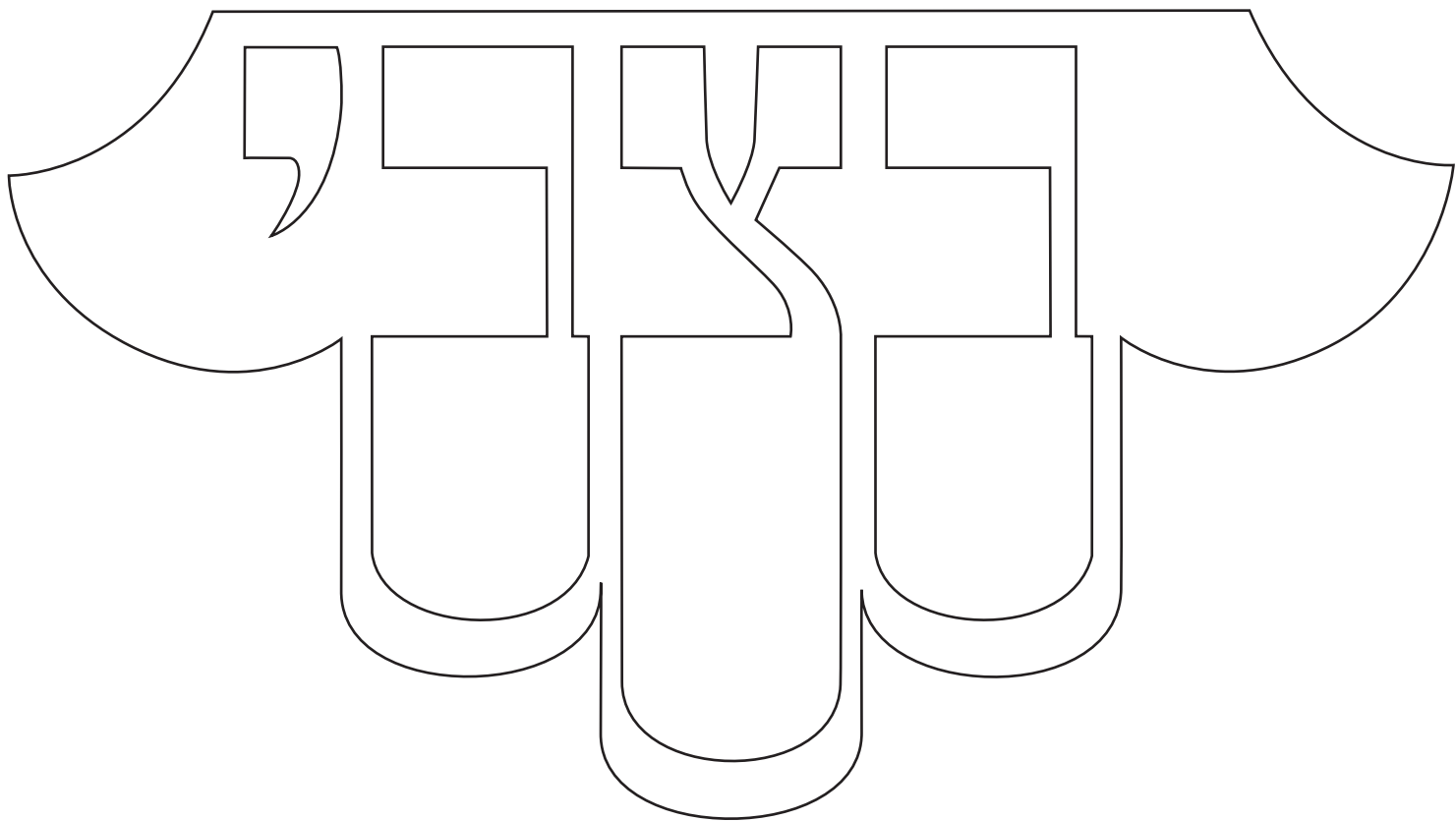
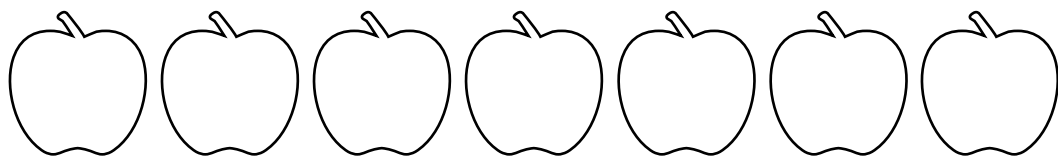




SHANA TOVAH



HAMSA INSTRUCTIONS



Hamsa (הַמְסָא) is derived from the Hebrew *hamesh*, which means five. This refers to the five fingers of the *hamsa*, and the five books of the Torah. Sometimes you will hear the hamsa called the *Hand of Miriam*, who was Moses' sister. It is thought to protect against the "evil eye" and bring good luck and happiness.

We want to see YOUR *hamsa* in the BZBI sanctuary for the Holidays! Please tell your parents to help you draw or add photos to the hamsa to represent your personality and your family; or color and decorate it with wishes for a sweet new year. Let your creativity and imagination go!

We will place all returned *hamsas* in the sanctuary. Watch the services and you may see a picture of your *hamsa* on-screen during Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. We may even hang it in the BZBI Sukkah!

Each household can color a *hamsa*, or individual adults and children can decorate their own. To receive additional *hamsas*, call the Temple office at 215-735-5148 and we'll send copies by mail. We can also send a file for printing.

EC parents should return their *hamsa* in the child's backpack; Hebrew School students should mail or drop off the *hamsa* at the Temple office. The office will be open **Tuesday through Thursday, September 8-10 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM** to receive the *hamsas* and other hours to be announced.