



our house

# beiteinu view

High Holidays 2019

## Each of Us is an Author

Some time ago I read a volume entitled: Rise up and Walk, by Turnley Walker. In it he describes his dreadful encounter with polio which struck him down in his middle thirties. He shares the delirium of pain and fear, the sense of guilt over creating massive expenses while helpless to provide income for his wife and children. He conveyed the feeling of disaster of a young man who suddenly realizes that he no longer has control over his pain-racked limbs. His bed is a "pit [of helplessness," -walking," A forgotten miracle". Slowly and marvelously his motion is restored and the book reflects proof that he has been left with no emotional or mental scars.

In the book, Mr. Walker describes not only his personal reactions but also those of his two fellow sufferers on either side of his bed, similarly afflicted. There was the 37-year-old lawyer sobbing in bed while crying out "God I am scared"; the successful manufacturer on the other side struggling with fear, defeatism, despair.

After I finished the book, I wondered if the lawyer and manufacturer realized that their behaviors, attitudes and conversations were being written down for others to read? Would they have exhibited more courage and hope through the ordeal?

What if we realized, every one of us, that someone around us was writing a book about us—recording our actions in our places of business, in our homes, in our places of recreation and entertainment? What if we knew that someone was noting, for all to read, our loyalty to our partners, our faithfulness to truth, our response to charitable appeals, our commitment to justice? How would we behave? What if we suddenly realized the curtain of privacy has been ripped away, and instead, the spotlight was turned on us and exposing us to public view?

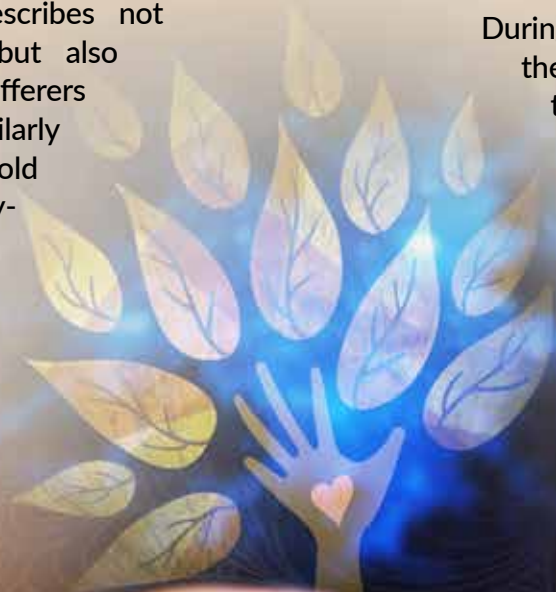
As we approach the High Holy Day season I suggest we face the challenging truth that what I have been describing is not an imaginative fantasy but a striking fact. Whether we like it or not, whether we are aware of it or not, everything that we do is written down indelibly in the record. Everything we do is recorded in the human record and becomes a vital part of somebody's book of life.

During the High Holy Days, we repeat the prayer that we may be inscribed in the book of life (B'sefer Hachayim).

The word "Hachayim" is usually translated as "life". But it also means "the living." "Sefer Hachayim" would then mean, "the book of the living."

This reflects the point I have tried to make. Whether we like it or not, we are being written up in a book, in many books. Our actions and words are shaping other human biographies, are being woven into the plots and dramas of other people.

If we ourselves paused to trace back the significant passages in our personal







## beiteinu SYNAGOGUE

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## Follow the Blog

### Rabbi Cove's Blog Post

See what Rabbi Cove has to say  
about a variety of topics.

[www.beiteinu.org/rabbis-blog](http://www.beiteinu.org/rabbis-blog)



autobiographies to their sources, I suggest we would find contributions from parents, grandparents, teachers, bosses, coworkers and friends. We may also realize contributions have been left in our personal "Book of Life" by total strangers. Perhaps you heard of someone who conquered his or her own severe handicap which in turn gave you the courage to surmount your own? Maybe the stories of anonymous Jews who guaranteed Jewish survival with their lives etched themselves on to the impressionable slate of your soul?

Charles Francis Potter wrote A book called The Preacher and I. In it, he makes this interesting comment: "A eulogy is customary, which is a sort of laudatory biography. But I am always aware, when listening to the remarks of the mourners and looking into their thoughtful faces, that the true life story of the deceased, including his mistakes, as well as his good deeds, are engraved deep into memory of his friends and family that he wrote it there himself."

This, then, is a basic truth of human experience. We are being inscribed in the "Book of the Living." In the biographies of our loved ones and fellow-human beings, and in the ledger of the general community, we are constantly making entries. What kind of entries are you making? This might well be the question with which to begin the new year.

On Rosh Hashanah let us resolve to live with the constant awareness that our every deed is being inscribed on human parchment. We may never write a line which is published, but we are all authors of vital passages in living volumes. May we always remember that what we do will live on and the echoes of the words we speak will resound for generations to come. May the entries we make in the coming year be ever acceptable to you oh God.



*Join Rabbi Howard Cove and family for a special night.  
Welcome the shabbat with the sounds of the ocean, the sun  
setting and music, along with prayer for a magical Shabbat.*



# Member Spotlight

## The Art of the Brand Family



When Michael and Monique met, they were very busy people. Michael, at the time co-owned Lafayette Hill Studios, an event photography and video company. Monique was starting her new career as a freelance graphic designer.

A Philadelphia native, Michael graduated Temple University with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication. Monique, born in Queens, New York, studied illustration at the School of Visual Arts in NYC. Michael was raised Jewish, which coincidentally includes his brother-in-law, Mitchell Cove, brother of Rabbi Howard Cove! Monique's father brought Christian Science to the table through his family, and her mother was Catholic. Monique was raised lightly in both religions, and took from both a more spiritual view. Being a couple, their faiths never clashed. Each enjoyed the other's religion and family. That's another thing they shared, the love and strength of their families.

The loss of her Father, and the health of her mother was a heavy burden on Monique. Michael was very accepting of her situation and was there with love and support. As this was unfolding, Michael also dealt with the health of his father, which at one point was life-threatening.

Through these challenges that they both faced early on in their relationship, their love grew stronger. They also got to enjoy the excitement of living in their swanky apartment in Old City, Philadelphia. Michael would shoot short films and commercials in the city and Monique would take photos. In the galleries of Old City on First Friday, you could find them in the midst of the crowd, talking with other artists, and exchanging creative ideas.

As time went on, they found themselves in the Roxborough neighborhood of Philadelphia, with their first house, a quaint backyard wedding, and the birth of their baby girl, Serena Lily. Monique's mother, who was not in good health, got to meet her first and only Granddaughter.

Michael's sister, Eileen became an aunt to her baby brother's daughter.

Serena, now 11 years old, has been celebrating Hanukkah, Christmas, Easter and Passover. As parents, Michael and Monique are giving Serena more of a Jewish education. Michael's family celebrates the Jewish holidays together, and have made Monique feel welcome and have helped give Serena a Jewish identity. Having Rabbi Cove in the family, Serena is benefiting from his teachings, and Monique always enjoys what the Rabbi has to say at services.

Monique's family is very diverse both in ethnicity and religion, and support her and Michael's choices. They consider Michael to be a wonderful addition to the family.

These days the Brand family loves to bike, hike and enjoy the outdoors. Serena, having two creative parents, works on projects like stop-motion animation, photography and crafts. They have been fortunate enough to do some traveling, both in the states and abroad. Serena loves to travel and her parents are glad she enjoys exploring different lands, people and culture.

When the Holidays come around, you can find them listening to what Rabbi Howard has to say. Michael is usually behind the computer helping Rabbi Howard and Staci live-stream the services.

Beit Haim  
Community





## High Holiday Schedule

### **Rosh Hashanah Under the Stars services**

**Sunday September 29th 6:00 pm – shofar will be blown at sundown**

Enjoy a concert, courtesy of Adam Weitz and featuring A-Sharp Events. Enjoy dancing, a tasty catered dinner and, culminating with a service including blowing the shofar (under the stars- weather permitting). Bring your blankets, chairs, sweaters and whatever else you need to be comfortable

### **Rosh Hashanah Day Services**

**Monday, September 30th - 10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Join us for a meaningful service during which we will be blessed with the beautiful sounds of our cantor. Services will include traditional melodies, stories, readings, and meditations.

### **Kol Nidre**

**Tuesday, October 8th - 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm**

A special and moving service featuring a stirring instrumental rendition of the Kol Nidre prayer, as well as a cello performance by the musical composer, Wilson Smith.

### **Yom Kippur Day**

**Wednesday, October 9th - 10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Once again we will be graced with our inspirational cantor. A special and beautiful way to reflect and renew ourselves for years to come!

### **Yizkor Service**

**(following Yom Kippur services) 12:15 pm – 1:00 pm**

Our Yom Kippur service continues with Yizkor. This will be a meaningful way to honor our relationships with those we have loved and those no longer with us.

### **Petzkor Service**

**(following Yizkor services)**

Bring a photo of your furry loved ones that have passed.  
We will reflect on the joy they have brought us.

**For ticket information: [www.beiteinu.org](http://www.beiteinu.org)  
Questions contact Staci at 610-513-5709  
or Rabbi Cove at 484-432-0931  
or email at [rabbi@beiteinu.org](mailto:rabbi@beiteinu.org)**



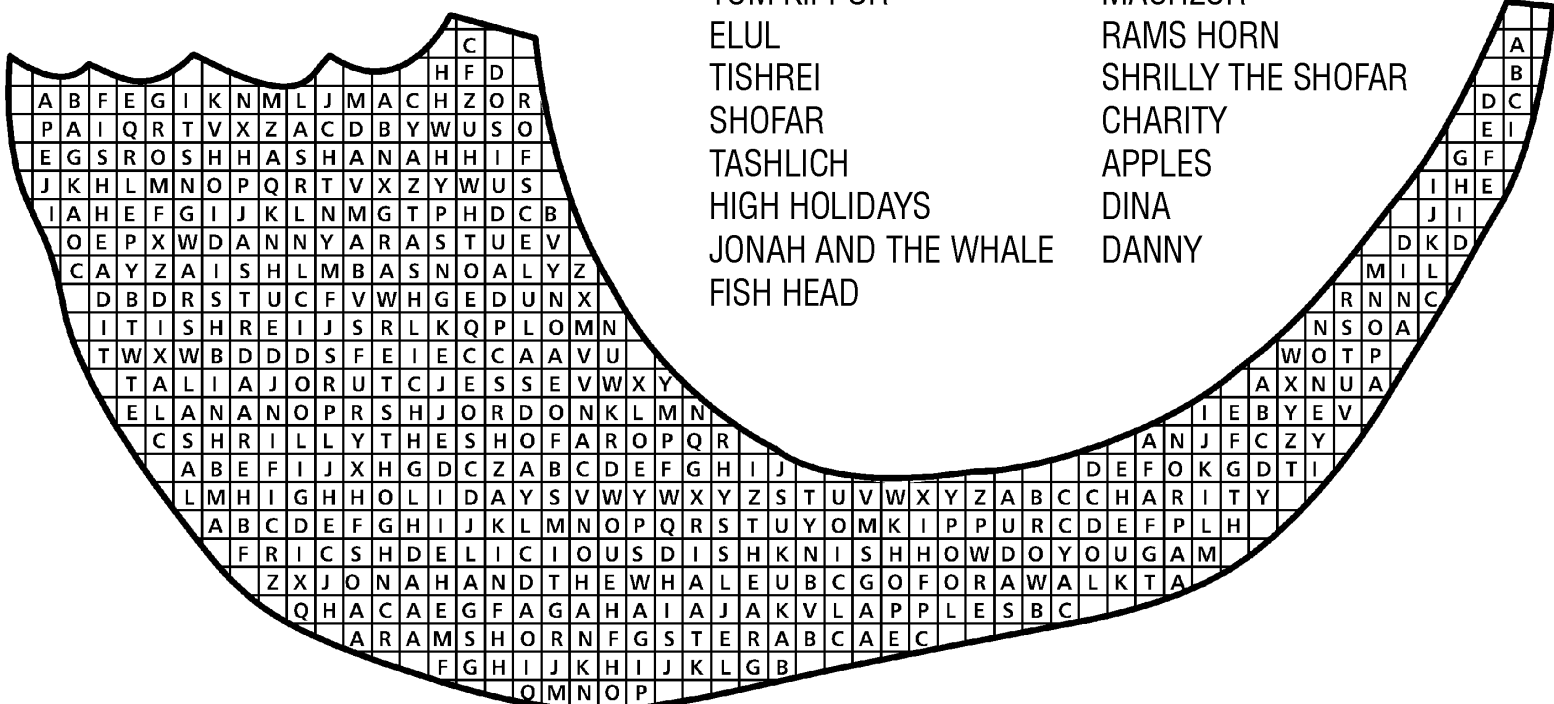
# Questions for the New Year

*The wisdom that Judaism provides is based on the Jewish value of asking questions. For thousands of years our Rabbis have begun the journey toward understanding by asking questions. At this time of year we are encouraged to ask ourselves some important questions. The answers of which will go a long way to help assess our lives and provide needed direction to reach our personal goals. I encourage you to take some precious time to reflect on the following questions.*

1. When have I felt that life has been the most meaningful?
2. What are the three things I consider the most important accomplishments in my life so far?
3. When I pass away, for what do I want to be remembered? What would I want written on my tombstone?
4. What provides me with joy and happiness?
5. Where do I go to create a feeling of calm and peacefulness when life is overwhelming?
6. Over the past year, did my most important relationships become closer and more intimate, or was there a feeling of greater distance and stagnation?
7. What can I do to take more responsibility to nurture my relationships?
8. Have my choices and actions reflected my core values?
9. Am I living up to my full potential?
10. In what ways did I grow and expand my knowledge and experience?

## Shofar Word Search

**Find the words going horizontally and vertically!**



# High Holiday Quiz for You and Your Family

**1. One of the main ideas of Rosh Hashanah is:**

- a. Rosh Hashanah is the birthday of the world
- b. God took the Jewish people through the Red Sea
- c. God performed miracles

**2. We eat apples and honey on Rosh Hashanah because:**

- a. We want to help beekeepers stay in business.
- b. We hope we will be blessed with a sweet year
- c. It is a healthy thing to do.

**3. The 10 days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are called:**

- a. The 10 days of prayer
- b. The 10 days of charity
- c. The 10 days of repentance

**4. Jewish adults fast on Yom Kippur because:**

- a. It is good to diet in order to lose weight
- b. It is a commandment found in the Bible
- c. There aren't any good foods to eat on Yom Kippur
- d. It is a day to focus on our spiritual and emotional selves and not on the physical

**5. What are the names of the three sounds of the shofar?**

- a. Tekia, Shevarim, Teruah
- b. Tefilah, Torah, Sefarim
- c. Tequilla, Collada, Hatikva

**6. The shofar is sounded to:**

- a. Remind us of the time Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt
- b. Awaken us to knowing the time is now to make necessary changes in our lives
- c. Let us know it is time to eat

**7. What subject do we read about in the Torah on the first day of Rosh Hashanah?**

- a. The first Rosh Hashanah service lead by Moses in the desert
- b. The story of the creation of the world
- c. The relationship between Abraham and his son Isaac

**8. What is the ceremony called that involves casting crumbs of bread into a body of water - representing our personal sins from which we want to unburden ourselves?**

- a. Kaddish
- b. Yizkor
- c. Havdalah
- d. Tashlich

**9. What is the name of the first prayer chanted on Yom Kippur night requesting to be forgiven for promises we made to ourselves or others, that we did not keep?**

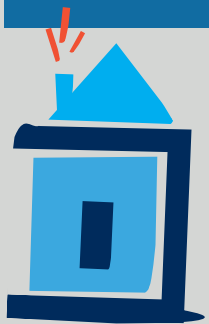
- a. Avinu Malkaynu
- b. Kol Nidre
- c. Hayom
- d. Adon Olam

**ANSWERS:** 1a 2b 3c 4d 5a 6b 7c 8d 9b

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Beiteinu and Rabbi Howard Cove, invite you to join us in welcoming in the New Year and the High Holidays. We strive to offer options that are best for each individual and your needs.  
**(Family includes dependent children)**

#### FULL MEMBERSHIP

Individual: \$396

Family: \$817

**Over 35 years of Age** Full membership allows you to share in all the high holiday festivities as well as joining us for Shabbat service, minyan, and all other activities and events.

#### FULL MEMBERSHIP

Individual under 35: \$279

Family under 35: \$583

**Over 35 years of Age** Full membership allows you to share in all the high holiday festivities as well as joining us for Shabbat service, minyan, and all other activities and events.

#### HIGH HOLIDAYS

\$250/ per person

Children 18 and under \$25

**High Holidays Only** Unable to commit to membership at this time but still want to come for the high holidays.....no problem. Enjoy all High Holiday events including New Year's Under The Stars, Rosh Hashanah, Kol Nidre, Yom Kippur Day and Yizkor Service.

#### MINYAN SHABBAT

4 Services \$72/pp

All Services \$218/pp

Want to be a part of the Beiteinu family but unable to make it to the holidays. Great, join us on Thursday Morning minyan, Shabbat services and other special events throughout the year.

#### EREV ROSH HASANAH

\$40/\$20 children 18 & under

**New Year's Under the Stars** Enjoy a concert, courtesy of Adam Weitz and A-Sharp productions. Dance, eat a catered dinner and take part in a service culminating in the blowing of the Shofar at sundown, under the stars.

Tickets may be purchased online at: **beiteinu.org**

Or by check mailed to: Beiteinu, P.O. Box 231, Haverford, PA 19004

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## Minyanim Every Thursday 7:30am

Meet us in Yardley, where we start the day with prayer, thought-provoking conversations, and reflection. Worship is followed by breakfast and friendly conversation.

Please call **Rabbi Cove** at **484-432-0931** or email him at **rabbi@beiteinu.org** if you would like to join us.

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