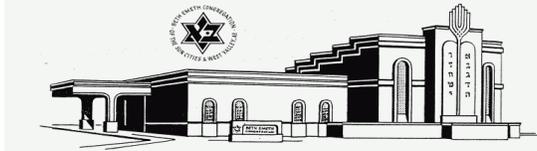


Beth Emeth Observer

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

Adar - Nissan 5786

March 2026

March 2 Erev Purim services - 6:30 pm
March 3 Purim - 9:00 am
Come in costume!



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.

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Shabbat Candle Lighting Times

3/6 - 6:12pm
3/13 - 6:18 pm
3/20 - 6:23 pm
3/27 - 6:28 pm



Join us at Beth Emeth Congregation for Purim!! Wear your best costume and prepare to make a lot of noise.

Purim 5786 begins at sundown on Monday, March 2, and concludes in the evening on Tuesday, March 3. Services on Monday evening begin at 6:30 pm with Ma'ariv. Reading of Megillah will start at about 6:50 pm.



Services on Tuesday morning (including Torah and Megillah reading) will be at 9:00 am



Please call our office at 623-584-7210 for more information.
This event is free of charge!

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



Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley
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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 7th by NOON!!

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



From the Editor's desk!

Greetings!

Over the past few months the Synagogue has been abuzz with activities! We joined together for 3 nights of a very successful and well attended Film Festival (with a delicious dinner!), the excellent

Tu B 'Shevat Seder, an informative Educational Seminar led by Sun Health Communities, ongoing Torah classes, as well as nonstop Hamantaschen baking in the kitchen! Photos in this issue.

This month we will hear lots of convivial chatter with sounds of BAM! CRACK! MAH JONGG!! at our almost full (with room for more!) 2nd Annual **Mah Jongg Tournament** on **Sunday, March 15.**

Then before you know it, **Passover** will be here. **April 2 - April 9.** Check out our Judaica Shop for all of your Passover serving needs!

Again this year, we are asking our members **if they have an extra seat at their Seder tables that members could join.** If so, please contact the Office (623-584-7210) and let us know.

Or if any of our members **would like to attend a Seder,** call the Office so that we can match you to a hosting Seder. Indicate whether or not you keep Kosher outside of your home.

Looking ahead...

On Wednesday, April 22, from 5:00 PM–7:30 PM at the JCC in Scottsdale - There will be a Yom HaAtzmaut event celebrating **Israel@78.** Watch your email and here next month for more details.

Our very popular **Horsereading Game** will return as a fundraising event on **Sunday, May 3rd.** Details to follow.

Shavuot occurs on **Friday, May 22nd and Shabbat, May 23rd** with a special Sponsored Kiddush featuring Cheesecake and other dairy delicacies!

Be sure to mark your calendar for these and other events!
Lots to explore in this issue!

B 'Shalom,

Marlene Friedlander
Editor, Observer
editor@bethemethaz.org

Volume 2026—Number 24

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.**

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!!**

March 2 Erev Purim services - 6:30 pm

March 3 Purim services - 9:00 am

Come in costume!!



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

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Shalom!

For the Observer this month, the Presidents of Beth Emeth Congregation are recognizing and honoring a very special member, someone who has worked so very hard to present an outstanding and successful Jewish Film Festival fundraiser for several years.

Every January, our Congregation has been presenting a multi-night Jewish Film Festival. It is a year long endeavor to put together. It is one of our most important fundraising events, and it has been very successful. The person in charge of the Festival has many challenges. Visiting merchants and business establishments to solicit ads, requesting sponsorships, selling tickets, and asking for special products and gifts for door prizes. The person in charge views and selects the movies for the three nights of the Festival and then purchases the rights to show them. This is not an easy task. For the first time this year, the Festival offered a dinner prior to the second movie, which was also successful. After each movie there are always refreshments. The refreshments are often prepared to relate to the evening's movie. The committee works very hard each night to make the food, serve it, and then clean up at the end of the event.

In 2025 the Film Festival raised eleven thousand dollars for the Congregation. This year, thanks to her leadership, and her committee, **that amount was matched!** This is absolutely remarkable!

Plans for the 2027 Film Festival are already underway!!!

Thank you so very much from all of us on the Board to **IRENE LEHRER** for all your hard work for taking on this endeavor for all these years.

Arnie and Natalie



Reflections on Torah and Tradition

Hazzan Lev Ettelson



““Raba said: A person is obligated to mellow oneself until s/he does not know the difference between 'cursed is Haman' and 'Blessed is Mordechai.’”
Talmud, Megillah 7b

“Sometimes the light's all shinin' on me / Other times I can barely see
Lately it occurs to me / What a long, strange trip it's been.” “Truckin’”, Grateful Dead

The story of Purim shines a light on how we can respond to the “oldest hatred”, antisemitism. Haman, following in the footsteps of his ancestor Amalek, is the archetypal antisemite. His irrational hatred for the Jews was ignited by his hostility towards Mordechai, who refused to bow before his massive ego. Haman was haughty, arrogant and power hungry, representing everything that is antithetical to Torah values. He “sought to destroy all the Jews... throughout the entire kingdom...” He described them to Ahasuerus as being “...scattered and dispersed among the peoples in all the provinces... their laws are different from every other people’s... therefore it is not befitting... to tolerate them.”

A thousand years prior, Amalek attacked our ancestors from behind, during their trek through the wilderness, targeting the weary and vulnerable. The Torah teaches, “When Hashem, your G-d, has given you repose from all your enemies around, in the land that Adonoy, your G-d, is giving you as territory to inherit, you shall obliterate the memory of Amalek from beneath the sky; do not forget.” (Deuteronomy 25:19) This is the source for making noise to drown out (obliterate) the name of Haman.

These are troubled times we’re living in, and the resurgence of antisemitism is unlike anything I’ve witnessed before in my lifetime but certainly is familiar to the elders of our congregation. The pervasiveness of this hatred is deeply disturbing and distressing. The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee outlines three steps to address the issue: Regain agency over our identities and spaces. Utilize mental health interventions to address anxiety and trauma felt by many in the Jewish community. Invest in social services connecting isolated (and vulnerable) Jews with other Jews.

עמלק(Amalek) has the numerical equivalent of the word **קפץ**(doubt). There are many forces in the world which cause us to doubt ourselves and lose sight of our true self. The mitzvot of Purim have the potential to address these challenges: Reading the Megillah, we reclaim our identity as descendants of Mordechai and Esther who embody strength, faith and resilience. Sharing gifts with the poor (it’s a mitzvah to give extra tzedakah to the needy on Purim) we let the most vulnerable of our people know they are not alone. Feasting with friends we feel the warmth of fellowship, find relief from our anxiety and may even attain the state of transcending the duality of “Mordechai” and “Haman” and realize that blessings and curses both flow from the same Source, ultimately leading to the greatest good. Keep the faith and keep on truckin’!

Reb Lev



Greetings from your Past President Marilyn Newberg

What BETH EMETH CONGREGATION means to me -

**B: BELIEVE
E: EMPATHY
T: TRUST
H: HEALTH
E: ENGAGE
M: MILESTONES
E: ENLIGHTEN
T: TOLERANCE
H: HOPE**

What does it mean to you?

Let me know!

marilyn.newberg@bethemethcongregation.org



Greetings from your 1st Vice President Susan Herch

Shalom!

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 still in need of a Chairperson for the Finance, Audit, and Budget Committee. Please consider chairing this committee. If you have any questions with regard to what this position entails, please contact me at 623-584-7210.

Marilyn Newberg has volunteered to serve as the Chairperson for the Fund Raising/Endowment Committee and is looking for members to serve on that committee.

The Second Annual Mah Jongg Tournament Fund Raiser will be held on Sunday, March 15th. As of this writing we have 11 tables filled. The Mah Jongg community throughout the West Valley has been very supportive.

We are planning a "Racing Horse Game Day" Fund Raiser on Sunday, May 3rd. This is something we have done in that past and everyone who attended had a fun afternoon. A flier with details will be coming out soon.

The Fund Raising Committee would love to hear from you with suggestions for future Fund Raisers. Contact Marilyn Newberg or me with your ideas and suggestions.

Arnold "Arnie" Becker has volunteered to serve as the Chairperson for the Gifts and Memorials Committee and is looking for members to serve on that Committee.

By working together we can secure the future of Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley,

If you have any questions, I can be reached at susan.hersch@bethemethaz.org or 623-584-7210.

Susan Hersch



Greetings from your 2nd Vice President Iris Kingma-Johnson

Shalom!

I am Iris Kingma-Johnson and it is my pleasure to serve as your 2nd Vice President. I was born in the Netherlands where I went to medical school obtaining my MD in 1979. Gosh, that's a long time ago. I met and married my first husband in 1975 and we have two children, now adults of course. In 1980 we emigrated to Canada and lived in Calgary for the next decade. There I completed my doctorate in cardiovascular physiology and my residency in internal medicine and nephrology. In 1990 I moved to the beautiful City of Quebec where I was a member of the nephrology clinical and basic science group, both taking care of patients and directing my research program at Laval University. It was quite the change, not only for me but also for the children. They started their life in Dutch, then learned English in Calgary and then they had to change into French in Quebec. I learned French in school but it wasn't my strongest subject. That said, I have always loved learning languages and I am fluent in five. Still working on my Hebrew though.

In 1999 I moved to New Jersey, met and married my husband Neil and stayed there for a decade. Apparently, I do my life in decades. I worked for a large pharmaceutical company, then moved to Minnesota where I worked for a large medical device company. In 2014, I decided to retire. We had purchased a second residence in Arizona and were snowbirds for some time and moved permanently to Arizona in 2019, just before Covid struck.

Beth Emeth became my spiritual home at that time, after visiting from time to time as a snowbird. This has been a wonderful place to be. It has inspired me to further my Jewish education and I was privileged for almost 4 years to study with Rabbi Robert Sternberg (z"l) who guided me to becoming bat mitzvah in 2003. He taught me to chant Haftorah, something I love to do, if not just to remind myself of my precious time with such a wise teacher. Bob passed away too early and too young, he had so much more to give and teach. We will always be grateful for the many services he led at Beth Emeth, on Shabbat and during the High Holidays, bridging the long hiatus we experienced as we continued our search for a spiritual leader.

I am serving my second time as your 2nd VP. My responsibilities, in short, are everything related to membership and publications. I invite you to contact me with any questions and suggestions you may have, including those that relate to your own membership. As you know we continue to seek to increase our membership. I am grateful to members of the various committees I oversee in this role, including Harvey Zelensky, Sandy Shedroff, Suzan Giloni and Gary Cohen. I am looking forward to adding to these should you wish to help us in this very important endeavor. The publications I oversee are related directly to these efforts as we try to increase our visibility in the community through our website, our Observer, our presence in local newspapers and with Shalom clubs. Again, there is a need here for your help. I am sure that among you are some that have the talents and the enthusiasm to look for roles to fill and places to increase our presence. Don't be shy, I too continue to learn. We would love to have your insights on how to increase our scope and presence in our community and beyond.

I am looking forward to meeting you. My email is Iris.Kingma-Johnson@bethemethaz.org or you can leave a message for me to contact you by calling the Office.

Officers and Directors

Starting a Chavurah Group at Beth Emeth Congregation

What is Chavurah? Chavurah (plural is Chavurot) comes from the Hebrew word, **chaver**, meaning **friend or fellowship**. Each Chavurah is a self-directed group of congregation members who come together to socialize, enjoy Jewish living, and share experiences. It is designed to bring together congregation members with similar interests, whether it is food, travel, books or crafts. It is a chance to get to know other members outside of the Synagogue, while it helps build relationships within the Synagogue.

For many, a Chavurah is like an extended family!

Each Chavurah decides on its own blend of socializing, Jewish celebrations, activities and connection. Mostly, they are social and fun!

I have been part of many Chavurot for over 28 years.

If you are interested in being part of our Chavurah or learning more, **please contact me!**

Leah Tarnor, Director

Leah.tarnor@bethemethaz.org

Beth Emeth Grief Support Group - Michael Weinberg, Ph.D., LPC, 3rd Vice President

In addition to my responsibilities as 3rd Vice President, I, along with my wife Judi, run the weekly grief support group at Beth Emeth Congregation.

The grief support group meets weekly on Tuesdays from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the social hall and typically includes seven to ten participants. The group is structured to provide a safe, accepting, and compassionate environment in which participants can explore the impact of loss on their lives. They are encouraged to share their experiences of grief, mourning, and adjustment following the death or loss of a loved one.

Group discussions address a wide range of losses, including the death of spouses, family members, close friends, careers, and beloved pets. Despite the seriousness of the group's purpose, sessions often include moments of laughter alongside expressions of sadness and tears. Participants have reported that the group not only supports emotional processing of their loss but also provides practical tools for coping with ongoing life challenges.

Open verbal expression is emphasized as a healthy means of processing pain and, at times, anger. The group maintains strict standards of confidentiality and anonymity and is grounded in principles of nonjudgment and acceptance. Participants present with varying timelines of loss; some are grieving deaths that occurred many years earlier, while others are in the initial stages of bereavement. Regardless of time elapsed, the emotional intensity of grief is unique to all of us, but we can learn that we are not alone. So, give us a try if you think we may be able to help and support you in your healing journey.

The program is free to the congregation members and the Jewish community.

Officers and Directors (continued)

Building update

I have received an email from NERD. They are the company that will be installing the Solar Panels for Beth Emeth Congregation. They have preliminary set up an installation date some time in mid February.

They have not definitively given a specific date of the beginning of the installation. I will give you an update when a more definitive date is established.

I have also received several emails from some HVAC vendors. This means Heating, Ventilation, and Air Condition Companies that are wanting to perform work for Beth Emeth Congregation.

I responded to their emails. I invited them to come to the synagogue to view the site so that they can perform a FREE evaluation of the services that they would be performing. Only one of the potential vending companies responded. They did come out to Beth Emeth Congregation, and I met with them for the tour. I asked the vendor, Good Air, to provide a written estimation on the costs and the specifics of their services. I also asked them to provide that they are State Contractor licensed, and Insured for Liability.

They responded back with a bid of \$59 to do the work.

I will need to follow up with this company to ensure that this is the correct amount of the bid. It seems very low.

I will do some further work as to the present vendors that Beth Emeth Congregation has in their costs. It is possible that our present vendors may have some "free" follow up inspections.

Joel Levine, 4th Vice President

joel.levine@bethemethaz.org



Gary Cohen, Director

Shalom! I have just become the newest member of the Beth Emeth Board, filling a Director vacancy. In this new role, I will be among the people who spread the word about what Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley is doing and who we are.

For people not familiar with my own story, my wife Enid and I started coming to Beth Emeth Congregation in the summer of 2023, just months after our first ever visit to Israel. We became members early in 2024. It was the visit to Israel which brought us closer to our faith and moved us to join you at Beth Emeth.

I had a more than 40-year career in news radio as a writer, editor, producer and correspondent, including career stops in New York City, Los Angeles, and Washington, D.C. I bring that mass communications experience at both the local and national news level to what I will be doing to help get the word out about Beth Emeth and all we do.

I look forward to greeting you on Shabbat mornings! We usually sit in the first row.

Gary Cohen, Director

Treasurer's Corner

Dues

We have received \$22,860 (about 1/3rd) of the budgeted \$71,280 for 2026 dues.

- We incur a large part of our annual expenses before the High Holidays.
- We need everyone to pay their dues by March 31st or contact the Treasurer to make alternative arrangements.

Donations Letters

We emailed the 2025 Tax Donation letters to you in February. Thanks to those who reported errors we could get them corrected.

Funds Needing Your Assistance

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.
- We need to raise \$13,000 to repair all of the Torahs.
- An anonymous donor has offered a \$5,000 matching donation and we have received \$3,770 towards that goal.
- With the matching funds, we have \$8,500 to cover repairs for two Torahs.

Biblical Garden: The donation will only be used for the Biblical Garden project.

- We have \$1,811 available from prior donations.
- We need an additional \$3,189 to cover the planned expenses for this year.

Save Taxes on Donations

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.
- Many members have taken advantage of this tax savings opportunity.

Please contact me at treasurer@bethemethaz.org if you have any questions.
Todah!

Brad Friedlander, Treasurer

Treasurer's Financial Update

Your financial contributions enable us to provide the religious services and programs you want.

Financial Status

Here are the preliminary year-end financials for 2025.

- Building & Grounds was over budget due to the damage to the women's bathroom and the HVAC replacements.
- The Grant budget was exceeded, but we expect to get reimbursed in 2026.
- Thanks to Sisterhood for \$6,100 towards bathroom repair, HVAC, Torah repair, and projector.
- We had a \$32,966.43 draw-down from our capital funds.

Committee	YTD Income	YTD Expense	Committees	Income 2025	Expense 2025	Net Diff
Asset Changes	\$4,000.00	(\$5,680.00)	Asset Changes	\$0	\$0	(\$1,680)
Biblical Garden	\$14,939.00	(\$5,400.00)	Biblical Garden	\$0	\$0	\$9,539
Building & Grounds	\$17,569.92	(\$84,925.61)	Building & Grounds	\$0	(\$41,452)	(\$25,904)
Capital	\$32,966.43		Capital	\$28,827	\$0	(\$3,699)
Catering	\$4,362.00	(\$2,246.47)	Catering	\$3,700	(\$12,010)	\$10,426
Employee Wages	\$51.00	(\$104,901.74)	Employee Wages		(\$121,104)	\$16,253
Executive	\$87,450.06	(\$16,389.86)	Executive	\$81,600	(\$18,681)	\$8,141
Finance	\$2.46	(\$927.20)	Finance		(\$1,000)	\$75
Fund Raising	\$44,670.94	(\$3,830.61)	Fundraising	\$29,400	(\$6,700)	\$18,140
Gift Shop	\$495.50		Gift Shop	\$0	\$0	\$496
Grant	\$4,325.00	(\$77,101.92)	Grant	\$0	\$0	(\$72,777)
Membership	\$53,125.00	(\$2,802.63)	Membership	\$52,875	(\$4,500)	\$1,947
Observer	\$570.00	(\$91.19)	Observer	\$0	\$0	\$479
Prior Year Dues	\$2,806.67		Prior Year Dues	\$0	\$0	\$2,807
Ritual	\$39,876.90	(\$1,619.15)	Ritual	\$16,525	(\$3,100)	\$24,833
Technology		(\$5,743.85)	Technology	\$0	(\$6,530)	\$786
Torah Maintenance	\$5,798.00	(\$2,000.00)	Torah Maintenance	\$0	\$0	\$3,798
Yahrzeit Board	\$1,050.00	(\$398.65)	Yahrzeit Board	\$3,500	(\$1,350)	(\$1,499)
Grand Total	\$314,058.88	(\$314,058.88)	Grand Total	\$216,427	(\$216,427)	(\$7,838)

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.

B'shalom,

Brad Friedlander, Treasurer

Kiddush Committee

Shalom!

Our Kiddush Committee 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 you celebrate!

Contact us for available dates as many are already taken!

Marilyn Newberg - marilyn.newberg@bethemethaz.org

Susan Hersch - susan.hersch@bethemethaz.org

Something Sweet from the Beth Emeth Congregation Kitchen CARROT CAKE

- 2 C flour
- 2 C granulated sugar
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 1 ½ C vegetable oil
- 2 tsp baking soda
- 4 eggs (unbeaten)
- ½ t salt
- 3 C grated carrots
- 2 t cinnamon
- ½ C chopped nuts



- Sift together flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, and cinnamon (set aside)
- Beat well - granulated sugar and oil
- Add eggs, one at a time, and beat well
- Add dry ingredients to oil mixture and blend well
- Add carrots to above mixture
- Add nuts last and blend well
- Pour mixture into a greased 9x13x2 pan
- Bake at 350 for 1 hour
- Frost with your favorite cream cheese frosting.



**Please support Our Judaica Shop
WE ARE STOCKED AND READY FOR PASSOVER!!!**

**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**

Our Biblical Garden

Updates -

As Spring and warmer months approach, now is a great time to make a donation to our Biblical Garden.

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. We would like to proceed with more landscaping and planting this Spring.

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

Every donation is appreciated!!

Marilyn Newberg, marilyn.newberg@bethemethaz.org

Arnold Becker, arnold.becker@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



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



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.

From the Beth Emeth Congregation Ritual Committee Repairing our Torah Scrolls - We still need your help!!

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.

If every member donates just \$60.00, that would cover the cost for the Sofer to make most of the necessary repairs.

Please consider making a donation 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

Natalie Morrison natalie.morrison@bethemethaz.org

Michael Weinberg michael.weinberg@bethemethaz.org



Diane Freilich	March 2
Allen Goodall	March 3
Madelaine Friedman	March 5
Morrie Hesch	March 6
James P May	March 10
Laverne Feingold	March 13
Sherry Lapham	March 26
David Nedelman	March 26
Carol Loewith	March 27
Evelyn Dragiff	March 28
Mary Flint	March 31
Sheldon Koven	March 31



Myron and Shoshana Perlmutter	March 4
Gail Davis and Aaron Kuhn	March 8
Susan and Stephen Hersch	March 18

Sunday, February 22

An Educational Seminar presented by Kathleen Frederick, Community Relations Specialist Sun Health Communities



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.

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



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

Date	Hebrew Date	Deceased	Observant	Relationship
3/1	Adar 12	Ruth Turk Goldenberg	Lael Summer	Mother
3/2	Adar 13	Allen Schwartz	Sandra Shedroff	Brother
3/2	Adar 13	Bessie Plotkin	Sonia Altman	Mother
3/2	Adar 13	Gayle Friedlander	Brad Friedlander	Wife
3/2	Adar 13	Bernard Casper	Sheldon Koven	Uncle
3/3	Adar 14	Anna Libman	Marilyn Newberg	Grandmother
3/5	Adar 16	Julia Salmirs	Brad Friedlander	Grandmother
3/6	Adar 17	Anna Newman	Barbara Newman	Mother
3/6	Adar 17	Gerard Wolff	Janice Rothschild	Father
3/7	Adar 18	Abraham David Silverman	Iris Silverman	Husband
3/7	Adar 18	Michael Shapiro	William Kram and Diane Shapiro	Brother
3/8	Adar 19	Solomon Moskowitz	Sheldon Koven	Grandfather
3/8	Adar 19	Seymour Rosenberg	Reva Litt	Father
3/8	Adar 19	Owen Litt	Reva Litt	Husband
3/8	Adar 19	Ruth Heidecker	Andrew Heidecker	Mother
3/12	Adar 23	Joseph Tarnor	Charlie Tarnor	Father
3/12	Adar 23	Allison Hesch	Morrie Hesch	Spouse
3/12	Adar 23	Ruth Epstein	Peter Epstein	Mother
3/16	Adar 27	Rose Meyrowitz	Lael Summer	Aunt
3/16	Adar 27	Saul Punyon	Gail Davis	Father
3/16	Adar 27	Milton Rothschild	Jamie Rothschild	Father
3/16	Adar 27	Lillian Friedman	Sharon Rothzeit	Mother
3/16	Adar 27	Gabriella Farkas	Gyorgyi Rosenthal	Mother
3/19	Nissan 1	Edith Hesch	Morrie Hesch	Mother
3/20	Nissan 2	Judith Koven	Sheldon Koven	Wife
3/23	Nissan 5	Michael Z. Shedroff	Lee Shedroff	Cousin
3/24	Nissan 6	Beverly Casper	Sheldon Koven	Cousin
3/25	Nissan 7	Marcia Friedman	Ketzi Toney	Sister
3/26	Nissan 8	Estelle Cohen	Evelyn Dragiff	Sister
3/26	Nissan 8	Marilyn Sills	Enid Cohen	Mother
3/27	Nissan 9	Dorothy Miller	Iris Silverman	Mother
3/27	Nissan 9	Mendel Isaacson	Arthur Bennett	Brother
3/29	Nissan 11	Matilda Friedman	Mark Friedman	Mother
3/30	Nissan 12	Ida Koven	Sheldon Koven	Grandmother
3/31	Nissan 13	William Leibovitz	Leah Tarnor	Father
3/31	Nissan 13	Elaine Cohen	Gary Cohen	Mother

Todah Rabah for your generous support!

<u>Yahrzeits</u>	<u>Torah Maintenance</u>	<u>Fundraising (cont)</u>
Iris Kingma-Johnson In memory of Robert Sternberg	Ronald Paul	Ione Zurcher
Jim and Phyllis Frank In memory of Reb Lev's mother	Jack Ezraty	Nancy Ellis
Myron and Shoshana Perlmutter In memory of Clara Perlmutter	Sheldon Koven	Elaine Lombardo
Brad and Marlene Friedlander In memory of Yael Friedlander	Rita Pomerance	Cynthia Murphy
<u>Oneg/Kiddush/Kitchen</u>	Lael Summer	Janet Rouse
Diane Shapiro	Irene Weitzman	Linda Stanger
Marilyn Newberg	Barry and Clare Maultasch	Setterberg Jewelers
Gyorgyi Rosenthal	Sheva Cohen	Raymond and Debra Karam
<u>Biblical Garden</u>	<u>Fundraising</u>	Serve MD LLC
Arnold Becker	Johanna Rocanova	Harriett Kessler
Marilyn Newberg	Janice Meyer	SP Heritage OpCO LLC
Judaica Shop	Linda Paist	Vital Care Rehabilitation
Jim and Phyllis Frank	Barbara Reiss	Bonnie Richard
<u>Charge Card Fees</u>	Shirley Suhr	Minia and Larry Kalish
Debra Gariepy	Regina Glbans	Milicent Levy
<u>Donation In-Kind</u>	Harriett Baskette	Insurance Paradise
Jim and Phyllis Frank	Marcia Colton	Bonita Bay
	Rochelle Fosco	Martha Pivnick
<u>Ritual</u>	Patti Buckley	Bobbi Aubut
Ronald Paul	Rosalie Schuler	<i>Reflecting donations posted 2/23 - 3/22</i>

<u>Fundraising (cont)</u>	<u>Fundraising (cont)</u>	
Stephen and Miriam Lent	Joel Levine	
Camino del Sol	Angie Adamonis	
Sinai Mortuary		
Reva Litt	<u>Rabbi's Classes</u>	
Arnold Becker	Ruth Callahan	
Iris Kingma-Johnson		
Beverly Merchant	<u>Donation Non Member</u>	
Susan Hersch	Sunland Memorial	
Joy and Peter Epstein	Mount Sinai Cemetery	
Ann Goldfarb-Clapp	Unitarian Universalist Congregation	
Gyorgi Rosenthal		
Harvey and Rita Zarensky	<u>Donation Member</u>	
Leah and Charlie Tarnor	Steven and Janice Rothschild	
Irene Lehrer	Arnold Becker	
Rita Pomerance	Leah and Charlie Tarnor	
Mary Flint	Carol and Michael Madvig	
Sheila and Marvin Rand		
Carol Loewith		
Dov and Suzan Giloni		
Lee and Sandra Shedroff		<i>Reflecting donations posted 2/23 - 3/22</i>



**Message from the Sisterhood President
March 2026**

It is Adar! The month of merriment, festivities, and fun. I want to wish each of you a very **Happy Purim!**

A Very Big Thank You goes out to Carol Madvig and all those who helped her bake, package, bag and tag the Hamantaschen! It is an exhausting task requiring many hours a day, several days a week, for multiple weeks. It is an endeavor that requires many to step up and help. Each person's participation made a difference and helped to make this project possible.

The selling of Mishloach Manot bags is Sisterhood's major fund raiser of the year. Thank you to everyone who ordered Hamantaschen, to those who sent their wishes to friends through this fundraiser, and especially to those of you who chose to send a bag to everyone.

Throughout each year Sisterhood works to support the congregation's needs with cash donations, purchases, gifts, and with sharing our supplies, time and energy. This year Sisterhood will be directly splitting the profits from this fundraiser with the congregation. Your generosity will be put to good use and is most appreciated! We hope you will enjoy the delicious Hamantaschen that truly are made with love.

The Purim Story has imbedded within many meaningful concepts relevant today: balancing when to quietly fit in with when to stand proud unabashed about who we are, facing our fear, having faith that HaShem will help us find courage when needed, and standing united to fight against hate for self preservation, the survival of the Jewish people, and for all.

May our Purim celebrations bring joy, provoke thought, promote mitzvot, and provide renewed pride in our great heritage. Am Yisrael Chai, and Chag Sameach.

Ketzi

Hamantaschen by the thousands!

Once again this year, Sisterhood lead the way for baking over 3000 Hamantaschen for all to enjoy. Whether bought by the dozen or for the entire Congregation, Todah Rabah to **Carol Madvig** for leading the committee who baked and filled the bags!!! So delicious!!!



March 2026

Adar - Nissan 5786

SUN Mar 1	MON 2	TUE 3	WED 4	THU 5	FRI 6	SAT 7
12th of Adar	13th of Adar Erev Purim Ta'anit Esther	14th of Adar Purim ● 4pm Grief Support Group	15th of Adar Shushan Purim	16th of Adar ● 9am Morning minyan 11 am Torah Class	17th of Adar ● 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat Candle Lighting 6:12 pm	18th of Adar Shabbat Parah Parashat Ki Tisa ● 9:30am Shabbat Service
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
19th of Adar Daylight Saving Time starts	20th of Adar	21st of Adar ● 10am Sisterhood Meeting ● 4pm Grief Support Group	22nd of Adar	23rd of Adar ● 9am Morning minyan 11 am Torah Class	24th of Adar ● 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat Candle Lighting 6:18 pm	25th of Adar Shabbat HaChodesh Parashat Vayakhel-Pekudei ● 9:30am Shabbat Service
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
26th of Adar Mah Jongg Tournament 9:00 am - 3:00 pm	27th of Adar	28th of Adar St. Patrick's Day ● 9:30am Board meeting ● 4pm Grief Support Group	29th of Adar	1st of Nisan, 5786 Rosh Chodesh Nisan ● 9am Morning minyan 11 am Torah Class	2nd of Nisan ● 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat Candle Lighting 6:23 pm	3rd of Nisan Parashat Vayikra ● 9:30am Shabbat Service ● 12pm Birthday Kiddush
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
4th of Nisan	5th of Nisan	6th of Nisan ● 4pm Grief Support Group	7th of Nisan	8th of Nisan ● 9am Morning minyan 11 am Torah Class	9th of Nisan ● 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat Candle Lighting 6:28 pm	10th of Nisan Shabbat HaGadol Yom HaAliyah 2 more
29	30	31	Apr 1	2	3	4
11th of Nisan	12th of Nisan	13th of Nisan ● 4pm Grief Support Group	14th of Nisan Erev Pesach Ta'anit Bechorot	15th of Nisan Pesach I ● 9am Morning minyan 11 am Torah Class	16th of Nisan Pesach II ● 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat Candle Lighting 6:32 pm	17th of Nisan Pesach III (CH" M) ● 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
Past President	Marilyn Newberg
1st VP	Susan Hersch
2nd VP	Iris Kingma-Johnson
3rd VP	Michael Weinberg
4th VP	Joel Levine
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Harvey Zarensky
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Sisterhood President

Ketzi Toney
Carol Madvig (Interim President)