



High Holidays, From the Mediterranean to the Northern Lights series returns in September, Upcoming Programs, Shul Tours and More – August 24, 2026

HIGH HOLIDAYS

The Walnut Street Synagogue is pleased to offer High Holiday services this year in our historic synagogue. Our spacious 1,109 seat sanctuary has plenty of room for you, your family and friends. Advance registration is required due to security, planning and public health considerations. There is no charge to attend services, but donations are suggested. This year we will be welcoming back Moshe Stein from New Jersey who will be leading services.

As we enter the New Year, we ask you to consider making a **High Holiday contribution** to Walnut Street Synagogue. The costs of preservation, maintenance, utilities, insurance, and security continue to rise. At the same time, we are committed to keeping our historic Jewish landmark active and welcoming while continuing to offer programs both in the building and online. Every contribution makes a difference. We are grateful for your support of Walnut Street Synagogue and its continuing role in the community. We will be creating a **Yizkor book** again this year to remember loved ones. Copies of the book will be mailed to all (U.S. addresses only) who submit listings shortly after Yom Kippur services. (*Prior years' books may be found at walnutstreetsynagogue.org/publications*). Listings cost \$18 per individual name and will be grouped in the book by the individual or family remembering their family members and friends. All listing requests must be received by September 18 to be included in the book.

Register here to attend services - <https://www.jotform.com/form/262284483814160>

High Holiday Appeal / Yizkor Book donation form - <https://walnutstreetsynagogue.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/High-Holidays-2026-5787-Donation-Form.pdf>

High Holidays website - <https://walnutstreetsynagogue.org/high-holidays-2026-5787/>



HIGH HOLIDAYS 2026-5787

WISHING YOU A HAPPY, HEALTHY, AND
SWEET NEW YEAR 5787! שנה טובה ומתוקה



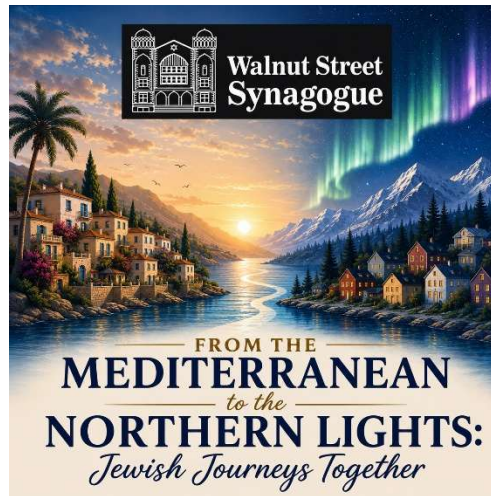
JOIN US FOR SERVICES IN OUR HISTORIC SANCTUARY LED BY
MOSHE STEIN. NO CHARGE TO ATTEND, BUT ADVANCE
REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

ROSH HASHANAH EREV - SEPTEMBER 11 MINCHAH-MAARIV 6:30 PM DAY 1 - SEPTEMBER 12 MORNING SERVICES 10:00 AM MINCHAH-MAARIV - 6:55 PM DAY 2 - SEPTEMBER 13 MORNING SERVICES 10:00 AM MINCHAH-MAARIV - 7:10 PM	YOM KIPPUR EREV - SEPTEMBER 20 KOL NIDRE 6:15 PM SEPTEMBER 21 MORNING SERVICES 10:00 AM AFTERNOON SERVICES 5:00 PM HAVDALAH - 7:20 PM SHOFAR - 7:25 PM
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145 WALNUT STREET AT THE CORNER OF FOURTH STREET IN CHELSEA
COMPLETE DETAILS AND REGISTRATION ONLINE
walnutstreetsynagogue.org/high-holidays-2026-5787
PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR BUILDING IS NOT ACCESSIBLE FOR THOSE WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES.



FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN TO THE NORTHERN LIGHTS: JEWISH JOURNEYS TOGETHER



Jewish Finland Tour

Thursday, September 17, 12:00 pm ET (online)

Our series concludes with a virtual visit to the Jewish community in Finland. The Finnish Jewish community is a small but active community that encompasses a synagogue a Jewish school, Chabad house and sports activities by the only Maccabi in Europe that did not stop operating during World War II. Today the Finnish Union of Jewish Students is one of the most active ones in Northern Europe and has been recently awarded the prize of the Developing Union of the Year by the World Union of Jewish Students (WUJS). Finland is the northernmost Jewish community in Europe and its traditions and active Jewish life is as diverse and alive as in any big city elsewhere.

Our presentation will be given by **Beto Guzman**, our guide, who is originally from Mexico but has lived in Helsinki since 2015. As an activist and community organizer, he has been working and volunteering in the Finnish Jewish community first as a Moishe House host and even starting the Finnish Union of Jewish Students.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/jewish-finland-tour-tickets-1989627159393?aff=oddtcreator>

Learn more about the series here - <https://walnutstreetsynagogue.org/mediterranean-to-northern-lights/>

CSP

We are pleased to be a partner congregation of the Orange County Jewish **Community Scholar Program (CSP)**. Please join us at an upcoming program!



God, Hope, and Our Jewish Calling

Tuesday, August 25, 1:00 pm ET (online)

What does the future hold for the American Jewish community, and how might our understanding of God help guide us through times of uncertainty and transformation? Join Rabbi Elie Spitz in conversation with acclaimed theologian Rabbi Bradley Shavit Artson for a thought-provoking exploration of the challenges

and possibilities facing American Jewry today. Together, they will examine how Jewish wisdom can offer meaning, hope, and resilience in a rapidly changing world, while reflecting on faith, modernity, community, responsibility, and the evolving spiritual questions that will shape the next generation of Jewish life.

Rabbi Bradley Shavit Artson is an American Conservative rabbi, theologian, and educator known for integrating Jewish thought with contemporary science, ethics, and social justice. Born in San Francisco, he studied at Harvard University, was ordained at the Jewish Theological Seminary, and later received a doctorate in theology from Hebrew Union College–Jewish Institute of Religion. He serves as the Goldstone Distinguished Scholar of American Jewish University in Los Angeles, having served for over twenty-five years as the dean of its Ziegler Rabbinical School and founding the Zacharias Frankel College in Germany, which trains Conservative rabbis for Europe. Earlier in his career, he served for a decade as rabbi of Congregation Eilat in Mission Viejo, California. Artson is widely recognized for his work in process theology, which emphasizes a dynamic, relational understanding of God, and for his efforts to bridge Judaism with modern scientific knowledge, including evolution and cosmology. He is also an advocate for social justice and inclusion across a range of issues. He has written several books on Jewish theology, ethics, and spirituality, including *God of Becoming and Relationship*, *Renewing the Process of Creation*, and *The Bedside Torah*.

Rabbi Elie Kaplan Spitz, a spiritual leader and scholar specializing in topics of spirituality and Judaism, teaches, writes and speaks to a wide range of audiences. He served as the rabbi of Congregation B'nai Israel in Tustin, California, for over three decades and served as member of the Rabbinical Assembly Committee on Law and Standards for twenty years. Rabbi Spitz is author of *Duets on Psalms: Drawing New Meaning from Ancient Words*, co-authored with Rabbi Jack Riemer, *Healing from Despair: Choosing Wholeness in a Broken World*, and *Does the Soul Survive? A Jewish Journey to Belief in Afterlife*.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/HY5vPXaXS0ODKNB0785q6g#/registration>

Illuminating Scriptural Connections – Torah, Qur'an, and the Stories We Share

Sunday, August 30, 1:00 pm ET (online)

Join the authors of *Illuminating Scriptural Connections* on the eve of the launch of their book for a groundbreaking exploration of two of the world's most influential sacred texts. In this unique dialogue, the Torah's fifty-four weekly portions are examined alongside the Qur'an, revealing fascinating parallels, meaningful differences, and the shared stories, prophets, values, and spiritual questions that have shaped Judaism and Islam for centuries. Together, we will move beyond assumptions and discover how studying these traditions side by side can deepen understanding, illuminate common roots, and open new pathways for conversation between two great faiths.

Rick Sopher is a key figure in interfaith scriptural dialogue, especially known for fostering relations between Jewish and Muslim communities. He is a fellow of the Woolf Institute, an academic institute in Cambridge, England, dedicated to the study of interfaith relations between Jews, Christians, and Muslims. In 2007 French President Jacques Chirac awarded him with the Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur for his work in religious education.

Abdulla Galadari is an associate professor of Islamic studies at Khalifa University of Science and Technology. He is the author of *Qur'anic Hermeneutics: Between Science, History, and the Bible*, *Metaphors of Death and Resurrection in the Qur'an: An Intertextual Approach with Biblical and Rabbinic Literature*, and *Spiritual Meanings of the Hajj Rituals: A Philological Approach*.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/DB5P9M2iTmGQW4IE-POopg#/registration>

Exploring the Masterpieces of Art in Rome, Florence, and Venice

Part 2 - Thursday, September 3, 1:00 pm ET (online)

Part 3 - Thursday, October 1, 1:00 pm ET (online)

Join acclaimed artist Tobi Kahn for a captivating three-part adventure through the artistic soul of Italy, where every stone, canvas, and canal tells a story. From the eternal layers of Rome, where ancient sculpture, Renaissance genius, and contemporary vision meet in the Vatican Museums, Galleria Borghese, Musei Capitolini, Palazzo Barberini, and MAXXI; to Florence, the birthplace of the Renaissance, where Michelangelo's David, Botticelli's Birth of Venus, and Brunelleschi's soaring Duomo forever changed the way humanity sees beauty; to the magical waterways of Venice, where Byzantine splendor, Renaissance masters, Murano glass, delicate lace traditions, and daring engineering created a city unlike any other. Together, we will explore not only Italy's greatest masterpieces, museums, and

architectural wonders, but also the artists, patrons, ideas, and innovations that transformed Italy into one of the world's most extraordinary centers of creativity and civilization.

Tobi Kahn is an internationally acclaimed painter and sculptor whose work has been featured in more than 70 solo museum exhibitions and is included in major collections worldwide, including the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, The Phillips Collection, The Jewish Museum, the Houston Museum of Fine Arts, and the Yale University Art Gallery. A longtime educator, Kahn has taught fine arts at New York's School of Visual Arts for over 30 years and lectures internationally on visual language, creativity, and art as a source of healing. He holds a BA from Hunter College and an MFA from Pratt Institute. His upcoming solo survey exhibition, *Quest for the Essence*, will be presented at the Boca Raton Museum of Art from November 2026 through April 2027.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/20baW3gRTICNKjSMd2ZrAQ#/registration>

COMMUNITY PARTNER PROGRAMS

Holding Community in Uncertain Times

Tuesday, August 25, 2:30 pm ET

(online program presented by Combined Jewish Philanthropies)

Join Rabbi Marc Baker, President and CEO of CJP, Marty Martinez, President and CEO of United Way of Massachusetts Bay, and Kelley Tuthill, President and CEO of Catholic Charities Boston, for a conversation about leadership, community resilience, and what it takes to navigate uncertainty and change.

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/holding-community-in-uncertain-times-virtual-event-tickets-1997487930170?utm_medium=email&hsenc=p2ANqtz--tfyTxJfRWNsAJLzglfool6cy6Y6ZcrmzeA5I-ZfVnZNq5nruBecWzN9-2JFfk_M7Jvt9neuz-pHj3UM8ZNkD3CgSmx6Yp6OPEPMJtKxkt9LC4gcc&hsmi=432855716&utm_content=432855716&utm_source=hs_email

Israel's Elections: What They Mean for Israel's Future

Wednesday, September 2, 7:00 pm ET

(in-person program presented by Combined Jewish Philanthropies at Jewish Community Center of the North Shore, 4 Community Road, Marblehead)

As Israelis prepare to head to the polls, the stakes of this election extend far beyond party politics. The outcome will shape Israel's leadership, security, society, and relationships with the Jewish world at a pivotal moment in the country's history. Join us for an insightful evening with Professor Reuven Hazan, one of Israel's leading experts on politics and democracy, for a timely overview of Israel's political landscape ahead of the October elections. Professor Hazan will provide clear, nonpartisan analysis of the major issues, key political players, and the possible paths forward, helping our community better understand the dynamics shaping Israel today.

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/israels-elections-what-they-mean-for-israels-future-tickets-1997147190007?utm_medium=email&hsenc=p2ANqtz-8BH1h5SR0cK3Hm-PAo-wMEZmd1upWmFG4JDblyF8kUQLVf_Exn-3Q4vnSUySnE52HS03Jup3g7PpvwugQM6KpqAG_6lGYnR5qTN10l3UZlZjELKyY&hsmi=434022825&utm_content=434022825&utm_source=hs_email

SHUL TOURS

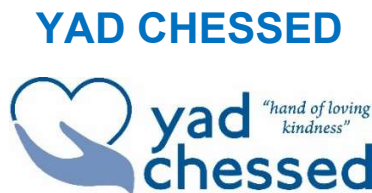
If you live in the Boston area and have never seen our historic shul, or haven't visited in a while, or if you plan to visit the area, we welcome you to see our shul in person! Tour our historic synagogue that was built in 1909 and was added to the National Register of Historic Place in 1993. Come see our 1,109-seat sanctuary with its painted ceiling and wall frescoes, murals and carved wood Aron Kodesh. Check out our collection of Judaica, artwork, photos, documents, books, posters and plaques that come from our synagogue, synagogues in Chelsea that have closed along with fraternal, social and educational organizations from Chelsea and elsewhere in Greater Boston. Please follow the link below for more

information and to request Individual/Family or Group tours.

<https://walnutstreetsynagogue.org/visit/>

JEWISH BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS

Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Boston (JBBBS) currently has children and teens waiting for mentors, as well as adults with disabilities waiting to be matched with friends. A commitment of just a few hours each month can grow into a meaningful, long-term relationship for everyone involved. To learn more visit jbbbs.org or email volunteers@jbbbs.org.



Yad Chessed helps Jewish individuals and families who struggle with financial hardship pay their bills and buy food. As a social services agency rooted in the Jewish values of kindness (chesed) and charity (tzedakah), they are committed to helping those in need navigate a path toward financial stability while preserving their privacy and dignity. They provide emergency financial assistance, grocery gift cards and compassionate advice for those trying to make ends meet. Hundreds of families and individuals throughout the state rely on Yad Chessed to provide for their essentials, and even at times, a Jewish burial for a loved one. Members of our community, as well as others in the Jewish community, who need assistance may contact Yad Chessed by phone at 781-487-2693 or by Email at intake@yadchedded.org for a confidential conversation. Questions can be directed to info@yadchedded.org.

Support Yad Chessed - <https://givebutter.com/yadchedded>

GIVING

Please visit our Giving page to send tributes, recognize yahrzeits and make other general donations to support the Walnut Street Synagogue and help us preserve, maintain and secure our 116-year-old building. Donations can be made online or through the mail. Tributes and other donations may be recognized on our Giving Page unless otherwise requested.

<https://walnutstreetsynagogue.org/giving/>

VISIT US ONLINE

Website

<https://walnutstreetsynagogue.org/>

Facebook Page - Walnut Street Synagogue

<https://www.facebook.com/WalnutStreetSynagogue>

Facebook Group - Jews of Chelsea, MA Then and Now

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ChelseaJews>

The Walnut Street Synagogue is the center for Jewish history, education and culture serving Chelsea, Greater Boston and beyond and is the historic home of Congregation Agudas Sholom. (added to National Register of Historic Places in 1993)



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