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Mar-Apr, 2017  
Adar-NisanIyar, 5777

Volume 38, Issue 3

Congregation B'nai Emet

# C.B.E. Chai Lites



## Rabbi's Message

### "Miracles"

**Shalom Chaverim!**

"Anyone who doesn't believe in miracles is not a realist" is one of my favorite quotes, spoken by David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first prime minister and a tremendous leader. On a much smaller scale, this applies to us and our "little shul that could!" We now have a kitchen with a sink, new counters, beautiful new front doors and a newly planted drought-tolerant garden in the front planters. It's exciting to bring to fruition some of the many improvements we have in mind for our facility to make it more beautiful, comfortable and welcoming. A huge thank you to so many of you for your help. (And, of course, if you want to donate to a specific project... you know who to talk to!)

As I write to you, I'm currently in Israel, participating with sixteen others from eight different countries in a leadership training program sponsored by the Reform Movement. The people are mostly lay people or Board members from their communities here to improve their leadership skills and also to learn about the Reform movement and its many fascinating projects in Israel. Not only have we met many leaders of the Reform movement here and learned that there are now 50 Reform congregations, we've also seen several social justice or "Tikkun Olam" projects happening which are very encouraging. We visited a combined Jewish-Bedouin-Arab elementary school in Be'er Sheva, where the students learn in both Hebrew and Arabic, met an asylum seeker from Darfur, and visited a school for developmentally-disabled children. There are many layers to both the history and the society – as I've learned, the basic response is "it's complicated." One speaker told us "in this region, everything is political; even hummus and pita is politics!"

I look forward to sharing with you some of the things I've seen and learned, aspects of Israel that I haven't directly experienced before. While "it's complicated," Israel as a modern country is still young, developing, stretching, growing and changing. Shabbat Shalom from Kibbutz Yahel, the Reform Kibbutz in the far south of the Negev.

**Shalom and Chag Samaech!**  
**Rabbi Michele Paskow**



*Beautiful community room on the Reform Kibbutz Yahel in the Negev desert*



*Two young Bedouin girls participating with Jewish Israelis in a gap-year social work program, learning about each other's language and culture.*



*Western Wall pluralistic prayer space*



*Israel is ready for Purim!  
The Hamantaschen ("oznei Haman" as they are referred to there) are overflowing!*

## Board of Directors and Affiliates

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**The minutes of CBE Board Meetings  
are available to all members in  
the Temple office**

**Black and white copies of the  
newsletter are also available in  
the Temple office**

## Bulletin Bytes

### Save the date:

#### Shabbat Across America:

**Friday, March 3** - 7 PM service  
followed by a delicious Oneg Shabbat  
and Israeli dancing with instructor Jane.  
(See page 4)

**Friday March 10** - PURIM service and  
Megillah reading, 7 PM. Wear a  
costume (win a prize!). Purim story  
pantomimed by our Religious School  
students. (See page 4)

#### Community Passover Seder

Second night of Passover, Tuesday,  
April 11 at the Temple. Bring family  
and friends. Children are welcome  
(See page 9)



### Thank you! Todah Rabbah!

- To the Ranelletti Family for their  
gorgeous donation of our TuBishevat  
planting in front of the building in honor  
of Lauren's Bat Mitzvah. Check it out.

- To the Sisterhood for the donation to  
the Temple from the funds raised by the  
sale of High Holiday prayer books.

- To the Men's Club for the donation to  
the Building Fund.

- To Steve and RuthAnn Rossman for  
installing the kitchen counters and  
cabinets.

- To Tom Cleantis for donating the  
kitchen cabinets.

- To all of our Tu Bishevat planters.

- To the family of Penny Neugroschl  
and a generous friend for the new entry  
doors and windows.

- To Steve Rossman for installing the  
beautiful new ceiling lights. "May a new  
light shine on CBE...!"

YASHER KOACH to our CBE family  
for supporting our Temple and our  
improvement projects.



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## President's Message

This has been a crazy winter. We are getting more rain than I can remember, and I am hopeful for a few sunny weekends this Spring. As the calendar turns to March and April, our Temple continues with its busy schedule as we prepare to celebrate Purim and Passover, in addition to our weekly services. We kick off March with a fun family Shabbat filled with Israeli dancing and special oneg. We also celebrate Purim with a special Shabbat service, so you can dust off your favorite costume and join us for hamentashen. For those of you looking for a night of music and dancing, the Women of CBE are holding their annual Purim event.



The biggest holiday this Spring, however, is Passover. Research tells us that Passover is the most beloved and celebrated Jewish holiday of the year. Why is this? It's the food, of course! Who doesn't love matzah! Passover is my favorite holiday, because I am able to spend time with my family and friends over a nice relaxing dinner and four glasses of wine. I find the secret to a good Seder is using large wine glasses.

Passover is also an opportunity to celebrate as a community. I invite you to come to the Community Second Night Seder on Tuesday, April 11th. Our VP's of Programs, Sandy Miller and Alan Mann, will put together a memorable Seder and an enjoyable evening. If you have not attended a Temple Seder before, or if it's been a while since you last attended, I encourage you to consider joining us this year to observe the second night. The best part is **no cooking**, and **no kitchen cleaning**. So, come, relax, enjoy, and join in community.

Shalom,

*Ryan Richmond*

## A MEDITATION FOR THE MONTH OF PURIM (ADAR)

By Rabbi Marc Gellman

Dear God,

Thank you for laughter. Nothing so burdens the work of religious people as the notion that all things religious are pious and sober, serious and stern, boring and forbidding. On Purim we remember that ours is a religion of joy and that You seek to be served in joy, *ivdu adonai b'simcha*. Our world is so full of despair, sorrow, tragedy, and mournfulness. Help us, therefore, to nurture and deepen our ability to laugh and sing, to dance and exult in whatever blessings we encounter on our road to You. Laughter and joy are, after all, not mere diversions, but the only antidote to the terror of existence. A smile is, after all, the way hope forms itself on the human face, and laughter is, in the end, the way the soul speaks Your kindness into this wounded world. HAPPY PURIM!

## Cantor's Message

by Cantor Michael Russ



### BALANCE

I was trying to think of something important to write for this article. The subject I had in mind was "Balance in our lives". I searched for important and wise council from our rich Jewish heritage. Instead I found these quotes:

- "Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving." - Albert Einstein
- TODAY'S MODERN WOMAN:  
Clean house  
Healthy dinner on the table  
Fit, trim and well groomed  
Works full time  
Laundry done and put away  
Wonderful romantic life  
**Pick two of the above.**
- Some days you eat salads and go to the gym.  
Some days you eat cupcakes & refuse to put on pants. It's called BALANCE.
- I really need a day between Saturday & Sunday.
- Don't stop playing because you are getting old.  
You get old because you stop playing.
- Never get so busy making a living that you forget to make a life.
- Life is a balance of holding on and letting go.
- "To succeed in life you need three things: A wishbone, a backbone and a funny bone." - Reba McEntire.

Some days I amaze myself. Other days I put the laundry in the oven.

Come and join us for Shabbat and other holidays to take the time to think about finding the balance in your life.

## Men's Club

The Men's Club meets for breakfast at 9:15 AM on the first Sunday of the month and on the second Sunday of the month at The Junkyard Café, 2585 Cochran Street, Simi Valley. For more info or to RSVP, call **Alan Mann, (805) 341-3836** or write to [alanmann60@att.net](mailto:alanmann60@att.net)



## Executive Vice President

Hello everyone,

I hope you have noticed the new entryway doors and windows. These new additions to the Temple building could not have been possible without earmarked donations from two sources. (1) Alice Fiducia donated the money for the windows and window related work. (2) The children of Penny Neugroschl (Lori Sheldon, Cindy Scherr, and Scott Neugroschl) donated the money for the doors in memory of their mother Penny.

In addition to donating money for the windows, Alice has funded the light fixture replacement with the physical labor of Steve Rossman replacing the fixtures. Thank you Steve! The improvement provides better lighting as well as a more modernized appearance.

As you can see, with the help of donations and work from people, the improvements can make a difference to our facility. The Building Improvement Committee continues to need help from members who (1) have knowledge of building interior construction work (or willing to help with research, obtaining bids, and seeing through the completion of a project) or (2) literate in computer internet/websites to begin and maintain the operation of a crowdfunding website. The idea of the crowdfunding website is a way the Temple can tap into some external funding opportunities so we can replace the flooring throughout and restrooms.

On the subject of donations, we appreciate all the donations coming in. We do need to ask those wishing to donate to the building improvement fund to specify "building improvement" on the donation. Marilyn Hollander or Les Sutton should not have to contact people to determine donation intent. This does not provide for efficient use of the Temple's limited resources. One important area, not associated with the Building Improvement Committee, is building maintenance and repairs. This includes issues involving the on-going operating costs of having a building. For example, plumbing or air-conditioning maintenance and repairs—are examples of building maintenance and repairs. I think we all can agree that without building maintenance and repairs, the facility could suddenly find itself without water (which already happened last Thanksgiving), air conditioning, or other issues. Therefore, any donations indicating "building maintenance" will go into the fund that pays for building maintenance and repairs. Donations indicating "building improvement" will go into the fund for which the Building Improvement Committee has oversight: Projects to improve the facility.

If anyone has any questions regarding the Building Improvement Committee or other Temple needs, please call me; or when you see me, let's talk about it.

**Debbie Knecht**

Executive Vice President, Board of Directors  
Congregation B'nai Emet



Join us at CBE for



## SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA

Friday March 3 - 7 pm

Family Shabbat service,

followed by a special Oneg Shabbat dessert  
& Israeli Dancing, led by Jane Bernard



*Sponsorship of the dancing is available - speak with Rabbi Michele for more info.*

CONGREGATION B'NAI EMET  
9 WEST BONITA

SIMI VALLEY, CA 93065

INFO & TO RSVP:

(805)581-3723 OR BNAIEMET@RAIN.ORG  
congregationbnaiemet.org

*"Turn an ordinary Friday night into something extraordinary!"*

That's the magic of Shabbat Across America. By participating in this continent wide event, you will not only have the opportunity to experience Shabbat, but you will be sharing your experience with tens of thousands of Jews across North America.

**MARCH 10** **PURIM SERVICE** **7 PM**  
**פורים**

**Costume Parade & Contest with prizes for all!**

CBE Religious School students, terrorized by the evil Haman, will  
present a pantomime of the Purim story!  
Purim sing-along!  
Megillah reading!  
Hamantaschen & other goodies!

Congregation B'nai Emet, 9 W. Bonita Dr.,  
Simi Valley 805.581.3723



## Women of CBE

**Rabbi Michele was in Israel in February** and sent me an email with two pictures attached, writing "Look where I'm spending Shabbat." I opened the first picture. It was a herd of cows. They were very nice cows, and I studied the picture long and hard to figure out what they had to do with Shabbat. I finally gave up and opened the second picture, and it was so exciting! She was standing next to a sign at a Reform kibbutz near Eilat. The sign reads: **Welcome to MA'AYAN B'MIDBAR, A project of the WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM, The Federation of Temple Sisterhoods.** I was so proud to be even a small part of this amazing gift to Israel. You can view the picture on the CBE website, the CBE Facebook page, and Page 1 of this newsletter. I didn't post the cows.

In January we presented CBE with a check for \$4,176.00, the profits from the High Holiday Fundraiser we've been operating for the temple. Your contributions matter! **Support for sisterhood is support for CBE, as well as for Jews all over the world.**

The Women of CBE will be having our major fundraiser, the annual Purim Ball, on March 10. This year's theme is

"A Night at the Oasis" and features a delicious Middle Eastern banquet, music, dancing, raffles, a silent auction, and lots of surprises. Maybe you'll find the Treasure of King Solomon's Mine!

**Fundraising co-VPs Ronnye Sacks, Cathy Holst, and Sylvia LeVine**, along with their committee members, have been hard at work to make this the best dinner dance ever, and we appreciate your support. Remember, **there is a discount if you reserve by March 6.**

Our January 10 meeting, was very well-attended by men, women and kids. Guest speaker Stephen Epstein (Suzanne's son), of the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory Media Office, presented an entertaining program on new frontiers in space.

**Thank you to Suzanne, Stephen, and Programs co-VP Tracie Breiter** for their dedication and hard work this year to bring us a wonderful year of sisterhood programming.

In February, **Rabbi Michele** led our famous **Tu B'Shvat Seder**, featuring **Tami Plotkin's** celebrated etrog liqueur, with women of all ages. **Suzanne Mahler** led songs in her lovely voice, and once again, Tami & Suzanne Epstein, along with Ronnye and Cathy, did a magnificent and delectable job of setting it all up.

We will have an exercise instructor to

teach us to de-stress at our March meeting at the temple. We'll also have our board elections. **The board installation will be on April 18, and on April 21 will be Sisterhood Shabbat.**

Thank you to the outgoing Board members for all their diligence and generosity. I'm not going to name them because I'm still hoping they'll take new board or committee positions. **No pressure, but we'll really miss having you ladies at our board meetings!** Of course, if anyone is interested in a position on the new board or committees, contact us. Knowing that we will be under the indefatigable leadership of **new President RuthAnn Rossman**, I'm happy to leave the leadership of the Women of CBE in her very capable hands.

**Haven't joined yet? Contact Cheryl Hirsch or Kathy Smith for a prorated membership** through August. It's never too late to join us for the excitement, but Sisterhood is there for you, whether you are a member or not. Just let us know what you need from us and we'll do our very best! We are stronger together, working to help CBE, the Jewish community, and the Jewish world.

In sisterhood,  
*Meridith Patena,*

President, Women of CBE




**THE WOMEN OF CBE**  
invite you to our next  
general meeting:

**PRE-PASSOVER  
DE-STRESS**

**Learn some exercises to help  
cut down on the seder frenzy.**

**Tuesday, March 14  
7 pm at CBE**

**Taught by Eileen Cohen  
of the Simi Senior Center**



**THE WOMEN OF CBE**  
invite you to our next  
general meeting:

**SISTERHOOD  
INSTALLATION  
DINNER**

**Tuesday, April 18 at 6:30**

**Save the date; details to follow**

## How Do You Spell Fun?

57

B11

52



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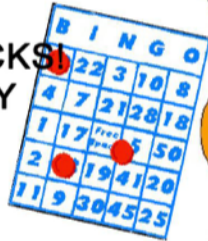
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Saturday, April 22 - 7 PM  
Congregation B'nai Emet  
9 West Bonita Drive  
Simi Valley, CA 93065  
(805) 581-3723

PRIZES! SNACKS!  
OPPORTUNITY  
DRAWINGS!



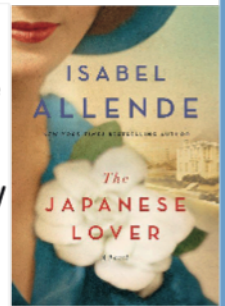
\$18 per adult  
Babysitting available:  
\$10 per child  
\$20 maximum per family

## CBE BOOKS & BAGELS

Sunday March 5, 9:30 am  
at The Corner Bakery  
Simi Town Center  
Simi Valley

RSVP: (805) 581-3723

The Japanese Lover  
by Isabel Allende  
- an exquisitely crafted love  
story and multigenerational  
epic that sweeps from San  
Francisco in the present-day  
to Poland and the United  
States during the Second  
World War.



**THE WOMEN OF CBE PRESENT:**  
**A NIGHT AT THE OASIS**

Saturday, March 11 - 6:30 P.M.  
At Congregation B'nai Emet  
9 West Bonita Drive  
Simi Valley, CA 93065  
(805) 581-3723

Middle Eastern Cuisine & Music,  
Dancing, Raffles, and Silent Auction.  
Find the Treasure of Solomon's Mine!

\$45/person.  
Early Bird Special: \$36/person  
if paid by March 6  
Includes dinner, dessert  
and beverages; wine & beer.  
For ages 18+

Pay on line or download a form at [congregationbnaiemet.org/events](http://congregationbnaiemet.org/events), or mail tear-off below to:

A Night at the Oasis  
Women of CBE  
Box 878  
Simi Valley, CA 93062



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

No Adults Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ by March 6 @ \$36 \_\_\_\_\_ after March 6 @ \$45 Total enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

### 2017 RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CALENDAR

#### MARCH

- 5 - SUNDAY SCHOOL-SESSION #21
- 6 - JUDAICA HIGH SCHOOL-SESSION #20
- 12 - SUNDAY SCHOOL-SESSION #22
- 13 - JUDAICA HIGH SCHOOL-SESSION #21
- 19 - SUNDAY SCHOOL-SESSION #23
- 20 - JUDAICA HIGH SCHOOL-SESSION #22

#### APRIL

- 2 - SUNDAY SCHOOL-SESSION #24
- 3 - JUDAICA HIGH SCHOOL-SESSION #23
- 9 - SUNDAY SCHOOL-SESSION #25
- 23 - SUNDAY SCHOOL-SESSION #26
- 24 - JUDAICA HIGH SCHOOL-SESSION #24

#### STUDENT-LED SERVICES:

- Mar. 10: 7 pm - All students - Purim
- May 5: 7 pm - All students - Yom HaAtzmaut
- June 2: 7 pm - 7th Grade - Graduation/Staff Appreciation
- June 9: 8 pm - Judaica High Service/Confirmation



Religious school  
students work on CBE  
landscaping project  
for Tu B'shevat.



Rabbi showing giant  
"etrog" to religious  
school students, staff  
and volunteers.



## ***Oneg Sponsors***

Thank you to Les & Daryl Sutton for the yummy challahs they bring each week.

### ***Jan. 6, 2016***

Zoe Venhuizen in memory of Dora Yaskiel & Zelig Daniel  
Leibl

### ***Jan. 13, 2016***

The Richter & Tepfer families in honor of Laura's birthday  
The Tepfer family in honor of Miriam Hintz's new grandson  
The Tepfer family in honor of our newest nephew, born on  
Laura's birthday  
Sharlene Pass in memory of her bubbie Anna Leader, her mother,  
Gertrude Miller, & her father, Jack Miller  
The Rossman family in honor of David's 25th birthday  
The Hollander family in honor of Marilyn's birthday  
Rachel Utiger in memory of Robert Gorelick

### ***Jan. 20, 2016***

Valerie Singh in memory of Leonard Schwartz  
Zoe Venhuizen in memory of Dora Yaskiel  
Lynne Kelly in memory of Max Rabin  
Michael & Marilyn Hollander in honor of their 30th anniversary  
The Plotkin family in memory of Mildred Plotkin  
The Edelson family in memory of David Silbersher  
Sylvia LeVine in memory of her beloved husband Ronald

### ***Jan. 27, 2016***

The Hintz family in honor of the birth of their new grandson  
Raphael  
Rabbi Shimon Paskow in memory of his father, Aron (Ben  
Menachim) Paskow  
RuthAnn Rossman in honor of Alice Fiducia's birthday  
Marty Richter in memory of Rochelle (Shelly) Richter  
Sylvia LeVine in memory of Mildred LeVine  
Minnie Anzo in memory of Hy Freeman

### ***Feb. 3, 2016***

Gayle & Gunther Menke in memory of Darrius Eugene Simpson-  
Menke  
Suzanne Mortimer Crawford Mahler in honor of her wonderful  
family

### ***Feb. 10, 2016***

The family of Lauren Ranelletti in honor of her bat mitzvah  
Marty Richter in memory of Shirley Richter  
The Tepfer family in memory of Steven Richter & Gerhard  
Heimann  
The York family in memory of Dora York

### ***Feb. 17, 2016***

The Edelson family in memory of Claire Silversher & Albert  
Edelson  
Marty Richter in memory of Steven Richter  
The Tepfer family in memory of Steven Richter  
Eliot, Judy & Matthew Epstein in memory of Nathan Brownstein  
Alan & Linda Mann in memory of Alex Mann & Jacob &  
Florence Mann

### ***Feb. 24, 2016***

Meridith Patera in memory of Ruth Wilkerson

## ***Recent Donations***

### **Building Improvement Fund Donations**

Karen and Keith Zook – in memory of Louis and Frances  
Weiss

Alice Fiducia

Michael and Merle Russ – in memory of Stuart Keimon  
and Rhoda Russ

Ronnye Sacks – in memory of Steven Sacks and Florence  
Howard

Robert and Lori Sherden – (Entryway Doors) in memory  
of Penny Neugroschl

Bella Hananel – in memory of Charles Stein

### **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund Donations**

Rabbi Shimon and Carol Paskow – (Lunch 'n' Learn  
Oneg Donation) in memory of Aron ben Menachim  
Valerie Singh – in memory of Leonard Schwartz  
Julie and Scott Ranelletti - (Gardening project) in honor  
of Lauren's Bat Mitzvah

### **Memorial Donations**

Shelah Harris – in memory of Sam Sonders  
Judith Miller – in memory of Israel Tepper

### **Religious School Donations**

Sheldon and Joan Liebmann – in memory of George  
Liebmann

### **General Donations**

Josh Blumenfeld

Richard and Brenda Hoffing

Suzanne Mahler

Vincent and Carole Nowell – in honor of the Interfaith  
Thanksgiving Service

Sheldon and Joan Liebmann – Re-piping Project Donation

CBE Men's Club – Building Maintenance Fund Donation

Women of CBE – Proceeds from High Holy Days Prayer  
Books

Amazon Smile Fundraiser Donation

## ***Sisterhood Simchas***

### ***January***

From **RuthAnn Rossman**:

Thank you Stephen Epstein for a wonderful presentation on JPL

Thank you Suzanne and Tracie for planning a great program

Thank you Tom for the kitchen cabinets

Thank you Steve for installing the cabinets

### ***February***

From **Sylvia Levine**: In honor of my son, Morrie and daughter  
in-law, Bonnie's Wedding Anniversary on February 14<sup>th</sup>. In  
honor of my great niece, Jessica's First Birthday on March 21<sup>st</sup>.  
In honor of all my Sisterhood Sisters and Honorary Sister,  
Nancy.



# Comedy Night

featuring the  
CBE Trio, Irwin Cohen  
and Comedian  
Avi Liberman



## STONE SOUP SHABBAT





## Meet Our CBE Family “Helping you get acquainted with other temple members”

### The Bahr Family:

Ken and I are happy to be part of CBE. We both grew up in and around Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. We met while out with friends at a line dancing bar and started talking about studying Hebrew. We always joke that two Jews met in a country bar and got hitched! We've been married now for almost 12 years.



We have three wonderful children. Our first, Eva, just turned eight and loves to dance and sing. Benjamin, our five year old, came next and loves to be silly and listen to Baby Einstein music. Two years ago we made the brave choice to foster a student of mine, Ian. We are so proud to be his legal guardians now and welcome him as the oldest son in our family. Nine year old Ian is a Cub Scout and loves to ride horses. Our kids loved CBE Preschool and all 3 are now in the religious school.

Ken made a career change later in life and went to CSUCI where he earned his art degree. For the past ten years he has been fortunate to turn his passion for photography into a business and is the owner of In Focus Photography and Video. Ken also loves music and plays bass in the band, Soul Kitchen. He also helps out taking pictures of temple events when he can.

Frieda went to CLU where she earned her liberal arts degree and teaching credential. She has taught for 16 years and currently teaches 2nd grade in Camarillo. Frieda is currently on the board as co-VP of Membership. In all her spare time (haha), she tries to exercise at the local Krav Maga studio and enjoys the wonderful nature and Arts opportunities we have all around us here in CA.



Congregation B'nai Emet  
cordially invites you to  
join us at our

**NJOP**

# CBE Community Seder

in conjunction with

## Passover Across America

**Led by Rabbi Michele Paskow**  
**Tuesday April 11, 6:30 pm.**  
**At Congregation B'nai Emet**  
**9 W. Bonita Dr.**  
**Simi Valley 93065**

Join us for a beautiful, lively ("heimish") Seder,  
with a delicious Kosher I'Pesach dinner.

Reservation forms to follow - check our  
website: [congregationbnaimet.org](http://congregationbnaimet.org), or call the  
Temple office for more info.: 805-581-3723

**Minyan Masters Toastmasters**

WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE

[www.toastmasters.org](http://www.toastmasters.org)

**Minyan Masters**  
**Toastmasters Kick Off Meeting**

**WHEN: Wednesday, March 1, 2017**  
**TIME: 7:00PM**  
**WHERE: Congregation B'nai Emet**  
9 W. Bonita Drive

הקשיבה Listening

"Minyan-Masters" is a new Toastmasters group forming on Wednesday nights in Simi Valley.

As Christianity and Islam are both derivatives of the Jewish faith, this will also provide a forum for those that want more background in order to fully understand these faiths. This will help people build their communication and leadership skills, while at the same time allow everyone to explore their spirituality, or discuss topics related to Jewish life, history and culture.

No previous experience necessary; no religious affiliation required; **everyone welcome!**

Does this describe you?

- Want to **learn** to speak more comfortably in front of people?
- Want to **improve** your communication and leadership skills?
- Want **personal** or **professional** growth in 2017?

Toastmasters can help!

Help us start a friendly and supportive Toastmasters Club to reach those goals.

תקשורת Communication

For more information contact:  
Alan Mann, DTM [alanmann60@att.net](mailto:alanmann60@att.net)  
805-341-3836

## Let's Celebrate



### Birthdays

March 1	Rachael Rosenstein
March 3	Mr. Jerry Bergmann
March 3	Michael Mutal
March 11	Scott Glick
March 11	Suzanne Mahler
March 12	Blaire Auerbach
March 12	Adam Cohen
March 12	Austin Lowenschuss
March 12	Jadin Lowenschuss
March 15	Felicia Auerbach
March 16	Mr. Irwin L. Cohen
March 18	Marlena Glick Robbins
March 18	Mrs. Amy Tellio
March 19	Mrs. Marla Bergmann
March 19	Rachel Nusbaum
March 19	Mr. Wayne Schultz
March 21	Mrs. Rochelle Botan
March 22	Mr. Sheldon Liebmann
March 23	Jeremy Friedman
March 24	Merle Russ
March 28	Stanley Melnick
March 29	Jacqueline Sion
March 29	Dr. Les Sutton
March 31	Mr. David Kieselbach
April 3	Maximus Doepping
April 5	Ms. Judith Miller
April 6	Ian Heuel
April 10	Joshua Moss
April 11	Mr. Todd Schneider
April 13	Mrs. Holly York
April 14	Dr. Ken Epstein
April 15	Rabbi Michele Paskow
April 16	Michelle Holst
April 18	Ms. Carol Tolchin
April 19	Mrs. Tracie Breiter
April 20	Maylee Doepping
April 21	Max Tolchin
April 25	David Bergmann
April 25	Marla Donaldson
April 25	Sean Kelly
April 25	Mr. Andrew Marder
April 28	Mr. Glen Knecht
April 30	Mrs. Renee Kieselbach

### Anniversaries

March 21	Erik and Tracie Breiter	35th
April 8	Ron and Leslie Resnick	22nd
April 10	Ken and Frieda Bahr	12th
April 10	Daniel and Geri Brandler	46th
April 15	Laura and Louis Tepfer	45th
April 27	Lesli Kitt-Perez & Gabe Perez	3rd

## Chinese Dinner and Movie - Dec. 25



## COMMUNITY CANDLELIGHTING







## Raise funds for Congregation B'nai Emet when you purchase property at Mount Sinai Simi Valley

CBE is participating in a unique fundraising program with Mount Sinai Memorial Parks and Mortuaries to raise substantial funds for the synagogue.

For a limited time, when our congregants collectively purchase ten spaces in advance of need at nearby Mount Sinai Simi Valley, Mount Sinai will donate \$1,000 per regular space (wall or ground), \$1,500 per lawn crypt (wall or ground) or \$2,000 per companion estate directly to B'nai Emet as each property is paid in full.

To schedule a confidential meeting to learn more about pre-planning and the 10/Ten Program with Mount Sinai Simi Valley, please contact Josh T. Ryan, or Eric Frank, B'nai Emet's Advance Planning Representatives:

**Josh T. Ryan**  
805.306.6411  
[jtryan@mountsinaiparks.org](mailto:jtryan@mountsinaiparks.org)

**Eric Frank**  
805.306.6410

## New Member Shabbat

*CBE welcomed new members with a special Shabbat service.*



*Rachel Utiger received a special basket from our gift shop for being CBE's 100th family member.*



## LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY FOR OUR JEWISH COMMUNITY –

### *Remember CBE in your will*

Assigning a portion of your estate to CBE is a simple way to reduce estate taxes while ensuring the growth of our Jewish community. It is a forward-thinking way of leaving a Jewish legacy. Please speak with Temple President Ryan Richmond or Treasurer Les Sutton for more information.

*Congregation B'nai Emet - Ensuring a Jewish tomorrow*

Dear Fellow Congregants:

We wanted to tell you about a special program for “before-need” property and mortuary services available for a limited time from Mount Sinai Memorial Parks and Mortuaries in Simi Valley.

Why should you even consider such a purchase? Buying cemetery property and pre-ordering mortuary services helps ease the emotional and financial burden on your loved ones at the time of need. Making rational and informed decisions about your arrangements in advance is a gift of love and support from you to your loved ones—they won't need to second-guess your wishes or deal with these difficult issues at a time when they are least prepared to do so.

When 10 (ten) single plots are purchased at Mount Sinai Memorial Park in Simi Valley for the next 12 months, **Temple B'nai Emet** will receive \$1,000.00 per space when fully paid for. If you are interested in this program, please call **Eric Frank** at (805) 306-6410 or Josh T. Ryan at (805) 306-6411. Please be sure to mention you are a member of **Temple B'nai Emet**.

By making your arrangements through this special program, you will be performing a double mitzvah: your family members will thank you for relieving them of this responsibility and you will be supporting our temple as well.

Please feel free to call me at 818-312-7266 if you have any questions. Thank you for your support.

Yours truly,

*Ruth Ann Rossman*

## Yahrzeits

Mar 1	Donald Alvarez	Adar 3
Mar 1	Mollie Winner	Adar 3
Mar 2	Jean Greenberg	Adar 4
Mar 3	Nathan Hentell	Adar 5
Mar 3	Benjamin Zimmerman	Adar 5
Mar 4	Geneva Alvarez	Adar 6
Mar 4	Robyn Libitsky	Adar 6
Mar 4	Max Perlson	Adar 6
Mar 5	Jack Trachtenberg	Adar 7
Mar 6	Abraham Shain	Adar 8
Mar 6	Isadore Sharapan	Adar 8
Mar 6	Thomas Sumner	
Mar 7	Dorothy A. Rabin	Adar 9
Mar 8	Ruth Truskin	Adar 10
Mar 9	Sue Neugroschl	
Mar 10	Fritzie Gilson	Adar 12
Mar 10	Jack Shuster	Adar 12
Mar 11	Mary Hollander	Adar 13
Mar 12	Rose Kaufman	Adar 14
Mar 12	Leo Plotkin	Adar 14
Mar 12	Serena Weiss	Adar 14
Mar 13	Marian Brandler	Adar 15
Mar 13	Max David Greenberg	Adar 15
Mar 13	Julie Heimann	Adar 15
Mar 14	Anne Klein	Adar 16
Mar 14	Nathan William Kritzer	Adar 16
Mar 14	Shirley Nusbaum	Adar 16
Mar 14	Mildred Ruth Picker	Adar 16
Mar 15	Murray Schneider	Adar 17
Mar 16	Marcia Grossman	Adar 18
Mar 17	Alvin Pass	Adar 19
Mar 19	Deborah Bass	Adar 21
Mar 19	Edward Abe Lindenbaum	Adar 21
Mar 19	Meyer Siegel	Adar 21
Mar 20	Dorothy R. Hasson	Adar 22
Mar 20	Ann Stern	Adar 22
Mar 21	Jacob Landau	Adar 23
Mar 21	Helena Marks	Adar 23
Mar 21	Sylvia Rosenzweig	Adar 23
Mar 22	Albert Edelson	Adar 24
Mar 22	Rose Pass	Adar 24
Mar 22	Emanuel "Manny" Singer	Adar 24
Mar 22	Joan Tratner	
Mar 24	Helen Kelson	Adar 26
Mar 25	Helen Rogen	Adar 27
Mar 25	Joseph Weissbrod	Adar 27
Mar 26	Lewis Greene	Adar 28
Mar 26	Gerald Schned	Adar 28
Mar 27	Alex Sutton	Adar 29
Mar 28	Bertha Brody	
Mar 28	Leah Edelson	Nissan 1
Mar 29	Shirley Bergmann	
Mar 29	Donald Nadler	Nissan 2

Mar 30	Dario Acevedo	Nissan 3
Mar 30	Aron Pichkhadze	Nissan 3
Mar 30	Nessine Ribstein	
Mar 31	Morris Glassman	Nissan 4
Mar 31	Martin Judge	Nissan 4
Apr 1	Pinnie Firestein	Nissan 5
Apr 2	Sidney Ilowitz	Nissan 6
Apr 2	Arthur Lefton	Nissan 6
Apr 2	Marie Menke	Nissan 6
Apr 2	Ruth Singer	Nissan 6
Apr 2	Julia Sutton	Nissan 6
Apr 3	Shannon Cricco	Nissan 7
Apr 4	Annette Foster	
Apr 5	Samuel "Ken" Greenberg	Nissan 9
Apr 5	Oscar Keimon	Nissan 9
Apr 5	Victor Schatz	Nissan 9
Apr 5	Daniel Small	Nissan 9
Apr 5	Moses Strassburger	
Apr 6	Harry Gordon	Nissan 10
Apr 6	Joseph Kaufman	Nissan 10
Apr 6	Iris Lefton	Nissan 10
Apr 6	Bernadine Paige	Nissan 10
Apr 7	Sidney Friedman	Nissan 11
Apr 7	Gloria Rifkin	Nissan 11
Apr 7	Marvin Steinberg	Nissan 11
Apr 10	Sandra Patricia Bailless	Nissan 14
Apr 10	Rosy Hollander	Nissan 14
Apr 11	Shirley Oliver	Nissan 15
Apr 12	Bernie Edelson	Nissan 16
Apr 12	Terry Hardin	Nissan 16
Apr 12	Trudy Jackman	
Apr 12	Janice Marder	Nissan 16
Apr 12	Lisa Weissbrod	Nissan 16
Apr 13	Irving Lamm	
Apr 15	Gail Lenore Shapiro	Nissan 19
Apr 16	Samuel Zimmerman	Nissan 20
Apr 19	Morris Davis	Nissan 23
Apr 20	Connie Friend	Nissan 24
Apr 20	Martin Mitchel	Nissan 24
Apr 21	Rae Donin	Nissan 25
Apr 21	Cliff Lazar	Nissan 25
Apr 21	Curtis Picker	Nissan 25
Apr 22	Pearl Wohlner	Nissan 26
Apr 23	Joyce Alexman	Nissan 27
Apr 23	Lillian Katell	Nissan 27
Apr 23	Herman Yager	Nissan 27
Apr 26	Arthur Irving Korn	Nissan 30
Apr 26	David Miller	Nissan 30
Apr 27	Leslie Goldhammer	Iyar 1
Apr 28	Burton Borrok	Iyar 2
Apr 28	Simon Mitchel	Iyar 2
Apr 29	Ida Axelrod	Iyar 3
Apr 29	Helen Borden	Iyar 3
Apr 30	Cathy Mae Bourland	Iyar 4
Apr 30	Helen Eichner	Iyar 4

Please check the current Yahrzeit information on the data sheet you received in 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 the temple office with any questions regarding Yahrzeit data.

Thank you.



### **How to Observe a Yahrzeit at CBE**

Light a 24-hour memorial candle in your home at sundown on the evening that begins the yahrzeit (anniversary of death.). It is also customary to attend Shabbat services at Temple and recite the Kaddish.

At Congregation B'nai 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.

## NEED A CARD? MAKE IT A DONATION !

Send a thoughtful greeting for sympathy, birthdays, congratulations, or just to reach out to someone



Cards from the Women for Reform Judaism's YES Fund go to support projects for Youth, Education and Special Projects here and in Israel, such as rabbinic training and Israeli preschools for needy children.

Each card is hand written and mailed for you; all you have to do is contact us with the information and send a check made out to Women of CBE.

Prices start at \$3.00 for a plain card and \$6.00 for a colored picture card.

Other items are available. To purchase a card, contact Lynne Kelly at [lkemo@aol.com](mailto:lkemo@aol.com)

## GIFT CARDS

**GIVE THE GIFT THAT GIVES BACK!!!**

To purchase gift cards, contact Gift Card Chair Bobbie Sion at [sionfam@gmail.com](mailto:sionfam@gmail.com) or leave a message at the temple: (805) 581-3723

Go to <http://www.congregationbnaiemet.org/sisterhood.php>

For a printable gift card order form listing all the many cards you can order.

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*Poole Your Effort!*  
Broker Associate  
CalBRE 01058326

E-Mail: [JoAnn@JoAnnPoole.com](mailto:JoAnn@JoAnnPoole.com)  
Web: [www.JoAnnPoole.com](http://www.JoAnnPoole.com)

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Call Temple office For more  
information



## GIVE THE GIFT THAT GIVES BACK!



### 3 Easy Ways to Earn for Our Group

1. Sign Up/Add Cards
2. eScrip Online Mall
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*Click to learn how!*

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Click here for more info: <http://congregationbnaiemet.org/sisterhood.php>

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## YOUR FAMILY IS PRECIOUS TO YOU

Plan ahead with a gift of love for  
those you care about most.

Congregation Bnai Emet Advance Planning Representatives

Eric Frank  
805-306-6410  
efrank@mountsinaiparks.org

Josh T. Ryan  
805-306-6411  
jtryan@mountsinaiparks.org



Simi Valley FD 1745 6150 Mount Sinai Drive, Simi Valley CA 93063  
Hollywood Hills FD 1010 5950 Forest Lawn Drive Los Angeles CA 90068  
[www.mountsinaiparks.org](http://www.mountsinaiparks.org) 800-600-0076  
Dedicated to the entire Jewish community as a service of Sinai Temple of Los Angeles.

## ATTENTION

CALLING ALL INDIVIDUALS WITH KNOWLEDGE OF  
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OR

LITERATE IN COMPUTER INTERNET/WEBSITES

To serve on the Temple Building Improvement Committee. Do you want to see the Temple's interior design, aesthetic, improved? Do you want to be part of the fund oversight, making sure donations are spent wisely?

Then the Temple Building Improvement Committee is the place for you.

THE TEMPLE NEEDS YOUR HELP!!!!

Contact Debbie Knecht (805) 368-2571 - cell# or





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## *Schedule of Services, Candle lightings, and Torah Portions*

Date	Candle Lighting	Service	Torah Portion
Mar 3/6 Adar	5:35 PM	Family Service 7 PM	Teruma-Exodus 25:1 - 27:19
Mar 10/ 13 Adar	5:41 PM	Shabbat Service 8 PM	Tetzaveh-Exodus 27:20 - 30:10
Mar 17/ 20 Adar	6:47 PM	Shabbat Service 8 PM	Ki Tisa-Exodus 30:11 - 34:35
Mar 24/27 Adar	6:52 PM	Shabbat Service 8 PM	Vayakhel-Pekudei-Exodus 35:1- 40:38
Mar 31/Nisan 5	6:58 PM	Shabbat Service 8 PM	Va'yikra-Leviticus 1:1 - 5:26
Apr 7 /Nisan 12	7:03 PM	Family Service 7 PM	Tzav-Leviticus 6:1 - 8:36
Apr 14/Nisan 19	7:08 PM	Shabbat Service 8 PM	<i>Pesach -Special Readings</i>
Apr 21/Nisan 26	7:14 PM	Shabbat Service 8 PM	Shmini-Leviticus 9:1 - 11:47
Apr 28/Iyar 3	7:19 PM	Shabbat Service 8 PM	Tazria-Metzora-Leviticus 12:1-15:33

**GO TO OUR WEBSITE: CONGREGATIONBNAIEMET.ORG**

OR VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE- <https://www.facebook.com/cbesimi/> TO TO SEE OUR ACTIVITES AND WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR TEMPLE  
CONTACT MERIDITH TO RECEIVE WEEKLY EMAIL UPDATES. [m spatara@earthlink.net](mailto:m spatara@earthlink.net)



**Congregation B'nai Emet**  
**P.O. Box 878**  
**Simi Valley, CA 93062-0878**

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