Rabbi’s Message

Spiritual Fitness in the New Year

Dear Friends –

As we start a new year, we generally make resolutions to work harder on our financial, diet and exercise goals. This year, I would like to challenge you to work on your spiritual fitness in addition to improving your physical fitness. After all, they go hand in hand!

Think of spiritual fitness as fine tuning your appreciation of the beauty and holiness of life. From a Jewish perspective I would interpret this to mean finding the spiritual side, or godliness in our everyday lives and deeds. This can be done by reciting a traditional prayer or your own personal words in the morning upon awakening, or at night before going to sleep, reflecting on what you are grateful for from the day. Saying a prayer, or a positive thought is a way to shift our focus on to what is right, rather than what is wrong. Working on spiritual fitness can also be taking a moment in the day to mindfully notice something special or beautiful – a precious child, a special friend, a lovely animal or other aspect of nature. Making the effort to celebrate Shabbat and holidays with family or friends is another way to deepen spiritual fitness. When we celebrate Shabbat together as a community, we create a special sacred time, with holy words, positive meditations, uplifting, soulful music, and come away renewed and refreshed. Practicing spiritual fitness can enrich your life and help you to be more resilient to some of the many challenges that come along. As we start 2013, take the spiritual fitness challenge. I’ll look for you at CBE!

Here is a Prayer for the Journey for the new year by Rabbi Sheryl Lewart:

We move towards insight and clarity, awareness, appreciation, and transformation. 
Hear our prayer – spoken or whispered or thought in the stillness of our souls.
May we find blessings - life, joy and peace.
May we find what we seek.  Amen

Shalom and Be Well!
Rabbi Michele Paskow

ADULT EDUCATION

ADULT HEBREW READING FOR B’NAI MITZVAH will be taught by Rabbi Michele on Sunday mornings beginning Jan. 13th. The class will be a 5-session seminar taught at North Campus (religious school site) from 11-11:45. Rabbi will review the Hebrew alphabet and teach the prayers recited in synagogue each week.

WHAT DO WE SAY WHEN WE PRAY? Part 2 will be taught by School Administrator Meridith Patera on 5 Monday evenings, starting Jan. 14, 7:35-8:45 PM, at the Temple. Meridith will cover many different prayers. No background is needed.

The fee is $36 per class or $50 for both.

To register, contact Rabbi Michele: rav.michal@verizon.net  

(See page 8)
On behalf of the temple board, I want to wish all the congregants a very happy new year. Your board is working hard to keep the synagogue moving forward with lots of activities and much to anticipate. One important task the board is working on is refinancing the temple’s mortgage. When we closed escrow on the Bonita property, we needed a relatively small mortgage to complete the transaction. Even though we diligently shopped conventional bank loans, it was difficult to find an institution willing to lend to a religious organization. They are reluctant to do so for fear they might have to foreclose on God someday. That makes for a very ugly PR image, so most pass on the opportunity. The escrow date was fast approaching, so we were forced to go with a private lender at a little higher rate. That 8.5% rate was not too horrible back then, but now it seems very out of place.

Currently, board member Nirit Levy is working hard on a new conventional bank loan with a much lower rate. At the same time, former board member, Eric Bordo is researching a private lender who specializes in church & temple loans, also at an attractive rate. I feel very positive about our chances of landing a new loan at a rate about half of what we have now. In fact, currently, our payment is only going toward interest, so a new loan will allow us to pay interest as well as chiseling away at the principle balance. We have been told by mortgage professionals that our loan to value ratio is excellent – our property is worth about 2.5 million and our current mortgage is $500,000. Since this will be a commercial loan, it will end up costing us points and fees, such as an appraisal and environmental review, but over time it will be a cost saver for the mortgage interest we will be saving. Also, commercial loans are only 10 – 20 years at maximum, so we will certainly look for the best possible terms at the longest period possible. Please keep good thoughts for the committees working on this and let us know if you would like to help with this process.

At the same time, we are still looking at a few areas of physical improvement to the building and property. We are getting bids and some donated architectural plans. Your board is diligently working on this, taking the time to ensure our resources are spent wisely. Please volunteer for this effort or visit a board meeting to learn more.

Happy New Year.

Michael Hollander
Bar Mitzvah

My name is Jordan Levine and I am a 7th grader at Valley View Middle School. I recently received an award for my 4.0 GPA and I’m currently in all honors classes. I play volleyball in the league at the Simi Valley Recreational Center. Some of my hobbies or interests are playing video games, listening to music (and playing music on my saxophone), and being with my friends after school. The thing I’m looking forward to most after my bar mitzvah is getting to know that I’m a Jewish adult and that I can take on new responsibilities.

Executive VP

Happy New Year! Well, 2012 was an interesting year for many of us. The good news is that the Temple membership is still strong. The Temple improvement committee is busy working on improvements to the Temple. We are able to slowly improve the aesthetic quality of the Temple. Hopefully, by the end of 2013 all the improvements to the Temple will be done.

The landscape crew is working hard to make sure the grounds are looking good. With the wet weather the weeds are starting to sprout again. We can always use some help. My goal for 2013 is to start working on improving the looks of the grounds. Let’s all hope for a healthy and successful 2013.

Mitchell Salberg  
CBE Executive VP

CBE is having its mid-year membership drive, which offers prorated membership dues. If you know someone interested in joining CBE, have them contact Ryan Richmond at bnaemet@rain.org with "Membership" in the subject line.

Thanks,

Ryan Richmond  
VP Membership

Social Action

I am delighted to once again be serving on the CBE Board, this time as VP of Social Action. As some of you may know I was elected to this position, but was not able to take my place on the Board due to health reasons. With everything looking good, I am ready for (Social) ACTION!

First, I want to thank Barb & Bob Poehls for taking on the Feed the Needy Program and doing an incredible job with it. They have made this project their own, and they have decided to continue heading up this very worthwhile, and very time-consuming, program. I am grateful to them, and I know that Michael Hollander and the entire Board feel the same.

I have several ideas for the upcoming year, and, with cold weather upon us, our first project is going to be a collection drive for a wonderful group called Operation Blankets of Love (OBOL), a group devoted to providing care and comfort items to animals in local shelters.

This 501c3 group is recognized across the US, but is local to us, based in Granada Hills. Eileen Smulsen, Founder and President will be coming to talk to us about the desperate need for used blankets, towels, dog crates, and dog beds. Eileen has a band of "warriors" who make the rounds collecting these items from various drop off points and delivering them to the animal shelters - and actually placing them with the dogs.

This last is terribly important, because shelter staff do not have the resources to deliver comfort items. Eileen and her volunteers collect and distribute these items to the animals, making sure that no animal in a cold concrete run has to sleep on the ground.

We will have clean, clearly marked collection barrels at the Temple, and I am hoping that we will be able to have one at the Religious School/Preschool as well.

When Eileen comes to speak with us, we will have printed flyers explaining exactly what sort of items we are hoping to collect.

Be watching for more - I’m excited about this position and all that it offers as an opportunity for CBE to give back to the community.

Deborah Bass  
VP Social Action

CREATIVE HELP NEEDED! We are enhancing our “Sanctuary” at the North Campus (Religious School site). Please let Rabbi Michele know if you can help with some of the simple projects!
The temple Hanukkah party was a wonderful event. Two plays written by Meridith Patera, The Hanukkah Golem put on by the religious school children and Pirates of the Maccabean, were delightful. You may purchase a DVD containing both plays for only $10 by contacting Meridith. The DVDs have already been delivered to the temple.

There are so many people to acknowledge for the evening going so smoothly:

◆ Meridith Patera for her direction, playwriting, ad book, publicity and so much more
◆ All the performers for a job very well done, not to mention the hours of rehearsal they put in.
◆ Linda and Alan Mann for the festive decorations that set the mood.
◆ Sandy Leon for her magnificent ability to create beautiful gift baskets
◆ Irwin Cohen and the CBE Orchestra for the upbeat music
◆ Steve Rossman for making the delicious latkes
◆ The many people who helped move the pews, greeting people, selling raffle tickets, serving, setting up, cleaning up, and all that goes into an event. I especially appreciate the three volunteers from the Preschool who were so very helpful in serving and cleaning up. Thank you all so very much.
◆ Thank you to those who placed ads. Please try to patronize their businesses and let them know that you saw their ad in the temple program!
  Simi’s House of Judaica (temple gift shop)
  Michael’s Flowers-1951 Sequoia
  Women of CBE
  CBE Preschool
  Herschel Berger DDS & Laura Jen Kin DDS

◆ Thank you also to those who placed personal ads:
  Rabbi Michele Paskow
  Ken & Suzanne Epstein & Family
  Ron & Chen Forster & Family
  Julie Bienenfeld Mutal
  Steve & RuthAnn Rossmo & Family
  Michael & Marilyn Hollander
  Kathy Smith
  Shelly & Sy Botan

I personally feel it is nice to be involved and feel a part of something. I hope those of you that were there feel the same.

Some future programs to watch for are:
- Temple Seder Tuesday March 26
- Yom HaShoah event on April 7, showing of 100 Voices (movie)
- Gala in honor of the 35th Anniversary of the temple – date and more details to follow

See you at the next temple program

RuthAnn Rossman
V.P. Programs

The CBE Men’s Club meets for breakfast at 9 AM, the 2nd Sunday of the month, at The Firehouse Café, 1244 Sycamore Dr., Simi Valley (near Sycamore & Royal). Call Alan Mann, (805) 341-3836 or write to alanmann60@att.net so that he can let the restaurant know how many to expect.

Monthly meetings are held the 3rd Saturday of the month for a movie and discussion group.

On the 4th Sunday of the month, meetings are held at CBE. These meetings are required for Men’s Club positions.

Contact Men’s Club President Aaron Stansfield for more info at at.stan@yahoo.com

Aaron Stansfield
Men’s Club President

Shelly Botan & Brandon Enright performing in Pirates of the Maccabean, one of the two Hanukkah plays performed at the temple party
Religious School News

November and December were eventful months for the religious schools. We had the Hanukkah Boutique and the Hanukkah craft workshop in November. Jordan Levine and Hanna Moss held a bake sale which earned well over $200 for the religious school. The 50/50 raffle also netted the religious schools almost $100.00. Next, many of the students performed in the kids’ play at the Temple Hanukkah Party. They were fabulous! A great big thank you goes out to Earl Rosado, who guessed the correct amount of Hanukkah Gelt in the jar. He won the pot of money, then donated it to the religious school.

Please plan on attending Shabbat services on Feb. 1st at 7:00 PM for the Grade 3/4 class service. The 3rd grade class will get Hebrew name necklaces and the 4th graders will show us the tallises that they made. On Feb. 22 at 7:00 PM the 5/6th grade class will lead the Purim Service. (Note special time).

JNF Materials will be sent home in January. We will be holding a fundraiser on Jan. 16th from 5-8 PM at Fire Island Grill. Please help support the schools by eating there on that day. Flyers will be sent in the weekly temple email that you can print and bring to the restaurant.

Please be advised that there will be no religious school on Jan. 20th and Feb. 17.

Jen Rosenstein
VP Religious School

Cantor’s Message
Just Say “I Love You”

For many Americans December is a festive time of year. And yet our hearts sank into sadness and darkness as we all heard of the horrific shooting and deaths of children in a school in Newtown, Connecticut. For me there came a point when I simply couldn’t watch or listen to the news. It is simply too emotionally painful to hear.

I am sure there will be much discussion concerning gun control. And I know there are many strong feelings on this issue. There will be a great deal of investigation and discussion as to the supposed “cause” or explanation of the behavior of the person who created so much destruction and death in such a short time. Who could possibly want to kill such young innocent children? I don’t pretend to have the answers to these questions. Yes, I have thoughts and ideas, but I am no legal or psychiatric expert with great expert insight.

What I do know is that the world is an unpredictable place. “Normal” everyday life does not usually witness such a heinous acts... at least not where we live. We are fortunate to live in a country where this is not the norm. There are a number of countries, which are involved in war, where the violent death of children is as common as the brutal killing of adults. It is doubly sad that there is such an increase in these violent situations in our country.

We do not know what surprises there might be in a day. As many of you already know, my mother was killed in an automobile accident one evening. The driver of the other car was drunk and driving on the wrong side of the road. I could have easily been in the car that night. I stayed home. I would never see my mother again. When I went to sleep that night, who would have thought such a terrible thing would happen?

We cannot live in fear of these situations each day. We need to carry on our lives with positive feelings and hope for the future. However, what we can do, is to not only appreciate those whom we love but also to make sure they always know how we feel about them. Almost every telephone or Skype conversation I have with my children and my wife ends with “I love you.” To express this is good for my soul and I want to make sure that they hear me tell them, “I love you.” . . . and then they reply, “I love you too.”

We cannot control the world. We can control how we live our lives in this world. God forbid anything should happen to my loved ones, I would like to know that the last thing they heard from me was, “I love you”.

May God help us create a safer country. May God grant peace unto the souls of those who died. May God grant peace to their families. May God grant peace to us all.

Cantor Michael Russ

SAVE THE DATES

Tuesday January 15 – Sisterhood Tu Bishevat Seder, 7:00 PM at the Temple. This is open to all women at CBE and your friends. Please RSVP so we know how many people to prepare for. Rabbi Michele will lead us in a beautiful ceremony with readings, music and even dancing to celebrate the beauty and spirituality of nature and the changing of the seasons.

Friday February 22, – Purim service, 7 PM. Wear a costume (win a prize!), watch the Purim story pantomimed by the 5/6 grade Students, guest starring Haman, Esther, and King Ahasueros!

Watch for our Passover Fundraiser. You’ll be able to order personalized haggadot for your seder and support our school at the same time! (see page 9)

Sunday February 24 – Purim Carnival
This year Tu Bishevat, the New Year for trees will be celebrated on January 27th.

THE MAN WHO PLANTS A TREE
by Richard J. Dorer

The man who plants a tree
Must first prepare the fruitful earth
By moving duff or sod,
And cherish in his heart a silent prayer
For he is working hand in hand with God.

It is a sacred task, to plant a tree,
That always should be done on bended knee.

The artisans may strive for years to raise
A structure reaching to the vaulted sky.
That well deserves the everlasting praise
And words of wonderment from passerby,
But he, the humble man who plants a tree,
Is fashioning His nation’s destiny.

To celebrate Tu BiShevat you can have trees planted in Israel through the Jewish National Fund [(800) 542-TREE], you can plant your own spring garden, you can also renew your efforts toward ecology and environmentalism, or make a contribution to our own Temple for our future garden at our permanent site. In recent years, having a Tu BiShevat Seder to eat different fruits and celebrate the beauty and cycles of nature has also become very popular. Of course, we will be doing special projects with the students during Religious School.

The minor holiday of Tu BiShevat symbolizes more than just a birthday, or an Arbor Day. Trees signify growth, renewal and the continuity of life. In fact, the Torah itself is compared to a Tree of Life. At this start of the New Year and a new cycle of nature, may we renew our commitment to Torah, to our beautiful Jewish traditions, and to our own lives.  HAPPY TU BISHEVAT!
The Women of CBE are always willing to help those in need. We recently sent a generous donation to a group helping people on Staten Island recover from the damage of Hurricane Sandy. We are also sending ritual items to help Jews who lost their belongings in the disaster.

If you want to do something different and fascinating, please join us at our January meeting for our annual Tu Bishvat Seder. It will be held at the Temple on Tuesday, Jan. 15 at 7 PM. Rabbi Michele will lead us in a seder which she has written. We will be eating some unusual foods to represent the holiday. It is always a very pleasant and lovely evening. If you plan to attend, please notify either Ronnye Sacks, Cathy Holst, or Sylvia LeVine. (see flyer on this page)

Also in January, I will be appointing the nominating committee to fill vacant board positions. If you are interested in being on the Sisterhood Board, please call me or Jill Katell or Kathy Smith. Additionally, we are looking for people who would like to serve on the nominating committee. If you would like to be on the committee, please call me (Penny) at (805) 526-1570, Hope to hear from you and see you at the Seder.

Penny Neugroschl
President, Women of CBE

The Women of CBE invite you to our
TU BISHVAT SEDER
Led by
Rabbi Michele Paskow
Tuesday
January 15, 2013
7 PM
At the temple
9 W. Bonita
Simi Valley

RSVP to Ronnye Sacks, rshsacks@att.net or 805.527.2036
or Cathy Holst, catherine3484@yahoo.com
or Sylvia LeVine, 805.582.0147

Oneg Sponsors

**October 26, 2012**
Mike & Julie Bienenfeld Mutal in honor of their 13th anniversary
Jack & Mindy Cross in honor of the naming of their grandson Alister Michael Cross
The Rosenstein Family in honor of Ryan getting his Boy Scout Ner Tamid Award

**November 2, 2012**
Bob & Bridget Baskin in honor of their 12th anniversary
The Tepfer Family in honor of CBE Preschool
The Foster Family in honor of Craig & Michelle’s 28th anniversary
Sharlene Pass in memory of Ann Miller

**November 9, 2012**
Julia Farago in memory of Thomas Farago
The Forster Family in honor of Sam’s birthday
The Rosenstein Family in honor of Ryan’s birthday

**November 16, 2012**
Minnie Anzo in honor & memory of her sister Rose Warren

**November 23, 2012**
Larry & Marsha Kaufman in honor of their 38th anniversary
Sylvia LeVine in honor of the birthdays of her son Morrie Goldman, her daughter-in-law Bonnie Goldman and her brother Ron Weissbrod.

**November 30, 2012**
Valerie Singh in honor of her new Hebrew naming
The Brandler Family in honor of Lexie’s 9th birthday

The Mutal Family in honor of Julie’s birthday
The LeVine Family in honor of Sylvia’s birthday
The Ribstein Family in honor of Ryan’s birthday

**December 7, 2012**
The families of Mrs. Brandler & Mrs. Katell’s Religious School classes
Jill & Gabe Katell in honor of their daughter Shauna’s 22nd birthday

The Gering Family in honor of David’s birthday
Mazel tov from Merle to Cantor Michael Russ on his birthday
Valerie & Rajinder Singh in honor of their 21st anniversary
The Story Family in honor of Jake’s birthday
The Richmond Family in honor of Kaitlyn’s birthday

**December 14, 2012**
The Bennett Family in honor of Alec’s birthday
David Gering in honor of Rabbi Michele
Irwin Cohen in memory of Vicki Cohen & in honor of his granddaughter Natalia’s 7th birthday
The Bergmann Family in memory of Bertram Bergmann

**December 21, 2012**
Ron & Sylvia LeVine in honor of their new great niece Emily Lia

**December 28, 2012**
Sharlene Pass in memory of her bubbie Anna Leader
Carole Picker in memory of Lloyd’s birthday
One Year Fundraiser to Benefit CBE

Our friends at Mt. Sinai Memorial Parks are offering a great opportunity for Congregation B’nai Emet to raise $5,000 in just one year. Called the 5-5 program, at least five burial spaces must be purchased by Temple members, their family members or friends. As each purchase contract is paid off, Mt. Sinai will pay CBE $1,000. for each space, but not unless five spaces are purchased within the year – the clock starts March 1st.

This great offer applies to selected property for before-need use at the Simi Valley location. Choices range from single side-by-side spaces to companion “estates” which provide benches and plants. Property that is already discounted is not eligible for this program.

It’s so important to think of your family and plan ahead. This opportunity gives you a great incentive to look to the future, giving your loved ones peace of mind while, at the same time, providing Congregation B’nai Emet with some financial security.

For more information, please contact:
Doreen Kayne
Advance Planning Representative
(805) 306-6413
dkayne@mountsinaiparks.org

ADULT JEWISH EDUCATION

ADULT B’NAI MITZVAH / ADULT HEBREW READING, CONT’D

5 Sundays, starting Jan. 13
11:00 -11:45 AM
At the CBE Preschool
3050 Kadota St.
Simi Valley
Taught by
Rabbi Michele Paskow

WHAT DO WE SAY WHEN WE PRAY? PART 2

5 Mondays starting Jan. 14
7:35-8:45 PM
taught by School Administrator
Meridith Patera
at CBE
9 W. Bonita

$36 per class, includes materials
($45 non-CBE members)
All classes will be the core curriculum for those interested in Adult B’nai Mitzvah or conversion with Rabbi Michele
Celebrate Purim!

PURIM SERVICE
February 22, 7 PM
Congregation B’nai Emet
9 West Bonita Drive
Simi Valley

5th & 6th graders present a
pantomime of the Purim story!
Purim sing-along!
Megillah reading!
Hamantaschen & other goodies!

Costume Parade
& Contest with
prizes for all!

The Promise Haggadah
Family or first names are printed on the
front cover of each haggadah.
For details, see
http://personalizedhaggadah.com

CBE Religious School Fundraiser
Contact Jen Rosenstein for more info.

INFORMATION
ABOUT THE
CBE PURIM
CARNIVAL
WILL BE
AVAILABLE
SOON
Nirit Levy assists the preschoolers on their special Shabbat November 2.

CBE members celebrated the last shabbat of 2012 with a pot luck Shabbos Tish. A "tish", literally a table, refers to a special festive gathering with good food, good friends, and lots of ruach (spirit). Attendees ate, sang, danced, prayed and expressed their hopes for 2013.
### Birthdays

| Jan 01 | Lee Smith       | Feb 01 | Brett Moss       |
| Jan 02 | Stephanie Bergmann | Feb 01 | Emily Richmond   |
| Jan 02 | Lloyd Picker    | Feb 04 | Jan Auerbach     |
| Jan 03 | Jason Nadler    | Feb 06 | Mark Baskin      |
| Jan 04 | David James Rossman | Feb 08 | Seymour Botan    |
| Jan 05 | Nicole Bordo    | Feb 08 | Matthew Levine   |
| Jan 11 | Joyce Forster   | Feb 11 | Lois Friedman    |
| Jan 11 | Laura Tepfer    | Feb 11 | Jordan Levine    |
| Jan 13 | Kenneth Bahr    | Feb 13 | Suzanne Epstein  |
| Jan 16 | Marilyn Hollander | Feb 14 | Craig Foster     |
| Jan 16 | Joshua Katell   | Feb 14 | Ron Resnick      |
| Jan 16 | Daniel Avram Sternberg | Feb 14 | Lynn Salberg    |
| Jan 18 | Aaron Cohen     | Feb 15 | Debbie Stern     |
| Jan 18 | Jeff Schleien   | Feb 19 | Eva Bahr         |
| Jan 20 | Steven Richter  | Feb 20 | Lindy Schneider  |
| Jan 21 | Eric Leon       | Feb 22 | Ronald Forster   |
| Jan 25 | David Samuel Friedman | Feb 23 | Lauren Ranelletti|
| Jan 27 | Alice Fiducia   | Feb 24 | Sara Moss        |
| Jan 27 | Anne Levy       | Feb 25 | Marsha Kaufman   |
| Jan 28 | Stephen Epstein | Feb 26 | Laura Luskin     |
| Jan 31 | Adrienne Roberts | Feb 27 | Lillian Knecht  |
| Feb 01 | Emma Baskin     | Feb 27 | Jack Stafford    |

### Anniversaries

| Jan 01 | Janine and Michael Enright |
| Jan 04 | Keith and Lynne Kelly       |
| Jan 04 | Al and Nirit Levy           |
| Jan 23 | Anthony and Laura Luskin    |
| Jan 25 | Michael and Marilyn Luskin  |
| Feb 05 | Ron and Sylvia Hollander    |

Thank you to **Steve Rossman** for making ALL of the delicious latkes for the Hanukkah party!!! Wow! Thank you also to **RuthAnn Rossman** for organizing the Temple Hanukkah party and to our terrific performers. Kudos to Meridith for writing, directing and even performing in the *Pirates of the Maccabean* and to Irwin and the CBE orchestra. *Yasher koach* to all!

### Recent Donations

**Building Fund**
- Teresa Picker – in memory of Curtis Picker

**Memorial Donation Fund**
- Wolf and Nubia Ascher – in memory of Walter and Erna Ascher
- Tami Finkbeiner – in memory of Shirley Zimmerman
- Susan Fintz – in memory of the fathers of Ronnye Sacks and Earl Rosado
- Steven and Holly York – in memory of Gerald York
- Wilbur Brown – in memory of Sandi Brown
- Richard and Carole Fineberg – in memory of Irvin “Bud” Greenberg
- David Glazer – in memory of Michael Glazer

**Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund**
- Ronald and Lori Karp – in honor of baby-naming
- Andrew Spivack – in honor of Irwin Cohen
- Michael and Merle Smith – in memory of Stuart Keimon and Rhoda Russ
- Vincent and Carole Nowell – “God Bless Israel!!”

**Religious School Donations**
- Teresa Picker – in memory of Curtis Picker
- Madalyn and Jack Cross – in honor of grandson’s baby-naming
- Sheldon and Joan Liebmann – in memory of Benish Landau

**Preschool Donations**
- Jerry and Sue Coffey – in memory of Daniel C. Gilson

**Preschool and Education Building Fund**
- Jerry and Marla Bergmann – in memory of Bertram Bergmann
- Lawrence and Marsha Kaufman – in memory of Minerva Lefton

**Tribute Donations**
- Ronald and Lori Karp – in memory of baby-naming
- Ellen Rosen – in honor of an anonymous friend
- Simi Valley Women’s Club – in honor of Michael Mutal

**General Donations**
- David Gering

A special thank you to an anonymous donor for the recent contribution of $10,000 to the synagogue. The donation will go toward the building fund with a portion of it used for some immediate repairs. We love the support. Thank you.
**Condolences**

To Cantor Michael Russ on the passing of his brother-in-law, Dr. Ron Gutierrez

To Minnie Anzo and Kathy Smith on the passing of their sister/aunt, Rose Warren

To Doris Hollander Gould and family on the passing of son-in-law, Mark Jawitz, father of Jessica, Adam and Zoey. His death followed that of his wife, Jodi Jawitz in October. Condolences also to Jodi’s sister, Shari Faerman.

To Carol and Earl Rosado and family on the passing of Carol’s father, Leon Luger in Florida

To send a tribute card, contact Lynne Kelly at lkelmom@aol.com or [www.congregationbnaiemet.org/sisterhood](http://www.congregationbnaiemet.org/sisterhood).

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### Yahrzeits

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<td>Donald Alvarez</td>
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<td>Charles Stein</td>
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<td>Geneva Alvarez</td>
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<td>Max Perlson</td>
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<td>Feb 17</td>
<td>Abraham Shain</td>
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<td>Feb 05</td>
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<td>Shevat 30</td>
<td>Feb 28</td>
<td>Marcia Grossman</td>
<td>Adar 18</td>
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</table>
VISIT ISRAEL THIS SUMMER WITH RABBI MICHELE
The dates are set, July 24-August 5, 2013.
We will travel to Tel-Aviv, Yafo, Jerusalem, Haifa, celebrate Shabbat together and see all of the important historic sites.
If you would like to celebrate a Bar or Bat-Mitzvah there, please speak with the Rabbi.
For more information, speak with the Rabbi and go to:
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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/ReligiousSchool       Religious and Community Services
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By ten things is the world created, by wisdom and understanding, and by reason and by strength, by rebuke and by might, by righteousness and by judgment, by lovingkindness and by compassion.

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Special Rates for CBE Members
## Schedule of Services, Candle lightings, & Torah Portions

*Candle Lighting Times are for Simi Valley Area*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Candle lighting</th>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Torah Portion</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 4/23 Tevet</td>
<td>4:40 PM</td>
<td>Family Service 7 PM</td>
<td>Shemot—Ex. 1:1-6:1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 11/1 Shevat</td>
<td>4:46 PM</td>
<td>Shabbat Service 8 PM</td>
<td>Vaera—Ex. 6:2-9:35</td>
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<td>Jan. 18/8 Shevat</td>
<td>4:53 PM</td>
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<td>Bo—Ex. 10:1-13:16</td>
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<td>Jan. 25/15 Shevat</td>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>Shabbat Service 8 PM</td>
<td>Beshalach—Ex. 13:17-17:16</td>
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<td>Jan. 26</td>
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<td>Tu Bishvat</td>
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<td>Feb. 1/22 Shevat</td>
<td>5:07 PM</td>
<td>Family Service 7 PM</td>
<td>Yitro—Ex. 18:1-20:23</td>
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<td>Feb. 8/29 Shevat</td>
<td>5:14 PM</td>
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<td>Mishpatim—Ex. 21:1-24:18</td>
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<td>Feb. 15/6 Adar</td>
<td>5:20 PM</td>
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<td>Terumah—Ex. 25:1-27:19</td>
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<td>Feb. 16</td>
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<td>Bar Mitzvah of Jordan Levine</td>
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<td>Feb. 22/13 Adar</td>
<td>5:27 PM</td>
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<td>Tetzaveh—Ex. 27:20-30</td>
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<td>Feb. 24</td>
<td></td>
<td>Special Purim Service featuring the 5/6 Class</td>
<td>Purim</td>
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**Check out our web site at** [http://congregationbnaemet.org](http://congregationbnaemet.org)

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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 2

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