



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

ELUL 5777 - TISHREI SIVAN 5778

OCTOBER 2017

Inside this issue

President's Message	2 & 3
Rabbi Tracee Rosen	4 & 5
Sisterhood	8
Men's Club	9
Donations, Birthdays	10,11
Anniversaries	
Calendar	23

SABBATH CANDLE LIGHTING

October

6	5:47
13	5:38
20	5:30
27	5:23

Volume 2017
Number 26



A Jewish festival beginning on the 15th day of the month of Tishri and celebrated for nine days by Conservative Jews outside of Israel. We celebrate the harvest and commemorate the period during which the Jews wandered in the wilderness after the Exodus, marked by the building of Sukkoth.

From Our President 2017



Marilyn Newberg

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE;

I believe in miracles. I believe that Hashem is in everything we see, or feel. The beautiful Arizona sunset, to marvel at the magnificent flowers that bloom on a desert cactus, and the birth of something as fragile as a baby hummingbird, and the evolution of ones' mind.

As we approach the new year of 5778, I have to believe that Beth Emeth will flourish, and once again be the center of the West Valley Community. I have always been a Pollyanna, finding the good in everyone or everything.

So often in our past, and even today, Jews have been the brunt of ridicule, anger, and hatred. WE SURVIVED over millenniums. Where other nations rise and fall, Jews remain vital, they pull up their sleeves and go to work to help redeem the world. Our faith in G-D, and hope for humanity makes us stronger than any one person or country.

This year and many others to follow, I want to wish you a Happy & Healthy New YEAR to you, your family, and friends.

I hope that our numbers grow as well as our strength.

Shalom, Marilyn Newberg

.

Wishing you a special year filled with gladness, hope, and strength...
Marilyn & Bob Newberg.

President's Message:

I remember going to a jewelry store, and they had tanks filled with oysters. When I approached the sales person, she asked if I would like to open an oyster and see if there was a pearl inside. Lucky for me, there was a beautiful pearl with a soft pink shade.

What we have at Beth Emeth is a pearl, a rare and beautiful pearl. Rabbi Rosen is our one in a million gem. Whoever attended the High Holiday services, saw that gem. We have not even begun to tap the shell that holds this wonderful pearl.

If you would attend our Friday, Saturday and minyan services, you will know what I mean. I personally, cannot wait until her bi-monthly classes begin. Come, be a part of our community and you too will want to hold that gem.

Shalom,

Marilyn Newberg

Ladies and Gentlemen

We Are Looking for Morning *Minyan* Attendees

You don't need an appointment or a reservation

"These are the deeds that man reaps benefit from the fruits thereof...rising early to attend the house of study...matters of prayer" (*Gemara, SHABBAT 127a*). The morning *minyan* (8:00 am) is in need of support. Please consider committing to one morning a month to help bolster our morning/mourning minyan in a time of need. Morning minyans are held every Monday and Thursday mornings.

Begin your day by exercising your spirit as well as body! Consider bringing a group and going out for breakfast after A Minyan. Whatever it takes, please be there. If every member of our Congregation will begin attending one Monday or Thursday a month this request will not have to be repeated.

Dear Beth Emeth Community Members,

Thank you so much for welcoming me so warmly into your midst. I am very excited to begin my tenure as your rabbi, and look forward to many opportunities to meet, study, pray, and shmooze with all of you. As I begin my service at our shul, many of you may be wondering, “what’s going to be different, what’s going to be new?” Or maybe, “will it still be the Beth Emeth I already love?” While I will be exploring these topics in more depth through my sermons at the High Holy Days, I want to offer you the main points of the vision that guides me in my rabbinate:

1, Jews need other Jews to be Jewish.

There are thousands of Jewish people living in the West Valley, especially in retirement communities. While many associate with their local Shalom clubs for social and cultural activities, many are open to a deeper and more spiritual connections. We need to be able to offer them those connections in a welcoming and inclusive environment.

As recent events have demonstrated, the Jewish community today needs to come together and be strong in the face of rising antisemitism, racism, bigotry, hatred, and violence. Our congregation will proactively provide a strong and united voice against these forces of evil that are beginning to emerge into the public sphere. We will join together with other like-minded faith communities to counter messages of hate. We will respond, not with fear, but with strength and pride in the core values of our country which have been enshrined in law. And we invite all of you to link your voices with ours in proclaiming these messages.

2. A synagogue is more than a building. It is the people who congregate there.

My main goal in my first year as your rabbi is to get to know each and every one of you as individuals. After the High Holy Days, I will be reaching out to every member over the course of the year to get together for coffee, lunch, or something else, just to get to know you. It won’t be a fundraising pitch or some kind of hidden agenda. I just want to meet you and learn your story. I find that I can be a better rabbi when I personally know you. If you are a member who is no longer able to physically come to services, I would love to be able to pay a visit and get to know you, especially. So, if you get a call from me, please respond, and if you want to meet sooner, please feel free to call the office or email me.

3. We are stewards of a legacy that was passed down to us.

The founders of Beth Emeth Congregation had a dream of creating and sustaining a vibrant Jewish community in the West Valley. We have a responsibility to be faithful stewards of the property and the community they passed down to us. That means carefully balancing the traditions we have received as well as reimagining what a vital and dynamic future for the congregation can look like. We will proudly maintain our traditions based on the precepts of Conservative Judaism, but we will also explore together opportunities for creating a more inviting place that will warmly welcome and embrace newcomers and those who seek to return.

4. relish chances to teach:

Continued

- . Being Jewish involves a commitment to lifelong learning.

I have a great passion for teaching, and find so much richness in our heritage that I love sharing with others. If you come regularly on Shabbat mornings you might already know this. As a result,

- after Thursday morning minyan, we are learning one *mishnah* (section) of Pirkei Avot (The Ethics of the Sages) for about 10 minutes after each service. It is an amazing collection of very early (circa 200 C.E.) ethical teachings of the early rabbis.
- Shabbat mornings we enjoy a lively discussion of some aspect of the weekly Torah reading. This usually starts around 11:00 am.
- After the holidays, I will begin a bi-weekly class on Pivotal Points in Jewish History, examining key moments that led to Jewish survival for over 3,500 years. Stay tuned for details.
- Separately, I will begin at least one group in the West Valley of a program called "Wise Aging." This is an amazing program created by the Institute for Jewish Spirituality that is being run nation-wide which helps people from their 50s to their 90s reframe the meaning and purpose of their post-retirement years. I have been certified as a facilitator, and look forward to sharing this combination of Jewish wisdom and mindfulness practices. You don't have to be a synagogue member or even Jewish to participate.
- People in our community who are interested in pursuing a path leading to conversion to Judaism should contact me directly.

If there are specific topics that you are interested in, I will be happy to pull together a class.

As we God-willing grow in our membership, and I am able to add hours, I will have more time for more teaching and more visiting.

Once again, thank you for your welcome and your support. Only with your help will we be able to rebuild Beth Emeth into the vision its founders held for it and for all of us.

On behalf of Keren, Tali, and myself, I wish you a *Shanah Tovah Umetukah*, a good new year, a sweet year, a year of health, prosperity, and peace for us and for the world,

Rabbi Tracee Rosen

ROLL CALL!!!

Break the fast had a lovely menu.... We had lox, bagels, cream cheese, hard boiled eggs, fruit, Evelyn Walter's honey cake, coffee, a most delicious noodle pudding, and friends to share it with.... What we did not have is ANYONE ASKING IF WE NEEDED HELP CLEANING UP.

We need you.... Not only in the kitchen, what about putting out or help putting away the High Holiday books, Onegs, Kiddush's. checking in our guests, making phone calls to people who are unable to attend our services or may need just a call to say hello. When you start thinking about all the opportunities you have to help Beth Emeth, you will come up with something you can do.

Let's all pitch in so no one or two are doing all the work.

I wish to thank everyone who made our High Holiday services a huge success. By everyone, I mean all of you. Except for a *few minor* problems, the services went smoothly. Just listening to all the voices singing our prayers put such a warmth in my heart. Looking out and seeing so many old and new friends, I know that Beth Emeth will thrive and be around for many years.

Thank you, a hundred and twenty times goes to our fantastic office manager, who after a wonderful summer vacation, came back to needing octopus arms to get everything ready for us.

How great was it to hear the sounding of the shofar from not only one but two at the same time. Next year, let's have 4 or 5 more people all around the room. Keren, you did a great job. You should have seen the faces on our members, they were in awe listening to both you and Talli.

I usually don't list names of people who helped with the services, however, I must thank Irv Glorit for time served. Many times he is at shul 5 a.m. and can stay the entire day. His jobs are endless, and never a negative word.

Norma Weintraub has been pitching in and doing Friday night services, before the rabbi came on board and whenever she is needed. I know that your heart and soul are always with Beth Emeth.

Nelson Magedman has become a pillar of strength on the bema. Doesn't matter how many aches and pains he has, he always does a splendid job. He and Joe Sontag studied haftorahs, getting and making sure that the portions in the torah are ready for the rabbi. I don't think that Joe has ever missed a minyan. I wish both of them good health in the coming years ahead.

Once again I wish to acknowledge my husband Bob for knowing how much this building means to me, and applauding the work that I do.

Of course, I couldn't leave without saying a special thank you to my BIG sister, Rhoda, who is constantly working for the benefit of Beth Emeth. She orders the challahs every week, makes sure that we have a lovely Kiddush, directs our congregants and guests when on the bema and many more mitzvots out of the kindness of her heart. She has been doing the book of remembrance for several years, and let me say that it's a job that most would not want to do.

Last, however, not least, is my amazing board. This year will be a winning one for all of us. Shalom to everyone,
Marilyn Newberg

L' Shanah Tovah

Hoping to see everyone at Beth Emeth for the coming Holidays and Shabbat.

Looking forward to Rabbi Rosen conducting services and classes. She is a gifted scholar and brings back the spirit of what Shabbat Services should be.

If you can, we will need help putting up the Sukkot. During the year we need people to do the Haftorah. Please let me know your availability. Looking forward to our members attending Minyan on Monday and Thursday mornings. Thank you.

Rhoda Lessner, Ritual Chairperson

What are you waiting for??? Join us for our services. Minyan prayers are Monday & Thursdays at 8 a.m.

Friday night services will be held at 6:30 p.m. and Saturday morning services begin at 9 a.m.

Our brilliant Rabbi Tracee Rosen, will amaze you at her knowledge on and off the Bema. I can't wait for her to start her bi-monthly classes. After Thursdays' minyan, rabbi will be in her office or teaching a class. If you wish to see the rabbi for personal conversations, please make an appointment with her. Rabbi's door is always open should you wish to chat.

If you have a topic that you think would make a terrific class, let us know.

Marasha Tikvah (Guess Who)





Back by popular demand

CACTUS KOSHER HOT DOG DAY

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2017



11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



1/4 Pound Hebrew National Hot Dog
Can of Soda, Chips & Condiments for \$5.00
**ALL ARE WELCOME, BRING YOUR SPOUSE,
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Birthdays & Anniversaries

October 2017

HAPPY BIRTHDAY OCTOBER 2017

- 1 Linda Zeigler
- 7 Nelson Magedman
- 9 Andrew Heidecker
- 12 Cheryl Bookman
- 12 Ann Goldfarb
- 21 Roberta Warshawsky
- 28 Myron Perlmutter
- 31 Sy Klein



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY & MANY MORE BLESSINGS

- 16 Ivan & Helen Schreiber



Beth Emeth Congregation Tribute Cards & Donations

Beth Emeth Congregation wishes to thank all those listed below for their generous donations to our Congregation. Their thoughtfulness & consideration is greatly appreciated.

**CC's Adult Care Two Inc. Rosie Colbert
CC's Adult Care Two Inc. Silvia Choy**

**Thank you kindly for your donations and
support for Beth Emeth**



It is with great sadness that I must let you know that Howard Marshall has passed away. Howard was a very special and funny man that was a member of Beth Emeth and a Board Member for many years. He will be missed. Sending love to his wife Sonia Marshall.

NEW FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE TIME

At the request of many members, we are changing our Friday night service start time to 6:30 p.m., starting on October 6, 2017. This will allow people the opportunity to either eat dinner early or after services if they prefer. Services will be finished by 7:45 - 8:00 pm, so it will also accommodate those who want to be home earlier in the evening. Periodically, we hope to be able to hold a dinner in the shul before services, or special extended onegs afterwards. Stay tuned to the Observer and our website for more details. We are also looking into holding periodic special musical Shabbat services on selected Friday nights.



#87148058

Yahzeit Donations

Eugene & Geri Cooper
Martin Debber
Sheldon & Judith Koven
Norman Kurtz
Peggy Markowitz
Ronald Paul
Bernard Rosen
Saul & Sharon Rothzeit
Efrem & Elaine Schwartz
Celia Weissbuch
Marion Wolf

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Abraham Cohen
Evelyn Dolins
Rose Doyschen
Irv Glorit
Gloria Greenberg
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Elliot & Brenda Kleinman
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Norman Kurtz
Nelson & Kat Magedman
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Gilbert & Betty Weller
Marion Wolf
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SISTERHOOD

2017—2018 Calendar All Are Welcome

No Meeting in Oct. due to Holidays.

Nov. 9, 2017 1:00 PM

Rabbi Tracee Rosen

Learn about the first woman rabbi in the USA.



Dec. 14 , 2017 1:00 PM

Trivia Pursuit A fun day

Jan. 11, 2018 11:30 AM

Luncheon & Game Day



Feb. 8, 2018 1:00 PM

Stretch with Ketzi



Mar. 8, 2018 11:30AM

Paid-up Membership Luncheon Program TBA

May 10, 2018 1:00 PM

Ice Cream Social Program TBA



Special Presentation

**BETH EMETH CONGREGATION • SUN CITY WEST, AZ
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“11 Reasons Why We Don’t Forgive Ourselves and Others, and How to Overcome Each One”

OCTOBER 24th, 2017 • 1:00 PM

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



WHY?????

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

To reserve your seats for this very special presentation, please call the Temple:

(623) 584-7210





New Class - Pivotal Points in Jewish History -

Starts October 19, 2017

What's the secret to the survival of the Jewish people? For over 3,500 years, we have experienced persecutions, expulsions, inquisitions and crusades. How has this ragtag group of wandering people managed to survive and retain its own identity through it all?

There are no easy answers to these questions, but we can look at certain major events in history that were pivotal in ensuring the survival of the Jews, from the Exodus from Egypt, the destruction of the First Temple, Jewish migration to other lands, and many more.

In 15 class sessions we will explore these selected events. Each class is a standalone topic, but you won't want to miss any.

Classes will run from 10:30-11:30 am on the first and third Thursdays of each month, starting on October 19.

This class is open to everyone, so please invite a friend or two. Classes are free for Beth Emeth members. A donation is requested from others.

**Please RSVP your attendance to Sandy in the office
623-584-7210.**

"Old age is not a defeat, but a victory, not a punishment but a privilege. The test of a people is how it behaves toward the old . . . man's potential for change and growth is much greater than we are willing to admit and old age (can) be regarded not as the age of stagnation but as the age of opportunities for inner growth."

– Abraham Joshua Heschel

Wise Aging

Living with JOY, RESILIENCE, & SPIRIT



Rabbi Rachel Cowan
&
Dr. Linda Thal

We are proud to bring **WISE AGING** to our community!

Explore the tools and resources to age wisely through the lens of Jewish wisdom. Learn positive ways to navigate the transition to your next chapter on life's journey and find meaning and joy in a post-retirement identity.

Based on the book, "Wise Aging", by Rabbi Rachel Cowan and Dr. Linda Thal, and with trained facilitators, this series of interactive discussions offers opportunities for meaningful conversations.

Prior participant comments:

"I looked at my legacy and life with new eyes and it gives me a source of pleasure";

"I see myself as a contributor, as a whole person"

"We've know each other for 25 years, but not like this."

**Wise Aging groups are forming now in the West Valley,
facilitated by Rabbi Tracee Rosen.**

Introductory four sessions will be held bi-weekly from November 3 through December 15. If the participants want, the group will continue meeting throughout the year. (This group is designed for full-year residents. If you are interested in forming a group for "snow birds," please contact Rabbi Rosen directly).

Dates: November 3, 17, December 1, 15 (First and third Fridays of the month), 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Cost: \$60 for four sessions. Participants must also purchase the *Wise Aging* book (shown above) ahead of the first meeting.

Open to: Anyone 50-90 years old

Location: Private home

For more information, contact Rabbi Tracee Rosen at rabbitracee@gmail.com or register on-line at www.bjephoenix.org

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seasonal flower displays \$250

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 623-584-7210**

CALENDAR OF REGULAR EVENTS

(EXCEPTIONS DO HAPPEN, SO
 PLEASE CHECK)

- **Executive Meeting**
 1st Friday of each
 month
 At 9:30 am

- **Board Meeting -**
 3rd Thursday of each
 month at 9:30 am

- **Sisterhood Board
 Meeting -** 1st Thursday
 of each month at 9:30
 am

-

- **Minyan**
 Mondays & Thursdays -
 8:00 am

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INCLUDED EXCEPT PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES.**

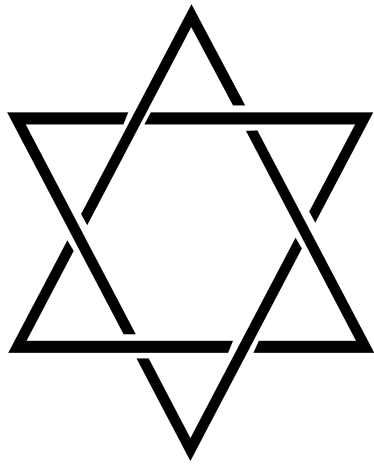
Jewish Family and Children's Service (JFCS)

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, care-giving 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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October 2017

11 Tishri 5778 - 11 Heshvan 5778

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 11 Tishri	2 Minyan 8:00 am 12 Tishri	3 13 Tishri	4 EREV SUKKOT 14 Tishri	5 SUKKOT I Minyan 8:00 am Office Closed for Sukkot 15 Tishri	6 SUKKOT II Office Closed for Sukkot Services New Time 6:30 pm 16 Tishri	7 HOL HAMOED SUKKOT I Services 9:00 am 17 Tishri
8 HOL HAMOED SUKKOT II 18 Tishri	9 HOL HAMOED SUKKOT III Minyan 8:00 am 19 Tishri	10 HOL HAMOED SUKKOT IV 20 Tishri	11 HOSHANAH RABBAH 21 Tishri	12 SHEMINI ATZERET (YIZKOR) Minyan 8:00 am Office Closed 22 Tishri	13 SIMCHAT TORAH Services New Time 6:30 pm 23 Tishri	14 Services 9:00 am 24 Tishri
15 25 Tishri	16 Minyan 8:00 am 26 Tishri	17 27 Tishri	18 Board Mtg. 9:30 am 28 Tishri	19 Minyan 8:00 am Rabbi Class 10:30 - 11:30 am 29 Tishri	20 ROSH HODESH I Book Club 10:00 am Services New Time 6:30 pm 30 Tishri	21 ROSH HODESH II Services 9:00 am 1 Heshvan
22 2 Heshvan	23 Minyan 8:00 am 3 Heshvan	24 Guest Speaker Robert Corbin "Forgive" 1:00 pm 4 Heshvan	25 5 Heshvan	26 Minyan 8:00 am 6 Heshvan	27 Services New Time 6:30 pm 7 Heshvan	28 Services 9:00 am 8 Heshvan
29 Cactus Hot Dog 11:00-2:00 pm 9 Heshvan	30 Minyan 8:00 am 10 Heshvan	31 11 Heshvan				

[Candle Lighting, Observance End, Printed September 27, 2017/7 Tishri 5778 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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West Valley**
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Web Site: www.Bethemethaz.org

Office Hours: 8 am.- 1 pm. M-F

Or Current Resident

THE OBSERVER

ARTICLES TO BE PUBLISHED
MUST BE SUBMITTED BY THE
10TH OF THE PREVIOUS MONTH

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