

Temple Israel – Charleston, W.Va. – High Holy Days services September and October 2022

Shabbat Shalom!

Our 5783 High Holy Day services (Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur) for September 25-26th and October 4-5th 2022 took place as scheduled.

Although there were some glitches and technical problems, mostly it seemed to go smoothly.

Apologies for everything that was less than perfect. We have been working on fixing it all for some time now, and have made a lot of progress and learned MUCH, but we know there is still room for improvement.

Our overwhelming amount of tech work was handled by David Shapiro, with assistance from Jill Epstein.

Many thanks to all for their participation in the services through the holidays.

First, I want to acknowledge David Stern and Bob Morris who, as always, provided lovely music, truly enhancing the service. We also appreciated the gorgeous addition of Sandra Gross on Viola playing the instrumental version of the Kol Nidrei.

Many members of the board and chairs of committees participated in the services by sitting on the Bimah, Opening/Closing the Ark, serving as Gabbaim, lighting the candles, delivering the announcement, leading readings, or in other ways. I would name them here, but I hesitate for fear of forgetting someone, and every single one of them is appreciated and valued, so I will simply say a heartfelt thank you and hope that you know I mean you, even without a list. My thanks to Fran Thalheimer for arranging for all of the honors that people were given.

Similarly, our Oneg Chag for Rosh Hashanah eve, and the break fast at the end of Yom Kippur was wonderful, and it took a small army to make them work. Special thanks to Mary Rich Maloy and Donna Goldberg who headed up the Oneg, and Marsha Albert and Ina Angel who headed up the Break

Fast. I know they were helped by many, many others – again, I am not making a list because I don't want to offend anyone by forgetting to include them. Just know that these were beautiful and deeply appreciated, enhancing the joy of our communal celebrations.

I can't overlook a note of thanks to the House Committee and the House Coordinator for all they did to prepare, serve, and clean up from all who were in the Temple.

From this very abbreviated listing, you can tell – it takes a village to pull off the High Holidays, and every single person who did anything that made them possible is appreciated and valued for all the gifts and blessings they brought forward to make this High Holy Day period so special and meaningful. I hope all of you found it as uplifting and fulfilling as I did; and it was in no small part due to the efforts of many working together for the benefit of our congregation and community.

Thanks to all who helped, and to all who attended and watched for taking part in creating our sense of community and sacred space.

The board voted at their regular September meeting that the building will be open for both in-person and online attendance at worship services, and also at other meetings as announced. Refreshments are again being served, so we have Oneg Shabbat and Holiday refreshments.

The board also voted to return to the policy suggesting masking (optional) in the building, and asked those attending to be respectful of other's desires regarding social distancing. They do ask that you be fully vaccinated to the current recommended standard.

In person or online, if you want to have a role in our services, please be in touch with Ronni Spudich about lighting candles, Betty Stern about an Aliyah, or me about serving as a Gabbai or leading any part of the service.

The High Holiday services were livestreamed to the Temple Facebook page, so you should be able to view the recorded services from throughout the holiday on the Temple Facebook page – Scroll down to find the recording of

the service you are interested in viewing posted on the Temple Facebook page here: <https://www.facebook.com/2550469431660054/>

I am also sending links to the Zoom recording files in this email.

Rosh Hashanah Eve -

https://drive.google.com/file/d/13TZXhXooAqYr6Qcp_n9OOTICBbgbklmL/view?usp=sharing

Rosh Hashanah Morning -

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VMUcmO8BCaqUyB1awnjM_evpzVLtqKe2/view?usp=sharing

Yom Kippur Eve (Kol Nidrei) -

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uoxwaJgHyO2CtYsiboaPb74pw5SuoHoG/view?usp=sharing>

Yom Kippur Morning -

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/14GOVfBwrjn3fZla8VqTp1MirIxzzLPvC/viiew?usp=sharing>

Yom Kippur Afternoon -

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1id47qFz4nfHbbdmenpOw6AG4EJXMyhkW/view?usp=sharing>

Yom Kippur Memorial (Yizkor) -

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bZkEupMOUiUINGkZHHNgbsolb-znkSc_/view?usp=sharing

Yom Kippur Concluding (Ne'ilah) -

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pMFyWf3vNBwVtQzgPwRR6vil-5H3UGnG/view?usp=sharing>

Yom Kippur Torah Study (BT Yoma 87a) -

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Jrwb1gaTnvLXTgqiAAyTycAR4wAjhcy9/view?usp=sharing>

As always, I would love to hear from you, especially including any suggestions for how you think we could improve the High Holy Day experience next year.

If you want to chat for a few minutes, please let me know. We have many options available - on the phone, in a zoom meeting, or by text or email, possibly even in person) - whatever works best for you. You can just let me know when you want to talk and we can arrange a time, or tell me when you are free and I can get in touch with you.

I send the THURSDAY REMINDER LINKS Email with links and details about accessing the events coming up over the weekend and through next Tuesday on Thursdays, and the SUNDAY REMINDER LINKS Email with links and details about accessing the events coming up during weekdays on Sundays – please refer to them, or transfer the link information to your calendar. If you don't get those REMINDER LINKS Emails, or any other emails that I send out, please contact me and I will re-send them to you.

If someone wishes to be added to our email list, we can arrange that – just ask them to let me know directly (by email or text), so we are sure not to 'spam' anyone.

Wishing you a Shabbat Shalom, Gmar Chatimah Tovah, and a Chag Zman Simchateinu Sameach! Stay safe and well!

Joe

Rabbi

Joe Blair