

Beth Emeth Observer

BETH EMETH CONGREGATION OF THE WEST VALLEY



Follow us:



Rabbi 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 623-584-7210

Tishrei - Cheshvan 5787

October 2026

Installation Ceremony of Rabbi Lev Ettelson



Sunday, October 25, 2026, starting at 2:00 pm

Please join us for the **Installation Ceremony of Rabbi Lev Ettelson**
 as Rabbi of Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley.

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Shabbat Candle Lighting - October 2026



10/2 - 5:54 pm
10/9 - 5:45 pm
10/16 - 5:36 pm

10/23 - 5:28 pm
10/30 - 5:21 pm

From the Editor's desk - Marlene Friedlander

It's been over three years since Brad and I made the pilgrimage from Boston to the West Valley. People frequently ask me what I miss most about the East Coast. My answer is always the same...the ocean and being on a beach within an hour, the Red Sox (the boys of October) games on television, my friends of course, and October.

If you have never experienced an October on the East Coast, it's truly a sight to behold. The vibrancy of the foliage, opening windows and feeling the crispness of the air in the morning that warms up in the afternoons, picking apples, fields ablaze with pumpkins and the bounty of vegetables from local farms .

Watching our Sukkah being built brought back my memories of October. (Photos in this issue) It was great to see so many members working together, enjoying each others' company...even in the rain, to make our Sukkah beautiful and meaningful.

Our Chavurah will share a meal together in the Sukkah as well.

With Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah, the High Holy Days are behind us but, this is actually the beginning.. A time to start anew!

If you haven't been to the Synagogue lately, October is a great time to visit! There are so many activities planned for this month and thru the end of the year, some of the highlights are the Men's Club breakfast and speaker on the 18th as well as the Congregation meeting on the 18th. Bring your questions to the meeting. As always Sisterhood has a plethora of events.

But, most importantly is the Rabbi's installation ceremony and reception on October 25th. If you haven't made your RSVP, do so today!

If you have an idea for an event, let us know.

Want a book club? More Torah and Talmud classes?

Classes on how to follow along in the Lev Shalem prayer book during the Shabbat service?

Just drop me a note at editor@bethemethaz.org. No idea is a bad idea.

Looking forward to another great year at Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley!!

B 'Shalom,



Marlene Friedlander
Editor



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



Among many hardworking members of the congregation, one person stands out. She is an outstanding person who is diligent in what she does and follows through with detail and grace. That person is Ketzi Toney. Several years ago, she was instrumental in reorganizing Sisterhood. It started with six members, and today, Sisterhood has 50 members and is growing.

Throughout the year, as Sisterhood President, Ketzi plans events on behalf of the Congregation and generously donates the Congregation. Sisterhood, under Ketzi's leadership, is planning our annual Congregation Hanukkah party in December, that will surely be a beautiful event.

Ketzi also organizes the baking of Hamantaschen for Purim each year. She plans for "bake dates" for several months in advance and asks for volunteers for the baking on those dates. Last year, in Ketzi's absence, Carol Madvig stepped up to lead the baking.

As you know, Ketzi took several months off from her Sisterhood work to care for her husband, Jim, who was very sick. Sadly, Jim passed away earlier this year, of blessed memory. After a month of mourning, Ketzi slowly resumed activities with Sisterhood.

As President of Sisterhood she represents Sisterhood on the Congregation Board. Ketzi always adds her input and advice when it is needed. When asked to help, she steps up. She recently helped in creating a beautiful, Sponsored Kiddush for Natalie's great grandchildren's baby naming and prepared a lavish Sponsored Kiddush for Irene Lehrer's going away party.

Sisterhood, under Ketzi's leadership, will be catering the celebration for Rabbi Ettelson's installation on October 25th. Thanks to Ketzi, and many of the Sisterhood members, this will be another outstanding event.

Lastly, few people know that one of Ketzi's dearest things to do is to take the time and effort to make delicious dinners for members of the Congregation who are by themselves for the holidays or are sick. This is a wonderful jester which very few people do. It is a credit to our Sisterhood President, Ketzi Toney.

Reflections on Torah and Tradition

Rabbi Lev Ettelson



Rabban Gamliel the son of R. Yehudah HaNasi said: *"All who work for the community, let them work for the sake of Heaven; for the merit of their ancestors sustains them."* - Pirkei Avot 2:2

When I was eight years old, I remember sitting in the sanctuary of North Suburban Synagogue Beth El in Highland Park, Illinois (where I was born and raised) gazing out through the tall, narrow, purple tinted windows to the sky beyond. Rabbi Samuel Dresner ז"ר had just been appointed the leader of our congregation and although I was too young to follow his scholarly discourses, I was impressed by his passion, energy and quiet depth. He was a disciple of the great Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel ז"ר who brought the mystical teachings of Hasidism to life in the suburbs of the 1970s. There was also the incredibly beautiful hazzanut of (Rabbi) Cantor Reuvain Frankel ז"ר whose soaring crescendos and nuanced interpretation of our prayers pierced the heavens and my heart. After my Bar Mitzvah, one of my father's friends suggested I should become a Rabbi. At the time, I could not conceive of such a thing, though I had wanted to go to Solomon Shechter Jewish Day School (but I was too timid to bring the matter up with my father). I spent a couple of summers at Camp Ramah in Wisconsin which were the most positive Jewish experiences of my youth.

After my parents' divorce, everything suddenly felt unstable and uncertain. We moved from the suburbs to the city of Chicago, I lost touch with old friends and was surrounded by unfamiliar faces and new challenges. I quickly lost interest in our new synagogue after I heard the organ playing during a service; Also, my fellow students in "Hebrew High" seemed an impenetrable clique. After a while I dropped out of Judaism and began seeking answers to the mysteries of life elsewhere. For a time I considered myself agnostic, but I soon found my way to the mystical teachings of other religious traditions and philosophies. Eventually my gaze turned eastward and I read the **Tao Teh Ching**, which opened my mind's eye. This led me to the teachings of Zen. I began practicing zazen (meditation) at the age of twenty one, under the guidance of Roshi Philip Kapleau and other Zen masters (many of them Jewish).

Just before I turned thirty, I was working at the Barre Center for Buddhist Studies in Western Massachusetts. The guiding teachers, Joseph Goldstein and Sharon Salzberg met with a local Rabbi, Sheila Weinberg, to discuss creating a Jewish-Buddhist dialogue retreat. When I heard of this, something in me felt agitated, so I made an appointment to meet with her. After a few meetings, she said, "I think you would enjoy meeting my Rebbe, he is coming to Amherst to teach a class." "Who is your Rebbe?" I asked. She replied, "Zalman Schachter-Shalomi." I knew of Reb Zalman ז"ר (as he was commonly known) through his essays in the **First Jewish Catalog** and had just finished reading a slender volume of his called: **The First Step: A Guide for the New Jewish Spirit** (it had an endorsement by a Japanese Zen Master on the back cover)!

(continued on next page)

I walked into the classroom and the first words Reb Zalman spoke to me were, “You seem familiar, have we met before?” I replied, “Perhaps in a past life?” He immediately responded (with a twinkle in his eyes and a big smile) “Or a future one!” I was in the presence of a wise and whimsical holistic Hasidic Rebbe with roots in the old world and branches in the new. His class was on the deeper, mystical meaning of the Passover Seder. That evening I heard teachings that I had never encountered before, many of which answered some of the questions I had about Judaism during my adolescence and early adulthood. At the end of the class he gave me a blessing which altered the course of my life. From then on I began embracing Jewish life and practice. A few years later I was living and studying in Israel where I remained for fifteen months.

I am writing these words just before the beginning of Sukkot, my favorite holiday. Rabbi Simcha Bunim of Przysucha said that he loved the mitzvah of dwelling in the Sukkah, because you can enter with your boots on. In other words, you enter with your whole self, just as you are. One of the reasons I returned to the way of Torah, is because it is an embodied religious path connected to the seasons, the phases of the moon and the land of Israel. It addresses every aspect of our lives: eating, speaking, relating with others, etc. It is a path for elevating ourselves and the world around us. Remembering who we are and why we are here. Living at a time in history in which we are facing immense challenges as Jews and human beings, often feels overwhelming. I take heart in the guidance and example of our ancestors from Abraham and Moses to Maimonides and the Baal Shem Tov. They received the Torah with both hands and dedicated their lives to understanding it, teaching it and living by it. Even though I am a newly ordained Rabbi, I have been on this journey for decades. The Torah is often compared to the sea: it is vast and deep. It is also likened to wellsprings that we need to unearth and excavate.

As I prepare to be formally installed as your Rabbi on October 25th, I look forward to swimming further into this vast ocean, continuing our journey together. Just as we enter the Sukkah with our whole selves, I will endeavor to bring my entire self along with the wisdom of my teachers and ancestors, to this sacred work. May we support one another as we work for the sake of Heaven and Earth, lifting up our community, drawing strength from the timeless wellsprings of our Torah and traditions. I look forward to walking the road ahead with you in peace and blessings with joy.

שלום וברכה בשמחה,

הרב פיינול לב בן אליעזר

Rabbi Lev



**Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley
Invites you to the
Installation Ceremony of Rabbi Lev Ettelson**



Sunday, October 25, 2026, starting at 2:00 pm

Please join us for the **Installation Ceremony of Rabbi Lev Ettelson**
as Rabbi of Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley.

Rabbi Marc Soloway of Congregation Bonai Shalom in Boulder, Colorado
will be officiating the ceremony in our Sanctuary.

Following the ceremony, there will be a celebration toast and refreshments
in the Hindin Social Hall.

There is no charge to attend this event but donations are welcomed.

For your donation of **\$100 or more**, your name will be listed in the event program.

For your donation of less than \$100, you will be acknowledged with our monthly
donations.

Make donations payable to: **Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley**
Attn: Installation

Please RSVP to the Office by Wednesday, October 21

Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley
623-584-7210

13702 W Meeker Blvd, Sun City West, AZ 85375
www.bethemethaz.org

Security provided by the Arizona Rangers

Save the Dates!

**More information on these events are coming soon.
These are in addition to the fliers in this issue!**

- ☆ Sunday, October 11 - Jewish Expo in Surprise
- ☆ Sunday, October 18 - Men's Club Breakfast and Speaker on Medicare Changes
- ☆ Sunday, October 18 - Congregation Meeting
- ☆ Sunday, October 25 - Rabbi's Installation
- ☆ Saturday, January 23 - Film Festival
- ☆ Sunday, January 24 - Film Festival
- ☆ Monday January 25 - Film Festival
- ☆ Sunday, February 7 - Rural Street Klezmer Band
- ☆ Sunday, March 14 - Mah Jongg Tournament
- ☆ Wednesday April 21 (evening) - Thursday, April 29 - Passover
- ☆ Friday, May 14 - Israel Independence Day

Ritual Committee

Join us at our Weekly services:

9:00 am Thursday morning Minyan

6:00 pm Friday evening service

9:30 am Shabbat services

Chesed Committee:

Please contact the Chesed Committee if you are in need of a prayer of healing or assistance in any way. chesed@bethemethaz.org

Arthur Bennett, 3rd Vice President

arthur.bennett@bethemethaz.org

3rdvicepresident@bethemethaz.org

JEWISH SURPRISE & CJP
INVITE YOU TO JOIN THE 2ND ANNUAL

WEST VALLEY JEWISH EXPO

CELEBRATING JEWISH UNITY,
JEWISH IDENTITY & JEWISH LIFE

COMMEMORATING THE OCT. 7TH MASSACRE

SUNDAY, OCT 11
2:00 - 4:00 PM

SURPRISE COMMUNITY & RESOURCE CENTER
12641 W SANTA FE DR. SURPRISE, AZ



FEATURING
MISS ISRAEL - 2025
MELANIE SHIRAZ

Featuring **Surprise Jewish**
Deli, Baked by Batya, Judaica,
Art, Jewelry, & local vendors

- Klezmer band
- Community leaders
- Security on site

Tickets: JewishSurprise.com/Expo

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS





Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley

Men's Club

Sunday, October 18, 2026

9:00 am - 11:30 am

Hindin Social Hall

Join the Men's Club

For a breakfast of bagels, lox, and more

Followed by a Seminar:

"Changes in Medicare 2027"

Have questions? Get answers!

Come at 9:00 am for breakfast (\$10 per person, open to everyone) and stay as **Medicare specialists Bob and Nina Berry** discuss what's new for Medicare in 2027 so that you can make the best choices for your health needs.

The seminar, starting at 10:00 am, is free to attend, **but** you do need to pay if you want breakfast. Guests are welcome.

RSVP by October 15th:

To the Office at 623-584-7210

Monday through Friday 9:00 am - noon

Cash, Check, Credit Card and Zelle (treasurer@bethemethaz.org)

Security provided by Arizona Rangers



Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley

On Sunday, October 18

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

**Will have a
Congregation Meeting**

**Please join the Presidents and the Board for our Quarterly
Congregation Meeting in Hindin Social Hall.**

**Hear from our Presidents, Vice Presidents, and Committees.
Get updates on what is going on at the Synagogue and upcoming
events.**

Bring your questions.

RSVP to the Office at 623-584-7210



Become a Sponsor of our 18th Annual West Valley Jewish Film Festival January 23 – 25, 2027

EXECUTIVE INVESTOR: \$1000.00

Festival EXECUTIVE INVESTORS will receive four tickets for each show.

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: \$500.00

Festival EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS will receive two tickets for each show. Their names will be listed in the Festival Program.

PRODUCER: \$400.00

Festival PRODUCERS will receive two tickets for two shows of their choice. Their names will be listed in the Festival Program.

DIRECTOR: \$300.00

Festival DIRECTORS will receive one ticket for each show. Their names will be listed in the Festival Program.

SCREENWRITER: \$200.00

Festival SCREENWRITERS will receive two tickets for their choice of show. Their names will be listed in the Festival Program.

ACTOR: \$100.00

Festival ACTORS will receive one ticket for their choice of show. Their names will be listed in the Festival Program.

SUPPORTER: (\$)

Festival SUPPORTERS will have their name listed in the Festival Program.

YES, I WANT TO BE A SPONSOR TO THE 18th ANNUAL WEST VALLEY JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL:

___EXECUTIVE PRODUCER (\$500.00)

___SCREENWRITER (\$200.00)

___PRODUCER (\$400.00)

___ACTOR (\$100.00)

___DIRECTOR (\$300.00)

___SUPPORTER (\$)

To be acknowledged in the program, donations must be received by January 15, 2027

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

Please make your check payable to:

**Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley and mail to:
Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley, Attn: Jewish Film Festival Committee
13702 W Meeker Blvd, Sun City West, AZ 85375**

Credit card payments (call the Office 623-584-7210) and Zelle (treasurer@bethemethaz.org)

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

HELPING HANDS AT WORK!!

If you are able to move chairs, tables, etc. before & or after services or before events, just ask: **"what can I do to help?"**

We will be very grateful for your choosing to pitch in!!

BEFORE YOU SPEAK, YOU SHOULD THINK!

"THINK"

T - is it TRUE

H- is it HELPFUL

I - is it Inspiring

N - is it Necessary

K - is it Kind

Marilyn Newberg

Marasha Tikvah

marilyn.newberg@bethemethaz.org

Upcoming Sponsored Kiddushim

Please let me know how we can help you celebrate a milestone or special event with a special Kiddush. Menus are in this issue.

Please help us clean up after the Kiddush. **'LET'S ALL PITCH IN TOGETHER!!**
THERE IS SO MUCH TO DO, SO ANY HELP IS APPRECIATED.

Our kitchen "elves" are here on Shabbat and after all EVENTS for several hours.
PLEASE DO NOT JUST WALK OUT!!!

Marilyn Newberg

marilyn.newberg@bethemethaz.org



Sponsor a Kiddush

The menus below are just an idea of what can be served. Based on 35 people. Each Sponsored Kiddush is customized.

BASIC - \$150:

- Egg Salad or sliced eggs
- Tuna Salad
- Herring
- Fruit
- Salad or veggie platter
- Dessert, coffee, tea, beverages

STANDARD - \$250 Basic plus:

- Blintz Souffle or Quiche or Kugel
- Salads
- Dessert

DELUXE - \$350 Standard plus:

- Bagels, Lox, Cream Cheese
- Hummus or Mock Chopped Liver
- Salads
- Dessert

**Contact Marilyn Newberg to book your
Sponsored Kiddush –
marilyn.newberg@bethemethaz.org**

Treasurer's Corner

All Funds Need Your Support

Capital Improvement Fund: Donations are used for major repairs and improvements. We need to replenish the \$19,265 spent on the "Sewer System Repair".

Security Fund: Donations will only be used for security expenses (i.e., armed security). We spend \$275 on armed security each Shabbat. High Holy Day security was \$1340 in 2025. The total for 2025 was \$20,130 (i.e., holiday services and special events).

Chair Fund: We need \$600 to cover the cost of 30 new folding chairs.

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

Torah Maintenance Fundraiser: Donations are for maintenance of our Torot.

Installation Fund: Donations will be used to help pay for the Installation Ceremony for Rabbi Lev Ettelson.

2026 Dues Payments and Donations

You will now receive an email receipt (from office=bethemethaz.org@rakefetonline.com) when your payment is posted in Rakefet. You can pay using Zelle, check, or credit card.

Zelle Payments: You can pay dues or make donations using Zelle with this QR code or treasurer@bethemethaz.org as the receiver.

Credit Card: You can pay using a credit card. Your credit card information can be securely stored. Call the office to make a credit card payment.

Checks: Checks should be mailed or delivered to the office.



Zelle QR Code

Save Taxes on Donations

If you have an IRA, please consider using a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) to pay dues and other donations. A QCD is part of your required minimum distribution (RMD) and is not taxable. Please see your financial advisor for details.

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

I look forward to seeing you at the Congregation meeting on October 18 at 1:00 pm.

Brad Friedlander, Treasurer

5787 Yom Kippur Appeal—Brad Friedlander

There is still time to make your Pledge!

Some of us come from synagogues where the Yom Kippur appeal was a bit of a competition. Don't worry, you won't be competing today. Instead, I want you to consider this question: If Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley didn't exist tomorrow, what would our lives look like?

Yom Kippur is the one day of the year when we all come together—reflective, hungry, and probably just a little cranky. It's a day when we ask God to remember us, forgive us, and give us another year to try again. And while we're doing this spiritual heavy lifting, we remember something else: our synagogue doesn't run on prayer alone. If it did, our budget meetings would be a lot easier.

אמת, truly, this day reminds us we are here for each other, we care for each other, and we support Beth Emeth Congregation together.

Our tradition teaches that three pillars help us transform the decree of the year ahead: **teshuvah**, **tefilah**, and **tzedakah**. We dig deep into *teshuvah*—repentance. We spend hours in *tefilah*—prayer. And now we consider *tzedakah*—the one that turns all our good intentions into action. It's the mitzvah that says, "I'm not just hoping for a better year; I'm helping make it."

Our congregation isn't sustained by this shul or the mysterious force that usually keeps the coffee pot working on Shabbat mornings. It's sustained by people—by us—who believe that Jewish life should be vibrant, welcoming, and meaningful.

Beth Emeth is our shared responsibility. Not because someone told us it should be, but because we know what it feels like when a Jewish home is strong; and what it feels like when it isn't.

For many of us, Beth Emeth Congregation is woven into our lives. It's where we pray, we celebrate simchas, we say Kaddish for loved ones, we find comfort when life is heavy, and we share joy when life is sweet. This is the place where each of us is known—not just by name, but by our stories.

Beth Emeth Congregation is so much more than services. It's the classes, the shared meals, the Torah study, the laughter in the social hall, the friendships that form during Shabbat kiddushim. These aren't extras. They're the heartbeat of our Jewish life keeping it alive, relevant, and joyful.

I'll be honest—asking you for money on Yom Kippur is awkward—but so is the simple truth. We run on a lean budget. We stretch every dollar. Our dues cover a small portion of our budget.

With your support, we can provide our Rabbi's leadership, learning, events, security, maintenance, and everything else that makes our congregation what it is. Your generosity today ensures that we remain a community of warmth, learning, and Jewish presence in the West Valley.

Not everyone can give the same amount. And that's okay. Truly, what matters is your contribution. Your gift—whatever its size—is an act of *tzedakah* that keeps us strong. I ask you to give from your heart and give in a way that reflects your gratitude for what Beth Emeth Congregation has given you.

Please contact the office to provide your gift via Zelle, credit card, or check. Todah!

May the generosity we show today open our hearts, strengthen our synagogue, and help write each of us into the Book of Life for a year of blessing, health, and peace.

גמר חתימה טובה—G'mar chatimah tovah—may you be sealed for a good life.

Words Matter by Gary Cohen, Director - Outreach

Having spent more than 40 years of my life as a journalist, I know that words matter. When I communicate with people, I am careful about not only what I say but I am also careful about how I sound.

I was taught early in my life to treat people as I would like myself to be treated and this comes into play when I communicate with people. I never intentionally hurt people but when I am on the receiving end of hurtful comments, I think carefully about what I want to say in response and how I will sound in delivering that response.

As Rabbi Lev has urged our congregation on more than one occasion, we need to really think before words spill forth out of our mouths. On a number of occasions since joining our congregation, either myself or my wife Enid have been on the receiving end of hurtful comments. Over the holidays, a comment was made to me about how casual I dress for services. As I look around the congregation, I see plenty of people wearing casual attire but the bottom line is no one should be making comments about how people look or how they dress. The person who made the comment was wearing a suit and tie. This does not make this person better than who I am as a human being. In the past, my wife was on the receiving end of a negative comment about what she was wearing. This has no place anywhere, especially in our house of prayer.

It is not right to hurt others but I believe it is even more hurtful when such comments are delivered in our house of prayer. When those comments are made before or after a service, they have no place in our Beth Emeth.

I caution those who have delivered such comments to not mistake my being a really decent human being with being unable to respond to when either myself or my wife are met with hurtful comments. But we should not have this kind of behavior by anyone and while it would greatly bother us to do so in our house of prayer, if we are hit with hurtful comments, we will respond. It is time for this nonsense to stop. In fact, it is long overdue that this nonsense stops.

No one in our congregation, no one in our community, no one in our country, should abuse the First Amendment Right to Freedom of Speech. We all have that right as Americans but it is not at all okay to abuse that right.

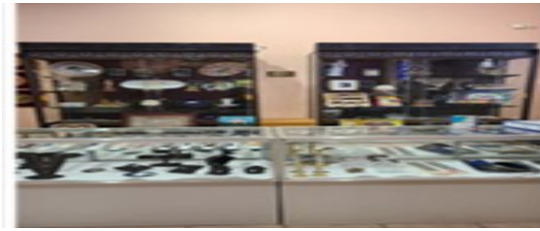


Paula Markovitz	10/7
Andrew Heidecker	10/9
Ann Goldfarb	10/12
Marvin Wachs	10/14
Myron Perlmutter	10/28



Barry and Clare Maultasch	10/12
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Don't see you birthday or anniversary listed?
Call the Office 623-584-7210 and have your information updated in our system.



Greetings from out JUDAICA SHOP! Let us help you get ready for the High Holidays!

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

**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**

Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley Chavurah updates!

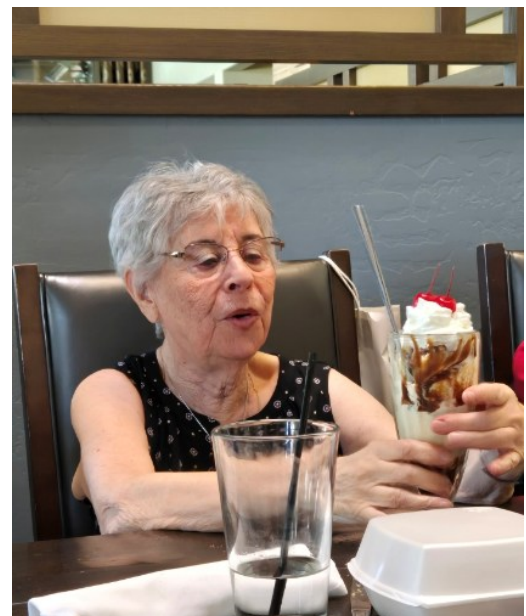
Shalom,

Our Chavurah group is having a great time! We are getting to know each other and sharing our stories. We even got to celebrate Marilyn Newberg's birthday together.

For our October gathering, we will be sharing a Chavurah dinner under the Sukkah.

Leah Tarnor

If you are interested in joining a group, fill out a form with your interests and put it in my mailbox in the office. I can be reached at leah.tarnor@bethemethaz.org.





Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley

WISH LIST

What we wish to have donated.....

Our current wish is for 50 folding chairs for the Social Hall

A stack of blue folding chairs is on the left, and a single blue folding chair is on the right. The chairs have blue padded seats and backs, and silver metal frames.

**We have already received
donations for
30 chairs!**

**We are still looking for 20 more
to be donated.**

Each chair is \$20.

Donations payable to:

Beth Emeth Congregation of the West Valley

Attn: chairs

**Payable in cash, check, credit card in the Office during
regular hours or Zelle (treasurer@bethemethaz.org)**

Please note - your donation will be listed on the monthly donations page of
the Observer.

There will not be any nameplates on the chairs.

We can only purchase chairs in groups of 10.

You do not have to donate 10 unless you wish to!

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.

Arnold “Arnie” Becker, Co-President

president@bethemethaz.org or

arnold.becker@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!

Please reach out to me for further information.

Arnold “Arnie” Becker, Co-President

president@bethemethaz.org or

arnold.becker@bethemethaz.org





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



**The following Yahrzeits will be observed during Tishrei and Cheshvan.
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-Oct	Tishrei 23	Ben Hamerschlag	Marty Hamer	Father
5-Oct	Tishrei 24	Charles Grindstaff	Lael Summer	Son-in-law
5-Oct	Tishrei 24	Gertude Hoffman	Evelyn Dragiff	Mother
6-Oct	Tishrei 25	Solomon Moss	Ruth Moss	Father
7-Oct	Tishrei 26	Sara Kesten	Sandra Shedroff	Aunt
8-Oct	Tishrei 27	Harold Wachs	Marvin Wachs	Father
8-Oct	Tishrei 27	Jake Lessner	Marilyn Newberg	Father-in-law of Rhoda Lessner
8-Oct	Tishrei 27	Abraham Koven	Sheldon Koven	Uncle
8-Oct	Tishrei 27	Freda Epstein	Rosemary Abrami	Mother
10-Oct	Tishrei 29	Leo Rothschild	Jamie Rothschild	Grandpa
10-Oct	Tishrei 29	Rose Lowenthal	Joy Epstein	Mother
13-Oct	Chesvan 2	Edith Kornheiser	Beverly Merchant	Mother
13-Oct	Chesvan 2	Myrna Colbert	Jordan Colbert	Wife
14-Oct	Chesvan 3	Moses Weitzman	Irene Weitzman	Husband
15-Oct	Chesvan 4	Arthur Forster	Paula Forster	Husband
16-Oct	Chesvan 5	Saul Zimmerman	Arnie Becker	Father-in-law
17-Oct	Chesvan 6	Max Hoffman	Evelyn Dragiff	Father
19-Oct	Chesvan 8	Berdie Friedman	Ketzi Toney	Mother
21-Oct	Chesvan 10	Barney Isenberg	Rita Pomerance	Father
22-Oct	Chesvan 11	Lee Stevens	Sheldon Koven	Cousin
23-Oct	Chesvan 12	Claudia Sontag	Joe Sontag	Spouse
24-Oct	Chesvan 13	Jack Segar	Harvey Zarensky	Brother-in-law
24-Oct	Chesvan 13	Louis Colbert	Jordan Colbert	Father
24-Oct	Chesvan 13	Leslie Heidecker	Andrew Heidecker	Brother
25-Oct	Chesvan 14	Phyllis Lewenson	Suzan Giloni	Mother
26-Oct	Chesvan 15	Fradell Dorf	Sherry Lazar	Mother
26-Oct	Chesvan 15	Steve Farkas	Gyorgyi Rosenthal	Father
27-Oct	Chesvan 16	Gilda Levitt	Lael Summer	Sister
28-Oct	Chesvan 17	Hilda Isenberg	Rita Pomerance	Mother
29-Oct	Chesvan 18	Esther M Schwartz	Sandra Shedroff	Mother
29-Oct	Chesvan 18	Louis Altman	Sonia Altman	Father-in-law
30-Oct	Chesvan 19	Joe Frank	Jim Frank	Father

Did we miss a Yahrzeit in memory of your loved one?
Please call the office to update your records in our database.

Todah Rabah for your continued support!

<u>Yahrzeit Donations</u>		
Esther Toney	Yahrzeit for her Mother	
Esther Toney	Yahrzeit for her Father	
Beverly Merchant	Yahrzeit for Edith Kornheiser and Joel Merchant	
Arnold Becker	Yahrzeit for Sol Becker and Saul Zimmerman	
Gary and Enid Cohen	Yahrzeit for Morris Cohen	
Sheldon Koven	Yahrzeit for L. Stevens and A. Koven	
Saul and Sharon Rothzeit	Yahrzeit of M. Friedman	
<u>Break the Fast</u>		
Paula Forster	Reva Litt	Dov and Suzan Giloni
Arnold Becker	Natalie Morrison	Ketzi Toney
Susan Hersch	Beverly Merchant	Sid and Wendy Engel
Ronald Paul	Marilyn Newberg	Joy and Peter Epstein
Morrie Hesch	Marvin and Rita Wachs	Joy Eisner
Charles and Rebecca Breverman	Sonia Altman	Gary and Enid Cohen
Barry and Claire Maultasch	Abraham and Rosann Lassman	
<u>Member Donation</u>		
Natalie Morrison	Charlie and Leah Tamor	
Rosie Colbert	Susan Hersch	
Lael Summer		
<u>Non-Member Donation</u>		
Charles and Marisela Erichsen		
Ron Goodman		
Steven and Rita Paper		
<u>High Holiday Donations</u>		
Harvey and Rita Zarensky	Lenore Bank	
Gary and Enid Cohen	Fern and Joseph Flaim	
Bonita Bay	Janice Shapiro	
<u>High Holiday Greeting Card</u>		
Lee and Sandra Shedroff		
<u>High Holiday Yizkor Appeal</u>		
Anonymous	Esther Toney	Carol Loewith
Steven and Janice Rothschild	Reva Litt	Arnold Becker
Natalie Morrison	Phil Gillenson	Launa and Benjamin Dahukey
Charles and Rebecca Breverman	Judy and Leon Rischall	Gyorgyi Rosenthal
Harvey and Rita Zarensky	Millicent Levy	Rosemary Abrami
Ann Goldfarb		
<u>Yizkor Donations</u>		
Joan Mayer		
<u>Memorial Plaque</u>		
Loree and Joel Resnick		
<u>Oneg/Kiddush</u>		
Gyorgyi Rosenthal		
<u>Chair Fund</u>		
Brad and Marlene Friedlander	Natalie Morrison	Lee and Sandra Shedroff
Arnold Becker	Harvey and Rita Zarensky	

<u>Rabbi's Installation Ceremony</u>		
Brad and Marlene Friedlander	Anonymous	Reva Litt
Arnold Becker	Natalie Morrison	Phil Gillenson
Launa Winegrad and Benjamin Dahukey	Beverly Merchant	Caol Loewith
Saul and Sharon Rothzeit	Susan Hersch	Gyorgyi Rosenthal
Steven and Janice Rothschild	Sally Anne Hall	Dov and Suzan Giloni
Harvey and Rita Zarensky	Leah and Charlie Tarnor	Carol and Michael Madvig
Raymond and Debra Karam	Lee and Sandra Shedroff	Morrie Hesch
<u>In Honor Of</u>		
Jerry and Coral Weinberg	In honor of Baby Naming August 1, 2026	
<u>High Holiday Tickets</u>		
Arnold Becker	Martin Hamer	Evan and Kimberly Solomon
Abraham and Rosann Lassman	Judith Gillis	Grant Shear
Norman and Barbara Friedlander	Susan Topaz	Alan and Linda Moltz
Charles and Rebecca Breverman	Martha Dalmeida	John Corbett
<u>Membership</u>		
Lee and Sandra Shedroff		
<u>Security Fund</u>		
Lee and Sandra Shedroff		
Rosemary Abrami		

Please note, the above donations were posted and recorded between 8/24 and 9/25. If you made a donation and do not see it listed, please contact Ray Karam at financialsecretary@bethemethaz.org or the Office.



Our Sukkah Many hands working together





Message from the Sisterhood President October 2026

I pray that everyone had meaningful and uplifting *"Yom Tovim!"* Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur certainly are a flurry of emotion. Excitement, preparation, self reflection and introspection, leading to atonement followed by the joy and appreciation cultivated on Sukkot and Simchat Torah abound.

The holiday liturgy fluctuates back and forth from the personal/individual to the collective. T'felah (prayer) fosters an attitude of gratitude towards HaShem for our many blessings, nourishes our *"Neshamah"* (our soul) and ultimately helps us to build our connections with one another. Judaism is about living in community.

Learning, inclusion, compassion, and responsibility are cornerstones of our faith and all necessary for a vibrant community. It was wonderful to see so many new faces at services. I invite you to get involved. Make an effort to connect. Your time, ideas, energy and support will enrich our community and expand your circle of Jewish friends. Together we are stronger as we learn and grow collectively and individually.

Women who become new congregational members receive a complementary membership to Sisterhood for their first year. Sisterhood also covers your membership to Women's League for Conservative Judaism, which is included in our Sisterhood yearly membership fee. I want to welcome Meryl Walker, Miriam Lent, Julie Portman, Susan Bloom, and Ruth Moss. You need not be a member of the congregation to join Sisterhood. Look for our membership form. We hope you too will join us!

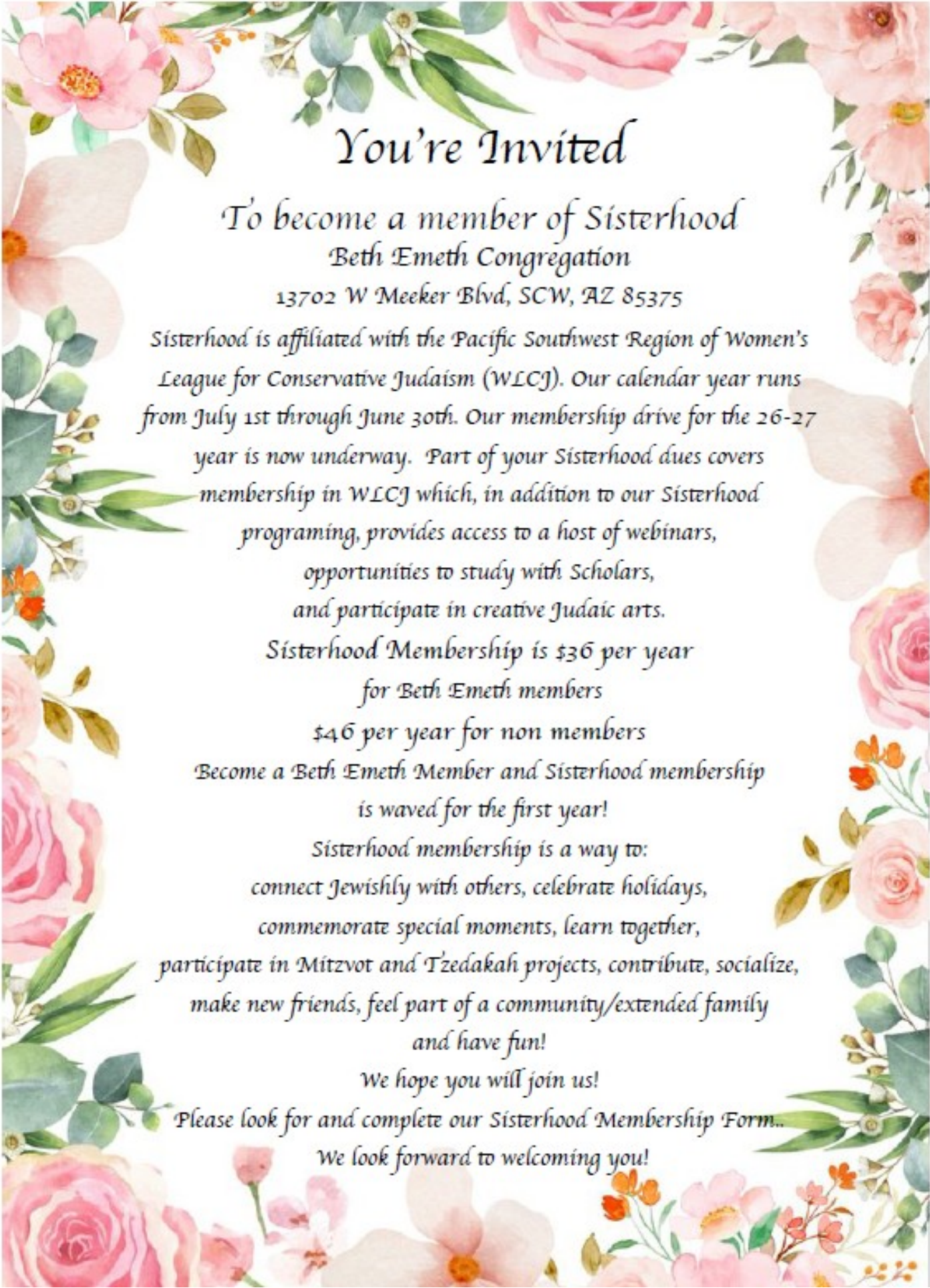
Our next Sisterhood meeting is on Tuesday, October 13th, at 10:30 am. All are welcome. Please refer to the flyer of upcoming Sisterhood events so you are able to save the dates! Flyers and information are also posted on the synagogue web site bethemethaz.org, and in the synagogue foyer.

A big thank you to those who registered for the Fashion Show to be held on October 8th. (Cut-off for registering was September 29th). Our November event is a musical concert by "Jazzona", and tickets go on sale in the office on October 5th for only \$18. Desserts will be served following the program. It should be a lovely afternoon. December 6th, Sisterhood will sponsor a Chanukah feast that will also be open to everyone. I hope you will watch for more information on our Chanukah event and other programs planned through June!

It promises to be a fun and exciting year ahead.

I look forward to getting to know you.

Ketzi Toney, Sisterhood President



You're Invited

*To become a member of Sisterhood
Beth Emeth Congregation*

13702 W Meeker Blvd, SCW, AZ 85375

*Sisterhood is affiliated with the Pacific Southwest Region of Women's
League for Conservative Judaism (WLCJ). Our calendar year runs
from July 1st through June 30th. Our membership drive for the 26-27
year is now underway. Part of your Sisterhood dues covers
membership in WLCJ which, in addition to our Sisterhood
programming, provides access to a host of webinars,
opportunities to study with Scholars,
and participate in creative Judaic arts.*

*Sisterhood Membership is \$36 per year
for Beth Emeth members*

\$46 per year for non members

*Become a Beth Emeth Member and Sisterhood membership
is waived for the first year!*

*Sisterhood membership is a way to:
connect Jewishly with others, celebrate holidays,
commemorate special moments, learn together,
participate in Mitzvot and Tzedakah projects, contribute, socialize,
make new friends, feel part of a community/extended family
and have fun!*

We hope you will join us!

Please look for and complete our Sisterhood Membership Form...

We look forward to welcoming you!



MEMBERSHIP FORM for JULY 2026 - JUNE 2027

Congregation Member \$36 per year

Non Members \$46 per year

Includes membership in Women's League of Conservative Judaism

First year of Sisterhood Membership is Free for new Beth Emeth Members

Please complete and submit with your payment

Checks Payable to **Sisterhood** Beth Emeth Congregation

Or Zelle payment to sisterhoodbec1@gmail.com

Name _____ DOB _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Cell Phone # _____ Home Phone _____

Email _____ Anniversary Date _____

Emergency Contact _____

Relationship _____ Phone _____

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

Volunteer tasks I am able to help with check all that apply: ☐ take photos

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

☐ phone calls ☐ driving car pool ☐ publicity ☐ computer work

☐ teaching a class ☐ leading an activity Please Specify

Types of Programs you enjoy _____



Sisterhood Jazzes It Up

Elise Hurst ...vocals/violin
Bill Applegate on guitars
Doug Mossing on keys,
saxophones & flute



Sisterhood Presents

Jazzona

November 15th

2:00-3:00 pm

Tickets \$18 each

Refreshments

following the concert

***You don't want
to miss out !***



**This Program
Is Open To ALL!
Tickets go on Sale
October 5th**



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



Sisterhood Calendar Dates for 2026-2027

Date	Event	Time	Cost/ day	Audience
8/11	Sisterhood Meeting	10:30-12:00	Tues	
8/16	Soup, Salad & Skit	12:30-2:30	\$15	Ladies
9/8	Sisterhood Meeting	10:30-12:00	Tues	
10/8	Fashion Show & Lunch At Grand View Terrace	10:00-2:00	\$40	Open to ALL
11/10	Sisterhood Meeting	10:30-12:00	Tues	
11/15	Jazzona Concert	2:00-3:00	\$18	Open to ALL
12/1	Food Prep for Chanukah	9:00-3:00	Tues	
12/3	Food Prep for Chanukah Kitchen reserved	9:00-3:00	Thurs	
12/6	Set up and prep	9:00-3:00	Sun	
12/6	Chanukah Party	5:15 pm	\$30	Open to ALL
12/8	Sisterhood Meeting	10:30-12:00	Tues	
1/10	Acrylic Pour Art Class By Bela Fidel	10:30-12:30 Clean up 12:30-1:00	\$40	Ladies
1/12	Sisterhood Meeting	10:30-12:00	Tues	
1/16	Sisterhood Shabbat Kiddish following	Services 9:30-12:00	Sat.	Open to All
2/9	Sisterhood Meeting	10:30-12:00	Tues	
2/21	Bunko	2:00 -4:00	\$15	Open to ALL
3/7	Purim Prep Kitchen reserved	9:00-3:00	Sun	Ketzi am Carol pm
3/21	Purim Bag Set UP Kitchen reserved	9:30-3:30 Or until completed	Sun	
4/11	Counting the Omer Learning Class & Fun	2:00-4:00	Sun	Ladies
4/13	Sisterhood Meeting	10:30-12:00	Tues	
5/11	Sisterhood Meeting	10:30-12:00	Tues	
5/16	Challah Bake	1:00-4:00	\$20	Open to ALL
6/8	Sisterhood Meeting	10:30-12:00	Tues	
6/13	Mr G Concert	2:00 -4:00	\$18	Open to ALL

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SunHealthCommunities.org/grandview



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October 2026

Tishrei - Cheshvan



SUN 27	MON 28	TUE 29	WED 30	THU Oct 1	FRI 2	SAT 3
Sukkot Day 2	Sukkot Chol Ha Moed	Sukkot Chol Ha Moed	Sukkot Chol Ha Moed	20th of Tishrei	21st of Tishrei	22nd of Tishrei
16th of Tishrei	17th of Tishrei	18th of Tishrei	19th of Tishrei	Sukkot VI (CH"M)	Sukkot VII (Hoshana Raba)	Shmini Atzeret
Sukkot II	Sukkot III (CH"M)	Sukkot IV (CH"M)	Sukkot V (CH"M)	9am Morning minyan	5:54pm Eve of Shemini Atzeret, Light Sha	9:30am Shabbat Service
6:56pm Holiday Ends: 6:56 PM		4pm Grief Support Group	10am Women's Torah Study			6:48pm Eve of Simchat Torah, Light Holic
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
23rd of Tishrei	24th of Tishrei	25th of Tishrei	26th of Tishrei	27th of Tishrei	28th of Tishrei	29th of Tishrei
Simchat Torah	1pm 2027 Budget Meeting	4pm Grief Support Group	10am Women's Torah Study	9am Morning minyan 10am Sisterhood Fashion Show at Grand	5:45pm Light Candles at: 5:45 PM 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat	Parashat Boreshit 9:30am Shabbat Service 6:39pm Shabbat Ends: 6:39 PM
6:46pm Holiday Ends: 6:46 PM						
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
30th of Tishrei	1st of Cheshvan, 5787	2nd of Cheshvan	3rd of Cheshvan	4th of Cheshvan	5th of Cheshvan	6th of Cheshvan
Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan	Columbus Day Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan	10am Sisterhood Meeting 4pm Grief Support Group	10am Women's Torah Study	9am Morning minyan 11am Torah Class - Rabbi Lev	5:36pm Light Candles at: 5:36 PM 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat	Parashat Noach 9:30am Shabbat Service 6:30pm Shabbat Ends: 6:30 PM
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
7th of Cheshvan	8th of Cheshvan	9th of Cheshvan	10th of Cheshvan	11th of Cheshvan	12th of Cheshvan	13th of Cheshvan
9am Men's Club Breakfast 10am Medicare Seminar 1pm Congregation Meeting		9:30am Board meeting 4pm Grief Support Group	10am Women's Torah Study	9am Morning minyan 11am Torah Class - Rabbi Lev	5:28pm Light Candles at: 5:28 PM 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat	Parashat Lech-Lecha 9:30am Shabbat Service 6:23pm Shabbat Ends: 6:23 PM
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
14th of Cheshvan	15th of Cheshvan	16th of Cheshvan	17th of Cheshvan	18th of Cheshvan	19th of Cheshvan	20th of Cheshvan
2pm Rabbi Installation Ceremony		4pm Grief Support Group	10am Women's Torah Study	9am Morning minyan 11am Torah Class - Rabbi Lev	5:21pm Light Candles at: 5:21 PM 6pm Kabbalat Shabbat	Halloween Parashat Vayera 9:30am Shabbat Service 6:16pm Shabbat Ends: 6:16 PM



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

Beth Emeth Congregation Board

President	Arnold Becker and Natalie Morrison
Past President	Marilyn Newberg
1st VP	Susan Hersch
2nd VP	Iris Kingma-Johnson
3rd VP	Arthur Bennett
Treasurer	Brad Friedlander
Financial Secretary	Raymond Karam
Recording Secretary	Marlene Friedlander

Directors

Leah Tarnor
Harvey Zarensky
Marvin Wachs
Gary Cohen

Sisterhood President

Ketzi Toney