

B'nai Sholom Reform Congregation

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OCTOBER 2019

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

TISHREI/HESHVAN 5780

JOIN US FOR PRAYER, MEDITATION, CELEBRATION AND STUDY

Friday, October 4 **KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE** **6:00 PM**

Saturday, October 5 EXTENDED STUDY 9:30 AM

Tuesday, October 8 **KOL NIDRE** **8:00 PM**

Wednesday, October 9 **YOM KIPPUR MORNING SERVICE** **10:00 AM**

STUDY SESSION **1:15 PM**

HEALING SERVICE **2:30 PM**

AFTERNOON SERVICE **3:00 PM**

YIZKOR **5:15 PM**

NEILAH/CONCLUDING SERVICE **5:45 PM**

Friday, October 11 **TOT SHABBAT SERVICE** **5:30 PM**

EREV SHABBAT SERVICE **8:00 PM**

Saturday, October 12 TORAH STUDY: *Ha'azinu* 9:30 AM

Sunday, October 13 **EREV SUKKOT SERVICE** **7:30 PM**

Friday, October 18 **EREV SHABBAT SERVICE** **8:00 PM**

Saturday, October 19 TORAH STUDY: *Ve-zo't Ha-berakhah* 9:30 AM

Sunday, October 20 **EREV SIMHAT TORAH SERVICE** **7:30 PM**

Friday, October 25 **EREV SHABBAT SERVICE** **8:00 PM**

Saturday, October 26 TORAH STUDY: *Bere'shit* 9:30 AM

Friday, November 1 **KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE** **6:00 PM**

Saturday, November 2 TORAH STUDY: *Noah* 9:30 AM

From our Rabbi...

A change is coming this Rosh Hashanah. We are moving away from an Israel Bonds-based campaign for our Scholarship Fund. Instead, we will be raising funds for the Israel Movement for Progressive and Reform Judaism.

Our Scholarship Fund, including the Israel Bonds held in it, has sufficient funds for the foreseeable future to send our students to camp and on Israel Programs. We continue to believe that Jewish overnight camps are superb institutions for furthering Jewish identity, and I encourage parents of school-age children to consider these summer camps. The 4-5 week summer programs in Israel are educationally eons beyond the 10-day (free) Birthright programs for college-age youth, and are undoubtedly more transformational.

While our previous model left the funds in our hands for our use, when we started the Israel Bond Fund in 1988, the plan was chiefly to help Israel and, secondarily, to build up an endowment for B'nai Sholom. The scholarship component wasn't added until 2000. Today, we have an endowment and other reserve funds, making the Bonds component redundant.

What remains is our need and desire to support Israel, and to give tzedakah during the Days of Awe.

Like you, our congregation has limited tzedakah dollars to give away, and we want to give it where it may make a difference that has meaning to us. Purchasing Israel Bonds gives money to the government to do important and necessary things, like build roads, ensure security and provide a safety net of social services. However, the Israel you and I envision needs help that doesn't come from government sources.

The Israel we envision has equal rights for women and men; for people of differing skin colors and national origins; for people of different sexual orientations. The Israel we envision is welcoming to those immigrants who cannot prove their Jewish status to the satisfaction of the ultra-Orthodox rabbinate, which controls determination of this status for purposes of immigration and for marriage. The Israel we envision abhors a compulsory Judaism and forced observance. The Israel we envision is open and welcoming, one that enriches the individual and the family.

Thus, our Board of Trustees, on the recommendation of a Task Force considering these issues, has endorsed a campaign for the Israel Movement for Progressive and Reform Judaism. This is the umbrella organization of all the Reform communities and institutions in Israel – over 50 of them. It seeks to integrate Jewish tradition with the realities of modern life and believes in the right of each individual to shape their own Jewish way of life through a process of study and reflection. You may find out more at www.reform.org.il.

B'nai Sholom will continue to accept with gratitude contributions at any time for the Scholarship Fund, but the money won't be used to purchase Israel Bonds. Rather, our Finance Committee under the Board's supervision will steward those funds.

Israel Bond materials will also be available on the Days of Awe for those who wish to purchase a bond for their own portfolios. Simply fill out the Pledge Card that will be in the lobby and we will submit them after Yom Kippur. You may also research and invest online at www.israelbonds.com.

On Rosh Hashanah morning, please pick up your pledge card, and give generously to help create the Israel that you envision.

Best wishes for a sweet New Year!

לשנה טובה תכתבו ותחתמו

Rabbi Don Cashman

B'nai Sholom Sponsors a Bicycle Ride During the Days of Awe!

Come join bicycle riders from B'nai Sholom on Sunday, October 6, for a relaxing ride in the Voorheesville - Altamont area with a stop for bagels and juice/coffee! All levels of bicycle riders and children are welcome.

We will meet at the Voorheesville Hannaford parking lot (5 Maple Rd., Voorheesville) at 11:00am. Ride will be flat and very scenic on less-traveled roads. Your guide will be veteran cyclist and ride leader Steve Redler, who has led rides in the area for 25 years. We will return to the Voorheesville Hannaford around 1:00pm.

Contact SteveRedler@yahoo.com for more information.

Join Us to Welcome Our New Members in the Sukkah

The congregation will acknowledge and welcome our newest members on Erev Sukkot, Sunday, October 13, at the oneg following the 7:30 pm festival service.

As of September 12, we have been joined by:

Jacob Barkman

Linda Finkle

Emily McCabe

Linda & Dennis Pelter

Rachel Crawford

Nancy Goody

Joseph DeFronzo

Amy Vastola

Matt Zaremsky & Samantha Ley

(& Ellie & Rowan)

Miriam Cantor-Stone

Please plan to be with us to celebrate the festival and meet our new members!

CRICCC: Capital Region Interfaith Creation Care Coalition

This year B'nai Sholom has joined a coalition to gather and disseminate information about and to take positive actions to combat climate change. Here are some of the activities and actions occurring in October:

10/11/2019 – Tour of the Albany Anaerobic Digester Plant. Three anaerobic digesters are under construction. About one hour, starting at 3 pm. RSVP to Tina Lieberman at Tlieberm1@gmail.com. Space is limited.

10/14/2019 and 10/15/2019 – Lecture and Workshop on reducing municipal waste, with Neil Seldman from the Institute for Local Self-Reliance. 6:30 pm, Albany Public Library, Washington Ave. branch. Help needed to recruit local officials to attend, co-sponsors, etc. Contact Mary Beilby at mary.beilby@gmail.com if you can help.

Letter in Support: Sign a letter from the faith community urging State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli to disinvest state pension funds from fossil fuel investments at <https://sites.google.com/view/CRICCC/take-action?authuser=0>

SUPPORT FAMILY PROMISE AND HAVE FUN DOING IT!

B'nai Sholom is a support congregation assisting homeless children and their families in securing affordable housing and lasting independence. **Family Promise receives no government funding** and therefore relies on support from community donations and grants.

You can help by supporting the annual fall fundraiser...

DOORS TO THE FUTURE

A CELEBRATION TO SUPPORT FAMILY PROMISE OF THE CAPITAL REGION

*Food Stations *Silent Auction *Pick a (Gift) Card *Cash Bar

*Live Jazz

Catered by Nicole's

Thursday, October 24, 2019

6 pm-9 pm

St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church

440 Whitehall Rd., Albany

General Admission: \$60

Honorary Committee: \$125 single/\$225 couple

Mail check to: Family Promise, 738 New Scotland Ave., Albany, NY 12208

Be sure to indicate how many tickets you would like for Doors to the Future



Can't attend but want to help?

-Make a contribution

-**Donate your unused gift cards for Pick a Card**

(contact Becky Marvin: beckymarvin4574@gmail.com)

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE

On Saturday, November 9, at 7:30 pm, the Social Action Committee will screen ***BIRTHRIGHT: A WAR STORY*** followed by a conversation led by Brittni Gulotty of Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood, Inc.

This feature-length documentary examines how women are being jailed, physically violated and even put at risk of dying as a radical movement tightens its grip across America.

The film tells the story of women who have become collateral damage in the aggressive campaign to take control of reproductive health care and to allow states, courts and religious doctrine to govern whether, when and how women will bear children.

The documentary explores the accelerating gains of the crusade to control pregnant women and the fallout that is creating a public health crisis, turning pregnant women into criminals and challenging the constitutional protections of every woman in America.

The evening is open to B'NAI SHOLOM CONGREGANTS AND INVITED GUESTS ONLY.

Judaica and Fair Trade Sale

Sunday, November 10, 2019

10 am-4 pm at B'nai Sholom

With Mayan Hands, we are once again organizing a Fair Trade Sale in conjunction with our Judaica Sale. Come shop from a host of fair trade vendors and get your supplies and gifts for the holidays!

We'll also have our usual Judaica Sale, including gelt, Hanukkah candles and wrapping paper.

Thank you for supporting fair trade!

Farewell to Rabbi Cashman – Save The Dates!

If Rabbi Cashman has touched your life in any way...

- helped you feel joy at Friday night services
- awed you with his exceptional shofar blowing on the High Holy Days
- tutored you or your child to prepare for a bar/bat mitzvah
- officiated at your wedding, a bris/baby naming, becoming a Jew-by-choice, or other occasion
- mourned with you when you were bereaved
- consoled you when you were sick
- amused you with his Purim songs and costumes
- led you on an unforgettable trip to Israel
- taught you something new in an adult education class
- inspired you to think about what it is to lead a meaningful life

... then we hope you will join in celebrating what will be his 35 years as spiritual and religious leader at B'nai Sholom Reform Congregation.

Please save these dates:

Friday, June 12, 2020 for a special Friday night service and Oneg Shabbat

Sunday, June 14, 2020 for a special brunch to show our thanks and appreciation to Rabbi Cashman and to have some fun!

AUGUST LANDSCAPE CLEAN-UP

A “Thank You!” to the team of volunteers who worked at Clean-up Day at B’nai Sholom on August 18. With Landscape Committee Chair Martie Teumim out of commission, the team was again led by Phil Teumim, who provided bagels and coffee for the group.

The volunteers – Barney Horowitz, Bob and Luca Negris, Barry Pendergrass, Paula Philo and Cheryl and Mark Reeder – pruned the tops of the Burning Bushes by the entrance, trimmed the trees and removed dead branches along the driveway and front lawn, weeded the moss along the walk, spruced up Leslie Adler’s Garden, and weeded and cut back the shrubs along the outside wall of the Bimah.

The Goldberg family – Maxine, Eric and Ethan – has provided mums to decorate the entrance for the High Holy Days.

Please join us for the next Clean-Up Day in the spring. “Many hands make light work.”

Why the Adult Education Committee Chose Amos Oz for a Series of Fall Events

Beginning in early November, the Adult Education Committee is presenting three coordinated events focusing on the Israel writer Amos Oz. Oz died at the age of 79 in December 2018, after a distinguished career that began when he moved as a teen from Jerusalem to a kibbutz, changed his name from Klausner to Oz (Hebrew for “courage”) and started telling stories about the people he met there. Some of these stories, in the collection *Between Friends*, will be discussed in our five-week Adult Ed course, “Amos Oz: Israel’s Storyteller.” Course participants will also be encouraged to read excerpts from Oz’s 2004 masterpiece, *A Tale of Love and Darkness*, a memoir that traced his childhood and coming of age in the Jerusalem of the 1940s, as Israel was becoming a state. The film based on this memoir will be shown at our November 16 Movie Night.

The mingling of the personal and the political characterized all of Oz’s writing, including his last novel, *Judas*, about a young scholar probing the mysteries surrounding the biblical traitor, Judas. *Judas* will be the subject of the Synagogue Scholar book talk by Martha Rozett on December 13. Our congregation’s library has acquired several books by Oz, including, most recently, *Jews and the Word*, a collection of essays Oz wrote with his daughter, Fania Oz-Sulzberger, a historian.

Throughout his career, Oz was a voice for peace. In the words of his New York Times obituary, he “weathered [his country’s] upheavals and pried into its divisions like an angry, secular prophet.” And yet he remained optimistic about the Zionist experiment, and despite the fanaticism and violence around him, he wrote at the end of his life:

I like being Israeli. I like being a citizen of a country where there are eight and a half million prime ministers, eight and a half million prophets, eight and a half million messiahs. Each of us has our own personal formula for redemption, or at least for a solution. Everyone shouts, and few listen. It’s never boring here.

(quoted by Gal Beckerman in The New York Times, 12/29/18).

Rabbinic Search Committee Reports Progress on Interim Rabbi

The search for Rabbi Cashman's successor is proceeding smoothly and on schedule. In fact, we are slightly ahead of where the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR) expected us to be.

Earlier this year, the Search Committee recommended to the Board – and the Board subsequently approved – that B'nai Sholom hire an interim rabbi who can serve as a transitional bridge that will allow us the time to more fully explore who we are as a congregation and determine what we want in a new permanent or "settled" rabbi. We completed and submitted to the CCAR the congregation's application for an interim rabbi earlier this summer. The CCAR has accepted our submission and posted it to the job board, and candidates have already applied for the position. We are reviewing those applications now. Interviews with candidates whose skills and qualities appear to be most suited to our needs will begin shortly after the High Holy Days, first by phone and/or Skype and then in-person with the most promising candidates.

As always, you can stay up-to-date on the search through the monthly Bulletin, the B'nai Sholom website and the Weekly Email Announcements.

New and Prospective Camper Weekend Saturday, October 19 – Sunday October 20, 2019

URJ Eisner and Crane Lake Camps are once again offering a fun and exciting weekend at camp for children currently in grades 2-5 who are considering a summer at either of our camps. This weekend is a great opportunity for new and prospective campers to get a taste of what a summer at Eisner and Crane Lake Camps will be like. We'll play outdoors, enjoy exciting camp activities and make new friends. The cost for the weekend is \$200*, which includes all program fees, meals, linens and lodging.

We'll begin with parent and camper tours at 10:00 am on Saturday at **Eisner Camp** in Great Barrington, Mass., and end our action-packed weekend with a 2:00 pm parent tour and a 3:30 pm good-bye at **Crane Lake Camp** in West Stockbridge, Mass. This way, prospective campers can experience the magic of both camps! We'll also have staff from our sister camp, **6 Points Sci-Tech Academy East**, on-site to share a bit about their amazing programs for children entering grades 5-10.

Come and meet the Eisner and Crane Lake directors! See our superstar staff in action! Help us decorate our Sukkah! Join us!

*We will credit \$100 toward Summer 2020 camp fees for any participant registered by January 1, 2020.
<https://urjnortheastcamps.org/eisner-crane-lake-new-prospective-camper-weekend/>

The **Heller-Wexler Family Camp Series** – created through the generosity of Robert and Amy Heller – shape and frame the Shabbat experience through hands-on programs and activities that explore the joys and challenges of family life through a Jewish lens. Created to address the growing challenges and changing face of the modern Jewish family, the retreats provide opportunities for families to enjoy quality time together while meeting other families and sharing experiences that make these weekends unforgettable!

We are offering four Heller-Wexler Family Camps for the 2019-2020 school year!
<https://urjnortheastcamps.org/year-round/heller-wexler-family-retreats/>

(Continued on next page.)

NFTY-NE Fall Kallah

November 8-10, 2019

Eisner Camp, Great Barrington, Mass.

This is a new joint event with NFTY-NE, NFTY-NAR (New York Area Region) and the NETC (Northeast Teen Collective), Eisner, Crane Lake and Sci-Tech Camps. In lieu of NFTY-NE Fall Conclavette, NFTY-NAR Fall Kallah and the NETC Leadership Summit, this will be an incredible weekend of community building, worship and programming, with a focus on leadership. Staff and teen leaders from all organizations will work together to make this an exciting, empowering and memorable weekend for all.

https://northeast.nfty.org/event/nfty-ne-fall-kallah/?j=4841771&sfmc_sub=132138621&l=103430_HTML&u=110675768&mid=1359993&jb=0

The following Yahrtszeits will be observed in October.

10/4 Ruth Ottenheimer; Anna Catherine Lipka; Peter Strassberg; Maurice Pass; Maurice Samuel Schwadron*; Bertram Hess*

10/11 Peter Kurak; Sarah Cohen; Theodore "Ted" Shultz; Robert Gordon; Seymour Marvin Steinhart; Rose Pass

10/18 Pearl Tress; Sadye Lazoroff Rabineau*; Esther Soffer*; Irving Englander*; Gertrude Shapiro*; Meyer Sklar; Fanny Binewitch*; Julius Goldfarb; Joe Meer; Eva Teumim

10/25 Irene Krochmal Swiwcz; Nathan Kaufman*; Anna Cohen; Julius Domfort; Ruth Devore; Margaret (Peggy) Kleinfeld; Sabina Millens; Jack Myers

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

THE CONGREGATION NOTES WITH THANKS THESE CONTRIBUTIONS

General Fund

In memory of **Martin Kleinfeld** by Howard and Bettina Stoller.

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

In memory of **Raymond Novkov, Jr.** by Anne Hausgaard.

In honor of **the marriage of Avraham Wachs Cashman and Amanda Behen** by Anne Hausgaard.

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

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

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

We would like to welcome our new members:

Joseph DeFronzo

Miriam Cantor-Stone

Matt Zaremsky and Samantha Ley

B'nai Sholom Legacy Campaign -- It's Easy!



- **We want the next generation to live in an America where the synagogue plays an important role.** We want B'nai Sholom to continue to be a center for worship, celebration of culture and heritage, community, learning, debate, support for the less fortunate, social justice advocacy, and more.
- **We want to secure B'nai Sholom's future.** A healthy endowment will greatly enhance B'nai Sholom's ability to remain nimble in adapting to new modes of membership and community that may lie ahead.
- **We can afford to be generous.** Many of us have seen or will see our assets grow over the course of our lifetime. We can make an after-life gift of some portion of our house, a retirement account, or other asset to B'nai Sholom and still provide sufficiently for our families.
- **We're all getting older -- and life is uncertain.** It's important to have a plan in place for the disposition of your assets upon your death. You can always make changes later if your circumstances change.

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

Life is filled with challenges.
JFS can help.



JFS provides a continuum of supportive services for children, teens, adults, families and seniors, including:

- Counseling for anxiety, depression or grief & more
- Home visits and assessments for seniors
- Transportation for Jewish seniors

Contact us to learn more:

518-482-8856
jfsneny.org



JFS wishes you and your family a meaningful, happy and healthy New Year.

Thank youto the following congregants who have shown generosity in signing up for additional Patron Dues: Martie and Phil Teumim

.....to the following who recently hosted an Oneg Shabbat: Linda and Rich Strohl, Jeanette and Stephen Gottlieb, Judy and Roy Fruiterman, David DiPaola and Katelyn Ouellette DiPaola, Brenda Hazard and Steve Morse, and Cheryl and Mark Reeder.

.....to the Bulletin Brigade who helped fold, insert and stuff envelopes to get the September Bulletin out: Steve Ableman, Joseph DeFronzo and Anne Hausgaard.

.....to Joseph DeFronzo, Anne Hausgaard and Amy Sternstein who helped greatly with High Holy Days projects.

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.

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.

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.

Period Covered

Deadline

November.....October 10

December.....November 13