

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**  
FEBRUARY 2017

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**  
FEBRUARY 2017

4 Adele Sacher  
4 Robert Summer  
7 Ketzie Toney



5 Iris & A. David Silverman



WELCOME ברוכים הבאים

BETH EMETH  
CONGREGATION

Aligned with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism



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**Rabbi Leo M. Abrami**

### SHABBOT BO

Written into the very structure of Hebraic consciousness is the idea that our highest duty is to seek to understand the will of God, not just to obey blindly. Why? Because we believe that intelligence is God's greatest gift to humanity. Rashi understands the phrase that God made man "in His image, after His likeness," to mean that God gave us the ability "to understand and discern." The very first of our requests in the weekday Amidah is for "knowledge, understanding and discernment."

Judaism is not a religion of blind obedience. Indeed, astonishingly, there is no Hebrew word that means "to obey". Instead of a word meaning "to obey," the Torah uses the verb *shema*, (as in 'Shema Israel') untranslatable into English because it means [1] to listen, [2] to hear, [3] to understand, [4] to internalise, and [5] to respond.

The historian Paul Johnson once wrote that rabbinic Judaism was "an ancient and highly efficient social machine for the production of intellectuals." Much of that had, and still has, to do with the priority Jews have always placed on education, schools, the Beit Midrash, religious study as an act even higher than prayer, learning as a life-long engagement, and teaching as the highest vocation of the religious life.

Isadore Rabi, winner of a Nobel Prize in physics, was once asked why he became a scientist. He replied, "My mother made me a scientist without ever knowing it. Every other child would come back from school and be asked, 'What did you learn today?' But my mother used to ask: 'Izzy, did you ask a good question today?' That made the difference. Asking good questions made me a scientist."

## SHABBAT BO

Friday Night Services - February 3, 2017

7:30 p.m.

Candle Lighting at 5:44 p.m.

The Oneg will be sponsored by the Congregation  
All are welcome

Saturday Morning Services -  
February 4, 2017 9:00 a.m.

Torah Reading

Rabbi Leo M. Abrami

Exodus 10:1-11:3 pp. 248-252

Haftarah:

Jeremiah 46:13-28 pp. 263-264

The Kiddush will be sponsored by the Congregation  
All are welcome

If anyone wants a name listed for a mishebeirach, please call the office by Wednesday of the week and the name will go into the bulletin for that week.

A prayer for healing can be said at any time and does not require a minyan. The Amidah (page 113 in Siddur Sim Shalom) shows a format that can be used: "May it be your will, Lord our God and God of our ancestors, to send perfect healing, of body and soul, to \_\_\_\_\_, along with all others who are stricken".

George Allen, Ailene Barkhoff, Ricki Dishler, Melissa Engber, Peter Gottlieb, Thomas Hannagian, Evie Martinez, Adrienne Flisser, Howard Marshall, Michael Newman, Rosalyn Podbielak, Joan Rothfeld, A. David Silverman, Marcia Turkiewicz

**We wish "Refuah Shelemah," a speedy recovery to Congregants, family and friends who are ill. We encourage you to call or visit with them and wish them well.**

**Mi Shebeirach, by Debbie Friedman**

**Mi she-bei-rach a-vo-tei-nu  
M'kor ha'bra-cha l'i-mo-tei-nu  
May the source of strength  
Who blessed the ones before us,  
Help us find the courage  
To make our lives a blessing,  
And let us say, Amen**

**Mi she-bei-rach i-mo-tei-nu  
M'kor ha-brach-cha l'a-voti-nu  
Bless those in need of healing  
With R'fu-a sh'lei-ma  
The renewal of body,  
The renewal of spirit  
And let us say,  
Amen**

Please advise Rabbi Abrami of anyone who is ill and would like to be visited. Call the office to provide details.

**Rabbi Abrami is available for counseling on  
Mondays from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.  
(by appointment).**

**The following Yahrzeits will be observed during the coming week. Kaddish may also be said on Friday Evening & Saturday morning February 3rd & February 4th, 2017.**

**El Malei Rachamim, the memorial prayer, may be said on the Monday or Thursday preceding the Yahrzeit at the 8:00 am Minyan.**

Feb.	Shevat	Deceased	Relationship	Observant
3	7	Ludolf Heidecker	Father	Andrew Heidecker
3	7	Rebecca Rich	Mother	Gerald Rich
6	10	Samuel Greenberg	Brother-in-law	Gloria Greenberg
7	11	Harriet Dubin	Sister	Eliot Kleinman
8	12	Philip Weintraub	Husband	Norma Weintraub
9	13	Toby Hochman	Mother	Rose Doyschen
10	14	Nathan Gottlieb	Father	Peggy Markowitz
10	14	Sam Lauer	Father	Gail Grossman

The Minyanaires is a dedicated group of Jewish individuals who meet on Monday and Thursday at 8:00 a.m. to pray shacharit, the morning service. Everyone is welcome, whether saying kaddish or not.

*Silence in the Sanctuary  
Even a few whispered words can destroy the  
ambiance of prayer & meditation.  
We appreciate your cooperation.*