

Chadeish Yameinu News

Vol. 2 No. 4

Renew Our Days

Fall 2004

Rebbe's Corner

Summer transitions into Autumn, and we come once again to the sacred season of the High Holidays, known as the Yamim Noraim, the Days of Awe. It is a time to get back on our spiritual path, both as a community and as individuals. I am in awe of the incredible wisdom of our ancestors in tapping into the depth of the spiritual current at this time of year and in establishing such an effective way of accessing it. How amazing it is to do deep individual work in the midst of the fullness of community.

The seasonal theme is T'shuvah. Often translated as "repentance," it is literally "turning," or "responding." As many of you know, I am fond of the teaching of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, that G-d speaks to us in the form of a Question, and how we live our very lives is our Response.

While T'shuvah is the focus of the season, it is not something we are to focus on only at this season. As Heschel implies, our Response to G-d's question is daily, constant. Indeed, by tradition, we recall three times a day that G-d delights in our T'shuvah, delights in our constant re-focusing on what is truly our spiritual path.

There are, in fact, a number of prayers that are special for the holidays but which are found in the daily liturgy. The Akeidah, the story of the binding of Isaac, which we read on Rosh Hashanah, is found in the weekday morning service - "Hineni"/ "Here I Am" resounding at every recitation.

One of the prayers that we find in the traditional morning service comes from the Yom Kippur liturgy. I remember being moved by it even as a child, and it has stayed with me ever since.

(Continued on page 2)

Join Chadeish Yameinu for High Holiday Services

The High Holy Days approach: Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, and the ten day period they embrace, the annual time of reflection, turning, returning and renewal. Chadeish Yameinu's spiritual theme for this year is: **We always have a choice in what we do, and our choices matter to ourselves, our relationships, our world, the cosmos.** Led by many talented lay leaders, we will explore this theme through prayer, song, dance, meditation, and blessing.

Erev Rosh Hashana: Wednesday, September 15. Evening begins at 6:15 p.m. with music by Esther's Klezmer Band. Service begins promptly at 7 p.m. There will be a Kiddush after services.

Rosh Hashana: Thursday, September 16, 10:00 a.m. (Doors open at 9:30 a.m.) Kiddush at 2:00 p.m., followed by a potluck lunch. Please bring a vegetarian or vegan potluck dish to share. Tashlich will be at 4:30 p.m. at Rio Del Mar beach.

Erev Yom Kippur (Kol Nidre service): Friday, September 24. Evening begins at 6:15 p.m. with music by Esther's Klezmer Band. Service begins promptly at 7 p.m. You are invited to join us in the custom of wearing white and wearing a tallit (prayer shawl) for the Kol Nidre service.

Yom Kippur: Saturday, September 25, 10:00 a.m. (Doors open at 9:30 a.m.). You are invited to join us in the custom of wearing white on Yom Kippur. Yizkor Service: Begins at about 4:30 p.m. You are invited to bring a photo or other memorabilia of loved ones who have passed on. As in past years, the service will provide an opportunity to witness each other's stories

(Continued on page 3)

Rebbe's Corner

(Continued from page 1)

Teacher of All the Worlds!

Not on account of our righteousness
do we offer our supplications before
You, but on account our Your abundant
compassion.

What are we? What is our life?

What is our kindness? What is our
righteousness?

What is our deliverance?

What is our power? What is our strength?

What can we say before You?

The questions, after acknowledging G-d's
abundant compassion, are piercing. Read them again,
pausing after each question. What is our Response?

The prayer goes on to acknowledge the limits,
even futility, of fame and might; "the 'superiority' of
the human over the beast is nil." However, the prayer
continues, we nonetheless have an intimate relationship
with You, O G-d, going back to our first ancestors.

And our role as Jews (YeHUDim) is to give thanks
(I'HODot). To be a Jew is to be in the lineage of
Gratitude and to acknowledge the blessing and sanctity
of G-d's presence in the world.

We are fortunate!

How good is our portion!

How pleasant our destiny!

How beautiful our heritage!

We are fortunate!

How fortunate, indeed, are we to have this
beautiful heritage. Fortunate are we to have a
community such as Chadeish Yameinu and our
unbelievable Santa Cruz Jewish community. May this
new year bring us ever-constant opportunities to walk
the path together, as we Respond to G-d's eternal
question.

L'shanah tovah tikatevu v'tichatemu.

Reb Eli

S'lichot Observance Forgiveness & T'Shuvah

S'lichot, traditionally celebrated late in the evening
after the Shabbat that comes one week before Rosh
Hashanah, is an important step in [the month of] Elul
preparation for T'shuvah, our deepest, innermost soul
searching.

Join Nina Amir Lacey and Michelle Hodah in the
twilight hours of Shabbat, the highest moments of the
unfolding of the five levels of our soul-wave. We'll
glide gracefully into Havdalah, then continue our
meditation and chants of forgiveness of our deepest
essence, each other and all those we have known in the
past and in the present.

September 11, 2004, 6:15-10:00pm at the home of
Michelle Hodah and Mark-Paul Eliahu. Please bring an
open heart and a dessert to share.

For more information, contact Michelle at
831-427-1734

(See the Shabbat schedule for directions to
Michelle and Mark-Paul's home.)

Chadeish Yameinu Community School Expands Offerings

The Chadeish Yameinu Community School is
beginning its second year on September 26.

This year we're adding a second weekly
meeting to help prepare our young students for bar
and bat mitzvah. The parents and students are
excited, and eager for the School to succeed.

The biggest challenge we face is getting the
word out to all those parents who might be
interested in having their children participate in
this small, personalized, flexible and joyous
approach to Jewish education.

For more information, contact Zalmo
Bloombecker at Anudnic@aol.com or 475-4457.

CY High Holiday Services

(Continued from page 1)

about the people we most want to remember. **Bring:** Flashlights and sweaters for Neilah (last service of the day on Yom Kippur). **Neilah** service will begin at approximately 7:00 p.m., followed by a potluck Kiddush and break-the-fast meal at Unitarian Fellowship Church. Please bring a vegetarian or vegan dish to share. Dishes brought at the beginning of the day can be placed in the refrigerator.

Children: There will be childcare for young children (under age 7) during evening services and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the daytime services. Also, for older children, there will be special High Holy day children's services during the evening services and from 11 to 11:45 a.m. during the daytime services. Children under five years of age should be accompanied by an adult to the children's services. We are offering more children's services than ever before! Parents are asked to donate \$9.00 per family for each of the evening services for childcare, and \$18.00 per family for each of the daytime services. We are putting out the call for volunteers to spend a bit of time with the kids, doing some kind of High Holy Day activity (teach, read, do a project, sing, etc.) For more information and/or to volunteer, please contact Zalmo Bloombecker at anudnic@aol.com, or by calling 831-475-4457.

Volunteers are needed to set up and to clean up for all services. To volunteer or for other information on the services, contact Shalom Braveman at stephen@bravemantherapy.com or by calling 831-375-7553 (seven days a week).

Jewish renewal services with Chadeish Yameinu are egalitarian, creative and participatory. Services are free; donations are gratefully accepted. Our spiritual community is comprised of people with different financial resources. Your generous donation of \$25 or more per service will provide Chadeish Yameinu with the funds needed to continue creating these special events.

Tallitot: Please bring extra tallitot or shawls of any kind to use and make available for others to use.

Fasting: Not everyone fasts on Yom Kippur. That is your personal choice. You are welcome to bring your own snack to have whenever you choose. Please be discreet, however, to respect those who are fasting.

Location for all services: Unitarian Fellowship Church, 6401 Freedom Blvd., Aptos.

Directions: From Santa Cruz take Hwy 1 South to Freedom Blvd. exit and make a left over the freeway. From Monterey take same exit and make a right. The church is 1.2 miles from the freeway, on the right side of the street. Look for the church's sign low to the ground.

Deciding to Forgive A Step in the High Holiday Journey

What does it mean to forgive? Must you then forget? Must you reconcile? What is appealing about not forgiving? In this workshop, we will address these questions and begin the process of choosing to forgive (ourselves or another person) as a way of lightening our own burden and preparing ourselves to move unfettered into the Days of Awe.

Led by Shira Belford. Thursday, September 9, 7-9pm at Shira's house. Please rsvp and get directions, 426-9271. A donation of \$10 to Chadeish Yameinu will be appreciated. Please send it to CY at PO Box 3578, Santa Cruz, CA 95063-3578.

Ellul

By Holly Blue Hawkins

Ani L'Dodi, v'Dodi li--
I am to my Beloved,
and my Beloved is to me
But what am I to my Beloved
and what is my Beloved to me?

My Beloved is Shechinah
and I am a loving
and passionate mate
My Beloved is Adonai
and I become
a faithful servant
My Beloved is Avinu Malkeinu
and I stand before the Divine Magistrate
with nowhere to go but the Truth
My Beloved is Shaddai
and I
am a child
of the Universe.

Ani L'Dodi, V'Dodi Li
It is Ellul.

CY Shabbat Schedule September -November 2004

We have Shabbat services on selected Friday nights and Saturday mornings. Friday night services at the Garden are especially family friendly, so bring your children! They are welcome to stay throughout the service. We also have separate children's programming available at services for those who call the Bloombecker's at 475-3327 in advance. The schedule for the winter is being planned now so please contact Shalom Braveman, listed under Action Groups, if you would like to host a regular or special Shabbat service. Also, contact him if you would like help out, in any way, with Shabbat services, High Holiday services or both. B'Shalom!

Friday, August 27 - Sunday, August 29 — Shabbaton (Elul – Preparing for the High Holidays)
Time: Starts 5:00 pm on August 27 through 10am on August 29 (please bring a potluck dish for the time(s) you'll be joining. Call Etziel for details.
Place: Etziel's home, 714 Fairmont Avenue (see directions below)

Friday, August 27 - Welcoming Shabbat
Time: 5:00 pm, includes vegetarian potluck dinner (vegan dishes also appreciated).
Place: Etziel's home (see directions below)

Saturday, August 28 – Shacharit service (Part of the Elul Shabbaton)
Led by Reb Eli Cohen
Time: 10am, followed by silent vegetarian potluck lunch (vegan dishes also appreciated) at around 1pm.
Place: Etziel's home (see directions below)

Saturday, August 28 – Sunday, August 29 Alternating periods of silent, walking, and chanting meditations through the balance of the Elul retreat.
Time: beginning 2 pm on Saturday
Place: Etziel's home (see directions below)

Saturday, September 11 – Havdalah and Selichot Service – Preparing for the High Holidays
Led by Michelle Newman and Nina Amir Lacey
Time: 7 pm
Place: Home of Michelle and Mark-Paul (see directions below)

Friday, October 8 – Kabbalat Shabbat (the Friday evening service)
Led by Reb Eli Cohen
Time: 7pm, followed by a potluck oneg (snacks and desserts)
Place: The Garden, 3070 Prather Lane (see directions below)

Saturday, October 23 – Shacharit service
Led by Reb Eli Cohen
Time: 10am, followed by vegetarian potluck lunch (vegan dishes also appreciated) at around 1pm.
Place: Home of Michelle and Mark-Paul (see directions below)

Friday, November 5 - Kabbalat Shabbat (the Friday evening service)
Led by Reb Eli Cohen
Time: 7pm, followed by a potluck oneg (snacks and desserts)
Place: The Garden, 3070 Prather Lane (see directions below)

Saturday, November 13 - Shacharit service
Led by Reb Lori Klein
Time: 10am, followed by vegetarian potluck lunch (vegan dishes also appreciated) at around 1pm
Place: Home of Lori and Irene (see directions below)

Saturday, November 20 - Shacharit service
Led by Reb Eli Cohen
Time: 10am, followed by vegetarian potluck lunch (vegan dishes also appreciated) at around 1pm
Place: Santa Cruz Hillel (see directions below)

Directions to The Garden, 3070 Prather Lane, Soquel:

Going North on Hwy 1: Take Soquel Ave. Exit. Go right at light on Soquel. Go through 3 lights. The very next left after Thurber is Prather. It looks like a driveway. It is directly across from Sutter Surgical Center parking lot. If you pass the Skyview Theater (or flea market), you've gone a few yards too far. The last house on the right before the park is 3070.

Going South on Hwy 1: Take Soquel Ave exit. Go right all the way over the freeway and pass through 4 lights. Follow same as above (second paragraph).

Directions to Etziel's, 714 Fairmount Avenue, Santa Cruz, 426-9432
Going North or South on Hwy 1: Take Morrissey Exit. Make a left at the off ramp to 714 Fairmount Avenue.

Directions to Santa Cruz Hillel, 222 Cardiff Place, Santa Cruz:
 Off of High Street between Seven Eleven and Slug Books, below the UCSC Campus.

Directions to Lori & Irene's, 1911 B Courtyard Drive, Capitola, 479-7629

Going North or South on Hwy 1: Take 41st Ave toward beach. Turn left on Capitola Rd. Turn left on 44th. Go about 2 blocks to Grace St., turn left. Courtyard Dr is immediately on the right. Look for parking on Grace. 1911B is on the left, in the second group of townhouses.

(Continued on page 5)

Investing in Renewal

Chadeish Yameinu now makes a yearly donation to Aleph. As Chadeish Yameinu's representative to Aleph, the Alliance for Jewish Renewal, and a member of the Aleph Board, I would like to explain why we have added this donation in addition to the financial commitment we expect of all Chadeish Yameinu supporters.

First, we appreciate the benefits that come from the work Aleph does. We have two rabbinical students and one cantorial student moving towards completion of their studies under Aleph. The new tunes, prayers, and midrashim that Eli, Lori and Michelle delight us with are but the most obvious of Aleph's gifts. Beyond that, day in and day out Aleph works to assure that the Judaism we find most fulfilling continues and grows. Those of us who have had the experience of learning directly from Reb. Zalman Schachter-Shalomi, or who have come home from a Kallah filled with joy and inspiration, or have been moved by the services of Renewal-inspired leaders know the worth of Renewal's contribution to Judaism.

If you don't know the depth or breadth of Renewal, it isn't too early to start planning to attend the next Aleph Kallah. It will be held in July in Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

To help meet our annual dues commitment to Aleph, please consider adding \$36.00 to your annual contribution to Chadeish Yameinu. Please designate your dues to Aleph separately on your check, or send a separate check. These funds will be collected and passed along to Aleph.

—Zalmo Bloombecker

CY Shabbat Schedule

(Continued from page 4)

Directions to Michelle & Mark-Paul's, 2018 Bobwhite Lane, Soquel, 427-1734:

Going South on Hwy 1: Exit Soquel Ave. Turn right off Fwy. Right at Soquel. Drive over Fwy bridge. Go through 3 lights. At the 4th light, Thurber Lane, turn left. On the right is an empty field, then 3 homes. Then, you'll see a driveway with the street sign: Bobwhite Lane. Drive 1/2 block past this, turn right on Sequoia, and park. Walk back to Bobwhite Lane. Our condo is the 3rd one on the right.

Going North on Hwy 1: Exit Soquel Ave. Turn right off Fwy. Go through 1st intersection (stop sign): Commercial Crossing, in front of Toys R Us & Circuit City. At second street, Mission Dr., turn left. Turn right on Soquel Dr. Get in left lane immediately. Turn left at next light, Thurber Lane. Follow directions above from left on Thurber Lane.

Directions to Unitarian Fellowship Church, 6401 Freedom Blvd., Aptos:

Going South on Hwy 1 From Santa Cruz: Take Freedom Blvd Exit. Go left across the freeway. Go straight on Freedom Blvd. 1.2 miles. The church is on the right side of the street. Look low near the ground for sign.

Going North on Hwy 1 From Monterey: Take Freedom Blvd Exit and turn right. Follow the directions above.

Join Temple Beth-El's Meditation Group

This ongoing meditation group is open to anyone and is led by a Chadeish Yameinu member, Etiel Herring. It meets every Tuesday from 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the sanctuary at Temple Beth-El. The session begins with nine minutes of walking meditation, nine minutes of chanting and 36 minutes of silence.

Classified Ads

Power of Two relationship enrichment classes for couples taught throughout the year. For more info, call Karen Shira Belford, LCSW. LCS18429. 831-423-4137.

Book: "The Heart of the Circle: A Guide to Drumming," by Holly Blue Hawkins (ISBN 1-58091-0025-4) available from your local bookseller, or online from Amazon or B&N. <http://home.earthlink.net/~hollyblue>.

Professional Listing

Psychotherapy for the heart, mind and soul. Compassionate and effective. Karen Shira Belford, LCSW. LCS18429. 831-423-4137.

Editor/Writer/Speaker. Non-fiction book editing. Ghost writing "as told to" or "with no credit." Rewriting. Inspirational and Jewish classes/talks. Nina Amir, 408-395-1776, Namir@purespiritcommunications.com.

Place an Ad in Chadeish Yameinu News

Classified ads cost \$18 for 4 lines, \$36 for 9 lines. Professional listings cost \$18/listing (4 lines). One line consists of approximately 5-7 words. Class listings cost \$18/listing (6 lines).

E-mailed ads/listings to Nina Amir Lacey at cpywrtcom@aol.com. Mail payments to Chadeish Yameinu, P.O. Box 3578, Santa Cruz, CA 95063-3578 before the deadline. For more information, you can call Nina at 408-395-1776.

CY News is mailed on a quarterly basis. Deadline for the next issue is November 5th.

Tribute Gift

To honor special people and occasions

DONOR NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE E-MAIL

AMOUNT OF DONATION (SUGGESTED MINIMUM \$18)

My Gift is a Tribute ___ in honor of ___ in memory of

NAME

ADDRESS (NEEDED FOR BOTH HONOR AND MEMORIAL GIFTS)

CITY STATE ZIP

 Message:

Please notify the following about this gift:

NAME

RELATIONSHIP TO HONOREE (FRIEND, SPOUSE, SIBLING, ETC.)

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE E-MAIL

Chadeish Yameinu
 -Renew Our Days-
 PO Box 3578
 Santa Cruz, CA 95063-3578

"Toda Raba" for Donations

The following donations were made to Chadeish Yameinu since publication of the last newsletter:

Cal Rich for donating his time to teach his Adult Education class, "What Happens When I Die?"

Herbert & Lilian Safrans in honor of Reb Eli, to defray newsletter costs.

Lynn LeRose & Ed Garner in the memory of Jeanne Rosen's Aunts, a speedy recovery for Holly's Papa, Lucky Hawkins, in honor of Reb Eli, and in memory of Ben Roisman.

Jeanne Rosen in honor of *Rabbi* Paula Marcus and her family, Jesse Garner on his graduation from art school,

Scott & Jasmine on their children's graduation & bar mitzvah, Jo & Holly on the marriage of Jo's daughter, Denise Mandeau, Ron Feldman, PhD, Irene Reti, MA, and Reb Howie on his retirement.

Holly Blue in honor of the gracious Deb Newstat, and in memory of Eda Balsam's daughter, Vivianne.

Mazel Tov To:

- Ariel Lacey, who celebrated her Bat Mitzvah on July 31.
- Shayna Asher-Shapiro, who celebrated her Bat Mitzvah on August 14.
- Eli Glick-Ledwith, who will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah on October 9.

Chadeish Yameinu

Renew Our Days

Post Office Box 3578

Santa Cruz, CA

95063-3578

www.chadeishyameinu.org

Chadeish Yameinu is an egalitarian Jewish Renewal havurah. Our Shabbat and Holiday services are led by our part-time student rabbi, Eli Cohen, and our lay leaders. We enjoy participatory davenen (prayer), Torah study, chanting, singing and dancing. We also have exciting classes on various topics taught by Reb Eli and other teachers, a Community School, a family learning project, Hebrew classes and a group on aging and caring.

We invite you to support ChadeishYameinu. It is only with the energy and resources of many passionate people that our dreams can come true! Any questions? Call one of the following contact people.

To join an action group or get more info:

- ◆ Shabbat: Shalom Braveman (831) 375-7553; Stephen@bravemantherapy.com
- ◆ Adult Education: Jeanne Rosen (831) 685-8350; JeanneRosen18@cs.com
- ◆ Children's Programming: Maia Zohara (831) 475-6242; zoharita@aol.com
- ◆ Social Action: Shlomo Cooperstein (831) 655-8670; sc@is4life.com
- ◆ Membership: Shira Belford (831) 426-9271; belf@earthlink.net

Please check one below:

Enclosed is my yearly donation for \$ _____ (\$360 - \$1800) to be a Chadeish Yameinu supporter.

I will pledge _____ per month (minimum \$26). Enclosed is my first payment.
Please contact me about arranging a direct deposit for my monthly contribution.

Enclosed is a contribution of \$90 to keep me on the **mailing list** so that I may get notices about events and information inviting my participation.

**Please make your check to "Chadeish Yameinu."
Send to P.O. Box 3578, Santa Cruz, CA 95063-3578**

Name _____

Address _____

Home phone _____ Work phone _____

Email address _____

Yes, you can list the above info on the CY roster that is available to the CY community.

No, please leave my info off of the roster.

The Sulha Way Comes to Santa Cruz on September 6

The Sulha Way is an indigenous, Middle Eastern method of reconciliation. For the past three years in Israel, Sulha gatherings have worked to rebuild trust among neighbors, Arabs and Jews, heart to heart, as a grassroots contribution to peace. In these critical times, there is a need for a safe place to hear and appreciate each other's stories, hopes, fears, traditions and cultures beyond a specific political agenda. This year's Sulha in Israel attracted over 4,000 participants from Israel, Jordan, the territories, and elsewhere. One participant reported, "It's important just that the people are present. You don't need to do anything else. It's OK just to be here and meet people."

This year, Chadeish Yameinu is sponsoring the first ever Sulha Way event in the United States. Radash Eliyahu McLean, an organizer of the Sulha in Israel, will be joining us in Santa Cruz. Eliyahu's title "Radash," a Hebrew acronym for "pursuer of peace," was bestowed upon him by Reb Zalman Schachter Shalomi, for his untiring work in teaching Arabs and Jews how we can live in peace on the same land.

The Sulha Way "melts the ice," allowing participants to feel safe engaging in healthy, honest relationships, without fear. The gatherings are also rich in food, dance, music, dialogue circles and sacred ritual from Arab and Jewish traditions.

The Santa Cruz event will include:

- Small group sharing circles.
- Sharing of customs, rituals, food (A Middle Eastern lunch and light dinner provided), dance and music from the Arab and Jewish worlds.
- Mutual prayers and services from the Quran and the Torah, as well as Christian, Sufi and Buddhist blessings.
- Classes in cooking, Hebrew and Arabic, Islam and Judaism, Jewish meditation, Sufi Zikr, dances and songs.
- Activities for children – Arab and Jewish, coming together to implement the seeds of peace and unity at a young age.
- A music and dance party, featuring world-class live music from diverse musical traditions.

Through our conversation, a new world begins: words such as peace, reconciliation and humanity substitute conversations about war, bombing and terrorism. Participants leave feeling empowered to take meaningful action to create a new reality - Arabs, Jews, people of all religions and spiritual paths living side by side in peace, understanding and respect.

WHERE: Inner Light Ministries, 5630 Soquel Dr., Aptos CA

WHEN: Monday, September 6th, 2004, 9:00 am - 6:30pm

*\$10 donation requested (no person will be turned away due to lack of funds). Please RSVP at 384-4141 box #3.

—Howie Schneider