

CONGREGATION AGUDATH JACOB

October Tishrei/Cheshvan 5780

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From the Desk of

Rabbi Ben-Zion Lanxner



It's **Rosh Hashanah** in a few days, and yes, it's finally here. We have been talking about it and preparing for it since the months of June-July, sending you emails regarding our Congregation's "**Yiskor Book 2019-5780**", (Brent deMerville did such a fantastic job as he did last year, "Yasher Koach" to Brent), emails regarding the High Holy Days schedule of services, tickets, security, the many repairs in our building, in a few words you were bombarded with information nonstop. But this is in itself a good thing, because, we wanted to make sure you are privy of all the latest that is going on at your synagogue.

Having said that, I have to be honest with you, as we approach these "**Asseret Yemei Tshuvah** - עשרת ימי תשובה", the Ten days of Awe and repentance. In all my 40 years of experience as a Rabbi in various Congregations, it seems that the general consensus is that for many people the High Holy Days are a real ordeal.

It's something people feel they have to attend and participate one way or the other. And let's face it: for many people, services are quite lengthy and boring. Quite frankly, I understand that, and I wish I could do something about it, but as a result, people tend to come late, leave early and spend a good part of the service day-

dreaming or "schmoozing and talking to the people around them.

For a Rabbi and for those who have come to pray, seeking to achieve a spiritual experience, this can be pretty disheartening, discouraging and even depressing at times.

On the other hand, High Holy Day services can also be apprehensive as for many the Hebrew is still unfamiliar, the prayers can be overwhelming and confusing, and the services happen to be long!

Here are my two cents on this; part of the problem is that we have turned religious services into a spectator sport. Someone once said that football is a sport in which twenty-two physically-fit men run around on a field while a hundred thousand people who need exercise, sit and watch. High Holy Day services are a sport in which a few people who know how to daven are watched by hundreds of people who don't know how.

I don't mean to suggest that rabbis don't need the High Holy Days - they do – or that no one knows how to daven – some do! But if there is a problem, it is that too much of the action is taking place up on the Bimah and not enough

out in the pews. Here are a few suggestions to help make the most while you are in shul.

First, when you come to services do not be afraid to make noise. Remember, it's a **Jewish House of Prayer, it's Home**, services aren't supposed to be quiet. There should be a constant buzz in the sanctuary during services of people davening or singing along. It is OK to talk to your neighbor if you are just and only "checking in." Just don't make it into a full conversation that would be inappropriate and inconsiderate of your neighbors and fellow congregants.

Next, I would like to remind you that the purpose for these services is to help you focus on the task of the Ten Days of "תשובה" Repentance, and that is to return to G-d, coming from the Hebrew root שׁוּב return, to a Jewish way of life, to family and friends from whom we may have become estranged with the years gone by.

Mostly, what we need to do throughout the next ten days is to say, "I'm sorry. Please, forgive me!" These are not easy words; I personally have had a hard time with them and many others I know, do as well. Sometimes, you've done something wrong and need to take responsibility for your actions. I have given a few classes on Sunday mornings on the subjects of the month of Elul and on the meaning of Forgiveness. We went through real life story situations where to ask for forgiveness is a very deep and powerful exercise of spiritual strength for those who chose to have a clear conscious and want a clean slate beginning a New Year. But there are other situations, not of your making or out of your control, where the consequences are hurtful to someone and so you may be sorry that it happened. Even saying that is something difficult, and someone may thank you for saying it.

Finally, I would like to remind you of the five words inscribed above our beautiful Aron Hakodesh, our Ark of The Covenant, that will help you make the most of these holy days: "da lifnei mi atta omed", דע לפני מי אתה עומד "Know Before Whom You Stand." Every time you get distracted, every time you have a nasty

thought, every time you get annoyed and are tempted to react, say to yourself: **da lifnei mi atta omed**, "Know before whom you stand." Repeat these words after me....

These words can be helpful not only here in synagogue, but even more so, in the real world out there. If every time you are tempted to do something dishonest, hurtful or wrong – stop and say to yourself - know before whom you are standing, I believe it might make a difference in your life.

There is that famous story about "A wagon driver was once taking a Rabbi from town to town. They came upon an orchard and the driver said, "I'll climb up one of the trees and get some apples for lunch." As soon as the driver climbed up in the tree, the Rabbi yelled: "He's watching! He's watching! Nearly falling out of the tree, the driver scurried down and ran off fearful that the farmer would catch him. The Rabbi took the reins and a while later caught up with the wagon driver. "Rabbi: why did you yell he's watching?" The farmer was nowhere to be found." The Rabbi said: "I wasn't talking about the farmer. I was talking about G-d."

As we begin the *Yamim Noraim*, I hope you will come to shul early, stay late, and become engaged and participate in services. Most of all, I hope you will take the **Yamim Noraim, these Days of Awe** home with you, so that they occur not only three days a year, but all year long, please G-d.

Your presence here, makes all the difference; you need not be a spectator but can be a full fledged player. And what you do today and everyday can change your life, your family life, your community life as well as the world.

Wishing you from the deepest recesses of my heart, a Happy, Healthy, Peaceful and Prosperous New Year 5780.

שנה טובה, כתיבה וחטימה טובה.

Rabbi Ben-Zion Laxner



and **Holiday Service Schedule**

Sunday, September 29

Erev Rosh Hashanah 6:00 p.m.

Monday, September 30

1st Day Rosh Hashanah

Shacharit (followed by kiddush) 9:00 a.m.

Tashlich 5:00 p.m.

Brazos Park East, 3516 N. MLK Jr. Blvd.

Followed by evening services at the park

Tuesday, October 1

2nd Day Rosh Hashanah

Shacharit (followed by kiddush) 9:00 a.m.

Friday, October 4

Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m.

Candle Lighting 6:52 p.m.

Saturday, October 5

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.

Shabbat Ends 7:45 p.m.

Sunday, October 6

Kever Avot 10:00 a.m.

CAJ Cemetery, 1400 Garden Dr.

Tuesday, October 8

Erev Yom Kippur

Kol Nidre 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 9

Yom Kippur

Yizkor 10:00 a.m.

Mincha & Neilah 5:45 p.m.

Break the Fast Meal 8:00 p.m.

Friday, October 11

Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m.

Candle Lighting 6:42 p.m.

Saturday, October 12

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.

Shabbat Ends 7:35 p.m.

Sunday, October 13

Erev Sukkot 6:00 p.m.

Monday, October 14

1st Day Sukkot

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.

Friday, October 18

Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m.

Candle Lighting 6:34 p.m.

Saturday, October 19

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.

Shabbat Ends 7:28 p.m.

Sunday, October 20

Simchat Torah 6:00 p.m.

Shemini Atzeret

Monday, October 21

Shemini Atzeret 9:30 a.m.

Yizkor 11:00 a.m.

Simchat Torah 6:00 p.m.

Friday, October 25

Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m.

Candle Lighting 6:27 p.m.

Saturday, October 26

Shacharit 9:30 a.m.

Shabbat Ends 7:21 p.m.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

October 2

Loren Schwartz

October 3

Betty Feir

October 9

David Rosen

Donald Lynn

October 14

Larry Silver

October 23

David Novy

October 27

Morasha Stuckey

October 30

M'ayan Via

October 31

Channah Via

Caritas



The office will be closed for the holidays on Monday, Sept. 30, Tuesday, Oct. 1, Wednesday, Oct. 9, Monday, Oct. 14, Tuesday, Oct. 15, Monday, Oct. 21, and Tuesday, Oct. 22.

Food from the faithful

Please bring pasta and pasta sauce or any other non-perishable food item to the basket in the social hall.

The new 5779/5780 calendars
are available in the
entryway of the shul.
Be sure to pick up a copy
next time you are in.

In Loving Memory



Pauline Kempler
Dorothy Harelik
Fannie Lieberman
Jeff Levin
Marthe Heyman
Benjy & Betty Bauer

Deana Stupak
Mike Stupak
William Lipinsky
Naman & Esther Lipinsky



*Dorothy Harelik
From Florence Hersh*



September

Food Sponsors:

Larry & Joie McNabb

Mike & Cindy Perry

Jim & Morasha Stuckey

George & Kathleen Keller

Henry & Hope Hacker

Javis Howeth

Special Donations:

Robert & Gayle Monta

Leonard Englander

Shabbat Donations:

September 7

Jim & Gabrielle

Howle

Miquel & Lourdes

Perez

Joseph Settle

September 14

Henry & Hope

Hacker

Judy Hersh

George & Kathleen

Keller

Joseph Settle

September 21

Henry & Hope

Hacker

Bernard Jortner

George & Kathleen

Keller

Joseph Settle

High Holidays



2019

5779/5780

Schedule of Services

Selichot: Sept. 21

Havdalah 8:00 p.m.

Refreshments and Movie "The Other Son"

Selichot Service 10:00 p.m.

Rosh HaShanah: Sept. 29 – Oct. 1

Erev Rosh HaShanah: Sunday, September 29, 6:00 p.m.

Rosh HaShanah: Monday, September 30, 9:00 a.m.

Tashlich: Monday, September 30 at Brazos Park East, 3516 N. MLK, Jr. Blvd., 5:00 p.m.

Rosh HaShanah Day 2: Tuesday, October 1, 9:00 a.m.

*Weekly Shabbat Evening Service: Friday, October 4, 6:00 p.m.

*Shabbat Shuvah: Saturday, October 5, 9:30 a.m.

Kever Avot: October 6

Sunday, Oct. 6, 10:00 a.m. at CAJ Cemetery

Yom Kippur: October 8 - 9

Erev Yom Kippur (Kol Nidre): Tuesday, October 8, 7:00 p.m.

Yom Kippur: Wednesday, October 9, 10:00 a.m. Mincha & Neilah: 5:45 p.m. and break the fast meal at 8:00 p.m.

Sukkot: October 13-21

Erev Sukkot: Sunday October 13, 6:00 p.m.

Sukkot: Monday, October 14, 9:30 a.m.

Simchat Torah: Sunday, October 20, 6:00 p.m.

Shemini Atzeret: Monday, October 21, 9:30 a.m. followed by Yizkor at 11:00 a.m.

Holiday Arrival Procedure

With our security procedure in place, please plan to arrive a little earlier than usual to ensure you have time to enter before services begin.

Everyone will be expected to enter and exit through the **front door** of the synagogue. If you need wheelchair access, please contact the office in advance and special accommodation will be provided.

Unless you asked for a single day ticket, you have been issued tickets for both Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur for each member of your family. Your family name is on each ticket. Individual tickets for children under the age of 15 were not issued, so please be sure to have younger children with you when you enter.

You will see a police officer near the front door. Please show the officer your tickets and you can then enter the synagogue where you will proceed to the check-in table.

Please be patient as we aim to make this process quick and seamless.

HOW TO OBSERVE THE YAHRZEIT

It is traditional to kindle a Yahrzeit Candle in the home on the evening Yahrzeit begins. It should remain lighted until sunset the next day. Possible prayer before lighting a Yahrzeit candle: Eternal God, I/we light this candle in memory of (name) _____, my/our beloved (relationship) _____. The light of the flame rekindles all the warm memories of the moment we shared together, and reassures me /us that a piece of his/her soul dwells in my/our heart(s) forever. May his/her soul be bound up with the bonds of eternal life. Amen. Candles are available at the Gift Shop. Every effort should be made to say Kaddish at congregational services. It is meritorious to perform some Mitzvah or to contribute to the synagogue in commemoration of the deceased.

Kaddish will be read on October 4

<i>Tishri 5</i>	<i>Fannie Klein Grace Goldsmith Louis Wolfe Wizig Sadie Wizig Lionel Ellis Sarah Kirschner David Neuwirth</i>
<i>Tishri 6</i>	<i>Dora Woolf Sarah Brockman</i>
<i>Tishri 7</i>	<i>Irving Hershkovitz Shirley Greenberg William Bell Germaine Caron David Chozick</i>
<i>Tishri 8</i>	<i>Ida Silevitch Sadie Hoppenstein Dr Eli Berkman</i>
<i>Tishri 9</i>	<i>L. Ginsberg Anna Hoffman Miss Mary Levy Jack Schaevitz</i>
<i>Tishri 10</i>	<i>Moshe F. Markman Baile Raize Markman Lillian Epstein Irving Frankfort</i>
<i>Tishri 11</i>	<i>J. Markusfeld Jules Bloch</i>

Kaddish will be read on October 11

<i>Tishri 12</i>	<i>Friedman Goldberg Albert Rubenstein Perry Segal</i>
<i>Tishri 13</i>	<i>Emma Gallo Sara Rebecca Harris Harry Levine Evelyn Dalkowitz</i>
<i>Tishri 14</i>	<i>Jacob Kroll Sarah Harris Jacob Kessler Morris Chazonow</i>
<i>Tishri 15</i>	<i>Meyer Jerwick Sophie Adams Estelle Falgout</i>
<i>Tishri 16</i>	<i>Bertha Wood Ike Comer Mrs. Sam Katz</i>
<i>Tishri 17</i>	<i>Zalman Tannenbaum</i>
<i>Tishri 18</i>	<i>Hannah Knop Sidney Samet Helen Fitterman Lorraine Hoppenstein</i>

Kaddish will be read on October 18

<i>Tishri 20</i>	<i>Sarah Beerman Boaz Levinson</i>
<i>Tishri 21</i>	<i>Jacob Aronson Estelle Goldfeder Baby Harris Bess Levinson Max Udashen Doba bas Yitzchok</i>
<i>Tishri 22</i>	<i>Minna Adams Julia Ellis Harry Lapin Scott Vaughan</i>
<i>Tishri 23</i>	<i>Abraham B. Blank Billy Dwayne Brooks J. Harold Simon Frieda Atlas</i>
<i>Tishri 24</i>	<i>Mark Harris Sarah Levy Bell Joe Rubel Bernice Shapiro Saul Chernoff Sara deMoville Anna Cohen</i>
<i>Tishri 25</i>	<i>Rabbi C. Blumenthal A. Rubinsky Eli Marks Bernard Hersh</i>

Kaddish will be read on October 25

<i>Tishri 26</i>	<i>Samuel Patlis</i>
<i>Tishri 27</i>	<i>Baby Harelik Eric Engleman Gertrude Harris</i>
<i>Tishri 28</i>	<i>Rebecca Jacobson Hyman Miller Joe Schwartz</i>
<i>Tishri 30</i>	<i>Harvey Goldfeder Mrs. Max Harris Mrs. Louis Gerson Yisrael Podrizki Faga Bergman Elayne Stein Lynn</i>
<i>Cheshvan 1</i>	<i>Mrs. B. Bauer Stanley R. Chodorow Reina Bauer Julius Genecov Mrs. Irving Kippur</i>
<i>Cheshvan 2</i>	<i>Irving Berkman Herman Rosenbaum Ida Segal Edythe Siegel</i>

October 2019

2 Tishri 5780 - 2 Heshvan 5780

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

		1 6:19AM/6:10PM §6:55PM Rosh Hashanah II Service 9:00 a.m. 2 Tishri Meilah 14	2 6:20AM/6:09PM §6:54PM Fast of Gedaliah NO SCHOOL 3 Tishri Meilah 15	3 6:21AM/6:07PM 4 Tishri Meilah 16	4 6:22AM/6:05PM ij5:47PM Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m. 5 Tishri Meilah 17	5 6:23AM/6:04PM §6:49PM Shacharit 9:30 a.m. 6 Tishri Meilah 18
6 6:24AM/6:02PM Kever Avot 10:00 a.m. 7 Tishri Meilah 19	7 6:25AM/6:00PM 8 Tishri Meilah 20	8 6:27AM/5:59PM ij5:41PM Erev Yom Kippur Kol Nidre 7:00 p.m. 9 Tishri Meilah 21	9 6:28AM/5:57PM §6:42PM Yom Kippur (Yizkor) NO SCHOOL Service 10:00 a.m. Mincha & Neilah 5:45 p.m. Break the fast meal 8:00 p.m. 10 Tishri Meilah 22	10 6:29AM/5:56PM 11 Tishri Meilah 23	11 6:30AM/5:54PM ij5:36PM Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m. 12 Tishri Meilah 24	12 6:31AM/5:53PM §6:38PM Shacharit 9:30 a.m. 13 Tishri Meilah 25
13 6:32AM/5:51PM ij5:33PM Erev Sukkot MINYAN & CLASSES 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Service 6:00 p.m. 14 Tishri Meilah 26	14 6:33AM/5:49PM §6:34PM/ij6:34PM Sukkot I Service 9:30 a.m. 15 Tishri Meilah 27	15 6:34AM/5:48PM §6:33PM Sukkot II 16 Tishri Meilah 28	16 6:35AM/5:46PM Hol Hamoed Sukkot I RELIGIOUS SCHOOL 4:15-5:45 p.m. 17 Tishri Meilah 29	17 6:36AM/5:45PM Hol Hamoed Sukkot II 18 Tishri Meilah 30	18 6:37AM/5:43PM ij5:25PM Hol Hamoed Sukkot III Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m. 19 Tishri Meilah 31	19 6:38AM/5:42PM §6:27PM Hol Hamoed Sukkot IV Shacharit 9:30 a.m. 20 Tishri Meilah 32
20 6:39AM/5:40PM §6:25PM/ij5:22PM Hoshanah Rabbah NO MINYAN OR CLASSES Simchat Torah 6:00 p.m. 21 Tishri Meilah 33	21 6:41AM/5:39PM §6:24PM/ij6:24PM Shemini Atzeret (Yizkor) Service 9:30 a.m. Yizkor 11:00 a.m. 22 Tishri Meilah 34	22 6:42AM/5:38PM §6:23PM Simchat Torah 23 Tishri Meilah 35	23 6:43AM/5:36PM RELIGIOUS SCHOOL 4:15-5:45 p.m. 24 Tishri Meilah 36	24 6:44AM/5:35PM 25 Tishri Meilah 37	25 6:45AM/5:33PM ij5:15PM Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m. 26 Tishri Niddah 2	26 6:46AM/5:32PM §6:17PM Shacharit 9:30 a.m. 27 Tishri Niddah 3
27 6:47AM/5:31PM MINYAN & CLASSES 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. 28 Tishri Niddah 4	28 6:49AM/5:29PM 29 Tishri Niddah 5	29 6:50AM/5:28PM Rosh Hodesh I 30 Tishri Niddah 6	30 6:51AM/5:27PM Rosh Hodesh II RELIGIOUS SCHOOL 4:15-5:45 p.m. 1 Heshvan Niddah 7	31 6:52AM/5:26PM 2 Heshvan Niddah 8		