

# High Holy Days 5780 at B'nai Torah



The High Holidays begin Sunday evening, September 29, 2019. We all look forward to sharing this special time with you.

**YOU MUST HAVE YOUR HIGH HOLIDAY TICKETS TO BE ADMITTED THIS YEAR DUE TO INCREASED FOCUS ON SECURITY - please read our letter about security and tickets in this packet.**

## **PARKING:**

There will be some parking on Main Street. **Please park on the northbound side of Main Street**, and on the side streets in the direction leading away from Main Street. Cars parked on the wrong side may be ticketed. Additional parking will be available at Grace Episcopal Church with a shuttle to the shul.

## **ENTRANCE/EXIT:**

The **ONLY** entry and exit will be through the sanctuary entrance facing the parking lot. We will be checking tickets, so please be sure to have them with you. If you are expecting out of town guests, please be sure you have secured tickets for them so that we have them on our list and can greet them properly. Please make sure to check in with a greeter or an usher before finding your seat. ***Seating may be tight during the peak times, so come early to make sure you have a seat. Ushers will assist you in finding an open seat.***

## **SERVICE TIMES - SPEEDING UP A BIT:**

Please note that we have modified parts of the service this year in order to try to finish a bit earlier while preserving the beauty of the holiday liturgy. This will mean that many parts of the service will fall earlier than they have in the past. You can expect that the Torah service will occur 1/2 hour earlier than usual, as will the Rabbi's sermon. We have scheduled junior congregation to start one half hour earlier to accommodate this. Please consider this in your plans.

**USHERS AND GREETERS are needed** to greet people and help them find seats. Please call the synagogue office if you are interested.

## **HONORS:**

Calls and emails will go out shortly about honors (aliyot, ark openings, readings). While there are more than 200 honors available for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, there are not enough to provide everyone with an honor each year. Please be aware that *honors are rotated from year to year*. We will try to provide honors for as many individuals as possible – and all honors are of equal stature. On the day of your honor, please identify yourself to one of the ushers when you arrive, so that they can direct you to the bima at the proper time. If you are not present at the time of your honor, we will have to give it to someone else to keep services moving smoothly.

## **JUNIOR CONGREGATION & BABYSITTING:**

While your children are welcome to join you in the sanctuary for services, **special programs will be available for children ages 5-13** from 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Junior Congregation begins this year at 10:30 am. Babysitting will be available for the nursery school set beginning at 10 a.m. If you would like to volunteer to assist with these programs, please call the synagogue office at 203-268-6940.

**YOM KIPPUR FAMILY SERVICE:**

Rabbi Colin will lead a special Family Service at 4:45 p.m. on Wednesday, October 9, Yom Kippur afternoon. The service begins in the sanctuary and run concurrently with Mincha. This service is geared to families with children ages 10 and under, but all ages are welcome.

**NEILA, the final prayers of Yom Kippur:**

Join us for the final service of Yom Kippur, **Neila**. The ark remains open for the entire service. Each year, we invite you to ascend the bima with your family or by yourself, to offer personal prayers in front of the ark.

**IF YOU HAVE A SHOFAR**, please bring it to the *Neila* service. Everyone with a shofar will be invited onto the bima for the final shofar blowing.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO SPONSOR THE BREAK-FAST FOLLOWING YOM KIPPUR?**

Please consider making a donation to the synagogue to sponsor this year's break-fast. This is a popular event that is a beautiful way to begin our new year as a community. Please contact the presidents or the office.

**Remember ... the holidays don't end when we break the fast!**

Included with this letter is an order form for a lulav and etrog for Sukkot and a flyer for our fabulous Simhat Torah service including dancing with the Torahs. We hope you will share in these very special mitzvot. Please check your calendar for times and dates of services.

If you have questions, please the synagogue office, 203-268-6940.

Wishing you a happy, healthy and sweet new year, *shanah tovah umetukah*,

*Laura Petshaft*  
*Ritual Vice President*