

Congregation Etz Chaim



74 Billings Street, Sharon, Massachusetts 02067
www.etzchaimsharon.com
(781) 784-7204

Chaim Stramer - President
Treasurer: George Monat
Secretary: Janis Monat
Member at Large: Robert Dell
Member at Large: Michael Ferber
Member at Large: Rabbi Chuni Rappoport

Synagogue
Member



**Rosh Hashana parshios Bereishis 21 & 22,
Maftir: Bamidbar 28:9-15 & Bamidbar 29:1-6
September 12 & 13, 2026 / 1st & 2nd of Tishrei**
Shabbos mincha/maariv/ lik ner: **6:44 PM**
Shabbos Day

Shacharis **8:30 AM**
Latest Shema **9:31 AM**
Latest Tefilla **10:34 AM**
Mincha/maariv **6:40 PM**

7:42 PM is candle lighting for Sunday. Kiddush is
AFTER this time with no earlier preparation for 2nd
day.

SUNDAY 2nd day of Rosh Hashana

Shacharis: **8:30 AM**
Shofar blowing: **10:45 AM** (approximately)
Mincha/Maariv: **6:40 PM**

Shabbos Day at Young Israel

Mincha **6:44 PM**

Weekday at YI

Mincha/Ma'ariv **6:32 PM**

Shabbos Day at Chabad

Mincha/Maariv **6:45 PM**
Weekday: **6:35 PM**

Monday - Fast of Gedaliah- Sept. 14, 2026

Fast begins at **4:59 am** - Fast ends at **7:31 pm**

TORAH LEARNING

Rabbi Hartman's class will resume after the chagim.
Zoom ID: 903 917 1656
Password: 170 smain

SHMIRAS HALASHON class is Monday, 9:15 a.m.

Please contact Janis Monat: jbmonat@aol.com for
the link.

DAF YOMI WEEKDAY ZOOM SCHEDULE

Via Zoom: Mon - Th 7:00 pm and Tu & Th 7:30 a.m.
Meeting ID: 822 979 966
Password: 727190

DAF YOMI LIVE SCHEDULE:

Shabbos mornings at shul, 8:00 a.m., one hour
before shacharis;
Sunday mornings at shul, 7:00 a.m., one hour
before shacharis.
Contact Melvyn Huff
(781) 784-6608) or
melvynhuff@comcast.net for more inform

RABBI MENDY ROSENFELD

Rabbi Rosenfeld's parasha class will resume after the Chagim.

A SIP OF TORAH

Shabbos day Yoni Monat will give a shiur on, **"The Silence of the Shofar"** between Mincha and Maariv.

Monday, Fast of Gedalya, at 5:00 p.m. both in-person and on Zoom at Congregation Etz Chaim, Yoni Monat will give a shiur on **"Yom Kippur: Moving Forward"**. Looking forward to learning as we being "anew!"

ETZ CHAIM BOARD MEETING

Our next monthly **board meeting** will be **Monday, October 5 at 5:00 p.m.** via Zoom. Please RSVP to Janis at jbmonat@aol.com if the link is needed.

ETZ CHAIM BOOK CLUB

Please join our group for our next read, ***History of Love*** by Nicole Krauss on Monday, **October 12** at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. The Sharon Public Library has at the Circulation Desk. Just ask for the Etz Chaim Book Club book. Any questions or thoughts contact Merilee at melmaeir@gmail.com.

REFUAH SHELAIMA

Our prayers are for the healing of the wounded soldiers of the IDF, those who have been hurt in terrorist attacks, the Israeli survivors from 10/7/23 **and this Iran/Lebanon/Gaza War**. We pray for the healing of our congregation members: Heidi Goldblatt, Rachel Chana bas Menucha; Robert Dell, Chana Reuven ben Leah; Tzila Pass, Tzila Chava bas Rachel; and Marve Rudenstein, Menachem Yitzchak ben Raitza;. May they all heal soon and completely!

YIZKOR BOOK FORMS

Please send your yizkor book forms back by Tuesday, **Sept. 15** to Etz Chaim's treasurer, George Monat, via his e-mail: etztreasurer@aol.com. Thank you.

LULAV & ESROG

Rabbi Barry Hartman is taking orders for etrogim and Lulavim with prices \$60.00, \$70.00, \$80.00, and \$90.00. Please phone him with your order at **508- 954-3320** or e-mail him at: RabbiBarry@aol.com

ROOM RENTAL

The Mathes Room, a large modern space, is available for holiday celebration rentals, shiva meals, sheva bracha meals, children's parties, etc. Please contact George Monat, etztreasurer@aol.com for more info!

A word from Nina Rogoff

People from five communities and 11 synagogues have come together as **one united community** to **remember and honor those who were killed on October 7, in captivity, or in battle since then**. This **Community-Wide October 7 Memorial Program** will be held at Temple Israel in Sharon on **Wednesday, October 7**. Doors will open at 6:45 p.m., and the program will run from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The flyer below contains a clickable link to the pre-registration form, as well as a QR code that also links directly to the form. **People must pre-register for safety reasons**. Any questions contact Nina Rogoff by e-mail, text or phone at 781-883-3764



[FLYER FOR OCT 7 MEMORIAL PROGRAM.pdf](#)

THOUGHTS on Rosh Hashana

By Janis Monat

An interesting note is that the word, “machzor” is from the verb “I’chazor”, to return. The machzor, the High Holiday prayer book, helps us get into the mind set to return to the rituals of Rosh HaShana and Yom Kippur. An example is an ability to “chazor” over a Talmud lesson to memorize it. **Teshuvah** specifically means a spiritual “return” or “repentance” inside one’s core self toward others within Hashem’s teachings. We may use the the same prayer book/machzor, but we are infused with new feelings, plans, hopes and dreams to fulfill in the new year. Our outlook can be refreshed when we do mitzvot, interact with each other, pray to Hashem and make things from the past year even better.

This erev Rosh Hashana 5857 falls on Friday night whose English date is 9-11-26, the 25th “yartzeit” of the loss of 2,977 innocent lives lost in the Twin Towers terrorist attacks. (That year, 2001, Rosh Hashana began erev Mon., 9-17). Who knew what the end of that Jewish year would hold?! May their memories be for a blessing.

With every new year our prayers might plead to Hashem to change something: parnassa, partner, business, shidduch, health issues, shalom bayit...or being blessed with a child. Chana, who we read about on the first day of Rosh Hashana, stood at the entrance of the sanctuary in Shiloh, and implored Hashem to grant her a child as she was barren. Her husband, Elkanah was trying to be “helpful” when he responded to her anguished prayers, “Hannah, why do you weep... why is your heart sad? Am I not more to you than ten sons?” 1 Samuel 1:8.

Elkana might not have understood Chana’s prayer but Hashem did and acted on her kavana, sincere devotion. Chana became pregnant and bore a son within a year’s time. He grew up to be Shmuel, HaNavi.

Rashi posits that it was on Rosh Hashana that Chanah’s deep-seated prayer was heard by Hashem, based on a Talmudic tradition that on Rosh HaShana, **Sarah, Rachel, and Chana were remembered**, [Rosh Hashanah 11a](#), and conceived sons.

The Amida is not actually based on **what** Chana prayed for but **how earnestly she was praying**. In the stretch of imagination, we might connect her prayer for a child with the 15th Shemona Esrei blessing for the hope that the seed of King David continues. However, Moshiach is to be born from the tribe of Yehuda from which King David comes, and we have Chana’s son, Shmuel, going back to Kohath, a son of Levi. That is the reason Shmuel was permitted to serve in the Holy Temple under Eli, Hakohen, being a Levite.

Another overlap at this time of Rosh Hashana with the Amidah is the 9th blessing where our prayer is hoping for a **good year**, the best year ever, for our crops. “Bareich aleinu Adomye Elokeinu et **HaSHANA** hazot v’et cal menai tivooata **litova**.” Bless for us, L-rd our G-d, **this year** and all the kinds of its produce for **good**.” We are asking for help in the growth of our produce, the food we eat and/or sell, which all contribute to our health.

There are so many ways to do Teshuva. In the fifth Shemona Esrei blessing it is called just that: Teshuva: Bring us back to Your Torah, Your service, and influence us to return in perfect repentance before You, Hashem, Who desires repentance. “Hasheveinu Avinu l’toratecha”, we are asking Hashem to **return** us to the covenantal Torah. “Hacha’zirenu b’teshuva shelaima lifanecha”,

This is a perfect prayer for Rosh Hashana, and we get to say it every day of the year, each morning offering a thank you to HaShem for the new day for which we are allowed to wake up to.

As I write this on the last day of 5786 we’re about to reflect on how we used our God given gifts and how we can appreciate life even more in the new year. I’m reminded of two of Rabbi Jonathan Sacks’ thoughts from his **“Ten Ideas for Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur”** that he wrote in 2019, a year before he passed away.

“Life is short. We will not in one lifetime be able to achieve everything we might wish to achieve. **This life is all we have**. So the question is: **How shall we use it well?** The other poignant thought especially on this 25th anniversary of the terrorist attack of 9/11/01 is, **“Life itself, every breath take we take, is the gift of G-d**. Life is not something we may take for granted. If we do, we will fail to celebrate it.”



Israel's 9/11 Living Memorial Plaza in Jerusalem is the only memorial outside the United States listing all the names of the victims, including five Israeli citizens, and is the only 9/11 memorial in the Middle East.

May our prayers and blessings be heard like Chana's and may HaShem make the seemingly unreal situations **turn around**. I end with a Divine medical help story. A new specially formulated MRNA treatment destroyed the surface of cancer cells of a friend's cancerous body and now he's back to work with full energy! L'shana tova, indeed!

Good health, wealth, love, and happiness with Adomye's presence always with us in the new year!