

השוֹפָר haShofar

of DeKalb and Sycamore

Congregation Beth Shalom
820 Russell Road
DeKalb, IL 60115

Shana Tova!

CALENDAR

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	9 AM
Tuesday, September 25	Board meeting	7 PM
Friday, September 28	Shabbat potluck in the Sukkah (meat)	6:30 PM
Monday, October 1	Simchat Torah Program	TBD
Thursday, October 11	Book Group	7 PM
Friday, October 12	Shabbat Service	7:30 PM

For High Holy Days Services, please enter the building through the Russell Road doors unless you need access to the ramp.

September/October 2018 Elul/Tishrei 5778/5779

Jackie Laks Gorman, editor

From the President

Dear members of Congregation Beth Shalom,

I hope that the coming High Holiday season finds you and yours in good health and ready for celebration and self-reflection. I look forward to seeing all of you for the coming holidays.

I want to remind all of a few things helpful to know about our services.

- We will be holding our services in our building at 820 Russell Road again this year, led by Rabbi Maralee Gordon and Zach Weiss, our cantorial soloist.
- Our services are free for all members, family, friends, guests, and anyone needing a place to celebrate—no tickets or reservations necessary!
- Please remember to come in the front doors along Russell Road when services are in progress unless you require the ramp in the back for access.
- The congregation owns the wide strip of grass between our parking lot and the adjacent apartment complex, so that is also available for parking.

I also want to keep you all updated on our search for a new rabbi and our efforts to start our Religious School.

The Rabbi Search Committee—consisting of Harvey Blau, Jeff Hecht, Jason Hanna, and Carol Zar—has been at work, searching appropriate avenues to place the job description for our new rabbi. Ads will be placed shortly and interviews with applicants are expected to take place this fall. We hopefully expect to make a hire early in 2019. If you have insights or input on places to seek candidates for the position, please let me know at the email below.

On the day of our congregation picnic, I met with Rabbi Gordon, Jason Hanna, and Sasha Cohen and Jordan Landauer from Hillel to discuss the curriculum and schedule for our Religious School. We expect to start instruction on September 9 and to hold bi-weekly classes until the new rabbi arrives, at which point she/he will have the opportunity to continue or revise the religious education. If you or someone you know has a child in need of religious instruction, let me know at the email below.

Again, I look forward to seeing you all for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, to celebrate, pray, and reflect as a community together.

For 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
President

A Few Things About High Holy Days Services

High Holy Days Services are jointly held by Congregation Beth Shalom and NIU Hillel.

PLEASE NOTE: All services are held at the synagogue, 820 Russell Road, DeKalb. A full schedule appears elsewhere in haShofar.

Our friendly, engaging, egalitarian services utilize *Mishkan HaNefesh*, the Reform prayer book. The machzor is fully transliterated and filled with inspiring English readings. Erev Rosh Hashanah and Kol Nidre services also feature our choir, Koleynu, under the direction of Harvey Blau.

No tickets are needed. All are welcome to worship with us at no charge. We graciously accept donations if you wish to support us in our good works. We are also looking for a few more congregants to accept the honor of holding or dressing a Torah. If you are interested, please contact Jason Hanna at jasonkhanna@yahoo.com.

Parking is available in the synagogue parking lot. You can also park on the grassy area along the side of the lot. In addition, parking on designated areas of Russell Road is permitted before 10 PM.

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 *by Friday, September 14* to Jackie Gorman at jgorman7@juno.com. These can be names of family members, congregants, or anyone else you would like to remember.

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)

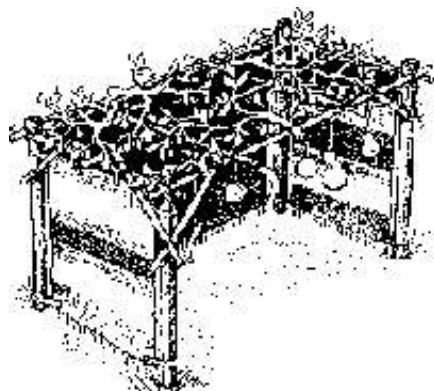
EVERYONE WELCOME

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

Building the Sukkah

Sukkot follows hot on the heels of the High Holy Days. We will create our sukkah on Sunday, September 23, at the synagogue. Construction will begin at 9 AM. Religious School students and any other congregants who want to take part will begin making decorations at 10, and we will begin putting the decorations in the sukkah around 11. All helping hands are welcome! Please contact Jason Hanna (jasonkhanna@yahoo.com) with any questions.

Eat, Sing, and Socialize at Sukkot Potluck



Join us on Friday, September 28, for a potluck dinner outdoors in our sukkah. It's a mitzvah to eat in the sukkah during Sukkot, and it's also a lot of fun. Dinner begins at 6:30 PM. Remember to dress for the weather as some years it is rather cold. (If the weather does not cooperate, we'll eat indoors.)

Drinks will be provided. Please bring main dishes, side dishes, salads, and desserts to share. Note that this is a meat meal, so do not use any dairy products in your dishes.

We need to know how many tables and chairs to set up, so RSVPs are needed. Please email Jason Hanna at jasonkhanna@yahoo.com by September 24 with the number of people who will be coming.

Simchat Torah Celebration

Watch your email for specifics on our Simchat Torah celebration, scheduled for Monday, October 1.

Dues Payments

A reminder that congregational dues or the first payment of your dues are due by October 1. All 2017-2018 members should have received membership renewal forms and reply envelopes in the regular mail. If you did not receive a renewal form in the mail, or are interested in becoming a new member, you can find information on our website at <http://bethshalomdekab.org>.