

9 West Bonita Drive
Simi Valley, CA 93065

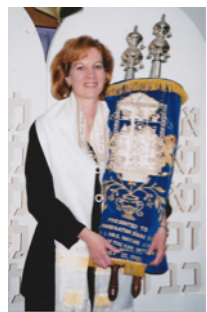
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Jan-Feb, 2017
Tevet-Shevat-Adar, 5777

Volume 38, Issue 2

Congregation B'nai Emet

C.B.E. Chai Lites



Rabbi's Message

Dear Friends – Shalom Chaverim – שלום חברים,

What's in a name? In Jewish tradition, there is a lot in a Jewish name. Because our people kept their Jewish names, they were worthy of being liberated from bondage in Egypt, says a legend. A Jewish name gives one a personal identity and a sense of belonging to the Jewish people, past, present and future.

Jewish names are very significant. They also have a special meaning and may sound nice, which is why many Hebrew names are so popular throughout the world.

When a person is called to the Torah, s/he should be called by his or her Hebrew name and the Hebrew names of his/her parents. The same applies for a memorial prayer. If a get-well prayer is said, then we use the Hebrew name of the person who is ill, plus the Hebrew name of that person's mother.

For a *Ketubah*, a Jewish wedding document, we use the Jewish name of the person, plus the Jewish names of the parents. While most American Jews have anglicized names, many now use Hebrew names. I am proud of my Hebrew name *Michal* and my sons' names, Aaron and Jonathan, which are popular in Israel today.

Do you know what the word *Jew* means? It comes from the Torah. Look at Genesis 29:35: "And Leah conceived and bore a son and she said: 'This time I will *praise the Lord*.' ("Odeh") Therefore, she called him *Judah*." ("Yehudah") Shortened, you have Jew, which means "Praise God". Isn't that beautiful!!

I write all of this because in January we will begin to read the second book of the Torah called Exodus in English, but in Hebrew it is called "Names - Shemot," because it starts with "These are the *names* of the children of Israel." To me it seems an appropriate time to remind ourselves of our Jewish/ Hebrew names. If you do not have a Jewish/ Hebrew name and would like to have one, just call me at the Temple. I will be happy to help you choose a beautiful, meaningful Hebrew name and to give you a certificate at our services on January 20th, 27th, or Feb. 3rd.

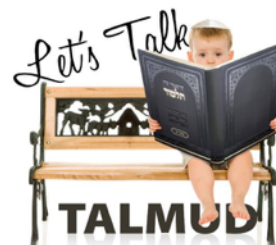
Shalom and Be Well!

Rabbi Michele ("Michal") Paskow

IF YOU WOULD LIKE A HEBREW NAME, PLEASE CONTACT RABBI MICHELE:
michmich805@gmail.com; (805) 581-3723.

THE TALMUD TEACHES...

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.



Hagiga 12A

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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

Thank you to Sandy Miller, RuthAnn and Steve Rossman and many others for organizing the Temple Hanukkah party, for doing all of the set-up and clean-up.

Yasher Koach to Meridith Patera for writing this year's magnificent Hanukkah production Greeced and also for the children's play Zlateh the Goat. The actors and musicians (all part of the CBE family) were superb! Thank you to everyone!!!

Save the date:

Saturday January 28 – Shabbat morning service, “Lunch ‘n Learn.” 10:30 AM-noon: casual service; 12-12:30: lunch, schmooze; 12:30-1:45: Learn about “The Lost Matriarch: Finding Leah in the Bible and Midrash” By Jerry Rabow. (For advanced purchase of the book, speak with Rabbi.)

Friday February 3 – “Stone-Soup Shabbat”- 6:15 PM Dinner provided (bring fresh cut-up vegetables for the soup); followed by Family Shabbat service at 7 PM.

Friday March 10 - PURIM service, 7 PM. Wear a costume (win a prize!) and watch the Purim story pantomimed by our Religious School students- guest starring Haman, Esther, and King Ahasueros!



Sunday March 12 – Purim carnival – welcome to Purimville!

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

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President's Message

Happy New Year!

2016 went by too fast! It seems like the old adage is true, "time flies when you are having fun." In that spirit, 2017 is sure to fly by just as fast. Your CBE Board has planned many events for the upcoming year, starting with our Night of Comedy and Music on January 14th. As the center of the Jewish Community in Simi Valley, and surrounding areas, we have a diverse schedule of events geared to better serve the entire Jewish Community. From quarterly Saturday morning services to family picnics to wine tasting, I am confident we will have an event that appeals to you. Remember to keep checking our Event Calendar throughout the year.

Shalom,

Ryan Richmond



Cantor's Message

by Cantor Michael Russ



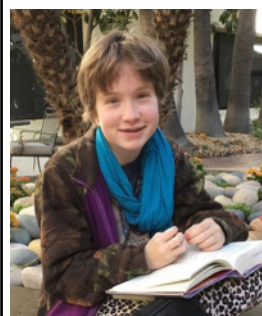
I just celebrated another birthday. Our daughter, Shoshana, her husband and their 3 children (ages 7 & 5) traveled to Los Angeles to see us and celebrate. This was the first time the children in Virginia have visited our home. Each day they were here, our other daughter, Adina, brought over her 3 year old to play with her cousins. And of course the new baby came along. It was a delight. It was even more crystal clear what my wife Merle always says: "If we would have known, we would have had the grandchildren first!" The energy, enthusiasm and curiosity of little kids is amazing. I slept very well each night for the week they were here!

Playing with these children who have so recently entered the world reminds me of the positive energy, which exists in the world. Each Shabbat reminds me of the beauty of the world. Shabbat with grandchildren is positive and explosive. Each New Year brings us the opportunity to review the last year and approach the next year with a fresh outlook. We Jews have Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and then the "secular" New Year. Let's take the time to appreciate the good in the world, the good in our families, and to better assess our lives even with the understanding of the negative that exist in our lives.

Recently our Rabbi reminded us of the Jewish concept that exists within each of us: a "yotzer rah", a negative side, and a "yotzer tov", a positive side. The same is true in the world. There always seems to be a struggle between the "good" and the "evil" in the world. We have seen this throughout history. Let us make our lives always reaching for the good, the positive. Let us always strive to overcome the "evil", the "negative", in our lives. For me, raising children and grandchildren is a great mitzvah and a great opportunity to teach the next generation to appreciate life and to always reach for the good and positive. What a great way to practice "Tikun Olam", fixing the world, in both our personal world, as well as the World at large.

Wishing everyone a healthy, prosperous and happy New Year.

Bat Mitzvah



Hello, my name is **Lauren Ranelletti**. I am a seventh grader at Hillside STEAM Academy in Simi Valley. I am very interested in technology and am happy that I can study it in school. My favorite things to do when I'm not at school are playing video games, reading, drawing, and writing stories. I live with my mom, dad, and younger brother. We have been members of CBE since I was in

first grade. I will be having my Bat Mitzvah on February 11, 2017. I love animals and was a volunteer dog walker for Tiny Loving Canines(TLC) two years ago. My Bat Mitzvah project is collecting donations for TLC, a no-kill shelter that rescues small dogs. If you would like to donate items, a collection box is in the lobby of the temple. On the box is a list of requested items. You can also find the list here:

<http://www.tinylovingcanines.org/help.html>. If you would like to donate money you can do so here:

<http://www.tinylovingcanines.org/donate.html>. The website accepts paypal and it is tax deductible.

RE-PIPING IN THE NEW YEAR! In November we had a water pipe leak in the parking lot and that has been repaired. (The cost set our budget back 😞.) In order to avoid the high cost of an emergency repair when the main line ruptures, we are planning to fix it ASAP. If you can help donate to this project, we would be very grateful. The total estimate comes to \$6,000. Please speak with either our President, Ryan Richmond, or our Vice President, Debbie Knecht.

ADVANCED ADULT HEBREW ADULT B'NAI MITZVAH

If you are interested in practicing your Hebrew reading, learning the prayers and participating in a service (even if you already had a bar/bat-mitzvah), please speak with Rabbi Michele. The class will begin in March.



Executive Vice President

Sunday, November 27, the Temple had a small storage container cleanout day. We were able to achieve the goal because of the following people who helped:

Steve and Ruth Ann Rossman

Andrew and Suzanne Mahler

Ryan Richmond

Les Sutton

Debbie Knecht

And members of the church Iglesia Cristiana Arbol de Vida

With the help of other Temple members and earmarked donations, other work being performed around the temple include:

1. Entryway doors and windows.
2. Linoleum floor installation in the food preparation room.
3. Kitchen cabinets for the food preparation room.
4. New divider between the sanctuary and one serving room.

The Building Improvement Committee will be meeting again after the first of New Year to discuss other upcoming projects and priorities. If you are interested in being involved with the improvements, please contact me.

The week of Thanksgiving one of the water lines underneath the parking lot suffered a leak as a result of corrosion over the **decades**. As a result, Temple expenditure to fix the leak was necessary—money the Temple does not have in the current year's operating budget. This is more of a reason why the Jews in Simi Valley need to contribute as much as feasibly possible to support the Temple. The Temple facility cannot function without water, electricity, and gas in addition to the monthly mortgage payment, paying for the upkeep of the property, and the clergy. One cannot expect others to support if one does not support too. Please take this time to consider your support for the Temple so the facility can be available to all Jews now and in the future..

Debbie Knecht

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

The Social Action committee is collecting warm clothing for the Samaritan Center. A collection box is at the temple.

Fundraising

CBE has 2 fund raisers planned for 2017 with a few “fun” raisers included in the year. The ones I will be mentioning do not include the sisterhood Purim fund raiser for early spring.

The first CBE fund raiser is the comedy night on January 14, 2017. The evening will feature the return of comedian Avi Liberman and Irwin Cohen conducting our CBE Trio. It will be 3 years since Avi did his first benefit at the temple. The evening will start at 8PM and should end by 10PM.

Refreshments will be served. Go to the Temple website to order your tickets. If this evening is like his performance three years ago, we are in for a laugh fest.

The other major fund raiser will be a golf tournament to be held in early April with location and price to be determined. Also in the early stages of planning is a poker tournament.

Michael Mutal, VP Fundraising

mailto:mmmutal@gmail.com or 805-587-9210

A POEM FOR TU BISHEVAT:

*This year Tu Bishevat, the New Year for Trees will be celebrated on **February 11th**. The Sisterhood Tu Bishevat Seder will be on **Tuesday February 7th**. Planting day at the Temple will be on **Sunday February 5th**.*

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.

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 pãayer
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.

HAPPY TU BISHEVAT!



Women of CBE

The Women of CBE brought 2016 to a close with a flurry of activity. November started with RuthAnn Rossman, Geri Brandler and myself attending the Women of Reform Judaism Pacific District Convention in Las Vegas. Our Hanukkah Boutique was our best ever, well attended by happy vendors and happier buyers. For our November meeting, we painted canvas bags to give as gifts or for trips to the supermarket.

In December we held our Donor Luncheon honoring our most active members at Custom Pie in Moorpark. Our Hanukkah gift exchange at Jill Katell's home was, as always, a smash hit in both the food and gift departments. We supported the temple Hanukkah party with two pages of ads in the party program. As we do every year, we provided gelt, dreidels, large dreidels, and toys to students of the Religious School and Preschool.

I want to recognize my amazing Board for all their help and contributions: Executive VP RuthAnn Rossman, Membership co-VPs Cheryl Hirsch & Kathy Smith, Fundraising co-VPs: Ronnye Sacks, Cathy Holst & Sylvia LeVine, Programs co-VP: Tracie Breiter & Suzanne Epstein, Social Action VP & oneg chair Laura Tepfer, Treasurer Geri Brandler, Secretary Erica Weiner, and our

amazing committee chairs Jill Katell, Maxine Seidel, Bobbie Sion, Lois Friedman, & Lynne Kelly. We couldn't accomplish so much without the hard work of all these great women.

We have a lot planned for 2017. Our January 10 meeting, open to all, will feature guest speaker Stephen Epstein, of the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory Media Office, leading us into new frontiers in space. In February, we'll have our famous Tu B'Shvat Seder, featuring Tami Plotkin's celebrated etrog liqueur.

SAVE THE DATE: We're already planning our big Purim fund raiser for March 11: *A Night at the Oasis*, with Middle Eastern Cuisine & Music, Dancing, Raffles, and Silent Auction. Maybe you'll find the Treasure of King Solomon's Mine! Check the website and weekly emails for more info to come.

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 Patera, President
Women of CBE



Save the Date
Saturday, March 11

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+

THE WOMEN OF CBE
WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM
STRONGER TOGETHER

invite you to our next
general meeting:

NEW FRONTIERS IN SPACE

Join us as guest speaker
Stephen Epstein, Supervising
Producer for the Video Design
and Production Group in the
NASA Jet Propulsion
Laboratory Media Office, gives
a fascinating presentation.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10 - 7 PM - At CBE

All women, men & older kids are welcome.

The Women of CBE invite you to our
TU BISHVAT SEDER
Led by
Rabbi Michele Paskow
Tuesday, February 7, 2017, 7 PM

At Congregation B'nai Emet
9 W. Bonita Drive
Simi Valley, CA 93065

All women welcome
Bring your own wine goblet.
Musical accompaniment

WRJ Women of Reform Judaism
stronger together

RSVP to Suzanne Epstein mstrysuz@gmail.com or call (805) 581-3723

***A Night of Comedy and Music
Saturday, January 14th
8pm – 10pm***



***Benefiting Congregation B'nai Emet
& Koby Mandel Foundation.***

***Featuring Comedian Avi Liberman
& The CBE Trio, w/ Conductor Irwin Cohen***

***To kick off the New Year, we would like to
invite you to our Comedy and Music Fundraiser.***

***Two drinks are included with each ticket;
refreshments will be served. If you're unable to
attend, but want to make a donation, you can do
so on the temple website:***

www.congregationbnaiemet.org

To purchase tickets, click here

<http://congregationbnaiemet.org/events.php>

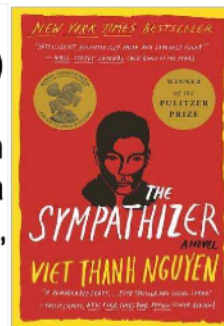
CBE BOOKS & BAGELS

**Sunday Jan. 29, 9:30 am
at The Corner Bakery
Simi Town Center
Simi Valley**

RSVP: (805) 581-3723

**The Sympathizer
(Pulitzer Prize for Fiction)
by Viet Than Nguyen**

**"...a blistering exploration
of identity and America, a
gripping espionage novel,
and a powerful story of
love and friendship."**



2017 RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CALENDAR

JANUARY

8 - SUNDAY SCHOOL-SESSION #15
9- JUDAICA HIGH SCHOOL-SESSION #14
22 - SUNDAY SCHOOL-SESSION #16
23 - JUDAICA HIGH SCHOOL-SESSION #15
29 - SUNDAY SCHOOL-SESSION #17
30 - JUDAICA HIGH SCHOOL-SESSION #16

FEBRUARY

5 - SUNDAY SCHOOL-SESSION #18
6 - JUDAICA HIGH SCHOOL-SESSION #17
12 - SUNDAY SCHOOL-SESSION #19
13 - JUDAICA HIGH SCHOOL-SESSION #18
26 - SUNDAY SCHOOL-SESSION #20
27 - JUDAICA HIGH SCHOOL-SESSION #19

STUDENT-LED SERVICES:

Feb. 3: 7 pm - 4th/5th grade tallit service
Mar. 10: 7 pm - All students - Purim
May 5: 7 pm - All students - Yom HaAztmaut
June 2: 7 pm - 7th Grade -Graduation/Staff Appreciation
June 9: 8 pm - Judaica High Service/Confirmation

***Looking For Some Fun Over
Winter Break?***

CBETY invites you to: **Lazer Tag Extreme**

Wednesday, January 4th 2017

3:30-5pm

591 Country Club Dr. Simi Valley

**Children 5-12 are welcome to come play at
youth coupon rate.**

Parents must sign a waiver for participation.

RSVP: mailto:bnaiemet@rain.org



Oneg Sponsors

Nov. 4, 2016

Alan & Linda Mann in memory of Regina Mann
Alice Fiducia in memory of John Fiducia
Craig & Michelle Foster in honor of their 32nd anniversary
Steve & Holly York in memory of Gerald Jerome York

Nov. 11, 2016

Julia Farago in memory of Thomas Farago

Nov. 18, 2016

Joan Bernstein in memory of her father Seymour Schneider
Sharlene Pass in memory of her wonderful stepmother
Ann Miller

Nov. 25, 2016

Sylvia LeVine in honor of all the November birthdays in
her family: son Morrie, brother Ron,
daughter-in-law Bonnie & great niece Emily.

Dec. 9, 2016

Raj & Valerie Singh in honor of their 25th Anniversary
The York Family in honor of Alicia getting her Master's
Degree in Counseling

Dec. 23, 2016

Meridith Patera in memory of Florence Oliansky

Dec. 30, 2016

Ken and Suzanne Epstein in honor of daughter Jody
completing her Master of Science in Animals and Public
Policy from Tufts-Cummings Veterinary School.

Recent Donations

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Nathan Apelbaum – in appreciation of Rabbi Michele
conducting memorial service
Ronnye Sacks – in memory of Lewis Howard
Arnold and Marilyn Kaufman – in appreciation for
contributions to the community

Memorial Donations

Wolf and Nubia Ascher – in memory of Walter and Erna
Ascher
Marvin and Sandra Sussman – in memory Anne and
Solomon Sussman
Karen and Keith Zook – in memory of Frances Weiss
Thomas and Miriam Hintz – in memory of Aaron Saul Chusid
Jerry and Sue Coffey – in memory of Daniel C. Gilson
Marianne Susman – in memory of Irene Goldhammer
Judith Miller – in memory of Theo Frankel
Alexander and Cima Goldenberg – in memory of Ber
Goldenberg
Anthony and Laura Luskin – in memory of Abraham Luskin
and Frida Pichkhadze
Shelah Harris – in memory of Sam Sonders

Tribute Donations

Brett D. Yormark – in honor of Irwin Cohen

Religious School Donations

Sheldon and Joan Liebmann – in memory of Miriam Landau
Thomas and Miriam Hintz – in memory of Stephen B. Giles

Choir Fund Donations

Barry and Lynne Selbst – in memory of Sam Selbst
Julie Bienenfeld and Michael Mutal – in honor of Irwin
Cohen's musical contribution to the Hanukkah play

Tree of Life Leaf Donations

Jay Schoen – in loving memory of Melissa Schoen

General Fund Donations

Amazon Smile Foundation Donation
Suzanne Mahler

High Holiday Donations

Peppi Lamm
Marc and Mary Eastman
Mel and Louise Edelson
Lindsay and Michael Halper

Religious School students make Trees of Life



Annual Dec. 25 Movie and Chinese Dinner



Adapted from the Simi Valley Acorn: Different religions help the needy for Thanksgiving

Representatives of different religions united under one mission, raised \$1155 and collected 250 cans of food for the Samaritan Center of Simi Valley, during the annual Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Service. The Nov. 22 service was held at St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church. Also participating were representatives of the Islamic Society of Simi Valley, Simi Valley United Methodist Church, Congregation B'nai Emet, The Samaritan Center, and several additional churches. Mayor Bob Huber read the Proclamation of Thanksgiving written by Abraham Lincoln. This annual event of community unity is always well-attended and inspiring.



Hanukkah Boutique



See more boutique photos on next page.

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

Michael and Marilyn Hollander

joined CBE in 1992, a year after moving to Simi Valley, when their son, Andrew, began religious school for Kindergarten. They haven't looked back since.



Marilyn met Michael during their senior year of high school, when he sat in front of her in California History. They immediately became good friends, but after a couple of years lost touch when Michael left for school in Missouri. Fast forward to their 10 year high school reunion where they renewed their friendship and eventually began dating. The rest, as they say, is history. They are celebrating their 30th wedding anniversary this month!

Michael and Marilyn love their growing family, sons, Danny Jordan and Andrew Hollander; daughter, Erin Hollander and new daughters-in-law, Lynn and Kelsey. Each and every one of them has made Mom and Dad so proud.

As most of you know, Marilyn is CBE's Office Manager and has held that job for 19 years, beginning at the Industrial Street location. Before that, Marilyn felt very blessed to be a “stay-at-home mom” after working for 11 years at Attorneys Office Management, Inc. She loves to sing and, at the ripe old age of 45, became involved in community theater with Erin and Danny. In the years that followed, Michael joined in the fun, and finally Andrew jumped in as well. Marilyn's dream is to share the stage with the whole family. Although Marilyn is not Jewish, she has been extremely supportive of the temple and was a charter member of the CBE choir. Over the years, she has learned many of the Hebrew prayers and songs and is always honored when asked to sing Sabbath Queen at Shabbat services.

Originally from Iowa, Michael has a journalism degree from the University of Missouri and worked for many years with NBC and CNBC. Since 2012, he has been a Project Manager with a satellite transmission company that has sent him to many cities around the U.S. and Canada. Up until the most recent CBE Board election, Michael has held a seat on the temple board every year except one since the mid-1990s, including a 3-year term as President. He was also one of the original members of the CBE Men's Club. Michael remains extremely involved in many aspects of Temple life, including setting up and breaking down the sound system whenever it is needed, changing light bulbs and welcoming all who walk through the doors of CBE.

For those still in the dark, Michael is the (much) younger brother of our newsletter editor, Suzanne Epstein.

I want to introduce my wife and myself, **Julie (Bienenfeld) and Michael Mutal**.

We have been members of the temple for many years and have been involved in various activities within CBE. Currently I am head of fundraising and sit on our board of directors. Julie is a member of the choir and also a member of the CBE Trio.

She loves both of her temple activities a lot. We are members of the “Bullfrog” Havurah.

Collectively we have 4 children (Mark, Adam, Aaron, and Claudia) 3 children in laws (Olivia, Deborah, and Barney) and the apples of our eyes are our 3 grandchildren Truman and Lauren (5 ½) and Clara 4 months. All the kids live in So. Calif except for Aaron, Deborah and Clara who live in Israel.

Michael was the owner of Michael's Flowers in Simi Valley for over 30 years and now his son Adam has owned it for nearly 4 years. Julie is an attorney in Woodland Hills and is a managing Partner. She has been an attorney for almost 30 years and has been the managing partner at her firm for almost 17 years. We have vacationed in many places including Israel, China, Hawaii, Europe, and various parts of the United States.





Let's Celebrate



Birthdays

Jan 01 Andrew Schranze
 Jan 01 Lee Smith
 Jan 02 Stephanie Bergmann
 Jan 04 David James Rossman
 Jan 05 Nicole Bordo
 Jan 11 Laura Tepfer
 Jan 12 Joyce Forster
 Jan 13 Kenneth Bahr
 Jan 14 Elijah Mittelman
 Jan 16 Marilyn Hollander
 Jan 16 Joshua Katell
 Jan 16 Daniel Avram Sternberg
 Jan 18 Aaron Cohen
 Jan 20 Steven Richter
 Jan 21 Eric Leon
 Jan 25 David Samuel Friedman
 Jan 27 Alice Fiducia
 Jan 27 Anne Levy
 Jan 28 Stephen Epstein
 Feb 01 Brett Moss
 Feb 01 Emily Richmond
 Feb 02 Ron Mittelman
 Feb 03 Robyn Seidel

Feb 04 Jan Auerbach
 Feb 04 Bonita Joy Cleantis
 Feb 08 Seymour Botan
 Feb 08 Matthew Levine
 Feb 09 Jay Schoen
 Feb 11 Lois Friedman
 Feb 12 Tom Cleantis
 Feb 13 Suzanne Epstein
 Feb 14 Craig Foster
 Feb 14 Lynn Salberg
 Feb 15 Isaiah Mittelman
 Feb 18 Devin Venhuizen
 Feb 19 Eva Bahr
 Feb 20 Lindy Schneider
 Feb 21 Amy Mittelman
 Feb 22 Ronald Forster
 Feb 23 Lauren Ranelletti
 Feb 24 Sara Moss
 Feb 26 Justin Lowenschuss
 Feb 26 Barry Selbst
 Feb 26 Zoe Denila Venhuizen
 Feb 27 Lillian Knecht

Anniversaries

Jan 01 Michael and Janine Enright
 Jan 04 Keith and Lynne Kelly
 Jan 04 Al and Nirit Levy
 Jan 25 Michael and Marilyn Hollander
 Feb 13 Harry and Patricia Schned

Mazel Tov!

To Tom and Miriam Hintz on the birth of grandson Rafael to daughter Rachel on Dec. 24, 2016. "He is pretty perfect and strong like bull."

Musicians from CBE Hanukkah Party 2016



From Julie Bienenfeld Mutal

I had so much fun on our temple sponsored hike. I enjoyed walking and talking with a lot of different people, getting to know them and just enjoying the great beautiful outdoors. I certainly did not anticipate that it would end the way it did but that's why they call them "accidents." I just wanted to thank everyone who came to my aid and saw to it that I got the help that I needed. It's now almost two weeks later and I've had surgery to my hand/wrist involving placement of a plate and nine screws holding it in place. I'm doing very well in recovery and thank everyone so much for the follow up calls and the caring offers for assistance. I really love my Temple family and just can't imagine being a part of this Community without being affiliated with our little schul! Thanks to everyone again and actually I can't wait until the next temple hike. I hope to be on it!

Thanks,
Julie



Photos from CBE Hike 11/12/16



A well-deserved lunch awaits on the Pacific shore





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

Eric Frank
805.306.6410

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

SHABBAT LUNCH & LEARN

Join us on Saturday January 28

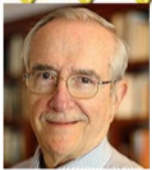
- Shabbat Torah service - 10:30-noon
- followed by potluck (dairy) lunch
- 12:30: Guest speaker Jerry Rabow, who will discuss his book:

The Lost Matriarch: Finding Leah in the Bible and Midrash.

If you'd like to read the book by our speaker ahead of time, it is available from Rabbi Michele or Amazon.com.



Congregation B'nai Emet
9 West Bonita Drive
Simi Valley, CA 93065
(805) 581-3723
congregationbnaiemet.org



Yahrzeits

Jan 01	Abraham Katell	Tevet 3	Jan 31	Robert Gurstein	Shevat 4
Jan 01	Barbara Claire Sweet	Tevet 3	Jan 31	Willard Levin	Shevat 4
Jan 01	Dora Yaskiel	Tevet 3	Jan 31	Alex Leyton	Shevat 4
Jan 03	Morton Auerbach		Feb 01	Rochelle (Shelly) Richter	Shevat 5
Jan 03	David Ehrlich	Tevet 5	Feb 02	Darrius Eugene Simpson-Menke	Shevat 6
Jan 04	Irving Brody		Feb 04	Paula Lazar	Shevat 8
Jan 04	Libbie Chait	Tevet 6	Feb 04	Beverly Pedowitz	
Jan 04	Louis Cohen	Tevet 6	Feb 04	Bernie Stern	Shevat 8
Jan 04	James Silver	Tevet 6	Feb 06	Sylvia Brody	Shevat 10
Jan 05	Earl Ely Friedman	Tevet 7	Feb 07	Sidney Scheinert	Shevat 11
Jan 05	Faye Isbey	Tevet 7	Feb 07	David Silversher	Shevat 11
Jan 07	Bryan Sandoval	Tevet 9	Feb 09	Jack Miller	Shevat 13
Jan 08	Stuart Keimon	Tevet 10	Feb 09	Sophie Toni Shain	Shevat 13
Jan 09	Marvin Ackerman	Tevet 11	Feb 10	Sybil Kaplan	Shevat 14
Jan 09	Eda Satin	Tevet 11	Feb 10	Claire Silversher	Shevat 14
Jan 09	Selma Yaeger	Tevet 11	Feb 12	Barbara Siegel	Shevat 16
Jan 10	Max Epstein	Tevet 12	Feb 12	Ken Stern	Shevat 16
Jan 10	Salomon Goldstein	Tevet 12	Feb 12	Dorothy Barasch Weiss	Shevat 16
Jan 10	Irvin "Bud" Greenberg	Tevet 12	Feb 12	Dora York	Shevat 16
Jan 11	Florence Howard	Tevet 13	Feb 13	Mariel Graflund	Shevat 17
Jan 11	Rhoda Russ	Tevet 13	Feb 13	Shirley Richter	Shevat 17
Jan 11	Steven Sacks	Tevet 13	Feb 13	Stella Zaltzman	Shevat 17
Jan 11	Dorothy Zager		Feb 16	David Singer	Shevat 20
Jan 12	Leon Luger	Tevet 14	Feb 18	Gloria Goodman	Shevat 22
Jan 13	Zelig Daniel Leibl	Tevet 15	Feb 18	Arthur Leon	Shevat 22
Jan 13	Barbara Schwartz	Tevet 15	Feb 18	Marian Levin	Shevat 22
Jan 14	Minerva Lefton	Tevet 16	Feb 19	Nathan Brownstein	Shevat 23
Jan 15	Clara Gordon	Tevet 17	Feb 19	Estelle Flaxman	
Jan 16	Anna Leader	Tevet 18	Feb 20	Irving Pedowitz	
Jan 18	Gertrude Miller	Tevet 20	Feb 21	Steven Richter	Shevat 25
Jan 19	Leonard Schwartz	Tevet 21	Feb 21	Bernard Schwartz	Shevat 25
Jan 19	Israel Tepper	Tevet 21	Feb 22	David Bloch	Shevat 26
Jan 22	Ronald Levine	Tevet 24	Feb 22	Joseph Hananel	Shevat 26
Jan 22	Harry Luger	Tevet 24	Feb 22	Nettie Riff	Shevat 26
Jan 22	Mildred Plotkin	Tevet 24	Feb 22	Fanny Strassburger	
Jan 22	Fannie Woodrow	Tevet 24	Feb 23	Alex Edward Mann	Shevat 27
Jan 23	Max Rabin	Tevet 25	Feb 24	Harold "Heshy" Grossman	Shevat 28
Jan 23	Paul Sytten	Tevet 25	Feb 24	Jay A. Keimon	Shevat 28
Jan 24	Joe Frolove	Tevet 26	Feb 24	Beatrice Levy	Shevat 28
Jan 25	Patricia Geiger	Tevet 27	Feb 24	Eileene Winters	Shevat 28
Jan 25	Herbert Glick	Tevet 27	Feb 25	Harlan Gould	Shevat 29
Jan 26	Richard Levy	Tevet 28	Feb 25	Bennett Krakauer	Shevat 29
Jan 27	Edith Greenberg	Tevet 29	Feb 26	Hyman Bloch	Shevat 30
Jan 27	George Liebmann	Tevet 29	Feb 27	Sigmond Neugroschl	
Jan 27	Julius Zager		Feb 28	Bennie Riff	Adar 2
Jan 28	Richard Schatz	Shevat 1	Feb 28	David Schranze	Adar 2
Jan 28	Sam Sonders	Shevat 1	Feb 28	Shirley Tepfer	Adar 2
Jan 29	Charles Stein	Shevat 2	Feb 28	Ruth Wilkerson	Adar 2
Jan 30	Mildred LeVine	Shevat 3			
Jan 30	Morris Winner	Shevat 3			
Jan 31	Bob Boyd				

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.

Condolences to:

Linda and Alan Mann on the passing of Linda's mother, Lydia Martins.

Yehi zichronom l'vrachah – may her life be a blessing and an inspiration

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

GIFT CARDS

GIVE THE GIFT THAT GIVES BACK!!!

To purchase gift cards, contact Gift Card Chair Bobbie Sion at 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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Call Temple office For more
information

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Congregation Bnai Emet Advance Planning Representatives

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

Josh T. Ryan
805-306-6411
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www.mountsinaiparks.org 800-600-0076
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ATTENTION

CALLING ALL INDIVIDUALS WITH KNOWLEDGE OF
BUILDING INTERIOR CONSTRUCTION WORK

OR

LITERATE IN COMPUTER INTERNET/WEBSITES

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THE TEMPLE NEEDS YOUR HELP!!!!

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Schedule of Services, Candle lightings, and Torah Portions

Date	Candle Lighting	Service	Torah Portion
Jan 6/9 Tevet	4:43 PM	Family Service 7 PM	Vayigash - Genesis 44:18 - 47:27
Jan 13/16 Tevet	4:49 PM	Shabbat Service 8 PM	Vayehi - Genesis 47:28 - 50:26
Jan 20/23 Tevet	4:56 PM	Shabbat Service 8 PM	Shemot - Exodus 1:1 - 6:1
Jan 27/1 Shevat	5:03 PM	Shabbat Service 8 PM	Vaera - Exodus 6:2 - 9:35
Feb 3/8 Shevat	5:10 PM	Family Service 7 PM	Bo - Exodus 10:1 - 13:16
Feb 10/15 Shevat	5:17 PM	Shabbat Service 8 PM	Beshalah - Exodus 13:17 - 17:16
Feb 11		Lauren Ranelletti Bat Mitzvah	
Feb 17/22 Shevat	5:23 PM	Shabbat Service 8 PM	Yitro - Exodus 18:1 - 20:23
Feb 24/29 Shevat	5:29 PM	Shabbat Service 8 PM	Mishpatim - Exodus 21:1 - 24:18

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. mspatera@earthlink.net



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

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