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Rabbi Solomon Hoffman
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Chapel Hill, NC 27514
919-942-8914
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Guide to High Holy Days 2023/5784

High Holy Days at Kehillah Synagogue. A time to reflect on the course of our lives and to dedicate ourselves to teshuvah (repentance/returning).

We come together to draw on rituals and traditions that bring deep meaning and spiritual connection to our lives.

Services At a Glance

Erev Rosh Hashanah Evening Service	Fri. 9/15 7:30 pm	Kol Nidre Service	Sun. 9/24 6:30 pm
Rosh Hashanah Day 1 Morning service Children's service	Sat. 9/16 9:00 am 9:30 am	Yom Kippur Morning service Children's Service	Mon. 9/25 9:00 am 9:30 am
Rosh Hashanah Day 2 Morning service Tashlich	Sun. 9/17 9:00 am 4:00 pm	Martyrology & Mincha Neilah Community Break-Fast	4:45 pm 6:45 pm 7:45 pm

Matter. Grow. Belong.

A message from your Board President, Rabbis and CEO

Whether you're here for the first time, or are a longtime member, we want to welcome you to Kehillah for these *Yamim Nora'im*, Days of Awe. Together, we create sacred community for the High Holy Days and beyond.

The High Holy Day prayer *Unetaneh Tokef* emphasizes three actions for this season: *Teshuvah* (returning, or repentance), *Tefilah* (prayer), and *Tzedakah* (giving that brings justice).

Considering these more broadly, they reflect much of what Kehillah offers: *Teshuvah*, the opportunity to grow and change through engaging with our tradition and one another. *Tefilah*, coming together in prayer and song to connect to our values, and mark holidays and lifecycle events. *Tzedakah*, giving—of ourselves, our skills, our time, our resources—in collaboration with our local interfaith and community partners. Through our Preschool, Religious School and other educational offerings, we pass these Jewish values and practices *l'dor v'dor*, from generation to generation.

We are excited about what this year will bring! With the energy of those who have recently joined, new members of our staffing team, and the passion of our dedicated members, we are eager to see all that we can do together in 5784. The pages ahead show the many opportunities we have to connect and rejoice, from beloved Kehillah traditions to brand new programs.

So, whether you're looking to reconnect, or get more involved, we hope you'll join us! We look forward to sharing our vibrant, diverse, and multi-generational Kehillah with you, and invite you and your family to be a part of continuing to build this sacred community.

L'shanah tovah,

Joel Tepper, President

Rabbi Jen

Rabbi Solomon

Mary Lawrence, CEO

Life and 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
Linda Baggish
Judith Barrett
Stephen Barrett
Sheldon Becker
Rebecca & Sam Benen
Donna Berkelhammer
Debra Bernstein
Elaine Bolle & Lester Levine
Diana Braunstein
Miriam Braunstein
Lois Bronstein
Katherine Soule Burk
Dara & Gerald Cohn
Nancy Curtis & Laura Delbridge
Sandra Eisdorfer z"l
Amy Entwistle & Alyson Hyman
Anita & Paul Farel
Rabbi Jennifer Feldman
Linda Frankel & Lewis Margolis
Nan & Joel Friedman
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Kathleen Rounds & Roger Schwarz
Susan & Steven Schwarcz
David & Carol Sclove
Cara Siegel
Susan Siegel
Elizabeth Singer & Neal Wolgin
Joel Srager z"l
Allen Suess
Abigail Tepper
Laurie & Joel Tepper
Carol Vata
Jennifer Weinberg-Wolf & Jon Miller
Andy Werden
Diane Wright
Michele Zembow
Irene & Barry Zipper
Anonymous (1)
There is room for your name, too!

(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 President, Board of Directors, Rabbis and CEO

We are delighted to announce our wonderful progress in the community-wide Life & Legacy program sponsored by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. The purpose of the program is to ensure the future fiscal health of synagogues and Jewish day schools.

Through this program we continue to reach out to you and all who love Kehillah to join our L’Dor V’Dor (generation to generation) Society. Nearly half of all Kehillah members have already made a commitment to our program and joined our L’dor V’dor Society. 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.

Through participation in our L’dor V’dor Society, you are able to show what you hold dear. As one member stated, “I value Kehillah Synagogue: the community, services, the religious and pre schools 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 Life & 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. For a confidential, no obligation conversation, or for more information, contact Mary Lawrence at Kehillah at 919-942-8914, or Stan Robboy at 919-225-4295. We look forward to adding your name to Kehillah’s L’Dor V’Dor Society!



High Holy Days at Kehillah

Here are a few tips to help you enjoy services.

New faces are welcome.

Both members and non-members are welcome at High Holy Day services. We hope that everyone joins us to sing, chant, and pray. Our mahzorim are fully transliterated and contain many explanations and readings.

A chance to connect.

Whether you come for part of the services or all of them, don’t miss the chance to meet Kehillah members. Schmooze over sweet honey cake on Erev Rosh Hashanah, enjoy group study and discussion on the second day of Rosh Hashanah and break the fast as a community to end Yom Kippur. High Holy Days is a time to connect.

A time to reflect.

Rabbi Jen’s and Rabbi Solomon’s messages are timely and thought-provoking. They help us to consider, ponder, and question. Their sermons, and our subsequent discussions, bring relevance, meaning, and hope to the High Holy Days. Additionally, our members give introductions to the Torah and haftarah readings, providing new insights into these ancient texts. We also encourage you to peruse the readings and meditations in the prayer book.

Many ways to participate.

We encourage everyone to join in, from our members to those just visiting for the first time. Participate in the community aliyah on Rosh Hashanah, the newcomers aliyah on Yom Kippur, and/or the shofar chorus on the second day of Rosh Hashanah.

Something for all ages.

We offer special services for tots and older children. These engaging services are a great way to celebrate with kids and meet other families.

A chance to belong.

You can join Kehillah at any time. For membership information, call 919-942-8914 or email us at info@kehillahsynagogue.org.

Donations

Kehillah welcomes everyone for our High Holiday services. No tickets are required. We do ask our members and guests to make donations in support of Kehillah’s mission and programs. You may donate online or mail your contribution in one of the giving remit envelopes provided.

Rosh Hashanah

Erev Rosh Hashanah Friday 9/15 Sanctuary, 7:30 pm
Begin the New Year with this brief evening service. Join us afterward for sweet honey and apple cakes.

Rosh Hashanah Morning Service Saturday 9/16 Sanctuary, 9:00 am
This morning service focuses on birth and new beginnings. Hear reflections on the Torah and Haftarah readings from our members and an inspiring sermon.

Rosh Hashanah Day 2 Service Sunday 9/17 Sanctuary, 9:00 am
Since the first day of Rosh Hashanah falls on Shabbat, this service will be our first opportunity to hear the shofars sounded. Bring your shofar and join in! We also engage in an interactive text study and discussion.

Tashlich Sunday 9/17 Umstead Park, 4:00 pm
We gather for a brief service and then toss bread crumbs into moving water to symbolize purifying ourselves of our sins. Bring a few breadcrumbs and we'll have some environmentally friendly fish and duck food to toss away too! Afterward, we enjoy time at the park. Feel free to bring chairs and blankets.

Especially for Children

Rosh Hashanah Day 1 Saturday 9/16 Education Wing, 9:30-10:30 am
Tots-K
Join this interactive musical service with New Year themes and see what surprises are in our Rosh Hashanah box!

1st-4th graders Chapel Emanuel, 9:30-10:30 am
Enjoy this special service with themes of tefillah (prayer), tzedakah (righteous giving), and teshuvah (repentance)—all presented in an engaging and interactive way.

Tashlich Sunday 9/17 Umstead Park, 4:00 pm
Join us for this family-friendly event followed by fun at the park. See above for more info.

Yom Kippur Monday 9/25 Education Wing, 9:30-10:00 am
Tots-K
Explore themes of saying “I’m sorry” and granting forgiveness.

1st-4th graders Chapel Emanuel, 9:30-10:30 am
Engage in a special discussion and prayers geared toward elementary school students.

Member Engagement

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.

Kehillah 2023-2024 Committees

Adult Education: Michele Rivkin-Fish

Advancement/Development:

Stan Robboy

Cemetery: Josh Ravitch

Chevra Kadisha:

Lew Margolis & Amy Rosenthal

Finance: Craig Poms

Governance: Joy Kasson

Lovingkindness Circle: Kelly Alexander

Member Engagement: Susan Rakley

Preschool Strategy: Jodi Berkowitz

Religious School:

Lily Farel & Jen Weinberg-Wolf

Ritual: Henry Fuchs & Diane Wright

Social Action: Kathy Kaufman

Loving-Kindness Circle is the name of our Caring Committee. We provide meals of consolation, food for those who are ill or recovering from a hospitalization, and other needs for our Kehillah community. We also deliver welcome totes to new members and holiday baskets to our elders. Please sign up on the following website to add your name: www.lotsahelpinghands.com.

Feeding the Hungry: Kehillah members participate in the Chapel Hill/Carrboro CROP Hunger Walk, hold a monthly food drive for IFC’s (Interfaith Council for Social Services) Community Market (Food Pantry), and prepare meals for those in need at the IFC’s Community Kitchen. Contact Lew Margolis: lew_margolis@unc.edu.

Parking For Good: Kehillah supports several charities 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 \$4800 for our local community. Contact Lee Nackman: lee@nackman.com.

Chavurot: Get connected and have some fun! Call the office for details.

- Monthly Havdalah group for members held in Durham
- Kehillah Crafters: an ongoing forum to both learn and practice decorative hand crafts that can be applied to ritual objects and Judaica.
- 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.
- Garden Crew: designing, planting and tending the Kehillah Courtyard.

Have an idea for a chavurah? Email the office!

Adult Education

Service Leaders Group – Kick Off Program - Thursday, October 12, 7:00 pm

Kehillah services include the voices of many members—leading parts of the service, chanting Torah or offering divrei Torah—alongside the leadership of our rabbis. This year, we are starting a new program to offer support and training for our lay leaders. Join us at this first gathering for reflective study and skill sharing. Then we'll break into chevruta (study partners) or small groups to work on specific skills. This group is open to all, from experienced leaders looking for a refresher, to aspiring leaders looking to learn!

Music Circle with Rabbi Solomon

This program mixes singing, text study, personal reflection and meditation to explore different ways of engaging with Jewish spiritual practice. The program will occur during each Jewish month after the fall holidays (Cheshvan on October 19 and Kislev on November 16). Each meeting will include a connection to the cycle of the Jewish calendar. Additional dates to be announced.

Havdalah with guest speaker Dr. Jackie Feldman - Saturday, November 4, 7:00 pm

Dr. Feldman is a professor of anthropology at Ben Gurion University who will be a visiting professor at UNC this semester. Among other topics, he researches religious tourism to Israel and has written a book about his own experience as a Jewish Israeli tour guide working with Christian pilgrims.

Kehillah Book Club - *The Bible, With and Without Jesus* -Thursday, November 7, 7:30pm

The Kehillah Book Club meets every other month, and reads a variety of titles chosen by community members. Our next meeting will include the book's co-author, Marc Zvi Bettler. Call the office to request more information.

Kehillah Jewish Preschool

KJP welcomes children of all faiths, ages 6 weeks to 5 years with a safe, stimulating, and nurturing environment. Our 5-STAR licensed preschool helps children learn about the world around them. Here, children are involved in active play, quiet play, drama, music, yoga, dance, literacy, building and science. Our learning includes celebrations of all major Jewish holidays and a weekly Shabbat sing-along. We have over twenty full-time and part-time teachers with an enrollment of eighty students.

Yom Kippur

Kol Nidre

Sunday 9/24

Sanctuary, 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.

Yom Kippur

Monday 9/25

Morning Service

Sanctuary, 9:00 am

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.

Torah Service and Yizkor

Sanctuary, 10:30 am

We read from Torah, hear words of wisdom from our congregants and our Rabbis, and join in a memorial service.

Musaf and Avodah

Sanctuary, 12:30 pm

We recite communal viddui (confessional) and selichot (penitential) prayers.

Gentle Yoga and Meditation

Chapel Emanuel, 1:30 pm

Through mindfulness & movement, open your heart to the spiritual power of this sacred day.

Martyrology/Mincha & Discussion

Sanctuary, 4:45 pm

Every year we take time for the difficult but sacred task of honoring our ancestors who gave their lives for the Jewish faith. We'll follow the Martyrology service with the Mincha prayers, Torah reading, and Haftarah. We'll conclude with lively discussion of the many layered meanings in our Haftarah, the Book of Jonah.

Neilah/Concluding Service

Sanctuary, 6:45 pm

This powerful final service of Yom Kippur concludes with the shofar's blast and Havdalah.

Community Break-Fast

Sanctuary, 7:45 pm

Join us for a communal break-fast. **RSVP Required** 919-942-8914 or frontdesk@kehillahsynagogue.org.

Sukkot & Simchat Torah

Rooted in ancient harvest festivals, Sukkot is a seven-day holiday celebrated by rejoicing in a sukkah, sharing communal meals, and offering prayers of thanksgiving.

Erev Sukkot New Member Potluck Friday 9/29 Sukkah, 5:30 pm
Usher in Shabbat by sharing a family-friendly meal with new and prospective members. RSVP required.

Shabbat & Sukkot Morning Service Saturday 9/30 Sanctuary, 9:45 am
Join in the beautiful songs of Hallel (praise) and prayers of thanksgiving and joy.

Breakfast and Learning in the Sukkah Wednesday 10/4 Sukkah, 8:00 am
Start your day by experiencing the mitzvah of eating in the Sukkah. We'll engage in a text study together to explore different aspects of Sukkot.

Shabbat Dinner and Musical Service Friday 10/6 Sukkah/Sanctuary, 6:00 pm
Join us for an evening of connection, song and reflection as we let go of the week and welcome Shabbat together. Open to all ages! RSVP required for dinner.

Shemini Atzeret, Yizkor & Shabbat Services Saturday 10/7 Sanctuary, 9:45 am
On Shemini Atzeret, we recite a moving prayer for rains to sustain us this year. Join us for a morning service with Yizkor to remember loved ones who have died.

Pizza & Simchat Torah Services Saturday 10/7 Sanctuary, 6:00 pm
Sing and dance with the Torahs as we encircle ourselves with the scroll. We read the final verses of the Torah and begin again with Genesis.

Religious School Highlights

Sukkot Family Program Sunday 10/1 10:30 am
Join us in our sukkah for fun Sukkot activities, including waving the lulav and etrog!

B'Yachad: Together Sundays 9/10, 10/22, 12/10, 1/21, 3/24, 4/28 Chapel Emanuel, 9:30-10:30 am
Begin a Jewish journey of making friends and learning in this program for 3-4 year olds and their parents. Open to all, contact the office to register.

Shabbat Services

Kehillah has Shabbat services every Saturday morning, and select Friday nights, usually the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month. Check the Kehillah calendar on our website for exact dates.

First Fridays: Shabbat Dinner and Musical Service Sanctuary, 6:00 pm
We begin with candle-lighting and Kiddush, then a catered, sit-down dinner, followed by a brief, song-filled, instrument-accompanied service, including Kaddish. RSVP required for dinner.

Third Fridays Kehillah Courtyard and Chapel Emanuel, 6:30 pm
A casual, musical, and spiritual Kabbalat Shabbat, led by Jewish adults in their 20s-30s, and open to all. Our celebration begins with harmony and song, followed by Shabbat evening services and a Kosher veggie and dairy potluck (outdoors).

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

Junior Congregation Chapel Emanuel, 11:00 am
A monthly hour long service for our 3rd-7th grade students, supported by our madrichim and Religious School teachers.

Monthly Shabbat Shira Sanctuary, 9:45 am
Enjoy this dynamic Shabbat morning celebration with instruments, joyful singing, and a big dose of ruach (spirit)!

Tot Shabbat Education Wing, 11:30 am
Wiggle, sing, and dance at this hands-on musical service for infants through 5 year olds. Meet other families, learn engaging Shabbat songs, and enjoy the communal Shabbat luncheon. Meeting monthly on the following dates: 10/14, 11/4, 12/2, 1/13, 2/10, 3/2, 4/13, 5/11, 6/15.