

Jewish Center of Northwest Jersey Journal

P.O. Box 2, 115 Youmans Avenue, Washington, NJ 07882

(908) 689-0762

www.jcnwj.org

Facebook: JCNWJ

September 2019

Vol: XLV Issue: 1



Rabbi's Message

Dear Friends,

As I write this note to you, we have just entered the month of *Elul*, the month of spiritual preparation for *Rosh HaShanah* when we will gather to read, among other things, the account of Abraham and Isaac on the mountain. To be sure, it is a scary and potentially disastrous story, but embedded within it is the key to successful community.

"After these things," the story begins, "God tested Abraham. God called out, 'Abraham!' And Abraham responded, *Hineini* (הִנְנִי), here I am."

Later, when Isaac asks his father what is going on, he says, "Dad . . . ?" to which Abraham responds, "*Hineini*, Here I am, my son."

And finally, at the climax of the story, when Abraham (thank goodness!) is relieved of his sacrificial obligation, "The angel of God called out to him from the heavens: 'Abraham! Abraham!'" To which, he replied, "*Hineini*, Here I am."

Hineini. A single simple word. "Here I am." But it's more than just a reply of "Present" during roll-call. *Hineini* means "Here I am, ready and willing to do whatever is needed. Here I am, fully, unequivocally present."

Above all else, being in a state of *Hineini* means that we are willing and able to listen, to really hear the needs and desires of others.

(continued on next page)

Calendar of Events

Friday, September 6

7:30pm: Shabbat Service

Sunday, September 8

9:30pm: Sunday School

Monday, September 9

7:00pm: Board of Trustees Meeting

Sunday, September 15

9:30am: Sunday School

Friday, September 20

7:30pm: Shabbat Service

Sunday, September 22

9:30am: Sunday School

11:30am: Sisterhood Meeting

12:00pm: Grow-A-Row

Sunday, September 29

7:30pm: Erev Rosh Hashanah

Monday, September 30

9:30am: Rosh Hashanah Morning Service
Tashlich following service

Tuesday, October 1

9:30am: Rosh Hashanah Morning Service
Luncheon following service

Rabbi's Message (continued)

As we move towards *Rosh HaShanah* and *Yom Kippur*, as each of us begins to prepare our individual *cheshbon hanefesh*, our personal moral accounting, the message of *hineini* demands of us that we remember to ask ourselves on a regular basis: Am I prepared to listen to friends and family with my entire being? Am I prepared to be fully present every time I am in conversation? Am I willing and able to let my attentiveness declare my love and concern for others? Am I ready to offer "*Hineini*," my undivided presence?

Fortunately, I already know the answer to these questions. To be sure, there are times when we don't live up to our ideals. There are times when we are too tired or otherwise unable to express our love and support in ways we wish we could. All the same, if I have learned nothing else from my first four years as a member of this community, **JCNWJ does understand and appreciate the sacred power of hineini**. I know this because you all have shown me – in your words and, even more importantly, your actions. We are a community that talks to each other, listens to each other, supports each other, and loves each other.

Still, though, we can be only as supportive as our information permits us to be. If you hear of someone who is in need of support, or if you yourself are in need of support, please be sure to reach out to Ruth Shutzbank (chair of our Sunshine Committee) at 908-329-6036 or at Howie.ruth@hotmail.com to let her know. Of course, you should always feel free to contact me directly at RabbiDubin@jcnwj.org. We are a community that values the sacred importance of *hineini*. Please help us to fulfill that precious obligation.

L'Shanah Tovah Tikatevu

May you be inscribed in the Book of Life for a good year,

Rabbi Dubin

President's Message

Shalom everyone,

I hope that everyone had a wonderful summer.

Mine changed from great to outstanding on August 4th, when my employer informed me that I was being laid off in early November. One of the things that I pride myself on is my work ethic and my ability to handle change. I am in control of my attitude and very little else in my life. I have chosen to look at this as a positive change in my life. I am not sure if I will continue to work full time, part time or not at all. Retirement with my children and grandchildren and spending time with Iris seems more appealing every day.

I am writing this article from Denver, where Iris and I are flying home from, after spending the last 4 days in the Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks. Of course, I continued my US state capitol adventure by getting my 41st, 42nd and 43rd state capitol pictures (Denver, Cheyenne and Helena respectively). The beauty of this country, as well as other parts of the world awaits me and Iris, and I hope to take full advantage of the time that we will have to enjoy our garden, our grandchildren and our travel plans.

I will be looking for many ways to give back to the communities that have inspired me throughout the years, especially Hackettstown and Washington, as well as Warren County NJ, MY HOME.

I urge all of you to, as I quote the Carter family:

*Keep on the sunny side, always on the sunny side,
Keep on the sunny side of life.
It will help us every day, it will brighten all the way,
If we keep on the sunny side of life.*

Love Howie

Updates & Events

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School will start on September 8 at 9:30am. Grow-a-row will be held on September 22 from noon-2pm.

Upcoming Schedule:

September 8

September 15

September 22

There will be no Sunday School on September 29 for Erev Rosh Hashanah.

TORAH STUDY

Consider joining the monthly Saturday morning Torah study group, ongoing for more than twenty years, freewheeling and always thought-provoking. We are nearing the completion of Deuteronomy—likely later this year. Come when you can.

Upcoming Schedule:

September 14

October 19

November 16

December 14

Tentative 2020 Dates:

January 11

February 15

March 14

April 18

May 16

June 20

July 25

August 15

HIGH HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Rosh Hashanah

Sunday, September 29
7:30pm—Evening Service

Monday, September 30
9:30am—Morning Service (Tashlich following)

Tuesday, October 1
9:30am—Morning Service (Luncheon following)

Yom Kippur

Tuesday, October 8
7:30pm—Kol Nidre

Wednesday, October 9
9:30am—Morning Service/Yiskor
4:00pm—Torah Study
5:15pm—Neilah

FOOD DRIVE

As the High Holidays are approaching, please pick up a paper bag (in the vestibule) and fill it with non perishable items (NO MATZAH PLEASE!) for our annual Yom Kipper food drive.

As more and more people need assistance, your generous donations are critical. Thank you for your generosity!

-Iris

Updates & Events

WEBSITE

Members Only!

The JCNWJ website has a section for temple members only. Here you'll find the latest membership list and other documents not for public consumption.

To access, go to www.jcnwj.org/members/ and enter the user name jcnwjmember and password. Forgot the password? E-mail website@jcnwj.org.

BUILDING UPDATE

Kitchen and Bathroom supplies

If you notice that any kitchen or bathroom supplies are getting low, please email Iris Hirsch at irishirsch@comcast.net.

MAH JONGG

Mah Jongg continues at the JCNWJ. Contact Rhonda Jordan at helpmerhonda171@yahoo.com if interested!

SISTERHOOD

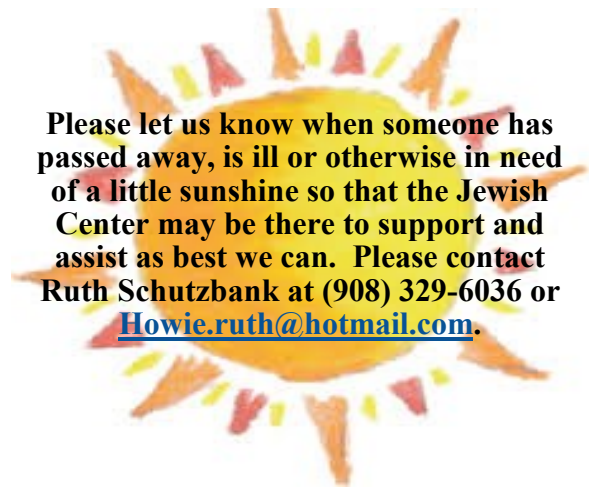
Upcoming Schedule:

September 22 @ 12pm: Sisterhood and Sunday School's annual trip to Grow a Row. Specific farm TBD. Come at 11am to help assemble bag lunches for the children.

October 20 @ 10:15am: First official Sisterhood meeting. Look forward to seeing everyone.

A Reminder from the Sunshine Committee

Please let us know when someone has passed away, is ill or otherwise in need of a little sunshine so that the Jewish Center may be there to support and assist as best we can. Please contact Ruth Schutzbank at (908) 329-6036 or Howie.ruth@hotmail.com.



New Year's Greetings

L'Shanah Tova to the JCNWJ congregation from
The Tarlowe Family

L'Shanah Tova from The Smith Family

L'Shanah Tova to friends and family from The
Gross Family

L'Shanah Tova from The Bauch Family

L'Shanah Tova to our temple friends from
Howard and Ruth Schutzbank

L'Shanah Tova to our congregation from Ed,
Roseanna and Sarah Weinstein

To our JCNWJ family from Howie and Iris
Hirsch

To the Rabbi and congregation, L'Shanah Tovah
from the Goldner/Post family

To our JCNWJ family from Robin and Colson
Hall

To the JCNWJ congregation from Sharon, Daniel
and Edythe

To Rabbi Dubin and family from Sharon, Daniel
and Edythe

To the congregation from Helen and John
Mattson

To everyone at JCNWJ from Jerry and Rita
Berkowitz

To the Congregation from Rene

To the congregation, Love Rabbi Ellen Lewis

L'Shanah Tovah to the Congregation from
Rhonda Jordan

L'Shanah Tovah from the Bauer Family

L'Shanah Tovah to the Congregation from Diane
Margolin and the Weiner family

L'Shanah Tovah to the congregation from Bob
Margolis

Donations

In Honor of Jeff Berkowitz for all of his work in keeping the JCNWJ running. Thanks Jeff!- Alison and Andy Shelofsky

In Memory of Carol Fleckles
- Sharon Herson and Daniel Fleckles

In Memory of Michael Lewis
- Rabbi Ellen Lewis

In Honor of Jeff Berkowitz
- Rhonda Jordan

In Honor of Jeff Berkowitz
- Rita Berkowitz

In Honor of Jeff Berkowitz
- Howie and Iris Hirsch

In Memory of Mike Denneen
- Bernie Robins

To the Building fund
- Lisa Bauch
- Adam Tucker
- Doreen Webb
- Lynne Kowski
- Leon Glass
- Deb and Aaron Kalisher

To the Membership fund
- Lisa Bauch
- Adam Tucker
- Howie and Iris Hirsch
- Deb and Aaron Kalisher

To the Education fund

- Lisa Bauch
- Adam Tucker
- Roy and Claudia Loomis
- Doreen Webb
- Diane Margolin

To the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- Adam Tucker
- Howie and Iris Hirsch

In Memory of Theodore Jay

- Rabbi Ellen Lewis

In Memory of Linda Albin

- Helen Mattson

On the Yahrzeit of Philip Weinstein

- Edward and Roseann Weinstein

In Memory of L. Moskowitz

- Rene Marinich

In Memory of Marianne Fleckles

- Sharon Herson and Daniel Fleckles

Sponsors



*Serving All Families
As Our Own*

WARREN HILLS MEMORIAL HOME
RICHARD L. MAGUIRE, JR.
Owner / Manager Lic No. 4434
DENISE MAGUIRE
Funeral Director Lic No. 4971
234 W. WASHINGTON AVE.
WASHINGTON, NJ 07882
908-689-0119

www.warrenhillsmemorialhome.com

**CENTENARY
STAGE
COMPANY** 908.979.0900 • CENTENARYSTAGECO.ORG

Year-round professional
music, theatre, and dance!



Jersey Boys'
John Lloyd Young
April 6 2019

Lackland Performing Arts Center 715 Grand Ave., Hackettstown, NJ 07840

Wanted: Advertisers for JCNWJ Journal

Kindly take note of the ads at the end of our Journal and whenever possible, support these establishments with your patronage. It's also a good idea to mention that you saw their Temple ad. If there are any businesses that you use regularly that might be interested in taking an ad in the Journal, please contact Rita Berkowitz (berk721@aol.com) or Ruth Schutzbank (Howie.ruth@hotmail.com). You can also go to our homepage, print out an advertising form and give it directly to them to mail in.