



Congregation Ahavath Sholom

The Creative Spirit Dwells Here

CAS Newsletter

September 2024

Upcoming services and events

Wednesday, September 4 at 10:00 AM: Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

Saturday, September 7 at 4:00 PM: Elul in the Pool

Monday, September 9 at 5:00 PM: September Board Meeting at the synagogue

Wednesday, September 11 at 10:00 AM: Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

Friday, September 13 at 5:00 PM: Candle Lighting via Zoom

Monday, September 16 at 12:00 PM: Memoir Workshop via Zoom
at 7:00 PM: Photography Workshop via Zoom

Wednesday, September 18 at 10:00 AM: Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

Saturday, September 21 at 10:00 AM: Shabbat Study: the High Holy Days, at the synagogue

Wednesday, September 25 at 10:00 AM: Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

Saturday, September 28 at 7:00 PM: Selichot and Dessert at the synagogue

This month's newsletter features:

Tishe B'Av Study Session

The High Holy Days at CAS

A Staged Stephanie Sloane Reading at The Mount

CAS Members' Page Password Change

Memorial Board and People's Pantry Reminders

September Creative Arts Workshops

September Yahrzeits

September Donations

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Tishe B'Av Study Session

An enthusiastic group of CAS folks attended a study session led by longtime member John Slote on August 10th at the synagogue. John began the morning by distributing an informative handout as we explored the text and themes of Tishe B'Av, the ninth of Av, the fifth month of the Hebrew lunar calendar.

John explained that “Lamentations (*Eicha* in Hebrew) is a difficult and challenging text that is traditionally recited on the 9th of Av in communal mourning for great historical disasters experienced by the Jewish people. The text itself is difficult on many levels. So is the thinking behind the ritual. However, like many of the difficult moments in our tradition, I think it is worth directly engaging with the words, the meaning behind them, and the religious holiday of Tishe B'Av itself.”

Attendees took turns reading selections out loud and there was much general discussion about each section. Many positive comments were voiced at the conclusion of the morning study session, with great enthusiasm expressed for continuing with programs such as this one.

Afterwards, a number of members of the Wednesday morning Café Kehillah group gathered for a delightful lunch at the Aegean Breeze restaurant.



Photographs by Laura Chekow

The High Holy Days at CAS

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. Services will be held (unless otherwise listed) at the Berkshire South Community Center on Crissey Road in Great Barrington, MA.

Registration will be required to attend any of the services listed below. For more information and to register, please go to the CAS website at www.ahavathsholom.com and click the green High Holy Day Registration button.

There is also a link on the High Holy Day section to list the names of loved ones that you wish to be remembered during the Yizkor service on Yom Kippur.

We look forward to hearing from you and to spending these meaningful days with you.



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Wednesday, October 2nd at 7:00 PM: Erev Rosh HaShanah

Thursday, October 3rd at 10:00 AM: Rosh HaShanah Morning service

Saturday, October 5th at 10:00 AM: Shabbat Shuva, at the synagogue on North Street

Friday, October 11th at 7:00 PM: Kol Nidrei Service

Saturday, October 12th at 10:00 AM: Yom Kippur Service, including Yizkor
Afternoon Neilah concluding service (location and time TBD)

A Staged Reading, written and produced by Stephanie Sloane

Bronx Light/Bronx Dark

presented by UBU Theater

September 26, 2024

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM



Written and produced by Stephanie Sloane and directed by Ann Gallo, *Bronx Light/Bronx Dark* is a staged reading about growing up in a place that was supposed to be perfect – a place that *WAS* perfect on the outside. How did a girl, Suzanne, growing up in this place and time, navigate her way through it? The Good Humor Man, a neighborhood fixture, bears witness.

UBU Theater's mission is to provide artistic experiences that empower and engage communities. By providing access to community-based artistic experiences, and addressing accessibility barriers, UBU aims to enrich the cultural life of area residents from all backgrounds. The arts can be an instrument through which to celebrate a community's character and articulate its individual voice.

For additional information, visit: ubutheater.org

THE MOUNT
EDITH WHARTON'S HOME

- This performance takes place in the Stable Auditorium.
- Tickets are FREE! Capacity is limited; registration is recommended.

Registration: <https://www.edithwharton.org/event/ubu-theater-bronx-light-bronx-dark/>

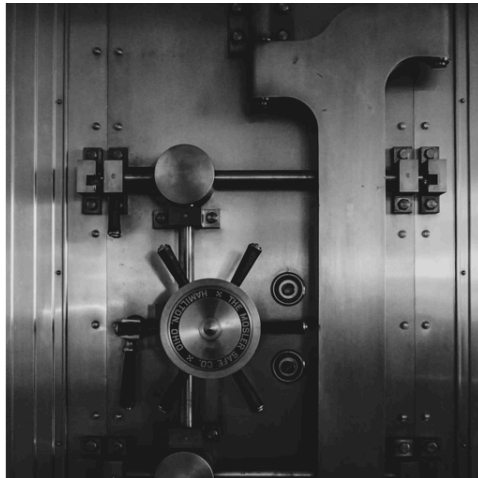


Stephanie Sloane is the playwright of *Bronx Light/Bronx Dark*, her third play. Her first was *Tounours L'Amour*, followed by *A Perfect Storm*. She is also an actor, poet and the author of *Dear Me*, a combination of poems and photographs commemorating the loss of her husband at the beginning of the pandemic. Stephanie grew up in the Bronx, spent every summer in the Berkshires and moved to Monterey in 2020. She has both a BA and an MS from Queens College.

Stephanie Sloane is a CAS member and serves on our Creative Arts Committee.

CAS Members' Page Password Change

Each member of the congregation will soon receive a mailing (USPS) indicating our new password for accessing the Members' Page on our website. One of the first items you will want to read in that section will be a comprehensive summary of the recent Survey that Jayne Benjulian, Nancy Cohen and Irene Goldman-Price developed and conducted. The survey results will inform our search for a rabbi and provide an opportunity for conversations about the activities and programs most important to the congregation.



Photograph by Jason Dent on Unsplash

Memorial Board and People's Pantry Reminders



Please make a memorial board donation

Our new memorial board panel has been installed in the synagogue. It has been added to the bronze plaque that has the names, birth dates and death dates--in English and Hebrew--of people who shared in our community, our building, and our rituals. The dates on the individual name plaques range from 1921 until this year. When it is the anniversary (yahrzeit) of that person's death, a light is turned on. Lit or unlit, the names remind us of what a community is: a connection that transcends time and space. Please donate. Send a check to Congregation Ahavath Sholom, PO Box 464, Great Barrington MA 01230 or use the online donation button on our website.

Our Annual CAS Yom Kippur Food Drive

We are getting ready for our Yom Kippur Food Drive for the People's pantry. They value our support. We will provide bags on Rosh HaShanah and you can bring them to services on Yom Kippur filled up. Last year we had over 500 food items, surpassing the previous year. Let's beat that figure this year!

Please watch your dates on the donated food. They will not accept them if they are expired or are about to expire.



September Creative Arts Workshops

The next Memoir Writing Workshop is scheduled for Monday, September 16th at noon. 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. is 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.



Photograph by Andrew Neel on Unsplash

The next Photography Workshop will also take place on Monday, September 16th, at 7:00 PM. 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 60 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.



Photograph by Maury Page 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 Hebrew Date	Original Date	This year's date
Marjory Horwitz	Av 28 5776	9/1/2016	9/1
Barbara Deweerd Lemmen	Av 28 5778	8/9/2018	9/1
Ella Schaeffer	Av 29 5762	8/7/2002	9/2
Ida Brown Phillips	Av 30 5759	8/12/1999	9/3
Phyllis Kirshen	Elul 02 5772	8/20/2012	9/5
Bea Guralnick	Elul 6 5775	8/21/2015	9/9
Nathan Horwitz	Elul 6 5754	8/13/1994	9/9
Leo Kaplan	Elul 08 5754	8/15/1994	9/11
Benjamin Pilcer	Elul 09 5773	8/15/2013	9/12
Chaim Witkowski	Elul 10 5762	8/18/2002	9/13
Beverly Miller	Elul 11 5783	8/29/2023	9/14
Caroline Mullen	Elul 12 5759	8/24/1999	9/15
Lillian Kipnis	Elul 13 5780	9/2/2020	9/16
Freke Vuijst	Elul 15 5780	9/4/2020	9/18
Ruth Levi	Elul 15 5732	8/25/1972	9/18
Benjamin Kipnis	Elul 17 5769	9/5/2009	9/20
Serena Kaplan	Elul 20 5780	9/20/2019	9/23
Irving Nadelman	Elul 22 5743	8/31/1983	9/25
Lilly Brill	Elul 23		9/26
Aranka Gellert	Elul 24 5740	9/10/1970	9/27
Adolph Horwitz	Elul 25 5754	9/24/2011	9/28

September Donations

In memory of Mitsue Mitsuda

Louise and Arthur Hillman

For a Genealogy Consultation with Keren Weiner

Barbara Janoff

For our new Memorial Board

Paul and Karen Chase Graubard

In support of the Creative Arts Workshops

Caroline Forsman (Memoir and Photography)

Bruce Frishkoff (Memoir)

Linda Geffin (Memoir)

Arthur Hillman (Memoir)

Linda Josephs (Memoir)

Carol Killian (Memoir)

General donations

Carole and Gerard Clarin

Phylis Fink

Irene Goldman-Price

Paul and Karen Chase Graubard

Barbara Janoff

Chuck and Karen Schader

Stephanie Sloane

Nancy Cohen and John Slote

Ilene Spiewak and Brenda Butler

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