



January / February 2021

Tevet / Shevat / Adar 5781

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

Rabbi Karen Allen
386-254-2773

All of our services and meetings are held virtually using Zoom technology.



Our Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 10th, at 11 am. The link to the Zoom meeting will be sent to our members in good standing (people who have made a dues payment for 5781) a few days before the meeting takes place. The updated membership list will be sent with the invite.

The meeting is important because it keeps you informed of the accomplishments and future of Congregation Beth Sholom.

It's as easy as can be this year, you don't have to leave your home! Just sit in front of your computer, smart phone, or tablet and participate as we review our accomplishments of 2020 and plan for 2021.

This is **your** synagogue - know what is happening – attend the Annual Meeting!

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 305-298-5131	Diane Weinbaum 352-636-4911	Ben Solotoroff 352-775-8740
		Sandra Byrne 843-437-9184	

OUR FOUNDERS

Joseph & Jennie Ehrlich	Ted Ehrlich	Max & Frieda Idolson
Max & Blanche Kessler	Walter & Lillie Kessler	William Lipsitz
George & Sybil Satin	Berte Rita Bloch	Jack & Lillian Satin
* LED SERVICES:	*Getzel & Betty Mularsky	*William & Dorothy Lieberman

January 2021 Tevet / Shevat 5781

ALL SERVICES AND MEETINGS ARE VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1  5:22	2
3	4	5 Board Meeting 4 pm	6	7	8 Shabbat Service 7 pm  5:28	9
10 Annual Meeting 11 am page 9	11	12	13	14 Rabbi's Roundtable 1 pm Page 3	15  5:33	16
17	18	19	20	21	22  5:39	23 Shabbat & Tu B'Shevat Service 10 am
24	25	26	27	28	29  5:45	30
31						

If you are a member in good standing (you have made a dues payment this year) and would like to participate in the board meetings, contact President Andrea Kraft or Vice President Linda Kost and they will send you the Zoom invite.

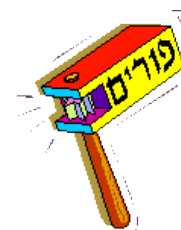


Celebrate Holidays at our Saturday Shabbat Services

Tu B'Shevat on January 23

Purim on February 27

Read Rabbi Allen's article for more details



February 2021 Shevat / Adar 5781

ALL SERVICES AND MEETINGS ARE VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Board Meeting 4 pm	3	4	5  5:51	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Shabbat Service 7 pm  5:56	13
14	15	16	17	18 Rabbi's Roundtable 1 pm See below	19  6:01	20
21	22	23	24	25	26  6:06	27 Shabbat & Purim Service 10 am
28						

Rabbi's Roundtable

Thursdays January 14 and February 18 at 1pm

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.

Rabbi's Message

Come Celebrate Tu B'Shevat and Purim at home with Congregation Beth Sholom

As we begin 2021 together, each of us safe in our personal spaces yet connected with each other through the wonder of Zoom technology, we share the opportunity to prepare our hearts and our homes for the celebration of two holidays which, at home as previously in our sanctuary services, will be filled with symbolic foods, participatory readings, joyful songs and spiritual uplift.

For our January 23rd Shabbat morning Tu B'Shevat seder, this year, for the first time, every household will be able to select favorite foods with which to represent the stages of spiritual growth we will celebrate during the seder.

We invite you to join in choosing and enjoying delicious fruit on this New Year of Trees, beginning with four cups of wine or grape juice. Unlike the four cups of the Passover seder, on Tu B'Shevat we drink both red and white juices, beginning with pure white, then adding a bit of red to make the second cup a light pink, then more red for a darker pink, and finally an almost totally red fourth cup, with just a drop of white. Each color of wine or juice accompanies our spiritual progression through the holiday as guided by congregational readings.

After the first cup, we will say the blessing over fruits with inedible peels or shells, such as nuts, coconuts, oranges, pomegranates or avocados. Following the second cup, we bless and eat fruit with inedible pits: for example, dates, olives, peaches, plums, mangos, cherries or a combination of all of them!

The third cup is followed by fruits that are completely edible – blueberries, grapes, raisins, strawberries. Finally, we follow the fourth cup by tasting the fruit with the most beautiful fragrance, and the seven foods by which the land of Israel is praised: dates, olives, figs, pomegranates, grapes, wheat and barley.

For Purim, which we celebrate this year on Saturday, February 27th, everyone can participate from home in reading the Megillah of Esther, stomping and clapping to blot out the villain's name, eating our favorite Hamentaschen, singing Purim songs, and the traditional wearing of costumes or hats.

Although I will miss the fun of Purim games and home-baked Hamentaschen in our sanctuary, I can't wait to see the variety and creativity of our members and friends expressed in their choices and presentation of fruits, wine and juice for Tu B'Shevat, and of costumes, Hamentaschen and hats for Purim!

Please join us in expressing our gratitude for all G-d's gifts to us as we celebrate these beautiful Congregation Beth Sholom holiday traditions – with love and blessings for good health in a meaningful and gratifying 2021 and beyond – Rabbi Karen Allen – 386.254.2773

The President's Message

First, I would like to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year! Like me, I'm sure that you are thrilled to see the end of 2020 and hope that life will start to return to our new "normal". However, it will take some time before enough people are vaccinated so that we can think about returning to the shul. Of course, I think that a lot of people prefer Zoom, especially on a Friday night during the winter months when they do not like driving at night. In the meantime, we will continue to worship virtually. The Board will continue to evaluate the situation to do what is in the best interests of our congregation. Since we are "The Synagogue that feels like Family" it is important to keep everyone safe. I know that many people are experiencing quarantine fatigue, but we need to continue to be smart, so wear your mask, keep your distance, and wash your hands.

We just celebrated Chanukah and had our Zoom version of lighting all our menorahs as homage to years past when we lit up the shul with all the flickering candle lights which created a magical feeling. The rabbi's singing of all the Chanukah favorites also added to the celebration. Hopefully, you enjoyed your latkes and jelly donuts to complete your holiday.

As we start the New Year, we look forward to seeing you at our virtual services. I encourage all our members to plan on attending our Annual Meeting on Sunday January 10th at 11am. We will be reviewing the accomplishments of the past year and plans for 2021. At that time, we will also elect our board members and officers whose terms are up and we need you to vote on an Amendment to our by-laws. This is your synagogue, and we value your input.

Every month Rabbi Allen holds a Roundtable which gives us the opportunity to have an engaging interactive conversation about the current Torah portion and how it relates to our modern life. Participants find these discussions very meaningful. If you haven't joined in, I highly recommend it!

During this past year many of us have been having episodes of sadness or depression during our isolation. It's more important than ever to reach out and talk to friends and family. Some find our services and the Rabbi's Roundtable a way to feel connected to our synagogue family.

Shalom,

Andrea

Andrea Kraft, President, 352-513-3517

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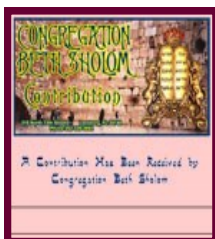
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SEND A CARD AND SUPPORT THE SYNAGOGUE

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.

Leesburg Food Bank

Director Barry Wright, Barry's wife Cookie and member Francine Rizzotto all volunteer at the food bank. The food bank is located at 503 North 13th Street, just 2 blocks from the shul.

Everything is given to the needy at no cost. Most needed food items are canned fruit, canned pork and beans, and other canned food. They definitely do not need cold cereal.

The food bank is restricting access so collection of clothes has been limited. They will still pick up large items such as furniture and appliances. Their number is 352-326-5463.

If you prefer to donate financially, send us a check made out to the synagogue with a note that it is for the food bank and we will pass it on to them. Thank you for helping us to support this important organization.

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CONGREGATION BETH SHOLOM
NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING AND
ELECTION OF OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

As directed by the By-Laws, our annual meeting will take place on Sunday, January 10, 2021, at 11 AM. It will be held virtually, using Zoom technology. You can view and hear the meeting on a computer, phone, or tablet, or can listen to the meeting using any phone.

We request that all members who have made a dues payment for this fiscal year (Sept—August) attend the meeting.

Annual Meetings are important. The purpose is to keep you informed of the accomplishments and future of Congregation Beth Sholom. It is also when you elect officers and directors for their term of office. This year we will also be voting on an amendment to the by-laws that will eliminate the need for paper ballots when an officer or director is running unopposed.

At this year's meeting we will be electing the President, Secretary, and 2 directors.

President Andrea Kraft and Secretary Fred Jacobs have announced that they will run for re-election.

Director Diane Weinbaum is running for re-election.

Director Sandra Byrne is running for election. Sandra Byrne was appointed to the Board of Directors in June.

There are no paper ballots this year. The Board of Directors voted to allow 'election by acclamation'. This means that, because there is only a single candidate running for election to a specific Officer or Board Director position, there is no need for a "secret ballot."

We will also be voting on an amendment to the by-laws that will make this provision permanent.

Please be sure to make a dues payment prior to December 31, 2020. This will keep you as a member in good standing and included in the membership directory. A new updated membership directory will be distributed with the Zoom invitation to the annual meeting.

This is **your** synagogue—know what is happening – attend the Annual Meeting!



This Photo by

SISTERHOOD NEWS

Well, here we are all looking forward to returning to a normal life, but what can we do while we wait?

Sisterhood is still collecting the fronts of your greeting cards so we will be able to collect them at a later date for shipment to St. Jude's Ranch for Children. If you have any questions about this project feel free to contact Dee Marcus.

We are busy doing our Birthday Wishes project if you are a member of the congregation or a member of Sisterhood and do not receive an e-mail wishing you a happy birthday, please check your trash or spam folder. If you do not find it there give Dee Marcus a call and let her know.

Beverly Myers or Marjorie Heyman will be happy to answer any questions you might have about the Knitty Gritty Crafters.

Since we have all been at home it has given each and every one of us time to reflect on what is important in life. The Talmud advises us to say 100 blessings a day, this helps us count our blessings. I know that the ladies in the sisterhood are among my blessings that I reflect on. Each and every one of the members that came together to form the sisterhood contributing their knowledge and hopes for what sisterhood should be was not just a blessing for me, but for all the members and for the whole congregation. The sisterhood has reached out beyond the congregation and enriched the community. Each member has the power to shine the light of hope, charity and justice throughout our community.

There are certain words that set up a barrier making us unable to acknowledge the blessings that lay before us. Words like only, just, barely, merely are an example of these words. When we think of these words, think not; if only we could get together, but think of the blessings of being able to call each other, and to share the service through Zoom. Instead of saying if we could just go out, we could do so much good. Instead think of how we are collecting cards, how we are doing other good deeds both as a group, and as individuals.

Now, there are prayers for food, beauty in nature, and the joys of life all meant to cultivate our Gratitude to G-d, and if we really think about our blessings with humility then we will see that we have way more than 100. Since I myself count every member of our sisterhood and congregation as blessings that puts me over 100 before I even start to count the rest.

If you are interested in working on any project or have an idea for something new for sisterhood please call.

Dee Marcus Sisterhood president 352-750-8086

Do you play Mah Jongg?

ORDER
YOUR 2021
CARD NOW!



ASK
YOUR
FRIENDS

Please ask your friends to order their cards through us.

[You can download the form here.](#)

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

We received \$1,500 for last year's sales. Every card makes a difference!

The league raised the prices by \$1 for the 2021 cards

DEADLINE IS JANUARY 25

Order your 2021 Mah Jongg Cards

Part of the proceeds benefit the Leesburg Food Bank.

Orders should be received by January 25, 2021

Have you ordered from Congregation Beth Sholom before: YES NO

Name: _____ received cards thru the mail in the past: YES NO

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Number of Standard (small) Cards @\$9 _____ Number of Large Print Cards @\$10 _____

Make checks payable to: **Congregation Beth Sholom**

Mail to: Andrea Kraft
1298 N. Hunt Club Drive
Hernando, FL 34442



CELEBRATIONS



Birthdays			Anniversaries	
	January		February	January
1/1	Anita Sherman	2/4	Fred Mularsky	1/24 Judy Albin and Clint Wallbank
1/1	David Chasin	2/9	Barbara Rupert	
1/7	Judy Marshall	2/12	Dan Hirschfeld	
1/9	Maureen Barrett	2/14	John Scholl	
1/10	Helen Jacobs	2/27	Marion Beckman	
1/10	Michael Saks			
1/10	Matthew Cullen			
1/11	Joseph Dowsey			
1/11	Ariella Dowsey			
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			

R'fuah Sh'leima (Get Well Wishes)


to all who have been affected by the Covid-19 crisis and to those who have been ill or have had or will have surgery:

Sheila Saks Marnell LaRoe Hayes Ernie Muller Chet Weinbaum (brother of Diane)

Mi Shebeirach

Our Secretary, Fred Jacobs, maintains a list of our members and their close friends who are in need of healing. The list is presented at services.

To add new names, please send them to Fred at secretary.bethsholom-at-gmail.com. (replace –at– with @) Please remember to let him know when our prayers are no longer needed.



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Thank You

To everyone who placed Honey From The Heart orders, and to Diane Weinbaum for chairing this very successful fundraiser.

To all our members who ordered Mah Jongg cards for themselves and their friends. There is still time to order for your group—deadline is January 25. See page 11.

To everyone who participated in the Menorah lighting during our Chanukah service, and everyone who placed their Chanukiahs so we could see them.

To Sandy Byrne for taking over the responsibility of sending out our congregational emails and maintaining our announcements on the Talk of the Villages Website.

Donations

Karen Salvat in observance of the yahrzeit of her father Jack Wagner.

Additional Membership Renewal Donations: Barry & Cookie Wright

Food Bank Donations:

Marsha Stemerman & Ernie Muller, Debra Jo Forman & Robert Tevelson

General Donations: Robert L Milkman, Elizabeth Morrison, Robert Treibitz & Sonia Baerga, Michael & Tamara Koren

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 on January 8

Selma Strauss	Mother	of	Sally Chletsos	24	Tevet	8-Jan
Shirley Goldfarb	Mother	of	Diveda Spector	25	Tevet	9-Jan
Sylvia Saks	Mother	of	Michael Saks	25	Tevet	9-Jan
Joseph Berger	Father	of	Stephen Berger			10-Jan
Molly Marcus	Mother	of	Robert Marcus			10-Jan
Natalie Lutsky	Mother	of	Linda Kost	27	Tevet	11-Jan
Theresa Rothbard	Aunt	of	Marty Rothbard	29	Tevet	13-Jan
Florence Subit	Mother	of	Bette Croll	3	Shevat	16-Jan
Lenore Kingsberg	Mother	of	Myra Efron			17-Jan
Paula Debra Weinbaum	Sister	of	Diane Weinbaum			17-Jan
Ruth Kraft	Mother	of	Burt Kraft			18-Jan
Herbert Weinstein	Father	of	Yvette Litwack	5	Shevat	18-Jan
Joseph Selsky	Father	of	Gloria Blankenship			19-Jan
Max Tall	Uncle	of	Herb Siegel			19-Jan
Annette Glickson	Grandmother	of	David Chasin			19-Jan
Scott Ferber	Son	of	Robyn Kassie			20-Jan
Irwin Sherman	Husband	of	Anita Sherman	7	Shevat	20-Jan
Jeremy Abram Haimes	Son	of	Marshall Haimes			22-Jan

The following names will be read on January 23

Eve Graham	Mother	of	Eileen Hirschfeld	11	Shevat	24-Jan
Gussie Rothbard	Mother	of	Marty Rothbard	13	Shevat	26-Jan
Philip Gelles	Grandfather	of	Diane Weinbaum			26-Jan
Harry Gripon	Father	of	Helene Bachmann			27-Jan
Evelyn Zalmanovich	Member	of	The Congregation	15	Shevat	28-Jan
Morris Zalmanovich	Member	of	The Congregation	17	Shevat	30-Jan
Jay Victor Noiman	Brother	of	Dee Marcus			3-Feb
Herbert Carl King	Father	of	Robert King			4-Feb
Jake Jurisz	Member	of	The Congregation	22	Shevat	4-Feb
Sidney Koren	Father	of	Michael Koren			7-Feb
Betty Siegel	Wife	of	Herb Siegel and			8-Feb
	Mother	of	Sandra Byrne			
Max Block	Grandfather	of	Marsha Stemerman	26	Shevat	8-Feb
Claire Mohel	Mother	of	Barry Wright	28	Shevat	10-Feb
Stanley Gelles	Uncle	of	Diane Weinbaum			11-Feb
Marilyn Gelles	Aunt	of	Diane Weinbaum			11-Feb
Alice B. Wallbank	Mother	of	Clint Wallbank			11-Feb
Marc Stern	Husband	of	Phyllis Stern			11-Feb
Harry Bokow	Friend	of	Gloria Blankenship	30	Shevat	12-Feb

The following names will be read on February 12

Cindy Hawkins	Granddaughter	of	Ernie Muller			13-Feb
Rose Marcus Milkman	Mother	of	Robert Milkman	1	Adar 1	13-Feb
Percy Fellner	Father	of	Phyllis Berger (on wall)	1	Adar 2	13-Feb
Paula Finkelstein	Aunt	of	Ellen Englander	1	Adar 2	13-Feb
Miriam Zissman Kleinfeldt	Mother	of	Henrietta Lubin			18-Feb
Irving Rothbard	Father	of	Marty Rothbard	4	Adar 1	19-Feb
Dr. Saul Muffs	Father	of	Judy Hartstein	7	Adar 1	19-Feb
Syd Slater	Sister	of	Bette Croll	7	Adar 2	19-Feb
Max Kessler	Founder	of	The Congregation	9	Adar 1	21-Feb
Janet Altstein	Cousin	of	Helene Bachmann			22-Feb
Nathan Goldberg	Father	of	Ira Goldberg	10	Adar 1	22-Feb
Simon Cohen	Grandfather	of	Ronnie-Jane Boekema	11	Adar 1	23-Feb
Etta Pomeranz	Mother	of	Irving Pomeranz	11	Adar 1	23-Feb
Sarah Meyers	Mother	of	Martin Meyers	11	Adar 1	23-Feb
Reva Chasin	Mother	of	David Chasin			26-Feb

The following names will be read on February 27

Benjamin Sloves	Father	of	Phyllis Lax	16	Adar 1	28-Feb
Ludwig Strauss	Father	of	Sally Chletsos	16	Adar 2	28-Feb
Fanny Levine	Aunt	of	Helen Jacobs	17	Adar 1	1-Mar
Peni Berger	Wife	of	Stephen Berger			1-Mar
Kurt Brauner	Father	of	Lene' Zalla			2-Mar
Serita Resnik	Sister	of	Hank Hartstein	18	Adar 1	2-Mar
Al Shanky	Past Pres	of	The Congregation	19	Adar 1	3-Mar
Stanley Lax	Husband	of	Phyllis Lax	20	Adar 1	4-Mar
Howard Wiener	Member	of	The Congregation	24	Adar 1	8-Mar
Cherry Parker	Sister	of	Dan Hirschfeld	25	Adar 1	9-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
Fredy Fox	Father	of	Geri Seward			11-Mar