

\*\*\*September/October 2011  
Elul/Tishrei 5771



# THE SHOFAR

Congregation Bayt Shalom  
Greenville, NC

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*\*\*\*Please note that this issue covers both September and October. The November issue will be published at the end of October.*

# FROM THE RABBI

Rabbi Nicole Luna

I arrived in Greenville, NC with abundant eagerness. Eagerness to begin my rabbinate at Congregation Bayt Shalom, to meet people in the community, and to explore a new life with my husband Joe in North Carolina. I was also eager for my houseplant to start growing again. You can't pack houseplants in a moving van, so I was concerned about the fate of a plant I had received while doing hospital chaplaincy. The plant symbolized hope, survival, and renewal and I desperately wanted to keep it alive. Friends of mine in New York generously adopted the plant and I cut off a few vines, hoping that the cuttings would form roots and I could propagate the plant once I arrived in Greenville. Now I'm not a gardener, this plant was my first ever, but it had been healthy and growing. I assumed it would quickly return to its full and bushy state.

My first few weeks in Greenville were spent with frantic activity- getting together with congregants and community members, participating in committee meetings, gearing up for Religious School and the High Holidays, planning Shabbat services and writing sermons, all while getting our new apartment set up. I also checked on my plant every day, eager for signs of new growth.

I know we are all eager for growth in the Jewish community of eastern North Carolina. Spiritual growth, intellectual growth, growth in numbers and vitality.

As your new rabbi, I can promise you two things. First, I will work tirelessly to enhance your Jewish life, by providing spiritually uplifting Shabbat services, first-rate learning in the Religious and Hebrew School and for Adult Education, sensitive pastoral counseling, and engaging outreach to unaffiliated Jews in the community. I truly believe that Congregation Bayt Shalom is the best congregation for me to begin my rabbinate and my primary professional goal is to make the transition as smooth and positive as possible for the synagogue. Second, growth takes time. A month after we arrived in Greenville and I had repotted my plant, it still had not grown a new leaf. "What is taking so long?" I asked, exasperated. So many wonderful ideas and hopes are floating around the congregation. I look forward to hearing more of your ideas and working with you to make them happen. With thoughtful reflection and implementation, I know they will take root.

Just this morning, as I sat down to write my first bulletin article for Congregation Bayt Shalom, I looked over at my plant. A brand new bright, shiny leaf had emerged. The plant is growing.

May the new year, 5772, be for us one of personal and communal flourishing.

Rabbi Nicole Luna  
[rabbi\\_luna@baytshalom.org](mailto:rabbi_luna@baytshalom.org)  
(252) 375-4615

# THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Samantha Pilot

Dear CBS Family,

Committees have begun to meet, the Board of Directors has had its first meeting of the academic year, religious school is about to begin and the high holidays are on the way. Autumn is just around the corner!

The coming weeks leading up to the new year are a reflective time for many of us. We look back and wonder what we may have done differently and what we did that we are proud of; we look forward to what we hope to achieve and what we hope to do better. It's time to clean out the cobwebs, get rid of extra baggage and focus on what's really important to us. It's time to begin a new chapter and embark on new adventures. It's a time to take stock of who we are and who we want to be.

I ask each of you to take a few moments during the next month and reflect on how Judaism fits into your lives. A strong commitment to Judaism can mean different things to different people. To some it can mean attending Shabbas services regularly in addition to Yizkor four times per year, and attending each holiday service throughout the year. To others it can mean attending services occasionally and maintaining a membership at a synagogue. To others it can mean giving through the Jewish Federation and going only to high holiday services. And to some, it can mean

a deeply felt commitment to Israel with no participation in synagogue life. Obviously, there are many, many shades in between. What does Judaism mean to you?

While times change and assimilation and intermarriage give us new perspective on where Judaism fits into our lives, as they should, we cannot fail to honor our past and value our ages old traditions that are the basis for our religion and culture. Cultural Judaism is going to disappear if we do not continue to pass this on to the next generation.

As we move forward over the coming years, as we excitedly welcome new families to our community and begin a new chapter in our CBS life, as we begin new rituals, as we continue to be a more inclusive community, let's also remember to honor those who came before us; our ancestors of many years ago, and those individuals on the wall at CBS who have worked so hard to hold on to those ages old traditions and Jewish culture as we simultaneously move our small community into the 21st century. Let's work together to honor the past while moving into the future, and build a cohesive Jewish community.

From my family to yours, a happy, healthy and prosperous new year –

*Samantha Pilot*  
President, Congregation Bayt Shalom

# THE MONTH THAT WAS

## **JEWS PICKING THE BLUES... BLUEBERRIES THAT IS**

On Saturday, August 13, a group of Congregation Bayt Shalom members got together to pick

blueberries on Davenport Farm Road. Does this mean homemade blueberry pie at the next Oneg?



# UPCOMING

## **TO PARENTS OF RELIGIOUS SCHOOL STUDENTS**

*Hello Everyone,*

*We hope you had a great summer! We are looking forward to the start of the religious school year! School commences on **Sunday, August 28th, at 9:30 am**, with a “Bagel Schmooze” to welcome Rabbi Nicole Luna. Please plan on staying for the entire morning on the first day of school.*

**Regular Sunday School morning schedule:**  
**Family Tefillah (Prayer) Service led by religious school students**  
9:30 am-10:00 am

*Don't miss this opportunity to share this Jewish experience with your child each week.*

*This year, parents are requested to attend the morning service with their child.*

**1st Period**  
10:00 am-10:45 am

**Recess**  
10:45 am-11:00 am

**2nd Period**  
11:00 am-11:45 am

**Music led by the Rabbi**  
11:45 am-12:00 pm

## **TO PARENTS OF HEBREW SCHOOL STUDENTS**

**There will be one class this year (4th-7th graders) led by Rabbi Luna.**

*Hebrew School is going to be held on **Wednesdays from 4:15-5:45 pm**. (Note change in day and start time).*

## **TO ALL PARENTS**

*Education Committee meetings will be set up once a month on Sundays after religious school. We encourage you to attend.*

*Your involvement and input are needed!*

*If you have any questions, please let us know. Thank you.*

*Warmly,*  
*The CBS Education Committee*  
*Rabbi Nicole Luna, 375-4615*  
*Karen Barondes, 353-1797*  
*Svetlana Valdman, 558-1933*

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# UPCOMING

Continued

## BOOK CLUB

### Thursday, September 22

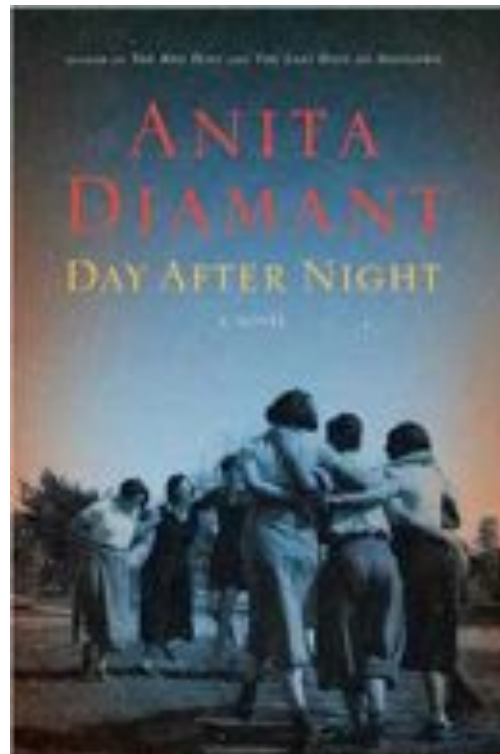
*Although this event is sponsored by the Sisterhood, anyone interested is invited to attend.*

Our next book club selection is *Day After Night* by Anita Diamant.

Donna Brody will host. The tentative date is Thursday, September, 22nd. Additional details will be available closer to the date.

Anita Diamant, the best-selling author of *The Red Tent*, has a new novel about the experiences of four women who survived the Nazi regime in Europe only to find

themselves detained in a detention camp in Haifa, in modern-day Israel. Diamant's novel is a fascinating tale about the aftermath of the Holocaust and the struggle that Jewish people of all nationalities faced as they worked to establish a new country.



# A CALL TO ACTION

## **CHESED COMMITTEE**

To participate or for information, please contact:

**Matthew Shulman**

innerbanks@yahoo.com

(252) 551-1454

## **WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEND A HAND.....**

We need a volunteer to keep the kitchen and storage closet well-stocked with the various synagogue kitchen supplies needed each week. The supplies include paper goods, plastic silverware, and wine/grape juice for the Kiddush, etc. All it takes is to check the supply cabinet once a month to see what items need to be purchased. A list of items used regularly is posted in the closet. All purchases made for the synagogue will be reimbursed by the CBS treasurer.

If interested, please contact:

**Karen Barondes**

barondes5@earthlink.net

(252) 353-1797

## **WE'RE ON FACEBOOK!**

If you use Facebook, please join us on the Congregation Bayt Shalom "group" page. In Facebook, search for "Congregation Bayt Shalom" and look for the group with the same Star of David logo that's on our website.

## **RABBINIC DISCRETIONARY FUND**

The Rabbinic Discretionary Fund is for the purpose of tzedakah, charitable contributions to those in need. The monies in the fund are used solely at the discretion of Rabbi Nicole Luna and are kept confidential. Due to the current low balance in the fund, we are asking congregants for contributions so that Rabbi Luna is able to help those in need in our community.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THANK YOU

### To the Congregation

For the visits, food and company during our convalescence.

-*Millie and Gene Plotkin*

### To Millie Plotkin

For the beautiful latch hook tapestry lovingly made to adorn the sanctuary.



## CONTRIBUTIONS

### Michael and Karen Barondes

To the Hebrew School Fund

### Michael and Karen Barondes

In memory of Laura Rothman

### Alexandra Bloch

Prayer Book Donation

### Abbie Brown

General Donation

### Diane Stein

To the Chesed committee

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Continued

## ANNIVERSARIES

**Matthew & Aline Shulman**

September 21

## BIRTHDAYS

**Kenneth Lerrick**

September 10

**Ted Weil**

September 12

**Rob Sonnenberg**

September 17

**Demetrice Sonnenberg**

September 22

**Elizabeth Surkin**

September 22

**Stacy Brody**

September 28

**Alissa Kalinowski**

October 5

**Miriam Wildeman**

October 27

## YAHARZEIT

**Boruch Serebryanny**

Grandfather, Svetlana Valdman,  
September 4

**Dorothy Mofson**

Sister, Gene Plotkin, September 12

**Harriette Plotkin**

Mother, Charles Plotkin, September 17

**Daniel Gold**

Father, Millie Plotkin, September 27

**Gussie Gold**

Mother, Millie Plotkin, October 1

**Ida Bornstein**

Mother, Ken Bornstein, October 16

**Mina W. Klein**

Sister, Ted Weil, October 25

**Golda Gordon**

Grandmother, Svetlana Valdman,  
October 30

# SERVICES, CLASSES & EVENTS

## **BAR MITZVAH**

Jacob Barondes

**Saturday, September 10**

10:00 am

*"My name is Jacob Barondes. I'm 13 years old. I attend the Oakwood School and I'm going into the 8th grade. I like to play soccer and tennis. I also enjoy wake-boarding, waterskiing and hanging out with friends. I'm excited to celebrate my Bar Mitzvah on September 10, 2011 with friends and family. I've been working very hard and have enjoyed all the community projects I've done this past year. I'm looking forward to becoming a 'Jewish adult' in our synagogue community."*

## **FAMILY SHABBAT**

**Friday, September 16**

Tot Shabbat

6:00 pm

Congregational Shabbat Dinner

6:30 pm

Family Shabbat Service

7:30 pm

## **SHABBAT SERVICES**

**Fridays, September 2, 9, 23, 30**

**October 14, 28**

7:30 pm

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# SERVICES, CLASSES & EVENTS

Continued

## **HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES**

### **Wednesday, September 28**

Erev Rosh Hashanah

7:30 pm

### **Thursday, September 29**

Rosh Hashanah Service

9:30 am

Tashlich at Greenville

Town Commons

6:00 pm

*Families welcome; bring bread crumbs to throw into river.*

### **Friday, September 30**

Rosh Hashanah Service

9:30 am

Shabbat Service

7:30 pm

### **Saturday, October 1**

Havdalah

7:30 pm

*Location to be announced.*

### **Friday, October 7**

Kol Nidre

7:30 pm

### **Saturday, October 8**

Yom Kippur Service

(including Yizkor)

9:30 am

Minchah/Ne'ilah

(followed by break-fast)

5:30 pm

### **Friday, October 14**

Sukkot: *Pizza in the Hut*

6:30 pm

Shabbat Service

7:30 pm

### **Thursday, October 20**

Shemini Atzeret/Yizkor Service

Time to be Determined

### **Friday, October 21**

Simhat Torah Celebration

7:30 pm

### **Friday, October 28**

Shabbat Service

7:30 pm

[continued on next page](#)

# SERVICES, CLASSES & EVENTS

Continued

## **RELIGIOUS SCHOOL**

**Sundays, August 28**  
**September 4, 11, 18, 25**  
**October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30**

9:30 am-12:00 pm

**Wednesdays, August 31**  
**September 7, 14, 21**  
**October 5, 12, 19, 26**

4:15 pm-5:45 pm

## **YOUTH GROUP**

**Sunday, September 11**

6:00 pm

Volunteer work at the  
Greenville Community Shelter,  
207 Manhattan Avenue

*For details, contact Diane Stein,  
[cinque5.08@gmail.com](mailto:cinque5.08@gmail.com).*

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# SERVICES, CLASSES & EVENTS

Continued

## Congregation Bayt Shalom Religious School Calendar 5771-72 (2011-2012)

### **SUNDAY RELIGIOUS SCHOOL: 9:30 am – 12:00 noon**

- AUGUST** 28 “School Schmooze” Bagel Buffet –  
*Opening Day for Parents & all grades*
- SEPTEMBER** 4 **NO SCHOOL – Labor Day Weekend**  
11 Regular classes  
18 Regular classes  
25 Regular classes
- OCTOBER** 2 Regular classes  
9 Regular classes  
16 Regular classes  
23 Regular classes  
30 Regular classes
- NOVEMBER** 6 Regular classes  
13 Regular classes  
20 Regular classes  
27 **NO SCHOOL (Thanksgiving)**
- DECEMBER** 4 Regular classes  
11 Regular classes – Hanukah Party

### **December 16– January 1: WINTER BREAK**

- JANUARY** 8 Regular classes  
15 **NO SCHOOL (Pitt County Break)**  
22 Regular classes  
29 Regular classes
- FEBRUARY** 5 Regular classes  
12 Regular classes  
19 Regular classes  
26 Regular classes
- MARCH** 4 Regular classes – Purim Carnival  
11 Regular classes  
18 Regular classes  
25 Regular classes
- APRIL** 1 Regular classes – Model Seder

### **April 6 - April 15: PASSOVER/SPRING BREAK**

- 22 Regular classes  
29 Regular classes
- MAY** 6 Regular classes  
13 Regular classes  
20 Lag B’Omer – Picnic & Last Class

### **WEDNESDAY HEBREW CLASSES: 4:15 - 5:45 P.M.**

- AUGUST** 31 Regular classes
- SEPTEMBER** 7 Regular classes  
14 Regular classes  
21 Regular classes  
28 **NO SCHOOL (Erev Rosh Hashanah)**
- OCTOBER** 5 Regular classes  
12 Regular classes  
19 Regular classes  
26 Regular Classes
- NOVEMBER** 2 Regular classes  
9 Regular classes  
16 Regular classes  
23 **NO SCHOOL (Thanksgiving)**
- DECEMBER** 7 Regular classes  
14 Regular classes

- JANUARY** 4 Regular classes  
11 Regular classes  
18 **NO SCHOOL (Pitt County Break)**  
25 Regular classes
- FEBRUARY** 1 Regular classes  
8 Regular classes  
15 Regular classes  
22 Regular classes  
29 Regular classes
- MARCH** 7 Regular classes  
14 Regular classes  
21 Regular classes  
28 Regular classes
- APRIL** 4 Regular classes
- 18 Regular classes  
25 Regular classes
- MAY** 2 Regular classes  
9 Regular classes  
16 Regular classes

Revised 08/10/11

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## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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treasurer.cbs@gmail.com  
(252) 558-1933

### **Secretary**

TBD

### **Immediate Past President**

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