

★ High Holidays - Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Plus

We usually think of Rosh Hashanah (literally “head of the year”) as the beginning of the High Holiday season. Actually, the season kicks off with Selichot, a series of prayers where we *begin* to ask God for forgiveness. It can seem a bit confusing asking first for forgiveness during Selichot, then celebrating the New Year, and then asking for forgiveness again at Yom Kippur. Call it a second chance to change some things in our lives.

☆ In Biblical times, the new year started in the Spring month of Nisan, where we celebrate Passover, not in the fall month of Tishrei. It was around 200 C.E. that the rabbis “created” the holidays in the fall.

☆ Yom Kippur is considered the holiest day of the year. Like all Jewish holidays, it begins the night before. But unlike the others, it begins *before* sundown when we chant the very moving Kol Nidrei “all vows” prayer. Here – before the open ark and our community – we look into our hearts and ask God *and each other* for forgiveness. The theme of *asking for forgiveness* is repeated in many different forms throughout the holiday and culminates with the Neilah service, our last chance to atone before the “gates” are closed.

☆ For great info on the evolution of the fall holidays – and other noteworthy tidbits like how it became a two-day festival: www.haaretz.com/jewish/holidays/rosh-hashanah/

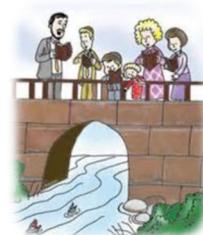
With
Beth El

Community Selichot SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Area Conservative synagogues join together at Beth El to usher in the High Holidays with the very beautiful Selichot service. A special program and discussion with refreshments will precede the service.

Tashlich MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Gather together for a ceremony by the creek. Children will feel at home in the backyard for this brief service. Bring crumbs or bread to toss into the flowing water, symbolically casting off our sins as a community.



Shabbat Shuvah (Shabbat of Return) SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

Between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, this very special Shabbat at Beth El is time for Rabbi Rosen’s annual report on life in “Lake Norden Badger.” Members and guests make it a point to attend this service – and the uniquely-themed lunch that follows.

Neilah WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9

Before the “gates” are closed, we invite individuals and families with members of all faiths for a private moment at the ark.



We’re on Pinterest! Find ideas for holiday magic at your home on our Rosh Hashanah board! Search “Beth El Temple West Hartford” to find us!



at home

- ☆ Before the holidays, invite someone – relative or friend – to help cook or bake a favorite holiday dish. It’s a great time to share stories of past holiday celebrations.
- ☆ Make a list of all the ways you have helped others this last year. Then make a list of new ways you can contribute to positive relationships this coming year.
- ☆ Judaism is about reaching out to the “stranger,” those not in our personal circle. Think about ways you can get to know someone who is not like you. The world becomes a more welcoming place when we spend time with people who are different from us.

★ High Holidays - Sukkot

The week-long holiday of *Sukkot* begins five days after *Yom Kippur* and is one of three harvest festivals (*Pesach* and *Shavuot* are the other two). The *sukkah* itself commemorates the huts or “booths” where our ancestors lived during their 40 years in the desert, post-exodus. It is by definition a flimsy structure, symbolizing the fragile nature of life and our dependence on God’s protection.



The *lulav* and *etrog* are symbols of Sukkot. The *arbah minim*, or Four Species, refer to the four species used – branches from the palm, willow, and myrtle trees, and the *etrog*, a citrus fruit similar to a lemon. During the morning service each day of Sukkot (except Shabbat), the *lulav* and *etrog* are held together and waved in every direction symbolizing God's presence – the traditional north, south, east and west, plus up and down.



The *Sukkah* can be made out of a variety of materials but the roof must consist of natural materials which allow you to see the sky and the stars at night. Historically, it represents the farmers’ huts that were built in the fields of ancient Israel during the Fall harvest, and the dwellings of the Israelites in the wilderness of the Exodus.



With
Beth El

Sukkah Decorating

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13

There’s no SULAM, so everyone is invited for a Family Mitzvah Morning & Sukkah Decorating. 9:00 am.

Family Sukkah Hop

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14

Enjoy the 1st day of Sukkot with Beth El Families and participate in the mitzvah of eating in the Sukkah. We will be hosted at various Sukkot around Beth El (kosher and within walking distance).

COST: free, open to all (but you must rsvp by noon, 10/10)
RSVP: tinyurl.com/BETSukkahHop

Women’s Network Lunch & Book Discussion

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16

See page 3 for information about this annual event.

Family Pizza in the Hut

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16

It’s a mitzvah to eat in the sukkah! Join us for pizza, songs, and lulav waving! Open to all, RSVP required.

COST: \$5/pizza-eater
RSVP: tinyurl.com/BETPizzaHUT

Men’s Club Sukkahfest

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17

See page 9 for information about this annual event.



What’s your #SukkahStyle?
Share yours with us on **Instagram**.
Use #BETSukkah and tag us — we’re online at
[@beth.el.temple.wh!](https://www.instagram.com/beth.el.temple.wh/)

at home

★ High Holidays - Shemini Atzeret & Simchat Torah

While the last day of Sukkot, *Hoshana Rabba*, is the “official” end of the High Holiday season, our celebrations continue with *Shemini Atzeret* (eighth day of assembly) and *Simchat Torah* (rejoicing in Torah). Israel – and some in the U.S. – combine *Shemini Atzeret* and *Simchat Torah* into a single celebration, but we keep the happiness going for two days.

- ★ A highlight of *Shemini Atzeret* is the beautiful prayer for rain, a winter essential in Israel’s desert climate. We also recite Yizkor, our communal memorial prayer.
- ★ On *Simchat Torah*, *Hakafot* involve seven circuits around the sanctuary where we carry all of our Torah scrolls. During this joyful custom each *hakafah* is accompanied by singing and dancing. The Torah procession is usually followed by children waving flags or carrying toy scrolls.
- ★ During *Simchat Torah*, we read both the end and the beginning of the Torah. We unroll an entire Torah and will help you find your Bar or Bat Mitzvah portion.
- ★ Three members are honored with special *Aliyot* for their long-time contributions to synagogue life. The honorees are called *Kallah* (bride) or *Chatan* (bridegroom) of the Torah and are brought to the bima under a chuppa, signifying the “wedding-like” atmosphere of the moment, with special blessings recited over each honoree.
- ★ For the first special *Aliyah*, we read the last section of the Torah, when Moses passes away. The second goes back to the beginning with the story of Creation and the establishment of Shabbat. The third is a portion that precedes the Haftarah reading for the day – the first chapter of Joshua, which is the book that immediately follows the Five Books of the Torah.

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Simchat Torah LIVE! MONDAY, OCTOBER 21

The evening will begin with a free dinner for all and end with Festival Ma’ariv. In between there will be *Hakafot* (see explanation to left) with the Shabbat LIVE! Band, the annual Grade 1 Torah ceremony, and Drinks & Dessert sponsored by the Men’s Club. Everyone will be called to the Torah for an *Aliyah*.

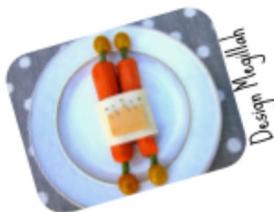
COST: free, open to all (while food lasts, kindly register so we can plan for the crowd)

RSVP: tinyurl.com/SimchatDinner

Simchat Torah Morning TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22

Hakafot and *Aliyot* for all continue and a New Baby Blessing will be offered for children born since last Rosh Hashanah. This year’s honorees (see explanation to left) are:

<i>Chatan Torah</i>	Avi Patt
<i>Chatan Beresheet</i>	Jason Kay
<i>Chatan Maftir</i>	Alan Tuvin



Looking for a tasty way to enjoy Simchat Torah? Design Megillah has some delicious (and healthy) ideas to create edible scrolls. You can also opt for pretzels, fruit roll-ups, or even smarties for a sweet treat.



at home

- ★ On Shemini Atzeret, we say good-bye to the fall holidays with an afternoon snack or dinner in the *Sukkah* where we ask God to return us in good health to the *Sukkah* again next year.
- ★ PJ Library has many suggestions for celebrating Simchat Torah. Google: “PJ Library Simchat Torah.”

★ High Holidays - Service Schedules

Tickets: Please present your tickets for entry on Rosh Hashanah-Day 1, Kol Nidrei, and Yom Kippur morning (see page 17 for ticket policies).

Community Selichot **SATURDAY, SEPT 21**
 8:30 PM Program and Refreshments
 9:30 PM Service
 LOCATION: this year at Beth El!

Rosh Hashanah, Erev **SUNDAY, SEPT 29**
 6:00 PM Mincha & Festival Ma'ariv

Rosh Hashanah, Day 1 **MONDAY, SEPT 30**
 8:00 AM – 12:15 PM Sanctuary Service
 8:30 AM – 12:45 PM Chapel Service
 10:00 AM – 12:15 PM Kessler Hall Service
 10:30 AM – 12:15 PM Children's Programs

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



5:00 PM Tashlich Ceremony
 LOCATION: 25 Huntington Drive, West Hartford
 6:00 PM Festival Mincha & Ma'ariv

Rosh Hashanah, Day 2 **TUESDAY, OCT 1**
 8:00 AM – 12:15 PM Sanctuary Service
 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM Family Service
 6:30 PM Festival Mincha, Ma'ariv & Havdalah

Shofar: On both days of Rosh Hashanah, the Shofar will be sounded in all morning services and programs.



Shabbat Shuvah **SATURDAY, OCT 5**
 9:30 AM *Lake Norden Badger Shabbat*
 Rabbi Rosen's Annual Tribute to Small Town Midwest Jewish Communities
 12:00 PM Congregational Lunch
 12:30 PM Mincha

Cemetery Service AND Dedication of Holocaust Sculpture **SUNDAY, OCT 6**
 12:30 PM Service & Dedication
 LOCATION: Beth El Cemetery, Jackson Street, Avon

Yom Kippur, Kol Nidrei **TUESDAY, OCT 8**
 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM Sanctuary Service
 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM Chapel Service

Yom Kippur, Day **WEDNESDAY, OCT 9**
 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM Sanctuary Service
 8:30 AM – 1:15 PM Chapel Service
 10:00 AM – 12:15 PM Kessler Hall Family Service
 10:30 AM – 12:15 PM Children's Programs

Yizkor: Will be recited in all 3 morning services; in the Sanctuary and Chapel at the discretion of the Rabbis (after 10:30 AM), and in Kessler Hall around 12:15 PM.

4:15 PM Mincha
 5:30 PM Neilah
 7:00 PM Havdalah & Final Shofar Blast

Neilah: Grab a nosh on your way to Break Fast.
 SPONSOR: Women's Network



Sukkot, Erev **SUNDAY, OCT 13**
 6:00 PM Mincha & Festival Ma'ariv

Sukkot, Day 1 **MONDAY, OCT 14**
 9:30 AM Festival Shacharit
 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM Sukkah Hop
 6:00 PM Festival Mincha & Ma'ariv

Sukkot, Day 2 **TUESDAY, OCT 15**
 9:30 AM Festival Shacharit
 7:30 PM Festival Mincha, Ma'ariv & Havdalah

Shemini Atzeret, Erev **SUNDAY, OCT 20**
 8:45 AM Hoshanah Rabbah
 6:00 PM Mincha & Festival Ma'ariv

Shemini Atzeret, Day **MONDAY, OCT 21**
 9:30 AM Festival Shacharit (*Yizkor* 11AM)
 12:30 PM Festival Mincha

Simchat Torah, Erev **MONDAY, OCT 21**
 5:00 PM Dinner
 6:00 PM Simchat Torah LIVE!
 7:30 PM Festival Ma'ariv

Simchat Torah, Day **TUESDAY, OCT 22**
 9:30 AM Festival Shacharit
 12:00 PM Congregational Lunch
 7:30 PM Festival Mincha, Ma'ariv & Havdalah

★ High Holidays - Multi-Service Distinctions

Rosh Hashanah - Day 1 **MON, 9/30**

AND

Yom Kippur - Day **WED, 10/9**

You have a CHOICE of 3 services!

All THREE services include:

- ✧ The sounding of the *Shofar*.
- ✧ Our teens chant some *Torah* portions. The portion is theirs from bar/bat mitzvah until they go to college.
- ✧ Congregants are honored with *aliyot*.
- ✧ **YIZKOR** is recited on Yom Kippur.
- ✧ At all services, seating is first-come, first-served. Children are welcome and invited to all services and are asked to maintain decorum.

Unique service highlights:

- ✧ Sanctuary Services: traditional service led by Rabbi Rosen and Cantor Ness and accompanied by our choir and organ.
- ✧ Chapel Services: traditional service led by congregants Jason Kay and Susan Gold, without an organ or choir.
- ✧ Kessler Hall Services: family service led by Rabbi Garber and Rabbi Sowalsky. Yom Kippur Services will end with an abbreviated *Yizkor* Service.
- ✧ Children's Programs: see page 16.

Rosh Hashanah - Day 2

TUE, 10/1

We are open to the community!

- ✧ Sanctuary Service: Traditional service led by Rabbi Rosen and Cantor Ness; the congregation is encouraged to sing along with the choir. It is the only "regular" service this day and the organ is not played.
- ✧ Family Service: Children and adults of all ages are invited to Kessler Hall for this interactive service with Rabbi Garber and Rabbi Sowalsky. Additional program information is on page 16.
- ✧ There are no separate children's programs on this day.

Yom Kippur - Kol Nidrei

TUE, 10/8

(Opening evening service)

- ✧ Sanctuary Service: led by Rabbi Rosen and Cantor Ness, is accompanied by our choir and organ.
- ✧ Chapel Service: led by Rabbi Garber and Susan Gold, is a participatory and intimate service.
- ✧ Both are complete services; our Torahs will be carried in procession.

Yom Kippur - Neilah

WED, 10/9

(Concluding evening prayers)

- ✧ Sanctuary Service: as the symbolic Gates of Heaven are closing, we encourage all who wish to come up to the open Ark for personal moments of reflection and prayer.
- ✧ *Non-Jewish family members are invited to come before the Ark with their families.*

★ High Holidays - Candle Lighting & Havdalah

	Candle Lighting			Havdalah		
Rosh Hashanah	SUN.	9/29	6:18 PM	TUES.	10/1	7:13 PM
	MON.	9/30	7:17 PM			
Yom Kippur	TUES.	10/8	6:03 PM	WED.	10/9	6:59 PM
		Light <i>Yizkor</i> candle first				
Sukkot	SUN.	10/13	5:55 PM	TUES.	10/15	6:50 PM
	MON.	10/14	6:51 PM			
Shemini Atzeret	SUN.	10/20	5:44 PM			
		Light <i>Yizkor</i> candle first				
Simchat Torah	MON.	10/21	6:403 PM	TUES.	10/22	6:39 PM

Candle lighting is generally done 20 minutes prior to actual sunset.

When there are two consecutive days of holidays, candle lighting for the 2nd day is 40 minutes after sunset.



Jewish holidays end with Havdalah, 40 minutes after sunset.

★ High Holidays - Everything Kids

Rosh Hashanah - Day 1
Yom Kippur - Day

MON, 9/30
WED, 10/9
10:30 AM - 12:15 PM

AGES 3-8 Activities
GRADES 4-6 Service

- ✦ Concludes with songs and snacks.
- ✦ Suggested ages; kids can go to either.
- ✦ Parents are welcome at both programs.
- ✦ Please encourage your children to participate in our children's programming or to join one of our main services where they are warmly welcomed.

GRADES 7-12 Keney Park

- ✦ Teen hangout with guest educators

In a nod to the past, and with a fist bump toward the future, we invite our teens to our own version of Hartford's Keney Park, where our grandparents used to hang out during the holidays when they were teens.

Rosh Hashanah - Day 2

TUE, 10/1

ALL AGES

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

- ✦ **Family Service in Kessler Hall:** led by Rabbis Garber and Sowalsky, a "highlights" service meant for all ages. Celebrate the birthday of the world Beth El style! Bring your own shofar to guarantee we're all awake.
- ✦ Parents are required to be with their children.
- ✦ There are no separate Children's Programs on this day.

Yom Kippur - Evenings

Kol Nidrei
(Opening Service)

TUE, 10/8
6:00 PM

- ✦ All ages are welcome at both the *Sanctuary* and *Chapel* Services.

Neilah
(Conclusion)

WED, 10/9
5:30 PM

- ✦ All ages are welcome at our *Sanctuary* Service.
- ✦ Children are invited to help lead Havdalah
- ✦ Families (all ages, non-denominational) are invited to come up to the open ark for a personal moment.

NOTE: see page 11 for more information

Children's Playroom & Youth Lounge

Sukkot
Shemini Atzeret
Simchat Torah

MON & TUE, OCT 14-15

MONDAY, OCT 21
TUESDAY, OCT 22

9:30 AM - NOON

On these holidays without specific children's or family programming, our regular Shabbat playroom will be available should your energetic child need some space.

NOTE: parents must supervise their children

Quiet Space

ALL DAYS

The library will be designated as an unsupervised quiet space. There will be a partition for nursing.

★ High Holidays Mitzvah

Annual Kol Nidrei Food Drive for Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry at Jewish Family Services (JFS)

JFS serves families facing financial setbacks, isolated elderly, and disabled adults living on small incomes. Please help make a difference in their lives!

For your convenience, paper bags will be located by the front door on Rosh Hashanah. Please drop off your filled bags, in the Community Room, **anytime between Rosh Hashanah and Kol Nidrei evening**, Tuesday, October 8.

The Food Pantry prefers food items that have a hechsher symbol indicating that the item is kosher.



Please do not bring Passover or expired items.

THANK YOU! in advance for your support of this important Mitzvah.



Requested items

- Non-perishable food
- Bathroom/Kitchen cleaning supplies
- Paper towels, toilet paper, tissues, napkins
- Toiletries
- Hand cream & body lotion
- Diapers
- Depends

Sorting Food Drive Donations

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13
9:00 AM

Help sort all those bags of donated items before they are delivered to the Food Pantry.



★ High Holidays - Inclusivity (and all year-round!)

Inclusiveness is one of our core values at Beth El. We strive to make sure those with special needs or disabilities can participate in all that we offer. You'll find hearing devices by both the sanctuary and chapel entrances and an elevator is available near the library.

There is an all-genders bathroom around the corner from the coat room and we welcome LGBTQ and interfaith individuals and families.

Because many of our congregants suffer from fragrance sensitivities and allergies, which can cause

significant health issues, we ask you to avoid wearing any scented products; not only perfumes, but aftershave and scented soaps.

We say that we are *Community You Can Believe In*, and we mean it!

★ High Holiday Ticket Policy

Tickets are required for entry on:

Rosh Hashanah - Day 1	MON, 9/30
Yom Kippur - Kol Nidrei	TUE, 10/8
Yom Kippur - Day	WED, 10/9

- ✧ Each person, 18 and over, must have his/her own ticket, with his/her name on it.
- ✧ Tickets are complimentary for all young adults, ages 18-24.
- ✧ Tickets are not required for any child under 18 years of age.

Members of Beth El Temple

✧ High Holiday tickets will be mailed to members in good standing^o in mid-September. After 9/20, they should be picked up in the office or at the "will call" table on the day of the service.

- ✧ Your adult children, ages 18-24, will automatically be issued tickets.
- ✧ Your adult children, ages 25-29, if not members on their own, may purchase tickets at a reduced rate.

Rosh Hashanah - Day 1	\$75
Kol Nidrei & Yom Kippur	\$75
Both Holidays	\$150

Welcoming the Greater Hartford Jewish Community

- ✧ We are pleased to open the following services to the Greater Hartford Community. Tickets are not required for

Rosh Hashanah - Both Evenings and Day 2
Yom Kippur - Mincha and Neilah
Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret, and Simchat Torah

Guests

- ✧ Members may purchase tickets for relatives and friends, ages 25 and up, who live outside Hartford County.

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

- ✧ A completed guest form is required in order to receive your Guest Tickets. The form is posted on our website and is available from the office.
- ✧ **Young Adults:** for ALL guests ages 18-24, tickets are complimentary.
- ✧ **Local college students and active military personnel over 24:** simply show your ID.

Reciprocal Tickets

- ✧ We participate in the reciprocal ticket program where members in good standing^o at any synagogue receive complimentary tickets to another synagogue.

For your guests:

- ✧ Please have them ask their synagogue to e-mail/fax a *Reciprocal Ticket Request Form/Letter* to Beth El.
- ✧ It must include the names of both our member and the guest, and which day(s) they will be joining us.

If YOU are traveling:

- ✧ If **YOU** are spending any part of the holiday at another synagogue that requires tickets, please call our office to have a *Reciprocal Ticket Request Form* sent on your behalf.

NOTE: All Guest and Reciprocal tickets may be picked up in the Beth El office.

^o *Members in good standing have paid their dues in full, or have returned their completed membership form with their first payment.*

★ High Holidays “Fine Print” (Guidelines)

Security & Safety

- ✧ 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.

Ushers

- ✧ Ushers will be wearing identifying badges and will be available to answer questions and help find empty seats.
- ✧ They will close ALL doors during sermons, for other speakers, and when the Ark is open. Please do not enter or leave any service during the sermon or when the Ark is open.
- ✧ Please be respectful of all usher directions.

TO VOLUNTEER: If you would like to serve as an usher, please contact, by 9/16:

Sharon Levine-Shein, 860-205-9650
Steve Rabb, 860-231-1339

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.
- ✧ Please do not congregate in bathrooms. Parents, please suggest to your children that they choose a service to attend.
- ✧ During certain portions of the service, you will be asked to wait before entering into the Sanctuary, Kessler Hall, or the Chapel. Please also limit leaving at those times.
- ✧ **To preserve the sanctity of the holiday, TURN OFF all electronic devices, including cell phones, prior to entering the building. Please leave iPods, cameras, etc., at home.**
- ✧ The Community Room (right side) will be set up as a chill/calm-down place for any age. Parents are asked to supervise their children; the room will not be staffed.

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 welcome, invited, 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 for any service

- ◇ 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 during the service.
- ◇ These seats will be held until 10:30 AM, after which they will be released.
- ◇ Please notify the Temple office as early as possible so that the seat(s) can be properly designated. Requests must be made by 9/25.

Parking & Shuttle

- ✧ Please park where directed by the parking attendants in the Temple lot and only in designated spaces.
- ✧ **Police will not allow parking on either Albany Ave. or West Ridge Drive.**
- ✧ Please follow all posted **NO PARKING** signs on the side streets in adjoining neighborhoods. Be aware that the police will issue parking tickets.
- ✧ Additional parking will be provided at the Crown Market in Bishop's Corner, 2471 Albany Ave. A shuttle bus will run continuously between Beth El and the Crown Market as follows:
Rosh Hashanah - Day 1 8:30AM - 1:30PM
Yom Kippur - Day 8:30AM - 2:30PM
- ✧ NOTE: shuttle will not run for Kol Nidrei.