

Congregation B'nai Shalom

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Rabbi Daniel Stein

Rabbi

Hazzan Sandy Bernstein

Cantor

Rabbi Gordon Freeman

Rabbi Emeritus

Hazzan Marc A. Dinkin

Cantor Emeritus

Ami Dodson

President

Stuart Kirsch

Executive Director

Dear Friends,

This year, our community joins congregations worldwide for the **Simchat Torah Project: A Sacred Act of Remembrance and Hope**, commemorating those lost on October 7. Our Torah will be adorned with a new mantle featuring the Israeli flag, a Star of David, and the words from Kohelet:

“עַתָּה סֹפֵד וְעַתָּה רִקְדָּה”

“There is a time to mourn and a time to dance.”

On the back, each mantle bears the name of a civilian or soldier lost on that day or in its aftermath, uniting our prayers and celebrations with communities around the world. Our mantle is dedicated in memory of Amit Cohen z”l, age 23 from Carmit. *Your Gift Makes a Difference*: a portion of all proceeds will support the Hostages and Missing Families Forum, providing relief and a message of solidarity to families awaiting their loved ones’ return.



Support Levels

\$1,800: Guardian

\$540: Builder

\$180: Supporter

Any Amount: Friend

All donations will be acknowledged in a special honor scroll.

The mantle will be dedicated on Tuesday evening, October 14, Erev Simchat Torah at the synagogue.

You can make a donation by cash or check at Congregation B’nai Shalom, by credit card by calling 925-934-9446, through your account at bshalom.shulcloud.com, or <https://bshalom.org/donate> and choose October 7 Torah Mantle from the fund drop down list.

Help us transform sorrow into hope. Join us as we celebrate Simchat Torah with the conviction that, together, we both mourn and dance—honoring the memory of the past and the resilience of our future. Together, we mourn, we remember, and in the words of Kohelet, we will dance again—in time, as one people, with hope.

Sincerely,

Timothy Plattner, Ritual Chair

Rabbi Daniel Z. Stein