

HaShomer

OCTOBER 2011

Congregation Beth Shalom TISHREI/CHESHVAN 5772

Schedule of Services

October 2011

Tishrei/Cheshvan 5772

Friday, September 30 9:00 am

Rosh HaShanah Day 2

Friday, September 30 7:30 pm

Led by **Rabbi Parr**

Saturday, October 1

Torah Study 9:00 am

Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Led by **Cantor Sheri Allen**

Torah: Ha'Azinu

Friday, October 7, 7:00 pm

Kol Nidre

Led by **Rabbi Parr**

Saturday, October 8, 9:00 am

Yom Kippur Morning Service

Afternoon Service 5:00 pm

Neilah Service 6:30 pm

Led by **Rabbi Parr**

Wednesday, October 12, 6:00 pm

Erev Sukkot Gumbo in the Sukkah

Sukkot Service 7:00 pm

Friday, October 14, 7:30 pm

Led by **Barry Goldfarb**

Saturday, October 15

Torah Study 9:00 am

Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Led by **Stuart Snow**

Torah: Shoftim

Thursday, October 20

**Shemini Atzeret Morning Service
and Yizkor 9:00 am**

Erev Simchat Torah Service 7:00 pm

Both led by **Cantor Sheri Allen**

Friday, October 21, 7:30 pm

Simchat Torah Service

Led by **Cantor Sheri Allen**

Saturday, October 22

Torah Study 9:00 am

Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Led by **Cantor Sheri Allen**

Dylan Jeffreys Bar Mitzvah

Torah: Bereshit

Friday, October 28, 7:30 pm

Saturday, October 29

Torah Study 9:00 am

Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Led by **Cantor Sheri Allen**

Torah: Noach

My Two Shekels

Welcome to the "Month O'Holidays," as I like to cheerfully refer to it. Fresh from our Rosh Hashanah davening, we are now ensconced in the "Days of Awe," hopefully engaging in the process of Teshuvah – repentance – while weaning ourselves off of caffeine so that we will be able to face Yom Kippur coherently.

I almost feel like I'm preparing for a marathon, both physically, as I once again begin consuming mega-doses of Vitamin C and make a half-hearted attempt to get enough sleep, and mentally, as I review the prayers and scripture that connect us all to our Creator. It's a daunting, challenging, yet uplifting task. And it continues for weeks!

Sukkot and all its pageantry involving decorating our temporary dwelling places, marching around with the lulav and etrog, and, for me, cooking mountains of stuffed cabbage, follows closely on the heels of Yom Kippur. And the fun continues with Simchat Torah, parading with the Torah, dancing, singing, and for the adults, one too many schnaps! By the end of October, I'm wiped out.

But I wouldn't trade these days for anything. They are infused with purpose and meaning, and evoke such special, yet emotional memories; memories of baking challah with my children, singing special holiday songs, having a full table of guests, and putting "real life" on hold. True, it's hard to accomplish any more than the most basic tasks of everyday existence in the mad rush between one Holy Day and the next, but there is such a sense of sacred time that permeates the whole month, and serves to bring us all closer to each other, and to G-d.

This year, Richard and I will once again be decorating our Sukkah alone, and as we put up each picture and decoration that the kids made in day school so many years ago, we will wistfully recall the wonderful holiday memories that we made, and the fun that we had celebrating together. And when the holidays are finally over, I plan to sleep until at least Thanksgiving.

– Cantor Sheri Allen



A Chip, a Chair, and a Prayer Casino Night at Beth Shalom

Saturday, November 12, 7:30 p.m.

\$20/ person (pay at the door)

Table games, including blackjack, roulette, craps and more

Use your gambling winnings for chances on prizes

- Hors d'oeuvres • Dessert Table
- Liquid Tongue Lubricants (cash bar)

and

BIG Texas Hold 'Em Tournament

Demonstrate your poker prowess! \$100 buy-in gets you a chair with the BIG boys (and LUCKY ladies) and a chance at a variety of great prizes. Must RSVP to the office by November 9.

From the President

Well, here we are again at the start of a New Year. It is our tradition that during the month of Elul that each of us reviews the past year; to do a self examination in preparation for the *Yamim Noraim*, the Days of Awe. In keeping with our tradition, I would like to do something similar for Congregation Beth Shalom.

Before I review, I would like to make a personal *Al Het* on behalf of the board of trustees. We have failed to act in a timely manner on a number of issues, allowing them to fester before dealing with them. Indecisiveness is a personal failure of mine, one that unfortunately I projected onto the board. If you were party to one of those issues, then you know what I am talking about, and if you were not then consider yourself lucky. Please accept my personal apology for not being a more decisive and proactive leader.

That being said, we have a lot to be proud of this year. Service attendance is up. While we still struggle to have a minyan on a few Shabbats (especially over the summer), it is much less frequently than in the past few years. Our monthly Shabbat Family Dinners are well attended, and everyone looks forward to the Parsha Plays. Fortunately for me, Cantor Allen did not cast me as a beast of burden all year. I'm sure that now that I have mentioned it, she will rectify that next year. Much thanks to our Sisterhood for their sponsorship of these fun family events.

Our regular Saturday morning luncheons have greatly increased our Saturday morning service attendance, proof of the statement that if you feed them, they will come. While some may view that as a bad thing; it is bribing people to come to services; I prefer to think that it is a good thing for the Beth Shalom family to eat together frequently. Thank you to Lynda Friedensohn and all who have sponsored those luncheons.

I was especially gratified to see our level of participation in the community Selichot Scholar-in-Residence last weekend. We had a strong Beth Shalom contingent at all three services; Friday night at Beth El, Saturday morning here, and Saturday night at Beth Israel. Thank you again to Lynda Friedensohn and Sisterhood for the wonderful luncheon we hosted for all three synagogues Saturday morning.

Our annual Gumbo in the Sukkah was a big hit again last year. Like I said before, having the Beth Shalom family eat together frequently is good thing. It allows us to reconnect.

We had a very successful Gala this past year. We raised necessary money for the Synagogue and Camp Impact, and equally important, I think everyone had a good time. A big



Continued on page 8 . . .

Eye on Middle-Eastern Affairs Turkey as the New Norway?

First Published in The Huffington Post, September 7, 2011

Without putting too fine a point on it, Turkey has in the last few months been acting like a petulant child that doesn't get its dessert before the meal. This is a direct result of the all-too-commonplace assumption of Turkish leaders and outside analysts of Turkey's heavy weight in the Middle East.

Both have, since the end of the Cold War, called attention to Turkey's expanding economy, large population, ability to act as bridge between the Muslim and non-Muslim world, and unique position between Arabs and Israelis as factors making Turkey a very consequential actor in regional politics.

At the end of the Cold War and the sudden appearance of the Turkic republic in Central Asia, former President Turgut Özal might be forgiven—given his flair for the dramatic—for proclaiming in 1992 that the 21st century would be “the century of the Turks.” And one might similarly shrug at the appearance of books at the time declaring, for example, Turkey as one of the world's new “pivotal states.”

But the proclivity for exaggerating Turkey's centrality to regional politics seems to have remained firmly in place for subsequent Turkish foreign policy, and indeed has become enhanced under the government of the Justice and Development Party (AKP in the Turkish acronym). However, this penchant may have finally caught up with Ankara, and now exposed the chimera that was Turkey's regional influence.

Although he only became Foreign Minister in 2009, Ahmet Davutođlu's conceptualization of Turkey's position in the region is representative of the AKP's perceptions of its importance and how other states will respond to this “given” fact. His “zero problems” framework is meant to prescribe a policy in which, so long as others “respect our values,” it would be able to maintain good relations with everyone, including former enemies and antagonists. This, in turn, would form the basis for Turkish influence because it alone could use its ties to different, often feuding, countries to bring resolution to regional issues.

Take Turkey's policies toward Israel and Syria, two of the countries in the Middle East that Turkey worked hard to develop good relations with and with which it has had major problems since both have engaged in attacks against civilians. Yet in both cases, Turkey has failed to deliver on its ability to manage, let alone control, events.

The public rhetoric of its leaders has raised expectations that neither country can possibly meet, thereby raising the stakes and putting Turkey in the position of being unable to explain why its demands are not met.

The problem stems from the AKP's perception of Turkey's position. As Davutođlu's approach puts it, the AKP has defined Turkish values—in this case, the protection of civilian lives—as something non-Turks are expected to also conform to in the event. But the Middle East is not a place where one set of priorities, much less values, accrues.

With Israel, the *Mavi Marmara* incident is of course one of the more serious outstanding problems in the relationship. The AKP has consistently and publicly exhibited a sense of wounded pride that can be mended only by Israel—in the view of many of its own leaders—prostrating itself

Continued on page 4 . . .

HaShomer

is published monthly by Congregation Beth Shalom
1212 Thannisch Drive, Arlington, TX 76011-4848
Vol. XXIX, Issue 1, October, 2011

Editor: Hy Siegel Editorial Assistance: Thressa Lobel

Sisterhood

Sisterhood Meeting

Tuesday, October 11, 7:00 p.m.
in the Religious School Building.

Meet for dinner at Social Bakehouse Cafe,
546 Lincoln Square, Arlington, at 5:30 p.m.
Please join us for dinner, even if you can't
make the meeting.

Scrapbook with your Friends

Sunday, October 23, 1:00 - 7:00 p.m.
In the Beth Shalom Social Hall.

Cost: \$20 per person

Babysitting available for \$10 (all six hours).

Bring your wares, but "Make and Takes" are
available. Lots of scrapbook shopping from our
vendor tables.

Sisterhood Fundraiser

Sign up now for Sisterhood's biggest fundraiser of the
year — *Gift Wrap at the Mall*. Please volunteer for your
three-hour shift at Northeast Mall by calling Sharon Greene
at 817-456-1551 cell, 817-283-6071 home. Dates available
are Sunday, December 18, 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.; Monday,
December 19, 3:00 - 9:00 p.m.; Wednesday, December 21,
12 noon - 9:00 p.m.; Thursday, December 22, 10:00 a.m. -
9:00 p.m.; Friday, December 23, 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

— Jennifer Daley
Sisterhood President

Adult Education

Persian Cooking Class

Sundays, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

October 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30

Led by Shirley Sassoon

Call the office for more information.

ADVANTAGE EYECARE

MARK SCHWARTZ, O.D.

ARLENE SCHWARTZ, O.D.

MAYFAIR VILLAGE
724 GRAPEVINE HWY.
HURST, TEXAS 76054
817-788-2020

If you can't read this, you need to see us.

Yiddishkeit

Retaining a sense of Jewishness

It happens every year. We get to the synagogue before
sunset on erev Yom Kippur. Men put on their tallit, (the only
time it is worn for an evening service). We stand before the
open Ark, see the displayed Torah scrolls and listen to the
haunting sounds of Kol Nidre being chanted.

What is it about this prayer, this contract, essentially
an escape clause for any unfulfilled vows or oaths taken dur-
ing the previous year. What is this prayer, where did it come
from, what does it mean, is it still relevant?

Kol Nidre has a puzzling origin (probably around the
9th Century), controversial content (some Christians used it
as proof you cannot trust a Jew's word), and much mystery
(did the Marrano's use it to annul any forced conversions
during the Spanish Inquisition?) And the most important
question of all, how is Kol Nidre like a Dodgers Baseball
game?

All these Vows, Kol Nidre is an anthology of scholarly
articles edited by Rabbi Lawrence Hoffman which details
many aspects of this prayer. The first part of the book dis-
cusses the history and controversy of the prayer.

Question, what is the relationship between Kol Nidre,
Babylonian magic spells and clay bowls? Another section
discusses the music that at times seems more important than
the words. Question, why did many synagogues substitute
the words to Psalm 130 with the Kol Nidre tune to open the
Yom Kippur service? Other sections discuss Kol Nidre and
halacha, and various translations of the prayer.

The best part of this book is the last section where 24
rabbis and scholars give their personal reflections on what
this prayer means today. How it has affected their lives, their
congregations, Judaism today.

And yes, this book does answer the all-important ques-
tion of how Kol Nidre is like a Dodgers Baseball game.

— Dr. K
oygevalt@sbcglobal.net

You can advertise in

HaShomer

the monthly newsletter of
Congregation Beth Shalom

Contact the CBS office for info: 817-860-5448

Congregation Beth Shalom Sisterhood Gift Shop

Wonderful Gifts for All Your

Friends and Family Members

Judaica, Books, Objets d'Art, More!

Open: Sundays, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Thursdays, 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

or by appointment - Contact the

CBS office: 817-860-5448

A Jewish Trinity

When I went to Israel, I enrolled in an *ulpan*. The *ulpan* is an Israeli class to learn Hebrew. The class is composed of students from many different countries who know nothing of Hebrew. The teacher leads the class, speaking only Hebrew and the class learns to speak and understand the language quickly in order to join Israeli society.

The teacher often would find herself unable to get her idea across to the class. When she found herself in this dilemma, she would lead us in singing a Hebrew song. To give her time to let her mind catch up to the lesson. —

Al shlosa d'varim, al shlosa d'varim
Al shlosa, shlosa d'varim, ha-olam, ha-olam omeid

Alhatorah
V'al ha-avodah,
V'al g'milut chassadim

This translates as follows: There are three things upon which the world depends. On Torah. On work. On acts of loving-kindness.

I don't remember too much from our classes, but I do remember this song. It reminds me of the Jewish way of life starting with Torah, then work, and finally charity.

At this time, we can all lead a better life by following the Law, applying ourselves to our careers, and by giving our share to charity.

Certainly, the world does depend on these three things.

— *Sherwin Rubin*
sherwin@rubin.net

We rely on you to let us know when a member of Beth Shalom has celebrated a simcha, endured a loss, or is ill. Please call the office 817-860-5448, or email to info@bethshalom.org.

Daytimers Presents:

Hell's Half Acre:

The Life and Legend of a Red-Light District
by Author/Historian Dr. Richard F. Selcer
Wednesday, October 12, 12 noon
at Congregation Beth-El

Without a doubt, this is the best book on the old west history of Fort Worth, naming names, and places where the action was. Dr. Selcer covers it all, from the smallest saloons and big outfits, to the big name gamblers and shady ladies, to the reformers, locations, descriptions ... a trip in time. Hell's Half Acre was located at the site of the present Fort Worth Convention Center.

Lunch, catered by Ming Wok, \$9.00
Program only, \$4.00 per person

For information/reservations contact: Barbara Rubin, 817-927-2736, or Irv Robinson, 817-731-7447.
The Sylvia Wolens Jewish Daytimers is a program of Beth-El Congregation with support from the Jewish Federation.

Eye on Middle-Eastern Affairs

... continued from page 2

and agreeing to policies that would threaten it. Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan continues to insist that “As long as Israel does not apologize, as long as Israel does not compensate, and as long as it does not lift the blockade [of Gaza], it is not possible for Turkish-Israeli relations to improve.”

And with the leaking of the UN's Palmer Report, Davutođlu has said that because Israel did not apologize, it is time it “pays a price.” It has downgraded relations with Israel, suspended military agreements, and apparently is threatening broader international legal and diplomatic actions. There is no indication that Israel will apologize, and it will certainly not lift the siege—especially now that the Report has noted that the blockade is legal.

Turkey appears to have painted itself into a corner as well with its policy toward Syria. Davutođlu's messages to the Syrian regime to stop the killings or face important (Turkish) consequences reminds one of the Soviet endeavor to prevent or mitigate the 1991 Gulf War: more like an effort to remain relevant than anything of concrete value. Moreover, it has repeated this warning a handful of times, yet no real penalties have been forthcoming.

When Turkey expects others to abide by its declared principles, announces that those who don't respect them will have problems with Turkey, and then other actors don't abide by these stated values, Turkey is placed in a bind. Either it acts on its pronouncements and takes action against those who clash with Turkey's values; or it does nothing. If it does the former—as with Israel—but still doesn't get results, its influence is weakened further.

It is time for Turkish policymakers to acknowledge this and work within these constraints.

A more effective effort might be to adopt a Norwegian-type role in the region. In the arena of the Arab-Israeli conflict, Norway took on a position few others were capable of or willing to: that of general facilitator of peace talks. Turkey has, in fact, done just that: recently Istanbul hosted a meeting of the Libya Contact Group, the grouping of states working with Libya's Transitional National Council as it takes power from the former regime. Turkey also channeled about \$300 million in aid to the TNC to help jumpstart its ability to govern. And of course it hosted secret talks between Israel and Syria in the past.

It is these quieter, less public efforts that Turkey might focus on. They are more in line with the expectations of regional states—none of which have ever indicated a willingness to follow the Turkish lead on any issue of major regional importance. They would also move Turkey away from public pronouncements that build anticipation of policies that are unlikely to be delivered on.

Norway has been referred to as a “middle power” country, meaning it has the ability to get things done on issues that larger, more powerful countries can't. If Turkey moved into this type of position—and outside observers stopped raising other expectations—it could play a very successful role in the Middle East that it currently cannot.

— *Brent E. Sasley, Ph.D*

Brent E. Sasley teaches Middle East politics in the Department of Political Science, at the University of Texas at Arlington. He can be reached at: bsasley@uta.edu

Religious School

Religious School has gotten off to a wonderful new year. I want to give a huge thank you to all our returning teachers and helpers as well as our newest teacher, Lynda Friedensohn.

Our back to school skating party was a lot of fun and I hope to be able to do it again. This year promises to be very exciting. Thanks to a generous grant from Federation our 8th, 9th, and 10th graders will enjoy an informative class taught by Brent Sasley on Israeli politics and Middle East relations with the US.

I have also scheduled a trip to the Holocaust museum in Dallas as a follow up to extensive studies in 7th grade. For our youngest children we will be enjoying monthly visits from Rishi Gurevitch who will be doing special projects with the children.

We also look forward to monthly classes with the cantor. It promises to be a very busy year! On October 9th we will have a visit from Rabbi Ana Bonhein. She will talk to the parents and students about Greene Family Camp. Please make an effort to attend. Camp is a wonderful experience for our children.

Finally, Rabbi Parr will be spending time with our kids on October 2, to share some insights and guide us into Yom Kippur. Hope everyone has a wonderful High Holy Day season. May each of your families be blessed with good health and happiness in the coming year.

– *Stephanie Posner, Religious School Director*

ARFTY

ARFTY met on Saturday, August 20, for a Havdalah Service, Board Meeting, and Lock In. We had 14 students at the meeting. Nick Markson led us in a Havdalah Service. After that we met and elected the following board:

Andrew Fleischer - President
 Andrew Robertson - Membership
 Sam Weiger - Programming
 Nick Markson - Religious
 Channel Sassoon - Social Action
 Shawn Goodman - Historian
 Ean Robertson - 8th grade Rep

We talked about possible programs and members were encouraged to bring their ideas to the table. After the meeting, we had pizza, drinks, cake, etc. We had movies, card games, video games, and Ping Pong (they played all night). I can't remember the last time I pulled an ALL NIGHTER!

Three kids attended Greene Family Camp for Summer Kallah over Labor Day weekend. Sam, Nick, and Shawn had an amazing time. Ask them to tell you about it. The next Conclave will be in Missouri City (near Houston), the weekend of October 28-30. We hope to have more attend.

We are planning to make sandwiches for the Life Shelter, have a Scavenger Hunt at a local Mall, have a clothing drive, do a service or two, get together with other youth groups, etc.

I encourage all kids from 7th - 12th grade to join. We need to have a place for our students to hang out and do things with other Jewish students.

– *Richard Posner, ARFTY Advisor*

B'nai Mitzvah

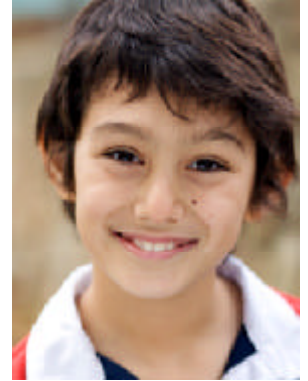
Dylan Jeffreys

Brett and Iris Jeffreys are proud to announce their son, Dylan, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah, Saturday, October 22, at 10 a.m. They invite the congregation to join them and share in this simcha; a Kiddush luncheon will follow services.

Dylan is in seventh grade at Brooks Wester Middle School in Mansfield. He loves playing his saxophone, is in Honors Band, and runs cross-country. In his spare time Dylan enjoys playing his iPad, hanging out with his friends, and spending time outdoors fishing, wakeboarding, and hiking.

The family would like to thank everyone at Beth Shalom for helping both Dylan and them through this journey.

"A special thanks to the experienced 'moms' in Dylan's religious school class who have been teaching us and offering advice along the way, to Danielle Snailer for working with Dylan to make his Bar Mitzvah a success, to Cantor Allen for working so patiently around our hectic schedule to guide him to his big day, and last, but not least, to Stuart Snow who happily let Dylan stand by his side on Saturday mornings, week after week."



Joseph Mendez

The Mendez family welcomes the congregation to join in their simcha as Joseph is called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, November 5, at 10:00 a.m. Please join them for a Kiddush luncheon following the service.

Joseph is in the 8th grade at Bedford Jr. High and is an avid athlete. He plays football, basketball, and runs track. Joseph can be found on his X-Box when not outside playing sports or studying his Torah portion.

The family thanks his dedicated Hebrew School teachers. A special thanks to Stuart Snow for his many wonderful Saturday services and especially to Cantor Allen for her guidance, patience, and inspiration throughout the past year



New Member Applications
 If you, or anyone you know, is
 interested in joining the
 Beth Shalom family, please call our
 the CBS office, 817-860-5448

Mezuzot

“And you shall inscribe these words upon the doorposts of your house and upon your gates.”

Whenever I am visiting a Jewish home for the first time, I always look for the familiar symbol of welcome to be sure I am in the right place. The mezuzah is that beautiful symbol which proudly states that I have arrived.

In Deuteronomy, after receiving the Ten Commandments from God on Mt. Sinai, Moses tells the Israelites:

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. ... Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates. (Deuteronomy 6:4-6, 9)

The primary purpose of hanging a mezuzah is to fulfill this biblical command. The mezuzah also serves as a reminder of God’s laws and presence and is a symbol of Jewish identity.

The first-century Jewish historian Josephus wrote in his *Antiquities*, “The greatest benefits of God are to be written on the doors... in order that his benevolent providence may be made known everywhere. According to Maimonides, the great 12th-century rabbi and philosopher, “By the commandment of the mezuzah, man is reminded of the unity of God and is aroused to the love of Him.”

Rabbi Joseph Telushkin explains in *Jewish Literacy* “When a Jew enters his house; he sees the mezuzah and is thereby reminded how he should act in his home. Likewise, when a Jew leaves the house, the mezuzah reminds him of the high level of behavior he is expected to maintain wherever he goes.”

In order to fulfill the commandment of the mezuzah, an observant Jewish scribe (called a *sofer*) must painstakingly write the 22 lines of 713 letters on kosher parchment using a kosher quill.

The mezuzah parchment comes from the skin of a kosher animal, usually a lamb or a goat. The quill is taken from a kosher fowl like a goose or a turkey, and the black ink is specially prepared from vegetable ingredients. The text must then be written perfectly and in the correct order. According to Rabbinic law neither the Torah scroll nor the mezuzah may be printed using your computer.

The scroll is then rolled from left to right and placed inside a special case to hold and protect it from the elements which could render the scroll unkosher. We commonly call the case a mezuzah but the actual word refers to the scroll.

Mezuzah cases come in all different artistic and beautiful styles and are oftentimes individual works of art reflecting the family’s interests.

The case is then hung on the right side of the doorway about shoulder level with the top slightly tilted towards the inside of the room.

Mezuzot (plural) can be hung in all rooms except the bathrooms and are often found on business doors as well. The following is the prayer for affixing a mezuzah and needs to be said only once before hanging all the mezuzot in your home. It is usually recited at the front door:

Continued on page 8 . . .

Birthdays

October 2

Christine Posnock
Lisa Rein
Alycia Robertson
Stephen Robertson

October 3

Mary Goodman
Phil Kabakoff
Adam Weiss

October 4

Ethan Goldfarb
Shai Sasley

October 6

Loesje Blumberg

October 8

Benjamin Bekerman
David Schwartz

October 9

John Blair

October 10

Laura Fleischer
Aaron Goldsmith

October 11

Michael Fratina
Ashley Rosenstein
Trish San Antonio

October 12

Ryan Kravetz

October 13

Rebecca Townsend

October 14

Ken Pyles

October 15

Richard Chiarello
David Silverberg

October 16

Mary Soltz

October 17

Cathy Frisinger
Melanie Garver
Tamara Lenhoff
Kendall Posner

October 18

Iris Jeffreys

October 20

Helen Wilson

October 21

Hailie Posner

October 22

Hannah Posner

October 24

Larry Goodman
Zachary Markson

October 26

Barbara Chiarello

October 28

Michael Dunn

October 29

Kristopher Dickman
Barry Schneider

October 30

Marty Goldsmith



Anniversaries

October 4

Debi & Mark Lewis (20)

October 5

Iris & Brett Jeffreys (15)

October 7

Toni & Norman Epstein

October 12

Janet & Jerry Aaronson

October 19

Ashley & Mike Zrodowski

October 27

Linda & Michael Dunn (20)

October 28

Cathy & Jim Frisinger

Ritual Committee

Nice surprises are nice....

This summer, my family and I experienced some of the best Europe has to offer: outdoor cafes in France and Italy, the Tower of London, seascapes of the French Riviera, big, beautiful marble sculptures (all with curly locks, btw), and Mount Vesuvius, to name just a few.

Most meaningful, however, were sharing a Shabbat dinner with cousins in London, eating at a Kosher restaurant in the Marais district, visiting the Deportation and Holocaust Museums in Paris, and connecting with a Jewish couple on the cruise.

It took enjoying exquisite sights every day abroad to rediscover and find renewed commitment to something right here at home – my identity.

What a nice surprise....

– Lisa Rein
Ritual Committee Chair

Donations (Received prior to September 9)

GENERAL FUND

In memory of Renee Beim, Richard Allen's aunt, and Frank Weiner; welcoming Sheri Allen back for her 3rd year; wishing a quick recovery to Darrell Carver

from Melanie Garver

In memory of Maurice Weinberger; in honor of Brodie Beard

from Alice and Steve Ginsburgh

In memory of Frank Weiner and Isaac Pack

from Lena Pack

Thank you for the aliyah given to Mel and Barbara Goldman, and a special thank you to Stuart Snow

from Mel and Barbara Goldman, friends of Barry and Dolores Schneider

BUILDING FUND

In memory of Frank Weiner and Roberta Fried

from Marsha Wilcon

EDUCATION FUND

In memory of Frank Weiner

from Hy Siegel

MAINTENANCE FUND

In memory of Bernard Levy

from Alice and Steve Ginsburgh

RUBIN UDES MEMORIAL

PRAYER BOOKFUND

In memory of Frank Weiner; wishing good health to Minerva Clampffer

from Steve and Shelley Sternblitz

To Jeff and Lynda Friedensohn in memory of Bernice Friedensohn

from Lisa, Sal, Ariel and Aaron Ricciardi

from Neal and Roberta Williky

CAMP IMPACT FUND

In memory of Ethel Horowitz Epstein

from Toni and Norman Epstein

To the Friedensohn boys in memory of your grandma Bernice

from Lisa, Sal, Ariel and Aaron Ricciardi

from Neal and Roberta Williky

CHEVRA KADDISHA FUND

In memory of Ralph Jackson

from Helen Wilson

RICHARD WENOKUR MEMORIAL

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Bernard Zamichow

from Joanne Barnes

Yahrzeits

September 30 - October 1

Gussie Ponter*

Warner C. Brunell

Phil Handel*

Mary Shaw*

Isadore Weiss*

Sophia Shwiff Robinson*

Laszlo Fleischmann

October 7-8

Irving Kaplan*

Rusty Sokol*

Ridia S. Cass

Jules Flack*

William Schwartz

Iris Cohen Angel

Ingeborg Czerner*

Fannie Dorfman*

Martin Kirshbaum*

Joseph Moskovitz

Louise Schubach

Evelyn Preisler*

David Feld*

Samuel Jonas Katz*

Irving Steinberg*

October 14-15

Dorothy Eisenfeld*

Herbert Paul*

Helen Marie French*

Jack Jeffreys

Jack Cohen*

Louis Laves

Leo Lenhoff

Ida Barken

October 21-22

Maurice Kramer

Albert Schneider*

Nancy Spindler

Pearl Eisenstein*

Edward Kulick

Ethel Craden

Marcie Schulman

Herman Kabakoff*

Rae Siegel

Irwin Weiner

October 28-29

Mordechai Miskin*

Constance Stuart*

Lillyan A. Kaplan*

Anne Kravetz*

Gertrude Steinberg Rubin*

Lorraine Tan Posner*

Vera Sherwin

Lena Landsberg

Rose Maurer Simon*

* Memorial Plaque in Sanctuary

Jewish Federation Allocations for 2011-12

The Jewish Federation of Fort Worth and Tarrant County had to make cuts to its allocations this year due to the tough economic conditions in our local community. Most organizations, that received a \$1000 or more allocation from our Federation in 2010-2011, took a 10% cut for 2011-2012.

CBS received a total of \$9,210 in 2011-2012. This includes funding for the following programs:

- Camp Impact - \$5,400
- Sylvia Gray Chaverim - \$1,800
- Teacher Training - \$750
- Education Program- "Major Issues in Israeli Politics and Society" - \$1,260

(new program funding). This course will be taught by our very own Dr. Brent Sasley.

We did not receive an allocation for our Tu Bishvat Seder this year because there will be a community-wide Tu Bishvat Seder this upcoming year funded by the Jewish Federation.

We also received a matching grant of \$250 for camp scholarships (e.g., Greene Family Camp). If your family is interested in a camp scholarship, please contact the congregation office.

Thanks to everyone in our CBS family that contributed to the 2011-2012 Jewish Federation campaign. You made it possible for us to continue our existing programs and receive funding for a new program. A special thanks to everyone who submitted allocation requests on behalf of our congregation.

— Ben Weiger

A leaf on the Tree of Life, located in the Dora Saxe Sanctuary, is a perfect opportunity to commemorate a simcha in your family or to acknowledge someone special.

The minimum donation is \$100 and benefits the Building Fund. To order a leaf, please write your own inscription and mail it with your check to the CBS office.

The Congregation records with sorrow the passing of:

Phyllis Ruth Sherwin

mother of Scott Sherwin

Bernice Friedensohn

mother of Jeff Friedensohn

May their memory be a blessing

From the President

... continued from page 2

thank you to Lynda Freidensohn for chairing that event.

This leads me to another failure that I had this year. It was my intent to try to prevent Lynda from overworking herself this year. As evidenced by the number of times I've just thanked her, I was totally unsuccessful.

One year ago, I stood before you and asked this congregation to help me reach my vision of being debt free by Pesach. I said it would take \$45,000, and I asked you to contribute that amount by Pesach. You exceeded my expectations. We raised that amount before the end of 2010, and since January we have been debt free. A great big todah rabbah to each and every one of you. That is indeed something of which we can be proud.

However, our campus is aging. Even though we no longer have a mortgage, we still have expenses, and some of them will be major. We had to replace the fire alarm system in the religious school building. We have had air conditioners go out over there as well. If any of you were at services two weeks ago, you noticed the roof leaks in the social hall. We need funds to cover these contingencies.

Some of you have heard talk about an offer on the building. In reality, what we have is a letter of intent from a Seventh Day Adventist Church to make an offer. Our property committee is working with our realtor, and at this point, that is all there is to report. Rest assured that if an offer worthy of consideration is made, it will be presented to the entire congregation at a congregational meeting. This is what is required by our By-Laws. But at this point, we must move forward assuming that nothing will come of this, because that is still a very strong possibility.

We need a dedicated maintenance fund. Things are breaking, and they will continue to break. I am asking each and every Beth Shalom family to make a three year pledge to the maintenance fund. We will keep this money in a separate bank account, and it will only be used for large expenses, not regular maintenance.

I have a goal of \$100,000 in pledges over three years. We can do this. Last year we raised \$45,000 in three months. I am asking for a little more than twice that amount in twelve times as long. There are pledge cards in the back. Pick one up and mail it back to the office. Or you can email the office your pledge. We will accept either.

For the foreseeable future, this campus is our home. We need to maintain our home. That is what families do; and as I have said on many an occasion, that is what Beth Shalom is; a family. We eat together, we celebrate our children together and we mourn together as a family. We need as a family to take care of our home together.

L'Shana Tovah Tikateivu!

– Barry Goldfarb

President, Congregation Beth Shalom



Foodie cards are here! "T.T.B."
These new scan cards are
available in the Beth Shalom office.
Please request one.

Mezuzot

... continued from page 6

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe, Who sanctifies us with holy commandments and commands us to fix a mezuzah.

Mezuzot are almost always removed when a home is sold to ensure the sacred objects are not desecrated. However, if the home is being sold to another observant Jewish family, the mezuzot are left up so that the new owners will not have mezuzah-less doorways before they have a chance to purchase their own. Mezuzot make perfect house-warming gifts and our Sisterhood Gift Shop has some beautiful ones for you to choose from.

– Janet Aaronson

Sylvia Gray Chaverim

Will Present a Program by
**Theatre Arlington's
TAG Players**

Sunday, October 16, at 12:30 p.m.
In the CBS Social Hall

Catered Lunch - Donation: \$5

For more information or

RSVP to: Rosalie Cagan, 817-684-7197
ccagan@txrr.com

Sylvia Gray Chaverim is partially funded by a grant from the Jewish Federation of Fort Worth and Tarrant County. You need not be a member of Congregation Beth Shalom to participate in the Sylvia Gray Chaverim.

New Middle East Blog

I've been involved in the construction of a new blog on the Middle East, a place where a group of colleagues and I (including Jeremy Pressman, Dov Waxman, Ozlem Tur, Ben MacQueen, and Tarek Masoud) will provide commentary and analysis on regional issues. It's an exciting space where you'll find lots of new ideas and observations.

Come, check us out, and spread the word!

<http://mideastmatrix.wordpress.com/>

– Brent E. Sasley, Ph.D.

CBS Mission Statement:

Congregation Beth Shalom is a Reform Jewish community; warm and caring, welcoming of all, rich in tradition, committed to G-d and Israel, devoted to life-long learning, Jewish programs and spiritual growth.

CBS Vision Statement:

Congregation Beth Shalom strives to be the center for strong Jewish spiritual growth in the Mid-Cities community, where our members engage in the study of Torah, the warmth and friendship that evolves through our Jewish way of life, and our commitment to Tikkun Olam.