

# Temple Hatikvah



Av/Elul 5779/Tishrei 5780

August/September/October 2019

## Message from the Rabbi

Dr. Jack L. Sparks

### ARE OUR MISTAKES FOREVER?

Parkland High School student Kyle Kashuv recently graduated second in his class and was one of two students admitted to Harvard, as a freshman, this fall. Kyle, the son of Israeli parents survived the school shooting a year ago, and has since gained national attention for his recommendation to institute school training programs and reporting systems. Regrettably two years prior to the shootings, young Kyle wrote a series of racist and anti-Semitic posts on social media, reflecting his immaturity, using hateful speech. He has since apologized, retracted and denounced his own words. He admitted his comments were ignorant and hurtful. Harvard University rescinded his acceptance when they became aware of Kyle's social media posting which had happened two years prior.

Moreover, Harvard refused to reconsider their acceptance reversal with no possible appeal.

Kyle has grown up, but Harvard refuses to accept that.

Throughout Harvard's history, their own faculty have included segregationists, anti-Semites and professors who promote

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## We've got a lot going on!

### HEBREW YEAR 5779 - 5780

#### AUGUST 2019

9th Friday 7:30 PM Oneg

24th Saturday 6:00 PM Oneg

#### SEPTEMBER 2019

13th Friday 7:30 PM Oneg

29th Sunday 7:30 PM Erev Rosh Hashana Oneg

30th Monday 10:00 AM Rosh Hashana Morning Kiddush

#### OCTOBER 2019

8th Tuesday 7:30 PM Kol Nidre Service

9th Wednesday 10:00 AM Yom Kippur Day  
6:00 PM Neilah & Break the Fast

25th Friday 7:30 PM Simchat Torah Oneg

**PLEASE NOTE - WE ADDED SATURDAY SERVICES**

# Message from the Rabbi

**Dr. Jack L. Sparks**

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death to Israel in public forums. But for Kyle, Harvard is suggesting that growth isn't possible, which defies Jewish tradition. Our teachings tell us it isn't what we have done in the past that defines us, but rather what we believe, and are doing NOW. Everyone is capable of mistakes, but it is the capacity to repair those mistakes if possible, and not repeat them going forward, that is important.

Kyle's situation is very different than raging public anti-Semites who have never denounced their own remarks, nor apologized. Kyle has grown up since the Parkland shootings and should not be punished, for the rest of his life, for a teenage indiscretion two years prior to a life

changing event. He and his classmates have already paid the price.

Our tradition judges us on what we are thinking now, not where our minds have been as teens, or in the past. All of us make mistakes, all of us make vows to self-correct and none of us are punished in perpetuity; for that is G-d's law. I am grateful I am not judged on what I said or wrote as a 16 year old.

May this New Year allow us to repent for the past and let us vow to move forward with proper thoughts, words and deeds.

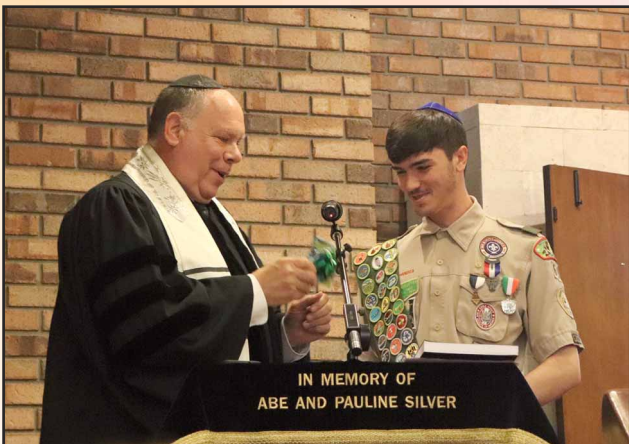
*Amen,*

*Dr. Jack L. Sparks, Rabbi*

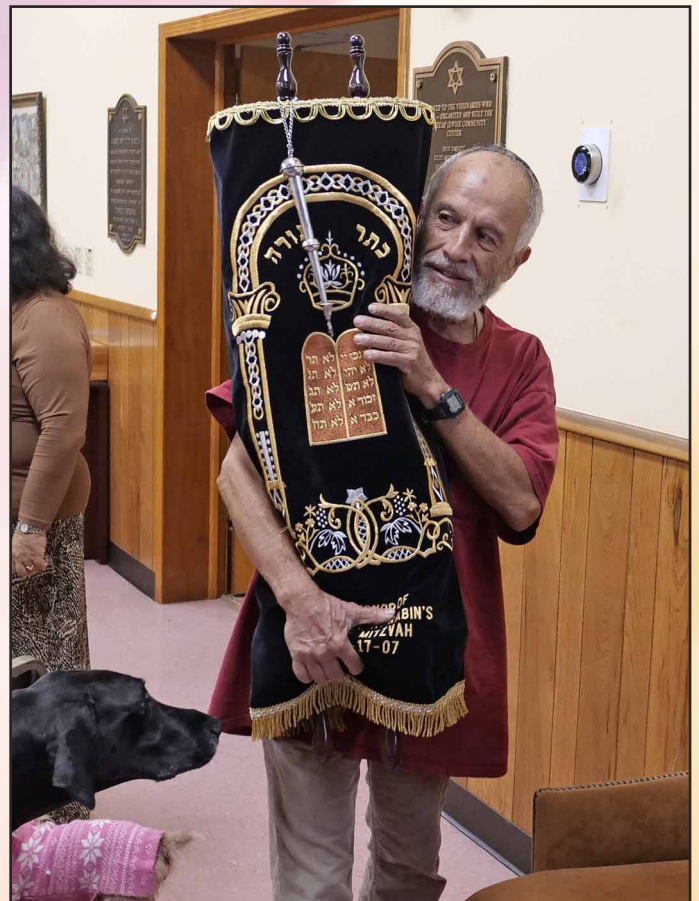


**The synagogue mourns the passing of our beloved Commander Joshua Nelson, shown here with his family. May his soul be bound in the bonds of eternal life. His memory is for a blessing.**









# HIGH HOLY DAYS SERVICES



Please join us for our uplifting and inspiring High Holiday services led by Rabbi Sparks and Eilat Schmalbach.

## EREV ROSH HASHANAH:

Sunday, September 29 at 7:30 PM

## ROSH HASHANAH AND SHOFAR SERVICE:

Monday, September 30 at 10:00 AM

## YOM KIPPUR:

### Kol Nidrei Service:

Tuesday, October 8 at 7:30 PM

## YOM KIPPUR AND YIZKOR SERVICE:

Wednesday, October 9 at 10:00 AM

## NEILAH SERVICE:

Wednesday, October 9 at 6:00 PM

Break the Fast (Sponsored by the Temple.)

**No cost for members. Non-members \$54 per service**  
**Guest of members: \$25 for each service or \$100 for all services**

## MEMORIAL BOOK 2019/ 5780

Dear friend(s), we invite you to place an ad in our **Memorial Book** for this year's High Holy Days. If you placed an ad last year, you may simply request the same ad or, if you wish, you may change it. The annual Memorial Book is presented in a beautiful and respectful format and is available for the Yizkor service on Yom Kippur. If you are unable to attend the Yizkor service, a copy will be mailed to you.

### Ad prices are as follows:

**\$40 - Quarter page - (approx. size 4 1/2" x 1 7/8") – maximum four names**

**\$75 - Half page (approx. size 4 1/2" x 3 5/8")**

**\$145 - Full page (approx. size 4 1/2" x 7 1/4")**

We can help design and format the ad, if needed. The deadline for submission is September 20th, 2019 (The Holidays come late this year). You are encouraged to approach businesses and friends and ask for advertisement in the form of a business or memorial ad to help defray the cost of the book.

To place an ad, please return the following with your desired wording and payment to the mailing address above. For questions, please contact Eilat Schmalbach at 786-514-5168 or email her at [eeschmalbach@bellsouth.net](mailto:eeschmalbach@bellsouth.net).

Ad size: \_\_\_\_\_ New ad [ ☐ ] Renew ad [ ☐ ] Change [ ☐ ]

Amount \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Remembered by \_\_\_\_\_

Desired text: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you, and may your new year be sweet and healthy, Eilat Schmalbach



## In the desert

Eilat Schmalbach

This is the last bulletin before we begin the Hebrew year 5780. We are now spending our Torah readings with the Israelites stuck in the desert, awaiting their entry to the Promised Land. Alas, the closer they get to the land, the worse their journey becomes: They are encountering now people who fight them, curse them and seduce them- all to prevent them from fulfilling the promise of one nation, under one God, in the Promised Land (Canaan). They have been losing their parents, and suffered from lack of faith in their God and their leaders.

The desert is a harsh environment. Each of us may find ourselves often in that space. A time when we worry, we are afraid, we are mourning, looking forward with hesitation and insecurity to a new phase in our life. Summer in Florida is full of this worry- mainly because of the Hurricane season above us. Also because we may be traveling and depend on others for our protection. Now is the time to find a system that will help us through the desert and the difficulties.

Some say faith is the best solace and comfort. Have faith that all will turn out for the best- because God loves you, or you are loved, or because thinking positively is healthy and helpful.

For me, faith in God alone has not been helpful, because things did not turn out the way we expected them to. We lost a bright star in our family – and there is no comfort in this desert of pain. True help

comes from friends, family and the great colorful existence called life. We try to find every spark of hope that good will prevail. And we try to strengthen our faith in the power of love and positive thinking. Life gave us plenty of joy before. It may just happen again.

For this upcoming year, I pray that we all find a way to approach the promised land, and leave our desert behind us. Even though the desert is a place of growth and learning, it is much better to reach home and embrace it.

L'shanah Tovah Y'all! May we all have a much brighter and sweeter new year!

**Amen,  
Eilat**

