

HaShomer

DECEMBER 2018

Congregation Beth Shalom

KISLEV/TEVET 5779

Schedule of Services

December 2018
Kislev/Tevet 5779

Friday, November 30, 7:30 pm

Led by **Bob Burns**

Saturday, December 1

Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Led by **Stuart Snow**

Torah: Vayeshev

Friday, December 7,

Shirat Shabbat Chanukah Service 7:30 pm

Led by **Cantor Sheri Allen**

Saturday, December 8, 10:00 am

Chanukah Shabbat Service

Led by **Cantor Sheri Allen**

Torah: Chanukah

Friday, December 14, 7:30 pm

Led by **B'nai Mitzvah class**

Saturday, December 15

Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Led by **Cantor Sheri Allen**

Torah: Vayigash

Friday, December 21, 7:30 pm

Led by **Janet Aaronson**

and Cookie Kabakoff

Saturday, December 22

Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Led by **Ken Licker**

Torah: Vayechi

Friday, December 28, 7:30 pm

Led by **Martine Thomas**

Saturday, December 29

Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Led by **Stuart Snow**

Torah: Shemot

My Two Shekels

You always know that we are about to add an extra month to our Jewish calendar when Chanukah starts inching toward Thanksgiving. And sure enough, we are only a little more than a week past turkey day and by the time you read this, Chanukah has most likely begun. Because our Jewish calendar is a lunar one, it has 11 less days than our solar calendar, so we add an extra month every few years to keep all of our holidays in their proper seasons.

Richard and I often travel to New York during December, and it's always a kick to see so many Chanukah decorations in the store displays. We took our trip a bit earlier this year, and got our fill of Jewish engagement. We attended Shabbat services at Jeremy's synagogue, ate at Richard's favorite kosher steakhouse, and even got to hear Yiddish spoken for three hours straight at one of the hottest shows in the city: *Fiddler on the Roof*, or, *Fiddler Oyfen Dach*, in Yiddish.

Directed by Joel Grey (of *Cabaret* fame) it's a production of the national Yiddish Theatre Folksbiene. *Fiddler* premiered at the Museum of Jewish Heritage for a limited run and was supposed to end in August. It has been sold out ever since and will soon be moving off Broadway, where it has been extended through January. The entire show, including all the musical numbers, was performed in Yiddish, with English and Russian subtitles displayed above the stage.

The set was very simple, and the cast fairly small. The songs rhymed in Yiddish but not in English, which made much more sense musically, and the translations were sometimes surprising. The word "Torah" was intertwined within the song Tradition (Traditsye). And *If I Were a Rich Man* became translated as *Yen Ikh Bin a Rotshild* (if I were a Rothschild), a Yiddish expression that actually means "if I were a rich man!"

The sparcity of the set (comprised of several large hanging curtains that looked like parchment with only the word "Torah" written on one of them), and the richness of the language personalized the experience in a profound way for me. I could almost imagine my grandparents up there saying those words. The guttural sounds of the Yiddish words also enhanced the emotional interactions between the actors, and moved me deeply.

What made the experience all the more powerful was experiencing it with an audience of many Kippah-clad Yiddish-speaking elders. I couldn't take my eyes off of the gentleman sitting next to me gripping his granddaughter's hand, tears trickling down his cheeks, as Golde sang *Shabes Brokhe* (Sabbath Prayer).

Most importantly, it was comforting to be in a place where we were all bound by a shared history, despite our differences. We all saw our grandparents and great grandparents up there. We were all reminded that the privileges that come with living in this country came at a great cost to our families who had to flee persecution and start their lives over again, as many new immigrants are trying to do now.

Over the last year, it seems like we've become separated from each other, not necessarily by oceans and countries, but within our synagogues and in our own homes. Now the characters in *Fiddler* fought with each other too, but they always remembered what bound them together: love of family, home, and, of course, Traditsye!



Happy
Chanukah !

Continued on page 3 . . .

From the President

During my High Holy Day appeal, I challenged you all to help us reach our goal of \$13,000 before Chanukah, which would allow us to perform some needed maintenance on the building, along with aiding regular operating expenses. Once again, the “Little Synagogue That Could” exceeded all expectations, and exceeded our High Holy Day Challenge Goal! Thanks to all of you that contributed so generously.

November was also a trying time for our board, after the tragic shooting in Pittsburgh. We received an outpouring of support from the Arlington community, including the Arlington Police Department, which has been patrolling our facility daily. We are so thankful for the Homeland Security grant provided through the Jewish Federation of Tarrant County that allowed us to purchase cameras, monitor, improved lighting and our buzzer entry system.

And, ADT is upgrading our alarm system in the next few weeks to include panic buttons as well as the ability to set our alarms through our smart phones. We will be organizing a Security committee to make recommendations for a formal security policy as well as create an emergency exit plan. Please let me know if you are interested in participating.

Back to happier times... I must thank **Ellen Pincus**, **Khalin Zhadwick**, and their amazing team who made the Daffodil project so successful! The team worked so hard to make the program an enriching experience, both physically, through planting, and emotionally, through Holocaust education. I can't wait for the Daffodils to bloom and we're able to formally commemorate the garden, and then start all over again planting the remaining 250 bulbs!

Lastly, mark your calendars for December 9, when the board presents the State of the Congregation at our Annual Meeting. We look forward to sharing all of the highlights for 2018 and expectations for next year. And I'm so excited that we will be honoring TWO of our congregants at the meeting.

Our 2018 Congregant of the Year recipient is **Judy Pelusi**! As stated in one of her nomination letters, “Judy's love and devotion for her Beth Shalom community is reflected through her active participation and involvement in the life cycle of Beth Shalom.”

We will also be giving the David Feld Lifetime Achievement Award to **Dr. Ken Licker**. Ken has been an integral part of the CBS family for the past 30+ years. He was one of the first Congregant of the Year recipients and has held various Board and Executive Board positions through the years; his most recent being our Controller. Although his home is now in Frisco, he still remains an active member and still leads services. Ken and Judy – You both are an inspiration to me. Thank you both for your generosity and your service.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact me at president@bethshalom.org if you have any questions or suggestions. Have a great month!

— **Pam Sudbury, President, Congregation Beth Shalom**

HaShomer

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Proofreading: **Stuart Snow**

The Ritual Life

I was leading services the morning of October 27, when a few congregants looking quite distraught informed us that there had been a shooting at a synagogue in Pittsburgh that killed 11 people. Apparently, a middle aged white man filled with hate was screaming, “death to all Jews” as these beloved souls were cut down.

I know that Anti-Semitism is on the rise, not only around the world, but in my country of birth as well. I have seen the images of Swastikas spray-painted on buildings, cemetery headstones desecrated, BDS rallies on college campuses and other places and innocent victims killed at a JCC; however, this is the first time that I could recall an event as horrific as this taking place in a Jewish house of worship; on Shabbat no less!

I feebly searched for words to comfort the worshippers in attendance, all the while trying to hide my anguish, which was palpable.

That night and for several afterwards, my anguish and sorrow continued as it interrupted my sleep patterns; thinking back to my youth, when Swastikas were painted on our driveway, eggs thrown at our house, pennies tossed at my feet, and being thrown off my bike by bullies, with, of course, the requisite name calling, “Kyke or Christ killer”.

The following Monday evening, Andrea and I went to a Memorial Service at Beth Israel in Colleyville attended by over 400 people of the community, Jews and Gentiles alike! While Rabbi Charlie and his wife Adina, and the CBI music director were on the Bimah, there were also representatives of different faith communities, including Christian, Muslim, Buddhist and Sikh.

Politicians, community leaders, educators and first responders also came to the podium to express feelings of remorse, regret, but most of all support for the Jewish community. This service was repeated at Ahavath Sholom days later in front of 1000, and synagogues across the country with similar turnouts and results.

The American Jewish Congress organized a #ShowUpforShabbat the following weekend, November 2 and 3. It was heartwarming, comforting and moving to see members of our own surrounding community show up in support and to reject prejudice and hate. When we get to know our neighbors, looking them in the eye as we break bread together, our common humanity is realized, and our bonds of community are strengthened.

It is a reflection on how far we have come as a society, as Americans. For while anti-Semitism is indeed on the rise in the US and around the world, it is primarily expressed by those on the fringe of society-both right and left.

The clear majority of Americans stand against hatred and bigotry and shall give it no quarter or opportunity for expression. We are certainly in a better place than was the world of my youth, for the outpouring of support would never have been a reality back then.

This brings me much solace and comfort for the future of humanity, and it is my fervent hope that it does for you as well.

— **Stuart Snow**
Ritual Committee Chair

Sisterhood

Thank you to everyone who contributed snacks, gift cards or money to help the family of a young girl who recently had a bone marrow transplant. Hallie will be hospitalized in an isolation room for many weeks.

The family has other children and her parents will be juggling spending time with **Hallie Barnard** and taking care of the rest of the family. **Stephanie Posner** delivered all the items and said Hallie's family was surprised and overwhelmed.

The annual Sisterhood/Brotherhood Chanukah party will take place on December 8, at **Pam Sudbury's** home. Adults should bring a gift for an adult and children a gift for a child.

Once again, Sisterhood will be wrapping gifts at Northeast Mall. This is a crucial fund-raiser for Sisterhood, and, indeed, for the synagogue in general.

Wrapping dates are: December 17, 10:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.; December 18, 10:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.; December 19, 10:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.; December 20 10:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.; December 21, 9 A.M.-5:30 p.m; December 24, 8 A.M.-6 P.M.

Sign-up for wrapping will be through **Sign-Up Genius**, which you recently received an email about. If you have questions about gift-wrapping or how to sign up for wrapping shifts, call **Lisa Rein** at 817-703-2051.

A happy Chanukah to everyone.

— **Cathy Frisinger, CBS Sisterhood**

My Two Shekels

... continued from page 1

As we approach the Festival of Lights, let us strive to rekindle that flame of hope. Hope that we can come together to celebrate our traditions, our history and our love for one another. Hope that we can rekindle relationships, enlightening and helping each other to become more sensitive, caring, and compassionate human beings. That's the hope that I will carry as I light the Chanukah candles this year.

And if you haven't finished your Chanukah shopping yet, tickets for Fiddler Oyfen Dach are still available!

— **Cantor Sheri Allen**

Thank you to Jordan and Khalin Zadwick for their generous donation of our new thermostats!

Congratulations!

**Congregant of the Year:
Judy Pelusi**

**David Feld Lifetime
Achievement Award:
Ken Licker**

Religious School

Please plan on joining us and watching our kids craft, sing, and play at our Chanukah workshop. It will be on December 2, starting at 10:30 A.M. This is always a fun time! Did I mention we will be eating latkes? Well, we will, so you have even more reason to come.

On behalf of the religious school we thank everyone involved in the Daffodil Project. What a wonderful time we had planting and learning about the meaning of the daffodils. We all anxiously await the gorgeous flowers that will bloom in the spring and they will serve as a reminder of our past as well as remind us each day just how fortunate we are for what we have.

I wish to thank the children for their donations to our tzedakah fund. This month we used the money to help contribute to Hallie's Heroes. We are grateful for our good health and were proud to be able to help someone so close to home.

On Friday, December 14, our B'nai Mitzvah class will be leading services with the help of their teacher, **Felicia Freeman**. They have been working very hard and I think you will be AMAZED when you hear them.

Hoping everyone has a wonderful holiday season. As I've said before... whether you are wished a Happy Chanukah, a Merry Christmas, or a Happy Holiday, please smile and say, "The same to you!"

Hoping to stay warm,

— **Stephanie Posner**
Religious School Director

The Sassoon family would like to thank Congregation Beth Shalom for the most lovely send-off to us.

It was one of the best days in our lives, to get and feel so much love.

Thanks so much for being our Texas family. Hope we always have each other. We will never forget your kindness, and we will miss you all to the moon and back.

Love always,

Amir, Shirley, Davina, and Chanel

Congregation Beth Shalom
Sisterhood Gift Shop
We 'R' Judaica

Open: Sundays, 11:00 a.m. to Noon
or by appointment - Contact the
CBS office: 817-860-5448

Donations (Received prior to November 15)

GENERAL FUND

In memory of Lew Pincus and Mary Shapiro
from Ellen Pincus
In memory of Isaac Fuchs
from Joe and Rochelle Bekerman
In memory of Lena Pack
from Gene and Christine Posnock
In memory of Selma Schneider
from Barry Schneider
In memory of Irwin Ginsburgh and Sarah Levy
from Steve and Alice Ginsburgh

TORAH FUND

In honor of the engagement of Phoebe
San Antonio
from Stuart and Andrea Snow

ONEG/KIDDISH FUND

In memory of Dolores Schneider
from Barry Schneider
In memory of Chai Sassoon and Ben Rafi
Mayeri
from Amir and Shirley Sassoon

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of Isaac and Emma Israel
from Phil and Aimee Israel-Pelletier

CHEVRA KADDISHA FUND

In memory of Odette Egyes
from Bea Stein
In memory of Nellie van Coevorden London
and Henrietta Voet
from Elliott and Loesje Blumberg

BUILDING FUND

In appreciation of CBS
from the Tuesday Mahjonng group
In honor of the engagements of Sabrina
Bekerman, Samuel Posnock, and Josh
Frisinger
from Janet and Jerry Aaronson

EDUCATION FUND

In memory of Ida Siegel, Esther Siegel
Schatten, and David H. Siegel
from Hy Siegel

MAINTENANCE FUND

In memory of Isaac and Emma Israel
from Phil and Aimee Israel-Pelletier

Birthdays

December 1

Stephen Cole
Shirley Sassoon

December 5

Rochelle Bekerman
Norm Epstein
Samuel Posnock
Brenda Weinstock

December 7

Pam Sudbury

December 9

Jason Snailer

December 12

Nicholas Markson
Billy Udes

December 13

Molly Frisinger
Aimee Israel-Pelletier

December 14

Shaun Levy

December 16

Patricia Cushman
Barry Goldfarb
Dina Lindell

December 17

Daniel Epstein

December 18

Aubrey Markson

December 19

Linda Licker
Elias Sassoon
Max Spindler

December 21

Elliott Blumberg
Caleb Nash

December 22

Glenn Anderson
Julie Levy
Brent Sasley

December 23

Brandon Snailer
Mark Snailer

December 24

Bob Goldberg
Debbie Goldsmith

December 25

Joseph Bekerman
Lili Weiner

Anniversaries

December 1

Stan & Dorit Miulencak

December 20

Mark & Arlene Schwartz

December 30

Nana & Joyce Atkens



Save the date:

CBS Annual Meeting

Sunday Evening

December 9, 7:00 P.M.

In the Congregation Beth

Shalom Social Hall

Yahrzeits



December 1

Nejatollah Zahirpour*

December 2

Emanuel Bloch*

December 3

Phyllis Cohen
Michael Malkowsky
Vivian Pock*
Henrietta Voet

December 4

Milton Ressler

December 5

Harry Schulman
James R. Smock

December 6

Florence Lucas*
Rubin Wallace
Sarah Washor

December 7

Thomas Brennan
Esther Siegel Schatten*

December 8

Herbert Sobel

December 9

June Feinberg*
Martin Lambert

December 10

Harriet Mintz Flack*

December 11

Charles Coplin*
Sylvia Hanfling

December 12

Leonard Kreindler
Samuel B. Richmond

December 14

Eliezer Friedman

December 15

Nancy Massaro*
Charles Rothschild*
Rose Wilbert

December 16

Richard Cook
Dirk Hellwig*
Seymour Roberts, Sr.*

December 17

Zelda Levin
Joseph Meckler*
Jeanette Schonfeld*

December 18

Sylvia Rubin*
Milton Weiss

December 19

Myron Berkson
Rheda Licker*
Debbie Weinbaum

December 20

Faye Kleir
Franklyn Longoria
Rachmil Rosenstein*
Ann Sheen*

December 21

H.J. Cobbel*
Sam Weiger

December 23

Florence Levy Efron
Elizabeth Lifschitz*
Dorothy G. Waetzman*

December 24

Lela May Bolding*
Saul Greenberg
Robert Lizun

December 25

Ruth Mayster*
Ida Siegel

December 26

Warren Anderson
David H. Siegel*

December 28

Robert Kalan
Katherine Zucker

December 29

Hetty Rubins

December 30

Renee Kas

* Memorial Plaque in Sanctuary

Art Exhibit: Legacy of Lena Rose Pack Special Tribute Friday Evening, January 11

Congregation Beth El's art exhibit this year is entitled "The Legacy of Lena Rose Pack". From this January through the end of April, Lena's artwork will fill the walls of the Beth-El Board Room.

As most of us remember, Lena was a congregant and long-time Sunday school teacher at Beth Shalom. She passed away in 2016 at age 88.

She inspired us with her joie de vivre, creativity, and bold and colorful artistic style. Lena was a painter, sculptor, colorist and printmaker, but painting was her primary form of visual expression and way to tell a story. Her artwork often portrayed her love for Judaism.

Raised in New York City, Lena was the daughter of an engraver and attended a high school for the visual arts. She married a Jewish man, Isaac, whom she met while working at Saks Fifth Avenue in New York.

Widowed at a relatively young age, Lena chose to convert to Judaism after Isaac passed away. She then worked as a travel agent and a nurse and, after retiring, took up art.

She would always sign her artwork "LIPack", the I for Isaac.

Lena moved to Fort Worth in the early 1990s. At her studio in the Stock Yards Rodeo Plaza Art Gallery, she made collages, drawings, and intensely colorful canvases. For admirers with little to spend, Lena turned reproductions of her paintings into note cards. Friends bought her paintings, and she donated many canvases to the organizations she belonged to and believed in.

Please join us at Congregation Beth-El in Fort Worth on Friday evening, January 11, at 7:30 P.M. for a community Shabbat service to honor our friend, Lena Pack. She would have greatly appreciated this tribute and opportunity to share her work with our community.

The Congregation records with sorrow the passing of:

**Howard Zimmerman,
beloved father of Lisa Rein**

May his memory be a blessing

The Daffodil Project

On Sunday November 11th our congregation participated in the worldwide Daffodil Project.

At least 40 congregants and Sunday school children helped to plant 250 bulbs on our campus, our part in reaching the overall total globally of 1.5 million daffodils to remember the 1.5 million who died in the Holocaust.

The shape and color of the daffodils represent the yellow stars Jews were forced to wear. Yellow is the color of remembrance.

We began with a program that provided meaning to our project, schmoozed through a light lunch and daffodil cookies, and ended with the bus-

ting process of digging, planting, and mulching. It was a beautiful sight to see so many of our families and all aged groups coming together to make such a special activity possible.

We look forward to a vibrantly blooming garden this spring and a Shabbat service where we will celebrate our garden with a Daffodil oneg and the Shehechyanu blessing.

Thank you to all who helped plant and to the Daffodil committee chaired by **Ellen Pincus**, greatly supported by the **Zadwick, Cabrero, Slayton, Pelletier**, and **Gordon-Aldaba** families.

Please be mindful of the garden when driving through and playing as the baby bulbs are resting and growing!



Caring Committee

Because we Care:

Congregation Beth Shalom Caring Committee

Beth Shalom has always been known to be a caring and close-knit congregation. A good part of that is because we care about one another, and try to be supportive of each other, especially at trying times. Occasionally, our congregants may need a reassuring phone call, a visit, or perhaps a meal dropped off.

For this and many other reasons, if you would like to become a member of the Congregation Beth Shalom Caring Committee and are interested in participating, please email me at: janet@theaarons.com.