



Shabbat Announcements

Yom Kippur

September 30, 2017 10 Tishrei, 5778

Times		Rabbi Jonathan Sacks on Yom Kippur
Mincha	3:00/4:00 pm	<p>The Ten Days of Repentance are the holy of holies of Jewish time. They begin this Wednesday evening with Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, and culminate 10 days later with Yom Kippur, our Day of Atonement. At no other time do I feel so close to God, and I suspect the same is true for most Jews. These days constitute a courtroom drama like no other. The judge is God himself, and we are on trial for our lives. It begins on Rosh Hashanah, with the sounding of the shofar, the ram's horn, announcing that the court is in session. The Book of Life, in which our fate will be inscribed, now lies open. As we say in prayer, "On Rosh Hashanah it is written, and on Yom Kippur it is sealed, who will live and who will die." At home, we eat an apple dipped in honey as a symbol of our hope for a sweet new year.</p> <p>On Yom Kippur, the atmosphere reaches a peak of intensity in a day of fasting and prayer. Repeatedly we confess our sins, whole alphabetical litanies of them, including ones we probably had neither the time nor the imagination to commit. We throw ourselves on the mercy of the court, which is to say, on God himself. Write us, we say, in the Book of Life. And at the end of a long and wrenching day, we finish as we began 10 days earlier, with the sound of the ram's horn—this time not with tears and fears but with cautious yet confident hope. We have admitted the worst about ourselves and survived.</p> <p>Beneath the surface of this long religious ritual lies one of the more transformative stories of the human spirit. The sociologist Philip Rieff pointed out that the movement from paganism to monotheism was a transition from fate to faith. By this he meant that in the world of myth, people were pitted against powerful, capricious forces personified as gods who were at best indifferent, at worst hostile, to humankind. All you could do was try to propitiate, battle or outwit them. This was a culture of character and fate, and its noblest expression was the literature of Greek tragedy.</p> <p>Jews came to see the world in a completely different way. The book of Genesis opens with God making humans "in his image and likeness." This phrase has become so familiar to us that we forget how paradoxical it is, since for the Hebrew Bible, God has no image and likeness. As the narrative quickly makes clear, what humans have in common with God is freedom and moral responsibility. The Jewish drama is less about character and fate than about will and choice. To the monotheistic mind, the real battles are not "out there," against external forces of darkness, but "in here," between the bad and better angels of our nature. As the religion writer Jack Miles once pointed out, you can see the difference in the contrast between Sophocles and Shakespeare. For Sophocles, Oedipus must battle against blind, inexorable fate. For Shakespeare, writing in a monotheistic age, the drama of "Hamlet" lies within, between "the native hue of resolution" and "the pale cast of thought." The trouble is, of course, that faced with choice, we often make the wrong one. Given a second chance, Adam and Eve would probably pass on the fruit. Cain might work a little harder on his anger management. And there is a straight line from these biblical episodes to the destruction left by Homo sapiens: war, murder, human devastation and environmental destruction.</p> <p>That is still our world today. The key fact about us, according to the Bible, is that uniquely in an otherwise law-governed universe, we are able to break the law—a power that we too often relish exercising. This raises an acute theological dilemma.</p>
Kol Nidrei	6:15 pm	
Candle Lighting	6:21 am	
Shacharit	8:30 am	
Yizkor	Approx. 12:00 pm	
Mincha Main & Gym	4:30 pm	
Beit Midrash	4:15 pm	
Yom Kippur Ends	7:19 pm	
Sun. October 1	7:30/8:30 am	
Mon. Tues. & Wed.	6:35/7:45 am 6:45/7:45 am	
Thurs. - Fri. Sukkot	See Page 4	
Mincha	6:15 pm	
<p>Latest Times for Shema/Shemoneh Esrei</p>		
September 30	9:47/10:46 am	
October 7	9:50/10:47 am	
<p>Next Shabbat Chol HaMoed Sukkot</p>		
Candle Lighting	6:10 pm	
Mincha	6:15 pm	

How are we to reconcile God’s high hopes for humanity with our shabby and threadbare moral record? The short answer is forgiveness. God wrote forgiveness into the script. He always gives us a second chance, and more. All we have to do is to acknowledge our wrongs, apologize, make amends and resolve to behave better, and God forgives. It allows us to hold simultaneously to the highest moral aspirations while admitting honestly our deepest moral failings. That is the drama of the Jewish High Holy Days.

At the heart of this vision is what the post-Holocaust writer Viktor Frankl called our “search for meaning.” The great institutions of modernity were not constructed to provide meaning. Science tells us how the world came to be but not why. Technology gives us power but cannot tell us how to use it. The market gives us choices but no guidance as to which choices to make. Modern democracies give us a maximum of personal freedom but a minimum of shared morality. You can acknowledge the beauty of all these institutions, yet most of us seek something more. Meaning comes not from systems of thought but from stories, and the Jewish story is among the most unusual of all. It tells us that God sought to make us His partners in the work of creation, but we repeatedly disappointed Him. Yet He never gives up. He forgives us time and again. The real religious mystery for Judaism is not our faith in God but God’s faith in us.

This is not, as atheists and skeptics sometimes claim, a comforting fiction but quite the opposite. Judaism is God’s call to human responsibility, to create a world that is a worthy home for His presence. That is why Jews are so often to be found as doctors fighting disease, economists fighting poverty, lawyers fighting injustice, teachers fighting

ignorance and therapists fighting depression and despair. Judaism is a supremely activist faith for which the greatest religious challenge is to heal some of the wounds of our deeply fractured world. As Frankl put it: The real question is not what do we want from life but what does life want from us.

That is the question we are asked on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. As we ask God to write us in the Book of Life, he asks us, what have you done with your life thus far? Have you thought about others or only about yourself? Have you brought healing to a place of human pain or hope where you found despair? You may have been a success, but have you also been a blessing? Have you written other people in the Book of Life? To ask these questions once a year in the company of others publicly willing to confess their faults, lifted by the words and music of ancient prayers, knowing that God forgives every failure we acknowledge as a failure, and that He has faith in us even when we lose faith in ourselves, can be a life-changing experience. That is when we discover that, even in a secular age, God is still there, open to us whenever we are willing to open ourselves to Him.

This article was first published in The Wall Street Journal on September 16, 2017.

Yom Kippur Youth Group Schedule

Friday Evening-Kol Nidrei

6:15-9:15pm

Supervised child care
Braun Youth Center

Shabbat Yom Kippur Day

9:00-11:00

Preschool-Supervised childcare (Chalfin Room)
Grades 1-4 Supervised play in Braun Youth Center (left side)
Grade 5 & up Youth Minyan Braun Youth Center

11:00-12:30

Preschool-regular Shabbat group rooms (mommy and me room open for play-no services with Morah Zehava)
Grades 1-4

11:00-11:45 Grades 1-2 (boys and girls) downstairs lunchroom
Grades 3-4 (boys and girls) upstairs classrooms
11:45-12:30-Girls-grades 1-4 upstairs classrooms
Boys-grades 1-4-downstairs lunchroom

Grades 5-7 Braun Youth Center

12:30-3:00

Preschool-supervised child care left side Braun Youth Center
Grades 1-6-activities with sports coach right side Braun Youth Center

3:00-4:30 Break

4:30-7:15

Preschool-supervised child care left side Braun Youth Center
Grades 1-6-activities with sports coach right side Braun Youth Center



Great Neck Yoetzet Halacha Lisa Septimus
Welcomes your questions about mikvah, observance of taharat mishpacha (halacha relating to married life) and women’s health, as it connects to Jewish law. Reach out to her at:
Phone: 516.415.1111
Email: greatneckyoetzet@gmail.com.
All conversations and emails are kept confidential.



Great Neck Synagogue
26 Old Mill Road, Great Neck, NY 11023
516-487-6100

Rabbi Dale Polakoff, Rabbi
Rabbi Ian Lichter, Assistant Rabbi
Dr. Ephraim Wolf, z”l, Rabbi Emeritus
Zeev Kron, Cantor
Eleazer Schulman, z”l, Cantor Emeritus
Rabbi Sholom Jensen, Youth Director
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STUDY. LEARN. GROW.

GNS Women's Learning Series

Mrs. Chani Juravel
Tshuva: The Gift of Self

Thursday Evening September 28th
8:00 pm

Chani Juravel has been teaching and counseling in various capacities since 1983. She has a BA in Psychology from Brooklyn College and a MSW from Fordham University.

Currently, she works with individuals and couples in her private practice in Rockland County and lectures across the world, combining Torah Hashkafa and psychological insights.

Chani writes for Binah Magazine and some of her lectures can be found at Aish.com and Torahyanytime.com.

Generously Hosted by Doreen Hadid
5 Magnolia Drive in Great Neck

SUKKOT SCHEDULE

Wednesday, Oct. 4, Erev Sukkot

An eiruv tavshilin should be prepared

Candle lighting: 6:13 pm

Mincha: 6:15pm

Kiddush after: 7:12 pm

Thursday, Oct. 5, Sukkot I

Hashkama: 8:00 am

Youth Minyan: 8:30 am

Main shul: 9:00 am

Beit Midrash: 9:15 am

Mincha: 6:15 pm

Candle Lighting after: 7:11 pm

Friday, Oct. 6, Sukkot II

Hashkama: 8:00 am

Youth Minyan: 8:30 am

Main shul: 9:00 am

Beit Midrash: 9:15 am

Candle Lighting by: 6:10 pm

Mincha: 6:15 pm

Saturday, Oct. 7, Chol HaMoed

Hashkama: 8:00 am

Youth Minyan: 8:30 am

Main Shul: 8:45 am

Beit Midrash: 9:15 am

Kohelet is read this morning

Gemara Shiur: 5:00 pm

Mincha: 6:00 pm

Shabbat ends: 7:16 pm

LULAV AND ETROG SALE



MONDAY EVENING

October 2

7-9 PM

Bring your checkbook please.

No preorders.

GNS YOUTH PRESENTS

SUKKOT DECORATIONS WITH MORAH ZEHAVA

Make a Sukkah decoration for your Sukkah
and help to decorate the GNS Sukkah as well

SUNDAY OCT. 1ST

12:30 - 2:00 PM

PRE-SCHOOL-2ND GRADE

BRAUN YOUTH CENTER

DROP OFF PROGRAM

\$10 PER CHILD/

\$18 PER FAMILY

PIZZA LUNCH





Great Neck Synagogue Hoshana Rabbah Lecture



Free Admission
Open to the
Community

Rabbi Eli Mansour

Leil Hoshana Rabbah

Tuesday Evening October 10th 2017

8:00 pm GNS Sukkah

SIMCHAT TORAH

This is the list of the sponsors from last year. If you would like your name added to the list for sponsorship of \$100 please contact Mark Twersky in the shul office. If you do not want to participate and have your name removed also call Mark at the office. Thank you.

GREAT NECK SYNAGOGUE – SIMCHAT TORAH 57777

Rabbi: Dale Polakoff

Rabbi Emeritus: Ephraim Wolf Z"L

Assistant Rabbi: Ian Lichter

Cantor: Ze'ev Kron

Cantor Emeritus: Eleazer Schulman Z"L

Youth Directors: Rabbi Sholom Jensen

Dr. Mike & Zehava Atlas

Chairperson: Stanley H. Fischer

President: Dov Sassoon

GNS Sisterhood

GNS Men's Club

In memory of Harvey & Bea Brody z"l

In memory of Ben Dweck & Stanley Braunstein z"l

In memory of Helene M. Fink z"l

In memory of Miriam Frumkin z"l

In memory of George Freedman z"l

In memory of Belle & Solomon S. Goldwyn z"l

In memory of Barbara S. Horowitz z"l

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& Frances Karbowitz

In memory of Shlomo Kagan z"l

In memory of Rahel Ben Sorek z"l

In memory of Nathan Krieger z"l

In memory of Rabbi Dr. Aaron Levine z"l

In memory of Philip Machnikoff z"l

In memory of Steven Mayer z"l

In memory of David & Victoria Sarraf z"l

In memory of Hoori Shavolian z"l

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James & Susan Frisch

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Jerry & Fran Gil

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Sol & Talia Goldwyn

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

RABBI POLAKOFF'S SHABBOS DRASHA THROUGH 5778 IS DEDICATED IN MEMORY OF **PINCHAS BEN YOSEPH** FOR OTHER SUCH OPPORTUNITIES PLEASE CONTACT HOWARD WOLF 516-643-3344

IF YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO IS MOVING INTO THE GREAT NECK AREA PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW.

OFFICE HOURS FOR RABBI POLAKOFF

Wednesdays: 10-12; Thursdays: 1-3. He can always be reached via 516.637.3674 or dpolakoff@gns.org.

WOMEN'S LEARNING

Come hear Mrs. Chani Juravel on **Thursday evening, Sept. 28th** at the home of **Doreen Hadid** at **15 Magnolia Drive at 8:00 pm** on the topic of "*Teshuva: The Gift of Self*".

YOUTH EVENTS/NEWS

On **Sunday, Oct. 1st** there is an Erev Sukkot Arts 'n Crafts for preschool thru 2nd grade from 12:30-2:00 pm. \$10 per child/\$18 per family.

Anyone who lives in the Strathmore/Old Mill Road area interested in hosting our annual Sukkah Hop should contact Rabbi Jensen at rabbijensen@aol.com. Each host will have a maximum of 75 children (one group). There will be 3 groups of approximately 75 children consisting of preschool, elementary and middle school. Thank you.

LULAV & ETROG SALE

Monday evening, October 2nd from 7:00-9:00 pm. Bring your checkbooks; no preorders.

SIMCHAT TORAH LAINERS

If you are interested in laining on Simchat Torah, please speak to Natan Hamerman.

HOUSTON ROSH HASHANA CHESED DRIVE

Thank you to all those who donated to send Kittels, Kippot and a Chazan Siddur to the United Orthodox Synagogue in Houston. Rabbi Gelman and the Houston shul members are very grateful to all of the GNS members who participated in this Yomim Nora'im Chesed Drive!

A special thank you to Rabbi Jeffrey Kobrin for personally taking these items to Houston to give to Rabbi Gelman in time for Yom Tov. Yashar Koach to all!

CHANUKAH SCOPE DEADLINE

Please submit all articles, advertisements, photos, recipes, sponsorships and any other matters of interest for our membership for the upcoming Chanukah issue of SCOPE magazine to Diane Rein at drein@verizon.net. The deadline for all submissions is Monday, October 23rd – thank you so much!

UPCOMING EVENTS AT GREAT NECK SYNAGOGUE

September 28: Women's Learning
 October 1: Erev Sukkot Youth Arts n Crafts
 October 2: Etrog & Lulav Sale
 October 4: Erev Sukkot Youth Trips
 October 5: R. Polakoff Open Sukkah
 October 8: Youth Mystery Bus Ride
 October 10: Hoshana Rabbah Shiur: R' Mansour

MAZAL TOVS & COMMUNITY NEWS

Mazal Tov to Dassie & Eddy Barth on the marriage of their daughter **Naomi** to **Jonathan Henkin**, son of **Laurie & Bruce Henkin** of Edgemont, NY.

Mazal Tov to Moosa & Sheila Ebrahimian on the upcoming marriage of their son, **Robert** to **Lea Kimmel**.

SHIDDUCHIM COMMITTEE

If you are single and interested in meeting someone, please email Robyn Blumner at mitzvamatcher@gmail.com.

NORTH SHORE MIKVEH

North Shore Mikveh is open for men this **Friday, Erev Yom Kippur from 5:00 am - 3:00 pm**. Bring your own towel; \$30 suggested donation.

BIKUR CHOLIM

If you would like to volunteer to be a valuable member of the Bikur Cholim Committee, which may include calling, visiting, shopping, running an errand or driving a member of Great Neck Synagogue who is ill or home-bound, please contact Diane Rein at drein@verizon.net or (516) 487-1296 as she will be organizing Bikur Cholim now.

SID JACOBSON JCC'S STRONGER THAN CANCER 5K

Volunteers are needed on **Sunday, October 8, 2017** from 8:00 am through the close of the program (before noon). This 5K community run/walk raises needed funds for the Nancy Marx Cancer Wellness Center. Contact sberman@sjccc.org for more information.

Y A H R Z E I T

Saturday, 10 Tishrei

Hava Freeman for Meir Bont
 Liliane Benrimon for Leon Castiel
 Myles Mittleman for Harry Tischler

Sunday, 11 Tishrei

Susan Aboaf for Joseph Shahmoon
 David Smootha for Joseph Shahmoon
 Debbie Feith for Joseph Shahmoon

Monday, 12 Tishrei

Hal Beretz for Greta Beretz
 Chaya Gilad for Tzipora Freeman
 Israel Freeman for Tzipora Freeman
 Morris Hodkin for Louis Hodkin
 Harriet Schimel for Frances Sherman
 Linda Glaser for Sadie Tarasuk

Tuesday, 13 Tishrei

Carl Mosesson for Neil Mosesson

Wednesday, 14 Tishrei

Lev Dynkin for Tsivya Dynkin
 Semyon Dynkin for Tsivya Dynkin
 Phyllis Ringel for Charles Gitter
 Jack Lemonik for Anne S. Lemonik
 Yaacov Mizrahi for Ezra Mizrahi
 Asher Pirouzian for Roya Sarah Pirouzian

Thursday, 15 Tishrei

Harold Domnitch for Goldie Domnitch
 Murray Weiss for Ellen Weiss

Friday, 16 Tishrei

Paul Brody for Rabbi Jacob Brown