

The Kibbitzer

Congregation Beth Shalom

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January 2018 Volume 28, Issue 8

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FROM THE PRESIDENT - David Friedman

What gift did you ask for?

After almost two years of submitting articles for *The Kibbitzer*, I'm still getting used to the fact that upcoming events will have already passed by the time this article is read!

Though it's only December 4th, your New Year's celebration was last week. It's past. So I'll say, "I hope you had a nice celebration!"

In like manners, it's too late to wish you a Happy Chanukah, or say, "Merry Christmas!" Or ask one of the Besty kids, "What special gift are you hoping to get for Chanukah?"

When our girls were young, Carol Anne would ask them to make a list of things they wanted. Of course, there was never a guarantee they would receive everything they'd asked for. Sixteen years later, Alex is still waiting for a red Ford Mustang! But, at least it gave us a starting point.

Now that the girls are older, I'm getting asked by Mallory, "What would Carol Anne like for Christmas? Or, in early November, Alex will call to ask, "Do you know what would my mom like for her birthday?"

Assuming Mallory is also calling Carol Anne to see what I'd like for Chanukah, I hope Carol Anne's answer would be this, "He wants you. He wants you to keep coming around. When you have children, he wants you to bring THEM around. He wants you to ask him questions, tell him your problems, ask him for his opinion, ask for his help. He wants you to come over and rant about your problems, rant about life, whatever. Tell him about your job, your worries, your pets. He wants you to continue sharing your life with him. Come over and laugh with him, or laugh at him; he won't care. He spent the better part of his life raising you to the best of his ability. I'll brag Mallory and say he did a pretty darn good job. So, give him time to sit back and admire his work. He's very proud of it. When you come over, we'll both tell you that you and your family can raid our refrigerator; we won't mind. What does he want? He wants you to spend your money making a better life for you and your family. He'll tell you he has the things he needs. He wants to see you happy and healthy. If asked what he wants for Chanukah, he'll say he wants nothing, because you've already been giving him his gift all year."

Yes, it's past, but I'll say it anyway, "Happy New Year!"

See you at temple.



See a column from one of our interim rabbis on page 2.

FROM THE RABBI - *Richard Address*

Shalom Congregation Beth Shalom

It will be my honor and pleasure to spend some time with you between January and May as you transition from Rabbi Torop to a new rabbi. I am looking forward to my first visit to you January 19th.



I currently serve as Founding Director of Jewish Sacred Aging® and the web site www.jewishsacredaging.com. This is the largest resource that looks at the impact of the longevity revolution on our congregations and community. This work grew out of the work we did while serving on the staff of the Union for Reform Judaism for some 33 years. You can follow the work on the web site: www.jewishsacredaging.com, the site's Facebook page (Jewish Sacred Aging on Facebook) or tune in to the weekly Internet radio show Jewish Sacred Aging Radio, which you can access by going to www.blogtalkradio.com/jewishsacredaging. The shows air Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to noon and then are archived as pod casts on the website.

I have also served congregations in both California and New Jersey, and my work with them and with the URJ has allowed me to appreciate the unique contributions and challenges that contemporary synagogues face. Synagogues remain the cornerstone of our community, and it is what takes place within them that helps shape our future. Indeed, we are living through a most creative and energizing time within the modern Jewish world.

I look forward to learning from you and becoming a part of your community. I wish you and your family a peaceful secular new year. I will see you in January.

Shalom,



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MEMBERSHIP

As we welcome the coming year, we join our fellow congregants in wishing Rabbi Betsy Torop much success in her new position. At the same time, we look forward to meeting and working with our new rabbi. May 2018 be an exciting year for us all – a year of growth and of greater goals and dreams for Congregation Beth Shalom. We invite you to work with us to achieve these goals together!

Gail and Judith
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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, including Mitzvah Day**



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Upcoming Dates to Remember

- **Saturday, Jan. 6, 10 a.m.:** The Bat Mitzvah of Isabel Hernandez.
- **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 5.
- **Saturday, Jan. 20, 7 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! More information on page 6.



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

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

January 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 January.

- **Jan. 5:** The 7th-grade class will host the oneg in honor of **Tatiana & Nick Hernandez** and their daughter, **Isabel**, who will be celebrating her Bat Mitzvah.
- **Jan. 12:** **Andrea Chassen** will host the oneg as a temple mitzvah.
- **Jan 19:** **Gail & Michael Verlin** and **Anna & Stephen Feldman** will host the oneg in honor of our guest rabbi, Rabbi Richard Address.
- **Jan 26:** open

On behalf of the Oneg Committee I want to express our sincere thanks for the generosity of our January hosts!

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).

Anna Feldman, Judith Pliner, and Anita Hoffman

Chavurah Membership

Are you looking to make new friends or deepen your current friendships? Joining a Congregation Beth Shalom Chavurah may be your answer.



We have several groups of "Chavurot" which meet monthly. Each group decides where to meet and what is on the program. It may be as simple as a pot-luck dinner at someone's home or meeting at the JCC for an art festival. Our Chavurot have celebrated holidays together as extended families, sponsored onegs, and gone camping together.

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Wed.: 1 p.m.—5 p.m.
Thurs. & Fri.: 10 a.m.—2 p.m.

Weekly Email Blast submissions

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

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

Isabel Leeza Hernandez

Isabel Leeza Hernandez, daughter of Nick and Tatiana Hernandez of Valrico, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, Jan. 6, at 10 a.m., at Congregation Beth Shalom in Brandon.

A 7th-grade honor student at Mulrennan Middle School, Isabel plays the cello and dances with The Dance Center and Brandon Ballet. Isabel will donate part of the gift money she receives to a local children's foster place for her bat mitzvah project.

The Hernandez family will host a Kiddush lunch immediately following services at the congregation.



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.

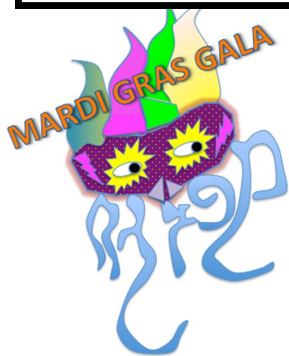
And so it'll be 90 minutes of non-stop laughter when "the world's only practicing clergyman doing stand-up comedy ...

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

KUDOS

- Kudos to **Julie Enszer**, her committee and all who helped make the Havdalah service for Rabbi Torop such a wonderful event.
- Kudos to **Amy Weinstein** and **Karen Blanchard** for a great religious school Chanukah celebration.
- Kudos to **Micah Dugan** and his scout troop for installing our new fire pit.
- Kudos to **Sheryl and Mark Finke** for their donation of bookends for the temple library.

MAZELS

- Mazel tov to **Peter & Diane Jacobson** on the birth of their grandson, **Max Ethan Camelio**, son of **Alicia & Chris Camelio**.

*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.*



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!

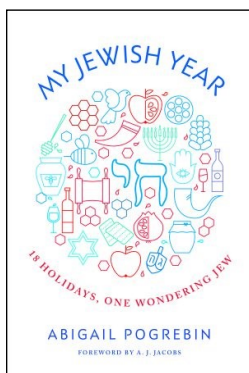
About *My Jewish Year*: Although she grew up following some holiday rituals, Pogrebin realized how little she knew about their foundational purpose and current relevance.

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.



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LIFELONG LEARNING—*Richie Bauman*



Although it's early December, you'll read this column in 2018. 2017 and 2018 are years of challenges for CBS. With Rabbi Torop's departure January 8th, we will be looking at many changes in the coming months. You'll get to meet Rabbi Address and Cantor Friedler as our interim clergy with their special gifts.

But you'll also get to see our lay leaders in action; leading services and reading or chanting Torah on a Friday night. As I've previously mentioned, the Tuesday night classes will not be held; look for a new Life-Long Learning brochure to take home with different offerings and a new schedule.

And don't forget about our Scholar in Residence, Morris Wolff, Esq., who will be visiting with us on Saturday evening, Jan. 20. Mr. Wolff spent years trying to free Swedish Diplomat Raoul Wallenberg, a Righteous Gentile, who saved thousands of Jewish lives, from his disappearance by the Soviets. More details on this special event are below.

Programming Notes

- The spring retreat has been moved to the fall.
- 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.

Renowned defender of human rights Morris Wolff to speak

When: Saturday, Jan. 20

Time: Private reception 7 p.m. (\$18/person); general event 8 p.m.

Morris Wolff will be speaking about his experience representing the Wallenberg family, as he prosecuted the former Soviet Union for the return of Raoul Wallenberg, at Congregation Beth Shalom of Brandon, on Saturday, Jan. 20, at 8 p.m. A 7 p.m. private wine and cheese reception precedes his talk, \$18 per person. A book signing session will follow.



Mr. Wallenberg was instrumental in saving thousands of Hungarian Jewish lives during World War II. During the Soviet liberation of Hungary, he was detained, and his whereabouts unknown. Initially reported dead in 1957, Mr. Wallenberg was imprisoned in the Soviet Union. Conflicting reports of his death and actual imprisonment were numerous. In 1983, Mr. Wolff was retained by Wallenberg's half-brother to gain information and the eventual release of Raoul.

Mr. Wolff's legal career is noteworthy. In 1983, he, along with Rosa Parks, was granted the National Council of Christians and Jews award for humanitarian service in his work on civil rights. In 1993, along with Audrey Hepburn, he was awarded United Nations Peace Award for Humanitarian Service. Currently living in Florida, Mr. Wolff remains a vibrant personality.

To make arrangements to attend the wine and cheese reception, contact the congregation office, or website, \$18 per person. Attendees for the talk and book signing, are asked to make a donation. To schedule an interview with Mr. Wolff or for more information, contact, Andrea Chassen at abchassen@gmail.com, or 305-968-4087.

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CBS LIBRARY UPDATE



Calling all bookworms! The CBS Library still needs bookends in the library and any books with any references to Judaism. All donations are appreciated!
Anita Hoffman, Congregation Beth Shalom Librarian



EDUCATION—Amy Weinstein

Happy New Year!

This school year seems to be flying by. As you may remember, we began our sessions early this year in accordance to the public school calendar. That being said, we are half way through our sessions.

Unfortunately, we sometimes notice inconsistencies regarding attendance during the winter/spring months. Please take the time to review our attendance information.

Our class runs Sunday from 9:30 a.m. - noon for all students. Our 4th, 5th & 6th graders also attend

Wednesdays from 6:15-7:45 p.m. Our Judaic curriculum builds upon past lessons. If a student has multiple absences, it will result in gaps in their Jewish Education. The Hebrew curriculum is a prayer-based one. Our students are exposed to Hebrew letters and vowels with the goal of giving them the skills to be active participants in Shabbat and holiday services. We have a limited amount of time with our students. If they do not attend regularly, their Judaic and/or Hebrew education may be compromised. Students are expected to make-up any missed assignments due to an absence. Repeated absences may result in additional assignments or a project to cover the missed work.

Thank you for your continued support. We value the time we have with your child and vow to make every session worthwhile!

Important Dates

- **Wednesday, Jan. 3:** No Hebrew & Confirmation (Winter Break)
- **Sunday, Jan. 7:** No RS (Winter Break)
- **Wednesday, Jan. 10:** Hebrew
- **Sunday, Jan. 14:** RS
- **Wednesday, Jan. 17:** Hebrew & Confirmation
- **Sunday, Jan. 21:** RS
- **Wednesday, Jan. 24:** Hebrew
- **Sunday, Jan. 28:** RS & Torah Tots
- **Wednesday, Jan. 31:** Hebrew



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RABBI SEARCH—MEET THE CANDIDATES - Sheila Fishman

Noah Ferro

Rabbi Noah Ferro grew up in Nashville, Tenn., where he graduated from Tennessee State University with a degree in history and English. He spent several years working in libraries and bookstores before beginning HUC-JIR's rabbinical program. In 2015, he received a Master's in Religious Education (MARE) from the school's New York campus. Noah is finishing his program as a rabbinical student at the Cincinnati campus. He has also begun a Ph.D. program at HUC in Rabbinic literature. As a rabbi, he hopes to teach Talmud and other rabbinic texts to adults and teens.



During his studies, Rabbi Ferro has served congregations in Illinois and Tennessee, worked as a chaplain in a Cincinnati-area hospital, and taught in four supplementary religious schools (not including student pulpits), as well as in overnight summer camp. He is currently serving as a part-time rabbi at Temple Beth Israel in Bay City/Saginaw, Mich., and is working on his senior thesis, which includes a commentary and translation of *Chayyei Adam*, an 18th-century digest of Jewish law by Rabbi Avraham Danzig. Rabbi Ferro and his wife, Cassandra, recently became parents with the birth of their son, Lev, in February.

His Vision: I see JVS Career Services as an important part of the Cincinnati community, one which connects a diverse array of Jewish adults with businesses and institutions connected to the city's Jewish community in formal and informal ways. By working with JVSCS, I believe that I can help it to grow in three distinct ways in the coming year: (1) by strengthening those relationships already in existence; (2) by helping JVSCS to reach beyond the boundaries it currently occupies; and (3) to help the organization's leadership and stakeholders to clarify the Jewish dimensions of its mission.

Rabbi Claudio Kogan

Rabbi Claudio Kogan was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina. In 1987 he simultaneously began medical school at the University of Buenos Aires and rabbinical school at the Latin-American Rabbinical Seminary. In 1993 he went to Houston as a medical trainee at Baylor College of Medicine and at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center.



In 1995 he became a medical doctor. In 1997 he became a mohel. He led Jewish congregations in Argentina from 1992 – 99. (Chana Senesh, Beth Israel and Hebrew Congregation of Lomas de Zamora). In 1998, he received the degree of Hebrew teacher. He started his rabbinical degree at Hebrew Union College in 1999, where he served as a student rabbi at Temple Sholom (Ishpeming, Mich.); Temple Beth Sholom (Miami Beach, Fla.); Mount Zion Temple (Sioux Falls, S.D.) and Temple Sholom (Cincinnati, Ohio). In 2002 he finished the first unit of Pastoral Care Education at Children's Hospital in Cincinnati.

From 1999-2003 he led monthly Shabbat services at Four Courts Senior Center in Louisville (Ky.) He received a Master's of Hebrew Letters at the Hebrew Union College in 2002. He also studied at Xavier University, where he received his Master's in Educational Organization. He was ordained as a reform rabbi in 2003. He worked at Anshe Emeth Memorial Temple from 2003-09 as the Associate Rabbi-Director of Education. Rabbi Kogan served as a Fire Chaplain for the city of New Brunswick, N.J., as a chaplain at the Robert Wood Johnson and Saint Peters Hospital. He finished a Master's of Bioethics at the University of Pennsylvania – Medical School in 2009.

From 2009-12 Rabbi Kogan was the Senior Rabbi at Temple Beth Tikvah in Madison, Conn., and served as police chaplain. Rabbi Kogan served as member of the Human Review board at Yale University medical school and as member of the Ethics Pediatrics committee at Yale Hospital.

Rabbi Kogan became the rabbi in McAllen, Tex., in 2012, where he lives with his wife, Ana Sverdlick, his daughter, Milena Yael, and his son, Ezekiel Yair.

Rabbi Josh Leighton

Rabbi Josh Leighton joined the Jewish Congregation of Kinnelon family in Pompton

Lakes, N.J., in July of 2012. Rabbi Josh was drawn to the JCK community because of the intimate, welcoming, and informal character of our congregation. At the heart of his rabbinate lies one common theme: forming personal relationships to build an authentic Jewish community. Rabbi Josh truly cherishes the opportunity to work with our congregants of all ages, guiding them on their Jewish journeys as they develop confidence in their Jewish knowledge and identities and planting the seeds for a better future. Rabbi Josh has brought his creativity, sense of humor, enthusiasm, and playful yet sincere nature to the JCK and to all of our services and programs.



Rabbi Josh grew up in nearby Rockland County, N.Y., and graduated from the University of Rochester with a bachelor's degree in religion. Immediately following graduation, Rabbi Josh began his studies at Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion, receiving his Master's of Arts in Hebrew Letters in 2010, and rabbinic ordination in 2011.

Prior to joining the JCK, Rabbi Josh taught in various religious schools and youth programs. He has worked at URJ Crane Lake Camp as a Unit Head in 2005 and Assistant Limud (education) Director in 2008 along with serving on faculty in 2011. Rabbi Josh has also served student congregations in Natchez, Miss., Sioux Falls, S.D., Pine Bluff, Ark., and as a visiting rabbi in Williamsport Penn. Rabbi Josh also served as the Assistant Rabbi at Temple Emeth in Teaneck, N.J., from 2012-14.

In addition to his roles at the JCK, Rabbi Josh is an active member of the New Jersey-West Hudson Valley Association of Reform Rabbis, serves on faculty at URJ Camp Harlam during the summer, and is part of the NFTY-GER clergy team.

Rabbi Josh lives in Scotch Plains, N.J., with his wife, Rabbi Sarah Smiley and their new baby girl, Eliana.

FAREWELL TO RABBI TOROP: THANK YOU TO ALL! - Julie Enszer

On Saturday, Dec. 16, Congregation Beth Shalom had a fantastic celebration to say goodbye to our Rabbi, Betsy Torop. It demonstrated the theme of our event: may we continue to go from strength to strength.

Special thank you to all the committee members who worked diligently to plan this event over the past two months, including Michelle McCormick, Andrea Chassen, Sheila Fishman, Lea Garbett, Anna Feldman, Gerry and Judith Pliner, Mitch Baylis, and Dave Friedman.

Attendees loved the photo booth and the music, ably staffed by Seth Dugan and Michael Barnett. (Lots of Star Wars photos on Facebook in the days that followed!)

As everyone knows, this was truly a "stone soup" event. The committee is grateful to everyone who contributed food to the dinner including Sheila Fishman, Lauren Shaw, Sheila Slavkin, Cynthia Goldstein, Phyllis Newman, Renate Greenfield, Arlene Slater, Lea Garbett, Anna Brubaker, Tammie Hebert, Anna Feldman, Tanya Hernandez, Lisa Smith, Suzie Baylis, Sandra Santucci, Cheryl Lubin, Carol Wagner, Elisa Criden, Polly Arman, Elyse Acanda, Bonnie Jacob, Sheryl Finke, The Millers, Sara Goodman, Doris Raymond, Christine Stockelman, Stephanie Ferry, Polly Arman, Caren Magdovitz, Carol Wagner, Michelle McCormick, Carol Anne Friedman, Joan Frankel, Richie Bauman,

Anita Clifford, Carole Plesur, Stephen Criden, Pam Provenzano, Janice Perelman, Sharon Aronson, Andrea Chassen, and Bonnie Jacob.

Special thanks to Andrea Chassen who cooked 400 latkes, to Anna Feldman, Michelle McCormick, and Carol Ann Friedman, who ably staffed the kitchen all night long with a tremendously hardy group of volunteers.

Set up and clean up also was a community event. Thank you to everyone who helped with set up including attendees at Friday night services Dec. 15, especially Steven Feldman and Richie Bauman. Folks at Bible & Bagels on Saturday morning also helped with set up including Anna and Steve Feldman, Andrea Chassen, Murray, Sheila Fishman, Christine Stockelman, and Cynthia Goldstein.

The program was fantastic. Rob Northrop, cantorial soloist Sandy Santucci, and Cantor Tanya Greenblatt provided music for the Havdalah Service. The CBS choir provided beautiful music selections during the tribute program accented with speeches from Dave Friedman, Keren Vergon, and Sheila Fishman. A special moment was when Lea Garbett and her sons, Jacob and Brady, presented the hand-made memory box to the Rabbi.

It was truly a beloved community celebration. Thank you to everyone involved!

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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 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.

Interior Wish List:

- Large Print Copies of Mishkan HaNefesh (the High Holy Day Prayerbook) Contact Jenny in the office for details
- Large coolers
- Water supply for Cafe Shalom
- Bookcase for the Religious School office
- Commercial oven
- Free standing literature stand (floor model)
- 8—New floor length round tablecloths in white
- 1" binders
- Keyboard drawers
- Book ends for the library

Exterior Wish List:

- Planters, soil and vines for pergola
- Wood sealer for outdoor elements
- Awnings for entries

KOLOT SHOLOM NOTES

This evening as I prepare my luggage and music notebook in order to fly to Boston for the URJ Biennial Convention, I'm filled with gratitude to the rabbi and all the congregation members who have sponsored my trip.

I feel privileged to sing with the Biennial Choir of approximately 100 voices, including cantors and temple musicians from all over our country. Cantor Rosalie Boxt has been working for at least a year to put together our music repertoire and to coordinate the music personnel who will lead us and perform for the convention.

Thank you for this professional opportunity. I'm thrilled to sing with this group and to represent our temple as a whole. And the lasting benefit to our congregation is the introduction of new music for our services and feedback on focal points from the URJ in general. I'm sure I'll have a great deal to share with you when I return.

*Shalom,
Joan E. Frankel*




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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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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 \$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 November 16 and December 15.

GENERAL FUND

In Loving Memory of Harriette Bauman

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In Loving Memory of Joan Sherer

Carol Roberts

In Loving Memory of Mother Rose Bond

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Steve and Sheila Slavkin

In Honor of the Presentation by Janice Perelman

Mrs. Thelma Silber

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In Honor of Sheila Slavkin, Woman of Distinction

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In Loving Memory of Joel Zazulia

Jeffrey & Iylene Miller

BUILDING FUND

Michael & Martie Spaier



Anniversaries



1/5 Sandy & Lee Schwartz
1/22 Randy & Jackie Sehres
1/25 Murray & Jerilyn Diman
1/31 Isabel & Jon Ellis



Yahrzeits

1/1 Pat Briklin	Cousin	of	Steve Feldman
1/1 Schura Dimant	Mother	of	Murray Dimant
1/1 Lillian Shames	Aunt	of	Sheila Slavkin
1/3 Craig Morris Neuman	Husband	of	Collette Neuman
1/4 Harold Ohman	Uncle	of	Cynthia Goldstein
1/6 Anna Pearlstein	Relative	of	Christina Frye
1/7 David Sanders	Step Father	of	Sheila Slavkin
1/7 Tatyana Gudz	Grandmother	of	Lana Goldfarb
1/9 Seth Warner	Friend	of	Errol Fishman
1/9 Harvey Jacobson	Brother	of	Peter Jacobson
1/10 Virginia Finke	Mother	of	Mark Finke
1/12 Sally Bloom	Mother	of	Gail Verlin
1/12 Aline Brandwein	Mother	of	Anita Clifford
1/12 Lazar Gold	Father	of	Marty Gold
1/14 Louis Verlin	Father	of	Michael Verlin
1/15 Bob Finkel	Cousin	of	Steve Feldman
1/15 David Roberts	Father	of	Carol Roberts
1/15 Aaron Ferman	Grandfather	of	Joel Edelson
1/16 Myna Kalbas	Mother	of	Bill Kalbas
1/16 Jack Goldberg	Father	of	Michelle Dempsey
1/16 Elayne Raiskin	Mother	of	David Raiskin
1/17 Charles Dannemann	Grandfather	of	Richard Bauman
1/18 Amada "Amy" Ferman	Grandmother	of	Joel Edelson
1/18 Frieda Hershkowitz	Mother	of	Phyllis Newman
1/18 David Greene	Grandfather	of	Gayle Borgen
1/21 Selma Sperry	Mother	of	Bruce Sperry
1/23 David Brill	Grandfather	of	Myron Feldman
1/23 Bess Robin	Mother	of	Anita Hoffman
1/24 Lawrence Gould	Brother	of	Sandra Saviet
1/25 Samuel Raiskin	Father	of	David Raiskin
1/25 Meyer Bloom	Father	of	Gail Verlin
1/26 Costa Giantsos	Father	of	Vickie Goldberg
1/27 Pearl Brill	Grandmother	of	Myron Feldman
1/27 Sol Zweibach	Father	of	Stephen Zweibach
1/27 Jack Vandeventer	Step Father	of	Christina Frye
1/27 Marshall Goldberg	Son	of	Ruth Goldberg
1/29 Joe Newman	Father	of	Milton Newman
1/29 Solomon Gudz	Grandfather	of	Lana Goldfarb
1/30 Ira Blumenthal	Father	of	Mindy Gale
1/30 Irving Dinnerman	Father	of	Tammie Hebert



Birthdays

1/1 Sophia Saviet
1/2 Jason Howard
1/2 Shirley Isbell Ratner
1/2 Sarah Meyers
1/4 Sharon Arsonson
1/5 Richard Oldman
1/9 Bill Noyes
1/10 Sarah Smith
1/10 Lauren Shaw
1/15 Michael McCormick
1/15 Karen Blanchard
1/16 Steven Birnholz
1/17 Diane Jacobson
1/19 Danita Freedman
1/20 Gayle Borgen
1/20 Christina Frye
1/22 Larry Leeds
1/23 Clara Barnett
1/24 Garrett Borgen
1/24 Stephen Yavelow
1/24 Sarah Leybovich
1/25 Hannah Torop
1/25 Cynthia Goldstein
1/30 Errol Fishman

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:

Jan. 26

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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Congregation Beth Shalom
of **Brandon**

January 2018

	1		2 6:30pm Executive Committee Meeting 7:30pm Board Meeting	3	4	5	6 10:00am Isabel Hernandez Bat Mitzvah 6:30pm Bob Alper Comedy Show
		New Year's Day					
7	8	No Religious School	9 7:30pm Lifelong Learning Meeting	10 6:15pm Hebrew School	11	12 7:45pm Erev Shabbat Service	13
14	15 6:00pm Page Turners 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal Hillsborough County Schools Closed (MLK)		16 7:30pm Lifelong Learning Meeting	17 6:15pm Hebrew School 6:30 Conf. Class 7:30pm Membership Meeting	18	19 7:45pm Ribbon Shabbat Service (Healing)	20 10:00am Torah Study and service w/ Rabbi Address 12:30pm Board Prog. 6:30pm Scholar in Residence
21	22 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal		23	24 6:15pm Hebrew School 6:30pm Lifelong Learning Meeting 6:30 Safety/Security	25 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	26 7:00pm Simcha Shabbat Service	27 6:00pm Parent's Night Out
28 JCC Pres. Dinner 9:30am Religious School TB/E 6th Grade Program 9:45 Torah Tots	29 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal		30 7:30pm Lifelong Learning Meeting	31 6:15pm Hebrew School TuBish'vat			



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