

# Beth Emeth Observer

## BETH EMETH CONGREGATION OF THE WEST VALLEY



Follow us:



**Hazzan Lev Ettelson**

*Spiritual Leader & Director of Education*

13702 W. Meeker Blvd., Sun City West, AZ 85375  
 office@bethemethaz.org www.bethemethaz.org  
 Office hours Mon-Fri - 9 AM - 12 PM (ph) 623-584-7210

**Elul 5785 - Tishrei 5786**

**September 2025**

|                                     |                                |                 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Selichot Night</b>               | <b>Saturday, September 13</b>  | <b>7:30 pm</b>  |
| <b>Erev Rosh Hashanah</b>           | <b>Monday, September 22</b>    | <b>5:30 pm</b>  |
| <b>Rosh Hashanah 1st Day</b>        | <b>Tuesday, September 23</b>   | <b>9:00 am</b>  |
| <b>Erev Rosh Hashanah 2nd Night</b> | <b>Tuesday, September 23</b>   | <b>6:00 pm</b>  |
| <b>Rosh Hashanah 2nd Day</b>        | <b>Wednesday, September 24</b> | <b>9:00 am</b>  |
| <b>Shabbat Shuva</b>                | <b>Saturday, September 27</b>  | <b>9:30 am</b>  |
| <b>Erev Yom Kippur ~ Kol Nidre</b>  | <b>Wednesday, October 1</b>    | <b>5:45 pm</b>  |
| <b>Yom Kippur</b>                   | <b>Thursday, October 2</b>     | <b>9:00 am</b>  |
| <b>Yizkor</b>                       | <b>Thursday, October 2</b>     | <b>11:00 am</b> |
| <b>Mincha</b>                       | <b>Thursday, October 2</b>     | <b>4:45 pm</b>  |
| <b>Neilah</b>                       | <b>Thursday, October 2</b>     | <b>5:45 pm</b>  |
| <b>Havdalah</b>                     | <b>Thursday, October 2</b>     | <b>6:50 pm</b>  |
| <b>Erev Sukkot</b>                  | <b>Monday, October 6</b>       | <b>5:45 pm</b>  |
| <b>Sukkot 1st Day</b>               | <b>Tuesday, October 7</b>      | <b>9:00 am</b>  |
| <b>Sukkot 2nd Day</b>               | <b>Wednesday, October 8</b>    | <b>9:00 am</b>  |
| <b>Shemini Atzeret</b>              | <b>Tuesday, October 14</b>     | <b>9:00 am</b>  |
| <b>Yizkor Tuesday</b>               | <b>Tuesday, October 14</b>     | <b>11:00 am</b> |
| <b>Erev Simchat Torah</b>           | <b>Tuesday, October 14</b>     | <b>6:30 pm</b>  |
| <b>Simchat Torah</b>                | <b>Wednesday, October 15</b>   | <b>9:00 am</b>  |

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### Shabbat Candle Lighting September 2025



**9/5 — 6:31 pm**  
**9/12 — 6:21 pm**  
**9/19 — 6:11 pm**  
**9/26 — 6:02 pm**

**Volume 2025—Number 18**

**Listening Circle - Sunday, September 7**  
**2:00 pm - 4:00 pm**  
**Members only!**

Dear Friends,

We are living in difficult times, to say the least. It has been almost two years since the horrific terrorist attack on October 7, 2023. There are still fifty hostages (living and dead) who are still in captivity. Israelis are being called up for a fourth call of duty and are stretched to their limit. There are too many who have lost life and limb and are suffering from PTSD. Everyone in Israel has lost a loved one. The situation in Gaza is dire with tremendous suffering of civilians: especially children, women and the elderly. More than 70% of Israeli citizens want the war to end and the hostages to come home. The Hostage Families are staging mass demonstrations calling for a negotiation to bring their loved ones home and ending the war.

Jews everywhere are feeling afraid, angry, frustrated, alienated and bewildered as our people continue to be attacked, vilified, intimidated and used as pawns in partisan politics. In the past few weeks, a local synagogue in Phoenix, Sha'arei Shalom, was targeted. Thank G-d the perpetrator was identified and apprehended before he could follow through with his stated intent to cause harm. As Jews, we have all been traumatized in one way or another, either directly or indirectly. I have had dozens of conversations with friends, colleagues and congregants who are struggling with various emotions and conflicting thoughts. Many of us have family and friends who live in Israel and experience fear, worry and concern. Antisemitic incidents have multiplied and so-called "influencers" are fanning the flames of hate and spreading age-old myths of blood libel and other twisted anti-Jewish propaganda.

With this in mind, we are scheduling a "Listening Circle" where all members are invited to come and express what is in their hearts. **This is not about politics.** This will be a safe space where everyone will have an opportunity to speak freely without judgement. We will establish some ground rules at the beginning.

We will meet on Sunday September 7, 2:00 - 4:00 at Beth Emeth Congregation. Please contact the Office if you plan on attending. [office@bethemethaz.org](mailto:office@bethemethaz.org) or call 623-584-7210.

Blessings of Peace,  
Rev. Lev



**FROM THE DESK OF TOM BEHRENDT, PRESIDENT  
Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley**

L'Shana Tovah!!

A huge Todah Rabah to the Beautification Committee for the wonderful job done in our building! It is bright, warm, and welcoming.

An additional Todah Rabah to Hacienda de Sarah for their contribution to the renovations!

The security of Beth Emeth continues to be upgraded. Thanks to Arnie Becker and his team for the installation of the parking bollards. The surveillance system is being upgraded and will further protect the building and us. The new carpeted entrance was the gift of a congregant .

We had a great afternoon at the Open House and Ice Cream Social. We welcomed many members, new and old, as well as guests throughout the afternoon. Thank you to all of the Volunteers!. We continue to look for those unaffiliated in the West Valley to have them join Beth Emeth Congregation.

High Holiday tickets are available for pickup in our Office for **Members in Good Standing**. Tickets for non-members are available with options to purchase .

Once again this year, we will be participating in **Project Isaiah on Kol Nidre**. This will support both the Valley View Food Bank and the Kosher Food Bank. PLEASE bring canned goods for this wonderful Mitzvah. Project Isiah is a long standing tradition that we have partnered with and hope to this year the most successful! Bins will be in front of the building.

We appreciate each and every donation that we receive, no matter how small. We are hoping that this year's Yizkor appeal will be our best one yet!

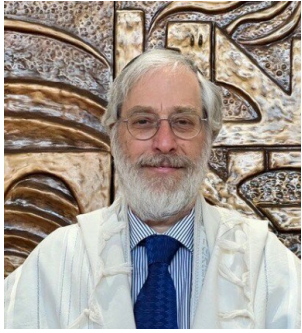
The Beth Emeth Board and I look forward to greeting you during the High Holiday services.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom Behrendt". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid.

[Tom.behrendt@bethemethaz.org](mailto:Tom.behrendt@bethemethaz.org)

# Reflections on Torah and Tradition

## Hazzan Lev Ettelson



### Longing for Return

It's easy to feel overwhelmed these days. Not only has the pace of life increased exponentially since the turn of the century, the relentless onslaught of news and social media skews our view of reality. The human nervous system is wired to remain alert for danger, especially if we (or our ancestors) have experienced trauma. As Jews, we are living in a time of increasing antisemitism which triggers memories of past persecutions. Israel has been in a state of war for the past two years which has exacerbated internal divisions and external isolation. Like the proverbial canary in the coal mine, what happens to us is a microcosm of the chaos, division, suffering and violence which plagues the world. How can we live in times such as these without giving in to despair or cynicism?

The month of Elul (Aug. 25 - Sept. 22) is the time of preparation for the Days of Awe. Every day (except Shabbat) we listen to the shofar to rouse us to wakefulness and increase our longing for teshuvah (return). We set aside moments for *Cheshbon HaNefesh*, reflecting on the way we live our lives and making amends to those we have hurt or feel alienated from. We increase the amount of tzedakah that we give daily. We practice *shmirat halashon*, mindful speech, avoiding all gossip. We increase our Torah Study, seeking wisdom and connection with the Source of Life. An excellent guide in this process is Rabbi Rami Shapiro's *The Elul Journal: In Quest of Forgiveness and Return* and it is available as a PDF on his website: [http://oneriverfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Elul\\_Journal-copy.pdf](http://oneriverfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Elul_Journal-copy.pdf)

Besides hearing the shofar, another daily practice we have is to recite Psalm 27 in the morning and evening. It begins with the verses, "Hashem is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear? Hashem is my life's strength, whom shall I dread?" Further along the Psalmist writes, "I will sing and make music to Hashem... hear my voice when I call... answer me... My heart has said, 'Seek my Presence'." Hashem, Y-H-W-H is the Light of the world, the Eternally Compassionate Being and Source of Compassion. In connecting with the Presence, The Shechinah, we are given guidance: Sing, make music, call out. In other words, open our hearts.

Yes, there are many situations in the world and in our personal lives which can lead to feelings of fear and a sense of dread. Yet, there is the One who dwells in our hearts who is available to us whenever we seek or call out from the depths of our heart. There are many things in life which are beyond our control; But, when we take the time to connect with that which is timeless and essential, we can remember who we truly are and that we have the freedom to choose how to respond to those whom we encounter. Psalm 27 ends with this positive message: "Had I not trusted that I would see the goodness of Hashem in the land of life! Hope to Hashem, strengthen yourself and God will give you courage; and hope to Hashem." May we all experience a renewal of hope, courage, aliveness and joy in the coming year of 5786.

*Reb Lev*



## From the Editor's desk!

Greetings!

At the outset, I want to give a huge TODAH RABAH to our friends at Hacienda de Sarah. Their generosity helped spearhead the painting of the Social Hall and classroom. Additionally, to AC Painting and More, for dropping what they were scheduled to do in Scottsdale, to accommodate our schedule to get our building painted in time for the Open House and High Holidays.

During Selichot services, Psalm 27:9 is recited. I always start humming Debbie Friedman's song, Don't Turn Your Face From Me (Al Tasteir), which was written based on this psalm.

The beginning lyrics say: *"Don't turn your face from me, I'm asking for your help....."*

We (the Board, the Officers, the Committee chairs) at Beth Emeth Congregation are asking for **your** help. Through your timely dues payments and generous donations, we will be able to continue to bring you events, Kiddushim, and classes in our beautiful building, throughout the coming year. We are your Jewish Community and hope you consider us part of your Jewish family.

We know we are living in difficult times. **Every donation is appreciated.**

When you are called upon to make a contribution during this year's Yizkor appeal, please give generously and don't turn your face from us. We are always here for you. Be here for us.

Our Congregation is only as successful as you make it!

Wishing you and your families the joy of the New Year in Health and Peace!

B' Shalom,



Marlene Friedlander, Editor



Questions or comments on this issue? Send them to: [editor@bethemethaz.org](mailto:editor@bethemethaz.org)  
*The Observer is always looking for your tax deductible donations to help defray the cost of printing ! Thank you in advance.*



**Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley**  
**5786 High Holiday Greeting Card**

————→ **We need your name included!** ←————

We will be sending out a High Holiday Greeting Card to all our  
Congregation members!

**For a donation of \$18** you can have your name included to  
wish everyone a Happy Holiday!

**Please make your check for \$18 payable to:**

**Beth Emeth Congregation**

Send via mail or bring to:

13702 W Meeker Blvd, Sun City West, AZ 85375

Also payable via credit card or Zelle.

Call the office 623-584-7210 for credit card

[treasurer@bethemethaz.org](mailto:treasurer@bethemethaz.org) for Zelle payment

Office hours are Monday – Friday 9:00 am - noon

**Deadline is September 15<sup>th</sup>**



# "BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE"

May their names be remembered - L'Dor Vador

Dear Fellow Congregants,

During the High Holidays, Beth Emeth Congregation publishes a **"Book of Remembrance"**. This book commemorates the lives of those that we have loved and who have passed on. There will be a special page dedicated to the Six Million Jews who perished in the Holocaust as well as the recent victims of terrorism. In addition to honoring our loved ones, the "Book of Remembrance" is also a fundraiser for our Congregation.

List the names as you want them to appear in the Book of Remembrance. **Do not use the term REPEAT.** Please bring or mail this completed form with your check payment to the Beth Emeth office **by September 22nd, 2025.**

Paying by Zelle - information is below.

Thank you for your continuing support!

Irene Lehrer, Corresponding Secretary

Questions? Call me at 623-505-3103 or 845-430-0982

**THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETE & CLEARLY PRINTED**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**My (Our) Name as it is to appear**

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Also add my/our name(s) to the Special Memorial page for the 6 million Jews and Victims of Terrorism. (\$18.00) To add more names use separate paper.**

|           |          |       |
|-----------|----------|-------|
| Full Page | \$136.00 | _____ |
| Half Page | \$ 72.00 | _____ |
| 1/4 Page  | \$ 36.00 | _____ |

Special Page—6 Million Jews & Victims of Terrorism \$ 18.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Grand Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

New List

My (Our Name) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Payable by check to: Beth Emeth Congregation or pay by Zelle (treasurer@bethemethaz.org)  
13702 W Meeker Blvd., Sun City West, AZ 85375 623-584-7210

## Lulav and Etrog Sets for Sukkot



If you are interested in having your own **Lulav and Etrog set** for this Sukkot, please let us know.

Each set consists of an Israeli Etrog, Lulav (palm branch) with its palm holder, Hadassim (myrtle branches), and Aravot (willow branches).

There is a basic guide that lists all the Brachot (blessings) and Halachot (laws) of the four species.

Each set is separately packed with the Lulav assembled in the pouch.

### **Pricing:**

**Regular set - \$38.45 Check or Zelle([treasurer@bethemethaz.org](mailto:treasurer@bethemethaz.org))**

**Regular set - \$40.40 Credit card**

**Prime set (upgraded) - \$43.45 Check or Zelle**

**Prime set (upgraded) - \$ 45.65 Credit card**

**Deadline for ordering is Wednesday, September 10.**

**Contact the office to order or Susan Hersch in the Judaica Shop.  
623-584-7210 or [susan.hersch@bethemethaz.org](mailto:susan.hersch@bethemethaz.org)**

**Please make checks payable to: Beth Emeth Congregation**



## **From your 1st Vice President!**

I want to wish everyone a Happy and Sweet New Year!  
Thank you to all those who sponsored Kiddushim this past year.  
The Kiddush Committee looks forward to preparing many more in the coming year.

**Immediately following the Havdalah services at the end of Yom Kippur, we will have our Break the Fast in the Social Hall. Cost is \$18 per person. Please contact the Office to attend.**

Shalom,  
Marilyn Hope  
Marasha Tikvah

[marilyn.newberg@bethemethaz.org](mailto:marilyn.newberg@bethemethaz.org)  
[1stvicepresident@bethemethaz.org](mailto:1stvicepresident@bethemethaz.org)

## **Ritual Committee**

**High Holiday tickets can be purchased Monday-Friday from 9:00 am - noon in our office.**

We look forward to seeing you at our services during the High Holidays. It will be very inspiring with the new look and feel of our Synagogue. The inside of our building has been painted and we received a donation of new furniture.

The Board and all of us at Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley wish you a very Happy New Year.

L'Shana Tovah!

**Natalie Morrison**

[natalie.morrison@bethemethaz.org](mailto:natalie.morrison@bethemethaz.org)  
[3rdvicepresident@bethemethaz.org](mailto:3rdvicepresident@bethemethaz.org)



### **Our Judaica Shop**

**Lulav and Etrog sets are now available to order - look for the flier in this issue!**

**Do you create a special item that you would like us to sell in our Judaica Shop?**

**Please contact me for information!!**

**Stop by anytime Monday– Friday 9:00 am—noon! Payments accepted by cash,  
Credit card, check or Zelle!**

**Susan Hersch, Judaica Shop Manager**

### **Treasurer's Corner - Brad Friedlander, Treasurer**

**Due to rising costs, we are planning to increase individual dues to \$800 for 2026.**

This is subject to approval by the Congregation at the annual meeting. If you have an IRA, please consider using a qualified charitable distribution (QCD). A QCD counts toward your required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year and is not taxable.

Please speak to your financial advisor for details.

You can include other donations besides your dues.

Our Congregation's restricted funds allow you to specify how your donation will be used.

- Biblical Garden: The donation will only be used for the Biblical Garden project. A generous donor will continue to match up to \$5,000 in new donations.
- Torah Maintenance: The donation will only be used for the inspection and repair of our Torahs. Repair assessment starts in September.
- Building Repair: Donations will only be used for costs to repair and update our building.

Don't forget to link your Fry's Rewards account to Beth Emeth Congregation. You still get all of your benefits plus a portion of your total grocery receipt comes to us!

Please contact me at [treasurer@bethemethaz.org](mailto:treasurer@bethemethaz.org) if you have any questions.

B 'shalom,

## Treasurer's Financial Update

As you know, our congregation depends on your financial contributions to enable us to provide the religious services and programs you want. Each year in January, at the Annual Congregation Membership Meeting, we approve a budget with some important sources of revenue: Membership (Dues), Fund Raising, and Ritual.

### Our Financial Status

As of Aug 26<sup>th</sup>, we have had \$197,980.28 in income and \$181,079.50 in expenses. This does not include some of the unplanned capital expense.

- Bathroom repair
- Air conditioner replacement for both bathrooms, office, and kitchen
- Painting

### Dues

We request payment of any unpaid dues as soon as possible.

Currently we have a shortfall of \$6,385 in membership dues. To those who have already paid your pledge, Todah Rabah! For the rest, please make a concerted effort to help us meet our budget.

**Note:** High Holiday tickets are only available to members in good standing.

### Payment Methods

We accept payment in multiple forms, shown in order of preference.

Zelle payment to [treasurer@bethemethaz.org](mailto:treasurer@bethemethaz.org)

Check

Cash

Credit card: We pay a 5% fee per transactions, so we only get \$712.50 of a \$750 payment.

### Donations

Donations can be earmarked for the three restricted funds that need our attention: Biblical Garden Fund, Torah Maintenance Fund, and Bathroom Repair.

Your Ritual donations for Aliyot, Yahrzeits, and other life-cycle events are a very important part of our income.

Wishing you and your families a L'Shana Tovah!

Brad Friedlander, Treasurer

## Etz Chaim—Our Tree of Life

I invite you to become part of the permanent legacy of our Synagogue. Through the end of the year, “leaves” on our Etz Chaim (Tree of Life) in our Lobby are just **\$99 each!**

**“Apples”** are only **\$150!**

Buy them for yourself or a loved one!

Or commemorating a special occasion! Let’s fill the Tree!

Happy to discuss with you how to place an order.

**Tom Behrendt, President**  
**president@bethemethaz.org** or  
**office@bethemethaz.org**



## Yahrzeit Plaques

We have many Yahrzeit plaque spaces available on our Sanctuary wall.

Yahrzeit plaques can be purchased in memory of someone who has passed away or be reserved for a future use.

**Plaques are \$350 each.**

Payment by cash, check, credit card or Zelle!

Forms available in the Office.

Please reach out to me for further information.

**Arnold “Arnie” Becker, Director**  
**Arnold.becker@bethemethaz.org**







## Our Biblical Garden

Updates - Cleaning, trimming and fertilization have been complete!!  
The irrigation system has been repaired. However, we have barely enough  
**to continue.**

*A generous, Anonymous congregant has stepped up to match all donations up to \$5000.* So far we have raised \$3400 towards the \$5000. Overall, we have received over **\$8800** in donations to date. But we still need your help.

The New Year is a great time to make a donation to the beautification of our property.

Please contact us to discuss how your donation will make a difference!

Marilyn Newberg, [1stvicepresident@bethemethaz.org](mailto:1stvicepresident@bethemethaz.org)

Arnold Becker, [arnold.becker@bethemethaz.org](mailto:arnold.becker@bethemethaz.org)



|                 |      |
|-----------------|------|
| Donald Stevens  | 9/4  |
| Marilyn Newberg | 9/8  |
| Sherry Davidson | 9/9  |
| Ronald Paul     | 9/21 |



|                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| Max & Sherry Lazar | 9/5 |
|--------------------|-----|

## August 24<sup>th</sup> Open House and Ice Cream Social



**OUR 2026 FILM FESTIVAL IS COMING!!!  
SAVE THE DATES - JANUARY 24 -26, 2026  
MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW!!!**

There are many ways to show your support of the Seventeenth Annual West Valley Jewish Film Festival.  
Please consider becoming a sponsor...and thank you!

EXECUTIVE INVESTOR: \$1000.00

Festival EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS will receive four tickets for each show.

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: \$500.00

Festival EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS will receive two tickets for each show.

PRODUCER: \$400.00

Festival PRODUCERS will receive two tickets for two shows of their choice.

DIRECTOR: \$300.00

Festival DIRECTORS will receive one ticket for each show.

SCREENWRITER: \$200.00

Festival SCREENWRITERS will receive two tickets for choice of show.

ACTOR: \$100.00

Festival ACTORS will receive one ticket for choice of show.

SUPPORTER: (\$)

**All Festival supporters will have their name prominently listed in the Festival Program.**

**YES, I WANT TO BE A SPONSOR TO THE SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL WEST VALLEY JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL:**

\_\_\_ EXECUTIVE INVESTOR (\$1000.00)

\_\_\_ EXECUTIVE PRODUCER (\$500.00)

\_\_\_ PRODUCER (\$400.00)

\_\_\_ DIRECTOR (\$300.00)

\_\_\_ SCREENWRITER (\$200.00)

\_\_\_ ACTOR (\$100.00)

\_\_\_ SUPPORTER (\$ )

In order to be acknowledged in the program, donations have to be received by January 15, 2026

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to Beth Emeth Congregation and mail to:

Jewish Film Festival Committee

Beth Emeth Congregation

13702 West Meeker Boulevard

Sun City West, AZ 85375

For additional information, please call Irene Lehrer (845-430-0982 or 623-584-7210).

We are a 501C3 non-profit organization and is classified as a religious institution under IRS 509(a)(1) and 170 (b)(1)(A)(i). No goods or service have been exchanged for this donation.





**SISTERHOOD**



## **Message from the Sisterhood President September 2025**

As an affiliate of Women's League for Conservative Judaism, Sisterhood's calendar year runs from July 1st - June 30th. Our membership drive for the 25-26 year is well under way. **I want to thank those of you who have already renewed, remind those who haven't yet that it is time to do so, and invite those who have not been a member to join us!** We are a diverse, warm and welcoming group of women. We meet the second Tuesday of the month at 10:00 am in the library for our planning session, everyone's ideas count!

We usually hold a monthly event on the 3rd Sunday of each month. We have already enjoyed a **Yiddish Bingo** afternoon, and a hands on **Challah Bake**. Both were well attended and a lot of fun! We are looking forward to a joyous and meaningful year ahead.

**September 14th at 1:00 pm -Nicole Pesce Concert. Cost \$20. Tickets are Now on Sale. Be sure to get yours!** Nicole will be performing "A Walk Down Broadway." The music is sure to be familiar, fun, and amazing! You don't want to miss this! This is Sisterhoods major fund raiser for Women's League of Conservative Judaism Torah Fund, which provides scholarships to individuals studying to become Rabbis, Cantors, Lay-leaders, and Jewish Educators, ensuring the next generation of Jewish leaders.

**Your support is greatly appreciated!**

**On October 12th** at 12:30pm, we will hold a **Paid Up Membership Luncheon** in the Sukkah. Lunch will be free followed by a very short meeting, RSVP is required by October 9th. Please call the office 623-584-7210.

**November 16th** we will hold "**Charcuterie & Mystery**" from 1:00pm-3:00pm, facilitated by author and Sisterhood member, Ann Goldfarb. Cost is \$18 for members \$20 non-members however **space will be limited**. This participatory program promises to be a unique and fun filled afternoon. Be sure to watch for registration to hold your space.

**December 21st** save the date for Sisterhood's Chanukah Latke Feast. It will be open to all. Cost \$25 for members \$30 for non-members. Start time to be confirmed. Watch for more information, registration / transaction forms to be posted on our web site [bethemethaz.org](http://bethemethaz.org) and available in our foyer prior to the events.

We hope you will join us for these up coming events. They are ways to connect, contribute, and commit to building our Sisterhood. Let's laugh, learn, build friendships and grow together.

Ketzi Toney, Sisterhood President



## SISTERHOOD MEMBERSHIP FORM

**JULY 2025 - JUNE 2026**

Congregation Member \$36 per year

Non Members \$46 per year

Includes membership in Women's League of Conservative Judaism

**Become a Beth Emeth Member - first year of Sisterhood Membership is Free!**

Please complete and submit with your payment  
Checks Payable to **Sisterhood** Beth Emeth Congregation

Name \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Anniversary Date \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **Yes you may list my information on a Sisterhood directory** ☐ **No please do not list**

Volunteer tasks I am able to help with check all that apply: ☐ send cards

☐ planning organizing ☐ kitchen food prep ☐ set up ☐ clean up

☐ phone calls ☐ driving car pool ☐ leading an activity Please Specify

Types of Programs you enjoy attending \_\_\_\_\_





**DON'T MISS**



**Beth Emeth Congregation**  
13702 W Meeker Blvd. SCW, AZ  
Office hours 9:00am - noon M-F



**Thank You Nicole!**



**e are Women's League**

Engaging, Enriching and Empowering Jewish Women.  
Women's League for Conservative Judaism

**Torah Fund** provides scholarships to individuals studying to become Rabbis & Cantors, ensuring continued spiritual leadership at home and abroad.

**Join Us For**  
***A Walk Down Broadway***

**September 14, 2025**

**1:00pm**

**Tickets \$20 each**

**Please Support Our  
Major Fund Raiser**

Proceeds fund  
Sisterhood programming &  
Women's League

**Torah Fund**

**Make checks payable to  
Sisterhood**



## Nicole Pesce Concert

Join Us For A Walk Down Broadway

**Sept 14, 2025 1:00pm Ticket cost \$ 20**

### Ticket Purchase Transaction Form

Please submit this form with ticket pick up

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

# of tickets \_\_\_\_\_ Total Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Email  
address \_\_\_\_\_

Payment type CASH \_\_\_\_\_ CHECK # \_\_\_\_\_ ZELLE \_\_\_\_\_

**Note: Checks must be Payable to Sisterhood**

**Zelle payments** may be made to [sisterhoodbec1@gmail.com](mailto:sisterhoodbec1@gmail.com)

With Zelle payments you must also call our office to hold your tickets for  
will call pick up and form completion. **623-584-7210**

**Thank you for supporting this major fundraiser!**

**Sisterhood Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley**

**13702 W Meeker Blvd. SCW, AZ**

**Office hours 9:00 am - noon Monday-Friday**



# SISTERHOOD



**we are Women's League**  
Engaging, Enriching and Empowering Jewish Women  
Women's League for Conservative Judaism

Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley  
13702 W Meeker Blvd, SCW AZ 85375 623-584-7210 M-F 9:00am - noon

**Sisterhood Now Offering Tribute Cards**  
**Minimum donation \$5 per card**

Top Two Cards  
Are for Donations  
To Sisterhood

**TRIBUTE CARDS FOR ALL OCCASIONS**

MINIMUM DONATION OF  
**\$5**

Cash, Checks to Sisterhood or  
Zelle to [sisterhoodbec1@gmail.com](mailto:sisterhoodbec1@gmail.com)  
Office hours M-F 9-noon 623-584-7210  
13702 W Meeker Blvd, SCW AZ 85275

All Other Cards  
Are for Donations  
To Torah Fund

**Buy & Send Your Own Cards**  
Minimum 5 Cards for \$15

Money from Get Well and In Memoriam cards go directly to Sisterhood.

All other cards go to Women's League's Torah Fund, which provides scholarships to individuals studying to be rabbis & cantors.

Buy & send your own cards  
Min. 5 cards for \$15 donation  
Make checks payable to  
**Sisterhood**



## Sisterhood Paid Up Membership Luncheon

**Become a Sisterhood Member or renew your  
membership by October 9th and enjoy lunch with us  
In the Sukkah**



**RSVP required 623-584-7210**

**Short meeting to follow lunch**

**Membership forms available on our website [bethemethaz.org](http://bethemethaz.org)  
or in our foyer**



## Sisterhood Challah Bake August 17, 2025

Sisterhood members and guests: men and women, came to learn to bake Challah. The majority reported they had never made bread before! It was a wonderful day of hands on learning, fun, and an opportunity to socialize.

Each participant received a booklet with the recipe, instructions, diagrams, and other information for reference to take home along with their Challah.

We all enjoyed visiting over snacks and beverages of choice followed by the demonstration of multiple ways to weave and braid dough to shape round or traditional loaves.

Hazzan Lev joined us for the fun and helped us practice the blessing for taking "Challah," the removal of a small piece of dough prior to shaping, a reminder of Ancient Temple times.

**A Huge Thank You goes out to Carol Madvig** for her extensive work to make this program possible, and to Pamela Weiner, Stacey McEnnan, Sharon Cohn, and Barbara & Robert Cline for their help with set up and clean up! **Todah Rabah for all your help!**





## Grandview Terrace brings new meaning to *Independent Living*

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*May their memories be blessed.  
As We remember them....*



**The following Yahrzeits will be observed during Elul and Tishrei.  
Kaddish may be said at Friday evening services (6:00 pm), and Saturday morning services (9:30 am)**

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Hebrew Date</b> | <b>Deceased</b>   | <b>Observant</b>    | <b>Relationship</b> |
|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 9/4         | Elul 11, 5785      | Benjamin Nedelman | David Nedelman      | Father              |
| 9/7         | Elul 14, 5785      | Harry Koshar      | Louis Koshar        | Brother             |
| 9/8         | Elul 15, 5785      | Joel Merchant     | Beverly Merchant    | Husband             |
| 9/12        | Elul 19, 5785      | Mary Finkelstein  | Marlene Friedlander | Mother              |
| 9/16        | Elul 23, 5785      | Gerard Gariepy    | Debra Gariepy       | Father              |
| 9/16        | Elul 23, 5785      | Donald Lehrer     | Irene Lehrer        | Husband             |
| 9/17        | Elul 24, 5785      | Esther Bernstein  | Alice Bernstein     | Mother-in-law       |
| 9/18        | Elul 25, 5785      | Helen Koven       | Sheldon Koven       | Mother              |
| 9/19        | Elul 26, 5785      | Morris Zarensky   | Harvey Zarensky     | Father              |
| 9/20        | Elul 27, 5785      | Samuel Koven      | Sheldon Koven       | Father              |
| 9/22        | Elul 29, 5785      | Charles Kram      | William Kram        | Brother             |
| 9/22        | Elul 29, 5785      | Howard Marshall   | Sonia Marshall      | Husband             |
| 9/23        | Tishrei 1, 5786    | Harry Freidman    | Esther Toney        | Father              |
| 9/23        | Tishrei 1, 5786    | Sigrid Kram       | William Kram        | Wife                |
| 9/26        | Tishrei 4, 5786    | Murray Friedman   | Sharon Rothzeid     | Father              |
| 9/26        | Tishrei 4, 5786    | Anna Lerman       | Debra R. Karam      | Mother              |
| 9/28        | Tishrei 6, 5786    | Mary Friedlander  | Brad Friedlander    | Grandmother         |
| 9/29        | Tishrei 7, 5786    | Suzanne Levine    | Joel Levine         | Wife                |

# Todah Rabah for your generous support!

| <u><b>High Holiday Donations</b></u> | <u><b>Nonmember - Building</b></u>       | <u><b>Biblical Garden</b></u>   |
|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| Tom Behrendt                         | Marisela Erichsen                        | Arnold Becker                   |
| Sally Anne Hall                      | <u><b>Member - Building</b></u>          | Natalie Morrison                |
| Susan Hersch                         | Susan Hersch                             | Marilyn Newberg                 |
| Morrie Hesch                         | Sally Anne Hall                          | Ronald Paul                     |
| Carol Loewith                        | Hazzan Lev Ettelson                      | Leah and Charlie Tarnor         |
| Natalie Morrison                     | <u><b>Nonmember—General Fund</b></u>     | Barbara and Robert Cline        |
| Ronald Paul                          | Sheila Cohan                             |                                 |
| Gyorgyi Rosenthal                    | Mitchell Fox                             | <u><b>Torah Maintenance</b></u> |
| Steven and Janice Rothschild         | <u><b>Member - General Fund</b></u>      | James and Esther Toney          |
| Leah and Charlie Tarnor              | Mark and Madelaine Friedman              |                                 |
|                                      | Ronald Paul                              | <u><b>Ritual Donations</b></u>  |
| <u><b>Book of Remembrance</b></u>    | Myron and Shoshana Perlmutter            | Leah and Charlie Tarnor         |
| Susan Hersch                         | Iris Silverman                           |                                 |
| Natalie Morrison                     | <u><b>Yahrzeit Fund</b></u>              | <u><b>Kiddush Fund</b></u>      |
| Ronald Paul                          | Shelly Moschel                           | Gyorgyi Rosenthal               |
|                                      | In memory of Robert Fisher               |                                 |
| Sheila Cohan                         | Sheldon Koven                            |                                 |
|                                      | In memory of Getrude Casper              |                                 |
|                                      | Sheldon Koven                            |                                 |
|                                      | In memory of Isser Koven                 |                                 |
| <u><b>Donation In-Kind</b></u>       | Joanie Jacobs                            |                                 |
|                                      | In memory of Ida Lee                     |                                 |
| Brad and Marlene Friedlander         | Myron and Shoshana Perlmutter            |                                 |
|                                      | In memory of Hanan Ben -Yosef            |                                 |
| Tom Behrendt                         | Barbara Newman                           |                                 |
|                                      | In memory of Simon Newman                |                                 |
|                                      | Brad and Marlene Friedlander             |                                 |
|                                      | In memory of William Isadore Friedlander |                                 |
|                                      | Brad and Marlene Friedlander             |                                 |
|                                      | In memory of Mary Finkelstein            |                                 |
|                                      | Steven and Janice Rothschild             |                                 |

*Reflecting donations posted 7/24 - 8/20*

# September 2025

## Elul 5785 - Tishrei 5786

| SUN<br>31 (7)  | MON<br>Sep 1(8)   | TUE<br>2 (9)   | WED<br>3 (10)   | THU<br>4 (11)   | FRI<br>5 (12)  | SAT<br>6 (13)  |
|--|---|--|---|---|--|--|
|  |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4pm Grief Support Group</li> </ul>  |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am Morning minyan</li> <li>11am Torah Class - Reb Lev</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Friday Night Service</li> <li>6:31pm Candle lighting</li> </ul> | <div>Parashat Ki Teitzei</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30am Shabbat Service</li> <li>7:33pm Havdalah (45 min)</li> </ul>                              |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2pm Listening Circle</li> </ul> |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10am Sisterhood Meeting</li> <li>4pm Grief Support Group</li> </ul>                             |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am Morning minyan</li> <li>11am Torah Class - Reb Lev</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Friday Night Service</li> <li>6:21pm Candle lighting</li> </ul> | <div>Leil Selichot</div> <div>Parashat Ki Tavo</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30am Shabbat Service</li> <li>7:23pm Havdalah (45 min)</li> </ul>        |
|  |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30am Board meeting</li> <li>4pm Grief Support Group</li> </ul>                                |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am Morning minyan</li> <li>11am Torah Class - Reb Lev</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Friday Night Service</li> <li>6:11pm Candle lighting</li> </ul> | <div>Parashat Nitzavim</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30am Shabbat Service</li> <li>12pm Birthday Kiddush</li> <li>7:13pm Havdalah (45 min)</li> </ul> |
|  |   |  |   |   |  |  |
| 21 (28)  | <div>Erev Rosh Hashana</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:07pm Candle lighting</li> </ul> | <div>Rosh Hashana 5786</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4pm Grief Support Group</li> <li>7:09pm Candle lighting</li> </ul> | <div>Rosh Hashana II</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:08pm Havdalah (45 min)</li> </ul> | <div>Tzom Gedaliah</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:06am Fast begins</li> <li>9am Morning minyan</li> <li>11am Torah Class - Reb Lev</li> <li>6:51pm Fast ends</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6pm Friday Night Service</li> <li>6:02pm Candle lighting</li> </ul> | <div>Parashat Vayeilech</div> <div>Shabbat Shuva</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30am Shabbat Service</li> <li>7:04pm Havdalah (45 min)</li> </ul>      |
|  |   |  |   |   |  |  |
| 28 (6)   |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4pm Grief Support Group</li> </ul>  | <div>Erev Yom Kippur</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:55pm Candle lighting</li> </ul>   | <div>Yom Kippur</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am Morning minyan</li> <li>11am Torah Class - Reb Lev</li> <li>6:57pm Havdalah (45 min)</li> </ul>                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:52pm Candle lighting</li> <li>6pm Friday Night Service</li> </ul> | <div>Parashat Ha'azinu</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30am Shabbat Service</li> <li>6:54pm Havdalah (45 min)</li> </ul>                                |



**Our logo, created by our member, the late Max Gimpel (z"l), is the Shield of David made into a calligraphic Interpretation of the Hebrew letters, Beit Aleph, which signify the name of our Congregation, BETH EMETH, House of Truth.**

## **Beth Emeth Congregation Board**

|                         |                     |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| President               | Tom Behrendt        |
| 1st VP                  | Marilyn Newberg     |
| 3rd VP                  | Natalie Morrison    |
| 4th VP                  | Jordan Colbert      |
| Treasurer               | Brad Friedlander    |
| Financial Secretary     | Susan Hersch        |
| Recording Secretary     | Marlene Friedlander |
| Corresponding Secretary | Irene Lehrer        |

### **Directors**

Arnold Becker  
Arthur Bennett  
Leah Tarnor  
Harvey Zarensky  
Marvin Wachs

### **Sisterhood President**

Ketzi Toney