



September / October 2023

Elul 5783 / Tishrei / Cheshvan 5784

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

Rabbi Karen Allen
386-254-2773

5784 High Holiday Schedule

All services will be held in person and virtually on Zoom

ROSH HASHANAH

Friday, September 15	Evening Service	7:00 PM
Saturday, September 16	Morning Service Followed by Tashlich	10:00 AM
Sunday, September 17	Second Day Morning Service	10:00 AM

YOM KIPPUR

Sunday, September 24	Kol Nidre	7:00 PM
Monday, September 25	Morning Service Followed by Yizkor Afternoon Service and Neilah	10:00 AM (approx.) 12 Noon 5:15 PM

Guests are welcome. The suggested donation for guests is \$175

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	Ben Solotoroff 352-775-8740	Sandra Byrne 352-586-0119	Fred Jacobs 352-633-0500	Gloria Blankenship 352-750-0721

September 2023 Elul 5783 / Tishrei 5784

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1  7:31	2
3	4	5 Board Meeting 4 pm	6	7	8 Shabbat Service with Slichot prayers 7 pm See next page  7:23	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 Evening Service 7 pm  7:12 Rosh Hashanah	16 Morning Service 10 am
17 2nd Day Service 10 am Rosh Hashanah	18	19	20	21	22  7:04	23
24 Kol Nidre Service 7 pm Yom Kippur	25 Morning & Yizkor 10 am Concluding Services 5:15 pm	26	27	28	29  6:55	30



Rabbi Allen and
The Board of Directors wish
all of our members and friends a
Happy, Healthy, and Sweet New Year
L'Shanah Tovah

October 2022 Tishrei / Cheshvan 5783

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Board Meeting 4 pm	4	5	6  6:47	7
8 Simchat Torah Lunch 1 pm Service 2 pm See Page 8	9	10	11	12	13 Shabbat Service 7 pm  6:40	14
15	16	17	18	19 Rabbi's Roundtable 3 pm See Page 9	20  6:32	21
22	23	24	25	26	27  6:26	28 Shabbat Service 10 am
29	30	31				

Prepare for the High Holidays

Our Shabbat service on September 8th at 7 pm will include S'lichot prayers that will enhance our time of reflection.

This is a time of introspection, reconciliation, and heightened spirituality.

You don't want to miss this opportunity to experience the magic of the ceremony transforming our bima and Torah covers from everyday color to the splendor of High Holy Day white.

You can attend in person or virtually on Zoom.

Rabbi's Message

“Reality is created by the mind. We can change our reality by changing our mind.” –
Plato

The months of this issue of our *Shofar*, covering September and October, span Elul, Tishrei and Cheshvan on the Jewish calendar.

These are months of immense change – from the turning inward, forgiveness and spiritual accounting of Elul, when G-d joins each person “in the field,” where we live and work, through Tishrei, the month of High Holidays beginning with the march of all of humanity in judgment before G-d, returned once again to His heavenly throne, and concluding with the month known as “Marcheshvan” or “bitter Cheshvan,” as it is the only month devoid of any festivals or fast days. Even the calendar must need a rest after Tishrei!

On a spiritual level, Elul is represented by the smallest letter of the Hebrew alphabet: Yud, essentially a mere dot on the page! This first letter of the words G-d, Israel, and Jew is a physical manifestation of the power of becoming small and humble in preparation for our upcoming appearance before the Divine throne. As we turn inward, substituting compassion for blame and getting closer to the pure and constant soul within us, we can go beyond the stories of our lives and find that spark of light and love that is our true, G-d-given nature.

Throughout all of this discovery of self and our immersion in the essence of the G-d Who created us, we practice the forgiveness to others that we want them, and G-d, to display toward us. At the same time, we can learn to give that same forgiveness to ourselves.

By the inner work of spiritual accountability, *t'shuvah* or returning to our true essence, we become open to a greater revelation of G-d, and to drawing down G-d's blessings for the healthy, happy year of freedom and peace – the *shanah tovah u'm'tukah* -- that I wish for every one of you, your family and loved ones, with love and blessings – Rabbi Karen Allen – 386.254.2773

Message from the President

I would like to wish you a Happy & Healthy New Year. I can't believe that we will soon welcome 5784. The year has certainly flown by. We continue to offer a hybrid option for our observance of the High Holidays for our members and their guests (in person for those who are comfortable to worship in the sanctuary and enhanced zoom for those who will be joining us virtually). Hopefully many of our members and guests will be able to join us in the shul to enjoy the special feeling of observing the holidays together. Our video and audio have been upgraded to improve the zoom experience. The new system allows for a better view of the bimah including the Ark. As with all projects at the synagogue, it takes a team of volunteers to make it happen. Thank you, Linda Kost, Fred Jacobs and Barry Wright for working to complete the project to fine tune the Zoom experience for all who join us virtually.

This past Friday was our Kabbalat Shabbat service which is one of the highlights of the year for me, and this one was no exception. We had a full house and it was wonderful to hear all the voices join with the Rabbi's. Of course, Zoriry Zinger's incredible violin playing adds to the special atmosphere to make it an occasion not to be missed. It was great to see so many familiar faces and some new ones as well. Our Oneg was sponsored by the Board of Directors and I would like to thank everyone who made it happen. As with anything, it definitely takes a "village". Everyone had the opportunity to socialize a little after the service. As Rabbi Allen tells us, socializing after the service is as important as saying prayers for those in need of healing.

In another effort to resume our normal practices, we were finally able to resume our Saturday morning Torah services. At our last Saturday service, the Torah was carried throughout the sanctuary so that everyone was able to kiss the Torah.

Our Congregation has a long and wonderful history. For more than 65 years services have been held in our building, which we own. As such, there is no building fund.

We have a very special spiritual leader in Rabbi Karen Allen. Not only does she have a magnificent voice, but a compassionate heart. She is always available to any person who needs her assistance. Not only does she lead our High Holiday and Shabbat Services, she also conducts a monthly RoundTable discussion group (via Zoom), and writes her inspirational letters in our Shofar.

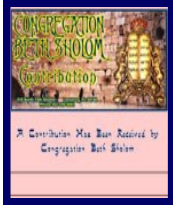
If you are visiting us for the holidays, I hope that you will consider becoming a member. We have so much to offer. If you are already a member, I hope that you will invite your friends and family to worship with us for the High Holidays so that they can feel the warmth that makes Congregation Beth Sholom "*The Synagogue That Feels Like Family*".

I look forward to seeing you at High Holiday Services.

L'Shana Tovah

Andrea Kraft

Andrea Kraft, President, 352-513-3517



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.

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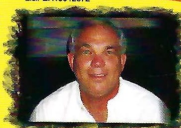


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Let everyone know who you are! Tags are just \$15 each. Mail your check to the synagogue, with a note indicating the name you want on your nametag. Contact Dave Englander at 352-504-4402 for more information.

HELP US PLACE ADVERTISEMENTS

If you know of any business owners or doctors who might be interested in a wonderful opportunity to reach new customers and patients, have them contact Linda Kost: intofrogs@gmail.com (replace _at_ with @) or 352-315-0309

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CELEBRATIONS



Birthdays			Anniversaries		
SEPTEMBER		OCTOBER	SEPTEMBER		
9/4	Bill Schweitzer	10/2	Lowell Cramer	9/2	David and Betty Chasin
9/7	Ellen Englander	10/3	Marjorie R. Heyman	9/10	George and Arline Cooke
9/13	Suzanne Vilardi	10/6	Eileen Levin	9/17	Martin and Beverly Meyers
9/15	Sheldon Treibitz	10/6	Alice Schweitzer	9/27	Sally and Frank Chletsos
9/18	Elizabeth Morrison	10/7	Judy Hartstein		
9/19	Marissa Mularsky	10/14	Phyllis Simon		OCTOBER
9/21	Selma Haimes	10/16	Barry Wright	10/1	Chip and Francine Rizzotto
9/21	Lou Glaser	10/21	Robert Treibitz	10/19	Helene and Jeffrey Bachmann
		10/22	Linda Friedman	10/29	John and Rosalie Scholl
		10/24	Herb Siegel		
		10/27	Ronnie-Jane Boekema		

R'fuah Sh'leima (Get Well Wishes)

to those who have been ill or have had or will have surgery:

Dr. Marnell LaRoe Hayes, Ben Solotoroff

Mi Shebeirach

Director Gloria Blankenship 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 Gloria at glostar-at-embarqmail.com. (replace -at- with @)

Please remember to let her know when our prayers are no longer needed. The list is getting long, and we hope that our prayers have been answered and some of the people on our list have recovered.

Simchat Torah Service and Pot Luck Meal

Sunday, October 8 at 1:00



Bring your favorite dish (as long as it does not contain meat of any kind) to share. Salads, dairy foods, fish (but not shellfish), vegetables, breads, fruit, and desserts are all needed.

Call Dorothy Strauss at 352-391-3971 to RSVP and let her know what you are bringing.

The Simchat Torah Service, led by Rabbi Allen, will begin at 2:00.

Rabbi's Roundtable

Virtually on Zoom, Thursday October 19 at 3 pm No Roundtable in September due to Holidays

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

The topic of the month is included in the email announcement.

Rabbi Allen is inviting you to share topics you would like to discuss.

Email them to President-at-BethSholomFlorida.org (change-at-to @)

Thank You

Rabbi Allen and Zoriy Zinger for the wonderful inspirational Kabbalat Service

Fred Jacobs and Barry Wright for providing the food for the Kabbalat Service Oneg

Francine Rizzotto for preparing the wine, challah, and other foods for the Onegs and Kiddushes

Dave Englander for preparing the coffee and helping with clean up at our Onegs and Kiddushes

Linda Kost for donating upgrades to the Zoom system that improve audio and video. This upgrade provides stability to the transmission.

Welcome Members

New: Elise Lev

Returning: Michael Saks

Donations

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

Food Bank Donations: Rabbi Karen Allen

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

Additional Renewal Donations: Linda Friedman, Stephen Berger, Barbara Rupert, Fred & Helen Jacobs, Myra Efron, Fern Singer, Helene & Marlene Steinberg, Lynne Bloom, John & Rosalie Scholl, Dr. Marnell LaRoe Hayes, Lt. Col. Herbert Siegel, Sandra Byrne, Barry & Cookie Wright, Suzanne Vilardi, George & Arline Cooke, Robyn Dowsey, Linda Kost

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Leesburg Food Bank

This article was written by Director Barry Wright. He mentions his wife, Cookie, who is no longer able to volunteer. Our member Francine Rizzotto volunteers on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Barry volunteers on Thursdays.

I have been working at the Leesburg Food Bank since the summer of 2016. It really does not seem that long. We have had many ups and downs. The normal situation before the pandemic was that the snowbirds would come back into town and the donations would increase dramatically especially around Thanksgiving and Christmas. Then the donations would slow down as dramatically during the summer.

With the pandemic everything changed. Starting in March 2020 everyone in the area became more generous. We do not have the same dramatic cycle of donations now. They do slow in the summer somewhat because the snowbirds go north. The room that Cookie used to handle for the clothes distribution is now strictly a storage for the extra foods because there is no room in the warehouse. The donations of other items like clothes, furniture, miscellaneous items are taken and sorted and then put in a storage container outside the building. That storage container is only opened when the Food Bank is open. Unfortunately that area has suffered the most, because Cookie made a point of helping everyone get what they needed. There was an area set up with rows and rows of racks of clothes where people could easily pick what they needed.

The donations from the synagogue obviously suffered with the pandemic. For awhile all of the services were handled via zoom. When we did reopen, very few people came to the synagogue, so fewer donations were brought to the shul. Those dedicated individuals took what they had to donate straight to the food bank. The larger items were still being donated and collected by the Food Bank.

Below is a history of the donations of food by Congregation Beth Sholom.

2016 - 401 pounds	2017 - 811 pounds	2018 - 685 pounds	2019 - 1036 pounds
2020 - 243 pounds	2021 - 85 pounds	2022 - 377 pounds	2023 - 154 pounds - so far

We are back in the building and more people are coming to services and socializing again. Hopefully that means that the donations of food and other things to the Leesburg Food Bank will increase to all new levels.

Demand is increasing. The Food Bank handles normally around 45 families a day. Lately it has been in the 60's. Fortunately, we have had food to handle that many people, but we need to have a larger supply. Take advantage of the BOGO specials at PUBLIX when you go and pick up the extra one for the food bank. **PLEASE bring food and smaller items such as clothes to the synagogue when you come for services.**

No one at the Food Bank from the President to the daily volunteers get paid. Everyone that works there works very hard. There a few people that go out early in the morning around 3:30AM and pick up the surplus food at the various Food Stores. We now even get food donations from WAWA.

The Leesburg Food Bank provides all this to the people they serve totally FREE of charge.

The Leesburg Food Bank is located 2 blocks north of the synagogue at 503 N. 13th Street. The Food Bank is non-denominational. They serve the community from 8:30 to 12 on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. You may drop off food, clothing, furniture, books, etc from 8:00 - 12 Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. If you have big items they will pick them up. Call 352-326-5463 for a pick up. Pick up is Monday through Saturday depending on availability of volunteers.

Thank you for helping us to support this worthy cause.

WE NEED YOU TO 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 Dates:

Sept 8, Oct 13, Oct 28 (taken), Nov 10, Nov 25, Dec 8, Dec 23, Jan 12, Jan 27 Feb 9, Feb 24

You don't have to do it alone—ask a friend or group of friends to co-sponsor with you

Sponsors bring the challah and refreshments.

Wine and paper goods and plasticware are provided by the shul.

Contact Roz Wenrich at mishkaborzoi-at-me.com (replace -at- with @)



We will be taking orders for the
2024 Mah Jongg Card soon.
Please order your card from us.
The Mah Jongg league makes a
donation to the synagogue based on
how many cards we order.

Every card counts!

We will send the order form out via email shortly.

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 at FredJacobs40@gmail.com for more information.

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@gmail.com or 352-315-0309


IN MEMORIAM: THE FOLLOWING YAHRZEITS ARE OBSERVED


The congregation expresses condolences to John Scholl on the passing of his sister Susan Picciotto on July 11, and to David Litwack on the passing of his sister Evelyn Cutler on July 26. May their memory endure as a blessing.

The following names will be read on Yom Kippur						
Bessie Libovitz	Sister	of	David Litwack	10	Tishrei	25-Sep
Ruth Myra King	Mother	of	Robert King			27-Sep
Alvin Wagner	Father	of	Nettie Goeler	13	Tishrei	28-Sep
Sarah Fellner	Mother	of	Phylis Berger (on wall)	14	Tishrei	29-Sep
Mollie Scholl	Mother	of	John Scholl			30-Sep
Hannah Janosi	Mother	of	Cookie Wright	15	Tishrei	30-Sep
Aaron Herman	Father	of	Eileen Hirschfeld	17	Tishrei	2-Oct
Liz Shen	Member	of	The Congregation	17	Tishrei	2-Oct
Julie Maslansky	Daughter	of	Lynne Bloom			5-Oct
Irwin Treibitz	Brother	of	Sheldon & Robert Treibitz			9-Oct
Martin Weistrop	Father	of	Alisa Jacoby	24	Tishrei	9-Oct
Ben Donnerstein	Uncle	of	Herb Siegel			12-Oct
Sol Fox	Uncle	of	Phylis Berger (on wall)	28	Tishrei	13-Oct
The following names will be read on October 13						
Stuart Werksman	Father	of	Jack Werksman			13-Oct
Toby Schenerman	Member	of	The Congregation	29	Tishrei	14-Oct
George Altshul	Father-in-law	of	Stephen Berger			15-Oct
Sid Friedman	Father	of	Linda Friedman	5	Cheshvan	20-Oct
Frances Smith	Mother	of	Francine Rizzotto	7	Cheshvan	22-Oct
Tobey LaRoe	Cousin	of	Dr. Marnell LaRoe Hayes and Sally Rosenberg			23-Oct
The following names will be read on October 28						
Blanche Kessler	Founder	of	The Congregation	13	Cheshvan	28-Oct
Morris Somer	Father	of	Barbara Rupert	14	Cheshvan	29-Oct
Irving Drexler	Father	of	Mike Drexler			29-Oct
Harry Kaplan	Grandfather	of	Debra Kaplan			30-Oct
Ethel K. Sharp	Benefactor	of	The Congregation	15	Cheshvan	30-Oct
Stephen Finkelstein	Brother	of	Phyllis Simon			1-Nov
Mildred Selsky	Mother	of	Gloria Blankenship			1-Nov
Sid Sager	Father	of	Roz Wenrich			3-Nov
	and	Grandfather	of	Matthew Cullen		
Murray Milkman	Brother	of	Bob Milkman	19	Cheshvan	3-Nov
Neil Stark	Father	of	Ken Stark	19	Cheshvan	3-Nov
Devorah Hartstein	Mother	of	Hank Hartstein	19	Cheshvan	3-Nov
Henny Helen Schweitzer	Mother	of	Bill Schweitzer	19	Cheshvan	3-Nov
Thelma Muffs	Mother	of	Judy Hartstein	20	Cheshvan	4-Nov
Mimi Fox	Aunt	of	Phylis Berger (on wall)	20	Cheshvan	4-Nov
Amy Cullen	Daughter	of	Roz Wenrich			5-Nov
	and	Sister	of	Matthew Cullen		
Edward Kaplan	Father	of	Debra Kaplan			9-Nov

Congregation Beth Sholom

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Phone: 352-326-3692

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