

Temple Beth Shalom, Polk

Chai Lites

December 2025



We are so excited to welcome a new member into our congregation and into the Jewish faith.

In Judaism, baby naming ceremonies are held shortly after birth to give the child a Hebrew name, often linked to biblical or modern Hebrew words with positive meanings.

Boys are traditionally named at their *brit milah* (circumcision) within the first eight days, while girls are welcomed in a ceremony that can take place anytime in the first few weeks.

While Ashkenazic custom is to name children after deceased relatives, Sephardic and other traditions may name children after living relatives.

The ceremony can occur anywhere, from a synagogue to a private home, and often includes blessings and explanations of the name's significance.

During the ceremony, there is an opportunity for the parents of the new baby to explain their choice of name and its significance to them.

Blessings are said during the ceremony acknowledging that the child has been entered into a *brit*, a covenant, with God. Blessings are also recited for the baby's well-being. The traditional wish is offered - that this child may grow into a life of study of Torah, of loving relationships, and the performance of good deeds.

President's Musings

by Uriah Rose

"Shalom and Happy Hanukkah month to all of you,

As we gather this month to celebrate the Festival of Lights, I want to extend my warmest wishes to you all. Hanukkah is a time of joy, reflection, and rededication. It's a time to remember the bravery and resilience of our ancestors, who fought for the right to practice their faith freely.

As we light the menorah, we're reminded of the power of hope and perseverance. The small flask of oil, the miracle of the Maccabees' victory, and the rededication of the Temple – all these remind us that even in the darkest times, there is always light to be found.

In this season of giving and gratitude, let's take a moment to appreciate the blessings in our lives. Let's cherish our families, friends, and community. Let's strive to spread kindness, compassion, and understanding wherever we go.

As we celebrate Hanukkah, let's also remember the importance of preserving our traditions and passing them down to future generations. Let's teach our children the value of faith, courage, and the pursuit of justice.

May the spirit of Hanukkah guide us throughout the year, and may we continue to be a source of light and inspiration for others.

Wishing you and your loved ones a joyous Hanukkah, and may the Festival of Lights bring you peace, happiness, and fulfillment.

Uriah Rose
President Temple Beth Shalom

just4 today
(863) 292-0722

From the Rav

by Rabbi Will Geyster



Dear TBS Mishpocha! In this season of thanksgiving, it seems that we at Temple Beth Shalom have much for which to feel thankful.

We have seen many new faces and friendly old faces come through our doors these past few months, along with increasing attendance at each service.

We've relaunched a monthly Torah study which, Bezrat HaShamayim, will only increase in frequency. So too, the sheer number of volunteers who make each gathering come alive is always a spectacular sight to witness!

But of all the notable mentions, we have our first (*in a very long time!*) **baby naming ceremony** coming up on Saturday, December 6 (16 Kislev). I hope you'll all come out to join me and the Feldman family to wish them and their little angel the best of mazel during our community's very special simcha.

Not only will there be good food, singing, and good company, but we will also incorporate a special ritual during the baby naming that itself goes back to Abraham and Sarah welcoming the three angels into the Biblical Land of Israel.

May we have much to be thankful for and many more blessings continue to visit us and visit our darling community in the times ahead.

Gut Shabbos and Shabbat Shalom, Rav Guyster

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, December 9th.

The December choice is:

The View of Lake Como by Adriana Trigiani





Happy Hanukkah **Join us for Dinner**



December 19

6pm



A very Dairy Dinner with lots of
Latkes and Sufganiyot,
Drinks & Dessert



Hanukah candles and Dreidels included



\$15 for members
\$18 for non-members



RSVP by December 12th to Arlene

Greenberg: 561-374-0266

Send checks to: Temple Beth Shalom,
P.O. Box 313, Winter Haven, FL 33882

or via Zelle:

web@templebethshalompolk.org



December Calendar

Dec 2	10:00 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Dec 2	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
Dec 6	9:15 a.m.	Torah Study
Dec 6	10:15 a.m.	Shabbat Service
Dec 7	9:00 a.m.	Brotherhood/Sisterhood at Putters on the 9th
Dec 9	10:00 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Dec 9	11:00 a.m.	Book Club
Dec 9	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
Dec 14	9:30 a.m.	TBS Board Meeting
Dec 16	10:00 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Dec 16	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
Dec 19	6:00 p.m.	Chanukah Dinner and Service
Dec 23	10:00 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Dec 23	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
Dec 28	3:00 p.m.	Tails of the Wild
Dec 30	10:00 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Dec 30	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong

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

Temple Maintenance Project Fund

Dear Temple Members,

Our facility on Bradbury Road was completed in 2003. Since then, we have not really invested in any real exterior maintenance which at this point should be considered a necessary goal.

I have received a quote of \$11,680 to perform the following:

Pressure clean the building.

Repair and caulk exterior cracks.

Caulk all windows and doors.

Seal exterior to receive paint.

Paint two coats on exterior including walls, fascia, soffits, gutters and downspouts.

Paint vinyl siding on gables and roof vinyl with vinyl friendly paint.

Sand and re-stain 2 front doors.

Paint rear and side door.

Paint portico ceiling.

Use Sherwin Williams Superpaint, sealer and vinyl paint.

Donations to this project would be appreciated.

Alternative quotes and modifications to the above can be made, but the general goal is \$11,680.

Thank you for considering this project.

Robert K. Lerner



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

Come join us on the First Sunday of each Month.
@ 9:30 am for social time, 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

The December 7th meeting will be held at

Putters on the 9th at 9:30 a.m.

The Hamptons Golf & Country Clubhouse
900 Southampton Blvd. Auburndale, FL 33823



Brotherhood/Sisterhood Events

Tails of The Wild



Sunday December 28th at 3 p.m.

Tickets are \$25.00 for adults, \$15.00 for children.

(cash only accepted at the park) Credit cards accepted online the day before.

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.

Help us protect and conserve!

Located at: 15081 Commonwealth Ave N., Polk City, FL.33868

After the tour we will dine at Polk City BBQ.

For more information contact:

Sandigrinker@gmail.com 863-207-7440

Game Day



Sunday January 18, 2026, at 12:30 p.m.

Come dressed as your favorite western character.

Catered by Sonny's BBQ

Choice of Chicken dinner \$12.00 Brisket dinner \$15.00.

Includes three sides.

Please send your check by January 10th to:

Temple Beth Shalom Brotherhood.

P.O.BOX 313 Winter Haven FL. 33882.

Contact Polly Weinmann 540-793-3543 or
Sandi Grinker 863-207-7440 for more info.



Good Cheer Committee

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

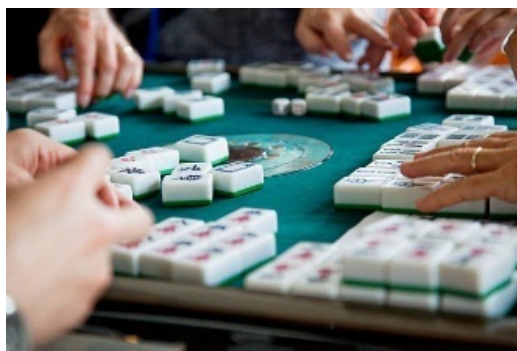
Please share your name and date if you wish to receive greetings on your birthday, anniversary or at times when you just need an uplifting note.

Email: mom2furkids1@gmail.com

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	BIRTHDATE (NO YEAR)	ANNIVERSARY
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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.



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

December 19	Uriah and Krystal Rose
January 23	Judy and Michael Richter
February 27	Bobby and Diane Baum



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 managing our email account and our Zoom account.
- Thank you to Polly Weinmann for sending Thank You cards and greeting cards.
- Thank you to Ethan Feldman for managing our website.

Donations

- Barron Krisher has made a donation in honor of the Jewish people.
- Lee Ann Martinez has made a donation in memory of Yvonne Cantin.
- Sharon Shuller has made a yahrzeit donation for Abraham Shuller, Martha Shuller, Isadore Shuller, Florence Shuller, Stephen Shuller, Sarah Golfman and Victor Golfman.
- Lorraine Mixter has made a donation in honor of the Feldman baby naming.



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	Herb LeShay	7-Aug	2027
Barbara Brooks	28-Aug	2027	Arlene Greenberg	1-Sept	2026
Korina Masters	31-Oct	2026	Varda Rottenberg	3-Mar	2026

December Yahrzeits

Yahrzeit Date	Deceased	Relationship
Dec	Max Silverman	father of Myrna Soberman
Dec	Muriel Viner	aunt of Jett Segal
Dec	Anna Schultz	grandmother of Lloyd Chain
Dec	Morris Schultz	grandfather of Lloyd Chain
Dec	Joseph Moss	father of Judy Richter
1-Dec	Herman Poller	father-in-law of Brenda Poller
1-Dec	Ruth Spiwak	grandmother of Randy Spiwak
3-Dec	Adele Sandler Chayt	mother of Steven Chayt
3-Dec	Rosa Rotenberg	mother-in-law of Varda Rotenberg
3-Dec	Art Feder	husband of Aase Feder
5-Dec	Robert Korn	father of Irwin Korn
6-Dec	Frances Cornell	mother of Diane LeShay
6-Dec	Sarah LeShay	mother of Herbert LeShay
6-Dec	Max Soberman	father-in-law of Myrna Soberman
7-Dec	Lisa Rose	wife of Uriah Rose
7-Dec	Edwin S. Chayt	father of Steven Chayt
7-Dec	Fannie Kornswiet Sniderman	grandmother of Barbara Brooks
7-Dec	Gerald Kramer	husband of Diana Kramer
8-Dec	Leonard Chase	perpetual yahrzeit
8-Dec	Suzann Bendersky	perpetual yahrzeit
10-Dec	Jerry Kaplan	brother-in-law of Sandi Grinker
11-Dec	Julia Galan	mother of Jacob Martinez
12-Dec	Stan Fenster	brother of Diana Kramer
15-Dec	Bobbie Ravdin	mother of Brenda Kleinman
20-Dec	Dorothy Salm	mother of Marc Salm
20-Dec	Shirley Buch	mother of Linda Smith
20-Dec	Rose Brown Schwachter	grandmother of Barbara Brooks
21-Dec	Billee Erde	perpetual yahrzeit
21-Dec	Harry Feder	father of Art Feder
22-Dec	Lena Siegel	mother of Saul Siegel
27-Dec	Jack Goldblatt	brother of Jeffrey Goldblatt
28-Dec	Philip Roger Grinker	husband of Sandi Grinker & father of Deborah Grinker
28-Dec	Jan Grayson	perpetual yahrzeit
29-Dec	Dan Weitzenkorn	Son of Ruth & Paul Weitzenkorn
30-Dec	Lillian Jacobson Siegel	grandmother of Meryl Chayt and mother of Beatrice Briklod
30-Dec	Jay Browde	father of Arlene Greenberg and grandfather of Steven Greenberg
30-Dec	Laura Halpert	mother of Martin Halpert

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: Sandi Grinker for more information

sandigrinker@gmail.com 863-207-7440



Thank you to all the members and families who donated and thank you to our 2026 Advertisers:

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Temple Beth Shalom Brotherhood/Sisterhood

Joyce Preston