

**BETH ISRAEL CONGREGATION
HIGH HOLYDAYS INFORMATION**

5770 – 2009

**ROSH HASHANAH:
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2009 & SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2009**

**YOM KIPPUR:
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2009**

This booklet contains all the information you will need for planning your High Holyday observance at Beth Israel Congregation in 2009. Please read it carefully before filling in any forms. All member families must return a completed form from the back page. Keep this booklet handy for future reference.

INTRODUCTION

The High Holydays are a time when the majority of us attend synagogue services. Every year, of course, we strive to improve upon the High Holyday experience of the previous year. Eight years ago, in order to accommodate the growth of the Congregation, an additional Parallel Service was established, so named because the service runs parallel to and is liturgically identical to the service at our Crondall Lane facility. Again, the Parallel Service will take place at the Owings Mills JCC.

OVERVIEW OF HIGH HOLYDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE			
	CRONDALL LANE	PARALLEL – JCC	FAMILY SERVICE - BI
EREV ROSH HASHANAH FRIDAY, SEPTMBER 18	5:50 PM	ATTEND CRONDALL LANE	
FIRST DAY-AM ROSH HASHANAH SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	10:30 AM
FIRST DAY-PM ROSH HASHANAH SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19	6:00 PM	ATTEND CRONDALL LANE	
SECOND DAY-AM ROSH HASHANAH SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20	8:30 AM	8:30 AM	10:30 AM
TASHLICH SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20	MEET AT 5:15 PM SERVICE AT 5:30 PM	ATTEND CRONDALL LANE	
SECOND DAY-PM ROSH HASHANAH SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20	6:00 PM	ATTEND CRONDALL LANE	
EREV YOM KIPPUR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27	MINCHA 6:20 PM KOL NIDRE 6:30 PM	MINCHA 6:20 PM KOL NIDRE 6:30 PM	ATTEND CRONDALL LANE
YOM KIPPUR MORNING MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	10:30 AM
YOM KIPPUR CONCLUSION MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28	MINCHA 5:00 PM NEILAH 6:30 PM	ATTEND CRONDALL LANE	

DESCRIPTION OF HIGH HOLYDAY SERVICES AT BETH ISRAEL CONGREGATION

In this booklet, we will refer to the three services for the High Holydays as follows:

Cron dall Lane Service – Our regular egalitarian service in the David Phillip Gresser Sanctuary with expanded seating into the Social Hall and Grebow Auditorium. Seating is assigned in advance. Admission to the building will be by ticket only in accordance with the schedule of services on the next page. Tickets may be purchased so that children and out of town guests/relatives may sit with our members in the service when space is available.

JCC Parallel Service - The Parallel Service will resemble, in form, structure, and content, the service conducted in the Sanctuary at Beth Israel Congregation. Although admission will be by ticket only, seating will be open (i.e. – not specifically assigned). One other important difference from the service at Cron dall Lane – it will be smaller and more intimate – fewer people, in a space that will allow it to be both intimate and roomier. For those who sit in the back of the Social Hall at Cron dall Lane, this may be an attractive alternative. Also, member families choosing this service will be provided with tickets for seats for parents and their children under age 18, at no additional cost beyond their membership dues. Non-member families must purchase seats for each family member. Admission to the JCC will be by ticket only.

Family Service – Beth Israel will once again offer a Family Service for the High Holydays. The Family Service is a less formal service designed especially for families with children ages 5 to 12. The service is interactive, with parents and their children sitting together. The Family Service, which features a special Mahzor, is led primarily by Rachel Glaser, our Education Director, and Adult Education Chairperson Brian Lerner. Additional professional staff and lay leaders also assist. The service will again be held in the Multi-Purpose Room at Beth Israel. Capacity for the Family Service is limited to 275 people. Families choosing this service will be provided with tickets for seats for parents and their children under age 12, at no additional cost beyond their membership dues. Admission to the Family Service will be by ticket only.

CLERGY

Beth Israel Congregation's clergy, Rabbi Jay R. Goldstein, Rabbi Joshua Neely, and Cantor Roger B. Eisenberg will officiate at Cron dall Lane and the JCC, assisted by Bob Schein, Danny Stern, Neri Cohen, and Brian Lerner. The Rabbis will exchange pulpits on the second day of Rosh Hashanah.

SECURITY

For the High Holydays we implement additional security precautions for the safety of our congregants and children. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding. Please follow the instructions of our staff and / or security personnel. **You will be asked to show your tickets at the door to enter the building.** Allow extra time in your travel plans, since the additional security precautions may result in delays upon entering the building.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers are needed (adults and responsible teenagers) to help during services. We especially need volunteers who can be hall monitors, ushers, babysitting coordinators/observers for each room, food preparers

for children's snacks, and security assistants. Please contact the administrative office if you can volunteer some time.

DUES AND TICKET POLICIES – MEMBERS OF BETH ISRAEL

Seating for the High Holydays is, first and foremost, a privilege of membership at Beth Israel. Whereas worship is open to all during the year, we cannot extend this privilege for the High Holydays without doing injustice to our members. When applicable, seats will be clearly assigned and locations printed on your tickets. You will be asked to show your tickets in order to enter either our building or the JCC (see Security). There will be a desk staffed by volunteers who will be able to help those who forget their tickets. PLEASE KEEP YOUR TICKETS WITH YOU AT ALL TIMES FOR QUICKER ACCESS. REMEMBER THAT TICKETS ARE NOT TRANSFERABLE. Congregants are expected to go to the service indicated by their tickets, in order to avoid confusion and possible overcrowding.

All members must have their accounts current, 2009 dues paid in full, to retain seat assignments, obtain extra seats, etc. If you foresee the need for a payment plan, you must be in contact with David Rothenberg, our Executive Director, to make such arrangements, by August 1, 2009. Otherwise, your original seat assignment may be released and your seats assigned to someone else if your membership does not remain in good standing. You will be assigned seats once you are back in good standing. ***In order to avoid the possible loss of your seat location, it is important that your account be current, or that you are in touch with David Rothenberg!***

In order to assign seats efficiently and minimize the number of scattered single seats that cannot be used, we reserve the right to make minor adjustments to seat assignments. In most cases, if changes are made, it will involve shifting a few seats or rows. If you want us to be aware that you are sitting with other friends or family, please bring this to our attention in Section A of the form.

Members who have long-standing extra seats in specific locations: Every effort will be made to allow you to continue to hold those seat locations. Timely return of this form will guarantee the renewal of the extra seats at the same location. **Please do not assume that we will automatically know your seating needs.**

During open seating, any worshipper(s) may sit in any vacant seat(s). It is possible that members who purchase specific seats at Beth Israel will want to sit in their assigned seats – especially after the break on Yom Kippur afternoon. Worshippers who find that they have taken what appeared to be an open seat may in fact find that the seat “belongs” to someone. Based on past years, we know there is plenty of seating to accommodate all worshippers. We ask that a spirit of understanding and cooperation commensurate with the dignity and purpose of the High Holydays prevail when finding seats.

CHILD CARE

Due to the contractual nature of providing qualified child care staff, it is **absolutely imperative** that you sign your child up in **advance**. A flat one time charge of \$40 per child must be paid in advance. Any child not registered will not be allowed to stay.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Please use the spaces provided in Sections A and C to alert us to any special needs, requests, or concerns you may have concerning seating (Section A) or babysitting (Section C).

EXTRA SEATS FOR RELATIVES

Members in good standing may purchase extra reserved seats in specific locations for the High Holydays beyond their allotment on a year-to-year basis, subject to availability, by **COMPLETING SECTION B OF THE FORM.**

Members in good standing may purchase additional seats for the following circumstances:

- a. **Dependent Children between the ages of 12 and 25. Children who are 26 and over are considered adults and must stand on their own as MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION.**
- b. **Relatives or Children whose primary residence is outside of a 60-mile radius of Owings Mills, and are not members of another congregation.**

Please be advised that if you do not renew extra seats, we will reassign them to others as necessary. As a result, they might not be available to you in future years. Although we will try to continue to honor requests for extra seats (subject to our guidelines and seat availability), the multitude of seat requests means that we must first ensure that all congregants have seats before extra seats are assigned.

Beth Israel Congregation participates in an *informal* reciprocal High Holyday seat arrangement with other synagogues. Parents or children of our members who are year-round members in good standing at any other congregation that is 60 miles or more from our area may obtain complimentary High Holyday seats from Beth Israel, IF AVAILABLE. Complete Section B of the form and attach or arrange for a written request from their home congregation on their home synagogue's stationary signed by either the Rabbi, Executive Director or Synagogue President specifying which day is being requested and specific service. Please include the name of the Beth Israel member. Because of the need to assign seats to members, these requests will not be considered until we are certain that all members' needs are satisfied.

Every effort will be made to accommodate specific seat requests. However, exact locations cannot be guaranteed, given the size of the Congregation and the multitude of requests.

POLICIES REGARDING NON-MEMBERS WHO WISH TO PURCHASE HIGH HOLYDAY SEATS

A limited number of seats will be made available to those in the Baltimore Jewish Community who are not members of Beth Israel Congregation. Based on availability, seats will be made available for our Parallel Service at the JCC, giving priority to parents of children in our Hebrew School and Pre-School, and then to unaffiliated families. There is a charge of \$225 per adult / \$150 per dependent per seat. Non-members enrolling a child / children in our Religious School or Pre-School for the *first time* are being furnished with tickets for two seats in the Parallel Service at no charge. Non-members enrolling a child / children in our Religious School or Pre-School who are ongoing may purchase seats. **NON-MEMBERS SHOULD COMPLETE SECTION B OF THE FORM AT THE END OF THIS BOOKLET TO OBTAIN HIGH HOLYDAY SEATS. PAYMENT BY CHECK OR CREDIT CARD MUST ACCOMPANY THIS FORM; WE CANNOT BILL NON-MEMBERS "ON ACCOUNT".**

HIGH SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN OF MEMBERS CAN ATTEND ADULT SERVICES

We are pleased to announce that seats are available at the **JCC Parallel Service** for High School students. There is no charge, however, **YOU MUST REGISTER YOUR TEEN.** Those families wishing to *sit together* with their High School age teens, may want to consider switching to the Parallel Service. Additionally, we will leave the **last two rows of the Crondall Lane Social Hall open for teens** who wish to sit in the service at

Crondall Lane. Parents who attend services at Crondall Lane and who want their children to sit *with them* in assigned seats will still have to buy seats in accordance with the ticket purchase policies.

Extra seat and change of seat requests must be submitted by completing the attached form and returning it by August 15th. (The office cannot assume that whatever arrangements/seats you had last year will be applicable this year. For example, seat additions not requested in 2008 were removed from the members computer file.)

All necessary areas in section B and method of payment must be completed in full.

In accordance with our computer seating program we will not be able to take seat requests over the phone – you must mail in the form or fax it to us. When faxing please make sure both sides of the form are faxed to 410-581-0113.

Additional charges for seat changes should accompany your form by check or credit card or may be billed to your account. These costs should then be paid by August 15th.

**If you have questions please call us at:
410-654-0800
Forms can be faxed to us at 410 - 581 - 0113**

PARKING SPACES AND BUSES

Although our parking lots are expanded, we still cannot accommodate the cars of all of our worshippers during the most heavily attended services of the High Holydays. Further, we must allocate a certain number of spaces for tenants, those who need parking for health reasons, etc. Open parking in the remaining spaces will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

On the High Holydays, demand for Handicapped spaces far exceeds our normal supply. As a result, the entire upper level parking lot and areas adjacent to the building are reserved for vehicles carrying MVA-issued handicapped tags. **Spaces will be held until mid-morning, and are provided on a first-come basis.** Please follow the parking attendant's instructions.

We have arranged for auxiliary parking at the JCC on Gwynnbrook Avenue. Shuttle bus service is provided between the JCC and Beth Israel.

Please do not park on Owings Mills Boulevard or Crondall Lane. Permission has *not* been given by the County to park there. Baltimore County police can ticket and tow vehicles parked illegally at their option. **Please do not park in Crondall Corner's parking lot, or in the parking lots of any of the neighboring office parks.** These lots are private property. *Please do not risk towing.* Let's be good neighbors and park only in those areas designated.

Parking restrictions are in force and shuttle buses are used only for selected services. At all other times there is open parking in the Beth Israel parking lot. When there is open parking we ask that our worshippers be considerate and leave the upper level for handicapped parking.

TASHLICH

On the afternoon of the second day of Rosh Hashanah (Sunday, September 20, 2009) – worshippers are invited to join with the clergy to perform the ceremony of Tashlich. This interesting custom is derived from Micah 7:19: "You will cast all their sins into the depths of the sea."

Please join us with your children, friends and neighbors at Beth Israel Congregation at 5:15 PM. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring a small supply of bread to cast into the water (symbolizing the casting of one's sins.) We will walk to a local stream together. At the stream, Tashlich will be performed at about 5:30 PM followed by singing in the spirit of the High Holydays. Afterwards, we will return to Beth Israel for the brief mincha and maariv services.

Non Member Seats, Baby Sitting and Payment Information (Continued)

SECTION B - EXTRA SEATS FOR RELATIVES AND SEATING FOR NON-MEMBERS										
<i>SEATING SUBJECT TO HIGH HOLYDAY SEATING POLICIES AND AVAILABILITY MUST BE COMPLETED IN FULL</i>										
1	Name				Age		Relationship			
	Street			City			State		Zip	
2	Name				Age		Relationship			
	Street			City			State		Zip	
3	Name				Age		Relationship			
	Street			City			State		Zip	
Check Appropriate Box:		PLEASE INDICATE EXTRA SEATING CHOICE AND TOTAL PRICE IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX (NO CHARGE FOR RECIPROCAL SEATS):							Enter Amount Below:	
		Sanctuary	Adults (\$365 per seat x ____ # Seats)					\$		
			Dependents (\$285 per seat x ____ # Seats)					\$		
		Front Social Hall/ Auditorium	Adults (\$315 per seat x ____ # Seats)					\$		
			Dependents (\$235 per seat x ____ # Seats)					\$		
		Social Hall/ Auditorium	Adults (\$275 per seat x ____ # Seats)					\$		
			Dependents (\$190 per seat x ____ # Seats)					\$		
		Parallel Service Member	Adult (\$175 per seat x ____ # Seats)					\$		
			Dependents (No charge ages 5-18, 19-25 - \$100)					\$		
		Parallel Service Non Member	Non Member Adult (\$225 per seat x ____ # Seats)					\$		
			Non Member Dependents (\$150 per seat x ____ # Seats)					\$		
		Family Service Non Member	Non Member Adult (\$175 per seat x ____ # Seats)					\$		
			Non Member Dependents (\$100 per seat x ____ # Seats)					\$		
Total Cost for Extra Seats for member families / Seating for Non Members								(B) \$		

SECTION C - BABY SITTING \$40 PER CHILD										
<i>PLEASE ENTER YOUR CHILD'S FIRST NAME, AGE, DAYS NEEDED PLEASE PROVIDE SPECIAL NEEDS/REQUESTS IN COMMENTS SECTION</i>									Enter Amount Below:	
Location:	Beth Israel		JCC		Days Needed:	RH Day 1		RH Day 2		Yom Kippur
Name					Age					\$
Name					Age					\$
Name					Age					\$
Total Cost for Babysitting									(C) \$	
Comments on Room Assignments:										

TOTAL PAYMENT DUE									
<i>ENTER TOTALS FROM SECTIONS B AND C</i>									Enter Amount Below:
(B) Total Cost Extra Seats/Seating for Non Members									\$
(C) Total Cost for Babysitting									\$
Total Amount (Can be paid by check or credit card, or put on your account to be paid by August 1st).									\$

METHOD OF PAYMENT										
CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX									Enter Amount Below:	
CREDIT CHARGES CANNOT BE MADE FOR AMOUNTS LESS THAN \$50										
Check Appropriate Box:		Check enclosed for the following amount								
		Please Bill My MasterCard/Visa	Card Type	Number				\$		
				Expiration						
		Card Holder Name								