

Temple Beth Shalom, Polk

Chai Lites

May 2025

Emeritus

At some point, every congregation faces a time of rabbinic transition – and the process is inevitably an emotional one.

The amazing thing about the Jewish tradition is that there is a prayer for everything. There is a prayer for new beginnings, a prayer for seeing lightning and a different prayer for the rainbow after the storm. There is a prayer for seeing a beautiful person, and prayer for smelling a flower, even a prayer for using the bathroom.

In May we say farewell, and launch Rabbi Herzfeld into his next endeavor, and we pray that his transition to retirement or semi-retirement is an easy one. We hope to have him return as a guest or an honored member to our services or one of our Brotherhood/Sisterhood events.

Rabbi Herzfeld's departure is notable as he has been the only Reform Jewish Rabbi in Polk County, Florida for the last 13 years. He has the distinction of being our congregation's longest serving Rabbi.

Rabbi Herzfeld has presided over many *b'nai mitzvah* and funeral services. He has led us in *Shabbats*, *Seders* and many memorable *Purim megilaot*.

Join us in honoring Rabbi Herzfeld on May 30th with a delicious meal and following the meal, a service and the bestowing of Rabbi Emeritus.



Past President's Musings

by Lorraine Mixer

Yes, you read that header correctly. I am now the Past President. During our Annual Meeting on April 27th our new Board was voted in. You can find the list of new Board officers and trustees in this issue of Chai Lites.



Thank you for the opportunity to show my leadership in being your TBS Board President. It has been my pleasure to serve with my fellow Board members in guiding the path of our congregation.

Michael and I have plans to fill up our spare time now with trips and family obligations that were left aside during the last two years.

Our newsletter 'Chai Lites' is being revamped by an new editor; Ethan Feldman. Please submit ideas to him and to Joseph Rodriguez for future articles and format.

Our 2025-2026 Calendar Meeting will be held on May 11th. If you have an activity you would like to see on our calendar for next year, please let a Board member know, or attend the meeting yourself.

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
863-409-8509

Temple Beth Shalom Slate 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

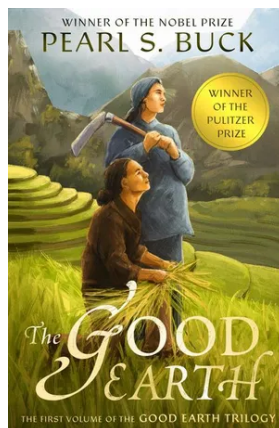
Jeffrey Goldblatt



The Book Club will meet at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 13th.

The May choice is:

The Good Earth by Pearl S. Buck



Our Passover Seder was well attended.



Notes from the Pres

2025 May Chai Lites

“Officeholders are the agents of the people, not their masters.”

~ Grover Cleveland

Shalom Aleichem!

I AM BACK!

Based on past experience as President of Temple Beth Shalom, I know some on the problems and pit falls a President must go through. Hopefully with several members returning to the Board, we can do better. We know Polk County is no longer Recycling, but We Are.

I wish to thank past officers for their help in getting to this point in Temple history. I feel as if we are starting anew. BUT, we need past officers to continue as a Chairman of Temple Committees. We need new members to get involved. We need old members to come back. We need the community to direct officers or agents of Temple Beth Shalom. All Board meetings are on the second Sunday of the month and are open to Congregates whom wish to attend.

Please send me any suggestions on which direction you wish us to go. One item is having a service on Saturday morning at the beginning of each month and one on Friday night later in the month. This should help congregates who do not drive at night. Watch our calendar for dates of activities.

Our first fundraiser is Club Risqué. The plan for Club Risqué is to have FUN! We still need more performers. If you believe you have a talent show it off. Come and join Comedian Ethan Feldman, Nurse Debbie, singing sensitive Kerner, Arlene's children's interpretations of the Bible, and much more including the Temple Beth Shalom Players lead by Beverly Lerner.



May Peace Be With You!

Joseph Rodriguez, Past President

JrodTBS2021@gmail.com

See us on Facebook or 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.

we will honor Rabbi Herzfeld as Rabbi Emeritus
during this, his last service at Temple Beth Shalom.

May 30th at 6pm

RSVP to: Sandi Grinker:

Be our guests for this wonderful and bittersweet occasion.

R.S.V.P. by May 18th to: Sandigrinker@gmail.com
or text or call: 863-207-7440



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 863-207-7440.

May Calendar

May 4	10:00 a.m.	Brotherhood/Sisterhood at Putters Restaurant in The Hamptons Clubhouse
May 6	10:00 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
May 6	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
May 10	11:00 a.m.	Lay Service – Joseph Rodriguez
May 11	9:30 a.m.	TBS Board Meeting
May 13	10:00 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
May 13	11:00 a.m.	Book Club
May 13	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
May 18	TBD	Tails of the Wild – Brotherhood/Sisterhood Trip
May 20	10:00 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
May 20	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
May 27	10:00 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
May 27	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
May 30	6:00 p.m..	Dinner Honoring Rabbi Herzfeld and Pre-Shavuot Service
May 31	10:00 a.m.	Torah Study

For more information, please email web@templebethshalompolk.org
or call: 863-292-0722

Summer Lay Service Schedule

Our wonderful members take turns during the summer giving us presentations on hobbies, holidays and past experiences.

We have brief services following their presentations.

Saturday May 10 th	11:00AM	Joseph Rodriguez
Saturday June 14 th	11:00AM	Open
Friday June 27 th	7:00PM	Open
Saturday July 12 th	11:00AM	Open
Friday July 25 th	7:00PM	Open
Saturday August 9 th	11:00AM	Joseph Rodriguez (Tu B'Av)
Friday August 22 nd	7:00PM	Open

If you wish to lead a Summer Lay Service, please contact Joseph Rodriguez @ (561) 301-1268.





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

We will brunch at Putters Restaurant in the Hamptons Club House
4500 U.S. 92, Lakeland, Florida 33801

Come join us on the First Sunday of each Month.

@ 10:00 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.

Tentatively planned for Sunday May 18

Tails of the Wild Adventure Tour

15081 Commonwealth Ave. N.

Polk City, Fl. 33868

Admission \$25 for adults

\$15 for children

Children under 2 are free.

Tailsofthewild@gmail.com

Phone: 863-576-8077



Get up close with our incredible **animal ambassadors** and experience the magic of wildlife like never before! Our guided tours take you behind the scenes to meet rescued exotic animals, hear their inspiring stories, and learn how they help raise awareness for their wild counterparts.



The Brotherhood/Sisterhood Presents:

Cabaret Risque

Limited Seating

COME TO
**CABARET
RISQUE**
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

Tickets:
\$10.00

Headliner: Comedian
Ethan Feldman

For Tickets : Contact
Joseph Rodriguez
JrodTBS2021@gmail.com

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

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!

Sign up with: Joseph Rodriguez
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

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



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

- Baron Krisher has made a donation in honor of the Jewish people.

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

May Yahrzeits

Yahrzeit Date	Deceased	Relationship
May	Zina Chain	grandmother of Lloyd Chain
May	Irving Ort	father of Michael Ort
May	Lillian Zwerling	mother-in-law of Susan Zwerling
May	Gay Hill	mother of Linda Small
1-May	Lila M. Held	mother of Rabbi Garson Herzfeld
2-May	Janet Miller	mother of Steve Miller
2-May	Abraham Meyer	father of Lee Ann Martinez
4-May	Evelyn Goldstein	grandmother of Lorraine Mixter
4-May	Victor Golfman	grandfather of Sharon Shuller
6-May	Louis Jay Masters	son of Korina Masters
7-May	Beatrice Greenberg	mother-in-law of Arlene Greenberg
7-May	Yudell L. Luke	father of Janis Koike
8-May	Alan Treister	son of Ken and Helyne Treister
10-May	Jules Briklod	father of Meryl Chayt and husband of Beatrice Briklod
10-May	Miriam Gessner	perpetual yartzeit
11-May	Elizabeth Kohen	grandmother of Margo Fleisher
11-May	Mark Miller	perpetual yartzeit
13-May	Nat Heyman	father of Jerry Heyman
15-May	Bessie Browde	mother of Arlene Greenberg
17-May	Theresa Baum	mother of Robert Baum
18-May	Aharon Bromberg	father of Varda Rotenberg
18-May	Robert Poller, PhD	husband of Brenda Poller
19-May	Belle Ross	mother of Dick Ross
19-May	Edith Weiner	mother-in-law of Dick Ross
21-May	Frank Mayer	brother of Max Mayer
22-May	Rabbi Frank N. Sundheim	Rabbi Emeritus, husband of Adrianne Sundheim
23-May	Natalie Lubin	mother of Edward Lubin
23-May	Leslie Peckman (Lazah Michel)	brother of Renee Cohen
23-May	Alex LeShay	father of Herbert LeShay
24-May	Martin N. Kogan	father of Brenda Poller
24-May	Stephen Soberman	husband of Myrna Soberman
25-May	Bernard Masters	husband of Korina Masters
29-May	Stephen Shuller	brother of Sharon Shuller
30-May	Jerry Miles Kosten	brother of Cary Kosten
30-May	Susan Heller	cousin of Polly Weinmann
31-May	Sarah Gripp	mother of Jacqueline Korn
31-May	Jeanne Heyman	wife of Jerry Heyman

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

**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

Mayer Jewelers

Publix

Putters Restaurant on the 9th, Restaurant and Bar

Steven Greenberg Insurance

B'nai Brith Lodge

Temple Beth Shalom Brotherhood/Sisterhood

Joyce Preston

Crews Transportation