

HaShomer

January 2023

Congregation Beth Shalom

Tevet/Shavat 5784

Schedule of Services

Friday, January 5
Led by **Dina Lindell**
Saturday, January 6
Led by **Lisa Rein**
Torah: Shemot

Friday, January 12
Led by **Ruth Friedman & Martine Thomas**
Saturday, January 13
Led by **Stuart Snow**
Torah: Va'era

Friday, January 19
★ Friday Night Live ★
Led by **Cookie Kabakoff & Janet Aaronson**
Saturday, January 20
Led by **Stuart Snow**
Torah: Bo

Friday, January 26
Koleinu Musical Shabbat - Live
Led by **Cantor Elisa**
Saturday, January 27
Led by **Cantor Elisa**
Torah: Beshalach

KOLEINU - January 26, 2024 @ CBS

These are exciting musical times at Congregation Beth Shalom! We kicked off the 5784 Holy Day season with SOUNDS OF SELICHOT, a musical service to prepare us for the sacred work of the heart. Most recently we celebrated Dr. Carole Rogers' 25 years of services to Jewish Family Service with a TWIN CANTORS CONCERT. Now I am excited to share that, thanks to the generosity of the Jewish Federation of Fort Worth and Tarrant County, we will be launching our first musical Shabbat service on Shabbat Shirah (Shabbat of Song) on Friday, January 26th at 7:30pm at Congregation Beth Shalom. This service is called KOLEINU, meaning "our voice," because it is about our collective voice as a community. I will be collaborating with instrumentalists to create and guide us through a spiritually uplifting prayer experience. My hope is that you will sing your hearts out, feel all the feels, sway, dance, close your eyes, connect to God. This service is about your voice and creating a meaningful and outside-the-box prayer experience.



KOLEINU is a fantastic opportunity for our community to grow. Although this is a Congregation Beth Shalom event, I highly encourage you to invite your family and friends who are not members, as, in my experience, music is a powerful entry point for those who are unaffiliated. My only ask is that, for security purposes, non-members register with Laura Galloway in our front office so we know who will be in attendance. Please see the below flyer! I can't wait to be with you all for what promises to be a beautiful musical service!

- Cantor Elisa Abrams Cohn
Congregation Beth Shalom




Wish List

- Sanctuary and Building Beautification Funds
- Security Funds

Torah Study

Monday Mornings
10:30 AM
On Zoom

RSVP to
stusnow@aol.com


Mark your calendars -
Jan. 26th

More information about
Koleinu on page 3



CONGREGATION
BETH SHALOM

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

From The President

As presented on Sunday, December 17th, 2023

Good evening,

Two weeks ago, I attended a presentation by Jonathan Greenblatt, CEO of the Anti-Defamation League. For those of you who are not familiar with the ADL, it was founded over 100 years ago in the United States of America. Its stated mission is, "to stop the defamation of the Jewish people and to secure justice and fair treatment of all." During the presentation, a group of young people stood up, shouting anti-ADL epithets and holding up anti-ADL signs. As I watched the scene unfold, one protester looked right at me, thrusting her sign in my direction. There was raging anger and hatred in her eyes. No one in my life had ever looked at me that way before. Soon afterwards a tear started rolling down my face. I wish I hadn't allowed myself to make eye contact with her. What helped me feel better was knowing the ADL was working hard to combat hate. What mattered more was knowing I would go to services and be comforted by my fellow Jews—by you. I knew you would be there and I knew you would understand.



And so in taking the role of President I have essentially one purpose: and that is to serve you. Yes, I want to honor the work of those who've come before me. Yes, I want to keep these doors open for many generations to come. But the past has passed, so I'm here to work for each and every one of you today, in the present. It's already starting to feel like a labor of love.

I feel enthusiastic because of both the challenges and opportunities we have as a congregation. Let's start with a few of the opportunities. We have a lot of new activities: We have the new Jewish Advisory Council that is being led by Brent Sasley and Pam Sudbury. We have a new Trustee, Sarah Hatler, who's Chair of our Social Action committee. We have David Narrett as our new Adult Education Chair. We have new young congregants. All of these active young individuals—Pam, Brent, and David included—provide us with hope for the future. Now for a few of the challenges.

While we have young, new members, our overall membership numbers have declined to fewer than 80 member families. Our building is costing us more to maintain. Our volunteers are working more hours and more years than they ever imagined. These are challenges that I'm excited to take on. I've already begun to address them. To that end, I'd like you all to ask yourself one question, "what are the things that I am good at." Think about it. Maybe even write them down later tonight. And then consider how your own unique skills and abilities could help your Beth Shalom family. Many of you have said to me, "I want to do more for Beth Shalom." Thank you! This attitude of wanting to contribute bodes well for our future.

I am beyond excited to become your next President. I'm excited because I expect that over the next two years we will enjoy doing many things together. We'll enjoy praying together. We'll celebrate our simchas and mourn our losses together. We'll learn and grow. We'll eat a lot of good food. We'll build a place for solace and for fun. In doing these things—together—we'll strengthen the bonds we have with each other, with our larger Jewish community, with our heritage, and with our G-d. It's exciting to think about what the next couple of years will have in store for us, especially because we'll be doing it together.

- Lisa Rein
President, Congregation Beth Shalom

Immediate Past President

As presented on Sunday, December 17th, 2023

Over the last four years, two as President and two as Vice President, Mike has worked tirelessly on our behalf. And he'll continue on the board this coming year as Past President to help ensure a smooth transition. Knowing Mike, I think he'll be around a lot longer than just another year—at least I am hoping that's the case.

Among his many accomplishments as President and Vice President, Mike helped to secure the grant to acquire our fence and security equipment. This was no small feat. We had to apply for the grant two years in a row, each time undergoing an extensive application process, including submitting many lengthy forms. Mike's resolve to acquire the grant funds, his attention to detail, and his effectiveness in consulting with others in the community enabled us to be successful. Our property is now much more secure and is protected not only from those who may wish to do us as Jews harm, but also from vandalism and ordinary crime. Importantly, Laura, our office manager, is safer when she's here, as are all of us and our guests during services and events. Mike, you considered our safety to be of paramount importance and you led the Board accordingly. For that we are all very grateful.



Along with making our campus a safer place, you dealt with a challenging time last year when we changed both our spiritual leader and our office manager. Your experience dealing with people helped ease this significant transition. You knew just what to say to keep everyone informed. You knew how to listen. You knew how to respond well to difficult questions. You knew how to negotiate fairly and in good faith. You knew when to give things more time and when to ask for a decision. You knew that full transparency would inspire trust and acceptance of the board's recommendations. As a result of your efforts, we have Cantor Elisa and Laura Galloway who are both known and loved by everyone.

Although installing our new fence—and our amazing Cantor and office manager—were a couple of really big things you did well, you did the little things well, too. As you said to me, "every day there's something new to attend to". You were there for all of it—big and small. You devoted your whole self to the job of President. And you attended services throughout your term in office as much or more than any President we've ever had (okay fine, not as much as Stuart). Before you took office, you said to me many times how much you loved Beth Shalom and how eager you were after you retired to make Beth Shalom the best place it could be. I believe you did that, Mike, and I feel so happy for you, and for Beth Shalom, because you had that opportunity.

Mike, as your friend, and on behalf of the Board of Trustees and the entire Beth Shalom community, I present you with the President's award. You earned this award and I hope you will cherish it and display it proudly. (Standing ovation)

- Lisa Rein

Hashomer

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Members & Prospective Members

 **Koleinu** 

Friday, January 26th @ 7:30 pm
@ CBS

Family friendly musical Shabbat
with instruments, singing, and
Ruach (spirit)!

Dessert to follow



Non-members must register in advance
info@bethshalom.org
817-860-5448

Thanks to Jewish Federation of Fort Worth &
Tarrant County for making this event possible!

Anniversaries



January 21
Mark & Ivy Lewis
January 25
Justin & Sheridan Andrus

David and Marian Feld Award

As presented on Sunday, December 17, 2023

The David and Marian Feld Lifetime Achievement Award is our congregation's highest award. To summarize the award's written criteria, it is to be given to someone who congregants see as "always being there" for Beth Shalom and who is a regular part of the Beth Shalom community. That individual must have given a substantial amount of time, energy, and resources over many years and in a variety of ways. They must attend services regularly. They must be a member in good standing. They must represent Beth Shalom well in all of their words and actions.



I see congregants here who've won the Congregant of the Year Award, which is similar in many ways to the Lifetime Achievement Award. What distinguishes the Lifetime Achievement Award is the length of time and the variety of ways the individual has made Beth Shalom better. In addition, because we are a synagogue, regular attendance at services is a key requirement to earn the Lifetime Achievement award.

The procedure for earning this award is that the individual must be nominated in writing and then approved by a vote of the Board of Trustees. A couple of months ago, I nominated Ellen Pincus to become the third Beth Shalom recipient of the David and Marian Feld Lifetime Achievement Award, and on October 22nd, 2023, the Board voted to grant her that award.

Ellen, as I wrote on my nomination form, you embody the best of Beth Shalom. You are warm, hamish, caring, reliable, hard-working, and someone who can be counted-on to help with whatever is needed. And you've always been this way! The first time I knew anything about you was when you were President of Beth Shalom in the mid-1990's. You were giving your High Holy day appeal at the DFW Medical Center auditorium. Because of your warmth and your optimism I wanted to become a part of this congregation. It felt to me that you were leading a beautiful congregation where beautiful things would happen. And that's what you've done as a member of Beth Shalom for almost 40 years.

I asked Ellen to describe her involvement with the synagogue over the years. Here are some highlights:

- President of Congregation Beth Shalom
- Director of the Religious School
- Teacher of Sunday school classes for 10 years
- Board member
- Committee member of too many committees to recall
- Chair and initiator of the World Wide Daffodil Project at Beth

Shalom

- Chair of Sylvia Gray for the last 4 years
- Attendee of almost every Saturday morning service
- Writer and presenter of dvarim torah—over 70 in the last 13 years
- Gabbais 1 and 2 (but not at the same time)
- Baker of over 100 double batches of brownies—mmm, how we love those brownies
- Student of Monday morning torah study led by Stuart Snow

Once again, these are a few highlights of her activities. Ellen, many of us are valued members of Congregation Beth Shalom because we donate our time and money to a greater or lesser extent. At the same time, very few of us could be considered to be the heart and soul of our congregation. You, Ellen, are one of those very special few. From the bottom of my heart, and on behalf of everyone here, I thank you for being you and bestowing your kindness and love on Beth Shalom. I present you with the David and Marian Feld Lifetime Achievement Award.

- Lisa Rein

Donations

Received thru December 20th

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

In Honor of Mike Kapin's Presidency

From Jane Koven

General Fund

Donation from

Cathy & Jim Frisinger

Pam & Johnny Sudbury

Mark & Ivy Lewis

Sarah & Jay Hatler

Cookie & Phil Kabakoff

Mike & Suzi Kapin

Barrett & Yesenya Garrison

Lani & Roy Aldaba

Ellen Pincus

Stephen & Sarita Cabrero

Lisa & Mike Rein

Jane Koven

In Memory of Sherwin Rubin

From Pam & Johnny Sudbury

Sanctuary Fund

In Honor of Cathy Frisinger winning Congregant of the Year

From Jane Koven

Education Fund

In Honor of Ellen Pincus winning the Feld Award

From Jane Koven

Security Fund

Donation from Janet & Jerry Aaronson

In Honor of Ellen Pincus winning the Feld Award

From Janet & Jerry Aaronson

In Memory of Eileen Koven

From Jane Koven

Caring/Tzedakah Fund

In Memory of Fay Kleir

From Janet & Jerry Aaronson

In Memory of Sherwin Rubin

From Mark & Ivy Lewis

In Memory of Sherwin Rubin

From Janet & Jerry Aaronson

Donation from Willow Bakowski

Oneg/Kiddush Fund

In Honor of Cathy Frisinger winning Congregant of the Year

From Janet & Jerry Aaronson

In Honor of Barry & Lynn Goldfarb

From Lisa & Mike Rein

Please consider Beth Shalom in your estate plans

Security Briefings

Each month I will be conducting a Security Briefing to keep every CBS Member informed or reminded of what it takes to keep our congregation safe.

Most of the procedures have been addressed in the CBS Emergency Action Procedure (EAP) guide. It is available for you and your family to review for a more detailed explanation of procedures on our Members Only web page. These guidelines are for everyone's safety, take them seriously!

The EAP page numbers concerning action will be noted

- Phil Kabakoff

Security Committee Chairman

If there is a Tornado Warning

If there is a function at our facility, religious school, service, social function or meeting and you are notified that there is a tornado in the area, stop whatever is going on and move everyone into the restrooms on the first floor. Alternate locations are in the sanctuary or under the stairwells. Stay in the shelter until it can be confirmed the tornado warning has been lifted.

Make sure it is safe to leave the shelter, be careful to check your location to see if there is any damage that might be a safety hazard and then move everyone to safety. Check to see if anyone is hurt and attend to them when it is safe to do so.

Watch for damages and live wires when leaving the building. Call 911 to report damage or injuries.

(See EAP pages 21 – 25 -26)

The Security Committee has created an **Emergency Action Procedure Guide** covering what to do when something unexpected is encountered.

All members and their families are encouraged to read this guide to become familiar with what actions need to be taken in an emergency. It can be found on the Members Only web page.



Tu B'Shevat Seder

Sunday, January 21, 2024
at 11 am

Join Cantor Elisa and your friends
for a Tu B'Shevat Seder featuring
symbolic fruits and wine in honor
of the New Year of the Trees.

Please RSVP by January 15th
info@bethshalom.org
817-860-5448



When there is a need.....

Congregation Beth Shalom has a very active Caring Committee ready to respond to the needs of our congregation.

Please feel free to contact me directly at caring@bethshalom.org, or any of the following committee members listed below. As always, your privacy will be guarded if you choose.

Thank you for your continued support.

Janet Aaronson – caring@bethshalom.org
Caring Committee Chair

Congregant of the Year

This year's prestigious Congregant of the Year Award was presented to Cathy Frisinger who has worked hard for Beth Shalom for a long time, especially this year. In 2023, Cathy helped to organize many wonderful events, including our luncheon for Officer Patrick, installation to welcome Cantor Elisa, Rosh Hashana and Selichot Onegs, Yom Kippur Break Fast, Brunch in the Sukkah, and annual Chanukah party.



Cathy has volunteered to be Beth Shalom Sisterhood president twice and is currently in her fourth year of this position which entails a great deal of responsibility and time, including organizing Sisterhood's huge Chanukah gift wrapping fundraiser.

She has handled all of this in her quiet, unassuming way, with competence and grace. Our congregation congratulates Cathy Frisinger for this well-deserved honor.

Religious School

What a wonderful year we have been having. Our class is a testament to the saying that "size doesn't matter!" We may be small in number but we are HUGE in a love and joy for learning! We had a wonderful time at our Hannukah workshop. A huge shout out to Sisterhood for providing us with latkes, applesauce, and sour cream. The kids created some of the most beautiful menorahs in the art style of pointillism using dots on canvas in multi colors to brighten their homes. A fun time was had by all!

We are looking forward to Cantor Elis's visit in January where we will study about the holiday of TuB'Shvat and have a seder with the congregation.

Lastly, we are getting ready for Mitzvah Day on January 28th when we will travel to Beth El congregation along with all the area congregations to learn and practice the meaning of performing mitzvahs. I hope you will be able to join us as it will be an amazing morning.

Until next time,

- Stephanie Posner
Religious School Director

Birthdays



January 4
Linda Elsenbaumer
January 5
Joseph Atkins
January 7
Michael Fleischer
January 8
Jared Snow
January 10
Andrew Robertson
January 11
Ruth Friedman
Jeffrey Rothschild
Michael Dickman

January 17
Benjamin Sudbury
January 18
Benjamin Weiger
January 21
Philippe Lecoq
Stuart Snow
January 23
Shelby Snow
January 24
Stephen Cabrero
January 31
Rebekah Posner
David Rein

Yahrzeits



January 1

Robert Kaplan
Katherine Zucker

January 2

Renee Kas
Hetty Rubins*

January 6

Joseph G. Geisler*

January 7

Philip Herman*
Elsie Satsky Solomon*
Meyer Widrevitz
Kim Kravetz Bryan
Samuel William Flack*

January 8

Evelyn Grossman
Stuart Bloom
Stanley Feinberg

January 9

Eileen Koven*
Harold "Hesh" Weiner

January 10

Coston Gardner*
Dr. Samuel M. Posnock*
Florence Baronoffsky*

January 11

Florence Udes*
Helene Markson*
Ada Jolkovsky
Hayim Rasaby*
Sarah Rasaby*
Rachel Jacob*

January 12

Lorean Gardner*
Yachmiel Sheftel Caplan*

January 13

Alice Coplin*
Trudie Sobel

January 14

David Poster*

January 16

Beatrice Vogel Goodman

Leo Berman*

Jeanette Bushner*
Dorothy G. Waetzman*

January 19

Lillian Blumberg

January 20

Arthur Paderewski
Naomi Pincus Fisher
Morris Lefer*

January 22

Louis Dickman*
Neal Williky*

January 23

Lillian Rubin*
Skippy Reynolds*
Ben Rubin*

January 24

Alfredo Cabrero*
Gertie Strausberg*

January 25

Ivan Goldfarb*

Renee Romano*

Rose "Billie" Schneidkraut*
Jack Kirshbaum*

January 26

Jean Mandelkorn
Lenora Freedman
Beatrice Kohn*

January 27

Eve Glickman
Morris Bekerman
Jack Lefer*

January 28

Rosalie Russell*

January 29

Sylvia Soltz
Harold Mandel*

January 30

Marilyn Bloch*

January 31

Bernard Ciocci*

* - Memorial plaque in Sanctuary



On Christmas evening, a Sylvia Gray Chaverim Chinese dinner featured a fun buffet, good friends and Jewish fortune cookies.



Stephanie Posner and Phil Kabakoff have spent at least four years as active and valued Trustees of Congregation Beth Shalom. Thank you for your service!