

# Be.★

Community You  
Can Believe In

# TEMPLE topics

High Holidays 2021

Tishrei 5782

All of your 5782 High Holiday  
information is inside!

- ★ In Person or Watch From Home — You Choose! *page 2*
- ★ As COVID Evolves, So Does Our Mask Policy *pages 2 & 7*
- ★ Confirm Your Access Via Your Member Portal *page 6*

**May we and the entire House  
of Israel be remembered and  
recorded in the Book of Life,  
Blessing, Sustenance,  
and Peace.**

בְּסֵפֶר חַיִּים, בְּרָכָה וְשָׁלוֹם  
וּפְרִיָּטָה טוֹבָה, נִזְכָּר וְנִכְתָּב לְפָנֶיךָ,  
אֲנַחְנוּ וְכָל עַמְּךָ בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל,  
לְחַיִּים טוֹבִים וּלְשָׁלוֹם.

*B'sefer chaim bracha v'shalom  
v'farnasa tova, nizacher v'nikatev l'fanecha,  
anachnu v'chol amcha beit yisrael  
l'chaim tovim u'leshalom.*

# ★ Welcome Back Everyone!



Never has the traditional greeting by the prophet Isaiah felt more appropriate: *Shalom, Shalom LaRachok V'LakKarov.*

Peace and welcome to those far away and to those who are near.

What a year this has been. We have missed seeing everyone in person. At the same time, we are so grateful that Zoom and Livestream brought us all together as a community even when in lockdown or geographically distant from each other.

At the time of this writing, we eagerly anticipate a High Holiday

experience that will be marked by in-person attendance. Unlike last year when conditions did not permit us to be together physically in one space, this year we eagerly anticipate the ability to see each other in larger numbers with all appropriate safeguards in place, of course.

In this issue of Temple Topics, you will find information describing our services and programs so that everyone in our Beth El family can find experiences that meet their needs.

And we can't wait! There are new members to meet, and so many relationships to renew. We also want everyone to have the opportunity to meet the wonderful

new addition to our clergy team, Rabbi Rachel Zerlin.

Each year during the high holidays we speak of *Teshuvah*, repentance. But it's a word that really means "to return," ideally to return to the best within ourselves, to become better spiritual and ethical beings.

This year we have a special opportunity to feel the freshness of this task. Because we are returning to our spiritual home in order to mark a very special new beginning.

Let this New Year be a year of good health, renewal, of re-acquaintance and growth. Let its sweetness be yours each and every day.

~ Jim Rosen

## ★ Access To High Holiday Services Is Easy

We want to make attending services as easy, convenient and safe as possible. You can mix and match in-person and on-line options (information begins on the facing page).

Out of respect for our unvaccinated youngsters, masks will be required for everyone attending the Family Services in Kessler Hall, and for anyone who is not vaccinated. We continue to monitor mask guidelines from the CDC and the State of Connecticut and will adjust as necessary.

### Tickets/Access are required for:

Rosh Hashanah - Day 1	TUE, 9/7
Yom Kippur - Kol Nidrei	WED, 9/15
Yom Kippur - Day	THUR, 9/16

### Beth El Members and Family

We will mail tickets to members in good standing<sup>o</sup> one to two weeks before the holidays. Children ages 18-24 will also receive tickets at this time, but please contact the Beth El office to make sure we have their current address. Your adult children, ages 25-29, if not members on their own, may purchase tickets at a reduced rate (see page 6).

<sup>o</sup> MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING have paid their dues in full, or have returned their completed membership form with their first payment.

### Welcoming the Greater Hartford Jewish Community

**Rosh Hashanah - Both Evenings AND Day 2**  
**Yom Kippur - Mincha AND Neilah**

These services are open to the community at no charge. Anyone may attend in-person; interested parties will need to contact the office or visit our website to receive Livestream and Zoom information.

### Complimentary Special Guests

**Area College Students, Young Adults (18-24), Active Military:** We invite you to join us for any of our services at no charge. Just present your ID when you enter.

### Guest Ticket/Reciprocity Policy

You will find information for purchasing guest tickets and obtaining reciprocal tickets on page 6.

### Office Closed:

The office will close at 2PM for Shabbat on Fri, Sept 3, and remain closed through Rosh Hashanah. The office will re-open at 8:30AM on Thu, Sept 9.

# ★ Service Schedules

**Tickets/Access:** Please see page 6 for the [Ticket/Access Policy](#) to attend Services in-person or to connect to the Livestream/Zoom options. Tickets/Links will be mailed/emailed one-two weeks before each service.

For security purposes, in order to access the main services either in-person or on your computer, you must have [renewed your membership](#). Do NOT forward the links as they are connected to your Beth El account.

## Community Selihot SATURDAY, AUGUST 28

8:30 PM - 9:00 PM	Reception	TBD	—	8:11 PM HAVDALAH CANDLE
9:00 PM - 9:45 PM	Music Program	SANCTUARY	LIVESTREAM	
9:45 PM - 10:45 PM	Selichot Services	SANCTUARY	LIVESTREAM	

**Machzor:** If you picked up a Machzor, remember to bring it to services. See back cover.

## Rosh Hashanah, Erev MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

6:00 PM - 7:15 PM	Mincha & Festival Ma'ariv	SANCTUARY	LIVESTREAM	6:58 PM CANDLE LIGHTING
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## Rosh Hashanah, Day 1 TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

9:00 AM - 12:15 PM	Festival Service	SANCTUARY	LIVESTREAM	
9:00 AM - 9:45 AM	Mazel Tots, <i>masks required</i>	KESSLER HALL	—	
9:30 AM - 12:15 PM	Festival Service	CHAPEL	LIVESTREAM	
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM	Family Service, <i>masks required</i>	KESSLER HALL	—	
5:00 PM - 5:30 PM	Tashlich Ceremony	25 HUNTINGTON DR, WEST HARTFORD		
6:00 PM - 6:40 PM	Festival Mincha & Ma'ariv	CHAPEL	LIVESTREAM	7:57 PM CANDLE LIGHTING

**Apples & Honey:** Socialize outdoors, after services, on both days of Rosh Hashanah.  
SPONSOR: Men's Club



## Rosh Hashanah, Day 2 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

9:00 AM - 12:15 PM	Sanctuary Service	SANCTUARY	LIVESTREAM	
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Family Experience, <i>masks required</i>	KESSLER HALL	—	
7:30 PM - 8:00 PM	Festival Mincha, Ma'ariv & Havdalah	CHAPEL	ZOOM	7:53 PM HAVDALAH CANDLE



## Shabbat Shuvah SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Traditional Shabbat Service	SANCTUARY	LIVESTREAM	
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(NOTE: our annual visit to Lake Norden Badger is postponed one week.)

## Cemetery Service SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Cemetery Service	BETH EL CEMETERY, JACKSON ST, AVON		
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## Yom Kippur, Kol Nidrei WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

6:30 PM - 8:45 PM	Kol Nidrei Service	SANCTUARY	LIVESTREAM	6:43 PM CANDLE LIGHTING
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM	Kol Nidrei Service	CHAPEL	LIVESTREAM	Light Yizkor candle first

## Yom Kippur, Day THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Festival Service	SANCTUARY	LIVESTREAM	
9:00 AM - 9:45 AM	Mazel Tots, <i>masks required</i>	KESSLER HALL	—	
9:30 AM - 12:30 PM	Festival Service	CHAPEL	LIVESTREAM	
10:30 AM - 12:15 PM	Family Service, <i>masks required</i>	KESSLER HALL	—	
5:30 PM - 6:15 PM	Festival Mincha	SANCTUARY	LIVESTREAM	
6:15 PM - 7:40 PM	Neilah & Ark Visitations	SANCTUARY	LIVESTREAM	
7:40 PM	Havdalah & Final Shofar Blast	SANCTUARY	LIVESTREAM	7:39 PM HAVDALAH CANDLE

**Yizkor:** Will be recited in all services on Yom Kippur morning. Remember to bring the **Book of Remembrance** that will be mailed to your home.



## Shabbat with *Lake Norden Badger*

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Traditional Shabbat Service Rabbi Rosen's Annual Tribute to Small Town Midwest Jewish Communities	SANCTUARY	LIVESTREAM
12:00 PM	<i>Lake Norden Badger</i> Lunch	TBD	—

## Sukkot, Erev

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20**

6:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Mincha & Festival Ma'ariv	CHAPEL	ZOOM	6:34 PM CANDLE LIGHTING
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## Sukkot, Day 1

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21**

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Festival Service	SANCTUARY	LIVESTREAM	
6:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Festival Mincha & Ma'ariv	CHAPEL	LIVESTREAM	7:32 PM CANDLE LIGHTING



## Sukkot, Day 2

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22**

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Festival Service	SANCTUARY	LIVESTREAM	
7:30 PM - 8:00 PM	Festival Mincha, Ma'ariv & Havdalah	CHAPEL	ZOOM	7:29 PM HAVDALAH CANDLE

## Shemini Atzeret, Erev

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**

7:00 AM - 8:15 AM	Hoshanah Rabah	CHAPEL	ZOOM	
6:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Mincha & Festival Ma'ariv	CHAPEL	ZOOM	6:22 PM CANDLE LIGHTING

## Shemini Atzeret, Day

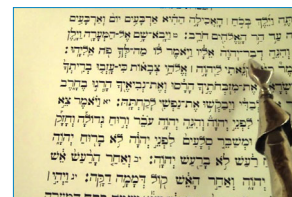
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28**

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Festival Service, with <i>Yizkor</i>	SANCTUARY	LIVESTREAM	
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## Simchat Torah, Erev

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28**

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Outdoor Experience	FRONT PLAZA	—	
7:00 PM - 7:30 PM	Festival Mincha & Ma'ariv	CHAPEL	LIVESTREAM	7:20 PM CANDLE LIGHTING



## Simchat Torah, Day

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29**

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Festival Service	SANCTUARY	LIVESTREAM	
7:30 PM - 8:00 PM	Festival Mincha, Ma'ariv & Havdalah	CHAPEL	ZOOM	7:17 PM HAVDALAH CANDLE

## Shabbat Shuvah

**SAT, 9/11**

- ☆ A traditional service with a special Haftarah marking the Shabbat between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.
- ☆ With a special remembrance marking 20 years after 9/11.

## Shabbat with *Lake Norden Badger* SAT, 9/18

- ☆ A Beth El tradition: Rabbi Rosen's Annual Tribute to Small Town Midwest Jewish Communities – **LAKE NORDEN BADGER**.
- ☆ A uniquely themed lunch follows, prepared by Taste of Shabbat's special cooking crew.

## Additional Holiday Programs

Details coming in the next Temple Topics

### 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Sukkahfest: Tequila & Tacos in the Sukkah

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 6:00 - 8:30 PM**

CONTACT: Jacob Kovel, eaglewars@aol.com  
SPONSOR: Men's Club

### Book in the Sukkah: *Eva and Eve: A Search for My Mother's Lost Childhood and What a War Left Behind*, with Author Julie Metz

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 5:00 - 8:00 PM**

CONTACT: Michelle Kunzman,  
michellekunzman1@gmail.com  
SPONSOR: Women's Network

# ★ Service Descriptions

## Community Selichot Service SAT, 8/28

- ✧ Begin your spiritual journey for this High Holiday season as our community gathers together for an evening of special music and High Holiday liturgy.

## Rosh Hashanah - Day 1 AND TUE, 9/7 Yom Kippur - Day THU, 9/16

*You have a CHOICE of 3 services!*

- ✧ Sanctuary Services: led by Rabbi Rosen and Cantor Ness; accompanied by our choir and organ.
- ✧ Chapel Services: led by congregants Jason Kay and Susan Gold; without choir or organ.
- ✧ Kessler Hall Services: family-friendly service led by Rabbi Zerín and Rabbi Sowalsky. *Masks required for all attendees, ages 2+.*

**Yizkor:** The memorial service will be recited in all three services on Yom Kippur morning. Remember to **bring the Book of Remembrance** that will be mailed to your home. Extra booklets will not be available; there is a variation of our service in the Machzor.

## Rosh Hashanah - Day 2 WED, 9/8

*We are open to the community; no tickets required!*

- ✧ Sanctuary Service: led by Rabbi Rosen and Cantor Ness, the congregation is encouraged to sing along with the choir; the organ is not played.
- ✧ Family Experience: Children and adults of all ages are invited to Kessler Hall for this interactive service with Rabbi Zerín and Rabbi Sowalsky. Followed by grab-and-go snacks and free play for the kids. *Masks required for all attendees, ages 2+.*

## Tashlich Ceremony TUE, 9/7 (rain date: 9/8)

Berlinsky Home, 25 Huntington Dr, West Hartford

- ✧ A 13<sup>th</sup> century custom of symbolically casting off our sins by tossing bread into running water.
- ✧ Please bring bread crumbs for you and your family to toss!



## Cemetery Service SUN, 9/12

Beth El Cemetery, Jackson Street, Avon

- ✧ Our clergy lead a brief service honoring our beloved departed and offer prayers at individual graves.

## Mazel Tots

TUE, 9/7 &  
THU, 9/16

Led by Rabbi Zerín, this program is for children 5 and younger, with at least one grown-up. *Masks required for all attendees, ages 2+.*

## Yom Kippur - Kol Nidrei WED, 9/15

(Opening evening service)

- ✧ Sanctuary Service: led by Rabbi Rosen and Cantor Ness; accompanied by our choir and organ.
- ✧ Chapel Service: led by Rabbi Zerín and Susan Gold; a participatory and intimate service.

## Yom Kippur - Neilah

(Concluding evening service)

- ✧ Sanctuary Service: the Ark is kept open as the symbolic Gates of Heaven are closing. All who wish to come up for personal moments of reflection and prayer are so encouraged.
- ✧ *Family units of all ages and configurations (including non-Jewish family members) can each have a private moment.*

THU, 9/16

**Neilah:** After the final shofar, grab a snack on your way out.



SPONSOR:  
Women's  
Network

## Sukkot

TUE & WED, 9/21 & 22



- ✧ After each service, come to Kiddush (grab and go/stay) and say the blessing as you fulfill the mitzvah of sitting in the Sukkah.

## Shemini Atzeret

TUE, 9/28

- ✧ The 8<sup>th</sup> day of Sukkot is a holiday unto itself. It is established in the Torah as a way for God to ask us to stay one more day in the holiday mode.
- ✧ **YIZKOR** and the seasonal prayer for rain are included in the morning liturgy.

## Simchat Torah Outdoor Experience

TUE, 9/28

- ✧ *Hakafot* with live music
- ✧ Special food, refreshments, and adult beverages; sponsored by Men's Club.



# ★ Ticket & Online Access Policy

Beth El provides a variety of options for family and out-of-town friends and family to worship with us on the high holidays.

## Tickets

### Your Adult Children, 25-29

Rosh Hashanah - Day 1	\$75
Kol Nidrei & Yom Kippur	\$75
Both Holidays	\$125

### Guests Living Outside Hartford County, 25 and up

Rosh Hashanah - Day 1	\$150
Kol Nidrei & Yom Kippur	\$150
Both Holidays	\$250

- ✧ A completed guest form is required in order to receive Guest Tickets. The form is posted on our website and is available from the office.
- ✧ Guest Tickets are not available to former Beth El members who have a residence in Connecticut.

*NOTE: All monies collected from Ticket/Access sales support membership dues for those in need.*

## Reciprocal Tickets/Access

Beth El is pleased to participate in the reciprocal ticket program where members in good standing<sup>o</sup> at any synagogue may receive complimentary Tickets/Access to another synagogue.

### For your guests:

Please ask them to have their synagogue e-mail/fax (see back page) a *Reciprocal Ticket/Access Request Form* or a letter to Beth El. Information must include the names of both our member and the guest, and the day(s) they will be joining us.

### If YOU are traveling:

Please call the office to have a *Reciprocal Ticket/Access Request Form* sent on your behalf. We appreciate you letting us know the fax number or email address to send the form.

<sup>o</sup> MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING have paid their dues in full, or have returned their completed membership form with their first payment.

# ★ Member Portal

## Test your Online Access through the Member Portal

A “test” video will be available on our website for all members to test their ability to watch and hear services and programs from their computers. If you have not availed

yourself of any online Beth El services or programs during the recent months, it is very important that you test it now, before the Holiday season begins.

You must test for any issues between now and Monday, August 30. We cannot guarantee that we will be able to resolve any difficulties reported after the **deadline of August 30.**

# ★ Doing Mitzvot

## Annual Kol Nidrei Food Drive for Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry at JFS



Now more than ever we need your help! This pandemic has taken a toll on so many. Sadly, we still have neighbors in need; but you can help. Please fill a bag or two and drop them off in the Community Room anytime between Rosh Hashanah and Kol Nidrei evening, Wednesday, September 15.

All food should be unopened and Kosher. ☆ ★ (K) Please look for one of these Hechsher symbols. Also, no expired food or Passover items.

Thank you for your Mitzvah and helping out your neighbors!

### Food

- Canned vegetables; canned fruit in juice or light syrup
- Cereal, crackers, cookies, snack bars, granola, breakfast bars
- Pasta, rice, couscous mixes, marinara sauce
- Peanut butter, jams, preserves, macaroni & cheese
- Tuna fish in water, tinned sardines, canned salmon
- Canned soups, salad dressings, mayonnaise & other condiments, cooking oil (small containers, no bulk)

### Cleaning/Household Supplies

- Glass cleaner, All purpose cleaner (Fantastic, 409 etc.) toilet bowl cleaner, bathroom cleaner
- Toilet paper, paper towels, laundry detergent
- Scrubbing powder, sponges, Brillo, SOS pads

## Sorting Food Drive Donations

**Sunday, September 19 9:15 – 11:30 AM**

CONTACT: Sharon Levine-Shein, ms.lib@comcast.net

Many hands are needed to sort all the bags of donated items before they are delivered to the Food Pantry.

# ★ “Fine Print” (Guidelines)

## Safety – COVID-19 Precautions

- ✧ **Masks:** Beth El will follow mask protocols as determined by health officials. We will email information closer to the holidays.
- ✧ Masks are required for all services in Kessler Hall regardless of vaccination status.
- ✧ If you feel you might have any illness – a cold, cough, fever, sore throat, any nasal or bronchial congestion – please stay home and enjoy our online options.
- ✧ Use hand sanitizer when you arrive at the Temple; sanitizing stations are located throughout the building.
- ✧ We ask you to refrain from handshakes, hugs, and kisses in the temple. We suggest greeting others as our clergy do: with a wave or a hand to the heart.

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## Security

- ✧ Please enter the building through the Community Room **with your ticket** (or student or military ID).
- ✧ We reserve the right to inspect all packages.
- ✧ For the safety of all, do **not prop open** external doors.
- ✧ Due to fire regulations, strollers and walkers are not permitted in the Sanctuary or Chapel. Ushers will show you the designated parking area. *As many look alike, please attach a label or identifying ribbon.*
- ✧ Be aware of all building exits, in case of emergency.

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## Ushers

- ✧ Ushers will be wearing identifying badges and will be available to answer questions and help find empty seats.
- ✧ Ushers will close ALL doors during sermons, for other speakers, and when the Ark is open.
- ✧ Please be respectful of all usher directions.

TO VOLUNTEER: to serve as an usher, please contact, by 8/26: Sharon Levine-Shein, 860-205-9650, Andrew Schoolnik, 860-690-0633, Andrewschoolnik@gmail.com

## Seating

- ✧ At all services, seating is first-come, first-served. Saving seats during the High Holidays is NOT permitted.
- ✧ If you want to ensure that your family sits together, please all arrive early.
- ✧ Children are welcomed and entitled to seats in any service of their choice.
- ✧ Should adults or children need a short break from the service, they should expect to find their seats available upon their return. At least one member of their family should remain with the seats.

### Special Seat Requests

- ✧ Seats may be reserved in advance only for persons with disabilities or who may require the assistance of support equipment (e.g. walkers, wheelchairs). If necessary, one additional seat may be saved for a companion to remain with that person.
- ✧ These seats will be released after 10:00 AM.
- ✧ Notify the Temple office as early as possible so that the seat(s) can be properly designated. Requests must be made by Wed, 9/1.

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## Decorum – Please...

- ✧ Maintain the sanctity of services by limiting conversation and dressing modestly.
- ✧ To reduce noise and distraction, the main doors to the Sanctuary and Kessler Hall will be kept closed. Expect to enter and leave services from a side door. Those with walkers may be excepted.
- ✧ Do not congregate in bathrooms.
- ✧ During certain portions of the service, you will be asked to wait before entering; also limit leaving at those times.
- ✧ **To preserve the sanctity of the holiday, all electronic devices, including cell phones, must be turned off prior to entering the building. Leave all iPads, Kindles, etc., at home.**

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## Parking

- ✧ Park where directed by the parking attendants in the Temple lot and only in designated spaces.
- ✧ Follow all posted **NO PARKING** signs on the side streets in adjoining neighborhoods. Be aware that the police will issue parking tickets.
- ✧ **NOTE:** There is no designated off-site parking or shuttle service this year.



The policy for Tickets and Online Access are the same! For Security purposes, in order to access the main services, either in-person or online, you must have renewed your membership.

All Ticket guidelines (see pages 2+6) will also apply to online Livestream access.

### College Connection

For incoming and current undergraduate students! Please send us your child's email and fall mailing address (if you have it), so they can receive holiday greetings and gifts from Beth El.

CONTACT: betcollegeconnections@gmail.com  
SPONSOR: the Gavens Family College Youth Fund

### Machzor Pick-Up

Sign-up for Machzor Pick-Up, Monday, August 16 through Friday, September 3, during office hours. If you pick up a Machzor and then choose to attend live Services, remember to bring it with you. If you're planning to be on-site, you don't need to pick one up. Sign-up is in the member portal:

[BethElWestHartford.org/Member](http://BethElWestHartford.org/Member)

### **Beth El Temple of West Hartford Inc.**

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<b>Rachel Zerín, Rabbi</b>	<a href="mailto:rzerin@bethelwh.org">rzerin@bethelwh.org</a>
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### **Beth El is Warm and Welcoming**

The sign at our front entrance states "All are welcome." Torah instructs "You shall not wrong nor oppress a stranger..." (Exodus 22:21). If we're required to be kind to strangers, how much more so is the mandate to be considerate of fellow Beth El members and staff?

About 30% of the U.S. population is sensitive to scented products on other people; some even have allergic reactions. Please **avoid** wearing fragrances and any scented products at Beth El.

*Let's keep the air we share  
healthy and fragrance-free for all.*