

HaShomer

MAY 2019

Congregation Beth Shalom

NISSAN/IYAR 5779

Schedule of Services

May 2019

Nissan/Iyar 5779

Friday, May 3, 7:30 pm

Led by **Martine Thomas**
and **Ruth Friedman**

Saturday, May 4, 10:00 am
Shabbat Service

Led by **Stuart Snow**
Torah: Achrei Mot

Friday, May 10, 7:30 pm

Led by **Cookie Kabakoff**

Saturday, May 11, 10:00 am
Shabbat Service

Led by **Cantor Sheri Allen**
Torah: Kedoshim

Friday, May 17, 7:30 pm

Brotherhood/Sisterhood
Shabbat Service

Led by **Martine Thomas**
and **Barry Goldfarb**

Saturday, May 18, 10:00 am
Led by **Stuart Snow**

Torah: Emor

Friday, May 24, 7:30 pm

Led by **Cantor Sheri Allen**
with **Joy** and **Joseph Atkens**

Saturday, May 25, 10:00 am
B'nai Mitzvah of Joy

and **Joseph Atkens**

Led by **Cantor Sheri Allen**
Torah: Behar

Friday, May 31, 7:30 pm

Led by **Stephanie Posner**

My Two Shekels

Although the official day has passed, April 16 (the day I am writing this) is National Health Care Decisions Day. And for those of you who missed it, not to worry! Every day is a good day to think about our health! I am now the president of Care & Prepare, an organization that brings awareness, education and understanding about Advance Care Planning to our Fort Worth/Tarrant County Community.

Advance care planning is the process of understanding possible future healthcare decisions; considering what you might want for yourself, taking into account your personal, cultural, religious and/or spiritual values; talking about these choices with your doctors and people close to you; and making a plan for future possible healthcare situations.

Advance care planning is important at any age. Even if you're not dealing with a life-limiting illness, an accident or injury could occur at any time. That's why it's such a good idea to talk through end-of-life decisions before a crisis arises.

And that's why National Health Care Decisions Day is a big focus for us. One of our past presidents, Dr. Kendra Belfi, has written this powerful statement about the importance of this initiative: "National Healthcare Decisions Day (NHDD) occurs on April 16 every year. It is a day designated to remind us to create or revisit our healthcare directives.

NHDD has grown every year since, and has now partnered with The Conversation Project. This is another national initiative whose goal is to help people have the needed conversations related to their goals and values so that family and caregivers of patients will know what is really important to the patient when the patient is seriously ill and no longer able to speak for himself."

I know that some of you attended the Advance Care Planning Seminars we had for the Jewish community several years ago. If you did, did you take the next step and actually fill out and sign your directives? And if you didn't, that ship has not sailed! Next month, on June 21, Care & Prepare presents "Let's Talk: A Community Conversation about Advance Care Planning" at the James L. West Alzheimer's Center, 1111 Summit Avenue in Fort Worth.

This will be an informative and invaluable discussion about all aspects of Advance Care Planning including: Medical Directives, Funeral Pre-planning, Estate Planning, and how to have a productive conversation with family to ensure that your medical decisions will be honored. The program is from 8:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., includes breakfast and lunch, and is free of charge! Such a deal!

Having this discussion is one of the greatest gifts you can give to the ones you love. If you haven't done this yet, don't wait. Any day can be National Health Care Decisions day! Why not make it today?

- Cantor Sheri Allen



**Brotherhood/
Sisterhood
Shabbaton Weekend
May 17 - 19**

**Brotherhood Breakfast
Speaker Series
May 19, Breakfast 9:30 a.m.
Speaker: Rabbi Ralph
Mecklenburger, 10:30 a.m.**



CONGREGATION
BETH SHALOM
A MEMBER OF THE UNION FOR REFORM JUDAISM • ARLINGTON, TEXAS

From the President

I apologize for being so slow to respond to emails and requests the past two months. I even committed the ultimate presidential sin last month by not submitting a **HaShomer** article! (Sorry, Hy.) But life is finally getting back to normal at the Sudbury house and I can focus more attention on CBS.

The Sudbury's have new digs now at Viridian, and my only disappointment with moving and downsizing is that we will no longer be able to host the annual Chanukah party (unless you want to be very cramped). But, I'm sure wherever we have the party going forward will be just as fun.

I hosted the Board of Trustees at my home on April 21 for our annual Idea Retreat. This is always my favorite Board meeting because we set the tone for the upcoming fiscal year. We were able to fill the calendar with more amazing events and we set financial priorities.

Reality set in that our Fair Share contributions are less than previous years, so we focused our priorities on two main goals: 1. Fundraising and 2. Gaining new members. Our Fundraising/Programming Chair, **Lani Gordon Aldaba**, reviewed an abundance of ideas from her committee that focus not only on fun activities to raise money within the congregation, but also having events where we can invite non-members and help raise additional funds.

And this starts with our annual Gala on June 1st! I am looking forward to finding a Prom dress and getting my hair and makeup done to fit into the ambience of this special night. You will be receiving an invitation in your email soon and I encourage all of you to forward the invitation to your friends and family, to make the event even more special (and raise more money).

The next priority we focused on is membership recruiting. CBS will not survive without adding new members. And although we've been blessed with a few new members last year, we need to improve our outreach so Jews in this area know we're here and we can be their extended family.

Our Membership Chair, **Stephanie Posner**, cannot do this alone. Stephanie and her committee are working on developing a brochure that can be distributed to potential members. And we will update our Website to be more inviting. That's the easy part. The hard part is finding new members.

If you're aware of any unaffiliated Jews that live in your neighborhood, convince them to come to services, or invite them to the Gala, and let them see for themselves how special CBS is. Or if you know of former members that don't believe they need to join a synagogue anymore, let them know the improvements we've made and maybe they can find joy in our community again. We need everyone's help with membership recruitment. Feel free to contact me or Stephanie if you have any other suggestions.

And finally, I want to congratulate our VP and president elect, **Stuart Snow**, on his retirement, and send a sincere thank you for organizing and cleaning the library, as well organizing and hanging all of our beautiful artwork on the walls upstairs. If you haven't been upstairs in a while, I invite you to see what an inviting space it's become.

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*

The Ritual Life

After decades of continual Torah Study at Beth Shalom each shabbat morning, it was sadly discontinued late last year after fewer and fewer people attended. After all, the study of Torah is the prime directive of our people!

Divine providence works in mysterious ways. As many of you know, I recently retired after a 40+ year career in the sporting goods industry, affording me the luxury of managing my own time.

When speaking to **Patricia Cushman** a few weeks ago, she requested that since I am retired, would I entertain restarting and facilitating Torah Study? Of course, I jumped at the chance and eagerly accepted.

We both agreed that since many in our community do not work, or have flexible work schedules, that a weekday would be preferred. We also agreed that people might be more comfortable in a home environment, which **Marian Feld** agreed to host as readily as I did to facilitate this exercise.

HaShomer

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

We will meet Monday mornings from 10:00-11:30 a.m. beginning on May 6.

Please email Marian at mariankfeld524@gmail.com to register and let us know that you will be joining us.

It is appropriate that we begin our studies with Parshat Kedoshim, the Holiness Code, for as you may recall, God commanded, "You shall be holy because I, the Lord thy God am Holy."

Unlike the Torah Study of old, where we read the text line by line and then discussed, our approach this time is to read the text BEFORE class, making notes, writing questions and comments that will ferment discussion and dialogue.

You are welcome and encouraged to read any Chumash that you feel comfortable with. There are many websites that offer Torah from different perspectives adding insights and depth from different commentators. The more the merrier, as this will guarantee lively discussion!

We will also follow the triennial cycle, just as we do in the synagogue, which will afford us the opportunity to delve even deeper into the text. From time to time, we will concentrate on the weekly Haftarah portion, upcoming holiday and/or Hold Day, etc. **The triennial readings for Parshat Kedoshim is Chapters 19:33-20:27.**

When we speak words of Torah, we complete the cycle

Continued on next page . . .

Sisterhood

The next Sisterhood meeting will take place on **Thursday, May 9**. We will meet at Torchy's for dinner at 5:30 p.m., then move to the synagogue for the meeting at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

— *Cathy Frisinger, CBS Sisterhood*

Religious School

It's May! That means the religious school is coming to a close. It has been a wonderful year. I am blessed with amazing teachers, wonderful students, awesome volunteers, and helpful parents. What more could I possibly ask for? I am already thinking about next year and it is going to be as great as this year.

School will officially end on May 19. We will meet at 9:30 a.m. for regular classes. Then, at 10:30 a.m., we will be going to Fort Worth to celebrate Yom HaAtzmaut. I challenge each of you to come and tell me what Yom HaAtzmaut is, (kids only) for an extra special prize. We will have games, food, drinks, sno cones and lots more! It promises to be a GREAT day. More info. will follow.

I hope everyone has a fun-filled summer. I hope to see each and every one of you at the Atkens B'nai Mitzvah. It should be a wonderful time.

Starting to miss you already,

— *Stephanie Posner*
Religious School Director

Adult Education

Please join us on Sunday morning, May 5, 10:00-11:30 a.m., for a Holocaust Remembrance program in honor of Yom HaShoah. CBS congregant, **George Fleischman**, is gracious to share with us experiences from his uncle **Andrew Freed**, and family friend **Edith Molnar**, both of whom survived concentration camps.

Following the war, Andrew Freed was of great assistance to many during his time in a U.S. displaced persons camp because of his knowledge of numerous languages. Edith Molnar later earned an Honorary Doctorate from Northwood College for the many lectures she presented nationally of her life while being held in a concentration camp.

Video sections of her lectures and documentation from Andrew Freed's life will be presented in the CBS Social Hall in a museum-type setting, with George Fleischman acting as docent.

Later in May, George will be donating this memorabilia to the Dallas Holocaust Museum, so don't miss this opportunity to see it first hand. And as always, you are welcome to come early, 9:45 a.m. for coffee!

— *Judy Pelusi*



Brotherhood

Breakfast Speaker Series Sunday, May 19. 9:30 a.m.

As the Brotherhood Breakfast Speaker Series continues, we welcome Rabbi emeritus Ralph Mecklenberger. Rabbi Mecklenberger grew up in suburban Chicago, attended the University of Cincinnati and the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, where he was ordained in 1972 and granted an honorary Doctorate of Divinity in 1997.

He served congregations in San Francisco, CA and Ann Arbor, MI before becoming Senior Rabbi of Beth-El Congregation in Fort Worth for 32 years until his retirement in 2016. He continues to serve as adjunct faculty member at Brite Divinity School, TCU.

His book, *Our Religious Brains*, was published in 2012 and reissued in paperback in 2015.

Among many honors, Rabbi Mecklenberger has been President of the Southwest Association of Reform Rabbis and Jewish Co-Chair of the Texas Conference of Churches' Jewish-Christian Forum. He and his wife, Ann, have two grown children, Elissa and Alan, and they are blessed with four grandchildren.

Join us at 9:30 a.m. for a complimentary breakfast. Rabbi Mecklenberger will begin speaking at 10:30 about his book, *Our Religious Brains*. Copies of this book will be available for purchase, and the Rabbi will be happy to autograph your copy.

Please contact Thressa in the CBS office to RSVP for breakfast by Wednesday, May 15.



The Ritual Life

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of life begun when HaShem created Adam Rishon by breathing the breath of life into his nostrils, animating us as living beings. We return this physical breath back to its spiritual essence when we read and study Torah as a community. Indeed, Torah Study is a form of meditation!

Join us, won't you?

— *Stuart Snow*
Ritual Committee Chair

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 April 15)

GENERAL FUND

In memory of Mary and Lowell Mitchell
from Susan Mitchell
In memory of Saul Israel
from Aimee and Phil Pelletier
In memory of Jerry Kaden, Morris Barken,
and Rose Washington
from Steve and Alice Ginsburgh
In memory of Lewis Lackman
from Annette Lackman
In memory of Lawrence Kwarfo
from Nana and Joyce Atkins
In memory of Mascha Bekerman
from Joe and Rochelle Bekerman
In memory of Les Pock
from Rick Botney
In honor of the bat mitzvah of Samara Sasley
from Pat Rubins

BUILDING FUND

In appreciation of CBS
from the Tuesday Mah Jonng Group

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of Saul Israel
from Aimee and Phil Pelletier
In memory of Charlene Longoria
from Frank Longoria
In memory of Morris Schneidkraut
from Sorai Stuart
In memory of Beverly Chovis Rothschild
from Jeff and Michele Rothschild

CHEVRA KADDISHA FUND

In memory of Les Pock
from Rick Botney

LIBRARY FUND

In memory of Lillian Bushlow
from the Bushlow Family
In memory of Sylvia Halbert
from Debbie Hein

CARING FUND

In memory of Les Pock
from Rick Botney



*The Congregation records with sorrow
the passing of:*

Elaine Silverberg,
beloved mother of David Silverberg
May her memory be a blessing

Birthdays

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| May 1 Emily Allen | May 18 Evelyn Fleischer |
| May 3 Stan Mikulencak | May 23 Michele Rothschild |
| May 4 Jay Feinberg | May 24 Pauline Pelletier |
| May 5 Jay Hatler | May 25 Marian Feld |
| May 7 Fran Weiger | May 26 Steven Dickman |
| May 8 Linda Dunn | May 27 Hannah Jeffreys |
| May 10 Elijah Hatler | May 28 Mark Schwartz |
| May 11 Jane Mendez | |
| May 14 Jordan Zadwick | |
| May 15 Shira Feinberg | |
| May 16 Cai'lyn Nash | |
| May 17 Jason Weiner | |
| May 18 Jason Kabakoff | |

Anniversaries

May 25
Larry & Laura Fleischer

May 29
Jerry & Dina Lindell

May 31
Phil & Aimee Israel-Pelletier

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.

Yahrzeits



| | |
|--|---|
| May 3 Samuel Abramovitz Louis Franklin David Zucker | May 16 Abe Jolkovsky |
| May 4 Morris Gould* Esther Rosenthal* Faye Shaw* | May 17 Joseph Wiener |
| May 5 Phyllis Betcher* Michael Egyes Moshe Furman* | May 18 Aghdas Rafi Mayeri Rubin Udes |
| May 7 Lee Landsberg* Ken Sasley Michelle Zucker | May 19 Ida Bella Kaplan |
| May 8 Magda Mittleman Arthur Paderewski | May 20 Sylvia Gray* Jerome Snow |
| May 9 Seena Greenberg Gordon Prigoff | May 21 Eleanore Gordon |
| May 10 Resa Babin* Andries Voet | May 24 Art A. Saling |
| May 11 Helene Markson* David Suissa* | May 25 Jack Kamen* Harry Levin |
| May 12 Louis Edward Miller | May 26 Syde Kirshbaum* |
| May 13 Bob Billings Isidore Friedman* | May 27 Joseph Kleir Frieda Lambert* Dorothy Price |
| May 14 Sidney Bushner* Elwood Green* Rosalind Pier Solomon | May 28 Lisa Blatt Herbert L. Silverberg |
| | May 30 Rhea Levine |
| | May 31 John A. Stern* Laura Dukes Zollars |

* Memorial Plaque in Sanctuary

Goins on at Beth Shalom

In recent weeks a transformation has been taking place at Beth Shalom.

Inside the building, our library has been cleaned from top to bottom, with superfluous books and materials taken away, while the remaining books have been resorted into more specific categories to enhance your reading and studying experience.

We literally have something for everyone; from Torah to Zohar, from Cookbooks to Jewish Humor, from beautiful picture books to fiction, from non-fiction to biography. We have also hung or displayed additional artwork. This is a library that any congregation our size (or even larger) should be proud of!



Upstairs hallway

Traveling upstairs, the floor has been carpeted, which results in a much richer, warm and comfortable environment. Finally, additional artwork has been hung on the mostly barren walls, once again enhancing the overall atmosphere.

Looking around the grounds, we have been uplifted and elevated by the beautiful daffodils and accompanying sign commemorating our participation in the world-wide Daffodil Project. The flower beds have been cleaned out, with a layer of weed block added over the soil and fresh, new mulch put atop.

Finally, the building is scheduled to be painted as you read this.

It is the intention and focus of our board to make Beth Shalom both physically attractive and spiritually stimulating. Please let us know how we are doing.

— *Stuart Snow*
President-Elect

Munch 'n Learn Torah Study

We will meet Monday mornings at 10:00a.m., beginning May 6. However, instead of meeting at Beth Shalom, **Marian Feld** has graciously offered the use of her home at 1411 Glasgow Drive, Arlington, (phone: 817-465-9507) for this mitzvah.

Stuart Snow will facilitate our weekly study.

Food will be collectively offered and shared by all. Please register today by contacting Marian by email at marianfeld524@gmail.com.

It is a Tree of Life for those who hold fast to it . . .

B'nai Mitzvot

The Atkins family invites the congregation to join them on Saturday morning, May 25, 10:00 a.m., as Joseph and Joy Atkins are called to the Torah as bat and bar mitzvot.

Joy Atkins

Joy Atkins is a 6th grader at Donna Shepard Intermediate School. She participates in choir, track, Battle of the Books, and orchestra, where she plays the cello. She likes building and assembling products and cooking.

Her favorite movie is Shazam and her favorite show is Supergirl. Her favorite subject is science and her favorite sports team is the Dallas Cowboys.

She does community service by raising funds annually for the Jewish War Veterans, runs for the Meredith Hatch Foundation, and runs the 5K Shannon's Run.

Joy's Mitzvah Project: Collecting stuffed animals for homeless children at the Fort Worth Shelter, in partnership with Mayor Betsy Price.



Joseph Atkins

Joseph Atkins is an 8th grader at Linda Jobe Middle School. He plays basketball and runs cross country and track. He also does triple jump as a field event.

He loves playing games and sports. His favorite movie is Avengers: Infinity War and his favorite show is Amazing World of Gumball. His favorite subject is science and his favorite sports team is the Boston Celtics.

He does community service by raising funds annually for the Jewish War Veterans, runs for the Meredith Hatch Foundation, and runs the 5K Shannon's Run in honor of one of his former teachers.

Joseph's Mitzvah Project: Collecting shampoo, bar soap, and deodorant for homeless veterans under the Directions Home program, whose goal is to make homelessness rare, short-term, and nonrecurring in Fort Worth, in partnership with Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price.



CBS thanks the Sisterhood for the donation of a new color printer for the office, and new microwave for the kitchen.

An Evening in Paris

Sylvia Gray Chavarim hosted an evening of French wine, food, and song, special entertainment, and more!



(l-r): Lisa Rein, Joe Bekerman, Rochelle Bekerman, Debbie Goldsmith, Marty Goldsmith, Randy San Antonio, Gene Posnock, Christine Posnock, Trish San Antonio.



(l-r): Dina Lindell, Jerry Lindell, Philip Peletier, Sherwin Rubin, Susan Held, Judy Pelusi, Aimee Pelletier.

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 |
| President-elect | Stuart Snow |
| Treasurer | Ben Weiger |
| Controller | Randy San Antonio |
| Secretary | Cindy Mendez |

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| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 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 |

CBS Gala

We hope everyone is getting excited because the CBS annual Gala, our largest fundraiser of the year, is quickly approaching. Our **Moonlight and Roses Prom** for CBS Chai School will occur on the evening of June 1.

Be sure to check your emails around the beginning of May for your prom invitation. Please feel free to forward the invitation to your friends and add them to the guest list. If you require a paper copy of the invitation, please contact Thressa in the CBS office (817-860-5448).

We are in need of a few things, please help where you can:

- Donations for our silent or live auctions
- Sponsorships of the gala (\$36-\$99 Roses sponsor, \$100+ Moonlight sponsor)
- Hard copy pictures of you from when you went to prom and/or from your senior year (you will get these back) - bring/send these to the CBS office, 1212 Thannisch Drive
- Invite your non-CBS friends to the event!

This year part of our proceeds will go to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Cystic Fibrosis (CF) is a life shortening genetic disease, with no cure, that primarily affects the lungs and digestive system. The greatest frequency of CF is found in European-derived populations and Ashkenazi Jews. Social Action and Programming will work together to provide a walk benefiting the CFF and CBS in the near future.

— *Lani Gordon Aldaba*
Fundraising and Programming Chair

Yom Ha'Shoah

Holocaust Remembrance Day

May 1, 7:00 p.m., Beth El Congregation
Guest speaker Bert Romberg, Kindertransport refugee and musical performance, / *Remember* by Ensemble Bella.

Yom Ha'Zikaron

Israel Memorial Day

May 7, 6:30 p.m., Ahavath Sholom
Memorial service for Israelis and Americans who have died defending Israel.

Yom Ha'Atzmaut

Israel Independence Day

May 19, 11:00 a.m., Jewish Federation
Celebrate Israel with a free lunch and fun activities for the entire family.

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