



Beth Emeth

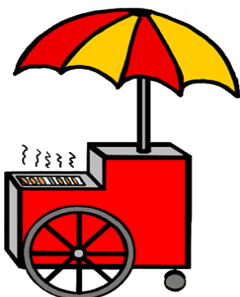
"More Than Just The Conservative Congregation of the West Valley, We Are A Community".

BETH EMETH CONGREGATION
 13702 W. Meeker Blvd., Sun City West, AZ 85375
 623-584-7210 bethemethaz@gmail.com
 www.bethemethaz.org
Rabbi Tracee Rosen

SHEVAT - ADAR ALEF 5779
FEBRUARY 2019

**GET READY FOR SOME VERY ENJOYABLE EVENTS
 THAT WE HAVE PLANNED FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT.
 PLEASE MARK YOUR
 CALENDAR TO ATTEND.
 WE WILL BE GIVING YOU BROADWAY SONGS, A
 "FORGIVING SEMINAR",
 SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA, PURIM PARTY AND
 OF COURSE, KOSHER HOT DOG DAY.**

**Broadway Songs
 by Jewish Composers**
 Composers include Irving Berlin, Jerome Kern, Richard Rodgers, Jule Stein, Leonard Bernstein and others. Songs you know and love from Broadway Shows of our generation.



**PURIM COSTUME
 PARTY**

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SABBATH CANDLE LIGHTING

FEBRUARY

1 5:41
8 5:48
15 5:55
22 6:01

**Volume 2019
 Number 40**

Our President 2019

February thoughts from your president:

While having a delicious piece of Belgium chocolate, I realized that life is like a box of chocolates.

All shapes and sizes vary.

A. Fillings may be sweet, or tart.

B. Not everyone likes the same flavors.

C. Opinions vary about Milk or Dark.

D. Some people do not like chocolate.

E. If you don't read the labels, all chocolate is calorie and fat free.



I understand and consider everyone's opinion, and they are entitled to voice that opinion. What I take offense too, is how that opinion is relayed. I personally don't take negativity well. No matter how a person feels, that opinion should be given in a constructive way. I hope that in the future, please think before making a comment that might hurt someone's feelings.

January's Musical Shabbat was lovely and delicious. I thank you all for attending and staying for Shabbat services. Leah Tarnor and Sonia Marshall gave up much of their time to come and help all week long. I also thank everyone who offered their time. I can't thank them enough. Ketzi & Natalie baked delicious Parve desserts to have with our tea after services. Our duo of Rabbi Tracee and Sid Engel was most enjoyable.

March is the time for Spring cleaning, remember the indoor yard sale. We sold a lot of tools, tables, dishes, and unusual items. If you are leaving for the summer, please consider bringing in your treasures before you leave.

Last, but certainly not least is the success of our West Valley Film Festival. Irene Lehrer, Harry Newman, Ketzi Toney, and their committee viewed many videos before choosing the ones that we saw. Ketzi and Irene spent many hours preparing the food and we all agree what a great job they continue to do. Many thanks to you. Also, thanks to our sponsors for their donations to help keep this wonderful venue open for our West Valley community.

Shalom, Marilyn Newberg

FROM THE DESK OF RABBI TRACEE ROSEN



The mysterious Jewish calendar

Anytime we get together and discuss the timing of the Jewish holidays, someone always says, “Oh, the holidays are so early this year. Chanukah came at the beginning of December.” Or, “I can’t believe how late Pesach is next year. It lasts until the end of April.” Why do our holidays move around during the year, and how do they figure this all out in advance? Here’s a quick explanation.

Since the dawn of history, ancient people had a concept of the month based on observing the stages of the moon in the night sky. The moon cycles from new to full back to new again every 29 ½ days. So in order to count full days, each month could be either 29 or 30 days long. In biblical Israel, the new month was declared by witness who testified to a court in Jerusalem about the time of the observed new moon, and its position in the sky. 12 of these months added up to 354 (12 x 29.5) days, and that is the length of the lunar calendar.

As you can see, a lunar calendar is 11 ¼ days short of the solar calendar. That means, left to its own devices, Rosh Hashanah on the first of Tishrei, could happen one year on September 23. On the following year, it would be September 12, and the following year on September 1. Those dates seem reasonable. But three years after that, we would be celebrating Rosh Hashanah at the beginning of August, and in 10 more years, Rosh Hashanah would occur in May. Ridiculous, we think. But there are calendars that do just that. The Islamic calendar is a purely lunar calendar, and their sacred days float throughout the solar year.

For us, though, our 2 main pilgrimage festivals have always been tied to specific seasons. Passover MUST occur in the spring at the beginning of the barley harvest, with Shavuot following at the time of the first wheat harvest, and Sukkot must happen in the fall when we gather the bounties of the fall harvest. So a purely lunar calendar never worked for the Jewish people.

Instead, the rabbis of old, would check for certain signs of the coming of spring, right around this time of year. Like the groundhog in American culture, if the buds were not yet appearing on the branches, and the flocks were not far enough along in their pregnancies, the rabbis would declare a “*shanah m’uberet*,” a “pregnant” year, or a leap year, where an extra 30-day month of Adar would be added, in order to push the calendar back to the correct seasons.

This month we add in the 30-day leap month of Adar I. It means we have an extra month until we celebrate Purim in Adar II, and Pesach in Nisan. Enjoy these extra 30 days, and remember, that whenever the holidays come during the solar calendar, they are always right on time on the Hebrew calendar.

Be happy, it’s Adar and Adar!

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2 HOURS!!!

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Jan Rittmaster, Patricia Hundley and
Bob Collins on Sunday, February 17th,
2019 at 2:00 p.m.

Beth Emeth Congregation
13702 W. Meeker Blvd., S.C.W, 623-584-7210

TICKETS ARE \$18 IN ADVANCE; \$20 AT DOOR
RSVP BY FEBRUARY 14TH, 2019

11 Reasons Why We Don't Forgive Others, and Overcoming Them. **All In A Few Hours!**

Forgiving is one of the most difficult decisions a human being can make in their lifetime. Is there someone in your life who you cannot forgive?

WHY?

Learn the answer to this question and many other important questions by attending this special presentation conducted by Robert Corbin.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:



Rob Corbin began conducting programs on forgiveness shortly after losing his father to suicide in June of 2008. With the tragic death of his father, Rob had a realization of a truth that he never confronted in his own life. The truth of accepting that he had been living a life filled with anger, resentment and bitterness towards his dad for the extreme discipline he experienced at the tender age of 6 years old. The truth hit hard. He was living in an emotional cage for 46 years – and by his own choice! This choice resulted in pain and he was never able to find peace or forgive his father until it was too late.

While the death of his father was tragic, at that moment Rob's life took on a new purpose. Rob embraced the need and desire to learn and share with others how to forgive. To forgive both ourselves, and others is powerful, and forgiving is a decision we are free to make at any time.

**Thursday, February 14, 2019 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Donation \$10.00
Beth Emeth Congregation 13702 W. Meeker Blvd. SCW 85374
SPACE IS LIMITED R.S.V.P. TODAY 623-584-7210 www.bethemethaz.org**

**It takes two to hurt
But Just ONE to FORGIVE**



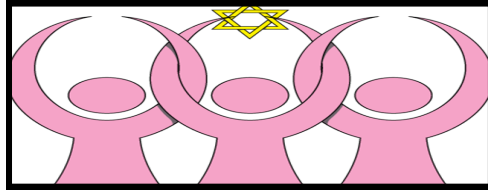
Due to personal reasons, Sandy has resigned her position effective immediately.

Sandy has been the backbone of the Shul for many years and we want to thank her for all the hard work that she done for us.

Musical Shabbat Dinner January 11, 2019



SISTERHOOD



SISTERHOOD PURIM BASKET ORDER FORM

Write your name as you would like it to appear on the gift cards for the baskets you are ordering. Please write the names of the families who are to RECEIVE the baskets.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

If additional space is needed - Please attach another sheet.

Total number of baskets @ \$4.00/\$3.50 (10 or more)



\$ _____ = TOTAL

**RETURN THIS FORM TO THE SYNAGOGUE OFFICE
ATTENTION: Marilyn Newberg
WITH YOUR CHECK
(MADE PAYABLE TO: BETH EMETH SISTERHOOD)
by Friday, March 8 , 2019.**



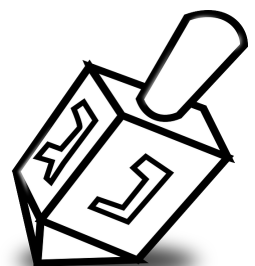
COME AND SHOP



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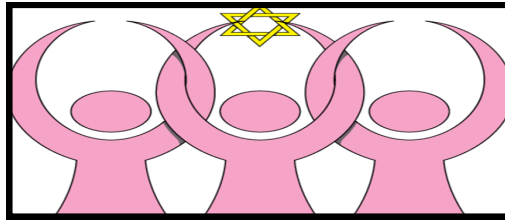
30% OFF ALL ITEMS (except kosher scrolls)
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SISTERHOOD



BETH EMETH CONGREGATION UPDATE MEN'S CLUB & SISTERHOOD

The Boards of both Men's and Sisterhood have voted that all members of Beth Emeth Congregation are also members of either Men's' Club or Sisterhood without paying additional dues. We have taken this action so that all can more easily partake in the many great activities and Fund Raisers scheduled by Beth Emeth Congregation this year. Men's Club will still have the Cactus Hot Dog Days and Sisterhood will continue to do the Purim Baskets. The difference will be in that we hope that members and other volunteers or nonmembers will be active and join in the enterprises . It is a way to meet people and become involved.

Alice Mason, Gene Cooper , and Norm Kurtz

BETH EMETH HAVARAH APPLICATION

New Beth Emeth Member Havurah Groups will be Forming. Chavurot are small groups of Congregation members which usually meet once a month in each others homes. Members decide when to meet and select where events take place. The group runs itself and each group usually chooses a coordinator. Everyone takes turns planning events. Groups are usually 8-12 people depending on size of home.

If you are interested, please fill out application and we will start putting groups together. One application per household.

Name #1

Name #2

Address

Email #1

Phone #

Email #2

Phone #

INTERESTS

Social

Museums

Dining Out

Holiday

Theater

Movies

Concerts

Shabbat Dinners

Pot Lucks

Other Ideas

PURIM COSTUME PARTY

**It is that time of year again.
Hamantaschen,
Groggers, Costumes
And let's not forget the
reading of the
Megillah.**



PRIZES!!

**Please join us on March 20th, 2019 at
6:30 p.m. for the start of our Purim
service, costume contest and of course,
hamantaschen for dessert.**



PRIZES!!



Dear Member

This is a gentle reminder that if you haven't paid your 2019 dues, please bring them to the office or by mail. If you have paid them, thank you.

I hope to see all of you at our functions, services, and min-yans. We have so much going on at Beth Emeth, so please read your Observer. If you have any ideas for programs and classes, let me know.

We are actively looking for someone to replace Sandy. In the mean time, we are looking for volunteers to help answer the phones for a few hours a day. The synagogue cannot function on its own, we must work as a team. I am counting on all of us. Thank you.

Marilyn Newberg

HELP !





Join us as the West Valley welcomes
Valley Beit Midrash for another
season of Jewish learning.



**Beth Emeth Congregation
of the West Valley**
13702 W Meeker Blvd
Sun City West, AZ 85375



**JEWISH
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GROUP**

Jewish Worship Group
Surprise Hampton Inn
14783 West Grand
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85374

**West Valley Programs
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**JEWS ON THE BIG SCREEN:
UNDERSTANDING NEW
ISRAELI FILM AND TELEVISION**

Professor Shai Secunda
Thursday, October 18 | 11 PM
Jewish Worship Group



**SONGS OF GENERATIONS;
JEWISH HISTORY THROUGH
YIDDISH SONG**

Rabbi Auram Mlotek
Monday, November 5 | 1 PM
Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley



**THE HEROIC ESCAPE TO JAPAN
AND CHINA DURING THE
HOLOCAUST- THE FUGU PLAN!**

Rabbi Marvin Tokayer
Tuesday, December 4 | 1 PM
Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley



**SHE WHO DWELLS WITHIN:
SHECHINAH, THE FEMININE
FACE OF GD IN TORAH,
MYSTICISM, AND OUR WORLD**

Rabbi Dr. Tirzah Firestone
Monday, January 21 | 1 PM
Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley



**THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ELIE
WIESEL: A STUDENT'S
PERSPECTIVE**

Rabbi Dr. Ariel Burger
Monday, February 4 | 7 PM
Jewish Worship Group



**A LAND OF TWO PEOPLES:
MARTIN BUBER AND BI-
NATIONALISM IN PALESTINE**

Professor Sam Brody
Monday, March 25 | 1 PM
Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley

Panel Discussion featuring Rabbi Tracee Rosen



**JEWISH LITERACY:
THE IMPORTANCE OF
THE PAGE**

Panelists Rabbi Micah Caplan of
Congregation Or Tzion, Rabbi Tracee Rosen
of Beth Emeth Congregation of the West
Valley, and Suzanne Swift of the Jewish
Book Council. Facilitated by local author,
Judy Laufer.

**Wednesday, January 30
7PM | Temple Chai**

**Suggested donation:
\$18 per event**

**Register online:
www.valleybeitmidrash.org**

**Season Passes available:
VIPs, individuals, couples,
and young professionals**

Valley Beit Midrash is a collaborative organization that brings new, exciting, and relevant Jewish programs
to the Greater Phoenix Jewish community in a diverse, welcoming, engaging, and pluralistic setting.
www.ValleyBeitMidrash.org



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1/3 mile North of R.H. Johnson on Meeker Blvd.



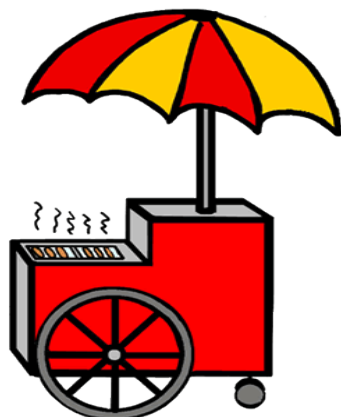
CACTUS KOSHER
HOT DOG DAY
SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2019
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



1/4 Pound Hebrew National Hot Dog

Can of Soda, Chips & Condiments all for
\$5.00

ALL ARE WELCOME, BRING YOUR
SPOUSE, YOUR FRIENDS AND
NEIGHBORS



Birthdays & Anniversaries

FEBRUARY 2019

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

4 *Arthur Forster*
4 *Adele Sacher*
4 *Robert Summer*
7 *Ketzie Toney*
13 *Geri Cooper*
19 *Norman Weintraub*
20 *Wendy Engel*
22 *Arnie Becker*
22 *Rabbi Tracee Rosen*
23 *Gene Cooper*

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

5 *A. David & Iris Silverman*



**A great big thank you to everyone for making this
film festival such a huge success.**

**A special thanks to my co-chair Harry Newman and his wife Barbara
for all of their help. Also a special thanks to Ketzie Toney for her
baking, refreshments and organizational help. The kitchen staff and
clean up crew were exceptional.**

Irene Lehrer



“Turn an ordinary Friday night into something extraordinary!”

On Friday night, March 1, 2019, hundreds of synagogues across the continent will take part in an historic national Jewish event to celebrate what unifies all Jews — Shabbat! Everyone is invited... singles, couples, families — all ages.

That’s the magic of Shabbat Across America and Shabbat Across Canada. By participating in this continent-wide event, you will not only have the opportunity to experience Shabbat, but you will be sharing your experience with tens of thousands of Jews across North America.

No matter what your affiliation or which Shabbat Across America or Shabbat Across Canada location you choose to attend, NJOP’s annual Shabbat program will give you a “taste” of Shabbat.

Shabbat services, traditional rituals, delicious meals, beautiful music and lively discussions. These are all important components of the Shabbat experience, as well as the opportunity to spend the evening with like-minded people, friends and family.

PLEASE JOIN THE CONGREGATION FOR A SPECIAL DINNER AT 5:00 P.M., RIGHT BEFORE THE START OF OUR NEW BI-MONTHLY MUSICAL SHABBAT FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE. EXPERIENCE DAIRY MEDITERRANEAN DISHES FOR EVERYONE WITH DESSERT FOLLOWING THE SERVICE. PAYMENT AND RESERVATIONS BY FEBRUARY 22, 2019 ARE A MUST! \$10 BEC MEMBERS/\$12 NON-MEMBERS.



Find comfort in our garden. It is tranquil in design and in harmony with its natural surroundings. The Biblical Garden is a quiet haven in which to find solace and to rejoice in life.

We welcome your participation in enhancing our garden through your generous contributions to honor, remember, or celebrate a simcha.

An appropriate plaque acknowledging your gift will be placed on the DONOR WALL in the lobby of the synagogue.

Suggested dedicated items

*Trees\$500
Shrubs\$300
Bulbs, Perennials, and
seasonal flower displays..... \$250*

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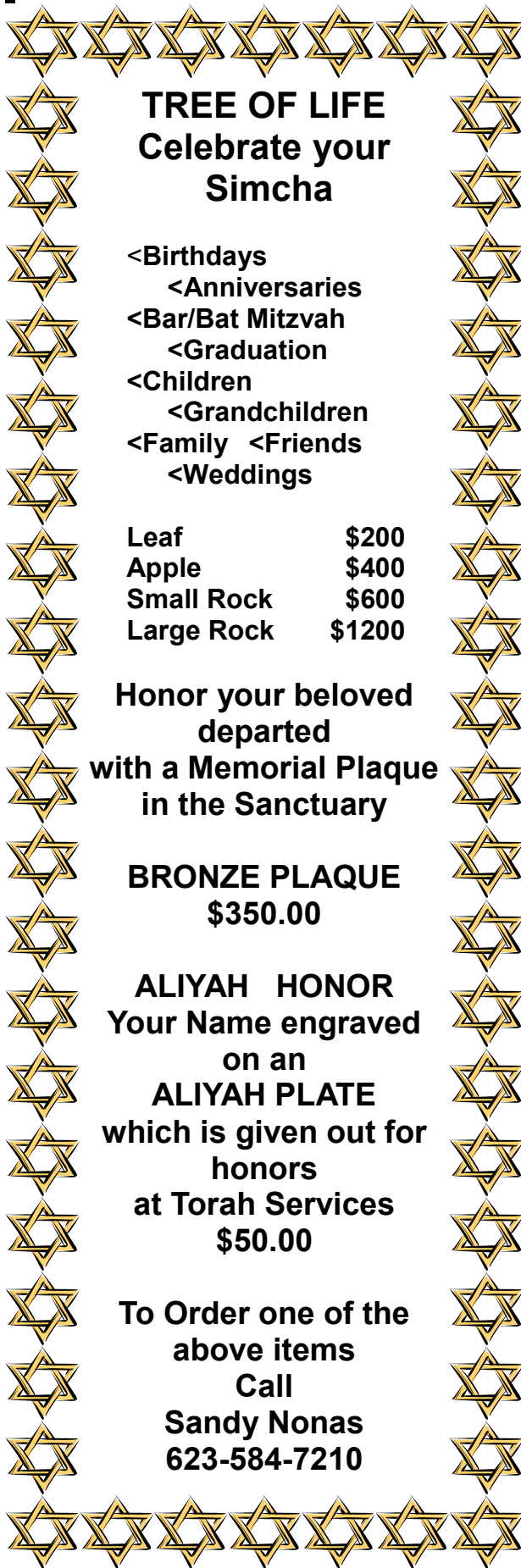
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on an
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which is given out for
honors
at Torah Services
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above items
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CALENDAR OF REGULAR
EVENTS

(Exceptions do happen, so please
check)

- **Executive & Board Meeting**
3rd Friday of each month -
10:30 a.m.
- **Minyan**
Mondays & Thursdays - 8:00 a.m.
- **Friday Evening Services -**
6:30 p.m.
- **Saturday Morning Services**
9:00 a.m.

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Mgr/Owner: Sylvia Choy

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MONTHLY RATE IS FIXED AT MOVE-IN AND WILL NOT INCREASE.

**ALL SERVICES AND SUPPLIES ARE
INCLUDED EXCEPT PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES.**

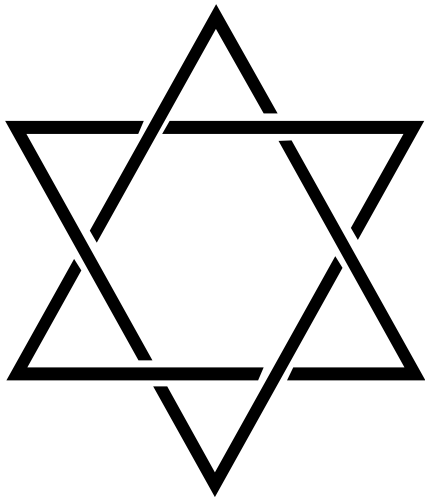
Jewish Family and Children's Service (JFCS)

Ellie Schwartzberg of Jewish Family and Children's Service (JFCS) offers individual counseling, referral to appropriate resources and advocacy to Jewish people living in the Sun Cities and surrounding communities.

This is a free program underwritten by the Jewish Federation. Ellie has a Master's degree in counseling from ASU and has been at JFCS for the past 32 years working with an older population. She is currently the Vice President of Geriatric Services at JFCS. Ellie offers this program at the Sun Cities Community Services Building on Tuesdays (9451 N. 99th Ave. Sun City) and at Beth Emeth Synagogue (13702 W. Meeker, Sun City West) on Thursdays. Counseling addresses such issues as coping with bereavement and loss, caregiving stress, long term planning and decision making, adjustment to chronic health problems, loss of independence, depression, couples' issues, communication and problem solving with adult children, etc.

Ellie facilitates a Bereavement Support Group at Beth Emeth Congregation every Thursday from 1:00-2:00 PM. This group is open to anyone who has lost a spouse or significant other within the past two years.

Please call Ellie Schwartzberg at **602-452-4660** for more information or to make an appointment.



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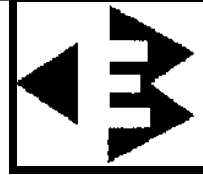


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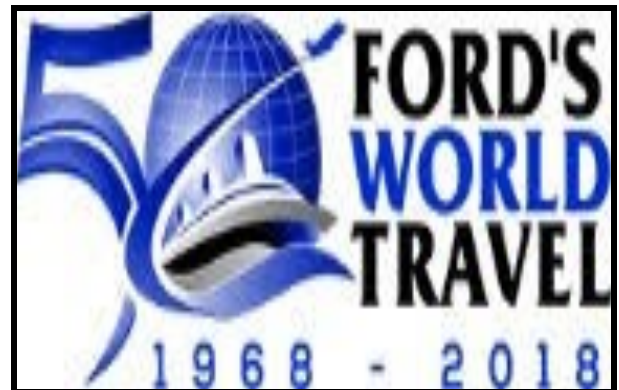
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February 2019
26 Shevat 5779 - 23 Adar I 5779

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Services 6:30 p.m. 26 Shevat	2 Services 9:00 a.m. 27 Shevat
3 28 Shevat	4 Minyan 8:00 a.m. 29 Shevat	5 ROSH HODESH I 30 Shevat	6 ROSH HODESH II BJE West Valley 2019 Classes First Hour 9:30-10:30 a.m. Second Hour 10:40 0 11:40 a.m. 1 Adar I	7 Minyan 8:00 a.m. Rabbi's Class Hidden Secrets 10:30-11:30 a.m. Bereavement 1:00 p.m. 2 Adar I	8 Services 6:30 p.m. 3 Adar I	9 Services 9:00 a.m. 4 Adar I
10 5 Adar I	11 Minyan 8:00 a.m. 6 Adar I	12 7 Adar I	13 8 Adar I	14 Minyan 8:00 a.m. Rob Corbin "Who Forgiving" 12:30-3:30 pm. Bereavement 1:00 p.m. 9 Adar I	15 Services 6:30 p.m. Exec. & Directors Board Mtg. 10:30 a.m. 10 Adar I	16 Services 9:00 a.m. 11 Adar I
17 Broadway Songs by Jewish Composers 2:00 p.m. 12 Adar I	18 Minyan 8:00 a.m. 13 Adar I	19 PURIM KATAN I 14 Adar I	20 PURIM KATAN II PURIM COSTUME PARTY & SERVICES 6:30 P.M. 15 Adar I	21 Minyan 8:00 a.m. Rabbi's Class Hidden Secrets 10:30-11:30 a.m. Bereavement 1:00 p.m. 16 Adar I	22 Services 6:30 p.m. 17 Adar I	23 Services 9:00 a.m. 18 Adar I
24 19 Adar I	25 Minyan 8:00 a.m. 20 Adar I	26 21 Adar I	27 22 Adar I	28 Minyan 8:00 a.m. Bereavement 1:00 p.m. 23 Adar I		

[Candle Lighting, Observance End, Printed January 29, 2019/23 Shevat 5779 for Phoenix, AZ]

Our logo is a Shield of David made up of a calligraphic interpretation of the Hebrew initials of the Congregation, BETH EMETH, which means House of Truth.



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8:00 am - 12:00 Wednesday
Thursday 8:00 am - 2:00 pm**

Or Current Resident

THE OBSERVER

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