



Beth Emet

בית אמת
THE FREE SYNAGOGUE

CHADASHON

חדשון



From the Rabbi

"My goal is to ensure that Beth Emet is a place where we can grapple with our fears, feel supported by one another, and learn the wisdom that Jewish tradition has to impart."

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From the Rabbi



Being afraid is a natural and adaptive response to dangerous situations. When we are in imminent danger, fear limits our choices so that we can act decisively. But when fear is the lens through which we view our lives more generally, it can be debilitating and destructive.

Unfortunately, today we don't have to look hard to find things that make us fearful. Terrorism, gun violence, stabbings, bigotry and demagoguery fill our papers and bombard us electronically. Fear of the unknown, of what might happen to us or someone we love, can be overwhelming and make us anxious. As we've seen from some quarters, it can also lead to hate speech or hurtful behavior toward innocent people.

I think a lot about the destructive power of fear in our society and how we should deal with it. When I hear politicians say bigoted and outrageous things about an entire group of people, I know that it resonates with large numbers of people who share their fear. Most of us know that their bluster just fuels the cycle of fear, but their simplistic bromides can be enticing. So how can we effectively manage the fear in our lives? We need safe and supportive places in which to cope with our fears. In addition to Beth Emet being a place for learning about Jewish traditions and celebrating holidays and lifecycle events, my goal is to ensure that Beth Emet is a place where we can grapple with our fears, feel supported by one another and learn the wisdom that Jewish tradition has to impart.

One of the words for fear in Hebrew, *yirah*, has, as its root, the word, "to see," and contains within it an important lesson for fear management. To cope with fear we need to look at it and experience it fully. Opening our heart to our fears and feeling them fully is the first step to managing our fear. But this is hard to do. In fact, it can be downright scary!

Cantor Friedman and I strive to make communal prayer a safe space in which we can feel our vulnerability. Prayer is an opportunity to open our heart to our feelings, and to feel held by the community sitting around us and the Jewish people who have said these prayers over the millennia.

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A new season is upon us and, with it, processes of change are occurring.

The Nominating Committee, appointed by the Board of Trustees, has completed its work and proposed a new slate of officers and trustees for election this coming March, when I and others will step down upon expiration of our terms. Many of us have served together for years. However, knowing the identity of our successors—including Ross Bricker (President), Stopher Bartol and Rebecca Raus (Vice Presidents), Rob Levin (Treasurer) and Louise Motel (Secretary)—I also know that this congregation could not be in better hands.

Yet even while transition awaits, the Board has been undertaking critically significant work and decisions in the dwindling months of its current term. I hope to be able to report on the results of this recent work at the annual meeting of the congregation in March, and hope that each of you will join us and come to hear. My belief is that the processes in which we have been engaged will enable us to strengthen our congregational foundations in vitally important ways—just as the long overdue replacement of our signage at the corner of Dempster and Ridge has resulted in something that is at once more durable and more reflective of our own durability.

Let me close on a personal note. Ultimately, the bedrock of any congregation is the quality of the interactions among its members, through the shared lens of their Judaism. That sense of mutual caring and sharing—of a community devoted to certain higher values continually manifested in dealing with the vicissitudes of everyday life—is something for which there is no substitute. As many of you know, my beloved youngest sister, Deborah, recently died. I and my family were overwhelmed, and overwhelmingly touched, by the outreaches from so many of you—reaffirming, once again, that we are indeed a very special community. Perhaps spiritual life is but an attempt, as a great pianist once put it, “to play music that is better than it can ever be played” (to quote Haym Soloveitchik). All I can say is that we at Beth Emet sound notes that come close, as I have repeatedly witnessed over these last three years. I have been privileged to serve as your president.

David Graham
President

Music



As I hope you've *heard*, there has been a lot of music being performed at Beth Emet.

Did you know choirs have a dual purpose? Not only does it bring music to our worship and foster congregational participation, but members form friendships that can last a lifetime. Beth Emet's Adult Choir has been meeting regularly on Thursday nights and are singing at many special Shabbat services.

Our Junior Choir (for third through sixth graders) is meeting every Sunday, along with the Keshet Choir (formerly called Youth Choir) and our Band, both of which are for students in seventh through twelfth grade. These choirs are also fulfilling *mitzvot* by singing for the community - in December, members of the Junior and Keshet Choirs performed at the Presbyterian Homes.

The Beth Emet Adult Band is also adding lots of *ruach* (spirit) to our services including performing at the Cantor's Installation in October, Shabbat Chanukah in December, at Shabbat Shirah in January, and at the upcoming Purim Spiel.

I hope you are experiencing the joy that music brings to our community. Come join us to help you find your Jewish voice!

Cantor Susan Lewis Friedman

Updated *Chadashon* Design



When I first started in 2001, the *Chadashon* (bulletin) was an 18-page monthly production. Fifteen years later, we find that the most effective way to communicate is through our e-newsletters, postcards, Facebook, and our newly revamped website. It is still important however, to create a formal space in which to share the philosophies of various aspects of congregational life, so a few times a year we will be sending a "mini-Chadashon" with updates and news from the *Klei Kodesh* and lay leadership, and then share an annual report (as we've done in years past) following the Annual Congregational Meeting in March. These will serve as a companion piece to our event-based communications. Please feel free to share your ideas of what you would like included in the future.

Bekki Harris Kaplan
Executive Director



KOL EMET: THE JEWISH MUSIC PROJECT

We are Family:

Stories of Jewish Family as Told Through
Musical Theater, Yiddish Theater and Opera



SATURDAY, MARCH 12 AT 8:00 PM

Cantor Susan Lewis Friedman, who has been seen in the Broadway musical tour of *CATS*, along with special guest **Cantor Daniel Singer** of Stephen Wise Free Synagogue and acclaimed member of SixThirteen, will perform **We Are Family: The Story Of The Jewish Family Told Through Musical Theater, Yiddish Theater And Opera**. The performance will be accompanied by internationally acclaimed pianist and Yiddish song specialist **Joyce Rosenzweig**.

TICKETS: \$25 adult | \$18 senior
\$10 student with ID or child with parent

Purchase tickets online at: kolemet.bpt.me
email: info@bethemet.org or call 847-869-4230 ext. 301.

Beth Emēt בית אמת
THE FREE SYNAGOGUE

1224 Dempster St.
Evanston, Illinois
www.bethemet.org

Lifelong Learning



I am privileged to be in a book group with nine very wise Beth Emet women. We recently read the book *Norwegian by Night* by Derek Miller. Toward the end of the novel, Sheldon, the protagonist asks a Big Question.

Big Questions really matter. They help us understand ourselves and others. Big

Questions are the kind of questions often addressed by religion. The protagonist is speaking to himself and says: "Either way, Sheldon, here you are. And what are you going to do about it? That's the only persistent question in life."

To me, Jewish learning at Beth Emet helps us think about Big Questions. Jewish education is about helping us grow in our ability to take responsibilities for our actions and to care; to help us value ourselves and to believe in our capacity to make a difference. Judaism and the Beth Emet community can help us reflect on how we respond to ourselves, to others, to our current situations and to communities around us.

Big questions lead to more questions and reflection. In a kindergarten lesson about the *ushpizin*, (special guests invited into our sukkot), a child asked, "If you have the important forefathers as guests, why don't we have all the foremothers too? Like Rebecca?" In a recent discussion in our fourth grade class about which places can feel spiritual, children responded with "A place that gives you a feeling that you remember." "If it makes you feel happy or you have emotions. Also when it makes you feel close to God or if it's a good memory." "Hebrew school because it is a time where I get to see other Jewish kids." "It makes you feel good about yourself." "Synagogues make you feel holy and make you feel part of the Jewish community." "If it (the place) really sticks with you." Another example is our study of the value of *Kavod HaBriot*, or respect for each individual, which leads our seventh graders to explore what is okay to post on social media or to say to another person.

Even in our adult education classes, there are attempts to relate the material to our lives. Learning to respond to the question, "What are you going to do about it?" has led some of our adult congregants to learn Hebrew and explore Judaism toward celebrating their own Bar or Bat Mitzvah. In our classes on Torah, Race and Equity, or Jewish communities around the world, we seek to understand our own human emotions and our responsibilities toward others in our families and communities. As we learn about

Jewish holidays and customs by celebrating, we combine traditions with innovations that teach us how to show up for each other, to praise, to appreciate, and to do.

You, too, are connected to Beth Emet. Here you are. What are you going to do about it?
How will you answer Sheldon's question?

Marci Dickman

Director of Lifelong Learning

Beit Sefer

This year our Beit Sefer (school) program has students between kindergarten and grade 12. In addition to activities and lessons in our classrooms, our students and their families participate in grade level Shabbat services and dinners, singing and praying with Cantor Susan Lewis Friedman and Beth Reinstein, and social action projects. Our sixth graders recently finished studying a unit on *Gemilut Hasadim* (the giving of loving-kindness) and social justice. Students researched charitable organizations that they consider worthy of *tzedakah* and then created displays about the organizations.

At our Beit Sefer Tzedakah Fair on November 22, they presented their research in an attempt to convince other students and congregants to donate to the causes that they have chosen. On our Intergenerational Giving Day, our students in grades K to 6 together with grandparents, aunts and uncles packaged 200 decorated bags of Halloween candy that were then given to the Ronald McDonald House.



Tzedakah Fair

Many describe our Beit Sefer community as caring and warm. As our students grow through their middle school and high school years, they definitely feel as if the Beth Emet building and community belong to them.

Early Childhood



Have you ever taken a moment to really look at the wonderful playground (Joann's Playground) at Beth Emet? If you stop by, you'll see the climbing/sliding structure, the sandbox, and tire swing. These large purchased pieces of equipment are used daily, and certainly provide lots of opportunities for developing large and small motor skills.

More important are the 'invisible' play spaces that only appear when the children magically bring them to life. As Early Childhood educators, we value the creativity and passions of the children and feel honored to be present as they develop their own amazing play scenarios.

So what do these young children do?



Gleefully hiding and popping out from our small thicket of trees, peeking through the branches, hiding from bears, teachers and other creatures, real and pretend.



Logs and boulders, in a small circle, magically turn into a dining room, a classroom, stepping stones, or surfaces on which children pretend to cook, write, or read.



Very gratifying 'real work' such as raking, shoveling and sweeping, is eagerly done when the pathways are covered with fallen leaves or snow.

Kathy Kaberon
Director of Early Childhood

Registration for the 2016-17 School Year and Camp Kayitz Now Open!

Discover Beth Emet's Early Childhood Program, where children are active learners and families become part of a warm, caring environment. Our program features a hands-on, well-rounded curriculum focusing on social and emotional development for ages two through five. Our nurturing teachers infuse Jewish values and culture into play-based activities.



In the summer, our teachers, along with energetic junior counselors, enjoy summer fun including outdoor art, water play, July 4th activities and more!

To register or to learn more, visit www.bethemet.org/learning, or contact Kathy at kkaberon@bethemet.org or call 847-869-4230 ext. 305.

Discover Beth Emet's Programs for Families with Young Children

Drop-In

Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings
9:15 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Babies and toddlers, accompanied by a grown-up, are invited to play with toys, have a snack, and enjoy our slides, climbers, riding toys, and more. \$4.00/visit.



Tot Shabbat

Always at 9:00 a.m. on the third Saturday of each month

For children under five and their families, we sing, dance with the Torahs, and enjoy a story.

Afterwards, everyone gathers for brunch, and while the children play, the adults can schmooze!

Youth



Happy 2016 - it's been a great year so far! We started off by welcoming two Beth Emet members into new roles in the Youth Department. Sara Blumenthal and Anni Zuckert, who both grew up at Beth Emet and were active members of BESSY, returned to lead our Chasamba and Garinim Youth Groups. They are doing a fabulous job and I think it says a lot about the Beth Emet youth community that people who grew up here want to return and pay it forward to the next generation. Speaking of BESSY, the high school youth group is planning a lot of exciting new programs this year. With a sizable board, BESSY has a newfound hunger and capacity for action. In January BESSY partnered with the Beth Emet Soup Kitchen to serve a meal. On February 7, BESSY led an innovative, intergenerational program about gender and sexuality in our society. The foundation for discussing the complexities of gender and sexuality at Beth Emet begins in our seventh grade Gesher curriculum. Our students continue to explore the evolving topics of identity and adulthood, and they express their gratitude for having these discussions in a safe and supportive environment. In eighth grade Mitzvah Corps, I am working with my students to process the violence plaguing our world. At the end



of January, we visited the Evanston Police Department to discuss the ongoing issues of police violence against communities of color. I deeply value every opportunity I have to interact with Beth Emet students and families. We are a unique community comprised of passionate people who

genuinely care for each other, and I feel lucky to be part of it.

Abigail Backer
Director of Youth Programs

Upcoming Events

Celebrate Purim

Megillah reading, Purim Spiel, carnival — we have something for everyone this Purim at Beth Emet! This year's Purim Spiel, *When You Wish Upon a Jewish Star: A Disney Purim* will transport the "kid in all of us" to the magical kingdom of Shushan!

Sunday, March 20

10:30 a.m. Purim Singing and Story for Families with Young Children

11:00 a.m. Carnival Open for Families with Young Children and with Special Needs

12:00 p.m. Purim Carnival Open to All

Wednesday, March 23

6:45 p.m. Megillah reading and Purim Spiel

Scholar-in-Residence Shabbat with Dr. Wendy Zierler

Kabbalat Shabbat

Na'aseh v'nishma: Should Reform Judaism embrace a sense of obligation for Jewish practice?

Friday, April 1 at 6:30 p.m. (5:45 p.m. Reception) Congregational Shabbat Dinner and conversation with Dr. Zierler following services.

Shabbat Morning

Re-reading the Torah: Miriam the Prophetess

April 2 at 9:30 a.m.

At Shabbat morning services, Dr. Wendy Zierler explores the paradox of how the Torah both silences and erases Miriam and elevates her legacy.



Shabbat Afternoon

My Life as a Talking Horse: on Being a Reform Orthodox Jew

April 2 at 4:00 p.m.

To conclude our Scholar-in-Residence Shabbat, participants will read and discuss the story, "Talking Horse" by Bernard Malamud, a story about cultural and religious hybridity.

DR. WENDY ZIERLER is Professor of Feminist Studies and Modern Jewish Literature at HUC - JIR (the Reform Movement's seminary). Dr. Zierler has a unique focus on Jewish literature and feminism. Her recent publications include *And Rachel Stole the Idols: The Emergence of Modern Hebrew Women's Writing*. She was Consulting Editor for two special issues of *Nashim* (Women) dedicated to the theme of gender and books.

Cost for Shabbat dinner is \$14 adults and \$8 for kids (12 and under) by Wednesday, March 30; \$18 | \$12 thereafter. RSVP to info@bethemet.org or call 847-869-4230 ext. 301. We kindly ask that payments be made prior to Shabbat dinner, and checks that evening can be dropped off in the administrative dropbox, directly north of the elevators on the first floor.

Social Action



Beth Emet Soup Kitchen Raises Nearly \$46,000

The Beth Emet Soup Kitchen kicked off its first fundraiser at a festive dinner on October 11. The synagogue leadership hosted the celebration to honor the Soup Kitchen and its founders : Jessie Macdonald, Nancy Bashook, and Jeff Forgash as well as one of the new co-chairs, Leslie Shulruff.

Craig Leva, a longtime volunteer, spoke movingly about his commitment to the Soup Kitchen and his desire to financially assist the Soup Kitchen. He offered a \$15,000 donation match from the Leva Family. Not only did Soup Kitchen supporters match their generous challenge, but they even surpassed it by raising \$31,000 for a total of \$45,966!

Outgoing chair Jessie Macdonald spoke about the connection between the volunteers and the guests who often tell us to “have a blessed day.” She explained that what happens at the Beth Emet Soup Kitchen on Wednesday nights is a “mutual blessing between the people who volunteer and the people who come to eat.”

Beth Emet Soup Kitchen Coat Drive



Volunteer Judith Cooper and Coat Drive organizer, Beth Adler

Thank you to everyone in our community who donated winter coats and accessories for our Soup Kitchen guests. Also, thank you to all of our volunteers for setting up and organizing this mitzvah opportunity.



From February 28 to March 3, congregant Doug Hoffman will be participating in the 2016 Ride4Reform in support of the Israel Movement for Progressive Judaism (IMPJ). Riders will cover 160 hilly miles. Please consider a contribution of \$0.25, \$0.50 or even one dollar per mile. Riders pay their own way and all expenses. 100% of all donations go to IMPJ.

If you are moved to help support our movement in Israel, please use the following link to make a donation: <http://friendsofimpj.org>. Once on this page, click on "This Year's Riders," click on Doug's name and picture to make an online donation. If you prefer to donate by check, make it out to "Friends of the IMPJ." Mail it to Doug Hoffman at 1300 Elmwood Avenue, Wilmette, IL 60091 or leave it at the Beth Emet office.

The funds donated go to support two aspects of the IMPJ's work: funding for congregations and scholarships for youth in the "Havayah" summer camp. There are currently 45 Progressive congregations in Israel. The goal is 50 by 2020. The Havaya summer camp is a crucial component of the Progressive mission. It offers Israeli youth immersion in pluralistic Jewish values and heritage. Three years ago, Havayah added a special camp program for children with special needs, called "Hamulah." This past summer, 13 campers took part in Hamulah. Your generosity ensures that families from all walks of Israeli life are able to have their children participate in a unique Israeli-Jewish camping experience.

Tzedakah Committee

For nearly 30 years, Beth Emet's Tzedakah Committee has supported acts of righteous giving and loving kindness as part of daily synagogue life. When you walk in the doors, both at the school and Sanctuary entrances, there are large Tzedakah boxes providing the opportunity to fulfill the commandment to perform Tzedakah. Your donations support grants for organizational programs at local, national, and international nonprofits. To learn more about the work of the Tzedakah Committee please visit www.bethemet.org/socialaction.



Ozerim Committee

Beth Emet's Ozerim Committee is a volunteer group of dozens of "helpers" whose mission has been to support congregants at crucial times in their lives. Ozerim volunteers cook and deliver a "Shabbat Connection" meal every week to a congregant for whom it will be meaningful, provide needed rides to medical appointments and synagogue functions, and lead shiva minyans. For more than 10 years, Ozerim has been led by Simon Anolick, Kathy Kaberon, Debbie Render and Gita Weintraub, who have given tirelessly of themselves and helped so many. The torch has now been passed to Arlene Berke, Tami Manton, Susan Melczer and Becca Nolan to continue these acts of *gimilut hasadim* (loving kindness). To learn more or to become a volunteer, visit www.bethemet.org/socialaction.

Race: The Power of an Illusion: A Beth Emet Conversation about Race, Equity, and Whiteness

Mondays, March 7, 14, 28 and April 4 at 7:30 p.m.

Using the three-part video documentary *Race: The Power of an Illusion* as a springboard, we will cover topics such as the roots of race as a modern concept and the ways in which current policies and ideologies perpetuate systems of inequity. Visit www.bethemet.org to learn more and to register for this course.

Beth Emet Community

NAACP Honors Larry and Marilyn Cohen

The Evanston/North Shore Branch of the NAACP honored Larry and Marilyn Cohen with its Community Service Award on November 21, 2015. Announced at the NAACP's annual Freedom Fund Banquet, the Community Service Award was given to the Cohens in recognition of their work on behalf of the community through the organization they founded, the Naomi Ruth Cohen Institute for Mental Health Education (NRCI). NRCI's goal is to overcome the stigma of mental illness, and in selecting the Cohens for the recognition, the NAACP noted their "commitment to mental health and the removal of stigmas, especially in underserved communities." The Naomi Ruth Cohen Institute for Mental Health Education is a program at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology.



The Cohens were chosen based on merit in a process that includes committee nomination and selection. The event was held at the Evanston Golf Club and featured an invocation by Rabbi London (see page 15):

Four Successful Events; One Big Campaign!



As this year's Mitzvah Appeal Campaign comes to a close, we extend our thanks and gratitude to those who helped make the campaign such a success. To our co-chairs, Jane and Greg Wintroub, Lisa Levin, and Simon Anolick, thank you for your outstanding leadership and vision. To our event chairs: Jen Goldfarb, Elaine Lev, Danielle Crown Pfeifer, Rebecca Raus, Shari Reiches, Dan Sachs, Susan Sotnick, Arlene

Steele, Donna Wolf - thank you for the countless hours of dedication and support. And to our hosts Melinda and Adam Prawer-Stock and Diana Cohen and David Spitulnik who opened their homes for two of our four events, we so very much appreciate your hospitality. To all of our donors: Thank you for your generosity that allows Beth Emet to continue providing the myriad of programs and services that make our community so unique. Together we raised more than \$267,000. A list of our donors will be included in the spring *Chadashon*.

The Mitzvah Appeal heavily subsidizes many of the essential programs and services our synagogue offers. When you donate to this campaign, your contribution has a direct and profound impact on our community.

Invocation for the NAACP Community Service Awards by Rabbi Andrea London given on November 21, 2015

God gathered the dust from the four corners of the world and blew the breath of life into it and created Adam—the first human being.

And God proclaimed, “All of my children will come from you and will be equally precious to me. All Lives Matter.”

But Cain became jealous of Abel, his brother, and slew him.

So God said, “I need to teach people to treat each other with respect, dignity, and love so that human beings will know that All Lives Matter.”

But human beings, in their hubris, didn’t listen and instead tried to build a tower to reach God. God destroyed that tower and made them speak a myriad of languages, one sounding like babble to the next.

And suspicion, misunderstanding, and greed led one race of human beings not to respect those who belonged to a different nation.

So God selected wise and compassionate leaders from all races and nations who taught their people the laws of justice and love. But this was not always enough to quell the baser instincts of human beings.

“All lives matter,” they proclaimed, but the reality of their societies was that some lives seemed to matter more than others. Some used their power to put others down and despite the nice rhetoric, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights,” persecution of some peoples still continued.

And so some wise human beings created organizations like the NAACP to bring our society’s biases to light and to challenge, with hard facts and data, the ways we discriminate, inadvertently or not, against others. When we say Black Lives Matter, we don’t deny that All Lives Matter, but we recognize that systemic discrimination and oppression are real in our society. For when black lives, and brown lives, and native American lives, and the lives of those who suffer from mental illness, and the lives of all who are outside the norm as defined by the power structure in our society matter, then All Lives Matter.

God, we are humbled to be here together to honor the work of the NAACP and all the honorees tonight whose work to build a more just, loving, and compassionate society testifies to the holiness and dignity of all your creatures. Bless the work of their hands and inspire all of us to create the world you envisioned when you first created human beings—one in which no matter from which corner of the world we come, whatever the language we speak, the color of our skin, the religion we practice, or our gender—All Lives Matter.

In the Beth Emet Family

as of December 26, 2015

Jessie and Douglas Macdonald welcomed the birth of their granddaughter, Isla Ever Macdonald.

Barbara and Ed Linn welcomed the birth of their granddaughter, Elise "Ellie" Linn Saldanha.

Georgene Wilson welcomed the birth of her granddaughter, Ayala Gila Levy.

Jeff Mono and Steve Greenberg celebrated their marriage.

Judy Aronson, Marc Hilton, and Teddy Aronson celebrated the marriage of their son and grandson, Ezra Hilton and Orly Henry.

Joann and Nate Dardick celebrated the marriage of their son Justin and Katie Drews.

CSue and John Winkler welcomed the birth of their grandchildren, Zoe and Judah Winkler.

Arlene and Rich Steele welcomed the birth of their grandson, Jordan Ethan Steele.

Mark and Micki Iris welcomed the birth of their grandson, Jacob Mathew Iris.

Ida Coronado Salusky and Jose Albert Coronado welcomed the birth of their son, Meir Salusky-Coronado.

Paul and Ashley Isaacson celebrated their marriage.

Seymour and Leslie Schwartz announced the engagement of their son Philip and Candace Caron.

Eran Rhodes and Stephanie Zell, Harry and Helene Rhodes, and Richard and Judith Rhodes welcomed the birth of their daughter, granddaughter and great-granddaughter, Linden Galil-Beleza Rhodzell.

Debbie and Bob Silverstein celebrated the marriage of their son Josh Friedlander and Melissa Cannata.

Judy and Ken Flaxman welcomed the birth of their granddaughter, Deborah Gloria Flaxman.

Please note: a full listing of B'nai Mitzvah students, from September 2015 through June 2016, will appear in next *Chadashon* (Bulletin).

Yizkor Elohim

September 22, 2015-January 13, 2016

Nikki Zarefsky, wife of David Zarefsky
Sidney Hoffman, uncle of Doug Hoffman
Earl Lachman, father of Ronald Lachman
Deborah Graham, sister of David Graham
Frances Balter, mother of Micki Iris
Cecil Cooper, father of Judith Cooper
Allan Bluestone, father of Bob Bluestone
Larry Berson, father of Kathy Kaberon
Ben Sosewitz, husband of Shelley Sosewitz (z"l) and longtime member
Karl Mono, father of Jeff Mono
Emanuel (Muni) Mark, husband of Lois Mark and daughter Carol White
Ruth Zisook, great aunt of Stacey Robinson
Eileen Koslen, wife of Mark Koslen
Eleanor Schwartz, mother of Ralph Schwartz (Marci Dickman)
Jane Weinstein, sister of Mickey Resnick
Rosalyn Ellerin, mother of Sheryl Bartol
Mori Weinstein, son of Catherine and Fred Weinstein
Maimon Maman, father of Isaac Maman

May their memory be for a blessing

Beth Emet Community Retreat



At our Community Retreat at Olin Sang Ruby Union Institute (OSRUI), in December 2015, more than 75 congregants of all ages enjoyed adult study, worship, games, and a weekend of fun together. Rabbi London led adult conversations focused on the spiritual, historical and cultural aspects of Chanukah, while Cantor Friedman and the children created a Chanukah musical skit for all to enjoy. And of course, there was lots of singing, playing games, making new friends, rope climbing (for those so inclined), and enjoying Shabbat and havdallah together.

Beth Emet Community

Rabbi Andrea London - continued from page 1

Beth Emet is also a place for us to find productive ways to channel our fear. The Hebrew word, *yirah*—fear, is often used in reference to our relationship with God. We show our fear, or awe (another translation of *yirah*) of God, by living with compassion and humility. Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. put it aptly when he said, “Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can drive out hate.” Through the lessons we teach in Beit Sefer, through the values we act on in our soup kitchen, in our interfaith engagement with Muslim and Christian communities and our Ozerim (helpers) Committee, to name but a few activities, we put into practice the concepts of caring and love that diminish hate in the world and reduce fear in our lives.

May we build together a loving and supportive community and create more peace in our world in 2016.

Rabbi Andrea London

Beth Emet Annual Meeting

Monday, March 21 at 7:30 p.m. (dessert reception to begin at 7:15 p.m.)
Hear state of the Congregation speeches from outgoing President, David Graham, incoming President, Ross Bricker, Rabbi Andrea London, and outgoing Treasurer, Murray Gordon as well as elect the new Officers and Board of Trustees at this year’s Annual Meeting. For a complete listing of the new slate, please see Beth Emet’s website at www.bethemet.org.

Installation of New Officers and Board of Trustees

Friday, March 25 during Kabbalat Shabbat Services (beginning at 6:30 p.m.)
Reception in honor of outgoing and incoming Board begins at 5:45 p.m.)

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Contributions

Donations received March 27, 2015 - January 11, 2016.

Any donations received after January 11, 2016 will appear in the next Bulletin.

Rabbi London's Discretionary Fund

Anonymous

*Michael Slater and
Shoshana Waskow*

Diana Kindzred

Marilyn and Joseph Smith

Stuart Richer

Lynne Kaminer and Dan Ray

In memory of Velma Sacks
Eileen Chapman

In appreciation of Rabbi London

*Sylvia Waller
Howard Sachs*

Rudy Lubov

Samantha Haney

Arica and Matt Barton

Danny and Alisyn Spitz

Melissa and Josh Friedlander

In memory of
David Samoylovich Zolotarev
Petr Zolotarev

In honor of Zoe Salamon
becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Adam and Jacalyn Salamon

In honor of Nancy Grabowsky
Paul and Rebecca Fields

In memory of Susi R. Rosenbusch
Mimi Rosenbusch

In memory of Emanuel Bennett
Beverly Bennett

In honor of the marriage of Ezra
Hilton and Orly Henry
Judith Aronson and Marc Hilton

In honor of the marriage of
Jeff Mono and Steve Greenberg
Fern Josephs

In memory of Gilbert Barkin
*The Barkin Family
Harvey and Arlene Coustan*

In memory of Boris Anolick
Cas Anolick

In memory of Brad Coustan
*Judith and Richard Rhodes
Mareon Arnold*

*Mayta and Ron Spitz
Ann and Mark Feldman*

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The Beth Emet Foundation

is a separate financial entity whose purpose is to serve as a carefully managed repository for specified donations intended to provide long term support to the Synagogue. For more information, please contact the Foundation President, Jeff Mann at foundation@bethemet.org.

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Contributions

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(to offset general synagogue expenses)

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In memory of Nikki Zarefsky and
In memory of Deborah Graham
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In honor of Cantor Friedman's
Installation,

In memory of Deborah Graham,
and

In memory of Francis Balter
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In honor of the naming of
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(subsidizes Beth Emet's Leo Baeck candidate scholars at Leo Baeck School in Haifa, Israel, or, to promote special/supplemental educational programs for young children and families sponsored by Beth Emet)

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In memory of Carol Sterkin
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(to provide critical mass of funding to develop and support new models for successfully engaging participants in meaningful study at any or all of life's stages)

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In memory of Ronald Fink, and
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(to support the synagogue's programs and services)

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In honor of the publication of Martha Holstein's book, and
In honor of Phyllis Mitzen's Lifetime Achievement Award in her field of social work
Rabbi Peter and Elaine Knobel
In honor of Rabbi Peter and Elaine Knobel's 50th anniversary
Paul and Rebecca Fields
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(supports youth programming and the maintenance of a youth room at Beth Emet)

In memory of Brad Coustan
Michael Leff and Hollis Russinof

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(provides scholarships for children at Beth Emet to attend Olin Sang Ruby Union Institute Camp in Wisconsin or other comparable religious affiliated camps)

In memory of Al Lubov
Joyce Landau

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(to support teaching, incorporation and use of music in education programs and our Shabbat and festival observances)

In memory of Martin D. Lobel
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(To support the acquisition, maintenance or improvement of equipment, programs or physical plant at Beth Emet, and to allow the Congregation to engage in significant activities, including providing assistance to Synagogue members in need, which would not otherwise be possible because of budgetary restrictions)

In memory of Edward Yalowitz
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In memory of Alvin Lubov
In memory of Brad Coustan
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(to support the Adult Education program)

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(to provide funds for feeding the hungry at Beth Emet on Wednesday evenings)

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Carla Century and Charles Pacella

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David and Lizzie Graham

In memory of Charlotte Cohen

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In appreciation of

Jessie Macdonald and her
vision and leadership of Soup
Kitchen

Jeff and Julie Forgash and Family

In honor of Butch Mayer and

Chris Kee

Paul and Rebecca Fields

In honor of Leslie Shulruff

becoming head of Beth Emet
Soup Kitchen

Jessie and Douglas Macdonald

In honor of the marriage of Jeff

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In honor of the birth of Jessie

and Douglas Macdonald's

granddaughter, in honor of

the Bat Mitzvah of Mort and

Reva Denlow's granddaughter,

in memory of Sharon Gyssler,

in memory of Alvin Lubov, and

wishing Rozlyn Pollack a

speedy recovery

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In honor of Jessie, Nancy,

Jeff and Leslie

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In honor of his own Bar Mitzvah

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In honor of Leslie Shulruff and

her dedication to the Soup
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Zoey Lande

In honor of those stepping down

and those stepping up at Soup
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In honor of Soup Kitchen patrons

past, present and future

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In honor of Leslie Shulruff and

the work she does for Soup
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*(to support the Saturday morning
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In memory of James Patton,
Speedy recovery for
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In honor of the marriage of
Ezra Hilton and Orly Henry,
With good wishes to
Florence Jacobson and to
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In memory of Ted Karp,
In memory of Deborah Graham,
In memory of Cecil Cooper,
In memory of Larry Berson,
In memory of the brother of

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Chava Alpert and Michael Bloom

In appreciation of Robert Render,
Marc Blumenthal and Seymour
Schwartz leading Minyan
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A special thank you to Betsy Fuchs
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*(to purchase books for the library
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 In honor of Cantor Susan Lewis
 Friedman being installed
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In honor of Paul Fields' service to
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(for the repair and replacement of our Torah scrolls)
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In memory of Marlene Shulruff,
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In memory of
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In memory of Larry Berson, and
In memory of Frances Balter
Patti and Mel Gerbie

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Flames to Heaven

By Debbie Perlman z"l
One Hundred Thirty-Eight
Uncertainty

Unspooling duality tangles me
Again and again, my heel catching
In the hem of life's garment,
Stretched long with falling tears.

I seek You in the after glimmer,
After this day's rain of terrible scenes,
New unfolding schemes, new secrets,
You come to calm me, Holy One, with
cool light.

You are there with savory goals,
Laid out like a picnic on new grass
To spark an appetite grown weary and
becalm'd,
Negligent of soul's refreshment.

I think, Holy One, You do not tease
With these delicacies, but rather
spread them
For my ease, giving me breathing
space
For another day's maneuvers.



Beth Emet

בית אמת
THE FREE SYNAGOGUE

Winter 2016

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