Hey, It's Fall: Time to Get Learning

Courses: Intro to Judaism; What Do Jews Believe? and Two Hebrew Language Classes

Learn the fundamentals of Jewish thought and practice in "Intro to Judaism." Or sign up for "What Do Jews Believe?" to explore classic Jewish beliefs about G-d, as well as questions such as "Why Be Jewish?." To learn Hebrew, register for one of two levels of Andreea Adereth's Hebrew class. They're all at Kane Street this fall. For registration info and more details, go to the Kane Street web site. Sign up soon! (Please note: The Rabbi's presentation on "What do Jews Believe about people?" will be on Tuesday, Oct. 4, not on Monday as indicated elsewhere.)

Rabbi's Teaching

Rosh Hashana: When We--and the World--Are Aroused From Slumber

Elul, the month before Rosh Hashana, is one of the most intense times in Jewish life. We review our lives and strive to become closer to G-d and our G-d given potential.

The day before Rosh Hashana has unique significance and special laws and customs. We sound the Shofar in Synagogue every weekday morning during Elul except for Rosh Hashana Eve.

Why?

Kaballa sees here a reflection of a cosmic process. It imagines that just before Rosh Hashana the world "goes to sleep". This does not mean that the world stops functioning, any more than our bodies cease to exist when we sleep at night. However, the inner, Divine Will, which purposefully animates the world, temporarily recedes. For the day before Rosh Hashana, this Will ponders and evaluates creation, just as Jews reflect during this period on their lives. Read more

Hebrew School Set to Relaunch

Orientation for Parents on Sept. 11 (Pre-K-Grade 6)


Tues., Sept. 13. Start of Miftan, new 7th Grade program. Includes dinner. 4:15 - 7 P.M.

Tuesday, Sept. 20. Start of Bogrim, for grades 8-12. Open to entire community.
Join Us for Services and a Community Dinner on Friday, September 16
Includes Separate Children's Service
Our monthly Friday "Celebration Shabbat" is for the entire community. We begin at 5:30 P.M. with hors d'oeuvres, wine and drinks. Services are at 6 P.M., and children can either stay or attend a kid-friendly program across the hall. Afterward, gather for kiddush, dinner and schmoozing. Dinner: $10 for adults, $5 for kids. No need to RSVP.

Remembering September 11
Our services on Shabbat morning, September 10, and Sunday morning, September 11, will include prayers of mourning, reflection, and commemoration. On September 10, we will also have lunch and a book talk with Dr. Elizabeth Goren, a Kane Street member and author of "Beyond the Reach of Ladders: My Story as a Therapist Forging Bonds with Firefighters in the Aftermath of 9/11."
The Lunch and Learn will begin following Shabbat services and Kiddush, around 1:15 P.M.
On Sunday Kane Street will join in a 12:30 P.M. interfaith memorial service on the Promenade. There is a similar service at 6:00 P.M., again on the Promenade.
"Beyond the Reach of Ladders" is coming out only days before September 11, and our local bookseller, Book Court, is making every effort to get copies of the book. You may call the store at (718) 875-3677 for the latest information.

New: Shabbat Learners' Service
The Learner's Service is an informal, engaging group for those who want to be more comfortable in the Synagogue service. Led by Joey Weisenberg, with occasional presentations from Rabbi Weintraub, the group runs on a drop-in basis, although you are urged to attend as frequently as possible. Schedule: Shabbat mornings, 11:00 A.M.-12:15 P.M. September 17, October 15 and 29, November 5 and 19, December 3 and 17, 2011 and January 7 and 21, 2012.

Remember Your Loved Ones in the Yizkor Book of Remembrance
Kane Street is introducing a new tradition this year: a Yizkor Book of Remembrance, in which congregants and friends may honor the memory of loved ones who have passed away. The Book of Remembrance will be distributed on Yom Kippur in both the Sanctuary and Bergen Street services. The cost is $25 for each name you list.
You can find a Yizkor Book form on the Kane Street website. Drop it in the office or email the form to the Yizkor Book Committee. You
can also simply include the relevant information in the text of the email. All requests must be received in the office by Friday, September 16.

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7th Graders and Families Embark on Innovative Service Learning Program
Beginning this fall, Kane Street will launch "Midtan L'Tzedek," (Threshold to Justice) a new program to bring our Day School and Hebrew School families together through social action projects, and to instill a lifelong desire to volunteer in the community. The program is receiving support through a grant from Express Innovation, an initiative of the Jewish Education Project, which is a beneficiary of UJA-Federation of New York. For more information, contact Rabbi Valerie Lieber.

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Walk With Kane Street to Make Strides Against Breast Cancer
Join "Kane Street Chai" in Prospect Park on October 16 to walk as a team for Making Strides Against Breast Cancer. You can also donate money to the cause without walking. Or you can walk and support the team without donating money. To sign up or donate: go to Strides Online and click on "Donate or Find Walker." Check "team" and put in "Kane Street Chai". Questions? Contact Sara Porath and Iliana Brodsky. Registration starts at 10:00 A.M. and the walk starts at 11:00 A.M. at the 9th Street Bandshell.

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Kane Street's Brooklyn Israel Film Festival
Kane Street is proud to host the Brooklyn Israel Film Festival, returning this year for the eighth time. The 2012 Festival opens on Thursday evening, January 26, and continues on Saturday and Sunday evenings, January 28 and 29. Be among the first to find out which films have been selected--visit us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter at BrooklynIFF.

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Check Out Series of Lectures, Discussions and More at Park Slope Jewish Center
Our friends at Park Slope Jewish Center have invited our members to participate in a great series of programs targeted for folks 55+ (but these programs are so interesting you might want to lie about your age and join in anyway!). For more information and a complete list of events, click here.

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Sheila Rabin Concert Canceled
Owing to administrative difficulties the September 11 performance by Sheila Rabin in the home of Ira Mayer and Riva Bennett had to
be canceled. If you signed up for the event at the auction last March, please email Sheila or call her at (718) 246-1035. She will be giving a fuller performance in January or February at the Turtle Bay Music School and will notify you when the date is set.

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Performance at JCC: "Monajat" Reinvents Middle Eastern Musical Poetry
On September 10 at 9 P.M., composer and singer Galeet Dardashti comes to the Manhattan JCC with her reinvention of Middle Eastern musical poetry created for reflection and spiritual preparation in advance of the Jewish New Year. "Monajat" (Fervent Prayer) was selected by The Foundation for Jewish Culture as the premiere commission for a six-city tour through its New Jewish Culture Network. Co-presented by The Foundation for Jewish Culture and B'nai Jeshurun. $15 for JCC members; $20 for nonmembers.

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Shabbat and Sunday Minyan: September - Early October
NOTE: Sunday Minyan is 9 a.m. weekly except as indicated.

Friday-Saturday, September 16-17
Shabbat Ki Tavo
Candle Lighting 6:44 P.M.
Shabbat Ends 7:47

Shabbat Evening Service 6:00 P.M.
Shabbat Morning 9:30 A.M. Bar Mitzvah of Matthew Baldwin, son of Gordon and Nancy Baldwin, brother of Alex. Mazel Tov!
Singing Service 9:30 A.M.
New! Learner's Service 11:00 A.M.

Friday-Saturday, September 23-24
Shabbat Nitzavim-VaYelech
Candle Lighting 6:32 P.M.
Shabbat Ends 7:35 P.M.
Shabbat Evening Service 6:00 P.M.
Shabbat Morning 9:30 A.M. Bar Mitzvah of Nathaniel Levine, son of Michele and Steven Levine. Mazel Tov!
S'Lichot Special Pre-Rosh Hashana Service and Film Saturday, 8:15 P.M. Social Hour including the film "The Quarrel," by Chaim Grade. Discussion led by Kane Street member Fred Terna.

Sept. 28 Rosh Hashana begins 6:24 P.M. (see details below)

Friday-Saturday, September 30 - October 1
Shabbat Shuva Morning Service, 9:30 A.M.
Shabbat Study Group, 11:00 A.M.

Sunday, October 2
Fast of Gedaliah, Morning Service at 8:30 A.M.
High Holiday Schedule

Please see next article for schedule of youth services.

Wednesday, September 28  Rosh Hoshana Evening Services, Sanctuary and Bergen Street, 6:30 P.M.
Thursday, September 29  First Day Rosh Hoshana, Sanctuary, 8:30 A.M.
Bergen Street Service, 7:45 A.M. (Mary McDowell School at Bergen and Court)
Alternative Service during Musaf: Chapel
Tashlich Community Walk to Fulton Landing, 4:15 P.M.
Friday, September 30  Second Day Rosh Hashana
All adult/youth services and programs follow same schedule as First Day of Rosh Hoshana. No Alternative Service.
Sunday, October 2  Fast of Gedaliah, Morning Services 8:30 A.M.
Friday, October 7  Kol Nidre Services, Sanctuary and Bergen Street, 6:00 P.M. Children's program for Grade 1-6 in Chapel and Room 1, 6:00-9:00 P.M. (no babysitting)
Saturday, October 8  Yom Kippur
All adult and youth services/programs follow same schedule as First Day of Rosh Hoshana.

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Youth and Family High Holiday Schedule

All youth and family services for the High Holy Days are open to the community, free and unticketed. Services are held both days of Rosh Hashana, Sept. 28-30, and on Yom Kippur, Oct. 8.

Schedule below is for both Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur.

Junior Congregation for K-Grade 2: 11:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M. in the chapel. Led by Meryl Zimmerman
KC Minyan for Grades 3-6: 11:15 P.M.-12:45 P.M. in the Community Room. Led by Sonia Isard.

Tashlich Community Walk, First Day Rosh Hashana, 4:15 P.M. Children invited.

Babysitting 10 A.M.-1 P.M.  Rooms 5 and 6
Camp Shana Tova (supervised play/activity area) 10 A.M.-1 P.M.  Rooms 1 and 2

Kol Nidre, evening of October 7. Children's program for Grade 1-6 in chapel and Room 1, 6:00-9:00 P.M. (no babysitting)

High Holiday Snack and Lunch Brigade--Volunteer or Donate. To donate to the snack and lunch brigade for kids, send a check or bring cash by September 9. To help shop or serve in the brigade contact Providence Hogan.

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Shabbat Family Service Times for September 2011
Mini-Minyan Toddlers-PreK, 11:15 A.M.-Noon
Junior Congregation Grades K-2, 11:15 A.M.-12:15 A.M.
K.C. Minyan, Grades 3-6, 11:15 A.M.-12:25 P.M.

Camp Shabbat 10 A.M.-11:05 P.M. and 12:30 P.M.-1 P.M.
Camp Shabbat is a room of play, hanging out and schmoozing for kids. We have a whole bunch of brand new games plus the old favorites. Meryl Zimmerman supervises.

Rabbi’s Teaching, cont.
On the first morning of Rosh Hoshana, the Shofar loudly resounds. The world is aroused from its slumber, and our souls are given renewed strength.

The powerful and particularly Jewish message here is that G-d requires our effort, our Shofar cry to "remind" the world and its inhabitants of the need and possibility of transformation. There are numerous Jewish viewpoints about why G-d created the universe, but they all agree that the creation of humankind was the final goal. In the central metaphor of the High Holiday liturgy, G-d is "Avinu Malkeinu," a Father-King, who needs our love, adoration and cooperation to achieve His purposes.

We have seen this past year one tyrant after another fall from power. Thousands of heroic and high-minded people understood (in whatever religious or secular language they use) that the world was not created for cruelty and inequality, but for human dignity and social development.

The dictators they deposed were men with massive power: secret police, tanks, gunships, and the threat and apparatuses of torture. Their fall began with their equivalent of the Shofar blast, the primitive and uncomplicated insistence that freedom is a G-d-given right, and that every person has the privilege and obligation to transform the world for the better.

We are inspired by these fighters, just as we are stirred by the thousands of men, women, and children now in our country who have shown that natural disasters will not diminish their passion for sustaining life and rebuilding community.

The Talmudic Rabbis referred to people as "Shutafim LaKadosh Baruch Hu," G-d's partners in physically and ethically maintaining the world. G-d created the world from chaos, with no external compulsion, only with the desire to bestow goodness. We have the same possibilities before us. We have radically more choices than we generally imagine. We can shake off the burden of guilt and the dullness of routine and find new purposefulness in our work, our intimate relationships, our families, our commitment to social justice, our Jewish observance and spiritual growth.

Elul, the wonderfully encouraging month before Rosh Hoshana, is a time to imagine: If I could forget the frustrations of past failures, what would I now try? If we were not so scared of being hurt or ignored, who might we ask for forgiveness, for a new slate? If I was not so positive that "I'm not a religious person" what new experiences might I try? If we trusted ourselves more, what goals might we set for the coming year?

This is what it means for the Book to be open, for the Father/King to be approachable, and for life and death, sickness and health to be undecided matters. Because of the awesome newness of these Days, much is in our hands.
Shana Tova
A good, healthy and happy New Year

Rabbi Weintraub

Kane Yirbu is the newsletter of Kane Street Synagogue.
The name is a play on the congratulatory Hebrew expression "So may they increase!"

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