

TEMPLE BETH SHALOM

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Temple Beth Shalom
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www.hickoryjewishcenter.com



From the Bimah: Our Rabbi's Message

Rabbi Dr. Janet B Liss

On Tuesday, June 11, at sundown, the Festival of Shavuot begins. Shavuot comes 49 days after the beginning of Passover and is one of the three pilgrim festivals. Shavuot is both a harvest holiday and it's when we celebrate receiving the Torah at Mt. Sinai. Traditionally we stand as a congregation as the 10 Commandments are read, re-enacting the moment that took place thousands of years ago.

The 10 Commandments are 10 of 613. They are so important that they appear twice in the Torah. On numerous occasions, I have done this exercise with different groups of people. So imagine for a moment that we are doing this now. If we were to write 10 Commandments today for our society, what would we want them to include? I would begin with, 1) Treat everyone with kindness as we are all created in the image of God. 2) stop idolizing people and material objects. 3) foster peace between your family, your community, your country and the world. 4) Truly observe Shabbat, study your religion and be eager to perform mitzvot. 5) Do not steal anything; intellectual property, material possessions, another's dignity, someone else's person, or anything that isn't yours. 6) Be truthful, do not lie or take advantage

of vulnerable people. 7) Do not oppress the stranger, remember that your family came from some place else too, welcome the stranger, help the stranger in your midst. 8) work every day to make a difference in this world. 9) Never hurt another human being, guard your speech and your actions. 10) work hard to be happy and enjoy every minute of your lives.

Imagine how much better the world would be if everyone followed the original 10 Commandments! On Shavuot it is customary to only eat dairy products as it was forbidden to eat meat when the Israelites received Torah. This was also one of the three times a year when all Jewish males were required to go to the Temple in Jerusalem and bring their firstborn of both the flocks and children if they were male for redemption at the Temple, as well as the first fruits of the harvest season. So, while we no longer make this pilgrimage to Jerusalem, we still go to synagogue, we still eat dairy and hopefully, we can still enjoy the fruits of our labor whatever they may be.

We will be having Shabbat Services on June 14th and 15th and I hope you will join us then. I wish you all a Chag Sameach, a Happy Holiday, and look forward to our first summer services together.

Shalom,
Rabbi Dr. Janet B. Liss

The President's Message

Susan G Goldstein, President

Dear TBS Family and Friends,

Passover has come and gone as have most of “the Yoms.” Only *Yom Yerushalayim* left to go, followed by *Rosh Chodesh Sivan*, starting a new book of the Torah, *Bamidbar*, and most important, *Shavuot*.

While I'm not a scholar, I sat in on a cool class recently led by one of my favorite teachers, Dr. Ben Sommers. I first studied with Ben in Chicago 30 + years ago when he taught at Northwestern University and we both worshiped at Anshe Emet Synagogue. Back then, I didn't understand most of what he said. In the meantime, either he's gotten to be a better teacher, or I've become a better student. These days I'm always on the lookout for a chance to study with him. His topic in preparation for *Shavuot* was “What is the Torah?” Turns out there were lots of answers! My takeaway: Law based in narrative = healthy Judaism. Let's ask Rabbi Liss to tell us more!

We're all looking forward to our next weekend with Rabbi Liss on Friday night, June 14, at 7:00 and Saturday morning, June 15, at 10:00, followed by kiddush lunch. For this month only, we'll forego adult Jewish learning, potluck dinner, and Havdalah. Stay tuned for what's coming up.

And the war between Israel and Hamas rages on -- almost eight months after the initial brutal attack on October 7, 2023. We cannot forget that there still are innocent hostages being held by Hamas -- unsure of the count as I understand more deaths have been discovered in recent days, and that Jews around the world continue to grieve for the atrocities that were inflicted on October 7. And we continue to fight back against

the frightening degree of Antisemitism that has ensued -- especially those that are taking place on college campuses across the US. Until all hostages are free and the savage war we did not invite is over, I'll continue to repeat information as to sites we can visit to help our Israeli brothers and sisters.

- Operation Swords of Iron at UJA Federation of New York - www.ujafedny.org
- Emergency Campaign of The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte - www.jewishcharlotte.org
- American Joint Distribution Committee - www.jdc.org
- ARZA, the Association of Reform Zionists of America - arza.org
- MERCAZ Olami, the political arm of the Conservative/Masorti movement based in Jerusalem - <https://mercazolami.org>
- The Jewish National Fund - www.jnf.org

You can also receive frequent updates on the situation in Israel from those sites. ADL and AIPAC also provide frequent updates and offer webinars and invitations to let our elected representatives know that we stand with Israel and that we urge them to do so as well.

Jews on college campuses are having a rough go of it. Our campus Hillels need our support now more than ever. Go to <https://www.hillel.org> to find out how you can help.

In these troubled times, it behooves us to stay informed. The Wall Street Journal (www.WSJ.com) and the New York Times (www.nytimes.com) are good sources. 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.

L'Shalom,
Susan



TBS Sisterhood

Alexis Sweazy, Sisterhood President

Hello everyone! As was announced during the annual meeting in May, the sisterhood potlucks have been discontinued going forward following a downward trend in attendance throughout the year. At our next sisterhood meeting we will continue to talk about how we want to move forward from here as an organization. Since we won't have a newsletter announcement in July, I will send out any sisterhood updates, including the next meeting date by email list. If you have not attended a sisterhood meeting this year

and you would like to be included on this list, or if you have any comments or suggestions about sisterhood activities, please reach out to me at alexismazamoody@gmail.com.
Looking forward to seeing you all soon!

Alexis

TBS Sunday School Program

Sheri Stock, Sunday School Principal



Dear members and friends,

I'm leaving the role of the Sunday School principal to focus more on the needs of my family. Handing the reins to Geoffrey Janer who I've worked so closely with this past year, I have complete confidence in his leadership ability and dedication to the SS.

Wishing you all a Summer of joy and new possibilities,

Sheri



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 Wednesday, June 12th at 6:30.

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
- Alexis Sweazy
- Jodi Lavin-Tompkins
- James Norwood
- Geoffrey Janer



The TBS board thanks you for your donations

General Donations

From Helen Oxenberg in memory of Larry Oxenberg with special thanks to Rabbi Dennis Jones and Jane Mandle

Sunday School

Temple maintenance

Security



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!

TBS Community Mitzvah Projects



The Community Relations and Social Action Committee is still in need of comforters of all sizes, dish sets, glass sets, coffee mugs, pots and pans sets, cooking utensils, and coffee makers! If you have any of these items to donate, they can be brought to any TBS service and placed in the basket in the foyer, or if you have any questions, please contact Kathy Jones, Committee Chairperson, at krsjones2002@yahoo.com

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

Dr. Laura Faruque
A Woman's View
915 Tate Blvd SE
Suite 170
Hickory, NC 28602
828-345-0800

Dr. Mark Faruque
Bethlehem Family Practice
174 Bolick Lane Suite 202
Taylorsville, NC 28681
828-495-8226

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
June and July Events**



June

Birthdays

July

Bradley Haddock 6/3
Susan J Goldstein 6/10
Connie Tosky 6/14
Heidi Jones 6/14
Esther Greene 6/16
Ron DuBow 6/20
Sandy Guttler 6/22
Ashley Brooke Cohn 6/30
Rhett Tompkins 6/30

Emily Tosky 7/3
Lin Gentry 7/7
Karen Ferguson 7/9
Daniel Jones 7/16
St John Stock 7/16
Tiffany Hull 7/17
David Peltzer 7/18
Eric Igdal 7/19
Seth Cohn 7/19
Mitch Weatherly 7/19
Alison Weatherly 7/20
Arleen Gold 7/20
Alexis Cangemi 7/23
Debra Engelmann 7/24
Benjamin Levinson 7/29
Sheri Stock 7/31

June

Anniversaries

July

Solomon and Stephanie Zerden 6/6
Dennis and Kathy Jones 6/9
Rich and Debbie Engelmann 6/10
Lin and Frank Gentry 6/14
Karen/Clyde Ferguson 7/9

June

Yahrzeits

July

Harry Leifer 6/1
Roy Bowen 6/5
Mazzie Hull 6/11
Harris Sederholm 6/15
Dorothy Cohen 6/21
Stephen Schonberg 6/24

Elaine S Rockstein 7/5
Sylvia Kaufman 7/6
Carole Bowers 7/16
Leo John Maciejewski 7/19
Bernice Fedder 7/20
Marvin Yelton 7/20

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Local and Regional Events



Upcoming Events

June 11 - June 24, 2024
Summer Symposium

June 14, 2024
Center Open House

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

CJHPS Newsletter

[Subscribe to our newsletter](#) to stay updated on the latest news and events.

Temple Beth Shalom has an active membership in the Catawba Valley Interfaith Council, where Rabbi Dennis served as president for 5 years and now serves as secretary. You can find out more about this organization and its activities at: <https://www.facebook.com/CVICNC/>.

Interfaith Council

2023-2024 Schedule for Rabbi Services and Sunday School

For event updates, email: info@hickoryjewishcenter.com

DATE	EVENT	BULLETIN DEADLINE
June 14	Friday night service 7:00pm	No
15	Shacharit Service at 10am followed by Kiddush lunch	Newsletter in July
July	No Services in July	

JEWISH SUMMER HOLIDAYS

Shavuot

Begins: sunset Tuesday, Jun 11, 2024

Ends: evening Thursday, Jun 13, 2024

According to traditional Jewish law, no work is permitted.



Tisha B'Av

Begins: sunset Monday, August 12, 2024

Ends: evening Tuesday, Aug 13, 2024

The Tisha B'Av fast lasts about 25 hours, beginning just before sunset and lasting until the evening of the following day.



Want to contribute to the TBS Bulletin? Send entries to Karen Ferguson at karen.sederholm@gmail.com. All entries are reviewed by the TBS Board before publication.