

TEMPLE BETH SHALOM

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Temple Beth Shalom
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Hickory, North Carolina 28603
www.hickoryjewishcenter.com



From the Bimah: Our Rabbi's Message

Rabbi Dr. Janet B Liss

On September 20, I will have the privilege of officiating at Aurora Cohn's Bat Mitzvah. I hope you will be able to be there to help her celebrate this milestone in her life. This will be the perfect way to spend the last Shabbat of 5785 as it will help this past year end on a high note for all of us. It has been very exciting for me to watch and participate in the personal growth and progress that Aurora has made since I first met her two years ago. She has transformed from a shy and quiet child into a proud self-confident teenager. Aurora has worked hard on her Hebrew skills and it really shows. The Cohn family is a perfect example of taking God's commandment to teach your children seriously. With her father Seth's help and her brother Werner's help, Aurora has mastered her portions and will be able to lead us in prayer with confidence. As the entire congregation has been invited to continue the celebration with them Saturday night, I hope to see many of you there. It will truly be a joyous event.

Monday, September 22nd we will usher in the New Year together. This year will mark my 40th year of leading High Holy Day Services. I can honestly say that this year truly is the most difficult year to be writing sermons because of the state of the world. There is so much turmoil enveloping us and so many people everywhere are struggling to keep their heads above water whether financially, emotionally and for physical and mental health reasons. I hope that the time we spend in prayer will be both spiritually meaningful and

healing as we come together as a community to support one another as a comforting family holding each other as we struggle to find meaning in today's world.

After the kiddush luncheon on Tuesday, I invite you to join us for Tashlich, when we will go to a body of flowing water to symbolically cast off our sins. This year we will use a new liturgy that was just published by the Central Conference of Reform Rabbis which I know you will find meaningful. The service is brief and impactful. It is a worthwhile way to spend a half hour on Rosh Hashana afternoon.

The beauty of being in a small congregation is seeing how many people are involved in keeping it going. This past year, many people have volunteered and helped shape a meaningful Jewish experience for you. This year we call on you to make a commitment to get involved. Join the many people who give to this congregation in so many meaningful ways from making sure we have challah on Friday nights to insuring our security when we are together, from paying bills to getting a new roof on the building, from teaching our children and reaching out to the sick, from helping us bury our loved ones, to officiating at life cycle events, from hosting me and Grace to feeding us as well, from being active on the board to being active in Sisterhood. The list of how you can be involved is endless. Do you want to make a difference in your life? Do you want to make a difference in this world? Start by helping sustain Temple Beth Shalom and by enhancing what we already do. Step up and let us count on you in this New Year.

L'shana tova tikatavu!

May this be a sweet New Year for us all.

Rabbi Dr. Janet B. Liss

The President's Message

Susan J Goldstein, President

Dear TBS Family and Friends,

Chodesh Tov Elul! As I write this, I've been watching Women of the Wall celebrate the new month of Elul at the Wall in Jerusalem. How exciting to join in singing with them! How awesome to realize that, once again, we're preparing to welcome a new year. And how blessed we are here at TBS that we get to end 5785 by joining in the celebration of Aurora Cohn becoming a bat mitzvah!!

Aurora will be called to the Torah on Shabbat morning, September 20, at 10:00. She will help Rabbi Liss lead services, read from the Torah and Haftarah, and share her thoughts about her d'var Torah, Parshah Nitzavim. Following services, we'll enjoy a lovely Shabbat lunch sponsored by the Cohn family.

Many thanks to our Voting Members who attended our Annual Meeting last month. We have a new protocol that we'll observe going forward. It meets the "no eatin', no meetin'" axiom. We enjoyed food

together prior to conducting business -- and stayed in our seats with the food still flowing while we got down to that business! Congratulations to our new members-at-large: Pam Jones, Jane Mandle, and Patrick Rowen. And we are grateful to our retiring members, Jodi Lavin-Tompkins and Geoffrey Janer.

Thank you to all who continue to bring donations of cans or boxes of food for the **Hickory Soup Kitchen** to help fight food insecurity. As you may recall, your Board of Trustees voted to make this a **year-round project** so 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>).

And Israel's challenges continue. We are grateful that some hostages have been released, and we continue to pray that our remaining **48 hostages, held more than 700 days**, will be released soon. We pray for the families who await their loved ones' return and for those who have received the bodies of their deceased.

Our September Rabbi weekend will extend through Rosh Hashanah 5786. We're excited that Rabbi Liss and Grace will be with us for a little longer than usual.

The September service schedule

- Erev Shabbat service - Friday evening, September 19, at 7:00
- Shabbat morning services - Saturday morning, September 20, at 10:00
- Erev Rosh Hashanah service - Monday evening, September 22, at 7:00
- Rosh Hashanah services - Tuesday morning, September 23, at 10:00, followed by lunch. After lunch, we'll meet at Geitner Park for Tashlich.

Shana Tova,

Susan



TBS Sisterhood

Alexis Sweazy, Sisterhood President

Hello Everyone!

The High Holidays are upon us once again. As these services are always our busiest, we are coordinating a covered dish meal to go along with our usual fare at onegs and kiddush lunches. If you would like to bring a dish, please fill out the following response forms so we know what to expect. If you have any issues accessing the form, don't hesitate to reach out to me directly and I can edit the list on your

behalf. Our next sisterhood meeting will be held on September 14th at 2:30 at the synagogue. I hope you all have a meaningful month of Elul as we get closer to the new year, and I hope to see you all on September 19th and

20th as we celebrate Aurora Cohn's Bat Mitzvah! As always, if you have any questions or suggestions for Sisterhood, please reach out to me at alexisalmazamoody@gmail.com

Please use these links to let me know what you will be bringing for High Holidays.

Rosh Hashanah Sides/Sweets:

<https://www.whocan.org/en/vote/LTryV0bv2xeIfsuvpLjy3Bq4vH23/-OYTO3-oQ6CXLBCBptdE>

Yom Kippur Break Fast:

<https://www.whocan.org/en/vote/JwyVSeMzIZewSnHZy1JUKSnYiwv2/-OYTEyafRXFEB5VxKge9>

Shana Tova,
Alexis

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 Sept. 14, 12:30, on Zoom. 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
James Norwood
Alexis Sweazy
Patrick Rowan
Pam Jones
Jane Mandle



Your board thanks you for your donations

For roof capital fund

Susan Goldstein, Jennifer and Patrick Rowan, Marylee and Aaron Tosky, and Susan Reider.

Sisterhood donation

Jennifer and Patrick Rowan

Simchas

TBS Members,

Please let us know what your family is celebrating so we can share your good news with our community - graduations, job promotions, awards, engagements, births? We want to know!

Aurora Cohn's Bat Mitzvah Project

Hi friends and family,

As part of my Bat Mitzvah, I'm taking on a project that means a lot to me. I wanted to do something that gives back to others and makes a real difference.

I decided on two projects:

First, I'm helping with my Aunt Whitney's annual coat drive by collecting new and gently used coats so families in our community can stay warm this winter.

Second, I'm partnering with my brother's Cub Scout Pack 336 to collect supplies for families in need. The Scouts are going to help me pack and distribute the donations. My goal is to fill 30 boxes this year — and I can't do it without your help.

Here are some of the things we're collecting:

- Fun items like small toys, dolls, balls, jump ropes, puzzles, and games.
- School supplies like crayons, notebooks, pencils, sharpeners, glue sticks, and scissors.
- Personal care items like toothbrushes, soap, deodorant, combs, and washcloths.

Every single donation, big or small, will make a difference in someone's life.

Thank you for helping me with this project and for supporting me as I take this step in my Bat Mitzvah journey. It means so much to me and my family.

With gratitude,

Aurora

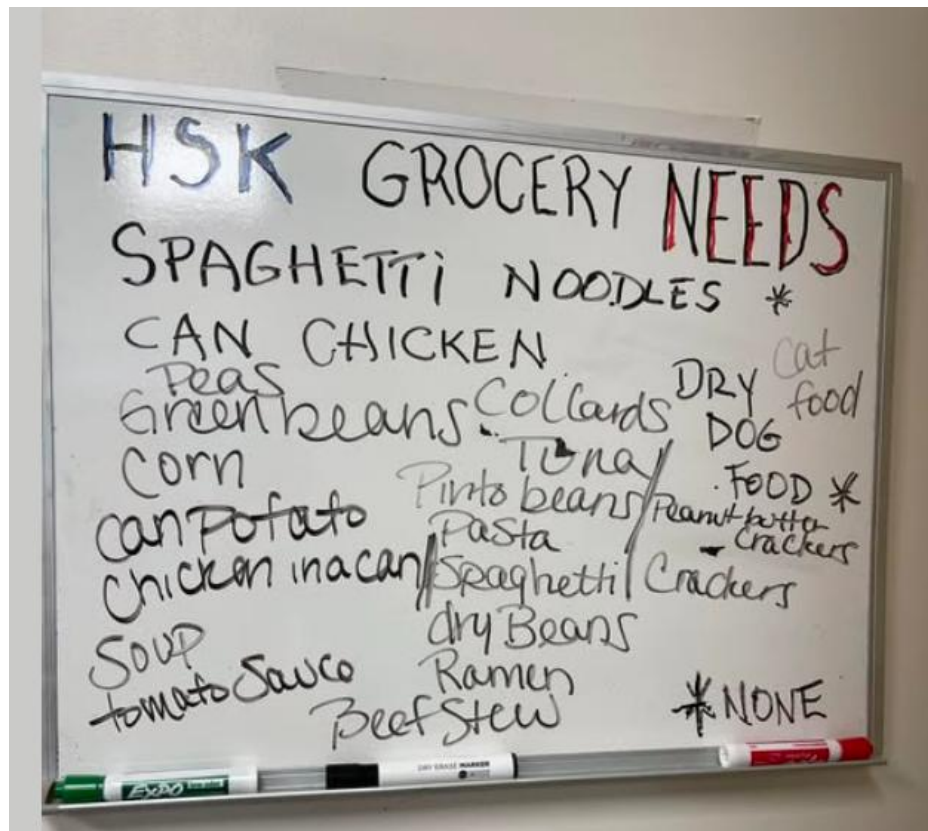


Please consider pairing with a board member(s) to host a Shabbat or Holiday at Temple Beth Shalom. **(Alexis' Sisterhood message includes links to sign up to bring your delicious offerings for the High Holidays)** When members contribute to the life of our synagogue in this way, we all feel a part of 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



Volunteers Needed!!

HSK's free grocery store needs volunteers to bag food, stock shelves, and assist guests when making the choices that best fits their household's needs. Their 100% choice grocery has seen a large increase in the number of families we are serving in the last few months and we need more volunteers to help us meet these increasing needs.

Volunteers work between the hours of 8:00am to around 12:00pm Monday through Friday. If you are interested in joining us please call 828-327-4828 to get on the schedule.

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 September Events

Birthdays

Ken Bonfield 9/4
Ronald Joseph Cohn 9/9
Amanda Baumfeld 9/13
David Gold 9/15
Nadine Igdal 9/17
Joseph Garrick 9/17
Aurora Cohn 9/20
Tyler Faruque 9/22
Chris Weatherly 9/25
Dorthy Levinson 9/20

Anniversaries

Michael and Katie Schonberg 9/4
Jodi and Rhett Lavin-Thompkins 9/28

Yahrzeits

Marvin Zerden 9/3
Esther Greene 9/4
David Callahan 9/8
Roberta Atkins 9/11
George Katzin 9/13
Ceil Tosky 9/18
Si Cohen 9/19
Cindy Robbins 9/26
Henry Greenfield 9/29
Michael Rowan 9/30

Local and Regional Events



The Book of Esther in the Age of Rembrandt

September 20, 2025–March 8, 2026

For more information go to:

<https://ncartmuseum.org/the-book-of-esther-in-the-age-of-rembrandt/>



**SHALOM
HARMON
INSTITUTE**



“Jerusalem in the Time of Jesus” with Dr. Jodi Magness, the Kenan Distinguished Professor for Teaching Excellence in Early Judaism in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Wednesday, September 10, 2025, at 7 p.m.

Turchin Center for the Visual Arts 1102

To join via Zoom, register at bit.ly/JMagness.

Want to receive e-mail updates on our public events and programs? Subscribe to our newsletter.

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

2025- 2026 Schedule for Rabbi Services and Sunday School

Date	Event	Bulletin Deadline
For event updates, email: info@hickoryjewishcenter.com		
September		August 23
19	Friday night service 7:00pm	
20	Aurora Cohn Bat Mitzvah	
	Shacharit service 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
22	Erev Rosh Hashana 7:00pm	
23	Rosh Hashanah Services, 10:00am followed by Kiddush lunch, then Tashlich Service	September 22
October		
1	Erev Yom Kippur (Kol Nidre) 7:00 pm	
2	Yom Kippur Shacharit and Yizkor 10:00am; Yom Kippur Ma'ariv and Neilah 5:00 pm followed by Break Fast	
24	Friday night service 7:00pm	
25	Shacharit service 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
26	Sunday School and Building Sukkah TBD	
November		October 23
14	Friday night service 7:00pm	
15	Shacharit service 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
16	Sunday School TBD	
December		November 23
12	Friday night service 7:00pm	
13	Shacharit service 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
14	Sunday School/ Hanukkah Party TBD	
January		
9	Friday night service 7:00pm	
10	Shacharit service 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
11	Sunday School TBD	

February

- 20 Friday night service 7:00pm
 21 Shacharit service 10am followed by Kiddush lunch;
 Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult
 Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm
 22 Sunday School TBD

March

- 20 Friday night service 7:00pm
 21 Shacharit service 10am followed by Kiddush lunch;
 Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult
 Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm
 22 Sunday School TBD

April

- 2 2nd night Passover Seder 6pm – reservations required
 3 Friday night service 7:00pm
 4 Shacharit service 10am followed by Kiddush lunch;
 Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult
 Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm
 5 Sunday School TBD

May

- 15 Friday night service 7:00pm
 16 Shacharit service 10am followed by Kiddush lunch;
 Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult
 Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm
 17 Annual Membership Meeting 12:00
 Sunday School TBD

June

- 19 Friday night service 7:00pm
 20 Shacharit service 10am followed by Kiddush lunch;
 Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult
 Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm
 21 Sunday School TBD

January 23

February 23

March 23

April 23

May 23



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.