THE SHOFAR

SEPTEMBER 2022 - ELUL 5782/TISHREI 5783 Farmington Valley Jewish Congregation-Emek Shalom Simsbury, Connecticut

lick to

forall

services

5783-2022 HIGH HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

LEIL S'LICHOT SEPTEMBER 17TH 7:30pm - FVJC Emek Shalom Sanctuary & streamed to members

EREV ROSH HASHANAH SEPTEMBER 25TH 7:30pm - FVJC Emek Shalom Sanctuary & streamed to Facebook

ROSH HASHANAH DAY ONE SEPTEMBER 26TH FVJC Emek Shalom Sanctuary & streamed to members *9:00am – Full service, In-Person & streamed to members *11:30am – Abbreviated service, In-Person & streamed to members 1:30pm – Children's Service, (up to Grade 3), In-Person only 3:00pm – Tashlich @ Flower Bridge, Simsbury In-Person Only

ROSH HASHANAH DAY TWO SEPTEMBER 27TH FVJC Emek Shalom Sanctuary & streamed 8:00am – Meditation, In-person & streamed to Facebook 9:00am – Morning Service, In-Person & streamed to Facebook

SHABBAT SHUVAH SEPTEMBER 30TH 7:00pm - FVJC Emek Shalom Sanctuary & streamed to Facebook

KEVER AVOT (CEMETERY SERVICE) OCTOBER 2ND

9:00am - FVJC Emek Shalom Memorial Garden, In-Person only 50 Mountainview Road, Avon

KOL NIDRE OCTOBER 4TH *7:30pm - FVJC Emek Shalom Sanctuary & streamed to members

YOM KIPPUR OCTOBER 5TH

FVJC Emek Shalom Sanctuary & streamed

- *9:00am Full service, In-Person & streamed to members
- *11:30am Abbreviated Service, In-Person & streamed to members
- 1:00pm Study Session with Cantor Sue & Rabbi Gavi In-Person Only
- 1:30pm Children's Service (up to Grade 3), In-Person Only
- 3:30pm Mincha, In-Person & streamed to Facebook 5:00pm — Healing/Yizkor, In-Person & streamed to Facebook
- 6:00pm Neilah/Havdalah, In-Person & streamed to Facebook

*Tickets and registration required, members only www.fvjc.org/calendar for service schedule and locations



Scroll for Programming, News, Registration links and more!



Scan to register for High Holiday servicces!



L'Shanah Tovah! Welcome to our 5783-2022 High Holidays

Registration is required for all High Holiday services. Please click to learn more about our upcoming programming.

Click HERE to access our 5783 High Holiday booklet!

LEY JEWIS

A WORD FROM, Rabbi Bekah Goldman

My Dearest FVJC-Emek Shalom Family,

Two years ago I sat down at my computer to write you a note regarding where and how we would pray for the chagim (holidays). I told you that we would need to remain physically distant from each other; that we could all make our own mikdashei me'at, mini sanctuaries; that we could make



sacred space wherever we needed to in order to create a meaningful High Holiday experience.

We moved our devices into rooms that were a little less cluttered, or maybe a little more prayer-worthy. We hung up our own Shiviti artwork to help us become more grounded in these spaces. Some of you may even still have these pieces hanging someplace in your home. We prepared, as a community, to spend the holidays apart and in our own holy spaces, just as our ancestors did when the Temple was destroyed.

Many of us prayed at Simsbury Farms, relishing the uniqueness of worshiping in nature, surrounded by the birds chirping and the wind blowing through the trees. It was akin to our very own Garden of Eden, but it wasn't quite home.

This year, I sit here with a different message. We know it is still scary to be in large groups. We know many still do not feel comfortable leaving their homes or being indoors with others. And yet, we think it is time to come back together as a community to our sanctuary. We think it is time to gather as one in our synagogue's sacred prayer space.

I am beyond grateful to be in such a thoughtful community, where we constantly ask deep and reflective questions in the hopes of pushing ourselves to meet the needs of everyone within our kehillah kedoshah (holy community). In coming back together, we acknowledge that we need each other more than we need to be apart. We need to be in our beautiful sanctuary, together, surrounded by our community-family.

Together we will create the one thing we couldn't create apart – a deep sense of belonging to something greater than ourselves. We will move from our own mini sanctuaries into our sanctuary, designed to create connection with each other.

We hope that you will join us on Saturday September 17th for S'lichot, as we turn over our sanctuary for the first time in two years. We will take time to prepare and enrobe our Torah scrolls in their white garments, to change over our bima cover, to put out our beautiful, white flower arrangements, to put our machzorim in every seat and to ensure that we create a space worthy of the holy days we wish to experience.

We genuinely look forward to praying in person together, with the beautiful faces and voices of our community family surrounding us, singing in harmony, all our familiar and moving tunes, before our majestic ark.

We know that nothing compares to being in the sanctuary surrounded by friends and family, and hope our small efforts add joy and meaning to our holidays.

We are wishing you a very warm and fulfilling High Holiday season,

With Blessings, Rabbi Bekah

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Loel Goldblatt

Dear Friends,

I hope you've all had an enjoyable summer. At FVJC-Emek Shalom we've been busy all summer planning for the upcoming year. We kick off the Fall season with the start of Sunday School, an outdoor Fall event, plenty of Adult Education options, and of course the High Holidays.

Rabbi Gavi has gotten off to a strong start. As our Director of Lifelong Learning, she is bringing an exciting new curriculum and updated technology to our Religious School. We even have new furniture for some of our classrooms. This summer our classrooms were outfitted with 50-inch Smart TVs which will be used to support our new curriculum, called ShalomLearning. Multimedia components in the curriculum will help to ensure our students are getting the most meaningful and engaging education possible. In addition, Rabbi Gavi is offering numerous Adult Education programs throughout the year. These classes are a benefit of membership and are therefore for members only. Be sure to check out our course catalog for more information. If you know someone who is interested in taking classes or who has questions about membership, please have them contact our membership co-chairs at membership@fvjc.org. Marlo Zall or Ruth Goldblatt will be more than happy to discuss membership options with them.

I'm happy to announce that Julie Greshin has volunteered to lead our social programming committee. Now that we've reached a new post-Covid normal, we're looking forward to getting back to some new in-person events. Our June picnic was a huge success which we plan to build on. We look forward to gathering at the Talcott Mountain Collective on Sept 11 for a fun-filled afternoon.

Although Covid is still around us, we're all learning to adapt and are continuing to find ways to gather. After much thoughtful consideration, we removed the mask mandate over the summer and now allow eating of food in our building again. Regardless of our policy, we ask that any individual who wishes to wear a face mask should feel welcome to do so. Importantly, we strongly encourage anyone who is unvaccinated, without a vaccine booster within the past 6 months, or immunocompromised to wear a mask for their personal protection. And we ask that if you feel ill to please not enter the synagogue. Anyone with internet capabilities can stream our services on line as well as our classes and meetings.

After two years of High Holidays at the Simsbury Farms Skating Rink, we've made the decision to move our in-person services back into our sanctuary. You will need to register in advance so that we can be sure there is enough seating available for everyone who chooses to attend in person and so that we know if we'll be able to accommodate members guests in accordance with our High Holiday guest policy. We will also stream our High Holiday services so that you can watch from home if you choose. If you haven't yet made arrangements to pay your dues, please do so before the High Holidays to ensure you receive your tickets and streaming links.

Please be sure to tell your friends about FVJC-Emek Shalom. We are a strong, vibrant Jewish Community here in the Farmington Valley with virtual reach anywhere in the world. We are a full-service synagogue with an updated and growing Religious School. And with 14 consecutive months of membership growth we now have two Rabbis to guide us spiritually and educationally.

L'Shanah Tovah, Loel



Shalom Friends,

I know that it is still the dog days of summer and that most of us are more

focused on vacations and avoiding the heat than the coming High Holidays or the start of Religious School. But here at FVJC-Emek Shalom it is a whirlwind of activity! Work is well underway to ensure that the Yamim Noraim (Days of Awe) are truly awe-filled and, as I write this, the TVs we purchased to support our new Religious School curriculum are being installed.

Religious School

Thanks to several congregants stepping up and embodying the value of l'dor v'dor (from generation to generation), we have the teachers we need for the coming school year. And it should be an exciting year! We have adopted anew Jewish values-based curriculum, and we now have the multimedia technology (TVs and Chromebooks) to fully support the new curriculum. In addition to the TVs and Chromebooks, the classrooms are getting more of a facelift with new furniture. students will walk into a religious school experience this year that not only has vibrant, joyful, and meaningful learning, but also feels vibrant with its new state of the art technology and colorful new furniture. Finally, Rabbi Bekah and I will be doing something new this year. She and I will be co-teaching the 7th grade class. We both feel that it is vital for clergy to connect with our teens in a deep and meaningful way and co-teaching this class together goes a long way towards meeting that goal.

Adult Education

By now, you all should have seen our catalog of adult education classes for the coming year. I tried to design classes that would meet the interests and needs of a wide spectrum of our congregants. As the year progresses, I'd love to hear your feedback on classes you attend. This will help me in developing the courses for next year.

There are a couple of upcoming programs to keep an eye out for. The class Prepare to be Transformed begins September 1st and is designed to help prepare participants to derive the most meaning possible during the Yamim Noraim. We'll delve deeply into the texts (Psalm 27 and Tomer Devorah) traditionally studied during the month of Elul (the month preceding the High Holidays) and grapple with what it means to emulate divinity. Also, in order to meet the needs of our congregants, I will be facilitating a bi-monthly Grief Support Group beginning in September. We will meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 11am. Please keep an eye out for details and registration.





1ST DAY OF SCHOOL WELCOME BACK GATHERING! SEPTEMBER 11, 9AM JOIN US IN THE SANCTUARY WITH YOUR CHILDREN FOR A BLESSING!

FOLLOWING, ADULTS ARE INVITED TO STAY FOR A BAGEL NOSH AND Q&A WITH RABBI GAVI!

BREAKFAST IS SPONSORED BY: FVJCES SISTERHOOD & MEN'S CLUB



VALLEY JEWISH CO

Emek Shalom



Save the date for this fun, pot-luck member event!

mek Shalom

COMMITTEE NEWS

MEMBERSHIP & RETENTION COMMITTEE MARLO ZALL AND RUTH GOLDBLATT, CO-CHAIRS, membership@fvjc.org

Marshall Liquori Westfield MA Jason Polayes and Jennifer Weymouth and family Simsbury CT Gabriela Sandoval and family Simsbury CT

welcome

As summer winds down, the days shorten and we focus on the New Year ahead, we wanted to share that our volunteer callers will be reaching out to connect with all our members. While we often leave messages on voicemail, , there are many times when our callers have meaningful conversations. Making a human connection, a voice on the other end of the phone asking how we are and sharing what FVJC is up to is important in a world with technology surrounding us around the clock. Connecting Rabbi Bekah and Rabbi Gavi with a congregant in need or with a resource is another aspect of our outreach calls. If you would like to help make calls (talking points and all the contact information is provided for you) we would love to have your help. Can you believe that after this round of calls we will have made about 1300 calls over the past couple years?

This year the Membership Outreach and Retention Committee will be at Celebrate the Valley, a community wide event at Salmon Brook Park in Granby on Sept 24th. Stop by to say hello, pick up a treat and get a sweet start to the New Year!

We're hearing good things from our ambassadors. They are making connections and developing friendships. We now have 16 pairs of connections and are growing every month.

If you would like to learn more about any of our volunteer opportunities, including being an ambassador or a phone volunteer or other outreach above, please email Ruth Goldblatt or Marlo Zall, membership@fvjc.org .

Ruth and Marlo C ShulCloud RMINGTON VALLEY JEWISH CONGREGATION Emek Shalom Enhance your Membership experience: enter family records, donate, schedule dues payments and more! Remember to use your membership portal Scan the barcode to access your portal!

COMMETTEE NEWS

CORE COMMITTEE SUE LERNER, suelerner@sbcglobal.net

Even though the weather has been hot, hot, hot, we can feel the anticipation of the crisp Fall days and Back-to-School excitement! Each year, the CORe Committee sends out four holiday-themed care packages to our young adults, the first of which is for Rosh Hashanah. If you would like to enroll your child in this free program, you must register him/her/them by September 9, 2022. You may find the enrollment form at https://fvjc.org/core/. Frequently, the forms are routed to a Spam folder, so please email suelerner@sbcglobal.net to notify me that the form is complete. Remember, even if your child was enrolled last year, you must complete a new form.

The CORe Committee is also looking for someone to shadow the current Chair this year and take over the position next year. If you are interested in this fulfilling volunteer opportunity that brings so much joy to our college-age kids, please email suelerner@sbcglobal.net.

Lastly, the CORe Committee is looking for members to help brainstorm new ways to keep our kids connected Jewishly while living away from home. Mailing costs continue to rise and we need to think of affordable ways to create touchpoints throughout the year to let the kids know that they are still a part of their synagogue community and that we're all rooting for them! Please reach out to suelerner@sbcglobal.net if you would like to add your voice to this committee. Time commitment is very low!





CARING COMMUNITY COMMITTEE BARBARA FICHTENHOLTZ, babbof@gmail.com

As the New Year is upon us we wish you and your families a very Happy, Healthy and Peaceful New Year.

Caring Community is the committee of FVJC that is there not just for meals and Shivas but to lend support. We send emails,texts, and snail mail to congregants who need checking on, mazel tovs on a new addition or just to let them know their community cares.

We need a list of volunteers to write these notes and cards and supply meals or treats when needed. You don't have to cook. All the stores have meals to go. Even a gift card to someplace that delivers is great. You also don't need to know every congregant. Your efforts will be appreciated on the giving end just like you would appreciate it if on the receiving end.

Please remember we are all one misstep, one diagnosis, one unexpected something, from needing a helping hand or supportive word.

Barbara Fichtenholtz





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BOOK GROUP

SAVE THE DATE:

Title: The Personal Librarian Author: Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray

September 8th at 2 pm at FVJCES

Want to join us? Please reach out to: Judi Cohen, jcreads49@gmail.com, for more information

SO MANY

BOOKS.

Couples Book Group:

'The Last Kings of Shanghai: The Rival Jewish Dynasties That Helped Create Modern China' by Jonathan Kaufman (2020)

September 12th @ 7PM

Please contact Sandra: sandrabourke@yahoo.com or

Suzanne: suzyandjohn@comcast.net

for additional information.

OMMITTEE NEWS



Jodi Marks

The **MITZVAH KNITTERS** is starting up our meetings again in the fall, after our pandemic hiatus. Do you knit or crochet? If so, we want you! We knit or crochet shawls that we donate to cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy.

Our group was started as a Bat Mitzvah project by Elora Rosedale many years ago. We continue it in memory of Elora's mom Aileen Rosedale, who was instrumental in keeping the group going. We meet once a month. In the past it has been on Monday mornings, but we would certainly consider other times. Anyone who isn't able

Jodiellen@comcast.net to come to the meetings can make shawls at home and bring them 860-658-5562 to the synagogue office. I'm also willing to pick them up from you. In addition, we have some experienced knitters who are willing to teach, if you want to learn. If interested, please contact me. We would love to have you join us.



DONATIONS

JUNE 30-AUGUST 30

CARING COMMUNITY FUND In Memory Of Irwin Ungerleider from Michael & Kathy Ungerleider

COHEN MEMORIAL GARDEN FUND In Honor Of the Bat Mitzvah of Mira Rubin from Mark & Ellen Lescher

COLLEGE OUTREACH FUND In Memory of: Herbert Abrams from Betty Abrams

OPERATING FUND DONATION n Honor Of Paula Schwartz from Shirley Zeldis

In Memory Of Mr. Ed Silverstein from Andrea Geller **Edward Silverstein** from Barbara and Jerry Hirsch **Rose Kasenatz from Bruce & Paula Kasenetz** Ed Silverstein, beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. from Sidney & Adrienne Hopfer Dr. Matthew Strouch Ida Strouch from Dr. Martin & Susan Strouch Edward Silverstein from Edward Ramos Edward Silverstein from Eliot & Kathileen Mag **Gladys Doroff, mother of Suzanne Schloss** Joseph Schloss, father of John Schloss from John & Suzanne Schloss Lydia Mattson from Jon & Viviann Rubin Edward Leon Silverstein from Judith Ericson Edward Leon Silverstein from Newington Rotary **Edward Leon Silverstein from Patricia Grime Ed Silverstein from Richard Rapp Edward Silverstein** In Honor of: Member of the Year, Mark **Orenstein, from Robert & Phyllis Fishberg Barbara Canter from Sheldon & Kathleen Paul Ed Silverstein from Shirley Zeldis** Edward L. Silverstein from Simsbury Volunteer Fire Company, Ladies Auxiliary Eric Jacoby from Sue Jacoby Ed Silverstein from Susan LaPorte **Edward Leon Silverstein from Virginia Boyle**

The Yahrzeit Of Leah Katz Pear, mother of Adrienne Pear Hopfer from Dr Sidney & Adrienne Hopfer Charlotte Strauss Hopfer, mother of Sidney Hopfer from Dr Sidney & Adrienne Hopfer Meyer Meister from Eric & Iris Spungin Stanley F. Span from Fred & Amy Wergeles Herbert Roiff Miriam Roiff from Noel & Marsha Davidson

DR. PETER LEBETKIN MEMORIAL FUND In Memory Of the 61st anniversary of Claire and Ed Silverstein from Gloria Lebetkin

ENDOWMENT FUND In Memory Of Edith Roizen from Richard/Marsha & Marsha Lowry

HOLOCAUST TORAH SHOWCASE FUND In Honor Of The birth of Shoshana Sara daughter of Daniel & Alexandra Rozenfeld from Loel & Ruth Goldblatt In Memory Of beloved member Ed Silverstein from Loel & Ruth Goldblatt

> MEN'S CLUB / SISTERHOOD DONATION In Support of Yellow Candle Program from Charles & Barbara Wolfe

> > MUSIC FUND In Memory Of Helene Weinberg from Stephen & Joyce Weinberg

NANCY M. PETRY MEMORIAL FUND In Honor Of Sandra Bourke's special birthday from Elizabeth Kempinski the birth of Lisa and Randy Berke's grandson, Ari. from Elizabeth Kempinski The Yahrzeit Of Nancy M. Petry from Dr.William White Fredric Kaplan, brother of Liz Kempinski from Elizabeth Kempinski

DONATIONS JUNE 30-AUGUST 30 - CONTINUED

RABBI BEKAH'S DISCRETIONARY FUND In Memory Of Doris Brodsky Vitale from Alan & Lydia Klatsky Ed Silverstein, from Alan & Lvdia Klatsky Edward Silverstein from Arthur & Gloria Levin Edward Silverstein from Bruce & Judith Buff **Ed Silverstein from Debra Bogatz** Edward Silverstein from Dr.William White Sheindel Schnur Bertham Kaplan from Elizabeth Kaplan Ed Silverstein from Fran & Ann Carnevale Edward Silverstein. husband of Claire from Gloria Lebetkin Our dear friend, Ed Silverstein from John & Suzanne Schloss **Edward Silverstein** from Martin & Marlene Chorches In memory of Ed Silverstein from Michael & Judith Cohen **Ed Silverstein** from David & Linda Levine Ed Silverstein from Peter & Marcy Schulman Ed Silverstein from Richard and Miriam Goldberg **Edward Silverstein** from Richard & Marsha Lowry Edward Silverstein from Robert & Jean Giunta Ed Silverstein from Robert & Sandra Bourke **Edward Silverstein from Roy & Paula Schwartz** Jacob Goldberg from Stanley Goldberg & Cantor Susan Levine **Agnes Goldberg** from Stanley Goldberg & Cantor Susan Levine

In Support of continued misheberach prayers for our son Brian's speedy recovery. from Stephen & Faith Kamins

The Yahrzeit Of Our dad, Jay Linn from Judy & Judith Muirhead Jack Weiner from The Kagel Family & Steven Kagel RABBI DAVID SOBEL MEMORIAL FUND In Memory Of Jacob Bourke Louis Epstein from Robert & Sandra Bourke SANDRA L. KRAVET - WOMAN OF COURAGE FUND In Honor Of Rabbi Jim and Nancy Rosen for 30 years of dedicated service to our community from David Kravet

In Memory Of In memory of Michael Sweeney from David and Jeremy Kravet from David Kravet Denese Mann from David Kravet

> SOCIAL ACTION FUND The Yahrzeit Of Isadore J. Radville, father of Gloria from Arthur & Gloria Levin







CONTACTINFORMATION

Rabbi Bekah Goldman: rabbibekah@fvjc.org Rabbi Gavi Ruit: rabbiruit@fvjc.org Synagogue President: Loel Goldblatt, president@fvjc.org

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: Chair's: Marlo Zall & Ruth Goldblatt, membership@fvjc.org MEN'S CLUB: President, Kevin Zall, k.zall2468@gmail.com RITUAL COMMITTEE: Chair's: Robin Bergman & Ken Weinstock, ritual@fvjc.org SISTERHOOD: President, Lisa Cooperman, lisa.cooperman@outlook.com TREASURER: Paul Honig, treasurer@fvjc.org

Member Portal: https://fvjc.shulcloud.com/member

General Synagogue information: website: www.fvjc.org, calendar: www.fvjc.org/calendar/ fax number: 860-658-4273 55 Bushy Hill Road Simsbury, CT 06070

Administrator: Chrisi Bonchick, 860-658-1075, admin@fvjc.org Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 10AM- 2PM