

Shalom & Welcome!

Welcome to our warm & inclusive community -- wherever you might be on your Judaic spiritual journey. We respect the range of diversity within the Jewish people & welcome people of all denominations.

The Boston Synagogue is a wonderful spiritual & cultural alternative for those living in downtown Boston, Charlestown, the North End, Waterfront, Museum Towers & surrounding communities.

We are an intimate, joyful neighborhood community that is traditional transdenominational egalitarian – with women & men actively participating in our services. We also welcome the participation of children. We provide a warm experience for people of all ages & stages.

The Synagogue offers an unpretentious & accessible community in which each person has the opportunity to make a difference, & we take pride in being friendly. We come together for prayer, learning, & cultural programs. As a diverse community we also come together to discuss issues of the day, laugh & socialize, as well as for comfort.

If you would like to be part of a community that offers an environment where you can explore Judaic culture & education & express your Judaism, please consider The Boston Synagogue!

Synagogue's Mission

Strengthened by its historical roots, The Boston Synagogue is inclusive & dedicated serving the needs of a changing & increasingly diversified downtown urban community.

The synagogue's bylaws were amended in 2003 to reflect the synagogue's evolving mission:

"The purpose of this congregation shall be the maintenance of a place of worship & for other related matters such as educational, cultural & social activities, all of which are designed to serve the diverse & ever changing needs of the community of Jews In Downtown Boston while maintaining Jewish traditions, practices & customs"

About The Boston Synagogue

While our building was constructed in 1971, the synagogue's roots go back over 100 years – to the original West End. This Jewish enclave was situated where the buildings of Charles River Park are located today.

Our synagogue is the successor to several shuls that were part of a vibrant Jewish community in downtown: the amalgamated Wall Street/Beth Jacob Shul, which was founded in 1888, & the merger with the North Russell Street Shul in 1941. The later was the largest & most prominent congregation in the West End.

As the downtown community evolves, so too does The Boston Synagogue. We are open to fresh ideas & approaches, & are constantly looking for new ways to meet the needs of our growing & evolving downtown Jewish community.



Officers

Chair	Ruth Fein
Vice Chair	Susan Weingarten
President	Bette Siegel
VP/Secretary	Jeff Steinfeld
VP/Treasurer	Mark Paul
Board of Directors	
Ruth Aaron	Marshall Schribman
Gerry Kleinstein	Joel Sherman
Eugene Myerov	Howard Speicher
Shlomo Pinkas	Michael Weingarten
Historian	Muriel Kanter
Past President	Michael Weingarten

The Boston Synagogue

55 Martha Road • Boston, MA. 02114
In Charles River Park. Near Mass General,
Museum Towers, The TD Banknorth
Garden, North Station & Science Park
Green Line T

בית המדרש הגדול בית יעקב



The Boston Synagogue

**Creating a friendly & inclusive
community for Jews in downtown**

Learn • Worship • Connect

- **Welcome wherever you might be on your Jewish spiritual journey ... People of all denominations welcomed!**
- **We are the ONLY synagogue in downtown that meets every Friday, Saturday & Holidays, 52-weeks a year!**

**Traditional Transdenominational Egalitarian
With active participation by women & men**

Phone: 617.523-0453
Email: office@bostonsynagogue.org
www.bostonsynagogue.org

Our Community

Our services are warm & welcoming. Our praying is traditional in form with Hebrew & English, & the services are filled with spirit & song.

We are a participatory community, & while we are not rabbi-centered we offer a wonderful ensemble of world-class professional leadership from across the spectrum. They serve as teachers & guides, & complement the services conducted by our knowledgeable lay-leaders.

We also are delighted to have an ongoing relationship with Hebrew College & its Rabbinic & Cantorial Schools.

The Ensemble includes:

Rabbi Al Axelrad, is Chair of the Department of Spiritual Life & Adjunct Professor of Religion, Emerson College, & Chaplain at Mass Eye and Ear Hospital. 'Rabbi Al' has had an outstanding 34-year career as Brandeis University Chaplain & Hillel Director. The author of three books, Rabbi Al has long been recognized for his interest in progressive social action.

Dr. David Fishman, Chairman of the Jewish History Department at the Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS). He also serves as Director of Project Judaica, a Jewish studies program based in Moscow that is sponsored jointly by JTS, YIVO, & the Russian State University for the Humanities. He is the author of numerous books & articles on the history & culture of Eastern European Jewry, & is one of the foremost world experts on Vilna. He is with us for Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur, & also leads our community Passover Seder.

Rabbi Ebn Leader. Director at Hebrew College's Rabbinical School. He brings unusual spirituality, keen insights & warmth. He is married to Rabbi Claudia Kreiman.

Rabbi Daniel Lehmann, is the Founding Headmaster of the highly acclaimed Gann Academy – the New Jewish High School. Described as a "visionary leader" who "brings 'the big questions' concerning Jewish life to bear on discussions of educational practice," Rabbi Lehmann has not only helped to promote his vision within the walls of his school, but has also contributed to the national agenda of Jewish education through his activity as founder of the North American Association of Jewish High Schools.

Cantor Dvorah Buhr, will be joining our ensemble this year. She is on the faculty of Instructor Hebrew College's Cantorial School. She has a degree in Hazzan & Cantorial Investiture from the Jewish Theological Seminary.

Programs

This year, we are planning a variety of interesting Israeli, political as well as Judaic cultural & educational programs, to meet the interests of an evolving community. We offer a growing range of Jewish living, learning & socializing in downtown.

Check the website for the latest dates, times & updates: www.bostonsynagogue.org

Programs. Starting in Fall 2007

OCTOBER 16 AT 7:30. POLITICS & THE MIDDLE EAST, with panelists: Steven Grossman, former president of AIPAC & the Democratic National Committee & Leonard Fein, prominent author.

JEWS OF BOSTON. *Did you know that the Jewish community played a significant role in the history of Boston?* Join us as we continue to explore the rich history & contributions made by our downtown community.

NOVEMBER 26. This year, we are pleased to offer two programs in conjunction with the African American Meeting House. [Date subject to change]

This journey started in 2006, with programs, that included a walking tour, led by Michael Ross, tour guide & author of *Walks through Old Jewish Boston*; & Keith Stokes, lecturer & descendent of Judah Touro, who spoke about Colonial African & Jewish American history.

INFLUENTIAL GERMAN LITERATURE. The Boston Synagogue is co-sponsoring this series with the Goethe Institute.

This year-long seminar will be led by literary scholar, Suzanne Klingenstein, & it meets monthly at the Goethe-Institute at 170 Beacon Street, unless otherwise noted. For more information go to: www.goethe.de/ins/us/bos/wis/bib/jld/enindex.htm

AND THERE'S MORE TO COME.... WATCH FOR DATES FOR

- **AN ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM, honoring Tu B'shvat**
- **A SPRING MUSIC PROGRAM series, with students & faculty from Hebrew College**
- **& lots more**

Shabbat & Celebrations

We are creating a community for Jews in downtown Boston. Join us as we come together to create a synagogue life 52-weeks a year – for Shabbat, holidays, festive dinners, life-cycle celebrations & other communal activities.

Come & explore a new Jewish home in downtown -- with opportunities for learning & meaningful access to Jewish traditions, regardless of backgrounds!

Shabbat... we welcome your participation!

Shabbat is the cornerstone of the week. Join us for Shabbat Services every Friday evening. This traditional service runs about 45 minutes & is filled with singing & usually there is an interesting, lively interactive discussion. A transliterated version of the service makes this service accessible to all. During the Winter months, the service starts at 6:30 pm -- & 7:00 in the summer.

About every four to six weeks, we have a Shabbat Live! joyous Friday night community dinner. These Shabbats usually include one of our ensemble of Spiritual Leaders or another special guest!

On Saturday mornings, we meet at 9:30 am for Preliminary Prayers. The actual morning Shacharit Service starts at 9:45, & it runs about 2-hours.

Unlike other synagogues that offer boring sermons, we always have an interesting interactive discussion in English, while referring to Hebrew text & commentaries, following the Torah service.

Saturday morning concludes with a festive, warm & welcoming Kiddush & it has become a time when members, friends & neighbors come together to schmooze & celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, & Simchas as well as Yahrzeits.

Sunday School... from Pre-K to Bar/Bat Mitzvah

We offer a 'kid-friendly' environment during Shul times – & also through our Hebrew school. It meets on Sundays throughout the academic year.

We have a dynamic school with small classes & personalized attention. It offers students & families a high quality & innovative experience, & this year we have opened a relationship with faculty at Hebrew College.

Through age appropriate curriculum, we strive to be a place where your children can find a meaningful Jewish experience that will transcend the classroom.