

Hako

The Voice of
Congregation Kol Emeth

5130 W. Touhy Avenue
Skokie, Illinois 60077
847-673-3370

www.KolEmethSkokie.org

September/October, 2012
Elul, 5772/Tishri/Cheshvan, 5773



Message From The Rabbi



CHOOSE LIFE!

These two simple words come towards the end of the Torah. They speak to us especially at the High Holidays, and even more especially at these High Holidays, when we witness regimes in the world

whose sole aim is the destruction of life.

The word CHAYIM, life, recurs again and again during the High Holidays. Zochreinu la-chayim Remember us for Life, we sing, melech chafets ba-chayim O king who desires Life, vechat'veinu besefer ha-chayim and inscribe us in the book of Life. We ask G-d to remember us for life, to inscribe us in the Book of Life. But what are we doing? Are we involved in life? Are we making sure that we are enjoying our life to the fullest?

I know, you will say: What has enjoyment of life to do with the High Holidays? Are they not supposed to be a serious, sad time? They are serious, yes, solemn, but definitely not sad. We are supposed to examine our actions and determine to do better in the future. And we are optimistic that we have the capacity to improve. No, Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur are not sad times. And the Jewish religion is not a sad religion. On the contrary, it sets its face decidedly against asceticism, against the denial of pleasure as a moral discipline.

At the end of the Jerusalem Talmud, we read this: Rav said: 'On Judgement Day, a person will have to give account for every good thing which his eye saw and he did not enjoy.' Think of it, you had a chance to enjoy something, someone, and you failed to do so, you will be held to account for this failure.

Why do we fail to take enjoyment in this world when it is there for us? Why do we not enjoy the beautiful things in this world, our relationships, our loved ones? Because we are hurried, we are worried, we are stressed, or we are waiting, waiting for when we retire, when we have time, when there will be less work, more money, the golden years, the kids are grown, any reason, any excuse not to enjoy NOW.

How sad it is when we look back and say: I wish I had not waited. How wonderful it is when we look back and say: I took the opportunities that were there.

Let us start now. By embracing life, by taking all it has to offer, we affirm that Judaism is a religion of life, of Chayim, and the best answer to those who believe and practice its opposite.

Julie and I would like to wish you all a Happy, Healthy New Year of 5773.

Rabbi Barry Schechter

Message From The President

A New Year's Greeting!

As we celebrate the High Holiday season we look forward to a New Year, hopeful that it will be a year of renewed optimism for a year of peace, happiness, good health and success in our endeavors. While we do not always have control over certain aspects of those wishes we can dictate and practice values that will insure each of us of a new year with those four cornerstones of a good life-- happiness, good health, peace and prosperity. We have the ability to give ourselves and our families a personal sense of shared happiness, of respect for each other and especially celebrating our Jewish heritage. How joyous it is to know that we can go back 5773 continuous years and carry on the values, rituals and services of our ancestors--today! What a glorious feeling it is to be a Jew and what better way to enhance and sustain that legacy than praying together in shul during the High Holidays-- and for that matter all year round!

As each of us takes the time for prayer and reflection, we do so with the support, comfort, and love of our families and friends. And we do so with our family here at Congregation Kol Emeth as well. I am thankful to have the members of Kol Emeth as a part of my family. There is always such a joyous sense of the renewal of that bond with each other as the High Holidays are celebrated. And perhaps someday in praying as one, that bond might amplify and be heard throughout the countries of the world returning it to practicing the values of peace, reason, compassion and respect- values today that are often ignored.

It is with the spirit of bonding that I and my family extend to each and every one of Kol Emeth's families a wish for peace in this troubled world. May we enjoy a wealth of good health, happiness and personal fulfillment during the year of 5773!

L'Shana Tova!

William Raffeld, President

Services

Friday Evening 8:00 p.m.

Saturday Morning 9:30 a.m.

Minyan

Sunday Morning 9:15 a.m.

Monday, Wednesday
and Thursday Evenings 7:40 p.m.

Lower level chapel

Refer to calendar for holiday service times.

Men's Club News

The Kol Emeth Men's Club will start the 2012 – 13 season with our annual Kick-off dinner on Tues, October 30. There will be a great speaker to be announced later.

There is a combined Men's Club and Sisterhood program being planned for Tuesday, November 20th. Our famous Sunday breakfasts will be held on Sunday, December 16th and Sunday, April 14.

The Club's Sunday breakfasts are always very well attended with interesting speakers plus good food and lots of friendship. What could be better? Remember, YOUR MEN'S CLUB helps support YOUR SYNAGOGUE!

If you were not a member last year, why not join us this year?

The Men's Club would like to wish Congregation Kol Emeth and Jews everywhere a "HEALTHY AND HAPPY NEW YEAR."

Herman Nussbaum

Sisterhood News

We ended the summer with an exciting trip to the Oriental Institute, arranged by **Paulette Lieb**, and a delightful, delicious Taste and Tell evening, in **Sondra Lorig's** lovely home. Sisterhood thanks both **Paulette** and **Sondra** for organizing these events.

Now, the New Year brings a welcome end to summer heat and a "cool" new season of Sisterhood activities. We look forward to our gala opening dinner and to an always-interesting Torah Fund luncheon, and are happy to announce that our monthly book discussions, led by **Selma Katz**, will continue after the holidays.

Please watch for announcements about times and locations, and plan to join us whenever possible. You will be rewarded with warm welcomes and stimulating programs.

Kol Emeth Sisterhood wishes you and those you love a Healthy, Happy New Year.

Doris Sohn

The Old World Theatre Returns for a Third Season

Old World Theater Company is happy to announce that we will be returning to the congregation for our third season! We feel so fortunate in being at Kol Emeth and sharing the theatrical art with you. You have been a faithful and wonderful audience in supporting our productions. It is always a joy to perform for you.

Please join us-- celebrating our partnership-- on Tuesday, September 11th at 7:30 pm in the social hall for a reception and discussion of our plays for this third season. As always we will have a very delicious array of desserts, coffee and tea-- plus come and win door prizes as well.

Our third season will include *A View from the Bridge* by Arthur Miller, *Arms and the Man* by George Bernard Shaw, *An Evening of Chekhov* featuring one act comedies and farces by Anton Chekhov and *The Boys Next Door* by Tom Griffin. We will give you a preview of each play as well as introducing many of the actors and directors you will see this season.

Remember everyone is invited as our guests.

Please call the synagogue office at 847-673-3370 to RSVP by September 7th so we will have an idea of how much food to order. With our deepest appreciation,

The Old World Theatre Company,
William Raffeld, Artistic Director

Synagogue Decorum

To maintain proper dignity and solemnity during our religious services, we would appreciate that our Congregants cooperate in the following:

Please do not loiter in or around the synagogue where your conversations may disturb others.

Please bring your tickets as you will need them to enter the sanctuary.

Please bring a tallis and machzor (High Holiday prayer book) to services. We have a very limited number available for congregant use. To purchase a machzor, contact the office prior to high holiday services, since they will not be for sale during services.

Please keep your head covered while in the synagogue.

Please avoid talking or walking around, especially while the Ark is open, during the sermon and major prayers.

Please shut off all cell phones, pagers, and electronic devices while in the synagogue.

Please dress appropriately and, if you are normally cool, please bring a sweater.

Please avoid using strong perfume.

Smoking is not allowed on synagogue premises.

Gum chewing is not allowed in the sanctuary.

High Holiday Parking Notice

There is **NO PARKING IN PEP BOYS' LOT**. Your car may be towed (at your expense) if you park there. Early arrival is the only way to assure a space in our lot.

Saul Epstein was taking an oral exam in his English as a Second Language class.

He was asked to spell "cultivate," and he spelled it correctly. He was then asked to use the word in a sentence, and, with a big smile, responded: "Last winter on a very cold day, I was waiting for a bus, but it was too cultivate, so I took the subway home."

Congregation Kol Emeth Sends Deepest Sympathy To

Roberta Charous on the loss of her beloved brother, **Norman Glazier**
Barry Levison on the loss of his beloved wife, **Dolly**
Lorri Rosen on the loss of her beloved husband, **David**
Lois Schwartz on the loss of her beloved brother, **Norman Glazier**

Yahrzeit/Yizkor Donations

Rich Bloom	Paulette Lieb
Eunice Bloomenkranz	Tyra Notorangelo
Norman Elkin	Herman Nussbaum
Helene Ellis	Sydelle Richard
Claire Foreman	Harold Rubin
Linda Halperin	Chaja Schimel
Michael Horowitz	Lois Schwartz
Leona Katzman	Arnold and Ina Weiner
Alfred and Shirley Kleifield	Sheila Wexler

Should you wish to honor the memory of your beloved departed with a permanent Memorial Plaque, please contact the synagogue office at 847-673-3370 for additional information.

We Celebrate... We Pray... We Remember...

MAZEL TOV TO

Sarine and Bob Rohde, ecstatic grandparents, Andrea and Richard Reiter and daughters Sara and Anna, most proud family in honor of the birth of Eliana Lilah (born July 27, 2012) Mazel Tov!

DONATION FOR SPEEDY & COMPLETE RECOVERY

Rich Bloom wishing a complete recovery to Julia Haun

GENERAL & SIMCHA DONATION

Ruth Ross – In honor of Sheila Wexler

THANK YOU... THANK YOU...

Trudye & Roger Fischhoff - Thanks so much for all the good wishes on our anniversary and Roger's birthday. Our shul friends are the BEST!

Beverly Hoffman – I wish to thank all my wonderful Kol Emeth friends who sent me Leagrams for my birthday. The many kind thoughts and good wishes were greatly appreciated.

Sheyna and Semyon Kreslya - Thanks for your Leagrams and congratulations. They make our lives more joyful.

Sarine and Bob Rohde - We want to thank everyone from our Kol Emeth Family who sent us so many good wishes on our anniversary by Leagrams and cards. You have always made us feel happy that we belong to Kol Emeth. Thank you one and all once again.

Kol Emeth Sisterhood Membership Dinner

On Thursday, October 18, Sisterhood is planning to hold its annual membership dinner at the Synagogue.

An enjoyable evening will be had by all. Please plan on attending.

Celebrate Your Simcha At Kol Emeth

Celebrating a special birthday or anniversary? Did your grandchild graduate from kindergarden or medical school? Nothing beats joining your Kol Emeth family at a service where our **Rabbi Barry Schechter** gives you his blessing and congratulations.

If you wish to partially sponsor a Kiddush or Oneg Shabbat you'll be performing a mitzvah, too.

How Long Does A Minyon Take?

For most of you, the Minyon is only around the corner, or a couple of blocks down the street. When I attend the Minyon it's a project; I leave home about 6:45 p.m. return about 8:30 p.m. Home for me is in Arlington Heights, a 25-mile round trip.

When I first became a member of Kol Emeth, I decided to make a time commitment to the Synagogue. At first it was twice a month. Now it's three or four times a month.

I come early and stay late to talk with the men and women who attend the 7:40 p.m. services, but on the long trip home, I feel I've done something for the Synagogue, myself and the others who come to say Kaddish.

After all, we may all need the benefit of a regular Minyon some day. Why not start the year right? Attend the Minyon on a regular basis. After all, for most of you it's just around the corner.

Howard Mirsky

Jewish Men Abusing Jewish Women?

Never! Not possible! Can't be. No? Please attend Friday evening services on October 26th to hear Bobbie Gordon from Shalva to speak on this subject.

What kind of abuse? Verbal, physical, sexual, economic. What effect does this abuse have on children? What is the profile of this type of man? What are the warning signs of the potential for this kind of action? Why do women stay in this kind of relationship?

Answers to these questions may have a disquieting effect on our community.

Please attend on October 26th.

Marvin Nussbaum
Program Committee

Philanthropy

A visitor to Israel attended a recital and concert at the Moscovitz Auditorium. He was quite impressed with the architecture and the acoustics.

He inquired of the tour guide, "Is this magnificent auditorium named after Chaim Moscovitz, the famous Talmudic scholar?"

"No," replied the guide. "It's named after Sam Moscovitz, the writer."

"Never heard of him. What did he write?"

"A check", replied the guide.

Chanukah Stamps

A woman goes to the post office to buy stamps for her Chanukah cards. She says to the clerk "May I have 50 Chanukah stamps please."

"What denomination?" says the clerk.

The woman says "Oy vey...my God, has it come to this?"

"Okay, give me 6 orthodox, 12 conservative and 32 reform!"



Are you in the process of making a will? Are you making up a bequest? If you are, please remember Kol Emeth in your plans.

Newly Revised Office Hours

Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Meet our new secretary, **Judy Kessler**.

We appreciate and encourage newsletter contributions from all our congregants but, hard copy (paper) submissions will no longer be accepted. If you are unable to submit electronically, please contact **Judy** in the office. All emails must be sent to hakol@fischhoff.com. Articles must be sent by the 10th for the following month's newsletter.

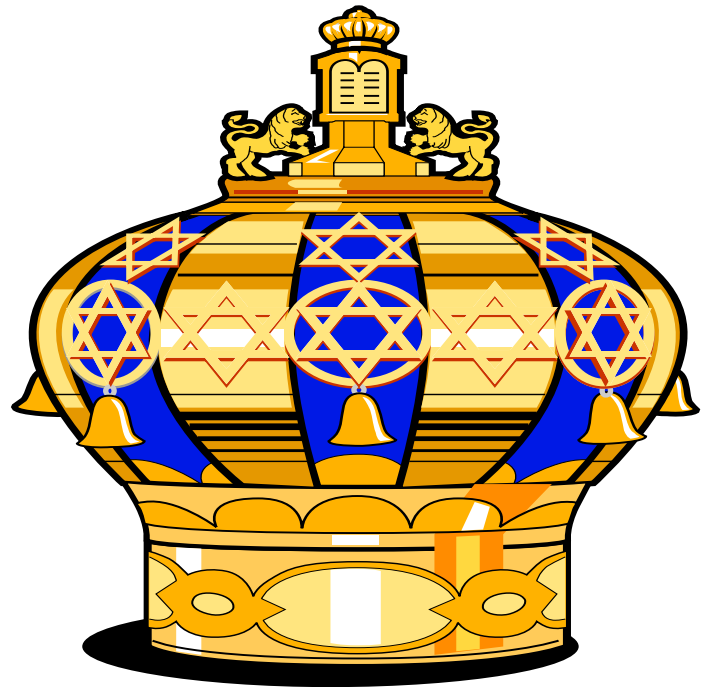
Ha Kol is compiled by **Judy Kessler** and edited by **Roger Fischhoff**.

Congregation Kol Emeth

5130 West Touhy Avenue
Skokie, Illinois 60077



Address Service Requested



Rabbi	Barry Schechter
President	William Raffeld
Co-President/Religious Matters	Dr. Paul Helman
Vice President/Membership	Leigh Sisk
Treasurer	Michael Okmin
House Committee Chairman	Len Colen
Sisterhood Representative	Helene Colen
Men's Club Representative	Herman Nussbaum

Dr. D. and Me: A Tribute to Dr. David Rosen

"Dr. D." was the nickname I gave **Dr. David Rosen** on the first day we met over 30 years ago. I write this in tribute to him with tears in my eyes and a void in my heart. I cling to the wonderful memories of our relationship, as we became friends and he, my mentor.

Being on the Board of Directors we supported each other on Committees. He always was at the helm giving Kol Emeth success after success.

Dr. D. started to groom me in becoming a committee organizer. We outlined on paper every fine detail, then it was put into action. If Plan A didn't work there was always a Plan B and Plan C. He taught me how to think ahead, and always say, "what if?" He developed my leadership and writing skills and everything else that came up.

He was a soft spoken, intelligent and articulate man, knowledgeable on any subject. Fairness was his game, seeing all situations, trying to appease all.

He moved onto the Executive Committee and then became President. He then needed a Vice President with the intention of that person becoming the next President. Yours truly fit that role, so began the working partnership for Kol Emeth. Speeches from the Bima were a breeze for **Dr. D.** He always had one key word on an envelope and he could speak for as long as needed. We shared life cycle events over the years that transformed me into a very strong person.

For eight consecutive years, 1986 - 1994 we alternated the positions of President and Vice President for each other. These were very productive and successful years with overwhelming support from our congregants.

On the nights of the Executive Board and Board of Directors meetings I looked forward to our dinners together discussing the agenda and anything pertaining to Kol Emeth. For eight years we ate at the same restaurant and ordered the same chicken dinner.

Dr. D. was on every Committee imaginable. He was Men's Club Man of the Year, sang in our choir, headed the PAC Committee and represented our Synagogue in all Community affairs. He was the best comedian with his wonderful sense of humor.

When I visited **Dr. D.** for the last time, he still was interested in all that was happening in the Synagogue. His eyes lit up and he smiled with all my stories and said, "Keep up the good work." With that I kissed him good-bye and gave him a big smile. **Dr. D.** cared to the very end.

I will forever be grateful for all he taught me that helped me rise to the challenge of being President and in my everyday life.

I will truly miss him.

Jacqueline Balter

*The officers and board of directors of Kol Emeth wish to acknowledge the many superb years of service **Dr. David Rosen** gave to Congregation Kol Emeth. His accomplishments were many- two, two year terms as president, many years as financial secretary, chairman of the PAC committee, a member of the choir and a board member for many, many years. His steadfast service, his sense of humor, his kindness, his rational and intelligent sense of fair play all made him a role model to emulate. Our hearts, prayers, and condolences go out to the **Rosen family-** to **Lorri**, his daughters, Nancy and Micki and their families.*

Schedule of High Holiday Services 2012

SELICHOT SERVICES – SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2012

Reception.....	9:00 P.M.
Services.....	10:00 P.M.

ROSH HASHANAH SERVICES

Sunday, September 16.....	8:30 P.M.
Monday, September 17.....	9:00 A.M.
Tuesday, September 18.....	9:00 A.M.

YOM KIPPUR SERVICES

Tuesday, September 25	
Doors Open.....	6:00 P.M.
Kol Nidre.....	6:30 P.M.

Wednesday, September 26.....	9:00 A.M.
YIZKOR following Musaf.....	

Concluding Services

MINCHA.....	4:45 P.M.
SHOFAR.....	7:15 P.M.

SUKKOT

Monday, October 1.....	9:30 A.M.
Tuesday, October 2.....	9:30 A.M.

SHEMINI ATZERET

Monday, October 8.....	YIZKOR.....	9:30 A.M.
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SIMCHAT TORAH

Monday, October 8.....	7:00 P.M.
Tuesday, October 9.....	9:30 A.M.

Blowing Of The Shofar On Rosh Hashana

During the blowing of the shofar on Rosh Hashana, notice there are three distinct sounds:

1. Tekiah>> one long, straight blast
2. Shevarim>> three medium, wailing sounds
3. Teruah>> 9 quick blasts in short succession

Let's examine each of these shofar sounds, and see how they relate to the different themes of Rosh Hashana.

The Tekiah Sound

Rosh Hashana is the day of appreciating who God is. We then internalize that understanding so that it becomes a living, practical part of our everyday reality. God is all-powerful. God is the Creator. God is the Sustainer. God is the Supervisor. In short, God is King of the Universe.

But for many of us, the idea of a "king" conjures up images of a greedy and power-hungry despot who wants to subjugate the masses for his selfish aims.

In Jewish tradition, a king is first and foremost a servant of the people. His only concern is that the people live in happiness and harmony. His decrees and laws are only for the good of the people, not for himself. (see Maimonides, Laws of Kings 2:6)

The object of Rosh Hashana is to crown God as our King. Tekiah (the long, straight shofar blast) is the sound of the King's coronation. In the Garden of Eden, Adam's first act was to proclaim God as King. And now, the shofar proclaims to ourselves and to the world: God is our King. We set our values straight and return to the reality of God as the One Who runs the world... guiding history, moving mountains, and caring for each and every human being individually and personally.

Maimonides adds one important qualification: It isn't enough that God is MY King alone. If ALL humanity doesn't recognize God as King, then there is something lacking in my own relationship with God. Part of my love for the Almighty is to help guide all people to an appreciation of Him. Of course this is largely an expression of my deep caring for others. But it also affects my own sense of God's all-encompassing Kingship.

The Shevarim Sound

When we think about the year gone by, we know

deep down that we've failed to live up to our full potential. In the coming year, we yearn not to waste that opportunity ever again. The Kabbalists say that Shevarim (three medium, wailing blasts) is the sobbing cry of a Jewish heart, yearning to connect, to grow, to achieve.

Every person has the ability to change and be great. This can be accomplished much faster than you ever dreamed of. The key is to pray from the bottom of your heart and ask God for the ability to become great. Don't let yourself be constrained by the past. You know you have enormous potential.

At the moment the shofar is blown, we cry out to God from the depths of our soul. This is the moment when our souls stand before the Almighty without any barriers that we can truly let go.

The Teruah Sound

On Rosh Hashana, we need to wake up and be honest and objective about our lives: Who we are, where we've been, and which direction we're headed. The Teruah sound (9 quick blasts in short succession) resembles an alarm clock, arousing us from our spiritual slumber. The shofar brings clarity, alertness, and focus.

The Talmud says: "When there's judgement from below, there's no need for judgement from above." What this means is that if we take the time to construct a sincere, realistic model of how we've fallen short in the past, and what we expect to change in the future, then God doesn't need to "wake us up" to what we already know.

God wants us to make an honest effort to maximize the gifts He gave us. You aren't expected to be anything you're not. But you can't hoodwink God, either.

The reason we lose touch and make mistakes is because we don't take the time everyday to reconnect with our deepest desires and essence. The solution is to spend time alone everyday, asking: Am I on track? Am I focused? Am I pursuing goals which will make the greatest overall difference in my life and in the world?

Make it a habit to keep in touch with yourself, and when Rosh Hashana comes around, the alarm clock of the shofar won't be nearly as jarring!

Reprinted from Aish.com

Meet and Greet with
the Old World Theatre Company!



Join the OWTC at Congregation Kol Emeth
September 11 at 7:30pm
for a chance to learn about our exciting third season!

This is a FREE event!

Meet the cast and crew of the OWTC over tea, coffee, and dessert
as we share the information about the upcoming season.

This event will be taking place at:
Congregation Kol Emeth
5130 Touhy Ave
Skokie, IL 60077

To let us know that you will be attending, please call
the synagogue office at 847-673-3370

SISTERHOOD BOOK REVIEWS

~~**TUESDAY JULY 10, 2012 1:30 PM,**~~
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 11, 2012 1:30 PM &
TUESDAY OCTOBER 16, 2012 1:30 PM AT
CONGREGATION KOL EMETH
5130 W. TOUHY AVE, SKOKIE, IL 60077
847-673-3370

PLEASE R.S.V.P TO SELMA FOR THE ABOVE 3 DATES AT
847-433-2078 \$5.00 DONATION

BOOKS TO BE REVIEWED:

~~**7/10/12 "ONCE WE WERE BROTHERS"**~~
~~**BY RONALD HOBBALSON**~~

9/11/12 - "THE BUDDHA IN THE ATTIC"
BY JULIE OTSUKA

10/16/12 - "THE PARIS WIFE"
BY PAULA MC CLAIN

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- *Includes \$5 earning fund credit
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● To order call (847) 673-3370

Your Custom Calendar Is Just Moments Away!!!

All calendars are now available on kolemethskokie.org any *time* you want and in any *form* you want.

Go to KolEmethSkokie.org and click on the calendar link under the main photo and you will see a list of the next two weeks' events. Click on the link at the bottom and you'll see a list of the following two weeks.

If you wish to see the month at a glance just select "view by month". Click on anything in blue



and you'll see all the details of the event.

You can also focus in on any specific type of events by clicking to the right of "all categories" and selecting the category(s) in which you are interested. The calendar will then only show those categories.

Now go down to the bottom and click on printer friendly version and print your custom calendar.



Are you planning a simcha in the next few years?

You can now look up the dates of Jewish holidays on our calendar through the end of 2023. (Please note... You should always check with **Rabbi Schechter** to make sure that certain "black out" periods are avoided.)