



Stony Brook Hebrew Congregation Newsletter

This month's services schedule

Date: Sep	Candle lighting	Evening Service	Shacharit	Kriat Shema	Mincha/ Maariv	Shabbat Ends
5-6	6:59 pm	7:00 pm	9:30 am	9:37 am	6:50 pm	7:59 pm
12-13	6:47 pm	6:45 pm	9:30 am	9:39 am	6:40 pm	7:47 pm
19-20	6:36 pm	6:30 pm	9:30 am	9:41 am	6:30 pm	7:35 pm
26-27	6:24 pm	6:20 pm	9:30 am	9:44 am	6:15 pm	7:23 pm

Shacharit Monday-Thursday – 7:00 am (6:35 am during Selichot)

Learning

Hebrew Reading Crash Course – Begins Thursday, Sep. 18th, at 7:00 pm and continues for five weeks. Register by calling (631) 751-3289 or e-mailing SBHC@Verizon.net.

Talmud Class – Tuesdays at 8:00 pm in the Beit Midrash. No class on Sep. 9th.

Weekly Women's Class – Times change weekly. Contact RivaR@topshot.com for more information.

Special Events in September

JSU Shabbaton – The HSC Jewish Student Union will be having a Shabbaton on Sep. 12th and 13th. Contact eric.norman@hsc.stonybrook.edu for more info.

Selichot - Saturday, September 20th, at 10:30 pm on campus.

Chulent in Synagogue – Shabbat of Sep. 27th during Kiddush.

Fast of Gedaliah – Sunday, Oct. 2nd. Fast starts at 5:29 am and ends at 7:01 pm.

Rosh Hashanah

Monday, Sept 29th

Mincha/Maariv 6:15 pm
Candle lighting 6:19 pm

Tuesday, Sept 30th

Shacharit 8:30 am
Mincha/Maariv 6:15 pm
Lighting Candles/
Start cooking 7:18 pm

Wednesday, Oct 1st

Shacharit 8:30 am
Mincha/Maariv 6:15 pm
Yom Tov ends 7:16 pm

Yom Kippur

Wednesday, Oct 8th

Mincha in
Beit Midrash 1:00 pm
Kol Nidrei 6:00 pm
Candle lighting 6:04 pm

Thursday, Oct 9th

Shacharit 8:30 am
Mincha/Maariv 4:35 pm
Fast ends 7:03 pm

Nachas News

- Happy Birthday to Eric & Elisheva Norman, Daniela Ziskind, Helmut Strey, Matan Strey, Baily Lederer, Chana Aluf-Medina, Alexis Klonsky and Sara Chana Roffman.
- Mazel Tov to Eric & Elisheva Norman and David & Sharon Leib on their anniversaries.

Rabbi Roffman's Monthly Message

As the country prepares to choose a new President, “change” seems to be a popular theme. New leaders bring the opportunity for new priorities, new visions, and new ideals that bring the promise of a better nation. For the Jewish people, however, we are preparing to “re-elect” G-d for the 5770th term on Rosh Hashnah, and since no one else even remotely qualified is running against Him, it is pretty obvious that there will not be a change in universal leadership. Yet change is the central theme of the month preceding Rosh Hashanah and leading up to Yom Kippur.

But can we expect real change when the same Being is still in charge? Is this only a one-way expectation of change? If we follow the rules, things are good; if we don't, things are bad. Rabbi Chaim Volozhin writes a very surprising answer. He says that G-d can also change how He rules in the world. Of course, the Torah cannot change as this would be the legal equivalent of changing the constitution and other fundamentals that define the country. But just as inside the established legal system, many different opportunities exist, so too with G-d.

How does this work? King Solomon writes in Proverbs, “as with water, one face is to another, so to is the heart of one man to another.” Just as when looking at our reflection in the water, the face that stares back at us shows the same attitude that we show it, so to with people. When you smile at someone, they instinctively return the smile. When you yell at someone, they instinctively yell back. This is the system that guides our relationship with G-d. When we ignore Him, He ignores us and when we respect Him, He respects us. But R' Chaim goes even further, saying that G-d also reflects back to us according to how we interact with others. When we show kindness to others, G-d shows kindness to us, and when we forgive others, G-d forgives us. All G-d does is hold up the mirror to us and let us experience our own personality.

So as we seek real change of one sort or another, the first thing that we must do is look within ourselves. Our new government will in the end only reflect back upon us what we choose. So too, our relationship with G-d and the people around us will in the end only reflect back the changes that we have the courage to make in ourselves.

Ketiva V'Chatima Tovah