

September / October 2026



Elul 5786 / Tishrei / Cheshvan 5787

<http://BethSholomFlorida.org>

315 North 13th Street

Leesburg, FL 34748

(352) 326-3692

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Rabbi Ronald N. Reuven Silverman
386-747-0644

5787 High Holiday Schedule

All services will be held in person and virtually on Zoom

ROSH HASHANAH

Friday, September 11	Evening Service	7:00 PM
Saturday, September 12	Morning Service	10:00 AM
	Followed by Tashlich	
Sunday, September 13	Second Day Morning Service	10:00 AM

YOM KIPPUR

Sunday, September 20	Kol Nidre	7:00 PM
Monday, September 21	Yom Kippur Service	10:00 AM
	Followed by Yizkor (approx.)	12 Noon
	Afternoon, Nielah, Havdalah	5:00 PM

Guests are welcome. The suggested donation is \$175 per adult. Your donation will be credited toward your membership should you decide to join our Synagogue.

Annual Meeting / Election Information on page 2.

Board of Directors:

President: Freeda Louthan 502-553-0241	Director: Sandra Byrne 352-586-0119
Vice President: Melinda Hock 352-689-2253	Director: Fred Jacobs 917-647-0057
Secretary: Helene Bachmann 310-490-3365	Director: Gloria Blankenship 352-750-0721
Treasurer: David Englander 352-504-4402	Director: Francine Rizzotto 352-324-6348
Director: Barry Wright 305-298-5131	

Notice of January 17, 2027 Annual Congregational Meeting and Election of Board Officers & Director

Deadline is December 18, 2026 for Nominations

Pursuant to our Congregation's By-Laws, all members of Congregation Beth Sholom are hereby notified that the Annual Congregational Meeting will be held at Congregation Beth Sholom on Sunday, January 17, 2027 at 11:00 AM followed by a light luncheon.

At the aforesaid Meeting, an election will be held for the positions of President, Secretary, and Director (the President and Secretary are two of our four Officer positions; one of our Director positions is up for election at this Annual Congregational Meeting; these combined nine positions comprise the Congregation's Board of Directors).

The deadline for any member in good standing of the Congregation to be nominated for any of the aforesaid three positions is December 18, 2026. Any member wishing to run for election to the position of President, Secretary, or Director should so notify any Officer or Director of the Congregation by telephone or email by December 18, 2026. (All Officers and Directors of the Congregation are listed, along with their phone numbers, on the front page of the Shofar, the Congregation's newsletter; and they are also listed along with their email addresses in the Member List which is provided to all members of the Congregation).

Pursuant to our By-Laws, in order to be eligible to run for election to any Officer or Director position on our Congregation's Board of Directors, a member must be in good standing as to dues payment, must be Jewish by birth or conversion, and must have at least one year of membership in the Congregation as of January 17, 2027, the election date. Only one person per household may serve as an officer or director.

IMPORTANT DATES (in addition to High Holidays on the cover)

SEPTEMBER

8th Board Meeting 4PM

27th Lulav, Yizkor & Sukkot Pot Luck 2-4PM

OCTOBER

6th Board Meeting 4PM

9th Kabbalat Shabbat 7PM

18th Game Day 1:00 PM

24th Shabbat Service 10:00AM

CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

9/6	Gene Karger	10/3	Marjorie Heyman
9/7	Ellen Englander	10/3	Michelle Bekoff
9/9	Linda Alster	10/7	Judy Hartstein
9/14	Craig Erlick	10/7	Jim Chiarello
9/18	Elizabeth Morrison	10/11	Joan Lottman
9/19	Marissa Mularsky	10/16	Barry Wright
9/21	Selma Haimes	10/21	Robert Treibitz
9/28	Neil Schulman	10/24	Herb Siegel
		10/27	Ronnie-Jane Boekema
		10/28	Sabrina Mizrahi
		10/31	Zulma Rosenfeld

ANNIVERSARIES

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

9/2	David and Betty Chasin	10/1	Chip and Francine Rizzotto
9/17	Martin and Beverly Meyers	10/19	Helene and Jeffrey Bachmann
9/27	Sally and Frank Chletsos		

Letter to Congregants from Rabbi Silverman

Elul, the High Holidays & the Beginning of 5787

Dear Friends and Members of Our Beth Sholom Family,

What a glorious evening we shared together last Friday night!

Because Congregation Beth Sholom gathers as a community only twice each month, we had the beautiful opportunity to combine Shabbat with the spirit of Selichot as we prepared ourselves for the sacred season ahead. There was something especially moving about watching so many of our members participate in changing the Torah Mantels from Blue to White—a wonderful symbol of entering the Month of Elul and preparing our hearts and our synagogue for Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and all the holy days that follow.

It was truly a night filled with spirit, music, prayer, friendship, and anticipation. It reminded me once again of what makes Beth Sholom so special: we are not simply a congregation—we are a family. And, Happy B-Day Dave Englander!

And as we enter the New Year of 5787, I would like to establish a simple theme for our Beth Sholom family:

“One More Mitzvah.”

Imagine what could happen if each of us committed ourselves to doing just one more mitzvah this year.

Perhaps it is making a phone call to someone who is lonely. Perhaps it is attending services a little more often. Perhaps it is helping someone who needs a hand, giving tzedakah, visiting someone who is ill, welcoming a new member, forgiving someone—or simply taking a few extra moments each day to thank God for the blessings in our lives.

A mitzvah does not have to be grand to be holy.

Sometimes the smallest act of kindness becomes the greatest blessing in another person's life.

5787 can be the year in which our entire Beth Sholom family takes one more step toward holiness, kindness, and caring. One more mitzvah—each of us.

The Month of Elul also reminds us that the High Holidays are not only about coming before God; they are about coming closer to one another. This is the time of year to **touch base with friends and relatives**, to tell the people we love that we are thinking of them, and to wish them **a Shanah Tovah u'Metukah—a good and sweet New Year.**

And if there are relationships in our lives that need mending, this is the season to begin making amends. The High Holidays teach us that asking forgiveness and granting forgiveness are among the most sacred things we can do. Before we ask God to forgive us, we should do our best to make peace with one another.

This year, our Rosh Hashanah schedule will be especially meaningful. Because the first day of Rosh Hashanah falls on **Friday night and Shabbat**, we will not sound the Shofar on that first day. But when we gather for our **second Rosh Hashanah service on Sunday**, we will hear the ancient and stirring voice of the Shofar—and I know how much we are all looking forward to that moment.

This year, **Rabbi Asher and Gabbai Steinberg will be chanting the Torah**, and I will be leading the service in my usual way. Together, we will create a beautiful and meaningful High Holiday experience for our Beth Sholom family.

Renee and I are so looking forward to seeing everyone.

I know that many of our friends who spend part of the year “up North” will be returning, and there is something wonderfully comforting about seeing familiar faces once again. There is a special warmth in a congregation where people know one another, care about one another, and genuinely miss one another when we are apart.

So, as we stand at the doorway of **5787**, let us enter together—with hope in our hearts, gratitude for our blessings, and a willingness to do **One More Mitzvah**.

May God bless each of us and our entire Beth Sholom family with **good health, peace, happiness, prosperity, and a good and meaningful life**.

May our homes be filled with laughter, our hearts with faith, and our congregation with friendship and love.

And may these **Yamim Noraim—the Days of Awe—become the beginning of a year that is truly the best yet**, filled with sweetness, delicious blessings, and many reasons to say:

Baruch Hashem—we are blessed to be together.

From our family to yours, Renee and I wish each and every one of you a **Shanah Tovah u'Metukah!**

L'Shanah Tovah Tikateivu v'Teichateimu!

May we all be inscribed and sealed for a good, healthy, peaceful, and sweet New Year.

With love and blessings,

Rabbi Ronald N. Silverman
Congregation Beth Sholom

Birthday Celebrations



The Kiddush on Saturday August 1 was sponsored by Andrea Kraft to celebrate her 70th birthday.



The Oneg on Friday evening, August 14 was sponsored by Ellen and Dave Englander in celebration of Dave's 75th birthday.

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 **602-663-1688**.

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**.



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.

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.

DONATIONS

Barbara Burton for sponsoring the Oneg on Friday, July 10 in honor of Randy Kresley's Birthday.

Andrea Kraft for sponsoring the Kiddush on Saturday, August 1 in honor of her 70th Birthday.

Dave & Ellen Englander for sponsoring the Oneg on Friday, August 14 in honor of Dave's 75th Birthday.

Eliese lev and Helene Bachman for sponsoring the Kiddush on Saturday, August 29 in honor of Francine's Recovery.

General Donations: Elizabeth Morrison, Robert & Sonia Baerga Treibitz, Dr Michael Levine

Food Bank Donations: Dr. Marnell La Roe Hayes,
Thank you to our CBS volunteers Barry Wright, Francine Rizzotto & Robin Vizer.

Additional Renewal Donations: Linda Kost, Barry & Diane Erlick, Gary Plotkin, Barbara Burton & Randy Kresley, Lt. Col. Ret. Herbert Siegel, Sandra Byrne, Andrea Kraft, Stephen Berger, Myra Efron. Nan Rosenthal, Linda Alster, Helene & Marlene Steinberg and Susan Goodman, Fern Singer, Dr. Marnell La Roe Hayes, Marjorie Heyman, Sabrina Mizrahi, Barbara Rupert, Sally Chletsos, Judith Mason, Dr. Michael Levine, Marsha Graboys, Bette Croll

THANK YOU

Thank you, from our grateful Congregation, to the following:

Rabbi Silverman: for his excellence and devotion in his preparing and leading services, and preparations for our High Holidays service, including changing of our torah mantels at the Selichot service, with assistance from Dr Marnell LaRoe Hayes and other members; and to Len Steinberg, our gabbai, for his assistance in the services and in their preparation; and thank you to Rabbi Silverman, Elise Lev, and Len Steinberg, our Ritual Committee members, for their ongoing work on behalf of our Congregation.

Also, to Rabbi Silverman, for Shabbat greetings to members, weekly Torah / parsha study zoom classes, and updates concerning Israel news and other matters.

Al Simons, who is a candidate for the next presidency of C.B.S., for his attending board meetings

Dave Englander, our Treasurer, for his work in determining an accountant firm, along with Len Steinberg, for C.B.S. to retain, and for his attending meetings with the firm, along with Freeda, Len Steinberg, and Al Simons; and for many hours spent on ongoing tasks, both handling all financial matters, and attending to many maintenance issues at the Shul, including recently having the bushes / trees trimmed and scheduling the power washing of the Shul in special preparation for the High Holidays, having a door lock repaired, and planning to host our 'Break the Fast' at Toojays following Yom Kippur.

Enid Schibuk, for donating her lovely original paintings to C.B.S for a fundraiser, with the proceeds being used by Board decision for compensating Rabbi Asher for assisting during our high holidays services, which had been arranged for by Rabbi Silverman.

Jake Silverman, Regional Security Advisor with Shalom Orlando, for his work in doing a threat assessment report, and related services, for C.B.S., and his presentation to our board to plan security improvements for C.B.S.

Francine Rizzotto and Helene Bachmann, for obtaining the next year's Jewish calendars from Page-Theus, with C.B.S. contact information included thereon.

Gloria Blankenship, chair of the welcome/membership committee, and committee members: Andrea Kraft, Sandy Byrne, and Robin Vizer, for their ongoing support of C.B.S. in these endeavors.

Helene Bachmann, secretary, for her ongoing work in preparing the Book of Remembrance for our upcoming High Holidays services, creating/distributing the

minutes of board of directors and members meetings; and in maintaining lists for yahrzeits, birthdays, anniversaries, and yizkors; and monitoring emails sent to C.B.S.

Gloria Blankenship for her ongoing work in receiving names for and maintaining the mischeberach list; and receiving phone calls for C.B.S.

Sandra Byrne, director, for her ongoing work preparing and distributing a survey concerning our services to our members, emails to members for services and other events and matters; and for her progress in creating a GoogleDrive system for storing our important documents, and for her, Dave Englander, and Melinda Hock for working to implement this.

Barry Wright: for scheduling police for security for our services and other events; and for other ongoing functions, including obtaining/installing updated batteries for our A.E.D., arranging repairs as needed, and maintaining our IT (webcam, microphones, etc.) equipment; to keep the synagogue in good function.

Francine Rizzotto and Chip Rizzotto, for ongoing management of kitchen and food needs for our services and events; Helene Bachmann, Robin Vizer, Arlene Gibbs, Judy Schulman, and others who provide food assistance for our services.

Melinda Hock, for excellence, skill, and dedication in preparing the Shofar and in ongoing updating of our online calendar and website; and for covering for Freeda at services when needed.

Barbara Burton for her ongoing work in receiving / coordinating sponsors for onegs and kiddushes.

Susan Kaplan, for chairing our Grants Committee, and Len Steinberg, who serves on the committee, obtaining grants for security and emergency functions for our synagogue.

To the membership for providing food for many of our services and events.

Helene Steinberg, and her sisters, Marlene Steinberg, and Susan Goodman, for organizing the game days; the next being October 18 at 1 pm.

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



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*.

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. If you are a member and wish to add names of relatives or close friends who are in need of healing please email Gloria Blankenship EACH WEEK at glostar@embarqmail.com with their names **not later than the Thursday** prior to the service. NOTE - As we do not maintain an "ongoing" list; the names that are read aloud in services are only those that are received by Gloria following the previous service. A person who remains in need of healing can be re-added by notifying Gloria as stated above.

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– \[hotmail.com\]\(mailto:hotmail.com\)](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 Rosh Hashana						
Jeanette Wagner	Mother	of	Karen Salvat	3	Tishrei	14-Sep
Bessie Resnick Haimes	Mother	of	Marshall Haimes			15-Sep
Lucy Chiarello	Mother	of	Jim Chiarello			16-Sep
Aron Schulman	Grandfather	of	Neil Schulman			16-Sep
Freda Lev	Mother-in-law	of	Elise Lev			17-Sep
The following names will be read on Yom Kippur						
Anna Epstein	Grandmother	of	Judy Schulman			20-Sep
Rita Byrne	Mother-in-law	of	Sandra Byrne			20-Sep
Bessie Libovitz	Sister	of	David Litwack	10	Tishrei	21-Sep
Bette Lowengrub	Mother	of	Elise Lev			23-Sep
Sarah Fellner	Mother	of	Phylis Berger (on wall)	14	Tishrei	25-Sep
Hannah Janosi	Mother	of	Cookie Wright	15	Tishrei	26-Sep
The following names will be read on September 27						
Jay Vizer	Father	of	Robin Vizer			28-Sep
Aaron Herman	Father	of	Eileen Hirschfeld	17	Tishrei	28-Sep
Liz Shen	Member	of	The Congregation	17	Tishrei	28-Sep
Shirley Schulman	Mother	of	Neil Schulman			3-Oct
Martin Weistrop	Father	of	Alisa Jacoby	24	Tishrei	5-Oct
William Rothmel	Father	of	Kathryn Quick			6-Oct
The following names will be read on October 9						
Clanence Frankford	Stepmother	of	Robin Vizer			9-Oct
Irwin Treibitz	Brother	of	Robert Treibitz			9-Oct
Shirley Caminez	Mother	of	Phillip Caminez			9-Oct
Sol Fox	Uncle	of	Phylis Berger (on wall)	28	Tishrei	9-Oct
Toby Schenerman	Member	of	The Congregation	29	Tishrei	10-Oct
Alvin Wagner	Father	of	Nettie Goeler			11-Oct
Joel Sternberg	Father	of	Nan Rosenthal	1	Cheshvan	12-Oct
Ben Donnerstein	Uncle	of	Herb Siegel			12-Oct
George Altshul	Father-in-law	of	Stephen Berger			15-Oct
Frances Smith	Mother	of	Francine Rizzotto	7	Cheshvan	18-Oct
Morris Friedman	Grandfather	of	Barbara Burton	8	Cheshvan	19-Oct
Tobey LaRoe	Cousin	of	Dr. Marnell LaRoe Hayes and Sally Rosenberg			23-Oct
Bunny Sheppard Higginbotham	Mother	of	Gloria Blankenship's son-in-law			23-Oct
The following names will be read on October 24						
Blanche Kessler	Founder	of	The Congregation	13	Cheshvan	24-Oct
Morris Somer	Father	of	Barbara Rupert	14	Cheshvan	25-Oct
Ethel K. Sharp	Benefactor	of	The Congregation	15	Cheshvan	26-Oct
Elizabeth Rothmel	Mother	of	Kathryn Quick			27-Oct
Neil Stark	Father	of	Ken Stark	19	Cheshvan	29-Oct
Devorah Hartstein	Mother	of	Hank Hartstein	19	Cheshvan	29-Oct
Mimi Fox	Aunt	of	Phylis Berger (on wall)	20	Cheshvan	31-Oct
Thelma Muffs	Mother	of	Judy Hartstein	20	Cheshvan	31-Oct
Mildred Selsky	Mother	of	Gloria Blankenship			1-Nov
Rose Burton	Grandmother	of	Barbara Burton	22	Cheshvan	2-Nov
Lee Vizer	Stepmother	of	Robin Vizer			2-Nov
Sid Sager	Father	of	Roz Wenrich			3-Nov
	and	Grandfather	of	Matthew Cullen		
Amy Cullen		Daughter	of	Roz Wenrich		5-Nov
	and	Sister	of	Matthew Cullen		
Vivien Davis	Mother-in-law	of	Ira Goldberg	27	Cheshvan	7-Nov
Joseph Singer	Father	of	Fern Singer	27	Cheshvan	7-Nov
Miriam Cohen	Grandmother	of	Ronnie-Jane Boekema	28	Cheshvan	8-Nov
Rebecca Berger	Mother-in-law	of	Phylis Berger (on wall)	1	Kislev	11-Nov
Rabbi Sherman Stein	Member	of	The Congregation	1	Kislev	11-Nov

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