

# Hakol

The Voice of  
**Congregation Kol Emeth**

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

[www.KolEmethSkokie.org](http://www.KolEmethSkokie.org)

September/October, 2015  
Elul 5775 / Tishrei / Cheshvan, 5776



## Message From The Rabbi



The Talmud tells us that when we depart this earth after our allotted time here, we are going to be asked some questions about our behavior

here. In other words, we will have a kind of examination. When I first learned this I was disappointed. I distinctly remember a teacher in graduate school telling us: "This is your last exam ever." But what did this teacher know of the Talmud! Anyway, most of the questions are of the type you would expect: Were you honest in business? Did you study? Did you live with hope? Those are the questions in the Babylonian Talmud. But in the less-studied Jerusalem Talmud, there is a completely different question: Was there any tasty food you could have eaten, but failed to eat? What it really means is: Was there something good on this earth, not just food, that you failed to enjoy even though you could have?

What a wonderful question. We are here on this earth not just to live a good life, not just to behave decently to our fellow human beings, not even just to be faithful to our Jewish traditions. We are also here to enjoy the wonderful things that G-d has placed on earth, and not just those, but also the wonderful things that human beings have created here. A great Rabbi in nineteenth-century Germany, Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch, told his students that before he

died he had to see The Alps. "If I do not, when I meet my maker, he will say to me: I created these beautiful mountains and you did not even bother to go and see them."

This message is especially important now, when so much of our news is taken up with talk of violence and destruction, both of people and things, many of them historic and beautiful. Near the end of the book of Deuteronomy, the Torah tells us: Choose Life. This is a message that we can all carry. Not just to live, but to treasure every moment that we have with our loved ones and see the beauty around us.

Julie and I wish you all a Happy, Blessed and Peaceful Year 5776.

**Rabbi Barry Schechter**

### High Holiday Parking Notice

*There is NO PARKING IN PEP BOYS' LOT. Your car may be towed (at your expense) if you park there. Those who arrive early have the best chance of a space in our lot.*

#### Services

Friday Evening	8:00 p.m.
Saturday Morning	9:30 a.m.

#### Minyan

Sunday Morning	9:15 a.m.
Refer to calendar for holiday service times.	

## Sisterhood News

Our sisterhood summer outing was at the Arthur Feldman Judaica museum/gallery in Highland Park. We were introduced to "learning to look." Look beyond your Judaica keepsakes and learn their history. Different countries had their own unique style and items can be traced to the family heritage.

Due to the popularity of the Family Traditions Cooking series, the sisterhood is currently creating a schedule of demonstrations for the Fall and Winter. If you have a great recipe that you would like to share with an enthusiastic audience, please contact **Jennifer Blitz** at [jblitz@dunn.us](mailto:jblitz@dunn.us)

The Sisterhood Craft Club is just finishing up their fourth project. We created hand painted silk wall hangings in our group of friendly and creative participants. We look forward to being able to place some of our creations at the synagogue in a temporary display. Watch for information on future Craft Club projects with **Lisa Garbaty**.

Invitations will be forthcoming for our Sisterhood membership luncheon, October 13th. I hope to see you there at our opening event to greet you and to personally wish you and your loved ones a happy, healthy year with many blessings.

**Jennifer Blitz**

### Mysterious Happenings

Whoever borrowed the tablecloths from the kitchen please contact Judy in the office ASAP. 847-673-3370 Thank you.

### Congregation Kol Emeth Sends Deepest Sympathy To

The family of **Margaret Besser** on her passing  
**Eunice Blumenkranz** on the passing of her husband, **Bernard**  
**Phyllis Bower** on the passing of her husband, **Paul**  
**Trudye Fischhoff** on the passing of her mother, Mollye Friend  
**Rose Mandell** on the passing of her daughter-in-law, Audrey Mandell  
**Sheldon Mandell** on the passing of his daughter-in-law, Audrey Mandell  
**Phyllis Projansky and Gail Myers Jaffe** on the passing of Linda Projansky  
**Dawn Rosen** on the passing of her mother, Sue Kwasigroch

#### In Memory of Former Members

**Carolyn Axelrod and Helen Balikov**

## Message From The President

As our High Holidays approach, I am again honored to contribute a few thoughts to Hakol regarding our coming celebrations. Once more, a year has passed all too quickly, as we prepare to celebrate both the creation of the world and our own individual place within it. Who cannot but tremble at the thought that we are standing before our supreme judge who is endowed with both unfathomable power and the infinite compassion of a loving parent. Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are a time of return and gathering together, an opportunity for individual and communal self-examination and repentance.

We come together on this "Feast Of Trumpets" to listen to the call of the Shofar, with its insistent long and short staccato blasts that both rivet our attention and punctuate our prayers. Our traditional calendar marks the 5776th year, from the creation of the World. Seventy-six years ago, Rabbi Morris Silverman sat at his desk in Hartford, Connecticut to complete the preface to the new Machzor that was to bear his name. This is the High Holiday Prayer book that we will hold in just a few weeks. The date was Tishri 5700, which was both a new century and the very fateful month and year of September 1939!

Could he or any Jew have conceived of the unimaginable abyss opening before them? Moreover, could they have believed that beyond that horror and just nine years beyond that dedication, would come the culmination of two thousand years of yearning and prayerful hope? Our Machzor has indeed been stained with tears, yet it has also witnessed miracles! I look forward to greeting you all as we join together in solemn, yet joyous worship.

L'shanah tovah tikatevu!

**Dr. Paul Helman**

### Enjoy Our Cultural Gem!

Mark Wednesday September 9th in your Calendar! The Old World Theatre Company is having a reception for the members of the congregation and their friends at 8 pm in the upper social hall.

Members of the company will talk about this season's plays. This our thank you gift for your generous support of our productions during the past 5 seasons. Delicious desserts, coffee and tea will be served along with free door prizes.

### Yahrzeit/Yizkor Donations

Helen Applebaum  
Professor Howard Aronson  
Jacqueline Balter  
Sonia Berk  
Howard and Beverlee Bernstein  
Judy and George Blinick  
Leona Borris  
Nancy and Art Chodoroff  
Len and Helene Colen  
Barry and Sharon Curtis  
Norman and Betty Elkin  
Helene Ellis  
Blanche Feldman

Roger & Trudye Fischhoff  
Clara Foreman  
Robert and Sandy Frankenbush  
Chester Gaynes  
Freya Greenspahn  
Herbert Heller  
Michael Horowitz  
Marlene Iser  
Stephen and Gail Myers Jaffe  
Bernard and Fern Katz  
Alfred and Shirley Kleifield  
Elaine and Larry Levin

Barry Levison  
Paulette Lieb  
Gloria Manus  
Eilene Medansky  
Joyce and Mitchell Messer  
Howard Mirsky  
Diane Mulkerin  
Michael and Iris Okmin  
Leonard Pearlman  
Dmitriy and Irina Polevoy  
Phyllis Projansky  
Lawrence and Vicki Rabyne

Dr. Irwin and Zelda Rich  
Sydelle Richard  
Bob and Sarine Rohde  
Chaplain Robert and Dawn Rosen  
Jean Rosenbluum  
Dr. Samuel and Chaja Schimel  
Lois Schwartz  
Charlene Urow  
Jerry Wadro & Bernie Perlstein  
Benny and Phyllis Wapner  
Arnold and Ina Weiner  
Brian and Rivka Weiner  
Daniel and Eleanor Zeff

**PLEASE HONOR THE MEMORY OF YOUR BELOVED DEPARTED ONE WITH A PERMANENT MEMORIAL PLAQUE.  
PLEASE CONTACT THE SYNAGOGUE OFFICE AT 847-673-3370 FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.**

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

## NEW MEMBERS

Marda LeBeau  
Ron Roth  
Mel Kimmel  
Naomi Ruthman

## GENERAL DONATIONS - GET WELL, NEW HOMES, GRANDCHILDREN

David Arieti	Shirley Lanoff
Irving Barr	Paulette Lieb
Leonard and Helene Colen	Israel & Carol Lev
Bill Dunn and Jennifer Blitz & family	Ann and Martin Moltz
Phyllis Grodsky	Michael and Iris Okmin
Marlene Iser	Ronald Roth
Stephen Jaffe and Gail Myers Jaffe	Mark Stearns and Jane Turbov
Bernard and Fern Katz	Sheila Wexler
Brian Katzman and Leona Katzman	

## PRAYERBOOK CONTRIBUTIONS

Sarine and Robert Rohde in memory of Mollye Friend  
Eileen Keller in honor of Roger and Trudye Fischhoff's 50th Anniversary

## IN HONOR OF

Dr. Don and Roberta Charous on the birth of their great grandchild  
Barry Levison on the birth of his twin great-granddaughters Tyla and Noa  
Elaine and Richard Snow on the graduation of their grandchild.

## GET WELL TO

Phyllis Borak  
Chester Gaynes  
Shirley Lanoff  
Ruth and Herman Nussbaum  
Janine Oberrotman  
Bill Raffeld

## Tree Of Life

Perfect for a Special Birthday or a Special Anniversary, the Kol Emeth Tree of Life offers a unique and lasting record of your simcha. Any type of happy occasion is beautifully engraved for all to see.

Consider purchasing a Leaf, an Acorn or even a Rock for our beautiful Tree Of Life. For only \$118.00 you can purchase a Leaf, for \$236.00 an Acorn or for a Rock it is only \$354.00. Please contact **Judy Kessler** in the Synagogue Office for more information or to order.

This is such a terrific way to honor someone on a special occasion.

## High Holiday Parking Notice

There is **NO PARKING IN PEP BOYS' LOT**. Your car may be towed (at your expense) if you park there. Those who arrive early have the best chance of a space in our lot.

## Revised Office Hours & Closings

**Judy Kessler**, the office manager, will be in the office Monday, Wednesday & Thursday, from 8:30 am – 4:00 pm, Tuesday from 9:30 am – 4:00 pm, and Friday from 8:30 am – 3:00 pm

The office will be closed as follows:

Monday, September 7th	Labor Day
Monday, September 14th	Rosh Hashanah
Tuesday, September 15th	Rosh Hashanah
Tuesday, September 23rd	Yom Kippur (at noon)
Wednesday, September 24th	Yom Kippur
Monday, September 28th	Sukkot
Tuesday, September 29th	Sukkot
Monday, October 5th	Shemini Atzeret
Tuesday, October 6th	Simchat Torah

## OLD WORLD THEATRE RETURNS TO CKE FOR ITS 6TH SEASON!!

What a lineup of outstanding plays Old World Theatre is presenting to Kol Emeth this coming season! Our own wonderfully talented actors and directors once again will delight us with exciting productions of very fine plays!

*Awake and Sing!* By Clifford Odets; *Driving Miss Daisy* by Alfred Uhry; *Bunny Bunny* by Alan Swiedel. It is a season of Jewish playwrights with each play devoted to exploring the Jewish life!

*Awake and Sing!* by Clifford Odets explores the reality and hardships of the life of a Jewish family in the Bronx borough of New York City during the 1930's.

*Driving Miss Daisy* by Alfred Uhry explores the relationship of an elderly Jewish woman and her black chauffeur in the American South with humor and grace.

*Bunny Bunny* by Alan Swiedel lets us look into the delightfully funny life of comedienne Gilda Radner during her days performing on Saturday Night Live and her relationship with the writer Alan Swiedel.

As a special fourth program, OWTC is presenting: *The Golden Age of Radio* - classic and popular radio programs from the 1940's. Such hits as The Goldbergs, The Bickersons, Baby Snooks and Jack Benny make for a nostalgic and funny evening - one that kept many of us glued to the radio in the 1940's. The entire season will be performed at CKE. Brochures for the season will be mailed out to the entire congregation in September. Subscriptions and single tickets may be ordered in advance.

## Please Take Special Note

Our bank is now charging a \$25.00 fee for checks that are returned for whatever reason. This does not pertain to only NSF checks. So please make sure that your check is good. Thank you.

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](mailto: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



Rabbi	<b>Barry Schechter</b>
President	<b>Dr. Paul Helman</b>
Treasurer	<b>Michael Okmin</b>
House Committee V.P.	<b>Len Colen</b>
Recording Secretary	<b>Ann Moltz</b>

## Thank You... Todah Rabbah

**Marilyn Cooper** - "Thank You" to all Kol Emeth friends who sent Birthday Leagrams to me. I truly appreciated receiving them.

**Trudye and Roger Fischhoff** - We would like to thank our family: Craig, Marla and grandsons, Levi and Bennett; Ross, Lauren and grandkids, Evan and Naomi; Andy, Roseanne and grandsons, Harrison and Braeden for planning and participating in the meaningful Shabbat Service and wonderful Kiddish sponsored in honor of our 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Knowing how much KOL EMETH has been a part of our family's lives for nearly 40 years, the decision to have our celebration here was our family's "best and only" choice.

We were pleased that so many family and friends could be here, and that goes for our Kol Emeth family as well.

"Special thanks" to Rabbi **Barry, Odette, Sam, John, Judy**

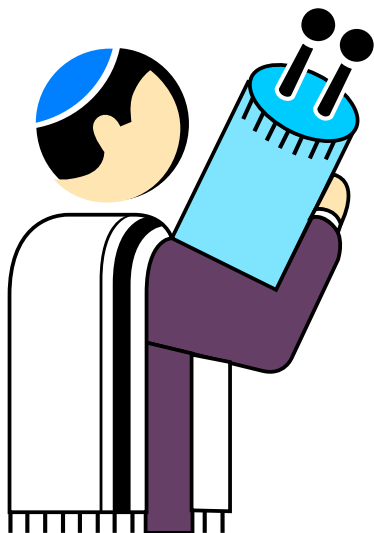
and **Leona and Brian** for all you do for Kol Emeth on a regular basis. Additionally, we thank all the CKE members who sent us Leagrams on our anniversary and Roger's birthday. We love you all!

**Odette Langer** - I would like to sincerely thank the Kol Emeth Sisterhood for recognizing, this past spring, three women members, for giving their time in advancing activities at the synagogue.

As one of those women who was recognized, I would like to say that what I do for the synagogue is done not to be recognized or rewarded in any way, but because I feel that I am a part of a larger family. A family that welcomed and embraced me from the first day I became a member a short two years ago. That is what family members do, they help each other. I hope to continue being a part of the Kol Emeth family and to continue helping in any way I can. I wish everyone a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

**Bill Raffeld** - I wish to thank the many members who made get well donations for my speedy recovery from surgery this summer. I am most appreciative of your support, good wishes and lasting friendship.

**Robert Rohde** - I want to thank everyone for my Leagrams and cards to help me celebrate my birthday. I really appreciate it. Thank you to one and all.



## 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.



## Sneak Preview of Coming CKE Attractions!

The PAC Committee is pleased to announce what will be happening in the 2015-2016 season at Kol Emeth. While all of the dates have not been set, here is a teaser of some of the events that are set:

Shabbat Friday Night service and Dinner- **October 30**; 6:00 pm service; 7:00 pm Dinner.

Chanukah Service and Dinner Friday Night **December 11**; 6:00 pm

Friday **December 25**- Rabbi's Jewish film Festival and Brunch 10:30 a.m.

Sunday **January 24**- Sunday Games Afternoon- 1:00 pm-5:00 pm- with coffee, tea and dessert.

Shabbat Friday Night Service and Dinner- **February 12** -6:00 pm service; Dinner 7 pm

Thursday **March 24** Purim Celebration - Megillah reading at 6:15 pm - followed by our traditional hot dog dinner.

Sunday **April 3** - Brunch and special Speaker, 10:00 a.m. topic to be announced.

Please mark your calendar.

**Remember... HaKol's deadline is the 10th of the month prior to publication. Thanks!**



**Congregation Kol Emeth**  
**Schedule of High Holiday Services 2015 - 5776**

**SELICHOT SERVICES – SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5**

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

**ROSH HASHANAH SERVICES**

Sunday, September 13.....8:00 P.M.  
Monday, September 14.....9:00 A.M.  
Tuesday, September 15.....9:00 A.M.

**YOM KIPPUR SERVICES**

Tuesday, September 22  
Doors Open.....6:00 P.M.  
Kol Nidre.....6:30 P.M.

Wednesday, September 23.....9:00 A.M.  
YIZKOR following Musaf.....

**Concluding Services**

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

**SUKKOT**

Monday, September 28 .....9:30 A.M.  
Tuesday, September 29.....9:30 A.M.

**SHEMINI ATZERET**

Monday, October 5.....YIZKOR.....9:30 A.M.

**SIMCHAT TORAH**

Monday, October 5.....7:00 P.M.  
Tuesday, October 6.....9:00 A.M.

## The Ad Book Final Report

It is because of you, our members and friends of Kol Emeth that this ad book was once again a huge success. The gross revenue was \$8,323.00.

I want to extend a very special thank you to **Sondra and Max Lorig** for their outstanding support with the ad book. They are truly our diamonds. I want to give my warmest-hearted thank you to all our advertisers, members and silent donors. Without the cooperation and generosity of all of you this book would not have been accomplished.

I want to thank **Judy** for her help and cooperation with the ad book. I want to thank my culminating committee and **Trudye and Roger** for all their work and support. You all made my job a lot easier for me.

Try as we might to get everything right in an ad book, errors may have occurred so please accept my sincere apology if your name was omitted or misspelled. Please consider any oversight and extend your charity a bit further and forgive us for any omissions or mistakes.

May the "Almighty" truly see the love and devotion that you, our members and friends, have for our synagogue through your efforts. May "He" always grant you peace and good health so that you may continue in your endeavors.

Once again I wish to thank everyone for all their help to make this year's Ad Book a success.

**Sandy Cochrane**  
Ad Book Chairperson

## A Few Pictures Of Sisterhood's Latest Art Project



**Donna Puccini reflecting on the color placement for her silk painting**



**Anita Robbins (foreground) Iris Jutkovsky (background) intently working on their silk paintings**



**LORETTA KAMINSKY SHOWING HER ARTWORK INSPIRED BY NATURE.**



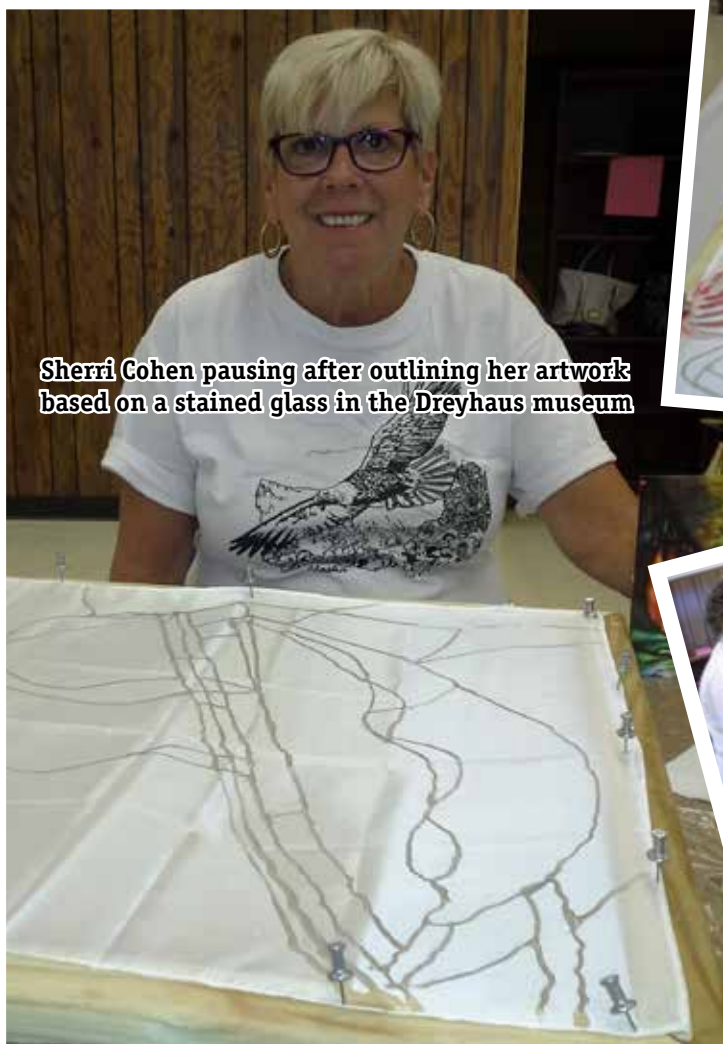
Chazzan Sarah Alexander just finishing with the color placement on her inspired work



(L to R) Sherri Cohen, Andra Snowsky, Anita Robbins, Iris Jutkovsky and Donna Puccini working on their sample silk pieces



Jennifer Blitz designing her silk painting inspired by a neighboring garden



Sherri Cohen pausing after outlining her artwork based on a stained glass in the Dreyhaus museum



(L to R) Donna Puccini, Emily Hutensky and Andra Snowsky consulting on their artworks in progress

# A Quick Overview of the High Holidays

The most important time of the Jewish year is often the most misunderstood. Here's all the basics you need to know.

by Rabbi Shraga Simmons

The High Holiday period actually begins in Elul, the Hebrew month preceding Rosh Hashana. Elul is an important period of introspection, of clarifying life's goals, and of coming closer to God. Because when the big day of Rosh Hashana comes, and each individual stands before the Almighty to ask for another year, we'll want to know what we're asking for!

During Elul, many people perform a daily cheshbon – a spiritual accounting where we step back and look at ourselves critically and honestly, with the intention of improving.

In order to arouse us to this task, it is the Ashkenazi custom to blow the shofar every morning after prayers during the month of Elul.

Historically, this month has great significance, because it was on the first day of Elul that Moses following the sin of the Golden Calf ascended Mount Sinai to receive a new, second set of stone tablets. Forty days later on the seminal Yom Kippur Moses returned to the people with tablets in hand, signaling a repair of the breach between the Jewish people and God.

High Holiday preparations intensify on the Saturday night before Rosh Hashana, when we recite "Slichot," a special series of prayers that includes the powerful "13 Attributes of Mercy."

## Rosh Hashana

Rosh Hashana is the Jewish New Year, commemorating the creation of Adam and Eve, the first human beings. On Rosh Hashana, the Books of Life and Death are open on the heavenly desk. On this "Day of Judgment," we each stand before God and offer our best case for being "created anew" i.e. granted another year of life.

The morning before Rosh Hashana, we perform "Hatarat Nedarim" annulling all vows. This enables us to enter the new year with a clean slate.

The essential mitzvah of Rosh Hashana is to hear the sounding of the shofar. The shofar blasts represent three distinct themes of the day:

It is the sound of the King's coronation  
It is the sobbing cry of a Jewish heart  
It is an alarm clock, arousing us from our spiritual slumber

The shofar is also mindful of the biblical story of Abraham binding his son Isaac, when a ram was caught in the thicket and sacrificed in Isaac's stead. We blow a ram's horn to recall the great act of faith in God performed by Abraham and Isaac; tradition records that this event occurred on the day of Rosh Hashana.

The shofar is not blown when Rosh Hashana falls on

Shabbat.

A central part of Rosh Hashana is the festive meal. During the High Holidays, a round challah is used symbolizing fullness and completion. We dip the bread into honey, and also an apple into honey, symbolizing our prayer for a sweet new year. On Rosh Hashana, we also eat a series of foods that symbolize good things we hope for in the coming year.

It is customary to greet others with the words: "L'shana Tova Ketivah vi-chatima Tova." This means: "For a good year You should be written and sealed in the good (Book of Life)."

The "Tashlich" prayer is said on the first afternoon of Rosh Hashana by a pool of water that preferably has fish in it. These prayers are symbolic of the casting away of our mistakes. When the first day of Rosh Hashana falls on Shabbat, it is said on the afternoon of the second day.

While the decision for "another year of life" is handed down on Rosh Hashana, the verdict is not "sealed" unto Yom Kippur. Therefore, the 10 days from Rosh Hashana to Yom Kippur are a crucial period when most peoples' judgment "hangs in the balance." During these "Ten Days of Repentance," we engage in intense introspection, and are particularly careful with our speech, actions, and mitzvah observance.

## Yom Kippur

Following the Golden Calf, Moses pleaded with God to forgive the Jewish people. Finally, on Yom Kippur, atonement was achieved and Moses brought the second set of Tablets down from Mount Sinai. From that day forward, every Yom Kippur has carried with it a special power to cleanse the mistakes of Jews (both individually and collectively) and to wipe the slate clean.

Yom Kippur is thus the holiest day of the Jewish year. In order to help us achieve a high spiritual level, there are five areas of physical involvement which we remove ourselves from on Yom Kippur:

eating and drinking  
washing  
applying oils or lotions to the skin  
marital relations  
wearing leather shoes

The Yom Kippur fast begins before sundown, and extends 25 hours until the following nightfall.

Though Yom Kippur atones for transgressions against God, this does not include wrongs committed against our fellow human beings. It is therefore the universal Jewish custom sometime before Yom Kippur to apologize and seek forgiveness from any friends, relative, or acquaintances whom we may have harmed or insulted over the past year.

The High Holidays are followed five days later by Sukkot, a holiday of immense joy, where we express our complete trust in God, and celebrate our confidence in having received a "good judgment" for the coming year.