

COMMUNITY-WIDE SELICHOT



Program and Service

Saturday, September 4, 2010

Congregation Beth Torah (6100 W. 127th St. Overland Park, KS 66209)

8:15 p.m. - Dessert Reception Sponsored by Congregational Sisterhoods

8:50 p.m. Havdalah followed by Spiritual Preparation & Repentance - 9:10 p.m.

**Select a first and second choice from session options below and respond with your letter choice by email to afprogram@aol.com or by phone to (913) 327-4622 by September 1st*

A. WHO BY FIRE, WHO BY WATER--SHOULD WE TAKE THE UNETANEH TOKEF PRAYER LITERALLY?- When we recite this prayer, do we really take the words literally? Are we really concerned that our fate hangs in the balance at that point especially and that we have any power over what our fate may be. *(Rabbi Alan Cohen, Director of Interreligious Affairs, Jewish Community Relations Bureau/ American Jewish Committee)*

B. AM I MY SISTER'S KEEPER: LIMITS TO SHALOM BAYIT - Examine Jewish texts that explore the limits of healthy relationships. The discussion will include resources for how each of us can be our sisters' and brothers' "keepers" in a caring community. *(Rabbi Vered Harris, Congregation Beth Torah and Rabbi Jonathan Rudnick, Jewish Community Chaplain.)*

C. PSALM 27: TWO PERSPECTIVES ON THE ELUL PSALM - Psalm 27 is traditionally recited twice a day during Elul, the month of repentance before the High Holy Days. We'll discuss how the psalm helps us to prepare. *(Rabbi Mark Levin, Congregation Beth Torah and Rabbi Herbert Mandl, Kehilath Israel)*

D. TESHUVAH IN THE THOUGHT OF RABBI JOSEPH B. SOLOVEITCHIK - Explore the thought provoking and meaningful messages of Rabbi Soloveitchik relating to repentance and see how these messages are relevant to today's world. *(Rabbi Daniel Rockoff, Beth Israel Abraham Voliner)*

E. THREE DAYS TO THE HHDS AND I'M NOT READY! - We will focus on tangible actions and techniques that one can take in getting our heads and souls ready for entering the Yamim Noraim. Music, guided meditation, journaling and other activities will be explored. *(Rabbi Alexandria Shual-Weiner, The Temple, Congregation B'nai Jehudah)*

F. TESHUVAH: TURNING OURSELVES AROUND - "Teshuvah/repentance" is a central concept in Judaism, especially during Elul and the High Holy Days. Learn about how we do teshuvah through the eyes of medieval philosopher Maimonides, as well as other ancient and modern texts. *(Rabbi Adam Stein, Congregation Beth Shalom)*

G. SEEKING SPIRITUALITY & FINDING RELIGION - Examine the "Al Cheyt" list of sins from the High Holy Days with an eye on those that seem personal and those that seem institutional. What is the difference, and what is at stake? *(Rabbi Robert Tobin, Congregation Beth Shalom)*

H. OUR COLLECTIVE AND INDIVIDUAL JOURNEYS: A PATH TOWARDS TESHUVAH AND WHOLENESS - Each of us is on an individual journey, sometimes, pausing and reflecting on where we have been and where we might yet go. Let's explore our collective journeys...whether as a KC Jewish community, as a country, as supporters of Israel, and even as citizens of the world...where have we been, where might we yet go, and how might we take our own journeys into the coming year?

(Rabbi Arthur Nemitoff, The Temple, Congregation B'nai Jehudah and Rabbi Scott White, Congregation Ohev Shalom)



10:00 p.m. – Selichot Service - Led by Rabbis Cohen, Levin, White, Tobin, Stein, Nemitoff, Shual-Weiner, Rudnick, and Steigman along w/ Beth Torah Music Director Linda Sweenie, Cantors Kohn and Menes, and a community choir.

Selichot services also begin at: 12:15 a.m at KI, 1:15 a.m. at BIAV

The late hour and the themes articulated in the liturgy will prepare the congregation for the Days of Awe and set the tone for the days ahead.

For information, please contact Annette Fish, Rabbinical Association Administrator/Program Director, (913) 327-4622 or email afprogram@aol.com. Sponsored by the Rabbinical Association of Greater Kansas City, Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City, in collaboration with participating congregations