

The BA Bulletin

September 2019

The monthly newsletter of Congregation B'nai Amoona

Rabbi Carnie Shalom Rose



As we enter the secular month of September, which signals the end of the summer, we also enter the Jewish Month of Elul. Elul is the annual time when we are bidden by our wise Tradition to begin – in earnest – the introspective process of Teshuvah, turning and returning to the highest and noblest expressions of our selves (often the place that many of us encounter or experience glimpses of Divinity and fleeting moments of Holiness), and which hopefully helps prepare us for the Days of Awe, the *Yamim Noraim*.

To my mind, the most significant thinker on the subject of encountering *Kedushah* (the holy or sanctified) in modern times is the eminent German Lutheran philosopher and theologian Rudolf Otto, whose classic oeuvre, *The Idea of the Holy*, was composed in 1917 and which introduces an experience that he dubbed the

Mysterium Tremendum.

He describes this experience as a mystery (in Latin: *Mysterium*) that is at once terrifying (*Tremendum*) and fascinating (*Fascinans*). Otto posits that the essence of the Holy is encapsulated in the feeling of overpowering awe and mystery that accompanies an encounter with the Divine, or, in his term, with the “Numinous.”

In Hebrew, this is best rendered as moments of *Yirah*, fleeting feelings that are a mix of awe and fear. And this, of course, is what the High Holy Day Season endeavors to elicit. As the late Biblical scholar, Rabbi David Shapiro suggests: “...the experience of existential dread - *Yirah* - emerges from acknowledgment of one’s moral unworthiness and need to do better, be better, and improve.”

For me, this year, as we prepare to celebrate our first High Holy Day season in our upgraded, enhanced, and renewed edifice, I have become particularly attuned to the notion of the quest for the Numinous as being catalyzed by

the notion of *Yirah*. For how else can I possibly describe the feelings that well up in me as I think about all the hard work, sacrifice, generosity, dedication, selflessness, and commitment that have brought us to the precipice of a new era in the history of our beloved Shul? The work of recasting the physical plant is well underway. Now, just in time for the Days of Awe, the more difficult work of using our corporeal space to further our religious, spiritual, educational, social justice and Tikkun Olam agenda.

That is why we have chosen **LIVNOT U'LEHIBANOT, To Build It and Be Built Up by It**, as our congregational theme for 5780/2019-20. Our task is not only to build, as Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel reminded us, Palaces in Space - exquisite edifices, but more importantly, Palaces in Time, refuges from the commonplace, the banal, the vapid, the empty, and the prosaic. Our calling is to help uplift and elevate all those who enter the doorways of our beautiful campus.

I hope you will join me in this sacred initiative and that our renewed B'nai Amoona will be what it was always intended to be, as our beloved teacher Rabbi Lipnck Z'L would often say: “A Jewel In the Night”, a beacon of love, light, learning. A place in which the Numinous can rest and be felt.

Each year on the *Yamim Noraim*, we endeavor to teach a new *Niggun*, a new melody, to enhance our repertoire of holy music. This year we have chosen “*Samchem BeVinyan Shalem* – Let them rejoice in the completed and complete edifice!” Visit bnaiamoona.com/bamusic to preview this melody.

But what do the words “completed and complete” connote? They remind us that the beauty of our building project is not merely external. In fact, its most profound splendor will arise from the way our new facility enables our souls to be stirred, our spirits to be moved, our minds to be challenged, our hearts soft-

ened, and our limbs inspired to do acts of *Chesed*, *Rachamim*, and *Tzedakah*. When this is accomplished, when we build and are built up, then, and only then, can we rejoice in the work of our hands.

May the year 5780 be filled with all this and much more. *VeChen Yehi Ratzon*, and may this be in accordance with the Divine Will as well. A sentiment to which I hope you will join me in saying, Amen!

Shanah Tovah U'Metukah! Paulie, Noa, Zakai, Lev and Ellior join me in wishing you all a happy, healthy, meaningful, inspirational, and sweet New Year!

Carnie

Rabbi Carnie Shalom Rose
The Rabbi Bernard Lipnick
Senior Rabbinic Chair
314-576-9990 x105
RavRoseBA@bnaiamoona.com

From our President, Jeff Singer



Shalom B'nai Amoona Family,

Welcome to our Bet Shalom, our House of Peace, for the High Holy Day Services for the year 5780 at

Congregation B'nai Amoona. This year we will once again provide a warm and welcoming environment to all who want to share in a spiritual and uplifting experience.

The High Holy Days span over more than 30 days, starting with Selichot, communal prayers for expiation and forgiveness on September 21 and ending with Simchat Torah, on the evening of October 21 and the morning of October 22. Simchat Torah is always a favorite holiday celebration that you really need to witness. When the Ark is opened, worshipers leave their seats to dance and sing with the Torah scrolls in a joyous celebration. We encourage you to find time to partake in the joy that takes place due to the careful planning of the Klei Kodesh, staff, and members of our *Kehillah's* leadership.

As a member of our communal family, you have the opportunity for your voice to be heard, and now

is the time to allow it to resonate throughout our beautiful building. Take the time to share meaningful prayers, create family bonds, and enhance your spiritual life.

Our theme for the upcoming year is **Livnot U'Lehibanot - To Build It and Be Built Up by It**. We have witnessed what we have had the opportunity to build, a physical and beautiful campus. We need now to look internally to be able to understand how we can inspire ourselves to uplift our hearts and elevate our involvement and participation. We need to seek out and find the community within.

We are blessed to have a wonderful Klei Kodesh team who share their passion with us each day. During the High Holy Day season, along with our educators, their dedicated work ensures our ability to identify our personal prayers and to bring comfort to ourselves and our families.

Please take a moment to review the High Holy Day Bulletin recently mailed to each of you. It provides the necessary visibility and explanations of the services taking place once we begin the month of September. Be committed this year to allowing yourself to experience a new beginning. Be confident

that you possess the ability to get as much out of this High Holy Day season as you put into it. If you want to get more involved or have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Andy Schwebel, our Executive Director. He can be reached at 314-336-2551 or andy@bnaiamoona.com.

As the President of the B'nai Amoona Board of Trustees, I can share how honored and privileged we are to provide ongoing daily inspiration and leadership. From our families to yours, we wish that you and yours be inscribed in the Book of Life for a year filled with *Shalom* (peace), *Briyut* (good health) and *Simchah* (happiness).

In friendship, and with blessings for a *Shanah Tovah*,

Jeff

Jeff Singer
314-249-9607

jeff@bnaiamoona.com

September Shabbat Service Schedule

- Sept. 7 Shoftim
Bat Mitzvah of Danielle Jackoby
- Sept. 14 Ki Teitzei
Bat Mitzvah of Alyssa Weisenberg
- Sept. 21 Ki Tavo
Jick Kallah Scholar-in-Residence,
Dr. Art Green
- Sept. 28 Nitzavim
Bar Mitzvah of Dov Ciralsky

See page 6 for our complete High Holy Days Schedule



Lifelong Learning

The Meyer Kranzberg Learning Center



I remember my first day of Kindergarten as if it was yesterday. Although I'm getting older by the minute, my memory of this day will forever be inscribed for me inside my heart and mind.

My most important memory is not that of what Mom made for breakfast or even what Dad said to me as he walked into my room. No, my most vivid memory is that of the game Memory. You see, "Memory" is a childhood game in which many cards are laid faced down on a table (though for our family it was the end of the driveway, waiting for the bus). Each person turns 2 cards over looking for the matched set. When they are found, Voila!, you keep the cards. If not, they are turned back over until the next person can "remember" where they saw a matched set. Easy? Sometimes. An important educational tool? Probably not. However, for me it was perhaps the most important part of my day. You see, it was a way to mark a beginning. It was my first day of school; "real school", and this was a way to make it special and new. I did not know it then, but soon it was not only

a "memory" of my first day of kindergarten, but rather it became a tradition. I played Memory with my parents, and then eventually my younger brother every "first day" of school all the way until college. My parents dragged that Memory game to Tulane University so that we could play in my dorm room before they left to go back home to St. Louis.

This year we will mark our beginning with a VERY SPECIAL program. We won't be playing the Memory Game; however I envision MANY MANY legos as part of the festivities! Come learn how Legos, B'nai Amoona, and our theme for the year all connect on this fabulous Opening day!

I love the Chaggim, the High Holy Days perhaps, for many of the reasons that I enjoy the first day of school. The traditions that are involved and the "beginnings" that are marked are only a small part of the holidays though they are very important. I especially enjoy Simchat Torah when we hear the final words of the Torah being read and then I listen very quietly as the words of Bereshit are chanted. "And it was Good!" Although beginnings may be filled with trepidation and excitement, they are also very good.

This year's will be even better than good... it will be Amazing!

And if anyone of you is interested, I plan to be at B'nai Amoona very early on the 8th of September, Memory game laid out, ready...and I will be looking for some playmates!

L'hitraot,

Liessa

Liessa Alperin
Director of Innovative Learning & Engagement
314-576-9990 x116
liessa@bnaiamoona.com

Have You Registered?

Youth Education and Programing Registration has been emailed! We are asking all families with students in grades PreK-12 to register their students this year through our new format. Please fill out the form, regardless of whether or not you are registering your student for the Meyer Kranzberg Learning Center (MKLC). If you can no longer locate the email, the registration in online at www.bnaiamoona.com.

Questions? Just ask!
Contact Liessa at 314-576-9990 x116 or liessa@bnaiamoona.com.

IMPORTANT DATES NOT TO MISS:

- First Day of MKLC Grades Pre-K- 8: Sunday, September 8 - 9:00 to 11:30 am
- First Day of Gesher (Grades 11 and 12) : Sunday, September 8 - 5:00 to 7:00 pm
- First Day of Tuesday Programs: September 10 - 4:30 to 6:15 pm
- First Day of Sunday Program for Grades 9 & 10: September 15: - 11:45 am to 1:00 pm

The Linda Rotskoff ECC



As I'm writing this, I am dreaming of what the new building will look like and how it will feel to finally be back. I may not be able to see the future but I know how much we love our children (your children). Our "newly refurbished" school may look different but I already know the feelings of love, respect and kindness will be what is felt.

One of our LRECC moms, Nikki Goldfeder taught me a term, Ubuntu. This terms is a Bantu term meaning "humanity". It is often translated as "I am because we are," or "humanity towards others" This is a perfect term for me as my children will attest. The belief that we are all connected

and all responsible for each other. Together, our LRECC loving staff supports our families, children and each other. Together, we are building a village of love and kindness. We are all looking forward to a fabulous year! Contact Anita to set a time to visit! We want to show off what we are creating.

With Love,

Anita

Anita Kraus
Director of Early Childhood Education
314-576-9990 x127
anita@bnaiamoona.com



All New Parenting Classes

RAISING CHILDREN...IT'S COMPLICATED

Care for yourself and your family in our fast paced and always changing world!

Tuesday, September 10 • 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Nourishing Yourself...Nourishing Your Children
with Renee Kohn and Dr. Lisa Ryan

Sponsored by the LRECC. Open to the entire community!

See page 7 for High Holy Days Programming for Youth & Teens

Lifelong Learning

The Lehrhaus Institute of Jewish Adult Education Fall & Winter 2019–2020

SHABBAT

Torah for Today, 10:15 am

Our Rabbis lead discussion on the weekly Torah reading of our most sacred and ancient text. We seek to apply the relevant lessons of Torah to our lives today.

Torah at Twilight

Shabbat afternoon study, between Minchah and Maariv. Time changes monthly. Please check our calendar at www.bnaiamoona.com/calendar.

SUNDAY

Crash Course in Aleph Bet, 10:00 – 11:30 am Facilitated by Chani Pinsberg

Get a “crash course” in Hebrew with Chani Pinsberg in this class sponsored by NJOP. Class begins **September 15** and will follow the MKLC calendar.

A Thinking Person's Judaism, 10:15–11:30 am Facilitated by Rabbi Neal Rose

This weekly text study and interactive discussion focuses on timely, contemporary issues facing Jews and Judaism in the Post-Modern Era.

Hebrew Reading From The Beginning 1:00 – 2:00 pm Facilitated by Ophira Nitzan Melnick;

A beginners reading course introducing Hebrew letters, vowels, and reading. In each class, participants will learn new syllables and new words. By the end of the course students will have acquired a vocabulary of 150 words and will be able to read Hebrew. This twenty-class series will begin **Oct. 20**.

Introduction To Judaism, 2:00 – 3:30 pm Facilitated by Rabbi Neal Rose

This interactive course explores Jewish history, practice, texts, and culture. It is designed for anyone who seeks to live a richer Jewish life, including those contemplating conversion to Judaism. Class begins **Oct. 20**.

MONDAY

Ulpan Ivrit – Advanced Modern Hebrew

2:00 – 3:30 pm, Facilitated by Ophira Nitzan Melnick; Students deepen their Hebrew language skills through reading and discussing articles on a variety of topics, and by listening to, reading and discussing news from Israel. **Begins Sept. 9**

Ulpan Ivrit – Beginning Modern Hebrew

5:00 – 6:20 pm, Facilitated by Ophira Nitzan Melnick; A language program that teaches grammar, reading comprehension and conversation skills at the beginning level. This class welcomes anyone, with little or no Hebrew background. **Begins Sept. 9**.

Ulpan Ivrit – Intermediate Modern Hebrew

7:00 – 8:30 pm, Facilitated by Ophira Nitzan Melnick; Participants improve their reading comprehension and conversational skills in modern Hebrew through articles and dialogues in a variety of everyday life topics, and through further study of grammar. **Begins Sept. 9**.

TUESDAY

Advanced Hebrew Reading, 6:45 – 7:45 pm

Facilitated by Chani Pinsberg Advanced Reading in the Liturgy with comprehension of key root letters and repeating words. **Begins Sept. 10**.

Beginning Hebrew for Tefillot and Blessing,

6:45 – 7:45 pm Facilitated by Ophira Nitzan Melnick; Enhance your Jewish living! Join this class to explore the meaning of prayers and blessings – in the Synagogue and at home – and learn to recite and read them with fluency, understanding, confidence, and joy. Curriculum follows the Jewish calendar and includes learning of prayers and blessings for Shabbat, holidays, and every day. **Begins Sept. 10**.

Biblical Hebrew: Understanding the

language of the Bible, 7:45 – 8:45 pm, **Facilitated by Chani Pinsberg** Students will learn grammatical patterns and key vocabulary words.

WEDNESDAY

Comparative Religions: An Exploration of Faiths, 10:00–11:30 am, Facilitated

by **Rabbi Neal Rose;** Join us as we explore, in conversation and discussion, different faiths, beliefs and traditions. We will invite guest teachers, speakers, spiritual leaders and special guests to join us. **Begins Oct. 16**.

Beginning Hebrew for Tefillot and

Blessing 6:45 – 8:15 pm, **Facilitated by Ophira Nitzan Melnick;** Students will learn to read the Aleph Bet and then move onto reading the Siddur. **Begins Sept. 11**.

Beginning Hebrew Conversation

7:00 – 8:30 pm, Facilitated by Chani Pinsberg Students will learn basic vocabulary words for basic conversation. **Begins Sept. 11**.

THURSDAY

Yiddish Class: A Class for Beginners and All Who Enjoy a Bissel of Yiddish!

10:00–11:00 am Facilitated by Rabbi Neal Rose, Students will learn basic Yiddish vocabulary words for basic conversation. **Begins Oct. 24**.

Midtown Midrash, Enterprise Bank & Trust Building, 150 N. Meramec Avenue, Clayton, 5th floor, 12:00 – 1:00 pm, Facilitated by

Rabbi Neal Rose; Wisdom of Jerusalem Talmud: Encountering the wisdom, humor and every day lives of the very early Jerusalem Rabbis. Previous Talmudic background not required – only an inquisitive and questioning mind.



Visit our website for class fee information and to register.

For questions regarding Adult Education, please contact Liessa Alperin at 314-576-9990 x116 or liessa@bnaiamoona.com

Adult Education classes are generously sponsored by the Diane & Paul Gallant Adult Education Fund and the Stanley & Rochelle Ferdman Innovative Adult Education Fund. Todah Rabbah!

Lehrhaus means “House of Learning”. Originally, it was the name of a Jewish studies school founded by Franz Rosenzweig in Germany in 1920. It sparked a Jewish intellectual revival attracting intellectuals such as Martin Buber, S.Y. Agnon, A.J. Heschel, Gershom Scholem, and Erich Fromm.

Visit www.bnaiamoona.com for our High Holy Day Adult Ed Classes

Youth Department



Hi B'nai Amoona!

My name is Jonah Boyer and I'm very excited to be your

BAUSY President this upcoming year. I've been looking forward to leading BAUSY my entire USY career and am ecstatic to finally get the opportunity to lead all our amazing BAUSYniks.

For those who don't already know me, let me use this “shout out” as a short introduction. In my free time, I love playing baseball and soccer, traveling, hanging out with friends, volunteering, and participating in various clubs at Whitfield

School. In addition, I've attended Camp Ramah in Wisconsin my entire life and recently returned from a summer long seminar in Israel and Poland. It was an amazing experience and I'm looking forward to bringing my new knowledge to the B'nai Amoona community.

If anyone has any questions about BAUSY, myself, or anything, please feel free to approach me at shul or shoot me an email. Once again, I cannot wait to get started this year!!!

Sincerely,

Jonah
Jonah Boyer
BAUSY President
sarah@bnaiamoona.com

September Programs

- 4 BAUSY Program
- 11 BAUSY Program
- 18 BAUSY Program
- 20–22 Leadership Training Institution for BAUSY Executive Board & Regional Executive Board in Ingleside, IL
- 25 BAUSY Program

Watch for info coming soon



**COME JOIN THE
BAUSY BUNCH!**

College Connect

Do you ever wonder if your college student will continue to embrace the religious traditions they experienced at home? Our College Connect program is designed to support college students and keep them connected with B'nai Amoona, even if they are miles away. We strive to figure out how to impact the most students by sending presents periodically throughout the year!

College Connect is funded by the Rabbi Bernard Lipnick Foundation for Conservative Judaism. With this generous funding, we are able to engage college students with love, even though they may be far away and feel less connected to our Shul. I am so looking forward to sending each one of these packages and to seeing our college students' reactions!

Please share your student(s)' information with us (even if it hasn't changed) so we know where they are and can update our lists for goodies throughout the year.

Kindly email the information to Jeanne Gaska at jeanne@bnaiamoona.com, or fill out the form at www.bnaiamoona.com.

Get Involved

Sisterhood News

We invite you to be a part of Sisterhood!

2019-2020 Sisterhood Membership sign-up is LIVE and online.

Would you like to feel more connected to Congregation B'nai Amoona?

Join together with a wonderful group of women for educational and social programming.

Sisterhood enhances family, our community, and supports all aspects of our Synagogue life.

Come be a part of the group!

Please join by going to B'nai Amoona's website, view the Sisterhood page under the Community tab and click "Join Sisterhood" OR mail in your membership payment OR call the B'nai Amoona office.

(For billing inquiries, please contact Tanya at tanya@bnaiaamoon.com)

For other questions, please contact any of the Membership Vice Presidents below:

Bonnie Davis - 314-378-1253

Lori Kabrun-Berry: 636-579-9905

Missy Korenblat-Hanin: 314-249-6935

 Like us on Facebook
@BASisterhood

Torah Fund 2019-2020

Our upcoming 2019-2020 Torah Fund Campaign is quickly approaching. This year's Torah Fund theme is *Chesed* which means "kindness" in Hebrew. Be on the lookout for our new flyer which will debut the new beautiful Torah Fund pin. Once again Torah Fund will be a silent campaign. Let's all ensure our legacy for future generations of Conservative Jews while continuing to build a world of *Chesed* (kindness).

We are proud to report that last year's Torah Fund was a success!! Thanks to all of you who donated to this important cause. B'nai Amoona should be proud of their amazing contribution of \$8,807.00. Let's see if we can surpass this!

For information please contact co-chairs:

Lori Sheinbein: davidandlori@gmail.com

Mercedes Gelman:
mercegelman@gmail.com

Mishnah Berakhot Study

Join B'nai Amoona Sisterhood as we continue to participate in the **WLCJ Mishnah Berakhot Study**.

Mishnah Berakhot, Chapter Three: Who's Obligated? Who's Exempt? with Rabbi Pamela Barmash - Thursday, Sept 19, 7:00 pm - contact Sheryl Kalman at sheryl@

kalman.net or 636-537-2538 to sign up and participate with us!

Book Club

B'nai Amoona and Kol Rinah Sisterhoods have a joint Book Club which meets at the St. Louis County Public Library on the 4th Wednesday of each month from 10:00-11:30 am.

Sept 26: **The Immortalists** - Chloe Benjamin (352 pages)

Oct 24: **The Only Woman in the Room: A Novel** - Marie Benedict (272 pages)

Nov: Jewish Book Festival (no Book Group meeting)

Contact Enid Weinberg Frank at eyetutor8@yahoo.com or 314-853-3643 for more information about the Book Club.

Love Mah Jongg?

Sisterhood plays on Wednesdays: 1:00- 3:00 pm; doors open at 12:50 pm in the Banquet Hall behind the Sanctuary

- No requirement of a commitment
- Bring a current card
- Have fun and make new friends!

Questions? Contact Lisa Samis at lsamis53@gmail.com or 314-805-2254

Sisterhood Brunch to Thank You for Joining

Raising Charitable Children



Photo courtesy of Ladue News

Whether you are a mother, grandmother, aunt or friend, we all strive to feel part of a greater purpose and community. We are excited to welcome internationally known speaker, author, and consultant **Carol Weisman**, discussing her practical advice & inspirational humor about how to mix philanthropy and fun.

Sunday, November 3
10:00 am - 12:00 pm

RSVP by October 16, 2019

Reservations are required.

Please reply online at bnaiaamoon.com/sisterhood or jeanne@bnaiaamoon.com

Please help brighten a child's holiday by kindly bringing a new, unopened child's game or toy to the brunch. Todah Rabbah!

Rachel

Rachel Taxman
President, Sisterhood
314-322-5006
rdtaxman@gmail.com

Minyan Matters



THE MINYANNAIRE PROGRAM NEEDS YOU! Did you know every day, 24/7, Sunday through Friday, B'nai Amoona hosts a Minyan service? Or, a B'nai



The Minyannaire Pin depicts ten (10) Minyannaires with the tenth being YOU!

Amoona member who plans and commits to setting aside time at least once a week on an ongoing basis is called a Minyannaire. Each week Minyannaires meet and join together to provide a comfortable and supportive place for those in our community who want to recite Kaddish (the memorial prayer) for their loved ones. However, in order to fulfill this Mitzvah at least ten (10) adult men and woman need to be in attendance to assure the recitation of the Kaddish prayers. This is where YOU come in! Please consider adding your name to our Minyannaire list in order to ensure the continuation of this vital and energetic B'nai Amoona program. We need YOU, now! Don't hesitate! It'll only take you a minute to text me and let me know of your desire to join this dedicated group.

Remember: YOU indicate the day and time of the Service you would like to attend and we will contact you and get you started. Thank YOU in advance for your consideration and willingness to perform this beautiful Mitzvah. In conversation with many of you I know you've been thinking about joining and now is the time to take action! You'll feel a renewed sense of "being!"

Bev

Beverly Chervitz
314-629-8099
0419other@gmail.com

Social Action

At the end of the month Rosh Hashanah begins as does our annual food drive. We will distribute paper bags for you to fill to donate to the Harvey Kornblum Jewish Food Pantry. Last year we had a decline in collections compared to the year before, so please be generous.

Please remember to fill your bags with:

- unexpired items
- unopened packages
- non-breakable containers for nonperishable food
- canned meats
- canned fish
- peanut butter
- macaroni and cheese
- breakfast cereals
- kosher foods are always needed
- paper goods

- baby supplies
- cleaning supplies
- pet supplies and
- personal care items (these are much appreciated, as they are not covered by SNAP cards.

Please join us for sorting! By doing this, the much needed food and other items will reach people in need more rapidly. Check the announcements for the location and time when we sort everything. Thank you in advance.

Laura

Laura Goldmeier
Social Action Committee Chair
314-997-1253
goldjlr@aol.com

Sisterhood Leadership Spotlight



Marcia Lyons, advisor to the president, will assist as needed and help new board members enjoy their roles and responsibilities. She willingly welcomes new ideas!

Marcia Lyons was born and raised in St. Louis. She's married 46 years to Hesh Lyons, a Philadelphia native. They have a daughter Nikki, a teacher in IL, and a son Jay (Jorie), a Rabbi in FL. 5 grandchildren Yay!

Marcia has been a member of Sisterhood since belonging to her first Conservative Synagogue in Chicago after she married.

Marcia says, "Sisterhood is a special way of making life-long friends. It gives women the opportunity to meet "sisters" from all over the world. We learn, teach and grow from these encounters."

Marcia grew up in a family of volunteers. She has been on the board of B'nai Brith, St. Louis since returning to St. Louis in 2004 and on the St. Louis Jewish Book Festival Committee for 13 years. Marcia loves to read and play Mah Jongg. Critics have noted that her baking skills are exceptional! Marcia will admit that relaxing on the couch watching her favorite TV programs is her way of chilling out! When she isn't relaxing, you can find her at a St. Louis Cardinals game cheering the team on!

Shomrei Amoonim

I want to recognize a powerhouse of Shomrei Amoonim, Dotty Ellis! She has been performing a vital Mitzvah, Acts of Kindness (AOK), since its creation about 3 years ago.

Dotty is calling and visiting congregants approximately 1-2 months after the death of a spouse or parent. This has been a very, very powerful program. By this simple AOK, we are letting congregants know that B'nai Amoona is thinking about them. We are also recognizing that everyone grieves at their own pace. By the end of Shloshim, 30 days, the frequent calls and visits have stopped, and congregants have begun to process their loss. This is a chance to really make a difference in a congregant's life.

We need your help! We need more volunteers to agree to call and visit congregants and deliver a comfort package after a loss. If you can even commit to one or two visits a month, please contact either Dotty or myself!

Sheryl

Sheryl Kalman
636-537-2538
shomrei.amoonim@gmail.com

Dotty

Dotty Ellis
stlouiedot@me.com



On the Development Side

Did You Know?



With the arrival of the newly designed 2019-2020 fiscal year membership statements, came an opportunity to change giving practices. For those inclined, a gift could be added to increase dues amounts, with the knowledge that dues alone are not enough to sustain the operations of Congregation B'nai Amoona. Fees, in addition to dues, were clearly stated. Benefactor levels were outlined for those considering becoming a Benefactor. For those already supportive of our Benefactor level, the statement included a request to increase that giving, as possible. And, because all credit card charges will now incur a 3% service charge, we offered a no charge method for membership payments through ACH (automatic withdrawal from a checking or savings account).

I am delighted to share that our members have been complimentary of the format

of the new annual membership statement (monthly statements through ShulCloud will remain unchanged). Members have voluntarily added to their dues amounts, new Benefactors have come on board, ACH has been well received, and more members are supportive of the extra fees that accompany the dues. For this, I offer a well-deserved Todah Rabbah to our congregation!

Another mailing was sent in late May to those members who had not already pledged a gift for the Capital Campaign, Atideynu –Our Future. New pledges are arriving and my hope is more of our members will consider this important giving opportunity for the legacy of our Shul. Construction is underway in almost every area and it is exciting to see progress in action! Due to the construction, those of you needing to purchase scrip or visit the administrative “offices” now need to visit the auditorium – best to come through the “blue awning” door and make an immediate left down the

kitchen hallway followed by a right towards the end of the hall to enter the auditorium. The comradery of our staff in this large, shared, temporary space has been a bonus (and communications benefit!) since we had not previously worked together in the same office area.

As we continue to work with our members in this new space, it has been great for me to get to know more of you, or just to see you again and take a minute to chat. I am so grateful for the willingness of our members to share their thoughts, ideas and suggestions during these impromptu visits. One such suggestion, from a savvy member, applies to all of our members with IRA accounts requiring distributions. With the recent changes to the tax laws and itemized deductions, members with an IRA account that requires a distribution might want to consider using that distribution as a contribution to B'nai Amoona whether for dues, Benefactor, Capital Campaign, or

otherwise). (Please note this suggestion is for informational purposes only and is not intended to provide, or be relied upon for tax, legal or accounting advice. Members should always check with their tax, legal or accounting advisor to see if this would be appropriate for your circumstances.)

On a last note, as a reminder, if you would like your memorial plaque(s) from the “old” memorial hall, please feel free to stop by my desk (in the auditorium) and pick them up during business hours. It provides me another opportunity to get to know the members I’ve not already met, or just say hello and catch up with those I have.

Gail

Gail Armstrong
Director of Development
314-576-9990 x126
gail@bnaimoona.com

Our Community

Upcoming B'nai Mitzvah



September 7, 2019
Bat Mitzvah of **Danielle Jackoby**
Daughter of Jessica & Brian Emery and Carmel Jackoby



September 14, 2019
Bat Mitzvah of **Alyssa Weisenberg**
Daughter of Judith and Brian Weisenberg



September 28, 2019
Bar Mitzvah of **Dov Ciralsky**
Son of Robert Ciralsky and Rachel Edwards

Mazel Tov to...

Cindy and David Schuval, Sonia L. Vazquez and Juan Alvarez on the birth of their granddaughter, Leona Alexia Alvarez. Proud parents are Michelle and Geraldo Alvarez. Great-grandparents are Gay Baskin and Sonia A. Vazquez.

As of 07/26/19

Member Spotlight

Meet Richard (Rick) Abrams



Rick has been a member of BA all his life, after all, he's a 3rd generation member! He and his wife Judy, his grandparents and parents were all married by different BA rabbis.

Aside from having been on the BA Board of Trustees as Development Chair and on the Executive Committee as Secretary, Rick continues to remain active here at Shul by being a committed Minyannaire on Sunday mornings. He likes the people and that it's low key. He considers it a Mitzvah to be a part of the service when someone is saying Kaddish.

What Rick likes best about BA is Rabbi Rose's passion and how the Klei Kodesh get the congregants involved in the service, especially how Cantor Sharon has gotten his wife involved through various choirs. Judy is continuing to learn from Sharon.

During Shabbat services, Rick likes to sit

and reflect as it is a nice break for him from the business of the week.

Rick's goal is to be more involved in advocacy. This past May, he was awarded the Michael & Barbara Newmark Emerging Leader Award by the JCRC where he has been active for the last 6 years. He carries on his family legacy following in his mother's footsteps. She was the Associate Director of JCRC in 1940's – 1970's.

When he has free time, Rick builds model ships and in Summer, he likes to garden. Being with Judy and the kids – seeing a play, visiting a museum and traveling are some of his favorite things to do.

Rick has been married to Judy, his wife and best friend, for 31 years. They have two children; Abigail lives in NY and is a reporter for Time Magazine and Gordon just graduated from the University of Tulsa and is starting grad school there getting his Masters in Mechanical Engineering.

Rick is an attorney at the Law Offices of Richard Abrams doing commercial & real estate litigation. He and Judy live in Richmond Heights.

Condolences

The Congregation extends heartfelt sympathy to the families of:

- Daniel Norman Ginsparg**
- Richard Hitt**
- Katherine Mulkey**
- Shirley Ruth Schwartz**

May their memories be a source of blessing!



As of 07/26/19



High Holy Days

Relighting the Fire: A Mystical Spirituality for Today's Seeker

September 20-22, 2019



The Jick Kallah Scholar-in-Residence Weekend *Sponsored by The Jick Family*

Friday, Sept. 20

Friday Evening Services - 6:00 pm

Lecha Dodi: A Brief Introduction

Followed by a festive dinner

Reservations required at www.bnaiamoona.com

Discussion Following Dinner - 8:00 pm

Becoming a Jewish Mystic: An interview and dialogue between friends of more than 50 years, Rabbi Dr. Neal Rose and Rabbi Dr. Arthur Green

Shabbat, Sept. 21

Torah for Today - 10:15 am

Neo-Hasidic Credo

Sermonette - 11:30 am

ELUL: Taking the First Step - Teshuvah as an Act of Moral Courage

Minchah, Seudah Shlisheet, Ma'ariv - 6:00 pm

Re-meeting the Hasidic Masters



Saturday, Sept. 21

Dr. Morris Alex Jewish Ethics Lecture - 8:00 pm

Rosh Hashanah: Are You Ready to Become a Born-Again Jew?

Sponsored by The Alex Family

Selichot Service - 10:00 pm

Changing of the Torah Mantles, Havdalah and our exquisite, soul-stirring Selichot Service

Selichot at B'nai Amoona is sponsored by The Schuval Family

Sunday, Sept. 22

A Thinking Person's Judaism - 10:15 am

Reclaiming the Mystical Tradition: A Jewish Spirituality for the 21st Century

Visit www.bnaiamoona.com for more details!

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SELICHOT - Saturday, September 21

Light Refreshments	7:30 pm
Dr. Morris Alex Jewish Ethics Lecture	
Pre-Selichot discussion with Dr. Green	8:00 pm
Selichot snacks and refreshments	9:30 pm
Our moving Selichot Service	10:00 pm

EREV ROSH HASHANAH - Sunday, September 29

Evening Services	6:15 pm
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ROSH HASHANAH I - Monday, September 30

Shacharit	8:00 am
Torah Service	9:00 am
Shofar Service	9:30 am
Early Childhood Service	9:30 am
Special Blessing of our Young Children	10:15 am
Intergenerational Service	10:30 am
Musaf Intro	10:30 am
Sermon by <i>Rabbi Carnie Shalom Rose</i>	11:30 am
Tashlich & Blessing of our Pets	5:00 pm
Minchah & Ma'ariv	6:15 pm

SOMETHING NEW FOR ROSH HASHANAH III!

ROSH HASHANAH II - Tuesday, October 1

Shacharit - Davening Out of the Box	8:00 am
Torah Service	9:00 am
ROSH U - Alternative Program	9:00 am
Shofar Service	9:30 am
Musaf	10:15 am
Final Blast of the Shofar	11:45 am
Evening Services for the end of Yontiff	6:15 pm

FAST OF GEDALIAH - Wednesday, October 2

This fast commemorates the assassination of Gedaliah Ben Achikam, the Governor of Judah, after the destruction of the First Temple, which marked the end of any hope that a sovereign Jewish Government would survive.

Shacharit	7:00 am
Minchah & Ma'ariv	6:15 pm

SHABBAT SHUVAH (The Shabbat of Repentance)

Friday, October 4	6:00 pm
Saturday, October 5	9:00 am
Evening Service	6:00 pm

KEVER AVOT & SHEMOT - Sunday, October 6

Pre-Yontiff Visitation to the Burial Places of our Ancestors & Teachers	10:30 am
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ELUL 5779 - TISHREI 5780 SEPT/OCT 2019

KOL NIDREI - Tuesday, October 8

Minchah	6:00 pm
Kol Nidrei Service	6:15 pm
Sermon by <i>Rabbi Josef Davidson</i>	7:45 pm

Yom Kippur tealight candles will be available to light at Shul in the Gallery (formerly the Link).

YOM KIPPUR - Wednesday, October 9

Shacharit	9:00 am
Torah Service	10:00 am
Early Childhood Service	10:30 am
Intergenerational Service	11:15 am
Musaf	11:15 am
Sermon by <i>Rabbi Carnie Shalom Rose</i>	12:45 pm
Yizkor	1:15 pm
Recess	2:15 pm
Contemplative Service	2:30 pm
Schmooze with our Rabbis	3:30 pm
Minchah and Neilah	4:30 pm
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Sounding of the Shofar	6:45 pm
Followed by our Break Fast (reservations required)	

EREV SUKKOT SERVICES - Sunday, October 13

Evening Service	6:15 pm
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SUKKOT I - Monday, October 14

Services	9:00 am & 6:15 pm
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SUKKOT II - Tuesday, October 15

Services	9:00 am & 6:15 pm
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HOSHANAH RABBAH - Sunday, October 20

Hoshanah Rabbah is the last day of the season of repentance, and incorporates spiritual and visceral rituals, as well as joyous singing and dancing. On Rosh Hashanah the decree is written, and on Yom Kippur it is sealed - but there is always one more chance.

Shacharit followed by a festive breakfast	9:00 am
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SHEMINI ATZERET

Sunday, October 20	6:15 pm
Monday, October 21	9:00 am
Yizkor (approx)	11:00 am

SIMCHAT TORAH

Monday, October 21	5:45 pm
Tuesday, October 22	9:00 am
Hakafot & special Kiddush	10:15 am
Tuesday, October 22 - End of Yontiff	6:00 pm

NEW THIS YEAR!

CONGREGATION B'NAI AMOONA
is happy to invite everyone to our

YOM KIPPUR BREAK FAST

Wednesday, October 9

Immediately following the Final Shofar Blast

MENU:
Tuna salad
Egg Salad
Bagels, Lox and Fixings
Fruit Salad
Greek Salad
Cookies and Assorted Sweets
Cheese and Crackers
Veggies and Dip
Italian Pasta Salad
Orange Juice, Soda, Coffee & Tea

**\$18/Adult \$10/Children under 13
Complimentary - Children under 3**

**RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
BY SEPT. 22**

www.bnaiamoona.com/break-fast

Visit
bnaiamoona.com
for all the
High Holy Day
details!

Shanah
Tovah!

High Holy Days

PROGRAMMING FOR YOUTH & TEENS

Babysitting: Infants through children in Pre-K
Pre-registration required. visit www.bnaiamoona.com

Early Childhood: Children ages 3 - Pre-K

Early Childhood Service: Geared to families with children Birth to Pre-K

Youth: Students in Grades K - 7

Teen: Students in Grades 8 - 12

***Intergenerational Service:** Birth to 120!

If you have any questions about which Service or Program is best for your child(ren) or family, please do not hesitate to contact Liessa Alperin at 314-576-9990 x116 or liessa@bnaiamoona.com, or Anita Kraus at 314-576-3688 or anita@bnaiamoona.com. Also, please contact Liessa or Anita if you are interested in leading a prayer, reading, or participating in the Torah Service for our new Intergenerational Service.

* INTERGENERATIONAL SERVICE *

ALL NEW - Includes ALL; big or small; young or old; one or more than one

Our Intergenerational Service will include a modified participatory service including a Torah Service, and will be led by many of our congregants, including children through grandparents, and many of our teens. You do not want to miss this engaging, meaningful celebration which provides an opportunity for everyone to experience the *Chaggim* (holidays) together!

If you attend the Early Childhood Service, you are welcome to attend this second prayerful experience (especially on Yom Kippur)! Youth attending Children's Programming will also be attending these services. We encourage you to join your children in the Intergenerational Service and then return to the Main Sanctuary at its conclusion.

ROSH HASHANAH I

SEPT. 30

- 9:00 am Babysitting opens
- 9:15 am Pre Early Childhood Service Welcome
- 9:30 am Early Childhood Service
- 10:15 am Blessing on the Bimah for Young Children and their families followed by Open House and Nosh* and Early Childhood Programming
- 10:30 am Youth Programming begins (Grades K-7)
- 10:30 am Intergenerational Service
 - Youth Programming will begin in this Service
 - Teens will attend and help lead this Service
- 11:30 am At the conclusion of the Intergenerational Service, Youth and Teen Programming will continue
- 5:00 pm Tashlich & Blessing of our Pets

KOL NIDREI

OCT. 8

- 6:00 pm Babysitting opens
- 6:15 pm Kol Nidrei Service in the Main Sanctuary
 - All students should join in the Main Sanctuary with their families
 - Liessa Alperin will walk students (Grades K - 7) to Youth Programming following the Kol Nidrei Prayer
 - Teens should remain in Kol Nidrei Services with their families

YOM KIPPUR

OCT. 9

- 9:30 am Babysitting opens
- 10:30 am Early Childhood Service & Programming
- 10:30 am Youth Programming begins (Grades K-7)
- 11:15 am Intergenerational Service
 - Teens will attend and help lead this Service
- 12:15 pm At the conclusion of the Intergenerational Service, Youth and Teen Programming will continue

NEILAH

OCT. 9

- 4:15 pm Babysitting opens
- 4:30 pm Youth and Teens are to attend Neilah Services with their families in the Main Sanctuary



ROSH HASHANAH II

OCT. 1

- 9:00 am Babysitting opens (see p. 9)
- 9:30 am Youth Programming begins (Grades K-7)
- 10:30 am Teen Alternative Service
- 10:30 am **Chag Family Jam** led by Shelley Dean of



- Youth Programming will begin in this Service
- Early Childhood Programming will begin in this Service
- 11:30 am At the conclusion of the Chag Family Jam, Early Childhood & Youth Programming will continue

INTERGENERATIONAL SERVICE MACHZORIM

A wonderful anonymous donor has provided prayer books for our all new Intergenerational services and we are giving families the opportunity to have a bookplate placed in the books as a legacy contribution. The bookplates can be customized to honor or remember a loved one, represent families, or for whatever gift moves your heart. The bookplates can be ordered in advance for a minimum donation of \$36 (or any additional multiple of \$18).

Please contact Gail Armstrong directly so a bookplate may be specially created and placed in the books in advance of our services - gail@bnaiamoona.com or 314-576-9990 x126. Bookplates may be ordered up to Monday, September 23.

High Holy Day Children's Programming at B'nai Amoona is generously sponsored by Howard Weissman in loving memory of his parents, Rose & Julius Weissman

In Tribute



324 South Mason Road | St. Louis, MO 63141-8029
314-576-9990 | Fax 314-744-4016
www.bnaiamoona.com

The Congregation acknowledges with thanks the following contributions:

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Al Finkelstein's special birthday
Leslie & Ron Becker

Debra & Joel Spigel's 50th anniversary
Denny & Carl Greenberg

Lenny Frankel
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Mueriel & Stanford Carp's 50th anniversary
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Susie Gitt – get well

Esther & Harvey Greenstein

Beth Saltzman's speedy recovery
Esther & Harvey Greenstein

Mueriel & Stanford Carp's 50th anniversary
Esther & Harvey Greenstein

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Debra & Joel Spigel's 50th anniversary
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Brenda Krekel

Nancy & Alan Charlson

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Mueriel & Stanford Carp's 50th anniversary
Cheryl Perl

Debra & Joel Spigel's 50th anniversary
Cheryl Perl

VISHINANTAM LEVANECHA ENDOWMENT FUND

IN MEMORY OF

Rick Hitt
Cindy & David Schuval

TRIBUTES RECEIVED AFTER JULY 26, 2019 WILL APPEAR IN THE NEXT BULLETIN.

A special note from our Rabbis and Cantor: Though we do not publish the names of those who make contributions to our Discretionary Funds (as a way to protect their request for anonymity), we deeply appreciate your continued thoughtfulness and generosity. *Today Rabbah & may you continue to be blessed from On-High.*

Make a Tribute to honor or remember a loved one at

bnaiamoona.com/donations

or contact Gail Armstrong
at 314-576-9990 x126

www.bnaiamoona.com

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SAVE THE DATE

The Laugh Event of 2019
Short Form Improv and Music

Saturday, November 2 at 7:30 pm



This show is for everyone.

What is Improv?
Everything is made up in the moment based on audience suggestions. A night where you don't take yourself too seriously.

