

TEMPLE BETH SHALOM

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Temple Beth Shalom
P.O. Box 9142

Hickory, North Carolina 28603
www.hickoryjewishcenter.com



From the Bimah

Rabbi Dr. Janet B Liss

The Joy of Simchat Torah

Simchat Torah is one of the most joyful moments in the Jewish year. After the solemnity of Yom

Kippur and the celebration of Sukkot, we arrive at a day devoted to *simcha*—joy. We celebrate the Torah not simply as a sacred book, but as a living source of wisdom, connection, and identity that has accompanied our people through generations.

One of the most beautiful traditions of Simchat Torah is the *hakafot*. The word means “circuits,” and during the hakafot, we circle the sanctuary 7 times as we carry the Torah scrolls while singing, dancing, and rejoicing. Everyone has a place in the circle. For these moments, the Torah is not something we merely read or study—it is something we celebrate together, with our whole community.

The number seven also has a special place in Jewish tradition. Creation unfolds over seven days, with Shabbat completing the week. Sukkot is celebrated for seven days, and many other Jewish rituals and traditions are shaped around this number. Seven often represents wholeness, completion, and the fullness of creation.

And then we dance in circles—again and again. There is something deeply meaningful about that circle: there is no true beginning and no final ending. As soon as we finish the Torah, we immediately begin again.

That is the beautiful message of Simchat Torah: Judaism is a journey of beginnings. We return to the Torah, to our community, and to one another with renewed joy and hope.

I hope you will join us for Simchat Torah Friday night, October 2nd. Come sing, come dance, bring your family and friends, and experience the joy of celebrating our Torah together. There is something special about being in that circle—and we would love to have you in it. During Shabbat morning services, we will have a Yizkor Service.

The President's Message

Susan J Goldstein, President

Dear TBS Family and Friends,

Chag Sukkot Sameach! This might be my very favorite *chag*. No fasting, no shopping for gifts, no extra food restrictions. Just enjoying being in the sukkah and, of course, engaging in what is possibly our strangest ritual: shaking the lulav and etrog in all directions -- front, right, back, left, up, down. All the better when we throw in a few Hallel chants. Once Sukkot arrives, we know we're really in a new year. And this year we're especially fortunate that Rabbi Liss and Grace will be with us for *Shemini Atzeret/Simchat Torah*.

We'll gather for services on **Friday evening, October 2, at 7:00** and **Saturday morning, October 3, at 10:00**, followed by kiddush lunch. If you're over 18, please join us again at **6:00 Saturday evening** for potluck dinner, adult Jewish learning, and Havdalah. On **Sunday morning, October 26, at 10:00**, Rabbi Liss will meet with kids and their parents for Family Education.

At the risk of making significant omissions, special "thank you's" go to:

- **Mary Lee Tosky** for cleaning the silver *rimonim* so they sparkled for the High Holy Days,.
- **Aaron Tosky**, Ritual Chair, who, along with **Rabbi Liss**, ensures that our services run smoothly and helps guide all ritual aspects of our operations. He also ran a beautiful service for *Erev Sukkot*. So sorry to have missed it, but I was enjoying a much needed and long overdue visit with my LA family!
- The Security Team, headed by **James Norwood** and **Patrick Rowan**. We couldn't be more grateful to them for keeping us safe.
- **Karen Ferguson** who prepares and sends out our newsletter each month. We especially appreciate her patience and graciousness when most of us miss the deadline! She's also a star in her "happy place," our kitchen, and we love when she works her gastronomic magic.....
- **Grace Blank** and **Lin Gentry** for sharing their voices with us during services.
- **Cynthia Norwood, Rabbi Dennis Jones, Susan Rieder, Lin Gentry, Mary Lee Tosky, and Alexis Sweazy** for reading Haftarah.
- And, of course, to **Rabbi Liss** who wrote and delivered four AMAZING sermons in 10 days! In addition, she organized all the services and ran them with aplomb!
- To **Everyone Who Attended Services**, each of you added meaning to the community during the Days of Awe -- and we hope you'll continue to do so throughout 5787.

Thank you, too, to all who continue to bring donations of cans or boxes of food to help fight food insecurity in our local communities. Please continue to bring a can or box of food every time you come to TBS -- and please make sure that the expiry date is at least six months out since your donation may be on the shelf that long. Remember that only 5% of donations for food insecurity come from the private sector! Let's continue to take "leaps of action" by donating our cans/boxes to the Hickory Soup Kitchen. And don't forget about **MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger** (<https://mazon.org>), **Lecket Israel** (rescuing surplus food for those in need in Israel) at www.lecket.org, or the charity to which you best relate in the fight against food insecurity.

There are elections just around the corner in both the US and Israel. 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 for both. As for the Israeli election, our own Rabbi Liss is an excellent resource. 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.

Moadim l'simcha,

Susan

TBS Sisterhood

Alexis Sweazy, Sisterhood President

Dear Sisters,

Some of you know that I lost my dear grandfather, Bill Dollarhyde, during the High Holidays. He raised me and was an amazing source of inspiration throughout my life. So, I haven't focused these last few weeks on what's next for Sisterhood. Please know I have not forgotten you. I love it when you reach out to me with questions or suggestions for Sisterhood activities at alexisalmazamoody@gmail.com. You can also contact me there if you would like to join our email list.



The Harriet Sederholm Scholarship Fund

The Harriet Sederholm Scholarship Fund (HSSF) was established by a long-time Temple member and past President, Burt Sederholm z"l (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?

Temple Board

Our next temple board meeting will be Sunday, November 8th at 1:30pm at the temple. Board meetings are open to all temple members. Contact Susan Goldstein if you wish to attend 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:

Amanda Garrick

Karen Ferguson

James Norwood

Alexis Sweazy

Patrick Rowan

Pam Jones

Jane Mandle

Seth Cohn



Your board thanks you for your donations

High Holiday Donations

Millicent Kaufman

Ron and Sue Cohn

Richard Rose

*Linda Fedder in memory of Bernice Fedder; Marc Fedder;
Harriet Yelin; Bert Yelin; Louis Yelin; Anna Yelin; David
Grant, and Adele Grant*



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!

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.

AND

We need help delivering collected items to Hickory Soup Kitchen

Donations can be dropped off at HSK Monday through Friday between 7am and 1pm.

With numbers increasing at their food pantry, the HSK shelves are low on some staple items. Peanut butter, and canned soups top the list. If you or anyone you know could help, please share.



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

*A listing in this business directory is a
benefit of TBS membership. If you are
a TBS member and wish to be listed
please send your business name,
address, phone number and email
address to:
karen.sederholm@gmail.com*



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

Yahrzeits

Richard Kommiser 10/2
Mollie Lavitt Nalanbogen 10/3
Saul Cohen 10/4
Freida Roth 10/4
Rebecca Friedman 10/6
Lois Klein Cohen 10/7
Loren Galanti 10/7
Richard Goldstein 10/8
Julius Morgan 10/8
David Tosky 10/11
Samual Robinson 10/13
Clara Watts 10/13
Conrad Strauss 10/22
Joanna Dandekar 10/23
Sylvia Peltzer 10/23

Stanley Atkins 10/27
Ceil Schein Harrison 10/28
Adrian Reiter 10/28
Sidney Freedman 10/30

Local and Regional Events

Center for Judaic, Holocaust, and Peace Studies



06
OCT

Foundations for Teaching the Holocaust

Appalachian State University's Center for Judaic, Holocaust, and Peace Studies, in partnership with the North Carolina Council...

Tuesday, October 6 | 8:30 am
[College of Education Building](#)



09
NOV

Remembering the "Night of Broken Glass"

This event will commemorate the 88th anniversary of the "Night of Broken Glass" (Kristallnacht), a nationwide anti-Jewish riot...

Monday, November 9 | 6:30 pm
[Turchin Center for the Visual Arts](#)

THE HICKORY FARMER'S MARKET

Main Season (April–October): Wednesdays: 10am–1pm Saturdays: 8am–1pm



Catawba County Hunger Walk

October 4, 2026

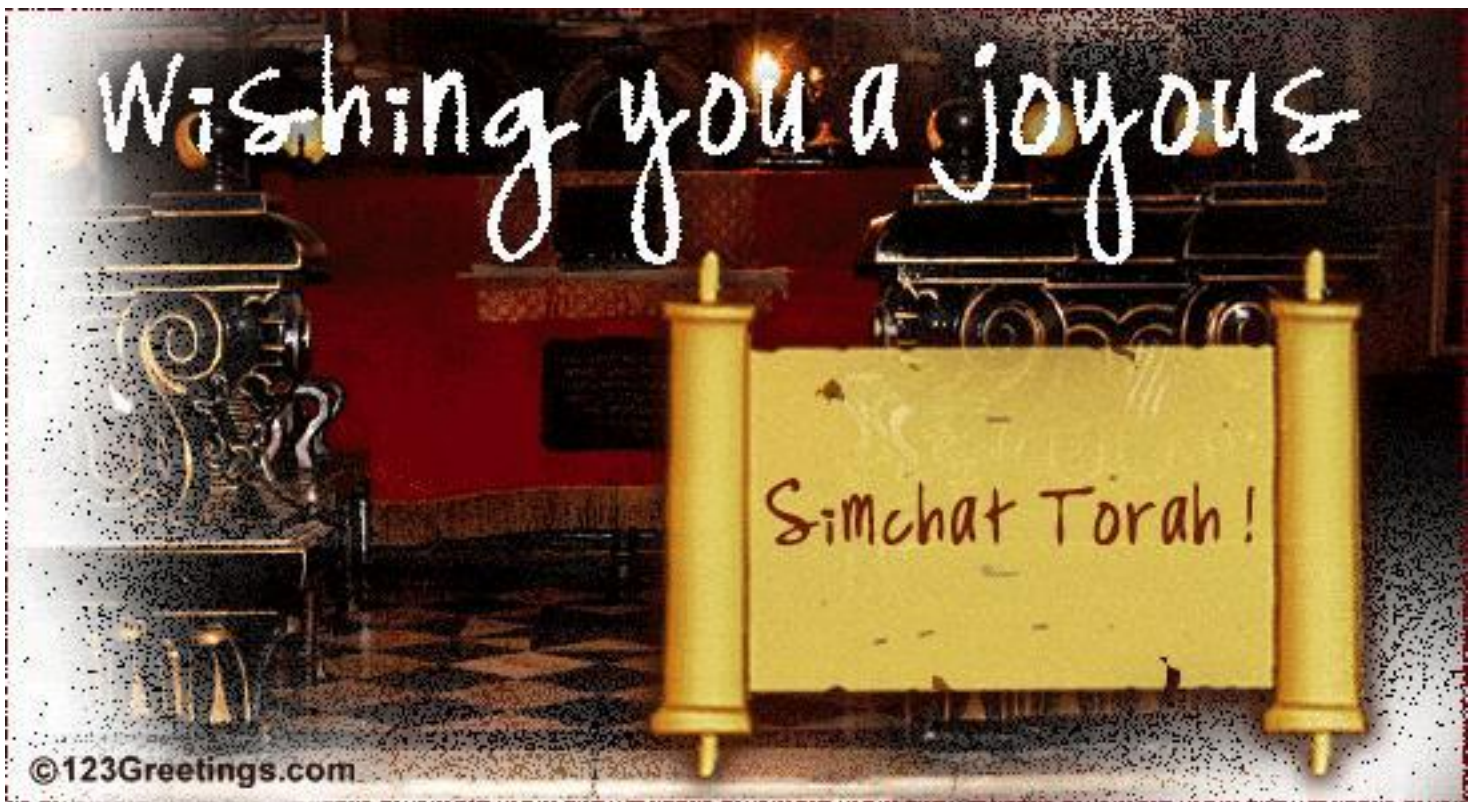
Newton, NC 28658 US

2026- 2027 Schedule for Rabbi Services and Sunday School

Date		Event	Newsletter deadline
October	2	Friday night service (Shemini Atzeret) 7 pm	September 23
	3	(Simchat Torah) Shacharit service 10 am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult learning and Havdalah 6 pm	
	4	Young family gathering with Rabbi Liss 10am; Adult Bar or Bat Mitzvah group with Rabbi Liss 11am	
November	6	Friday night service 7pm	October 23
	7	Shacharit service 10 am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult learning and Havdalah 6 pm	
November	8	Young family gathering with Rabbi Liss 10am; Adult Bar or Bat Mitzvah group with Rabbi Liss 11am	
December	4	Friday night service 7pm (Chanukah)	November 23
	5	Shacharit service 10 am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult learning and Havdalah 6 pm Hanukkah Party TBD	
	6	Young family gathering with Rabbi Liss 10am; Adult Bar or Bat Mitzvah group with Rabbi Liss 11am	
January	8	Friday night service 7pm	December 23
	9	Shacharit service 10 am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult learning and Havdalah 6 pm	

	10	Young family gathering with Rabbi Liss 10am; Adult Bar or Bat Mitzvah group with Rabbi Liss 11am	
February	5	Friday night service 7pm	January 23
	6	Shacharit service 10 am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult learning and Havdalah 6 pm	
	7	Young family gathering with Rabbi Liss 10am; Adult Bar or Bat Mitzvah group with Rabbi Liss 11am	
March	5	Friday night service 7pm	February 23
	6	Shacharit service 10 am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult learning and Havdalah 6 pm	
	7	Young family gathering with Rabbi Liss 10am; Adult Bar or Bat Mitzvah group with Rabbi Liss 11am	
April	22	Pesach 2 nd night TBS Seder 6pm	March 23
	23	Friday night service 7pm	
	24	Shacharit service 10 am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult learning and Havdalah 6 pm TBD	
(April)	25	Young family gathering with Rabbi Liss 10am; Adult Bar or Bat Mitzvah group with Rabbi Liss 11am	
May	21	Friday night service 7pm	April 23
	22	Shacharit service 10 am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult learning and Havdalah 6 pm	
	23	Young family gathering with Rabbi Liss 10am; Adult Bar or Bat Mitzvah group with Rabbi Liss 11am	
June	18	Friday night service 7pm	May 23
	19	Shacharit service 10 am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring	

		a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult learning and Havdalah 6 pm	
	20	Young family gathering with Rabbi Liss 10am; Adult Bar or Bat Mitzvah group with Rabbi Liss 11am	



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.