



CONGREGATION  
Beth Ami

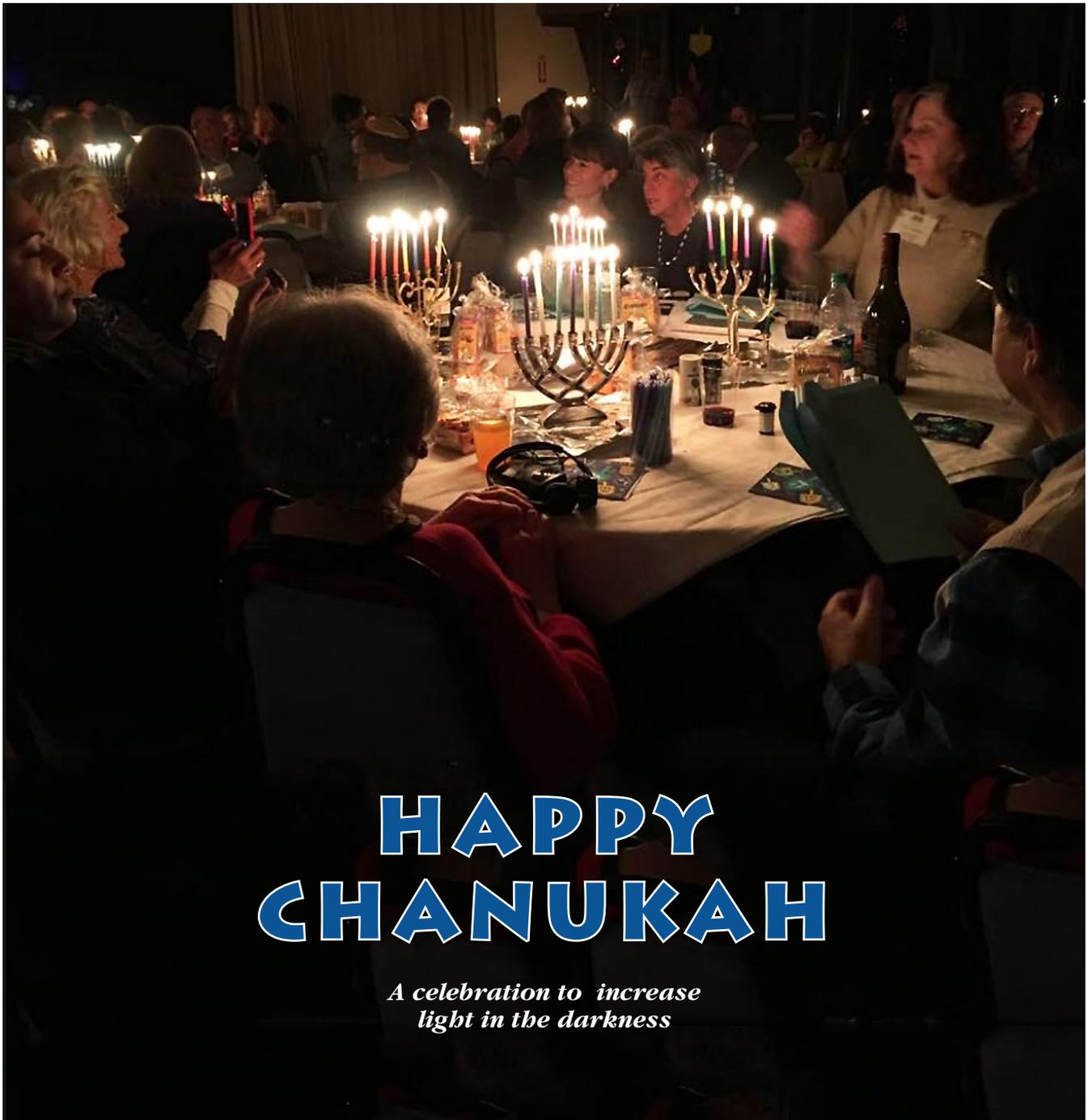
*Shofar*

4676 MAYETTE AVENUE, SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA 95405

707-360-3000

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2021

5782



**HAPPY  
CHANUKAH**

*A celebration to increase  
light in the darkness*

## Congregation Beth Ami

4676 Mayette Avenue  
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

**Telephone** 707/360-3000

**Fax** 707/360-3003

**Email** office@BethAmiSR.org

**Website** BethAmiSR.org

## Office Hours

Mon.–Fri. 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

## Gift Shop and In-Person Appointments

**Elizabeth Jarlsberg**, office manager, is in the office five days a week! She can also help you with gift shop purchases and library access. Contact **Bonnie Boren**, [bonniegboren@gmail.com](mailto:bonniegboren@gmail.com) for special gift shop assistance. Appointments are appreciated, masks and vaccination required.



Please “like” us at [facebook.com/CongregationBethAmi](https://facebook.com/CongregationBethAmi)

### Personnel

**Rabbi Mordecai Miller**

707-889-6905  
[rabbi@bethamisr.org](mailto:rabbi@bethamisr.org)

**Elizabeth Jarlsberg,  
Office Manager**

707-360-3000  
[office@bethamisr.org](mailto:office@bethamisr.org)

**Jessica Joerger and  
Natalee Pughe,  
Early Education Directors**

707-360-3030  
[jessicajoerger@bethamisr.org](mailto:jessicajoerger@bethamisr.org)  
[nataleepughe@bethamisr.org](mailto:nataleepughe@bethamisr.org)

**Andrea Nett, Friedman Center  
Director, 707-360-3021,**

[director@friedmaneventcenter.com](mailto:director@friedmaneventcenter.com)

### Volunteers

**Bonnie Boren,  
Gift Shop**

707-360-3022  
[bonniegboren@gmail.com](mailto:bonniegboren@gmail.com)

**Leanne Schy,  
Communications/ Shofar**

[Leanne@sonic.net](mailto:Leanne@sonic.net)

### Officers & Board of Directors, 2021–22

**Barbara McGee, President**

707-953-2526  
[barbmcee@comcast.net](mailto:barbmcee@comcast.net)

**Henry Cohn, Treasurer**

[henry.s.cohn@gmail.com](mailto:henry.s.cohn@gmail.com)

**Juli Scherer, Secretary**

[kuljul@icloud.com](mailto:kuljul@icloud.com)

**David Ballo, VP of Facilities**

707-576-0612, [klezhead@sonic.net](mailto:klezhead@sonic.net)

**Richard Kahn, VP of Membership**

707-217-5265, [earthin4@sonic.net](mailto:earthin4@sonic.net)

**Irvin Klein, VP Administration**

707-695-0711, [irvin@sonic.net](mailto:irvin@sonic.net)

**Carolyn Metz, Past President**

### Members at Large

**Myra Stern Thomas**

707-287-0786, [myra52@comcast.net](mailto:myra52@comcast.net)

**Michelle Zygielbaum**

707-538-6099, [mmz@mpzyg.com](mailto:mmz@mpzyg.com)

**Bob Cooper**

707-337-6244, [bcoop@sonic.net](mailto:bcoop@sonic.net)

**Mike Mundell**

707-291-3193, [mundmike@sonic.net](mailto:mundmike@sonic.net)

**Leanne Schy**

707-528-4874, [Leanne@sonic.net](mailto:Leanne@sonic.net)

**Myrna Morse**

707-539-5457, [mrm75@att.net](mailto:mrm75@att.net)

OUR MISSION: A KEHILLA THAT IS OPEN,  
WHERE RELATIONSHIPS MATTER

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 FOR  
CELEBRATION, LEARNING, EDUCATION AND PRAYER.

**Deadline for January/  
February Shofar is  
December 20th**



## RABBI'S REMARKS

Rabbi Mordecai Miller

### Attempting to Walk with God

#### 1. What do we mean when we talk about "Religion?"

***"There are only two certainties: Death and Taxes!"*** When I think about what we mean when we talk about a person's "religion," I believe we are talking about the most basic assumptions that a person may have about "what makes life worthwhile." It can be viewed as what a person considers is the basis of the Ultimate Truth about Life in general, and their life in particular. These assumptions may be conscious or unconscious; articulated or unarticulated; thought through or visceral (rational or emotional).

As a result of these assumptions, a person will consequently make specific choices as to how they want to spend their lives; their time, money, talents and other resources to achieve what they believe makes life worth living! Depending on how you look at it, since Life inevitably puts us in a position of having to make choices, these assumptions "help" or "force" a person to set priorities.

Put in a different way, these kinds of decisions define a person's values, and, since every individual displays values of some kind (even the attempt to discard every value is, nevertheless, a "value") we can conclude that every single conscious individual in the world has some kind of religion.

In this regard we can speak about religion as **"formal"** or **"informal."** Simply put, a "formal" religion would be the set of beliefs and (consequent) values that has been articulated in an organized way. It may have developed over time, but generally it has a given set of rules and assumptions/beliefs that form its basis: for example, religions such as Buddhism, Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Taoism, Hinduism etc.

When it comes to "religion" expressed informally, we are speaking of areas such as the arts, sports, money, politics or science. Again,

seeing them as "religions," they all involve making decisions about how one spends ones "time, money, talents and other resources!"



#### 2. What's "Religion" all about, anyway?

***"And by these be further warned, my son: Of the making of many books there is no end, and much study is a weariness to the body."*** (Ecclesiastes 12:12) I believe that religion— any religion, whether "formal" or "informal"—attempts to satisfy the most fundamental question a person can ask themselves, ***"Why was I born?"*** In other words, "For what purpose did I come into this world?"

So it is, that "religion" attempts to help us discover "SIGNIFICANCE."

Why might we even care? I believe one great reason may well be **"Adversity."** When life inevitably starts throwing challenges to our sense of well-being: illness, poverty, conflict—we may well question what it's all worth.

Add to this several other important factors:

**1. Our mortality**— on top of which we could contrast the brevity of our individual lives when contrasted with the life-span of the Universe of billions of years.

**2. The tiny sphere of influence over which the vast majority of us exert any kind of control,** as opposed to the vastness of Creation.

**3. The limited nature of our memories**— how many of us can remember our own relatives beyond four generations? Not only regarding the major details of their lives, but even their names? And even when it comes to "famous" people - leaders, emperors, dictators, artists, inventors etc; how many are lost to the





## PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Barbara McGee, President

### 'Tis the Season

The High Holy days offered us an opportunity to take a break and reflect. This month, the so called “quiet” month of Heshvan is full of planning activities that are daunting and necessary for our Congregation.

This is the season of planning by the Board of directors. Believe it or not we begin planning in October for the next fiscal year which begins July 2022. It seems like a long time away but it's sooner than you think. It also means committees and staff are getting ready to put into action their plans for the year.

For the board, it is a time to gauge what the CBA community wants and stands for; a time to review and examine if our community's values line up with what we say our mission is. It is a time to evaluate how we support the congregation, the wider Jewish and non-Jewish community.

In January 2020 the board established three focus areas to address. They are 1) increase use of the campus space for the wider Jewish Community, 2) connect the Nursery school families closer to the CBA community and 3) offer alternative services for those who do not attend traditional services. The board considers: are we adhering to our purpose and mission? What do we value? What drives people to be a part of Congregation Beth Ami? Is it social connections? A wider community purpose? A place to pray and learn?

We are blessed to have a beautiful space without a mortgage or rent. It does however require upkeep and oversight. How can we not just survive but thrive for the future as a community? And what does community mean? A spiritual conservative community or something else? By the end of December/beginning of January the board should have more information to share with you. And then it is yours to decide if we are heading in the right direction.

We also have to consider the effects of COVID on all of us; it has been hard on everybody. We have lost members because they

did not want to follow the safety protocols put in place with recommendations of the Reopening Task Force committee.

Others, because of the closure of the campus for a year and a half allowed few in-person social activities, have taken a break because they do not feel spiritually or socially connected. We also have had congregants relocate both in and out of the community as is normal— but it seems to have been at an accelerated pace this last year. And then we have many who have connected virtually with Zoom, and those who have not wanted any part of Zoom.

One thing I am sure of is: we need to find more connection as a community. Now that most people are vaccinated and the danger of getting sick is decreasing, I am hoping all committee and staff plans for more in-person activities come to fruition. Many counties are already removing a mask mandate for indoors activities for those fully vaccinated that regularly meet as a defined group. And now we can get a booster for added protection, too.

There are people meeting again on the campus and there has been good attendance for most services (in person and on Zoom). Even the Nursery school families have met twice in the outside parking lot for Holiday/Shabbat gatherings. So we are starting to see more activity on the campus. —Just not food yet... but.....

With donations of Kosher food and Matzah obtained by David Kahn from the Windsor Safeway and volunteers from the kitchen committee we are going to have a test kitchen run to cook and serve Matzah Brei on Nov 14th at 9:30 a.m to anyone who comes in. Call the office for reservations by 1:30 p.m. on Nov 10th





and get the latest COVID safety protocols. Eat in or outside or get takeout. The kitchen committee is excited to serve you. And come in at 8 that morning to for morning minyan services too if you can wake up that early.

And even brighter, our Staff and volunteers are working together to plan two large Hanukkah parties with food and activities for all. The plans are to ensure that everyone is safe and can come on the campus during Hanukkah to enjoy the season.

The congregation's vaccinated adults' and masked children's Chanukah party will be on Thursday Dec 2nd in the evening. We'll have Latkes with all the fixings served in a safe way, candle-lighting and traditional songs. Reservations will be required along with adherence to the most recent CBA safety protocols.

For the Nursery School's unvaccinated children and their families, a Chanukah party will be held on Saturday Dec 4th after Havdalah at 6.p.m. They will be following the BACNS safety protocols.

Now it is up to you to be involved by attending, lending a hand, and accepting the gift of freedom and rededication. Please know if it happens we cannot be in person, we will celebrate Hanukkah together in some way. Look for the flyer later in November. I pray we have many lights this Hanukkah on the campus.

*Yours in peace,*

*Barb McGee,*

*Congregation Beth Ami President  
2021 - 2022*



**Wishing a Speedy Recovery to:**

Debi Chapman, Linda Emblen, Chris Miller, Etienne Sampiere, Marilyn Sommer, Vivian Klein, Zac Singer, Judy Dzik, Romaine Farrel, Anna Judd, Larry Shulkin, Francine, Dennis Judd, Robert, Jeffrey Wong, Kate Inman, Jay Morse, Diane Lennox, Margaret Pacheco, Esther Frazee, Wendy Cilman, Fred Pacheco, George Aiken, Ann Elizabeth Thayer, Charles Sanford, Sharley Biswas

**Matzah Brei Fry November 14**



Thanks to the generous donation of David Kahn and Safeway we have a few extra cases of Matzah, so we are planning a Matzah Brei Fry on Sunday, November 14th at 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. It's eat inside or outside, takeout option too. Donations are gratefully accepted.

It is very important to make your reservations by November 12th, so we can have the tables set up for social distancing. We will all be following CBA COVID-19 Guidelines (proof of vaccination required, social distancing, etc.) that are set up for the protection of everyone.





## THE KITCHEN CORNER

*Myra Stern Thomas, chair person of the Kitchen Committee*

*written by Janet Stein-Larson*

### What's happening in the CBA Kitchen

During COVID time, we've been doing some re-organizing in the kitchen and storage areas, getting appliances repaired, and we've been (not so patiently) waiting for the opportunity to cook. Now that the COVID-19 numbers have been going in the right direction (down), and the number of people vaccinated has been going up, we are actually making cooking plans!

### Matzah Brei

Thanks to the generous donation of David Kahn and Safeway we have extra cases of Matzah (Matzot? or Matzas?). **We are planning to do a Matzah Brei Fry on Sunday, November 14th at 9:30 a.m.** (as long as these positive health trends continue). Of course, the logistics of safely working in the kitchen, setting-up, serving, cleaning-up all need to be worked out. If you are planning to come for this event, remember, it is very important to make your reservations by November 10th, so we can have the tables set up for social distancing. All of us who are participating in this and all of us who will be enjoying this event will be following CBA COVID-19 Guidelines (vaccinations, masking, social distancing, etc.) that are set up for the protection of everyone. (Yes, that means all the doors and windows will be open, so please dress accordingly.)

Here's a little bit of history from Gil Marks in his Encyclopedia of Jewish Food. Before Matzah Brei, there were various fried matzah recipes in cookbooks which started with whole matzah soaked and fried in butter or schmaltz. The egg-based fried matzo (known as Matzah Brei) recipes originated in North American and started showing up in the cookbooks late in 1890s and early 1900s, using either whole or big pieces dipped in beaten egg and then fried. We may thank the influence of Eastern European Jewish immigrants for the idea of crumbling the matzah before combining with beaten egg, and then frying.

### Latkes

We are also starting to plan for Chanukah (which is just about 2-3 weeks after the Matzah Brei Fry). Stay tuned for more information, but right now, all you need to think about for preparing for Hanukah is latkes and cheese ("cheese?" you say; ... just keep on reading.)

Here is more food history for you. When we think of latkes, we are immersed in the romantic tradition of this hot, crispy, delicious, oily potato pancake topped with various delicacies. We easily relate the oil to the miracle of the lighting of the Temple Menorah. Olive oil was used to light the lamps in the seven branched Menorah in the room next the Holy of Holies, and the miracle of one remaining daily portion of that precious oil lasting 8 nights. When we think of Hanukah we also think of cheese and dairy products to honor Judith, whose story is told in the Book of Judith. It was she who cleverly seduced the general of an invading army, General Holofernes, and plied him with alcohol and salty cheese, and while he slumbered, cut off his head. Then she snuck the general's head and herself out of the enemy camp and had it displayed on the town wall to the horror of the invading army, who fled at that sight.

Today latke is an eastern European Yiddish name for what was really a standard peasant fried pancake that, up to the 19th century, were made of buckwheat or rye and fried in schmaltz or butter. Note: the Eastern Europeans did not fry in olive oil because it wasn't readily or cheaply available. That didn't stop them from repurposing those fried pancakes to the crispy, oily latkes which symbolized Hanukah.

Around the 1800s, potatoes became widely cultivated and more available in eastern Europe. Because they were cheaper, plentiful and easier to store, they replaced the grains for the makings of latke pancakes; and that is how latkes became potato latkes.

Actually using fried pancakes as a tradition for celebrating Hanukah started much earlier,



## THE KITCHEN CORNER Continued...

in the fourteenth century, in Italy. Then it was fried pancakes made of cheese, deep fried ricotta, using available oils (oh yes, including olive oil) to fry this sumptuous treat. This tradition honored the custom of celebrating the holiday by consuming dairy goods (oily, dairy goods). The dairy food custom was to honor the story of Judith (see above), also a tradition celebrated during Hanukah. Thus these cheese pancakes were the first noted fried pancakes used in celebrating Hanukah, (however, they were not called cheese latkes until later).

Of course, we now know that the story of Judith didn't happen during the Hasmonean period. We also know that Judith was not related to the Judah Maccabees family; only the names are close, just a coincidence. Some of the scholars do believe, however, that the Book of Judith was composed during the Hasmonean period. Regardless of all these truths, this did not stop the 14th century Medieval Jews incorporating this story with the Hanukah story. So in the 14th century, the tradition of making fried cheese pancakes and other dairy dishes became part of the holiday season.

Now, by definition a myth is a folklore genre consisting of narratives that play a fundamental role in a society, such as foundational tales or origin myths. The fundamental role of latkes and cheese is to symbolize the miracle of the lights and the cleverness of Judith during the Hanukah season which is usually in the beginning of the darker, colder months of the year. Let's salute the romantic tradition of eating delicious, fried, oily potato latkes topped with cream cheese, or make ricotta or other cheese latkes to make our Hanukah Season warm in our tummies and our thoughts.

Be happy and healthy during this upcoming season. Shanah tovah u'metukah.

—Janet Stein-Larson and  
Myra Stern Thomas,  
*Kitchen Committee Chair*

### SENIOR MOVEMENTS

Balance, Strength and Mobility

In Home or Outdoors  
with Social Distancing

[kbmensch@sonic.net](mailto:kbmensch@sonic.net)  
707-292-3507

Functional Fitness to Maintain and  
Improve Your Activities  
of Daily Living

For Active Adults and those with  
Arthritis, Parkinson's, Hip and Knee  
Instability, Stroke and Cancer

**Jeffrey Sternfeld**  
AFSA Certified Senior Personal Trainer  
Certified for Balance, Arthritis, Cancer

## Dierk's PARKSIDE CAFÉ



Press Democrat:  
**VOTED BEST  
BREAKFAST  
IN SONOMA  
COUNTY  
2013-2019!**

404 Santa Rosa Avenue, Santa Rosa  
707-573-5955, 7:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
Friday–Wednesday

...and **Dierks Midtown Café**  
1422 4th Street, Santa Rosa,  
707-545-2233 7:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
Thursday–Tuesday

### HAVE FAITH!

Braces are only temporary...  
The smile you achieve will last a lifetime!



Proudly Supporting Local Community and Youth

Start your journey to a beautiful new smile, schedule your FREE  
consultation today! Call (707) 575-0600

Santa Rosa & Windsor

[WWW.BERNSTEINBRACES.COM](http://WWW.BERNSTEINBRACES.COM)



## ISRAEL COMMITTEE

Dr. Eli Cohen, Chair, Israel Committee

### My Journey to Re-Jew-Venation

Most columns in the Shofar explore what is going on inside Beth Ami. This Re-Jew-Venation column, in contrast, deals with the renewal of Judaism that is happening outside Beth Ami for the Jewish People (Israel) and the Jewish State (Israel). This column explores how Zionism is the merging of the Jewish People and the Jewish State. Prior articles summarized the thoughts and pearls of wisdom of various authors on issues related to Israel. We learned, for example, that American Jews deal with the troubling problems of assimilation and antisemitism. Israeli secular Jews are becoming “Jewraelis.” “Jewraelis” identify strongly as Jews and, while secular, study Judaism’s rich heritage. By exploring our past, they create a future for all non-synagogue-going Jews. Similarly, some American Jews have become “Jewmericans,” secular Jews with a strong Jewish identity.

This article is different from the prior ones in that it is personal. It describes how I became a “Jewmerican,” my journey from ignorance and shame at being a Jew to my gaining a solid Jewish identity. I was saved from assimilation and Jew self-hatred by Zionism. My Jewish journey started out as one of the few Jews in Hammond, Indiana. My early synagogue education was limited to pediatric Judaism. My synagogue taught children to repeat meaningless sounds (the Hebrew in the prayer book) but not to speak Hebrew. Likewise, the rituals were obligatory, but for me, empty. Such instruction leads youth to leave Judaism after Bar Mitzvah. I learned nothing then about the multifaceted creative Jewish expressions throughout history. What saved me from assimilation were Zionist summer camps and youth groups.

Zionism, the national liberation movement of the Jewish people, taught me that Jews are and have always been a people. Jews throughout the world share a common language, customs, religion, history, and culture. Most importantly, we care about each other. What happens to a Jew in another land impacts me personally. Because of

and through Israel, the Jewish people take care of one another. We freed Russian, Syrian, Ethiopian, and countless others of our people from Jew-hatred in their native lands. Zionism gives us a blueprint for the continuing restoration of the Jewish people. For two millennia, we prayed daily for our return from exile to our homeland. Zionism is the fulfillment of those prayers. It exemplifies Jewish resilience in the face of Jew-hatred and assimilation worldwide; it provides Jews with Re-Jew-venation.

The State of Israel is far from perfect; politically, it is pulled to the left or right at different times. Currently, it is pulled in both directions at the same time. It faces economic and social problems; no country is perfect. Yet, for all its imperfections, Israel anchors the Jewish people to work together toward fulfillment.

I take pride in the many accomplishments and innovations taking place in the Jewish State. In addition to Jewish study, Israel is a land of innovation in medicine, mathematics, economics, agriculture, energy, and technology. The inventions to medicine include the pillcam (a camera one swallows), the flexible stent, which saved millions of lives, and a device that lets the handicapped walk. Other innovations include drip irrigation, and Waze, a community-based navigation system used by millions, to name but a few.

Israel’s enemies continue to seek her destruction, yet Israel turned lemons into lemonade with inventions such as Iron Dome. This defensive armament shoots down enemy missiles. It saves the lives of Israelis and innocent civilian residents of Gaza.

Future columns will talk more about these **and other accomplishments of Israel**. You can see videos of earlier programs organized by the Beth Ami Israel Committee that presented aspects of Israel and Judaism at <http://IsraelUpdate.INFO>. To join the Beth Ami Israel Committee, email [EliCohen@IsraelUpdate.INFO](mailto:EliCohen@IsraelUpdate.INFO).

—*Am Yisrael Chai. The people Israel live.*

*Eli Cohen*

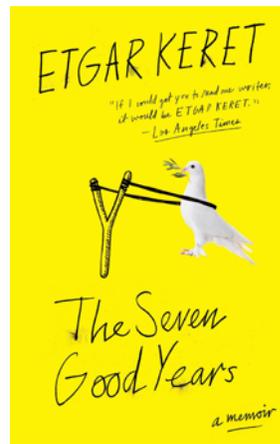
## RACISM & SOCIAL JUSTICE

by Carol Swanson



Here's what's happening with our group. Our meetings include very rich and insightful conversations on books, movies, published articles and webinars that we have attended relating to Racism and Social Justice. We all are enjoying building friendships while learning and building community together.

- Members have attended First United Methodist Church zoom discussions with people from all over the United States. The topic is Racism. We hope to maintain our connection and possibly work on projects together in the future.
- We have decided to go 'back at school' and are researching and learning about Critical Race Theory. What it is and what it isn't. The discussions will be very interesting.
- Some members are attending meetings to help develop and support a new Ethnic Studies curriculum at Santa Rosa City Schools in support of equity in education.
- Members have been attending webinars including one on Race-Consciousness through the USCJ (United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism), and another through CAMERA, (the Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America) on Anti-Racism and Anti-Semitism with presenter, Pastor Dumisani Washington.
- We hope to invite speakers to CBA who represent the Hispanic and Native American communities of Sonoma County in the future.
- We also hope to have more community conversations for our members, including one on Judaism and how its teachings are rooted in Social Justice.



## BETH AMI BOOK CLUB NEWS

by Linda Emblen

The Adult-ed committee sponsored book club is looking at Israeli authors for our next discussions.

We participate in the SF Jewish Community Library's Book Club - in

- a - a - Box, a program of Jewish LearningWorks. We are able to borrow 12 copies of the same book and choose from over 150 titles. The library is newly re-opened to the public on Sundays, Mondays, and Thursdays.

Israeli contemporary author Etgar Keret, mainly known for his short stories, wrote his 1st non-fiction book, a memoir, called THE SEVEN GOOD YEARS (Riverhead Books, NY, 2015.) It is the next read for our CBA Book Group. Leanne recommends it.

Short, quick, and full of jokes. Sometimes dark humor. Keret's son, Lev, is born during a terrorist attack. As I've said before, we borrow a box of 12 from the SF Jewish Community Library. Still have a few copies. Also available on e-book and a copy or 2 from our local library. . . and, of course, if you purchase it, you can scrawl notes in it.

Next meeting is Sunday, November 7. (I see from the calendar that Daylight Savings Time ends then. Turn clocks back the night before.) We may have some members briefly report on their other reading. As always, All CBA members and friends welcome... some come regularly and some for only a particular book. Fine. NO ZOOM. Small congenial groups with diverse opinions. Mindful of COVID- precautions, so RSVP for time and place, depending on the weather. It may be in my backyard or again at CBA. Input from everyone present. We'd like to hear what YOU have to say. Queries and comments to Linda at 707- 544 - 4532.

## Services at Beth Ami

We welcome you to join us for services.

For additional information or to verify the times, call the office at (707) 360-3000.

All Services will be held on Zoom and, on Shabbat mornings, in person for those who are vaccinated and wear masks. See the Rabbi's Virtual Calendar each week on the Beth Ami website: [bethamisr.org](http://bethamisr.org)

### Daily Daven: weekdays

#### Sunday - Friday Mornings

7:30 am. Torah Study

8:00 am. Morning Services

#### Sunday- Thursday Evenings

7:00 pm. Evening services

### November Services

#### Nov 5 Friday Rosh Chodesh Kislev

5:47 pm. Candle lighting

4:00 pm. Mincha

5:50 pm. Story from "Elijah's Violin"

6:00 pm. Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Miller

#### Nov 6 Saturday

9:30 am. Shabbat morning service with Rabbi Miller

5:45 pm. Mincha, Discussion, Ma'ariv

6:46 pm. Havdalah

#### Nov 12 Friday

4:00 pm. Mincha

4:42 pm. Candle lighting

5:50 pm. Story from "Elijah's Violin"

6:00 pm. Sing in Shabbat with Lisa Iskin and Rabbi Miller

#### Nov 13 Saturday

9:30 am. Shabbat morning service with Rabbi Miller

4:45 pm. Mincha, Discussion, Ma'ariv

5:41 pm. Havdalah



*Anniversary of  
Kristallnacht  
November 9*

#### Nov 19 Friday

4:00 pm. Mincha

4:37 pm. Candle lighting

5:50 pm. Story from "Elijah's Violin"

6:00 pm. Sing in Shabbat with Lisa Iskin and Rabbi Miller

#### Nov 20 Saturday

9:30 am. Shabbat morning service with Rabbi Miller

4:30 pm. Mincha, Discussion, Ma'ariv

5:37 pm. Havdalah

#### Nov 25 Thursday Thanksgiving Day

#### Nov 26 Friday

4:00 pm. Mincha

4:33 pm. Candle lighting

5:50 pm. Story from "Elijah's Violin"

6:00 pm. Sing in Shabbat with Lisa Iskin

#### Nov 27 Saturday

9:30 am. Shabbat morning service, Announce the month of Tevet

4:30 pm. Mincha, Discussion, Ma'ariv

5:34 pm. Havdalah

#### Nov 28 Sunday Erev Chanukah: Light first Candle

#### Nov 29 Monday Chanukah first day: Light 2nd Candle

#### Nov 30 Tuesday Chanukah 2nd day: Light 3rd Candle

THE MA'AM FOR THE JOB

**SJ'S  
HANDYMA'AM  
SERVICES**

**SJ Stoelting**

SJtheHandyMa'am@gmail.com  
707-596-8117

## Services at Beth Ami *Continued...*

### December Services

**Dec 1 Wed. Chanukah third day: Light 4th Candle**

**Dec 2 Thu. Chanukah fourth day: Light 5th Candle  
Congregational Celebration**

**Dec 3 Friday Chanukah fifth day: Light 6th Candle**  
at 4:15 pm. (before Lighting Shabbat Candles)

#### **Dec 3 Friday**

4:00 pm. Mincha;  
4:31 pm. Candle Lighting  
5:50 pm. Story from "Elijah's Violin"  
6:00 pm. Sing in Shabbat with Lisa Iskin and Rabbi Miller

#### **Dec 4 Saturday Rosh Chodesh first day, 6th Day Chanukah**

9:30 a.m. Shabbat morning service with Rabbi Miller  
4:30 pm. Mincha, Discussion, Ma'ariv  
5:34 pm. Havdalah **Light 7th Candle after Havdallah Nursery School Chanukah Party,**

#### **Dec 5 Sun. Rosh Chodesh Tevet**



**Dec 5 Sunday Chanukah-seventh day Light 8th Candle**

#### **Dec 6 Monday Chanukah eighth day**

**Dec 10 Friday**  
4:00 pm. Mincha  
4:31 pm. Candle lighting  
5:50 pm. Story from "Elijah's Violin"  
6:00 pm. Kabbalat Shabbat with Lisa Iskin

#### **Dec 11 Saturday**

9:30 a.m. Shabbat morning service  
4:30 pm. Mincha, Discussion, Ma'ariv  
5:34 pm Havdalah

#### **Dec 17 Friday**

4:00 pm. Mincha  
4:33 pm, Candle lighting  
5:50 pm. Story from "Elijah's Violin"  
6:00 pm. Sing in Shabbat with Lisa Iskin

#### **Dec 18 Saturday**

9:30 am. Shabbat morning service  
4:30 pm. Mincha, Discussion, Ma'ariv  
5:37 pm Havdalah

#### **Dec 24 Friday**

4:00 pm Mincha  
5:50 pm. Story from "Elijah's Violin"  
6:00 pm Sing in Shabbat with Lisa Iskin and Rabbi Miller

#### **Dec 25 Saturday Christmas Day**

9:30 am. Shabbat morning service with Rabbi Miller  
7:10 pm. Mincha, Discussion, Ma'ariv  
5:40 pm. Havdalah

#### **Dec 31 Friday New Years Eve**

4:00 pm Mincha  
5:50 pm. Story from "Elijah's Violin"  
6:00 pm. Sing in Shabbat with Lisa Iskin

#### **Jan 1 Saturday New Years Day**

9:30 a.m. Shabbat morning service, Announce the month of Shevat  
7:00 p.m. Mincha, Discussion, Ma'ariv  
5:45 p.m. Havdalah

*ALEF isn't enough  
BET isn't tough*

Study Hebrew from the source with a native Israeli.

All levels. The easy way.  
Prayers, Chanting Torah Tropes

contact Ahuva Simon-Sa'ar at  
(707)545-2454 or Ahuva@sonic.net

א

ב

ג

ד

ה

ו

ז

ח

# BETH AMI GIFT SHOP

**THE GIFT SHOP  
IS OPEN FIVE  
DAYS A WEEK!**

**10 A.M. TO 3 P.M.**

**Chanukah is here,  
and we have candles  
and beautiful holiday  
items. Please make  
an appointment with  
Elizabeth before your  
visit if possible.  
360-3000.**

**Call Bonnie Boren at  
707-528-1628 to order  
special items.**





# Beth Ami Virtual Week The Beth Ami Zoom Room, Services and classes: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/862157330?pwd=c2V5dEp6YzA4ZERHL2p2REdFU29uQT09>

Rabbi Mordecai Miller's half-hour morning Rashi study posted on YouTube  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtMLk4BGrEQZzGVlc2vOFiA>

Shabbat morning services in-person in the Sanctuary as well as on Zoom.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Shabbat
7:30 am Rashi Study with Rabbi Miller						
8:00 - 9:00 am Morning Minyan	9:30 am Shabbat Services with Rabbi Miller and/or congregants on Zoom and in person					
		2:00 pm Mishnah class		2:00 pm TaNaCH-Bible class	On Zoom: 4:00 pm. Mincha 5:50 pm. Story from "Elijah's Violin" 6:00 pm. Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Miller on 1st Fridays, on oth- ers Sing in Shabbat with Lisa Iskin	
7:00 pm Evening Minyan		Standard Time 4:30 pm. Mincha, Discussion, Ma'ariv Havdalah				
			8:00 p.m. Midrash class			

## Keeping each other safe in the sanctuary and on campus: **proof of vaccination is required.**

**On Shabbat mornings** we are welcoming congregants into the Beth Ami sanctuary for services. While keeping ourselves and those around us safe, we **recognize that science and the changing situation will call for adaptations and changes as we go along.**

**Anyone who has symptoms of being sick should not enter.** The rules for everyone are as follows:

**Please show your proof of vaccination the first time you enter. We are now following new directives for indoor meetings of small, regular, stable groups of vaccinated people: masks are now optional indoors.** Please bring a mask with you. If we have visitors, or families bring young children, or nursery school children are present we would need to wear our masks.

We want to remain welcoming (we will ask visitors for proof of vaccination.) We will continue to maintain social distancing. We will provide various places to sit to maintain **social distance** and ventilation. Seating choices include the sanctuary, the social hall, and even in the

breezeway outside, where you can see and hear through the windows.

Please be mindful and careful about **contact** and social distancing; ask before you shake hands and or hug unless you are sure the other person welcomes the contact. Use hand sanitizer often.

We are working on how to reopen the kitchen. We are trying some ways to serve food, and hope to return to our much-missed Shabbat lunch together.

**Can't join us in person? There is always the option of Zoom for those who are out of the area, not vaccinated or vulnerable. See above for a link.**

Please be considerate of others by following the above guidelines. Congregation Beth Ami relies on the Jewish values of personal responsibility and caring for each other. We encourage those who haven't and can to please get vaccinated, and get your boosters, as this has been proven to protect all our families, friends and dear ones. Each one of you is dear to us.



## GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR CONGREGATION

We apologize that some donations that should have appeared in the July/August Shofar were left out. They appear here in bold. We are very grateful for your support and think it's important that your donation is acknowledged in the Shofar. (The minimum donation for each occasion is \$9.00)

### General Fund

In honor of Susanne  
Batzdorff's 100th birthday  
—*Andrea Goodman*

In honor of Susanne  
Batzdorff's 100th birthday  
—*Barbara Tomin*

In memory of Florence Metz  
and in honor of her birthday  
on Sept. 18  
—*Catherine Bindman*

In appreciation of the  
misheberach recited for me by  
Richard Kahn & Anne Brown  
—*Claire Miller*

Speedy recovery to Elizabeth  
Jarlsberg  
—*Anonymous*

Speedy recovery to Shawna  
Nielson  
—*Anonymous*

Better health to Eleanor Cohen  
—*Anonymous*

In memory of Eric Batzdorff  
—*Anonymous*

In memory of John Rosenbach  
—*Anonymous*

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

Mazal Tov to Julie Simkovitz  
and Michael Schloss upon  
Rachel's engagement  
—*Anonymous*

In memory of Maury Jones  
—*Anonymous*

In honor of Susanne  
Batzdorff's 100th birthday  
—*David Stein*

In memory of our parents  
—*Dr. Eli Cohen &  
Elizabeth Boyd*

In memory of Jean Herman,  
mother of Debbie Shapiro  
—*Edith Newman*

In honor of Susanne  
Batzdorff's 100th birthday  
—*Edith Newman*

Thank you to all the  
volunteers who made High  
Holiday services on Zoom  
possible this year.  
—*Etienne Sampiere*

Happy Birthday to Judi  
Hyman  
—*Evelyn Gurevitch*

In memory of Maury Jones  
—*Evelyn Gurevitch*

Happy Birthday to Ellen  
Brosbe  
—*Evelyn Gurevitch*

In honor of Susanne  
Batzdorff's 100th birthday  
—*Howard & Holly Stein*

A generous donation  
—*Ira & Marlene Lowenthal*

In memory of my father,  
George Barta  
—*Ivan Barta*

In memory of my mother,  
Anna Barta  
—*Ivan Barta*

In honor of Susanne  
Batzdorff's 100th birthday  
—*Jeanette Oppenheimer*

In honor of Susanne  
Batzdorff's 100th birthday  
—*Jeffrey Sheff*

In honor of Susanne  
Batzdorff's 100th birthday  
—*Joseph & Rita Kagan*

In honor of being called for  
an aliyah  
—*Joseph & Rita Kagan*

In honor of Susanne  
Batzdorff's 100th birthday  
—*Juli Scherer*

Celebrating 5782  
—*June Sewell*

A generous donation  
—*Marc & Patty Bernstein*

Mazal Tov to Susanne  
Batzdorff on her 100th  
birthday  
—*Marc & Patty Bernstein*

A thoughtful donation  
—*Marilyn Blum*

In honor of Susanne  
Batzdorff's 100th birthday  
—*Mieneke Drake*

In honor of Susanne  
Batzdorff's 100th birthday  
—*Mitchell & Barbara McGee*

In memory of my  
grandparents, Frances & Myer  
Brust  
—*Mitchell & Barbara McGee*



# GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR CONGREGATION

Continued...

In honor of gracious hospitality

—*Peggy LaPlante*

In honor of Russ Gurevitch for performing surgery on our beloved dog

—*Richard Kahn & Anne Brown*

Mazel Tov to the Ballos on the marriage of Avi & Brittany

—*Stuart & Ethel Schy*

In honor of Susanne Batzdorff's 100th birthday

—*Stuart & Ethel Schy*

In honor of Susanne Batzdorff's 100th birthday

—*Tish Levee*

In memory of Esther Zittin

—*Charlene Bornstein*

## Capital Fund

In honor Susanne Batzdorff's 100th birthday

—*Audrey Darby*

## Malk Fund

In memory of Miriam & Max Malk

—*Phyllis Shapiro*

## Children's Education Fund

Speedy recovery to Karen Herskovic

—*Mark & Carol Rosen*

Speedy recovery to Chris Miller

—*Mark & Carol Rosen*

Speedy recovery to Debi Chapman

—*Mark & Carol Rosen*

## Nursery School Donation

Mazel Tov to Leanne Schy & Mark Stoelting on the marriages of their children, Ilana to SJ and Oren to

Katheryn

—*Edward & Nancy Sherman*

In memory of my grandson, Berkeley Garrison

—*Tish Levee*

In memory of my son, J.J. Matson

—*Tish Levee*

In memory of Esther Zittin

—*Charlene Bornstein*

## Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In memory of Sandra Gertner

—*Alana Katz*

In honor of Susanne Batzdorff's 100th birthday

—*Anne Gieseke*

In honor of the warmth of the community towards me and my journey

—*Christine Harris*

In honor of Susanne Batzdorff's 100th birthday

—*Edee SternfieldSquires*

With gratitude to Rabbi Miller for your kind support and for leading the shiva service in memory of Beverly Sherman, Nancy's mother

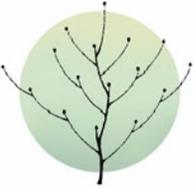
—*Edward & Nancy Sherman*

In honor of Rabbi Mordecai Miller

—*Peggy LaPlante*

In memory of Jeff Bodwin

—*Susan Miller*



**MICHAEL  
LEE  
SHAPIRO**

Aesthetic &  
Horticultural  
**PRUNING**

mleeshapiro52@gmail.com  
(707)235-1869.

California Licensed  
landscape contractor  
#892695

Thanks to Michael Shapiro, who volunteered his professional talent and time to beautify the grounds of Beth Ami, in the gate entrance and courtyard as well as along the street. Much gratitude and Kol HaKavod.



## November 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 Nov. 5 & 6

Nov. 5 Moshe Tzaig, Husband of  
Branagan Branagan

Nov. 6 Florence Goodman  
Mother of  
Andrea Goodman

Nov. 7 John Metz  
Former Husband of  
Carolyn Metz

Nov. 9 Kees Rijnveldt  
Stepbrother of  
Mieneke Drake

Nov. 9 Harold Zeamans  
Grandfather of  
Judith Helman

Nov. 11 Marcella Liverman  
Aunt of Marc Bernstein

Nov. 11 Geraldine Riggio  
Mother of Nick Riggio

Nov. 11 Gideon Rosenbach  
Grandson of  
Rhonda Rosenbach

Nov. 12 Gaye Spiegelman  
Aunt of Ronit Glickman

Nov. 12 David, Mark, &  
Sylvia Spiegelman  
Cousins of Ronit Glickman

### Announced on Nov. 12 & 13

Nov. 13 Rudolph Kupfer  
Father of Judy Kupfer

Nov. 14 Joe Goldberg  
Father of Richard Goldberg

Nov. 16 Miriam Malk  
Mother of Phyllis Shapiro

Nov. 17 Rose Schneider  
Mother of  
Evelyn Gurevitch

Nov. 18 Jacob Goldman  
Father of Ethel Schy  
Grandfather of  
Leanne Schy  
Great-grandfather of  
Ilana Stoelting

### Announced on Nov. 19 & 20

Nov. 20 Rochelle Adler  
Sister of Judith Dzik

Nov. 20 Raymond Nett  
Father of Stephen Nett

Nov. 20 Abraham Schwaber  
Father of Fredrika Gross

Nov. 22 Florence Cronin  
Mother of Neal Cronin

Nov. 22 Joel Jones  
Uncle of Ross Jones

Nov. 22 George Kaplan  
Father of  
Rhonda Rosenbach

### Announced on Nov. 26 & 27

Nov. 27 Isa Ballo  
Grandmother of  
David Ballo

Nov. 28 Laura Rosenthal  
Stepmother of  
Bobbie Rosenthal

Nov. 28 Dr. Eduardo Vrijdag  
Father of Mieneke Drake

Nov. 29 Noah Minuskin  
Father of Joseph Minuskin

Nov. 30 Mary Minuskin  
Mother of Joseph Minuskin

Dec. 2 Henry Lotsoff  
Father of Cheryle Miller

Dec. 2 Susy Raful  
Wife of Robert Raful

Dec. 3 Leo Schweitzer  
Father of Blair Pleasant

### November Birthdays

If you do *not* wish to have your birthday listed in the Shofar, please contact the office

- 1 Jerry Newman
- 3 Neal Cronin
- 6 Janice Sternfeld
- 7 Elizabeth Cooper
- 8 Bonnie Gee
- 9 Vivian Klein
- 13 Jane Rogan
- 19 Joseph Minuskin
- 23 Claire Miller
- 26 Nancy Fleming
- 27 Carolyn Orlik
- 28 Dr. Russ Gurevitch

### November Anniversaries

- 16 Leanne Schy &  
Mark Stoelting
- 21 Ethel & Stuart Schy
- 23 Betty Boyd & Eli Cohen

### 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*

**Leaf—\$360**

**Small Stone—\$1000**

**Large Stone—\$2500**

*We also provide the opportunity for you to memorialize loved ones.*

**Yahrzeit Board**

**Plaque—\$450**



## December Yahrzeits

Secular dates correspond to Hebrew date of death.

Observance of yahrzeit begins at sundown the previous day.

All yahrzeits observed at Beth Ami.

### December Birthdays

If you do *not* wish to have your birthday listed in the Shofar, please contact the office

- 1 Susan Brown
- 7 Debra Sokolsky
- 10 Ronit Glickman
- 12 Etienne Sampiere
- 13 Eleanor Cohen
- 15 Debra Chapman
- 18 Melvin Decker
- 19 Carolyn Metz
- 19 Dan Pleasant
- 23 David Sokolsky
- 27 Fredrika Gross
- 27 Lindsay Kvam
- 29 Marilyn Sommer

### December Anniversaries

- 5 Suzie & Bill Friedman
- 7 Connie & Ben Goldman
- 9 Marina & Iosif Voulfson
- 16 Elizabeth & Graham Cooper

### Announced on Dec. 3 & 4

- Dec. 4 Olive Cordill  
Mother of Kim Cordell
- Dec. 4 Joseph Schussheim  
Father of Karen Herskovic
- Dec. 4 Max Stein  
Father of  
Janet Stein-Larson
- Dec. 7 Alma Shapiro  
Mother of Raynore Paule

### Announced on Dec. 10 & 11

- Dec. 11 Harold Boren  
Father of Bonnie Boren
- Dec. 11 Carol Cohn  
Mother of Henry Cohn
- Dec. 11 Gertrude German  
Mother of Ellen Mundell
- Dec. 11 Evelyn Schwaber  
Mother of Fredrika Gross
- Dec. 12 Rachel Cohen  
Mother of Eli Cohen
- Dec. 12 David Kerben  
Husband of Claire Miller
- Dec. 13 Joseph Schafer  
Father of Linda Emblen
- Dec. 14 Benjamin Strudler  
Nephew of Susan Miller
- Dec. 15 Sherri Kahn  
Wife of David Kahn

### Announced on Dec. 17 & 18

- Dec. 20 William Friedman  
Grandfather of  
Joslyn Metzger
- Dec. 21 Robert Deal  
Brother of Barbara Whitaker
- Dec. 21 Jack Schiffman  
Father of Bernice Fox
- Dec. 22 Beatrice Dzik  
Mother of Judith Dzik
- Dec. 22 Bea Kaplan  
Grandmother of  
Michelle Zygielbaum
- Dec. 22 Dr. Raymond Kauffman  
Father of  
Raphael Kauffman
- Dec. 23 Elaine Robinson  
Mother of Myrna Morse
- Dec. 24 Mordachai ben Hershel  
Brother of  
Evelyn Gurevitch

### Announced on Dec. 24 & 25

- Dec. 25 Gladys Baba  
Mother of William Cordell
- Dec. 25 Avraham Sapojnikov  
Father of  
Ahuva Simon-Sa'ar
- Dec. 26 Rosa Newman  
Mother-in-law of  
Edith Newman
- Dec. 28 Jettie Rijnveldt  
Stepsister of  
Mieneke Drake
- Dec. 29 Edith Volkmann  
Sister of Evelyn Gurevitch
- Dec. 31 Ruth Levy  
Mother of  
Janice Sternfeld

**Jewish Community Center**  
SONOMA COUNTY

**Friendship Circle**  
A program for adults 55+

**Friendship Circle is a 55+ Program of the Jewish Community Center, Sonoma County**  
Entertaining & Educational Luncheons, Bay Area Day Trips,  
Overnight Excursions, Community Outreach, Clubs, Classes & more...

To Inquire:  
friendshipcircle@jccsoco.org  
(707) 528-1182

Jalena Mays  
Program Director

Carol King  
Program Assistant



# Congregation Beth Ami

4676 MAYETTE AVENUE, SANTA ROSA, CA 95405

**Address service requested**

## November Shabbatot

### November 5 - 6

*Toledot*

Candle Lighting—5:47 pm

Havdalah—6:46 pm

### November 12 - 13

*Vayetzei*

Candle Lighting—4:42 pm

Havdalah—5:41 pm

### November 19 - 20

*Vayishlach*

Candle Lighting—4:37 pm

Havdalah—5:37 pm

### November 26 - 27

*Vayeshev*

Candle Lighting—4:33 pm

Havdalah—5:34 pm

## December Shabbatot

### December 3 - 4

*Miketz*

Candle Lighting—4:31 pm

Havdalah—5:34 pm

### December 10 - 11

*Vayigash*

Candle Lighting—4:31 pm

Havdalah—5:34 pm

### December 17 - 18

*Vayechi*

Candle Lighting—4:33 pm

Havdalah—5:37 pm

### December 24 - 25

*Shemot*

Candle Lighting—4:36 pm

Havdalah—5:40 pm

### December 31 - January 1

*Va'era*

Candle Lighting—4:41 pm

Havdalah—5:45 pm



Building Community  
in Sonoma County  
for More than 40 Years!



### When looking to...

- Downsize
- Buy Your First Home
- Invest or make Changes in your Portfolio

...Call me! 707-481-3390

Every successful transaction initiated  
via this ad means a donation from me to  
Congregation Beth Ami.

Specializing in serving  
Seniors, Women and Young Families.

### Carolyn Metz

EcoGreen Certified Agent • CAL BRE # 01488014  
cmetzrealtor@gmail.com • CarolynMetz.com

Coldwell Banker, 460 Mission Blvd, Santa Rosa