

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

Nissan - Iyar 5786

April 2026

April 2-9
Happy Passover!
Wishing you and your families a
Chag Sameach!



In this issue

Congregation updates	2
From the Editor	3
Presidents Message	4 - 5
From the Hazzan's Study	6
From the Past President	7
From the 1st Vice President	8
Board Officers	9
Financials	10-12
Chesed/ Torah Fund	13
Judaica Shop/ Biblical Garden	14
Etz Chaim/Yahrzeit Board	15
Birthdays/Anniversaries	16
Events	17
Passover Recipes	18 -19
Photos	20-23
Yahrzeits	24
Donations	25 -26
Advertisement	27
Sisterhood	28 -29
Yom Ha'Atzmaut	30
Calendar	31



Shabbat Candle Lighting Times

4/3 - 6:33 pm
4/10 - 6:38 pm
4/17 - 6:44 pm
4/24- 6:49 pm

What's happening in and around the Congregation

Erev Pesach is Wednesday April 1. Chametz may be eaten until 10:25 a.m. and burned by 11:28 a.m. Candle lighting is at 6:31 p.m.

Services on Thursday morning begin at 9:30 am. Candle lighting for the second day is after 7:27 p.m. from an existing flame.

Services on Friday morning begin at 9:30 am.
There will be NO Kabbalat Shabbat service on Friday the 3rd or Friday the 10th.

Shabbat services on April 4th at the usual time of 9:30 am. No Kiddush as the Kitchen is closed.

Services for the last two days of Pesach, April 8th and 9th are at 9:30 a.m. with a Yizkor service on the last day, April 9th.

Security will be provided by the Arizona Rangers for all services.

Candle lighting times for the end of Passover: Tuesday 4/7 at 6:35 p.m. and on 4/8 after 7:32 p.m. (from an existing flame). Holiday ends on Thursday April 9th at 7:32 p.m. Havdalah over wine only (no spices or candle).

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!!



From the Editor's desk!

(With Excerpts From Leah Koenig of The Jewish Table.)

Greetings!

In this season of Passover, this season of remembering, this season of journeying from bondage to liberation, this season of rebirth, here is what I am thinking about.

This is my interpretation on ***Dayenu – hasn't it been enough??***

I am thinking about how a country that looks on—and even encourages—its most violent, while they attack innocent civilians every day. While they murder families, and then try to call it domestic terrorists. ***Dayenu...hasn't it been enough?***

I am thinking about a country where children have been harmed at their synagogue's preschool and it's written off by far too many as a "false flag" or "justified" by guilt of association. Or synagogues getting attacked all too often. ***Dayenu...hasn't it been enough?***

I am thinking about how ambulances get blown up while protecting a suburban synagogue. ***Dayenu...hasn't it been enough?***

I am thinking about the children and families in Tel Aviv and Tehran and Gaza and Beirut who shudder under the wail of constant sirens and the blast of missiles fired by countries who hate them—and who are abandoned by the leaders who should be protecting them from harm. ***Dayenu...hasn't it been enough?***

I am thinking that too often it feels like everyday living has become a constant ***"Dayenu – hasn't it been enough?"***

I am thinking about how countries repeatedly fall into darkness and how they struggle to find their way back towards light. ***Dayenu – hasn't it been enough?***

But here's what I know about how a country falls into darkness:

Certainly it falls if we look away or if we shut our eyes or we refuse to believe it is happening or if we get overly distracted. Or we don't speak up or we wait for others to come to the rescue.

Certainly it falls if we let go of what we know to be true.

Certainly it falls if we let it.

May we look forward to a day when "Nation shall not lift sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore."

And when we say: "Next year in Jerusalem", we find it safe to be there. Chag Sameach!!

Marlene Friedlander
Editor, Observer
editor@bethemethaz.org

Volume 2026—Number 26



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

Dear Congregants and friends,

As we celebrate the traditions of Passover, I wish you happy memories of your past seders and pray that we will all experience meaningful and joyful seders this Passover of 5786. Here's to a full plate and a happy heart for everyone and may we all be grateful for the friendships that have been brought into our lives. May this Passover bring peace and blessings to each of you and your loved ones, and may there be peace in the Land.

Wishing you a zissen Pesach,
Arnold Becker
Co-President

PASSOVER greetings

We have had a wonderful year to date. Our Board has expanded with new members from the Congregation and are doing very well by stepping up to the plate and bringing in new ideas. We have had three wonderful Fundraisers which have brought in close to \$17,000. The Jewish Film Festival, Purim Hamantaschen sales and the 2nd Annual Mah Jongg Tournament. Thank you so very much o all those who attended and participated in these events. In May we are bringing back the very successful and fun Horseracing Game, look for the flier in this issue. Passover starts this week and everyone is busy preparing for their Seders and Holiday week. From my house to yours, I want to extend to the entire Congregation and their families a very happy and healthy Passover.

Natalie Morrison
Co-President



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

As we all know, Purim is a holiday that comes one month before Passover. It is a holiday about Esther, the Jews and a villain, Haman. A symbol of Purim is Hamantaschen, a triangular cookie that resembles Haman's hat and is usually filled with prune, apricot, cherry, and poppy filling. Historically, Sisterhood has prepared the Hamantaschen. Ketzi Toney, Sisterhood President and Carol Madvig, Sisterhood Vice President (the dynamite duo) always organized the effort. This year as Ketzi was unable to participate, Carol Madvig stepped up and agreed to take the lead. Marilyn Newberg and Susan Hersch, who are responsible for the Congregation kitchen, agreed to assist and the Hamantaschen project became a joint effort of Sisterhood and the Congregation. Carol, as chairperson, and her committee, baked Hamantaschen multiple days from January through the middle of March. Many days Carol could be found alone in the kitchen preparing the dough, baking and cleaning. Carol and her committee baked over 3000 Hamantaschen and made close to \$4000, less expenses. Sisterhood and Congregation will share the profits.

For this month's Observer, the Presidents of Beth Emeth Congregation are honoring Carol Madvig as a "special member" for her many hours of very hard work and leadership. Thank You so very much from all of us on the Board for taking on this endeavor.



Another huge success this past month was the Mah Jongg Tournament under the leadership of Natalie Morrison. The Social Hall had to be set up for the Tournament with 18 bridge tables and chairs. 72 women participated in the Tournament. A special thanks to all those who brought tables and chairs to use at the Tournament. All the round tables were removed and replaced with long tables for eating. The library was transformed so people could eat there as well. There were 12 prizes and a 50/50 raffle. When all the income and expenses were considered, the profit was over \$2000. Last year with 40 women the profit was close to \$1200. Credit also goes to committee heads, Marilyn Newberg and Susan Hersch, for outstanding work on the breakfast and the remarkable lunch. Also helping on the food committee were Carol Madvig, Leah Tanor, Sunny Altman, and Joy Eisner. Marlene and Brad Friedlander worked on the registration. Special thanks to Marlene who also helped with all the advertising. Sandra Shedroff and Susan Giloni sold 50/50 tickets. Susan Giloni was also the timekeeper. To all the workers who set up the room and reset the room after the Tournament a special thank you. We could not have done it without all of you.



We plan to repeat this Tournament next year!!! **Save the date - Sunday, March 14, 2027!!!**

Reflections on Torah and Tradition

Hazzan Lev Ettelson



“So that you remember the day you went out of Egypt all the days of your life.”

Devarim 16:3

Rabbi Irving Greenberg, in his book *The Jewish Way*, sees Judaism as an “Exodus Religion.” On a daily basis we recall the liberation from Egypt in the third paragraph of the Shema, “I am... your G-d who has removed you from the land of Egypt...” These words are also written on the parchment within the tefillin which we bind to our arms and head. Every week during the Friday night kiddush after mentioning “Shabbat as a heritage, a remembrance of creation” we say, “Shabbat... a memorial of the Exodus from Egypt.” The very first of The Ten Commandments (Principles) is “I am... your G-d, who delivered you from the land of Egypt, from the house of slavery.”

Why is leaving Egypt so central to who we are as Jews? *Mitzrayim* (Egypt) is not just a geographic designation, it literally means narrow straits. As the Psalmist writes, “From the straits did I call upon G-d; G-d answered me with expansiveness.” Our ancestors called to Hashem from the narrow confines of slavery and hopelessness. How many times do we feel confined by a narrow perception of ourselves and the world, longing for the expansiveness of liberation? Once again we find ourselves in a time of persecution and oppression by the forces of hatred and bigotry, yet we have the tools of our tradition to renew our faith in G-d, ourselves and each other.

Acting out the story of our liberation from *Mitzrayim* begins the night before the Seder when we search out and remove the *chametz* (leaven) from our midst and our hearts. *Chametz* symbolizes the “puffed up” ego (personified as Pharaoh), whereas *Matzah* is the bread of simple faith and humility (Moses). Rabbi Greenberg says “The challenge is to make the Exodus experience vivid enough in an ongoing way to counter... the unredeemed experiences of life... not to flee from reality but to be motivated to perfect it.”

Spring is the time of rebirth, which is why Pesach is also *Chag ha-Aviv* (The Springtime Holiday). Time and again, we experience darkness and constriction, yet, the rhythms of nature potentiate growth and renewal within us. The various flavors we partake of during the Seder can be seen through the lens of Traditional Chinese Medicine, for example, bitter herbs can help us move from sadness to joy. Salty flavors relate to feelings of fear when out of balance, but, when harmonized, transform into determination. The Seder is a holistic experience engaging all of our senses so that we can embody the message of liberation, not just for ourselves, but, ultimately for the whole world.

The Seder is our journey from brokenness (*Yachatz*) to wholeness and reunification (*Afikoman*). Each of the four cups of wine is an invitation to enter the joy and mystery of the holy name, until we affirm our highest aspirations with the words: *L'Shanah Habah b'Yerushalayim!* Next year in Jerusalem, the city of peace, the city made whole — may it be so, speedily in our days! *Mah Nishtanah* - how will you be different this Passover?

Reb Lev



Greetings from your Past President Marilyn Newberg

I love when Passover is just around the corner. Trying to find a box of Matzo that is not more expensive than the ring you are wearing. Should I use paper dishes? no! That's a little tacky. The last time I served chicken soup in a heavy duty paper bowl, it was not my best idea..... I found out that you can't use the same bowl a 2nd time.!!! Cleaning up is no fun!!.

I don't know if anyone covers their kitchen counters..., Well, I DO!

The Dollar Store has several colored plastic table cloths. they really come in handy...

??? What is the hardest chore that you do before PASSOVER begins??

Taking out the dishes, pots, silverware, and finding a place and mumbling under your breath, "No way am I going to use everything that is on the counter tops!

That leads me to the Haggadahs. These books have fingerprints from over 40 years of use. I think that the FBI could use them to deport illegals, but they were my parents' books, and I would feel guilty tossing them.

THEN IT IS THE NIGHT BEFORE !!! THE SEARCH FOR THE CHUMETZ!!

THE SCARIEST BEGINNING.

"THE SEARCH FOR THE CHUMETZ! PUTTING BREAD AROUND THE ENTIRE HOUSE, LIGHTING THE CANDLE AND "searching for bread in the dark, knowing fully that you forgot a piece. Plus selling it to your neighbor who is not even Jewish!

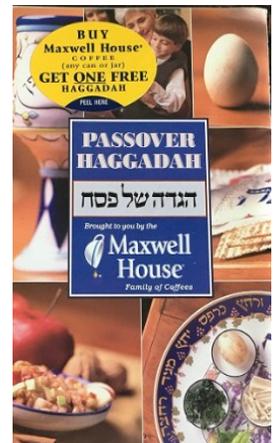
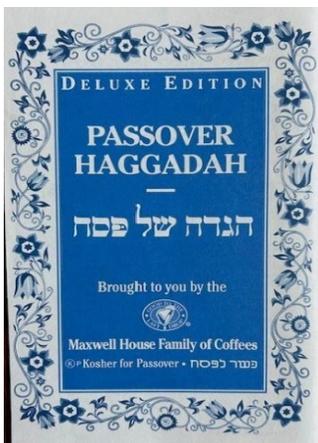
AT THE END OF OUR WONDERFUL HOLIDAY, DO YOU ASK YOURSELVES?? SHOULD I GO FOR A CHOLESTEROL TEST???

WISHING YOU ALL, A WONDERFUL PASSOVER, and I hope that you are sharing it with family & friends. Baruch Hashem.

SINCERELY, YOUR FRIEND, MARASHA TIKVAH

Marilyn.newberg@bethemethaz.org

Maxwell House Coffee Haggadah Covers over the years...





Greetings from your 1st Vice President Susan Herch

Shalom!

The following is taken in part from The Jewish Holidays by Michael Strassfeld: Passover (Pesah), which celebrates the Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt, begins on the fifteenth of the month of Nisan and continues for seven days through Nisan 21. Diaspora communities celebrate it for eight days. The name Passover is taken from the Exodus story: During the tenth and ultimate plague inflicted on Pharaoh, G-d passed over the Israelites and struck down only the Egyptian firstborn. That night Pharaoh finally agreed to let the Israelites go; and ever since then, we gather together on that night to commemorate that time, and to contemplate the meaning of being freed by the Holy One.

The central meaning of Passover is liberation, and is also called zeman heiruteinu – the season of our liberation. Another name for Passover is hag-aviv – the holiday of spring. The holiday of liberation is also the holiday of spring. Following the bleakness of winter, spring marks the rebirth of the earth with the bursting forth of green life. Similarly, a people shackled in oppressive slavery, bursts forth out of Egypt into a new life’s journey leading to a land flowing with milk and honey. The watchwords of both spring and Pesah are rebirth and hope. Passover reminds us annually that no matter how terrible our situation, we must not lose hope.

Wishing you a meaningful Passover surrounded by family and friends.

Susan Hersch
Susan.hersch@bethemethaz.org

COMMUNITY-WIDE YOM HASHOAH COMMEMORATION

Register for the community-wide Yom HaShoah Commemoration

Sunday, April 12, 2026 4:00 pm

Advance registration is requested. The event location in Central Phoenix will be provided after registration confirmation.

<https://phxha.com/events/yom-hashoah/>

Officers and Directors

Chavurah Group at Beth Emeth Congregation

Great news! Our 1st Chavurah group has been established! More details coming!
If you are still interested in being part of a Chavurah, let us know as we are forming a 2nd group!

Please contact the Office at 623-584-7210 indicating your interest.

Wishing you and your family a sweet Passover filled with love, joy, peace and good health.

Leah and Charlie Tarnor

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.

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



Headline: Newest Member of Beth Emeth Board Getting Active
by **Gary Cohen, Director**

At the latest monthly meeting of the Beth Emeth Board of Directors, I was nominated and approved to fill a vacant Director position on the Board. I will be involved in Outreach and helping shine a light on who we are and what we do in our community. To get going with my role, I arranged for an interview to be conducted by Independent Media reporter Jennifer Jimenez with Beth Emeth co-Presidents Natalie

Morrison and Arnold Becker as well as our Spiritual Leader Lev Ettelson. I took part in the interview as well and this will all result in a story to be published by the Independent in an upcoming edition of the online and print editions of the Sun City West Independent.

During the interview which was conducted on the phone, using my mobile phone in speaker mode, we explained all the different services we provide for our community and the food and clothing drives we have been involved in.

Both Arnold and Natalie talked about how they are sharing the role of President and also talked about what they have done at Beth Emeth through all the years of their respective membership and service. They talked about the various fundraising activities we have been having and future fundraising events.

Lev talked about the classes he leads at Beth Emeth to help educate people about the Torah portions which are read each week. He also talked about the importance of Beth Emeth reaching out to non-Jewish people, welcoming them to come in and learn more about our faith.

There are copies of the article in the Lobby of the Synagogue.

Treasurer's Corner



Zelle Payments

You can pay your dues or make a donation using the Zelle QR code. **Just point your camera on the QR code or open it with a QR reader.**

Credit Card

You can pay using a credit card. Your credit card information can be securely stored. You'll automatically get a receipt emailed to you .

Dues

We have received \$32,940 (about 46%) of the budgeted \$71,280 for 2026 dues.

- We incur a large part of our annual expenses before the High Holidays each September.
- Please pay your dues in full or contact the Treasurer to make alternative arrangements.

Funds Needing Your Assistance

Torah Maintenance Fundraiser: The donation will only be used for the repair of our Torahs.

- We needed to raise \$13,000 to repair all of the Torahs.
- We have raised \$4,940 towards an anonymous offer of a \$5,000 matching donation.
- With the matching funds, we have enough to cover repairs for three Torahs.

Phases	Donations	Expenses	Balance
1	\$2,973.00	(\$2,000.00)	\$973.00
2	\$4,940.00	\$0.00	\$4,940.00
Grand Total	\$7,913.00	(\$2,000.00)	\$5,913.00

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

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

Brad Friedlander, Treasurer

Treasurer's Financial Update

Dues

Your 2026 Dues Statements were emailed in January. If you have not received it, please let me know. 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.

Financial Status—2025 Year End

- Building & Grounds: over budget—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 \$37,443.52 draw-down from our capital funds.

Committee	YTD Income	YTD Expense	Income 2025	Expense 2025	Net Diff
Asset Changes	\$4,000.00	(\$8,930.00)	\$0	\$0	(\$4,930)
Biblical Garden	\$14,939.00	(\$5,400.00)	\$0	\$0	\$9,539
Building & Grounds	\$17,569.92	(\$84,925.61)	\$0	(\$41,452)	(\$25,904)
Capital	\$37,443.52		\$28,827	\$0	\$8,616
Catering	\$4,362.00	(\$2,960.77)	\$3,700	(\$12,010)	\$9,711
Employee Wages	\$51.00	(\$104,901.74)		(\$121,104)	\$16,253
Executive	\$87,450.06	(\$16,703.56)	\$81,600	(\$18,681)	\$7,828
Finance	\$2.46	(\$1,077.93)		(\$1,000)	(\$75)
Fund Raising	\$44,670.94	(\$3,830.61)	\$29,400	(\$6,700)	\$18,140
Future Year Dues	\$24,150.00		\$0	\$0	\$24,150
Gift Shop	\$495.50		\$0	\$0	\$496
Grant	\$4,325.00	(\$77,101.92)	\$0	\$0	(\$72,777)
Membership	\$53,125.00	(\$2,802.63)	\$52,875	(\$4,500)	\$1,947
Observer	\$570.00	(\$140.87)	\$0	\$0	\$429
Prior Year Dues	\$2,806.67		\$0	\$0	\$2,807
Ritual	\$39,876.90	(\$1,619.15)	\$16,525	(\$3,100)	\$24,833
Technology		(\$5,892.53)	\$0	(\$6,530)	\$638
Torah Maintenance	\$5,948.00	(\$2,000.00)	\$0	\$0	\$3,948
Yahrzeit Board	\$1,050.00	(\$398.65)	\$3,500	(\$1,350)	\$1,798
Grand Total	\$342,835.97	(\$318,685.97)	\$216,427	(\$216,427)	\$27,447

Treasurer's Financial Update

Financial Status—2026 Year to Date

Committee	YTD Income	YTD Expense	Income 2026	Expense 2026
Asset Changes		(\$280.00)	\$0	\$0
Biblical Garden	\$1,592.00	(\$374.00)	\$0	(\$5,000)
Building & Grounds		(\$13,922.19)	\$0	(\$60,952)
Capital	\$1.00		\$17,705	\$0
Catering	\$2,291.00	(\$3,999.21)	\$2,900	(\$3,950)
Employee Wages		(\$22,608.42)	\$0	(\$119,904)
Executive	\$3,300.00	(\$4,970.39)	\$73,200	(\$23,931)
Finance	\$46.32		\$0	(\$1,000)
Fund Raising	\$16,960.04	(\$5,377.06)	\$30,568	(\$3,200)
Gift Shop	\$34.16		\$0	\$0
Grant		(\$14,230.89)	\$0	\$0
Membership	\$32,940.00	(\$3,200.00)	\$71,280	(\$1,900)
Observer		(\$15.19)	\$0	\$0
Prior Year Dues	\$125.00		\$0	\$0
Ritual	\$949.00	(\$600.00)	\$31,425	(\$4,300)
Technology		(\$1,725.70)	\$0	(\$5,091)
Torah Maintenance	\$1,642.00		\$0	\$0
Yahrzeit Board		(\$313.00)	\$3,500	(\$1,350)
Grand Total	\$59,880.52	(\$71,616.05)	\$230,578	(\$230,578)

Contact me with any questions.

B'shalom,
 Brad Friedlander, Treasurer
treasurer@bethemethaz.org

Chesed Committee

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.

Our deepest condolences go out to Suzanne Aronofsky on the loss of her husband Allen.

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



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**

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





Rabbi Yossi Madvig	4/1
Sandra Shedroff	4/11
James Toney	4/13
Arthur Bennett	4/14
Diane Shapiro	4/14
Fern Emmerman	4/17
Debra Gariepy	4/17
Saul Rothzeid	4/17
Barry Maultasch	4/19
Rochelle Bailey	4/24



Saul and Sharon Rothzeid	4/9
---------------------------------	------------

Sunday, May 3
Horse Racing Game
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM



Come join the fun!

We have 8 games so all are welcome!

Cost: \$10 per person - Cash, Check, Credit Card and Zelle payments (QR Code below for Zelle)

Please bring \$5 in nickels to play

Refreshments will be served

Security will be provided by the AZ Rangers

Please call our Office at 623-584-7210 to sign up.

Deadline is by noon on Thursday, April 30th.



Passover recipes old and new!

From our kitchens to your homes...we share our best with you!

Tricolor Gefilte Fish - Natalie Morrison

- * 2 22 oz loaves of frozen gefilte fish (defrosted in wrap)
- * 1 22 oz loaf of frozen salmon gefilte fish (defrosted in wrap)
- * 2 Tbsp. fresh dill (use dry) chopped
- * 1 lemon
- * Cucumber slices

* Preheat oven 350 degrees. Spray a 9" spring form pan (heavy coat). Open wrapper from fish. Add dill and juice from lemon into 1 of the plain gefilte fish loaves. Mix thoroughly so the dill is distributed evenly. Set aside.

* Using a thin spatula. Spread plain gefilte fish into an even layer in the bottom of pan. Top with an even layer of salmon. Add the lemon dill fish mixture to top of salmon. Cover pan with foil. Bake for 1 hour. Bake additional 5 minutes if center is not set. Let cool and refrigerate. Slice thin cucumbers on top for decoration.

Almond Horn cookies - Boston Chapter Hadassah Cookbook (1961)

Ingredients:

- * 3 cups almond flour (300 g)
- * About 2 cups sliced raw almonds
- * 1/2 cup chocolate chips
- * 1 tsp coconut oil (optional) helps it melt smoother but not a must. 1 tb Almond paste (optional)
- * 3 large egg whites
- * 2 tsp almond extract
- * 3/4 cup sugar (135 g)

1. Whisk egg whites: In a mixing bowl, whisk the egg whites, sugar and almond paste (if using) together till slightly foamy.
2. Add almond extract: Stir in the almond extract and continue whisking until well combined.
3. Fold in almond flour: Gently fold the almond flour into the egg white mixture, making sure everything is well mixed. If your dough is too crumbly, add one more egg white and if it's too wet add a little more almond flour until it's right.
4. Form the dough: Using a 1-tbsp scooper, spoon or roll the dough into small balls.
5. Prepare sliced almonds: Place the sliced raw almonds in a bowl and gently crush them with your hands.
6. Press into almonds: Press each cookie ball into the crushed almonds, coating them.
7. Shape and arrange: Place the almond-coated cookies onto a baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Shape each one into a horseshoe shape.
8. Bake: Preheat your oven to 350°F (175°C). Bake the cookies for about 20 minutes, or until the bottoms turn golden.
9. Melt chocolate: In a microwave-safe bowl, melt the chocolate chips and coconut oil together in 30-second intervals, stirring in between, until smooth (about 3 rounds).
10. Dip in chocolate: Once the cookies have cooled to room temperature, dip the bottoms of each cookie into the melted chocolate. Set them back onto the parchment paper.
11. Chill: Place the cookies in the refrigerator for about 15 minutes to allow the chocolate to harden.

Passover Sponge cake - Susan Hersch

Makes: 1 9-inch cake

Freeze: 3 months **Keeps:** 1 week in an airtight container

Ingredients:

5 large eggs 2/3 cup cake meal

1-1/4 cups superfine sugar

1/2 cup potato starch

2 tsps. lemon juice

Confectioners' sugar

Separate the egg yolks from the whites. Divide the sugar into two equal quantities.

Put one amount of sugar into a bowl with the yolks and whisk until thick and white. (If an electric beater is not available, stand the eggs and sugar in a bowl over a pan of very hot water and whisk until thick and white.)

Whisk in the lemon juice.

In another bowl, whisk the whites until they form stiff, glossy peaks.

Whisk in the sugar a tablespoon at a time until a firm meringue is formed.

Fold into the first mixture.

Finally fold in the sifted meal and potato starch.

Spoon into a 9 x 3-inch round cake pan which has been oiled and then sprinkled with sugar.

Level the surface. Sprinkle a thin layer of superfine sugar over the top.

Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour and 10 minutes.

Zucchini Muffins - Marlene Friedlander

Perfect for Passover and all year round .

For the Cashew Butter:

1.5 cup unsalted cashews (no need to use roasted)

2-3 tbsp oil

Chop your nuts in a food processor, then add the oil and blend for a few seconds till you have a smooth, slightly liquidy nut butter.

For the Muffin:

1 medium zucchini, finely grated (about 1 cup)

2 large eggs

1/3 cup pure maple syrup or honey

1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract

1/2 teaspoon baking soda

1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon

1/4 teaspoon salt

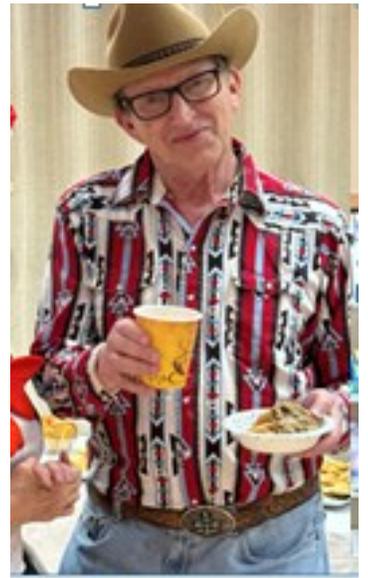
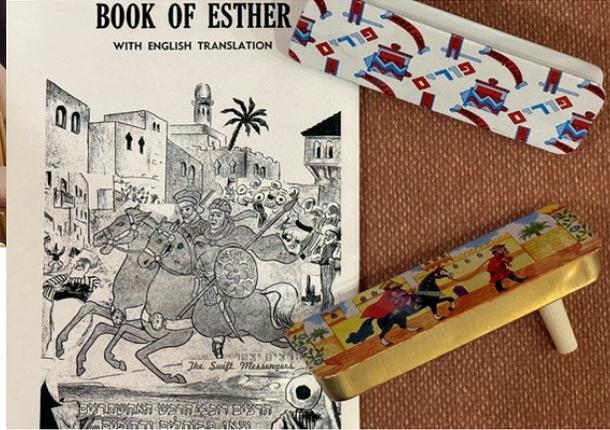
• Optional add-ins: 1/2 cup dark chocolate chips or chopped nuts

In a large bowl, add your cashew butter, zucchini and rest of the ingredients and mix with a spatula.

Pour into a paper lined muffin tray till the top of the cup.

Bake at 350F for 18 minutes until the tops are browned and soft but not jiggly.

Purim!



We celebrate with Sponsored Kiddushism




*Kiddush sponsored by
The Doctors Turner, Jim & Rosemary, in honor of
Iris Kingma-Johnson's birthday*



Event photos! We play Mah Jongg!



We celebrate and remember with food! Contact Marilyn and Susan to Sponsor a Kiddush!





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



The following Yahrzeits will be observed during Nissan and Iyar
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-Apr	Nissan 14	Claire Naidorf	Madelaine Friedman	Mother
3-Apr	Nissan 16	Martin Morrison	Natalie Morrison	Husband
5-Apr	Nissan 18	Harry Newman	Barbara Newman	Husband
7-Apr	Nissan 20	Benjamin Sussman	Jamie Rothschild	Grandfather
8-Apr	Nissan 21	Carl Sherman	Shelly Bailey	Father
12-Apr	Nissan 25	Eva Maultasch	Barry Maultasch	Mother
12-Apr	Nissan 25	Ruth Abrams	Marlene Friedlander	Step-mother
12-Apr	Nissan 25	Elsie Sussman	Jamie Rothschild	Grandmother
14-Apr	Nissan 27	Hyman Marcus	Elinor Goldstein	Father
15-Apr	Nissan 28	Dr. Maurice Lewenson	Suzan Giloni	Father
17-Apr	Nissan 30	Ellen Glazer	Marlene Friedlander	Sister
18-Apr	Iyar 1	Victor Ezraty	Jack Ezraty	Father
18-Apr	Iyar 1	Lotte Boschan	Gail Davis	Lifetime Mentor
21-Apr	Iyar 4	Ruth Kram	Bill Kram	Mother
21-Apr	Iyar 4	William Besselman	Irene Lehrer	Father
21-Apr	Iyar 4	Jules Baer	Alice Bernstein	Father
22-Apr	Iyar 5	H. Howard Loewith	Carol Loewith	Husband
23-Apr	Iyar 6	Harold Rose	Carol Madvig	Father
26-Apr	Iyar 9	Meyer Libman	Marilyn Newberg	Grandfather
26-Apr	Iyar 9	Mary Scher	Ann Goldfarb/Clapp	Mother
26-Apr	Iyar 9	Ruth Tarnor	Charlie Tarnor	Mother
28-Apr	Iyar 11	Ivan Keer	Sandra Shedroff	Cousin
28-Apr	Iyar 11	Arthur Dorf	Sherry Lazar	Father
30-Apr	Iyar 13	Asna Rifka Moskowitz	Sheldon Koven	Grandmother
30-Apr	Iyar 13	Ethel Adele Dorman	Paula Forster	Mother

Todah Rabah for your generous support!

<u>Yahrzeits</u>	<u>Torah Maintenance</u>	<u>Fundraising (cont)</u>
Andrew and Jan Heidecker In memory of Ruth Heidecker	Arthur Bennett	Shay Wright
Arthur Bennett In memory of Marc Isaacson	Beverly Merchant	Gina Kaeser
Mark and Madelaine Friedman In memory of C Naidorf and Matil	Ronald Paul	Sherry Weinstein
Brad and Marlene Friedlander In memory of Gayle Friedlander	Irene Lehrer	Wendy Gay
Sheldon Koven In memory of Judi Koven	Marvin and Rita Beth	Teresa Le
Sheldon Koven In memory of Beverly Casper	Rita Pomerance	Carol Ditzler
<u>Oneg/Kiddush/Kitchen</u>	Hazzan Lev Ettelson	Susan Safran
Gyorgyi Rosenthal	Carol Loewith	Jeanne Herder
Allen Goodall and Laverne Feingold	Enid and Gary Cohen	Sandra Sirull
Reva Litt	Millicent Levy	Anne Brown
Morrie Hesch	Paul Jacobson	Mary Abrams
Charles and Rebecca Braverman	<u>Fundraising</u>	Suzanne Jaronofsky
<u>Biblical Garden</u>	Paula Forster	<u>Donation Non-Member</u>
Leah and Charlie Tarnor	Natalie Morrison	Charles and Marisela Erichsen
Allen Goodall and Laverne Feingold	Harvey and Rita Zarensky	Carol Brooks
<u>Donation In-Kind</u>	Barbara Newman	Gayle Brown
Brad and Marlene Friedlander	Suzy Aronofsky	Nan Gordon
Anonymous	Angie Adamonis	
	Jacqueline Ohligschlaeger	
	Sandra Sussman	<i>Reflecting donations posted 2/23 - 3/22</i>

DISCOVER SUN HEALTH EXPO!

One Organization. Many Ways to Support Your Best Life.

Enjoy the Experience:

-  Teaching Kitchen
-  Delicious Complimentary Food Samples
-  Raffle Prizes
-  Line Dancing Class
-  **The Thrive Zone**
Featuring Life Enrichment, Fitness and Well-Being Tips and Activities

Discover the breadth of resources Sun Health offers to support health, independence, and peace of mind—many at no cost to you.

Meet the people behind the programs and explore options designed to help you live well today while planning confidently for tomorrow.



Thursday, April 30
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

The Colonnade
19116 N. Colonnade Way, Surprise, AZ 85374

Open to the Public | Free to Attend | Free Parking



Email CJ.Schneider@SunHealth.org for more information.

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





Message from the Sisterhood President April 2026

I want to commend Carol Madvig and all those who helped make the Sisterhood Purim Hamantaschen Fundraiser a big success. Likewise kudos to Natalie Morrison and all who helped her to make the Mah Jongg Tournament so successful! Carol and Natalie will express their individual thank you messages, but I would be remiss in not congratulating them both on jobs well done! Their efforts and those of the people who helped made these two events successful and will directly benefit everyone. Todah Rabbah all!

From Purim we immediately move towards Passover: the holiday of our freedom, the birth of our nation and culminating on Shavuot, our covenant with HaShem. To sustain a free society the Torah directs us to pursue justice, maintain the rule of law, and to protect human dignity and the sanctity of life.

Passover is also known as Chag Aviv, the holiday of Spring, of rebirth and renewal. As I pause to revel in the beauty of the first cactus blooms, beautiful and fleeting, I am reminded about the frailty of life. I take comfort in the blessings of renewal both here in the physical world and in Olam Abah (the world to come).

As a child Pesach was always a time for new things...new shoes, a new dress, and enjoyment of the first fruits of the season. It was a joyous communal time of counting our blessings, spending time with family and friends and walking to shul with neighbors. It was about celebrating together.

I would like to end with the words of Rabbi Allouche from his article on Feb 27th of this year...

“So let us act with joy and dignity, dress ourselves with faith and courage, increase our acts of goodness and kindness, and pray and connect with the Omnipotent One. His deliverance will surely follow.” Amen.

Hag Pesach Sameach, Ketzi Toney



Just before spring, Jewish communities around the world celebrate Purim, commemorating when Esther and Mordechai saved the Jews of ancient Persia. Purim is a fun, joyful holiday.

On Purim, there's a tradition of giving gifts of food to at least one friend, called *mishloach manot* in Hebrew or *Shalach manos* in Yiddish. Some people come to the Megillah reading with many bags to share with everyone, while others focus on creating elaborate baskets to give to one or two others. Think about including foods (or *hamantaschen* fillings!) that represent your family's culture and background for a unique take on these ready-to-eat gifts.

Hoping your Purim was joyful.

Now that Purim has passed, I am able to take a few moments to thank everyone who helped make and distribute the Hamantaschen we made for our Community .

It takes a Village as they say to complete such a massive task. We worked days on end to complete our mission. We completed 2800 Hamantaschen for our family, friends, our Congregation Family and our many supporters of the event.



Yashar Koach to my village: Sunny Altman, Art Bennett, Joy Eisner, Irene Lehrer, Natalie Morrison, Marilyn Newberg, Gyorgyi Rosenthal and Leah Tarnor.

Hope to have your orders again next year.

As we celebrate our freedom, we pray for the freedom of everyone who is in bondage – spiritual or physical – and we pledge ourselves to work toward that freedom today, and not to postpone it.

We ask G-d for guidance, assistance, and resilience when the world around us seems to be out of control.

Hoping everyone has a meaningful Pesach.

L'Shalom
Carol Madvig, Vice President
Sisterhood, Beth Emeth Congregation



All events are taking place at the Ina Levine JCC in Scottsdale! 12701 N Scottsdale Rd.
We encourage everyone to attend and opt to carpool.

Call our office for carpooling information. 623-584-7210 if you are willing to drive or need a ride.

Shalom!

In just few days we will be coming together for our **Israel @78** celebration, taking place on **Wednesday, April 22, from 5:00–7:30 PM!** As the weather heats up to unseasonably warm temperatures this week just remember—we've moved the event **INDOORS this year so we can all stay comfortable and cool!**
If you'd like to get personally involved with the event (and get a BEAUTIFUL event t-shirt!) please consider signing up for a volunteer shift

- **Israeli whiskey** tasking with Milk & Honey Distillery, the ONLY whiskey distillery in Israel!
 - **Israeli wine tasting** sponsored by Total Wine and Mise en Place Wines showcasing the innovation of Israel's modern wine scene.
 - **Israeli cooking demonstrations and Israeli cuisine tasting!**
 - A program of **Israeli short films** sponsored by the Greater Phoenix Jewish Film Festival,
 - Bounce houses, inflatable obstacle courses, and yard games for the kids
- A **NEW Israeli craft market Esek**, supporting Israeli artisans, especially those most impacted by the war.

- Delicious food to purchase from the J's own **Milk & Honey, Fata Morgana** and the **Kosher Food Pantry** food trucks, shaved ice from **Snowie Desert**, and everyone's favorite popsicles from **AZ Pops!**
- A community **sheshbesh (backgammon)** tournament:

We also have our **second annual Torch Lighter Award** honoring a local community member who has gone above and beyond in their commitment to Israel. There is also a **new Teen Torch Lighter Award** honoring outstanding teens in our community. All nominees will be recognized, and winners will be announced at the **Community Yom Ha'Atzmaut Celebration** at the Ina Levine Campus on **April 22, 2026.**

[Registration is already open](#) for this FREE EVENT! Contact the Ina Levine JCC to RSVP today!

(480) 481-7123

April 2026

Nissan - Iyar 5786

SUN 29 (11)	MON 30 (12)	TUE 31 (13)	WED Apr 1(14)	THU 2 (15)	FRI 3 (16)	SAT 4 (17)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4pm Grief Support Group 	Erev Pesach Ta'anit Bechorot <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:02am Fast begins 6:32pm Candle lighting 	Pesach I <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Morning minyan 7:36pm Candle lighting 11 am Torah Class	1st day of the Omer Pesach II <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat 6:33pm Candle lighting 	2nd day of the Omer Pesach III (CH"M) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Shabbat Service 7:37pm Havdalah (45 min)
5 (18)	6 (19)	7 (20)	8 (21)	9 (22)	10 (23)	11 (24)
3rd day of the Omer Pesach IV (CH"M)	4th day of the Omer Pesach V (CH"M)	5th day of the Omer Pesach VI (CH"M) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4pm Grief Support Group 6:36pm Candle lighting 	6th day of the Omer Pesach VII <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:40pm Candle lighting 	7th day of the Omer Pesach VIII <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Morning minyan 7:41pm Havdalah (45 min) 11 am Torah Class	8th day of the Omer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat 6:38pm Candle lighting 	9th day of the Omer Mevarchim Chodesh Iyyar Parashat Shmini <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Shabbat Service 7:43pm Havdalah (45 min)
12 (25)	13 (26)	14 (27)	15 (28)	16 (29)	17 (30)	18 (1)
10th day of the Omer	11th day of the Omer	12th day of the Omer Yom HaShoah <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4pm Grief Support Group 	13th day of the Omer	14th day of the Omer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Morning minyan 11 am Torah Class	15th day of the Omer Rosh Chodesh Iyyar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat 6:44pm Candle lighting 	16th day of the Omer Parashat Tazria-Metzora Rosh Chodesh Iyyar <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Shabbat Service 12pm Birthday Kiddush 7:48pm Havdalah (45 min)
19 (2)	20 (3)	21 (4)	22 (5)	23 (6)	24 (7)	25 (8)
17th day of the Omer	18th day of the Omer	19th day of the Omer Yom HaZikaron <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Board meeting 4pm Grief Support Group 	20th day of the Omer Yom HaAtzma'ut	21st day of the Omer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Morning minyan 11 am Torah Class	22nd day of the Omer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat 6:49pm Candle lighting 	23rd day of the Omer Parashat Achrei Mot-Kedosh <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Shabbat Service 7:53pm Havdalah (45 min)
26 (9)	27 (10)	28 (11)	29 (12)	30 (13)	May 1(14)	2 (15)
24th day of the Omer	25th day of the Omer	26th day of the Omer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4pm Grief Support Group 	27th day of the Omer	28th day of the Omer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Morning minyan 11 am Torah Class	29th day of the Omer Pesach Sheni <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat 6:54pm Candle lighting 	30th day of the Omer Parashat Emor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30am Shabbat Service 7:59pm Havdalah (45 min)



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
Treasurer	Brad Friedlander
Financial Secretary	Raymond Karam
Recording Secretary	Marlene Friedlander
Corresponding Secretary	Irene Lehrer

Directors

Arthur Bennett
Leah Tarnor
Harvey Zarensky
Marvin Wachs
Gary Cohen

Sisterhood President

Ketzi Toney
Carol Madvig (Interim President)