



March / April 2024

Adar I / Adar II / Nisan 5784

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

Rabbi Karen Allen
386-254-2773

Celebrate Purim and Passover with Congregation Beth Sholom

On Saturday, March 23rd at 10 am we will combine our Shabbat Service with a **Purim Celebration.**

We will sing Purim songs throughout the service and will read the Megillah towards the end of the service.

Come in costume or wear a hat!



Our 2nd night **Passover Seder**, led by Rabbi Allen, will be held on Tuesday, April 23rd in the social hall at the First Baptist Church of Leesburg, two short blocks from our shul. TooJay's is providing our Seder meal.



This very special event always brings our congregation family together in song and celebration.

Make your reservation now! (see p. 6)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT:	Andrea Kraft 352-513-3517	VICE PRESIDENT:	Linda Kost 352-315-0309		
SECRETARY:	Helene Bachmann 310-490-3365	TREASURER:	Dave Englander 352-504-4402		
DIRECTORS:	Barry Wright 352-324-1139	Sandra Byrne 352-586-0119	Fred Jacobs 352-633-0500	Gloria Blankenship 352-750-0721	Francine Rizzotto 352-324-6348

March 2024 Adar I / Adar II 5784

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1  6:07	2
3	4 Exploring Judaism class 4 pm See page 9	5 Board Meeting 4:00 pm	6	7	8 Shabbat Service 7 pm  6:12	9
10	11 Exploring Judaism class 4 pm See page 9	12	13	14 Rabbi's Roundtable 3 pm See below	15  7:16	16
17	18 Exploring Judaism class 4 pm See page 9	19	20	21	22  7:20	23 Purim & Shabbat Service 10:00 am
24	25 Exploring Judaism class 4 pm See page 9	26	27	28	29  7:24	30
31						

Rabbi's Roundtable

Virtual via Zoom on Thursdays March 14 and April 18 at 3pm

The roundtable is a unique, informal discussion with Rabbi Allen and your fellow members and friends of Congregation Beth Sholom.

Each month is a different topic which is sent out via email with the Zoom link

Rabbi Allen is inviting you to share topics you would like to discuss. Email them to President-at-BethSholomFlorida.org (change-at-to @)

Join us and see where the conversation takes us!

April 2024 Adar II / Nisan 5784

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Board Meeting 4:00 pm	3	4	5  7:28	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Shabbat Service 7 pm  7:31	13
14	15	16	17	18 Rabbi's Roundtable 3 pm See page 2	19  7:35	20
21	22	23 2nd night Passover Seder 5:15 pm See page 6	24	25	26  7:40	27 <i>VIRTUAL</i> Shabbat Service 10 am See below
28	29	30				

OUR SATURDAY MORNING SERVICE ON APRIL 27 WILL BE VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM ONLY

WE WILL NOT BE AT THE SYNAGOGUE ON THAT DAY BECAUSE WE ARE UNABLE TO HAVE POLICE SUPPORT DUE TO THE LEESBURG BIKE FESTIVAL.

Rabbi's Message

If I am not for myself, who is for me? If I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when? --
Rabbi Hillel, Pirkei Avot (Ethics of the Fathers) 1:14

What is the price of isolation and inaction – and who pays it?

Many of us are navigating an extended journey of emerging from a personal, years-long period of isolation as a means of defending our physical bodies from danger.

Today, as we prepare for Purim and Passover, festivals celebrating justice and liberation, we are facing a more universal and less healthy isolation: a global pandemic of withdrawal from taking action against attacks, as lethal as any virus, that threaten millions of lives along with the equilibrium, peace and freedom of our entire world.

When Jewish students can be terrorized on campus -- when the atrocities against men and women in Israel signal a new attempt at annihilation of the Jewish people -- the world sees, and knows what this means: that any despot can act without consequence.

The foundational teaching of Judaism that we are responsible for our “neighbor,” a term that includes love and respect for all people everywhere, mandates that we recognize and oppose the impunity with which literal murder is being practiced worldwide.

The virtual extinction of Ukraine, the destruction of its beautiful infrastructure, the resettlement of millions of its innocent people as refugees – or as hostages in Russia -- with little hope of return to their homes, should sound an unrelenting alarm in our hearts. This is the fate many wish for Israel! The voices of hatred are growing louder.

While we consider what our response should be to the exponential increase of attacks against Jews everywhere, the tyrants of the world are taking the world's inaction as the perfect opportunity to extinguish the lives of anyone who opposes their evil intentions.

The murder on February 16, 2024 of Alexei Navalny, long the most feared opponent of the homicidal dictator Putin, is a tragic result of Putin's awareness that there would be no consequences to him of completing his gradual poisoning over years of Mr. Navalny.

Now, as the United States Congress is prevented by a small minority from approving the support for Ukraine and Israel desired strongly not only by America's legislature but by its citizens, we stand, mostly as bystanders, wondering if our beloved country's failure to act is emboldening still further not only Russia, to a long-threatened invasion of Poland and other NATO countries, potentially pulling the U.S. and entire free world into immediate war, but also China, to an impatiently awaited incursion against Taiwan.

Mr. Navalny's widow, Yulia, who had stayed out of public discourse, has now vowed to continue his work against brutal totalitarianism in Russia. What will we do to defend her life? To prevent the total collapse of Ukraine and subsequent reversion of the former Soviet Socialist Republics to Russian control? To insure the survival of Israel and the protection of the Jewish people throughout the world? To see each moment as miracle?

These are not political questions, but moral ones. As we ponder the contemporary application of Hillel's timeless paradox, I wish our extended Congregation Beth Shalom family a Purim of peace preserved and restored, and a sweet, healthy and compassionate Pesach, with love and blessings –
Rabbi Karen Allen – 386.254.2773

The President's Message

I would like to thank all of our members and friends who have ordered their 2024 Mah Jongg cards through Congregation Beth Sholom. There was a significant increase over prior years. This will allow us to increase our support of the Leesburg Food Bank.

At recent services we have thoroughly enjoyed the sponsored Onegs and Kiddishes. They have elevated our socializing after services which allow us to catch up with our Synagogue Family. Thank you to Gloria Blankenship for the Oneg on Jan 12 in memory of her father, Joseph Selsky and to Helene Bachmann for the Kiddush on Jan 27 in memory of her father, Harry Gripon. At our recent Friday night service, which was the Board Recognition Service - Elise Lev sponsored the Oneg to honor the yahrzeit of her rabbi of many years, Rabbi Mark S. Golub, the internationally influential educator, founder and CEO of the global television network, the Jewish Broadcasting Service. Elise shared her personal connection to Rabbi Golub which was inspirational. Once again, thank you to Gloria, Helene, and Elise for the delicious food they prepared and served for the occasion. If you would like to be a sponsor, see page 13.

For those members who attended our Annual Meeting in person, they were treated to a spectacular brunch that Director Francine Rizzotto organized with Director Helene Bachmann's help. Thank you to Francine and Helene for making it so special!

Our 2nd Night Seder will be held at the Social Hall of our neighbor, First Baptist Church of Leesburg. We are fortunate that they reached out after the horrific events of Oct 7th and offered their support. I would certainly like to thank them for their generosity in offering their facility for our use. I would like to personally thank the committee - Helene Bachmann, Marjorie Heyman and Francine Rizzotto for picking up the mantle after my husband Burt & I have organized the event for many years. I know that they will do a great job. I hope you will be celebrating Passover with us this year. See page 6.

On another personal note – I would like to thank Dave Englander and Helene Bachmann for stepping up at any services I was unable to attend to do the announcements, etc.

Shalom

Andrea Kraft

Andrea Kraft, President, 352-513-3517 Andrea.Kraft1298@gmail.com



Catered by:



Brownwood

Second Night Passover Seder
Tuesday, April 23rd, 2024
Seder begins at 5:15 pm
At First Baptist Church of Leesburg
Social Hall
220 North 13th Street, Leesburg



Seder Dinner			
Entrée:	Oven Roasted Beef Brisket Herb Roasted Chicken Baked Salmon with Hollandaise on the side	Sides:	Matzoh Ball Soup Chopped Liver Carrot Tzimmes Roasted Red Potatoes Coffee, Iced Tea, and Water
Vege- tarian 1:	Roasted Portobello Mushroom Stack Topped with Roasted red peppers, Marinara Sauce Provolone cheese	Sides:	House Salad Steamed Broccoli Cheese can be left off if requested
Vege- tarian 2:	Grilled Black Bean Patty topped with sauteed onions and provolone cheese	Sides:	House Salad Steamed Broccoli Cheese can be left off if requested
On the table:	Gefilte Fish, Matzo, Wine, Grape Juice, and Seder plate.	Dessert	Assortment of Passover cakes and cookies including macaroons and a sugar free dessert
Cost: Members \$50 Guests \$55			

Enter your reservation info here:	Entrée choice—circle one	Amount Due
Name:	Brisket Chicken Salmon Vegetarian 1 Vegetarian 2	
Name:	Brisket Chicken Salmon Vegetarian 1 Vegetarian 2	
Name:	Brisket Chicken Salmon Vegetarian 1 Vegetarian 2	
Name:	Brisket Chicken Salmon Vegetarian 1 Vegetarian 2	
Name:	Brisket Chicken Salmon Vegetarian 1 Vegetarian 2	
Name:	Brisket Chicken Salmon Vegetarian 1 Vegetarian 2	
Name:	Brisket Chicken Salmon Vegetarian 1 Vegetarian 2	
GRAND TOTAL DUE:		

USE BACK TO LIST ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES

Reserved seating only for full tables of 8. Let us know if you have a group of 8 people.

Your Name: _____ Phone: _____

Make check payable to Congregation Beth Sholom

Mail form and check to

Helene Bachmann 3124 Burns Drive, The Villages, FL 32163

DEADLINE IS April 12

Lake Rheumatology and Internal Medicine

KENNETH STARK, M.D.

Arthritis & Joint Disease Specialist

Board Certified Rheumatologist Osteoporosis Center

Vista Square

1613 Banning Beach Road

Tavares, FL 32778

Call **Mr. Handyman** to take care of everything on your "to-do" list!



Call Today!

352-259-6566



a neighborly company

Hire the professionals to take care of all your projects, large or small.

- Drywall Repairs
- Wood Rot Repairs
- Dryer Vent Cleaning
- Storage Solutions
- Grab Bars and Modifications
- Locally owned and operated
- Licensed - Insured - Guaranteed
- www.mrhandyman.com



LIC#CGC1513681



Game Day Sunday May 5 1:00-4:00

At the Congregation Beth Sholom Social Hall

Please come and join us. Whether you like playing card games, board games or enjoy some trivia, it will be fun.

If you have a favorite game, please let us know its name and bring it along. If there is a game you might enjoy, but don't know how to play, no problem, someone will be glad to show you how.

Tentative list of games is: Dominoes – Mexican Train, Cards – Five Crowns, Phase 10 or any other card games and Trivia – various categories.

While it's a day to play games, it's really a time for us to get together for some fun, refreshments and conversation.

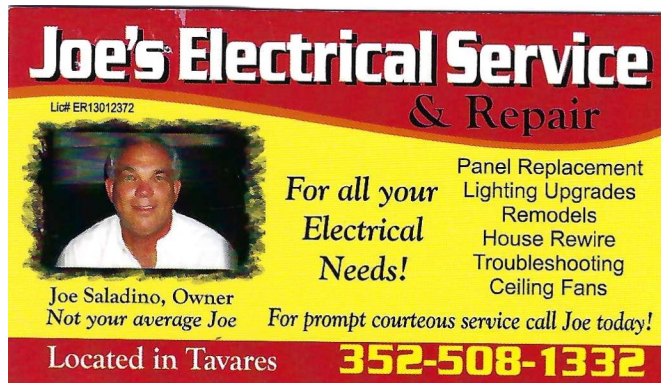
Please contact Helene Steinberg via email hsteinberg12-at-aol.com (replace –at– with @) or call 352-787-4339 by Friday, April 26 to let her know you will attend and what game you're interested in playing.



Interior • Exterior • Residential • Commercial

Best's Painting & Pressure Washing

Nathan Best
352.321.0639
 nbest34715@hotmail.com



Joe's Electrical Service & Repair

Lic# ER13012372

For all your **Electrical Needs!**

Panel Replacement
 Lighting Upgrades
 Remodels
 House Rewire
 Troubleshooting
 Ceiling Fans

Joe Saladino, Owner
 Not your average Joe

For prompt courteous service call Joe today!

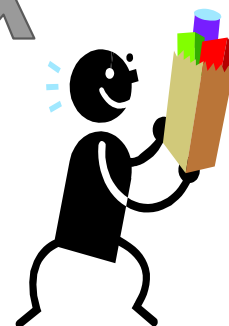
Located in Tavares **352-508-1332**

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.

You can also donate cash and checks made payable to Congregation Beth Sholom with "Food Bank" in the memo.

Everything is given to the needy at no cost.



PARKING ALONGSIDE THE BUILDING IS NOW DESIGNATED FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ONLY

We are requesting that those who are able park in the parking lot across 13th Street, so that the parking on the side of our building can be available for those members and guests who have mobility issues.





VIRTUAL Exploring Judaism Adult Education Class via Zoom Mondays in March with Marsha

March 4, 11, 18, and 25 4:00-5:00 pm

Back to Basics and Beyond Taught by our *Gabbai*, Marsha Stemerman

Do you know there are two Torahs that are the foundation of Judaism?

We will be discussing the Written Torah and all its books and the Oral Torah which will include the timeline of when each component was written and the people involved.

This is a refresher course in the basic books of Judaism and their relevance today along with additional interesting insights.

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

This is a virtual class held on Zoom.

If you are not a member of Congregation Beth Sholom we would
appreciate a donation to the synagogue.

Please sign up as class outlines and information will be emailed to
participants.

Let us study together to enrich our lives.

Sign up sheet in synagogue or
contact Marsha Stemerman

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



CELEBRATIONS



Birthdays			Anniversaries		
	March		April		March
3/4	Mark Simon	4/3	Anna Marie Werksman	3/5	Ceb and Gloria Blankenship
3/4	Beverly Meyers	4/4	Freedra Louthan	3/20	Hank and Judy Hartstein
3/8	Alexis Scholl	4/8	Dr. Michael Levine	3/21	Michael and Diane Levine
3/8	Marsha Grabois	4/8	Robyn Dowsey	3/27	Ben and Marion Solotoroff
3/13	Jack Werksman	4/10	David Litwack		April
3/19	Pamela Singer Milkman	4/10	Hank Hartstein	4/19	Mark and Phyllis Simon
		4/24	Bette Croll		
		4/27	Sonia Baerga Treibitz		
		4/30	Fred Jacobs		

Welcome New Members

George & Barbara Liberman, Marge Buxbaum

R'fuah Sh'leima (Get Well Wishes)

to those who have been ill or have had or will have surgery:
Roz Wenrich, Bill Hillman, Dan Hirschfeld

Mi Shebeirach

During the months of March and April, Linda Kost (March) and Gloria Blankenship (April) will be maintaining the list of our members and their close friends who are in need of healing.

Rabbi Allen reads the list at services.

To add new names, please send them to President-at-BethSholomFlorida.org (replace -at- with @). Your request will be forwarded to the correct person. If you prefer to call, in March call Linda at 973-479-9708, in April call Gloria at 352-750-0721.

Thank You

To Andrea and Burt Kraft for managing the Mah Jongg card orders.

To everyone who ordered Mah Jongg cards for themselves and their friends.

To Francine Rizzotto and Helene Bachmann for the wonderful brunch at our Annual Meeting

To Gloria Blankenship for sponsoring the Oneg on Jan 12 in honor of the yahrzeit of her father, Joseph Selsky

To Helene Bachmann for sponsoring the Kiddush on Jan 27 in honor of the yahrzeit of her father, Harry Gripon

To Elise Lev for sponsoring the Oneg on Feb 9 in honor of the yahrzeit of Rabbi Mark S. Golub

To the Board of Directors, for sponsoring the Kiddush on Feb 24 in honor of Rabbi Allen

To Francine Rizzotto and Helene Bachmann for preparing the food for Rabbi Allen's 15th anniversary celebration on Feb 24

To Sandy Byrne for handling the Oneg and Kiddush reservations while Roz is recovering

To Linda Kost for her help preparing the Exploring Judaism class material and email announcements for the Zoom sessions.

To Barry Wright and Francine Rizzotto for volunteering at the Leesburg Food Bank

Donations

Legacy of Leesburg Democratic Club to Rabbi Karen Allen for her speaking about the war in Israel.

Adam Tress for the Exploring Judaism class

General Donations: Robert L Milkman, Elizabeth Morrison, Sheldon & Joan Treibitz, Robert & Sonia Baerga Treibitz, Michael Fruchter

Food Bank Donations:

Backpack Program: Dr. Marnell La Roe Hayes

CALL THE RABBI!

Rabbi Allen would love to speak with you about anything you would like to discuss, ask or request.

No one but you can know your thoughts, or predict when you may need a conversation, so please reach out by telephone (386.254.2773), text or email (rabbikarenallen-at-aol.com).

If by email, please send a text to alert her to check through her emails to find yours.

She is only a phone call away!

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.

- *Substantial Savings For The Beth Sholom Congregation*
 - *Private, V.I.P. Tours Available*
- *Free, No Obligation Review of Your Current Arrangements*

Please Call Today 352-702-9027



Hillcrest Memorial Gardens

For All Your Memorial Services:

Funeral Home • Cemetery • Cremation • Mausoleum

1901 CR 25A • Leesburg, FL 34748 • www.hillcrestmemgard.com

Page-Theus Funeral Home & Cremation Services
914 W. Main St. • Leesburg, FL 34748

Banks/Page Theus Funeral Home
410 Webster St. • Wildwood, FL 34785

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 Sponsors and Available Dates:

March 8 Marge Buxbaum in honor of her wedding anniversary (her husband Bennett passed away recently)

March 23

April 12

April 27—no kiddush, service is VIRTUAL on ZOOM ONLY

May 10

May 25 Sandy Byrne and Herb Siegel honoring America's military men and women who lost their lives in service to their country

June 14 Dave and Ellen Englander in celebration of their anniversary

June 29

July 12

July 27

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 refreshments.

Challah, wine, paper goods and plasticware are provided by the shul.

Roz Wenrich is recovering from recent surgery. Sandy Byrne will be covering for her.
Contact Sandy at sbyrne1000—at—gmail.com or 352-586-0119 to reserve your date

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.

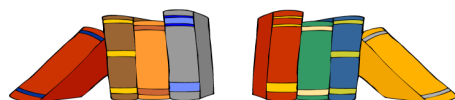
He will send the card on your behalf,
and your good wishes will appear in the Shofar.



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.



LENDING LIBRARY ON OUR BOOK SHELF!

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.

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


It is with great sadness that we tell you Diane Weinbaum passed away on January 11. May her memory endure for a blessing.

The following names will be read on March 8

Sophie Siegel	Mother	of	Herb Siegel			9-Mar
Jack Finkelstein	Father	of	Phyllis Simon			9-Mar
Fredy Fox	Father	of	Geri Seward			11-Mar
Percy Fellner	Father	of	Phyllis Berger (on wall)	1	Adar 2	11-Mar
Paula Finkelstein	Aunt	of	Ellen Englander	1	Adar 2	11-Mar
Melvin Mularsky	Uncle	of	Nathan Mularsky			17-Mar
and	son	of	founding rabbi of the congregation			
Syd Slater	Sister	of	Bette Croll	7	Adar 2	17-Mar
R Ellen Scholl	Sister-in-law	of	John Scholl			19-Mar
Morris Treibitz	Father	of	Sheldon & Robert Treibitz			21-Mar
David Stone	Son	of	Richard Stone			22-Mar

The following names will be read on March 23

Betty Mularsky	Wife	of	founding rabbi of the congregation			24-Mar
Ludwig Strauss	Father	of	Sally Chletsos	16	Adar 2	26-Mar
Rhoda Treibitz	Sister	of	Sheldon & Robert Treibitz			28-Mar
Donald Bloom	Husband	of	Lynne Bloom			31-Mar
Solomon Siegel	Grandfather	of	Herb Siegel			1-Apr
Pauline Fox	Mother	of	Geri Seward			5-Apr
Coleman Treibitz	Brother	of	Sheldon & Robert Treibitz			7-Apr
Gary Englander	Son	of	David and Ellen Englander	1	Nisan	9-Apr
Nettie Altshul	Mother-in-law	of	Stephen Berger			11-Apr

The following names will be read on April 12

Judith Moskowitz	Cousin	of	Dan Hirschfeld	4	Nisan	12-Apr
Forest LaRoe	Father	of	Sally Rosenberg			13-Apr
and	Uncle	of	Dr. Marnell LaRoe Hayes			
Maurice M. Berger M.D.	Husband	of	Phyllis Berger (on wall)	9	Nisan	17-Apr
Evelyn Danzig	Mother-in-law	of	Marge Buxbaum	9	Nisan	17-Apr
April Jacobs	Daughter	of	Fred and Helen Jacobs	13	Nisan	21-Apr
Kathleen Rosenzweig	Sister	of	Hank Hartstein	13	Nisan	21-Apr
Sylvia Bokow	Friend	of	Gloria Blankenship	14	Nisan	22-Apr
Elly Rothbard	Wife	of	Marty Rothbard			23-Apr
Ike Leon Glickson	Grandfather	of	David Chasin			26-Apr

The following names will be read on April 27

Nathan Subit	Father	of	Bette Croll	19	Nisan	27-Apr
Adela Ide Weinstein	Mother	of	Yvette Litwack	22	Nisan	30-Apr
Justin Simon	Father	of	Mark Simon			1-May
Josephine Hock	Mother	of	Melinda Hock			1-May
Ruth Marx	Mother	of	Ellen Englander	26	Nisan	4-May
Marion Kaplan	Aunt	of	Marsha Stemerman	27	Nisan	5-May
Harry Jacobs	Father	of	Fred Jacobs	30	Nisan	8-May

Congregation Beth Sholom

315 North 13th Street
Leesburg, FL 34748

Phone: 352-326-3692

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