

TEMPLE BETH SHALOM

News | Activities | Events

Inside thmonis 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 Fund

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

Rabbi Dr. Janet B Liss

Keepers of Light

At our last Friday Shabbat Service, I gave out small flashlights following my sermon. The flashlights represent our role as a community to provide light for each other and keep our community together. As we approach our Festival of Lights, Chanukah, I will call upon you to bring your light to help make a difference in our Jewish world.

Every five years the World Zionist Congress, founded by Theodore Herzl in Basil in 1897, meets in Jerusalem. We have elections every 5 years to determine the number of delegates from America who will represent the Reform Movement at the Congress. I have been privileged to be a delegate for the last two congresses and I can tell you that your vote is important.

The election will take place online between March 10 and May 4th and this election allows us to help shape Israeli society. Reform delegates to the WZC have the power to help direct resources to organizations that promote our Reform values of pluralism, shared society, democracy, security, and a Jewish future.

What happens in Israel affects Jews in the diaspora and we have witnessed this dramatically since October 7, 2023. The WZC is our vehicle for impacting Israeli society, championing our values, and supporting the growth of Reform and Liberal Judaism in Israel. It is our obligation to the Jewish people to share our voice to vote no matter what your politics are, or brand of Zionism you support. We are called to support justice.

Why does this matter? The Ultra Religious Parties are running on a platform specifically against Reform Judaism and they want to relegate Reform Jews, women, LGBTQ+, and ethnic minorities as

second-class citizens. 5 billion dollars is on the table and the delegates decide which organizations in Israel will receive this money and have representation in the major positions in these organizations. Our goal is to have 60,000+ votes in this election. Will you be counted as one of them? In the coming months, you will hear more about how to vote from me. Your vote and voice can make a difference. Please help us promote our values in the State of Israel. I witnessed firsthand that our values do not match those of the ultra Orthodox rabbis in our committee meetings where we were able to pass resolutions supporting LGBTQ+ rights and other resolutions representing our values. There is strength in numbers and last time we barely eeked out a majority. This is going to be a very important election.

May this Festival of Lights bring hope, light and joy into our hearts.

Shalom,

Rabbi Liss

The President's Message

Susan J Goldstein, President

Dear TBS Family and Friends,

Thank you to all who continue to donate cans or food boxes to help fight food insecurity. As you may recall, your Board of Trustees voted to make this a **year-round project**. However, we have chosen to change the recipient of our donations to the **Hickory Soup Kitchen**. While **Second Harvest Food Bank** continues to be a worthwhile organization, we have learned that anything we give them here in Hickory must go directly to Charlotte to be processed. Our donations may or may not be sent back for local use. As a result, we decided that it would be best to support a local agency that appreciates our donations. Please continue to bring cans or boxes of food every time you come to TBS, and please check that the expiration date is at least six months out since your donation may be on the shelf for that long. Remember that only 5% of donations for food insecurity come from the private sector?! Let's make our cans/boxes donations to the Hickory Soup Kitchen, our donations to **MAZON** or **Leche** -- or wherever -- be a priority in 5785.

I hope each of you and those dear to you enjoyed a beautiful Thanksgiving Day. I was privileged to start the day by participating in the 56th annual Interfaith Service at Corinth Reformed Church by reading a passage from Genesis and chanting the joyful Psalm 150. Once again, the Unifour Brass Ensemble played the hauntingly beautiful *Acheinu Kol Beit Yisrael* which voices a request to God to have mercy on captives and to facilitate their release. Thanks to Rabbi Liss we'll be incorporating that song into our Shabbat morning services. As we've come to expect, the greater community was very supportive of its Jewish component. Once again, I thank Rabbi Dennis for his ongoing work with the Catawba Valley Interfaith Council (CIVC), as I believe that his involvement has done much to create a cooperative, cohesive environment.

And, once again, *Chanukah/Hannukah* -- choose your spelling -- approaches, although it's a bit late this year, beginning on Wednesday evening, December 25. I'm delighted to report that the spirit of *Chanukah* will be alive in Hickory on Saturday, December 7. The Hickory Music Factory is presenting "Joy to the World," a celebration of holiday traditions from many countries at Drendel Auditorium (SALT Block) at

10:00 am, 2:00 pm, and 7:00 pm. I'll be representing Israel by singing *Ma'oz Tzur* and *Sivivon Sov Sov Sov*, accompanied by a very cool klezmer-like instrumental group!

Rabbi Liss and Grace will be with us for services on **Friday evening, December 13, at 7:00** and **Saturday morning, December 14, at 10:00**. We'll meet again at 6:00 for potluck dinner, adult Jewish learning, and Havdalah. Since *Chanukah* falls during school break, we'll celebrate early with our traditional ***Chanukah party and Bingo game*** on **Sunday morning, December 15, at 10:00**.

Israel's challenges continue. We're still fighting Hamas in Gaza as well as the International Criminal Court (ICC) which insists upon accusing Israel of committing crimes against humanity against Gaza. As of now, the cease fire between Israel and Hezbollah is holding, and we continue to pray that our remaining 101 hostages will be released soon. We continue to pay attention to and support Hillel as it gives Jewish college students a place to feel safe in their Judaism. Until all hostages are free and the savage war we did not invite is over, I'll continue to repeat information as to sites we can visit to help our Israeli brothers and sisters and our college students.

- Emergency Campaign of The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte - www.jewishcharlotte.org
- American Joint Distribution Committee - www.jdc.org
- ARZA, the Association of Reform Zionists of America - arza.org
- MERCAZ Olami, the political arm of the Conservative/Masorti movement based in Jerusalem - <https://mercazolami.org>
- The Jewish National Fund - www.jnf.org

You can also receive frequent updates on the situation in Israel from those sites. ADL (www.adl.org), AIPAC (www.aipac.org), and the Secure Community Network (www.securecommunitynetwork.org) also provide frequent updates and offers webinars and invitations to let our elected representatives know that we stand with Israel and that we urge them to do so as well.

Jews on college campuses are having a rough go of it. Our campus Hillel's need our support now more than ever. Go to <https://www.hillel.org> to find out you can help.

And it's always time to be informed!! The Wall Street Journal (www.WSJ.com) and the New York Times (www.nytimes.com) are good sources. Pay particular attention to NYT columnist Bret Stephens. In addition, check out some sources that come directly from Israel. Israel from the Inside with Daniel Gordis (danielgordis.substack.com) is one of my favorites. The Times of Israel (<https://www.timesofisrael.com>), and Haaretz.com are others -- and I'm sure Rabbi Liss will be glad to recommend her favorites.

I look forward to seeing you soon -- in person or via Zoom.

Shalom,

Susan



TBS Sisterhood

Alexis Sweazy, Sisterhood President

Hello everyone!

I want to start by saying thank you to everyone who took part in the Chanukah fair, and I especially want to thank everyone who helped with the set-up and breakdown. We raised \$100 for the sisterhood during the event!

Our next sisterhood business meeting will be on January 12th at 2:15 PM. We will also be gathering for a movie matinee at the synagogue on January 25th, time TBD at the business meeting. As always, if you have any questions or suggestions for Sisterhood, or if you'd like to be added to our mailing list, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at alexisalmazamoody@gmail.com

TBS Hebrew School Program

Geoffrey Janer, Hebrew School Principal

Shalom everyone,

It's been an exciting month of Hebrew school. The kids and teachers are working together on both Hebrew and Judaic studies.

The B'nai Mitzvah students are learning their prayers very well and chanting Hebrew like pros.

The students in the Aleph-Bet class are doing great with their Hebrew letters, and learning all about Shabbat, the days of creation, and Noah. We are more than halfway through learning our Hebrew letters and will be learning all about Chanukah in the coming weeks.

Hebrew school will be having a Chanukah Party on Sunday, December 15 from 10am-12pm, all are welcome to attend. We will be playing bingo and giving out lots of prizes for Chanukah. Hope to see you all there!

Happy Chanukah,

Geoffrey Janer
Temple Beth Shalom
Hebrew School Principal



The Harriet Sederholm Scholarship Fund

The Harriet Sederholm Scholarship Fund (HSSF) was established by a long-time Temple member and past President, Burt Sederholm (may his memory be a blessing), to honor his late wife Harriet, who died shortly after she retired from 25 years with the Catawba County Department of Social Services. The scholarship committee is a sub-committee of the Temple Beth Shalom Board. The committee manages funds invested to award one-time scholarships with the earnings from the invested funds. These awards honor the memory of Harriet Sederholm and her efforts to improve the lives of many impoverished adults and children in Catawba County.



The HSSF scholarship is available to students. Candidates will submit an essay to any one of the committee members. The essay will explain who the candidate is, what they are doing currently, their plans for the future, how the scholarship funds will be used, and, if applicable, what the connection may be to Jewish life.

The committee will make decisions based on the following preferences but not absolutes:

- Is the applicant a temple member or related to a temple member?
- Is the applicant Jewish?
- Will the funds be used for educational needs?
- Will the funds make a difference regarding the applicant's ability to benefit from the activity?
- Is the activity something deemed to be of value by the committee?

Interested students should submit their essays 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 meeting will be on Sunday, January 12 at 12:15 pm at the temple. Board meetings are open to all temple members. Contact Susan Goldstein if you wish to join a scheduled monthly meeting.

Board members are:

Officers:

- Susan Goldstein, President
- Lin Gentry, Vice President
- Mary Lee Tosky, Secretary
- Susan Rieder, Treasurer

Members at Large:

- Liz Correll
- Karen Ferguson
- Jodi Lavin-Tompkins
- James Norwood
- Alexis Sweazy
- Geoffrey Janer



The TBS board thanks you for your donations

Susan Huitt for Sunday school in honor of Werner Cohn's bar mitzvah

Grace Blank, and Dr Barbara and Larry Laufer, and Ron and Sue Cohn for Sunday school

Carolyn and Joseph Sielsk, and Susan Goldstein in memory of Roberta Atkins

Roy and Sarah Ashkenaz and Barry and Donna Steiger for the kiddish after the service for Roberta Atkins

Susan Goldstein for Yom Kippur flowers

Jay Levi and Julie Watts - for Temple in Asheville

SIMCHAS

Congrats to Gabe Almaza-Moody on the launch of her new business, Piedmont Herbals. Find Gabe at the Hickory Farmers' Market on December 7, and December 14

There is still a great need for donations in food-insecure areas around us.

Please bring non-perishable food items to the temple whenever you come for services or other events. You will be helping fulfill the mitzvah of feeding the hungry and setting a good example for our youngsters.

Donations will go monthly to The Hickory Soup Kitchen.

Some items they currently need at the Soup Kitchen are:

- Beef and Chicken base
- Quart and Gallon zip bags
- 13 Gallon kitchen drawstring bags
- Dry milk
- Coffee creamer
- Instant rice
- Spaghetti
- Jumbo Elbow macaroni
- Ketchup
- Dessert size paper plates



Please consider pairing with a board member(s) to host a Shabbat or Holiday at Temple Beth Shalom. When members contribute to the life of our synagogue in this way, we all feel a part of our Jewish community and an active participant in assuring its well-being. A sign-up sheet is posted in the synagogue foyer, or you can sign up online. Here's the link: [TBS Hosting Sign-ups - Google Sheets](#)

1. View the [spreadsheet](#) to see what dates are free
2. Submit your choice using the [Google Form](#).
3. MaryLee will type in any form *submissions*, but **any board member can enter host names** on the spreadsheet for themselves or other members *by request*. Several of you have successfully done so!

Are you or anyone you know looking for a Jewish Summer camp experience?

Check this out! →

**Scholarships available.
Contact Geoffrey Janer for more info.**

Tranquillity Camp
Part of growing up. The best part.

Summer 2025

Full Summer (7 Weeks) \$7850
Sunday, June 23rd - Tuesday, August 19th

Session 1 (4 Weeks) \$4850
Sunday, June 23 - Tuesday, July 29

Session 2 (3 Weeks) \$3650
Wednesday, July 30 - Tuesday, August 19

tranquillitycamp.com

TBS Member Business Directory

Let us know if you would like to list your business here in the Bulletin. It is a free benefit of TBS membership

Gabe Almaza-Moody
Piedmont Herbals

Email: piedmontherbals@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.piedmontherbals.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/piedmontherbals/>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/piedmont_herbals/

Jack and Hannah Levy
Druzy Dreams Crystals

<http://www.etsy.com/shop/druzydreamscrystals>

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

www.newtonfamilyphysicians.com

The Natural Olive
216 Union Square
Hickory
828-256-1950

www.NaturalOliveHickory.com

Temple Beth Shalom Life Cycle December Events



Birthdays

- Nick Weatherly 12/3
- Pete Sobotkin 12/6
- Herman Garrick 12/12
- Pam Axler 12/12
- Hannah Davidson 12/13
- Barry Sobotkin 12/16
- Ginny Sobotkin 12/18
- Ben Setser 12/21
- Eva Reed 12/28
- Andrew Weatherly 12/29
- Donnie Powell 12/30
- Sarah Peltzer 12/31

Anniversaries

- Larry and Barbara Laufer 12/28

Yahrzeits

- Joseph Brisbane 12/5
- Ruth Morewitz 12/7
- Fannye Katzin 12/7
- Herman Davis 12/9
- Helene Tiber 12/16
- Judith Katzin Coen 12/17
- Brenda Callahan 12/24
- Justine Lavin 12/27
- Ayden Dagenhart 12/29
- Arnold Simons 12/30

Local and Regional Events



International Holocaust Remembrance Day

January 27 is International Holocaust Remembrance Day, also called the International Day in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust. This is the day Auschwitz was liberated.

2024 Holocaust Remembrance Memorial Service

WATCH ON YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KWBqZ5bVEdY&t=10s>

WINTER 2023/2024 NEWSLETTER



HAPPENINGS AT THE CENTER

THE CENTER HAS MOVED!

Well it's done. We are officially moved, after a few months with our furniture in the hall and boxes stacked to the ceiling. But frankly, this too is changing. The walls are painted, the floor has new carpet, and we have beautiful offices and a conference room. The furniture has been brought in and we have unpacked many of our treasures. The location could hardly be better; almost every App State student takes at least one class in Anne Bell Hall, so we have the ability to really make our presence known. Join us for an open house over the summer when more of our supporters are in town. But you don't have to wait for the open house, drop by and say hi in Anne Bell Hall, Suite 2100.

- 2-3. Retracing Legacies - Trip to Krakow & Berlin
4. Scholarships / Director Search / Faculty Advisory Board
5. Rennie Brantz / Donations

YOUR GENEROSITY IS EMPOWERING
DONATE HERE TODAY!



2023 - 2024 EVENTS

- 1/22/24 Art Installation: The Holy Land by Ann Kiplan
- 1/25-1/30 Holocaust Remembrance Week
- 1/25/2024 Panel "Marc Chagall and Shetl Life"
- 1/27/2024 Holocaust Remembrance Memorial Service
- 1/29/24 - 2/2/24 Historical Exhibit: "The Tuchyn Story: Roots of Resistance Exhibit"
- 1/30/24 Anne Parsons on "The Tuchyn Story"
- 2/21/24 Panel on Israel and Palestine: The Context
- 4/24/24 Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day Event
- 5/2/24 Center Award Ceremony
- May 2024 Student Field Trip
- 7/11-17/24 Summer Symposium
- 7/14/24 Center Open House

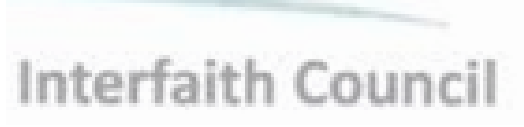
CJHPS Newsletter

[Subscribe to our newsletter](#) to

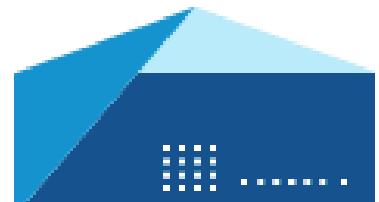
stay updated on the latest news and events.

Temple Beth Shalom has an active membership in the Catawba Valley Interfaith Council, where Rabbi Dennis served as president for 5 years and now serves as secretary. You can find out more about this organization and its activities at:

<https://www.facebook.com/CVICNC/>.



SHALOM HARMON INSTITUTE



Follow this link for information and registration for upcoming online events at SHI: <https://www.hartman.org.il/programs/>

2024-25 Schedule for Rabbi Services and Sunday School

For event updates, email: info@hickoryjewishcenter.com

Dates	Events	Newsletter deadline
December		
8	Sunday School 10am	November 23
13	Friday night service 7:00pm	
14	Shacharit Service at 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
15	Sunday School 10am	
 January		
5	Sunday School 10 am	December 23
10	Friday night service 7:00pm	
11	Shacharit Service at 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
12	Sunday School 10 am	
26	Sunday School 10 am	
 February		
2	Sunday School 10 am	January 23
9	Sunday School 10 am	
14	Friday night service 7:00pm	
15	Shacharit Service at 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
16	Sunday School 10 am	

March			February 23
	2	Sunday School 10 am	
	9	Sunday School 10 am	
	21	Friday night service 7:00pm	
	22	Shacharit Service at 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve ordairy dish to share), Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
	23	Sunday School 10 am	
	30	Sunday School 10 am	
April			March 23
	6	Sunday School 10 am	
	11	Friday night service 7:00pm	
	12	Shacharit Service at 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring parve or dairy dish to share), Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
	27	Sunday School 10 am	
	18	Sunday School 10 am	
	25	Sunday School 10 am - End of Year party	
May			April 23
	4	Sunday School 10 am	
	16	Friday night service 7:00pm	
	17	Shacharit Service at 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
	18	Sunday School 10 am	
	25	Sunday School 10 am - End of Year party	
June			
	13	Friday night service 7:00pm	May 23
	14	Shacharit Service at 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	

Want to contribute to The TBS Bulletin? Send your request to karen.sederholm@gmail.com.
All entries are reviewed by the TBS Board before publication.