

# Congregation Anshe Sholom Kol Sholom



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Dear friends,

As I write this message, Congregation Anshe Sholom prepares to hold indoor services -- for the first time since Purim -- this coming Shabbat Parshat Korach, June 27<sup>th</sup>. Permit me, in this message, to recap for posterity's sake the record of our shul's decisions concerning religious worship during the COVID-19 pandemic and the human sensitivities that undergirded those decisions.

Life changed for me on the morning of Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. While studying Daf Yomi in the shul library with Jeff Kelman and Gary Waller, I noticed an email on my phone from Westchester Day School. School was closed for the day because of a COVID case in the broader Day School community. Hours later we found out that Young Israel of New Rochelle had been shuttered by the Health Dept for a minimum of two weeks. WDS followed with an announcement that school would be closed until at least March 17<sup>th</sup>. All day Tuesday I wondered whether people from YINR might show up at our minyan on Wednesday morning and what my reaction ought to be if that were to happen. It never did.

In fact, almost none of our congregants showed up on Wednesday; we had no minyan. Shockingly, we had 10 men on Thursday. But Thursday was the day Rabbi Fink announced that he had tested positive for COVID. I immediately went into quarantine, having interacted with him at a recent funeral. [Coincidentally, my kids went into quarantine the same day due to positive tests of classmates at WDS. Since I was out of action, and many of our younger members were afraid to come to shul out of concern for their pregnant wives, we cancelled shul for Shabbat, March 7. It was Parshat Zachor. It pained me to cancel services, but I felt we had no choice.

The next question was what to do about Purim. Most people, by that point, were uncomfortable coming into the synagogue building. So, I purchased a Zoom account and broadcast the nighttime reading over my cellphone. I did the reading from the back porch of my house, with some of our congregants listening in-person from socially distanced spots in my backyard and driveway. We were fortunate to have a Chabad emissary read the Megillah at night in the shul. We had no replacement reader for the morning. So, with one day left to my quarantine, I read the Megillah from the emergency exit landing outside the sanctuary. That was our last service in the shul before the world shut down. Over the next few days, I perfected my understanding of Zoom, and we held Kabbalat Shabbat services live from an empty sanctuary on Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. This would be the start of a trend that lasted for two months, holding weekly Kabbalat Shabbat and Havdalah services on Zoom. On Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> we began having daily Shacharit on Zoom, inclusive of Mourner's Kaddish. Because of an ever-increasing number of mourners in the broader New York Jewish community, our Zoom minyan became quite popular. We added daily Mincha-Maariv after Pesach.

When Governor Cuomo relaxed the restrictions on inperson religious services, we began conducting services in the shul's parking lot. Our first service was on Friday night, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. I recited a שהחיינו in honor of the occasion. Because of the initial NYS ruling that such religious worship gatherings could only accommodate 10 people, we divided the parking lot into two distinct gatherings, with my car serving as a mechitzah for both religious and COVID purposes.

As the attendance grew, we had to schedule two Shavuot morning services each day of the holiday in order to accommodate our members. In early June, when the restrictions on attendance were waived, we were able to join together for one large service on Shabbat mornings. On a daily basis, we have conducted morning and evening services in the parking lot, which are also broadcast on Zoom for those still unready to participate in-person. [We are likely to continue doing so for the foreseeable future. The daily Zoom service is a tremendous Chesed that our community has done for others.]

The question of when to resume indoor services is a difficult one. In order not to exclude those uncomfortable going indoors, we have decided to continue – for the time being -- outdoor davening for every service. But given the summer heat, the stifling effect of wearing a mask during prayers, and the absence of shade in sections of the parking lot, we are now ready to offer indoor services on Shabbat morning in addition to the outdoor services. This arrangement also solves our problem of overcrowding at the outdoor minyan, which itself was an indication of how our membership is coming out of its "quarantine" and reembracing ordinary life.

I would like to believe that we acted prudently over the past four months. It is our goal to enable our congregants (and the Jewish community more broadly) to have an active religious life even under adverse conditions. I believe we have largely succeeded.

Best wishes for an enjoyable summer, **Rabbi Evan Hoffman** 



# THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



Dear Members and Friends,

My last message in the Bulletin was pre-COVID. As I write this, NY State is in the process of a phased re-opening. I hope the most difficult parts of the COVID pandemic are behind us and that we all remain safe, healthy and sane. As we have re-opened for outdoor davening and plan for indoor minyanim, I know that opinions and anxiety levels vary. I want to be clear that the risk of COVID, while not high to many, can be life threatening to some and while there are known risk factors, people without these can still become dangerously ill. Outdoor gathering is lower risk than indoor gathering and this does have to be balanced against the potential discomfort and risk associated with outdoor davening. The Rabbi and Executive Committee have discussed how to maintain safety as best we can and at the same time service the needs and desires of our Congregation and community. We will continue to work to accomplish these goals.

Our annual Testimonial Dinner was replaced by a Virtual Communal Celebration which was well attended, warm and surprisingly enjoyable. The event was planned for 90 minutes but most stayed for over 2 hours! A testament to the importance we place on the community and each other individually.

We are starting to think about High Holiday Services with appropriate social distancing and health measures. It would be helpful for us to know who would participate in indoor services for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. We know that things remain fluid and will be reaching out as we get closer.

I look forward to the day that the current health crisis is behind us and we can resume our usual Shul activities.





# Connect with Anshe Sholom via Zoom



SHACHARIT Zoom Meeting

https://zoom.us/j/331761896?pwd=NjYvSGp3VHhsK2JyW DRLVVZqN0xnZz09

#### **SHACHARIT**

Sundays 8:00 AM Mon-Fri 7:30 AM

#### JOIN OUR ZOOM JEWISH EDUCATION MEETINGS

https://zoom.us/j/807751748?pwd=ODZHUnJCZCsrd3Yz bnNhVE9ENEdqZz09

#### HISTORY OF ZIONISM W/RABBI HOFFMAN

Monday 7:00 PM (use link above)

#### TALMUD CLASS W/RABBI HOFFMAN

Thursdays 8:15 PM (use link above)

#### DAF YOMI W/RABBI HOFFMAN

Sun-Fri 4:00 PM (use link above)



#### PARSHAH CLASS W/RABBI KRACKO

Wednesdays 7:00 PM https://us04web.zoom.us/j/5912236352?pwd=d205ZXM4 N3B6VzRPdFITSHhnSjJUQT09



Dear friends,

I am still kvelling from our wonderful Congregational Community Celebration, emceed by Tom Grimaldi, with Marc Bessler's words, Alan Penn's slide show, Yosef Pessin's Rogers Park music video, and Rabbi Hoffman's inspirational remarks. It was great hearing from you all, and everyone who spoke at the conclusion. Yishar Kochachem!

As for my message, I am thankful that Rabbi Hoffman has been able to keep us connected and united as a community, and grateful that we are able to conduct live and in person services once again. I hope that our new women members will join Sisterhood, and think this coming year, though challenging, will be a great one.



*To the Manaster Family in honor of new baby girl, Emunah Tova, from:* Fany & Shlomo Dubi, Sisterhood

*To Eric Steiner and Shifra Mincer in honor of new baby boy, Caleb Maxwell, from:* Fany & Shlomo Dubi, and Sisterhood.

To Betsy and Sid Baum in honor of grandson Andy's Bar Mitzvah, from: Fany & Shlomo Dubi.

> Refuah Shelema to Sona Bernfeld, from: Fany & Shlomo Dubi.

To Marlene Lerner in honor of receiving the Julien Y. Bernstein Award of the Westchester Jewish Council, from: Fany & Shlomo Dubi, Charlotte & Jerry Lovich, Ruth Grayson, Sisterhood.

Mazal Tov to Laurie Kracko & Chaim Greenberg on their engagement, from: Charlotte & Jerry Lovich, Fany & Shlomo Dubi, Ruth Grayson, Lee Katz, Honey & Sol Neier, Joanne Wiesner-Steiner, and Sisterhood. Mazal Tov to Ellen & Elliot Kracko on Laurie's engagement to Chaim Greenberg, from: Charlotte & Jerry Lovich, Fany & Shlomo Dubi, Ruth Grayson, Lee Katz, Honey & Sol Neier, Sisterhood, Joanne Wiesner-Steiner.



*To Janet Waller, in memory of mother Helen, from:* Joan & Leon Ashner and Diane Steinfink

*To Barbara Levine in memory of brother Glen, from:* Fany & Shlomo Dubi

*To Constance Levi on loss of brother Arnold Henry Adler, from:* Charlotte & Jerry Lovich. Ruth Grayson, Joanne Wiesner-Steiner, Fany & Shlomo Dubi, Lee Katz, Honey & Sol Neier, Marlene & Armand Lerner, Gertrude Goldstein, and Sue Merims.



Some participating well-known retailers are:

• Bed, Bath & Beyond • Starbucks

- Stop & Shop Shop Rite Macy's Staples
- Gap & Old Navy ... and many, many more! No extra charge to you! Great gift idea! Anshe Sholom gets the dividend!

Call Ruth Grayson, 914-632-4555, or the office, 914-632-9220.

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### In Memory Of ...

Gnesha Ozick, beloved mother of Daniel Ozick, Tsvi (and Lisa) Ozick, from: Constance Levi

Larry Coleman, beloved brother of Dr. Morton Coleman, from: Constance Levi, Janet & Gary Waller, Estelle Marshak & Elihu Massel

Jose Vieira Rodriguez, beloved father of Edite Vieira, from: Constance Levi, Janet & Gary Waller, Estelle Marshak & Elihu Massel

Connie Polin, beloved mother of Kenneth Polin, from: Amy Alpert & Andrew Nelson

*Elaine Levitin beloved wife, mother and grandmother, to Martin Levitin and family, from:* Amy & Neil Alpert

Alvin Solomon, beloved brother of Sam Solomon, from: Janet & Gary Waller

## In Honor Of ...

Laurie Kracko & Chaim Greenberg on their engagement, from: Barbara & Jeffrey Kelman

Rabbi Hoffman, from: Barbara & Jeffrey Kelman



The more familiar one is with a prayer, the greater the danger that one will say it without the proper concentration. One such prayer is the "*Ashrei*".

One must be careful to say the *pasuk* (verse) of *Pohte'akh eht Yadekha* (You open Your hand) with concentration. If one did not concentrate when saying it, it must be repeated. One must also have the appropriate intent when saying *Tehillah LeDavid*. One who says *Tehillah LeDavid* every day is assured a portion in the world to come.

And what is the essential aspect of the intent that one must have? One must understand the meaning of the words that *HaKadosh Baruch Hu* (the Holy One Blessed Be He) watches over all His creatures and provides their livelihood.

Please let your family, friends and colleagues know about this important website. They can sign up to receive these daily messages at: http://www.atorahminute.com

# Sisterhood of Congregation Anshe Sholom 50 North Avenue • New Rochelle NY 10805 • 914-632-9220

The Sisterhood of Congregation Anshe Sholom invites you to become a member or renew your membership. All women are welcome and membership in the congregation is not required.

Our Sisterhood has served the synagogue for over 110 years. We are a vibrant group whose activities include:

- ◆ Educational & social programs year-round
- Programs to celebrate the Jewish holidays
- Welcome of new members to the synagogue
- Sponsorship of Shabbos dinner in the sukkah
- ◆ Community outreach

We invite you to join us! Dues are: \$25 for one year • \$125 lifetime member

Shalom! The Anshe Sholom Sisterhood

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Please make checks payable to:
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Send form and check to: 50 North Avenue, New Rochelle, NY 10805

#### www.anshesholomnewrochelle.org

JULY 2020 TAMMUZ/AV 5780						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Contemporation Daily ZOOM Services • JULY Sundays 8:00AM Mondays–Fridays 7:30AM	The second secon	שאיכתי איכתי איכתי יומי אינגערי יומי אינגערי	1   9 Tammuz Parshah Class W/R. Kracko 7:00PM	2   10 Tammuz Class W/R. Hoffman Talmud 8:15PM	3   11 Tammuz 11 Tammuz 8:12 PM Shacharit 7:30 AM	4   12 Tammuz CHUKAT-BALAK Shacharit 8:30 AM INSIDE 9:15 OUTSIDE Mincha 8:00 PM Haydolb 0:15 PM
	4:00		Shacharit 7:30 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM	Eve. Service 7:30 PM	Havdalah 9:15 PM
5   13 Tammuz	6 14 Tammuz Class W/R. Hoffman History 7:00PM	7   15 Tammuz	8   16 Tammuz Parshah Class W/R. Kracko 7:00PM	9   17 Tammuz FAST OF TAMMUZ Class W/R. Hoffman Talmud 8:15PM	10   18 Tammuz	11   19 Tammuz PINCHAS
Shacharit 8:00 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM	Fast BEGINS 4:20 AM Shacharit 7:30 AM Mincha 8:00 PM Fast ENDS 8:58 PM	Shacharit 7:30 AM Eve. Service 7:30 PM	Shacharit 8:30 AM INSIDE 9:15 OUTSIDE Mincha 8:00 PM Havdalah 9:13 PM
12   20 Tammuz	13   21 Tammuz Class W/R. Hoffman	$14\mid$ 22 Tammuz	15   23 Tammuz	16   24 Tammuz Class	17   25 Tammuz <b>1</b> 7   8:06 PM	18   26 Tammuz MATOT-MASEI
Shacharit 8:00 AM	History 7:00PM Shacharit 7:30 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM	W/R. Kracko 7:00PM Shacharit 7:30 AM	W/R. Hoffman Talmud 8:15PM Shacharit 7:30 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM Eve. Service 7:30 PM	Shacharit 8:30 AM INSIDE 9:15 OUTSIDE Mincha 8:00 PM Havdalah 9:09 PM
19   27 Tammuz	20   28 Tammuz	21   29 Tammuz	22   1 Av	23   2 Av	24   3 Av	25   4 Av
	Class VR. Hoffman History 7:00PM		ROSH CHODESH Parshah Class W/R. Kracko 7:00PM	Class Class W/R. Hoffman Talmud 8:15PM	8:00 PM	DEVARIM SHABBAT CHAZON Shacharit 8:30 AM INSIDE 9:15 OUTSIDE Mincha 7:50 PM
Shacharit 8:00 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM	Eve. Service 7:30 PM	Havdalah 9:03 PM
26   5 Av	27   6 Av Class W/R. Hoffman History 7:00PM	28   7 Av	29   8 Av Erev tisha b'av	30   9 Av TISHA B'AV	31   10 Av 10 Av 153 PM	
Shacharit 8:00 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM Mincha, Ma'ariv & Eicha 7:50 PM	Shacharit & Kinnot 7:00 AM Lecture 6:45 PM Mincha 7:45 PM Fast ENDS 8:58 PM	Shacharit 7:30 AM Eve. Service 7:30 PM	SUMMER SUMMER

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#### Kol Sholom | 7

AUGUST 2020 AV/ELUL 5780						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
C Daily ZOOM Services in AUGUST Sundays 8:00AM Mondays–Fridays	when the product of the order of the product of the	יום קרות לא המוכ במכך הבקור וליק ובן קרלה. גם ליך ד הם הקרות לאות: ביצור שינירוים בנסיך לגל בארשים, לקרון לי				1   11 Av VAETCHANAN Shabbat Nachamu Shacharit 8:30 AM INSIDE 9:15 OUTSIDE Mincha 7:45 PM
7:30AM		)PM				Havdalah 8:56 PM
2   12 Av	3   13 Av Class W/R. Hoffman History 7:00PM	<b>4</b>   14 Av	5   15 Av Parshah Class W/R. Kracko 7:00PM	6   16 Av Class W/R. Hoffman Talmud 8:15PM	7   17 Av 11 Av 7:45 PM	8   18 Av EKEV Shacharit 8:30 AM INSIDE 9:15 OUTSIDE
Shacharit 8:00 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM Eve. Service 7:30 PM	Mincha 7:40 PM Havdalah 8:48 PM
9   19 Av	10   20 Av	11   21 Av	12   22 Av	13   23 Av	14   24 Av	15   25 Av
Shacharit 8:00 AM	Class W/R. Hoffman History 7:00PM Shacharit 7:30 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM	Parshah Class W/R. Kracko 7:00PM Shacharit 7:30 AM	Class W/R. Hoffman Talmud 8:15PM Shacharit 7:30 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM	RE'EH Shacharit 8:30 AM INSIDE 9:15 OUTSIDE Mincha 7:30 PM
16 26 Av	17   27 Av	18 28 Av	19 29 Av	20 30 Av	21 1 Elul	Havdalah 8:39 PM
	Class VR. Hoffman History 7:00PM		Parshah Class W/R. Kracko 7:00PM	ROSH CHODESH Class W/R. Hoffman Talmud 8:15PM	7:25 PM	SHOFTIM Shacharit 8:30 AM INSIDE 9:15 OUTSIDE
Shacharit 8:00 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM Eve. Service 7:30 PM	Mincha 7:20 PM Havdalah 8:28 PM
23   3 Elul Shacharit 8:00 AM 30   10 Elul	244 ElulClass w/R. HoffmanHistory 7:00PMShacharit 7:30 AM3111 Elul	25   5 Elul	26   6 Elul Parshah Class W/R. Kracko 7:00PM	27   7 Elul Class W/R. Hoffman Talmud 8:15PM	28   8 Elul <b>1</b> 7:15 PM	29   9 Elul KI TETZE Shacharit
Shacharit 8:00 AM	<b>Class w/R. Hoffman</b> History 7:00PM Shacharit 7:30 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM	Shacharit 7:30 AM Eve. Service 7:20 PM	8:30 AM INSIDE 9:15 OUTSIDE Mincha 7:10 PM Havdalah 8:18 PM

#### Congregation Anshe Sholom

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