CONGREGATION BETH SHALOM
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Welcoming the New Paradigm: Questions for Shavu’ot

Etz hayyim hi lamahazikim bah, vetomekheha me’ushar. It is a tree of life for those who grasp it, and those who uphold it are happy.

We say these words every time we put the Torah away, and while it is true that it is the Torah and our holding on to it which has kept our tradition alive and our people together for thousands of years, we have to ask ourselves today, “How exactly ARE we grasping the Torah, here in 21st century America?”

How are we grasping the Torah, when most Jews will freely acknowledge that they do not maintain some of the most basic mitzvot of Jewish life?

How are we grasping the Torah, when synagogue attendance and membership are declining, when there is a movement, even among some Jews, to avoid circumcision, and when suggesting in-marriage sounds gauche?

How are we grasping the Torah, when our collective familiarity with the Hebrew language and the actual content of the Torah itself seem to be less with each passing generation?

How are we grasping the Torah, when many of us think purely as individuals and do not consider how our own personal choices affect the larger fate of either our people or the wider society?

These questions loom as we sail into the future, and they are related to the larger issues surrounding the new paradigm. Our world is increasingly globalization, increasingly interconnected across physical, spiritual and geopolitical boundaries. Our children are digital natives, existing as much in their online presences as they do in flesh and blood. You might argue that Judaism has weathered many such paradigm shifts over the last two millennia, and will do so once again.

But there is something even bigger here, - bigger than the printing press, bigger than dispersion at the hands of the Romans. We may be in the middle of a paradigm shift that rivals even the loss of the Second Temple.

The trend toward what Dr. Arnold Eisen, Chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary, has referred to as “the sovereign self”: the currently-ascendant principle that our relationship to faith is entirely personal, that spirituality is an individual rather than a collective matter. Many of us, Jews and non-Jews, no longer feel the need to relate to God in groups; we prefer to do it alone.

Will we continue to grasp and uphold the Torah in this devoutly-personal spiritual climate? The answer is absolutely yes, but it may not be in the same ways in which we have historically done so.

What we will need to do is to re-shape the role of Jewish institutions, particularly synagogues, so that our emphasis is placed on deriving personal meaning from our rituals and literature, rather than the performance of ritual itself. Furthermore, we need to create more opportunities for one-on-one and small-group engagement, with a focus on identifying key values in Jewish text and how they relate to us today. The greatest strength that we have as Jews, the most powerful legacy handed down to us across the generations, is the body of wisdom collected in our texts, ancient and modern - not only the Torah, but also the Talmud, midrash, halakhic codes, ethical and Hasidic literature, and contemporary philosophy - all of which can help us lead better, more meaningful lives.

Shavu’ot is, of course, when we celebrate receiving the Torah. But mere celebration is not enough! This is the festival on which we recall that the words of our tradition are sweet, and we study late into the night to reconnect with text, to parse meaning and glean kedushah / holiness. Join us as we dig deeper and lift ourselves higher, grasping that tree of life, even as we welcome the new paradigm.

Leshalom,

Rabbi Seth Adelson
rav@bethshalompgh.org

Mishpachtenu
If you have been to any of our recent events, from the Tu B’Shevat Seder to the Rabbi’s Installation Weekend, hopefully you sensed the excitement around every corner of our synagogue. With each event we are trying to elevate it and make it better. So next up, our Annual Congregational Meeting.

Have you ever been to the Annual Congregational Meeting held every May here at Congregation Beth Shalom? I know, silly question. After all, why in the world would you want to go to such a meeting? Isn’t that where congregants go to yell and scream at each other, complain about shul management, point fingers at everyone for not being good enough, etc., etc. etc. Well that may have been what went on in the past, but that Minhag comes to an end this year!

Our Annual Congregational Meeting to be held this year on May 17th is going to reflect what a wonderful time it is to be part of Beth Shalom as we develop and define ourselves for the future. Did you know we have had over 30 new families join our congregation since August 2015? Come to the meeting and meet some of those families as we introduce them to their new community. Hear Rabbi Adelson’s message to the Congregation and his vision for the future. Learn about the exciting plans for our upcoming Centennial Celebration in 2017 and sign up to help make this a most memorable celebration at Congregation Beth Shalom.

This is your synagogue, we want to see and hear from you at this meeting!

Beshalom,

David Horvitz
President
mistervitz@gmail.com
Shavu’ot is not really about Ruth; it is about two brothers. One brother had his head in the clouds, while the other was firmly rooted on the earth. One communes with God, the other managed a great multitude of people. One held the Law while the other had to contend with anarchy. Moses and Aaron had very little in common, but often complemented each other. For most of my life I gave little credit to Aaron and even thought him responsible for the Golden Calf transgression. My mistake. Who had the harder job? Moses, alone on the mountain trying to get a glimpse of God, writing the Law, or Aaron, a leader with no law to guide him and a million people - yes a million - fearful about their future and ready to revolt. Although we paid dearly for the Golden Calf, by allowing it to happen, Aaron kept us together long enough to receive the Torah.

On Shavu’ot Moses is remembered as the one who delivered the Torah. We remember Revelation, when God himself was revealed and when we became a nation through Torah. We often forget that Shavu’ot does not happen without Aaron. We don’t exist without both brothers. We need the law and those who create the law, but we also need those who implement the law, communicate it to us, and manage the chaos. It is hard to maintain order, particularly without the rules to guide us. It is hard to be at the base of the mountain.

Our job as a community is to connect the top of the mountain with the bottom and recognize that Judaism is about both Moses and Aaron. The Law is vital to our existence, but it is of no value without...us.

That brings us to the practical part of where we are and where we are going. This month we will all meet for the Annual Congregational Meeting. It is the time to take hold of our plan, cast off the things that we worshiped that no longer have value, and move ahead. We have to combine the lofty ideals which define us as a community with the practical reality of living on the corner of Shady and Beacon. It’s about recognizing both Moses and Aaron. Our plan does not work without all of us actually implementing it. Just like our Torah doesn’t mean anything if we don’t follow it. Now we must make it real.

We are part of the foundation of Conservative Judaism in Pittsburgh. To bring those words to life, we are embarking on a huge fundraising effort, an effort which capitalizes on the celebration of our centennial year. It’s not just about asking for more money from you, our members. It’s way more than that. It’s you going out and letting the community know how important we are. That’s what multiplies your investment; that’s what magnifies our impact.

Let us all combine the beauty of the Torah with the reality of where we are and reunite the mountaintop with the valley. Let us do this not by making the mountain low, but by raising all of us up!

Rob Menes
Executive Director
rmenes@bethshalompgh.org

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412-421-2288, ext. 110
As I am writing this article, the children of the Beth Shalom Early Learning Center are learning about Passover. The infants are playing with soft toy Passover Seder plates, the toddlers are singing Dayenu with Morah Marina, the 2’s are hunting for hametz, the 3’s are creating pyramids with Morah Julie, and the Pre-K children are practicing for their annual performance of the Story of Passover. It is truly a special time of year in the ELC.

In the month of April, the PTO planned a fundraiser Everything for Kids Sale chaired by Karen Galor, Rachel Albert, and Jessie Tomasko. It was a great time for families to bring in their unused kid’s items and then find new ones for an amazing price.

The first week in May, the PTO helped the ELC celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week. The teachers were treated to chair massages, breakfast, lunch, and beautiful flowers. This was a much deserved treat for our amazing teachers. Next, the Pre-K went on their annual field trip to Round Hill Farm. This is such a great day to see the farm animals, have a picnic lunch, and enjoy a fun bus ride. During the holiday of Yom Haatzmaut the children gathered to sing and dance for Israel’s 68th Birthday.

On May 22, we will gather at the Jewish Community Center to celebrate our Unsung Hero, Cindy Speck. Cindy has been teaching at Beth Shalom for 12 years. She currently is a 3 year old educator. She always meets the children at their level. She is consistently engaged with the children in art activities, building with blocks, reading books, and much more. Her quiet way, has a major impact on the children at Beth Shalom. Beth Shalom is truly lucky to have such an amazing, dedicated educator.

In June, we will celebrate the graduation of our Pre-K class. Many of the children who are graduating have been at Beth Shalom since infancy. They will celebrate with their parents, teachers, and friends through dance, song, and art. Included in this graduating class will be my son, Max who has attended Beth Shalom since he was 3 months old. My son is lucky to have received such a stellar Jewish education at Beth Shalom, where we are the experts in Early Childhood education. The education that he has obtained will impact him for the rest of his life.

In addition, June begins the start of summer camp. At Camp Gan Shalom, our theme will be Olympics. The camp director, Morah Hilary Huelsmann has a fun summer planned with water play, trips to the Library, a petting zoo, and more.

Wishing everyone a summer filled with fun and sunshine!

Beshalom,

Jennifer Perer Slattery
Director of the ELC
slattery@bethshalompgh.org

ELC Calendar
May-July 2016

- May 2-6 - Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 11 - Pre-K Field Trip to Round Hill Farm
- May 12 - Yom Ha’atzma’ut Celebration for Children Only
- May 22 - Unsung Hero Celebration at the JCC
- May 30 - ELC Closed-Memorial Day
- June 10 - Shabababa Finale and ELC End of the School Year Picnic
- June 13 - Shavu’ot-ELC Optional Day
- June 16 - Pre-K Graduation
- June 17 - No School
- June 20 - Teacher in Service-No School
- June 21 - Camp Gan Shalom starts
- July 4 - No School

STAY CONNECTED!
Website: bethshalompreschool.com
Facebook: facebook.com/beth.shalom.71
Shababababa
A musical Shabbat for families in Pittsburgh

Upcoming Dates:

May 20
End of Year Picnic
June 10, 5:00 pm

5:45pm Service
6:20pm Optional Dinner

KIDS UNDER 12 EAT FREE!
Reservations needed for dinner only: 412.421.2288

Cost of dinner for ages 12 & up:
Register by Friday the week before event: $12
Register by Tuesday the week of the event: $17

Shababababa is supported by the Reuben A. and Selma W. Cohen Fund.

Minyan Mishpahtni
led by Sara Stock Mayo
May 7
11:00am
Zweig Library, 3rd Floor

A fun-filled, instrumental service for the youngest members of our congregation and their parents!
Open to Infants - 3rd graders.

About Our Leader
Sara Stock Mayo is a trained Cantorial Soloist, originally from the Pittsburgh area. Sara got her start in Cantorial singing in Brooklyn, NY at Congregation Kolot Chayeinu. For 11 years, she served as Cantorial Soloist at Temple Sinai. There, she started a band that performed monthly, as well as taught and led the intergenerational and youth choirs. Sara also has training and experience as a Chaplain. She has a background in Musical Theatre and is a Registered Drama Therapist. She currently serves as the Managing Director of Pittsburgh Playback Theatre, a company committed to social service and creating greater communication and understanding through its improvisational form of storytelling. Sara lives in Squirrel Hill with her husband, Jonathan and her two children, Ziv and Elena.

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Thank you all so much! That may be an unusual way to start an article, but there it is. The Purim Carnival this year was a huge success and it could not have happened without all of your help and support. The donors, volunteers, and teens put in a tremendous amount of time and money to make this the success that it turned out to be. The room was packed throughout the event with some people staying later to enjoy the brand new caricature art station. The prizes, however, were so popular that they did not even make it until the end! The sound of children running and playing instead of loud, booming Purim music created the perfect atmosphere for such an exciting and engaging carnival. Again, a huge thank you goes out to all who helped in any way and a special thank you to the Patrons of our carnival this year!

Passover arrived quickly after Purim’s end, but that did not stop us from having some fun in between. Four Chocolate Seders throughout the week certainly took a toll on our stomachs, but it was worth it in the name of fun and chocolatey goodness! Dipping Oreos and strawberries in chocolate syrup and tasting the bitter chocolate reminding us of the Jews in Egypt who did not have Hershey’s chocolate are just small parts of the Chocolate Seder experience. Our USYers invited their fellow Israeli teens from Carmiel/Misgav who were in Pittsburgh for winning a Holocaust Arts and Writing contest.

Our youth basketball teams have played their last games of the year with our Kadima team making it to the playoffs. A huge thank you goes out to our coaches and parents who spent time and energy with our teams and made the experience a positive one for our youth. If you have any interest in signing up for next year, more info will be coming near the beginning of next school year!

Unfortunately, Purim and Passover indicate the all-too-close end of the academic year. While that does mean camp and other fun summer programs, internships, and activities, it also means we will not see a lot of our youth for a long time. However, we do have some final hurrahs planned so keep an eye on your emails and on your calendars for some upcoming dates and events. This has been a fantastic year and the Youth Department is in a positive position for the start of next year! Thank you to all of you again!

Yasha Rayzberg
Director of Youth Tefillah & Programming
youthdirector@bethshalompgh.org

Meet Our Benei Mitzvah!

Dylan Blum, son of Elliott Blum and Michele Scott-Blum, will celebrate becoming a Bar Mitzvah on May 21, 2016. Dylan has a younger sister, Zoe. Dylan is the grandson of Rick and Sheila Scott, Margie Blum and the late Jeffrey Blum. Dylan attends CAPA (Pittsburgh Creative and Performing Arts School) and his hobbies are baseball, hockey, and hanging out with friends. Dylan’s Mitzvah project is donating baseball equipment to Roberto’s Kids.

Dana Engel, daughter of Ina and Greg Engel, will celebrate becoming a Bat Mitzvah on May 28, 2016. She has an older sister, Hannah, and a younger brother, Gabe. Dana is the granddaughter of Harriet and the late Robert Jedeikin, and Marilyn and Tom Engel. Dana attends Community Day School and enjoys music, the performing arts, and reading. Her mitzvah project is volunteering at the Safe Haven Program.

Alexandra Max Jaffe, daughter of Freada and David Jaffe will celebrate becoming a Bat Mitzvah on June 11, 2016. Alexandra has two older sisters, Emily and Jennifer. Alexandra is the granddaughter of Huvvy and Meyer Simon and Alice and Norman Jaffe. Alexandra attends Community Day School and is a competitive swimmer. Alexandra is becoming a Bat Mitzvah with her best friend Madison Zunder.

Madison Sydney Zunder, daughter of Paula and Michael Zunder will celebrate becoming a Bat Mitzvah on June 11, 2016. Madison has two older brothers, Noah and Oliver. Madison is the granddaughter of Naomi and Bernard Rosen. Madison attends Community Day School and her hobbies include figure skating, skiing and playing the piano. Madison will be sharing her special day with her best friend, Alexandra Jaffe.
A person who takes a walk of 100 feet and a person who walks 2,000 miles have one major thing in common. They both need to take a first step before they take a second step.

—Rabbi Zelig Pliskin

Every journey needs to start somewhere. This school year began earlier than usual, with our first day being August 30th. As we are preparing for this school year’s Celebration of Learning on May 22nd, this is a perfect time to reflect on the steps we took in this year’s journey.

**BadgeQuest**
This pilot year has provided a lot of very useful data, and learning for all of us. The BadgeQuest topics and assignments have sprung very rich and engaging classroom conversations, and it is evident that BadgeQuest plays a meaningful role in the lives of our JJEP participants. Our roadblocks frequently revolved around the users’ email addresses. In order to prevent this issue in the future, we are strongly considering assigning our JJEP participants JJEP.org email addresses. An exciting addition to our program!

**DVASH**
Another successful year of DVASH is in the books! This year we expanded the DVASH Hebrew program throughout our Kindergarten through 3rd grade Sunday classrooms, which includes over 70 participants. To learn more about the DVASH program, please do contact Beth Shalom congregant Vita Nemirovsky who authored the program and provides professional development to JJEP staff.

**Latkepalooza**
Our 6th Latkepalooza was a tremendous success with participation and sponsorship from our friends in the community including Tree of Life/Or L’Simcha, J’Line (JCC), and Federation. Mark your calendars: next year’s Latkepalooza is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, December 18th.

**Electives**
Our elective selections and the teachers have been an enormous success this year. This year’s selections include: Bishul B’ivrit (Cooking in Hebrew), Reframing Israel, Jewish Current Events, Israeli Pop Culture, The Art of Tfillah, Israeli Recess Games, Cooking through the Bible, Song Parodies, Torah Yoga, Passover Art: Mosaic Seder Plates, and Shavuot Stained Glass Art. Parents of JJEP participants who are interested in participating in adult versions of these electives should contact Kate Kim: kim@rodefshalom.org. Perhaps our newly formed PTO will offer “A Taste of [elective]” into our monthly adult education during JJEP hours.

**Specials**
Our new librarian, Christine Taylor, began working with JJEP a few months ago and truly hit the ground running. Coming soon to JJEP: 100 Jewish Book Challenge and perhaps a mother/daughter pre-teen book club. Our music teacher Molly May created a mini-choir with the 3rd graders which will perform at our Celebration of Learning. They enjoyed practicing some songs with Dan Nichols during his April 17th visit.

**Unsung Hero**
We have chosen Chaim Steinberg as JJEP’s Unsung Hero for this school year. Chaim is our very talented 4th and 7th grade teacher. I invite you to sit in on his class on any day. Warning: You’ll want to come back every week! The Unsung Hero event is during the evening of May 22nd.

What a wonderful year it has been!

**A very special TODAH RABAH to:**

- JJEP’s administrative assistant Kate Kim, JJEP educators, madrikhim and Rabbi Sharyn Henry
- JJEP Committee: Kate Rothstein, Laura Swiss, Rabbi Seth Adelson, Rabbi Aaron Bisno, David Horvitz, Eric Schaffer, Joel Greenhouse, and Jeff Naftal.
- Additional Governance members: Stefi Kirschner, Harlan Stone, Dale Caprara, and Amy Langham.
- Our generous sponsors

Wishing everyone a summer full of adventure!

Kol tuv,

Liron Lipinsky
J-JEP Director
headofschools@bethshalommpgh.org
Adult Education News

We are pleased so many of you have attended our great programs this year. Adult Education would love to offer you even more programs to tickle your interests. We have programs for every level of learning- new, seasoned and general learners. Most of our programs are free or offered for a nominal fee to cover costs. We offer programs during the day, evenings, Sundays, after services, and away from our synagogue campus too - in member kitchens, with other community organizations, in Oakland and downtown where Beth Shalomers could take an hour away from work to get a little spiritual nourishment!

Take a look at what’s been happening this year and what is still to come:

- Over the last five months Lunch and Learn has brought monthly Talmud study with Rabbi Adelson in Oakland (Hillel) and Downtown locations to 20% of our membership to study the great passages of our tradition.

- Sunday Brunch programs, which included a speaker discussing early Islam and two of our Beth Shalom Health Initiative programs.

- Shabbat Shiurim after services on a variety of themes: Sustainability, the New Germany, our new Siddur, and on June 18th the second annual Shabbat Shiur for Pride Week.

- The values and community principles of Judaism motivated a small group of volunteers spearheaded by Adult Ed committee member Nancy Bernstein to grow Beth Shalom’s monthly involvement with Circles East Liberty, a Pittsburgh program for poverty elimination. (See associated story on the next page)

- The 4th annual Beth Shalom Health Initiative featured four programs from February to April offered topics for us about addiction (Dr. Antoine Douiahy), cancer life decisions (Dr. Nathan Bahary), public health and our air (Allegheny Health Department Director Karen Hacker) and past and future of the Jewish Healthcare Foundation (Dr. Karen Wolk Feinstein).

The committee actively seeks out support for all of our programming and we are ever grateful to those foundations and institutions who support what we do: The Jewish Association on Aging, Staunton Farm Foundation, the UPMC Cancer Center, The Fine Foundation, the Jewish Healthcare Foundation, the Jewish Chronicle and the Aging Institute of UPMC Senior Services and the University of Pittsburgh. David Warga (Rabbi’s assistant), Michelle Vines (catering), Anthony Colaizzi (PR and marketing specialist) and executive director Rob Menes all deserve thanks for making things happen. All the members of the Adult Education Committee put forth their imagination and hard work to bring you our programs. Thanks go to everyone on the committee: Chair, Ruth Fauman-Fichman, Nancy Bernstein, Lidush Goldschmidt, Seth Goldstein, Chris Hall, Sandy Hirsch, Stefi Kirschner, Bruce Rollman, Lynda Shuster, Arlene Shapiro, Rabbi Mark Staitman, Pat Weiss, and Shirley Zionts.

If you are interested in serving on the committee, please contact our president, David Horvitz.
How Volunteering Outside One’s Comfort Zone Helps and Teaches Us All

About one year ago, six of us got together to commit ourselves to making dinner once a month for the Circles East Liberty Program, a program that helps community members move out of poverty to greater control over their financial security and their lives. The group included Rich Feder, Ruth Fauman Fichman, Adam Kolko, Lynda Schuster, Marlene Behrmann Cohen and me. Since then we have expanded to a group of 13 people! The newer members are Paula Sokolow, Aviva Lubowsky, Judith Kadosh, Sandy Hirsch, Pat Weiss, Annie Preis and Janice Bahary.

Together we have prepared about 12 meals consisting of healthy and kosher vegetarian food including a main dish, a green salad with cherry tomatoes and cucumbers, fruit and cookies. The food we prepare is hugely appreciated. Main dishes have included: vegetable lasagnas, vegetable chilis, orzo salad with feta cheese and lemon dressing, watermelon and corn on the cob, vegetable moussaka, quiches, soba noodle cheese dish and more.

In addition to meals, Ruth Fauman-Fichman conducted a program for the Circles Leaders on food budgeting and meal planning. Aviva Lubowsky presented to the Circles Leaders about the Hebrew Free Loan Society and ways they can use the program to meet their needs.

The beauty of the program is that even though it sounds like we are just cooking once a month, some of us have also stayed to participate in or just listen while the program is conducted. We have met both the leaders and their wonderful kids, and also the allies who form bonds with the leaders and help them to articulate their goals and support them in reaching them. We found that the program not only benefits the leaders, it also benefits the allies, who learn that while they hope to do good, they too learn life lessons about their own more subtle and sometimes stereotypical attitudes towards the people they hope to help.

One of most enduring successes with the program is that one of our members, Ron Beck, has made the serious commitment for 18 months to become an Ally and makes an ongoing effort with his paired leader to learn and support. In his very quiet way his commitment is showing how an individual can make a difference.

The Circles East Liberty project that Beth Shalom members have participated in has been a great success on many levels, both in terms of the increasing number of people who have contributed to the meals, but also because of the lessons we have learned alongside the “leaders” who are moving out of poverty.

We look forward to continuing our involvement with the Circles East Liberty Program and developing closer bonds with the teachers, the leaders and their allies as they work towards their goals and endeavors! We also hope to recruit some additional Beth Shalom members as cooks and Allies in the Program.

Nancy Bernstein
Adult Education Committee Member
**A Message from Sisterhood**

**Highlights of 2015-16**

We have continued the outdoor gardening project all summer and fall, culminating with our significant financial commitment to a professional service to ensure the shul grounds were well taken care of for the High Holidays.

- Maintaining our beautiful Judaica Shop.
- Latin Cardio classes, taught by Connie Pollack, have taken place all year, and have raised approximately $2,000, which helps to support Congregation Beth Shalom, Sisterhood, and local charities.
- Selling Enjoy Books
- Membership event/potluck dinner welcoming, Rabbi Adelson’s wife, Judy Adelson.
- Israeli Evening—food prepared by Pomegranate Catering and dancing with Cherie Maharam.
- For social action—visited residents at the Schenley Gardens Assisted Living Facility in December for a prize bingo night.
- Financial sponsor of Latkepalooza
- Book Club gatherings were held throughout the year with great book discussions.
- Held our Annual Hanukkah Brunch, with a gift exchange and a social action project: we donated food items to the Squirrel Hill Food Pantry.
- Held another social action project-packed afterschool treats for children whose parents are serviced by the Squirrel Hill Food Pantry. We also enjoyed brunch and an adult coloring event.
- Sisterhood Shabbat took place in February where we honored the Kiddush Club volunteers and partnered with Beth Shalom’s Health Care Initiative.
- On April 3, we honored Ira Frank for our annual Torah Fund Brunch. At that event, we hosted the Great Lakes Region of Women’s League for Conservative Judaism’s president, Edna Schrank.
- Our Youth Committee reached out to over 40 of our college students by sending them treats for Hanukkah (semester exam time) and Purim.

We are 96 years old and always welcome and invite members of Beth Shalom to become a part of Sisterhood. It is a great way to connect with women of all ages, make new friends, and nurture your social, educational, and spiritual needs. We want your ideas, involvement and leadership!

**Debby Firestone & Dorothy Greenfield**  
Sisterhood Representatives  
debbyfire@aol.com or  
hottiedottie@2867@gmail.com

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**A Message from Men’s Club**

I hope everyone is having a meaningful spring season taking part in the beautiful services and various Beth Shalom’s activities. I further trust that you took a moment to notice the activities of Men’s Club this year.

Men’s Club winter/spring schedule is very busy and many of our members are becoming more involved in our programming, which included joint project with the entire congregation of our annual Sports luncheon for Special People which was very successful. The event featured local sports stars with over 400 special people enjoying the programming.

The Men’s Club recently finalized our annual Yellow Candle Program. Everyone should have received the corresponding package in the mail. **We encourage everyone to light the candle after sundown on May 4th, 2016.**

This year’s Men’s Club Shabbat was held on April 16, 2016 to coincide with Rabbi Adelson’s installation. We hope that everyone was able to join the congregation for the memorable services and festivities.

We are planning additional exciting programs and appreciate everyone’s role in our Club. As always, if anyone is interested in becoming more involved in Men’s Club or has any suggestions, please contact me via email at alexanderkiderman@yahoo.com as we welcome new members, new ideas and your participation in our programs.

**Beshalom,**

**Alexander Kiderman**  
Men’s Club President  
alexanderkiderman@yahoo.com
# Shavu’ot Service Schedule 5776

## FIRST DAY SHAVU’OT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location and Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday Evening</strong></td>
<td>June 11</td>
<td>Minḥah/Ma’ariv 8:40 pm.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community-wide Tikkun Leil Shavu’ot</td>
<td>10:00 pm-1:00 pm</td>
<td>JCC, Squirrel Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late-night Study with Rabbi Adelson</td>
<td>1:00-2:00 am</td>
<td>The Adelson Residence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday Morning</strong></td>
<td>June 12</td>
<td>Early Morning Service 6:30 am.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morning Service</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Samuel and Minnie Hyman Ballroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Featuring Confirmation Class Group Aliyah, Baby Bikkurim &amp; First Fruits with participation by all of our children</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kiddush Picnic in the Park</td>
<td>1:00 pm</td>
<td>More info to come!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## SECOND DAY SHAVU’OT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location and Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday Evening</strong></td>
<td>June 12</td>
<td>Minḥah/Ma’ariv 8:50 pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday Morning</strong></td>
<td>June 14</td>
<td>Early Morning Service w/ Yizkor 6:00 am.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morning Service</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Faye Rubenstein Weiss Sanctuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yizkor approximately 10:30 am</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday Evening</strong></td>
<td>June 14</td>
<td>Minḥah/Ma’ariv 8:50 pm.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## SHAVU’OT YOUTH SERVICES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location and Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday &amp; Monday Mornings</td>
<td>June 12 &amp; 13</td>
<td>Playroom 10:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infant - 2nd grade</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Zweig Library (3rd Fl.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Lounge</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Rice Auditorium (4th Fl.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd - 8th grade</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Homestead Hebrew Chapel (2nd Fl.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## BLESSINGS FOR KINDLING FESTIVAL LIGHTS FOR BOTH YOM TOV EVENINGS

- **Candle Lighting Blessing**
  - Barukh atah Adonai, Elohenu melekh ha’olam, asher kiddeshanu bemitzvotav, vetzivanu **lehadlik ner shel Yom Tov.**

- **Sheheḥeyanu Blessing**
  - Barukh atah Adonai, Elohenu melekh ha’olam, **sheheḥeyanu , vekiyamanu, vehigi’anu lazeman hazeh.**

---

### Parents of a new baby? New grandchildren in town for Yom Tov?

**Rabbi Adelson invites you to bring all your babies to the bimah for Baby Bikkurim**

**Sunday, June 11 at 11:30 am**

Let us know you’ll be there!

RSVP to David Warga: rabbiasst@bethshalompgh.org or 412-421-2288 ext. 112
Our Congregational Family

Milestone Events
February 21-April 19

Rachel and Steven Albert celebrated the birth of their daughter, Olivia Ruth Albert. Cookie Elbling and Julian Elbling also celebrated the birth of their granddaughter and Gloria Elbling Gottlieb celebrated the birth of her great granddaughter.

Sabina Robinson and Joseph Jolson celebrated the engagement of their daughter, Ilana Jolson, to Dan Amodeo.

Lindsey and Everett Herman celebrated the birth of their daughter, Hazel Charlene Herman.

Sharon and Rotem Guttman celebrated the birth of their son, Tal Michael Guttman.

Judy and Gerry Kobell celebrated the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Yonatan Haas, in Israel.

Pamela and Robert Slayton celebrated the birth of their granddaughter, Zoe Isabelle Slayton.

Carolyn Gerecht and Michael Starke celebrated their engagement.

Ira Frank was honored at this year’s Sisterhood Torah Fund Brunch.

Hadassah Max and Jonathan Arnold celebrated the birth of their son, Micah Arnold.

Terry & Kenny Steinberg celebrated the marriage of their son, Yoni Steinberg, to Tahlia Hillman.

Natalie and Lonnie Wolf celebrated their granddaughter, Adina Wolf, becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

Debby & Nate Firestone celebrated the marriage of their son, Jay Firestone, to Julia Dalzell.

We are grateful to the many sponsors of our Shabbat Third Meals

Nicole and Howard Valinsky in memory of Nicole’s father, Sanford E. Cohen.

Rhonda and Mark Horvitz, Teddi and David Horvitz, and Debbie Winn-Horvitz and Bruce Horvitz in memory of their mother and mother-in-law, Esther Horvitz.

Ann Adler in loving memory of her beloved parents, Julia and Harry Stark.

Alex, Helen & Alec Kiderman in memory of father and grandfather, Dmitry Kiderman.

Judith and Marty Kline in honor of the Early Morning Minyan Torah Reader, David Haviv.

The Schutte Foundation

Ira Frank and Emily Frank in memory of their beloved mother, Audrey Green Frank.
# Our Congregational Family

**WE THANK OUR GENEROUS KIDDUSH SPONSORS**

**MARCH**

5th - Kurland-Denis family in honor of Shulamit Sigal Kurland Dernis becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

12th - Debby and Nate Firestone in honor of the aufruf of their son Jay Firestone and Julia Dalzell

19th - Elinoff family on the celebration of Michael Mason Elinoff becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

26th- The Kiddush Club

**APRIL**

9th - The Kiddush Club

16th - The Men’s Club in honor of Men’s Club Shabbat and the Installation of Rabbi Seth Adelson.

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**NIHUM AVELIM—COMFORTING MOURNERS**

February 21—April 19

*Susan Shaiman Kimelman* on the passing of her father, *Jerry Shaiman.*

*Bar Weinberger* on the passing of her mother, *Debra Welsh.*

The family of our member, *Liliya Beylina.*

*Elaine Beck* on the passing of her mother, *Betty Asin.*

*Alan Steckel* on the passing of his father, *Isadore Steckel.*

*Amy Weiss* on the passing of her mother, *Sandra Steiner.*

*Merlene Young* on the passing of her husband, *Ralph Young.*

May our mourners find comfort in the embrace of our community.
Ma’ot Hitin - Passover Tzedakkah Fund

Thank you to those who contributed to our Passover Maot Hitin (Tzedakah) Fund. Your gifts enabled us to provide Passover items to many families in need.

Ann Adler
Janice and Nathan Bahary
Steven Berger
Tsiona and Alan Blitstein
Elaine and Sheldon Catz
Lea E. Davidson
Sharon and Larry Dobkin
Sarita and Milton Eisner
Helen and Richard Feder
Debby and Nate Firestone
Ira Frank
Rose & Joshua S. Geller

Cindy Goodman-Leib and Scott Leib
Myriam Gumerman
William Hoffman
Reva and Stanley Horn
Rhoda and Richard Judd
Elaine and Carl Krasik
Carol Lederer
Batia and Todd Rascoe
Jean and Paul Reznick
Natalie M. Rosenbloom
Elinor and Sandy Zaremberg

Passover Yizkor Appeal 5776

Todah Rabah to our members who contributed to the 2016 Passover Yizkor Fund. May the memories of your loved ones serve as a blessing to us all during this Passover season, and all year long.

Lea E. Davidson
In loving memory of beloved parents, Robert and Sara T. Davidson

Rhoda and Richard Judd
In loving memory of Sarah and Jacob Marks and Lillian Judd Grobstein and Sidney Judd

Debby and Nathan Firestone
In loving memory of our deceased ones

Natalie M. Rosenbloom
In loving memory of David A Rosenbloom, Mildred and William Meyers

Cindy Goodman-Leib and Scott Leib
In loving memory of Dennis Goodman

Karen and Paul Shapiro
In loving memory of beloved parents Yetta and Irving D. Samuels, Florence and Albert Shapiro

Reva and Stanley Horn
In loving memory of Clara and George Weintraub, Ruth and Milton Horn

Elinor and Sanford Zaremberg
In loving memory of beloved parents Robert and Sara T. Davidson, Samuel and Ruth Zaremberg
**Contributions**  February 17, 2016-April 18, 2016

**ADULT EDUCATION**
*In Honor Of:*
- Judy & Gerry Kobell’s grandson
- becoming a Bar Mitzvah
- Stefi Kirschner & Gil Schneider
- Jay Firestone and Julia Dalzell’s marriage
- Stefi Kirschner & Gil Schneider

*In Memory of:*
- Isadore Steckel
- Stefi Kirschner & Gil Schneider

**BETH SHALOM JUDAICA MUSEUM FUND**
*In Memory of:*
- Betty Asin
- Honey & Harold Forman
- Jay Minsky
- Honey & Harold Forman
- Shirley Weinseig
- Honey & Harold Forman

**EARLY CHILDHOOD GENERAL FUND**
*In Honor Of:*
- Birth of Olivia Ruth Albert
- Stefi Kirschner & Gil Schneider

*In Memory of:*
- Jay Minsky
- Neila & Danny Bendas

**EARLY CHILDHOOD TEACH FUND**
*In Honor Of:*
- Birth of Olivia Ruth Albert
- Honey & Harold Forman

**FERN MOSCOV EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOLARSHIP FUND**
*In Honor Of:*
- Ira Frank being honored by Sisterhood
- Aviva & Noah Lubowsky
- Cynthia Speck being named Unsung Hero
- Myriam Gumerman

**GENERAL FUND**
*Donation:*
- Beth & Howard Grill
- Brenda Kurland & Mitch Dernis

*In Appreciation Of:*
- Ira Frank
- Sherry & Martin Hellman

*In Honor Of:*
- Marian & Stan Davis hosting Snowbirds brunch in Florida
- Dorita & Emanuel Krifcher
- Shuli Dernis becoming a Bat Mitzvah
- Susan Shapiro & Lewis Polishook
- Lynn & Steve Hecht

**EARLY CHILDHOOD GENE**
**RAL FUND**
*In Honor Of:*
- Birth of Olivia Ruth Albert

**FERN MOSCOV EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOLARSHIP FUND**
*In Honor Of:*
- Ira Frank being honored by Sisterhood
- Aviva & Noah Lubowsky
- Cynthia Speck being named Unsung Hero
- Myriam Gumerman

**GENERAL FUND**
*Donation:*
- Beth & Howard Grill
- Brenda Kurland & Mitch Dernis

*In Appreciation Of:*
- Ira Frank
- Sherry & Martin Hellman

*In Honor Of:*
- Marian & Stan Davis hosting Snowbirds brunch in Florida
- Dorita & Emanuel Krifcher
- Shuli Dernis becoming a Bat Mitzvah
- Susan Shapiro & Lewis Polishook
- Lynn & Steve Hecht

**LINDA HERER GOLDSMIT H CAMP RAMAH FUND**
*In Honor Of:*
- Adena Wolf becoming a Bar Mitzvah
- Kathy & Larry Hurwitz

*In Memory Of:*
- Jackie Wagner
- Natalie & Lonnie Wolf

**MILDRED & ISADORE BERKOWITZ MEMORIAL FUND**
*In Honor Of:*
- Anita Smolover’s special birthday
- Elaine Berkowitz
- Birth of Olivia Ruth Albert
- Elaine Berkowitz
- Ira Frank being honored by Sisterhood
- Elaine Berkowitz

*In Memory Of:*
- Gary Gentile
- Elaine Berkowitz
- Ralph Young
- Elaine Berkowitz

**PHILANTHROPIC FUND**
*In Honor Of:*
- Ilana Jolson’s engagement
- Arlene & Lester Shapiro

**PRAYER BOOK FUND**
*In Memory Of:*
- A. Richard Feldman
- Elinor & Sanford Zaremberg
- Larry Lasday
- Sarita & Milt Eisner

**RABBI ADELSON DISCRETIONARY FUND**
*In Honor Of:*
- Rabbi Seth Adelson
- Avi Baran Munro & Paul Munro

*In Memory Of:*
- Jay Minsky
- Elaine & Carl Krasik
- Isadore Steckel
- Sheila & Earl Glasser

**SINGLES FUND**
*In Honor Of:*
- Ira Frank being honored by Sisterhood
- Cheryl Blumenfeld
- Jack Dym
- Stefi Kirschner & Gil Schneider

*In Memory Of:*
- Ralph Young
- Ira Frank
SISTERHOOD FUND
In Memory Of:
Betty Asin
Helen & Rich Feder
Sandra Steiner
Helen & Rich Feder

SISTERHOOD FLOWER FUND
Donation:
Betsy & Marc Schwartz

In Honor Of:
New Great-granddaughter, Olivia Ruth Albert
Gloria Elbling Gottlieb

In Memory Of:
Beloved mother, Sadie Speer
Jean Stein
Beloved father, Moshe Speer
Jean Stein
Beloved brother, Norman Speer
Jean Stein
Beloved husband, Saul Stein
Jean Stein

SISTERHOOD TORAH FUND
In Memory Of:
Shirley Weinsweig
Gail Neft

THOMAS MORDECHAI ROSENSTEIN MEMORIAL FUND
In Honor Of:
Stefi Kirschner’s special birthday
Sarita & Milt Eisner

In Memory Of:
Isadore Steckel
Sarita & Milt Eisner

YOUTH FUND
In Appreciation Of:
Marian & Stan Davis hosting Snowbirds brunch in Florida
Natalie & Lonnie Wolf

In Honor Of:
Birth of Olivia Ruth Albert
Leah Ackner & Jonathan Loring
Lynn & Steve Hecht
Jay Firestone and Julia Dalzell’s aufruf
Lynn & Steve Hecht
Jay Firestone and Julia Dalzell’s marriage
Michelle & Martin Lubetsky
Natalie Rosenbloom
Audrey & Ralph Silverman
Ira Frank being honored by Sisterhood
Stefi Kirschner & Gil Schneider

Engagement of Carolyn Gerecht and Michael Starke
Stefi Kirschner & Gil Schneider

In Memory Of:
Betty Asin
Leah Ackner & Jonathan Loring
Neila & Danny Bendas
Lynn & Steve Hecht
Shirley Zions
Phyllis Budin
Ruth Weiss
Sylvia Schwartz
Ida Steinbrg
Isadore Steckel
Neila & Danny Bendas
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Sandra Steiner
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Dorita & Emanuel Krifcher
Ralph Young
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Speedy Recovery:
Howard Plung
Barbara & Michael Schneider

Sisterhood Judaica Shop Summer Sale
May-June-July Sale!
30% Off
All In-stock Tallitot and Jewelry

HOURS: Fridays: 10:00am - 12:00pm or by appointment.
Contact Barbara Kaiserman - 412.422.5677
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Marc Antis
Florence Aronson
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Barbara & Caplan Azizo
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Jane Marcus
Elisa Marlin
Ellen Marmer
Barbara Sachnoff Mendlowitz
Nancy & Joel Merenstein
Iskender Mericli

Mishpachenu
Yahrzeit Donations February 16, 2016-April 18, 2016

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Nicole & Howard Valinsky
Toby Valinsky
Nancy & William Veshancey
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Claire & Morris Weinbaum
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Ruth F. Weisberger
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Patricia Weiss
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Sandra & Bernard Wortzman
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Michael Yahr
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Debra Zidell
Stephanie Zinman
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Ruth & Allan Zytnick

If you would like to make a donation in honor of a simhah or in memory of a loved one, please call the office 412.421.2288.

Your contributions directly support building operations, education, programming and services at Congregation Beth Shalom.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23 Nisan</td>
<td>Omer 8</td>
<td>Omer 9</td>
<td>Omer 10</td>
<td>Omer 11</td>
<td>Omer 12</td>
<td>Omer 13</td>
<td>Omer 14</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12:15pm Benei Mitzvah Workshop w/ Rabbi Adelson</td>
<td>9:00am ELC Teacher Appreciation Day</td>
<td>4:15pm JJPEG</td>
<td>6:00pm Kadima Lounge Night</td>
<td>4:15pm JJPEG</td>
<td>8:03pm Candle Lighting</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:30pm Women's Basketball</td>
<td></td>
<td>6:00pm Kadima Lounge</td>
<td>7:30pm Confirmation Class</td>
<td>7:00pm USY Lounge</td>
<td>9:04pm Havdalah</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 Nisan</td>
<td>Omer 10</td>
<td>Omer 11</td>
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<td>8:30pm Women's Basketball</td>
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**Notes:**
- ELC Teacher Appreciation Day
- Women's Basketball
- Executive Committee Meeting
- USY Lounge
- Judaism 101
- Kadima Lounge
- Confirmation Class
- Confirmation Class
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<td>7:00pm USY Lounge</td>
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<td>7:00pm Judaism 101</td>
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lease mark your calendars for our upcoming Sisterhood Shabbat weekend on March 21-22, 2015.

Sisterhood Shabbat

Join us for Saturday morning services, March 21, as we honor two very special women: Lidush Goldschmidt and Sabina Robinson.

Lidush Goldschmidt was born in Teheran and immigrated to Israel in 1969 with Youth Aliyah. She lived in France and Providence, RI before making her home here in Pittsburgh with her family. She served two terms on the board of Congregation Beth Shalom and currently serves on the Adult Education and Membership committees and various sisterhood committees. Lidush has three children and five grandchildren. Dr. Goldschmidt is the Statistical Director of Program in Epidemiology at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

Sabina Robinson has been a member of Congregation Beth Shalom and Sisterhood since the early 1990s, when she moved to Squirrel Hill with her husband Joe Jolson. She has two children and one grandchild. Her Sisterhood activities have included serving as Sisterhood Co-President, serving as Vice President of Youth, Communications, and Social Action; and co-chairing various events. She has also been involved in Women's League for Conservative Judaism at the regional level. Sabina has served on Beth Shalom's Youth Commission and as the CRUSY Youth Commission Chair. Sabina holds a PhD in Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics from the Johns Hopkins University and is employed as a Scientific Writer at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute.

Our guest speaker for Sisterhood Shabbat will be Dr. Deborah Gilboa, (popularly known as Dr. G). Dr. Gilboa is a go-to expert on raising and educating respectful, responsible, resilient young people. As a parenting and youth development expert, she is known for her contagious humor and no-nonsense prescriptions for character development and preventing risky behaviors. Dr. G is a contributor on the CBS morning show Pittsburgh Today Live, and has shared her doctor-tested, kid-approved advice nationally.

Torah Fund Brunch

On Sunday, March 22, Sisterhood will be honoring Arlene Shapiro at our annual Torah Fund Brunch. Torah Fund proceeds have helped to support the following: Jewish educators studying at JTS or other conservative seminaries, the Women's League Educational Pavilion (Kripke Tower), Women's League Seminary Synagogue, Mathilde Schechter Residence Hall Renovations, Goldsmith Hall, Residence Hall at the American Jewish University, JTS Quadrangle, JTS Library Bookshelves and the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies Garden. We hope that you will make plans to honor Arlene and support the Torah Fund Campaign.

Arlene Shapiro has been a member of Congregation Beth Shalom for many years. She grew up at Beth Shalom, attending both Hebrew and Sunday school as a child. Before girls had a more traditional Bat Mitzvah, she was part of a group service for Bat Mitzvah girls and was also confirmed at Beth Shalom. After Arlene was married, she and her husband Lester moved out of town but returned to Pittsburgh and to Beth Shalom in the 1970's. Arlene has been an active volunteer throughout the years. She has previously chaired the Shulabration weekend at Beth Shalom and has served on the Sisterhood General Board as well as the Board of Trustees for the synagogue. Arlene remains active on various Sisterhood and Beth Shalom committees, helping in any way she can, and remains passionate about adult education. Arlene has a degree in education and a graduate degree in Religious Studies from the University of Pittsburgh, with a certificate in Jewish Studies.

For 10 years, Arlene was the Administrator/Principal of the Beth Samuel Sunday School and retired when their first grandchild was born. She has taught Jewish history at the School of Advanced Jewish Studies, has taught in public schools, and has taught mini-courses for NCJW and for Beth Shalom. Currently, Arlene teaches an Osher class "In Their Own Words: Voices and Choices of Pittsburgh Jewry 1850's to Today"- based on NCJW oral histories of Pittsburgh Jewry. When there was an influx of refugees from the former USSR in 1989, she organized and participated in a community-wide mentor family and ESL language tutoring program for "New Americans." Arlene has written about Jewish identity in the Soviet Union and Soviet Jews' acculturation in the U.S. She is married to Dr. Lester Shapiro and has two daughters and three...