

TEMPLE BETH SHALOM

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

Rabbi Dr. Janet B Liss

Friday night, Erev Sukkot was ushered in, in New York along with massive flooding and torrential rains. Had it been a few weeks later, it would have coincided with the Torah portion, Noah! An ark would have come in handy! The Torah commands us to build sukkot, temporary shelters, and to dwell in them for 8 days as a reminder of our ancestors' temporary dwellings for 40 years as they wandered in the Sinai desert. A sukkah by design is a very flimsy structure. You must be able to see the stars through the top of it. It is not meant to be permanent or sturdy. The structure reminds us of the fragility of life and how fortunate we are to have shelter, food, and a community to share our lives within times of need and joy. We are truly blessed but not everyone can say this. One out of 6 children in America is hungry and does not have enough food daily. Over 600,000 people in this country do not have permanent housing. Most shelters are closed during the daytime and open in the evenings. Where do people go when it is pouring down rain? Our sukkah reminds us of our responsibilities as Jews to help make this world a better place for everyone. It reminds us that the majority of Americans live from paycheck to paycheck and have little to no savings. Any slight change can put people out in the street. While we count our blessings, we are obligated to help those in need.

We just finished our first High Holy Days together. Grace and I are so grateful to be part of this community. I want to thank everyone who did their part to help make the holiday experience a meaningful one for everyone, from the people who opened the building to those who stayed and cleaned up after all of us and locked the doors. A

special shout-out again to our Security team. A special thank you to Susan for singing, and to Jeff and Grace, and Dennis and Kathy Jones for blowing shofar. Thank you to all of our readers, to Rachael for her tech help, to Aaron and Mary Lee Tosky, and Linda Greenfield for their home hospitality, and to Jodi and Rhett and Sheri and St. John for hosting us for holiday meals. The beauty of being in a small community is seeing how congregants come together to make things happen. I am very impressed with the commitment and dedication of the leaders of this congregation and of all the members who work to see this congregation grow and thrive.

A number of people mentioned to me over the holidays that they do not feel that the synagogue is an open, welcoming community and they want to change this. Every community prides itself on being warm and welcoming. Years ago, our New York Regional Director of the Reform Movement gave us a challenge to see how warm and welcoming our synagogues really are. She challenged us to look at our congregations and see how members interact with one another and with visitors coming to services and programs. So, I ask you the following questions: do you welcome the stranger? Do you talk to people you don't know? Do you go out of your way to sit with people who are alone? Do you invite people to sit with you during temple meals? Do you introduce yourself to unfamiliar faces? Do you consider Temple Beth Shalom to be a warm and welcoming congregation? I would be thrilled to hear your responses to these questions. If you wish, please email me at rabbijanetb.liss@gmail.com.

I will be back on the weekend of the 13th. I look forward to seeing you over the course of the weekend. For our Saturday Havdalah program, I will be teaching texts about Derech Eretz which is behavior that is acceptable in society and is geared toward making people happy, as is written in the Mishna, "Which is the proper path one should choose? One that is pleasing to the one who performs it and is pleasing to others (Avot 2:1). The material is fascinating, and I hope you will join me.

May we all be a blessing every day to our families and community.

Rabbi Dr. Janet B. Liss

The President's Message

Susan G Goldstein, President

Dearest TBS Family,

How good it was to see so many of you during our High Holy Days services! There are so many to thank for making the Ya'amim Noraim so special:

Rabbi Liss brought us even more of the High Holy Days melodies than we've had in years past. Judaism, as we know, is a time-bound religion, so it's particularly meaningful to chant those melodies every year. And thank you for adding the Akeidat Yizhak to our Rosh Hashanah service. And maybe we finally can have

that discussion about what happened to Avraham between Sodom & Gomorrah and the Binding of Isaac. The possibilities are endless.

Our Security Team, co-chaired by Larry Laufer and Dr. James Norwood, did a masterful job of making sure we were safe throughout all our services.

It was wonderful to hear the shafarot blown in succession to end Neilah. This year, I believe Rabbi Dennis won for endurance!

To those who brought children to our services we owe a special debt of gratitude. It was so wonderful to see - and hear - our Jewish future. Bring them often and let them fly onto the Bimah so they can feel at home there.

To those who brought food to our Rosh Hashanah luncheon or our Yom Kippur Break-Fast, please note that there were virtually no leftovers. TBS has a great group of cooks who complement our own Chef Samantha. We actually ran out of food on Rosh Hashanah!!

To Karen Ferguson who ran the kitchen for Rosh Hashanah when Chef Samantha was away due to family illness. You made it beautiful and VERY tasty!

To Sheri Stock who makes sure we always have the BEST challah.

To Mary Lee and Aaron Tosky who hosted Rabbi Liss and Grace in August. To Jodi Lavin-Tompkins and Rhett Tompkins and to Sheri and St John Stock who hosted Rabbi and Grace for Erev Rosh Hashanah and Erev Yom Kippur, respectively, dinners. To Linda Greenfield who hosted Rabbi and Grace over Yom Kippur.

To everyone who attended, either in person or via Zoom, you strengthen us with your presence. Please let me know if you have thoughts about our services. We're always looking to "raise the bar." As the new year has begun, let's take a look at some "housekeeping" issues.

Please remember that any use of the TBS building must be approved by the TBS Board of Trustees. Please forward your requests to my attention at susanejgoldstein@gmail.com. We always must ensure that we have coverage from our Security Task Force in order to ensure the safety of anyone in our building.

You've all received invoices for FY24, as well as the information regarding dues and security assessments. We want to be sure you understand that money, or the lack thereof, should never be a barrier to membership. Please be in touch with me at 214.263.8464 or susanejgoldstein@gmail.com if you need financial help. The only questions that will be asked are, "Can you pay anything?"; and, if so, "How much?" The only people who will know are Susan Rieder, our Treasurer, and me.

Please note that our Sisterhood, under the leadership of Alexis Sweazy, is alive and well. Please read her article and, if you'd like to join this lovely band of ladies, send your \$36 membership dues to Sisterhood Treasurer, Lin Gentry, at 154 Buttercup CT, Boone, NC 28607. Again, money, or the lack thereof, is not a bar to membership. Contact Alexis at (828) 803-0373, or alexisalmazamoody@gmail.com, if there's a financial issue. Only she and Lin will be aware of any financial accommodations.

Religious School families, please note that we have reinstated an annual fee - \$72 per student - to cover expenses. Parent teachers will enjoy one fee-free child. If this is an issue, please contact Religious School Principal, Sheri Stock, at 828-999-0942, or sherilisa@msn.com

Please remember that Rabbi Liss will share special birthday blessings for those of us who celebrate birthdays in September or October on Friday evening, October 13. Thanks to Rabbi Liss for making these monthly blessings a new TBS tradition! I look forward to seeing you often in 5784.

L'simcha, Susan

TBS Sisterhood

Alexis Sweazy, Sisterhood President



Hello all! I hope that everyone has been able to have a renewing and fulfilling Chag season. Our next sisterhood-sponsored potluck is on October 6th at 6 PM. Though this is sisterhood-sponsored, everyone is welcome! If you are able, please bring a dairy or pareve dish to share.

Additionally, I have been in contact with Temple Beth El regarding our annual Chanukkah Fair and the date is set for November 12th between 10 am, and 12 pm. If you would like to assist with set-up for this event, or if you have any ideas or suggestions for Sisterhood events, please reach out to me at alexisalmazamoody@gmail.com.

May you all be inscribed and sealed for a good new year.

Alexis

TBS Sunday School Program

Sheri Stock, Sunday School Principal

Sunday school is off and running! We had a lot of fun building edible sukkahs and playing games for our beginning-of-the-year party! We even managed to get Susan G. in on the fun! I hope we see everyone this Sunday, October 8 at 10 am!



Sheri



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 her retirement 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 for the purpose of awarding 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 so 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 Wednesday, October 18 at 6:30pm. 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

**The TBS board thanks
you for your donations**

Members at Large:

Liz Correll
Karen Ferguson
Sheri Stock
Susan Tiger Huitt
Jodi Lavin-Tompkins



TBS monthly donation
to local Charity:

October - Hickory
Soup Kitchen

Yom Kippur memorial donations:
**Marc Fedder; Bernice Fedder, Bert Yelin;
Harriet Yelin** - from Linda Fedder

General Donation:
From Don, Michael, and Renee (Irene)
Fernbach

Charitable Grant from:
Kathryn Coulter and Bryan Randall Jones

Do you have a favorite charity you would like us to donate to? Let us know.



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!

TBS Community Mitzvah Projects

This month we helped a homeless woman being rehoused with a whole host of household items. We were able to give her bedding, towels, cooking supplies, dishes, silverware, glasses, a toaster oven, a coffee maker, and hygiene and cleaning supplies. These items were all from the generous donations of Temple members! She was very appreciative! So, thank you to all! Every positive action helps us to make one more step toward tikkun olam!

Please continue to donate new or gently used winter clothing items, bedding, towels, wash cloths, and hygiene and cleaning supplies. You can bring them to services and leave them in the box in the foyer. We will get them to the homeless who are in need!

If you have any questions about our mitzvah projects or suggestions on where else we can have a positive impact, please contact Kathy Jones, Community Relations and Social Action Committee Chairperson, at krsjones202@yahoo.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

Dr. Laura Faruque
A Woman's View
915 Tate Blvd SE
Suite170
Hickory, NC 28602
828-345-0800

Dr. Mark Faruque
Bethlehem Family Practice
174 Bolick Lane Suite 202
Taylorsville, NC 28681
828-495-8226

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

Temple Beth Shalom Life Cycle October Events



Birthdays

Craig Axler 10/3
Samuel Peltzer 10/6
Daniel Tosky 10/7
Steven Gold 10/11
Susan Rieder 10/21
Richard Engelmann 10/31

Anniversaries

Madeleine Guy 10/29

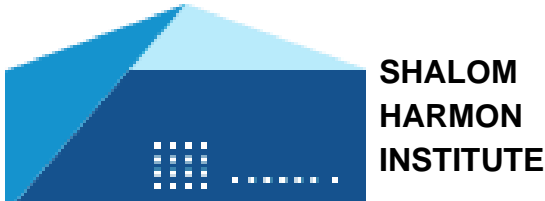
Yahrzeits

Richard Goldstein- 23 Tishri -10/8/23
David Tosky 10/11
Richard Goldstein 10/18
Joanna Dandekar 10/23
Stanley Atkins 10/27
Sid Freedman 10/30

Local and Regional Events



CJHPS Newsletter
[Subscribe to our newsletter](#) to stay updated on the latest news and events.



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



2023-2024 Schedule for Rabbi Services and Sunday School

For event updates, email: info@hickoryjewishcenter.com

DATE	EVENT	BULLETIN DEADLINE
Oct 1	Sunday School 10:00am	Sept 23
8	Sunday School 10:00am	
13	Friday night service 7:00pm	
14	Shacharit Service at 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring dairy dish to share), Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
15	Sunday School 10:00am	
22	Sunday School 10:00am	
Nov 5	Sunday School 10:00am	Oct 23
10	Friday night service 7:00pm	
11	Shacharit Service at 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring dairy dish to share); Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
12	Sunday School 10:00am	
19	Sunday School 10:00am	
Dec 3	Sunday School 10:00am	Nov 23
8	Friday night service 7:00pm	
9	Shacharit Service at 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring dairy dish to share); Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
10	Sunday School 10:00am	
17	Sunday School 10:00am	
24	Sunday School 10:00am	
Jan 7	Sunday School 10:00am	Dec 30
12	Friday night service 7:00pm	
13	Shacharit Service at 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring dairy dish to share); Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
14	Sunday School 10:00am	
21	Sunday School 10:00am	

Feb 4	Sunday School 10:00am	Jan 23
11	Sunday School 10:00am	
17	Shacharit Service at 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring dairy dish to share); Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
18	Sunday School 10:00am	
Mar 3	Sunday School 10:00am	Feb 23
10	Sunday School 10:00am	
17	Sunday School 10:00am	
22	Friday night service 7:00pm	
23	Shacharit Service at 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring dairy dish to share), Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
24	Sunday School 10:00am	
April 7	Sunday School 10:00am	Mar 23
21	Sunday School 10:00am	
26	Friday night service 7:00pm	
27	Shacharit Service at 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring dairy dish to share), Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
28	Sunday School 10:00am	
May 5	Sunday School 10:00am	April 23
12	Sunday School 10:00am	
17	Friday night service 7:00pm	
18	Shacharit Service at 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring dairy dish to share); Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
19	Annual Membership Meeting, and Sunday School 10:00am	
June 2	Sunday School 10:00am	May 23
9	Sunday School 10:00am	
14	Friday night service 7:00pm	
15	Shacharit Service at 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring dairy dish to share); Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
16	Sunday School 10:00am	
23	Sunday School 10:00am	
July 12	Friday night service 7:00pm	June 23
13	Shacharit Service at 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring dairy dish to share); Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	

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.