

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

CHESHVAN-KISLEV 5080

DECEMBER 2019



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You didn't get me the bracelet did you? Search ID: kken151

SABBATH CANDLE LIGHTING

DECEMBER

6 5:02 13 5:12 20 5:06 27 5:10

Volume 2019 Number 51



FROM THE DESK OF MARILYN NEWBERG, PRESIDENT



As we come to the end of one year and bring in another, I would like to reflect on some of the wonderful things that "we" have done.

Last year's film festival was a huge success. We owe a huge thank you to Irene Lehrer and Harry Newman and their team. The office staff, volunteers who helped procure funds and sponsors, the many hours put in to watching films to select the ones that everyone will enjoy. Thank you all for attending. 2020 is in the works, I am looking forward to finding out what terrific films they have to offer us.

Musical Shabbats, Choir Shabbats, hot dog Sunday, Passover Seder filled with food, fun and the best interpretation of the Haggadah that I have ever been part of. I am looking forward to attending the Passover event of 2020. To all who helped putting up the Sukkah, and having to do it twice, because of the windstorm that tore everything down.

To Cheryl for taking over a very difficult job in the middle of a chaotic time.

What about our Kitchen Elves (not Elvis), the many hours of shopping, preparing, serving and cleaning? Without the help of volunteers, RL & MN would not have been able to do it alone. I am not putting in the names of everyone who gave their time to help us, because, I don't want to leave anyone out.

We should shake the hands of all the volunteers that conducted the Thursday Minyans, Friday night and Shabbat services the entire year. To the many who read their Haftorah, did Hagbah and Gelilah. To our greeters, and to the ushers, to the ticket takers during the High Holidays, and the volunteers that went to Costco, Sam's club and all-around Maricopa county trying to buy enough kosher chicken for the Seder.

To all our congregants, by your support and attendance, plus the blessings of Hashem, we will always keep our doors open.

To both my Executive and Director boards. Thank you for time served!

Shalom,

Marilyn Newberg





About 6 years ago, I took my 5-year old daughter to a craft store as I shopped for materials for a craft project I was planning for a Jewish Studies class I was teaching at the day school. Even though it was the middle of August, this particular chain keeps a Christmas section on display year-round. Gazing longingly at the display of lit-up decorated trees, she turned to me and asked, "Ema, someday when we're not Jewish, do you think we could have a Christmas tree?"

I just about plotzed. When I was done laughing, I said with a smile, "If someday that ever happens, we can talk about it then!"

From the earliest age, we all have special memories of the Christmas season. Neighborhoods brightly lit, department store window spectacles, non-stop music on the radio & in the malls.. It all seems so uplifting. And parents and grandparents telling us - this doesn't belong to us. In school we don't sing the songs that mention Jesus; our homes are dark on the outside, and dreidels and latkes don't really match the excitement of Santa Claus.Let's face it, Chanukah just doesn't compete.

So, how DO we respond to the ever pervasiveness of Christmas, whose season now begins post-Halloween and lasts a good 2+ months of the year? What do we do in a world where the dividing lines between the faiths now seem ever more blurred. My response is to welcome it with joy.

In the world my great-grandparents inhabited, Christian holidays were always met with apprehension and fear. "Nittel Nacht," the Yiddish name for Christmas, was a night where men did not go to the study halls & learn, and women refrained from the mikvah, since it was considered dangerous to go out in the streets.

In our day and age, in this country, especially, we are welcome here. Our Christian neighbors open their homes, even their churches. We join with them to celebrate an ecumenical Thanksgiving, and they stand with us in solidarity against antisemitism & hate crimes. Nowhere in the world in all of history have Jews been more embraced and accepted as we are than here in North America. Despite a rise in antisemitic acts among radicals, the vast majority of Americans like and admire the Jewish people.

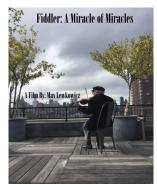
So let's celebrate that. Knowing that it's their traditions, not ours, we still enjoy looking at the lights of decorated neighborhoods. Christmas music, both classic and corny is fun to listen to, and if we're ever in New York at this season, we'll be sure to check out the Macy's window displays.

While the core meanings of our holidays differ, one thing we share in common is the urge to bring light into an ever darkening world. Right at the time of winter solstice, the days are shortest and the feeling is gloomiest. It is then that we humans insist if nature will not provide the light, then it's up to us to light a candle or a log, to bring light into a dark world, make it brighter, give us hope for better days to come. What better way for all of humanity to come together in shared purpose.

May our winter be filled with light, and may we be blessed to share it with all people of all faiths in love.

Rabbi Tracee

WEST VALLEY 15TH ANNUAL JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL BETH EMETH CONGREGATION



FIDDLER: A MIRACLE OF MIRACLES

Saturday, January 25, 2020 at 6:30 pm

The story behind one of Broadways most beloved musicals and its creative roots. This Jewish musical has become a universal phenomenon. How it is lovingly embraced by many cultures and how influential it still is today, 55 years after its Broadway debut.

THE SECOND TIME AROUND

Sunday, January 26, 2020 at 6:30 pm

Heart warming story full of hope, dreams and second chances. Two seniors meet and discover it is never too late to fall in love again. Katherine a widowed



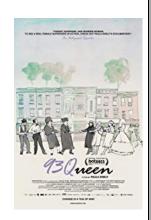
vibrant senior, wasn't looking for love, not at her age, and certainly not with grumpy Isaac Shapiro.

SUNDAY ONLY: JOIN US FOR A SPECTACULAR ITALIAN BUFFET 4:30 pm ONLY \$18pp WITH THE PURCHASE OF YOUR SUNDAY MOVIE TICKET RSVP and payment a must by January 18, 2020 (dinner can only be purchased in conjunction with SUNDAY movie ticket.)

93 QUEEN

Monday, January 27, 2020 at 6:30 pm Unprecedented unique portrayal of a group of empowered women who take

matters into their own hands to change their own community from within. Ezras Nashim, an all female volunteer EMS corps for the ultra orthodox hassidic women of Boro Park, Brooklyn, was started in 2014 by Rachel Freier (Ruchie) who is now a civil court judge.



For additional information, please call 623-584-7210

Series tickets \$27 in advance Single Tickets \$10 in advance At Door \$12

Dinner \$18 (must be combined with Sunday's movie only)

COMPLIMENTARY REFRESHMENTS TO FOLLOW EACH FILM

MAH JONGG CARDS



Now is the time to think about ordering your 2020 Mah Jongg cards. When you, family, friends and neighbors order your cards through Beth Emeth Sisterhood, a portion of the cost of each card is remitted to Sisterhood. It is an easy fund raiser in which to participate.

Standard Print Size \$8.00 Large Size \$9.00

Make Checks payable to: Beth Emeth Sisterhood

Send or bring orders before January 2, 2020 to: Beth Emeth Congregation, 13702W. Meeker Blvd., SCW Beth Emeth Sisterhood Attn.: Gloria Greenberg

The National Mah Jongg League, Inc. will mail each card, individually, to you personally, therefore an <u>address</u> must accompany <u>each</u> order.

It is imperative that the name and address be included for each card ordered. If you are sending in a list, be sure that the name and address for each person on the list is included.

•		
Name: Last	First	-
Adresss		_
City	State Zip	_
Standard Size (\$8.00)	Large Size (\$9.00)	

ADULT LEARNING AT BETH EMETH CONGREGATION - 5780

First Fridays - A New Learning Service

Dates: First Friday of each month, beginning November 1

Time: 6:30 - 8 pm

Location: Chapel/Library

For beginners and experienced members. Our traditional Friday night service with a twist. Each month we will focus on a special aspect, theme, or prayer from the Shabbat evening liturgy. We will answer your questions about the service, and Jewish prayer in general, to help each person have a more spiritual experience of connection with prayer and community. No fee, open to everyone, Jewish and non-Jewish alike. We will still include familiar songs and the traditional prayers each week.

Weekly Torah Study with the Commentators

Dates: Thursdays,

Time: 9-10 am (after minyan)

Location: Beth Emeth, Rabbi's office

Cost: Free to members, \$10/class suggested donation from non-members.

Instructor: Rabbi Tracee Rosen

Join a lively interfaith group which delves verse by verse into the deeper meanings of popular and lesser known Bible stories from Genesis. Students must purchase JPS' *The Commentators' Bible: Genesis (pictured here).*

COMMENTATORS CO

Mini-Courses

This year we are offering a series of 3-4 week classes on a variety of topics to interest everyone. No long term commitment required. Great for our winter residents. All classes meet on Thursdays, 10:30 - 11:30 am. No charge for members, \$10/class session for non-members. Please check with office for updates.

What you should know about the Israeli government - November 7-21(3 sessions). A primer on how the Knesset and the parliamentary system works. Who are the major parties, what are their main platforms & how do they decide who gets to hold what offices in the country?

The Book of Judges: Anarchy & Activism - January 9-30 (4 sessions). The least known of the major books of the Bible, we explore a time in Israel's history filled with unlikely heroes & disturbing stories. The more things change, the more they stay the same.

The Lord is My Shepherd - February 13-March 5 (4 sessions). How the most well-known psalm in the Bible can be a source of hope, strength & healing for all of us.

ADULT LEARNING AT BETH EMETH CONGREGATION - 5780



Introduction to Judaism

Dates: To Be Announced Time: 11:00 am -12:30 pm Location: Beth Emeth Library

Cost: Non-members - \$250 for 24 sessions, Members - no charge. Students are responsible for the cost

of class texts.

Instructor: Rabbi Rosen

Learn the basics of Jewish beliefs, practices, holidays, prayer, and history in 24 lessons. This class is for everyone who wants a stronger foundation in what it means to be Jewish. It is open to Jewish people who want to learn more about their heritage, and to those who aren't Jewish who want to learn more or may be considering conversion. Minimum registration is 5 students.

Adult B'nei Mitzvah Class

Dates: To Be Announced Time: 9 am - 10 am

Location: Beth Emeth Library

Cost: \$200 for congregation members Instructors: Keren Goldberg, Rabbi Rosen



If you have ever wished that you had a chance to celebrate a bat or bar mitzvah in the synagogue, now is your chance. Under the gentle guidance of Rebbetzin Keren Goldberg and Rabbi Rosen, you'll learn about the Shabbat morning prayer service, how to lead selected prayers, how to have an aliyah to the Torah and master a portion of Torah or Haftarah reading. The culmination will be a group celebration at services on June 6, 2020. There are no prerequisites, but the ability to read Hebrew at any level and familiarity with the Shabbat morning service are both pluses. If you can't read Hebrew, we will work with you to meet your goals. Minimum registration is 4 students.

Register for any of these classes by dropping by the Beth Emeth office, or calling the office to reserve your spot. Some classes require minimum registration in order to be held. Please register by October 23.



The following Yahzeits will be observed during August Kaddish may be said on Friday evenings and Saturday mornings. El Malei Rachamim, the memorial prayer, may be said on the Monday or Thursday preceding the Yahrzeit at 8:00 a.m. Minyan.

preceding the Yanrzeit at 8:00 a.m. Wilnyan.				
DECEMBER	KISLEV	DECEASED	RELATIONSHIP	OBSERVANT
1	3	Bernard Greenberg	Husband	Gloria Greenberg
1	3	Grace Isaacson	Mother	Sunnie Saperstein
2	4	Dr. Sam Pinkes	Brother-in-law	A. David Silverman
3	5	Joseph Greenberg	Father-in-Law	Gloria Greenberg
3	5	Marcy Hamerschlag	Brother	Marty Hamer
3	5	James Miller	Brother	Iris Silverman
4	6	Robert Marshall	Father-in-Law	Sonia Marshall
6	8	Anna Liskofsky	Aunt	Dr. Abraham Cohen
6	8	Rita Rose	Mother	Carol Madvig
7	9	Beatrice Kaplan	Mother	Brenda Kleinman
9	11	Minnie Hesch	Stepmother	Morrie Hesch
10	12	Max Meyer	Father	Linda Ziegler
11	13	Sam Fox	Grandfather	Rabbi Tracee Rosen
13	15	Paul Walter	Brother-in-Law	Evelyn Walter
17	19	Lucille Ezraty	Mother	Jack Ezraty
17	19	Anna Margolis	Mother	Norma Weintraub
20	22	Louis Levine	Father	Helaine Feldman
21	23	William Pinkus	Father	Rhoda Lessner
21	23	William Pinkus	Father	Marilyn Newberg
22	24	Jean Klein	Mother	Sy Klein
23	25	Lawrence Webber	Father	Marion Koshar
25	27	Sylvia Morrison	Mother-in-Law	Natalie Morrison
25	27	Ada Sherman	Mother	Rochelle Bailey
27	29	Rebecca Gotlieb	Mother	Helene Schreiber
27	29	Erna Konig	Grandmother	Keren Goldberg
28	30	Alma Friesner	Mother-in-Law	Norm Kurtz
28	30	Harry Katzman	Father	Lorraine Silverman



DECEMBER

- 3 Judith Koven
- 5 Max Kelley
- 5 Alan Perlow
- 6 Max Lazar
- 28 Sarah Klein



ANNUERSARIES

DECEMBER

8 Sid & Wendy Engel





Thursday, December 5th at 1:00



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Hanukkah

MUSICAL SHABBAT

Fríday, December 13, 2019 6:30 pm Featuring our very own Elijah Phillips

Please join us for Services and a special Oneg

Sunday, December 29th at 3:00 pm

LATKES, LATKES, AND MORE LATKES RSVP by December 22, 2019





BUNKO PARTY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2020 AT 2:00 PM

Cash Prizes, Cash Prizes

\$5.00 admission. All monies go toward prizes!!!

RSVP BY December 31st.

Easy to Learn, Easy to Play Call the office for a quick lesson Sponsored by Beth Emeth Sisterhood



THE RABBI IS IN!

Do you have a religious question for the Rabbi?

Do you need some spiritual guidance?

Do you need some emotional support?

Do you just want to talk?

The Rabbi is in the office just for you every Tuesday from 9 a.m. to Noon

Please call the office for a phone or in-person meeting Same day appointments available, 623-584-7210

MAH JONGG FUNDRAISER TOURNAMEMT - ENTRY FEE \$60 (NO REFUNDS) MONDAY, DECEMBER 9TH, 2019

Sponsored by Trilogy at Vistancia Women's Club

27980 N. Trilogy Blvd Peoria AZ 85383 9:00AM - 4:30PM Check in at 8:00AM Includes Morning beverages, lunch.

Players will be seated randomly unless part of a foursome.

RULES: Official Mah Jongg Tournament Rules & 2019 National MJ League card

Please designate who will be *EAST and bringing a MJ set for each Table. Can you bring a 4 top table?

EAST will collect score sheets at lunch and at the end of the tournament.



CASH PRIZES AWARDED! GIFT CARDS TOO!



	ATION FORM – Please Print
Name:	
Contact Phone #:	
Email:	
Payment Enclosed in the amount of:	
Cookie!	ch lettuce and tomato & herb mayo, bag of chips and a rries, feta cheese, sunflower seeds, cucumbers & heirloom tomatoes,
□ Bringing MJ set □ Bringing 4 top table	□ Who is East?
Return completed form with payment to: 12964 West Fossil Dr. Peoria, AZ 85383	QUESTIONS?
Checks payable to TAVWC	Email Lydia L. Genovesepelly@gmai.com
• DEADLINE TO REGISTER:	
NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 4TH.	Charities we support: Justa Center, Free Arts of AZ and New Leaf (Faith House)

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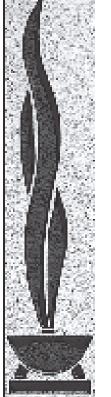
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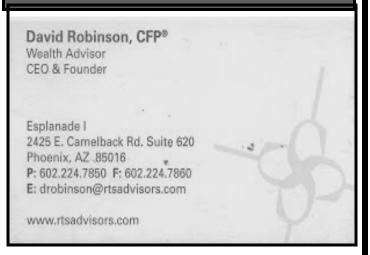
623-889-0691



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.





CC's Adult Care Inc.

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Visit Our Home

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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Join us as Congregation Beth Emeth Of The West Valley welcomes Valley Beit Midrash for another season of Jewish learning.

The following lectures will take place at Congregation Beth Emeth Of The West Valley



CHILD SACRIFICE: CONSIDERING THE CONTEXT

Professor Ziony Zevit Thursday, October 24 | 1 PM



MARC CHAGALL AND THE
ARTISTS OF THE SOVIET YIDDISH
THEATER

Professor Jeffrey Veidlinger Monday, February 3 I 1 PM



EMERGENT JUDAISM: HOW AN ANCIENT TRADITION GETS NEW IDEAS

Rabbi Dr. Natan Margalit Thursday, March 12 | 1 PM

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

Register online: www.valleybeitmidrash.org Suggested donation: \$18 per event

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

DECEMBER 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 3 Kislev	2 4 Kislev	3 5 Kislev	4 6 Kislev	5 7 Kislev Fashion Show 1:00 Rabbi's class 9 am Minyon 8 a.m	6 8 Kislev Service 6:30	7 9 Kislev Services 9 am
8 10 Kislev	9 11 Kislev	10 12 Kislev	11 13 Kislev	12 14 Kislev Rabbi's class 9 am Minyon 8 a.m	13 15 Kislev MUSICAL SHABBAT Service 6:30	14 16 Kislev Services 9 am
15 17 Kislev	16 18 Kislev	17 19 Kislev	18 20 Kislev	19 21 Kislev Rabbi's class 9 am Minyon 8 a.m	20 22 Kislev Board Meeting 10:30 Service 6:30	21 23 Kislev Services 9 am
22 24 Kislev HANUKKAH 1ST CANDLE	23 25 Kislev	24 26 Kislev	25 27 Kislev	26 28 Kislev Rabbi's class 9 am Minyon 8 a.m	27 29 Kislev Service 6:30	28 30 Kislev Services 9 am
29 1 Tevet Hanukkah Party 3p.m.	30 2 Tevet	31 3 Tevet Bring on the NEW YEAR!				
SAVE THESE DATES	JANUARY 5 BUNKO PARTY	JANUARY 25, 26, & 27 FILM FESTIVAL				

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.



BETH EMETH CONGREGATION OF THE WEST VALLEY 13702 W. Meeker Blvd. Sun City West, AZ 85375 Phone: 623-584-7210 Website: Bethemethaz.org

Office Hours: M-F 9-NOON

Beth Emeth Congregation Board

OFFICERS

Marilyn Newberg President Jordan Colbert Vice President Rhoda Lessner Vice President Vice President Tom Behrendt Harry Newman Treasurer **OPEN** Financial Secretary **Recording Secretary** Rosemary Abrami Rhoda Lessner Corresponding Secretary

DIRECTORS

Sid Engel Wendy Engel Gloria Greenberg Irene Lehrer Nelson Magedman Alice Mason Natalie Morrison Joseph Weintraub Sisterhood President Alice Mason Men's Club
President
Tom Behrendt



Beth Emeth Men's Club has had aa busy fall season, providing ushers for the high holidays services. Thanks goes to *Arnie Becker, Jordan Colbert, Saul Rothzeid, Joe Weintraub, Stan Debber, Irene Lehrer, Maxine Popolow, Alice Mason, and Sheldon Koven*

On November 3rd, Men's Club and Sisterhood once again sponsored Cactus Kosher Hot Dog Day, a fundraiser and community outreach program.

Tom Behrendt, Morrie Hesch, Jordan Colbert, Jim Toney, Norman Kurtz, Herb Leibovitz, David Caplan, Iris Johnson and Maxine Popolow made sure that Everyone was well fed and happy.

At this time, I would also like to thank Tom Behrendt for volunteering To be President of the Men's Club next year.

As always, a special Thank You goes out to Rosie Colbert (Jordon's Better half) for donating all of the hot dogs again this year.

Gene Cooper



Hot Dog