

Rosenbloom Religious School of Chizuk Amuno Congregation
LinC Aleph-Second Grade

Moon Exploration

Rosh Hodesh--the New Month is a Time for Celebration!
Here are Some Ways to Celebrate as a Family and as a Community!

5766 NEW MONTHS

<i>Rosh Hashanah</i> –September 23, 2006	<i>Heshvan</i> –October 22, 2006
<i>Kislev</i> –November 21, 2006	<i>Tevet</i> –December 21, 2006
<i>Shevat</i> –January 20, 2007	<i>Adar</i> –February 18, 2007
<i>Nisan</i> –March 20, 2007	<i>Iyar</i> –April 18, 2007
<i>Sivan</i> –May 18, 2007	<i>Tamuz</i> –June 16, 2007
<i>Av</i> –July 16, 2007	<i>Elul</i> –August 14, 2007

WAYS WE CELEBRATE ROSH HODESH AS A COMMUNITY

HALLEL–*Hallel* is the special service made up of Psalms that we sing on holidays to celebrate the uniqueness of the holiday. *Hallel* is found on page 378 in our *Siddur Sim Shalom*.

BIRKAT HAMAZON–We add an additional paragraph in the Grace After Meals prayer to recognize the beginning of the month.

PSALM 27–This Psalm is recited during the month of *Elul* to prepare for Rosh Hashanah

BLESSING WELCOMING THE NEW MONTH–The special *bracha*--*Birkat HaHodesh* is said on the *Shabbat* before the new month to announce when it will arrive. The blessing is said during the Torah service and the person reciting the *bracha* holds the *Torah*.

TORAH READING– There is a special *Torah* reading that is read on *Rosh Hodesh* taken from Numbers 28 1-15.

MUSAF SERVICE– If *Rosh Hodesh* falls on a weekday the *Musaf* (additional) service is recited to mark the special day.

WAYS TO CELEBRATE ROSH HODESH AT HOME!

- Wear your favorite/special clothes.
- Eat a special snack.
- Choose Rosh Hodesh night to eat out.
- Prepare a special moon dessert – incorporate round or crescent shapes into special treats (cookies, watermelon, cake, etc.).
- Sing a Jewish song/listen to a Jewish tape or CD.
- Go out and find the moon (sliver shape.)
- Buy moon or Jewish themed paper goods to use at dinner.
- Buy moon oriented prizes for everyone (pencil, eraser,ruler.).
- Start a new project.
- Read a Jewish story.
- Talk about the Jewish holiday which comes in that month.
- Pull up a Jewish web site and share the information.
- Review all the special events happening in the month ahead and mark them in a family calendar.
- Celebrate your Hebrew birthday!
- Use a blank calendar or a piece of graph paper to chart the phases of the moon over the course of a month.
- Send handmade “Hodesh Tov” (Have a Good Month!) greeting cards or send e-mail greetings to friends.