

Temple Beth Shalom, Polk

## Chai Lites

April 2025

### Pesach

The holiday of [Passover](#) (*Pesach* in Hebrew) is perhaps one of the most central to Jewish life and history. More widely observed than any other holiday, Passover celebrates the biblical account of the Israelites' redemption and escape from 400 years of Egyptian slavery. Holiday rituals include a dramatic retelling of the Exodus story and many unique food traditions. We come together with friends and family to celebrate the great lessons of the story: the blessing of freedom and the reminder that since we were once slaves and were freed, it is our responsibility to work for freedom for all people, everywhere.

The word "Passover" is derived from the Hebrew word *pasach*, which means "passed over," referring to the 10th plague that killed the Egyptian firstborn, but miraculously "passed over" the houses of the Israelites.

Each year at Passover, we eat special foods, sing songs, tell stories, and participate in a seder – a special meal designed to help us remember this miraculous journey from slavery to freedom.

Traditionally recited at the seder by the youngest child present, the Four Questions, or *Mah Nishtanah* in Hebrew, ask about certain Passover rituals

Since asking questions is a key part of what makes the seder so special, don't be shy about asking your own questions about Passover and seeking out answers with children at your seder as well.



# President's Musings

by Lorraine Mixer

I am looking for volunteers to assist with our Passover Seder to make this a special event. Every year we have a wonderful Seder meal, but it doesn't happen without your help.



I need your help: Boiling eggs for the Seder Plates, Setting up the tables, Creating Seder Plates, Preparing food for serving, Serving food, and Cleaning up.

If you would like to volunteer, please let me know by contacting: [lorrainemixer@aol.com](mailto:lorrainemixer@aol.com)  
Or text or call: 863-409-8509

Our Calendar Meeting will be held on May 11<sup>th</sup>. If you have an activity you would like to see on our calendar for next year, please let a Board member know.

Michael and I are stepping down from our positions on the Executive Board. I will become Past President. Michael will be enjoying his retirement! We both hope to do lots of traveling! I hope to hear some of the plans Sandi and Bert have made since they won't have to get up early for our meetings!

I've served two terms as your President. I've guided our Board through many decisions and I am leaving the Board with the ability to step up to the next challenge. Stay tuned, the fun is only beginning.

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

# Temple Beth Shalom Slate of New Officers

## 2025-2026

President: Joseph Rodriguez

Vice President: Uriah Rose

Secretary: Margo Fleisher

Treasurer: Lee Ann Martinez

Past President: Lorraine Mixer

Brotherhood/Sisterhood President: Beverly Lerner

Trustees:

Diana Kramer

Arlene Greenberg

Bobby Baum

Ethan Feldman

Jeffrey Goldblatt



The Book Club will meet at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>.

The April choice is:

*The Love Elixir of Augusta Stern* by Lynda Cohen Loigman



# An 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration

We joined the family of Krystal Rose to celebrate her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday at Bonnet Springs Park.



# Notes from the Past Pres.

by Joseph Rodriguez

2025 April Chai Lites

“The most certain sign of wisdom is cheerfulness.”

~ Michel de Montaigne

Shalom Aleichem!

The end of April calls for the election of the Board of Directors and Officers for Temple Beth Shalom. We must cheer for the wisdom of our Past Board.

Hard choices had to be made recently to enable our congregation to continue without the raising of tithes. We are well below the biblical tradition of ten percent. Traditional Jewish law and practice has included various forms of tithing since ancient times. Orthodox Jews commonly practice *ma'aser kesefin* (tithing 10% of their income to charity). In modern Israel, some religious Jews continue to follow the laws of agricultural tithing. The tithe is specifically mentioned in the Books of *Leviticus*, *Numbers*, and *Deuteronomy*. So, if you can give a little more to Temple Beth Shalom please do so.



Our new Board will have further hard choices. The new Board will need to have the Wisdom to keep us all Cheerful.

**Temple Beth Shalom Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 2:00pm.**

May Peace Be With You!

Joseph Rodriguez, Past President

[JrodTBS2021@gmail.com](mailto:JrodTBS2021@gmail.com)

*See us on Facebook or on our Website!*

# Dinner with the Rabbi

Join us for dinner in our Social Hall to say farewell to

Rabbi Herzfeld,

followed by a pre-Shavuot service.

May 30<sup>th</sup> at 6pm

RSVP to: Lorraine Mixer:

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



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## April Calendar

Apr 1	10:00 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Apr 1	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
Apr 6	9:30 a.m.	Brotherhood/Sisterhood at Schalamar Creek Community Restaurant
Apr 8	10:00 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Apr 8	11:00 a.m.	Book Club
Apr 8	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
Apr 13	6:00 p.m.	Passover Seder
Apr 15	10:00 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Apr 15	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
Apr 25	7:00 p.m.	Lay Service
Apr 26	TBD	Pontoon Boat Ride
Apr 27	2:00 p.m.	Annual Meeting
Apr 29	10:00 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Apr 29	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
May 4	9:30 a.m.	Brotherhood/Sisterhood at Schalamar Creek Community Restaurant

For more information, please email [web@templebethshalompolk.org](mailto:web@templebethshalompolk.org)  
or call: 863-292-0722

# Brotherhood Sisterhood

The Brotherhood/Sisterhood membership is open to all TBS members and their spouses.

We brunch at Schalamar Creek Golf & Country Club Restaurant  
4500 U.S. 92, Lakeland, Florida 33801

Come join us on the First Sunday of each Month.

@ 9:00 am for social time and monthly meeting following.

Dues are \$25.00 per year for Family Voting Rights.

*Everyone is Welcome to all our Events.*

**Our next event is a Pontoon Boat Ride**

**1 hour pontoon boat ride on Saturday, April 26. We'll leave from the Harborside dock at 10 AM. Please arrive 15minutes before.**

**\$25 per person, additional tip is optional. Contact [livingwatercruise.com](http://livingwatercruise.com) directly to add your name to the list, or to confirm your reservation.**



Bobby And Diane Baum, Jeffrey Goldblatt, Michael Craig, Beverly Lerner and Lorraine Mixer toured the Lakeridge Winery during the last Brotherhood/Sisterhood event on Sunday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

We had perfect weather and lunched afterwards at Olive Garden.



The Brotherhood/Sisterhood Presents:

## *Cabaret Risque*

Limited Seating

COMETO  
**CABERET  
RJSQUE**  
LAUGH, LEARN & ENJOY YOUR FRIEND'S TALENTS  
A BROTHERHOOD/SISTERHOOD PRODUCTION

Snacks Available

Drinks Available  
Soda, Soft Drink, Pop,  
Fizzy Drink, Soda Pop,  
Carbonated Drink

For Tickets : Contact  
Joseph Rodriguez  
[JrodTBS2021@gmail.com](mailto:JrodTBS2021@gmail.com)

June 22, 2025 @ 1:30pm  
Temple Beth Shalom  
1029 Bradbury Road  
Winter Haven, Fl

Tickets:  
\$10.00

Headliner: Comedian  
Ethan Feldman

Calling all Performers, if you have a talent and would like to present on stage, or a hobby that you would like to demonstrate, come sign up!

Sing up with: Joseph Rodriguez  
[jrodTBS2021@gmail.com](mailto:jrodTBS2021@gmail.com)





## 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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## Onegs (also known as Kiddush)

**The mitzvah of sponsoring an Oneg is a wonderful 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, but 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.  
Please contact Arlene to reserve your Oneg spot or to volunteer to take over this responsibility at:  
[arlenegreenberg@gmail.com](mailto:arlenegreenberg@gmail.com)



# 2024 – 2025 Directories are ready

Many thanks to Ethan Feldman for his diligent work formatting our 2024 – 2025 Directory.

If you received an email copy, the printed version has many corrections. Members only are invited to pick up a copy of the printed version.

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



- Thank you to Diana Kramer for organizing *Aliyahs* on Shabbat.
- Thank you to Bobby Baum for providing delicious homemade Challah.
- Thank you to Arlene Greenberg for organizing our Onegs.
- Thank you to Margo Fleisher for her photography and directing skills during our Zoom Services and our Board meetings & Torah Study as well as her secretarial skills.
- Thank you to Meryl Crews' family for coordinating and paying for the exterminator.
- Thank you to Beverly Lerner for sending thank you notes.
- Thank you to Polly Weinmann for sending greeting cards.
- Thank you to the Maj Jong ladies for their donations.

## Donations

- Beverly Lerner has made a donation to the Temple.
- Diane Murphy has made a donation to the Temple.
- Bert Devorsetz made a donation in honor of Adrienne Sundheim.
- Deena Williams has made a donation to the Temple.
- Arlene Greenberg has made a donation for good health for Meryl Crews.
- Sandy Gasson has made a donation for the building maintenance.
- Joan Menotti has made a donation for the building maintenance.
- Sandy Gasson has made a donation in honor of her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- Barron Krisher has made a donation in honor of the Jewish people.
- Lee Ann Martinez has made a donation for the Passover Seder.
- Gerald Bahr has made a donation to the Building Fund.
- Lee Ann Martinez has made a donation for the building maintenance.
- Sharon Shuller has made a donation for Meryl Crew's complete recovery.
- William Thompson has made a donation for help in signage removal.



Lay Services  
April 25<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.



## Maj Jong Ladies



The Mah Jong ladies meet every Tuesday at noon.

We love our Maj Ladies. They are sharing the expense of using our building. Thank you, ladies, for your contributions of water, soda, paper towels, flatware, etc.!

Feel free to bring your lunch and eat with them before they play. If you would like to learn how to play Mah Jong, they will teach you.

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

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
Diana Kramer	3-Mar	2026	Joseph Rodriguez	13-Aug	2026
Janis Koike	26-Jan	2027	Beverly Lerner	9-Jun	2028
Brotherhood/Sisterhood	4-May	2031	Jeffrey Goldblatt	13-Jun	2026
Jerry Kosten	19-Jul	2026	Jerry Heyman	16-Jun	2026
Bobby Baum	3-Mar	2026	Your name here		
Barbara Brooks	28-Aug	2027	Korina Masters	18-Aug	2025
Arlene Greenberg	13-Jun	2025	Varda Rottenberg	3-Mar	2026

## April Yahrzeits

Yahrzeit Date	Deceased	Relationship
Apr	Henrietta Eisenberg	grandmother of Sue Zwerling
Apr	Sophie Guttenberg	mother of Sandy Gasson
Apr	Bessie Steckel	grandmother of Robert Poller
Apr	Esther (Tillie) Schwartz	mother of Jay Schwartz
Apr	Bertha Poller	mother of Robert Poller
Apr	Rebecca Kogan	mother of Brenda Poller
Apr	Greta Mayer	aunt of Max Mayer (sister of founding member Frank Mayer)
2-Apr	Barry Schwartz	brother of Jay Schwartz
2-Apr	Rebecca Bovarsky	grandmother of Sandi Grinker
3-Apr	Henry B Grinker	father of Phil Grinker
7-Apr	Anne Kastner	aunt of Meryl Crews
8-Apr	Raye Korn	mother of Irwin Korn
8-Apr	Jacob Neuberger	father of Stuart Neuberger
10-Apr	Betty Silverman	mother of Myran Soberman
11-Apr	Sawyer Caldwell	great-grandson of Aase Feder
12-Apr	Ruth Cooper	perpetual yahrzeit
13-Apr	Jay Burns III	husband of Dulcie Burns
15-Apr	Mattie Wolf	perpetual yahrzeit
16-Apr	William Cohen (Velvel)	father of Allen Cohen
16-Apr	Emanuel Schwartz	father of Jay Schwartz
16-Apr	Glorya Weintraub	mother of Jo Ann Lesnett
17-Apr	Helen Forman	mother of Shelley Epstein
17-Apr	Rose Cohen Small	mother of Norman Small
18-Apr	Antinogenes (AJ) Rodriguez	father of Joseph Rodriguez
18-Apr	Steven Schlosberg	father of Rory Schlosberg
19-Apr	Mae Klaus	mother of Carolyn Neuberger
20-Apr	Irwin Cohen	brother of Allen Cohen
21-Apr	Dorothy Ort	mother of Michael Ort
23-Apr	Sarah Golfman	grandmother of Sharon Shuller
24-Apr	Melvin M Greenbaum	brother of Korina Masters
24-Apr	Sidney Zabar	perpetual yahrzeit
25-Apr	Nate LeShay	uncle of Herbert LeShay
25-Apr	Marguerite Rosenberg-Bowen	second mother of Robert Poller
27-Apr	Linda Jean Gurin	sister of Janis Koike
27-Apr	Marilou Schwachter Sniderman	mother of Barbara Brooks
27-Apr	Erica Sue Fridovich	cousin of Lorraine Mixter

### 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.

Candles may be purchased at the temple.

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.



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**

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)



**Thank you to all the members and families who donated and thank you to our 2024 Advertisers:**

**Baum and Knowles College Advising**

**Full Cover Insurance Solutions**

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**Putters Restaurant on the 9<sup>th</sup>, Restaurant and Bar**

**Steven Greenberg Insurance**

**B'nai Brith Lodge**

**Temple Beth Shalom Brotherhood/Sisterhood**

**Joyce Preston**

**Crews Transportation**