

Matter. Grow. Belong.

Are you new to the area? Have an upcoming life cycle event, a new baby, or a religious-school-aged child? Whatever your reasons for considering synagogue membership, we'd love to talk to you.

In joining Kehillah, you'll make new friends and new connections and become part of a welcoming, inclusive community. Helping members embrace Judaism—in a caring and communal environment—is what sets us apart.

Membership Benefits

- Shabbat services and potlucks
- High Holy Day services
- Life Cycle events
- Pastoral counseling
- B'nei Mitzvah training
- Mishloach Manot (Purim bags)
- Priority status for preschool
- Membership discount for preschool families

Questions about membership, please contact Mary Lawrence, Chief Executive Officer, at (919) 338-2696 or Mary@kehillahsynagogue.org



A unique year. A creative approach to High Holy Days. 2020 / 5781

We celebrate High Holy Days this year in unprecedented times. Still, we are excited to create and offer engaging and meaningful prayer experiences that will bring us together. With a few exceptions, our High Holy Day services will be online. Please join us. Your participation will mean so much as we gather in community on these sacred days.

Services At a Glance

| | | | |
|--|----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Erev Rosh Hashanah Evening Service | Fri. 9/18 7:30 pm | Kol Nidre Service | Sun. 9/27 6:30 pm |
| Rosh Hashanah Day 1 Morning Service | Sat. 9/19 9:00 am | Yom Kippur Morning Service | Mon. 9/28 9:00 am |
| Children's Services | See inside | Martyrology/Mincha | 4:30 pm |
| Rosh Hashanah Day 2 Morning Service | Sun. 9/20 9:30 am | Children's Service | See inside |
| | | Neilah | 6:30 pm |

Matter. Grow. Belong.



Dear Fellow Members, Family, and Friends,

On behalf of the Kehillah Board, Shalom. We are delighted you will be joining us to worship and to celebrate the Jewish New Year 5781. With your participation, we will come together to renew our spirit through ritual and prayer—surrounded by the warmth and spirit of our Kehillah community. I hope that you and all the people in your life who you care about are healthy and safe as we continue to live through the COVID pandemic. These are truly challenging times and I am proud of our community for adapting to online events as ways to stay connected.

It goes without saying that this year High Holy Days services will be unique, unlike any that any of us have ever experienced before. Even though we will be physically apart, we hope that you will find meaning in the services and activities that the Kehillah is providing. Please join us as often as you can over the course of these sacred days. I want to thank our amazing Kehillah staff for all the work they put into planning and implementing these High Holy Days events. I also want to thank all the members of the many Kehillah Committees that continue to develop new activities to keep us connected when we are unable to meet in person.

The rhythm of the calendar continues and in late August, the Kehillah Religious School began its 2020-21 school year with online classes. On June 1, the Kehillah Jewish Preschool resumed operations. In the Preschool, we are working hard to provide the community with needed childcare while going above and beyond in the precautions we are taking to keep our students and teachers safe.

Although we cannot come together to worship in person we remain a community that supports one another through acts of kindness and generosity and does what is necessary to keep the community safe. May the New Year bring us all Health, Happiness and Fresh Beginnings.

L'shana Tova to each of you. Amen.

L'shalom. Miriam Braunstein, Kehillah Synagogue President

Kehillah's Leadership Team

Kehillah 2020-2021 Officers

President: Miriam Braunstein

Executive Vice President: Keith Artin

VP Administration: Kathy Burk

VP Education: Jennifer Weinberg-Wolf

VP Advancement: Stanley Robboy

VP Preschool: Craig Poms

Treasurer: Elaine Bolle

Secretary: Julee Balko

Directors

Jay Greenberg

Julie Harris

Angela Rosenberg

Darren Cubell

Maddie Engle, Youth Representative

Rabbi Jen Feldman, Ex Officio

Mary Lawrence, CEO, Ex Officio

Kehillah Staff

Rabbi Jen Feldman

Mary Lawrence, CEO

Stephanie Stuchiner, Director, Operations & Finance

Sherri Morris, Education Director

Krystal Glass, Director Kehillah Jewish Preschool

Sherrie Stohl, Support Services Manager

Kehillah Synagogue

1200 Mason Farm Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514

(919) 942-8914

www.kehillahsynagogue.org

Count Me In!

There are many ways to be an active part of Kehillah and make a difference not only for our congregation, but in the community as well. Below is a list of ongoing committees and opportunities that are available. Please contact the office at (919) 942-8914 for more information.

Count Me In! All members are invited to let us know your volunteer interests by clicking on the “Volunteer With Us” link on our website homepage.

Kehillah 2020-21 Committees

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Adult Education | Membership | Caring |
| Advancement | Preschool | Ritual |
| Cemetery | Religious School | Chebra Kaddisha |
| Social Action | | Governance |

Loving-Kindness Circle is the name of our caring committee. We provide meals of consolation, shiva minyans, and food for those who are ill, are recovering from surgery or welcoming a new baby. Please join us in these communal acts of *Chesed*/Lovingkindness. Sign up by going to www.lotsahelpinghands.com and searching “Kehillah Community.”

Social Action Opportunities*

Kehillah Racial Equity Team (KRET) -The purpose of KRET is to advance racial equity through reflection, community education, and action. The group hosts discussion sessions on current events, books, and articles. We also provide a list of recommended books, films, plays, trainings, and community events.

Community Involvement – Kehillah members serve the community by participating in the [Chapel Hill/Carrboro CROP Hunger Walk](#), Habitat for Humanity Build, providing refugee assistance through the Refugee Support Center in Carrboro and preparing/serving lunch at the Interfaith Council for Social Services Community Kitchen.

Parking For Good – One way that Kehillah supports the above charities is by providing paid parking in our lot for fans during UNC men’s basketball games. Last year with the help of our volunteers we raised over \$6000 for our community.

Chavurot*

- Sunday morning bike/walks
- Monthly dinner group for members who live in Durham
- Kehillah Mitzvah Knitters, open to all members who knit and/or crochet. This group makes comfort shawls for those in mourning and blankets for the homeless.

* Watch the website to learn when these activities will resume.

High Holy Days at Kehillah

We’re so happy you have decided to join us.

Please know that your presence gives us all a sense of belonging and comfort. Visit Kehillah’s website, kehillahsynagogue.org to learn all about our High Holy Day services and activities this year.

Make a special place in your home to celebrate the High Holy Days 2020/5781 online. This will be a new experience for many. Here are some tips for how to create your own sanctuary at home:

- Borrow or purchase Kehillah’s machzor, “Renew our Days”, for Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur.
- If you have a shofar, special candlesticks for Shabbat/Holidays, yahrtzeit candle, and /or a havdallah candle, bring them out to use with us during services.
- Get dressed up as if you were coming to services in person.
- Set up chairs around the computer to remind you of being in the sanctuary.
- Remove distractions.
- Bring special personal items or ritual objects into the space where you plan to Zoom.

A chance to connect.

Whether you join for part of the services or all of them, don’t miss the chance to meet Kehillah members in our virtual lobby. The High Holy Days are still a time to connect. Visit our virtual lobby to say hello.

A time to reflect.

Rabbi Jen’s messages are timely and thought-provoking. She helps us consider, ponder, and question. Her sermons, and our subsequent discussions, bring relevance, meaning, and hope to the High Holy Days.

Something for all ages.

We are offering special Zoom services for children that are engaging and are a great way to celebrate with kids and meet other families.

Zoom Links for Members

ROSH HASHANAH

Erev Rosh Hashanah Main Service

Friday, September 18, 7:30 pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85427976764>

Rosh Hashanah Day 1 Service

(Main Service), September 19, 9:00 am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85482145561>

Rosh Hashanah Day 1 Lobby

September 19

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83509877261>

Rosh Hashanah Day 1 Parallel Learning

September 19

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86186312432>

Rosh Hashanah Day Children's Services

September 19

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85847013626>

Rosh Hashanah Day 2 Service (Main Service)

September 20, 9:30 am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88005664071>

Life & Legacy Donors

As my ancestors planted for me, so do I plant for those who will come after me. Talmud
It is with heartfelt gratitude that we thank the following L'dor V'dor Society Members
for ensuring our beloved Synagogue's future.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Katherine & Keith Artin | Betty & Henry Landsberger z"l |
| Linda Baggish | Beth & Anthony Leiro |
| Judith Barrett | Margaret Lewis z"l |
| Stephen Barrett | Jessica Meed |
| Sheldon Becker | Rose Mills & Jeffrey Collins |
| Debra Bernstein | Ava & Lee Nackman |
| Elaine Bolle & Lester Levine | Miriam Ornstein & David Luks |
| Diana Braunstein | Judy Panitch & Andy Hart |
| Miriam Braunstein | Ruth Pershing |
| Lois Bronstein | Bryna Rapp |
| Katherine Soule Burk | Greg Rapp |
| Gerald Cohn | Josh Ravitch |
| Nancy Curtis & Laura Delbridge | Michele & Sigmund Rivkin-Fish |
| Sandra Eisdorfer | Marion Robboy |
| Amy Entwistle & Alyson Hyman | Stanley Robboy |
| Anita & Paul Farel | Beth Rosenberg |
| Rabbi Jennifer Feldman | Amy Rosenthal |
| Linda Frankel & Lewis Margolis | Kathleen Rounds & Roger Schwarz |
| Nan & Joel Friedman | Andrew M Sachs |
| Henry Fuchs | Susan & Steven Schwarcz |
| Howard Glicksman | David & Carol Sclove |
| Henry Goldstein z"l | Cara Siegel |
| Margrit Goldstein | Joel Srager z"l |
| Barrie Harper | Allen Suess |
| Deborah Hicks-Rogoff & Leonard Rogoff | Abigail Tepper |
| Beverly Horsburgh & Andrew Cappel | Laurie & Joel Tepper |
| Ruth Katz | Jennifer Weinberg-Wolf & Jon Miller |
| Kathy Kaufman & Mike Narotsky | Andy Werden |
| Randy Kauftheil | Diane Wright |
| Sarah Kittner | Michele Zembow |
| Anne & Jonathan Kotch | Irene & Barry Zipper |
| Benjamin Landman | Kate Lozier |
| | Jay Greenberg |

(z"l - Zichronah/Zichrono Liv'racha...May her/his memory be for a blessing)

Your Life – Your Legacy – What’s in Your Heart?

Message from your Rabbi, President, Board of Directors and CEO

Kehillah’s Life & Legacy program, sponsored by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, is designed to ensure the future fiscal health of our synagogue.

Through this planned giving program, we are reaching out to you and all who love Kehillah to join our L’Dor V’Dor (generation to generation) Society. Since its inception over three years ago, 67 congregants have made a commitment to leave a legacy gift to Kehillah. Kehillah has received multiple incentive grants from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation in recognition of our truly notable progress.

As you know, the High Holy Days are a time to consider what you value and what is important to you: family, friends, your synagogue and making a difference. You have the ability to show your family and friends what you hold dear by your words and actions.

In the words of one of our members, “I value Kehillah Synagogue: the community, the services, the religious and preschools and inspiring rabbinic leadership. Kehillah is my spiritual home, and I want it to be a consistent presence for future generations. Count me in for a Legacy Gift!”

You can leave a legacy gift by naming Kehillah in your will, trust, retirement plan or life insurance policy.

All of us, regardless of age or wealth have the opportunity to leave a legacy. Your legacy gift can be of any size.

To learn more about Kehillah’s L’dor V’dor Society, please contact Mary Lawrence at Kehillah at 919-338-2696, or Stan Robboy at 919-225-4295.



Zoom Links for Members

YOM KIPPUR

**Kol Nidre Main Service,
September 27, 6:30 pm**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88221952735>

**Yom Kippur Main Service
September 28, 9:00 am**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81556021313>

Yom Kippur Parallel Learning
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84099086722>

Yom Kippur Lobby
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81515119752>

Yom Kippur Children’s Services
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87950213211>



Rosh Hashanah

Rosh Hashanah

We know people come to services for many different reasons – a sense of belonging, learning, self-reflection, and the comfort of familiar prayers. So on Day 1, parallel to our traditional prayers, we'll have special sessions – morning meditation/yoga and also interactive, small group study and discussion. We'll also have a virtual lobby open to give folks an opportunity to schmooze.

The structure and content of Shabbat and Rosh Hashanah Day 1 services will be the familiar liturgy from our Machzor with some abridgement.

On the Second Day of Rosh Hashanah, we'll be using special ZOOM-friendly liturgy from the Reconstructionist movement followed by the Torah service.

- On both days, we'll take breaks between service sections to help us all focus.
- We'll get to hear the Shofar together on the Second Day of Rosh Hashanah during the Torah service. Shofar is not blown on Shabbat.

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Friday 9/18

7:30 pm

Begin the New Year with a brief evening service and inspiring words from Rabbi Jen. Bring out your own glass of wine and we'll make kiddush together.

Rosh Hashanah Morning Service

Saturday 9/19

9:00 am

How do you connect? Is it prayer? Schmoozing? Study & discussion? Meditation & gentle movement? This High Holy Days we have you covered.

- **Main Services**- Join us for Shacharit, Rabbi Jen's sermon, Torah Service and concluding prayers.
- **Parallel Programming**- Please go here for other choices.
9:00-9:30 am Preparing Body and Soul for the New Year -Andrea Didisheim
Join us for meditation and gentle yoga to help settle our minds and open us to gratitude and blessing.

Adult Education

Please watch our email for reminders, updates and additions to our Adult Education programs.

Heart, Mind & Soul

Monthly on the 2nd Tuesday at 7:30 pm

There are a plethora of interesting people in our area who have fascinating topics to share with us. We will have a speaker each month. Watch your email for sign up & zoom info.

- Joy & John Kasson, retired UNC professors, presented "Jews & Broadway" in July & August.
- October 13-David Halperin's talk "Merkavah Mysticism, Alien Abduction – Profiles of the uncanny (and What They Mean for Us Today)." Are you not sure how that ties to Judaism? Then come to the talk to find out.
- November 10-Jack Sasson will speak to us about "After Sarah, the Matriarch Died... " The Torah portion "Hayyei Sarah" (Gen 23-25:18) contains 2 back-to-back juicy stories that gain understanding through inspection of comparative ancient Near Eastern lore.

Adult Beginner's Hebrew

Wednesdays, January 6 – February 5, 7:00-8:30 pm

Want to learn Hebrew? Kehillah is offering a 5 week crash course for \$54. We must have 5 students to offer the course.

Reel Israel: Israeli Documentary Film Festival

March 7-11, Chelsea Theater Through five incredible documentary films, Duke Associate Professor Shai Ginsburg will take participants on a unique tour of Israel. Several film screenings will be followed by evocative, honest discussions. Tugging at your heart and your mind, these films are not to be missed.

Passover Food: More than just Matzah Balls

Kelly Alexander, Date- TDB

Dr. Kelly Alexander, Kehillah member, writer, anthropologist and previous editor of *Saveur* magazine, will be doing what she loves best-talking about food! Join us as we explore Passover foods and go home with some new recipes.

Sukkot and Simchat Torah

Rooted in ancient harvest festivals, Sukkot is a seven-day holiday celebrated by rejoicing in a sukkah, and offering prayers of thanksgiving. All are welcome to use the Kehillah's sukkah. To keep everyone safe, there will be advance sign up and we will follow social distancing protocols.

Shabbat & Sukkot Morning Service Saturday 10/3 9:45 am
Join in the beautiful songs of Hallel (praise) and prayers of thanksgiving and joy.

Simchat Torah

On Shemini Atzeret, we recite a moving prayer for rains to sustain us this year. On Simchat Torah, we celebrate beginning a new cycle of the Torah reading.

- **Shabbat, Shemini Atzeret & Yizkor Service** Saturday, 10/10 9:45 am
Join us for a morning service with Yizkor to remember loved ones who have died.
- **Erev Simchat Torah Celebration** Saturday, 10/10 5:30 pm
We have so much joy in the gift of Torah, even though we can't show it this year by dancing with the scrolls. Instead, tell us your favorite verses of Torah and/or the ways that being Jewish brings you joy. On Erev Simchat Torah, Rabbi Jen will use your responses as a springboard to dive deeper into the joy of Torah. This will come with a sprinkling of joyous Jewish songs. Watch your email for a response form.

Shabbat

Shabbat services are being held remotely via Zoom until further notice. Check your weekly email announcement for updates and Zoom links.

First & Third Friday Erev Shabbat Service 7:30 pm
Join us for uplifting Friday night services at 7:30 pm led by Rabbi Jen and Ari Weinberg.

Shabbat Morning Saturdays 9:45 am
Satisfy your spirit and intellect at these participatory services. Enjoy songs of praise, Torah, Haftarah and thought-provoking discussions.

Rosh Hashanah, continued

• Parallel Programming Cont.

9:45-10:30 am Renewal & Remembrance through the Lens of Poetry -Joy Kasson. Using our liturgy and the poetry of Emily Dickinson, Robert Frost, Marge Piercy and others, we'll explore what it means to seek renewal and regeneration on these sacred days.

11:45 am-12:30 pm Torah study and discussion—Steve Goldberg

Together we'll reflect on two key moments in the narrative of Genesis 21 -- God "taking note" of Sarah, and Abraham and Sarah's casting out of Hagar. What do these pivotal events teach us about the world of our ancestors, and about us?

- **Lobby-** Chat with friends old and new in the virtual lobby- 9:00-10:30 am; 12:15-1:00 pm

• Children's Services

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|---|
| 9:30-10:00 am | Tots-K | An interactive service just for younger kids |
| 10:00-10:30 am | 1st-4th graders | A musical service with themes of tefillah, tzedakah (righteous giving), and teshuvah (repentance) all presented in an engaging, interactive way. |
| 11:45 am-12:30 pm | 5th-7th graders | Come meet with your friends and discuss ways to do better this year. |

Rosh Hashanah Day 2 Service Sunday 9/20 9:30 am
Join us for this brief, interactive, ZOOM-friendly morning service, designed by the Reconstructionist Movement. We'll have time for prayer, reflection and small group discussion on the key themes of the Holiday. During the Torah service will be our first Chance to hear the shofar this year on Rosh Hashanah.

Tashlich Sunday 9/20 4:00 pm
Come join this beautiful ritual of tossing breadcrumbs/fish food into moving water to symbolize releasing sins and purifying our souls for the New Year. For Kehillah members, we'll have a few outdoor sites in Orange and Durham Counties for gathering, keeping our numbers to a maximum of 25 at each location. Masks and social distancing required. You'll receive an e-mail to sign up in advance. For a self-guided ritual, see our website.

Yom Kippur

Yom Kippur

In a time of uncertainty, familiar rituals comfort & guide us. We will be keeping our traditional structure for Yom Kippur services but abridging them for Zoom. As on Rosh Hashanah, we will have a virtual lobby and parallel programming for meditation, study & small group discussion.

Kol Nidre

Sunday 9/27

6:30 pm

This spiritually moving service includes beautiful prayers that focus on the truth of our mortality, asking for forgiveness, forgiving others, and recommitting ourselves to living life to the fullest. We'll begin the service with the lighting of a Yahrzeit (Memorial) and Holiday candles. If you are able, please set up a yahrzeit candle and two candles in your own home. In this way, we'll join together in bringing sacred light to our observance of Yom Kippur.

Yom Kippur

Monday 9/28

9:00 am

How do you connect? Is it prayer? Schmoozing? Study & discussion? Meditation & gentle movement? This High Holy Days we have you covered.

• Main Services

- 9:00 am Morning Service.** On this day we strive for a sense of at-one-ness with God and ask for forgiveness for the ways we have strayed from our highest ideals.
- 10:30 am Torah Service**
- 11:45 am Rabbi Jen's D'var, Yizkor and Concluding Prayers**
- Break We will resume at 4:30 pm**
- 4:30 pm Martyrology/Mincha & the Book of Jonah.** Every year we take time for the difficult but sacred task of honoring our ancestors who gave their lives for their Jewish faith. We'll follow the Martyrology service with Mincha prayers, Torah reading and Haftarah. This year, we welcome David Weiner of Congregation Etz Chayim to lead these services with Susan Klebanow
- 6:30 pm Neilah/Concluding Service.** We chant the Shema, hear the final shofar blast, and participate in havdallah. Please bring out your havdallah candle, kiddush cup, wine & spices to join us in this ritual.

Yom Kippur, continued

- **Parallel Programming-** Please go here for other choices. This room will be closed from 10:30 am-12:15 pm, so that we may all be together for the Torah Service.

9:00-9:45 am Vulnerability and Self-Compassion- In this time of self-reflection, we are aware of our vulnerability and the need to not just forgive each other but ourselves as well. Join us as we let go of the stress held in our bodies, and then turn inward for self-compassion. Gentle chair yoga and mindfulness meditation led by Doreen Stein-Seroussi (IAYT certified Yoga therapist at UNC Lineberger Cancer Center).

9:45-10:30 am Contaminating and Purifying People, Things and Nations- Ziggy Rivkin-Fish. What can Yom Kippur teach us about demonizing and decontaminating others? How is COVID-19 related to controversies over people who have migrated here? What does Yom Kippur tell us about dehumanization and decontamination?

4:30-5:15 pm The Temple as Fallen Monument: Rewriting History as an Act of Penance- Leonard Rogoff. Witnessing the fall of the Temple the ancient rabbis rewrote history and demanded our penance, personally and collectively. What does the Avodah liturgy (the re-enactment of the High Priests' Yom Kippur rituals of atonement) teach us about truth, reconciliation, and reparations? Leonard Rogoff is a Kehillah founder and historian of Jewish Heritage North Carolina.

- **Lobby-** Chat with friends old and new in the virtual lobby-9:00-10:30 am, 4:30-6:00 pm

- Children's Services

9:30-10:00 am Tots-Kindergarten Explore themes of saying "I'm sorry" and granting forgiveness.

10:00-10:30 am 1st-4th graders Engage in an interactive service focused on forgiveness and ways to do better next year for ourselves and for the world.

11:45 am-12:30 pm 5th-7th graders Come and join your friends to hang out and discuss how we may have missed the mark this year as individuals and as a community and explore ways that we can do better.