

HaShomer

September 2021

Congregation Beth Shalom

Elul/Tishrei 5782

Schedule of Services

Friday, September 3
Led by **Stephanie Poser**
Saturday, September 4
Led by **Stuart Snow**
Torah: Nitzavim

Friday, September 10
Led by **Barry Goldfarb**
Saturday, September 11
Led by **Cantor Allen**
Torah: Vayeilech

Friday, September 17
Led by **Janet Aaronson & Cookie Kabakoff**
Saturday, September 18
Led by **Judy Pelusi**
Torah: Ha'Azinu

Friday, September 24
Led by **Bob Burns**
Saturday, September 25
Led by **Cantor Allen**
Sukkot

My Two Shekels

In last year's September HaShomer, I began by saying, "the High Holidays are around the corner, and we are in for a wild ride." Figuring out how to navigate zooming and creating a meaningful prayer service when we were unable to sing together, or see each other in person, created many challenges, but I believed we weathered them all successfully.

The rollout of vaccines held great hopes that we would return to our regular, in-person, un-socially distanced no-hugs-barred services during the summer, and we did, at least on Saturdays. But unfortunately, with the High Holidays around the corner, we are in for ANOTHER wild ride!

Yes, we will be together again, but with the Delta variant looming large, and the waning of vaccine efficacy, we are back to vaccine and masking protocols, and trying once again to figure out how to create an abbreviated, yet still meaningful, prayer experience. It's disheartening that we have had to take these steps backward, but at least those steps have led us into the building, even if we won't be able to see most of each other's faces. And for those who need to live-stream, although you won't be physically with us, you will be able to see our sanctuary once again. And know that even though I can't see you, I will be speaking to the whole congregation, not just those who are in the seats. We continue to be one community.

This year I've made some changes to keep the service shorter, while still incorporating all the essential High Holiday prayers. For Rosh HaShanah, we will be using a brand-new CBS Mahzor booklet, compiled from the Rabbi Rachel Barenblat Power Point service we did last year on the 2nd day, as well as other rich sources and texts. I cannot thank puck glass enough for the countless hours of time they put into formatting the service, meticulously typing transliterations, adding Hebrew when necessary, making sure it was all readable, and incorporating prayers that were not originally in the Barenblat service. This amazing effort will serve us well for the years to come.

You will also notice that we've eliminated some of the honors that we would normally assign (ie: English readings, ark openings), and we will not be having a Torah processional in order to streamline the service and avoid congestion on the Bimah.

For Yom Kippur, we will be using our traditional Mahzor Chadash, but I have rearranged the order of the service a bit, and have combined elements of the Shacharit (morning) and Musaf (additional) service, so there will be less repetition. We will also be holding Mincha and Neilah on zoom, so no one will have to travel back to the synagogue and mask up when we will all be tired and hungry at the end of the day.

For those of you who will be at home for services, if you haven't already done so, please stop by the office to pick up your Rosh Hashanah Mahzor booklet, as well as a copy of Mahzor Chadash, so you can pray along with us. I hope and pray that next year, we will be back together without any restrictions or protocols, and covid will no longer be a serious threat, but rather an inconvenient, yet manageable illness.

Wishing you all a safe, healthy New Year.
L'Shanah Tovah,

- Cantor Sheri Allen



SHANA TOVA



Torah Study



Monday Mornings
10:30 AM
on Zoom

RSVP to
stusnow@aol.com



CONGREGATION
BETH SHALOM

A MEMBER OF THE UNION FOR REFORM JUDAISM • ARLINGTON, TEXAS

From The President

Just when we thought it was safe to resume our regular routines, the Delta variant reared its ugly head! I am reminded of the old saying that “man strives, and God laughs!” But I am also reminded of what my father (OBM) used to tell me that, “this too shall pass.” One only has to read our biblical cannon about the many plagues our people have endured throughout our history to gain a perspective on the one we are facing today. While we pray for the afflicted and mourn the loss of life, we also celebrate that God has given us the tools and the intellect we need to persevere. And persevere we will!



I wish to commend the COVID 19 ERC and our board for taking the lead among the Tarrant County synagogues by developing procedures and protocols to keep our community healthy and safe. As such I wish to recognize them here:

COVID 19 ERC Members: Chair, Brent Sasley, Cantor Sheri Allen, Yael Sasley, Jordan Zadwick and Michael Kapin

CBS EXEC Board Members: Stuart Snow, Michael Kapin, Randy San Antonio, Ben Weiger, Dorit Mikulencek

CBS Board Members: Stephanie Posner, Lani Aldaba, Jordan Zadwick, Mark Lewis, Judy Pelusi, Phil Kabakoff, Lisa Rein, Ellen Pincus, Cathy Frisinger, Barrett Garrison

Because of their efforts, dedication, and love for our community, we will be able to observe High Holy Days both in our sanctuary and online. One benefit of this pandemic has been the online experience, both as the only option when we were sheltering in place which kept our community connected, and now; giving those unable to attend in person the ability to enjoy the synagogue experience. I have been amazed by the number of people who tell me that they watched a Shabbat morning service online who don't usually attend Shabbat morning services, commenting on how much they enjoyed the service! This has become a powerful tool to extend and expand our reach in ways that are as yet unseen.

So, I will close with another cliché, “when life gives you lemons, make lemonade!” No matter how we worship, the point to remember is that we are continuing to do so. May God inscribe us each in The Book of Life for another year filled with health, happiness, and peace of mind, and may we only know simchas!

Shana Tova Tikateivu!

- Stuart Snow
President, Congregation Beth Shalom

The Ritual Life

The high holy days are upon us once again... this year very early! Around this time, even though it is something I keep on my mind often, I think of Tikkun Olam. As my family and I made our way into a Reform Jewish congregation, after I had spent many years studying amongst Orthodox, Modern Orthodox, and Conservative scholars, I was surprised to see that phrase, "Tikkun Olam," holds a different meaning than it does in other denominations.



The basis of Tikkun Olam is "repairing of the world" and it's one of our primary if not, THE primary goals as a Reform Jew. I look at it in simple terms, leave the world better than you found it. When something is broken, fix it. When someone is in need, help them. The basis for how we go about this, however, is rooted in Torah.

In Reform Judaism, Tikkun Olam equals social action. Social action has always been a crucial part of Reform Judaism, dating at its earliest I found in the Pittsburgh Platform of 1885, where it was written:

"We deem it our duty to participate in the great task of modern times, to solve, on the basis of justice and righteousness, the problems presented by the contrasts and evils of the present organization of society."

That said, Tikkun Olam equating to social justice did not exist in Jewish society before this time. It is a Reform Jewish creation, even if a noble one.

In Orthodoxy and for most of the known history of Judaism, Tikkun Olam holds an entirely different meaning. The term itself never appears in the Torah and is only a few centuries old. We find it in our beloved Aleinu prayer:

Let the time not be distant, O God, when all shall turn to You in love, when all the brokenness in our world is repaired by the work of our hands and our hearts, inspired by Your words of Torah. (Siddur Ashkenaz)

And we also find it throughout Jewish Mysticism and the teachings of Rebbe Luria and later teachings of the Baal Shem Tov and Chassidic Judaism where a connection to nature and experience of Hashem in natural the world around us was paramount to spirituality. Rabbi Mordecai Kaplan felt *tikkun olam* would replace Orthodox reluctance to hasten the coming of the Messiah by inculcating a sense of Jewish responsibility for the world.

Tikkun Olam in Judaism before these examples meant something entirely different! In fact, at one point, it referred to Talmudic maneuvers to adjust technical legalities to concur...

...continued on page 3

Hashomer

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Tarrant County Jews Mobilize for Community Mitzvah Day

On the first Sunday in October congregants from Congregation Beth Shalom and the other five Tarrant County synagogues and Chabads, along with the Jewish Federation, will work together to make a difference in our community.

Adult volunteers, Sunday school students from all seven organizations, teachers, and parent volunteers will gather at Congregation Ahavath Sholom on Sunday morning, October 3rd at 9:30 to work side-by-side on various meaningful projects. Because of COVID, the event will be held outdoors and masks will be required for participants.

There will be a wide range of hands-on projects like Habitat for Humanity, Knitting items for JPS hospital babies, Bloodmobile, Gardening and lots of children's activities, including making cards for seniors and first responders/healthcare workers, decorating and stuffing Jewish holiday bags for Jewish seniors and Birthday bags for kids at The Women's Haven, creating patch blankets for homeless residents, bags for at risk elementary kids and decorating Tzedakah boxes.

Prior to Community Mitzvah Day each synagogue and Chabad will be collecting items for the event. We will be collecting Birthday in a Bag supplies. This includes, but is not limited to, candles, small toys, hair care items, boxed cake mixes, canned frosting, and school supplies. Other collection points include Congregation Beth Israel: Packaged rice and canned beans, Congregation Ahavath Sholom: Water bottles, Beth-El Congregation: Elementary School supplies, Chabad of Fort Worth: Gently used children's books and Chabad of Southlake: Kids snacks. Items can also be dropped off during Mitzvah Day.

Doing a good deed or an act of kindness is the basis for Community Mitzvah Day and an integral part of Jewish life. Tikkun Olam, repairing the world, is everyone's responsibility. Let's work together to make this happen!

To join others in volunteering a little of your time and for updated info visit the [Jewish Federation of Fort Worth and Tarrant County website](#).

Community Mitzvah Day funding provided by the Jewish Federation of Fort Worth and Tarrant County, Dan Danciger/Fort Worth Hebrew Day School Supporting Foundation, and B'nai B'rith Senior Housing.

The Ritual Life

continued from page 2

with broader Jewish values; contemplation, study, and observance of commandments.

In this, I state that perhaps the Orthodox reference to Tikkun Olam is *short-sighted*, and, hear me out, the Reform reference to Tikkun Olam is *far-sighted*.

While orthodoxy's definition of Tikkun Olam focuses on Jewish literacy, Jewish prayer, and Jewish education as their basis for it, the Reform movement, in my experience, focuses on external factors and the outside world, leaving the Jewish aspects as secondary importance. That being the case, it's no wonder we see Jewish denominations outside of orthodoxy shrinking at alarming rates, all the while, orthodoxy is thriving and growing throughout the United States. Young couples yearning for meaning in their life are flocking to raise their families in orthodox environments, even with the rigidity it requires.

But I argue that you cannot have one without the other. That is the problem with both being short-sighted (Orthodox) and long-sighted (Reform) in Tikkun Olam. To fix this issue, we need to balance our actions and understand that the *inside* Jewish part is as important as the *outside* Jewish part. To focus socially on social action without anchoring ourselves in Judaism will be the demise of our people. So too would be the demise of the purpose of our people without looking outside of our community to provide aid and support.

When the Cohen HaGadol would enter the holy of holies on Yom Kippur, it was not just for our benefit. It was for the benefit of all the nations of the world.

But there is one more thing of importance...

You don't go out in the world to fix it when your own home is broken. This is why I strongly believe that our first and primary goal is to work to fix the problems within our own community and grow it spiritually, something I have witnessed lacking in most reform and conservative settings I have attended. Our own Jewish souls need *mayim* (water) first before we can be providers of *mayim* to the rest of the world.

In 1965, Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel marched alongside other civil rights leaders in Selma, Alabama. He was quoted as saying, "I left like my feet were praying." I would argue that march represented something consistent within him; an entire life filled with mitzvot. At the same time, I can assure you, Rabbi Heschel, who was an observant Jew, probably still had the impressions of the straps of Tefillin he had donned that morning in prayers before the march showing upon his left arm too.

May we all have a sweet new year in the coming months!

*- Jordan Zadwick
Ritual Committee Chair*

Birthdays

September 1

Stephanie Posner
Ryan Silverberg

September 4

Ryan Blair
Laura Slayton

September 6

Darla Shaw

September 10

Martin Wichter

September 12

George Fleischmann

September 14

Davina Sassoon

September 19

Talia Feinberg

September 21

Phil Pelletier

September 22

Sharon Mandel
Eugene Posnock
Nathaniel Zrodowski

September 23

Daniel Kapin

September 27

Lani Aldaba

September 28

Dylan Jeffreys

Molly Karten

September 30

Jerry Aaronson



Sisterhood

Congregation Beth Shalom Sisterhood held their first in-person event since Covid began, a well-attended Israeli dance class led by Ben Weiger. We had hoped to hold our first in-person board meeting in August, but sadly changed to a zoom meeting at the last minute because of the Delta-variant surge.

Sisterhood is providing greeters and ushers for in-person services. Special thanks to Stephanie Posner, Michelle Rothschild, and Danielle Snailer.

Since Onegs have been cancelled for the moment, Sisterhood will be providing take-away goody bags for Selichot and Erev Rosh Hashanah. Thanks to Dorit and others who helped with this project.

As always, a big thank you to Lori Cole, Karen Burns and Rochelle Bekerman for the New Year card.

Finally, we hope you will join Sisterhood this year. Membership is just \$40 and the group does much to support Beth Shalom. Reach out to Yael Sasley, yaelrivka@hotmail.com, for details.

A good year to all.

*- Cathy Frisinger
Sisterhood President*

The Congregation records with sorrow the recent passing of

*Mark Stuart Mandel
Cousin of Sharon Mandel*

May his memory be a blessing

Anniversaries



September 3

Yael & Brent Sasley

September 5

Felice & David Silverberg

September 14

Sarita & Stephen Cabrero

September 16

Debbie & Marty Goldsmith

Judi & Philippe Lecoq

September 20

Mary & Larry Goodman

September 22

Loesje & Elliott Blumberg

CBS HIGH HOLY DAY WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

Mon. Sept. 6th

7:30 pm

Tues. Sept. 7th

9:30 am

Wed. Sept. 8th

9:30 am

Sun. Sept. 12th

10:30 am

Wed. Sept. 15th

7:00 pm

Thurs. Sept. 16th

9:30 am

5:30 pm

7:00 pm

Tues. Sept. 21st

9:30 am

Tues. Sept. 28th

7:00 pm

Wed. Sept. 29th

9:30 am

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Evening Service

Rosh Hashanah - 1st Day

Morning Service

Tashlich Service to follow at Randol Mill Park

Rosh Hashanah - 2nd Day

Morning Service

Kever Avot at Gan Shalom/Moore Cemetery

Erev Yom Kippur

Kol Nidre Service

Yom Kippur

Morning Service

Mincha **Zoom Service***
w/ Yizkor

Neilah and Maariv
Zoom Service*

Sukkot Morning Service

Erev Shemini Atzeret/
Simchat Torah

Shemini Atzeret/Simchat
Torah

Morning service w/
Yizkor

*** Please note: these services will not be on the CBS Campus, they are Zoom services only**

Caring Committee

Bikkur Cholim – The Mitzvah of Visiting the Sick

One of the many things that makes Beth Shalom so special is the warmth that envelopes our congregation. From the beginning, people would remark to me what a wonderful, caring, and welcoming congregation we are, and I would feel very proud of that statement. To continue that tradition and to follow Torah with the commandment to perform Gemilut Chasadim, (Acts of Loving Kindness), our Caring Committee is committed “to reach out to our members in time of need.”

Our committee members are ready to make phone calls, send cards, visit the sick, provide rides to Beth Shalom and to perform other services as appropriate.

Please note that during this difficult COVID-19 time, we will only make physical contact when appropriate and with safety measures in mind.

If you, or someone you know is experiencing challenges that we can help with, please feel free to contact me (Janet@TheAaronsons.com) or call Thressa in the office and she can pass on the information to the committee. Please do so only with that person’s approval always keeping in mind that confidentiality can sometimes be an issue.

Thank you,

- Janet Aaronson
Caring Committee Chair

Donations

Received thru August 20th

General Fund

In Honor Of puck glass’ D’var Torah
From Sherwin Rubin
In Memory Of Harvey Gordon, Paul Lazovick and Barbara Figoni
From Sherwin Rubin
In Memory Of Mike Kornitzky
From Elaine Kornitzky
In Memory Of Hannah Tanz
From Jan and Howard Weiss
In Memory Of Harvey Gordon
From Mark Lewis
In Honor Of the birth of Nora Michelle Levy
In Memory Of Barbara Figoni, Paul Lazovick, Mark Stuart Mandel and Harvey Gordon
From Cookie and Phil Kabakoff

Donation given by The Eternal Power thru Miss P. to glorify Him

Education Fund

In Memory Of Howard Goldsmith
From Marty and Debbie Goldsmith

Sanctuary Fund

Donation given by The Eternal Power thru Miss P. to glorify Him

Maintenance Fund

Donation given by The Eternal Power thru Miss P. to glorify Him

Torah Fund

Donation given by The Eternal Power thru Miss P. to glorify Him

Security Fund

In Memory Of Ethel Horowitz Epstein
From Norm and Toni Epstein

Donation given by The Eternal Power thru Miss P. to glorify Him

Yahrzeits



September 1

Rita Rosenstein*

September 2

Betty Greene
Dr. Harvey Pock*

September 3

Gussie Ponter*

September 4

Warner C. Brunell
Phil Handel*
Mary Shaw*
Isadore Weiss
Robert Zollars

September 5

Sophia Shwiff Robinson*

September 6

Laszlo Fleischmann*
Rhea Green
Michelle Sobel

September 9

Jacqueline Mayeri
Bill Teitelbaum

September 10

Irving Kaplan*
Rusty Sokol*

September 11

Ridia S. Cass
Jules Flack*
William Schwartz
Pearl Singer*

September 12

Iris Cohen Angel
Stewart Weinstock

September 13

Mollie Dickman*
Fannie Dorfman*
Martin Kirshbaum*
Joseph Moskovitz

September 14

Zion Lavi
Evelyn Preisler*
Larry Thomas

September 15

Pearl M. Anderson*

September 16

David Feld*

Samuel Jonas Katz*
Irving Steinberg*

September 17

Dorothy Eisenfeld*
Marvin Kramer
Herbert Paul*

September 18

Madelyn Cotter
Helen Marie French*
Jack Jeffreys

September 20

Jack Cohen*

September 21

Louis Laves
Leo Lenhoff
Edna Weiser Weinstock

September 22

Ida Barken

September 24

Celia Cohen Mandel*
Deidre Curry Jernigan
Maurice Kramer

September 25

Sarah Rasaby*
Nissan Friedman
Albert Schneider*
Nancy Spindler

September 26

Pearl Eisenstein*

September 27

Edward Kulick
Marcie Schulman

September 28

William "Billy" Cohen

September 29

Ethel Craden
Aaron Goldsmith*

September 30

Cecil Gardner*
Herman Kabakoff*
Rae Siegel
Irwin Weiner

Adult Education

Save the Dates!

Programs for Adult Education are being planned for Sunday mornings October 10 and December 12. Mark your calendars!