

Beth Israel Sinai News

The Monthly Newsletter of Beth Israel Sinai Congregation

September 2023 Elul 5783 / Tishrei 5784

Rabbi's Message

The High Holidays are approaching. During the entire month of Elul, the shofar is blown at the end of morning services as a powerful reminder to begin preparing our case before the Heavenly Tribunal. On Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, we stand before our Creator to plea for another year of life blessed with health, wealth and happiness for ourselves, our families and our communities. Our Mahzor reminds us that only teshuvah (acts of charity) will avert the evil decree. In the Talmud Volume dealing with the laws of Rosh Hashanah (16b), Rabbi Kruspodai said in the name of Rabbi Yochanan: Three books are opened on Rosh Hashanah. One of the absolute sinner, one the absolute righteous, and one for those in between...Absolute righteous—written and sealed immediately for life. Absolute sinners—written and sealed immediately for death. **THOSE "IN BETWEEN" are held in the balance from Rosh Hashanah until Yom Kippur...If they do succeed—written for LIFE. If they do not succeed-written for DEATH.**

The implication is obvious. Few of us are absolutely righteous or wicked. We must work everyday to gain the trust of those we have wronged. It is customary during the Ten Days of Repentance to ask people individually for forgiveness. If the recipient initially refuses to accept your apology, you are required to ask up to three times. After an emotional nine days, the last day of our trial begins with asking G-d to release us from all vows from the previous year—the **KOL NIDRE**. This haunting melody is said three times by the Cantor while the ark is opened. First quietly asking G-d to consider our plea. Next, in a louder voice to ensure G-d hears us. The third and final rendition sounds like a loud and terrifying plea for absolution of all wrongs. We fast and pray for the next 25 hours, from sundown to dark the following day. Unencumbered by the next meal, Jews direct their focus independent of creature comforts—imitating **ANGELS**. In addition to a **TOTAL FAST**, where even water may not be consumed (unless medical requirements dictate otherwise), it is also customary not to wear leather shoes, wear white as a symbol of purity and not engage in frivolous activities. At Neilah, the concluding service of Yom Kippur, we make our final plea before G-d when the verdict is rendered and the Gates of Heaven are closed. Though we will never know precisely what the Heavenly Tribunal has decreed for us, we have faith that G-d has rendered the right decision. That faith will help us fulfill our promises made during the Ten days of Awe. To become better husbands and wives, sisters and brothers, and relatives and friends. That faith will ensure that we pay more attention to the plight of those less fortunate than ourselves, and against injustice. That faith will propel us to give more charity to the poor, Jewish institutions, our synagogue and the State of Israel. That faith will renew or commitment to the study of Torah which will insure the survival of the Jewish People.

Marcia and I and our entire family would like to wish all current and future members of Beth Israel Sinai Congregation a Happy and Healthy New Year. May we **ALL BE SIGNED AND SEALED IN THE BOOK OF LIFE**. May we not only be worthy of the merits our Matriarchs and Patriarchs but also a source of inspirations for future generations. May we all continue to grow from **STRENGTH TO STRENGTH. CHAZAK, CHAZAK v'NITCHAZEK**

CHAG SAMEACH
RABBI Marty

High Holiday schedule

September 9, 2023 service 10 am in person or zoom / Selichot 9:00 pm zoom only

September 15 Erev Rosh Hashanah 5 pm entertainment then dinner 6:45 pm in person or zoom / September 16 Rosh Hashanah service 9:30 in person or zoom / September 17, 2023 service 9:30 in person or zoom / Tashlich 2:00pm

September 24, 2023 Kol Nidre 6:30pm in person or zoom / Yom Kippur 9:00 am in person or zoom

September 29, 2023 Sukkot zoom only

Cemetery Notes

The Racine Jewish Cemetery is five acres located at 612 Lathrop Ave. It is a well maintained, park-like setting. A resting place for all Jews. .

There is a Reform section of the cemetery where Jews and their non-Jewish family members can be buried together.

For more information about the purchase of cemetery plots or perpetual care, please call Marc Greenberg 702-465-4805

ZOOM LINK INFO

ID Number 811 5151 1468

Passcode 833720

Phone number

1-312-626-6799

The Presidents Message

You can easily join our synagogue family we have affordable full memberships and we have associate memberships for those who may live too far from us to become an active member. Whether you want to attend weekly or just when you have time please consider joining with a membership. Your membership helps to keep our synagogue open and vital.

If there are any programs you think would be interesting and they are on zoom let us know and we can try to have the program on zoom for you to enjoy at the synagogue. We just watched an interesting program on the Architects of Auschwitz.

You can reach me by phone 262-945-7675

Joyce Placzkowski President

Rabbi Adelberg is offering free Hebrew classes to children. Please call Rabbi Adelberg 847-529-1609 to setup appointments. Donations to the Rabbi's discretionary account are always welcome, and tax deductible.

Josef Markivits October 10, 1929—September 13, 2022

Josef and Rela Markovits met and married in Israel. Their first child, Cipora was born with a hole in her heart. When she was 3, Rela took her to London for heart surgery. The operation was thought to be a success however, at age 5 her condition worsened. Josef and Rela brought Cipora to a surgeon in Los Angeles who thought he could save her. Sadly, Cipora did not survive. Josef and Rela started a new life in Racine where Josef's sister Helen lived. Josef had been a baker in Israel and was hired by Lindstrom's bakery. A daughter, Ruth, was born in 1961 and a son, Henry, in 1963.

Josef was working for Oliver's bakery in Kenosha when the oven exploded. Although on fire himself, Joe extinguished the blaze before rolling in the snow. He suffered 2nd degree burns over 13% of his body and 3rd degree burns over 12% of his body. He had many skin grafts and spent months in the hospital. It was the worst experience of his life.

Josef was born in Czechoslovakia into a middle class Jewish family. He was 10 when Nazis invaded in 1939.

Overnight, friends who'd been like brothers to him no longer had anything to do with him. In 1942 Jews were required to wear a yellow star and lost their civil rights. In 1943 when Josef was 14, the Jews of his town were ordered to assemble for relocation. Josef and four other Jewish boys fled to the Carpathian mountains. His parents told him, "Do what you can." He never saw them again. After a month of hiding in the mountains, a Nazi patrol headed by their postman (who had often been invited in their home for coffee and spoke Yiddish) arrested the boys. They were shipped to Auschwitz; 3 days and 2 nights in a cattle car. When they arrived prisoners were separated into two lines; a line for small children and a line for bigger children. Josef was with the smaller children. His cousin Svi was with the children big enough to work. Svi realized the smaller children would be killed immediately. He pulled Josef into his line shouting, "You're going to be burned up! Run away! You've nothing to lose!" After 2 months at Auschwitz Josef was shipped to Alach, a work camp near Munich. For the next 22 months he was a slave repairing track in rail yard. The Allies bombed the rail yard three times a day. The Germans dove for ditches. The Jews stood and cheered. In 1945 the slaves were loaded onto cattle cars. The train was bound for a death camp did not go far. The tracks had been bombed. The doors opened and the prisoners saw American soldiers.

Josef was shipped to a DP camp in Italy by an orthodox organization. Supplies and even trucks disappeared in the night. Refugees boarded a ship to Palestine. The British intercepted it and held the passengers on Cypress for seven months. Josef fought in the war of independence in 1948 and the Suez campaign in 1956.

After Rela died of cancer in 1994, Josef retired to Miami where he resided for the last 20 years of his life. He joined an orthodox congregation he was treated with the utmost respect by all, including the Rabbis. His knowledge of the Bible, Jewish holidays and customs quickly made Josef a leader in the congregation. Although he had no formal training he would often lead services and was looked upon as a rabbi by many. He often said that finding this congregation brought him closer to G-d and true happiness after the challenges he faced earlier in life. He often described his experiences at public gatherings insuring that the Holocaust would not become yesterday's news.

Sisterhood

If anyone is interested in sponsoring a Kiddush just let Joyce Placzkowski know, 1-262-945-7675. The charge for a dairy Kiddush is \$50, meat Kiddush is \$100. The kitchen can always use paper goods. If you are interested in helping to make food for the Kiddush or a Shabbat dinner just let Joyce Placzkowski know.

Donations

Joe and Judy Roher in honor of Sarah Levin's Birthday

Joan Toth general donation

Complete Garage Services LLC repairs from vandalism

Mary Vite general donation

Barry Langlieb in memory of parents Edward and Louise Langlieb

Max Gordon in honor of Steve and Cheryl Pedersen

Laura Hulbert Goldmeier in memory of Etta Hulbert

Mitchell Family Foundation General Donation

Beth Israel Sinai
3009 Washington Ave
Racine WI 53405

262-633-7093

Email:

president@bethisraelsinai.org

treasurer@bethisraelsinai.org

rabbi@bethisraelsinai.org

Web: www.bethisraelsinai.org

BETH ISRAEL SINAI
September 2023
Elul 5783 / Tishrei 5784

Shabbat & Holiday Candle Lighting Times

September 1 7:08
September 8 6:56
September 15 6:43
September 22 6:31
September 29 6:18



September 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2 10 am service in person or zoom
3	4 Labor Day	5	6	7	8	9 10 am service in person or zoom Selichot 9 pm zoom
10	11	12	13	14	15 5 pm entertainment meal service 6:45pm	16 9:30 service in person and zoom Rosh Hashanah
17 9:30 service in person or zoom Taschlich 2:00 pm	18	19	20	21	22	23 10am service in person or zoom
24 6:30 pm service in person and zoom Kol Nidre	25 9:00 am service in person or zoom Yom Kippur	26	27 build Sukkah 10am	28	29 Sukkot service zoom only 7 pm	30 10:00 am service in person or zoom