

AM CHAI UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2010– NOVEMBER 2010 > FALL EDITION

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE AM CHAI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

WEBSITE: WWW.AMCHAI.ORG

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FROM THE PULPIT

THE HOLYDAYS ARE UPON US! YOM KIPPUR IS NEARING AGAIN!

Recently I had a very interesting conversation with a good acquaintance of mine who happened to be Evangelical Christian. We talked about life and death. His view of death was quite interesting. According to this young man, Christianity believes that when we die, we go to a better place. The world of the afterlife is better than this world. Therefore, there is no reason to be particularly afraid of death or to break ourselves over the death of the loved one. While we do mourn we also celebrate one's entrance into the better world.

In my turn I presented the Jewish point of view. Every human soul is like a world, a universe in itself. When one is born, it is as if the entire world has been created again. When one dies, it is as if the whole universe has been destroyed. This is why in our tradition we always take death of our loved ones very painfully. On the other hand, Judaism does believe in the afterlife, but it is primarily a religion of here and now, a religion of life. That is why death only highlights life. When someone dies, we reflect on his/her life and works. Therefore, the Jewish experience of death is both that of intense mourning and of exuberant rejoicing over life in this world.

Many rabbis likened Yom Kippur to death. The way we observe it with all its ascetic and even somewhat harmful requirements does imitate dying. However, (fortunately) it does so without dying itself. Yet we do feel profound sorrow over our mistakes and transgressions, and we do reflect on how we lived our life so far. This spiritual process moves us to the next step: how we shall live from now on. We purify ourselves so that we could be better human beings. Judaism is a religion of life. So choose life and live it well!

Rabbi Michael Tillman

HIGH HOLIDAYS

TO TAKE PLACE AT

ADDRESS BLOCKED

ROSH HASHANAH

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2010 @ 7:30PM

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2010 @ 9:30AM

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2010 @ 9:30 AM

YOM KIPPUR

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2010 @ 7:00 PM

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2010 @ 9:30AM

SERVICES

ALL SERVICES ARE HELD AT THE

DEVONSHIRE, 1515 BARRINGTON RD.

HOFFMAN ESTATES (847) 604-4060

Friday	September 3	8 PM
	(Selichot Service)	
Friday	October 1	8 PM
	(Simchat Torah)	
Friday	October 15	8 PM
Friday	October 29	8 PM
Friday	November 12	8 PM

BAGELS & LOX WITH THE RABBI

Sunday, **September 26** 10AM

(Sukkot Holiday)

None scheduled in October or November

Birthdays

Sep 10 Jillian Rosenfeldt
Sep 13 Frances Plotzker
Sep 15 Aaron Zider
Sep 21 Sandy Alter
Sep 22 Brendan Ginsburg
Sep 24 Rita Zider
Sep 29 Nancy Reich
Oct 1 Mary Jo Rotstein
Oct 8 Jamie Rubin
Oct 9 Melanie Wagner
Oct 16 Todd Isaac
Oct 17 Dorothy Bass
Oct 23 Darren Wehrenberg
Oct 25 Donald Ami
Oct 26 Robert Baron
Oct 27 Warren Goldberg
Oct 27 Rubin Rotstein
Oct 29 Eric Goldberg
Oct 30 Helen Isaac
Oct 31 Roberta Weiner
Nov 1 Mary Ecker
Nov 2 Michael Tillman
Nov 6 Amanda Reich
Nov 7 Arlene Bass
Nov 8 Marc Zider
Nov 11 Amy Goldberg
Nov 16 Irv Schulwolf
Nov 21 Evan Karpel
Nov 22 Clifford Kelman
Nov 27 Carolyn Goldberg
Nov 27 Wayne Schneidman

Anniversaries

Sep 4 Arlene & Ronald Bass
Sep 14 Ellen & Evan Karpel
Sep 18 Julie & Joe Remack
Sep 22 Arlene & Jerry Weisberg
Oct 14 Kathy & Warren Goldberg
Oct 18 Eileen & Richard Ginsburg
Oct 29 Lauren & Garry Rosenfeldt
Nov 12 Laura & Rick Rabe
Nov 17 Angela & Rick Stone
Nov 21 Sandra & Edwin Marcus
Nov 28 Supriya & Eugene Klionsky

Thanks to O'neg Shabbat Sponsors

Steve & Melanie Wagner-----June 11 &25
Sharon & Al Goldberg -----August 13

Thanks to The Sponsors of Breakfast With The Rabbi

Arlene & Ron Bass ----- June 6th

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

*To Megan Placko and Alex Rabe
On Becoming Bat Mitzvah on
July 10, 2010*

GET WELL WISHES

To Arlene Weisberg

CONDOLENCES

*To Dianna Schneidman on the passing of
her father*

The Prez Sez

As a very warm summer comes to an end we look forward to the early arrival of the High Holidays. We will once again have our services at St. Raymond's church. This year however we will be located in the Community Room which will be much more conducive to our size crowd. Do not worry there is room for more people than we had last year so once again please do what you can to attract new members to Am Chai.

Recently Diana and Wayne Schneidman have aggressively stepped in to offer new ideas for us to attract new members. Being visible on Craig's List and Face book are areas we have not been exposed to before. I cannot express how important that we increase our membership this year.

The congregation extends congratulations to Breanna Remack, Megan Placko, Alex Rabe and their families on their recent Bat Mitzvahs.

Their hard work in preparation with teacher Cindy Placko and Rabbi Tillman made us all proud.

On behalf of Sharon and me we wish all of you a year of good health and happiness.

La Shana Tovah,

Al Goldberg

Don't forget Nov. 1st

{See side bar}

Membership Musings

Hello again,

I hope that you had a great Summer. I guess that it is true that word of mouth and internet does bring in new members. I would like to welcome Edward Manjarez, Alexander and Anita Rabb, and Garry and Lauren Rosenfeldt to our Congregational family. It is great to see new members. If you know of anyone that has attended a Congregation that has closed its doors do not hesitate to let us know. We are available to everyone that needs us, and we can fit every persons needs. We have plenty of room for the High Holidays this year. Our prices include membership and High Holiday tickets. Contact me at 847-604-4060 and leave a message or go on the website www.amchai.org and send an e-mail.

Keep up the good job of member recruitment and make Am Chai the best Conservative Congregation in the area.

Shalom, Dick Zittler

Dick Zittler

PIZZA PARTY FUND RAISER

Monday, November 1, 2010

At Gino's East in Rolling Meadows

Pizza, Salad, Pasta Buffet

Cold Beverages Served

**SILENT AUCTION WITH GREAT GIFT
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**If you can help in donating items for the
auction, contact:**

Bob Miller at bmiller422@sbcglobal.net

**More information will be coming your way
soon. 'Come one and all!'**

Ritual Corner

Our summer period has been consistently warm this year. After the doldrums of long winter days and the wet days of a shorter spring, the change in climate was well received. Now with the summer in twilight stage it is pretty clear that the High Holidays are right around the corner.

Our Friday services have been sparsely attended. We wish there were more in attendance, but I guess the warmer weather tends to provide people options of outdoor rather than indoor activities. I am not sure it would be practical to hold an outdoor Friday night service. Service curriculum is always going to be precisely the same since we follow the Sabbath Prayer book which does not change from week to week. The Torah portion for each week does change, and the Rabbi adjusts his sermon to follow that portion weekly. Oneg Shabbats are also the same other than a change in menu selection. But the celebrating the Sabbath with other members of the Am Chai family is something that remains the best part of the service. We should all look forward to having an enjoyable Sabbath and celebrating it together.

High Holidays will begin on Friday 9/3 with our enjoyable Selichot Service. Rosh Hashana begins on Wednesday 9/8 followed by Yom Kippur on Friday 9/17. Rabbi Tillman will lead the Service with Art Reisman and the Choir blending in their accompaniment. We all know how enjoyable it is to hear the Service and Prayer together. The Holiday period ends with Sukkot on Sunday 9/26 and Simchat Torah on Friday 10/1. Once the Holidays have passed let's keep in mind that there are Fridays throughout the year including other Holidays

We had two more Bat Mitzvah in July. They were as beautiful as the first one in April. That is quite an accomplishment for our little Shul and we should all be overjoyed at their successes. Let's all try to spread the word that Am Chai is alive and well here in the Northwest Suburbs. We all need to pitch in and try to help Membership bring in new members. Also there will be more fundraisers in the fall which we should all try to attend and help the Congregation.

Cliff Kelman

YIZKOR LIST

Please call (847) 604-4060 or email info@amchai.org with any new names you would like included on our *Yizkor* List. All names on last year's list will be repeated this year. All names will be displayed on boards at the *Yom Kippur Yizkor Service* and they will be read aloud during the *Yizkor* service.

ANYONE WISHING TO SPONSOR

An O'NEG SHABBAT

PLEASE CONTACT

THE RITUAL COMMITTEE

(847) 604-4060 or info@amchai.org

We're also looking for homes to host a Bagels n' Lox Discussion with the Rabbi.

Yahrzeit Dates

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE A LOVED ONE'S
Yahrzeit RECALLED AT A FRIDAY NIGHT
SERVICE?**

**PLEASE CALL (847) 604-4060 OR SEND AN
EMAIL TO**

**INFO@AMCHAI.ORG TO NOTIFY RITUAL OF THE
DATE & NAME OF THE PERSON TO BE**

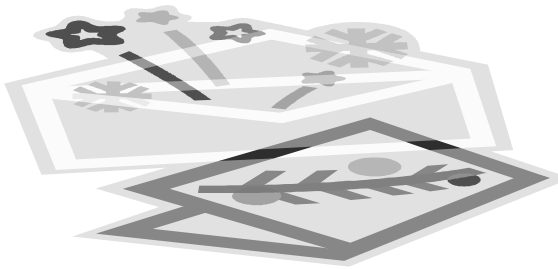
**REMEMBERED SO THAT YOU CAN BE ADVISED OF
THE SERVICE. (Yahrzeit WILL BE SAID FOR YOU,
IN THE EVENT YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE
SERVICE.)**

PRAYER BOOK DRIVE

Due to increased membership, Am Chai purchased 12 new prayer books. A donation of \$30.00 will put your name inside the front cover along with anyone's name that you want to honor. For further info, call (847) 604-4060 or email info@amchai.org

TRIBUTE CARDS

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fill out the order form & send your
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MICHAEL REICH

By phone

or by email at

amchai_mr@yahoo.com

THEY SENT TRIBUTE CARDS

May through July, 2010

CONDOLENCES

Ron & Arlene Bass to Dave and
Paula Gerke
Al & Sharon Goldberg to Mrs. Pat
Cohen & family
Al & Sharon Goldberg to Mrs.
Robin Berkover & family
Alan & Helen Isaac to Dr. & Mrs.
Sol & Eileen Bierman & family
Alan & Helen Isaac to Mr. & Mrs.
Joshua Feldman & family

CONGRATULATIONS

Neil & Barb Henry to Ron &
Arlene Bass on the Bat Mitzvah of
their granddaughter

GET WELL

Neil & Barb Henry to Ed Kaplan
Neil & Barb Henry to Sharon
Goldberg
Michael & Nancy Reich to Sharon
Goldberg
Mary Jo & Joe Rotstein to Sharon
Goldberg
Jerry Weisberg to Sharon
Goldberg
Richard & Sharon Zittler to
Sharon Goldberg

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