



## A Message from Rabbi Rachel

*Singing a New Song, in a New Way, this New Year*



We are heading into the Jewish season of Newness. On Thursday evening, August 20, in celebration of the month of Elul, we gather together to learn about High Holidays for the first time this year. We begin counting the days until Rosh Hashanah.

It's the time in the Jewish calendar when many of us begin thinking about our high holiday plans, both services and family gatherings. It's the time when my family thinks of apple orchards and picking apples, and farmers markets, where we can buy special flavored honey for Rosh Hashanah.

It's an interesting time to think about newness, when we are living in a time that so much of what makes up our normal is cancelled. Camps, travel, school, shopping, restaurants, gatherings, all cancelled. Even the way in which we generally take care of our own health, and the health of our loved ones, cancelled and overshadowed by COVID-19. With so much uncertainty, it's hard to be able to hold onto dates and events to look forward to.

One of the things I've been missing during COVID is that sense of "looking forward to." Until fairly recently — well, for this rabbi who likes advance planning — we didn't know what High Holidays would look like at CBTBI. Now we do! It's new and I'm getting excited about it.

Never in my life, as a Jew, and as a rabbi — and I would guess never in yours — have we had a High Holiday season to look forward to with this much newness. Everything will be done in a new way.

Yes, I know, it's a lot of newness. But, yet, that's the theme of this time of year. Rosh Hashanah is, of course, "The Start of the NEW Year." We pray that our

prayers be new; "Let us sing a NEW song to G-d." Our anthem around the High Holidays, is "ReNEW our days as of old."

*The Ethics of our Ancestors* teaches "Do not look at the vessel, but rather at what it contains; there may be a new vessel filled with aged wine, or an old vessel in which there is not even new wine." This year, our vessels that contain our celebrations will be different — perhaps Zoom, perhaps small family gatherings, perhaps phone. Yet, our prayer, and our holiday celebration, will still be there, as sweet as old wine. We pray that our prayer will be like old wine in new vessels this year; that it will be familiar enough to comfort, and new enough to inspire.

Shanah Tova! Wishing us all a good High Holiday season.

— Rabbi Rachel

### Attention Cooks and Bakers: Get Your Recipes Into Our Cookbook

The CBTBI cookbook will be distributed in November — make sure YOUR recipes are in it! CBTBI members may submit up to five recipes for this wonderful compilation. Recipes can be for any food or drink, as long as they are appropriate for a synagogue cookbook (e.g., no meat and dairy in the same recipe, no pork or shellfish).

Recipes must be sent by **September 6** to [leonarose2020@gmail.com](mailto:leonarose2020@gmail.com). Please include photos and blurbs that tell the story behind your submissions. Questions? Call Leona at (856) 237-4764 or Shellie at (856) 582-4974.



## From the President's Desk by Lori Samilson

### *Doing the Impossible*



I was nominated to be president of CBTBI just days before the world was turned upside down and our building was closed to the public. I imagined that my first official act as president would be to plan a great celebration in honor of our 10th anniversary.

Instead, I joined a whirlwind of activity, the purpose of which was to strengthen the sense of inclusivity and community provided by CBTBI in what is now a completely different world.

I am proud of the job that Rabbi Rachel, our previous board, our staff, and our technical experts did to maintain the community in those early, frightening days. We barely missed a beat as we began streaming

weekly Shabbat services, as Rabbi Rachel began her twice-weekly community check-ins, and we began dealing with the challenges of celebrating holidays, socializing, running fundraisers, and continuing our Hebrew school remotely. We have been working all summer to find creative ways to continue building and engaging our community, celebrating life cycle events, educating our members from the youngest to the oldest, and providing the social and spiritual support that we all need during this difficult time. We are grateful to all of our members who have volunteered to do what they can to keep the shul running. While all of this has been going on, so many people — former members, people new to the area, and people who just need that sense of belonging — have reached out to us, wanting to be a part of a vibrant community like CBTBI.

We have learned that spirituality, community, and our commitment to Judaism are not limited by our four walls. However, in order to continue to serve the community, we need to preserve our four walls and to keep the business aspects of our community running smoothly. We need you, for without you, how can we expect Judaism to survive? Without you, what does our existence mean? We hope that all of you plan on becoming members this year and that, if you are already a member, you become more active in the community. In a few short months, we were able to recreate ourselves because our staff and volunteers were not afraid to step up to the plate when we needed help. Everybody — and I mean everybody — has the ability to make a difference. With your help, we can continue to do the impossible!

### *The Shofar*

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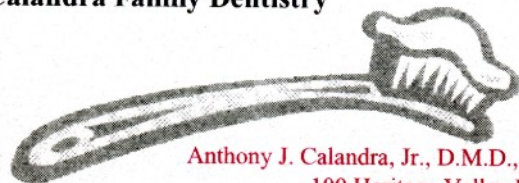
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## Celebrate a Season of Events

The High Holidays this year are a whole season of events. We hope you will join us for as many as possible. All high holiday related events listed below except Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services are available free for members and non-members alike.

**Members: stay tuned for links. Non-members: please contact Steve Blocher (info@cibtbi.org) to arrange for guest links. Check the weekly email announcements for event details and updates.**

Mark your calendars, and get ready for a unique and wonderful High Holiday season.

### Member Access and Guest Tickets

Links for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services (both adult and children) will be provided for members. They will be provided for guests at the rate of \$54 per screen, with \$18 per additional person. Non-member links for children's services: \$18/screen.

### Personal Prayer Time at CBTBI — Members Only

We are offering our members the opportunity for personal/family time for prayer, alone in our sanctuary, in front of our open ark. Contact Steve Blocher (info@cibtbi.org) to arrange a time.

### Journey Through the High Holidays

August 20, 7:00pm, Zoom

Many of us feel unprepared for this year, especially. We will discuss, study, learn, and feel as we get ready for the holidays in this unique year.

### Rosh Hashanah Learning: Observing During COVID

September 10, 7:00pm, Zoom

Rosh Hashanah during COVID? How does Rosh Hashanah speak to this unprecedented time we are in? How can we celebrate, well and truly, and deeply, without gathering together? Join to discuss and learn at this important time.

### Slichot: Menorah Theatre on Zoom

September 12, 7:30pm, Zoom

A Theatrical event: The Gates are Closing, coordinated by Josh Meyer

### CBTBI High Holiday Delivery

September 13, afternoon

We are delivering a High Holiday package to YOU! One of our dedicated volunteers will drive to your house, and deliver a High Holiday prayer book, and other High Holiday goodies, to you. Stay tuned for details!

### Musical High Holidays – A Choir Performance

September 15, 7:30pm, Zoom

### Rosh Hashanah Adult Services

Join us as we come together 'virtually' as a community to celebrate the new year of 5781.

- Rosh Hashanah Eve: Friday, September 18, 7:30-9pm
- Rosh Hashanah day 1: Saturday, September 19, 10-11:30am; full Torah reading 11:30-12
- Rosh Hashanah day 2: Sunday, September 20, 10-11:30am; full Torah reading 11:30-12

### Rosh Hashanah Children's Services

Saturday, September 19 (day 1), 1-2pm

There will be two Zoom services happening at the same time, one for grades K-3, and one for grades 4-7

### Tashlich - Sending our Misdeeds into the water

Sunday, September 20 (day 2), 1pm, in person. Details to follow. Masks and social distancing will be required.

### Norma & Ranaan's Music of Kol Nidre

September 22, 7:30pm, Zoom

### Yom Kippur Learning

September 24, 7pm, Zoom

### Shabbat Shuvah Services - On Facebook

Streamed live on [www.facebook.com/cibtbi](http://www.facebook.com/cibtbi).

Friday, September 25, 7pm

Saturday, September 26, 10am

### Yom Kippur Services

Join us as we come together 'virtually' as a community to observe Yom Kippur on Zoom.

- Kol Nidre: Sunday, September 27, 6:30-8
- Yom Kippur morning: Monday, September 28, 10-11:30; full Torah reading 11:30-12
- Yom Kippur afternoon/evening: September 28, 6-7:30, including *Jonah – the Play* by the Menorah Theatre. Additional Torah reading 5:30-6pm

### Yom Kippur Children's Services

Monday, September 28, 1-2pm

There will be two Zoom services happening at the same time, one for grades K-3, and one for grades 4-7.

### Study Group: Lessons Learned

October 1, 8pm, Zoom

Join us for a discussion of the book, *This Is Real, and You Are Completely Unprepared*, by Rabbi Alan Lew.

Sukkot and Simchat Torah celebrations are also being planned. Stay tuned for details.





## Wish Your Fellow Congregants, Friends and Family Members a Happy New Year

Send a "Honey Bear" full of  
delicious, sweet honey (*Kosher, of course*)  
with your card expressing your good wishes!

Please help spread sweetness and hope to our fellow members while embracing the need to help CBTBI as the year moves forward. With your contribution of \$60, we will add your name to the card of special wishes... that of health, joy, and peace! This year, we will package your jar of honey and greeting card with the High Holiday prayer book, and a member will deliver them to your home on Sunday, September 13. Watch for forthcoming details. Thank you!

All orders must be received by **August 28, 2020\***

\*donations welcome afterwards, but names will miss the printer's deadline.

Rosh Hashanah begins the evening of September 18, 2020

## Happy Holidays!



### Honey Bear Order Form

Please make checks for \$60 payable to CBTBI and mail your forms to: Kaye Bunkin, 228 Forrest Drive, Turnersville, NJ 08012 or you can Venmo \$60 to @CBTBI Fundraising ([venmo.com/CBTBI-Fundraising](https://venmo.com/CBTBI-Fundraising))

Questions? Call Kaye at 856-228-1749 or email [kayebunkin@comcast.net](mailto:kayebunkin@comcast.net)

Please write your family name(s) as you want them on the cards. Options are:

- 1) The \_\_\_\_\_ Family
- 2) Mr. and Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
first name first name last name
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_  
first name last name

Your phone number (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_