

TEMPLE BETH SHALOM

News | Activities | Events

Inside this Issue:

From the Bimah: Our
Rabbi's Message

The President's Message

TBS Sunday School
Announcements and
Schedule

Sisterhood Corner and
Brotherhood

Life Cycle Events

Temple Beth Shalom
Event Calendar

Harriet Sederholm
Scholarship Fund

Special Events and
Announcements

Temple Board of Directors

Temple Member
Business Directory

Temple Beth Shalom
P.O. Box 9142

Hickory, North Carolina 28603
www.hickoryjewishcenter.com



From the Bimah

Rabbi Dr. Janet B Liss

I attended the American Zionist Movement Biennial in Manhattan Sunday and Monday as a delegate representing the Reform Movement's slate Arza. I have been part of this organization since 2016 when I had the privilege for the first time of being a delegate at the World Zionist Congress in Jerusalem. The location of the Biennial was kept secret for security reasons and no one was permitted to share the location in any social media post. I remember two years ago, when I was at the Biennial, that the location could not be disclosed, either, as it was less than a month after the October 7th attack, when everyone was on high security alert. This time felt very different as the World Zionist has become a dog whistle for a torrent of Anti-Semitism that has been unleashed across the globe following October 7th. A week ago, a protest was held outside the Park Avenue Synagogue in New York City because the synagogue was hosting a nefesh b'nefesh workshop for people interested in learning about making Aliyah (immigrating) to Israel. This, according to Mayor-elect Mandami, was an illegal event. When did it become illegal in the United States to hold an event focusing on Aliyah? Obviously, it is not, but this is scary and does not bode well for Jews living in the 5 boroughs of New York City under the new incoming Mayor. He is fostering more hatred for Jews, and he hasn't even taken office yet.

They gave out swag at the conference, including a white tote bag with a picture of Theodore Herzl and the words "The American Zionist Movement." I did not take the bag because I did not want to be seen holding it on the streets of New York. I have never even held that thought before.

One of the highlights for me was an interview with journalist Abigail Pogrebin and President Isaac Herzog. I recorded it, and I hope to

share excerpts during Services this Friday night. I look forward to sharing highlights from the conference over the weekend.

This Saturday night, we are introducing Movie Night and Havdalah. We will be showing the movie *Eleanor the Great* at 7, followed by a discussion and Havdalah. We will be serving popcorn. There will be no dinner, as the room will be set up for the fabulous Hanukkah bingo party on Sunday. The movie is about a 94-year-old woman, Eleanor, who, after losing her best friend, Bessie, moves to NYC and joins a support group where she appropriates Bessie's stories as her own. You can imagine where this leads. Scarlett Johansson directed and produced the film.

I hope to see you over the weekend, which will be packed with fun opportunities to be together!

Rabbi Liss



TBS Sisterhood

Alexis Sweazy, Sisterhood President

Hello everyone!

We have our Sisterhood led shabbat weekend coming up on March 20th and 21st. All women from the congregation are invited to help lead the service. If you are interested, please reach out to me via email. We'll also be discussing this more in depth at our next Sisterhood meeting.

We will not have a December meeting. Our next meeting is Sunday January 11th at 2:30 PM.

As always, if you have any questions or suggestions for sisterhood, please reach out to me at alexisalmazamoody@gmail.com.



The Harriet Sederholm Scholarship Fund

The Harriet Sederholm Scholarship Fund (HSSF) was established by a long-time Temple member and past President, Burt Sederholm (may his memory be a blessing), to honor his late wife Harriet, who died shortly after she

retired from 25 years with the Catawba County Department of Social Services. The scholarship committee is a sub-committee of the Temple Beth Shalom Board. The committee manages funds invested to award one-

time scholarships with the earnings from the invested funds. These awards honor the memory of Harriet Sederholm and her efforts to improve the lives of many impoverished adults and children in Catawba County.

The HSSF scholarship is available to students. Candidates will submit an essay to any one of the committee members. The essay will explain who the candidate is, what they are doing currently, their plans for the future, how the scholarship funds will be used, and, if applicable, what the connection may be to Jewish life.

The committee will make decisions based on the following preferences but not absolutes:

- Is the applicant a temple member or related to a temple member?
- Is the applicant Jewish?
- Will the funds be used for educational needs?
- Will the funds make a difference regarding the applicant's ability to benefit from the activity?
- Is the activity something deemed to be of value by the committee?

Interested students should submit their essays by April 30th. The scholarship season runs from May 1-April 30. All applicants will be notified in writing if their application has been approved or declined by May 15th. Awards should be mailed to recipients by May 31st.

The essay should be emailed to any of the committee members: Lin Gentry or Karen Ferguson. Naturally, the committee encourages everyone to make a tax-deductible donation to the Scholarship Fund at any time.

Temple Board

Our next meeting will be Sunday, January 11th at the temple. Board meetings are open to all temple members. Contact Susan Goldstein if you wish to attend a scheduled monthly meeting.



Board members are:

Officers:

Susan Goldstein, President
 Lin Gentry, Vice President
 Mary Lee Tosky, Secretary
 Susan Rieder, Treasurer

Members at Large:

Liz Correll
 Karen Ferguson
 James Norwood
 Alexis Sweazy
 Patrick Rowan
 Pam Jones
 Jane Mandle

Your board thanks you for your donations



General donations

*From Linda and Sandy
 Guttler in memory of Esther
 Greene and Bud Tosky*

We need volunteers to deliver food donations to the Hickory Soup Kitchen. Please contact Alexis Sweazy if you can help.



Please consider pairing with a board member(s) to host a Shabbat or Holiday at Temple Beth Shalom. When members contribute to the life of our synagogue in this way, we all feel a part of our Jewish community and an active participant in assuring its well-being. A sign-up sheet is posted in the synagogue foyer, or you can sign up online. Here's the link: [TBS Hosting Sign-ups - Google Sheets](#)

1. View the [spreadsheet](#) to see what dates are free
2. Submit your choice using the [Google Form](#).
3. MaryLee will type in any form *submissions*, but **any board member can enter host names** on the spreadsheet for themselves or other members *by request*. Several of you have successfully done so!

There is still a great need for donations in food-insecure areas around us.

Please bring non-perishable food items to the temple whenever you come for services or other events. You will be helping fulfill the mitzvah of feeding the hungry and setting a good example for our youngsters



TBS Member Business Directory

Let us know if you would like to list your business here in the Bulletin. It is a free benefit of TBS membership

Gabe Almaza-Moody
Piedmont Herbals

Email: piedmontherbals@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.piedmontherbals.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/piedmontherbals/>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/piedmont_herbals/

Jack and Hannah Levy
Druzy Dreams Crystals

<http://www.etsy.com/shop/druzydreamscrystals>

Dr. David Peltzer
Newton Family Physicians
767 West First Street
Newton, NC 28658
828 465-3928

www.newtonfamilyphysicians.com

The Natural Olive
216 Union Square
Hickory
828-256-1950
www.NaturalOliveHickory.com

A listing in this business directory is a benefit of TBS membership. If you are a TBS member and wish to be listed please send your business name, address, phone number and email address to:
karen.sederholm@gmail.com

Temple Beth Shalom Life Cycle December Events

Birthdays

Nick Weatherly 12/3
Pete Sobotkin 12/6
Herman Garrick 12/12
Pam Axler 12/12
Hannah Davidson 12/13
Barry Sobotkin 12/16
Ginny Sobotkin 12/18
Ben Setser 12/21
Eva Reed 12/28
Andrew Weatherly 12/29

Anniversaries

Larry and Barbara Laufer 12/28

Yahrzeits

Sharon Painter 12/3
Howard Zerden 12/4
Werner Hyman 12/4
Joseph Brisbane 12/5
Ruth Marcus 12/5
Ruth Morewitz 12/7
Fannye Katzin 12/7
Lila Rosenberg 12/7
Sam Lavitt 12/14
Bernard Miller 12/15
Brenda Callahan 12/24
Elizabeth Neulicht 12/25
Manny Gold 12/26
Gary Idenbaum 12/27
Justine Lavin 12/27
Ayden Dagenhart 12/29
Barbara Kallman 12/30

Local and Regional Events



HUMAN RIGHTS OBSERVANCE

SACRED TRUST

COMMUNITIES AND THE PROTECTION OF SANCTUARY

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9TH

AT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
300 N MAIN AVE,
NEWTON, NC
7:00 PM-9:00PM



Guest speaker:
GREGORY D. HAFFMAN
ATTORNEY AT LAW
FOR WNCC UMC

A powerful night of connection, remembrance, and solidarity for all!

For more information:

EMAIL US AT:
CATAWBAVALLEYINTERFAITHCOUNCIL@GMAIL.COM

EVENT SPONSORED BY:
CATAWBA VALLEY INTERFAITH COUNCIL



Mindbender Mansion Exhibit

- 📍 Catawba Science Center & Millholland Planetarium
- 📅 Recurring weekly on Sunday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday until January 9, 2026



The Nutcracker - Hickory Ballet & Performing Arts

- 📍 The Green Room Community Theatre

Hickory Farmer's Market

Downtown, Under the Sails Hickory, NC 28602

Winter Market ~ November 1st - March 28th
Saturdays 10am-1pm



**SHALOM
HARMON
INSTITUTE**

Follow this link for information and registration for upcoming online events
SHI: <https://www.hartman.org.il/programs/>

2025- 2026 Schedule for Rabbi Services and Sunday School

For event updates, email: info@hickoryjewishcenter.com

Date	Event	Bulletin Deadline
December		November 23
12	Friday night service 7:00pm	
13	Shacharit service 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
14	Young family gathering /Hanukkah Party w/ Rabbi Liss 10:00am	
January		December 23
9	Friday night service 7:00pm	
10	Shacharit service 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
11	Young family gathering w/ Rabbi Liss 10:00am	
February		January 23
6	Friday night service 7:00pm	
7	Shacharit service 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
8	Young family gathering w/ Rabbi Liss 10:00am	
March		February 23
6	Friday night service 7:00pm	
7	Shacharit service 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
8	Young family gathering w/ Rabbi Liss 10:00am	
20	Sisterhood Friday night service 7:00pm	
21	Sisterhood Shacharit service 10am followed by Kiddush	
April		March 23
2	2 nd night Passover Seder 6pm – reservations required	
3	Friday night service 7:00pm	
4	Shacharit service 10am followed by Kiddush lunch; Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm	
5	Young family gathering w/ Rabbi Liss 10:00am	

May

- 15 Friday night service 7:00pm
 16 Shacharit service 10am followed by Kiddush lunch;
 Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult
 Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm
 17 Annual Membership Meeting 12:00
 Young family gathering w/ Rabbi Liss 10:00am

April 23

June

- 19 Friday night service 7:00pm
 20 Shacharit service 10am followed by Kiddush lunch;
 Seudah Shlishit (bring a parve or dairy dish to share), Adult
 Learning, and Havdalah 6:00pm
 21 Young family gathering w/ Rabbi Liss 10:00am

May 23

Upcoming Jewish Holidays

Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights, begins Sunday evening, December 14 and ends Monday evening December 22, 2025.



Want to contribute to The TBS Bulletin? Send your request to
karen.sederholm@gmail.com.
 All entries are reviewed by the TBS Board before publication.