



# Sharei Chessed Congregation

## שערי חסד

**Welcome to our synagogue! ברוכים הבאים**

Avraham Ettedgui, Rabbi | Bernie Miller, President

Dr. David Feldshon, Vice President

Religious School Faculty:

Uri Koppel, Sheryl Sue Warren, Carmella Chazin, Mark Bloom

Lee Reinharz, Office Manager

## **Nitzavim - נצבים**

**October 1, 2016 – 28 Elul 5776**

In Nitzavim, Moses delivers his last speech to the Children of Israel before they enter the Promised Land. He emphasizes that, even with all the difficulties of the past forty years, here they are all gathered, including the heads of the tribes, the men, the women and the children, ready to enter the Promised Land, and also entering into a covenant with God.

The covenant is that they will keep the Torah. This covenant is made with them and with all generations that follow. No one can walk away from this covenant. Dire consequences await any generation that strays away from the Mitzvot of the Torah.

This parasha contains the words of "Teshuva" - Repentance. God assures us that, no matter where we are and how far we may stray away from the Torah, if we return to God, God will also return to us and gather our exiles from all corners of the world and bring us to Eretz Yisrael.

Nitzavim concludes with these verses: "I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day. I have put before you life and death, blessing and curse. Choose life, so that you and your descendants will live."

**1712 Hopkins Crossroad, Minnetonka, MN 55305**

**763-545-8800 | [www.ShareiChessed.org](http://www.ShareiChessed.org)**

**Sharei Chessed Congregation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.**

## Did You Know That ...

We as Jews are commanded to listen to the sounds of the shofar on Rosh Hashanah and at the conclusion of Yom Kippur. There is even an International Day of Shofar Study observed on Rosh Chodesh Elul in order to improve the skills of shofar blowers. But there have been other times when the shofar has been blown in modern history:

- The shofar was sounded as a sign of victory and celebration on May 8, 1945 after news came of the surrender of the Nazis.
- The shofar is often played in 'Salute to Israel' parades and other pro-Israel demonstrations.
- After the Six-Day War, Rabbi Shlomo Goren, then head of the Military Rabbinate of the Israel Defense Forces, famously approached the Western Wall and sounded the shofar. This fact inspired Israeli musician and singer Naomi Shemer to add an additional line to her song 'Jerusalem of Gold', saying: "a shofar calls out from the Temple Mount in the Old City."
- In pop music, the shofar is used by the Israeli Oriental metal band Salem in their adaptation of 'Al Taster' psalm.
- Israeli composer and singer Shlomo Gronich uses the shofar to produce a very wide range of notes.
- American composer Jerry Goldsmith, known for his work in film and television scoring, used the shofar as part of the orchestration for the scores to the films 'Alien' and 'Planet of the Apes'.



## This Day in Jewish History—28 Elul



In 1849, the first synagogue was dedicated in Cape Town, South Africa, called Tikvat Israel -- "Hope of Israel," referring to the Cape of Good Hope. Originally, the Dutch East India Company's rules required that all residents must be Christians. Only after freedom of religion was introduced in 1803 did Jewish settlers from England and Germany come in significant numbers to Cape Town.

Around the turn of the 20th century, the development of diamond and gold mines attracted a large number of Jewish immigrants. South African Jewry enjoyed great prosperity, strongly represented in the commercial and professional sectors. The Jewish community was characterized by a deep attachment to traditional Jewish values and strong bonds with Israel. The Jewish population of South Africa reached a peak of 120,000 in the early 1970s, but with political turmoil and the dissolution of Apartheid, tens of thousands of Jews left to settle in Israel, Australia and the U.S. Tikvat Israel synagogue -- South Africa's first -- is still standing today.

(courtesy of Aish.com—'Day in Jewish History')

## Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries

### Happy Birthday to:

- Betsy Fricklas
- Sondra Tenner
- Nekha Zelikman

### Happy Anniversary to:

- Robyn and Josh Awend

## Thank You to:

The members of Sharei Chesed who will be leading us in prayer and music for the High Holy Days:

### Prayer Leaders:

- Aron Tsukerman—Birkat HaShachar
- Avraham Etedgui—Rabbi
- David Baldinger—Hazzan
- Bernie Miller—Hazzan Sheni

### Sharei Chesed Choir:

- David Baldinger
- Sarah Kudishevich
- Bernie Miller
- Michael Sandler
- Noam Zadaka

## High Holy Days at Sharei Chesed

Sharei Chesed wishes all of our members and friends a happy and healthy New Year, and hopes to see you at our services:

### Sunday October 2nd:

Erev Rosh Hashanah at 6:00 P.M.

### Monday October 3rd:

Shaharit at 9:30 A.M.

Blowing of the Shofar at 10:30 A.M.

Tashlich on the Synagogue Patio at 5:45 P.M.

Mincha / Ma'ariv at 6:00 P.M.

### Tuesday October 4th:

Shaharit at 9:30 A.M.

Blowing of the Shofar at 10:30 A.M.

Mincha / Ma'ariv at 5:45 P.M.

### Next Saturday October 8th:

Shabbat Shuvah at 9:30 A.M.

'Shana Tovah' - May you all be inscribed and sealed in the Book of Life and Blessing, Peace and Prosperity, for a happy life and for peace.



