Jewish Federation OF MADISON

Madison JEWISH NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2019
Elul 5779 - Tishrei 5780

A Publication of the Jewish Federation of Madison

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An Important Message to JFM Supporters

The Jewish Federation of Madison ("JFM") is dismayed by recent actions by both the governments of Israel and the United States, which interfere with decades of bipartisan U.S. support for the State of Israel. Concurrently, support for Israel has become more partisan and anti-Semitic attacks are on a significant rise locally and around the world.

Increasing partisanship over Israel is a threat to Jewish people everywhere. JFM joins our international colleagues in calling on the U.S. government, the Israeli government, and their members to immediately stop engaging in efforts to divide the Jewish people.

We want to be sure you know what we are doing to support a unified, vibrant, and safe Jewish community in Madison and throughout the world.

- JFM provides office space and support to Jewish Social Services ("JSS"), which allows them to do crucial work, including refugee resettlement, aid families in need, and educational programming.
- JFM runs community educational programming, such as Gan HaYeled Preschool, Camp Shalom Day Camp, and Midrasha, a community Hebrew High School.
- JFM supports the Jewish community through allocations to local beneficiaries: Jewish Social Services, Jewish Burial Association of Madison, Wisconsin Jewish Conference, UW Chabad, and UW Hillel.
- JFM produces and circulates a community newspaper and weekly online newsletters throughout the Madison community.
- JFM is the convener of physical and cyber security support for all Jewish institutions locally.
- JFM supports humanitarian and social service needs internationally including in Israel, and for Jews in peril around the world. For example, our dues help our international partners provide desperately needed supplies, medicine, food, and water to impoverished Jewish communities.

We are doing everything we can to vigilantly steward every dollar we receive from our generous donor base. We wanted you, our chief constituents, to know we remain just as dedicated as ever to the protection and support of Jews everywhere.

We cannot do that alone. We are thankful for your continued support. If you would like to become more involved in these efforts, please contact Executive Director Alan Klugman or President Debbie Minkoff. To donate: www.jewishmadison.org/tzedakah

Let's ensure that we continue working toward "Tikkun Olam" – repairing the world with acts of kindness. We need that now more than ever.

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L'SHANAH TOVAH!

By Alan Klugman, Executive Director, Jewish Federation of Madison and Deborah Minkoff, President, Jewish Federation of Madison

We want to wish the entire Madison Jewish Commuity a very Happy and Healthy New Year! As is the *Madison Jewish News* tradition, this September issue is dedicated to the Jewish New Year. It includes the High Holy Days schedule of services and programs around Madison (a great resource), as well as inspiring Shanah Tovah greetings from our community rabbis.

In the next few weeks, the Jewish Federation of Madison will kick off the 2019 Annual Tzedakah Campaign, ably co-chaired by Joel Minkoff and Joe Shumow. We hope you will join the hundreds of members in our community who contribute annually to the campaign. These donors assure that the Jewish Federation of Madison remains able to support local and overseas services and programming, which enrich and ensure Jewish continuity – in all of the many diverse ways we may each choose to celebrate Jewish life. Please RSVP for the Tzedakah Campaign Kickoff, September 22, on our website at: https://www.jewishmadison.org/kickoff2019. *See more details below*.

As we head into Rosh Hashanah, we are excited to share some expanded programming of our busy Community Relations Committee inlcuding: promoting an annual state-wide Holocaust Remembrance program; outreach to the local Muslim community; and updating and expanding our security efforts for all local Jewish institutions.

Volunteerism is at the very core of everything the Jewish Federation of Madison is engaged with on behalf of our community. Whether it is Gan Hayeled Preschool, Camp Shalom, Midrasha or Community Relations – we welcome you to join one of our committees and have an impact on services provided.

Together we can build a strong and unified Jewish community in order to ensure the survival, well-being, and continuity of the Jewish people in our area, in Israel, and throughout the world. Once again, we wish you and your loved ones a Happy New Year, L'Shanah Tovah.

I ♥ JEWISH MADISON

OUR COMMUNITY • OUR FUTURE

2019 Tzedakah Campaign Kickoff

Sunday, September 22 • 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Full Compass Systems

9770 Silicon Prairie Parkway, Madison, WI



with special guest speaker

Wendy C. Abrams

Wendy is the immediate past chair of National Women's Philanthropy (NWP) of The Jewish Federations of North America and current chair of the Community Outreach and Engagement Committee.

MORE DETAILS & TO RSVP
https://www.jewishmadison.org/kickoff2019

Thank you to our hosts, Susan & Jonathan Lipp of Full Compass Systems! All food served will be kosher. This event is free and open to the community. Attending the kickoff event implies a commitment to donate to the 2019 Tzedakah Campaign.

Board of Directors, Jewish Federation of Madison

Debbie Minkoff, President
jfmpresident@jewishmadison.org
(608) 278-1808

Alan Klugman, Executive Director
executivedirector@jewishmadison.org
(608) 278-1808

Camp Corner

CAMP SHALOM CLOSES OUT ANOTHER GREAT SUMMER!

Camp Shalom is A Program of the Jewish Federation of Madison welcoming all elementary and middle school-age children.



A PEAK AT SOME OF THE NOBO FUN











THANK YOU!

The 2019 Camp Shalom Scholarship Fund awarded $95,000 in full and partial scholarships - sending 89 children to Camp Shalom. Thank you to all the individuals, families, and businesses who donated to the Camp Shalom Scholarship Fund this year allowing us to continue a six-decade tradition of never having to deny a child a summer camp experience due to financial need.

2019 CAMP SHALOM RAFFLE PRIZE DONORS

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Rosati's Pizza
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Thank you everyone who purchased a raffle ticket too.

2019 CAMP SHALOM CORPORATE SPONSORS

Director's Circle
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Shalom Circle
($5,000-$9,999)
UW Health,
UnityPoint Health - Meriter & Quartz

Friendship Circle
($2,600-$4,999)
Sondel Family Veterinary Clinic
The Capital Times Kids Fund

Camper's Circle
($795-$2,599)
Bagels Forever
Clausen's Bakery
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Jewish Federation of Madison

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Home is Where Hillel Is

By UW-Madison Hillel Staff
UW Hillel is a beneficiary organization of the Jewish Federation of Madison



Here at the Barbara Hochberg Center for Jewish Student Life, those of us at Hillel are looking forward to another semester, another new year, and another chance to welcome students into our Jewish community at the UW-Madison. Every year we're offered a chance to reflect on who we are as a community. Since our community of students will eventually become a part of the Jewish communities of Madison, Milwaukee, and beyond, we'd like to share a little bit about the students that make Hillel their home away from home.

In Madison, Hillel is home for:
Students with one, two, or no Jewish parents.
Students who have been to summer camp, and those who haven't.
Students who've become a bar/bat mitzvah, and students who don't know what that means.
Students who are believers, and students who are skeptical.
Day schoolers, youth groupers, and Greek lifers.
Sephardim, Ashkenazim, Mizrahim, and Jews by choice.
Gay or straight, queer, bi and ace students.
Trans, non-binary, and cis-gendered students.
Students from the east coast, west coast, or no coast.

We're glad to be here to build a Jewish community for all of these students! We work hard to make sure that everyone in our Jewish community always feels welcome at Hillel. We hope that you'll play a role in welcoming them, too.



WE'RE HIRING
Director of Financial Resource Development
Jewish Studies and Hebrew Teachers at Midrasha
See Details & Apply: www.jewishmadison.org/jobs

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JEWISH FEDERATION OF MADISON
6434 Enterprise Lane, Madison, Wisconsin 53719
(608) 278-1808 | Fax: (608) 278-7814
JewishMadison.org | mjn@jewishmadison.org

Deborah Minkoff, President
Alan Klugman, Executive Director
Anne Shlimovitz, Director of Communications

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TEMPLE Beth El
TRIVIA NIGHT
HONORING OUR TRADITION 1939 80 2019 EMBRACING OUR FUTURE
OCTOBER 26
6:00–9:00 pm
Join us at Temple Beth El as Premier Trivia leads us in an evening of friendly competition.
Invite your friends and family to this intergenerational event.
Nonmembers are welcome. Intended for ages 13 and up.
$25 per participant • max 8 people per team
Register at tbemadison.org/event/trivianight
Registration includes Rocky Rococo pizza, beverages, and cash prizes.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Center for Jewish Studies at UW-Madison

The 2019 Kutler Lectures with Prof. James Loeffler
October 2, 2019 • 7:00 pm
"Blind Justice: Jews and Hate Speech in the American 1950s"
October 3, 2019 • 4:00 pm
"Beyond the Law: Jews and Antisemitism in the Global 1960s"
Pyle Center, 702 Langdon St, Madison, WI 53706
For more information email: events-lectures@cjs.wisc.edu.



James Loeffler is Jay Berkowitz Professor of Jewish History at the University of Virginia. His publications include *The Law of Strangers: Jewish Lawyers and International Law in the Twentieth Century* (Cambridge University Press, 2019), *Rooted Cosmopolitans: Jews and Human Rights in the Twentieth Century* (Yale University Press, 2018) and *The Most Musical Nation: Jews and Culture in the Late Russian Empire* (Yale University Press, 2010).

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HIGH HOLY DAYS SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Beth Israel Center
1406 Mound Street
(608) 256-7763
bethisraelcenter.org

Selichot
Saturday, September 21
8:30 pm-12:00 am

Erev Rosh Hashanah
Sunday, September 29
6:00 pm Services

Rosh Hashanah
Monday, September 30 &
Tuesday, October 1
8:00 am-1:00 pm Services
10:30 am-1:00 pm Children's Programs (K-7)
11:00 am-12:00 pm Preschool Family Service
Monday, September 30 Only
4:30 pm Tashlich at Vilas Beach
5:45 pm Mincha at BIC

Kol Nidre
Tuesday, October 8
5:40 pm Mincha
5:55 pm Kol Nidre
9:00 pm-10:00 pm Meditation following services (approximate start and end times)

Yom Kippur
Wednesday, October 9
9:00 am Services, including Yizkor
10:30 am-12:30 pm Children's Programs (K-7)
11:00 am-12:00 pm Preschool Family Service
Mid-Afternoon - Study Sefer Yonah with Rabbi Forester
Before Mincha - Guided Meditation with Matt Banks
4:20 pm Mincha
7:10 pm Final Shofar, Break Fast follows in the social hall

Chabad of Madison
1722 Regent Street
(608) 231-3450
chabadmadison.com

Erev Rosh Hashanah
Sunday, September 29
6:30 pm Evening Service

Rosh Hashanah (First Day)
Monday, September 30
10:00 am Morning Services
12:00 pm Shofar Sounding
2:00 pm Mincha Service
2:30 pm Tashlich Service
7:15 pm Evening Service

Rosh Hashanah (Second Day)
Tuesday, October 1, 2019
10:00 am Morning Services
12:00 pm Shofar Sounding
2:00 pm Afternoon Service

Erev Yom Kippur
Tuesday, October 8
3:15 pm Mincha Afternoon Service
6 :00 pm Kol Nidrei Service

Yom Kippur
Wednesday, October 9
10:00 am Morning Service
12:30 pm Yizkor Memorial Service
4:45 pm Afternoon Service
5:45 pm Neilah Closing Service
7:07 pm Fast Ends and Break Fast

Congregation Shaarei Shamayim
First Unitarian Society
900 University Bay Drive
Atrium Building
(608) 257-2944
office@shamayim.org
shamayim.org

Selichot
Saturday, September 21
7:00 pm-9:00 pm Service

Erev Rosh Hashanah
Sunday, September 29
5:00 pm Vegetarian Potluck
7:00 pm Services

Rosh Hashanah (1st Day)
Monday, September 30
9:00 am Services
9:00 am Tot Services (0-5 years old)
10:00 am Children's Services (K-5th grade)
10:00 am Discussion (6th-8th grade)
10:00 am Discussion (9th-12th grade)
3:00 pm Tashlich (call office for location)

Rosh Hashanah (2nd Day)
Tuesday, October 1
9:00 am Services
12:00 pm Picnic Lunch

Kol Nidrei
Tuesday, October 8
6:00 pm Services

Yom Kippur
Wednesday, October 9
9:00 am Services
9:00 am Tot Services (0-5 years old)
10:00 am Children's Services (K-5th grade)
10:00 am Discussion (6th-8th grade)
10:00 am Discussion (9th-12th grade)
1:30 pm Yizkor
3:00 pm Avodah
4:30 pm Discussion
6:00 pm Neilah
7:15 pm Break Fast Potluck

Temple Beth El
2702 Arbor Drive
(608) 238-3123
tbemadison.org

Selichot
Saturday, September 21
6:30 pm-8:30 pm Service

Erev Rosh Hashanah
Sunday, September 29
7:30 pm-9:30 pm Service

Rosh Hashanah
Monday, September 30
8:45 am–9:45 am Family Service
10:30 am–1:00 pm Morning Service
10:30 am–1:00 pm Youth Service for children ages 7–13
10:30 am–1:00 pm Childcare for children ages 0–6 (registration required)
1:15 pm–2:15 pm Tashlich Service & Nosh (all ages)

Erev Yom Kippur
Tuesday, October 8
7:30 pm–9:30 pm Kol Nidrei Service

Yom Kippur
Wednesday, October 9
8:45 am-9:45 am Family Service
10:30 am-1:00 pm Morning Service
10:30 am-1:00 pm Youth Service for children ages 7–13
10:30 am-1:00 pm Childcare for children ages 0–6 (registration required)
1:30 pm-3:00 pm Afternoon Study Session
3:00 pm-6:30 pm Mincha, Yizkor, and Neilah (concluding) Services
6:30 pm-7:30 pm Break-the-Fast

Young Jewish Professionals of Madison
(Affiliate of Chabad)
(608) 535-9770
yjpmadison.com

Erev Rosh Hashanah
Sunday, September 29
7:00 pm Brisket Dinner
The Concourse Hotel

Rosh Hashanah (First Day)
Monday, September 30
5:30 pm Shofar in the Park
Olive Jones Park

Rosh Hashanah (Second Day)
Tuesday, October 1
5:30 pm Shofar Ceremony
Call for location

Yom Kippur
Tuesday, October 8
6:15 pm Kol Nidre Service
Call for location

Wednesday, October 9
10:00 am Morning Service
6:00 pm Neilah - Closing Service
7:07 pm Bagels & Lox Break Fast
Call for location

UW Hillel
611 Langdon Street
(608) 256-8361
uwhillel.org

Erev Rosh Hashanah
Sunday September 29
6:00 pm Reform and Conservative Services
7:00 pm Dinner

Rosh Hashanah Day
Monday, September 30
9:00 am-12:30 pm Conservative Services
10:00 am-12:30 pm Reform Services
12:30 pm Lunch
3:00 pm Rosh Hashanah Party at the Union Terrace with apples and honey, refreshments, shofar, and Tashlich
6:00 pm Conservative Mincha and Ma'ariv services
7:30 pm Dinner

Yom Kippur- Kol Nidre
Tuesday, October 8
5:00 pm Pre Yom Kippur Meal
6:00 pm Reform and Conservative Services

Yom Kippur
Wednesday, October 9
10:00 am Reform and Conservative Services
12:00 pm Yizkor in both Reform and Conservative Services
2:30 pm Ask Big Questions Conversation
3:30 pm Ask Big Questions Conversation
4:45 pm Conservative Mincha Service
5:00 pm Reform Afternoon Service
7:10 pm Final Shofar, Yom Kippur Break the Fast Meal following the conclusion of services

L'SHANAH TOVAH!

Jewish Federation OF MADISON



JEWISH PROFESSIONALS ATTEND LGBTQ TRAINING

On Wednesday, August 7, twenty Madison Jewish professionals from Beth Israel Center, Jewish Federation of Madison, Jewish Social Services, Temple Beth El, and UW Hillel came together for a day of learning sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Madison with National Director of Education and Training, Daniel Bahner of Keshet, an organization that works for the full equality of LGBTQ Jews and their families in all facets of Jewish life. Daniel used Jewish values as a framework for understanding how we can be more welcoming of the LGBTQ members of our community. Thank you to everyone who participated in this important training and to Temple Beth El for hosting.



MORE CAMP SHALOM HIGHLIGHTS









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Congregation News

Temple Beth El • Congregation Shaarei Shamayim • Beth Israel Center

TEMPLE BETH EL (TBE)
2702 Arbor Drive, Madison, WI 53711
(608) 238-3123 • info@tbemadison.org

Thursday, September 5
11:30 am-1:30 pm
KESHER CAFE
Temple Beth El
Journey from Jerusalem to the North: discovering differences in Judaism; finding connection with the Arab population.

Thursday, September 5
5:00 pm-8:00 pm
ISRAEL MOVEMENT FOR PROGRESSIVE JUDAISM
Temple Beth El
Rabbi Ariella Graetz Bartuv will speak about the ways IMPJ continues to make strides for Israel's future while working to protect the achievements of the Reform movement of the past, and how each of us, as American Jews, can help to actively engage in this mission.

Sunday, September 8
1:00 pm–3:00 pm
TBE NEIGHBORHOOD OPEN HOUSE
Temple Beth El
TBE will open its doors to the neighborhood, offering tours and refreshments.

Monday, September 9
6:00 pm-7:15 pm
JUDAISM 101: HIGH HOLY DAYS
Temple Beth El
This monthly course is for anyone who is new to Judaism or wants a refresher on Jewish holidays, rituals, and vocabulary.

Sunday, September 15
9:30 am–11:30 am
FIRST DAY OF RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
Temple Beth El
For more information, please contact Director of Lifelong Learning, Nicole A. Jahr, RJE, at learn@tbemadison.org.

Sunday, September 15
1:00 pm–3:00 pm
SISTERHOOD PROGRAM
Temple Beth El
Speaker: transplant surgeon Joshua Mezrich, author of *When Death Becomes Life*.

KESHER FILM: A QUIET HEART
Wednesday, September 18
7:00 pm–10:00 pm
Temple Beth El
A young and gifted concert pianist, pressured by the need to excel, retreats to an Orthodox community to find solitude and escape the demands placed upon her.

Friday, September 20
SINGLES CREATING COMMUNITY COFFEE
9:00 am–10:00 am
Colectivo Coffee, 2530 Monroe Street

Friday, September 20
7:30 pm–9:00 pm
SHABBAT MIDOR LADOR
Temple Beth El
A musical service for the whole Temple family, presented by Les Goldsmith and The Promised Band.

Temple Beth El Photos:
Top: *The TBE community enjoyed Shabbat Outdoors at Wingra Park on August 2.*
Bottom: *TBE welcomed Cantor Jacob Niemi with a special service and reception on July 5.*











BETH ISRAEL CENTER (BIC)
1406 Mound Street, Madison, WI 53711
(608) 256-7763
office@bethisraelcenter.org

Sunday, September 8
9:30 am-12:30 pm
GEFILTE FISH COOKING WORKSHOP
Beth Israel Center
Learn a shortcut for making delicious gefilte fish for Rosh Hashanah. $18/person. This class is full. Contact our office to be placed on the waiting list.

Saturday, September 14
1:30-4:30 pm
MERCHAV HALEV MEDITATION MINI-RETREAT
Beth Israel Center
Come to Beth Israel Center for a Shabbat afternoon of meditation, chanting, and teachings.

Saturday, September 21
8:30 pm-12:00 am
SELICHOT PROGRAM & SERVICE
Beth Israel Center
In preparation for the Days of Awe, delve into an introspective and expressive text study with Rabbi Forester. Then enjoy late-night treats, followed by a stirring S'lichot service.

Every Saturday • 9:15 am-12:15 pm
SHABBAT SERVICES
Beth Israel Center
Celebrate Shabbat at Beth Israel Center. Services begin at 9:15 am and are followed by a kiddush lunch. Age-appropriate children's service resumes weekly for the school year on September 14. Visitors are always welcome!

Beth Israel Center Photos:
Top and bottom left: *BIC Camp Ramah parents welcome Ramah campers on their annual tour of Wisconsin, serving up delicious food and other expressions of love for camp and campers.*
Bottom right: *Rabbi Forester cools off with Ziv, Stav, and other friends (not pictured) on a hot Friday afternoon before services.*

L'Shana Tova!



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{SEE HIGH HOLY DAYS SCHEDULE ON PAGE 4}



CONGREGATION SHAAREI SHAMAYIM (CSS)
Located at First Unitarian Society
900 University Bay Drive
Madison, WI, 53705
(608) 257-2944 • office@shamayim.org

Sunday, September 8
COMMUNITY APPLE PICKING
Contact office for time and location
Start the new year with a bushel of sweet apples.

Saturday, September 21 • 7:00 pm
SELICHOT SERVICES
First Unitarian Society, Atrium Building
Join us for a special service to prepare for the new year led by Cantorial Soloist Michele Rozansky. Please bring a dessert to share.

Congregation Shaarie Shamayim Photo Above: *Members of Shaarei Shamayim gather at a summer retreat at Goose Lake.*

Jewish Education

CAMP SHALOM KATAN WRAPS UP

By Marla Becker, Director of Gan HaYeled Preschool
A Program of Jewish Federation of Madison

I LOVE CAMP SHALOM KATAN BECAUSE...

I play with my friends, and I like to run around with my friends, and they like to play with me, and they like to go in the houses and play in the sand with me. ~ ***Lola, Age 3***

I like finding toads because I love nature. ~ ***Jacob, Age 4***

I like making giant holes in the sand because you can pour water in them. ~ ***Oliver, Age 4***

I like EVERYTHING. Nothing else. ~ ***Elliot, Age 3***

I like playing soccer with my friends. ~ ***Lilah, Age 3***

I like insects, nature and books. I like nature because it's soooo cool. I like everything! ~ ***Eitan, Age 4***





MITZVAH PROJECT AT GAN:
Nathan Foreman is doing a 4 part series on sports for his mitzvah project!





REGISTER FOR GAN HAYELED PRESCHOOL FALL 2019
Serving children 18 months through 5 years old of all backgrounds. We offer flexible schedule options to blend with Public School 4K, including wraparound care, and experienced, loving, compassionate teachers.
For more info or to schedule a tour: Contact Marla Becker, Director, at gan@jewishmadison.org or (608) 278-1808.

REGISTER FOR MIDRASHA 2019/2020

Judaic Studies and Hebrew Classes for 8th - 12th graders

First Class: Wednesday, September 11, 2019
Cost: $330 for the year and $165 for 1 semester

Semester 1 (Fall) Location:
Wednesdays at Beth Israel Center • Sundays at Temple Beth El

Schedule Wednesdays:
- 6:00 pm - Dinner by Adamah (Optional for Hebrew Students at additional cost of $10/meal, $100/semester, $200/year)
- 6:15 pm - 7:00 pm - Hebrew (Optional Elective)
- 7:05 pm - 9:00 pm - Jewish Studies

Schedule Sundays:
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm - Hebrew (Optional Elective)

Fall Core Courses: 8th Grade: Jewish History;
9th Grade: Holocaust Studies; 10th Grade: Mussar;
11th/12th Grade: Social Issues in Contemporary Israeli Society

Optional 6:00 pm Dinner (*available for those enrolling in Hebrew*): As a convenience for our Hebrew students, Kosher meals prepared by Adamah will be available for purchase for $10 per meal, $100 prepaid for the semester or $200 prepaid for the year, per student.

See Details & Register:
https://www.jewishmadison.org/midrasha

Midrasha Hebrew High School is open to all local Jewish youth in 8th through 12th grade, who need not be affiliated with a synagogue to enroll. Midrasha offers experiences and educational opportunities that will strengthen teens' Jewish identity and inspire their desire to learn about their heritage.

DIVERSE NARRATIVES

By Kendra Sager, Director of Midrasha Hebrew High School
A Program of the Jewish Federation of Madison

Parker Palmer, an educationist and Madisonian, has been quoted as saying, "We cannot see what is out there by simply looking around. Everything depends on the lenses through which we see the world. By putting on new lenses, we see things that otherwise would be invisible."(Palmer, 2007)

One of the greatest strengths of the Midrasha program is its diversity. We are a pluralistic program and are proud to welcome students and teachers of a wide variety of Jewish backgrounds. In part, the role of the Midrasha program is to prepare students for Jewish life beyond the classroom. I believe that means introducing them to a range of practice and belief.

It is a deeply held belief that teachers are required to be "unbiased." Certainly, we hope our teachers are open-minded and allow for a variety of viewpoints, but I would posit that it is impossible for anyone to completely conceal their biases.

Each of us has a worldview, a lens through which we understand the world around us. To create the illusion that we are presenting an unbiased view to our students leads them to the false conclusion that we are speaking "Truth," or just as bad, speaking on behalf of the entire Jewish people. The problem with this way of teaching is that students come to believe that the teachers have the answers. As fallible human beings, we of course know that no matter how knowledgeable one might be about their subject, none of us has all the answers and none of us speaks for the whole of Judaism.

It is important to me that our teachers can be their authentic selves. Why not make explicit our biases and share our worldviews with our students? Is this not part of the lesson they are to learn¬—that there are many ways of being Jewish and each one informs the way we navigate the world?

It is my hope that the faculty of Midrasha share the richness of their diverse backgrounds with our students. I am looking for knowledgeable and passionate educators who will add their voices to the chorus of Jewish experience being shared with our students. We are fortunate to have many of our Jewish professionals participating on the faculty of Midrasha. They bring a wide range of perspectives and experience. If you would like to become a part of this esteemed faculty, please contact me at midrasha@jewishmadison.org to apply.

Inviting Sweetness And Goodness

By Rabbi Betsy Forester, Beth Israel Center



On behalf of the entire Beth Israel Center family, I wish you a *Shanah Tovah Um'tukah*, a sweet and good new year.

How do we bring those blessings? They do not simply come to us. In order to invite sweetness and goodness in our lives, our hearts must be open and our hands must be busy. Sweetness and goodness flourish when people share connections to other people. Our tradition seeks the unity of all things, based on a notion of God as an eternally unfolding process of being. All experience is linked and part of the oneness of God, and we experience the wonder of all that is good and sacred through communing with other people. As the Jewish philosopher Martin Buber writes, "All real living is meeting." Yet our tradition understands that we often feel alienated, not only from others but even from our truest selves. We seek order, yet our lives often feel disordered and messy. Indeed, as we reflect on the year 5779, we see tragic brokenness and fear in our Jewish world and in our society here in the great country in which we live. The fault lines run deeper the more desensitized we become to the violence, hatred, and marginalization around us.

We must remember that we are part of an ancient people bent on repairing our world, a people that strives for justice and elevates compassion, welcome, and the conviction that all human beings are precious, created in God's image, among our highest and most sacred values.

The kabbalists teach that within each of us burns a holy spark of Divine light, trapped in a clay shard, a bit of breakage from the vessel into which God first poured the light of all of Creation. No one vessel can contain all of God, and so it broke. We live in that breakage, each human soul yearning to reunite with all of the others. Opening our hearts to others and doing the work of building connection among human beings is our essential task. It is the only way we will raise ourselves up and bring the possibility of sweetness and goodness in our lives.

As we look toward 5780, I wish for all of us the faith and tenacity to foster and nurture connectedness and wholeness within ourselves, with the people we know, and with the people we have yet to meet. One connection at a time, we will bring warmth to humanity and healing to our world.



The Power Of Teshuvah

By Rabbi Avremel Matusof, Young Jewish Professionals of Madison (An Affiliate of Chabad)



On a recent visit with fellow Jews serving time at the federal prison, during the days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur which are called the Ten Days of Teshuvah, the topic of our conversation was "Teshuvah."

We quickly realized that translating the word "Teshuvah" as repentance causes various complications.

Repentance is defined as "deep sorrow, compunction, or contrition for a past sin, wrongdoing, or the like." In that case, do perfect people have no connection with the "Ten Days of Teshuvah?" Or perhaps is the calendar implying that everyone is a sinner? Whatever happened to giving the benefit of the doubt?

This is another example of a profoundly empowering Jewish idea getting lost in translation. "Teshuvah" does not mean to repent. Rather the root of the word is "Shav" - return.

Once in conversation, I was asked why some Jews are such hypocrites that they pray in the synagogue three times a day and eat only Kosher, but behave terribly in business!

"What is the hypocrisy?" I prodded.

"If they are such thieves why do they bother praying?"

"Why do you consider their prayer and Kosher diet hypocrisy?" I countered. "Perhaps cheating in business is their hypocrisy?"

At the core, everyone is pure and wants to do the right thing. Circumstances and experiences may cause us to get distracted from staying true to our essence and lead us down a path of bad decisions. Certainly, everyone is responsible for his or her actions, but those deficiencies can never define who we are. Our core remains the same.

This definition should not be taken for granted. In fact, when the Baal Shem Tov started teaching that *Teshuvah* is for everyone, he faced stiff resistance for insinuating that the scholars are guilty of sin. Their misunderstanding was the result of a lack of context for the role of *Teshuvah* and its power.

The verb of *Teshuvah* is not limited to sinners. Everyone needs to return to their pristine original selves. To reveal the essential connection with G-d not defined by behavior or claimed beliefs.

Now is the time to reveal that inner connection and find ways to access this purity throughout the year. The good resolutions you make this week will be the vehicle through which the divine energy available now will be accessible every day of the coming year.

So here's to new beginnings.

Shanah Tovah U'Metukah.

Embracing Our True Selves

By Rabbi Laurie Zimmerman, Congregation Shaarei Shamayim



A story is told of Reb Zusya. As he lay on his deathbed, with tears in his eyes, his disciples gathered around him. "What is the matter?" they asked. "Do not be afraid."

Trembling, Zusya told them he had seen angels in a vision: "When my life comes to an end, I have learned what question they will ask me."

His disciples were puzzled. Zusya was a pious, humble man. What could he possibly have to fear?
Zusya continued: "The angels will not ask me, 'Why were you not more like Moses?' And they will not ask me, 'Why were you not more like Joshua?'"

He sighed. "They will ask me, 'Why were you not more like Zusya?'"

As Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur approach, we might ask ourselves similar questions. Why were we not more like ourselves in the year that has passed? How can we embrace who we really are in the year to come? What would it take for us to live authentically?

Too often we aspire to be like someone else, or we measure our successes and failures against others. This story about Zusya challenges us to change our focus. It calls on us to live up to our own ideals.

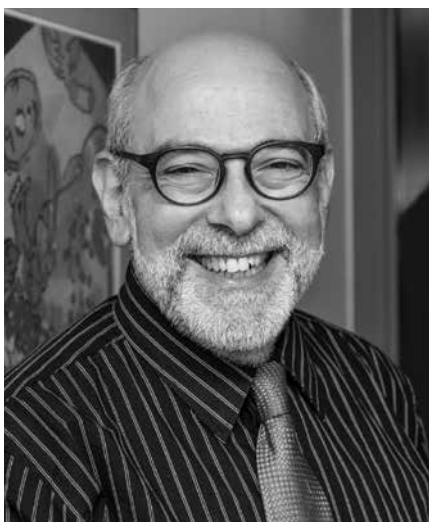
Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur offer us the opportunity to look inwards. They provide a space to consider how we can do *teshuvah*, or turn towards our best selves. Jewish tradition encourages us to do this within a congregation – to come together in friendship and community so we are not alone.

This year at Shaarei Shamayim our new High Holiday Cantor, Shira Standford-Asiyo, will be joining us from Vancouver. All are welcome to share a meal, attend a service, or participate in our programs at this special time of year.

On behalf of Congregation Shaarei Shamayim, I wish the Madison Jewish community a *shanah tovah*, a new year filled with health and happiness.

Believing In American Goodness

By Rabbi Jonathan Biatch, Temple Beth El



As the New Year season approaches, we begin to evaluate our behavior and improve the world around us. This year, the condition of our nation is on my mind. Political and social divisions abound; the use of racial slurs fills the broadcast spectrum; and many of us feel helpless to act.

In my mind, there are also four ideals that we Americans can look toward to strengthen our confidence in our local and national life. Above the fraught language and situations, we still can believe in American goodness as an antidote to what ails us. If you look closely below, you will find echoes of Jewish values and should direct our lives in this complex world:

American goodness starts with truth. No prevarication, no manipulation, no misrepresentation, and no exploitation. Honesty and forthrightness are among the bedrock principles undergirding decent human relationships as well as justice for each person in our nation.

American goodness includes giving others the benefit of the doubt. As we wish to be treated with kindness and the presumption of goodness, so, too, do we need to treat others in the same way.

American goodness mandates that each person must be granted the benefit of their experience when it comes to attacks of prejudice. A Jewish person will recognize and label someone's behavior or words as antisemitic; non-Jews should not challenge or discount this. A person of color will brand a heartless and rude remark as racism; white people should not presume to chide or correct that reality. The same goes for each minority in our nation.

Finally, American goodness will supply hope and optimism. Americans have always courageously promoted a vision of becoming the best we can become, so let us encourage ourselves to strive for excellence through an optimism in the future.

May we all have a happy, healthy, and peaceful 5780!

My American dream is one in which we envision no one losing at another's expense and everyone benefiting from everyone's best intentions. This is a sure thing. I'd double down on this.

Wishing You A New Year Of Radical Honesty

By Rabbi Renée Bauer, Jewish Social Services



When we celebrate Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish new year marking the birthday of the world, it would seem natural for the Torah reading to be the story of creation. This tidy story of God creating the world in seven days would help us on this most holy of days to appreciate the grandeur and order of the world. But instead on the Jewish new year, we read about messy human families.

On the first day of Rosh Hashanah, we tell the story of Isaac's birth and of Sarah's jealousy that leads Abraham to cast Hagar and his first son, Ishmael, into the wilderness. On the second day of Rosh Hashanah, we tell the story of the binding of Isaac, the disturbing tale of Abraham bringing Isaac as a sacrifice to God.

With these complicated stories of imperfect people, our tradition recognizes the truth about humanity and calls us to be radically honest about our lives. We may get dressed up, enjoy laughing with loved ones, and eat traditional foods at our Rosh Hashanah celebrations. Yet we also all arrive at Rosh Hashanah with our faults, our messy family dynamics, and our grief. We join together with hearts full of joy and gratitude, but also with hearts full of jealousy, anger, and fear.

When the Torah portions reflect these complexities, we begin to understand that there is sacredness in the reality of our lives and not just in the lives to which we aspire. It is when we look at the fullness of our lives as they are that change can happen, that we can do the work of *teshuvah*, of turning back to our best selves.

May each of us be blessed this holiday season to have the courage to bring our whole selves to the reflection of this season and the compassion to embrace others in their fullness.

On behalf of the whole staff at Jewish Social Services I wish you *shanah tovah tikatevu*.

This New Year We Must Have Hope

Rabbi Andrea Steinberger, Hillel at the University of Wisconsin



It is early August and we are waking up several mornings in a row to discover that another mass shooting has occurred. Northern California. El Paso. Dayton. We are walking around carrying the weight of the worry, wondering how it is that we will come around to solving these problems as a nation. We are watching asylum seekers locked in detention centers and we are full of worry for them. We feel hopeless and angry at the lack of compassion, lack of action we are seeing by our elected leaders. We are staying up late watching debates of 10 candidates each night, promising that they have what it takes to give us what we want. It is summertime and we are anxious again about a new year: of school, of politics, and of the *yamim noraim*, the days of awe and dread. And yet, the practices of the High Holy Days allow us to prepare ourselves yearly for a life of personal renewal and of taking responsibility.

As the new month of Elul comes in, throughout the month of September this year, many people take on the practice

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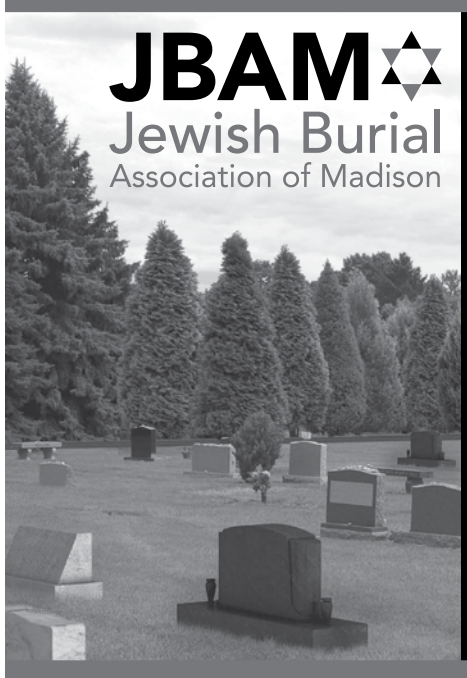

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(continued Rabbi Steinberger)

of reciting psalm 27 daily. This psalm serves as a meditation. The author of it seems to be in deep distress with enemies, whether physical or emotional, real or perceived, all around them. And yet, through the course of the psalm, the writer evolves from being fearful to being confident that they can overcome these challenges. The psalm ends beautifully: *hazak v'ya'ametz libecha*: "Be strong and may your heart be courageous." Perhaps some of the readers of this column will take on the practice of reading psalm 27 each day of September as an intention toward finding some strength and courage in this challenging time.

On Rosh Hashanah day one hears the croaky voice of the shofar. This beautiful service pushes each person in attendance to listen to the uncomfortable, moaning sounds that the shofar makes. It is like an alarm call waking us up out of our slumber, pushing us to get back into the world, face our challenges and take action toward making *tikkun*, making things right again where they are broken. This year on Rosh Hashanah, may each of us open our ears wide to hear the desperate and broken sounds of the shofar. May we pledge to find a sense of *tikkun*, first in ourselves, repairing relationships in our own lives. And then may we reach further toward our communities and pledge to give of our time and money toward making *tikkun* in our community, ending violence, having compassion for the stranger, taking action to solve what is broken around us.

On Yom Kippur day we fast and abstain from many of our daily pleasures, some not eating and drinking, some not wearing leather or perfume or makeup, in order to find some physical way to experience our own death in some sense. We deprive ourselves of some of the very things that we need when we are alive as human beings in order to experience a meditational state in which we may reflect on the very essence of our lives. This year we might allow ourselves to ask: Who am I? What is important to me? Where am I going? Whom do I love? How am I acting in this world? Perhaps some of us reading this essay will take on the responsibility of asking ourselves the right questions this year on Yom Kippur, of taking this day as one long meditation about where we want to be going next year.

And then we all emerge, as the night comes in at the end of Yom Kippur. We emerge with a sense of relief that these days of awe are ending. We have pushed ourselves to do a heshbon hanefesh: a personal accounting of our own soul. And we emerge with hope. We know that we may not remain indifferent. We know that there will be more violence. More argumentation. More disappointment in our elected officials. And yet we know that it is our responsibility to take action, to be actors in our own lives, and to come together as communities to solve the problems in our societies. This High Holy Day season, may we use this opportunity for a time of deep meditation and reflection, and may we each emerge with enormous hope for change and peace inside each of us and in our world. "*hazak v'ya'ametz libecha*: Be strong and may your heart be courageous."

Wishing everyone a joyful

Rosh Hashanah

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3:00 pm - 4:15 pm Visit Seniors

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If you cannot attend the meal, please join us for the free program at 1:00 pm. Many thanks to UW Hillel Adamah Catering for providing our delicious kosher meals.

Monday, September 9
11:30 am-12:00 pm: Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
11:30 am -12:30 pm: Complimentary blood pressure check with nurse, Lori Edelstein
12:00 pm-1:00 pm: Braised brisket, garlic mashed potato, market vegetables, mixed green salad, cake (Veggie option: BBQ jackfruit)
1:00 pm-2:00 pm: "Game Day," interactive group activities



Monday, September 16
11:30 am-12:00 pm: Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
12:00 pm-1:00 pm: Coconut curry chicken, saffron rice, market salad, market vegetable, cookie (Veggie option: Coconut curry tofu)
1:00 pm-2:00 pm: Mad City Jug Band: unique and eclectic Americana music

Monday, September 23
11:30 am-12:00 pm: Yoga from a chair with Betsy Haimson
12:00 pm-1:00 pm: Braised balsamic chicken, roasted potato, market vegetables, cake (Veggie option: Balsamic tofu)
1:00 pm-2:00 pm: Mark Stransky - Original piano music in a variety of styles on themes inspired by people and nature

Next month dates:
October 28

If you would like further information about the meal, programs, transportation, or to check on any cancellations, contact Paul Borowsky at (608) 442-4083 or paul@jssmadison.org.



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THANK YOU for letting us know what YOU think!

Thank you to everyone who submitted feedback online, by email, phone calls, and written notes on how you prefer to get your information about the Madison Jewish Community in the Save the Paper or Go Digital survey. We are carefully reviewing all of the data. Your input will help us to develop a communications strategy that best meets the needs of our community. Thanks again!

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Rosemary Elizabeth, daughter of Maureen and Jonathan Miner, granddaughter of Don and Kathy Miner, niece of Robin and Erica, and cousin of Elijah

Talia Rose, daughter, and **Jonah Wyatt**, son, of Elizabeth Scheibel, and grandchildren of Jane Pearlmutter and Steve Scheibel

Condolences to the families of
Donald Garelick, husband of Phyllis Garelick, father of Laura (Dave) Toso, Jeffrey Garelick (Kim Damian), and Anita Garelick (Marc Milavitz), and grandfather of Sam, Max, and Mitch (May Grace) Toso, Jordan and Lauren Garelick, and Zach and Jessica Milavitz

Max Gassman, son of Mike Gassman and Lani May-Gassman, nephew of Roberta (Lester Pines) Gassman, cousin to Anna Gassman-Pines and Jenny Gassman-Pines

Sidney Goldstein, brother of Herman Goldstein, husband of Alice Goldstein, father of Beth Goldstein (Rafi Frankel), David (Sarah) Goldstein, and Brenda Goldstein (David Shragai)

Bobbi Nowak, mother of Seth and Rhea, sister of Robert

Steven Oreck, husband of Kaaren Oreck, and father of Gregory and Brian Oreck

Sylvia L. Pasch, wife of James M. Pasch (z"l), grandmother of Mike (Kirsten Fruit) Ross, and great-grandmother of Ethan and Elliot Fruit-Ross

Erika Weinfeld, wife of Gershon Greenberg, mother of Ariel (Ioanna) Greenberg, and sister-in-law of Rayla Temin

Ida Wyman, sister of Ira Wyman, mother of Nancy Nathan and David (Pat) Nathan, grandmother of Heather (Potter) Garrison, great-grandmother of Noah and Caleb

Tributes

The Jewish Federation of Madison expresses its appreciation to these individuals who recently made a tribute donation to honor someone or celebrate a special occasion.

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In memory of Dr. Donald Garelick, Dr. Harry and Karen Roth

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