



אור חדש

New Light Congregation

5915 Beacon Street, Pittsburgh PA 15217 • 412-421-1017 • info@newlightcongregation.org

New Light News October 2020

A Word from the Rabbi

Sukkot is a social holiday. If Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur are the “Hi” Holidays, then Sukkot is the holiday where you pull up a chair inside someone’s sukkah and drink a “l’chayyim” to a healthy year and eat yourself silly. Of course, the Rabbis did not envision a global pandemic and social restrictions to boot. Maybe we can make our sukkahs bigger this year? In keeping with the spirit of guests in the sukkah, the Perlman family would like to invite all of you to a virtual visit to our sukkah this year. On **Tuesday, October 6th** between the hours of 5:30 and 6:30 PM, we would like you accept our zoom invitation to enter our sukkah virtually! We will give you a tour of our 30 year old sukkah with its posters and photos. We will entertain questions and share explanations. You can chat with your New Light friends (everyone will be unmuted). We will even send you a special gift so we can make a “l’hayyim” together.

In the ancient world, Sukkot was the “the supreme holiday.” Not only was it filled with more symbols than any other holiday, pilgrims made their way to Jerusalem to visit the holy temple. You can still see this today (on a non-Covid year) where people from around the country come for one of the seven days of Sukkot to pray at the Kotel. In the morning, you can see the kohanim make their way to the front of the plaza next to the wall. They all turn towards to the throngs behind them, put tallitot over their heads, and make the special kohain blessing. In ancient Israel, the air was filled with the smell of burning flesh as the kohanim would pile more and more animals on top of the altar.

Finally, Sukkot was all about praying for rain so that pilgrims could return to their farms and anticipate a good harvest later that year. For this year, I would add to our Hallel prayers a special urgency for God to destroy this terrible virus and help us discover a vaccine or cure that will usher in a 5781 to be thankful for.

Hag Sameach!

Rabbi

To attend the virtual visit please **register with Janet, janet@newlightcongregation.org or 412.512.0949**. We will use the same Zoom connection we use for Shabbat. If you don’t have that connection Janet will provide it when you register.

Board Meeting

The next board meeting is Monday, October 5th at 7:00 PM. The Zoom connection is the same as for Shabbat services.

October Presidents' Report

We hope that everyone had a healthy and safe New Year. New Light was the only Conservative or Reform congregation in Pittsburgh to hold services both in-person and online. All and all, the technology worked as planned.

Looking forward to October (and November) there are several big events being planned.

Under the leadership of the 10.27 Healing Partnership and the able efforts of Gerry Tessler, plans are being made for the 2nd Year Commemoration of the synagogue shooting. Tentative plans call for:

- A **“Day of Service”** scheduled for **Sunday, October 25th**. More than twelve agencies have agreed to host volunteers to assist their activities. The list will be published and sign-up required online. See page 5 for the invitation from Repair the World with additional information..
- **Torah Study**: These eight virtual classes will be offered on **Tuesday, October 27th** in the afternoon, **Wednesday, November 4th** in the evening, and on **Thursday, November 5th** in the afternoon. Again, pre-registration is required.
- **Commemoration Service**: A pre-recorded Facebook Live video will be presented on **Tuesday, October 27th** at 7:00 PM. The video will include a video montage of the congregation as well as the lives taken.
- **Morning Minyan**: A joint three congregation service will be held **Thursday, November 5th** at 8:00 AM. Plans to be announced as to whether it will be hybrid or just zoom.

In addition, we are planning several New Light dedications that week. Each will be a hybrid service – on zoom and in-person.

- On **Saturday, November 7th** during Shabbat services we will unveil the new Memorial Board dedicated to Rich Gottfried, Dan Stein and Mel Wax in Helfant Chapel.
- (*Tentative date*) On **Sunday, November 8th** at the cemetery we will dedicate and unveil the Memorial Monument dedicated to Rich Gottfried, Dan Stein and Mel Wax. Once confirmed we will provide details.

New Light Memorial Chapel at the Cemetery: The renovation of the garage into a Memorial Chapel continues apace. It is possible that construction could be almost complete by early November. When complete, the Chapel, also dedicated to Rich Gottfried, Mel Wax and Daniel Stein, will have two bathrooms and an open area for services or gatherings. The Memorial Boards currently in storage will be hung. Even if not complete, the heated chapel will be open during the unveiling ceremony.

Barbara & Stephen

October Birthdays

Carol Black
Michael Neft
Karen Shapiro
Rabbi Perlman

Sukkot Schedule of Services and Events

- **Erev Sukkot, Friday, October 2nd, 7:00 PM**
Helfant Chapel *and* Zoom
- **Day 1/Shabbat, Saturday, October 3rd, 9:45 AM**
Helfant Chapel *and* Zoom
- **Day 2, Sunday, October 4th, 9:00 AM**
We are invited to join Beth Shalom's outdoor service. Attendance limited to 50 people. You must register on the Beth Shalom website. (link below this bulleted list)
- **Virtual Sukkah Visit** with the Perlman family, **Tuesday, October 6th, 5:30-6:30 PM**
- **Hoshanah Rabbah Morning Minyan, October 9th, 7:00 AM**
We are invited to join Beth Shalom's outdoor service. Attendance limited to 50 people. You must register on the Beth Shalom website.
- **Shmini Atzeret, Saturday, October 10th. 9:45 AM – Yizkor at 11:30 AM**
Helfant Chapel *and* Zoom
- **Simchat Torah, Sunday, October 11th, 9:45 AM.** Plans are in progress, details will be announced soon.

*To attend any services in person in Helfant chapel you **MUST REGISTER** by contacting Janet at janet@newlightcongregation.org or 412.512.0949. You can also register online at <https://newlightcongregation.org/shabbat-registration/>.*

*To attend Beth Shalom's outdoor services you **MUST REGISTER** at <http://bethshalompgh.org/religious-services>*

Shabbat Services Reminder

We continue with the hybrid model of holding services in person in Helfant Chapel and via Zoom. Use the same Zoom connection for all Helfant services. You **MUST REGISTER** with Janet *each week* you plan to attend in person. Pandemic restrictions are still in place: masks must be worn, a distance of at least 6' maintained, do not attend if you or a member of your household is ill or if you suspect you have been exposed to Covid.

If you do not already have the Zoom connection contact Janet or register at <https://newlightcongregation.org/shabbat-registration/>

Returning Mahzors

Now that the holidays are over please return the Mahzor you borrowed. These books are no longer in print so it's important to return them. You can either:

- Drop them off at the Cohen porch at 6355 Waldron Street. Please check off your name on the list that will be on the porch or, for contactless drop off, insert a note with your name into the book(s) so that we can keep track of the returns.
- If you cannot drop off your book please contact Janet to arrange for a pickup.

Bound in the Bond of Life

Pittsburgh Writers Reflect on the Tree of Life Tragedy

edited by Beth Kisseleff and Eric Lidji

This new anthology of essays of local journalists, spiritual leaders, academics and others reflect on their experiences to tell “a collective story of a city shaken to its very core, but determined that love will ultimately win.”

The book is available for purchase at Classic Lines Bookstore in Squirrel Hill. A portion of the sale of this book will go to JFCS.

The Post Gazette's Tony Norman interviewed Beth about the anthology:

<https://www.post-gazette.com/business/career-workplace/2020/09/28/Beth-Kissileff-writer-Tree-of-Life-trauma/stories/202009200033>

We look forward to planning an online event to discuss the book with Beth, Eric and others - books may also be purchased when we do that. Details TBA.

Enjoy Books

Please contact Sharyn Stein at 412.512.5231 or sshop47@aol.com if you would like to purchase an Enjoy Book.

Joyce Fienberg Book Group

The next book group meeting will be on Wednesday, October 14th at 7:30 PM via Zoom.

The book is Next Year in Havana, by Chanel Cleeton.

Zoom info is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84112023766>

Reminders

- To purchase Memorial Plaques, Simcha Tree Leaves or Stones contact Ileen Portnoy 412-683-7985
- To purchase bricks for our “Garden of Freedom” contact Barbara Caplan 412-521-4332
- To purchase Giant Eagle gift cards contact Marilyn Honigsberg at 412-521-7174
- For information on our cemetery contact Stephen Cohen at 412-421-3999

NEW LIGHT CONGREGATION

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412-421-1017

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Rabbi	Jonathan Perlman	412-904-3601	Simcha Tree &	Ileen Portnoy	412-683-7985
Co-President/Social VP/ & Yahrzeit	Barbara Caplan	412-521-4332	Memorial Plaques		
Co-President	Stephen Cohen	412-421-3999	Cemetery	Stephen Cohen	412-421-3999
Membership	Debbi Salvin	724-444-6324	Religious Committee	Carl Solomon	412-421-2165
Sisterhood	Sharyn Stein	412-521-5231	Recording Secretary	Ileen Portnoy	412-683-7985
Men's Club	Harold Caplan	412-521-4332	Corresponding Secretary	Janet Cohen	412-512-0949
Onegs	Hugh Casper	412-421-7619	Calendar	Janet Cohen	412-512-0949
Treasurer	Harold Caplan	412-521-4332	Yahrzeits	Barbara Caplan	412-521-4332
			Website	Stephen Cohen	412-421-3999

INVITATION TO DAY OF SERVICE 10/25/20 IN HONOR OF LIVES LOST

9/29/20

Hello Community:

We hope the New Year and Rosh Hashanah have brought some peace and that you all had a safe and meaningful Yom Kippur. We are writing to invite you to register for a day of service on 10/25/20: Remember, Reflect, in Spirit and Action.

This year, [Repair the World Pittsburgh](#) is planning a community-wide day of service on 10/25/2020: Remember, Reflect in Spirit and Action in collaboration with the 10.27 Healing Partnership. We hope to continue the amazing work from last year when over 750 people were able to engage in community service throughout the city in remembrance of the tragic event that occurred on 10/27/18 which impacted the three congregations worshipping in Pittsburgh: Dor Hadash, Tree of Life *Or L'Simcha, and New Light.

This year's service activities will take place throughout the day on **Sunday, October 25, 2020**. Virtual and in-person activities are available. All activities will follow [CDC guidelines](#) and best practices around COVID safety. Program offerings will prioritize response to urgent needs, such as food distribution and community care, or meeting outdoors for physically-distanced community gardening or cemetery clean-ups.

To honor and commemorate the lives lost on 10/27/18, we are announcing registration for the upcoming day of service to families and the three congregations most directly impacted first. Registration will be live on our website on [9/30/20](#). After this, we will announce the public registration to the greater community on [Tuesday October 6, 2020](#).

Listed are the organizations and volunteer projects that will be available to choose from. Registration is available at www.werepair.org/pittsburgh. Scroll down to the section that says "Opportunities" and register for any of the offerings for October 25th, 2020 to be part of the Day of Service.

Here is the list of offerings you can register for online:

- **Vitalant:** Virtual (appointments from 8 AM - 2 PM) donating blood
- **Sheridan Avenue Orchard:** In-Person (9 - 10 AM, 11 AM - 12 PM): Community gardening to benefit East End Cooperative Ministry Food Pantry
- **Global Links:** In Person (10 AM - 12PM): Sorting and Packing Medical Supplies for under-resourced communities
- **Repair Family Service Corps:** virtual (TBD) Assembling dental hygiene kits for Foster Love Project with 10.27 Healing Partnership
- **Hillel Academy:** virtual (10 AM -11:30 AM) Making cards
- **NCJW** in person (10:00AM-11:30AM) children's book labeling for children in courtrooms
- **Jewish Cemetery and Burial Association of Greater Pittsburgh:** In-Person. (10 AM - 12 PM; 2 PM - 4 PM) Cemetery clean-up - We will be sweeping sets of steps, collecting tree branches that have fallen, and performing overall clean-up at two JCBA cemeteries.

- **Kesher Pittsburgh:** In-Person (11 AM - 12:30 PM) Setting Seeds of Love and Hope - Together we'll paint stones with messages of love and hope. As we go our separate ways, we'll deliver them to various neighborhoods around the city, leaving them to brighten the days of all those who encounter them.
- **Family House:** In-Person (11 AM - 1:30 PM). Baking- Volunteers will be asked to bake brownies/cookies/etc for the guests and individually wrap the baked goods for guests to take with them. This will occur at two Family House Locations: Shadyside and University Place.
- **Squirrel Hill Stands Against Gun Violence & Bend the Arc: Pittsburgh:** Virtual. (Afternoon TBD) Voter Engagement Phonebank - We will call registered voters to provide them with information about their polling places and options to return their mail in ballots (if they have applied for them). We will encourage everyone to participate in Democracy and exercise their franchise.
- **Allison Park Church + Network of Hope:** In Person (afternoon TBD) Food Distribution

We are also recruiting a **Site Captain** for every service site, to co-host the service opportunity with a representative from each org. Site Captains will be coordinating with their service site to ensure all needed PPE and program supplies are there, communicating logistics to volunteer participants, supporting volunteer participation, and running service-learning reflections. Register online at <https://rpr.world/SiteCaptainVolunteer> or or contact rebecca.simon@werepair.org for questions.

It is a traditional way within the Jewish community to honor loss through community service and we hope you are able to get involved with this day of service in whatever way you'd like to. If you have any questions or concerns about the day of service, feel free to email our team.

All the Best,

Julie, Sarah, Elisha, Alix, Brenna, Becca, Alyssa, Brittney
 Repair the World Pittsburgh
PittsburghTeam@werepair.org
werepair.org/pittsburgh

New Light October 2020 13 Tishrei 5781 - 13 Cheshvan 5781

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>4</p> <p>16 TISHREI</p> <p>☀️ Succos - Day 2 Services with Beth Shalom, 9:00 AM registration required</p>	<p>5</p> <p>17 TISHREI</p> <p>☀️ Succos - First Intermediate Day</p> <p>📌 Board Meeting, 7:00 PM</p>	<p>6</p> <p>18 TISHREI</p> <p>☀️ Succos - Second Intermediate Day</p> <p>📌 Virtual Sukkah Visit, 5:30-6:30 PM</p>	<p>1</p> <p>13 TISHREI</p>	<p>2</p> <p>14 TISHREI</p> <p>🕒 6:40</p> <p>☀️ Succos - Day 1 Services, 9:45 AM</p>	<p>3</p> <p>15 TISHREI</p> <p>☀️ Succos - Day 1 Services, 9:45 AM</p>	<p>15 TISHREI</p>
<p>11</p> <p>23 TISHREI</p> <p>☀️ Simchas Torah</p>	<p>12</p> <p>24 TISHREI</p> <p>🇺🇸 Columbus Day</p>	<p>7</p> <p>19 TISHREI</p> <p>☀️ Succos - Third Intermediate Day</p>	<p>8</p> <p>20 TISHREI</p> <p>☀️ Succos - Fourth Intermediate Day</p>	<p>9</p> <p>21 TISHREI</p> <p>☀️ Succos - Fifth Intermediate Day</p> <p>📌 Hoshanah Rabbah Services, 7:00 PM</p>	<p>10</p> <p>22 TISHREI</p> <p>☀️ Shemini Atzeres Services, 9:45 AM with Yzkor</p>	<p>29 TISHREI</p>
<p>18</p> <p>30 TISHREI</p> <p>☀️ Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan - Day 1</p>	<p>19</p> <p>1 CHESHVAN</p> <p>☀️ Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan - Day 2</p>	<p>13</p> <p>25 TISHREI</p>	<p>14</p> <p>26 TISHREI</p>	<p>15</p> <p>27 TISHREI</p>	<p>16</p> <p>28 TISHREI</p> <p>🕒 6:18</p> <p>☀️ Bereishis Services, 9:45 AM</p>	<p>17</p> <p>29 TISHREI</p> <p>☀️ Bereishis Services, 9:45 AM</p>
<p>25</p> <p>7 CHESHVAN</p> <p>📌 Day of Service</p>	<p>26</p> <p>8 CHESHVAN</p>	<p>20</p> <p>2 CHESHVAN</p>	<p>21</p> <p>3 CHESHVAN</p>	<p>22</p> <p>4 CHESHVAN</p>	<p>23</p> <p>5 CHESHVAN</p> <p>🕒 6:08</p> <p>☀️ Noach Services, 9:45 AM</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6 CHESHVAN</p> <p>☀️ Noach Services, 9:45 AM</p>
<p>25</p> <p>7 CHESHVAN</p> <p>📌 Day of Service</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9 CHESHVAN</p> <p>📌 Torah Study Commemoration Service, 7:00 PM</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10 CHESHVAN</p>	<p>29</p> <p>11 CHESHVAN</p>	<p>30</p> <p>12 CHESHVAN</p> <p>🕒 5:59</p> <p>☀️ LeCh Lecha Services, 7:00 PM</p>	<p>31</p> <p>13 CHESHVAN</p> <p>☀️ LeCh Lecha Services, 9:45 AM</p>	<p>13 CHESHVAN</p>