

The Agudagram

October 2024 Volume 74, No. 1
Elul/Tishrei 5784/5785

Agudas Israel Congregation

77 North Pine Street
Hazleton, PA 18201
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Officers:

Richard Kline, Ritual Leader
Debbie Walko, President
Marlene Leonard, Vice President
Richard Rockman, Secretary
Helene Kline, Treasurer
Richard Kline, Financial Officer



SHABBAT CANDLELIGHTING AND HOLIDAY SERVICES

Rosh Hashanah- Wednesday, October 2- candlelighting 6:32 pm
Rosh Hashanah- Thursday, October 3- candlelighting 7:22 pm from existing flame
Fri., Oct. 4- Shabbat Shuvah- Parshat Ha'Azinu- 6:28 pm candlelighting from existing flame
October 6- Fast of Gedalia begins 5:44 am, ends 7:17pm
Yom Kippur- Friday, October 11- 6:09 candlelighting, Yom Tov ends 10/12 at 7:08 pm
Sukkot- Wednesday, October 16- 6:12 pm candlelighting
Thursday, October 17- 7pm candlelighting from existing flame
Fri. October 18- 5:59 pm candlelighting from existing flame
Hoshanah Rabah- October 23
Shemini Atzeret- Wednesday, October 23- 5:51 pm candlelighting
Simchat Torah- Thursday, October 24- 5:50pm candlelighting from existing flame
Friday, October 25- Parshat Bereisheet- 5:49pm candlelighting

HIGH HOLIDAY SCHEDULE AND SERVICE TIMES ENCLOSED!

Keep reading!

Opinion: This Rosh Hashanah, Jews face a changed world

By Rabbi Levi Greenberg



Although it's only almost October, a new year will soon begin on the Jewish calendar. On the evening of Wednesday, Oct. 2, Jews in El Paso and worldwide will start celebrating the [two-day holiday of Rosh Hashanah](#) (literally "Head of the Year") by hearing the [sounding of the Shofar](#) (ram's horn), reciting special prayers, and partaking in festive meals replete with symbolic foods such as apples dipped in honey, pomegranates and more.

This past year did not turn out to be what we hoped and prayed it would be when it started last Rosh Hashanah. Twenty-two days into this past year, on Oct. 7, Israel was brutally attacked and the rest is history. The ramifications of the ongoing war are felt in every Jewish community on multiple levels and we hope and pray that the conclusion of this conflict brings with it real peace and security to the region.

I share the above sentiment not as a complaint about this past year or to be ungrateful. I have much to be thankful for, but the overall context of the year was markedly different from anything I have experienced in my lifetime. The intensity of the conflict in Israel and its impact on global public discourse on various issues has provided a unique opportunity for clarity and recalibration for many.

Throughout this past year, I was surprised to discover the reservoirs of moral courage, integrity, and compassion so many people have.

From within the Jewish community, I witnessed an unprecedented interest in connecting with Jewish tradition through more observance and learning.

From the general community, I was grateful to experience the outpouring of support immediately after the attack and the ongoing interest in our well-being as the year unfolded. All this reminds me of an important idea expressed in a story I once heard about the decorated Israeli General Yossi Ben Hanan.



In the summer of 1986, he decided to retire from the military and seek a career in the private sector. However, the then-Israel Defense Force Chief of Staff General Moshe Levy wanted him to stay on as the commander of the Armored Corps.

Yossi traveled to New York to seek the guidance of the [Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson](#), and with his blessing, continued his military career for another 20 years.

[During a 1988 meeting](#), the Rebbe urged General Ben Hanan to focus on achieving true deterrence against Israel's enemies so there would be no need for war in the first place. When Yossi requested a blessing that G-d give him the strength to do so, the Rebbe responded: "Strength, you already have. But strength locked in a box – guarded so carefully that no one knows about it – defeats the entire purpose."

The rule applies in every area of life. We have all been endowed by G-d with so much potential, but actualizing it and positively impacting the world with all our latent strengths is entirely up to us. When left unused, hidden away in the proverbial box, it defeats the entire purpose of potential.

In normal times and under calmer circumstances, there are always excuses for hiding all that goodness, but the intensity of this year's circumstances forced it all out into the open. This year, I witnessed the revelation of so much hidden potential by so many and this trend could and should continue.

The same is true about the world in general. Notwithstanding the grim challenges facing humanity around the globe, we can trust that the power of goodness can and will overwhelm the forces of darkness and evil.

As Maimonides declared over 800 years ago, we must all view ourselves and the world as an equally balanced scale of good and bad. One single good deed that one individual does can tip the scales for the entire world to usher in an era of eternal peace and tranquility. Because in potential, the whole world is a divine garden of peace, and revealing it as such is up to us.

May this new year be filled with many more good deeds, revealing the hidden potential within all humanity, and may it be a good and sweet new year for all.

GET WELL WISHES ARE EXPRESSED TO: CAROL SILVER,
JANET KEICH, LEANNE TRATTNER, SHIRLEY BRENNER, &
BONNIE YANUSKIEWICZ.

SHOULD ANYONE HAVE ANY NEWS TO SHARE WITH THE
AIC FAMILY, PLEASE EMAIL IT TO
AGUDASISRAELHAZLETON@GMAIL.COM TO RUN IN THE
NEXT AGUDAGRAM!



Estate Planning?

Call the AIC office to reserve your cemetery plot(s) for you and your beloved family. Active planning helps family tend to your afterlife needs and their mourning with less stress.

Consider joining the Cemetery Committee to help our members and congregation with this lasting legacy.

SEPTEMBER DONATIONS RECEIVED

Yahrzeit Memorial Fund		Agudas Israel Congregation Endowment Fund
From	In Memory of	
Rhoda Wolff	Anna Kaplan, grandmother	In Memory of Martin Cohn
Doris Sugarman	Barry Sugarman, husband	Barbara Wagner & David Stern
Barry & Karen Chaskin	Bernard Chaskin, father	Donnamarie Ott
Faye & Richard Bishop	Bernard Chaskin, neighbor & father of friend	Faye & Richard Bishop Howard Geltzer
Terry & Marvin Chercass	Birdie Richter, aunt	Jill & Ira Rothstein
Doris Sugarman	David Sugarman, brother-in-law	Lenny & Annie Brenner
William J. Small	Fred G. Small, father	Michele & James Banker
Bonnie & Michael Yanuskiewicz	Hanna Lande Demchick, aunt	Richard Rockman
William J. Small	Henry Small, grandfather	Sherri Klemow-Shevlin
Michele & James Banker	Hillel H. Sukenik, brother	Steven Klemow
Rochelle Miller	Ida Miller, Aunt	In Memory of Carol Shupeck Gould
Myra Kline Russek	Isadore Kline, father	Jonathan Gould
Doris Sugarman	Jean Sugarman, mother-in-law	In Memory of Irwin Geltzer
Doris Sugarman	Kalman Sugarman, father-in-law	Howard Geltzer
Terry Chercass	Louis Syken, father	AIC Endowment Fund
William J. Small	Marilyn Small, mother	Paula Sokolowski
William J. Small	Maurice Burkat, grandfather	
William J. Small	Minnie Small, grandmother	
Honey Minkin	Morris Feller, grandfather	
Michele & James Banker	Renay Berman, cousin	
Susan Starker	Rhoda Starker, mother	
Gail Bayarsky Burger	Ruth Bayarsky, mother	
Steven Klemow	Samuel Moldoff, grandfather	
William J. Small	Sidell Burkat, grandmother	
Carlos Buchbinder	Trudy Buchbinder, mother	

October (Elul/Tishrei) Yahrzeits

May the memory of the righteous endure as a blessing.

The yahrzeit plaque lights are on in the sanctuary in memory of our departed loved ones.

*Numbers before each name correspond to the Hebrew date of their passing. The date after each name is the secular day of the yahrzeit. Yahrzeit candles should be lit the evening before this date burning through the day of their passing. Kaddish should be said the evening before and the day of the date of passing.

Tishrei

1 Mae Cohen 10/3

1 Irving Miller 10/3

2 Hilda Harmitz 10/4

2 Harold Eisenberg 10/4

2 Samuel Kline 10/4

4 Sara Cohn 10/6

5 Florence Burkat 10/7

5 Jacob Cohn 10/7

5 Aaron Deitch 10/7

5 Benjamin Edelstein 10/7

8 Morris Hoffman 10/10

8 Adam Gundling 10/10

9 Fannie Gandell 10/11

9 Maxwell Soke Brenner 10/11

9 Morris Glickman 10/11

9 Samuel Smulyan 10/11

10 Marilyn Katz 10/12

12 Myrtle Schlesinger 10/14

14 Oscar Finkel 10/16

14 Meyer E. Martin 10/16

16 Rose Weissberger 10/18

16 Harry Berman 10/18

16 Florence Singer 10/18

16 Bette J. Martin 10/18

18 Mildred Levy 10/20

19 Henry Goldstein 10/21

22 Yale Schwartz 10/24

23 Milton Auerbach 10/25

23 Altheda Ziff 10/25

25 Hannah Florence

Lefkowitz 10/27

25 Sadie Goldberg 10/27

25 Ben Mason 10/27

26 Minnie Chaskin 10/28

26 Pauline Lander 10/28

26 Joseph B. Frumkin 10/28

26 Simon Klemow 10/28

27 Julia B. Blumberg 10/29

27 Rachel Cohn 10/29

27 Rose Bishop 10/29

28 Rita Wiepert 10/30

28 Larry Chaskin 10/30

29 Molly Rosen 10/31

PLEASE REMEMBER THE MITZVAH OF GIVING TZEDUKAH TO YOUR SHUL OR THE SHUL OF YOUR LOVED ONE WHO HAS PASSED, ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR YAHRZEIT IN THEIR MEMORY.

REFLECTION WHICH MAY BE READ WHEN LIGHTING A YAHRZEIT CANDLE FOR YOUR LOVED ONE:

"I light this candle to bring peace to the soul of _____ (insert Jewish name) ben/bat (son of/daughter of) _____ (insert father's Jewish name)."

The human soul is a light from God. May it be your will that the soul of (*insert name*) enjoy eternal life, along with the souls of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah, and the rest of the righteous that are in Gan Eden. Amen.

Neir Adonai Nishmat Adam. Yehi Ratzon Milfanecha, Adonai Eloheinu Veilohei Avoteinu, Shetehei Nishmat (insert name) Tzerurah betzeror hachayim, im nishmot Avraham Yitzchak ve'Ya'akov, Sarah, Rivkah, Rachel VeLeah. Tehi Menutchatah kavod, Selah

thank you!

We greatly appreciate donations for yahrzeits, life events, and other celebrations! They truly keep the shul running and show how strong our congregation is.

If you'd like information about donating, please email us at agudasisraelhazleton@gmail.com or call the shul.

5785/2024 High Holiday Schedule

ROSH HASHANAH 5785

Wed. Oct. 2, 2024 - Erev Rosh Hashanah

6:15 PM Evening Service w/ Cantor Ramón Tasat

6:32 PM 🕯️ Hazleton

Thurs. Oct. 3, 2024 - RH Day I

9:30 AM Morning Service w/ Cantor Ramón Tasat

6:15 PM Evening service w/ Cantor Ramón Tasat

7:22 PM 🕯️ Hazleton

Fri. Oct. 4, 2024 - RH Day II

9:30 AM Morning Service w/ Cantor Ramón Tasat

6:28 PM Shabbat 🕯️ Hazleton

YOM KIPPUR

Fri. Oct. 11, 2024 - Erev Yom Kippur

6:00 PM Kol Nidre Service w/ Cantor Ramón Tasat

6:17 PM 🕯️ Hazleton

Sat. Oct. 12, 2024 - Yom Kippur Day

*9:30 AM Shabbat Service w/ Cantor Ramón Tasat**Yizkor Service*

5:00 PM Evening Service w/ Cantor Ramón Tasat

5:00 PM - *Minha*, 6:30 PM - *Neilah*, 7:15 PM - *Shofar*

7:08 PM 🕯️ *Havdalah*

SUKKOT

Wed Oct. 16 Erev Sukkot - Wed Oct. 23, 2024 Sukkot VII

AIC Sukkot Service schedule TBA

6:51 PM 🕯️ **Shemini Atzeret** - Thurs. Oct. 24, 2024

5:50 PM 🕯️ **Simchat Torah** - Fri. Oct. 25, 2024

6:48 PM 🕯️ *Havdalah* Sat. Oct. 26, 2024

Sukkot, also known as the Feast of Tabernacles or Feast of Booths, is a Torah-commanded holiday celebrated for seven days, beginning on the 15th day of the month of Tishrei. It is one of the Three Pilgrimage Festivals on which Israelites were commanded to make a pilgrimage to the Temple in Jerusalem. Originally a harvest festival celebrating the autumn harvest, Sukkot's modern observance is characterized by festive meals in a sukkah, a temporary wood-covered hut, celebrating the Exodus from Egypt.

Sukkot Service Schedule:

* Thurs. Oct. 17th - 9:30AM Sukkot Service at AIC with Lulav & Etrog & on Zoom

* Fri. Oct. 18th - 9:30AM Sukkot Service ZOOM ONLY

* Sat. Oct. 19th - 9:30AM Shabbat Service at AIC & on Zoom

* Wed. Oct. 23rd - 9:30AM Hashanah Rabba Service ZOOM ONLY

* Thurs. Oct. 24 - 9:30AM Shemini Atzeret with Yizkor Service - ZOOM ONLY

* Fri. Oct. 25 - 9:30AM Simchat Torah Service ZOOM ONLY

* Sat. Oct. 26th - 9:30AM Shabbat Service at AIC and on Zoom

BEAR WITNESS TO OCTOBER 7TH



ELINOR, KFAR AZA

Join us as Elinor Bitton Bariach shares her experience narrowly surviving the October 7th massacre. Her story and presence inspires us all with strength and resilience.

She will be joined by Gilad Paz from TLV, providing solace and hope with an Israeli music performance.

Elinor's story. TLV's music.
You bearing witness.

Monday, October 7th, 6:30PM

Friedman JCC
613 S J Strauss Ln, Kingston, PA



FACES
OF
OCTOBER SEVENTH



Join the Jewish community of the
Wyoming Valley as we honor

United States Senator
John Fetterman

Champion of Israel

Monday
October 21
6:00 p.m.




The Friedman JCC
613 S.J. Strauss Ln
Kingston, PA 18704



AZKARA

A MUSICAL HOMAGE TO THE VICTIMS OF OCTOBER 7

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2024 • 4:00PM
 Ohr Kodesh Congregation • 8300 Meadowbrook Lane, Chevy Chase MD 20815

Hazzan Dr. Ramon Tasat, Cantor of Agudas Israel Congregation and musical director of the Jewish Community Choir Kolot HaLev, has invited us to an upcoming event entitled "AZKARA, A musical homage to the victims of Oct. 7th" -- A poignant musical tribute to honor and remember the lives lost, and for those held hostage in the tragic events of October 7 in Israel. This heartfelt performance, in which you may participate or only listen, will invoke the power of music to unite and heal. Through diverse compositions, the event will offer a space for reflection, and collective mourning. We must remember.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE? Anyone interested in singing. There is no requirement to belong to a choral organization, to be Jewish, to be an experienced singer, or to live within the Greater Washington area. All are welcome. Visit the webpage listed below for musical scores and mp3's.

HOW DO I REGISTER? There is no charge, but registration is most appreciated. The event will be livestreamed via a link on the webpage below:

Learn more at: <https://kolothalev.org/azkara-oct-7/>

OCTOBER PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Shalom to all,

As we approach Rosh Hashanah, our festival filled with hope and self-reflection, we have the opportunity to start each day with a fresh start and a new beginning. We welcome the children back in Hebrew school and we look forward to the upcoming Bar Mitzvah service of Matthew Belak.

It's been a very difficult year, especially since last October 7th in Israel, and the rise of antisemitism throughout the world is also very disheartening. We pray for positive new beginnings in the year 5785 for Israel and Ukraine.

Please note the dates and times for the upcoming holiday services. Certain services will be on Zoom only.

It will be wonderful to see everyone and gather together in our beautiful sanctuary to bring in the New Year!

Wishing all a sweet, healthy and prosperous year ahead. L'shana tova!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debbie Walker".