



# *Kol Sholom* \* קול שלום

*Beth Sholom Synagogue's Voice of Peace*

[www.bsholom.org](http://www.bsholom.org)

*Memphis, Tennessee—November 2011— 4 Cheshvan to 4 Kislev 5772*

## Beth Sholom Youth Group News:



Jr. Kadima had their fall kick-off with a Pre-Sukkot welcome party in the Unowsky Sukkah on Monday, October 10th. All 3rd, 4th and 5th graders were invited to attend and to make their own edible sukkot. Everyone agreed it was great fun and they are all looking forward to the next opportunity to get together!



Our annual “Night Without a Home” sleepover was a big success, yet again. 4th graders and up joined in the Beth Sholom Sukkah for Havdallah and then got right to work packing supplies for the guests at Manna House. Once they were finished assembling gift bags of socks, knit hats, underclothing and blankets, it was time for snacks, movies and fun! We are so proud of our youth for participating in this worthwhile project each year!

### **News from the Beth Sholom Religious School:**

Don't Forget to turn in your Religious School Application

Wednesdays, November 2, 9, 16, 30, 4:00pm-5:30pm: Religious School in session for Grades 3 through 7 (2nd grade optional)

Sundays, November 6 & 13, 9:30am-Noon: Religious School in session for Grades K through 7

Sunday, November 13th, 9:30am-Noon: Tikkun Olam High for Grades 8-12 CARITAS VILLAGE

Saturday, November 19th, 10:30am: Junior Congregation in the Arie Becker Chapel and Mini Minyan in the Youth Lounge

Sunday, November 20th through Sunday, November 27th: RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NOT IN SESSION

Please contact Sharon Prager at [sharon@bsholom.org](mailto:sharon@bsholom.org) or (901) 683-3591 for more information or with any questions.



As I write these words, the Tishrei holiday season is drawing to a close; Hoshanna Rabba, Shmini Atzeret, and Simchat Torah are almost here. On Rosh HaShanna and Yom Kippur my words had a lot to do with compassion and forgiveness, with empathy and connection. Sukkot, as you know speaks powerfully about our vulnerability and about glimpsing God through the branches. Notice the chill in the air, the waning light. It is not by accident that we read Ecclesiastes on Sukkot. The

writer takes the long view, measuring life from the perspective of maturity and experience, the Torah that is etched into one's skin. And Simchat Torah takes us from the poignant mountaintop burial of Moshe back to God creating the Cosmos anew. The Torah finishes with a *lamed* – ל and starts over with a bet – ב. Lev - לב means heart. The Torah is alive, it has a heartbeat, it is inside us.

*This is personal.* Sharona and I expected my folks to join us as the Sukkot festival winds down, but plans have changed. My father is struggling with illness and it is time for me to check in with my folks for a few days, see how I can help them. My father, my teacher is *rav moshe eliezer ben david eliyahu u'fayge nechama*. Please include him in your prayers. Sharona and I are extremely grateful for the love and support this beautiful kehilla continues to give us. Living far away [at times like these, much too far away] reminds me our time is short, that being present is extremely important.

A bit of Torah from Saigyó (1118-1190) - a Japanese Buddhist monk who was also a gifted poet... This short poem was written during a winter mountain pilgrimage. The English translation was done by the late William LaFleur, a beautiful poet and philosopher, a transformational teacher of mine some thirty years ago at UCLA.

The sound of a swollen  
Mountain stream rapidly rushing  
Makes one know  
How very quickly life itself  
Is pressed along its course.

May we all be blessed with healing and joy in this new year, and may we find ways to be there for each other.

At Beth Sholom, the very core of our “reason for being” is to be to a synagogue in which people can engage in the experience of Conservative Judaism. An integral, indispensable element of this experience involves observing our rituals. These rituals provide a context for our worship that is both invitingly communal and intensely personal.

We are extremely fortunate to have Judy Bookman serve as our Ritual VP. Judy partners with Rabbi Rubinstein, our Gabbaim, our Ritual Committee, and many others in our kehilla to ensure that our rituals are engaging and meaningful. This is an exceptionally complex responsibility – in part because our needs and expectations are so diverse. Some of us want rituals that align with our traditional, established services and customs. Others feel a real need for innovation and evolution of our rituals to address changing interests and preferences. Almost all of us feel that our needs are very important to how we engage in our personal worship.

Judy tackles the task of ritual coordination by bringing a remarkable mix of skills, passion, and dedication to the work. She is a committed Conservative Jew with a solid background in Hebrew, our worship services and practices. Judy cares deeply about tradition, and at the same time is comfortable with and welcomes change. She is a thoughtful listener and observer who pays attention to what congregants think about our Beth Sholom rituals and services. While Judy is pragmatic in realizing that we are unlikely to meet all of everyone’s expectations, she works with our professional staff and our volunteers to examine ritual issues closely and make thoughtful choices for our congregation.

An example of Judy’s pragmatism and creativity is her leadership in developing the Beth Sholom “Adopt A Shabbat” program. This program is an evolving monthly tradition that involves congregants coming to shul for Kabbalat Shabbat, followed by a pot luck Shabbat dinner at the home of a volunteer congregant. The program provides both a Friday night minyan and a delightful social context for welcoming Shabbat. If your family hasn’t yet participated – give it a try!

Doing the Ritual VP job well requires a great deal of effective collaboration. Judy teams up regularly with Rabbi Rubinstein, the Programming Committee, the Adult Education Committee, and her own Ritual Committee to help us offer the types of experiences that Beth Sholom congregants and families want.

I am excited that my colleague and dear friend, Judy Bookman, will serve as our next Beth Sholom president! She has contributed to Beth Sholom in ways that go well beyond her ritual responsibilities. She has demonstrated the leadership qualities, the organizational capabilities, and the love for Beth Sholom that will enable her to be an exceptional congregational leader.



# News From.....

## Beth Sholom Sisterhood and Men's Club



### GIRLS JUST WANT TO HAVE FUN NIGHT NOV. 15 6:30 P.M.

This year's membership evening is Girls Just Want To Have Fun!! We are talking massages, cocktails you may have never heard of, but certainly won't forget, wine tasting, nail painting, silent auction, a dynamite dinner, and who knows what else we might come up with by then.

**TRUST US: WHATEVER HAPPENS AT GIRLS JUST WANT TO HAVE FUN, STAYS AT GIRLS JUST WANT TO HAVE FUN**

RSVP by Nov. 8  
Synagogue Office, 683-3591  
Marsha Bender, 755-8154

Dinner and Pampering \$15.00  
Sisterhood Membership \$36.00

**ALSO MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR TUESDAY 11/1 AT 6:00  
TOUR OF THE " CHOOSING TO PARTICIPATE " EXHIBIT AT THE  
LIBRARY. OPEN TO ALL!**

## MEN'S CLUB MINYAN

The 2nd Sunday of Each Month

November 13th

8:00am Minyan

Followed by Breakfast and Men's Club News!



## ALL THE MEN OF BETH SHOLOM ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

**SAVE THE DATE:** Men's Club needs volunteers to host the monthly birthday party at the Memphis Jewish Home, set for **Thursday December 15th, 2011 from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.** Men's Club will be donating money for the party and will purchase gifts for those celebrating their birthdays in December. If you are interested and available to volunteer your time, please contact Ron Cooper at [rcooper18@comcast.net](mailto:rcooper18@comcast.net)



## Special Thanks to our Kiddush Hostesses

Each week, our Sisterhood steps up and steps in to serve our Shabbat Kiddush luncheon and to help make this time together after Shabbat services so special for all in attendance. If you would be interested in becoming a Kiddush hostess or have a free Saturday to volunteer, please contact Judy Holzer at [judy\\_holzer@bellsouth.net](mailto:judy_holzer@bellsouth.net) or at 624-3084.

# There are Many Ways to Make A Gift and Support the Beth Sholom

## A Guide for Working with Your Professional Advisor to Establish a Legacy Gift for Beth Sholom

As we enter a new Jewish year and reflect upon the year that has just ended, we think about the future of our favorite Jewish organizations. Have you considered **leaving a gift in your estate to Beth Sholom Synagogue?**

When planning an estate gift, it is best to consult a professional advisor who can lead you through the process. Prior to meeting with your advisor, be sure you know what you hope to accomplish with your charitable legacy. Here is a brief guideline:

- First, set an appointment and let your estate attorney know what you wish to do.
- Second, ask lots of questions during your appointment:
- Is there an asset that is best utilized for making a charitable gift?
- What are the tax implications of this gift?
- How will this gift impact what I am able to pass to my heirs?
- If I change my mind can this plan be altered?
- What if my circumstances change and I am not able to make the gift?
- Should I establish my legacy gift as part of my estate plan or should I make the gift while I'm living?



*Beth Sholom Synagogue*

Finally, make sure you give your attorney a date by which you would like your gift plan finalized so you can sign the necessary paperwork and inform Beth Sholom that you have created your legacy gift. Knowing about future gifts helps the synagogue with future planning and allows for you to be properly thanked for your generous support!

Professional advisors play a unique and important role in the developments of current and deferred charitable gifts. Beth Sholom member and certified professional accountant, Steve Leib, is chair of the Professional Advisory Group at the Jewish Foundation of Memphis. If you would like more information on this process, please contact the Jewish Foundation of Memphis at 901-374-0400 or go to [www.jfom.net](http://www.jfom.net).

### **It's Not Over Yet**

By now you would think that we have completed our appeal. Well, we aren't quite done yet. We have had a wonderful response to all of our phone calls, emails, smoke signals, etc., however we haven't made our goal and we haven't reached all of you.

**IF YOU HAVEN'T TALKED WITH YOUR BOARD MEMBER AND MADE YOUR PLEDGE, PLEASE RETURN THAT CALL, CALL THE OFFICE OR CALL SANDY LIPMAN, AND TELL ONE OF US THAT YOU WILL BE MAKING A PLEDGE FOR THE 2011-2012 ANNUAL APPEAL. NO MATTER HOW SMALL OR OF COURSE HOW LARGE YOUR GIFT IS, WE APPRECIATE IT!!!**

**AND REMEMBER YOUR PLEDGE IS NOT DUE IN FULL UNTIL SEPTEMBER 30, 2012, SO YOU CAN PAY MONTHLY, QUARTERLY OR IN ONE LUMP SUM, WHATEVER YOU WISH TO DO. A PLEDGE OF \$18 IS ONLY \$1.50 PER MONTH, A PLEDGE OF \$36 IS ONLY \$3 PER MONTH, AND A PLEDGE OF \$216 IS ONLY \$18 PER MONTH. PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A PLEDGE OR EVEN INCREASING YOUR PLEDGE THIS YEAR!!!**

**And don't forget to use your Kroger card. It doesn't cost you anything. It can earn you credits to decrease the cost of gasoline for your car, and BETH SHOLOM RECEIVES 5% OF EVERY DOLLAR YOU SPEND. IT'S TRULY A NO BRAINER!**

## *We gratefully acknowledge these generous contributions:*

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#### **IN HONOR OF:**

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### **YOUTH ACTIVITIES FUND**

#### **IN MEMORY OF:**

GERTRUDE ZELLNER

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ANNE BOZOF

Michael Zellner

The Beth Sholom Family extends condolences to the families of the recently departed:

Rose Goldfarb  
Ruth Alice Shepp  
Beverly Novick

Hamakom yenachem –May God grant comfort and consolation to these families and to all who grieve

## *Mazel Tov*

Beth Sholom Sends Congratulations to:

Diane & Steve Leib on the birth of their granddaughter, Alexandra Claire Leib, born October 4, 2011 to proud parents, Michelle & Eric Leib of Dallas, TX

Bob Todd on the birth of his great granddaughter, Callie Violet Novick, born October 3, 2011 to proud parents Rebecca & Matt Novick of NY, NY

Mimi & Ron Grossman on the birth of their grandson, Jaryd Scott Grossman, born October 10, 2011 to proud parents Kim and Rob Grossman of Atlanta, GA

Henrie & Norris Marcus on the marriage of their son Daniel to Dana Polombi



## **Thanks to our Anniversary & Birthday Shabbat Sponsors**

### July Birthdays:

Sheila Cohen  
Ron Holzer

### August Birthdays

Bob Cohen

### September Anniversaries

Elaine & Steve Schwartzbach

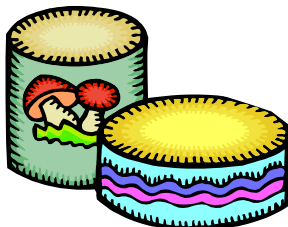
### October Birthdays

Barbara Newman

November Anniversary & Birthday  
Shabbat will be held on Saturday,  
November 19th

## *Yes, we "can"!*

Beth Sholom members have been very generous in bringing canned goods and other non-perishable foods to deposit in our Mid-South Food Bank bin at the synagogue entrance. Hunger and food insecurity remain critical issues in our community, and we encourage all members of our Beth Sholom family to remember to bring a food item each time they come to shul.



## **WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS**

Mindy and Bruce Seidman, Izzy (3rd Grade), Jack (Kindergarten) and Molly (preschool)

Nancy & Eugene Shapiro

## **SAVE THE DATES!**

Saturday, November 5th, 9am  
Starbucks Shabbat

Friday - Sunday, November 11th-13th  
Weekend in the Woods

Friday, November 25th, 6:00pm  
Drum Circle

Sunday, December 11th, 10:30am  
Beth Sholom Annual Meeting

Sunday, December 25th, Morning  
Sisterhood Baked Goods Delivery to  
Police and Firefighters

Sunday, December 25th, 5pm - 7pm  
Hannukah Bowling Party for All



# ROBERT ALTER

November 10, 6pm  
UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS  
[www.rhodes.edu/1611](http://www.rhodes.edu/1611)

The **King James Bible**  
and the **Question of Eloquence**

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Cost of ad for full year (11 issues):

Professional listing—up to 4 lines	\$100
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¼ Page	\$400
½ Page	\$600
Full Page	\$950

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**Staff**

Aaron Rubinstein	Rabbi
Arie Becker	Rabbi, 1959-1979*
Barbara Newman	Executive Director
Sharon Prager	Youth Activities Director
Cheryl Strong	Administrative Assistant
Deanna Lubin	Administrative Assistant

**2011 Officers—Board of Directors**

Skip Rossen	President
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Sandy Lipman	Vice President
Deanna McAlexander	Vice President
Judy Bookman	Vice President
Bob Cohen	Vice President
Martin Halpern	Treasurer
Sandy Friedman	Secretary

**Auxiliary Leadership**

Marsha Bender	Sisterhood President
Kevin Bernstein	Men's Club President
Nathan Light	USY Co-President
Andrew Dodson	USY Co-President

**December Kol Sholom Deadline: December 15th**

**Beth Sholom is an affiliate of the United Synagogue for Conservative Judaism**

**The Beth Sholom Office is closed on Mondays, but the staff is happy to serve you Tuesdays through Thursdays from 8:30am until 4pm and Fridays from 8:30am until 3pm.**

**Check out the news, photos, calendar of events, and many articles of interest on our fabulous new and improved website:**

**Go to [www.bsholom.org](http://www.bsholom.org) !**



*Beth Sholom Synagogue is committed to be the vibrant spiritual home of Conservative Judaism in the Mid-South, where we nurture, transmit, and celebrate our rich heritage and values.*