



July 2025

Tammuz-Av 5785

First Friday Kabbalat Shabbat

July's First Friday will be on the Fourth of July at 6:30 p.m. The portion is Chukkat, and Wendy will be providing the shiur (learning session).

August's First Friday will be on Shabbat Chazon, August 1, the Shabbat before Tisha B'Av, at 6:30 p.m.

In Memory of Rhoda Rappaport



From the earliest days of the congregation, Rhoda Rappaport kept the books and wrote the checks that kept Beth Am going. At first, she did it the old-school way, with an adding machine and green

gridded paper, recording each transaction. Then, Excel.

But even after she gave up these duties, she remained a constant, warm presence. She hosted Shabbat services and congregational annual meetings at her home, and she was a loving and wise bubbe to all of us. Even at 98, she loved interchange with people, family and friends, and never lost her wit. May her memory be a blessing.

Contributions

Generous contributions in memory of Rhoda Rappaport to Congregation Beth Am were made by:

- Debra Maltz
- Cindie Jorge
- Mark Shiver

Generous contributions to Beth Am were also made by:

- Mark Shiver on his mother's yahrzeit.
- Nancy Oseasohn in honor of Marion Bernstein.
- Stan Drezek on the yahrzeit of his father.

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

ANNUAL MEETING OF BETH AM

The annual meeting of Congregation Beth Am will be on Sunday, Aug. 10, at the home of Gary Kurzban and Terry Ruiz. More details to come in our August Bulletin.

BethAmConnect looks forward

By Wendy Drezek

The final Beth Am ZOOM Connect will be on Sunday Sept. 14, at 4 p.m., and will cover Teshuvah, Selichot materials for study, and DIY Sukkah building.

A brief introduction/discussion will be at 4 p.m. Zoom links and discussion materials will be provided. For info or to RSVP, you may contact the Drezeks at stanwendre@gmail.com.

Participation in Our Services

If you would like to help lead any upcoming Shabbat services, read the Torah or Haftarah

portion in Hebrew or English, or give a d'var Torah, contact Gary Kurzban at kurzban.ruiz@gmail.com.

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

Thank You

To those who helped with Shabbat services in June: Rona Aduna, Karen Berkowitz, Marion Bernstein, Natalie Gernsbacher, Andy Gravin, Marianne Kestenbaum, Gary Kurzban, Nancy Oseasohn and Vivian Weinstein.

Thanks to Gary Kurzban and Terry Ruiz for hosting First Friday Kabbalat Shabbat.

News from Reconstructing Judaism

Rabbi Marc Katz will discuss his Evolve essay, [Going 'Beyond the Law' to Act Ethically](#). Rabbinic teachings are clear: Both for governments and for individuals, it is forbidden to act according to the letter of the law if the consequences are unmerciful or unethical.

There is no charge required to register for an Evolve web conversation. Participants can interact with the speaker, making comments and asking questions.

[Register Here for FREE!](#)

Yahrzeits

7 Tammuz (July 3) Robert Scheel, father of Holly Scheel

15 Tammuz (July 11) Ralph Lazarus, father of James Lazarus

28 Tammuz (July 24) Leonard Kurzban, uncle of Gary Kurzban

1 Av (July 26) Jack Fishbein, father of Wendy Drezek

2 Av (July 27) Lester Rappaport, husband of Rhoda Rappaport

5 Av (July 30) Ethel E. Weissman, mother of Bennett Weissman

JULY SHABBAT SERVICES

Services are held on Zoom. If you would like to attend, contact us at hbmbtx@gmail.com.

July 4: *Chukat* First Friday Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30 p.m. Shiur: Wendy Drezek

July 12: *Balak* Shaliach Tzibbur: Marion Bernstein; Torah: Karen Berkowitz; Haftarah: TBA; D'var Torah: Nancy Oseasohn

July 19: *Pinchas* Shaliach Tzibbur: Karen Berkowitz & Gary Kurzban; Torah: TBA; Haftarah: Vivian Weinstein; D'var Torah: TBA

July 26: *Mattot-Mase'i/Rosh Chodesh Av* Shaliach Tzibbur: Marion Bernstein; Torah: Gary Kurzban; Haftarah: TBA; D'var Torah: Rona Aduna

Aug. 1: *Shabbat Chazon/D'varim* First Friday Kabbalat Shabbat, 6:30 p.m. Shiur: Wendy Drezek

2025 BETH AM OFFICERS & BOARD

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