

The Kibbitzer

Congregation Beth Shalom

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December 2017
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From the Rabbi

Boundless gratitude

One of the benefits of the computer age is that it is easier to access the past – writings and thoughts from years ago. As I sat down to write this final *Kibbitzer* article, I looked at the very first *Kibbitzer* article that I wrote, in August 2003. The following words were part of that article, reflecting what I had already learned about this precious community.

“As we look to the future, the very name of the congregation – Beth Shalom, a ‘house of peace’ – guides us. What does this name tell us about who we are? We are a place in which we come together as one united whole, despite our different backgrounds, beliefs and opinions. It is a place that wholly engages us – mind, heart and hands. It is a place where our minds can be absorbed in Jewish learning, wrestling with the texts and teachers of our tradition. Within its walls our hearts and souls find their own unique paths to the Holy One, through prayer and worship that is meaningful and spiritually uplifting. Our hands are hard at work reaching out to those in need, helping to heal a broken world. In so many ways, Congregation Beth Shalom is guided by the potential of its name, and I am honored to join you on this journey. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as your rabbi and to be your partner in the sacred task of continuing to build a strong and vibrant community.”

I believe these words are as true today as when I wrote them 14 years ago. Beth Shalom is all of these things, and your commitment and vision have helped make this Jewish home a true family, one that embraces and welcomes, while at the same time reaching and experimenting with what it means to live a meaningful Jewish life. This is a vision and a goal of this sacred community, and it is bigger and more enduring than any one individual.

In that long-ago column, I was honored to be given the opportunity to join you on your journey. Today, the gratitude that I feel is beyond my ability to put into words. (And for a rabbi to be at a loss for words is truly remarkable, as you know!) I have been blessed to work with seven wonderful presidents, each of whom has been my partner and support in serving the congregation. Board members have welcomed my participation in the hard work they do on behalf of our congregation. Ritual chairs and committees have been open to my thoughts and guidance, to exploring and creating meaningful worship together. The development of lifelong learning programs has been supported and implemented by chairs and committee members. Working with religious school families, educational leaders and teachers, along with b'nai mitzvah families and our tutor has been a joy. Committed musicians and administrators have worked with me to realize our shared congregational vision. Dedicated committees of all kinds, children and adults, new members and founders – each of you have inspired me and given meaning to my rabbinate.

Every time we gather in prayer, we offer words of gratitude. “Modim Anachnu Lach – To You God, we are grateful.” I am deeply grateful to God, and to you, for the opportunity to serve as your rabbi.

Your strength and commitment, dedication and passion will continue to guide Congregation Beth Shalom from strength to strength for many, many years to come.



FROM THE PRESIDENT - David Friedman

What's around the bend?

Carol Anne and I spent the last week of October hiking on the Tennessee side of the Great Smoky Mountains, just as we do every year. We try to take at least one challenging hike while we're there. This year's "toughy" was to Ramsey Cascades.

The trail to the falls is four miles, for a total of eight miles! It features an increase in elevation of about 2200 feet. The climb, though taxing, is worth the effort. The waterfall at the top is magnificent!

Like all the trails we take in the mountains, two things are guaranteed - the trail is never smooth, nor is it straight. Sometimes you can see the path in front of you for 200 yards. But most of the time, the trail bends one way or the other every 75 to 100 feet. I often wonder what's around the bend? Will there be large, exposed tree roots to step over? Rocks or small boulders to step around? Or maybe we'll need to cross a stream, by stepping over slippery, rounded rocks, hoping to stay dry by not losing our balance.

Sometimes, the path is blocked by fallen trees, as if mother nature has purposely placed them there with the intent of forcing us to consider turning around and giving up on our plan. If we stay the course, and not let these obstacles trip us up, we eventually reach the top unscathed.

What's around the bend for CBS? In the 16 months I've been president, we've faced some obstacles, but I believe we're in the midst of perhaps the largest "obstacle" our congregation

has faced for some time. I'm speaking of our search for a new religious leader. The loss of a rabbi is nothing new to many of us, but for some, Rabbi Torop is the only rabbi they have known, which, for them, places an obstacle in their path they're not sure they can navigate around.



I can tell you that the incredible work that Sheila Fishman and the rabbinic search committee are doing is "clearing the path" for this congregation! They're clearing away all of the tree roots and rocks in our way. And building bridges over every stream along our way. At this writing, we have six applicants, when, initially, we were told, "We may not receive any for the first year!"

Our religious events (Friday night services, bar/bat mitzvahs, etc.) are covered for the first half of 2018! Rabbi Richard Address, whose list of credentials is unending, will be with us. We will also be visited by Cantor Moshe Friedler. Cantor Friedler was cantor when my daughter Mallory, became a Bat Mitzvah. He and his accordion are magical!

Remember, the only constant is change. Sometimes the unknowns can be exciting. I believe these are exciting times for CBS. We'll stay the course, stay focused, remain positive, and I'll see you at the waterfall.

MEMBERSHIP

Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Chanukah and Happy New Year to everyone at Congregation Beth Shalom!

Gail and Judith
Membership Co-Chairmen



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Each Office is Independently Owned And Operated

Congregation Beth Shalom provides a meaningful spiritual home for people of all ages and levels of knowledge, a place to learn and to question, a place to worship and to celebrate, and a place to find a community that cares.

We offer:

- ✧ **Friday worship services at 7:45 PM**
- ✧ **Religious school pre-k through 10th grade**
- ✧ **Complete B'nai Mitzvah preparation**
- ✧ **Youth group programming**
- ✧ **Adult Education classes**
- ✧ **Community-wide events,**

in-

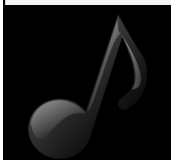


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Upcoming Dates to Remember

• **Saturday, Dec. 2, 10 a.m.:** The Bar Mitzvah of Jackson McCormick.



• **Sundays, Dec. 3 and Dec. 10, 4 p.m.:** *Beyond "I had a little dreidel."* Cantor Tanya Greenblatt will teach a class on the music of Chanukah. More information on page 6.

• **Friday, Dec. 8, 6 p.m.:** Tot Shabbat with pizza, songs and stories. Regular service at 7:45 p.m.

• **Sunday, Dec. 10- 9:45 a.m.:** RS & grade K-2 Family Program (Be a Mitzvah Hero)

• **Friday, Dec. 15 – Sunday, Dec. 17:** Rabbi celebration weekend. Details of events on page 9.

• **Friday, Dec. 15, 7 p.m.:** Chanukah service, family Shabbat & Kabbalat HaSiddur.

• **Saturday, Dec. 16, 10 a.m.:** **Bibles and Bagels** – *Parashat Miketz*: Is it Possible to Forgive?



• **Sunday, Dec. 17, 9:45 a.m.:** RS (Chanukah celebration) & Torah Tots.

• **Saturday, Jan. 6, 6:30 p.m.:** Rabbi/Comedian Bob Alper event. Details on page 4.

• **Monday, Jan. 15, 6 p.m.:** Page Turners "Skype with the Author" event. More information on page 6.

• **Saturday, Jan. 20, 6:30 p.m.:** Scholar in residence: Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg worked during WWII to save the lives of more than 100,000 Jews from Nazi extermination. In January 1945 he was kidnapped by the Russians and vanished. Author **Morris Wolff, Esq.** has written a book on his efforts to unveil the mystery of Wallenberg's disappearance and international efforts to gain justice for this "Righteous Gentile." Don't miss it!



• **Saturday, Feb. 17, 7 p.m.:** Mardi Gras Gala event. More information on page 4.

*Religious Education Calendar, page 7;
Full calendar, page 15*

December Oneg Schedule

There can be no joy without food and drink. — Talmud, Mo'ed Katan

THANK YOU! to the following people who will host an oneg Shabbat in December.

• **Dec. 1: Michelle & Michael McCormick and the 7th-grade class** will host the oneg in honor of **Jackson McCormick's** bar mitzvah.

• **Dec. 8: Michael & Cheryl Lubin** will host the oneg in honor of their 19th anniversary.

• **Dec. 15:** The parents of **3rd- and 4th-grade classes** will host the oneg in honor of their children, who will assist Rabbi Torop conduct Chanukah service.

• **Dec. 22: Phyllis & Milt Newman** will host the oneg in honor of their 65th anniversary.

• **Dec. 29: Gail & Michael Verlin** will host the oneg in honor of their 53rd anniversary.

If you have any questions or are interested in hosting an oneg, please contact us (Judith 856-816-2174, Anita 813-990-9498, and Anna 707-628-5399).

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Mon., Thurs., Fri.: 10 a.m.—2 p.m.
Tues., Wed.: 1-5 p.m.

Weekly Email Blast submissions

bethshalominfo@gmail.com
eBlast deadline is Wednesday at 6 pm

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

Jackson Vincent McCormick

Jackson Vincent McCormick, son of Michael and Michelle McCormick of Apollo Beach, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, Dec. 2, at Congregation Beth Shalom in Brandon.

Jackson is a 7th-grade student at Franklin Boys Preparatory Academy.

In lieu of gifts and for his bar mitzvah project, Jackson asked for new toys to donate to the Child Life department at Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital in St Petersburg. When Jackson was in kindergarten, he was admitted to the hospital for a week and remembers how happy he was when the Child Life department employees came around with a cart full of new toys for him to choose from. He wants to give back and do the same for other children who are admitted to the hospital.

The McCormicks will host a celebration at Sunset Grill at Little Harbor in Ruskin in honor of Jackson's bar mitzvah.



BOB ALPER RABBI/STAND-UP COMIC

When and Where: Saturday, Jan. 6, 6:30 p.m. at CBS

Tickets: \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door

There's a reason why Sirius/XM satellite radio plays Rabbi Bob Alper's comedy bits several times daily. He's an ordained rabbi who served congregations for 14 years and holds a doctorate from Princeton Theological Seminary, which prepared him well for a 28-year comedy career with wonderfully unique material presented in a way that's intelligent, sophisticated, and 100% clean.

And so it'll be 90 minutes of non-stop laughter when "the world's only practicing clergyman doing stand-up comedy ...

intentionally," comes to Congregation Beth Shalom in a program open to all in the community and universally enjoyable.

Bob is the author of three books that further showcase his considerable talents: *Life Doesn't Get Any Better Than This*, an inspirational collection now in its fifth printing; the award-winning full-color cartoon book *A Rabbi Confesses*; and the newly-published *Thanks. I Needed That*. He's also produced two best-selling comedy CDs and a 102-minute DVD, *What are you... a comedian?* Bob lives in rural Vermont with his wife Sherri, a psychotherapist. Professionally, he makes people laugh, while she helps people cry.

Snacks, soda, and water will also be avail-

MARDI GRAS GALA

When: Saturday, Feb. 17, 7 -10 p.m.

Where: River Hills Country Club, 3943 New River Hills Parkway, Valrico

The Mardi Gras Gala fundraising committee is looking for donations for the silent auction! Do you have unwanted gifts? Unused household items or artwork? One of a kind experiences? Donations can be left with Jenny in the admin office, or Contact Suzie Baylis all4suzie@gmail.com for pick-up.



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(each committee only gets one vote)

OTHER PROGRAMS

CBS Players

Anna Brubaker

CBS Singles Over 50

Anita Clifford

Chavurah

Caren Magdovitz, Lynn Kaler

Dinner with the Tribe

Open

Email Blast

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Going Green

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Kolot Shalom Choir

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Jennifer Allen

Yarn Mavens

Phyllis Newman

Kudos & Mazels

Join with CBS in offering congratulations and recognition to the following members on their accomplishments:

KUDOS

- Kudos to **Scott Hopkins, Gerald and Judith Pliner, Susan and Mitch Baylis, Richard Bauman, Cynthia Goldstein, Sheila Slavkin, Anna and Steve Feldman, Melissa Villasin, and Michael Barnett** for organizing and helping with events for Mitzvah Day.
- Kudos to all those who participated in Mitzvah Day.
- Kudos to **Seth Hoffman (son of Anita)** for his donation of the sculptures of Moses and Abraham. They can be found in the temple library.



*Do you know a CBS member who should be congratulated for a special accomplishment?
If so, email the name and accomplishment to cbs-admin@hotmail.com.*

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Book | <input type="checkbox"/> General Fund |

- | |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> My check is enclosed
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|--|

"Tzedakah weighs as much as all the other commandments combined" - Talmud
 Congregation Beth Shalom 706 Bryan Rd. Brandon, FL 33511 813-681-6547

LIFELONG LEARNING—Richie Bauman



• **Sundays, Dec. 3 and Dec. 10, both days at 4 p.m.:** *Beyond “I had a little dreidel.”* Join Cantor Tanya Greenblatt for an exploration of Chanukah music, both ancient and modern. Learn about the texts and tunes that add joy to this

popular holiday.

• **Saturday, Dec. 16, 10 a.m.:** Bibles and Bagels – *Parashat Miketz: Is it Possible to Forgive?*

• **Saturday, Jan. 20, 6:30 p.m.:** Scholar in residence: Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg worked during WWII to save the lives of more than 100,000 Jews from Nazi extermination. In January 1945 Wallenberg was kidnapped by the Russians and vanished. Author **Morris Wolff, Esq.** has written a book on his efforts to unveil the mystery of Wallenberg’s disappearance and international efforts to gain justice for this “Righteous Gentile.” Don’t miss it!

• Our Community Partnership Committee has been busy building bridges to the greater community - Christians and Muslims. To further that goal (and increase our learning and

understanding of these other religions), the Islamic Center on Busch Boulevard and Armenia Avenue will host a Table of Abraham in early December or January. At the Table of Abraham, each religious leaders will talk about one topic, viewed through the lens of their religion. The host religious center picks the topic. In this instance, it will be followed by Turkish food! Here is a chance to learn, understand and even enjoy exotic food, all in one place. Don’t miss it.

Programming Notes

As the time is getting nearer for Rabbi Torop’s departure from CBS, the Lifelong Learning Committee has really had to do a top-to-bottom look at our programming for 2018.

- The spring retreat has been moved to the fall.
- The Tuesday night study series will be discontinued in favor of one or two session studies on different topics.
- As a replacement, we are looking to do our study as a lead-in to *Dinner with the Tribe* on Sundays.
- Please tell us when you would like to meet for study!
- Membership on the LLL Committee is open to all; you just need an interest in congregational education! Feel free to contact me at any time at baumanrc@gmail.com.

PAGE TURNERS

On **January 15**, Page Turners will discuss Abigail Pogrebin’s *My Jewish Year*—and the author will join us for our discussion via Skype!

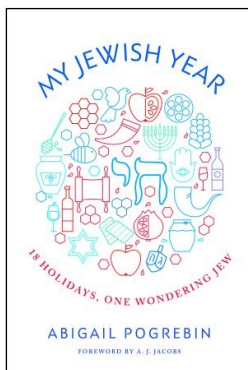
About *My Jewish Year*: Although she grew up following some holiday rituals, Pogrebin realized how little she knew about their foundational purpose and current relevance.

She wanted to understand what kept these holidays alive and vibrant, in some cases for thousands of years. Her curiosity led her to embark on an entire year of intensive research, observation, and writing about the milestones on the Jewish calendar.

My Jewish Year travels through this calendar’s signposts with candor, humor, and a trove of information, capturing the arc of Jewish observance through the eyes of a relatable, wandering—and wondering—Jew.

The chapters are interspersed with brief reflections from prominent rabbis and Jewish thinkers.

Maybe you’re seeking an accessible, digestible roadmap for Jewish life. Maybe you’d appreciate a fresh exploration of what you’ve mastered. Whatever your motivation, you’ll be educated, entertained, and inspired by Pogrebin’s unusual



Skype With the Author

Don’t forget to finish Abigail Pogrebin’s *My Jewish Year* by Monday, Jan. 15, and join the Page Turners for a discussion with the author (on Skype) at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is reading it.

Here is what Jane Eisner, the Editor-in-Chief at Forward has to say about *My Jewish Year*: “Abigail Pogrebin’s journey through the Jewish year is honest, illuminating, entertaining, and incredibly brave. She is willing to go deep into a complex religious culture to find out if and how it has meaning for her, and in so doing, lights the way for the rest of us. Even if you read every word of her project in the Forward—as I did—you will find new material and so many fresh, surprising insights in this remarkable book.”

journey—and by *My Jewish Year*.

Copies of *My Jewish Year* are available from commercial booksellers, directly from the publisher, <https://figtreebooks.net/books/jewish-year/>, and in the library at CBS.



EDUCATION—Amy Weinstein

"If you are not a better person tomorrow than you are today, what need have you for a tomorrow?" – Rebbe Nachman of Breslov

As many of you know, this year we do not have a formal "Parent Association" that meets regularly. However, there are a number of ways to be involved in our religious school. We currently are planning a Chanukah celebration and looking forward to Purim as well. In addition, fundraising continues to be an area of need. Our fundraising efforts assist in providing our students with the "extras" that supplement our curriculum and make Jewish education and attending religious school enriching. Please contact me if you are interested in becoming involved and hopefully reinstating a Parent Association for the 2018-2019 school year!

Important Dates

- **Sunday, Dec. 3:** RS
- **Wednesday, Dec. 6:** Hebrew & Confirmation
- **Sunday, Dec. 10:** RS & grade K-2 Family Program (Be a Mitzvah Hero)
- **Wednesday, Dec. 13:** Hebrew
- **Friday, Dec. 15:** 7 p.m. Family Shabbat & Kabbalat HaSiddur
- **Sunday, Dec. 17:** RS (Chanukah celebration) & Torah Tots
- **Wednesday, Dec. 20:** Hebrew & Confirmation
- **Sunday, Dec. 24:** No RS (Winter Break)
- **Wednesday, Dec. 27:** No Hebrew (Winter Break)
- **Sunday, Dec. 31:** No RS (Winter Break)

BESTY BEAT

Hello everyone, this has been a great year so far. We have been to Fall Kallah, completed multiple Parents Night Out events and helped the kids at Sunday school make cards at Mitzvah Day. We have a lot of events coming up.

We are leading a service Friday, Dec. 8; we will be handing out parts for this at the next youth group meeting. We also have a gift exchange that will be held Wednesday, Dec. 13. Gifts should not exceed \$15.

Winter Kallah registration has opened; early bird prices have past, but you can sign up with normal registration! It is an amazing 5-day, 4-night event with songs, free time, regional elections and more! Camp Jenny applications have also opened! Help change inner city Atlanta children's lives by applying to be a camp counselor. If you have questions about any of the information please email wannabemybesty@gmail.com.

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RABBI SEARCH - Sheila Fishman

Rabbi Richard Address will be visiting Congregation Beth Shalom monthly beginning Jan. 19 and 20. He will be leading us in prayer on Friday evening at 7:45 p.m. and will be offering a Shabbat morning Torah study and worship service at 10 a.m. Rabbi Address will be providing special programming for our Board of Directors following the worship service. A light lunch will be served.

Rabbi Address is the founder and director of www.jewishsacredaging.com. He has served for more than three decades on the staff of the Union for Reform Judaism - first as a regional director and then as the founder and director of the URJ's Department of Jewish Family Concerns. He subsequently served as a specialist and consultant for the North American Reform Movement in the areas of family related programming. During these years, he also served several congregations. He began his rabbinic career in Los Angeles congregations, served as a part time rabbi for Beth Hillel in Carmel, N.J., and finally served as senior rabbi of Congregation M'kor Shalom in Cherry Hill, N.J., from 2011-2014. Currently, Rabbi Address contributes articles for websites on issues related to spirituality and aging, serves as rabbinic advisor to Men of Reform Judaism, and hosts a weekly radio show in Philadelphia called "Boomer Generation Ra-



dio."

Additionally, beginning in January, Cantor Moshe Friedler will join Congregation Beth Shalom monthly for Friday evening Shabbat worship. His first visit will be Jan. 12, at 7:45 p.m., and he will be joining our beloved Cantorial Soloist Sandy Santucci for an evening of music and spiritual inspiration.



Cantor Friedler hails from Buenos Aires, Argentina. Beginning his career at 18, he spent the next ten years at the Asociacion Cultural Israelita de Buenos Aires before moving to the United States, where he found work in California and Miami, then in Tampa, where he joined Rodeph Shalom more than two decades ago. Cantor Friedler, a lover of Jewish music, has produced, written, sung and played his trademark accordion, cementing his work and passion for posterity. In 2010, to honor Yom HaShoah, Yom Hazikaron, and Yom Ha'Atzmaut, Hazzan Friedler debuted "Songs of Hope and Despair," a poignant presentation based on the book *One Generation After* by Elie Wiesel. Cantor Friedler served Congregation Rodeph Shalom for more than 20 years. Following his departure from the temple, he has been traveling nationwide to Jewish communities too small to hire a rabbi or cantor. Cantor Friedler has been described as vibrant, dynamic and larger than life.

CBS ANNUAL PURIM

We will be holding tryouts for our annual Purim play "Persian Giddy-up" on December 3rd and 10th from 10:00am - 1:00pm. We are searching for Adults and Youth members for various parts. Come show off your acting and singing talents as we create a comic dramatization of the Book of Esther reflecting on why Purim has become an important Jewish Holiday! If you have any questions, please contact Michael Lubin at mike.8.11.2007@gmail.com



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CELEBRATING RABBI TOROP

MAY WE CONTINUE TO GO FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

Join the Congregation Beth Shalom family for a lovely evening of celebration for Rabbi Torop on Saturday, Dec. 16, starting at 5:30 p.m.

Our festivities will begin with a Havdalah service followed immediately by a celebration of the rabbi filling the space with memories and reflections of her work and service at Congregation Beth Shalom.

After a brief formal program, we will share a Chanukah dinner (dairy) with time for more personal sharing and general merriment.

We hope everyone will join us in this celebration—and participate!

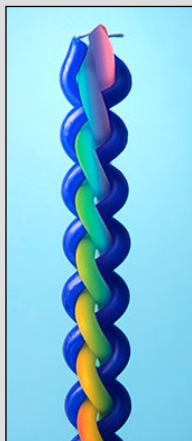
How can you participate?

There are three easy ways:

1. Sign up to bring something to our special (dairy) Chanukah dinner. We will be serving latkes and speaking of great miracles. You can sign up to show off your culinary skills (or just pick up something from Publix) by going to: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0d48aea72caaf94-goodbye> or emailing JulieREnszer@gmail.com.
2. Contribute to the special memory box for Rabbi Torop. You can write a special letter, share a photograph, or another small item of sentimental value for the memory box. Memory box items may be left at the synagogue in the labeled box, emailed, or mailed to CBS.
3. Contribution to Congregation Beth Shalom in honor of Rabbi Betsy Torop. We have set a goal of raising at least \$1,800 to honor Rabbi Betsy and would love to have as many people contribute in increments of chai as possible!

Events are open to all.

Questions? Want to contribute? Contact Julie Enszer by phone at 813-502-5549 or email at JulieREnszer@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing many old and new friends at these events.



חזק חזק ונתחזק

chazak, chazak v'nitchazek

Congregation Beth Shalom invites you to join us to celebrate the spiritual leadership of

Rabbi Betsy Torop

as she embarks on a new phase of her rabbinic journey

Saturday, 16 December 2017



5:30 p.m. Havdalah Service followed immediately by a Celebration of Rabbi Torop

7:00 p.m. Hannukah dinner, dancing and festivities for children, youth, and adults

Congregation Beth Shalom

706 Bryan Rd, Brandon, FL 33511

RSVP to cbs-admin@hotmail.com by December 10th.

May We Continue to Go from Strength to Strength



KOLOT SHOLOM NOTES

A round of applause for the members of the Shabbat Alive Band - **Rob Northrop, Andy Daley, Mottie Elazar, Sandy Santucci, Gail Verlin, Cynthia Goldstein, Janice Perelman, Milt Newman, Jeff Newman, Brian Slater, Steve Slavkin, Joan Frankel** and our newest member, **Brandon Feldman**.

Friday, Oct. 27, was a wonderful evening! We are fortunate to have so much talent in our congregation!

If you've never attended a Shabbat Alive Service, you might want to give it a try. The music is extremely singable and rhythmic. Our next Shabbat Alive Service will be a 'Blue-Jean' Shabbat on Friday, Feb. 9. Mark your calendars and bring your voices.

Meanwhile, we have two upcoming Choir Shabbats on Friday, Dec. 1, and Friday, Jan. 26.

Kolot Shalom is a non-audition choir. We are always open to new members. Reading notes and Hebrew are not pre-requisites. Only maintaining pitch is.

In addition, we are interested in finding more instrumentalists to accompany the choir and the Shabbat Alive Band. It is good to gather in song!

*Shalom,
Joan E. Frankel*

Wanted!

Fundraising Committee is looking for people. If you are interested in planning social events or have creative ways to raise money, contact Suzie Baylis at all4suzie@gmail.com. Remember, we put the "FUN" in FUNdraising!



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Carol Roberts Dave & Carol Anne Friedman
Joan Frankel Steven & Mindy Gale
Freedman Family Melissa Villasin
Gerry Lawrence Bill & Jan Golden

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David & Phyllis Berstein Dr. Richard & Robin Rogovin
Gayle & Jeffrey Borgen Joe & Pam Provenzano
Connie Rose Ira & Polly Arman
Brian & Arlene Slater Sharon Aronson
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Janice Perelman Larry & Lynn Kaler
Irving & Arleen Sanders Mathew & Heather Kramer
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Betsy Glickman Bill & Laurie Noyes
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Beth Kennon Jeffrey & Lauren Shaw

The High Holy Day Appeal for 5778 is open through the end of January 2018. To make a contribution, please contact the office. This does not include donations made through the Book of

Remembrance or Adopt-a-Book Campaigns, nor does it include non-members. If there are any errors or omissions to this listing, please notify the office as well.

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Congregation Beth Shalom accepts donations for many purposes, with a variety of opportunities for donors to support the good works of the Temple. You may contact the office either by phone or email to make a contribution, or head to our website to make a secure online payment through a PayPal account or by using a credit card.

Funds:

- **General Fund** (unrestricted): An unrestricted gift to the General Fund allows the temple to use those funds wherever they may be needed most. This fund incorporates contributions received from our High Holy Day Appeal, Yahrzeit donations, Bricklets, Adopt-A-Book, Tree of Life (unless otherwise indicated) and other non-restricted gifts.
- **Building Fund:** A fund to ensure the continuing physical growth of our spiritual home. Intended for capital improvements and major building repairs.
- **Endowment Fund:** Gifts to this fund are placed in an investment account and temporarily restricted or can be defined/restricted by the donor. This fund ensures the future of our temple.
- **Religious School Scholarship Fund:** These funds will be made available to Religious School students who are in need of tuition assistance, as determined confidentially by the Treasurer.
- **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund:** a fund for assistance to families in need, scholarship assistance, interfaith council, Holocaust museum and other endeavors at the Rabbi's discretion.
- **Youth Group Fund:** a fund that supports the ongoing engagement of post b'nai mitzvah youth, providing meaningful and fun experiences for our teens, and keeping them connected to their Jewish community.

If you wish to designate a gift to a particular purpose, for example, Food Bank, Choir, Oneg, Social Action, etc., you may do so by noting as such on your payment method or with an accompanying note; otherwise, your gift will be used where it is needed most.

Opportunities:

- **Adopt-A-Book:** A dedication label will be placed in one of our prayer books, to commemorate a simcha or in honor or memory of a loved one for just \$54.
- **Bricklets:** For as little as \$9 you can send a Bricklet Card instead of buying a card for birthdays, condolences, etc. A Bricklet Card in your name will be sent to the person you wish stating that a donation has been made in his or her name to Beth Shalom to honor the occasion.
- **Tree of Life:** The Tree of Life is on the back wall of our Sanctuary. An engraved leaf or stone can commemorate many simchas, b'nai mitzvah, wedding, birth, graduations, etc. Leaves are \$180, and stones are \$1800.
- **Yahrzeit Plaque:** To honor the death of a loved one, you may purchase a plaque that will be cared for in perpetuity for \$250. The name of the deceased along with their date of death is included on the plaque.

*Unless otherwise noted by you, your gift will be acknowledged in the Kibbitzer the month following its receipt.
If your donation is incorrectly listed or omitted, please notify the temple office immediately.*

Donations listed below were received between October 16 and November 15.

GENERAL FUND

In honor of Sheila Slavkin, Woman of Distinction

Anita Hoffman

In Loving Memory of Harriette Bauman

Anita Hoffman

Judith & Gerald Pliner

Gail & Michael Verlin

Mary Hartigan & Richard Diamant

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In Loving Memory of Lawrence Bernstein

Steven & Sheila Slavkin

In honor of Rabbi Torop

Arlene & Brian Slater

Anita Hoffman

Thank you to Sheila Fishman for hosting the Sephardic cooking class

Gail Verlin

BUILDING FUND

Michael & Martie Spaier



Anniversaries



12/6	Russell & Elisa Berman
12/21	Larry & Lynn Kaler
12/21	Donny & Kimberly Smoak
12/27	Michael & Gail Verlin
12/28	Milton & Phyllis Newman
12/31	Randy & Danita Freedman



Yahrzeits

12/3	Douglas Miller	Brother	of	Eric Miller
12/3	Pearl Lasky	Grandmother	of	Michelle Dempsey
12/3	Estella "Sandy" Kurtz	Mother	of	Pam Provenzano
12/3	Geoffrey Miller	Brother	of	Eric Miller
12/5	Joel Zazulia	Brother	of	Iylene Miller
12/5	Al Smith	Father	of	Caren Magdovitz
12/6	Irving Balot	Father	of	Keith Balot
12/7	Joan Sherer	Mother	of	Carol Roberts
12/7	Leonard Edelson	Father	of	Joel Edelson
12/8	Diane E. Slavkin	Mother	of	Steve Slavkin
12/8	Sophia Brenner	Wife	of	Phil Brenner
12/9	Dorothy Rausch	Grandmother	of	Kelley Ellis
12/9	Lara Enszer	Sister	of	Julie Enszer
12/10	Nellie Rosen	Mother	of	Shelley Leeds
12/10	Harold Landfish	Father	of	Nancy Landfish
12/11	Jim Stillman	Father	of	Amy Weinstein
12/11	Berne Lubonne	Father	of	Carol Plesur
12/12	Harry May	Uncle	of	David Richter
12/12	Elaine Freedman	Mother	of	Randy Freedman
12/13	Jenny Siegel	Grandmother	of	Eric Miller
12/14	Stephen Meyers	Father	of	Michael Meyers
12/14	Helene Barnett	Grandmother	of	Jason Blanchard
12/14	Kevin Frye	Husband	of	Christina Frye
12/15	Ron Miller	Uncle	of	Russell Berman
12/15	Seymour Ponemon	Father	of	Authur Ponemon
12/15	Rose Levine	Mother	of	Sara Goodman
12/17	Abraham Kaplan	Father	of	Elisa Criden
12/18	Milton Bauman	Father	of	Richard Bauman
12/19	Robert Stanley Greenfield	Father	of	Andrew Greenfield
12/19	Rita Weiss	Mother	of	Alan Weiss
12/21	Charles Arnold Hoffman	Husband	of	Anita Hoffman
12/22	Lena Ruth Richter	Mother	of	David Richter
12/23	Gene VanDevender	Father	of	Hank Mart
12/25	Gloria Bolnick	Mother	of	Jay Bolnick
12/26	Rose Frye	Relative	of	Christina Frye
12/26	Ann Edelson	Grandmother	of	Joel Edelson
12/27	Chava Leah Bauman	Grandmother	of	Richard Bauman
12/29	Florence Plesur	Mother	of	Joe Plesur
12/29	Morton Rabinowitz	Father	of	Mark Rabinowitz
12/30	Gus Braunstein	Grandfather	of	Hank Mart



Birthdays

12/2	Mindy Gale
12/2	Jackson McCormick
12/3	Samantha Frost
12/10	Shawn Smith
12/11	Judith Pliner
12/14	Bonnie Jacob
12/18	Mordecai Elazar
12/21	Russell Berman
12/26	Denise Weber
12/29	Milton Newman
12/29	Mark Finke
12/30	Kristan Birnholz
12/30	Peter Jacobson

Simchat Shabbat!

Come celebrate your birthday or anniversary with us! A special Shabbat service is held every month to honor all our joys for that month. For this month it will be:

Dec. 15

The dates listed for the Yahrzeits are adjusted yearly according to the Jewish Calendar and may not necessarily coincide with the common date of death. Names are read for Kaddish at the Shabbat before the actual date. If you would like to have the common date listed, please contact the temple office.

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Babysitters

Contact the temple office for a list of available babysitters. Contact information, qualifications and transportation details available for each sitter. We will not publish information about our younger members online due to privacy concerns.



ATTENTION! We send the Kibbitzer out online. This change has been made to help decrease one of our expenses at Beth Shalom.

However, if you prefer receiving your Kibbitzer via the US Mail, please call the Temple at (813) 681-6547 or e-mail the Temple (cbs-admin@hotmail.com) to tell us you **do not** want to get your Kibbitzer online. Please help Beth Shalom cut its expenses and receive your Kibbitzer sooner.



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**Congregation Beth Shalom
of Brandon**

December 2017

3 9:30AM Religious School 4:00PM Hanukkah music with Cantor Greenblatt	4 7:30PM Choir Rehearsal	5 6:30PM Executive Committee Meeting 7:30PM Board Meeting	6 6:15PM Hebrew School 6:30PM Confirmation Class	7 6:00PM Women of Distinction 7:30PM Choir Rehearsal	8 6:00PM Tot Shabbat w/ Pizza 7:45PM Erev Shabbat Service	9 10AM-12PM Jackson McCormick Bar-Mitzvah
10 9:30AM Religious School 4:00PM Hanukkah music with Cantor Greenblatt	11	12 Hanukkah Begins at Sunday. 1st Candle	13 6:15PM Hebrew School 6:30PM TYG Hanukkah gift exchange 2nd Candle	14 3rd Candle	15 7:45PM Shabbat in Chanukah, consecration & Kabbalat, and Simchat Shabbat 4th Candle	16 10:00 AM Bible & Bagels 5th Candle
17 9:30AM Religious School Chanukah Celebration 9:45AM Torah Tot 6th Candle	18 7th Candle	19 8th Candle	20 6:15PM Hebrew School 6:30PM Confirmation Class & Safety/Security Meeting 7:30PM Membership	21	22 7:45PM Erev Shabbat Service	23
24	25 Hillborough County Schools Closed	26 Hillborough County Schools Closed	27 Hillborough County Schools Closed	28 Hillborough County Schools Closed	29 7:45pm Erev Shabbat Service Hillborough County Schools Closed	30
31						

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Inside Scoop

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