# SHALOM ON THE BETH SHALOM PUBLICATION

#### January 2025 | Tevet 5785

Hanukkah Simcha

Rabbi's Words

**Themes of Tevet** 



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### From the Rabbi

Happy 2025! I have enjoyed my first six months at Temple Beth Shalom, and I look forward to the months and years ahead. Susan and I are relishing the warmer winter weather here in the Panhandle, without any sightings of ice or snow. What a gift it is to be able to take a walk on the beach in December. Many of you had the chance to meet our daughter Shira at Hanukkah. We thank everyone for the warm welcome extended to her. I am hoping that my mom will be able to come down and visit during Passover.

With the cooler temperatures and the shortened daylight, I know that joining us for Friday night services can be challenging. We have been blessed with at least a minyan every single Shabbat since my arrival, but there have been a few that we have just squeaked by. If you are able to come and join us to welcome in the Sabbath, please know what a mitzvah you are doing helping us reach the traditional requisite number.

I am committed to Shabbat morning worship once a month. We will be gathering on Saturday, January 25th at 10:00 am, and not holding a Friday evening service on the 24th. Following services, we will have a "Souper Lunch". I will make a pot of soup, and I invite others to come with a pot of their favorite homemade soup to share. I think it is wonderful to be able to share Shabbat lunch together, and no driving home in the dark to worry about.

Tontinued ...

Susan and I recently posted pictures on Facebook of the new house we are building in Navarre. Our builder has told us that it will be completed in early spring, though to be honest I feel like it will be ready for us sooner as I watch the progress. We look forward to welcoming everyone over this Spring or early Summer for a Shabbat afternoon Open House.

Please pencil in Sunday morning, February 16, at 10:00 am, on your calendar to come to Temple for a Tu B'Shevat Seder and Bagel Brunch. Celebrating this occasion is a great way to connect to Israel and to fruitfully express our thanks to God for the blessings of so much of what we eat eating. I would love to see us collect some tzedakah in the coming weeks to purchase trees in Israel for this exact occasion. I am going to use the funds collected at Sunday school all fall for this exact purpose.

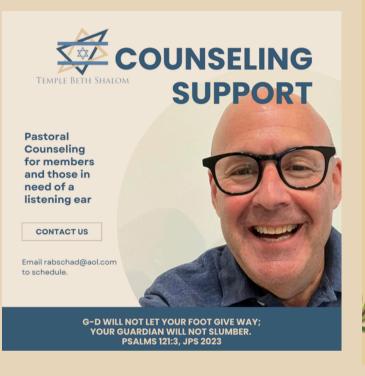
With all my best,

Rabbi Schadick

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### Announcements

Email shalom@tbsfwb.com for details Follow our Facebook page for updates.





Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Schadick Wednesdays at Noon



Join the Rabbi for an introduction to the practice of Mussar. Mussar is a way to develop greater holiness by growing our inner virtues, called middot. Mussar provides a springboard for focused self-reflection through study and action. The text being used is entitled, "Everyday Holiness: The Jewish Spiritual Path of Mussar" by Alan Morinis.



READ WITH US!



FRIDAY, JAN 31 6:00 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Shalom on the Emerald Coast

#### Announcements

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ROSH CHODESH

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THIS MONTH'S AT THE WELL CIRCLE

MONTHLY WOMEN'S MEETING

MEDITATION COLLECTIVE RITUAL JOURNALING GROUNDING CONNECTION

#### SAVE THE DATE



#### NIGHT ON THE TOWN LOCATION AND TIME TBD MORE DETAILS TO COME



Breathe, Stretch, & Connect YOGA At the Synagogue with

> 227 Beal Pkwy NW FWB, FL

RSVP TODAY tbsfwb.com/event-list



For more details on events, email shalom@tbsfwb.com or go to www.tbsfwb.com/calendar RSVP for events, www.tbsfwb.com/event-list

Clicking on the specific event will provide more details.

### Intro to Judaism with Rabbi Michael Schadick

This class is for anyone, Jewish or not, who wants to learn about the tenets of our faith, including who we are, what our history is, what we believe, what our rituals and traditions are, and how we worship. This class is a prerequisite for conversion to Judaism.

#### January 5th and 19th - The Jewish Lifecycle



Email shalom@tbsfwb.com for more details.

Every other Sunday, 10 -11 AM



### Religious School at Temple Beth Shalom 227 Beal Pkwy NW FWB. FL

Students of all ages come for games. activities. refreshments. and lots of learning and fun.

> January 12 and 26 February 9 and 23 March 9 and 30 April 6 and 20 May 4 and 18

### Fun Moments from December







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HAPPY

HANUKKA



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### Fun Moments from December

























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If you would like to make a donation in memory of your loved one, as is traditional, you may do so by sending a check to Temple Beth Shalom, P.O. Box 111, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32549-0111. Please write in the memo line that it is a "Yahrzeit donation in memory of ".

### Military Moment



December was a busy month for everyone, as well as for Hiromi and me, with the holidays and special events. It started out with Hiromi and I going to New York City. I was there for military lay-leader training which focuses on ways to improve community involvement. While I spent two days in training, Hiromi got to meet a friend of hers and do some tourist stuff. She had a great time. I also had a good time, but that had lot to do with free beer.

I participated in several holiday events such as the Winter Carnival held by the Fort Walton Beach Police

Department, Toys for Tots, and Christmas Trees for Hospice. I realize this has little to do with military bases, but it was great for gathering community support. I also held meet and greets at Eglin Air Force Base, Hurlburt Field, and Seventh Forces. While no troops showed up, I did make it a point to meet with the chaplains and some of the command staff. I also left Hanukkah materials at each base for their military members. In addition, I sent out several email messages to the chaplains and to military members informing them of all the community events and made sure everyone knew all

were welcome to attend.

We have two tentative events planned for January. The first is a clergy day at Eglin Air Force Base. This is limited to clergy members and lay leaders. The second is a possible pot-luck dinner at Hurlburt. I will need to confirm with our Jewish members there as to who is interested in attending. But the chapel is supportive of the event.

Mark Zeid, Military Committee Chair

### PJ Library

PJ Library is a program that provides books to children from ages 0 to 12. For activeduty military, this program is free. Each child is sent an age-appropriate book every month. For example, if a military member has three children, ages 2, 5, and 8; the family will get a book suited for a two-yearold, a five-year-old, and an eight-year-old; one book every month. For those who are not military, there is a program for them too,



but a local Jewish organization must sponsor the families. For more details, check <u>pjlibrary.org</u>.

It's important to note that while they do provide books to ages 0-12, for those with infants, books will not begin arriving until the child is 6 months old.

In addition to books, PJ Library has many activities and resources on their site , as well as amazing podcasts such as Beyond the Bookcase (my little one Kory's FAVORITE show), Afternoons with Mimi, and more! Search PJ Library on your favorite podcast streaming site or app.

> Mark Zeid, Military Committee Chair and KaylaMae Smith, Admin Assistant and Parent of a 5yo

### Community

I'm thrilled at the support we've been getting for Rabbi Schadick's events. I love that he has special events for children, teenagers, adults. He makes it a point to include something for everyone. This is important because we are more than a place to hold services; we are a community.

I, along with many others, want military members to know we consider them part of our community. We want them to join our temple, get our newsletters, and participate in services and special events. Many of us are former or retired military, so we are aware of the restraints military members have on attending regular services. Just know that you are always welcome and we enjoy having you join us.

For those who are not military, you are the cornerstone of our community. Without you, we couldn't continue. You are the ones who ensure the synagogue runs smoothly and make our services and holiday celebrations so special. You are the ones who make sure all who enter our synagogue know they are welcome. May our community continue to grow and be a blessing to all who enter.

Mark Zeid, Military Committee Chair



Original artwork contributed by Mandi Kelly

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The Anne Kelz "Good Time" Fund
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Thank you!

One tree planted by Georgina Sanborn in memory of Phil Block

One tree planted by Joyce and Burt Clayman in memory of Phil Block

A circle of five trees planted by Carole and Mark Hammer and Marsha and Dave Kaplan in memory of Phil Block

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