



November / December 2020

Cheshvan / Kislev / Tevet 5781

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

Rabbi Karen Allen
386-254-2773

In light of the Covid-19 pandemic, all of our services and meetings are held virtually using Zoom technology. Zoom can be used on a smartphone, tablet, or computer. The Zoom meeting starts a half hour before each service, to allow for socializing before the service begins. The services are kept to one hour because sitting in front of a computer is not as comfortable as sitting in our sanctuary. If you have not attended a service, please give it a try. You may be surprised to see how fulfilling it is.

At the November 13th service we will commemorate Veteran's Day and Kristallnacht.

At the November 28th service we will celebrate Thanksgiving.

At the December 11th service we will honor our new members and celebrate Chanukah.

At the December 26th service we will look forward to the New Year.

Whether or not you choose to participate in a service or a Rabbi's Roundtable Torah Study, we are glad that you are keeping in touch with us and look forward to 'seeing you' soon.

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	Sandra Byrne 843-437-9184

OUR FOUNDERS

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George & Sybil Satin	Berte Rita Bloch	Jack & Lillian Satin
* LED SERVICES:	*Getzel & Betty Mularsky	*William & Dorothy Lieberman

November 2020 Cheshvan / Kislev 5781

ALL SERVICES AND MEETINGS ARE VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM

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

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.

Rabbi's Roundtable

Thursdays November 19 and December 17 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.

December 2020 Kislev / Tevet 5781

ALL SERVICES AND MEETINGS ARE VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM

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

New Member Service

Friday evening, December 11 at 7:00 pm (virtual doors open at 6:30)

During this special service we will honor those members who have joined or returned to our congregation since our last new member celebration:

New members: David and Betty Chasin, Sally Chletsos, Melinda Hock, Lisa Moring, Geri Seward
Returning Member: Freda Feibel

If you joined us or returned to us this past year and are not on the list, or would like to join and be included in this celebration, please notify Marsha Stemerman at marshasz2002-at-yahoo.com (replace _at_ with @) or call her at 352-630-9259.

Rabbi's Message

See the good in the bad, for then the bad turns to good – The Baal Shem Tov

With the High Holidays just barely in our rear view mirror, could Chanukah be coming so soon? What will our celebration be without sitting in a circle around all of those blazing *Chanukiyot* (menorahs), singing songs of the holiday? And how can we savor the anticipation of Thanksgiving when it is not yet safe to share hugs and a wonderful meal with those with whom we most want to give thanks?

I miss the oasis of our sanctuary and the physical closeness of our members and guests. Living alone, I have no one else in my “bubble,” and even though my work has always required long hours of solitary study, I spend an even higher proportion of time by myself now.

Of course, that is the right thing to do. I was able to vote by placing my absentee ballot in the box at the early voting precinct, so I did not have to participate in the exposure to long lines for long periods. I've got a great new workout and health protocol. And, thankfully, I am able to have everything I need.

But, necessities aside, what happened to good, old-fashioned fun? And, many of us may be asking, for what do we really have to be thankful?

As always, our Jewish tradition has the answers to all our questions! Just a few weeks ago, at our Sukkot service, we read from King Solomon's *Ecclesiastes* that there is a time and season for everything. We have been given the time, and now we have the blessing and opportunity to choose how we will spend it.

As Thanksgiving approaches, I am deeply and enduringly grateful for the decision that so many of you, our members and circle of loved ones, have made to spend this time with us, your Congregation Beth Sholom spiritual family. You have been staying in touch and encouraging each other by telephone. And the amount of time, effort and expertise required to create and maintain our virtual activities has been enormous -- no one could do all of this alone.

It has been a real revelation, and a truly peak experience, working with our community leaders, during our events and behind the scenes, to make our virtual life together possible. Seeing your participation, and hearing your conversation before and after services and events, has drawn me even closer than I ever could have imagined to so many of you. And, yes, it has been fun!

Jewish learning is traditionally done in small groups. We have honored this tradition, and brought it to life in a new way, *together*. Thank you so much for drawing me into your circle of study, of prayer, of conversation. As we approach our secular holidays and New Year, I wish you and all your loved ones the best of health, the fulfillment of learning, and the fun of sharing it all – with grateful love and blessings – Rabbi Karen Allen – 386.254.2773.

The President's Message

As I look back over the past few months, I know that our High Holiday Services were a highlight of our year. It was certainly different than in past years. Thank you to everyone who participated to make our services possible: Rabbi Allen, Gabbai Marsha Stemerman, and Asst Gabbi Dr Marnell LaRoe Hayes, and our Shofar blower Michael Saks. Looking at it in a positive light, family, friends and guests were able to join us virtually so that gave our observances a special feeling. For those who are not comfortable driving (at night or otherwise) this gave them the opportunity to join us for services.

I would like to thank everyone for their generous donations for the High Holidays.

Unfortunately, we don't know when we'll be able to resume in person services, but we will continue to worship virtually. Our Friday November 13th service will include our Veteran's Day program with material from Ret Lt Col Herb Siegel. His patriotic readings are always poignant. This service will also include our remembrance of Kristallnacht.

Our Friday December 11th Service will be our Chanukah and New Member service. Each year at our December Friday evening service we recognize and honor those people who have joined our synagogue family during the year.

There is another advantage to our virtual world. The Rabbi's Roundtables have been very popular during the past few months especially for those who don't live near The Villages. If you are not familiar with them, it will be easy for you to attend one from the comfort of your home. See page 2 for more information.

During this time of extreme need, we continue to support the Leesburg Food Bank. Anyone who would like to donate food can drop it off at the Food Bank during their operating hours (Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9am – 12). If you would prefer to support the Food Bank by making a financial donation, please feel free to send your check to Congregation Beth Sholom and we will make sure that the Food Bank gets it. See page 8 for more information about the Food Bank.

We have started our Annual Mah Jongg Campaign, which has been a successful fundraiser. If you play Mah Jongg we would appreciate it if you can order your card through us and ask your friends to do so as well. The order form is on page 11.

If you are a member, please plan on joining us for our Annual Meeting which is scheduled to be held on Sunday January 10th at 11am. At this point, I assume it will be held virtually. This is your synagogue so please be sure to attend and share your thoughts for our future. At that time, we will be electing the President, Secretary and 2 Board Members. If these nominees are unopposed, the Secretary will cast a single vote which will be recorded as "Elected by Acclamation", so that we do not have to have a secret written ballot during these unprecedented times.

Shalom,

Andrea

Andrea Kraft, President, 352-513-3517

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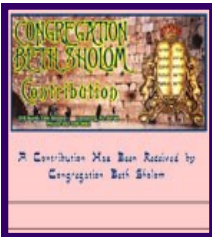


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There are lots of reasons to send cards:

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.

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Leesburg Food Bank

Written by Director Barry Wright, who volunteers at the Food Bank. Barry's wife Cookie and members Chip and Francine Rizzotto also volunteer there. The food bank is located at 503 North 13th Street, just 2 blocks from the shul.

The last 7 months have been very strange as everyone knows. The Leesburg Food Bank has had its ups and downs. Actually the area was unbelievably generous. With the people getting the government assistance the food bank was not getting a lot of requests for food.

Now everything is getting back to normal. Food is still the first priority. Canned fruit and canned pork and beans are a priority. They definitely do not need cold cereal. Food bank is restricting access so the collection of clothes has been limited. They will still pick up large items such as furniture and appliances. Their number is 352-326-5463.

Everything is given to the needy at no cost.

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. 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.

At this time, we do not know if the meeting will be held at the synagogue or virtually via Zoom. The decision remains with the status of the Covid virus in our area. Either way, all members who have paid their annual dues are encouraged to attend the meeting and participate in the election of officers.

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.

Nominations: If you would like to run for any of the positions, please let any board member know immediately, by phone or email. The deadline for submission is November 15th.

Please be sure to make your 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 at the annual meeting.

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



SISTERHOOD NEWS

Wow! Sisterhood has a new community service project. We have started to collect the fronts of your recycled cards for St Jude's Ranch for Children to be sold in their gift shop, and on line. They also accept new cards with or without envelopes. They can not accept cards made by Hallmark, American greetings, and Disney due to copy right laws, nor cards that promote other charitable organizations. The recycled card program helps St Jude's to provide teens with life and work skills. Sisterhood would welcome the help of any congregation members in this project. If you have any questions please give me a call.

News on our other projects: The Knitty Gritty Crafters are still working away on articles for the community service project for cancer patients. Anyone interested in this project can call either Beverly Myers or Marjorie Heyman. The Birthday wishes project is going well. If you have had a Birthday in or after August 2020 and have not received a birthday message from Sisterhood please check junk or spam mail. Sometimes e-mails get sent to junk if the addresses are not familiar to your computer. If anyone knows of someone that could use a call from the care committee please do not hesitate to give me a call.

This month I have tried to talk to or leave a message of good cheer to all of Sisterhood members. I am happy to report that the members I talked to are safe and keeping positive.

If you can help in any way or have any questions please call me (Dee Marcus) at 352-750-8086.

Thank you,
Dee Marcus
Sisterhood President

If you have not yet become a member of sisterhood please consider sending your \$10.00 membership to Marion Solotoroff at 3532 Obrien Place, The Villages, Fl 32163.

Do you play Mah Jongg?



Please ask your friends to order their cards through us.

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

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		
	November		December		November
11/4	Ira Goldberg	12/13	Marshall Haimes	11/16	Burt and Andrea Kraft
11/6	Melinda Hock	12/13	Sandra Byrne	11/24	Susan and Lou Glaser
11/7	Linda Smithson	12/14	Dorothy Strauss		
11/8	Marion Solotoroff	12/15	Helene Bachmann		
11/10	Nettie Goeler	12/17	Cookie Wright		
11/12	Lynne Bloom	12/18	Alisa Jacoby		December
11/13	Kathy Gipe	12/21	Janice Klein	12/21	Arthur and Henrietta Lubin
11/22	Geri Seward	12/21	Arthur Lubin	12/25	David and Yvette Litwack
11/30	Gloria Blankenship	12/25	Judy Snader	12/26	Marty and Judy Snader
11/30	Marsha Stemerman	12/26	Irving Pomeranz		
		12/26	Sidney Cullen		
		12/27	Myra Efron		

Welcome Members

New: Lisa Moring, Melinda Hock, Geri Seward **Returning:** Freda Feibel

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:
Marnell LaRoe Hayes, Roz Wenrich, Ernie Muller

Mazel Tov

The Board of Directors bestowed an Honorary Life Membership upon Freddie Mularsky, son of our founding Rabbi Getzel Mularsky, in recognition of his dedication and, through him, that of his entire family, for their contributions to Congregation Beth Sholom.



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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.

Thank You

To Rabbi Allen for the incredible job she did to create and coordinate condensed High Holiday services that we were able to follow, for her inspirational insights, and for her beautiful renditions of our prayers.

To Andrea Kraft for scheduling and facilitating our Zoom services.

To Michael Saks for blowing the Shofar at our High Holiday services.

To *Gabbai* Marsha Stemerman for all of the work she did to make our S'lichot and High Holiday services so meaningful, and for her continued contributions to all our Shabbat services.

To Assistant *Gabbai* Dr. Marnell LaRoe Hayes for beautiful interpretations of her many readings during the services.

To Diane Weinbaum for coordinating the Honey from the Heart fundraiser. We raised \$540!

To Dave Englander for maintaining the building, recently changing the batteries on our smoke detectors.

To Fred Jacobs for maintaining our *Misheberach* List. We are constantly updating it to include family and friends who are in need of healing prayers.

To Fred & Helen Jacobs for donating the materials and postage for mailing of the 5871 calendar and Book of Remembrance to all our CBS members.

To Fred & Helen Jacobs for donating the disabled parking sign for the lot on the side of our building.

To Linda Kost for compiling the Book of Remembrance, editing The Shofar, maintaining our website, keeping us informed by writing and sending out all the email, maintaining the list of birthdays, anniversaries, and yahrzeits, and all the other work that she does throughout the year.

Donations

Karen Salvat in observance of the yahrzeit of her mother Jeanette Wagner

Dorothy Strauss in honor of the beautiful High Holiday services with a thank you to Rabbi Allen and all who helped to make it happen

Food Bank Donations: Marsha Stemerman, Ernie Muller, Dorothy Strauss

General Donations: Robert L Milkman, Elizabeth Morrison, Fern Singer, Roz Wenrich, Lt Col (Ret) Herb Siegel, Robyn Dowsey, Judy Albin & Clint Wallbank

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 November 13						
Vivien Davis	Mother-in-law	of	Ira Goldberg	27	Cheshvan	14-Nov
Joseph Singer	Father	of	Fern Singer	27	Cheshvan	14-Nov
Miriam Cohen	Grandmother	of	Ronnie-Jane Boekema	28	Cheshvan	15-Nov
Rebecca Berger	Mother-in-law	of	Phyllis Berger (on wall)	1	Kislev	17-Nov
Rabbi Sherman Stein	Member	of	The Congregation	1	Kislev	17-Nov
Philip Feiertag	Father	of	Rick Feiertag			17-Nov
Ralph Israel	Grandfather	of	Sandra Byrne			18-Nov
Morris Fiegura	Grandfather	of	Yvette Litwack	2	Kislev	18-Nov
Rabbi Jackie Wexler	Rabbi	of	The Congregation	3	Kislev	19-Nov
Ben Levine	Father	of	Michael Levine	3	Kislev	19-Nov
Annette Gay	Member	of	The Congregation	5	Kislev	21-Nov
Ray Jacobs	Mother	of	Fred Jacobs	5	Kislev	21-Nov
Henry Rabin	Father	of	Lisa Moring			21-Nov
Esther Drexler	Mother	of	Mike Drexler			22-Nov
Jerry Tamofsky	Cousin	of	Marty Rothbard	6	Kislev	22-Nov
Theodore Englander	Brother	of	David Englander	8	Kislev	24-Nov
The following names will be read on November 28						
Sonia Gelles	Grandmother	of	Diane Weinbaum			29-Nov
Hedwig Freundlich	Grandmother	of	Dan Hirschfeld	14	Kislev	30-Nov
Shirley Singer	Mother	of	Fern Singer	15	Kislev	1-Dec
Bernice Simon Oruska	Mother	of	Mark Simon			1-Dec
Lillian Schloss	Mother	of	Andrea Kraft			2-Dec
Emanuel Smith	Father	of	Francine Rizzotto	17	Kislev	3-Dec
Milton Goldfarb	Father	of	Diveda Spector	17	Kislev	3-Dec
Lillian Reece	Member	of	The Congregation	17	Kislev	3-Dec
Manny Spaiman	Gabbi	of	The Congregation	18	Kislev	4-Dec
Ernest Marx	Uncle	of	Ellen Englander	20	Kislev	6-Dec
Stephan Spector	Husband	of	Diveda Spector	22	Kislev	8-Dec
Ouida Israel	Grandmother	of	Sandra Byrne			8-Dec
Ida Treibitz	Mother	of	Sheldon & Robert Treibitz			9-Dec
Ruth Warshaw	Mother	of	Marsha Stemerman	23	Kislev	9-Dec
Henry Rowe	Father	of	Marjorie R. Heyman	23	Kislev	9-Dec
Carol White	Sister	of	George Brogan			10-Dec
The following names will be read on December 11						
Dave Schenerman	Member	of	The Congregation	26	Kislev	12-Dec
Yvette Somer	Mother	of	Barbara Rupert	26	Kislev	12-Dec
Sabrina Hirschfeld	Daughter-in-law	of	Dan and Eileen Hirschfeld	28	Kislev	14-Dec
Bernadine Weiss	Member	of	The Congregation	30	Kislev	16-Dec
Fred Marcus	Father	of	Robert Marcus			16-Dec
Arthur Weinberger	Father	of	Judy Marshall			17-Dec
Moshe Freiwirth	Husband	of	Edith Freiwirth			19-Dec
Aaron Kingsberg	Father	of	Myra Efron			20-Dec
Selma Sager	Mother	of	Roz Wenrich			21-Dec
Rabbi Getzel Mularsky	Father	of	Freddie Mularsky			22-Dec
		and	founding rabbi of the Congregation			
Edward Meyers	Father	of	Martin Meyers	7	Tevet	22-Dec
Donald Goeler	Father	of	Ronny Goeler	8	Tevet	23-Dec
Joel Zalla	Husband	of	Lene Zalla			24-Dec
Elenore Donnerstein	Aunt	of	Herb Siegel			24-Dec
Albert Haimes	Father	of	Marshall Haimes			25-Dec
Frances Land	Mother	of	Bobbi Feiertag			25-Dec
Manfred Kohn	Member	of	The Congregation	10	Tevet	25-Dec
The following names will be read on December 26						
Sylvia Englander	Mother	of	David Englander	14	Tevet	29-Dec
Janet Wagner	Mother	of	Nettie Goeler	14	Tevet	29-Dec
Herman Saks	Father	of	Michael Saks	15	Tevet	30-Dec
Jerome Strauss	Husband	of	Dorothy Strauss	15	Tevet	30-Dec
Manuel Lutsky	Father	of	Linda Kost	15	Tevet	30-Dec
Marie Plitt	Mother	of	Betty Chasin			30-Dec
Sinclair Zeigen	Father	of	Joan Treibitz			31-Dec
Bertram Davis	Father-in-law	of	Ira Goldberg	17	Tevet	1-Jan
Jack Wagner	Father	of	Karen Salvat	17	Tevet	1-Jan
Bessie Snader	Mother	of	Marty Snader			4-Jan
Sarah D. Cramer	Mother	of	Pam Singer & Lowell Cramer	22	Tevet	6-Jan
Elaine Friedman	Mother	of	Linda Friedman	22	Tevet	6-Jan
Selma Strauss	Mother	of	Sally Chletsos	24	Tevet	8-Jan