



The Bulletin Riverdale Temple

מִמְזֶרַח שָׁמֶשׁ עַד מְבֹאוֹ מִהָלֵל שֵׁם יי

*From the rising of the sun unto the going down thereof,
the name of the Eternal One is to be praised.*

Worship Services (see calendar on p. 2 for details)

Fridays

- Sept. 3 7:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service
- Sept. 10 7:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service
- Sept. 17 7:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service
- Sept. 24 7:00 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service

Saturdays

- Sept. 4 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service
- Sept. 11 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service
- Sept. 18 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service
- Sept. 25 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service

Riverdale Temple services and many events are offered in person and remotely via Zoom (see p. 2).

Consult the e-blasts for the latest information, including Zoom links. To subscribe to our e-blasts, email: administrator@riverdaletemple.org

Vol. 75

September 2021 (5781–5782)

No. 1

THE RABBI'S COLUMN

Welcome back to our bulletin, to services (for those who have been away), and to the new year of 5782! I hope everyone had a good summer and is full of energy to get back to our full-time activities.

I recently received a piece of mail from a charity. On the outside of the envelope was printed “Feeling down about the state of the world? Read what’s inside...” No doubt they hoped I would read the contents, be moved by their struggles to make the world a better place, and pull out my checkbook. Such was not the case.

But it made me think about why we send you this bulletin, why we come to services, why we are a religious community. Not because we think that Gd will treat us better than others, not because we think that this world is a lost cause and so we should focus on the next world, and not because Gd has commanded us to eat certain foods and pray a certain way. Rather, we do what we do to strengthen our ability to see holiness in the world.

Our materialistic society is not conducive to the perception of holiness. Those who understand science reject things that cannot be proven. Those who understand logic look down on things that do not make sense. And yet, those things are necessary for a religious view of the world, for a world that is holy.

Reform Judaism partly grew out of a rejection of superstition. At the beginning of the Enlightenment, Reform rejected magic, angels, demons, talismans, good and bad luck, the messiah, and everything supernatural—except Gd. This was an important and necessary step that allowed modern Judaism to be accepted by society and allowed modern Jews to remain Jewish. Unfortunately, the very real sense of the sacred was thrown out with the bath water.

People continued to sense holiness—in nature, in music, in community—but they no longer had a vocabulary for it. They would go to synagogue on a Friday and it would feel completely disconnected from their glimpses of holiness, unless they felt it in the beautiful music that then filled our sanctuaries.

In recent times, Reform Judaism once again has tried to fill our services with the transcendent. The beautiful words of poets fill our prayer books. Our music is no longer grand and classical, but also not just a simple sing-a-long. However, as we embrace the illogical and the emotional in an



High Holy Days Services (see p. 11 for details)

continued on p. 3

attempt to restore the sacred to our lives, we confront others who seem to reflect us in a dark mirror.

There are those in our country and in the world who reject science and logic for their own reasons. Some because it conflicts with their idea of religion, some because the truth is unpleasant, and others who reject impartial truth in an attempt to gain money or power over others. There are those who would gloss over the unpleasant parts of history, and those who would criminalize the search for truth. How can we say that we, for example, embrace the concept of a created world, without making common cause with those who reject evolution and paleontology?

We have a narrow path to tread. Reform Judaism has always accepted science. We have welcomed the scientific study of our people and our Torah, while at the same time insisting that there is a meaning to life that goes beyond what scientists will ever discover. Our goal is to embrace both science and religion.

If we are able to do so, if we can appreciate the holy nature of existence without denying science, our sense of the world will change. We *will* struggle to make the world a better place, because it is worth saving. We *will* want to help those in trouble, because they are not strangers, they are children of Gd, just like us.

At the same time, we also accept the world as imperfect. It is beautiful anyway. There will be suffering and loss. We accept it, knowing that there is joy and love as well. The state of the world may be bad, but it will not get us down. We will work to make everything better. And we will also accept that things will not get completely better. We will still appreciate each moment of our fragile existence, because, after all, we live in a world that is holy.

—Rabbi Thomas Gardner

THE CANTOR'S COLUMN

Shalom Chaveirim,

Rosh Hashanah is upon us again, when we celebrate the birthday of the world and welcome a new Jewish year. Each year, the cycle of the Jewish months ends and begins on the first day of the month of *Tishrei*. According to tradition, this date is the first day of the creation of the world, and since then it seems as though the world is being created anew every year. The summer ends, fall arrives, the time of the harvest is here, this is the time for *cheshbon nefesh*, when we look deeply into how we acted in the last year. Which acts of goodness did we do? And what bad deeds? What do we need to repair? And what can we create?

Rosh Hashanah is also called *Yom T'ruah*, the day of the blast. The shofar calls, reminds, screams, cries, and says, "A new year arrives, this is the time for *cheshbon nefesh*!"

It is interesting how rams' horns are turned into shofarot; every year shofar makers prepare ten shofarot for the new year. And why is a *shofar* called a *shofar*? The letters *shin pei* and *resh* mean "to improve." As Maimonides says, "Improve your actions, and in every blast that we hear, improve your deeds." He also notes, "Awake sleepers from your sleep, slumberers from your hibernation, and search through your actions and repent" (Laws of Repentance 3:4).

The craftsmanship that goes into the shofar is very careful not to do anything that may alter or change its voice, its sound. The most important and most difficult aspect is making the central hole, which gives it its tune. There is nothing that signifies Rosh Hashanah more than the shofar. We all gather at the synagogue, Rabbi Gardner and I introduce and call out the order of the blasts, and the *b'anal t'kiah*, the shofar blower, stirs our hearts.

It is said that the *kavanah* (intention) of the shofar blower must be pure during the blasts. Only then can he or she awaken the nation of Israel. Some 190 years ago, a problem arose for Rabbi Berditchev, one of the greatest of the Chassidic rabbis, just a few

weeks before Rosh Hashanah. The shofar blower, Rabbi Avraham, had passed away, and there was nobody who could take his place. Rabbi Berditchev sent messengers to call for open auditions for a new shofar blower. After ten days, all of the blowers arrived, and there was great excitement. The first candidate came and blew his shofar well.

When the rabbi asked him, "What do you think about while you blow?" the man answered, "About the holy Torah, and the mitzvah of blowing the shofar." The second candidate, before he even blew his shofar, told the rabbi about Abraham and how Isaac was saved. He then blew the shofar well. The third candidate came, blew his shofar, and answered how he was like a hero, standing at the top of the mountain and warning everyone that war was coming and how he roused hesitant people to rise up and return to Gd, to do *T'shuvah*, not to sin, and that this was the birthday of the world. The rabbi thanked him and sent him on his way as well. The fourth one explained that he was thinking about the Messiah, the revival of the dead, and all the righteous ones who will return.

Rabbi Berditchev acknowledged that all of these men were excellent, but that there was something missing in their souls: the right *kavanah* (intention). And then the last candidate came, a simple man, not a scholar. He blew his shofar in a deep and meaningful way. The rabbi asked him the same question: "Did you think of the Day of Judgment? The binding of Isaac? A ram's horn? Maybe you thought about the nation of Israel?" The simple man answered, "No. I was thinking about my daughter, who has reached an age where she wants to get married. We found an excellent man, but we don't have money. And without money, the shidduch will be canceled."

The rabbi then asked, "And this is what you were thinking of when blowing the shofar?" The man answered, "Yes. I am a simple man, and I thought that maybe my efforts would find favor with you, Rabbi, so that you would choose me to be the *ba'al t'kiah*

in your synagogue. And I would be paid and be able to marry off my daughter after the holidays.” The rabbi was shocked and said, “You only thought of this?” The man answered, “Yes, but I thought you would not choose me because I heard the other men, whose intentions were different from my simple one.” Rabbi Berditchev thought long and hard and finally said, “I choose you, because your intention is the most genuine and is purer than all of the rest.” And that is how the simple Jew was chosen to blow the shofar at the rabbi’s court.

I look forward to seeing you in person, and on Zoom, and to fill our hearts with prayer, together as a community, with the purest of *kavanot*.

L’shanah tovah tikateivu v’tchateimu. May you be inscribed and sealed for a good year.

—Cantor Inbal Sharett-Singer

THE PRESIDENT’S COLUMN

L’shana tova u’metukah. Wishing you a good and sweet year. And *g’mar hatimah tovah*. May you be inscribed and sealed for a good life.

Last year’s High Holy Days, my first as president of Riverdale Temple, were spent in front of a computer screen, watching our beautiful services remotely. This year, although we are still struggling with COVID, I hope to be able to greet many of you in person at the temple. The High Holy Days are not the holiest days in the Jewish year (Shabbat is—yes, 52 times a year), and Yom Kippur is not the most solemn day in the Jewish calendar (Tisha b’Av is), but this is a very special time when the holidays bring most of our members into the sanctuary. Judaism explicitly sets aside this period of time—ten days from Rosh Hashanah to Yom Kippur—so that we can reflect upon our lives and take stock of our behavior. It is an opportunity to face our failings and rededicate ourselves to trying to live up to higher standards. Our sages of old were keen observers of human behavior and, leaving nothing to chance, they cemented into the religion this imperative to stop in our tracks and think.

We have three major tasks at this time of year: seeking forgiveness, offering forgiveness, and atoning. These are very difficult acts, as we have seen most recently played out on our television screens with our former governor. His response was a textbook example of how not to ask for forgiveness or atonement.

It is very hard to acknowledge that our behavior has been harmful. We shrink from doing this because it means experiencing shame. Instead, we say, “If I have offended you” We want to say we are good and kind and had no bad intent. It is you, the aggrieved one, who has the problem. You are too sensitive. You saw meanness where none was intended. But forgiveness is not about our intent. Seeking forgiveness is about putting yourself in the head and heart of the person who is hurt. You have to say what you did with honesty.

We must also acknowledge the consequences of our behavior. Again, this requires empathy. Your comment or deed may have seemed benign to you (“I was just showing warmth”), but it could have been devastating to the other person. It is like incurring a debt that cannot be completely repaid. A hurtful comment cannot be unsaid, nor can an act be undone.

Judaism also demands that we take some concrete action to right the wrong. The rabbis saw acts of cruelty as upsetting the balance of the universe. It was not just about the particular person and the particular act. Sinfulness was felt to reflect upon the whole community. This is why our communal confession of sin is so important. You may not personally have committed a particular sin, but surely someone among us has, so we confess as a group. Confessing out loud is an act to right a wrong, but it does not obviate other acts, such as making a personal confession to the person you have wronged, or making some sort of reparation. Communal fasting is another way we take action to repent.

Atonement is not a one-time event. It is a life-long process. It requires continually working never to repeat the harmful act. If a person cannot acknowledge error, he or she can never atone.

As for forgiving others, Jewish law says that we are obligated to forgive, and if you don’t, you become the wrongdoer. Even if the person who has hurt you does not ask for forgiveness, you can forgive that person in your heart by accepting his or her humanity and frailty. Letting go of anger is a gift you give yourself.

As I move into this new year of 5782, I hope to take the opportunity provided by these Days of Awe to ask for forgiveness, grant forgiveness, and try to be a better person. I will have my work cut out for me.

—Dr. Ronna Weber



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BULLETIN BOARD

Temple activities will take place via Zoom and in person unless noted otherwise. Please consult the calendar on p. 2 and the temple website at <https://riverdaletemple.org>, and also check e-blasts for updates.



Go to <https://urj.org> for announcements, news and press releases, a calendar of virtual programs and events, and general information.

Copy for the next issue of *The Bulletin* is due by **September 14** You can email it directly to administrator@riverdaletemple.org (put "Bulletin" in subject line).



Congratulations

Michael Friedman on the birth of his granddaughter **Margo Larissa**

Amelia Kane and family on her Bat Mitzvah celebration

Rita Pochter Lowe on the birth of her granddaughter **Violet Marie**

Eric Rodriguez and **Jennifer Auerbach-Rodriguez** on the naming of their son, **Sebastian Rodriguez-Auerbach**

**Visit our website: <https://riverdaletemple.org>
Join Us on Facebook!**

Did you know that Riverdale Temple has a Facebook page? Find us by searching for "Riverdale Temple Bronx, NY" on Facebook and join this page by clicking on "like." This is a space where we can exchange ideas, blog, discuss events, share photos, etc., and strengthen our bonds as a community. Join and make our numbers grow.

To give a contribution to Riverdale Temple, send your donation to Riverdale Temple, 4545 Independence Avenue, Bronx, NY 10471. Please make your check payable to Riverdale Temple. Give the name/category/event to which your donation applies. We now accept payment by credit card; call the office (718-548-3800, ext. 0) or go to www.riverdaletemple.org. You can support Riverdale Temple by buying a mug with our logo for just \$10.

Riverdale Temple House Committee

Our mission is to ensure that the building and grounds of our synagogue best respond to the spiritual, educational, cultural, and social needs and activities of our congregation. We are concerned about safety, cleanliness, comfort, and appearance and maximizing the functionality of our facilities. The committee works closely with the maintenance staff to ensure that the facilities are well managed and meet the needs of our community efficiently and economically. The committee benefits from members with varied experience in facilities management, engineering, construction, and related fields.

Please volunteer to serve on this committee by writing to: administrator@riverdaletemple.org or president@riverdaletemple.org

Riverdale Temple is now part of the organics/compost pilot program in the Bronx. We can now recycle our food scraps. Please observe the different signs on the garbage receptacles and put throwaways in the proper container. We are pioneers in a wonderful program—please join the effort in caring for our environment. Thank you!



Riverdale Temple	Rabbi	4
Telephone Extensions (718-548-3800)	Cantor	5
Temple Office	0 or 1	Center
Bookkeeper	2	Emergencies
Nursery School	3	General Information
		Other
		9

Registry of Holocaust Survivors

If you are a Holocaust survivor or a family member of a survivor, you can register to be included in the Benjamin and Vladka Meed Registry of Holocaust Survivors, at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. For more information, go to ushmm.org/resourcecenter.

Contact information: Holocaust Survivors and Victims Resource Center, Registry of Holocaust Survivors, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place, SW, Washington, DC 20024-2126

Recapture the joy of reading through the JBI Library for visually impaired, blind, and reading-disabled individuals, all provided free of charge and delivered to your doorstep. Call toll free at 1-800-433-1531 or visit JBI's website at www.jbibrary.org



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SIMCHA LEARNING CENTER

Welcome back to the 2021–2022 school year at the Simcha Learning Center. We are eager to begin the year in person with a larger school body and masked. We are ready to come together and share Torah, Jewish traditions, be with friends, and celebrate this year at the SLC. Each month we will be focusing on a different Jewish value, which will be woven into the morning service, as well as various activities and events that we have throughout the month. The first Jewish value we will focus on will be *kehillah*—community. As the calendar has Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur occurring before school begins, we will begin on Sunday, September 19, in person. We are excited for the first day, in which we will join together as a kehillah—a community—for a school assembly, outside, weather permitting. We will also be making decorations and putting up our sukkah as a kehillah, in front of the temple building. If you have time, your help will be much appreciated in building the sukkah, starting at 9:30 a.m.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the High Holiday services and the family services, in particular, on Tuesday, September 7, and Thursday, September 16, at 1:30 p.m.

Wishing you all a Shanna Tova, which in Hebrew means a good year: a year filled with good health, good times with family and

friends, and many joyous opportunities to be with the Riverdale Temple kehillah and the Simcha Learning Center.

—Judy Weinberg, Education and Engagement Specialist



NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS

This summer we had camp again for children ages 2 to 5, and all of the kids had a great time! After camp, we began working on the school and getting ready for the upcoming school year. Teachers and staff have been in school all summer working on their classrooms, making them beautiful and welcoming for the new school year. The teachers at Riverdale Temple Nursery School are truly amazing!! We are all so excited for the school year to begin and see our delightful children and families! We have some new teachers who will be joining our team, and we are excited to have them be part of our amazing community.

We have done a lot of work on the building this summer. We have added new lockers, the classrooms and playroom have been painted, and all the classes have beautiful new carpets and furniture. We have a brand new playground and fun new toys.

This year we will have 3-K for all in addition to our 2s and Pre-K programs. This new 3s program will be funded by the DOE, just like the Pre-K, and it will be a welcome addition to our thriving school. We still have three spots open in our 4s program. If you know anyone who would like to enroll, please have them email me at nsdirector.rtns@gmail.com.

We are excited to welcome back our Mommy and Me program for children ages 12 months through 24 months. We have an experienced music and Mommy and Me teacher named Danya Katok. Danya has been teaching Mommy and Me classes for many years and is excited to begin classes at RTNS. If you know anyone who would like to enroll in Mommy and Me, please have them email me at nsdirector.rtns@gmail.com. Classes will begin in October.

On September 10, we will have a meet-and-greet for families to get acquainted with their teachers and see their classrooms. We would have loved to have a meet-and-greet with the whole class and parents, but this year, because of COVID, the children will come one at a time with one vaccinated parent.

The start of the year will look different from most, as we will still be implementing our COVID guidelines from last year. Last year we stayed open, and we learned how resilient our teachers and students are. I am hopeful we will have another great year!

—Alexandra Abikzer, Director

WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM (SISTERHOOD)

Dear Friends!

5782! I reviewed last year's column, where I commented how "5781 will be a challenge but we will rise to the occasion!" I think I can safely say that we are all a bit wiser and much more proficient on Zoom. We have had to cancel many events and readjust our schedules. I believe this year will be more of a challenge— we can't let "our guard down"; we have to find more ways to be sociable and hope that our definition of "normal" will return. But as I type this, I realize that this is an important reflection—and this is what our New Year is all about. We have to rise to the challenge, we have to push forward.

There are some traditions that continue: WRJ was pleased to offer The Honey Project to our temple family. We are still debating on when we can truly resume our Friday Night Onegs. Ronni Stolzenberg continues to engage us with the WRJ Book Club—the next meeting is September 22, at 7:30 p.m., and the book will be Joshua Cohen's *The Netanyahu's: An Account of a Minor and Ultimately Even Negligible Episode in the History of a Very Famous Family*. Contact Ronni for the Zoom link. And it is our hope that this spring we will be able to have the Women's Seder and, perhaps, we will be able to hold our Artisan and Fair Trade Craft Fair.

We have two exciting events that we are planning. WRJ will be hosting a very special Zoom event on September 23 at 7:00 p.m. The author Sarah Hurwitz will be discussing her book *Here All Along*. Ms. Hurwitz is a political speech writer for leaders such as Hillary Clinton and President Barack Obama, and head speech writer for First Lady Michelle Obama. In her book, Ms. Hurwitz shares the deep insights she discovered in studying Jewish law—she covers everything from holidays, rituals, and prayer to Jewish conceptions of the Almighty, death, and social justice. She demonstrates why Judaism matters and how its message is more relevant than ever. This will truly be a special evening, and if you are interested in attending, please reach out to me and I will forward you the Zoom link.

Although we are unable to have our "Lunch in the Sukkah," we are very happy to host a "Vote Postcard Writing Party in the Sukkah."

In the spirit of Sukkot, please join the Women of Reform Judaism of Riverdale Temple and Northwest Bronx Indivisible members, and their guests from other area synagogues, for a safe, outdoor get out the vote postcard writing party on Thursday, September 23, 6:30–8:30 p.m. and Sunday, September 26, 11:30 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

We will: Share time together and light snacks in the Riverdale Temple Sukkah to celebrate our ability to gather in this outdoor shelter, and write postcards to Virginia voters reminding them of the importance of voting before the November elections in that state. This community engagement effort supports future work at both state and national levels on many critical issues.

We will provide light snacks, postcards, addresses, and instructions for this easy and enjoyable activity. Please bring a pen and either postcard stamps or a small donation to help cover the cost of postcard postage. If you wish, you may bring your own dinner or lunch to fulfill the mitzvah of a meal in the sukkah. All are welcome. Though WRJ is one of the hosts, this is not a women-only event. To help us plan, please let us know if you will be able to attend by RSVP to helen.krim@gmail.com

As you can see, 5782 is not going to let us down! If you would like to get involved or have a cause that is dear to your heart, please contact me. We put together a list of events and "causes" that we want to get behind (Helping the Refugees, Supporting the LBGTQIA Community, A Friendly Fridge—the list goes on and on); we need help! Please get involved!

L'Shana Tovah! G'mar Chatimah Tovah!

—Joanne Heyman, President

MEN OF REFORM JUDAISM (MEN'S CLUB)

Best wishes from the Men's Club.

—Steven Rosenfeld, President

Riverdale Temple Cares

Are you lonely or feeling isolated during the pandemic? Are you or a family member ill? Riverdale Temple is here to help.

The temple's Caring Committee offers support during difficult times by calling members and their families to talk—about your concerns or just to have a friendly chat. Good news, such as a milestone birthday or a birth in the family or other simcha? We'd like to share in your joy!

If you or someone you know would welcome a caring call, please reach out to Muriel (917-353-6843) or Beth (bethfertig@gmail.com). If you prefer, you may contact Rabbi Gardner (718-548-3800).

SOCIAL ACTION

The Social Action Committee wishes everyone a “Healthy and Happy 5782!”

To start the New Year, please consider participating in one or more of the Social Action events and possibly joining the Social Action Committee.

Current Initiatives:

1. Please join the Sept. 12th Zoom workshop at 10:00 a.m. workshop at the temple for renters, landlords, and apartment/homeowners regarding resources for help with back rent or eviction challenges. You may have a neighbor or friend who during the pandemic lost work and owes back rent or money for their condo or home. The workshop is being offered by the Coalition of Concerned Legal Professionals. (Please see box on the right.)

2. From mid-October to mid-November, we are planning a new pajama collection for The Pajama Program. If you see sales now for pajamas for children and teens, consider purchasing ahead of the drive.

3. KRMH Food & Hunger Project, Inc., continues to distribute grocery gift cards to people in need, especially those impacted by the pandemic. We shall be offering the cards again in late September–October. We coordinate with the Interfaith Clergy Council members and social workers via the Riverdale Y. In addition, we continue our monthly packing at the Riverdale Y of supplementary groceries for permanently homebound seniors. In December, we shall also offer holiday treat bags for needy children and seniors.

Help for Haiti: Please consider making a donation to help Haitian earthquake victims. Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. A few years ago, I was able to travel for two weeks with a Haitian friend, to see the beauty, the poverty, and challenges faced by Haiti. The people have gone through so much. Listed below are a few charities where the funds will go directly to help the people. Be sure to mark donation for Earthquake Relief:

1. Hope for Haiti (www.hopeforhaiti.com)
2. Partners in Health (www.pih.org)
3. Ayiti Community Trust Foundation (www.ayiticommunitytrust.org).

Please be in contact if you have an idea for a new social action project.

—Frances Segan, Ph.D., Chairperson, Social Action Committee

“KNOW YOUR LAW” PRESENTATION:

Landlord-Tenant Law

Are you a residential tenant or small business owner having problems paying your rent or making repairs?

Are you a tenant or homeowner, facing eviction or foreclosure?

Are you a tenant in government-funded or subsidized housing who is threatened with eviction or have problems getting repairs?

Do you have questions and concerns about the effects on tenants and homeowners when the government ends the moratorium?

Are you a tenant or small landlord needing help accessing government emergency rental assistance?

A lawyer will present information and answer questions.

When: Sunday, September 12, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.

Where: Riverdale Temple via ZOOM:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5272301318?pwd=MWhVMmU2dXRlYDhFVGdxazM2Kzh5Zz09>

Meeting ID: 527 230 1318 Passcode: 978473

OR Dial in: +1 929 205 6099 NYC

4545 Independence Ave, Bronx, NY 10471

A volunteer lawyer will explain the law relating to housing problems for members of Riverdale Temple and other organizations. If you would like to attend this “KNOW YOUR LAW” session or need further information, call COALITION OF CONCERNED LEGAL PROFESSIONALS. CCLP urgently needs volunteers. Call CCLP today if you need help or can participate as a volunteer advocate, driver, translator, phoner, writer, photographer, office worker, or to learn organizing skills to fight for working people.

Sponsored by Riverdale Temple and Coalition of Concerned Legal Professionals

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ADULT EDUCATION

Welcome back to a new 2021–2022 study year. The Adult Education committee has been meeting to complete the agenda for the fall classes. We will be able to make that available to you in October, after the Jewish holidays.

For the month of September, I was hoping that the Yiddish classes presented by the YIVO would have available slots for all who had expressed their interest in the Beginner and Yiddish classes. However, because of their popularity with the public, all three Beginner slots for the YIVO classes slated in September are now full, and all have waiting lists. All of this



took place very recently. As people from around the country registered for the classes, I had hoped because of the eblast that we sent out early that some of you were lucky to get a space in the class of your interest.

As a result of the current situation, I have decided to see if I can find a Yiddish teacher who would enable us to have a Yiddish class at the temple itself that would be focused on Yiddish conversation. Many colleges have added Yiddish language classes to their departments. I will see who may be feasibly sourced from these various institutions. The YIVO has contact with many department heads.

I will be sending out a survey to our congregants to determine how many congregants would be interested in a class on a Monday or Tuesday evening and will let all of you know what we determine is practical to put into place.

Study with Rabbi Gardner has been confirmed as follows:

Class 1 Lunch and Learn: Psalms 2. A close look at some of the most important psalms. Psalms 2 will meet on Mondays from noon to 1:00 p.m., beginning on September 27.

Class 2: Life after Life? What does Judaism say happens when we die? Meets on Thursdays from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m., beginning October 7.

I wish all of you a very Happy New Year. Wishing you and your family a year filled with happiness, good health, and prosperity. This Rosh Hashanah we especially pray for peace!

—Dr. Yvette Marrin, Chair, Adult Education Committee

The **Chavurah** will meet on **September 18** at 1:15 p.m., in person in the temple, to read and discuss the penultimate reading in the Torah, Ha'Azinu. This portion consists of the Song of Moses, his final words to the Israelites. Moses reminds the people of all that Adonai has done for them and beseeches them to follow the laws that they have been given. He then is told to ascend Mount Hor to be gathered to his kin.

—Dr. Ronna Weber

CONTRIBUTIONS

The following funds are represented in the entries below: Bible and Prayer Book Fund, Jean P. and Francis J. Bloustein Camp Scholarship Fund, Cantor's Special Fund, Decorating Fund, Jacob-Fogel Program Fund, Rabbi Stephen D. Franklin Music Fund, General Fund, Dorothy and Joseph Kay Prayer Book Fund, Leon and Beatrice Bereano Pulpit Flowers Fund, Rabbi's Special Fund, Religious School and Nursery School Parents Associations Fund, Soviet Émigré Fund, Charles Tenenbaum Fund, Torah Repair Fund, Youth Activities Fund.

DONOR	IN HONOR	DONOR	IN MEMORY
Muriel Adams	High Holidays	Teri Gamble	Philip Reaboy
Shelley Ast	In appreciation of her aliyah on May 29th for her father's (z'l) birthday	Naomi Glauberman	Melvin Glauberman
Amy Bensen	For the 60th anniversary of her Bat Mitzvah	Michael and Margaret Ross Griffel	Klara Griffel, beloved mother of Michael Griffel
Sylvia Gottlieb	Thank-you to Riverdale Temple For her birthday aliyah For Michael Friedman on becoming a grandpa The Kiddush Fund	Theodore Kaplan Dorothy Kay	Anny Ross and Karl F. Ross, beloved parents of Margaret Ross Griffel Hazel Nalitt Kaplan Georgette Malik Stanley Tager
Tamara Lovchinsky	The Kiddush Fund	Roseanne Klein	Paul Klein
Michael and Lisa Sirkin, Scott Sirkin and Fay Stasky	Rabbi Gardner and Cantor Sharett-Singer, in memory of Estelle Sirkin	Linda Kleinman	Eleanor Kern Frederick Kleinman
DONOR	IN MEMORY	Helen Meltzer Krim	Julius Meltzer
Eric Auerbach	Harold Auerbach Shirley Auerbach	Arkady Krutkovich J. Henry Kurtz	Gilya Krutkovich David Fisher Benjamin Kurtz
Steve Avedon	Pauline and Albert Avedon	Joyce Liskin	Charles Lasky Elliot Liskin
Miriam Marcano-Bender	Alvin Bender	Harriet Martin	Harry L. Samalin
Amy Bensen	Lawrence Fox, beloved father	Wendy Parker	Louis Schwartz Ethel Dubrov Rose and Max Halper
Amy and Henry Bensen	Stanley Tager	Marilyn and Emil Propper	Meyer Cohen
Hermina Birnbaum	Joseph Ackner	Lise Rapaport	Florence and Joseph Rapaport
Susan and Howard Birnbaum	Estelle Sirkin Stanley Tager	Paul Resnik	Joan Resnik
Irene Brenner	Julius Richman	Paul Rosenberg	Betty Rosenberg
David Currier	Jeanette Krein		
Lucretia Djivre	Leon Djivre		
Karen and Rabbi Stephen Franklin	Rita Fauer Franklin Walter Spiegel Julia N. Sundheim		

DONOR	IN MEMORY	DONOR	IN MEMORY
Marc Sawyer	Joseph Sawyer	Sherrill Spatz and Rob Katz	Stanley Tager
Frederick Schweitzer	Jacqueline Schweitzer	Barbara Stafford	Sol Stafford
Geoffrey L. Singer and Kedra M. Singer	Rosalie Small	Sandra Stern	Simon Giserman
Lydia Soifer	Adrienne Semmel	Francoise Theodoratos	Troy Theodoratos
	Morris Semmel	Irving Weiler	Alma Weiler
Renee Spath	Constance Osach		Eugene Weiler
	Margaret Spath, beloved mother-in-law	Judy Zucker	Mildred Jaffe, beloved mother
	Edna Turteltaub, beloved mother		Stanley Tager
	Nathan Turteltaub, beloved father		

Condolences



To	On the Loss of
Eric Auerbach and family	Shirley Auerbach
Magalis, Jennifer, and Joanne Auerbach; Sebastian Auerbach	Michael Auerbach, beloved husband, father, grandfather; long-time member of Riverdale Temple
Elisha Bird and Alex Bird	Bill Bird, beloved father-in-law, grandfather
Linda Chokroverty	Shantanu Chokroverty
Sadie Davis; Fanta Davis Clarke, Phil Clarke, Jared Clarke	Robert Davis, beloved husband, father, father-in-law, grandfather
Riverdale Temple	Ellen Goldbrenner
Sandy Lerner	Lynn Lerner
Scott Sirkin and Fay Stasky, Lilly Sirkin, and Michael and Lisa Sirkin; Matthew, Alexis, and Eliana	Estelle Sirkin, beloved mother, mother-in-law, grandmother
Dr. Ronna Weber	Stanley Tager, beloved brother

The Departed Whom We Now Remember: September Yahrzeit Observances

1 Norman Baron	5 Jean Deutsch	8 Irving I. Appel	9 Herman Waill	12 Sidney Leichter
1 Millard Joseph Bleier	5 Gertrude Fuhrman	8 Helen C. Barkin	10 Harold Auerbach	12 Mae Mendlinger
1 Milton Gordon	5 Max Grossman	8 Belle S. Bloomfield	10 Dora Baron	12 Benjamin Wendrow
1 Albert Lett	5 Mary Kenig	8 Bertha Wormser Crager	10 Gerard M. Bloomfield	12 Jack Wiener
1 Julius Richman	5 Mildred Martin	8 Alexander Haines	10 Harry Hartman	13 Simon Giserman
2 Julius Meltzer	5 Jeannette Small	8 Johanna Jelin	10 Cantor Jacob Singer	13 Conrad I. Haber
3 Robert Benenson	6 Oscar Greenberg	8 Rebeka Pinhas Levi	10 Alice Spierer	13 Julia Hollander
3 Max Friedman	6 Elizabeth Levy	9 Melvin L. Glauberman	11 Helen Arzt	13 Frances Perchick
3 Jack Grushoff	6 Lillian A. Ripps	9 Isadore Jacobs	11 Dr. Benjamin Diamond	14 David Mark Fried
3 Max Halper	6 Morris F. Rothberg	9 Charles Lasky	11 Ethel Epstein	14 Vivian Lea Gorlin
3 Meta Strauss	7 Constance Spath Osach	9 Anita Rosenblatt	11 Anna Guenzig	14 Samuel Z. Kleiman
4 Diane Stern	7 Eugene I. Weiler	9 Richard Simmons	11 Alan Richman	14 Isidore Licker
				14 Nat Seefer

15 Isaac Liebowitz	18 Helen Block Gotwald	20 Charles Tauber	25 Mollie Weiner	29 Valentina Krasnopolsky
15 Melvin L. Morris	18 Claire Lersy	20 Walter Tausk	26 Lena Gleichman	29 Augusta Levy
15 Irving Oberstein	19 Clara Dancis Bereano	21 Arthur Karger	26 Klara Griffel	29 Kate Lubell
15 Olga F. Prince	19 David Buhler	21 Harry Rosenfeld	26 Samuel Levi	29 Helen Martin
15 Sol Stafford	19 Dorothy Bussis	21 Sarah Strisik	26 Elizabeth N. London	29 Helen Moskowitz
15 Ray Weinberg	19 Rose Halper	22 Benjamin Rettich	26 Harry L. Samalin	29 Gene Offenbach
16 Lillian Libby Fine	19 Jack Locke	22 Henry Vogelhut	26 Helen Sherit	29 Dr. Rudolf Radna
16 Munia Gefter	19 Rachel Salti	22 Marion "Minnie" Weiss Pochter	27 Dr. Jacob Altman	29 Jack Weiner
16 Leo Herrup	19 Israel Silberkleit	23 Michael C. Goldberg	27 Dr. David Borak	30 Joseph Ackner
17 Solomon Haas	20 Samuel Breindel	23 Adele Greenglass	27 Herman Deutsch	30 Arthur Karger
17 Saul Jelin	20 Riva Goldstein	24 Beatrice R. Bennett	27 Irmgard Hermann	30 Julius L. Lubell
17 Helen B. Karger	20 Ida Gordon	24 Yakov Dechter	28 Morris Caplan	30 Henry N. Merson
17 David Morris	20 Dorothy Kleiman	24 Adrienne Semmel	28 Martin Cohen	
17 Samuel Turoff	20 Douglas Popolow	25 Daniel Chazen	29 Helene Benardo	
18 Judith Gorlin Deutsch		25 Rita Gefter	29 Henry L. Grunbaum	



Riverdale Temple

Schedule of High Holy Days Services 2021/5782

Selichot: Sat., Aug. 28, 7:30 p.m.

Erev Rosh Hashanah: Mon., Sept. 6, 8:00 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah Day I: Tues., Sept. 7, 10:00 a.m.

Rosh Hashanah Family Service: Tues., Sept. 7, 1:30 p.m. (open to nonmembers*)

Rosh Hashanah Day II: Wed., Sept. 8, 10:00 a.m. (open to nonmembers*)

Kol Nidre: Wed., Sept. 15, 8:00 p.m.

Yom Kippur Morning: Thurs., Sept. 16, 10:00 a.m.

Yom Kippur Family Service, Thurs., Sept. 16, 1:30 p.m. (open to nonmembers*)

Yom Kippur Afternoon, Yizkor, and N'ilah, Thurs., Sept. 16, 4:00 p.m. (open to nonmembers*)

*Nonmembers will also need to bring proof of vaccination to the indoor services. Links to all service registrations are on the temple's website, and nonmembers should go there to sign up

High Holy Days Service Guidelines

All of our High Holy Days services (with the exception of our Family Services) will be held both in-person in the sanctuary and online. Family Services will be held in-person only, outside on the Temple Plaza. In case of inclement weather, Family Services will be canceled. All persons wishing to attend services must register in advance and must be fully vaccinated.

To comply with the latest CDC recommendations, masks will also be required. Please bring your documentation of vaccination with you to the temple and be prepared to show it when you enter the building. Regrettably, we will be unable to admit anyone who does not have valid proof of vaccination. Registration will also be required of those who plan to attend remotely. This will allow us to send you the link for the online services.

RIVERDALE TEMPLE

4545 INDEPENDENCE AVENUE

BRONX, NY 10471

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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4545 Independence Avenue
Bronx, NY 10471

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Cantor of the Congregation

Inbal Sharett-Singer, B.Mus., M.S.M.

Rabbis Emeriti of the Congregation

Stephen D. Franklin, D.D., D.H.L.
Judith S. Lewis, D.D.

President of the Congregation

Ronna Weber, Ph.D.

Nursery School Executive Director

Alexandra Abikzer

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Inside This Issue

1 *Worship Services*

1 *The Rabbi's Column*

2 *Monthly Calendar*

3 *The Cantor's Column*

4 *The President's Column*

5 *Bulletin Board*

5 *Congratulations*

6 *Simcha Learning Center*

6 *Nursery School News*

7 *Women of Reform Judaism*

7 *Men of Reform Judaism*

7 *The Caring Committee*

8 *Social Action*

8 *Adult Education*

9 *Contributions*

10 *Condolences*

10 *Yahrzeit Observances*

11 *High Holy Days Services*