THE CAS NEWSLETTER

September 2022

Upcoming services and events

Wednesday, September 7 at 10:00 AM: Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

Friday, September 9 at 5:00 PM: Shabbat service at the synagogue (masks required)

Monday, September 12 at noon: Memoir Workshop via Zoom

Monday, September 12 at 5:30 PM: September Board Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, September 14 at 10:00 AM: Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

Saturday, September 17 at 7:00 PM: Selichot – Gateway to the Days of Awe – at the synagogue

(masks required) Light refreshments to follow

Wednesday, September 21 at 10:00 AM: Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

Thursday, September 22 at 7:00 PM: Photography Workshop via Zoom

Sunday, September 25 at 7:00 PM: Erev Rosh HaShanah service at Berkshire South Community Center (masks required)

Monday, September 26 at 10:00 AM: Rosh HaShanah service at Berkshire South Community Center (masks required)

Wednesday, September 28 at 10:00 AM: Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

Saturday, October 1 at 10:00 AM: Shabbat Shuvah service at the synagogue (masks required)

Tuesday, October 4 at 7:00 PM: Kol Nidrei service at Berkshire South Community Center (masks required)

Wednesday, October 5 at 10:00 AM: Yom Kippur service, including Yizkor (masks required) at Berkshire South Community Center

5:30 PM: Neilah concluding service, with challah and wine following In the main room at conclusion of service (no break fast)

This month's newsletter features:

- Annual ritual marks the beginning of Elul
- The High Holy Days
- CAS members Joy Dronge, Dan Burkhard, and the Stockbridge Sinfonia
- September Creative Arts Workshops
- Save the Date: Autumn Spirits
- September Yahrzeits
- September Donations
- CAS Advertisers and Sponsors

Annual ritual marks the beginning of Elul

On Saturday, August 28th an enthusiastic group of congregants gathered at Linda Josephs' home in Great Barrington for our annual communal water-based ritual to mark the beginning of Elul and the experience of the High Holy Days. It was a lively social gathering, with light refreshments and focused blessings to each other for a good new year. One of the highlights of the event was an informal introduction to a number of new CAS members.





The High Holy Days

High Holy Day worship with Congregation Ahavath Sholom, an affiliate of Reconstructing Judaism, is an inclusive experience. Rabbi Barbara Kipnis Cohen creates an atmosphere of intimacy and spiritual connection with the congregation and with the liturgy and music of this awe-filled time. This year, Ahavath Sholom will return to an in-person format for all services being held (unless otherwise listed) at the Berkshire South Community Center on Crissey Road in Great Barrington, Massachusetts.

Registration for members and non-members will be required to attend any of the services.

Please go to the CAS website homepage (www.ahavathsholom) to register.

A calendar of services, information on costs for members' immediate family guests and for non-members, as well as Yizkor information, are also available on our website.





A few photographs from past High Holy Day services at Berkshire South Regional Community Center.

CAS members Joy Dronge, Dan Burkhard, and the Stockbridge Sinfonia

On Sunday, August 14th, the Stockbridge Sinfonia celebrated its 50th anniversary at Saint James Place in Great Barrington. The program opened with an original composition written by Congregation Ahavath Sholom member Joy Dronge. The piece, written for a brass quintet and shofar, was completed in 1990 and was presented at this concert under the baton of Tracy Wilson, the Sinfonia's musical director.

Joy is a Juilliard-trained flutist and composer. Her work has been performed at Tanglewood, Boston University, and Leslie College among other venues. She is a founding member of the Stockbridge Sinfonia.

Adding to the connection to our congregation was Dan Burkhard playing the shofar in this opening piece. The sound of the ancient instrument added to the complexity and urgent music of Joy's composition.

As we move into the High Holiday season, we are reminded by the profundity of Joy's music to reorient to our best selves.

Congratulations to Joy and the Stockbridge Sinfonia!



Joy Dronge and Dan Burkhard

September Creative Arts Workshops

The next Memoir Writing Workshops will take place on Monday, September 12th at 12:00 p.m. Shared readings and short writing exercises. Each of these sessions is stand-alone. Please RSVP to Barbara Janoff at bjanoff1@gmail.com. Suggested donation to CAS is \$10 to support our Creative Arts Programs.

Barbara Janoff Ph.D. recently retired from the Fashion Institute of Technology, State University of New York in Manhattan, where she taught writing and literature. Her poetry and essays have appeared in a number of journals, including Communication Arts, Women's Work: The Journal of the Columbia College Women's Center and the Berkshire Review.



Photo by Thought Catalog on Unsplas



The next Photography Workshop will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 22nd. Participants in the workshop can submit any images they would like discussed, regardless of subject matter or content, using phone or camera. They can also share their screen with the group. These workshops are stand-alone sessions, open to all. Please RSVP to arthurhillman54@gmail.com. Suggested donation to CAS is \$10 to support our Creative Arts Programs.

Photographer and printmaker Arthur Hillman has been exhibiting his prints for more than 50 years. He has delivered a variety of lectures and presentations on photography and printmaking, juried many exhibits, and was a founding member of the Berkshire Photography Group. He is Professor Emeritus, Photography, Printmaking and Design, Bard College at Simon's Rock.

Save the Date: Autumn Spirits

In February Congregation Ahavath Sholom presented "Sips and Sonnets." a reading of poems and sonnets for Valentine's Day, which raised funds for the People's Pantry. The evening was warmly received, and the congregation was able to donate over \$500 to the Pantry.

On Sunday, October 30th at 4:00 PM, CAS will present "Autumn Spirits," a reading of poems and short pieces celebrating the various shades of the season. Some of the writers featured will be Keats, Oliver, Paley, Poe, Sexton, and Shelley. This will be a Zoom event and is also planned as a fundraiser for the Peoples Pantry.



Photo by Johannes Plenio on Unsplash

September Yahrzeits

"Much of our experience of divine goodness, grace and love has come to us through those whose lives have touched our own."

	Original	Original	This Year
Bea Guralnick	Elul 6 5775	8/21/2015	9/2
Leo Kaplan	Elul 08 5754	8/15/1994	9/4
Benjamin Pilcer	Elul 09 5773	8/15/2013	9/5
Chaim Witkowski	Elul 10 5762	8/18/2002	9/6
Caroline Mullen	Elul 12 575	8/24/1999	9/8
Lillian Kipnis	Elul 13 5780	9/2/2020	9/9
Freke Vuijst	Elul 15 5780	9/4/2020	9/11
Ruth Levi	Elul 15 5732	8/25/1972	9/11
Benjamin Kipnis	Elul 17 5769	9/5/2009	9/13
Serena Kaplan	Elul 20 5780	9/20/2019	9/16
Denny Edelman	Elul 21 5750	9/11/1990	9/17
Irving Nadelman	Elul 22 5743	8/31/1983	9/18
Lilly Brill	Elul 23		9/19
Aranka Gellert	Elul 24 5740	9/10/1970	9/20
Masato Mitsuda	Tishrei 01 5768	9/13/2007	9/26
Diana Fisher Berkowitz	Tishrei 03 5778	9/23/2017	9/28
Matilda Radin	Tishrei 03 5754	9/18/1993	9/28
Bruce Budnick	Tishrei 04 5777	10/6/2016	9/29

September Donations

In loving memory of my husband Al Silverstein Barbara Janoff

In memory of Masato Mitsuda Arthur and Louise Hillman

In support of the Creative Arts Workshops Ross Bettinger Bruce Frishkoff Carol Killian General donations
Lisa and Eric Chamberlain
Ann Dorfman
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Irene Goldman-Price
Chuck and Karen Schader
Deborah Slater

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