



THE TORCH

September 27, 2017 | 7 Tishrei 5778

This Week

Friday, 9/29
7:30 pm
Kol Nidre

See schedule below.

Saturday, 9/30

Yom Kippur

8:30 am

Tot Service

10:30 am

Yom Kippur Morning Service

2:30 pm

Yom Kippur Afternoon, Yizkor, Ne'ilah Services

President's Address to the Congregation: Allan Golad

September 20, 2017

Shana Tovah-

I am Allan Golad and I have the great honor to serve as your President here at University Synagogue.

Los Angeles is my adopted hometown. I thoroughly enjoyed being raised in Kansas City and I have childhood friends who remain my dearest and closest friends, but, in the words of Los Angeles native and prolific songwriter and composer, Randy Newman, *I LOVE LA*. His song is an anthem for our City. It celebrates this amazing place we live in- it glorifies our car culture, boasts about the best weather on the planet; describes how remarkable it is to have ocean, mountains, and trees surrounding us, celebrates how culturally diverse we are from the Westside to the Eastside, and it even laments about our homelessness crisis. We are a rich City – a melting pot of ethnicities, a city of foreign immigrants, but also American transplants from every part of our country. What other city in the United States, can you meet someone for the first time and ask them- "Where are you from?" and then be surprised if the answer is "I'm from LA".

Our city is filled with iconic venues that bring us happiness. We can travel down the road to Disneyland to re-live fond childhood memories; we have the first place Dodgers who play in the best ballpark ever built, Dodger Stadium, a mid century marvel of modernist architecture; our love for music and the arts can be savored in wonderful theaters and museums like the Music Center, the Disney Center, LACMA, and the Getty Center; the LA Holocaust Museum and The Museum of Tolerance are impressive institutions for Jewish historical and social testimony; and we even have the #19 at Langer's Deli, the best pastrami sandwich I've ever eaten. All of these wonderful and colorful venues bring joy, poignancy, and satisfaction to our lives. And all have one thing in common- none have been around as long as University Synagogue.

We are at the dawn of a special birthday. The diamond anniversary of University Synagogue is just around the corner, as 2018 marks the 75th year of our founding. In 1943, 12 families broke away from a traditional synagogue in Santa Monica to create a Reform Congregation. And like our ancestors, our founding families led a nomadic congregation, first holding services across from UCLA at the YMCA on Hilgard, then to the First Congregational Church of Westwood, and then to a 7 year stint at our first permanent home at a former church on Gorham, before arriving at our Sunset/Saltair campus in 1955. We have seen membership ebb and flow, and we have lived through a precarious financial crisis in the early '70's. We have seen new facilities built and existing ones renovated. We have persevered for nearly 75 years because like all those other entertainment and cultural venues in Los Angeles, we provide something that people want. We give something that at our personal core we need - a spiritual home in a community of friends, who share the goodness in our values and the traditions of our Jewish heritage.

I often think about what University Synagogue has meant to my family and me. I think about the people we have met and the lifelong relationships we have made. I am proud of our clergy for their dedication and spiritual leadership. I am thankful to be able to enjoy the beauty of our music. We have programming that is plentiful and diverse, satisfying our congregants' curiosity and yearning for growth. It can be Saturday morning bible study with Rabbi Davids; or social justice work where our congregants and their children make our world more just and they learn that there is no better gratification than to give. It's the superb education of our youth from the youngest learners in our dynamic pre-school to the maturation of religious school students from pre B'nai Mitzvah to confirmation. It's the community events like last month's Past President's BBQ or the upcoming fundraiser featuring the Mavens, our own in-house rock band. There is something for everyone at University Synagogue because that is WHAT we do.

But more important than WHAT we do is **WHY** we do it. Why is University Synagogue important to your life? As great as our programs may be, that isn't really our purpose. The purpose of University Synagogue is to enrich the lives of our congregants. The purpose of University Synagogue is to touch you in a way that makes your life full- a life with profound meaning. When we conclude these days of awe, I ask you to reflect on your experience these High Holy Days. Were there introspective moments where in the midst of all the people in this sanctuary you found greater clarity of purpose and meaning?

I think there will be those moments because that's the reason University Synagogue has sustained itself for 75 years. And that will be the reason we will be here for the next generations to come. When you leave through our grand lobby tonight, look to the left and you will see a plaque commemorating the founding families. We are living their hopes and their dreams. Now it passes on to us. As we celebrate 75 years of University Synagogue let's remind ourselves that it is our responsibility to ensure that this house of worship, this haven for community, will be here for our children, their children, and their grandchildren.

HIGH HOLY DAYS

PLEASE MAKE SURE TO BRING YOUR TICKETS. We appreciate your cooperation with our security procedures to ensure a tranquil and safe High Holy Days.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

7:30pm - Kol Nidre Services (Kopelson Family Sanctuary)
7:30pm - Brentwood Havurah Services (Gray Family Chapel)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

8:30am - Yom Kippur Tot Service
10:30am - Yom Kippur Morning Service
1:00pm - Sacred Jewish Music Meditation with award-winning composer and world-music artist Yuval Ron. *Experience contemplative music played on the biblical lute, the Oud, for a personal time of prayer, meditation, and inner exploration on the holy day of Yom Kippur.*
2:30pm - Yom Kippur Afternoon, Yizkor, Ne'ilah Services

Programming for Youth

Preschool through K

Our High Holy Day Tot services are just for you!

Grades 1-3

Children in grades 1 - 3 are invited to join us for a program in ECLC. We will have some activities, play time, snack and an age-appropriate High Holy Day service including hearing the shofar! This program is available at **morning services only**.

Grades 4-6

Children in grades 4 - 6 are welcome to join us on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur mornings in the Gray Family Chapel for an age-appropriate service. Our service will run concurrently with the main service up until the time the Torah is brought out. We will then bring all the children back to the Sanctuary where they can meet their parents and sit with them for the remainder of the morning. These services are available during the mornings only.

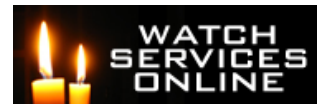
Grade 7-12

We expect our Bar/Bat Mitzvah students and those who have become B'nai Mitzvah to join us in the congregational service.

Israel Pilgrims: If you have travelled to Israel within this last year, you will be called up to the Bemah for an aliyah at the Yom Kippur Morning Service, 10:30 am.

Watch Services Online

[Remember, you can watch services online using this link!](#)



Service feed will be [LIVE](#) during all scheduled services this week and next.

Please make sure you have the latest adobe plugin installed.

****Please note that a prompt will appear that says "Your connection is not private". Please click "Advanced" and then "Proceed".****

PARKING

As you know, we have limited parking. Our courteous parking attendants will help guide you. Because we will have stacked parking, if you block someone, you will be kindly asked to leave your keys in your car. Thank you for your cooperation.

St. Martin of Tours Church will be available for parking for the following services:
Friday, 9/29: Kol Nidre - Erev Yom Kippur
Saturday, 9/30: Upper Parking Lot only - All services

HIGH HOLY DAY CHILDCARE!

Do you need child care for your kiddos (18 months - Kindergarten) during High Holy Day services at University Synagogue? Register in advance to allow for enough staff supervision, snack and activities.

HANDICAPPED ACCESS

Due to limited handicapped parking spaces, we kindly ask that drivers drop off passengers at the main entrance before finding parking spots.

Child care is available only for the following services:

- Rosh Hashanah morning
- Yom Kippur morning
- Yom Kippur afternoon

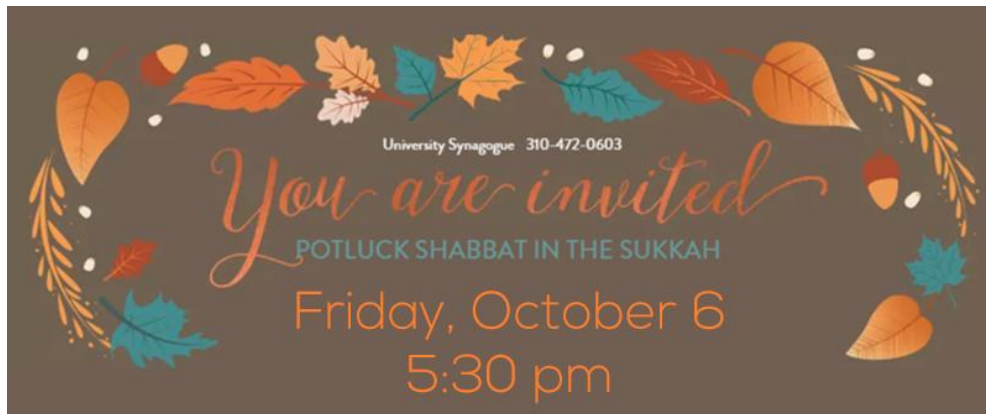
[Click here to access the form!](#)

Zichronam Livrachah

John F. Jaffe, father of Renee (Allen) Gilbert.

Petrina Marie Caruso Libby, mother of John (Cindy) Libby and Patricia Libby Thvedt (Joel).

Richard Lobenthal, father of our Executive Director, Lisabeth "LB" Lobenthal.



Enjoy a Shabbat potluck with University Synagogue Community including the Early Childhood Learning Center and Religious School! This event is a **vegetarian** POTLUCK so please bring:

Last name A-F Appetizers

Last name G-L Salads/Sides

Last name M-S Entrees

Last name T-Z - Desserts

Please refrain from bringing meat. Feel free to bring wine or your favorite beverage for the adults. We look forward to celebrating the holiday with you!

[Click here to RSVP!](#)





OHEL SARAH, SARAH'S TENT: HAPPY HOUR! GIRLS' NIGHT OUT!

Monday, October 2, 2017

HIGH ROOFTOP LOUNGE - HOTEL ERWIN
1697 PACIFIC AVE. VENICE, CA 90291
(310) 452-1111
5:15 – 7:30 PM

FREE VALET PARKING FOR 90 MINUTES WITH VALIDATION
Donation to Sisterhood: \$25.00/Sisterhood members
\$35/non-members

RSVP to Enid Friedman, (310) 614-3648 or enidfri@yahoo.com.
Make your check payable to University Synagogue Sisterhood.

If you plan to drink, please use a ride service or have a designated driver.

SYNAGOGUE EVENTS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5

9:00 am - Sukkot Morning Service in the Sukkah

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6

5:30 pm - Community Sukkot Potluck and Service in the Sukkah
Please sign up [here!](#)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

5:00 pm - Join Tikkun Olam for a Social Justice Sukkot including family activities such as challah braiding, planting, and advocacy. Bring your own dinner or [purchase a boxed dinner here](#). RSVPS not required.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9

11:30 am - Sisterhood Lunch in the Sukkah
Participate in the mitzvah of eating a meal in the Sukkah. Recite the international Jewish community blessings, shake the lulav and smell the etrog. Rabbi Joel Simonds will speak on "Inclusion: Working Together For A Better World." \$20 per person (includes lunch). RSVP by October 4th. [Click here to RSVP.](#)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

9:00 am - Atzeret-Simchat Torah Morning Service in the Sukkah

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

7:30 pm - Shabbat Service

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

9:00 am - Tot Shabbat AM - Best Playdate Ever!
9:00 am - Torah Off The Beaten Path with Cantor Shapiro
9:00 am - Hevrah Torah with Rabbi Stanley Davids

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

7:30 pm - Shabbat Zimrah

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

7:30 pm - People of the Book: Rabbi Stanley Davids, *The Fragile Dialogue - New Voices of Liberal Zionism*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

4:00 pm - Towards Wholeness: An Interfaith Concert to provide aid to those experiencing homelessness featuring the Yuval Ron Ensemble

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

6:30 PM - Sisterhood Hanukkah Dinner

An Introduction to Judaism

If you give us 18 nights,
we'll give you four thousand years.

Taught by Cantor Jay Frailich at University Synagogue
Sunday mornings beginning October 15.

Discover what could be meaningful to you in liberal Judaism. Engage with Jewish values, celebrations, spirituality, and community in an 18-week **Introduction to Judaism** class taught through a Reform lens.

[Registration](#) is now open!

Know of Anyone...?

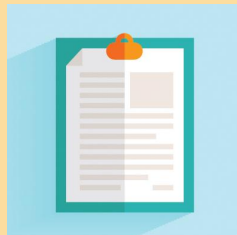
We rely on our University Synagogue families, their friends and relatives, to alert us when someone is hospitalized or suffering any illness or bereavement. The Clergy would also be delighted to learn about happy events such as celebrating a birth, or any Simchah. Local hospitals do not release patient information; kindly call Sue Share, Assistant to the Clergy, at 310-472-1255, ext. 120, or email her at SShare@unisyn.org, so that our Rabbis and Cantors can better serve our congregation.

~Save the date~

TOGETHER
AS
ONE:

An Interfaith Concert to
provide aid to people
experiencing
homelessness. **OCT. 29**
4 PM

*Featuring the
Yuval Ron Ensemble*



Calling all Volunteers!

Are you looking for volunteer opportunities? We are looking for enthusiastic individuals to join our volunteer workforce! Contact Emilie Leder at ELeder@unisyn.org if you are interested!

Know of someone who is interested in joining US?

Maybe there's a friend who is unaffiliated and wants to be part of a dynamic community!

Send their name to Emilie Leder at ELeder@unisyn.org or (310) 472-1255.

Oneg Shabbat Sponsorships

Share your special life cycle event with the congregation on Friday night! Birthday, Anniversary, Engagement, Auf-Ruf or Baby Naming

Click [here](#) to see the sponsorships.

For more information, please contact Bonnie Kebre at BKebre@unisyn.org.



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University Synagogue.**

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