

# 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

**Tevet - Shevat 5786**

**January 2026**

Congratulations to our newly elected  
Co-Presidents!

Arnold Becker and Natalie Morrison



The Congregation looks forward to their continued service and contributions to Beth Emeth Congregation !

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## Shabbat Candle Lighting

1/2 - 5:15 pm  
1/9 - 5:20 pm  
1/16 - 5:27 pm  
1/23 - 5:33 pm  
1/30 - 5:40 pm

Volume 2026—Number 22

## Ongoing Activities at Beth Emeth Congregation

- ◊ **Grief Support Group - Tuesdays ay 4:00 pm**
- ◊ **Thursday morning Minyan service in the Library at 9:00 am**
- ◊ **Our Torah classes continue on Thursday mornings in the Library at 11:00 am. Zoom information is sent out in advance of the class.**
- ◊ **Friday evening service in the Sanctuary at 6:00 pm**
- ◊ **Shabbat morning service in the Sanctuary at 9:30 am**

### Upcoming classes with Reb Lev

A six week course based on Rabbi Arthur Green's book, *Judaism's Ten Best Ideas: A Brief Guide for Seekers*.

**Dates: January 7, 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4th and 11th.**

Wednesdays at 4:00 pm.

These will be in person in our Library and via Zoom.

Below is a description:

These ideas are: Simchah (Joy), B'Tzelem Elohim (Created in God's Image), Halakhah (Walking the Path), Shabbat (Getting Off the Treadmill), Teshuvah (Returning), Tikkun Olam (Repairing the World), Torah (The People and the Book), Talmud Torah (Teach Them to your Children), L'Chaim (To Life), and Echad (Oneness of God).

Please register in advance by emailing the [office@bethemethaz.org](mailto:office@bethemethaz.org) with "Reb Lev's class" in the subject line.

Kindly purchase a copy of the book in advance. It is about 100 pages long and is available for purchase online:

<http://www.jewishlights.com/page/product/978-1-58023-803-8>

This series of classes is free for members and \$36 for non-members.

### Reb Lev office hours:

Wednesday: 10:00 am - noon; 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Thursday: 2:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Friday: 9:30 am - noon

Sunday: Flex hours

Reb Lev is also in the building for classes, Minyan, Friday night and Saturday services.

Please call the office to schedule a meeting.



**FROM THE DESKS OF ARNOLD BECKER AND NATALIE MORRISON, CO-PRESIDENTS**  
**Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley**

Shalom!

We want to thank all of you who voted for us, and who voted for Tom, because the "bottom line" is that you all voted for Beth Emeth Congregation. Tom has been a great asset to the Congregation, and we hope that he will be willing to continue to be an active member of the Board and Congregation.

There is never one way, one approach, or one idea leading to success and we welcome, and will value, every idea, every suggestion which will help our Congregation grow and prosper.

Now is the time for every member of our Congregation, regardless of how they voted, to step forward in their own way. Please remember that you are part of the "Family of Beth Emeth Congregation".

We look forward to hearing your views, and we promise to listen and be receptive. However, success cannot come overnight, but we will, and we ask you, to work hard during the next two years to prove that Beth Emeth Congregation is here to stay and that it is a vibrant leader of the Jewish community of the West Valley.

As your incoming Presidents, we welcome the newly elected Board and look forward to their active participation in their various roles and as partners on the leadership team.

We have already identified members of the Congregation to take on specific roles, our "Outreach" chairperson will be Gary Cohen, and the "New Member" Chairperson will be Sandra Shedroff. We are currently seeking a "Fundraising" chairperson.

For those of you who do not know, our wonderful Office Administrator, Denise Landes, has moved on to other endeavors. She has been a tremendous asset to Beth Emeth Congregation during her time with us. We thank her for the multitude of tasks she undertook and wish her well in her life's next journey.

In closing we are asking you to join us with your time, efforts, and experiences to ensure the future of OUR Congregation.

Arnie and Natalie  
Contact us at [president@bethemethaz.org!!](mailto:president@bethemethaz.org!!)



## Reflections on Torah and Tradition

### Hazzan Lev Ettelson

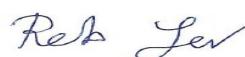
"When I marched in Selma, my feet were praying." These words of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel z"l reflect his commitment to *tikkun olam* (repairing the world) and *tirdof tzeddek* (pursuing justice). His yahrzeit is the 18th of Tevet which this year comes less than two weeks before MLK Day. Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King o.b.m. invited Rabbi Heschel to speak at the 1963 National Conference on Religion and Race sparking their deep friendship and partnership in the Civil Rights Movement. Dr. King called Rabbi Heschel a prophet and they shared a commitment to the universal responsibility to fight injustice. Coretta Scott King invited Rabbi Heschel to speak at her husband's funeral.

Many of Rabbi Heschel's books focused on the prophetic voices within our tradition as well as the mystical aspects of Judaism embodied by the Hasidic masters of whom he was a descendant (his grandfather was the Apter Rav who is buried next to the Baal Shem Tov). The rabbi of my family's synagogue (Beth El 1969-1977) Samuel H. Dresner z"l, was at his bedside as he was recovering from a near fatal heart attack, when he said, "Sam, when I regained consciousness, my first feelings were not of despair or anger. I felt only gratitude to God for my life, for every moment I had lived. I was ready to depart. 'Take me, oh Lord,' I thought, 'I've seen so many miracles in my lifetime.' That is what I meant when I wrote, 'I did not ask for success; I asked for wonder. And You (God) gave it to me'"

Rabbi Heschel was also instrumental in influencing a radical shift in the Catholic Church's position on Jews. Thanks to his meeting with Pope Paul IV, *Nostra Aetate* (In Our Time - Declaration on the Relation of the Church with Non-Christian Religions) was issued at the Second Vatican Council (1965). The antisemitic doctrine of blaming the Jews for the death of Jesus, which was a contributing factor for the Holocaust, was nullified. It marked the beginning of a healing process whereby the Catholic Church acknowledged Jews as their "elder brothers (and sisters)", affirmed the eternal covenant between God and the People of Israel (ceasing proselytization) and sought forgiveness for centuries of persecution.

Rabbi Heschel and Reverend King embodied a shared prophetic tradition by standing against hatred, bigotry and injustice in all its forms. Their work is far from over as we witness a rise of xenophobia in our land and around the world. We are bombarded by voices of extremism and intolerance everyday. The persecution of the least powerful among us cries out for a compassionate and clear response. In the words of the prophet Micah, "What does God require of you but to do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with God."

As Rabbi Heschel wrote in his book, *God In Search of Man*, "A Jew is asked to take a leap of action rather than a leap of thought. He is asked to surpass his needs, to do more than he understands in order to understand more than he does. In carrying out the word of the Torah, he is ushered into the presence of spiritual meaning. Through the ecstasy of deeds he learns to be certain of the hereness of God. Right living is the way to right thinking." May the memory of this tzaddik be a blessing!



## From the Editor's desk!

Greetings!

Every January we are compelled to make New Year's resolutions.

The origin of New Year's resolutions can be traced back to ancient Babylon, around 4,000 years ago. The Babylonians celebrated the new year during the spring equinox, marking the beginning of agricultural activities, and they made promises to their gods to earn favor for the coming year. This tradition was later adopted by the ancient Romans, who also incorporated resolutions into their New Year celebrations.

Every year, millions of people make New Year's resolutions, hoping to spark positive change. The recurring themes each year include a more active approach to health and fitness, improved finances, and learning new things for personal and professional development.

Despite the best of intentions, once the glow of a fresh new year wears off, many of us struggle to make good on our plans. Change is hard and with a world in turmoil, it is even harder keeping to our goals.

So for 2026, how about we start with some resolutions that are already within us?

- This year resolve to celebrating ourselves - acknowledging even the smallest of accomplishments.
- This year resolve to honor the habits we've built.
- This year encourage welcoming more joy and gratitude and bring it to the forefront of our daily lives! (They go hand in hand.)

On the subject of joy...Reb Lev is holding a class on Wednesday, January 7th on Joy! It's Chapter 1 of Arthur Green's book, *Judaism's 10 Best Ideas, A Brief Guide for Seekers*.

If we attend Minyan, Friday night, or Shabbat services, **together** we can express our gratitude to Hashem.

Small steps lead can lead to big rewards! Let's take these steps **together!**

B 'Shalom,



Marlene Friedlander  
Editor, Observer  
[editor@bethemethaz.org](mailto:editor@bethemethaz.org)



## **Greetings from your 1st Vice President Marilyn Newberg**

I am thrilled to once again be your 1st Vice President and to serve in my many capacities at Beth Emeth Congregation.

As head of the Kiddush Committee, we welcome your help and support by sponsoring a Kiddush, be it for a special occasion, a remembrance or just because.

Volunteers (helping hands) are always welcome in setting up in the kitchen or an event and cleaning up after Congregation events.

Please reach out if you are interested in helping. Todah Rabah in advance.

A couple of weeks ago after the December Board meeting, I was heading to my car when I noticed something on the roof of the building facing our Biblical garden.

Not sure what it was, I stared for a moment and tried capturing a photo. Another Board member was in the parking lot and I asked her to take a photo.

It was a female Harris hawk, native to the Arizona desert. After it stared down on the Biblical Garden, it flew into the large tree in front of our building. Another Harris hawk joined it a few moments later.

As the Biblical Garden is named in memory of my sister Rhoda, I took it as a sign that she is still watching over me.



Shalom,  
Marilyn Newberg, aka Marasha Tikvah

# From the Beth Emeth Congregation Ritual Committee

**Repairing our Torah Scrolls - we need your help!!**

**TORAH TORAH TORAH!**

**As you know, our Torahs are in dire need of repair. It has come to the attention of the Board that significant fundraising is needed in order to repair our sacred Torah Scrolls.**

**At the Annual Meeting in December, Reb Lev donated \$72 in hopes others would do the same.**

**However, if every member donates just \$60.00, that would cover the cost for the Sofer to make the necessary repairs.**

**In addition, anyone who donates at least \$60.00 will get a beautiful certificate for their contribution to the repair of our Torah Scrolls.**

**The certificate can be issued in Memory of a loved one, or in Honor of a Birthday, an Anniversary or any other Milestone occasion.**

**Please consider this endeavor as it is our heritage to keep our Torahs in good condition.**

**Donations can be made by check - payable to Beth Emeth Congregation attn: Torah Fund. Also accepting cash, Zelle and credit cards.**

**Please call the office with your donation. 623-584-7210**

**Contact me if you have any questions!**

**Natalie Morrison**

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



## Please support Our Judaica Shop

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

**Susan Hersch, Judaica Shop Manager**  
**[susan.hersch@bethemethaz.org](mailto:susan.hersch@bethemethaz.org)**

## Treasurer's Financial update

As of December 21st, we have had \$272,757.10 in income and \$295,991.44 in expenses. We are expecting a net shortfall of \$28,827.22 for the 2025 year. Please pay your remaining dues to help reduce this amount.

### **Dues**

We still have \$4,050 in unpaid 2025 membership dues.

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

Zelle payment to [treasurer@bethemethaz.org](mailto:treasurer@bethemethaz.org), Check, Cash or Credit card. With a credit card payments, we pay a 2% fee per transaction, so we only get \$735 of a \$750 payment.

We are now accepting payments of 2026 dues.

### **Donations**

Consider earmarking donations for the restricted funds that need our attention: Biblical Garden Fund, and the Torah Repair Fundraiser.

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

Remember to link your Fry's rewards cards to Beth Emeth Congregation. You get all of your discounts and rewards and we receive something too!

B 'Shalom,  
Brad Friedlander, Treasurer

## Treasurer's Corner

- At the December 21st, 2025 Congregation meeting, we approved this budget for 2026.
- Due to rising costs, we have increased individual dues to **\$800 for 2026**.
- This is a deficit budget with an expected shortfall of \$17,705.

Committees	Income 2026	Expense 2026
Biblical Garden		(\$5,000)
Building & Grounds		(\$60,952)
Capital	\$17,705	
Catering	\$2,900	(\$3,950)
Employee Wages		(\$119,904)
Executive	\$73,200	(\$23,931)
Finance		(\$1,000)
Fund Raising	\$30,568	(\$3,200)
Gift Shop	NONE	
Membership	\$71,280	(\$1,900)
Ritual	\$31,425	(\$4,300)
Technology		(\$5,091)
Torah Maintenance	NONE	NONE
Yahrzeit Board	\$3,500	(\$1,350)
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$230,578</b>	<b>(\$230,578)</b>

- 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 2025 (or 2026) and is not taxable.
- Please see your financial advisor for details.
- You can include other donations besides your dues.
- Contact me for the Congregation's EIN which your IRA firm will require.
- Multiple members have taken advantage of this tax savings opportunity.
- Our Congregation's restricted funds allow you to specify how your donation will be used.
- Torah Maintenance Fundraiser: The donation will only be used for the repair of our Torahs.
- Only four of our Torahs are currently usable but need considerable repairs.
- Action depends on your donations so we can repair them.
- We need to raise \$6,000 to repair two of the Torahs.
- Biblical Garden: The donation will only be used for the Biblical Garden project.
- Please contact me at [treasurer@bethemethaz.org](mailto:treasurer@bethemethaz.org) if you have any questions.
- Brad Friedlander, Treasurer



# SAVE THE DATE

## Monday, February 2, 2026

### Congregation Tu B' Shevat Seder



We will begin at 4:00 pm with a Mincha service followed by a festive Seder.

Watch your emails for further details!!  
Want to help? Let us know.

Marilyn and Susan  
[marilyn.newberg@bethemethaz.org](mailto:marilyn.newberg@bethemethaz.org)  
[susan.hersch@bethemethaz.org](mailto:susan.hersch@bethemethaz.org)

## 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.

Natalie Morrison

[natalie.morrison@bethemethaz.org](mailto:natalie.morrison@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, Co-President

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



## **Our Biblical Garden**

Updates -

The start of 2026 is a great time to make a donation to the beautification of our property.

So far we have received \$15,167.00 in donations and have spent \$7784.38  
We thank everyone who has contributed.

Whereas it looks like we have a surplus, we do not have enough to accomplish our design goals.

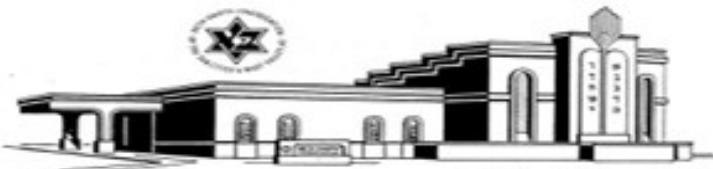
As Tu B'Shevat will occur at the beginning of February, now is a great time to plan for your Tu B'Shevat mitzvah!

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

Every donation is appreciated!!

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

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



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

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

**Phone (623) 584-7210 Web Site—bethemethaz.org**

**Email: office@bethemethaz.org**

### **WEST VALLEY 17TH ANNUAL JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL** **January 24, 25, 26, 2026**

#### **White Bird**

Saturday January 24th 2026 at 7:00 pm

In "White Bird," Julien's Grandmère Sara, played by Helen Mirren, shares her personal story of survival. At the age of 13, Sara managed to escape the Holocaust in France during World War II. Her story serves as an inspiration to Julien, encouraging him to embrace courage, kindness, and compassion in his life.



#### **The Catskills**

Sunday January 25th 2026 at 6:30 pm



This film offers a fascinating revisit to the Catskill Mountains, also known as the "Borscht Belt." In the 1950s, the area was a lively Jewish and American vacation destination, renowned for its resort hotels, bungalow colonies, delicious food, comedians, entertainment, and lasting friendships.

**SUNDAY ONLY: January 25th 2026, at 4:45 pm.**  
JOIN US FOR A DELICIOUS BUFFET only \$36pp with the purchase of your  
Sunday movie ticket. RSVP and payment a must by January 17, 2026  
(Dinner can only be purchased in conjunction with Sunday movie ticket.)

#### **Moses Ezekiel: Portrait of A Lost Artis**

Monday January 26th 2026 at 6:30 pm

Moses Ezekiel (1844 - 1917) was a 19th century Jewish American world-famous sculptor. He is best known for his confederate statues which were the focus of debate. This documentary tells his story, focusing on the debate over the presence and removal of confederate statues and monuments in the United States.



**Series Tickets: \$50.00 in advance**

**Single Tickets: \$18.00 in advance**

**At Door \$20.00**

**Dinner: \$36 pp (must be combined with Sunday's movie only)**



**Payments for Film Festival tickets and dinner are accepted in cash or check. Please make sure checks are written to: Beth Emeth Congregation.**

Tickets are available in person, via mailing in your payment and at the door. Contact Irene Lehrer with any questions. (donald.lehrer@cox.net)

# OUR 2026 FILM FESTIVAL IS COMING!!!

## JANUARY 24 -26, 2026

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.



## Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley Fundraiser

### 2nd ANNUAL MAH JONGG TOURNAMENT 5 Rounds of Play



**Sunday, March 15th 9:00 am – 3:30 pm**

**Tournament Play - \$55 per person**

**9:00 am Registration 9:45 am Review of Rules 10:00 am Play begins**

**3:00 pm Awards and Prizes**

**Kosher Continental breakfast and a Hot Lunch will be served.**

---

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I am willing to be EAST and I'm willing to bring my Mah Jongg set.**

**\$55 is Payable by check (Beth Emeth Congregation, 13702 W Meeker Blvd, Sun City West, AZ 85375), Cash, Credit card or Zelle.**

**RSVP by March 7<sup>th</sup>!**

**Contact Natalie Morrison: [natalie.morrison@bethemethaz.org](mailto:natalie.morrison@bethemethaz.org) or the Office at: 623-584-7210 for more information.**



Susan Hersch	1/11
Sid Engel	1/13
Mel Friedman	1/13
Sonia Altman	1/16
Joy Epstein	1/16
Jan Heidecker	1/18
Carol Madvig	1/18
Jordan Bailey	1/23
William Kram	1/30



None in January

# Chesed Committee

**Beth Emeth Congregation has a newly formed Chesed committee, (formerly known as Bikor Cholim).**

We are here to support you, our Congregation. If you know of a Member in need, or if you have a need that we can support, do not hesitate to reach out to us!

- ❖ **Coordinate meals when support is needed**
- ❖ **Coordinate rides for medical appointments or doing local errands**
- ❖ **Helping with a Shiva or a Shiva Minyanim**
- ❖ **General acts of loving-kindness**

## Help Needed

Sometimes, we don't know all of the help that is needed within our community. If you or anyone you know needs help, please reach out to us.

Please contact the Office at 623-584-7210 or the Chesed Committee at [chesed@bethemethaz.org](mailto:chesed@bethemethaz.org).



**Office Help Needed**

Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley is in need of someone to work part-time in our office.

The tasks are many and varied from answering the phone and taking in donations to printing for the Lobby to assisting Reb Lev with his and the Congregation's calendar. There's filing and greeting people to making sure the lights are on! Being computer savvy is a must!

If you know of anyone who is interested in part-time work...Monday to Friday, 9:00 am - noon, please let us know.

Our Chanukah event was a great success with 55 in attendance. There was singing and latkes and lots of camaraderie!



## More Chanukah photos!!






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

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

Date	Hebrew Date	Deceased	Observant	Relationship
1/1	Tevet 12	Louis Kanter	Phyllis Frank	Father
1/2	Tevet 13	Wilbur Madvig	Michael Madvig	Father
1/3	Tevet 14	Karen Shindler	Bradley Davidson	Sister
1/3	Tevet 14	Chaya Ben Yosef	Shoshana Perlmutter	Mother
1/4	Tevet 15	Esther Rachel Karofsky	Marilyn Newberg	Aunt
1/4	Tevet 15	Selma Schfandler	Rita Zarensky	Mother
1/5	Tevet 16	Hyman Finkelstein	Marlene Friedlander	Father
1/7	Tevet 18	Anna Silverman	Iris Silverman	Mother
1/7	Tevet 18	Henry Rosenstein	Peter Epstein	Father
1/8	Tevet 19	Fern Lynn Block	Lee Shedroff	Sister
1/8	Tevet 19	Hyman Kornheiser	Beverly Merchant	Father
1/9	Tevet 20	Julius Merchant	Beverly Merchant	Father-in-law
1/9	Tevet 20	Maryann Becker	Arnie Becker	Wife
1/10	Tevet 21	Maurice Morrison	Natalie Morrison	Father-in-law
1/11	Tevet 22	Laura Shimshi	Gail Davis	Mother
1/13	Tevet 24	Dr. David A. Dragiff	Evelyn Dragiff	Husband
1/15	Tevet 26	Siegmund Paul	Ron Paul	Father
1/17	Tevet 28	Wyllis Dorman-Ligh	Paula Forster	Sister
1/20	Shevat 2	Morris Kram	Bill Kram	father
1/20	Shevat 2	Sarah Leibovitz	Leah Tarnor	mother
1/20	Shevat 2	Irving Hesch	Morrie Hesch	Father
1/21	Shevat 3	Ida Feinstein	Arnie Becker	Sister
1/21	Shevat 3	Esther Greenberg	Al Goodall	Mother
1/22	Shevat 4	Hannah Wolff	Janice Rothschild	Mother
1/23	Shevat 5	Aryeh Silverman	Iris Silverman	Brother
1/24	Shevat 6	Leslie Merchant	Beverly Merchant	Sister-in-law
1/24	Shevat 6	Jacob Lee	Joanie Jacobs	Father
1/25	Shevat 7	Ludolf Heidecker	Andrew Heidecker	Father
1/26	Shevat 8	Hilda Wachs	Marvin Wachs	Mother
1/27	Shevat 9	Rose Rosenberg	Reva Litt	Mother
1/31	Shevat 13	Shirley Nedelman	David Nedelman	Mother

# Todah Rabah for your generous support!

<u>Break the Fast</u>	<u>Fundraising (cont)</u>	<u>Biblical Garden</u>
Judith Weinberg	Dov and Suzan Giloni	Marilyn Newberg
<b>Member - General Fund</b>	Joel Levine	Allan Goodall and Laverne Feingold
William Kram and Diane Shapiro	Robert and Barbara Cline	<b>Kiddush Fund</b>
<b>Nonmember - General Fund</b>	Barry and Claire Maultasch	Gyorgyi Rosenthal
Ruth Moss	Laura Becker	<b>Sponsored Kiddush</b>
Charles and Marisela Erichsen	Raymond and Debra Karam	Diane Freilich
<b>Fundraising</b>	Jay Kasofsky	Jim and Phyllis Frank
Sherry Lapham	Norman Hershfield	<b>Rabbi's classes</b>
Brad and Marlene Friedlander	<b>High Holiday Yizkor Donation</b>	Judith Weinberg
Arnold Becker	Myron and Shoshana Perlmutter	<b>Torah Maintenance</b>
Natalie Morrison	Raymond and Debra Karam	Brad and Marlene Friedlander
Saul and Sharon Rothzeid	<b>Ritual Donations</b>	Arnold Becker
Susan Hersch	Natalie Morrison	Natalie Morrison
Diane Freilich	Charles and Leah Tarnor	Raymond and Debra Karam
Rosemary Abrami	Saul and Sharon Rothzeid	
Tom Behrendt	Joan Rothfeld	
Gyorgyi Rosenthal	Allan Goodall and Laverne Feingold	
Gail Davis	<b>Minionaire Donations</b>	
Enid and Gary Cohen	Minionaires	
Judith Weinberg		<i>Reflecting donations posted 11/25-12/21</i>

# **Todah Rabah for your generous support!**

## **Yahrzeits**

Jack Ezraty  
Irene Weitzman  
Susan Hersch  
Alice Bernstein  
Tom Behrendt  
Allen Goodall and Laverne Feingold  
Michael and Carol Madvig  
Gail Davis  
Joy Eisner  
Rochelle Bailey

In Memory of Lucille Ezraty  
In Memory of Moses Weitzman  
In Memory of Nancy Vickery  
In Memory of Irwin Bernstein  
In Memory of Johannes Behrendt  
In Memory of Bill Wolfson  
In Memory of Rita Pearl Rose  
In Memory of Abe Epstein  
In Memory of Norman Eisner  
In Memory of Shelly & Clay Barley



## SISTERHOOD



## Message from the Sisterhood President January 2026

I want to thank everyone for the prayers, calls and cards on Jim's behalf. He has certainly had a difficult time with multiple hospitalizations for conditions other than his cancer. Baruch HaShem he is doing as well as can be expected under the circumstances. Please know that the prayers and support of friends has brought comfort and strength and has been most appreciated.

With Jim's need for twenty four hour supervision/assistance, I will be unable to coordinate the Sisterhood Purim Hamantaschen fund raiser. Even with the help of all of you that show up to bake and fill bags, it requires 3-4 days a week for several weeks to coordinate. If the congregation's kitchen crew does baking I know I can count on you to help them with what ever they decide to do.

**We will be sending in our Mah Jongg Card Orders the end of January.** If you haven't ordered your card please do so ASAP. Forms are available in the foyer and on the Beth Emeth web site [bethermethaz.org](http://bethermethaz.org) .

**Sisterhood Shabbat will be Friday January 16th at 6:00 pm.** This year we will not be assigning parts but rather hope that you will all come and join us in fellowship to pray together as Lev leads the service. Carol will do the D'Var Torah and or speak about Women's league. Everyone will enjoy an Oneg following the service. Thank you Carol for shopping. Thank you to Joy Eisner, Sunny Altman, Natalie Morrison and Leah Tarnor for signing up to help Carol set up the Oneg, and to Joy, Eisner, Sunny Altman, Laura Becker, Gail Davis and Barbara Cline for offering to stay to help clean up.

**Our Sisterhood women's Mystery & Munchies program will be on Sunday January 18th at 1:00 pm. Thank you to Ann Goldfarb for facilitating this program!** It should be a lot of fun. Space is limited so please sign up early to reserve your spot.. Thank you again to Sonny Altman, Joy Eisner, Laverne Feingold for offering to help set up at 11:00 and thank you to Joy Eisner, Sonny Altman, Laura Becker and Barbara cline for offering to stay to help clean up.

Currently we do not have a program planned for February. If you would like to plan and coordinate a program please let Carol know. Thank you to Natalie for offering to coordinate an outing to hear the Grand Singers in March, and for coordinating a Horse-racing game in June. This leaves April and May open...anyone interested in planning ??

For now I must take one day at a time focusing on Jim's needs. I appreciate your understanding and am counting you to help Carol.

## SISTERHOOD



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

# Sisterhood Presents Mystery & Munchies

**January 18th**

**1:00 pm**

**Cost \$10**



**Program facilitated C.J. Eaton Mysteries**

our own Ann Goldfarb & guest author

**Reserve your space by January 9th**

Check Payable to Sisterhood

**Space is limited to the first 16 women**



**Follow the Clues**

**Intrigue  
Indulge  
Have Fun!**



## MAH JONGG CARDS



### **It's time to order your 2026 Mah Jongg cards!**

When you, your family, friends, and neighbors order your cards through Beth Emeth Sisterhood, a portion of the proceeds of each card is given to Sisterhood programming. It is an easy fund raiser in which to participate.

**Standard Print Size Card - \$14.00**

**Large Size Card - \$15.00**

Please make checks payable to: **Sisterhood BEC**. Mail or drop off order forms by

**January 31, 2026**

**Beth Emeth Sisterhood Attn: Irene Lehrer  
13702 W. Meeker Blvd., Sun City West, AZ 85375  
Any questions contact the Office – 623-584-7210**

The National Mah Jongg League, Inc. will mail each card, individually, directly to you, therefore an address must accompany each order, and phone number is required in case of questions.

Please include the name and address for each card ordered! If you are sending in a list, be sure that the name and address of each person on the list is included.

---

### **2026 Sisterhood Mah Jongg Order Form**

**Name:**

**Last** \_\_\_\_\_ **First** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone number** \_\_\_\_\_

**Standard Size (\$14.00)** \_\_\_\_\_ **Large Size (\$15.00)** \_\_\_\_\_

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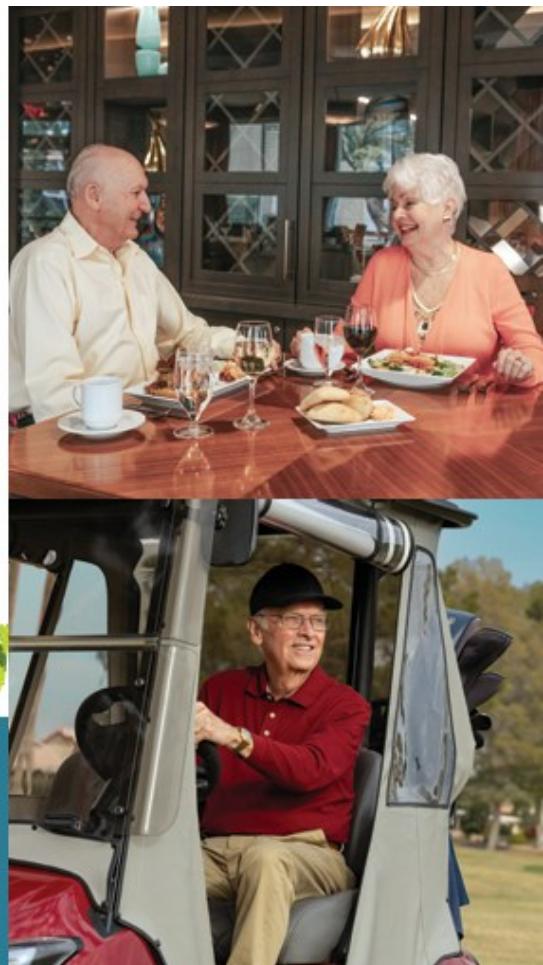
In addition, residents receive membership to Sun City West's state-of-the-art recreational center and social amenities, including championship golf courses and dozens of charter clubs. It's another way that **Grandview Terrace** makes it easy to live a healthy and happy life.

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Assess the financial compatibility of **Grandview Terrace** with your retirement plan. Try our simple calculator for an instant, obligation-free estimate.



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at (623) 975-8014  
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[SunHealthCommunities.org/grandview](http://SunHealthCommunities.org/grandview)



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[www.caminodelsol.com](http://www.caminodelsol.com)



# January 2026

## Tevet - Shevat 5786

SUN 28 (8)	MON 29 (9)	TUE 30 (10)	WED 31 (11)	THU Jan 1 (12)	FRI 2 (13)	SAT 3 (14)
		Asara B'Tevet ● 6:14am Fast begins ● 4pm Grief Support Group ● 6:04pm Fast ends		● 9am Morning minyan	● 5:15pm Candle lighting ● 6pm Friday Night Service	Parashat Vayechi ● 9:30am Shabbat Service ● 6:19pm Havdalah (45 min)
4 (15)	5 (16)	6 (17)	7 (18)	8 (19)	9 (20)	10 (21)
		● 4pm Grief Support Group	● 4pm Class - Reb Lev	● 9am Morning minyan	● 5:20pm Candle lighting ● 6pm Friday Night Service	Parashat Shemot ● 9:30am Shabbat Service ● 6:25pm Havdalah (45 min)
11 (22)	12 (23)	13 (24)	14 (25)	15 (26)	16 (27)	17 (28)
		● 10am Sisterhood Meeting ● 4pm Grief Support Group	● 4pm Class - Reb Lev	● 9am Morning minyan	● 5:27pm Candle lighting ● 6pm Friday Night Service	Mevarchim Chodesh Sh'vat Parashat Väera ● 9:30am Shabbat Service 2 more
18 (29)	19 (1)	20 (2)	21 (3)	22 (4)	23 (5)	24 (6)
	Rosh Chodesh Sh'vat ● 9:30am Board meeting ● 4pm Grief Support Group		● 4pm Class - Reb Lev	● 9am Morning minyan	● 5:33pm Candle lighting ● 6pm Friday Night Service	BEC Film Festival Parashat Bo ● 9:30am Shabbat Service ● 6:38pm Havdalah (45 min)
25 (7)	26 (8)	27 (9)	28 (10)	29 (11)	30 (12)	31 (13)
BEC Film Festival		● 4pm Grief Support Group	● 4pm Class - Reb Lev	● 9am Morning minyan	● 5:40pm Candle lighting ● 6pm Friday Night Service	Parashat Beshalach Shabbat Shirah ● 9:30am Shabbat Service



**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

Co-Presidents	Arnold Becker and Natalie Morrison
1st VP	Marilyn Newberg
2nd VP	Iris Kingma-Johnson
3rd VP	Michael Weinberg
4th VP	Joel Levine
Treasurer	Brad Friedlander
Financial Secretary	Raymond Karam
Recording Secretary	Marlene Friedlander
Corresponding Secretary	Irene Lehrer

### Directors

Arthur Bennett  
Leah Tarnor  
Susan Hersch  
Harvey Zarensky  
Marvin Wachs

### Sisterhood President

Ketzi Toney