

Temple Beth Shalom, Polk

Chai Lites

August 2025

SHALOM ROAMERS

We were visited at our last Friday Shabbat service by a member of the Shalom Roamers.

Stu Bell was so pleased to have found a warm, welcoming congregation in Winter Haven that he wrote about us in the Shalom Roamers blog.

We are always pleased to have guests join us to worship.

The Shalom Roamers Chapter is a place for members to gather together to celebrate the Jewish RVing community. While personal philosophies and practices vary widely among us, they are united in a common commitment to maintaining Judaism in their lives while traveling in RV's.

They hold an annual winter rally during the third week in December at Sun-N-Fun Resort in Sarasota with many fun activities including the Jewish tradition of a Movie and Chinese dinner on Christmas Day. Other gatherings are planned throughout the year.

To join them and make new friends for life, contact them at ShalomRoamers@gmail.com.

Past President's Musings

by Lorraine Mixer

Our Lay Services have been very well attended this summer. Our next Lay Service on August 9th at 11:00am will be led by Bobby Baum. We have been enjoying the challah Bobby bakes for several months now. Please join Bobby on the 9th to worship.



In this copy of *Chai Lites* you will find forms to complete if you would like to put a *Rosh Hashanah* greeting in the next edition of our Temple Beth Shalom directory.

Please send the completed the directory form and payment to my attention at: Temple Beth Shalom, P.O. Box 313, Winter Haven, FL 33882.

Members should confirm the address and phone number they want published in our directory. Changes in the information currently in the directory should be sent to me at: lorrainemixer@aol.com.

We are planning a Meet and Greet to introduce Rabbi Guyster to our congregants. Keep August 24th at 11 am open so that you may join us in welcoming Rabbi Guyster. Light refreshments will be served.

Our own Ethan, Ventura and Hadley Feldman have a new edition to the family. They welcomed Bexleigh to their family!



Lorraine Mixer
TBS Board Past President
lorrainemixer@aol.com
863-409-8509

Temple Beth Shalom Officers

2025-2026

President: Uriah Rose

Secretary: Margo Fleisher

Treasurer: Michael Craig

Past President: Lorraine Mixer

Brotherhood/Sisterhood President: Beverly Lerner

Trustees:

Lee Ann Martinez

Diana Kramer

Arlene Greenberg

Bobby Baum

Ethan Feldman

Jeffrey Goldblatt



The Book Club will meet at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 12th.

The August choice is:

The Carousel by Belva Plain





Temple Beth Shalom is the only reform Jewish congregation in Polk County, located in Winter Haven, Florida.

Our congregation is celebrating over 40 years of devotion to Polk County!

We are preparing our annual Directory. Please help us by supporting this fund-raising project by purchasing a Personal or Commercial Ad for our Chai Notes Directory.

All donors will be acknowledged for their generosity in our monthly newsletter, Chai Lites.

You will find the personal and commercial ad forms attached. Please make checks payable to:
Temple Beth Shalom
P.O. Box 313
Winter Haven, FL 33882-0313

We appreciate you helping us to make our directory a useful community tool.

With warm regards,

Uriah Rose
Congregation President
bodysbyrose@gmail.com

Temple Beth Shalom
Polk County Reform Jewish Congregation
863-292-0722 (messages only)
Mailing Address
P.O. Box 313
Winter Haven, FL 33882-0313

**2025 - 2026
Temple Beth Shalom
High Holidays Chai Notes
Family Message Form**

It's that time of year when we work together to make the source that
enables us to connect with each other by mail, telephone or email:

The Temple Beth Shalom Annual Directory.

Members and guests are invited to express holiday greetings to the
congregation. Please send this completed form and payment to;
Temple Beth Shalom, High Holidays Chai Notes, P.O. Box 313,
Winter Haven, FL 33882-0313

Or email your order to: Lorraine Mixter; lorrainemixter@aol.com

Please return by August 31, 2025



Large Message
\$36



Small Message
\$18

Temple Beth Shalom
Polk County Reform Jewish Congregation
863-292-0722 (messages only)
Mailing Address
P.O. Box 313
Winter Haven, FL 33882-0313



2025- 2026
Temple Beth Shalom Directory
Commercial Ad Order Form

Please complete a separate form for each ad. We can provide limited design work for ads using your art.

Bill to:

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City/ State/ Zip: _____

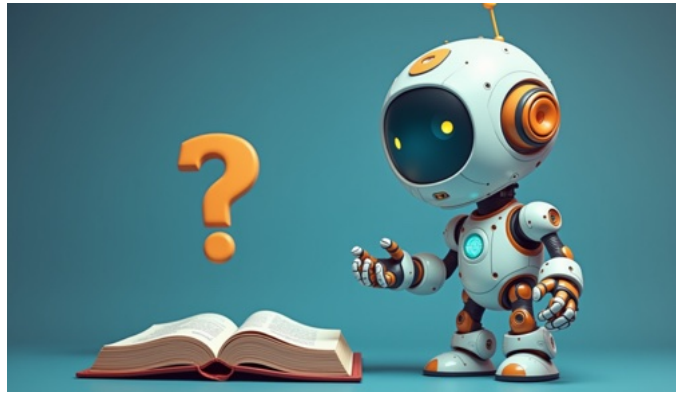
Phone: _____

Print message clearly or attach digital artwork. Please do not staple or fold artwork.

- ☐ Full page (4 ¼" x 7 ½") / \$300.00
- ☐ Half page (4 ¼" x 3 ¼") / \$175.00
- ☐ Quarter page (4 ¼" x 1 ⅞") / \$90.00

Please send this completed form, art and payment to:
Temple Beth Shalom, High Holidays Chai Notes, P.O. Box 313
Winter Haven, FL 33882-0313
or email your order to: lorrainemixter@aol.com

What does the Bible say about Artificial Intelligence?



"AI" stands for Artificial Intelligence. It refers to the ability of computer systems to perform tasks that typically require human intelligence, such as learning, problem-solving, and decision-making.

According to the book of Genesis, G-d created mankind in his own image. Does that mean that creativity, intelligence, and the ability to make good or bad choices comes from G-d?

Like all arts and technologies, the creation of artificial intelligence can be seen as the **expression of G-d-given intelligence**. Without G-d, we do not have the creativity and intelligence to create AI.

Artificial Intelligence can be seen as a tool to help mankind control and manage natural resources more effectively. It helps to solve complex problems, automate processes, and improve the quality of life.

The most advanced AI can do limited reasoning. It can be a good partner to bounce ideas around. In fact, smart uses of AI systems can enrich your Torah studies. So, how will we use it to translate the bible or the Torah?

AI tools can significantly enhance Bible study by offering features like searching scriptures, providing summaries, generating study plans, and even offering tailored insights. However, it's crucial to approach these tools with discernment, ensuring accuracy, contextual understanding, and personal spiritual engagement.

Due to AI chatbots' reliance on human input, they are also liable to pick up biases that are found in the digital database they are drawing from. This could be worrisome because of antisemitic bias that exists on the internet and in society at large.

When looking for Torah study or bible interpretations, you must now look to accurate versions that may or may not include AI versions.

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.



Meet and Greet Rabbi Guyster

August 24th at 11:00 am

1029 Bradbury Rd., Winter Haven, Florida

Please join the congregation of Temple Beth Shalom as we welcome Rabbi Guyster to our congregation.

Light refreshments will be served.

August Calendar

Aug 3	10:00 a.m.	Brotherhood/Sisterhood at Temple Beth Shalom
Aug 5	10:00 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Aug 5	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
Aug 9	11:00 a.m.	Lay Service – Bobby Baum
Aug 10	9:30 a.m.	TBS Board Meeting
Aug 12	10:00 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Aug 12	11:00 a.m.	Book Club
Aug 12	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
Aug 19	10:00 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Aug 19	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
Aug 22	7:00 p.m.	Lay Service – Margo Fleisher & Howard Kerner
Aug 26	10:00 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Aug 26	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
Sep 2	10:00 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Sep 2	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong

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 August 9 th	11:00AM	Bobby Baum – Bumper Sticker Theology
Friday August 22 nd	7:00PM	Howard Kerner & Margo Fleisher – Jewish Achievements



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

We brunch at Temple Beth Shalom

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.

Beverly Lerner, president

Jeffrey Goldblatt, vice president

Sandi Grinker, treasurer

Ethan Feldman, secretary

Please contact the President of Brotherhood/Sisterhood –
Beverly Lerner for more information: bevlerner@aol.com



A Go Fund Me page was started by Debbie Grinker for the benefit of care for Meryl Crews, our wonderful cantorial vocalist as she recovers. Please let Debbie know if you would like the link in order to participate:
Lildeb72@gmail.com



Uriah Rose and Debbie Grinker are shown here with Meryl and Jimmy Crews



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

August 22	Bobby and Diane Baum
September 22	Apples and Honey Cakes needed for Rosh Hashanah



Uriah Rose, conducting Lay Service on Friday, July 25th.

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 as well as her secretarial skills.
- Thank you to Beverly Lerner for sending thank you notes.
- Thank you to Polly Weinmann for sending greeting cards.

Donations

- Barron Krisher has made a donation in honor of the Jewish people.
- Sharon Shuller has made a donation in memory of Sandy Gasson
- Bert Devorsetz has made a donation in memory of Joseph Rodriguez.
- Stuart Bell has made a donation to our building fund.
- Deena Williams has made a donation to the building fund.
- Sybil Weiss has made a donation in memory of Joseph Rodriguez and Sandy Gasson.
- Pam Fox has made a donation in memory of Joseph Rodriguez and Sandy Gasson.
- Margo Fleisher has made a donation for the creation of a *yahrzeit* plaque in honor of Joseph Rodriguez.
- Sharon Shuller has made a donation in memory of Joseph Rodriguez.
- Sharon Johnson has donated directly to Meryl Crews for her care.

Celebration of Life

We would like to thank those who helped donate food for the celebration of life for Joseph Rodriguez:

Arlene Greenberg

Sandi Grinker

Lorraine Mixter

LeeAnn Martinez

Korina Maters

Judy Richter

We would also like to thank Margo Fleisher for organizing Zoom so the family could speak during the Celebration of Life.

Thank you to Rabbi Will Guyster for graciously offering to officiate at the Celebration of Life for Joseph Rodriguez.

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
Your name here			Varda Rottenberg	3-Mar	2026

August Yahrzeits

Yahrzeit Date	Deceased	Relationship
Aug	Sol Sandler	Brooks family
Aug	Phil Lamoureux	father of Michelle Chain
Aug	Leslie Korn (Zave ben Yakov)	father of Howard Korn
Aug	Betty Rosenthal	sister of Carol Stern
Aug	Mildred Rose	grandmother of Uriah Rose
Aug	Ruth Eisenberg	mother of Sue Zwerling
Aug	Becky Zwerling	grandmother of Steve Zwerling
Aug	Alexander Mayer	father of Harry Mayer
Aug	Marie Mayer	mother of Harry Mayer
2-Aug	Dennis Lerner	husband of Bev Lerner
3-Aug	Helen Monaca	mother of Jeanne Heyman
4-Aug	Fred Haas	Perpetual Yahrzeit
10-Aug	Beverly Serpa	Lerner family
11-Aug	Morris Sniderman	grandfather of Barbara Brooks
14-Aug	Marcus Wiley	grandson of Marvin and Elsa Kahn
14-Aug	Julia Sundheim	mother of Rabbi Frank Sundheim
16-Aug	Lucille Heller	aunt of Polly Weinmann
19-Aug	Florence Shuller	mother of Sharon Shuller
25-Aug	Betty Ann Greenbaum Miller	niece of Korina Masters
25-Aug	Rita Rodriguez	sister of Sandy Gasson
27-Aug	Sheldon Steinberg	brother of Sandi Grinker
28-Aug	Sam Lite	perpetual yahrzeit
28-Aug	Alice Molay	perpetual yahrzeit
30-Aug	Blake Gerard	cousin of Lorraine Mixter
31-Aug	Milton Gasson	father of Harry Gasson
31-Aug	Anna Clausen	mother of Aase Feder
31-Aug	Henry Stern	perpetual yahrzeit
31-Aug	Mary Steinberg	mother of Sandi 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.

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,





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:**

Stay tuned for 2025 donations!

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Temple Beth Shalom Brotherhood/Sisterhood

Joyce Preston

Crews Transportation