



Beth Emeth Observer

BETH EMETH CONGREGATION

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Office hours Mon-Fri - 9 AM - 12 PM
**Hazzan Lev Ettelson, Spiritual Leader/
Director of Education**

**Av - Elul 5783
Tishrei 5784**

August/September 2023

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



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SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING

August	September
04 7:07	01 6:35
11 7:00	08 6:26
18 6:53	15 6:16
25 6:44	22 6:07
	29 5:57

**Volume 2023
Number 07**



FROM THE DESK OF TOM BEHRENDT, PRESIDENT

I want to welcome our new Religious Director Douglas Ettleson AKA Rev Lev. Your Board has worked extremely hard to find the right person to lead Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley. He will be teaching classes, offering B'nai Mitzvah lessons to children as well as adults starting right after the High Holidays. He will be available in his office for any form of counseling, as well as making wellness calls and hospital calls. We ask that you call the office to request a visit.

High Holiday tickets will be at no charge, however we ask that you make a donation to help offset the costs. Cantor Judith Levy will again be here to help make the Services beautiful and meaningful. Rev Lev is also a Cantor so the duets will be amazing. We hope to have a very full Sanctuary again this year.

Beth Emeth is so lucky to have wonderful volunteers to make our Services so beautiful during the search for a permanent leader. We owe a tremendous amount of gratitude to these amazing people. Joe Sontag and Gabe Hertzberg for reading Torah on Thursday and Shabbat. Arthur Bennett, Lew Samuels, Rosemary Abrami, Morrie Hesch, Jim Toney, Ketzi Toney, Marilyn Newberg, Susan Hersch, Natalie Morrison, Gyorgyi Rosenthal for leading services and working hard to make our Kiddushes both tasty and wonderful. A special Thank You to Dr. Iris Johnson for doing the Haftorah so beautifully each week. She sets a high bar for Rev Lev..

If I missed anyone , I apologize and will Thank You personally.

L'Shana Tovah to all

Note from past president Marilyn Newberg

"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, the birth of something as fragile as a baby hummingbird, and the evolution of one's mind.

As we approach the new year of 5784, I must 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 and everything.

So often in our past, even today, Jews have been the brunt of ridicule, anger and hatred. We SURVIVED over millennia. Where other nations rise and fall, Jews remain vital. They roll 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 a Happy, Healthy and Safe New Year to you, your family and friends.



From the Rabbi's Study

וְהִיא רֵאשִׁיתְךָ מִצֶּעַר וְאַחֲרֵיתְךָ יְשָׁגָה מְאֹד:

Though your beginning may be small, in the end you will grow very great.

Job 8:7

Beth Emeth is a community of about seventy members, a significant number in our tradition: Seventy souls went down to Egypt, emerging as a great nation. Seventy facets of Torah address every aspect of our lives.

Seventy elders sat in the Sanhedrin, deliberating great matters during the days of the Temple in Jerusalem.

As I write these words, we are in the midst of the Three Weeks which began on the 17th of Tammuz, commemorating the breaching of the walls of Jerusalem over 2,500 years ago. This led up to the destruction of the **בית המקדש** Holy Temple, which was the epicenter of Jewish life, on Tisha B'Av, the saddest day of our liturgical calendar.

Rabbi Alan Lew ר"ל in his book *This is Real and You Are Completely Unprepared: The Days of Awe as a Journey of Transformation*, writes: "Tisha B'Av is the beginning of Teshuvah, the process of turning that we hope to complete on Yom Kippur... returning to ourselves and God. And The acknowledgment of the unresolved in our lives, as a people, and as individuals... The beginning of the sacred power the Days of Awe... to transform our lives in this moment when we feel the pull of both the waning moon and the setting sun; in this place, in this life, here and now."

My own journey of returning to the ways of our ancestors began over thirty years ago when I felt something was missing from my life. I drifted away from Jewish life during my teens and twenties, seeking spiritual fulfillment elsewhere. Like the man in Rebbe Nachman's story of the Jew who dreamed of a fabulous treasure under a bridge and traveled a great distance to find it, he was guided to return home to unearth a great treasure in his own hearth. I was fortunate to find guides to direct me back home to the wonders and depths of our traditions. One of the most compelling elements of *Yiddishkeit* is the power of our liturgical calendar. Tied to the cycles of the moon and the turning of the seasons, our holidays have a power to transform our lives individually and collectively.

This coming holiday season, as we gather in the warm embrace of community, chanting the ancient words of prayer, hearing the sound of the shofar, tasting the sweetness of apples dipped in honey, shaking the lulav, dwelling in the Sukkah and dancing with the Torah, let's use these wonderful opportunities to return to our most authentic self, in relationship with God and each other in joy and wonder.

Shalom and Blessings,
Reb Lev

From the Editor's Desk

TIME TO THINK ABOUT COMMON COURTESY

I do not usually complain about people socializing, but it seems to have grown to epidemic proportions here at Beth Emeth, and as they say, "the squeaky wheel gets the grease." If you're not aware of it, you won't realize the disturbance.

Almost everybody meets and greets their friends when they see them after a few days, but most are unaware that they may be disturbing others at the time.

I am specifically referring to the beginning of Thursday morning Minyan and the Preliminary Service on Saturday morning, when **the person conducting has been instructed to begin as soon as a minyan** of ten has arrived in the Chapel or Sanctuary. Perhaps I am the only person who thinks it is discourteous to bring our conversation with us when services begin, but most of us are there when minyan begins and are aware of the starting time. We are attending because we have accepted the obligation to pray together as a congregation.

No, I am not advocating that we refrain from socializing, but that we instead meet and greet our friends in the lobby before entering the chapel or Sanctuary, and that we refrain from continuing our conversation until after the conclusion of that morning's worship.

After the service on Saturday, we get together in the Social Hall, and it's another time to **allow courtesy to prevail** by remaining relatively quiet until the blessings over wine, the washing of hands and breaking of bread have been recited, in order to respond, "Amen," to the blessings.

Enough said.



New Class!!!

The Mitzvah of Mindfulness: August 2nd - September 6th

Wednesday's at 9:00am



The Shulchan Aruch, a code of Jewish Laws and Customs, begins with an exhortation to rouse oneself like a lion. In commenting on this, the Tur brings a verse from Psalms:

I place God before me always.

Throughout the day we have many opportunities to return our awareness to being in the presence of The Source of Life, through the vehicle of the mitzvot. In this weekly class we will practice being present through Hebrew chant, torah study (short passages), guided meditation and time for sharing our insights.

Please come and be a part of this exciting class.



Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley is inviting you to join us for the upcoming High Holidays. Rosh Hashanah will begin at sunset on September 15, Yom Kippur will begin at sunset on September 24. We are extending a warm welcome to all who wish to attend. The services will be led by Hazzan Lev Ettelson our new Spiritual Leader and Director of Education at Beth Emeth Congregation who will be joined by Cantor Judith Levy.

Tickets must be obtained from our office, there is no charge for tickets but donations are very much appreciated. The office is open on weekdays from 9 AM until 12 PM. Please call us at (623) 584-7210. All tickets must be picked up in person during office hours at 13702 W. Meeker Boulevard, Sun City West, AZ 85375 no later than 2 weeks before the start of the Holidays. Government issued picture ID must be presented.

**Please note that for Security and Safety everyone must have a ticket for entry!
Security Guards will be on duty.**

The times of the services are as follows:

Rosh Hashanah Eve - September 15, 6:30 PM

Rosh Hashanah morning Day 1: September 16, 9:00 AM

Rosh Hashanah morning Day 2: September 17; 9:00 AM

Kol Nidre: September 24, 5:30 PM

Yom Kippur : Morning service starts September 25, 9:00 AM

Yizkor: September 25, 11:00 AM

Mincha - 5:00 PM

Neilah - 6:00 PM

Maariv - 6:50 PM.

Selichot will be the Saturday before Rosh Hashanah at 7:30 PM

Further details regarding all services during the Holiday season will be updated here, on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/BethEmethCongregation/ and on our website, bethemethaz.org.



Hazzan Lev Ettleson

Office Hours

Available time for meetings:

Wednesday 10:00am - 12:00pm
 1:00pm - 3:00pm
 Thursday 10:00am - 12:00pm
 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Call the office for appointment 623-584-7210

High Holy Days Services

2023

5784

Selichot Night	Saturday - 09/09/23	7:30pm
Rosh Hashanah	Friday - 09/15/23	6:30pm
Rosh Hashanah Morning	Saturday - 09/16/23	9:00am
Rosh Hashanah 2nd Day	Sunday - 09/17/23	9:00am
Shabbat Shuva	Saturday - 09/23/23	9:30am
Yom Kippur—Kol Nidre	Sunday - 09/24/23	5:30pm
Yom Kippur	Monday - 09/25/23	9:00am
Yizkor	Monday - 09/25/23	11:00am
Mincha	Monday - 09/25/23	5:00pm
Neilah	Monday - 09/25/23	6:00pm
End of Fast	Monday - 09/25/23	7:00pm
Erev Sukkot	Friday - 09/29/23	6:00pm
Sukkot	Saturday - 09/30/23	9:30am
Sukkot 2nd Day	Sunday - 10/01/23	9:30am
Shemini Atzeret	Saturday - 10/07/23	9:30am
Yizkor	Saturday - 10/07/23	11:00am
Erev Simchat Torah	Saturday - 10/07/23	7:00pm
Simchat Torah	Sunday - 10/08/23	9:30am



Ice Cream Social May 28th, 2023

35 people attended, everyone had a wonderful time!

Look who was in town! Tricia popped in to say "Hi!" So wonderful to see her!



Our tag team greeters...
Thank you for checking people in





A Year In Review

2022-2023

5783

It was a very busy year. Sisterhood planned 18 programs/events in the last 9 months. Heartfelt gratitude is due to everyone who helped with planning, preparations, set-up, clean-up, participated in, and those that helped sponsor programs! Each of you helped it make them possible. There are a few to whom a special Thank You is necessary:

September Challah Bake —Adrienne Kirshner

October Preservation and Remembrance Presentation—

Stacey McEnnan

November Jewish Trivia canceled as Ketzi was ill.

December Lots of Latkes - Adrienne Kirshner and Shelly Bailey

January Safety Program - Shelly Bailey

Painting Party - Barbara Bennett

Dance Exercise - Marla Solarz

February Tu B'Shevat - Seder the set up and clean up crew

Book Review - Ann Goldfarb

2nd Dance Exercise - Marla Solarz

Jan and February Hamantashen baking - Carol Madvig
and all those who came to help bake, fill and tag bags



March Off to the Races - Natalie Morrison

Low Vision Speaker - Diane Shapiro

Crafting Party - Diane Shapiro

Salty Dawgs Concert - Natalie Morrison

April Yom HaShoah Program - Dr Ruth Callahan

Preparing for Passing - Russ Persinger, from
Sinai Mortuary and Wendy Konick, from Sinai Cemetery

May Afternoon Tea - Dr. Stacey McEnnan

Ice Cream Social

An Extra Big Thank you to Rosie Colbert and Joan Rothfeld for
their generous sponsorship of our programs!Ketzi Toney



Owen Segall	08/07/2023
Beverly Merchant	08/09/2023
Charlie Tarnor	08/16/2023
Francine Campbell	08/19/2023
Gerald Himmelfarb	08/19/2023
Louis Koshar	08/19/2023
Herb Leibovitz	08/25/2023
Bradley Davidson	08/28/2023
Sharon Rothzeit	08/29/2023
Barbara Newman	08/30/2023
Donald Stevens	09/04/2023
Jack Katz	09/06/2023
Harris Popolow	09/06/2023
Marilyn Newberg	09/08/2023
Sherry Davidson	09/09/2023
Phyllis Marcus	09/17/2023
Harry Newman	09/17/2023
Ronald Paul	09/21/2023
Susan Hinton	09/24/2023
Sonia Marshall	09/29/2023



James & Esther Toney	08/11/23
Mark & Madelaine Friedman	08/17/23
Arthur & Barbara Bennett	08/21/23
Max & Sherry Lazar	09/05/23
Louis & Marion Koshar	09/12/23

Our sincere thanks for the following donations

Yahrzeit Fund

In memory of Ethel Immerman

Arnold Becker

In memory of Ben & Bernard Lowenthal

Joy & Peter Epstein

In memory of Mary & Irving Scher

Ann Goldfarb

In memory of Seymour Hesch

Morrie Hesch

In memory of Bessie & Harry Lazar

Max & Sherry Lazar

In memory of Elsa and Barbara Paul

Ronald Paul

In memory of Jacob Goldberg/Isadore Weissbuch

Cecelia and Mark Weissbuch

In memory of Molly Merchant

Beverly Merchant

In memory of Philip Rothfeld

Joan Rothfeld

In Memory of Nancy Bornstein Marcus

Elliot & Phyllis Marcus & Family

In memory of Hanna and Steve Behrendt

Tom Behrendt

In memory of Isaac Koven and Gertrude Casper

Sheldon Koven

In memory of Eli Witt

Natalie Morrison

In Memory of Israel Ben-Yosef

Myron & Shoshana Perlmutter

Kiddush Fund

In honor of Alice Mason

Kathryn Magedman

Natalie Morrison

Jamie Rothschild

Morrie Hesch

Gyorgyi Rosenthal

Paula Forster

Mel Friedman

Diane Freilich

Rosemary Abrami

Marilyn Newberg

Susan Barnett

Arnie Becker

Saul and Sharon Rothzeit

In honor of her birthday

Gyorgyi Rosenthal

In honor of Rosemary Abrami and

Morrie Hesch

Sonia Marshall

In honor of Cheri and Lew Samuels

Susan Barnett

In honor of Rabbinical Candidate

Rosemary Abrami

In honor of her birthday

Joan Rothfeld

In Memory of George Faludi

Susan Faludi

General Donations

Rosie Colbert

Marisela Erichsen

Ellen Sue Saperstein—Aliyah

Sylvia Choy

Cards

Ketzi and Jim Toney

Natalie Morrison

Leah & Charlie Tarnor

Memorial Plaques

Erica & Oren Sieff

Joy Epstein

Diane Freilich

Mel Friedman

Yizkor

Arnold Becker

Ronald Paul



In Loving Memory

The following Yahrzeits will be observed during Av—Elul -5783

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 at 9:00 a.m. Minyan.

Date Observed		Deceased	Observant	Relationship
8/2/2023	Av 15, 5783	Hanan Ben-Yosef	Shoshana Perlmutter	Brother
8/2/2023	Av 15, 5783	Melvin J. Silverman	Iris Silverman	Brother
8/4/2023	Av 17, 5783	Robert Fisher	Shelly Moschel	Father
8/6/2023	Av 19, 5783	Jack Dorman	Paula Forster	Uncle
8/9/2023	Av 22, 5783	Lillian Himmelfarb	Gerald Himmelfarb	Mother
8/10/2023	Av 23, 5783	Steven Behrendt	Tom Behrendt	Son
8/10/2023	Av 23, 5783	Barbara Paul	Ronald Paul	Wife
8/11/2023	Av 24, 5783	Janh Davidson	Bradley Davidson	Mother
8/13/2023	Av 26, 5783	Max Moskowitz	Stephen & Rachelle Lederman	Father
8/13/2023	Av 26, 5783	Sam Rosen	Bernard Rosen	Father
8/15/2023	Av 28, 5783	Abraham Rothenberg	Owen Segall	Grandfather
8/18/2023	Elul 1, 5783	Rose Kanter	Phyllis Frank	Mother
8/18/2023	Elul 1, 5783	Harry Friedman	Ketzi Toney	Father
8/22/2023	Elul 5, 5783	Adeline Luckman	Ramona Luckman	Mother
8/23/2023	Elul 6, 5783	Gertrude Casper	Sheldon Koven	Aunt
8/23/2023	Elul 6, 5783	Martin J. Debber	Stanley Debber	Father
8/27/2023	Elul 10, 5783	Arthur Rosen	Alice Mason	Brother
8/27/2023	Elul 10, 5783	Isadore Weissbuch	Cecelia Weissbuch	Husband
8/30/2023	Elul 13, 5783	Oscar Segall	Owen Segall	Grandfather
8/31/2023	Elul 14, 5783	Harry Koshar	Louis Koshar	Brother



In Loving Memory

The following Yahrzeits will be observed during Elul 5783 - Tishrei 5784

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
at 9:00 a.m. Minyan.

Date	Observed	Deceased	Observant	Relationship
9/1/2023	Elul 15, 5783	Joel Merchant	Beverly Merchant	Husband
9/9/2023	Elul 23, 5783	Harry Caplan	David Caplan	Father
9/9/2023	Elul 23, 5783	Donald Lehrer	Irene Lehrer	Husband
9/10/2023	Elul 24, 5783	Esther Bernstein	Alice Bernstein	Mother-in-law
9/11/2023	Elul 25, 5783	Molley E. Barnett	Susan Barnett	Mother
9/11/2023	Elul 25, 5783	Helen Koven	Sheldon Koven	Mother
9/12/2023	Elul 26, 5783	Dora Comisar	Susan Barnett	Grandmother
9/13/2023	Elul 27, 5783	Samuel Koven	Sheldon Koven	Father
9/15/2023	Elul 29, 5783	Charles Kram	William Kram	Brother
9/15/2023	Elul 29, 5783	Howard Marshall	Sonia Marshall	Husband
9/16/2023	Tishrei 1, 5784	Sigrid Kram	William Kram	Wife
9/19/2023	Tishrei 4, 5784	Roy Cohen	Ramona Luckman	Husband
9/19/2023	Tishrei 4, 5784	Murray Friedman	Sharon Rothzeit	Father
9/21/2023	Tishrei 6, 5784	Pearl Jamison	Phyllis Marcus	Mother
9/21/2023	Tishrei 6, 5784	Irving Wilshinsky	Francine Campbell	Father
9/22/2023	Tishrei 7, 5784	Estelle Webber	Marion Koshar	Mother
9/26/2023	Tishrei 11, 5784	Sol Becker	Arnold Becker	Father
9/27/2023	Tishrei 12, 5784	Lillian Middleman	Owen Segall	Aunt
9/29/2023	Tishrei 14, 5784	Rose Rosen	Alice Mason	Mother
9/30/2023	Tishrei 15, 5784	Judge Joseph Goldstein	Elinor Goldstein	Husband
9/30/2023	Tishrei 15, 5784	Martha Loehman	Arthur Bennett	Mother
9/30/2023	Tishrei 15, 5784	Yetta Segall	Owen Segall	Mother

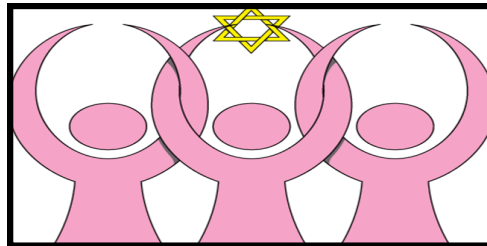


CALLING ALL MEN

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



Come join in 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.



August 2023

Av—Elul 5783

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4 Light: 7:07	5
		14 Av	15 Av	16 Av	17 Av	18 Av
6	7	8	9	10	11 Light: 7:00	12
19 Av	20 Av	21 Av	22 Av	23 Av	24 Av	25Av
13	14	15	16	17	18 Light: 6:53	19
Av 26	Av 27	Av 28	Av 29	Av 30	Elul 1	Elul 2
20	21	22	23	24	25 Light: 6:44	26
Elul 3	Elul 4	Elul 5	Elul 6	Elul 7	Elul 8	Elul 9
27	28	29	30	31		
Elul 10	Elul 11	Elul 12	Elul 13	Elul 14		

September 2023

Elul 5783 — Tishrei 5784

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 Light: 6:35 15 Elul	2 16 Elul
3 17 Elul	4 Labor Day 18 Elul	5 19 Elul	6 20 Elul	7 21 Elul	8 Light: 6:26 22 Elul	9 23 Elul
10 24 Elul	11 25 Elul	12 26 Elul	13 27 Elul	14 28 Elul	15 Light 6:16 Erev Rosh Hashanah 29 Elul	16 First Day Rosh Hashanah 1 Tishrei
17 Second Day Rosh Hashanah 2 Tishrei	18 Fast of Gedaliah 3 Tishrei	19 4 Tishrei	20 Observer Deadline 5 Tishrei	21 6 Tishrei	22 Light: 6:07 7 Tishrei	23 Shabbat Shuvah 8 Tishrei
24 Erev Yom Kippur—Kol Nidre 9 Tishrei	25 Yom Kippur Yizkor 10 Tishrei	26 11 Tishrei	27 12 Tishrei	28 13 Tishrei	29 Light: 5:57 Erev Sukkot 14 Tishrei	30 First Day Sukkot 15 Tishrei

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 Board

Tom Behrendt	President
Marilyn Newberg	1st Vice President
Iris Johnson	2nd Vice President
Natalie Morrison	3rd Vice President
Jordan Colbert	4th Vice President
Paula Forster	Treasurer
Irene Lehrer	Financial Secretary
Susan Hersch	Recording Secretary

Thank You 

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!

DIRECTORS

Arnold Becker
Arthur Bennett
Rhoda Lessner
Leah Tarnor
Esther Toney

Men's Club

President

**Sisterhood
President**

**Immediate Past
President**

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



Also Shabbat Candles on sale - Box of 72 for \$8.00

We also now have several fine art pieces for sale.

Stop in anytime Monday - Friday 9am to 12pm
(Payment accepted by check or cash or credit card)