

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 9:00 am and 12:00 pm 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: 9:00 am 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

12:00 pm Service: All 8th-12th grade students

Yom Kippur: 9am Service

1st- Anyone who has experienced healing of mind, body, or spirit in the past year (The borders of this group are intentionally flexible. 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)

12:00 pm Service: All past and present TBC Religious School and Hebrew School teachers



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

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!*

- A Joint **Selichot Service and Study Session** with Congregation Shir Shalom, on **Saturday, September 1 at 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm**. Please refer to Chailites for the details.
- 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.
- **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**.
- **Sukkot Study Brunch** will take place on **Saturday, September 29 at 10:30 am**.
- **Simchat Torah** services will take place on **Sunday, September 30 at 11:00 am**.



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 to help sort & deliver items.



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. Both include a sermon from Rabbi Bearman and the blowing of the Shofar. You may want to consider the following information as you decide which service to attend. ("Sanctuary of the Soul").

	Prayers	Torah	Music	Atmosphere
9:00 am 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.
12:00 pm 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 Director of Lifelong Learning Karin Beitel reads one aliyah (section) from the Torah.	Spiritual, contemporary selections in addition to traditional favorites with our High Holiday band.	Adults and families who enjoy the participatory feeling of our TBC Family Services will feel comfortable at this service.

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.

Special Family Service Friday, September 7 - 7:30 pm

Rosh Hashanah

Sunday, September 9

-Erev Rosh Hashanah* 7:45 pm

Monday, September 10

-Rosh Hashanah Morning Service* 9:00 - 11:15 am
-Rosh Hashanah Family Service* 12:00 - 1:15 pm
-Tashlich 2:00 pm

Tuesday, September 11

-Rosh Hashanah Morning Service 9:30 - 11:30 am

Yom Kippur

Tuesday, September 18

-Kol Nidre Service * 7:45 pm

Wednesday, September 19

-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.

Sisterhood Break-Fast

Sisterhood is once again planning to provide a sumptuous Yom Kippur break fast on Wednesday, September 19 at 6:45pm, following Yizkor and Neilah services.

All are welcome, but PLEASE RSVP by Tuesday, September 11 using the Tickets link or at <http://bit.ly/TBCBFRSVP> so that we are able to plan accordingly.

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.

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

Temple B'nai Chaim

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For more information
about the
High Holy days at TBC,
please go to our
website:
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 such as a three-part business discussion group and a beer tasting at the new Redding Beer Company on 7 Main Street.

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 will begin this year by sponsoring a cookout for the religious school on Sunday, September 23 at 11:30 am. We hope you will also join us for our annual sukkah raising, Saturday, September 22 at 11:00 am and lowering, Sunday, September 30 at 9:00 am. More events will follow.

Please contact Jeff Spector at jms884@gmail.com to join, volunteer or offer ideas.

Jeffrey Spector

Get To Know Your Leadership

Clergy

Rabbi Rachel Bearman
Student Cantor Suzanne Hamstra

Staff

Director of
Lifelong Learning Karin Beitel

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	Jeffrey Spector

Trustees At Large

Scott Brown	Jeffrey Spector
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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
**WiACT is a consortium of the congregants of 10
Wilton faith institutions — Christian, Jewish and
Muslim — and is led by a 40-person steering
committee.**