



## CONGREGATION SHA'ARE SHALOM

Affiliate of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

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Located at:  
19357 Evergreen Mills Road  
Leesburg, VA 20175  
[www.shaareshalomleesburg.org](http://www.shaareshalomleesburg.org)

Mailing address:  
P.O. Box 4518  
Leesburg, VA 20177  
Phone: (703) 737-6500

Dear Congregation Sha'are Shalom,

We're busy preparing for the upcoming year at CSS, and are writing to share an important and exciting bit of news about the High Holy Days.

Over the past few years, we have given serious consideration to the responses to our HHD offerings. Part of that ongoing review has been a discussion over the array of services conducted by the Religious School. We have noted that with each year passing, more parents are attending the Junior Congregation service for grades 3-7 with their children, expressing a desire for families to worship together. After nearly two years of deliberation, research and discussion, we are formalizing that reality for this upcoming High Holy Days 2019/5780 and introducing a Family Service.

Our "new" Family Service will not be so new. It will still be held in the Social Hall, and conducted by Morah Zuckerman and assistants. There are, however, two significant differences to the Family Service. The first is that this service will include *all students from kindergarten through seventh grade*. There will no longer be a Mini Minyan service for children in grades K-2, enabling families with children of multiple ages to worship together. The second change is that we are extending the length of the Family Service by 15 minutes. This will enable us to add more interactive elements to the service.

We will continue to offer an early childhood program for families with very young children (pre-K) and a teen discussion. There will be no Youth Service on the second day of Rosh Hashanah.

For those who will be attending the new Family Service on Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur or both, we look forward to hearing your feedback after the High Holy Days.

Heidi Dodds, President  
David Greenspoon, Rabbi