

# Beth Emeth Observer

## BETH EMETH CONGREGATION

13702 W. Meeker Blvd.,  
Sun City West, AZ 85375  
623-584-7210

bethemethaz@gmail.com  
www.bethemethaz.org

Office hours Mon-Fri - 9 AM - 12 PM

**Hazzan Lev Ettelson**

*Spiritual Leader & Director of Education*

**Adar I - Adar II 5784**  
**March 2024**

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



***Purim Service times:***  
***Saturday March 23rd at 7:45pm***

***Sunday Morning Service in the Library***  
***at 9:00am***

***Please join us for the reading of the***  
***Megillah and enjoy Hamantaschen***  
***After the services***

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### SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING

#### March

03/01	6:07
03/08	6:13
03/15	6:18
03/22	6:24
03/29	6:29

**Volume 2024**  
**Number 3**



## FROM THE DESK OF TOM BEHRENDT, PRESIDENT



We at Beth Emeth Congregation are so blessed to have found Reb Lev as our Spiritual Leader and the impact that he has made in the short time that he has been with us has been amazing, Yasher Koach and Thank You. His classes are open to members and non-members as well. They are very interesting and thought provoking.

The election for the Position of 2nd Vice President was held on February 18 and Esther (Ketzi) Toney was declared the winner. I want to thank Dr. Iris Johnson for her many contributions to Beth Emeth and look forward to her continuous input and help in making Beth Emeth a viable part of the West Valley.

I was told that if you have to make withdrawals from your 401 account, you can use part of that to pay your dues to Beth Emeth tax free. I would suggest that you ask your financial advisor to ensure that is correct.

Purim is coming and as the major fund raiser for Sisterhood, I would like to ask you to participate in the giving of Mishloach Manot to friends and Family. Forms are in the Lobby. This is a wonderful way to spread the wonderful Hamantashen that Sisterhood has baked and bring a smile to those that get to enjoy them.

Finally, The Board and I are here to help make the Best Experience at Beth Emeth possible, We are available to help with any problem you might have and will work to get them resolved. We also are looking for suggestions for programs and activities that are of interest to you.

### Services

Thursday 9:00am  
Friday 6:00pm - *New time starts March 1*  
Saturday 9:30am



## Words from the Heart: Reflections on Torah and Tradition by Hazzan Lev Ettelson

לִיהוּדִים הָיְתָה אוֹרָה וְשִׂמְחָה וְשָׂשׂוֹן וִיקָר:

"The Jews had light and gladness and happiness and honor." (Esther 8:16)

Purim is the archetypal Jewish holiday and the template for the old joke, "They tried to kill us, we survived, let's eat!" Indeed, feasting with friends is an integral part of the holiday. It is a holiday that represents unity as embodied in the Mitzvahs of sending food to friends and giving tzedakah unstintingly (we don't turn anyone away empty handed). Unlike all the other holidays, the events which we commemorate happened outside of the Land of Israel. Unlike the other Rabbinically decreed holiday of Hanukkah, the miracle was concealed.

The Sages teach us that there is an allusion to Purim in the Torah:

וְאֲנֹכִי הַסֵּתֵר אֶסְתִּיר פָּנַי בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא עַל כָּל־הָרָעָה אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה כִּי פָנָה אֱלֹהִים אֲחֵרִים:

"And I will surely hide my face on that day for all the evils which they shall have perpetrated, in that they have turned to other gods." The words, "surely hide my face" in Hebrew are *Haster Astir* sharing the same root letters as Esther. Unique among the twenty-four books in the Tanach (Scriptures), G-d's name is not explicitly written once in Megillah Esther. The word *HaMelech* (The King), however, is written throughout the Megillah. Whenever it appears alone (without the name Achashverosh) this represents the Sovereign of the Universe. Curiously, the word *HaMelech* figures prominently in the high holiday liturgy. Indeed, the Talmud refers to Yom Kippur as Yom Ha-Ki-Purim: a day like Purim. The Sages teach us that in the Messianic Era, only two holidays shall remain, Purim and Yom Kippur.

On the surface, these two holidays seem opposite from one another, Yin (expansive) and Yang (constrictive). On Purim we dress in colorfully festive clothing, eating and drinking to excess until we reach the place of not knowing the difference between "Cursed be Haman and Blessed be Mordechai." On Yom Kippur we wear white, fasting until we reach an angelic state of consciousness where we are one with the One. These are two sides of the same coin. On Yom Kippur we transcend our physical needs to attain a state of purity and unity (*devekut*) while on Purim we indulge our senses to go beyond our usual limitations, in celebration of our union with G-d and one another. As it says in Psalms 100:2 "Serve G-d with happiness, come into the Presence with shouts of joy!"

There are times in our individual and collective lives when G-d's presence is greatly concealed. During these days of war and wide spread antisemitism, it is easy to fall into despair. Yet, we are witnessing the miracle of Jewish unity and awakening. Jews (and allies) all over the world are supporting one another in our homeland and in the diaspora in a variety of creative ways. Together we can accomplish great things; in joy we can transcend the barriers that exist among ourselves and between us and our Creator. During the Havdalah service we recite the verse that I quoted at the beginning and we add the words "So may it be for us." Amen!

# From the Editor's Desk

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT??

My 2016 Meriam-Webster Dictionary defines a minion as “1. A servile dependent, follower or underling; 2. One highly favored; 3. A subordinate official.”

Missing is the definition as I would spell the word: minyan. Public worship cannot take place if there are fewer than ten Jews present. The following portions of the service are never said unless a minyan is present:

- Kaddish, the Sanctification of G-d's name
- Kedusha, a prayer in the Amidah, the Eighteen Benedictions
- Borchu, the call to bless G-d
- Birkat Kohanim, the Priestly Benediction
- Reader's repetition of the Amidah, the Eighteen Benedictions
- Reading of the Torah

The basis for requiring a minyan for prayers that sanctify G-d's name is the Biblical passage from Leviticus 22:32: “... that I may be sanctified in the midst of the Israelite people.” The sanctification of G-d's Name is not a private matter, but a public act in the midst of a community.

This brings me to the actual topic of this month's article: THE MINYANAIRS. Who are they and what function do they perform at Beth Emeth?

Editorial license allows my personal observations: They are the glue which holds our congregation together. The men and women who assure attendance at Thursday's morning service, Friday's Erev Shabbat service and Saturday morning's Shabbat Service, and assure there is a minyan at the cemetery for funerals as well as Shiva Minyans at the homes of mourners. They're also the members of our congregation who regularly add to the Tzedakah pushke at our Thursday morning minyan.

And there's always room for you!







## March Events 2024- Save the dates!



**Sunday March 3rd**  
**Ikebana Japanese Flower Arranging Demonstration 1:00 pm**  
**Cost \$10 members \$15 nonmembers**



**Sunday March 17th**  
**Lunch and Learn with Hazzan Lev Ettelson 12:30 pm**  
**Cost \$18 members \$20 nonmembers**  
**RSVP by March 13th**



**Friday, March 22nd**  
**Join Tikvah - West Valley Hadassah at Beth Emeth for Friday night services**  
**6:00 pm**



**Sunday March 31**  
**Bowling 10:00 am**  
**Johnson Lane Sports Pavilion**  
**19803 N. RH Johnson Blvd, SCW**  
**Cost \$12 for two games plus shoes**  
**RSVP by March 22nd**

**Tuesday, April 2**  
**Wine Tasting 4:00-6:00 pm**  
**Total Wine & More**  
**13440 N Prasada Parkway, Surprise AZ 85388**  
**Cost \$25 members: \$30 for nonmembers**  
**RSVP by March 25th**



**Send checks to Sisterhood Beth Emeth Congregation**  
**13702 West Meeker Blvd, SCW, AZ 85375**  
**To pay by credit card**  
**In person or by phone M-F 9:00 am - noon – please call 623-584-7210**

It gives me great pleasure to welcome our newest member, Marcia Bronson, to our congregation. Marcia joined February 18th. She had previously been a Beth Emeth member and drifted away over the years. When invited by her friend, also a newer member, to attend Game Day, she was encouraged to join both Sisterhood and the congregation, which she did. This is the power of friendship!

I imagine that each of us has at least one Jewish friend that is not affiliated anywhere. Might I suggest inviting them to attend an event with you? Encourage them to become a member...share why you feel being a member is important! You have nothing to lose and we have everything to gain. Today more than ever we need each other.

I hope that you will consider inviting your friends to join us and helping our Beth Emeth Congregation family grow. Am Yisrael Chai! May we go from strength to strength.

Ketzi Toney,  
2nd VP Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley

## Game Day a Big Success!!

On Sunday February 18th, 2024, 27 people came to enjoy playing the Horse Racing Board Game...and snacking on yummy treats! The program was enjoyed by all. Many individuals donated their winnings ( in nickels ) after the event. Thank you to Natalie Morrison for organizing this fun event, and to Susan Hersch for rolling all those nickels!

To view more photos of Game day or of other events visit our web site [bethemethaz.org](http://bethemethaz.org)





<b>Suzanne Shlian</b>	<b>03/01/2024</b>
<b>Diane Freilich</b>	<b>03/02/2024</b>
<b>Madelaine Friedman</b>	<b>03/05/2024</b>
<b>Morrie Hesch</b>	<b>03/06/2024</b>
<b>James May</b>	<b>03/10/2024</b>
<b>Stanley Debber</b>	<b>03/15/2024</b>
<b>Sherry Laphem</b>	<b>03/26/2024</b>
<b>Mary Flint</b>	<b>03/31/2024</b>
<b>Sheldon Koven</b>	<b>03/31/2024</b>



<b>Myron &amp; Shoshana Perlmutter</b>	<b>03/04/2024</b>
<b>Susan Hersch</b>	<b>03/18/2024</b>





**WITH BETH EMETH**  
**CONGREGATION OF THE WEST VALLEY**

**SUNDAY**

**MARCH 31ST, 10:00 AM**

**Johnson Lane Sports Pavilion**

**19803 N. R.H. Johnson Blvd.**

**Sun City West, AZ 85375**

**\$12 PP INCLUDES 2 GAMES AND SHOES**

**FIRST COME FIRST SERVE!!**

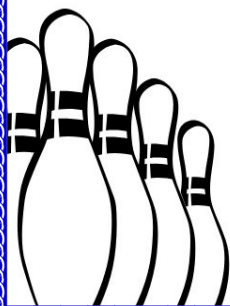
**BOOK BY MARCH 22ND**

*Send check to Sisterhood Beth Emeth Congregation*

*13702 W. Meeker Blvd., Sun City West, AZ 85375*

*OR call 623-584-7210 to charge to your Visa or*

*Mastercard*





# Wine *Tasting*

Join us for an exquisite wine tasting  
experience...an afternoon filled with the  
finest Israeli Kosher wines, some  
delectable bites, and heartwarming  
cheer!

**Sponsored by the Sisterhood of Beth Emeth  
Congregation West Valley to be held at:  
Total Wine & More  
13440 N. Prasada Parkway  
Surprise, AZ 85388**

***Tuesday, April 2, 2024, 4:00 - 6:00 PM***  
***\$25 pp for members; \$30 pp for non-members***  
***SEATING IS LIMITED RSVP BY MARCH 25TH***

*Send check to Sisterhood Beth Emeth Congregation  
13702 West Meeker Blvd.  
Sun City West, AZ, 85375 OR call 623-584-7210 to  
use your Mastercard or Visa.*





**Purim begins  
the evening of March 23rd, 2024  
Time to Order your Hamantaschen  
Deadline for ordering is  
March 15th.  
Please Order As Soon As Possible**

You may order individual gift bags for \$6.50 each, complete with a tag of good wishes indicating it's from you. Each bag contains 8 hamantaschen.

Discount for ordering 10 or more bags to \$6.00 each bag.

You may send a bag to every congregant for only \$136

Bakers Dozens available for \$15 per mixed dozen only.

Order forms may be printed from our web site [bethemethaz.org](http://bethemethaz.org)  
or picked up in our office in the foyer

**All orders must be accompanied by payment**

Checks should be made out to

**Sisterhood** Beth Emeth Congregation

Or

**Pay by credit card in person in the office as we must have your form of recipients.** You may pay by phone if you are choosing to send a bag to all

congregants, or only ordering extra dozens.

All other orders have to be made in the office.

Note: Due to decreased filling donations, mixed variety orders only

All orders must be picked up from the synagogue

Orders will be ready for pick up starting March 20th  
unless prior arrangements have been made by

calling Ketzi 425-890-6792

Questions call our office M-F 9-noon 623-584-7210

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





## PURIM BAG ORDER FORM—DEADLINE MARCH 15TH

Please Print Clearly. Use additional paper and staple it to your form if necessary. Be sure to add your name on second sheet!

Print your name as you would like it on the tag

List Your phone #  
in case we have questions

Cost \$6.50 per bag, \$6.00 per bag when ordering 10 or more bags  
Send a bag to every congregant for \$136 . Baker's Dozens available  
For \$15 per dozen, mixed varieties only due to shortage of fillings.  
Please Print the names of the recipients for each of your bags ordered

1. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

10. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

11. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

12. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes I want to send a bag to All the Congregants \$136. \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
I have ordered \_\_\_\_\_ bags at \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per bag \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ baker's dozens at \$15 per dozen. \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
My Total Order is \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Paid by check # \_\_\_\_\_ Paid by credit card on date \_\_\_\_\_

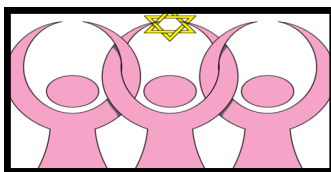
### Make Checks Payable to Sisterhood Beth Emeth Congregation

Credit card payments must be made in the office, **as we must have your form of recipients.** The only exception would be if you are choosing to send a bag to all congregants. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 till noon. 623-584-7210.

Beth Emeth Congregation  
13702 W Meeker Blvd, Sun City West, AZ 85375



# SISTERHOOD



**Sunday March 17th at 12:30pm**  
Lunch and Learn with Hazzan Lev Ettelson  
Cost \$18 members—\$20 nonmembers  
RSVP by March 13th



**Kosher**

**March Service Project**  
We are collecting Kosher Food for Ezras Cholin  
which is a Kosher Food Bank



**Join Us March 3rd**  
**1:00pm**

**For Ikebana Japanese Flower**  
**Arranging/Demonstration**  
**&**  
**Desserts**



**Cost \$10 members**  
**\$15 non members**



**Thank you to Diane Shapiro**  
**For arranging this program**





## *In Loving Memory*

The following Yahrzeits will be observed during Adar I - Adar II -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.

<u>Observed Date</u>		<u>Deceased</u>	<u>Observer</u>	<u>Relationship</u>
3/3/2024	Adar-I 23	Joseph Tarnor	Charlie Tarnor	Father
3/5/2024	Adar-I 25	William Shapiro	Diane Shapiro	Father
3/7/2024	Adar-I 27	GabriElla Farkas	Gyorgyi Rosenthal	Mother
3/7/2024	Adar-I 27	Lillian Friedman	Sharon Rothzeid	Mother
3/7/2024	Adar-I 27	Milton Rothschild	Jamie Rothschild	Father
3/7/2024	Adar-I 27	Robert Shlian	Suzanne Shlian	Husband
3/8/2024	Adar-I 28	Eleanor Shapiro	Diane Shapiro	Mother
3/23/2024	Adar-II 13	Gayle Friedlander	Brad Friedlander	Wife
3/24/2024	Adar-II 14	Anna Libman	Marilyn Newberg	Grandmother
3/27/2024	Adar-II 17	Anna Newman	Harry Newman	Mother
3/29/2024	Adar-II 19	Ruth Heidecker	Andrew Heidecker	Mother
3/29/2024	Adar-II 19	Solomon Moskowitz	Sheldon Koven	Grandfather

## Our sincere thanks for the following donations

### Yahrzeit Fund

In Memory of Mary Reichman  
*Arthur and Barbara Bennett*

In Memory of Henry Rosenstein  
*Joy and Peter Epstein*

In Memory of Yael Friedlander  
*Brad & Marlene Friedlander*

In Memory of Abraham Cuter  
*Mark & Madelaine Friedman*

In Memory of David Stuchlak  
*Susan Hersch*

In Memory of Bernard Casper  
*Sheldon Koven*

In Memory of Joseph Fineberg  
*Sonia Marshall*

In Memory of Elliot Kleinman  
*Sonia Marshall*

In Memory of Goldie Witt  
*Natalie Morrison*

In Memory of Mary Pinkus Halperin  
*Marilyn Newberg*

In Memory of MaryAnn Becker  
*Marilyn Newberg*

In Memory of Regina Rosen  
*Bernard Rosen*

In Memory of Sarah Leibovitz  
*Leah & Charlie Tarnor*

In Memory of Rabbi Robert Sternberg  
*Iris Johnson*

In Memory of Owen Litt  
*Reva Litt*

In Memory of Yitzchoq Litt  
*Reva Litt*

In Memory of Hilda & Reyna Wachs  
*Rita & Marvin Wachs*

In Memory of Edward Rosenberg  
*Rita & Marvin Wachs*

In Memory of Elliot Kleinman  
*Saul & Sharon Rothzeit*

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund Kiddush Fund

*Sally Hall*

### Torah Repair

*Harvey & Rita Zarensky*

*Arnold Becker*

*Andrea & Bruce Cohen*

*Joy and Peter Epstein*

*Brad & Marlene Friedman*

*Melvyn Friedman*

*Suzanne Shlian*

*Ketzi Toney*

*Harvey & Rita Zarensky*

*Iris Johnson*

*Morrie Hesch*

### In honor of William Kram

*Diane Shapiro*

### General Donations

*Joan Rothfeld*

*Marcia Bronson*

*Marisela Erichsen*

*Rosie Colbert*

*Mt Sinai Cemetery*

### In Memory of Rhoda Lessner

*Suzanne Shlian*

### In memory of Herb Leibovitz

*Morrie Hesch*

### Security—Rangers

*Morrie Hesch*

### In Memory of Herb Leibovitz

*Sally Hall*

*Morrie Hesch*

### Cards

*Joy and Peter Epstein*

*Paula Forster*

*Natalie Morrison*

*Joan Rothfeld*

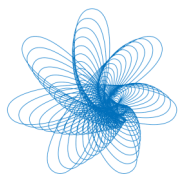
*Ketzi Toney*

*Irene Lehrer*

Donations Received

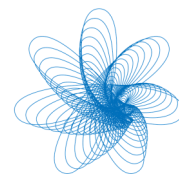
1/25 through 2/21/24





# March 2024

## Adar 1—Adar 11 5784



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 Light 6:07 21 Adar I	2 22 Adar I
3 23 Adar I	24 Adar I	25 Adar I	6 26 Adar I	7 27 Adar I	8 Light 6:13 28 Adar I	9 29 Adar I
10 30 Adar I	11 1 Adar II	12 2 Adar II	13 3 Adar II	14 4 Adar II	15 Light 6:18 5 Adar II	16 7 Adar II
17 8 Adar II	18 9 Adar II	19 First day of spring 10 Adar II	20 Observer deadline 11 Adar II	21 Fast of Esther 12 Adar II	22 Light 6:24 13 Adar II	23 Erev Purim 14 Adar II
24 Purim Megillah Read- ing 15 Adar II	25 Shushan Purim 16 Adar II	26 17 Adar II	27 18 Adar II	28 19 Adar II	29 Light 6:29 20 Adar II	30 21 Adar II
31 22 Adar II						

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.



**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!

## **Beth Emeth Congregation** **Board**

Tom Behrendt	President
Marilyn Newberg	1st Vice President
Ketzi Toney	2nd Vice President
Natalie Morrison	3rd Vice President
Jordan Colbert	4th Vice President
Brad Friedlander	Treasurer
Susan Hersch	Financial Secretary
Andrea Cohen	Recording Secretary
Marlene Friedlander	Corresponding Secretary

**Men's Club**  
**President**

**Sisterhood**  
**President**

### **DIRECTORS**

Arnold Becker  
Arthur Bennett  
Leah Tarnor  
Suzanne Shlian  
Harvey Zarensky

## ***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.

**Yahrzeit Candles**  
**\$1.50 each**



**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)*