

Congregation Beth Shalom
Committee Reports
October 2022

Finance

Cheryl Braude, Howard Freidin, Ray Rokni

- See reports provided

Fundraising Report

Ellen Grossman, Fundraising VP

- I am looking to form a committee. Please let me know if you are interested. It should be a very fun committee.
- The event date is June 11, 2023
- I look forward to hearing from you. elkie17@gmail.com

House Report

Arlen Lasinsky, House VP

1. FEMA Grant Projects

A. Window Film Project - The film has been installed on all windows with the exception of the Administrative Wing windows which will be replaced before the weather gets really bad.

B. Security Protocol - The vendor has completed a draft of the manual. Michael is setting up a small sub-committee to review the manual and make any changes deemed necessary. The blue pull stations and strobes should be installed by the end of October.

2. Live Streaming & Audio Services - Status - Nothing new to report at this time

3. Signage - As you are all aware, the new signs have been installed. Again Kudos to Neil, Jill, Jerry and Michael, as well as Edgar and Eduardo.

4. Windows Administrative Wing - We have contracted with Nu-Concepts Window, Siding & Exterior Decorating Co to install new windows. The amount for the replacement is approximately \$25,000.

5. Parsonage

A. Cantor Stoehr's Basement - Status

Basement is complete. We are in the process of completing the work for new carpeting in the basement and den and new flooring in the kitchen by Lewis Carpets.

B. Rabbi Chapman's House - Status

Continue to complete various small projects that are listed below.

i. Battery back-up for the sump pump

C. Rabbi Melman's House - Status

Repair of front door molding and paint same.

Membership Report

Sue Lampert, Membership VP

- Thank you all for being CBS Ambassadors by reaching out to our members with Shana Tova calls, enriching their CBS experience. Your notes and feedback provided to Michael and me, to enable their concerns to be addressed, is so valuable to member retention.
- At the October 15, 2022 **Sukkah Hop**, over 100 members enjoyed an afternoon and evening of food, fun and family, visiting two clergy sukkahs and enjoying BBQ ala Chef Melman, entertainment and Havdalah Services at CBS. Our newest members began building their CBS friendship community, meeting other new families and children.
- We look forward to connecting and engaging our membership with new YACHAD Affinity Groups and Chavurahs at the **YACHAD and Chavurah Fair** on October 23, 2022. These engaging social groups are intended for veteran and new members of all ages.



- Here is a visual for those of you (hopefully) reading these VP reports days before the BOT meeting on 10/24/22.

Programming Report

Randy Samborn, Programming VP

Recent Programs:

Distinguished Speaker Series: Unorthodox Podcast -- September 8th

- 262 registered to attend in person; there were also walk ins.
- 73 unique live streaming screens that night
- \$1,000 raised for the Northfield Food Pantry; \$1,000 matched for Pastor Brooks
- Segment with Pastor Brooks was in the October 13th podcast

Sukkah Hop – October 15th

- 50 families registered
- Everyone assigned to 2 clergy sukkahs
- About 130 adults and children attended

Upcoming:

Distinguished Speaker Series: Nina Totenberg webinar – October 27th

- Discussing her new book, *Dinners with Ruth*, a memoir on the power of friendships and her 50-year relationship with the late Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg
- Will be interviewed by Jamie Gangel, CNN Special Correspondent
- 154 screens registered as of Sunday, Oct. 16
- We will have books available soon

Chicago Festival of Israeli Cinema and CBS present Speer Goes to Hollywood – November 9th

- We will begin with a commemoration of Kristallnacht and the film will be shown that evening
- There will be a guest speaker after the film
- 88 people have registered as of October 16th

HAZAK presents The Men of Omaha Beach – November 10th

- 12:30 – 2:00 pm including a light lunch
- Special blessing for our troops will be given by Rabbi Melman
- Presentation will be given by local historian, Robert Mueller

Handling Your Holi”DAZE” – November 14th

This year's 3-part cooking series will kick off with Edna Schrank and her granddaughter, Mira, cooking with Rabbi David Chapman and his son, Elior, showing how to include children in the planning and preparation of Thanksgiving. They will also be showing how to infuse Judaism into this secular holiday in fun ways.

Ritual Report

Bill Shulman, Ritual VP

- The High Holiday services were very inspiring and fulfilling. It was heartwarming to see so many people in the building. Things seemed to run without any major glitches. Services were very well attended. The variety of services offered was exceptional and well received. Kol ha-kavod to our clergy and staff who developed and conducted the services. Also, a hearty Yasher Koach to our High Holiday committee who assigned davening, Torah and Haftarah readings, ark openings, etc. at all services. Another big thank you goes to the Usher committee.
- As of this writing, we are looking forward to more people being in the building and celebrating again for Simchat Torah. Also looking forward to the Blessing of the Pets on October 23rd.
- We always need assistance in making daily minyans. Please do your best to attend whenever possible. Thank you.

School Report

Robyn Rosengard, School VP

The Religious School is off to a strong start despite a nationwide staffing shortage. Our 3rd through 5th graders are once again amazing us as they progress through the Hebrew levels in our Aleph Champ program. We had a successful Family Tashlich Program on Sunday, October 2nd. The morning included:

- writing our bad deeds on water dissolving paper and watching them disappear
- bubble tashlich
- a *zimriyah* (song festival)
- using a parachute to throw our bad deeds away
- a line dance to the tune of the "Hockey Pokey" which taught us the steps of *teshuvah*
- playing corn hole where we apologized as we missed the mark
- a game of apologizing and forgiving on a family, community and a global level

During sukkot our students decorated the sukkah and had the opportunity to shake the lulav and etrog as well as enjoy a snack in the sukkah. Our holiday celebrations culminated with a Family Simchat Torah program right before the CBS Erev Simchat Torah Service. Families were able to look at an unrolled un-kosher Torah, make flags and make edible Torahs to march with during the service.

Towards the end of the month our 7th grade will begin their Holocaust Studies Unit with Mark Gelfeld. Parents are invited to all 4 sessions and we will then take a fieldtrip to the Illinois Holocaust Museum before Thanksgiving.

There are still slots available for lay leaders to work with our 7th grade on Shabbat mornings for about 45 minutes. After the Torah is read you would escort the class to the classroom for snacks and then discuss the weekly

parasha with them. Materials are provided. Go to <https://bit.ly/7thGradeOnShabbat> and sign up!

If you are interested in teaching or subbing in our school, please email Stacy Ybarra at sybarra@bethshalomnb.org.

Social Action Report

Suzy Hakimian, Social Action VP

- No written report

Youth Report

Seth Schrank, Youth VP

- No written report

Men's Club Report

Steve Lessman, Andrew Wagner Co-Presidents

- Upcoming events
 - Saturday, November 12, 2022: Men's Club and Sisterhood Event
 - Sunday, March 12, 2023: Lox Box Delivery
 - April 15, 2023: Men's Club Shabbat
 - Thursday, June 15, 2023: Men's Club Shabbat

Sisterhood Report

Jackie Zelkowitz, President

- Our Holiday Boutique will be on Sunday, November 6th. We have lots of amazing vendors. It's a great time to get all of your holiday shopping done and support these vendors.
- On Saturday evening, November 12th, Sisterhood and Men's Club have a wonderful joint program planned. Come join us for a fun evening of bowling and socializing at Bowlero.
- Celebrate Torah Fund's 80th Anniversary with Rabbi David Chapman at our Torah Fund Event on Sunday, November 13th.
- On Wednesday, November 16th, Anita Pildes, Community Education and Outreach Coordinator for SHALVA, one of the most significant Jewish Community service organizations, will be here to talk to us about SHALVA.

SHALVA supports Jewish women experiencing and healing from domestic abuse. It would be nice to have a large board presence at this event.