



KOLENU

"Our Voice" The Newsletter of Congregation Anshei Israel

September/October 2026 • Tishrei/Chesvan 5787

Volume 79 Number 1

Warm wishes
for a sweet
New Year!

שנה
טובה!



CONTENTS

Wisdom from Rabbi Metz	2	Adult Programs.....	9-10
Executive Director's Message	3	Community Programs	10
Address from Our President	4	Sukkot Events.....	11
Information about Services	5	Catching Up.....	12-14
Education & Youth.....	6	Mazal Tov	15
Children, Teens & Families.....	7	Donations	16-17
Get Involved (Groups).....	8	Community Notes.....	18-19

קולנו • KOLENU

"Our Voice"

The Newsletter of Congregation Anshei Israel

Congregation Anshei Israel

A Conservative Synagogue and
Proud Member of USCJ



5550 East 5th Street • Tucson AZ 85711
(520) 745-5550 • fax (520) 745-9058
caiaz.org

MISSION STATEMENT

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 Information

Rabbi • Sara Metz

Ext. 230 • RabbiMetz@caiaz.org

Rabbi Emeritus • Robert J. Eisen

Rabbi.Eisen.AZ@gmail.com

Rabbi Emeritus • Arthur Oleisky, z"l

Cantorial Soloist and Education & Youth

Director • Nichole Chorny

Ext. 228 • CantorialSoloist@caiaz.org

Executive Director • Debra Lytle

Ext. 242 • ExecDir@caiaz.org

Controller • Lanette Garnett

Ext. 223 • Controller@caiaz.org

Administrative & Youth Education

Assistant Kim Miller

Ext. 200 • EdAsst@caiaz.org

Executive Assistant & Program Coordinator

Amber Page

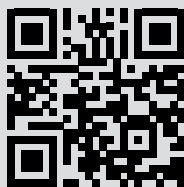
Ext. 225 • ExecAssist@caiaz.org

Graphic Designer • Marty Johnston

Ext. 240 • GraphicDesigner@caiaz.org

Please visit our website caiaz.org and
check your email for the most
up-to-date information.

Scan QR Code to sign up for emails!



Wisdom from Rabbi Metz "Yes" - but in a different way

Rosh Hashanah invites us to begin again. We say, *Hayom harat olam*, "Today the world is born." Yet renewal requires more than turning the calendar page. It asks us to reconsider the habits, assumptions, and automatic responses we carry with us into the new year.

One response worth reconsidering is a quick "no."

There are certainly times when no is necessary. Judaism has boundaries, values, and obligations. Saying yes does not mean that everything is permissible or that every request can be granted exactly as it is presented.

One of my teachers in rabbinical school, Rabbi Elliot Dorff, taught us that it takes far more learning, thought, and care to find a way to say yes than simply to say no.

I have carried that teaching with me. It has become part of my philosophy as a rabbi and a guide for how I try to approach people, challenges, and difficult decisions. Whenever possible, I want my work to be in service of finding a way toward yes.

Sometimes the answer is, "Yes, but in a different way." Sometimes it is, "We cannot do exactly what you are asking, but let us think together about what might be possible."

This is a way of approaching disagreement with creativity, patience, and care. When values collide, we do not always have to choose one and abandon the other. Often, we can pause and ask better questions:

- What is each person trying to protect?
- What need lies beneath the request?
- What part of this might still be possible?

The Talmud teaches that the students of Beit Hillel were patient and gracious. They studied the views of Beit Shammai and even presented those views before their own (Eruvin 13b). They did not surrender their convictions. They listened deeply enough to understand another perspective.

That kind of listening can transform relationships. It can help families move through disagreement, communities make room for different needs, and individuals feel seen and valued, even when the answer is not everything they had hoped for.

As a rabbi, part of my role is to help people find greater meaning in their lives and to help them discover responsible, compassionate paths toward yes.

This year, before saying, "That will never work," perhaps we can ask, "What part of this could work?"

Before saying, "This is how we have always done it," we can ask, "Is there another way to preserve the value while making room for the people involved?"

Renewal requires imagination. It asks us to take our values seriously and to take people seriously.

As the new year begins, may we listen more deeply, respond more thoughtfully, and remember that there is almost always a way to "yes."

B'Shalom,

Rabbi Sara Metz

(520) 745-5550 ext. 230 • RabbiMetz@caiaz.org



Executive Director's Message

The Work of a New Year

As we prepare to welcome the High Holy Days, I am reminded of something our Rabbi Emeritus, Rabbi Robert Eisen, would often say: It is more important how you treat someone between Yom Kippur and Rosh Hashanah than only during the sacred time between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

His words capture both the promise and the responsibility of this season. The High Holy Days give us time to reflect, seek forgiveness, and consider who we want to become. The true measure of that reflection is how we live during all the ordinary days that follow: how we treat one another, care for our community, and turn our values into action.

I have been reading Rabbi Angela Buchdahl's *Heart of a Stranger*, which explores faith, identity, leadership, and the importance of belonging. Her story reminds me that a strong community



This summer also gave us a wonderful example of what can happen when community organizations work together. Our partnership with the JCC's Taglit program was a tremendous success. It was rewarding to see participants connecting, learning, and enjoying all that our shared community has to offer. We are already exploring additional ways to partner in the future and look forward to creating more meaningful opportunities together.

I am especially proud of our staff, whose dedication, professionalism, and care are evident in everything we accomplish. Much of their work happens behind the scenes, but its impact can be felt throughout our congregation. As we prepare for one of the busiest and most meaningful times of the year, I want to express my sincere appreciation for the many ways they support our members, strengthen our programs, and help make our congregation feel like home.

As you make plans to join us for the holidays, please remember that the City of Tucson has been conducting significant construction along Fifth Street and Craycroft Road. We anticipate that road closures or traffic disruptions will continue through the High



"I have been reading Rabbi Angela Buchdahl's *Heart of a Stranger*, which explores faith, identity, leadership, and the importance of belonging. Our book club, *Read It & Meet*, will discuss *Heart of a Stranger* on October 10. I encourage you to read the book and participate in what is sure to be a meaningful conversation."

does more than welcome people through its doors. It creates a place where each person feels seen, valued, and connected to something larger than themselves. That is the kind of community we continually strive to be. Our book club, *Read It & Meet*, will discuss *Heart of a Stranger* on October 10. I encourage you to read the book and participate in what is sure to be a meaningful conversation.

Creating that sense of home also means doing everything we can to keep our community safe. Security remains a high priority and a constant focus for our leadership. We continue to evaluate our plans, follow established best practices, and work closely with the appropriate agencies and security partners. While we do not share operational details publicly, please know that this work is ongoing, thoughtful, and taken very seriously. We are grateful for your patience and cooperation with all security procedures when you visit our campus.

Holy Days. If you have not visited recently, please check your route before leaving, allow additional travel time, and use extra care as you approach the property. We want everyone to arrive safely and without unnecessary stress.

The months ahead will bring sacred moments, joyful gatherings, and opportunities to strengthen the relationships that make our congregation so special. As your Executive Director, I am proud of the work we are doing and confident in the future we are building together.

May this new year inspire us not only during the Days of Awe, but throughout every day that follows. *L'shana tova u'metukah*. Wishing you and your loved ones a healthy, safe, and sweet new year.

B'Shalom,

Debra Lytle, Executive Director

(520) 745-5550 ext. 242 • ExecDir@caiaz.org

Address from our President

Call to Welcome, Call to Battle

How do we know that our religious community should be open and welcoming to absolutely everyone?

Tradition has it that the word for congregation, *tzibbur*, is itself an acronym:

The **tzibbur** should be open to **tzadikim**, the righteous; **beinonim**, those in the middle of the road; and even **reshaim**, the bad boys and girls.

Your Board of Trustees is focusing during its August retreat on ways in which we can make members, visitors and shul shoppers feel even more engaged and truly welcome. That means reviewing the steps we take to welcome and host new members and draw them in to the rhythm of synagogue life. That means translating the general plans of volunteer committees into low-barrier projects and events in which first timers (or returners!) can participate to achieve clear and focused goals. That means support of activities aimed at the broader community, like Rabbi Metz's 'Anshei Anywhere' grant to create Jewish social opportunities particularly for young families with a hook to bring them back to events inside the building. And that means looking at the effectiveness of the current committee structure to make sure that we are making the best use of the precious resource of volunteer time. If you have ideas on how we can be, and be perceived as, even more warm and welcoming, the other trustees and I want to hear them. In a future column, you'll get the specifics of any changes and new opportunities.

With the beginning of the month of Elul, this year in the middle of August, the shofar is sounded in every traditional weekday morning service. The rabbis assured the long-term vitality of Judaism by transforming ancient practice into ritual with spiritual significance.



The *tzibbur* (ציבור, congregation) should be open to:

Tzadikim, the righteous

Beinonim, those in the middle of the road

and even Reshaim, the bad boys and girls

We therefore accept that at this time of year, the shofar is calling us to self-examination and repentance. But we have to remember that the truly ancient use of the shofar was to call to action, literally call to battle. What's our battle? IMHO, it's complacency in a time when we really need our community to be more unified, self-aware and proactive. If the practical side of repentance is taking small steps in a positive direction, then we're called to do that. We're called to take a small step out of our comfort zone and greet a person at shul that we don't recognize. We're called to come to one more event than we originally intended. We're called to donate a little more than we first planned. And we're called to recognize that as each one of us takes one of those steps, we strengthen the *tzibbur*, no matter which letter applies to us.

Shanah tovah u'metukah – a good and sweet year for all of us.

Richard Green, President

richard_green_94647203@comcast.net



Calendar of Major Jewish Holidays 5787 (2026-27)

Holidays begin the evening before the day noted. Holidays noted in *italics* are holy days on which no work is permitted and absences from school or work should be excused.

Holiday	2026-2027 Date
Rosh Hashanah.....	Sat. & Sun., Sept. 12 & 13, 2026
Yom Kippur.....	Mon., Sept. 21, 2026
Sukkot (start)	Sat. & Sun., Sept. 26 & 27, 2026
Shemini Atzeret	Sat., Oct. 3, 2026
Simchat Torah	Sun., Oct. 4, 2026
Chanukkah (start)	Sat., Dec. 5, 2026
Tu B'Shvat.....	Sat., Jan. 23, 2027
Purim.....	Tue., Mar. 23, 2027

Holiday	2026-2027 Date
Passover (start)	Thur. & Fri., Apr. 22 & 23, 2027
Passover (end)	Wed. & Thur., Apr. 28 & 29, 2027
Yom HaShoah	Tue., May 4, 2027
Yom Ha'Atzmaut	Wed., May 12, 2027
Lag B'Omer	Tue., May 25, 2027
Shavuot.....	Fri. & Sat., June 11 & 12, 2027
Tisha B'Av.....	Thur., Aug. 12, 2027

Services

Daily & Weekly Services

HYBRID Evening Minyan

Tuesdays* & Thursdays at 5:30 pm

In-person in the Rabbi Eisen Beit Midrash & on Zoom

*Learner's Minyan - Slower Pace

HYBRID Morning Minyan

Fridays at 7:30 am

In-person in the Rabbi Eisen Beit Midrash & on Zoom, followed by a light breakfast.

Morning & Evening Minyan

CAI has updated our minyan schedule to better support those saying Kaddish and marking yahrzeits. Along with our regularly scheduled services, we're moving to a "Minyan By Request" model. Please scan the QR code (right) or visit our website at caiaz.org after Shabbat if you would like to request a future minyan to say Kaddish for a loved one.



Friday Evening

Kabbalat Shabbat Services

September

Sept. 4 5:45 pm Zoom

Sept. 11 5:45 pm Hybrid
(Shabbat & Erev Rosh Hashanah)

Sept. 18 7:30 pm Hybrid Oneg Service & Dessert

Sept. 25 5:45 pm Hybrid Family Service & Dinner
(Shabbat & Erev Sukkot)

October

Oct. 2 5:45 pm Hybrid
(Shabbat & Erev Shemini Atzeret)

Oct. 9 5:45 pm Hybrid Mishkan Minyan

Oct. 16 7:30 pm Hybrid Oneg Service & Dessert

Oct. 23 5:45 pm Hybrid Family Service & Dinner

Oct. 30 5:45 pm Hybrid Shabbat Evening Service

Hybrid Shabbat Morning Services

9:30 am Saturdays in The Rabbi Eisen Beit Midrash & On Zoom



Selichot

Program & Service

The opening service to the High Holy Days

Saturday, September 5

Cantor Falkow Lounge and Rabbi Eisen Beit Midrash

6:30 pm Schmooze with wine, dessert & Havdalah, followed by a teaching, "Hineni - How to be Present in Your Own Life" with Rabbi Metz.

8:30 pm Hybrid Selichot Service

There is no charge to attend; however, reservations are requested by **SEPTEMBER 1**. To RSVP, please scan the QR code (right).



Kever Avot

Memorial Service

Sunday, September 6 • 10:30 am

Evergreen Cemetery, Anshei Israel Section

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 our 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.



Tashlich at the Park

Sunday, September 20 • 10:00 am

Ft. Lowell Park, Ramada 5

2900 N Craycroft Rd, Tucson, AZ 85712

Join us for Tashlich, a meaningful High Holy Day tradition as we gather to reflect, renew, and welcome the New Year together.

Inspired by the words of the prophet Micah, "You will cast all their sins into the depths of the sea" (Micah 7:19), Tashlich invites us to symbolically let go of the past and look ahead to the year to come.



All ages are invited to enjoy an engaging program filled with reflection, learning, and connection. Bring the whole family and join us at Ft. Lowell Park for this special experience together. Visit our website, or scan the QR Code (right) for a map of the exact location of Ramada 5.



Children, Teens & Families

B'Yahad & USY



B'Yahad and USY are off to a great start as we approach the High Holy Days! We welcomed our B'Yahad families back on August 23 and look forward to a great year of learning and community building.

Many of our post-Bar/Bat Mitzvah students will be participating in High Holy Day services again this year as Torah & Haftarah readers, shofar blowers, service leaders, and members of our High Holy Day

Youth Choir. Be sure to join us for our High Holy Day Family Services on both days of **Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur**, as well as **Tashlich at Fort Lowell Park** on Sunday, September 20 at 10 am. Our community celebrations continue with our **Community Shabbat & Sukkot Family Service and Dinner** on September 25 and our **B'Yahad & USY Sukkah Hop on the evening of Sunday, September 27**. Join us to dance with the Torah and for a Torah Roll-Out during Chag B'Yahad on Simchat Torah on Sunday, October 4 and then bring your pets for **Blessing of the Pets on October 11!** Stay tuned for more details on a wonderful month of celebrating together!

We had a great start to USY & Kadima last month and we are looking forward to the first of our travels this year: Our 7th-12th grade students head to Disneyland over Labor Day weekend to meet up with other chapters from Arizona, California, and Nevada! Watch your inbox for details about our next USY & Kadima Lounges: USY will have their own **Sukkah Hop on the evening of September 27** with a **Weeknight Lounge on October 27**. We also look forward to sending some of our USY leaders to the **Leader Training Institute** in mid-October! Kadima will also meet right after B'Yahad on October 25.

Wishing you and your family a healthy and happy New Year.

Shanah Tovah!

Nichole Chorny,

Cantorial Soloist and Education & Youth Director

(520) 745-5550 ext. 228

CantorialSoloist@caiaz.org



Upcoming Bar Mitzvah

Alex Jeck

Saturday, October 24

Alex is the son of Tracy & David Jeck, and brother to Coby and Abby. Alex's grandparents are Eleanor & Don Jeck, Sandy & Barry Thall. He attends The Gregory School, and enjoys basketball, tennis and video

games. For his mitzvah project, Alex will be collecting donations of money, new or gently used clothing items, blankets, and water bottles to create care packages for Tucson's homeless population.

Shema Sweet Dreams

Congregation Anshei Israel & PJ Library's

"Shema Sweet Dreams"

Sunday, October 25 • 4 to 5:30 pm

\$10 per family for a pizza dinner. For families with children of preschool age through second grade (older siblings welcome!)



Decorate your own Shema pillowcase to take home



Come dressed in your coziest pajamas and bring a stuffy



Bedtime stories, songs, and crafts

A cozy evening of fun, friendship, and Jewish bedtime traditions! Limited supplies are available, please RSVP by October 19, with the QR code (right).



Children, Teens & Families

Blessing of the Pets

Sunday, October 11 • 11:30 am

Outside in the Sukkah area

Our pets hold a special place in our homes and in our hearts. They share in our moments of joy, bring comfort during difficult times, and enrich our lives simply by being by our side.

Bring your beloved creatures, great and small, as we gather to celebrate and bless the animals who bring so many blessings into our lives.

For the safety of all participants, all animals must be leashed or in a pet carrier.



Introducing Our Shalom Space!

Funded through a generous grant from Jewish Philanthropies of Southern Arizona, our new Shalom Space provides a welcoming and accessible place for families during services and synagogue events.

The space at the back of the Rabbi Eisen Beit Midrash can be used for supervised babysitting, for parents who wish to stay with their children while participating in services, and as a private room for nursing, feeding, or diaper changes.



Jewish Philanthropies
of SOUTHERN ARIZONA



TUCSON
HEBREW
ACADEMY



Over 50 Years OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Tucson Hebrew Academy provides an exceptional educational experience for grades K-8:

- ✓ Exemplary Academics
- ✓ Gifted, Enrichment, & Advanced Math Programs
- ✓ Jewish Education & Values
- ✓ Hebrew & Spanish Instruction
- ✓ Stem/Makerspace

Tour Our School Today

 (520) 529-3888
 thaaz.org

Dream Vacations



Elyce & Michael Haber and Associates

(253) 335-1070

www.EandMHaber.com



*We handle the details
You enjoy the journey*

Get Involved!

Sisterhood

Sisterhood in the Sukkah

New Beginnings, New Year, New Sisterhood

Thursday, October 1 • 6:00–7:30 pm

No charge

All women in our community who are past, present or potential CAI synagogue members are invited to kick off a new Sisterhood at CAI with a light dairy dinner in the sukkah.

Please RSVP to Vicki Pepper at TucPepper@hotmail.com or 520-906-9123 by September 17. Also, if you need a ride or can offer a ride, please contact Vicki Pepper. We look forward to celebrating the NEW Year and the beginning of a reNEWed Sisterhood together!

Men's Club - New & Improved

We are pleased to announce the debut of our new & improved CAI Men's Club.

The CAI Men's Club is all about service to the synagogue, making new friends, participating in learning opportunities, planning engaging events to come together as a community and so much more. Whether you have time to be actively involved or just want to participate in some of our programs, you are needed and welcome. We have a diverse programming agenda for 2026-27, so please watch your email and weekly CAI bulletins for information regarding upcoming events.

Please contact Gregg Pollack at gdp5607@gmail.com or Jeffrey Goldstein at jbgold18@gmail.com to learn how to join the Men's Club or if you have any questions or ideas to share with us.



Save the Date: October 17, 2026
Men's Club Shabbat

Green Team Update



We all know the concept of *Tikkun Olam* – “repairing the world”; but do you know about the mitzvah of *Yishuv HaOlam*, (יישוב העולם) specifically, the commandment to *sustain the world*.

The Anshei Israel Green Team honors and works to fulfill the Mitzvah of *Yishuv Ha'Olam*, the call to sustain a healthy, regenerative, livable world. We are committed to caring for our planet, nurturing justice, and fostering peace; honoring and protecting our world for present and future generations.

We'll be having this short column in the *Kolenu*, as well as occasional e-blasts regarding a variety of related green topics. In today's world, it is important to take stewardship of our environment. It is a “Jewish thing” that we do this.

The past few months have seen a number of new actions towards that goal in our own space. If you have been here for Shabbat the past month, you have become acquainted with our new Orange Bag/Hard to Recycle Plastics program. Congregants have been great at separating out plastics such as the small *kiddush* cups, drink cups, and plastic ware and placing them in the Orange Recycle receptacles in Cantor Falkow Lounge and Rabbi Breger Hall. The administrative office and facilities staff have been educated (thanks to Lisa Jurkowitz) and have improved their recycling habits, including Blue Bin paper recycling AND hard to recycle Orange Bin recycling!



For more information about the Orange Bag Plastics recycling program, please scan this QR Code (right) or visit www.tucsonaz.gov/Departments/Environmental-Services/Residential-Services/Recycling-Services/Hard-to-Recycle-Plastics-Program-Orange-Bin



Adult Programs

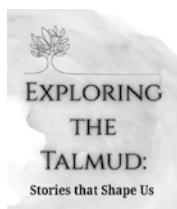
Exploring the Talmud: The Stories That Shape Us

Thursdays on Zoom | 10:00 am
Returns October 22

Join our Thursday study group as we explore the Talmud, home of deep wisdom, spirited debates, and stories so quirky you'll wonder if the rabbis missed their calling as comedians.

Each week we'll explore one tale and what it can teach us today. No background needed, just curiosity and a sense of humor. Come learn, laugh a little, and discover timeless meaning in these ancient stories.

Check your email for details and Zoom link.



Continuing & Restarting Hebrew Class

Thursdays After Minyan (Approx. 6 pm)
October 8-November 19
Rabbi Eisen Beit Midrash

Join Eva Kvaloesund after Thursday evening minyan for an Adult Education Hebrew class focused on building confidence and comfort with Hebrew reading. Whether you are just beginning or looking to strengthen your skills, this class offers a supportive, low-pressure space to practice reading, pronunciation and deepen your connection to prayer and Jewish text. All levels are welcome.

*We invite a suggested donation of \$90 per person. Contributions of any amount help sustain the program and support a safe and welcoming environment.



CRAFTernoons with Rabbi Metz

Sundays at 12:30 pm
Sept. 6, Oct. 25, Nov. 22, Dec. 13

Bring your knitting, crocheting, needlepoint, sketchbook or any craft you're working on and join Rabbi Metz for a relaxing afternoon of conversation, creativity, and a little time to connect.

Scan the QR code (right) to RSVP by the Thursday prior to each date so we can reserve enough seats. Location provided with RSVP. (Be sure to bring cash or card for food & drinks).



High Holy Days Review Brunch

Sunday, October 11 • 10 am

Brunch and Meeting in Cantor Falkow Lounge
Led by Sarah Artzi

After the conclusion of the High Holy Days, join us for a lay-led session to help us gather feedback about our services and programs over the fall holidays. Moderated by Board member Sarah Artzi, we're hoping for a broad cross-section of our membership, so please consider joining us and bringing a friend!



Medinat Yisrael: The Book Club

Wednesdays, Sept 16, Oct 21, ongoing
6:00 to 8:00 pm

Location given with RSVP

Join Eva Kvaloesund to delve into the rich world of literature concerning the State of Israel, its triumphs and woes, its people(s) and its challenges.

Once a month, the club will meet to discuss a few chapters of the month's book, and learn more about the topic of the book in depth. If you've ever read an article about Israel and thought you're missing some of the story? This space is for you. Let's learn together!



Read It and Meet

Please join Sisterhood in Rabbi Breger Hall following Shabbat Morning Services for Read It and Meet to discuss a wide variety of books by Jewish authors and/or about Jewish themes.



October 10 *Heart of a Stranger: An Unlikely Rabbi's Story of Faith, Identity, and Belonging* by Angela Buchdahl

November 7 *Button Man* by Andrew Gross

December 12 *Fifth Avenue Glamour Girl* by Renée Rosen

January 9 *On Her Own* by Lihi Lapid

February 6 *Vera, Or Faith* by Gary Shteyngart

March 6 *Uncomfortable Conversations With a Jew*
by Emmanuel Acho & Noa Tishby

April 3 *Isola* by Allegra Goodman

Adult Programs

Mah Jongg Open Play

Wednesdays from 1:00 to 3:30 pm

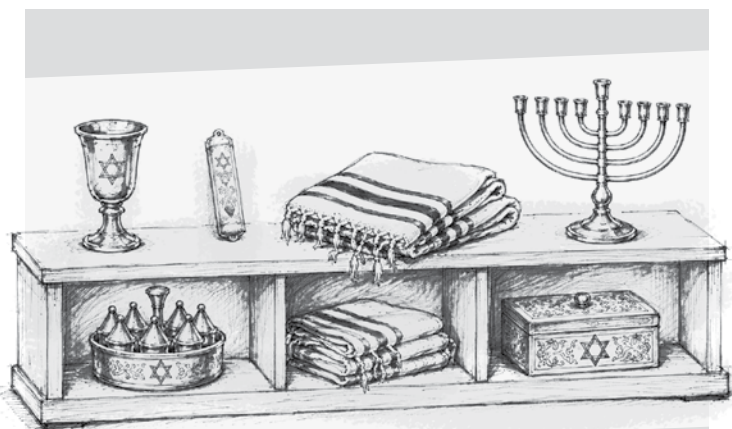
Free, open to all, all levels welcome. Come join the fun!



From Bubbe's Kitchen

October 18 • 9:30 am

Bake, bond, and do a mitzvah! Join our CAI Bubbles as we fill the freezer with homemade treats for the community. Open to all adult members Upcoming dates: 11/8, 1/10/27, 2/14/27, 3/28/27, 5/2/27.



Women's League

Judaica Gift Shop

We have all your Judaica needs covered for the Shabbat, Holidays, and every day!

Check out our selection of Shabbat, holiday & festival ritual items, mezuzot & kosher scrolls, jewelry, candles & candleholders, tallitot, kippot, and a huge variety of gifts for family & friends of all ages!

New Hours:

Tuesday & Thursday: 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Wednesday: 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Friday: 8:00 am – 10:00 am

Shop online at JudaicaTucson.com

Community Programs

AgeWell Day

October 25 • 8am-2 pm • \$5

Location provided upon registration

AgeWell Day is a local community event for adults 65+ featuring fitness classes, art workshops, resource expo, and a healthy lunch. It is organized by the Jewish Philanthropies of Southern Arizona alongside local community partners. For more information contact Allisa Noel anoel@jparizona.org to register jparizona.org/agewell2026.



Partners Tucson

Building Jewish Community

One Conversation at a Time

Connect, expand, deepen, share, build, grow! Partners Tucson is designed for Jewish people of all backgrounds and experiences to explore perspectives through meaningful conversation in pairs, using the teachings of Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks (z"l). Together, we can shape a shared destiny, ultimately creating a better now and future for Jewish life. No prior knowledge or experience is needed—just curiosity and openness to connect with someone new.

Program Dates and Topics

September 17: The Home We Build Together

October 15: The People of the Book

bit.ly/tucsonjpartnerstucson

Donate to Project Isaiah

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

Project Isaiah was conceived and initiated by the Conservative Movement.

We will be accepting new, unopened food donations in the Lynne Falkow-Strauss Foyer of the administrative wing through **Friday, SEPTEMBER 18**. 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 5:45 pm on *Kol Nidre*, Sunday, **SEPTEMBER 20**. Please bring your food donations to the donation boxes by the main sanctuary entrance on your way to services.

Sukkot Events

Family & Community Shabbat/ Sukkot Dinner

Friday, September 25

Shabbat Evening and Sukkot Service 5:45 pm

Dinner 7:00 pm

Join us for our Family Shabbat and Sukkot services, followed by a delicious Shabbat dinner with dessert in the Sukkah with your congregational family. Scan the QR Code (right) to register for the dinner.



Shabbat, First & Second Day of Sukkot Services

Saturday, September 26

Sunday, September 27

9:30 am in the Rabbi Eisen Beit Midrash and on Zoom Followed by Kiddush in the Sukkah.

B'Yahad & USY Sukkah Hop!

Sunday, September 27 at 6:30 pm

B'Yahad and USY families! Check out Sukkot in our community as we "hop" to different Sukkot for a festive dinner together! More information to come!

Shomrei Torah Members Event

Monday, September 28 at 7:00 pm

With gratitude for their generous support of Congregation Anshei Israel, *Shomrei Torah* members are invited to a special Sukkot gathering at the Metz home.

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

Sip, Schmooze, & Shake!

Young Adult Sukkah Night

Tuesday, September 29

7:00 pm in the Anshei Israel Sukkah

Young adults are invited to the Anshei Israel sukkah for festive cocktails and mocktails, friends, and a chance to shake the lulav and etrog.

Sisterhood Sukkot Event

Thursday, October 1 • 6:00–7:30 pm

See Page 9 for Details

Hoshanah Rabbah Service

Friday, October 2 • 7:00 am

Shabbat and Shemini Atzeret Yahrzeit Plaque Dedication

Saturday, October 3 • 9:30 am 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. 11:00 am. Please join us for this service and meaningful dedication.



Erev Simchat Torah Service with Hakafot

Saturday, October 3 • 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary

Processions with the Torah Scrolls & Adult Torah Trivia Tournament.

Family Simchat Torah Service with Hakafot & Torah Roll-Out

Sunday, October 4

9:30 am Rabbi Eisen Beit Midrash and Zoom

Followed by a Kiddush Lunch.



Catching Up

See what great events you may have missed

Our Summer of Fun Programs were a huge success. From Gelato Tasting, to Bingo, to Trivia, everyone had a great time. Watch your emails from more great social events.



Catching Up

See what great events you may have missed

Top Row: This summer, Rabbi Metz joined her family and congregants at Camp Ramah Galim in Northern California. **Middle:** glass artist Jami Gan led a workshop where we prepared glass platters, which Jami fired in her kiln. **Bottom Row:** Coffee & Crafts with Rabbi Metz was a huge success. Due to popular demand, **Craftermornings** are now ongoing craft get-togethers. See page 9 for details.



Catching Up

See what great events you may have missed

Left Column: Preschoolers and their parents enjoyed a festive July 4th BBQ Celebration. **Right Column:** Zamru & Dr. Stephen Aronoff from the Fuchsberg Jerusalem Center spent Shabbat with us as musicians-in-residence. Through music, learning, laughter, and prayer, our community came together in such a meaningful way. Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped create such a special Shabbat.



Births

Celebrating a birth, and want to share it with the congregation? Please notify Amber at (520) 745-5550, ext. 225 or ExecAssist@caiaz.org



Magnolia Grace Farber

Born On: April 2, 2026

Parents: Lauren & Sam Farber

Siblings: Harrison and Eleanor Farber

Grandfather: Elliott Farber

Anniversaries

September

Date..... Years

- 1..... M. Elizabeth Uriarte & Raziell Levidis 5 years
- 1..... Kathleen & Craig Canter 41 years
- 1..... Robin & Michael Kaiserman 58 years**
- 2..... Beth & Adam Kaye 31 years
- 3..... Lois & Kenneth Jacowsky 62 years**
- 3..... Alene & Bryan Schwartz 60 years**
- 4..... Bonnie Sedlmayr-Emerson & Randy Emerson 50 years**
- 4..... Hedy Feuer & Michael Perlman 20 years
- 5..... Rochelle Abell & Dan Weisz 50 years**
- 5..... Sandra & William Yalen 61 years**
- 8..... Lynne Falkow-Strauss & Jack Strauss 58 years**
- 12.... Victoria Newman & Allen Gordon 10 years
- 17.... Carole & Art Glass 66 years**
- 20.... Judy & Michael Dorf 57 years**
- 21.... Carol & Charles Sumner 64 years**

October

- 1..... Cynthia Bower & David Lieberthal 32 years
- 4..... Sandy & Barry Thall 56 years**
- 9..... Teri & Ole Thienhaus 45 years
- 9..... Stacy & Adam Klein 32 years
- 10.... Anette & Leonard Hamm 22 years
- 12.... Katherine & Aaron Leonard 30 years
- 15.... Marci & Allen Davis 15 years
- 19.... Julia & Daniel Elitzer 12 years
- 23.... Shelley & Steven Singer 43 years
- 25.... Brenda & Daniel Fredman 7 years
- 26 ... Michele & Lawrence Cassen 23 years
- 26 ... Judith & Charles Schultz 46 years
- 29 ... Dvora Tager & Robert Dietz 37 years
- 29 ... Carina Bien-Willner & Matthew Reichman 15 years
- 29 ... Mindy & Allen Bergman 26 years

Welcome New Members:

Nancy & Mark Bishop
David Marsa



Candle Lighting Times for Shabbat & Yom Tov

September 4	6:25 pm
September 11 (Erev Rosh Hashanah).....	6:16 pm
September 12 (Erev Rosh Hashanah II)	7:10 pm
September 18	6:07 pm
September 20 (Yom Kippur)	6:04 pm
September 25 (Erev Sukkot I)	5:57 pm
September 26 (Erev Sukkot II)	6:51 pm
October 2 (Shemini Atzeret)	5:48 pm
October 3 (Simchat Torah)	6:42 pm
October 9	5:39 pm
October 16	5:31 pm
October 23	5:23 pm
October 30	5:16 pm

Know Someone New to Tucson?



If you know someone new to the Tucson community who you believe would be interested in learning about CAI, please call Debra Lytle at (520) 745-5550, ext. 242, so we can speak to them about all of the many spiritual, educational, and social opportunities our synagogue has to offer!

CAI is participating in the



This raffle is unique because we sell tickets and CAI keeps 100% of the money! By purchasing ticket(s), **YOU** can help raise much-needed funds for CAI and **YOU** could **win** a 2025 Kia Carnival Hybrid SX Prestige, airline tickets or cash!

TICKETS: \$25 each or 5 for \$100

Scan the QR Code, visit the Administrative Office Front Desk or caiaz.org through November 25, 2026.



Drawing will be held Dec. 4, 2026.

*Good luck, and thank you for supporting
Congregation Anshei Israel!*

DONATIONS

Our Donation Form

is at the Front Desk
in the Administrative Office
AND
at caiaz.org
Notification cards are
sent for donations of
\$18 or more.

SAFETY & SECURITY FUND

In Memory of:

Mother, Joan
Suzanne Belzer
Friend, Ruth Kolker
Ziva Mason

In Honor of:

Mother, Chaya Jurkowitz's
80th Birthday
Dan and Lisa Jurkowitz

General Contributions:

Rosario Santini de Leal

ART FUND

In Memory of:

Mother, Ann Cole
Cousin, Lucille Goldstone
Janet Seltzer
Mother, Sara
Stephen Seltzer

PHYLLIS BROAD & BELLA FINGERETT ISRAEL TRIPS/ SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In Memory of:

Mother, Phyllis Broad
Amy & Robert Direnfeld

RABBI MARCUS BREGER- ADULT STUDIES FUND

In Memory of:

Father, Harry Goldstein
Husband, Sheldon
Rita Dreebin
Father, Julius
Grandfather, Isaac
Arlene Leaf

CAMP RAMAH FUND

HONORING: Bea & James Cole,
Ses & Maurice Cohen, Joseph
Kall And Marjorie & Archie
Mendelsohn

In Memory of:

Mother, Charlotte Koff
Rowena Snyder

CANTORIAL SOLOIST NICHOLE CHORNY DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Appreciation of:

Nichole Chorny
Elliott Farber

CONGREGATIONAL FUND

In Memory of:

Mother, Bertha Yaffee
Myra Backner
Mother, Sylvia Smith
Susan Ellenberg
Mother, Shirley Goodman
Elaine Fagan
Mother, Esther
Stanley Feldman
Mother, Susan
Eric Tobin
Father, Morris "Mac" Benisch
Robyn Benisch Emmerson
Father, Rudolf Hershan
Husband, Allan
Lisa Grabell
Father, Sam
Brother, Barry
Gloria Hirsch
Father, Meyer Neuman
Rosie Kahn
Father, George Boritzer
Yael Neuman
Father, Carvel Wolfson
Jane Poliakoff
Father, Max
Patricia Zarin
Father-in-law, Lou Pacifici
Grandmother, Yetta Meshel
Grandfather, Henry Meshel
Husband, Leslie
Friend, Art Weinenger
Lois Bodin
Grandfather, Morris
Emlee Silverman
Wife, Ruth
Dr. Ronald Kolker
Sister, Sherril Sussman
Sue Ross
Brother-in-law, Bernard Simon
David Canterman
Marilyn Sodomsky
Joan & Richard Green

In Honor of:

The engagement of Benjamin
Gray, son of Margo & Ron
Gray, to Meg Parker
Marianne Langer
Jane Kivel's Birthday
Diane Bart
Ari Espinoza
Lois Bodin
The birth of Luca Issac Blitzer,
grandson of Marsha &
Charles Blitzer
The birth of Bob Cohen's
great-great-granddaughter
The engagement of Benjamin
Gray, son of Margo &
Ron Gray, to Meg Parker
The birth of Charles Douglas
Smith, grandson of Joyce
& Michael Smith
The engagement of Leah
Mann, daughter of
Rebecca & Ronald Mann,
to Daniel Jablansky
Joan & Richard Green
Gabbie Rotenberg's
Bat Mitzvah
Beverly & Ken Sandock
Grandson, Charlie
Joyce & Michael Smith
Grandchildren, Shayla Tobin,
Sadie Guyshan & Ari Tobin
Eric Tobin
In Appreciation of:
Debra Lytle
Dennis Dawson
General Contributions:
Diane DuBose
Alan S. Eisenberg
Brina Grusin
**RABBI ROBERT EISEN
DISCRETIONARY FUND**
In Memory of:
Mother, Rose Strauss
Jane Klein
Husband, Sidney
Lorraine Hellring
**GILO B'NAI MITZVAH
TWINNING FUND**
In Appreciation of:
Terri & David Polan
Marilyn Einstein & Steve Sim

KIDDUSH FUND

In Memory of:

Mother, Lillian Goldwyn
Husband, William
Joyce Becker
Husband, Sidney
Lorraine Hellring

General Contributions:

Lisa Ungar & Bob Fridrich

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DEBRA LYTLE DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Memory of:

Mother, Sarah bat Nachum
V'Sima
Ziva Mason

In Honor of:

The engagement of Benjamin
Gray, son of Margo &
Ron Gray, to Meg Parker
Evelyn Sigafus

In Appreciation of:

Debra Lytle
Anna & Myron Rottenstein

RABBI SARA METZ DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Memory of:

Mother, Jane Goldsmith
Barbara Schoenhals
Mother, Sara Koff
Sharon Klein
Father, Robert
Allen Bergman
Grandmother, Guadalupe
Dorame Carrillo
Brenda Fredman
Brother, Marshall
Scott Gan

In Honor of:

Margo & Ron Gray
Barbara & Michael Schoenhals

In Appreciation of:

Rabbi Metz
Elliott Farber

General Contributions:

Dennis Dawson

MUSIC & CHOIR FUND

General Contributions:

Lisa Ungar & Bob Fridrich

**RABBI ARTHUR OLEISKY
EDUCATION & YOUTH FUND****In Memory of:**

*Mother, Shirley
Sy & Dee Goodman*

*Father, Stanley
David Scott*

*Husband, Paul
Bridget Ash*

*Husband, Alan
Leatrice Cohen*

*Husband, Stanley
Betty Scott*

In Honor of:

*The engagement of Benjamin
Gray, son of Margo &
Ron Gray, to Meg Parker
Linda Silverman*

**PRAYER BOOK & RITUAL
OBJECTS FUND****In Memory of:**

*Mother, Esther
Nedra Katz*

*Father, Morris Roth
Bettie Baker*

In Honor of:

*The engagement of Benjamin
Gray, son of Margo &
Ron Gray, to Meg Parker
Lisa Ungar & Bob Fridrich*

General Contributions:

Lisa Ungar & Bob Fridrich

**ABNER SEGAL LANDSCAPE
FUND****In Memory of:**

*Father, Abner Segal
Barbara Goldberg*

*Father, Monroe
Dr. Gerald Goldberg*

*Aunt, Hadasa Bat Dov
Ziva Mason*

**NORMAN SHAPIRO
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND****In Memory of:**

*Mother, Rose Levin
Phyllis Gold*

**MOLLY & HYMAN SHENITZER
YOM TOV FUND****In Memory of:**

*Grandfather, Morris Becker
Amy Platizky & Beth Becker*

TORAH READERS FUND**In Memory of:**

*Father, Samuel
William Pearlman*

**BEIT MIDRASH RESTRICTED
FUND****In Memory of:**

*Mother, Fannie Neiditch
Pepper
Vicki and Phillip Pepper*

U.S.Y. TEEN FUND**In Memory of:**

*Mother, Joan Kleinman
Monique Mensch*

*Mother, Roselyn Dumes
Patricia Zarin*

*Father, Myer "Mike" Langert
Richard & Peggy Langert*

Mother, Blanch Rubinstein

Father, Louis Rubinstein

Husband, Jerry Pearl

*Brother, Mark Rubinstein
Beverly Pearl*

**B'YAHAD-RELIGIOUS
SCHOOL FUND****In Memory of:**

*Father, Harold
David Dray*

*Father, Daniel Waitzman
Karen Lazarow*

In Appreciation of:

*Jim Frisch
Lauren, Michael & Rachel
Grossman*

LINDA ROY USY FUND**In Memory of:**

*Father, Isidore
Judith Sonkin*

Brother, Samuel Elpern

*Brother-in-law, Irwin "Tiny"
Sorale Fortman*



KONA
POOLS.CO

- New Builds & Renovations
- Weekly Service & Maintenance
- Tile Cleaning & Repairs
- New Equipment & Repairs

520-308-8486
info@konapoolservice.com

ROC #338889
LICENSED, BONDED, INSURED

CAI Family Owned

Judaica Exchange

Save the Date
Sunday, November 22nd



*Donate online at our secure website.
Scan the QR Code (right) and fill out
the online form.*



Community Notes

Thank You!

Gabbaim

Lois Bodin, Phil Bregman, Ron Gray, Lisa Jurkowitz, Rosie Kahn, Vicki Pepper, and Steve Singer

Proofreaders

Judy Schultz, Linda Silverman, and Dawn Steinberg

Yad Squad

(Those who read Torah & Haftarah in June & July)

Charles Blitzer, Andy Douglas, Ari Espinoza, Hillary Goldstein, Margo Gray, Richard Green, Michael Haber, Adeline Horst, Mike Jacobson, Lisa Jurkowitz, Eva Kvaloesund, Ziva Mason, Phillip Pepper, and Joy Peskin

Kiddush Sponsors

*Thank you to the following families
for sponsoring our Kiddushim*

(6-13-26 to 8- 8-26)

Brina Grusin & Family in memory grandparents, Gertrude & Sigmund Galler, & sister Nancy Nagy

Elaine & Howard Fagan & Jerry Barkan & Kathy Hays in honor of their Wedding Anniversaries

Deborah Oseran & Bobby Present in honor of Bobby's birthday and sister & brother-in-law's anniversary

Mo & Sharon Barkan in honor of their 43rd wedding anniversary

Irit Maor & Greg Weed in honor of daughter, Arava becoming a Bat Mitzvah

Holly & Steve Shenitzer in honor of great-nephew Ayden Cher becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Joyce Becker, in memory of mother Lillian Goldwyn

Mindy Hirsh in memory of husband, Fred

Share your Simcha!

Become a Kiddush sponsor!

Sponsorships will be acknowledged in eblasts, during services, and in the Kolenu.

Please contact Kim Miller at EdAsst@caiaz.org to reserve a date to sponsor a future *kiddush*.

A FREE Senior Placement Service

Assisted Living, Memory Care, Independent Living



SERENITY (520) 520-991-0151
SENIOR SERVICES OR (520) 301-4455



Over 40 years healthcare industry experience!

info@serenityss.com • www.serenityss.com

YVONNE G. ACUNA • DANNY KLEIN

THE ONLY NAME FOR REAL ESTATE

Madeline



Reddington Ranch Estates!

13630 E Sahuaro Sunset Road

Range Price \$1,000,000 to \$1,200,000

Seller will consider offers between \$1,000,000 and \$1,200,000. Imagine a gated community w/ stables, tennis, pool, & a pond, this is Reddington Ranch Estates, set in the serene Tanque Verde Valley. This 4Br, 3Ba 3612 sqft hilltop Santa Fe spans 3.2 acres of natural desert beauty and offers breathtaking panoramic mnt views and city light vistas.

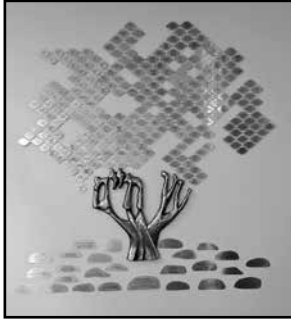
MADELINE FRIEDMAN
VICE PRESIDENT, ABR, CRS, GRI

520.907.4141

WWW.TUCSONAZHOMES.COM
TUCSONHOMEFINDER@AOL.COM



Community Notes



Congregation Anshei Israel's 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 their 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. Scan the QR Code (right) to purchase on our secure website.



Condolences

המקום ינחם אתכם

The congregation mourns the loss of our member:

*Evelyn Sigafus,
Past President*

Our condolences to those who mourn the loss of their loved ones:

Michelle Sigafus, Mother Evelyn

**May the Author of Life
Comfort the Mourners**

Anshei Israel Memorial Hall

Installation of a memorial plaque is a beautiful way to perpetuate the memory of a loved one. Each year on the anniversary of your loved one's death, the synagogue will send you a reminder of the Yahrzeit and light the light adjacent to their memorial plaque. Call Debra at (520) 745-5550, ext. 242, or scan the QR Code (right) to make arrangements or if you wish to reserve a space for the future.



High Holy Days Tickets

Reminder - High Holy Days Tickets will be available for pick up at the first service you attend. Visit the Security Tent to pick up your tickets.



For High Holy Days Service Information

*Visit our Website at
CAIAZ.org/hhd
Or, scan the QR code:*



Looking for an easy way to see everything happening this month?

*Check out our Monthly Calendar on our website for our current offerings.
Scan the qr code or visit caiaz.org/events-calendar*





Congregation Anshei Israel
5550 East 5th Street
Tucson, AZ 85711
caiaz.org

BOARD PRESIDENT

Richard Green

PRESIDENT ELECT

Sarah Artzi

VICE PRESIDENT

Nancy Ozeri

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Allen Gordon

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Jonathan Green

TRUSTEES

Charles Blitzer
Michele Cassen
Ari Espinoza
Tracy Jeck
Lei Lei
Beth McGinnis
Josh Melson
Joy Peskin
Kala Phelps
Brooke Rabe
Dawn Steinberg

LIFE TRUSTEES

Ron Gray
Jane Kivel
Steve Shenitzer
Steve Spitzer

HONORARY TRUSTEES

Alice & Paul Baker
Vicki & Phillip Pepper
Enid Zuckerman

PAST PRESIDENTS

COUNCIL CHAIR

Dan Jurkowitz

PAST PRESIDENTS*

Dan Asia
Phil Bregman
Richard Fink
Madeline Friedman
Ron Gray
Jonathan Green
Leonard Joffe
Ronald Kolker
Dan Jurkowitz
Phillip Pepper
Vicki Pepper
David Polan
Bobby Present
Stephanie Roberts
Steven Shenitzer
Steve Spitzer

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

Address Service Requested

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 333
Tucson, Arizona

Kolenu is published bi-monthly September–August. The deadline for all submissions is the first day of the month prior to the publication month. Ad placement & editing of submissions at CAI's discretion. For more information, contact the office at (520) 745-5550.

Here we are! הִנֵּנוּ Hinenu!

As we approach the High Holy Days, we are reminded that showing up matters. Hinenu!, “here we are”, together as a community. Congregation Anshei Israel is here to provide spiritual, educational, and social connection, and that work depends on all of us.

This year's High Holy Days Appeal invites every member to help sustain our congregation. Your support makes it possible for our clergy, staff, volunteers, and lay leaders to create meaningful worship, learning, programs, and community throughout the year.

Please give what you can. Maybe this year it is a little more; maybe it is a little less. What matters is that we show up for one another and make our presence felt.

Hinenu. Here we are. Together.

Andy & Valorie Douglas
High Holy Days Appeal Chairs

הִנֵּנוּ
Here
Hinenu
We Are

**Scan to make
your secure
online gift**

