



CONGREGATION
Beth Ami

4676 MAYETTE AVENUE, SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA 95405

Shofar

707-360-3000

MARCH/APRIL 2015

5775

CONGREGATION BETH AMI COMMUNITY PASSOVER SEDER

Saturday, April 4 at 8 p.m.

Welcoming all ages,
affiliations, interfaith
& LGBT communities,
members, and
non-members



Community Seder led
by Rabbi Miller

Reservations Deadline:
Wed., Apr. 1 by 4 p.m.

Member prices:

of Adults ____ @\$26 = ____

of Children ____ @\$14 = ____

Under 5, no charge

Family Maximum: \$72

Non-Member prices:

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Congregation Beth Ami

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Telephone 707/360-3000

Fax 707/360-3003

Email office@BethAmiSR.org

Website BethAmiSR.org



Please "like" us at

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Office, Library, and Gift Shop Hours

Mon.–Thurs. 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Fri. 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Mission Statement

Congregation Beth Ami enriches our lives, transforms our hearts, helps heal the world and sustains our Jewish heritage. We are deeply rooted in Jewish tradition and welcome all to our community through celebration, learning, education, and prayer.

Personnel

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Deadline for May/June 2015

Shofar is Apr. 15

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Jewish Community Federation

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Jewish Community Free Clinic

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RABBI'S REMARKS

Rabbi Mordecai Miller

What's in a Name?

Purim and *Pesach*; what do the names of these two festivals actually mean?

The word, *Purim*, is based on the Persian word *pur* which means *lot*—as in *casting lots*. It features as the name of the festival because Haman cast lots to see which day would be the most advantageous, from an astrological point of view, to kill the Jews. For the people at that time, this would have been akin to our using a scientific process—weather, political climate, population studies etc.—to see what would be the best time to engage in some delicate enterprise.

The essential miracle that took place on *Purim* was this: despite the fact that the 13th of *Adar* was the perfect time for Haman to launch his attack on the Jews; with Divine help, the Jews were able to turn certain defeat into a major victory. The astrological theme suggests that there was more to what happened than a fortunate escape. There is cosmic significance behind these events; it represents the victory of the forces of good over evil.

Pesach comes from a word that means *to skip over*—just as lambs skip over various obstacles! In this case, the skipping over had to do with the Angel of death skipping over the homes of the Israelites. Importantly, the way the Angel knew which homes to avoid was the mark of blood, taken from the slaughtered lamb, on the two doorposts and lintel on each Israelite home. Ironically, blood is a symbol of death! Yet here it became a symbol of life!

The act of slaughtering the Paschal lamb in Egypt was an act of tremendous courage on the part of the Israelites. Elsewhere in the Torah we read that the Egyptians worshipped the lamb. (Implied in Genesis 43:32; 46:31–34) Slaughtering a lamb was slaughtering an Egyptian deity. We can only imagine the possible consequences our ancestors had to anticipate.

There's a major statement being made here about life and death. On reflection, one can be dead when alive, and alive in death. It all depends on the kind of life one leads. If a person's life is about nothing but their own physical survival, they miss out on a fundamental element of life: the ability to discover the spiritual element of it. One basic spiritual principal is:

“Whatever you want, give to others!” For example: if you want respect, then you have to give respect. To engage in a spiritual point of view a person has to try to see the value of life as extending beyond his or her earthbound existence. It involves finding a transcendent element in the everyday.

It's amazing to think that the theme of persecution and redemption are as relevant today as they ever were. Even after the monstrosity of the Holocaust, Anti-Semitism is growing once again. I read recently that “Never again!” is becoming “Ever again!”

Purim and *Pesach* come to reassure us that there does exist “Help from another place” (Esther 4:14). At the same time, it took Esther's courage and the faith of our ancestors in Egypt to enable these Divine acts of redemption.

Today *Purim* and *Pesach* are opportunities to seek ways to be worthy of Divine Redemption, speedily and in our days!

The word, *Purim*, is based on the Persian word *pur* which means *lot*—as in *casting lots*.

Simcha Board Tree of Life

Honor thy mother...also thy aunt, uncle, cousin, child, best friend, teacher with an engraved leaf on our Simcha Board, commemorating any joyous occasion, bestowal of an honor, or cause for thanksgiving.

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Plaque—\$450



EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Members:

Anne Tomin & Reuel Kaplan

Marge & Allan Brody

Sanford & Jo Anne Bressick

Births:

Winifred Ruth Bleasdale, granddaughter of Pnina Loeb & Jeff Richman

Solomon Meyer Dietrich, grandson of Paul & Michelle Zygielbaum

Deaths:

Verlayne Offenbach, mother of Paula Schlesinger

Hal Boren, husband of Barbara Boren and father of Bonnie Boren.

Traditional Megillah Reading Wed., Mar. 4—6 p.m.

Les Mégillah

Mar. 7 & 8—The Beth Ami Purim Spiel

The calendar turns, and that means that another Purim Spiel is upon us. This year's Spiel is Les Mégillah, as we hope to build upon the monster Broadway hit, Les Misérables. Of course, since spiels rarely build upon anything—we are more destructive in our artistry—you can expect lots of fun to emerge out of our efforts. The Purim Players feel another hit is in the offing!

Sat., Mar. 7—7:30 p.m. \$30/person for spiel and party. Join us following the performance to party with the spiellers; continue the fun with music by the Megillah Band, dancing, wine, refreshments, Beth Ami-made hamentashen, and more.

Sun., Mar. 8—2 p.m. \$10/Adults, Children 12 & under free. Following the performance you shouldn't leave hungry: have some Beth Ami-made hamentashen.

Israeli dancing:

Mar. 11 & 25; Apr. 8 & 22

ROCKIN' SHABBAT

with Lior Ben Hur
(USY Kadima weekend)

Mar. 20—5:30 p.m. service for tots; **6 p.m.** dinner*; **7 p.m.** service



Reggae & Israeli Fusion

Born and raised in Jerusalem, Israel, Lior Ben-Hur has traveled to over a dozen countries where he spent time learning, performing and sharing experiences with musicians and artists around the globe.

For the last ten years Lior made his home base in San Francisco, CA. In 2011, he founded Sol Tevél Project and in 2012 they released their debut album, *World Light*, which aims to shed a new light and contemporary interpretation on old Jewish texts, ideals and mysticism.

Are You In?

Come find out how to get in. New chavurot forming.

Who: Beth Ami members who are looking for community and an extended family.

When: **Sun., Mar. 22—11 a.m.**

Where: The Beth Ami Library or room 12/13

What: An introductory meeting to see who is interested in a chavurah. We may form one, two, or more chavurot.

Why: Each chavurah has its own character and focus. Some groups meet to eat and socialize, others to celebrate Shabbat and holidays together, and still others to go on hikes or to the theater together.

For more information, call Diane Ashton at 538-1178



RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REPORT

Pnina Loeb, Religious School Director

Save These Religious School Dates:

Sun., Mar. 1—10 a.m.–12 p.m. Beth Ami & You Purim Palooza

Wed., Mar. 4—6 p.m. Purim and the Megillah, with students acting some scenes in a skit. Come in costume, have fun, learn, and be amused!

Fri., Mar. 6 Family Shabbat Dinner, please make your reservations!

Fri., Mar. 20 Rockin' Shabbat with Leor Ben Hur.

Sun., Mar. 29—10 a.m.–12 p.m. Beth Ami & You, A Taste of Pesach.

Sat., Apr. 4—6:30 p.m. Beth Ami Community Seder

Sun., Apr. 19—10 a.m.–12 p.m. Beth Ami & You celebrating Yom Hatzmaut

Sun., Apr. 26—12–4 p.m. Simcha Sunday at Veterans Memorial Building

Sun., May 17—10 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Last day of Religious School for this school year! Come and celebrate your child's accomplishments, thank Rabbi Miller, their teachers, staff, all the volunteers, and party a little too.

Thank you to all of our parent volunteers, and

to Tamar Landau, Nick Alexander, and Daniel Elizalde for sharing their knowledge and talent, working with our grades 3-7 students during T'fillah. As you probably already know, Ayala Almog, who was our T'fillah teacher, is no longer able to work with the Religious School. To have these three very talented people assist me as I've taken on that role, is an immense assistance. Esther Baruch has been and will continue to evaluate many of our 6-7th graders on their T'fillah leadership readiness. This gives me great feedback as we always work with each student, teaching them and supporting their growth from wherever they are in their studies.

Pesach is the first of the three great annual festivals. This feast was instituted by God to commemorate our deliverance from Egyptian bondage. Please join as we celebrate and commemorate together on April 4th for the 2nd Seder.



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Thank you!

InterfaithFamily Series

InterfaithFamily has a new series of 8 emails focused on Jewish spiritual parenting that begins on March 9. The series is about creating more joyful and spiritual parenting opportunities. Participants will receive an email a week for 8 weeks. Each email will cover a different theme such as mealtime with our children, social play with one another, opportunities to see the blessings around us, and how to talk to our children about God. For more information, please contact Marilyn at marilyn@interfaithfamily.com or register online for the InterfaithFamily/Bay Area free email series.



NURSERY SCHOOL NOTES

Jenny Levine-Smith

Nursery School Director

2015 is off to a fantastic start at Beth Ami Community Nursery School. The staff and I came back from winter break revitalized, and took an inspiring tour of the Children's Museum of Sonoma County on our professional development day, which really got our creative, collaborative juices flowing. But of course we couldn't wait to see our beloved students, and we have been thrilled to welcome seven new faces in 2015 in addition to our continuing students!

We started February with a very successful Open House, which was attended by many current families, who were able to see their children's work as well as to take a look at next year's classrooms. We also had many prospective families come and check out our rooms, talk to the teachers, and learn about our program.

Registration for new and returning families is now open for the 2015/16 school year as well as for this summer! We have added two weeks to the school year to align more closely to the public school system, and will continue to offer the longer extended care hours that make our school accessible to working families. We are thrilled that we are serving three times as many children as we did last year in morning care and afternoon care while maintaining the excellence in Early Childhood Education that we are known for.

We have recently revamped our website as well. It is more colorful, more informative,

easier to navigate and understand, and peppered with pictures of our program and our students. Check us out at BethAmiSR.org and click on the link for Nursery School under the Education tab.

Springtime brings flowers, field trips, and of course, Purim and Pesach. Our Purim Carnival is scheduled for Thursday morning, March 5. Children come to school in costume, and class-by-class, they enjoy the activities—crown designing, macaroni necklace making, ring toss, etc.—put together and run by our nursery school parent volunteers.

On March 24, we will celebrate Pesach with a daytime Nursery School Seder. Headlining the event will be our teacher-produced reenactment of the story of Moses leading the Jews out of Egypt. This will be followed up with blessings by Rabbi Miller and a tasting and explanations of traditional Seder food.

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ISRAEL FROM THE LEFT COAST

Bob Raful

Here is your ultimate guide to the top events in Israel in 2015.

No matter when you visit Israel, you can be sure there will be festivals and other special events on tap somewhere in the country.

ISRAEL21c has chosen 30 events from February through November (December warrants a separate listing), to feature in our ultimate guide to 2015 in Israel. It's not an exhaustive list, but it does provide a glimpse into the festive future. Because of space limitations, this report highlights only the events through Yom Ha'atzmaut. Find the rest at the ISRAEL21c.org web site.

The Red Sea Jazz Festival, Feb 19-21. The fifth annual winter edition of the annual international Red Sea Jazz Festival at the Eilat port will feature 19 musical performances, a jam session and four master classes. Among the artists participating are Israeli singer-songwriter-guitarist Tamar Eisenman, the Enrico Rava Quintet from Italy and Indonesian child prodigy pianist Joey Alexander.

Sounds of the Old City, March 9-12. Musical bands and ensembles will perform authentic music on central stages and in the streets of Jerusalem's Old City quarters (Jewish, Muslim, Armenian and Christian), each matched to the character of the quarter. Visitors will follow a circular route from the Jaffa Gate. Free entrance; 7-11pm.

Eilat Birds Festival, March 15-22. Organized by the Israel Ornithological Center of the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel, the Eilat Birds Festival brings together birders from the world over during the peak of spring migration in southern Israel. Special packages are available at the Isrotel Agamim Hotel, which hosts the event now in its ninth year.

International Clown Festival, Netanya, March 18-20. Clowns from Israel and other countries will offer performances and workshops, some for free.

Festival of Wine & Plenty, Zichron Yaacov, March 25-26. In the picturesque Ramat Hanadiv gardens, local wineries and producers of cheese, olive oil, jams and baked confections will offer tastings, workshops and cooking demonstrations.

Ahava Dead Sea Festival, April 5-8. For the 19th year, the Dead Sea will be the setting for a rock music festival that many Israelis and tourists anticipate all year long. In addition to performances by Israel's top artists, guests may take advantage of guided tours in the area. If you're more into the indie alternative music scene, head to Ashdod during this same time period during Passover to catch the famous Boombamela Festival.

Independence Day, April 22-23. From the night of April 22 through the night of April 23, Israelis will be celebrating Yom Ha'atzmaut (Independence Day) with cookouts, shows, fireworks displays and other celebrations. If you're in Tel Aviv, check out the giant fireworks display over Rabin Square and the Israel Air Force flyover above the shore.

Larry Gregg

Bujinkan Santa Rosa Dojo

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THE KITCHEN CORNER

Jeffrey & Janet Stein-Larson (Co-Chairs)

Ask the Rabbi: Kosher Curiosities

Dear Rabbi;

We are learning about keeping kosher. It's nice when we have a Hekhsher (kosher symbol) telling us that the processed item is kosher. What do we do when there is no Hekhsher on the item? Is there a list of kosher chemical ingredients or additives that we can follow? Is there a way of finding out when the ingredients list states *natural ingredients* if the natural ingredients are okay?

Thank you;

Curious Kitty

Dear Curious Kitty,

As a rabbi, I've learned that actually keeping Kosher isn't black and white. I think it's fair to say that there are degrees of Kashrut and there are also (no surprise here), areas of disagreement with regard to certain kashrut laws. In addition, life teaches us that turning an ideal into a reality often involves taking circumstances into consideration.

So...for someone just beginning to take on the principles of Kashrut it's important not to (forgive the expression) bite off more than you can chew! There are major concerns that are relatively straight-forward, for example not mixing meat and dairy products; and so the trick is to prioritize and not get frustrated with the finer points. That's not to say that the details aren't important, it's just that taking on Kashrut represents a change in direction and so "easy does it" has the best chance of long-term success.

Having said all this, let's take a look at the questions being posed:

1. How do we treat items that don't have any kosher symbol (Hekhsher) on them?
2. Is there a list of kosher (and unkosher) chemical ingredients?

3. Is there a way of finding out, when the ingredients list states *natural ingredients*, if those natural ingredients are okay?

1. How do we treat items that don't have any kosher symbol (Hekhsher) on them?

We can divide edible items into

- (a) animal,
- (b) vegetable,
- (c) mineral,
- (d) synthetic
- (e) a combination of any of the above

For our purposes:

- (a) Any animal product requires some kind of supervision or Hekhsher. The only exception is kosher species of fish which must have both fins and scales. Fish is the only kosher animal that can be eaten with a dairy meal.
 - (b) Any vegetable in its natural state is considered kosher and can be eaten with both dairy and meat meals. Such vegetables do not require kosher certification.
 - (c) Any pure mineral product (e.g. salt) is kosher. It can be consumed at a meat or dairy meal and does not need a *Hekhsher*.
 - (d) While synthetic products may be technically eaten with meat or dairy; the fact that they are processed substances require that they have some kind of Kashrut certification.
 - (e) This is an extension of (d). Many food products are made up of a variety of ingredients. They may contain preservatives, coagulants or anti-coagulants from a variety of sources, some of which may be animal. Such products invariably require some kind of Kashrut certification.
2. Is there a list of kosher (and unkosher) chemical ingredients?

The short answer is "Yes". You can Google the question: "Is 'x' kosher?" to find out a specific answer.



THE KITCHEN CORNER

(continued...)

Note, though, as a rule of thumb, there chemical products that are considered dairy—such as sodium caseinate; even though the product may be labeled as *non-dairy*. Any product that has *stearate* as part of its name can be assumed to be of animal origin.

3. Is there a way of finding out, when the ingredients list states “natural ingredients”, if those “natural” ingredients are OK?

Again, it may be possible to go on line and run a query through “Rabbi” Google, such as: “Are the natural ingredients in X product kosher?” Know that there is a good chance that the question you’re asking has been asked before, so there’s a chance there may be an answer on line.

I recently had a query concerning a package of fine Tea. Some of the individual packages were marked with a Hekhsher symbol, others weren’t. After checking on line, I was able to reach a representative of the company itself. That person assured me that there were only vegetable products used in the company’s teas. When I discovered that one of those products involved grape juice, I understood why the Orthodox Union couldn’t issue a kashrut certification. However, at Beth Ami, we have a history of consuming grape wine regardless of its source. I determined that those unmarked teas would be acceptable at Beth Ami.

B”Te-a-von! Bon appetit!

Mordecai Miller

What’s Happening in the CBA Kitchen?

Besides our usual events, this is the time of year we are busy making hamantashen for Purim and planning for Passover. The Passover plans are a major upheaval in their own right. Not only is the kitchen unavailable for it’s usual operations, but it’s been turned upside down (just like at home) to be cleaned of all chamatz. The pots, pans, utensils of Passover exchanged with their regular equivalents. So expect the kitchen to be unavailable from the evening of Sunday, March 29th through Passover as the cleaning and seder preparations begin. After Purim is over, if you have any foodstuffs you care about that are stored in the CBA refrigerator or freezer, please make plans for removing them. Anything left after the morning of Sunday, March 29th will be donated, so that the refrigerator & freezer can be cleaned as well.

Purim: Munching on Traditional Holiday Treats

Right now, as I write these words, we are in the middle of making Hamantashen treats for all of us to enjoy at Purim; but consider—there are so many other traditional foods for Purim with their own meanings. Where can one begin?

Let’s first start with Queen Esther. When she became queen, she still kept her kosher diet (in a non kosher environment) by eating mostly beans, peas, nuts, and seeds. So we see many traditional dishes and side dishes either featuring these items or spiced with these foods to remind us of her bravery and dedication to maintaining her hidden Jewish identity and observance to G-d while maintaining her roll as Queen.

Then there is the hidden aspect or secrets in Purim. The Megillah has Esther, the Queen, as a hidden Jew in the Court of Ahashuerus,



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THE KITCHEN CORNER

(continued...)

and G-d, whose name isn't mentioned in the Megillah, is always present, but also hidden. Foods that follow this tradition are the Ashkanazi serving kreplach, a hidden pocket of meat, or the Hungarian & Romanian custom of serving Arany Galuska, a fried dough ball filled with custard, and don't forget the closed Hamantashen, Haman's pockets filled with another secret, yummy treat.

Favorite traditions deal directly with Wicked Haman. From Russia there is a traditional Purim Challah, Keylitsh, which represents the rope that hangs Haman. Another tradition, this from Morocco, is Ojos de Haman which is a special sweet challah-like bread roll shaped like a head and inserted with hard boiled eggs which represents the eyes of Haman. There are many traditional ways to relish consuming Haman's twisted ears. Hamantashen referred to as Haman's ears is my most familiar one, but there are others; from Sephardic Jews there is oznei Haman or orejas (or hojuelas) d'haman, from Italy we have Orecci d'Aman and from France we have Palmiers, each tradition with it's own recipe to make cookies shaped like ears. Wait, there are more interesting traditions: from Turkey and Greece there is the tradition of eating wicked Haman's Fingers which is a phyllo rolled cookie, and from Bulgaria there is a pasta dish made with speghettini or vermacelli, Caveos D'Aman, which traditionally represents Haman's Hair.

Whichever tradition you follow or try; enjoy it!



ADULT EDUCATION

Who will be the next Saul Bellow or Nadine Gordimer?

The next adult education class starts on Thursday, April 16

Catch the rising stars among current Jewish authors: Who will be the next Saul Bellow or Nadine Gordimer?

Gabor Por, who writes a blog on Jewish Literature, has a degree in library and informational sciences. Gabor has helped keep our Beth Ami library current, and will introduce us to talented contemporary Jewish writers, whom we may not have heard of before.

The class will meet for 6 Thursday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30, starting April 2nd.

BETH AMI GIFT SHOP

Passover will soon be here.
Visit the Beth Ami Judaica gift shop.
Contact Bonnie Boren if you would like to order anything special.



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MITZVAH MOMENTS

Tish Levee

Mayim, mayim, mayim! Water everywhere, but...we're still in a drought. Despite December's rains, January was the driest year on record. In San Francisco, no rain fell for the entire month—the first time since records have been kept—in the Gold Rush! Just a week ago we had torrential rains, with flooding throughout northern California and Sonoma County. But those rains were part of the *Pineapple Express*, which brings warm, tropical rain to California, but doesn't bring the snow we desperately need in the Sierras to supply us with water later this year—approximately 1/3 of our water supplies come from the melting snowpack. However, the latest measurements put the snowpack at only 27% of normal, an amount the California Department of Water Resources described as “dismally meager.”

We are in the midst of the worst drought in over 1200 years, made increasingly worse by record hot temperatures—2014, which intensified the California drought by 36% was the hottest year on record. A recent NASA study finds that things are only going to get worse.

Bal Tashchit—not wasting resources. Thus water conservation is (and must always be) a top concern. <http://ci.santa-rosa.ca.us/departments/utilities/conservation/Pages/default.aspx>

is where to learn how Santa Rosa residents and businesses save 1.45 billion gallons of water annually.

Ma'achil Re'vim—feeding the hungry. As you prepare for Pesach and perform the mitzvah of Biur Chametz—clearing out the Chametz in your home, remember the hungry in Sonoma County. Donate unopened packages of chametz to the JFCS Food Pantry—there's a barrel in the synagogue lobby.



Buy your Pesach groceries at Safeway & Oliver's while supporting Beth Ami!

Buy your Pesach groceries at Safeway & Oliver's while supporting Beth Ami!

The year-end results for 2014 are in—for the 3rd straight year our total eScrip contribution exceeded \$2000 (\$2166 to be exact)! This was achieved by our wonderful supporters just doing their regular shopping at Oliver's, Safeway and other merchants; a totally painless way to give. If you are not an eScrip supporter, now is the time to sign up...then all you have to do is SHOP!

If you shop at Oliver's Markets in Santa Rosa or Cotati, remember to get your



Community Card at the store and choose BETH AMI to get the eScrip proceeds. Also remember Safeway purchases paid for with a credit card no longer earn eScrip contributions. They do accept

cash, checks, debit cards & Safeway gift cards (which can be purchased with a credit card).

Anyone can participate in eScrip and contribute; you do not have to be a CBA member & you do not have to live in Sonoma County. Invite your friends & relatives to join us! Just go to escrip.com and put in ID# 136921119. For sign-up help or any eScrip questions, contact Nancy Sherman at (707)538-9388 or nancysherman06@gmail.com.



SOCIAL ACTION SCOOP

Lyla Nathan

Hoping everyone is enjoying the spring-like weather and that there is rain on the way.

Our Social Action Committee continues to volunteer at the Redwood Empire Food Bank with a number of monthly regulars. Thanks to Ira and Ruth Rosenberg, Linda Emblen, Lenore Holloway, Susan Miller and Lyla Nathan. Please consider joining us for 2 hours on the first Wednesday of every month from 10–12. You will do a mitzvah and also get to know people in our community as well as the rest of Sonoma County. The dates for the next 2 months are: Wed. March 4th and Wed. April 1st.

We also continue to bring fresh produce to the JFCS on the third Monday of the month. Special thanks to our regular volunteers: Cheryle Miller, Lenore Holloway, Karen Herskovic, Judy Hyman, Roz Edelson, Ellen Mundell, Susan Miller and Lyla Nathan.

Many thanks to everyone at CBA for your continuing support of JFCS Pantry. The bins are full every month. The JFCS pantry always needs non-gluten items (pasta and cereal), boxed milk, canned tuna and chicken, healthy snacks and low sodium soups. Passover is near and those of you who clean out your pantry please consider bringing extras to the synagogue. Thanks so much. When we donate food they don't have to buy it at the food bank.

We are going to the Coffee Teen Shelter in Santa Rosa on Wed. March 15th at 12:00 to have a tour and light lunch. The shelter helps teens in crisis by providing housing, counseling and doing all they can to reunite teens with their families. You need to make a reservation. Anyone interested in joining us please contact Lyla Nathan at: lylanathan5@gmail.com or 526-7438.

The Social Action Committee is supportive of the exciting new "Guess who is Coming to Shabbat" program at CBA. We are committed to building community and what better way

than spending a Shabbat Dinner with new and old friends. Any questions please contact Elizabeth or Carolyn at the Beth Ami office, 360-3000.

Reminder: There is delicious split pea soup lovingly prepared by the Soup Sisters in the kitchen's freezer.

Remember acts of loving kindness make for a better world.

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Services at Beth Ami

Please join us for services. For additional information, call the office at (707) 360-3000.

March Shabbat & other Services

Mar. 4—6 p.m. Purim Megillah reading and costume party

Mar. 5—7 a.m. Purim morning service with Megillah reading

Mar. 6—6 p.m. dinner* followed by Shabbat evening service at 7:30 pm

Mar. 7—9:30 a.m. Shabbat morning service followed by dairy potluck

Mar. 13—7:30 p.m. Shabbat evening service

Mar. 14—9:30 a.m. Shabbat morning service followed by dairy potluck

Mar. 20—Rockin' Shabbat with Lior Ben Hur (USY Kadima weekend) **5:30 p.m.** service for tots; **6 p.m.** dinner*; **7 p.m.** service

Mar. 21—9:30 a.m. Shabbat morning service followed by dairy potluck

Mar. 27—No shabbat evening service at Beth Ami. We will participate in the **6:15 p.m.** evening service at **Shomrei Torah.**

Mar. 28—9:30 a.m. Shabbat morning service followed by dairy potluck.

Shomrei Torah will join us for services at Beth Ami.

April Shabbat & other Services

Apr. 3—6 p.m. Erev Passover

Apr. 4—9:30 a.m. Shabbat morning service followed by Kosher for Pass-over dairy lunch

Apr. 4—8 p.m. Community Passover Seder*

Apr. 9—6 p.m. Erev Yom Tov Service

Apr. 10—9:30 a.m. Seventh Day service

Apr. 10—7:30 p.m. Shabbat evening service

Apr. 11—9:30 a.m. Shabbat morning service followed by Kosher for Pass-over dairy lunch

Apr. 17—7:30 p.m. Shabbat evening service (Motz'ei Yom Tov)

Apr. 18—9:30 a.m. Shabbat morning service followed by dairy potluck

Apr. 21—6 p.m. Yom HaZikaron memorial service

Apr. 22—Attend Shomrei Torah's Yom

HaAtzmaut program at **6:15 p.m.**

Apr. 24—7:30 p.m. Shabbat evening service

Apr. 25—9:30 a.m. Shabbat morning service followed by dairy potluck

*Reservations necessary by the preceding Wednesday. Call the office at (707) 360-3000 to make your reservation.

Daily Daven

Sun. & National Holidays—8:30

a.m. Morning Minyan every Sun. in the Chapel, followed by a light breakfast on the 1st and 3rd Sun.

Mon.–Fri.—7 a.m. Daily Daven in the Chapel except for Yom Tov (holidays)

Sun.–Thurs.—6:30–6:50 p.m. Daily Daven in the Chapel except for Yom Tov (holidays)

SHABBAT DINNER RSVP

Shabbat Dinner:

☐ Friday, March 6

of Beth Ami Member Adults @ \$18 =

of Non-member Adults @ \$22 =

of Youth (ages 6–17) @ \$10 =

of Families @ \$46 =

Please return payment and forms to:

Congregation Beth Ami
4676 Mayette Ave.
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

Name _____

Phone _____

I want to volunteer for (indicate which event)

Total amount enclosed

☐ Check ☐ Visa/MC

Credit Card # _____

Expiration Date ____ / ____

Billing Zipcode _____

Les Mégillah

*THE BETH AMI
PURIMSPIEL*

March 7 & 8

Mais Oy.

You will
hear the
people sing!



Saturday, March 7, 7:30pm, Schmooze &
Havdallah, Spiel Starts 8:00pm,
\$30/person for spiel and party

Following the performance, party with the
spielers: continue the fun with music by the
Megillah Band, dancing, wine, refreshments,
Beth Ami-made hamentashen, and more.



Congregation Beth Ami

Sunday, March 8, 2 p.m.
\$10/adults, kids 12 & under free

Following the performance you
shouldn't leave hungry: have some
Beth Ami-made hamentashen, tea,
coffee and juice.

For reservations, call 707-360-3000
or email office@BethAmiSR.org

BethAmiSR.org

4676 Mayette Ave. Santa Rosa, CA 95405

Scholar-in-Residence



"And the winners are..." Scholar-in-Residence Gary Kenzer, USA Executive Director of HonestReporting.com presents door prize T-shirts to Rabbi Miller, Betty Boyd and Jeffrey Sheff.



Gary Kenzer, Executive Director of Honest Reporting in North America, led a series of workshops January 9-11 at Beth Ami about keeping news and social media honest in their reporting on Israel.

Chanukah Party at Beth Ami





GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR CONGREGATION

The next time you are looking for a meaningful way to celebrate a joyous occasion, remember a loved one, or comfort a mourner, please consider a donation to Congregation Beth Ami. When you make a gift, a card is sent to the honoree or the family and your donation is proudly acknowledged in the Shofar. The minimum donation for each occasion is \$7.50. Congregation Beth Ami truly appreciates your support.

Endowment Fund

A thoughtful donation
—*Myrna Morse*

General Fund

In memory of our parents
—*Abraham & Gayle Farkas*

In honor of Arnold Drake's birthday
—*Al & Sue Batzdorff*

In memory of Hal Boren
—*Alan Krubiner & Jane Meyer*

In memory of Ruth Sisnow, mother of Nancy—*Andy & Nancy Fleming*

In memory of Hal Boren
—*Andy & Nancy Fleming*

In memory of Dean Fleming, father of Andy—*Andy & Nancy Fleming*

In memory of Sydney Perlman
—*Art & Charlene Bornstein*

In memory of Syd Perlman
—*Barbara Tomin*

In memory of Hal Boren
—*Barbara Tomin*

In memory of my mother, Eleanor Marshall—*Carolyn Metz*

In honor of being Realtor for Al & Susanne Batzdorff—*Carolyn Metz*

In memory of my husband, David Kerben—*Claire Miller*

In memory of my father
—*Dan & Blair Pleasant*

Condolences to the Rogan family upon the passing of Rachel's mother-in-law, Diane Thomas
—*Dave & Marge Ballo*

Condolences to the Boren and Weil families upon the passing of Hal Boren—*Dave & Marge Ballo*

Speedy recovery to Tish Levee
—*Dave & Marge Ballo*

Mazal Tov to Bob & Susy Raful upon the arrival of their great grandson
—*Dave & Marge Ballo*

In memory of David's mother, Elsa Ballo—*Dave & Marge Ballo*

Condolences to the Friedman family upon the passing of Sydney Perlman—*Dave & Marge Ballo*

Mazal Tov to Ethel & Stuart Schy upon their happy anniversary
—*David & Margorie Ballo*

Condolences to the Rosenbach family upon the death of grandson & son, Gideon Bruce
—*David & Margorie Ballo*

Mazal Tov to Jane Meyer & Alan Krubiner upon the birth of their granddaughter, Sydney
—*David & Margorie Ballo*

In memory of Bob Bell, with condolences to his family
—*David & Margorie Ballo*

In loving memory of my wonderful Uncle Hal Boren—*Diane Hoffman*

In memory of Hal Boren
—*Ed & Nancy Sherman*

In memory of Hal Boren
—*Edith Newman*

In memory of Syd Perlman
—*Edith Newman*

In memory of Gertrude Cohen
—*Eli Cohen & Betty Boyd*

To Nancy Wackstein in honor of your loving care of Mom
—*Ellen Samuel*

To Barbara Hendricks in honor of our wonderful friendship
—*Ellen Samuel*

to Maryann Eggleston in honor of our wonderful friendship
—*Ellen Samuel*

A generous donation
—*Elliot Morrison & Susan Milstein*

In memory of Hal Boren
—*Ethel Cramer*

In memory of my father, Harry Schneider—*Evelyn Gurevitch*

In memory of my son, John Metz
—*Florence Metz*

In memory of Harold Boren
—*Gerald Hoffman*

In honor of Mark Rosen; for being a good mensch
—*Gerald Lakins & Susan Miller*

In memory of Hal Boren;
In memory of Ira's father, Ira Hayes Rosenberg; In memory of Ruth's mother, Olive Conklin Boyer
—*Ira & Ruth Rosenberg*

In memory of Nomi Lev-Yahm, mother of Vivian
—*Irvin & Vivian Klein*

A thoughtful donation—*Ivan Barta*

In honor of being called for an aliyah—*Ivan Barta*

A thoughtful donation—*Ivan Barta*

In honor of the memory of Max Stein, father of Janet
—*Jeffrey & Janet Stein-Larson*

In memory of Sydney Perlman
—*Judi Hyman*

In memory of Hal Boren
—*Judi Hyman*

In memory of Hal Boren (from Mel Decker & Judy Stern)—*Judy Stern*

In memory of Hal Boren
—*Juli Scherer*

In memory of Hal Boren
—*Leanne Schy & Mark Stoelting*

In honor of Tish Levee's 75th birthday—*Leanne Schy & Mark Stoelting*

In honor of Susanne & Al Batzdorff for leading services—*Lillian Judd*

In memory of my parents and sisters—*Lillian Judd*



GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR CONGREGATION

Continued...

In honor of the congregation members who helped me to be able to say Kaddish—*Lillian Judd*

A thoughtful donation
—*Marjorie Gordon*

Thank you to Bill & Suzie Friedman for a stupendous dinner!
—*Mark & Carol Rosen*

A generous donation
—*Maurice Jones*

In memory of Hal Boren—*Morton Sherman & Beverly Sherman*

In memory of my mother
—*Myrna Morse*

From Lorrain Pappin; in memory of Hal Boren
—*Phil Weil & Bonnie Boren*

In memory of Hal Boren
—*Richard & Joan Riposa*

In memory of Hal Boren
—*Richard Kahn & Anne Brown*

In honor of the birth of Winifred Ruth Bleasdale, granddaughter of Pnina Loeb & Jeff Richman
—*Richard Kahn & Anne Brown*

In memory of Syd Perlman
—*Richard Kahn & Anne Brown*

In memory of Paula Schlesinger's mother, Verlayne Offenbach
—*Richard Kahn & Anne Brown*

In memory of Roz's father, Abraham Backman
—*Stan Feingold & Roz Edelson*

In memory of Hal Boren
—*Stan Feingold & Roz Edelson*

In memory of Hal Boren
—*Stewart & Lee Wolfe*

In memory of Hal Boren
—*Stuart & Ethel Schy*

General Fund—Shabbat Lunch

A thoughtful donation
—*Edith Newman*

A thoughtful donation
—*The Metz family*

Israel Programming Fund

In memory of Paula Schlesinger's mother—*Bob & Susy Raful*

In honor of Eli Cohen & Betty Boyd—*Jeff Sheff*

Jill Tager Nursery School Scholarship Fund

In honor of being Realtor for Minona Heaviland & Peter Bruland
—*Carolyn Metz*

Library Fund

In memory of my brother-in-law, Mark Gurevitch—*Evelyn Gurevitch*

Malk Fund

Condolences to Heather Concoff and family upon the passing of her father, Bill Fryxell
—*Dave & Marge Ballo*

In memory of Harry Glickman, father of Donald Glickman
—*Donald & Gloria Glickman*

In memory of Hal Boren
—*Edward Salomon*

In memory of Harold Boren
—*Marilyn Diamond*

In memory of Syd Perlman
—*Phyllis Shapiro*

In memory of Hal Boren
—*Phyllis Shapiro*

In memory of my mother-in-law, Sophie Shapiro—*Phyllis Shapiro*

Nursery School Donation

Condolences to Ayala Almog and family upon the tragic death of her cousin, Rabbi Kupinsky, in Israel
—*David & Margorie Ballo*

In memory of Olivia's sister
—*Ellen Samuel*

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In memory of Hal Boren
—*Edee Sternfield-Squires*

A thoughtful donation—*Ivan Barta*

A generous donation
—*Jeff & Karen Sommers*

In memory of Hal Boren
—*Jerry Lakins & Susan Miller*

In honor of the birth of Susy & Bob Raful's great grandchild, Ori in Connecticut—*Jerry Lakins & Susan Miller*

In memory of Noah and Mary Minuskin—*Joseph & Signe Minuskin*

In memory of my husband, Fred Marvan—*Regina Marvan*

Religious School Donation

In memory of Bill Fryxell, father of Heather Concoff
—*Richard Kahn & Anne Brown*



March Yahrzeits

Secular dates correspond to Hebrew date of death.

Observance of yahrzeit begins at sundown the previous day.

All yahrzeits observed at Beth Ami.

Announced on Mar. 6 & 7

- Mar. 7 Simon Jimmy Saar, Brother of Ahuva Simon-Saar
- Mar. 8 Polly Boyd, Mother of Betty Boyd
- Mar. 9 Bernard Bernstein, Father of Marc Bernstein
- Mar. 9 Rabbi Meyer Miller, Father of Rabbi Mordecai Miller
- Mar. 11 Leo Gurevitch, Husband of Evelyn Gurevitch and Father of Eleanor Cohen and Russ Gurevitch
- Mar. 11 Jacob Stromer, Father of Marilyn Sommer
- Mar. 12 Mary Hahn, Mother of Edith Newman
- Mar. 12 Fannie Peretz, Mother of Evey Abramowitz
- Mar. 13 G.K. Branangan, Father of Branagan
- Mar. 13 Hazel Schloner, Mother of Carol Swanson and Fred Schloner
- Mar. 13 Edward Susnow, Father of Nancy Fleming

Announced on Mar. 13 & 14

- Mar. 15 Josephine Goldstein, Mother of Elaine Golemb
- Mar. 16 Stan Diamond, Husband of Marilyn Diamond and Father of Lauren Newman
- Mar. 16 Maurice Friedman, Father of Jonathan Friedman
- Mar. 16 Pearl Lotsoff, Mother of Cheryle Miller
- Mar. 18 Maurice Fried, Father of Caryn Fried
- Mar. 18 Lotte Hankin, Mother of Harry Hankin
- Mar. 19 Michael Abrams, Brother of Patty Bernstein
- Mar. 19 Barbara Garam, Mother of Rose Batzdorff
- Mar. 19 Sabine Pelta, Mother of Esther Pilch

- Mar. 19 Lazar Peretz, Father of Evey Abramowitz
- Mar. 20 Ester Gutman-Markman, Aunt of Ahuva Simon-Saar

Announced on Mar. 20 & 21

- Mar. 21 Rhoda Freidman, Mother of Jonathan Friedman
- Mar. 21 Helen Goldman, Sister of Lillian Judd
- Mar. 22 Rae Abrams, Mother of Patty Bernstein
- Mar. 23 Rachel Jones, Grandmother of Ross Jones
- Mar. 23 Tillie Streitfeld, Mother-in-Law of Ricki Streitfeld
- Mar. 24 Yvonne Abrams, Sister-in-law of Patty Bernstein
- Mar. 25 Shai ben Zalman, Grandfather of Eleanor Cohen and Russ Gurevitch
- Mar. 25 Boruch Zelichenok, Father of Rimma Rivkin
- Announced on Mar. 27 & 28
- Mar. 28 Joseph Meyer, Father of Jane Meyer
- Mar. 29 Mannie Goldstein, Father of Elaine Golemb
- Mar. 30 Gail Negrin, Mother of Ronit Glickman
- Mar. 31 Sylvia Kupperberg, Mother of Michael Kupperberg
- Mar. 31 Justin Sommers, Son of Karen and Jeffrey Sommers
- Apr. 3 Sydney Garson, Father of Andrea Nett

March Birthdays

- 1 Karen Herskovic
- 3 Melissa Bloom
- 3 Sherri Kahn
- 5 Rose Batzdorff
- 6 Nancy Sherman
- 15 Raynore Paule
- 17 William Cordell
- 17 Dr. Alan Shotkin
- 19 Lee Feinstein
- 20 Jacqueline Sutter
- 23 Kim Cordell
- 23 Olga Pekker
- 24 Charli Silverman
- 26 Diane Brown
- 28 Adolph Rivkin
- 29 Warren Davis
- 31 Judith Dzik

March Anniversaries

- 3 Ivan Barta
- 9 Harry Hankin & Gussie Levine
- 12 Al & Sue Batzdorff
- 19 George & Paula Schlesinger
- 21 John & Barbara Whitaker
- 24 Ed & Nancy Sherman
- 27 Jeff & Karen Sommers



April Yahrzeits

Secular dates correspond to Hebrew date of death.

Observance of yahrzeit begins at sundown the previous day.

All yahrzeits observed at Beth Ami.

Announced on Apr. 3 & 4

- Apr. 5 Max Newman,
Father-in-Law of
Edith Newman
- Apr. 6 Harriet Lotsoff, Sister of
Cheryle Miller
- Apr. 8 Harry Drake, Father of
Arnold Drake
- Apr. 8 Ralph Stern, Husband of
Cheryle Miller
- Apr. 9 Morris Abrams,
Grandfather of
Patty Bernstein
- Apr. 10 Edward Kahn, Father of
Richard Kahn
- Apr. 10 Betty Katz, Mother of
Audrey Darby

Announced on Apr. 10 & 11

- Apr. 12 Benjamin Miller, Father of
Susan Miller
- Apr. 12 Esther Miller, Aunt of
Susan Miller
- Apr. 12 Joseph Scherer, Father of
Juli Scherer
- Apr. 12 Tema Zygelbaum, Aunt of
Paul Zygielbaum
- Apr. 14 Ben Glass, Father of
Gussie Levine
- Apr. 14 Abraham Schy, Father of
Stuart Schy
- Apr. 15 Reba Winkler, Mother of
Ben Winkler
- Apr. 15 Simon Weil, Father of
Phil Weil
- Apr. 16 Jennifer Hoffman, Sister of
Howard Glickman and
Daughter of
Gloria Glickman
- Apr. 17 Bea Goldstein, Mother of
Marilyn Diamond, and
Grandmother of
Lauren Newman
- Apr. 17 Lillian Magnus,
Grandmother of
Howard Glickman
- Apr. 17 Rose Pinsky, Mother of

Dorothy Gerstein

- Apr. 17 Sophie Shapiro, Mother of
Michael Shapiro
- Apr. 17 Mildred Stromer, Mother of
Marilyn Sommer
- Apr. 18 John Gee, Husband of
Bonnie Gee

Announced on Apr. 17 & 18

- Apr. 19 Rosemary Friedman,
Mother of Debra Chapman
and Bill Friedman
- Apr. 20 Elizavyeta Gaiger, Mother
of Marina Voulfson
- Apr. 21 Joseph Zygielbaum, Father
of Paul Zygielbaum
- Apr. 22 Samuel Gordon, Husband
of Marjorie Gordon
- Apr. 24 Jules Goldman,
Brother-in-Law of
Evey Abramowitz
- Apr. 24 Henry Herskovic, Father of
Arnold Herskovic
- Apr. 24 Anna Sterman, Mother of
Whitey Sterman

Announced on Apr. 24 & 25

- Apr. 25 Joseph Liverman,
Grandfather of
Marc Bernstein
- Apr. 26 Rose Abrams,
Grandmother of
Patty Bernstein
- Apr. 27 Sheldon Margoless,
Brother of Irwin Margoless
and Uncle of
Michelle Zygielbaum
- Apr. 29 Everett Shapiro, Husband
of Phyllis Shapiro
- Apr. 30 Garrett H. Rosenberg,
Cousin of Ira Rosenberg
- May 1 Margret Close, Mother of
Signe Minuskin

April Birthdays

- 1 Asher Nathan
- 3 Howard Glickman
- 6 Alan Krubiner
- 7 Robert Silverman
- 10 Debra Niestat
- 10 Joan Schloss
- 14 Jay Holloway
- 18 Barbara Tomin
- 19 Barbara Whitaker
- 21 Phyllis Shapiro
- 23 Jeff Richman
- 27 Ross Jones
- 27 Justin Rosenthal
- 28 Betty Franks
- 28 Jeffrey Stein-Larson
- 29 Binese Goldberg
- 29 Carol Swanson
- 30 Jonathan Batzdorff



Congregation Beth Ami

4676 MAYETTE AVENUE, SANTA ROSA, CA 95405

Address service requested

March Shabbatot

March 7

Parshat Ki Tissa: Ex. 31:18–33:11 (Page 529)

Candle Lighting—5:51

Havdalah—6:49

March 14

*Parshat Vayakbel/Pekude: Ex. 37:17–39:21
(Page 560)*

Candle Lighting—6:58

Havdalah—7:56

March 21

Parshat Vayikra: Lev. 3:1–4:26 Etc. (Page 592)

Candle Lighting—7:05

Havdalah—8:03

March 28

Parshat Tsav: Lev. 7:11–38 (Page 617)

Candle Lighting—7:12

Havdalah—8:10

April Shabbatot

April 4

*Parshat Pesach, Day 1: Ex. 12:21 - 51
(Page 385)*

Candle Lighting—7:18

Light Candles For 2nd Day—8:17

April 11

*Parshat Pesach, Day 8: Dev. 14:22–16:17:
(Page 1074)*

Candle Lighting—7:25

Havdalah—8:24

April 18

Parshat Shemini Lev. 10:12–11:32 (Page 635)

Candle Lighting—7:31

Havdalah—8:32

April 25

*Parshat Tazria / Metsora: Lev. 13:40–14:32
(Page 657)*

Candle Lighting—7:38

Havdalah—8:39