Rabbi’s Message

Dear Friends – Shalom Chaverim!

ISRAEL MATTERS: Understand the Past – Look to the Future

This is the title of a new book we now present to all of our B’nai Mitzvah students. There is also a copy in our CBE Library if you’d like to read and study it. We live in an exciting and important time in history—firstly, simply because of the amazing technology that we can enjoy today, and secondly, because Israel exists as a modern, independent country, after nearly 2,000 years. A powerful quote I came across states: “Jewish civilization and national identity were formed over 3,000 years ago in the land of Israel. For 3,000 years, Jews maintained their presence in the land. Many were forced to live elsewhere and always struggled to return. The Jewish people dreamed of freedom in their own land …they succeeded!”

More than that, today Israel is a modern, vibrant, technologically advanced country. She is by far, the brightest light in the whole Middle East, as a pluralistic democracy in a region under so much turmoil.

I am very excited that I visited Israel for Yom Ha’atzmaut, her 65th anniversary or Independence Day on April 16th! I feel very proud of Israel and what our people have accomplished, despite so many hardships and obstacles. I admire Israeli tenacity, innovation, and creative thinking. Rather than focusing on sadness, and losses, Israelis seem to have a real love of life and yearning to improve our world. Perhaps you will join me next summer, in 2014, in travelling to Israel. In the meantime, our students celebrated and learned about Israel at our Israel Faire on Sunday April 14th, so they too, will understand the special bond with both the people and the land of Israel.

Let us appreciate this very important time in history and do all we can to support her.

Am Yisrael Chai!

Shalom u’vrachah,
Rabbi Michele Paskow
Rav.Michal@verizon.net

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE JUDAICA HIGH SCHOOL CLASS SERVICE ON FRIDAY NIGHT MAY 17TH

Steven Sherden, Evan Gering, and Eliana Plotkin will be confirmed
Shalom! It is hard to imagine that my three years as Executive Vice President of Congregation B’nai Emet have come to a close. As of the publishing of this newsletter I will be your new President. I would like to personally thank Michael Hollander for his dedicated service as President for the past three years. A lot of positive things have happened during Michael’s term, and I hope to continue in his footsteps. I have, with Michael’s help, been able to assemble an excellent group of volunteers to be the New Temple Board. It is great to see members giving their support as volunteers to assure Congregation B’nai Emet is moving forward.

I cannot express enough how important volunteering is to help support Congregation B’nai Emet. Your support is vital to the success of the temple. Being a Board Member is just one way to volunteer. Other ways to show support can be joining the Men’s Club or Sisterhood, helping out at maintaining the grounds or supporting temple events. We all need to do our part to assure that Congregation B’nai Emet is the best place to build friendship and worship.

Thanks,

Mitchell Salberg
President
The Men’s Club has elected a new President, Michael Enright. Michael will officially take over May 1, 2013. The other officers will be elected after this article goes to press.

With new leadership at the helm of the Men’s Club, it is time to check out our club. Our meetings are one Sunday a month at one of the classrooms at the religious school (lasting around 1 hour) and there is a breakfast social, usually the second Sunday of the month, at the Firehouse Café on Erringer at Royal, starting at 9am.

This is a great group that has a lot of fun, and every now and then actually tries to help out the temple. If you are a father of one of our preschool or religious school students we encourage you to attend either our breakfasts on Sunday or one of our other meetings.

Thank you for allowing me to be the President of the Men’s Club and I encourage all men affiliated with the temple to join.

Michael Mutal

Shalom! My name is Mitchell Resnick. I live in Simi valley with my parents Leslie and Ron Resnick. I am an only child. I am currently attending Sinaloa Middle School and I am in 7th grade. My hobby is playing sports like tennis, baseball, basketball, soccer, volleyball, and building cool things out of Lego’s.

My Bar Mitzvah is June 15, 2013. It is important to me because it shows me that I am responsible and thoughtful for all the things I do. It also shows what I need to do to become an adult. To me, being Jewish shows that I am special. It’s important to know what is right and what is wrong. In that way you can learn or understand what it’s like to become an adult by doing good things, like for example, being honest.

For my Bar Mitzvah project I have lunch at my school every Wednesday with a group of kids that have problems; it’s called Circle of Friends. There I help kids that have problems by playing games or just hanging out with them. I am happy to become an adult by doing responsible things that I can do and help my family in the future.

Thank you & yasher koach to Sandy Leon and RuthAnn Rossman who worked so hard to make this year’s Passover Seder a great success. Everything was wonderful!

Rabbi Michele & Sandy Leon
"Shavuot" or “Shavuos” is the next holiday we’ll celebrate, on May 15-16. While originally it was a harvest holiday, the rabbis of the talmudic period gave this holiday a new historical connection – namely that it celebrates the giving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai. This is a powerful and meaningful image which strengthens our connection to the Torah and to generations past and it becomes as if we, too, are actually receiving the Torah ourselves!

The Torah is our most sacred object for it contains our holy teachings, our sacred stories, our covenant with God. One Chassidic teacher wrote, “We study Torah for no other reason than this: that by studying Torah we might become Torah.” In other words, we study to learn and to be uplifted by our religious and moral teachings. The Zohar, the main book of Jewish mysticism, notes, “If you study the Torah, you are joined to the Tree of Life” (152b).

As we approach the Shavuot holiday, I hope you will renew and strengthen your commitment to Jewish life, values and learning. Read a Jewish book, study a little Torah, come by the synagogue and be an active part of Jewish life in Simi Valley. We will be having Shabbat services throughout the summer – I hope to see you!

Rabbi Michele
OPPORTUNITIES for Involvement:

- ATTEND Shabbat services
- ESTABLISH a spiritual and emotional bond with Judaism and the Jewish people through home rituals.
- ENRICH your knowledge with Rabbi Michele, guest speakers and adult education
- PROMOTE AND SUPPORT Jewish life in Simi and Moorpark through:
  - Sisterhood
  - Men’s Club
  - Havurah
  - Choir
  - Preschool/Religious School
  - Religious and Community Services

There were many exciting and successful events during the past two months.

1. We participated in “Passover in the Matzo Aisle.” Albertsons graciously hosted this event and allowed us to take over their Passover foods section. Many temple members showed up and purchased their Passover needs. We also reached out to people who were not aware that there is a thriving temple community in Simi Valley.

2. Temple members and non-members attended the Passover Survival Workshop. It was very well-received, although attendance was sparse. Next time we will increase our publicity so more people in the community will be aware.

3. The annual Temple Community Seder, held on the 2nd night of Passover, was well-attended and enjoyed by all. Rabbi Michele conducted a wonderful Seder. Thank you to Sandy Leon and her crew for the set up, serving, clean up, and everything else that goes into hosting such a lovely evening.

There are two upcoming events:

1. The next temple program will be hosted with the La Dor Va Dor chapter of Hadassah of Simi Valley. On Sunday, May 5, the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) will be doing a presentation, “Securing Justice for a Century,” at the temple at 1:00 PM. Donation - $5. (see flyer on page 7)

2. The Temple Board Installation Dinner will be held sometime in May.

RuthAnn Rossman
VP Programs

We are coming up on the last two months of school. It’s hard to believe, but the students will be getting ready to graduate and move on to their next grade. Please join us on May 31 as we honor our graduates (Jordan Levine, Hanna Moss, Mitchell Resnick, Rachael Rosenstein, and Jack Stafford), and honor our dedicated staff.

We will also honor our amazing volunteers. Brandon Enright, Lillian Knecht, Joshua Moss, and Ryan Rosenstein spent nearly every weekend helping in the Religious School office, schlepping & fetching, copying, filing, running errands, and helping in the classrooms. Kellie Elhai also came in many times to help. We couldn’t manage without the help of these generous young people.

Also join us on May 3 as our fourth and fifth grade students lead the service, showing us their new tallises and siddurim. And you won’t want to miss the Confirmation of Evan Gering, Eliana Plotkin and Steven Sherden at a special Shavuot/ Shabbat service on May 17, led by the students of the Judaica High School. This is always a stirring experience.

In case you don’t know, there is no line item in the CBE budget for books and supplies; all these must be purchased from the School Fund, which is supported by donations and fundraising. Our main purchases are Judaica and Hebrew text books and Jewish educational and crafting materials, and these can be expensive. Thank you to those people who participated in the Promise Haggadah Fundraiser. Every dollar helps! We will begin our annual honey fundraiser in mid-May. Keep your eye on the weekly Emails and the CBE website for more information and a link to our storefront!

We are also planning a Bunko Night Fundraiser in June. Please support our efforts, and keep the School Fund in mind when you are making donations in honor or memory of someone. We appreciate all your thoughtfulness in being partners with us in giving our students the best possible Jewish education.

Sincere Regards,

Jen Rosenstein
VP of Religious Schools

There are two exciting events:

- THE WOMEN OF CBE general meeting
- LADIES NIGHT OUT

Tuesday June 11
6:00 PM
Location TBD

Check your mail & email for details!
### Oneg Sponsors

**March 1**  
Sharlene Pass in memory of Rose Pass & Alvin Pass  
The Rosenstein family in honor of Rachael’s birthday  

**March 8**  
Rick & Carole Fineberg in honor of their new grandson, Harris Ilan Ringel  
Sylvia LeVine in memory of Joseph Weissbrod  
The Rosado family in honor of Earl’s birthday  
The Bienenfeld-Mutal family in honor of Michael’s birthday  

**March 15**  
Laura Tepfer in honor of the CBE Preschool  
Sylvia LeVine in honor of her husband Ron’s birthday  
Shelly Botan in honor of her birthday  
Ronnye Sacks in memory of her father, Daniel Small  
Irwin Cohen in honor of the birthdays of Adam & Irwin  
CBE choir in honor of the birthday of the great & powerful Irwin Cohen  

**March 22**  
The family of Jacob Schleien in honor of his bar mitzvah  
Sandy Melnick in honor of Stan’s birthday  
Sylvia & Ron LeVine in memory of Sylvia’s mom Lisa Weissbrod  
Michael Russ in honor of Merle’s birthday  

**March 29**  
Laurie Crites in memory of her mother Gloria Rifkin  
Michael Mutal in honor of Julie singing a solo during the service  
The Rosenstein family in honor of: Jen’s birthday  
The Sternberg family in memory of Judy’s mother Ruth Rapaport  

**April 5**  
The Ribstein family in memory of Nessine Ribstein  
The York family in memory of Arthur Korn  

**April 12**  
Suzanne Epstein in honor of the birthdays of Kenneth Epstein & Jackson Parker Epstein  
Sharlene Pass in memory of Phyllis Pass  
Meridith Patera in memory of Kate Shaw  
Alan & Linda Mann in memory Alan’s sister Miriam Mann & uncle Simon Mitchel  
The Moss family in honor of Joshua’s birthday  

**April 19, 2013**  
The family of Jack Stafford in honor of his bar mitzvah  
Meridith Patera in honor of Dan & Geri Brandler’s 43rd anniversary  
Cathy Holst in honor of the birthday of her daughter Michelle  

**April 26, 2013**  
Kathy Smith in honor of her mom Minnie Anzo’s birthday  

### Sisterhood Installation Dinner

**Alice Fiducia and Julia Farago enjoy dinner**  

**New officers are installed.**
This is my first of many columns for our CBE newsletter as the President of the Women of CBE, and I am very excited and grateful for this opportunity. I also want to thank Penny Neugroschl for her service for the past two years, as well as to welcome the new board who will be joining me. While I have your attention I’d also like to invite any women who have not yet been to a Sisterhood event, to join us and see how much fun we have!

As we finish up Spring and head into Summer, I’m so excited to tell you about our upcoming program to be held on Tuesday May 14th at 7:00 pm. This is not only going to be a Sisterhood event, but an event for the entire community!

We are very fortunate to have Martha Miller performing a one-woman show here at CBE. Martha is a renowned entertainer who mesmerizes audiences with her spot-on impersonations of world figures. On May 14th she will be in character as Anne Frank for her entire performance! This is a free event for the entire community, so please let your family and friends know about this special night! We’d like to show our appreciation to Martha by having as many people from our congregation and community here as possible. (See flyer below left)

Every month there is something new, fun and informative to experience with the Women of CBE, and we truly look forward to seeing many of you soon! If you have any questions or comments, you may reach me at: janine.enright@yahoo.com.

Shalom,

Janine Enright
President of the Women of CBE

Sisterhood members attended the regional YES Tea. (left to right) Ronnye Sacks, Janine Enright, Fredyce Holland, RuthAnn Rossman, Pam Marshall, Geri Brandler

The Women of CBE Present

ANNE FRANK: HIDING AND WRITING
Martha Abbey Miller performs Anne Frank

Tuesday, May 14
7 PM
Congregation B’nai Emet
9 West Bonita Drive
Simi Valley, CA 93065
FREE OF CHARGE
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Martha Abbey Miller is a writer and a dramatist of one-woman shows about women of historical importance. Learn more about her at http://marthaabbeymiller.com.

Anne Frank: Hiding and Writing
Our generation, and the next, cannot lose the significance of Anne’s story. Now, you and your young people can experience Anne’s story in a fresh and impactful way.

Come inside Anne’s life, and come inside her heart. Savor the hope and maturity of this talented young writer, hiding in Amsterdam, amidst the terror of Germany’s occupation and persecution of the Jewish people.

Appropriate for mature elementary-aged children, middle school, and above.

RSVP to:
Sylvia LeVine, 805.582.0147 or boliviansylvia@roadrunner.com or Ronnye Sacks, rehsacks@att.net or 805.527.2036 or Cathy Holst, catherine3484@yahoo.com

LA DOR VA DOR
HADASSAH
INVITES YOU TO AN AFTERNOON FEATURING

ADL 100
SECURING JUSTICE FOR A CENTURY:
ADL AT 100
A Report from ADL Associate Regional Director Ariella Schusterman

As ADL celebrates its Centennial year, we will explore 100 years of anti-Semitism in the U.S. by looking through the lens of ADL’s work over this century and how vitally important our work still is. In an effort to ensure the next generation is equipped to identify and respond to anti-Semitism, ADL is creating a greater awareness of one of the world’s oldest forms of prejudice.

SUNDAY
MAY 5TH 2013
1:00PM – 4:00PM

$5.00 Donation

For More Information Contact
Sherry Lowenstein (818) 480-4480
CBE Religious School students attend Yom HaShoa commemoration at the Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust.

Jack Stafford listens to a talk by a survivor

Rachel Rosenstein and others observe the ceremonies.

Lillian Knecht puts a prayer into the memorial wall.

Join us for Special Shabbat Services!
You won’t want to miss these amazing student-led services!

May 3 - 7:00 PM
Shabbat Evening Service led by the Fourth & Fifth Grade Classes. Fourth Graders will wear the tallisim they made; Fifth Graders will receive their personal siddurim.

May 25 - 8:00 PM
CONFIRMATION of Evan Gering, Eliana Plotkin & Steven Sherden
Shabbat/Shavuot Evening Service led by students of the Judaica High School Class

May 31 - 7:00 PM
Shabbat Family Service
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL GRADUATION & STAFF APPRECIATION
Join us as the 7th Grade Class leads the service and CBE honors our dedicated Religious School staff.

CBE Religious School Calendar for Remainder of the School Year

MAY
3 – Fourth & Fifth Grade Students Shabbat service: Siddur & tallit presentations, 7 PM
5 - SUNDAY SCHOOL-SESSION #28
6 - JUDAICA HIGH SCHOOL-SESSION #28
12 - NO SCHOOL - MOTHERS’ DAY
13 - JUDAICA HIGH SCHOOL-SESSION #29
17 - Confirmation/Judaica High class
Shabbat service – 8 PM
19 - SUNDAY SCHOOL-SESSION #29
20 - JUDAICA HIGH SCHOOL-SESSION #30
31 - Teacher Appreciation, 7th Grade Promotion
Shabbat Service-7 PM

JUNE
2 - SUNDAY SCHOOL-SESSION #30
(All Sixth Graders must attend B’nai Mitzvah Class)
“Mi Chamocha” play at family Shabbat
(actual title “Nachshon”)

Out with the Old, In with the New
CBE recently purchased new pews for our sanctuary. We were also able to sell the old ones. The transition went smoothly and new pews are in picture below.

Join us for a Shabbat service and sit in cushioned comfort!
Annual Purim Fundraiser

Monte Carlo Night

A good time was had by all, and a nice sum of money was raised for CBE

And of course FOOD!
Birthdays

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Anniversaries

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<td>Dr. Chen Mu-Forster</td>
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Recent Donations

**Building Fund Donations**
- Ronnye Sacks – in memory of Daniel Small
- Lloyd and Carole Picker – in memory of Curtis Picker

**Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund**
- Michael and Merle Russ – in memory of Oscar Keimom

**Memorial Donations**
- Sheldon and Joan Liebmann – in memory of Jacob Landau,
  Gail Lenore Shapiro and Joyce Alexman
- Steve and Raye Charton – in memory of Helen Rogen
- Lawrence and Marsha Kaufman – in memory of Rose Kaufman
- Anthony and Laura Luskin – in memory of Aron Pichkhadze
- Nate and Margaret Nusbaum – in memory of Shirley Nusbaum
- Guenter and Gayle Menke – in memory of Marie Menke
- Marvin and Sandra Sussman – in memory of Lewis Greene
- Marianne Susman – in memory of Leslie Goldhammer
- Mitchell and Lynn Salberg – in memory of Burton Borrok
- Peppi Lamm – in memory of Irving Lamm

**Tribute Donations**
- Sharlene Pass – in honor of Rabbi Michele’s Birthday

**Religious School Donations**
- Sheldon and Joan Liebmann – in memory of Bertha Liebmann

**Preschool/Education Building Fund**
- Ken and Suzanne Epstein – in memory of Mary Hollander

**Preschool**
- Steven and Holly York – in memory of Alexa Wiener

**General Donations**
- Paul and Sandy Rosenfeld
- Shirley Di Francisco
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**Condolences to:**
Penny Neugroschl and her family on the loss of her daughter-in-law, Sue Neugroschl. Sue was the wife of Scott Neugroschl, mother of Sara and Robin, sister-in-law of Lori (Bob) Sherden and aunt of nephews Steven and Jeff.

The Stafford Family on the passing of their grandmother.

The Sternberg Family on the passing of Judy’s mother, Ruth Rapaport.

Please check the current Yahrzeit information on the data sheet you received in your membership packet. Verify its accuracy and call the office with any changes or new Yahrzeit information.

During the year, you will receive reminders for upcoming Yahrzeit dates. We want to have complete and accurate information.

Call Michael Hollander with any questions regarding Yahrzeit data.

Thank you.

**How to observe a Yahrzeit at C.B.E.**

Light a 24-hour memorial candle in your home at sundown on the evening that begins the yahrzeit (aniversery of death.) It is also customary to attend Shabbat services at Temple and recite the Kaddish. At Congregation B’hai Emet, names of your loved ones are read on the Friday evening before the Yahrzeit. If you observe the Gregorian (English) date, the name will be read following the yahrzeit date. It is suggested that you make a contribution to the Temple so that the memory of your loved one can be honored with an act of love and kindness.
Please join The Samaritan Center for its inaugural event
"RIDING FOR HOPE" -- The 1st annual Bike Ride for the Homeless.
Whether you are a seasoned rider or beginner, there is a route for everyone!
Adults will receive a goodie bag and kids under 18 will receive a finisher’s medal ribbon.
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For more information or to register, go to http://rideforthelhomeless.org/
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For more information
**Schedule of Services, Candle lightings, & Torah Portions**

*Candle Lighting Times are for Simi Valley Area*

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>Korach—Num. 16:1-18:32</td>
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<td>Pinchas—Num. 25:10-30:1</td>
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**Congregation B’nai Emet**

P.O. Box 878
Simi Valley, CA 93062-0878

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**Chai Lites Bi-Monthly Newsletter**

Volume 34 Issue 4

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---Please do not delay delivery---