

# 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

**Shevat - Adar 5786**

**February 2026**

Beth Emeth Congregation of the  
West Valley  
Welcomes Pam Wehbi  
To Our Staff (page 7)



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### Shabbat Candle Lighting

2/7 - 5:47 pm  
2/14 - 5:54 pm  
2/21 - 6:00 pm  
2/28 - 6:00 pm

**Volume 2026—Number 23**

## Ongoing Activities at Beth Emeth Congregation

### Groups:

- ☆ **Grief Support Group - Tuesdays at 4:00 pm**

### Services:

- ☆ **Thursday morning Minyan service in the Library at 9:00 am**
- ☆ **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

- ☆ **Our Torah classes continue on Thursday mornings in the Library at 11:00 am. Zoom information is sent out in advance of the class.**
- ☆ Continuation of the six week course based on Rabbi Arthur Green's book, *Judaism's Ten Best Ideas: A Brief Guide for Seekers*.

**Remaining dates: 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's office hours for meetings:

Wednesdays 10:00 am - 12:00 pm and Thursdays 2:00 pm- 4:00 pm

Please call the office to schedule a meeting.

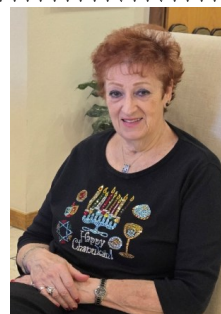
### Coming soon:

Sunday morning sessions. Think of it as having your "2nd cup" with Reb Lev.  
Lev Shalem "Siddur 101" class

- Watch for more details!!



**FROM THE DESKS OF CO-PRESIDENTS  
ARNOLD BECKER AND  
NATALIE MORRISON**



Shalom!

As we approach the second month of our presidency we are starting to see more clearly the challenges which we face.

Membership is a key element in our effort to ensure the continued success of our Congregation. A working group has been established to focus on this ongoing effort, including Gary Cohen, Outreach coordinator, Sandra Shedroff, New Member coordinator, and Jodi Belsher, Public Relations supervisor. This Team is being overseen by our 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Iris Kingma -Johnson. We look forward to hearing about the details of their efforts in the coming month and seeing the fruits of their labor in the months ahead. **BUT THEY CAN NOT DO IT ALONE.** If you have some hidden talents that can contribute to this mammoth *New Member* effort, **PLEASE** get in touch with a member of the Team.

The first of what we hope will be many fund-raising efforts, our Annual Film Festival, was a great success thanks to the coordinator, Irene Lehrer and her helpers. Movies on Saturday, Sunday and Monday evenings, with a buffet dinner on Sunday, how could it be better? Photos are in this issue!

On **Sunday, February 22** we will be having an Educational Seminar presented by our advertiser Sun Health Communities. Topic focuses on long term healthcare costs which is extremely important to everyone! **(Details in this issue).**

The **Mah Jongg Tournament will be Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>**. The planning committee met on the 19<sup>th</sup> of January. This is an annual event that brings in many players from all over the West Valley. There were 10 tables last year and the committee is planning for 12 – 14 tables this year. The event will include a Kosher Continental breakfast and a hot lunch. All players welcome! **(Flier in this issue!)**

If you would like to help with this event, please call the office and leave a message for Natalie Morrison or Susan Hersch. One of us will get back to you as soon as possible.

**Remember, ask not what your Congregation can do for you, think about what you can do for your Congregation.**

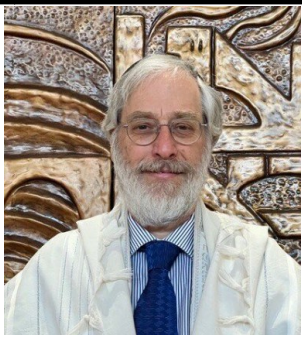
If you have an idea for the next great fund-raiser, please get in touch with either President. Many of us have been to fund-raisers. The ideas are out there, let's hear about them!

Arnold & Natalie, Co-Presidents

Contact us at: **president@bethemethaz.org** or Call us at 623-584-7210

## Reflections on Torah and Tradition

### Hazzan Lev Ettelson



"The Jews had light and gladness and joy and honor (Megillat Esther 8:16)." On Purim the congregation recites these words aloud and then the Megillah reader chants them in response. We also recite these words every week during Havdalah, but we add the words, "may it be so for us." Purim is the prototype for the old Jewish joke describing our holidays: "They tried to kill us, we survived, let's eat!" On Purim we recount the story of a narrowly averted genocide and the power of Jewish leadership to rally the community for the sake of our survival. There is a commentary which interprets the words light, gladness, joy and honor as feeling the beauty of Torah, the festivals and the mitzvot. When we say these words on Shabbat, we are praying that the light of Shabbat infuses the coming week with a joyful spirit of spiritual enlightenment.

Growing up in Jewish families many of us heard stories of tzurris (pain and suffering) whether it was of the holocaust, pogroms, or other acts of antisemitic violence and hatred. As I write these words, it has been less than two weeks since Beth Israel, Mississippi's largest synagogue was engulfed in flames. Two Torahs were destroyed, but their Holocaust Torah which was in a glass case (similar to the one in our lobby) survived yet again. The suspected arsonist is a young man whose mind was already poisoned by the oldest hatred, antisemitism. The synagogue was previously targeted by arson in 1967, by the Ku Klux Klan, because the rabbi and congregation courageously supported the Civil Rights Movement in a hostile environment.

The precipitous rise in antisemitism in the past few years, coupled with growing political instability both here and abroad has created a climate of anxiety for us as Jews and Americans. A "Jewish Cross-Denominational Statement Against Violent Immigration Enforcement" (see [rabbinicalassembly.org](http://rabbinicalassembly.org)) was issued recently which acknowledges that "Many Americans are deeply disturbed as they see their neighbors targeted for detention and deportation in their homes, at work, at their schools, and at their houses of worship. They are deeply concerned about numerous accounts of the use of intimidating and violent detention tactics, dangerous and unhealthy holding facilities, lack of appropriate warrants or due process, and wrongful apprehension of US citizens or individuals with proper visas based on appearance or language. Our sages taught that the Book of Deuteronomy's directive "Justice, justice shall you pursue" (16:20), implies that the law must be enforced through a fair process, and that one should pursue justice whether it



(continued)

would be to one's advantage or to one's loss."

In the Torah portion "Bo" we learn of the plague of darkness. "Thick darkness descended upon all the land of Egypt... people could not see one another but all the Israelites enjoyed light in their dwellings (Exodus 10:22-23)." We are living in a time of deep darkness, yet, the Torah gives us the guidance to create oases of light through mitzvot and acts of kindness toward our fellow beings. We are chosen to be a light unto the nations and to, "Love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt (Deuteronomy 10:19)." We find this message echoed in the scriptures of the great religions of the world affirming the common humanity and inherent dignity of all. As we say in the Passover Seder, "In every generation they rise against us to annihilate us. But the Blessed Holy One, rescues us from their hand." As long as we see one another and remember that all human beings are created in the Divine Image; If we allow the light in our hearts and homes to expand, and share that light with others through acts of kindness and courage (Tikkun Olam), there is still hope for a better world.

*Reb Lev*



## Greetings from your Past President Marilyn Newberg

Growing up, mom always encouraged Rhoda (z"l) and me to continue our education.

Unfortunately, we both decided not to take her advice. Although I feel somewhat of a failure choosing the path I did, I do not consider myself meritless. I have 2 wonderful children, Brad and Alexa. They are both strong, intelligent and capable in whatever they choose to do with their lives. I have a fantastic daughter-in-law Lauren, who I consider my 2<sup>nd</sup> daughter. I have been blessed with 3 granddaughters, Angela, Jessica and Lindsey, who are remarkable. I am sure that they will continue to astonish us with their talents.

So, what did I do during all those years? Well, as a stay at home mother, I was an Avon salesperson, I was always a class mother, and I was a VP and Fundraiser for the Sisterhood of Temple Emanuel, East Meadow, NY.

When Temple Emanuel opened a nursery school, I worked as an assistant to the teachers. After retiring from that job, I opened a franchise with my friend Marcia Lerner. It was an upscale resale shop for children, named "Children's Orchard". It wasn't as successful as I hoped it would be, but as the saying goes, "location, location, location".

After Children's Orchard, I went to work at Macy's in their handbag department. Within a few months before Macy's declared bankruptcy, they received 3 letters from customers telling them how terrific my sales service was. This was more than any other new employee received.

Bill (My dad, poppy) and I volunteered for Last Hope, a no-kill shelter for cats. When found, these cats were housed with families while recovering from illness, surgery, and waiting to be adopted. My cats, Bandit and Gypsy were adopted through Last Hope.

Upon moving from NY to Arizona, our involvement in the community continued. Dad was a greeter at Del Webb Hospital, and I volunteered in the Labor and Delivery department. It was perhaps the most rewarding of all of my jobs. Since I had sales experience, I got a job at a uniform store. Within 2 months I had simplified their entire inventory. They had been functioning archaically. Nonetheless, I did not get a raise for saving them money.

I became part of the Drama Club at Sun City Grand, where we lived. It was the first time I had ever been on stage performing in front of hundreds of people. I was a natural (if I say so myself). I was the lead in two plays. The first was "You Say Tomatoes" and the second was "Social Security". I also performed in "Radio Show", a 50's type of production. During that time, I took acting lessons from two former actors living in Sun City Grand.

I joined Beth Emeth Congregation in 1999. I have been a VP, President, and President of Sisterhood. I have been honored to receive the Woman of Valor Award. When I first walked into the Sanctuary tears came to my eyes as I knew my mother would have loved attending our services.

In my "spare" time, I play Mah Jongg, Hand & Foot (card game), Mexican Train, and enjoy going to the movies. I enjoy cooking, going on cruises and spending as much time as possible with my granddaughters.

I have been the Head Kitchen "Elf" for several years.

I loved working in the kitchen with my late sister Rhoda. Now, our 1<sup>st</sup> VP Susan Hersch joins me as Co-Head Elf!!

If you have any ideas for fundraising, membership, outreach or anything else...let me know!

B' Shalom,

Marilyn Newberg, aka Marasha Tikvah

Beth Emeth Observer

## From the Editor's desk!

Greetings!

It is my pleasure to introduce you to Pam Wehbi, our new Part Time Office staff, As the best connections always come from someone you know. Pam came to us via our member, Ann Goldfarb. THANK YOU ANN!

Ann had mentioned the position to Pam, Pam reached out to the office and she was an instant match to everyone she spoke to and met!

Pam has an impressive and extensive background in written media and radio journalism and has spent time working in the Boston, MA, Chicago, IL and Bloomington, IN areas where she serviced the news, advertising, and travel markets, to name a few.

Pam now lives in Sun City West and has already jumped "head first" into her role at Beth Emeth Congregation learning our processes, policies and software. She has reorganized the office for better efficiency.

Pam is in our office Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - noon to take care of your dues payments, event registrations, and donations.

Please stop in to say hello and introduce yourself!!

B 'Shalom,



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

**Greetings from your Board Members!**  
**Over the next few months our newly elected Board Members and Directors will be introducing themselves to you.**

**Susan Hersch, 1st VP**

Shalom!

As your newly elected 1st Vice President, let me introduce myself. My name is Susan Hersch. I was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. (Go Indians NKA the Guardians!) My husband, Stephen, and I moved to Sun City West as full-time residents in 2018. We were “snowbirds” for 10 years prior. As a “snowbird” I attended Shabbat services at Beth Emeth Congregation where everyone was so friendly and made me feel welcome. I joined Beth Emeth Congregation in 2019 as a full-time member. I was elected to the Board in 2022 as Recording Secretary and then as Financial Secretary in 2024.

As your 1st Vice President, my main responsibility is to oversee the following standing committees:

- (1) Finance, Audit, and Budget
- (2) Fund Raising/Endowment
- (3) Gifts and Memorials

I am asking everyone to consider chairing or serving on one of these committees. We need your talents and expertise. Serving on a committee is a wonderful way to get involved and to get to know your fellow congregants. Marilyn Newberg has graciously volunteered to serve as Chairperson of the Fund Raising/Endowment Committee and will be looking for Committee Members.

By working together we can help attract new members, grow our Endowment Funds, receive monetary gifts, and secure the future of Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley.

I will also be continuing my role as Manager of the Judaica Shop and helping Marilyn Newberg in the kitchen.

If you have any questions, or wish to volunteer, I can be reached at [susanhersch@bethemethaz.org](mailto:susanhersch@bethemethaz.org) or at 623-584-7210.



# Officers and Directors

My name is Joel Levine. I am introducing myself as I am the newly elected 4th Vice President. One of the main functions is that of the Building Manager. This position oversees various building issues that needed to be fixed. I have already been involved with several building projects at Beth Emeth Congregation.

I am an engineer by education and working experience. I received a college degree from the University of Texas. I primarily worked as a Petroleum Engineer in the area of project engineer management. I was responsible for devising engineer designs to drill for oil and gas. As a Project Management Engineer I was responsible for reviewing project proposals from other companies. This required that I would evaluate the projects with respect to labor costs, material costs, safety designs, and project timelines.

I would recommend to Senior management my recommendation for its selection.

My philosophy for selecting certain projects is to use the KISS Method. The KISS Method is the acronym for Keep It Simple Stupid. Essentially this means that this is the first approach to resolve the problem at its lowest cost.

This approach has been utilized in one of Beth Emeth's plumbing projects. There was a plumbing issue at Beth Emeth where the water/sewage drains backed up in the kitchen and into one of the bathrooms.

Additionally, I have been involved with the overseeing the installations of the new A/C units, bathroom renovations, pest control, and many more projects.

I look forward to helping maintain the building to the highest standards.

Joel Levine, 4th Vice President  
Joel.levine@bethemethaz.org.

Prior to moving to Arizona, I served as the Temple Administrator at Temple Sinai in Marblehead, MA, for over 20 years. My leadership experience includes serving as Sisterhood President for both Temple Sinai in Swampscott and Temple Shalom in Salem, as well as Vice President of the Salem-Beverly Hadassah chapter.

Since joining Beth Emeth, I have served on the membership committee at the request of Geri Cooper. During that time, our membership exceeded 200 individuals, and I managed the correspondence cards that Sally Hall currently handles. Additionally, I served as Program Chairman for Sun City Grand for several years and as the Hadassah co-bulletin editor.

As a Board Director, my goal is to ensure everyone feels welcome and truly part of our Temple family. Beth Emeth is our second home, and I look forward to supporting our community.

Leah Tarnor - leah.tarnor@bethemethaz.org  
Director

Michael Weinberg, 3rd Vice President

Ritual Committee

I earned both my master's and doctoral degrees from Kansas State University and recently retired on December 31st after a 55-year career as a mental health professional licensed by the State of Arizona. Throughout my career, I was deeply committed to clinical practice and the well-being of individuals and families.

My wife Judi and I spend much of our time with our children and grandchildren. I also pursue my passions for astronomy and astrophotography, spending clear sky evenings observing the universe through my two telescopes.

I am currently co-authoring two books focused on mental health issues. To help me stay focused. I attend Shabbat services on Saturday mornings enjoying the music and learning about the Pasha that stimulates a spiritual experience and of course socializing at kiddish."

Lastly, Judi and I run the weekly Grief Support group. All are welcome to attend.

You can contact me at [michael.weinberg@bethemethaz.org](mailto:michael.weinberg@bethemethaz.org)

Arthur Bennett

The Ritual Committee is pleased to announce that Board Director, Arthur Bennett, will now be in charge of handling Shabbat Aliyot.

Arthur is a graduate of the Yeshiva school and came to Sun City West and Beth Emeth Congregation from Indiana where he was a teacher.



Arthur has always been active at Beth Emeth Congregation on the Board, leading services, helping out at events, and can usually be found sitting in the 3rd row on the right, inner aisle. On High Holidays his 2 daughters, Jessica and Meryl, who live in Scottsdale, and their families, join him. Arthur will now be on the Bimah along with Reb Lev during the Torah services on Shabbat morning.

If you have a Yahrzeit, milestone, special event or any Mitzvah for which you would like an Aliyah, please let Arthur know. He can be reached at [arthur.bennett@bethemethaz.org](mailto:arthur.bennett@bethemethaz.org).

## **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.**

**We now have a donor who will match donations up to \$5000.**

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 us if you have any questions!**

Natalie Morrison

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

Michael Weinberg

**[michael.weinberg@bethemethaz.org](mailto:michael.weinberg@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**

## **Treasurer's Financial update**

### **Financial Status**

**In the March Observer, we plan to provide a 2025 year-end financial summary.  
Dues**

It's a new fiscal year and we have emailed your 2026 Dues Statements. Please remember that we accept payment in multiple forms, shown in order of preference.

- Zelle payment to treasurer@bethemethaz.org
- Check: Paper or we can set up an ACH payment (one-time or recurring)
- Cash
- Credit card: We pay a 2% fee per transaction, so we only get \$735 of a \$750
- payment.

### **Donations**

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

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

B'shalom,  
Brad Friedlander, Treasurer



## **Financial News**

We have recently sent your 2026 Dues Statements electronically.

- If you have not received it, please contact the office to ensure your email address in our database is correct.
- If you believe the statement is incorrect, please contact me and we will resolve the issue.

We plan to email 2025 Tax Donation letters to you in February.

If you have an IRA, please consider using a qualified charitable distribution (QCD).

- A QCD counts toward your required minimum distribution (RMD) for the 2026 year 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.
  - An anonymous donor has offered a \$5,000 matching donation.
- **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.  
Todah!



## Kiddush Committee

Shalom!

I am thrilled to have Susan Hersch as my Co-Head of the Kitchen, assisting with all of the food needs of the Congregation.

We will be happy to make a special Kiddush for any of your milestones or special occasions.

Prices for a Sponsored Kiddush start at \$275 (Bagel and lox platter, cheeses, salads, hot dish, pastries and beverages) and go up to \$375. We promise to provide a beautiful and plentiful display of foods.

Please let us know how we can help.

Marilyn Newberg - [marilyn.newberg@bethemethaz.org](mailto:marilyn.newberg@bethemethaz.org)

Susan Hersch - [susan.hersch@bethemethaz.org](mailto:susan.hersch@bethemethaz.org)

## Our Biblical Garden

Updates -

As we have had a warm winter, now is a great time to make a donation to the beautification of our property.

So far we have received \$15,639.00 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.

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

Every donation is appreciated!!

Marilyn Newberg, [marilyn.newberg@bethemethaz.org](mailto:marilyn.newberg@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)



## **Chesed Committee**

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

We are here to support you, our Congregation family. 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**
- ☆ **A call of caring**

### **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).





Steven Rothschild	2/3
Esther (Ketzi) Toney	2/7
Gail Davis	2/8
Phyllis Frank	2/10
Rita Zarensky	2/14
Wendy Engel	2/20
Claire Maultasch	2/21
Arnold Becker	2/22
Brad Friedlander	2/23
Peter Epstein	2/24
Iris Kingman-Johnson	2/27



Iris Kingma-Johnson and husband Neil	2/2
Jordan and Rosie Colbert	2/27



## Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley Fundraiser

# 2nd ANNUAL MAH JONGG TOURNAMENT

### 5 Rounds of Play- Run by Johanna Rocconova



**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 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.

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

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



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Sunday, February 22**  
**1:00 pm**



**Educational Seminar**  
**Presented by Sun Health Communities**

**Navigating the Cost of Long Term Care - "Life Care 101"**

**At Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley - Social Hall**

As the landscape of healthcare continues to evolve, many seniors and their families find themselves overwhelmed by the rising costs of long-term care. Sun Health Communities is proud to offer an educational seminar specifically designed to demystify these costs and explain the unique financial protections offered by a Life Care Agreement.

- Understanding the "Care Gap": A look at the current costs of assisted living and skilled nursing in Arizona vs. the limitations of Medicare and traditional insurance.
- The Math of Life Care: Explaining the "Type A" Lifecare contract, how it turns unpredictable future healthcare costs into a predictable, monthly expense.
- Estate Protection: How choosing the right care model can safeguard retirement savings and assets for heirs.
- Sun Health at Home<sup>®</sup>: A specialized look at how the Life Care model can be applied to those who wish to remain in their current home while receiving guaranteed support.
- Tax Considerations: Brief overview of potential medical tax deductions associated with Life Care entry fees and monthly service fees.

**Bring your questions!!**

**This event is being offered at NO CHARGE, light refreshments will be served!**

**Donations appreciated.**

**TO RSVP: Call the Office at 623-584-7210 or [office@bethemethaz.org](mailto:office@bethemethaz.org).**



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

Just steps from their front door, residents have access to a plethora of dining options, a bustling social scene, and a wealth of amenities—all conveniently located under one roof.

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.

### Explore Your Options with Confidence

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



Call our sales office  
at (623) 975-8014  
to schedule a tour!

[SunHealthCommunities.org/grandview](http://SunHealthCommunities.org/grandview)



## Camino del Sol

FUNERAL CHAPEL & CREMATION CENTER

At Camino del Sol Funeral Chapel and Cremation Center, it is our mission to meet every need of the families we serve. Family-owned and operated, Camino del Sol is proud to serve the surrounding communities since 1989. You can count on us today, and for generations to come!

(623) 584-6299

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







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



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

Date	Hebrew Date	Deceased	Observant	Relationship
4-Feb	Shevat 17	Reyna Wachs	Marvin Wachs	Late Wife
4-Feb	Shevat 17	Joseph Fineberg	Sonia Marshall	Father
5-Feb	Shevat 18	Marty Feldman	Iris Silverman	Brother-in-law
5-Feb	Shevat 18	Clara Perlmutter	Myron Perlmutter	Mother
7-Feb	Shevat 20	Mary Pinkus Halperin	Marilyn Newberg	Mother
8-Feb	Shevat 21	Jeanette Fisher-Roth	Shelly Moschel	Mother
8-Feb	Shevat 21	Yael Friedlander	Brad Friedlander	Father
10-Feb	Shevat 23	Esther Forster	Paula Forster	Mother-in-law
11-Feb	Shevat 24	Alex Rothzeit	Saul Rothzeit	Father
12-Feb	Shevat 25	Carl Hoffman	Evelyn Dragiff	Brother
13-Feb	Shevat 26	Allen Wodlinger	Sheldon Koven	Father-in-law
13-Feb	Shevat 26	Holly Strome	Suzan Giloni	Sister
15-Feb	Shevat 28	Judith Shane	Jamie Rothschild	Aunt
19-Feb	Adar 2	Bella Golda Giloni	Dov Giloni	Mother
20-Feb	Adar 3	Edward Rosenberg	Rita Beth Wachs	Father
21-Feb	Adar 4	Goldie Witt	Natalie Morrison	Mother
21-Feb	Adar 4	Mary Reichman	Arthur Bennett	Grandmother
22-Feb	Adar 5	Ruth Colbert	Jordan Colbert	Mother
23-Feb	Adar 6	David Stuchlak	Susan Hersch	Husband
23-Feb	Adar 6	Minnie Weber Baer	Alice Bernstein	Mother
24-Feb	Adar 7	Abraham Cutler	Madelaine Friedman	Father
26-Feb	Adar 9	Abraham Harry Goldenberg	Lael Summer	Father
28-Feb	Adar 11	Jack Turk	Lael Summer	Uncle

## Todah Rabah for your generous support!

<b><u>Yahrzeits</u></b>	<b><u>Fundraising</u></b>	<b><u>Fundraising (cont)</u></b>	
Barry and Claire Maultasch In memory of David Maultasch	Dov and Suzan Giloni	Mary Flint	
Sheldon Koven In memory of Ethel Wodlinger	Camino del Sol	Sheila and Marvin Rand	
Morrie Hesch In memory of Irving Hesch	Paula Forster	Fraiman Dental	
Evelyn Dragiff In memory of Dr David Dragiff	Arnold Becker	<b><u>Donation Non- Member</u></b>	
Ronald Paul In memory of Siegmund Paul	Iris Kingma-Johnson	Sunland Memorial Park	
Bradley and Sherry Davidson In memory of Marcia Davidson	Myron and Shoshana Perlmutter	Hacienda de Sarah LLC	
Natalie Morrison In memory of Maurice Morrison	Natalie Morrison	<b><u>Donation Member</u></b>	
Marlene and Brad Friedlander In memory of Hyman Finkelstein	Beverly Merchant	Arnold Becker	
Andrew and Jan Heidecker In memory of Ludolf Heidecker	Mark and Madelaine Friedman	Jim and Phyllis Frank	
William Krama and Diane Shapiro In Memory of Morris Kram	Susan Hersch	Steven and Janice Rotschild	
Jim and Phyllis Frank In memory of Louis Kanter	Morrie Hesch	<b><u>Oneg/Kiddush/Kitchen</u></b>	
High Holiday	Joy and Peter Epstein	Hacienda de Sarah	
Paula Forster	Susan Faludi	Susan Hersch	
<b><u>Biblical Garden</u></b>	Gyorgyi Rosenthal	Steven and Janice Rothschild	
Marilyn Newberg	Leah and Charlie Tarnor	<b><u>Rabbi's classes</u></b>	
Arnold Becker	Irene Lerner	Robert and Barbara Cline	
<b>Charge Card Fees</b>	Rita Pomerance	<b><u>Ritual</u></b>	
Iris Kingma-Johnson	Debra and Raymond Kram	Iris Kingma-Johnson	
Debra Gariepy	Carol and Michael Madvig		
	Carol Loewith	<i>Reflecting donations posted 1/22 - 2/21</i>	



## Message from the Sisterhood President February 2026

In his article about Parsha Va'eria, Rabbi Yonah Terris Avreich refers to Rav Gedalyah Schorr explanation regarding Pharaoh's decree requiring the people to gather their own straw. Rav Schorr suggests that the cruelty was not in the lack of straw, but in the isolation it caused. "The Pasuk says, They spread out across all of Egypt to gather straw, meaning the people could no longer work or live together. Now, scattered across Egypt, each person searching for his own straw, they lost that Achdus (unity) and spiritual support." He goes on to suggest that studying Torah together and I would add supporting one another has kept us through the darkest of times as a people through history. It is the same individually even today. Torah, Tefillah, (prayer) and Gemilut Chassadim (acts of loving kindness) are the glue that holds us together, and nourishes us.

I can attest that the simplest act of kindness and support, offering to help, a visit, a card, text, call or email can lift the recipient up and give them strength. I want to thank those that have kept Jim and I in their thoughts and prayers and who have taken the time to reach out to us with concern. It has been most appreciated, and up lifting.

Tefillah, I was dismayed that I could not be there physically for our Sisterhood Shabbat. I did join you via live stream...but it is just not the same as being present. A big thank you to Carol Madvig for her presentation and thank you to all those that helped her prepare for and clean up after the Oneg.

Torah connects us with HaShem. Awareness of our blessing from HaShem fosters compassion, and promotes gratitude and appreciation. With heart felt gratitude I want to thank Ann Goldfarb and Cheryl Wilson for their very unique and fun program. Their time and energy was greatly appreciated! Everyone that was present at our Mystery & Munchies Program had a wonderful time! Thank you to Carol Madvig, Joy Eisner and Sonny Altman for coming in early to set up! Thank you all for helping me clean up! I was grateful I was able to be there! Thank you Debbie Gariepy for making this possible by staying with Jim! It was a most needed respite.

Sisterhood, at the time of this writing, does have a February program planned. We hope that you will support and join in the Tu B'Shevat Seder that Hazzan Lev Ettelson is hosting in memory of his mother's Yahrtzeit. Also, please watch for emails from Carol Madvig regarding Purim baking, Hamantaschen ordering, and information regarding the February meeting. L'hietraot,

Ketzi Toney



# WOMEN'S LEAGUE PER CAPITA

## Making the most of your membership

Every member, and every Women's League Sisterhood or Affiliate can benefit from Women's League membership. By submitting per capita for each Member—the primary funding for all Women's League activities—you can enjoy the following array of materials and services. These are all yours for the asking! Visit [www.wlcj.org](http://www.wlcj.org) or call the office at 405-870-1260 for more information.



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- Support from Region & WLCJ

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- Divrei Nashim
- Women's League Reads
- Kolot BiK'dushah
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- Advocacy
- Support of Israel including Masorti Days of Study
- United Nations NGO
- The Jerusalem Program

Partnership with Sharsheret Information and programming in support of women with cancer and their families

### FREE PUBLICATIONS

- Sisterhood Advisor
- Sisterhood Planner
- Blueprint for Membership
- Image Plus Handbook
- The Ways to the Means
- Seasonal Materials
- Publicity Tools
- Workshop Outlines and Videos
- Installation Scripts
- Torah Fund Materials (*Torah Fund is the dedicated philanthropy of WLCJ supporting the five worldwide Conservative/Masorti institutes of higher Jewish learning.*)



### PUBLICATIONS FOR PURCHASE

- 2 Sizes of Annual Calendar Diaries
- The Hiddur Mitzvah Project
- Etz Chayim He: Adult Jewish Education Curriculum
- The Mitzvah of Bikkur Holim
- Under the Wings of Sh'khinah: A Jewish Healing Service
- Judaic Handcrafts: Aleph Bet Variations & Headcoverings
- Certificates for All Occasions

### A VOICE IN THE WORLDWIDE COMMUNITY

Women's League's active partnership in, and support of, these national and international organizations affords all members a voice in the worldwide Jewish community.



- Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations
- JCPA—Jewish Council for Public Affairs
- MERCAZ USA and MERCAZ Canada
- Masorti Olami
- National Ramah Commission
- The Jewish Theological Seminary (New York)
- Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies (Los Angeles)
- Schechter Institutes of Jewish Studies (Jerusalem)
- Seminario Rabinico Latinoamericano (Buenos Aires)
- Abraham Joshua Heschel Seminary (Germany)



**we are Women's League**

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

(rev. October 2025)



# January 18, 2026 Mysteries & Munchies Thank You Authors Ann Goldfarb & Cheryl Wilson



This unique, participatory program was interesting, informative, and so much **FUN!**  
Good food, friends, and prizes too made for a delightful afternoon!  
Thank you Ann and Cheryl!



**Yummy Munchies**



**Raffel Winners**







It was an afternoon of  
Creativity  
&  
Imagination,



# February 2026

## Shevat - Adar 5786

SUN Feb 1	MON 2	TUE 3	WED 4	THU 5	FRI 6	SAT 7
	<b>Tu BiShvat</b> ● 4pm Tu B'Shevat Program	● 4pm Grief Support Group	● 4pm Class - Reb Lev	● 9am Morning minyan  11 am Torah Class	● 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat  5:47 pm Candle Lighting	<b>Parashat Yitro</b> ● 9:30am Shabbat Service
8	9	● 10am Sisterhood Meeting ● 4pm Grief Support Group	● 4pm Class - Reb Lev	● 9am Morning minyan  11 am Torah Class	● 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat  5:54 pm Candle Lighting	<b>Valentine's Day</b> <b>Shabbat Shekalim</b> <b>Parashat Mishpatim</b> ● 9:30am Shabbat Service
15	<b>Presidents' Day</b>	<b>Rosh Chodesh Adar</b> ● 9:30am Board meeting ● 4pm Grief Support Group	<b>Rosh Chodesh Adar</b>	● 9am Morning minyan  11 am Torah Class	● 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat  6:00 pm Candle Lighting	<b>Parashat Terumah</b> ● 9:30am Shabbat Service ● 12pm Birthday Kiddush
22	23	● 4pm Grief Support Group	25	● 9am Morning minyan  11 am Torah Class	● 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat  6:06 pm Candle Lighting	<b>Shabbat Zachor</b> <b>Parashat Tetzaveh</b> ● 9:30am Shabbat Service
<b>Sun Health Educational Seminar - 1pm</b>						



**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**

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2nd VP	Iris Kingma-Johnson
3rd VP	Michael Weinberg
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