

Chadashot Ha'am

A bi-monthly newsletter for Congregation Bet Ha'am

Sept/Oct 2015 | Elul 5775—Tishri/Heshvan 5776



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Rabbi's Report

By Rabbi Jared Saks

In the weeks leading up to *Rosh Hashanah* and often through the summer when other fresh fruits are widely available, I tend to avoid consuming apples. There's something special for me about dipping a slice of apple in honey on *Rosh Hashanah* when I haven't eaten an apple in a

long time. The sweetness of the New Year that this symbolism is meant to evoke rushes over me as I taste something that I haven't tasted in quite a while. Apples, at least in the Northern Hemisphere, are a seasonal fruit that begins to ripen at the end of summer and beginning of autumn. Apples and honey may be among the most common foods for us to consume on *Rosh Hashanah*, but our traditions for welcoming the new year include many other foods.

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The words *rosh hashanah* mean the head of the year. Traditions have developed around foods that play with this theme. In Deuteronomy (28:13), Torah teaches us that if we follow God's commandments, God will make us the head and not the tail, meaning that we'll always be on top and never at the bottom. In order to remind us of this, inspire us to engage with Jewish tradition and perhaps even to remind God of this promise, there are some who eat a fish head on *Rosh Hashanah*. Sephardic communities have often included a whole fish in their *Rosh Hashanah* meals not only for the above symbolism, but also as a replacement for the ram that was sacrificed in place of Isaac in our *Rosh Hashanah* morning Torah reading, the *Akeidah*, the Binding of Isaac (Genesis 22).

Many food traditions around *Rosh Hashanah* (as well as other holidays) have developed out of a similarity in the sounds of words in various languages. There are those who consume fenugreek and carrots at this time of year because the Aramaic word for fenugreek, *rubia*, happens also to be the word for increase, and the Yiddish word for carrots is *mehren*, which also means more. Both foods suggest the *Rosh Hashanah* petition, "May it be Your will, Eternal our God and God of our ancestors, that our merits *increase*." There is an Eastern European custom to cook chicken livers for *Rosh Hashanah*. The Yiddish word is *leberlakh*, which sounds a lot like the command *leb ehrlikh*, meaning, "Live honestly."



There is a dispute in the Talmud as to whether or not to recite *Shehecheyanu* on the second night of *Rosh Hashanah* (for those who observe two days). *Shehecheyanu*, of course, is the blessing in which we thank God for helping us to celebrate a special occasion, especially one that has either not happened in a year's time or is happening for the first time in our lives. In order to settle the dispute without saying an unnecessary blessing, some choose to eat any fruit they have not eaten in a long time, for example: kiwi, papaya, lychee or starfruit.

There are also foods that some people refrain from eating on *Rosh Hashanah*. Some people avoid eating nuts on *Rosh Hashanah* because the Hebrew word for nut, *egoz*, has the same numerical value in *Gematria* as the Hebrew word *det*, which means sin. Others avoid using vinegar because its sourness would contrast with the sweet New Year we hope to celebrate.

Challah is traditional at many of our holidays (except Passover, of course!), but at the High Holy Days, we consume round *challot* to remind us of the cycle of the year and our lives. Often, these *challot* are sweetened with raisins or dipped in honey to add to the sweetness of the New Year.

Whatever food you consume in celebration of the New Year, I hope it is a *shannah tovah um'tukah*, a happy and sweet New Year for you and those whom you love.

President's Report



By Andrew Kosak, President

One of the aspects of Judaism and the High Holy Days that I love is the opportunity to start over, to attempt to do things better. That we ask for absolution for the new vows we make - and apparently are bound to break - is an acknowledgement that we are human, that we will err. As a father and a husband, I especially appreciate the chance to ask personally for forgiveness for my multitude of failings.

I've been thinking about what we, as a congregation, might reflect upon and try to do better in the coming year. Two topics keep coming to mind: moving forward from the difficult and sometimes painful discussions regarding roles for members of different faiths in our congregation and engaging more members in volunteer opportunities.

During our community conversations about who should be able to serve as board members and teachers, people spoke passionately. At times, though coming from a place of good intentions and love for Bet Ha'am, people spoke in ways that inadvertently caused pain. For some, those words still sting because they made people feel unwelcome or unheard. Others worried about the impact of the proposed changes on our Jewish community and institution. Both of those viewpoints have merit.

So how do we move forward from these bruised feelings and frustration? Words spoken, like toothpaste squeezed from a tube, are hard to take back; forgiveness, on the other hand, can be given and accepted. Perhaps it is my middle child syndrome - always seeking peace, always listening to both sides - that leads me to believe that we can be stronger as a congregation if we forgive one another. No matter what our beliefs are about this issue, we are Bet Ha'am, the house of the people - a group of individuals who through volunteerism, hard work and collaboration have created a remarkable home for Reform Judaism in southern Maine. This brings me to the second area of growth: volunteerism.

When my wife, Jennifer, and I first joined Bet Ha'am in the 1990s, we were struck by the level of commitment to Judaism and community. People built the *sukkah* together, held work days to clean and repair the building, taught in the religious school, participated fully and joyfully in services and in a myriad of actions to support the synagogue. This collective participation is what led us to rejoin Bet Ha'am when we returned from exile in New Jersey. On Friday nights, when we sing *L'cha Dodi*, we turn to our garden lovingly tended and nurtured by our talented Garden Committee. On Saturdays, as the sanctuary's wood glows in the morning light, I am reminded of all the work our House Committee members do to oversee the building's well-being.



On Sunday mornings and evenings I am amazed by our volunteer teachers' incredible dedication and hard work educating and helping raise a new generation of Jews. At our twice-yearly committee chair meetings, I am gratified by the great work done by all our committees.

In the coming year, I would like to see us engage even more members in volunteerism. This will help make our congregation stronger. I recognize that as a "far-flung community," volunteering at the synagogue isn't always feasible for families. Therefore, identifying ways we can continue to build community in places outside of greater Portland is important. For example, how might members in Brunswick work together to further our synagogue's mission from a distance? It is also important to determine what skills and passions our congregants have so that they can contribute in ways that are meaningful to them, and so committee chairs can personally ask members to participate on long- or short-term projects that match their talents. Kris Dorer, Lisa Pierce and Dana Gold will be working on a membership survey that we will send to every member this fall. Though we know some of your talents, we may not know or be up to date about other talents you have. **We are looking for someone (or a group of people) to head up our efforts to incorporate more members and more of our skills and interests in our community.** If you are interested, please contact Kris Dorer or me (andrewkosak@gmail.com or 729-0207).

I hope that this will be a wonderful season of reflection and renewal for us all. *Gmar Chatimah Tova.*

Our Lives...

Welcome New Members!

Solomon & Janet Yusim
Susan & Sidney Steinkeler
Jean Berman
Briana Robillard
Welcome back, Keri & Michael Mayo

Mazel tov to our upcoming B'nai Mitzvah!

We look forward to celebrating with them as a congregation. *All are welcome!*

Alexander Lemieux | Saturday, October 10, 2015

Isabella Levine | Saturday, October 17, 2015

Isabel Berman | Saturday, October 24, 2015

Zecher T'zaddik L'vrachah | Condolences to:

Julie Russem on the loss of her father, **Jerome Russem**
Karen & Jim Harris on the loss of Karen's mother, **Miriam Wisegold**

Notes from Our Religious School Director



By Orly Biggie, Religious School Director

As I write this article, the summer is slowly coming to its end and we are planning for the new year! *Rosh Hashanah*, our new Jewish year, will be observed and celebrated before Religious School starts. Our opening day of school is **Sunday, September 20**. Students in first through sixth grade will start their day at 8:30 AM with a welcome back breakfast hosted by our Membership Committee, followed by a *Tikun Olam* family program. Our new school program will feature a monthly *Tikun Olam* program for parents and their children to explore what is broken in our society and what steps can be taken to fix it. Our first program takes a closer look at one of the toughest issues in the world today: hunger.

The phrase *tikun olam* means world repair. It often refers to the pursuit of social action and social justice. Few realize that the phrase and the concept behind it originated in *kabbalah*, the teachings of the 16th century mystic, Isaac Luria. According to Luria, in order to make room for the world to be created, God needed to contract. That contraction is called *tzimtzum* and considered to be a great act of love. God created special vessels to contain the Divine Light, but God's light was so vast that many of the vessels shattered, scattering shards all over creation. While most of the light returned to its Divine source, some attached itself to the broken shards. Kabbalists believe that these shards in which sparks of light are trapped are all that is bad in the world. Our purpose and the purpose of the *mitzvot* (commandments) is to help gather the lost light. Whenever we perform a *mitzvah*, we separate what is holy from what is profane and release the light within. Every day we have an opportunity to collect shards and release their light. When we speak of *tikun olam*, we are speaking of fixing what is broken in our society.



Students in seventh grade through high school will also begin their school year **on Sunday, September 20**, with dinner at 5:00 PM, followed by a community building program, dessert and a joint parent-student meeting to explore the new teen programs: *Gesher* (bridge) for seventh grade and *Chavayot* (experiences) for eighth grade through high school. High school juniors and seniors will have their first monthly session from 5:00-6:30 PM.

You can read about our new school offerings on the Bet Ha'am website - www.bethaam.org – and see what the excitement is all about!

I would like to thank the members of the committee who have worked hard to create our wonderful Yachdav program: Natasha Goldman, Andrew Kosak, Louise Abramson, Max Abramson, Hugh Morgenbesser, Erin Koepf, Chris Koepf, Josh Levy, Martin Connelly and Ray Spiro.

Religious School Special Events & Calendar, September/October 2015

Sunday, September 20 - First Day of School!

Grades 1 - 6:

8:30 AM Welcome Breakfast hosted by our Membership Committee
9:00 AM - Noon Opening session and *Tikun Olam* family program for both students and parents

Grades 7 - 10:

5:00 - 7:00 PM Dinner and Community Building
7:00 - 7:30 PM Parent and student meeting

Grades 11-12:

5:00 – 6:30 PM First monthly session

Sunday, September 27

9:00-10:30 AM First day for students in kindergarten
9:00 AM - Noon Grades 1-6
9:30 - 10:15 AM Parent Meeting: Grades 1 - 3
11:00 AM - Noon First *Shalom Yeladim* session

There will be no Sunday evening sessions on September 27, October 4 and October 11.

Sunday, October 4

9:00 AM - Noon Grades 1-6
9:00-10:30 AM Kindergarten
11:00 AM - Noon *Shalom Yeladim*
11:15 AM - Noon Parent Meeting: Grades 4 - 6
6:30 - 8:00 PM Consecration and *Simchat Torah* Service

Join us as we complete the reading of the book of Deuteronomy and begin again with Genesis. Our first graders and new students will participate in the Consecration ceremony during services.

Wednesday, October 7

6:30 - 8:30 PM Grade 6 *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* Family Program

Shabbat Family Services will be on the second Friday of the month, October 9 at 6:00 PM.

Our new school model includes the monthly Friday evening Family Service. We will celebrate *Shabbat* together. Please join us for a pizza family dinner at 5:30 PM! Donations will be gratefully accepted.

Sunday, October 18

9:00 - 12:00 PM Grades 1-6
5:00 - 7:30 PM 7th Grade *Chavayot*
5:00 - 7:30 PM Grades 8-10 Grade Program
5:00 - 6:30 PM Grades 11-12 Grade Community Program

Sunday, October 25

9:00 - 10:30 AM Kindergarten
9:00 AM - Noon Grades 1-6 and their parents will participate in a *Tikun Olam* family program.
5:00 - 7:30 PM Grade 7 *Shiur*
5:00 - 7:30 PM Grades 8-10 Grade Program

Congregation Bet Ha'am: A place to learn *Tikun Olam*, to make the world a better place.



Introducing a **BRAND NEW** Religious School Program! *Where kids actively learn Hebrew and Judaica with a sense of purpose and meaning.*

- Monthly *Shalom Yeladim* for children ages 3-5 and their parents
- **K-6 program** will be mixed with monthly Friday Family Services and *Tikun Olam* programs
- *B'nai Mitzvah* students and teens can now design their own Jewish Journey through our new ***Chavayot (Experiences)*** program, with a blend of dynamic classes, community engagement and exciting social programs.

Registration is happening now for ages 3-18.



Executive Director's Message: "A Day in the Life"

By Kris Dorer, Executive Director

The day at Congregation Bet Ha'am often begins before the doors open. Chris Skidgel, custodian and head of maintenance, tidies the office, sets up for daily meetings, meets with vendors and starts work on many of the weekly duties that keep the synagogue in ship-shape.

"Ding-dong," it's 9:00 AM, the door buzzer chimes and the office is open! Karen Hindall, administrative assistant, reviews Rabbi Saks's schedule for the day and starts answering calls from a myriad of people with a variety of requests: a meeting with the Rabbi, recommendations for an out-of-towner looking for *challah* and brainstorming caterers for one of our corporate rentals. Every person who calls or comes through the door is greeted with "radical hospitality" by all.

Teri Berenson, bookkeeper, works with congregants to ensure their generous donations are designated in accordance with their wishes. Office and supply needs are assessed, and mailings are coordinated. As we try to identify a congregant with specific skills for an upcoming program, Teri pulls a name out of her nearly 25-year institutional memory.

Kris Dorer, executive director, reviews employee insurance proposals, negotiates a vendor contract, helps a congregant find a ride to services, troubleshoots some technology issues, updates the website, writes a grant to help support the operating budget, tests the security system and cultivates a revenue-producing building rental.

Teachers drop by to discuss curriculum with Orly Biggie, Religious School director. Classrooms are cleaned and organized for the year ahead. A student and his parents come in to meet with Orly for the first time. He enters shyly, but is soon enthusiastically telling Orly all about his life and looking forward to joining his friends at Religious School.

A *bar mitzvah* student arrives to meet with Rabbi Saks, just as the rabbi returns from visiting a congregant in the hospital. He brainstorms with staff and committees about new initiatives to implement the Strategic Plan. He writes "Words of Torah" for the weekly email and works with a potential artist-in-residence to plan a community-wide weekend next year.

Staff meet to review the logistics for upcoming events, volunteer delegation and High Holy Day planning. On Wednesdays, staff members take turns making soup for each other and have a Soup Club lunch.

A florist delivers flowers for a Saturday *bat mitzvah* celebration. Vendors come and go throughout the day, ensuring that our pool is inspirational and our fire safety systems are secure. Office volunteers cheerily ask how their skills may best be used that day. Volunteer leaders meet to discuss the budget and finances. The Garden Committee puts finishing touches on our new garden paths.

Another day in the life of Bet Ha'am is ending. Our beloved building has been busy and bursting with excited and invested people taking action together to help guide the present and future of The House of the People.





Garden Notes



By Toby Rosenberg, Garden Committee Chair

Mitzvah Garden

This summer is the second season that *b'nai mitzvah* students have chosen working in our gardens as their *mitzvah* project. Last year Eli Rosen started seeds for our raised beds, helped at our plant sale, and weeded and raked in our other gardens.

This season, Dora Lapine, Sedonia Summers and Claire Anton started seeds, planted in the pouring rain, and tended and are now harvesting our raised beds under the supervision of Briana Robillard. They also bring the food donations to Wayside Food Rescue. Their parents have been supportive with both transportation and participation, making what are truly family *mitzvah* projects. These young people are pioneering the way for other youth to be active in our gardens in coming years. We are grateful for their interest, commitment and work.

Preparing our Gardens for *Rosh Hashanah*

We hope you will consider joining us for two short sessions to get our gardens ready for the upcoming holidays. We'll meet Tuesday, September 1, and Tuesday, September 8, from 5:00 PM (after work) until dusk each of these days.

We expect the focus to be weeding the berm outside our enclosed garden and any visible, messy areas. Thank you to Jamie MacMillan, who has kept the interior garden in good shape and to Randi Gelfman, who has generously been sprucing up around the entry drive.



Congregant Interview: Briana Robillard

By Toby Rosenberg, Garden Committee Chair

This month we introduce Briana Robillard. She has been coordinating the work on our raised bed gardens and supervising our *b'nai mitzvah* gardeners this season. Briana and her family moved to Maine from New Zealand four years ago and live in Yarmouth. She works at Maine Coast Waldorf School (Merriconeag), where her daughter, Pepper, is a student.



Hobbies, Interests and Avocations:

Aikido, permaculture (agricultural ecosystems designed to be sustainable and self-sufficient), fiber arts

Volunteer work, especially at Bet Ha'am:

Briana loves growing food and flowers using a method that requires no digging or weeding. Since she doesn't have her own yard right now, she makes gardens wherever she can get away with it, and Bet Ha'am has benefited greatly from her knowledge, style and activities. Our food gardens have been transformed under her guidance.

This school year Briana will join Lisa Pierce in teaching art in our Religious School.

Some life accomplishments:

In New Zealand, Briana and her family started and built a farm using permaculture methods. She's a lifelong needle worker, and makes anything that can be made from fabric, yarn and fiber - from art quilts to yurt covers.

When did you start coming to Bet Ha'am?

I discovered Bet Ha'am almost a year ago. I loved the liturgy and the poetry in the *siddur*. It says what I needed to hear and be reminded of each week. The root of the word "worship" (in English) means to hold up things of value. Worship at Bet Ha'am does that for me and gives me time to listen to what is important in my life. I love Friday night *Kabbalat Shabbat* services and the weekly morning *minyan*; they give a rhythm to my week. I really appreciate the feeling of family in the congregation. I also love discussions and parent meetings on how to bring meaningful Jewish practice into home life.

There were almost no Jewish people in my life in New Zealand, but Jews have been in every part of my life here, even well before I realized it.

At first I thought maybe I would only like this one little corner of Judaism, but the more I learn, the more I feel that this is something I am coming home to and can keep coming home to for the rest of my life. I love the history, the breadth of Judaism and the ongoing conversation. I'm fascinated to hear people's stories and histories.

Book Review

The Beggar King and the Secret of Happiness

By Joel Ben Izzy

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“Once upon a time, a long, long time ago, in a land far away. . . .” How many of us think back to our childhoods and remember those words spoken to us? Whether from our parents, our teachers or our rabbis, the joy we received from the stories they shared was something quite special. Through the gifts of Joel Ben Izzy, a wonderfully talented storyteller, we can feel once again those emotions that come from hearing a heart-rending narrative.

The Beggar King and the Secret of Happiness is the true story of a man who has spent years as a storyteller. Each chapter begins with an international folktale from places like China, India, the Middle East, and even the mythical Jewish town of Chelm. Within these fables, we find a wisdom that draws us closer to understanding the journey that Ben Izzy has taken. As he shares his life stories as a father, a husband and a cancer patient, we also learn lessons from his life, and perhaps, our own lessons as well.

Joel learned the power of stories early, through the stories he told his families, which took them out of their own hardships and made them laugh. Following the Jewish “curse,” “May you do what you love for a living,” Joel Ben Izzy began his career in 1983. Traveling around the world, he collected local folktales and shared their wisdom. It was after fourteen years of storytelling, after marrying and having two children, that the blessing of loving what he did became a curse. In 1997, Joel was diagnosed with thyroid cancer. Although this usually can be healed by a simple treatment, Joel discovered that when he awoke from surgery, he could no longer speak. The nightmare that he often dreamt about had suddenly become all too real. Joel’s life began to fall apart as many unsuccessful attempts at recovering his voice failed. As he describes the experience, “the only thing between me and happiness, I decided, was my lost voice.”

Through an unexpected turn of events, Joel re-met his old teacher Lenny. From that moment, he began to learn lessons of a different type. By the end of *The Beggar King*, readers learn his new mantra, one of the great values of our Jewish tradition. “I felt like a rich man, not in terms of money, but as described in Talmud, where it asks, ‘Who is rich?’ and answers ‘The one who can appreciate what he has.’”

Through his life’s stories, Joel Ben Izzy himself becomes the beggar king, searching for the key that finally unlocks the secret that had eluded him: love of family and advice of an aged mentor could help him find his way back to storytelling. As he says in his prologue: “Sit back and let me tell you my tale, of a journey that took me through dark times, yet gave me a gift that I treasure. That gift is this story, which I now pass on to you – a tale of lost horses and found wisdom, of buried treasures and wild strawberries, of the beggar king and the secret of happiness.”

Newsletter Submissions



[The Mazel Tov Column Returns!](#)

The *Chadashot* editors would like to bring back our *Mazel Tov* column to share congregants' joys and accomplishments.

Do you have a college student who has won a scholarship?
Has your partner or spouse recently earned national acknowledgment
for his or her career accomplishments?
Do you have a wedding, birth or other celebration that you'd like to share?

[Articles of Interest](#)

The editors also welcome articles of broad interest to our readership. Note that our new publication is magazine-style, designed for relaxing and interesting reading. (More timely news is shared in our weekly email.) Articles should ideally be between 500-700 words. Editors reserve the right to make changes in copy or length and cannot guarantee articles will be selected for publication.

[Book Reviews](#)

Have you recently read a great book from the Bet Ha'am library? Please share your thoughts in a book review so that others might be inspired to enjoy!

Please submit your news to kris@bethaam.org bimonthly on the first of the month.
The next deadline will be October 1, 2015.

Bet Ha'am Donor Gallery

We thank our generous contributors:

Annual Fund

- With thanks to Sharon Newman for her music by Tom & Elizabeth Rosen
- Rachel Reed
- Noel & Annette Goodman
- Laurence & Nanette Chern
- Mark & Deborah Tillman Stone
- Andrew & Jennifer Kosak

Artist-in-Residence Fund

- In appreciation by the Stanley family
- In honor of Rosie Wohl, anonymous

Capital Campaign Fund

- In appreciation of the Caring Committee by Karen & Jim Harris
- In loving memory of Yank Broder, beloved Dad, by Jamie & Lee Broder

Cohen Fund

- In honor of Eli Rosen becoming *Bar Mitzvah* by Laura Kittle & Jeremy Moser
- In celebration of Anne Koepf by Laura Kittle & Jeremy Moser

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- In appreciation of Rabbi Saks by Sharon Ash Tancredi
- In appreciation of Rabbi Saks by Wendy & Bill Sirois and Kathy Herder
- In appreciation by Jodi Roth & Adam Saks
- In appreciation by Andrew & Jennifer Kosak
- In memory of Karen Harris's mother by Bill & Ki Leffler
- In honor of Ray & Ginger Spiro on their 35th anniversary by Paul Rothman & Emily McEntee
- With gratitude to Rabbi Saks by Karen & Jim Harris
- With thanks to Rabbi Saks for his help and guidance by Jodi & David Girard
- In appreciation of Rabbi Saks for his help and guidance by the Reed family

General Fund

- In honor of Ray & Ginger Spiro by Jane Snerson
- In appreciation by John Kierstead
- In memory of Bob Kuvent by John & Beryl Cole
- In honor of Ray & Ginger Spiro by Jim & Karen Harris
- In honor of Ray & Ginger Spiro by Rachel Posner
- In honor of Ray & Ginger Spiro by Marilyn & Gerry Sherry
- In honor of Ray & Ginger Spiro by Andy & Karla Bernstein
- In honor of Ray & Ginger Spiro by Sharon Ash Tancredi
- In memory of Matt Goldfarb's sister by Sharon Ash Tancredi
- Jerry Olshan & Lynn Urbach
- In memory of Vivienne Jones by Sharon Ash Tancredi
- In celebration of Anne Koepf on her naming by Marilyn & Gerry Sherry
- In memory of Julie Russem's father by Laura Kittle & Jeremy Moser
- In memory of Karen Harris's mother by Laura Kittle & Jeremy Moser
- In memory of Karen Harris's mother by Walter Leffler
- In honor of Ray & Ginger Spiro on their 35th anniversary by Rosie Wohl
- In honor of Ray & Ginger Spiro on their 35th anniversary by Sue Howard
- In celebration of Anne Koepf by Sue Howard
- In memory of Carl & Shirley Lerman by Marc Lerman
- In honor of Ray & Ginger Spiro by Robin Peterson
- In honor of Ray & Ginger Spiro on their 35th by John & Beryl Cole
- In celebration of Marilyn & Gerry Sherry on their anniversary by Ray & Ginger Spiro
- In loving memory of my husband, Michael Barriault, by Toby Rosenberg
- Mazel Tov to Jerri & David Donn by Toby Rosenberg
- In celebration of the wedding of Jenna Golub and Stephen Sinclair by Toby Rosenberg
- In gratitude for those who tend our gardens by Toby Rosenberg
- In celebration of Jerri & David Donn and their wedding by Teri Berenson
- In celebration of Jerri & David Donn and their wedding by Donna Landau
- In honor of Donna Landau, anonymous
- In appreciation by Andrew & Betty Golub
- In memory of David Reed by Rachel, Sam & Max Reed
- In honor of the conversion of Jerri Donn by Donna Landau
- In memory of my father, Jerry Bobela, on his *yahrzeit* by Donna Landau

Join the Bet Ha'am Donor Gallery

We invite you to join the Bet Ha'am Donor Gallery today! We have many needs and many ways for you to contribute. If you have an event you would like to celebrate, a person you would like to honor, a *yahrzeit* to remember, or you just want to help support our programs, please fill out the form and send it along with your check to Bet Ha'am. Include an address if you would like an acknowledgement to be sent.

Please acknowledge to: _____

Your name: _____

Check enclosed for \$ _____

Fund choice (please check one of the options at below):

- _____ Annual Fund
- _____ General Fund
- _____ Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
- _____ Adult Library Fund
- _____ Rabbi Berkowitz Open Door Fund
- _____ Building Capital Campaign
- _____ Rabbi Cohen Fund for Worship & Learning
- _____ Rabbi Goldfinger Fund for Israel Travel
- _____ Lehman Fund for Gardens & Grounds
- _____ Religious School Library Fund
- _____ Rosalyne S. & Sumner T. Bernstein Scholar in Residence Fund
- _____ Rabbi Jared H. Saks and Kirk J. Boettcher Artist in Residence Fund
- _____ Rabbi Sandmel Education Fund
- _____ Tutor Fund
- _____ Youth Fund



September 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Garden Spruce-Up 5:00 PM Executive Committee Meeting 5:00 PM	2	3	4 <i>Kabbalat Shabbat</i> Service 7:30 PM	5 Selichot Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM <i>Selichot</i> Worship Service 7:30 PM
6	7 Office Closed	8 Garden Spruce-Up 5:00 PM	9 Morning <i>Minyan</i> 7:00 AM	10 Education Committee Meeting 6:30 PM	11 Pizza Dinner (donations accepted) 5:30 PM <i>Shabbat</i> Family Service 6:00 PM	12 Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM
13 Erev Rosh Hashanah <i>Erev Rosh Hashanah</i> Service 8:00 PM	14 <i>Rosh Hashanah</i> Office Closed Children's Service 8:30 AM Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM <i>Tashlich</i> 12:30 PM (time approximate)	15 Garden Committee Meeting 5:30 PM	16 Morning <i>Minyan</i> 7:00 AM	17 Board Meeting 6:30 PM	18 Shabbat Shuvah <i>Kabbalat Shabbat</i> Service 7:30 PM	19 Shabbat Shuvah Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM
20 Religious School Opening Day Welcome Back Religious School Breakfast 8:30 AM Grades 1-6 Religious School <i>Tikun Olam</i> Family Program 9:00 AM Grades 7-10 Religious School 5:00 PM Grades 7-10 Parents' Meeting 7:00 PM	21 Office Closed	22 Erev Yom Kippur Office Closes at noon <i>Kol Nidre</i> 8:00 PM	23 Yom Kippur Office Closed Morning <i>Minyan</i> 7:00 AM Children's Service 8:30 AM Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM Meditation & Healing Service 12:45 PM Afternoon Study 2:30 PM Afternoon Service 3:30 pm <i>Yizkor</i> 4:30 pm <i>Neilah</i> 5:00 pm Break the Fast Potluck (time approx.) 5:30 PM	24	25 Tot <i>Shabbat</i> Service & Pizza Dinner 5:30 PM <i>Kabbalat Shabbat</i> Service 7:30 PM	26 Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM
27 Erev Sukkot Kindergarten 9:00 AM Grade 9-12 Religious School 9:00 AM Grades 1-3 Parents' Meeting 9:30 AM Shalom Yeladim 11:00 AM <i>Sukkot</i> Celebration with <i>Oneg</i> 7:30 PM	28 Sukkot Office Closed <i>Sukkot</i> Morning Service with Pot- luck <i>Kiddush</i> 10:00 AM	29	30 Morning <i>Minyan</i> 7:00 AM			



October 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 <i>Kabbalat Shabbat</i> Service 7:30 PM	3 Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM
4 Erev Simchat Torah Kindergarten 9:00 AM Grades 1-6 Religious School 9:00 AM Shalom Yeladim 11:00 AM Grades 4-6 Parents' Meeting 11:15 AM Erev <i>Simchat Torah</i> and Consecration 6:30 PM	5 Sh'mini Atzeret / Simchat Torah Office Closed <i>Atzeret/Simchat Torah</i> and <i>Yizkor</i> Service with Potluck <i>Kiddush</i> 10:00 AM Membership Committee Meeting 7:00 PM	6	7 <i>Morning Minyan</i> 7:00 AM Grade 6 Family <i>Bar/Bat Mitzvah</i> Program 6:30 PM	8	9 Pizza Dinner (donations accepted) 5:30 PM <i>Shabbat</i> Family Service 6:00 PM	10 Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service with <i>Bar Mitzvah</i> 10:00 AM Parents' Night Out Fundraiser (Time TBD)
11	12 Office Closed	13 Nominating Committee Meeting 4:45 PM	14 <i>Morning Minyan</i> 7:00 AM	15 Executive Committee Meeting 5:00 PM Education Committee Meeting 6:30 PM	16 <i>Kabbalat Shabbat</i> Service 7:30 PM	17 Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service with <i>Bat Mitzvah</i> 10:00 AM
18 Grades 1-6 Religious School 9:00 AM Grade 7 Religious School – <i>Chavayaot</i> (Apple Picking) 2:45 PM Grades 8-10 First Quarter Begins 5:00 PM Grades 11-12 Community High School Program 5:00 PM	19 Office Closed	20 Garden Committee Meeting 5:30 PM Board Meeting 6:30 PM	21 <i>Morning Minyan</i> 7:00 AM	22	23 Tot <i>Shabbat</i> & Pizza Dinner 5:30 PM <i>Kabbalat Shabbat</i> Service 7:30 PM	24 Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service with <i>Bat Mitzvah</i> 10:00 AM
25 Grades 1-6 Religious School <i>Tikun Olam</i> Family Program 9:00 AM Kindergarten 9:00 AM Grade 7 Religious School— <i>Shiur</i> (Lesson) Grades 8-10 Religious School	26 Office Closed	27 Bet Ha'am Volunteers at Wayside— Salvation Army location 4:00 PM	28	29 Bet Ha'am Volunteers at Wayside— Hope.Gate.Way location 4:30 PM	30 <i>Kabbalat Shabbat</i> Service 7:30 PM	31 Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM