

HaShomer

FEBRUARY 2018

Congregation Beth Shalom

SHEVAT/ADAR 5778

Schedule of Services

February 2018
Shevat/Adar 5778

Friday, February 2, 7:30 pm
Led by **Barry Goldfarb**
Saturday, February 3
Shabbat Service 10:00 am
Led by **Stuart Snow**
Torah: Yitro

Friday, February 9, 7:30 pm
Led by **Cantor Sheri Allen**
Saturday, February 10
Shabbat Service 10:00 am
Led by **Stuart Snow**
Torah: Mishpatim

Friday, February 16, 7:30 pm
Led by **Dina Lindell**
Saturday, February 17
Shabbat Service 10:00 am
Led by **Cantor Sheri Allen**
Torah: Terumah

Friday, February 23, 7:30 pm
Led by **Bob Burns**
Saturday, February 24
Shabbat Service 10:00 am
Led by **Cantor Sheri Allen**
Torah: Tetzaveh

My Two Shekels

I write this after just attending the wedding of one of my son Jeremy's kindergarten friends, and besides feeling old, I'm feeling all wistful and sentimental. Who's not a sucker for a beautiful wedding? And this one was pretty darn gorgeous. Not to mention impressive.

The Chuppah was encased in white flowers. The appetizers during cocktail hour were spread on tables that lined the entire perimeter of the room, and left us too full for dinner. They had a live 10 person band. The dinner that we were too full to eat was delicious, the tables looked magical and the dessert bar was insane.

They even had individually wrapped pieces of wedding cake for us to take when we left. I looked at Richard at one point and said, "I'm glad the kids aren't here, because I wouldn't want them getting any ideas. They'd be sorely disappointed."

But of course the most beautiful part of the wedding was the most simple and understated: the ceremony itself. The age old rituals, the signing of the Ketubah, the circling of the groom (and these days, the bride as well), the recitation of the ancient blessings, the exchange of plain gold rings, the breaking of the glass.

They all serve to deepen the couple's connection to the generations before them, and confirm that they will begin their lives together in a Jewish home. There they were, under the Chuppah, such love and promise and hope in their eyes. An idyllic future spread before them. And I remembered so clearly when that was us, and I thought: they have no idea what lies ahead!

Now don't get me wrong! I mean that in only the most positive sense. But as any couple can tell you, whether they are married or not, navigating a lifelong partnership isn't always easy. And although there are plenty of books and classes and counseling that can offer guidance, there is no surefire way to guarantee a successful relationship. I've learned that the two most important components are communication and trust. Oh, and a lot of patience.

That's where I really got lucky. I happen to have a partner that waited for me to grow up. I was only 21 when I married Richard, and thank God he took a "this too shall pass" approach when it came to dealing with my emotional immaturity. I think I've wised up a bit since those early days, but I do have an occasional slip. Difference is, I recognize it and try to nip it in the bud. Not all couples are lucky enough to have a partner who will put up with their mishugas, but hopefully, if, or when things do get challenging, they will have built a foundation strong enough to keep standing.

To further that end, Jewish Women international's (JWI) clergy task force has created a program called, "Shamor l'Amour: a healthy relationship Shabbat." They explain, "we tell our congregants that on Shabbat we hold two commandments sacred: shamor v'zachor - protect and remember. But to truly create a sacred space in the home for Shabbat, we must have a home that is at peace; a home of loving, healthy relationships and connections; a home where love is protected."

Synagogues across the country are invited to celebrate Shamor l'Amour, and we will be doing so on **Friday, February 9, at 7:30 p m.** Please join us as we pray, read and study together, calling on Jewish texts to reframe the way in which we approach our own relationships. As JWI relates, "every relationship, even the stron-



Would you like to honor someone's good deed, honor a birthday, special occasion or send condolences? You can do this with a donation that benefits Congregation Beth Shalom.

You may indicate a fund of your choice, or leave it to the discretion of the administrative assistant to select it for you.

Donation forms are available on the CBS website (www.bethshalom.org) or from the CBS office.

If the recipient is not a member of Congregation Beth Shalom, please be sure to include their address.

Continued on page 2 . . .

From the President

The 2018 Board of Trustees held their first meeting of the year and it left me energized. We have a great board that wants the best for our congregation. Each board chair is working on goals for the year, which will be presented at the February meeting. I'll share highlights in next month's article. **Stuart Snow** and I have already thought about some of our over-arching goals, which include getting more organized administratively and financially.

* We will be storing our policies, forms and other documents on the secured area of the Web site so we have one place to view our documentation and everyone knows they are looking at the most current version.

* The Finance Committee will be auditing all of our fees to ensure they are still needed and accurately reflect current cost of business. Fees will also be posted on the web site.

* We will be creating a committee to review and update our Web site so it is more inviting for our current and prospective members.

* We have created CBS email addresses, so you can easily communicate with our Board of Trustees and we don't have to use personal emails that are harder to remember. The new email addresses are listed in this month's **HaShomer** and also on the Web site, in the "Our People" section.

Another focus for 2018 is improving security around the building. Tarrant County Jewish Federation has received a grant from Homeland Security, and is sharing the funds with each of the Jewish organizations in the area. We are working with **Bob Goldberg** to set up a security assessment with a resource from Homeland Security.

Lee Schulman is engaging the Arlington Police Department and other security companies to provide an assessment of our building and what our highest priority needs should be. Once priorities are determined, we will then assess funding needed and begin making updates. We want you all to feel secure when you come to the shul for services or any other activity and with Federation's help, we'll be able to get this done.

Stuart and I have split responsibilities for supporting each of the board chairs, and we will actively participate in these committees so we can continue to provide worthwhile programs and services. And, you will read this in just about all of my articles... we need YOUR HELP! Please let me know if you're interested in participating in any of our committees. You can email me at president@bethshalom.org. We would love the help and fresh ideas.

Mark your calendars with all of the great events we have in the coming months. The CBS calendar is listed on the Web site. Looking forward to seeing you there!

**Pam Sudbury – President
Congregation Beth Shalom**



HaShomer

is published monthly by Congregation Beth Shalom
1212 Thannisch Drive, Arlington, TX 76011-4848
Vol. XXXV Issue 5, February, 2018

Editor: Hy Siegel **Editorial Assistance: Thressa Lobel**
Proofreading: Stuart Snow

The Ritual Life

This year marks the first time in 17 years of almost continuous board service that I have taken on two obligations: that of Ritual Chair and vice president. I have served the congregation in both of these capacities previously, however not simultaneously. This task may at times be daunting, however I want to assure you that I will do my utmost to execute all my responsibilities in a timely fashion and to the best of my abilities.

As I have reflected on the lives of our Patriarchs, Matriarchs, Moshe Rebeinu and countless others recorded in our biblical cannon, their message resonates with me as it is both powerful and clear: Each Jew is responsible for the other, coupled with the power of One. When Moses felt empathy for the Hebrew slave being beaten by his Egyptian taskmaster, his selfless act not only changed the life of that individual, but the life and destiny of both the Egyptians and our people.

So, it is with each one of us. We have within our grasp the ability to positively impact others both within and without our community. Each has their own path to follow on the road to spiritual perfection, and it is up to us to find its ultimate expression. For me, this is achieved through board service, leading services, calling congregants and honing my Torah, Haftorah and service skill set.

We don't live in a vacuum however, and indeed I stand on the shoulders of others who have inspired and mentored me along the way.

How about you? What do you hope to accomplish to elevate and improve not only yourself but your community? Are you able to do more, give more and be more, really challenging yourself, knowing that there are others willing to assist you in achieving your goals?

In closing, I am reminded of the ancient Chinese proverb, "The longest journey begins with the first step". My hope for everyone is that you will be willing to so. For as our sages tell us in *Pirke Avot*, "While it is not up to you to complete the work, neither are you free to desist from it".

— **Stuart Snow**
Ritual Committee Chair



From the Cantor

... continued from page 1

gest, deserves a check-in....we give ourselves the gift of a conversation, inspired by the teachings and readings of Shabbat, about how to strengthen and protect the relationships that are most important - Shamor l'Amour. "

And just think...with our newfound insights and some flowers and candy, we will be all set for Valentine's Day! It might not be a Jewish holiday, but according to rabbi Michael J. Brody, "....valentines day ...seems to have lost its Christian overtone (and) it's Christian roots are suspect to begin with."

So I'm planning on celebrating. After 33 years of marriage, I'm still a hopeless romantic. I only hope that when the newlyweds are married as long as we are, they can say the same.

— **Cantor Sheri Allen**

Sisterhood

On January 26, Brotherhood and Sisterhood lead a beautiful and meaningful Shabbat service. Thank you to everyone who participated and brought goodies for the oneg.

A special thank you to **Martine Thomas, Barry Goldfarb** and **Stuart Snow** for working so hard and for pulling it all together. Before our service some of those that were able to also enjoyed a wonderful dinner at Prince Lebanese Grill. If you were unable to attend this wonderful Shabbat save the date for our next Brotherhood/Sisterhood Shabbaton the weekend of June 22.

Thank you to **Cindy Mendez** for working and taking care of our Judaica shop. Our gift shop is open Sunday mornings during religious school and by appointments. Cindy has added some nice new items recently so stop by and shop with us. Remember all Sisterhood members get a 10% discount.

February dates to remember:

February 8, Monthly dinner and meeting

February 25, Lunch and museum outing

If you have not joined Sisterhood, it's not too late. Contact **Sheryl Robertson** at Supermommy62@hotmail.com for all the details.

— **Dorit Mikulencak**
Sisterhood President

Religious School

Is it really the second semester of school? It goes by so quickly! We are continuing to have exciting activities and discussions every week. At the beginning of January, after a very restful vacation, we hit the ground running. Our oldest class took a trip to Dallas where they got to meet with the Rabbi at Young Israel, an Orthodox synagogue, where they were prepared with many questions in their search for knowledge. This visit was the culmination of a semester of studying the different denominations of Judaism. That same class also took a trip to Ahavath Sholom for the speaker program "Brunch and Budapest." They had a great time on both trips.

Our middle students are ready to begin an informative study of the Holocaust. This is always a challenging topic to teach as we have to balance the reality of the subject with the emotional impact it has on our children. Felicia has been working hard to find that balance.

Our youngest class has been studying TuB'Shevat, the birthday of the trees, and will finish the lesson by preparing some special edibles to celebrate.

Please feel free to come and visit so you can see the exciting things that are happening at CBS. We LOVE to show off!

Last, I wish to thank the anonymous donors who, for the second year in a row, graciously donated their spare change they had collected for our Tzedakah project. You're very much appreciated! Let's ALL keep it coming. Ethan and his family continue to struggle but our small bit of help goes a long way.

— **Stephanie Posner**
Religious School Director

Gift Wrapping Fundraiser

What a beautiful thing it was to see so many volunteers giving their time and effort to wrap gifts this year. Whether it was one two-hour shift, or more than 15 two-hour shifts (Christine), every pair of hands mattered.

And it wasn't only congregants who wrapped. Friends, children, and hubbies joined in and made a difference. This year was a huge success financially and in every other respect. Thank you very much to each and every one of you:

Rochelle Bekerman, Karen Burns, Sarita Cabrero, Stephen Cabrero, Lori Cole, Cathy Frisinger, Jim Frisinger, Ricki Epstein, Barry Goldfarb, Debbie Goldsmith, Thressa Lobel, Angela Markson, Maddie Markson, Cindy Mendez, Jane Mendez, Ellen Pincus, Hannah Posner, Stephanie Posner, Christine Posnock, Michele Rothschild, Chanel Sassoon, Davina Sassoon, Shirley Sassoon, Leslie Schulman, Felice Silverberg, Danielle Snailer, Andrea Snow, Stuart Snow, Pam Sudbury, Martine Thomas, Lili Weiner

— **Lisa Rein Sisterhood**
Fundraising Co-Chair

Arlington Life Shelter

I would like to thank my wife, **Cookie Kabakoff**, and **Carol Pock** who took over the organization of the Arlington Life Shelter Christmas Dinner this year due to my surgery.

Also a big thanks to **Ben, Fran, and Sam Weiger, Roy and Lani Aldaba, Barry Goldfarb, Debra Kaplan, Jason Kabakoff, Lee and Cara Schulman, Jackie and Brandon Gibbons, Iris, Hannah, and Dylan Jeffries, Pam Sudbury, Cindy Wilcox, Jennifer Weinstein, Jay Hatler**, and all those contributing food and donations to make this another successful annual event.

— **Phil Kabakoff, Event Chair**



(l-r): Cindy Wilcox, Iris Jeffreys, Leslie Udes, Carol Pock, Jackie Gibbons, Brandon Gibbons, Jennifer Weinstein

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 January 18)

GENERAL FUND

Donation from Larry and Martine Thomas
 Donation from Morris and Michela Prigoff
 In memory of Emanuel Bloch
 from Judi and Philippe Lecoq
 In memory of Ben Rubin
 from Sherwin Rubin
 In memory of Jeanette Schonfeld and
 Jack Kirshbaum
 from Ruth Friedman
 In memory of Lillian Blumberg
 from Elliott and Loesje Blumberg
 In memory of Zelda Levin and Howard
 Lackman; in honor of Joe Bekerman's
 70th birthday
 from Stephen and Tamara Lenhoff
 In memory of Sarah Levy, Irwin Ginsburgh,
 and Howard Lackman
 from Alice and Steve Ginsburgh
 In memory of Howard Lackman
 from James Weisman
 from Mr. & Mrs. Dorflinger
 In memory of Howard Lackman;
 in appreciation of Cantor Sheri Allen, Janet
 Aaronson, CBS Sisterhood, Stuart Snow, and
 the Chevra Kaddisha
 from Samara Lackman Kline and
 Andy McCarthy
 In memory of Michael Kornitzky
 from Elaine Kornitzky
 In appreciation of Cantor Sheri Allen and
 the CBS Sisterhood
 from Elaine Lackman Smith

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of Lena Pack
 from Rosemary Keeley
 In memory of Minessa Weinstein
 from Stuart and Donna Levin

EDUCATION FUND

In memory of Skippy Reynolds
 from Marty and Debbie Goldsmith
 In memory of Coston Gardner
 from Norm and Toni Epstein
 In memory of Eve Kaplan Downing
 from Anonymous

SANCTUARY FUND

In memory of Lena Pack
 from Rosemary Keeley

MAINTENANCE FUND

In appreciation of CBS
 from the Tuesday MahJong group
 In loving memory of Renee M. Romano
 from Janet and Jerry Aaronson

TORAH FUND

In memory of Lorean Gardner
 from Norm and Toni Epstein
 In memory of Lena Pack
 from Rosemary Keeley

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Myron Berkson
 from Richard and Cantor Sheri Allen

LIBRARY FUND

In memory of Dirk Hellwig
 from the Bushlow family



*The Congregation records with sorrow
 the passing of:*

Harold "Hesh" Weiner
 brother-in-law of Lili Weiner

May his memory be a blessing

Birthdays

February 1

Josh Frisinger

February 2

Jennifer Cook-Whirty
 Henry Kaplan

February 3

Lauren Schwartz
 Ned Soltz

February 4

Judy Clark

February 5

Joel Mandelkorn

February 7

Robin Blumberg

February 9

Danny Cushman

February 10

David Louis Spindler

February 11

Jeff Visosky

February 12

Robin Licker

February 13

Melissa Blair

February 15

Ashley Epstein
 Arielle Sasley
 Adam Weiss

February 17

Khalin Zadwick

February 22

Leslie Udes

February 23

Yasmin Feinberg

February 24

Aliza Feinberg

February 26

David Markson

February 28

Joy Atkins

Anniversaries

February 10

Michael & Darlene Dickman
 David & Agnes Mishkin

February 26

Phil & Cookie Kabakoff

Yahrzeits



February 1

Lenora Freedman
 Beatrice Kohn*
 Jean Mandelkorn

February 2

Morris Bekerman
 Henry Burger
 Eve Glickman
 Jack Lefer*

February 3

Rosalie Russel*

February 4

Harold Mandel*

February 5

Marilyn Bloch*

February 6

Bernard Ciocci*
 Elsa Greenwald
 Blanche Shulman Payne
 Sidney Steinberg

February 8

Abraham Lefer*

February 9

David Henry Rubin*

February 10

Mary Alice Jolkovsky
 Philip Needleman

February 11

Clara Schulman

February 12

Gonen Epstein
 Anna Levy

February 13

Louis Oxman*

February 15

Naomi Binder*
 Eli Cobbel*
 Les Fuchs
 Sharon Wenokur*

February 16

Abraham Rothschild
 David Snow*

February 17

Ruth Bolding*
 Leonard Elster
 Dorothy Hilbert King

February 18

Benjamin Feld*

February 19

Maxwell J. Rodenberg*

February 20

Harry Waetzman*

February 21

Ester Fleischer
 Efraim Nasserfar*

February 22

George Abraham*
 Fay Garrick
 Max Kornitzky*

February 23

Isadore J. Sternstein
 Beverly Chovis Rothschild*
 Donald Garver*
 Hilda Needleman*
 Esther Rowley
 Daisy Silverberg

February 24

Morris Barken
 Alan Botney
 Norma Reynolds*
 Morris Schneidkraut*
 Marilyn Shapiro
 Abraham Strausberg*

February 25

Marion Goodman
 Jerry Kaden
 Helen Steger Rice
 Samuel Weiss

February 26

Carolyn Finkelstein*
 Douglas Groh
 Toni Herman*

February 27

Betty Berger
 Harold Dorfman
 Rose Golden
 Minessa Weinstein

February 28

Arnold Berger
 Louis Eisenfeld*
 Sophie Robins
 Sadie Rosen

* Memorial Plaque in Sanctuary

Contact your Executive Officers/ Board of Trustees

The executive officers and board of trustees now have their own Congregation Beth Shalom email addresses. Feel free to contact your elected representatives by clicking on the "About Us" tab in the upper left corner of the CBS home page (bethshalom.org). A dropdown menu will be available.

Click on the "Our People" header in the drop-down menu. You will see a table. Click on the email link for the representative of your choosing.

If you have any questions, or encounter an issue, contact **Ben Weiger** at weigerben@gmail.com.



Past president Yael Sasley (center) presents Ken Licker and Shirley Sassoon Certificates of Appreciation for their many years of dedicated board service.

Please contact any of our board members if you have any questions, suggestions, or want to participate on their committees.

2018 - 2019 CBS Executive Board and Board of Trustees

President	Pam Sudbury
Past President	Yael Sasley
VP	Stuart Snow
Treasurer	Ben Weiger
Controller	Randy San Antonio
Secretary	Ellen Pincus

Trustees at Large/Committee Chairs

Ritual	Stuart Snow
Education	Judy Pelusi
Fundraising	Ruth Friedman
Programming	Lani Gordon
Social Action	Joyce Atkens
Membership	Stephanie Posner
House	Lee Schulman
Federation Liason	Lisa Rein

2018 Board of Directors



Back row left to right: Lee Schulman, Ruth Friedman, Joyce Atkens, Ben Weiger, Stephanie Posner, Stuart Snow, Lani Gordon Aldaba

Front Row Left to right: Randy San Antonio, Yael Sasley, Pam Sudbury, Lisa Rein, Ellen Pincus, Judy Pelusi, Dorit Mikulencak

Has your email address changed?

Please be sure to notify the CBS office if you are not receiving your News Blasts!
Thanks! info@bethshalom.org

Karaoke Night

**Saturday, February 10, 7:00 pm
in the CBS Social Hall**

\$10/person members

\$12/person non-members

MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE

**Note: This is an adults-only event -
no children please**

**Coffee, Nosh, and Desserts
will be served — BYOBooze**

**Stephen Cabrero will be our
Master of Ceremonies!**

**Please RSVP to Ruth Friedman
817-274-3340;**

**email: ruthfriedman11@yahoo.com,
or call or email the CBS office**

CBS Mission Statement:

Congregation Beth Shalom is a Reform Jewish community; warm and caring, welcoming of all, rich in tradition, committed to G-d and Israel, devoted to life-long learning, Jewish programs and spiritual growth.

CBS Vision Statement:

Congregation Beth Shalom strives to be the center for strong Jewish spiritual growth in the Mid-Cities community, where our members engage in the study of Torah, the warmth and friendship that evolves through our Jewish way of life, and our commitment to Tikkun Olam.