



MOUNTAIN SYNAGOGUE

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AUGUST 2023

NEXT SHABBAT SERVICE

Saturday, August 19th at 10:00am

Services are held on the third Saturday of each month both in-person and on Zoom.

For those members who prefer to attend via Zoom, please use the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87289809710>



Our Tree of Life

Leaves are now available at \$54 each (three times Chai) and large stones (only 11 available) that will be mounted at the base are \$500 each, engraving included. Contact us for details:

ms.treasurer79@gmail.com



Yosi Knight
Our Spiritual Leader

Please watch your email and our website for notices regarding dates and times of services, which will be conducted both in-person and live online via Zoom.

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Have some news to share with our members? We want it all! Contact our newsletter editor, Harvey Morse at harvey@probate.com
2. **Mi Shebeirach – (Prayers for the ill)**
David Lieberman
Ann Ferman
Wendy Newman
Jim Fierberg
Barbara Dardick
Richie Aaron
Edith Finegold
Alan Escovitz
Benjamin Newman, MD
Connie Chesser
Michael Serra
Vickie Sanders
3. **Yahrzeit Donations** (Received by the 15th of the previous month):
Marilyn Mower for brother, Richard Solomon
Pearl Goldfarb for husband, Burton Goldfarb and brother, Ben Shermett
Harvey Morse for father, Harry W. Morse, grandmother, Sadie Moskowitz and grandfather, Nathan Moskowitz
4. **General Donations**
William Bernstein in memory of his brother, Philip Bernstein
5. **Member Celebrations This Month**
Birthdays:
Bonnie Jersolow, Kristin Rabinowitz, Deb Arnold
Gary Sinrich and Elizabeth Goldstein
Anniversaries:
None
6. **Tree Of Life Leaf Purchases**
Leaves are \$54, and Stones are \$500 each.
[Our Tree of Life is for celebrations, family or personal events of note, not memorials].

None
7. **Memorial Plaques**
Memorial plaques which placed in our social hall are \$50 per name for an engraved, permanent remembrance.

William Bernstein for brother, Philip Bernstein
8. **New Members This Month**

Elizabeth Hinckley
Stu and Karen Altfest
Linda Relis-Lichtblau

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Joel Edelson
President

If you listen close, can you almost hear it? There, in the distance? It's getting closer! It's the Sound of the Shofar, which means, the High Holy days are almost here!

This year, at Mountain Synagogue, the days of Awe begin with a special Rosh Hashanah evening service as it falls on Friday, September 15, which also happens to be Shabbat. Our first day services will continue on Saturday, September 16, but technically, Rosh Hashanah continues until sundown Sunday evening.

Literally, Rosh Hashanah means "Head of the Year", as it is the beginning of the Jewish new year. It is the first of the High Holidays or "Days of Awe", ending 10 days later with Yom Kippur.

This two-day festival marks the anniversary of human creation – and the special relationship between humans and God, the creator.

Rosh Hashanah begins with the sounding of the *shofar*, an instrument made of a ram's horn, proclaiming God as king of the Universe, just as a trumpet would be sounded at a king's coronation. IN fact, Rosh Hashanah is described in the Torah as Yom Teru'ah, a day of sounding (the Shofar).

The sound of the shofar is also a call to repentance – to wake up and re-examine our commitment to God and to correct our ways. Thus begins the "Ten Days of repentance" which ends with Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.

For those that may not be familiar with High Holy Day traditions, the traditional way to wish someone a happy new Year in Hebrew is by saying "Shana Tova". In Hebrew this means "A Good Year".

There are many traditions associated with Rosh Hashanah, including the following:

- Attending synagogue and spending time with family and friends
- Reflecting on the year before and repenting for any wrongdoings and then reflecting on the year ahead to start afresh.
- Wearing white and new clothes, symbolizing purity
- And as mentioned above, there is the sounding of the ram's horn "shofar" on both mornings.
- Every evening, candles are lit. candles are often a symbol of remembrance.
- On the first day of Rosh Hashanah, the Tashlich ceremony is performed. This involves visiting a body of water to symbolically cast away past sins.
- Spicy, sharp, or sour foods are avoided in favor of sweet delicacies, representing wishes for a sweet and pleasant year (not a bitter year). Nuts are also avoided.

Like many of our holidays, food plays an important role. Some of the symbolic foods include:

- Apples dipped in honey (eaten on the first night)
- Round challah dipped in honey and sprinkled with raisins.
- A new seasonal fruit (on the second night)
- Pomegranates (as its many seeds symbolize the hope the year will be rich with many blessings.)

Shabbat and High Holiday Prayer Books and for those who attend services with us online

As we continue to have services in-person and online via Zoom, having your own prayer books at home is important to follow along. **Our Mishkan t'Filah prayer books are available for \$40 each. Our new High Holiday Mahzor's are available for \$40 each.**

Shipping is \$15.00 for either one or two books. If interested, please send your name, address and which book(s) you want, together with payment to Mountain Synagogue, PO Box 504, Franklin, NC 28744. Contact Bobbi Serra at ms.treasurer79@gmail.com

HAVE A COMPUTER? DO YOU ENJOY WRITING? USE MICROSOFT WORD?

We are looking for a member who would like to assist with our monthly newsletter. Please contact Harvey Morse at harvey@probate.com for details.

MEMBERS AUGUST SOCIAL EVENT!

Saturday August 12th at 5:00pm there will be a member's dinner at:

MOTOR COMPANY GRILL
86 West Main Street
Franklin, NC

RSVP to George Berman by August 11th
828-524-9463 or Email: irbjib1994@frontier.net

RESERVATIONS FOR OUR HIGH HOLIDAY BREAK THE FAST

Our traditional break the fast which is FREE for members, \$15 pp for non-members, will be held after Yom Kippur services on September 25th.

Please RSVP to Norma Schulman by September 11th
(828) 545-8956 or NormaSchulman5@gmail.com

- The head of a fish (or ram) asking God that in the coming year we be "a head and not a tail."

I close with a piece from a Rosh Hashanah poem:

*"Blow, Israel, the sacred cornet! Call
back to thy courts whatever faint heart throb
With thine ancestral blood, thy need craves all.
The red, dark year is dead, the year just born.
Leads on from anguish wrought by priest and mob,
To what undreamed-of morn?"*

*For never yet, since on the holy height,
The Temple's marble walls of white and green
Carved like the sea-waves, fell, and the world's light.
Went out in darkness, - never was the year.
Greater with portent and with promise seen,
Then this eve now and here."*

L' Shana Tova tikatavu

B'shalom
Joel

SPECIAL CELEBRATION NOTICE
AUGUST 19th

Donna and Shayna Sinrich are sponsoring a Birthday Oneg luncheon in honor of Gary Sinrich's 80th birthday, after services .

Please RSVP by August 15th to:
mountainsynagogue@gmail.com

SAFETY TEAM MEMBERS NEEDED

We are continually seeking additional members to join our synagogue Safety Team. Approved members will receive appropriate training and will be covered by our insurance policy. If you are interested in serving, please contact our Safety Director at:
harvey@probate.com

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