



Beth Emeth Observer

BETH EMETH CONGREGATION

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Rabbi Jeffrey B. Lipschultz

ADAR II - NISSAN 5782

APRIL 2022

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



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SABBATH CANDLE LIGHTING

April

| | |
|----|------|
| 1 | 6:31 |
| 08 | 6:36 |
| 15 | 6:41 |
| 22 | 6:46 |
| 29 | 6:52 |

Volume 2022
Number 4



FROM THE DESK OF TOM BEHRENDT, PRESIDENT



I hope that everyone enjoyed the wonderful Hamentachen baked, with love, by Ketzi and her amazing crew. A special shout out to Carol Madvig for all of her help in making 2400 of them. Yasher Koach to Morrie Hesch for his 72nd anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah. He inspired me to do mine next year when my Parsah comes around again. It is wonderful to see Sisterhood viable and with Programs scheduled. Be sure to read the book about Israel and join the discussion on April 7th. On a sad note, we will not be able to host a Seder for Pesach as the cost of a Kosher for Pesach meal is out of sight due to supply issues. If anyone is willing to host any of our Congregation, please call the Office and let Denise know. It would be a great Mitzvah. Friday night Services are at 6:30PM . Please join us for services and shmooze afterwards , with a bissel cake, As far as Friday night Services are concerned, we are looking to make them more convenient for everyone. Does starting at 5:30 make it more attractive to join? What would make it better for You? We planning many events starting in the fall. Casino night and Bingo will start in the Fall with Our partners, Unity Light of Grace and we will be looking for volunteers to help make these a successful fund raiser. Have a Zeissen, Kosher Pesach

Passover Services



Saturday April 16th and Sunday April 17th at 9:30am

****Note there will be no Friday night service on April 15th as individuals will be home for First Seder.**

****There will be no community Seder as costs are Prohibitive.**

Regular Morning Minyan on April 21st at 9:00am

Last two days of Passover Services

Friday April 22nd at 9:30am

Saturday April 23rd at 9:30 am

With Yiskor at approximately 10:30 am

Why Passover

Rabbi Jeffrey Lipschultz



The Holiday of Passover has finally arrived and this is a special time for Jews as we prepare our houses for the Biur Chameitz or the removal of Chameitz from our house. Chameitz is the aspect of dough that makes it taste so good, the power of yeast to make the bread rise and add its familiar flavor and probably add to our waistline as well.

Bread is the source of strength in our society because it is the one food we use to stave off starvation and it is often the bare minimum of our nutritional existence. On Passover we are supposed to eat Matzah instead of bread. It is called the bread of affliction which gives us the same caloric intake as bread but without the yeast, the Chameitz that brings us pleasure when we eat it. It is similar to a giant saltine cracker without the salt. So as we approach Passover many ask, 'Why do we do this to ourselves?'

The Torah actually commands us to make this a day of feast and celebration, not a day of affliction. The only aspect of affliction is the bread we are forbidden to eat. The power of the bread of affliction is so strong that in the biblical command on eating Matzah it is told in Exodus 12:14 "And this day shall be to you for a memorial; and you shall keep it a feast to the Lord throughout your generations; you shall keep it a feast by an ordinance forever. Seven days shall you eat unleavened bread; the first day you shall put away leaven out of your houses; for whoever eats leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel."

Think about the power of this command to eat only Matzah for seven days. The penalty of eating Chameitz is to be cut off from Israel, that is a powerful law in our Jewish tradition. We Jews go a little crazy on Passover cleaning our houses and our kitchens trying to rid our homes of this leavened bread and any crumb of Chameitz in our presence. Why is Chameitz so powerful to our soul that we risk being cut off from our people if it is eaten during this week? The nature of Chameitz is to "puff up" dough and this symbolizes arrogance, whereas, the flat Matzah represents humility. Humility is the beginning of breaking bondage from the past and is essential for all spiritual growth. This is because only a person who can recognize his/her shortcomings can submit to a higher wisdom, and by submitting to a higher wisdom, one becomes free of their own self-limitations. On Passover our goal is to rid ourselves of even the slightest "Chameitz" so we are able to connect better to God.

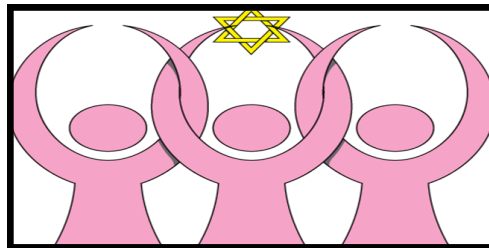
Chameitz is not evil in itself. We eat bread all year round but for these seven days we refrain from the one aspect of bread that brings us joy and I believe it is this change in dietary habits that we make on the Passover holiday that we need to project the holiness of God during this unique time. Passover is not a time of affliction but a time of joy, the joy we receive in our freedom and thus we are asked to take one aspect of our lives that makes us feel important, the chameitz of bread but also the chameitz of our soul, and build our psyche to a holier aspect of our lives, the ability to find true freedom in our faith and our connection to God.

Passover is a fascinating holiday where we Jews are asked to imagine our lives as the slaves that left Egypt as we sit at our seder table and retell the story of Moses, Pharaoh, the ten plagues, and the parting of the Red Sea. The mystical elements of Passover are intense during the preparation with the removal of Chameitz, the cleansing ceremony for the last of the bread crumbs removed with a feather, and then burned with a candle. What I find most interesting is the mystical elements of the seder and how it asks us to transform our psyche to put our souls in the bodies of our ancestors who stood before the whip of bondage and were released from suffering by the outstretched arm of God. In looking inward sometimes we tend to be the greatest critics of ourselves and often the least forgiving. Our own inner psychology knows our deepest fears and weakness and often we exploit them to keep from making important decisions in our lives. God saw what the people had done when, by making a golden calf to worship, they chose to run away from their own freedom in the fear of their growing independence and chastised them. He could forgive a rebellion against Him but not one where they rebelled against faith in themselves and their own ability to succeed. Passover asks us to succeed in our faith and have strength in our ability to connect to God and experience joy in our lives and our holiday without the experience of Chameitz both in our bread and in our souls. When we lessen our ego and see who we really are we have the ability to experience great strength and also great joy in our holiday. This is true freedom that is taught to us in our seder each year, to find the strength within our souls to see what true freedom means in our life.

Freedom is not an object that is attained. It is a spiritual path that takes effort to travel. It takes hope and faith in the future, a belief that life is meaningful and that tomorrow can be better than today. Once the journey starts, it takes continued determination to stay on the path. That is the path of Kehilah, community, and that is what the seder represents. We have a requirement to build a Kehilah, a community, that is both physical and spiritual that all can feel welcome to enter. This Friday we Jews open our homes free of Chameitz, but our souls full of life as we embrace all who enter and feast on great food and wonderful family and friends and thus we find true freedom in our holiday.

Happy Passover

SISTERHOOD



Up Comming Events!!!!

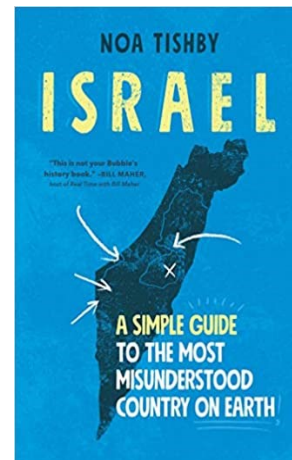
Everyone is invited to attend!

Thursday APRIL 7th at 1:00pm in Library Book Review

Noa Tishby's book Israel: A Simple guide to the Most Misunderstood Country on Earth.

Noa Tishby was featured in the Nov/Dec Hadassah Magazine.

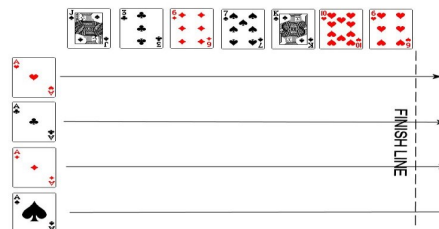
Enjoy reading this informative and well documented book and come ready to discuss it with other readers. Next book will be chosen by group that attends this book discussion.



Sunday May 22nd 1:00pm we will have a "Horse Racing"

Card Game Day. Bring \$5 in nickels with you for betting.

Learn how to play. Plan to enjoy the fun!



Looking for interested women to serve on the Sisterhood board, come join us to plan fun events and support our synagogue...if interested call Ketzi 425-890-6792. Thanks.

In Loving Memory

The following Yahrzeits will be observed during April 2022, Adar II - Nissan 5782

Kaddish may be said on Friday evenings and Saturday mornings.

El Malei Rachamim, the memorial prayer, may be said on the Thursday preceding the Yahrzeit

| Date | Observed | Deceased | Observant | Relationship |
|-----------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| 4/2/2022 | Nissan 1, 5782 | Fannie Cooper | Eugene Cooper | Mother |
| 4/2/2022 | Nissan 1, 5782 | Edith Hesch | Morrie Hesch | Mother |
| 4/4/2022 | Nissan 3, 5782 | Leo Abrami | Rosemary Abrami | Husband |
| 4/5/2022 | Nissan 4, 5782 | Pearl Gubin | Shirley Gubin | Mother-In-Law |
| 4/6/2022 | Nissan 5, 5782 | Edna Koshar | Louis Koshar | Mother |
| 4/7/2022 | Nissan 6, 5782 | Beverly Casper | Sheldon Koven | Cousin |
| 4/8/2022 | Nissan 7, 5782 | Marilyn Rich | Gerald Rich | Wife |
| 4/10/2022 | Nissan 9, 5782 | Marcia Friedman | Esther Toney | Sister |
| 4/10/2022 | Nissan 9, 5782 | Matilda Friedman | Mark Friedman | Mother |
| 4/10/2022 | Nissan 9, 5782 | Mildred Relkin | Gloria Greenberg | Sister-in-law |
| 4/13/2022 | Nissan 12, 5782 | Luba Goldman | Gloria Greenberg | Mother |
| 4/13/2022 | Nissan 12, 5782 | Ida Koven | Sheldon Koven | Grandmother |
| 4/13/2022 | Nissan 12, 5782 | Claire Naidorf | Madelaine Friedman | Mother |
| 4/14/2022 | Nissan 13, 5782 | William Leibovitz | Leah Tarnor | Father |
| 4/17/2022 | Nissan 16, 5782 | Martin Morrison | Natalie Morrison | Husband |
| 4/20/2022 | Nissan 19, 5782 | Herbert Mason | Alice Mason | Husband |
| 4/21/2022 | Nissan 20, 5782 | Benjamin Sussman | Jamie Rothschild | Grandfather |
| 4/22/2022 | Nissan 21, 5782 | Carl Sherman | Rochelle Bailey | Father |
| 4/25/2022 | Nissan 24, 5782 | Scott Schreiber | Helene Schreiber | Son |
| 4/26/2022 | Nissan 25, 5782 | Elsie Sussman | Jamie Rothschild | Grandmother |
| 4/28/2022 | Nissan 27, 5782 | Sol Greenberg | Eugene Cooper | Father |





Happy Birthday to:

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| Michael Goldman | 04/04/2022 |
| Elliot Kleinman | 04/05/2022 |
| Brenda Kleinman | 04/07/2022 |
| James Toney | 04/13/2022 |
| Karen Overton | 04/14/2022 |
| Saul Rothzeit | 04/17/2022 |
| Evelyn Walter | 04/21/2022 |
| Rochelle Bailey | 04/24/2022 |
| Kathryn Magedman | 04/28/2022 |



Happy Anniversary to:

| | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Saul & Sharon Rothzeit | 4/09/2022 |
|------------------------|-----------|



HAPPY PURIM



**Purim was well attended and enjoyed by All
Many wore costumes
Hamantaschen were Yummy!**

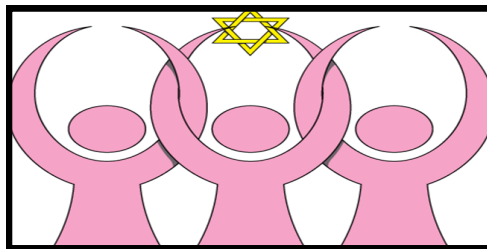


CALLING ALL MEN

Our next Board meeting will be at the shul at a date and time to be announced. We will further seek to fill positions and identify upcoming events. Looking forward to seeing you there and working with you.

The office of Men's Club president is currently vacant. Please let Tom know if you are interested.

SISTERHOOD



Beth Emeth Sisterhood is represented on the Congregation Board and is supportive of its actions.

If you wish to communicate with Sisterhood please send an e-mail to Beth Emeth with a notation for Sisterhood.

Sisterhood hopes and prays everyone is well .

Alice Mason

Tree of Life leaf sale!!

For ONLY \$99

You may purchase a leaf to put on the tree to honor or celebrate an event



Up Coming Event!! Save the Date

Reserve May 1st for a Yom HaShoah Program. If you know any Holocaust Survivors or children of Holocaust Survivors please have them contact Ketzi Toney at 425-890-6792 so they may participate in the program. Be on the look out for more information about this event.

Sylvia Choy Part Time - Private Duty Home Care "Your Family's Love Through Us"

- Medication Management
- Hospice & Respite Care
- Alzheimer's Care
- Light Housekeeping/Laundry
- Home Cooked Meals
- Doctors Visits
- Restroom/Bathing Assistance
- Beauty/Barber Service

602-686-0839

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

First, allow me to exercise some editorial license. A few words of thanks.

As many of you know, I recently had surgery to replace my aortic heart valve. I owe a debt of gratitude to those of you who made sure that neither Joanie or I went without food. Ketzi brought enough to feed an army, Marilyn kept Joanie well fed and others of you saw to it that our pantry was stocked. A few of you provided us with transportation to medical appointments during the times when I was not permitted to drive. My thanks to all of you. As mentioned on the front page of the Observer: "More than just the Conservative Congregation of the West Valley, We Are A Community."

March 12 was a special day, the 72nd Anniversary of my Bar Mitzvah, and I owe a debt of gratitude to more people than I can name, mainly because their work was behind the scenes and I did not see it for myself:

A special thanks to the kitchen crew, led by Ketzi Toney and Marilyn Newberg, whose efforts were enjoyed by all who attended. It was Iris Johnson who capably led the Torah service and filled in as Gabbai, saving my breath and strength for the Haftorah.

And an additional thank you to the anonymous member or members who bought a leaf in honor of the occasion for the Tree Of Life in our lobby.

All that is now ancient history. Now, even more ancient history. A question for Pesach: Why is a roasted hard-boiled egg placed on the Seder tray?

The egg is symbolic of the regular festival sacrifice brought in days when the Temple stood in Jerusalem. On Passover, in addition to this regular sacrifice, the Paschal Lamb was offered as a second sacrifice.

Some authorities have interpreted the roasted egg as being a symbol of mourning for the loss of the two Temples that once stood in Jerusalem. (The first was destroyed by the Babylonians in 586 B.C.E., the second by the Romans in 70 C.E.) With the Temples destroyed, sacrifices could no longer be offered. The egg symbolized this loss and traditionally became the food of mourners.

In some Middle Eastern communities, eggs are very popular on Passover. Kurdish Jews and Libyan Jews, in particular, eat large quantities of eggs at the Seder.

(Source: The Jewish Book of Why by Alfred J Kolatch)



April 2022

Adar II —Nissan 5782

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---|---|---|--|-----------------------------|
| | | | | | 1 Light 6:31 | Rosh Chodesh 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 Light 6:36 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 Erev Pesach 1st Seder Light 6:41 | 16 Pesach I 2nd Seder |
| 17 Pesach II 1st Day of Omer | 18 Pesach III 1st Day Chol Hamoed | 19 Pesach IV 2nd Day Chol Hamoed | 20 Pesach V 3rd Day Chol Hamoed Observer Deadline | 21 Pesach VI 4th Day Chol Hamoed | 22 Pesach VII Light: 6:46 | 23 Pesach VIII Yizkor |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 Yom Hashoah | 29 Light: 6:52 | 30 |
| May 1 Yom HaShoah program Time to be announced | | | | | | |

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 **Executive Board**

| | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Tom Behrendt | President |
| Marilyn Newberg | Vice President |
| Iris Johnson | Vice President |
| Natalie Morrison | Vice President |
| Jordan Colbert | Vice President |
| Paula Forster | Treasurer |
| Irene Lehrer | Financial Secretary |

DIRECTORS

Ramona Luckman
Susan Hersch
Mindy Lipson
Rhoda Lessner
Esther Toney

Men's Club **President**

Sisterhood
President
Alice Mason



To all those dedicated and loving people who stepped up and committed their time to be board members, directors, and club presidents. You are so appreciated!

PICK UP A GIFT AT THE JUDAICA SHOP



Do you have a tzedakah box? Get one at the Judaica shop, fill it up and donate your savings to the Synagogue as a gesture of kindness and faith.

Big Sale!!
Yahrzeit Candles!!
\$1.00 for one
\$5.00 for six



We also now have several fine art pieces for sale.

Personal showings call Barbara Newman: 623-388-4958

or,

Stop in anytime Monday - Friday 9am to 12pm

(Payment accepted by check or cash or credit card)