As we come together to celebrate Shmini Atzeres/Simchas Torah, the well-known question is asked: should we not be celebrating and dancing with the Torah on the Yom Tov of Shavous, when the Torah was given to the Jewish people? Why do we celebrate now at the end of Succos? One answer to this question is that achdus among Jews is an absolute pre-condition for accepting the Torah. As it states in parshas Yisro, when the Torah was given at Har Sinai, (19:2) “The Jewish people encamped by the mountain.” The word ייחן (encamped) is written in the singular tense. The verse really should have said ייחנו which is plural. Therefore, Rashi explains, it is written in a singular tense to teach us that when the Jewish people stood at the foot of Mount Sinai it was איש אחד בלב אחד it was like one man one heart. Since Succos is the Yom Tov of achdus, now is the propitious time to celebrate by dancing and singing with the Torah.
May we all come together this Simchas Torah in unison to celebrate G-d’s special gift to the Jewish people, and in merit of that achdus may the Al-mighty bring us the redemption of our people speedily in our days.

Wishing you Chag Sameach and an inspiring Yom Tov and Shabbos!
Rabbi Moshe Gruenstein

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In order to conduct Simchas Torah in a more user friendly and efficient manner, davening Friday morning will begin at 8:45 instead of 9:00, and the Aliya for Kol Hanearim (when all the children come up to the bima) will take place at the beginning of the reading of Zos Habracha, by the 5th Aliya. Everyone should remain in the main Sanctuary till that point.

- Mondays at 10:30AM – Ladies Tehillim Group in the Beis Midrash.

**Congregational Family and Shul News**

- Kiddush on Shmini Atzeres October 12 is co-sponsored by Michael & Judy Levine commemorating the yahrzeit of Judy’s father Cantor David Jacobs z”l; and by Marc & Nicole Gleitman commemorating the yahrzeit of Nicole’s father Meir Corcos ben Shimon z”l.
- Kiddush on Simchas Torah October 13 is sponsored by Dr. Steven & Bella Brenner commemorating the yahrzeit of Bella’s mother Lola Borg, Leah bas Shlomo Zev HaCohen z”l.
- Kiddush on Shabbos Bereishis October 14 is sponsored by Jerry & Sandy Seligsohn commemorating the yahrzeit of Jerry’s father Max Seligsohn, Avraham ben Gershom z”l.
- Seuda Shlishit is sponsored by Shimmy & Devorah Gardyn in honor of the Siyum of Masechet Sanhedrin.

**Refuah Sheleimah**

We wish refuah sheleimah to: Allen Packer, Alexander ben Esther Raizel, Rabbi Simeon Schreiber, Shimon ben Blima, Dani Smith, Doniel ben Mindel.

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ATTENTION ALL MEN!
Please do not walk behind the 2 ladies’ sections during services. Please use side doors to enter and exit Sanctuary after 10:00 AM. Thank you for your cooperation.