

Temple Beth Shalom Polk

# Chai Lites

September 2023



## We are Zooming again

Have you learned how to follow us on Zoom?

Our first service on September 8th with Rabbi Herzfeld will be on Zoom.

We send out the Zoom link a day or two prior to the religious service. The link will be the same for Rabbi Herzfeld's Torah study classes.

Lorraine monitors our Zoom sessions for religious services only.

If you are unable to connect, you can call or text her and she can assist you as best as possible remotely: 863-409-8509 for call or text.



## Dinner with the Rabbi is Back

Enjoy a meal with Rabbi Herzfeld, take the opportunity to chat with the Hosts and the Rabbi. Contact Lorraine Mixer at: [lorrynemixer@aol.com](mailto:lorrynemixer@aol.com) for your opportunity to host the Rabbi.

# A Message from Rabbi H.



The month of Elul, which precedes Tishri and Rosh Hashanah, has no formal Jewish holiday. Yet, it is considered the period to prepare for the High Holidays. I don't mean baking honey cakes or considering a menu for the Yom Tov meal. I don't mean buying a new dress or suit. It is the time we as Jews are supposed to prepare ourselves spiritually for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur - for the process of teshuva.

I often wonder if we take this opportunity seriously and actually consider our actions over the past year. You probably are familiar with the term, Selichot. We particularly concentrate on seeking forgiveness (Selichot) during the Saturday evening prior to Rosh Hashanah. However, traditional Jews include extra prayers for Selichot and psalms during the entire month of Elul at worship services.

My teacher, Rabbi Dr. Donniel Hartman, comments about the entire process of teshuva that we must take to heart each year. In ancient times, the prophets spoke to the people about teshuva, but they only knew "kapparah," which means sacrifice. In biblical times, the only way Israelites connected with God was through offerings/sacrifices. Our practice of prayer worship only began after the destruction of the second Temple and the end of the sacrificial cult.

According to Rabbi Hartman, in order to truly change (teshuva), we must feel bad in some way about who we are. More important, we have to know "who we want to be" in order to be motivated to change.

So, the month of Elul, offers us the opportunity to consider "who we want to be" each year. This is why Rosh Hashanah comes before Yom Kippur, states Rabbi Hartman. Teshuva doesn't just start with consideration of the past. It starts with the future. We have to be able to imagine who we want to be before we can do real teshuva.

**WHO DO YOU WANT TO BE, ESPECIALLY IN THE YEAR AHEAD?**

My warm wishes are extended to you and your loved ones for a Shanah Tova U'Metuka - a Sweet and Good New Year 5784.

Rabbi Garson Herzfeld

# President's Musings

by Lorraine Mixer

Florida once again was in the path of a hurricane. We prepare and prepare when we know a storm is coming. We get many warnings prior to the storm and after it is all over, we rebuild.

The families in Lahaina, Hawaii had no warning. There was no storm preparedness, only a destructive fire that took everything in its path and burned it to the ground. So many lives lost. So many homes gone in minutes without warning. So many livelihoods gone.



I personally am always hesitant to donate to organizations after a disaster. We were fortunate to have a Maj Jong member give us the name of a Pastor, in Lahaina whose church is accepting donations for those in Lahaina. Please give generously. Many of these families not only do not have homes to go to, but they must also see to the funerals for lost loved ones.

Pastor David Kapatu  
Kahana Door Faith Church  
PMB 120  
5095 Napili Hau Street 1098  
Lahaina, HI 96761

The Florida Disaster fund is accepting donations for our neighbors to the north, if you prefer to keep your funds in Florida.

At this time of year, we have so much to be thankful for. I thank you, my Temple members and guests for your participation and dedication to seeing that TBS remains a vibrant, active and inclusive congregation.

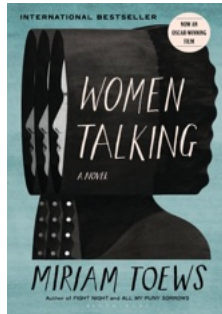
See you on Zoom!

Lorraine Mixer  
TBS Board President  
[lornainemixer@aol.com](mailto:lornainemixer@aol.com)  
863-409-8509

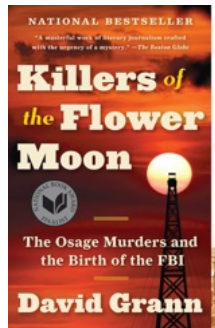


The Book Club will meet at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>.

The September choice is  
*Women Talking* by Miriam Toews



The October choice is  
*Killers of the Flower Moon* by David Grann



**Did you know?**

We have Hebrew Lessons! Learn the Aleph, Bet or dig deeper into sentence structure or vocabulary...

Contact us at:

863-292-0722 or [web@templebethshalompolk.org](mailto:web@templebethshalompolk.org) for future dates.

# Notes from the Past Pres.

by Joseph Rodriguez

September 2023 Chai Lites

“Half the lies they tell about me aren’t true”

~ Yogi Berra

Shalom Aleichem!

Idalia, *The Fat Lady did not sing* in our area. It appears that we had rain but not strong winds. The fat lady did not sing but the Rabbi will be back and will sing during the High Holidays this month.

September 7<sup>th</sup> is our outing to Joker Marchant Field in Lakeland to see the Lakeland Flying Tigers vs. Tampa Tarpons. We have over 15 people in our group attending. *“Baseball is 90% mental ...the other half is physical.”*

We had 18 attend the comedy club outing a few months ago. Prior to that trip, we went to our county seat to visit the historical museum. Hopeful, we can have other outings. If you have an idea for a group outing, please contact me or Beverly Lerner.

If you have gone to our web site lately you will get improvement thanks to our newest member.

We need new members to bring their knowledge to improve our community. *“You can observe a lot just by watching.”* Do not just watch - get active, we need your help.

Remember, *“You’ve got to be careful if you don’t know where you’re going, because you might not get there.”*

May Peace Be With You!

Joseph Rodriguez, Past President

JrodTBS2021@gmail.com

See us on Facebook or our Website: [TempleBethShalomPolk.org](http://TempleBethShalomPolk.org)



# 2024 Purse-a-Palooza Mad Hatter Tea Party

Your gently used purses are needed for our April 7<sup>th</sup> event.

We are also looking for tea cups and saucers.

Bring your purses and tea cups to the Temple library.

Have you ever experienced Afternoon Tea?

Come dressed in your favorite hat!

Sit, sip and remember to keep those pinkies in the air while you bid on our purses.

Each purse comes with a mystery surprise inside!



If you have questions regarding the presence of a service dog, please contact me:

[lorrainemixer@aol.com](mailto:lorrainemixer@aol.com) or 863-409-8509.



Yes, this “happy guy” is our own, Rabbi Herzfeld as he left for his vacation!  
He is looking forward to seeing you and new guests and welcoming the Sabbath.

Be sure to join us for the:

## Welcome Back Dinner

September 9<sup>th</sup>, 6pm  
\$12 per person

### MENU

Fettucine Alfredo

Gluten free Ziti

Chicken Breast

Salad

Dessert

The Rabbi is looking forward to dining with you.

Please RSVP to Lorraine Mixter no later than September 1<sup>st</sup> at:  
[lorrynemixter@aol.com](mailto:lorrynemixter@aol.com) or 863-409-8509

Your check is your reservation. Send your check to Temple Beth Shalom  
P.O. Box 313, Winter Haven, FL 33882





## High Holidays are early this year.

High Holiday Tickets are included in your membership and are \$100 per person in advance for guests.

Break the Fast cost is \$10 per person.

Please send your check to: Temple Beth Shalom,  
HH Tickets, P.O. Box 313, Winter Haven, FL 33882

## Our High Holiday Schedule is:

September 9, 2023	
6:00	p.m. Dinner with the Rabbi
7:00	p.m. Selichot Program and Service
September 16, 2023	
7:30	p.m. Erev Rosh Hashanah
September 17, 2023	
10:30	a.m. Rosh Hashanah Morning Service
September 24, 2023	
7:30	p.m. Kol Nidre
September 25, 2023	
10:30	a.m. Yom Kippur Morning Service
3:00	p.m. Discussion
4:00	p.m. Yom Kippur Afternoon Service
4:30	p.m. Stone Service followed by Yiskor
5:00	p.m. Neilah
6:00	p.m. Break the Fast





# **SUMMER LAY SERVICES**

Were AWESOME!

Many thanks to our Guest Speakers:

Beverly Lerner:

“Going from ‘Blah’ to ‘Ahhh’: a Personal Story with a Semi-Serious Message”

Sandi & Phil Grinker, Bar-b-que

Bert Devorsetz leading services

Howard Kerner:

"4 Jewish Forgers & 3 Jewish Celebrities"

Jessica Lawson, Development and Community Relations Associate at:

Peace River Victims Center Programs



## **Are you the Son or Daughter of a Holocaust Survivor?**

We are an active group who share a common heritage and are partnered with the Florida Holocaust Museum. With our monthly (zoom) Book Club and Movie programs, we have all become enriched with the depth and breadth of our history. For those seeking to broaden their friendships, we also have monthly In-Person lunches and other social functions.

For more information, please contact Susan Nolan at 954.592.1992 or [snolan318@gmail.com](mailto:snolan318@gmail.com)



# Maj Jong Ladies



The Mah Jong ladies meet every Tuesday at noon. Feel free to bring your lunch and eat with them before they play.

If you would like learn how to play Mah Jong, we will teach you.

For more information [sandigrinker@gmail.com](mailto:sandigrinker@gmail.com) 863-207-7440.

## Good Cheer Committee

Our resident artist, Polly Weinmann is our new Chairperson of the “Good Cheer Committee”.

Please share your name and date if you wish to receive greetings on your birthday, anniversary or at times when you just need an uplifting note.

Email: [mom2furkids1@gmail.com](mailto:mom2furkids1@gmail.com)

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	BIRTHDATE (NO YEAR)	ANNIVERSARY
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# September Calendar

Sep 3	9:30 a.m.	Brotherhood/Sisterhood at Angie's Restaurant in the Hamptons Clubhouse
Sep 5	10:30 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Sep 5	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
Sep 7	6:30 p.m.	Tiger Town – Gates open at 5:30 – Purchase tickets in advance for \$8
Sep 8	7:30 p.m.	Religious Services with Rabbi Herzfeld via Zoom
Sep 9	6:00 p.m.	Welcome Back Rabbi Herzfeld (\$12) followed by Selichot Service
Sep 10	9:30 a.m.	TBS Board Meeting
Sep 12	10:00 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Sep 12	11:00 a.m.	Maj Jong
Sep 12	12:00 a.m.	Book Club
Sep 16	7:30 p.m.	Erev Rosh Hashanah
Sep 17	10:30 a.m.	Rosh Hashanah Morning Service
Sep 24	7:30 p.m.	Kol Nidre
Sep 25	10:30 a.m.	Yom Kippur Morning Service
Sep 25	3:00 p.m.	Yom Kippur Discussion
Sep 25	4:00 p.m.	Yom Kippur Afternoon Service
Sep 25	4:30 p.m.	Stone Service followed by Yiskor
Sep 25	5:00 p.m.	Neilah
Sep 25	6:00 p.m.	Break the Fast (\$10)
Sep 26	10:30 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Sep 26	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong

For more information, please email: [web@templebethshalompolk.org](mailto:web@templebethshalompolk.org)

or call: 863-292-0722





The Brotherhood/Sisterhood will meet:  
Sunday, September 3rd at 9:30 a.m.  
at Angie's Restaurant in The Hamptons Clubhouse.  
Come early to enjoy breakfast and conversation with other caring people.

Let's welcome summer.....  
**TAKE US OUT TO THE BALLGAME**



Join us. Temple Beth Shalom Brotherhood/Sisterhood September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Lakeland Flying Tigers vs Tampa NY.

Gates open @ 5:30 pm --- Game starts @ 6:30 pm.

Cost is \$9.00 for under 60 years old.

Cost is \$8.00 for 60 years Plus.

Food and drinks are at your cost.

Parking is FREE!

Make payment to: Temple Beth Shalom Brotherhood  
c/o Joseph Rodriguez, 3210 Great Heron Loop, Polk City, Fla. 33868

**Payment must be received by August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023.**

Root, root, root for the Home Team.

Catch a foul ball.



Contact Joseph Rodriguez at [jrodtbs2021@gmail.com](mailto:jrodtbs2021@gmail.com) for more information.



## Onegs (also known as Kiddush)

**The mitzvah of sponsoring an Oneg is a great way to celebrate any milestone from a birth, birthday, bar/bat mitzvah, anniversary, graduation, or a loved one’s yahrzeit.**

A Congregational Oneg not only provides a meaningful tribute to a loved one with an acknowledgement in Chai Lites and a charitable donation receipt, it more importantly provides blessings to the family with the words spoken by friends, members, and attendees to the sponsoring family. Kiddush/Oneg sponsorship helps strengthen your connection to the community while enhancing our community’s Shabbat experience.

To celebrate your milestone with an Oneg, please contact Arlene Greenberg.

**Arlene Greenberg, our Oneg Coordinator is retiring. She is looking for a person to take over coordinating sign ups as host or hostess for Onegs.**

Please contact Arlene to reserve your Oneg spot or to volunteer to take over this responsibility at: [arlenegreenberg@gmail.com](mailto:arlenegreenberg@gmail.com)

September 9	Selichot Welcome Back Dinner (Meryl Crews Organizer)
September 15	Judy Richter, LeeAnn Martinez, Lorraine Mixer, and Meryl Crews
October 6	Judy Richter
November 3	Margo Fleisher

## Thank You's: there is always something to be thankful for!

- Thank you to Judy Richter, LeeAnn Martinez, Lorraine Mixer, and Meryl Crews for honey cakes and apples and honey.
- Thank you to Bobby Baum for baking challah for our Onegs.
- Thank you to Arlene Greenberg for organizing our Onegs.
- Thank you to our Soloist Meryl Crews for her musical performance during our services.
- Thank you to Margo Fleisher for her photography and directing skills during our Zoom Services and our Board meetings as well as her secretarial skills.
- Thank you to Margo Fleisher for proofing Chai Lites and sending our meeting notices to all of you.
- Thank you to Meryl Crews for mailing Chai Lites to members who have no access to email.

## Donations

- TBS Maj Jong group made a donation to help cover the increase in air conditioning cost.

## Temple Beth Shalom Committees

Do you want to be an integral part of our temple community?

Join one of the volunteer committees below.

Contact Beverly Lerner for more information on how to become a member at: [bevlerner@aol.com](mailto:bevlerner@aol.com)

Executive Committee

Pulpit

Publicity

Directory, Chai Lites

Book Club – **New members are welcome**

House – **Volunteer needed**

Membership

Onegs – **Volunteer needed**

Social Action – **Volunteer needed**

Dinner with the Rabbi – **Volunteer needed**

Special Projects



A great action photo of the Tuesday morning Yoga practice.

From Left to Right: Joyce Preston (yogi), Sybil Weiss, Arlene Greenberg, Beverly Lerner, Judy Richter and Sandi Grinker.

## **Chair Yoga at the Temple**

See the September calendar for dates and times.

Join us for chair yoga at the Temple. Temple member and certified yoga instructor Joyce Preston guides us through this gentle, beneficial activity using simple props, music and clear directions. Joyce makes it fun and easy while still challenging for even our more advanced participants.

Come join us. \$5 per session.

Contact Beverly Lerner for more information. 863-294-6042 (home)

[Bevlerner@aol.com](mailto:Bevlerner@aol.com)

## **Mishaberach List**

For those of you who do not plan to worship in person, you may add names to the Mishaberach list that is read at each service.

Please send names to: [lorrainemixter@aol.com](mailto:lorrainemixter@aol.com)





Temple Beth Shalom introduces:  
Chai Lites Boosters, a Wish List for much needed upgrades for our  
building.

By donating Chai, \$18 your name will be published as a “Chai Lites Booster” in  
our monthly newsletter for a period of one year.

Yes, I want to be a Chai Lites “Booster”

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
for \_\_\_\_\_ years.

Please show my name as: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate Chai Lites Booster on your check.

Please mail your check to: Temple Beth Shalom

Attn: Boosters

P.O. Box 313, Winter Haven, Fl 33882

**Chai Lites Boosters**

Donor Name	Month	Expiration	Donor Name	Month	Expiration
Korina Masters	June 7	2024	Your Name Here		
Herb LaShay	May 16	2024	Beverly Lerner	June 9	2028
Brotherhood/Sisterhood	May 4	2031	Jeffrey Goldblatt	June 13	2026
Ken Triester	Aug 4	2024	Bobby Baum	May 16	2024
Jerry Kosten	July 19	2026	Jerry Heyman	June 16	2026
Clint & Barbara Brooks	Aug 28	2024	Korina Masters	Aug 18	2025
Janis Koike	Jan 26	2027	Jackie Korn	Nov 15	2023

## September Yahrzeits

Yahrzeit Date	Deceased	Relationship
Sep	Rose Korn (Reizel bat Zvi)	mother of Howard Korn
Sep	Harry Mayer	father of Max Mayer
1-Sep	Ruth Landesman	mother of Deanna Schwartz
2-Sep	Chuck Bendersky	perpetual yahrzeit
3-Sep	Mae Gasson	mother-in- law of Sandy Gasson
3-Sep	Jacob Martinez	husband of LeeAnn Martinez
5-Sep	Carol Lemonds	mother of Craig Lemonds
7-Sep	Louis Epstein	father of Joe Epstein
7-Sep	Helene Spiwak	mother of Randy Spiwak
7-Sep	Gertrude Wacks	mother of Lois Levine
9-Sep	Sam Miller	Father of Steve Miller
9-Sep	Rebecca Studiem	mother of Sheila Watkins
9-Sep	Arnold Geller	brother of Saul Siegel
10-Sep	Sam Kosten	father of Jerry Kosten
10-Sep	Harry Mayer	Father of Max Mayer
12-Sep	Bernard Horowitz	father of Stephen Horowitz
13-Sep	Arnold Weitzenkorn	father of Paul Weitzenkorn
15-Sep	Joseph Rotenberg	father-in-law of Varda Rotenberg
15-Sep	Gladys Cohen (Malka)	mother of Allen Cohen
16-Sep	Harry Brand	grandfather of Michelle Wilson
16-Sep	Phillip F. Lerner	grandfather of Rob Lerner
17-Sep	Herman Danzig	brother of Bernie Danzig
17-Sep	Louis Halpert	father of Martin Halpert
18-Sep	Hyam Kantor	grandfather of Irwin Korn
18-Sep	Linda Small	wife of Norman Small
19-Sep	Morris Steinberg	father of Sandi Grinker
19-Sep	Inga Davis	mother of Ellen Salm
20-Sep	Isabel Kaskel	sister of Herbert LeShay
25-Sep	Robert Morris	grandfather of Jennifer Morris
25-Sep	Shirley Fisher	mother of Zeal Fisher
28-Sep	Harry Ross	father of Dick Ross
29-Sep	Bruce Shuster	cousin of Phil Grinker

**Yahrzeit Reminders - May their memories be a Blessing**

**A candle should be lit the night before at sundown.**

You may say Kaddish with the Temple Beth Shalom community during Friday services.

It is customary at this time to give tzedakah in memory of your loved one.

To make a donation to any Temple Beth Shalom fund or to purchase a yahrzeit plaque, please contact us at: 863-292-0722.

**Do you have a question and don't know who to ask, contact  
our Board members.....**

**Our 2023 – 2024 Temple Board of Directors**

**President: Lorraine Mixter ( [lorrainemixter@aol.com](mailto:lorrainemixter@aol.com) )**

**Vice President: Bert Devorsetz ( [bertdevorsetz@gmail.com](mailto:bertdevorsetz@gmail.com) )**

**Treasurer: Michael Craig ( [michaelcraig179@gmail.com](mailto:michaelcraig179@gmail.com) )**

**Secretary: Margo Fleisher ( [margosfb@hotmail.com](mailto:margosfb@hotmail.com) )**

**Past President: Joseph Rodriguez ( [jrodtbs2021@gmail.com](mailto:jrodtbs2021@gmail.com) )**

**Trustees**

**Meryl Crews**

**Lee Ann Martinez**

**Arlene Greenberg**

**Sandi Grinker**

**Judy Richter**

**Beverly Lerner**

**Thank you to all the members and families who donated and  
thank you to our 2023 Advertisers:**

**Angie's Kitchen at The Hampton's Grill**

**Baum and Knowles College Advising**

**B'nai B'rith**

**Central Buick GMC**

**Crews Transportation**

**Full Cover Insurance Solutions**

**Jo Ann Lesnett**

**Mayer Jewelers**

**Publix**

**Steven Greenberg Insurance**

**Temple Beth Shalom Brotherhood/Sisterhood**

**James Truitt, DMD**

**Joyce Preston**