

B'nai Sholom Reform Congregation

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AUGUST 2019

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visit us at <http://www.bnaisholomalbany.org>

TAMMUZ/AV 5779

JOIN US FOR THESE SERVICES AND STUDY SESSIONS

Friday, August 2 Saturday, August 3	KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE TORAH STUDY: <i>Mase'ei</i>	6:00 PM 9:30 AM
Friday, August 9 Saturday, August 10	TOT SHABBAT SERVICE EREV SHABBAT SERVICE EXTENDED STUDY	5:30 PM 8:00 PM 9:30 AM
Friday, August 16 Saturday, August 17	EREV SHABBAT SERVICE TORAH STUDY: <i>Devarim</i>	8:00 PM 9:30 AM
Friday, August 23 Saturday, August 24	EREV SHABBAT SERVICE TORAH STUDY: <i>Va-ethannan</i>	8:00 PM 9:30 AM
Friday, August 30 Saturday, August 31	EREV SHABBAT SERVICE TORAH STUDY: <i>'Ekev</i>	8:00 PM 9:30 AM
Friday, September 6 Saturday, September 7	KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE EXTENDED STUDY	6:00 PM 9:30 AM

B'nai Sholom Reform Congregation, a Reform Jewish synagogue, is a community that fosters individual, family and congregational spirituality by engaging in worship and prayer, promoting learning on all levels, supporting each other's needs, bettering our community and our world, and forging connections with worldwide Jewry.

We take pride in being warm, welcoming, informal, progressive, open-minded, diverse, and participatory.

We strive to create a vibrant Jewish present, linking our ancient traditions with the promise of the future.

From our Rabbi...

I was fortunate to realize early in my career that it was wiser to take summer vacation time in June and/or July than to wait until August. It's awfully tough to relax while lying on the beach when the Jewish holidays are looming just ahead in September.

Even though the Days of Awe are "late" this year (from a rabbi's perspective they're always on time), at the time you are reading this, preparations for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are well in progress. You received the Yizkor book form a month ago. Torah and haftarah readers are confirmed. The Ritual Committee may have begun asking people to participate in the services. Service times have been set, and so have dates for putting out the books and building the Sukkah. Sermons are being conceptualized, researched, outlined, and written. Plenty more is in progress, and even more is sitting on a spreadsheet for action at the appropriate time.

My usual flow will be interrupted this year by the joyous occasion of the marriage of my son Avraham to Amanda Behen at the beginning of August. Yes, she's the woman who's been sitting with the family on Yom Kippur for the last few years. I only hope that after our five days in Michigan for the wedding I am able to channel my full emotional energy to the solemn season that lies before us. I think, though, that after 46 years of leading services for the Days of Awe, I'll be able to manage just fine.

So the Holiday season has begun for me, and for our synagogue. When will it begin for you?

Will you walk into Rosh Hashanah services on September 29 or 30 with no warm-up? Or will you start to think about its themes around Labor Day? Perhaps you'll come to our annual Selihot Service on Saturday evening, September 21, at 9 PM, which is an informal but inspirational prelude to the season (and with new books this year!).

One favor: if you could invite someone(s) to join you for one or more of the services, that would be great. We have the chairs, the space and the books. Just, please, follow the instructions that will come out about pre-registering guests, for security purposes.

Please enjoy your August, and if you get to relax on the beach, dedicate a moment of that relaxation to those dealing with your spiritual welfare.

L'shalom,

Rabbi Don Cashman

Bagels and Baseball: A Q & A with Official Major League Baseball Historian John Thorn

Sunday, August 25, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

A son of Holocaust survivors and born in a displaced persons camp in occupied West Germany, John Thorn came to America as a child and learned to read from the backs of baseball cards. Today, he's the official historian of Major League Baseball.

Apart from his creation, with Pete Palmer, of *Total Baseball: The Official Encyclopedia of Major League Baseball*, Thorn was a major on-screen presence in, and chief consultant to, filmmaker Ken Burns' acclaimed PBS documentary, *Baseball*, and recently reprised that role with Florentine Films for *Jackie Robinson*. He has written many books on baseball over the past four decades, and in 2011 Simon & Schuster published Thorn's major work, *Baseball in the Garden of Eden: A Secret History of the Early Game*. He also served as chief consultant to the exhibition *Chasing Dreams: Baseball and Becoming American* which opened at the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia in 2014.

Bagels, of course will be served, and the program is free and open to all.

Would you be interested in hosting a
Rosh Hashanah Luncheon?
Monday, September 30, 2019



**We provide invitations, stamps & assistance
coordinating this POTLUCK event.
Please contact Hana Sullenger
for more details.**

hszima@yahoo.com or 518-542-7863

B'nai Sholom Rosh Hashanah Luncheons are a longstanding tradition that has been enjoyed by our members and guests for many years. It is a wonderful way to visit with other congregants, reconnect with old friends and make new connections.

**Jewish Young Adults and Families BBQ
Sunday, August 25, 2019 - 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Sidney Albert Albany Jewish Community Center
340 Whitehall Road
Albany, NY**

**Sponsored by NextDor, the Jewish Federation of NENY's
Young Adults Group**

Co-sponsored by B'nai Sholom

Join us as we celebrate the end of summer at the Jewish Young Adults and Families
BBQ!

Field day activities, delicious BBQ & drinks, KanJam, Cornhole, Kickball and more!

PJ Library story walk, games and activities for kids, too!

Open to adults ages 21-40. Children are welcome.

\$5/person and \$25/family purchased by August 23 (by 12 PM).

\$10/person and \$30/family purchased at the door on August 25.

Children 2 years old and under are free.

Catering in accordance with Kashrut policy of JFNENY.

**But that's not all! NextDor has issued a challenge: a \$180 grant to the
organization that sends the most young adults to the event, based on self-
identification when participants register.**

Register today at <https://www.jewishfedny.org/events/bbq2019/>.

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE

B'nai Sholom is a *Brit Olam* congregation

Everything You Wanted to Know About Voting but Were Afraid to Ask *

New laws! New Process! Redistricting? Oh my!!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2019 6:30 pm

B'NAI SHOLOM REFORM CONGREGATION

420 Whitehall Rd., Albany

New voting regulations were passed in the recent NY legislative session. What does it mean for voters? This joint presentation sponsored by the Social Action Committee of B'nai Sholom and the League of Women Voters of Albany County will inform you of all the changes contained in the bill:

- Voter registration
- Online registration
- Pre-registration
- Registration portability
- Party enrollment deadlines
- Polling hours
- Early voting
- ...and more

Discover the resources available to voters about the issues, candidates and new proposals such as the recently passed legislation affecting redistricting in Albany County.

Find out how you can help. Help with what? Expanding voter participation rates.

Not a registered voter? On-site registration will be available.



YOUR VOTE MATTERS!

Bakers Needed



As co-sponsors of the voter education event, we have a need for bakers and finger-friendly goodies. Please contact Becky Marvin at beckymarvin4574@gmail.com

June 12-14, 2020 -- Hail and Farewell to Rabbi Cashman!

We'll say goodbye and honor Rabbi Cashman for his many years of service to B'nai Sholom over the weekend of June 12-14, 2020. Mark your calendars now to save those dates!

In the meantime, we're seeking volunteers to help plan, publicize and/or execute suitable event(s) to mark the occasion. Please share your ideas and your willingness to help with Libby Liebschutz at libbyliebschutz@gmail.com or 518-466-7034.

Update on Rabbinic Search

B'nai Sholom is conducting a search for a successor to Rabbi Don Cashman, who is retiring after nearly 35 years as our spiritual leader, teacher and guide. The Rabbinic Search Committee has drafted an application as part of the process to hire an Interim Rabbi. The application will be reviewed by the Board of Trustees before it is submitted to the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR) in August. See the July 2019 Bulletin for a full timeline and additional information.

Stay up-to-date on the search through the monthly Bulletin, the B'nai Sholom website and the Weekly Announcements.

The following Yahrtszeits will be observed in August.

8/2 Rose Gottesman Pollack; Jacob Stein; Peter Pflanz; Alice Tausig Rozett; Diane Burkowsky; Milton Swartz; Lorraine Tharus; Esther Binewitch*; Edith Eidelman; Barney Ginsburg*; Rudolph Stern*

8/9 Phyllis Gilsenberg; Isidore Dinkin; Walter L. Grayson, Sr.; Samuel Walker*; Ed Pacuk

8/16 Gerald Hazard; Miriam Falb; Lore Hauptman; Eva Gordon; Gina Kleinfeld; Robert Stoller; Frieda Hoffmann*

8/23 Paul Edward Krochmal; Albert Einstein*; Ann Radosh; Oscar Rozett; Angelina Dipaola; Rose Kesler; Sydell Morris

8/30 Marvin J. Finkelstein*; Arthur T Singer*; Franklyn Cole*; Nathan Green; Louis Greenstein*; Belle Schwartz; Martin Klein; Minna Katzin*; Rae Goody; Harold Quell; Michael Goody; Marvin Morris; Leah Royne; Pauline Tauss; Elaine S. Cashman

**denotes that a Perpetual Memorial has been established.*

B'nai Sholom Welcomes New Bookkeeper

The congregation hired a new bookkeeper, Jean Dashnaw, who began lending her considerable expertise to our financial affairs in July. Our previous bookkeeper, Lisa Allendorph, has left to concentrate on family, parents and a slow movement toward retirement with her husband.

The team of Ellie Davis, David DiPaola, Joan Savitt and Christine Blackman were instrumental in the hiring process. They interviewed several candidates and came to a decision that Jean was the most qualified and the best fit for B'nai Sholom.

Jean likes to do part-time work and has added B'nai Sholom to her list of other part-time positions. She is a skilled professional bookkeeper with over 17 years of experience in small businesses, nonprofit organizations, churches and animal care settings in New York and Florida and in providing accurate and efficient services onsite and via telecommuting.

Jean will be working for B'nai Sholom approximately 2-4 hours per week, keeping records of incoming checks, making deposits, creating financial reports, paying bills, preparing and sending invoices to congregants for their dues, and preparing year-end payment/donation statements for congregants.

Jean brings extensive experience to our congregation from both her current and previous jobs in the private and nonprofit sectors. She has a B.S. in accounting from Empire State College and an A.A.S. in business administration from Hudson Valley Community College. She has also been a Quick Books Pro Advisor since December 2013.

When asked how things were going so far in her new position, Jean said, "I am looking forward to working with everyone and assisting the congregation with any questions they may have."

According to our Treasurer David DiPaola, Jean is a wonderful asset in assisting him and Finance Vice President Joan Savitt in their responsibilities. David is looking forward to working with Jean and learning from her expertise.

Jean doesn't have a set schedule right now, but will make herself available when needed if congregants make arrangements with her in advance. Congregants should contact Jean directly with questions regarding dues, bills, expense reimbursement and the like. Because Jean does not generally answer the temple office telephone, the best way to reach her is to email her at bookkeeper@bnaisholom.albany.ny.us, or to leave a message with Christine to be returned later.

B'nai Sholom Legacy Society

The Campaign continues!
Are you ready to join?

Ensuring the Future
of B'nai Sholom ...



... Creating a Jewish Legacy Today!

Speak to a member of the Legacy Committee to learn more.

Committee members are: Mimi Bruce, Chair; Libby Liebschutz, Barry Pendergrass, Dave Ray, Stuart Schwartz, and Howie Stoller.

"As my ancestors planted for me, so do I plant for those who will come after me." -- Talmud Ta'anit 23

Ruth Malka Named B'Yachad Education Director

The board of B'Yachad, the collaborative Hebrew school, is pleased to announce that Ruth Malka is the new Education Director. Ruth has vast experience in Jewish education and youth programming, including at B'Yachad, where she previously served as Education Director, and at Mifgash, the collaborative Hebrew high school program. She brings energy, enthusiasm and creativity to the position and already is underway preparing and planning for B'Yachad's 2019-20 school year.

Information about B'Yachad, including registration forms for the upcoming school year that begins September 15, can be found on the B'Yachad website, <https://www.byachad.org/>. Ruth can be reached by email at byachaddirector@gmail.com

THE CONGREGATION NOTES WITH THANKS THESE CONTRIBUTIONS

General Fund

In memory of **Richard Propp** by Matthew and Sally Greenblatt.

In memory of **Mildy Fischel** by Mark and Cheryl Reeder.

In memory of **Ilene Goldman** by Lori Stuart.

Joel Blumenthal and Dayle Zatlín

Endowment Fund

In memory of **Richard Propp** by Richard and Lois Rubin.

Patron Dues

The following congregants have shown generosity in signing up for additional Patron Dues:

Barbara and Jack Devore

Sharon and Mark Sklar

Barney Horowitz

Mari Vosburgh

Jeffrey Rosenbaum

Scott and Mary Alice Wexler

Joan and Jim Savitt

Thank you

.....to the following who recently hosted an Oneg Shabbat: Gail Volk, Barney Horowitz, Linda and Rich Strohl, Margie Pass, Terry and Ron Royne and Amy and Yossi Koren-Roth.

.....to the Bulletin Brigade who helped fold, insert and stuff envelopes to get the July Bulletin out: Steve Ableman, Cheryl and Mark Reeder, Joseph DeFronzo, Martie Teumim, Joan and Jim Savitt and Amy Sternstein.

RABBI: Donald P. Cashman
PRESIDENT: Barbara Devore
OFFICE MANAGER: Christine Blackman
BOOKKEEPER: Jean Dashnaw
OFFICE HOURS: MON/WED/THURS/FRI 9:30 AM–3:30 PM

Articles and news received after the deadline are subject to omission.
As a rule, the bulletin deadline is the 2nd Wednesday of every month. Adherence to the deadline is critical to ensuring the bulletin is sent out in a timely manner.

<u>Period Covered</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
September.....	August 14
October.....	September 11