

# Congregation and Talmud Torah Ahavath Achim

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*Affiliated with the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America*

**September 2012**  
**YAMIM NORAIM - 2012 5773**

**ROSH HASHANA / YOM KIPPUR**

**NEWSLETTER**



## **SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

### **FIRST DAYS (ROSH HASHANA)**

#### **Sunday September 16**

Mincha & Maariv 6:35 P.M.

#### **Monday & Tuesday Sept. 17 & 18**

Schacharis 8:00 A.M.

Reading of the Torah 9:45 A.M.

Rabbi's Sermon 10:30 A.M.

Shofar 10:40 A.M.

Mussaf 11:00 A.M.

Mincha & Maariv 6:35 P.M.

### **YOM KIPPUR**

#### **Tuesday Sept. 25**

Mincha 2:00 P.M.

Kol Nidre 6:30 P.M.

Rabbi's Sermon 6:50 P.M.

Maariv 7:20 P.M.

#### **Wednesday Sept. 26**

Schacharis 8:30 A.M.

Reading of the Torah 11:00 A.M.

Yiskor 12 Noon

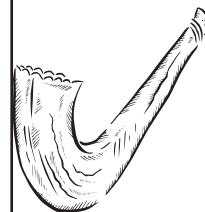
Mussaf 12:30 P.M.

Mincha 5:05 P.M.

Neilah 6:15 P.M.

Maariv 7:25 P.M.

Shofar 7:35 P.M.



## **THE MEANING OF TZOM GEDALIAH**

In this momentous season it is perhaps easy to gloss over the fast day of *Tzom Gedaliah*. After all it follows immediately *Rosh Hashana* and it pales in the glow of *Yom Kippur*. But such a superficial view would be a mistake.

The assassination of the Jewish governor appointed by Nebuchadnezzar led to the condition that the *Rambam* describes rather poignantly- "The ember of Israel that remained was extinguished, causing their exile to become complete."

No doubt this was another step in our exile necessitating a fast day. Our sages in the Talmud seem to be saying something a little different. "The fast teaches that the death of the righteous is equal to the burning of the house of *Hashem*".

Rabbi Pilichowski in his work *The Moadim* explains how this can be so? The purpose of fasting is not to miss several meals but rather repentance. When we merit by our behavior we receive divine protection which may manifest itself in the presence of the Temple. When we fail we may lose that desirable condition.

The righteous have the ability of illuminating for us the divine path. Hence with their death we lose our connection, our guide. In that sense the loss of the righteous is like the loss of the Temple.

Recently we lost a great codifier, Rabbi Elyashiv o.b.m. Such losses need to be appreciated and understood as a monumental loss. We can only hope that we deepen our connection with the divine and then we will merit the rebuilding of the Temple and the return of our judges as of old...

Kesiva va chasima tova!  
Rabbi Ari Kagan

## **REMINDER**

Among the prohibitions of the day is the wearing of leather shoes. This applies equally to men and women. The Maharil extends this to children as well. Perhaps the discomfort we might feel as we stand in non leather shoes is meant as a reminder of the missteps of the past year. Today's proliferation of shoe styles based on man made material makes it easier than ever to comply with this aspect of Yom Kippur observance.

## **SHABBOS TSHUVA DROSHA**

The annual sermon will take place during the morning services on Saturday September 22, 2012

## **A ROUND OF APPLAUSE**

On behalf of all those who attended our Shabbos classes, we would like to thank our alternating lecturers: Dr. Ira Jasser and Zechariah Honikman. They made sure our Shabbos afternoons were not without Torah.

## **SLICHOS**

The first recitation of slichos will take place Saturday night, September 22 at 11:00 p.m.. Coffee and cake will be served at 10:00p.m.



## SUCCOS DAVENING SCHEDULE

### First days

#### Sunday September 30

Mincha & Maariv 6:20 P.M.

#### Monday & Tuesday Oct. 1&2

Schacharis 8:45 A.M.

Mincha & Maariv 6:20 P.M.

### CHOL HAMOED

#### Wednesday-Friday Oct. 3-5

Schacharis 6:15 A.M.

Mincha & Maariv 6:10 P.M.

#### Saturday Oct. 6

Schacharis 8:45 A.M.

Mincha & Maariv 6:10 P.M.

### HOSHANA RABBA

#### Sunday Oct.7

Schacharis 8:00 A.M.

Mincha & Maariv 6:05 P.M.

### SHIMINI ATZERES

#### Monday Oct. 8

Schacharis 8:45 A.M.

Yiskor 10:15 A.M.

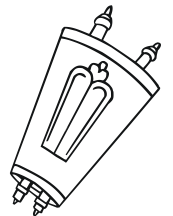
Mincha & Maariv 6:05 P.M.

### SIMCHAS TORAH

#### Tuesday Oct. 9

Schacharis & Hakofos 8:45 A.M.

Mincha & Maariv 6:05 P.M.



## **SIMCHAS BAIS HASHOEVA**

The annual Simchas Bais Hashoeva commemoration, the elaborate and joyful water drawing ceremony in the temple for the Succos service, will be on Tuesday October 2 at 5:25p.m..

A dvar Torah will be given by Rabbi Kagan, and words of Torah will be presented by other members. Songs and refreshments will abound.

### **BAALEI TEFILLAH**

Peukai D'zimra: Dr. Ira Jasser

Baal Schacharis: Menachem Steinberg

Baal Korah: Menachem Steinberg

Baal Mussaf: Avi Anderson.

Baal Tokaah: Michael Poretsky

Baal Makri: Dr. Ira Jasser

We hope that the heavenly court accepts their and our entreaties..

### **SISTERHOOD NEWS**

Our new editor for the sisterhood news will be Sara Friedman. She has been an upstanding member of the sisterhood for many years.

We want to wish a mazel tov to Dora Pickel and to her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. And Mrs. Berkowitz, on the birth of a baby boy to Rabbi Yanky Berkowitz and his wife.

We also wish a refuah shlaimah to Mr. And Mrs. Ruby Hecht.

On the days of Rosh Hashanah, Israel desires to recite Hallel, but they do not. Why? Hallel is reserved for those occasions in which Hashem's presence is "visibly" felt such as on the three festivals and not during occasions of subtle and muted joy as is Rosh Hashana. We, therefore, do not say Hallel on Rosh Hashana (Sefas Emes).

### **WITHIN THE SYNAGOGUE FAMILY**

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

As noted above the identity of the ghost writer for the "sisterhood news" has been unmasked and she is none other than Mrs. Sara Friedman! We acknowledge her valued contribution to this endeavor. We anticipate that her comments will continue to be informative and enlightening.

#### **MAZAL TOV**

To Mrs. Pickel & Mr. & Mrs. Berkowitz on the birth and Bris of Eliyahu Chaim, The son of Rabbi Yaakov and Mrs. Berkowitz

#### **REFUAH SHLAIMA**

To all of our congregants and extended families who need this blessing for acute or chronic conditions. May the new year be one of good fortune and health for all of us and *klal Yisroel*.