



The Voice

Founded 1906

Congregation Ahavath Israel
A Liberal Conservative Synagogue
Affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

August-September 2008

On the web at <http://ahavathisraelkingston.org>

Av-Elul-Tishri 5768

Message from the President

Friends,

As the High Holidays approach, Ahavath Israel stands at a crossroads. As all of you are aware by now, Rabbi Crystal is no longer with us. Since the middle of August, we have been operating without a rabbi. In the coming months, our Search Committee will be evaluating the needs of the congregation and will begin the process which will culminate in the hiring of a new spiritual leader for the congregation. This is a lengthy process that could take a year or more.

Some of you might be wondering how we can survive for a year or more without a rabbi. Folks, it ain't easy. When Rabbi Fish retired, we were without a rabbi for approximately 18 months before we hired Rabbi Grater. Thankfully, we had enough members of the congregation who were able to lead services and a few who read Torah. Back then, it seemed that the circumstances brought us closer together as a congregation. I am confident that we will once again come together as a family to assure that services run smoothly and that we continue to conduct business as usual.

Besides Shabbat services, there are a number of "holes" that have to be filled in the absence of a rabbi, and I am happy to say that we are doing a good job of filling those holes. The biggest "hole", and one that I'm sure is on everybody's mind, is the High Holidays. Fear not my friends. The Ritual Committee has hired a Rabbi who will be with us not only for Rosh Hashannah and Yom Kippur, but for Selichos, Sukkos and Simchas Torah. Rabbi Simeon Kolko from Rochester, NY, will be joining us as we welcome in the New Year. I hope all of you will join us, not only for the main event, but also for all the holidays, starting with Selichos. We have a wonderful program planned and Rabbi Kolko looks forward to meeting as many of you as possible. At this time I would like to extend a special thank you to Rhona and Jeremy Schiffres, who have graciously offered to host Rabbi Kolko in their home for the High Holidays. Rhona and Jeremy have

always been there for the shul, and once again have stepped up to the plate.

Which brings me to the next subject: coverage for services in the coming months. We hope to, maybe once a month, bring in visiting Rabbis or Cantors to lead services. That still leaves three weekends a month that we must cover on our own. At present we have a handful of members who have been leading services and reading Torah and Haftarah. Folks, we need your help. For the past month, we have been relying on the "usual suspects" to lead services. This is a lot to ask of them, especially since most of them are also our Torah readers (which takes a lot of preparation). I am asking any of you who can to step up and join us in leading services. We are not asking you to lead an entire service, just a portion, or even just a few prayers. We desperately need your help. Please contact Bernie King-Smith or myself if you are interested in helping out.

The other major area of concern is our Talmud Torah. No need to worry, as the Education Committee has stepped in and has our Hebrew School in better shape than it has been in years. We have a full staff of teachers, and classes are set to begin in a matter of days.

As you can see, we have things under control. However, we cannot maintain things for long with just a handful of volunteers. We must all come together as a family to assure that Congregation Ahavath Israel not only survives, but thrives. It is easy to just pay your dues, sit on the sidelines and criticize. The hard part is coming down into the trenches and making a commitment. We need you to step up and pitch in.

Wishing you and your families a happy and healthy New Year, I am


Jerry Weiss

President

Congregation Ahavath Israel

On the web at
<http://ahavathisraelkingston.org>

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Kingston, NY 12402-3063
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Email: Ahavath_israel_sec1@juno.com

Schedule of Weekly Services
Shabbat Services
Friday 7:30 pm Saturday 9:30 am Sunday Minyan 9:00 am

Office Hours
Tuesday - Friday 10:00-3:00

Congregation Officers and Staff	
President	Jerry Weiss
Email: president@aikny.org	
1 st V.P.	Daniel Rafkind
2 nd VP	Marsha Weiss
Treasurer	Susan Hirsch
Recording Sec'y	Geri Keyes
Corresp. Sec'y	Chris Kowalenko
Office Sec'y	Mary Lessner
Sisterhood Pres.	Candace Belles
The Voice	
Editors:	Rebecca Balzac
Email: rbalzac@hvc.rr.com	
.....	Susan Rafkind
Email: sfracf@gmail.com	

Sponsor a Shabbat Luncheon
Have a birthday, anniversary or other special occasion? Why not sponsor a Shabbat luncheon? Starting in October, we hope to have a monthly Shabbat luncheon. Please consider sponsoring one. Call the office or Candy Belles for information.

Sign up for Goodsearch. Go to: http://www.goodsearch.com ; Sign up for the charity Congregation Ahavath Israel and every time you use Goodsearch as your search engine you help make money for the synagogue.
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Sisterhood is looking for someone who loves to shop and has some free time to revitalize the Gift Shop. Call Chris Kowalenko at 338-8612.

Cell Phones and Services
When attending synagogue on Shabbat or festivals, please remember we are Shomer Shabbat and therefore the use of cell phones is prohibited. Please make sure they are turned off or on silent during services. Also be aware that calls should not be made to the Synagogue from sundown on Friday to sundown on Saturday night on Shabbat and including sundown to sundown on certain festivals. Check the calendar in each issue of the voice and on our website for candle-lighting and end times.
Even though your own observance may not be the same as the synagogue, please make sure that no synagogue business is conducted on Shabbat (ie: shopping for synagogue functions, phone calls or emails to synagogue members regarding synagogue business, etc.).
If you have specific questions please, please see any Ritual Committee Member.
Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

<i>This issue of the Voice is sponsored by</i> Dr. Cy Gruberg, PhD
<i>In memory of my beloved mother</i> Sadie J. Gruberg <i>August 28, 1896</i>
<i>"There is not a day that you are not thought of and missed" Love, Cy</i>

This issue of the Voice is sponsored by

Rebecca Balzac & Timothy Cox

In memory of Audrey F. Balzac

May 28, 1928-Sept. 11, 1999

High Holidays 5769

The Ritual Committee is pleased to announce that Rabbi Simeon Kolko has accepted our offer to lead our Fall holiday services at Congregation Ahavath Israel from the Shabbat of Selichot through the end of Simhat Torah. A copy of the full High Holiday schedule is included in this issue. Since Rabbi Kolko will be our guest, it is important that as many people attend services as possible. All the holidays occur on weekdays this year and therefore we encourage everyone to make the extra effort to attend.

Please join us for Tashlich which is scheduled for 5:30 PM on Tuesday September 30th. This ceremony for the casting of our sins will take place at the Washington Avenue bridge over the Esopus Creek. We will also need help setting up the Succah on Sunday October 5th. Anyone who can help make a minyon and can stay to assemble the succah afterwards will be greatly appreciated. Also, please mark your calendars for our Simhat Torah celebration on the evening of Tuesday, October 21st. Everyone is invited to join us for singing and dancing.

We want to thank all the congregants who have already accepted responsibilities for reading Torah and Haftorah, and for blowing shofar, etc., during services on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Since we will not have a Cantor this year, those participating will really make a difference and will help Rabbi Kolko get through the long days.

If you have any questions about High Holidays, please contact Bernie King-Smith. You may e-mail him at wombat2ny@gmail.com or call him at 845-336-7129.

Welcome Rabbi Simeon Kolko.

We would like to welcome Rabbi Kolko, his wife Sherri and son Zachary to Congregation Ahavath Israel for the High Holidays. Rabbi Kolko will be leading holiday services from Selichot through Simhat Torah.

Rabbi Kolko is a native of Rochester, New York and graduated from Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio. In 1985, he graduated from a dual-degree program designed to prepare students for careers in Jewish Communal Service. Through this program, he received an MSW from the University of Maryland School of Social Work and a Masters in Jewish Studies from the Baltimore Hebrew University.

Rabbi Kolko served as a Hillel Director for seven years at Penn State College before leaving to attend Rabbinical School at the Jewish Theological Seminary. Following ordination from JTS in 1998, he served as Rabbi of congregations in Monroe and Vestal, New York, and in Youngstown, Ohio. He was also interim Rabbi of Synagogue Emanu-el in Charleston, South Carolina.

Rabbi Kolko is the co-founder of Kolko & Ward Diversity Consultants, INC. He also teaches in the Temple Beth El Hebrew High School in Rochester NY.

Congregation Ahavath Israel Talmud Torah

The 2008-2009 Hebrew School year will begin with our first session on Sunday, September 14. All registration fees will be due by September 7. With an expanded faculty in place, we will be offering classes at the Nursery level through Post B'nei Mitzvah. Classes will meet on Sunday mornings and Wednesday afternoons. Members and non-members are welcome. Enrollment is limited. Please call the synagogue office at 845-338-4409 Tuesday through Friday from 10-3 for details.

Sisterhood News By Candace Belles

Mark your calendars:

- Sept. 6th - Grandparents Shabbat, watch your snail mail for details
- Sept. 10th Book club
- Sept. 17th Paid- up dinner
- Oct. 24th Brisket dinner
- Nov. 8th Square dancing
- Nov. 16th Rummage Sale

This is just a short list! We are jumping into fall with a full slate. I am looking to add a few new projects. If you have any ideas call me or, better yet, catch me in the hall, and we'll talk. I wish everyone a very happy new year.

Kitchen News

By Candace Belles

Anyone wishing to donate to our break the fast fund please send a check to Congregation Ahavath Israel with a memo to that fund. Donations are tax deductible. We will soon be baking. If you have new ideas for treats, let me know. The ovens are always available and ready to go.

Wanted

Someone who loves to be in the kitchen to learn kitchen rules and regulations of Kosher Conservative Kashrut. Please call Candy Belles at 331-8711. Helpers are always appreciated!

MI SHABERACH LIST

We are updating our Mi Shaberach List. Names will remain on the Mi Shaberach list for one month unless the office has been notified to keep the person's name on longer. You must call the office (338-4409) each month that you want the person left on the list. We would like their Hebrew name and their English name along with the name of the person submitting this information. Thank you for your co-operation.

Chris Kowalenko

Congregation Ahavath Israel Burial Benefits

Are you aware that synagogue membership allows you to purchase burial rights in Congregation Ahavath Israel's section of Montrepose Cemetery in Kingston? The burial benefit plan includes the cemetery plot plus payment toward some of the internment costs. Plan fee is based on age at the time of enrollment. If you would like more detailed information on the burial benefit, call the synagogue office for a Plan description or contact the Synagogue office.

Congregation Ahavath Israel can now accept credit cards in payment for dues and other fees from members. Currently we accept payments from Mastercard, Visa, and Diners Club. For dues payments, we can credit your account annually, quarterly, or monthly. If you wish to pay by credit card, we need to know your card number, the expiration date, the amount of the credit, and the expense which you are paying. Please make sure the numbers are legible. After completing each transaction, we will mail a record of the transaction to the member. Please mail the information to the synagogue c/o Financial Secretary.



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AUGUST-SEPTEMBER YAHRZEITS

"The Lord will guard your going out
and your coming home, now and forever"

יהוה ישמר צאתך
ובואך מעתה ועד עולם - Psalm 121

1 Av August 2	Pansy Propp Rachel Leah Kaufman	14 Av August 15	Donna Scher Lillian Schwartz
2 Av August 3	Arthur Davis Sarah Goldberg	15 Av August 16	Sadie Brown Julius Kirschner Harold Gollup Leah Wasserlaug
3 Av August 4	Gertrude Dubin Joseph Melamed Rae Millens Herman	18 Av August 19	Herbert G. Farber
4 Av August 5	Jack Shorr	19 Av August 20	Rose Samuels
5 Av August 6	Florence Propp Klein Leah Miriam Waxman Weber	20 Av August 21	Abraham Burkam
6 Av August 7	Murray Shapiro Arthur I. Heller Bella Schwartz Betty Tepper	21 Av August 22	Hyman Buchbinder
7 Av August 8	Rebecca Farber	22 Av August 23	Jack Marpet Robert Gold
8 Av August 9	Sidney Treinkman Rae Ellen Livingston Isaac Salzman Rev. Samuel Friedman Samuel Shapiro Samuel Kirschner	23 Av August 24	Morris Tepper Rafael Fischer Hyman Cutler
9 Av August 10	Max M. Schwartz Meyer Alcon Hanna Schwalbe Pauline B. Lakretz	24 Av August 25	Jane Aronson Sarah Shapiro
10 Av August 11	Rose Himmelstein Jen Wu Hana Lustig Meyer Isidore Gordon Abraham Zvi Schnur	25 Av August 26	David Kotler Herman Karp Theresa Kogon
11 Av August 12	Ida Rafalowsky	26 Av August 27	Julius Schutte Alexander Woolf Anna Greenwald Irene Schwartz Isadore Werbalowsky Samuel Cohen
12 Av August 13	Dolores Goldfarb Hattie Adner Morris Kinberg Kathy Pataky Arlene Hannah Hellman	27 Av August 28	Jacob Replansky Harry Schildhorn
13 Av August 14	Shirley Levinson Schneck Edward Schor Rita Lehner Jennie Silverberg	28 Av August 29	Morris Reuben Manya Dubin Emanuel Israel Levy Sadye G. Shapiro Gerald Gruberg

29 Av August 30	Ann Evans Schwartz Reuben Marcus Lillian Fein Louis Shapiro Sylvia Posner Quintman	14 Elul September 14	Abraham Tompkin Peshe Bobovnikoff
30 Av August 31	Anna Adin Jennie Karp	15 Elul September 15	Miriam Berman Mollie Kantrowitz Sherry Pinkus
1 Elul September 1	Samuel Werner	16 Elul September 16	Augusta Gerofsky Joseph Zimmerman
3 Elul September 3	Rachel Lewis Anne Werbalowsky Fannie Rabinowitz	17 Elul September 17	Morris Cutler
4 Elul September 4	Philip Brummel Rachel Saegen Ruth Lehner Abraham Meyer Wilner Hilda Wilpan	18 Elul September 18	Anna Buchbinder Bau Samuel Lampack Martin Spiegel Mollie Greenfield Dr. Harry P. Sussin
5 Elul September 5	Chaye Brossman Charlotte Lewis Irving Solomon Francis Pauker Yoselevitch Joseph Aronofsky	19 Elul September 19	Sam Liepshutz Martha Raymond
6 Elul September 6	Doris Fuchs Max Nadler Sylvia Jacobs	20 Elul September 20	Freida Weinstein Irving Reuben Sylvan Roos Hirsch
7 Elul September 7	Irene Ruth Kaplan Ernestine N. Rost Fannie Zwick	21 Elul September 21	Louis Gold Morris Nussbaum Sidney Tabakman
8 Elul September 8	Jeanette Tilkin	23 Elul September 23	Julius Yaes
9 Elul September 9	Martin Ira Netburn	24 Elul September 24	Bessie Feit Max Leventhal
10 Elul September 10	Minnie Pasco	25 Elul September 25	Alexander Rosen Seymour Werbalowsky
11 Elul September 11	Leo Goldsmith Murray Kaplan	26 Elul September 26	Joseph Alcon Carl Upright Ben Werbalowsky
12 Elul September 12	Rose Abramowitz Harold Porpa Ida Weinstein	27 Elul September 27	Jacob Margolis
13 Elul September 13	Josephine Bloomfield Clara Glowitz Isadore Lippman Herman Helmrich	28 Elul September 28	David Goldstein Rhea Schecter
		29 Elul September 29	Hilda Oseas Mollie S. Turner
		1 Tishri September 30	Louis Alcon Audrey Balzac Meryan Behar Eskenazi Alyson Cohen Libby Gerson

2008

**CONGREGATION AHAVATH ISRAEL
SCHEDULE OF HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES**

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All times are tentative. Please check with Synagogue for any changes.

SELICHOT	Saturday	September 20		9:00 PM
EREV ROSH HASHANAH	Monday	September 29	Mincha	6:30 PM
			Ma'ariv	7:00 PM
ROSH HASHANAH (*Babysitting available)		Tuesday September 30	Wednesday October 1	
	Shaharit	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	
	Shofar Service	11:15 AM	11:15 AM	
	Musaf	11:30 AM	11:30 AM	
	Benediction	1:00 PM	1:00 PM	
	Tashlikh	5:30 PM		
SHABBAT SHUVA	Friday	October 4	7:30 PM	
	Saturday	October 5	9:30 AM	
EREV YOM KIPPUR	Wednesday	October 8	Mincha	6:00 PM
			Kol Nidre	6:15 PM
YOM KIPPUR (*Babysitting Available)	Thursday	October 9	Shaharit	9:00 AM
			Yizkor	11:30 AM
			Musaf	12:00 Noon
			Break	2:00 – 4:15 PM
			Mincha	4:50 PM
			Ne'ila	5:50 PM
			Ma'ariv	6:50 PM
			Shofar	7:10 PM
			Havdalah / Break-the-fast	Everyone welcome

*Babysitting will be available for children age 2 and older

JUNIOR CONGREGATION SCHEDULE

ROSH HASHANAH ~ FIRST DAY 11:15 AM
ROSH HASHANAH ~ SECOND DAY 11:15 AM
YOM KIPPUR 11:00 AM

Congregation Ahavath Israel
Schedule of Additional Holiday Services

2008

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EREV SUKKOT	Monday	October 13	Ma'ariv	6:30 PM
SUKKOT – First Day	Tuesday	October 14	Shaharit	9:30 AM
SUKKOT – Second Day	Wednesday	October 15	Shaharit	9:30 AM
SH'MINI ATZERET	Monday	October 20	Ma'ariv	6:15 PM
	Tuesday	October 21	Shaharit (Yizkor will be recited)	9:30 AM
SIMCHAT TORAH	Tuesday	October 21	Ma'ariv (Bring the children...gala festival service!)	6:30 PM
	Wednesday	October 22	Shaharit	9:30 AM

HIGH HOLIDAYS SECURITY

We will have our usual level of security at the synagogue. We will have security personnel at the entrance to the synagogue building. We will also have additional ushers to assist in the security process. We do ask that you follow a few guidelines to make our services smooth running.

Please do not bring anything into the synagogue besides your tallit bag and or purse. If you have a medical reason to bring additional items or if you need to bring items to care for a small child, we do ask that you allow us to inspect these items.

If you have out of town guest or family members who will be joining you at services, please arrange to arrive together so you can identify your guests to the ushers. The ushers will be observing people who they don't recognize at services.

We hope to start off the year with safe and meaningful High Holidays services. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

Shabbat Services

Friday 7:30 pm

6:15 pm if dinner

Saturday 9:30 am

*Congregation Ahavath Israel**September 2008**1st Elul- 1st Tishri 5768-69*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Rosh Chodesh Elul 1 Elul	2 2 Elul	3 3 Elul	4 4 Elul	5 7:05 pm 5 Elul	6 8:08 pm 6 Elul
7 Talmud Torah Registration 9-11 am 7 Elul	8 8 Elul	9 9 Elul	10 10 Elul	11 11 Elul	12 6:52 pm 12 Elul	13 7:54 pm 13 Elul
14 1st Day Talmud Torah 9-12 14 Elul	15 15 Elul	16 16 Elul	17 Talmud Torah 4-6 17 Elul	18 18 Elul	19 6:40 pm 19 Elul	20 7:41 pm Selichot 9:00 pm 20 Elul
21 Talmud Torah 9-12 21 Elul	22 22 Elul	23 23 Elul	24 Talmud Torah 4-6 24 Elul	25 25 Elul	26 6:28 pm 26 Elul	27 7:29 pm 27 Elul
28 Talmud Torah 9-12 28 Elul	29 6:23 pm Erev Rosh Hashanah 29 Elul	30 Rosh Hashanah - 1st Day 1 Tishri 5769				