



January / February 2020

Tevet / Shevat / Adar 5780

<http://BethSholomFlorida.org>
(352) 326-3692

Rabbi Karen Allen
386-254-2773



Annual Meeting ***January 19th 10:00***

All members are asked to
attend the annual meeting.

This year's ballot is

Linda Kost—Vice President
Dave Englander—Treasurer
Barry Wright—Director
Ben Solotoroff—Director

Refreshments will be served

Read Andrea's President's Message on page 5 for more details

If you are unable to attend the meeting on January 19, please contact Vice President Linda Kost at intofrogs-at-gmail.com (replace -at- with @) or 352-315-0309 by January 10 so that we can mail you an absentee ballot.

Please be sure to make a dues payment by Jan 7 in order to remain a member in good standing and be included on the membership list.

2019—2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT:	Andrea Kraft 352-513-3517	VICE PRESIDENT:	Linda Kost 352-315-0309
SECRETARY:	Fred Jacobs 352-633-0500	TREASURER:	Dave Englander 352-504-4402
DIRECTORS:	Barry Wright 352-324-1139	Diane Weinbaum 352-636-4911	Ben Solotoroff 352-775-8740

January 2020 Tevet / Shevat 5780

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3  5:23	4
5 Sisterhood Meeting 2 pm See page 13	6	7 Board Meeting 4 pm	8	9	10 Shabbat Service & Oneg 7 pm  5:29	11
12	13	14	15	16 Rabbi's Roundtable 1 pm See page 12	17  5:34	18
19 Annual Meeting 10 am	20 Knitty Gritty Meeting See page 13	21	22	23	24  5:40	25 Sidney Cullen Bat Mitzvah & Shabbat Service 10 am
26 Men's Club 10 am See page 9	27	28	28	30	31  5:46	

Celebrate Tu B'Shevat on Sunday, Feb 9th at 2 pm



Tu B'Shevat is the New Year of the Trees.

At the Tu B'Shevat Seder we tell stories of our relationship with creation. We eat special varieties of fruits to remind ourselves of the miracles of nature and our dependency on trees in particular.

This is a wonderful opportunity to gather with family and friends to learn and celebrate together.

Please call Dee Marcus at 352-750-8086 if you are attending

February 2020 Shevat / Adar 1 5780

1Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Sisterhood Meeting 2 pm See page 13	3	4 Board Meeting 4 pm	5	6	7  5:52	8
9 Tu B'Shevat Seder 2 pm See page 2	10	11	12	13	14 Shabbat Service & Oneg 7 pm  5:57	15
16	17	18	19	20 Rabbi's Roundtable 1 pm See page 12	21  6:02	22
23	24	25	26	27	28  6:07	29 Lexi Scholl Bat Mitzvah and Shabbat Service 10 am



The congregation is invited to join in the *simcha* as Sidney Cullen is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah during the service on Saturday, January 25th, and Lexi Scholl is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, February 29th.

Each family is sponsoring the Kiddush after the service in celebration of these joyous events.

Rabbi's Message

A Chassidic rabbi was once asked, "If you could save one thing from your burning house, what would it be?" "The fire," answered the Rebbe, "because it is the brenn [the fire, the passion] which makes life worth living." Indeed, without an inner fire burning in the soul of man, there is no real life. Life becomes meaningful only when man "burns from within" for his ideals and his determination in life. – Rabbi Dr. Nathan Lopes Cardozos

What is the fire that burns within you?

What excites you, moves you to action, gets you going?

Our members, officers and Board members are bringing *their* fire to Congregation Beth Sholom, and therefore *we* are "on fire"!

Knitty Gritty – what a wonderful name and beautiful form of service – Men's Club, in full flight toward formation – Sisterhood, continuing its educational and social programs, beginning an exciting book club, and even contemplating the creation of its own cook book. I can't wait to try everyone's recipes!

All of this would have been unthinkable just a few short years ago. The difference now is the fiery spirit of our congregation leaders finding expression in the building of programs for the benefit of each other and the community.

So many events on our calendar, more with every issue of The Shofar – each new venture the fruit of inspiration by a member willing to step out of the comfort zone to demonstrate that there is no limit to what we can accomplish when we share with each other the light of our passion for life and for our congregation.

Our Tu B'Shevat seder, already a well-established tradition at Congregation Beth Sholom, is by now so deeply rooted in our community culture that our Sisterhood has been able to take over the food preparation, and our venerable *gabbai*, Marsha Stemerman, will be conducting the seder.

Mondays in March with Marsha promises, once again, to serve as a series of master classes in Jewish life. The alumni of her previous courses have blossomed in leadership in our community, as their participation reflects the richness of Marsha's teaching.

Students of our illustrious professor of adult Hebrew, associate *gabbai* Dr. Marnell LaRoe Hayes, are shining lights on the *bima* at our Shabbat morning services, chanting the blessings over the Torah fearlessly, directly from the written Hebrew.

Congregation Beth Sholom has gone from strength to strength in my nearly dozen years as your rabbi, a privilege I never take for granted.

With love and blessings – Rabbi Karen Allen 386-254-2773

The President's Message

I would like to wish all the members and friends of Congregation Beth Sholom a Happy & Healthy New Year as we welcome 2020.

At our last Friday night service in December we recognized our new and returning members. It is wonderful that so many people are finding that Congregation Beth Sholom is indeed the "The Synagogue that Feels like Family."

The Sunday Socials hosted by Dee & Bob Marcus were the foundation for the formation of our now flourishing Sisterhood. Thanks to those members who have joined and become active participants in the many social activities. See page 13 for the Sisterhood News.

Ben Solotoroff is in the process of forming a Men's Club. They will also be planning social activities for members of the congregation, sometimes in conjunction with the Sisterhood to foster a greater involvement of our members.

We would like to request that all members in good standing attend our Annual Meeting on Sunday January 19th. We will start at 10am at which time members can cast their ballot for our election. Refreshments will be served in the Social Hall and will allow members to catch up with friends. After the ballots are counted, we will start our meeting at approximately 10:30. This is your opportunity to share your suggestions for the new year while we review the activities and achievements of 2019. We hope that everyone will join us to participate in this event.

We look forward to celebrating these upcoming holidays with you:

We will be hosting a Tu B'Shevat seder on Sunday February 9th at 2pm

We will celebrate Purim at the Friday evening service on March 13th

We will celebrate Passover with our 2nd night Seder on Thursday April 9th. Once again Deanna's Catering will be providing our wonderful Kosher Dinner. This year we will be hosting this event in The Villages at The Laurel Manor Recreation Center. Details will be forthcoming. As always, we welcome all members of our congregation as well as friends and family to join us as Rabbi Allen leads our Seder with music and interesting explanations of our customs.

Please help us celebrate the Bat Mitzvahs of our Hebrew School students:

Saturday January 25th - Sidney Cullen

Saturday February 29th – Lexi Scholl

Whether you join us for a Shabbat Service, or the Rabbi's Roundtable Torah Study, or one of the holidays, or a Sisterhood meeting, or Men's Club meeting, or everything on our calendar, you will experience the warmth and friendship of Congregation Beth Sholom, "The Synagogue That Feels Like Family".

Andrea

Andrea Kraft, President, 352-513-3517

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NAMETAGS ARE AVAILABLE



Let everyone know who you are! Tags are just \$15 each. Mail your check to the synagogue, with a note indicating the name you want on your nametag. Contact Dave Englander at 352-504-4402 for more information.

Leesburg Food Bank

Please remember to bring items for the food bank whenever you come to the shul. They accept food, clothing, and household items. Everything is given to the needy at no cost.

SEND A CARD AND SUPPORT THE SYNAGOGUE



There are lots of reasons to send cards: birthdays, anniversaries, get well, condolences, congratulations. Your donations can benefit the synagogue and let someone know you care! Mail your donation to the synagogue, along with your message. For more information contact Dave Englander at 352-504-4402. He will send the card on your behalf, and your good wishes will appear in the Shofar.

Embracing The Needs Of All Jewish Families



We are the only cemetery in Lake and Sumter Counties with a dedicated Jewish Garden. Due to popular demand, we have expanded, so now is a great time to pay us a visit.

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Exploring Judaism—Adult Education Class

Mondays in March with Marsha

Mon. March 2,9,16, and 23 4:00-5:00 PM at the synagogue

We will be discussing the seven questions asked in Heaven based on the book by the same name. What will happen in the next life? Who knows? However asking yourself these questions now can help you focus on this life and how to make it more meaningful and purposeful.

We will also analyze various prayers connected to our service to better understand their meaning and how to apply them to our everyday life. Come join us as we develop ways to live a life using our Jewish spirituality as our guide.

You can attend all classes or individual ones as each session is a stand alone class.

Please sign up as handouts will be given to participants. There is a sign up sheet at the synagogue or you can contact me by phone or e-mail.

Let us study together to enrich our lives.

Members free—non- members \$5 per class

Sign up sheet in synagogue or contact Marsha Stemerman

marshasz2002-at-yahoo.com (replace –at– with @) or 352-630-9259

MEN'S CLUB MEETING JANUARY 26

The next Men' Club meeting is on Sunday, Jan 26 at 10 am at the synagogue.

Brunch will be served following the meeting. Non members who would like to join are welcome to attend.

Please RSVP to Ben Solotoroff at bensolo711 –at– gmail.com (replace –at– with @) or ccall him at 352-775-8740.



Support Vice President Linda Kost when she participates in the American Diabetes Association Tour de Cure. This is her 14th year participating in one of their events, and her 40th year living with diabetes.

Help the ADA in their mission to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of the 30 million Americans who face the challenges of living with diabetes every day.

Go to <http://main.diabetes.org/goto/LindaKost>

to make a secure credit card donation on Linda's page on the ADA website.

If you prefer to pay by check, make it out to 'American Diabetes Association' and give it to Linda when you see her, or mail it to Linda Kost, 9175 SW 89th Loop, Ocala, FL 34481.

Your donations are 100% tax deductible.

Your generosity in the past has helped Linda raise over \$27,000 in the past 13 years.!



Birthdays

1/1 Anita Sherman
 1/7 Judy Marshall
 1/9 Maureen Barrett
 1/10 Helen Jacobs
 1/10 Michael Saks
 1/10 Matthew Cullen
 1/11 Joseph Dowsey
 1/11 Ariella Dowsey

CELEBRATIONS

January

1/12 Hailey Dowsey
 1/12 Joni Treibitz
 1/17 Michael Drexler
 1/19 Bobbi Feiertag
 1/24 Susan Glaser
 1/28 Gary Harris
 1/28 Nathan Mularsky
 1/30 Burt Kraft



Anniversaries

1/24 Judy Albin and Clint Wallbank

February

2/4 Fred Mularsky
 2/9 Barbara Rupert
 2/12 Dan Hirschfeld
 2/13 Abram Scherbekow
 2/14 John Scholl
 2/27 Marion Beckman

Mi Shebeirach

If you know of anyone (members, family, or close friends) who is dealing with a wellness issue, who would appreciate prayers or benefit from contact with the synagogue, contact Elly Rothbard at 352-753-9065 ellybard-at-comcast.net (replace –at– with @). She will notify Rabbi Allen, and if desired will add them to the *Mi Shebeirach* list which is read at services. Please remember to let them know when our prayers are no longer needed.

R'fuah Sh'leima (Get Well Wishes)

to everyone who has been ill or has had or will have surgery.

If you would like to see someone's name here in the future please contact Linda at intofrogs-at-gmail.com (replace –at– with @) or 352-315-0309.



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Did you know that the books on the book shelf next to the gift shop are there for you to borrow?

They are all connected to Judaism or Jewish themes in some way. Feel free to bring them home to read.

All we ask is that you return them when you are finished with them.

Thank You

To Director Barry Wright for arranging and coordinating the security for our services with the Police Department.

To Lt Col (Ret) Herb Siegel and Sandra Byrne for the generous gift of beautiful silver rimmonim, so that all our torahs now have crowns.

To Dee Marcus for her leadership in the formation of Sisterhood as well as helping to coordinate the assistance of members with Onegs and Kiddushes.

To all our members who helped make the Belk's Charity Sale (November) a success.

To all our members who have ordered Mah Jongg cards for themselves and their friends

To Ben Solotoroff for joining the Board of Directors and forming the Men's Club.

To our members who made Food for our Chanukah Party:

Latkes: Judy Hartstein, Marian Solotoroff, Sandra Byrne and Herb Siegel

Chocolate Marshmallow Dreidels: Dan and Eileen Hirschfeld

Kasha and bow ties: Diane Weiser

Drinks: Linda Smithson (Alonzo)

Oneg and Kiddush Sponsors:

Friday Nov 8—Burt and Andrea Kraft in memory of Kristallnacht & the 1st yahrzeit for the murders of the victims of the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh

Friday Dec 13—Marjorie Heyman in honor of her friends and family

Saturday Dec 28—Irv Pomeranz in celebration of his birthday

Donations

Dorothy Strauss in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of her grandson, Joshua Strauss

General Donations:

Robert L. Milkman

Elizabeth Morrison

Robert and Betty King

Robyn Dowsey

Rabbi's Roundtable

Thursdays at 1 pm: January 16th inside the Library and
February 20th in the main conference room
Sumter County Visitor Center and Library Building
7375 Powell Rd., Wildwood

The Rabbi's Roundtable series explores the current arc of Torah portions along with Jewish spiritual traditions and how they affect our personal experiences and aspirations.

The roundtable provides a unique opportunity to talk with Rabbi Allen as she leads an informal and interactive discussion focusing on topics of contemporary Jewish interest.

Learn to Read Hebrew with Dr. Marnell LaRoe Hayes



Hebrew class takes place on Wednesdays at 4:00 PM at the synagogue,
Everyone is welcome,
regardless of experience.

To register call Marnell at 352-602-4797
Members free—non- members \$5 per class

Order your 2020 Mah Jongg Cards Now

The Synagogue receives a donation based on the number of cards we order



Please ask your friends to order through us
Part of the proceeds benefit the Leesburg Food Bank
Must be received by January 15, 2020

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Make checks payable to: Congregation Beth Sholom Mail with this form to:
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SISTERHOOD NEWS

A warm welcome to Helene Backman, and Helen Landes who have joined us in sisterhood.

Thank you to Dorothy Strauss for the fine job she did organizing the Sukkot pot Luck. She now is taking on the project of finding out information about the sisterhood doing a cook book.

Wow, the program put on by Cliff Whitman of Lake Nutrition Center was well received. Everyone not only enjoyed the program; they had several questions for Mr. Whitman. We truly appreciated all the free samples that Mr. Whitman gave us. Also, a great big Thank You goes to him for giving the sisterhood a Gift Certificate to use in our silent auction. Information on this will be coming up soon.

Henrietta Lubin is doing a wonderful job of lining up our mini programs. The mini program on January 5 will be Debbie Butler from the Humane Society of Leesburg. We are asking everyone that comes to please bring a donation of: cat food, dog food, cat litter, treats, towels, trash bags, etc.

Judy Hartstein did a wonderful job leading the discussion on the book, The Nightingale. February 2 will be our next book discussion. There is a choice of three books: "The Red Tent" by: Anita Diamant, "Sarah's Key" by: T.de Rosnay "The Book Thief" by: Markus Zusak. It will be interesting to find out who read what book and what kind of impression the book made on them.

Our January and February meetings are on the first Sunday of each month at 2 pm at the synagogue.

A special thanks goes to all the ladies that have stepped up to help in the kitchen for the Onegs and Kiddushes. It is because of all of the people that pitch in that we are able to enjoy a warm and welcoming social time with our temple family.

We have shown our support of the Temple by selling \$150.00 worth of tickets at the Belk's store, and we turned in \$161.00 in orders for Mah Jong cards so far.

Marion Solotoroff, Sandra Bryne, Judy Hartstein, Eileen Hirschfeld, Diane Wiesner, and Linda Smithson Alonzo stepped forward to bring food for the Chanukah party.

Beverly Meyers is chairing the Knitty Gritty community service project. Those volunteers will knit, crochet, or sew items for cancer patients. The first meeting will be at her home on Monday January 20 at 2pm. Her address is 2507 Ashville Avenue, The Villages, Fl 32162. If you are interested please call Beverly at 352-633-1472. This community service is open to everyone that would like to help out.

If you have any questions about sisterhood or suggestion please feel free to call me.

Dee Marcus, Sisterhood president 352-750-8086



WE NEED YOU TO SPONSOR AN ONEG SHABBAT OR KIDDUSH

There are many reasons to be a sponsor:
birthdays, anniversaries, special occasions,
remembering a loved one, or just celebrating Shabbat.

Upcoming Dates:

Jan 10—Gloria Blankenship in memory of her father

Jan 25—Sidney Cullen Bat Mitzvah

Feb 14—Henrietta Lubin in memory of her mother

Feb. 29—Lexi Scholl Bat Mitzvah

March 13—Bob and Dee Marcus

March 28—Saturday—Diane Weinbaum in celebration of her birthday

April 10—Yvette and David Litwack, in celebration of his birthday and Passover

April 25—Saturday—Available

May 8—Helene Bachmann in memory of her mother

May 23—Herb Siegel in honor of Memorial Day

June 12—Dave and Ellen Englander Anniversary

June 27—Herb Siegel in honor of July 4th

July 10—Friday—Available

July 25—Saturday —Available

August 14—Henrietta Lubin in memory of her father

August 29—Ben and Marion Solotoroff in memory of their daughter, Alyssa

You don't need a reason—
just a willingness to
take a turn

You don't have to do it
alone—ask a friend or
group of friends to
co-sponsor with you

Sponsors bring the food.
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To reserve your date, call
Anita Sherman at

ADD YOUR LOVED ONE TO THE MEMORIAL BOARD

Memorializing a loved one with a permanent plaque in the sanctuary is a wonderful opportunity to honor their memory.

The cost of a plaque is \$300, 2 or more are \$275 each

Contact Fred Jacobs for more information.

FredJacobs40-at-gmail.com (replace -at- with @) or 352-633-0500

EXPLANATION OF DATES ON YAHRZEIT LIST

We give our members the option to observe yahrzeit on the secular date (the actual date of passing) or the Hebrew date. If there is no Hebrew date next to a name, it is because their family prefers to observe yahrzeit on the secular calendar date.

To add a loved one to the yahrzeit list, contact Linda Kost and provide the names and relationship of the congregant and relative, and the actual date of passing including the year. Please indicate whether you wish to observe yahrzeit on the secular or Jewish date.

Contact Linda at intofrogs-at-gmail.com (replace -at- with @) or 352-315-0309



IN MEMORIAM: THE FOLLOWING YAHRZEITS ARE OBSERVED



The following names will be read from the Bimah on January 10					
Joseph Berger	Father	of	Stephen Berger		10-Jan
Molly Marcus	Mother	of	Bob Marcus		10-Jan
Sylvia Englander	Mother	of	David Englander	14	Tevet 11-Jan
Janet Wagner	Mother	of	Nettie Goeler	14	Tevet 11-Jan
Herman Saks	Father	of	Michael Saks	15	Tevet 12-Jan
Jerome Strauss	Husband	of	Dorothy Strauss	15	Tevet 12-Jan
Manuel Lutsky	Father	of	Linda Kost	15	Tevet 12-Jan
Bertram Davis	Father	of	Rochelle Goldberg	17	Tevet 14-Jan
Jack Wagner	Father	of	Karen Salvat	17	Tevet 14-Jan
Lenore Kingsberg	Mother	of	Myra Efron		17-Jan
Ruth Kraft	Mother	of	Burt Kraft		18-Jan
Curt Freudenthal	Father	of	Nancy Morris		19-Jan
Joseph Selsky	Father	of	Gloria Blankenship		19-Jan
Max Tall	Uncle	of	Herb Siegel		19-Jan
Sarah D. Cramer	Mother	of	Pam Singer & Lowell Cramer	22	Tevet 19-Jan
Scott Ferber	Son	of	Robyn Kassie		20-Jan
Jeremy Abram Haimes	Son	of	Marshall Haimes		22-Jan
Shirley Goldfarb	Mother	of	Diveda Spector	25	Tevet 22-Jan
Sylvia Saks	Mother	of	Michael Saks	25	Tevet 22-Jan
Natalie Lutsky	Mother	of	Linda Kost	27	Tevet 24-Jan
The following names will be read from the Bimah on January 25					
Theresa Rothbard	Aunt	of	Marty Rothbard	29	Tevet 26-Jan
Harry Gripon	Father	of	Helene Bachmann		27-Jan
Florence Subit	Mother	of	Bette Croll	3	Shevat 29-Jan
Herbert Weinstein	Father	of	Yvette Litwack	5	Shevat 31-Jan
Paula Debra Weinbaum	Sister	of	Diane Weinbaum	6	Shevat 1-Feb
Irwin Sherman	Husband	of	Anita Sherman	7	Shevat 2-Feb
Philip Gelles	Grandfather	of	Diane Weinbaum	8	Shevat 3-Feb
Herbert Carl King	Father	of	Robert King		4-Feb
Eve Graham	Mother	of	Eileen Hirschfeld	11	Shevat 5-Feb
Sidney Koren	Father	of	Michael Koren		7-Feb
Betty Siegel	Wife	of	Herb Siegel and		8-Feb
	Mother	of	Sandra Byrne		
Gussie Rothbard	Mother	of	Marty Rothbard	13	Shevat 8-Feb
Evelyn Zalmanovich	Member	of	The Congregation	15	Shevat 10-Feb
Alice B. Wallbank	Mother	of	Clint Wallbank		11-Feb
Marc Stern	Husband	of	Phyllis Stern		11-Feb
Morris Zalmanovich	Member	of	The Congregation	17	Shevat 12-Feb
The following names will be read from the Bimah on February 14					
Jake Jurisz	Member	of	The Congregation	22	Shevat 17-Feb
Max Block	Grandfather	of	Marsha Stererman	26	Shevat 21-Feb
Janet Altstein	Cousin	of	Helene Bachmann		22-Feb
Claire Mohel	Mother	of	Barry Wright	28	Shevat 23-Feb
Harry Bokow	Friend	of	Gloria Blankenship	30	Shevat 25-Feb
Rose Marcus Milkman	Mother	of	Robert Milkman	1	Adar 1 26-Feb
Percy Fellner	Father	of	Phyllis Berger (on wall)	1	Adar 2 26-Feb
Paula Finkelstein	Aunt	of	Ellen Englander	1	Adar 2 26-Feb
The following names will be read from the Bimah on February 29					
Irving Rothbard	Father	of	Marty Rothbard	4	Adar 1 29-Feb
Miriam Zissman Kleinfeldt	Mother	of	Henrietta Lubin	5	Adar 1 1-Mar
Peni Berger	Wife	of	Stephen Berger		1-Mar
Kurt Brauner	Father	of	Lene' Zalla		2-Mar
Dr. Saul Muffs	Father	of	Judy Hartstein	7	Adar 1 3-Mar
Marilyn Gelles	Aunt	of	Diane Weinbaum	7	Adar 1 3-Mar
Syd Slater	Sister	of	Bette Croll	7	Adar 2 3-Mar
Max Kessler	Founder	of	The Congregation	9	Adar 1 5-Mar
Nathan Goldberg	Father	of	Ira Goldberg	10	Adar 1 6-Mar
Simon Cohen	Grandfather	of	Ronnie-Jane Boekema	11	Adar 1 7-Mar
Cindi Marynell	Friend	of	Phyllis Berger	11	Adar 1 7-Mar
Etta Pomeranz	Mother	of	Irving Pomeranz	11	Adar 1 7-Mar
Sarah Meyers	Mother	of	Martin Meyers	11	Adar 1 7-Mar
Stanley Gelles	Uncle	of	Diane Weinbaum	11	Adar 1 7-Mar
Sophie Siegel	Mother	of	Herb Siegel		9-Mar
Jack Finkelstein	Father	of	Phyllis Simon		9-Mar
Rose Muller	Wife	of	Ernie Muller		11-Mar
Benjamin Sloves	Father	of	Phyllis Lax	16	Adar 1 12-Mar
Fanny Levine	Aunt	of	Helen Jacobs	17	Adar 1 13-Mar

Congregation Beth Sholom

315 North 13th Street
Leesburg, FL 34748

Phone: 352-326-3692

OUR FOUNDERS

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