West Boca Delray and Boynton's Reform Community



Temple Beth Shira 19140 Lyons Road Boca Raton, FL 33434

561-912-1453 • http://www.templebethshira.org

Our temple began November of 2003 in response to a call for a small, "haemishe" neighborhood synagogue in West Boca. Since our founding, we have felt proud to self-identify as a cohesive and warm community, offering compelling, modern style of worship, spiritual support, community-wide social action projects and quality education under the guidance of our spiritual leaders. Beginning with our founding spiritual leader Cantor Bruce Benson then Cantor Ellen Stettner and continuing today under Rabbi-Cantor Sharon Steinberg.

Our programs and activities – extending synagogue life beyond worship – are all at a very affordable price with no building fund or constant requests for money to our members. While opportunities to support our community are always available, we do find the soft approach to be more appropriate. You will find many opportunities to connect with the community, rejoice in our proud Jewish heritage, enjoy cultural and social events, work together toward *tikkun olam* (social action) and share talents and skills in a warm and caring environment.

Central to synagogue life at Beth Shira is worship and song. We offer two distinct styles of Shabbat services. A more traditional service on the third Friday of each month is held in the chapel at Temple Beth Shalom in Century Village, Boca. This service offers a meaningful traditional reform service utilizing the URJ's siddur "Mishkan T'fillah" and traditional reform music. On the first Friday of each month, we offer something of a more modern approach and little more out of the norm. Our services on the first Friday take place café' style at the South County Civic Center with people sitting at round tables and offering an optional pre-service shabbat dinner. For this service, the siddur is projected on a screen, and the congregational band accompanies this uplifting pop-style musical service. Several times a year this service becomes a themed service such as "Beatles Shabbat", "Broadway Shabbat" and "Classic Rock Shabbat."

In addition to worship, our synagogue has opportunities for adult education (bi-weekly Torah study and private teaching), social action projects and social events through our Men's Club, Sisterhood and Chaveirot (friendship circles). Our caring community committee reaches out to members to watch over us, especially as we go through difficulties. As a small congregation, we aim to build community – and each person has a role to play in our success, and we hope that you will choose to join us.

Our main means of communication is our weekly email, "Tuesday Tidbits," our website TempleBethShira.org and our Facebook page www.facebook.com/TempleBethShira. If you are not receiving "Tuesday Tidbits" (on Tuesday afternoons) once you have returned your forms please be in touch with us at 561-912-1453 or info@TempleBethShira.org. If you need to reach the Rabbi directly please email Rabbi@TempleBethShira.org or call her study at 561-705-7329.

L'shalom,

The Leadership of Temple Beth Shira.

ABOUT OUR RABBI



Temple Beth Shira's Spiritual Leader, Rabbi-Cantor Sharon Steinberg seeks to inspire the Jewish community spiritually, motivationally, educationally and musically. Her multi-faceted background includes serving congregations as a cantor and/or rabbi over the past 25 years, concertizing on three continents as an opera singer, serving as a music professor at several universities, teaching a variety of Jewish topics to people of all ages and working with individuals and couples as a spiritual and relationship skills counselor.

Rabbi Steinberg was born in Queens, New York. Her passion for singing became evident at an early age. She majored in music in college earning both Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from Ithaca College and Indiana University respectively. Upon graduation, Rabbi Steinberg accepted a position on the faculty of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) teaching voice and other related music courses. She has also taught at the Community College of Baltimore, the Baltimore School for the Arts, and the University of Wisconsin in Green Bay.

Concurrent with her years as a professor, Rabbi Steinberg pursued an operatic and concert career. Her recital debut at Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall was met with critical acclaim. While on a European tour, she sang excerpts from Puccini's "La Boheme" which was recorded for and subsequently broadcast on Italian National Television. Rabbi Steinberg has sung lead roles with many opera companies and orchestras around the world including Bel Canto Opera, Opera Theatre of Northern Virginia, Central City Opera, Des Moines Metro Opera, Southwest Virginia Opera, Roanoke Symphony, and Johns Hopkins Symphony Orchestra.

Rabbi Steinberg has always been very spiritual and began to feel a calling to use her voice to serve as a spiritual inspiration. She pursued her second major career as a cantor beginning in 1992, earning cantorial credentials through the Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music at Hebrew Union College. Furthering her education, she did course work for a Masters in Pastoral Counseling at Loyola University. She became a certified energy life coach through iPec, the Institute for Professional Excellence in Coaching, became a facilitator and facilitator trainer in Prepare-Enrich, counseling couples in relationship skills, and she trained and subsequently served as a community chaplain in Fairfax County, Virginia.

Prior to her tenure with Temple Beth Shira, Rabbi Steinberg served as cantor for seven years at Temple Shalom in Chevy Chase, one year at Baltimore Hebrew Congregation, and 11 years at Beth El Hebrew Congregation in Alexandria, Virginia. During her years as a cantor, Rabbi Steinberg conducted choirs, founded chamber ensembles and Klezmer bands for which she often did the musical arranging, and she performed often with her cantorial colleagues. While also serving as a Jewish educator and spiritual advisor.

As the years passed Rabbi Steinberg wished to delve more deeply into the rabbinic end of Judaism. She studied for the rabbinate and was ordained in June of 2013 by Mesifta Adas Wolkowitz Rabbinic Academy of America. She has been serving Temple Beth Shira since 2015, first as its cantor, and then in 2016 as our temple's sole clergy performing both rabbinic and cantorial roles.

The Membership fee is \$380 per adult in a household up to 2 adults (max of \$760). Minor children and students living in the same household are free. The first year there is a try us out membership that only requires a \$180 membership fee. When you renew for the first time there will be a \$100 per adult one-time renewal discount making it just \$280 per adult for the 2nd year.

- Annual dues are \$380 per adult.
- All adults in a household who will be participating in synagogue activities are required to pay the membership fee.
- Children under 18 or in school full-time are free if living in the same household as an adult member.
- On the first renewal a \$100 discount will be applied (so the 2nd year is \$280).
- First year dues are discounted (by \$200) to \$180, high holiday tickets may be applied to first year membership dues of the same membership year.
- Non-member High Holiday tickets are \$125 per adult.

Auxiliary Dues Structure

- Membership dues for Sisterhood and Men's club are an additional \$40 each.
- Membership for the Singles Group, "You had me at Chai," is \$25 for TBS members (\$36 for non TBS Members).

What does this mean:

1st year is \$180 per adult

2nd year is \$280 per adult

3rd year and beyond is \$380 per adult.

The regular membership fee includes your High Holy Day Tickets. In order to keep the membership fees low there may be additional fees for other items such as some classes, dinners, ceremony officiation and other similar items. The membership year runs from July 1st through June 30th.

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