

# AHAVATH ACHIM CONGREGATION

## 2021 HIGH HOLIDAY INFORMATION

### ROSH HASHANAH

Erev Rosh Hashanah	Sept 6, 6:00 PM
Rosh Hashanah Day 1	Sept 7, 9:00 AM
Tashlich	Sept 7, 5:30 PM
Rosh Hashanah	Sept 7, 7:00 PM
Rosh Hashanah Day 2	Sept 8, 9:00 AM

### TASHLICH

This year, we will do Tashlich as a community on the afternoon of the first day of Rosh Hashanah, Tuesday, September 7 at 5:30pm. We will meet at the bridge over the creek next to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church (the intersection of Killarney and Broadmoor, which is in the Pepperstone's neighborhood between Central and Rock). If there is rain, we will try again for the next day at the same time.

### KEVER AVOT

Service & Grave Visitation	Sept 13, 11:00 AM
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### YOM KIPPUR

Kol Nidrei	Sept 15, 6:15 PM
Yom Kippur Morning	Sept 16, 9:00 AM
Minchah/Neilah	Sept 16, 5:30 PM
Break Fast	CANCELLED

### SUKKOT

Erev Sukkot	Sept 20, 6:00 PM
Sukkot 1	Sept 21, 9:00 AM
Sukkot 2	Sept 22, 9:00 AM
Erev Shabbat/Sukkot	Sept 24, 6:00 PM
Shabbat Sukkot	Sept 25, 9:00 AM

### SH'MINI ATZERET SIMCHAT TORAH

Erev Shmini Atzeret	Sept 27, 6:00 PM
Shmini Atzeret Morning	Sept 28, 9:00 AM
Erev Simchat Torah	Sept 28, 8:00 PM
Simchat Torah Morning	Sept 29, 9:00 AM

### FROM THE PRESIDENT

On behalf of the Officers and Board of Directors of Ahavath Achim Congregation (AAC), I want to invite you to celebrate the High Holidays with us. Rabbi Pepperstone, Cantor Pepperstone and many others have prepared and are ready to make this year's services and events reflective, meaningful, and enjoyable. We look forward to having you join us and together, we will mark this important time of the year. Thank you for your continued support of our congregation. We wish you and your loved ones a very happy and healthy New Year!

The Officers and Board of Directors of AAC  
Ellen Beren, President

### SELICHOT EVENT AND SERVICES

This year's Selichot event and services will take place on Saturday, August 28, 2021 beginning at 9:00pm, and will take place in the South Sanctuary. We will begin with a screening, study, and discussion of an animated piece about **Conflict Resolution** by Israeli artist **Hanan Harchol**. In his series, **Jewish Food for Thought**, Harchol depicts a collection of engaging animated conversations between himself and his parents. They explore Jewish teachings on themes such as forgiveness, love, gratitude, and many others. After a short break, we will continue at 10:00pm with our Selichot services, led by Cantor and Rabbi Pepperstone to begin this year's High Holiday service.

### YOM KIPPUR BREAK FAST

The Yom Kippur Break Fast has been cancelled for 2021. Thanks to Joyce and Gary Bachus for their willingness to sponsor the meal. We will look forward to gathering again in 2022.

### AAC DINNER IN THE SUKKAH

We are very aware of the rising COVID numbers but would like to serve a Shabbat/Sukkot meal on Friday night, September 24. For the safety of the congregation, we are trying to determine what would be the best way to proceed. The options we are considering are: dining together, taking a meal home, or revisiting our tradition next year.

## SPACES AT THE WJCC

This is our first year sharing space with our sister congregation, CE, at the WJCC. The Ritual Committee of the WJCC, which includes Rabbis Davis and Pepperstone, Jan Hoffman, our Gabbai, and his counterpart from CE, determined that for this year's High Holidays, AAC will use the South Sanctuary for all of our services, and CE will use the North Sanctuary.

## DECORUM

We are all excited to be meeting in person for this year's High Holiday services and delighted to see people we may not have seen in a while. Nevertheless, in observance of this holy season, we ask that all members and guests refrain from conversations during our services. If you and someone else need to have a conversation, we ask that you go to the hallway, library, or one of our lounges to talk to each other.

## WHAT TO WEAR

Since we will be together for this year's High Holidays, let's talk about choosing our outfits together. You may be familiar with the custom of wearing white garments for Yom Kippur, but there was also a custom in Jewish Babylonian communities of wearing brightly colored clothes for the Festivals. Imagine what it would look like if we all wore vibrant colors for Rosh Hashanah, and then all wore white for Yom Kippur!

For Yom Kippur, as part of the fast, it is our way to avoid wearing leather shoes, either because those were the most comfortable shoes, or just to not wear leather shoes, which are made through an act of violence.

## THE NEW HIGH HOLIDAY MAHZOR

This year, we are delighted to begin to use our new High Holiday Mahzor entitled Mahzor Lev Shalem. Mahzor Lev Shalem contains meaningful commentaries, beautiful thematic readings, contemporary interpretations and translations, and includes many passages in transliteration to help everyone participate in our services, regardless of their level of Hebrew skill. Also note that we have three sets of the Mahzor Lev Shalem in large print as well.

We are also honored that an angel has stepped up to sponsor our new set of Mahzors, the name of whom will be revealed at the High Holidays.

## MAHZOR PICKUP AND DROP OFF

If you are planning to join this year's High Holiday services via Zoom, we will arrange for you to either pick up a copy of the Mahzor from the WJCC or to have one delivered to your home the week before the High Holidays begin (August 23-27). Please contact Hannah See in the WJCC office ([hannah.see@jsbwjcc.org](mailto:hannah.see@jsbwjcc.org)) to let her know if you want to pick one up or to have one delivered to your home.

## ZOOM FOR THE HIGH HOLIDAYS

In addition to our in-person services, we will be using Zoom for all our services as well, as we have been since we began our in-person services this summer. The Zoom links for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur will be sent out prior to each holiday. When you log on to Zoom, please make sure that either your name or your family name is on your screen. If you will be joining us over Zoom, make sure that you remain on mute and only unmute when you are taking a part in the service (i.e. taking an aliyah, etc.).

If you have an honor and will be attending over Zoom, be sure to contact Rabbi Pepperstone to walk through the details of taking that honor over Zoom.

## NEED A RIDE?

If you need a ride to/or from any of our High Holiday services, we have several members who would be delighted to help you be part of our in-person services. please contact Rabbi Pepperstone (rabbipepperstone@gmail.com), Laura King (zoochimp16@gmail.com), or Steve Zacker (stephenzacker@gmail.com), and we will help to arrange rides for you.

## SECURITY

There will be security personnel at the WJCC during all of our services during Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

An AAC member will be greeting the congregation and guests as they enter.

## TICKETING AND BILLING

The cost of the High Holiday tickets this year is \$72.00. If you are member, this will be added to your AAC account and will appear on your next bill. If you will not be attending services this year with us, simply let the office know, and we will remove the charges from your account. This is the case whether you are attending in-person or over Zoom. The cost of High Holiday tickets for others is \$200 per person. If you know someone who is new to the community, we would like to welcome them as our guests, so please let the office know their names.

## COVID POLICY

Given concerns about the COVID and Delta Variant, we will follow CDC guidelines for this year's High Holidays, and requiring that everyone attending our services wear a mask over their mouth and nose while they are in the WJCC building. This includes everyone, both vaccinated and unvaccinated. Rabbi and Cantor Pepperstone will be taking rapid COVID tests the morning of each service and, assuming a negative result, will be leading services without masks when others are not close by. We will also be covering the shofars during services. If you are not feeling well, please stay home for the safety of yourself and our congregation.

## MODIFYING SERVICES THIS YEAR

We are so fortunate be able to be together in person and over Zoom this year! We want our time together to be meaningful, intimate and spiritual. Since we will wearing masks while in the building, we are also taking into consideration everyone's comfort level. To reduce our mask time, this year we are thoughtfully shortening our services. We will still have moments of closeness and transcendence together, sing together, stand in silence together, and learn together; and we will also abbreviate Birchot HaShachar and Psuekei D'zimra, do a Heiche Kedushah for the Shacharit Amidah, abridge the repetition of Musaf, shorten Haftarat when possible, moved the Shofar service to the end and hold it outdoors, and keep things moving in general.

## VOLUNTEERS: GREETERS AND BUILDERS

Are you looking to pitch in and help out during the High Holidays? We are looking for volunteers!

**Greeters:** People to welcome others as they enter the building, and keep track of who is here. People would be taking shifts at the WJCC entrance.

**Sukkah Builders:** People who can help put up the Community Sukkah at the WJCC for Sukkot.

Contact the AAC Office if you can help with either of these projects.