The Kibbitzer

Congregation Beth Shalom of Brandon

706 Bryan Road, Brandon, FL 33511 Phone (813) 681-6547 www.BethShalom-Brandon.org

September 2021 Volume 32, Issue 3

Senior Rabbi

Robert Lefkowitz 407-222-6393

Cantorial Soloist

Sandy Santucci 813-681-6547

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David Friedman 813-417-3088

Members at Large

Anita Clifford 813-545-8769 Lynn Kaler 813-494-5163 Gabe Lifschitz 571-277-1416 Allan Weber 267-885-4806

FROM THE PULPIT - Rabbi Robert Lefkowitz



It is with feelings of great joy and gratitude to God, that I have been chosen, to lead such a wonderful, warm, and vibrant synagogue, as Congregation Beth Shalom in Brandon, Florida.

Thank you God, for your kindness. I have graciously taken upon myself, this new task of great responsibility. It is with great care and effort, that I take on this task, of making Congregation Beth Shalom great again.

It is my goal, to arouse people in heartfelt prayer and to offer purer Kavannah (with heartfelt intent). Torah Learning has many topics that we read with great pleasure.

At this time of season, during this pandemic, we ask God to heal, all our sick and these words, with a piercing Kavannah (with heartfelt intent). As all our hearts cry out: "Please God, send all who are ill, a Refuah Shleimah" (healing). God is a great healer.

We are to be passionate in song and prayer over God's great kindness. We recite this phrase, of Refuah Shleimah in a state of happiness. A person may even ask God mentally, that one should be healed. Open the gates of heaven and bring down abundant healing from above.

When we pray, we must institute God's great divine name by obtaining knowledge and familiarity in all areas of Torah and by doing this, we all be able to obtain insightfulness and sharp analysis. God takes much joy in the "chatter of Torah" but prayer is the service of the heart. One needs a proper heart, in order to approach any topic.

Let us continue to purify our hearts. We are all compared to that of a baby, who cannot consume good, healthy food, unless it is first ground, softened, and sweetened. This is a beautiful explanation, of how the teachings, will judge us favorably and lead us on the way of straightness and truth.

B'ahava – In Love

Rabbi Robert Lefkowitz

New time for Friday Services. In person services begin at 7:00 PM. We will continue to stream services.

Kudos and Mazels

Dave Freidman - Thank you for sponsoring the cellist and pianist for Kol Nidre. We also appreciate you and all of your helpers for organizing all of the High Holy Day events.

Gerry Pliner and Myron Feldman - Thank you and your team for managing the parking during the High Holy Day Events.

Rab**bi Lefkowitz and Sandy Santucci** - Thank you for leading us in a beautiful service during our High Holy Days.

Tony Newport - Thank you for clearing the driveway of a downed tree that was blocking the entire north driveway.

Lynn Kaler - Thank you for volunteering to be editor of the Kibbitzer.

Congregation Beth Shalom offers a big thank you to everyone who was involved in organizing and helping with every aspect to the High Holiday Events.











VOLUNTEER FOR A COMMITTEECBS can use your time and experience



There are opportunities to share your talents and experience in several committees all while doing a Mitzvah!

This is a great way to meet members and become a true partner in building our congregation.

We also have several committee chair openings and if interested please contact President Steve Billor.

Openings in Fundraising, Ritual Committee and Lifelong Learning, Oneg, Religious School and BETSY.

Upcoming Dates To Remember

- **Friday Evenings, 7:00 PM:** The new time for services will be at 7:00. Services will be held in the Temple.
- Sunday Mornings, 9:30 AM: Religious school is open every Sunday morning.
- Tuesday, October 5th, 6:30 PM: Executive Board Meeting. Regular Board Meeting to follow at 7:30 PM.
- Monday, October 18th, 7:00 PM:
 Page Turners. More information on page 5.
- Sunday, October 24th, 5:00 PM: Dinner with the Tribe. More information on page 4.
- Thursday Evenings, 6:30 PM: Hebrew Class with Rabbi Lefkowitz. Torah Study to follow at 7:00 PM.

MEMBERSHIP

Becoming a partner in our congregation offers an opportunity for enduring friendships and a personal spiritual journey. A place in our Jewish community.

Members also have free access to many of our educational and entertainment events.

Call Judith Pliner (856) 816-2174

Important Note

Our former congregation email account was compromised.

Please make a note that our new email is cbs-brandon@outlook.com. Don't forget to add us to your contacts so you do not miss any important information and updates.

October Oneg Schedule

There can be no joy without food and drink.

Talmud, Mo'ed Katan

Hosting an Oneg is a great way to honor a special someone or celebrate an occasion. After services we gather to schmooze and we all chip in afterwards to help clean up.

10/08 - Janice Perelman

10/15 - Petie Maguire

10/22 - Cheryl and Michael Lubin

10/29 -

If you would like to host the oneg for Friday please contact . You may reach out to Judith Pliner at 856-816-2174. There are several openings left for October, so pick a date and sign up!

The Kibbitzer

Volume 32, Issue 5
Published Monthly by
Congregation Beth Shalom
706 Bryan Road
Brandon, FL 33511
Phone 813-681-6547
Email: CBS-brandon@outlook.com

Email and articles for publication:
TheKibbitzer@hotmail.com
For current news and events
see the congregation's website:
http://www.bethshalom-brandon.org

Congregation Contacts

813-681-6547 • CBS-brandon@outlook.com

Office hours:

By appointment.
Voicemails and emails will be monitored daily.
Office is closed on holidays

Weekly Email Blast submissions

<u>bethshalominfo@gmail.com</u> eBlast deadline is Wednesday at 4 p.m.

DINNER WITH THE TRIBE — Anita Clifford

Bernini of Ybor

Sunday, October 24, 2021 at 5:30 PM



Bernini of Ybor 1702 E. 7th Ave Ybor City (Tampa) Florida 33605 **Phone:** 813-242-9555

We invite you to join us for "Innovative Italian Cuisine" with friends.

We've scheduled this on a Sunday because Ybor can get a bit raucous on Saturday nights. It's a bit earlier than usual so we can take advantage of their 1/2 price pasta and entrees as well as their multi flavored \$3 martinis before 7:00. I've gone there many times and the food never disappoints. The historic venue is the old Ybor Bank building. Be sure to see their vault.

Come and join us for the friendship as well as the food. Please be sure to be vaccinated for everyone's protection. You must email Anita Clifflord at niewdnarb@yahoo.com to reserve your seat with us.

Save the Date!

Saturday, November 20, 2021 at 7:00 PM Acropolis Greek Taverna



Got something to sell?

What's better than a garage sale? A CLASSIFIED AD IN THE KIBBITZER!

A 5-line add is just \$9 for members or \$18 for non-members.

Your ad for selling household items benefits CBS and reaches hundreds of current and former members! Please send your ad to: thekibbitzer@hotmail.com



and pay on our website: www.bethshalom-brandon.org Thank you!



Committees/Chairpersons

Building/Capital Fund

Gerry Pliner

Finance*

Gerald Pliner

Fundraising*

Open

Life Long Learning*

open

Strategic Planning*

Steve Feldman

Membership*

Judith Pliner

Caring Committee*

Judith Pliner

<u>Oneg</u>

Open

Publicity

Toby Koch

Ritual

open

Facility and Safety

Gabe Lifschitz

Social Action

Meral Ginsberg

Religious School

open

BESTY-Youth Group

open

* Ex-officio voting board member (each committee only gets one vote)

Other Programs

CBS Singles Over 50

Anita Clifford

Chavurah

Cheryl Lubin

Dinner With the Tribe

Anita Clifford

Kibbitzer Editor

Lvnn Kaler

Kolot Shalom - Choir

open

Library

Sandy Saviet

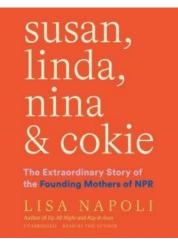
Men's Club

Myron Feldman

Page Turners

Anita Clifford

PAGE TURNERS



Page Turners is Congregation Beth Shalom's book club. We meet every other month. For October, the selected book is

Susan, linda, nina & cokie: The Extraordinary Story of the Founding Mothers of NPR.

Amazon describes the book as, "A group biography of four beloved women who fought sexism, covered decades of American news, and whose voices defined NPR"

We will meet on Zoom, Monday October 18, 2021 at 7:00 PM. If you'd like to join us, please RSVP to Anita Clifford at telephone number, 813-545-8769 or drop her an email at

niewdnarb@yahoo.com.

Members and Non-Members are all invited to participate.

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:

- **❖ Sabbath services every Friday at 7:00 p.m.**
- ★ Religious school pre-k
 through 10th grade
- **♦ Youth group programming**
- **⋄** Adult Education classes
- **⋄** Community-wide events, including Mitzvah Day





CONGREGATION WISH LIST

Financially supporting the synagogue is the responsibility of the entire Jewish community so that it can continue to exist and grow for everyone, both now and in the future.

Items are often "wished" for to add to our spiritual home. Below are a few of our most frequently requested items that, while not deemed necessary, would certainly enhance our environment:

While monetary donations are welcomed, encouraged, and needed and can be used where the temple needs it most, we know sometimes people prefer **Interior wish list:**



concrete gifts and look for opportunities to provide in other ways. We hope this list is helpful. Before making an in-kind contribution, due to limited storage space, please contact the temple first to be sure the item is still on the list.

- Large print copies of Mishkan HaNefesh
- Two 4-foot tall bookcases for classrooms
- 60 wine glasses and water glasses (plain not decorative)
- 8 white large round table cloths
- 3 large round tables (to replace the broken ones)
- 10 deadbolt door locks
- School supplies and crafts

Exterior wish list:

- 40 bags of red mulch
- Pavers for the path to the fire pit
- Awnings for office entrance

Pastoral Care

Please let us know when a congregant is in need of pastoral care.

This includes but is not limited to: when our congregants or their family members are in the hospital, recently lost a loved one, or otherwise may need his support.

If you, your family or someone you care about is in need, please contact Rabbi Lefkowitz at rleftkowi@bellsouth.com or call him at 407-222-6393.



Learn with the Rabbi

Rabbi Lefkowitz will be teaching Hebrew and Torah on Thursday evenings beginning Thursday, October 28 at 6:30 PM. Hebrew lessons will begin at 6:30 to be followed by Torah Class. Learning Hebrew will help you when you come to services and read the prayers, or carry on a conversation with your Israeli relatives! Torah study is in itself, a Mitzvah. So come join with the Rabbi on Thursdays to begin or continue your journey with Hebrew and Torah studies.

Rabbi Lefkowitz at rlefkowi@bellsouth.net or 407-222-6393



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We offer:

- **❖ Sabbath services every Friday at 7:00 p.m.**
- ★ Religious school pre-k
 through 10th grade
- **⇔** Complete B'nai Mitzvah preparation
- **☼** Youth group programming
- **❖ Adult Education classes**
- **⇔** Community-wide events, including Mitzvah Day

SOCIAL ACTION — Judith Pliner

Our community food pantry is open for all in need. If you or someone you know needs help, please contact Judith Pliner at gp@pliner-inc.com or 856-816-2174.



We are currently seeking donations of the following for our pantry:

- bar soap
- body wash
- laundry detergent
- feminine hygiene products
- kid's cereals
- spaghetti sauce
- toilet paper

If you would like to donate any of these items, please contact us. Thank you.

The Social Action Committee



BEN FERNANDES & KEITH BALOT

phone: 813.657.6200 fax: 813.413.2045 Keith@krkvalrico.com.

4321 Lynx Paw Trail Valrico, FL 33596 Ben@krkvalrico.com

www.krkvalrico.com



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Bob Clarke (813) 685-2939 131 Central Ave Brandon, FL 33510



Rachel Arbel
Tel. +972-4-6261114 | Cel. +972-544-592383
www.rachelarbel.com
cromanglass@gmail.com

LIFELONG LEARNING

We are now looking for a volunteer to become chairperson of Lifelong Learning. The Lifelong Learning committee is a creative group of dedicated individuals. Some of the programs they arrange are educational, some are just fun. The committee exists to get the members of Congregation Beth Shalom engaged and involved.

If you are interested in becoming chairperson or even becoming a committee member, please contact Toby Koch at <u>to-bykoch@hotmail.com</u>.

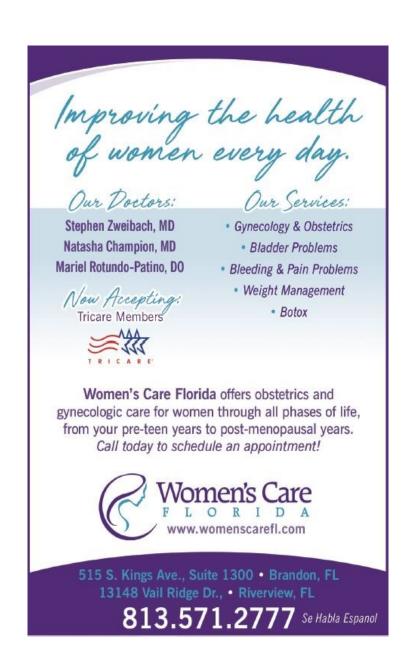
Ina Garten's Chicken Soup Recipe

Ingredients

- 3 (5-pound) roasting chickens
- 3 large yellow onions, unpeeled and quartered
- 6 carrots, unpeeled and halved
- 4 celery stalks with leaves, cut into thirds
- 4 parsnips, unpeeled and cut in half
- 20 sprigs fresh parsley
- 15 sprigs fresh thyme
- 20 sprigs fresh dill
- 1 head garlic, unpeeled and cut in half crosswise
- 2 Tbsp kosher salt
- 2 tsp whole black peppercorns

Directions

- 1. Place the chickens, onions, carrots, celery, parsnips, parsley, thyme, dill, garlic, salt, and peppercorns in a 16 to 20-quart stockpot. Add 7 quarts of water and bring to a boil. Lower the heat and simmer uncovered for 4 hours.
- 2. Allow the stock to cool for 30 minutes. Strain the contents of the pot through a colander into a large bowl and discard the solids. Pack the stock in containers and refrigerate for up to a few days or freeze for up to 6 months.





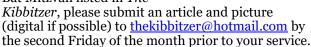
EDUCATION

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Information

Mitzvah tutoring is available. Contact the temple office at 813-681-6547.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

information on your child's upcoming Bar or Bat Mitzvah listed in *The*

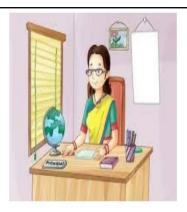




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CBS Seeking person for the following position

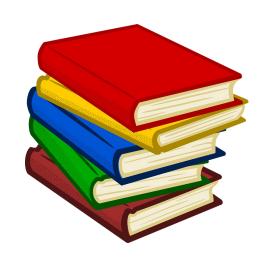
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR 2021 - 2022 school year

- Teaching experience Preferred
- Volunteer position A Mitzvah!
- Open to all CBS membership
- Requires in-person attendance during Sunday school year
- CBS member receives 30% discount on dues

Please direct inquires to Toby Koch: (813) 407-2774 tobykoch@hotmail.com

The Library Corner

L'Shana Tova from the Library Committee. We are still organizing and re-organizing the library from when we were closed for Covid. Additionally, the library is currently being used as storage space for the Food Bank donations temporarily. Therefore, the library is closed for your viewing pleasure.



MEN'S CLUB

We will be meeting Wednesday, October 20th at 7:00 PM at the Latin Grill. For more information, please contact: Myron Feldman at 813-361-9590.



Latin Grill 3318 John Moore Road Brandon, FL 33511



In Memory of



Congregation Beth Shalom

Congregation Beth Shalom - Donation Form

At times of sorrow & memory, as well as at times of joy, tradition teaches us that we honor others by giving of tzedakah. Please return your completed donation form to the temple office.

			
Donor's Name	e:		
Address:		×	<u> </u>
\$18 esignated Fund:	\$36_	\$54 \$18	80 Other
esignared riing:	П	Youth Group Fund	10 (Horse 10) (1340) NO
General Fund		Dalahiba Diamatian and Fund	 My check is enclosed
		Rabbi's Discretionary Fund Religious School	□ Please bill me

Congregation Beth Shalom 706 Bryan Rd. Brandon, FL 33511 813-681-6547

DONATIONS

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 \$350. 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.

Tzedakah

Written by Rabbi Victor S. Appell



In Jewish tradition, <u>tzedakah</u> is a mitzvah, a religious obligation. The word is derived from the Hebrew root meaning "justice" and "righteousness." *Tzedakah*, conceived as justice, means that the needs of the recipient lie at the heart of our concern. Many passages in the Torah instruct us in the value of *tzedakah*. In Deuteronomy 15:7-8 we are instructed, "If there is a needy person among you... do not harden your heart...Rather, you must open your hand and lend whatever is sufficient to meet the need."

Maimonides (1135-1204), one of the greatest Torah scholars, wrote extensively about *tzedakah*. He identified eight levels of giving, from doing so grudgingly to the highest form, helping a person with a loan or gift or employment that will allow the person to become self-supporting and no longer be dependent on others.

One of the traditions associated with Shabbat is giving tzedakah. Many people have a special tzedakah box and prior to lighting the Shabbat candles, they deposit money in the box. After a specified amount of money is collected, or at certain times of the year, such as Hanukkah, a donation is made to a worthy cause. Involving children in this process is a great way to teach the importance of this mitzvah.

OUR CONGREGATION

Yahrzeits

7/5	Nellie A.	Douglas	Grandmother Of	Jimmy	Duncan
10/2	Arnold	Krulish	Father Of	Lee	Schwartz
10/6	Malsci	Reisner Lerman	Aunt Of	Gary	Ronay
10/7	Paul	Buchman	Father Of	Ken	Buchman
10/7	Morton	Wasserman	Husband Of	Doris	Raymond
10/13	Dorothy	Zazulia	Grandmother Of	Iylene	Miller
10/17	Irene	Freedman	Aunt Of	Randy	Freedman
10/22	Florence	Finkel	Aunt Of	Steve	Feldman
10/26	Rose	Bond	Grandmother Of	Joanne	Ronay
10/26	Peter	Ronay	Brother Of	Gary	Ronay
10/29	Harriett	Lawrence	Wife Of	Gerry	Lawrence



10/1	Mitchell Finke
10/2	Lea Garbett
10/5	Jason Weber
10/10	Randy Finke
10/13	Steven Billor
10/16	Myron Feldman
10/18	Paige Dugan
10/22	Gerry Pliner
10/23	Michael Zev Lubin
10/27	Lander Feldman
10/28	Ira Arman
10/29	Sandy Savitt



10/18	April & Anthony Newport
10/24	Gerald & Judith Pliner
10/31	Bruce & Janice Sperry

Want to advertise in *The Kibbitzer*?

Ad Size Mor	nthly Rate	10% Discounted (Annual only)
Bus. Card	\$20	\$216
1/4 page	\$40	\$432
1/2 page	\$50	\$540
Full page	\$75	\$810

Special rate for CBS Members -15% off MONTHLY rate with 6-month commitment.

> To reserve your place in the next issue, email the temple office at

cbs-brandon@outlook.com or call 813-681-



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Share your support: 4



Dismiss



Congregation Beth Shalom is now participating in Amazon Smile - it's an easy way for CBSmembers, family and friends to support the temple. Simply use the following link:

http://smile.amazon.com/ch/59

-3026396 and shop, shop, shop!

Babysitters

Contact the temple office for a list of available babysitters. Contact information, qualifications and transportation details are available for each sitter. We will not publish information about our

Shabbat Services

Our Shabbat services will take place Friday Nights at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary as well as zoom. If you would like information on how to zoom the Service, contact the Temple office.

PLEASE NOTE: For outdoor services, streaming is only available on Facebook.

To download a copy of the prayer book, please contact the office and you will be sent the link.

Shabbat



We know that in the absence of Shabbat, Judaism withers. More than ever, in our 24/7 culture, we need to embrace the Torah's mandate to rest. When work expands to fill all of our evenings and weekends, everything suffers, including our health. For stressedout, sleep-deprived families, the Torah's mandate to rest looks relevant and sensible. During the week we should pursue our goals; on Shabbat we should learn simply to be. Research indicates that there are more closet Shabbat observers than previously thought. The time has come to create alive, tangible and visceral Shabbat experiences, similar to those experienced by our children at our summer camps. We need to approach Shabbat with the creativity that has always distinguished Reform Judaism. A Shabbat in which we emphasize the "Thou shalts" of Shabbatcandles and Kiddush, rest and study, prayer and community-rather than the "Thou shalt nots."

Union of Reform Judaism, Excerpt from "Revisioning Reform Shabbat Observance. ReformJudaism.org



October 2021

a	6	16	53	30
1 7:00 pm Erev Shabbat Service-	8 7:00 pm Erev Shabbat Service	15 7:00 pm Erev Shabbat Service	22 7:00pm Erev Shabbat Service	29 7:00pm Erev Shabbat Service
	7 6:30pm Hebrew class 7:00pm Torah Study	14 6:30pm Hebrew class 7:00pm Torah Study	21 6:3opm Hebrew class 7:0opm Torah Study	28 6:30pm Hebrew class 7:00pm Torah Study
	9	13	20	27
	5 6:30 pm Executive committee Meeting 7:30pm Board Meeting	12	19	26
	4	п	18 7:oopm Page Turners	25
	3 9:30 am Religious School	10 9:30am Religious School	9:30am Religious School	24 9:30 am Religious School



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We Do Things Better When We Do Them Together.