



December 2025

TEMPLE
SHALOM
A Reform Congregation



Volume 19 Issue 6

A Letter from the President December 2025

In the summer of 2016, I started reading a series by Diane Greenwood Muir. I had just retired and was at sixes and sevens with what to do next. Summers were for part time jobs, creating therapy materials and taking courses. In her Bellingwood novels, Diane created stories about people who cared about each other and their community. Along the way, she shared her wisdom on everything from child rearing to useless worrying.

Diane created two communities: the fictional Bellingwood and the Bellingwood community on Facebook and her website. Diane passed away this past spring, Carol and Jamie, her sister and brother, worked to get her final novel, The Road Leads On, Bellingwood Book #48, produced. In the Forward, Diane wrote, "I am sorry to be leaving you...You are Bellingwood, though. You always have been." Diane created a community of over 2,000 people who have been sharing joys, sorrows, milestones and recipes for over 10 years.

Diane's sister, Carol, writes: "Diane's final novel is a celebration of everything readers cherish about Bellingwood—its people, its heart, and its unshakeable belief that family (found or chosen) is what gets us through." Sound familiar? I am so blessed to have a community at Temple Shalom that fits that description.

If you are a member of our Temple and need the support of our family, please reach out to us. If you are not a member, consider becoming a part of our community.

Diane's final words of her final book: "Every bit of kindness, hope, grace, caring, generosity, and love that you share with the world around you brings Bellingwood to life." The same could be said for Temple Shalom.

Wishing you a Chanukah of light, joy, friendship, and family,

Hope



SHABBAT SERVICES

We meet at 4023 Belle Terre Blvd., Myrtle Beach, SC 29579.

Our **Friday evening** services begin at 7:30pm. Saturday at 10:30 AM. Members who cannot physically attend Friday night or scheduled Saturday services can view services via Zoom. Contact Templeshalommbpresident@gmail.com to request a Zoom invitation.

TempleShalommb.org

Chanukah: Ceremonies, Symbols, and Customs

The modern home celebration of Chanukah centers around the lighting of the Chanukah candles in the Chanukah Menorah (Chanukiyah), eating special foods particularly **Latkes** (potato pancakes) and **sufganiyot** (jelly donuts), playing games particularly games with a **dreidel** (Yiddish word for a spinning top), and singing songs. Chanukah is a time for family or friends to celebrate the **Festival of Lights**, our holiday that celebrates religious freedom.

Chanukah is not mentioned in the Hebrew Bible. Our source for the story of Chanukah is found in the four **Books of Maccabees** which are part of the Apocrypha, books written by Jews, but not part of the Biblical cannon. They were preserved as part of the Catholic version of the Bible.

What is the meaning of the menorah?

Menorah is the Hebrew word for candelabrum. In relation to the Chanukah, it refers to the nine-branched ceremonial lamp in which the Chanukah candles are placed. Chanukah Menorah and Chanukiyah are synonyms.

Is the menorah unique to Chanukah?

No. The menorah is described in the Hebrew Bible. The Torah records (Exodus 25:31-39 and 37:17-24) how the great artist, Bezalel, fashioned a seven-branched menorah that was used in the portable Tabernacle the Israelites used in the wilderness. Later the menorah was placed in the Great Temple in Jerusalem. The priests lit the lights of the menorah each night. In the year 70 when the Romans destroyed the Second Temple, they carried the menorah back to Rome. It is commemorated there in the arch of Titus. While the Roman Empire has long since vanished, a seven-branched menorah stands before the Knesset building in Israel, a tangible reminder of the indestructibility of the Jewish people. A model of the Menorah as described by the Bible can be found on the grounds leading to the Western Wall in Jerusalem.

How did the Chanukah menorah originate?

The nine-branched Chanukah menorah was a modification of the biblical menorah. The Chanukah menorah has nine branches: one branch for each day of the holiday (8) and a ninth branch called the **sham-ash**, the “servant” or “helper” light. In ancient times, oil was used in the menorah with wicks that burned. Over time, candles were substituted for the oil.

Except in times of religious persecution, the Chanukah menorah was placed outside the front door of a Jewish home during the celebration of Chanukah. Eventually the Chanukah menorah moved to the inside of the home, and placed, when safe, in the window so Jews and non-Jews can see the light which commemorates the miracle of freedom.

How do we light the Chanukah candles?

We place the candles in the menorah from right to left as you are looking at the menorah. So on the first night the candle is placed on the branch that is farthest on the right side. On the second night candles are placed in the branch that is farthest on the right and the branch next to it which is the second farthest to the right. Each night we add one more candle. So when we get to the eighth night we set up all eight candles. Why do we start with one candle and end the holiday with eight candles? There was a great debate that is recorded in the Talmud. The great scholar Shammai argued that we should start with 8 candles and each night remove one. The scholar Hillel argued that we should start with one candle and make our way to eight candles. Hillel's side won as he argued that we should increase the light and joy of the holiday each day. In addition to the candles for each day, we set up the shamash candle which usually is at a different height from the other candles. We light the shamash candle first and then use the shamash to light the other candles. We light the candles from left to right so that the newest candle is lit first. Those are the customs. But don't worry if you get confused about how to set up your Chanukah menorah each night and which candles you light first. What I find most important is that each night we light one more candle than the previous night, so by the final night you have eight candles plus the shamash burning brightly.

Why eight days?

The most popular interpretation of this eight day celebration is the famous story of the miracle of the oil. In this legend that is found in the Talmud, when the Maccabees went to light the Eternal light after they had cleaned up the Temple, they found only one cruse or container of sanctified oil, enough to keep the light burning for one day. By some miracle that one container of oil lasted for eight days which was the time it took to harvest fresh olives, extract and sanctify the oil for use in the Temple.

Another explanation is that Judah Maccabee modeled the holiday after Solomon's eight day dedication of the the First Temple (II Chronicles 7:8-10).

What is the story behind Latkes?

Latkes, potato pancakes are the main food eaten on Chanukah. The potato itself is not significant; the oil that the latkes are fried in remind us of the miracle of the oil. It is possible that potatoes were chosen as they would have been harvested in the late fall in Eastern Europe and kept fresh in cellar rooms through December when we celebrate Chanukah. In Israel and more recently in America too, sufaniyot, jelly donuts are also eaten as they too are fried in oil.

Rabbi Sherman

What's Happening at Temple Shalom December 2025

Friday	12/05/25	Shabbat service followed by an Oneg
Saturday	12/06/25	Shabbat service followed by a Kiddush
Friday	12/12/25	Shabbat service followed by an Oneg
Friday	12/19/25	Shabbat service followed by an Oneg
Saturday	12/20/25	Shabbat service followed by a Kiddush
Friday	12/26/25	Shabbat service followed by an Oneg

Temple Shalom is selling the 2025 Attractions® Dining & Value Guides as a fundraiser. The books are available to order now. The price is the same as last year, \$25 per book. Thank you to those who have already ordered!

Thank You Notes

Thank you to everyone who took a part in, provided food for, and helped with set up and clean up for our Chayei Sarah hor's d'oeuvres party and service.

Thank you to all who are participating in Menorah Mitzvah by volunteering to shop for a child.

SAVE THE DATE

Friday, December 19 Bring your Menorahs and candles to Temple for our group candle lighting at the beginning of the service. This is night number 6.

Sunday, December 21 Join us for our annual Chanukah party at 2:00 for Trivia, latkes and donuts followed by the menorah lighting and traditional Chanukah song at 5:15. For more information, contact Templeshalommbpresident@gmail.com.

Saturday, January 10 will be our first adult education session with Rabbi Aaron. More information will be sent in a flyer and in January's newsletter.

VIRTUAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, celebrating their Centennial Anniversary in 2025, is a research institute, an institution of higher learning, an adult education organization, a cultural organization, and a world-renowned library and archive. Their mission is to preserve, study, share, and perpetuate knowledge of the history and culture of East European Jewry worldwide. YIVO offers adult education, Yiddish language programs, lectures, conferences, art exhibitions and concerts, some free and some for a fee. <https://www.yivo.org>

Also, check out the Events Recorded section.

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF ISRAEL (<https://www.nli.org.il/>)

Read articles, listen to music and attend online events.

AMERICA-ISRAEL FRIENDSHIP LEAGUE (<https://aifl.org/events>)

Participate in events about Israel's entrepreneurship, culture, medical research, environmental protection initiatives, and so much more.

Leo Baeck Institute (LBI) is an archive and research library devoted to the history and culture of German-speaking Jews <https://www.lbi.org/>

URJ (<https://reformjudaism.org/>) – choose the calendar tab

Are you a foodie?

Check out The Jewish Food Society at <https://www.jewishfoodsociety.org/> for interesting stories and recipes. Also visit Jamie Geller at <https://jamiiegeller.com/author/jamie-geller>, Tory Avey at <https://toriavey.com>, and Jewlish at <https://aish.com/jewlish/recipes>.

The Forward -- founded in 1897 as a Yiddish-language daily, the Forward soon became a national paper, the most widely read Jewish newspaper anywhere. The English Forward was launched as a weekly in 1990 and moved to fully digital publication in 2019. The Forward delivers incisive coverage of the issues, ideas and institutions that matter to American Jews. Its rigorous reporting and balanced commentary on politics, arts and culture have won numerous awards year after year and made it the most influential nationwide Jewish media outlet. It is currently free and available to everyone everywhere.

VIDEO

Defying Gravity (We'll Rise Above) | 2024 Hanukkah Anthem | The Maccabeats
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jn_mJ3Wrn40&list=RDjiskf_lZXv8&index=2

Music

Hanukkah oh Hanukkah - a Pentatonix Daft Punk cover - Hanukkah 2023

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kH83oNwhDVM&list=RDfg51la8Yayc&index=2>

Six13 - West Side Chanukah Story | Presented by MJE https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jiskf_lZXv8&list=RDjiskf_lZXv8&start_radio=1&t=17s

Peter, Paul and Mary - Light One Candle (25th Anniversary Concert) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h1cRXgDFiSs&list=RDh1cRXgDFiSs&start_radio=1

Debbie Friedman Track 07 - Light the Menorah https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_nKJ1yspwt8&list=PLzQ7jbvj7OoBxvNCUfAjBQbNoH7q1g5Kd

Nefesh Mountain | The Hanukkah Dance by Woody Guthrie https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZBbTj86UCxA&list=RDZBbTj86UCxA&start_radio=1

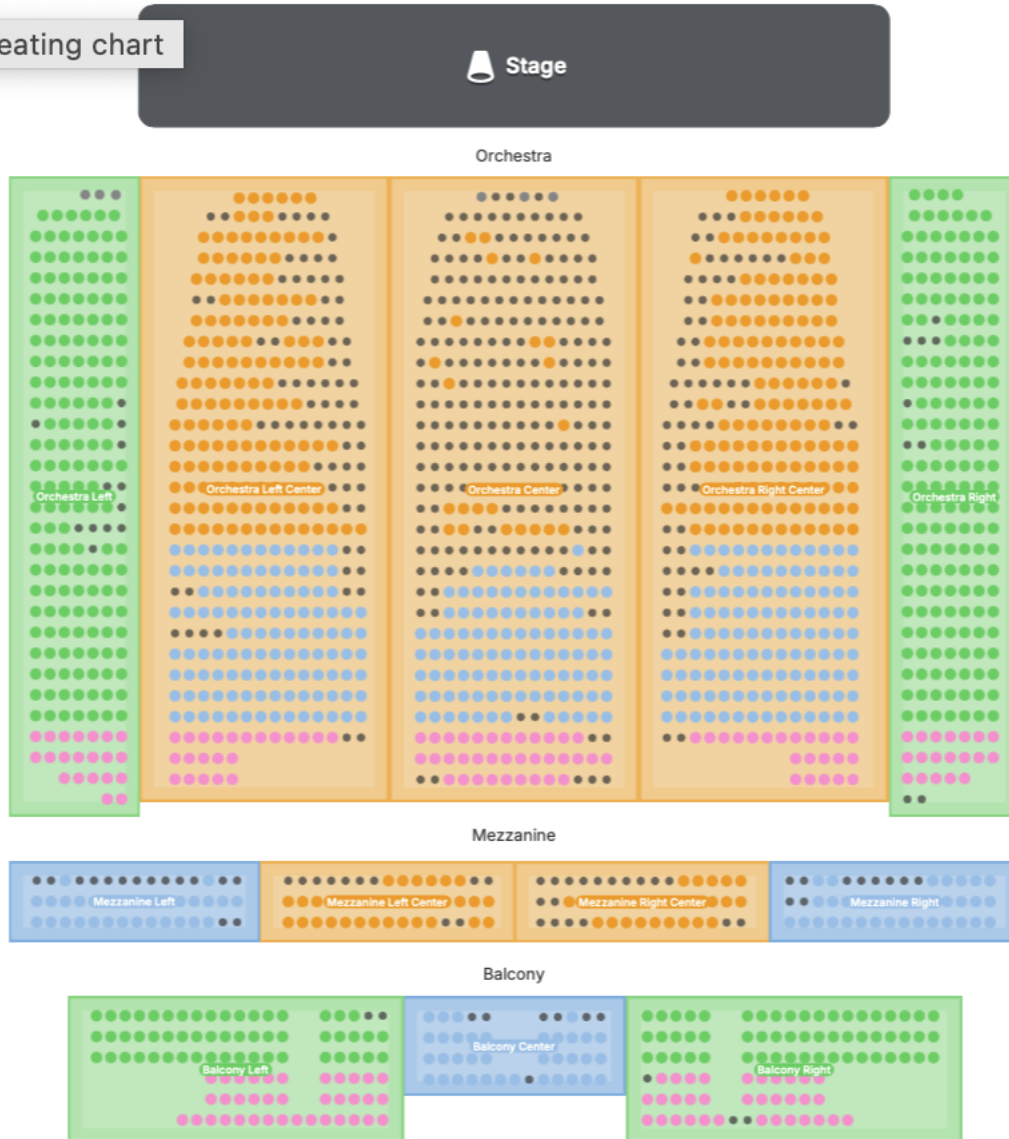
ART

Saras Jewish Art Chanukah Collection and Virtual Gallery <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MI0PkoiwSO8>

BRAVO BROADWAY
FEB. 28, 2026 AT 7 PM. MYRTLE BEACH HIGH SCHOOL

<https://longbaysymphony.app.getcuebox.com/o/PQ1B3VN0/shows/9XXP6HXY/showtimes/3MFNZGXD/ticket-selection>

seating chart



Pink Section	Blue Section	Orange Section
All seats \$30	Aisle/Adjacent seat \$65.12	Aisle/Adjacent seat \$69.98
	Regular seat -\$55.40	Regular seat -\$60.26

This is the cost of the seating which includes a discount. I will continue to reserve more seats as I receive payment. You can mail a check to my home, or bring cash or a check to me at Temple. This show sells out quickly.

Thank you.

Flo

How Can YOU Make Donations to Temple Shalom?



CHAI CLUB is a unique way to support Temple Shalom with a donation of \$18/mo. per individual. Pay monthly or annually. Best of all - there are no club meetings or responsibilities.

TREE OF LIFE PLAQUES

(LEAF) commemorates special events such as birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, and other life events we want to celebrate. Cost: \$50.00 - small leaf OR \$75.00 - large leaf. Available to members only.



GENERAL DONATION

is a way to support Temple Shalom and is a mitzvah (good deed). Available to all.

MEMORIAL BOARD PLAQUES are a great way to remember someone perpetually. Every year, on their Yahrzeit (anniversary of death), the person will be remembered in regular services. Available to and for members only. Cost: \$300.00 - \$150.00 deposit required; balance due prior to hanging of plaque and it takes at least 6 weeks. Available to and for members only.

IN MEMORY/HONOR OF is a tribute on behalf of someone who was/is special in your life and can be in any amount. Available to all.

MORE INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEBSITE UNDER "DONATIONS"



**HAVE YOU EVER WANTED TO SEE
YOUR WRITING PUBLISHED?**

**HAVE YOU WANTED TO LET OTHERS
KNOW THE IMPACT TEMPLE SHALOM
MEMBERSHIP HAS HAD IN YOUR LIFE?**

NOW is your chance. We are looking for members willing to write an article for the monthly newsletter/bulletin about the impact Temple Shalom has had on them. The article can be any size and we will publish one each month.

Please send your article to Hope Sachwald at TempleShalomMBPresident@gmail.com.

Thank you for your help!





IF YOU SEE SUSPICIOUS OR CONCERNING ACTIVITY, please contact local law enforcement and/or the relevant suspicious activity reporting authority.

Another way we've committed to combating antisemitism and hate in the Lowcountry is through the creation of the first **Joint Incident Reporting Tool**, in partnership between our Federation, the ADL Southeast, and Secure Community Network. Now, when you witness an act of hate, you can report it so that all three organizations can collaboratively respond, investigate, and track patterns of similar incidents around the state.





*The **Secure Community Network (SCN)**, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, is the official homeland safety and security organization of the Jewish community in North America. Founded in 2004 under the auspices of The Jewish Federations of North America and the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, SCN serves as the central organization dedicated exclusively to the safety and security of the American Jewish community, working across 146 federations, 50 partner organizations, over 300 independent communities, and other partners in the public, private, nonprofit, and academic sectors. SCN is dedicated to ensuring that Jewish organizations, communities, life, and culture can not only exist safely and securely, but flourish. Learn more at securecommunitynetwork.org.*

Temple Shalom
4023 Belle Terre Blvd.
Myrtle Beach, SC 29579

Temple Shalom is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, Federal Tax ID# 20-3142057

December 2025

KISLEV 11 - TEVET 11

	1 11 KISLEV	2 12 TEVET	3 13 TEVET	4 14 TEVET	5 15 TEVET Service: 7:30 	6 16 TEVET Service 10:30
7 17 TEVET	8 18 TEVET	9 19 TEVET	10 20 TEVET	11 21 TEVET	12 22 TEVET Service: 7:30 	13 23 TEVET
14 24 TEVET	15 25 TEVET	16 26 TEVET	17 27 TEVET	18 28 TEVET	19 29 TEVET Service: 7:30 	20 30 TEVET Service 10:30
21 1 TEVET	22 2 TEVET	23 3 TEVET	24 4 TEVET	25 5 TEVET	26 6 TEVET Service: 7:30 	27 7 TEVET
28 8 TEVET	29 9 TEVET	30 10 TEVET	31 11 TEVET			



DONATIONS AND DEDICATIONS TO TEMPLE SHALOM

Donations to Temple Shalom can be made in several ways and are greatly appreciated.

- ☐ **MEMORIAL BOARD PLAQUES** are a great way to remember someone perpetually. Every year, on their Yahrzeit (anniversary of death), the person will be remembered in regular services. Available to and for members only.
 Cost: \$300.00
 ▪ \$150.00 deposit required
 ▪ takes at least 6 weeks
 Name on plaque: _____
 Date of death (English): _____ We will figure Hebrew date.
- ☐ **TREE OF LIFE PLAQUES (LEAF)** commemorates special events such as birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, and other life events we want to celebrate. Available to members only.
 Cost: \$50.00 – small leaf OR \$75.00 – large leaf
 Inscription: _____
- ☐ **HIGH HOLIDAY DONATION** is a great way to make an annual donation to Temple Shalom for any amount. Available to all.
- ☐ **CHAI CLUB OF TEMPLE SHALOM** is a unique way to support Temple Shalom with a donation of \$18 per month per individual. The club is open to everyone. This can be set up on a monthly pay basis or \$216.00 per year. There are no club meetings or responsibilities. Available to all.
- ☐ **Yahrzeit** is a wonderful way to remember loved ones who have gone before us and can be in any amount. Congregation members receive notices prior to Yahrzeit observances. Available to all.
 Yahrzeit for whom: _____
 Relationship to Donor: _____
- ☐ **IN MEMORY/HONOR OF** is a tribute on behalf of someone who was/is special in your life and can be in any amount. Available to all.
 In Memory/Honor (circle one) of: _____
 Relationship to Donor: _____
- ☐ **GENERAL DONATION** is a way to support Temple Shalom and is a mitzvah (good deed). Available to all.

Please take a moment to select your donation(s), write a check, and mail it to Temple Shalom, or use PayPal.

NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____

**PLEASE MAKE ALL THE CHECKS PAYABLE TO TEMPLE SHALOM.
 IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PAY VIA CREDIT/DEBIT CARD, PLEASE GO TO THE
 DONATIONS PAGE ON OUR WEBSITE – www.TempleShalomMB.org.**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATION!