

Congregation Shir Shalom  
In Person and Virtual Services

**Saturday, October 3rd**

9:00am Torah Study offsite and via Zoom  
10:30am Simchat Torah Morning Service & Yizkor  
12:00pm Simchat Torah Luncheon

**Sunday, October 4th**

No B'COL Religious School

**Monday, October 5th**

Office is closed  
9:30am-11:30am Rummage Sale drop off  
2:00pm-4:00pm Rummage Sale drop off

**Tuesday, October 6th**

9:30am-11:30am Rummage Sale drop off  
1:30pm Rabbi Alex and Rev. Bill Hennessy at  
The Amberleigh  
2:00pm-4:00pm Rummage Sale drop off  
7:00pm Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom

**Wednesday, October 7th**

9:30am-11:30am Rummage Sale drop off  
2:00pm-4:00pm Rummage Sale drop off  
7:00pm Mussar Class

**Thursday, October 8th**

2:00pm TikkunOlam Committee Meeting with Rabbi Alex  
8:00pm Talmud Study via Zoom

**Friday, October 9th**

6:30pm Erev Shabbat Service and via Boxcast,  
Facebook and You Tube  
7:30pm Oneg Shabbat

*In Memoriam*

***Shiva***

Frida Akman  
Freda Brody  
Hon. Judith Gische  
Linda Gleckel  
John Lavelle

***Sheloshim***

Anita Kleiner  
Martin Rosenberg  
Anne Scinta  
Leah Levine Stern  
Alex Vinder

***Yahrzeits***

Joselyn Berg  
Brian Bernard  
Moisey Bronshteyn  
Bernie Davis  
Ralph Epstein  
Mickey Epter  
Jack Freedman  
Vivian Friedlander  
Samuel Furash  
Rhona Gallman  
Tillie Glick  
Marshall Levi Glickman  
Phillip Glickman  
Phyllis Goldman  
Betty Goodman  
Gordon Kantrowitz  
Irving Kaprove  
Irving Korn  
Solomon Kusnitz

Manny Kwiecien  
David Levey  
Michael Mariani  
Albert Markel  
Alice Melamed  
Elinor Reiner  
Herman Rosenthal  
Lewis Ruslander  
Milford Sarfaty  
David Steinberg  
Mark Suchman  
Benjamin Sultz  
Samuel Sunshine  
Ruth Taksen  
Leonard Teplitsky  
William Treuhaft  
Robert Wakoff  
Mindy Weinman  
Sylvia Weinstein

***Erev Shabbat Simchat Torah Service***

***Friday, October 2, 2026 /22 Tishrei, 5787***  
***6:30pm***



Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein  
Cantor Arlene Frank  
Executive Director Joanne Marquisee  
B'COL Religious School Director Rabbi Einav Symons  
President Joseph Glickman

Jewish Life Across Two Landscapes

When entering Congregation Shir Shalom, you are greeted by two large canvases painted by the late Harvey Braverman. On one canvas is a group of teenagers gathered with their backs largely toward us, only one young man has his face half turned toward us staring at his hand. They are all surrounded by a beautiful blue sky filled with drifting white clouds, with an ethereal golden ceiling floating over their heads. The other canvas has the same background but has no people at all, just a wrapped white tallit, over what looks like a white hydrangea bush.

On the plaque on the side of the paintings, the esteemed Buffalo artist identifies this painting style as a diptych, “a double-paneled painting, to create a continuous space across two separate yet joined canvases that may be divergent but related aspects of a single human situation.” Dedicated to the memory of Robert Unher, a nineteen-year-old member who died in the 1970s (he is apparently the teen turned toward us, looking at his hand), it is a haunting visceral experience, that despite its brightness, feels heavy and sad.

As we commemorate the third anniversary of the October 7th attack, I feel that sense of inhabiting two spaces at once, but not feeling comfortable in either one. This weekend marks Simchat Torah, the same holiday where the brutality occurred, one of the happiest of the Jewish year where we roll the Torahs from one end to the other, that in the aftermath of what transpired is now tinged with grief and loss. We also feel the strange separation between the Jewish communities of Israel and America, that is always pronounced, but feels especially so at this moment in time.

Simchat Torah is one of the holidays that is often celebrated on different days inside of Israel and outside of it. While my Shir Shalom community will mark it this Shabbat, many Buffalo synagogues will hold Simchat Torah services on Sunday. But, more than that, the experience of our Jewish communities in our two modern homes has been drastically different these past three years. Here we battle college campus protests and levels of antisemitism not seen for decades.

Torah Thoughts continued

But, our Israeli family and friends have had to engage in prolonged mutli-front wars in which their very existence has been threatened. Like the paintings Harvey Braverman created, the divide between the two similar canvases feels like a chasm.

At the glorious Jewish Federation Kick Off event, the speaker Sarah Hurwitz called this “polarity thinking,” being able to hold multiple points of view at once. She said that while the rest of the world has trouble with this, it is our Jewish specialty. Three years after the largest atrocity inflicted on our community since the Holocaust, we must lean into this skill, dancing in joy with our sacred scrolls, even as eyes fill with tears at our monumental loss. May the memories of all who were lost on October 7, 2023, always be for a blessing.

Chag Sameach and Shabbat Shalom, Rabbi Alex

Upcomg Events

*Tonight’s Oneg Shabbat is sponsored by Maria and Jim Zuccaro*

**Simchat Torah Morning Service and Yizkor** will be on Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30am. A complimentary luncheon will follow.

**The Women of Shir Shalom Rummage Sale** will be Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am-1:30pm. Admission is \$1.00. The \$10 bag sale is from noon-1:30pm. Volunteers are needed before and during the sale. Call 716-270-3316 to volunteer. Drop off of items is from October 5th-October 9th from 9:30am-11:30am and 2:00pm-4:00pm and Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup> from 2:00-5:00pm.

**Chiavetta’s Chicken BBQ** will be on Tuesday, October 13th from 4:00pm until sold out. Preorder online and save \$1.00. See you in the drive thru line! Thank you to everyone who supports this important fundraiser, especially our volunteers.

Our Mission Statement, as a congregation, is to be a welcoming community and to enhance all aspects of Jewish Life.

The Board of Trustees of Congregation Shir Shalom

COMMITMENT STATEMENT

We, the Board of Trustees, pledge to unite and to enrich the lives of our congregation.

We will proceed in our commitment to Congregation Shir Shalom, to create an inclusive and open environment for the entire congregation.

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- Cantor-Arlene Frank
- Executive Director-Joanne Marquisee
- Religious School Director-Rabbi Einav Symons
- President-Joseph Glickman
- VP Administration-Tara Karch Cross
- VP Membership-Bruce Corris
- VP Finance-Larry Posses
- VP Worship-Shari Jo Reich
- VP Education-Evie Weinstein
- Treasurer-Marina Finkelstein
- Secretary-Amy O’Donnell
- Women of Shir Shalom Representative-Amy O’Donnell
- Men’s Group Representative– Robert Altman
- Family Engagement Coordinator– Jessica Cunningham
- Rabbi Emeritus-Irwin A. Tanenbaum, D.D.
- Immediate Past President– Todd Sugarman

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Prayer for those who lead our congregation

O God, this congregation has honored us with the task of leading them and of serving You with them.  
May we lead well and may we serve well.  
May we hear the quiet as well as the active voices,  
and may we heed the call and follow the paths of what we,  
after honest searching, feel to be the right things to do.  
May we listen to each other, and may we listen to You,  
as all of us together make this synagogue a *kehillah kedusha*, a Holy place.

Congregation Shir Shalom is Affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism and Reconstructing Judaism