



Congregation Anshei Israel



**HIGH HOLY
DAYS GUIDE**

**2024
5785**

Rosh Hashanah Starts the Night of October 2 • Yom Kippur Starts the Night of October 11

Congregation Anshei Israel

A Conservative Synagogue and Proud Member of USCJ

5550 E. 5th St., Tucson, AZ 85711

(520) 745-5550 | caiaz.org

Our Mission

Congregation Anshei Israel shall serve as a source of spiritual, educational, and social enrichment in order to encourage and ensure Judaic values in accordance with the Principles of Conservative Judaism.

Clergy & Staff

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Ext. 230 | RabbiMetz@caiaz.org

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High Holy Days Guide is published annually.



Shanah Tovah!

**Our Officers, Board of Trustees,
Clergy & Staff wish each & everyone
a happy & healthy New Year!**

To Do Checklist:

- Insert**..... Book of Remembrance Inclusions (**Tan** Form)..... Due Sept. 3
- Insert**..... High Holy Days Ticket Order Form (**Lavender** Form) Due Sept. 9
- Page 8**..... Lulav & Etrog Orders.....Due Sept. 16
- Insert**..... Babysitting RSVP (**Pink** Form).....Due Sept. 16
- Insert**..... Services for Children & Families RSVP (**Pink** Form).....Due Sept. 16
- Page 6**..... Selichot Program RSVP.....Due Sept. 24
- Page 6**..... Tashlich at the Park RSVP..... Due Oct. 1

Don't Forget:

Know any students, young adults or military?

Complimentary tickets are available! **See page 2.**

Attending services in another community?

See page 3 for reciprocal information.

Let us know about your college-age kids.

See page 3 for information.

Bring non-perishable food items for Project Isaiah.

See page 7.

Tips:

**Keep this publication for reference throughout
the High Holy Days.**

**To help us better serve you, please adhere to
deadlines for all reservations and orders.**



Dear Friends,

As we approach the High Holy Days, we carry with us all the events of the previous year. We have seen the great importance of gathering as one people. We join together, praying and working towards peace in our own hearts, homes, cities, and the homeland of our souls – Israel.

Our connections to our traditions, our faith, to one another and to the land of Israel are central to our lives and give us meaning. This sacred season invites us to connect more deeply to our community, both locally and globally.

Israel holds a special place in our hearts. It is the historical and spiritual homeland of the Jewish people and also a beacon of hope, resilience, and innovation. During these Days of Awe, we share our gratitude and commitment. We are connected to each other and to the Land of Israel.

Whether in Tucson, London or Jerusalem, when you walk in the door and join our services, you will pray many of the same words that our people have offered up to God for more than a thousand years. When you join us, you are part of the rich history of the Jewish People.

Our High Holy Days services have something for everyone: beautiful music, interesting readings, thought provoking sermons, moments of introspection, joyful services and programming for our preschool families, interactive experiences for our young families, and babysitting for when our parents needs some time to pray too. With all these, we also have your community. Whether you are new or have been a member for generations, you'll find friends and connections here. That part of you that needs meaning and community is pointing you here, to be a part of the people of Israel, your Anshei Israel.

We have all of this, and all we need is you!

Rabbi Sara Metz

Nichole Chorny, Cantorial Soloist and Education & Youth Director

Ticket & Seating Information

Ticket Details

All members in good standing will receive our virtual links and passwords for the High Holy Days. Tickets will be available for pickup at the check-in table, starting with Erev Rosh Hashanah services on **OCTOBER 2**.

General Admission seating in Rabbi Breger Hall is available at no additional cost for each in-person ticket requested. *Shomrei Torah* level members can receive reserved seating in the Sanctuary at no additional cost for each in-person ticket requested.

If you are not sure if you would like to attend in-person services, or would like to do a combination of in-person and virtual, please fill out the **Lavender** ticket order form insert.

If you only want to attend virtual services this year, please use the Lavender form to make sure we have your current email address.

If you have not already completed and returned an order form for High Holy Days tickets/seating, the **Lavender** form included in this publication must be completed and returned to the synagogue office **no later than SEPTEMBER 9** so that we can have your tickets ready for you at the door to pick up when you arrive for services. Options for disability-related accommodations, as well as Youth Services are also included in this publication.

For security purposes, everyone ages 16+ will be required to present a ticket with their full name imprinted on it and a matching photo ID to be admitted to the synagogue. Tickets and photo ID cards will be required for entry at all times during the High Holy Days.

To receive tickets, your account with CAI must be current with a minimum of 25% of your 2024-25 membership commitment and Safety & Security fee paid. Being current means that all past charges must be paid or on a payment plan. If you have questions or concerns about your account status, please contact Lanette at (520) 745-5550, ext. 223 or Controller@caiaz.org

Complimentary Tickets

Free general admission tickets (non-reserved seating) are available for all High Holy Days services to:

- All unaffiliated Jews 30-years-old and younger. (Please make arrangements in advance.)
- All college students, and all military personnel. (A school or military ID along with another picture ID, such as a valid driver's license, is required.) (Please make arrangements in advance.)

Again this year: On the second day of Rosh Hashanah, Congregation Anshei Israel opens its doors to the entire Tucson Jewish community as an opportunity to share the warmth and tradition that has been our pride for over 90 years. We want others to experience what CAI members enjoy year-round and especially during the High Holy Days. We open our collective arms and welcome others into the oldest Conservative synagogue in Tucson.

We want to make it easy for everyone to worship together, but for security reasons we ask that — **in advance** — you send us your contact information so we can prepare tickets. You will also need to provide ID under the security tent.

For more information, please contact Debra at (520) 745-5550, ext. 242 or ExecDir@caiaz.org

Reserved Seats

Main services will be held in the Sanctuary and in Rabbi Breger Hall. Members may choose to upgrade their seats to reserved seats. If you have purchased seats previously (or are *Shomrei Torah* level members), we will do our best to seat you in a similar place this year. Reserved seats in the Sanctuary pews can be purchased for \$200 each (included in *Shomrei Torah* level membership). Reserved seats in Rabbi Breger Hall are available for \$50 each.

Scan for ticket order forms.



High Holy Days Honors

Participation in High Holy Days Services is an important honor. Honors are distributed in a way that makes it possible for every member family to be offered an honor every few years.

The Honors Committee has begun calling members to offer honors. We look forward to your participation. Please consider saying “yes” when you are called. Instructions are available to those who have questions regarding their honor.

Kids at College?

During the High Holy Days, the absence of many of our young adults is readily apparent to the Synagogue and to you, the families whose children are away from home. All too often, our college-age young adults feel distanced from the Synagogue that played such an important part in their younger years. We want to keep that Synagogue connection with your children.

Please help us update our list of young adults who are in college or young adults who would enjoy hearing from us. We ask those who would like their children to receive both regular and email communications, and occasional care packages, to please email the following information to Amber at ExecAssist@caiaz.org and Rabbi Metz will send them some sweet surprises: Name(s), Address(es), Email address(es), College name(s)

Safety Information

Admittance and Security

In the interest of the safety of all service attendees, Tucson Police officers and personnel from a local security company specifically hired for this purpose will check tickets and identification. These procedures allow us to provide a comfortable environment conducive to the High Holy Days spirit. To help alleviate delays at the door, we suggest that you arrive early for services with your photo ID in hand. Please note: ALL personal bags are subject to search. We cannot be responsible for personal items left in your car.



Parking Lot Improvements

If you haven't visited the campus recently, you might notice some changes. We have installed parking blocks throughout our two north parking lots. Please drive cautiously, as it's no longer possible to cut across sections without paying attention. Thank

you to Sunrise Asphalt for the speedy installation.

Serve as an Usher

CAI's Ushering Committee is actively recruiting people to help usher for one-hour slots during the High Holy Days. Training will be provided for this important *mitzvah*. If interested, please contact Amber at (520) 745-5550, ext. 225 or ExecAssist@caiaz.org

Inclusive Spaces

Special Needs, Seating, Assistive-Hearing Devices, & Large Print Mahzors

If you or any member of your family uses a walker, wheelchair, etc., and requires special seating, please let us know so that we may accommodate these needs. Limited quantities of assistive-hearing devices are available for use in the Sanctuary and Rabbi Breger Hall. Large print editions of the *Mahzor* are available. Please fill out the **Lavender** ticket order form (included in this mailing) to indicate your needs.

Reciprocal Tickets

If you will be out of town during the High Holy Days, are a member in good standing, and would like to attend services at a synagogue in another city, please email the following information to Amber at ExecAssist@caiaz.org, and she will email you back a PDF of the letter.

- Name(s) of individuals requesting reciprocation
- Contact information for the synagogue where you will be attending
- Which days you plan to attend services at that synagogue

Do you like to sing?

Join our first rehearsal for the High Holy Days Youth Choir

Sunday, September 8 at 12:15pm Classroom 2

As in previous years, students who enjoy singing will be participating in High Holy Days services as our Youth Choir. All students between the ages of 13-18 are encouraged to participate! Come and sing with us!

To RSVP for the initial rehearsal or for more information, contact Cantorial Soloist Nichole Chorny at 745-5550, ext. 227 or CantorialSoloist@caiaz.org



Creating Inclusive Sacred Spaces

Families with Young Children

- We are so glad you're here! Relax! God put the wiggle in children. Don't feel you have to suppress it in our services.
- Feel free to explain our rituals, pray and sing. Children learn liturgical behavior by observing you.
- If you need to leave services with your child, do so, but please come back.
- Remember that the way we welcome children in synagogue directly affects the way they respond to synagogue, to God, and to one another. Let them know they are welcome in this house of worship.
- The "Kiddie Corner" is set-up in the back of Rabbi Breger Hall with holiday/festival friendly toys to play with or bring back to your seat.
- Use the **Pink** form to RSVP for our Youth & Family Services OR scan the QR code to submit the form online.
- Step out to our High Holy Days Schmooze Space (see page 7).

Remember - Children are Our Future!

The presence of children is a gift to our congregation and a reminder that not only are we growing, but that Judaism's future is in the room with us right now. How we treat them today affects their behavior as Jews tomorrow.

Please welcome our children and give a smile to them and their families.

Scan to RSVP for Youth Services and Babysitting.



Creating Sacred Spaces

- Please make sure that any children's activities brought to services are "Shabbat/Festival appropriate" (for example, please avoid coloring/drawing, electronic games, phones, etc.)
- To show respect for the holiness of our prayerbooks, please place them in the book sleeves rather than on the floor.
- Our ushers are happy to help you park baby strollers against the back wall of Rabbi Breger Hall rather than in the aisles, per fire code.
- We ask all adults to wear a head-covering while attending services as a sign of respect for our holy place.
- Please join us to unplug from technology and be present in this holy moment, by keeping cell phones on silent and away.



Children & Family Services

Please RSVP by **SEPTEMBER 16** to attend these services by filling out the included **Pink** form or scan the QR code to submit the form online using the QR Code.

Young Children's Family Services

For Preschool through 1st Grade children and their guardians

1st Day Rosh Hashanah:

Thu., Oct. 3, 11:00am - 12:00pm

Yom Kippur: Sat., Oct. 12, 11:00am - 12:00pm

Cantor Falkow Lounge

Children and their adults can participate in engaging services and crafts, designed specifically for our little ones.

Please RSVP by SEPTEMBER 16. To RSVP, please contact Kim at (520) 745-5550, ext. 224, email EdAsst@caiaz.org or scan the QR code on the right.

Family Services

For 2nd Grade and up and their guardians (optional)

1st Day Rosh Hashanah:

Thu., Oct. 3, 10:30am - 12:00pm

Yom Kippur: Sat., Oct. 12, 10:30am - 12:00pm

Rabbi Eisen Beit Midrash

An interactive service exploring themes of the holidays through prayer, stories and educational activities.

Please RSVP by SEPTEMBER 16. To RSVP, please contact Kim at (520) 745-5550, ext. 224, email EdAsst@caiaz.org or scan the QR code on the right.

All Family/Youth Program

2nd Day Rosh Hashanah: Friday, October 4

10:30am - 12:00pm • Rabbi Eisen Beit Midrash

A unique High Holy Days program in which we explore key concepts of the holidays through creative activities, and then apply these lessons to everyday life.

Please RSVP by SEPTEMBER 16. To RSVP, please contact Kim at (520) 745-5550, ext. 224, email EdAsst@caiaz.org or scan the QR code on the right.

Focus on the Service While Your Kids Enjoy Babysitting

Drop off Your Children for Babysitting (Free)

1st & 2nd Days Rosh Hashanah:

Thu. & Fri., Oct. 3 & 4, 9:15am - end of services

Kol Nidre: Fri., Oct. 11, 5:30pm - end of services

Yom Kippur: Sat., Oct. 12, 9:15am - end of morning services

To accommodate our youngest congregants, we offer babysitting for children 14-months through first grade. **Please RSVP by SEPTEMBER 16.** To RSVP, please contact Kim at (520) 745-5550, ext. 224, email EdAsst@caiaz.org or scan the QR code below.

Scan to RSVP for Youth Services and Babysitting.



Prepare for this Sacred Time

Selichot

Program & Service

The opening service to the High Holy Days

Saturday, September 28

Rabbi Breger Hall and Rabbi Eisen Beit Midrash

7:00pm Schmooze with wine, dessert & Havdalah, followed by a teaching with Rabbi Metz

8:00pm Hybrid Selichot Service

There is no charge to attend; however, reservations are requested by **SEPTEMBER 16**. To RSVP, please contact Amber at (520) 745-5550, ext. 225, email ExecAssist@caiaz.org or scan the QR code below.

Scan to RSVP for Selichot.



Tashlich at the Park

Sunday, October 6 • 10:00am

Ft. Lowell Park, Ramada 5

900 N Craycroft Rd, Tucson, AZ 85712

Join us as we symbolically “cast away” our sins as the New Year begins. Traditionally, bread crumbs are cast upon a body of water as an act of self-purification based on the words of the Prophet Micah (7:19): “And You will cast (*vetashlich*) all their sins into the depths of the sea.”

Enjoy an educational program for learners of all ages to reflect upon the themes of the season. Bring the whole family and participate in this meaningful experience at Ft. Lowell Park in the same intimate location.

There is no charge to attend; however, reservations are needed by **SEPTEMBER 21**. Please contact Kim at (520) 745-5550, ext. 224, email EdAsst@caiaz.org, or scan the QR code to the right.

Scan to RSVP for Tashlich.



Kever Avot

Memorial Service

Sunday, September 29 • 10:30am

Evergreen Cemetery, Anshei Israel Section

3015 N Oracle Rd, Tucson, AZ 85705

The *Kever Avot* Memorial Service is a time to come to the cemetery to pay our respects to our dearly departed. Even if your loved ones are not buried in CAI's Cemetery, you are encouraged to participate in the service to express your feelings of love and loss.

The service lasts no more than 30 minutes.



Rosh Hashanah

Begins the Evening of Wednesday, October 2 at 5:30pm.

Day 1 is Thursday, October 3 at 8:00am.

Day 2 is Friday, October 4 at 8:00am.

See insert for all service times.

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Yom Kippur

Begins the Evening of Friday, October 11 at 5:30pm,
and continues through Saturday, October 12

starting at 8:30am.

See insert for all service times.

Connect with the Community

Something Different

Alternative Meditative High Holy Days Experience with Judy Fishman

1st Day Rosh Hashanah:

Thursday, October 3, 9:30am

Yom Kippur: Saturday, October 12, 9:30am

Linda Roy Youth Center

Every year, the High Holy Days greet us with an invitation to turn inward, dive deep, and reconnect. The traditions, the structure of the services, and the prayers themselves are like signposts and doorways into a profound, inner journey, yet it is easy to sail on by them and not step through. This alternative experience is designed to stop at these doorways and find our way in, utilizing approaches ranging from meditation and visualization to chant and story.

High Holy Days Schmooze Space

Take a moment to refuel your body as you refuel your soul. Connect with community members in our outdoor Sukkah area with coffee, water and snacks throughout the mornings of Rosh Hashanah. This space will also be available with-out snacks on Yom Kippur. Families and children welcome. **Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.**



Donate to Project Isaiah

Every year, Congregation Anshei Israel participates in Tucson's annual High Holy Days Hunger Project benefiting the Community Food Bank.

We will be accepting new, unopened food donations in the Lynne Falkow-Strauss Foyer of the administrative wing through Thursday, **OCTOBER 10**. Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated. The Food Bank can use the monies to purchase items at a greater discount. Cash or checks (made payable to: Community Food Bank) may be mailed to, or dropped off at the Synagogue in advance.

In addition, we will be collecting donations of **food items only** from 5:00 to 5:45pm on *Kol Nidre*, Friday, **OCTOBER 11**. Please bring your food donations to the Community Food Bank truck parked by the main sanctuary entrance on your way to services.



Yom Kippur

Mincha & Ne'ilah Service

**(Yom Kippur Afternoon)
with Glow Sticks and Candles
Saturday, October 12 • 3:15pm**

Our upcoming *B'nai Mitzvah* class will carry *Havdalah* candles and lead us in prayer as glow sticks are handed out to the rest of the children in attendance (and adults who would like them) to experience the beauty and wonder of the *Ne'ilah* service, and hear the long final blast from the shofar.

Final shofar blast at 6:29pm.

Students - Be a Part of the Ne'ilah Service

All Kadima and USY students are invited to perform the special honor of serving as a Guardian of the Ark during the *Ne'ilah* Service at the close of Yom Kippur. If you would like to participate, please have your child meet in the Sanctuary in the front pews at approximately 5:00pm.

Break-the-Fast with Us

We will provide a symbolic Break-the-Fast after the Yom Kippur evening service. Juice and challah will be available just outside the exit doors on the north side of the building by the main parking lot.



Rosh Hashanah

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Day 1 is Thursday, October 3 at 8:00am.
Day 2 is Friday, October 4 at 8:00am.
See insert for all service times.

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Yom Kippur

Begins the Evening of Friday, October 11 at 5:30pm,
and continues through Saturday, October 12
starting at 8:30am.
See insert for all service times.



May we all be free!



As I begin the second year of my term as President, the word that comes to mind is freedom. First and foremost is our wish for the freedom of the hostages taken during the Hamas attack on October 7th. Freedom is also the theme of the holiday we recently completed, *Pesach*, in which we all celebrate our freedom from slavery in Egypt.

With regard to Congregation Anshei Israel in particular, we have the freedom to participate in all of the services, programs and activities that we choose. This freedom to join the community as we see fit, is not a freedom we should take for granted, especially with the rise in antisemitism which we have experienced since October 7th. There are many groups we have to thank for our Anshei Israel community, including but not limited to, our Board of Trustees, volunteers, our clergy and staff, as well as each of you, our members.



Our freedom as a Tucson Jewish Community relies upon the existence of its key elements such as Congregation Anshei Israel to provide its services and programs. I thank you for enabling Anshei to be one of these key elements through your continued commitment to and support of Congregation Anshei Israel.

Jonathan Green, President

Congregation Anshei Israel Board of Trustees

Thank you again for your commitment to and support of Congregation Anshei Israel! Our Deepest Appreciation to our Volunteer Leaders!

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*A complete list of all Past Presidents can be found on our website

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Sukkot & Shemini Atzeret



First & Second Days of Sukkot

Thursday, October 17

Friday, October 18

9:30am in the Rabbi Eisen Beit Midrash and on Zoom

Followed by Kiddush in the Sukkah.

Family & Community Shabbat/Sukkot Dinner

It's a mitzvah to eat in a sukkah!

Friday, October 18

Shabbat Evening and Sukkot Service 5:45pm

Dinner 7:00pm

Join us for our Family Shabbat and Sukkot service, followed by dinner and dessert in the Sukkah with your congregational family. RSVP details to come!

Shabbat Morning & Sukkot Services

Shabbat & Third Day of Sukkot Service

Saturday, October 19

9:30am in the Sanctuary & on Zoom

Followed by Kiddush in the Sukkah.



USY Sukkah Hop!

Saturday Night, October 19

USYers! Check out Sukkot in our community as we “hop” to different Sukkot for a festive dinner together! More information to come!

Preschool/B'Yahad Breakfast in the Sukkah

Sunday, October 20 in the Sukkah

Preschool and B'Yahad families are invited to our Breakfast in the Sukkah! Details to come!

Private Shomrei Torah Member Event

Sunday, October 20

Shomrei Torah members are invited to a private Sukkot event at the Metz home.

Not a *Shomrei Torah* member? Please contact Debra Lytle at ExecDir@caiaz.org for information about how to join! Private invitations to follow.

Shemini Atzeret Yahrzeit Plaque Dedication

Thursday, October 24 • 9:30am Service
Rabbi Eisen Beit Midrash and Zoom

On Shemini Atzeret, all yahrzeit plaques installed in Congregation Anshei Israel's Memorial Hall during the past year will be dedicated; memorial Yizkor prayers will be said at approx. 11:00am. Please join us for this service and meaningful dedication.

Simchat Torah

Simchat Torah Service with Hakafot & Torah Roll-out

(Processions with the Torah Scrolls) and Israeli Dancing

Thursday, October 24 • Sanctuary

5:30pm Dairy Dinner

6:00pm Ma'ariv Service, Hakafot & Torah Roll-out followed by dessert.

More information to come!

Simchat Torah Service

Friday, October 25

9:30am In the Rabbi Eisen Beit Midrash and Zoom

Followed by a Kiddush Lunch.



Renew Your Membership to Receive High Holy Days Tickets

Our synagogue is more than just a building. We are a spiritual, educational and social community, and we are excited to offer these programs and services, while maintaining a hybrid atmosphere to be as inclusive as possible for all of our members. We've gotten rave reviews of our beloved Shabbat dinners, Tot Shabbat Services, Hamentaschen for Hunger, regular adult education classes, and in-person holiday celebrations. We have services and programs like *Shabbat Sovev* (which we embrace together in the Rabbi Eisen Beit Midrash), revamped Family Services, and social activities like hikes and trivia night.



Now is the time that we must continue to plan for our future. Our new fiscal year began July 1, 2024. We are anticipating a great year with even more programming to bring meaningful spiritual services, social activities and learning opportunities to our community in the coming year.

We thank all our wonderful members who enable everything we do, and want to remind you to *return your Yellow membership renewal card*. Thank you again for your continued commitment to and support of Congregation Anshei Israel! Your generosity assures that no one is ever turned away from our congregation due to an inability to pay.

Women's League Judaica Gift Shop

Monday-Friday

11am - 1pm

We're looking for volunteers.

Please contact Evelyn at ESigafus@aol.com



Place Your Orders Soon!

Delicious Kosher Honey

8 oz. bottles \$15 each

All proceeds benefit CAI's United Synagogue Youth Program.

Just in time for Rosh Hashanah, ship your honey with a personalized card reading: "*Shanah Tovah* – Wishing you a Healthy and Happy New Year." and signed with your name.



Order by **AUGUST 8** for free delivery. Order by September 12 for delivery by Rosh Hashanah. Last day to order - **OCTOBER 2**.

Shipping Cost: Shipping is free for orders placed by **AUGUST 8**. Orders placed after **AUGUST 8** will incur a \$8 per jar within the U.S. and APO/FPO military addresses.

Scan for honey orders.



Lulav & Etrog Sets for Sukkot

Blessing the *lulav* and *etrog* on *Sukkot* is a Jewish way of thanking God for the blessings of the earth. By holding the four species together (the branch of a palm (*lulav*), three myrtle branches (*hadas*), two willows (*aravot*), and a bright yellow *etrog*) we symbolically "get our act together." When we point the *lulav* and *etrog* in six directions, we remind ourselves that God's presence can be found in every area of our lives. By shaking the *lulav* and *etrog* vigorously, we commit to being "movers and shakers" in the world this year, for good and for blessing. Add meaning to your Jewish life and create special memories for your family by shaking a *lulav* in your home! **We offer fully assembled Lulav & Etrog Sets for \$54. Order Deadline: September 16. Call Amber at (520) 745-5550, ext. 225, email ExecAssist@caiaz.org or scan the QR code below.**

Scan to order lulav & etrog sets.



Tree of Life - Etz Chayim

The Congregation Anshei Israel Tree of Life is a loving way to commemorate weddings, anniversaries, birthdays, special occasions, and memories of your family and friends.

Anyone may purchase leaves or stones in honor, or in memory of loved ones. Our Tree of Life is displayed in the Honor Hallway by the Linda Roy Youth Center. You are invited to pause and share the special memories in the lives of our community, especially leading up to our High Holy Days.

For more information and to place your order for a leaf or stone, please scan the QR code below.



Scan for Tree of Life Orders.



Connect with Our History

Book of Remembrance

A Book of Readings and Memorial Prayers

The act of remembrance is an important tradition. The High Holy Days are a time for reflection, a time when we remember with fondness the relatives and friends who had a significant role in shaping our lives. At CAI, we publish a Book of Remembrance to be used at all *Yizkor* Services throughout the year.

The Book of Remembrance includes special readings, psalms and prayers, as well as listings of those being remembered, their relationship to, and the name(s) of those who are remembering them.

It is a beautiful way to recall your dearly departed at this most solemn time of the year.

We want to encourage everyone to memorialize their loved ones. There is no charge to submit names for members. The act of remembrance can take on an even deeper meaning when accompanied by a donation to the synagogue. All contributions will be a gift in the spirit of *tzedakah* and remembrance.

Firm Deadline

Please respond by September 3 by filling out the included Tan form, visit caiaz.org, or scan the QR code below.



Yahrzeit Plaques

On Shemini Atzeret, Thursday, October 24 at approximately 11:00am, all *yahrzeit* plaques installed in Congregation Anshei Israel's Memorial Hall during the past year will be dedicated; memorial *Yizkor* prayers will be said at approximately 11:00am.

Please join us for this service and meaningful dedication.

Order Deadline: July 26. Call Amber at (520) 745-5550, ext. 225, purchase at caiaz.org, or scan the QR code below.

High Holy Days Review Brunch Sunday, October 27 • Cantor Falkow Lounge

11am Brunch and Meeting

After the conclusion of the High Holy Days, we're inviting all members to join us to help us gather feedback about our services and programs over the fall holidays. We're particularly interested in discussing ways to create more intimate prayer spaces within our sanctuary. We're hoping for a broad cross-section of our membership, so please consider joining us and bringing a friend!

Scan for Book of Remembrance Submissions.



If not now... when?



אם לא עכשיו אי פעם?

Hillel the Elder said, “If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when?” – Pirkei Avot 1:14

From Pirkei Avot comes our theme for this year’s High Holy Days Appeal at Congregation Anshei Israel. Most of you are already familiar with this statement from Hillel, but you may wonder how it pertains to your appeal gift to the congregation.

Look around you here at CAI — see how valuable each member is to this organization! Of course, we wouldn’t be here in this building, in Tucson, in 2024, if it weren’t for the monetary and spiritual contributions of those who came before us. They built this congregation, supported and nurtured it, so that it is here for us today: A community where we celebrate baby namings, B’nai Mitzvot, and weddings, as well as daily minyan, Shabbat, and holiday services. We join Adult Education classes to enhance our Jewish learning, while our children thrive at B’Yahad Religious School and the Esther B. Feldman Preschool. Our clergy, Rabbi Metz, and Cantorial Soloist Nichole Chorny, nurture us spiritually in our weekly services and holiday observances. Where would we be without them?

As Jews and members of this congregation, none of us is on our own or disconnected from this shul. We pray, learn, eat, celebrate, and mourn together. We may not see each other on a weekly or even a monthly basis, but we come together at these High Holy Days, these Days of Awe, to experience something as Jews that transcends our individual selves. So, “If not now, when?” Our annual gift to the High Holy Days Appeal recognizes our gratitude for CAI and all that it means for us and our families. “If we are not for ourselves, who will be for us?” We realize that there is no entity out there that supports the needs of our congregation in the way you, and we, as members do. We show that we are for ourselves by keeping CAI healthy, ensuring its existence for future generations. Outwardly, this announces to the community that we are here, and we are going to be here for our children and our children’s children. Otherwise, who will be for us?

Since October 7, 2023, our community has needed to draw together like seldom before. The tragedy of that day and the ensuing war, along with the ongoing refusal of Hamas to release the hostages, causes all of us deep pain. Hillel’s words are so much more powerful when we think of Israel today: If I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when?



If there is one word that sums up our feelings about Anshei Israel, that animates Hillel’s words as well, it is gratitude. We are grateful for our lives, for the lives of others whom we cherish, for the gift of each new day on this

beautiful earth. Join us and let this sense of gratitude drive your generosity during this High Holy Days Appeal!

Handwritten signatures of Teri and Ole Thienhaus. The signatures are written in black ink and are positioned below the photograph of the couple.

Teri & Ole Thienhaus
High Holy Day Appeal Chairs

P.S. If this is your first time giving to the High Holy Days Appeal, a generous anonymous donor will match your donation, doubling your impact!

Scan to make your
secure donation online

