Congregation Beth Shalom

High Holy Days 5787/2026 General Information

High Holy Day Ticket Policy

Congregation Beth Shalom is an inclusive and welcoming synagogue for all those who wish to attend High Holy Day Services. High Holy Day tickets will be provided to ALL CBS members and family who live with them, including children through age 26. Additional tickets may be requested for other relatives and out-of-town guests. Click here for Out-of-Town Guest Ticket Form. We look forward to welcoming families to our services.

Sanctuary

We can seat over 700 people. Speakers are distributed throughout the sanctuary to ensure that all activities can be heard. Seating location is on an open, first-come, first-served basis. We ask everyone to be sensitive to those who may need extra assistance, and leave space for them near exits, and other more easily accessible seating. CBS has a limited number of tallit available and many kippot in the foyer. You may also wish to bring a sweater or some type of wrap as temperatures will vary in the sanctuary depending on the number of worshippers present.

Entrance and Parking

Entry is via the front main doors only. Members and guests are encouraged to park in the lined spaces provided at the synagogue. If those spaces are filled, our neighbors have graciously offered to share their parking facilities with us.

800 West 5th Avenue - Directly west of Beth Shalom, congregants may park in the spaces on the north and east sides only.

5th Avenue - There will be limited parking available on the north side of 5th Avenue. Please obey all posted signs on 5th Ave. as there is no parking on the south side of the street.

Accessibility

We want no impediment to your worship; if you have any special needs that may impact your sense of fulfillment during the High Holy Days, please contact religiouspractice@napershalom.org or the office at 630-961-1818. We will make every attempt to accommodate your needs. Additional information can also be found here.

Questions During Services?

If you have any questions, please look for a CBS board member with a colorful nametag.

Electronics

For the benefit of everyone's spiritual fulfillment please turn off or vibrate all cell phones. We encourage you not to allow your children to bring electronic games. Use of these electronics will not be permitted in the sanctuary or foyer.

Play and Pray

Pray and Play area for families with young children, ages 0-7, complete with a cozy rug, coloring books, toys, and books. Families with young children are welcome to sit in this area, as well as anywhere else in the Sanctuary.

Garden and Playscape

In addition to the Play and Pray area and childcare for our young members, the garden and playscape are open for families to take their children to enjoy during services. Children must be accompanied by a parent. Please exit and enter through the lobby doors.

Childcare

Child Care will be available for First Day of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur morning services. Only those who have made reservations for childcare will be guaranteed space for these programs. Please click on this link for Childcare Information and Registration Form. Contact the office at 630-961-1818 for additional information.

Selichot

Selichot Movie and Service - Saturday Sept. 5th - 7:30pm - Film + Discussion/Text Study (40min film) with Oneg and Selichot Service to follow. Join CBS members for Selichot on Saturday evening September 5th. Selichot is the first opportunity of the season to sing High Holy Day Tunes, turn the Torah covers to their white attire, and as is our tradition - watch a meaningful film that inspires us! This year, we will watch "The Last Repair Shop," which won the 2024 Academy Award for Best Documentary Short. The film is about a warehouse in LA where they repair classical music instruments, and focuses on themes of brokenness, repair and healing. Thank you to CBS member Mimi Qunell for leading the discussion and to Selena Rochlis (and havurah) for coordinating the Oneg.

Tashlich

Tashlich is our opportunity to symbolically cast our sins into a body of water and start the New Year with a clean slate. Please join us for our community Tashlich service shortly following services on the second day of Rosh Hashanah. Birdseed will be provided to cast away your sins, as well as a light snack. Location will be announced at services.

Community Kol Nidre

Community Kol Nidre will begin at 7 pm in the Sanctuary. Kol Nidre will be followed immediately by the Maariv (evening) service. A traditional pre-sundown Kol Nidre will be conducted at 6:00 pm in the youth lounge. Tom and Barbara Wolff will lead this participatory service with Hebrew, transliteration and music provided to enable congregants to add their voices to the lovely prayer. This service will run about 20 minutes and will be followed by Community Kol Nidre.

Yizkor Service on Yom Kippur

Yizkor service on Yom Kippur will immediately follow the morning service. It will not be before 1:15pm, last year it was at approximately 1:30pm.

Yom Kippur Study Session

“Beyond the Ordinary: Finding G-d in Altered States of Consciousness” led by Bridge Biernacki. Across cultures, religions, and time people have sought G-d through fasting, meditation, ecstatic prayer, music, pilgrimage, and mystical experience. Is Judaism any different? Explore how Yom Kippur and Jewish tradition invite us into an altered state of consciousness—and what happens when changing our state of mind opens the door to the Divine.

Yizkor Memorial Book 5787

This book will be used at Yizkor services during Yom Kippur, Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah, Pesach and Shavuot during 5787. If you would like to include a dedication in memory of one or more loved ones, please click here for Memorial Book Dedication Form

Young Family Services (0–7-year-olds)

Bring your young children (or grandchildren) to celebrate the High Holidays with CBS. We’ll be saying prayers, singing songs, and reading stories to introduce our youngest members to the High Holy Days. This service will be at 9:00am on the 1st day of Rosh Hashanah and on Yom Kippur led by Rabbi Allison Peiser and Carrie Lapidus. An adult is expected to attend with children.

Junior Congregation (Grades 3-7)

Junior Congregation services will be led by Rabbi Allison Peiser and offered on the 1st day of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur in the Youth Lounge at 10:00 am.