

November / December 2021

Cheshvan / Kislev / Tevet 5782

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

Rabbi Karen Allen 386-254-2773



We are thrilled to announce that our building is open for services!

Our October 23rd Saturday morning service was held in the Sanctuary. Everyone there was so happy to finally be able to gather together in our spiritual home, after being apart for 19 months.

In an abundance of caution we are requiring that everyone entering the building wears a mask. Although we would love to be able to hug each other, we are also requesting that social distancing is maintained.

We are aware that some of our members and guests may prefer to attend services virtually. We are working on the technology needed to stream our live services, and hope to have that available very soon.

The Rabbi's Roundtable monthly discussion group will continue to be virtual.

We will continue to adjust our protocols as the Covid situation evolves, and look forward to the time when we can resume all activities without restrictions.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS							
PRESIDENT:	Andrea Kraft 352-513-3517		VICE PRI	ESIDENT:		a Kost 15-0309	
SECRETARY:	Fred Jacobs 352-633-0500		TREASU	RER:		Englander 04-4402	
DIRECTORS:	Barry Wright 352-324-1139	Diane We 352-636-4		Ben Soloto 352-775-87		Sandra Byrne 352-586-0119	

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November 2021

Cheshvan / Kislev 5782

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

Join us for a special service on Friday night, November 12th. Our member, LTC Herbert Siegel (ret.) has put together special readings to pay tribute to our Veterans. We will also remember Kristallnacht.

Rabbi's Roundtable

Virtually via Zoom on Thursdays November 18 and December 16 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 2021 Kislev / Tevet 5782

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

New Member Service

Friday evening, December 10 at 7:00 pm

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

New members: Marcia Cohen- & Ronald Robins, Arline & George Cooke, Bill Hillman, David and Betty Chasin, Sally Chletsos, Melinda Hock, Geri Seward Returning Member: Freda Feibel

If you joined us or returned to us during the past 2 years 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.

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Rabbi's Message

None of us, including me, ever do great things. But we can all do small things, with great love, and together we can do something wonderful. — Mother Teresa

At the time this issue of the Shofar is published, we have just shared the first in-person service at our Congregation Beth Sholom sanctuary since its major health-promoting refurbishment. This was a tremendous accomplishment of which we can be proud. What a joy to see – and hear – everyone together again!

As we look forward to celebrating the Thanksgiving and Chanukah holidays gathered in our spiritual home, we begin to ponder how to honor, this year, the important people in our lives.

What can we offer those we love as our personal gift this Chanukah? We are fortunate to have so much for which to be grateful. For those of us blessed with biological family, there is much to give and receive, within and across the generations. Sometimes our voice, or our ear, can be the greatest gift. With the younger members of our family, we can share stories of our lives, lessons we have learned from which they may benefit. With our elders, we can listen – and learn. Carrying forward what they have taught us is a powerful show of respect, and a beautiful way to honor our loved ones.

Within our Congregation Beth Sholom community, we all are surrounded by many family members who are not relatives! Each of us has so much to say, so much to share, and so much to give to each other. It doesn't take an insurmountable effort to find out who would welcome a phone call, a conversation, an expression of interest, a sharing of our stories or listening to theirs.

To those dedicated congregation members who have worked so hard, and who continue to make a difference as we enter this holiday season -- in the synagogue, on the phone, or online -- we can all take the time to give them a hearty "thank you" for keeping Congregation Beth Sholom a vibrant, vital force. We need all of you, each engaging in your own unique, irreplaceable way in this communal journey of mutual respect and appreciation.

With your continued participation and contribution, whether within the walls of our synagogue building, within the walls of our homes, or within the community, may our influence in the world, our true spiritual legacy, remain always for the good – with love and blessings for joyous and healthy holidays – Rabbi Karen Allen – 386.254.2773.

The President's Message

I'm happy to report that we have now had our first in person service in more than 18 months! The members who attended were thrilled to see the building while I explained some of the work that we've done the past few months to make it a safe, healthier environment. While observing COVID safety protocols (masks, social distancing, etc) we were finally able to see some of our Congregational Family. Some of our new members were also able to attend, which was nice to finally meet them "officially". Of course I had to ask them to remove their masks for a moment so that I could recognize them!

The feeling of hearing everyone singing together was amazing. It's certainly an aspect that we've missed while using Zoom.

One of the highlights of the service was Hank Hartstein's chanting of the Haftorah along with his commentary which was incredibly inspirational. In addition, he also read a moving tribute to the victims from the Pittsburgh shooting 3 years ago. It was so nice to have Hank & Judy worship with us again.

As we move forward hopefully more of our members will feel comfortable enough to join us in the synagogue.

Our service ended with the rabbi blessing the wine and challah. Dr. Marnell LaRoe Hayes graciously provided us with one of her delicious award-winning challahs which everyone enjoyed immensely. In keeping with our protocols, the wine and challah were served to attendees by Anita and Marnell (who were masked and gloved).

During our November 12th service we will remember all the Veterans who've served in our Armed Services. Once again Lt Colonel Herb Siegel will prepare special readings for the occasion. We will also be remembering the horrors of Kristallnacht.

Our Saturday morning November 27th is our Thanksgiving Service which will also be our Chanukah Celebration. Details will follow as to how we will be observing the holiday.

On Friday December 10^{th} we will be honoring our new members to our Congregational Family. Hopefully we will have many members at the shul to welcome them.

Our final service of 2021 will be on Saturday December 25th.

The Rabbi's Roundtable Discussions will continue to be held virtually which allow participants who do not live locally to attend. This is an important opportunity to discuss the week's torah portion and how it impacts our lives.

As the Board continues to monitor the situation with Covid, we are prepared to make appropriate changes as needed with the intention of keeping our members safe. Please know that your health and safety are a priority for us.

I look forward to seeing all of you soon!

Shalom,

Andrea

Andrea Kraft, President, 352-513-3517

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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

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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 16, 2022, 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 made a dues payment are encouraged to attend the meeting and participate in the election of officers.

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

Vice President Linda Kost, Treasurer Dave Englander, and Directors Barry Wright and Ben Solotoroff have all announced that they will run for re-election.

Nominations: If you would like to run for any of the positions, please let any board member know immediately, by phone or email. Our board members and their phone numbers is on the cover of this newsletter. The deadline for submission is November 15th.

Please be sure to make a dues payment prior to December 31, 2021.

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!

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.

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Leesburg Food Bank



We choose to partner with the food bank because they are dedicated to providing food, clothing, and household items to the needy in our community.

There is never a charge for any of the goods they distribute.

Our members Barry Wright and Francine Rizzotto are among the many volunteers who work there. No one is paid. It is run completely by volunteers.

Please bring something for the food bank each time you come to the synagogue. We will deliver it to the food bank.

In addition to food, you can also donate clothing and household items.

They will pick up large items such as furniture and appliances.

They can be reached for questions or pickup M/W/Th at 352-326-5463.

Current needs:

Food: canned fruit, jelly, side dishes, canned veg, dry pasta, ketchup, mustard, mayo, syrup, rice, beans, boost, ensure, dog and cat food.

Personal items: Bar soap, deodorant, shampoo, body wash, baby diapers, sanitary napkins for young girls.

New and slightly used clothing, new socks, shoes and boots (all sizes), sneakers for kids School Weekend Backpack Program:

The Food Bank provides 334 children in the 7 Leesburg public schools with food for Saturday and Sunday, They pack and deliver to the schools on Wednesday, and the school then repacks and distributes a bag to the student on Friday. If you wish to donate to this program make your check payable to Leesburg Food Bank and write 'schools' or 'backpack program' on the memo line.

Gift cards to local grocery stores are welcome, as our cash donations.

If you mail a check or gift card, please enclose a note saying that you heard about them through Congregation Beth Sholom. Their address is: 503 N. 13th St., Leesburg FL 34748. They are a 501 C 3 non-profit organization with an ALL volunteer staff.

Thank you for helping us to support this worthy cause.

Sisterhood meets periodically

For more information, contact Marion Solotoroff at 352-775-8740 or marionsolo123@gmail.com

The Men's Club meets monthly.

For more information, contact Ben Solotoroff at 352-775-8740 or bensolo711@gmail.com





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.





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 2022 Mah Jongg Cards

Part of the proceeds benefit the Leesburg Food Bank. Orders should be received by January 25, 2022

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



PROUDLY PRESENTS

TOURNAMENT



A FUND-RAISING EVENT

- To support the expansion of Beacon College
- To help Israeli children suffering from PTSD.

WHEN: DECEMBER 8TH, 2021 from 10AM to 3PM

WHERE: THE LAKE SQUARE MALL 10401 US HWY 441 LEESBURG FL 34788

DONATION: \$40 PER PLAYER

CA\$H PRIZES TO TOP 6 PLAYERS

Register NOW at our website:

jfedthevillages.org/mah-jongg-mania

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November

11/4 Ira Goldberg

11/6 Melinda Hock

11/10 Nettie Goeler11/12 Lynne Bloom

11/13 Kathy Gipe 11/22 Geri Seward

11/8 Marion Solotoroff

11/30 Gloria Blankenship

11/30 Marsha Stemerman





Birthdays

December					
12/13	Marshall Haimes				
12/13	Sandra Byrne				
12/14	Dorothy Strauss				
12/15	Helene Bachmann				
12/17	Cookie Wright				
12/18	Alisa Jacoby				
12/21	Janice Klein				

12/25 Judy Snader

12/26 Irving Pomeranz 12/26 Sidney Cullen 12/27 Myra Efron

November /12 Marcia Cohen-

11/12 Marcia Cohen-Robins and Ronald Robins11/16 Burt and Andrea Kraft11/24 Susan and Lou Glaser

Anniversaries

December

12/25 David and Yvette Litwack12/26 Marty and Judy Snader

Welcome New Member

Bill Hillman

R'fuah Sh'leima (Get Well Wishes)

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

Joanne Jacobson

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@gmail.com.

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

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 and Bill Hillman for blowing the Shofar at our High Holiday services.

To *Gabbai* Marsha Stemerman and Assistant *Gabbai* Dr. Marnell LaRoe Hayes for their beautiful interpretations of the many readings during the High Holiday services.

To Diane Weinbaum for coordinating the Honey from the Heart fundraiser.

To Dave Englander for the extraordinary amount of work he did getting the building ready for in person services.

To Ben Solotoroff for his assistance in getting the building ready to be opened.

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 Sandra Byrne for creating and sending our emails and the surveys that were sent to the congregation.

To Linda Kost for compiling the Book of Remembrance, editing The Shofar, and maintaining our website.

To Chip & Francine Rizzotto for preparing the Book of Remembrance mailing.

To Barry Wright for maintaining our fire extinguishers and arranging for security at our in person services.

To Anita Sherman for coordinating our candle lighters for our Friday evening services.

Participants at our September Saturday morning and our October Friday night Zoom services: Readers: Gabbai Marsha Stemerman, Associate Gabbai Dr Marnell LaRoe Hayes, Linda Kost, Lt. Col Herb Siegel

Candle Lighting: Dave and Ellen Englander

Chanting of Kiddush: Michael Saks

Participants at our October 23rd reopening service: Dr. Marnell LaRoe Hayes for baking a wonderful challah; Anita Sherman for taking care of the wine and challah at the Kiddush; Hank Hartstein for a wonderful reading and explanation of the Haftorah portion, and for the reading remembering the Tree of Life victims; and to Rabbi Allen for the wonderful, celebratory and inspirational service.

Donations

Food Bank Donations: Barry & Cookie Wright, Rabbi Karen Allen, Marsha Stemerman

General Donations: Robert L Milkman, Elizabeth Morrison, George & Arline Cooke, Dorothy Strauss

Additional Membership Renewal Donations: Lynne Bloom, Lou & Susan Glaser

Building Air Purification & Health Projects Donations: Robyn Dowsey, Fred & Helen Jacobs, Chip & Francine Rizzotto

High Holiday Donations: Richard & Cathy Stone, David Millendorf, Harvey & Beverly Fixler, Tony Vilardi, Carrie Solomon, Richard Zippin, Mindi Valancy, Michelle DeRitter, Richard & Linda Peltz, Larry & Clementina Litowich, Irene Dubman, Shelley Gugig, Eileen Glasco, Lydia Stein, Diane Boxer, Edward Bloom

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Lake Rheumatology and Internal Medicine

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IN MEMORIAM: THE FOLLOWING YAHRZEITS ARE OBSERVED



	The follow	ing n	ames will be read on Novembe			
Theodore Englander	Brother	of	David Englander	8	Kislev	12-Nov
Hedwig Freundlich	Grandmother	of	Dan Hirschfeld	14	Kislev	18-Nov
Ralph Israel	Grandfather	of	Sandra Byrne			18-Nov
Shirley Singer	Mother	of	Fern Singer	15	Kislev	19-Nov
Emanuel Smith	Father	of	Francine Rizzotto	17	Kislev	21-Nov
Lillian Reece	Member	of	The Congregation	17	Kislev	21-Nov
Henry Rabin	Father	of	Lisa Moring			21-Nov
Esther Drexler	Mother	of	Mike Drexler			22-Nov
Manny Spaiman	Gabbi	of	The Congregation	18	Kislev	22-Nov
Ernest Marx	Uncle	of	Ellen Englander	20	Kislev	24-Nov
		ing n	ames will be read on Novembe	r 27		
Ruth Warshaw	Mother	of	Marsha Stemerman	23	Kislev	27-Nov
Henry Rowe	Father	of	Marjorie R. Heyman	23	Kislev	27-Nov
Sonia Gelles	Grandmother	of	Diane Weinbaum			29-Nov
Dave Schenerman	Member	of	The Congregation	26	Kislev	30-Nov
Yvette Somer	Mother	of	Barbara Rupert	26	Kislev	30-Nov
Bernice Simon Oruska	Mother	of	Mark Simon			1-Dec
Lillian Schloss	Mother	of	Andrea Kraft			2-Dec
Sabrina Hirschfeld	Daughter-in-law	of	Dan and Eileen Hirschfeld	28	Kislev	2-Dec
Bernadine Weiss	Member	of	The Congregation	30	Kislev	4-Dec
Sally Ochs	Mother	of	Arline Cooke			4-Dec
Ouida Israel	Grandmother	of	Sandra Byrne			8-Dec
lda Treibitz	Mother	of	Sheldon & Robert Treibitz			9-Dec
Carol White	Sister	of	George Brogan			10-Dec
Edward Meyers	Father	of	Martin Meyers	7	Tevet	11-Dec
	The follow	ing n	ames will be read on Decembe	r 12		
Donald Goeler	Father	of	Ronny Goeler	8	Tevet	12-Dec
Manfred Kohn	Member	of	The Congregation	10	Tevet	14-Dec
Rivka bat Sarah v Z'ev	Mother	of	Bill Hillman	11	Tevet	15-Dec
Arthur Weinberger	Father	of	Judy Marshall			17-Dec
Sylvia Englander	Mother	of	David Englander	14	Tevet	18-Dec
Janet Wagner	Mother	of	Nettie Goeler	14	Tevet	18-Dec
Jean Cohen	Mother	of	Marcia Cohen-Robins	14	Tevet	18-Dec
Herman Saks	Father	of	Michael Saks	15	Tevet	19-Dec
Jerome Strauss	Husband	of	Dorothy Strauss	15	Tevet	19-Dec
Manuel Lutsky	Father	of	Linda Kost	15	Tevet	19-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
Bertram Davis	Father-in-law	of	Ira Goldberg	17	Tevet	21-Dec
Jack Wagner	Father	of	Karen Salvat	17	Tevet	21-Dec
Getzel Mularsky	Grandfather	of	Nathan Mularsky			22-Dec
maid.ony	o. a. raiduloi	and	founding rabbi of the congregati	ion		
Joel Zalla	Husband	of	Lene Zalla	311		24-Dec
Elenore Donnerstein	Aunt	of	Herb Siegel			24-Dec
L.C.IOIO DOIIIIOI3IGIII			names will be read on Decembe	r 25		24 060
Albert Haimes	Father	of	Marshall Haimes			25-Dec
Sarah D. Cramer	Mother	of	Pam Singer & Lowell Cramer	22	Tevet	26-Dec
Elaine Friedman	Mother	of	Linda Friedman	22	Tevet	26-Dec
Selma Strauss	Mother	of	Sally Chletsos	24	Tevet	28-Dec
Sylvia Saks	Mother			25	Tevet	29-Dec
-		of	Michael Saks	25	revet	
Marie Plitt	Mother	of	Betty Chasin			30-Dec
Sinclair Zeigen	Father	of	Joan Treibitz	07	Tourst	31-Dec
Natalie Lutsky	Mother	of	Linda Kost	27	Tevet	31-Dec
Theresa Rothbard	Aunt	of	Marty Rothbard	29	Tevet	2-Jan
Bessie Snader	Mother	of	Marty Snader		Oh :	4-Jan
Florence Subit	Mother	of	Bette Croll	3	Shevat	5-Jan
Herbert Weinstein	Father	of	Yvette Litwack	5	Shevat	7-Jan
Irwin Sherman	Husband	of	Anita Sherman	7	Shevat	9-Jan
Joseph Berger	Father	of	Stephen Berger			10-Jan
Eve Graham	Mother	of	Eileen Hirschfeld	11	Shevat	13-Jan

Congregation Beth Sholom

315 North 13th Street Leesburg, FL 34748

Phone: 352-326-3692

OUR FOUNDERS						
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