

TEMPLE BETH SHALOM

News | Activities | Events

Inside this Issue

From the Bimah: Our
Rabbi's Message

The President's Message

TBS Sunday School
Announcements and
Schedule

Sisterhood Corner and
Brotherhood

Life Cycle Events

Temple Beth Shalom
Event Calendar

Harriet Sederholm
Scholarship Foundation

Special Events and
Announcements

Temple Board of Directors

Temple Member
Business Directory

Temple Beth Shalom
P.O. Box 9142
Hickory, North Carolina 28603
www.hickoryjewishcenter.com

From the Bimah: Our Rabbi's Message

Dennis Jones, Student Rabbi



A Parting Word Before Summer....

It's hard to believe that I have been Temple Beth Shalom's "student" rabbi for four years now. Where has the time gone?! It is truly an ongoing privilege for me to serve this congregation. Studying the Hebrew language and reading and translating the foundational documents of our faith: Torah, Talmud, and Commentaries, is a passion of mine. Observing the holy

Sabbath and all of Adonai's annual holy times: Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, etc. brings meaning to my life and connects me with our ancestors' thousands-year long walk in the light of the Torah. While I do not push keeping kosher on others, it has been a central part of my observance for many decades now, always making me mindful of Adonai's instruction, and leading to many personal benefits, I believe, physically, emotionally, and spiritually. That I can share my passion for the Jewish faith and teachings with this congregation, and even receive a little financial benefit for doing so, is an honor beyond words. I truly cannot thank you enough, Temple Beth Shalom, for this opportunity to serve.

I know that I speak often from the bimah of the centrality of the V'ahavta to the Jewish walk. While there is **no credal statement**

in Judaism per se, one might say that the Sh'ma and V'ahavta, found in Deuteronomy 6:4-9 and Numbers 15:37-41, are the closest thing we have to a "statement of faith." The Sh'ma affirms that Yod-Heh-Vav-Heh (I, of course, use "Adonai," in keeping with tradition, though the Tetragrammaton, as it is called, is truly a name and not a title.) is our/Israel's God and that Adonai is one. Jews have prayed this prayer for millennia in times of joy, plenty, and health as well as in times of trouble, persecution, and even death. We at Temple Beth Shalom say the Sh'ma as the center piece of every service we engage in. A *very* observant Jew would recite the Sh'ma four times a day: two times during morning prayers, once as a part of the evening prayer service, and finally just before going to bed. (Rabbi Joseph Telushkin, *Jewish Literacy*, p. 667)

It is the line following the Sh'ma that has always intrigued me, "V'ahavta et Adonai Elohecha b'chal levavcha uv'chal naphshecha uv'chal me'odecha." It translates, "And you shall love the Lord (Adonai's Name) your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all of your might." I like to ask myself and others, "Now, loving someone or something with all your heart, soul, and might..., what exactly would that look like?" Would you have a hard time getting that one out of your thoughts? Would that one's name be the first thing that entered your mind upon arousing from sleep in the morning? Would your thoughts be on that one as you drifted off to sleep each night? Would you be overwhelmed with joy when in that one's presence, and perhaps saddened to the point of sickness upon being separated from that one? Is this level of love really what the author of Deuteronomy had in mind?

There is a story that I talk about often which is found in the Palestinian Talmud (B'rachot 9:5) about Rabbi Akiva, the second century spiritual leader who was tortured and ultimately killed by the Romans for his support of Bar Kochba in a revolt against Roman hegemony in the Land of Israel. The story goes that while Rabbi Akiva was being tortured, the time for the saying of the morning Sh'ma arrived. To his torturers Akiva appeared to be calm and even joyful in spite of his agony, leading one Roman soldier to ask Akiva whether he was, in fact, some kind of sorcerer. Akiva reportedly replied that he was not, but that all his life he had pondered the meaning of the words he had recited daily, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul (life), and with all your might." He stated that he knew in his heart that he had never truly fulfilled them and was saddened. But, in that moment, as death approached, Rabbi Akiva said, "Now that I am giving up my life (soul), and the hour for the reciting of the Sh'ma has come..., should I not smile?" The Talmud reports that as the rabbi spoke those words, his soul departed.

How might *we* translate this into action? I love the way my first rabbi and mentor in the Jewish faith, Theodore Herzl Gordon, of blessed memory, used to put it. It was, in fact, Rabbi Gordon who opened the door for me to this amazing faith tradition that is Judaism, through conversion. He used to say, "As a liberal rabbi, I am certainly not going to tell people what they need to do to be Jewish. BUT, DO SOMETHING!" There are, according to the sages, 613 commandments/mitzvoth in the Torah. Explore it! Find which ones resonate and are meaningful to you and in your life. And, keep in mind regarding all the

commandments, as we pray in the Shabbat morning service (*Gates of Prayer*, p. 285), “...sh’adam okhel peiroteinu b’olam hazeh v’hakeren kayemet lo l’olam haba”—translating roughly - that the one (who keeps them) eats their fruit in this world, and reward accrues to that one in the world to come.

By the way, did you know that in the Hebrew Bible there is something Adonai promises to do with all of God’s own heart and soul? In Jeremiah 32:36-44, God is speaking to Israel who had just been oppressed, defeated, and deported first by the Assyrians and then by the Babylonians. The Almighty promises, “I will gather them out of all the lands to which I have driven them in my anger...” Stating further, “I will make an everlasting covenant with them...” And, finally, “I will rejoice over them to do them good, and I will faithfully plant them in this land (current Israel) *with all My heart and with all My soul.*” I have some deep thoughts I would like to share with you on the prophetic meaning of that statement, but I will save that for a future message. For now, shalom u’vrachah (peace and blessing)!!

The President’s Message

Marsue Davidson, President

Summer is upon us here in Hickory, NC and Temple Beth Shalom. I want to thank all of you for your continued participation and dedication to our Jewish community. We are so blessed to have such a beautiful location, and newly renovated sanctuary and grounds. The board and Sisterhood have worked really hard over this past year to provide you with the most meaningful and appropriate upgrades. Please let us know if you have any additional ideas, concerns or needs. Board meetings are open for you to attend and share your ideas and concerns. The next meeting will be on June 6th, 7pm at the temple. We take your input seriously, our main focus being to provide an inviting space, spiritual leadership and safety.

Our annual congregational meeting was held on May 20th. We are so pleased with your attendance and your participation in the process. Reports were given from all our committees, financials were reviewed, our accomplishments over this last year were summarized, and Board of Trustees elections took place, new terms to begin July 1st.

Now, for the results of the elections. Dr. Barbara Laufer was elected President for a 2 year term. Susan Goldstein was elected Vice President for a 2 year term. The following Members were re-elected to the board: Liz Correll (Howard Zerden Foundation Liaison); Marion DuBow (Member at large); Karen Ferguson (Bulletin editor); Lin Gentry (Sisterhood President); Linda Greenfield (Member at large); Mary Lee Tosky (Member at large). Welcome to new board member Jaimi Jones (Member at large).

Tiffany Hull (Secretary) and Susan Rieder (Treasurer), will continue for a second year of their 2 year terms, and I, Marsue Davidson, will continue on the board as Past President for 2 years.

I personally want to thank you all for your support over my years serving as your president, as I have decided to step down and leave you in excellent hands with Barbara Laufer as your new president. Please remember the board is here to serve you and your family's needs, so continue to reach out to anyone on the board for help, or sharing your concerns. Thank you again for all your support and positive words of encouragement.



TBS Sunday School Program

Kathy Jones, Sunday School Program Coordinator

We are wrapping up the Sunday School year with excitement about the upcoming Bar Mitzvah of Ben Levinson on June 2nd, and an end of the year celebration for June 3rd.

Just as a reminder, Sunday School is open to all members with children of preschool age and older and will be starting a new year of classes this coming fall. Contact Kathy Jones (828-632-9261) if you are interested in enrolling a student.

TBS Sisterhood

Lin Gentry, Sisterhood President

At the sisterhood's last meeting, we had a small group, but enjoyed ourselves very much. We discussed the possibility of visiting an area temple on a Friday night in August. We also talked about having a "Sukkout" in the fall—that's a Sukkot/cookout. We'll finalize plans at our next meeting.

We'll meet next on Wednesday June 13, at 6:30pm at Thai Orchid ([1822 Catawba Valley Blvd SE](#)). Come join us.



Elaine Zerden was honored at a Hickory NAACP awards banquet.

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 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, Karen Ferguson, or Sandy Guttler. Naturally, the committee encourages everyone to make a tax-deductible donation to the Scholarship Fund at any time.

Temple Board

Our next board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 6th at 7pm. Board meetings are open to all temple members. Please join us and become a part of our TBS family.

TBS Board members are:

Student Rabbi:

Dennis Jones

Officers:

Marsue Davidson, President
 Barbara Laufer, Vice-President
 Susan Rieder , Treasurer
 Tiffany Hull, Secretary

Members at Large:

Liz Correll
 Marion DuBow
 Debra Engelmann
 Lin Gentry
 Sandy Guttler
 Pam Jones
 Linda Greenfield
 Mary Lee Tosky
 Karen Ferguson



“... you shall keep My sabbaths, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations...” Exodus 31:13

Help needed! We all love the sweet desserts and coming together at our Onegs after the Friday night service, don't we? Volunteers are needed to host for services beginning in August. Contact any board member for more information. Consider doing this mitzvah with a friend, in honor, or in memory of someone. It's easy and fun, and there's usually an experienced member there to help out. Thank you!



Looking for a way to give tzedakah?

Jaimi Jones, daughter of Dennis and Kathy Jones, and School Social Worker for Alexander County Schools, is trying to collect hygiene/cleaning supplies for families of Hiddenite Elementary School students. It is the poorest school in the district and has a high rate of families living in poverty. She has had calls from parents seeking help to be able to send

their children to school with clean bodies and clean clothing. If anyone is willing to help her with this mitzvah by donating some of these supplies, please bring them to the next service at the Temple. **A box will be in the TBS foyer for the collection.**

They are in need of the following items for Kindergarten through 5th graders:

Shampoo Conditioner Children's and Adult Toothpaste and Toothbrushes Body Wash
 Bar Soap Boy's and Girl's Deodorants Shaving Cream Safety Razors Ultra Thin Kotex
 Toilet Paper Laundry Detergent Dish Soap Lysol Wipes

TBS Message Board

*Condolences to Clyde and Karen Ferguson on the passing of Clyde Ferguson, Sr.,
 - from Pete and Ginny Sobotkin*

*Condolences to Clyde and Karen Ferguson on the passing of Clyde Ferguson, Sr.,
 - from Ron and Marion DuBow*

*Condolences to Kathy Jones on the passing of her father, Edward Hemm
 - from Marion and Ron DuBow*

*Condolences to Clyde Ferguson and Kathy Jones on the passing of their fathers
 - from Lin Gentry*

If you wish to post a message to acknowledge a special event or achievement, condolence, or send a get well message, give or send your message and a \$5 donation to Marion DuBow at 2752 Brittany Dr., Lenoir, NC 28645. A greeting card will be sent acknowledging your donation and your message will appear here in the next issue of the TBS Bulletin.

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
A Womans View
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
Epic Health Services
805 W 25th Street
Newton. NC 28269
828-464-0244
www.marsue.davidson@epichealthservice.com



Temple Beth Shalom Life Cycle June Events

Birthdays

Bradley Haddock 6/3
Julia Gold 6/4
Connie Tosky 6/14
Heidi Jones 6/14
Esther Greene 6/16
Ron DuBow 6/20
Sandy Guttler 6/22
Emily Sullivan 6/27
Ashley Brooke Cohn 6/30

Anniversaries

Dennis and Kathy Jones 6/9
Rich and Deb Engelmann 6/10
Lin and Frank Gentry 6/14

Yahrzeits

Harry Leifer 6/1
Roy Bowen 6/5
Mazzie Hull 6/11
Stephen Schonberg 6/24

Member Business Directory

Alice Guy
The Hickory Wine Shoppe
238 Union Square NW
Hickory, NC 28601
828-334-4441
Info@HickoryWine.com

Karen Ferguson, MAIT
Certified Professional in Learning
and Performance
KB Learning Designs
kblearningdesigns.com
karen.sederholm@gmail.com

Scott and Julie Owens
Taste Full Beans Coffeehouse
29 2nd St NW
Hickory, NC 28601
828-325-0108
www.tastefulbeans.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

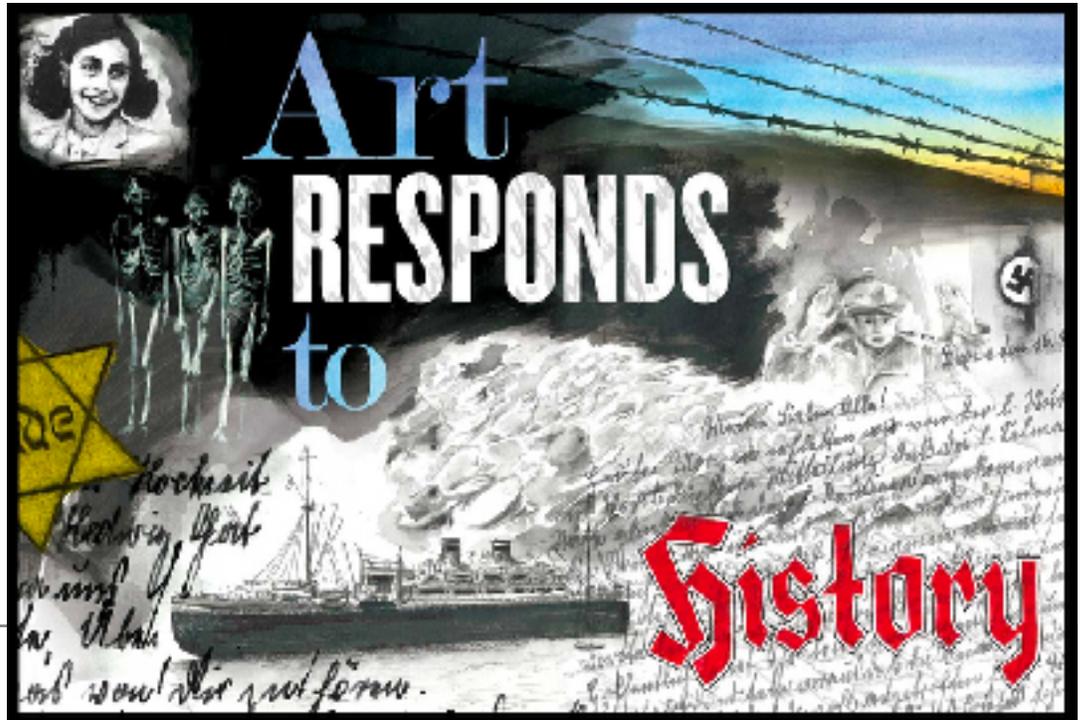
Dr David Peltzer
Newton Family Physicians
767 West First Street
Newton, NC 28658
828 465-3928
www.newtonfamilyphysicians.com

Local and Regional Events



Pete Sobotkin is team captain for the Catawba County Fraternal Order of Police team for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life All Night walk, Friday and Saturday, June 1st & 2nd, at the Catawba County Fairgrounds, raising money for a cure for cancer and to support cancer patients. If you would like to donate to this very important charity, it will be greatly appreciated. All donations are 100% tax deductible. Cash or checks made out to the "American Cancer Society" can be mailed to:

Pete Sobotkin, [1004 N Center St, Hickory, NC 28601](mailto:psobotkin@fop100.org)



Dear
Congregants,

We are pleased to forward to you the following information about an art exhibit inspired by stories of the Holocaust.

Hello from Morganton!

Art Responds to History, is a multimedia art exhibition inspired by stories of the Holocaust. The show will be at the City of Morganton Municipal Auditorium from Friday, June 15 until Friday, August 31.

A variety of voices are necessary for this important conversation, and we would love to include art and words from your congregation.

We are accepting art and written work through June 22nd. Entry is free and open to all adults, middle, high school and college students. Individuals, pairs and groups may submit work.

For detailed information, please visit the project's website: artresponds.org

Art Responds is operating with guidance & support from the City of Morganton, The Greenspon Center for Peace & Social Justice at Queens University in Charlotte, and the Center for Judaic, Holocaust & Peace Studies at Appalachian State University.



Martin & Doris Rosen Summer Symposium

This symposium is geared toward educators, students, and community members and is free and open to the public.

The purpose and goal of the Symposium is to provide public and private school teachers, university faculty, students, and community members information and insights about the victims, perpetrators, and consequences of the Nazi Holocaust.

The symposium includes:

- workshops
- discussions
- lectures by internationally recognized speakers
- Nazi Holocaust survivor testimony
- day and evening presentations
- four continuing education credits for teachers
-

The 2018 Symposium on "Holocaust and Music" will take place on the ASU campus from July 21 until July 26.

More information is at: <https://holocaust.appstate.edu/symposium>

B'NAI B'RITH INSTITUTE OF JUDAISM* RETREAT AUGUST 13 - 16

Wildacres Retreat, Little Switzerland, NC

Now in its 71st year, the B'nai B'rith Institute of Judaism provides an opportunity for the individual to confront, explore, and clarify questions about Judaism in an individual, national, and global context. Our faculty provides four lectures daily, and there is entertainment each evening. Additional activities include patio discussions with the faculty, religious services, athletic pursuits such as hiking and tennis, enjoying the breathtaking beauty of the Blue Ridge Mountains, or just relaxing.



Online Brochure: www.bnai-brith.wixsite.com/wildacres

email: bcarr@ipass.net

phone: 919.781.4207

Schedule for Rabbi Services and Sunday School

Date	Event/Time
June 1-3	Services/Friday 7:30 PM/Saturday 10:00 AM/ *Ben Levinson Bar Mitzvah Sunday School End of Year Party 10:00 AM
	*The congregation is invited to join the Levinson family for a Bar Mitzvah luncheon following services on Saturday. (no gifts)

Want to contribute to the TBS Bulletin? Send entries to Karen Ferguson at karen.sederholm@gmail.com. All entries are reviewed by the TBS Board before publication.