The Shofar
Shaare Tefila
השופר
Celebrating our 68th year
Vol. 68 #1
September 2018 - Elul 5778/Tishrei 5779

FROM THE RABBI’S STUDY
RABBI JONAH LAYMAN
ROSH HASHANAH AND 9/11

The second day of Rosh Hashanah this year happens to fall on the 17th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. Though 9/11 deserves its own memorial day there are aspects of Rosh Hashanah that will help us this year as we reflect upon this awful day in our nation’s history. In fact for our congregation it is poignantly significant that the two coincide this year.

Seventeen years ago Rosh Hashanah fell one week after 9/11. On that day not only were we overwhelmed by the tragic events, we were also praying for the family of Lt. Darin Pontell. I had officiated at Darin’s and Devora Wolk’s wedding just six months before. They were the happiest of couples and Darin always had a huge smile on his face. He worked in Naval Intelligence and happened to be stationed in the Pentagon. The jetliner, on 9/11, crashed into his side of the building. For the next week Devora and her family waited to hear word if he would be found. While waiting, an officer was assigned to Devora to answer questions, to offer counseling and advice and simply to be a supportive presence. On Rosh Hashanah – right after services – they heard the horrible news.

Rosh Hashanah and 9/11 will therefore always be connected for me and for us as a Shaare Tefila family. The Darin H. Pontell Memorial Alcove is an important place in our Winner Family Gallery where we can have moments of private reflection and be inspired by Darin’s memory. We will never forget 9/11 and we will never forget Darin.

One aspect of the Jewish New Year is the hope we have that the New Year will be one of peace and blessing. We pray that the New Year will bring harmony and love to the world and that tragic events like 9/11 will no longer take place. We can’t just pray, sit back and expect God to do this for us. We must partner with God and do our utmost to make the world a better place.

With blessings for a meaningful new year,
Jonah Layman, Rabbi
While many may consider spring to be the time for renewal and new beginnings, I would have to say that for me, this year, the time for new beginnings is September. I think it is fitting that my first column in the first year of my term as President of the congregation comes just as we begin a new year – 5779. (For purposes of this column, ignore the fact that Rosh Hashanah actually comes at the beginning of the seventh month of the Jewish calendar – but that’s a different story.) The thing about new beginnings is that they are filled with hopefulness and potential. In September, as Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur approach, I think we will all teeter on the edge of the year past and the year to come because new beginnings also mean saying goodbye to what has been concluded.

I am happy to report that I am not alone in the hopefulness and potential of a new beginning. We have new members who have joined our congregation. They look forward to celebrating the High Holidays with us and joining us in the celebrations to come over the next year and, God willing, for many more years. We have a new Cantor, **Hazzan Adina Klein Ackerman**. Hazzan Adina will be leading us, together with Rabbi Layman, in High Holiday services as she begins 5779, the beginning of her first year with us. We have a new Director of Education & Programming, **Babette Sheri Cohn**, takes over many tasks as we begin a new school year.

Of course, one of the truly great things about teetering on the edge of a new beginning is our ability to glance over at what is about to be concluded, just as the past year comes to a conclusion. That glance back provides a view of all that has come before – all the people on whose shoulders we stand, personally, professionally, and as a congregation. I am grateful to those who know and those who don’t know how much I have learned from them, whether their time with us has concluded or they enter the promise of the new year with us.

I remember those who built Shaare Tefila. I remember, honor, and count on those who continue to build our community. And, most of all, I am excited and hopeful as we all forge our future together, here at Shaare Tefila.

*Shana Tova,*

*Judy*

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**YOUTH & FAMILY PROGRAMS**

**MISSY MANDELL, COORDINATOR**

mmmandell@shaaretefila.org

301-593-3410 X103

It is hard to say how much I have enjoyed these past two years at Shaare Tefila. It has been a time of growth, learning, and creating relationships in our youth groups and in our community. It is because I have felt so welcome here that I am sad to leave, but starting this month I have accepted a new position as the Director of Admissions for the USCJ’s Gap Year Program in Israel, Nativ. I am confident that Shaare Tefila’s wonderful programs will go smoothly due to the passion and care of the professional staff and dedicated lay leaders. I cannot give enough thanks to Jill Goldwater, Beth Adler, Rabbi Jonah Layman, Cilla Gersberg, Aviva Janus, Sara Miller, Lois Freedman, Saul Cohen, and everyone in the community who I have collaborated with and gotten to know over the last two years - it has been a pleasure!

**Kol Tov- all my best. L’shana Tova- Happy New Year**

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**SHABBAT, SEPTEMBER 29**

**Rabbi Jonah & Lenore Layman** cordially invite everyone to their home sukkah for Kiddush following services.

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**CATHY PLOTKIN**

**KALLAT BEREISHIT**

Cathy Plotkin has been a member of Shaare Tefila for over 20 years. She and her husband, Perry, have three grown sons, Mitchell and Jonas, both of whom became b’nai mitzvah at Shaare Tefila. Mitchell is entering his junior year at West Virginia University and Jonas will be attending Montgomery College this fall. Stephanie has been the Director of the Children in the Shoe Child Care Center and Preschool in Olney for over 17 years. She has been a member of the Board of Directors of Shaare Tefila for many years and can be counted on to pitch in and help out, including serving on the Mishloch Manot Committee for Purim, an activity that brings us closer together as a community (as well as bringing funds into our budget!). She enjoys family, friends, exercising, reading, baking and cooking. We are lucky to have members like Stephanie and thank her for all of her efforts. We are the richer for it.

**Congratulations to Stephanie.**

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**CATHY PLOTKIN**

**KALLAT BEREISHIT**

Cathy Plotkin has been a member of Shaare Tefila for over 20 years. She and her husband, Lanny, have three grown children: Elana, newlywed Talia (to newlywed husband, Zak), and Zachary. Cathy is a Head Start teacher for Montgomery County Public Schools working at Harmony Hills Elementary School in Aspen Hill. She was Education Vice President of Shaare Tefila during our move to Olney and the reinstitution of our preschool and religious school. After four years as Education Vice President, Cathy took on a two-year stint as Programming Vice President and just finished a two-year term as Administrative Vice President. She is once again our Education Vice President. Shaare Tefila is grateful for her many years of service, for her knowledge and for her dedication.

**Congratulations to Cathy.**
**The Shofar**

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR THE HIGH HOLIDAYS TISHREI 5779**

**ROSH HASHANAH SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

- **First Night of Rosh Hashanah Services**
  Sunday, September 9: 6:00 pm

- **First Day of Rosh Hashanah Services**
  Monday, September 10: 8:30 am
  Monday, September 10: 6:00 pm
  (Holiday evening service)

- **Second Day of Rosh Hashanah Services**
  Tuesday, September 11: 8:30 am
  Tuesday, September 11: 7:00 pm

- **Sunday, September 16:** Tashlich: 10:00 am

**YOM KIPPUR SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

- **Tuesday, September 18:**
  6:45 pm - Kol Nidre

- **Wednesday, September 19:**
  9:00 am: Shacharit
  4:15 pm: Study Session
  5:15 pm: Mincha, Neila
  7:53 pm: Shofar

**SUkkOT SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

- **First night of Sukkot Services**
  Sunday, September 23: 6:00 pm

- **First Day of Sukkot Services**
  Monday, September 24: 9:00 am
  Monday, September 24: 6:00 pm

- **Second Day Sukkot Services**
  Tuesday, September 25: 9:00 am
  Tuesday, September 25: No Evening Service
  Sat., Sept. 29: 9:00 am Shabbat & Sukkot Service
  Kiddush at Rabbi Jonah & Lenore Layman’s sukkah

- **Shemini Atzeret Services**
  Sunday, September 30: 6:00 pm
  Monday, October 1: 9:00 am with Yizkor Service

**ADULT LEARNING WITH RABBI LAYMAN**

Prior RSVP requested but not required to
rjlayman@shaaretefila.org

**Pre High Holiday One-Time Class**

**Wednesday evening – September 5 - 7:45 pm - 9:00 pm**

“Preparing for the High Holidays: A Look at Current Themes and How the Liturgy Responds”

**Ongoing classes: New participants always welcome!**

**Friday mornings – 9:30-10:30 – Torah Class**

What does the Torah teach us? What do the traditional commentaries add to our understanding? How are the Five Books of Moses relevant to our lives today? These questions and more are explored as we delve into the text in the English translation.

**Sunday mornings – 9:15-10:00 – Talmud class**

“Two people grab a garment; one says, “it’s mine” and the other says, “it’s mine.” Join our Talmud class as we explore this section of the Talmud and learn how the rabbis 1500 years ago made Jewish law and practice meaningful and contemporary.

**Sunday mornings – 10:00-10:45 – Intermediate Hebrew**

Do you know how to read Hebrew? Would you like to practice to become a more fluent reader? Join this class as we use the prayerbook as our text. Not only will we practice reading Hebrew but we’ll also explore the origin and meaning of the liturgy.

**Sunday mornings – 10:45-11:30 – Beginning Hebrew**

Have you always wanted to learn how to read Hebrew? Join us as we use a text geared for adults and guaranteed that within 6 months you’ll be able to read Hebrew!

**First Wednesday with the Rabbi – 7:45pm-9:00pm**

Join Rabbi Layman on the first Wednesday evening of the month as we explore contemporary issues from a Jewish perspective. “The focus of this first year of the class (October through June) will be the newly published book, *Modern Conservative Judaism: Evolving Thought and Practice*, by Rabbi Elliot N. Dorff. Why are we affiliated with Shaare Tefila? What does it mean to be a Conservative Jew? How can Jewish thought influence our lives today? These questions and more will be explored. If you can’t make this class you can watch on YouTube.
Please join me in welcoming our newest members:

- **Joel & Sandra Friedman.** The Friedman’s reside in Silver Spring. Joel is a CPA and we looking forward to his reading Torah. Sandra is hoping to participate in our Sisterhood. The Friedmans have 4 grown children.

- **Betsy Colbert.** Betsy resides in Olney. She has a rich background with Shaare Tefila and has tutored some of our B’nai Mitzvot students. Currently Betsy is a kindergarten instructor at the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School.

Be sure to sign up for directory photos:

Ever have trouble putting a name with a face, or vice versa? We will be publishing an updated membership directory this fall and need your photo in there. The directory is a tremendously useful tool when it comes to knowing who your fellow congregants are. There is no obligation to purchase any photos, but they are available if you choose to do so. You’ll have the opportunity to have your photo taken this coming October and can sign up here or contact Adriana Sandler at sandleraa@gmail.com - 301-871-1164

Everyone is looking forward to seeing you in the new membership directory.

Why Chavurot?

Why not?? Chavurah means “Friendship.” And that’s exactly what you can expect by participating in these wonderful groups. The Chavurot run themselves. They decide on their own what types of activities that they want to do – they can be purely social, educational, social action or religious. Or any mixture of activities. You can participate as much or as little as you like, but even occasional participation is worthwhile. The important thing is for you to meet and interact with other members of the Shaare Tefila community.

If you need suggestions on how to best organize your Chavurah or what activities to plan, we can be a resource for you.

Please consider joining a Chavurah and contact either myself at membership@shaaretefila.org or Ellie Alpert at ellie.alpert@comcast.net.

WOW! Has summer ended already? I hope that everyone had a wonderful and relaxing summer! While many of us have been vacationing, the new Sisterhood board has been planning what we hope will be a year full of fun new activities as well as the return of some from the past.

Oldies But Goodies:

- **College Moms**—will send your college student holiday packages with letters and treats, keeping them connected to our Shaare Tefila family. This service is free for all Sisterhood members. Please reach out to Amy Schwartz if you are interested

- **Patron Event** to the Glenstone Museum in Potomac
- **Paid-up Membership Dinner,** October 22
- **Women’s Seder** - One of the best events of the year, April 7

Kitchen Help Needed!

Please keep in mind that we count on you to take a turn in the kitchen to help with the set up and clean up of Kiddush every Shabbat. If we all pitch in, the work is shared by many. Even if it is not your week, feel free to stop by the kitchen any Saturday to lend a hand. It will be much appreciated. Speaking of the kitchen, thanks also to our dedicated kitchen captains without whom none of this could be possible.

New Members

If you are a new member, you deserve an additionally warm welcome with benefits, and that means you receive free membership in Sisterhood for the calendar year which ends in June. We are excited and honored to have you on our team.

Buy Scrip

As the High Holidays approach, please remember to purchase scrip for your holiday shopping needs. And as the new school year starts, Sisterhood wishes you and your family a successful re-entry into the humdrum of the academic life. Buy scrip for all your lunchbox and snack needs!! Please see Judy Beiser for all of your scrip needs.

**JOINT SELICHOT SERVICE**

**Saturday Night September 1**

**At Tikvat Israel**

**With Tikvat Israel, Shaare Tefila, Bnai Shalom of Olney, and Kehilat Shalom**

9:30pm - Dessert reception and Havdalah
10:00 pm - Creative, musical, interactive Selichot service
Join us for a spiritual introduction to the High Holiday season. Through music and prayer, we will reflect upon our hopes and dreams for the coming year.
A common refrain this time of year is “The Holidays sure are early this year!”

Unlike the 365 1/4 day Gregorian Calendar, the Jewish Calendar is 354 days long. As a result, even though Rosh Hashanah is always the first day of Tishrei, the Jewish Holidays tend to float.

Eleven days are missing from the Jewish Calendar and they have to be made up so that the Fall Jewish Holidays can be celebrated in the Fall. The compensation is done through the addition every so often of another month in the Jewish calendar. The new Jewish year, 5779, is such a leap year. As a result, Passover will be "late" - toward the end of April 2019 and the following Rosh Hashanah will be “late!”

BEST Wishes to all for a happy, healthy, sweet New Year
SHANA TOVA UMETUKA
FROM OUR MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES
The Shofar

Programs at Shaare Tefila

Gan Katan
Shaare Tefila’s Preschool Playgroup For ages 2-5 & their parents or grandparents
Playtime, story time, crafts,
Teaching Jewish values, and more!
Led by Morah Mara

Sunday mornings: 9:45 AM-11:15 AM

Bake with Rabbi Jonah
Come together with your Shaare Tefila community for food, friends, fun,
and to learn some of Rabbi Jonah’s home recipes!
We will be making two recipes this year.

Sunday Afternoons: Dec 16 and Apr 14

Café Shaare Tefila
Café Shaare Tefila is open on Sunday mornings during Chavaya. Enjoy some nosh & schmooze with your Shaare Tefila friends- can’t wait to see you there!

Sunday during Chavaya; 9:30 AM- 12:00 PM

Sisterhood Dinners
Connect with Shaare Tefila Sisterhood through our annual dinners.
Contact Fran Weiss to get more involved faoweiss@gmail.com

Paid up membership- 10/22
Women’s Seder- 4/7
Spring Dinner- 5/20

Tashlich
Welcome back to shul:
Tashlich and Picnic at Lake Needwood
Short service, programs, & Activities for all ages!
Bring your own blanket and picnic lunch
Shaare Tefila will be providing light snacks

Sunday, 9/16: 10:00 AM- 12:00 PM

BBQ and Installations
Support your community, congratulate the new board members & Enjoy a delicious meal!
If you are going away to a Jewish summer camp- get a special blessing from the rabbi during services!

Friday, June 14

Purim
Two chances to celebrate:
Saturday night, Mar 2: Masquerade Ball, costumes welcome, not required, food, music, fun- adults only!

On Sunday, Mar 17: Purim Carnival for the whole community! Games, costumes, lunch, prizes, & more!

Comedy Night
“Night of Sweet Laughter 8”, 8th Annual Comedy Night Fundraiser
Reserve early for the most popular event of the year!
Wine and Beer cash bar, dairy refreshments & an unbelievable line-up!

Saturday, February 2

16620 Georgia Ave, Olney, MD 20832 - shaaretefila.org - 301-593-3410
Shabbat at Shaare Tefila

Relax - Reflect - Rejoice

Mini-Minyan
Enjoy Shabbat with play time, music, and a Shabbat program for preschoolers (0-6) & their families!
RSVPs appreciated via Chaverweb by the Wednesday before

Friday nights: 5:45 PM-6:45 PM
October 5
March 29
May 10

Family Shabbat
Enjoy singing & services with Hazzan Adina Ackerman discussions, youth programs & other creative activities.
Enjoy one or all of our Family Shabbat events!

Throughout all of Shabbat, Friday-Saturday
October 27
December 15
Feb 23
May 18

Celebrate Shabbat!

Shabbat Dinner: Join us for a wonderful meal together; immediately after services
Oct 12- Nov 2- Dec 14- Feb 8- Apr 12- May 18- Jun 14

Shabbat Shira: 10:15 AM-11:45AM- a shorter, singing minyan
Oct 20- Dec 1- Mar 9- Jun 1

Shabbat Limmud: 10:15 AM-11:45AM- a learner’s minyan
Nov 17- Jan 5- Mar 30

Celebrate Shabbat!

Havdalah Experience
For families and friends looking for a festive, ruach-filled way to start the week.
After sundown-timess & themes TBA

After Sundown; times will be posted
November 17
January 12

Tot Shabbat
A fun, musical service geared towards families with little ones (0-6 years).

Saturdays: 10:45 AM-11:30 AM
October 27
December 15
February 23
May 18

16620 Georgia Ave, Olney, MD 20832 - shaaretefila.org - 301-593-3410
COLLEGE MOMS
CONTRIBUTOR: AMY SCHWARTZ

It’s time to sign up your student for Sisterhood’s College Moms program!

College Moms sends packages to students from Sisterhood at Rosh Hashanah, Hanukkah, and Purim. The packages are sent at no charge for children of Sisterhood members and are just $18 per year for children of nonmembers, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and anyone else.

To sign up your student, please send the student’s name, mailing address and the name of his/her school to amy.schwartz615@icloud.com.

We need this information even if the student was signed up last year. Checks should be sent to the synagogue made out to Shaare Tefila Sisterhood.

Thanks! Hope to hear from you soon.

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE
CONTRIBUTOR: LISA HEDGEPETh

The Social Action Committee is excited about the upcoming year. We will continue to be a resource for activities, lectures and rallies regarding social justice issues. We are in the process of forming partnerships with congregations of other faiths as well as the Jewish Community Relations Council to join forces and make a greater impact. Our next committee meeting will take place after the High Holidays (TBA). Please join us!

DOCUMENTARY SCREENING

We are very excited to announce that we will be screening a documentary film at Shaare Tefila this fall. Life is Rich, premiered at the Washington Jewish Film Festival to a sold-out crowd who laughed together, cried a little, and were fired up to talk afterward. With their enthusiastic response, the film won an Audience Award.

Bonnie Rich is a Jewish mom on a mission—to convince her millennial daughters that Judaism is more than matzo ball soup. While Bonnie pushes, her daughters resist, and the family debates how to make religion and heritage meaningful in American society.

Join us on Sunday, October 7 at 12:30 pm to see the film, followed by a question and answer session with filmmaker Bonnie Rich. Tickets will be on sale in advance. More details to follow.

CATERING
ETHEL LEVINE & FRAN KENSKY

ENHANCED KIDDUSH SPONSORSHIP

Many years ago, we began enhancing the kiddush options at Shaare Tefila with a modest concept entitled Challah and Schmear. That helped bring us from our wanderings to our current location here in Olney and served us well.

After a few years in our current home, we realized that we needed more of an ENHANCED concept to help make our monthly kiddushim more inviting and freilach. Thus, the Challah and Schmear grew up, often including the birthday celebrations with cake and ice cream to add to the festivities.

Congregants donate to these monthly kiddush offerings, for a minimum of $18. Their names are posted in the Shabbat Sheet along with any tributes they state in honor of or in memory of loved ones. These kiddushim have proven highly successful and delicious. They have been a wonderful way for people to stay after services and socialize, have a hearty nosh together, and even bond as they helped clean-up afterward.

This year, we plan to continue the ENHANCED KIDDUSH idea, thanks to your enthusiastic support.

In order to make this donation process a bit easier for you, however, we have come up with a one-time donation idea. Instead of contributing each month, send the synagogue a one-time check for $200 to cover the cost of the enhanced kiddushim for the entire year? Easy, right?

Then each month, as you wish to be recognized, you can simply send in your idea for a tribute to the office, for inclusion in the weekly Shabbat Sheet. If you don’t have a special reason for sponsorship, we will still list your name as a sponsor.

This will save you from remembering to write numerous checks all year, making it more convenient for your contribution.

We leave you with several options:

1. Send in a monthly donation towards the Enhanced Kiddush (minimum $18/kiddush)
2. A one-time $200 donation for the entire year (a modest discount to sponsor all 12 kiddushim)
3. If you decide to join later in the year we have prorated rates. Please contact the office.

Our next ENHANCED KIDDUSH is slated for Saturday, September 22. We would love to include your names with the list of sponsors.

YAHRTZEIT PLAQUES AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP

The beautiful new Yahrzeit Wall is up and we hope you will take a moment to see it during the holidays. If you had a plaque(s) on the old boards you will be able to pick them up during Rosh Hashanah. Please look for them in the back half of the Social Hall.

If you want to purchase a new plaque ($500 for members) please contact Jill Goldwater 301-593-3410 x101. (Note: The new board includes all names from the previous system.)
Are You Looking For Fun Ways To Engage Your Preschooler In Jewish Life?

Look no further than Shaare Tefila’s **Tot Shabbat** and **Gan Katan**

Preschool Playgroups

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**Shaare Tefila’s**

**GAN KATAN**!

Gan Katan, our Jewish-themed preschool playgroup for little ones meets each month for stories, songs, Jewish learning, crafts, games and tons of experiential play.

**WHO:** Toddlers through preschool age

**WHAT:** Play, story time, crafts and snack - Free

**WHEN:** Sundays, 9:45 AM - 11:15 AM

RSVP to Cilla Grosberg: drgmrs@aol.com

JOIN US for our first play group on September 9

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**Tot Shabbat**

Tot Shabbat is a joyous, ruach-filled, singing and interactive service, just for our little ones and their families.

Join us on:

**WHO:** Young children from birth through age 6

**WHEN:** Shabbat, 10:45 AM - 11:30 AM

JOIN US for our first service on October 27

Both Tot Shabbat and Gan Katan are led by Morah Mara Lansky, an educator, parent and member of Shaare Tefila.

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YASHER KOACH! WAY TO GO!

Ralph Shapiro, a member of Shaare Tefila for the past 55 years, was featured in an article in the June 21 edition of Kol Habirah, a local Jewish newspaper, under the heading “From Engineer to Historian.”

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WOMEN’S ROSH CHODESH CIRCLE

**LEd by:** Susan Rubenstein

**Saturday mornings: 10:00 am - 11:00 am**

- Rosh Chodesh Tishrei - Shabbat, September 22
- Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan - Shabbat, November 3
- Rosh Codesh Kislev - Shabbat, December 1
- Rosh Chodesh Tevet, Shabbat December 22
- Rosh Chodesh Shevat - Shabbat January 12
- Rosh Chodesh Adar - Shabbat February 16
- Rosh Chodesh Adar II - Sunday, March 10
- Rosh Chodesh Nisan - Shabbat, April 6
- Rosh Chodesh Iyyar - Shabbat May 11
- Rosh Chodesh Sivan, Shabbat June 22

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TRADITIONS AND RITUALS FOR THE FALL JEWISH HOLIDAYS

A great resource for explanations, resources, recipes and rituals can be found at myjewishlearning.com Please check out the links below for lots of useful information!

- **Link for Rosh Hashanah:** [http://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/rosh-hashanah/](http://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/rosh-hashanah/)
- **Link for Yom Kippur:** [http://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/yom-kippur/](http://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/yom-kippur/)
- **Link for Sukkot:** [http://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/sukkot/](http://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/sukkot/)
- **Link for Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah:** [http://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/simchat-torah/](http://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/simchat-torah/)

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Olney Help continues to acknowledge donations by Shaare Tefila membership to their organization. They have been able to expand their support in the Olney Community as need of assistance has increased.

KEEP YOUR DONATIONS COMING!

Next time you visit the shul please bring food items to donate and place them in the baskets under the bench in the foyer.
The Shofar

**Turn your Friday night into an evening of spiritual happiness**
**with good friends, community, great conversation, and a delicious Kosher dinner**

*Join us at the*

**Shaare Tefila Community Shabbat Dinner Program**
(usually the 2nd Friday of the month; meals cooked with love by congregants
Fran Weiss and Vivienne Auerbach with their Shabbat Dinner Team)

**The schedule for this year:**

**2018**
**First Dinner:**  Friday, October 12
Friday, November 2
Friday, December 14 (Chanukah Theme)

**2019**
Friday, February 8  Friday, May 10
Friday, April 12  Friday, June 14 (End of Year BBQ)

**Join us for this wonderful Shabbat experience,**

*Without it Friday is just another day!*

Interested in joining us? Register on **ChaverWeb** or
Contact **Sara Miller**, Office Administrator
smiller@shaaretefila.org;  (301)593-3410, ext 104.

**RSVP early**, registration closes the Tuesday evening prior to the Friday dinner.

*We look forward to celebrating Shabbat with you and your family.*
Beginning September 4, the Winer Family Gallery presents *The Art of Fabric*, an exhibit of hand-made quilts and aprons created by synagogue member Vivienne Auerbach. Vivienne and her family have been members of Shaare Tefila for more than 30 years. In addition to art, Vivienne enjoys cooking and is part of the team that plans and prepare the shul's Shabbat dinners.

Vivienne has always been interested in art, starting with drawings and paintings. Learning to sew opened a whole new medium for her by allowing her to create art with fabric. Her favorite style is using patchwork and quilting emphasizing color and printed fabric. She uses a mixture of traditional patterns and squares, in addition to her own patterns and color choices. You see her work each time you are in the sanctuary. She made the curtains on the lectern and bima stands. Now you can take home a piece of Vivienne's fabric artwork. Buy a quilt or treat yourself to a new apron for Rosh Hashanah. Meet the artist and talk about her work on Sunday, September 9 from 10 a.m. to noon.

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**CHESED COMMITTEE**

**CONTRIBUTOR: ADRIANA SANDLER**

![Kindness](image)

**Need a ride?**

Contact

Betty Balin 301-622-4354 or

Bernice Goldstein 301-384-1024

**Need a meal?**

Contact

Ethel Levine 301-593-7041 or

Joyce Feinstein 240-428-1329

**Need support?**

Contact Rabbi Layman 301-593-3410 X102

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**WE NEED YOU TO MAKE OUR 2018-2019 MEMBERSHIP PHOTO DIRECTORY COMPLETE!**

A professional photographer of Lifetouch will be at Shaare Tefila on the following dates:

- Sunday, October 7 through Wednesday, October 10
- Sunday, October 14 through Wednesday October 17.

(day and evening appointments are available)

**To schedule your appointment (or if you need a ride):**

1. Click on the link: [https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/yer3h8m2/](https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/yer3h8m2/)
2. Contact Adriana Sandler

- sandleraa@gmail.com - 301-871-1164

**Remember:**

1. Pictures will be taken at Shaare Tefila
2. No cost for a photo session, and you will receive a free 8 x 10 portrait.
3. The more members that sign up for a photo session, the more names we will be able to put to faces.
4. There will be no cost to any one of us for the directories due to the generous support of sponsors.
5. A no-obligation opportunity to purchase additional photos.
6. Discounts for military and seniors
7. New directory size: a handy smaller format: 8.5 x 5.5

Please contact Adriana if you plan to be out of town or are not able to come in for a portrait session.

A $100 coupon towards the purchase of photos will be raffled off for those who schedule an appointment by September 21, noon.
As you are reading this, the new school year has begun and the High Holidays are right around the corner. As I am writing, the start of the school year is about six weeks away. But we have been planning for months.

An exciting addition that we made to our school last spring was the idea of school-wide celebrations for Jewish holidays. These celebrations were discussed by the teachers several weeks in advance of the holiday. We would learn about the holiday in a deeper way and discuss what aspects of the holiday we wanted the children to focus on. But once we brought the concepts to the children, they took over the planning and design of the celebrations.

For Passover, we had two children from each class represent their classmates on the planning committee. At this committee, the children were tasked with identifying the separate jobs that would be required to throw a Passover celebration. They quickly focused in on four tasks that most party planners would recognize: food, entertainment, decorations and invitations. These children went back to their classes to share this information. Each of their classmates and teachers picked a committee to join.

Each Monday through Thursday, for three weeks, the children spent 30 minutes working with their committees. The Invitation Committee, for example, designed a Passover-themed invitation, created the guest list and then researched the information required for a proper invitation. They debated wording and layout. When complete, they delivered their invitations to the celebration guests, including all the members of the preschool, as well as Rabbi Jonah, Jill, Sara and Missy. The Food Committee researched different foods that are customary on Passover and created a sampling of charoset from different communities around the world as well as kosher for Passover desserts. The Decoration Committee decided to turn the cafeteria into the Sinai Desert – complete with a parted Red Sea. The Entertainment Committee wrote a play about the Exodus and then, using the sewing skills we had been practicing all year, sewed their own costumes. They all decided that, during the celebration, the classes should all together sing the Passover songs we had been learning, so they made a list of the songs and shared them so each class was sure to practice the same songs.

The celebration was a joyous finale, where all the hard work of the preceding weeks paid off. The excitement for the holiday was much stronger than we had seen before embarking on such a project. Our commitment to celebrating all holidays as a full community was sealed.
WELCOME NEW STAFF MEMBERS

HAZZAN ADINA KLEIN ACKERMAN

Hazan Adina is a graduate of the H. L. Miller Cantorial School of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. She was awarded the title of Hazan (Cantor). She has extensive experience leading religious services and participating in celebrations. She will be leading our High Holiday, Shabbat, and Yom Tov services in conjunction with Rabbi Layman. With her Master’s degree in Sacred Music, experience, and enthusiasm, Hazan Ackerman’s focus on participation and engagement will appeal to all.

BABETTE SHERI COHN, Director of Education and Programming

Babette has been an educator in the D.C. area for over 20 years. Her program experience includes work in the religious school setting, comprised of multiple aspects of program coordination, including curriculum and workshop development, registration, communications and logistics. Additionally, during her time as the Area Conference Supervisor for La Leche League of Virginia she directed statewide educational conferences on breastfeeding and parenting, offering programming that supported health care professionals, as well as the interests of families. Babette received her Master of Arts in Jewish Studies & Education in May 2017 from Gratz College.

Babette believes synagogue programming should be engaging and enrich the spiritual lives of all participants. She sees the relationship between member families and the programs that are offered, as a way to strengthen the Jewish identity of everyone in the community.

Babette lives in Fairfax, VA with her husband, Jonathan. Their children are Rebecca, Gabrielle and Sam.

PEFORM A MITZVAH, ATTEND A MINYAN

RELIGIOUS VICE PRESIDENT

SAUL COHEN

One evening, I was in Olney. I finished my business and entered my car around 7:20 pm when something in my mind said, “go to Shaare Tefila - go to the Minyan.” I drove to our building. One of my best feelings was when I entered the Grosberg-Baumgart Chapel and several persons said, “You are the tenth person, you are performing a Mitzvah.”

Most of us have or will eventually experience the death of a close relative or friend. When that happens, many of us feel an obligation to say Kaddish. That obligation derives from different things inside us or from our past, everything from religious law, to feeling good about oneself, to our parents asking us when they were alive. Some of us say Kaddish more than once a day for eleven months. Some of us say Kaddish only when we are in synagogue or for a Yahrzeit. The fact is if someone wants to say Kaddish, we need nine other obligated adult Jews to participate in a Minyan.

Several years ago, we organized our membership into 13 teams to attend evening minyan 4 weeks a year. Our office and Minyan Captains contact team members before their Minyan week to ensure complete Minyans. These Captains work hard and give up a lot of their personal time to assure our members fulfill Kaddish obligations. Please respect these volunteers and be responsive to their inquiries.

Some teams always make a Minyan, but many of our teams have challenges. Some team members need a ride, will not drive during winter time or have other things to do. We also want to identify those persons who can attend a morning Minyan each week, or every other week, once a month or a particular day. Shaare Tefila has morning Minyan on Monday and Thursday at 8 am, and 8:30 am on Sunday and federal holidays; and 7:30 pm, Sunday through Thursday. We have been sending Minyan notices for years. Many of the persons contacted don’t respond. But what happens when you or your fellow congregant wants to say Kaddish?

Minyan teams do not always know if you are coming to say Kaddish. If you know you will be present to help make the Minyan, please contact the Captain or the office and let them know so we can ensure a Minyan. The Religious Committee is soliciting ideas on ensuring evening Minyans. If you have any constructive suggestions, please contact me by phone, in person or email me at saulsher@verizon.net.
NEED ASSISTANCE?
If a family member or another congregant is hospitalized or needs help from the Shaare Tefila Community, please notify the office or Rabbi Layman as soon as possible.

Contact the office or Rabbi Layman
(301) 593-3410

DONATE A BOOK FOR USE AT SERVICES
Please consider donating a book in memory of or in honor of a loved one or in recognition of a special life event. Contact Sara in the office.

Siddur $54
Machzor $36
Large Type Machzor $54

SHAARE TEFIJA IS HOSTING
JCC COMING OF AGE EVENT
Concert Featuring
Seth Kibel & Vladimir Fridman
“Spanning the Globe: Music from Around the World”
When: Thursday, October 4, 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm
RSVP by September 27 to JCC 301-348-3809
Cost $8, $10 at door
Light refreshments will be served following the concert

COME CELEBRATE YOUR SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY
AT SHABBAT KIDDUSH FOLLOWING SERVICES
SEPTEMBER 22
Recognize a person or event in your life or remember a loved one.
Donate to the Enhanced Kiddush,
“CHALLAH & SCHMEAR “ TODAY
CONTACT SARA IN THE OFFICE SMIller@shaaretefila.org

MEN’S DISCUSSION GROUP
Wednesday, September 5 at 10:00 am
Mel Kornspan will review the book “Four Front War” by William Perl, the story of the rescue of 40,000 Jews between 1937 and 1944.

LOOKING TO JOIN SHAARE TEFIJA?
Contact:
Stuart Carroll, Membership VP
membership@shaaretefila.org
Jill Goldwater, Executive Director
jgoldwater@shaaretefila.org
301-593-3410 X 101

SCRIP SCRIP SCRIP
CONTRIBUTOR: Judy Beiser
WHERE ARE ALL THE GIFT CARD CUSTOMERS?????
When you purchase scrip you are supporting Shaare Tefila. With every scrip purchase the shul receives a rebate that is used to fund various shul activities.

Last year this project raised ***$7000***. Let’s beat that amount for the coming year!!

Purchase scrip for local groceries as well as a large variety of shops and department stores.

Contact Judy Beiser for more information: judy.beiser@verizon.net.
301-598-2082.

Active vendors:
Giant Food - $100, $50, $25, $10
H Mart - $20
Moti’s Market - $50
Shalom Kosher Market - $100, $50
Shopper’s Food Warehouse - $100, $50, $10
ShopRite - $100, $50
Starbucks - $25, $10, $5
Safeway - $100, $25

To buy scrip, contact the office or call:
Judy Beiser 301-598-2082
Barbara Fink 301-438-3149
Rita Rubinstein 301-816-9686
Ethel Levine 301-593-7041

WE CONTINUE TO CARRY:
Bed Bath & Beyond, TJ Maxx, Home Goods, Marshalls, CVS, L.L. Bean and hundreds more...

JOIN US

Siddur $54
Machzor $36
Large Type Machzor $54

Light refreshments will be served following the concert

Contact Judy Beiser for more information: judy.beiser@verizon.net.
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