



# SHALOM

## from BETH SHOLOM

### OCTOBER 2021

#### TISHREI – CHESHVAN 5782

340 N. Queen Street, Dover, Delaware 19904  
302-734-5578 Office@cbsdover.com



### *Rabbi Peggy Berman de Prophetis*

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#### **COMING SOON:**

New Events and Activities to be planned and announced for October.

**Choir Practices by Zoom will be starting October 5 at 6:00 pm. Erin Grier will continue as our Director and will be using her personal Zoom link.**

If you would like to Zoom with us, please contact the office and leave a message with your contact information. Choir is open to all regardless of musical knowledge. All you need is a desire to make beautiful music together once we reassemble. In the meantime, we will be monitoring the Covid situation and hope to be able in the near future to practice in live sessions in the synagogue. But for now, Erin will get us in fine tune, and refresh our memories with our repertoire extraordinaire!

## RABBI'S COLUMN:

*Rabbi Peggy Berman deProphetis*

Where have all the annual holidays and holy days gone? In September we had Selichot, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Hoshanah Rabbah, Shemini Atzeret, and Simchat Torah. And in October....we have... none.



I am well aware that in many synagogues there are people who show up only for the High Holy Days only to disappear until the following year. But seeing what I could do on the screen next to the reader's desk on the busy High Holy day bimah, it looked to me as if most of the people praying were those who attend Beth Sholom's Shabbat services every week. This pleases me no end.

Synagogue attendance keeps us together. It affirms our identity as American Jews. It strengthens our local feeling of Jewish community. It's a wonderful expression of the Jewish soul.

I think Zoom has helped. With Zoom it's hard to justify non-attendance because of weather, infirmity, transportation problems, or even inertia. We all need the life-enhancing ideals of our tradition.

That being said, actual presence in the synagogue is important, but of course only when a person is convinced that it is safe to be there, that his/her life will not be endangered because of attendance. We Jews value life above all.

When I am in the synagogue I am inspired by the physical presence of the Torahs. My spirit seems to soar at times when I see light coming through the stained glass windows on the bimah. I am energized by the voices of those praying with me. It's a powerful combination--ancient words, music, and the physical presence of people.

So, by all means, take advantage of Zoom. But please be ready to return in person when that time comes.

*Rabbi Peggy Berman deProphetis*

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

*by Caroline B. Schwartz*

*If you attended Kol Nidre then you heard me give this speech. I thought it was appropriate to reiterate some of my thoughts and so ask for your indulgence. We begin a new year I need new ideas for activities to sustain us. Covid has been a challenge that is plaguing my strength and creativity for sustaining safe and near normal community activities. Our recent Sukkot Social was well attended and enjoyable. Our Tea & Talk Tuesdays—and field trips have to resume soon or we will lose momentum. Someone needs to take a turn to host. Call me please with your preferred date and what you want to do for us.*

### **There are few things in life that are free**

How many times have you thought you had the right tool to fix the assembly or repair job, just to find out it needed a special type of screwdriver head or obscure wrench, not included with the kit, and only available on line, and on back order, or special type of part that can only be special ordered. Aggravation—all free!

So you get a call or email that you have won a special prize, if only you call or log on to a specific site or number to claim it. Not suspecting anything, and being trustful, because it really sounds legitimate, you respond. You find out the hard way that it is a scam and you already clicked send or gave out your valuable identification number to your personal information. That was free, but what you now have is a mess to reestablish yourself securely and cancel your plastic life and links. That does not come cheaply or free. It may not cost money to make the corrections, but in aggravation and affect to your nerves—it is a high price to pay to regain your identity.

Over the many years of working in my garden I have purchased many perennials, shrubs, expensive plants, spending an accumulated fortune, only to find the proliferation of 'free' plants have taken over where I planted the desired plants. So now I call it my Garden of Weedin'.

Then just as I think I have everything under control, I am that type A person, something comes along to break up the perfection and to cause more aggravation and energy. For FREE!

We have all heard of Murphy's Law. You know you have invoked Murphy's Law when things start coincidentally obstructing your progress or peace of mind. Some can chalk it up to Murphy's Law and walk away. Some interpret Murphy's Law as God's punishment for not being observant or not praying hard enough, as in the movie I recommended for Sukkot, Ushpizin. (BTW, did you watch it? What did you think?)

Peace of Mind is something we all need and want. Some of us can block out the mishaps and negatives and go on about life with absolute peace of mind because we choose to avoid controversy by not engaging in community activities that involve others or common interests. Isolating oneself and avoiding Jewish community engagement sets a poor example for being a Jew. I guess we might consider such people secular, unaffiliated Jews, rather than observant Jews. And we cannot rely on them to seek membership or engagement. But wait – how can we, and how do we, respond when they inquire, asking who is available to bury their Jewish parent or spouse, or to perform a baby naming, or to consult with a Rabbi about troubling personal issues? Those are services which a strong Jewish community provides, but without support from the people, we lack the manpower and financial resources to staff those services -- and frankly, without people and money we can accomplish nothing.

However, these questions don't seem to be what the Torah, Rabbis and Sages have to teach. We Jews descend from ancestors who were strongly community minded and who cared for and about all other Jews – who reached past themselves and their immediate families to embrace their fellow Jews.

The Peace of Mind—which comes from knowing that a Jewish place and people who maintain it will be there for you when you need Halachic or personal comfort and knowledge about practices of our faith that you otherwise may have grown numb and away from. That is never free. Somebody always has to provide those Jewish community services, and the burden of providing manpower and funding always falls on the shoulders of people like you and me. And because we really care about our Jewishness, we make a sincere effort to carry that burden.

At this time of the year in our Synagogue and with many members of our Jewish community, I want to remind you that the burden of helping you attain a Jewish Peace of Mind comes not just once a year, but everyday throughout the year. It comes from individuals in our community supporting the organized center of Jewish practices to spread out and influence others to join for every day not just when the need is most felt. We hope we will be able to be here and to respond when needed, but that will be possible only with more commitment from everyone, to be more active and involved to help the survival of our Synagogue. Whether you lean towards Orthodoxy, Conservative or Reform, Reconstructionist or other divisions of Judaism, you are still a Jew and you should belong with us and engage in the Jewish community, not only for yourself, but to maintain a presence for others.

Not only do we need more human resources, we are always in need of more financial support. We are operating on the fumes of our accounting balances, like needing gas, and need to fill up and give us more energy to ride through the journey from Rosh Hashanah 5782 to Rosh Hashanah 5783. In the Hebrew Bible people were asked to tithe a tenth to the Temple. Can you pledge or tithe a tenth of your annual income as in Biblical times? All the mention in the Torah of people bringing support to the Temple contained an amount, one tenth, equal amounts from everyone. Can you spare a few more dollars this year than last? If you are able, won't you increase your pledge from last year?

We have this Kol Nidre Appeal every year to project and assure additional income above the dues that you pledge to contribute. Our dues do not compare to other synagogues in that we have extremely low levels in order to make your membership more important than plying you for money when you join. However, there are many more expenses than our dues can support just to run the physical plant and to support a part time Rabbi. We do not pay administrators or even at this time, a part time secretary. We are bare boned in all we do, and rely on your additional generosity as well as some benefactors who have more generously endowed special projects and installations.

When you receive your Kol Nidre Pledge card, please turn down the tab that most generously contributes your highest amount you will be comfortable expending. We are mailing the cards if not picked up this evening. Please be generous. (*Stu Handler has already mailed your card, please respond immediately with your generosity.*)

*Caroline B. Schwartz, President*

## TREASURER'S MESSAGE

The 2021-22 Membership commitment forms have been sent with return envelope for your convenience. Also, your Kol Nidre Pledge card has been mailed. You may include these in the same envelope if you wish.

Continue to bring your Redner's receipts into the synagogue. There is a basket at the window in the office. We receive a percentage of the total amount of purchases. Remember we need the entire receipt, don't tear any section off. *Only by using your Redner's membership card* will it register the save-a-tape amount. If not, then your receipt and all your efforts are invalid for this program. This has been a terrific fundraiser for the Congregation.

If there are any concerns or questions, please contact me.

*Stu Handler*

### \*\*\*\*\**Parsha Challenge*\*\*\*\*\*

Did you have a Bar/Bat Mitzvah? And do you remember your Parsha reading? Would you like to hone your Torah and Haftorah reading skills and revisit that parsha in preparation to read again on a Saturday morning Shabbat? Contact Steve Schwartz if this is something you have thought you would like to do and need help to accomplish again! Wouldn't it be wonderful and marvelous to have a simcha anniversary?

## *October Simchas:*

*We are sending wishes for a Happy Birthday and a Good Year to*

Barbara Sparks, October 3

Breda Jaffe, October 5

Rabbi Louis Kaplan October 15

Rita Golden October 27.

*Wedding Anniversary* Congratulations go to these lovely couples:

Mindy and Bruce Beck, October 3

Gwen and Garth Stubbolo, October 9

Cindy and Brian Kobza, October 26

*Mazel Tov and Siman Tov for another year in  
Good Health.*

If you know of anyone needing a call or a card, please let Anne Parks know at  
[luckyladyane@gmail.com](mailto:luckyladyane@gmail.com)

## OCTOBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Shabbat Svc 7:00 pm HYBRID L e a d e r : Barry Brill	2
					25 Tishrei	26 Tishrei
3	4 6:30 pm Zoom Board Mtg	5 ZOOM CHOIR 6:00 pm Welcome Back	6 R O S H CHODESH	7 ROSH CHODESH	8 Shabbat Svc 7:00 pm HYBRID L e a d e r : George & Carole Mason	9 9:45 am Morning Svc Leader: Steve Schwartz Parsha Noach
27 Tishrei	28 Tishrei	29 Tishrei	30 Tishrei	1 Cheshvan	2 Cheshvan	3 Cheshvan
10	11	12 ZOOM CHOIR 6:00pm	13	14	15 Shabbat Svc 7:00 pm HYBRID L e a d e r : Newton Rennie & Jacob Kaminski	16
4 Cheshvan	5 Cheshvan	6 Cheshvan	7 Cheshvan	8 Cheshvan	9 Cheshvan	10 Cheshvan

17	18	19	20	21	22 RABBI H Y B R I D Shabbat Svc 7:00 pm L e a d e r : Rabbi Peggy	23 RABBI 9:45 am Svc Followed by Class Discussion  Parsha Vayeira
11 Cheshvan	12 Cheshvan	13 Cheshvan	14 Cheshvan	15 Cheshvan	16 Cheshvan	17 Cheshvan
24 RABBI  9:30 am M o r n i n g Minyan 10:30 am Class	25	26	27	28	29 Shabbat Svc HYBRID 7:00 pm Leader: Barry Brill & M a s o n Schulenburg	30/31
18 Cheshvan	19 Cheshvan	20 Cheshvan	21 Cheshvan	22 Cheshvan	23 Cheshvan	24/25 Cheshvan

## YAHREZITS for OCTOBER

*25 Tishrei – 25 Cheshvan*

25 Tishrei	Benjamin Brill	No Pl
26 Tishrei	Herb Kurlander	No Pl
27 Tishrei	Abraham Cohen	No Pl
29 Tishrei	Gerald Green	No Pl
30 Tishrei	Irvin J. Goldman	No Pl

### CESHVAN

1 Cheshvan	Florence Abraham	No Pl
1 Cheshvan	Sydney Davidoff	Bd 2 R1
2 Cheshvan	Elaine Dumoch	No Pl
3 Cheshvan	Joseph Nathan Pikus	Bd 2 R3
3 Cheshvan	Norman Berman	No Pl
5 Cheshvan	Ruth Eskenazi	Bd 3 R5
5 Cheshvan	Samuel Wolfe	No Pl
5 Cheshvan	Louis Seger	No Pl
6 Cheshvan	Harry Borish	No Pl
7 Cheshvan	Max Borish	No Pl
7 Cheshvan	Mary Bryant	No Pl
8 Cheshvan	Herman Faber	No Pl
8 Cheshvan	Stanley Wolin	Bd 3 R5
9 Cheshvan	Rose Barros	Bd 1 R1

12 Cheshvan	Martin Golden	Bd 3 R5
12 Cheshvan	Bessie Nurock	Bd 1 R1
12 Cheshvan	Abraham Schuman	Bd 1 R1
12 Cheshvan	Laura Morosi	No Pl
13 Cheshvan	Sigmund Samuel	Bd 2 R4
13 Cheshvan	Arthur Tollin	Bd 3 R4
13 Cheshvan	David Martin	Bd 2 R1
16 Cheshvan	Janice Winter	No Pl
17 Cheshvan	Irwin Meyer Zuckerman	No Pl
18 Cheshvan	Isadore Barmash	No Pl
18 Cheshvan	George Rosenhaus	No Pl
19 Cheshvan	Lester B. Lustfield	No Pl
20 Cheshvan	Laura Morosi	No Pl
21 Cheshvan	Raphael Katz	Bd 1 R2
22 Cheshvan	Michael Leschetsko	No Pl
23 Cheshvan	Robert Albert Gorkin, Sr.	No Pl
24 Cheshvan	Margaret Hirschbein	Bd 2 R5
24 Cheshvan	Jacob Ettenger	Bd 2 R2

*Shalom from Beth Sholom*

Congregation Beth Sholom  
 340 North Queen Street  
 Dover, DE 19904

*We're on the Web!*  
*Visit us at*  
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E-MAIL: [office@cbsdover.com](mailto:office@cbsdover.com)  
Phone: (302) 734-5578