

Kol HaShalom

Adat Shalom's Newsletter

August 2018 • Av/Elul 5778

In This Edition

SHABBQ

Our second ShabbQ of the summer will be on Friday, August 17. Don't miss the evening of music, food, community, prayer, and fun!

PAGE 4

ADULT EDUCATION SERIES

Join Rabbi Lebovitz for another session of adult learning!

PAGE 3

TOT SHABBAT

Join us for Tot Shabbat on Saturday, August 4th and check out our calendar of exciting events for young families in 5779.

PAGE 5

The Shofar and the School Bell



RABBI NOLAN LEBOVITZ

The Hebrew month of Elul brings with it the tradition of the Shofar. Traditionally, we hear the Shofar blast each and every morning of Elul leading up to the High Holidays, except

for Shabbat morning. Each year, I try to consider the emotion of the Shofar. Does it sound sad or happy? How does it make us all feel?

This year I'd like to relate it to the school bell. The school bell was a mechanical sound that was always the same. It said get up, move on, change classes, eventually return home. The school bell was a part of my life for many years—so much so, that I never stopped to consider it.

I fear that, for many of us, the Shofar blasts are such a spectacle that all we do is stand in awe, but in fact we don't hear its message: get up, move on, change, and return. There is a utilitarian usage to the Shofar, much like the school bell, but it seems to get lost in the majesty.

So this year, let's focus on the action of the ringing blast. How do I stand up from wherever I am relaxing? Where should I go next? Where is the eventual home that I am going? And when we get there, we can go back to considering our feelings.

I look forward to seeing everybody in the sanctuary for High Holidays!

“

I fear that, for many of us, the Shofar blasts are such a spectacle that all we do is stand in awe, but in fact we don't hear its message: get up, move on, change, and return.

”

High Holidays 5779

PAGE 3

Join us for the holidays! Please remember to return your membership packets and requests for additional tickets by Friday, August 17th.

