

The VOICE  
Special Edition

# High Holy Days

at Beth El Congregation

5780 / 2019



*Inside:*

**REFLECT  
RECONSIDER  
REINSPIRE**

**#Reflect4Rosh**

# A High Holy Day Reflection

By: Rabbi Dana Saroken

Every summer, I inevitably have the same bad dream about the High Holy Days: Rosh Hashanah has arrived, and I realize, just as the sun is setting - when it's too late to do any more work - that I'm one sermon short. I'll have to stand before our Beth El community of thousands without anything to say.

You may not have sermons to write, but I suspect you might have similar fears: that the High Holy Days have arrived without having done the requisite soul searching.

So how do I get ready for the High Holy Days, and how would I suggest others prepare? Alone time is beneficial; a cocooning process that helps block out the daily distractions to focus on ideas that brought me inspiration throughout the past year. I start globally and gradually get closer to home, trying to get to the heart of the issues affecting us all: what is ailing our world, society, and immediate community? What are people yearning for, in need of, or trying to figure out?

But these questions inevitably lead to others: what can Judaism offer in response? How might our traditions provide wisdom that can get us "unstuck" or help us find clarity, recalibration, and direction? Where do we need to change to become our better selves - personally and collectively?

That's when the hard work truly begins.

I've found that the more effort I invest in *teshuvah* (personal transformation), the more powerful the High Holy Days feel and the more likely I am to change my behavioral patterns, relationships, and life for the better!

I do the majority of my soul work during *Elul*, the month before the High Holy Days. I focus on who I am, and who I aspire to become. I reflect on my relationships with God, with others, and with myself. I ask myself where I need to recalibrate how I am living, loving, and spending the precious time called "my life." I challenge old truths that I have outgrown but am holding onto even though they no longer serve me. Then I make resolutions - but not the "lose five pounds" type. I resolve to improve my character.

The precious 10-day stretch between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur gives us the space to focus on the implementation of our resolutions. It's also a time to be the person that you aspire to be: more generous, more appreciative, more kind, more *fill-in-the-blank*. The point here isn't to trick God during the intermediary Days of Judgment. Rather, we should use this time to prove to ourselves that we are capable of becoming the best versions of ourselves and reaching our fullest potential.

Every day throughout the month of *Elul*, the *shofar* blasts at the end of services; a reminder to create time to explore, to reflect, to aspire, and to work on recreating yourself and, through that process, recreating our world. However you decide to prepare, I hope you'll greet this sacred time with intention and purpose.



*On behalf of the clergy, board of trustees,  
and staff of Beth El Congregation, we wish you  
all K'tiva Va'Satima Tova - May you all be  
inscribed for a good and sweet year.*

Cantor Thom King

Rabbi Steve Schwartz

Rabbi Dana Saroken

# #Reflect4Rosh



## REFLECT

EXAMINING WHERE WE SUCCEEDED LAST YEAR AND WHERE WE CAN IMPROVE.

1. Is there something you wish you had done differently this past year?
2. Where in your life have you used your energy and time in ways that were unworthy?
3. How have your priorities changed in this past year?

## RECONSIDER

RECALIBRATING OUR GOALS AND SETTING OUR INTENTIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR.

4. When do you take a stand? What is it in your life or in our world that matters enough for you to take a stand?
5. What piece of advice or counsel did you receive in the past year that could guide you into next year?
6. What is one thing you'd like to achieve by this time next year?

## REINSPIRE

EXPLORING WHAT INSPIRES US AND GIVES US PURPOSE.

7. God gives us one life to live. How are you going to spend it?
8. When do you feel most fulfilled? What does your soul yearn for?
9. What do you need that money cannot buy?

# Uninhibited Joy

## How to Recreate Yourself During the High Holy Days

**By:** Brandon Chiat, *Digital Media Strategist*

A fundamental principle of Judaism is that every person has the opportunity to create themselves. In that sense, the High Holy Days are touchstone moments when a person should take stock of their growth.

“Rabbi Soloveitchik says we recreate ourselves on the High Holy Days, severing the cosmic eyes on the person we used to be, and focusing on the person we could become in the upcoming year: the recreation of the self,” Rabbi Dana Saroken explained.

Perhaps the theme most commonly associated with the High Holy Days is repentance. In the Jewish tradition, repentance is called *teshuvah*, a Hebrew word translated as “returning.” Comparatively, one of the Hebrew words for sin is *chet*, which means “to go astray.” Thus the idea of repentance in Jewish thought is a return to the path of righteousness.

“Woven into *teshuvah* is the idea of returning, of going back to something,” Rabbi Steve Schwartz said. “Throughout the year, we can become disconnected from God, our faith, the truest version of ourselves or from our relationships with friends and family. *Teshuvah* means to return to that which brings meaning into our lives.”

Through *teshuvah*, a person can liberate themselves from past mistakes, challenge old behaviors that no longer serve their purpose, and embrace a new identity. Repentance, then, is an act of self-creation.

With that in mind, Beth El proudly announces the 5780/2019 High Holy Days campaign. **#Reflect4Rosh** is a series of provocative questions, designed to help guide *teshuvah*. In the coming weeks, Beth El will present these questions to the congregation through email, social media, and in-person. Members are invited to respond to these prompts. Whether congregants respond privately or publicly, Beth El’s clergy and staff hope the campaign inspires each member to become the best version of themselves as we all **#Reflect4Rosh**.

But the campaign begins here, with four Beth El members of varying ages and at different life stages who courageously agreed to search their souls. Here’s what these paragons of *teshuvah* found out about themselves.

### REFLECT

***Examining where we succeeded last year and where we can improve.***

When asked what, if anything, they wished they had done differently in the past year, Beth El’s soul searchers responded with themes of positivity and patience.

“I wish I had stayed more optimistic,” said Naomi Lebowitz, a student in the Berman-Lipavsky Religious School. “I believe optimism is the key to success because even in the worst situations, being optimistic gives a person hope.”



Naomi Lebowitz

“We may not always control the circumstances of our lives, but we do control the choices we make, the actions we take, and the words we speak,” Rabbi Schwartz said.

Rebecca Giller agrees that positivity is a matter of choice, not circumstance. “There were times in the past year when I dwelled on the negative aspects of my life,” said the first-time mother, who enrolled her son Jacob in Beth El’s Infant and Toddler program. “I complained more than necessary, which never fixed anything.”

Mrs. Giller will use the High Holy Days to transition into a more positive outlook, which she said begins with getting out of her comfort zone.

“I want to live my life from a place of yes! It’s difficult with a newborn; I found myself avoiding activities that might be scary or make me anxious,” Mrs. Giller said. “I could learn a lot about myself by expanding horizons.”

For Sheryl Title, a regular fixture at Morning Minyan and The Soul Center, positive thinking is a lifelong process, and she has learned to be more patient with herself in that pursuit. “Practicing mindfulness allows me to be more patient in my day-to-day life, which gives me the mental space to embrace the truest version of myself,” she said.

When asked how she might have used her time in unworthy ways, Mrs. Title reflected on a propensity for multitasking, which can distract her from appreciating life’s most meaningful moments.

Bruce Supovitz understands the demands of daily life; splitting time between his role as Senior Vice President of National Audio Services for Nielsen Media Research and serving on Beth El’s Board of Directors taught him the importance of self-care.



Bruce Supovitz

“As we age, our mind and body naturally change,” he said. “I really would like to stay young in both body and mind, so health takes on greater importance.”

As Mrs. Title put it: “If I feel good, I can do good.”

### RECONSIDER

***Recalibrating our goals and setting our intentions for the new year.***

“There are many versions of every person, but I learned that focusing on the best version of myself is so important,” Ms. Lebowitz said. “You can always strive to be better in all aspects of your life, and you can always improve.”

The soul searchers found that self-creation is an incremental, never-ending process, and in doing so, accepted their fluid identities. No matter where they are on life’s path, each of the soul searchers learned to trust the process. “My goal for the new year is to get just a little bit better every day,” Mrs. Title said.

“My wife Lisa urges me to enjoy the *journey*,” Mr. Supovitz said. “It’s been a lifelong challenge to stay in the moment and enjoy the present, rather than rushing through life.”

However, certain milestones will inevitably occur that forever change a person’s life. Ms. Lebowitz lost a friend when a gunman opened fire with a semi-automatic rifle at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. Mrs. Giller celebrated the birth of her first child. Mrs. Title transitioned out of the professional world, while Mr. Supovitz reached new heights in his career. But each of the soul searchers embraced adversity as an opportunity for growth.

“In the new year I intend to stop dwelling on the people and situations over which I have no control,” Mrs. Giller said. “It’s important for me to set goals oriented around who I want to become as a person.”

While some expressed a need to make the most of each moment by freeing themselves from past regrets or future fears, others focused on nurturing the passions that provide meaning and purpose to life.

"My spirituality is a hugely important part of my life," Mrs. Title said. "I need to be mindful in creating space for the things that bring meaning into my life."

"My priorities have shifted towards a better work-life balance," Mr. Supovtiz said. "While I'm still highly involved with my work, especially my new focus on podcasting, I have developed interests outside of work - such as reading, taking up art again, exercising, traveling and greater involvement with Beth El's executive team, board and committees - that contribute to a full and rich life."

## REINSPIRE

*Exploring what inspires us and gives us purpose.*

Jewish psychologist and Holocaust survivor Viktor Frankl argued that a person does not create life's meaning, but rather, they discover it. Each person has a unique reason for living, which can and should be adjusted or transformed many times throughout their lifetime. Fulfillment comes from a purpose; having something to do, someone to love, and something to hope for is essential.

"Earlier this summer, I traveled to Cano Azul, a small and isolated community deep in the Dominican Republic, where I built 16 latrines for families in need," Ms. Lebowitz said. "It was so rewarding, and I felt just as joyful as the families we were there to help."

Like Ms. Lebowitz, Mrs. Giller actualizes herself by serving a greater cause. As a teacher in a high-poverty Title I school, she works with immigrant students whose education and personal development may otherwise be marginalized.

"My purpose is to ensure every child, no matter their socioeconomic needs, receives the proper treatment they deserve, in terms of academic, social, and personal well-being," Mrs. Giller said. "The greater goal is to create a community in which these children can develop a sense of self and learn the importance of kindness and caring relationships."

Importantly, one's purpose ripens when their passion integrally connects to the well-being of others.

"I have always had a deep and strong connection to my Jewish identity and the important traditions that carry on from generation to generation," Mr. Supovtiz said. "With anti-Semitism and every kind of prejudice on the rise again, I feel it's vital that we stand up against unacceptable actions or words."

As Frankl said: "Man is ultimately self-determining. Man does not simply exist but always decides what his existence will be, what he will become in the next moment. Every human being has the freedom to change at any instant."

Frankl's message resonated with Sheryl Title, who carries the lessons of the High Holy Days with her throughout the year: "My spirituality is heightened and enlightened during this sacred time but I never wait for the High Holy Days to check-in with myself. Instead, I consider Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur opportunities to refocus my priorities and solidify all the ways I've grown as a person."



Sheryl Title

"That is the power of *teshuvah*," Rabbi Schwartz said. "We have the power to

choose who we will be in the new year - or the next moment - the power of changing for the better."

## REJOICE

*Welcoming uninhibited joy through our most meaningful relationships.*

"As we move from Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur to Sukkot and Simchat Torah, our emotions transition from introspection and vulnerability to absolute joy," Rabbi Saroken said. "Towards the end of the High Holy Days, after we've reimagined who we have the potential and desire to be, after we've sought forgiveness and refocused our lives, we clean our slates to welcome uninhibited joy!"

All of Beth El's soul searchers expressed the desire to obtain happiness.

"My soul yearns for pure happiness, which I believe comes from appreciating life and living every moment to the fullest," Ms. Lebowitz said.

Though Rabbi Saroken explained that, from a Jewish perspective, joy is a worthy goal than happiness.

"Happiness can be found on our own. Eating a delicious steak makes me happy, as does finding a comfortable new black dress or listening to my favorite song," Rabbi Saroken said. "But joy (or "*simcha*" in Hebrew) can only be experienced through connection to another - spouses or lovers, with children, with friends or even with God. It is through that intimacy we come to experience joy - a much more profound emotion."

From that perspective, each soul searcher concluded that love is the highest goal to which a person can aspire.

"The most I could ever hope for is the well-being of my family," Mr. Supovtiz said. "Knowing that my wife, children, mother, and brother are safe, feel good, and are enjoying life is all I need to be content and at peace."



Rebecca Giller

"The most important goal I've set for myself this year is to invest my energy into the people I love," Mrs. Giller said. "I plan to cultivate the meaningful relationships that bring laughter and joy into my life."

"I am so grateful for the amazing people I have in my life today," Mrs. Title said. "The beauty I see in the world comes from the loving relationships I have with my family and friends."

There is no epoch in human life where one's character stops evolving. Over time, individuals adapt themselves, eventually developing new ways of acting, relating, and thinking. Ultimately, these new behaviors become habitual until there comes a day when that person can hardly remember their former self. Their identity evolved. They have recreated themselves.

"Each year the High Holy Days remind us that we have a hand in shaping our own lives and destinies," Rabbi Schwartz said. "If we are going in the wrong direction, we can turn. If we have made poor choices, we can make better ones. If we have spoken words we regret, we can acknowledge that, and work to make it right."

Perhaps this is the most joyous blessing of The High Holy Days: that no matter where a person might be on their life's journey, it is never too late to reflect, reconsider, reinspire, and rejoice.

# Hiddur Mitzvah

## The Proops Machzor (c.1750)

By: Ben Kreshtool, *Ritual Director*

There are few texts more moving in Jewish ritual practice than the liturgy of the High Holy Days. Year after year, the familiar melodies and beautiful, ancient words inscribed within the *machzor* inspire feelings of awe and humility.

Perhaps more than any other ritual object in a synagogue's collection, *machzorim* - especially older editions - embody the idea of *l'dor v'dor*, used by generations of Jews to guide their teshuva (repentance). There is something very special about old books; the way they feel when their pages are turned, as they have been turned thousands of times before, is a tactile connection to our Jewish heritage.

Beth El has just such a *machzor* in its collection. Everyday, people walk by its display case where it sits, unassuming, ready to remind us of the meaning of the High Holy Days with the word *HaMelech*, the King, emblazoned on its page. While its cover is slightly warped and the leather has begun to fade, its binding is still strong. All in all, this book is in remarkably good condition for being almost 300 years old.

According to its title page, the Proops Printing House published this *machzor* in 1750 in Amsterdam. Rabbi Shlomo Proops began printing books in 1690, and his family continued to print *machzorim* and other ritual books until 1849. The Proops *machzor* in Beth El's collection was printed in the Ashkenazic tradition and features on its title page the Hebrew words *Kavanat HaPaytan*, which is a Yiddish commentary on the prayers within. The Proops Printing House intended this *machzor* to guide readers through a personal transformation. Also inscribed in beautiful calligraphy on its title page is the name of its one-time owner, Lipman Rintel, as well as an endorsement from Rabbi Aryeh Leib, the *Av Beit Din* ("Chief Justice") and spiritual leader of the Ashkenazi Jewish Congregation.

Flipping through the pages of this *machzor* is a glimpse into the past, but also a striking parallel to the present. The pages are ancient, and the commentary is in Yiddish, but the prayers themselves are the same prayers we say today. From the austerity of the *Unetaneh Tokef*, to the stirring and uplifting language of the *Musaf Amidah*, and the beautiful sentiments of many liturgical poems, the prayers in Proops *machzor* are the exact same as those in the *machzor* we use during High Holy Day services at Beth El. Indeed, this *machzor* connects us to generations of Jews who have come before us, like its former owner Lipman Rintel, for surely, he too was a man with dreams, feelings, and the hope for blessings and sweetness for a new year.



# Selichot

## Getting into the "Zone" for the High Holy Days

By: Cantor Thom King

Preparing ourselves for the Days of Awe can be a daunting task. Like most Jewish celebrations, the High Holy Days never seem to come at the right time. They always seem to sneak up on us, and we're never quite ready when they arrive. On Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, we're not only expected to prepare large family meals but also are obligated to prepare ourselves spiritually through *teshuva*: self-examination and repentance. *Teshuva* is not a task that we can accomplish hastily, or by ticking off items on a checklist. Rather, *teshuva* requires a degree of quiet contemplation, of looking back on our thoughts and deeds, of really looking at the face in the mirror and saying: "You could do better, you know."

*Selichot*, which takes place in the days preceding the High Holy Days, is the perfect opportunity to jump-start the process of *teshuva*. We come together as a congregation to reflect, ponder, and to view our lives side by side against the image of the person we would like to become. Surrounded by our fellow Jews, we acknowledge our imperfections. But *selichot* is also a reminder that within each of us is a spark of the Divine which we can nurture into a flame that illuminates our lives and the lives of those around us.

The rituals and traditions of the High Holy Days can sometimes seem strange and other-worldly to us. They come from a time and place that seems to have no relevance in our modern lives. At this year's *selichot* service, Beth El will employ not only the traditional texts and music but also a page from our American culture: Rod Serling's classic television series *The Twilight Zone*. When viewed through the lens of our High Holy Day preparations, the two episodes that we will watch during *selichot* will help us all to see ourselves and those around us a little more clearly.

Our *selichot* service contains texts and melodies that reflect our desire to redirect our life's path toward God. Some of the prayers and melodies are ancient, drawing us back into our history. Some are more recent, reflecting our people's desire to renew and reinvent our faith. As has become our custom, Rabbi Schwartz, Rabbi Saroken, and I will be accompanied by our member, internationally known cellist, Evan Drachman, and the mighty men of the Beth El Choir.

We invite you to join us for the *selichot* service on **Saturday, September 21st At 9:00 P.M.**

# Take A Bow

## Bruce Eicher Retires After 56 Years As Beth El's Organist

**By:** Brandon Chiat, *Digital Media Strategist*

High Holy Day services at Beth El would be incomplete without the synagogue's organ resounding throughout the vaulted walls of the Berman-Rubin Sanctuary.

Though uncharacteristic of a conservative synagogue, organ music has been a signature part of Beth El's worship since the congregation's inception. For the past 56 years, Bruce Eicher created those evocative soundscapes. As he nears his well-deserved retirement, Mr. Eicher reflects on his storied legacy as Beth El's principal organist.

"One of the great joys of my career has been playing synagogue music at Beth El," Mr. Eicher said. "The organ awakens certain feelings during worship, creating a unifying atmosphere that brings you closer to each other and God."

Mr. Eicher first evoked those sacred sounds in 1963, when he filled in for a colleague during High Holy Day services in the Offit Auditorium. He became Beth El's principal organist in January of 1964.

"Beth El's liturgical music relies on improvisation," Mr. Eicher said. "Cantor Hammerman rarely wrote down the music. Instead, he would ask for an introduction in a particular key or mode, and we would improvise together - mostly I followed him, but on occasion I would change the key, and he would follow. With Cantor King we more often used his beautiful settings of the traditional liturgy."

Mr. Eicher said the congregation's groundbreaking approach to music also applied to other areas of synagogue life. "I have always been impressed by the congregation's generosity and willingness to accept me, a non-Jew," he said.

Beth El's collaboration with a non-Jewish organist demonstrates that *chesed* has always been a guiding value for the congregation. Mr. Eicher himself embodies *chesed*, helping Beth El build relationships with Grace United Methodist Church, where, since 1958, he has served as Director of Music and Organist.

"I had the pleasure of conducting the Grace Methodist Choir at Beth El," Mr. Eicher said. "Rabbis Agus, Loeb, and Schwartz each spoke several times at Grace Methodist's service and Cantors Hammerman and King have performed at the church as well."

"One of the true joys of being Beth El's cantor is having Bruce Eicher as my musical partner, mentor, and friend," Cantor Thom King said. "His musicality, sensitivity, genuine kindness, and *menschlichkeit* bring unique meaning to everything he does."

When Thom King auditioned to become Beth El's cantor in 1997, he had the privilege of being accompanied by Mr. Eicher.

"Bruce considered retiring with Cantor Hammerman because it might prove too difficult to break in a troublesome new cantor," Cantor King recalled. "We immediately developed a musical rapport and a collaborative instinct that has remained between us to this day."

Beth El's liturgical music has evolved with reverence for tradition and an eye toward the future, something Cantor King credits in part to Mr. Eicher's musical sensibilities. Importantly, Mr. Eicher's successor and protege, Michael Britt, possesses similar qualities.

"I can imagine no one more fitting to continue the tradition of magnificent music in our congregation than Michael," Cantor King said. "Had we done a nationwide search for Bruce's ideal replacement, we could not have found a better fit for Beth El's musical future."

Michael Britt first performed at Beth El in 1981, at the invitation of Mr. Eicher, his teacher at the prestigious Peabody Institute.

"Bruce taught me sight-singing and ear-training at Peabody, which are the skills required for musical improvisation during liturgical services," Mr. Britt said. "It's a great challenge for an organist to support the cantor musically without overshadowing; that's only something I could have learned from watching Bruce play with Beth El's cantors for many years."

Mr. Britt attended countless Shabbat morning and High Holy Day services at Beth El, observing how Mr. Eicher complimented Cantors Hammerman and King.

"Bruce's playing is incredibly illustrative," Mr. Britt said. "The liturgy itself is emotional, but Bruce instinctively communicates the text through music, which creates the appropriate mood."

Mr. Britt hopes to foster a seamless transition and to support Cantor King's musical innovations for years to come.

"Cantor King has done a remarkable job at elevating the creative style of liturgical music," Mr. Britt said. "It's an honor to carry on Beth El's musical legacy, and I look forward to serving this wonderful congregation, which I consider my second home."

"Our congregation, choir, and I have been truly blessed to have Bruce Eicher's beautiful and gifted soul as a part of the musical life at Beth El," Cantor King said. "Bruce brought spiritual enrichment to our congregation for more than half-a-century, so he richly deserves being brought from behind the organ for some long-overdue recognition."

"I've always held a tender place in my heart for Judaism and Beth El Congregation," Mr. Eicher said. "As a church organist tasked with the awesome responsibility of performing Jewish liturgical music, I hope that I have exemplified the feeling that we're all in this together."



# Thoughts on Sounding the Shofar

By: Amy Goldberg, Religious School Director, and Andy Shankman, Religious School Manager

Have you ever woken up to the sound of your alarm clock and were relieved that it interrupted a nightmare that you were having? Hearing the blasts of the *shofar* is a type of wakeup call. The *shofar* blasts encourage us to freeze at this moment and reflect on our actions. Did we spend enough time being our best selves? Are there ways that we can improve?

Each of us is responsible for our own actions and when we reflect on the ways we may have missed the mark, we can, at the same time, recommit to becoming better versions of ourselves. Each year, we have the opportunity to practice *teshuva* or returning to a place of goodness. This year at the Berman-Lipavsky Religious School, we are looking forward to helping bring out the best in all of us. Introduce yourself to a new family at the Back-to-School Shabbat, participate in one of our many *chesed* project opportunities, or even just commit to spending five minutes a day to review Hebrew prayers at home.

We look forward to seeing you at one of the many children's and family service options during the High Holy Days to hear that *shofar* blast. *Shanah Tovah U'metukah* - A sweet and happy new year to you and your families.

"When the shofar sounds, we hear the voices of our ancestors reminding us to be loyal to our people.

When the shofar sounds we hear a voice deep inside us urging us to improve.

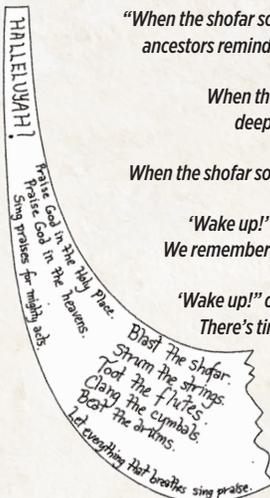
When the shofar sounds, we hear the voice of God.

"Wake up!" cries the shofar and we are sad. We remember our wrong doing this past year.

"Wake up!" cries the shofar and we are glad. There's time to change; we need not fear.

Teshuva: turn, change our ways.  
Torah: learn all of our days."

-Tiku Shofar Makzor, Page 63



## EREV ROSH HASHANAH PRE-PRAY AT BETH EL'S NEW PAVILION (ALL AGES)

Sunday, September 29

5:00 PM

- Apple dipping and honey treats for kids
- Make a L'chayim with Mead (honey wine) and delicious Appletinis
- Get your New Year's Photo taken with our clergy in our "clergy photo-booth"
- Live music to bring in the joy and sweetness of 5780!



## A WEEKEND OF CELEBRATION & DEDICATION OF GENERATIONS PARK

Friday, October 18

5:15-5:45 PM Family Sukkot Shabbat Service in the Pavilion

5:45-6:30 PM Dinner for School Families in the Big Sukkah

6:00- 6:45 PM Regularly Scheduled Congregational Shabbat Service in the Gorn Chapel

7:00 PM Soul Center Sponsored Shir Joy Service in the Pavilion

8:15 PM Shir Joy Dinner in the Big Sukkah

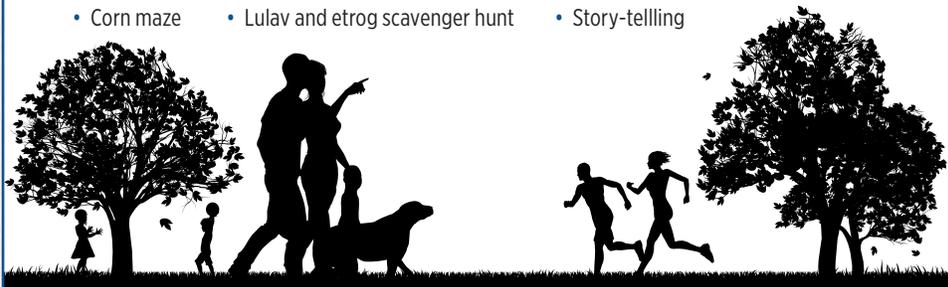
Sunday, October 20

9:15-10:30 AM Congregational Sukkot Hoshana Rabbah Service in the Pavilion

11:00-11:30 AM Formal Dedication of Generations Park (Shehechianu Moment)

11:00-1:00 AM Sukkot Fall Festival

- Hayrides
- Face painting
- Musical programming
- Corn maze
- Lulav and etrog scavenger hunt
- Story-telling



## HIGH HOLY DAYS YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES SCHEDULE

### BETH EL

Rosh Hashanah Day 1—Monday, September 30  
& Yom Kippur – Wednesday, October 9

9:45 AM Babysitting (Preschool Classrooms 12 & 13)

10 & 11:30 AM Early Childhood Family Service (Myers Auditorium)

10:45AM Preschool Activities (213-214)

10 & 11:30 AM Family Service\* (Gorn Chapel and Schuster Library)

11:15 AM Teen Service (Agus Library)

For children of parents who attend adult services:

10:00 AM Before Care (Schapiro Auditorium)

11:15 AM 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Service (Kolker Room)

11:15 AM 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Service (Schapiro Auditorium)

12:00 PM After Care (Schapiro Auditorium)

Monday, September 30 –Tashlich Druid Ridge, 4:45PM

Rosh Hashanah Day 2-Tuesday, October 1

9:45 AM Babysitting (Preschool Classrooms 12 & 13)

10:00 AM Early Childhood Family Service (Myers Auditorium)

10:00 AM Family Service (Gorn Chapel)

### DOWNTOWN

Salem Lutheran Church: 1530 Battery Ave

Rosh Hashanah Family Service - Monday, September 30

4:00 PM

Yom Kippur Family Service - Wednesday, October 9

4:00 PM Led by Cantor Blatt \*Reservations are required for family services due to limited seating. Beth El Congregation Members have priority. If you plan to join us, please go to:

[www.bethelbalto.com/worship/high-holy-days](http://www.bethelbalto.com/worship/high-holy-days)

to complete our survey.

For questions, call Andy Shankman at 410-484-4543

### Descriptions of the High Holy Days Youth & Family Services

Early Childhood Service (Myers Auditorium)

Preschool through 1<sup>st</sup> grade

10 & 11:30 AM\* Morah Becky brings an engaging and interactive high holiday singalong for preschool through 1st grade families Preschool activities to follow.

Family Service (Gorn Chapel) 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and above

10 & 11:30 AM\*\* High Holy Day Family services will be full music and storytelling. Cantor Blatt and Abby Woloff lead an interactive service

welcoming the joyous light of the new year to our families.

We unite the old and the new for a refreshing service.

\*The same service will be offered at two times.

\*\*Please complete this survey to reserve your Family Service time and seating. [www.bethelbalto.com/worship/high-holy-days](http://www.bethelbalto.com/worship/high-holy-days)

1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade & 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Services (Kolker & Schapiro Auditorium)

11:00 AM These services are for children of parents who attend the adult service in the sanctuary. Led by a teacher with age appropriate prayers and activities. Before and after care is provided.

Teen Service (Rooms 213-214)

11:15 AM An insightful experience with a lively and relevant discussion.

Babysitting (Preschool Classrooms 12 & 13)

9:45 AM – 1:30 PM Available for ages 2-5 on both days of Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and at 6:00 PM Kol Nidre.

Please bring all supplies—diaper changing will not be provided.

Pre-Registration is required to Mandy Barish at 410-602-2245 or [mandy@bethelbalto.com](mailto:mandy@bethelbalto.com).

Tashlich (Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup>) Druid Ridge

4:45p PM This family friendly ceremony allows us to express our desire to be free from sin. We toss crumbs into the waters and symbolically cleanse ourselves of misdeeds. **Bring your shofar!**

# HIGH HOLY DAY SCHEDULE 5780/2019

## Saturday, September 21, Selichot Services

9:00 PM Services

## Sunday, September 29 Erev Rosh Hashanah

5:00 PM **NEW** Erev Rosh Hashanah Musical Pre Pray in the Pavilion  
 6:00 PM Service in Berman-Rubin Sanctuary (Open Seating)  
 6:34 PM Home Candle Lighting

## Monday, September 30, Rosh Hashanah (First Day)

9:00 AM Individual Worship  
 9:30 AM *Shacharit* Service  
 9:45 AM Babysitting (for children ages 2-5)  
 10:00 AM Early Childhood Family Service (Preschool-1<sup>st</sup> grade)  
 10:00 AM Family Service Option #1 (2<sup>nd</sup> grade and above)  
 10:15 AM Torah Service  
 10:45 AM Preschool Activities  
 11:00 AM *Shofar* Blowing  
 11:15 AM Teen Service  
 11:30 AM Early Childhood Family Service (Preschool-1<sup>st</sup> grade)  
 11:30 AM Family Service Option #2 (2<sup>nd</sup> grade and above)  
 11:30 AM Sermon  
 11:45 AM *Hineni, Musaf* Service  
 4:45 PM *Tashlich* Service, Druid Ridge Cemetery  
 6:00 PM *Mincha / Maariv* Service (Gorn Chapel)

## Tuesday, October 1, Rosh Hashanah (Second Day)

9:30 AM Service in Berman-Rubin Sanctuary; Open seating at 10:30 AM  
 9:45 AM Babysitting (for children ages 2-5)  
 10:00 AM Early Childhood Family Service (Preschool-1<sup>st</sup> Grade)  
 10:00 AM Family Service (2<sup>nd</sup> grade and above)  
 6:45 PM Evening Service (Gorn Chapel)

## Saturday, October 5, Shabbat Shuvah

10:00 AM Morning Service (Gorn Chapel)  
 6:30 PM *Mincha / Maariv / Havdalah* Services (Gorn Chapel)

## Sunday, October 6

10:30 AM Annual Service of Remembrance at Beth El Memorial Park

## Tuesday, October 8, Erev Yom Kippur

6:00 PM *Kol Nidre* Service

## Wednesday, October 9, Yom Kippur

9:00 AM Individual Worship  
 9:30 AM *Shacharit* Service  
 9:45 AM Babysitting (for children ages 2-5)  
 10:00 AM Early Childhood Family Service (Preschool-1<sup>st</sup> grade)  
 10:00 AM Family Service Option #1 (2<sup>nd</sup> grade and above)  
 10:30 AM Torah Service  
 10:45 AM Preschool Activities  
 11:15 AM Teen Service  
 11:15 AM *Yizkor* (Memorial) Service  
 11:30 AM Early Childhood Family Service (Preschool-1<sup>st</sup> grade)  
 11:30 AM Family Service Option #2 (2<sup>nd</sup> grade and above)  
 11:45 AM Sermon  
 12:15 PM *Hineni, Musaf* Service  
 2:00 PM Intermission (The Berman- Rubin Sanctuary Ark open for personal prayer)  
 4:00 PM Open Forum with Rabbi Steven Schwartz (Rubin Sanctuary, Open Seating)  
 4:45 PM Martyrology Service (Berman-Rubin Sanctuary, Open Seating)  
 5:15 PM *Mincha* Service (Berman-Rubin Sanctuary, Open Seating)  
 6:00 PM *Neilah* Service (Berman-Rubin Sanctuary, Open Seating)  
 7:05 PM *Maariv / Havdalah* Service (Berman-Rubin Sanctuary, Open Seating)  
 7:20 PM Blowing of the *Shofar*

### HIN'NI: I AM HERE!

This year, the High Holy Day Family Service led by Cantor Blatt and Abby Woloff will once again feature the High Holy Day Children's Choir. Rehearsals begin directly after the first day of school on September 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM sharp (location TBD). Children in Second Grade and up are encouraged to join the choir as well as their families (including parents)!

To sign up and for more information, please contact Cantor Blatt at [melanie@bethelbalto.com](mailto:melanie@bethelbalto.com) or call 410-484-0411 x1101.

\*Schedule continued on next page.

# HIGH HOLY DAY SCHEDULE 5780/2019

*\*Continued*

<b>Sunday, October 13, Erev Sukkot</b>	9:15 AM	Morning Service
	6:00 PM	Sukkot Service
<b>Monday, October 14, Sukkot (First Day)</b>	10:00 AM	Morning Sukkot Service (Gorn Chapel)
	6:00 PM	Evening Sukkot Service
<b>Tuesday, October 15, Sukkot (Second Day)</b>	10:00 AM	Morning Sukkot Service
	6:45 PM	Evening Service (Gorn Chapel)
<b>Wednesday, October 16, Chol HaMoed Sukkot</b>	7:45 AM	Morning Service
	6:45 PM	Mincha/ Maariv Service
<b>Thursday, October 17, Chol HaMoed Sukkot</b>	7:45 AM	Morning Service
	6:45 PM	Mincha / Maariv Service
<b>Friday, October 18, Chol HaMoed Sukkot</b>	7:45 AM	Morning Service
	6:00 PM	Kabbalat Shabbat
	6:36 PM	Home Candle Lighting
<b>Saturday, October 19, Shabbat Chol HaMoed Sukkot</b>	10:00 AM	Morning Service
	6:15 PM	Mincha / Maariv Service
<b>Sunday, October 20, Erev Shemini Atzeret/Hoshanah Rabbah</b>	9:15 AM	Morning Service
	6:00 PM	Evening Service
<b>Monday, October 21, Shemini Atzeret/Erev Simchat Torah</b>	10:00 AM	Morning Service (Yizkor)
	6:00 PM	Evening Service
<b>Tuesday, October 22, Simchat Torah</b>	10:00 AM	Morning Service
	6:45 PM	Evening Service

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### CALLING ALL DOCTORS & NURSES

If you are a medical doctor or nurse and would like to be placed on a list of available medical professionals in the event of an emergency, please email Josh Bender at [JoshB@bethelbalto.com](mailto:JoshB@bethelbalto.com). We will have an EMT available to provide first aid during all High Holy Day services. The first aid station is located in the main office, off of the Weil-Mandel Lobby.

### PARKING

If the main parking lot is full, you may park at Hooks Lane (where allowed), Greene Tree Road (off of Hooks Lane), Brooks Robinson Drive, and Park Heights Avenue (where allowed). Please remember that illegally parked cars are subject to ticketing by the Baltimore County Police. If you park in a fire lane, you will be towed or ticketed. These county regulations will be enforced and Beth El is not liable for cars ticketed or towed.

### SHUTTLE BUSES

Shuttle buses, provided by Len Stoler, will operate along the locations posted above. No unaccompanied child under the age of 16 can be transported.

### GOLF CART

There will be a driver in a golf cart in the parking lot before and during services who will drive those who need special assistance. Children are not allowed on the golf cart.

### SECURITY

During Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur there will be three ways to enter the building, and all three entrances will be monitored by security personnel. Both entrances in the main synagogue lobby will be open (the parking lot side and the Park Heights side), and the Main Synagogue Plaza doors that lead to the Berman-Rubin Sanctuary. All other doors around the facility will be locked on the outside and can only be used as fire exits. Tickets are required to get into the building.

### BABYSITTING - Rosh Hashanah Day 1 and Yom Kippur

Babysitting will be available for children 2-5 years old. Please bring all supplies - diaper changing will not be provided. Snacks will be provided on Rosh Hashanah but not on Yom Kippur. To register contact Mandy Barish at [Mandy@bethelbalto.com](mailto:Mandy@bethelbalto.com) or 410-602-2245. **RSVP required by September 20.**

### HIGH HOLY DAY RESERVED SEATING FOR ROSH HASHANAH

An open seating policy will be in effect on Erev Rosh Hashanah and Rosh Hashanah day two. Those who have seats in the Berman-Rubin Sanctuary and wish to sit in their seats for these two services may reserve them by filling out the card that will arrive with your High Holy Day tickets. Your seats will be tagged and will not be released for open seating until 6:15 PM on Erev Rosh Hashanah and 10:30 AM on Rosh Hashanah day two. **For more information and to reserve seats, contact Randy Arndts at [Randy@bethelbalto.com](mailto:Randy@bethelbalto.com) or 410-484-0411.**

### LIVESTREAMING

We are excited to announce that Beth El will implement livestreaming in the Berman-Rubin Sanctuary, Offit Auditorium, and Gorn Chapel this High Holy Day season. Livestreaming will be available to members of the congregation who are not physically able to attend services at Beth El or who are living out of town. **To register for livestreaming, please contact Josh Powell at [josh@bethelbalto.com](mailto:josh@bethelbalto.com) or 410-484-0411.**

### ALIYAH REQUEST FORM

Are you interested in receiving an *aliyah* during the High Holy Days? Please contact Ben Kreshtool at [Ben@bethelbalto.com](mailto:Ben@bethelbalto.com) or 410-484-0411 by September 3.

### ORDER YOUR LULAV & ETROG!

Please submit your payment to Ben Kreshtool no later than September 20. *Lulav & Etrog* are \$60.

## BETH EL SENIOR STAFF AND BOARD

### Senior Staff

<b>Senior Rabbi</b>	Steven P. Schwartz
<b>Rabbi</b>	Dana Saroken
<b>Cantor</b>	Thom D. King
<b>Cantor Educator</b>	Melanie Blatt
<b>Executive Director</b>	Joshua Bender
<b>Director of Education</b>	Eyal Bor, Ph.D.
<b>Ritual Director</b>	Ben Kreshtool
<b>Director of Development</b>	Amanda Beitman

### Beth El Officers

<b>President</b>	Edward Mishner, M.D.
<b>1st Vice President</b>	David Harrison
<b>2nd Vice President</b>	Bruce Friedman
<b>Secretary</b>	Rebecca Fruman
<b>Treasurer</b>	Bruce Supovitz
<b>Comptroller</b>	Hal Hackerman

### Board Members

Jill Baldinger	Jeffrey Kreshtool
Herbert Better	Jennifer Krieger
Margery Daniels	Regan La Testa
Jeanette Davis	Jennifer Millman
Wendy Elover	Ira Oring
Kevin Fruman	Joanne Rief
Kenneth Goldberg	A. Ronald Rubin
Edward Goldmeier	Ilene Schwartz
Richard Grilli	Joshua Shein
Eden Himelfarb	Debra Shore
Jerry Janofsky	Mindy Silverman
Myra Katz	Michael Uhlfelder
Robin Kleiman	Steven Weinstein
Elissa Kohel	Mitchell Whiteman
Susan Kolker	Gail Willoughby

### Past Presidents

*Reuben H. Levenson	David Yumkas
*Melvin H. Chernoff	Albert M. Katz
*Samuel J. Keiser	Alan S. Dorenfeld
*Dr. William Raffel	John P. Abosch
*Julius Offit	Margot Gilson
*Milton Roseman	Dr. Robert D. Keehn
*Milton Snyder	Beverly S. Penn
*Ira Askin	Richard S. Hollander
Robert N. Smelkinson	Michael D. Steinhart
Charles Yumkas	Raphael Kahn
*Klaus Buchdahl	Steven D. Silverman
*Mildred Miller	Jerome D. Schnydman
Sidney Friedman	Michael S. Rubenstein
*Max Mendelsohn	Denise Franz
Louis Glick	
Elliot Merenbloom	*Deceased

**Rabbi Jacob B. Agus, z"l (1911-1986)**  
Founding Rabbi

**Rabbi Mark G. Loeb, z"l (1944-2009)**

**Cantor Saul Z. Hammerman, z"l (1926-2008)**



8101 Park Heights Avenue  
Baltimore, Maryland 21208

קהילת בית אל דבאלטימור  
BETH EL CONGREGATION

Return Service Requested

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Owings Mills, MD  
PERMIT 259

**EREV ROSH HASHANAH**  
*Pre-Pray*  
for all ages

**Sunday, September 29 at 5:00 p.m.**  
at Beth El's New Pavilion

- Apple dipping and honey treats for kids
- Make a L'chayim with mead (honey wine) and delicious Appletinis
- Get your New Year's photo taken with our clergy in our "clergy photo-booth"
- Live music to bring in the joy and sweetness of 5780!

Please Recycle

We are a progressive, egalitarian, and inclusive congregation affiliated with the Conservative Movement. We embrace the interplay between innovation and tradition. We strive to create a community in which Judaism feels central, indispensable, and relevant to 21st century life. We believe that Torah (exploring the accumulated wisdom of our tradition), Chesed (extending kindness, hospitality, and generosity to others) and Kedusha (bringing God and holiness into life's every day and sacred moments) can provide us with direction, meaning, and connection in an evolving world.

Phone: 410-484-0411 • School Phone: 410-484-4543 • www.bethelbalto.com



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