



אור חדש

New Light Congregation

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

New Light News August 2022

A Word from the Rabbi

Dear friends,

What bothers me most about American mass shootings is the ones that target school children. Columbine, Newtown, Parkland, Uvalde, and countless other massacres at schools have all been followed by the same infuriating and callous inaction. Military-style high powered firearms are still not banned or regulated in our country. We want change; we need change. So how is change going to come about? After Buffalo and Highland Park, Illinois, it is no longer outrageous. It is horrifying. There can be, in fact, a compulsion to make one's voice loudly heard, even when a grievous and murderous wrong has proven itself to be incorrigible and impervious to all moral argument, thus dashing all hope for change and repair. My teacher Rabbi Gordon Tucker asks us to consider the prophet Jeremiah whom we read in the three weeks before Tisha B'av: "Jeremiah had no real hope for the moral dystopia that he experienced in ancient Judea. And yet, even though he had no expectation of being able to move the needle, still he cried out in utter despair."

"Why would one scream into the wind in that way? Abraham Joshua Heschel memorably described Jeremiah's voice (like that of other prophets) as being "one octave too high." What gave it that shrillness and that urgency, even given the futility of any expectation of righting the wrongs? Heschel's insight was both startling and profound: he argued that the special aptitude of the prophets was not an ability to predict the future, but rather the deep intuitive sense they had of the devastating effect that earthly injustice has on God's inner emotional life. As he put it, whoever imagines that God is unaffected by injustice by and to humans, is denying the very essence of religious faith. In this view, what caused prophets to shriek was a shattering and undeniable empathy with the suffering of the Creator. Such profound empathy is always one of the signs that a professed love of another is real love. If that is true of love between human beings, all the more so must it be true of a love of God."

When Tisha B'Av comes in the calendar, we are alert to our national day of mourning that goes beyond the horror of the destruction of the Jerusalem Temple. How could a place of peace and such sanctity crumble to the fire and strikes of the enemy? In the days following the destruction in 70 CE (through the Jewish War of 132 to 135 CE), many Jewish lives were lost, murdered by the Roman armies. It was a Holocaust of its own with more than 580,000 Jews killed. In their day they called it "the Hurban" ("utter destruction"). The name of Jerusalem was changed to Aelia Capitolina and Jews were banned from ever settling the holy basin ever again.

On this day of mourning, I mourn for God and think of Jeremiah. We must think of the children and not shirk our responsibility as Jews to bring love to our world.

Rabbi

Presidents' Report

With the heat of summer behind us and the Steeler training camp opening in Latrobe, the sounds of the shofar will soon be echoing throughout Squirrel Hill. Summer goes too fast.

During July New Light hosted a three part lecture series, "Pittsburgh is Our Home". There were over 40 attendees in person and on zoom for each of the lectures. Irrelevant but interesting facts: When a shul was named "shalom", it often meant that two factions had settled their disputes and were now joined together "in peace"; and that said disputes were no different in the early twentieth century compared to today: ritual observance vs assimilation. Or, that the owner of the Pirates, Barney Dreyfuss, got his start distilling bourbon in Louisville and got into baseball as a hobby. His biggest nemesis once he bought the Pirates was City Hall! Pirates tickets (and jobs) were viewed as patronage plums by the Republican administration that ran the city! Or that Sophie Masloff, the accidental mayor, was actually hand-picked by Richard Caliguiri to succeed him?

As the series was well received, we hope to have a new set of lectures in November, after the holidays.

We continue to make progress at the Memorial Chapel at the cemetery. The original contractor has agreed (and paid us) for the cost of replacing the HVAC system. By the time you read this the new system should be installed and running smoothly. The inside memorial items are also making progress. We visited Hunt Studios and saw the full scale art for the door and window and helped pick out pieces of colored glass to be used. We also visited the contractor who is building the history wall. Both the wall and stained glass should be installed well before Rosh Hashanah. We are beginning to make tentative plans for an official opening in October.

Look to your mail in the next two weeks for complete High Holy Day information. Like last year, it will be in-person and on zoom. As a reminder, our COVID policy is "mask optional."

See you all at the picnic under the tent in the parking lot on Sunday, August 28 at 5PM!

MEMORIALIZATION WORKING GROUP AND TOLI UPDATE

The MWG has been working on the creation of the new 501c3. The new entity, named the 10.27 Memorial, Inc. has been approved by the state of Pennsylvania. Next steps include developing the board structure, the by-laws, and the request for non-profit status.

Libeskind Studios is planning to meet with the MWG in early September to discuss initial design ideas. They will be joined by James Young, author of "Stages of Memory: Reflections on Memorial Art, Loss, and the Spaces Between," who was involved with the development of the World Trade Center Memorial and Museum.

TOLI has been focused on the essential details - tasks like implementing a donor management system, selecting a payroll provider, purchasing insurance. They plan to hire a lobbying firm to help obtain government and foundation funding. A preliminary first year operating budget was recently approved. They are also expecting to hire a consulting group to build a master implementation plan for the museum. Everyone is very excited by the caliber of the group identified. The job posting for a CEO has received strong interest and initial interviews are planned for late August/early September.

Barbara & Stephen

Tisha B'Av

This year Tisha B'Av, commemorating the destruction of both Temples, begins immediately after Shabbat, the evening of August 6. The evening community observance (Ma'ariv and Eykhah) will be hosted by Temple Sinai this year.

You are encouraged to bring your own flashlight for Eykhah.

The fast begins at 8:29 p.m. Ma'ariv will be at 9:00 p.m., at Temple Sinai, 5505 Forbes Avenue, 15217, followed immediately by the Tisha B'Av service, including the Book of Lamentations (Eykhah).

On Sunday, August 7, Beth Shalom will hold services at 8:00 AM and 7:00 P.M. At these services they do not use tallitot or tefillin.

New Light and the Rauh Archives

A collection of materials and information about New Light is now available on the Rauh Jewish Archives at the Heinz History Center. Access them at

<https://rauhjewisharchives.org/entry/new-light-congregation/>

Update on Todd Kart

As many of you know, Todd Kart (son-in-law of Mel Wax) was seriously injured in a biking accident on June 15. He is currently at Mercy Hospital and progressing slowly. The next step is to discharge him, either to a skilled nursing care facility or home with round-the-clock care. There is limited insurance coverage for either option. A close friend has set up a GoFundMe account to help cover the substantial cost of his ongoing care. The fund will be gifted directly to an account that his wife Jodi will exclusively manage to supplement the cost of his care not covered by insurance. If you wish to contribute:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/qr8md6-help-todd-to-recover-it-takes-a-village>

Board Meeting

The next board meeting is Monday, August 8 at 7:00 P.M. Use the same Zoom connection as for Shabbat.

High Holiday Information

Rosh Hashanah 2022 begins the evening of Sunday, **September 25**. Yom Kippur is **October 4-5**. Watch your early August mail for a detailed packet of information regarding the holidays.

10.27 Commemoration - Save the Dates

Plans are in progress for the fourth commemoration of October 27. Similar to last year there will be a public program on Thursday, October 27, probably at Schenley Park. There will also be opportunities for volunteer activities and Torah study.

The actual yahrzeit date, the 18th of Cheshvan, is Saturday, November 12. We will have a special New Light Shabbat service that morning. Plans are still being developed as to whether there will be a joint event for the three congregations on that day.

Upcoming Events

Annual Picnic

It's Back! The annual picnic is Sunday, August 28 at 5:00 P.M. in the rear lot under the tent at Beth Shalom (or in the ballroom if the weather doesn't cooperate). No cost, but you **MUST Register** by calling Barbara Caplan at 412.519.7141 or emailing barbarcaplan@comcast.net by August 17. Please let her know if you have any dietary needs - there will be vegetarian options.

10.27 Healing Partnership Seeds of Resilience Program

On August 31 the 10.27 Healing Partnership will start a five week program to address grief through the healing power of herbs. More information and registration information is on page 5.

Eradicate Hate Global Summit 2022

The Eradicate Hate Global Summit 2022 will meet in Pittsburgh on September 19-21, 2022. The Eradicate Hate Global Summit is the most comprehensive anti-hate conference in the world. It unites experts and leaders from around the globe, who are dedicated to eradicating all forms of hate-fueled violence. The mission of the Summit is to identify and implement effective solutions for collective change.

National Geographic Story on 10.27

National Geographic has been working on a story about the events of 10.27 and its continuing aftermath. They continue to gather personal stories. There is no firm publication date at this time. The photographer for the article, Lynn Johnson, is based here in Pittsburgh and is seeking New Light congregants to make beautiful and dignified portraits of folks who would like to share their experience, perspective and /or thoughts of the past, present and the future. If you are interested in a portrait and/or talking with the writer, Christine Spolar, please contact Lynn at 917-940-1911 or email her at ljohnphoto@gmail.com

Recent Events

Lecture Series

For three Tuesday evenings in July we were informed and entertained by brilliant speakers in the New Light Lecture Series: Pittsburgh is Our Home. Thanks to

- Eric Lidji, who spoke about the Convergence of Europe's Jews by Country to the Hill, 1900-1920,
- Ronald Shuler, who spoke about Barney Dreyfuss and the Origin of the Pittsburgh Pirates, and
- Barbara Burstin, who spoke about the Incomparable Sophie Masloff and her Jewish Roots.

Sports historian Ron Shuler, discussing Barney Dreyfuss, is pictured at the right.





Seeds of Resilience

Growing through Grief

Join our holistic support group on a journey to address grief through the healing power of herbs.

This five-week program involves self-expression through gardening and writing. The group is open to all adults who have experienced grief, no matter where they are on their healing journey, and offers an opportunity to connect and grow with others.

Wednesdays 10:00am-11:30am, for five weeks starting August 31st

**Held at the 10.27 Healing Partnership on the 3rd floor of the
Jewish Community Center**

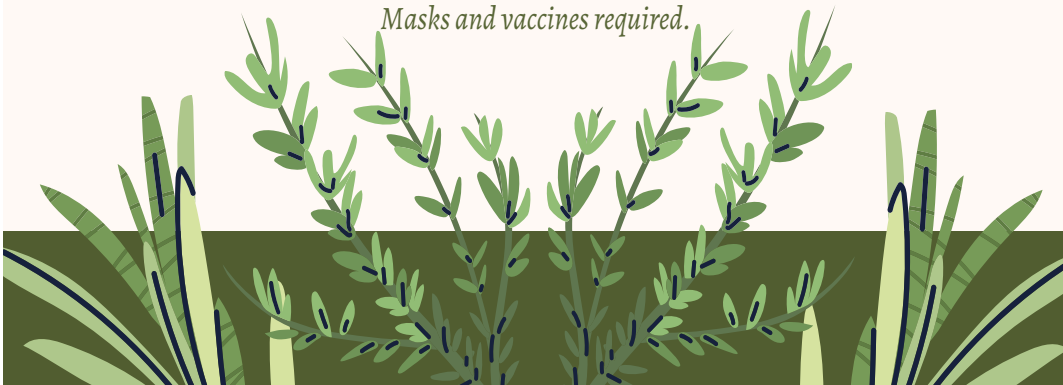
Last session will be held at Sunny's Community Garden

Register here: <https://forms.gle/DJmqgrzcxcamU9SfY6>

Contact: 412-339-5424

rdavidson@1027healingpartnership.org

Masks and vaccines required.



August Birthdays

Annie Caplan
Jason Manne
Trudy Wachs

August Anniversaries

Barbara & Harold Caplan
Janet & Stephen Cohen
Carol & Larry Kanterman
Ethel & Howard Kubitz

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

5915 Beacon Street

412-421-1017

www.newlightcongregation.org

Rabbi

Co-President/Social VP/Yahrzeits

Co-President/Cemetery/Website

Membership

Sisterhood

Treasurer/Men's Club

Onegs

Recording Secretary/Simcha Tree/Plaques

Religious Committee

Corresponding Secretary/Calendar

Jonathan Perlman

Barbara Caplan

Stephen Cohen

Debbi Salvin

Sharyn Stein

Harold Caplan

Hugh Casper

Ileen Portnoy

Carl Solomon

Janet Cohen

412-904-3601

412-521-4332

412-421-3999

724-444-6324

412-521-5231

412-521-4332

412-421-7619

412-683-7985

412-421-2165

412-512-0949

barbaracaplan@comcast.net

info@newlightcongregation.org

dgsalvin@pobox.com

haroldcaplan@comcast.net















ileenportnoy@gmail.com

janet@newlightcongregation.org



New Light Congregation August 2022

4 Av 5782 - 4 Elul 5782

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		4 AV	5 AV	6 AV	7 AV	8 AV
					 8:10 Services, 7:00 PM	 Devarim Services, 9:45 AM Tisha B'Av Temple Sinai, 9:00 PM
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10 AV	11 AV	12 AV	13 AV	14 AV	15 AV	16 AV
 Tisha B'Av Services at Beth Shalom, 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM	 Board Meeting 7:00 PM				 Tu B'Av  8:01 Services, 7:00 PM	 Va'eschanan Services, 9:45 AM
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
17 AV	18 AV	19 AV	20 AV	21 AV	22 AV	23 AV
					 7:52 Services, 7:00 PM	 Ekev Services, 9:45 AM
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
24 AV	25 AV	26 AV	27 AV	28 AV	29 AV	30 AV
					 7:41 Services, 7:00 PM	 Rosh Chodesh Elul - Day 1  Re'eh Services, 9:45 AM
28	29	30	31			
1 ELUL	2 ELUL	3 ELUL	4 ELUL			
 Rosh Chodesh Elul - Day 2  Picnic, 5:00 PM						