

B'nai Sholom Reform Congregation

420 WHITEHALL RD., ALBANY, NY 12208

E-mail: office@bnaisholom.albany.ny.us

SEPTEMBER 2022

Phone: 518-482-5283

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

ELUL 5782/TISHREI 5783

B'nai Sholom Reform Congregation is a Brit Olam Congregation in covenant with the world – because we seek the world we want, not the world as it is.

JOIN US FOR PRAYER, MEDITATION, CELEBRATION AND STUDY

Zoom links for services are sent out weekly.

Please call the office for information about telephone access to prayer services.

| | | |
|------------------------|---|-----------------|
| Friday, September 2 | KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE | 7:00 PM |
| Saturday, September 3 | EXTENDED STUDY | 10:00 AM |
| Friday, September 9 | TOT SHABBAT SERVICE | 5:30 PM |
| | KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE | 7:00 PM |
| | Synagogue Scholar Talk with Sam Fein | |
| Saturday, September 10 | TORAH STUDY | 10:00 AM |
| Friday, September 16 | KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE | 7:00 PM |
| Saturday, September 17 | TORAH STUDY | 10:00 AM |
| | S'LICHOT SERVICE | 8:00 PM |
| Friday, September 23 | KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE | 7:00 PM |
| Saturday, September 24 | TORAH STUDY | 10:00 AM |
| Sunday, September 25 | ROSH HASHANAH EVENING SERVICE | 7:30 PM |
| Monday, September 26 | ROSH HASHANAH MORNING SERVICE | 10:00 AM |
| | ROSH HASHANAH DAY – COMMUNITY TASHLICH | |
| | @ BUCKINGHAM POND | 5:00 PM |
| Friday, September 30 | KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE | 7:00 PM |
| Saturday, October 1 | EXTENDED TORAH STUDY | 10:00 AM |
| Tuesday, October 4 | KOL NIDRE | 7:30 PM |
| Wednesday, October 5 | YOM KIPPUR MORNING SERVICE | 10:00 AM |
| | YOM KIPPUR STUDY SESSION WITH | |
| | DAVID LIEBSCHUTZ | 1:30 PM |
| | HEALING SERVICE | 4:00 PM |
| | YOM KIPPUR AFTERNOON SERVICE | 4:45 PM |
| | YOM KIPPUR YIZKOR | 6:00 PM |
| | YOM KIPPUR N'ILAH | 6:45 PM |

Visit <https://reformjudaism.org/learning> for each week's parashah.

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...

We are now in the month of Elul – the month in which we prepare ourselves for the *Yamim Noraim*: the Days of Awe. We've had the gift of a leap month on the Jewish calendar this year, giving us a few extra weeks as compared to last year, but we can't count on time alone to do the preparation for us. Some choose to study *mussar* (a practice of Jewish ethics) or engage in daily meditation. Others have favorite books they return to each year. And as always, our calendar gives us markers and opportunities to check in with ourselves and each other along the journey from Elul through Tishre, the first month of the new year.

The first “stop” is our **S'lichot** service, **Saturday, September 17, at 8 pm**. We'll begin with Havdalah as we transition from Shabbat to weekday, and then formally transition to High Holy Day mode. We'll help the Torah scrolls don their white mantles and internally shift gears into our season of *teshuvah* (returning to our best selves).

Erev Rosh Hashanah services will begin at **7:30 pm on Sunday, September 25**. We'll gather both in person and via Zoom to welcome the new year: 5783. Visitors and out-of-town family members will be welcome at all of our holiday services, though we ask that all guests **pre-register** using the form on the website.

Rosh Hashanah morning service will begin at **10 am on Monday, September 26**, and the community **Tashlich** – the point at which we symbolically cast off the missteps and bad habits we want to change – will be held at Buckingham Pond at **5 pm**. In between, B'nai Sholom members should have received invitations to luncheons hosted at member homes.

The span from Rosh Hashanah to Yom Kippur is when that sense of Awe is typically at its peak. This is when we give ourselves the extra nudge to settle our outstanding debts and IOUs, to make peace with those we may have wronged, and to start cultivating better habits in earnest. The Shabbat during this period is known as **Shabbat Shuvah** and includes some special liturgy to help us sustain our focus on the tasks at hand.

Our **Erev Yom Kippur (Kol Nidrei)** service will start at **7:30 pm on Tuesday, October 4**. We will once again be joined by harpist Elizabeth Huntley and soloist Rebecca Pacuk for both Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Their contributions always elevate the holidays' proceedings.

The **Yom Kippur morning service** starts at **10 am on Wednesday, October 5**. We are pleased that David Liebschutz will again offer a study session between morning and afternoon services. Our **Healing Service** will take place at **4 pm**, followed by the **Afternoon Service** at **4:45**, **Yizkor** at **6**, and then by **N'ilah** around **6:45**.

Over the course of this first round of holidays (Sukkot and Simchat Torah aren't far away!) we're happy to be able to offer 1-hour children's programs during each of the morning services so our youngest members and guests can engage with the day. And during the evening services, we'll have opportunities to be led in worship by B'nai Sholom's new **choir!**

I look forward to sharing this holiday season with you once again!

L'shanah tovah u'metukah – May you have a good and sweet new year,
Rabbi Danielle Weisbrot

From Our President...

The High Holiday season has arrived – my favorite time of the year. The holidays give me a chance to get in touch with my Jewish self. They provide an opportunity for reflection on the past, present and future. I am pretty sure my goals for 5782 were to be nicer to myself and to others. Who knows...maybe I'll set the same goals for 5783!

This year, I am also thinking about my goals for B'nai Sholom. When I started my term, I identified these three: continue offering quality programs; increase our appeal to existing and new members; and increase the efficiency of our operations. By reviewing our weekly emails, I can tell we are currently meeting the first goal. Despite our size, we manage to offer a high volume of varied and interesting programs. Attendance at these events suggests they appeal to a core group of active members and to a small but steady stream of guests and visitors. Up ahead, we will work to achieve the second goal by inviting additional members of our community to participate more actively. As for the third goal, I am researching how other congregations have streamlined their operations. If any of their approaches seem appropriate, I will work to implement them at B'nai Sholom.

I hope the High Holiday season is productive for you, your families and your friends.

L'shanah tovah!

Ann Lowenfels

COVID MASKING POLICY NOW TIED TO CDC COMMUNITY LEVELS

We have started using CDC's Community Transmission Levels to set our **masking policy** at B'nai Sholom.

- When Albany County's Community Level is '**high**,' B'nai Sholom **requires** masks.
- When Albany's level is '**medium**,' we **recommend** masks.
- When it is '**low**,' masks are **optional and welcome**.
- Food will only be served on-site when Albany's Community Level is '**low**.'

Each week, the current Community Transmission Level and masking guideline will be posted at the top of the weekly e-announcements.

Young Children's High Holy Day Programming!

Children's programming will be available Rosh Hashanah morning (**9/26**) and Yom Kippur morning (**10/5**) from **10:30-11:30 am**, during our regular adult services. The program will include stories, songs and arts & crafts, and will generally be geared toward ages 3-7, though children of all ages are welcome.

No RSVP required for congregants. Guests should preregister either via the form on the website or by calling the office. Note that babysitting will not be available this year.

Reminder!

L'Shanah Tovah!



Best wishes for a sweet New Year!

Have you RSVPed to the

Rosh Hashanah Luncheon?

***Please do so no later than Friday, September 9*
(*even if you are unable to attend*)**

If by the end of August, you do not receive an invitation,
please contact

Katelyn Ouellette DiPaola

k.ouellette89@gmail.com, 518-225-2843

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

B'nai Sholom's Caring Community

The Caring Community can call on congregants who are willing and able to mobilize quickly when events such as births, bereavement and accidents make their inevitable way into our lives.

If you or someone you know needs assistance, help and support when:

- ✓ someone is sick or confined
- ✓ a new baby arrives
- ✓ there's been a death in the family
- ✓ there's a tragedy, accident or trauma

please call the office manager and/or Rabbi Weisbrot – 518-482-5283 – to notify us of the situation so we can initiate our support services.

“On three things does the world stand: On Torah, on worship and on deeds of lovingkindness.” Pirkei Avot 1:2

Social Action/Social Justice

Filling the Fridges

Another successful shopping, schlepping, sorting and sharing day was had by two members of our Social Action/Social Justice Committee as we filled three Free Food Fridges in Albany with fresh fruit, vegetables, dairy and snacks, along with bottles of water and loaves of fresh bread. Thanks to you, we were able to meet residents of Albany neighborhoods who expressed their gratitude and blessed us for our generosity.

Well aware that it was not us alone, we feel compelled to thank everyone who continues to support this endeavor by providing us with the financial resources to purchase Hannaford or ShopRite gift cards from our Fundraising Committee and then shop for our neighbors in need.

As the price of groceries continues to present challenges even to those of us who have previously not had to worry about purchasing food, we saw firsthand how reliant those who live mere miles from B'nai Sholom are on what is made available for them in the Free Food Fridges.

With another restocking date planned for this summer, our monetary supplies are running low, as the need for our help continues to soar. Please consider honoring a friend, family member, special occasion or just because you want to help by supporting this project with a monetary donation.

Someone you have never met, and probably never will meet, will be blessing you for your generosity.

POSTCARD PROWESS NEEDED FOR EVERY VOICE, EVERY VOTE CAMPAIGN

The Reform Movement continues to partner with the Center for Common Ground's Reclaim Our Vote Campaign to engage under-represented voters in advance of the 2022 election. Our "get out the vote" efforts will include voter education and helping people register and make a plan to vote.

Once again, B'nai Sholom congregants can help with writing postcards. Scripts will be created by the Religious Action Center's partners at Center for Common Ground, NAACP, Mi Familia Vota and Black Voters Matter and will change as the election gets closer. We will follow their leadership and guidance for our postcard writing efforts.

If you can write postcards, please contact Scott Miller or Gail Volk to get your name on the list for this important project: scottjmiller120@gmail.com / gvolk53@gmail.com

Our Recent Kibbutzniks

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Aron/DeFronzo Family | In memory of Fred Aron |
| Julie Novkov and Joel Bloom | In memory of Raymond Novkov |
| Lois Gordon | In memory of my mother-in-law, Eva Gordon |
| Julie Novkov | In gratitude to the Board of Trustees for support & wisdom during presidency |

Mazal Tov!

...to Linda and Rich Strohl on the birth of their granddaughter, Zoe Lynn Sowers, to Chris and Ellie (Strohl) Sowers on July 19.

BE ON GUARD AGAINST EMAIL SPOOFING SCAM

STAY ALERT! If you see a suspicious email that claims to come from Rabbi Weisbrot or someone else at B'nai Sholom, double-check the email address of the sender – it may be a scam. When in doubt, **do not click on any links or attachments** and **do not reply** to the message. Send a fresh email to the correct address for the supposed sender or call them directly to confirm.

CONVERSATION AND TEA

Want to build friendships while helping refugees at the same time? There are two **Intercultural Cafes** that meet regularly in the Capital Region:

Mondays 4:30 - 6:00 pm

Russell Sage College, 65 1st St., Troy

interculturalcafe@sage.edu

Tuesdays 4:00 - 6:00 pm

West Hill Refugee Center, 104 Ontario St., Albany

TWCWestHill@gmail.com 518-603-7608

By dropping in and sipping tea, you help to create a welcoming community for resettled refugees as well as creating a safe place for them to socialize and practice English.

For more information, contact the individual cafes.

The Congregation Notes with Thanks These Contributions:

General Fund

In memory of **Nathan Green** by Ellie and Randy Davis
With gratitude **for Torah Study** by Irene Harbison
In memory of **Jason Countryman** by Anne and Lene Hausgaard
In honor of **my mother, Ann Radosh, and father, Lubi Radosh**, by Susan Radosh
In memory of **Hyman Moskowitz** by Gail and Larry Volk
With gratitude for **our honor on Kol Nidre** by Joel Blumenthal and Dayle Zatlin

Social Action Fund – Free Food Fridges

Becky and Ben Marvin

Golden Anniversary Fundraising Appeal: Celebrating 50 Years and Beyond

Annual Maintenance and Operations

Deb Adler
Joel Blumenthal and Dayle Zatlin
Eric and Maxine Goldberg
Rema Goldstein
Barney Horowitz
Laura Kaplan
Kerry Kurtis
Richard and Barbara Nussbaum
Amy Sternstein
Valerie Tabak and Jesse Dinkin
Mari Vosburgh
Rabbi Danielle Weisbrot
Shari Whiting

Circle of Life Capital Projects

Ellie and Randy Davis
Howard Domfort

The following Yahrtsaits will be observed in September:

9/2 Martin Klein; Minna Katzin*; Harold Quell; Marvin Morris; Sydell Morris; Leah Royne; Edith Cabelly; Elsie Logwood; Morris Parets*; Edward Hoffman;

9/9 Ethel Link; David Engler*; Vivian Quell; Lubi Radosh; Marylin Ruben; Joseph (Norm) Ouellette; Ari Propp; Rifka Propp; Charlotte Sacks; Shari Knieling; Abraham Sperber*

9/16 Alice Winston*; Betty Herbert; Rose Levine Goldstein*; Mollie Belkin Lazoroff*; Henry Nussbaum; Martin Kleinfeld*; Yetta Berman*; Jakob Simon Krochmal; Arthur Nitka; Saul Toback; Irving Cherry; David Binewitch*; Samuel Pock*;

9/23 Jeannie Bick; Donald Goldberg; Asher Kaplan; Pauline Stern*

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

RABBI: Danielle Weisbrot can be reached at rabiweisbrot@bnaisholom.albany.ny.us

RABBI EMERITUS: Donald P. Cashman

PRESIDENT: Ann Lowenfels can be reached at annlowenfels@gmail.com

OFFICE MANAGER: Christine Blackman can be reached at christine@bnaisholom.albany.ny.us

OFFICE HOURS: TUE/WED/THURS/FRI 9:30 AM–4:30 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 that the Bulletin is sent out in a timely manner.

| <u>Period Covered</u> | <u>Deadline</u> |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| October..... | September 14 |
| November..... | October 12 |