



CONGREGATION
BETH SHALOM

CONGREGATION BETH SHALOM ANNUAL REPORT



Congregation Beth Shalom's Mission Statement

We seek to enrich the lives of our congregation through ever-evolving ideals of observance, life-long learning, and acts of kindness from this generation to the next.

We are committed to meeting the spiritual, educational and social needs of our members through the practice of Conservative Judaism in an all-inclusive manner.

We seek to encourage involvement and create a sense of belonging by serving our community, the Jewish people, and the State of Israel.

5785-5786

2025-2026



www.bethshalomnb.org

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Sue Lampert, President
 Brad Shaps, Fundraising VP
 Scott Rogoff, House VP
 Edna Schrank, Membership VP
 Steven Zaacks, Programming VP
 Jill Olefsky, Ritual VP
 Charlotte Stern, School VP
 Andy Lebovitz, Social Action VP
 Robyn Rosengard, Youth VP
 Rick Dissen, Accounts Receivable Secretary
 Arlen Lasinsky, Financial Secretary
 Leatte Gelfeld, Treasurer
 Roz Mokhtarian, Administrative Secretary
 Bob Spector, Immediate Past President
 Frannie Goldwin, Sisterhood President
 Ron Rabinowitz, Men's Club President



15 volunteer committees



26

BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE

Becky Becker
 Talia Block
 Cheryl Braude
 Harold Dembo
 Jeremy Elkins
 Annie Goldman
 Bob Goldwin
 Sam Grief
 Ellen Grossman
 Suzy Hakimian
 Debbie Hamilton
 Jill Hartzman
 Steve Lessman
 Liz Neiberg
 Ray Rokni
 Fern Roseman
 Jill Roter
 Randy Samborn
 Carly Sear
 Alan Shapiro
 Howard Sigal
 Lauren Stein
 Michael Stern
 Andy Wagner
 Alan Zerkowitz
 Jackie Zerkowitz



27

PAST PRESIDENTS

Samuel Roberman z"l	George Platt
Earl Rosenstein z"l	Barbara Gelfeld z"l
Joel W. Weinstein z"l	Joe Wolke
Leonard Mason	Marc K. Schwartz
Herbert Rosenstein z"l	David Hakimian
Howard Michaels z"l	Michael Balter
Fred Katzenstein z"l	Michael H. Zaransky
Jerome S. Stanton	Brian Miller
Barbara Petasnick	Lily Zoberman
Jack P. Knopoff	Tami Rokni
Henry Rabinowitz	Glen Roter
Donald B. Levine	Larry Grossman
Joel B. Greenman	Deborah Solomon
	Tanya Solomon



"This past year has been marked by continued vitality, active participation, and deep engagement across CBS.

Through worship, learning, governance, and community life, our members, clergy, and staff have remained dedicated to the shared work that sustains and enriches our congregation. The pages that follow reflect our steadfast commitment to Jewish life, meaningful connection, and the spirit of our vibrant community."

Sue Lampert, CBS President

OUR CBS CLERGY & STAFF TEAM



David Chapman
Senior Rabbi



Steven Stoehr *
Senior Cantor



Jacki Honig 
Assistant Rabbi



Michael Garlin *
Executive Director



Mara Bernstein
Administrative Assistant



Maria Catezone *
Office Manager



Edgar Chavez *
Head of Maintenance

Maintenance staff not pictured: Eduardo Chavez,
Gabriel Chavez, Abraham Leiman & Emmanuel Ramirez



Maria Chavez
Kitchen Manager

Kitchen staff not pictured: Alehandra Espinosa,
Jonathan Gutierrez, Maribel Hernandez & Lorena Linares



Deanne Friedman *
Director of Communications



David Harris
Religious School
Administrative Assistant



Lauri Holmes
Director of Finance



Josh Kamen
Youth Engagement Coordinator



Anat Pissetzky
Youth Engagement Manager



Ali Pohn 
Director - Club Spark



Randi Simon
Ritual Coordinator



Susan Stoehr *
B'nai Mitzvah Tutor



Audrey Taxer
Adult Education, Programming
and Database Manager



Carly Wallenstein 
Senior Director of
Learning and Engagement



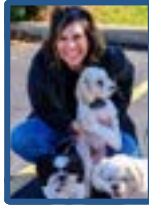
Lisa Weisner
Clergy Support and IT Manager

* Denotes staff with over 10 years of service to CBS

COMMUNICATIONS



MEMBERSHIP 982 Households in the CBS Community



70 new member households joined



40 percent (largest) CBS households consist of
2 adults + children (under 30)

554 households (56 percent)
reside in Northbrook

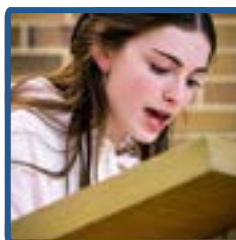


400 members attended the
Welcome Back Dinner including
16 new member families

8 YACHAD affinity groups
3 Chavurah groups



"I felt connected during
Shabbat services with my
class and being asked to
sing *Eitz Chayim Hi* in front of
the ark. I think I am seen as
more of a leader of the next
generation and that makes
me feel closer to the
CBS community."
Gabriel Weisbach



1429
Facebook
followers

336
Instagram
followers

45,999
Website
users

36% growth
over prior
year

23% growth
over prior
year

34% growth
over prior
year

198,505
views

6277
views

125,000
views

8449 Views

Top Performing
Facebook Post
Sisterhood
Boutique



733
Zoom meetings



34,202
Zoom minutes

5724
Live Stream views



3003
Live Stream unique
views High Holidays
5786

26 adults and
students chanted
Megillat Esther
during the CBS
Family *Megillah*
reading



16 congregants read
Torah for the first
time

21 B'nai Mitzvah

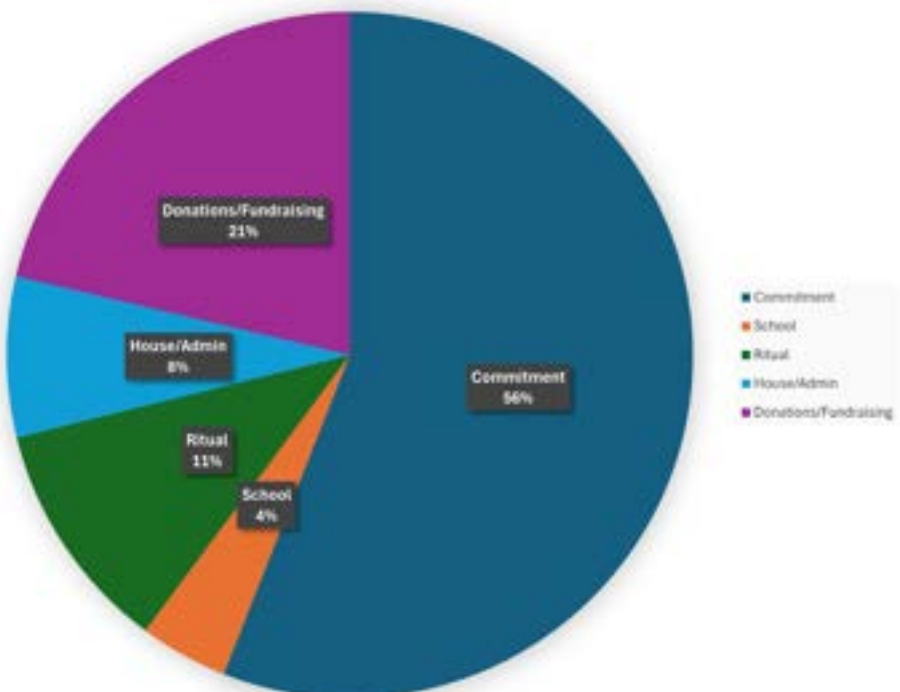
21 post *B'nai Mitzvah*
students returned to
read *Torah*

FINANCES

CBS 2025-2026 Total Operating Budget

\$3,455,573

Revenue 2025-26



21
generous benefactors
made a commitment to
Circle of Giving

1439
gift cards sold through
ShopWithScrip

77
Kiddush sponsors totaling
\$66,000

32
Camp Ramah
scholarships awarded to
CBS youth



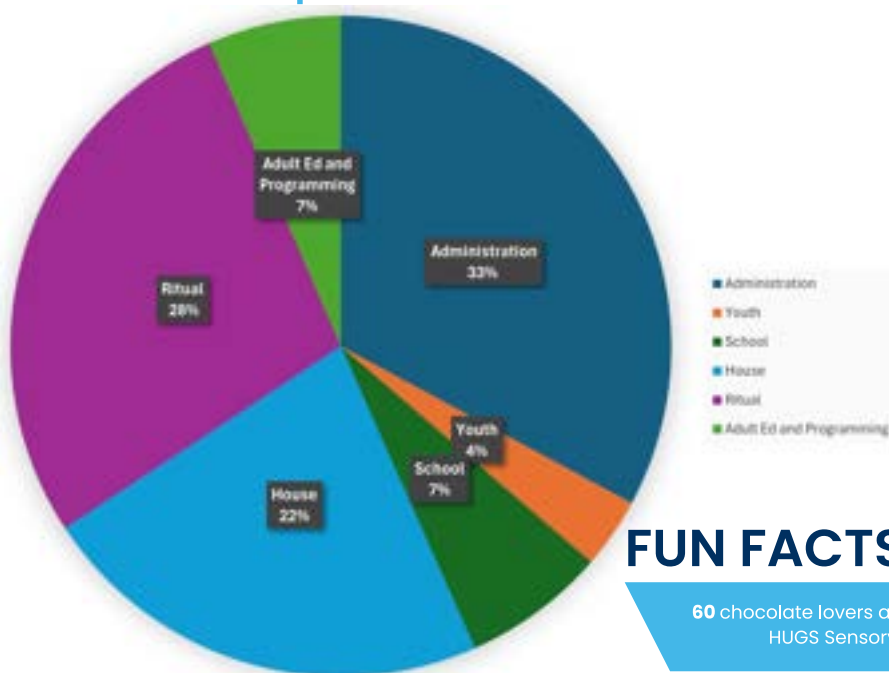
\$12,750
dollars awarded in
Ramah scholarships

\$33,000
generously donated by
Foreskins for Philanthropy
initiative



520
attendees at CBS annual
fundraiser honoring
Michael & Mindy Garlin
featuring comedian Jeff
Garlin raising **\$50,000+**

Expenses 2025-26



FUN FACTS

60 chocolate lovers at the CBS Passover
HUGS Sensory Chocolate Seder

6 *Ruach* Shabbat services and
1 *Ruach* Shabbat dinner with
80+ participants

3 programs held in partnership
with Z Frank Apachi preschool

37 memorial plaques
lovingly dedicated

13 **NEW!**
donors contributed to
Club Spark totaling
\$95,000



ADULT EDUCATION, PROGRAMMING, & HAZAK

500

adult learners take CBS U classes

22

classes with **11** new offerings including *Parsha HaShavuah*, *The Dance of Devotion*, and *Mourning Has Broken*



50

students in *Contemporary Issues of Jewish Law* awarded **423** hours of Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credit

450

participants for Distinguished Speakers *Avner Avraham* and *Amir Avivi*

3

continuing Hebrew education class students read from the Torah



1070

verses of *Job* studied by learners in weekly *Tanakh* class

134

HAZAK (55+) participants enjoyed **3** Lunch and Learn programs

150

Sukkahfest registrants, **50** trivia questions asked, **250** apple cider donuts eaten, and **100** candy sukkahs created

270

Chanukah Palooza attendees, **30** volunteers, **3000** lego pieces, **12** olive oils tasted, **50** trivia questions answered, **350** *sufganiyot* consumed and **100** school supply kits packed



RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

168

Religious School students in Kindergarten through 7th grade

70

students in *Aleph Champ* (Hebrew program)

11

CBS *High* students in cooking class

19

student *Madrichol* (teaching assistants in grades 8-12)

27

kindergarten students welcomed into the Religious School in the *Chagigat HaGan* ceremony

5

Religious School Shabbat dinners including **480** students and family members

29

Kitah Gimmel (3rd grade) students received *siddurim*



"At a time when we need to feel a sense of belonging and community most, being able to watch my three children stand on the bimah proud as they lead the congregation in prayers and/or services has been particularly meaningful to me this year. Seeing them take part in the service has reassured me that there is still good in this world and we are creating an environment where children can feel safe and proud to be Jewish."

Liz Neiberg

SISTERHOOD

452
active members enjoyed **10** programs

350+
Challahs and marble cakes purchased for High Holidays

\$15,120
raised for *Torah Fund*

140
recipes made by **51** volunteers totaling **80** pans and **2128** pieces of dessert baked for *Pesach Kiddushim*

1 
First ever CBS and Central Great Lakes Region Sisterhood member, Pam Shlosberg, nominated to be Women's League for Conservative Judaism International President

36
Holiday Boutique vendors and **529** sales transactions

YOUTH & FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

25
USY events with **13** amazing *USY*'ers

400+
Purim carnival participants

12
Chaverim (3rd-5th) and *Gesher* (6th-8th) programs

25
CBS youth attended regional events and **1** CBS *USY* member co-chaired a regional convention

39
Families With Young Children programs

196 
largest attendance at an *Ark Adventure* and added a second session on Saturdays to meet increased need

MEN'S CLUB

385
committed members

1404
lox and deli boxes sold including **5000** bagels packed

835
lox and deli boxes donated to *CJE*, *The Ark*, and first responders

151
attendees of all ages for the annual Erev Thanksgiving program

SOCIAL ACTION

45 pairs of eyeglasses for *Knights of Columbus*

55 bras to *I Support the Girls*

125+ students participated in *Good Deeds Day*

22 pounds of pop tabs to *Ronald McDonald House*

292 books for *Bernie's Book Bank*

375 bags of food at High Holidays for *The Ark*

100 new toys to *JCFS*

195 winter coats to *Chesed Chicago*

HIGHLIGHTS

Welcomed distinguished guest, Consul General to the Midwest from Israel, Elad Strohmayer

173 attendees at CBS community *Pesach* Dinner 

BEARING WITNESS quilt exhibit

Evening honoring members of CBS *Chevre Kaddishe* and *Embracing the Journey, a Transition Doula's Sacred Work* program

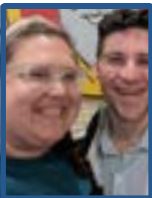
Installation of Assistant Rabbi Jacki Honig 

Shpiel of Fortune Purim Celebration including adults only *Shul Showdown* with the champs the *Challah Back Girls*

65 member coffee dates with Rabbi Honig 

Eastern European Jewish Heritage Journey led by Cantor Stoehr

Jewish Heritage Program featuring *The Magic of Theodore Bikel* with an appearance by Mrs. Aimee Ginsburg Bikel 



"One of the moments I felt most connected this year was during my installation weekend, when my friends and family were embraced so warmly by the CBS community. Bringing together the people I love with this congregation made that experience especially meaningful.
Rabbi Jacki Honig

CLUB SPARK

12 Sparklers attended from 7 schools 

22 Jewish holidays and topics explored

32 Aleph Champ levels passed 

36 edible art projects created and eaten

349 Mitzvah balls earned by Sparklers for doing a spectacular job 

LOOKING FORWARD

CBS@60: Year 59 | Where We've Been
As CBS enters its 59th year, look forward to a series of events and opportunities to reflect on our history, honor our founding families, and celebrate what has made CBS such a special community.

Several exciting programs including a Seniors Retreat, three new Religious School programs including classes for parents and tots and Pre-K, a Scholar-In-Residence program together with a local synagogue and more partnerships with our local community.

We are committed to creating more meaningful opportunities for our members to connect, engage, and feel a true sense of community at CBS.