

TEMPLE BETH SHALOM

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Temple Beth Shalom
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From the Bimah: Our Rabbi's Message

Dennis Jones, Student Rabbi

Shabbat Chazon—A Time to Remember

When congregation Temple Beth Shalom ends its summer break, and begins Sabbath services on August 12th and 13th, we will be observing Shabbat Chazon. Shabbat Chazon is the Sabbath that immediately precedes the fast of Tisha B'Av—the 9th of Av. The Torah reading that day is actually Devarim. Shabbat Chazon—“Sabbath of vision,” takes its name from the special Haftorah reading which comes from the book of Isaiah, 1:1-27. It is a dire Haftorah portion, containing words of doom and rebuke. Even the trope of the portion is changed to a more soulful melody. You will notice the difference as Alec Davidson, who will be observing his Bar Mitzvah on that Shabbat, chants several verses from the Isaiah Haftorah.

The fast of Tisha B'Av is a solemn time on the Jewish calendar.

So solemn, in fact, that when it falls on a Shabbat it is never observed until the following day. That is the case this year, 2016. While the primary purpose of our mourning during this time is given by the sages as the destructions of both the first and second Temples in Jerusalem at the hands of the Babylonians then of the Romans, the sages also saw the darkness of these days as deriving from incidents which occurred at the time of the Exodus. For example, the 17th of Tammuz, in the fourth month of the Hebrew calendar, which precedes the 9th of Av by three weeks, commemorates the day in 70 C.E. when the Romans breached the walls of the holy city of Jerusalem. Rashi tells us that it also corresponds with the timing of the “golden calf” incident following the giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai. (Rabbi G. Rubin, “Matan Torah According to Rashi,” <http://ohr.edu/991>)

According to the Rabbis of the Mishnah, the time of sadness culminated on the day of Tisha B’Av, the 9th of Av, in the fifth month of the Hebrew calendar. They stated, “Five misfortunes befell our fathers ... on the ninth of Av. ...On the ninth of Av it was decreed that our fathers should not enter the [Promised] Land, the Temple was destroyed the first and second time, Bethar was captured and the city [Jerusalem] was ploughed up.” (*Mishnah, Ta'anit* 4:6) Recall that Moses had sent twelve spies into the land of Canaan ahead of the arrival of the children of Israel, and when those spies returned, they reported to the people that it would be impossible for the Israelites to overcome the inhabitants of the land. According to the Torah, the people believed the spies negative report, and, sadly, Adonai decreed that that doubting generation would not be permitted to enter the land of Israel. (Numbers 13:25-14:45) This “sin of the spies” seems to have put a black mark on the day which has persisted throughout history. Particularly disheartening to the sages was the fact that the focal point of Israelite worship, the holy Temple in Jerusalem, was destroyed first by the Babylonians (586 B.C.E.) then after its rebuilding, by the Romans (70 C.E.) on the *very same day*. And, fresh on their minds were the slaughter of over 500,000 Jews at Bethar and the plowing of the destroyed city of Jerusalem by the Romans at the time of the Bar Kochbah revolt (135 C.E.)

In addition to the tragedies falling on the 9th of Av, as enumerated in the Mishnah, a host of dreadful events have befallen our people on or very near that day throughout history:

- The First Crusade began, August 15, 1096, in which 10,000 Jews were killed in the first month alone.
- The Jews were expelled from England, July 18, 1290.
- The Jews were expelled from France, July 22, 1306.
- The Jews were expelled from Spain, July 31, 1492.
- Germany entered World War I, August 1, 1914.
- Himmler approved the Nazis’ “Final Solution,” August 2, 1941.
- The deportation of the Jewish population from the Warsaw ghetto to Treblinka began, July 23, 1942.

(See Tracey R. Rich, “Judaism 101,” <http://www.jewfaq.org/holidayd.htm>)

Customs for observing Tisha B’Av have varied from community to community and from time to time. During the nine days from the 1st to the 9th, many observant Jews abstain from cutting their hair or shaving, abstain from the drinking of wine or eating of meat except on Shabbat, and abstain from pleasurable activities and recreation. According to the *Shulchan Aruch*, the fast of Tisha B’Av was to be every bit as strict as the fast of Yom Kippur. Extending from sundown to sundown, the individual

is prohibited from eating or drinking, washing or bathing, applying creams or ointments, wearing leather, or enjoying marital relations. The sadness of the day is intensified by the reading in the synagogue of the woeful book of Lamentations from the Hebrew Bible. The only difference from the High Holiday fast of Yom Kippur is that if the 9th of Av falls on a Shabbat, it is not observed until the next day. (Rabbi Joseph Telushkin, *Jewish Literacy*, pp. 593-597)

It is a truth of life that while we have periods of remembrance and mourning, those are also followed by periods of joy and celebration. This is deeply embedded in the Jewish tradition as well. The solemnity of the fast of Tisha B'Av is followed by a day of celebration that many are not aware of—the 15th of Av. That day falls this year on Friday, August 19. “Said Rabbi Shimon ben Gamliel: There were no greater festivals for Israel than the 15th of Av and Yom Kippur.” (*Talmud, Ta'anit* 26b) In fact, the Talmud goes on to record at least six major positive events that occurred on Tu B'Av, the 15th of Av. The Mishnah tells us that the “daughters of Jerusalem” would borrow fine linens and go out to dance in the vineyards. Young men who were not yet married would look upon the maidens to find a suitable wife. (See, Yanki Tauber, “Why Do We Celebrate the 15th of Av?” <http://www.chabad.org/>) As nights became longer, the intense heat of summer began to fade, and the early cool breezes anticipating fall began to blow, the Rabbis encouraged the Jewish people to turn from their time of mourning to a time of joy. The recurring theme of Jewish history is that times of oppression and tragedy have been followed by times of redemption, victory, and joy, by the hand of the Almighty.

I look forward to ending our summer hiatus and being together again as a holy congregation this month. And, how appropriate that we do it on a Sabbath with so much meaning and history in our rich Jewish tradition! There is a story told of a 19th century British politician who was walking outside of a synagogue on the 9th of Av. From inside the synagogue walls, he heard the reading of the book of Lamentations and the weeping of the people. Upon inquiry, he was informed by a bystander that the Jews were mourning the loss of their ancient Temple and the many tragedies that have befallen their people during this time of year. So impressed was he, that he exclaimed, “Surely a people who mourn with such intensity the loss of their homeland, even after 2000 years, will someday regain that homeland.” (Telushkin, p. 595) Amazingly, we have regained that homeland, modern Israel, and are prospering there. And, this return was predicted by the Hebrew Prophets over 2500 years ago.

The President's Message

Marsue Davidson, TBS President

Summer has been filled with beautiful weather, wonderful vacations, and fun with family and friends. We soon begin another year of faith and learning under the spiritual leadership of Rabbi Dennis Jones and our TBS board. I want to thank all the members of the board and our congregation for their support and their membership of Temple Beth Shalom. Our previous president, Barbara Laufer, completed many projects and led our board with such passion and drive. We all thank her for all her hard work. We are grateful for her continued commitment to Temple Beth Shalom and appreciate everything she does for the temple.

Temple Beth Shalom has meant so much to me personally and my family. Raising our children here in the South with the ability to provide them with personalized Jewish studies has been wonderful. Our family thanks all of you for your support and we look forward to this next year together. I am honored to have been chosen as your next president and will work my hardest to continue our mission of living our life as Jews. Teaching our children our traditions, beliefs and Jewish laws is so important for the future of this community.

Attached to this newsletter is the 2016-2017 Temple Beth Shalom calendar of services, Sunday School sessions and special events. We are so excited that Alec has chosen to complete his Bar Mitzah on the 13th of August 2016. We invite all of you to join us for this very special event in his life, in our family's life, and the beginning of a new year at Temple Beth Shalom.



APPRECIATION

We appreciate the generous donations for kitchen renovation from:
Roberta Atkins (replacement of temple tables)
Lin Gentry(granite top for center island)
Barb Laufer (cabinet hardware)
And cash from Connie Tosky and Marion DuBow

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TBS Sunday School Program

Marsue Davidson, Director Sunday School

Are you ready for another year of spiritual studies at Temple Beth Shalom? We are so lucky to have Rabbi Dennis Jones, his wife Kathy, and daughter Heidi, to lead our children during this next 2016-2017 year. Attached is the schedule of services, Sunday school sessions, and special events. Please mark your calendars and participate in as many services and Sunday school sessions as possible. Our young Jewish children are the future of this community and we need you and your families to participate.

This next year, our Sunday School sessions are filled with exciting new activities, field trips, and community outreach projects. We will continue to host our annual Hanukkah Party and Purim celebration, and will increase student participation in the monthly services. All children of TBS Sunday School will sign a contract declaring their commitment to learning about their Jewish heritage. At the end of the year, our children will demonstrate their newly learned Hebrew by leading a temple service and sharing their Jewish faith. We look forward to a new year together and invite all to join us on Sunday, August 28th. This first session of the Sunday School year will be a planning

meeting, and the children will begin to work on a special project at the temple. On August 13th at 10am, Alec Davidson would like to invite everyone to attend his bar mitzvah, followed by a wonderful traditional luncheon. We are so happy to share this special time together in Alec's life and look forward to all of you joining our family in the celebration.



TBS Sisterhood

Lin Gentry, Sisterhood President

The sisterhood has been very busy this summer! We've met with contractors, picked out appliances, and moved lots of dishes! The kitchen renovation will include a new refrigerator, dishwasher, and 2 stoves, an island, painted cabinets and walls, new cabinets in the hall closet, and new tables donated by a member of the congregation, among other necessary improvements. The design will provide better counter top space for food preparation and vastly improve work flow, especially for serving larger gatherings. We're very excited about the results and expect it to be very nearly completed by our next rabbi weekend.



Ideas for fun sisterhood and congregational activities have been tossed about because of the better and more efficient use of the space. Bake challah? Kugel cookoff? Learn to make kichel?

I'd like to thank those who came to our last meeting and moved dishes: Tiffany, Mary Lee, Marion, Roberta, Kathy, Barb, and Larry. I also want to thank Laura for her hard work as treasurer for so many years.

She wanted to step down and we appreciate all she has done for us. We were so busy moving dishes at our last meeting, we forgot to schedule our next meeting. I'll send out an email with the date and place of our next meeting.



TBS Member Business Directory

Dr. Ron Dubow
Internist, Geriatric Specialist
(elderly care) Pediatrician

2651 Morganton Blvd SW
Lenoir, NC 28645
828-757-8950

Dr. Laura Faruque of
Womens View PA

915 Tate Blvd SE
Suite170
Hickory, NC 28602
828-345-0800

Dr. Mark Faruque of
Bethlehem Family Practice

174 Bolick Lane Suite 202
Taylorsville NC 28681
828-495-8226

Marsue Davidson, RN DCS
Unifour Nursing

805 W. 25th Street
Newton, NC 28681
828-464-0244
www.unifournursing.net

Robyn Diamond, Certified Health
and Wellness Coach, Specializing
in Digestive
Health and Stress Management
843-991-6338
Robyn@HealthHappyYou.com
www.HealthHappyYou.com

Harriet Sederholm Scholarship Fund

The Harriet Sederholm Scholarship Fund was established by a long-standing Temple member, Burt Sederholm, to honor his wife Harriet, who died shortly after her retirement after 25 years with the Catawba County Department of Social Services. Mr. Sederholm's efforts provided the initial funding from generous family members and friends and it has been added to it over the years. The scholarship is available to students. Temple members are looked upon favorably, but one does not need to be a temple member nor Jewish to apply. The scholarship fund dividends are used to provide scholarship awards. Candidates may submit an essay to any one of the committee members. The essay will explain who the candidate is, what they are doing currently, what their plans are for the future, how the scholarship funds will be used and, if applicable, what the connection may be to Jewish life.

Interested students should submit their essay by April 30th. The scholarship season runs from May 1-April 30. All applicants will be notified in writing if their application has been approved or declined by May 15th. Awards should be mailed to recipients by May 31st.

The essay should be emailed to any of the committee members: Lin Gentry, Julie Owens or Sandy Guttler.

Naturally, the committee encourages everyone to make a tax-deductible donation to the Scholarship Fund at any time.

Temple Board

Welcome back to all Temple Beth Shalom board members. We are so happy to have two new members this year, Gavi Crater and Karen Ferguson. Thank you for your dedication and time.

Please welcome Marsue Davidson as your newly elected President; Gavriela Crater as vice-president and Karen Sederholm Ferguson as bulletin editor. Dennis Jones has signed another contract to be our "rabbi" for the next

year. Exciting things are happening thanks to your support.

Our next board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 10th at 7pm.

As a reminder, all board meetings are open to all temple members. Please join us and became a part of our TBS family.

Member Business Directory (cont'd)

Professor Gitlin Hebrew Lessons

**109 6th Ave NE
Hickory, NC 28601
828-328-9443**

**Alice Guy of
The Hickory Wine Shoppe**

**238 Union Square NW
Hickory, NC 28601
828-334-4441
Info@HickoryWine.com**

**Michelle Oxenberg Jordon
Managing Director of Design**

**3166 Main Ave. S.E.
Hickory, North Carolina 28602
828.322.3480 Ext. 271
michelle@robertabbey.com**



Temple Beth Shalom Life Cycle Events

Birthdays

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Emily Tosky 7/3 | Laura Faruque 8/1 |
| Robert LaBarge 7/7 | Garrett Richards 8/1 |
| Lin Gentry 7/7 | Rachel Peltzer 8/1 |
| Burt Sederholm 7/9 | Meredith Gross 8/3 |
| Karen Ferguson 7/9 | Emerson Weatherly 8/5 |
| Samantha Westervelt 7/10 | Sage Bonfield 8/12 |
| Debbie Englemann 7/24 | Michael Jones 8/12 |
| Daniel Jones 7/16 | Aaron Tosky 8/22 |
| Sandra Powell 7/16 | Adam Bonfield 8/23 |
| Tiffany Hull 7/17 | Kate Shugar 8/25 |
| David Peltzer 7/18 | |
| Eric Igdal 7/19 | |
| Mitch Weatherly 7/19 | |
| Alison Weatherly 7/30 | |
| Kate Cole 7/31 | |

Anniversaries

- Zerden 7/18
Ferguson 7/9
DuBow 8/6
Cohn 7/19
Levinson 7/29

Yahrzeit

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Elaine Rockstein 7/5 | Ron Taub 8/1 |
| Sylvia Kaufman 7/6 | Ralph Kaufman 8/5 |
| Carole Bowers 7/16 | Peter Cangemi 8/22 |
| Bernice Fedder 7/20 | Harriet Sederholm 8/25 |
| Marvin Yelton 7/20 | Sheldon Odenberg 8/25 |
| Stephen Schonberg | |

Schedule for Rabbi Services and Sunday School 2016-2017

<u>Date</u>		<u>Comments</u>	<u>Bulletin Deadline</u>
August	12-14	Services/Alec Davidson Bar Mitzvah	July 30
	28	Sunday School/Kickoff Meeting	
September	9-11	Services/Sunday School	August 27
	25	Sunday School	
October	2	Rosh Hashana 7:30 PM (Sunday)	September 17
	3	Rosh Hashana 10:00 AM (Monday)	
	11	Yom Kippur/Kol Nidre 7:30 PM (Tuesday)	
	12	Yom Kippur 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM Neilah/Breakfast (Wed.)	
	16	Sunday School/Sukkah Building/Sukkot Blessings/Lulav-Etrog/Luncheon?	
	24	Simchat Torah 7:00 PM (Monday night-- <i>in lieu of Sunday School 10/23</i>)	
	6	Sunday School	
November	18-20	Services/Sunday School	November 5
	9-11	Services/Sunday School	November 26
December	25	Sunday School? (First day of Hanukah!!)	
	6-8	Services/Sunday School	December 24
January	22	Sunday School	
	3-5	Services/Sunday School	January 21
February	19	Sunday School	
	10-12	Services/Sunday School/Purim (Megillah Reading/Party)	February 25
March	26	Sunday School	
	7-9	Services/Sunday School	March 25
	11	6:00 PM Passover Community Seder (Tuesday)	
	23	Sunday School	
April	5-7	Services/Sunday School	April 22
	21	Sunday School	
	30	Erev Shavuot Service 7:30 PM (Tuesday)	
June	2-4	Services/Sunday School End of Year Party	May 20