

Temple Anshe Sholom

# HIGHHOLY DAYSBULLETIN

ROSH HASHANAH 2024 | 5785 YOM KIPPUR

#### YOUR GUIDE TO

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- INTRODUCTION TO RABBI ALAN KATZ
- HIGH HOLY DAYS SERVICES & EVENTS
- UPCOMING FALL FESTIVALS
- THE LISTENING PROJECT
- MEMBER SPOTLIGHT
- INTRODUCTION TO SMALL CIRCLES
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Yizkor - Book of Memory

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### Book Your Free Seat for the Holy Days

Everyone is welcome to attend all of the services with general seating. Should you wish to reserve a seat in a particular location, we ask that you book now through our Office at 905 528 0121 ext. 21. High Holy Day Reserved Seats cost \$80 per person.

**EVERYONE MUST REGISTER** their plan of attendance at services and events. You'll find the link to register <u>HERE</u>

### DATES AT A GLANCE

#### **ROSH HASHANAH**

- September 28 at 8:00 PM S'lichot Film, Discussion, & Service
- October 2 at 7:30 PM Erev Rosh HaShanah FAMILY Service
- October 2 at 7:30 PM Erev Rosh HaShanah Service
- October 3 at 10:00 AM Rosh HaShanah FAMILY Service
- October 3 at 10:30 AM Rosh HaShanah Morning 1
- October 4 at 10:30 AM Rosh HaShanah Morning 2
- October 4 at 4:30 PM Beachside Tashlich Service
- October 4 at 5:00 PM Picnic Shabbat Dinner
- October 4 at 5:45 PM Kabbalat Shabbat on the Beach
- October 6 at 2:00 PM Cemetery Memorial Service

### DID YOU KNOW?

Our preparations for the Days of Awe begin with the month of Elul. The Shofar is blown throughout Elul as a reminder of the spiritual work that needs to be done. Learning and introspection are the focus of our classes and events at this time. The week before Rosh HaShanah, we hold a special service called S'lichot, when we engage in evening learning and offer a solemn musical introduction to the High Holy Days. On the 10th of Tishrei, we arrive at Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.



#### **YOM KIPPUR**

- October 11 at 7:30 PM FAMILY Kol Nidre
- October 11 at 7:30 PM Kol Nidre and Shabbat Service
- October 12 at 10:00 AM FAMILY Yom Kippur Service
- October 12 at 10:30 AM Yom Kippur Morning Service
- October 12 at 1:00 PM Musical Interlude with Jordan
   Abraham OR Torah on the Trail with Dora-Ann
- October 12 at 2:00 PM Expressive Art with David Rayfield OR Contemplative Practice with Ralph Benmergui
- October 12 at 3:00 PM Yoga Gathering with Natasha Romm OR Sacred Remembrance with Shelby Frank-Davis
- October 12 at 4:00 PM Yom Kippur Afternoon Service
- October 12 at 5:00 PM Yizkor Memorial Service
- October 12 at 6:30 PM Neilah Concluding Service
- October 12 at 7:30 PM Break the Fast Community Event
- October 16 at 5:00 PM Build the Sukkah
- October 16 at 6:00 PM Sukkot Potluck Dinner
- October 16 at 6:45 PM Erev Sukkot Service
- October 17 at 10:30 AM Sukkot Festival with Kiddish Luncheon at 12:30 PM
- October 23 at 7:00 PM Erev Simchat Torah with Shaarei-Beth El in Oakville
- October 24 at 10:30 AM Simchat Torah Morning Service

# 5785 Book of Memory



As we prepare our hearts and souls for the approaching High Holy Days, we are reminded of the importance of memory in our tradition. Yizkor, meaning "remembrance," is a sacred moment during Yom Kippur when we pause to honour those who are no longer with us, connecting their memory with our prayers and reflections.

Once again this year, Temple Anshe Sholom offers our community the opportunity to include the names of loved ones in our Yom Kippur Yizkor Memorial Book. This tradition allows us to collectively honour the memories of those we have lost, ensuring that their legacies continue to live on in our hearts and in our communal prayers.

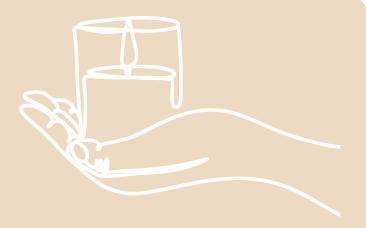
In Jewish tradition, it is customary to give tzedakah, righteous giving, in memory of loved ones, linking our remembrance to acts of kindness and support for our community. By including the names of your loved ones in our Yizkor Memorial Book, you not only honour their memory but also contribute to sustaining our congregation and the values that they held dear.

We are deeply grateful to everyone who participates in this cherished tradition. To submit the names of those you wish to memorialize, please use the form included in the envelope with this bulletin, visit our website for the digital submission form, or call the office directly for assistance. You may also email your information to office@anshesholom.ca.

Please note that all submissions for the Yizkor Memorial Book must be received before S'lichot on September 28, 2024, in order to ensure inclusion in time for our Yom Kippur Memorial Service. We thank you for your participation and for helping us keep the memories of our loved ones alive through this meaningful tradition.

May the memories of our loved ones continue to be a blessing, and may their names be inscribed for good in our collective memory.

# Yizkor



# Introducing Rabbi Alan Katz

#### Dear Members of Temple Anshe Sholom,

As we approach the High Holy Days, we find ourselves in a time of transition, preparing for our first Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur without our regular clergy. It is during these sacred moments that we are reminded of the strength and resilience of our community. I am pleased to share that Rabbi Alan Katz has agreed to lead us through this meaningful season. Rabbi Katz brings a deep commitment to Jewish tradition, a compassionate presence, and a dedication to ensuring that our High Holy Day services are spiritually enriching. We are confident that Rabbi Katz will guide us with wisdom and care as we gather together to welcome the new year and begin our journey of reflection and renewal. Please join me in extending a warm welcome to Rabbi Katz as we embrace this sacred time as a community.

L'Shanah Tovah,

#### **President Marla Frank-Davis**



Shalom,

I am Rabbi Alan J Katz and I look forward to assisting Temple Anshe Sholom for the upcoming High Holy Days. I was so sorry to hear about the medical issues of your beloved Rabbi and Cantor. We are all praying for their complete recovery and return to their cherished congregation.

I learned about your difficult situation while recently visiting my son, Rabbi Noam Katz, who resides in Toronto.

I am Rabbi Emeritus of Temple Sinai in Rochester, NY, where I served for 34 years and retired in 2020 amidst COVID. Since that time my wife was ordained at Hebrew Union College in 2021 and serves a part time pulpit in Laconia, New Hampshire. (BTW we also have a son-in-law who is a Chabad rabbi in Massachusetts.)

In my retirement I have led services at Temple Sinai from time to time and officiated at occasional weddings and funerals. I also served as interim executive director of the Konar Center for Tolerance and Jewish Studies at Nazareth University for 5 months. This past year I worked part time at Temple Sinai for six months while their rabbi was on sabbatical.

I am an avid sports fan: at Temple Sinai they still keep my parking space marked with a sign "For Mets Fans Only." This past May I participated in a Band of Brothers Tour, tracing the route my father followed in 1944, from the beaches of Normandy, to Bastogne, and ending win Munich with a visit to Dachau.

Jan and I are blessed with 3 children and 12 grandchildren, the oldest having married this past March. I am a born and bred New Yorker. Having been born on Yom HaAtzma'ut in 1948, the day Israel became a state. I am a life long lover of Israel and have visited or lived there 46 different times.

It will be an honor to serve you for this year's Days of Awe. In the course of this difficult year for the Jewish people our concerns are for security and peace for our own and all others in the world. We are praying for peace and healing and a return to a more tranquil existence.

Wishing you and your families a Peaceful and Healthy New Year.

L'Shanah Tovah,

Rabbi Alan J Katz





### Presidential Ponderings

In the past three years of serving as Temple President, so much has changed, and we have accomplished so much together. I have been blessed to work with fabulous board members and volunteers, and I am grateful for each and every one, especially this year!

In three years we have seen many changes to operations, improvements in policies and procedures, and extensive building improvements and repairs. We have finally

hired an Executive Director, and put in place the foundation for succession planning and education to ensure strong leadership for the future. The congregation has seen fabulous growth in membership and a pervasive aura of solidarity and fellowship, which is demonstrated by the increased attendance during Kabbalat Shabbat, consistently between 50 and 65 in attendance. With the sale of the cemetery land several years ago, we were fortunate enough to retire the large debt that weighed heavily on our shoulders, and so moved to focus on increasing programming and outreach which has certainly added to the *ruach* that now permeates our community.

I mention all of these wonderful things to remind and emphasize that our community is strong, and it has become so because of you. You the volunteer, you the lay leader, you the member, all of you, that support our spiritual home. There have been many changes, subtle, positive changes that have made us stronger and more vibrant but change nonetheless.

At last year's AGM, Rabbi Cohen announced his retirement in June 2026. With this announcement, we knew that we would be embracing more change. It is our intention to initiate a search for a new Rabbi, and we are on track for January 2025, to create a task force to assist us in this search. Later this year we will put the call out to any who wish to be considered for the search committee.

Unfortunately, we find ourselves in a situation with illness befalling both our Rabbi Cohen and Cantor Baruch. *Refuah sh'lema*, a complete and speedy recovery, our love and prayers are with you both. With Cantor Baruch's sudden indisposition, we acted swiftly to secure a replacement Rabbi. It wasn't easy, so close to the holidays, but we are thrilled to announce that Rabbi Alan Katz, with his compassionate presence and commitment, will lead us through this sacred time.

Rabbi Katz in combination with our fabulous volunteers, and choir, will see us through the high holidays, and start us on a new year of change and continued growth. This synagogue is more than the sum of its parts, it is not the leadership or the clergy that make us great, it is those who sustain us, those who give of their time, and of their financial resources, those who care about the success of this community. So it has been for 174 years. This past year we planned surveys and focus groups, and have now concluded our Listening Project. Our findings will be presented on a webinar on September 4th, and at the AGM on September 15th, and will help us outline a Strategic Plan for the next few years. In the coming year we will edit and bring up to date, our current document that outlines the role of the non–Jew at Temple. The original document created in 1999 was innovative and ahead of its time. Our congregation today, more than ever, has become inclusive and welcoming for Interfaith families, and we want our by-laws to reflect the evolution, that we embrace today.

As I mentioned, we are on solid ground financially, but, by no means will this continue without you. Updating our Frank kitchen to create banquet rental space, renovating our washrooms and sanctuary to become more accessible, and growing our membership by hiring a new Rabbi, takes investment. Now more than ever, as we approach the anniversary of the massacre in Israel on October 7th, and the exponential increase in antisemitism around the world, and right here at home, we need to invest in each other. As a people, as a race, we must protect our Jewish values, and traditions, by investing in future generations, today!

We are blessed to be part of a congregation that thrives on the dedication, generosity, and commitment of its members. Every contribution, whether large or small, plays a vital role in sustaining the vibrant spiritual, educational, and cultural life that we cherish. As we continue to grow and strengthen our community, we are excited to introduce new categories of recognition for those who go above and beyond in their financial contributions.

This year 5785, I urge you to contribute more to help sustain our spiritual home and Temple family.

May 5785 be a happy, healthy, peaceful and prosperous year for us all.

Shana Tova,

Marke Vank Davis

Marla Frank-Davis
President, Temple Anshe Sholom





### **Executive Expressions**

As we gather for the High Holy Days, we reflect on the profound theme of transformation. These Days of Awe are a time for personal and communal introspection, and they call us to consider the changes that shape our lives. Transformation can be unsettling, even frightening, but it is through change that we grow. This adaptability is how Judaism has endured for millennia.

Jewish history is full of moments of profound change. From the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem to the rise of rabbinic Judaism, our people have always found ways to adapt to new

realities. While change is inevitable, it is our steadfast connection to tradition that keeps us grounded. The sound of the shofar, the flicker of Shabbat candles, and the familiar themes of *t'shuvah*, *t'filah*, and *tzedakah* anchor us in our heritage, reminding us that while the world around us may shift, our identity as Jews remains strong.

This past year has offered many reminders of the importance of community. The events of October 7th were a stark illustration of the unpredictability of life and the vulnerabilities we all face. In the face of fear and uncertainty, our community responded with resilience and unwavering commitment. In moments of crisis, it is our sense of connection and shared purpose that allows us to endure.

Our congregation has also been navigating significant transformation. The Listening Project, which saw over 200 respondents step forward to share their thoughts and hopes for the future, has shown the passion and enthusiasm that exists within our community. This project will play a crucial role in guiding us as we embark on our rabbinical search next year, and it is a testament to the strength of our congregation. Your voices are shaping our future, and your commitment is a powerful reminder of our collective dedication.

In the six months I've been with Temple Anshe Sholom, I have had the privilege of being part of this ongoing transformation. One of the most rewarding aspects of my work has been improving and managing our membership intake process. We have worked hard to ensure that new members feel welcomed and supported as they join our community. Every new member brings fresh energy, ideas, and enthusiasm, and this is vital to the future of our congregation.

I have also helped implement the new Buddy System, which pairs long-time members with newcomers. This initiative fosters connections and ensures that everyone feels a sense of belonging from the moment they join. It's about building relationships and creating continuity, which is so important in times of change.

Another project that has brought me great satisfaction is the upcoming introduction of Small Circles. These intimate groups will allow members to build deeper connections, fostering meaningful conversations and relationships. In a large congregation, it can be easy to feel lost, but Small Circles offer a space for connection and support.

Our digital presence has also undergone significant updates. We have been working hard to make our website more accessible and engaging for both members and visitors. Keeping our online presence current is crucial in today's world, and this is an ongoing project that I am excited to continue.

In addition to these initiatives, I've had the pleasure of creating three bulletins and two holiday greeting cards. These publications are important ways to keep our community informed and connected. I've also taken over our social media, ensuring regular and consistent posting to keep our members engaged with what's happening at Temple Anshe Sholom and to reach a wider audience in the broader community.

Everything I have been able to accomplish in my first six months has only been possible thanks to the guidance and support I have received from those around me. From Shelby training me in the office and supporting me every day, the Board of Directors providing guidance, and all of our wonderful members who have shown me incredible support and enthusiasm as I stepped into this new role.

All of these efforts reflect our shared commitment to building a stronger future for Temple Anshe Sholom. This commitment has been evident in recent months as our lay leaders have stepped up to fill the gaps left by our Rabbi and Cantor as they focus on their health. This is a powerful display of our congregation's strength and resilience. We are supporting one another in this time of need, and we are proving that our community is strong, adaptable, and committed.

The absence of our clergy during the High Holy Days is certainly challenging, but we have not allowed these challenges to deter us. Instead, we have drawn on the strength of our community. Our lay leaders have stepped up with incredible dedication to ensure that our services and programming continue without interruption. This is a true display of the passion and commitment that define our congregation, and it is something we should all be proud of.

The events of the past year have demonstrated how essential it is to stand together in the face of adversity. Our community's response was nothing short of inspiring. We came together in a spirit of resilience and solidarity, showing that our strength lies in our ability to support one another through the most challenging times.

This strength will carry us forward as we navigate the changes ahead. Our shared commitment to Temple Anshe Sholom—whether through our involvement, participation, or financial support—ensures that our congregation remains a vibrant center of Jewish life in Hamilton. By working together, we not only sustain our present but also invest in our future, ensuring that Temple Anshe Sholom will continue to thrive for generations to come.

As we enter the Days of Awe, let us embrace transformation with courage and faith. Let us draw strength from our traditions and from each other, knowing that we are partners in the sacred work of shaping our future. Together, we will navigate the path of transformation, guided by the enduring light of our faith.

Shanah Tovah—a sweet, healthy, and transformative New Year to all.

Keana Pakosh, Executive Director





## Educator's Learning

Shanah Tovah! I am so excited to welcome students back to a new school year on September 18th at Temple Anshe Sholom. Registration and exciting school news can be found at anshesholom.ca. I invite your family to learn, celebrate and explore all things Jewish with us on Shabbat mornings and Wednesday evenings. This is a year of growth and transformation, where we are trying new things and offering new options for student learning.

Our new activities start off with a Family challah bake and Rosh HaShanah program on Sunday September 29th from 1–3pm. Together with families from Shaarei Beth–El, we will make challah dough, create a special holiday keepsake, and participate in Israeli dancing. We will also join virtually with synagogues across the GTHA for Havdalah. Families can register (HERE), please note there is a \$10 fee per household. This family program is sponsored in part by grants received from Hamilton Jewish Federation.

Also new this year, on Wednesdays, our students will choose from a selection of electives and explore Jewish values and traditions through art, cooking, gardening, STEM, physical education, music & more! Parents can also join in our new drop in activities, Wednesdays from 5-6pm, starting with a book club and visual art in the fall and Mahjong in the winter, and yoga and gardening in the spring! All Wednesday electives/drop-ins begin on November 6th, for both students and parents.

Youth in grade 8 through 10 are invited to join our Thursday evening class: B'Yachad – Making a Difference in Your Community, a program open to all in our greater Jewish community. Students enrolled in the grade 8–10 class will also have the opportunity to sign up for travel to Montreal in November. In addition, for the first time, we are offering grade 9–12 students an Israel trip in March. All our trips offer learning and social opportunities together with other Toronto, Mississauga and Oakville teens!

As we prepare for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, we have planned several meaningful opportunities to gather families together at Temple Anshe Sholom, as well as at our beautiful parks and beaches! Our Rosh Hashanah programs include; Family Erev Rosh Hashanah October 2nd at 7:30pm and Family morning Rosh HaShanah at 10am on October 3rd. On 2nd day Rosh HaShanah (October 4th), beginning at 4:30pm, please join us for tashlich and a Family beach picnic, followed by a special Kabbalat Shabbat service on the beach! On Yom Kippur, we invite your family to join the Kol Nidre for Families at 7:30pm. On October 12th, the Family morning service begins at 10am, followed by a selection of afternoon programs for all ages. Please check the Holiday calendar at a glance for complete service and program information.

Our drop-in Tot-Shabbat resumes on Saturday October 19th at 11am; where toddlers and a caregiver meet weekly during the school year for songs, storytime & Shabbat activities. Our Junior and Senior Youth groups, led by Yael Morais, are active with monthly social and social action programming. In addition to our pot-luck Family Shabbat nights, we have plans over the year for family hikes, family trivia and a retreat at Canterbury Hills! We hope your family will join in our learning, social & ritual programs, renewing connections and engaging with other families. I invite you to look for our Family Programs on the Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur calendars and register for the many engaging holiday opportunities. Try something new this year! Visit http://anshesholom.ca to register for The Jewish Learning Program for kindergarten through grade 10.

L'SHANAH TOVAH from my family to yours!

Dora-Ann Cohen-Ellison

Religious School Director

# School Registration Now Open!

A Jewish Learning Program open to all Jewish children in the Greater Hamilton Jewish Community

Junior Kindergarten through Grade 12

Saturday Mornings 9:15 AM to 12:15 PM Wednesdays 4:30 PM to 6:10 PM

New school year begins September

How do you want to learn Jewishly?

#### **Enroll Now!**





@templeanshesholom



Wednesday Electives in Judaism: Cooking, music, visual arts, STEM, nature & environment, gym, and more!

215 Cline Ave. North dacellison@anshesholom.ca 905-528-0121 ext. 30







TAS Religious School is generously supported by the Hamilton Jewish Federation







Don't Miss Out on Upcoming Youth Group Events!

**Did you know?** We have 2 active youth groups, both led by our advisor *Yael Morais*!

#### Junior Youth (Grade 3-7)

October 20 Pizza, Games & 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM Schmooze

November 17 Family Hike with

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Dora-Ann - SIGN UP HERE

#### Senior Youth (TASTY) (Grade 8-12)

October 25-27 Fall Kallah in Toronto

with NFTY-NEL

November 8-10 Montreal

(Grades 8 & 9)

November 16 Pizza, Games & 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Schmooze

November 17 Family Hike with

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Dora-Ann - SIGN UP HERE

# PREPARING FOR THE HIGH HOLY DAYS

#### Our Prayer Book for the month of Elul: Mishkan HaLev



Mishkan HaLev will be featured at all Kabbalat Shabbat services during the month of Elul and used for our S'lichot service on Saturday, September 28th. Join us for a film & discussion, changing of the Torah vestments to white, and a solemn musical service.

If you do not already own copies of Mishkan HaLev and you would like to have one, you can order a physical copy or the Kindle edition (much cheaper!) through Amazon or through CCAR Press <u>HERE</u>. Using a digital reading device at services is permitted and encouraged at Anshe Sholom.

#### S'lichot: A Night of Reflection & Renewal

Prepare your heart for the High Holy Days by joining us for a meaningful evening of S'lichot. This special night will offer opportunities for reflection, connection, and spiritual renewal as we turn toward the Days of Awe. Join us for this powerful evening as we enter the High Holy Days with intention.

When: Saturday, September 28th at 8:00 PM Where: In person only at Temple Anshe Sholom

Film & Discussion: Begin the evening with a thought-provoking film, followed by a discussion that will deepen your understanding of the themes of repentance and renewal.

**Changing the Torah Vestments:** Be a part of the beautiful and symbolic changing of the Torah covers, a moment that marks the beginning of our journey into the High Holy Days.

**S'lichot Service:** Conclude the evening with a moving S'lichot service, where we come together in prayer and reflection, seeking forgiveness and preparing our hearts for the sacred days ahead.

#### Our High Holy Days Machzor: Mishkan HaNefesh

#### REMINDER: Bring your own copy!

For our High Holy Days services, Temple Anshe Sholom uses the beautiful and inspiring *Mishkan HaNefesh* as our Machzor (High Holy Day prayerbook). *Mishkan HaNefesh* comes in two volumes, gold for Rosh HaShanah and silver for Yom Kippur.

We ask that all attending High Holy Day services in-person bring their own copies of *Mishkan HaNefesh*. No loaner copies will be available in the Sanctuary.

If you do not already own copies of Mishkan HaNefesh, please pre-order your copies in time for Rosh HaShanah. If you would like to order Hardcover editions (regular size print or large size print), please reach out to the Office by September 10th. If you would like to purchase the Kindle edition (much cheaper!) they can be purchased through Amazon or through CCAR Press <u>HERE</u>. Using a digital reading device at services is permitted and encouraged at Anshe Sholom.



# FAMILY SERVICES & EVENTS

**EVERYONE MUST REGISTER** their plan of attendance at services and events. You'll find the link to register <u>HERE</u>

#### **ROSH HASHANAH**





#### **FAMILY EREV ROSH HASHANAH**

with songs, story, and snacks for families. 45 minutes offering connections with other families and celebration of the New Year!

#### **ROSH HASHANAH FAMILY SERVICE**

with songs, story, and snacks for families. 45 minutes offering connections with other families and celebration of the New Year!

#### **TASHLICH & BEACH SHABBAT**

A wonderful outing for your family! Together, enjoy the ritual of Tashlich, casting seeds into the waters of Lake Ontario. Bring a personal picnic to enjoy a brief picnic dinner before Shabbat service on the beach!

Featuring: Dora-Ann Cohen-Ellison and Rebecca Sampson

Location: Van Wagners Beach Hutch's Restaurant Parking Lot 280 Van Wagners Beach Road, Hamilton





#### **YOM KIPPUR**



#### **FAMILY KOL NIDRE**

A shortened service opportunity for families with children ages 6 to 13 years old. Together, explore a selection of Kol Nidre prayers including Vidui, story and discussion on this sacred night!

#### YOM KIPPUR FAMILY SERVICE

A meaningful service with thoughtfully selected prayers and songs to help build your Jewish Identity!





### DID YOU KNOW?

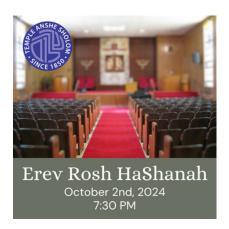
**Kol Nidre** is the only day of the year when we wear Tallitot at night!

Since the instruction is to **observe** the fringes, the custom developed to wear a tallit at services taking place during daylight hours, when we can see.

The exception is made for Kol Nidre, since the Tallit has become a symbol of the sincerity of our repentance.

#### **ROSH HASHANAH**

**EVERYONE MUST REGISTER** their plan of attendance at services and events. You'll find the link to register <u>HERE</u>



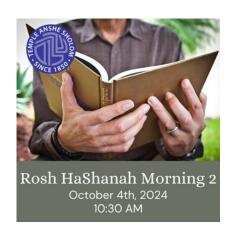
#### **EREV ROSH HASHANAH**

Beautiful music, prayers, and readings with your community. Returning to our services is our keyboardist, Jordan Abraham and our guitarist, Geoff Hlibka.



#### **ROSH HASHANAH FIRST MORNING**

Restarts your year with songs, prayers, and meditations. Torah, Haftorah, and Shofar Blowing bring meaning and awe to this service experience.



### ROSH HASHANAH SECOND MORNING

On the second day of Rosh HaShanah is a more interactive service with offerings from many of our members.

#### **SPECIAL EVENTS & GATHERINGS**

NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED

# KNOW?

TASHLICH is a symbolic act of ridding yourself of your worst behaviors and habits and tossing them into the sea before Yom Kippur. We will provide the birdseed for you to cast into Lake Ontario and a prayer sheet to use.



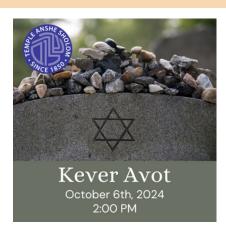


#### **TASHLICH & BEACH SHABBAT**

Together, enjoy the ritual of Tashlich, casting seeds into the waters of Lake Ontario. Bring a personal picnic to enjoy a brief picnic dinner before Shabbat service on the beach!

Featuring: Dora-Ann Cohen-Ellison and Rebecca Sampson

Location: Van Wagners Beach Hutch's Restaurant Parking Lot 280 Van Wagners Beach Road, Hamilton



#### **CEMETERY MEMORIAL SERVICE**

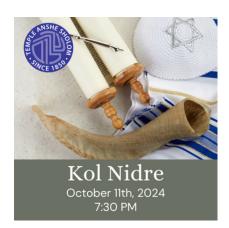
Each year during the Days of Awe we visit the graves of our ancestors to connect and remember. Kever Avot is a special time for our community to honour those who's shoulders we stand upon.

Featuring: Rabbi Miriam Wajnberg

Location: Temple Anshe Sholom Cemetery, 427 Limeridge Road East, Hamilton

#### **YOM KIPPUR**

**EVERYONE MUST REGISTER** their plan of attendance at services and events. You'll find the link to register **HERE** 



#### **KOL NIDRE EVENING SERVICE**

Brings us together for a solemn and introspective night of soul-searching and connection



#### YOM KIPPUR MORNING SERVICE

Reconnect with your community and with yourself. Join us for inspiring prayers that renew our souls.



### YOM KIPPUR AFTERNOON SERVICE

Features the chanting of the story of creation from Torah

Please refer to the next page for our Yom Kippur afternoon programming between morning and afternoon service and information about breaking the fast as a community.





Our YOM KIPPUR YIZKOR MEMORIAL SERVICE is your opportunity to remember your dear ones who are no longer with us, but always in our hearts. This moving service creates a special space for our love and memories.

See page 3 for instructions on how to submit names for the service.



The **NEILAH SERVICE** is an uplifting and joyous service as the gates are closing and we yearn for another year of closeness and joy. Melodies heard only on this evening will raise your spirits and inspire you to begin the new year with an open heart.

This service only happens once per year and the name נְעִילָה means 'locking' and refers to the gates of heaven which have been open during the High Holy Days for those who wish to return. The gates are closing with the sunset.

The Neilah Service begins with the singing of El Nora Alila in the Sephardic tradition and we are blessed to have Jordan Abraham with us to lead this piyyut in the tradition of the Bene Israel Jews of India. This service concludes with a Havdalah Service.

#### YOM KIPPUR AFTERNOON OFFERINGS

#### 1:00 PM



MUSICAL INTERLUDE with Jordan Abraham & Geoff Hlibka is a beautiful way to lighten your load during Yom Kippur. Be transported through music.

#### OR

MINDFULNESS WALK Experience the peacefulness of Yom Kippur with a mindfulness walk on the trails, allowing nature to guide your reflections and renew your spirit on this sacred day.



#### 2:00 PM



**CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICE** with Ralph Benmergui offers guided meditations on the theme of forgiveness.

#### OR

**EXPRESSIVE ART** with David Rayfield is a time to unleash your creative self as we explore your desires for change in the coming year.



#### 3:00 PM



YOGA GATHERING is a quiet time to enjoy some gentle movement under the guidance of an expert teacher.

#### OR

**SACRED REMEMBRANCE** is a time for reflection as we honour the memory of loved ones who have passed, sharing stories, prayers, and the warmth of community on this solemn day.



#### **BREAKING THE FAST**

**BREAK THE FAST** of Yom Kippur with community! Enjoying the renewal of food and liquid into your body after a day of fasting is a comfort to be enjoyed with friends. Blintzes, bagels, herring, juice, tea, and coffee with fruit and cake, and more! Come and enjoy together.

This will be a dairy/vegetarian potluck spread. If you would like to prepare a cake, salmon, fruits, vegetables, we would be most grateful. You can sign up to bring a dish by calling the Temple Office.

By the end of Yom Kippur we are drained but exhilarated and being together to share a meal is a treasured bond. If you've been fasting, you'll want to return to eating slowly - this casual and light hearted communal meal is the answer!



#### **FALL FESTIVALS & OBSERVANCES**

#### **SUKKOT**

#### Wednesday, October 16th

- **5:00 PM Sukkot with School** Help our religious school students build and decorate our TAS Sukkah on the front lawn, creating a joyous space for celebrating this special festival together.
- 5:00 PM Home & Belonging Join us for a meaningful discussion about the unhoused population in Hamilton, exploring themes of shelter, vulnerability, and the true meaning of home during the festival of Sukkot.
- **6:00 PM Potluck Dinner** Bring a dish and share a festive meal with the community, as we gather to celebrate Sukkot with delicious food and great company.
- **7:00 PM Erev Sukkot Service** Welcome the festival of Sukkot with a short evening service and the very first Lulav and Etrog shake of 5785!

#### Thursday, October 17th

10:30 AM Sukkot Festival Morning Service - Celebrate the first day of Sukkot with a festive morning service, rejoicing in the beauty of nature, community, and the season of our rejoicing.

#### Saturday, October 19th

7:30 PM Sukkot Havdalah with Friends in the TAS Sukkah - Bid farewell to Shabbat and usher in a new week by joining friends in the TAS Sukkah for a meaningful Havdalah service under the stars.

#### Sunday, October 20th

**5:00 PM** Sushi & Sake in the Sukkah – Enjoy an evening of sushi, sake, and camaraderie in the TAS Sukkah, blending tradition with a fun and modern twist on Sukkot celebration. Tickets are \$36, register HERE.

#### **SIMCHAT TORAH**

#### Erev Simchat Torah Wednesday, October 23rd, 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

This year we will be once again partnering with Shaarei-Beth El Synagogue to celebrate Erev Simchat Torah on Wednesday, October 23rd. Join us in Oakville as we read the end and the beginning of the Torah and start our annual cycle again!



#### Simchat Torah Festival Morning Thursday, October 24th, 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Join Dora-Ann and Yael back in Hamilton for Simchat Torah Festival Morning followed by a kiddush luncheon!

#### **KRISTALLNACHT**

#### An Evening of Remembrance and Repair: Reclaiming our artifacts and bringing them new life

In observance of
Kristallnacht, or the Night
of Broken Glass, we will
be joining together as a
community to watch the
inspiring documentary
Reckonings and learn
about our Holocaust
Memorial Torah Scroll

November 11, 7:00 PM



# Pillars of Possibility



We are deeply grateful to share that, together, we have raised an incredible \$85,000 towards our \$180,000 goal for the Pillars of Possibilities campaign. This achievement reflects the strength and generosity of our community, and we couldn't have come this far without each and every one of you. Your contributions have made a significant impact, and we thank you for your continued dedication to Temple Anshe Sholom.

At the same time, we recognize that this past year has been filled with immense challenges, both near and far. The events of October 7th weighed heavily on our hearts as we focused on the safety and security of our fellow Jews in Israel and around the world. Many of us shifted our priorities in response, and that is both understandable and necessary. As we enter the new year, we must also remember that protecting what we have here at Temple Anshe Sholom is equally important. In these times, ensuring the security and vibrancy of our sacred space remains a paramount responsibility. The fight to preserve and strengthen Jewish life here in Hamilton is part of the same struggle that unites us with Jews everywhere.

Our Pillars of Possibilities initiative is more vital than ever, ensuring that our sacred space remains a haven for you, your family, and the Jewish community. If you have found value in our past programs, events, and services, and if you share our vision for a thriving future, we urge you to continue supporting this important effort. Whether you have already contributed or are considering doing so, know that every donation, regardless of size, plays a crucial role in sustaining our vibrant community. Your generosity enables us to keep providing the essential services and programming that enrich the lives of all who seek connection and meaning here.

As we look ahead to the new year, we also invite you to consider becoming a Sustaining Member of Temple Anshe Sholom. Sustaining membership is a vital part of ensuring the long-term financial health and stability of our synagogue, allowing us to continue providing meaningful programs, services, and a warm,

welcoming environment for all. By increasing your dues to the sustaining level, you are making a significant contribution to the future of our community. Whether you are already giving generously or are considering an increase, your support is deeply appreciated.

Together, we are building a future that honours our past, strengthens our present, and ensures that Temple Anshe Sholom remains a beacon of hope, faith, and resilience for generations to come.

For more information on the Pillars of Possibilities or to learn more about Sustaining Membership, please visit anshesholom.ca or contact the Temple office at 905-528-0121.

Thank you, once again, for your unwavering support and generosity.

#### **Ettan Romm**

Treasurer Temple Anshe Sholom

Click HERE to make a donation to our Pillars of Possibility

# The Listening Project

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As Chair of the Listening Project, I heard a wide range of perspectives and opinions about the future direction of Temple Anshe Sholom. After reviewing hundreds of responses to our survey, and speaking to dozens of you in focus groups, it's clear to me that while there may be differences of opinion about the specifics, we all want Anshe Sholom to remain a vibrant center of Jewish life and community. This project has such a profound significance to our congregation's future, and I'm honoured to have led it. It's my hope that the results from this project help inform decisions that continue to make Temple Anshe Sholom a welcoming place that we are all proud to call home.



Andrew Sia Listening Project Chair

As part of our ongoing efforts to strengthen our community, we recently completed our Listening Project to gather feedback from our members. Here are the key findings:

#### Membership Knowledge Gap:

47% don't know if the Annual
Commitment structure is fair

**41%** don't know if TAS is financially transparent

**34%** don't know if TAS is financially responsible

We encourage you to join us at the Annual General Meeting on **September 15th at 7:00 PM** to learn more about Temple Anshe Sholom's finances. Despite a significant knowledge gap, members generally have favourable views of Temple Anshe Sholom's **finances**. However, many expressed that they do not know enough about the dues structure or Temple finances to form an opinion. This indicates an opportunity for us to **improve communication** and transparency regarding our financial matters. Some members have also indicated a willingness to contribute more, whether through increased dues or donations, but have not been approached about this. They would like the conversation about commitment and contributions to be ongoing, evolving as their ability to contribute changes.

**Inclusivity** remains a core value of our community. Membership is supportive of expanding the role of

non-Jewish family members at Temple Anshe Sholom. However, there is a desire for the new policy to be clearly defined, ensuring that while inclusivity grows, certain limitations remain intact, such as non-Jews not being allowed to serve in leadership roles or perform Jewish rituals. **Interfaith families** are an important part of our community, and members support interfaith marriages being performed at TAS, viewing this as essential to fostering inclusivity.

Our members have expressed a need for clearly defined policies across all areas, rather than continued flexibility and exceptions. This desire for **structure** and **consistency** reflects a broader community sentiment.

When it comes to leadership, members want an extroverted rabbi who takes a personal interest in them and enthusiastically engages in pastoral care. There is also a strong desire for the next rabbi to take an active role in community outreach, representing TAS to the broader Hamilton community. However, most members are uncomfortable with the idea of the next rabbi being involved in fundraising efforts.

We hope everyone had the opportunity to join our webinar on September 4th, and we encourage you to join us at the Annual General Meeting on **September 15th at 7:00 PM** to hear Andrew's report summarizing these findings. We look forward to discussing how we can use this feedback to build a stronger future for Temple Anshe Sholom.

# Introducing Our New Commitment Categories

#### A GRATEFUL HEART, A STRONGER COMMUNITY

At Temple Anshe Sholom, we are blessed to be part of a congregation that thrives on the dedication, generosity, and commitment of its members. Every contribution, whether large or small, plays a vital role in sustaining the vibrant spiritual, educational, and cultural life that we cherish. As we continue to grow and strengthen our community, we are excited to introduce new categories of recognition for those who go above and beyond in their financial contributions.

To honour the extraordinary generosity of our members, we have established four new categories that reflect the profound impact of their annual support through their **combined** Membership Commitment and donations:



#### Kochavim, Stars

Members who contribute the sustaining amount of \$3,300 annually. These members are our shining stars, providing the foundational support that keeps our synagogue strong and vibrant.

#### Giborim, Heroes

Members who contribute between \$3,300 and \$5,000 annually. These heroes stand strong in their dedication, ensuring that our synagogue remains a beacon of hope and faith for all.





#### Shomrim, Guardians

Members who contribute between \$5,000 and \$9,000 annually. These guardians protect and preserve the future of our community, guiding us with their steadfast commitment.

#### Malachim, Angels

Members who contribute over \$9,000 annually. These angels uplift our community with their unparalleled generosity, allowing us to reach new heights in our mission and vision.



These categories are more than just titles—they are a testament to the power of collective giving and the deep love our members have for our synagogue. We are immensely grateful for the contributions of our **Kochavim**, **Giborim**, **Shomrim**, and **Malachim**, whose support makes a significant difference in our ability to serve our members and the broader community.

For those who would like to increase their annual commitment for 2025, please click **HERE**. For those who would like to make a donation, please click **HERE**.

### A Heartfelt Thank You to All of Our Members

To each and every one of you who calls Temple Anshe Sholom your spiritual home, thank you. Your membership, involvement, and contributions are the lifeblood of our community. It is through your support that we can continue to provide meaningful worship experiences, vibrant educational programs, and opportunities for connection and growth.

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to those who have met or exceeded the sustaining membership amount in 5784. Your commitment to the future of our synagogue is truly inspiring.

#### Malachim

Marvin & Lorraine Cohen Ron & Faith Kaplan Robert & Arlene Singer Sasha Weisz Raquel Epand The Schreiber Family Bill & Dana Thorogood

#### Shomrim

Yves & Luba Apel Hynda Halpren z"l David & Bonnie Loewith Trudy & David Shore Gerald Asa & Janet Weisz Mitch & Ginny Levine Karen Rosenberg & Paul Jaye Marvin & Gloria Wasserman

#### Giborim

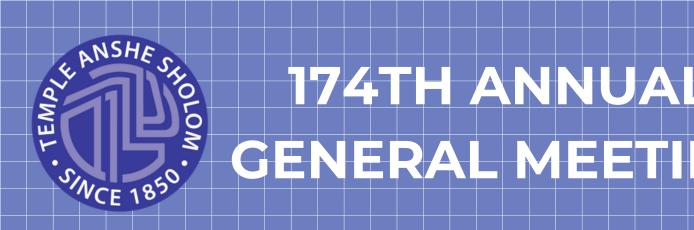
Gillian Burman & Kim Bildfell
Deborah & Glen Eker
Tom Gorsky & Rose Bloomberg
David Horwood & Danna Weisz
Lawrence & Marla Kobetz
Richard & Sandra Levy
Keana Pakosh & Adrian Zamidar
Diane Sandler & William Nisker
Michael Taylor
David & Pearl Yolles

Norman & Glenna Eby
Cheri Elson & Adam Sperber
Angelique Hamilton
Nicholas Kates & Jan Hastie
Oren Levine & Jessica Bogach
Carl & Sandra Loewith
Kevin & Donna Sampson
Abe Szereszewski
Janice Wright & Mark Minden

#### Kochavim

Ellen Amster Dan Segal & Alicia Mattia Jeffrey Paikin Stanley & Elizabeth Tick

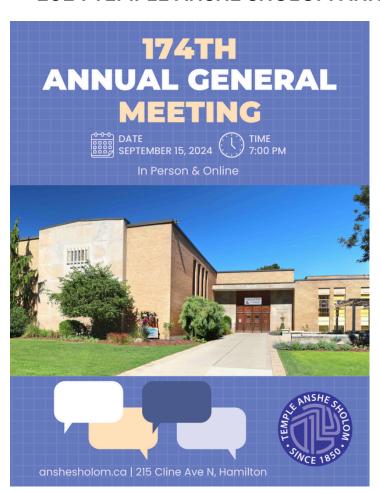
We are humbled by your generosity and proud to recognize you as key pillars of our community. Together, we are building a future filled with light, strength, and grace. May our collective efforts continue to nurture and sustain the sacred bonds that unite us as one community, one family, one synagogue.



#### **Attention all TAS Members**

Your Temple Anshe Sholom Board of Trustees invites you to join us for this year's TAS Annual General Meeting, which will take place on Sunday, September 15th at 7:00 PM. This year we will be in person and online. As we get closer to the date, information about the Zoom link will be available.

#### 2024 TEMPLE ANSHE SHOLOM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA



- Welcome President, Marla Frank-Davis
- Invocation Cantor Paula Baruch or proxy
- Approval of minutes of the AGM held
   October 1, 2023 Secretary, Aaron Walsh
- Executive Director's Report Keana Pakosh
- Listening Project Task Force Report Andrew Sia
- President's Report Marla Frank-Davis
- Cantor & Program Director's Report –
   Cantor Paula Baruch or proxy
- School Report Dora-Ann Cohen Ellison
- Financial Report Ettan Romm
- Approval of the Actions of the Board Marla Frank-Davis
- Presentation of the Budget Ettan Romm
- Appointment of Auditors Ettan Romm
- Non-Election Year
- New Business
- Good and Welfare
- Closing Benediction Cantor Paula Baruch or proxy



From our experiences in Kingston (great!) and Ottawa (not so), there are a couple of lessons we've learned about integrating into a synagogue or temple kehilla. One is the importance of a welcoming culture that manifests through words and deeds. This is harder to find than one might think. Another is the importance of contributing the best of yourself unreservedly — to ritual life, community events, education, whatever — knowing that your full engagement would benefit the greater good and your sense of belonging. If the first condition — a welcoming culture — is not in place, it's awfully hard to want to jump in with both feet.

These were our thoughts when we moved to Burlington in 2022 and cast about for a Jewish



community that felt right for us. We joined TAS, last fall after the High Holy Days, with tempered optimism. Our willingness to engage was in our control; a welcoming culture was not. We needn't have worried. There was the warm welcome note from Cantor Paula, the invitation to a get-to-know-you coffee from the President, the member taking us under her wing at havdalah at Summit Station Dairy, the invitation to join the Membership Committee, the smiles that greeted us whenever we entered the building.

This has given us all the encouragement we needed. It has been less than a year but feels much longer. Our experiences have been moving (Yizkor and community seder) and family-strengthening (Purim spiel and carnival with our granddaughter). They have been fun (mahjong! Trivia Night!), educational (leadership development session), and even practical (helping weed the front garden and baking hamantaschen). We have met like-minded folks who will be friends for a long time to come. And all this before experiencing our first Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur at TAS.

It is one thing to be institutionally welcoming: well-defined processes ensure the proper cards are sent to new members and invitations made. It is quite another for this sensibility and instinct to be widely shared and on display in random moments. It is a comfort in these challenging times, and a wonder to behold.

- Alan Morantz & Suzanna Keller

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### Alan Morantz & Suzanna Keller MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Members since September 2023

### Introducing...

# SMALLCLES

#### What is a **Small Circle**?

Small Circles are the best way to build connections within the Jewish community. Formed around interests, needs, geography, demographic, or profession, they can be done in the home, in an office, or anywhere in the city.

Consisting of anywhere between 3–20 people, groups meet regularly, with the number, frequency, dates, and location of meetings determined by the group.

These groups are designed to inspire us and transform our lives and the world around us, with deeper relationships and a greater experience of joy and meaning.

These groups are lay-leader driven! We invite members to both create and join Circles with community members!

You organize what, when, who, and how, and TAS can help with resources, advertising, and meeting space.

If you're interested in starting a Small Circle, please reach out to

Executive Director Keana Pakosh at executivedirector@anshesholom.ca 905 528 0121 ext. 25



# Fall Breakfast Club

#### October 27th Joshua Grant-Young

"Horror and Judaism: Jewish Myth, Film and the Real-World Horrors of Anti-Semitism"

#### November 10th Mark Levine

"Health Care of Tomorrow: Can you teach an old dog new tricks?"

#### November 24th Marc Elainy

Jewish Folktales from Morocco: Tales of Seha the Sage and Seha the Clown

#### November 3rd Alan Morantz

"The inspiring and heartbreaking story of the Buber-Rosenzweig Bible"

#### November 17th Kalea Kirsh

Introduction to Neurodiversity: The movement that embraces all kinds of minds

Clip & Return to the Temple Office

#### Breakfast Club Season Passes

If you're a regular at Breakfast Club or a curious newcomer, we have exciting news! You can now purchase a pass to attend all five of our upcoming lectures for only \$55. That's 25% off! Secure your breakfast each Sunday with one simple purchase and look forward to a season of thoughtprovoking discussions and connections. Don't miss out on this special offer!

Fill out this form and send it along with a cheque to our office OR call the Temple office at 905-528-0121 to purchase your pass directly.

Name:

**Phone:** 

**Email:** 

Payment by:

Office to pay by credit card

### Thank You!

Since 1850 we have been building Jewish Community with kindness, compassion, and resolve. In the last year, that has proven to be more important than ever. Thank you for helping keep our community connected, safe, and strong.



We wish you and your family a Shanah Tovah u'Metukah and G'mar Chatimah Tovah. See you in 5785!



### Temple Anshe Sholom

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anshesholom.ca | <u> @templeanshesholom</u> | <u> @anshesholomhamilton</u>

office@anshesholom.ca | (905) 528-0121