

# Ner Tamid Flame Lights – July/August 2009



Shalom Everyone. Welcome to the second edition of our new newsletter.

Again, Thank YOU for being part of Ner Tamid. We are glad that you are part of our Ner Tamid family.

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## Upcoming Events and Special Services:

**Sunday, July 19, 2009 – Board Officer Installation** – We enjoy a Shlep-a-pot and install our newly elected Board Officers and reconfirm our continuing Director. Please bring a pot to share and we will give our thanks to those who have stepped up to lead our congregation during the coming year. Dinner is at 5:15 pm on Sunday, July 19, 2009 at the LODGE (1944 E Allen Rd – just south of River and Campbell)

**Wednesday, July 29, 2009 – Tisha b'Av** – commemorates the destruction of the First and Second Temples, the failure of the Bar Kochba rebellion, the expulsion of the Jews from Spain, the destruction of the Jewish communities during the Crusades, and the beginning of the deportation from the Warsaw Ghetto to Treblinka in 1942. It is a day of fasting (sunset to sunset (or Mincha)), study, singing of dirges and prayer.

7:00 p.m. a light vege-dairy shlep-a-pot will precede the service at the LODGE (1944 E Allen, just south of River and Campbell).

Volunteers are needed to read part of the service and chant part of Eicha. Please contact Rabbi Shafir to volunteer.

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## Regular Events and Services:

Friday night Kabbalat Shabbat -- 7:30PM

Saturday morning Services – 10AM  
Shlep-a-pot lunch follows and then class

Sunday Morning: Bagels and Babies – 10:30AM  
(Lodge Library) NOTE SUMMER TIME

Intro to Judaism – Sundays 10:30 AM

Kabbalah Class – Tuesday 1:30 PM

Events at the LODGE unless otherwise noted.  
**For more info, please call or email the office.  
247-4741**

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## ANNIVERSARY or BIRTHDAY?????

Please help us update our list so that we can celebrate your special days with you! Please let AMY know your special days (including YAHREZEITS, please) at [starfish0107@yahoo.com](mailto:starfish0107@yahoo.com) or call her at 330-309-6114. THANKS!

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## NEWS FROM THE LODGE:

Our relationship with the Masonic brothers at the Lodge continues – our home is there for us for a good long time. Our choir now rehearses there and they have made room for Sunday and weekday religious school.

The brothers have 2.5 years left to find a new building. They were considering a lot near River and La Canada, but that fell through because of all of the stipulations that the county was placing on them. They are now considering 2 other sites within a very short distance from the current site. They expect to have the new building built or renovated and ready for ALL of us to move there within 1.5 years with the rental staying the same. They are looking at having additional meeting space, an updated kitchen, more user-friendly areas, more storage for us (and everyone else), better lighting and parking – all for less than they received for the current building. Updates on the progress are on their web site:  
[www.tucsonlodge4.homestead.com](http://www.tucsonlodge4.homestead.com)

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**I Love You; I'm Sorry; Please Forgive me;  
Thank You; Blessings!**

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From the Rabbi:

Shalom! Welcome to our second edition of this new format. We are now in the days leading up to Tisha b'Av, one of the saddest days on our calendar.

TISHA B'AV commemorates the destruction of the First and Second Temples, the failure of the Bar Kochba rebellion, the expulsion of the Jews from Spain, the destruction of the Jewish communities during the Crusades, and the beginning of the deportation from the Warsaw Ghetto to Treblinka in 1942. It is a day of fasting (sunset to sunset (or Mincha)), study, singing of dirges and prayer.

Our congregation gathers the eve of Tisha b'Av to recognize this day and do some powerful healing for our selves. We remember the tragic things that happened to our people and we cry for the losses we all have experienced. It is a chance to go to places that hurt so bad that they scare us – we go there in the safety and comfort of a loving community. And by going there, we move our own selves toward healing.

It is notable that for many years, Reform congregations did not commemorate this day, saying that the State of Israel was the healing for any and all such hurts in our history. Now, more and more, Reform congregations are again recognizing the importance of remembering this day with community. Ner Tamid will be holding our fourth Tisha b'Av commemoration and service on Wednesday, July 29 starting at 7pm at the LODGE (1944 E Allen). We will eat a simple light meal and move into this powerful service as a loving community.

A deep honoring of the wounds in our beings opens us up to a fuller celebration of Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur.

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Cactus Kallah 2010 is progressing well! GREAT teachers have submitted proposals and the new site is wonderful. Please check things out at: [www.cactuskallah.org](http://www.cactuskallah.org)

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## ROSH HASHANAH & YOM KIPPUR

This year's services will be held at the LODGE in the DINING ROOM. We are already working at making it a special space for our services. (Second day Rosh HaShanah will be held at Ft Lowell Park as usual)

The schedule for the services will be posted on our web site in the near future and we will again be welcoming people to be Tishrei members. One of the things that would be VERY helpful is to find people in our community who are willing to help with set-up and clean-up for the services. Karl cannot manage what we are planning alone (or even with his usual small crew).

We need people to help put up banners and other things, arrange chairs, help with prayerbooks, and other special tasks.

Please let Rabbi Shafir know if you would be willing to help out in any way.

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Save the Date: September 12, 2009  
Selichot Services – first with our community and then with the larger community at Bet Shalom.

For our Ner Tamid gathering, there will be a Shlep-a-pot dinner and then a very brief candle light ceremony to switch ourselves and our Torah Scrolls over to High Holyday mode. Details will be published soon – please come!

Coming from the Hebrew word for “forgiveness” and a liturgical poem whose subject is a plea for the forgiveness of sins, Selichot is a service of penitential prayers that are recited on all fast days, periods of special intercession and during the penitential season, which begins before Rosh Hashanah and concludes with Yom Kippur.

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