



Anshe Emet monthly

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The Call of Elul and The Upcoming Holidays: There is a Time to Shelter in Place and There is a Time to Innovate

Michael S. Siegel Senior Rabbi, The Norman Asher Rabbinic Chair msiegel@ansheemet.org



If the writer of Ecclesiastes was with us today, he might have added a line to his most famous work: There is a time to Shelter in Place. And, if he was made

aware of Anshe Emet's response to this time of COVID-19, he might have also added: *And there is a time to innovate*. Since March, many of us have acclimated ourselves to attending birthdays and weddings, Seders, Brises and baby namings, B'nai Mitzvah and even funerals virtually. I am pleased to note that our Shabbat services and online programming have been attended virtually by hundreds. While all of us continue to long for a world without masks and social

distancing, Zoom and other internet services have truly been a blessing for all of us.

The Hebrew month of Elul is upon us, announcing that the High Holy Days are in the offing. Here again, everything is the same and everything is different. We will sound the shofar, in a safe and socially distanced manner, celebrating a New Year. As we have since the beginning of the pandemic, Anshe Emet will continue to find innovative ways to connect with our community and create opportunities to engage with our tradition and with each other. The month of Elul will be filled with a myriad of opportunities to learn, to pray, to laugh, to talk, to share and to learn from one another.

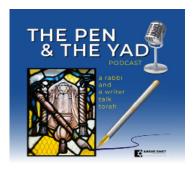
There is no question that the High Holy Days this year will be different than anything any of us have experienced in the past. We are working with the medical experts on our reopening committee to explore how to safely accommodate small groups of in-person worshippers. However, the vast majority of our community will be attending High Holy Day services online. I want to personally assure you that even under these trying circumstances, we will be true to what makes us Anshe Emet. We will offer an array of beautiful, meaningful services for our community to attend that span from our grand Sanctuary service, to our more familyoriented, participatory service in Blum,

as well as the lay-led Malkov Chapel worship experience. In addition, there will be family services. The length of the service will also be adjusted, knowing that so many will be watching the service on a screen. As much as we are doing, we are deeply aware of the fact that as good as a virtual experience can be, it is not the same as sitting in the same room with others; going up to a person and saying hello, introducing yourself, or having the opportunity to give someone a hug in a challenging moment.

As we enter the High Holy Day period, I encourage you to take advantage of all that the congregation has to offer. Please know that our remarkably talented staff remains committed to doing everything in our power to develop our technological reach, and to create a powerful, meaningful holiday experience for our Anshe Emet family. We will heed the words of our modern Ecclesiastes: There is a time to Shelter in Place and there is a time to innovate. As the new year approaches, that is exactly what we intend to do.



2 visit us at ansheemet.org



Rabbi Michael Siegel & Jonathan Eig

New Episodes Weekly.

ansheemet.org/podcasts



Elul Introspection

At various times on our calendar we anticipate a holiday or a commemoration well before it begins. As I write this, we are approaching the "three weeks", between the 17th of Tammuz and the 9th of Av. Earlier in the year we counted the Omer for 49 days, many evenings we counted together as a community anticipating Shavuot. Rosh Chodesh Elul begins the season of introspection, getting us ready to face the new year.

We begin reciting Psalm 27 daily, we hear the shofar each morning, and in the Sephardic tradition they begin reciting selichot, prayers of penitence. Join us online nightly, or occasionally, beginning Wednesday night, August 19th at 8pm for approximately 15 minutes of Elul introspection. We will recite Psalm 27, enjoy a brief teaching or some music and gather as a community. This will be combined with Havdalah on Saturday nights and continue Sunday thru Wednesday nights each week, unless there is an evening program.



A community enriched by music.

The Az Yashir Music Task Force continues its work listening to congregants and staff, analyzing the data and feedback shared by our community, and gathering perspectives from a diverse range of congregations around the country. The level of participation in this project has been exceptional and reflects our community's strong commitment to music.

Want to take advantage of the hot August days to experience new music and brush up on your tunes for the High Holidays?

Check out www.ansheemet.org/azyashir for learning resources and music to inspire you!

Send us your feedback: music@ansheemet.org







We are so grateful for your continued dedication to Anshe Emet!

Please be sure to renew your membership and make a meaningful contribution to our Sustaining Fund.

We are more than a building, we are a community and we remain open —our hearts, our service, our faith and our dedication to you.

For questions with your membership, please contact Amy Karp: akarp@ansheemet.org.

The Clergy & Staff of Anshe Emet

August 2020 | Av-Elul 5780

Tu B'Av: The Holiday of Love

Arthur Friedson President, Anshe Emet Synagogue art.friedson@gmail.com

Dear Friends,

You may have never heard of one of my favorite Jewish holidays, Tu B'Av. Tu B'Av is the 15th of Av, and it is the light at the end of the tunnel of sadness marked by its more famous fellow, Tisha B'Av on the 9th of Av.

There's not much to it as a holiday: no special foods, no unusual rituals, not even any special prayers. So why is it a thing, you ask? The big thing is that it is Chag Ha'Ahava, the Holiday of Love.

The sages tell us that while our people were wandering in the desert, women could only marry men from the same tribe so that the inheritance in the Land of Israel would stick to tribal boundaries. Only on Tu B'Av could a woman marry outside of her tribe.

In Temple times, young women would dress in white and go to the fields where unmarried men would pursue them, a sort of Jewish Sadie Hawkins Day. In more modern times, singles would flock to Jewish resorts in

the Catskills.

This year, Tu B'Av reminds us that darkness always gives way to light, and that love can blossom even in the most difficult times. Let's stick together as a community so we can all emerge safe and healthy

when we reach the other side.

B'Ahava,

Drop-in

"...darkness always

gives way to

light, and love

can blossom

even in the most

difficult times."

lut Tud



Our Clergy and Staff are hard at work to ensure we provide personal and meaningful services to you and your family during the upcoming High Holy Day season. While plans are still being formulated, in accordance with local, state and federal guidelines, our goal is to ensure the safety of all of our congregants. Please, continue to check our website for all updates concerning the High Holy Days, Elul, Selichot and

more: ansheemet.org

HAZAK

FOR RETIRED ADULTS

HOKHMAH (WISDOM) ZIKNAH (MATURITY KADIMAH (LOOKING AHEAD)

HaZaK is an Anshe Emet daytime program for mature adults with active minds. Co-taught by our clergy and other community educators, this year HaZaK is focusing on Jewish Ethics with the Melton curriculum "Ethics of Jewish Living." Generously funded by Beatrice Mayer, z"l.

Join HaZaK every Monday in August: 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31

Join us at <u>ansheemet.org/zoom</u> Meeting ID: 663 098 957

Contact Hazzan Liz Berke for more information:

eberke@ansheemet.org



Next meeting: August 24 7:30 PM at Anshe Emet

Please join us online for our monthly support group for adults who have experienced the death of a loved one within the past two years.

Learn more at ansheemet.org/bereavementgroup

Your community wants to see and hear you during the month of Elul and the High Holy Days!

Please send a 10-30 second video of you and your family from your garden, your front steps, your dining room, a favorite place in Chicago place, etc., expressing your warm wishes for the New Year to your Anshe Emet family.

Deadline: August 21 - Noon

Submit to: Mimi Weisberg at mweisberg@ansheemet.org



THE JOSEPH & BELLE BRAUN ANSHE EMET RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Dear Families,

The Joseph and Belle Braun Anshe Emet Religious School has been shaping young lives for decades. Over the past five years we have reinvested in our children; we have shifted, innovated, and dramatically reimagined our program. Now, we can provide our families with an experience that is so much more than the Religious School of yesterday.

Our model is not one size fits all; we have options available to accommodate your child's schedule and learning needs. We remain committed to our vision pillars: *Knowledge*, *Flexibility*, *Diversity*, and *Community*. Religious School is for all children ages 4 years old (JK) -8th Grade. It is never too late or too early to start your child's Jewish education.

We can't wait for you to join our family!

Anshe Emet is committed to ensuring that money (or circumstances surrounding COVID-19) NEVER stand in the way of your child's education.

We are more than a building, we are a community.

We are more than a congregation, we are a family.

We are more than a religious school, we are a community that values learning.

We are more than a congregation, we are a family.

Registration forms for both new and returning families are online

at ansheemet.org/religiousschool. Email us today!

Sincerely,

Laurie Orenstein

Religious School Principal



Now is the time to renew your YAD Membership! We are more than a building, we are a community and we remain dedicated to you.

Renew your YAD membership at:

tinyurl.com/YADRenewal5781

Apply for YAD membership at:

tinyurl.com/YADMemberApp5781

Questions? Please contact Samantha Isenstein:

sisenstein@ansheemet.org

Don't Miss our YAD Pre-Shabbat Happy Hour Friday, August 7

As always, refer to our YAD webpage for all of our upcoming programming: ansheemet.org/YAD

SHMUSY Welcome Back Event!

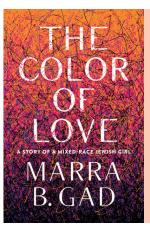
Tuesday, Aug 25 • 7pm

All 9-12 graders are invited to join the fun! Contact Samantha Isenstein to learn more: sisenstein@ansheemet.org



Thank you to these people for honoring their Minyan commitment.

Ben Abrams, Fran Abramson, Valerie Abramson, Bruce Arenson, Sara Aron, Sapat & Izi Aviyente, Barry Balik, Naomi Bank, Michael Bellows, Steven Berke, Gabi Boros, Dan Cederbaum, Loren Cohen, Margie Deitch, Steve Durchslag, Beth Farber, Gail Golden, Jay, Michael, Karen Goodgold, Karen Graham, Richard Herman, Marc Hersch, Elana Hiller, Sarah Hirsen, Ariela Housman, Samantha Isenstadt, Rachel Kaplan, Erez Klein, Jay Levine, Jay Lewkowitz, Roselind Lindau, Jane Lippow, Darya Lisserman, Rachel Lopatin, Andy & Jennifer Lucas, Marcie Marcovitz, Mark Minor, Alan Mintz, Wendy Newberger, Gerard Nussbaum, Shelly Parker, Fraeda & Gary Porton, John Ragir, Raquel, Erez, Nurit Rajstein, **August 2020** | Av-Elul 5780



Our AES Book Club Discusses The Color of Love by Marra Gad

Sunday, August 16 • 10AM

Discussion will be led by members Ron Hirsen and Susan Weininger. Read the book and join us!

Learn more at: ansheemet.org/bookclub

Our Sincerest Condolences

The Anshe Emet Community expresses its sincerest condolences to the families of:

Frank Levy Anita Minor Judith Feinstein Richard Wolff

May their memory be for a blessing.



It's A Bee's Life: Part of Our Elul Programming

Sunday, August 23 • 10:30AM

Join our very own Anshe Emet beekeeper, Leonard Rau, as he shows us his amazing collection of hives and discusses the process of making honey as we enter the sweetest of our Elul season.

Learn more at: ansheemet.org/beeslife

Misheberach List

If you would like to have a name placed on the misheberach (prayer for healing) list, contact Antoinette Nunez. Names will be kept on the list for two weeks unless otherwise requested.



Antoinette Nunez 773.868.5120 anunez@ansheemet.org



Erica Brown Lecture

Tuesday, August 25 • 7PM

Save the date! Erica Brown is an American writer and educator who lectures widely on subjects of Jewish interest and is scholar-in-residence for the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington, and a consultant to other Jewish organizations. Her "Weekly Jewish Wisdom" column has appeared regularly in The Washington Post.

Learn more at: ansheemet.org/ericabrown

Siman Tov U'Mazel Tov

Mazel Tov to these families who have welcomed newborns in the past month:

Simon-Bevan Family

Bob Riesman, Esther Rosenbloom, Ricardo Rosenkranz, Kim, Ari, Aviva Rubenfeld, Ed Salomon, Jerry Salzberg, Neil Schwartz, Carolyn Schwarzkopf, Elaine & Barry Seeskin, Ken Shapiro, Scooter & Pam Simon, Ricca Slone, Daphna Stepen, Greg Stern, Phil Stern, Michael Stern, Maya Tkachuk, Abe Trieger, David Weil, Evelyn Wilk, Andrea Yablon, Pavel, Maya, Lucia Yusim, Linda Zabon

Torah Readers:

Michael Goodgold, Gary Porton, Jay Lewkowitz Join us online for minyan Monday thru Friday at 7am Rosh Chodesh at 6:50am Sundays & National at 8:30am

we appreciate your thoughtful **DONATIONS**



Your gift sustains us as a center for Jewish Life. To donate, please visit ansheemet.org/donate

Contributions listed were received between June 3 - June 30.

TREE OF LIFE

Shomrim

Susie Karkomi & Marvin Leavitt

Ner Tamid

Joan & Linda Friedman Phillip & Nancy Resnick Michael & Mary Silver

Aron Ha'Kodesh

Robert & Carlen Katz Jeremy & Stephanie Liss Arnold & Kimberly Rubin Sydney & Cynthia Wexler

Etz Chayim

Norman & Virginia Bobins Jim & Julie Coffman Crown Family Philanthropies

Tony & Laura Davis

Steve Durchslag Betsy Gidwitz

Jacqueline Gilbert

Larry & Nancy Glick Robert & Hedwig Golant

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Elan & Tamar Jacoby Ruth Kahn

Edwin & Susan Katz

Lowell Kraff & Caryn Orlin-Kraff

Barry & Cheryl Kreiter

Ross & Lori Laser

Elaine & Donald Levinson

Robert Levinson

Barry Malkin & Jodi Block

Judd & Katherine Malkin

Jack Miller & Goldie Wolfe Miller

Suzanne Muchin & David Brown Ami & Miki Pissetzky

Avi & Joan Porat

Allan & Bonnie Sweet

David & Jamie Schwartz

Howard & Judy Tullman

Jerry & Lee Zoldan

Keter

Mats & Jessica Lederhausen

Magen Ron & Gail Kahn

Jay Lewkowitz

Warren Laski & Gretchen Silver Benjamin & Carol Mackoff

Lynne & Ralph Schatz

Dianne Tesler

Jamie Weiner & Carolyn

Friend-Weiner

Rimonim

Marilyn & Terry Diamond

Gerald & Edith Falk

Mark Karno

Mark & Jori Kovel

Jane Lippow

Alan & Jan Schwartz Lawrence Wolin

Klaf

Meta Berger

Ethan & Cathy Kahn

David & Barbara Orth

Daniel Lange & Geoff Rice Barry & Sharon Rosenberg

Elizabeth & Chip Appelbaum

Lowell Berkson

Biff Ruttenberg & Gwen Callans

Susan Goldstein

Arthur Friedson & Nancy Kohn Renee Schwartz

Eli Kaufman & Emily Waife

Linda Woloshin Sofrim

Michael Bellows

David Medow & Barbara Bernstein

Paul Berkowitz

Julian Blumenthal

Brian & Irene Caminer

Lauren & Glenn Chernyak Edward & Ruth Copeland

Marla Coquillette

Dale Berger-Daar

Russ & Amv Eisenstein

Steve & Alice Ginsburgh Cynthia Goldberg

Jeff Sirkin & Sandra Goldberg

Stuart & Diane Grauer

Deborah Gubin

Sharon Perlman & David Haase

Donald Honchell & Susan Horn

Jerry Salzberg & Elisabeth Howard

Freddrika & Bonnie Kammer

Jon & Debbie Karmin

Howard Oppenheimer &

Julie Ross Oppenheimer

Ken & Stephani Perlmutter

Edward & Elaine Pierson

Claudia Mendelson & Joshua Pincus

Marcia Kaminsky & Ed Rapoport

Marilyn Rest

Samuel & Sharon Schwartz

Raisa Shtofer Stuart Cohen & Marta Steele

Ralph & Donna Weichselbaum

Brian & Joy Wernick

Gregory & Lilya Zigelman **GENERAL DONATIONS:**

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Stuart & Diane Grauer

BERTHA PERLOW: Sam Grodzin

MARJORIE PIERSON: Edward & Flaine Pierson

PHYLLIS RACKOFF: Dianne Tesler

MILLIE RASKY: Edward & Elaine Pierson

JAMES REST: Marilyn Rest

LOUIS ROCAH: Barbara Rocah

SHELDON SIMON: Ari Parker

ROSE SLAVIN: Judd & Katherine Malkin MIRIAM SOBOROFF:

Ron & Sarah Hirsen

SABINA SOFFER: Sylvia Gordon

HELEN SPAGAT: Matthew Spagat

SIDNEY "JACK" STERLING:

Kevin Sterling & Michele Hakimian

PHILLIP SWEET: Allan & Bonnie Sweet SIMON TYSON: Neal Tyson

THEODORE WASSERMAN

Jerold & Dyonne Wasserman DAVID WEISS: Les & Nancy Lipschutz

JUNE TOBY WITKOV:

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Marilyn Goldberg

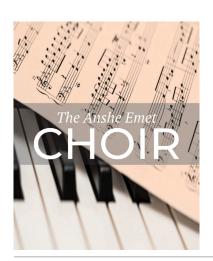
HAZZAN SHEINI LIZ BERKE Robert Costell

NAOMI WEISS-WEIL

In memory of:

MARLENE WEIL: Benjamin & Carol Mackoff

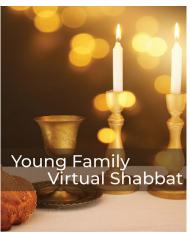




ANSHE EMET CHOIR August 6 • 5:15PM

Anyone who is interested in singing and having some fun, you are invited to join our weekly choir session, every Thursday at 5:15pm.

Learn more and register **here**.

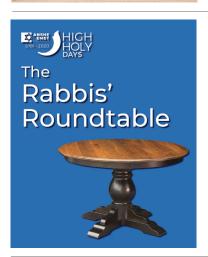


YOUNG FAMILY VIRTUAL FIRST FRIDAY DINNER AND SERVICE August 7 • 5:45PM

It won't surprise you that this First Friday will be a little different than the First Friday Family Service and Dinners we've had in the past.

Learn more and register **here**.

We can't wait to celebrate Shabbat with you and the Anshe Emet Young Family community!



THE RABBIS' ROUNDTABLE August 13 • 7PM

Join AES member and moderator, Barbara Gressel, and Anshe Emet's Rabbis, Siegel, Chankin-Gould and Russo for this important discussion about Anshe Emet's plans for Elul and the High Holy Days.

Learn more and join **here**



with Community Leader and Member

Tani Prell

LET'S TALK ABOUT RACE

August 13 · 8PM

Join *Koleinu*, our Racial Justice Committee, as we welcome community leader and AES member, Tani Prell for this special Racial Justice Training: "Let's Talk About Race."

Learn more and join **here**.



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AnsheEmet.org

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The building may be closed but the AES Clergy and staff remain open to you. Services, classes, pastoral & financial support and more are available to you during this time. For the most up to date information and for staff contacts, please visit us at: www.ansheemet.org



