

B'nai Sholom Reform Congregation

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JULY/AUGUST 2012

TAMMUZ/AV/ELUL 5772

JOIN US IN JULY & AUGUST FOR

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Friday, July 6 Saturday, July 7 | KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE TEXT STUDY: <i>Prophets</i> Extended study with coffee and bagels | 6:00 PM 9:30 AM |
| Friday, July 13 Saturday, July 14 | EREV SHABBAT SERVICE TORAH STUDY: <i>Pinchas</i> Num. 25.10-30.1 | 8:00 PM 9:30 AM |
| Friday, July 20 Saturday, July 21 | EREV SHABBAT SERVICE TORAH STUDY: <i>Matot-Masei</i> Num. 30.2-36.13 | 8:00 PM 9:30 AM |
| Friday, July 27 Saturday, July 28 | EREV SHABBAT SERVICE TORAH STUDY: <i>Devarim</i> Deut. 1.1-3.22 | 8:00 PM 9:30 AM |
| Friday, Aug. 3 Saturday, Aug. 4 | KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE TEXT STUDY: <i>Prophets</i> Extended study with coffee and bagels | 8:00 PM 9:30 AM |
| Friday, Aug. 10 Saturday, Aug. 11 | EREV SHABBAT SERVICE TORAH STUDY: <i>Ekev</i> Deut. 7.12-11.25 | 8:00 PM 9:30 AM |
| Friday, Aug. 17 Saturday, Aug. 18 | EREV SHABBAT SERVICE TORAH STUDY: <i>Re'eh</i> Deut. 11.26-16.17 | 8:00 PM 9:30 AM |
| Friday, Aug. 24 Saturday, Aug. 25 | EREV SHABBAT SERVICE TORAH STUDY: <i>Shoftim</i> Deut. 16.18-21.9 | 8:00 PM 9:30 AM |
| Friday, Aug. 31 Saturday, Sept. 1 | EREV SHABBAT SERVICE TEXT STUDY: <i>Prophets</i> | 8:00 PM 9:30 AM |
| Friday, Sept. 7 Saturday, Sept. 8 | KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE TORAH STUDY: <i>Ki Tavo</i> | 8:00 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 others' 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.

Annual Report to the Congregation
Rabbi Donald P. Cashman, D.D.
41st Annual Meeting – June 10, 2012

I'm honored to be giving my 27th Annual report at this 41st Annual Meeting.

From a programmatic point of view, we had another excellent year in many respects. We continue to draw appropriate crowds for all services.. We've integrated a new vocalist, Adam Fine, into the regular rotation, and have added another one on a limited basis. Having five different singers at times presents challenges, but it is the situation we have, and at times it serves us well.

As we become more acclimated to Mishkan T'fillah, we continue to appreciate it more as a vehicle for Jewish spirituality.

Our Adult classes are doing exceedingly well: about 24 in a fall class, and 36 in a spring class. Torah study has moved out of the Library due to lack of space and into the Social Hall. Our monthly "extended" sessions on the Prophets are regularly drawing 20-25. Several movies also brought people into the building. One of the greatest changes in the last few years has been the ever-increasing number of non-members who come to these events.

While our Religious School numbers are down, we continue to believe our students get a Jewish education in our jam-packed one-day-a-week program comparable to any other supplementary program. All students get 1 to 2 hours of Judaic studies, and 30 minutes of group t'fillah; older students get an hour of Hebrew and 30 minutes of a cultural arts elective. Each class has its own class Shabbat, and a separate family education activity.

Our Social Action program includes the three pillars of congregational education about issues; offerings of direct hands-on, (or arms-out) action; and, to a lesser degree, organized advocacy.

Our Library acquires and catalogs fiction and non-fiction, digital media, and makes it available to the congregation.

YOBS, the Youth of B'nai Sholom, had a good year, and regrettably had to say goodbye to a great Advisor who graduated and left town. We have a candidate, who is post-college, and it would be wonderful to have someone to provide continuity.

Our Caring Community reaches out to those who are ill or in recovery, and to the bereaved. We continue to be grateful that those numbers are low.

Our Cemetery is an important part of our programmatic offerings, and perhaps we are fortunate that we don't hear about it too much.

We have had several programs during the year intended to integrate, retain, and honor our members. In addition to last Friday's High School graduation Shabbat and Volunteer Shabbat the previous month, we've had some festive activities dedicated to the celebration of our 40th anniversary last January, with more to come in the ensuing months.

We ran our 8th congregational trip to Israel. A small group, to be sure, but nonetheless we continue to devote energy to this, and to promote Israel travel for our teens and our families. We've seen an uptick in birthright trips through the Reform movement from our kids, and both last year and this we've had students in Israel for the college semester.

Behind the scenes, countless hours by tireless volunteer workers make our congregation thrive.

In the administrative realm, we've made some forward strides this year. New computers in the offices –new, current, up to date, rather than recycled hand-me-downs, has made our lives easier, especially with the capacity to network certain files.

The common interests of several of our committees led to the placement by our crack team from the House Committee of the movie screen here above the Ark.

More of our events are publicized not only to the public, but through attractive media in-house.

We continue to send a goodly number of kids to Jewish camps each summer, and to Israel programs.

After services, we can always count on having some kind of nosh in the back. That doesn't happen automatically.

In fact, nothing here happens automatically. Everything from the budget in your hands, the by-laws amendment, the nominations, the desserts we enjoyed before-hand: almost everything happens due to the efforts of devoted congregants.

Of course, a great deal happens because of your devoted staff: most especially Becky Marvin, our office manager, who, if it's not her hands *on* something, at least she's waved her hands *over* it. Elizabeth Alowitz, our Religious School Director, and the entire faculty, have made the year a fulfilling one for our students.

I'd like to tell you about some of the things that we're planning in the year to come.

Recently we had a training session on leading services from *Mishkan T'fillah*, and we have a few new trained leaders. They'll be leading not only when I am away, but now and again when I'm here, to help them, as they begin to exercise this new skill.

I'm also working on a program that we are targeting to roll out in October to increase the observance, and the meaning, of the observance of Yahrzeit. Suffice it to say for now that it will necessitate lots of personal contact, and I think participants will find it meaningful.

We possibly may be a pilot site for a draft of a new Yom Kippur Afternoon service this fall. We are waiting to see the actual draft in July to see if it's as promising as the draft of Kol Nidrei, which we won't be piloting. This is an exciting, once-in-a-generation opportunity

Another roll-out this fall will be a series of opportunities for discussion aimed specifically at our non-Jewish congregants. While all of our classes are open and accessible, some have suggested some targeted events. I am planning to begin the discussions with a look at the fall holidays: What do they mean to us? Why do we do this, or that? I expect to inform them in ways that their spouses may feel unequipped to do.

We are looking forward to a congregation-wide Shabbaton on November 3, and I know Libby Liebschutz and Carol Smith have feverishly been conjuring up all kinds of activities.

Finally, I am pleased to tell you that I've been invited to participate in a rabbinic trip to Eastern Europe in November. We will stay in Prague, Budapest, Krakow, and Warsaw, and visit Theresienstadt and Auschwitz. Twenty of us will be accompanied by Prof. Steven Berk of Union College. I am pondering what all this means for us today, and look forward to sharing my thoughts with you in the months to come.

My involvements outside the congregation constantly change. I completed my third semester of Arabic last fall. ان شاء الله Inshallah, I will not forget too much. My term as President of the Capital District Board of Rabbis is coming to a close. I completed this year my 6th year, the maximum, on the Board of Family Planning Advocates of New York State. I am joining the Board of the Bet Shraga Hebrew Academy of the Capital District. I'll remain on the Board of Mifgash, the Jewish Communal High School Program. I will continue to teach in the Spring of 2013 at the University at Albany, an experience that I have found tremendously helpful.

I continue to be grateful to you for your continued support of B'nai Sholom. I am most grateful, of course, to my wife Sharona, who is Israeli dancing in Rochester today, for her role in providing a בית נאמן בישראל a faithful Jewish household, where words of Torah are in the air.

L'shalom, *Rabbi Don Cashman*

Calling All Singers! Do you like to sing? Interested in learning some new Jewish music, or maybe just perfecting your ability to sing along at services? Have a song you'd like to teach others? Come join us on Monday nights at 7:30 pm at the temple, beginning September 10, for informal, drop-in song sessions. Feel free to bring a favorite CD, some sheet music, or just your voice. For more information, contact Libby Liebschutz at 439-5089 or libbyliebschutz@gmail.com

President's Report from 2012 Annual Meeting . . .

Welcome everyone. Thank you all for coming out tonight for our Annual Meeting. I hope that you have all had a chance to partake in the desserts which were contributed by the members of our Board of Trustees.

Well, in many ways it has been a great year. We have had a ton of great programming and have been celebrating our 40th Year together in so many warm and welcoming ways. But, as many of you may already know, these are not the best of times.

We are experiencing the same issues being felt by congregations not only throughout the Capital District, but across the country. Fewer Jews are choosing to join congregations today as compared to only a generation ago and fewer still are choosing to provide their children with a Jewish education. Oddly enough, the trend *seemed* to be going the other direction only a decade or so ago as the children of the baby-boomers were all school-aged. However, those kids are all older now and schools all over the country are experiencing smaller class sizes. To make matters worse, when it comes to the Jewish community, many young Jews are opting out of joining a temple altogether. Finally, the bad economy has made a bad situation worse. Over the course of the last several years, we have lost more members than we have gained and we have more members in need of dues assistance proportionate to our overall membership. That is the backdrop for the budget presentation you will be hearing shortly.

Moving forward, our priorities are on membership retention and recruitment. We will continue to bring you meaningful programming thanks to the volunteer efforts of our committees and, based upon a recent feedback discussion we had on the last day of the religious school year, we will be looking for your help in making this wonderful place even better. We need your help to bring in new members. A recent poll of a sampling of our members suggested that word of mouth was the reason why many of our members chose to join B'nai Sholom. We need your help to bring in new members. It is as simple as that. If you have a friend or coworker who is Jewish, invite them to a service. Tell them that we are here; and that we are vibrant, engaging and welcoming.

On the business side of things, we have taken the first steps toward turning this around. Our publicity committee has taken on a new role in terms of the marketing of the congregation and the board has authorized a website makeover so that our virtual entrance to the synagogue is as warm and inviting as I believe that we are as a congregation.

As I mentioned a few minutes ago, in many ways it has also been a great year. It is simply amazing what our committees can pull off on a limited budget.

40th Anniversary Steering Committee

The 40th Anniversary Steering Committee organized:

- "Let's Congregate!" an opening reception to a year of celebration. (January 8th)
- "Gathering Time Concert" celebrating the music of Jews Who Rock (April 21st)
- "40 Mitzvot for 40 Years"

Other events are being planned for the remainder of the year, including a Shabbaton in November and a Dance Gala in December.

Adult Education Committee

Course Offerings:

- Adult Responsa
- Israel's Rough Neighborhood: The Emergence of the Modern Middle East (Steven Leibo)
- Yiddish – Beginning and Advanced (Rachel Weitz)
- A Split Diaspora? (Steven Stark-Riemer)

Synagogue Scholars:

- Martha Rozett – presented a book review on Anita Diamant’s “Day After Night”
- Paul Finkelman – spoke on “Is the Supreme Court a Friend of the Jews? The High Court and the Rights of Religious Minorities”
- Harvey Strum – spoke on the “New Right Parties in Europe”

Movies, including:

- Making Trouble: Three Generations of Funny Jewish Women (February 25th)
- Leon the Pig Farmer (May 12th)

Miscellaneous:

- Road Trip: Historical Tour of Albany’s Synagogue Sites (Rabbi Cashman)
- Dr. Michael Lozman spoke on “Restoring Jewish Cemeteries in Eastern Europe” (October 23rd)
- Hebrew Reading Practice on Sunday Mornings
- Adult Torah Study

Social Action Committee

Projects of the Social Action Committee this year included:

- Social Action Shabbat featuring the “Solar Cooker Project” to help the women of Darfur (a project of Jewish World Watch). We raised \$1,000, enough for solar cookers for 25 families. 12 congregant families participated and one congregant took the project to her students who also helped us raise the funds.
- The Social Action Committee also organized members to volunteer at area Soup Kitchens on several Sundays this past year.
- Semi-annual blood drives and clothing drives were held on December 4th and April 22nd.
- Supported Hunger Action Network of NYS through our congregation’s membership in this organization and through the sale of Healthy Community Harvest Products.
- Committee members continued to provide support services to CDAUH (Capital District Alliance for Universal Healthcare).

Membership Committee

Projects of the Membership Committee included:

- B’nai Sholom Night of Baseball (July 17th)
- New Member Shabbat and Potluck Dinner (November 18th)
- Wine and Cheese Tasting event (February 4th)
- Volunteer Potluck & Shabbat Service (May 18th)

Fundraising Committee

Projects of the Fundraising Committee this year included:

- Biennial Goods and Services Auction was a huge hit this year helping us raise over \$6,000 from this one event alone. It was also a lot of fun for the participants.
- “2nd Annual Chilipalooza” event (January 26th)
- “Moe Knows B’nai Sholom” night out at Moe’s fundraiser.
- Introduced the Hannaford Gift Card fundraising program, a portion of all proceeds from the sale of these cards goes to the temple. Expanding the program to include Shop Rite.
- Purim Baskets (Mishloach Manot) continues to be a popular fundraiser.

Ritual Committee

Helps make our religious observances meaningful throughout the year. From the Days of Awe through our Purim Extravaganza they bring the spirituality to our temple.

Religious School Committee

While we could certainly use more students, the Religious School provided our children with a meaningful, age-appropriate religious education and included, among other things, class Shabbats where our students lead the service, a trip to the Eisner Retreat, Class Pesach Seder and an end-of-year program and picnic. It takes a lot of hard work to make this happen and my gratitude goes out to Committee Chair Rachel Swift, Religious School Director Elizabeth Alowitz, Rabbi Cashman and all of the teachers for making our one-day-a-week religious school program successful.

YOBS

YOBS seemed particularly active this year with Israeli Cooking & Music, Rock Climbing, support of the Food Banks, the Used Book Sale & Purim Carnival and a Chocolate Seder!, to name a few.

Other Committee Action

- Caring Community Committee continued to provide support to members in need.
- Cemetery Committee helps our members and their families with the purchase of burial plots at the B'nai Sholom Cemetery, a partition of the Elmwood Ceremony in Troy, NY, and to coordinate with area funeral directors, monument companies and cemetery staff.
- Hospitality Committee organized onegs with a goal of having every member of the congregation host an oneg.
- House Committee is constantly on call to fix anything that goes wrong mechanically with our building from plumbing to the parking lot.
- Library Committee actively maintains our library constantly bringing new works of Jewish fiction and nonfiction to the congregation for your reading enjoyment.
- Publicity Committee is taking on a new role. Yes, they do publicity, but now they are working toward active marketing of our congregation.
- Scholarship Committee provides scholarships for our kids to attend Jewish camps and to take summer Israel trips. This year, \$4,285 was allocated for this purpose.
- Technology Committee keeps our computers running properly.

In the past two years, we have shared many festivals and other occasions together and I can hardly believe that my term as President is coming to an end.

Before I go, I would like to extend my appreciation to the Rabbi and the entire Board of Trustees for their advice and guidance over the course of the past two years. I also want to express my appreciation to Elizabeth Alowitz for running a first class religious school program on a shoe-string budget and to Becky Marvin, our office manager and so much more. I also want to thank you, our members, for being so involved in this congregation, volunteering your time and your money to make this community flourish.

Finally, I want to say a few words about our incoming President, Jodi Kerper. Over the course of the last six months she has probably asked me "WHY ARE WE DOING 'SUCH AND SUCH' THIS WAY?" at least 100 times. She is intelligent, spirited, actively engaged in the mission of the congregation and genuinely cares about this organization. Further, as that question she keeps asking me shows, she is not afraid of change. She will make a wonderful President. Jodi, I wish you only success over the course of the next two years.

Thank you. **Doug Goldman**

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Shalom!

The weekend of June 9 and 10 was an eventful weekend; on Sunday, my husband Karl, son Ben, and I attended the annual congregational meeting, where I had the honor of becoming the congregation's president. The day before, we were in Scarsdale, attending the Bar Mitzvah of my young cousin Sam, whose immediate family is Orthodox. In describing this weekend to people, I've said it was an interesting opportunity to compare and contrast different strains of Judaism. If there is anything I've learned from the weekend, it is how much B'nai Sholom has become my spiritual home. We've made friends through the congregation, and shared many sweet events, as well as solemn occasions.

As B'nai Sholom Reform Congregation celebrates its own yearlong lifecycle event - the 40th anniversary of its founding - we find ourselves with the opportunity to ensure the continued success of our congregational family. In the coming months, we will be discussing a number of these activities, including the establishment and seeding of an endowment. This endowment will help protect the emotional, spiritual, and financial investment that our founding members made when starting the congregation, and serve as a vehicle for our existing members to help secure the congregation's future.

One seemingly small, but critical part of supporting this future, is our new invoice and billing system; this system should help make it easier for dues statements and invoices to go out promptly, and, in turn, to accurately record your much-appreciated dues payments and contributions.

It is no small secret that Jewish organizations, especially congregations, are facing declining enrollment. In the next year, we will be working on opportunities to attract new members, starting with a redesign of our website. A recent focus group held on the last day of Religious School also helped us learn more about what attracted our members to B'nai Sholom, and suggested ways to spread the word about what a great congregation we have. As we increase our emphasis on attracting new members, we will continue our efforts to retain existing members.

The next year will be time of celebration, change, and challenge – or as some might say “business as usual.” I look forward to sharing these times with you, and learning more about how we at B'nai Sholom can respond to your needs, especially as we start planning for the Days of Awe. I look forward to seeing you throughout the coming year.

L'hitraot! *Jodi*

“NAME THIS PROGRAM”

Non-Jewish family members of our congregants will be invited to a series of sessions with Rabbi Cashman. The goal of these discussions will be to help spouses and partners understand reasons behind some of the practices, beliefs, and ideas of Judaism and in our synagogue.

Living with and loving a Jewish person can be perplexing, and the Jewish partner may not feel completely comfortable in explaining many aspects of Judaism. After all, 3500 years of fact, fiction, history, mythology, superstition, conviction, belief, practice, and geopolitics are combined to make up today's Jewish life.

Sundays 9:30-10:30 AM 9/23, 11/4, 2/10, 3/10, 4/21

Watch for an invitation in August.

Getting Ready for the Rosh Hashanah has begun!

It seems like we're always doing something to get ready for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

Rabbi begins thinking about sermons as soon as last year's are done. Revisions to letters, forms, handouts, and procedures are in their final stages. Mailings have been scheduled. New music is being selected. Lists of participants are being assembled. Committee chairs are planning their work.

YOU CAN HELP!

- Please return all forms by their deadlines. Ticket forms, childcare forms, Yizkor books forms...and while we're on the topic, also Religious School forms, Annual financial commitment adjustment forms. Other people have to act on your forms, so please help us out and get them back on time.
- Please pay your financial obligations on time. Those in arrears require time-consuming special handling, and are omitted from the list of potential service participants.
- Return phone calls and e-mails from other congregants about the holidays. You may be contacted about the Rosh Hashanah Oneg (lunch at someone's home), ushering, participation in services, helping with Youth services, and/or assisting with the Break-the-fast. Please help expedite things by returning calls and messages.
- If you are planning to be elsewhere for the holidays, please ask in advance for Courtesy tickets to another Reform synagogue. Similarly, if you are having guests for the holidays, please arrange for tickets as far as advance as possible, either by purchase from us, or by URJ reciprocity from their synagogue office.
- If you think you have a good idea for a sermon, send it to the rabbi soon.
- Volunteer! If there is some aspect of the Days of Awe where you would like to be involved, let us know, and we'll get your name and desire to the right person.
- Calendar: make sure all the holidays are on your calendar, including Selichot, Sukkot, and Simhat Torah. And WARNING: next year, Rosh Hashanah begins Wednesday night, September 4, 2013.

Davar Aher: In another matter...

Hardly a year goes by when someone in the congregation doesn't have a problem or an issue with some outside entity (school, work, etc.) scheduling an event (test, field trip, concert, etc.) on a Jewish holiday.

You may want to share the information below with those responsible for setting calendars. We have found that superintendents of school districts know and respect our dates; however, those who set musical, athletic, and dramatic events are often unaware.

You can get all the Jewish holidays for any year, civil or Hebrew, at www.hebc.com

THESE ARE THE MAIN JEWISH HOLIDAYS FOR ONE YEAR BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 2012
Remember that Jewish Holidays begin the evening before

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Rosh Hashanah 5773 | Sept 17, 2012 | First Passover Seder | March 25 |
| Erev Yom Kippur | Sept 25 | Pesach I | Mar 26 |
| Yom Kippur | Sept 26 | Pesach VII | April 1 |
| Erev Sukkot | Sept 30 | Erev Yom HaShoah | April 6 |
| Sukkot I | Oct 1 | Erev Shavuot | May 14 |
| Erev Shemini Atzeret/Simhat Torah | Oct 7 | Shavuot | May 15 |
| Shmini Atzeret | Oct 8 | Tish'a B'Av | July 16 |
| Chanukah: 1st Candle | Dec 8 | Erev Rosh Hashana | 5774 Sept 4, (!) 2013 |
| Erev Purim | Feb 23 | | |

HELP WANTED! Religious School teachers needed:

We are in need of dynamic, knowledgeable adults to teach Judaic Studies in the Religious School on Sunday mornings for the 2012-2013 academic school year. There is a curriculum for each grade – you will be responsible for implementing the curriculum in an engaging manner.

Ideal candidates will bring strong Judaic skills, creativity, energy, love of and experience working with children, and the desire to be part of a collegial academic team. Must also be punctual and organized.

We offer competitive salaries and an exciting, supportive teaching environment. Come join us!

For further information and application, please contact Elizabeth Alowitz, Religious School Director, at rsdirector@bnaisholom.albany.ny.us or 518-482-5283.

MAZEL TOU!

- to **Richard** and **Jill Rifkin** on the marriage of their daughter, Jennifer, to Adam Tyler
- to **Lucy Reeder** who received her B.A. degree with honors in history from Princeton University
- to **Sandy Levinn** who graduated summa cum laude and received her B.A. in classical Greek and modern Hebrew from SUNY Binghamton
- to **Rebecca Strum** who graduated from Syracuse University S.I. Newhouse School for Public Communications and received the Mary Zoretski Key Award for an outstanding senior woman in communications and the Henry J. Leader memorial Prize in Editing
- to **Doris Levinn** upon receiving her Associates Degree in Nursing from Maria College
- to **Ian Berke** who received the Frese Community scholarship at Bethlehem High School
- to **Maddie Klein** who received the Charles Gunner BCCO scholarship at Bethlehem High School
- and of course, to all our high school graduates:

Mollie Schwartz - Pratt Institute

Ian Berke - University of Delaware

Doris Frasca - SUNY Binghamton

Maddie Klein - Mt. Holyoke College

Aaron Sklar-HVCC

Rebecca Pacuk – Hartt School of Music, University of Hartford

Molly Davis - Earlham College

Ilyssa Simsek - Rochester Inst. of Technology

Adam Koren-Roth - Warren Wilson College

Josh Smith - SUNY Buffalo

Matthew Berloff - Rochester Inst. of Technology

IMPORTANT DEADLINE!

Because of the Days of Awe, there will be only two Bulletins covering the three months of September, October and November. Please note these deadlines:

SEPTEMBER through mid-OCTOBER bulletin deadline is August 12
mid-OCTOBER through NOVEMBER bulletin deadline is September 19

ATTENTION HANNAFORD SHOPPERS!!!

Now you can shop at Hannaford and make money for B'nai Sholom.

For more information contact:

Margie Pass

Phone: 475-1268 (h)

margiepass@aol.com

Ellie Davis

459-7535

atrnenor@nycap.rr.com

An Open Letter to Congregants from the Hospitality Committee

Dear Congregants,

Each Friday night after services, we welcome Shabbat and share sweets with fellow congregants at an oneg. This is an important component of nurturing our congregational relationships and reaching out to visitors. The Hospitality Committee depends upon congregants to make this happen each week. One of the special aspects of B'nai Sholom is that the oneg is hosted by congregants and not by an anonymous caterer; each oneg is different, and each one is special.

Choosing a date that coincides with a yahrtzeit or a simcha can be an opportunity to share a memorial or celebration with fellow congregants. It is also an opportunity to meet congregants you might not yet know. Please consider what date will work for you, and call Barbara Devore at 439-8423 or e-mail her at BarbaraDevore1@gmail.com to schedule. If you are uncertain about what date to choose, the Hospitality Committee will assign a date and contact you accordingly. Remember, if we all took the opportunity to host one oneg, your turn would come up once every three years!

We understand that some members may not be able to host an oneg because of poor health or other circumstances. If that is the case, or if you have not hosted before and want to be paired with an experienced congregant, let Barbara know.

Thank you for helping to support the warm and nurturing environment at B'nai Sholom.

...and speaking of oneg Shabbat....here is the recipe many congregants who attended the Volunteer Shabbat service...

Strawberry Tiramisu from Bettina Stoller

2 tbsp. each strawberry preserves & orange juice

2 tbsp. each sugar or Splenda & orange liqueur

1 c. fresh, sliced or frozen, thawed strawberries

1 lb. mascarpone cheese (or mixed marsc. & cream ch.)

1 cup heavy cream, whipped (or cool whip)

4 tbsp. sugar or Splenda

1 c. fresh strawberries, 2-4 tbsp. sugar or Splenda

1 lge. (16 oz.) packaged or homemade pound cake

1. Whisk preserves w/o.j., sugar, & liqueur over low heat 5 min.
2. Add 1 c. berries & continue cooking until syrupy sauce forms; cool.
3. Meanwhile, carefully fold whip. crm. Into cheese; add sugar (if using cool whip, can combine ingred. in food proc.).
4. Slice 1 c. fresh berries & combine w/sugar to taste; set aside.
5. Thinly slice pound cake and place slices in bottom of 8-inch cake pan to cover.
6. Brush cake w/half of sauce from berries; spread half of cheese mixture over; cover w/all berries.
7. Form second layer of cake; brush w/sauce; top w/fresh berries.
8. Refrigerate for several hours, at least. Will hold for a couple of days, but is best served no later than the next day.

THANK YOU

--to the paper-cut brigade who prepared the June Bulletin: **Carol Fishman-Ng, Bill and Sheila Schwartz, Jill Rifkin, Anne and Sonny Hausgaard**

--to the members who treated us to sweet ongal Shabbat: **Linda and Rich Strohl, Maxine and Eric Goldberg, Melissa Putterman Hoffmann and Gary Hoffmann, Joan and Jim Savitt** and the Membership Committee

THE CONGREGATION NOTES WITH THANKS THESE CONTRIBUTIONS...

General Fund

In memory of **Earl Marvin** by Ben and Becky Marvin

In memory of **Harry and Irma Weiss** by Lisa Razanousky

In memory of **Werner P. Frankel** by Herb and Ruth Swift

In memory of **Gerry Green** by Ellie and Randy Davis

In memory of **Louis Sobell** by Shirley Sobell

In memory of **Ernst Swiwcz** by Herb and Ruth Swift

YAHRTZEITS

The following Yahrzeits will be observed in July:

**denotes that a Perpetual Memorial has been established*

- 6 Ella Kerper, Samuel Englander*, Harold Landau, Buehl Ray, Celia Kaufman*, Robert James Harris, Lillian Shanks, Bernard Picker, Eleanor Finkelstein, Stanley Samuels
- 13 Gerald Fruiterman, Inez Greenbaum, Shirley Livingston, Alice Flax, Harold Roth*, Sonny Brenner, Morris Bosin, Naftali Propp, Paul Tafler*, Ludwig P. Bergman*
- 20 Barbara Wachs, Barney Ginsburg*, Edith Eidelman, Rudolph Stern*, Rosemary Kindlon Roe, Leslie Adler, Gerda Neustadt Frankel, Ellen Eckstein Rudinger, Rose Lazoroff*, Dorothy Ikler, Arnold M. Heart, Dror Koren
- 27 Eleanor Friedman, Adele Pastor, Bernice Smith, Benjamin Binewitch*, Evelyn Pogoda, Helen Adler, Kim Kuang Ho, Alex M. Rabineau*, Samuel C. Warshaw*

The following Yahrzeits will be observed in August:

**denotes that a Perpetual Memorial has been established*

- 3 Shirley R. Kolberg, Anne Bergman*, Rose Pollack, Ruby Rosen, Peter Pflanz, Alice Tausig Rozett, Lorraine Tharus, Milton Swartz
- 10 Betty Spencer, Esther Binewitch*, Isidore Dinkin, Eva Gordon, Jacob Grover, Arnold Dubb, Walter R. Grayson, Sr., Samuel Walker*
- 17 Elaine S. Cashman, Gerald Hazard, Robert Stoller, Gina Kleinfeld, Miriam Falb, Lore Hauptman, Joseph Flax, Frieda Hoffmann*
- 24 Gail Bergman*, Sylvia Garber, Lenore Greiman, Albert Einstein*, Rose Kesler, Harry Landy, Leana Schips, Sydell Morris
- 31 Abraham Sperber*, Nathan Green, Marvin J. Finkelstein*, Franklyn Cole, Arthur T. Singer*, John Alseike, Louis Greenstein*, Martin Klein, Minna Katzin*, Harold Quell, Marvin Morris, Leah Rose Royné, Pauline Tauss

We note with sorrow the death of:

HERBERT HOROWITZ
Father of Barney Horowitz

B'nai Shalom Reform Congregation

420 Whitehall Rd.
Albany, NY 12208

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

RABBI: **Donald P. Cashman**

PRESIDENT: **Jodi Kerper**

OFFICE MANAGER: **Rebecca S. Marvin**

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL DIRECTOR: **Elizabeth Alowitz**

OFFICE HOURS: MON/TUES/THU/FRI 9:15 AM – 3:00 PM

Bulletin Deadlines

“As a rule, the second Wednesday of each month.”

Period Covered

September through mid-October

Mid-October through November

Deadline

August 12

September 19

Articles and news received after deadline are subject to omission