



September 2023

Elul 5783-T'ishre 5784

Congregation Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of Congregation Beth Am was held last month at the home of Gary Kurzban and Teresa Ruiz. Some congregants attended live, others by Zoom.

A financial report and summary of the congregation's activity in 5783 was followed by elections; all those nominated were elected by acclamation. The list of officers is at the end of this newsletter.

First Friday Kabbalat Shabbat

Friday, Sept. 1, the final First Friday of 5783, will feature a learning session with Gary Kurzban. Services begin at 6:30 p.m.

Our next First Friday on October 6 will include our celebration of Simchat Torah, where we will conclude Deuteronomy and restart "in the beginning" with Genesis.

Condolences

We extend our condolences to:

Marianne Kestenbaum and her family on the loss of **Lenny Kestenbaum**, our good friend and long-time congregant.

Lenny was a regular part of both weekly and High Holy Day services. He often chanted Haftarah, including Jonah on Yom Kippur.

He recently served on the board of Beth Am as membership vice president and as secretary. He and his wife Marianne were among the earliest members of the congregation.

Cindie Jorge, our congregation's bookkeeper, on the loss of her former

husband, **Ernest Garcia**, who was also the father of Chaim Garcia.

Rabbi Langer Will Be Back!

Rabbi Armin Langer is returning for learning sessions with Congregation Beth Am. His next visit will be on Saturday, Sept. 9, Parashat *Nitzavim-Vayelech* (erev Selichot). He will provide a d'var Torah during services, which begin at 10 a.m.

After services, he will discuss the upcoming High Holy Days.

Sukkot Celebrations

You can't have Sukkot without a chance to sit and eat in a Sukkah! The congregation's president, Gary Kurzban, is making this possible with an "Open Sukkah" on the second day of the holiday, Sunday, Oct. 1.

We will gather IRL (in real life!) starting at 2 p.m. at the Kurzban-Ruiz residence (271 Claywell) for noshing, praying, shaking the lulav and celebration.

Be a Leader!

If you would like to help lead any upcoming services, read the Torah or Haftarah portion in Hebrew or English, or give a d'var Torah, contact Nancy Oseasohn at oseasohn@att.net.

If you would like to be a participant, either reading Torah or Haftarah or leading a prayer in Hebrew or English during High Holy Day services, please contact Marion Bernstein.

If you'd like to attend services via Zoom, please get in touch with Henry Bernstein, hbmbtx@gmail.com.

Thank You

To those who helped with Zoom Shabbat services in July: Rona Aduna, Karen Berkowitz, Henry Bernstein, Marion Bernstein, Andy Gravin, Anastasia Gurvich, Gary Kurzban, Rabbi Armin Langer, Nancy Oseasohn, Monica Perlmutter and Vivian Weinstein.

To Henry Bernstein and his Zoom committee for ongoing technical support: Ernesto R. Cortinas, Andy Gravin, Gary Kurzban, and Mark Shiver.

High Holy Days are Coming

– Join Now!

Congregation Beth Am is offering new members a great deal: those who sign up now will not be billed for dues for the first year of their membership.

For details, please contact Gary Kurzban at kurzban.ruiz@gmail.com.

Where are our Machzors?

After three years of High
kurzban.ruiz@gmail.com.

**Contributions to Beth Am should be sent
to: PO Box 780893
San Antonio, TX 78278-0893**

Yahrzeits

17 Elul (Sept. 3) Ruth Treiser, aunt of Rona Aduna

19 Elul (Sept. 5) Clara Cohen, grandmother of Michele Saunders

20 Elul (Sept. 6) David Edelstein, uncle of Marjorie Gregerman

20 Elul (Sept. 6) Ruth Pleaner, cousin of Marion Bernstein

21 Elul (Sept. 7) Walter Hattenbach, father of Marion Bernstein

22 Elul (Sept. 8) Ida Rose Alterman, great-grandmother of Terri Foose

22 Elul (Sept. 8) Juan Barrientes, grandfather of Teresa Ruiz

23 Elul (Sept. 9) Morry Barasch, father of Joan Barasch

23 Elul (Sept. 9) Annie Gregerman, mother of Robert Gregerman

26 Elul (Sept. 12) Ben Garfinkel, father of Rhoda Rappaport

3 Tishri (Sept. 18) Reuben Karren, grandfather of Natalie Gernsbacher

4 Tishri (Sept. 19) Shirley Barasch, mother of Joan Barasch

8 Tishri (Sept. 23) Jakov ben Shmuel Perlmutter, husband of Monica Perlmutter

8 Tishri (Sept. 23) Michael Haffner, father of Steve Haffner

10 Tishri (Sept. 25) David Shapiro, brother of Diana Samuels

11 Tishri (Sept. 26) Gertrude Shuster, mother of Leroy Shuster

לשנה טובה

High Holy Day Schedule

All services will be hybrid (both Zoom and live) unless otherwise indicated.

- **Selichot** Saturday, Sept. 9 as part of Shabbat morning services, 10 a.m. (on Zoom only)
- **Erev Rosh Hashana** Friday, Sept. 15, Service begins at 7 p.m.
- **Rosh Hashana Day** Saturday, Sept. 16, begins at 9:30 a.m.
 - **Tashlich** 3 p.m. at Joske Pavilion in Brackenridge Park (live only)
- **Shabbat Shuva** Saturday, Sept. 23, begins 10 a.m. (on Zoom only)
- **Kol Nidre** Sunday, Sept. 24, Service begins at 6:45 p.m.
- **Yom Kippur Day** Monday, Sept. 25, begins at 9:30 a.m.
 - **Yizkor** noon
 - **Forum** 4 p.m.
 - **Mincha/Ne'ila** 6 p.m.
 - **Havdalah** 8 p.m.

SEPTEMBER SHABBAT AND HOLIDAY SERVICES

Services are held on Zoom. If you would like an invitation, please notify Marion Bernstein at hbmbtx@gmail.com.

Sept. 1: First Friday Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30 p.m. Presentation: Gary Kurzban

Sept. 9: *Nitzavim-Vayelech* Shaliach Tzibbur: Marion Bernstein; Torah: Andy Gravin; Haftarah: Monica Perlmutter; D'var Torah: Rabbi Armin Langer

Sept. 16: *Rosh Hashana*

Sept. 23: *Ha'azinu/Shabbat Shuvah* Shaliach Tzibbur: Marion Bernstein; Torah: Natalie Gernsbacher; Haftarah: Anastasia Gurvich; D'var Torah: Nancy Oseasohn

Sept. 24: *Kol Nidre*

Sept. 25: *Yom Kippur*

Sept. 30: *Sukkot* Shaliach Tzibbur & Hallel: Marion Bernstein; Torah: Karen Berkowitz;

Haftarah: Anastasia Gurvich; D'var Torah: Nancy Oseasohn

Oct. 1: 2nd day *Sukkot*. "Open Sukkah" at home of Gary Kurzban starting at 2:00 p.m.

Oct. 6: *Simchat Torah/First Friday*, 6:30 p.m. Torah: Wendy Drezek and Marion Bernstein

2023-4 OFFICERS & BOARD

President:	Gary Kurzban
Vice-President, Ritual:	Marion Bernstein
Vice-President, Financial:	Mark Shiver
Vice-President, Admin:	Karen Berkowitz
Membership:	Lenny Kestenbaum לר
Secretary:	Rona Aduna
Past President:	Marianne Kestenbaum
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