

FINAL ISSUE OF THE SHALIYAH

SUKKOT/SIMHAT TORAH SERVICES



SUKKOT SERVICES

Thursday, October 5th at 9:45 a.m.
(outdoors in Sukkah – weather permitting)

SIMHAT TORAH

Including Bet Consecration
Wednesday, October 11th at 7:30 p.m.

SHEMINI ATZERET

Thursday, October 12th at 9:45 a.m.

ALL ABOUT GOD

One Tuesday a month, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

With Rabbi Lee (**NEW for 2017-2018**)

THIS MONTH'S SESSION IS October 17th

In our emphasis on 'belonging' over 'believing' we, Reconstructionist Jews, are reticent to talk about God. But Rabbi Lee will fearlessly devote his monthly Tuesday seminar to the evolution of God in Jewish history. Beginning with our classical traditions - the God of the Hebrew Bible and the God of the Talmudic and medieval sages - he will move on to modern Jewish existentialist philosophers Abraham Joshua Heschel, Martin Buber, and Mordecai Kaplan. He will conclude with a view of God through the lens of the contemporary Reconstructionist theologian, Harold Schulweis. One need not attend every session to benefit from the course. The entire RSNS community is invited to attend this monthly course taught by Rabbi Lee.

SHABBAT UNPLUGGED

Friday night, October 13th from 8:00 – 9:30 p.m.

A joyous, family-friendly evening of music and singing with a fantastic 5-piece Shabbat Band led by our very own Solomon Hoffman!

SHABBAT B'YAHAD

The B'Yahad program is an ongoing Saturday morning family service and education experience. All members are welcome! Adult Torah Study begins at 9:00 a.m. Family service 10:15-11:00 a.m. **This month's session will be Saturday, October 21st.**

RSNS BLOOD DRIVE



Wednesday, November 15, 3-9PM
Watch your email for sign up information.

THE DINNER

Invitations are in the mail!

Bakers: Turn on your ovens & pick out your favorite recipe . . .

Hosts: Figure out how many you can seat at your table & email Susan Hicks (at tsbhicks@gmail.com) to volunteer . . .

Everyone: Get ready for **The Dinner** (our traditional cooperative dinner)

on November 4!

RSVP!!

RABBI LEE

Dear Friends,

I write this letter to you having just returned home from the annual 9/11 Manhasset Memorial service. It's hard to believe that sixteen years have passed since the fall of the Towers; nor can I believe that the events of that terrible day are no more real for our synagogue school kids than World War II was for me at their age. That, of course, is the dynamic of history. What fills the front pages of today's newspapers, soon become subjects listed in the indices of history textbooks.

But then one can turn to the not so distant past for life changing events. In the past six weeks, we have witnessed the insanity of Charlottesville, Virginia, and the inanity of Washington D.C., which will inform, if not determine, our nation's future. Added to these human-made disasters, we have experienced hurricanes that have devastated the greater Houston area and much of the Caribbean and our country's southeast. An earthquake in Mexico took more lives than both hurricanes together.

If I were a different kind of religious leader, I might see these natural catastrophes as a divine response to our misdeeds, as God's tremors in anticipation of an End Time. But as a Reconstructionist Jew, I understand that nature is random. What is not random, are our responses to it. The power of 'together' can certainly help mitigate political aberrations and the trauma resulting from nature's fury. This is a lesson we can learn from the solar eclipse that we witnessed nine days after Charlottesville. While some people of faith might consider the eclipse another cosmic sign of the apocalypse, I understood it to be a metaphor for action. Now it's all about the corona when it comes to an eclipse. Although the sun's corona is constant, because of the sun's brilliance, the corona is fully visible only at the time of an eclipse when the sun and the moon become one. That's when the light shines brightest. And so it is with us. We each radiate warmth and light as individuals, but we shine brighter still when we are unified in action. So on this threshold of the New Year, pledge to join a demonstration of like-minded people for a cause that will help to rebalance the world, and contribute funds toward the rebuilding of damaged communities. We may well be subject to the political whims of others, and to the winds of Harvey and Irma, but we can still bring change and healing in their wakes.

I wish you a year of hope, promise and the work that comes with it.

Warmly,
Lee

YOUTH PROGRAMS

SHALOM SHABBAT WITH CANTOR ERIC AND YOGA JEN (AGES 1 - 5)

This month we will meet on

Saturday, October 14th 9:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.

One Saturday a month, our youngest children along with their parent/grandparent/caregiver, celebrate Shabbat with challah and juice, songs, stories, and movement. Both Gan Shalom families and non-members are invited. Dates: 10/14, 11/4, 12/9/2018, 1/6, 2/3, 3/3, 4/14, 5/19, 6/9

PJ LIBRARY

Join us for our first PJ Library event of the year which will take place on **Wednesday October 4th at 5:30 p.m.** We will be reading PJ Library selections celebrating Sukkot. Not a PJ Library member yet? It's never too late for your child to start receiving these free Jewish books each month. Visit www.pjlibrary.org to sign up.

OR HADASH For grades 4 - 6

Save the date for our first event – **OCTOBER 14TH**
(Make note of our other events) 11/18, 1/6/2018, 2/10, 3/17, 4/16 (trip to soup kitchen), 5/12
To sign up for all of the events, call the RSNS office or email Sharon at sharonrsns@optonline.net

KADIMA 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. (dinner at 6:00 p.m.)

Kadima with parents – October 3rd
Kadima students only – October 10th, 17th and 24th

TEENS: grades 8-12

ADOPT A SURVIVOR

Post Kadima class 2017 -- meeting monthly on Wednesdays, usually from 5:30–7:00 p.m.
October 18th is this month's meeting.

KULANU - (GRADES 8 – 9 and their parents) 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

This month's meeting is Tuesday, **October 17th**
Teens and parents will meet separately at the same time one Tuesday a month to learn and connect with each other. Pizza included for the teens. See "All About God" with Rabbi Lee, on page 1, for more on the Adult section. For more details on this program visit the LIFELONG LEARNING section on www.RSNS.ORG

BETTER TOGETHER (NEW FOR 2017/2018)

GRADES 10 & 11 – This month's meeting is on **October 15th** from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

LEADING ON CAMPUS (NEW FOR 2017/2018)

GRADE 12 – STAY TUNED for our first event.

KESHER HADASH

STAY TUNED for our next event.

Are you an RSNS teen? Then join us online! Follow us on Instagram: [instagram.com/rsnsteens/](https://www.instagram.com/rsnsteens/)
Join our Facebook group:
www.facebook.com/groups/kesherhadash/

Boy's Group – Bros' Hodesh

One Tuesday a month, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
This month's meeting is October 24th

If you're a boy in grades 8-12, please RSVP to Cantor Eric, or join our Facebook group!
<http://www.facebook.com/groups/187609124592536/>

Girl's Rosh Hodesh one Tuesday a month, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

This month's meeting is October 24th

– draws on the tradition of Rosh Hodesh celebrations to build self-esteem, leadership skills, and satisfying Jewish identities for adolescent girls. We intend the program to demonstrate to teenage girls Judaism's commitment to their growth and well-being. 8-10th grade girls may join this special "girls only" group.

SYNAGOGUE SCHOOL NEWS

The Synagogue School 2017-2018 calendar is posted on our website at rsns.org

Shabbat Services: Family services are held one Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. There are many different ways for families to participate. We work with each class to enable parents to provide Jewish role models for their children as well as expand their knowledge of Jewish liturgy and texts. You may sign up to help with a Family Service oneg. The *B'Yahad* Saturday morning family service and education program act as reinforcement for our *tefilla* program.

FRIDAY EVENING FAMILY SERVICE STUDENT PARTICIPATION - 7:30 p.m.

All families are encouraged to join us at all family services regardless of your student's grade.

October 6 th	Hay
November 3 rd	Welcome New Members
December 15 th	Hanukkah
January 5 th	Vav
February 2 nd	Daled
March 2 nd	Gimmel
April 13 th	Bet
May 4 th	Kindergarten and Alef

SAVE THE DATE: ASHOKAN TRIP December 1-3, 2017, for students in grades 3-6.

SPECIAL DATES – ALL STUDENTS ATTEND WITH PARENTS

Wednesday, October 11 Simhat Torah Celebration & Bet Consecration - 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, November 5 Mitzvah Day

Friday, December 15 Hanukah Service – 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 28 Tu B'Shevat Seder - 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 28 Purim Megillah Reading and Play

Sunday, March 25 Heritage Trip

Special Programs held during regular class time – all dates are Tuesdays

Sukkot Day October 3

Hanukah Day December 19

Shabbat Day February 6

Pesah Day March 27

Yom HaShoah April 10

Zimriah May 15

Optional Congregation-Wide Programs Open To Everyone

Sandwich Making: Sundays, 10:00-11:30 a.m. October 22, December 10, February 4, March 18, April 15, May 6

Shabbat Dinners: Fridays at 6:30 p.m. Adults \$10, Children free. October 13, December 8, February 9, April 27



Nursery School classes began on September 11th and we are off to a great start. Most of the children have successfully separated, and each day eager children enter their classrooms ready to work and play. New friendships are forming as we explore the different areas of our room and share snack, stories, and song. Our **3's Lunch Bunch, 4's Afterschool Program and Before and After Program** started on September 13th.

All of the classes enjoyed getting ready for Rosh HaShana and Yom Kippur. How delicious apples dipped in honey taste. What a loud sound the Shofar makes! And the round challah with raisins was so yummy! The three and four-year old classes met in the sanctuary with Rabbi Lee, Rabbi Jodie and Cantor Eric to see all the Torahs and sing songs for the holidays.

We are all looking forward to making decorations and eating snack in the Sukkah and marching with our flags for Simhat Torah. Our three and four-year old classes are excited to take their first trips to the pumpkin farm this month.

Our next **PJ Library** Sukkot Event is on **Wednesday October 4th at 5:30 p.m.** The program will feature stories, songs, craft and food! Not a PJ Library member yet? It's never too late for your child to start receiving these free Jewish books each month. Visit www.pjlibrary.org and sign up.

The fall is the time when we begin to make plans for the next school year. Registration for the **2018-2019 school year** will begin in October. Synagogue members and current enrollees and their siblings will have priority registration. Families that are new to Gan Shalom will begin registering on October 23rd. Please call Laura Reich at 627-0257 to visit a classroom or obtain an application for the 2018-19 school year.

Laura

ADULT STUDIES AND SEMINARS

BIBLE STUDY

Come and dip a cup into the sea that is the Hebrew Bible, an anchor of the Jewish People for the last two millennia. Our particular study is without end, and requires no previous experience. This year begins with Song of Songs and moves on to Ruth and Lamentations. Don't be intimidated. This class is for those without any biblical background and for those who know a great deal. This seminar meets biweekly on Thursday nights from 8-9:30 p.m. **Our First meeting of the year will be October 5th with a second on October 19th.**

SHABBAT SEMINAR

The History of Israel: A Documentary Approach: We began our examination of Zionism seven years ago through the lens of the writings of Zionist and anti-Zionist ideologues. This year we will begin with the first 'Intifada', and move to the Oslo Accords and the aftermath. Each class is complete within itself, so drop by as often as you wish. This seminar meets biweekly on Shabbat afternoons **12-1:30 p.m.** **Our meetings this month will be on October 7th and 21st**



SHABBAT YOGA

**FRIDAY, October 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th
10:00 A.M. – 11:15 A.M.**

Experience Shabbat through movement; connecting body, mind and soul. This Shabbat Yoga program is taught by Rabbi Jodie Siff. Good for all levels, adults and post b'nai mitzvah teens, non-members welcome. Bring your own mats and yoga props (we have a few if you forget yours). Wear comfortable work out attire.

If you have questions, please email Rabbi Jodie at rabjodie@optonline.net or call 516-627-6274.

EAT, READ, TALK

Rabbi Lee will continue his Thursday program in this series beginning **Thursday, October 26th from 11:30-1:00 p.m.** We read articles of Jewish interest from a variety of sources. Subjects include politics, the arts, travel and the state of the State of Israel. Bring a dairy lunch. We'll supply the beverages and the articles to be discussed.

CANTOR'S DINNER

Friday, October 20th 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Following dinner, participants engage in lively conversation and study of diverse topics on a different theme each year. Previous themes have included Jews and Food, Jewish Mysticism, Jews from Exotic Lands, Jewish Music Through the Ages, and Jewish Legends. This year's theme is **"THE TEN COMMANDMENTS, MANY APPROACHES"**

Dinner is at 6:30 p.m., price per person varies depending on the menu. Anyone can skip dinner and come for FREE for the 7-8 p.m. study session. Please also mark your calendar for future dinners on 11/17, 12/15, 1/19/2018, 4/20, 5/18, and 6/16

Please RSVP to Cantor Eric (rsnscantor@gmail.com) (whether you're coming to the dinner OR just the discussion!) by **Monday, October 16th**
AND WHY NOT BRING A FRIEND.

About RSNS Email

Every member of RSNS should be receiving our Weekly Announcements and other important information by email. If you are not receiving these emails from rsns@optonline.net please let us know immediately. This has nothing to do with the member2member google group.

This is especially important now that we are discontinuing the Shaliyah. And be sure to check our website calendar often at <http://rsns.org/news-and-events/calendar/2017-10>

ADULT STUDIES AND SEMINARS

Continued . . .

2ND GENERATION SURROGATE SURVIVORS

This month's meeting is at 8:00 p.m. on October 19th

Adult children and grandchildren of survivors are invited to participate in continuing to tell the stories and the history of their family member. These connections provide a vital link to the events of the Holocaust in a time when there are fewer survivors living to tell their own stories.

MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group meets the second Wednesday of each month to discuss topics of interest selected by members. While the discussion starts off with a selected topic the meetings move in many directions and are a wonderful way for members to get to know one another. All men in the congregation are invited to attend. The next meeting is on **Wednesday, October 4th at 7:30p.m.** Coffee and some snacks will be available. The next topic is:

What are some of the factors that influenced your choice of career? Would you have done things differently then had you known what you know today? Explain.

WOMEN'S ROSH HODESH

Traditional religious ritual was designed, and continues, to meet a variety of needs that relate to life passages: The need for the individual to be acknowledged by community, the need for the community/tribe to read itself into the passages of each member, the need for bonding, which serves both individual and community, the need to (re-)enact dramatically the great stories and messages of the tradition, for the sake of individuals and of the tradition. Through rituals, we create structures that provide an element of predictability and, therefore, safety, around times of insecurity, transition, and/or loss. All women of our congregation are welcome to join us as we continue to study, and learn from each other.

This month's meeting is October 4th, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

ENGAGING WITH AGING

Our meeting this month is set for **Thursday, October 19th from 11:30 to 1:00 p.m.** We'll meet in the Blue Room, as usual. Please encourage other members who may be interested to join us.

YIDDISH READING CIRCLE

We meet on average, every other week on a Friday morning at 10:00 a.m. in the RSNS Library. For more information and a schedule contact Jerry Bloom at 516-466-2519.



PARTNERS IN CARING (PIC)

Sid Jacobson JCC's Partners in Caring offers an array of specialized services including support groups, counseling, information and community referrals, workshops, autism and Alzheimer's programs, as well as other social services. Together with UJA-Federation of New York and your synagogue, we are your partner in caring for you and your family.

PIC helps create a caring, responsive Jewish community by providing support for:

- Bereavement
- Parenting
- Life Cycle Issues
- Marital/ Family Concerns
- Divorce/ Separation
- Caregiving issues
- Respite programs and services

For assistance, contact us at 516-484-1545 ext. 196.

A licensed social worker will respond promptly to provide you with information and support.

Partners in Caring is funded by a grant from UJA-Federation of New York and partnering synagogues



SJJCC.ORG

Community Corner

A Place to share stories from every corner of the RSNS community.

Inclusion

By Rachel Mankowitz

Early on in my tenure at RSNS, at a Friday night discussion, Rabbi Lee discussed how members of our congregation, liberal Jews on the North Shore of Long Island, often vote against their own upper middle class financial interests, in order to help the poor and less fortunate, and I sat there feeling like an outsider, a liberal Jew who is not upper middle class. If I vote for financial supports, I *am* looking out for my own best interests.

I grew up going to a Jewish day school, on scholarship. I didn't have as many pairs of shoes, or as many outfits, or as many after school activities, as the other kids. Even though no one said so, I felt like I had to earn that scholarship money by being a good girl, and not bothering anyone, and not using up too much attention or resources that could be used by full pay students.

In America overall, but especially within the Jewish community, being poor is seen as a character flaw. The assumption is that if you have enough will power, you will overcome whatever circumstances you are faced with, and become financially secure as an adult. Even in an environment that is infused with talk of social justice, there is still that basic assumption that "we" are fine, and "we" are all middle class and financially secure. "We" may be eager to help "them" yes, but we are not them.

I wish I'd had the nerve to speak up that night at services, and tell people how I felt, but I was worried about what people would think of me. When the push for money comes at *Kol Nidre*, I feel sick, because I can't even pay the full cost of membership, let alone pay extra, and I start to feel like the building is going to crumble all around me, and it's all my fault, because I don't have the money to fix it. I sit there, slipping lower in my seat, feeling like a thief for not being able to afford to pay full fees. I feel like I don't belong, even though I try so hard to belong, because I can't afford to go to a fundraiser, or bid on something at an auction.

Jews with low incomes used to be a part of the synagogue community, because we didn't drive to shul, we walked, and that meant around the corner or down the dirt road, and whoever lived nearby was your community. But there is a practical aspect to the modern prejudice against the low-income Jew. It takes a lot of money to support a synagogue on the north shore of Long Island.

I am privileged in many ways, and feel included in society, and in this congregation, in many ways. And, because of my mother's financial support, I am not really poor or living an underprivileged life, despite my starving artist/student status. But...what if I were? Would we, as a community, know how to welcome someone who is not "like us"?

Todah . . . RSNS' Way of Saying Thanks

In honor of **Tal Schulmiller** becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Sara Gole
Lisa and Randy Sloan
Wally Buchband
Rhoda and George Shapiro
Meryl Kaynard and Gerry Wall

In honor of **Harriet Feiner's** birthday
Terry and Bob Wolff

In honor of the birth of **Hadassah Budow**, great-granddaughter of Marty and Jack Budow
Marian Schwartz

In honor of the birth of their grandson,
Cole Parker Rothberg
Rhoda and Neil Rothberg

In memory of **Lillian Friedman**, mother
of Marcia Mayer
Ruth Harris

In memory of **Olga Resmovits**
Harriet Feiner
Joelle and Geoff Serota
Terry and Bob Wolff
Dawn and Dean McKay
Amy Olshever and Philip Hack
Susan and Alvin Epstein

The following people wish you a Happy New Year
Jack & Andrew Marks
Myrna & Sol Niego

MAZEL TOV

Mazel Tov to Ellen and Monte Sokol on the marriage of their son **Max and Emily Firman**

Mazel Tov to Alice Sardell on the birth of her grandson, **Henry Asadore Catchen Ahl** born to Mollie Catchen and David Ahl.

Mazel tov to Cheryl Finkelstein and Norm Ilowite on the marriage of their daughter **Maya and Jesse Schafer**

Mazel tov to Michele and Mark Kreitman on the marriage of their son, **Jeremy and Tzlil Rozenblat**

Mazel Tov to the Gustafson family on the marriage of **Isaac Gustafson and Shaina Smith**

CONDOLENCES

Condolences to Tina Rothpearl on the death of her mother, Olga Resmovits

Yahrzeit

In observance of the yahrzeit of her father,
Joel Altman
Dorothy Stracher

In observance of the yahrzeit
of **Joseph Giovanniello**
Debbie Kesselman and Joe Giovanniello

DONATIONS, DUES & TUITION PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE ON OUR WEBSITE

Go to our website: rsns.org

Click on [donate/payments](#)

Complete all information and then click "review your donation."

On the next page click "Special Instructions to Seller." Indicate the purpose of your donation or payment.

Call us if you have any questions, 516-627-6274

Raffle 2017

We Need Raffle Prizes! And Silent Auction Items!

Some suggestions: TICKETS: FOR SPORTING EVENTS,
THEATER, CONCERTS; RESTAURANT GIFT CERTIFICATES;
NEW ELECTRONICS, COMPUTERS, JEWELRY.

Do you have a vacation home?

Why not donate time there for our Silent Auction.

For further information about the raffle, or to donate a prize,
please contact Alvin Pitkow avipit@aol.com

Buy Raffle Tickets! You need not be present to win.

Blank tickets were included in your Dinner invitation.

Call Sylvia in the office, 516-627-6274, for additional tickets.

Prizes will be awarded at RSNS on November 4,
during the dessert portion of the Dinner.