



Congregation
Beth Am

בית אים

Northern Tampa's Reform Synagogue

August 2019 Shabbat Service Times

Friday, August 2

7:00 pm Shabbat Service & Oneg
Oneg hosted by Elizabeth Carter in honor of her birthday

Saturday, August 3

9:00 am Cafe Shabbat
10:30 am - Shabbat Service - Sarah Yaker, Bat Mitzvah

Friday, August 9

6:00 pm - PreNeg - sponsored Victoria Cain-Stull
6:30 pm - Shabbat Service, Vegetarian Potluck Dinner & Oneg
Shabbat hosted by the Balk family & Vikki Silverman in honor of Harrison Cooper's Bar Mitzvah

Saturday, August 10

10:30 am - Shabbat Service, Harrison Cooper Balk, Bar Mitzvah

Friday, August 16

7:00 pm Shabbat Service & Oneg Shabbat hosted by the Rosenberg family in honor of Talia Rosenberg becoming a Bat Mitzvah

Saturday, August 17

10:30 am - Shabbat Service, Talia Rosenberg, Bat Mitzvah

Friday, August 23

7:00 pm - Shabbat Service & Oneg Shabbat hosted by Rhoda & Art Kaiser in honor of Nava Kaufmann becoming a Bat Mitzvah

Saturday, August 24

10:30 am - Shabbat Service, Nava Kaufmann, Bat Mitzvah

Friday, August 30

7:00 pm Shabbat Service & Oneg Shabbat hosted by the Terrigino family in honor of Nolan Terrigino becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Saturday, August 31

10:30 am - Shabbat Service, Nolan Terrigino, Bar Mitzvah

Congregation Beth Am

Open House & Welcome Back Breakfast

Sunday August 25th

10:00 - Noon

It's a Beth Am tradition!

All members and prospective "future" members are invited!

This is a perfect time to invite people you know who may be interested in finding out more about Beth Am! So bring a friend or two!

Come meet and chat with Rabbi Jason Rosenberg, Cantor Tanya Greenblatt, Milt Orkin-President, Board of Directors, Zahav, Men's Club, Sisterhood, Youth Groups, Religious School families and Beth Am members.

While we are a Union of Reform Judaism affiliated congregation, we are welcoming of Jews from all ages and backgrounds. We also welcome inter-faith couples and families, LGBTQIA+ individuals, couples and families, and non-Jews seeking to learn more about our faith. All are welcome and supported at Beth Am. We provide a nurturing atmosphere where you will be able to deepen your connection to Judaism. We have a wonderful, evolving religious school and the best time to get people interested in Judaism is when they are young. We have educational opportunities for adults as well."

If you are interested in a vibrant Jewish Community with exciting youth programs, people passionate about social justice and social action, please attend our Open House!

For More information:

www.BethAmTampa.org or 813-968-8511.

Looking forward to seeing you on Sunday August 25th!





A Message from our Rabbi

Discretionary Funds

Most congregants probably know that the Cantor and I both maintain Discretionary Funds, but you may not know exactly what those are, what the money in them is used for, or where it comes from. So, let me explain...

A discretionary fund is a synagogue fund (all of the money it belongs to the synagogue, not to me or the Cantor), but the money in that fund is used at our sole discretion. In other words, it's not our money, but we get to decide how it spent, so long as we stay within the guidelines passed by the synagogue. Generally speaking (if you want to know more specifics, I'm happy to send anyone the full policy) we're allowed to spend money in three different ways.

First of all, we're allowed to give money to any 501(c)3 charity. So, for example, if the local Food Bank is low on food and funds, we can write them a check to allow them to continue taking care of the needy in our wider community. Secondly, we are allowed to supplement any synagogue budget line. So, if we want to bring in a scholar in residence, or buy a piece of equipment, or offer a scholarship to a conference or a youth event, but we don't have money in the budget for it, we can use our Discretionary Funds instead.

Lastly, and maybe most importantly, we are allowed to directly help people in need. If someone comes to us because they are unable to pay a bill, or buy food, or anything of the sort, we can give them money from our Fund to help them through their hard time. Sometimes people come to us directly for this kind of help (and, we all know how hard it is for people to do so); sometimes we hear through the grapevine that someone needs it. Either way, it's one of the most important and sacred uses of this money, in part because the donor and recipient don't know the identity of each other.

1000 years ago, the great philosopher and legal scholar Maimonides taught about the eight levels of *tzedakah* (Charity). The highest level, he said, was helping someone take care of themselves, so that they didn't need *tzedakah* anymore. But, the next highest level was what we would call a "double-blind" gift, where both parties are anonymous to each other. Discretionary Funds are a great way to accomplish this *mitzvah* — when you give to the Fund, you have no idea who will be receiving help because of your gift. And, if you ever receive help from the Fund, you have no idea who gave to it. The Cantor and I get to have the honor of being emissaries in this holy act, and it's one of the true blessings of this work — we don't get to take any credit for helping someone, since it wasn't our money, but we get to be aides and witnesses to these quiet, wonderful, holy moments.

Last year, about a third of the outlays from my Discretionary Fund went to help people directly like this. A bit less than that was given out as scholarships (more than half for youth events, the rest for adults attending various conferences and such), and the rest went towards synagogue programming and other in-house needs.

It's also worth mentioning that our Funds undergo a yearly audit by a trusted congregant. This is to ensure that we're spending money within the guidelines set by the synagogue and keeping proper records of it all.

The last thing to point out is that virtually all of the money in our Funds comes from donations from congregants like yourself. People give as a way to honor a birthday, anniversary, *yahrzeit*, or other lifecycle moment of a friend or loved one. People give as a way to thank us, or someone else in the synagogue, for something we've done. Sometimes people just give because they want to help someone, especially someone they don't know. I'll be honest — it's been a busy year for my Discretionary Fund, and the Cantor is starting off without much money in hers, either. If you are able to make a donation to one of our Funds, you can be sure that it will be used in a way that helps our synagogue community and eases the burden of someone who might desperately need it.

To everyone who has given in the past, and to everyone who might give in the future, you have our heartfelt thanks for your generosity, and for letting us be a part of this wonderful *mitzvah*.

Rabbi Jason Rosenberg

To donate contact Victoria at Admin@BethAmTampa.org or 813-968-8511



A Message from our President

Shalom! I am overjoyed to introduce myself as Congregation Beth Am's Cantor. Over the past month, I have gotten a taste of the joy and fulfillment that this position will give me, and I hope I have also brought a bit more holiness to this community. In addition to leading Friday night and B'nei Mitzvah services, I will be a regular presence in our Sunday School sharing music and prayer with our children, and I will be an active member of our B'nei Mitzvah preparation team, working with students individually and in small groups. During our first informal sing-along get together, we shared exquisitely beautiful communal singing, and even added some harmonies. If you missed it, be sure to join us in the future. In addition to shaping the music of our congregation, I also have a pastoral role visiting our members who are sick, offering spiritual guidance to any member in need, officiating at weddings, funerals and other life cycle events. I am a certified Prepare/Enrich clergy counselor, using the results of individual questionnaires to guide conversations with couples leading up to marriage, as well as those who have been together for years.

Since my family joined Congregation Beth Am, I have gotten the chance to meet and get to know many of you. If we already know each other, I look forward to deepening our relationship. If we have not yet met, I would love to get to know you. You can reach me at CantorGreenblatt@BethAmTampa.org to set up a meeting, either at the Temple or over coffee or lunch.

My husband, Scott, and our children Joshua, Michael and Theodore already feel at home in our congregation. Thank you for welcoming us as members of this incredible community. We all look forward to making memories with you for years to come.

Cantor Tanya Greenblatt

CantorGreenblatt@BethamTampa.org



A Message from our President

I hope you are all enjoying your summer. The New Year is fast approaching. Please be sure to check this month's digest for information about all the activities planned for the current month. Go to the website calendar to see the schedule for the entire year. Of course the calendar is subject to change and if you have a question always check with the office.

I'll have more to talk about next issue but for now I just want to let you know that I value each and every member of Congregation Beth Am and am always willing to have a conversation. I would request that you make an appointment with Victoria if you want to chat. My schedule is limited but I will find a time.

I'm excited about working with the incoming board and getting to know all of our new members. I also want to extend a warm welcome to Cantor Tanya Greenblatt, our new Cantor. Come to a service and be inspired and uplifted by her remarkable voice.

Lastly, please make sure you come to the Beth Am Open House on August 25 to find out about all of the exciting opportunities to participate here.

L'Shalom,

Milt Orkin

President, Congregation Beth Am.

MSOrkin@BethAmTampa.org

Ritual Committee Update - Friday Night Services

In response to requests from congregants, ritual committee is evaluating whether we should move to a regular Friday night service time. Between August 2 and September 27, Friday evening services will begin at 7:00 pm every week. An Oneg Shabbat will follow every service. On August 9 and September 13 (the 2nd Friday of each month), a pre-neg (light snack before services) will precede services and a vegetarian potluck will follow. Tot Shabbat will be held at 6:30 pm the 3rd Friday evening of each month as usual.

Sisterhood Updates

We had a packed agenda for our beginning of the year planning meeting. We are going to continue our existing projects while adding exciting new programming. Please stop by the sisterhood table on August 25 during open house to talk to us about the opportunities for Tikkun Olam, building relationships, and learning together.

An anticipated highlight of the year is our November 17 program in conjunction with the men's club. Dr. Daniel Eckstein will give a presentation on Project World Health, a student run organization of the USF Morsani College of Medicine which organizes an annual trip to the Dominican Republic to provide medical services to underserved populations.

While we will be continuing our Sunday "Coffee and Conversation", Wednesday night "sip and dip", and Girls' Night Out, we eagerly anticipate adding a new activity especially designed to foster new connections among Beth Am women. We will identify interesting local happenings, inform everyone that we will be attending the event as a group, and enjoy each other's company. Our first meeting will be on July 25, when we have the pleasure of hearing Joy Katzen Guthrie sing Songs of Summer at the Cohn campus of the JCC from 11:00 to 12:00.

We hope to enhance our Wednesday evening Sip and Dip by providing discussions and a Mitzvah project for religious school parents. A popular suggestion has been knitting hats for sick children. Our experts promise we all have the necessary talent.

In addition to Chai Mitzvah and book club, we are hoping to get together once a month a women's Torah study group to discuss the parsha for the week. Amazing commentators have already compiled interesting issues and questions, so the research is done for us.

We hope you join us to participate in an exciting year of Tikkun Olam, learning, and fun.

Talmud Study

Thursday, August 1, 15, 22 & 29

Location: Congregation Beth Am

For more information contact Rabbi Rosenberg at

813-968-8511 or email RabbiRosenberg@BethAmTampa.org

Men's Club Update

The Beth Am Men's Club offers the opportunity to expand your circle of friends, to get involved in Jewish affairs, and to contribute to our Congregation. Men's Club members are involved in all facets of congregational life at Beth Am including ushering, building the Beth Am Sukkah, raising funds for our religious school, organizing social outings to Rays games and Lightning games, helping at the Purim carnival, our annual Erev Shabbat service, volunteering for Buddy Baseball and the Buddy Run, and frying up hundreds of latkes at the annual Chanukah Latke bash.

This year you can pay your Men's Club dues as part of your annual payment to Beth Am. They are \$45/year.

The Men's Club has the following events coming up:

August 4: CBA goes to the Rays

The Men's Club has organized an afternoon with Rays on August 4. This is open to all CBA members and friends. The game is against Miami and starts at 1:10 pm. We will have "loaded tickets that include \$15 of credit on the ticket for either concessions or retail. The seats will be either in the outfield sections or lower corners. Tickets are \$38 each. Please email Allan at allanfeldman@gmail.com to confirm your seats. You can write your checks to the Congregation and give them to Victoria. Make sure to write Rays game in the comment line.

August 5: Men's Club BBQ Meeting 6:30 PM at Beth Am. We'll have hot dogs, hamburgers, and veggie dogs, and sides, along with beer and whatever, as we meet to plan out some activities for 2019-20.

August 25: CBA Open House. The Men's Club will have a table and we will help with whatever set-up and cleaning needed after the event.

Of course there will be a Txoko coming up. Keep your eyes open for an email from Glenn.

High Holy Days are coming - volunteers needed!

This year Rosh Hashanah falls September 29-30 and Yom Kippur falls October 8-9. We especially need help for the pre-high holiday spruce up on September 22 from 9:30 am -12:00 pm as well as ushers for HHD services. Other ways you can get involved include helping with Onegs, break-fast and also with advertising. Please contact HHD co-chairs, Vikki Silverman vikkishira@verizon.net or Liz Carroll liz1836@hotmail.com for more information.



Cooper Balk is becoming a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, August 10.

Hello, my name is Cooper Balk. I am a Renaissance Festival actor. Last year, while working for the Bay Area Renaissance Festival, I

learned of an amazing organization called the RESCU Foundation.

This organization is a non-profit established to promote the health and well-being of renaissance festival actors. This foundation has helped many actors who would not otherwise be able to afford the costs of medical care. Seeing the tremendous impact this organization had on so many lives, my friends and I decided to write and produce a stage show to help raise money for the Foundation.

We worked for six months preparing for and culminating 32 performances. It was great to see so many people supporting the RESCU Foundation. I plan on doing something similar next year.

Please join us for services on Saturday, August 10 at 10:30 am.



Nava Kaufmann is becoming a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, August 24.

Nava Ella Kaufmann, daughter of Laura and Peter Kaufmann, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, August 24

at Congregation Beth Am in Tampa. Nava is a seventh-grade honors student at Learning Gate Community School in Lutz. She is on the student council and enjoys photography. Special guests include friends from Camp Ramah Darom and family from as far as California, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Minnesota.

Please join us for services on Saturday, August 10 at 10:30 am.



Talia Rosenberg is becoming a bat Mitzvah on Saturday, August 17.

For her Tikkun Olam project, Talia is honoring the memory of her friend, Rachel Hatfield, who died from brain cancer in 2016. Rachel's family started a project in her memory, to spread kindness, as Rachel was one of the

kindest people we've ever known. Talia is doing acts of kindness such as painting rocks for Rachel's memory garden, making baked goods for First Responders, complementing a stranger, and donating toys to a children's hospital, among other acts. In addition, Talia will be doing a bake sale in Religious School this fall to raise more money for toys for the hospital.

Please join us for services on Saturday, August 17 at 10:30 am

2019-20 Religious School Information

The first day of Religious School is Sunday, August 25th. If you need registration materials for your child, please email the Religious School Director, Hillary Rosenberg. Please feel free to reach out to Hillary with any questions you might have about Religious School at HRosenberg@BethAmTampa.org.

Help save money on office supplies!

Please donate your used toner cartages to the office.

Victoria will take care of the rest!

Get Connected to Jewish Tampa

Go to www.JewishTampa.com Sign up for the Jewish Press newspaper

Read the Jewish Press online!

Zahav Group - Adults at Leisure Update

The August meeting for Zahav will be on Tuesday, August 13, 12:30 P.M. It will be a bring your own brown bag lunch. Our guest speaker is Rabbi Rosenberg, who will "kick-off" our fall season with a talk on "Homosexuality".

I am looking for a place to eat for our next meeting on September 10. Due to the holidays, October will be skipped and we will resume our usual time on November 12.

Maxine Gourse
Cordinator
jergo@aol.com



Report on Caring, Membership, Social, and Social Action Committees

As the Vice-President for Membership and Growth for the next two years, I look forward to getting to know you all better and helping to design activities that are responsive to your needs and interests. First, I am very pleased to report that we have outstanding chairs for three of our four committees:

Caring – Lynn and Laurence Pohl, Co-Chairs

Membership – Cathy Friedman and Irma Polster

Social – Marty Greengrass

Our fourth committee is Social Action. We do not yet have a chair for that committee. We encourage you all to consider joining one or more of these committees, and helping us as we seek to promote a culture of mutual caring and support between our members. If you are interested in joining one or more committees, just send me an e-mail at bobfriedman43@gmail.com and I will help make the connection for you. I am particularly interested in finding one or two people to chair or co-chair the Social Action committee.

We have two important events coming up in August. On Wednesday, August 21th, from 10 to noon, our Caring, Membership, and Social committees will be co-sponsoring with Zahav a breakfast get together. In addition to socializing, we will be looking to use this time to learn from our members how we can be of more help to them. We are interested in hearing from all members but this event is specifically geared for our adult members who have no children at home, and are looking for ways to increase their connection and engagement with Beth Am.

Our second August activity is our Welcome Back breakfast on Sunday, August 25th from 10 to noon. This is a time for us to welcome back our members after the summer, and introduce prospective members to Beth Am. It is also a time for members to sign up for various committees and activities.

Both Rabbi Rosenberg and Cantor Greenblatt will be attending these two activities and we hope to see many of you there as well. We welcome any ideas you have for ways in which we can enrich your experience at Beth Am, and strengthen our caring, spiritual community.

Submitted by Bob Friedman

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS AND GENEROSITY

Camp Coleman

Donna Rothchild

In memory of Mildred Chapin

Dr. Marla Schick & Mollie Schick

In memory of Dr. Martin Schick

Campaign for Beth Am

Susan & Richard Guess

In memory of Charles Alter

In memory of Carole Hammac

Bobbsie & David Rifkin

In honor of Cantor Tanya Greenblatt

General Fund

Luanne & Johnnie Huneycutt

In memory of Gabriela Segal

Library Fund

Elizabeth Carter

In memory of Sarah B. Cohen

Oneg Fund

Bruce Maier

In memory of Audrey Maier

Rabbi Discretionary Fund

Dr. Shirley Borkowf

In memory of Isaac Cohen

Religious School Scholarship Fund

Jennifer & Terrace Allan

In honor of Madison Allan becoming a Bat Mitzvah

Sylvia Lashenick

In Memory of Sadie Tessler



Religious School Registration Materials now Available!

The first day of Religious School is Sunday, August 25th. If you need registration materials for your child, please email the Religious School Director, Hillary Rosenberg, at hrosenberg@bethamtampa.org. Please feel free to reach out to Hillary with any questions you might have about Religious School.

We Want You to Help Us "Usher" in the High Holy Days!

The Holy Days are a time for coming together, greeting friends, and creating sacred space within our community. Please consider volunteering as an usher during one (or more) of the Holy Day services and help us to contribute building meaningful experiences for all.

If you are willing to usher this year, please select the service(s) (see below) you and/or another family member can assist with. Please email Cathy Friedman, High Holy Days Head Usher, 2019, at CathyRFriedman@gmail.com or call 813-334-1110 as soon as possible to reserve your ushering spot.

Event	Date	Usher Check in Time
Erev Rosh Hashanah	Sunday, Sept. 29	7:15 pm
Rosh Hashanah	Monday, Sept 30	9:15 am
Kol Nidre	Tuesday, Oct. 8	7:15 pm
Yom Kippur Morning	Wednesday, Oct. 9	9:15 am
Yom Kippur Afternoon	Wednesday, Oct. 9	3:30 pm

Volunteers Make Beth Am Run!

Want to get more connected and involved? We are looking for people that are interested in the following areas:

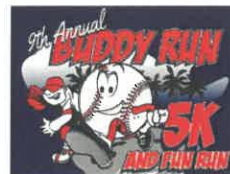
Helping maintain the operations and physical structure of Beth Am. For more information contact Peter Kaufmann VP Facilities at PeterKaufmann876@gmail.com.

We are always looking for ways to expand our membership (i.e. ideas on ways to gain new members and to expand options to help members get more connected). For more information contact Cathy Friedman at CathyRFriedman@BethAmTampa.org.

Want to learn more on ways help to repair the world and practice Tikkun Olam through Social Action? For more information contact Bob Friedman at BobFriedman43@gmail.com.

Want to help plan fun activities and events for Beth Am? For more information contact Bob Friedman at BobFriedman43@gmail.com.

We can always use more hands on deck! If you have other ideas or interests in getting involved, please feel free to contact Milt Orkin, President at MSOrkin@BethAmTampa.org.



9th Annual Buddy Run has moved to Sunday, November 17 at Lake Park!

Come join the fun with a run or walk around Lake Park to benefit Congregation Beth Am and Buddy Baseball - a baseball league for children with special needs. Participate in the 5K or 1 Mile, visit our sponsor booths, and cheer on our runners with special needs in the Buddy Dash! The event is family friendly - bring your dog or run with your jogging stroller!

Register to run or volunteer at www.buddyrun5k.org and use the coupon code BETHAM for \$10 off the 5K!

WHEN: Sunday, Nov. 17, 2019

WHERE: Lake Park, 17302 N Dale Mabry Hwy

TIME: 7AM registration, 8AM 5K, 9AM 1M

Contact Jim Corning at 781 856-7047 with questions.

Cafe Shabbat

Saturday, August 3 at 9:00 am
sponsor needed

Cafe Shabbat is our monthly chance to come together, eat yummy food engage in Shabbat in lots of fun, different ways, and then top it off with some time to pray together!

Please email Julie Linick at JLinick@live.com or Victoria at Admin@BethAmTampa.org for more information.

Please contact Julie Linick or Victoria at the emails above if interested.

Thank you!

August 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9:30 am Talmud Study	2 7 pm Shabbat Service & Oneg <i>Oneg hosted by Elizabeth Carter in honor of her birthday</i>	3 9 am Café Shabbat 10:30 am Shabbat Service - Sarah Yaker, Bat Mitzvah
4 10 am Sisterhood Executive Board Meeting	5 6:30 pm Men's Club BBQ Meeting	6	7	8	9 6:30 pm Shabbat Service, Vegetarian Potluck Dinner & Oneg <i>Oneg hosted by the Balk family & Vikki Silverman in honor of Harrison becoming a Bar Mitzvah</i>	10 Tisha B'Av 10:30 am Shabbat Service - Harrison Balk, Bar Mitzvah
11 11:30 am Executive Board Meeting	12	13 12:30 pm Adults at Leisure	14 6:30 pm General Board Meeting	15 9:30 am Talmud Study	16 7 pm Shabbat Service & Oneg <i>Oneg hosted by the Rosenberg family in honor of Talia becoming a Bat Mitzvah</i>	17 10:30 am Shabbat Service - Talia Rosenberg, Bat Mitzvah
18	19	20	21	22 9:30 am Talmud Study	23 7 pm Shabbat Service, Vegetarian Potluck Dinner & Oneg <i>Oneg hosted by Rhoda & Art Kaiser family in honor of Nava becoming a Bat Mitzvah</i>	24 10:30 am Shabbat Service - Nava Kaufmann, Bat Mitzvah
25 9:30 am Religious School 1 st Day 9:30 am Sisterhood - Bake Sale 10 am Open House & Welcome Back	26	27	28	29 9:30 am Talmud Study 4:30 pm Sisterhood Book Club	30 7 pm Shabbat Service & Oneg <i>Oneg hosted by the Terrigino family in honor of Nolan becoming a Bar Mitzvah</i>	31 10:30 am Shabbat Service - Nolan Terrigino, Bar Mitzvah