



Beth Shalom Synagogue

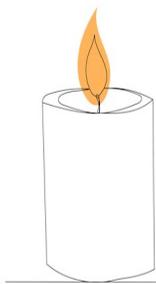
A Welcoming Shul for All!

Bulletin

January 2023 / Tevet-Shevat, 5783

BETH SHALOM SYNAGOGUE BULLETIN - www.edmontonbethshalom.org

New Yahrzeit Board



Recently, the board of directors of Beth Shalom ordered a new bronze yahrzeit board to be installed in the sanctuary. The new bronze board will arrive in the next few months and has room for 84 memorial plaques. It will have LED lights adjacent to each plaque space rather than a lightbulb socket.

Following the installation of the new board, Beth Shalom will take a different approach to mounting new memorial plaques than it has, in the past. All the existing memorial plaques will be sorted and mounted in alphabetical order on the boards in the sanctuary. Since cast bronze can be fragile, once plaques are mounted it is best if they are not moved, again. Going forward, new plaques will be mounted in the order in which they are purchased. Families will be able to pay a deposit to reserve one adjacent space below a new plaque, allowing spouses names to be listed next to each other. Currently, we ask for a donation of \$540 for each new memorial plaque, and the deposit towards a future plaque for a spouse is \$180.

The cost of casting and installing the new board is approximately \$22,500. Please consider a donation towards the new Yahrzeit Board.

A plaque acknowledging donations that would help Beth Shalom to offset the cost will be installed in the sanctuary.



**Please Join us for the exciting
Tu B'Shvat Program at
Beth Shalom on
Sunday, February 5th**

4:00 pm – Kids Program.

Kids of all ages are invited to learn how plant seeds and plants.

4:00 pm – Adult Program.

Whisky testing & presentation by Graham Usher.

5:00 pm – Dinner.

Program is free of charge.

**Please RSVP info@e-bethshalom.org
or 780.4886333**

The Program is sponsored by

**Beth Shalom Nefesh Program
Jewish National Fund
Jewish Federation of Edmonton
PJ Library**



Candle Lighting Time on Fridays:



January 6	4:14 pm
January 13	4:24 pm
January 20	4:37 pm
January 27	4:50 pm

Shabbat Services: Shacharit 9:30 am



If you prefer, instead of in-person services, join us from home via our livestream, the link is

edmontonbethshalom.org/livestream.html



January 7	Vayechi
January 14	Shemot
January 21	Va'eira
January 28	Bo

Weekday Morning

Minyan:

Sunday at 9:00 am

<https://bit.ly/2yE4EyR>

Monday to Friday at 8:00 am

<https://bit.ly/352FIIT>



Learners' Minyan,

Sunday mornings at 9 am

On Sundays, we begin with a few minutes learning from the laws of prayer and in-depth study of one prayer each week. We also go at a slower pace, to allow those who are working on their Hebrew to feel more comfortable in prayer.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85075108038?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85075108038?pwd=S3pFUWxpaS9pTW5EWHh5THNSVDZyOT09)

[pwd=S3pFUWxpaS9pTW5EWHh5THNSVDZyOT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85075108038?pwd=S3pFUWxpaS9pTW5EWHh5THNSVDZyOT09)

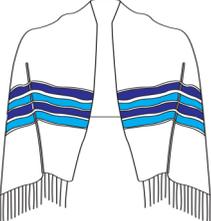


INTRODUCTION to JUDAISM Class

Wednesdays at 7:30pm

A new Introduction to Judaism class open to all Beth Shalom members and potential converts who want to learn more about Judaism. Classes are on Zoom, so you can join from the comfort of home.

The Zoom link is :
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88131553603?>



Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class

This year's Bnai Mitzvah class will be in two parts, starting Sunday, December 4— Bnai Mitzvah kids and parents will join us for Sunday morning minyan at 9 am ...followed by our Bnai Mitzvah class, also on Sundays, at 1:30 pm.

The Zoom link for Sunday morning minyan is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85075108038?pwd=S3pFUWxpaS9pTW5EWHh5THNSVDZyOT09>

And the Zoom link for our Sunday afternoon class is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88435673944?pwd=MCt1Y1lZQllqYkRhYnBrZEW3c3M5UT09>

To B'nai Mitzvah Parents:

Please make sure we receive the article and photo of your child as soon as possible!

This will help us to ensure their information is available in the appropriate monthly bulletin.



Thank You!



Join the conversation in our special Facebook group, open only to Beth Shalom members, at facebook.com/groups/BethShalomEdmonton

A Message from your Rabbi, Steven Schwarzman



Hanukkah Celebration at Beth Shalom!

On the first night of **Hanukkah** this year, **the people of Beth Shalom worked together** to put on a fun and joyous program and celebration. The calendar constraints being what they were, that was the day that would work. And the people of Beth Shalom, starting with **Helena Khazanovsky**, who came up with the idea and then executed every logistical detail as she always does (from hiring a sound engineer to getting the piano tuned to buying the groceries, and more!), **Paul Polushin**, who offered to play some Hanukkah songs and performed them flawlessly, **Bettina Schwarzman**, **James Mallet**, and **Sarah Thomsen**, who sang beautifully (and with little time to practice together), **Bozena** and her talented kitchen staff, **Anna** and **Vera**, for their delicious latkes, soup, salads, and more, and our interim custodian **Oleg** for all the setup and cleanup work, and the well over 100 Beth Shalom members and friends who came, made this event great. See photos below, and thank you to all of you!

It may seem obvious that a synagogue does holiday programs. What's special about Beth Shalom is the way volunteers and staff work together to make these programs happen, and at such a high level. And the donors to The Nefesh Project at Beth Shalom have made it possible for us to offer these programs free of charge, which is not something to take for granted. It really is remarkable.

As I write these words, Hanukkah is now over, but there is a wonderful lesson for us in the way our synagogue marked the holiday. There really is room - and indeed a necessity - for you, our members, to take an active role in the life of our shul. We're not a big-box shul in one of the larger cities. (I once visited a large shul with a paid staff of some three dozen people. They had budgets and resources that allowed them to do lots of things, but those places are necessarily rather impersonal.) But we're also not as small as we sometimes think. We have the strength, and the responsibility, to offer a full menu of Jewish programming that is serious and fun. Our members lead us in prayer, in programs, and in other parts of what we do as a synagogue, and each of us can not only take part, but even take on leadership roles.

The Board of Directors and
Congregation offer their
deepest condolences
to the following families:

Judith Goldsand & family
on the loss of her husband,
George Goldsand.

Annella Wasserman & family
on the loss of her husband,
Ken Wasserman

May their memory be a blessing.

We're already busy working on the next holiday project. And if you'd like to help with this or anything else that we do at Beth Shalom, let me know.

Hanukkah, of course, is the story of the Maccabees taking charge of their own destiny, refusing to passively accept the norms of the Seleucids and stop being Jews. And in our day, while no one is oppressing us, we, too, can and must take charge of our Jewish destiny, too. Join us in this fun, and holy, work!

Rabbi Steven Schwarzman

January 2023 / Tevet-Shevat, 5783

BETH SHALOM SYNAGOGUE BULLETIN - www.edmontonbethshalom.org



Hanukkah Party at Beth Shalom

Pictures curtesy to Ben Mazor

January 2023 / Tevet-Shevat, 5783

A Message from your President, Dr. Michael Alpern

Returning to Edmonton and the recent frigid temperatures was in sharp contrast to the weather Sylvia and I experienced cruising the Mediterranean... especially when we visited the port cities of Ashdod and Haifa in Israel. However, that was holidays and is now history. Winter is the current reality of home and once again I extend my sincere thanks to past president/acting vice president, Laurence Abbott, for acting as president during my absence. Yasher Koach, Laurence.



The winter chill was forgotten at least for a few hours on the first day of Hanukkah when members of our Jewish community celebrated the festival of Hanukkah with songs, food, and fellowship at Beth Shalom. In offering the Board's thanks and appreciation to all involved in the planning and implementation of the beautiful event, I echo the thanks and sentiments written by Rabbi Schwarzman and published in a this Beth Shalom bulletin:

*Thank you to the more than 100 Beth Shalom members and friends who came. Thank you to **Paul Polushin, James Mallet, Sarah Thomsen, and Bettina Schwarzman (and Rabbi Steven Schwarzman)** for beautifully, and gamely, putting together a great Hanukkah musical program with little notice (and only one rehearsal of 3/4 of our singing members!), thank you to the always amazing **Helena Khazanovsky**, who made every arrangement large and small (from hiring a sound engineer to getting the piano tuned to buying the groceries, and more!), thank you to **Bozena** and her talented kitchen staff for their truly delicious latkes, soup, salads, and more, thank you to our interim custodian **Oleg** for all the setup and cleanup work, and thank you to the generous donors to our **Nefesh Project** who enabled us to put on this event - and open it up to the entire Jewish community! - free of charge!*

What will the early months of 2023 bring?

- a. Special Virtual tour of Israel Museum: "the Magic of the Shema."** 10:00am, Sunday, January 22. Watch for details.
- b. Tu BiShvat:** A celebration of i Tu BiShvat (the Festival of Trees) is being planned for February 5. Details to follow.
- c. Annual General Meeting:** Scheduled for **March 26, 2023. Please save the date.** What time would you prefer the meeting be held: 10:30am to Noon or 2:00pm to 3:30pm? Please email me your preference to president@edmontonbethshalom.org

The AGM is an important event in Beth Shalom's calendar. It provides members with the opportunity to receive reports on the synagogue's operations, membership, finances, and plans. The meeting also provides opportunities for members to pose questions to their Board. Most importantly, the AGM provides you the opportunity to elect a leadership team to steer the shul in meeting members' needs and in ensuring Beth Shalom's sustainability.

Please consider volunteering your leadership skills to Beth Shalom. During the pandemic, it was challenging to establish a full Board of Directors, however, now that we appear to be over that period, I'm hoping that a full complement of Board members will be elected at the upcoming AGM.

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Voluntarism and leadership are critical to supporting and sustaining our shul. We welcome volunteers to serve on the Board, as directors, executive committee members and as chairpersons or members of committees. Your role as a volunteer does not need to be overly time-consuming. Depending on the role and position you accept, one or two hours per week can be the scope of your valuable and most valued contribution. Over the coming weeks the chair of the 2023 Nominating Committee, Laurence Abbott, will be providing additional information about leadership opportunities.

Just as a reminder, the charts below summarize a recent demographic analysis of our membership. The analysis found that approximately 84% of our adult members are aged 50+ years and 60% of the members are aged 65+ years. A major task of your board is to facilitate the availability of programs and strategies that are meaningful and worthwhile to each age cohort...especially to the young adults and children. This current age group will, we hope, become the future leaders of Beth Shalom.

Edmonton Beth Shalom Congregation: Membership Data (November 1, 2022)					
Membership Units		Member Age Groups		Young Adults and Children	
Family	134	20-30 years	1	Young adults	54
Single Family	82	30-40 years	27	School aged	54
Single Parent	17	40-50 years	31	Pre-school aged	22
Total:	233	50+ years	84		
		65+ years	216		

The Yahrzeit memorial board referenced in my November report has been ordered and is scheduled for delivery in the New Year. During its installation, we plan to rearrange current memorial plaques so that they will all in alphabetical order. The new board will accommodate approximately 80+ memorial plaques. Please contact the synagogue office to reserve or order a memorial plaque for a loved one. Very best wishes to all for a happy, healthy and meaningful 2023. I hope to see you in shul. As always, please share your thoughts and ideas with me by text or email about how to make our shul a more inviting and sustainable community gathering place.

Email: president@edmontonbethshalom.org

Text: 780 953 5986

Toda raba,
Dr. Michael Alpern



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Email: lawyers@wittenlaw.com
www.wittenlaw.com

Todah Raba to our Publishing Volunteers
Thank you to Sharon Abbott & Ruth-Ellen Shafir for editing our Beth Shalom Publications.

Thank You!

Happy Birthday!

Liad Wolch
 Essie Olyan
 Molly Collier
 Tessa Gregson
 Megan Rabinovitch
 Marvin Bercovitch
 Alan Swerling
 Reeva Parker
 Jacqueline Greenblatt
 Dianne Radnoff
 Rayna Lew
 Karen Oshry

Sean Sonego
 Aliya Brick
 Clive Oshry
 Jayden Leung
 Boris Plots
 Lana Black
 Faye Kay
 Philip Hardin
 Heidi Oshry
 Ari Sniderman
 Laurence Abbott
 David Margolus
 Sharon Cohen

Judaica Shop Gifts to Relish



Judaica Shop
Open:
Monday-
Thursday
between 9:30am
& 4:00pm;
Friday
between
9:30am & 2:30pm

New at the Shop!

Cook Books by Bonnie Stern & Anna Rupert

**Gift Registry available for Weddings
 & Bar/Bat Mitzvahs**



Happy Anniversary!

Alan & Ruth Swerling
 Paul & Erin Silverman
 Martin & Fezula Grosh
 Danny & Connie Zalmanowitz
 Shelley Weinstein & Bruce Bradley



SHAREit

If you have a special occasion or accomplishment to share with the congregation please contact the office at 780-488-6333 ext. 301 or info@e-bethshalom.org



Beth Shalom caters life cycle events, private and all synagogue events

For more information please contact Helena at 780.4886333/301 or info@e-bethshalom.org

The Beth Shalom philosophy is to provide high quality kosher food at reasonable costs

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| Honey Cake | Potato Knishes |
| Apple Cake | Onion, |
| Coffee Cake | Mushroom, or |
| Kuffles | Cheese Kugels |
| Kamish | Potato or |
| Rollie Polly | Mushroom |
| Assorted | Strudels |
| Cookies | Assorted Soups |
| Cabbage Rolls | Perogies |



Supporting our Kiddush Lunch Fund:

It is customary to help sponsor our Kiddush Lunch to honour the memory of loved ones at the time of their Yahrzeit or in honour of a special occasion.

Donations to the Kiddush Lunch Fund can be made online on our website or by contacting the office at 780.488.6333 ext. 301. Tax receipts are provided.

We are grateful for your ongoing support!



Beth Shalom welcomes advertising from members of our congregation and the community. Only business card size ads are accepted.

The cost is \$25.00 per issue or \$250.00 for a full year when paid for in advance.

To arrange for an ad in the next Bulletin for an ad in the next Bulletin, please call the office at 780-488-6333, ext. 301.

TRIBUTE FUNDS

(Charitable tax receipts are sent out every year in February).

Todah Rabah, Mazal Tov, Get Well, Condolences	\$18.00
Yedlin Library	\$18.00 & up
Rabbi's Discretionary Fund	\$18.00 & up
Chai Fund	\$18.00 & up
Tree of Life	\$250.00
B'Kol Echad Song Book	\$18.00
Sim Shalom Siddur Machzor/Lev Shalem Machzor	\$54.00
Etz Hayim Chumash	\$125.00
Building Improvement Fund	\$50.00 &
multiple Torah Restoration Fund	\$18.00 per letter/ \$36.00

Condolences

To Judith Goldsand & family
On the loss of her husband,
George Goldsand
From: Cantor David Mannes &
Sandra Ghitler-Mannes
Anna Linetsky
Victor & Lena Linetsky
Pauline Uretsky
Howie & Debbie Sniderman

To Tessa Gordon
On the loss of her brother,
Howard Miller
From: Jean & Aaron Oshry

Torah Restoration Fund

A letter has been inscribed
In memory of Anna's grandfa-
ther, Sholom Levner
From: Anna Linetsky

To Gary & Ossi Goldsand &
family
On the loss of Gary's father,
George Goldsand
From: Howie & Debbie Sniderman

A letter has been inscribed
In memory of Anna's
grandmother, Sura Akselrod
From: Anna Linetsky

To Annella Wasserman & family
On the loss her husband, Ken
Wasserman
From: Cantor David Mannes &
Sandra Ghitler-Mannes
Victor & Lena Linetsky
Toni & Phillip Gold
Pauline Uretsky
Howie & Debbie Sniderman

Condolences Naomi Wolch
& family
A letter has been inscribed
In memory of her husband,
Ron Wolch
From: Susan Baram

To Arlene & Pierre Morin &
family
On the loss of Arlene's mother,
Gloria Aaron
From: Lauren Gayle Pearson

Condolences to Annella
Wasserman & family
A word has been inscribed
In memory of her husband,
Ken Wasserman
From: Marilyn, Marvin &
Aaron Bercovich
Sheila & Stan Bronson

Condolences to Judith Goldsand
& family
A word has been inscribed
In memory of her husband,
George Goldsand
From: Susan & Murray Lieberman

A word has been inscribed
In memory of Jerry's mother, Rose Katz
From: Jerry & Miriam Katz

A donation has been made
by the Devonshire Care Center
In honour of Dr. Jerry Katz

Prayerbook Fund

Condolences to Naomi Wolch &
family
A Sim Shalom Siddur has been
dedicated in memory of their hus-
band, father & grandfather, Ron
Wolch
From: Connie & Danny Zalmanowitz

A Sim Shalom Siddur has been
dedicated in memory of Marilyn's
father, Leon Krygier
From: Marilyn & Marvin Bercovich

Building Improvement Fund

Condolences to Aaron & Morin
families
On the loss of their mother,
grandmother & great
grandmother, Gloria Aaron
From: Barry Schloss & family

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

A donation was made
In memory of Sharon's father,
Dr. Max M. Cantor
From: Sharon Abbott

January 2023 / Tevet-Shevat, 5783

Beth Shalom Adult Education Program presents...

... lots of things

By Jeff Davis



Adult Education leader Anna Linetsky has been busy lately, bringing three sessions to Beth Shalom members. This shows the range of knowledge, talent and interest among Beth Shalom members. As things progress in public health (something some *kahal* members have particular experience with) we will see more in-person gatherings in connection with Shabbat services while keeping the options for online sessions.

There's a lot to cover this time so let's be efficient.

Israeli Medical Inventions-Recent New Developments presented by Dr. Jerry Katz. Sunday Nov. 27, 2022 via Zoom recording

Our own Dr. J has reported on exciting Israeli medical advancements three times already. This fourth installment touched on a wide range of topics from deep inside the body to the outer ear. Dr. Katz made some highly technical (and high-tech) developments understandable and relevant to a lay audience while providing professional development for his medical colleagues. The commonalities between the topics include reducing costs, time, complications and pain. And saving lives.

1. GI-View (Ramat Gan) Single-use endoscope ("endo" meaning "inside" rather than "it goes in either end.") An endoscope is used to examine a patient's colon or stomach for its general health and to find and remove minor issues before they can cause problems such as colon cancer. The new device is used for one patient and then disposed of, simplifying handling and reducing the chance of cross-contamination. Its optical system allows a wide 200 degree field of view and its joystick control mechanism allows nurse or technician operators (freeing up scarce gastroenterologists) better control on the device's path through the body.

2. INSIGHTEC (started 1999 in Haifa, now with global offices and worth more than \$1 billion) Exablate Neuro and Exablate OR. Both systems combine Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) and ultrasonic ablation (tissue removal with heat). Exablate Neuro concentrates on the brain and has been used to treat essential tremor (tremors while consciously moving as opposed to tremors while at rest as in Parkinson's). It is being studied for epilepsy, pain and OCD. Exablate OR treats the rest of the body and has been used on fibroid uterine tumors and is being studied for low-risk prostate tumors.

The MRI aspect (so, yes, you have to be in the claustrophobic, loudly k'nakking machine. And no magnetic metal *anywhere!*) images the area of concern and directs the focused ultrasound beam very accurately to heat the target to an egg-poaching 60 degrees C. Exablate's non-invasive treatment has advantages over current drugs and their side effects and surgical interventions such as deep brain stimulation with electrodes or X-ray ablation.

3. Nanomedic Technologies (Lod) Spincare wound treatment. A hand-held device (like a Star Trek phaser on "heal") spins and sprays a flexible waterproof synthetic mesh onto a wound or burn to protect it until it's

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fully healed, up to 3 weeks. By staying in place it avoids the effort, risk and pain of changing dressings. By being transparent it allows monitoring of the healing process.

4. Active Implants NUsurface Meniscus Implant Device. The medial (inner) meniscus is part of the knee joint. It sits on top of the tibia bone and is a cushion between the cartilage at the bottom of the thigh bone and the lower leg. Because the medial meniscus is attached firmly in place it doesn't stretch when stressed and because it has no blood supply it doesn't heal when damaged. Damage can occur from athletic strain or from age-related wear. When this happens mobility goes down and pain goes up. Arthroscopic surgery can remove the damaged tissue through small incisions but wear and degeneration of the joint continues.

The new implant, made of a medical-grade polyurethane-carbonate material can be inserted to replace the damaged original through a 2-inch incision and mobility returns quickly.

5. Corneat Vision (Ra'anana) Kpro Artificial Cornea. The first artificial cornea that self-integrates into the eye. The cornea is the clear "window" at the front of the eye and problems with it cause 2 million cases (25%) of blindness per year. Transplants from deceased donors only cover 1 in 70 cases of need. (Sign your donor card!) This product is in early development and trials are planned in the near future. It's a bit like a permanent contact lens.

6. NanoRetina (Herzliya) NR600 retinal implant. If the eye is a camera then the retina is the film. It converts light into electrical impulses sent to the nerves of the visual system. Problems with it include macular degeneration (often age-related i.e. AMD) and the childhood-onset genetic condition retinitis pigmentosa (RP). The product is a tiny (about the size of a pencil tip) digital imaging unit that connects to the neurons in the eye and is activated and controlled by a special set of eyeglasses. (More Star Trek: the glasses look like Geordie La Forge's visor.) 20 trials are planned in Europe and Israel to check for safety and then with a 6- and 18-month follow-up. UPDATE: Edmonton Royal Alex Hospital is pioneering a gene-therapy treatment for a particular version of RP called Inherited Retinal Dystrophy. Expense is a limiting factor in its use.

Note: Several test patients for 5. and 6. above literally saw immediate vision improvement when the bandages came off.

7. External ear implant. Microtia ("small ear") is a congenital condition where the "pinna" (outer ear) doesn't develop properly before birth and results in a deformed or even missing pinna. It also affects the ear canal and can result in deafness. There is also the psychological difficulties for a child who looks so different. Current treatment, begun after age 10, involves removing chest rib cartilage and using advanced surgical and sculptural skills, creating and attaching a new pinna.

Israeli researchers have combined 3D printing, extracted cartilage and mesenchymal cells and tissue engineering to create a new outer ear that can be implanted. 3D printing makes a biodegradable scaffold based on the child's other ear for the extracted cells to grow on. Tissue engineering supports the growth of the cells until they form stable cartilage tissue.

Implantation is in 2 steps. The new cartilage is placed just under the skin on the side of the head to integrate with its new place for 3-4 months. Then a skin graft behind the implant allows it to stick out to match the opposite ear. This simpler procedure can be done as early as age 6. The future use of this technique includes nasal reconstruction and fabrication of orthopedic implants.

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Dr. Katz closed up his detailed presentation by asking how the small country of Israel can do all this. His answer: "Brains and *chutzpah*". He quoted Prof. Yair Reisner of the Weizmann Institute: "Thinking outside the box is an important trait for a scientist. Without it we could not innovate." Dr. Katz also noted the Israeli culture of openness and sharing while still striving competitively leading to "exponential development".

The questions that followed were equally interesting. Dr. Sandra Gitter-Mannes asked about availability of the Exoblate Neuro procedure discussed in 2. above. It's being used in the Dept. of Neurosurgery at the Cummings Centre at the U of Calgary.

In a related question Rabbi Schwarzman noted that few of the procedures or products discussed were available in Canada. This is partly due to the leading/bleeding/cutting-edge nature of some of them. But Canada is very slow, bureaucratic and conservative about adopting such innovations.

The History of Jewish Law presented by Justice Robert Graesser, Saturday Dec. 3. 2022 in person

Justice Graesser looked back on his 32-year career in law and thought "That's not enough!" so he went back, back, way on back to give us a fast-paced view of the origin of Jewish Law and indeed the origin of recorded laws in general.

His time trip was inspired by his studies of Judaism as part of his joining *kahal Yisrael* and Congregation Beth Shalom. On his time trip he paused at Britain's Magna Carta (Great Charter) of 1215 CE. (Also 1216, 1217 and 1225 CE. Hey, these things are open to change.) The document mostly describes the relation between King John and the powerful barons just below him in the hierarchy but it established the primacy of Parliament, its laws and processes over all, even the monarch.

King John's beef with the barons wasn't far enough back so Justice Graesser dug deeper, down to the code (c. 2050 BCE) of Sumerian *lugal* (king) Ur-Nammu (or maybe his son Shulgi) and to even dustier references to the Code of Urukagina (c. 24th century BCE, a true ur-law code). Ur-Nammu presented himself as the father of his people and then his family, with the understanding that they knew how to treat each other with respect and a fine for lapses would serve as a reminder.

Transmitting law codes ("Civil Law") and recording cases ("Common Law") is a good reason to invent writing. Thus the brief was served to the city of Eshnunna (1930 BCE), then to King Lipit-Ishtar of Isin (c. 1865 BCE) and then to the better-known King Hammurabi of Babylon (c. 1755 BCE) as society, laws and jurisprudence developed. Hey, mail was slow in those days, what with those heavy clay tablets. Hammurabi's laws were literally carved in stone on a basalt stele.

These cuneiform codexes used the casuistic form of "if-(crime), then-(punishment)" found in many subsequent codes. Sumerian codes used fines as punishments or deterrents, differing from Babylonian and Biblical

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reciprocal justice, called in Latin *lex talionis* (roughly “an eye for an eye”). Both called for measured and proportional rather than escalating punishments. The early codes also distinguished between sexes and classes of society (slaves vs. free). East of the Fertile Crescent, India and China were developing their own legal systems.

Jewish law comes into the picture much later. Our tradition holds that Moshe Rabeinu received the Torah on Mt. Sinai in 1313 BCE. In Exodus 18:13-27 we read that Moses’s father-in-law Jethro urged Moses to appoint a hierarchy of leaders and judges of competence and integrity to sweat the small stuff, allowing Moses to concentrate on the hard causes. In a *mitzvah*-heavy part of Deuteronomy (16:18-20) we read about appointing righteous and impartial judges and officials in the new land of Israel. Deuteronomy 19:15 tells us of the importance of consistent evidence in a matter, requiring at least two witnesses. This differs from traditions of trial by combat or by ordeal.

Archeology has the TaNaCh (Torah, Neviim, C’tuvim) being written by about 300 BCE. The Great Assembly canonizes it by 180 BCE. We also have the Oral Law: laws, statutes, and legal interpretations that were not recorded in the Five Books of Moses, but nonetheless are regarded as prescriptive and given to us at the same time. These dealt with all aspects of life at the time including religious and civil matters.

Expansion and exegesis for both Written and Oral Torah followed with the 63 tractates of the Mishna by 200 CE as Rabbi Judah HaNasi wrote down the unwritten rules of the *Tannaim* sages. This was compiled, assembled and organized to preserve Jewish tradition after the destruction of the Second Temple and other turmoils of that time. The close reading-based documentation project to create the Talmud forked with the addition of the commentaries of the Gemara (from *gamar*, to finish or complete) from two major sources. The Jerusalem Talmud was published between about 350–400 CE and the Babylonian Talmud about 500 CE. Study of and comment on preceding Jewish texts continued with the final editing of the Babylonian Talmud (by 700 CE) and the Gaonic Rabbis (to 1030 CE)

Almost in parallel, codification efforts such as Byzantine Emperor Justinian’s 527-534 CE redaction of Roman laws into the 3-part (uh, 4-part. Hey, these things are open to change.) Corpus Juris Civilis reflected the centrality of religion in the laws of the time.

As the Jewish people spread we encountered other societies, governments, laws and situations and we dealt with issues of maintaining Jewish identity in a non-Jewish world. These included determining areas where Jewish religious rules ruled and areas where the laws of the nation where we lived prevailed. These cities, states, countries and empires were dealing with contentious matters of the overlap of church power and state power as well.

For Jewish thought on matters ethical, philosophical, liturgical, mystical, historical, and yes, legal, the last

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millennium has been busy. The Rishonim (Early Ones) era to 1500 CE includes Ashkenazi thinkers such as Rashi, Rashbam and Rabbeinu Tam. Sephardis include Rav Nissim, Maimonides and Nachmanides. We live in the era of the Achronim (Latter Ones) whose beginning is marked by the *Shulchan Aruch* ("the Set Table"), written by Sephardic Rabbi Joseph Karo in Venice in 1563; Rabbi Moses Isserles gives an Askenazi gloss to the *Shulchan Aruch*.

Discussions and decisions about Jewish law are still relevant today. Do Zoom attendees count towards a *minyan*? Can you talk to Alexa on *Shabbat*? Maybe in Hebrew? And what about those *kitniyot* during *Pesach*?

Dr. Eric Schloss OC, Jewish orphans during the Second World War (and their Edmonton connections), Saturday Dec. 17, 2022 in person.

Showing the extent of his research, Dr. Schloss shuffled a good number of pages as he gave us some of the background and history of his topic and then made it even more real and relevant by telling us of many local people affected by it.

Shortly after WWII the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) brought 1123 Jewish war orphans to Canada and placed them with families from Glace Bay NS to Port Alberni BC. The CJC had tried in 1942 to set up a Canadian *Kindertransport* but the *Immigration Branch* of the government, led by *Frederick Charles Blair* ("None is too many"), refused. As with the *British Kindertransport*, authorities wanted assurance that private sponsorship rather than the public purse would cover all costs. The Jewish community responded but wartime travel restrictions took hold and none of the orphans slated for the 1942 transport are known to have survived.

In 1947 the CJC and local organizing committees in Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg renewed their efforts to bring 1000 children to Canada. *Kindertransport* issues like Zionist groups wanting *chalutzim* ("pioneers") for Israel, Catholic groups wanting converts and foster families preferring pre-adolescent girls complicated things. In the end, most of the orphans were males 15-18. (Do the math. They would have been pre-adolescent in 1942.)

The project was widely known in Jewish circles but not much publicized until the late 1950's. The CJC did a survey to show the adaptation and success of the immigrants. Dr. Ben Lapin of the U of Toronto found that most had left their sponsoring family and original placement and changed their name so getting data was difficult. His 1963 book *The Redeemed Children* followed a Feb. 1962 Maclean's article by Sidney Kates. There have been many studies, articles and books about these orphans and other Holocaust survivors immigrating to Canada. Many discuss the difficulties they had in processing their memories and experiences, integrating with their new homes and families and dealing with religious identity.

The first group of 16 boys and 4 girls arrived at Halifax's Pier 21 on Sep. 15 1947. By Mar. 10 1952. 1103 (2/3 male, 1/3 female) more had passed from the ships into the immigration hall and through the walkways to the trains. Most arrived from Displaced Persons (DP) camps in Poland or Hungary and many had limited education.

28 of these war orphans came to Alberta. As with many Holocaust-related topics, there are So. Many. Names.

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The orphans, their origins, their destinations, their sponsors. And those lost. Dr. Schloss researched and related the stories of many of those who came to the Edmonton area. Words kept being repeated: family, escape, hiding, arrival and again family. And “survivor”. The people named are well known to Jewish Edmonton. Some of their names are on plaques in our Beth Shalom. Two stories stand a bit ahead of the others.

Szuzsanna Löffler. Most of the orphans went to major centres but there was The Girl From Vegreville. Szuzsanna came from Budapest, Hungary. Her diaries of June-November 1944 record her time at age 11 in the Budapest Ghetto, the death of her parents and her determination to survive. She was liberated by Soviet troops in Feb. 1945 and restarted her diary in 1947, hopeful for her move to Canada. She arrived at Pier 21 in Aug. 1948 and at age 15 came to the home of Jack and Sylvia Klein in Vegreville.

Szuzsanna’s adjustment to small-town Jewish life was hard: language barriers, no female Jewish contemporaries, limited social life. Dr. Schloss noted a single date, with Bernie Adler for his high school grad. The Kleins were supportive but after a few frustrating months in Vegreville she requested a transfer to Toronto. The CJC denied it on pain of losing financial aid. They ultimately sent her to Winnipeg in time for the 1950 flood, making her “doubly displaced”.

She persevered, finished high school, completed a business course and eventually earned two BA degrees. She married Harry Garfield (born Garfinkel) and became Susan. Her translated diaries *Too Many Goodbyes: The Diaries of Susan Garfield* have been published by Voices of Winnipeg in 2010 and the Azrieli Foundation Holocaust Survivor Memoirs Program in 2019. She has also told her story as a new immigrant to Canada in *Holocaust Survivors in Canada: Exclusion, Inclusion, Transformation, 1947-1955* (2015)

Abe Goldstein. Abe was born in Poland but spent his early years in Zhetl, Belarus, a town of 6,000, 60% of whom were Jewish. The *Einsatzgruppen* had put all of them into a theatre before taking groups outside to shoot them. Abe’s mother saw another woman pushing her son out a small back window and followed suit. Abe and the other boy, named Phillip, escaped to the (relative) safety of a Jewish man caring for 10 orphans in a forest cave and he helped with the partisan resistance. The area was liberated by Russian troops in 1944 and Abe was taken back to Belarus, then to Lodz in Poland, then to a German DP camp where he met Saul Dlin and learned table tennis.

In Edmonton Abe was first hosted by Meyer and Reva Commisaro and then by Mickey and Sybil Dlin. The table tennis served him well as he and Saul Dlin became Alberta champions. At 17 Abe opened a general store in Thorsby with Fred Mannes and stayed close to the Dlin family. Abe had a good business and service career in the Edmonton area and he and wife Joan were honoured with the 2015 Negev Dinner. The special guest speaker at the event was Hartford Conn. Rabbi Phillip Lizowski. Yes. That Phillip.

In closing Dr. Schloss noted that in the 3 generations since the Jewish war orphans arrived, Canada has given a better welcome to more groups coming from troubled backgrounds and by various means than in 1947. He contrasted this with the current situation in the US with migrants from South and Central America. He and Anna Linetsky both reminded us of the need to support Ukrainian refugees, especially Jewish refugees.

Pier 21 in Halifax that figures so much in the story of the Jewish orphans can be thought of as Canada’s Ellis Island. Pier 21 opened in 1928 and welcomed nearly 1 million immigrants. It is now a National Historic Site and home to the Canadian Museum of Immigration. The facility housed the assembly hall for immigrants, as

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well as medical and detention quarters. Nearby were offices including charities such as the Canadian Red Cross. Overhead walkways connected to railway passenger platforms: regular trains for the affluent and special immigrant passenger trains made up of dozens of more spartan colonist cars. Post-WWII saw several waves of immigrants including Holocaust survivors. The rise of air travel shifted arrivals to airports and Pier 21 processed its last ship in 1971.

Also, while not quite an Adult Education session, the community Hanukkah gathering on the afternoon of Sunday Dec. 18 was most educational as Rabbi Schwarzman explained the history of Hanukkah and of the songs, familiar and new, that he, Rebbetzin Bettina, pianist Paul Polushin and espoused choristers Sarah Thomsen and James Mallet shared with the appreciative audience. We also appreciated the demonstration by Helena, Bozena, Oleg, Anna and Vera in keeping trays of *latkes* and *sufganiot* well filled.

BETH SHALOM ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2023 AT 2:00 PM

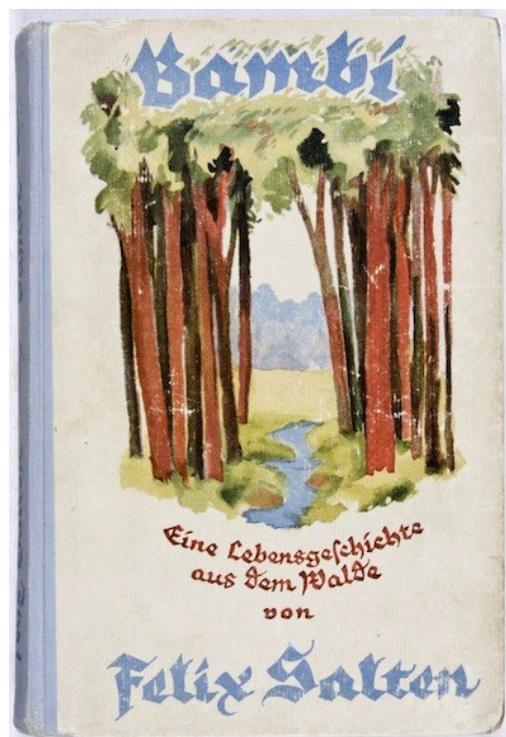
ZOOM: TBA

PRESENTED BY PROFESSOR JOSEPH F. PATROUCH
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY, CLASSICS,
AND RELIGION , U OF A

WALT DISNEY DID NOT INVENT "BAMBI":
THE STORY BEHIND FELIX SALTEN
(AKA SIEGMUND SALZMANN),
THE VIENNESE JEW WHO WROTE IN 1922

BAMBI:

"A STORY OF LIFE IN THE FOREST "



Original cover. Published in Berlin with Ullstein Verlag, 1923.



Saturday, February 26 /2023 following Kiddush Lunch

Stacey Leavitt-Wright

We stand up for Israel, advocate for Jewish interest, and fight against Antisemitism.

January 2023 / Tevet-Shevat, 5783

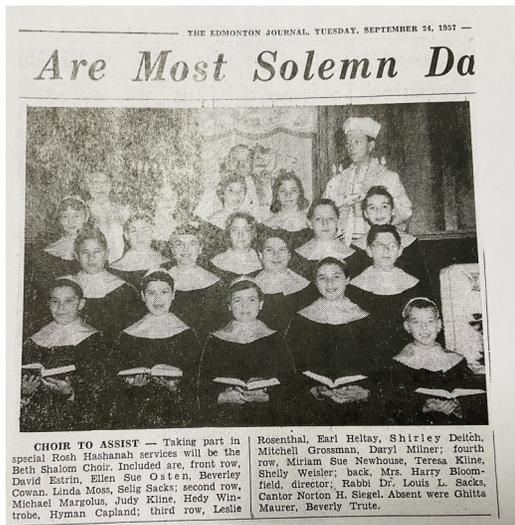
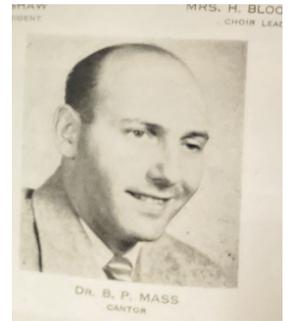
The Cantors of Beth Shalom Congregation

By Cantor David M. Mannes The following is an edited and rewritten excerpt of a talk I delivered at the Jashena AGM in November.

I thought it might be of interest to the members of Beth Shalom.

Beth Shalom was founded in 1932 and Rabbi Jacob Eisen served the congregation until 1942 when he enlisted to serve in the Armed Forces. There are no records of any cantors serving Beth Shalom in this time period. There were references to guest rabbis and cantors serving the congregation until 1948, but no specifics on these individuals. It wasn't until the current Beth Shalom building was dedicated, that cantors started serving the congregation. Obviously, the congregation was big enough to support two full time clergy.

The first cantor at Beth Shalom was Cantor B.P. Mass in 1951 who served along with Rabbi W. Wolfson formerly from congregation Shaar Hashomayim in Fort William.



The next cantor I found a newspaper clipping for is Cantor Norton Siegel who also led the Beth Shalom Choir for High Holidays in 1957. He served the congregation until 1960.

In 1960 Cantor Isaac Stein served the congregation.

In 1962 Cantor Areyh Lev Lupkin was appointed as Cantor and served the congregation until 1964. Lupkin was a graduate of Yeshivah Torah V'Dath and the Julliard School of Music in New York, specializing in liturgical composition. He was widely known for his interpretive style and com-



positions. Cantor Lupkin had performed for audiences and congregations in the United States and Canada.

Cantor Shlomo Reiss was hired as Beth Shalom's cantor in 1964 and served the congregation until 1968. Reiss had served as the cantor for the Great Synagogue in Munich. Reiss was born in Poland, educated in Vienna. He later moved to Palestine with his family in the late 1930's. He studied at the Israel Conservatory of Music. His wife was a seventh-generation sabra and a graduate of the Teacher's Seminary in Tel Aviv. Both Reiss and his wife had served in the Israeli army in the 1948 War of Liberation and in the 1956 Sinai Campaign.



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Cantor Earl J. Rackoff served as cantor from 1969-1971. He passed away in West Palm Beach Florida in 2010 at the age of 89.

In September 1971 Beth Shalom hired Cantor Fred S. Mannes, formerly from Emanuel Synagogue in Oklahoma City. He and his family arrived ten days prior to Rosh Hashanah. Cantor Mannes was born in Germany, the son of Rabbi Julien Mannes and his wife Sarah. His father came from rabbinic family. Cantor Mannes' grandfather was a Rabbi and had a Yeshiva in Germany. Seven of his uncles were Orthodox or Chassidic rabbis (the eighth uncle was a Cantor), the paternal rabbinic lineage stretching back well over two hundred years at that time. Cantor Mannes and his mother immigrated to the United States in 1939. In Chicago they became members of Anshe Emet Synagogue, and he had his Bar Mitzvah there. Under the tutelage of fifth generation Hazzan



Moses J. Silverman Fred Mannes became the first of Cantor Silverman's proteges. When he was fifteen, Fred filled in for the Cantor who had laryngitis. There were some comments after from congregants that the young Fred had almost attained skills as good as that of his teacher. In 1950 Cantor Mannes received a scholarship to attend Hebrew Union College, which at that time was the only training ground for North American Cantors. He later completed his cantorial studies at the Cantor's Institute in Chicago in 1960. He became a member of the Cantors Assembly. He served congregations in Iowa, Connecticut, and of the Cantors Assembly. He served congregations in Iowa, Connecticut, and Oklahoma before coming to Edmonton. Cantor Mannes was the longest serving Cantor /or clergy-rabbi for Beth Shalom. In 1980 the board contacted the Cantor's Assembly and wanted to offer tenure to Cantor Mannes. Everything seemed good and it was a shoe in—until it wasn't. The executive was so sure of the approval that some members failed to show up at the meeting. Cantor Mannes lost tenure by one or two votes. The Cantor's Assembly decided that the deal showed bad faith and Beth Shalom was blacklisted from placement. Cantor Mannes with his wife and youngest child, Marnie, left Edmonton in the summer of 1981 for Calgary. He served Shaare Tzedec in Calgary for three years. While in Calgary, the Beth Shalom board contacted Cantor Mannes and wanted him back; but the damage had been done. In 1983 Cantor Mannes, his wife Sherry and daughter Marnie moved to Nashville, where he served West End Synagogue until his untimely death at the age of fifty-seven from a heart attack in August of 1986.



In 1981 Beth Shalom, having been blacklisted had to look elsewhere for a Cantor. The board then found and hired Cantor Ron Graner. Ron Graner had begun his music studies in Toronto under Jean Marie Scott. At nineteen he joined the Canadian Opera Company and sang his way through university with Canada's Festival of Singers. He continued his studies in England under Otaku Kraus and then resumed his career in Israel as a soloist with the Jerusalem Symphony

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Orchestra, the National Chamber Ensemble, and the Israel Baroque Ensemble National Choir. He also recorded for Vox records. He later completed cantorial studies and semicha I believe at the Academy of Jewish Studies. Cantor Graner served Beth Shalom until 1985. The board later re-hired him for High Holidays in 1995-1997.

Cantor David Mannes, son of the late Cantor Fred Mannes, is a Cantor-Educator and has served Beth Shalom in a variety of capacities for almost three decades. Prior to working at Beth Shalom, he was the part-time Cantor and co-Spiritual leader at Temple Beth Ora from 1982-1994. He also later served as interim Cantor/Spiritual leader when the congregation was between rabbis. Cantor Mannes studied with his late father and then continued his cantorial studies through Hebrew Union College's cantorial certification program. He joined the American Conference of Cantors in 1993. He served congregations in the United States for High Holidays and as a Cantor-in-Residence. A former teacher he has a B.Ed. and M.Ed. degree with a specialty in curriculum design and producing educational media from the University of Alberta. He has worked as a writer and educational TV/film producer-director for Consumer Affairs -Consumer Education and Alberta Parks and Recreation, as well as some private contract work. In 1990, his documentary film 'Writing-on-Stone' earned him an Alberta Motion Picture Industry Association (AMPIA) nomination for best non-dramatic script and his film garnered 5 nominations. He is also the author of almost a dozen books and novels of various fiction.

In 1995 Rabbi Jacob Rosner hired Cantor Mannes to run Beth Shalom's religious school program. This role expanded into leading Junior Congregation, Family Friday night Shabbat services and filling in for Rabbi Rosner when he was away or ill.

After Rabbi Rosner left the congregation, Cantor Mannes filled in part-time on an ad hoc basis as Cantor-Educator, helping to lead services, provide clerical support and counselling, reading Megillah Esther on Purim, officiating at lifecycle, and teaching the Introduction to Judaism class (conversion class) and the B'nei Mitzvah class until 1997. Upon his return from a full-time pulpit in Spokane Washington, the congregation rehired him as educator in 1998, and he resumed all of his earlier part-time duties including as an ad hoc Cantor /clergy when required. He represented the congregation at a variety of community and city events. He was also a chaplain at the University of Alberta. In 2007 he was formally hired on contract as the Ritual Assistant for Beth Shalom, wearing a number kippas of responsibility: primarily being the back-up clergy/spiritual leader for the rabbi if he was away or ill, and carrying out a variety of clerical duties: officiating at life cycle services, providing pastoral counselling. He was on the pulpit as Cantor for Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, and Festival services He coordinated lay participation on Shabbat, as well as leading Shabbat services as needed, except during the High Holidays because he had a long-term contract in the United States. He coordinated synagogue ritual, education, and social programming, co-taught the Introduction to Judaism class, and B'nei Mitzvah class and was administrator for the Beth Shalom Religious School program and later, Or Shalom, a joint religious school program between Beth Shalom and Temple Beth Ora. He led bi-monthly Shabbat services at Canterbury court until the Covid pandemic, and occasionally at Beit Horim. He remains a volunteer

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Hear, O Israel: The Magic of the Shema

A Virtual tour based on the exhibition at
The Israel Museum, Jerusalem



Tour led by Nancy Benovitz

(Senior Editor of English Publications,
Archaeology Wing, The Israel
Museum, Jerusalem)

When? Sunday, Jan. 22

What time? 10am MT

Where? ONLINE

(go to registration link to
sign up for the event)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcofu2urTsvG9KyEr-RfQcYhxQP65nrsRVz>

The Cantors of Beth Shalom Congregation by Cantor David Mannes

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Chaplain for NAIT and Grant MacEwan University, and a member of the pastoral care committee at Canterbury Court. Over the course of his career, he has performed musical programs for the Jewish community at large and continues to be involved with interfaith work. In 2018-19 he serviced as the Cantor and Interim Spiritual leader in the absence of a rabbi. He 'retired' from Beth Shalom in August of 2022.

Since 1995 Beth Shalom only hired cantors for the High Holidays After three years Ron Graner was followed by Cantor Howard Shalowitz a graduate of JTS and a full-time lawyer who did high holiday gigs. There were a couple of older cantors hired for High Holidays after that. In recent years, Dorit Kosmin, wife of Rabbi Kliel Rose and Bettina Schwarzman, wife of Rabbi Steven Schwarzman have served as Hazzenits.

January 2023 / Tevet-Shevat, 5783

BETH SHALOM SYNAGOGUE BULLETIN - www.edmontonbethshalom.org

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Congregation Beth Shalom

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Email: info@e-bethshalom.org

Website: <http://www.edmontonbethshalom.org>

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM — 4:30 PM

Friday 9:00 AM—2:30 PM

Board of Directors 2022-2023

Michael Alpern	President
Laurence Abbott	Past President
Cheryl Shur	Secretary
Farrel Shadlyn	Treasurer
Seth Glick	Director
Marvin Karrel	Director
Anna Linetsky	Director
Paul Polushin	Director
Netta Phillet	Women's League President

Synagogue Staff

Rabbi Steven Schwarzman — Spiritual Leader

rabbi@edmontonbethshalom.org, or ext. 302

Helena Khazanovsky — Office Manager

info@e-bethshalom.org, ext. 301

Dorothy Turner — Bookkeeper

bookkeeper@e-bethshalom.org, ext. 304

Please contact Helena Khazanovsky for catering inquiries.

Accuracy of Information: We do our best to ensure the accuracy of all the information in the Bulletin, but despite our best efforts, sometimes an error appears. Please accept our sincere apologies for any errors. Please let us know so that we can correct them as soon as possible or update our records where necessary.

Important Kehila Reminders

Bikkur Cholim: If you would like to be contacted by Rabbi Schwarzman please contact him at 780.4886333/302 or rabbi@edmontonbethshalom.org

Scent Free Shul: Out of respect for your fellow congregants who may suffer from allergies, please reduce your use of scented products when you are in the synagogue.

Mishebeirah—prayer for the sick: If you would like us to include the name of someone who is not well during the Mishebeirach prayer, please either call 780.488-6333/301 or email info@e-bethshalom.org, with their Hebrew or English name/s. Traditionally we include the person's Hebrew name(s) and their mother's Hebrew name(s), for example, "Moshe ben D'vorah" or "D'vorah bat Miriam" (ben or bat means son or daughter of). If, however, you do not have a Hebrew name for this person or they are not Jewish then an English name will do. If a name on the list should no longer be listed, can you kindly let us know so we can remove the individual from our list?

Due to the Canadian privacy of information laws we require that congregants get permission from the ill person(s) to have their name(s) read aloud from the Bimah on Shabbat.

Thank You!



Security at Beth Shalom

Want to help keep our synagogue secure?

We're looking for volunteers to greet and screen people at the door for all of our in-person Shabbat and holiday services. Your job will be to recognize the regulars and talk to anyone you don't personally know, to make sure they should be allowed to come into the synagogue. Together with our paid security, you will help make Beth Shalom more secure.

For more information, please contact Rabbi Schwarzman at rabbi@edmontonbethshalom.org or Seth Glick at Seth@glickandglick.com.

January 2023 / Tevet-Shevat, 5783