

# *The Builders' Bulletin*

Congregation Habonim's Monthly Bulletin—Your Community Guide!



***INSIDE:*** A Preliminary High Holiday Schedule —  
A message from Rabbi Gelber —  
A listing of upcoming events —  
School Updates — and more!

# Upcoming Events:

## Book Club

Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm  
on Zoom. August's book is *Tevye the Dairyman* by Sholem Aleichem.

**Tot Shabbat will return on  
September 8<sup>th</sup>!**

**See page 5 for a preliminary  
calendar for the *High Holidays*!  
(Details subject to change)**

## Find Out More

For up-to-date information  
on all our upcoming events,  
visit [www.habonim.net](http://www.habonim.net)

## CLERGY

### Rabbi

Lisa Gelber

### Cantorial Soloist & Music Educator

Jessica Futran

### Cantor Emeritus

Bruce Halev

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Congregation Habonim relies on the support of our members to continue *l'dor v'dor* - from generation to generation. Some of the incredible benefits you get with your membership include:

- Pastoral Care
- High Holy Day Tickets *included with membership* plus deep discounts when purchasing extra tickets for friends and family
- Yahrtzeit notifications and the listing and reading of your household's birthdays, anniversaries, and yahrzeits in our weekly and monthly publications and at Shabbat services
- Discounted prices for Habonim events
- Members-only events
- Discounted prices for Toddler Time and Early Explorers
- And so much more!

If you haven't already, [renew your membership](#) or [join as a new member](#) today to help Habonim continue to thrive!

If you have questions or need help with your membership, contact Michelle at [office@habonim.net](mailto:office@habonim.net)

## HONEY FUNDRAISER

**Wish family, friends and business associates a Sweet & Happy New Year!**

***Send the Sweetest of All Rosh Hashanah Greetings!***

**FREE shipping through August 1<sup>st</sup> \***



Just in time for Rosh Hashanah, we will ship an 8 oz jar of Kosher clover honey with a personalized card reading:

*"Shana Tova - Wishing you a Healthy and Happy New Year." – personalized with your name!*

**Cost is \$14.00 per jar.**

Order by August 1<sup>st</sup> for free shipping within the U.S.\*

**Ordering is quick and easy!**

Go to <https://habonim.net/> and click on the honey link or go to [www.honeyfromtheheart.org/HAB](http://www.honeyfromtheheart.org/HAB)

**\* Shipping**

- After August 1<sup>st</sup> add \$7.00 per jar for shipping within the U.S.
- Honey From The Heart only ships within the U.S.

Order by August 25<sup>th</sup> for delivery by Rosh Hashanah.  
Orders accepted until Rosh Hashanah.

For more information contact:  
Beth Bornstein  
[bethbornstein@gmail.com](mailto:bethbornstein@gmail.com)



~30% of all proceeds raised directly benefit **Congregation Habonim** and the rest supports ORT America. Learn more at <https://ortamerica.org/>





## Preliminary Schedule

# High Holy Days 5784

**TRADITIONAL HABONIM SERVICE** (Ethical Culture, 2 West 64<sup>th</sup> St, and livestream): Led by

Rabbi Lisa Gelber and Cantorial Soloist Jessica Futran

**TORAH TOTS** (Ethical Culture): for children up to age 5 (with parents or caregivers)

**JUNIOR CONGREGATION** (Ethical Culture): Two service options for grades K-3 and 3-6.

**CLASSIC HABONIM SERVICE** (Zoom only): Led by Cantor Emeritus Bruce Halev and Rabbi Mark Somerstein, featuring the German Liberal liturgy

### S'lichot - Saturday, Sep. 9

7:00pm: Seudah Shlishit (Oneg Shabbat)

7:50pm: Havdalah

8:10pm: Slichot service

### Erev Rosh Hashanah -

#### Friday, Sept. 15

6:00pm: Traditional Evening Service

### Rosh Hashanah Day 1 -

#### Saturday, Sep. 16

9:00am: Traditional Morning Service

10:00am - 10:35am: Torah Tots

10:50am - 12:15pm: Junior Congregation

7:20pm: Traditional Evening Service  
(Zoom only)

10:00am: Classic Service Shaharit

### Rosh Hashanah Day 2 -

#### Sunday, Sep. 17

9:00am: Traditional Morning Service

10:00am-10:35am: Torah Tots

10:50am-12:15pm: Junior Congregation

**Tashlich** immediately follows Traditional Services at Ethical Culture

3:45pm: **Tashlich Together** (gather at the 66<sup>th</sup> St Plaza on Riverside Blvd)

### Shofar on the Streets -

#### Sunday, Sep. 17 at 5:00pm

Shofar on the Steps at two locations:

**Steps of Lincoln Center**

**Corner of Broadway and 68th Street**

### Erev Yom Kippur - Sunday, Sep. 24

6:15pm: Traditional Service Kol Nidre

6:45pm: Classic Service Kol Nidre

### Yom Kippur - Monday, Sep. 25

9:00am: Traditional Morning Service

10:00am - 10:35am: Torah Tots

10:50am - 12:15pm: Junior  
Congregation

15 minutes after morning service: **Yom Kippur Meditation on the bimah**

4:30pm: Traditional Service Minhah

5:45pm: Traditional Service Neilah

7:29pm: Traditional Service Final Shofar

4:30pm **Classic Service Learning, Schmoozing and a Sermon**

5:30pm **Classic Service Yizkor**

6:00pm **Classic Service Neilah**

6:45pm **Classic Service Final Shofar**

*Details are subject to change. More information coming soon!*

# *Rabbi Gelber's Monthly Message*

Wednesday, July 19, 2023/1 Av 5783

Dear Friends,

I just returned from a time of deep intellectual, experiential, spiritual and emotional learning in Israel. The temperature's hot, on the thermometer and otherwise. Residents have gathered enmasse on Saturday evenings for over seven months to protest extreme judicial overhaul.

I joined one protest in proximity to the President's residence in Jerusalem. What did I notice? People of all ages, listening, cheering, waving flags and holding one another up. Space for elders to sit not just on the margins but in the thick of things. A gathering time for all, post Shabbat, to intentionally include traditionally observant protesters. These gatherings are of the people, for the people. Following the protest, I found myself shoulder to shoulder with former MK Tzipi Livni. We introduced ourselves as rabbis from America and she gladly took a photo with us. We wished her long life - *ad meah v'esrim* (until 120) - on the occasion of her birthday,

something we knew about from the beautiful blessing of *yom huledet sameach* that rose up from all in attendance during the protest.



Following the protest, I saw no garbage, no water bottles strewn around, not even cigarette butts. The group protesting the protest near the second site of the rally was not even enough for a minyan. I returned to America grateful my heart and body were both in the east for a time.

And, the heat continues to rise. It is unclear how long these gatherings can go on without real violence. We feel this in other spaces as well. This morning, The Women of the Wall - *Nashot HaKotel* - succeeded in bringing a Torah scroll into the Kotel. The Kotel, a sacred place in the hearts of so many, lives in reality as an ultra orthodox synagogue without space for all Jews. The Bat Mitzvah



received her blessing amidst shrieks of whistles used to drown out the sacred moment of celebration and leadership. Deliberate acts designed to desanctify a holy moment. Fortunately, *Nashot HaKotel* demonstrates unending resilience. They continue to show up to honor Torah, community, and the potential for *kedushah*. For how long must we endure hostility in the name of Judaism and Jewish law before an internal awakening brings us together in support of one another?

*Tisha B'Av*, for which we will gather in just one week, commemorates the destruction of the Temple and other tragedies in our history. The rabbis accredit these calamities to *sinat hinam/baseless hatred*. It is easier than we think to descend into the sticky and sinister space of hatred for others. This, in turn, has the potential to manifest in hatred of all things created in the image of the divine. We can change this trajectory. Instead of drowning out the unfamiliar and uncomfortable, we can listen actively and remember we have only one world and one life to live. We can learn to appreciate interpretation, difference and diversity. We can instill in ourselves a practice of gratitude to open the

heart and mind and see more of the world than we might otherwise. At the closing session of the Shalom Hartman Institute Rabbinic Torah Study Seminar, my colleague Rabbi Lauren Berkun, Vice President Rabbinic Initiatives, thanked everyone. I was most moved by her naming individually of the maintenance staff of the Institute who managed space for nearly 400 lay leaders, philanthropic professionals, rabbis, Hillel professionals, Day School educators and college students over the course of the summer. That ability to notice and name key partners in the everyday, so easily unseen, added sweetness to weeks of complexity and joy. The inclination to name the holy, especially in places one takes holiness for granted, can transform.

As we begin this month of Av - often accompanied by the word *Menachem/comforter* - let us really look at what causes us pain, and then commit to adjusting our ways so that we may build up from the ashes, investing in the world as we know it can be.

*Hodesh Tov.*

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We have programs for children from PreK–12th grade!

Learn more and register here:

<https://www.habonim.net/religious-school-admissions.html>



Nursery School registration is open for the  
2023-24 academic year!

Learn more and register here:

<https://www.habonim.net/Early-Childhood>



# ***School Updates***

## ***Interim Directors Announcement***

We are excited to announce that Karen Sacks and Barry Waldman, veteran Habonim Religious School teachers, administrators and programming leaders, will guide us through the upcoming year of school and youth programming, including Lomdim! Thank you to both Karen and Barry for their help with continuing our amazing offerings this year!

## ***Education Director Search***

With the long-term religious education and related programming for our children a top priority at Habonim, we will soon be undertaking a search for a new permanent Education Director. We invite you to join in that search and help fill this critical role! We would love your feedback and participation - if you have ideas or would like to join this committee, please contact Lindsey Gal, who is spearheading the effort, or Susan Grant at: **[office@habonim.net](mailto:office@habonim.net)** or **[president@habonim.net](mailto:president@habonim.net)**.

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## ***Nursery School Welcome***

I hope everyone is enjoying a wonderful summer with family and friends. We look forward to welcoming back all of our Nursery School children and their families in September, catching up, and beginning, what I know will be a fantastic, enriching and rewarding year ahead for everyone. Ann, Ilana and I have been joyfully preparing for the coming school year, creating an environment for our students filled with new and exciting activities in a safe and stimulating setting.

As always, we have a lovely group of children coming to the Nursery School. It is such a delight to be a part of their first days of school, and then to be able to watch them grow and learn during the time that they are with us. We extend a warm welcome to all of our current and new families. We know that each and every one has wonderful times ahead, both as members of the Nursery School, and as members of the larger Habonim community.

Most Warmly,

Tina Lobel

Nursery School Director

## *This Month at Habonim, We ...*

### *Hung Out at Riverside Park!*

Our membership committee hosted another successful Habonim Hangout on Wednesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>. The weather was perfect as so many of us gathered in person to share snacks, stories and summer updates.

We even got to celebrate the birthday of our beloved member Frances Brandt!

Thank you to all who made this community gathering so enjoyable.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at more in person events this coming year!





# *Thank you for your support!*

*from the Habonim Board of Trustees & Office Staff*

In the following pages, we would like to acknowledge and thank our generous donors from July 1<sup>st</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup>. *Todah rabah*—thank you—for keeping Habonim alive and thriving from generation to generation!

## ADULT EDUCATION

Jeffrey & Deborah Moelis  
*In Memory of Ray Finkelstein*

## GENERAL DONATIONS

Hubert & Frances Brandt  
Joseph & Nita Gottesman  
*In Honor of the Anniversary of  
Jean Hellering and Richard  
Verner*  
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Murry Paul  
*In Memory of Beloved Family  
Members*

## KIDDUSH FUND

Daniel and Frances Hamermesh  
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*In Honor of the Anniversary of  
Jean Hellering and Richard  
Verner*  
Richard Verner & Jean Hellering  
*In Honor of Their Anniversary*

## RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Stanley Lewin  
*In Honor of Rabbi Lisa Gelber*

*We strive to acknowledge all of our generous donors. If you think  
there has been an oversight, please contact our office at*

**[office@habonim.net](mailto:office@habonim.net)**



**August 2**

Michael Barbarino  
Max Levy

**August 3**

Frances Brandt

**August 4**

Renee Edelman  
Meredith Thompson

**August 6**

Jill Rivera

**August 9**

Jessica Boar  
Ernest Simon

**August 10**

Cantor Bruce Halev

**August 11**

Jessica Rauch

**August 14**

Dr. Lisa Kattan

**August 15**

Jenny Romano

**August 16**

Rabbi Barry Kenter

**August 17**

Joseph Teig  
Adam Cieply  
Emily Gellis Lande

**August 19**

Alon Katsir

**August 21**

Elissa Wachs

**August 22**

Claire Lewin

**August 24**

Judith Siegel

**August 25**

Jack Mattice

**August 26**

Brett Applebaum

**August 27**

David Tudor

**August 28**

Natalie Tenenbaum

**August 29**

Ellen Goldman  
Marc Lessner





**August 2**

Lindsey and Assaf Gal

**August 20**

Judith and Mark Siegel

**August 13**

David Teitelbaum and Devora Aharon

**August 26**

Lily and Ben Sayagh

**August 15**

Michael Frankel and Rebecca Shipps

**August 27**

Joseph and Nita Gottesman  
Michael and Eileen Dolfman

**August 16**

Chad and Heather Widensky

**August 28**

Barry and Judith Kenter

**August 18**

Jack Mattice and Yorkette Kleinman

**August 31**

Ben Siegel and Jessica Sandler

**August 19**

Russell and Jill Rivera  
Jay and Marjorie Hirshfield



Habonim is looking for a few good *madrachim*—(teen) teachers' assistants! We would love some extra hands to help the Religious School get ready for students, supervise pizza time, and support our classroom teachers—and the opportunity is so much more than that. *Madrachim* are mentors, living Habonim's core values centered on volunteerism and building community together, and demonstrating to our students that it's cool to grow up Jewish.

This is a great way to not only support Habonim but also to complete community service or National Honor Society requirements and add a volunteer opportunity to a resume or college application.

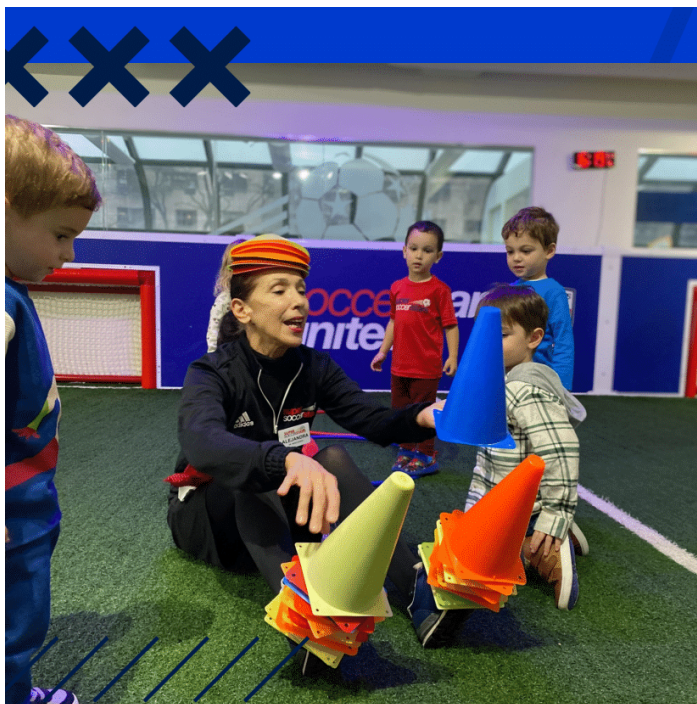
If you have (or are!) a child in grades 9-12 who can join us after school on Mondays or Tuesdays, contact our Religious School Director, Karen, to volunteer today!

[religiousschool@habonim.net](mailto:religiousschool@habonim.net)

or

(212) 787-5347





**super  
soccerstars**  
FALL SOCCER AT

# Congregation Habonim

## CLASS DETAILS:

### DAY & TIME:

**Fridays**

**10/13 - 12/15**

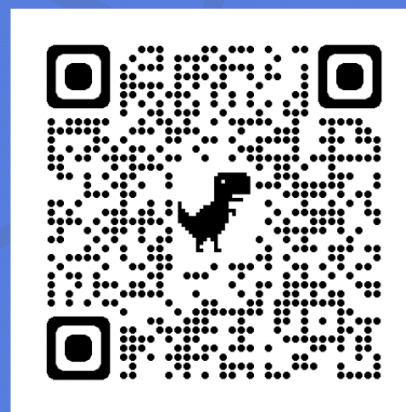
**12:15 PM - 1:00 PM**

**AGES 3-4**

### COST:

**\$375 - 9 weeks**

*Register here:*



**Username: HAB**

**Password: HABSoccer**

**CLASS  
OVERVIEW**

**WARM-UP**  
Obstacle Course

**STRETCHES**  
Static + Dynamic

**INDIVIDUAL  
SKILL BUILDING**  
Footwork  
On-ball Skills

**TEAM SKILL  
BUILDING**  
Interactive Skills  
+ Teamwork

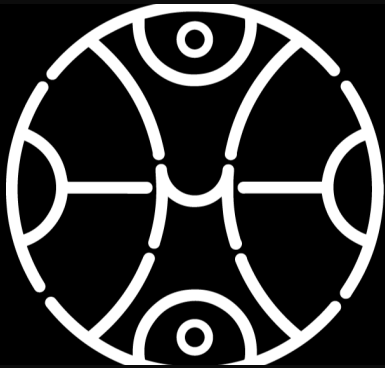
## WHO WE ARE

At Super Soccer Stars, we are committed to keeping your kids engaged, active, and healthy in any environment. Our specially designed, age-specific curricula helps develop skills, teamwork, and builds self-confidence in every child.

## CONTACT:

**Phone: 212-877-7171**

**Email: [info@soccerstars.com](mailto:info@soccerstars.com)**



# Momentum Sports NYC

Momentum Sports' Mini's Multi Sports Class is high energy, fun, engaging & challenging! We offer sports such as soccer, basketball, football, volleyball, baseball, and different activities to help our athletes learn teamwork, work ethic, perseverance, and develop social skills to help them succeed.

Classes are available for students in our Red, Blue and Purple rooms as well as children from 18-24 months old!

Learn more and sign up here:

[https://www.habonim.net/  
classes/multisport](https://www.habonim.net/classes/multisport)







## **Plaques**

Purchase a memorial plaque in memory of a loved one to be displayed outside the Sanctuary.

## **Tree of Life Leaves**

Commemorate special occasions or honor someone special with a leaf displayed on our entrance wall!

## **Cemetery Plots**

Plots are available at Cedar Park Cemetery in Paramus, NJ. Contact the office for more information.

## **Facilities Rental**

Host your party or special celebration at Habonim! We also rent our space to weekly or monthly programs when available.

## **Kiddush Sponsorships**

Sponsor an Oneg Shabbat for any occasion - to honor a loved one's yahrzeit, to celebrate a birthday, or just because!

## **Dedicate a Prayer Book**

Book plate dedications are perfect for any occasion.

Make your donation or payment online at [www.habonim.net/support.html](http://www.habonim.net/support.html)

or by check, made payable to:

Congregation Habonim  
c/o Kesef Accounting Services  
PO Box 159  
Montvale, NJ 07645-0159

## ***Do You Have Ideas for the Bulletin?***

Please email all articles, photos and suggestions for future bulletin content to [communications@habonim.net](mailto:communications@habonim.net)



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