

THE HISTORY

THE BEGINNING



The Jewish community has existed in Columbia since the early nineteenth century, with German Jewish settlers practicing Judaism in a synagogue they had rebuilt in 1900, after it was destroyed by General Sherman's troops in the closing days of the Civil War.

By 1907, a number of Jewish men began to gather in this small house at the corner of Park and Lady Street

to conduct Orthodox services. This small "minyan" became the House of Peace (Beth Shalom) under the leadership of the first congregational president, Philip Epstein, and received a state charter in 1912.

THE PAST



By 1928, Columbia's Jewish community was too large to be accommodated in the Park Street Synagogue and plans were made to erect a larger synagogue. On January 27, 1935, this building was built on Marion Street.

At a general meeting on April 21, 1955, the congregation approved the purchase of land on Trenholm Road to be used to build a Jewish Community Center, education building and Synagogue.

The JCC later became a separate organization and the education building (now known as Lollipop Lane Daycare) served as Sunday School, Hebrew School and Nursery School, until the current education wing was added onto the synagogue in 1980.

THE PRESENT



Ground breaking ceremonies for the new Synagogue at 5827 North Trenholm Rd., were held on December 19, 1971. The dedication of the new Synagogue we now call home was held on March 25, 1973. At a general congregational meeting held on October 31, 1976, the congregation voted to build an education building adjacent to the Synagogue. Ground breaking ceremonies were held on May 20, 1979 and the completed building was

officially dedicated on January 12, 1980. A major expansion of the education wing was built in 1999. A Mikvah was constructed adjacent to the education building in 1999.

Today our congregation has the largest membership in its history and many second and third generation Beth Shalom members have taken leadership roles within the synagogue.

Rabbi	Jonathan Case	803-782-2500
Director of Education	Risa Strauss	803-476-7487
President	Randall Stark	803-318-3719
Vice President	Jeff Silverberg	843-270-7574
Treasurer	Renee Bland	803-600-8861
Financial Secretary	James Cooper	803-446-9803

Membership:	Heidi Lovit	803-269-7400
	Renee Bland	803-600-8861

Friday Evening Service:	6:00 p.m.
Saturday Morning Service:	10 a.m.
Monday - Thursday Minyans:	6:00 p.m.

Beth Shalom Synagogue provides a comprehensive Jewish educational program for the children and youth of the congregation beginning with the early childhood years and extending through Hebrew school into middle school and high school. The young people of the congregation have the opportunity to learn about and participate in the religious traditions and culture of our people. Bar and Bat Mitzvah for boys and girls at age 13 are particularly meaningful at Beth Shalom. And the emerging teen program offers unique opportunities for further Jewish learning coupled with travel to Israel and elsewhere.

The congregation also offers a wide-ranging adult education program, including opportunities for studying Hebrew and participating in adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah classes, discussion groups, lectures on diverse topics such as Israel, Jewish holidays, and life cycle events.

For further information on any of the above, contact Risa Strauss at the synagogue at 782-2500 or 476-7487.

Religious School Days & Times
Wednesday 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

E-mail Addresses:

Rabbi Jonathan Case:	RebCase@gmail.com
Risa Strauss:	RisaStraussBSS@gmail.com
Tonya Dotson:	BethShalom.Tonya@gmail.com
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Website: www.BethShalomColumbia.org

Beth Shalom Board of Directors

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Welcome to **BETH SHALOM SYNAGOGUE**



RABBI: Jonathan Case
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION: Risa Strauss

5827 North Trenholm Road
Columbia, SC 29206
(803) 782-2500

www.BethShalomColumbia.org

Member of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.