

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

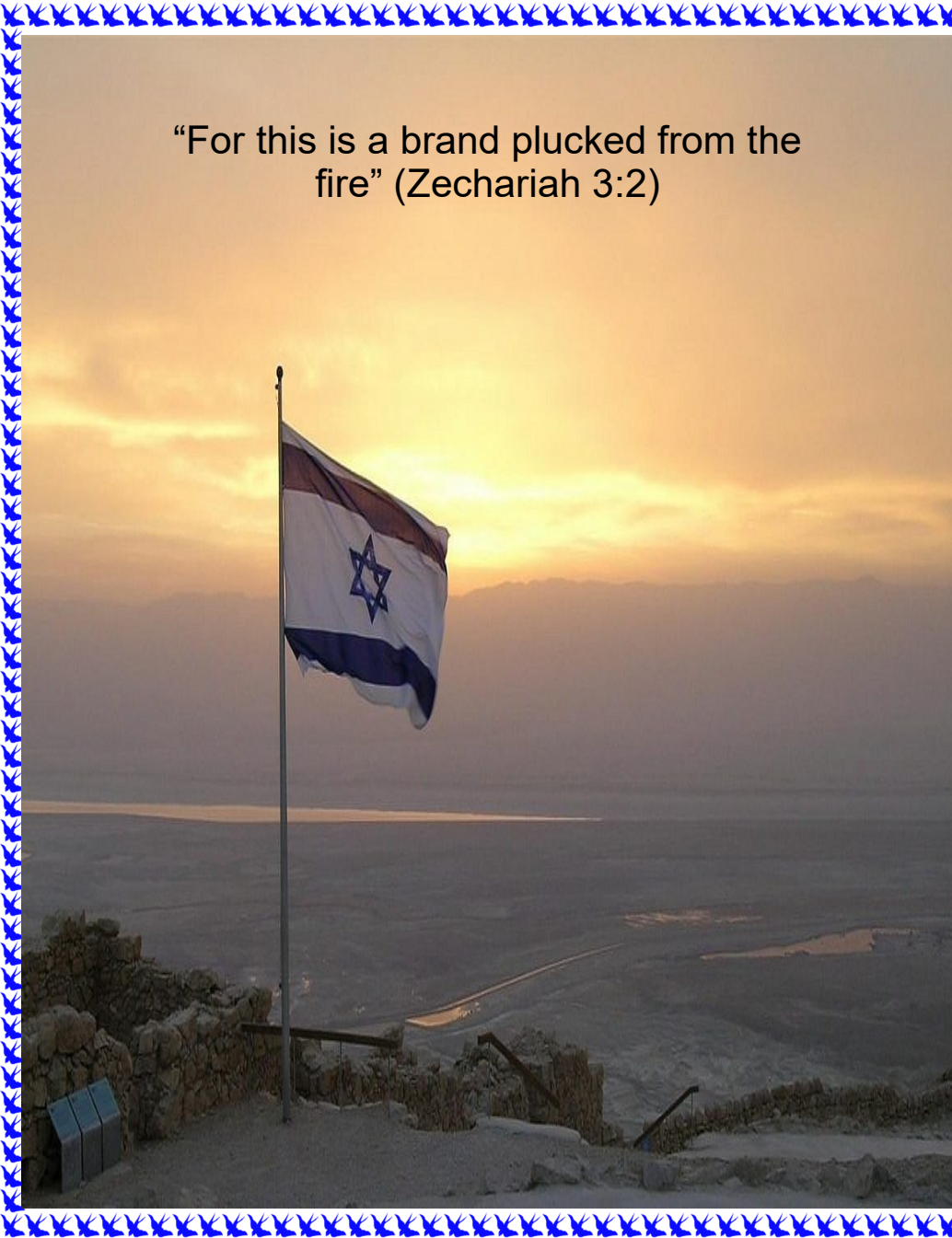
Hazzan Lev Ettelson

Spiritual Leader & Director of Education

Beth Emeth Observer

**Nissan - Iyar 5784
 May 2024**

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



“For this is a brand plucked from the
 fire” (Zechariah 3:2)

Inside this issue

President’s Message	2
From the Rabbi’s Study	3
From the Editor’s Desk	4
Birthdays/Anniversary	5
Upcoming Speaker	6
Important dates	7
Freedom	8
New Siddur order form	9
Sisterhood Bowling	10
Sisterhood Wine Tasting	11
Kosher Food Pantry	12
Yahrzeits	13
Donations	14
Calendar	15

**SHABBAT CANDLE
 LIGHTING**

May 2024

05/03	6:56
05/10	7:02
05/17	7:07
05/24	7:12
05/31	7:16

**Volume 2024
 Number 5**



FROM THE DESK OF TOM BEHRENDT, PRESIDENT

As our Shabbat comes to an end, Israel is defending herself from an unprecedented attack from Iran. Hundreds of drones and missiles have been launched into our Jewish State. We sit glued to our TV's watching images of explosions in the skies above Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, while families in Israel sit in shelters and safe rooms.

Israel is not alone. According to reports, the United States, Britain, France, and even Jordan, have played a role in supporting Israel's defense against Iran. We also have a role to play. We must continue to pray for Israel, as we did this morning in the sanctuary, but more, we must advocate for her now. It is time to raise our voices loudly.

Please use this opportunity to post your support for Israel on social media. A message as simple as "We Stand with Israel" is important. Send messages to our Israeli family and friends and tell them that we're thinking of them. Call the White House and our Congressional Representatives and thank them for their support for Israel against Iran. This is the beginning of a new chapter of this war, and a new chapter in Israel's history. We must not lose hope. We must not stand by. We must not remain quiet. Israel's National Anthem, Hatikvah, commits us — *Od Lo Avdah Tikvateinu* — we have not lost hope. We never will.

Adonai Oz L'Amo Yiten, Adonai Yevarech Et Amo V'Shalom — May God grant God's people strength, may God bless God's nation with peace.

Am Yisrael Chai,

In Other News

The new Prayer Books have arrived in time for Pesach. Dedicating a book in Memory of, or a Simcha is a wonderful opportunity to make a difference. For \$40 you can memorialize a loved one with a plate stating your name and the dedication. I have done it in Memory of my Parents and son.

The Kosher Food Bank in Glendale is in dire need of support and shut-ins. (See page 12) They need donations of Kosher foodstuffs as well as money. Please see either Ketzi, Reb Lev or myself for more information.

The carpets in the Sanctuary and Library were cleaned. Max Cleaning did a great Job and was very reasonable pricewise. The office has their information for anyone looking for tile or carpet cleaning.

A new toilet was installed in the Ladies room that has additional height (elongated bowl). Following Pesach, we will be offering B'Nai Mitzvah tutoring for your grandchildren, your children and yourself. We plan to have an Adult B'Nai Mitzvah celebration in the fall, so think about being a part of that.

I hope everyone had a meaningful Pesach. Thank You, Reb Lev for arranging to buy and sell the Chametz , a wonderful custom.



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



During Passover, we celebrated the journey from bondage to freedom and from darkness to light. We continue that journey as we count the omer everyday until receiving the Torah on Shavuot. The counting of the omer is seen as a time of inner growth and refinement of our character traits according to the teachings of the Ari z"l (Rabbi Isaac Luria).

Along the path to Shavuot there are a few significant milestones along the way: Yom HaShoah, Yom HaZikaron, Yom Ha'Atzmaut and Lag Ba'Omer. It has been almost eighty years since the last concentration camp was liberated on May 9, 1945. In the shadow of genocide we witnessed the rebirth of our nation in our ancestral homeland, Israel.

Seventy-six years ago, on May 14, 1948, Israel declared her independence. From the ashes of the Holocaust rose the phoenix of Israel. After centuries of prayers, hopes, immigration, planning and work, we are witnesses to a modern day miracle. As it says in Deuteronomy 4:3, "...has any deity ventured to go and take one nation from the midst of another by prodigious acts, by signs and portents, by war, by a mighty hand and an outstretched arm and awesome power, as your G-d did for you in Egypt before your very eyes?"

It has been more than 25 years since I first participated in these *Yomim* (days) in the land of Israel and felt their gravitas and significance. Standing in Yad Vashem and on Har Herzl on Yom HaShoah and Yom HaZikaron to hear the memorial prayers was deeply moving. Picnicking in Gan Sachar Park in Jerusalem with Israeli families on Yom Ha'Atzmaut was life affirming. Attending Lag Ba'Omer in Meron (the burial site of Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai whose *yahrzeit* we honor on this day) was another powerful experience of the unity of Am Yisrael.

My friend and colleague, Rabbi Marc Soloway, was in Israel on April 13 as over 300 missiles and drones streaked across the sky from Iran. Miraculously, 99% of them were intercepted with few casualties and limited damage. The next day he was able to board a flight to London to pick up his mother and return to the USA to prepare for Passover and receive an honorary doctorate from the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies on May 20. The story of our people continues as we face many challenges, reaffirm our commitments, celebrate life and continue to pray for the dawn of a new era for the benefit of all.

From the Editor's Desk

May Day, commemorating the historic struggles and gains made by workers and the labor movement, is observed on May 1. In the United States and Canada, a similar observance, which we know as Labor Day, occurs on the first Monday of September.

In 1889 an international federation of socialist groups and trade unions designated May 1 as a day in support of workers, in commemoration of the Haymarket Riot in Chicago, which took place in 1886. Five years later, U.S. President Grover Cleveland, who was uneasy with the socialist origins of Workers' Day, signed legislation to make Labor Day – already held in some states on the first Monday of September - the official U.S. holiday in honor of workers. Canada followed suit not long afterward.

In Europe May 1st was historically associated with pagan festivals, but the original meaning of the day was gradually replaced by the modern association with the labor movement. In the Soviet Union, leaders embraced the new holiday, believing it would encourage workers in Europe and the United States to unite against capitalism. The day became a significant holiday in the Soviet Union and the Eastern-bloc countries, with high-profile parades, including one in Moscow's Red Square presided over by top government and Communist Party functionaries, celebrating the worker, and showcasing Soviet military might. In Germany, Labor Day became an official holiday in 1933 after the rise of the Nazi Party. Ironically, Germany abolished free unions the day after establishing the holiday, virtually destroying the German labor movement.

With the breakup of the Soviet Union and the fall of communist governments in eastern Europe in the late 20th century, large-scale May Day celebrations in that region declined in importance. In dozens of countries around the world, however, May Day has been recognized as a public holiday, and it continues to be celebrated with picnics and parties while serving as the occasion for demonstrations and rallies in support of workers.

Source: The Editors of Encyclopedia Britannica (Revised)
Morrie Hesch, Editor
morriehesch@gmail.org





Mark Friedman	05/15/2024
Joanie Jacobs	05/16/2024
Harvey Zarensky	05/22/2024
Leah Tarnor	05/22/2024
Shoshana Perlmutter	05/25/2024
Marion Koshar	05/28/2024
Joan Rothfeld	05/30/2024



Gary & Enid Cohen	05/4/2024
------------------------------	------------------



Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley

Yom HaShoah Guest Speaker Lori Redman

Sunday May 5th, 2024 at 1:00 pm

Program is free of charge and open to the public

We hope you will join us!

Lori Redman has been in education for the past 30 years both in the US and abroad. She joined Chandler Unified School District five years ago as an English as a Second Language teacher. In 2021, Lori made the switch to history, her true passion, and moved to Chandler High School where she teaches World History and US/AZ History. In 2022, Lori worked to get a Holocaust and Genocide Studies course approved for Chandler Unified District. Chandler High School will open their first section of this course in July 2024.

Lori is a member of the Phoenix Holocaust Association and helped establish a partnership between them and Chandler Unified School District to raise awareness of The Holocaust. The past two years, she has worked with the Martin Springer Institute to have their traveling exhibit, Through the Eyes of Youth, in both Chandler High School and The Chandler Center for the Arts. This allowed more than 1500 people, both the general public and Chandler High students, to view the exhibit.

Lori's talk will focus on the Oneg Shabbos group organized by Emanuel Ringelblum in the Warsaw Ghetto. This group wanted to preserve the memories, thoughts, photographs, and identity of the Jews in the Warsaw Ghetto. The members felt the world needed to know what was really happening in the ghettos and that the Jews were actively fighting back in many ways. It was about facing the future and taking control of the narrative while also keeping their names and memories alive.

Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley

13702 W Meeker Blvd, Sun City West

bethemethaz@gmail.com

623-584-7210

M-F 9 am to noon



Yom Ha'Atzmaut, is Israel's Independence Day
Israel was proclaimed a state on
May 14, 1948, the 5th of Iyar, 5708

Yom HaZikaron, a day of remembrance, recalls the fallen from past wars to the present, and occurs the day before.

Beth Emeth will combine these two special days with a short prayer service, readings and moment of silence prior to moving from sadness to joy and celebrating Israel with an **Israeli dairy dinner**.

Falafel & pita with all the trimmings, tabouli, hummus & veggies, several kinds of salads, desserts and beverages will be served.

Please join us as we stand by Israel, and celebrate her existence, her accomplishments, and support her needs.

May 13th, 2024 at 5:30 pm.

Cost for dinner is \$20 for members, \$25 for non members, with a portion of the proceeds going to Israel.

RSVP with payment is required, Deadline is May 8th

Make checks payable to Sisterhood Beth Emeth Congregation
Or pay by credit card in person or by phone
623-584-7210 M-F 9:00am to noon

Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley
13702 West Meeker Blvd.
Sun City West, AZ, 8537



FREEDOM

FROM THE SANDS OF THE NEGEV
TO THE SEA OF GALILEE
THE WESTERN WALL, JERUSALEM
MASADA, THE DEAD SEA

FROM HAIFA TO JAFFA
SAFED (SAH-FED) AND TEL AVIV
THERE'S PRIDE IN EVERY ISRAELI HEART AND IT'S TIME THE WORLD HEARD US SAY

CHORUS:

WE'RE PROUD TO BE ISRAELIS
FROM THE RIVER TO THE SEA
THIS IS OUR JEWISH HOMELAND
FOR ALL ETERNITY
AND I'LL GLADLY STAND UP NEXT TO YOU, DEFEND HER EVERY DAY
'CAUSE THERE IS NO DOUBT WE LOVE THIS LAND....ERETZ YISROEL



WHEN YOU SEE THE STAR OF DAVID
ON OUR FLAG OF BLUE AND WHITE
REMEMBER THE ISRAELI HEROES WHO NEVER GIVE UP THE FIGHT
WE MUST STAND TOGETHER, SING HATIKVAH WITH ALL WE'VE GOT
FROM THE HEIGHTS OF GOLAN AND THE SHORELINE OF EILAT.....

REPEAT CHORUS:

WE'RE PROUD TO BE ISRAELIS FROM THE RIVER TO THE SEA
THIS IS OUR JEWISH HOMELAND FOR ALL ETERNITY
AND I'LL GLADLY STAND UP NEXT TO YOU, DEFEND HER EVERY DAY
'CAUSE THERE IS NO DOUBT WE LOVE THIS LAND...ERETZ YISROEL



NOW MORE THAN EVER, WE MUST COME TOGETHER AS ONE
UNITED NO MATTER WHERE OR HOW YOU PRAY
UNDERNEATH THE GOLDEN SUN
WE MUST NEVER FORGET, ALL THE LOVED ONES WE HAVE LOST
TAKEN IN ALL THE WARS WE'VE FOUGHT, MILLIONS IN THE HOLOCAUST.....

REPEAT CHORUS AGAIN:

WE'RE PROUD TO BE ISRAELIS
FROM THE RIVER TO THE SEA
THIS IS OUR JEWISH HOMELAND FOR ALL ETERNITY
AND I'LL GLADLY STAND UP NEXT TO YOU, DEFEND HER EVERY DAY
'CAUSE THERE IS NO DOUBT WE LOVE THIS LAND....ERETZ YISROEL

These are the lyrics from the song Gary Cohen wrote about Israel. This song is sung to the tune of Lee Greenwood's "God Bless The USA" but these lyrics are original and written by Gary Cohen.



LEV SHALEM SIDDUR

Following the recommendation of the Ritual Committee, the board has approved the purchase of 75 Lev Shalom siddurim.

The cost of each siddur is \$40. The Board is asking members of the Congregation to consider donating the cost of one or more Siddurim in honor/memory of a loved one, or for a special event in their lives such as a birthday, anniversary, birth of a grandchild, etc. Each Siddur will be inscribed with a book plate with the donor's name.

We are excited about these new prayer books. They are user-friendly and easy to read. Its pages include Hebrew-English transliterations, choreography notes (when to stand, sit etc.), and other valuable information about the prayers and prayer service. These modern siddurim will meet the needs of all our congregants regardless of their knowledge of Hebrew and they will add understanding, meaning and enjoyment to the prayer service for all our members.

We hope you will want to participate. Please complete the form below and return it to the Congregation office with your payment.

Congregant's Name(s), as you wish it to appear on the Book Plate:

_____.

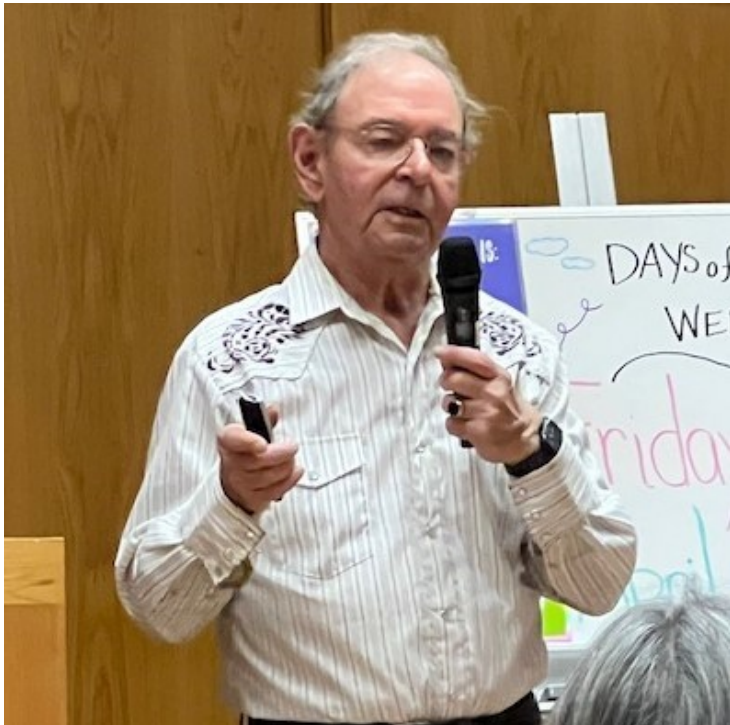
Number of Siddurim to be purchased _____.

Inscription for each Siddur:

Any questions should be addressed to Reb Lev, Natalie Morrison or Arnold Becker.



Bowling... On March 31st participants enjoyed bowling, it was a small group but fun none-the-less....

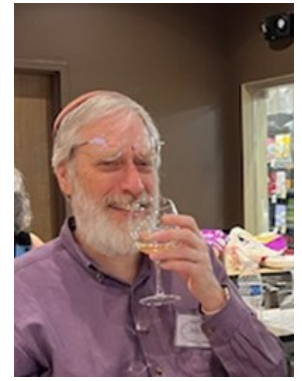


Jewish Gangster Lecture

April 14th

We thank Bill Weiss and his wife for coming from Prescott to do the lecture.

Bill was knowledgeable and engaging. The program was enjoyed by all.



Wine Tasting April 2nd 2024



At 4:00 pm 27 participants gathered together at Total Wine & More, 13440 N Prasad Parkway, in Surprise, for a wonderful class on Kosher wines.



The class was informative and the wines were delightful. Everyone enjoyed the program. We were delighted to have several members of the Wine Tasting Club from Grand join us!

A big thank you to Bill Gotti for sharing his expertise and for teaching the class, to Reb Lev for coordinating in the types of wines, and to Andrea Cohen for arranging the program!



To view more photos, or learn about up-coming events visit our web site bethemethaz.org

KOSHER FOOD PANTRY IN TROUBLE – YOU CAN HELP

A recent article in the Arizona Republic informed readers of the imminent closing of the Arizona Kosher Food Pantry. The article stated there is not enough support from the community for the food pantry to remain in operation. We can help keep them open. I am not aware of any other organization making Kosher food available.

The Arizona Kosher Food Pantry has been recipient of food collected at Beth Emeth Congregation, as well as other sources, and distributes to the entire community – regardless of religious affiliation.

They are a 501 (C) (3) organization, and donations are deductible for tax purposes. Here's how to reach them:

Arizona Kosher Food Pantry
7118 North 7 th Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85020
(602) 492-4989

I'm sure donations in any amount will be welcome.

Morrie Hesch, Editor
morriehesch@gmail.com

Thank you to all who donated food to the Kosher Food Pantry during the Sisterhood drive. The food was delivered and **most** appreciated. The need continues!

3/28/24, 1:29 PM Charity Fundraiser flyer.jpg

Ezras Cholim & The Arizona Kosher Food Pantry

CHARITY FUNDRAISER

Partner with an unforgettable organization of giving and community help by donating much needed funds and / or your time, sponsoring Tomchei Shabbos meals, sponsoring utilities or needed expenses.

THE DATE:
2024 CALENDAR YEAR

THE TIME:
RIGHT NOW

SEND YOUR DONATIONS:

Zelle: Donate@AZKosherpantry.org

www.azkosherpantry.org

7118 N 7th St Phoenix, AZ 85020

AZ Kosher Food Pantry is registered as a 501(c)(3) & a Qualified Charitable Organization
Use Code: 22071 for your Donation Tax Credit by the I.R.S.

Rent	\$700	Processing	\$205
Electricity	\$1700	Phones/Net	\$280
Gas	\$180	Vehicle	\$650
Water	\$240	Commissary	\$170
Labor	\$15,000	Insurance	\$850
Misc. Supplies / Expenses	\$4000		

Let's come together and make a difference in the lives of those who need it most. Your support is very important, we thank you, and may you always be blessed.

Call us (602) 492-4989



In Loving Memory

The following Yahrzeits will be observed during Nissan – Iyar 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>Date Observed</u>		<u>Deceased</u>	<u>Observer</u>	<u>Relationship</u>
5/3/2024	Nissan 25	Ruth Abrams	Marlene Friedlander	Step-mother
5/3/2024	Nissan 25	Elsie Sussman	Jamie Rothschild	Grandmother
5/5/2024	Nissan 27	Hyman Marcus	Elinor Goldstein	Father
5/5/2024	Nissan 27	Hyman Marcus	Phyllis Marcus	Father-in-law
5/8/2024	Nissan 30	Ellen Glazer	Marlene Friedlander	Sister
5/8/2024	Nissan 30	Edward Schweitzer	Suzanne Shlian	Father
5/9/2024	Iyar 1	Lotte Beschán	Gail Davis	Lifetime Mentor
5/9/2024	Iyar 1	Victor Ezraty	Jack Ezraty	Father
5/11/2024	Iyar 3	Herman Rovinsky	Andrea Cohen	Father
5/12/2024	Iyar 4	Jules Baer	Alice Bernstein	Father
5/12/2024	Iyar 4	William Besselman	Irene Lehrer	Father
5/12/2024	Iyar 4	Ruth Kram	William Kram	Mother
5/16/2024	Iyar 8	Norma Rosen	Bernard Rosen	Wife
5/17/2024	Iyar 9	Meyer Libman	Marilyn Newberg	Grandfather
5/17/2024	Iyar 9	Mary Scher	Ann Goldfarb/Clapp	Mother
5/17/2024	Iyar 9	Ruth Tarnor	Charlie Tarnor	Mother
5/19/2024	Iyar 11	Arthur Dorf	Sherry Lazar	Father
5/19/2024	Iyar 11	Louis Magedman	Kathryn Magedman	Father-in-law
5/21/2024	Iyar 13	Ethel Adele Dorman	Paula Forster	Mother
5/21/2024	Iyar 13	Asna Rifka	Sheldon Koven	Grandmother
5/24/2024	Iyar 16	Gertrude Besselman	Irene Lehrer	Mother
5/25/2024	Iyar 17	Kay Feldman	Iris Silverman	Sister
5/28/2024	Iyar 20	Betty Rothfeld	Joan Rothfeld	Mother
5/28/2024	Iyar 20	Florence Rothschild	Jamie Rothschild	Mother
5/29/2024	Iyar 21	Marc Lowenthal	Joy Epstein	Brother
5/30/2024	Iyar 22	Mildred Becker	Arnold Becker	Mother
5/31/2024	Iyar 23	Libby Pinkes	Iris Silverman	Sister
5/31/2024	Iyar 23	Leonard Relin	Susan Barnett	Husband

Our sincere thanks for the following donations

Yahrzeit Fund

In Memory of Marc Steven Isaacson

Arthur & Barbara Bennett

In Memory of Saul Punyon

Gail Davis

In Memory of Matilda Friedman

Mark & Madelaine Friedman

In Memory of Clair Naidorf

Mark & Madelaine Friedman

In Memory of Ruth Heidecker

Andrew & Jan Heidecker

In Memory of Edith Hesch

Morrie Hesch

In Memory of Allison Hesch

Morrie Hesch

In Memory of Soloman Moskowitz

Sheldon Koven

In Memory of Judith and Ida Koven

Sheldon Koven

In Memory of Beverly Casper

Sheldon Koven

In Memory of Samuel Jamison

Phyllis Marcus

In Memory of Joseph Tarnor

Charlie and Leah Tarnor

In Memory of Martin Morrison

Natalie Morrison

Kiddush Fund

Birthday Kiddush

Saul & Sharon Rothzeit

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Susan Hersch

3/21/24 through 4/19/24

General Donations

Sylvia Choy

Rosie Colbert

Marisela Erichsen

Irene Weitzman

Joy and Peter Epstein

Susan Hersch

Cards

Joy Epstein

Reva Litt

Iris Silverman

Ketzi Toney



May 2024

Nissan - Iyar 5784



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 23 Nissan	2 24 Nissan	3 6:56pm Candle light 25 Nissan	4 7:54pm Havdalah Parashat Achrei Mot Mevarchim Chodesh Iyar 26 Nissan
5 Yom HaShoah Speaker 1:00 27 Nissan	6 Yom HaShoah 28 Nissan	7 29 Nissan	8 Rosh Chodesh Iyar 30 Nissan	9 Rosh Chodesh Iyar 1 Iyar	10 7:02pm Candle light 2 Iyar	11 8:00pm Havdalah Parashat Kedoshim 3 Iyar
12 4 Iyar	13 Yom HaZikaron Yom Ha'Atzmaut Dinner 5:30pm 5 Iyar	14 Yom Ha'Atzmaut 6 Iyar	15 Observer Deadline 7 Iyar	16 8 Iyar	17 7:07pm Candle 9 Iyar	18 8:06pm Havdalah Parashat Emor 10 Iyar
19 11 Iyar	20 12 Iyar	21 13 Iyar	22 Pesach Sheni 14 Iyar	23 15 Iyar	24 7:12pm Candle light 16 Iyar	25 8:11pm Havdalah Parashat Behar 17 Iyar
26 Lag BaOmer 18 Iyar	27 Memorial Day 19 Iyar	28 20 Iyar	29 21 Iyar	30 Pesach Sheni 22 Iyar	31 7:16pm Candle light 23 Iyar	

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
Marilyn Newberg
Ketzi Toney
Natalie Morrison
Jordan Colbert
Brad Friedlander
Susan Hersch
Andrea Cohen
Paula Forster

President
1st Vice President
2nd Vice President
3rd Vice President
4th Vice President
Treasurer
Financial Secretary
Recording Secretary
Correspondence Secretary

DIRECTORS

Arnold Becker
Arthur Bennett
Leah Tarnor
Suzanne Shlian
Harvey Zarensky

Men's Club **President**

Sisterhood **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.

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)