



CONGREGATION  
**RODEPH SHOLOM**  
BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

FALL 2014 – ELUL/TISHREI/CHESHVAN – AUGUST/SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

NO. 23

# HIGH HOLY DAYS 5775

## ROSH HASHANAH

**Wednesday, September 24, 2014**

6:00 p.m.	Mincha/Ma'ariv
6:42 p.m.	Candlelighting

**Thursday, September 25, 2014**

8:30 a.m.	Services begin
9:30 a.m.	Babysitting/Young Children's Programming (ages 1-6)
10:00 a.m.	Family Service
10:45 a.m.	Youth Programming (Grades 2-8)
5:15 p.m.	Tashlich
6:00 p.m.	Mincha and Ma'ariv
7:19 p.m.	Candlelighting

**Friday, September 26, 2014**

8:30 a.m.	Services begin
9:30 a.m.	Babysitting/Young Children's Programming (ages 1-6)
10:00 a.m.	Family Service
10:45 a.m.	Youth Programming (Grades 2-8)
6:00 p.m.	Mincha/D'var Torah/Kabbalat Shabbat/Ma'ariv
6:24 p.m.	Candlelighting

## YOM KIPPUR

**Friday, October 3, 2014**

1:00 p.m.	Mincha – Chapel
5:45 p.m.	Kol Nidre – Sanctuary
6:12 p.m.	Candlelighting/Fast Begins

**Saturday, October 4, 2014**

9:00 a.m.	Services begin
9:30 a.m.	Babysitting/Young Children's Programming (ages 1-6)
10:15 a.m.	Family Service
11:15 a.m.	Youth Programming (Grades 2-8)
4:45 p.m.	Mincha/D'var Torah
6:00 p.m.	Neilah/Final Shofar/Fast Ends
7:00 p.m.	Ma'ariv
7:14 p.m.	Havdalah

### Congregation Rodeph Sholom

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Bridgeport, CT 06604-1499  
203-334-0159 • Fax 203-334-1411  
www.rodephsholom.com

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*Affiliated with the  
Jewish Theological Seminary and  
United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.*

Rabbi	Daniel D. Victor
Rabbi Emeritus	Israel C. Stein, D.D.
Cantor (High Holidays)	Michelle Teplitz
Executive Director	Mark Block
Education Directors	Beth Gold
	Limor Shefer
President	Jeffrey Klein
Gabbaim	Sy Wiesenfeld
	Saul Schine z”l
Men’s Club President	Harold Goodman
Hazzan	Y’shaya Grama, z”l
Cantor Emeritus	David Leon z”l
Executive Director Emerita	Esther Kelman z”l

### In Memoriam

*“The Memory of the Righteous is a Blessing”*

#### **Members:**

Gerald Krawitz  
*Husband of Iris Krawitz and father of Joel, Jaime and Cole Krawitz – March 26, 2014*  
Malcolm Orloff – *May 23, 2014*  
Irving Kronisch – *June 14, 2014*

#### **Relatives of Members:**

Sidney Postol  
*Brother of Natalie Schwartz and uncle of Joseph Schwartz – April 28, 2014*  
Theresa Cormier  
*Mother of Cindy Allinson – April 30, 2014*  
Adelle Sherry  
*Mother of Ellen Ashkins – May 24, 2014*



### RODEPH SHOLOM GIFT SHOP

Tallit are now on sale in the gift shop to make room for new merchandise this fall.

### Daily Services

Sundays.....	8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.	<i>Bufferd/Vogel Chapel</i>
Weekdays .....	7:10 a.m. and 5:45 p.m.	<i>Bufferd/Vogel Chapel</i>
Friday Evening.....	See Calendar	<i>Bufferd/Vogel Chapel</i>
Sabbath Morning.....	9:00 a.m.	<i>Rabbi Harry Nelson Sanctuary</i>
Sabbath Mincha .....	Sundown	<i>Bufferd/Vogel Chapel</i>

**For any changes and up-to-date service times, visit [www.rodephsholom.com](http://www.rodephsholom.com)**

### Mission Statement

*Congregation Rodeph Sholom is dedicated to two guiding principles:*

- To serve as a vibrant center for the practice and teaching of Conservative Judaism.
- To create a spiritual and social atmosphere in which congregants feel part of a larger synagogue family.

### CEMETERY VISITATIONS

#### **Sunday, September 21, 2014**

9:30 a.m.  
Memorial Park, Kings’ Highway, Fairfield  
  
10:00 a.m.  
Old Cemetery, Shepard Street, Fairfield  
(Minyan needed at the both cemeteries.)

### TASHLICH

“Tashlich” is the Hebrew for “cast away” (referring to the commandment to cast away our sins). In the afternoon of **Thursday, September 25th at 5:15 p.m.**, the first day of Rosh Hashanah, we will meet at the aqueduct on the corner of Brooklawn and Laurel Avenues for the traditional Tashlich ritual. We visit a body of water to recite the brief Tashlich prayer in which we “cast away” our sins, often symbolized by bread. As fish depend on water, so do we depend on God’s providence. Also, as the eyes of a fish never close, so too is God’s watchfulness over us unceasing. Please join us for this ancient tradition.

## FROM THE RABBI



At the time this bulletin was being prepared to go to print, we had just experienced the joy, celebration, and communal Torah learning of the Shavuot festival (the Feast of Weeks), the holiday on which we read the Scroll of Ruth from the Writings of the Tanakh. Noam Zion, a contemporary commentator, speaks of the estranged character Naomi who returns to her Jewish community in Bethlehem (meaning “House of Bread”) after the tragic loss of husband and sons, only to find what she considers a less than welcoming overture from the people she once knew. But some read it as her having been received by the local community with much love and openness. Whether you read her community as having been welcoming or reticent in their embraces, the truth is Naomi was bitter when she returned home. She had lost a lot, she remembered what once was, and this affected her sense of self and her own sense of identity.



*Question: When have we, or when have we seen others, lose faith in tradition, family, or community, and then an unexpected happy turn of events forces us to revise our unrealized view of the world?*

In our story here, Ruth was “*Ima*” (“with her” – meaning Naomi in ch1.22) and walked with her through a complete transformation, leading to a positive turn of events for the Jewish community and

eventually the entire Jewish world. We, along with Naomi, are being reminded that we are not alone, that the harvest is on, and that **Bethlehem is again literally a house of bread**. These two women together made sure that there would be a new energy and vibrancy. Their friendship turned perception into reality; it ushered in a bountiful future in which a society continually lived up to its ideals.

**As we enter the month of Elul, the last month of the year, the one for introspection and “returning” before the High Holidays, let us recognize that we are all part Naomi and part Ruth.**

Many of us know the richness of our synagogue in years gone by and many of us have been a part of the great times over just the past few years. But most importantly, right now, we have many teams striving to help revitalize our ability to engender holiness and to foster an appreciable sense of family.

Just as Ruth and Naomi believed, Rodeph Sholom can move forward knowing that

- Success is measured not by numbers of people but by the familial closeness and the number of relational connections between individuals.
- “Living Torah” doesn’t just mean the recitation of the holy words but it emerges through the drama of exploration, experimentation, and the integrating of those words with our everyday experiences of connecting, dancing, and celebrating the abundant gifts with which we have been blessed.

My prayer for all of us in this New Year is:

***If what we see when we are “returning” does not yet match the dream in our head and in our heart of how things should be then I pray that we will look more deeply within ourselves, look more closely into each others’ hearts, then take someone by the hand and walk towards that brighter tomorrow.***

Shanah Tova u’Metukah,

*Rabbi Daniel Victor*

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As you can see elsewhere in this bulletin edition, we have an exciting new program being implemented for our children this fall. Geshar – the new name for our Talmud Torah – will have new approaches for teaching our students that focuses on experiential learning. A great deal of thought has gone in to rethinking our approach and we are very excited to bring it to fruition this fall. As I write this in early summer, I am very pleased that our new leaders – Beth Gold and Limor Shefer – are already working very hard on behalf of our students. Rodeph Sholom will have an exciting, dynamic and innovative new school this year that we can all take great pride in. Special thanks to Shelley Kreiger who led the revisioning committee and to Serene Victor for working so hard as our consultant.

This spring we introduced a new program that was a great success. Our spring cleanup day in early May had terrific participation. The work was hard but rewarding and the group spirit was highly motivating. Those that turned out left a shul that was improved inside and out. Hopefully you have had a chance to see the results. If we can continue this effort in the future it will help to make our spiritual home a better place and I am sure all those that participated will agree that it was an uplifting experience. Thanks to everyone who joined in and to Jill Lesser for raising the idea and helping bring it to life. And a special thanks to Brian Goldstone who provided both his labor and the mulch that beautified our property.

As we near the holidays, I want to wish all of you a very happy and sweet New Year. As you know Cantor Teplitz has moved with her family to New Jersey, and we look forward to having her here for the High Holidays. While we will miss seeing her on a regular basis it will be great to have her with us during this special High Holiday time of the year. We can all look forward to beautiful and meaningful services led by the Cantor and Rabbi. I want to also share one last point about the holidays. Each year we have a special High Holiday appeal, which is a key part of our fund raising efforts for the year. The appeal needs to be successful in order to help us maintain the programs, services, educational programs and all we do at Rodeph Sholom. Last fall we fell a good deal short of our goals. I am asking that all of you participate as best you can to make this year's appeal more successful. I thank you in advance for your support.

L'Shanah Tova,

*Jeff Klein*



## LULAVIM & ETROGIM FOR SUKKOT

Once again, you may purchase high quality lulav and etrog sets from Rodeph Sholom. We will ensure that our members may celebrate the joyous festival of Sukkot with the traditional ritual objects. We will also have sets of Hoshanot – willow branches, which are used during services on Hoshana Raba.



To be certain to get a lulav and etrog this year, please return this form with your check for \$50 no later than **Tuesday, September 30th**. Please call the synagogue office at 203-334-0159 for delivery and pick-up information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Sets \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

## YOM HA'ATZMAUT

June 6, 2014



The Jewish community organized by Rodeph Sholom gathered this spring to celebrate Israel Independence Day with music, drumming and a bonfire on the shores of Lake Mohegan. This was made possible by a grant from the Jewish Federation.

# FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## TIMES CHANGE AND SO SHOULD WE

During an age when we are actively looking to reconcile our Jewish traditions with modernity, new and different models for the practice of Conservative Judaism create a challenge as we adapt to changing ideology, demographics and affiliation rates in looking to transform our institution.

As I have traveled to other communities around the nation I have seen magnificent synagogue buildings that were erected as the Jews of the twentieth-century celebrated their achievements and conveyed the success of the community they served. I also know that synagogues staff and operations often became correspondingly large, and were supported largely by member dues. And while synagogue attendance may not have been frequent, it was certainly greater in almost all communities in North America than today, and members paid dues out of a sense of Jewish and communal obligation, as well as a symbol of affiliation with their local Jewish community.

The desire for affiliation and the feeling of obligation has weakened considerably over the last forty years and many communities are struggling, not just Conservative and Reform Jewish communities, but those of other faiths. That doesn't mean there aren't many synagogues that remain vital community institutions where their members feel a strong connection to the community. Today, I find many more who value choice over obligation. These community members identify with spirituality in its various forms over organized prayer. When Jews do "shop" for a synagogue they do so with a value set based on the needs of their family, and those needs are often quite narrow and very specific. These shoppers have been raised on a department store frame of mind, meaning many are used to having continuous sales all year long. Not a week goes by where there isn't a 20%, 50%, 70% or more discounts on merchandise. Free online shipping is expected, and who doesn't check the price of a product on Amazon.com before purchasing from a brick and mortar store?

In this, the 21st century, choices for spiritual or religious pursuit are much greater than at any time in our history. Conservative American Jews who find a need or want to affiliate with a synagogue are just as interested in the varied aspects of Jewish life as our parents or grandparents who may have been more active participatory members of their own synagogue. I also believe the argument can be made that the difference in engaging to make the world a better place or simply being a better Jew takes place in a more disengaged world. A world where texting and tweeting, emailing and posting are regular forms of communication and engagement. We live in a historically fast moving and rapidly changing and expanding communication revolution, where we have seen the steep and increasing decline of print newspaper, magazine and book subscriptions and sales.

### **Fiscal responsibility and health are as critical to our synagogue today as the most engaging program or service we can offer.**

Not long ago most young and many older Jews responded to the call for charitable contributions and volunteerism from the synagogue. Today I am more likely to hear about contributions to animal shelters or hospitals, environmentalism or disaster relief, or walking or biking for one of any number of causes. I have seen the demand for dollars dilute the institutions and organizations which previous generations most readily identified with because of their ethnicity, heritage or social standing—in particular, the synagogue.

It is harder than ever for me to make the case that your dues, donations, contributions and greater levels of support are critically important. It is equally as difficult and more compelling when the numbers I reach out to are fewer, the causes being donated to decentralize and the level of

personal commitment is hovering near an all time low. These are powerful headwinds for any synagogue to be fiscally successful. And make no mistake; fiscal responsibility and health are as critical to our synagogue today as the most engaging program or service we can offer.

Nonetheless, Rodeph Sholom as an institution believes what we offer is a necessary part of the Jewish experience. I see the challenge of finding the revenue to support it, but we have a cadre of staff,

leaders and volunteers who do all they can to meet the challenge. We have been blessed with an institutional model handed down from previous generations of leaders. It is a model where we are proud to pronounce that we hold no mortgage on our building or property, we maintain no line of credit with any financial institution—we are debt free. We are a cash "business." This should not be misinterpreted to mean that we don't have challenges—we do, and very serious ones. But, what we also have is a congregation that has continued to answer the call by stepping up when most necessary and believing in the business model of our institution. Will this business model be one we can maintain? Is the basic structure relevant? These are questions that are discussed by our officers, trustees and other leaders. It can be said that in 2014 the business model is out of step with a membership that is primarily interested in lifecycle events, High Holiday services, and the occasional program associated with a holiday or festival during the year, whether that be Chanukah, Purim, Passover or one of the others. Our synagogue like so many other synagogues must map its own destination, and there are no shortcuts to getting there.

Let's not blame ourselves. Let's look at how the synagogue can provide a meaningful experience, one that endears itself to our members and provides the positive experience worth supporting. The most successful religious



organizations in the nation today are evangelical Christians and Chabad. Why? They have a philosophy of one-on-one outreach by committed members which leads to other committed community members. We must learn from their experience and offer "fellowship," not some vague notion of being "warm and welcoming," but as an embracing community with shared values.

In marketing one of the most important rules taught is that you can't be all things to all people, and yet like so many other synagogues we have tried. We make the mistake of being inclusive with being inviting. The primary responsibility of a religious institution like ours is to be a house of worship where we inspire involvement to meet the mission and goals upon which we were founded and look to advance.

Our synagogue, like others, ultimately can't last unless we fill a particular need and keep our costs in line as best we

can with the revenue we generate. We can engage in doing this better by recognizing and anticipating the religious, spiritual, communal and social interests of our members and potential affiliates. We can also begin to redesign our institution to better respond to the interests of those same people both imaginatively and effectively, and we should never stop questioning all the rest. The evolution won't be easy, but the alternative is obsolescence.

As the New Year approaches, 5775, may we find the strength to do more, the wisdom to do it well, and the belief that in so doing we are doing right by ourselves and our children.

B'shalom and L'shanah Tova!

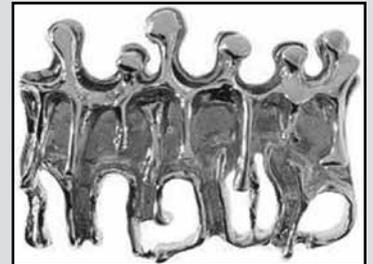
*Mark Block*

## TORAH FUND

WOMENS LEAGUE:  
WOMEN ENSURING CONSERVATIVE/MASORTI JEWISH EDUCATION

It is hard to believe that another year has passed and another Rosh Hashanah is upon us. As we reflect over the past year's accomplishments, we look forward and plan for the New Year.

The Women of Rodeph Sholom had another successful Torah Fund Campaign, sending in \$5,880. We are especially grateful to Svetlana Weisman for being a Guardian and to the following women who were Benefactors:



Eidie Applebaum  
Deborah Baer  
Marilyn Banach  
Carol Battin  
Beattie Bernstein  
Gertrude Broder  
Tamara Bush  
Andrea Feinberg  
Toby Folman  
Susan Forman

Doris Glunts  
Cheryl Green  
Susan Kaplan  
Edith Katzen  
Iris Krawitz  
Gracey Oksenberg  
Nina Pearlman  
Julie Rappoport  
Lisa Rappoport  
Marilyn Rappoport  
Nina Ravden

Marion Richer  
Donna Smith  
Susan Spivack  
Barbara Srebnick  
Lisa Stein  
Roslyn Stein  
Sabrina Victor  
Helen Wasserman  
Judy Weiss  
Judy Zeisler

Soon you will be receiving a letter asking you to be a Benefactor for the 2014-2015 campaign. Please respond favorably so we can add your name to this list.

We wish you all a Shana Tova filled with happy times, good health, and most of all peace.

*Lisa Rappoport & Roz Stein*

Torah Fund Chairpersons

*Debbie Baer & Selda Dworkin*

Special Gifts Chairpersons

Torah Fund Cards are available for those special occasions for \$4.00 each. Contact Debbie Baer at 203-371-4915 or dpbtrav@aol.com or Selda Dworkin at 203-374-6847 or seldwork@aol.com.

# GESHER: A BRIDGE TO TOMORROW

We are excited to introduce GESHER, our brand new Talmud Torah. Being located in Bridgeport, the synagogue has chosen this as our new name to honor the historic role Bridgeport has played in the lives of so many people for whom Bridgeport was a bridge to the American dream. The Geshher (bridge) we are building will connect us, as Jews, to the world near and far, fulfilling our dream by becoming a Jewish community that learns, creates, explores, dreams, and celebrates together.

No longer will our students say “we learned this last year.” No longer will our students be able to convince their parents that they did “nothing” in Hebrew school. Our enthusiastic and talented staff and our triennial curriculum cycle provide in-depth, project based learning, with benchmarks appropriate for every age and stage. Common to every year is intensive Hebrew learning and opportunities to celebrate holidays and learning milestones reached by our young learners. Beyond Hebrew and holidays, however, every year has a thematic focus. The theme for 2014/15 will be Amcha: our history, Israel, and holidays. The theme for 2015/16 will be Torah and Jewish living. In 2016/17 the focus will be Tikkun Olam and Arachim/repairing the world and Jewish values.

We have multiple age classes, each with a teacher and madrich or madricha (high school aide). Because all GESHER students will have a shared thematic focus, sometimes classes can join together as one group performs for the other or conducts a walk-through carousel when students can showcase their project.

If you were to visit the school on any Sunday you might see the madricha, with clipboard in hand, recording interesting, funny, thoughtful student comments and questions. Or he/she might be taking dictation from a student who struggles with writing. You might also see a “congregation Godparent,” a volunteer, who has adopted a class and is working one-on-one with a student, reading a book, or baking cookies with the class. And those notes the madrich is recording? You’ll get to read them in our weekly newsletter posted on the synagogue website!

What else might you see? Take a peek at just some of the learning our students will be doing.

Pre-k and kindergarten students will be in a self contained classroom pretending to be Israelites wandering in the hot desert, looking for a place to build a sukkah to find shelter from the sun and wind. Once they have found shelter, they will listen to a story of the holiday of Sukkot standing tall like a lulav, waving their arms to and fro, and learning to hold the etrog “just so,” not to break off the pitom.

Students in 1st through 7th grade, teachers, madrichim, and Godparents will be gathered in the Ulam (social hall), sitting in small groups or one-on-one. They might be at tables or sitting on the floor. Each group of children of varying ages will be reading and singing different Hebrew



texts, perhaps The Shema, The Amidah, Torah Blessings, Hatikvah, or maybe a popular Israeli song. Students will move at their own pace, recording their progress on their personal prayer charts monitored and checked by the teacher. Sometimes with Rabbi Victor leading, everyone present will be moving, swaying, drumming as they engage in call and response to Hebrew brachot (blessings), words, and phrases.

As part of placing themselves in the chain of the Jewish people, the bnai mitzvah club (6th/7th grade) will be sharing Jewish family artifacts and describing their history and importance that they learned from their parents and grandparents, even as they laugh and chat together sharing stories about the Bar/Bat Mitzvah party they attended on Shabbat.

Sometimes, kids won’t be in school on Sunday. Instead, they will be participating in Shabbat Camp. Singing, dancing, basketball, drama are all part of the scene. At 11:30 a.m., the Rabbi will leave the bimah and join the children with their families and their Godparents from the regular Shabbat goes in a student-led singing service where they will get to use their new found mastery of particular prayers and Torah reading. This will be topped off by a fabulous kiddush prepared with the kids favorite snacks. After all, Shabbat is the only time where you get to eat dessert before the meal.

There will be lots more news to come about GESHER and our students and their achievements after the school year begins. We welcome you to join us on the bridge, walking across to the future of Jewish education here at Rodeph Sholom.

B’shalom,

*Beth Gold*

Co-Director

*Limor Shefer*

Co-Director

# SHEM TOV HONOREE

## LISA RAPPOPORT

Lisa Rappoport has been a member of Rodeph Sholom since she married Bill and moved to Bridgeport, from Cherry Hill, NJ, in 1984. Over the past 30 years, her involvement with our synagogue has steadily increased. All three of Lisa's children attended Rodeph Sholom Nursery School and she served on the Nursery School Committee even after her children moved on to grade school. Lisa has served as Torah Fund co-chair, along with Roz Stein and Selda Dworkin, for the past 12 years and continues to do so. With her help, the Torah Fund has achieved honors as a top fundraiser in the New England region. Lisa also serves on the Transition/Liaison Committee, the Ritual Committee, the Executive Committee and is a committed Wednesday morning "minyanaire." She and her husband Bill regularly volunteer as ushers for our Shabbat and holiday services. In addition, Lisa represents our synagogue on the Social Action committee, volunteering at the Connecticut Food Bank and other activities. Lisa also coordinated the Meals-on-Wheels program during the years that Rodeph Sholom participated in that program.

In the greater Jewish community, Lisa has served on the boards of directors of Jewish Family Services and Hillel Academy, and has volunteered for the Jewish Federation.

Since graduating from college with a degree in Computer Science, Lisa has worked in the Information Technology field. For the past 16 years, she has worked at Pfizer Pharmaceuticals in the Business Technology division. Lisa is an avid reader, skier and a frustrated golfer.

She also earned her Private Pilot's license and is licensed to fly using Instrument Flight Rules (i.e., in bad weather – though she doesn't like to!)

Lisa began attending Shabbat services regularly with her very young children, and her commitment led to their enrollment in day school, and then Hebrew high school. After their B'nai Mitzvot, all three Rappoport children regularly lained Torah and helped to lead our Shabbat services. After high school, all three children spent their gap year studying in Israel. Lisa and Bill are the very proud parents of Julie, who is currently living and working in Manhattan, Matthew, who recently graduated from law school and will be embarking on his law career in Manhattan, and Daniel, who will be a first year medical student at UConn this fall.



**Lisa's honor will be presented to her on Selichot, Shabbat morning, September 20.**

## YOM HASHOAH



Survivors and second generation congregants commemorated Yom Hashoah with the lighting of candles, reading of names and viewing of the documentary "Nicky's Family."

## A VERY SPECIAL "THANK YOU"

*"What we instill in our children will be the foundation upon which they build their future."*

– Steve Maraboli

The officers, trustees, clergy and staff of Rodeph Sholom extend a heartfelt "Thank You" and "Yasher Koach" to our Talmud Torah staff for their love of teaching. The professionalism they brought to our school and children this past year, and all those that came before embodies both Judaism and our synagogue.



**Sara Aldouby  
Faith Bader Vogel  
Shulamit Feld  
Beth Gold  
Donald Kramer  
Ellen Marks**

**Lisa Nuland  
Irwin Schildkraut  
Rachel Shur  
Arnie Rotenberg  
Ilene Feuerberg**

# KALLAH TORAH HONOREE

## ADRIENNE FISHMAN

Adrienne Fishman, a Brooklyn native, moved to Fairfield in 1980 with her husband, Neal, and their two young sons. The family joined Rodeph Sholom immediately, drawn by the warmth of its congregants and clergy. Her children went to Talmud Torah here, became b'nai mitzvah here, and attended Merkaz. Adrienne was active with the Talmud Torah parents and participated for years in Sisterhood events, eventually becoming president of Sisterhood. Along the way, she founded the Rosh Chodesh group at Rodeph Sholom and organized the Four Sisterhoods for Sisterhood, a coalition of local synagogue Sisterhoods that ran two community events so far. She is one of the regular "Kiddush ladies" and can often be found in the Rodeph Sholom kitchen preparing for a kiddush or some other synagogue program.



Outside of Rodeph Sholom, Adrienne has been active for over 30 years with Fairfield Hadassah, holding positions from membership, fund-raising and programming chairwoman to president. She organized the Hadassah Book Club in 1994. Professionally, she has been in the book distribution business for over 25 years, running her own business for the past twelve years.

With their children now grown, Adrienne and Neal travel often to visit their growing family, having five grandchildren in Massachusetts and Virginia.

Adrienne is deeply honored to receive this recognition from Rodeph Sholom and is inspired by all those who have come before her in service to Rodeph Sholom.

# HATAN BERESHIT HONOREE

## IRA KAPLAN

Ira Kaplan joined Rodeph Sholom with his family in 1999, after moving to Easton from Poughkeepsie, New York. He has served on the Rodeph Sholom Board of Trustees for most of the past twelve years, and has been a member of the Talmud Torah Committee and recently the Budget Committee. He also served on the Executive Committee as a Vice President. He has attended classes with Rabbi Stein, Rabbi Szajman, Cantor Grama, Rabbi Cantor, and Rabbi Victor. He was a member of the Rodeph Sholom "delegation" during the Community Mission trips to Israel in 2005 and 2006.

Ira is often noted for his springtime baldness, having shaven his head nine different years to raise money for St. Baldrick's Foundation, to fight against childhood cancer.

Ira has attended most Shabbat morning services since 1999. He has delivered the Shabbat morning sermon twice, and the Shabbat Havdalah D'var Torah once. Until Ira's back became less reliable, he would regularly help with set up at the Purim Carnival.

Ira has worked as an actuary in Stamford for General Reinsurance since 1992. Ira and his wife Susan are both from Brooklyn and started dating in ninth grade, and were married in 1985. Susan serves as principal of Helen Keller Middle School in Easton. Susan and Ira are blessed to have two children, Jason and Amy, both graduates of Talmud Torah and Merkaz.

Ira was very nearly an atheist until 1997, when he started attending services and reading about Judaism, with the expectation that his discoveries would settle the question for him and bring him to a final, settled, comfortable place as a full atheist. To his surprise, it was his atheism that faded and his Judaism that grew. In 1999 Ira stopped eating chicken parmesan and ham, and in 2003 he stopped working on Shabbat. Ira makes an effort to set aside time every day (almost) to study some Judaism.



Ira is greatly honored to receive this honor.

# A High Holiday Program for Children Ages 1-6

Our High Holiday play space for children ages 1-6 is open from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. In addition to the activities listed, our play space is filled with age appropriate toys and books. Our gentle and nurturing staff looks forward to meeting you and your child.

## Rosh Hashanah, Day 1, September 25th

- 9:30 a.m. Babysitting starts
- 10:00 a.m. Family Service
- 10:15 a.m. Story Time
- 10:45 a.m.: Playground
- 11:30 a.m. Tot Tashlich
- 12:00 p.m. Oreo Moons
- 1:00 p.m. Scavenger hunt
- 1:30 p.m.: Babysitting Ends



## Rosh Hashanah, Day 2, September 26th

- 9:30 a.m. Babysitting starts
- 10:00 a.m. Family Service
- 10:45 a.m. Earth's  
Birthday Party
- 11:00 a.m. Parachute Games
- 11:15 a.m. Playground
- 12:00 p.m. Story Time
- 1:30 p.m. Babysitting Ends

## Yom Kippur, October 4th

- 9:30 a.m. Babysitting starts
- 10:15 a.m. Family Service
- 11:00 a.m. Snack
- 11:15 a.m. Playground
- 12:00 p.m. Parachute Games
- 12:30 p.m. Story Time
- 1:30 p.m. Babysitting Ends

**For more information contact Mark Block, Executive Director  
203-334-0159 or mblock@rodephsholom.com**

# HOLIDAY AND FESTIVAL SERVICES 5775



## SUKKOT

### Wednesday, October 8, 2014

Mincha/Ma'ariv	6:00 p.m.
Candlelighting	6:04 p.m.

### Thursday, October 9, 2014

Shacharit	9:00 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv	6:00 p.m.
Candlelighting	6:56 p.m.

### Friday, October 10, 2014

Shacharit	9:00 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv	6:00 p.m.
Candlelighting	6:01 p.m.

## HOL HAMOED

### Saturday, October 11, 2014

Morning Services	9:00 a.m.
Reading of Megillat Kohelet	
Mincha/Ma'ariv	6:00 p.m.
Candlelighting	6:01 p.m.
Havdalah	7:02 p.m.

### Sunday, October 12, 2014

Morning Services	8:00 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv	6:00 p.m.

### Monday, October 13, 2014

Morning Services	6:45 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv	5:45 p.m.

### Tuesday, October 14, 2014

Morning Services	6:45 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv	5:45 p.m.

## HOSHANA RABBA

### Wednesday, October 15, 2014

Morning Services	6:30 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv	5:45 p.m.
Candlelighting	5:53 p.m.



## SHEMINI ATZERET

### Thursday, October 16, 2014

Morning Services	9:00 a.m.
<i>(Yizkor &amp; Dedication of Memorial Plaques)</i>	
Simchat Torah/ Evening Services	6:00 p.m.
Candlelighting	6:45 p.m.



## SIMCHAT TORAH

### Friday, October 17, 2014

Morning Services	9:00 a.m.
Mincha/Ma'ariv	5:45 p.m.
Candlelighting	5:50 p.m.

# SOCIAL ACTION

If we get enough cans our Gesher Religious School students can build can constructions out of food cans like these. But we need your help...

**Start bringing in cans** of tuna, soup, fruits, vegetables and even peanut butter jars. Put them in the boxes on the stage in Friend Hall during September and October. We will be having a special Can Construction event in late October and donate the cans to the Trumbull Food Pantry, which services 100 needy Trumbull families each month.



**CT Food Bank Back Pack** – The first Wednesday of each month, 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m., 74 Linwood Avenue, Fairfield. Fill backpacks with foods that are sent home to kids in 18 school districts. Next dates: September 3rd (if the schools are ready for the bags), then October 1st.

**St. John's Soup Kitchen** – We each bring one fresh veggie to add to our big fresh salad. Next date: Tuesday, September 30th, 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m., at Fairfield & Park Avenues, Bridgeport.

**United Congregation Church (UCC)** – 2nd Wednesday of each month – State Street and Park Avenue, Bridgeport from 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. prior to the time they open to the needy. Work in the food pantry stacking can goods. Next dates: Wednesdays: September 10th and October 8th.



**Plastic Bags** – For the United Congregation Church (UCC) – people use them after coming to the food pantry. Put the bags in the lady's skirt in Friend Hall.

**Shiva Baskets** – When a Rodeph Sholom member is sitting shiva locally for a spouse, parent, sibling or child, they receive a tray of goodies as our way of expressing sympathy from the congregation. If you receive a basket, your donation to the shiva fund will be used for future baskets.

**Eye glasses and hearing aids** – Place in the Lions Club box in Friend Hall.

**Neighbor to Neighbor** – Help our own Rodeph Sholom members in need.

1. Call a congregant once a day to check on them since they live alone.
2. Drive a congregant to an appointment because they are no longer driving.
3. Sign up to deliver a challah once a month to a member who doesn't get out.
4. Thanks to those who drove our 5 Embassy women all summer. **We need drivers for September and October** to take our embassy women to Rodeph Sholom on Shabbat.

**Save the Date** – Read Aloud Day in Bridgeport is Thursday, October 23rd. Go to a Bridgeport school for an hour and read a book to a class. The books are provided.

- Ellen Bedford @ ellenbedford@hotmail.com
- Adrienne Fishman @ adrfishman@gmail.com
- Shelly Lawrence @ Shelly123@optonline.net
- Marion Richer @ marricher@aol.com
- Barbara Srebnick @ barbsreb1@earthlink.net
- David Stone @ dave2143@aol.com
- Helen Wasserman @ hbewja@earthlink.net



*Weinshel Family Lounge Dedication located across from the Chapel. From left: Rabbi Daniel Victor, Carol S. Weinshel, Leon Spivack, Jeff Klein and Michael Weinshel.*



## The Women of Rodeph Sholom

The mission of The Women of Rodeph Sholom is to provide Jewish cultural enrichment to Rodeph Sholom women who join in our community. To this end, we have prepared some survey questions which we ask you to answer and return to the office. This will help with our scheduling and programming.

B'shalom,

*Adrienne Fishman*

1. Do you prefer to attend meetings \_\_\_ daytime, \_\_\_ evening, \_\_\_ Sundays
2. Are you interested in (check all that apply) \_\_\_ book group, \_\_\_ short story group, \_\_\_ movie group, \_\_\_ Torah study, \_\_\_ study of other Jewish texts
3. Would you attend a program if babysitting were available? \_\_\_ yes, \_\_\_ no, \_\_\_ N/A
4. Are you interested in (check all that apply) \_\_\_ cooking/food/nutrition, \_\_\_ health-related topics, \_\_\_ child-raising topics, \_\_\_ senior citizen health issues, \_\_\_ music-related topics, \_\_\_ other (specify)
5. Would you participate in home outreach, such as delivering challahs to the home-bound, shiva baskets to mourners, or hospital or home visits? \_\_\_ yes, \_\_\_ no
6. Can you help drive others to synagogue on Shabbat? \_\_\_ yes, \_\_\_ no

If you wrote Yes to #5 or #6, please fill in your name and phone number:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## THE WOMEN OF RODEPH SHOLOM UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Wednesday, October 22, 1:00 p.m., movie and dessert**

“The Counterfeiters”

Winner of the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film, this is based on the true story about Berliner Salomon Sorowitsch, the “King of the Counterfeiters.” During WWII, he is captured by the Nazis and exploited to help in a huge scheme to fund the German war effort. \$5.00 donation for dessert.

### **Wednesday, November 19, 7:30 p.m.**

Rosh Chodesh program featuring Roz Stein.  
Coffee and cake, no charge.



# MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES

We congratulate the following couples who will be celebrating anniversaries of 25 years or more in September, October and November.

## September

Sigmar and Lois Schoenhorn	63 years
Fred and Marsha Gruder	60 years
Arthur and Rosalind Friedman	58 years
Robert and Judith Jacobson	50 years
Norman and Deborah Roth	46 years
Michael and Norma Passo	44 years
Allan and Helaine Alper	44 years
Barry and Barbara Newman	37 years
Gary and Cindy Katz	36 years
David and Diane Newman	36 years
Michael and Judith Fleischer	33 years
Cary and Laura Friedman	30 years
Morris and Cynthia Allinson	30 years
William and Barbara Markowitz	30 years
Ben Schultz and Chyai Mulberg	29 years
Gene and Beth Gold	27 years
Harvey and Barbara Paris	25 years

## October

Leonard and Phyllis Feinberg	67 years
Ernest and Ethel Tischler	61 years
William and Diane Serlin	50 years
Ronald and Deborah Sheiman	43 years
Sheldon and Maribeth Lawrence	38 years

## November

Theodore and Frances Spivack	73 years
Raymond and Helen Lobovits	68 years
J. Robert and Barbara Friend	59 years
Martin and Hinda Wolf	58 years
Arnold and Erica Cohen	43 years
Joseph and Marsha Goldman	41 years
Israel and Paula Hersh	33 years
William and Lisa Rappoport	30 years
Richard and Shelley Gans	30 years
Paul and Harriet Moriber	26 years

MAZAL TOV TO ALL THESE COUPLES  
FROM ALL OF US AT RODEPH SHOLOM.

## MEN'S CLUB

Writing this in early June, it's difficult to get into the mindset for the holidays. Kids are still in school, hopefully start camp in a few weeks. Come back from camp and start school again. All within the next couple of months.

The Men's Club this year will have its annual paid up dinner in September before the holidays. Once the date is set we will send out flyers and emails. We look forward to seeing all our members as the summer draws to an end.

In this election year, we will host our political forum on October 26th. We are working on a slate of candidates to present. Once the candidates have confirmed our invitations we will inform you with flyers and emails. We are planning to host a program on Men's Health Issues in January. Information on the program will be forthcoming later in the year.

Next year we are planning to hold our annual Passover wine tasting in early March on a Saturday night. It will be a great social event and we will send out the details as the date approaches.

Lastly, I want to wish all of you and your families a happy and healthy new year.

L'Shanah Tova,

*Harold Goodman*  
President

## SPRING CLEANUP

Over 50 volunteers came together in early May for our first annual Spring Cleanup. Our property was spruced up, and our building received a good cleaning. This synagogue community effort helps in many ways – from generation to generation.



## OPERATION ISAIAH 5775 KOL NIDRE “FAST” FOOD DRIVE

Synagogues all across the country will be participating in Kol Nidre Food Drives. Please fill a bag with non-perishable, packaged food items. We are asking each family or individual to contribute a minimum of one pound of food, but of course the amount is up to you. Some of the items needed are as follows:

Cans of fruit, peanut butter, small (11 oz.) boxes of cereal, canned soups, vegetarian baked beans, cans of tuna fish, two pound boxes of rice, small jars of tomato sauce, grape jelly, small jars of mayonnaise, cans of sardines

Please bring the bag with you when you come to Kol Nidre services on Friday, October 3rd, or you may bring the bags to the synagogue office at any time between now and Kol Nidre evening.



## SERVICE BRUNCH

Shelly Kreiger was honored on June 1st with the Rodeph Sholom Community Service Award. Inspired in part by the legacy of long-time Executive Director Esther Kelman, who passed away this year, over 120 congregants and community members came together to recognize Shelly's long-time commitment to Rodeph Sholom and the larger Jewish community.



*Committee co-chairs Peter Zeidel, Michael Weinschel and Allan Alper (far right), all past presidents, with honoree Shelly Kreiger and Rabbi Victor.*



*Faith Bader-Vogel and Cantor Teplitz provide musical entertainment.*



THANK YOU TO OUR CO-CHAIRS FOR THE  
2014 RODEPH SHOLOM COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD BRUNCH HELD ON JUNE 1

Allan Alper  
Michael Weinschel  
Peter Zeidel

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING FOR GOING THE EXTRA MILE

Mark Block  
Carolyn Wasserlauf  
Carol S. Weinschel

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING  
FOR THEIR HELP IN MAKING THE BRUNCH A TERRIFIC SUCCESS

Helaine Alper  
Marilyn Banach  
Ellen Bedford  
Annie Block  
Dorothy Blank  
Toby Folman  
Sue Forman  
Joan Frankel  
Sindy Malin

Bill Markowitz  
Marion Richer  
Bradd Robbins  
Cantor Michelle Teplitz  
Rabbi Daniel Victor  
Faith Bader Vogel  
Marilyn Warmflash  
Dave Wolfe  
Judy Zeidel

STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

Michael Bosik  
Rachel Goodman  
Matt Jessen

Jacob Jessen  
Noah Sanger  
Matt Yerushalmi



Our teens ziplined this spring, from left to right: Noah Sanger, Michael Bosik, Matt Jessen, Jacob Fried, Matt Yerushalmi, Jacob Nuland and Rachel Goodman (front.)



Merkaz graduates, from left to right: Amanda Deutch, Gabby Joachim, Jacob Jessen, Julie Kramer, Rebecca Feuerberg, Morgan Fried.

# CONTRIBUTIONS, REMEMBRANCES & CONGRATULATIONS

## RABBI VICTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

### Donation from:

*Karen & Jamie Sanger*

### In Honor of:

Helen Zabin's Granddaughter, Emily,  
Graduating from MIT

*Helen Zabin*

### In Memory of:

Rose Barsky

*Eidie Applebaum*

Michael Forman

*Sue, Marc & Jeff Forman*

Karen Rainville

*Irving Fleischer*

*Janis Bufferd*

Ida G. Yaffie

*Burton S. Yaffie*

## RABBI STEIN'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

### In Honor of:

Rabbi Israel Stein

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Family*

*Joan & Stanley Carp*

*Susan and Israel Unrad*

### In Memory of:

Sarah Applebaum

*Dr. Charles Applebaum*

Harry Bernstein

Anna Bernstein

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*Art & Adrienne Bernstein*

## ADELLE & MYRON ALPER FUND

### In Memory of:

Sylvia Sabsowitz

*Helaine & Allan Alper*

## ABRAHAM & FANNIE BERKOWITZ SCHOLARSHIP FUND

### In Memory of:

Fannie Berkowitz

*Roslyn Stein*

*Kenneth, Barbara,*

*Cynthia & Jennifer Berkowitz*

### In Memory of:

Gerald Krawitz

Tessie Taxier

Rabbi Israel & Roz Stein

## MORT BERNSTEIN FUND

### In Memory of:

Lil Kanner

*Nettie & Mike Gelber*

## GRAMA RESOURCE CENTER

### In Memory of:

Toby Dietz

*Eidie Applebaum*

## ADAM KREIGER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

### In Memory of:

Gerald Krawitz

*Ronda, Brian,*

*Ethan & Alison Cantor*

## NURSERY SCHOOL FUND

### In Memory of:

Flora Marks

*Rhoda & Jeff Munk*

## SYNAGOGUE FUND

### In Honor of:

Birth of Rabbi Israel & Roz Stein's  
Second Great Grandchild

*Elliott & Barbara Rubin*

### In Honor of:

Shelley Kreiger

*Paula & Israel Hersh*

*Sue Forman*

*Marjorie & Paul Krubiner*

Rabbi Israel Stein

*Paula & Israel Hersh*

*Dorothy Hurwitz*

*Ben & Lana Weisman*

*Barbara & Len Srebnick*

*Noreen & David Pokras*

*Jacqui & Mel Garelick*

*Andrea, Dennis, Stephanie &*

*Douglas Feinberg*

*Lisa and Bill Rappaport*

### In Memory of:

Lenore Cohen

*Ernie & Ethel Tischler*

Theresa Cormier

*Richard & Dorothy Blank*

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### Speedy Recovery to:

Leon Spivack

*Irving Fleischer*

*Janis Bufferd*

## WEINSHEL FAMILY FUND

### In Memory of:

Elliot Glunts

*Michael & Carol Weinschel*

## YAHREZITS

### In Memory of:

Anna Rappoport Burnat

*Marilyn Rappoport*

Samuel Bloom

*Bernard Bloom*

Helen Brier

*Gabriella Dober*

*Catherine Mandel*

*Edith Winick*

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*Naomi Rappoport*  
 Benjamin Wheeler  
 Lois Fagan

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***Donations received after Friday, June 20, 2014 will appear in the next bulletin.***

## COMMUNITY DAY



*Our synagogue youth enjoyed a chilly early spring day at Owen Fish Park with games, a BBQ, and a special appearance by former Major League Baseball player Adam Greenberg (left). Greenberg held the attention of all attendees with his unique and very personal baseball journey story, with plenty of time for questions and answers.*

# SEPTEMBER 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	6 Elul Labor Day Office Closed	7 Elul	8 Elul Executive Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.	9 Elul	10 Elul 6:00 p.m. Services 7:00 p.m. Candlelighting	11 Elul 7:00 p.m. Services 8:01 p.m. Havdalah
12 Elul 7 First Day Geshet School	13 Elul 8	14 Elul 9 Geshet School	15 Elul 10 Ritual Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m.	16 Elul 11	17 Elul 12 6:00 p.m. Services 6:48 p.m. Candlelighting	18 Elul 13 6:45 p.m. Services 7:49 p.m. Havdalah
19 Elul 14 "Race to Nowhere" Documentary & Discussion 1:00 p.m.	20 Elul 15	21 Elul 16 Geshet School	22 Elul 17 Board of Trustees Meeting 7:00 p.m.	23 Elul 18	24 Elul 19 6:00 p.m. Services 6:36 p.m. Candlelighting	25 Elul 20 6:30 p.m. Services 7:37 p.m. Havdalah
26 Elul 21 Geshet School	27 Elul 22	28 Elul 23 Geshet School	29 Elul 24 Erev Rosh Hashanah	1 Tishrei 25 Rosh Hashanah Day 1 Office Closed	2 Tishrei 26 Rosh Hashanah Day 2 Office Closed 6:00 p.m. Services 6:24 p.m. Candlelighting	3 Tishrei 27 6:30 p.m. Services 7:26 p.m. Havdalah
4 Tishrei 28 Geshet School	5 Tishrei 29	6 Tishrei 30 Geshet School				



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Selichot*

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**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2014**

Congregation Beth El, 1200 Fairfield Woods Road, Fairfield

8:15 pm Havdalah  
8:30 pm Program with Rabbi Borovitz  
9:30 pm Selichot Service  
10:30 pm Refreshments