

HaShomer

OCTOBER 2017

Congregation Beth Shalom TISHREI/CHESHVAN 5778

Schedule of Services

October 2017

Tishrei/Cheshvan 5778

Thursday, October 5, 9:00 am

Sukkot Morning Service

Led by **Cantor Sheri Allen**

Friday, October 6, 6:30 pm

Gumbo in the Sukkah

Led by **Cantor Sheri Allen**

Saturday, October 7

Torah Study 8:30 am

Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Led by **Cantor Sheri Allen**

Torah: Sukkot

Wednesday, October 11, 7:30 pm

Erev Shemini Atzeret/

Simchat Torah Service

Led by **Cantor Sheri Allen**

Thursday, October 12, 9:00 am

Shemini Atzeret/Yizkor/Simchat

Torah Morning Service

Led by **Cantor Sheri Allen**

Friday, October 13

Shabbat Service, 7:30 pm

Led by **Martine Thomas and**

Ruth Friedman

Saturday, October 14

Torah Study 8:30 am

Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Led by **Stuart Snow**

Torah: Bereshit

Friday, October 20, 7:30 pm

Led by **Dina Lindell**

Saturday, October 21

Torah Study 8:30 am

Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Led by **Stuart Snow**

Torah: Noach

Friday, October 27, 7:30 pm

Led by **Cantor Sheri Allen**

and Hailie Posner

Saturday, October 28

Torah Study 8:30 am

Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Hailie Posner Bat Mitzvah

Led by **Cantor Sheri Allen**

Torah: Lech Lecha

My Two Shekels

As I write this, Rosh HaShanah is a mere two days away. But by the time you read this, the High Holy Days will be over and we will be on the cusp of Sukkot. It's hard for me to imagine that at this moment!

This is our third year without a sukkah of our own, but we now have a new tradition to look forward to. Our beloved **Barry Schneider** has a lovely arbor in his backyard that becomes a full-fledged sukkah every year, and when Dolores was alive, they would entertain for the holiday. After Dolores was gone, Barry instinctively knew that their sukkah would sit empty. So, necessity being the mother of invention, he came up with a great idea.

We both had what the other needed: he had the sukkah, and I had the decorations and desire to cook. Barry basically told me, "My sukkah ay su sukkah." So over the last two years, we've both been able to fulfill the mitzvah of dwelling in the sukkah together.

Wouldn't it be nice if this became a trend? Friends building sukkot and others providing the décor and meals? It would be a win-win for all parties involved. A wonderful way to share the holiday and strengthen friendships. We do have a beautiful sukkah at Beth Shalom, and I hope to see all of you in it this holiday, but there is something very special about having one (or sharing one) at home.

And let's not forget – the holiday lasts for a week, and we are supposed to eat in it multiple times (preferably every day) during that week. The whole point is to remind us how vulnerable we really are when we inhabit a space with impermanent walls. All too often, we take the safety and security of our homes for granted. Only when we venture out, and are subject to inclement weather, ant bites, and sunburn can we really appreciate what it means to have a permanent roof over our heads, heat and air conditioning, and running water.

Of course this year, thousands of people don't need that reminder, thanks to devastating hurricanes and a massive earthquake. And they've kept on coming and coming. People have been displaced, their homes destroyed, and their future remains precarious. We must continue to provide the support and help meet the needs to those who are in jeopardy, and there are so many ways to achieve that.

Here are some links to stay involved:

<https://reformjudaism.org/blog/2017/08/28/5-jewish-ways-help-after-hurricane-harvey>

<https://jewishfederations.org/hurricane-irma-relief-fund>

<http://www.jdc.org/jcdr/>

This Sukkot, let us remember that no matter how unstable our lives, our homes, or our sukkot may be, we can count on each other to give us the support we need to get through.



– Cantor Sheri Allen



From the President

We enjoyed those delicious holiday aromas that filled our homes. We surrounded ourselves with family and friends. We asked for forgiveness. And synagogues around the country began their annual appeal.

To the following families: anonymous, **Patricia & Danny Cushman, Barry Goldfarb, Mike and Suzi Kapin, Christine and Gene Posnock, Sherwin Rubin, Barry Schneider, and Stuart and Andrea Snow**, thank you for building us a base with which to kick off this year's appeal. We are all very grateful! To congregation members who have already sent in their donation, thank you!

Last year we tried something new with the High Holy Day appeal, and for the first time in a very long time, we finished the year in the black! Let's aim to do that again this year! So if you have not sent in your pledge yet, please do.

Whether you are a member, thinking about joining, a past member, or even a guest, please know that any contribution you make will truly help. We have a whole new year ahead of us, and lots more to do. We want to make sure CBS continues to look after its family, and to be there for you just as you have been here for us.

– **Yael Sasley, President**
Congregation Beth Shalom



Sylvia Gray Chaverim

Come and join us for the first planning meeting of the revived Sylvia Gray Chaverim (55 and older)!

Sunday, October 8, 1:00 p.m.

at La Madeleine
2101 N. Collins Street, Arlington

We will be planning some fun activities for the coming months. Hope to see you there.

for more information contact Scott Slayton,
scottslayton@gmail.com, 609-712-1214

*Sylvia Gray Chaverim is partially funded by a grant from the Jewish Federation of Fort Worth and Tarrant County. You need **not** be a member of Congregation Beth Shalom to participate in the Sylvia Gray Chavarim.*

HaShomer

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The Ritual Life

The Chevra Kadisha (or "Holy Society") is an organization of Jewish men and women who see to it that the bodies of the deceased are prepared for burial according to Jewish tradition. Two of the main requirements are the showing of proper respect for a corpse, and the ritual cleansing of the body and subsequent dressing for burial.

The task of the Chevra Kadisha is considered a mitzvah of the highest honor, as tending to the dead is an obligation that the recipient cannot perform or return, making it devoid of ulterior motives. Its work is therefore referred to as a chesed shel emet (a good deed of truth), paraphrased from Genesis 47:30 (where Jacob asks his son Joseph, "do me a 'true' favor" and Joseph promises his father to bury him in the burial place of his ancestors).

I am writing about this as we need more women to join our ranks. **Janet Aaronson**, chair of the women's Holy Society, will be holding a class on Sunday morning, December 10, at 10:00 a.m.

If you are curious to learn more about this ritual, whether for yourself or just to become more familiar with our burial practices, please come to this informal learning session in the Beth Shalom sanctuary, facilitated by Janet. If you will be attending, please email Janet at: janet@theaarons.com so she can be prepared.

I can tell you from personal experience that the task of preparing a body for burial gives one a feeling of personal satisfaction and holiness that isn't replicated by any other mitzvah. This feeling comes about not only by treating the dead with the utmost care and respect, but also by knowing that you are helping the family ease their pain and sense of loss during this most highly emotional and sensitive time. It is a truly elevating experience and one that I hope you will consider when the opportunity presents itself.

– **Stuart Snow, Ritual Chair**

2017 - 2018 CBS Executive Board and Board of Trustees

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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

Sisterhood

As we welcome in October and the cooler temperatures fall brings with it, we welcome back returning Sisterhood members as well as new members. Membership packets have been sent out. Please return your membership form along with your check to **Sheryl Robertson** at your earliest convenience.

If you need a form, please call the CBS office and one will be sent to you. We look forward lots of great programs like Midrash and Mimosas, wine tasting, dinner, shows and much much more in the coming months.

Thank you to all who contributed to the Rosh HaShanah Oneg and Yom Kippur Break-fast. We could not have accomplished what we did without your help. And a special thank you to **Martine Thomas**, who organized everything for us.

Our Membership Kick-off event was held September 10, at Sunshine Glaze. It was a wonderful affair thanks to the efforts of **Sheryl Robertson** and was enjoyed by all who attended.

Please join us every month for our dinner and meeting usually on the third Thursday of the month. Look for email reminders and locations.

– *Dorit Mikulencak*
Sisterhood President



Religious School

Religious school has gotten off to a wonderful start! Classrooms are buzzing with the excitement of our teachers and students. This year promises to be a great one.

As you read this we will be looking forward to celebrating Sukkot. Make a date with your family to come eat dinner in the sukkah or just come up here one evening to lay there (bring your own blankets) and enjoy looking at the stars.

Gumbo in the sukkah will, once again, provide us with an amazing opportunity to share the holiday with your family and friends. Hope to see you all there.

This year our younger students will be celebrating Sukkot with religious school students all over Tarrant County. They will be going to Congregation Ahavath Sholom and participating in a variety of activities such as making edible crafts, shaking the lulav and etrog, listening to stories, and singing. It promises to be a lot of fun. Thanks to Federation and the educators from the local congregations for making this possible.

Our B'nai Mitzvah kids will be traveling a lot this year as they study religions around the world. They will be visiting mosques, churches, and other houses of worship. This will help them to understand the similarities and differences we all have with each other.

I hope your holiday season was meaningful to you and your family. I look forward to seeing everyone soon.

– *Stephanie Posner*
Religious School Director

B'nai Mitzvah

Hailie Lauren Posner

On behalf of the Posner family, we cordially invite the congregation to the Bat Mitzvah of our daughter, **Hailie Lauren Posner**. She will be leading the congregation in services on Friday October 27, and Saturday October 28.

Hailie is in the seventh grade at Ousley Jr. High where she enjoys being in the choir and theater class. Hailie is an avid reader and is proud to have read the entire Harry Potter series, the Percy Jackson series, as well as many of Rick Riordan's other novels, the Hunger Games and many more.

She also loves studying mythology and gets very frustrated with us when we can't tell her who the Greek or Roman god or goddess is she is referencing. She loves Greene Family Camp, Camp Impact, and Camp Gan Izzy. Hailie has a heart of gold and is loved for being the "unique" child she is.

Hailie is looking forward to this special day. She will be joined by many aunts, uncles, cousins, and her Grandma Isabel who is traveling here from North Carolina. We are expecting family from Georgia, Illinois, Utah, California, and Israel!

Thanks to **Cantor Allen** who has worked tirelessly with Hailie to get her ready for this special day. Thanks also to the lay leaders who have graciously invited Hailie to join them on the bimah to get some added practice and build her confidence.



You can advertise in

HaShomer

the monthly newsletter of
Congregation Beth Shalom

Contact the CBS office for info: 817-860-5448

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.

Donations (Received prior to September 15)

GENERAL FUND

In memory of Lazlo Fleischmann
from George Fleischmann
In memory of Pearl Anderson, Minnie and
Major Anderson
from Patricia Cushman
In memory of Albert Holtzberg
from Phil and Cookie Kabakoff
In memory of Bernard Levy and Maurice
Weinberger
from Steve and Alice Ginsburgh

BUILDING FUND

In appreciation of CBS
from the Tuesday Mah Jonng group

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of Stewart Weinstock and
Robert Zollars
from Brenda Weinstock

TORAH FUND

In memory of Bertram Levy
from Fran Levy
from Ron and Linda Elsenbaumer

ONEG KIDDISH FUND

In memory of Betty Greene
from Sharon Greene

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.

New Members

Keith Richardson - Arlington
Ricki Epstein - Arlington
Jennifer Cook and Family - Arlington

Welcome to Beth Shalom!

Birthdays

October 2
Christine Posnock
Lisa Rein
Stephen Robertson
October 3
Mary Goodman
Phil Kabakoff
October 4
Bob Burns
Ethan Goldfarb
Shai Sasley
October 6
Loesje Blumberg
October 8
Benjamin Bekerman
David Schwartz
October 9
John Blair
October 10
Laura Fleischer
October 11
Trish San Antonio
Micah Zadwick
October 13
Rebecca Townsend
October 15
David Silverberg
October 16
Mary Soltz
October 17
Cathy Frisinger
Melanie Garver
Kendall Posner
October 18
Iris Jeffreys

October 21
Lori Cole
Hailie Posner
October 22
Hannah Posner
October 24
Larry Goodman
Zachary Markson
October 25
Alycia Robertson
October 28
Michael Dunn
October 29
Kristopher Dickman
Barry Schneider
October 30
Marty Goldsmith

Anniversaries

October 5
Brett & Iris Jeffreys
Khalin & Jordan Zadwick (15)
October 7
Norman & Toni Epstein (40)
October 12
Jerry & Janet Aaronson
October 21
Danny & Patricia Cushman
October 27
Michael & Linda Dunn
October 28
Jim & Kathy Frisinger

Yahrzeits

October 1
Dorothy Eisenfeld*
Marvin Kramer
Herbert Paul*
Sidney Steinberg
October 2
Madelyn Cotter
Helen Marie French*
Jack Jeffreys
October 4
Jack Cohen
October 5
Louis Laves
Leo Lenhoff
Edna Weiser Weinstock
October 6
Ida Barken
October 8
Deidre Curry Jernigan
Maurice Kramer
Sarah Rasaby*
October 9
Albert Schneider*
Nancy Spindler
October 10
Pearl Eisenstein*
October 11
Edward Kulick
October 13
Ethel Craden
Aaron Goldsmith*
Marcie Schulman
October 14
Cecil Gardner*
Herman Kabakoff*
Rae Siegel
Irwin Weiner
October 17
Anne Jacobs
Mordechai Miskin*
Constance Stuart*
October 19
Lillyan A. Kaplan*
Anne Kravetz*
Gertrude Steinberg Rubin*



October 20
Lorraine Tan Posner*
Vera Sherwin
October 21
Rachel Jacob*
Rose Maurer Simon*
October 22
Heshmat Sedge Sassoon
October 23
Leonard Dison Bolding*
Barry Markson*
October 24
Selma H. Krauss*
Lumon L. Reynolds*
Philip Tanz
October 25
Mina Kessler
Stephen Schmidt*
Harvey Steinberg
October 26
Betty Kramer*
Rhoda Cohen Madeo*
October 27
Fern Blatt
Lazlo Mittelman*
Isadore M. Schnee*
October 28
Morris Mandel*
Edith Wenokur*
October 29
Rita Rosenthal Cohen*
Sylvia Kabakoff*
Shirley Lynch
Morris Robinson*
October 30
Jennette Alice Blonsky*
October 31
Anna Coller
Sylvia Weiner

* Memorial Plaque in Sanctuary