

## A Message from Rabbi Bearman

I eagerly anticipate standing on the bimah with Student Cantor Hamstra on Erev Rosh Hashanah as we welcome 5779, a year of growth and opportunity for our community. I am grateful that our High Holy Day services provide us with an opportunity to celebrate the strength of our TBC family, and I am excited to share with you that this year we will be introducing a new TBC tradition.

At both the 9am and 12pm services on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, instead of calling up individuals or couples, we will be inviting groups of people to join us on the bimah and offer the blessings that are traditionally sung before and after each section of Torah is chanted.

This new tradition will allow us to see and to honor the diversity of experience that exists within our membership. It also means that every person- regardless of Hebrew ability or any other qualifying factor- will have the opportunity to stand in front of our congregation as the group offers blessings over our most sacred symbol, the Torah scroll. In keeping with TBC's values, all will be welcome on the bimah. This invitation very much includes those TBC members and guests who are not Jewish but who would like to be a part of this special experience.

These "group aliyot" are an opportunity for everyone to experience what it feels like to be called to the Torah, and whether you would like to stand quietly next to friends and family or to participate in singing the prayers, I encourage you to join us on the bimah this High Holy Day season.

Shanah Tovah! May this new year be filled with beauty and meaning.

The following schedule details when specific groups will be invited onto the bimah this Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

### **Rosh Hashanah Day 1: 9am Service:**

**1st-** Families and individuals who have belonged to TBC for more than 30 years

**2nd-** Families and individuals who have belonged to TBC for 20-29 years

**3rd-** Families and individuals who have belonged to TBC for 10-19 years

**4th-** Families and individuals who have belonged to TBC for less than 10 years and any guests who have joined us for the day

**12pm Service:** All 8th-12th grade students

### **Yom Kippur: 9am Service:**

**1st-** Anyone who experienced healing of mind, body, or spirit in the past year (The borders of this group are intentionally flexible because each of us experiences crisis and healing in unique ways. Don't worry about whether you "qualify." If it feels right for you to come up for this aliyah, then please plan on joining us.)

**2nd-** Anyone who has celebrated a simchah (a joyous event) in the last year (for example: a new baby, a wedding or other life cycle event, a hard won professional accomplishment)

**3rd-** Anyone who has become B'nai Mitzvah as an adult

**4th-** All octogenarians (people 80-89 years old), nonagenarians (90- 99 years old), and, of course, any centenarians (100 years or older)

**12pm Service:** All past and present TBC Religious School and Hebrew School Teachers



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### **Michael Heft Food Drive & Miriam Messe Diaper Collection**

Please consider donating to our annual HHD drives to help local food banks, including the Redding Food Pantry, Wilton Food Pantry, the Women's Center of Greater Danbury, and the Community Action Agency of Western CT.

Lists will be available during Rosh Hashanah services and items can be dropped off during Yom Kippur services. Contact Jane Alexander at [Jane@nodhill.net](mailto:Jane@nodhill.net) to help sort & deliver items.

# From the Ritual Committee

We have many new and exciting events planned to welcome in 5779! We look forward to celebrating the holidays with you and your families. *L'Shanah Tovah!*

- ◆ Holiday preparations begin with a **Special Family Shabbat Service** on **Friday, September 7 at 6:30 pm** to change the Torah covers to their holiday attire.
- ◆ A joint **Selichot Service and Study Session** with Congregation Shir Shalom on **Saturday, September 1**. Please refer to Chai Lites for the time and location.
- ◆ **Tashlich** services will take place at **2 pm** on the first day of Rosh Hashanah **Monday, September 10** after the family service.
- ◆ Our **Family Sukkot Service** will take place on **Friday, September 28 at 6:30 pm**.
- ◆ **Simchat Torah** services will take place on **Sunday, September 30 at 11:00 am**.

**There will be neither offsite parking nor bus service this year. Please plan accordingly.** Our parking lot will be staffed by people able to assist you with parking. If you need special parking accommodations, please contact Denise Securra in our office.

**“...two distinct services...to consider...”**

Both services will include:

- ◆ A sermon from Rabbi Bearman
- ◆ Our new High Holy Day prayer books
- ◆ The blowing of the shofar

## A Letter from Student Cantor Hamstra

*"Hashiveinu Adonai eilecha v'nashuva. Chadeish yameinu k'kedem." "Return us to you, Adonai, and we will return. Make our days new as they were in the past." We repeat the final verse of Lamentations so many times in the High Holiday liturgy, but what does this actually mean? Do we seek renewal or return? To try again or to try something new? In truth, it is both. This time from the beginning of the month of Elul to the close of Ne'ilah brings us as Jews an opportunity for a fresh start; a chance to recommit to our best selves. This time of introspection affords us the opportunity to remember our highest ideals instead of the everyday distractions that can keep us from them. We are blessed with a designated season to return to our truest selves and connect to the core values that guide us. While return and new beginnings may seem antithetical, they go hand in hand. In beginning new chapters in life, we carry our past experiences and our core beliefs with us. We cannot truly begin anew without honest reflection on our own spirits, our core selves.*

*In this spirit of renewal and return, I am thrilled to begin my role as your student cantor at this season of new beginnings. What better time to start building new relationships? What better way to renew the energy we put into our Jewish community? The introspection that the High Holidays demand can feel daunting, but it enriches us all, as individuals and as a whole. May we all inspire each other to reach for our best selves at this time. May we recommit our care and energy to this kehillah kedosha, this sacred community. May we all be blessed with a good and sweet 5779. L'shana tovah tikatevu.*

## A Service for Your Style

We will have two distinct morning services on both Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. You may want to consider the following information as you decide which service to attend. Once again, we are excited

	Prayers	Torah	Music	Atmosphere
<b>9:00 am</b> Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur Morning Services	About two hours long and includes a variety of Hebrew and English prayers and readings.	Multiple aliyot (sections) of Torah will be chanted by TBC members.	Familiar classic High Holy Days music and contemporary settings with keyboard accompaniment enriched by our professional choir.	The prayers and music in this service will make it feel more formal than our regular Shabbat services. Meant for adults and families who enjoy the classic High Holy Day prayer experience.
<b>12:00 pm</b> Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur Family Services	About an hour and fifteen minutes, these services include the major High Holy Day prayers as well as creative English readings.	We invite all children present to join us on the bimah as Cantor Sobel chants one aliyah (section) from the Torah.	Spiritual contemporary selections in addition to traditional favorites with teen singers, guitars, and other instrumentals.	Anyone who enjoys the participatory feeling of our TBC Family Services will feel comfortable at this service. For adults and families who like this more informal style.

If you need additional High Holy Day tickets for visiting family members or friends, you can go to <http://bit.ly/tbchhdtk> or go to [templebnaichaim.org](http://templebnaichaim.org) and click on the High Holy Days 5779.

# Service Times

All Services are at Temple B'nai Chaim except for Tashlich — directions to this service will be provided at Rosh Hashanah Day 1 services. Services with an asterisk (\*) require a ticket.

Rosh Hashanah	
<b>Sunday, September 9</b>	
-Erev Rosh Hashanah*	7:45 pm
<b>Monday, September 10</b>	
-Rosh Hashanah Morning Service*	9:00 - 11:15 am
-Rosh Hashanah Family Service*	12:00 - 1:15 pm
-Tashlich	2:00 pm
<b>Tuesday, September 11</b>	
-Rosh Hashanah Morning Service	9:30 - 11:30 am
<b>Special Family Service</b>	
<b>Friday, September 7</b>	7:30 pm

Yom Kippur	
<b>Tuesday, September 18</b>	
-Kol Nidre Service *	7:45 pm
<b>Wednesday, September 19</b>	
-Yom Kippur Morning Service*	9:00 - 11:15 am
-Yom Kippur Family Service*	12:00 - 1:15 pm
-Study Session	1:45 - 2:45 pm
-Afternoon Service*	4:30 - 5:30 pm
-Yizkor Services	5:30 pm
-Neilah Services	6:00 pm
-Sisterhood Break-Fast	6:45 pm

## Parking at TBC

All parking except for Tashlich will be onsite at TBC.

We will have a small number of reserved parking spaces for people with limited mobility near the Temple. Please call the office if you need to reserve one of these spots.

For some services we may park cars in the kitchen lot and down the center of the middle lot blocking other vehicles. Please do not park in kitchen or middle lot if you will be leaving before the end of the service.

## Major SOCIAL ACTION PROJECTS

Rise Against Hunger  
 Interfaith Coalition for the Homeless: Staff Overflow Shelter  
 Filling and Staffing Community Food Pantries  
 Collection of items on request from Community Agencies  
 Dorothy Day Hospitality House-Soup Kitchen  
 Holiday Food and Diaper Drives/ Thanksgiving/Passover Baskets  
 Providing Chanukah Gifts for those in need in our community  
 Food Rescue from Various Food Vendors  
 Advocacy  
 Emergency Disaster Relief Donations  
 Provide driving/meals for Cystic Fibrosis patients through WiAct  
 Refugee Resettlement through WiAct

**Wi-ACT is a consortium of the congregants of 10 Wilton faith institutions — Christian, Jewish and Muslim — and is led by a 40-person steering committee.**

## Important Reminders

### Please remember to:

- ⇒ bring your tickets and have them available as you come in
- ⇒ arrive at the stated time for the start of each service
- ⇒ fill in the seats from the front first
- ⇒ leave your tallit at your seat if leaving sanctuary during service
- ⇒ leave prayer books on your seat after service
- ⇒ follow the guidance of the ushers

## Temple B'nai Chaim

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Georgetown, CT 06829

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www.templebnaichaim.org

For more information  
about the  
High Holidays at TBC,  
please go to our  
website:  
[templebnaichaim.org](http://templebnaichaim.org)

## Sisterhood Speaks

Sisterhood is TBC's vibrant auxiliary women's group. Sisterhood organizes and sponsors many events throughout the year for our entire temple community. We sponsor Jewish holiday celebrations at the TBC Religion School, provide Jewish gifts for our B'nai Mitzvah students and provide the Break-the-Fast for the entire TBC Community after Yom Kippur. (Your contributions to our Honey fundraiser help support this event.) A portion of our Sisterhood dues supports the Women of Reform Judaism's "YES" fund, which provides educational opportunities for children, rabbis and cantors, and camp scholarships for Jewish youth. In addition, we feed our local elders a home-made luncheon twice a year at Ogden House in Wilton.

We would love to see you at our upcoming events, including Sisterhood's annual membership brunch in October, New Moon (Rosh Chodesh) social evenings, Lilith salons (social issues discussions), Chanukah Party, Tu B' Shvat winter seder of renewal dinner and other forthcoming events to be announced. We also welcome you to join us in volunteering at the Ogden House events.

As a reminder, every Sisterhood event and meeting provides you with opportunities to make friendships, to grow your Judaism and to contribute to the vibrancy of our TBC Community. By participating in Sisterhood fundraising, you help fund our Temple events and funds.

TBC Sisterhood wishes Everyone a Sweet New Year, a year of Peace, Good Health and Fulfillment!

L'Shanah Tovah!

Ria Miller, Michele Scruton and the TBC Sisterhood Board

## Men's Club Corner

The TBC Men's Club got off to a good start last year with many special events and several discussion groups including one with a scotch tasting. The focus of the Club is to engage Temple men in the life of the congregation, to build relationships and community and to sponsor meaningful and enjoyable events. We just began the year by sponsoring a bar-b-q for the religious school. We hope you will join us for our annual sukkah raising and dinner.

Please contact Jeff Spector at [jms884@gmail.com](mailto:jms884@gmail.com) to join, volunteer or offer ideas.

## Get To Know Your Leadership

### Clergy

Rabbi Rachel Bearman  
Cantor

### Executive Committee

President	Cindy Baulsir
1st Vice President	Elise Serby
2nd Vice President	June Mara
3rd Vice President	Jamie Kapel
Treasurer	Debra Case
Secretary	
Past President	Dina Gumins

### Committee Chairs

Adult Education	Judson Scruton
Communications	Stephen Davis
Education	Rachel Langberg
Finance	
Governance	June Mara
House	Steve West-Rosenthal
Membership	Kiki Cahn
Ritual	Russell Robbins
Sisterhood President	Michele Scruton & Ria Miller

Men's Club President

### Trustees At Large

Scott Brown	Jeffrey Spector
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## Social Action MISSION

***"Together we will make the world a better place"***

Social Action is something in which everyone can participate. The only requirement is a desire to make the world a better place. From the smallest job to the most complex, each act of kindness and caring makes a huge impact on achieving social justice.

The Social Action Committee of TBC provides the focus and mechanism for congregants of all ages to get involved in a multitude of projects with very varied objectives and people served. Without regard to religion, the Social Action Committee provides assistance to a wide variety of projects locally, nationally and internationally.

The committee has numerous on-going activities and is always open to new suggestions.

We always need more help. Check out ChaiLites for upcoming calls for action. The more help we have the more progress we can make in repairing the world, in Tikkun Olam.