Rabbi Stephen Fuchs Cantorial Soloist Kelly Onickel

Temple Beth Shalom

Sanctuary: 365 43rd Ave. Vero Beach, FL 32968 Office: 355 43rd Ave Vero Beach, FL 32968 Mailing: PO Box 2113 Vero Beach, FL 32961 772-569-4700



Services

Tot Shabbat

5:15pm Nov. 1

Shabbat Services

6:13pm Nov. 1

7:30pm Nov. 8, 15, 22, 29

Conservative Services

9:30am Nov. 2, 16

Torah Study

9:30am Nov. 9, 23



The Grieving G-d Rabbi Stephen Fuchs



The first Torah portion in the month of November this year deals with the story of

Noah. Midrash is a fertile debating ground for the character of Noah.

When the Torah calls him "righteous in in his age (Genesis 6:9)," Sages take sides.

Does the text mean that he was just better than others in a time when everyone was horrible as Rabbi Yohanan argues? Or does it mean that he was so righteous, as Resh Lakish contends, that he truly walked with G-d in a way exemplary to all generations? (Bereshit Rabbah 28:8)

Whichever opinion one favors, the Torah's flood story is unique among the many that proliferate in ancient texts. Why?

Only in the biblical account is a good, caring G-d grieved because of humanity's inability or unwillingness to act righteously.

The Midrash recounts that G-d through Noah urged the Generation of the Flood to repent their evil ways. For 120 years, Noah persisted in his plea to the people, but they would not listen. Only then did G-d send the flood. (Tanhuma, Noah, section 5)

This Midrash underscores one of the vital messages of the story of Cain and Abel. After G-d accepts Abel's offering and not his, Cain is angry and jealous. G-d warns Cain not to succumb to those feelings, but G-d does not stop Cain when he kills his brother anyway.

Similarly, G-d warns the people of the earth to change their wicked ways before the flood, but G-d does not make them do it.

Today too G-d wants us to use our talents for good, but G-d does not make us. We are not puppets, and G-d is not a puppeteer.

The free will G-d allows human beings is what makes our lives meaningful.

We, not G-d must choose whether to act for good or for ill. Too often, though, our choices leave a grieving G-d in tears.

The Torah portions in Genesis give us so much to think about and offer so much valuable instruction that can help us to be better people. I hope you will make a point to join us both at services and at Torah study this month to absorb the treasure trove of practical lessons our sacred texts offer us for coping with life today.

Join Rabbi Fuchs for Coffee & Kibbitz on November 5at 10:30am (NEW TIME) at Grind & Grape

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Please notify the Temple office or Rabbi if a family member or fellow congregant is ill or has had an accident. The Rabbi can reach out, only if he is informed that he is needed.



Cantor Kelly

To say that this holiday season has been difficult would be an understatement. And yet it has also been spiritual in many ways. The love and concern for our community and for Harry and me personally have been overwhelming. This was my second Holiday season at TBS and our first hurricane and tornadoes (in Florida). Thankfully, Harry and I were not touched, but the devastation these storms brought to our area is real. As I write this, I am unaware of any of our congregants that have been injured or lost homes. Please, if you have been severely affected by these storms, or if you know a congregant that has, and they could use TBS's help, let us know.

There were many questions regarding the decision to push our Yom Kippur services back a day. I can tell you that when I arrived at TBS on Friday morning, my thought was "There is no way we will have this cleaned up in time for services tonight," as did most of the people who were there to help. Hence, the decision to push the services. However, we should have guessed that our congregation would show up and work super hard and get everything done in time. We all make decisions with the best intentions, and sometimes they are right and sometimes they are not so right.

Although our services were a day later, I was so happy to see that many of you came and helped to lift our Holy Days, and remember, even when things do not go as planned, we Jews are resilient and show up. Personally, the time to reflect and pray on Friday evening and Saturday of Yom Kippur is a luxury I have not had in many years, and it helped to put me in a very spiritual frame of mind for our services on Saturday evening and Sunday Morning. I felt like I was extending Yom Kippur, and by Sunday afternoon I felt very blessed. I hope that you each found time to reflect, look inward, and pray.

It is interesting how a disaster can stop us in our tracks. It makes me think of Elijah in 1 Kings 19 when he is standing on Mt. Horeb. Elijah is looking for G-d, because the Israelites have forsaken G-d. G-d causes great winds that split the mountain and shattered rocks, but Elijah doesn't find G-d in the wind. Then there is an earthquake, and Elijah doesn't find G-d in the earthquake. Then there was fire, and Elijah didn't find G-d in the fire. And then there was silence, and then - הַּבְּהַ הַּבְּהַ הַּ בְּאָר בְאָר בְּאָר בְאָר בּאָר בּאָר

May your year be blessed with all good things, G'mar Chatimah Tovah!

President's Message

Dear Congregants,

I hope this message finds you well after the whirlwind of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Thanks to our dedicated volunteers, we successfully built the Sukkah in the social hall a few days after hurricane recovery, and celebrated "Pizza in The Hut" together.

As you're aware, Milton's visit required us to reschedule our High Holiday services. Despite the challenges, I'm grateful that our congregation came together. Many of us faced damage, but with the support of both congregants and non-congregants, we managed to clear the property and honor our rituals—albeit a day late. It was heartwarming to see so many of you at both the Kol Nidre service and Yom Kippur the next day. Rabbi Fuchs and Cantor Kelly led us in beautiful and inspirational services, reminding us how fortunate we are to have them as our spiritual guides. The Shalom Singers truly enhanced our prayers, creating a warm and uplifting atmosphere.

If any of you need assistance during your recovery from the hurricane, please don't hesitate to reach out. There are many resources available through our congregation, non-profits, and government agencies to help you return to normalcy.

Take care, and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Warm regards, Steve Berlin 305-772-6620

Sisterhood

Shalom! I am so happy that we are here safe and sound and can write another letter in the Scroll!

A big thank you to Marilyn Wallach for hosting our opening tea. It was fabulous! The warmth of our women was felt throughout. I am so appreciative to all that came. We announced that several board members were ready to pass the baton. Several of you stepped up and we are grateful for that. We are in search of 3 positions to fill: Vice - President, Membership, Programs. If you're interested please let us know.

Another big thank you to Susan Berlin for coordinating the book club. Watch your announcements for the next one. November has a lot happening so please watch for upcoming events.

Hanukkah is around the corner. Leah will be buying some new items, so come check out the gift shop.

"It's not a matter of growing old, its getting old if you don't grow"

Respectfully and gratefully, Sandy Oswald, President



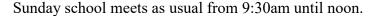
Berl Herzenberg, President Join us for Beer & Bible on November 19th at 6:00pm in the TBS social hall.

Details about cost & where dinner is being ordered that. Rabbi Fuchs topic that evening will be: When Lot's Daughters got him drunk".

RSVP to TBSMensClub President <tbsmc.president@gmail.com>

Religious School

The annual **BLESSING OF THE PETS** is scheduled for Sunday, November 3. The religious school will participate with our congregation in a Blessing of the Pets on the Shabbat of Parashat Noah. Bring your pet/s on a leash, caged, or otherwise safely transported to receive a special blessing. This year we will meet in front of the sanctuary building at 9:45am. Pictures of pets are welcome as are pictures of pets we remember from days gone by.







Be a SHINING LIGHT! The Shining Lights is one of the religious school's long -standing traditions and annual fund raiser. Each year at Hanukkah, we recognize individuals who show their commitment to Jewish education by sponsoring candles on the Hanukkiah with a minimum donation of \$100 to our school. This year our Shining Light donors will be honored at Shabbat services on Friday, December 20th. If you would like to be recognized as a Shining Light, please contact

Mindy Lessem Pollack. Recognition of our Shining Lights donors will appear in next month's edition of The Scroll. We are grateful to all who participate in making our school great.

Tot Shabbat and SixThirteen Shabbat will be on November 1 and again, on December 6. Please plan to join us! Religious School meets Sunday, November 3 and 17. Hebrew meets Wednesdays, November 6, 13, and 20.



As we enter this season of thanksgiving, I acknowledge teachers and volunteers who have been especially helpful and supportive of our school recently. Ashley Chaney and family, Kathy Nystrom, Helaine Ledany, the Jaffe family, and Sasha Fradin. Thank you also to Alex and Esther Pedraza for helping with the "Pizza in the Hut" Sukkot event.

I am grateful to all of you who engage with us by attending events, volunteering to help, supporting our school financially and uplifting our students and teachers with your encouragement and enthusiasm.

Wishing you all a very Happy Thanksgiving. And may our hostages return NOW to their families and may all who are displaced return home. And may we see peace – for a true thanksgiving.

Mindy Lessem Pollack

WITH MANY THANKS

High Holy Day Services & Sukkot

Thank you to Rabbi Fuchs & Cantor Kelly. Services for Rosh Hashanah were meaningful & beautiful. We thank you for going with the flow after the storm & the ongoing changes to bring us a meaningful worship services for Kol Nidre & Yom Kippur, by changing the days & times.

A special thank you to Cantor Kelly. She worked endlessly for days & hours from TBS & from home to get all the slides done for Zoom & our wall projection so that we could hold High Holy Day services.

We had help this year with sanctuary sound tech from Larry & Mike from the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship along with Marc, & Gage Jaffe.

We thank our Sisterhood for changing our Break The Fast to Sunday night.

It gave everyone a chance to mingle, relax & recharge, especially after such a trying & scary week. It was enjoyed by everyone.

Services are always extra special when our Shalom Singers join us along with pianist Aleysa Walters. We thank them & Cantor Kelly for their diligence & many weeks of rehearsals to enhance our High Holy Day worship experience.

To everyone who had honors, we thank you for participating. Words of shared prayer helps us all feel more connected to each other.

Bill Edelstein, Holden Kriss & Frank Sosta for an extra set of eyes enhancing our already on site Sheriff deputy security detail.

Of course we could not erect our Sukkah without help. Thank you to Gary Attansasio, Richard Bialosky, Steve Berlin, the Chaney family, Jim Felds, Marc Jaffe, Cantor Kelly, Holden Kriss, & Ben Saltz

With much appreciation to Cliff Wardlow of Vero Estate Jewelry, for repairing the silver crowns on our Torah

Hurricane Milton

Thank you to Harry Onickel for his immense help to Trudie, taking our Torahs, to & from the bank for safety during the storm.

Gary Attanasio, Saul Bronstein, Jim Felds, Jane & Lyle Hilton, Holden & Trudie Kriss, Marc, River & Gage Jaffe, John Miller, & Sandy Oswald for putting up our hurricane shutters before Milton's arrival. Thank you to Gary Attanasio, Steve Berlin, Charlie Block & his grandsons, Sheldon Cantor, Eileen Carberry, Jane Hilton, Paul Kanarek, Holden & Trudie Kriss, Esther & Alex Pedraza, Mindy Pollack & Josh Zwerner who came out to clean up the campus after Milton's arrival & take down our shutters. We thank those that we may have missed. All of your efforts are deeply appreciated.

Thank you to our donors:

Aaron & Linda Eferstein for their donation to our general fund

Myra Greenfield for her contribution towards a new Memorial Board

Seth & Susan Coren in memory of Seth's father, Adrian Coren & also to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Margery Abels in memory of her father, Samuel Goldfarb

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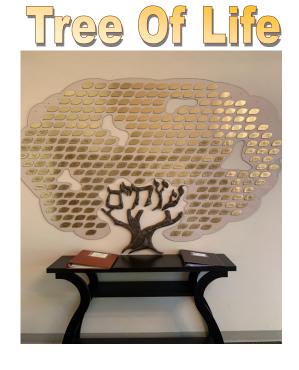
Caring Community

Youth Group

Music (worship enrichment)

FOOD PANTRY

Please remember those in need in the wider community. So far we have collected 250lbs. of our usual 750+lb. food donations for the Food Pantry. Drop off is to any of our buildings that you are visiting. We thank those of you who have donated to this very worthy cause. Please consider donating your hurricane supplies at the end of hurricane season. TBS looks forward to delivering them to the Food Pantry.



Our Tree Of Life, located in the Steyer Social Hall foyer, celebrates and remembers every kind of occasion.

Next time you visit our social hall, please take a moment to look at this beautiful wall.

In that moment, reflect on all the B'nai Mitzvah, weddings, anniversaries, birthdays, memorials, and other dedications that friends and loved ones have given to each other over the years.

If you would like to honor, remember someone or mark a special occasion in your life, you can have a leaf inscribed and placed on our Tree Of Life.

Please contact the <u>office</u> to order yours today.

Yahrzeits

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Temple Beth Shalom offers its heartfelt condolence to the families of:

Nona Pagano on the loss of her sister, Ann Parker

Carol Sherman on the loss of her husband, Walter Sherman

May G-d Comfort All Who Mourn In Zion and Jerusalem



Les & Lynn Goldman 11/6 Steve & Linda Friedman 11/7 John & Brenda Batty 11/8

Dan & Mindy Pollack 11/9 Gabriella & Kevin Borwick 11/17 Kelly & Harry Onickel 11/20

Howard Teich & Marlene Blattman 11/21 Mark & Nina Heyer 11/23

Harold & Molly Schwartz 11/24 Alan & Barbara Rosenbaum 11/25



| 1 | 1/1 | Beth | Sugerman |
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11/4 Stephanie Frank

11/5 Richard Bialosky

11/6 John Miller

11/7 Judy Bass

11/12 Adrene Cohen, Elise Mallon

11/15 Bill Mallon

11/17 Charlene Peacock, Ellen Rodin

11/19 Dean Tendrich

11/22 Terri Goldberg

11/23 Judy Napp

11/24 Mauri Waldman

11/27 Mary Baker

11/28 Sue Marik

Mazel Tov to everyone celebrating their anniversary or birthday this month

Oneg Shabbat

Thank you October Oneg Shabbat sponsors:

Board of Trustees, Jaffe, Charlie & Judy Block

Call or email the office to <u>rsvp</u> for sponsorship

Open dates are: November 8, 15, 22, 29

PLEASE CONSIDER SPONSORING AN ONEG SHABBAT

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For further information, please contact our Foundation Board Members, Sam Block or Carol Kanarek

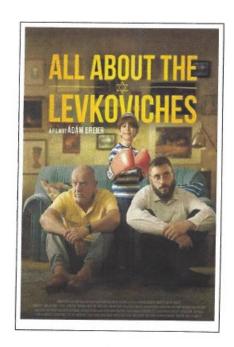
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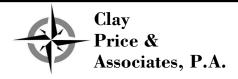


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