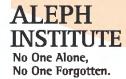




2024/2025



LENDAR

#### ALEPH INSTITUTE Hyman and Martha Rogal Center

5804 Beacon Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15217–2004 412–421–0111 | FAX: 412–774–2617 | info@alephne.org www.AlephNE.org



#### THIS CALENDAR IS DEDICATED TO THE **LUBAVITCHER REBBE** O.B.M., RABBI MENACHEM M. SCHNEERSOHN

His personal devotion to each and every individual Jew as well as his dedication to G-d and His Torah, continue to inspire the Aleph Institute North East Region.

#### Greetings and Blessings,

Welcome to the Annual Jewish Calendar, a cherished resource of important information and support for what promises to be a beautiful year ahead.

This past year, on October 7, 2024, we endured the Simchas Torah Pogrom, a devastating event that marred one of the most joyous days of our calendar, a calamity not seen since the Holocaust. While we must mourn this loss – the Torah designates specific days throughout the year for mourning – when Simchas Torah arrives, we must be strong and celebrate the blessings and joy of the day, despite the difficulty. We will, because we, the Jewish people, are resilient; Am Yisroel is special.

We pray daily for the coming of Moshiach, who will usher in an era free from hatred, pain, and suffering. Our rabbis remind us that through Torah study and the performance of one more mitzvah (good deed), we can help bring that day closer.

At Aleph Institute, we have resources to help you achieve both. Please reach out to our office, and we will gladly provide you with the materials you need.

May this coming year be blessed, filled with revealed goodness, and may we celebrate with our families in peace and harmony.

Shana Tova (a good year),

Rabbi Moishe Mayir Vogel

**Executive Director** 

Wishing the Jewish Community a Happy

Healthy and Sweet New Year!

The Board, staff, Rabbis, and volunteers at the Aleph Institute Thekeo and, staff, Rabbis, tondisolympteers at the Aleph Institute take this opportunity to with you and your family a Happy and Healthy New Year.

May this year bring you health and happiness, may it be a year of fruition of your dreams and aspirations.

#### Board:

Marty Davis – Chairman Bill Rudolph Neil Notkin Estelle Comay, Esq. Eytan Rosenthal Jon Pushinsky Esq. Jim Lieber Esq. Charles Perlow Esq.

#### Staff:

Rabbi Moishe Mayir Vogel – Executive Director Judy Dannenberg Lisa Diadoti Andi Fischhoff Mendel Hashimi Rivka Marcus Sally Rafson Nechami Vogel Yechiel Vogel

#### **Rabbis:**

**Yisroel Baumgarten** Mendy Cohen Brian Cynamon Arkie Engle Zalman Gurevitz Naftoli Goldschmid Dovid Kivman Yirmiyahu Lerner Mendel Lipskar Abby Mendelson Shloime Sirota Shlomo Silverman Shmuel Posin Tzvi Perlman **Yisroel** Pfeffer Tzvi Seliger Yechiel Vogel Manis Weingarten Eli Wilansky

#### **Volunteers:**

Laura Ehlman Andi Fischhoff Katy Holmes Avrohom Huebner David Korman Amy Korman Alan Myers Sam Posin Mark Rosenson

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#### **JEWISH HOLIDAYS 5786**

ROSH HASHANA	Monday Eve - Wednesday SEPTEMBER 22 - 24, 2025
YOM KIPPUR	
SUKKOT	
<b>SHEMINI ATZERET - SIMCHAT</b>	TORAH Monday Eve – Wednesday OCTOBER 13 -15
CHANUKAH	
PURIM	Monday Eve – Tuesday MARCH 2 - 3, 2026
PASSOVER	
SHAVUOT	

R 2025														TUECD	A\/					FRIDAY
MONDAY			VEDNESDAY	THU	SDAY	FRIDAY		1 1	IRDAY 10 Cheshvan Lech Lecha	SUNDAY		1							14 Kislev	
3 12 Cheshvar	<b>4</b> <sup>13</sup>	3 Cheshvan	5 <sup>14 Ct</sup>	eshvan <b>6</b>	15 Cheshvan	7	16 Cheshvan	8	Shabbat Ends: 658 PM 17 Cheshvan Vayeira	7	17 Kislev	8	18 Kislev	9	19 Kislev Yud Tes Kislev	10	20 Kislev	11	21 Kislev	Candle Lighting
10 <sup>19 Cheshvar</sup>	11 <sup>20</sup>	) Cheshvan   Veterans Day	<b>12</b> <sup>21 Ch</sup>	eshvan <b>13</b>	22 Cheshvan	-	ighting: 4:51 PM	15	Shabbat Ends: 5:51 PM 24 Cheshvan Blessing of the New Month Chayei Sarah	14	24 Kislev	15	25 Kislev Chanukah	16	26 Kislev Chanukah	17	27 Kislev Chanukah	18	28 Kislev Chanukah	Candle Lighting
17 <sup>26 Cheshvar</sup>	<sup>1</sup> <b>18</b> <sup>27</sup>	7 Cheshvan	<b>19</b> 28 CF	eshvan 20	29 Cheshvan			22	Shabbat Ends: 5:45 PM 2 Kislev Toldot	21	1" Light Tonight 1 Tevet Chanukah Rosh Chodesh	L	wh.	23	3" Light Tonight Ann 3 Tevet				<sup>56</sup> Light Tonight Annon 5 Tevet	6° Lig Candle Lighting <b>26</b>
<b>24</b> <sup>4 Kislee</sup>	25	5 Kislev	26	<sup>5 Kislev</sup> <b>27</b>	7 Kislev Thanksgiving	100		29	Shabbat Ends: 5:41 PM 9 Kislev Vayeitzei	100 market	8° Light Tonight <u>Antraanto</u> 8 Tevet	29	9 Tevet	<b>30</b> T	10 Tevet enth Tevet Fast Day 6:10 AM - 5:34 PM	31	11 Tevet			Candle Lighting
	MONDAY           3         12 Cheshvar           10         19 Cheshvar           17         26 Cheshvar	MONDAY         TUESDAY           3         12 Cheshvan         4         12           10         19 Cheshvan         11         20           17         26 Cheshvan         18         21	MONDAY     TUESDAY     M       3     12 Cheshvan     4     13 Cheshvan       10     19 Cheshvan     11     20 Cheshvan       17     26 Cheshvan     18     27 Cheshvan	MONDAY         TUESDAY         WEDNESDAY           3         12 Cheshvan         4         13 Cheshvan         5         14 Cr           10         19 Cheshvan         11         20 Cheshvan Veterans Day         12         21 Cr           17         26 Cheshvan         18         27 Cheshvan         19         28 Cr	MONDAY         TUESDAY         WEDNESDAY         THUR           3         12 Cheshvan         4         13 Cheshvan         5         14 Cheshvan         6           10         19 Cheshvan         11         20 Cheshvan 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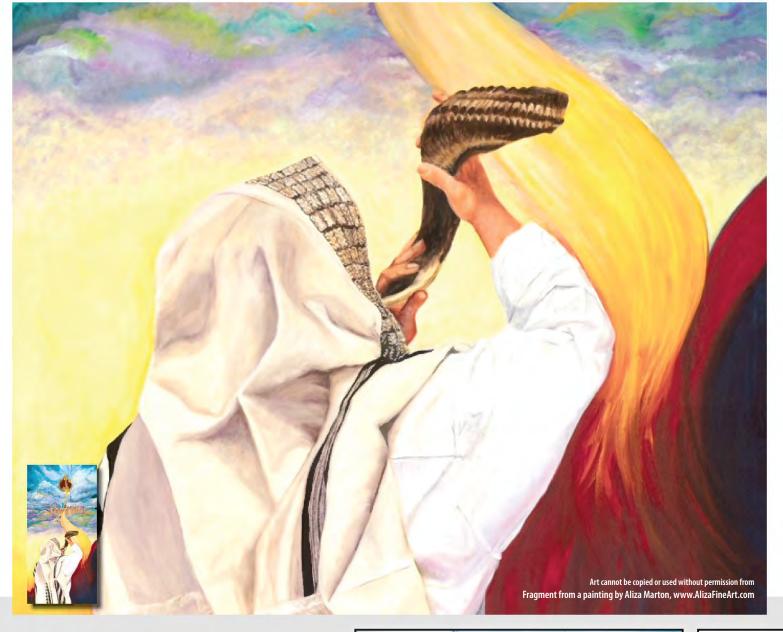
**OCTOBER 2025** SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY 9 Tishrei Yom Kippur Eve 2 -1- 10 Tishrei Yom Kippur Yizkor 3 11 Tishrei 4 12 Tishrei 1 Ha'azinu Candle Lighting: 6:43 PM Shabbat Ends: 7:40 PM Candle Lighting: 6:40 PM Shabbat Ends: 7:37 PM 13 Tishrei 6 14 Tishrei Sukkot Eve 15 Tishrei 8 16 Tishrei 9 17 Tishrei 10 18 Tishrei 11 19 Tishrei Sukkot 5 diate Dav 2<sup>nd</sup> Intermediate Day Candle Lighting: 6:35 PM Holiday Ends: 7:30 PM Candle Lighting: 6:29 PM Shabbat Ends: 7:26 PM 12 20 Tishrei Sukkot 4<sup>th</sup> Intermediate Day 4<sup>th</sup> In 18 26 Tishrei Blessing of the New Month <sup>24</sup> Tishrei **17** 25 Tishrei Bereishit Candle Lighting: 6:18 PM Holiday Ends: 7:20 PM Shabbat Ends: 7:16 PM Candle Lighting: 6:24 PM 1 Cheshvan Rosh Chodesh 24 19 27 Tishrei 20 <sup>28</sup> Tishrei **21** <sup>29 Tishrei</sup> **22** 30 Tishrei 23 Rosh Chodesh <sup>2 Cheshvan</sup> 25 3 Cheshvan Noach Candle Lighting: 6:08 PM Shabbat Ends: 7:06 PM 4 Cheshvan 27 5 Cheshvan 28 6 Cheshvan 29 7 Cheshvan 30 8 Cheshvan 31 9 Cheshvan 26 Candle Lighting: 5:59 PM KISLEV - TEVET 5786 SATURDAY 15 Kislev | 6 16 Kislev Vayishlach nting: 4:35 PM Shabbat Ends: 5:38 PM 22 Kislev 13 23 Kislev Blessing of the New Month Vayeishev ting: 4:35 PM Shabbat Ends: 5:39 PM

29 Kislev 20 Chanukah 30 Kislev Chanukah Rosh Chodesh Mikeitz Light Tonight

7th Light Tonight Governov Shabbat Ends: 5:41 PM ting: 4:38 PM 6 Tevet 27 7 Tevet Vayigash

nting: 4:41 PM Shabbat Ends: 5:45 PM

TISHREI - CHESHVAN 5786



## SEPTEMBER 2024 MENACHEM AV - ELUL

#### THE SHOFAR

Elul is the month preceding Rosh Hashanah and serves as a bridge from one year to the next. It is a time to reflect on the past and prepare for the upcoming year on the Jewish calendar. We blow the shofar daily during the month of Elul, a powerful call to open our hearts. The shofar is the cry of our soul, yearning to reconnect with our Creator. The sound of the shofar reminds us to increase our Teshuva (repentance), Tefilah (prayer), and Tzedaka (charity). It urges us to mend past mistakes and dedicate ourselves to a better future. The soul-stirring sounds of the shofar inspire us to come closer to G-d and remind us of the transformative potential within each of us.

The Torah calls Rosh Hashanah the "day of the shofar blast." The central mitzvah of Rosh Hashanah (the Jewish New Year) is to hear the shofar being blown—ideally as part of the prayer service in the synagogue.

#### THIS MONTH AT A GLANCE

Sept. 2	Monday	Labor Day
Sept. 3-4	TueWed.	Rosh Chodesh
Sept. 21	Saturday	Chai Elul
Sept. 28	Saturday	Selichot

\*\* Religious Work Proscription/Non-Working Day

#### **DOROTHY'S PROGRAM**

Aleph volunteers visit patients in state hospitals, longterm medical facilities, nursing homes, and private homes. Patients receive visits as well as the necessary provisions for the holidays.

> IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER PLEASE EMAIL INFO@ALEPHNE.ORG



#### CHAPLAINS - PLEASE MAKE SURE WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS!

Information about our programs and free offerings are sent via email. If you don't have email in the prison, please provide Aleph with a personal email address or the email address of another prison employee who can print out and give you the emails.

To update us with your email address, please email info@alephne.org

AV - ELUL 5784

# SEPTEMBER 2024

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY	/	WEDNESDA	Y	THURSDAY	Y	FRIDAY		SATU	RDAY
1	28 Av	2	29 Av Labor Day	3	30 Av Rosh Chodesh		1 Elul sh Chodesh	5	2 Elul	6	3 Elul	7	4 Elul Avot 1 <b>Shoftim</b>
8	5 Elul	9	6 Elul	10	7 Elul	11	8 Elul	12	9 Elul	Candle Li	ghting: 7:25 PM 🕌 10 Elul	14	Shabbat Ends: 8:22 PM 11 Elul Avot 2 Ki Teitzei
15	12 Elul	16	13 Elul	17	14 Elul	C "t	wo great lu	celebrated by tl uminaries": Rat	bbi Israel Baa	20 community l Shem Tov,	ghting: 7:13 PM	Chas-	Shabbat Ends: 8:10 PM 18 Elul Chai Elul Avot 3 & 4 Ki Tavo
22	19 Elul	23	20 Elul	24	21 Elul	25	dism, and	26 11	23 Elul <b>ELICHO</b> ne series of Sel	Candle Li	nder of Chabad ghting: 7:01 PM 24 Elul recited in tah & Yom Kipp	28 Nitz	Shabbat Ends: 7:58 PM 25 Elu Selichot Tonigh Avot 5 & 6 zavim - Vayeilech
29	26 Elul	30	27 Elul			Candle Lighting Times	:45 6:34 6:40		En riudope Ind En riudope Ind S 7:12 7:05 7:04 3 7:01 6:54 6:52	day night, aft Candle Li Shabbat & start at The times not be acc		DISCO BOOI FOR	Shabbat Ends: 7:46 PM UNT PRICING ON KS & MATERIALS RINMATES AND CHAPLAINS



# OCTOBER ELUL 5784 - TISHREI 5785

#### HIGH HOLIDAY SEASON

Three times a year, Jews would gather in Jerusalem at the Beit Hamikdash for the pilgrimage festivals of Pesach, Shavuot, and Sukkot, known as the Shalosh Regalim. These gatherings were times to renew and strengthen connection to G-d and community. Many Jews would arrive in Jerusalem before Rosh Hashanah to spend the High Holy Days in the Beit Hamikdash. Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, the holiest day on the Jewish calendar, had a unique status as the one day of the year the High Priest entered the Kodesh Hakedashim, the most sacred room of the Temple. After Yom Kippur, the streets and homes in Jerusalem would be lit up with oil lamps and candles to signify our faith in an upcoming year full of blessings and joy. Today, many synagogues conclude Yom Kippur with singing and dancing to signify that same hope.

#### THIS MONTH AT A GLANCE

ThuFri.	Rosh Hashanah **
Sunday	Fast of Gedalia (fast day)
Saturday	Yom Kippur **
ThuFri.	Sukkot **
SatWed.	Sukkot
Thursday	Shemini Atzeret **
Friday	Simchat Torah **
	Sunday Saturday ThuFri. SatWed. Thursday

\*\* Religious Work Proscription/Non-Working Day

# LIBRARY PROGRAM

Our library gives inmates access to religious texts. Please talk to the Rabbis for a guiding hand on what to read.

#### BOOKS & RELIGIOUS

MATERIALS

Contact our office for a Jewish handbook, Siddur, Torah, Tzitzit, Teffilin and Kippa.

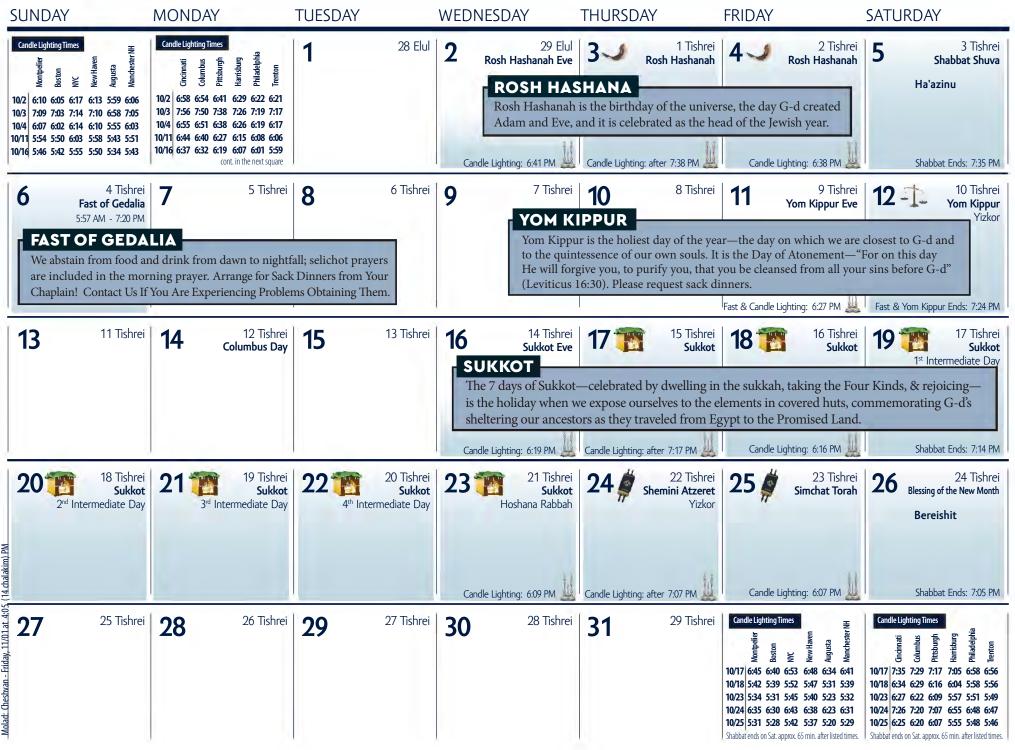


#### REMIND YOUR CHAPLAINS TO ORDER RELIGIOUS MATERIALS FOR THE HIGH HOLIDAYS!

Aleph sends these materials free of charge for institutions with no budgets. Chaplains can email orders to info@alephne.org.

# **OCTOBER 2024**

ELUL 5784 - TISHREI 5785





# **NOVEMBER** TISHREI - CHESHVAN

#### SHABBAT

Since Sarah our matriarch. Jewish women have been lighting Shabbat candles on Friday, eighteen minutes before sunset. For millennia, this profound act of faith and tradition ushers the holiness of Shabbat into the home. As the flames are kindled, an atmosphere of peace and tranquillity pervades the home, inviting G-d's presence and blessing. These transformative moments are marked by quiet moments of individual prayer. The flickering light not only dispels physical darkness but also illuminates the spiritual darkness that can pervade our inner and outer worlds. This sacred practice highlights the essential role of women in cultivating an atmosphere of holiness, reflection, and shalom bayit - peace in the home. Each week, the Shabbat candles transition our homes from the mundane to the sacred, while fostering a sense of connection and tranquillity.

#### THIS MONTH AT A GLANCE

Nov. 1-2	FriSat.	Rosh Chodesh
Nov. 3	Sunday	DST Ends
Nov. 11	Monday	Veterans Day
Nov. 28	Thursday	Thanksgiving Day

\*\* Religious Work Proscription/Non-Working Day

# **Project Shifra**

Connecting women, children, and their families to resources for managing stress, the houshold, finances, utilities and more. We also aims to strengthen the community, raise awareness of abuse and the importance of mental health.





# **NOVEMBER 2024**

TISHREI - CHESHVAN 5785

SUNDA	Y	MONDA	AY	TUESD/	4Y	WEDNE	SDAY	THUR	SDAY	FRIDA	Y	SATU	RDAY
11/8 4:12 4:1 11/15 4:05 4:0 11/22 3:59 3:5 11/29 3:55 3:5	aven a ester N	11/8         5:09         5:0           11/15         5:03         4:53           11/22         4:58         4:53           11/29         4:56         4:50	ie	Jewisf is not Pleas cont phone	you know a a inmate who a member of Aleph? se have them act Aleph via , mail or email n application.					<b>1</b>	30 Tishrei Rosh Chodesh	2	1 Cheshvan Rosh Chodesh Noach Shabbat Ends: 6:56 PM
3	2 Cheshvan DST Ends	4	3 Cheshvan	5	4 Cheshvan	6	5 Cheshvan	7	6 Cheshvan	0	7 Cheshvan	9	8 Cheshvan Lech Lecha Shabbat Ends: 5:50 PM
10	9 Cheshvan	11	10 Cheshvan <b>Veterans Day</b>	12	11 Cheshvan	13	12 Cheshvan	14	13 Cheshvan	<b>15</b>	14 Cheshvan	16	15 Cheshvan Vayeira Shabbat Ends: 5:44 PM
17	16 Cheshvan	18	17 Cheshvan	19	18 Cheshvan	20	19 Cheshvan	21	20 Cheshvan	22	21 Cheshvan	23	22 Cheshvar Chayei Sarah Shabbat Ends: 5:40 PM
24	23 Cheshvan	25	24 Cheshvan	26	25 Cheshvan	27	26 Cheshvan	28	27 Cheshvan Thanksgiving Day	29	28 Cheshvan	30	29 Cheshvan Blessing of the New Month Toldot Shabbat Ends: 5:38 PM



# DECEMBER CHESHVAN - KISLEV

#### CHANUKAH

Over 2,000 years ago, the Syrian-Greek empire sought to impose its culture and suppress Jewish practice and faith, but a small band of Jews, the Maccabees, stood up for G-d and their beliefs and miraculously triumphed. When they reclaimed the Holy Temple in Jerusalem, they found only enough pure oil to light the menorah for one day, yet it burned for eight days until new oil could be procured.

Two millennia later, in millions of Jewish homes worldwide, we kindle our menorahs as a reminder that light always triumphed over darkness. The menorah is a symbol of Jewish faith, a reminder that regardless of the darkness surrounding us, we can add light, one candle, one moment at a time. Each of us must be a menorah and illuminate the world with acts of goodness and kindness.

#### THIS MONTH AT A GLANCE

Dec. 1-2	SunMon.	Rosh Chodesh
Dec. 20	Friday	Yud Tes Kislev
Dec. 26-31	ThuFri.	Chanukah
Dec. 31	Tuesday	Rosh Chodesh

\*\* Religious Work Proscription/Non-Working Day

# CHANUKAH GELT PROGRAM

We offer Chanukah gelt and toys to the the children of inmates in PA, MD, WV, OH and NJ for Aleph Members. Interested? Please fill out a 'Chanukah Gelt Program Form' which can be found on our website, under "Holiday Program". If you are not an Aleph member, contact us for an application.

# ALEPH OFFERS ASSISTANCE TO FAMILIES OF INMATES

This includes covering the cost of travel to visit. If you know a family that needs any kind of assistance,

contact us: 412-421-0111 ext. 100 or email info@alephne.org

# DECEMBER 2024

CHESHVAN - KISLEV 5785

SUNDAY		MONDA	(	TUESDAY		WEDNESD	AY	THURSDAY	/	FRIDAY		SATU	RDAY
1	30 Cheshvan <b>Rosh Chodesh</b>	2	1 Kislev <b>Rosh Chodesh</b>	3	2 Kislev	4	3 Kislev	5	4 Kislev	<b>6</b>	5 Kislev	7	6 Kislev Vayeitzei Shabbat Ends: 5:38 PM
8	7 Kislev	9	8 Kislev	10	9 Kislev	11	10 Kislev	12	11 Kislev	13	ghting: 4:36 PM	14	13 Kislev Vayishlach Shabbat Ends: 5:39 PM
15	14 Kislev	16	15 Kislev	17	16 Kislev	During the of Chaba	d Chassidism	Kislev, we remo	isoned on fa	lse charges f imately clea	19 Kislev Yud Tes Kislev Alman of Liadi, f for his teachings red of all charge	s of the	20 Kislev Chof Kislev Vayeishev Shabbat Ends: 5:42 PM
22	21 Kislev	23	22 Kislev	Chant	rah lighting, s	wish eight-day	and fried for	<b>26</b> "festival of ligh ods. The Hebre ebrates the rede	ew word Cha	<b>27</b> ed with a nig nukah mear he Holy Ter	26 Kislev Chanukah ghtly	28	27 Kislev Chanukah Blessing of the New Month Mikeitz 4 <sup>th</sup> Light Tonight Shabbat Ends: 5:46 PM
29	28 Kislev Chanukah 5 <sup>th</sup> Light Tonight	30	29 Kislev Chanukah <sup>6th</sup> Light Tonight	31	30 Kislev Chanukah Rosh Chodesh 7 <sup>th</sup> Light Tonight			Shabbat & Jev start at Su The times lin not be accura location. Plea Candle Light your an www.AlephNE.org	vish holidays indown. sted might ate for your se check the ing times for rea at	Candle Lighting Tir           initial         initial           12/6         3:53         3:54           12/13         3:54         3:54           12/20         3:56         3:56           12/27         4:00         4:01		12/6   4:55 12/13 4:56 12/20 4:58 12/27   5:02	Solution Times         En         Provide Provided P



instagram.com/raizel\_schapiro\_art

#### THIS MONTH AT A GLANCE

Wednesday	Rosh Chodesh
WedThu.	Chanukah
Wednesday	New Year's Day
Sunday	Hey Tevet
Friday	Asara BeTevet (Fast Day)
Monday	MLK Day
Thursday	Rosh Chodesh
	WedThu. Wednesday Sunday Friday Monday

\*\* Religious Work Proscription/Non-Working Day



Kiddush on Shabbat is an important Jewish ritual practiced weekly. We provide grape juice and matzah for institutions with Jewish inmates who wish to practice their faith. Please contact our office to sign up.

# JANUARY 2025 TEVET - SHEVAT

#### MEZUZAH

The mezuzah, a handwritten scroll containing the Shema, is affixed to the right doorpost. It designates our home as Jewish. Symbolizing G-d's watchful eye upon us, the mezuzah provides protection for its inhabitants, wherever they may be.

The decorative case containing the mezuzah scroll is just that: a mere container. What's important is the scroll, upon which the first two sections of the Shema are handwritten. Beginning with the eternal words "Hear o Israel, the L-rd is our G-d, the L-rd is One," these selections contain G-d's instruction to affix the mezuzah. "You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."

These words are handwritten by an expert scribe who is trained in the many laws involved in writing a mezuzah. Every single letter in the mezuzah must be properly formed. A single crack in the parchment or any omission can invalidate the entire scroll. A printed mezuzah is invalid.

ALEPH OFFERS 25 CORRESPONDENCE COURSES ON MANY JEWISH TOPICS!

Email us or send a letter to the address below to request a correspondence course.

Aleph Institute - Correspondence Course 5804 Beacon Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15217

# **JANUARY 2025**

TEVET - SHEVAT 5785





# FEBRUARY SHEVAT

#### TREE'S NEW YEAR

There are seven species of fruit and grain which the Torah mentions specifically in connection to the Land of Israel. Although Israel is famous for its produce, there is something unique about these seven species of wheat: barley, pomegranates, figs, dates, olives, and grapes.

These seven species can be categorized into grains and fruit from trees. Grains, the necessary fuel for our physical self, and fruits, which add pleasure to life, are both crucial. This is why they are included in the blessing for the land of Israel.

On the 15th of Shevat, the New Year for Trees, there is a custom to eat from each of the seven species, but we celebrate the five fruits that grow on trees, reminding us that we cultivate our own holy spaces through our mitzvot, we need to find the enjoyment and pleasure in our Jewish experiences.

#### THIS MONTH AT A GLANCE

Feb 8	Saturday	Yud Shevat
Feb. 13	Thursday	Tu B'Shevat
Feb. 17	Monday	Presidents Day
Feb. 28	Friday	Rosh Chodesh

\*\* Religious Work Proscription/Non-Working Day



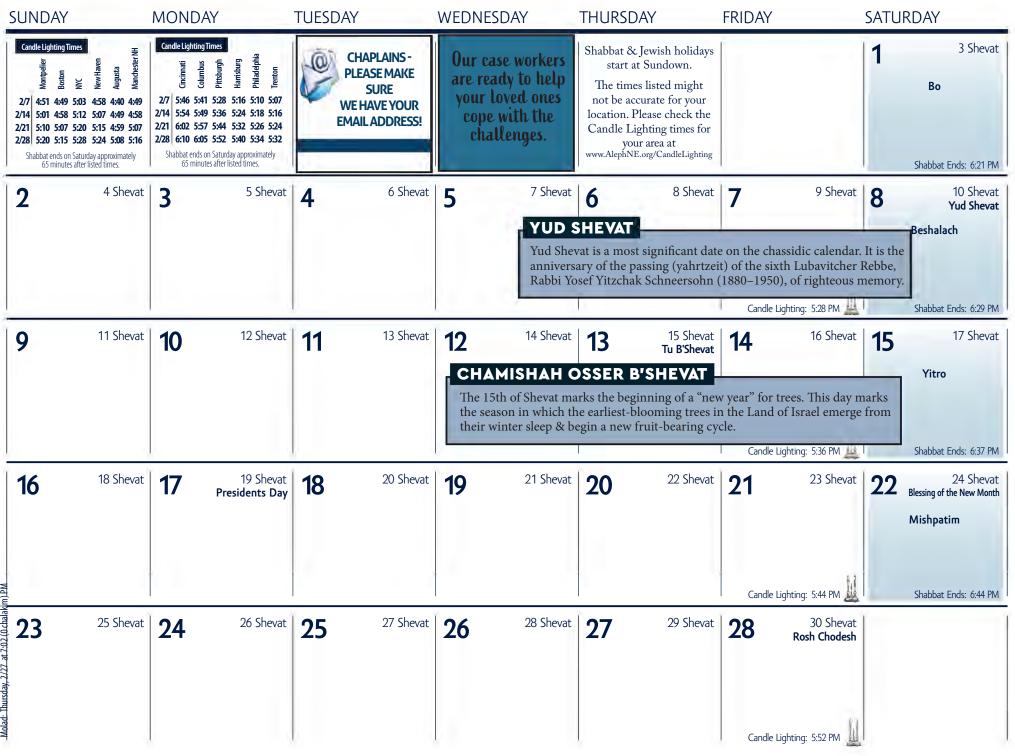
#### CHESED Mentors and Mentees MENTORING PROGRAM

Mentors help inmates keep faith, have hope, and perspective. It can be hard to navigate and adapt to a new life style but our mentoring program makes that a little bit easier. Mentors help inmates with the transition back into society, family, synagogue and community.

If you are interested in being a mentee or a mentor, please reach out to us at info@alephne.org

# **FEBRUARY 2025**

SHEVAT 5785





# MARCH ADAR - NISSAN

#### PURIM

Joy is an essential part of Judaism. The Torah teaches, "Ivdu Et Hashem B'Simcha"—serve G-d with joy. The Talmud instructs that with the arrival of Adar, we must increase in our joy. But why does G-d want us to be happy?

There are many perspectives on life. We can see it as an endless monotony of days following one from the next. We can focus on the darkness and confusion, or we can see opportunities to help others, connect with G-d, and do good. When we choose to see these opportunities, joy naturally follows. This joy isn't just an emotion but a fundamental way to serve G-d and fulfill our purpose. By embracing this joyful outlook, we transform our lives and the world, fulfilling G-d's mandate to each of us.

#### THIS MONTH AT A GLANCE

Saturday	Rosh Chodesh
Sunday	DST Begins
Thursday	Fast of Esther (Fast Day)
Friday	Purim
Monday	Shushan Purim
Sunday	Rosh Chodesh
	Sunday Thursday Friday Monday

\*\* Religious Work Proscription/Non-Working Day

Aleph offers advocacy assistance to inmates who need help with medical, religious, or discrimination issues. Please write to us via letter or email us at info alephne.org

#### REMIND CHAPLAINS TO FILL OUT PASSOVER ORDER FORM!

Every year, we ship more than 20 tons of Matzoh, grape juice, macaroons, gefilte fish, horseradish & other Passover items!

Don't be left out! Make sure your chaplain fills out and sends in an order form at alephne.org/programs, Holiday Programs, Passover and Matzah needs!

# **MARCH 2025**

#### ADAR - NISSAN 5785





# **APRIL** NISSAN - IYAR

#### **PASSOVER - SONG OF MIRIAM**

Pesach commemorates the exodus from Egypt and the birth of the Jewish nation. Seven days after the Jews fled Egypt, they found themselves in a dire situation, with the Egyptian army in pursuit and the sea blocking their escape. In a truly miraculous act of salvation, G-d split the sea, creating a path for the Jewish nation to cross over safely. In gratitude for this extraordinary miracle, Moshe led the men in a song of thanks. But it was Miriam, the prophetess, who led the women in their own song, accompanied by tambourines. As they escaped slavery in Egypt, they had faith that there would be opportunities to dance, sing, and praise G-d, so they packed their tambourines in anticipation of their celebration. Miriam's song is a testament to the unwavering faith of Jewish women throughout history.

#### THIS MONTH AT A GLANCE

Apr. 12	Saturday	Passover Eve
Apr. 13-14	SunMon.	Passover **
Apr. 15-18	TueFri.	Passover
Apr. 19-20	SatSun.	Passover **
Apr. 28-29	MonTue.	Rosh Chodesh

\*\* Religious Work Proscription/Non-Working Day



Chaplaincy Training program & annual symposium are available online.

TO REGISTER & LEARN MORE: WWW.ALEPHNE.ORG/CONFERENCE

# ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING PROGRAM

Aleph works with the courts to provide an effective & meaningful alternative to the traditional criminal justice system by developing restorative programs while the offender continues to live at home and support their family. Contact us to learn more at info@alephne.org!

# **APRIL 2025**

NISSAN - IYAR 5785





# MAY IYAR - SIVAN

#### MIKVAH - FAMILY PURITY

There's a building whose construction takes precedence over a synagogue. A synagogue may even be sold to raise funds for this building. This is a mikvah, a ritual pool of water constructed according to the exact specifications outlined in Jewish law. Immersion in a mikvah has the power to spiritually transform. The primary function of the mikvah today is its use in the observance of the Jewish "Family Purity" laws. These laws have the power to sanctify the most intimate aspects of our relationships, turning them into a vehicle for sacred blessing while reinforcing the bond between husband and wife and drawing G-d's presence into their home and family, blessing their relationship with holiness and peace.

#### THIS MONTH AT A GLANCE

May 12	Monday	Pesach Sheini
May 16	Friday	Lag BaOmer
May 19-20	MonTue.	Chaplain's Conference
May 26	Monday	Memorial Day
May 28	Wednesday	Rosh Chodesh

ALEPH OFFERS FREE SUMMER CAMP FOR CHILDREN OF INCARCERATED PARENTS

> Reach out via email or call (412) 421–0111 to learn more!

# **RE-ENTRY PROGRAM**

Being released from prison soon? Do you need help with food, clothing, a place to stay? Assistance is a call or an email away.

Call us at 412-421-0111 or email info@alephne.org

\*\* Religious Work Proscription/Non-Working Day

# MAY 2025

IYAR - SIVAN 5785

sund/	AY	MONDAY TUESDAY		WEDN	ESDAY	THUR	5DAY	FRIDA	Y	SATURDAY			
HAS Please ren to put in the upcor Rosh Forms c	OSH HANAH mind chaplains a norder for ming holiday of Hashanah! can be found ephNE.org	AH aplains ter for Jiday of apli found AH aplains ter for Jiday of Jiday		To ensure that you continue to receive all Alephs' mailings and calendars, please email us or send a letter with your up-to-date address		1	3 lyar Tonight Omer 19		2 4 Iyar Tonight Omer 20 Candle Lighting: 7:59 PM		5 Iyar Tonight Omer 21 Avot 2 <b>azria - Metzora</b> Shabbat Ends: 9:02 PM		
Our an & 12th	6 lyar Tonight Omer 22 <b>PLAINS CC</b> nnual Jewish Chap a. One can register ogram on our web	<b>DNFERE</b> plains Cont r for the co	ference will be he onference and lear	ld on May	pout	7	9 lyar Tonight Omer 25		10 lyar Tonight Omer 26	9	11 Iyar Tonight Omer 27 dle Lighting: 8:06 PM	<b>10</b> Ac	12 Iyar Tonight Omer 28 Avot 3 <b>harei - Kedoshim</b> Shabbat Ends: 9:11 PM
11	13 Iyar Tonight Omer 29 <b>Mother's Day</b>	<b>PES</b> This m partici would	14 lyar Pesach Sheini Tonight Omer 30 ACH SHEIN aarks the day whe pate in the Passov observe the mitz ents a "second cha	n someon ver offerin vah exactl	g in the proper ti	me	16 lyar Tonight Omer 32	15		ebrates t great sag	18 Iyar Lag BaOmer Tonight Omer 34 the anniversary of t e and mystic Rabbi te Zohar. dle Lighting: 8:13 PM JU		19 Iyar Tonight Omer 35 Avot 4 Emor Shabbat Ends: 9:19 PM
18	20 Iyar Tonight Omer 36		21 Iyar Tonight Omer 37	20	22 Iyar Tonight Omer 38	21	23 Iyar Tonight Omer 39	22	24 Iyar Tonight Omer 40	23	25 Iyar Tonight Omer 41 dle Lighting: 8:19 PM	<b>24</b> Be	26 lyar Tonight Omer 42 Blessing of the New Month Avot 5 har - Bechukotai Shabbat Ends: 9:26 PM
25	27 lyar Tonight Omer 43	26	28 Iyar Tonight Omer 44 <b>Memorial Day</b>	27	29 Iyar Tonight Omer 45	28	1 Sivan <b>Rosh Chodesh</b> Tonight Omer 46	29	2 Sivan Tonight Omer 47	<b>30</b>	3 Sivan Tonight Omer 48 dle Lighting: 8:25 PM	31	4 Sivan Tonight Omer 49 Avot 6 <b>Bamidbar</b> Shabbat Ends: 9:32 PM



# **JUNE** SIVAN - TAMMUZ

#### SHAVUOT - TORAH STUDY

Shavuot celebrates G-d giving us the Torah on Mount Sinai. Over 3,000 years ago, during this pivotal moment, G-d broke the barrier between heaven and earth to gift us the Torah. This sacred text is the ultimate blueprint for life, each word layered with profound meaning and interpretation. On Shavuot, we recognize that each time we study even a single verse of the Torah, we connect deeply with G-d's will and wisdom, becoming one with G-d Himself. The power of Torah lies in its ability to change and transform, guiding and enriching every aspect of our lives. Celebrating Shavuot, we reaffirm our commitment to Torah study and applying its lessons to our daily lives and routines.

#### THIS MONTH AT A GLANCE

June 2-3	MonTue.	Shavous**
June 26-27	ThuFri.	Rosh Chodesh
June 29	Sunday	Gimmel Tammuz

\*\* Religious Work Proscription/Non-Working Day

Shavuot commemorates when G-d gave us the Torah. When the Torah was given, children were the guarantors that we would always keep the Torah. Aleph facilitates special programs for families & children during the holiday of Shavuot. Please contact Aleph to find out more about the holiday programs in your area.

# ANONYMOUS MEETINGSheld at the Aleph Institute(Call for more meetings and times not listed)AAAlcoholics AnonymousMon-FriNANarcotics AnonymousThursday7pmOAOvereaters AnonymousMonday7pm

7:30pm

6:30pm

Sunday

Thursday

SA/SLA Anonymous

Gamblers Anonymous

**SLAA** 

GA

# **JUNE 2025**

SIVAN - TAMMUZ 5785

SUNDAY	(	MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDA	Y	THURSDAY	(	FRIDAY	/	SATL	JRDAY
1 Shav	5 Sivan Shavuot Eve	2	6 Sivan <b>Shavuot</b>	3	7 Sivan <b>Shavuot</b>	4	8 Sivan	5	9 Sivan	6	10 Sivan	7	11 Sivan Avot 1
Shavuo was giv	t celebrates the	e Jewish peopl	e on Mount S	inai on Shavı	iot more than	een Passover and 3,300 years ago. the Torah.	d Shavuot. Every yea	The Torah r on the					Naso
Candle Li	ighting: 8:26 PM	Candle Lighting: a	fter 9:34 PM	Holie	day Ends: 9:35 PM				21	Candl	e Lighting: 8:29 PM 🕌		Shabbat Ends: 9:38 PM
8	12 Sivan	9	13 Sivan	10	14 Sivan	11	15 Sivan	12	16 Sivan	13	17 Sivan	14	18 Sivan Avot 2 Behaalotecha
										Candle	e Lighting: 8:33 PM		Shabbat Ends: 9:42 PM
15	19 Sivan <b>Father's Day</b>	16	20 Sivan	17	21 Sivan	18	22 Sivan	19	23 Sivan Juneteenth	20	24 Sivan	21	25 Sivar Blessing of the New Month Avot 3 Shelach
										Candl	e Lighting: 8:35 PM 🕌		Shabbat Ends: 9:44 PN
22	26 Sivan	23	27 Sivan	24	28 Sivan	25	29 Sivan	1	30 Sivan Rosh Chodesh	27	1 Tammuz Rosh Chodesh	28	2 Tammuz Avot 4
											ur Chaplains to orms!		Korach
										Candle	e Lighting: 8:36 PM	T	Shabbat Ends: 9:44 PN
Passing Rabbi M	3 Tammuz Gimmel Tammuz MEL TAMMU of The Lubavitcl Ienachem M. Sc us memory.	her Rebbe—	4 Tammuz			Shabbat & Jewis start at Sun The times liste not be accurate location. Please Candle Lighting your area www.AlephNE.org/C	down. ed might e for your check the g times for at	Candle Lighting Times → → → → → → → → → → → → → → → → → → →	useef Asymptotic         asymptotic           3         8:01         7:59         8:01           1         9:10         9:12         9:12           7         8:04         8:02         8:04           0         8:08         8:06         8:08           3         8:10         8:09         8:10	6/1 8:39 8 6/2 9:47 9 6/6 8:42 8 6/13 8:45 8 6/20 8:47 8	Ing Times         Ing Times           5m give         5m give           5m give         6m give           836         826           844         934           921         9:13           9:44         9:24           8:36         8:20           8:44         8:32           8:44         8:35           8:44         8:35           8:46         8:35           8:23         8:15           8:14           8:46         8:23           8:15           8:14	Fi Ale dor	Ask Your Family & riends to Support ph's Great Work by nating to The Aleph Institute!



# **JULY** TAMMUZ - MENACHEM AV

#### **THREE WEEKS**

The Three Weeks, between the 17th of Tammuz and 9 of Av, is a period of mourning for the destruction of both Temples. Yet, within this sorrow lies a profound opportunity for spiritual growth. Although there are specific mourning practices during this time, our focus should be on learning about and preparing for the coming of Moshiach. Our study of the Torah, especially the teachings on redemption, transforms our loss and sorrow into hope and action for a better tomorrow. By enhancing our mitzvot, acts of kindness, and deepening our connection to Hashem, we actively participate in the ultimate healing and transformation of the world. This period is not meant to be merely about remembering the past but also about paving the way for a future of global peace through the coming of Moshiach.

#### THIS MONTH AT A GLANCE

Jul. 4	Friday	Independence Day
Jul. 8-9	Tue.Wed.	Yud Bais Tammuz
Jul. 13	Sunday	Fast of 17 Taamuz (fast day)
Jul. 26	Saturday	Rosh Chodesh

\*\* Religious Work Proscription/Non-Working Day



Alephne.org/donate

#### CHESED Mentors and Mentees MENTORING PROGRAM

Mentors help inmates keep faith, have hope, and perspective. It can be hard to navigate and adapt to a new life style but our mentoring program makes that a little bit easier. Mentors help inmates with the transition back into society, family, synagogue and community.

If you are interested in being a mentee or a mentor, please reach out to us at info@alephne.org.

# JULY 2025

SUNDA	Y	MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDN	ESDAY	THURSD	AY	FRID	٩Y	Satu	RDAY
7/48:198:7/118:168:7/188:117:7/258:057:	Image         Image <th< td=""><td>7/11         8:45         8:43         8:           7/18         8:41         8:39         8:           7/25         8:36         8:34         8:</td><td>Ling the second second</td><td>1</td><td>5 Tammuz</td><td>2</td><td>6 Tammuz</td><td>3</td><td>7 Tammuz</td><td>4</td><td>8 Tammuz Independence Day</td><td>5</td><td>9 Tammuz Avot 5 <b>Chukat</b> Shabbat Ends: 9:42 PM</td></th<>	7/11         8:45         8:43         8:           7/18         8:41         8:39         8:           7/25         8:36         8:34         8:	Ling the second	1	5 Tammuz	2	6 Tammuz	3	7 Tammuz	4	8 Tammuz Independence Day	5	9 Tammuz Avot 5 <b>Chukat</b> Shabbat Ends: 9:42 PM
6	10 Tammuz	7	11 Tammuz	12-13 Ta Schneers the Sovie and othe	ohn, the sixth et Communist r Jewish studio	emorates t Chabad I Regime fo es were tau	13 Tammuz the liberation of F Rebbe. He was arr or running Jewish ught. He was sent uz is his birthday.	rested and in n schools wh tenced to de	ncarcerated by nere the Torah		15 Tammuz	12	16 Tammuz Avot 6 <b>Balak</b> Shabbat Ends: 9:39 PM
Fast of 1 and drin	17 Tammuz Fast of Shiva Asar BTammuz 4:10 AM - 9:22 PM MMUZ 7 Tammuz We r hk from "daybrea for Sack Dinner	refrain from al	fall.	15	19 Tammuz	16	20 Tammuz	17	21 Tammuz	<b>18</b>	22 Tammuz ndle Lighting: 8:29 PM	19	23 Tammuz Blessing of the New Month Avot 1 Pinchas Shabbat Ends: 9:34 PM
20	24 Tammuz	21	25 Tammuz	22	26 Tammuz	23	27 Tammuz	24	28 Tammuz	<b>25</b>	29 Tammuz ndle Lighting: 8:23 PM	26	1 Av Rosh Chodesh Avot 2 Matot - Massei Shabbat Ends: 9:27 PM
27	2 Av	28	3 Av	29	4 Av	30	5 Av	31	6 Av	CH C	THANK YOU TO T IAPLAINS FOR YO OMMITMENT. A PPRECIATES AI	)UR D Leph	EDICATION & INSTITUTE



## AUGUST MENACHEM AV - ELUL

#### **HOLY TEMPLE**

The Beit Hamikdash, the Holy Temple in Jerusalem, was the spiritual heart of the Jewish people and a space that symbolized our deepest connection to Hashem. Its destruction on the 9th of Av, first by the Babylonians and later by the Romans, makes this day the saddest on our Jewish calendar. The day of Tisha B'Av is observed with fasting, mourning, prayer, and reflection on our immense loss. The Temple was not just a physical structure but a place where the Divine Presence rested, a physical home for G-d here in this world. Its loss signifies a rupture in our direct spiritual connection. Yet our sages teach us that within each of our homes and hearts, we can build our own miniature Temples, a home for G-d. How can we ensure that our homes are places where G-d feels welcome?

#### THIS MONTH AT A GLANCE

Aug. 3	Sunday	Fast of 9 Av (fast day)
Aug. 24-25	SunMon.	Rosh Chodesh

#### **DOROTHY'S PROGRAM**

Aleph volunteers visit patients in state hospitals, longterm medical facilities, nursing homes, and private homes. Patients receive visits as well as the necessary provisions for the holidays.

> IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER PLEASE EMAIL INFO@ALEPHNE.ORG

# RE-ENTRY PROGRAM & EMPLOYMENT HELP

We understand that finding work with a felony conviction can be difficult. We are here to help!

Please find the job placement forms online at AlephNE.org under the 'Program' then 'Employment Help' or contact us via phone/email.

\*\* Religious Work Proscription/Non-Working Day

# **AUGUST 2025**

AV - ELUL 5785

SUNDAY		MONDA	Y	TUESDA	Y	WEDNES	SDAY	THURSD	AY	FRIDAY		SATU	RDAY
start at S The times not be accu location. Ple Candle Ligh your	ewish holidays Sundown. listed might trate for your ease check the nting times for area at rg/CandleLighting	8/1 7:57 7: 8/8 7:47 7: 8/15 7:37 7: 8/22 7:25 7: 8/29 7:13 7:	gTimes         Lung           unage         unage         tgstfb           unage         tgstfb         tgstfb	8/1 8:29 8: 8/8 8:21 8: 8/15 8:13 8: 8/22 8:03 8: 8/29 7:53 7:	Image         Image <th< td=""><td>COUR</td><td>H OFFERS 25 RSES ON MAN us or send us correspond</td><td>IY JEWISH a letter to</td><td>TOPICS! request a</td><td><b>1</b> Candle</td><td>7 Av</td><td>2</td><td>8 A Shabbat Chazoo Avot Devarim Fast Begins: 8:33 PM Shabbat Ends: 9:19 PM</td></th<>	COUR	H OFFERS 25 RSES ON MAN us or send us correspond	IY JEWISH a letter to	TOPICS! request a	<b>1</b> Candle	7 Av	2	8 A Shabbat Chazoo Avot Devarim Fast Begins: 8:33 PM Shabbat Ends: 9:19 PM
FAST O Mourning t exile of Isra for 24 hour Chaplain!	9 Av st of Tishah BAv FTISHA E the destructio ael, we refrain rs. Arrange for ast Ends: 9:03 PM	n of the Ter from all foo	od and drink	5	11 Av	6	12 Av	7	13 Av	0	14 Av	9	15 A Tu B'A Shabbat Nacham Avot Va'etchanan
10	16 Av	11	17 Av	12	18 Av	13	19 Av	14	20 Av	15 Candle	21 Av	16	22 A' Avot <b>Eikev</b> Shabbat Ends: 8:59 PM
17	23 Av	18	24 Av	19	25 Av	20	26 Av	21	27 Av	22	28 Av	23	29 / Blessing of the New Mon Avot <b>Re'eh</b> Shabbat Ends: 8:48 F
24 31	30 Av Rosh Chodesh 7 Elul	25	1 Elul Rosh Chodesh	26	2 Elul	27	3 Elul	28	4 Elul	29	5 Elul	30	6 Elu Avot <b>Shoftim</b>
										Candle	Lighting: 7:38 PM		Shabbat Ends: 8:36 P



# **SEPTEMBER** ELUL 5785 – TISHREI 5786

#### **ROSH HASHANAH**

In the month of Elul, we prepare for Rosh Hashanah and celebrate the complete cycle of the Jewish Year. Rosh Hashanah begins the Yamim Noraim, the High Holy Days and the Ten Days of Repentance, culminating in Yom Kippur. It is a time for introspection and self-evaluation while celebrating the creation of humankind and our acceptance of G-d's sovereignty over us. On Rosh Hashanah, we blow the shofar, a ram's horn, to awaken our souls and inspire us. It is an unsophisticated instrument with a simple sound. It is the sound of our souls crying out to return to G-d. The shofar reminds us that even if we lack the knowledge, our sincerity is what matters in the eyes of G-d.

#### THIS MONTH AT A GLANCE

Sept. 1	Monday	Labor Day
Sept. 11	Thursday	Chai Elul
Sept. 13	Saturday	Selichot
Sept. 23-24	TueWed.	Rosh Hashanah**
Sept. 25	Thursday	Fast of Gedalia (fast day)

\*\* Religious Work Proscription/Non-Working Day

Remind your chaplains to order religious materials for the High Holidays. Aleph sends these materials free of charge for institutions with no budgets.

> Chaplains can email orders to info@alephne.org

KIDS OF INSPIRATION A program for the children of incarcerated parents, including fun & educational outings, programs at Aleph, and free counseling. Contact us for more information!

# ROSH HASHANAH

Please remind chaplains to put in an order for the upcoming holiday of Rosh Hashanah!

Forms can be found on AlephNE.org



# SEPTEMBER 2025

ELUL 5785 - TISHREI 5786

SUNDAY		MONE	DAY	TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDA	Y	FRIDAY		SATU	RDAY
Shabbat & Jev start at S The times li not be accur location. Plea Candle Light your a www.AlephNE.org	isted might rate for your ase check the ting times for rea at	1	8 Elul Labor Day	2	9 Elul	3	10 Elul	4	11 Elul	<b>5</b> Candle	12 Elul	6	13 Elul Avot 2 <b>Ki Teitzei</b> Shabbat Ends: 8:24 PM
7	14 Elul	8	15 Elul	9	16 Elul	10	17 Elul	the birthda Baal Shem	s celebrated by ay of the "two Tov, the found	great lumi ler of Cha , the foun	19 Elul Chai Elul ssidic community inaries": Rabbi Is assidism, and Rab der of Chabad. Lighting: 7:15 PM	rael obi	20 Elul Selichot Tonight Avot 3 & 4 Ki Tavo Shabbat Ends: 8:12 PM
preparation	21 Elul <b>IOT</b> of Selichot pra of Rosh Ha in this Saturc	ayers reci	Yom	16	23 Elul	17	24 Elul	18	25 Elul	<b>19</b> Candle	26 Elul	20	27 Elul Avot 5 & 6 <b>Nitzavim</b> Shabbat Ends: 8:00 PM
21	28 Elul		29 Elul Rosh Hashanah Eve le Lighting: 6:58 PM	ROSH Rosh Has the day G celebrated	-d created Ada		erse, is		3 Tishrei <b>Fast of Gedaliah</b> 5:45 AM - 7:39 PM	26	4 Tishrei Lighting: 6:52 PM	27	5 Tishre Shabbat Shuva Vayeilech Shabbat Ends: 7:48 PM
28	6 Tishrei	29	7 Tishrei	30	8 Tishrei			9/5         7:01         6:53         7:           9/12         6:48         6:41         6:           9/19         6:35         6:28         6:           9/22         6:29         6:23         6:           9/23         7:28         7:21         7:	Image: second	9/12         7:31         7:           9/19         7:19         7:           9/22         7:14         7:           9/23         8:12         8:	grimes         reuding         reuding <threu< th="">         reuding         <threuding< th=""> <threuding< th=""> <threuding< td=""><td>are you</td><td>r case workers ready to help ur loved ones ope with the challenges.</td></threuding<></threuding<></threuding<></threu<>	are you	r case workers ready to help ur loved ones ope with the challenges.

#### A Very Abridged Guide to Kosher Dietary Laws (an introductory overview only!)

"Kosher" means far more than just "non-pork." Throughout history, observant Jews have practically starved themselves rather than consume any food or drink that was not "kosher" (the word means "proper" or "fit"). A Jew's obligation to consume only kosher food is a Biblicallymandated precept as elaborated by principles set forth by Rabbis and Sages thousands of years ago, and applied today. Observant Jews believe that the slightest morsel of forbidden food taints not only the body, but the soul itself. Accordingly, the availability of nutritionally-sufficient kosher food for a Jew is not a luxury accommodation; it is an essential provision to allow that person to live.

#### All food and their components are divided into four categories:

(1) MEAT; (2) DAIRY; (3) PARVE (NEUTRAL); AND (4) NON-KOSHER (INCLUDING MIXTURES OF MEAT & DAIRY, AND MIXTURES OF MEAT & FISH).

MEAT Only certain Biblically-defined animals are kosher: ruminants with split hooves (generally cows and sheep), and poultry; only certain portions of those animals may be consumed. Animals must be slaughtered in a religiously-mandated humane way by skilled and learned Jews. Meats must be washed and salted in a religiouslymandated way observed by a rabbi or other skilled and learned people under his direction.

DAIRY Dairy products must be derived from kosher animals. Accordingly, milk products from a pig, camel, or other nonkosher animal is not kosher. May observant Jews will not consume milk and dairy products unless they have a high level of rabbinical supervision during processing ("Cholov Yisroel").

Everything kosher that does not fall under the categories of meat or dairy are called "parve" (neutral"). Included are eggs, kosher fish and plants (fruits and vegetables). Only fish with scales and fins are kosher. Accordingly, no shellfish are kosher. Parve products may be eaten with either meat or dairy products (although fish may not be mixed with meat in a single dish).

PARVE

#### "NON-KOSHER" FOODS

INTRINSICALLY NON-KOSHER: all non-ruminant animals and those that do not have split hooves; most birds except poultry; all animals that have not been slaughtered, soaked, salted and inspected according to Jewish law: all shellfish: all insects and rodents; all grape juice products not supervised by a Rabbi; all hard cheese products not supervised by a Rabbi; all mixtures of meat and dairy: all mixtures of of meat and fish.

NON-KOSHER AS A RESULT OF PROCESSING: spray-dried

products; reacted flavors; production of fatty acids; some canned

foods: food prepared with equipment previously used for non-

kosher products. Meat and dairy products may not be cooked or

eaten together, nor may a Jew derive any benefit from such mixed

cutlery are required: one for meat and one for dairy foods. It is customary to mark all utensils used for dairy foods so that they will not be interchanged with those used for meat. Observant Jews do not eat from the same loaf of bread if it has been used with both meat and dairy products.

Accordingly, two separate sets of cooking utensils, dishes and

Even a very small amount of meat or dairy (or their derivatives) in a product renders that product

"meat" or "dairy." Care must always be taken that kosher foods are prepared and served with appropriate utensils (e.g., utensils that have not (a) been used or washed together with non-kosher foods; and (2) are not used both for meat and dairy products).

#### INGREDIENTS

The overwhelming majority of basic ingredients may or may not be kosher depending on their origin or processing history. Accordingly, they require Rabbinical supervision to insure that their origin is from a

kosher product, that they were processed with proper equipment and whether they are meat, dairy or parve.

KOSHER: civet; castoreum; carmine; ambergris. INGREDIENTS PRESENTLY NOT and hydrolyzed proteins; glycerol and AVAILABLE IN KOSHER FORM: musk; animal gelatin; natural cognac oil; enocianina (grape skin extract). INGREDIENTS REQUIRING RABBINICAL SUPERVISION: Products that may be derived from an animal source: all oil and fats; natural fatty acids, their esters and especially palmatic, stearic, oleic and

loads

INGREDIENTS THAT CAN NEVER BE pelargonic acids: fatty alcohols, aldehydes and ketones; lactones; polysorbates, sorbitans and all emulsifiers; amino acids esters; enzymes; enzyme-modified products; whey (arising from enzyme action): vitamins. Products that have or may have a grape

juice origin: juices; wine; enocianina; natural cognac oil; fusel oil; amyl alcohol and esters; natural valeric acid; ethyl

alcohol: natural ethyl esters: natural acetaldehyde; vinegar. Products that are dairy or may have a dairy origin and will cause a product to be "dairy": milk solids: lactose, casein and derivatives; cream and derivatives; starter distillates; whey and chemicals produced from it; fatty acids from butter or cheese: butyric, caproic, proprionic and myrisite acids.

Many common products and national brands are labeled with symbols signifying that they have been prepared under rabbinical supervision and comply with kosher dietary laws.

#### THE SABBATH, HOLIDAYS AND FAST DAYS

Sabbath and holiday meals should include wine (or grape juice), two loaves of bread (or rolls or whole matzos), fish and meat. Observant Jews may not eat foods that are cooked on the Sabbath, or even reheated by Jews on the Sabbath. Accordingly, work schedules may need to be rearranged to insure that no Jewish inmates (or staff) actually reheat any of the pre-cooked foods (e.g., instant grits, hot cereal, beef or chicken entrees) on the Sabbath. Work proscriptions for Biblically-mandated festivals are generally the same as for the Sabbath, except for more lenient rules governing the use of fire and the preparation of food. The specific prohibitions of festivals and their differences from the Sabbath are beyond the scope of this memorandum. Competent rabbinic authorities should be consulted with individual questions. Institutional staff should be aware that Jewish inmates may not be able to eat dinner at its regularly-scheduled time on the eve of certain fast days, and should be permitted to eat well before sundown. With respect to all fast days, staff should be made aware that Jewish inmates may need to wait to consume any food or drink until one hour after sundown on the fast day itself, and, if dinner is scheduled before then, those inmates should be given the opportunity to eat at a later, more religiously appropriate, time.

#### PASSOVER FOODS

In addition to all of the above, the following products and their derivatives may not be used during the Jewish eight-day holiday of Passover: wheat; rye; barley; oats; spelt; corn; legumes (soy, peanut, etc); rice; mustard; alcohol; beer; dextrose (from wheat or corn); sorbitol (Sephardic Jews do eat some of these items). As a general rule, Passover products may not be manufactured with, cooked or served in utensils that were previously used with non-Passover foods. All products that require Passover certification must be manufactured under Rabbinical supervision. Matzo available year-round is generally leavened and is not kosher for Passover.

#### KOSHER FOOD IN INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENTS

Kosher food can be made available to Jewish inmates by: (1) preparing it on site with proper kitchen facilities under the direction of a qualified kosher food supervisor; or (2) obtaining pre-packaged meals from Kosher food vendors around the country (e.g., airline dinners or shelf stable packaging) and products with appropriate kosher certification symbols; and/or (3) obtaining fresh products through retail outlets and kosher food purveyors. The use of disposable plastic or paper goods is an easy, cost-effective and religiously-acceptable alternative when providing Kosher food in an institutional environment.

Adapted from "A Guide To Kosher Dietary Laws," by Dr. J. Leff, Ph.D.

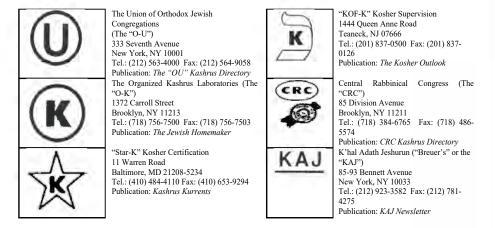
#### Kosher Certification of Commercially-Available Products

All food and their components are divided into four categories:

(1) Meat (which may not be prepared with the same utensils, or consumed with, dairy products); (2) Dairy (which may not be prepared with the same utensils, or consumed with, meat products); (3) Pareve (neutral products, which may be prepared or consumed with either meat or dairy products); and (4) Non-Kosher (which includes non-kosher foods, mixtures of meat and dairy, and mixtures of meat and fish).

Observant Jews will eat most food products only when they know that highly-competent skilled and learned Jews have supervised the entire process: the source, preparation and service of the product. Ingredients listed on food packaging is not a reliable indicator as to whether the product is kosher. Many ingredients do not list their components (e.g., "Gelatin" does not indicate whether it was derived from animal products or vegetable matter; "Flavorings" does not indicate source) and ingredients used in minute amounts are not necessarily listed. Many thousands of common commercially-available products and national brands are labeled with trademarked symbols signifying that they have been prepared under rabbinical supervision and comply with kosher dietary requirements

The letter "K" alone printed on a food package provides no meaningful assurance. It is a generic letter that may be placed on most anything, and does not indicate that any reputable kosher certifying organization has provided any oversight at all. Six of the most-commonly accepted national kosher certification agencies and their trademarked symbols are:



The letter "D" following some of these symbols signifies that the product contains dairy products (and may not be used with meat products). Always check with the certifying agency itself if you have any questions.

There are over two hundred kosher symbols and corresponding agencies that certify ingredients and packaged foods throughout the United States. Kashrus Magazine, a magazine for kosher consumers, publishes lists five times per year of products and manufacturers preparing kosher food, and other news and updates. One issue per year contains an extensive listing of the names, addresses and symbols used by all kosher certifying agencies. Subscriptions may be obtained from Kashrus Magazine, POB 204, Brooklyn, NY 11204. Tel: (718) 336-8544.

If you have any questions regarding the laws of Kashrus, are in need of assistance, or would like more information on the laws of Kashrus, please feel free to call Aleph Institute, 5804 Beacon Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15217, 412-421-0111 or info@alephne.org. We can also try to direct you to Kosher vendors and provide information on available Kosher products.

# Jewish Holy Days According to the Gregorian Calendar YEAR 2025-2028

Holy Day	Hebrew Date	Work Permitted	2025	2026	2027	2028
Fast of 10th of Tevet	Tevet 10		Jan. 10	30-Dec-25	20-Dec-26	Jan. 9
15th of Shevat	Shevat 15		Feb. 13	Feb. 2	Jan. 23	Feb. 12
Fast of Esther	Adar 13		Mar. 13	Mar. 2	Mar. 22	Mar. 9
Purim	Adar 14		Mar. 14	Mar. 3	Mar. 23	Mar. 12
Fast of Firstborn	Nissan 14		Apr. 12	Apr. 1	Apr. 21	Apr. 10
Passover {First 2 Days}	Nissan 15-16	No	Apr. 13-14	Apr. 2-3	Apr. 22-23	Apr. 11-12
Passover {Intermediate Days}	Nissan 17-20		Apr. 15-18	Apr. 4-7	Apr. 24-27	Apr. 13-16
Passover {Last 2 Days}	Nissan 20-21	No	Apr. 19-20	Apr. 8-9	Apr. 28-29	Apr. 17-18
Lag B'Omer	lyar 18		16-May	5-May	25-May	14-May
Shavuot	Sivan 6-7	No	June 2-3	May 22-23	June 11-12	May 31 - Jun 1
Fast of 17th of Tamuz	Tammuz 17		13-Jul	2-Jul	22-Jul	11-Jul
Fast of 9th of Av	Av 9		3-Aug	23-Jul	Aug. 12	1-Aug
Rosh Hashana	Tishrei 1-2	No	Sept. 23-24	Sept. 12-13	0ct. 2-3	Sept. 21-22
Fast of Gedaliah	Tishrei 3		Sept. 25	Sept. 14	0ct. 4	Sept. 24
Yom Kippur	Tishrei 9-10	No	0ct. 2	Sept. 21	0ct. 11	Sept. 30
Sukkot {First 2 Days}	Tishrei 15-16	No	0ct. 7-8	Sept. 26-27	0ct. 16-17	0ct. 5-6
Sukkot {Intermediate Days}	Tishrei 17-21		Oct. 9-13	Sept 28-Oct. 2	0ct. 18-22	0ct. 7-11
Shemini Atzeret	Tishrei 22	No	0ct. 14	Oct. 3	Oct.23	0ct. 12
Simchat Torah	Tishrei 23	No	Oct. 15	0ct. 4	0ct. 24	0ct. 13
Chanukah	Kislev 25, Tevet 2	2/3	Dec. 15-22	Dec. 5-12	Dec 25 - Jan 1	Dec. 13-20



#### HOW TO LIGHT SHABBAT CANDLES

1. **HOW TO:** It starts with one light. Add a candle for your spouse, and if you're a mother, one for each child. A girl over the age of three may (with help from Mom) light her own candle.

Before kindling the candles (exact time is mentioned in the bottom of each calendar box), we think of those less fortunate and put a coin in a charity box.

2. LIGHTA CANDLE. After the candles are lit, the woman stretches her hands out towards the candles, and moves them inwards in a circular motion – ushering in a special guest, the Shabbat Queen – three times. After the third time, the woman covers her eyes with her hands and recites the following blessing: **3. THE BLESSING:** Baruch a-ta A-do-nay Elohei-nu me-lech ha-o-lam a-sher ki-dee-sha-nu bi-mitz-vo-tav vi-tzi-va-noo li-had-leek ner shel Sha-bat Ko-desh.

TRANSLATION: Blessed are you, L-rd our G-d, King of the universe, who has sanctified us with His commandments, and commanded us to kindle the light of the Holy Shabbat.

4. SAY A PRAYER. The moments immediately after reciting the blessing, while the woman's eyes are still covered, are an extremely auspicious time for her to offer a private prayer for anything her heart desires. It is customary to use this special time to appeal to G-d for children who will glow with the radiance of the Torah, and that He light up the world with the light of the Redemption.

#### JEWISH HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Candles are lit to honor the Jewish Festivals, on which different blessing are recited. For the appropriate blessing use the third column of the chart. On the onset of the Holiday light a 48 hour candle to assist in lighting the holiday candles the next night.

DATE		CANDLE LIGHTING BLESSING			
Sep. 15	Rosh Hashana Begins (Sunset)	*1 & 4			
Sep. 16	Rosh Hashana Day 1	**1&4			
Sep. 17	Rosh Hashana Day 2				
Sep. 24	Yom Kippur Begins (Sunset)	*2 & 4			
Sep. 25	Yom Kippur				
Sep. 29	Sukkot Begins (Sunset)	*3 & 4			
Sep. 30	Sukkot Day 1	**3 & 4			
Oct. 1	Sukkot Day 2				
Oct. 6	Shemini Atzeret Begins (Sunset)	*3 & 4			
Oct. 7	Shemini Atzeret	**3 & 4			
Oct. 8	Simchat Torah				
Dec. 7	Chanukah Begins (Sunset)				
Dec. 15	Chanukah Ends (Nightfall)				
March 23	Purim Begins (Sunset)				
March 24	Purim Day				
April 22	Pesach Begins (Sunset)	***3 & 4			
April 23	Pesach Day 1	**3 & 4			
April 24	Pesach Day 2				
April 28	Final Days of Pesach Begin (Sunse				
April 29	Pesach Day 7	**3			
April 30	Pesach Day 8				
June 11	Shavuot Begins (Sunset)	***3 & 4			
June 12	Shavuot Day 1	**3 & 4			
June 13	Shavuot Day 2				

\* Do not light after sunset

\*\* Light after the time indicated from a pre-lit flame

\*\*\* If lighting after sunset, light from a pre-lit flame

\*\*\*\* Light before the time indicated from a pre-lit flame

Bo-ruch A-toh A-do-noi E-lo-hei-nu Me-lech Ho-olom A-sher Ki-deshanu Be-mitz-vo-tav Vi-tzvi-vo-nu Le-had-lik Ner Shel [Fridays add: Sha-bat vi-shel] Yom Ha-zi-karon

2 Bo-ruch A-toh A-do-noi E-lo-hei-nu Me-lech Ho-olom A-sher Ki-deshanu Be-mitz-vo-tav Vi-tzvi-vo-nu Le-had-lik Ner Shel [Fridays add: Sha-bat vi-shel] Yom Ha-Ki-pu-rim

3 Bo-ruch A-toh A-do-noi E-lo-hei-nu Me-lech Ho-olom A-sher Ki-deshanu Be-mitz-vo-tav Vi-tzvi-vo-nu Le-had-lik Ner Shel [Fridays add: Sha-bat vi-shel] Yom Yom Tov

4 Ba-ruch A-tah A-do-noi E-loi-hei-nu Me-lech ha-o-lam shehe-chee-ya-nu v'ki-yi-ma-nu vi-hi-gi-ya-nu liz-man ha-zeh.