

TEMPLE BETH SHALOM

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From the Bimah

Rabbi Dr. Janet B Liss

Driving to Hickory from Charlotte on Friday, we encountered a thick fog that obscured everything ahead. It felt appropriate to the uncertainty of what lies ahead of us. I am sure none of us would have foreseen the events that have unfolded in the United States, since the New Year began. To quote our liturgy, "when pain and loss assail us, we look to the Creator of life for strength and courage."

In this new secular year, we are going to be challenged. Questions will arise that test us and make us question who we are, where we are going, what is acceptable, what are American values, how do we balance differing beliefs, how do we engage in civil discourse?

Judaism teaches us values. Our Bible and sacred writings teach us how to behave, how to be respectable, honor to honor ourselves, the strangers in our midst, our neighbors and God. We are taught in Leviticus in the Holiness Code that we read on Yom Kippur, for example, "Do not Stand idly by as your neighbor bleeds." The Torah tells us 36 times to treat the stranger well for we were strangers in the Land of Egypt. We are taught in both sets of the Ten Commandments not to lie or bear false witness. If these beliefs which are ours and also the basis for Christian belief were actually put into practice, we would have a much more tolerant and fair society.

I have watched the video of Renee Nicole Good being shot over and over again in the last few days. The fact that a US citizen could be gunned down in broad daylight by an ICE agent is beyond frightening to me. No matter what one's political beliefs, the videos taken from many angles show the truth of what happened. She was

murdered while trying to drive away. Lying will never be accepted as the new norm.

When I need strength, I turn to God and to people who share my outrage and beliefs. I hope during these coming months when we are fortunate to come together that we will find comfort and solace by being with each other in community.

The President's Message

Susan J Goldstein, President

Dear TBS Family and Friends,

I hope this finds all of you and those dear to you enjoying a great start to 2026! While our most prominent new year is *Rosh Hashanah*, we Jews are fortunate to have multiple opportunities to enjoy new beginnings -- *Nisan*, *Tu Bishvat*, and the secular new year -- and we can celebrate each and every one in its own unique way.

Rabbi Liss and Grace will be with us for services on **Friday evening, February 6, at 7:00** and **Saturday morning, February 8, at 10:00**. We'll meet again at 6:00 for potluck dinner, adult Jewish learning, and Havdalah. Many of us have found these Saturday night gatherings to be especially meaningful. If you're over 18, please join us!

And don't forget our **Sunday morning, February 8th**, schedule: **Jewish Kids (members and non-members) and their parents at 10:00**; and **Adult B'nai Mitzvah students at 11:00**.

Thank you to all who continue to bring donations of cans or boxes of food to help fight food insecurity at the **Hickory Soup Kitchen**. 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.

I look forward to seeing you soon -- in person or via Zoom.

Shalom,
Susan

TBS Sisterhood



Alexis Sweazy, Sisterhood President

Hello everyone!

I hope you all had a wonderful Chanukah, but with that now behind us, it's time for the sisterhood to turn towards planning for Passover. Our community Seder will be held on Thursday, April 2nd at the synagogue, more details to come soon. The planning also continues for our sisterhood-led Shabbat weekend on March 20th and 21st. If you have an interest in leading part of the service, please let me know! I will be sending out some forms via email to sisterhood members, so please look out for that.

Our February meeting will be on Sunday Feb 8th at 2:30PM.

As always, if you have any questions or suggestions for Sisterhood, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at alexisalmazam Moody@gmail.com



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 or Karen Ferguson. 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 Sunday, January 18th at the temple or possibly on Zoom (as yet undecided). 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:

Liz Correll
 Karen Ferguson
 James Norwood
 Alexis Sweazy
 Patrick Rowan
 Pam Jones
 Jane Mandle

Your board thanks you for your donations



General donations

Shayna and Adam Skonieczki

Linda Fedder with gratitude for Karen Ferguson's friendship

Susan Goldstein In honor of Gabe's graduation



Happy 88th birthday to Madeleine Guy!

We need volunteers to deliver food donations to the Hickory Soup Kitchen.

Please contact Susan Goldstein or Alexis Sweazy if you can help.

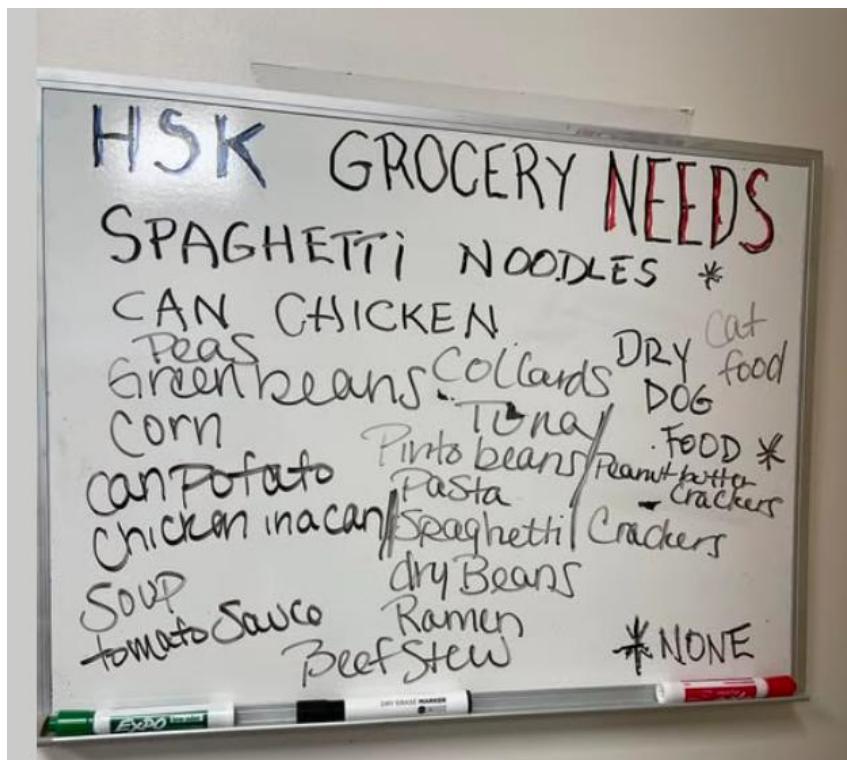


Please consider pairing with a board member(s) to host a Shabbat or Holiday at Temple Beth Shalom. When members contribute to the life of our synagogue in this way, we all feel a part of our Jewish community and an active participant in assuring its well-being. A sign-up sheet is posted in the synagogue 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



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

David Jones 1/1
Werner Locke Cohn 1/4
Liz Correll 1/7
Alice Guy 1/12
Karson Rowan 1/16
Jaimi Jones 1/20
Rachel Igdal 1/25
Madeleine Guy 1/25

Anniversaries

Mark and Laura Faruque 1/6
Pete and Ginny Sobotkin 1/31
Ashley and Grayson Cohn 1/25

Yahrzeits

Mazal Dayan 1/1
Henry Rosenfeld 1/3
Samuel Dopkeen 1/4
Gertrude Stauss 1/5
Lottie Lerner 1/9
Moses Gitlin 1/10
Jack Concool 1/12
Bamet Rosenfeld 1/12
Dora Dopkeen 1/13
Clara Setser 1/14
Molly Sederholm 1/16
Gwen Datnoff 1/17
Irving Shuben 1/18
Joseph Lavin 1/19
Harold Setser 1/20
Charles Laufer 1/23
Marc Fedder 1/23
Harry Gallin 1/25
Joseph Guttler 1/25
Ida Lippe 1/29
Sophie Kallman 1/29
Morton Katz 1/29



Barbara Freiman, wife of the late Lawrence Freiman z'l, received an honorary degree during ASU's fall commencement celebrations for her service, generosity and dedication to supporting App State University. Join us in congratulating Barbara.



Local and Regional Events



The Hickory Soup Kitchen invites you to come join us for our 32nd Annual Spaghetti Dinner on January 30th from 4:30 to 7:30! This is a time-honored tradition you don't want to miss. Tickets are on sale now for \$10 and can be purchased at HSK or you can pay at the door that evening. Dinner includes spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, and dessert. Hope to see you on the 30th!

THE HICKORY FARMER'S MARKET

Winter Market ~ November 1st - March 28th
Saturdays 10am-1pm


Queensrÿche

⬤ Newton Performing Arts Center


**Visiting Writers Series:
Percival Everett "James:
A Novel"**

⬤ P.E. Monroe Auditorium


Be More Chill

⬤ Hickory Community Theatre


**David's Home
Entertainment Spa & Hot
Tub Expo**

 ⬤ Hickory Metro Convention Center and
Visitors Bureau

**The Nashville Nights
Band**

⬤ The Hickory Premier


**Chris Taylor & The
Rumor**

⬤ The Hickory Premier


Deacon Black

⬤ The Hickory Premier


Jack And The Beanstalk

⬤ The Green Room Community Theatre


**Queen's Feast –
Hickory's Participants**

2025- 2026 Schedule for Rabbi Services and Sunday School

For event updates, email: info@hickoryjewishcenter.com

Date	Event	Bulletin Deadline
January		December 23
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	Young family gathering w/ Rabbi Liss 10:00am	
February		January 23
6	Friday night service 7:00pm	
7	Shacharit service 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
8	Young family gathering w/ Rabbi Liss 10:00am	
March		February 23
6	Friday night service 7:00pm	
7	Shacharit service 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
8	Young family gathering w/ Rabbi Liss 10:00am	
20	Sisterhood Friday night service 7:00pm	
21	Sisterhood Shacharit service 10am followed by Kiddush	
April		March 23
2	2 nd 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	Young family gathering w/ Rabbi Liss 10:00am	
May		April 23
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 Young family gathering w/ Rabbi Liss 10:00am	
June		May 23
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 Young family gathering w/ Rabbi Liss 10:00am

Upcoming Jewish Holidays and events

Tu B'Shvat: February 2 (Begins evening of February 1)

Purim: March 3 (Begins evening of March 2)

Passover : Apr 2 through 9 (Begins evening of Apr 1)

The International Holocaust Remembrance Day, also known as the International Day in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

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.