

Rabbi

Rabbi Ari Goldstein



Temple Beth Shalom Friends,

The most important message I can share with you at this moment is gratitude. By reading this letter, it means that you are renewing your formal relationship with our synagogue and this means a great deal.

It means that you cherish the connections you have made with others at the temple. It means that you care about the viability of a Reform synagogue in Anne Arundel County. It might mean that you understand the value of teaching your children the beauties of our heritage. And yet, perhaps more poignantly than any of those reasons, it means that you are committed to ensuring a Jewish future.

Temple Beth Shalom does not have an endowment like other synagogues that can sustain it during difficult times. Neither do we have a debt-free building. We are a synagogue that was built by people like ourselves who knew that our community needed a liberally observant Jewish institution. And so, they established this synagogue with the assumption that future generations would feel as committed as they did.

The baton has been passed to us. And I deeply appreciate that you are accepting responsibility for the present and the future.

Rabbi Ari J. Goldstein

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ari J. Goldstein". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Ari J. Goldstein

rabbi.ari.goldstein@gmail.com



To renew your dues, go to:

<https://annapolistemple.shulcloud.com/form/temple-beth-shalom-renewal-form.html>.

Temple President



Although my presidency started out during the Covid-19 pandemic era with lots of unknown and uncertainties, due to your very generous contributions and unending love we were able to make it through and are standing stronger together as a community. Temple Beth Shalom have seen an increase in more member participation in the following: High Holy Days, *Shabbat* Services, Adult Education Programs, Rabbi *Torah* Study, *Hineni*, Sisterhood, Social Action, Men's Club, Senior Youth Group and *Rosh Chodesh*. We are very appreciative for your support and feel very fortunate to have been able to provide you with these opportunities which have helped us to remain even more connected as a Jewish community in and around Anne Arundel Community.

During these years your generosity towards our Annual Appeal are as Follows:

2020-2021 we raised \$114K

2021-2022 we raised \$145k

2022-2023 we raised \$140k+, this is a total of 209 donations, which includes Men's club and Sisterhood and 15 non-members.

It is time for our membership renewal for the new fiscal year. We ask that you renew your commitment ensuring Temple Beth Shalom can continue to be here for you, your families, and the generations to come. Please know that we will continue to do our best to provide you with the meaningful programs and activities that will continue to enrich you and our Jewish communities. In order to do this, we need your continued support and commitment.

We know many of us are facing financial hardships, so we ask that you do what you can. If you are in a financial position to maintain or increase your current commitment to Temple Beth Shalom, please do so as we do need your support.

For any questions, please contact the temple Treasurer, Charles Goldblum at Charles.Goldblum@gmail.com or the Temple Administrator, Jill Sussman at jsussman@annapolistemple.org.

The leadership here at Temple Beth Shalom wants you to know that we do appreciate all that you have done and will continue to do to make us a vibrant Jewish community in Anne Arundel County. Just remember "Tough times don't last but tough people do." I am personally grateful to you for always coming through for your community.

B'Shalom,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Merv'.

Merv

Merv Wyllie-Brause, President

president@annapolistemple.org

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Student Cantor



Student Cantor Gabriel Snyder will return next year for many *Shabbat* Services and most Saturday morning services. Student Cantor Snyder will meet with *bar/bat mitzvah* students to help them prepare for their *b'nai mitzvah* and lead the temple's *Makhela* program.

Gabriel Snyder is in his final year as a cantorial student at the Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. Prior to cantorial school, Gabriel earned his BA in Religious Studies at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, NY. While at Skidmore, Gabriel participated in a wide variety of musical activities including Skidmore's Community Chorus, Vocal Chamber Ensemble, and Opera Workshop, along with strong involvement and leadership in Hillel. Gabriel grew up immersed in strong and vibrant Reform Jewish communities in the Boston area, including Temple Beth Elohim in Wellesley, Eisner Camp, and NFTY-Northeast. Gabriel is thrilled to serve the Temple Beth Shalom community as the Student Cantor.

Religious School

Tracey Greenberg returns for her fifth year as Religious School Director. Tracey grew up in Fairfax, Virginia where she attended Religious School at Congregation Olam Tikvah through post-confirmation. She attended Penn State University where she received her BS in Elementary and Kindergarten Education. Directly following, she moved to New York City where she received her MA in the Psychological Foundations of Reading from New York University. After a few years of teaching, she continued on to receive 30 additional credits in TESOL. Tracey taught 5th grade at Ballet Tech/New York City Public School for Dance for eight years until her eldest son, Jack, was born. Tracey and her husband, Brett, moved to Anne Arundel County to live closer to family in 2009. She has taught in Anne Arundel County Public Schools for the past 12 years and loves it! She is so excited to see all returning students and teachers. To reach Tracey Greenberg, email tgreenberg@annapolistemple.org.



Sylvia Meisenberg Early Childhood Program

The Sylvia Meisenberg Early Childhood Program encourages students to learn, grow and expand their skills in a nurturing environment. Our school offers a variety of activities: kindergarten readiness skills, arts & crafts, constructive and educational toys, dramatic play, music & movement, story time, cooking activities and physical activities. For more information about our preschool email ecpdirector@annapolistemple.org or see the [temple's website](#).

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Get Involved in your Community



Get Involved at Temple Beth Shalom

Please reach out directly to the contact below if you are interested in more information or volunteering.

Fundraising:

Fundraising is vital to the health of our synagogue. Our fundraising events are fun for everyone and often involve friends and family. For more information on how help with temple fundraising, please email Beth Plavner at bplavner@aol.com.

Hineni "Here I Am" (The Temple Beth Shalom Caring Committee):

This group of volunteers helps those in our congregational family during their joys, challenges, holidays, significant life cycle events, and in supporting their general well-being. Please join our efforts in one or more of the following categories:

Communication: Write some of the cards or make some of the calls to reach out to your fellow congregants in their times of celebration or struggle.

Ride Share: Give a lift to someone in your area to/from a temple event or service or run an errand or two.

Visitation & Bereavement Support: Discretely visit congregants in the hospital or other facilities and maintain contact with the family. Contact fellow members in times of *shiva* and help them with information, arrangements, and care.

Meal Support: Prepare and/or deliver food to members experiencing unusual or unexpected circumstances.

Health & Wellness: Support the education and practice of improving our physical and mental awareness and well-being.

If you are interested in being a part of this committee, please email Jill Simon at missjill3148@gmail.com.

Membership Committee:

The Membership Committee focuses on reaching out to prospective members through special events, gatherings, and communication. They welcome new members and help them integrate into our temple community and work on retention of existing members. For more information on how to get involved in the Membership Committee, please email Tom DeKornfeld at tdekornfeld@yahoo.com.

Men's Club:

The Men's Club is where Jewish men who want to contribute to the Temple Beth Shalom community can participate in synagogue events and help support the synagogue. We show our support not only through financial giving, but also through gifts of our time and effort on behalf of the temple community. This multigenerational group offers a variety of opportunities for men, as well as programs that are open to the entire congregation. Our goal is to strengthen the congregation, support youth activities in the congregation, and instill greater understanding of the synagogue. We aim to create lasting bonds and fellowships among its members through various events of common interest. For more information about the Men's Club, please email Men's Club President Ted Herman at therman360@gmail.com.

Nashira (Singing at TBS):

Do you or a family member like to sing? New members are always welcome to participate in our adult choir (*Nashira*). *Nashira* participates in many *Shabbat* services and at the High Holy Days. For more information about *Nashira*, email Jonathan Biran at jbiran2@gmail.com.

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Makhela (Youth singing at TBS):

Temple Beth Shalom also has a children's choir called *Makhela*. *Makhela* is open to students in grades 2-7. *Makhela* regularly participates in Friday night services and occasionally performs for other special programs and venues. *Makhela* is a fun and rewarding activity. For more information on *Makhela*, please email Rabbi Goldstein at rabbi.ari.goldstein@gmail.com.

Ritual Committee:

Our Ritual Committee works closely with the rabbi to make decisions that affect our religious services and observances. The committee is small, meets on an as needed basis, and always welcomes members who have talents and education to share. This group is responsible for ensuring that High Holy Days services run smoothly and are spiritually enjoyable. For more information about the Ritual Committee, please email Ritual Committee Chair Mary West at marymwest4@gmail.com.

Rosh Chodesh:

Join us for a woman's perspective on Judaism. The Hebrew words, *Rosh Chodesh*, mean "head of the month" or "first of the month/moon." The Jewish calendar is arranged according to the phases of the moon, and the first day of each Hebrew month falls on the new moon. In biblical times, *Rosh Chodesh* was a festival along with celebratory sacrifice and feasting. Although *Rosh Chodesh* is a minor holiday for many Jews, we embrace it as a chance for the temple's female members to gather. *Rosh Chodesh* meets monthly to talk, share, eat, drink, laugh, cry, think, and more! For more information, please email Lesley Harris at lesleyellenharris@me.com.

Sisterhood:

Temple Beth Shalom's Sisterhood unites the women of our community in support of Jewish and humanitarian causes. Together, we socialize, study, and explore our culture. Above all, Sisterhood provides an environment for personal growth, so that each of our members may fulfill her potential as a person and as a Jewish woman. All women in the congregation are encouraged to join Sisterhood. Our Sisterhood works together to strengthen our temple and each other, and to perpetuate Judaism. Our events are open to the entire community. For Sisterhood events, please view the temple calendar, weekly email, or temple *Beitenu*. For more information about Sisterhood, please email Sisterhood President Sarit Brosh at sisterhoodpresident@annapolistemple.org.

Social Action Committee:

The Social Action Committee (SAC) educates and involves volunteers interested in making a difference in our community. We have a number of ongoing projects and are always looking for ways to help make a difference. Projects include High Holy Days and other food drives for My Brother's Pantry, support for the Arundel Lodge, Arundel House of Hope, and Rebuilding Together, which repairs homes for low-income residents in need, and SAC coordinates Winter Relief. For more information, email Jodi Meisenberg at jodimeisenberg@gmail.com.

Youth Groups:**Junior Youth Group**

Temple Beth Shalom offers numerous social opportunities for children before they join the temple's Senior Youth Group. If you have an idea for the Junior Youth Group or would like to help, please email Jill Sussman at jsussman@annapolistemple.org.

Senior Youth Group (BAYTY)

The goal of the Senior Youth Group is to help develop Jewish identity in an informal, peer environment, with meaningful Jewish experiences outside the formal educational setting. For more information about the Senior Youth Group, email senioryouthgroup@annapolistemple.org. The Senior Youth Group is for children in grades 8 through 12.

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Thank you for renewing your Temple Beth Shalom Dues.

Two easy ways to renew your membership:

- 1) [Online click here](#) Then log into your ShulCloud account.
- 2) Download the [Paper Registration Form](#) and mail it to the temple office: 1461 Baltimore-Annapolis Blvd., Arnold, MD 21012.

If you have any questions regarding dues renewal, please email the temple office at info@annapolistemple.org.

Thank you for being a member of Temple Beth Shalom.