

THE SHOFAR

OCTOBER 2026



Congregation B'nai Israel

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Come Join Us!

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES – 8 PM

SATURDAY MORNING SERVICES – 9:30 AM

*

October Shabbat Candle Lighting

October 2 at 6:18 pm

October 9 at 6:06 pm

October 16 at 5:56 pm

October 23 at 5:46 pm

October 30 at 5:37 pm

**“Pearls of Wisdom”
Rabbi Pinchas Pearl**



Our Rabbi writes....

The Hebrew month following the packed holiday season of Tishrei is classically referred to in two ways: Cheshvan or Mar Cheshvan. Commonly, people say the prefix “*Mar*” means “bitter” because the month is entirely devoid of major Jewish holidays or fast days. After a month full of the spiritual highs of Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Sukkot, entering Cheshvan can feel like a cold splash of water. We plunge straight back into the hustle, grind, and ordinary routine of daily life. However, the Torah teaches us that this “ordinariness” is exactly where the real work begins.

[Rav Samson Raphael Hirsch](#) points out that the core root of the word Cheshvan relates to the Hebrew word *chashu*, which means silence, quiet, or stillness.

While Tishrei is a month of public fanfare—shofar blasts, communal singing in the Sukkah, and packed synagogues—Cheshvan represents an entrance into quiet, private life.

- Yom Tov (The Holidays) represents the excitement of a once-a-year peak experience.
- Cheshvan represents the daily, weekly challenge of bringing holiness into a regular routine.

In Jewish thought, anyone can feel inspired standing in a synagogue on Yom Kippur. The true test of a person's spiritual growth is how they act when the music stops and life gets quiet. Cheshvan is the space given to us to take all the high-level resolutions we made during the holidays and ground them into practical, quiet daily habits.

In Tanach, this month is also called *Yerach Bul* (1 Kings 6:38), which Rashi notes is related to the word *baleh* (to wither or decay). It is the time when nature seems to die down, and everything becomes gray.

But true growth always happens in the dark. The real test of a Jew is not how high they can jump on Simchat Torah, but how they walk on a regular Tuesday in Cheshvan. [As we enter this new month, let us take the “drops” of inspiration from the holidays and use them to water our daily routines. May this *Mar Cheshvan* be a month of physical abundance, blessed rain, and the quiet, powerful growth of our true inner selves.

If you’re missing Rabbi Pearl’s weekly Friday night sermon, you’re missing (1) his opening joke; (2) his discussion of how the week’s Torah reading is relevant to our lives today; (3) his inspirational blessing; and (4) our lively discussions & delicious treats at the Oneg. Services are one hour; congregation participation is welcome & rewarding.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
KEVIN BROSNIK



As your president, I want to thank you for making B'nai Israel such a warm and welcoming community. This past year, we've come together for celebrations, supported one another through tough moments, and embraced both tradition and new ideas thanks to our board, rabbi and volunteers.

Recently we shared the High Holidays, Sukkot and Simchat Torah together and I'm especially grateful to share these meaningful days with all of you. As we look ahead in the New Year, I hope you'll join us. There are many ways to connect—whether it's coming to services, volunteering, or just reaching out to someone new. In addition, we continue to ask your help to make minyans on Shabbat, and for our congregation to observe Yahrzeits.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Wishing everyone a sweet and joyful year filled with health, happiness and peace!



SISTERHOOD UPDATE

SANDY LEVY
President

Sisterhood Reflects on 5786 and Welcomes 5787

We have worshipped together and wished each other L'Shana Tovah during Rosh Hashanah, remembered and prayed for our dearly departed loved ones especially on Yom Kippur, and this week we celebrate the festival of Succoth. We finish these holidays with Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah.

As we look forward to the year 5787, we continue to see how sisterhood can further support our synagogue. Before the New Year, we began to sell jars of honey. The honey came from the Beezy Bees store in Travis, run by Igor, & of course, kosher. The honey jars proved to be so popular that we needed to reorder after we ran out. We charged \$8.00 per jar and there may be a few left. Contact Susan at the shul if interested.

Our book club is now reading, "Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine", by Gail Honeyman. This is the author's first book and it is excellent. Our last book was "Things I Wish I Told My Mother" by Susan Patterson & Susan DiLallo. Laurie Raps is the moderator for our book club.

For those thinking of coming down (or as it is, zooming with us) once a month, please feel free to join us. Simply call Susan at the office 718-987-8188 and tell her you would like to join a meeting. No obligation. If you decide to join us, there is a \$25 membership for shul members. For non - members, it is \$35. We would love to meet you.

To our entire congregation, from our Sisterhood to you and your families, L'Shanah Tovah! Here's to a Healthy, Happy, Peaceful year for all!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Shabbat Brings Us Together

Congregation
B'nai
israel

45 Twombly Avenue
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invites you to

TOT SHABBAT

FREE Parent + Child Program
for children 3-7 years old

 **OCTOBER 17, 2026**
 **11:15 AM-12 NOON**

Songs • Stories • Games • Snacks

Contact the office at (718) 987-8188 to make your reservation



Around our Synagogue

BUILDING OUR SUKKAH

September 23, 2026

Many thanks to Richie, Ethan, Seth & Eduardo





Many, many thanks to **Lee Brosnick** for all his work on our Synagogue's beautification project, including the Larry Zinn Memorial Garden.



October Birthdays

Laurie Raps on October 12th



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS TO OUR CBI FAMILY

Aaron & Polina Gage
with their children, Epic and Echo

CONGRATULATIONS !!!

To **Rita Hauser** on the birth of her **12th great-grandchild, Julius Joseph Trello**, on **September 29th**. The proud first-time grandfather is Rita's younger son Phil. The proud parents are Tori and Anthony Trello.

Many Thanks for Your Generous Donations

Linda Fisch in memory of **Leo Fisch**

Charlie & Ilene Greinsky in memory of **Ruth Greinsky**

Janice Rappaport for sponsoring a kiddush in memory of **Scott Rappaport**

Laurie & David Raps for sponsoring a kiddush in honor of **Laurie's birthday**



Yahrzeits for October 2026

Hebrew Date/ 2026 Date*	Yahrzeit of	Member	Relationship to Member
22 Tishrei Oct 3	Abraham Schwartz	Harris Schwartz	Father
26 Tishrei Oct 7	Samuel Goldberg	Joel Goldberg	Father
28 Tishrei Oct 9	Roberta Zolotsky	Traci Frey	Mother
28 Tishrei Oct 9	Manya Miretsky	Ilya Miretsky	Mother
1 Cheshvan Oct 12	Mildred Raps	David Raps	Mother
3 Cheshvan Oct 14	Chaim ben Yisroel	Flora Berenshteyn	Father
4 Cheshvan Oct 15	Alexander Krongauz	Tanya Gutt	Father
5 Cheshvan Oct 16	Philip Tenenzapf	Sandy Levy	Grandfather
6 Cheshvan Oct 17	Max Besen	Ana Cramer	father
6 Cheshvan Oct 17	Shirley Dunn	Arnold Dunn	Mother
7 Cheshvan Oct 18	Sara Tenenzapf	Sandy Levy	Grandmother
10 Cheshvan Oct 21	Isaak Rudshteyn	Yuriy Rudshteyn	Father
13 Cheshvan Oct 24	Galina Khalfin	Marat Khalfin	Mother
14 Cheshvan Oct 25	Morris Kettner	Dr Steven Goldstein	Father-in-law

*Yahrzeits begin on the evening before the given date. If you need to say Kaddish for a Yahrzeit, please call the office two weeks before and we will try to assemble a Minyan, most often via Zoom. It would be helpful if you have a few family members or friends attend the services to ensure there is a Minyan. For additions or corrections to this list, please contact Laurie Raps at 718-967-4975 or sparl1012@aim.com.

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Please let our editor know your birthday (month & day are sufficient. We don't require the year unless you want to brag!). We love mentioning happy occasions. Also, send anniversaries, milestone events & warm wishes and prayers. Information can be emailed to oceanview@si.rr.com.

And that's a wrap... Until our next edition... See you at the Synagogue...

**With warmest regards,
Yolanda**

thank you!

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