



The Shofar

Seasonal News for the Synagogue of the Hills

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What Was Old is Now New and What is Now New Was Once Old

I find it fascinating that what was old is now new and what is now new once was old – a round about way of saying that if one waits long enough we come full circle – as is stated in Ecclesiastes, *there is nothing new under the sun*. So, at this time of the year, I feel the creeping veil of another time in my life, a distant time reaching way back into my childhood, when the coming of *Rosh HaShanah* and *Yom Kippur* meant going to *shul* with my grandparents in some far away land called Brooklyn, New York, where I would find myself nestled between them, trying to make myself very small so they would not have to pay for another seat. The Jews in that distant land were decked out in their fineries; men in their finest suits and

fedoras *schlepping* their embroidered *talit* bags and women dressed in their “going-to-*shul*” dresses, bedecked with their exquisite jewelry and fur coats (yes, even if it was 80 degrees outside). I remember waiting with great anticipation for the call of the shofar, only to be told at the end of the service, as people were filing out of the pews, that there would be no call of the shofar as it was Shabbat. I had not yet grasped the idea that *Rosh HaShanah* was not celebrated with party hats, horns and noise makers. *Au contraire* my friends, I had not yet come to grips with the fact that although we were celebrating the creation of the world, that the celebration would take the form of introspection (whatever that was,) reflection (what?) and repentance (I’m sorry for what?)

Fast forward to 2018 – I am no longer in the old country, Brooklyn, and I am no longer a little boy. My grandparents are long gone (though I cherish the memories of Izzy and Lena) and I am now a husband, father and grandfather in the new “promised land” of Rapid City. Although I am old and wiser, or so I am told, I still struggle as I try to understand the meaning of *Rosh HaShanah* and *Yom Kippur*, the *Yamim Nora'im*, the Days of Awe.

I have come to understand that *Rosh HaShanah* conveys the hope for change and renewal, that things do not have to be as they were. We can begin again. This may be why *Rosh HaShanah* precedes *Yom Kippur*, though you might

expect that first we would ask for forgiveness for the past and only then begin the New Year. Instead, we first enter the New Year with its promise of change. *Rosh HaShanah* says the new is right here before us. This promise supports us as we struggle with the past and with the nagging feeling that nothing ever changes. Though this may be our thirtieth or fiftieth High Holidays, many of us are still dealing with the same issues that we struggled with last year or ten years ago. *Rosh HaShanah* says that change is possible. Why do we sound the *shofar* during services? Some understand it as a clarion call to awaken from living life as a

slumberer and engage with all that life has to offer. For others, it is a sound beyond words, the cry of our souls seeking healing or seeking a response from heaven. For still others it evokes echoes of the Jewish people who have heard that call down through the centuries back to the moment of Sinai.

While we sit together in the sanctuary, clinging to the words of the rabbi as she leads us in the service, we are reminded that the *Yamim*

Nora'im speak to us individually and personally in voices that only we hear. It will not be long my friends before the clarion blasts from the *shofar* echo throughout the Jewish community, signaling the beginning of the *Yamim Nora'im*, The Days of Awe. While the themes of the High Holy Days, *Teshuva*, *Tefila* and *Tsedaka* - *Repentance*, *Prayer* and *Charity* evoke

solemn images of introspection and reflection as we ponder our sins and transgressions, we are also reminded that it is a time of welcoming the beginning of the New Year, 5779.

As president, it is my fervent prayer for all of my friends and visitors at the Synagogue of the Hills to be inscribed in the *Book of Life* for yet another happy and healthy New Year.

Steve Benn

President, Synagogue of the Hills

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hope for change
and renewal;
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Our new student rabbi in her own words:



Hello -

My name is Tzvia Rubens and I will be your new Student Rabbi for the next year. I am originally from the Chicagoland area, but have now spent a great deal of time in Cincinnati. I graduated from Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois with a BS in Public Relations and Business Management, followed shortly by my Graduate Certificate in Judaic Studies from University of Cincinnati. I have a deep passion for innovative education which I hope to pair with my love of the creative arts. These days I spend most of my time studying; however, if I have the opportunity, I love hiking, being outdoors, and spending time with my pet tortoise, Godzilla. I am very excited to begin my journey with SOTH and I look forward to getting to know everyone during my time here.

L'shalom,
Tzvia



And... a Holiday message from Rabbi Tzviza

T This month we hear the blasts of the shofar reminding us that we are in the month of Elul, the month directly prior to *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur*. The *shofar*, an iconic image of this time of year, reminds us that it is almost time to begin our journey towards judgment and repentance. The *shofar* is similar to the prayer, the Shema. It commands us to stop and pay attention. It is our time to pause and truly think about how far we have come this year, and how far we still need to go. In these last few weeks leading up to the High Holy Days, may you find the time to stop, listen to the sounds of the *shofar*, and reflect on what you need to do to prepare yourself for the Days of Awe.

Shabbat Shalom,
Student Rabbi Tzvia Rubens



High Holy Days

5779



SEPTEMBER 9 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Erev Rosh Hashanah Service

SEPTEMBER 10 10:00 am - 11:30 am
Rosh Hashanah Service

SEPTEMBER 10 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Tashlich - Lime Creek

SEPTEMBER 14 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Shabbat Shuvah Service

SEPTEMBER 15 10:00 am - 11:30 am
Torah Study

SEPTEMBER 15 1:30 – 3:00 pm
Adult Education

SEPTEMBER 18 7:30 – 9:00 pm
Kol Nidre

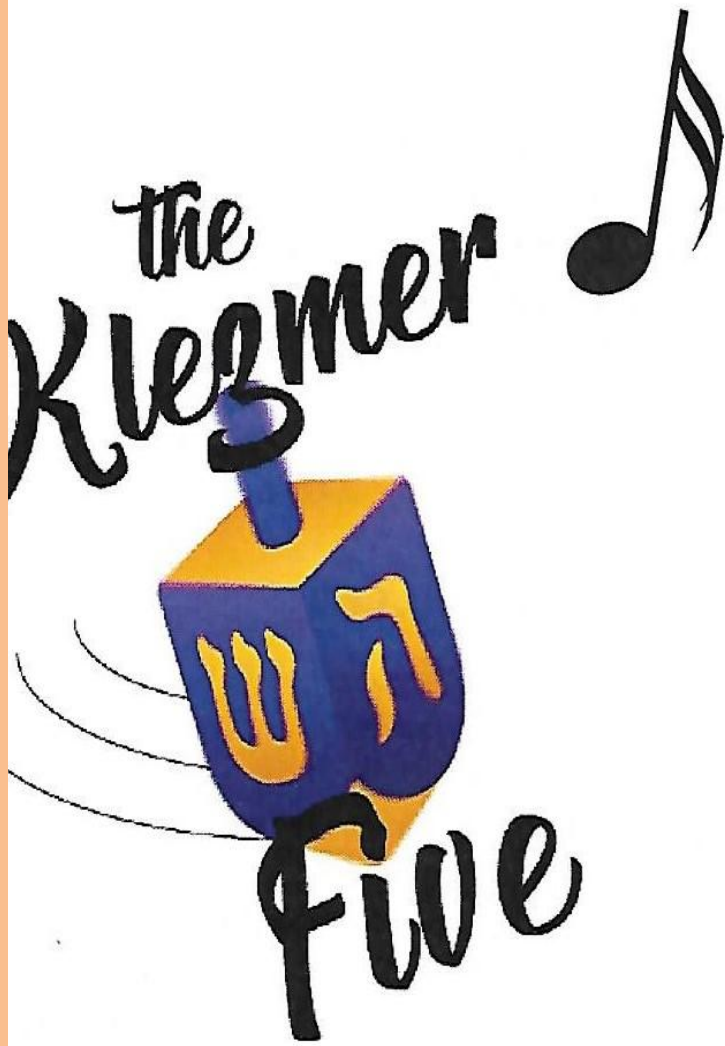
SEPTEMBER 19 10:00 – 11:30 am
Yom Kippur Service

SEPTEMBER 19 3:30 – 6:00 pm
Torah, Yizkor and Neilah

SEPTEMBER 19 6:00
Break the Fast

Please join us for traditional apples and honey following the *Erev Rosh Hashanah* service.

To set the tone of the *chagim*, please count on arriving for *Kol Nidre* services fifteen minutes early for a musical prelude.



On August 3, a group of six Rapid City musicians calling themselves the Klezmer 5 performed an array of Jewish tunes and styles for a packed house at the Journey Museum. The program is part of the Journey's 'Music and Immigrants of the Dakotahs.'

With Ann Stanton and Marti Friednash coordinating the concept and content of the show and Stan Adelstein narrating, the audience was made more aware of the Jewish contribution to the culture of the Black Hills.

Members of the Klezmer 5 are Katie Smirnova, violin; Brett Walfish, viola; Liz Benusis, cello; Melissa Bumbach, vocals; Jami Beck, clarinet and Albin Spreizer, piano.



**This is what 14.91 tons
of gravel looks like . . .**



**. . . requires mitzvah of
compaction from wheels
of the faithful.**

Yahrzeits

“to remember is to keep alive”

The following *yahrzeits* will be observed:
Attendance at services is encouraged so *Kaddish* may be recited.

Isidore Horowitz 2 Tammuz 5738
Grandfather of Steve Benn

Arthur Janklow, Jr. 29 Av 5773
Father of Dan Janklow

Michael Herbst 9 Tammuz 5755
Father of Barb Ames

Murray Weintraub 7 Elul 5760
Grandfather of Irv Fish

Arthur Janklow, Sr. 11 Av 5710
Grandfather of Dan Janklow

Renee Benn 10 Elul 5763
Mother of Steve Benn

Maria Bellon 13 Av 5747
Great grandmother of
Michelle Fish

Marshall Morris 10 Elul 5739
Father of Ruth Thomas

Sid Wechsler 15 Av 5775
Husband of Sandy Wechsler

Sharareh Baghelai 7 Tishri 5743
Daughter of Kathy Kovar

Death is merely moving from one home to another. The wise man will spend his main efforts in trying to make his future home the more beautiful one.”

-Rabbi Menachem Mendel Morgenstern
of Tomashov (the Kotzker Rebbe)





JO'S HOLIDAY APPLE CAKE

INGREDIENTS:

2 cups sugar
1 ½ cups corn oil
3 eggs
2 teaspoons vanilla
3 cups flour
(can use 1 cup of whole
wheat flour, 2 cups white flour)
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon clove
1 teaspoon cinnamon
5 cups diced apples

DIRECTIONS:

Add sugar to oil, cream. (that means whip 'til creamy, ed.)
Add eggs, mix.
Add vanilla.
Sift dry ingredients together.
Add all and apples.

Bake at 350 degrees for 55-60 minutes in 9 x 13 pan.

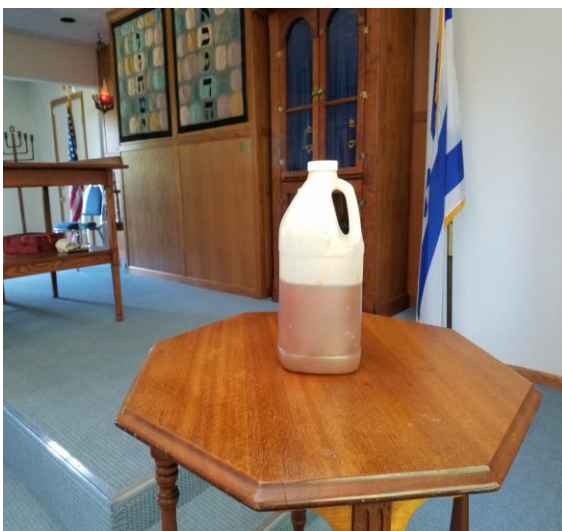
Let cool and enjoy.



יזכור

Please notify the office
with any additions to the
Book of Remembrance for
recitation on Yom Kippur.

Apples from our own backyard . . .



. . . and Bob's honey

The Shofar is how the members of the Synagogue of the Hills communicate with each other. That is, *The Shofar* is a periodic forum for matters of interest that are a bit more formal than a remark over a cup of coffee, but a bit less formal than a written statement to the Board of Director. It could be a birth announcement, a press release, a public service blurb, a letter to the editor (that's me, Leonard Running), a joke, a cartoon, an opinion, anything that YOU think might be important or entertaining to our family.

Your contributions are welcome . . . no, critical to the well being of the synagogue. You can send emails to bhshul1@gmail.com or anything in paper form to the address above. Let *The Shofar* be heard!