



## Welcome to Temple Beth El of Augusta, Maine

*embracing a spirit of community, lifelong Jewish learning, commitment to  
inclusiveness, and active participation in Jewish life in Central Maine*

artwork by Lenora Leibowitz

Elul-Tishrei-Cheshvan 5781/September-October 2020

### *From the desk of Rabbi Asch*

Fall is in the air! As I write this the days have turned cooler, a sure sign that the High Holidays are almost here. This month is a time of reflection and introspection--of preparation for the holidays. This year, our preparations at the Temple have looked a little bit different. The yizkor book is already at the printers, we are numbering *machzorim* to lend out and investing in video cameras and microphones. Some things will also look the same. We will still prepare by cooking our favorite holiday foods, calling to wish friends a *shana tova* and hearing the sound of the shofar in Elul.

Part of our preparation each year is internal. We examine our actions so that we are not caught by surprise when the holidays come. I've been reading some of the wonderful Elul resources put out by the CCAR and the URJ. This piece, by Rabbi Debra J. Robbins, is from her book *Opening Your Heart with Psalm 27* (CCAR Press, 2019), pp.26-27.

#### **Psalm 27:4 I'm Asking God One Question: Achat Shaalti**

If I could ask only one thing of God, what would it be?

It's nearly impossible to decide.

My prayer bends toward gratitude, not supplication.

"Thank You, Strength, for the steps I take as I walk the dog."

"Thank You, Wisdom, for the opportunity to study Torah."

"Thank You, Generosity, for abundance in my life."

"Thank You, Protection, for keeping us alive and allowing us to reach this moment."

Endless gratitude, every new day of every New Year.

If I could ask God for only one thing, what would it be?

I have no requests, only questions . . .

Maybe . . .

Who can . . . ?

When will . . . ?

What if . . . ?

Where was . . . ?

Why did . . . ?

No. Now I know my question.

If I could ask God something,  
not for something,

The one thing I would ask is:

"How can I help?"

I am grateful that in the past few months, so many of you have reached out to ask how you could help. This High Holiday season would not be possible without the incredible work of so many members of our community. So what else do we ask of you?

• **Patience.** The online format is new for us. There will be bumps along the way. Stay with us as we work things out.

• **Flexibility.** Our services will look a little bit different this year. A favorite prayer or tune may be missing. New readings will be added. Open yourself up to some new experiences.

• **Gratitude.** Our high holiday committee (Chuck Cohen, Linda Kallin, Cree Krull, Fran Rudoff, Deb Sewall, and Liz Sizeler), Sue Offer, and Dawn Fecteau, have spent countless hours preparing for this holiday season. Our Covid Task Force (Chuck Cohen, Fran Rudoff, Ben Gottlieb, Scott Schiff-Slater, and Syd Sewall) have made sure our holidays are safe. Extend your thanks to them. This year has truly been a team effort.

• **Ruach (spirit).** While the holidays are a time of introspection, they are also a joyful time to gather in community. Bring your *ruach* with you to services. Sing along or clap along (on mute!), get dressed up and log on a little early so you can join a breakout room to talk with others.

I am looking forward to observing a very memorable High Holidays with all of you this year. *Shana tova u'metukah*. A happy and sweet new year!

## *TBE Schedule: September—October*

### Services

#### **High Holiday Services / Events:**

*See next page*

#### **Havdallah**

*Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm*

*Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 pm*

*Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm*

*Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 pm*

#### **Shabbat Services**

*Friday, September 4 at 7:00pm*

*Friday, September 11 at 6:30pm (in person)*

*Friday, October 9 at 6:00pm (Simchat Torah)*

*Friday, October 23 at 7:00pm*

### Adult Study

#### **Daf Yomi**

*Saturday, September 12 & 26 at 10:00am*

*Saturday, October 3, 24, & 31 at 10:00am*

#### **Torah Study**

*Saturday, September 12 & 26 at 10:30am*

*Saturday, October 3, 24, & 31 at 10:30am*

#### **Study for Simchat Torah**

*Saturday, October 10 at 10:15am*

### Hebrew School

*Sunday, September 13 at 9:30am*

#### **No School on September 20**

*Sunday, September 27 at 9:30am*

*Sunday, October 4 at 9:30am*

*Sunday, October 11 at 9:30am*

*Sunday, October 18 at 9:30am*

*Sunday, October 25 at 9:30am*

### TBE Activities

#### **Meet and Greet with Rabbinic Intern Frankie Sandmel**

*Monday, September 7 from 4:30 – 5:30pm*

#### **Joyful Judaism with Jenna**

*Friday, September 11 from 5:30 – 6:15pm*

*Friday, October 9 from 5:30 – 6:00pm*

#### **Selichot Sevice with the Center for Small Town Jewish Life**

*Saturday, September 12 from 8:00 – 9:00pm*

#### **Family High Holiday Experience with the Center for Small Town Jewish Life**

*Friday, September 25 from 6:00 – 6:30pm*

#### **Festival Service with Yikzor**

*Saturday, October 10 from 9:00 – 10:00am*

#### **TBE Board Meeting**

*Wednesday, October 14 from 6:00 – 8:00pm*

### Getting onto Zoom

*Unless otherwise noted, all TBE activities will take place via Zoom. The link and password for the meeting remain the same. Please contact the office for the login information or if you need help setting up Zoom. You must register for Center events to receive the unique link for those programs.*

### Todah Rabbah

- To all the wonderful volunteers who helped out on TBE's Work Day
- Sue Offer for compiling the yizkor book

## TBE Schedule: September—October

TEMPLE BETH EL, AUGUSTA

# HIGH HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

2020 / 5781

### Erev Rosh Hashanah Friday, September 18th

6-6:35pm Welcoming Rosh Hashanah  
Songs, sermon and blessings

### Rosh Hashanah Saturday, September 19th

8:45-9:30am Children's Service

10-11am Block #1: Service and sermon

11:30am-12:45pm Block #2  
Torah Service, Kaddish, blessing for a new year

\*3pm Tashlich: **Sign up** to join us outside at the  
Gardiner Waterfront, or join us on Zoom

### Rosh Hashanah #2 Sunday, September 20th

10-11:15am Aveinu Malkeinu and Torah Study

\*Afternoon Shofar Services: **Sign up** to join us  
outside or join us on Zoom

- 1pm Litchfield
- 2:45pm Capitol Park
- 4:30 Union

### Erev Yom Kippur Sunday, September 27th

7-8:15pm: Yom Kippur Service  
Kol Nidre, confessions and sermon

\***Note:** All services are available on Zoom

#### Zoom Information:

Meeting ID: 605 792 8965

Contact the office for the password

### Yom Kippur Monday, September 28th

8:15-9am Children's Service

9:30-10:30am Block #1  
Service, confessions and sermon

11am-12:15pm Block #2  
Aveinu Malkeinu and Torah Service

12:15-12:30 Slideshow

12:30-1:15pm Block #3: Yizkor Service

2-2:45pm Lay-led study

2:45-4pm Meditation time on your own

4-4:45pm Afternoon Service: Torah reading and study

5-5:30pm Musaf (additional service)  
Grand Aleinu, confessions

5:45-6:30pm Nei'lah: Concluding Service

6:30-7:15pm Time for meditation or travel

\*7:15pm Havdallah: In-person at Capitol Park  
or join us on Zoom

**Sukkot** - Opportunities for study and a meal  
in the TBE Sukkah. More information to  
come!

### Simchat Torah Friday October 9th

6pm: Simchat Torah Service for all ages

### Saturday, October 10th

9-10am Atzeret/Simchat Torah Service with  
Yizkor and Torah reading

10:15am-12pm Special Torah Study

## Traditions New and Old During the High Holidays

***By Hildie Lipson, TBE Board Member***

We all know why the High Holidays this year will be different than previous years. To make sure that I will still be able to feel the *naches* (pleasure) of the holiday and observe the new year, I will do at least two things. I will double down and make more of the traditional foods I associate with Rosh Hashanah including my mom's honey cake and a side dish of Moroccan carrots. There is a tradition at Rosh Hashanah to eat symbolic foods meant to help ensure a good new year. Of course, we know about apples and honey for a sweet new year. In addition, eating carrots, especially cut into rounds or coins, are meant to symbolize increased blessings in the new year. And more often eaten in Israel than here, pomegranates, filled with seeds, are said to represent an increased multitude of virtues for us in the coming year.

I will also make the effort to go see the live shofar service in Augusta, one of three locations to hear it this year. Hearing the shofar is one of my favorite Jewish traditions. For me, it signifies, in its unique way, a separation from one year to the next. The sounding of the shofar is familiar, comforting, energizing, and filled with expectation. More than anything, hearing the shofar is how I know it is a new year, a happy ritual the High Holiday planning committee made sure to include amidst challenging circumstances.

To find some new High Holiday recipes, I highly recommend you purchase the new *Temple Beth El Augusta Members and Friends Cookbook*. Stacey Mondschein Katz gathered together a wonderful book of recipes provided by our community members. I plan to look for a few new dishes to make this year, especially to use the abundant produce available at this time of the year. This cookbook is also comforting, knowing many of the people who contributed recipes.

If you need another reason to get the cookbook, my mother's honey cake recipe is in it. Let me know how your version comes out!

***L'Shana Tova Tikatevu***





## Ranked Choice Voting in Maine

**By Carrie McCarter for the Civic Engagement Workgroup**

Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) is not a new concept, although it may still feel new to many of us. RCV actually has been around in Maine since 2011 (and in New England since the late 1800s!), when Portland used RCV to elect its mayor and experienced a 40% higher than projected turnout. As we look forward to the general election on Tuesday, November 3, Mainers will be making history as the first voters to use RCV for a presidential election. This comes after RCV opponents did not turn in enough valid signatures to put a people's veto on the November 2020 election ballot.

### **What is RCV?**

If you are new to RCV or just are not sure you fully understand how it works, here's an explanation from RCV Maine: Ranked choice voting gives you the power to rank candidates from your favorite to your least favorite. On Election Night, all the ballots are counted for voters' first choices. If one candidate receives an outright majority, he or she wins. If no one receives a majority, the candidate with the fewest first choices is eliminated and voters who liked that candidate the best have their ballots instantly counted for their second choice. This process repeats and last-place candidates lose until one candidate reaches a majority and wins. Your vote counts for your second choice only if your first choice has been eliminated.

### **What races use RCV?**

Mainers have voted in favor of RCV twice: first, in 2016, by the second largest referendum vote of the Maine people, and second, in 2018. When it passed in 2016, ranked choice applied to races for the U.S. Senate and House, Governor, and Maine Senate and Assembly beginning in 2018.

In the upcoming 2020 General Election, RCV will be used for the U.S. House and Senate races, and the Presidential race. If you voted in the primary, you probably noticed that RCV was used for Maine General Assembly races as well, but will not be used in the General Election for those races. Requirements for those races in the primary are dictated by statute, as opposed to the General Election which is dictated by the Maine Constitution. Changes to voting in the General Election therefore would require an amendment to the Constitution. [You can do more research yourself on the Maine Ranked Choice Voting Page (<https://legislature.maine.gov/lawlibrary/ranked-choice-voting-in-maine/9509>). It gets somewhat confusing but if you've been reading the Talmud, you should have no problems.]

### **Want an absentee ballot?**

If you are all set to request your absentee ballot for the General Election, you should know that you can go ahead and request it now. In fact, you could have requested it as early as August 3rd, three months before the election. Mainers can request absentee ballots electronically (<https://www.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/AbsenteeBallot/index.pl>) or via downloadable mail-in form (<https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/upcoming/index.html>).

Requests also can be made by calling your town clerk (<https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/munic.html>). Absentee ballots will be mailed out one month prior to the election. The ballots can be requested up to three business days before the election - by October 15 is recommended. They must be **returned by election day, not postmarked by election day**.

### **Where can I get more information?**

For more info, review Maine's Ranked Choice Voting webpage (<http://www.rcvmaine.com/>) or the Secretary of State's website (<https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/upcoming/rcv.html>).

Get ready to vote!!!!



# In-Person Friday Night Service

## 6:30pm, Sept. 11 @ TBE

Join us Friday night, September 11th, for an in-person, outdoor, socially distant Shabbat service. We'll meet at Temple Beth El for services at 6:30pm. Please bring your own chair and a mask. Space is limited. RSVP to the Temple office to reserve your spot. (All attendees must abide by the TBE Covid guidelines--no signs of sickness, no travel outside of Maine in the last 14 days, wearing masks at all times)

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The Temple Sukkah will be available to reserve for a lunch or dinner. We encourage everyone to find a time to enjoy the sukkah during the holiday. Look at your weekly email for more details.



# our New Rabbinic Intern

Monday, September 7  
4:30pm

[illegible]

TEMPLE BETH EL  
WELCOMES  
RABBINIC INTERN  
FRANKIE SANDMEL

# FUN FACTS ABOUT FRANKIE



- If it were up to me, I would never live more than 15 minutes away from a lake I could swim in. Currently, I have a pond 12 minutes away.
- My favorite Jewish holiday is Sukkot - an underrated holiday full of feasting and sitting outside with friends and family.
- Because I moved so much in my life (Philly, Baltimore, Chicago, Israel, Minnesota, and Boston), Maine - where I was born and have returned every summer - has always felt like home.
- I love to bake cookies.
- My way to cope with hours in zoom classes this spring and summer has been crocheting small stuffed animals. Most recently an octopus.

Frankie's crocheted creations (right).

Thank you to the **Center for Small Town Jewish Life** for making Frankie's online visits possible this year!





# We're Back!

Hebrew School starts Sunday, September 13th at 9:30am. School will be in person until the weather gets too cold to be outside. Parents, look for a mailing with more details. We look forward to seeing you soon!



## Hebrew school help needed!

We need one adult or teenager to volunteer on Sundays from 9:30-12 with our Hebrew school. You can volunteer one Sunday or many Sundays. You will run one small group and read them stories, and generally help out with the kids. No lesson planning needed. Contact Rabbi Asch for more information.



## *Donations*

### General Fund

- Seth Greene Donation to the General Fund
- Seth Greene Donation of Sanctuary Clock in Honor of Rabbi Asch
- Sumner Lipman Special High Holiday Donation

### Building Fund Capital Campaign

- Susan Bakaley Marshall
- Chris and Thea Zinck

### Rabbi Discretionary Fund

- Chuck Cohen & Mary Beth Paquette in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Chuck Cohen & Mary Beth Paquette in memory of Yale Marienhoff

### Yahrzeit/Memorials

- Sue Offer in memory of Edith Gershon
- Li'el Boudreau in memory of Rebecca Schneider Cohen
- Nancy and Charles Shuman in memory of Gertrude Lerman
- Yale Marienhoff in memory of Blanche Marienhoff
- Yale Marienhoff in memory of Rose Schwartz Finkelstein
- Nancy Ross and George Viles in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Lauren Orenstein in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Avra and Daniel Novarr in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Estelle and Harvey Cooperstone in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Ellen and Matthew Parker in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Peter Rosenberg in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Margery and Alfred Margolis in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Jerryanne Laperriere in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Li'el Boudreau in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Steven and Beth Shapiro in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Sue and David Offer in memory of Charlotte Goos
- The Chester and Clayton Families in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Martin Weiss in memory of Linda Weiss Manson
- Robert Bellman and Carole Osterer in memory of Charlotte Goos
- David and Nancy Berman in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Marty Weiss in memory of Charlotte Goos
- James and Lisa O'Donnell in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Geraldine Roley in memory of Charlotte Goos
- James, Faye and Susan Montell in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Ellen Freed in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Randall and Marjorie Patkin in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Seth Greene in memory of Bill Weisberger
- Seth Greene in memory of Linda Weiss Manson
- Seth Greene in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Deb Sewall in memory of Yale Marienhoff
- Randi Eisner in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Terrance Flynn in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Linda Kallin in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Linda Kallin in memory of Yale Marienhoff
- Ellen Freed in memory of Yale Marienhoff
- Claudia Shilo in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Emily and Jerry Bley in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Emily and Jerry Bley in memory of Yale Marienhoff



### Yahrzeit/Memorials

- Emily and Jerry Bley in memory of Robert Bley
- Emily and Jerry Bley in memory of Susan Bley
- Cree Krull in memory of Yale Marienhoff
- Julie Shuman in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Susan and David Offer in memory of Yale Marienhoff
- Martin Weiss in memory of Yale Marienhoff
- Sarah and Mike Drickey in memory of Dorothy Spalding
- Jerry Popham and Nadine Nakazono Popham in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Pamela Rodman Paro in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Joe O'Donnell in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Elizabeth Koopman in memory of Bernard Osgood Koopman
- Elizabeth Koopman in memory of Yale Marienhoff
- Joyce and Irving Tessler in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Patrick and Deborah Joyce in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Brenda Shaw in memory of Todd Michael Greene
- Brenda Shaw in memory of Joan (Jet) Price
- Richard and Jane Golden in memory of Gerald Golden
- Deborah and Sydney Sewall in memory of David Macy
- Deborah and Sydney Sewall in memory of Berni Macy
- Deborah and Sydney Sewall in memory of Sylvia Fain
- Deborah and Sydney Sewall in memory of Charlotte Goos
- Kenneth and Bertine Slosberg in memory of Lynn Slosberg
- Nancy and Charles Shuman in memory of Esther Shuman
- Chris and Thea Zinck in memory of Charles Zinck
- Deborah Sandler in memory of Joline Sandler
- Joe O'Donnell in memory of Thelma Alpert Price
- Barda Leavitt in memory of Dick Faucher
- Barda Leavitt in memory of Janice Leavitt
- Toby Adelman in memory of Charlotte Goos

## *Donations*

### **Terumah Pledges**

Louisa Barnhart and Michael Klein  
Emily and Ethan Bessey  
Emily and Jerry Bley  
Lisa Bradley and Michael Popkin  
Jonathan and Victoria Cohen  
J. Richardson (Jay) Collins  
Richard Dana  
Janicka Eckert and Rob Johnston  
Jay Franzel  
Roger Katz  
Paul Kuehnert and Judith Graber  
Jerryanne LaPerriere  
Sumner Lipman & Dawn Lieb  
Margery and Alfred Margolis  
Yale Marienhoff  
Susan Bakaley Marshall and Chris Marshall  
Kate McLinn  
Solomon Nethers  
Price O'Donnell Family Fund  
Sue and David Offer  
John and Blair Rubinstein  
Francine Rudoff  
Lena Rutberg  
Sarah Shed  
Carl Suchar and Phyllis Santer  
Charles and Nancy Shuman  
Jonathan and Dace Weiss  
Marty Weiss  
Heather Wolfe and Daniel Friedland

Making a donation to Temple Beth El is a special way to honor family and friends.

### **Terumah**

This fund includes the former General Fund and Dues and covers all temple operating expenses.

### **Building Fund**

This fund is for major repair and rebuilding of our facilities.

### **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**

This fund helps Rabbi Asch meet special needs in the community.

### **Yahrzeit/Memorials/Honoraria**

These contributions are made in memory or honor of family and friends.

### **Memorial Plaques**

Remember a loved one with a memorial plaque in the synagogue.

Donation: \$250

*Payment due at time of order.*

### **Tree of Life**

Acknowledge a life milestone in a special way by adding a personalized, inscribed leaf to the Tree. Donation: \$36.

*Payment due at time of order.*

Please make checks payable to Temple Beth El. Indicate the fund to which you want to contribute and mail to TBE, Box 871, Augusta, ME 04332. Undesignated checks will go to the General Fund. *Temple Beth El accepts Visa & Mastercard. Please contact the office with any questions.*



## Temple Beth El

Phone 207-622-7450  
Rabbi Erica Asch 207-242-9792  
Email: [bethelaugusta@gmail.com](mailto:bethelaugusta@gmail.com)

### President

Chuck Cohen

### Vice President

Cree Krull

### Treasurer

Mike Drickey

### Secretary

Emily Bessey

### Board of Directors

J. Richardson Collins, Richard  
Fein, Ellen Freed, Ben  
Gottlieb, Richard Goldman,  
Nancy Kelly, Cree Krull, Mike  
Levey, Hildie Lipson, Chris  
Zinck

### Honorary Directors

Peter Bickerman  
Sumner Lipman  
Deb Sewall

### Committee Chairs:

Emily Bley (Hebrew School)  
Judith Plano (Yad B'Yad)  
Fran Rudoff (Fundraising)

## Portland Chevra Kadisha Jewish Funeral Home

471 Deering Ave.  
Portland, ME 04103  
207.774.3733

## September Yahrzeits

Sept. 2: Emma Levy  
Sept. 6: Gertrude Goldberg  
Sept. 8: Joe Hausner  
Sept. 10: Elma Samuels Rosenberg  
Sept. 15: Harry Shuman  
Sept. 15: Julia Sandler Ray  
Sept. 15: Sam Slosberg  
Sept. 16: Lucille Rutberg  
Sept. 17: Harry Graham  
Sept. 19: Joan P. Morse  
Sept. 20: Sarah Goos  
Sept. 23: Thelma Lipman  
Sept. 25: James Brown  
Sept. 25: Edwin Moser  
Sept. 27: Samuel B. Gass  
Sept. 28: Jess Yoder  
Sept. 30: Abraham Nekris  
Sept. 30: Nathan Schneider  
Sept. 30: Shirle Offer

## October Yahrzeits

October 2: Irene Rubinstein  
October 5: Evelyn Berman  
October 5: Belle Grodinsky  
October 9: Joan Goldberg  
October 9: Bertha Plano  
October 9: Mary Slosberg Feldman  
October 10: Albert Kleiman  
October 13: Carol Eckert  
October 15: Nancy Diamond  
October 15: Deborah Gail Sclar  
October 17: Richard Kelly  
October 18: Nancy Bien  
October 19: Lena Weiner-Sorgman  
October 20: Marie Salvino  
October 22: Elizabeth Dana  
October 23: Richard Kelly  
October 23: Celia Norken  
October 26: Robert Johnston  
October 28: Dorthy Cohen Moser  
October 28: Albert Nolin  
October 29: Sally Gilbert



## *Condolences*

- To the **Goos Family** on the death of Charlotte Goos on July 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - To the **Marienhoff Family** on the death of Yale Marienhoff on July 20<sup>th</sup>.
- To **Deborah Sandler** on the death of her mother, Joline Sandler, on August 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- To the **Suchar Family** on the death of Norman Suchar on August 3<sup>rd</sup>.