

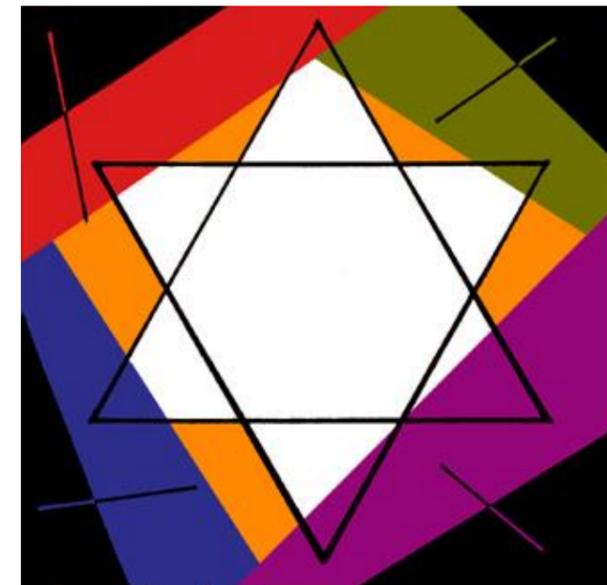


CONGREGATION FOR HUMANISTIC JUDAISM  
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[www.HumanisticJews.org](http://www.HumanisticJews.org)  
[www.facebook.com/CongregationforHumanisticJudaism](https://www.facebook.com/CongregationforHumanisticJudaism)

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# Yom Kippur Family Service 2016/5777



*Congregation for  
Humanistic Judaism  
of Fairfield County*



## CHJ HIGH HOLIDAYS CALENDAR 2016

<b>Oct. 2 (Sunday) 7:30 PM</b> <i>(doors open at 7pm)</i>	<b>ROSH HASHANAH SERVICE</b> <i>(Oneg to follow)</i> <i>Featuring Jeff Greenberg, flute, Igor Pasternak, piano, and Anna Slate, vocalist</i> Speaker: Steven Getz “ ‘Letters to Self’ – A Rosh Hashanah Story”
<b>Oct. 3 (Monday)</b>	<b>ROSH HASHANAH DAY PROGRAM*</b>
<b>1:00 – 1:45 PM</b>	<b>Rosh Hashanah Family Service **</b>
<b>2:00 – 2:15 PM</b>	<b>Tashlich: Parting with our bad ways at the water’s edge</b> <i>Led by Alan Katz (Gather at far right corner of parking lot)</i>
<b>2:30 – 3:30 PM</b>	<b>Jews and the Environment from Ancient Times to Today</b> <i>A presentation by Kurt Zeppetello, Seymour High School science teacher</i>
<b>Oct. 11 (Tuesday) 7:30 PM</b> <i>(doors open at 7pm)</i>	<b>YOM KIPPUR KOL NIDRE SERVICE</b> <i>Featuring Jeff Greenberg, flute, Darilyn Manring, cello, Igor Pasternak, piano, and Anna Slate, vocalist</i>
<b>Oct. 12 (Wednesday)</b>	<b>YOM KIPPUR DAY PROGRAM*</b>
<b>1:00 – 1:45 PM</b>	<b>Yom Kippur Family Service **</b> <i>Featuring Marcia Kosstrin, storyteller</i> “In the Jerusalem Shuk”
<b>2:00 – 3:15 PM</b>	<b>The Challenge of Ethical Blind Spots</b> <i>A presentation and interactive discussion with Dr. David P. Schmidt, Director, Center for Applied Ethics, Fairfield University</i>
<b>3:30 – 4:30 PM</b>	<b>Meditation</b> <i>Led by Gail Ostrow (Bring a pillow or mat if you like)</i>
<b>4:45 PM</b>	<b>Memorial and Closing Services</b> <i>Featuring Igor Pasternak, piano, and Anna Slate, vocalist</i>
<b>5:45 PM (approx.)</b>	<b>Break-Fast</b>

\* Childcare and supervised activities will be provided on October 3 and 12 after the Family Services. Casual dress is suggested for daytime programs.

\*\* Family Services are appropriate for families with children aged 4 to 14. Each Family Service includes readings and music and lasts approximately 30-45 minutes.

All services and programs take place at the Unitarian Church, 10 Lyons Plains Road, Westport, CT.  
Check the CHJ newsletter and [www.humanisticjews.org](http://www.humanisticjews.org) for updates, membership, and upcoming events.



**Congregation for Humanistic Judaism**  
Fairfield County, CT

**Leader:** We close our Yom Kippur service as we began, with the sound of the shofar:

**Reader 2:** *T'kee-ah!*

**Shofar:** *T'kee-ah!*

**Reader 2:** *Sheva-reem!*

**Shofar:** *She-va-reem!*

**Reader 2:** *Te-roo-ah!*

**Shofar:** *Te-roo-ah!*

**Reader 2:** *T'kee-ah g'do-lah!*

**Shofar:** *T'kee-ah g'do-lah!*

**Leader:** Thank you for coming, and L'shanah tova!

**All:** *L'shanah tova!*



Leader: Jennifer Ginsberg

Shofar: Hannah Ulman

Song leader: Bradley Snow

Storyteller: Marcia Kosstrin

Readers: Steven Banks, Sam Goldblat, Caroline McCormick, Julia Zagar

Created by Lucy Katz, Jennifer Ginsberg, Margo Libre, Max Libre, Abby Ulman

Congregation for Humanistic Judaism, Fairfield County, Connecticut. 2012

Revised by Jennifer Ginsberg 2016

### Statement of Purpose

We are a welcoming, supportive community, founded in 1967, in which secular Jews and their families can affirm, celebrate and enrich their Jewish identity and values.

We subscribe to Humanistic Judaism, one of the five branches of Judaism recognized by the United Jewish Communities of North America. We are affiliated with the Society for Humanistic Judaism and the International Federation of Secular Humanistic Jews.

*Humanistic Judaism defined:*

- A humanist believes that a Jew is a person of Jewish descent or any person who declares himself or herself to be a Jew and who identifies with the history, ethical values, culture, civilization, community and experiences of the Jewish people. (Adopted by the International Federation of Secular Humanistic Jews, October, 1988.)
- A humanist believes that each person, whether or not he or she believes in God, is responsible for leading a moral, ethical life that will add to the greater good of humanity, without reliance on supernatural forces or theological authority.
- Humanistic Judaism combines the Jewish values of loving-kindness (Gemilut Chassadim), charity (T'zedakah) and making the world a better place (Tikkun Olam) with the recognition that the responsibility for putting them in practice lies in one's own hands.

*Congregation Practices at CHJ:*

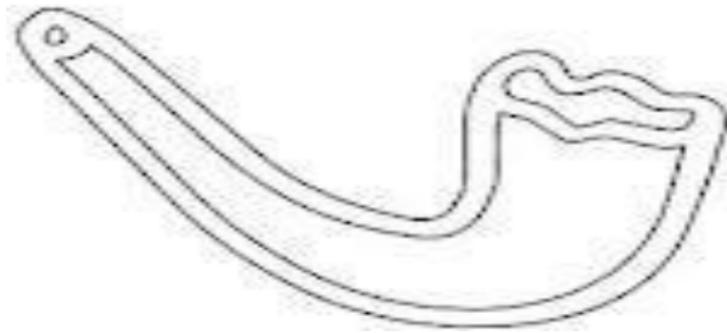
Our community functions as a cooperative. Through Sunday School programs for our children and diverse adult programs, we:

- Educate ourselves and our children in Jewish history, culture, tradition and values;
- Celebrate and observe Jewish holidays and mark important life cycle events in meaningful, non-theistic ways;
- Engage in social action and community service;
- Explore philosophic and ethical issues in group discussion;
- Keep current on issues of concern to Jewish people and support Israel in its quest for peace;
- Foster an understanding of Humanistic Judaism in the broader community; and
- Dedicate ourselves to creating a compassionate community whose members treat each other with respect, dignity and caring.

*(Excerpted from the CHJ Statement of Purpose, revised June 2002)*

**Yom Kippur Family Service**  
October 12, 2016

**Leader:** We begin today's service with the sound of the shofar. Nine days ago, on Rosh Hashanah, we gathered in this very place. We closed the old year and welcomed a new year with songs and with the sound of the shofar. The shofar reminds us to stop our other activities and come together quietly, to think about the past year and about our goals for the coming year.



**Reader 1:** *T'-kee-ah!*  
**Shofar:** *T'-kee-ah!*

**Reader 1:** *She-va-reem!*  
**Shofar:** *She-va-reem!*

**Reader 1:** *Tih-roo-ah!*  
**Shofar:** *Tih-roo-ah!*

**Reader 1:** *T'-kee-ah g'do-lah!*  
**Shofar:** *T'-kee-ah g'do-lah!*

**Reader 4:** Our next song is about peace. It means "peace will come upon us and on everyone." The word for "peace" is *shalom* in Hebrew and *salaam* in Arabic.

**Sing Together:**

**Od Yavo**

Od yavo shalom aleinu (3x)  
Ve al kulam  
Od yavo shalom aleinu (3x)  
Ve al kulam

Salaam! Aleinu ve al kol ha-olam  
Salaam, Shalom

Salaam! Aleinu ve al kol ha-olam  
Salaam, shalom  
Ve al kulam

Od yavo shalom aleinu (3x)  
Ve al kulam  
Od yavo shalom aleinu (3x)  
Ve al kulam

**Reader 1:** Now let's think about all the good things that will happen in the year to come.

**All:** *May this year be a year of goodness and joy, peace and kindness, friendship and love, good health and lots of fun! May we be kind, honest, and happy!*

**Reader 1:** Our final song means "Peace, dear friends, until we meet again."

**Sing together:**

**Shalom Chaverim**

Shalom chaverim  
Shalom chaverim  
Shalom shalom  
L'hit-ra-ot  
L'hit-ra-ot  
Shalom, shalom

**Leader:** On Yom Kippur, just as we think about making things better for our friends and families, we also think of how to make a better world.

**Reader 2:** Each of us can help feed those who have no food.

**All:** *We can work to make sure no one goes hungry, or without a home, or without adequate clothing.*

**Reader 2:** We can make our environment cleaner and safer.

**All:** *We can do our part to bring about peace in the world, to solve problems by working with people, not fighting against them.*

**Reader 3:**

**“Peace”**

If I'd want to start peace,  
Where should I start?  
First, my country,  
But where in my country?  
Well, from my town,  
But where in my town?  
My neighborhood,  
But where in that neighborhood?  
My own street, of course,  
But where in it?  
From myself,  
From myself, and from those I quarrel with!

*By Yonah, Class 5, written as part of the 2003 Israeli AllinPeace Festival*

<http://www.allinpeace.org/jo/index.php>



**Sing Together:**

**Hineh ma tov**

(how pleasant it is to dwell together)

Hi-neh ma tov u-ma na-eem  
She-vet a-cheem gam ya-chad

**Leader:** Yom Kippur is the annual Day of Atonement for the Jewish people. What does that mean? To atone means to think about behavior we would like to change. On Yom Kippur, we also get a chance to apologize, to say we are sorry if we did anything that hurt someone else. Yom Kippur gives us this great gift. It gives us a special time to say, “I am sorry.”

**Reader 2:** Take this day to apologize to those you have hurt. Say you're sorry. And promise to try your hardest to do things better; to make people laugh, not cry.

**Reader 3:** When someone says I am sorry to you, it is very important to say to them, “I forgive you.” That way we can start the New Year without carrying grudges or feeling guilty.

**Reader 4:** It is also important to forgive ourselves. We all have the power to change, to do better next year. We all make mistakes, and it doesn't make us bad people. Let's practice some apologies we might be thinking about right now.

**All Children:**

I'm sorry for using words I knew would hurt my friend.  
I'm sorry for fighting with my brother or sister.  
I'm sorry for saying nothing when my words would have helped.  
I'm sorry for breaking my promises.  
I'm sorry for not listening to my parents.  
I'm sorry for cheating when I should have played fair.  
I'm sorry for frightening someone.  
I'm sorry for ignoring someone who needed a hug of comfort.  
I'm sorry for talking when I should have listened.  
I'm sorry for continuing an argument when I knew enough had been said.

**Parents:**

I'm sorry for not listening to my children. I love you,  
I love you for what you are  
Knowing so well what you are.  
And I love you more yet, child,  
Deeper yet than ever, child,  
For what you are going to be,  
Knowing so well you are going far,  
Knowing your great works are ahead,  
Ahead and beyond  
Yonder and far over yet.  
*(Mother and Child, Carl Sandburg)*

**Reader 1:** Did we reach out to someone who was lonely or unhappy...

**All:** *Or just pretend not to notice?*

**Reader 1:** Were we truthful with others...

**All:** *Or were we sometimes dishonest?*

**Reader 1:** Did we decide for ourselves what is right and wrong...

**All:** *Or did we just follow what others did?*

**Sing Together:**

**Ha-yameem kholfeem**

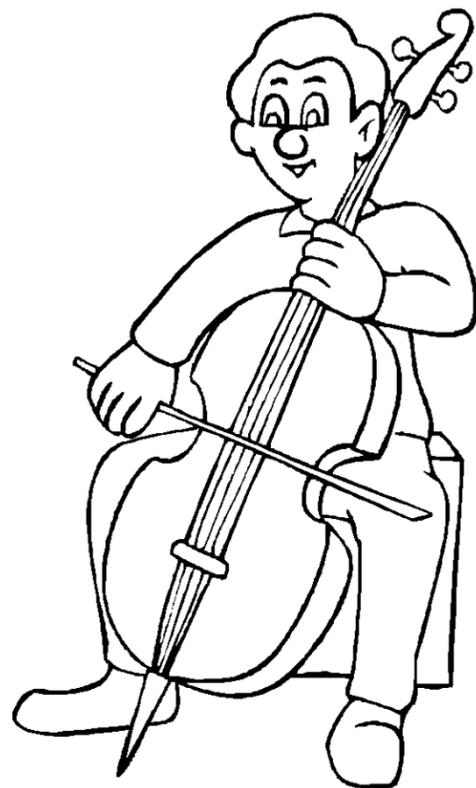
*(Days pass and years go by, but the melody remains forever.)*

Ha-yam-eem khol-feem, sha-na o-ver-et.  
Ha-yam-eem khol-feem, sha-na o-ver-et.

A-val ha-man-gee-nah, a-val ha-man-gee-nah  
A-val ha-man-gee-nah, le-o-lam nish-er-et.



**Leader:** Now we will listen to the traditional Yom Kippur music, Kol Nidre, while reflecting on our actions of last year and how we can do better this year.



**Reader 1:** Did we show love to our family...

**All:** *Or did we forget to say a kind word?*

**Reader 1:** Did we share...

**All:** *Or just think of ourselves?*

**Reader 1:** Did we help...

**All:** *Or did we let someone else do all the work?*

**Reader 1:** Now turn to someone near you and say, “I am sorry for anything I did to hurt you this year.” After someone apologizes to you, then be sure to say, “I forgive you.”

*(Pause while all say I’m sorry....I forgive you)*

**Leader:** And now the part you’ve all been waiting for. Our congregation’s master story-teller, Marcia Kosstrin has a new story for us today, one that she has written just for this holiday. It’s about a young girl in the ancient city of Jerusalem and what happened to her one day in the *shuk* or outdoor marketplace.

**Story:** “In the Jerusalem Shuk” by Marcia Kosstrin



## Candlelighting

**Reader 2:** This story is about two people who each learned something that day. Rachel learned to stand up for what is right. Maybe you have had a similar experience or maybe you have seen a friend take the blame for something that wasn't their fault. Did you try to solve the problem?

**Reader 3:** And what did the merchant learn? Sometimes even adults make mistakes. We all need to take responsibility for our own behavior and to make peace with those we have wronged.

**Reader 4:** Today is a day of peace, of healing, and of personal responsibility. We will now sing a song called Na-Ase Shalom, which means "let us make peace and friendship for all the world."

### Sing Together:

#### Na'aseh shalom

Na-a-seh sha-lom ba-o-lam  
Na-a-seh sha-lom a-ley-nu.  
V'alkol ha-o-lam  
V'im-ru, im ru sha-lom.

Na-a-seh sha-lom  
Na-a-seh sha-lom  
Sha-lom a-ley-nu,  
V'al kol ha-o-lam.

Na-a-seh sha-lom  
Na-a-seh sha-lom  
Sha-lom a-ley-nu,  
V'al kol ha-o-lam.



**Reader 1:** Now we will light four candles. The first candle reminds us to listen to the voice of truth. Think about a time when you had the courage to tell the truth.  
*(the first candle is lit)*

**Reader 2:** The second candle reminds us to listen and learn from each other. Think about someone you have listened to who has taught you something.  
*(the second candle is lit)*

**Reader 3:** The third candle reminds us to pay attention to the little things in our lives. Think about whether you have paid enough attention to those little things that are important in your life.  
*(the third candle is lit)*

**Reader 4:** The fourth candle reminds us to pay attention to the needs of the world. Think about what you can do to make the world a better place.  
*(the fourth candle is lit)*

**All:** *Baruch ha-or ba-o-lam  
Radiant is the light in the world.  
Baruch ha-or ba-a-dam  
Radiant is the light within each of us  
Baruch ha-or ha-cha-yeem  
Radiant is the light of life.*