

Temple Beth El

3 Woodlawn St. ~ PO Box 871 ~ Augusta, Maine 04332
Phone 207-622-7450 ~ Email: bethelaugusta@gmail.com ~ <https://bethelaugusta.org>

Dear TBE member,

As you are already aware, the High Holidays will be different at Temple Beth El this year. While our services might look and feel different, we are committed to providing a High Holiday experience that honors our core values: safety, community, and meaning.

Our High Holiday plan has been developed by a dedicated committee: Linda Kallin, Cree Krull, Liz Sizeler, Deb Sewall, and Fran Rudoff. It has also been approved by our Covid-19 Task Force: Ben Gottlieb, Fran Rudoff, Dr. Scott Schiff-Slater, and Dr. Syd Sewall. While we are saddened not to be in our beautiful new sanctuary, we are looking forward to seeing you all virtually and in person over the coming months.

The core components of our High Holiday experiences are:

- Zoom services for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Rabbi Asch will lead these services from the sanctuary.
- In-person options for Tashlich, the Shofar Service, and Havdalah at the end of Yom Kippur.
- An innovative Rosh Hashanah evening program including special blessings for the New Year.
- A chance to come and visit our sanctuary before Rosh Hashanah to see it in person and pick up your High Holiday packet, which includes a machzor (prayer book) and everything else you need for the holidays.
- A continuation of what we have done in previous years--a meaningful Kol Nidre service with music; a Yizkor Service with the reading of names; a chance to honor members during the Torah Service; a chance for congregants to do English readings; study sessions; children's programming; and a warm welcome when you enter our Zoom meeting.

This mailing includes much more information about these services including a survey that you must fill out. **Please mail the survey back to us using the enclosed self-addressed envelope by Monday, August 24th. The Yizkor Book form should be mailed to Sue Offer by Monday, August 24th.**

We as a people and as a community have overcome many obstacles. In recent times at Temple Beth El we remember the hornet invasion of 2018 and moving our services to the Unitarian Church last year. We have no doubt that while this year will be different, it will also be meaningful and memorable.

If you have any questions, please reach out to us. We are looking forward to speaking with you.

With best wishes for a Shana Tovah (a happy New Year),

Chuck Cohen, President



Rabbi Erica Asch

