

MAYIM SHALOM

Summer 2022

Av-Elul 5782



A big thank you goes to Mayim Shalom member Martin Sher who received a plaque in June honoring him for his many years of service. The plaque reads:

"Congregation Mayim Shalom gratefully recognizes Board Member Martin Sher for Decades of Dedicated Service, Support, and Friendship including 20 years as Treasurer."

Coming Events

Dear Friends,

I hope your summer has been going well.

Shabbat Services

On Friday, August 12 at 5:30 pm, Rabbi Jackie will lead us in a Shabbat service at Harmony Methodist Church, in "the big room." A light Oneg will follow the service.

Annual Picnic

On the following Sunday, Aug 14, we will have our annual picnic near the kiosk at Sunset Bay State Park, on Cape Arago Highway. The picnic starts at 12 noon and there is no charge. (See flyer, page 2 for details.)

High Holiday Services

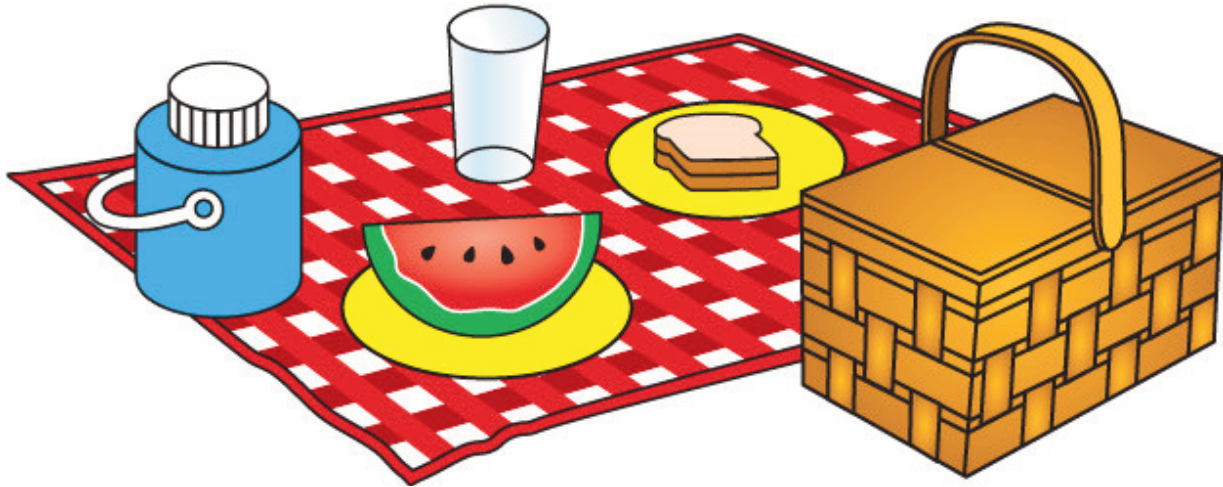
Our observance will be on Shabbat Shuvah on the weekend of 9/30/22-10/1/22 (between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur).

We will meet on **Friday night, September 30** at 5:30 in the big room at Harmony Methodist Church. An Oneg will follow the service.

On **Saturday, October 1**, we will continue our observance of the High Holidays at the North Bend Library in the big conference room. Starting at 10:30 we will have a Torah service, which includes discussion, prayer service and reading from the Torah. (See page 6 for tentative schedule.)

Grant Cousens

ANNUAL PICNIC



EAT, PLAY AND SCHMOOZE WITH US

Where: Near the kiosk at Sunset Bay State Park,
on Cape Arago Highway.

When: Sunday, August 14
Setup at 11:00 am
Start time: noon

What's Provided

Kosher hot dogs, baked chicken, garden burgers, buns, condiments, sodas, etc.

What to Bring

Fruit, nuts, or salads or desserts

There are a limited number of tables, so please bring a chair or a blanket. Also, bring a sweater or jacket for our coastal weather.

Suggested Donation

There is no charge, but donations of canned or dried food for the Food Bank would be appreciated.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP PLEDGE FORM

FOR THE YEAR 5783 (2022 - 2023).

YOUR SUPPORT IS CRUCIAL TO OUR CONTINUING SUCCESS.

PLEASE USE THIS FORM FOR YOUR ANNUAL PLEDGE TO CONGREGATION MAYIM SHALOM.

NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE & ZIP: _____

PREFERRED PHONE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

The congregation suggests a minimum pledge of \$100 for an individual or \$150 for a family. Please give as much as you are able to. The board has stipulated that no one will be denied membership due to financial considerations.

My pledge for the year 5783 (2022 - 2023) is \$_____

Please make your checks payable to Congregation Mayim Shalom and mail to the address below. Thank you !!! If you have any questions, please call board member Grant Cousens at either (541) 759-3522 [Home] or (541) 756-3402 [work].

Congregation Mayim Shalom
P.O. Box 307
Coquille, OR 97423

Rabbi's Message:

A Time to Plant, a Time to Mourn, a Time to Embrace

By Rabbi Jacqueline Brodsky

Shalom!! As I write this many of us are in the midst of summer, which often means we may be planning picnics, concerts, visits with family and friends, travels, gardening, and hopefully other wonderful things. Interestingly, Judaism teaches us that this is also really a very serious time, the beginning of the preparations for the High Holiday season, and therefore there is much soul work that is coming our way. This comes in the form of a series of rather serious events which appear on our calendar between now and the High Holidays:

On July 16 this year is the 17th of the Hebrew month of Tammuz. This is a fast day that marks when the walls of Jerusalem were breached by the Romans in 69 CE and also marks when Moses broke the tablets.

Soon after the 17th of Tammuz as we enter the severe heat of the summer, we enter into the 3-week period when we prepare to mourn the destruction of the Holy Temple and our people's descent into exile. (July 16 to August 6 this year)

The 3 week-period then concludes with the fast of the 9th of Av, or Tisha B'Av, the date when both Holy Temples were set aflame. This is the saddest day of the Jewish calendar, and it is also the date that many other tragedies befell our people. (Aug 6 this year.)

Please note that our sages remind us that there is more to these commemorations than fasting and lamentation. In fact, it is believed that the messiah was born on Tisha B'Av and so metaphorically this is a special time when the remedies for the problems of the world are also born and we can be inspired to create a more just and compassionate world.

Finally, after the month of Av comes the month of Elul, the month right before the High Holidays. One translation for "Elul" is "search" which hints to us that this is the time to really delve into soul-searching.

Here are some suggestions for our focus on forgiveness and soul work in four main areas, beginning in Elul and continuing thru the High Holidays:

1) **RELATIONS WITH OTHERS:** We reflect on our actions of the past year towards others. We ask ourselves: Whom did I harm, hurt, or mistreat,

in any way-whether intentionally or inadvertently. In many cases we have to "clean-up" old business from several years past, not just last year. It may seem overwhelming, but it will be very rewarding to connect with the people with whom we need to talk. No one can do this for us. It can lighten our spirit immensely to clean this part of our "house."

2) **RELATIONS WITH GOD:** We reflect on how have we transgressed or neglected our obligations to the Holy One. This is equally important, as only God knows many of the inner adjustments we need to make. According to the Talmud, it is the work in reaching forgiveness with others which paves the way for our wholehearted personal approach to God for forgiveness.

3) **RELATIONS WITH OURSELVES:** We reflect on how have we transgressed or neglected our obligations to ourselves. We honor ourselves as partners with God and therefore should honor our bodies and souls, especially watching what goes in (food) and what comes out (words) of our mouths!!

4) **RELATIONS WITH THE WORLD:** We reflect on how we have been a citizen of this world. Have we participated in our congregation, community, city, country, world? Have we stood up for injustice to Jews? Non-Jews? Have we spoken out against anti-Semitism? Anti-Israel propaganda? Racism? Children at risk? Destruction of the environment? Homelessness and hunger? The specter of nuclear war?

So let's get to work!!!!!! Our sages remind us that because of the intensity of the work, the time to begin is NOW (starting on the 17th of Tammuz, July 16 this year)!

This year, 2022, the High Holiday dates are: Jewish New Year, Rosh Hashanah (Sept 25 and 26 this year; the Day of Atonement, Yom Kippur (Oct. 4 and 5 this year). Our services at Mayim Shalom will be on the Shabbat between these dates, on Shabbat Shuva (or "Shabbat of the return"), implying this is a time when we return to our holier nature through forgiveness work, and that is on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1. I look forward to seeing you all soon at the annual picnic weekend Aug 12-14 and also at our High Holidays!

Many blessings, Rabbi Jackie

CONGREGATION MAYIM SHALOM

5783 (2022 - 2023)

**High holiday services
with Rabbi Jackie Brodsky**



Tentative Schedule

Please note: All services appropriate for small children are labeled "child friendly."

Friday, September 30

Location: Harmony Methodist Church - In the "Big" room
123 Ocean Blvd., Coos Bay

Evening Services 5:30 - 7:30 pm

5:30 - 6:30 pm - opening music and service

6:30 - 7:30 pm - (child friendly) meal, folk dancing,
Shofar blowing story, and demonstration

Saturday, October 1

Location: North Bend Library - In the large conference room
1800 Sherman Avenue, North Bend

Day Service: 10:30 am - 1:00 pm

10:30 am - Morning Prayer service

11:15 am - Torah service

11:45 am - Shofar service (child friendly)

12:15-1 pm - Lunch (child friendly)

(Followed by a child friendly Tashlich Service if there is interest)

***We will be accepting donations of food (dry goods) or money
for the "Feed the Hungry of Coos County" program.***

In Loving Memory

Nan Crouse

On January 8, two days before her 80th birthday, we lost a dedicated member of Mayim Shalom. Although she was not Jewish, she attended virtually all of our events, including Torah study. She once told me that Judaism made the most sense to her of any religion. Her friend Joyce told me: "Nan was always searching. And when she found Mayim Shalom, she said 'I'm home.'"

According to her wish, Nan was buried in our Jewish cemetery. And after her passing, her sister told us that Nan did have some Jewish ancestry.

Nan loved music and played with the local banjo group at the senior center. She painted beautiful watercolors, which I did



not know until after her passing. She loved to cook and even built her own sukkah for Sukkoth.

Nan was a highly intelligent, congenial and talented member of our congregation. I'll miss her.

Dahlia Grossman

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