Steven Sherman for the Yahrzeit of his mother, Selma Sherman.

GENERAL FUND:

Anita Florin in honor of Rene Alpert's marriage to Mr. Alex Gold.
Anita Florin in appreciation to Richele Alpert for her caring and kindness.
Anita Florin in appreciation to Peter and Mindy Savitt for their caring and kindness.
Phyllis and Howard Brenner in memory of Dorothy Schechter.
Anita Florin in memory of Paul Glasgow.

In memory of Rabbi Ginsburg's mother:

Anita Florin
Ann Wertheim
In memory of Steve Kreiss:
Anita Florin
Ann Wertheim
In memory of Charlotte Koss:
Binnie Stein
Harriet Schneier
Lynne Jacofs
Natalie and Stewart Lyons

In memory of Rabbi Arnold

Marans:
Woodmere Sisterhood
Binnie Stein

In memory of Eli Alfassy, father of Jack Alfassy:

Natalie and Stewart Lyons
Phyllis and Howard Brenner
Rosalie Moskowitz

Ann Wertheim in memory of Anne Weinberg.
Hinda Grossman in memory of Rosalie Steikovski's brother, Vincent.
Larry Greebel for the Yahrzeit of his brother-in-law, Murray N. Glassman.
Marilyn Dukoff for the Yahrzeit of her husband, Joseph Dukoff.
Anita Florin for the Yahrzeit of her daughter, Bonnie Lieberman.
Stacey and Arthur Getzel for the Yahrzeit of her sister, Bonnie Lieberman.
Arthur Okun for the Yahrzeit of his wife, Dorothy Okun.
Carol King and Family for the Yahrzeit of father/grandfather, Arthur King.
Joan Kavarsky for the Yahrzeit of her father, Gustave Mahler.

We Extend Mazal Tov To:

DEBBIE AND RABBI HAROLD SLANSKY

on the engagement of their granddaughter, Loni to Naftali Blumenthal

SHARI AND STEVE HYMOWITZ

on the engagement of their son, Sean, to Evelyn Bagdasarova

YELENA AND SERGE BOROHOV

on the Bat mitzvah of their daughter, Yvette

ALINA AND ALEX LUBARSKY

on the engagement of their son, Adriel to Abby Fromm

Refuah Shleima

A Very Speedy Recovery to:
DR. FRED HIRSH



Cantor
Moshe Weiss

Mikroben, Batsiln: Vos Vilt Ihr?!

A CENTURY-OLD, BUT LATTER-DAY SONG FOR OUR TIME
PERHAPS, EVEN A CANTOR'S PRAYER

1916 was marked by three cataclysmic events. The world was two years into 'the war to end all wars.' The mortality rates for tuberculosis had skyrocketed. And polio had reached epidemic proportions.

The 'war to end all wars' - did not. Even before the end of the war, the term, coined by British author H.G. Wells and picked up by then American President Woodrow Wilson, took on a skeptical, if not downright sardonic connotation. Barely two months after the signing of the armistice, a prominent British officer referred to the Paris Peace conference of 1919 as the 'Peace to end Peace.'

Tuberculosis - historically called 'consumption;' later, the 'White Plague' - is, still today, the deadliest infectious disease in the world. Close to one quarter of the world's population - 1.8 billion people - are infected with the bacterium that causes the disease. Last year, ten million people had active TB, and more than one million deaths were attributed directly to it. Though now eminently curable by a several-month administration of a regimen of antibiotics, it wasn't until the discovery of streptomycin in 1943 by Selman Abraham Waksman, that a cure for the disease was even on the horizon, and not until 1949 that a TB-ridden patient was cured by its administration. In 1916, TB was the leading cause of death in New York City.

And polio? In June of 1916, pursuant to a NYC Department of Health bulletin officially declaring polio to be an epidemic, those infected with the disease were quarantined, the closure of public places was mandated by law, and chemical disinfectants were utilized in areas where the disease had been present.

The epidemic caused widespread panic. Thousands fled the city to mountain resorts. Movie theaters were closed and public gatherings became almost nonexistent. Children were told to avoid amusement parks, swimming pools, and beaches. The names and addresses of individuals with confirmed polio cases were published daily in the press, their houses identified with placards, and their families quarantined. Cities in neighboring counties and states, enacted rules barring New Yorkers from entering. One such example was Hoboken, NJ, where travelers fleeing Brooklyn by ferry were intercepted by police officers, and promptly escorted back to the borough.

With this as backdrop, listen to Shlomo Shmulevitz's 1916 ballad, below.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1R1cQIAvLI3mJ6c_9HCmcmeKHhvE-9ITIm/view

Shmulevitz's 1916 ballad, was about microbes, bacilli and the pestilence of war. Today, the pathogen is a virus; the war, though of a different nature, no less deadly. But obvious parallels and distinctions aside, my focus is neither historical nor scientific; rather, it is musical.

Apples and honey notwithstanding, most of us identify the High Holy Days with both the ancient sound of the shofar, and the age-old liturgical music of this period: the singular Kol Nidre melody; the unique Aleinu tune chanted on just these three days; the musical motif 1 of the High Holy Day Kaddish exclusive to the Jewish New Year; so many other melodies,

too. In this regard, this year's pandemic-ridden High Holy Days, shall be no different than previous years' services.

Yet for each and every one of us, this Rosh haShana and Yom Kippur shall be anything but the same as Days of Awe of yesteryear. We may read and educate ourselves about Jewish New Year observances during historic times of war and illness, but this Yamim Nora'im, it is we who are experiencing a life-threatening pandemic.

This year, we come to services masked. We strain to hear each other's voices muffled by the sound that wearing a mask creates. Yet despite that, or because of it, in coming together for prayer - with all due proper physical distancing - by joining in religious worship, and together chanting the prayers and melodies by which we are historically bound, we have the opportunity to lift our spirits at a time that we need them lifted most! But in addition to the traditional liturgy and melodies with which we are all familiar, having now heard Shmulevitz's century-old lyrics and melody, even by virtue of their age, they remain unfilterable from my heart, ever resonant in my mind.

*Microbes, bacilli, what do you want?
Whose will do you serve?
You devour your victims without mercy,
You take aim at blossoming life;
You bathe in our tears,
You suck the marrow from our bones;
You poison our innards, you crawling worms
Microbes, bacilli, what do you want?*

Now, expect not to hear these lyrics as part of our liturgical service. But don't be surprised to hear this 21st century cantor include the haunting melody that a 19th century cantor's son composed to words that remain relevant today. And if the melody moves you, as it does me, don't hesitate to join me in its rendition.

At any one of the services that we shall be conducting this year, I look forward to seeing you, recognizable behind your mask or not. I look forward to your participation in whatever capacity you feel comfortable. And I pray that this High Holy Days' communal prayer, along with, of necessity, our greetings from afar, augur well for a year of health and prosperity, happiness and success.

Wishing you a K'tivah vaChatimah Tova! Shana Tova uM'tukah!

1) *Musical motif: a brief musical unit or succession of notes that is repeatedly woven into a musical composition in such a manner as to, by dint of its appearance, conjure up the entirety of a composition, and, in the examples mentioned, evoke thoughts and feelings that we associate with the High Holy Days. (The most widely known classical music motif is one that you know well: the first four notes of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony.)*

2) *Solomon Small (1868 - 1943), born Shlomo Shmulevitz in what is now independent Belarus, then part of Czarist Russia, was one of the most prolific and talented composers and lyricists of Yiddish song. By way of hundreds of poems, ballads, and operettas, many of which he himself recorded, Shmulevitz fashioned the Yiddish counterpart to American popular song of the time. His subject matter included the daily tedium of immigrant life, labor conditions, Judaic observances and historical events; nostalgia, and Biblical vignettes. Internationally renowned Russian opera singer Feodor Chaliapin, included Shmulevitz's song Chava in his repertoire.*

In Mentshn-Fresser (Devourer of Mankind), Shmulevitz rages not just at the ravages of tuberculosis and polio, but at the industrial exploitation of the working class, and the cynical death machine created by rulers pitting their countries against one another in war. The version above, recently recorded by Sveta Kundish and Daniel Kahn, reflects some textual changes made by the vocalists, but remains true to Shmulevitz's theme.



MEET OUR BAT MITZVAH
Saturday, Spetember 5

Yvette Borohov

Daughter of Yelena and Serge Borohov

A seventh grade honor student at Woodmere Middle School, Yvette's favorite subjects are Science and Social Studies. She is a member of the Discovery Program and has many extracurricular interests. They include the arts; dance, piano and violin and sports; gymnastics and tennis. Yvette has received recognition from Nassau Music Educators Association, Continental Mathematics League, All County Music Association and has participated in the Mock Trial Tournament. As a student in our Morgenstern School and J-stars, Russian program since Pre-k, Yvette has been a teacher's dream! She has wowed us with her enthusiasm, amazing academic ability and interest in all things Russian and Jewish . From manning the J-STARS cookie sale for Chanukah to volunteering at our Purim Carnival, Yvette has been our go to student- always ready to lend a helping hand and volunteer her artistic talents. She and her older sisters, Emily and Isabelle have been true J-stars throughout their Hebrew School years. We have no doubt that she will continue to bring much nachat and joy to her family and to the Jewish community. We look forward to hearing her deliver a Dvar Torah and chant a selection from Ketuvim in honor of her Bat Mitzvah. Mazal Tov to the entire Borohov Family on this beautiful milestone.

If you would like to help underwrite the cost of safety equipment used in our synagogue at Shabbat and High Holiday services, daily activities and Ganoni Pre-school, it would be greatly appreciated.

Below are examples of PPE and other safety equipment that are needed:

Please contact Harriet Gefen at hagefencsoi@aol.com or call our office at 516-374-0655.

Thank you

Pack of 5 N95 Masks for use by Maintenance - **\$20.00**

Air Purifier for use in Ganoni Classrooms and offices - **\$250 each**

Hand Sanitizers - **\$50.00**

Disposabe gloves, masks, face shields - **\$36.00**

Plexiglass desk shield - **\$150.00**

ATTENTION SISTERHOOD BOARD VACANCIES

As we plan for next year, we heartily welcome new and veteran Sisterhood members to join our Sisterhood Board and/or Catering Committee. A dynamic, warm, and inspired group of women await you!

MORGENSTERN SCHOOL HEBREW SCHOOL GANONI PRESCHOOL

It has been quite a challenging year! We transitioned our Hebrew School, J-STARS and Shalhevet programs into a very successful Zoom and Individualized program last March. This New Year we hope will allow us to reopen in person and have our Yeladim be engaged in person by our dedicated staff of wonderful teachers. They will work together to learn about the upcoming holidays as well as Hebrew Reading, Jewish History and Parashah in a safe environment.

This summer, we ran a highly successful six-week Pre-school summer program. Our parents were so appreciative and the smiles on the faces of the toddlers filled us with such joy! As we were the rare Nursery Program open for enrollment in the summer, our reputation has spread. Riding on that success, we are opening our Ganoni program on Sept. 3 with full classes and a waiting list. We have reduced class sizes and implemented all safety protocols.

It will be an absolute delight to see and hear all of our children from toddlers to teens learning about our Jewish Heritage in a safe, warm environment. We hope for a successful and safe school year and wish all of our families a Shanah Tovah U'Metukah, a Sweet Year filled with the blessings of good health, and happiness.

Harriet Gefen

PRAYING AT HOME THIS HIGH HOLIDAY SEASON? WE WILL LOAN YOU A MACHZOR

If you plan to recite your High Holiday prayers at home rather than coming to the synagogue, Congregation Sons of Israel will loan you a Machzor and explicit instructions on how to use it properly. Please contact the synagogue office at officecsoiwoodmere@gmail.com or 374-0655 by Friday, September 4 to place your order. You may pick up your Machzor curbside Wednesday, September 9, 12 noon as the Rabbi, Cantor, Harriet Gefen, and Congregation President, Dr. Mark Kavarsky, stand in front of the synagogue building (masked and at a safe distance) to wish you a Shanah Tovah. Those who prefer their Machzorim to be delivered to their homes on Thursday, September 10 should make that request when placing their orders. We are seeking volunteers prepared to bring Machzorim to congregants who are homebound. Please let the synagogue office know if you are available.

Rabbi Ginsburg will be conducting a Zoom session entitled -- "How to Daven at Home this Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur for a Meaningful High Holiday Season" -- Tuesday, September 15, 7:30 PM. Log-in and Dial-in directions will be provided by Constant Contact.

NACHAMU NACHAMU

The Congregation and Board of Trustees offer their heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families of our members:

CHARLOTTE KOSS

JOSHUA HARARI

Beloved husband of Janet Harari and father of Maurice, Sarah and Lawrence Harari

"May their souls be bound up in the bond of eternal life"

ORDER YOUR LULAVIM/ETROGIM SETS

If you would like to order Lulavim/Etrogim sets for the holiday of Sukkot, please send in your order with a check payable to Congregation Sons of Israel for **\$45.00/set**. Please note that orders will not be processed unless accompanied by payment. Deadline for order is Wed., Sept. 30

Name _____ Phone Number _____

of Sets _____ Amount Enclosed _____

