

השופר haShofar

of DeKalb and Sycamore

Congregation Beth Shalom
820 Russell Road
DeKalb, IL 60115



ALL-CONGREGATION PICNIC
Sunday, August 26, Noon

CALENDAR

Tuesday, August 21	Board meeting	7 PM
Sunday, August 26	Religious School (first day)	10 AM
	Congregation picnic (meat), Welsh Park	12 noon
Friday, August 31	Shabbat potluck (dairy)	6:30 PM
Sunday, September 9	Erev Rosh Hashanah Service	7:30 PM
Monday, September 10	Rosh Hashanah Service	9:30 AM
Tuesday, September 11	Rosh Hashanah Service	10 AM
Tuesday, September 18	Kol Nidre Service	7 PM
Wednesday, September 19	Yom Kippur Service	9:30 AM
	Minchah/Neilah Service	5 PM
Sunday, September 23	Sukkah building and decorating	TBD
Tuesday, September 25	Board meeting	7 PM
Friday, September 28	Shabbat potluck in the Sukkah (meat)	6:30 PM

August/September 2018 Elul/Tishrei 5778/5779

Jackie Laks Gorman, editor

From the President

Dear members of Congregation Beth Shalom:

I hope this missive finds you and yours in good spirits and enjoying the season.

It is with pleasure that I invite you all to join us for our annual picnic at 12 PM on Sunday, August 26 at the shelter in Welsh Park down the street from the CBS building. Come join us for hot dogs and drinks, and bring a non-dairy side dish or dessert to share. There will be opportunities to sign up to host Shabbat onegs and potluck dinners and to help in our efforts to care for the hungry and homeless in our greater community by working at the Salvation Army food pantry or providing meals for Hope Haven. I hope to see you all, and please don't hesitate to bring any visiting family or friends, or prospective members—we welcome all.

Last year was a difficult one for our Congregation, with the sudden passing Rabbi Moskow, but we are determined to move forward and are most grateful for the help and assistance of Rabbi Maralee Gordon, who has stepped in to lead our High Holy Days worship, conduct services, and give advice on our religious education efforts until we secure the services of a new Rabbi. A job description committee has already put forth our expectations for the position, and a search committee will soon be seeking applicants. We hope to hire for the position by January or as soon as possible.

In the meantime, we will embark on another year of religious and secular activities, from worship services and holiday celebrations to potlucks and movie nights. We welcome all to come and participate.

The Board has been in the process of honorably retiring our old prayer books, and to that end we will be sending them to Shalom Memorial Park in Arlington Heights for burial. Thanks in advance to Missy Garman for her help in this service to our community. If you wish to have an old prayer book or have not yet had the opportunity to look for a dedicated book, please contact me as soon as possible so I can try to help.

The Congregation is also in the process of reviving our religious instruction for younger members of our community, and we expect to have exact arrangements and details to send out soon. We are working with two Hillel students to serve as teachers and hope to restart our program with the beginning of this school year.

It is my pleasure and pride to have the position of president and help foster a welcoming and inclusive community. If you have questions about our activities, you can consult our Congregation website at <http://bethshalomdekalb.org>. If you have any questions or concerns not addressed on the website, email me at President@BethShalomDeKalb.org, or call me 815-762-0204.

Shalom,
Rob Feldacker

From the Rabbi

I recently spent nine days at Wildacres Retreat Center at the top of a mountain in North Carolina. An Interfaith Retreat made up the first three days. Three presenters (one Muslim, one Christian, and one Jew) shared prayer practices, their struggles with prayer, their favorite prayers, physical movement during prayer, and more. The writer in residence guided us to share personal prayer experiences, and I wrote about my experience teaching Jewish detainees the Shema at the McHenry County Jail.

In the two years since I retired from the pulpit rabbinate, I have had a variety of experiences. I taught in the Florence Melton Adult Education program, whose goal is to help adults fill in the gaps in their Jewish education. I visited my son and his family in Ramat Gan, Israel, where Leo and I have an apartment, a month at a time, twice a year. I made soup, baked cookies, and otherwise fed our seven grandchildren on a regular basis and spent time in playgrounds and at school presentations.

At home, I mourned the deaths of my mother, age 96, and my sister-in-law, age 67. Between trips to visit our California and Australia sons and families, I continued the work I have been doing for nine years, visiting with immigrants detained by ICE in the McHenry County Jail. I listened to their stories and concerns, encouraged their patience and continued connection to family and fellow detainees, wrote recommendation letters to judges, and called their loved ones.

Two years ago, the lieutenant who runs the jail informed me that there was a request for a class on Judaism and asked if I would conduct such. I have been teaching ever since to Jews who grew up in the former Soviet Union with Jewish education, to interested Christians and Muslims and many more. This class is a highlight of my week, as we talk about big issues from a faith-based perspective.

In returning to serve you again (however temporarily), I am not the same, and you are not the same. This becomes clear to us every year as we approach the High Holidays. As we return to the same place to recite the same prayers, we realize that we are not the same. Even if we do not leave town, we are on a journey. Through the experience of loss, simchas, and/or illness, we grow and evolve. Through learning, making new acquaintances, and deepening ties with each other, we grow and evolve.

Now, in the Hebrew month of Elul, our time of reflection and preparation for the High Holidays, we can look back on the journey of the past twelve months and see where we have been in our hearts and in our souls, as well as in this physical world. Each of us is on an amazing journey; let us take the time, this month in particular, to appreciate that journey.

Kol tuv (all the best),
Rabbi Maralee Gordon

Annual Dues and Membership Forms

Annual membership renewal letters will be sent out later this month. In the meantime, blank forms are included at the end of this *haShofar*. Donations can also be made on the CBS website (BethShalomDeKalb.org).

Congregation Beth Shalom & NIU Hillel

Joint High Holy Days Services

Rabbi Maralee Gordon

Zach Weiss, Cantorial Soloist

All services held at Congregation Beth Shalom, 820 Russell Road



Rosh Hashanah

Sunday, September 9, 7:30 PM

Erev Rosh Hashanah (Koleynu sings; Kiddush following)

Monday, September 10, 9:30 AM

(including Torah service, Shofar)

Tuesday, September 11, 10 AM

(less formal service; group discussion; Shofar)

Yom Kippur

Tuesday, September 18, 7 PM

Kol Nidre (Koleynu sings)

Wednesday, September 19, 9:30 AM

(including Torah service, Yizkor)

Wednesday, September 19, 5 PM

(Minchah, Neilah; final shofar blast about 7 PM)

EVERYONE WELCOME

Non-members, friends, and family members can find forms for contributions that aid our budget both at services and at our website, BethShalomDeKalb.org

ALL-CONGREGATION PICNIC **Sunday, August 26, Noon**



All are welcome to our annual picnic and barbecue on Sunday, August 26, from 12 to 2 PM. The picnic will be held at Welsh Park and shelter across the street from Congregation Beth Shalom on Russell Road. The picnic is a great way to catch up with friends and make new ones. If you know any prospective members, please bring them along!

Kosher hot dogs and the trimmings and cold drinks will be provided. If you are a member, please bring a dish to pass. (This is a meat meal, so don't use any dairy products or shellfish in your dish.) Prospective members are our guests and don't need to bring a thing.

Looking forward to seeing you all there!

Missy Garman
815-858-5315

אבגדהוזח
טיכלמנס
עפצקרשת

Religious School News

The Congregation is in the process of reviving our Religious School to provide instruction for the younger members of our community. We hope to restart the program with the beginning of this school year and expect to have exact arrangements and details soon, which will be sent out via email. We anticipate that Hillel students will serve as teachers.

High Holy Days

Elsewhere in this issue you will find a one-page announcement listing dates and times for High Holy Days services at Congregation Beth Shalom this year—and a special issue of *haShofar* will be sent out prior to services repeating that information. In addition, though, please note the following:

- If you would like to have an Aliyah or other honor during services, contact Jason Hanna, Ritual Chair, at jasonkhanna@yahoo.com.
- All services will be held at the synagogue, 820 Russell Road. Please use the front door of the building for all services. Those with accessibility needs should use the rear entrance, which has a ramp.
- Parking will be available in the lot behind the building. There will also be room for overflow parking on the grass next to the lot, as well as street parking on both sides of Russell Road.

Yizkor: Call for Names

During the Yizkor service on Yom Kippur, we remember those dear to us who have passed away. Names are kept from previous years. If you sent names in previous years that were read, you do not need to send them again.

If you would like to add names to be read, email them to Jackie Gorman at jgorman7@juno.com. These can be names of family members, congregants, or anyone else you would like to remember.

Serving Our Community

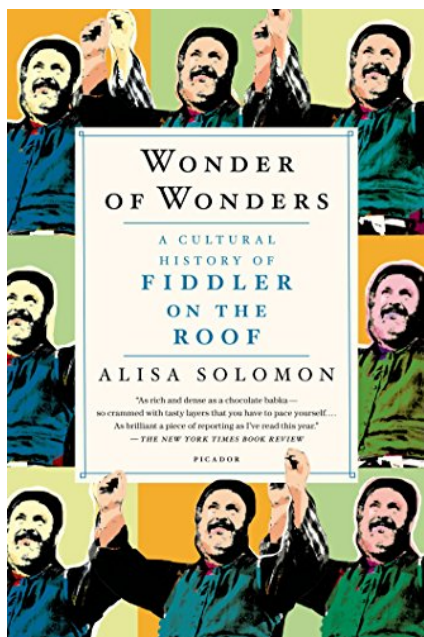
The Social Action Committee would like to thank all those who provided dinner for the Hope Haven homeless shelter during the past months: Rivka Baker, Marilyn Stromborg, Rob Feldacker and Valerie Garver, Missy Garman, Liz and Harvey Blau, and Becky Cohen.

Where there is a need, our Congregation always steps up to help—for example, at the Salvation Army Food Pantry, where there is a line in front every morning before they open. Thanks to Jane Lux and Elizabeth Bass for walking through the aisles helping people fill bags with food.

The Food Pantry needs plastic, paper, and reusable cloth bags. If you have any, please put what you can in the basket in the hallway, to be picked up and taken to the pantry.

— Karen Sinason, Social Action Chair

Wonder of Wonders: Next Book Group Read



Wonder of Wonders: A Cultural History of Fiddler on the Roof, by Alisa Solomon, will be our first Book Group read this year. The book looks at *Fiddler*'s antecedents in the stories of Sholem Aleichem and on the Yiddish stage, the making of the musical itself, and the show's history and impact around the world.

The book is described in *The New York Times* as exploring “not only the making of the musical, but also the way the show reflects evolving Jewish cultural identity in America and around the world. It's about how gentiles see Jews and about how Jews see themselves. It's about a particular moment in American history when identity politics, feminism, generational rifts, ethnic pride, concerns about authenticity and an interest in immigration history came together in a rich cholent. It's about a particular time in Broadway history when the musical was changing from something stagy and stilted to something more musically and formally challenging.” □

The author, a theater critic at *The Village Voice*, includes many stories about those involved in the original stage production, such as the argument between director Jerome Robbins and star Zero Mostel about how the latter, as the orthodox Jew Tevye, should kiss a mezuzah.

We've probably all seen productions of *Fiddler*, as well as the movie, so the discussion should be lively. Join us on Thursday, October 11, at 7 PM at the synagogue. All are welcome, even if you haven't read the book.

— Elizabeth Bass, Adult Ed Chair

Buildings and Grounds Update

It's been a busy summer so far at our building, and it's not over yet. Aside from a lot of cleaning up and sprucing up, some major renovations are in the works. One that's already been completed is a new compressor for the air conditioning system—people may remember the AC conking out last September during Rosh Hashanah. That was a sign. Before the High Holy Days come round again, the building should have a new roof, and hopefully all the exterior lights will be functioning, too. After that, a long-overdue re-sealing and re-stripping of the parking lot is planned. Next time, I hope to report that all these projects have been completed.

— David Gorman, Buildings and Grounds Chair

Upcoming Shabbat Services and Potlucks

In addition to High Holy Days services, the following events are scheduled for the next months:

Friday, August 31: Shabbat potluck dinner at 6:30 PM. This is a dairy meal.

Friday, September 28: Shabbat potluck dinner in the Sukkah at 6:30 PM. This is a meat meal.

Friday, October 12: Shabbat service at 7:30 PM, followed by an oneg.

Friday, October 26: Shabbat potluck dinner at 6:30 PM. This is a dairy meal.

Volunteer Hosts Needed

As in the past, hosts are needed for our onegs following Shabbat services on Friday evenings and for our monthly Shabbat potluck suppers. Hosting is easy! When serving as the host for an oneg, you supply the goodies (either homemade or store bought), something cold to drink, and a challah. Paper goods, cups, and wine and grape juice for kiddush are supplied by the Congregation. All you need to do is arrive a bit early (7 PM for our 7:30 service) and set things up on the table at the rear of the sanctuary. If you want to spruce things up and bring a tablecloth or your own paper goods, that's just fine. Folks in attendance are always glad to help with clean-up.

Hosting a Shabbat dinner is also easy. Just arrive early (6 PM for the 6:30 dinner) and set up the tables and buffet with tablecloths, placemats, and tableware. Make sure there's a challah and some cold drinks, plug in the coffee maker, and you're done. Again, others will pitch in to clean up. All the necessary paper goods and utensils are in the kitchen as is wine and grape juice for kiddush.

So, how do you volunteer? I'll be at the Congregation picnic with clipboard in hand so you can sign up. If you won't be there, check the calendar enclosed with this *haShofar* and email me at czar@niu.edu to let me know when you'd like to host. I look forward to hearing from you.

— Carol Zar, coordinator

A Clean Slate for the New Year

They came! They saw! They sorted! They tossed! They rearranged! Bravo to the volunteers who gave up several hours on one or two afternoons to tidy up first our kitchen and then the office. Their efforts should pay off with much more usable space and easier to find items. All drawers and cabinets, except for the archives file cabinet, were basically emptied, sorted, and replaced, with unneeded items appropriately disposed of. For example, some duplicate kitchen items went to Hope Haven.

Thank you to Carol Zar, Missy Garman, Karen Sinason, and Jackie Gorman.

— Elizabeth Bass, project coordinator

Chatter

Missy Garman was recently elected president of the local American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Retirees Chapter 70. This includes retirees from NIU, the State of Illinois, DeKalb County, and the City of DeKalb. She was also elected to the State Executive Board for Retirees, AFSCME Council 31.

In addition, in the spring at DeKalb County's Second Annual Mother Jones Dinner, Missy won the Marge Jindrich Award for Union Leadership. Jindrich was a union organizer in St. Charles and the first woman elected president of her union. The Jindrich Award recipient must be a fierce union advocate who fights for the progress of the labor movement—just like Missy. Missy recently retired after a 32-year career as a child abuse investigator with the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS).

Darsha Primich and Bob Fleisher have moved to Batavia, having successfully downsized to a little two bedroom plus studio (for Bob, the musician). Their new address is 218 North Water Street #301, Batavia, IL 60510. Darsha notes that though they have left Joanne Lane and DeKalb, “we have not left DeKalb, the heart of our community. We will see you at the doctor's, the grocery store, the car guys, and CBS!”

Bernie and Michele Paul's son, Max, is now a City of DeKalb police officer. After college graduation, Max became a police officer for the City of Springfield. He had been working there for 5½ years as an officer when he learned that DeKalb was seeking lateral transfers of experienced officers to its police department, and he applied and was accepted.

Karen and David Sinason's son Joshua recently became engaged to Stacy Issen. Josh graduated from NIU and Stacy from Drake. They both work in the marketing and advertising field and live in the suburbs. Josh brought Stacy to DeKalb to visit family and friends and show her his old stomping grounds. A summer 2019 wedding is planned.

Barbara Kaufmann's daughter and son-in-law, Rachel and Dan Katzman, have relocated from Virginia to the Twentynine Palms Marine Base in California. Dan, an engineer with the U.S. Marine Corps, was promoted to major in late 2017 and has a leadership role in his new regiment.

DeKalb resident **Don Schoo** passed away in July at the age of 93. He was familiar to many in the Congregation from his talks about his experiences during World War II, when, as a member of the U.S. Army, he was among the first American troops to enter the Buchenwald concentration camp in Germany in 1945. Mr. Schoo often spoke to schools and local organizations about this and his other wartime experiences.

A special edition of *haShofar* with complete information on High Holy Days services will be sent in early September. Watch your email!

CONGREGATION BETH SHALOM CALENDAR 2018-2019

August

Tuesday, August 21 Board meeting 7 PM
Sunday, August 26 Religious School (first day of classes) 10 AM
Congregation Picnic 12 PM @ Welsh Park (across from the
synagogue)
Friday, August 31 Shabbat potluck dinner (dairy) 6:30 PM

September

Sunday, September 9 Erev Rosh Hashanah service 7:30 PM
Monday, September 10 Rosh Hashanah service (first day) 9:30 AM
Tuesday, September 11 Rosh Hashanah service (second day) 10 AM
Tuesday, September 18 Kol Nidre service 7 PM
Wednesday, September 19 Yom Kippur service 9:30 AM
Minchah/Neilah closing service 5 PM
Sunday, September 23 Sukkah building and decorating TBD
Tuesday, September 25 Board meeting 7 PM
Friday, September 28 Shabbat potluck dinner in the Sukkah (meat) 6:30 PM

October

Monday, October 1 Simchat Torah Program TBD
Thursday, October 11 Book Group 7 PM
Friday, October 12 Shabbat service 7:30 PM
Tuesday, October 16 Board meeting 7 PM
Sunday, October 21 Adult Ed. Dinner and Movie Night 5:30 PM
Friday, October 26 Shabbat potluck dinner (dairy) 6:30 PM

November

Friday, November 9 Shabbat service 7:30 PM
Tuesday, November 20 Board meeting 7 PM
Friday, November 30 Shabbat potluck dinner (meat) 6:30 PM

December

Sunday, December 9 Hanukkah Party 5 PM
Thursday, December 13 Book Group 7 PM
Tuesday, December 18 Board meeting 7 PM
Friday, December 21 Shabbat service 7:30 PM

2019

January

Friday, January 11 Shabbat service 7:30 PM
Tuesday, January 15 Board meeting 7 PM
Saturday, January 26 Shabbat service 10 AM

February

Friday, February 1 Shabbat potluck dinner (dairy) 6:30 PM
Thursday, February 7 Book Group 7 PM
Sunday, February 10 Adult Ed. Dinner and Movie Night 5:30 PM
Tuesday, February 19 Board meeting 7 PM
Friday, February 22 Shabbat service 7:30 PM

March

Saturday, March 2 Shabbat service 10 AM
Sunday, March 17 Purim Celebration 3 PM; Megillah Reading 4 PM; potluck dinner
(dairy) 5 PM
Tuesday, March 19 Board meeting 7 PM
Friday, March 22 Shabbat service 7:30 PM

April

Friday, April 5 Shabbat potluck dinner (meat) 6:30 PM
Sunday, April 7 Lox and Bagel Brunch 10 AM
Thursday, April 11 Book Group 7 PM
Tuesday, April 16 Board meeting 7 PM
Saturday, April 20 Passover Community Seder 6 PM
Saturday, April 27 Shabbat Yizkor service 10 AM

May

Friday, May 10 Shabbat service 7:30 PM
Monday, May 20 CBS Annual Meeting 7:30 PM
Friday, May 31 Shabbat potluck dinner (dairy) 6:30 PM

June

Saturday, June 8 Shavuot Study Session with dairy dessert 7:30 PM
Friday, June 14 Shabbat service 7:30 PM
Tuesday, June 18 Board meeting 7 PM
Friday, June 28 Shabbat potluck dinner (meat) 6:30 PM

Congregation Beth Shalom/NIJCC 2018-2019 Membership Form

Please return this form with your dues pledge and first payment no later than October 1, 2018.

This form is used for tax return donation letters, ha Shofar electronic mailings and other important communications.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phones: Home _____ Cell #1 _____ Cell #2 _____

E-mails: Email #1 _____ E-mail #2 _____

Please rank (1, 2, 3) your preferred contact method: ___ Home phone ___ Cell phone ___ E-mail

Annual Dues (copied from other side) \$ _____

Additional Donations:

- a. Unrestricted \$ _____
(Congregation operating expenses)
- b. Raymond Katz Building Fund \$ _____
(Building maintenance and repair)
- c. Rabbi Fund \$ _____
(Current and future Rabbi salary)
- d. Rabbi Discretionary Fund \$ _____
(Used by the Rabbi for religious and educational purposes)
- e. Fox/Mabel Fund \$ _____
(Educational activities, incl. Religious School, library, camperships)
- f. Religious School \$ _____
(Religious School operating expenses)
- g. Community Fund \$ _____
(Hope Haven, members in need, and other community needs)
- h. DeKalb Food Pantry \$ _____
(Food for the needy in DeKalb County)
- i. Cemetery Fund \$ _____
(Maintenance and upgrade of Garden of Shalom Cemetery)
- j. Other purpose (describe below): \$ _____

TOTAL 2018-2019 PLEDGE \$ _____

Number of payments (check one please) ___ 1 Payment ___ 2 Payments ___ 3 Payments

To pay by credit card or PayPal, go to our web site, bethshalomdekalb.org, and click on "Donate".

Please return this completed form, whether paying by credit card or check, to:

**CONGREGATION BETH SHALOM
P.O. Box 1177
DeKalb, IL 60115**

The IRS requires that tax-exempt organizations return a receipt to each donor for all dues and donations so that the donor may utilize the tax deduction on his/her returns. A tax letter will be sent to you, at the address you provide above, no later than January 31, 2019.

Thank you for helping the Congregation to meet its financial obligations.

Congregation Beth Shalom/NIJCC 2018-2019 Membership Form

Please return this form with your dues pledge and first payment no later than October 1, 2018.

DUES CATEGORY	ANNUAL DUES	PAYMENT OPTIONS
<u>If household income is:</u> Under \$25,000	<u>Your annual dues are:</u> Please pay \$275.00	<u>Check one Option</u> <input type="checkbox"/> One Payment of \$275 <input type="checkbox"/> Two Payments of \$142 each
\$ 25,000 - \$ 35,000	Please pay \$ 440.00	<input type="checkbox"/> One Payment of \$440 <input type="checkbox"/> Two payments of \$225 <input type="checkbox"/> Three payments of \$150
\$ 35,000 - \$50,000	Please pay \$ 585.00	<input type="checkbox"/> One Payment of \$585 <input type="checkbox"/> Two payments of \$295 each <input type="checkbox"/> Three payments of \$200 each
\$ 50,000 - \$75,000	Please pay \$ 720.00	<input type="checkbox"/> One Payment of \$720 <input type="checkbox"/> Two payments of \$365 each <input type="checkbox"/> Three payments of \$245 each
\$ 75,000 - \$100,000	Please pay \$ 900.00	<input type="checkbox"/> One Payment of \$900 <input type="checkbox"/> Two payments of \$455 each <input type="checkbox"/> Three payments of \$305 each
\$100,000 - \$125,000	Please pay \$ 1150.00	<input type="checkbox"/> One Payment of \$1150 <input type="checkbox"/> Two payments of \$580 each <input type="checkbox"/> Three payments of \$390 each
Over \$125,000	Please pay \$ 1400.00	<input type="checkbox"/> One Payment of \$1400 <input type="checkbox"/> Two payments of \$705 each <input type="checkbox"/> Three payments of \$470 each

Payments: One payment plan Payment is due by October 1
 Two payment plan Payments due by October 1 and December 1
 Three payment plan Payments due by October 1, December 1, and February 1

Please note that an additional charge is required for two and three payments to cover additional costs.

NO ONE WILL BE DENIED MEMBERSHIP FOR FINANCIAL REASONS

For special financial arrangements please e-mail the CBS Treasurer, at "Treasurer@BethShalomDeKalb.org".

All information is maintained in *strict confidence*.

Please fill out the next page of this form completely.

Please return this form even if you are not sending in your payment at this time.