

B'nai Sholom Reform Congregation

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

OCTOBER 2018

TISHREI/HESHVAN 5779

JOIN US FOR THESE SERVICES AND STUDY SESSIONS

Friday, October 5	KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE	6:00 PM
Saturday, October 6	EXTENDED STUDY	9:30 AM
Friday, October 12	TOT SHABBAT SERVICE	5:30 PM
	EREV SHABBAT SERVICE	8:00 PM
Saturday, October 13	TORAH STUDY: <i>Noah</i>	9:30 AM
Friday, October 19	EREV SHABBAT SERVICE	8:00 PM
Saturday, October 20	TORAH STUDY: <i>Lekh Lekha</i>	9:30 AM
	Bar Mitzvah of Jonah Negris	10:30 AM
Friday, October 26	EREV SHABBAT SERVICE	8:00 PM
	SOCIAL ACTION SHABBAT	
Saturday, October 27	TORAH STUDY: <i>Va-yera'</i>	9:30 AM
Friday, November 2	KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE	6:00 PM
Saturday, November 3	EXTENDED STUDY	9:30 AM

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

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

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

From Our President

Shana Tovah!

Welcome congregants, guests, families and visitors -

My family has been part of the B'nai Sholom community for over 25 years. During this time, our Rabbi and the congregation have been part of the joys and sorrows that come with over two decades of living.

There was the sadness of funerals, shiva minyanim and hospital visits. There was the joy of my son's bar mitzvah when he turned 13 and my bat mitzvah 10 years ago this year. And there continue to be the small joys that I experience being part of B'nai Sholom, such as the feeling of peace and comfort at Shabbat services, after having a bad week, when nothing seemed right with the world.

This is an exciting time to be the President of B'nai Sholom. This year we have continued our existing programming and implemented new ones.

We increased efforts to welcome young unaffiliated families through a restructuring of dues and monthly Tot Shabbat services.

The "Day at B'nai" festival brought dozens of community members to B'nai Sholom, most for the first time. The children had a wonderful time playing games and bouncing on the bounce house, while adults learned about B'nai Sholom and met members of our B'nai Sholom family.

The Countdown to the Days of Awe, a series of learning opportunities conducted by Rabbi Cashman at Shabbat services leading up to Rosh Hashanah, enabled all of us to enhance our understanding of the holiness of this season.

And throughout the year, we had many opportunities to study with and learn from Rabbi Cashman, enhanced by Adult Education-sponsored courses, and to socialize through synagogue-sponsored events.

We also began two new efforts that will help strengthen and grow our synagogue in the future.

The first is the establishment of a Rabbinic Search Committee. As Libby mentioned at last year's Rosh Hashanah service, after over 30+ years as our spiritual leader, in 2020 Rabbi Cashman will be retiring. I recently established a Rabbinic Search Committee, co-chaired by David Liebschutz and Ann Lowenfels. They are now soliciting interest from congregants who want to serve on the Committee. Information about the process can be found in the Annual Guide, announcements and in this Bulletin. If you are unable to serve on the Search Committee, there will be other ways to provide input prior to the interview process. The Committee will outline the process and information will be available in the Bulletin throughout the year.

In addition to the Rabbinic Search, you will begin to hear about the events to be planned to say good-bye to Rabbi Cashman, and to thank him for his spiritual guidance and support. More to follow on this topic later in the year.

Our second new effort is the development of a Legacy Campaign. Chaired by Mimi Bruce, the Legacy Campaign will help to ensure B'nai Sholom will continue to be a vital part of the Jewish community for decades to come. Since our founding in 1971, B'nai Sholom has been a warm,

(Continued on next page.)

From Our President (continued)

inclusive, egalitarian, diverse and fully participatory congregation. The Legacy Campaign is sowing the seeds for future generations and affirming that our community is and always will be that special place that speaks to Jewish souls in a wise and welcoming manner. The Legacy Committee is in the process of contacting each B'nai Sholom family, to encourage that they set aside resources that will be directed to B'nai Sholom upon their death. To be truthful, when the board of trustees began talking of the establishment of a Legacy Campaign, I had difficulty acknowledging I would not necessarily be around forever! However, once I accepted that fact, I realized how important it is to me personally that B'nai Sholom be here for future generations. If you feel the same way, please speak to a member of the Legacy Committee when they call, or even better, call or email Mimi Bruce.

Psalm 27 says, in part:

One thing do I ask of the Lord, it is this I seek –
That I dwell in the House of the Lord all the days of my life,
To behold the Lord's sweetness and to gaze on this palace.
For God hides me in God's shelter on the day of evil,
God conceals me in the recess of God's tent, on a rock God raises me up.

B'nai Sholom is my House of the Lord. It is the building, it is the people with whom we pray, share a meal, study text, and share our joys and sorrows. I thank you for being part of my House of the Lord and look forward to seeing you for many decades to come.

May you and your family have a sweet New Year.

“Memoir Writing Workshop” with Award-Winning Children’s Author Linda Marshall

Have you ever had a moment, person or event in your life where you thought, “I should write a book about that”?

Then this month’s “Memoir Writing Workshop” will help you do just that.

B'nai Sholom will host award-winning PJ Library and children’s author Linda Elovitz Marshall on Thursday, October 11, from 1-3 p.m. at the synagogue.

Through writing games and brainstorming, Linda will encourage participants to weave a story around an event large or small in their lives. Who knows? A story suitable for a children’s book format could germinate from these exercises. An example of one that did is Linda's own *Grandma Rose's Magic* (Karben, 2012), the story of her grandmother who sewed and saved to buy beautiful dishes...and made magic in the process. Linda has taught all ages and has helped people in writing their life stories/memoirs.

Bring objects to class that might inspire stories: special dishes, baseball gloves, anything with a “story” attached.

Cost for the one-day workshop: \$32 for B'nai Sholom members (\$40 for all others). Pre-registration is required. Contact the office to register or for more information.

Save the Date!

Judaica and Fair Trade Sale

Sunday, November 11, 2018, 10am-4pm 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, wrapping paper and assorted gift items. Learn about fair trade and why it is so important to support this effort.

More details soon.

Disabilities Committee Works to Make B'nai Sholom Even More Inclusive

The Disabilities Committee is comprised of congregants who have expressed an interest in helping make B'nai Sholom an even more inclusive synagogue. Our first goal, readied for the Days of Awe, was to make more parking spaces available to those with mobility issues.

We are working to improve signage within the building, so that the restrooms are more easily located by anyone new to or unfamiliar with the floor plan of B'nai Sholom.

Ushers and greeters will try to identify and help those in need of large-print prayer books.

Future projects may include hearing amplification loops for those congregants having hearing difficulty with the sanctuary's sound amplification system. We are also hoping to set aside one of the classrooms as a "quiet" or "calming" room, for anyone who needs a temporary respite from the sanctuary during services.

If you have a suggestion or an idea for us consider in the future, let us know through the synagogue office.

SOCIAL ACTION

In December 2017, B'nai Sholom signed on as a Brit Olam Congregation with the Union for Reform Judaism. **The *Brit Olam* is a “Covenant with our World because we see the world we want, not the world as it is.” It is a contract to help create “a World of Compassion, Justice and Wholeness.”**

SOCIAL ACTION SHABBAT SET FOR OCTOBER 26

Come hear how B'nai Sholom is fulfilling its Brit Olam promise. Find out about expansion of literacy efforts. Learn about social justice actions. Sign up to cook for homeless families.

And, most importantly, discover how you can become a mensch!

BOOK NOOK—Expanding Literacy Programs

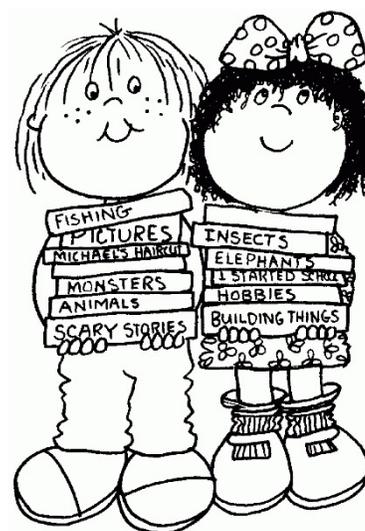
Schuyler Inn in Menands is a former motel now housing homeless families. With about 70 children in residence, we have the opportunity to provide books for kids of all ages. The Inn has two small bookshelves in the former cavernous banquet hall. The lighting is poor and there are no comfy chairs or rugs to invite children and families to stay and read.

You can help create an inviting Book Nook by:

-Donating gently used books for children from newborns to teens. Collection boxes are in the lounge at the synagogue.

-Donating furnishings to create a cozy area. These items should be nice enough to give to your own children or grandchildren. We recommend sending a picture of the item(s) to Valerie Tabak walksing53@.com for vetting. *Furniture and other large items may be brought to B'nai Sholom on Sunday, Nov. 4, between 11 am and 1 pm. Please note, we can accept only those items that can be used immediately in the Book Nook.*

-Volunteering on Sunday, Nov. 4, to help collect and transport books and furnishings to the Schuyler Inn. Van and station wagon owners are encouraged to volunteer. Contact Becky Marvin rmarvin@nycap.rr.com to sign up.



SUPPORT FAMILY PROMISE

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 18, 2018

6pm-9pm

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: rmarvin@nycap.rr.com)



B'nai Sholom Scholarships for Jewish Summer Camps

Each summer, children and teens from our congregation can attend Jewish summer camps and take specially designed tours of Israel, strengthening their ties to Judaism and its heritage. B'nai Sholom offers scholarships to member families; these are funded by the interest and matured principal from the synagogue's Israel Bonds fund. Application forms for the scholarships are available online and from the office and are due on January 31st. Please contact Rabbi Cashman for more information about the camps and programs we recommend or Martha Rozett, the chair of the Scholarship Committee, for more information about the terms and amounts of the scholarships.



Rabbinic Search Process

The president of our congregation, Barbara Devore, has asked David Liebschutz and Ann Lowenfels to co-chair a Rabbinic Search Committee. The committee will be responsible for recruiting a new spiritual leader to succeed our long-time Rabbi Don Cashman, who will be retiring in June 2020.

The committee has two basic tasks: to put together a job description (year one), and to recruit a new rabbi (year two). The committee will craft a job description and develop an application process after receiving input from our congregants and examining models from other congregations. The committee will then solicit and review applications to identify top candidates to present to the congregation.

The co-chairs' first task is to form the committee this fall. Committee members will be expected to attend monthly meetings (starting this November), solicit input from other congregants, gather information from other institutions, and review applications. Every member of the committee will be vital to ensuring a smooth succession for our congregation.

If you are interested in joining this important committee, please send an email to the co-chairs at rabsearch@bnaisholom.albany.ny.us that: 1) explains your interest, 2) describes any relevant experience, and 3) gives your preferred evening(s) to meet. The deadline for the email is October 22, 2018.

Any questions can be directed to committee co-chairs David and Ann.

5779 Rosh Hashanah Luncheons, Another Great Success **A special thank you.**

The Membership Committee of B'nai Sholom would like to thank all of the **hosts, members and guests** who participated in a Rosh Hashanah Luncheon.

This long-standing tradition has been enjoyed by our congregants and guests for years.

We had eight delightful host locations. Wonderful food and company was enjoyed by all.

Everyone had a great time visiting with familiar friends and making new acquaintances.

We look forward to seeing everyone at a luncheon next year.

Patron Dues

The following congregants have shown generosity in signing up for additional Patron Dues:
Mark and Sharon Sklar

B'nai Sholom Legacy Society

The Legacy Campaign is gaining momentum!

These congregants have already made a substantial gift to our endowment or committed to make a gift to B'nai Sholom as part of their estate plans:

Ida Domfort (z"l)

Deb Adler

Elizabeth Alowitz

Jack and Barbara Devore

David and Libby Liebschutz

Benjamin and Rebecca Marvin

David Ray and Mimi Bruce

Martha Rozett

Joan and Jim Savitt

Stuart Schwartz and Debbie Youngelman

Ann Shapiro and Barry Pendergrass

Howard and Bettina Stoller

Phil and Martie Teumim

Won't you join them?

"As my ancestors planted for me, so do I plant for those who will come after me."

-- Talmud Ta'anit 23

B'nai Sholom Outdoor Cleanup Days

Fall Cleanup: October 7 9 AM - 1 PM (Rain date October 14)

Spring Cleanup: April 14 9 AM - 1 PM (Rain date April 28)

Something for everyone: Weeding, hedge trimming, tree pruning, brush clearing. With coffee, bagels and cream cheese and free weeds for all. You pick 'em.

THE CONGREGATION NOTES WITH THANKS THESE CONTRIBUTIONS...

You can contribute online at: <http://www.bnaisholomalbany.org/donations>

General Fund

In memory **Edith Cabelly** by the Seguire Family
In memory of **Ric Crawford** by Mari Vosburgh
In memory of **Charlotte Sacks** by Paula Philo
In memory of **Arthur Nitka** by Mark and Cheryl Reeder
In memory of **Jakob Simon Krochmal** by Ruth and Herb Swift
In memory of **Ilene Goldman** by Anne Hausgaard
In memory of **Ric Crawford** by Ellie and Randy Davis
In memory of **Abraham Silverbush** by Ellie and Randy Davis
In memory of **Nathan Green** by Ellie and Randy Davis
In memory of **Martin Klein** by Steven Klein

Social Action Fund

In memory of **Shirley Sobell** by Richard Propp

Social Action – Children’s Book Collection Fund

Lois Gordon

Caring Community

In appreciation of **Mark Brody** by Ben and Becky Marvin.

Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund

In appreciation of **the Rabbi’s role in the conversion of their son-in-law** by Debra Blog and Lawrence Zisman
In appreciation of **Rabbi Cashman** by Margaret Irene Harbison
In appreciation of **Rabbi Cashman** by Ira and Sheila Lobel
In appreciation of **Rabbi Cashman’s kind words and prayers at Shirley Sobell’s service** by Lisa Szymanski

The following Yahrtszeits will be observed in October.

10/5 Anna Catherine Lipka; Peter Strassberg; Maurice Pass; Bertram Hess*; Maurice Samuel Schwadron*

10/12 Peter Kurak; Robert Gordon; Seymour Marvin Steinhart; Julius Turoff*

10/19 Pearl Tress; Sadye Lazoroff Rabineau*; Esther Soffer*; Irving Englander*; Gertrude Shapiro*; Meyer Sklar; Fanny Binewitch*; Julius Goldfarb; Irene Krochmal Swiwcz

10/26 Nathan Kaufman*; Evelyn Steinhardt*; Anna Cohen; Julius Domfort; Ruth Devore; Margaret (Peggy) Kleinfeld; Sabina Millens; Jack Myers; Sarah Renee Whiting; Morris Raderman; Abe Turoff*

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

B'Yachad is in need of iPads for use during religious school this fall. Should you have a lightly used iPad that you are willing to donate, please contact Rabbi Miriam Midlarsky-Lichtenfeld at 518-489-4706 Ext. 17.

Thank you!

to the following congregants who recently hosted an Oneg Shabbat: Valerie Tabak and Jesse Dinkin, Elizabeth Alowitz, Linda and Rich Strohl, Barbara and Jack Devore, Joan and Jim Savitt, Deb Adler, Amy and Yossi Koren-Roth and Margie Pass. Thank you to the Board of Trustees for the Oneg Yom Tov.

to the Bulletin Brigade who helped fold, insert and stuff envelopes to get the September bulletin out: Steve Ableman.

from B'nai Sholom and the Membership Committee to Rita & Arthur Alowitz, Amy & Yossi Koren-Roth, Nancy Newman & Matt Malsky, Laurie Shanks & Terry Kindlon, Maggie Tabak & David Smith, Martie & Phil Teumim, Mari Vosburgh, and Shari Whiting for opening their homes and hosting Rosh Hashanah Luncheons.

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

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

<u>Period Covered</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
November.....	October 10
December.....	November 14