

TEMPLE BETH SHALOM

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Temple Beth Shalom
P.O. Box 9142

Hickory, North Carolina 28603
www.hickoryjewishcenter.com



From the Bimah: Our Rabbi's Message

Rabbi Dr. Janet B Liss

During Sukkot, we are commanded by God to rejoice in the celebrations of our holiday. Perhaps before the end of Sukkot, we will truly be able to fulfill this commandment. For two years now, every moment of the day has been tinged with sadness and grief as we pray that our hostages, who have been in captivity for over two years, will be released.

It is with bated breath and anticipation that all eyes are focused on Israel as we wait and see if the current Trump peace plan and hostage deal will go through. What is puzzling to me is the radio silence that I have experienced from my friends and colleagues in Israel, who are usually very chatty about the hostage situation. After two years of this ongoing war, God willing, we will see the hostages released so that they and Israel and the Palestinians can begin the long road toward recovery. I will happily relegate all of my "bring them home" candles, jewelry, pins, and shirts to history and museums. The day after, for both Israel and Gaza, will be a reckoning for the current leadership and the time to accept the moral consequences of the failings that allowed October 7th to happen.

It was very uplifting to see so many people over the holiday period. We were blessed to have non-members present at every Service, and hopefully, they will choose to become active members of our

Temple family. A number of people approached me to express their interest in having an adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah. On Sunday, October 26, we will have a meeting at 11:15 for anyone who is interested in pursuing this. If you cannot be there, please reach out to me and let me know of your interest. I am happy that Susan Goldstein has volunteered to work with this group as well.

On Saturday night, October 25, during our adult education program, we will be examining Jewish texts on the Afterlife. I invite you to join us for a light dinner, study, and Havdalah. No prior knowledge is required, just a willingness to learn and partake in lively discussion, good food, and spiritual nourishment for the soul.

I hope to see you over the weekend of October 24th and I hope and pray we will have reason to celebrate true joy together.

Shalom,
Rabbi Janet B Liss

The President's Message

Susan J Goldstein, President

Dear TBS Family and Friends,

Chag Sukkot Sameach! This might be my very favorite *chag*. No fasting, no shopping for gifts, no extra food restrictions. Just enjoying being in the sukkah and, of course, engaging in what is possibly our strangest ritual: shaking the lulav and etrog in all directions -- front, right, back, left, up, down. All the better when we throw in a few Hallel chants. Once Sukkot arrives, we know we're really in a new year. We've been together in the synagogue for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, and we're ready to move forward into the future with joy. Let's continue to move together during our monthly "Rabbi Shabbatot."

The next time we gather again for services with Rabbi Liss will be **Friday evening, October 24, at 7:00** and **Saturday morning, October 25, at 10:00**, followed by kiddush lunch. If you're over 18, please join us again at **6:00 Saturday evening** for potluck dinner, adult Jewish learning, and Havdallah.

On **Sunday morning, October 26**, Rabbi Liss will meet with adults who are interested in celebrating their B'nai Mitzvah. In addition, we'll hold our first monthly Jewish learning and social session for the children of our community and their parents. Stay tuned for times for both activities.

At the risk of making significant omissions, special thanks go to:

- **Mary Lee Tosky** for cleaning the silver *rimonim* so they sparkled for the High Holy Days, for shopping for everything needed for lunches and *onegs* during the Ya'amim Nora'im, for coordinating those lunches and onegs with the help from **Susan Rieder**, and for overseeing the roof replacement project. Wow! This girl rocks!!

- **Aaron Tosky**, Ritual Chair, who, along with **Rabbi Liss**, ensures that our services run smoothly and helps guide all ritual aspects of our operations.
- The Security Team, headed by **James Norwood**, **Rhett Tompkins**, and **Patrick Rowen**, who picked up the gauntlet from **Larry Laufer**. In 5785 they oversaw the installation of ballards to ensure a vehicle can't crash into our front door. In addition, they recommended, and the Board agreed, that we have police presence at all services. We couldn't be more grateful to them for keeping us safe.
- **Karen Ferguson** who prepares and sends out our newsletter each month. We especially appreciate her patience and graciousness when most of us miss the deadline! She's also a star in her "happy place," our kitchen, and we love when she works her gastronomic magic.
- **Alexis Sweazy**, Sisterhood President, who coordinated the Yom Kippur Break Fast, and who also, along with **Gabe Almaza-Moody**, has taken on the project of organizing our library. And, next time you're in shul, pick up one of the bookmarks Alexis prepared that serve as a reminder of our service dates. (And once you're reminded, mark your calendars, and join us!)
- **Grace Blank**, **Lin Gentry**, and **Rabbi Dennis Jones** who shared their voices with us during services.
- **Cynthia Norwood**, **Rabbi Dennis Jones**, and **Amanda Correll** for reading Haftarah. And thanks to Amanda for upholding the tradition of a Zerden woman reading Jonah!
- And, of course, to **Rabbi Liss** who wrote and delivered four sermons in 10 days! In addition, she organized all the services and ran them with aplomb!
- To **Everyone Who Attended Services**. Each of you added meaning to the community during the Days of Awe -- and we hope you'll continue to do so throughout 5786.

Thank you, too, to all who continue to bring donations of cans or boxes of food to help fight food insecurity by donating needed food items to 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. 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 (as I write this) almost two years**, 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.

We continue to pay attention to and support Hillel as it gives Jewish college students a place to feel safe in their Judaism. 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 and our college students.

- 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 (www.adl.org), AIPAC (www.aipac.org), and the Secure Community Network (www.securecommunitynetwork.org) also provide frequent updates and offers 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 Hillel's need our support now more than ever. Go to <https://www.hillel.org> to find out you can help.

And it's always time to be informed!! The Wall Street Journal (www.WSJ.com) and the New York Times (www.nytimes.com) are good sources. Pay particular attention to NYT columnist Bret Stephens. 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.

Shalom,

Susan

TBS Sisterhood

Alexis Sweazy, Sisterhood President



Hello Everyone!

The High Holidays have come and gone. The Sukkah has been built and enjoyed. It was great to see so many seats filled for High Holidays. Let this trend continue with Shabbat services and future chags at TBS! Thank you to all who brought delicious foods, helped set up chairs and tables, and helped clean up, and all who helped build our sukkah.



After Yom Kippur services, we were able to assemble 36 hygiene kits to donate to the Hickory Soup Kitchen. Thank you to anyone who donated supplies, and to the many folks who stayed after services to help us assemble the kits!



Our next sisterhood meeting will be held on October 26th at 2:30 at the synagogue. I hope you all have a meaningful month of Tishrei/Cheshvan. As always, if you have any questions or suggestions for sisterhood, please reach out to me at alexisalmazamoody@gmail.com

Shalom,

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 Oct 26, 12:30, at the temple. 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

General donations

Ron and Sue Cohn
Simon Yakopson and Valentina Perlin
Roy and Sarah Ashkenaz
Richard Rose

Susan Goldstein in honor of Aurora
Cohn's Bat Mitzvah
Susan Goldstein in memory of Harold
Goldstein
Kathryn & Bryan Jones Charitable
Trust

In memory of Esther Greene:

Susan Goldstein; Susan Rieder; Rochelle Rudo;
Esther's loving niece, Ellen Stiller Jarrett

In memory of Bud Tosky:

Susan Goldstein; Susan Rieder

High Holiday donations

Linda Fedder in memory of:
Marc Fedder
Bernice Fedder
Bert Yelin
Harriet Yelin



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



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 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

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



Temple Beth Shalom Life Cycle October Events

Birthdays

Craig Axler 10/3
Samuel Peltzer 10/6
Daniel Tosky 10/7
Steven Gold 10/11
Susan Rieder 10/21
Richard Engelmann 10 31

Anniversaries

Madeleine and David Guy z"l 10/29

Yahrzeits

Richard Kommiser 10/2
Mollie Lavitt Nalanbogen 10/3
Saul Cohen 10/4
Freida Roth 10/4
Rebecca Friedman 10/6
Lois Klein Cohen 10/7
Loren Galanti 10/7
Julius Morgan 10/8
David Tosky 10/11
Samual Robinson 10/13
Clara Watts 10/13
Richard Goldstein 10/18
Conrad Strauss 10/22
Joanna Dandekar 10/23
Sylvia Peltzer 10/23
Stanley Atkins 10/27
Ceil Schein Harrison 10/28
Adrian Reiter 10/28
Sid Freedman 10/30
Richard Goldstein 23 Tishri 10/15

Local and Regional Events

**INTERFAITH
COMMUNITY POTLUCK**

Tuesday | 28 Oct | 6:30 PM-8:00

Church Of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
4065 N Center Street, Hickory, NC

**IN A TIME WHEN THE WORLD OFTEN FEELS DIVIDED, LET'S TAKE A MOMENT TO
CELEBRATE WHAT TRULY BRINGS US TOGETHER: GOOD FOOD, OPEN HEARTS,
AND THE POWER OF COMMUNITY. BRING A DISH TO SHARE AND YOUR OWN
PERSPECTIVE ON LIFE, AND LET'S ENJOY A SPACE WHERE EVERY VOICE IS
WELCOME. WHETHER WE AGREE OR NOT, WE ALL HAVE STORIES WORTH
HEARING, AND A TABLE BIG ENOUGH FOR EVERYONE. LET'S LAUGH, LISTEN,
AND BUILD CONNECTIONS THAT REMIND US WE'RE STRONGER TOGETHER.**

Drinks Provided
-Water
-Apple cider

RSVP By OCT. 25th by Email
-catawbavalleyinterfaithcouncil@gmail.com

Catawba Valley Interfaith Council



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

**SHALOM
HARMON
INSTITUTE**



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		
October		
1	Erev Yom Kippur (Kol Nidre) 7:00 pm	September 23
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	Young family gathering w/ Rabbi Liss 10:00am	
November		October 23
14	Friday night service 7:00pm	November 23
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	Young family gathering w/ Rabbi Liss 10:00am	
December		
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	December 23
14	Young family gathering w/ Rabbi Liss 10:00am 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	Young family gathering w/ Rabbi Liss 10:00am	
February		January 23
6	Friday night service 7:00pm	February 23
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		
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



Shemini Atzeret 2025 begins at sunset on October 13, 2025. It is immediately followed by Simchat Torah, which begins at sunset on October 14, 2025, and ends after nightfall on October 15, 2025.

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.