



# THE SHOFAR

Temple Beth Shalom Florida, New York  
April 2025 Nisan/Iyar 5785

*From the Desk of Rabbi Rebecca P. Shinder*

## VOTE REFORM *WZC Platform – 2025*

A vote for the Reform Movement in the World Zionist Congress elections is a vote for our values: equality, democracy, pluralism, justice, and peace in Israel, rooted in our love and support for the people and the state of Israel.

The very first World Zionist Conference was convened in Basil, Switzerland by Theodore Herzl in 1897 and was referred to as the “parliament of the Jewish people.” In advance of the 39th World Zionist Congress (WZC), which will convene in Jerusalem in October 2025, from March until May 4th we have the opportunity to join with other American Jews to vote for delegates as the most powerful opportunity to have our voices and values heard in Israel, make an impact in Jewish communities worldwide and stand up for Zionism. The representatives who are elected, with one-third of them coming from the United States, will make key decisions on allocating over \$1 billion annually to support the most pressing needs of our time across Israeli society and the Diaspora. The elected delegates include the 152 who fill American seats within the Congress. The larger the voter turnout is, the more the American Jewish voice is heard!

From the COVID-19 pandemic to Israel’s ongoing multi-front war, the five years since the previous World Zionist Congress election in 2020 have seen no shortage of seismic crises. This strongly positions the 2025 election to serve as an uplifting and unifying force for diverse voices and constituencies across the Jewish community, all in support of the vibrancy of Zionism. That is why there are no “winners” and “losers” in this election, participation is a victory in and of itself, especially at this time when our ancient, ideological, and familial connection to the land of Zion has been delegitimized and even weaponized to express anti-Semitism by far too many.

Back to our WZC election, ballots are cast for one of 20+ slates of candidates submitted by Zionist groups. Voting is done primarily online and via mobile devices, but paper ballots are available upon request. The fee to register and vote is \$5, which goes to cover the operating costs of the election which is administered by The American Zionist Movement (AZM). The AZM comprises 46 national Jewish Zionist organizations and works across a broad ideological, political, and religious spectrum linking the American Jewish community together in support of Israel, Zionism, and the Jewish people.

An all-time-high of over 20 slates representing diverse political beliefs, religious denominations, and cultural traditions are competing in the 2025 election, marking an over 50% surge from the 13 slates whose candidates won seats in the Congress in 2020.

This year’s candidates are running across various slates, which are listed in ballot order, based on random drawing. I encourage you to vote Reform, which is slate #3, and I also ask you to encourage others to do the same. By voting Reform you will be electing delegates who are leaders of the Reform Movement, including one of the URJ’s most capable and high profile rabbis, Rabbi Angela Buchdahl. Please look over the platforms and if you are able to access the link to the YouTube video of my colleague: [youtube.com/watch?v=FP21PO4bzA4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FP21PO4bzA4) you will get a step by step tutorial on how to register and vote. You can also access her on the Central Synagogue Instagram to learn even more.

*continued on next page*

*Rabbi Shinder, continued*

On a personal note, Rabbi Fred was a fan of my friend Angela from the times when he and my mom would visit me and my classmates during our studies in Jerusalem, to the sacred moment when my dad and Angela co-officiated the wedding ceremony for Larry and myself, and even for his first "retirement" when Angela and I blessed him and performed for him at a rabbinic celebration; singing both a sacred song to meet the moment as well as a country and western parody to Rabbi Fred with me on the guitar and my well respected classmate on the kazoo!

Please lift your progressive, Reform, and egalitarian voice and VOTE and gently or with a nod or nudge urge others to do the same. Later this month we will celebrate the Springtime Festival of Passover. After we have shopped and chopped all the ritual and traditional foods that will adorn our tables, we will pour four or more cups of wine, ask and answer at least four questions, and tell the story of how a mixed multitude of our people were redeemed from Egyptian bondage. Millennia later our people are even less of a monolith. By voting in the World Zionist Congress, you will proclaim that "Am Yisrael Chai! The people of Israel (all of us) Shall Live - we should live and be well, and be counted!!

May you have a Zeisen Pesach (a sweet Passover) & Chag Sameach (a happy holiday),  
**Rabbi Rebecca Pomerantz Shinder**

Please check out this informational video about the origins of the WZC and its importance for today! [youtu.be/KGWRp7\\_vZH8](https://youtu.be/KGWRp7_vZH8)

# Please Join Us

Sunday, April 13th 5:30PM  
at Temple Beth Shalom

Fully catered; salad, matzah ball soup, brisket, chicken, potatoes, green vegetable and desserts.

Matzah, charoses, seder plate items and beverages provided by TBS.

Bring your own Kosher for Passover wine.

\$54 for adults, \$18 for kids 5-13, under 5 FREE.

Sponsorships available:

- \$50 helps a family that cannot afford to pay
- \$180 helps pay for security
- \$180 helps pay our servers
- \$200 helps pay for the food

Subsidized in part by a grant from the Jewish Federation of Greater Orange County.



**second night seder**  
open to the entire community

RSVP ASAP to:  
dconklin2@hvc.rr.com, text or call  
845-341-6335, make check payable to  
TBS and mail to Gail Conklin  
11 Weathervane Way  
Middletown, NY 10940

You may also pay online:  
[tbsny.org/donate](https://tbsny.org/donate).  
Please indicate 2025 Seder.



**Jewish Federation**  
of Greater Orange County

## CO-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Flood my e-mail in-box! No really, send me e-mails: [eric2112goodman@gmail.com](mailto:eric2112goodman@gmail.com). Well, maybe I should supply some context and guidance.

I would love to hear from you. You are on our mailing list: a congregant of TBS, perhaps a congregant of Monroe, an associate member, a curious Jew, or an old friend. You are here and nothing is out of bounds! Some ideas to perhaps spur you along:

- What does TBS mean to you? If sent as a haiku you get bonus points.
- Some examples of how we have met your needs? Or the flip side, if we did not.
- A recent TBS event you loved – and why?
- What else would you like to see occur at TBS? Think outside the box.
- Something went sideways and wasn't to my liking. Share details and how to fix it.
- Someone at TBS was very helpful, I would like to give them a shout out!
- My comment isn't about TBS but concerns Judaism at large...

So get busy typing and send away! E-mails I receive will be kept anonymous. I will try to report back in a future Shofar article.

It's spring and Jewish life at TBS is rolling. We have had a string of successful, well-attended events. Let's Keep It Going.

Purim Weekend was Awesome! Starting with Friday's Sabbath Experience, complete with shots on the bimah - a new tradition? Saturday had Beit Sefer Carnival setup with really yummy pizza from Carlos' in Goshen. Culminating in the County-Wide Purim Service and Carnival hosted by TBS, which had quite the festive atmosphere – with so many amazing costumes.

Our annual TBS Men's Club BBQ took place on Saturday, March 22nd. It was very well attended by the manly men of TBS and Monroe. Included in the evening were: great apps, tri-tip BBQ, sides, beer, fantastic tunes, desserts and great conversation. We enjoyed a Havdalah service led by Scott Dunn. Hope to see you there next year!

So, what's on the horizon? The TBS Second Night Seder on Sunday, April 13th. Be sure to RSVP for this one. It's always a creative (but brief) ceremony – followed by the most delicious catered classic Passover meal. Feel free to bring some wine... for the prayers of course!

We will join as a community and head into summer with a real doozy. Sunday, May 18th will be a Big Day at TBS as we close out the Beit Sefer school year with an Ice Cream Party that Ben & Jerry would be proud of. Later that same day, we will be holding a very special event: the Groundbreaking and Dedication of the Pomerantz Memorial Garden. Mark it on your calendars in ink and be there for what will surely be a joyous occasion.

This is our TBS Community. It works so much better when you participate. Join us for a Sabbath service and an event or two – or join us for ALL OF IT!

Send those e-mails!

*L'Chayim, Eric Co-President – Temple Beth Shalom*



~ CARING COMMUNITY ~

*Wishing Caryl Melasky a speedy recovery.*

**We thank the following for their generous donations:**

Laskin Family IMO Evelyn Laskin, Mark Hirschberg, Irving Osigs  
Beth Kalet & David Schiff IMO Eugene Kalet  
Ileene & Steven Cahn IMO Judith Rosenfeld, Mildred Cahn

**We thank the following for their generous donations to Shabbat Shira:**

Glenn & Ami Anton  
Emanuel Bergenfeld  
Janet Kass & Karyn Winaker who donated their Super Bowl pool winnings

**We thank the following for their sponsorships of the Purim Carnival:**

Goodman Family  
Laskin Family  
Wendy Cedar  
Janne Sommer

**We thank everyone for their monetary and dry goods donations to the Florida Food Pantry collected during the Purim Carnival.**

**SAVE THE DATE...**

**Sunday, May 18th, time to be determined  
Dedication and Ground Breaking Ceremony  
for the Pomerantz Memorial Garden.**





# APRIL YAHRTZEIT REMINDERS



4/4/25

Sally Lerner Russo	31-Mar
Herbert Kass	1-Apr
Jerome Sommer	3-Apr
Sabina Shapiro	3-Apr
Raymond Cohan	4-Apr
Gladys L. Dunn	30 Adar
Harold Chiron	30 Adar
Grace Finkelstein	1 Nisan
Lillian Chiron	3 Nisan
Dr. Maurice Skyer	5 Nisan

4/11/25

Mae Elkin	7 Nisan
Anna Rauchwerger	8 Nisan
Lillian Meyer	8 Nisan
Dora Morrell	10 Nisan
Israel Polin	10 Nisan
Solomon Chibnik	11 Nisan
Edward Hochberg	12 Nisan
Phyllis Winaker	8-Apr
Saul Goldstein	8-Apr
Barnet Weintraub	9-Apr

4/18/25

Sarah Chibnik	17 Nisan
Karl Smolian	18 Nisan
Judie Lurie	18 Nisan
Isidore Laskin	19 Nisan
Bryna Schwartz	20 Nisan
Ivy Gross	12-Apr
Norman Shapiro	13-Apr
Anna Rauchwerger	14-Apr
Philip Stein	14-Apr
Evelyn Salman Moss	15-Apr
Onno Matheus	15-Apr
Dora Korn	18-Apr
Sarah Crawford	18-Apr

4/25/25

Anne Agress	24 Nisan
Evelyn Melasky	25 Nisan
Jennie Essner	25 Nisan
Henry Eli Cedar "Hank"	22-Apr
Alvin "Big Al" Silverman	23-Apr
Jerome Spector	25-Apr

5/2/25

Allen Michael Cohen	28 Nisan
Bessie Butt	26 Nisan
Alexander Morrell	26 Nisan
Sarah Saretsky	29 Nisan
Minnie Savitt	2 Iyar
Ruth Sacks	4 Iyar
Rebecca Sachat	4 Iyar
Mary Gelfer	27-Apr
Phillip Myerson	27-Apr
Frances Susswein	28-Apr
Morris Rauchwerger	29-Apr

*May the Source of peace send peace  
to all who mourn and comfort  
to all who are bereaved.*

A candle may be lit at home the evening before the yahrtzeit date. These names will be read during the erev Shabbat service before kaddish is recited. If you have a loved one you wish to add to our yahrtzeit list, or if you have not been getting yahrtzeit reminders from us, please email the office, [tbs-ny@optimum.net](mailto:tbs-ny@optimum.net).

## SAVE THE DATE...

**TBS Annual Congregational Meeting**

**Thursday, May 15th 7PM**

**Review and approve budget for 2025-2026**

**Elect Trustees - see May Shofar for specifics**

**Get updated on Monroe Temple Sale and Merger**

# April

## EDUCATION



**BEIT SEFER** בית ספר

Beit Sefer of Orange County • A new twist on Jewish education!

**DATES/TIMES**  
**SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

<p><b>April 2025-Monroe Temple- Sundays</b> 9:30AM</p> <p>6- Field Trip 13- NO Beit Sefer (Spring Break) 20- NO Beit Sefer (Spring Break) 27- Beit Sefer</p> <p><b>May 2025-TBS- Sundays</b> 9:30AM</p> <p>4- Beit Sefer 11- NO Beit Sefer (Mother's Day) 18- Beit Sefer Closing Day/Ice Cream Social</p>	<p><b>April Hebrew Classes, Tuesdays/Thursdays</b> 4:00PM</p> <p>1- in person 3- zoom 8- in person 10- zoom 16- NO in person 18- NO zoom (spring break) 22- in person 24- zoom 29- in person</p> <p><b>May 2025 Hebrew Classes, Tuesdays/Thursdays</b> 4:00PM</p> <p>1- zoom 6- in person 13- in person 15- zoom 16- Beit Sefer Teacher Recognition Service (Fri)</p>
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OC NY  
ARTS  
COUNCIL



The Jewish Federation  
OF GREATER ORANGE COUNTY



ZACHOR  
זכור  
NEVER  
FORGET



ORANGE COUNTY  
COMMISSION



ORANGE COUNTY  
PARKS & RECREATION

Join us for a fun & inspirational evening  
uniting Muslim, Jewish, Christian & all communities  
through humor & mutual understanding



**COMEDY  
FOR PEACE**  
Sunday April 27 @4 PM



Graham Skea Lodge at Stony Ford  
(Golf Course) 217 NY- 416 Montgomery, NY [Maps](#)

Tickets are only \$18.00  
Snacks will be served!

Please Register by clicking here: 

[www.ocnyartsCouncil.org/register-ochrc](http://www.ocnyartsCouncil.org/register-ochrc)



Any questions? Please email,  
zachor@jewishorangeny.org

# 5785 יום השואה | Yom HaShoah 2025

Holocaust Memorial Day Event  
April 23, 2025 | 4:30 PM - 8:30 PM  
at Kol Yisrael, 290 North St., Newburgh



27th of Nisan, the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising.  
**We Remember** six million Jewish victims of the Shoah,  
millions of other victims of Nazi persecution, and  
**We Honor The Survivors!**

## Program Details:



Family Craft Programs (for children).....	4:30 PM
American Witnesses: Interactive Exhibit.....	5:00 PM
Light Dinner.....	6:00 PM
Service and Candle Lighting.....	6:45 PM
Naomi Miller: You Are The Future.....	7:00 PM

## Featuring: Naomi Miller “You Are The Future”

**A moving musical & educational Holocaust commemoration program**

**Naomi**, the child of survivors, was born in a displaced person's camp in Landsberg, Germany. She came to the U.S. when she was 2 years old, along with her parents, the sole survivors of their families.

**Naomi** has been honored to perform throughout the country & in Europe, including at the at the Terezin (Theresienstadt) Concentration Camp



Generously Supported by:

**Goldberger Holocaust Education Fund**



Monroe Temple Beth-Ei &  
Congregation  
Eitz Chaim  
Yom HaShoah Committee

### GOOD NEIGHBOR PARKING GUIDELINES

Please keep our neighbors in mind by following these guidelines:

- Don't block a neighbor's driveway
- Make sure tires not on a lawn
- If parked directly across from a driveway, ensure there is enough clearance for the car in that driveway to back out
- If a neighbor complains to you, do not engage, instead find a board member who will attempt to smooth any ruffled feathers
- Let's ensure parking does not become a stressful situation!



## SISTERHOOD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Spring is here!

I am so grateful for the longer days and the sunshine and warmth peeking through each day.

Passover is quickly approaching.  
Time to spend with family and friends.

**The Sisterhood Spring Paid-Up Dinner is Wednesday June 4th.** Please look for an invitation with all the details in your mail and in the weekly blast. There will be basket raffles. If you would like to attend and are not a sisterhood member the cost is \$54.00 which covers the cost of dinner and dues. Sisterhood dues helps support many events at Temple Beth Shalom throughout the year.

### **Sisterhood is looking for Mah Jongg and Canasta players**

We are still interested in finding a group who would be interested in playing Canasta. If you would be willing to teach beginners how to play Canasta, please let me know if you have any interest in playing or teaching either game. Reply to [thebordmans@aol.com](mailto:thebordmans@aol.com) or text Robin, 845-699-6460

**The Temple Beth Shalom Sisterhood Executive board:**

**Robin Bordman, Wendy Wayman**

**Trustees:**

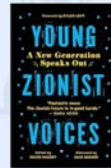
**Mindy Hazzard, Judy Potter, Holli Teshome and Ilene Cahn.**

## Save the Date

Sunday, April 27th 9:30am  
Monroe Temple of Liberal Judaism  
"Young Zionists Voices"

### Book Discussion

As part of a Yom Haatzmaut  
(Israel Independence Day)  
Celebration, we'll discuss  
**Young Zionists Voices** by David  
Hazony



*"These essays are not just ideas. They are the seeds of vibrant  
unbreakable Jewish future." - Noa Tishby*

Family Holiday Celebration will follow  
the book discussion.

*The Israel Education Committee  
looks forward to celebrating with you!*





On March 2nd, TBS hosted author Shira Dicker as part of the Jewish Book Council program sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Orange County.



Please follow this link to Vimeo to watch Shira's presentation, including a Q&A session facilitated by Sharon Ball.  
**[vimeo.com/1067059688?share=copy#t=0](https://vimeo.com/1067059688?share=copy#t=0)**



Thanks to Gail Conklin for the pictures and Wendy Cedar for the video.



March 16th - County Wide Purim Carnival, sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Orange County and hosted by TBS. Donations, both monetary and non-perishable food items were traded for game tickets. Thanks to the Orange County Clergy for their Megillah rendition and Andy Hannes for musical accompaniment. As usual, photos taken by the wonderful Gail Conklin.









## **TEMPLE BETH SHALOM**

### **NEW Tree of Life Leaf / Memorial Plaque**

Acknowledge an occasion such as a *Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Birth, Birthday, Adoption, Confirmation, Memorial, Anniversary* by adding a leaf to the Tree of Life. The cost for a leaf is \$72 up to 9 words, \$5 for each additional word, includes engraving. To order a **leaf for the Tree of Life**, email [tbs-ny@optimum.net](mailto:tbs-ny@optimum.net) with words for engraving.

### **IN THE SANCTUARY Memorial Plaques \$180**

To order, email [tbs-ny@optimum.net](mailto:tbs-ny@optimum.net) with your name and email, your address, the name on the plaque and the date of death either English or Hebrew date. If you do not know the Hebrew date, we can look it up but we need the time of death on the English date.



### **Piano Lessons and Flute Lessons**

With Kenneth Korn, TBS member and music teacher with over 35 years experience. First lesson FREE to TBS members. [kkorn1957@gmail.com](mailto:kkorn1957@gmail.com)  
845-866-9139

***Lessons available via Zoom***

***The Shofar*** - Published Monthly

Temple Beth Shalom

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Phone 845-651-7817

tbs-ny@optimum.net www.tbsny.org

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Rabbi Rebecca P. Shinder

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5785  
2025

# April

nisan  
iyar

Temple Beth Shalom  
13 Roosevelt Ave.  
Florida, NY 10921

845-651-7817  
tbs-ny@optimum.net  
tbsny.org

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>MARCH</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1</p> <p>2 3 4 5 6 7 8</p> <p>9 10 11 12 13 14 15</p> <p>16 17 18 19 20 21 22</p> <p>23<sub>30</sub> 24<sub>31</sub> 25 26 27 28 29</p>	<p>MAY</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3</p> <p>4 5 6 7 8 9 10</p> <p>11 12 13 14 15 16 17</p> <p>18 19 20 21 22 23 24</p> <p>25 26 27 28 29 30 31</p>	<p>1 3 nisan</p> <p>4:30PM In-Person Hebrew School at Monroe</p>	<p>2 4 nisan</p>	<p>3 5 nisan</p> <p>4:30PM Zoom Hebrew School</p>	<p>4 6 nisan </p> <p>6PM Pot luck dinner and Oneg 7PM Shabbat Service</p>	<p>5 7 nisan </p> <p>Vayikra</p>
<p>6 8 nisan</p> <p>BEIT SEFER FIELD TRIP</p>	<p>7 9 nisan</p>	<p>8 10 nisan</p> <p>4:30PM In-Person Hebrew School at Monroe Temple</p>	<p>9 11 nisan</p>	<p>10 12 nisan</p> <p>4:30PM Zoom Hebrew School</p>	<p>11 13 nisan </p> <p>7PM Shabbat Service</p> <p>SEARCH FOR CHAMETZ</p>	<p>12 14 nisan  </p> <p>Tzav SHABBAT HAGADOL FIRST SEDER</p>
<p>13 15 nisan </p> <p>NO BEIT SEFER</p> <p>5:30PM 2nd Night Seder at TBS</p> <p>PASSOVER</p>	<p>14 16 nisan</p> <p>PASSOVER</p>	<p>15 17 nisan</p> <p>NO HEBREW SCHOOL</p> <p>INTERMEDIATE DAY</p>	<p>16 18 nisan</p> <p>INTERMEDIATE DAY</p>	<p>17 19 nisan</p> <p>NO ZOOM HEBREW</p> <p>INTERMEDIATE DAY</p>	<p>18 20 nisan </p> <p>7PM Shabbat Service at Monroe Temple</p> <p>INTERMEDIATE DAY</p>	<p>19 21 nisan  </p> <p>PASSOVER</p>
<p>20 22 nisan</p> <p>NO BEIT SEFER</p> <p>EASTER YIZKOR PASSOVER</p>	<p>21 23 nisan</p>	<p>22 24 nisan</p> <p>4:30PM In-Person Hebrew School at Monroe</p>	<p>23 25 nisan</p>	<p>24 26 nisan</p> <p>4:30PM Zoom Hebrew School</p> <p>YOM HASHOAH</p>	<p>25 27 nisan </p> <p>7PM Shabbat Service</p>	<p>26 28 nisan </p> <p>Shemini</p>
<p>27 29 nisan</p> <p>9:30AM BEIT SEFER - Monroe</p>	<p>28 30 nisan</p> <p>ROSH CHODESH</p>	<p>29 1 iyar</p> <p>4:30PM In-Person Hebrew School at Monroe</p> <p>ROSH CHODESH</p>	<p>30 2 iyar</p> <p>YOM HAZIKARON</p>			