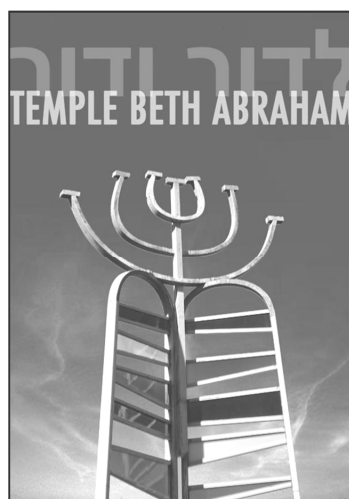


Temple Beth Abraham



5774

High Holyday
Information





Rabbi Holtz's High Holyday Message

Dear Friends,

We've been joking about it for years, but this year it is truer than it will ever be again in history: the High Holydays really **are** early this year. Erev Rosh Hashanah is September 4, just two days after Labor Day! So please, fill out the enclosed master form right now, while it's on your mind. The Holydays will be here before you know it!

Why are they so early? And, perhaps more interestingly, why will they never be quite this early again? (Well, not for about 84,000 years!)

The Jewish calendar repeats on a 19-year cycle, with leap-months added seven times during that cycle, once every two or three years. The Holydays drift gradually earlier, then a leap month pushes them later, and they drift back again. That's how we get the jokes about them always being early or late, but never on time.

However, the Lunar Year on which our calendar is based is actually 6 minutes and 25 seconds longer than the Solar Year (on which the secular, Gregorian calendar is based). This means that, approximately every 231 years, the Jewish calendar falls another full day behind the Gregorian. Next year is the year that it happens. For the next 231 years, the earliest that erev Rosh Hashanah will fall is September 5.

This is especially helpful information for those who like to plan in advance! But for those of you who, like me, have trouble planning beyond next week, we will cross that bridge when we come to it. Meanwhile, we have to get ready for **this** year.

The month of Elul, the time of preparation for the Holydays, begins on August 7. We are required to take a *cheshbon ha-nefesh* - literally "an accounting of the soul." Our job is to think about the past year, about what we've done well and what we haven't. To list those to whom we owe apologies, and from whom we'd like forgiveness. To decide if there are people in our life to whom we should offer forgiveness – sometimes the most difficult task of all. As I have said before, the few brief hours of the High Holyday services – and the few brief minutes of the silent prayer during those services – are not nearly enough time to do all the thinking that needs to be done.

I urge you not to shortchange yourself this year; start thinking now – right after you send back the enclosed forms!

Peace and blessings,

Rabbi David Holtz

(BTW, as a result of all this calendar stuff, Chanukah this year is also as early as it can be: first candle is Wednesday night, November 27. That would be the day **before** Thanksgiving!)



President's High Holyday Message

We hope that you have had a relaxing, restorative and joyful summer. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I want to extend an invitation to you and your family during the High Holydays, the Days of Awe, to reflect and to reunite with your temple community.

In the pages that follow, you can read about the many opportunities for you to worship as well as the ways you can honor your loved ones by naming them in our Yizkor booklet and by making flower dedications which will adorn our bima in our fully renovated and beautiful new sanctuary.

This year we have included a listing of the many ways one can become involved more directly in the Jewish life here at TBA. We have a multitude of committees to choose from which would welcome your contributions and enthusiasm!

We remain grateful to you for being a member of our temple community and welcome your feedback about the events we offer and what more we can do for you and your family.

May you have a peaceful New Year.

Shana Tovah,

Liza Karsten

Liza Karsten
President, Board of Trustees



2013 / 5774 HIGH HOLYDAY INFORMATION

Shanna Tova!

This packet contains all of the instructions and order forms for our upcoming High Holydays. Please complete the enclosed Master Order Form and return with your payment to TBA by August 5, 2013.

HIGH HOLYDAY TICKETS

This year each TBA member will be issued a ticket for entry to all High Holyday services. Tickets are available to purchase for your adult children (over age 25), immediate family (parents/grandparents) and your guests.

Every TBA family must complete the Master Order Form to receive your tickets and any additional tickets ordered for guests.

YIZKOR MEMORIAL BOOK

More than any other time of the Jewish year, the High Holydays find us looking back in order to look ahead. It is a time of memories – thoughts of those who we've lost, who've enriched our past, but are not with us as we contemplate our future.

It is traditional on Yom Kippur to honor these loved ones by listing their names in the Memorial Book which is distributed during Yizkor services. To turn the pages of the book is to turn through time, and to remind ourselves that those remembered are never really gone. The book is a declaration of love and a testament of thanks to those who came before.

To honor your loved ones in the Yizkor Book, please complete the Yizkor Memorial Book section on the enclosed High Holyday Master Order Form.

HIGH HOLYDAY FLOWER DEDICATION

We invite you to remember your loved ones by dedicating High Holyday flowers in their memory for Rosh Hashanah and/or Yom Kippur services. Your dedication will be listed in the High Holyday service booklets. Your donation helps to underwrite the cost of the beautiful flowers that grace our *bimah* and covers all of the names you wish to include in your dedication.

To honor your loved ones with a flower dedication, please complete the High Holyday Flower section on the enclosed High Holyday Master Order Form.

BABYSITTING FOR CHILDREN AGES 2 TO 8

TBA will provide babysitting by **reservation only** for Erev Rosh Hashanah, Rosh Hashanah – Days 1 and 2, Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur. Children (ages 2-8) will be provided with snacks, craft projects, and music in Nursery School and Religious School classrooms. Children must be signed into their age appropriate classroom and won't be able to leave unless accompanied by a responsible parent, guardian or authorized person.

In order to assure sufficient adult supervision, please list on the High Holyday Master Order Form the names and ages of your children who will need babysitting.



2013 / 5774 HIGH HOLYDAY INFORMATION

SERVICE INFORMATION FOR TEENS IN GRADES 7 THROUGH 12

In a change from the recent past, there will not be a separate Teen Service this year. Instead, we welcome and encourage your teens to worship together with their families here at TBA. If they'd like a short break from services, there will be specific classrooms designated for them. These rooms will be staffed, and are intended as break-rooms, not lounges. Due to the number of people in the building and the narrowness of the halls, teens (or anyone else!) cannot congregate in locations other than those designated for this purpose. We hope that everyone in our TBA family will help create an atmosphere conducive to worship throughout the High Holyday season through appropriate decorum and behavior. We are excited to have our teens back in the main building during services and appreciate everyone's cooperation in this new arrangement.

DO A MITZVAH – USHER FOR A SERVICE

Help your TBA community by volunteering to usher for one of the High Holyday adult or children services on:

- Erev Rosh Hashanah,
- Rosh Hashanah – Day 1 and Day 2,
- Kol Nidre, and
- Yom Kippur

Please volunteer to usher by filling out the Master Order Form.

BABY SITTERS NEEDED

If you have 11th or 12th Grade students in your household we would like to have them help with our High Holyday Baby Sitting program.

Please list their names and email addresses on the Master Order Form. We will contact them to have them participate.

PROGRAM and STUDY in PREPARATION FOR THE DAYS OF AWE

Selichot

Saturday, August 31, 2013

7:00pm Movie Presentation: "Unetaneh Tokef"

Unetaneh Tokef explores the role of ritual, tradition, and creativity in coming to terms with loss and the vagaries of the human condition. At the same time the film gives us a poignant glimpse into the nature of an Israeli community driven and wounded by love of the land, of the community, and of the State of Israel in a time of war.

9:00 pm - Refreshments and Social Time followed by Havdallah

9:30 pm - Selichot Service

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL SUKKAH DECORATING EVENT



Sunday, September 15, 2013 at 9:00am

Join us for an enjoyable morning preparing for the upcoming holiday of Sukkot. This activity is suitable for all family members. A light breakfast will be available. To ensure that we have plenty of refreshments for everyone, please RSVP by contacting Diana Faustino 631-1770 x10, or by email to Hebrewschool@tba-ny.org.

Reform High Holyday Services

SELICHOT*

Saturday, August 31

7:00pm

ROSH HASHANAH

Wednesday, September 4

8:00pm

Thursday, September 5

10:00am

Tashlich*

4:00pm

Friday, September 6

10:00am

YOM KIPPUR

Friday, September 13

8:00pm

Saturday, September 14

10:00am

Healing Service*

1:00pm

Afternoon, Yizkor (Memorial Service) &

Neilah (Concluding Service)

3:15pm

Conservative High Holyday Services

SELICHOT*

Saturday, August 31

7:00pm

ROSH HASHANAH

Wednesday, September 4

6:45pm

Thursday, September 5

9:00am

Tashlich*

4:00pm

Friday, September 6

9:00am

YOM KIPPUR

Friday, September 13

6:30pm

Saturday, September 14 (Including Yizkor)

9:00am

Healing Service*

1:00pm

Neilah (Concluding Service)

5:00pm

* Combined Reform and Conservative Services take place for Selichot, Tashlich, and Healing Services.

PLEASE NOTE: *The temperature in the sanctuaries is deliberately kept cool for the benefit of those presiding - please dress accordingly. Please leave all cell phones and pagers either off or at home.*

For Holiday and Shabbat service times throughout the year, check our website: www.tba-ny.org

Following are listings for some of the TBA Committees. We welcome you to join a TBA Committee – contact the Chairpersons listed below with any questions.

Adult Education Chair: Risa Swersey Email: Adulted@tba-ny.org
Temple Beth Abraham's Adult Education Committee is responsible for a rich array of classes and events for adult learners. Events include an ongoing Book Club, weekly Torah study with Rabbi Holtz, and lectures and museum trips.

Board of Education Co-Chairs: Mark Polisar/Jen Greenspoon Email: BoardofEd@tba-ny.org
The Temple Beth Abraham Board of Education is responsible for overseeing our Religious School. The Board of Education creates standards for curriculum, evaluates and develops new programs for grades K-12 as well as opportunities for Family Education.

Fundraising Chair: Jennifer Schwartz Email: Fundraising@tba-ny.org
The Fundraising and Development Committee works to raise financial resources for Temple Beth Abraham including coordination of our Grocery Store Gift Card program and special events. After the High Holyday season, look for information about naming opportunities at Temple Beth Abraham.

House Chair: Vic Weinstein Email: House@tba-ny.org
The House Committee is dedicated to keeping TBA's physical plant in top condition. This includes developing plans to maintain and improve our electricity, heating, air conditioning, roof, and plumbing. The Committee oversees the landscaping and snow removal and provides oversight of the purchase of environmentally friendly products. The TBA Security Committee is a part of the House Committee and oversees the safety and security of our synagogue.

Israel Chair: Marla Peers Email: Israelcommittee@tba-ny.org
The mission of Temple Beth Abraham's Israel Committee is to foster a connection to, and love of, *Eretz Yisrael and Medinat Yisrael*: the land of Israel and the independent, democratic State of Israel. The committee promotes the State of Israel as a vital component of our identity as American Jews and advocates for the civil and religious rights of all of its citizens.

Member Services Co-Chairs: Loren Ratner/Meredith Siegel Email: Memberservices@tba-ny.org
The Membership Services Committee engages and welcomes new potential members to Temple Beth Abraham and works to involve and retain current TBA members. Member Services programs and events include organizing our *Chavurah* program, Shabbat services honoring long-term members, and many others.

PJ Library Chair: Melissa Baer Email: PJLibrary@tba-ny.org
PJ Library is a Jewish family engagement program made possible by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation and Temple Beth Abraham's Harriet Verter Jewish Education Fund. PJ Library mails free, high-quality Jewish children's literature and music to families in our community. All families raising Jewish children from age six months through eight years of age are welcome to sign up.

Ritual Chair: Herb Baer Email: Ritual@tba-ny.org
Temple Beth Abraham welcomes you to celebrate Shabbat. Services are held weekly in the Reform tradition each Friday night at 7:30pm with two exceptions. Family services are held the first Friday of the month at 7:00pm. On the third Friday of the month, services are held both at 6:00pm and 7:30pm. Services in the Conservative tradition are held weekly each Saturday morning starting at 9:00am.

Tikkun Olam Co-Chairs: Kimberly Marcus/Phyllis Leary Email: Tikkunolam@tba-ny.org
The mission of TBA's Tikkun Olam team is to inform, engage, and mobilize our members to build a better world. Our Tikkun Olam Committee is guided by the Jewish principle of Tikkun Olam, meaning "to heal the world." Please join us as we transform our world, and touch the lives of those in need. Upcoming events: Yom Kippur Food Drive taking place on September 13-14 to support the Community Food Pantry of Sleepy Hollow/Tarrytown and Fill A Backpack & Help a Local Child in Need – Drop off on Rosh Hashanah September 4-6.