



GREEN VALLEY SHOFAR

January 2026
Vol. 31 No. 1

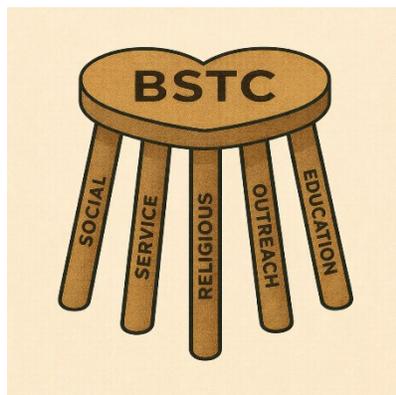
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A very happy secular New Year to you all. May the year bring health, success, and happiness to all and to all your loved ones. May we also see a decrease in antisemitism that has increasingly shaken us and the news lately.

It is with relief, pride, and some sorrow that this is my last address as President. It has been a very great honor to serve the board and the congregation and the many well-wishers and volunteers who have helped me along this journey. It has not always been smooth, but with the help of all of you, including my hard-working board, we have seen BSTC through another successful year.

I wish to thank my volunteer chair people, board members, the many committees we have, the Sisterhood and the Men's Club, and the entire congregation, as well as the Rabbi and our Administrative Manager, who have helped guide me throughout my presidency.

This is not goodbye but Shalom, which, as the song goes, also means many things, including hello, since I am not leaving BSTC and hope to continue working towards its mission. With the help of Ricki Letowt, I have come up with an image of what we at BSTC do – Each leg represents an essential aspect of who we are. I tried to get the outreach



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RABBI'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

As you read this, or soon thereafter, Lynne and I will be in Atlanta, attending the annual Convention of the National Association of Retired Reform Rabbis (NAORRR). For the last year, I have served as the First Vice President of the group, and have Chaired the Committee that planned the 2026 meeting. At the Monday night Closing Banquet, on January 5th, I will have the honor of being installed as President. I will be the first member of my Ordination Class from 51 years ago to serve in this capacity, although a late, dear friend (and my former Bridge partner) from that same Class of 1975, was President of the National organization of all Reform Rabbis from 2011-2013.

What will the 200 of us (colleagues, spouses, partners and widows) be doing for 5 days? In addition to 'reconnecting' in relationships that, for some of us, have endured through as many as 60 years, and honoring those especially who are marking their 50th and, in one case his 70th! Anniversary since becoming a Rabbi, we will also celebrate the "2nd Bar/Bat Mitzvah" of our members who are turning 83 years young in 2026 [Jewish literature traditionally considers age 70 to be a full – though not complete – life, hence 13 additional years qualify for recognition!] Our Committee has planned special Shabbat and daily worship services, opportunities for Torah Study, lectures, workshops, and panel discussions with Rabbis and their spouses representing many of the various communities and roles we have played in our active, if not continuing professional lives.

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The GREEN VALLEY SHOFAR

The Official Newsletter of
Beth Shalom Temple Center

**Mail to: PO Box 884
Green Valley, AZ 85622**

**Location: 1751 N. Rio Mayo
Green Valley, AZ 85614
(520) 648-6690**

www.bstc.us

Office Hours:

Monday & Friday: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Wednesday: noon to 4 p.m.

President	Esther Levine Brill
VP	Joshua Migdal
Treasurer	Ricki Letowt
At Large	Mike Finkelstein
At Large	Marlys Fiterman
At Large	Beverly Lake
At Large	Steve Feldman
At Large	Laurie Sherman
At Large	Amy Storer

In This Issue:

- ◆ President's Message
- ◆ Rabbi's Message
- ◆ Contact Info/Mail/Sending Checks
- ◆ Temple Usage Reservations
- ◆ Commemorative Items, Tributes & Yahrzeits
- ◆ Calendar of Events/Schedule of Services
- ◆ Member News and Updates
- ◆ Updated phone numbers, emails
- ◆ Committee Reports
- ◆ Birthdays/Anniversaries/Committee Chair List

Editor: Stacy Laetsch

This is the January issue of the Green Valley Shofar. The Shofar newsletter is published monthly, electronically only. Go to: bstc.us to view and print current and archived volumes.

Subscriptions can be ordered from the office with a donation towards printing and postage.

NEWSLETTER SUPPORT STAFF: Mike Finkelstein and Jane Gold

The editors reserve the right to edit contributions for grammar, length and content. Community and member news will be published only as space permits. Community or member events that conflict with Temple events will not be publicized in the Shofar.

PAYMENTS MADE TO BSTC

- ◆ BSTC accepts ZELLE to bstcgv@gmail.com
- ◆ Credit cards/PayPal link is on the BSTC website.
- ◆ Checks are always welcome! Please memo for the program/event for which you are paying.

MAIL TO THE TEMPLE

Any **mail sent to the temple** should be addressed to: **P.O. Box 884, Green Valley, AZ 85622.**

To expedite delivery you may include the name of the person you wish to contact on the front of the envelope.

- ◆ For information on the *Memorial Board* and *Yahrzeits* contact Joyce Finkelstein.
- ◆ For *Tributes* items, contact Amy Storer.
- ◆ For information on *Commemorative Items*, contact the office.

TEMPLE USAGE SCHEDULING

Please turn in the Facilities Reservation Form (on the website or from the rack in the temple lobby) to reserve space. Contact the BSTC office at (520) 648-6690 with any questions.

Not all scheduled events are included in the Shofar. To include your program in the Shofar calendars, please notify the Shofar editor. Deadline to submit Shofar copy is the 25th of the month prior to the publication date.

COMMEMORATIVE ITEMS

The following commemorative items are available for purchase to honor or memorialize:

Memorial Board Plaques \$300 • Leaf for the Tree of Life \$100 • Sanctuary Chair \$125
Garden Bench \$225 • Garden Brick \$100

Send specific wording for the plaque, brick, etc. together with your check made out to BSTC, Attention "Memorial Board" or "Tree of Life," etc. Order forms can be found in the Temple foyer or contact the office.

TRIBUTES

The volunteer chairing this committee will mail a personalized card to whomever you choose.

SEE SOME SAMPLE CARDS ON THE BSTC WEBSITE.

For an acknowledgement card to be sent **All Tributes MUST include the following information:**

1. **Name** of EACH recipient
2. **Address** of EACH recipient (**Addresses for temple members living in Green Valley need not be submitted with your request; however, if your recipient has more than one address, please specify which address**)
3. **Type of Tribute:** Happy Birthday, In Honor Of, With Sympathy, etc.
4. **Names of ALL who are sending** the Tribute including name of spouse, if appropriate.
5. Send your Tribute request and free-will offerings to: BSTC, P.O. Box 884, Green Valley, AZ 85622 (mark "Tributes" on the envelope and check memo line!)

Tributes received since our last publication:

- ◆ From Beth Gansky: **in honor of:** Marcia Wiener and the BSTC Art Gallery

Yahrzeits

Beth Shalom Temple Center will provide reminders of yahrzeits, and the name(s) of your loved ones will automatically be recited for Kaddish at the appropriate Sabbath Services according to the Hebrew calendar. If your yahrzeits are not yet on the current list and you wish them to be, please email Joyce Finkelstein (or send a note to the Temple for her attention) including your name, the name and relationship of deceased, and the date of death.

Yahrzeit Donations:

Remembered by	Relationship	Yahrzeit
Judy & Randy Gehman	For her Father	Arne Westerman
Sherry Hoffman-Blum	For her Mother	Millie Hoffman
Sid & Ruthann Shapiro	For his Mother	Evelyn Shapiro
Gail Norton	For her Daughter	Kelly Kern
Sid & Ruthann Shapiro	For his Brother	Irwin Shapiro
Holli Madsen	For her Father	David Bandy
Serene Rein	For her Father	Benjamin D Leavitt
Nancy Feldman	For her Father	Les Feldman
Sig Friedman	For his Mother	Elsie Friedman
Gail Norton	For her Mother	Doris Sable



BSTC ACTIVITY CALENDAR

BSTC continues to Live Stream Services on YouTube. Links are emailed to members.

Schedule of Services, Meetings, Classes & Events			
Day	Date	Time	Event
FRI	1/2/26	7pm	Men's Club (lay led) Friday Night Shabbat Service
SAT	1/3/26	10am	Torah Study on Zoom ONLY
SUN	1/4/26	10am	Bagel Breakfast Sponsors: Esther & Ed Brill
MON	1/5/26	10am	Therapy Doll Project
WED	1/7/26	10am	BSTC Book Club @BSTC
SAT	1/10/26	10am	Saturday Shabbat Service
SUN	1/11/26	5pm	Pasta Dinner Fundraiser @BSTC
TUE	1/13/26	10am	Sisterhood Meeting
WED	1/14/26	9am	Men's Club Meeting @El Patio
FRI	1/16/26	9:30am	Program Committee Meeting on Zoom
FRI	1/16/26	7pm	Friday Night Shabbat Service
SAT	1/17/26	10am	Torah Study on Zoom ONLY
TUE	1/20/26	2pm	Sisterhood Paid Up Reception
SAT	1/24/26	10am	Torah Study on Zoom ONLY
SUN	1/25/26	1pm	Jewish Film Festival @BSTC
MON	1/26/26	2pm	BSTC Annual Meeting & Board Elections
TUE	1/27/26	3pm	Uniting the Community thru Music meeting
SAT	1/31/26	10am	Torah Study on Zoom ONLY
SUN	2/1/26	10am	Bagel Breakfast Sponsors: Bev Lake & Les Bakke

RECOMMENDED: Please check the Active Calendar on the BSTC website (bstc.us) for any updates.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (continued)

one with dotted lines, since, thanks to the Rabbi and Kent Blumenthal, we hope to reach out to the broader community to help fight antisemitism.

I continue to go with my motto, "I shall pass this way but once, therefore the little I can do, let me do it now, for I will not pass this way again (Stephen Grellet) whether as president or not.

Let us continue this incredible journey together.

Esther



RABBI'S MESSAGE (continued)

We will be inspired by two, internationally-known Scholars: Dr. Rachel Korazim from Jerusalem, who teaches at Hebrew University, Yad VaShem (the Holocaust Memorial Center) and the Shalom Hartmann Institute will be sharing collections of post-October 7, 2023 Poetry and Literature from Israeli and Gaza-based writers. Dr. Michael Meyer from Cincinnati, Professor of Jewish History at the Hebrew Union College, will devote his lectures to the significance of Dr. Leo Baeck and Rabbi Alexander Schindler, two of the most influential world Rabbinic leaders of the 20th Century.

We have arranged for 4 young (women) Rabbis who lead Progressive Congregations in Israel to be with us, as well; they will relate their backgrounds, successes, and difficulties in supporting their respective communities during these last 2 years of pain and anguish, and in dealing with a government that continues to deny equal rights to the non-Orthodox streams of modern Jewish expression and identity.

Our own members from around North America and Europe will present their views and experiences on the evolving relationship between Reform Jews and Israel, on what the increased dangers of Anti-Semitism have meant for their Rabbinate, and how we, as the "Veterans" of the Progressive Jewish world, can be better situated to offer our services and devotion to the Jewish People.

Most importantly, we are initiating a much-needed commitment to 'LaBriut' (for health and well-being) – supporting our members, families, and widows or

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widowers who are in need, financial or in other resources – as their communities or congregations may have disbanded and therefore stopped providing for the retirees, or if they are in need of critical assistance. Finding some funding and developing the operating procedures for this aspect of our purpose as an Association will be a high priority.

What else will the role of NAORRR President in 2026 mean for me? Most likely, it will be preparing and presenting 2 speeches in Atlanta and 2 more the following year at our Convention in Scottsdale (January 2027), along with quite a few phone calls and Zoom meetings each month. But it will also mean having the sacred chance of spending quality time with friends, teachers, and students, whose very presence enhance and enrich my identity as a Rav.

Lynne and I wish you and yours a happy, healthy, and peace-filled secular New Year!

Rabbi Norm Roman



MEMBER DIRECTORY UPDATES

The 2026 Membership Directory will be officially updated in early February.

Please let the office know if you move, or change any of your contact information.

Printed copies of the directory spreadsheet are available for members upon request. Please email bstcgv@gmail.com (or, call the office) for a copy.

BOARD NOTES

The monthly Board meeting is normally held on the fourth Monday of each month. **The next Board meeting is the Annual Meeting and Board Elections. It is scheduled for Monday, January 26th at 2pm.** All members are encouraged to attend and vote for the new Board. Members must be in good standing for their votes to be counted so dues must be paid before the meeting begins.

RESTRICTED (DESIGNATED) ACCOUNTS

While no specification is required, when making a general donation or tribute to BSTC, you may opt to specify that to the general fund, or to some other fund that represents your desires regarding where the money is used.

Following here is a list of the Restricted Accounts we have on our books. Some have been there for a while, and some are new. The money can only be used for the stated purpose if an account is restricted (designated).

- ◆ **Rabbi Discretionary Fund**: This will be a standard Discretionary fund to allow the Rabbi to donate as he sees appropriate.
- ◆ **Gratitude Fund**: This fund was set up allows us to subsidize some or all the cost of participation in rituals for our less fortunate members.
- ◆ **Garden Fund**: BSTC does have a budget for *property maintenance*. However, we may want to do something extra (special) for the garden, and this fund is for this.
- ◆ **Bikur Cholim (Caring Meals) Fund**: This fund is partially subsidized by a JPSA grant and provides meals and visitation to members who are recovering from illness/surgery.
- ◆ **Art Gallery Fund**: While the Art Gallery Committee has a budget for expected costs (hanging devices, receptions, honorariums for speakers), the committee chairs can use this fund to enhance the gallery at their discretion.
- ◆ **Membership Fund**: This account is set up to support the recruitment of new members to our Temple, through various means of communication outside the temple.

TEMPLE TIDINGS

Wander Women, a new social group for ALL Temple women, journeyed to Charon Vineyards in far east Sahuarita on December 21st. We had a spirited good time enjoying lovely vistas from the vineyard's porch while enjoying various wines, cheeses and the staff's hospitality. Wander Women is a new, no dues, social group open to ALL Temple

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women. If you're interested in joining other Jewish women for outings to the myriad venues the area has to offer, please contact Gail Abend.

COMMITTEE NEWS

ART GALLERY

The next exhibit beginning in early January, **“Nature As I See It”** will feature the works of BSTC’s own Marcia Wiener. The closing exhibit **“It’s Wild Out There”** by Ed Freedman, photography artist, was a tremendous success with many sales of prints of the fabulous photos. All the items exhibited were for sale, and duplicates were made of several images. Contact Bev Lake to purchase or with questions.

Marcia Wiener & Bev Lake

BIKUR CHOLIM—CARING MEALS PROGRAM



At Beth Shalom, we believe in feeding body and spirit. Through our Caring Meals program—rooted in the Jewish tradition of Bikur Cholim (visiting and supporting those who are ill or in need)—BSTC members lovingly prepare and

deliver meals, along with a visit or friendly check-in, to anyone who could use a little extra care.

If you’re recovering, grieving, feeling alone, or simply in need of support, we’re here for you. But we’re not mind-readers—so please let us know.

Contact the Temple Office or Amy Storer to request support for yourself or someone you care about and/or to let us know you have food to contribute. Either bring it without portioning and we can divide and freeze, or please freeze in individual portions. **If you add or take anything to/from the freezer for the Caring Meals, please let Stacy, Ricki, or Dawna know. We keep an inventory of what’s there so we know what we are able to offer.**

We are here to nourish, connect, and remind each other: you are not alone.

BOOK CLUB

The BSTC Book Club usually meets at BSTC every first Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m. All are welcome. Contact Laura Unger with questions.

BSTC Book Club 2026 Reading List:

- ◆ Jan 7th—***The Frozen River*** by Ariel Lawhon
Historical fiction based on diaries of a 19th century midwife in a small town in Maine. It follows Martha Ballard during her midwifery, marriage, motherhood, and through other circumstances. A fascinating and real look at marriage, childbirth, the justice system, and social mores as it was at that time.
- ◆ Feb 4th—***The Berry Pickers*** by Amanda Peters
A novel about a kidnapped 4-year-old Native American child. The effects on her real family, and her, as she grows up with the kidnappers.
- ◆ Mar 4th—***The Girl with Seven Names*** by Lee Hyeon-Seo
- ◆ Apr 1st—***A Tree Grows In Brooklyn*** by Betty Smith
- ◆ May 6th—***The Worst Hard Time*** by Timothy Egan
- ◆ Jun 3rd—***Book Woman of Troublesome Creek*** by Kim Richardson
- ◆ Jul 1st—***People of The Book*** by Geraldine Brooks
- ◆ Aug 5th—***The Greatest Generation*** by Tom Brokaw
- ◆ Sept 2nd—***Beloved*** by Tony Morrison
- ◆ Oct 7th—***Silent Spring Revolution*** by Douglas Brinkley
- ◆ Nov 4th—***The Haj*** by Leon Uris
- ◆ Dec 2nd—***A Tale of Love & Darkness*** by Amoz Oz



CARING COMMITTEE

Do you need to let the congregation know about an important life event? Are you interested in making calls to other members? Can you cook meals for the Bikur Cholim freezer and/or deliver food to those in need?

We have beautiful Tribute cards available to commemorate a life event, and they also act as a fundraiser. At the moment, our financial records indicate that the cost of these cards is greater than the donations that they are bringing in. When making your donation, please remember that the cost to temple for each card is just under \$5, which includes the card stock, printing, envelopes, and stamps. Tribute cards are available for viewing on our BSTC website.

If you have prayer requests, know of members who are sick and/or in/just out of the hospital, would like to make phone calls, or otherwise volunteer to help with this committee, please contact Amy Storer.

GRANTS

If you're interested in joining this committee, or would like more information, contact the temple office or Esther Levine Brill.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

The BSTC Grief Support group has been meeting regularly since last Spring, creating a caring space for those navigating loss. If you are finding it difficult to move forward due to a loss, whether recent or from long ago, please know that you are not alone. Our meetings offer a safe and supportive environment to share experiences, listen, and support one another in confidence. All are welcome, regardless of where you are in your journey. We hope you will join us. For more information, please contact me for the next meeting date and location.

Looking forward to seeing you.

Bunny Tarquinio, Grief Recovery Specialist

HISTORY

The following is a message from long-time member, Ingeborg McDonald.

We, at BSTC, are very fortunate to enjoy various art forms. Recently, a needlework piece created and crafted by Ruth "Ruthie" Gosman, one of BSTC's late former members, was donated to BSTC by her husband, Norm Gosman. It depicts "Miriam Finding Moses Among the Bullrushes" and is on display in the social hall on the north wall along the handicap ramp. THANK YOU to Norm and Ruthie!

Ruthie was an expert in needlepoint art. She was much involved in completing the beautiful "Trip Stitch" (see photo) displayed between the arches, also along the north wall of the social hall, designed by former BSTC member and artist, Faigee Niebow. Faigee and Ruthie spent much time selecting the yarns, and Ruth developed new stitches as the work progressed. It took several members **five years to complete**. Ruthie supervised the project. We had fun, and we met every Tuesday afternoon for five years in the temple, and we took parts home to complete, too. Eventually, they were put together. Yes, we at BSTC are proud of the accomplishment, now for all to enjoy.

Submitted by Ingeborg Oesterich McDonald, 30-year-long-time friend of Ruthie's.



Photo circa 2002, at the Open House celebrating the completion of the tapestry needlepoint, includes: Ingeborg McDonald, Faigee Niebow and Ruth Gosman.

***Join the BSTC Men's Club
for an AHL Ice Hockey Social***



***Tucson Roadrunners vs Ontario Reign
at the Tucson Convention Center Arena***

February 22, 2026 • 4 PM

Tickets \$34 per person

RSVP or call for info by January 4th.

*Reservations: contact Harry Segal
301-502-1283 or segal.harry@yahoo.com*

*Please write your check to: BSTC Men's Club
Mail to: BSTC • PO Box 884 • Green Valley, AZ 85622*

HOSPITALITY

Bagel Breakfasts are usually on the first Sunday of each month at 10am. The **January 4, 2026** event is sponsored by Esther and Ed Brill.

To ensure there is enough food and that plenty of tables and chairs are set up, the Committee policy is that all food events are prepaid. **WE MUST HAVE YOUR RSVP by the Monday prior to the event and your PAYMENT PRIOR TO THE EVENT CONFIRMS YOUR RESERVATION.**

The cost remains \$12 for Members and for \$15 for Non-members. **Your reservations are appreciated!**

JIM CLICK RAFFLE

There is no information to report yet about the 2026 Jim Click Raffle but watch for details soon! Contact Ed Gold with any questions. ***The 2025 raffle raised \$575 for BSTC! THANK YOU to everyone who participated in this fun way to donate to BSTC!***

LIBRARY

Please contact BSTC Librarian, Jane Gold, with any questions or donations.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

A **special New Member Shabbat service** was held Friday, December 5th to welcome those members who have joined BSTC in the past year.

We look forward to welcoming all returning members as we move into 2026. Please make sure to send in your dues renewal payments no later than January 26th, the date of BSTC's annual meeting, and please join us at the meeting to hear about what happened in 2025 and plans for the future.

New members who have not done so in the past, please submit a digital photo of yourself and brief profile in order to allow the rest of the membership

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to know a little bit about each of you. Send your photos and write-up of your background, interests, and any Jewish activities you particularly enjoy to Mike.

MEN'S CLUB

Please join the Men's Club on **Friday, January 2nd at 7pm at BSTC for a Men's Club service** led by Steve Maron, featuring instrumental music by Steve, Mike Finkelstein and Harry Segal. Oneg, sponsored by the Men's Club, will follow.

The Men's Club is also planning another fun hockey game outing, open to ALL BSTC Members. See the flyer on the previous page, and RSVP or inquire with Harry Segal by January 4th.

The next Men's Club meeting will be on Wednesday, January 14th, at El Patio Restaurant, at 9:00 am.

PROGRAMS

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- ◆ On **Sunday, January 11th**, we will offer a **Pasta Dinner at BSTC**, similar to the 2025 dinner. Bobbie Vishner is chairing. See flyer on the next page for details. Members are \$15, non-members are \$18. Please RSVP by January 7th.
- ◆ Also, on **Sunday, January 18th**, a **fundraising DINE OUT at the local MOD Pizza**, where **25%** of your food purchase comes back to BSTC. Pick up your flyer in the lobby or print next page, use the code at the local MOD Pizza on Nogales Highway and Abrego anytime on the specified date to qualify. As a **BONUS, Ricki is doing a drawing during the BSTC annual meeting for a MOD Pizza gift card—so SAVE AND ENTER YOUR RECEIPTS!** (Instructions on the flyer.)
- ◆ BSTC is once again a local sponsor for the **Jewish Film Festival**. Join us at BSTC on **Sunday, January 25th starting at 1pm**, for three English language short films. There is **NO CHARGE** for this event!
- ◆ **Uniting the Community Through Music**, held last

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PASTA DINNER at BSTC

Sunday, January 11th • 5pm

\$15 per member/\$18 per non-member

Menu: Baked Ziti • Salad • Garlic Bread

Gluten and dairy free options available—please advise of dietary restrictions when responding.

Beverages: Iced tea • Lemonade • Water • BYOB

Please RSVP by Wednesday, January 7th, 2026

Your check is your reservation!

Please also remember to bring a non-perishable food donation for the local food banks.



FUNDRAISING



RAISE SOME DOUGH

Bring in this flyer, or order online through the MOD app or website, to use the fundraiser code provided and MOD will donate 25% of your bill to support this great work!

JOIN MOD IN SUPPORTING

ORGANIZATION NAME: BETH SHALOM TEMPLE CENTER

FUNDRAISER DATE: JANUARY 18, 2026

ADDRESS: 18767 S NOGALES HWY, SUITE 105
SAHUARITA, AZ 85614

FUNDRAISER CODE: MODGIVES25

Offer valid only on the date(s) and at the MOD location identified on this flyer. Offer valid for dine-in, takeout, or delivery when ordered through the MOD app or website only. For online or in-app orders, please use the code provided by GroupRaise. For delivery, customer must live within delivery boundary. Only nonprofit organizations and nonprofit schools are eligible to participate in the MOD fundraising program. MOD will donate 25% of food and beverage sales to the organization. Tax, gift cards, and retail sales are excluded from the donation. Offer void if the flyer is distributed in or near the restaurant. For more information about fundraising, visit <https://modpizza.com/fundraisers/>

November 23rd, was a phenomenal success for our temple. We are inviting anyone interested in participating in planning our next big event for 2026 to join us at BSTC on **Tuesday, January 27th at 3pm.**

- ◆ A local archeologist, Linda Gregoris, a specialist in Hohokam art and iconography, will give a presentation at **2pm on Wednesday, March 18th.** There will be no charge for this event.
- ◆ Paul Gross, an associate of Rabbi Roman, will present a discussion on climate change on April 22nd, which is Earth Day. Depending on speaker availability, it will be in person or on Zoom. There will be no charge.

REWARD PROGRAMS

RAISE RIGHT is a program offering name brand gift cards for purchase and *raises funds for BSTC!*

Please contact Ricki Letowt or Joyce Finkelstein with questions or for help getting started.

FRY'S COMMUNITY REWARD PROGRAM

1. Visit www.frysfood.com
2. Register your Fry's VIP Card online
3. Search for Beth Shalom Temple Center, or by organization #MH533
4. Select "Enroll"

If you are not a Fry's VIP Card holder, just stop by your nearest Fry's and ask for a free application.

RITUAL

Marlys Fiterman is the Ritual Committee Chair. Please contact her with any questions or if you are interested in participating on this committee.

January Service Schedule:

- ◆ **Friday, January 2nd—7pm**
Men's Club Friday Night Shabbat Service
- ◆ **Saturday, January 10th—10am**
Saturday Shabbat Service
- ◆ **Friday, January 16th—7pm**
Friday Night Shabbat Service

Re: the Mi Shebeirach at Worship Services

Rabbi Roman, the Ritual Committee and the Board of Trustees are continuously re-evaluating how BSTC can best support our members who request public acknowledgement of their (or their loved ones') desire for healing prayers at our Services. There are several complicating issues, not the least of which are HIPAA privacy laws, and managing the length of any list that might be read out-loud.

A suggestion has been made, and we will experiment for the next several months: the Rabbi or Worship Leader will ask for those present to share the name of someone in need of prayers WITH FIRST NAME ONLY, OR FOR THE INDIVIDUAL'S HEBREW NAME TO BE SPOKEN (e.g. Nachman ben Hindel).

SECURITY

"If you see something, say something!"

The Security Chair is Josh Migdal. Please contact Josh with any security questions or concerns.

BSTC Security

SISTERHOOD

The Sisterhood usually meets every second Tuesday of the month at 10am at BSTC and all Sisterhood members are invited to join. The next meeting is at BSTC on Tuesday, January 13th at 10am.

On Tuesday, February 17th, a special SISTERHOOD MEMBERS ONLY field trip is planned. See flyer on the next page for details.

SOCIAL ACTION

The Chair for this committee is open. Please contact the President if you are interested in discussing this.

TORAH STUDY

Torah Portions are included for members in the table on the next page. Torah Study meets ONLY via Zoom, on Saturday mornings that have no service. All are welcome. The link has been emailed and does not change. Please contact the office if you need it.

WEBSITE—bstc.us

Please contact the office with any questions or comments.

Shofar Subscriptions Available upon request!

If you would like printed copies of the Shofar mailed to you each month, please send your free will donation to cover printing and postage to: BSTC, PO Box 884, Green Valley AZ 85622 and put "Shofar" on the memo line.

Sisterhood Members Trolley Tour of Tucson Murals
Tuesday, February 17th, 2026 (RSVP by Jan 20th)
Private tour from 10am-1pm • Carpool from BSTC at 9am
Cost is \$20 per person and your check is your reservation!
For more information contact Jean Shekter at 517-898-8687 or ShekterJ@gmail.com



BSTC Sisterhood MEMBERS ONLY are invited for this Private Tour!



Mike & Joyce Finkelstein	3-Jan
Ed & Esther Brill	10-Jan



Marianne Katz	1-Jan
Dawna Wheeler	1-Jan
Marilyn Forstot	4-Jan
Jean Shekter	6-Jan
Susan Cohen	11-Jan
Janet Brown	15-Jan
Judith Kramer	16-Jan
Judy Gehman	16-Jan
Ceylon Kelly	20-Jan
Jon Barton	26-Jan
Bill Forstot	27-Jan
John Holleran	28-Jan

MONTHLY TORAH PORTIONS			
Portion (Parashat)	Date	Torah	Haftarah
VAYECHI	Jan 1/2, 2026	Genesis 47:28-50:26	I Kings 2:1-12
SHEMOT	Jan 9/10, 2026	Exodus 1:1-61:1	Isaiah 27:6-28:13
VA-EIRA	Jan 16/17, 2026	Exodus 6:2-9:35	Ezekiel 28:25-29:21
BO	Jan 23/24, 2026	Exodus 10:1-13:16	Jeremiah 46:13-28
BESHALLACH	Jan 30/31, 2026	Exodus 13:17-17:16	Judges 4:4-5:31

COMMITTEE	CHAIR/CO-CHAIR
Aesthetics	Tobey Gitelle
Art Gallery	Marcia Wiener Bev Lake
Bagel Breakfast	Mariann Katz
Book of Remembrance	Suenette Maron
Calendar & Reservations	BSTC office
Caring & Bikur Cholim	Amy Storer
Facilities & IT	Les Bakke
Facebook	Jane Gold
Finance	Ricki Letowt
Grants	Esther Levine Brill
Historian	Gail Sommers
Hospitality	Dawna Wheeler
Jim Click Raffle	Ed Gold
Library	Jane Gold
Long Range Planning	John Evans
Memorial Board /Yahrzeits	Joyce Finkelstein
Membership	Mike Finkelstein
Men's Club	Steve Maron
Oneg	Cris Hager
President	Esther Levine Brill
Programs	Mike Finkelstein
Rabbi	Norman Roman
Rewards Programs	Joyce Finkelstein
Ritual	Marlys Fiterman
Security	Josh Migdal
Shofar	Stacy Laetsch/BSTC Office
Shopper	Judy Gehman
Sisterhood	Sue Cohen
Social Action	Connie Greenwald
Tributes	Amy Storer
Website	Stacy Laetsch/BSTC Office