

## **Beth Sholom Synagogue**

8231 Old York Road

Elkins Park PA 19027

[www.bethsholompreservation.org](http://www.bethsholompreservation.org)

Welcome to Beth Sholom Synagogue.

The story of the Jewish people includes the story of the 40-year journey from the land of Egypt thru the desert to the foot of Mt Sinai where the Jewish people received the Torah. Also known as the Five books of Moses – Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy.

Beth Sholom congregation was founded in 1919 following World War ONE. We choose the name Beth Sholom which translates to House of Peace. We built our first building on Broad Street in the Logan section of Philadelphia. Our congregation grew and thrived.

Our new location and this building are part of Beth Sholom's journey.

Following WWII, young families of the Jewish community began leaving Logan to move out of the city to the northern suburbs. Many of our young families choose to make Elkins Park their home. The congregation made the decision to follow its members and purchased land in the suburbs.

The building you see before you was designed by the great American Architect Frank Lloyd Wright. Completed in 1959, the design was inspired by the vision of the congregation's founding Rabbi, Mortimer J. Cohen. Cohen's vision was of a building of "simple, modern design". He wanted "the American spirit wedded to the ancient spirit of Israel". This building, reminiscent of "Mount Sinai", reflects the journey of the Jewish people and of our community.