



# High Holy Days 2021/5782

## Schedule of Services

מקום שלבי אוהב

THE PLACE THAT MY HEART HOLDS DEAR

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<b>Erev Rosh Hashanah Service</b>	8:00-9:30 pm
<b>Teen Experience (grades 7-12)</b>	8:00 pm
<b>Rosh Hashanah Day 1 (Tue, Sept 7)</b>	
Morning Service	10:00 am -12:00 pm
Family Service (all ages)	2:00-3:15 pm
Tashlikh	4:00-5:00 pm
<b>Rosh Hashanah Day 2 (Wed, Sept 8)</b>	
Morning Service	10:00 am -12:00 pm

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<b>Shabbat Shuvah (Fri, Sept 10)</b>	8:00 pm
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<b>Kol Nidre (Wed, Sept 15)</b>	
Evening Service	8:00-10:00 pm
Teen Experience (grades 7-12)	8:00 pm
<b>Yom Kippur Day (Thu, Sept 16)</b>	
Morning Service	10:00 am - 12:30 pm
Learning with Rabbi Joan Farber	1:00-2:30 pm
Family Service	1:15-2:30 pm
Yizkor	3:00-4:00 pm
Afternoon Service	4:30-5:30 pm
Neilah	5:30-6:30 pm

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<b>Sukkot Day (Mon, Sept 20)</b>	
Sukkot BBQ	Various times
<b>Jammin Sukkot Shabbat (Fri, Sept 24)</b>	7:00-7:30 pm
<b>Sukkot Shabbat (Fri, Sept 24)</b>	8:00-10:00
<b>Teen Sukkot Program (Sun, Sep 26) (grades 8-12)</b>	5:00 pm

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<b>Simkhat Torah Evening (Mon, Sept 27)</b>	
Simkhat Torah Celebration	7:00-9:00 pm
<b>Simkhat Torah Day (Tue, Sept 28)</b>	
Yizkor	9:00-10:00 am
1st Grade Consecration Service	4:30-5:15 pm

# Now More than Ever

These are such challenging times. Under the best of circumstances we're swimming upstream. Unsure of the way forward, fear pervades our everyday living. Woodlands Community Temple cannot solve this but we can offer you support, encouragement and hope along the way. "Now more than ever ... building Jewish lives together" is the banner across the top of our weekly email. During these challenging times, a spiritual community is more important than ever. To receive in our moments of need, to give when others have need, and to stay strong and hopeful together – this is what a synagogue does. It nourishes us from the inside. Your synagogue. May the New Year bring courage, resilience and love to you, your family, and to all our communities.



***The Woodlands Community Temple Board of Trustees and Staff extend our sincerest wishes for a sweet, healthy and fulfilling 5782 ... to you, your family and friends, and all humankind.***

Andy Farber (*President*), Andrew Loose (*VP Financial Planning*), Juli Klein (*VP Education*), Pam Chernoff (*VP Programming/Ritual*), Natalie Werner (*Financial Secretary*), Heidi Gralla (*VP Facilities*), Michael Wiskind (*Treasurer*) and Elizabeth Hiller (*Secretary*)

**Board of Trustees:** Irving Adler, Bonni Arbore, David Bertan, Marge Glusker, Joy Gralnick, Juli Klein, Toby Linder, Andrew Loose, Haya Luftig, Andrew Rosengarden, Steve Schwartz, Jay Zwicker and Dayle Fligel (*Immediate Past President*)



## The High Holy Days

### Family Services for the High Holy Days

Services specially prepared to engage our temple families. On Rosh Hashanah Day (Tues, Sep 7): Family Service (all ages), 2:00-3:15 pm and Tashlikh, 4:00-5:00 pm. On Yom Kippur Day (Thu, Sep 16): Family Service (all ages), 1:15-2:30 pm, and Neilah, 5:30-6:30 pm.

### Guests for High Holy Days Services

We're so pleased to welcome your friends and family to Woodlands for the High Holy Days, although due to COVID restrictions, please keep the following in mind:

- Temple members may arrange additional registrations for family members (adult children, parents, siblings, etc.) to attend all online and in-person events. Please be considerate of your fellow congregants and only register for the number of seats that you know that you will use for each service. You may register for both seats in the tent and online access, but if you decide not to attend a service in-person, please release your seat(s) through the registration system so that someone else may have access to those seats.

- Links to view online services have been sent to all of our college kids. If the link was not received, please contact us at [wct@wct.org](mailto:wct@wct.org).

- Potential members and others are welcome to join us for High Holy Days worship services both online and in-person if space permits once our members are

accommodated. The suggested donation for non-members who wish to attend services either in-person or online is \$500.

- Access to in-person and online Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur family services will be free, however online registration is required. Visit [wct.org/high-holy-days](http://wct.org/high-holy-days).

- Registration for just our online Yizkor service is available, as well.

### Tashlikh

**Tue, Sep 7, 4:00-5:00 pm**

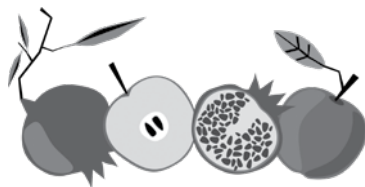
***Dobbs Ferry Waterfront  
(at the far end of the parking lot)***

After spending a few moments considering what hurtful parts of ourselves we'd like to "cast off" in the New Year, we'll scatter bread crumbs "into the depths of the sea." A poignant beginning for 5782. For the second year, we'll gather at the Dobbs Ferry Waterfront with the scenic Hudson as our backdrop.

### Shabbat Shuvah

**Fri, Sep 10 at 8:00 pm**

The days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur offer time to continue reflecting on the purpose and direction of our lives. Pastor Leroy Richards from the First Church of the Nazarene will speak.





## Support FCCN's Crisis Care Kits (CCK) for Haiti

Bring completed kits to the Shabbat Shuva service (or deliver to the temple in advance). Each kit should contain: 1 Shampoo (12 to 18 oz.), 2 Bars of Soap (Bath size or larger), 1 Toothpaste (4.0 to 6.4 oz.), 3 Toothbrushes (in original packaging), 1 Box of Band-aids (30 or more), 1 Fingernail clipper, 1 Sturdy hair comb, 2 Hand towels, 4 Pocket-sized pkgs Kleenex, 1 Beanie Baby-sized stuffed toy. Each CCK should contain only the items/quantities listed. Place all items into a 2-gallon zip-lock bag. Let's overwhelm Pastor Richards with kits as we join our friends at FCCN in letting the Haitians whose lives have been devastated in knowing that they are not alone.

## Kol Nidre Teen Experience

**Wed, Sep 15, 8:00-9:30 pm**

Interactive, out-of-the-box experience for 7th-12th graders. Always a highlight of the year, so don't miss out!

## Yom Kippur Learning with Rabbi Joan Glazer Farber

**Thu, Sep 16, 1:00-2:30 pm**

### Avinu Malkeinu: Who He?

Throughout our lives, our understanding of and relationship with God, a Divine Being, Higher Power changes with our life experiences and our emotional needs. The High Holy Day liturgy is filled with images and names for the divine presence and many of us struggle with the images and the metaphors. Starting with a look at Avinu Malkeinu, we will explore the issues raised by the liturgy and our own experiences.

## Bring Your Kids Back for Neilah

**Thu, Sep 16, 5:30-6:30 pm**

As the sky grows dark, we stand before the open Ark for the closing of Yom Kippur's "gates." It's a magical moment. We'd love to have you return with your children and grandchildren for our concluding Neilah service and one final, awe-inspiring *tekiya gedolah* on the shofar.

## High Holy Days Food Collection

**Wed, Sep 15 and Thu, Sep 16**

Local food pantries continue to be in crisis. Please help us to help our neighbors who are food insecure by bringing nourishing non-perishable foods to the food van at the temple between Kol Nidrei (9/15) and the beginning of Neilah (9/16).

Those who will be attending services online may drop off their donations at the temple during the week between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur – collection box inside temple. Volunteers are also needed to accept foods on Yom Kippur – sign up at [wct.org/foodvansignup](http://wct.org/foodvansignup). To help deliver collected foods to the pantries on Fri, 9/17, you can sign up there as well. Look for the list of foods needed at [wct.org/foodvan](http://wct.org/foodvan) – and check to see that the foods are not past or near their expiration dates. In lieu of – or in addition to – bringing food, we welcome your contributions of supermarket gift cards (Stop & Shop, ShopRite, etc) in denominations no larger than \$25.

Thank you. May this inspire us to help the needy all year long.



## Information Center

### Know The Appropriate Greetings for The Holy Days

On Rosh Hashanah: *Shanah Tovah* (a good year). Between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur: *G'mar Tov* (a favorable inscription). On Yom Kippur: *Tzom Kahl* (an easy fast). Between Yom Kippur and Simkhat Torah: *A Gut'n Kvitz'l* (a favorable revision).

### Your Tallit and Kol Nidre

The tallit (prayer shawl) is traditionally worn during morning prayer. But there's one time during the year that everyone is invited to wear a tallit at night: Kol Nidre. So for Yom Kippur this year, give your tallit a night life and wear it online for Kol Nidre.

## High Holy Days Sermons Online

If you find one presentation or another particularly meaningful during Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, or just want to read something through again, you can download it for yourself or to share with others. They will be available at [wct.org/hhdsermons](http://wct.org/hhdsermons).

## Is this the Fast that I Require?

While the memory of these Holy Days (and our Yom Kippur fast) lingers, please take time to write a check to Feeding Westchester (formerly Food Bank for Westchester). Your donation of \$36 or more will help alleviate hunger via 300 food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters throughout Westchester. Donate online ([feedingwestchester.org](http://feedingwestchester.org)) or by mail (200 Clearbrook Rd, Elmsford, 10523).

## Combat Food Insecurity at a Macro Level

The pandemic has thrown gaping holes into our nation's safety nets. MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger urges policymakers at the federal, state, and local levels to meet the spiraling needs of nearly 80 million Americans struggling with hunger. Your donation at [mazon.org](http://mazon.org) funds critical advocacy work that can ensure every person who needs it can access SNAP (food stamps) and keep food on the table without exposing themselves to further danger by waiting in long lines or debilitating their family's dietary and nutritional well-being.

## High Holy Days Bookplates Are Available

Please honor or remember someone you love by purchasing bookplates to dedicate individual copies. Pay tribute to the important people in your life. For each \$36 donation, one bookplate will be lovingly inscribed with both your and your loved one's name. Order online at [wct.org/bookplate](http://wct.org/bookplate).



# Sukkot and Simkhat Torah

## Is This the Year to Build Your Sukkah?

Why not? Building a sukkah at home can make Sukkot an exciting, hands-on and meaningful holiday observance. Members have involved their friends, relatives, and even their entire neighborhood in the project. Jewish tradition says we should drive that first nail into our sukkah upon returning home after Neilah on Yom Kippur. And if a full-size sukkah isn't in the cards, maybe you'll build one out of Legos, or Lincoln Logs, or even slices of cheese! Want some ideas? Visit [wct.org/sukkot](http://wct.org/sukkot).

## Sukkot Celebration and BBQ

**Mon, Sep 20 (seating begins at 5:00 pm)**

Our famous Sukkot celebration is back! This year, to allow for proper distancing and to keep things moving, we'll have timed seatings. During each seating block there



will be a) an opportunity to visit the sukkah to decorate it and shake the lulav/etrog b) crafts and fun for the kiddos and of course, c) music! Link to register is at [wct.org/sukkot](http://wct.org/sukkot). When you arrive at the Sukkot BBQ, please drop off a gift card from Bed, Bath and Beyond, Target, Kohl's, etc., to help victims of domestic violence.

## Shabbat Sukkot Service

**Fri, Sep 24 at 8:00 pm**

The holiday Sukkot is filled with so many messages for us today: The need to take care of our planet. The need to provide shelter to everyone. The need to see that every mouth is fed. Come join us for a celebration of the miraculous bounty we enjoy, and explore what we can do to see that others benefit as well.



## Congregational Simkhat Torah Celebration

**Mon, Sep 27, 7:00-9:00 pm**



We can fulfill Simkhat Torah's mandate to hear the end of the Torah and start it all over again in the same breath. Join us as we celebrate this magnificent, ancient gift that has

enriched our lives. The celebration will be in the tent to allow space for dancing!

## Simkhat Torah Yizkor Memorial Hour

**Tue, Sep 28, 9:00-10:00 am**

A sacred time to remember loved ones.

# Caring for Our Caring Community

Philanthropy – above and beyond your membership commitment – is what ensures WCT continues as a thriving and vibrant community. Your generous donations, at any level, support our clergy, religious school, adult education, community worship, social action and everything in between. Gifts to WCT are vital to the financial health of our congregation, and we are deeply grateful for the continued support from our members.

We hope that you will include WCT in your philanthropic priorities this coming year. If you would like to learn more, or get involved with our philanthropy team, please contact [giving@wct.org](mailto:giving@wct.org). Thank you.

## Great Support for Supporting Woodlands, Together

First announced this past January, Woodlands' new dues program—*Supporting Woodlands, Together*—has been received with great enthusiasm by temple members. We've heard positive responses to having members determine their own payments, based on both their commitment to the temple and their ability to pay, rather than being charged a fixed fee.

To date, the majority of our members have pledged online or returned their



commitment cards, and many of those have pledged to contribute more than the sustaining amount – and often, far more than they contributed last year. If you've pledged already, thank you. If you are among the few who have not yet made your commitment, please do so as soon as possible. You can make your pledge online at [wct.org/commitment](http://wct.org/commitment) or contact the office for a replacement card. And for whatever amount you can pledge, your community is thankful.

## Lifelong Learning

### Talmud Study Group

**Wednesdays 12:00-1:00 pm**  
(throughout the year on Zoom)



If you're looking for some ongoing, lively discussion of Jewish text, come join our weekly study of the Talmud

facilitated by Martin Irwin. In exploring the traditional teachings of our ancient rabbis, we find remarkable contemporary relevance. We are studying Tractate *Ta'anit*. *Ta'anit* takes up topics like holidays and ritual fasts and contains fascinating legends of Honi the Circlemaker and discusses the Jewish holiday of love – *Tu b'Av*.

## Webinar Schedule

DATE	TIME	TOPIC	FACILITATOR
10/13	1:00-2:00pm	The Jews are Coming - Israeli Satire with a message	Rabbi Mara
11/17	8:00-9:00pm	The Narrow Bridge: Exploring Gesher Tzar Meod through music	Rabbinic Intern Lara Tessler
12/15	1:00-2:00pm	An update from Israel: live conversation with Rabbi Yael Vugran	Rabbi Yael Vugran
1/12	1:00-2:00pm	Judaism and the Afterlife	Rabbi Mara
2/9	8:00-9:00pm	Theological Responses to the Shoah: The Writings of the Piaseczno Rebbe (Kalonymus Kalman Shapira), Richard Rubenstein and Eliezer Berkovits	Phil Karmel
3/23	1:00-2:00pm	Why Bad Things Happen to Good People (as focused on Rabbi Harold Kushner's book)	Cantor Lance
4/20	8:00-9:00pm	What is Idolatry and Why is It So Bad?	Rabbi Mara
5/18	1:00-2:00pm	What does Judaism teach us about Second Chances?	Abby Reiken
6/15	8:00-9:00pm	Jewish Baking Workshop	Abby Reiken



## Woodlands Webinars

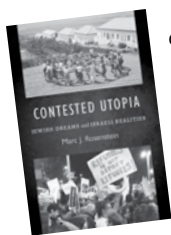
*Online Learning with Your Clergy and Friends!*

### Wednesdays throughout the year on Zoom

Take an hour and join your clergy and invited guests for an hour of learning online. Each month, we'll meet either for a lunch break (1:00 pm sessions) or dessert (8:00 pm sessions). Grab a nosh and get in front of a computer. We'll meet in real time and discuss lively topics together.

## Book Club

### Third Wednesday of every month starting Sept 29, 2:00-3:30 pm on Zoom

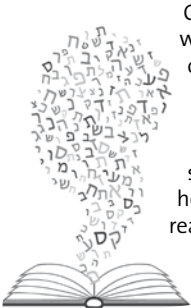


Join us every month for our book club, facilitated by different members of the group. This month, the club will be reading *Contested Utopia: Jewish Dreams and Israeli Realities* and discuss the book with the author,

Rabbi Marc Rosenstein. Published in the spring, Marc's newest book asks the question of "what is a Jewish state" and what would be uniquely Jewish about it? How can Jewish values exist there? While reading the book is not required for participation, you can purchase the book from your favorite seller before or after the event. Register in advance for this meeting at [wct@wct.org](mailto:wct@wct.org). After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

## Hevra Torah Learning

### Shabbat mornings, 9:15-10:15 am in-person and on Zoom



On Saturday mornings, whether you bring a little one to religious school or you're just taking it easy at home, why not come spend an engaging, stimulating and uplifting hour talking Torah? Some really nice folks come together and sit with our clergy to explore the portion of the week.

## Pirke Avot

*Ethics of the Sages with Harriet Levine*

### Thursdays, 10:00-11:30 am weekly, Sep 23 - June 2

Open to newcomers. Contact Harriet at [hl19845@gmail.com](mailto:hl19845@gmail.com)

## Ask Big Questions

### 3 Wednesdays: Jan 19, Feb 2, Feb 16 7:30-9:00 pm on Zoom

This course is back by popular demand! Many years ago, Hillel International turned Jewish learning on its head. The Ask Big Questions movement asked, "Instead of learning Jewishly in order to be better Jews, shouldn't we learn Jewishly to be better people?" Our tradition is not just a rote set of rules. Judaism asks big questions, questions like "When are we free?" and "For whom are we responsible?" In this series, we will ask these big questions of ourselves and of each other, using Jewish wisdom to help us on our journey to answering. Taught by Rabbi Mara.

## Virtual Trip to Israel

*My Heart is in the East: Libi B'mizrach with Shari Robins*

### Mar 2, 9, 23, 30 at 8:00 pm on Zoom

Israel is the meeting point for Jews from around the world. Experience the language, customs, cuisine, and culture of the various ethnic groups that make up a mosaic of Israeli society. In this four part series, we will explore the aliyot (waves of Jewish immigration) from Morocco, Yemen, Poland, Iraq, India, Greece, Ethiopia, and Argentina.



The title for the series comes from a poem by the 12th century Jewish Spanish philosopher Yehuda HaLevy who wrote, "My heart is in the east, and I in the uttermost west." We'll learn some Hebrew and Israeli slang, how to make some dishes typically found on an Israeli menu, and what can be found in Israel's markets. Taught by Shari Robins, a professional Israel tour guide, who has mastered the art of virtual guiding who will be leading us FROM ISRAEL!

## Woodlands Singers

We hope you'll consider joining Cantor Lance and our Woodlands Singers, who delight and enrich services and other special events. Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings, 8:00-9:30 pm. If you can carry a tune and like group singing, this is the place for you. Contact Cantor Lance ([cantor@wct.org](mailto:cantor@wct.org)) for more information.

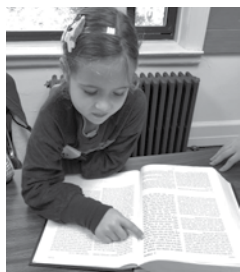
# Youth Engagement

## Kesher

*Our early childhood to 12th grade Jewish education program*



*Kesher* is the Hebrew word for “connection.” Everything we do in Kesher promotes a close connection between students, teachers, clergy and caregivers. We believe that Judaism provides the framework and the language for spiritual development that strengthens a person, our temple community, and the world at large. We are proud to do this through a Reform Jewish lens. For more information go to [wct.org/hebrew-studies.html](http://wct.org/hebrew-studies.html) or contact Abby Reiken, our Director of Congregational Learning, at [abby@wct.org](mailto:abby@wct.org).



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## Upcoming Ritual Events for Families:

### Mitzvah Hero Training @ Jammin' Shabbat

**Fri, Sep 24 at 6:45 pm in-person**



Come a little bit early to Jammin' Shabbat to kick off our Mitzvah Hero program this year! We'll make Mitzvah Hero capes and

explore how we can join together to care for each other and the world. What a beautiful opportunity to teach children about *tikkun olam*, Judaism's passion for fixing our broken world.

**Future dates:** Oct 22, Nov 12, Dec 17, Jan 7, Feb 4, Mar 18, Apr 22, May 6, Jun 3.

### Jammin' Sukkot Shabbat

**Fri, Sep 24 at 7:00 pm**



#### *In the tent.*

Put on your jammies, bring a bedtime friend, and join us for the wildest 30 minutes of bedtime song, stories and blessings ever! We'll be jammin' on

keyboard and guitar, and makin' a Shabbat to get you ready for bed. Bring a buck for tzedakah! We'll visit our Sukkah too! A Shabbat celebration made especially for our youngest families.

**Future dates:** Oct 22, Nov 12, Dec 17, Jan 7, Feb 4, Mar 18, Apr 22, May 6, Jun 3.



**In addition to Kesher** the WCT religious school), Woodlands boasts a robust youth and family experience. Under the leadership of Abby Reiken, our Director of Congregational Learning, Avital Abraham, our full-time Director of Youth Engagement, and our Youth and Family Engagement Committee, Woodlands runs youth programming for kids of all ages.

## 6th, 7th, and 8th Graders

Look forward to junior youth events led by our high school WoodSY Board!

## 8th-12th Graders

Get excited for WoodSY (our teen-run youth group) events this year! Past examples of events include a Tropical party in January, a social action lunch 'n learn, baking cookies for those in need, and more! Stay tuned for details!

We're thrilled that most of our B'nai Mitzvah continue on to our 8th-12th grade programs such as Academy, *Madrikhim* (teen aides program), and our retreats.

**Questions?** Want to know more? Contact Avital Abraham, our Director of Youth Engagement ([youth@wct.org](mailto:youth@wct.org)).





## Social Action

The Social Action Committee sponsors activities of service, advocacy, learning and partnership with both outside organizations and other groups within Woodlands. As we come out of the COVID crisis, we bring with us the positive adaptations we made as well as the understanding that our mission of tikkun olam, repairing the world, is so much more urgent. Please read the weekly congregational email to find out which programs are in-person and which are online as well as for changes and additions to our schedule.



### Join the Social Action Committee

We would love to have your participation, whether it is on a specific project or task force or in the committee's work as a whole. Email committee chairs Rabbi Joan Glazer Farber and Roberta Roos at [SocialAction@wct.org](mailto:SocialAction@wct.org) – and, if you have a particular interest, let us know (Blood Drive, Breakfast Run, Civic Engagement/Advocacy, Domestic Abuse, Environment, Food Collections, Gun Violence, Human Rights, Hunger, Immigration/Refugees, Interfaith work, Kids & Teens in need, Knitting & Crocheting, Shelters, Racial Justice, DEI (Diversity, Equity & Inclusion), etc.)

### WCT Food Cart

#### September



A food cart sits at the Keshet entry as a collection center for local food pantries and specific projects in which we are involved. Your monthly participation is

invited – just check dates on donated foods. In September, we are collecting low-sugar cereal boxes, soft granola bars, juice boxes, and fruit cups. Foods for subsequent months listed in Makom, weekly daf and email.

### Gift Cards to Assist Transitioning Families

#### A Sukkot BBQ Tradition:

#### Mon, Sep 20

Things move quickly when a family living in Hope's Door shelter finds out they have an apartment to move into. When you arrive at the Sukkot BBQ, please drop off a gift card from Bed, Bath and Beyond, Target, Kohl's, etc, to help victims of domestic violence. To join our mailing list and assist families with household items, contact co-chairs Judy Stiefel, Jennifer Trevor-Hochman and Bill Woolis at [domesticabuse@wct.org](mailto:domesticabuse@wct.org).



### Apple Picking with Hope's Door Families

#### Date TBD

Sponsor apple picking for families from this domestic abuse shelter and join with them in the activity. Contact [domesticabuse@wct.org](mailto:domesticabuse@wct.org)

### Knitting and Crocheting

#### Sun, Sep 26, 3:00-5:00 pm (in the sukkah)

Woodlands Knitters and Crocheters share work and camaraderie as we produce lovely items for those in need.

Our motto is "Repairing the World One Stitch at a Time".

We make blankets, shawls, hats, scarves and other items for victims of domestic violence, cancer patients, the homeless and families in need. All are welcome to participate. Guidance for beginners will be provided.

**Additional sessions will be held on**  
Sundays, Oct 17, Nov 14, Dec 12, Jan 23,  
Feb 13, Mar 20, Apr 3 and May 15.

For details, contact Angela Adler and Elizabeth Barnhard at [knitting@wct.org](mailto:knitting@wct.org).



### Racial Justice Film Series

#### Sundays at 4:00 pm

View the film (in some cases, prior to the program), engage in discussion with a person involved in each particular subject.

**Oct 3, *The Passengers***, a documentary film about Ethiopian Jews trying to make Aliyah; discussion with the film's director and a Westchester resident who helped bring the story to the screen.



**Jan 23**, Discussion of the PBS program, ***Asian Americans*** ([pbs.org/weta/asian-americans](https://pbs.org/weta/asian-americans)). You are invited to watch any episode on your own prior to the discussion.

**Feb 13, *I Am Not Your Negro***, a documentary film based on James Baldwin's unfinished manuscript, *Remember This House*.





**Apr 24, In the Heights**, musical film based on a stage play by Lin-Manuel Miranda, telling the story of a predominantly Dominican Washington Heights neighborhood.

*Adult Education joins Social Action's Racial Justice Task Force in sponsoring this series.*

## Environmental Task Force

**Thu, Oct 7 at 7:00 pm**

Future meetings will be Oct 25, Dec 15, Feb 28, April 25, June 27

Woodlands' Environmental Task Force will be reconvening this year. If you're interested in Woodlands' Zero Waste Initiative, have thoughts on how to further our campaign to keep greening our institution, or have ideas for Jewish Environmental Programming, please come and join us! For more information, email [ETF@woodlands.org](mailto:ETF@woodlands.org).



As we all return to our synagogue in-person, Woodlands' Environmental Task Force would like to remind you about our community's Zero Waste Campaign. Remember, (practically) everything we use at Woodlands Community Temple is compostable and should be thrown in the green compost bins. If you bring in materials from outside, please dispose of them in the proper, labeled receptacles. If you're not sure where it goes, either ask or throw it in the trash bin. Remember the mitzvah of *bal tashchit* – the commandment to not destroy or waste items from the natural world.



## Breakfast Run

**Sun, Oct 10 and Sun, Nov 14, 6:45-10:30 am**

WCT takes pride in caring for those less fortunate. Join us in serving breakfast on a NYC street. Individual adults as well as families with children in middle school and older are welcome.



We gather at the temple at 6:45, head into NYC and are back by 10:30 am. Email Michael Silverman and Julie Fischer at [midnightrunbreakfasts@wct.org](mailto:midnightrunbreakfasts@wct.org) to join the run or to learn more about the run.

Whether you can join us or not, we would sure appreciate you letting us know if you can provide any of the following food items: Granola bars, Juice boxes, Water bottles, Yogurt, Cheese slices, Hard boiled eggs (unpeeled), Bagels sliced with butter, Bagels sliced with cream cheese, Fruit (bananas and clementines), Baked goods such as cookies or mini muffins. And, we can always use new men's winter weight socks and reusable supermarket shopping bags.

## Blood Drive

**Sun, Oct 17, 8:00 am - 3:00 pm**

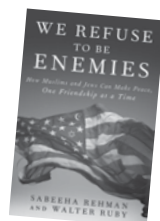
Donate blood at WCT to help the NY Blood Center meet their ongoing need for blood. Sign up at [wct.org/blooddrive](http://wct.org/blooddrive) or contact Margie Berman and her team – Jill Garland and Steve Sagner – at [blood@wct.org](mailto:blood@wct.org). A second drive will take place in the spring.



## We Refuse to Be Enemies

**Sun, Nov 7, 2:00–4:00 pm**

How can a Pakistani-American woman and a Jewish American man who is a Zionist be good friends? Learn their "secrets" when Sabeeha Rehman and Walter Ruby visit us to talk about their new book, *We Refuse to Be Enemies: How Muslims and Jews Can Make Peace, One Friendship at a Time*.



*Adult Education, Bridges of Faith & Friendship, Racial Justice Task Force, and Peace Islands Institute join Social Action in sponsoring this event.*

## Crime After Crime: Film Discussion

**with Producer/Director, Yoav Potash**  
**Wed, Nov 17, 7:30 pm**

Watch the film on your own (available on Amazon) and then join us on Zoom for a discussion with Yoav Potash, the producer and director of the documentary, *Crime After Crime*. The film tells the dramatic and unforgettable story of the legal battle to free Debbie Peagler, a woman imprisoned for over a quarter century in connection with the murder of the man who abused her. Filming in and out of prison for over five years, it is an unforgettable story of a relentless quest for justice that has won dozens of awards in the US and abroad. In 2018, Potash was selected as a filmmaker-in-residence at the Jewish Film Institute in San Francisco to produce two documentary films on untold stories of the Holocaust.



## Interfaith Caring Community Thanksgiving

**Sun, Nov 21, 4:00-5:00 pm**

Join in shared worship with Woodlands, local houses of worship and other community service organizations that are members of the Greenburgh Interfaith Caring Community. Hosted this year by Woodlands.

## Social Action Shabbaton

**Sat, Dec 11, 10:30 am**

Join Social Action Committee members for a Shabbat service and discussion focusing on how we do, and how we want to do, *tikkun olam* at Woodlands.

## Children's Village Holiday Gifts

**December**

Each year our committee provides a cottage (10-12 members) at Children's Village, a residential community, with a gift from their wish list during the Christmas season. In the past the gift has cost about \$25-\$35. Children's Village provides us with the names of the students in a cottage and what they would like. You can choose the student and the gift you would like to buy and we will deliver it. Please email Jeanne Bodin and Natalie Werner at [SocialAction@wct.org](mailto:SocialAction@wct.org).



## Confirmation Class Christmas Eve Midnight Run

**Fri, Dec 24**

Watch for details.

## Social Action Committee Meeting

**Mon, Mar 28, 8:15 pm**

All welcome.

## 7th Annual Iftar

**Date TBD**

For the last 2 years we have joined together with our Muslim friends from Peace Islands Institute as they broke the fast at the end of a day during Ramadan on Zoom and for the 4 prior years in-person. We look forward to being able to resume deepening our growing friendship with these good folks in-person this year. Help make it happen by emailing Eric Katz at [bridges@wct.org](mailto:bridges@wct.org).

## URJ/RAC Summit

**May 1-3, 2022**

**Washington, DC and online**

In lieu of a separate URJ Biennial and Consultation on Conscience, the two will be combined. Leaders and "wanna be" leaders in social justice should attend. You

will be inspired by distinguished speakers and breakout sessions – and after those sessions, you will have the opportunity to network, build community, and process what you've learned.

## Social Action Committee Annual Dinner & Visioning Meeting

**Sun, May 15, 6:00 pm**

All welcome. RSVP at [socialaction@wct.org](mailto:socialaction@wct.org)

## Sunday Shelter Dinners

**Sun, Sept 26**

Be a part of Woodlands' effort to care for teens in our neighborhood who are struggling under stressed conditions and taking temporary refuge in a local shelter. Share in cooking a hot, nutritious dinner for these youngsters. You may choose to make a main course, vegetable/starch side dish, salad, or dessert to serve approximately 10-12 young people.

Bring your dish to the temple kitchen on the designated Sunday morning and we will deliver the dinner to the shelter for the evening's meal. Sign up to be notified of future dates at [shelterdinner@wct.org](mailto:shelterdinner@wct.org).



## Desserts for a Week

**Weeks of Oct 15, Nov 19, Dec 17, Jan 14, Feb 11, Mar 11, April 8, and May 13**

One week each month, we will be providing desserts (homemade, bought or fresh fruit) for the teens in a shelter in Valhalla. To volunteer for a week — or to share a week with another family — contact Jeanne Bodin and Natalie Werner at [socialaction@wct.org](mailto:socialaction@wct.org).



## Civic Engagement Task Force

Join us in working with the Religious Action Center (RAC – the Reform movement's vehicle for working to educate, inspire, and mobilize the Reform Jewish community to advocate for social justice) and RAC-New York (focused on NYS issues). We are very proud of our contributions toward fighting voter suppression and look forward to working this year to ensure that voter registration and voting options are equally accessible across the United States.

We look forward, as well, to working with our Racial Justice Task Force on the RAC's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion efforts. Watch for notice of meetings with our representatives to the US Congress and NYS Legislature. To get involved, contact leaders Andrea Olstein and Rochelle Stolzenberg at [CETF@wct.org](mailto:CETF@wct.org).

## Project Ezra

COVID has forced us to alter our regular programs for this agency that provides services to the indigent elderly on the Lower East Side. In lieu of our annual fall/winter luncheon, we are hoping to provide the seniors with Hanukkah goody bags and will be looking for volunteers to assist with this project.



We will know by the end of Jan if the Passover food program will be taking place. If it does, we will be asking for volunteers to help deliver to the seniors' homes the cartons of collected food that are collected.

In the meantime, if you would like to volunteer OR make a donation to help us fund these programs please contact Harriet Kohn, Janet Weinstein or Elise Wagner Ballan at [ProjectEzra@wct.org](mailto:ProjectEzra@wct.org). Thanks to all who donated to the Project Ezra food drive this past July.

## Gun Violence Prevention Task Force

Are you interested in taking action to prevent gun violence? One way is to get involved in supporting gun sense candidates in upcoming elections. We'll tell you how. Do you have ideas on how to engage people in our task force or for activities you'd like to see? Contact Shelli Katz at [shellikatz10@gmail.com](mailto:shellikatz10@gmail.com)



## Immigrant Friends at Woodlands



Undocumented immigrants live in constant fear of apprehension and deportation by ICE. We are

constantly looking for ways to ensure that they are treated with justice and compassion. Please partner with us on this as well as on our work to help documented immigrants acclimate to life here. For current opportunities to help, visit [wct.org/immigrant-friends](http://wct.org/immigrant-friends). If you want to become more involved, send your name to Steve Glusker and Lesli Cattan at [immigrantfriends@wct.org](mailto:immigrantfriends@wct.org).

## Refugee Task Force



Having successfully settled an Afghani family in the US, the Task Force is now working with Neighbors for Refugees (NFR), a group based

in Westchester whose mission is to help resettle refugees. NFR hopes to welcome two Afghani families in the coming months—and they need our help. You can donate directly to NFR, or volunteer your time. There are many different ways to help and not all involve a lot of time or direct client contact. Please look at NFR's volunteer form at [neighborsforrefugees.org/contact-us](http://neighborsforrefugees.org/contact-us) to see which activities might interest you and fit your availability

## NEIGHBORS FOR REFUGEES



## Bridges of Faith and Friendship Task Force

Making connections with people of other beliefs and backgrounds is a critical part of

building peace and understanding in the world. This is particularly true in a time in which division, fear, and anti-semitism are on the rise in the US and around the globe. Bridges to Faith and Friendship is building on existing relationships with the Muslim community of Peace Islands Institute and the initiatives of the Interfaith Caring Community of Greenburgh. We need your creativity, enthusiasm, and participation as we develop new relationships and focus on the commonalities that unite us all. Contact co-chair Eric Katz at [bridges@wct.org](mailto:bridges@wct.org) to explore how you might become involved.

## Collections

Please check the weekly daf and congregational email for our current collections. We do not have storage space and, much as we appreciate our congregants' generosity, we cannot accept any items other than those designated for current collection.

## Watch for the Dates:

## Meetings with Our Representatives to the US Congress and NYS Legislature

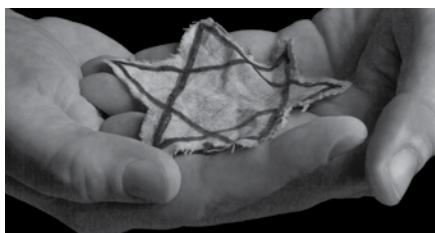
## Enslaved Africans' Rain Garden

Join sculptor Vinnie Bagwell in touring this sculpture garden on the Yonkers waterfront as she discusses the process of creating this tribute to the enslaved Africans in America.



## WCT LGBTQ+ Task Force

The WCT LGBTQ+ Task Force is committed to creating a Jewish space that supports, cherishes, celebrates, and enriches the lives of those in the LGBTQ+ community and its allies. We work in and outside Woodlands to create a welcoming atmosphere and promote inclusion of persons of all sexual orientations and gender identities in Jewish life. Our task force works to bring thoughtful and inclusive language to Woodlands' bimah, our Keshet education program, and outreach materials, as well as the physical plant. Each year, our task force presents Pride Shabbat and other culturally sensitive programming. To join us in this mission, email [avital@wct.org](mailto:avital@wct.org).



## Yom HaShoah Shabbat

**Fri, Apr 29 at 8:00 pm**

Our annual observance in which we remember the Six Million.

## Shabbat Yom HaAtzmaut

**Fri, May 6 at 8:00 pm**

Celebrating Israel!



## Worship

### Join Jewish Life!

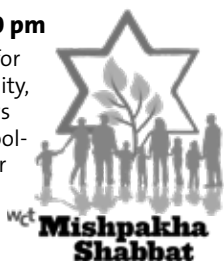
Are you interested in how this all comes together? It's an exciting moment in the ritual life of WCT, with new clergy, new ideas, and new ways of connecting. Bring your curiosity and enthusiasm. No special knowledge needed. We'd love to have you join us! Just send a note to [jewishlife@wct.org](mailto:jewishlife@wct.org) if you'd like to hear more.

Our upcoming meeting dates are: Oct 25, Dec 15, Feb 28, Apr 25, June 27

## Mishpakha Shabbat - It's back!

**Fri, Oct 15 at 7:00 pm**

An earlier service for our whole community, from older members through grade-school-aged kids. It's earlier so we can reach further into the WCT community network. Meaningful for adults, engaging for kids.



Future dates include Nov 19, Jan 21, Feb 11, Mar 11, Apr 1.

## MishpaHanukkah Shabbat

**Fri, Dec 3 at 7:00 pm**

For the entire congregation, just earlier – meaningful for adults, engaging for kids! This month, filled with Hanukkah spirit, music, light, and latkes! A very special welcome to our newest members! Everybody: Bring your family Hanukkah menorah and help us really light up the Sanctuary!



## Pride Shabbat

**Fri, Jun 3 at 8:00 pm**



Woodlands' LGBTQ+ Task Force is excited to once again host

this very special and important Shabbat service. We will share experiences and hopes for LGBTQ+ inclusion, and embrace our community's diversity as well as its commitment to these deeply-held values.

## Hevra Kaddisha: A Sacred Duty

*And We Could Use Your Help*

Perhaps they've appeared at your front door? When death takes someone we love, Jewish tradition has us sit shiva to receive comfort from friends and neighbors.



Sometimes we request that evening services be held in our home to provide an opportunity to recite Kaddish. That's when the members of WCT's Hevra Kaddisha arrive. With compassionate guidance, they take our hand for this ritual of remembrance as we make our way through the valley of the shadow.

We can always use another member of the team. If you're comfortable at a Friday night service, we will train you to lead the home shiva service and provide this most meaningful act of communal support.

If you think (even if you're not sure) that you might want to become part of the Hevra Kaddisha, please contact Cantor Lance ([cantor@wct.org](mailto:cantor@wct.org)). He'll help you decide if this is right for you, and he'll train you to be able to comfortably lead the service.



## Also at Woodlands this Year



### Rabbi Mara Young's Installation Weekend

It's the next chapter in our synagogue's life. We've been part of Rabbi Mara's journey from the very beginning. Now, she is the first woman to occupy the "senior" rabbi position at Woodlands. Come be part of kicking off her tenure while celebrating our community and the meaningful partnerships we forge here at Woodlands.

**Fri, Oct 8 at 8:00 pm**

Service of Installation

**Sat, Oct 9 - time TBD**

Evening concert and community celebration featuring Nefesh Mountain!

### Noah Aronson at Woodlands

**April 22-23, 2022**

We look forward to welcoming back a very special musical guest, Noah Aronson, to Woodlands Community Temple for the Shabbat of April 22-23, 2022! We hope you can join Noah and WCT in celebrating



the end of Passover in an extra special way including Shabbat and Havdalah services, a musical event, and a new podcast conducted by Noah featuring live guest interviews and presentations that explore wellness practices leading to greater creativity, expressiveness, and spirituality.

## Save the Date!

### Union for Reform Judaism/ Religious Action Center Summit

**May 1-3, 2022**

**Washington, DC and online**

In lieu of a separate URJ Biennial and Consultation on Conscience, the two will be combined. Leaders and aspirational leaders in social justice should attend. You will be inspired by distinguished speakers and breakout sessions – and after those sessions, you will have the opportunity to network, build community, and process what you've learned.



### WCT Book Fair

**Thu, Nov 4 - Sun, Nov 14**

In plenty of time for the winter holidays, it's our annual book fair – an event the whole Woodlands community looks forward to year after year. Come find great books with Jewish themes. There's something for every reader. All proceeds will support our Keshet program.

### Join ARZA!

If you love Israel but are troubled by the politics; if you cherish the democratic values enshrined in the

Declaration of Independence; if you want to help build an Israel of which you can be proud, then join all of us who have joined ARZA, the Reform movement's voice in Israel. Check off ARZA on your membership statement or sign up online ([arza.org](http://arza.org)).



### 12th Annual Jonah Maccabee Memorial Concert

Each year, we sponsor an evening of fantastic Jewish music. In memory of Jonah Dreskin, we raise funds to help kids go to URJ summer programs. In-person or online, the concert will indeed take place this year. We'll get you more information as it becomes available.



### Have a Kid at College?

Help them stay connected to WCT while at college! Periodic packages and emails from WCT's College Connection team let our college kids know we miss them. The packages also help them celebrate Jewish holidays while away from family and temple. For your child to be included in this FREE program, you need to enroll them. Visit [wct.org/collegeconnection](http://wct.org/collegeconnection) to do so.

## Get The Word Out About WCT



You love Woodlands Community Temple, but do you like us on Facebook? Help us spread the word about our wonderful congregation and all of the great things we do. Please like the temple's Facebook page and then make sure to like and share our events on your own page and other local community pages. This really helps to get the word out. You are our most important and effective ambassadors. Thanks for sharing us and helping us grow!

## WCT Connects

Join this Facebook group formed to allow current Woodlands members to share ideas, support, and resources.



WCT Trip to Israel, Dec, 2018

## Plan Ahead: Join the Woodlands Trip to Israel in 2023 Feb 16 - 26, 2023



Explore Israel's culture, spirituality, challenges and attractions! Our goal is

to soak in everything special about our historical homeland while also exploring its modern challenges and opportunities. This trip is meant for folks of all ages. While you can visit Israel on your own, there is something very special and enriching about touring it with your temple family!

We'll be strolling, hiking, touring, and soaking in the sun. While our itinerary is very active (and appropriate for children), accommodations can be made for those who need a slower pace.

We are traveling with Da'at, a tour provider associated with the Reform Movement.

Find the full itinerary and costs at our website: [wct.org/israel2023](http://wct.org/israel2023). There has been tremendous interest in this trip and we anticipate a full bus, so don't delay in signing up. All costs are outlined on the website (including information about our accommodations and what meals are covered). Deadline to register is Oct 2022.



## The Judaica Shop at Woodlands

We are pleased to bring unique, high-quality, affordable Judaica to you, your home and for all your gifting needs. Our merchandise ranges from items to celebrate holidays, milestone and life cycle events and to enhance everyday Jewish living, including specialty items for children. We strive to be "your neighborhood shop for all your Judaica gift giving...and getting."

As Woodlands returns to in person events, services, programs and meetings, The Judaica Shop will list their open hours in the temple weekly email adhering to WCT's Coronavirus Task Force recommendations. The gift shop's online catalogues on the WCT website continue to be updated and accessible 24/7! Remember, every purchase supports Woodlands Community Temple.

Shopping for something special? Have questions? Email: [judaicashop@wct.org](mailto:judaicashop@wct.org)

Candles  
Mezzuzot  
Teen Jewelry  
Shabbat Items  
Menorahs  
Home Blessings  
Seder Plates  
Tallit Kippot  
Baby Gifts  
Challah Knives

[judaicashop@wct.org](mailto:judaicashop@wct.org)





## Adonai Oz

Adonai oz l'a-mo yi-teyn.

Adonai y'va-rekh et a-mo va-sha-lom.

*May God give strength to all people.  
May God bless all people with peace.*



woodlandscommunitytemple

מקום שלי אוהב

THE PLACE THAT MY HEART HOLDS DEAR

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Plains, NY 10607

914.592.7070 [www.wct.org](http://www.wct.org)