

# The First Hebrew Congregation



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What a challenge the summer of 2020 has been! The question of how to remain a good and faithful Jew and adhere to the standards of our Covid-19 world is exhausting. FHC accepts the challenge and is adapting all practices for the safety of our valued members and guests. Our building is being cleaned and disinfected weekly, and our kitchen has gone dark for the time being. This does not mean we have stopped our services; but to the contrary, we have prayed for our protection and guidance on Friday nights and Saturday morning services all summer.

## Services

Rabbi Nina Mizrahi and Anita Silvert have produced well attended, wonderful, and meaningful summer Friday night Shabbat Zoom services. We thank them and the board for arranging these wonderful events. As a humorous note, these services provided a platform wherein, for the first time in many years, 3 Fidelman family members attended service together! Eddy and Nadine Fidelman (Ashville, North Carolina), Danny Fidelman (Los Angeles), and Barry enjoyed praying together.

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## High Holiday Service

During this difficult time, FHC is determined to hold High Holiday services, and with Rabbi Cohen we are working on a plan to shortened services to about 2 ½ hours for those who wish to be present. Masks will be required, along with physical distancing. Please bring your personal yarmulka and tallitot. For those who choose not to attend, you will be able to access the service on line. We will let you know how to access the online service soon.

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## Membership Dues

Membership dues of \$300 are due September 1<sup>st</sup> ...at the beginning of the New Year. No formal bills are sent out. This is just a reminder. Thank you to all who support the synagogue. Once we get past these difficult times, we hope to renew the regular events we held and add new ones.

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## Cemetery

If you have been to the FHC cemetery you may have noticed the new addition. With the help of Bob Abel, Mike Slotnick, Steve Tolen, and Barry Fidelman, we now have a privacy fence along the west boundary. It offers a feeling of seclusion and enhances the sanctity of this part of our heritage. Thanks to the board for giving approval and paying for the screen.

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## Tree of Life

Thank you, Steve Tolen, for putting up our new Mendelson Tree of Life. We now have one leaf purchased by the Al Block family to honor Al's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, and it looks great! Memorial leaves may be purchased for \$180.00 dollars by contacting Steve Tolen or Barry Fidelman through the FHC e-mail, [firsthebrewcong@gmail.com](mailto:firsthebrewcong@gmail.com).

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## Elections

The board election time has arrived, and you should have received a ballot in the mail. Please return it soon because we have only a short time left to count ballots.

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## Wildlife Issues

Another humorous note includes three woodchucks who built a home under the foundation of our Shul. The research determined that they were not Jewish; conversion was not an option; so, we had them removed!

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## Condolences

Our condolences go out to the Moret family on the loss of Lois Moret. Lois was one of our oldest and strongest supporters of the FHC. May her memory continue to be a blessing to us all.

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## Thank You

Our reading garden has never looked better! Thank you Karen and Patty for all the work you do to keep it nice. Thank you to Carole and Don Hodgman and Lawn Boys for the flowers and new lights.

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# High Holiday Schedule

## **Erev Rosh Hashanah**

Friday, September 18 at 8:00 p.m.

## **Rosh Hashanah**

Saturday/Sunday, September 19 & 20 at 10:00 a.m.

## **Shabbat Shuvah**

Saturday, September 26 at 10:00 a.m.

## **Kol Nidre**

Sunday, September 27 at 7:00 p.m.

## **Yom Kippur**

Monday, September 28 at 10:00 a.m.

Yiskor – 10:40

Concluding Service at 6:30 p.m.

**Shofar Blowing** 8:15 p.m.

There will be a more detailed schedule on our website:

[www.firstthebrewcongregation.org](http://www.firstthebrewcongregation.org) . All times listed are Eastern Savings Time.

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