

# *B'nai Sholom Reform Congregation*

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NOVEMBER 2016

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visit us at <http://www.bnaisholom.albany.ny.us>  
TISHREI/HESHVAN 5777

## JOIN US FOR THESE SERVICES AND STUDY SESSIONS

Friday, November 4	<b>KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>
Saturday, November 5	TORAH STUDY: <i>Noah Gen. 6.9-11.32</i>	9:30 AM
Friday, November 11	<b>EREV SHABBAT SERVICE</b>	<b>8:00 PM</b>
Saturday, November 12	Extended Study - The Writings (Proverbs)	9:30 AM
Friday, November 18	<b>EREV SHABBAT SERVICE</b>	<b>8:00 PM</b>
Saturday, November 19	TORAH STUDY: <i>Va-yera' Gen. 18.1-22.24</i>	9:30 AM
Friday, November 25	<b>EREV SHABBAT SERVICE</b>	<b>8:00 PM</b>
Saturday, November 26	TORAH STUDY: <i>Hayei Sarah Gen. 23.1-25.18</i>	9:30 AM
Friday, December 2	<b>KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE - Tefillat Talmidin</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>
	Shabbat Dinner (Potluck)	7:00 PM
Saturday, December 3	Extended Study - The Writings (Proverbs)	9:30 AM

### **Breaking news....**

#### **INTERFAITH SERVICE FOR NATIONAL HEALING**

Tuesday, November 8, 7:00 PM

Delmar Presbyterian Church

Rev. Karen Pollan & Rabbi Don Cashman

*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.*

## *From our Rabbi...*

THE HOLIDAYS ARE OVER! After Rosh Hashanah, Tashlikh, Shabbat Shuvah, Yom Kippur, seven days of Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret, and Simhat Torah, which were preceded by the penitential moments of Elul, including Selichot, which were preceded by two months of service preparation, lining up lay readers and chanters, and sermon-writing, the holidays are over.

So now it's time to think about next year's holidays, because Rosh Hashanah begins Wednesday night, September 20.

One big thing that we're talking about for next year is the new Reform prayer book for the Days of Awe *Mishkan HaNefesh*, now two years old. Several members of our Ritual Committee have read the book, and in November and possibly December we're going to look at it in some detail as a group, most likely focusing on major changes, and the possibilities offered. I've asked the Ritual Committee to present its recommendation to the Board of Trustees by January. The Committee may recommend adoption, or further study, or maintaining the status quo. From preliminary informal talks, it seems likely we will move ahead in some manner.

When we moved in 1986 from *Union Prayer Book II, Newly Revised* (© 1945) to *Mishkan Tefillah/Gates of Prayer* (© 1978), we had a wonderful and devoted Ad Hoc Committee chaired by Vera Propp, of blessed memory, that studied the proposed new book in great detail. Since those days 30 years ago, B'nai Sholom has grown significantly in its devotion to learning. Therefore, I am planning a winter course around this new mahzor for the Days of Awe, and am encouraging those interested in the possibility of a new book to join this study process.

Some mechanism will need to be decided upon for the study process to share its thoughts with our Board, which would decide whether we shall adopt the new book. I believe that if we are to go ahead with a Fall 2017 start, the decision to adopt must be made by May 2017 so that ample time is available to do what needs to be done: choosing the readings, marking the cues, delineating parts for other participants, creating new spreadsheets, making copies for the participants, and so forth. Separate from those tasks would be the task of fundraising for the new books. Our new books have always come from special campaigns, and the generosity of our congregants over the years has been exemplary.

Now that Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are over, I hope to preserve their moods by delving into the new liturgy, along with other literature the Central Conference of American Rabbis has made available in connection with these books.

Who needs Hanukkah, when I hope to carry Yom Kippur in my heart until March!

Best wishes for a happy, healthy, and meaningful 5777.

*Rabbi Don Cashman*

# Fair Trade Market

*By Brenda Rosenbaum*

Shoppers in the Capital Region will have a great opportunity to purchase beautiful, handmade, fair trade products this holiday season. This year, B'nai Sholom Reform Congregation will be one of five venues hosting a Fair Trade Market. B'nai Sholom's market will be held at the synagogue, 420 Whitehall Road, Albany, on Sunday, November 13 from 10am to 4pm.

Exquisite fair trade items from all over the world including jewelry, textiles for the home, baskets, clothes, handbags, purses, scarves, children's products, and more, PLUS coffee, tea and chocolate will be offered by Mayan Hands, Mango Tree Imports, Women's Peace Collection, Amani ya Juu, Freeset, Dean's Beans and Equal Exchange.

So what does "fair trade" mean? When you buy fair trade goods, you are buying products from producers in developing countries at a fair price. It is a more efficient way of promoting sustainable development than traditional charity and aid. Buyers have the ability to make a difference in the lives of the producers, who often cannot find employment in the countries where they live. Fair trade coffee, tea and chocolate are grown and produced sustainably; good for you and good for the planet!

Savvy consumers are looking for unique, high quality products and the producers, bearers of a distinct culture, express their ethnic identity through their handcrafted products. By purchasing handmade items we bring the world into our everyday lives.

Moreover, all the items offered at the sale benefits the producers. Paying a fair return for their products, and creating long-term relationships, fair trade businesses empower artisans to care for themselves and their families, so that they and their communities can thrive. As we know, many mainstream businesses rely on cheap sources of labor to achieve high profit margins, while the people who work in their factories or on their farms make barely enough to survive.

Let's think about this for a moment: "What if everything we wore, we ate, and absolutely everything we bought empowered someone to better their lives and the lives of those in their community? Imagine what that world could look like---a world in which everyone had the opportunity to live with purpose and dignity! That world is within our reach. Let's work towards it." (Abhi Nangia from Reweave.org)

Our Fair Trade Market provides people in our region with opportunities to buy great gifts at the same time that they empower the producers all over the world!

# B'nai Sholom is Holding a Red Cross Blood Drive on Sunday, November 13

*We need donors and non-donors to make our drive a success!!!*



The Blood Drive will be held in the Red Cross Bloodmobile which will be in our parking lot on Sunday, November 13 from 9 AM to 1 PM. If you are a regular donor, please note that September 18 is the last day you can donate prior to our drive. If you can't donate blood, there are many ways you can help, either before or during the drive. Please call the temple office any time for an appointment or to volunteer. Or you may call Sheila Schwartz.

**NEW:** You may also schedule your appointment by calling 1-800-Red Cross, or by using online scheduling at [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

\*\*\* REMEMBER !!! 16 YEAR-OLDS ARE ELIGIBLE TO DONATE!!! \*\*\*

## It's Time to Clean Out Your Closets!



Once again we are collecting winter clothing for donation to those in need in our region. We will collect CLEAN, GENTLY USED clothes and shoes. Please be sure to SORT TWICE: BY GENDER (male/female/unisex) AND ALSO BY AGE (infant/child/teen/adult). Please be sure to label your bags.

You may drop off your donations at the synagogue during the week of November 7 during office hours AND also on Sunday, November 13 from 9 am to 1 pm. Please place them neatly in the small committee room (next to the prayer book shelf) in the main hallway.

Come to the next B'nai Sholom Coffeehouse!  
Hosted by Phil Teumim and Will Vail AND Jeff Klamka  
this will be our  
~~fifth sixth seventh eighth ninth~~ TENTH Bet Kafeh!

Come join us on Saturday, December 3, 2016 at 7 p.m. in B'nai Sholom's Social Hall  
for an evening of great entertainment.



You are welcome to come and listen or sign up to perform. Sing a song, recite some poetry, tell a story, whatever you like!  
Coffee and refreshments will be served.  
Donations accepted and encouraged.  
Hope to see you there!

Questions? Send to Carol Smith at [csmith1161@gmail.com](mailto:csmith1161@gmail.com)

## **...And you shall teach your children...**

Each summer, children and teens from our congregation attend Jewish summer camps, strengthening their ties for Judaism and to the land of Israel. B'nai Sholom offers scholarships which are funded by the interest and matured principal from the synagogue's Israel Bonds fund. As you can read below, our campers had a great time!

### **Surprise Lake Camp - Rose Pass**

I have been going to Surprise Lake Camp for five years, and I can't even explain how much it has changed me to this day. Surprise Lake Camp is not just a summer camp it is a second home to many of the campers. It is also a place where you make new friends, memories, and new experiences. So many factors about camp make it incredible, such as the learning experience and the Jewish culture and even the staff members that come from all over the world. Surprise Lake Camp is a safe place that comes with challenges and struggles along the way but, the caring staff and friends are there to help pull us through all of that and put us back on the right path. I can't believe that so many people who were strangers my first year at camp are now people I call my best friends. I am very grateful to B'nai Sholom for the scholarships that have helped me go to camp all the years.

### **Eisner Camp 2016 - Noah Degroult-Elias**

For the past eight years, I have been attending URJ Eisner camp, and this year I was in Olim, the oldest group in camp. Being in the oldest unit, we were leaders at camp and given new responsibilities. As always, I returned to some of my best friends and even made new ones. This year supplied another incredible summer of memories, laughs, and good times at Camp Eisner.

This summer, I participated in various activities such as different sports, arts, and programs organized by the staff. Some of my favorite sports included tennis and ultimate Frisbee. I also helped write and act in the Olim show that the oldest unit makes every year. This is different than the other units since we are the only group allowed to write our own play.

Most nights, some of the Olim staff members would organize an evening program for us which was different every night. The best evening activities were the ones where we could just relax and hang out with each other. Some nights, we would have a "camp-wide event" where they would plan something for the entire camp to participate in. For example, every year we have rib night which is a special dinner.

One of my favorite things about Eisner is Friday night Shabbat. Everyone dresses up in white for an all-camp dinner followed by T'fillah. After we finish praying we head into the Bait Am for song session. This is where we join together and intensely sing popular songs on camp. As Olim we go especially crazy during song session since it's our last year to really enjoy it. After all the jumping up and down at song session, we rush onto the Quad for Israeli dancing. This too is extremely fun. Many of the Olim boys also wear skirts that were passed down by past Olim campers—which has been a tradition for many years. By the time we are done, everyone is exhausted and ready to head back to their bunk, bringing an end to an always amazing night at Eisner.

My experience at Eisner has been so enriching to both my Jewish and social lives which is what made it so worthwhile. I look forward to sharing many more memories with some of my closest friends next summer during the Israel trip.

*(Essays continued on next page.)*

## Crane Lake Camp - Full Summer- by Victoria Smith

This year, I spent my 6th summer at Crane Lake Camp where I learned Jewish values, opened myself up to the Jewish community, and made stronger friendships. With a summer full of being with some of my closest friends; learning Jewish values at Keshet. (Keshet are the electives taught by the faculty—the rabbis, cantors, and educators who spend a week or two with us at camp and help to make Judaism come alive for campers.) I was bound to have a great summer of learning and friendships.

Once per session, my unit, Upper Chaverim (“friends”) was able to lead services, either reading Torah or leading in prayers. I had opportunities to do community service, and always help others, such as the younger campers or taking care of the animals. Every week we had a value of the week. With *kavanah*, meaning intention, or *ruach*, meaning spirit, we would keep those values in mind and apply them to our activities and daily lives.

During 1st session we took a trip to NYC and enjoyed watching Fiddler on the Roof on Broadway. We also got to tour Temple Emanu-El (the largest house of Jewish worship in the world) and sleep at Temple Israel of NYC. To fully enjoy the NYC experience, our counselors brought in pizza at 11:00 p.m. (it is the city that never sleeps), and genuine NYC bagels in the morning. During 2nd session we took a day trip to Zoar Outdoor Park to go white water rafting.

The summer of 2017 will be my last year as a camper, and I will be in Olim, the unit of leaders. I will be a role model at services, and be a captain during color war. The following year I will have the opportunity to travel to Israel with my fellow campers, but in 2017 I will be saying goodbye to some of the people who won't be going on the Israel trip. I am planning to make my last summer at Crane Lake the best yet!

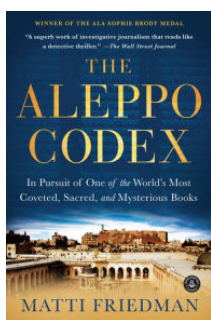
### New in the library –

#### *The Aleppo Codex:*

#### *A True Story of Obsession, Faith and the Pursuit of an Ancient Bible*

by Matti Friedman,

Algonquin Books, 2012



Jonathan Safran Foer wrote this blurb about *The Aleppo Codex*. “This great book comes closer to containing everything than any book I’ve read in a long, long time.” It sounds over-the-top. Here, however, is a partial list of the people and events included in this almost unbelievable true story: Abraham, the First Crusade, Maimonides, the UN Partition Plan for Palestine vote in 1947, Yitzhak Ben-Zvi (President of Israel from 1952-1963), the Ben-Zvi Institute, MOSSAD agents, rabbis, and Syrian Jewish communities in Aleppo, Israel and New York. (Even Albany plays a small role, as fluorescence tests were performed on the Codex at a lab here.) The codex itself is the earliest known manuscript of the complete text of the Bible and was copied by the scribe Shlomo Ben-Bya’a more than 1000 years ago. It has been ransomed, protected, burned, smuggled, stolen and neglected. Its ownership was litigated in an Israeli rabbinic court, and someone may even have been murdered. So, OK, it’s not *everything*, but it’s enough to highly recommend this engaging and informative book.

Note: The B’nai Sholom Library only has the book, but if you’d like to listen to it instead, copies of the audio are available through your local library. Simon Vance does an excellent job of reading.

## 5777 Rosh Hashanah Luncheons -- Another Great Success

### **A special thank you...**

B'nai Sholom Reform Congregation would like to thank all of the **hosts, members and guests** that recently participated in a Rosh Hashanah Luncheon. This is a long standing tradition that has been enjoyed by our members and guests for years.

We had nine delightful host locations. Wonderful food and company was enjoyed by all. Everyone had a great time visiting with familiar friends and making new acquaintances. Thanks also are due to our Membership Committee for arranging the whole affair.

Some shared experiences...

- *"...it was a wonderful addition to our luncheon to have extended family members join us.."*
- *"It is truly one of the highlights of the year. It's such a great opportunity to get to know people we might not get to otherwise know."*
- *"The food was good, and we enjoyed getting to know some congregants whom we'd never spent time with before."*
- *"...had a lovely outdoor Rosh Hashanah lunch."*
- *"Gathering to lunch together after spiritual sharing is such a bonding experience; I wish we did this more often. Some members feel more at ease in smaller groups than in large ones and the afternoon luncheon affords those members the opportunity to meet fellow congregants in a relaxed setting."*

**If you are interested in being a host next year, please contact Maxine Goldberg, [maxm0304@yahoo.com](mailto:maxm0304@yahoo.com), 729-4751 or Hana Sullenger, [hszima@yahoo.com](mailto:hszima@yahoo.com), 542-7863.**

We will merely put you on a list to be contacted next summer when we begin organizing the event. This is not a commitment of any type. If you have any questions about hosting or comments you'd like to share about the Rosh Hashanah Luncheon please feel free to contact Maxine or Hana.

## *Thank you*

.....to the crew who erected the sukkah: Bert Cromling, Ben Marvin, Melissa Putterman Hoffmann, Judy Fruiterman, and Mimi Bruce

.....to Stacey Wager-Pacuk, who arranged for the gift of the new black social hall chairs to us from Ohav Shalom apartments, and to Phil Teumim, Bob Negriz, Joel and Asher Bloom, Mitch Levinn, and Jeff and Ben Klamka for moving them from Ohav Shalom to B'nai Sholom.

.....to all those who assisted in the recent garden and landscape clean up effort: Phil and Martie Teumim, David Ray, Mimi Bruce, Melissa Putterman Hoffmann, Barry Pendergrass, and Mark Reeder.

.....to YOBS (Youth of B'nai Sholom) for conducting the Children's Service on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur morning, and to Stella Suib for assisting them.

.....to Barbara Devore for organizing babysitting for the Days of Awe.

*(Continued on next page.)*

*Thank you* (Continued.)

.....to Maxine Goldberg and Hana Sullenger of the Membership Retention committee for organizing the Rosh Hashanah potluck luncheons, and for the following families who hosted luncheons: Brian and Francine Sinkoff; Roy and Judy Fruiterman; Phil and Martie Teumim; Arthur and Rita Alowitz; Ann Shapiro and Barry Pendergrass; Liz Davis; Maggie Tabak and David Smith; Mimi Bruce and David Ray and Amy and Yossi Koren-Roth.

.....to the Board of Trustees and Linda Strohl for the oneg Yom Tov reception following erev Rosh Hashanah services.

.....to Molly Davis for her volunteer assistance in the office

.....to Mark Fleischer for coordinating all the ushers for Days of Awe services, and to all the ushers: Amy Koren-Roth, Adam Elias, Ann Shapiro, Arthur Alowitz, Barbara Devore, Jack Devore, Barney Horowitz, Becky Marvin, Ben Marvin, Bill Schwartz, Brian Sinkoff, Carol Smith, Cheryl Reeder, David Liebschutz, David Ray, David Smith, Dayle Zatlín, Deb Adler, Ellie Davis, Ethan Suib, Gary Hoffmann, Glen Charles, Hana Sullenger, Harvey Tress, Howard Stoller, Jasmine Fleischer, Jeff Klamka, Joan Savitt, Jodi Kerper, Joel Bloom, Joel Blumenthal, Josh Brody, Julie Friedman, Kevin Chorost, Libby Liebschutz, Lois Gordon, Maggie Tabak, Marilyn Strassburg, Mark Fleischer, Mark Reeder, Mark Silverbush, Martha Rosett, Melissa Putterman Hoffmann, Mimi Bruce, Paula Philo, Phil Teumim, Rema Goldstein, Richard Nussbaum, Richard Strassburg, Ronald Royne, Ruth Swift, Steven Klein, Stuart Schwartz, Terry Royne, Valerie Tabak and Yossi Koren-Roth

.....to the B'nai Sholom past presidents for sponsoring the Yom Kippur break fast, particularly to Jodi Kerper and Amy Koren-Roth for doing all the cooking and legwork to prepare and present it, and thanks to Ruth Burkowsky for her able assistance on the break fast set-up.

.....to David Liebschutz for conducting the study session between services on Yom Kippur.

.....to the Ritual Committee for coordinating the participation of congregants during the Days of Awe services, for changing the Ark curtains and reading table cover, and for setting out and putting away all the Days of Awe prayer books.

.....to the Membership Retention Committee for the special welcome in the Sukkah for new members.

.....to our office manager, Christine Blackman, for all the extra effort that is inevitably required this time of year!

.....to the following congregants who recently hosted an Oneg Shabbat: Mark and Jasmine Fleischer, Brian and Francine Sinkoff, Roy and Judy Fruiterman, Mark and Cheryl Reeder, Susan and Mel Steinhart and Julie Novkov and Joel Bloom.

.....to the Bulletin Brigade who helped fold, insert and stuff envelopes to get the October bulletin out: Rema Goldstein, Anne Hausgaard, Joan Savitt, Richard and Marilyn Strassberg, Gary Hoffmann and Bruce and Edith Goldstein.



# Do You Have A Business Or Service To Advertise?

B'nai Sholom congregants can showcase their business or service to the wider Jewish community by sponsoring events of the Jewish Federation of Northeastern New York and receive prominent recognition for the sponsorship. Best of all, B'nai Sholom receives a portion of the sponsorship revenue. A minimum sponsorship is \$2500, with levels escalating above that. If anyone is interested in participating in this program, please contact B'nai Sholom President Libby Liebschutz.

## **THE CONGREGATION NOTES WITH THANKS THESE CONTRIBUTIONS...**

### **General Fund**

In memory of **Rose Goldstein** by Sheila G. Small.

In memory of **Ruth Devore** by Jack and Barbara Devore.

In memory of **Lorraine Tharus** by Jack and Barbara Devore.

In memory of **Milton Swartz** by Jack and Barbara Devore.

In memory of **Charlotte Sacks** by Paula Philo.

In memory of **Arthur and Estelle Nitka** by Mark and Cheryl Reeder

In memory of **Edith Cabelly** by The Seguire Family.

In memory of **Martin Klein** by Steve Klein.

In memory of **Jakob Simon Krochmal** by Herb and Ruth Swift.

In memory of **Lynn Horowitz** by Roy and Judy Fruiterman.

**In appreciation of David and Libby Liebschutz's kindness** by Roy and Judy Fruiterman.

**For generously inviting me to you congregation's Days of Awe services, as a guest of Liz Davis,** by Adam Thumen.

In honor of **Dr. Roy Fruiterman for his 36 years of great medical service and care** by Selig D. Corman.

In honor of **the marriage of Cheryl and Mark Reeder's son, Alex to Julia Hyman** by Roy and Judy Fruiterman.

In honor of **Rebecca Pacuk for her superb cantorial singing at the high holydays** by Mark and Cheryl Reeder.

In memory of **Henry Freeman** by Eva Freeman.

**In appreciation for guest tickets for the Days of Awe** by Mimi Bruce and David Ray,

In memory of **Irene Krochmal Swiwcz** by Herb and Ruth Swift.

In memory of **Natalie Nathan** by Kevin, Lisa and Isaac Chorost.

In memory of **Herman Schoenbach** by Howard, Bettina and Jeremy Stoller.

### **Adult Education Fund**

In memory of **Lynn Horowitz** by Mimi Bruce and David Ray.

### **Social Action Fund**

In honor of **the marriage of Casey Dinkin and Davy Woodland** by Gail and Larry Volk.

### **Social Action Fund For Family Promise**

In memory of **Lynn Horowitz** by Franklin Steinhardt.

### **Caring Community Fund**

In memory of **Lynn Horowitz** by Ben and Becky Marvin.

You can contribute online at: <http://www.bnaisholom.albany.ny.us/donations>

**The following Yahrtzeits will be observed in November.**

- 11/4 M. Michel Dobris\*; Robert L. Mutschler\*; Louis Horowitz; Anne Maurer; Natalie Nathan; Rachel Levy\*; Harold Black\*; Vicki Adler; Samuel Abrams\*; Lillian Golderman; Julie Fiks\*
- 11/11 Henry Freeman, Louise Degroult; Selma B. Kuperman\*; Sallie Kaplan; David Bach\*; Rose Parets\*; Teddy Knee; Elenore Morse; Paulette Tabak
- 11/18 Doris Hatch; Fred Hauptman; Estelle Nitka; Ruth Bosin; Irving Oblas\*
- 11/25 Samuel K. Jaffe\*; Mildred Aronson\*; Arthur Minick; Nusia Reichbach\*; Abraham Porter; Minnie Strassberg; Simon Semelisky\*; Elihu Propp\*; Frances Rudinger; Ray Stephany

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



.....to Roy Fruiterman on his recent retirement from his medical practice  
 .....to Mark Rosenthal, son of Hal Rosenthal and Mari Vosburgh, on his marriage to Elizabeth Boos on October 7.  
 .....to Josh Brody, who married Megan Weber on October 22.  
 .....to Nathalie Degroult, who was recently named "Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Academiques" by the Ministry of French Education, an award given to "those who have rendered eminent service to French education and have contributed actively to the prestige of French culture."

Please RSVP for the Potluck Dinner on Friday, December 2 to Mark Silverbush at [msilver6@nycap.rr.com](mailto:msilver6@nycap.rr.com) by Monday, November 28.

**RABBI:** Donald P. Cashman  
**PRESIDENT:** Elizabeth Liebschutz  
**OFFICE MANAGER:** Christine Blackman  
**BOOKKEEPER:** Lisa Allendorph  
**OFFICE HOURS:** MON/WED/THURS/FRI 9:30 AM–2:30 PM

**As a rule, the BULLETIN DEADLINE is the second Wednesday of each month. With so much information to report, adherence to the deadline is critical to ensuring the bulletin is sent out in a timely manner.**

<b>Period Covered</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
December.....	November 9
January.....	December 14

*Articles and news received after deadline are subject to omission.*