



The BULLETIN

Founded in 1857

Congregation Talmud Torah Adereth El
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Message from Rabbi Shua Mermelstein

Five Years. That’s how long I’ve been blessed to serve this historic congregation.

And in those five years—despite a global pandemic, war in Israel, and a surge in antisemitism—we’ve stayed consistent. We’ve davened, we’ve danced, we’ve shared in heartbreak and simcha. We’ve kept the lights on literally and spiritually. We’ve shown up in our Avodas Hashem, our service of G-d. And we’ve continued to support our brothers and sisters in Israel who are holding the frontline against existential threats to our survival. We’ve done so not with flash or fanfare, but with trust in Hashem. There’s something profoundly beautiful about that. I often say that I am proud of our simplicity. Proud that our Torah is heartfelt. Proud that our kiddush is warm and welcoming. Proud that people come to shul “as they are” and that there’s a place for everybody at our Shul. As the mishnah instructs, we’ve been happy with our portion. And yet, being happy doesn’t mean being static. In fact, I believe it’s because of our contentment and clarity of purpose that we are positioned to reach higher. To not just maintain, but to grow into a force to be reckoned with. To be the center for Jewish life in Midtown.

The Moment Demands Holy Ambition

We live in difficult times. Antisemitism is no longer distant or theoretical—it’s here. On campus. In

our city. Flooding our phones and inboxes. At the same time, our brothers and sisters in Israel are at war and our hostages are not yet home. The heart of the Jewish people beats under siege.

How do we respond? With *holy* ambition.

Holy ambition means choosing to live visibly, vibrantly Jewish lives—not just in defiance, but in purpose. It’s about believing that we have something the world needs, and choosing to share. Torah that heals. Community that uplifts. Values that endure. And Adereth El, with our roots deep and our values clear, is uniquely poised to lead. As Rav Shimon Shkop teaches in the introduction to *Shaarei Yosher*, the mitzvah of *Kedoshim Tihyu*—“Be holy”—means directing our talents, time, and energy toward the betterment of others. Just as G-d gives, we become holy when we dedicate ourselves to reaching others. When we ask not just “What do I need?” but “Whom can I lift?”

Last year I argued for individual projects of growth. This year I’d like to lay out a plan for *communal* growth. A plan that, over the next five years, not only sustains our 168 year-old synagogue, but grows its impact: expanding our reach, deepening our relationships with Torah and *yiddishkeit*, and becoming a source of strength, support, and spiritual leadership for Murray Hill and beyond.

A. Expand Our Reach: Sharing Our Torah and Values More Broadly

Our neighborhood is filled with Jewish families—some affiliated with our shul, many not. How can we introduce them to our wonderful community? We do it by expanding our existing programming:

- **Children's Services:** We’ve built something beautiful week after week, filled with laughter, parsha projects, and young voices singing “Adon Olam.” It’s time to promote this more broadly to local families. Let’s fill our Diamond Library with kids of all backgrounds.
- **Teen and Preteen Engagement:** We must create Torah and service opportunities for middle and high schoolers. A once-a-month learning chaburah, seasonal volunteer trips, Shabbat teen panels—these are low-lift, high-impact programs that shape lives.
- **Friday Night Dinners:** Our Friday night dinners are a huge hit each time we host. Let’s make sure to host at least once a month, and let’s aim to invite families in our neighborhood each time.
- **Young Professionals:** We already attract this demographic—now let’s formalize it. Monthly Shabbat dinners. Holiday programming. Partner events. So many souls seek authentic Jewish connection. We can offer it.

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Officials

Rabbi	Joshua Mermelstein
Rabbi Emeritus	Gideon Shloush
Office Manager	Maxine Ross

Officers

President	Michelle Gallay
Co Vice President	Adam Levy
Co Vice President	Tamir Packin
Treasurer	Seth Gillston
Recording Secretary	Alice Burstein

Board Members

Stuart Krause, Eliana Leve, and Michael Weltz

Sisterhood

Alice Burstein, Neera Goitein, and Bonnie Shloush

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 9AM-12 PM

Contact Information

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SUPPORTING THE SYNAGOGUE

Preserving the unique atmosphere of Adereth El requires the commitment of our entire community.

There are many ways you can express your commitment and support depending on your interest. Dedicate an item in and around the Synagogue to honor family and friends, memorialize a loved one or commemorate a special event. Please see the Rabbi or our President for gift contribution opportunities. At this time support is especially needed in the following areas:

Building beautification fund
Children's classroom dedication
Kiddush Fund
Adult Education

Shabbat Morning Children's Services

Join us for the weekly Shabbat Children's Service. The program meets at 10:30am in the Diamond Library. Weekly tasty Parsha Projects at 11:30am. Be sure to spread the word to children in the neighborhood and community!

Greeting Cards

For your convenience, our Synagogue is selling beautiful "In Honor of" and "In Memory of" cards. This is a wonderful way to pay tribute to friends and family or commemorate loved ones. The cost is \$36 for a pack of five cards.

High Holiday Shana Tova Cards

This year Adereth El is selling again our unique High Holiday Shana Tova cards. The cost is \$36 for a pack of five cards. To order, please call the office.

ADERETH EL WEBSITE PLEASE SEND US YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

Adereth El would like to keep in touch with you. This way you can be updated on Shul events, births, Shivas, and much more.

Email us at: info@aderethel.org
Thank you.

Lulav & Etrog

Take part in this special mitzvah. Reserve a set of your own!

Deluxe Set	\$80
Children's Set	\$42

SCHEDULE OF SHABBAT SERVICES

Date	Parsha	Candle Lighting	Friday Mincha	Shabbat Shacharit	Shabbat Mincha	Havdalah
Sept. 26-27	Vayelech	6:27pm	6:30pm	9:00am	6:15pm	7:18pm
Oct. 3-4	Ha'azinu	6:16pm	6:20pm	9:00am	6:05pm	7:06pm
Oct 10-11	Sukkot	6:04pm	6:05pm	9:00am	5:50pm	6:55pm
Oct. 17-18	Bereishit	5:54pm	6:55pm	9:00am	5:40pm	6:45pm
Oct. 24-25	Noach	5:44pm	5:45pm	9:00am	5:30pm	6:35pm
Oct. 31-Nov. 1	Lech-Lecha	5:34pm	5:35pm	9:00am	5:20pm	6:27pm
Nov. 7-8	Vayera	4:26pm	4:30pm	9:00am	4:15pm	5:19pm
Nov. 14-15	Chayei Sara	4:20pm	4:25pm	9:00am	4:05pm	5:13pm
Nov. 21-22	Toldot	4:15pm	4:20pm	9:00am	4:00pm	5:09pm
Nov. 28-29	Vayeitzei	4:11pm	4:15pm	9:00am	3:55pm	5:07pm
Dec. 5-6	Vayishlach	4:10pm	4:15pm	9:00am	3:55pm	5:06pm
Dec. 12-13	Vayeishev	4:10pm	4:15pm	9:00am	3:55pm	5:07pm
Dec. 19-20	Chanukah-Miketz	4:12pm	4:15pm	9:00am	4:00pm	5:09pm
Dec. 26-27	Vayigash	4:16pm	4:20pm	9:00am	4:05pm	5:13pm
Jan. 2-3	Vayechi	4:22pm	4:25pm	9:00am	4:10pm	5:19pm
Jan. 9-10	Shemot	4:28pm	4:30pm	9:00am	4:15pm	5:25pm
Jan. 16-17	Va'era	4:36pm	4:40pm	9:00am	4:25pm	5:32pm
Jan. 23-24	Bo	4:44pm	4:45pm	9:00am	4:30pm	5:40pm
Jan. 30-31	Beshalach	4:53pm	4:55pm	9:00am	4:40pm	5:48 pm
Feb. 6-7	Yitro	5:01pm	5:05pm	9:00am	4:50pm	5:56pm
Feb. 13-14	Mishpatim	5:10pm	5:15pm	9:00am	4:55pm	6:04pm
Feb. 20-21	Terumah	5:18pm	5:20pm	9:00am	4:55pm	6:12pm
Feb. 27-28	Tetzaveh	5:26pm	5:30pm	9:00am	5:10pm	6:20pm
Mar. 6-7	Ki Tisa	5:34pm	5:35pm	9:00am	5:20pm	6:28pm
Mar. 13-14	Vayakhel-Pekudei	6:42pm	6:45pm	9:00am	6:30pm	7:35pm
Mar. 20-21	Vayikra	6:50pm	6:55pm	9:00am	6:35pm	7:43pm
Mar. 27-28	Tzav	6:57pm	7:00pm	9:00am	6:45pm	7:50pm

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES — HOLIDAYS

ROSH HASHANA EVE

Monday, Sept. 22
 Slichot & Moming Serv 6:00am
 Candles 6:34pm
 Mincha 6:45pm

ROSH HASHANAH—1st DAY

Tuesday, Sept. 23
 Moming Service 9:00am
 Sermon 10:45am
 Shofar 11:00am
 Tashlich 5:15pm
 Mincha 6:45pm
 Candles 7:25pm

ROSH HASHANAH—2nd DAY

Wednesday, Sept. 24
 Moming Service 9:00am
 Sermon 10:45am
 Shofar 11:00am
 Mincha 6:45pm

FAST OF GEDALIA

Thursday, Sept. 25
 Fast Begins 5:25am
 Slichot & Moming Service 6:25am
 Mincha: 6:20pm
 Fast Ends 7:21pm

YOM KIPPUR EVE

Wednesday, October 1
 Slichot & Moming Service 6:45am
 Mincha 3:00pm
 Candles 6:19pm
 Kol Nidrei 6:30pm

YOM KIPPUR DAY

Thursday, October 2
 Moming Service 9:00am
 Sermon 10:45am
 Yizkor 11:00am
 Mincha 4:40pm
 Ne'ela 5:50pm
 Havdalah 7:10pm
 Fast Ends 7:10pm

SUKKOT EVE

Monday, October 6
 Candles 6:11pm
 Mincha 6:15pm

SUKKOT FIRST DAY

Tuesday, October 7
 Moming Service 9:00am
 Mincha 6:15pm
 Candles 7:01pm

SUKKOT SECOND DAY

Wednesday, October, 8
 Moming Service 9:00am
 Mincha 6:15pm
 Yom Tov Ends 7:10pm

HASHANA RABBA

Monday, October 13
 Moming Service 6:15am
 Candles 6:00pm
 Mincha 6:05pm

SHEMINIATZERET

Tuesday, October 14
 Moming Service 9:00am
 Yizkor 10:30am
 Mincha 6:05pm
 Candle Lighting 6:50pm
 Hakafot/Simchat Torah 7:00pm

SIMCHAT TORAH

Wednesday, October 15
 Moming Service 9:00am
 Mincha 6:05pm
 Havdalah 6:50pm

Morning Schedule

Sunday: 8:30am
 Monday & Thursday: 6:50am
 Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 7:00am
 Shabbat: 9:00am
 Rosh Chodesh: 6:45am

Early Mincha Schedule

Monday-Thursday
 Winter: 1:00pm Summer: 1:40pm

Weekday Mincha-Maariv

Week of:

Sept. 28	5:10pm	Jan. 18	4:45pm
Oct. 5	5:05pm	Jan. 25	4:50pm
Oct. 12	4:55pm	Feb. 1	5:00pm
Oct. 19	4:45pm	Feb. 8	5:10pm
Oct. 26	4:40pm	Feb. 15	5:20pm
Nov. 2	4:35pm	Feb. 22	5:25pm
Nov. 9	4:30pm	Mar. 1	5:35pm
Nov. 16	4:25pm	Mar. 8	5:30pm
Nov. 23	4:20pm	Mar. 15	5:35pm
Nov 30	4:15pm	Mar. 22	5:40pm
Dec. 7	4:15pm	Mar. 29	5:45pm
Dec. 14	4:15pm	Apr. 5	5:50pm
Dec. 21	4:20pm		
Dec. 28	4:25pm		
Jan. 4	4:30pm		
Jan. 11	4:35pm		

Message from our Rabbi Emeritus Rabbi Gideon Shloush



History is unfolding before our very eyes. The war with Iran reached its pinnacle this summer and here in Israel we are on the front lines. What you saw on television sets from six thousand miles away, we witnessed by looking outside our windows and doors. For decades, Israel has been under threat from the Islamic Republic of Iran and its proxies, but now, incredibly, the Israeli air force is flying freely over the skies of Iran and the entire Middle East.

Our generation is living in times of miracle after miracle. Beepers, walkie talkies, the destruction of sophisticated radars, air defenses, top military commanders, nuclear enrichment plants and missile factories. A year ago, Israel controlled 20% of Mount Hermon, today the IDF is at its summit in full control of the entire elevation. Iran, Syria, Hezbollah, Hamas. We must see the bigger picture and appreciate what G-d is doing for Am Yisrael.

The war with Iran has been named “Operation Rising Lion” taken from the verse in the Book of Numbers (23:24): "Behold, a People that rises like a lion cub and lifts itself up like a lion."

This quote is from the prophecy of Balaam who was hired to curse the Jewish People more than 3,300 years ago as they were returning home to the Land of Israel. To his great dismay any curse Balaam attempted to utter was turned by G-d into a blessing.

What is the deeper meaning of this verse? The *Ohr HaChaim HaKadosh* offers a rich and layered explanation to understand these words of praise about the Jewish People.

“To rise like a lion-cub” symbolizes Israel’s ability to rise with strength even in its youth. Most nations, when first going to war, are weak and inexperienced. But Israel, even in her early years (during the exodus from Egypt) behaved like a lion, strong and miraculously defeating the nations of Amalek and Emori and Bashan.

“And lifts itself up like a lion” refers to increasing strength with age. The Talmud teaches us (Shabbat 77b) that the lion is one of three animals that grow stronger as they get older. Israel is compared to a lion that doesn't weaken over time but rather grows stronger the more adversity it faces.

By the same token, not only is Israel truly mighty and powerful, but they are also *held in awe* by other nations. As we know from the story of Rachav in Jericho who tells the visiting spies: "We have heard what G-d did for you, and our hearts melted."

No doubt we are living in unprecedented times. Hundreds of ballistic missiles and drones are being fired at the Jewish State. Iran and its proxies are attacking and harming Israel. But the lion cub has awakened and over the past two years we have seen how the State of Israel has increased in strength and resilience. With unprecedented blessings from G-d Above, the pilots and soldiers of the IDF have risen to the occasion and are leading Israel into what will hopefully be a much safer and more peaceful era.

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Message from our President Michelle Gallay



Jewish identity is more than a definition. It's about experience. While being a Jew encompasses a spectrum of movements each with its own approach to Jewish law and tradition, now more than ever these differences should not matter. Rather, recognizing that one is simply a "Jew" is quickly becoming more common. Many Jews today actively seek to find personal meaning in Jewish practice, connecting with traditions that resonate with their individual values and beliefs. While some Jews find deep meaning in observing halacha (Jewish law), others prioritize ethical principles, social justice, or cultural traditions. Over the years since October 7, 2023, I have witnessed a shift in how people were and are connecting with being Jewish. In years past one could say that being "Jewish" was simply defined by their mother's

lineage or purely continuing a tradition passed down through their family. But in the last two years there seems to be a surge in Jews around the world publicly claiming their faith in unity with each other. I have seen Jews who barely practiced start to pray and wrap tefillin each day. I have seen Jews who barely knew any of the laws start to seek out classes to become more observant. There was an awakening that being Jewish is more than just a label and realizing the importance of being part of a greater group. In most cases being Jewish is a secondary identity with many claiming to be American Jews and fewer claiming to be Jewish Americans. Over the last few years however, there has been an emergence of people recognizing their Jewish identity as being primary to who they are and connecting to those who share in the same experiences. And while there are and will always be differences within our practices and beliefs as Jews, we are all facing the unprecedented rise of Antisemitism. It is in these times that as Jews we should all be on the same side. If ever there was a moment to come together as a greater community and group of people, it is now. This is when we need to support each other and set aside our differences for the sake of the greater group. It is why we need to recognize that in Judaism it is not about "I" but about "We". In Judaism, the concept of "I" is intertwined with the idea of individual identity within a larger framework of community and relationship with God. Judaism emphasizes the importance of individual action and responsibility, but within the context of the Jewish people as a whole. Each person's actions have implications for the entire community. In fact, in Jewish culture, the use of "we" and "our" in Tefillah (prayer) and discussions often reflects a deep sense of communal responsibility and interconnectedness. Jewish prayers are frequently structured in the plural. This emphasizes collective prayer and a shared relationship with God, rather than focusing solely on individual needs. Some of the most sacred Tefillot can only be recited with a minyan, a group of ten or more adult Jewish males, highlighting the importance of the congregation.

The concept of "Klal Yisrael," or "all of Israel," signifies the unity and shared destiny of the Jewish people as one entity. This sense of collective identity fosters mutual responsibility, encouraging Jews to support and care for one another, regardless of location or level of religious observance. Jewish law and tradition emphasize that all Jews are responsible for one another. This concept, known as "Arvut Hadadit," encompasses various forms of support, including financial assistance, emotional support, and acting in the best interests of others. This sense of shared peoplehood has been crucial to the survival and resilience of the Jewish community, especially in the face of historical persecution. The use of "we" and "our" in Jewish culture reinforces the idea that individuals are part of a larger community with shared responsibilities and an interconnected destiny. My hope is that this message is clear here at Adereth El. We are a community and while we have our differences, we should always feel that we support one another and look out for each other. Although we look different, practice differently, believe differently, we are all part of the same Jewish family, and we are strongest when we stick together. I think it's only natural to feel shock and confusion by what is going on around us today, especially in New York City, but if we agree to recognize that "we" are more alike than we realize and that "we" share the same core values and connection, then we will be able to find comfort in one

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Message from the Sisterhood Alice Burstein



The Adereth El Sisterhood is an arm of Adereth El that supports the Shul and its goals, helping create an inviting atmosphere, fostering a sense of community and contributing financially to the Shul. We sponsor an eruv in honor of shul members who pass away. We co-sponsor a Security Guard for the Shul every month to honor Rosh Chodesh, long considered a special holiday for women; we also do this on some holidays.

The women of Adereth El have been gathering for Rosh Chodesh at the home of Rabbi Shua Mermelstein and Deb Watman. Whether through painting, cooking, or other creative expressions, the group takes time to honor the significance of Rosh Chodesh, connect with each other, and reflect on all that the coming month has to offer.

This summer was the fourth year for the Sisterhood's Torah in the Park. This year the event was held in Bryant Park, near the NY Public Library. It was again led by Rabbi Shua Mermelstein. The talk focused on the three weeks before Tisha B'Av and the nature of Jewish mourning. We also reflected on the Yahrtzeit of the Lubavitcher Rebbe and noted how his perspective was often to turn mourning into hope, and to turn reflections on past calamities into inspiration for a future built through Torah and Mitzvot.

This was the second year that the Sisterhood celebrated the Fourth of July with a wonderful kiddush. All tables were decorated to fit the holiday theme - red, white and blue plates and table cloths. We had food appropriate for the Fourth of July with franks, rolls, chicken nuggets, baked beans, meatballs, rolls, gefilte fish, multiple salads and more - a very happy day!

The Sisterhood continues to produce the Adereth El Book of Remembrance, a booklet that contains the Yizkor prayers recited at Adereth El as well as a section memorializing contributors' departed loved ones. The booklets are produced for the High Holidays every year and are used every time that Yizkor is recited. In addition to the hard copies in the shul, we also post a link to a web version for those who cannot attend in person so they, too, can access the prayers and memorials wherever they are.

The Sisterhood has had many other events such as theater (some led by Allen Rickman), wine tastings, jewelry making classes, art appreciation lectures and challah baking classes among others.

The Sisterhood is open to suggestions for future events. We welcome new members — applications for membership are available at the Shul office or at www.aderethel.org/sisterhood. We look forward to your participation and meeting you at our next event.



Have YOU Joined?

BECOME A MEMBER, MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

If you daven regularly with our community, please consider joining as a member! We would love you to become a full-fledged partner in our dynamic synagogue, participating in all of our activities, and enjoying all of the benefits of membership. It is only with your personal involvement and financial support that we can continue to provide such a broad range of services, classes, and programs. So please contact the Synagogue office and commit to membership in our remarkable Shul, where your investment generates communal dividends and substantial spiritual gains, all tax-free.

PLATINUM DUES	\$3600
GOLD DUES	\$2500
PILLAR DUES	\$1800
FAMILY DUES	\$1100
SINGLE DUES	\$800
ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP (For commuter and those residing outside the community)	\$500
STUDENT MEMBERSHIP	\$350

MANAGEABLE MEMBERSHIP

For those who find it difficult to pay membership dues all at once, please consider a monthly payment option of \$75/month. The Synagogue office will simply bill your credit card at the beginning of each month. Another way to help this to make a monthly contribution to the Shul. The office could charge your credit card as per your request. Your support is greatly appreciated.



Message from our Gabbai John Golin



We frequently hear, about a religious practice, “it’s a minhag.” By that we mean a custom or practice that is not necessarily dictated by Jewish law (halacha), but is, nevertheless, not easily subject to change because of its long-established observance. Minhagim are important for maintaining religious continuity. There are thousands of minhagim, and they can be classified in a couple of different ways. One approach is to think of minhagim in terms of scope. For example, the decision to fast on a parent’s yartzeit is a personal minhag and there may be differences in practice even among close family members. In contrast, when and whether to say Shir HaKavod depends on where you go to shul, while abstaining from kitniyot on Pesach is an Ashkenazi stringency. Beating the aravot (willow branches) on Hoshana Rabba, however, is nearly universal. A second way to think about minhagim is in relation to Jewish law. Halacha does not mandate beating aravot or fasting on a yartzeit. In contrast, the issue of wearing tefillin on Chol HaMoed reflects a halachic dispute. The Rosh (Cologne, Germany), who advocates wearing them, is disputed by three sages: the Rambam, the Rashba (Spain, 1235-1310), and the Ri (Rashi’s great grandson), who argue that Chol HaMoed, like tefillin, serves as a “sign,” as do Shabbat and Yom Tov, when they are not worn. They argue, for instance, that various categories of work are also prohibited during the intermediate days of Pesach and Succot. Both these approaches might have bearing on how easy it is to change or abandon a minhag. The Talmud in Pesachim (daf 81B) equates taking on a minhag with accepting a vow (neder) upon oneself. Thus, if a person wishes to abandon a personal minhag, he or she may, depending on several considerations, need to have it nullified by a Torah scholar or a beit din. Interestingly, although we don’t rule this way, the RaVad (France, c. 1125- 1198) made distinction between minhagim that are based on halacha, which require nullification, and those that are not, which don’t. The Rambam writes that a minhag taken on in error need not be nullified. For example, if a person decided to fast on his or her mother’s yartzeit in the belief it is mandatory and then did so, subsequent nullification of this minhag might be unnecessary (but the proverbial local Orthodox rabbi should be consulted). Adereth El is an interesting case. It started out as a German Orthodox shul, and when its membership became increasingly Eastern European around the beginning of the twentieth century, some of its customs were altered. The Rav of a shul has a great deal of leeway in changing a congregation’s minhagim. Today, Adereth El largely follows the practices set out by the Ezras Torah luach, a guide used by many Orthodox congregations. In addition, Rav Mermelstein and I have codified Adereth El customs in a Sefer Minhagim that addresses material not covered by the luach. It is a major part of a gabbai’s job to know the minhagim of the shul and ensure that they are properly observed. I am always happy to answer questions about our customs and the reasoning behind them. I wish Adereth El and all of our members a happy and congenial year.

Kiddush

- 3/8/2025 Kiddush is sponsored by Marc and Eliana Leve in honor of Marc’s Bar Mitzvah parsha Zachar.
- 3/15/2025 Kiddush is being sponsored by the Garay family in memory of the yahrzeit of Olga Garay.
- 3/22/2025 Kiddush is sponsored by Mike and Michelle Gallay in honor of Hannah's Bat Mitzvah. It is with tremendous gratitude to Hashem to be able to celebrate this simcha with our family,

Kiddush

- 3/29/2025 Kiddush is sponsored by Paul and Mark Pocreass in memory of their beloved mother Sarah Leah bat Harav Schneer Zalman's Yahrzeit.
- 4/5/2025 Kiddush is sponsored by Michael and Tirzah Moffatt, with gratitude to Rav Shua and the Adereth El community, for offering us a home away from home. If we could, we would ship the shul and everyone inside it across the Atlantic. We will miss you all and hope that you will visit us in the Netherlands.
- 4/19/2025 Kiddush this Shabbat Pesach is sponsored by the Araten Family. Dr. Araten will be giving some brief remarks at the kiddush on the valley of the dry bones from the Haftarah "Yehizkiel" that, because of the calendar, is not actually being read this year.
- 5/3/2025 Kiddush is sponsored by Marshall Wise in memory of his mother, Miriam Gotlieb z"l, on her 10th Yahrziey anniversary.
- 5/10/2025 Kiddush is co-sponsored by Beth Jaffe, Michelle Gallay and their father Lawrence Jaffe in loving memory of Beth and Michelle's mother Sandi Jaffe, Sarah Leah bat Yonah Leib, z"l, commemorating her 31st yahrzeit. May her neshama have an Aliyah.
- 5/10/2025 Kiddush is co-sponsored by Joseph Garay, In Honor of his grandson Joshua Garay and future granddaughter, Abbey Liebman. May they have many wonderful, happy and healthy years together.
- 5/17/2025 This Lag B'omer Group Kiddush is sponsored by Peretz Berk, Neera Goitein, Yechezkel Ovadiah, The Levite-Peri Family, Miriam Rezler, and Marshall Wise & Family. The kiddush is in honor of Michelle & Natan's daughter, Arielle Peri, who has just graduated from Dental School! A Hearty Mazal Tov, Dr. Peri! The kiddush is also in honor of the Chaylim of the IDF by Calvin & Solomon Berk-Leung - אנהנו עושים את זה גם לכבוד חיילי צה"ל. The kiddush is also in memory of Mr. Ovadiah's brother Shlomo. May his neshama have an aliyah.
- 5/31/2025 Kiddush is sponsored by David Shamilzadeh, in loving memory of Eliyahu ben Shamu'el on this his third Yahrzeit. He was my little brother who grew to become my Rabbi and will forever be my hero.
- 6/14/2025 Kiddush is sponsored by Alan Koffler and Julie Friedman. Mazel tov to Alan Koffler and Julie Friedman on the upcoming wedding of their son Henry to Danielle Shapiro. Congratulations to grandpa Arthur Friedman (Heidi, z"l) and Barbara Koffler (Fred, z"l) and Rabbi Professor Marc and Lauren Shapiro of West Orange NJ.
- 7/5/2025 Kiddush is sponsored by the Adereth El Sisterhood in honor of Independence Day, the official celebration of the founding of the United States.
- 7/12/2025 Kiddush is co-sponsored by Shalom Eiferman in honor of his daughter Tsiporah's graduation from high school and in honor of the recent marriage of his son Yaakov to Ilana Aidman.
- 8/2/2025 Kiddush is sponsored by Shimie and Chanie Klien, in honor of the birth of a grandson to their children Judah and Shiffy Klein.
- 8/9/2025 Kiddush is sponsored by the Gillston family, in memory of Lionel Gillston, Arie'el Ben Daniel on the occasion of his 18th Yartzheit.
- 8/23/2025 Kiddush is co-sponsored by Michelle and Mike Gallay in honor of their kids Sydney and Hannah who are finally back in Shul after a long summer break. Welcome home!
- 8/30/2025 Kiddush is sponsored by Lloyd and Yael Katz in loving memory of Lloyd's brother Howard. He always remembered Boaz, Lloyd and Yael and everyone's life that he touched. May his memory live for a blessing.

Message from our President Michelle Gallay Con't from Page 5

another and build a stronger front against hate. This is why it is so critical for us to remember that “We” is more important than “I” and the best antidote to Antisemitism is Jewish unity and recognizing our commonalities as Jews instead of identifying our differences. I’m proud to say that I believe we have accomplished this at Adereth El and I encourage you all to take and promote this message far beyond the walls of our small Synagogue so that it reaches the greater group of Am Yisrael.

Jewish perseverance, or hatmadah, is a deeply ingrained value emphasizing the importance of consistent effort and not giving up, even in the face of adversity. We are a resilient people and have for centuries overcome challenges. Tradition suggests that individual acts of perseverance, when combined, can have a profound and positive impact on the world. The Jewish people's collective experience of perseverance demonstrates the power of community and shared purpose in overcoming hardship and misfortune. We must strengthen our Bitachon, trust in Hashem, in tandem with our will to remain strong and united. Tefillah, prayer, is a way to express this trust. If ever there was a time for all Jews to pray to Hashem for help, it is now, during the High Holidays. As we all come together, in shuls around the world, in unity we should sing out loud, "Avinu Malkenu", a plea for God's compassion and guidance, acknowledging human dependence on a higher power. It is during the High Holidays that through our tefillot, we take time for individual introspection but seek assistance in navigating the challenges and opportunities of the coming year as a collective group. "Every new year brings new opportunities to write “our” story anew."

Wishing our community and all of Am Yisrael a Shana Tova, a year filled with happiness, health, security and prosperity.

Michelle Gallay
President

Thank You

- 4/5/2025 Thank you to Ruvim and Karen Stein and their children for their donation to the kiddush fund in memory of Avrom Shein.
- 4/5/2025 Thank you to Ruvim and Karen Stein, their children and grandchildren for their donation to the kiddush fund in memory of Ruth Weitman.
- 8/30/2025 Thank you to Barbara Dagen for donating to the Kiddush fund in honor of our hostages.
- 4/12/2025 Thanks to Nicole and Hannah Farkas for their donation to the kiddush fund. Because life is full of ups and downs (literally). Wishing everyone joy and happiness! Love Nicole and Hannah Farkas!
- 5/31/2025 Thank you to Renée Moskowitz and Stuart Krause for sponsoring overnight learning on the first night of Shavuot in memory of their son Alexander Krause z”l.

Interested in One-on-One Learning Opportunities?

Yeshiva University and Stern College students would love to study Torah with you! Please reach out to the Rabbi or Rabbinic Intern if interested.

Message from
Rabbi Shua Mermelstein
Con't from Page 1

B. Build Formal Partnerships with Local Institutions

For years we've had warm, informal relationships with local organizations. But informal doesn't scale. The time has come to create real partnerships:

- **Bikur Cholim x NYU Langone:** Our shul is across the street from one of the best hospitals in the world. Let's return to the days of a formal Bikur Cholim project, and think deeply about how we can support the tens of families who join us each year from the hospital.
- **Stern College:** Just a few blocks away, Stern is filled with aspiring educators, scholars, and leaders. We can be a living laboratory for them—inviting them to teach, volunteer, and grow with us.
- **Reopen Our Preschool:** The loss of our early childhood program was deeply felt. Let's find a partner who can bring it back to life—not just for us, but for Murray Hill.

C. Revitalize the Sisterhood

Our Sisterhood has been a vital force in sustaining the warmth, care, and spirit of Adereth El. From Rosh Chodesh security sponsorships and womens events to thoughtful gestures for simchas and times of need, the Sisterhood quietly ensures that so many essential pieces fall into place.

We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to Alice Burstein and Neera Goitein, who have worked tirelessly often behind the scenes to keep this arm of our community active and meaningful. But they can't do it alone. Let's help them. Let's build out a broader leadership team. Let's dream up programming that is fun, multigenerational, and engaging. Whether you've been here for decades or just joined last week, the Sisterhood is a beautiful place to get involved and give back.

D. Expand our Intergenerational Offerings

Adereth El is proudly multigenerational—and that's not just a fact, it's one of our greatest strengths. Where else can you find college students and retirees davening side by side, sharing a kiddush table, learning from one another? Let's take that further. Let's invite our elders to teach, mentor, and lead. Let's launch intergenerational chavrutot, and continue to promote our book clubs, tech tutorials, and volunteer projects. Let's ensure those who can't walk here still feel seen, heard, and included. The more we connect across generations, the stronger—and more soulful—our community becomes.

E. Invest in Torah Learning

Torah is not a luxury—it is our lifeblood. As Rabbi Akiva describes, “a Jew without Torah is like a fish out of water.” (Berachot 61b). Without it, we cannot survive as individuals or as a community. We've seen this truth firsthand. Our Wednesdays are energized by Rabbinic Intern Jared's Tehillim class. I have been so proud to see the pre-Mincha shiur on Shabbos continue to grow. These are precious anchors. But we need more. Let's bring in guest lecturers. Let's sponsor classes in honor or memory of loved ones. Let's think creatively about what kinds of learning will nourish different members of our community. Torah is the anchor of our past and the compass for our future—let's ensure it remains our North Star.

Call to Action

The vision I've outlined is ambitious—but we can do it. Community is built by community. And we already have the people, the talent, and the values. What we need now is commitment. Initiative. Momentum.

That's why this year's High Holidays campaign is not just about fundraising. It's about catalyzing and formalizing a new chapter in our growth. Our regular costs—like security, meals, and building maintenance—have risen sharply. And yet, several of our own regular members have already stepped up with extraordinary generosity, committing substantial contributions toward a matching fund to ensure that every gift, large or small, has double the impact so that we can not only maintain, but grow our reach. Your support then—whether through time, resources, or energy—is doubly necessary to help us move from preservation to expansion, from great to even greater.

Hashem has blessed us with an extraordinary community—an oasis of purpose and peace in a chaotic world. But holiness is never passive. That's the path forward. And five years from now, when we look back on all we've accomplished, may we, with G-d's help, be able to say that we were ambitious in holiness—in the service of Adereth El, of Klal Yisrael, and of Hashem.

Rabbi Shua Mermelstein

Eruv Sponsors

- 3/15/2025 Eruv is sponsored by Beth Jaffe with gratitude to Hashem for the abundant blessings and miracles he provides for our nation.
- 3/22/2025 Eruv is sponsored by Larry & Rozy Jaffe in honor of their granddaughter Hannah Gallay's Bat-Mitzvah. Mazal Tov!
- 3/29/2025 Eruv is sponsored by Maxine Ross in memory of her paternal grandfather, Philip Novinsky on his Yahrzeit.
- 3/29/2025 Eruv is sponsored by Neera Goitein (Freda) in loving memory of her mother, Sonia Rebaisen on her yahrzeit.
- 4/5/2025 Eruv is sponsored by Anthony Russo who is grateful to be part of this community and appreciates all the effort that goes into maintaining this important mitzvah.
- 4/12/2025 Eruv is sponsored by Neera Freda Goitein in loving memory of her father, Leibl ArieH Rebaisen ben Moshe Meir.
- 4/12/2025 Eruv sponsored by Israel Kochin, in honor of Rabbi Shua Mermelstein and Rabbi Gideon Shloush.
- 4/19/2025 Eruv is sponsored by Beth Jaffe wishing our community a Shabbat Shalom and Chag Pesach Sameach.
- 4/26/2025 Eruv is sponsored Maxine Ross wishing Rachel Ross a very happy birthday and a Refuah Shlema.
- 5/3/2025 Eruv is sponsored by Rabbi Shua Mermelstein in honor of Jared and the whole Seder crew.
- 5/10/2025 Eruv is sponsored by Michelle Gallay in honor of all the moms in our community and wishing them all a very Happy Mother's Day!!
- 5/17/2025 Eruv is sponsored by Beth Jaffe with tremendous gratitude to Hashem for the abundant blessings in my life, including our wonderful Adereth El community.
- 5/31/2025 Eruv sponsored by Lainee and Jonathan Grauman in honor of Jack Joseph's 100th birthday. Ad 120!
- 6/14/2025 Eruv is sponsored by Neera Goitein in honor of ALL fathers, and particularly in appreciation of her own father LEIBL REBAISEN Z"L, and her son DANIEL GOITEIN on this father's day shabbat.
- 6/21/2025 Eruv sponsored by Michelle Gallay in honor of her husband Mike and their 17 year wedding anniversary.
- 6/28/2025 Eruv is sponsored by Beth Jaffe, wishing everyone a Shabbat Shalom and Chodesh Tov U'Mevorach.
- 7/5/2025 Eruv is sponsored by Beth Jaffe in honor of my amazing father, Larry Jaffe; Hashem should continue to bless him abundantly, ad meah v'esrim shana.
- 7/12/2025 Eruv is sponsored by Neera Goitein, In honor of her granddaughter Isabelle's 20th birthday. May she live to 120!
- 7/19/2025 Eruv is sponsored by Beth Jaffe in memory of her dear friend, Celia Kattan; may her neshama have an aliyah.
- 7/26/2025 Eruv is sponsored by Maxine Ross in memory of her beloved father Irving H. Ross.
- 7/26/2025 Eruv is sponsored by Beth Zisman in honor of Neera Goitein's Birthday. Happy Birthday Neera!
- 8/2/2025 Eruv is sponsor by Beth Jaffe and Mike and Michelle Gallay in memory of Dr. Howie Katz z"l. May his neshama have an Aliyah.
- 8/16/2025 Eruv is sponsored by Beth Jaffe with gratitude to Hashem for our incredible Adereth El community.
- 8/30/2025 Eruv is sponsored by the Levite-Peri Family in memory of Edith Levite, Esther Deborah bas Sholom Yehuda.

**MESSAGE FROM CANTOR
JOSH BLUSTEIN**

Did it ever strike you as odd that the melody for Ashamnu—the ay ay ay—is upbeat and joyous? We beat our chests and drop our heads during the quintessential High Holidays prayer listing our sins while enjoying a ditty taken from the old Ashkenazi tune of Shirah, the celebratory accompaniment of the Song of the Sea. The musical linking of Ashamnu with Shirah, of repentance with joy, originated with the early Hasidic movement of the 18th century, the repetitive ay ay ay’s of the wordless niggun a clear imprint of its influence. Here, the Hasidic masters distilled a classic Jewish view: approach repentance not with dread and despair but a sense of opportunity, hope and triumph. The Song of the Sea erupted from Israelites who, facing mortal danger, emerged unscathed and victorious versus their drowned Egyptian enemies. Further, the Israelites were better off for having braved the battle. First, they enriched themselves via the gold of their underwater slave-catchers and, as the Midrash relates, had their fill of miraculous produce. Second, they drew closer to the Divine: “this is my G-d and I will glorify Him” (Ex. 15:2) they exclaimed, and our tradition relates that the least of those at the Red Sea saw the Divine more clearly than all later prophets.

So too, we face no small obstacle: a year’s worth of our misdeeds and missteps. While these are at a minimum among the holy congregants of Adereth El, we still stand before a threatening sea of errors that confront us during the Days of Judgment. By mimicking the singing Israelites, we echo both our anticipation of atonement from a loving G-d and that confession itself is a triumphant act. On this latter point, by engaging in earnest self-reflection, asking forgiveness from G-d and man and planning our improved 5786, we find ourselves at a higher level than before committing all the trespasses of this year. Indeed, in the Talmud (Berakhot 34b), Rabbi Abahu asserts that the one who sins and repents is greater than the one who never sinned at all! While we don’t court sin in order to repent (as did the Russian ecstatic Rasputin), mistakes being inevitable we cherish the growth potential inherent in learning and correcting.

On a deeper level, the High Holiday season and the heavily involved process of forgiveness is, like sarcasm, something Jews often take for granted. The extra prayers and rituals, fasting, the sometimes hard courage needed to apologize and the often harder courage needed to accept an apology reflect the Jewish view of the existential seriousness of our actions. That my actions cannot evaporate but continue to impact and stalk the universe—that what I do is not someone or something else’s fault—that I bear the consequences of all downstream effects, that G-d holds me accountable, is a weighty responsibility if you stop to ponder it. But do we recognize how critical every move we make is?

This capacity for wrongdoing, our moral freedom, means, most importantly, that we possess the parallel power to do good.

Cont’d page 17





Catch up with Rabbi Shloush's classes on Torahanytime.com!

Some featured classes include:

- How Well Do You Know Your Jewish History? A Series to Fill In The Gaps: Part 1: Creation - Destruction of The First Temple
 - Meaningful Lessons From The Mishkan
- Erev Shabbat Jews: Are You Lucky Enough To Be Counted Among Them?

Rabbi Shua's Shiur and Beer Chabura for young professionals will continue through the Fall, please see him for more info.

RENT

Are you planning to celebrate a Simcha with your family?

Organizing a birthday party for your child?

Looking to entertain a large group of friends outside your home?

Don't overlook the benefits of renting a room in the Shul. The cost is economical compared to other Kosher facilities. The convenient location, close to home, is another plus. And of course, your rental helps to support the Shul.

**For more information, call the Adereth El office
(212) 685-0241.**

Don't miss the
Adereth El Annual

Sukkot Barbecue To Be Announced 6:30-8:30pm



R.S.V.P. to the Shul Office at
(212) 685-0241

Adult \$18, Child \$5 (Under 12 Years Old)

Join us in our Sukkah as we
welcome new members
in our community.

We hope to see you there!
Volunteers needed!

Online Donations

Visit aderethel.org to securely donate online with your Visa, MasterCard or American Express .

Memorial Plaques

Honor your loved ones in this long-standing Jewish tradition. Having a plaque for a loved one on the Synagogue's memorial wall is a most fitting way to recognize the lives of our dear departed. During Yizkor and Yahrzeit, the lights next to the plaque are lit in their memory. Please call the office to purchase a bronze plaque at (212) 685-0241.

Rabbi's Tzedakah Fund

Distributes money to people in need both here and in Israel.

Simply Scrumptious Cookbook

Old and new recipes from the kitchens of people you know and pray with and the people they know and love. Includes a foreword from Rabbi Sidney Kleiman z"tl. \$10 per book, available at the Shul office, or contact the Shul office to order.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Intended for special projects and initiatives.

HACHNASAT ORCHIM

In an effort to continue to make our Shul a warm and welcoming environment, we ask that all our congregants introduce themselves to at least one new person every Shabbat.

SEFER HACHINUCH CLASS

LEARN THE RULES AND REASONS OF THE 613 MITZVOS

WITH RABBI

JEREMY TEICHMAN



MONDAY NIGHTS
8:00-8:30 PM

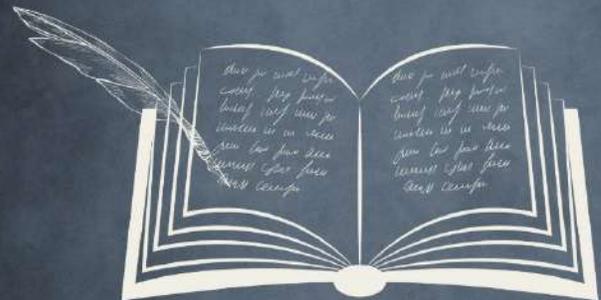
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MEETING ID: 827 662 4632

Contact Rabbi Shua Mermelstein for more info

Adereth El Presents

DEBRIEFING KING DAVID'S DIARIES



A BIWEEKLY
TEHILLIM SHIUR
WITH JARED
SCHARF



Wednesdays,
8:30 - 9:00 PM
On Zoom

CONDOLENCES

- 7/30/2025 It is with great sadness we inform you of the passing of Dr. Howard Katz z"l, Brother of Lloyd (Yael) Katz.
- 8/3/2025 It is with great sadness we inform you of the passing of Chaya Tolwinski (Pitter) z"l
- 8/10/2025 It is with great sadness we inform you of the passing of Marion Sakow z"l, Mother of Jason, Marcus, and Shana.

BEQUESTS

Is Adereth El in your will?

An important part of Adereth El's finances is represented by bequests, gifts after death, by friends and members of the Synagogue. Thoughtful bequests have helped Adereth El continue to serve the membership, the community and in maintaining the physical facilities. Your gift insures the future of Jewish life. A will should be prepared with the help of professional advice.

Book of Remembrance

The book of Remembrance that we are using for the 5784 (2025) High Holy Days is an annual project of the Adereth El sisterhood.

Memorialized therein are the names of our congregants beloved departed of blessed memory, as well as the Yizkor prayers.

CEMETERY PLOTS

There are cemetery plots for sale in the Adereth El section of Montefiore Cemetery in Queens, New York. For further information, including costs, registration, and other arrangements, please contact the Shul office. These plots are available to Adereth El members only.

Yahrzeits

Are you receiving yahrzeit reminders from the synagogue?

If you would like to be reminded about the yahrzeit (anniversary of the passing) of a loved one, please contact the Adereth El office.

Want to share a Yahrzeit, birthday, or Simcha with family and friends?

Sponsor a Kiddush, Security or the Eruv on the Shabbat of your choice!

Message From Cantor Josh Blustein Continued from Page 13

The Midrash explains that G-d chose to give the Torah to man and not angels because we alone have the yetzer hara (evil inclination). The Talmud similarly highlights that the righteous, tzadikim, do not suppress but rather struggle against the most mighty of yetzer hara's. In other words, Judaism doesn't shirk from but exalts the noble human confrontation with right and wrong. G-d summons us to enter the moral arena. Inevitably we fall short, requiring the recitation of Ashamnu to confess our failures, but while doing so we sing a happy tune, grateful, לְשִׁמְתָּא -בְּאֵלֵינוּ וּבְבֵיטְיָנוּ, for the challenge and the opportunity to reach the better angels of our nature: , תְּאֵשׁ, וְתִקְוֵנוּ, תְּאֵשׁ; עֵבֶר תְּאֵשׁ; חָזַק וְלֹא יִשְׁכָּח, חָזַק וְלֹא יִשְׁכָּח. "Is it not so that if you improve, it will be forgiven you? If you do not improve, however, sin crouches at the door, and to you is its longing, but you can rule over it." (Genesis 4:7).

May our singing on this Holiday season inspire us to find favor in Heaven on behalf of Adereth El and all Israel to be inscribed for good in the Book of Life.

Bar and Bat Mitzvahs

Hannah Gallay was raised in the Adereth El community, and we could not be prouder that she celebrated her Bat Mitzvah in this very Shul surrounded by the very same people that have watched her grow into the beautiful young lady she is today. Hannah is currently in the 7th grade at Manhattan Day School and when she is not in school you can certainly find her at the park playing basketball or at home playing video games. Hannah has a huge heart, shows tremendous respect to others and is exceptionally empathetic and compassionate. She is a devoted sister and friend. Hannah celebrated her Bat Mitzvah this past year and we are so proud of her and all her accomplishments. We look forward to watching her continue to grow in Torah values for many years to come. Mazel Tov Hannah Banana!



Drew Horowitz is in the Eighth Grade at The Birch Wathen Lenox School. In his free time, Drew enjoys playing tennis and basketball. He is also the captain of his school's ethics team, which competes annually. Drew has greatly enjoyed studying for his Bar Mitzvah and plans to continue his studies. We would like to thank Seth Gordon for his patience and dedication in preparing Drew for this day. We would also like to thank Rabbi Shua as well as the entire Congregation at Talmud Torah Adereth El for their steadfast support. Mazel Tov!



Security Sponsorship

- 3/8/2025 Security is co-sponsored by Michael and Brittany Akkerman with prayers for a peaceful week ahead. Am Yisrael Chai.
- 3/15/2025 Security for this Shabbat is co-sponsored by Alice Burstein and Neera Goitein in memory of and with great thanks to our beautiful and clever Queen Esther and her brilliant Uncle Mordechai who saved our ancestors from the evil Haman and his plot to wipe us out!! And we pray that, with God's help, this generation's Haman/Hamas will be vanquished by the Israel Defense Forces.
- 3/22/2025 Security is sponsored by Michael and Janine Wertz in honor of Noah's Birthday.
- 3/29/2025 Security is co-sponsored by the Adereth El Sisterhood in honor of Rosh Chodesh Nissan.
- 3/29/2025 Security is co-sponsored by Michelle Gallay and Beth Jaffe in memory of their grandmother, Anne Jaffe Z"L. May the neshama of Chana bat Yosef have an aliyah.
- 4/5/2025 Security is co-sponsored by Michelle, Sydney and Hannah Gallay wishing Mike a very Happy Birthday!
- 4/12/2025 Security is co-sponsored by Barbara and David Kasell in memory of Babara's beloved sister Carol Glickman Shoeng.
- 4/26/2025 Security is co-sponsored by the Adereth El Sisterhood in honor of Rosh Chodesh Iyyar.
- 5/10/2025 Security is co-sponsored by Sydney and Hannah Gallay in memory of Grandma Sandi, who they unfortunately never had the honor of meeting in person but through the memories and stories shared, have gotten to know the beautiful person she was.
- 5/31/2025 Security is co-sponsored by the Adereth El Sisterhood in honor of Rosh Chodesh Sivan.
- 5/31/2025 Security is co-sponsored by Neera Goitein and Alice Burstein wishing everyone a happy & learning filled Shavuot!
- 6/14/2025 Security is sponsored by the Sheins in loving memory of Joshua Isaac Shein. You are forever in our hearts Karen, Ruvan, Arianna, Rebekah and Mariessa Shein.
- 6/21/2025 Security is sponsored by Allen Rickman, in memory of his mother, Chaya Necha bas Reb Uren.
- 6/28/2025 Security is co-sponsored by the Adereth El Sisterhood in honor of Rosh Chodesh Tamuz.
- 7/5/2025 Security is Security is sponsored by Michael and Janine Wertz in honor of Joshua's birthday.
- 7/26/2025 Security is co-sponsored by the Adereth El Sisterhood in honor of Rosh Chodesh Av.
- 8/2/2025 Security is sponsored by Ruvan and Karen Shein, in memory of Dr. Joseph Shein, with love, Karen, Ruvan, Arianna, Rebekah and Mariessa Shein.
- 8/9/2025 Security is co-sponsored by Ruvan, Karen, Arianna, Rebekah and Mariessa Shein in Memory of Avrom Shein.



Mazal Tov

- 3/22/2025 Mazel Tov to the Gallay Family on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Hannah Gallay!
- 4/12/2025 Mazel Tov to Shmuel Shloush and the entire Shloush family on his Bar Mitzvah which took place this past Thursday at the Kotel in Israel.
- 4/19/2025 Mazel Tov to Micha'el Shloush on his engagement to Kayla Amster. Adereth El would like to extend a heartfelt Mazel Tov to Rabbi Gideon and Bonnie Shloush, David and Danielle Amster, and their extended families.
- 7/26/2025 Mazel Tov to Shimie and Chani Klein on the birth of a grandson. Mazal Tov to parents Judah and Shiffy and to the entire family.
- 8/20/2025 Mazel Tov to Stuart Krause and Renée Moskowitz on the engagement of their grandson Josh Krause to Rikki Shain.

Message from Rabbi Gideon Shloush con't from page 4

Where are we in this picture? The center of Jewish life is in Israel. The future of *Am Yisrael* is in Israel. Half of world Jewry already lives in Israel, while the other half struggles with alarming rates of assimilation and an intermarriage rate of seventy-two percent.

And if we are not yet ready to come ourselves, it is critical that we support Israel in every possible way: raising funds for institutions in Israel, encouraging aliya, providing relief to soldiers fighting in the IDF, speaking favorably about the importance of serving in the IDF, and, without question, reciting *tehillim* daily for the soldiers and for their families.

Let us constantly be reminded of the words of Kalev ben Yefuneh: Ki Tova Ha'Aretz Me'od Me'od. "The Land of Israel is very, very good." It's very special. It's very Holy. It's the ancestral homeland of the Jewish People and it's G-d's Divine gift to his chosen People.

May it be that just as we are witnessing the fulfillment of Balaam's prophecy of the rising lion, may the continuation of his prophecies be fulfilled as well: "A star rises from Jacob, a scepter comes forth from Israel... and Israel is triumphant." (Numbers 24:17-18)



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Congregation Adereth El

Community Tashlich and Shofar



**First Day of Rosh Hashanah -
5:00pm**
Tuesday, September 23, 2024

שנה טובה
SHANA TOVA

