



November / December 2025

Cheshvan / Kislev / Tevet 5786

<http://BethSholomFlorida.org>

315 North 13th Street

Leesburg, FL 34748

(352) 326-3692

Like us on Facebook

Rabbi Ronald N. Reuven Silverman
386-747-0644

CELEBRATE WITH US



Thanksgiving Shabbat
Friday November 14th
7 PM



Chanukah Shabbat
Saturday, December 20th
10 AM

Board of Directors:

President: Freeda Louthan 502-553-0241
Vice President: Melinda Hock 352-689-2253
Secretary: Helene Bachmann 310-490-3365
Treasurer: David Englander 352-504-4402
Director: Barry Wright 305-298-5131

Director: Sandra Byrne: 352-586-0119
Director: Fred Jacobs: 917-647-0057
Director: Gloria Blankenship: 352-750-0721
Director: Francine Rizzotto: 352-324-6348

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Arlene Gibbs, Leonard & Barbara Steinberg, Susan Kaplan, Joy Salberg, Paul & Joan Lottman, Karen Ragne, Chris & Andrea Paprocki, Neil & Judy Schulman, Jim & Glenda Chiarello, Joseph and Zulma Rosenfeld and Michelle Bekoff. Returning Member: Nettie Goeler.

IMPORTANT DATES**NOVEMBER**

2nd Judaism Class 2-4PM

14th Thanksgiving and Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:00 PM

29th Shabbat Morning Service 10:00 AM

DECEMBER

7th Judaism Class 2-4PM

12th Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:00 PM

20th Chanukah and Shabbat Service 10:00 AM

CELEBRATIONS**BIRTHDAYS****NOVEMBER****DECEMBER**

11/4	Ira Goldberg	12/1	Barbara Steinberg
11/6	Melinda Hock	12/10	Judy Hague
11/13	Kathy Gipe	12/13	Marshall Haimes
11/16	George Liberman	12/13	Sandra Byrne
11/18	Susan Kaplan	12/14	Dorothy Strauss
11/22	Geri Seward	12/15	Helene Bachmann
11/26	Edie Simons	12/17	Cookie Wright
11/30	Gloria Blankenship	12/18	Alisa Jacoby
11/30	Marsha Stemerman	12/19	Marge Buxbaum
		12/21	Janice Klein
		12/24	Robin Vizer
		12/25	Judy Snader
		12/26	Sidney Cullen
		12/27	Myra Efron
		12/31	Al Simons

ANNIVERSARIES**NOVEMBER**

11/6	Paul and Joan Lottman
------	-----------------------

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS / DIRECTORS

As directed by the By-Laws, our annual meeting will take place on Sunday, January 18, 2026, at 11 AM. Annual Meetings are important. The purpose is to keep you informed of the accomplishments and future of Congregation Beth Shalom. It is also when you elect officers and directors for their term of office.

The meeting will be held at the synagogue and virtually via Zoom. 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 – Melinda Hock is running for re-election.
- Treasurer – Dave Englander is running for re-election.
- Directors Barry Wright and Francine Rizzotto are running 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. The deadline for submission is November 14th. **All are invited and welcomed to run.**

Please be sure to make a dues payment as soon as possible, and prior to December 31, 2025. 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!

Letter to Congregants from Rabbi Silverman

Dear Friends: We have had a unbelievably beautiful set of High Holiday Services and wonderful Sukkot Shake, Shake, Shake the Lulav Service with a breathtaking Potluck Lunch--- and overwhelming participation! Mazel Tov to our New Members for joining the absolute best Synagogue in Central Florida!!!! Our next Shabbat Morning Service is October 25, 2025 and we are honoring Lt. Col. Ret. Herb Siegel's 90th Birthday -- Mazel Tov Herb! After that, we will be returning to In-Synagogue Classes starting Sunday November 2, 2025 at 2 PM for our First Class in the Series of 4. Please watch for emails and the Synagogue Calendar for continuing Classes. As always, we continue our Wednesday Evening Torah Classes with Rabbi Silverman and Rashi at 7 PM by Zoom. Please join for tremendous insights into the Torah and Judaism. Zoom Links will be sent to everyone.

Special Thank You goes out to Francine and everyone who helped in the Kitchen. Rabbi Asher for great Shofar Services and assistance. Both Gabbais, Dr. Marnell LaRoe Hayes and Dr. Elise Lev. Melinda Hock and Gerri Fogg for beautiful music. And all our Aliyot and Torah Readers - particularly Leonard Steinberg. Yasher Koach. And Everyone who helped on the Bima!

We are headed to Chanukah with some great Kabbalat Shabbats and Saturday Mornings in-between. Blessing to all in this New Year for Health, Happiness and all Good Fortune. Looking forward to seeing you soon in YOUR SYNAGOGUE!

L'hitraot Rabbi Silverman

Shabbat Dinner September 12, 2025

Hosted by Rabbi Silverman and Lt. Col. Herb Siegel, Retired



ADD YOUR LOVED ONE TO THE MEMORIAL BOARD Honoring the memory of a loved one with a permanent plaque in the sanctuary is a lasting and meaningful tribute. The cost of a plaque is \$300, or \$275 each when purchasing two or more. For more information, please contact Dave Englander at dhenglander0618-at-gmail.com (replace “-at-” with @) or 352-504-4402.

Break the Fast Dinner at Toojay's October 2, 2025



DONATIONS

Maribeth Lerner & Bonnie Young in memory of Ken Stark and his sister, Caryn's mother Shirley Lustbader.

Karen Salvat in honor of the Yahrzeit of her mother Jeanette Wagner.

Bette Croll in memory of Burt Kraft.

Katherine Shane in appreciation for the wonderful Congregation Shabbat dinner.

Kathy Gipe in recognition of Lt. Col. Ret. Herbert Siegel and Rabbi Silverman for our beautiful Shabbat dinner.

Dan & Eileen Hirschfeld and Dr. Marnell LaRoe Hayes for donating the beautiful bimah flowers for the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur High Holiday services in memory of Priscilla Reisinger.

General Donations: Elizabeth Morrison, Sheldon & Joan Treibitz, Robert & Sonia Baerga Treibitz, Michael Fruchter, Edith & Raphael Freiwirth, Sue & Lou Glaser, Edward & Kathryn Quick, Gary Plotkin

Food Bank Donations: Dr Marnell La Roe Hayes, Edward & Kathryn Quick, Andrea Kraft, Geri Seward

Thank you to our CBS volunteers Barry Wright and Francine Rizzotto.

Additional Renewal Donations: Barbara Burton & Randy Kresley, Sally Chletsos, Stephen Berger, Kathy Gipe, Bette Croll

High Holiday Donations: Rabbi Michael & Robin Asher, Harvey Borden, Joe & Sue Dubman, Sue & Lou Glaser, Nancy & Robert Sharff, Hedy Fisher, Rozanne Cohen, Sydney Klein, Sharon Rich, Diane Cohen, Holly Goldsmith, Marty Walter, George Mallat, Rachel & Matin Greene

Book Fund: Freeda Louthan, Barbara Burton & Randy Kresley, Elise Lev



PARKING ALONGSIDE THE BUILDING IS NOW DESIGNATED FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ONLY We kindly ask that

those who are able park in the lot across 13th Street, allowing the spaces beside our building to remain available for members and guests with mobility needs.

THANK YOU

Rabbi Silverman: for excellence and devotion in his organizing and leading the High Holidays and other services, including arranging for the assistance of Rabbi Michael Asher, whom we also thank for his wonderful work; as well as thanks to Dr. Marnell LaRoe Hayes, our gabbai, and Dr. Elise Lev, our assistant gabbai, for all of their assistance in the High Holidays services.

Also, thank you to Rabbi Silverman, for his ongoing monthly Judaism classes, weekly Torah study zoom classes, and his updates concerning Israel news and other matters.

Barry Wright: for obtaining and returning the rental chairs for the High Holidays services, putting out the books for High Holidays services and putting them away afterward, then putting out the Mishkan T'Filah books for our regular services; replenishing the black and white head coverings for women; taking our four fire extinguishers for certification; checking our defibrillator for battery life/renewal date; for scheduling and coordinating police for security for High Holiday and other services and other events; and other ongoing functions to keep the synagogue in good function.

Dave Englander: obtaining a new safe deposit box for our master documents / keys; arranging with TooJay's Deli for our Rosh Hashanah dinner and our break the fast dinner after Yom Kippur; for repairing the push bar on our main door; ordering and installing pest control devices; several revisions needed to our member and Aliyah lists due to recent influx of new members.

Dave Englander and Francine Rizzotto for agreeing to be the signers on our new safe deposit box.

Melinda Hock, our Vice President, and Gerri Fogg for their wonderful violin music in our Erev Rosh Hashanah and Kol Nidre services.

Helene Bachmann for providing and serving the orange juice and cake refreshments for Havdalah after the Yom Kippur afternoon/concluding service.

Francine and Chip Rizzoto for coordinating and performing the ongoing kitchen and food responsibilities, and to Helene Bachmann, Robin Vizer and Arlene Gibbs for continued and frequent assistance in these duties

Chris and Andrea Paprocki, new members who invited our members to their home for a wonderful luncheon after the second day Rosh Hashanah service.

For our wonderful September 12 Shabbat dinner and service, thank you to Rabbi Silverman and Lt. Col. Herb Siegel (Ret), for hosting the Shabbat dinner meal for our members and their guests; and thank you to Toojays for excellence in catering it. Thank you to Andrea Kraft for taking / coordinating the RSVP's, and to Francine Rizzoto for coordinating the catering, and to Francine Rizzoto, Gloria Blankenship, and Robin Vizer for assisting with the table coverings / settings, name badges, and registration list check-in at the dinner. Thank you to the First Baptist Church for allowing us the use of their banquet hall for the dinner.

Linda Kost for offering assistance with member emails, phone calls, and website assistance while Sandy Byrne and Helene Bachmann were both away for a few days.

The Villages Daily Sun, The Leesburg Daily Commercial, and the Jewish Heritage newspapers for articles concerning our synagogue.

Elise Lev for coordinating the items for the Sukkot pot luck luncheon on October 12, and for those who helped her with the setup, including Francine Rizzoto, Helene Bachmann, Robin Vizer, and Arlene Gibbs.

Helene Steinberg for organizing the October 19 game day, and her sisters, Marlene Steinberg and Susan Goodman, for assisting her with this.

Andrea Kraft for her ongoing work of receiving orders for the new year's (orders are now open through Jan, 2026) Mah Jongg cards; for which we receive funds that we use for charitable purposes. Recently, we received \$2,615 from the National Mah Jongg League for 2025 card purchases by CBS members and friends; our board will decide on charities to receive these funds.

Barbara Burton for ongoing receiving / coordinating of sponsors for onegs and kiddushes; and for providing information for a potential new fund-raising project.

Sandra Byrne for sponsoring the Kiddush on October 25 in honor of her father, Herb Siegel's, 90th birthday.

Jody and Steve, our cleaning staff, for painting the ten tiles in the sanctuary that were damaged by the water leak.

Dr. Marnell LaRoe Hayes, and Dan and Eileen Hirschfeld, for purchasing the flowers for the Bima for our High Holidays services; in memory of Priscilla Reisinger, who donated them for years before her death.

Thank you to Dr. Marnell LaRoe Hayes for purchasing new tissue packing materials for storing the Bima dressings when not in use.

Francine and Chip Rizzoto for polishing the silver Torah covering pieces for the High Holidays.

Chip Rizzoto for performing needed re-caulking of the kitchen window.

Francine Rizzoto for arranging for a discount on and ordering of / receiving the additional Mishkan T'filah books.

Sandra Byrne for progress in creating a Google Drive system for storing our important documents.

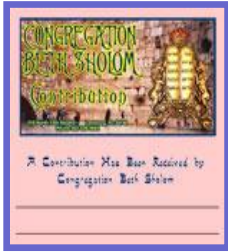
NAMETAGS ARE AVAILABLE



Let everyone know who you are with a personalized name tag! Tags are just \$15 each. Simply mail your check to the synagogue along with a note indicating the name you would like printed on your tag. For more information, contact Dave Englander at 352-504-4402.

Mi Shebeirach

Director Gloria Blankenship maintains the list of the family and close friends of our members who are in need of healing. The list is presented at services. To add new names, please send them to Gloria at glostar-at-embarqmail.com (replace –at– with @) or call her at 352-750-0721. Please remember to let us know when prayers are no longer needed.



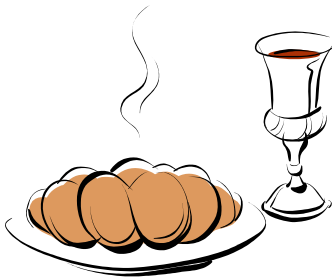
SEND A CARD AND SUPPORT THE SYNAGOGUE

There are many meaningful reasons to send a card—birthdays, anniversaries, get well wishes, condolences, or congratulations.

Your donation not only supports the synagogue but also lets someone know you care. Simply 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 be shared in the *Shofar*.

SPONSOR AN ONEG SHABBAT OR KIDDUSH



There are many wonderful reasons to become a sponsor—celebrating a birthday, anniversary, or special occasion; honoring the memory of a loved one; or simply enjoying Shabbat. Of course, no reason is required beyond the willingness to take a turn. Sponsorship doesn't have to be done alone—you can invite a friend or a group of friends to co-sponsor with you. Sponsors provide the refreshments,

while the shul supplies the challah, wine, paper goods, and plasticware. To reserve your date, please contact Barbara Burton at **beburton43-at-yahoo.com** (replace “-at-” with @) or **602-603-1688**.

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 Helene Bachmann 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 Helene at [helenebachmann – at- hotmail.com](mailto:helenebachmann-at-hotmail.com) (replace -at- with @) or 310-490-3365

IN MEMORIAM: THE FOLLOWING YAHRZEITS ARE OBSERVED

The following names will be read on November 14					
Blanche Kessler	Founder	of	The Congregation	13 Cheshvan	4-Nov
Morris Somer	Father	of	Barbara Rupert	14 Cheshvan	5-Nov
Ethel K. Sharp	Benefactor	of	The Congregation	15 Cheshvan	6-Nov
Ralph Israel	Grandfather	of	Sandra Byrne		18-Nov
Joseph Lev	Husband	of	Elise Lev		19-Nov
Marion Golieb	Uncle	of	Judith Schulman		19-Nov
Neil Stark	Father	of	Ken Stark	19 Cheshvan	10-Nov
Devorah Hartstein	Mother	of	Hank Hartstein	19 Cheshvan	10-Nov
Mimi Fox	Aunt	of	Phylis Berger (on wall)	20 Cheshvan	11-Nov
thelma Muffs	Mother	of	Judy Hartstein	20 Cheshvan	11-Nov
Rose Burton	Grandmother	of	Barbara Burton	22 Cheshvan	13-Nov
Vivien Davis	Mother-in-law	of	Ira Goldberg	27 Cheshvan	18-Nov
Joseph Singer	Father	of	Fern Singer	27 Cheshvan	18-Nov
Miriam Cohen	Grandmother	of	Ronnie-Jane Boekema	28 Cheshvan	19-Nov
Rebecca Berger	Mother-in-law	of	Phylis Berger (on wall)	1 Kislev	21-Nov
Rabbi Sherman Stein	Member	of	The Congregation	1 Kislev	21-Nov
Rabbi Jackie Wexler	Rabbi	of	The Congregation	3 Kislev	23-Nov
Ben Levine	Father	of	Michael Levine	3 Kislev	23-Nov
Edythe Teitler	Mother	of	Judy Hague	3 Kislev	23-Nov
Annette Gay	Member	of	The Congregation	5 Kislev	25-Nov
Marty Klein	Cousin	of	David Englander	5 Kislev	25-Nov
Ray Jacobs	Mother	of	Fred Jacobs	5 Kislev	25-Nov
Burton Simons	Father	of	Al Simons	7 Kislev	27-Nov
Theodore Englander	Brother	of	David Englander	8 Kislev	28-Nov
The following names will be read on November 29					
Lillian Schloss	Mother	of	Andrea Kraft		2-Dec
Hedwig Freundlich	Grandmother	of	Dan Hirschfeld	14 Kislev	4-Dec
Shirley Singer	Mother	of	Fern Singer	15 Kislev	5-Dec
Emanuel Smith	Father	of	Francine Rizzotto	17 Kislev	7-Dec
Ouida Israel	Grandmother	of	Sandra Byrne		8-Dec
Manny Spaiman	Gabbi	of	The Congregation	18 Kislev	8-Dec
Ida Treibitz	Mother	of	Sheldon & Robert Treibitz		9-Dec
Carol White	Sister-in-law	of	Susan Brogan		10-Dec
Ernest Marx	Uncle	of	Ellen Englander	20 Kislev	10-Dec
The following names will be read on December 12					
Ruth Warshaw	Mother	of	Marsha Stemerman	23 Kislev	13-Dec
Henry Rowe	Father	of	Marjorie R. Heyman	23 Kislev	13-Dec
Nelson Hyman	Father	of	Judith Schulman		15-Dec
Herman Burton	Father	of	Barbara Burton	26 Kislev	16-Dec
Dave Schenerman	Member	of	The Congregation	26 Kislev	16-Dec
Yvette Somer	Mother	of	Barbara Rupert	26 Kislev	16-Dec
Sabrina Hirschfeld	Daughter-in-law	of	Dan and Eileen Hirschfeld	28 Kislev	18-Dec
Moshe Freiwirth	Husband	of	Edith Freiwirth		19-Dec
The following names will be read on December 20					
Aaron Kingsberg	Father	of	Myra Efron		20-Dec
Bernadine Weiss	Member	of	The Congregation	30 Kislev	20-Dec
Selma Sager	Mother	of	Roz Wenrich		21-Dec
Getzel Mularsky	Grandfather	of	Nathan Mularsky		22-Dec
		and	founding rabbi of the congregation		
Elenore Donnerstein	Aunt	of	Herb Siegel		24-Dec
Benjamin Bramson	Father	of	Hedy Greenfield		24-Dec
Herman Teitler	Father	of	Judy Hague	4 Tevet	24-Dec
Albert Haimes	Father	of	Marshall Haimes		25-Dec
Edward Meyers	Father	of	Martin Meyers	7 Tevet	27-Dec
Larry G. Lasker	Husband	of	Susan Kaplan		28-Dec
Marie Plitt	Mother	of	Betty Chasin		30-Dec
Manfred Kohn	Member	of	The Congregation	10 Tevet	30-Dec
Sinclair Zeigen	Father	of	Joan Treibitz		31-Dec
Sylvia Englander	Mother	of	David Englander	14 Tevet	3-Jan
Bessie Snader	Mother	of	Marty Snader		4-Jan
Jerome Strauss	Husband	of	Dorothy Straus	15 Tevet	4-Jan
Manual Lutsky	Father	of	Linda	15 Tevet	4-Jan
Bertram Davis	Father-in-Law	of	Ira Goldberg	17 Tevet	6-Jan
Jack Wagner	Father	of	Karen Salvat	17 Tevet	6-Jan

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. Every card makes a difference! Prices are the same as last year \$15 for the large card and \$14 for the standard (smaller) card.

Order your 2026 Mah Jongg Cards

Part of the proceeds benefit the Leesburg Food Bank.

Orders should be received by January 25, 2026

Have you ordered from Congregation Beth Sholom before: YES NO

If no, have you received cards by mail from the Mah Jongg league in the past: YES NO

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Number of Standard (small) Cards @\$14 _____ Number of Large Print Cards @\$15 _____

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

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

Order your 2026 Mah Jongg Cards

Part of the proceeds benefit the Leesburg Food Bank.

Orders should be received by January 25, 2026

Have you ordered from Congregation Beth Sholom before: YES NO

If no, have you received cards by mail from the Mah Jongg league in the past: YES NO

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Number of Standard (small) Cards @\$14 _____ Number of Large Print Cards @\$15 _____

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

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

Make your House a Home for a lifetime!



SAFE AT HOME

From grab bars, railings and ramps to whole home modifications. Let our certified specialists help you.

Call today for a free in home consultation.



Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist
Wishes For Living. Homes For Life.

Mr. Handyman

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

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

- Sliding Door Roller Repairs
- Drywall Repairs
- Door Jamb Rot Repairs
- Caulk and Grout Repairs
- Dryer Vent Cleaning and More!
- Locally Owned and Operated
- Licensed - Insured - Guaranteed



Call Today!
352-259-6566

www.mrhandyman.com



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
352-343-7735

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

Congregation Beth Shalom
315 North 13th Street
Leesburg, FL 34748