REPENTANCE SEASON
By RABBI JAMIE GIBSON

We’re in the midst of repentance season. Wait a minute, Rabbi! Doesn’t all the repentance and forgiveness stuff begin on Rosh HaShanah?

No, not according to our tradition. It actually starts at the beginning of the last Jewish month of the year, Elul (which was August 23).

The season starts the first of Elul and actually goes on until Simchat Torah, at the end of Sukkot. That’s August 23 – October 12! It’s a good chunk of time for a reason. We can’t really dispense with the kind of self-reckoning required for pardon, forgiveness and repentance in just one day (Yom Kippur) or even ten (from Rosh HaShanah to Yom Kippur).

This 50-day process is called Cheshbon HaNefesh, or an accounting of the soul. During this process we ask ourselves hard questions, the kind that we normally avoid because we don’t have time, inclination or interest to delve that deeply throughout the year.

Doing Cheshbon HaNefesh we ask ourselves:

Who am I, now that I have reached (fill in the blank) years of my life?

Whom have I wronged and what must I do to take responsibility for my actions?

Where have I come up short in my promises? To myself? To my family? To my community? (Jewish and Secular) To my country? To the world?

For what and for whom am I willing to stand up for in the coming year?

We live in a world of terrible words flung like weapons at each other, a world in which we see leaders refusing to take responsibility, a world in which we raise our voices to blame others to avoid being blamed ourselves. It is a feature of our culture that we as Jews are called upon to reject and reject forcefully.

We are not to blame for everything, for sure. But we sure are responsible for our words and our acts, what we say and what we do. We are responsible for what we don’t say and what we don’t do as well.

We cannot change anyone else in the world except ourselves. This season of repentance gives up hope that we can do precisely that. We are not allowed to give up nor to cut ourselves too much slack.

At the High Holy Days, we do more than beat our chests with confession. We re-energize and look to the horizon of hope.

I look forward to looking out to that horizon with you this season! See you at the holidays, if not before.

Kol tuv,
Rabbi Jamie Gibson
By now, we hope you received your High Holy Days packet in the mail, along with everything you need to start making plans for this special time of year. At Temple, clergy and staff have already spent many months planning to ensure a meaningful experience of prayer and community. Here are some highlights along with important dates.

**Selichot**

**Saturday, September 16, 2017**
6:30 PM Movie - *Remembrance: A Holocaust Dialogue*, with Fritz Ottenheimer z’’l & Susanne Ortner*
7:15 PM Nosh*
7:45 PM Selichot Service*

**Service of Remembrance**

**Sunday, September 17, 2017**
11:30 AM Service of Remembrance at Temple Sinai Memorial Park (7740 Saltsburg Rd., Plum, PA)*

**Erev Rosh HaShanah**

**Wednesday, September 20, 2017**
5:30 PM Tot Service*
7:30 PM Evening Service
8:30 PM Young Adult After Hours*

**Rosh HaShanah, 1st Day**

**Thursday, September 21, 2017**
8:00 AM Tot Service*
8:30 AM Early Service
8:30 AM Children’s Service and Program
11:30 AM Late Service
4:45 PM Community Family Service*
5:15 PM Tashlich Service* at Frick Park (Specific Location Details to Follow)

**Rosh HaShanah, 2nd Day**

**Friday, September 22, 2017**
10:00 AM Morning Service*

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“*And My House shall be called a House of Prayer for all peoples.*”
(Isaiah 56:7)

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**Kol Nidre**

**Friday, September 29, 2017**
5:30 PM Tot Service*
6:00 PM Early Service
8:30 PM Late Service

**Yom Kippur**

**Saturday, September 30, 2017**
8:00 AM Tot Service*
8:30 AM Early Service
8:30 AM Children’s Service and Program
11:00 AM Late Service
**Start times for all afternoon Yom Kippur services are approximate:**
1:30 PM Minchah Afternoon Service*
2:45 PM Beit Midrash*
4:00 PM Jonah Presentation with Attack Theatre*
5:15 PM Yizkor and N’ilah*
7:15 PM Break Fast: A light snack to break your fast

**Sukkot**

**Wednesday, October 4, 2017**
5:45 PM Service in the Sukkah*
6:15 PM Soup-Off in the Sukkah*

**Thursday, October 5, 2017**
10:00 AM Morning Service*

**Friday, October 6, 2017**
Pizza in the Hut for 6th - 12th graders

**Sh’mini Atzeret / Simchat Torah**

**Wednesday, October 11, 2017**
5:30 PM Dinner
6:15 PM Torah Celebration with Consecration of new students (grades K-3)

**Thursday, October 12, 2017**
10:00 AM Morning Service*

*This service is free and open to the community*
High Holy Days: Special Events

Selichot at Temple Sinai

Saturday, September 16, 2017
6:30 PM Movie - Remembrance: A Holocaust Dialogue, with Fritz Ottenheimer z’”l & Susanne Ortner
7:15 PM Nosh
7:45 PM Selichot Service

A film featuring Fritz Ottenheimer, Holocaust survivor, author and beloved Temple Sinai congregant (of blessed memory), and noted composer, and clarinetist Susanne Ortner will be shown at a special program on Saturday, September 16 at 6:30 PM at Temple Sinai.

For many years, Fritz worked with the Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh to speak to students throughout Allegheny County about the Holocaust. He teamed up with Susanne for a presentation in which he told his story about his experience growing up in Hitler’s Germany as Susanne, a next-generation German musician who grew up learning about the Holocaust in school, accompanies him with her hauntingly beautiful klezmer-jazz fusion music.

Join us for a Selichot service following the movie.

Temple Sinai & Temple David
Service of Remembrance

Sunday, September 17, 2017, 11:30 AM
At Temple Sinai Memorial Park
7740 Saltsburg Road, Plum, PA 15239

In keeping with Jewish tradition, Rabbi James A. Gibson and Cantor Laura Berman of Temple Sinai, and Rabbi Barbara Symons of Temple David will conduct the annual Service of Remembrance on the Sunday prior to Rosh HaShanah.

It is a special time to honor and remember those of our loved ones who are no longer with us. We welcome anyone who would like to attend. Chairs will be provided for the comfort of all visitors and a tent will offer protection from the elements.

“They still live on earth in the acts of goodness they performed and in the hearts of those who cherish their memory.”
Temple Sinai is proud to be a co-sponsor of this great event; be sure to visit us at our Temple Sinai tent!
Please bring canned goods and non-perishable items between September 11 and October 13, 2017.

**Items Needed:**
- Canned goods: meat, tuna, fruit, vegetables, tomato sauce, soup
- Pasta, noodles, rice, beans
- Peanut butter, jam, jelly
- Cereal
- Jello

**Please**
- NO perishables
- NO open containers
- NO expired items

**Benefitting**
- EAST END COOPERATIVE MINISTRY
- SQUIRREL HILL COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY
Introduction to Judaism

Let’s learn about Judaism together! Session topics include Jewish holidays, Jewish history, Torah, Israel and Zionism, God and prayer, life cycle events, and much more. Sign up at www.templesinaipgh.org/introduction-judaism or by calling Debbie Haber at (412) 421-9715, ext. 116.
Your High Holy Days can be sweeter with these beautiful items from the Temple Sinai gift shop.

Our Women of Temple Sinai Gift Shop has a beautiful selection of Judaica for the High Holy Days.

Add to your own collection or purchase for host gifts. Contact Susan Cohen at susan_k_cohen@yahoo.com.
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<tr>
<td><strong>SEPTEMBER AT TEMPLE SINAI</strong></td>
<td><strong>SUNDAY</strong></td>
<td><strong>MONDAY</strong></td>
<td><strong>TUESDAY</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Contact Us:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Questions or suggestions?</strong></td>
<td><strong>We want to hear from you! To submit content to the calendar and/or newsletter contact Drew Barkley at <a href="mailto:drew@templesinaipgh.org">drew@templesinaipgh.org</a> or (412) 421-9715, ext. 111.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Visit our website at <a href="http://www.templesinaipgh.org">www.templesinaipgh.org</a>.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>3</strong></td>
<td>9 AM Temple Sinai at the Squirrel Hill Farmers Market</td>
<td><strong>4</strong></td>
<td>Labor Day: Office Closed</td>
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<td><strong>10</strong></td>
<td>9 AM WoTS Steering Committee 9:15 AM Hartman Learning 9:30 AM Next DOR 11:15 AM Bereisheet with Cantor Berman</td>
<td><strong>11</strong></td>
<td>6:30 PM Teen School Opening BBQ 6:30 PM WoTS - Challah Baking with Hanita 7 PM Teen School 7 PM 11th &amp; 12th Grade Seminar</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
<td>9:15 AM Hartman Learning 9:30 AM Next DOR 9:30 AM 6th Grade B’nei Mitzvah Parent Meeting 11:30 AM Service of Remembrance</td>
<td><strong>18</strong></td>
<td>6 PM 7th Grade Parent Meeting 7 PM Teen School</td>
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<td><strong>24</strong></td>
<td>9:15 AM Hartman Learning 9:30 AM Next DOR 9:30 AM Great Race with Temple Sinai Band Performance 11:15 AM Bereisheet with Cantor Berman</td>
<td><strong>25</strong></td>
<td>7 PM Teen School 7 PM 11th &amp; 12th Grade Seminar</td>
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<td><strong>27</strong></td>
<td>Erev Rosh HaShanah (see schedule on page 2) No Hebrew School</td>
<td><strong>28</strong></td>
<td><strong>Questions or suggestions?</strong> We want to hear from you! To submit content to the calendar and/or newsletter contact Drew Barkley at <a href="mailto:drew@templesinaipgh.org">drew@templesinaipgh.org</a> or (412) 421-9715, ext. 111. Visit our website at <a href="http://www.templesinaipgh.org">www.templesinaipgh.org</a>.</td>
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### September at Temple Sinai

**THURSDAY**

- **7**
  - 6:30 PM Executive Committee Meeting with Minyan
  - 7 PM Introduction to Judaism

- **14**
  - 7 PM Introduction to Judaism

- **21**
  - Rosh HaShanah (see schedule on page 2)

- **28**
  - 7 PM Introduction to Judaism

**FRIDAY**

- **1**
  - 7 PM Shabbat Service with oneg to follow

- **8**
  - 12 PM Downtown Lunch with the Rabbi
  - 5:30 PM Shabbat B’Que
  - 6 PM Open House
  - 7 PM Mostly Musical Shabbat with oneg to follow

- **15**
  - 5 PM Tot Shabbat
  - 7 PM Shabbat Evening Service with oneg to follow
  - 8:30 PM Shabbat After Hours

- **22**
  - Rosh HaShanah Day 2 (see schedule on page 2)

- **29**
  - Erev Yom Kippur / Kol Nidre (see schedule on page 2)

**SATURDAY**

- **2**
  - 8:30 AM Torah Study
  - 9:15 AM Informal Shabbat Morning Service

- **9**
  - 8:30 AM Torah Study
  - 9:15 AM Informal Shabbat Shabbat Service
  - 10:30 AM Bat Mitzvah of Olivia Werstil and Shabbat Morning Service

- **16**
  - 8:30 AM Torah Study
  - 9:15 AM Informal Shabbat Shabbat Service
  - 1:45 PM Sing-a-long at Charles Morris
  - 6:30 PM Selichot Movie
  - 7:15 PM Selichot Nosh
  - 7:45 PM Selichot Service

- **23**
  - 8:30 AM Torah Study
  - 9:15 AM Informal Shabbat Morning Service

- **29**
  - Yom Kippur (see schedule on page 2)

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**WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE**

**FRIDAYS**

- All Friday services will be held at 7 PM in August

**SATURDAYS**

- **TORAH STUDY**
  - At 8:30 AM

- **INFORMAL MORNING SHABBAT SERVICE**
  - At 9:15 AM

- **GLOW IN THE DARK HAVDALAH AND MINI MINYAN**
  - Will resume in the fall
Marvin Rulin  
Yahrzeit of  
Theodore Patz  
Stewart and Judith  
Sadowsky  
Yahrzeit of Virginia  
Gale  
David Duggins  
and Nancy Gale  
Yahrzeit of William  
Stofman  
Thomas and  
Marcia Morton  
Yahrzeit of Zola S.  
Alpert  
Howard and Jan  
Engelberg  
Rabbi Gibson’s  
Discretionary  
In Appreciation of a  
great trip to Israel  
Dodi Walker  
Gross and Daniel  
Edelstone  
In Appreciation for  
Julian Eligator  
Rhoda Eligator  
In Appreciation of a  
great trip to Israel  
Gary Kaufman  
In Memory of  
Bernice Levine  
Shirley Goldstein  
Special Birthday  
Edith Vine  
Stuart and Janice  
Smith  
Rabbi Gorban’s  
Discretionary  
Mike Gebhart  
In Appreciation for  
Saul Straussman  
and Kellee Van  
Aken  
In Appreciation of  
Beit Din  
Mentorship  
Adona Iosif and  
Ardon Shorr  
In Appreciation  
of Sidney’s Shiva  
Service  
Richard and Carol  
Rosalenthal  
In Memory of  
Lauri  
Sue Weisberg  
Goldberg  
Charles and Gail  
Weisberg  
Religious School  
Fund  
In Memory of Aaron  
Loether  
Debbie Haber,  
Marilee Glick and  
the Temple Sinai  
Religious School  
Ryave Children’s  
Library Fund  
In Honor of Birth  
of Great-Grandson  
Asher Maxwell  
Rosalyn Escovitz  
In Honor of Emily’s  
Bat Mitzvah  
Stuart and Janice  
Smith  
In Memory of June  
Whitehill-Dukehart  
Rosalyn Escovitz  
In Memory of Lauri  
Sue Weisberg  
Goldberg  
Stuart and Janice  
Smith  
Irwin and Gail  
Wedner  
Stewart and Kathy  
Bleckman  
Youth Activities Fund  
In Memory of  
Beloved Mother and  
Grandmother  
Hanna Edelstein  

Stuart and Janice  
Smith  
Rabbi Gorban’s  
Discretionary  
Mike Gebhart  
In Appreciation for  
Saul Straussman  
and Kellee Van  
Aken  
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In Memory of  
Beloved Mother and  
Grandmother  
Hanna Edelstein  

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Amazingly Awesome Judaica
Make podcast about Judaica and everyday things.

Discovering Our Roots
Explore your family tree along with the biblical family tree, then create a play around it.

Tradition, Tradition!
A Holiday Celebration Guide on how your family celebrates the holidays.

Am I My Brother’s Keeper?
Create an advice column based on stories of sibling rivalry in the Torah.

Shabbat at Home
A class for families to take together in different homes as we learn how to celebrate Shabbat, make foods, & learn the songs.
Grades 3 & 4

Word Art
Calligraphy & Micrography: Explore different types of artistic word art, encounter the Divine in the beauty of words.

How to Create a Holy Space
Design a space where people can encounter God.

Tzitzit: The Original Fidget Spinners
Learn about Jewish Fashion throughout history!

4 Weddings and a Funeral
Reenactment of some of the most important moments in Jewish Life.

Grades 5 & 6

Pomegranates & Fish Heads
Discover Rosh HaShanah foods from around the world in this cooking class.

HamilTorah
Write songs, rap, spoken word and poetry about a section of the Torah.

Tzedakah: Thinking Outside the Box
Create a Guide to Jewish Giving — for parents and children!

It’s Revolting!
Become reporters for the Torah Times and “tell all” on the revolts through history.

The choice is yours!

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN
Welcome back to Temple Sinai! We’ll kick off the 2017-2018 year with a “Shabbat B’Que” picnic — hot dogs, hamburgers, and veggie burgers galore as we catch up with old friends and welcome new members. Our religious school teachers will be here to answer all of your questions, and newcomers will have the chance to tour our building and learn about our Temple Sinai family. Shabbat services will follow. Bring a friend or two for this special evening.

**WHEN:**
Friday, Sept. 8, 2017
5:30 p.m. Dinner
7 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service

**COST:**
$10 per person
(max of $30 per family)

**RSVP:**
RSVP to Judy Mahan at judy@templesinaipgh.org or 412.421.9715 x110
THANK YOU

Temple Sinai is appreciative of the generous grant received by the Jack Buncher Foundation toward emergency roofing repairs. This grant represents the second contribution to us from them, and we are grateful for their caring support.

OUR SACRED COMMUNITY

B’NEI MITZVAH ~ MAZAL TOV!

September:
Bat Mitzvah of
Olivia Werstil
(9/9/17)

NEW MEMBERS

Edward Abes
Sharon Bernstein & John Bitsko
Steven Bloom
Marilyn “Micki” Chatkin
Rodney Lipman

OF BLESSED MEMORY

Bernice Levine, wife of late Myron “Mike” Levine, mother of Jeffrey (Sandy), Debra, and Mark (Joanie) Levine

Samuel R. Jurman, brother of Stephen (Jeanette Trauth) Jurman

Fritz Ottenheimer, husband of Goldie Beruh Ottenheimer, father of Dan (Sara Weber) Ottenheimer and Marcie (Jim) Miller, grandfather of Sarah, Claire, and Elise Gebauer, David Ottenheimer

Lauri Sue Weisberg Goldberg, daughter of Gail and Charles Weisberg, mother of Joseph (Joey) Goldberg, sister of Michael (Elizabeth Goldberg) Weisberg and David (Rikki Hommel) Weisberg

Penelope Rose Miller
Downtown Lunch With The Rabbi
Friday, September 8, 2017, 12 p.m.
Would you like to learn with friends over lunch? Join Rabbi Gibson for an uplifting discussion over lunch at an office downtown. For more information, to add names to our mailing list, or to RSVP, kindly contact Barry Rudel at brudel@templesinaipgh.org or (412) 421-9715, ext. 133.

Temple Sinai Book Club
Wednesday, September 13, 2017, 1:15 p.m.
Join us to discuss “City of God” by E. L. Doctorow. We meet in the Lockhart Lounge every other month for a lively discussion.

WoTS - Challah Baking With Hanita
Monday, September 11, 2017, 6:30 p.m.
A session of learning to make your homemade challah from our fellow congregant, Hanita Kossowsky. The cost for this class is $10. RSVP by Sunday, September 10, 2017 to Carolyn Schwarz at (412) 421-1268 or 4carolynschwarz@gmail.com.

COMING IN OCTOBER

Wednesday, 10/4/17 at 6:15 PM!

Contact: Debbie Haber to enter! (412) 421-9715 ext 116 or email dhaber@templesinaipgh.org