Temple Israel Bulletin

Volume LXXXIII Bulletin No. 1 Complete High Holy Days schedule

September 2023 Elul 5783 / Tishri 5784

Rabbi's Message

Shalom & greetings!

Though I am writing this in mid-August, by the time you are reading it, summer has effectively come and gone, and we are approaching the High Holy Days and the new year! The last month of the current year, Elul, began Aug. 17 (Rosh Chodesh was Aug. 17-18), and Rosh Hashanah (the first day of the first month of the new year, Tishrei), begins on the evening of Sept. 15. (More on the High Holidays below.)

Calendar news

Recent Highlights. The summer was quieter, but we continued many activities. Shabbat services were held weekly, and we held Sisterhood schmoozes and Leora May Book Club meetings as scheduled, and Jewish Literature, by popular demand, continued through the summer, albeit at a slightly reduced pace. Other courses and classes went on summer break after June, so A Bissell Torah, Two Charleston Rabbis, Torah Study, and the Charleston Death Café all paused.

A major event of note: the annual Congregational meeting took place June 14. Mazal tov to those elected, and much

Photo by Michael Keller, from TEMPLE ISRAEL ART, by Ellie Schaul

appreciation to those who completed their time serving on the Temple board.

In July, I taught for the WVU Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) – a threesession discussion around Jewish Ethics. It was a fun discussion each week. I will teach another three-session course in October, focusing on contemporary poetry of liturgy.

We noted Tisha B'Av (the Ninth of Av, a Fast day commemorating the destruction of both the first and second Temples) and Shabbat Nachamu (the Sabbath of Consolation) on July 28-29 (the Sabbath immediately following Tisha B'Av, on which we read the first of seven Haftarot of consolation). Tu B'Av, the Jewish holiday of love (like Valentine's Day in the secular calendar) was Aug. 2. The "Indoor Picnic" covered dish dinner was held following the Shabbat service on Aug. 4, and I think everyone who attended had a great time.

The service on August 11th was lay-led, and went very well. Mazal tov to Alan Fleischmann for leading, and to Gayle Twigger-Shaw, Millie Snyder, and Fran Thalheimer who all participated in the service.

Looking Ahead . September is a very full month due to the High Holidays. Plans are underway for a Rosh Hashanah reception on Friday, Sept. 15, and a Break-the-Fast following the concluding service on Yom Kippur, Monday, Sept. 25.

Friday, Sept. 22 will be Shabbat Shuvah. Our observance of Sukkot will be at the Friday, Sept. 29 Shabbat service. The Shabbat service on Friday, Oct. 6 is when we will observe Simchat Torah observance, which will complete High Holiday events and services.

High Holiday Service Times

Please see the schedule of religious services on p. 2 or the "At a Glance" that begins on p. 3.

Support and Contact with the Rabbi

Please be in touch with me if you would like a visit or a conversation, have a question, or wish to add (or remove) a name on the Mi Sheberach list.

If you have any pastoral concerns, know of someone who needs pastoral or rabbinic support or assistance, or have a suggestion or a concern about our community, please call me (the rabbi) at (304) 989-4014, or email me at *RabbiJoeB@gmail.com*

(Continued on page 2)

Temple Israel • Charleston, W.Va. PLEASE SEE "UPCOMING EVENTS" FOR UP-TO-DATE SCHEDULE.

Holiday and Shabbat worship services & Torah study Religious services will be available both in-person and online (Zoom and Facebook). Study session on Sept. 25 is available online only. SEPTEMBER & EARLY OCTOBER: SHABBAT, HIGH HOLY DAYS, SUKKOT, & SIMCHAT TORAH Eriday Sept. 1 Shabbat service at 5:30 PM

Friday, Sept. 1	Shabbat service at 5:30 PM	
Friday, Sept. 8	Shabbat service at 5:30 PM	
Friday, Sept. 15	Rosh Hashanah Eve service at 7:30 PM, followed by reception	
Saturday, Sept. 16	Rosh Hashanah Morning Service at 10:30 AM. Service will be 60-90 minutes and include a virtual Tashlikh	
Friday, Sept. 22	Shabbat Shuvah service at 5:30 PM	Photo by Greg Proctor
Sunday, Sept. 24	Yom Kippur Eve service—Kol Nidrei at 7:30 PM	
Monday, Sept. 25	 10:30 AM Yom Kippur Morning service (Shacharit) 12:30 PM Yom Kippur Afternoon service (Minchah) 3:00 PM Torah/Text study—<u>online only</u> 5:00 PM Memorial service (Yizkor) 6:00 PM Concluding service (Ne'ilah) Service begins immediately following Yizkor 7:00 PM Break-the-Fast Begins immediately following the Concluding service 	
Friday, Sept. 29	Shabbat service with Sukkot observance at 5:30 PM	
Friday, Oct. 6	Shabbat service with Simchat Torah observance at 5:30) PM, followed by covered dish dinner

Rabbi's Message, continued from the front page

(Continued from page 1)

I read email and texts quite regularly (Shabbat and Jewish holidays excepted - in an emergency on one of these days, please phone me, and if you leave a message, please express the urgency of the call and the nature of the need in the message).

Thoughts, Blessings, and Salutations

The traditional greeting that we exchange as we approach and experience the High Holidays is: L'shanah tovah umetukah tikateivu uteichateimu – May you be inscribed and sealed for a good and sweet year!

I extend this greeting to you. My wish to you is that the holiday season will be filled with light, laughter, love, joy, happiness, health, prosperity, religious meaning, and many blessings, and in addition that we may all feel spiritual uplift and find peace, personally, and throughout our world. May we live to see arising in the year ahead (5784) a better, more just, and more godly world, for us and our loved ones, and for all humanity, wherever they may be. Ken Yehi Ratzon – may it be so.

B'virkat Shalom (with blessings of peace), and prayers for all things good, for you and your loved ones,

Joe

Rabbi Joe Blair

RabbiJoeB@gmail.com

(304) 989-4014

(my cell phone – please call this number to get in touch directly with me)

Please let the Temple office know if you're moving, or if you have new contact info such as new email address or phone number, or if you've dropped your landline. TEMPLE ISRAEL 2312 Kanawha Boulevard, East Charleston, W.Va. 25311 (304) 342-5852 www.templeisraelwv.org templeisraelwv@gmail.com Gayle Twigger-Shaw, President Joseph M. Blair, Rabbi

Rabbis Emeriti Rabbi James D. Cohn, Z"L Israel B. Koller, Z"L

September yahrzeits

Names are read the Friday evening prior to the yahrzeit date, which is beside the name.

Condolences are on p. 4

Ioan F. Silverstein Sylvia M. Kohn Gold Sam Kaplan Hildegard Mellman	9/16 9/16 9/17 9/17	Bernard Bergen Richard O. Katz	9/28 9/28
Sylvia M. Kohn Gold Sam Kaplan Hildegard Mellman	9/17		
Sam Kaplan Hildegard Mellman	•	Ellen Shapiro	9/28
Hildegard Mellman		Judy Walder	9/28
	9/17	Thomas C. Bachman	9/29
Werner Yunker	9/17	Edna P. Hofmayer	9/29
lames Pickus	9/18	, Lawrence C. Kaufman Jr.	, 9/29
David Reich	9/18	Etta Ruda	, 9/29
William R. Wood	9/18		
lacob H. Stern	9/19	September 29th	
Louis E. Walter	9/19	Joseph Bernard Gateman	9/30
Rebecca Helfand Gilman	9/20	Louis Hallam	9/3
Ruth Goldfarb	9/20	Genevieve Henderson	9/3
Henrietta Kaufman	9/20	Susan Hockenbrocht	9/3
Margaret Short Lewis	9/21	Faye Kantor	10/
Naomi Ruth Pickus	9/21	Leonard Gottlieb	10/
Arthur Beren	9/22	Nat Spigel	10/
		Ray Blocker	10/
eptember 22nd		Louis Gottlieb	10/
Philip Angel Sr.	9/23	Helen Jacobs	10/
A. Foster Thalheimer	9/23	Lucille Barrett	10/
Robert Weinberger	9/23	Annie Kaplan	10/-
Sigmund Yunker	9/23	Irma Hallo	10/
rene Blocker	9/24	Betty Levine	10/
Nan Hertz	9/24	, Geneva Mann Sessions	10/
lean Jubelirer	9/24	Dr. Albert Breitbart	10/
Richard M. "Ricky" Pollack	9/24	Betty Burkhardt	10/
Abraham Greenberg	9/25	Jerry Goldberg	10/
Sam Joseph Toovy	9/25	Dottie Greenspon	10/
	9/26	Bertha Sclove	10/
Dr. Gordon F. Phillips	9/27	Frank B. Wotiz	10/
•	9/27		
	Sam Joseph Toovy Rosa Levine Dr. Gordon F. Phillips Alfred H. Schaffner	Rosa Levine9/26Dr. Gordon F. Phillips9/27	Rosa Levine9/26Bertha ScloveDr. Gordon F. Phillips9/27Frank B. Wotiz

September at a Glance, plus early October

Services can be attended in-person or online, on Zoom and Facebook.

Zoom links to online services and events are emailed to those on Rabbi Blair's LINKS email list. If you aren't receiving Rabbi's emails, please contact Rabbi Blair.

September

Friday, Sept. 1 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat service

- Monday, Sept. 4 Labor Day, Temple office closed
- Friday, Sept. 8 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service

Please recycle.



Monday, Sept. 11, 11:30 AM-1 PM – Sisterhood Schmooze

- Tuesday, Sept. 12 at 5:30 PM Temple Israel board of trustees meeting
- Friday, Sept. 15 at 7:30 PM Rosh Hashanah Evening Service, reception to follow
- Saturday, Sept. 16 at 10:30 AM Rosh Hashanah Morning Service with Virtual Tashlikh
- Wednesday, Sept. 20 Federated Jewish Charities of Charleston event at Charleston Tennis Club – time &

details TBA

Friday, Sept. 22 at 5:30 PM – Temple Israel Shabbat service with Shabbat Shuvah

- Sunday, Sept. 24 at 7:30 PM Yom Kippur Evening (Kol Nidrei) Service
- Monday, Sept. 25 at 10:30 AM Yom Kippur Morning Service (Shacharit)
- Monday, Sept. 25 at 12:30 PM Yom Kippur Afternoon Service (Minchah)

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In the Congregation & Community

Refuah Shelemah/Mi Sheberach (Healing & Wholeness/Blessings) to those who have been included in recent Mi Sheberach lists at services, and wishes for continued good health for those who are on the mend or have returned to full health. This list includes those on our list during the time since the last bulletin article who agreed to have their name listed. If we spoke and you did not want your name announced in the Mi Sheberach list, please know that I have included you in my personal prayers for healing and wholeness, though your name is not listed here.

> Kim Aaron Deborah Brandon Melissa Cadle Patricia Cohen Coniglio Arthur Epstein Jonathan Freedman Dottie Baer Garner and family Karl Gattlieb Mel Hutt Gloria Kelley Gary Markham Holden Mize Marsha Platnick Hedy Poppelsdorf Ellie and Mark Schaul Julie Schaul Amy Shapiro Barbara Braun Tweddle Rachel Leah bat Shayna Chaya veShmuel

All who are impacted by illness or poor health

All who have been affected by natural or man-made disasters, war, or violence

All others in need of prayers for healing and wholeness, however that may manifest and whatever it may be for them

Baruch Dayan Haemet (Condolences):

[Deaths that have occurred since the last bulletin.]

Temple Israel extends condolences to Dottie Baer Garner and all her extended family, including Marion Baer and family, on the recent passing of Dottie's grandson, David L. Wyant Jr., age 40, in Virginia. A celebration of life was held on June 15. May all the mourners be comforted from heaven, and may his memory be a blessing.

Temple Israel extends condolences to Debby Sonis and family, following the graveside ceremony for the burial of her brother, Larry Sonis on July 20th. May all the mourners be comforted from heaven, and may his memory be a blessing.

Temple Israel extends condolences to Ellie and Mark Schaul, Julie Schaul, and their family on the recent passing of Ellie's sisterin-law, Diane Lehy Hoss in Massachusetts. May all the mourners be comforted from heaven, and may her memory be a blessing.

Mazal Tov (Congratulations):

[Please tell us about these events so we can acknowledge them as appropriate.]

To those who reached or will reach milestones, and to all who had any birthday or anniversary or other life event worth celebrating! Among those we know who are to be acknowledged we include:

August: Kim & Bob Aaron (MILESTONE); Fran & David Thalheimer; Sue & Ron Eisinger; Gail Bellamy & Dan Kurland; Mary Rich Maloy; Leah Earnest; Lynn Meyer (MILESTONE); Elizabeth Kantor-Bright & Jeff Bright; Sarah Gottlieb; Judy Lundy (MILESTONE); Peggy Silverstein O'Connell

September: Jackie & Steve Artz, Ladonna Kushner, Josh Barrett, Rich Katz, Ron Eisinger, Jace Goins, Julie Adams, Ed Goldberg, Marsha & Ivan Platnick, Gail Bellamy, Bill Rosenfeld, Lynn & Steve Meyer (MILESTONE), Roberta Lee Levine, Lynn Gattlieb, Gayle Twigger-Shaw (MILESTONE)

October: Mary Hart (MILESTONE), Richard Hess (MILESTONE), Ina Angel (MILESTONE), Ladonna & David Kushner (MILESTONE), Julie Schaul, Gary Winter, Marlo Weisberg, Nancy & Ray Dodson (MILESTONE), Millie Snyder, Alan Fleischmann (MILESTONE), Debby Sonis, Gloria Kelley (MILESTONE), Marsha Platnick, Anne & Bill Kroesser

A few other events of note that I heard about (I hope I captured all of them, but if I

missed any, please forgive me, and let me know so I can acknowledge it in the next bulletin):

Mazal Tov to Louis Weisberger who (with a little help from his friends) in late May coordinated a very successful visit to West Virginia by Israeli Ambassador Yoram Ettinger (ret.).

Mazal Tov to Duke Bloom on his recent retirement from the bench. Wishing him an enjoyable and Happy Retirement!

Mazal Tov to Bob Aaron on being nominated to and being installed in the prestigious Golden Circle of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences by the Ohio Valley Chapter. This is one of the highest honors, recognizing television professionals who have performed distinguished service within the television industry for more than 50 years. Bob has been honored dozens of times for his work by numerous organizations including The Associated Press, Society of Professional Journalists, and West Virginia Broadcasters Association. He has been awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Virginias Associated Press Broadcasters, twice. Bob was also inducted in the West Virginia Broadcasting Hall of Fame in 2011. A well-deserved recognition!

If you have a milestone of any kind, or any birthday, anniversary, or life event worthy of celebration, please let us acknowledge and celebrate it with you! Tell the Rabbi about it.

Todah Rabbah (Many Thanks):

Todah Rabbah to Richard Hess, Betty Stern, and David Shapiro, the Cemetery Committee for Temple Isarel, for making the arrangements and bringing about two significant events at the Temple Cemetery:

The first was to identify and prepare a site for a (גניזה)Genizah, a site in which we were able to bury old books and papers that have the formal name of G-d written in them (in Hebrew). This site was prepared, a double grave opened, and the old Union Prayer Books, Gates of Prayer, Gates of Repentance, and other materials were placed in the ground and covered with soil. I performed a brief ritual at the cemetery to mark the event. This was a

(Continued on page 5)

ingly competent Board, as well

as two interesting programs

This summer we have carried

on with the monthly Schmooze

and donated to the Charleston

YWCA's Sojourner's Shelter for

Homeless Women and Families

(healthy snacks and cereal for

the children). Our Helen F.

and/or thoughtful gifts.

Thalheimer Care Committee

remains aware of and active in responding to Temple mem-

bers with TLC: calls, visits, cards

last year.

Sisterhood Message "Sisterhood in their days": Learning from leaders past

Looking at our 150-year history of Temple Israel and the 109-year span of our Sisterhood, I am aware of the following fact: we have eleven past Sisterhood Presidents currently alive and well, thank goodness.

During my second year as the current president, I am hoping to learn more about our history from some of these beautiful and accomplished women who have kept our organization going strong all these years.

Thus, I am naming names

and inviting all of them to contact me for a phone chat, email, text and/or tea time to fill me in on their individual memories and experiences of "Sisterhood in their days" and the fond memories of which, which I will share in my Bulletin messages.

The list includes: Marion Baer, Jackie Artz, Ellie Schaul, Betty Stern, Fran Thalheimer, Beth Winter, Ronni Spudich, Caroline Ostand, Gayle Twigger-Shaw, Millie Snyder, and Dottie Garner.

To begin the New Year, my most memorable times as Sisterhood president include our "comeback" after Covid (slowly but surely), the WRJ Convention in Ocean City, Md. with Ina and Fran, and a recent successful planning retreat with our amaz-



We have an exciting program coming up in October after the High Holy Days, which we will announce soon. Stay tuned.

New Year Best Wishes,

Marsha Albert, Sisterhood President

The photo above is of participants in the Sisterhood Board retreat, held at The Shape Shoppe in June, clockwise from lower left: Ina Angel, Dona Hall, Cookie Glasser, Millie Snyder, Betty Stern, Lynn Gattlieb, Jill Epstein, Gayle Twigger-Shaw, Caroline Ostand, Marsha Albert, Ronni Spudich. Photographer: Emily Eyles.

In the Congregation & Community, continued

(Continued from page 4)

project that has been on the books for some time. Much appreciation to all involved to bring this to fruition.

Second, the final impediment to paving the remaining roadway at the cemetery was cleared, and the circular drive at the bottom of the cemetery was paved the end of July. This completes the project to repave all the roadway in the Temple Cemetery, making access easier. Yashar Koach to all who made this happen!

Todah Rabbah to Fred Pollock for his leadership and efforts on the WV Jewish Film Festival. He has done this for some time, and it is very much appreciated.

September at a Glance, continued from p. 3

(Continued from page 3)

- Monday, Sept. 25 at 3:30 PM Yom Kippur Torah Study – online only
- Monday, Sept. 25 at 5 PM Yom Kippur Memorial Service (Yizkor)
- Monday, Sept. 25 at 6 PM (as soon after the Memorial Service as possible) – Yom Kippur Concluding Service (Ne'ilah)
- Monday, Sept. 25 at 7 PM (as soon after the Concluding Service as possible) – Yom Kippur Break-the-Fast
- Wednesday, Sept. 27, Leora May Book Club – time and place TBA

Friday, Sept. 29 at 5:30 PM – Shabbat service, with Sukkot observance

October

- Friday, Oct. 6 Temple office closed in observance of the 7th day of Sukkot
- Friday, Oct. 6 at 5:30 PM Shabbat service, with Simchat Torah Observed, covered dish dinner to follow

Monday, Oct. 9, 11:30 AM-1 PM – Sisterhood Schmooze



Our Thoughtful Contributors

When making donations to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, Unrestricted Fund, or the Social Action Fund, please make your check payable to Temple Israel.

Please make Sisterhood donations payable to Temple Israel Sisterhood.

Please write separate checks when making contributions to more than one fund or when paying membership dues.

Tzedakah (Charity)

As always, but particularly at this time when we are told that Teshuvah (Return to the right path), Tefillah (Prayer), and Tzedakah (Righteous Giving) act to transcend the harshness of the decree inscribed, please be generous. You know that there is a terrible mess in the world – the headlines tell us

The High Holy Days, Sukkot, and Simchat Torah

The High Holy Days begin in mid-September, and the holidays continue through Sukkot and Simchat Torah into early October.

Rosh Hashanah will be on Friday evening and Saturday morning, Sept. 15-16. We will include a virtual Tashlikh service in the morning service on Saturday – we will not be going to the river, so that those who are at home may also participate in the service.

Shabbat Shuvah will be Friday, Sept. 22 at 5:30 PM. Shabbat services, except for Sept. 15, which coincides with Rosh Hashanah, will continue at 5:30 PM every Friday through the period, and beyond.

Yom Kippur is Sunday evening Sept. 24 at 7:30 PM (Kol Nidrei), with services on Monday, Sept. 25 starting at 10:30 AM, continuing into the early evening. There will also be a Torah Study at 3:30 PM on Yom Kippur afternoon, but that will be available online only.

We will enjoy the musical rendering of the Kol Nidrei Sunday evening, by our musical guest Yaniv Gutman on the violin, with our soloist Bob Morris singing the words, and with piano accompaniment by our music director, David Stern.

Yom Kippur services are Morning (10:30 AM), Afternoon (12:30 PM), Memorial (5:00 PM), and Concluding (at approximately 6 PM, beginning shortly after the conclusion of the Memorial service). All these services will be available both in-person and online, on Zoom and Facebook.

Sukkot will be observed at the Shabbat service (5:30 PM) on Friday, Sept. 29.

There will be a reception following the Rosh Hashanah Eve service and a Break-the-Fast immediately following the Yom Kippur concluding service. On Oct. 6, there will be a covered dish dinner following the Shabbat service where we will be celebrating Simchat Torah.

Rabbi Joe Blair

that there are many disasters, wars, and catastrophes all around us, and needs are extreme, both domestically and overseas.

Please do what you can, wherever you can – financially, or by volunteering, or both. Support and assist whoever and whatever you are able, supporting whatever moves you. Tzedakah is among the highest of all mitzvot possible; may your heart be moved to give a little bit more than you otherwise might, may your generosity be a blessing for those who receive it, and may that blessing reflect onto you and your loved ones.

Rabbi Blair



Thanks for making Shabbat even more special

June 23—The Oneg Shabbat following the service was sponsored by Beth and Gary Winter, in memory of Norma Winter, and in memory of David Mack, Beth's uncle.

If you would like to sponsor Shabbat flowers on the bimah, please contact Betty Stern.

If you would like to sponsor an Oneg Shabbat reception following the Shabbat service, please contact Jill Epstein.

Photos by Greg Proctor



TEMPLE ISRAEL Yom Kippur Memorial Service

Please list the names of the person(s) you wish to have remembered during Temple Israel's Yom Kippur Yizkor-Memorial service on Monday, Sept. 25, 2023.

Only the names of deceased relatives and friends which you list on this form will be read at the service.

Please return this form to **Temple Israel, 2312 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston WV 25311, <u>no later</u> <u>than Tuesday, Sept. 12, 2023</u>. Please note that you are solely responsible for submitting the form. Forms not received cannot be included. Please confirm that the office has received your form by phone or email: (304) 342-5852 or** *templeisraelwv@gmail.com*

Special Note: If you email your list, please call to confirm that your email was received, by calling Greg in the office (304) 342-5852.

NAMES to be remembered at Yom Kippur Memorial Service:

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	

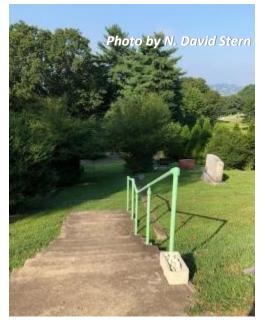
Submitted by

Name	
Address	
Daytime phone	



At the Cemetery Temple establishes Genizah for burial of sacred texts; road repairs complete; new water spigots

The summer months have been used to complete some much-needed work at the Temple Cemetery.



A large tree with roots that were causing road problems has been removed. The paving of the lower road completes the road project. All roads are now up to par.

Sears Monument cleaned 72 stones and made necessary repairs where needed. Three rusted water spigots were replaced.

Old prayer books and other books selected by Rabbi Blair were buried in a newly created *Genizah* from two plots. A marker has been ordered.

Regular lawn mowing and tree trimming has been done on schedule.

Richard Hess and Betty Stern, Cemetery Committee

One of three concrete containers holding small stones, available for those wishing to remember a loved one while visiting the cemetery. Photo by N. David Stern.

Front door passenger drop-off and accessible parking in the semi-circular driveway

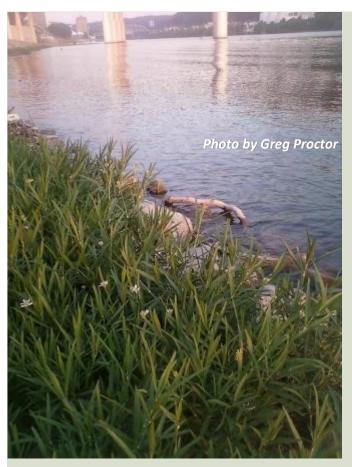
The semicircular driveway at the Temple's front en-



trance on Kanawha Blvd. can be used as a passenger drop-off area and as accessible parking for people with disabilities.

If you need to park in front of the building, please pull as close to the edge of the driveway as possible. Other cars need to drop off passengers and get past you to park elsewhere.

When parking in the semicircle, *please don't block the ramp* that leads to the front doors.

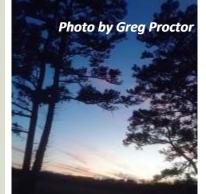


HIGH HOLY DAYS

So that online service attendees can participate in Tashlikh, it will be a *virtual* ceremony again this year. We won't be going down to the river, so —again—we thought a photo of the Kanawha might be nice.

Please see inside for more High Holy Days info, as well as updates on events and programs.

The Yizkor-Memorial list form is on p. 7. Please fill it out and return it to the Temple office **no later** than Tuesday, Sept. 12.



We remember...

The Yizkor-Memorial list form is on p.7: fill it out & send it back no later than Sept. 12th.