

# The Shofar

ת"ס"ט

October 2019

Vol. 91 Issue 10 (Published Monthly)

**Congregation B'nai Israel: A Traditional Conservative Synagogue**

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October 2019

**Sun. Sept. 29/Elul 29**  
**Erev Rosh HaShanah**  
Light candles, 6:23 p.m.  
Services, 6:30 p.m.,

Fri. Oct. 11/Tishri 12  
Light candles, 6:03 p.m.  
Services, 8 p.m.

Mon. Sept. 30/Tishri 1  
**First day of Rosh**  
**HaShanah**  
Morning services, 8:30  
a.m.  
*Tashlich*, 4:30 p.m.  
Evening services, 6:15  
p.m.  
Light candles, 7:21 p.m.

Sat. Oct. 12/Tishri 13  
Rabbi's class, 8:40 p.m.  
Services, 9:20 p.m.

Tues. Oct. 1/Tishri 2  
**Second day of Rosh**  
**HaShanah**  
Morning services, 8:30  
a.m.  
Evening services, 6:30  
p.m.

Sun. Oct. 13/Tishri 14  
**Erev Succot**  
Services, 5:45 p.m.  
Light candles, 6:01 p.m.  
Dinner, 6:15 p.m.

Fri. Oct. 4/Tishri 5  
Light candles, 6:14 p.m.  
Services, 8 p.m.

Mon. Oct. 14/Tishri 15  
**First day of Succot**  
Services, 9:20 a.m.  
Lunch 12 noon  
Light candles, 7:08 p.m.  
Services, 7:00 p.m.,  
Dinner, 7:15 p.m.

Sat. Oct. 5/Tishri 6  
Rabbi's class, 8:40 a.m.  
Services, 9:20 a.m.

Tues. Oct. 15/Tishri 16  
**Second day of Succot**  
Services, 9:20 a.m.  
Lunch, 12 noon

Tues. Oct. 8/Tishri 9  
**Erev Yom Kippur**  
Light candles, 6:08 p.m.  
Services, 6:15 p.m.

Fri. Oct. 18/Tishri 19  
Services, 5:45 p.m.  
Light candles, 5:52 p.m.  
Dinner, 6:45 p.m.

Wed. Oct. 9/Tishri 10  
**Yom Kippur**  
Morning services, 8:30  
a.m.  
Afternoon services,  
4:45 p.m.

Sat. Oct. 19/Tishri 20  
Rabbi's class, 8:40 a.m.  
Services, 9:20 a.m.

Sun. Oct. 20/Tishri 21  
**Erev Shemini Atzeret**  
Light candles, 5:47 p.m.

**Calendar**  
**continued on p. 2**  
**ONLY 2 DAYS**  
**LEFT TO ORDER**  
**SUCCOT MEALS**



**From the**  
**Desk of**  
**Rabbi Pearl**

THE HOLIEST DAYS of the year are upon us. *Rosh HaShanah* and *Yom Kippur* are the days of fate and renewal, where our destiny is decided and where we have the opportunity to shape that destiny through prayer and repentance. These are holidays of celebration, of gathering with friends, of holiday meals, synagogue services, and of greetings and good wishes. How do we make it count? How do we shape these precious days into the tools that can change our lives?

As I write these words, Israel and Jews throughout the world are contemplating the indecisive results of the latest elections. Once again, there is no clear-cut winner, and once again whoever manages to wheel and deal best in the maze of Israeli politics will assume power. Why all this confusion? Why can't Israelis make up their minds and pick a leader?

Israelis are no different from Jews anywhere else in the world. They disagree fiercely, and have trouble coming to a decisive conclusion. I hope and pray that a good leader and a steady base emerge from these days of confusion

I believe that our issue with *Rosh HaShanah* and *Yom Kippur* is the same as the Israeli electorate. We can't make up our minds. Do we want to be more religious or less? More careful of our observance of *mitzvot*, or less restrained in what we do, eat, or think? Are we a separate community, or do we want to be involved in the activities and faith of our neighbors? Do we believe in the Torah, or in the words of "Porgy and Bess," think that "it ain't necessarily so"?

If you want these Days of Awe to really mean something, you have to make up your mind. You have to decide the kind of Jew you want to be, what you believe, how to increase your knowledge base. That's what B'nai Israel is here for. Every time that you walk  
**Continued on page 2**

**OFFICERS OF CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL**

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*There are several ways you can remember a loved one or commemorate a special occasion.*

Call the Synagogue office (718) 987-8188:

- to schedule a Bar/Bat Mitzvah or Baby Naming
- to dedicate a Chumash (\$75) or Siddur (\$36)
- to sponsor an Oneg or Kiddush
- to make a donation to the Hebrew School
- to reserve a date for a special function
- to dedicate a leaf on our Tree of Life
- to plant a Tree in Israel

Call Dr. Selman Berger (718) 948-5447 for information about our cemetery plots

Call Scott Diamond (917) 674-3317 for information about a Memorial Plaque

**Calendar continued**

**Other dates to keep in mind**

Mon. Oct. 21/Tishri 22 <b>Shemini Atzeret</b> Services, 9:20, <b>Including Yizkor</b> Light candles, 6:58 p.m. Services, 7 p.m. followed by <b>Simchat Torah</b> party	Tues. Oct. 22/Tishri 23 <b>Simchat Torah</b> Services, 9:20 a.m.
	Fri. Oct. 25/Tishri 26 Light candles, 5:42 p.m. Services, 8 p.m.
	Sat. Oct. 26/Tishri 27 Rabbi's class, 8:40 a.m. Services, 9:20 a.m.

- Wed., Oct. 3--Ritual Committee, 8 p.m.
- Wed., Oct. 23-Finance Committee, 7:15 p.m.  
Board of Trustees, 8 p.m.
- Sun. Oct. 27—"Arsenic and Old Lace," Old Victory Theatre, 2 p.m.
- Wed. Oct. 30 - Sisterhood meeting, 7 p.m.,  
Followed by Fun Night

**News about members**

WE MOURN THE loss of our long-time member, Mark Cramer, and extend our condolences to his wife, Ana, and his son, Michael. May they be comforted with all the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

**Rabbi's message continued**

through its door, you have an opportunity to grow and become better. Are you going to do it?

Make up your mind to make the right decision. With your decisiveness and commitment, G\_d will bless you for the coming year.

*Ketiva veChatimah leTovah*, may you be signed and sealed in the Book of Life, for all good things.

Pinchas N, Pearl  
Rabbi

**President's letter**

AS WE APPROACH the High Holidays, our thoughts should be focused on what is important. From a religious perspective, it is not only attending services, but also examining our spiritual lives and asking ourselves how we can do better in the coming year.

However, we should not stop there. To my mind, it is also important to look at our actions in our daily lives and see how we can improve. For example, if we are working on a project, our focus should be on accomplishing it, rather than getting bogged down in who gets the credit for what.

Two of our presidents, Harry Truman and Ronald Reagan, came up with similar thoughts Truman said, "It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit." Reagan put it this way, "There is no limit to the amount of good you can do if you don't care who gets the credit."

Two men with very different approaches to government using virtually identical words to express the same thought. Isn't that a lesson for all of us?

Charles Greinsky  
President



**Join us for**  
**CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL'S**  
**Fourth Annual**  
**Family Fun KARAOKE Night**

**Menu:**

**Bagels, Tuna, Egg Salad, Grilled Vegetables, etc.**

**Desserts: Make Your Own Sundae, Cookies, Fruit**

**on**

**SATURDAY, November 16, 2019 AT 7:00 PM**



**BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND SING ALONG!**

Congregation B'nai Israel

45 Twombly Ave.

Staten Island, NY 10306

718-987-8188, office @cbi.com

(Cut here and return to C.B.I. by November 12, 2019)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# \_\_\_\_\_ Adults and children 13 years and over @\$20 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# \_\_\_\_\_ Children ages 5 - 12 @ \$10 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Children under 5 yrs old, no charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total





### **Yahrzeits this month**

*Yahrzeits start on the evening before the date given. For additions or corrections to this list, please contact Scott Diamond at (917) 674-3317, or [slzdiamond@hotmail.com](mailto:slzdiamond@hotmail.com)*

*If you need to say kaddish for a yahrzeit, please call the office two weeks before, and we will try to arrange for a minyan. It would be helpful for you to bring a few family members and friends to make sure of a minyan, as it is not always possible to arrange one from our congregants. Many congregants come to services Friday night to say kaddish. It is customary to make a contribution in memory of the loved one..*

Oct. 2/Tishri 3

Jerry Kroll, uncle of Naomi Kirsch

Isidore Suss, father of Stuart Suss

Lawrence Wasser, husband of Doris Wasser

Oct. 3/Tishri 4

Esther Kirsch, mother of Larry Kirsch

Oct. 9/Tishri 10

Ruth Greinsky, mother of Charles Greinsky

Eve Kroll, relative of Naomi Kirsch

Oct. 11/Tishri 12

Ari Saks, son of Karen and Manny Saks

Beverly B. Smith, wife of Norman Smith

Oct. 12/Tishri 13

Herbert Greenzweig, father of Lou Greenzweig

June Grossman, mother of Karen Saks

Shura Krichman, mother-in-law of Miron

Berenshteyn

Oct. 15/Tishri 16

Anna Epstein, mother of Sheila Hyman

Oct. 16/Tishri 17

Pauline Abramowitz, mother of Bernard Abramowitz

Ida Lowitt, mother of Lorraine Silver

Efram Spierer, father of Dr. Gary Spierer

Anna Tabak, mother of Jack Tabak

Oct. 17/Tishri 18

Esther Silver, mother of Sid Silver

Regina Spierer, mother of Dr. Gary Spierer

Oct. 20/Tishri 21

Dora Jacobson, mother of Bernard Jacobson

Oct. 21/Tishri 22

Abraham Schwartz, father of Harris Schwartz

Yetta Wechsler, mother of Elaine Wechsler

Oct. 24/Tishri 25

Felix Herzog, father of Dr. David Herzog

Harry Kudler, father of Charles Kudler

Harold Rosenberg, father of Jeffrey Rosenberg

Oct. 25/Tishri 26

Sol Cohen, father of Al Cohen

Samuel Goldberg, father of Joel Goldberg

Irving Kroll, relative of Naomi Kroll

Harold Zalstein, father of Janice Tepper

Oct. 26/Tishri 27

Joseph Helicher, father of Bonnie Arciero

Oct. 27/Tishri 28

Manya Miretsky, mother of Ilya Miretsky

Roberta Zolotsky, mother of Traci Frey

Oct. 30/Heshvan 1

Mildred Raps, mother of David Raps

Gertude Sapolsky, mother of Gene Sapolsky

Oct. 31/Heshvan 2

,Maya Reznova, mother of Rita Timmer

### **Preschool News**

THIS SCHOOL YEAR began nicely, and all of the children are adjusting to preschool. With the weekly support from the NYCDOE assigned Social Worker and Instructional Coordinator, we anticipate a most successful school year.

Happy *Rosh HaShanah!*

The CBI Academy Preschool Team

### **Special offer from the JCC**

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY Center of Staten Island is offering a substantial discount in its Platinum membership fees to our congregants who have never been, and are not now, JCC Platinum members. The enrollment fee will be waived (a savings of \$119 - \$199) and the membership fee will be reduced by 25% if it is paid in full for the first year. The JCC offers a number of activities that are of interest. Thus, this is an offer that should be seriously considered.

In addition, JCC members who want to join C.B.I. for the first time will receive a 25% discount on their membership. This is a great opportunity for you to suggest to your friends who are members of the JCC that they come to our services and enjoy the warm atmosphere that pervades them. We urge you to take advantage of this opportunity while it lasts.

### **Sisterhood news**

Sisterhood regrets the loss of Mark Cramer and Ron Mishkin, Sandy Levy's brother-in-law.

Barbara Smith and Janice Rappaport congratulated Barbara Kanter on the wonderful job she did planning the trip to the Museum of Jewish Heritage to view the Auschwitz exhibit, "Not Long Ago, Not Far Away". The exhibit was extremely moving. We also enjoyed lunch in their restaurant.

Future events include the Sukkot dinners and lunches, a show at the Little Victory Theatre, "Arsenic & Old Lace," on Sunday, October 27 at 2 p.m., and a Karaoke night November 16..

The following members will do the shopping for October: Eileen Cooper, Barbara Kanter, Sandy Levy, and Barbara Smith.

All the ritual silverware, crowns, pointers, breastplates, were polished and made ready for the High Holidays.

The next meeting will be on October 30, 2019.

*Barbara Smith.*

### **Thank you for your contribution**

*Contributions received after September 15 will be acknowledged in the November issue. If there is no reason given for the donation, it is meant to help support our Congregation. Please consider making a similar contribution*

*Kevin and Michelle Brosnick for donating pledge cards*

Vlad Cohen

Ana Cramer in memory of Ninia Besen

Susan, Richard, and David Finkelstein in memory of Rhoda Modell

Jack and Laverne Gerner

Gary Gordon

Anita and Larry Gordon in memory of Mollie Zaffos

Gladys and Joel Graham in memory of Sala Ziegler

Gloria Hirsch in memory of Nathan and Anna Prieser

Betty Jensen in memory of Shomo Klanminc

Barbara and Norman A. Kanter in memory of Mark Cramer

Sharon and Joel Pekuly in memory of Bernard Greenglass

Laurie and David Raps for sponsoring a *kiddush* in honor of David's birthday and in memory of Louis Raps and Irwin Rosenblum

Diane and Harris Schwartz in memory of Helen Hoffnung

Ira and Francine Sklar in memory of Miriam Sklar

### **Early bird contributors**

WE ARE VERY grateful for those of you who come forward with their contributions before being asked. The names of those making contributions received after August 15 will appear in our next issue.

It would be a big help for us to receive as

many more of these advance pledges as possible.

### **Sanctuary ready for the holidays**

IT, OBVIOUSLY, DID not happen by itself, but our sanctuary is all set. Chairs have been moved, labels have been attached, and pledge cards have been prepared.

We are grateful to the following people who made all of this happen: Susan and Richard Finkelstein, Norman A. Kanter, **Calendar**

### **continued on p. 2**

Jack Tabak, and Sophie, Marianna, Ethan and Lea Tsvayg. Last, but far from least, was our all-round handyman, Eduardo.

Thank you to all.

### **In case of...**

By following these guidelines, you will help yourself and your family in times of joy, or G-d forbid, moments of sadness.

As your Rabbi, I want to assist you in your life-cycle needs, including births, weddings, funerals, and visits to the sick.

Rabbi Pinchas N. Pearl

### Illness

If you or a loved one is ill or injured, please call the synagogue office at (718) 987-8188, whether that person is home, or in the hospital. Alternatively, you can email the office, [office@sicibi.com](mailto:office@sicibi.com), or the Rabbi, [Lamdan453@gmail.com](mailto:Lamdan453@gmail.com). A message to the office will be relayed very quickly.

### Death

In the case of a death, please notify the office or Rabbi Pearl, as above,, even before making funeral arrangements. The Rabbi will provide guidance as to the proper procedures.

If, however, you can't reach the Rabbi, contact the funeral home and begin to make plans. If the Rabbi is going to officiate, do not, however, set a time until you hear from him. This will be a very short time. If the Rabbi is not available, the office will assist you by providing the name of a substitute Rabbi.

### Simchas

For your joyous occasions, share the happiness with the Rabbi by letting him know of the reason, birth,



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