



CONGREGATION  
Beth Ami

# Shofar

4676 MAYETTE AVENUE, SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA 95405

707-360-3000

MARCH/APRIL 2026

5786



## HAPPY PESACH

*Beth Ami's Gift Shop has  
everything for Pesach  
See page 14*

## 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.–Thurs. 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; 10-2 on Friday

## Gift Shop and In-Person Appointments

**Elizabeth Jarlsberg**, office manager, is in the office Monday through Friday. 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.



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

### Personnel

#### Rabbi Ron Koas

707-360-3004  
Mobile: 732-998-1029  
[rabbi@bethamisr.org](mailto:rabbi@bethamisr.org)

#### Elizabeth Jarlsberg, Office Manager

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

#### Andrea Nett, Friedman Center Director

707-360-3021  
[director@friedmaneventcenter.com](mailto:director@friedmaneventcenter.com)

### Volunteers

#### Bonnie Boren, Gift Shop

707-528-1628

#### Leanne Schy, Communications/ Shofar

[Leanne\(a\)sonic.net](mailto:Leanne(a)sonic.net)

### Officers & Board of Directors, 2025–26

**Betty Boyd,**  
Treasurer  
707-537-2211

**Bob Cooper,**  
Secretary  
707-337-6244

**Richard Kahn,**  
VP of Facilities  
707-217-5265

**Esther Baruch,**  
VP of Membership  
707-528-2265

**Barbara McGee,**  
VP Administration  
707-953-2526

**Aly Davis,**  
VP of Education  
707-888-2538

**David Kahn,**  
VP of Fundraising  
707-836-9074

### Members at Large

**Myra Stern-Thomas**  
707-287-0786

**Myrna Morse**  
707-539-5457

**Judy Kupfer**  
408-835-3966

**Leanne Schy**  
707-528-4874

**Alex Schellenger**  
707-737-4101

**Shechina Bryant**  
707-664-3826 *voice only*

**Rafaela Equils**  
310-595-4094

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.



## RABBI'S REMARKS

Rabbi Ron Koas

### Mara d'Atra at Congregation Beth Ami

In every Jewish community, there is a sacred balance between shared leadership and spiritual authority. At Congregation Beth Ami, that balance is grounded in a traditional concept known as Mara d'Atra literally, "the master of the place." While the phrase may sound formal, its purpose is deeply pastoral, relational, and communal. As your rabbi, serving as Mara d'Atra means that I hold the responsibility for guiding the religious, spiritual, and halakhic life of our congregation. This role is not about control or hierarchy; it is about stewardship. It exists so that our community has clarity, consistency, and care in moments that matter especially when questions are complex, emotions are tender, or traditions intersect with modern realities.

Judaism thrives on discussion, debate, and multiple voices. Beth Ami is blessed with thoughtful lay leadership, engaged committees, and congregants who care deeply about our synagogue and our future. That collaborative spirit is essential, and it is something I value and actively encourage. At the same time, Jewish tradition teaches that for a community to function with integrity, there must be a recognized spiritual authority entrusted with making final religious decisions when needed. That responsibility rests with the rabbi as Mara d'Atra.

In practice, this means that I listen carefully to our leadership, to our members, and to the diverse perspectives within our community. Decisions are not made in isolation, and dialogue is always welcome. Yet when it comes to matters of Jewish practice, ritual, worship, and religious standards, I am charged with discerning what best reflects our values, our tradition, and the spiritual well-being of Beth Ami as a whole

This role also carries a pastoral dimension. Being Mara d'Atra means showing up in moments of joy and in moments of pain; in times



of certainty and in times of confusion. It means holding space for disagreement without allowing division, and honoring tradition while remaining responsive to the lived experiences of our community today.

Importantly, Mara d'Atra is not about rigidity. Jewish law and practice have always evolved through wisdom, compassion, and courage. My commitment is to lead Beth Ami with those same qualities: rooted in tradition, open-hearted in spirit, and mindful of the sacred trust placed in me as your rabbi.

Ultimately, this role exists for one reason: to help Beth Ami remain a strong, welcoming, and spiritually grounded Jewish home. A place where prayer has meaning, where decisions are guided by values, and where our community can move forward together with confidence and care.

I am grateful for the trust you place in me, and I do not take that responsibility lightly. May we continue to learn from one another, support one another, and grow together l'dor vador, from generation to generation.

—Rabbi Ron Koas



## EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Welcome to our new members:

Debbie Weiss  
Emily Freeman  
Riva & Kelly Orr  
Miriam Wald

### Our condolences to the families of:

Rita Kagan  
Sandra Shulkin

### Wishing a speedy recovery to:

Anna Judd	Lenore Holloway
Carol Swanson	Linda Emblen
Chip Swanson	Lindsay Kvam
Dennis Judd	Michele Baime
Emily Freeman	Miriyam Gevirtz
Jim Stern	

We not only have a musical telling of the Purim story at the Purim Spiel Happy Hour, we have the real in-person Gan-tze Megillah reading by Asher Nathan Monday March 2 at 6:30 p.m. Come in costume, and eat some Beth-Ami-made hamentashen. In-person and on Zoom.



*Asher Nathan unfurls the Scroll of Esther*

## Because Everyone Counts

*“This they shall give, everyone among them ... a half shekel offering to the Lord.” (Exodus 30:13)*

Please join us for the Half Shekel Campaign as we come together to be counted as one community. As the Israelites of old did, we call on everyone to be counted as a stakeholder in our shared future.

On March 2nd on your way into the Sanctuary, wearing your funny hat, to hear Asher Nathan read the Story of Esther, please stop off to buy as many half Shekels (in our case half dollars coins) as you wish for a whole dollar each. This is a fundraiser for Beth Ami. Traditionally the funds raised were for the maintenance of the Sanctuary. If you are planning to attend on Zoom, please feel free to mail in a check or call the office to buy as many as you want and they will be dropped in the collection jar on your behalf by Betty Boyd.

We will be on hand March 8 for the purim-spiel as well if you do not make to the reading.



CONGREGATION BETH AMI PRESENTS

# Viva Las Vegas

## SINGALONG MEGILLAH!

STARRING SINATRA, ELVIS,  
DANCING SHOWGIRLS & A SHARK!

**March 8, 4:00 pm**

**Happy Hour  
cocktails and  
hors d'oeuvres,  
not to mention  
hamentashen!**

Sponsor a favorite song, or purchase a singing commercial (everybody's favorite part). You can even step forward as a major underwriter. All donations go to support a grateful Congregation Beth Ami.

Entry is \$36 per adult, age 5 to 16 is \$18, which includes savory and sweet hors d'oeuvres, hamentashen, and 2 cocktails (or mock-tails) such as the Hamanhattan, the Vashtini, the Estherito Mojito, and Morde-chai. Wine, beer, soda too.



## EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Continued...

### March, April dates for programs led by Rabbi Koas

**Torah Study Every Shabbat at 8:45 to 9:45 am**, when Rabbi Koas leads Services, which will follow at 9:45 a.m.

Rabbi Koas teaches this class which focuses on a thoughtful reading of the parashah of the week and explores the historical, ethical and spiritual questions raised by the text. People of all levels and backgrounds are welcome. Hebrew knowledge is not required. It is not necessary to read ahead or prepare. Drop-in attendance is welcomed.

**Torah on Trails: March 15, April 12, usually Second Sunday of the month at 10:30 am** We'll speak about God and the wonders of creation. We'll stop along the way to admire the beauty of nature and share thoughts and feelings. If you won't be going to the breakfast beforehand, email the rabbi for the meeting place: [rabbi@bethamir.org](mailto:rabbi@bethamir.org)

**The Siddur Master Class: Exploring Siddur Hadash March 16, April 13 every month usually on the second Monday at 5:30 pm** A deeper exploration of Siddur Hadash, the prayer book that shapes our communal worship and spiritual life. This course offers an opportunity to slow down, look closely, and rediscover the meaning, theology, and poetry embedded in the prayers we recite together.

**Class on Nevi'im, Prophets: March 16, April 13, every month usually on the second Monday at 6:30 pm** Rabbi Koas will lead us in looking at the books of the Prophets. We will be picking up where Deuteronomy leaves off by diving into the Book of Joshua. As we join the generation that crosses the Jordan to enter the Promised Land under the leadership of Joshua, the children of Israel will encounter a new set of trials, tribulations, and miracles during the conquest of Canaan.

This class will be an ongoing endeavor. Make sure to bring snacks and an appetite for learning more about the history of our people.

**Prayers and Breakfast, March 15, April 12 at 9 am;** On the second Sunday of the month (usually) at 9 am we'll meet at Beth Ami for weekday morning minyan services (shorter than Shabbat!) and breakfast.

**Lunch and Learn: March 11, April 15, usually 2nd Wednesday of the month: lunch at noon, class 12:30 to 1:30 pm**

Starting with the book *Why Be Different? A Look into Judaism*, we'll use stories and questions to deepen our understanding of Judaism. Donate and order a Veggie Wrap or Tuna Sandwich or bring your own vegetarian lunch. Please order through the office at 707-360-3000 by the Monday prior to class.

**Torah on Tap: March 5, April 16 usually 2nd Thursdays at 6:30 pm** We provide the beer. You provide the nosh. (Veggie only – please follow potluck guidelines.) Our wide-ranging conversations will start with a timely article about a current issue.

**Purely for fun... Biking with the rabbi** Join Rabbi Koas every Tuesday (that he's in town) for food, socializing, and riding your bike/trike. All ages participate. Meet at 5:30 pm at 550 Silva Ave (the JC overflow parking lot.) Pedals up at 6 pm. For more details, see <https://www.downtownsantarosa.org/events/santa-rosa-taco-tuesday-ride/> or call Rabbi Koas for more information: 732-998-1029.

**Introduction to Judaism / Bnai Mitzvah Class Wednesday March 11, March 15 at 7:00 pm.** How to be Jewish for beginners. A step-by-step guide to gaining an understanding of Judaism and Jewish life. **Contact Rabbi Koas if you are interested** [rabbi@bethamir.org](mailto:rabbi@bethamir.org).

*All are welcome at Beth Ami's programs.*



**EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
*Continued...*

**The Annual Sonoma County Yom HaShoah Commemoration will be held on Sunday, April 19, from 3-5 p.m.**

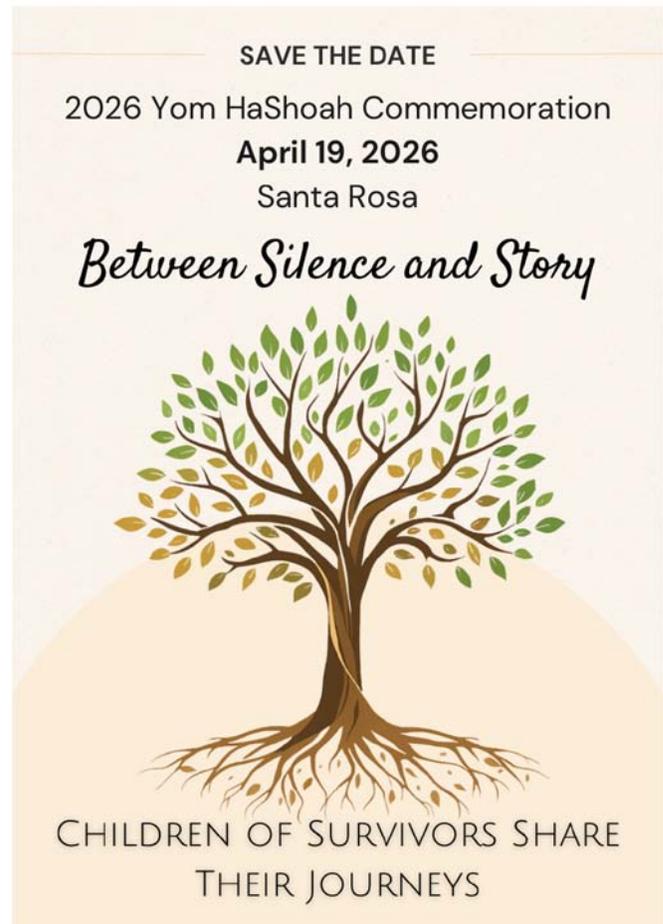
The event will be held live in Santa Rosa (location to be disclosed upon registration), with streaming via Zoom available.

The theme of this year's commemoration will be "Between Silence and Story: Children of Survivors Share Their Stories." Three local second-generation survivors who are now tasked with carrying on the legacy and experiences of their parents will discuss how those experiences have shaped their lives.

There will be musical performances, as well as candle lighting by Jewish survivors, lighters for the Roma, LGBTQ, Disabled, Righteous Among the Nations, and Political Prisoners, and those targeted by genocide.

The program is free, but for security purposes, registration is required by April 15. Information about how to register for the event and submit names for the memorial book is at: <https://www.jccsoco.org/yom-hashoah> View last year's commemoration using the same link.

Please note that security measures are a top priority for this event, and **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED** for both in-person and online/Zoom attendance. All attendees need to regis-



ter ahead of time by April 15, 2026.

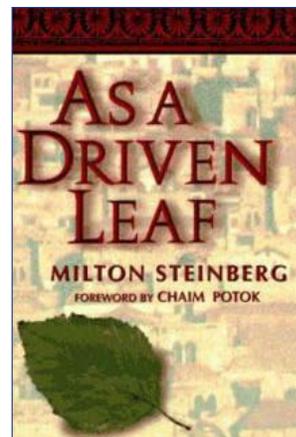
Event details (including venue address) will be confirmed closer to the event to registered participants. Questions can be sent to [yomhashoahsoco@gmail.com](mailto:yomhashoahsoco@gmail.com)

We hope that you will be joining us for this year's commemoration!

**Beth Ami Book Group**

*Linda Emblen, Coordinator*

This classic, *AS A DRIVEN LEAF* by Milton Steinberg. Rabbi Koas says it is his favorite book. He will lead a discussion of it on the Ides of March (MARCH 15,) 2 pm, here at CBA. We are doubling up on the 12 Book Club in a Box books borrowed from the SF Jewish Community Library. They are also available on an individual basis from local libraries and on audiobook. Usually we meet in small groups in book group members' homes. This time is different. All CBA MEMBERS AND FRIENDS



ARE WELCOME to come and participate for one or more times depending on scheduling, time availability, book choice. Different people choose from Book Club in a Box's over 150 choices. Usually fiction. COME JOIN US. Comments or to bor-

row a book, see or phone Linda Emblen at 707 - 544-4532 (landline.)



## ISRAEL COMMITTEE

*Nancy Fleming and Betty Boyd,  
co-chairs, Israel Committee*

### **Yom HaZikaron & Yom HaAtzmaut Israel's Day of Remembrance & Israel Independence Day**

We mourn. We cry.  
We celebrate. We dance.

Following the custom of our brothers and sisters in Israel, we begin by commemorating our brave soldiers who fell defending our ancestral homeland. We will light memorial candles, recite their names, and reflect on their sacrifice.

We then transition into celebrating Yom HaAtzmaut — Israel Independence Day — the very independence those soldiers made possible. Our celebration will include:

- Two speakers, one Israeli, one American, each with an unusual story
- Live music
- Israeli dancing
- Israeli products
- A kids' activity table
- And of course... what Beth Ami excels at...  
FOOD

The sound of the shofar will mark the transition from mourning to celebration.

### **SAVE THE DATE:**

**Sunday, April 26, 2026 at 1:00 pm**

**Location: Congregation Beth Ami**

**Open to the community.**

Due to security considerations, pre-registration is required. This is for everyone's safety. Registration information to follow.



## SOCIAL ACTION

*by Lyla Nathan, Chair*

### **Report from The Palms**

Another successful dinner served at the Palms supportive housing. The Social Action Committee does this every other month. If you have interest in our committee contact Lyla at [lylanathan5@gmail.com](mailto:lylanathan5@gmail.com).

—*Lyla Nathan*





# ADVOCATES FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

by Carol Swanson, Chair

## What we have been doing lately

Our committee continues to work on a banner that will be hung above the social hall. "Welcoming the Stranger..." is our theme. We are using a quote from Leviticus. Rabbi Koas has provided the Hebrew. We have adapted the translation, so it has special meaning for anyone who visits our congregation and, also projects hope for a better future for all immigrants in our community. It is still in the planning stage. If you are interested in participating in this project, reach out to Carol Swanson, swangirl@comcast.net. We are keeping the board informed as we make progress.

Carol has been attending meetings with other chairpersons from other Jewish temples. It has been wonderful to meet other Jewish people in the community who are interested in working on similar issues as we are. We hope to do some collaboration on events and projects soon. Some members of our committee have been attending social justice events at Shomrei Tora and Ner Shalom.

A new Tzedakah box is in the foyer. We created it to help raise funds for V.I.D.A.S.,

Vital Immigrant Defense Advocacy and Services organization. Look for a bright blue box decorated with American symbols. Please consider making a donation. You can also call the office, and Elizabeth can help you make a contribution. Just let her know it's for V.I.D.A.S. Our committee feels committed to supporting our immigrant citizens that live in our community.

## Our future plans

This spring we plan on having a guest speaker from V.I.D.A.S. at one of our shabbat dinners. Date to be announced at a later date. We continue to stay informed regarding efforts the of North Bay Organizing Project, and Inter-faith Council of Sonoma County.

## Let us all remember

As we approach Passover, let us all remember,

***"The stranger who resides with you shall be to you as your citizens; you shall love each one as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt."***

We all once were immigrants. We need to take time to be kind to each other.

## Our Committee

If you are interested in social justice issues, please come to one of our meetings. We have great discussions and are a supportive team of activists. We meet every month on the third Thursday at 12:00 at CBA. Members: Bonnie Boren, Rabbi Koas, Lyla Nathan, Myrna Morse, Michelle Zygielbaum, Barb McGee, Susan Miller, Tamar Landau-Camarillo, Judy Gunnar, Bobbie Rosenthal, Carol Swanson, chairperson.





## THE KITCHEN CORNER

Janet Stein-Larson

(Myra Stern Thomas, Chair of the Kitchen Committee)

### What's happening in the Beth Ami Kitchen.

This will be hard for some of you to swallow, but did you know that this Congregation Beth Ami (CBA) Kitchen Committee will be fifteen years old come this March? Our first formal meeting was March 8th, 2011 (though those of us who worked on forming this committee started during February while we were preparing and making hamantashen for the synagogue). We've been working on developing guidelines and policies ever since then with each new Rabbi making some changes according to their preferences. Our first class introducing us to the stainless steel kosher kitchen with its appliances was on Sunday, Feb 27th, 2011 and on Sunday, June 5th, 2011 we had our first Mashgiach training class.

### Now, fast forward to 2026.

Rabbi Koas describes our CBA kosher kitchen as a sacred communal space. As our Mara D'Atra, he believes observing Kashrui in this setting deepens our connection to God and to our community. With that in mind, he is implementing a new framework for mashgiach training, approval and supervision. His goal is for clarity, consistency, and preserving the sanctity and integrity of the kitchen while supporting community use. The kitchen committee will be working with him to update the CBA guidelines, clarify kitchen access, mashgiach responsibilities, potlucks and food approval.

Here are some of the changes.

For potlucks: All prepared foods (and dishes) brought in from outside will not be allowed in the kitchen. (The older potluck guidelines no longer apply. Please read our Food Guidelines for Small Events and Potlucks-2025.) The potluck dishes provided for meal stay out in the social hall or multipurpose room (refrigerator and microwave are available).

Cold dishes from outside may be eaten with the glass tableware and flatware.

For Kashrui purposes, all hot potluck dishes brought in from outside will need to be eaten with the paper plates and plasticware.

Any leftover food will be taken home or thrown away.

Dishes from outside CBA may not be washed or rinsed in the CBA Kitchen. There will be paper towels and take home containers provided for leftovers.

There are meals where no outside potluck food will be permitted (IE: meat meals and food during Passover).

For foods being used in or brought in the kitchen: All these foods must have a Hechsher (kosher symbol). Items without a Hekhsheer may only be approved by the Rabbi, based on a case by case ingredient review. Once approval is given, his decision will be communicated back to the mashgiach and relevant parties. Remember, Rabbi Koas is readily available by phone or text if he is not present.

This follows Rabbi's commitment to centralize all Kashrui decisions and is a major change from what was done in the past.

Previous blanket approvals, (Safeway, Costco, Entemann's Trader Joe's), no longer apply. Again if there is no Hekhsheer, Rabbi will need to look at ingredients before approval. The exception Rabbi is making is that it's okay to use the Safeway cakes that are baked at Safeway as a special order. Anything from there or anywhere else needs to go through Rabbi Koas for approval. As Mara D'Atra, our Rabbi sets all standards for Kashrui and Mashgichim at CBA. Any questions outside routine kitchen practice must be brought directly to him.

The role of our volunteer mashgichim will be to supervise in the kitchen, maintain the Kashrui standards, kitchen security, and safety. To help support the kitchen use, we need more active participation in the Kitchen Committee as a member and/or as a mashgiach. If you are interested in either one of these please contact

*...continued next page*



## THE KITCHEN CORNER

*Continued...*

our Chairperson Myra Stern-Thomas.

From the very beginning, the goal of the Kitchen Committee has remained the same...

### **From Shofar article on July/August 2011**

The Kitchen Committee is a subcommittee of our Religious Practices Committee. Our goal is to encourage the use of the CBA kitchen by and for the congregation, while following guidelines to insure Kashrut, safety, hygiene, and kitchen security. Going forward, our aim is to establish a vibrant culinary community of CBA members and provide a rich and varied feast for onegs, kiddish luncheons, and congregational events.

### **Happy 15 Years Kitchen Committee**

We may change how we do things, but the goal stays the same.

### **Here's what is on the schedule!**

With March we see the arrival of Purim. The Kitchen Committee's Hamantaschen crew already put together 600 plus hamantaschen in various fruit flavors and poppyseed fillings. They are now in the freezer awaiting serving and eating. Of course, there isn't much room in the freezer, but, no worries, after Purim on March 2 and March 8 Purim Spiel, they'll all be gone.

Our Friday night Shir Shabbat dinner will be on March 13, which is the Shabbat Across America communal celebration of Shabbat. Then it's our usual schedule of events, until we start preparing the kitchen for Passover.

For Passover:

1. The closing of the kitchen for regular use begins officially on March 25. By then all kitchen utensils and food left in the kitchen will be removed. The kitchen will be koshered for Passover and unavailable for regular use.

Preparations for Passover and the Community Seder will be underway.

2. On Shabbat March 28, lunch will be a very simple prepared event since we there will be no CBA kitchen available.

3. The selling of the chametz is about 11AM on April 1.

That is also when all the items containing chametz (storage rooms, cabinets, etc.) are closed, locked, and unavailable until after Havdalah on the last Day of Passover.

4. On April 2, Passover First Day Services are at 9:45AM, with a simple oneg to follow.

5. On April 2, the Second Night Community Seder is at 6:30PM.

6. Remember, there are no potlucks during Passover, only kosher for Passover Food prepared in the CBA kitchen is allowed.

If you wish to bring something, only unopened packages of purchased Kosher for Passover pareve or dairy foods will be permitted.

7. On April 4, Shabbat there will be a simple Passover prepared lunch.

8. On April 9, after Havdalah for Passover, the CBA kitchen will be switched back to regular use.

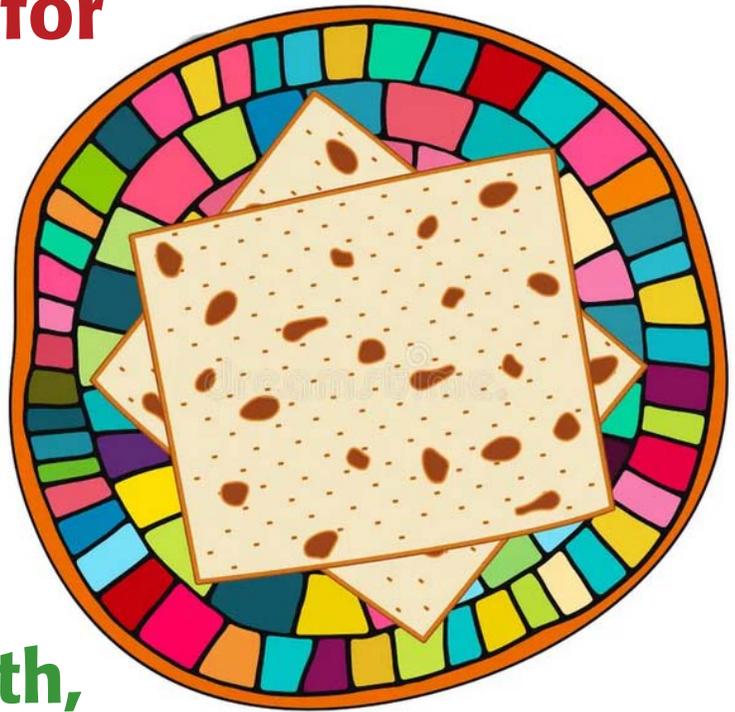
After Passover, the plans for the CBA Kitchen mostly goes back to normal. On April 10, a Shabbat potluck dinner is scheduled and on April 17 there will be the Shir Shabbat Dinner. However, more planning is being done for holidays like Yom HaZikaron & Yom HaAtzmaut (April 20-22), Lag B'Omer (May 5th), and Shavuot (May 21-23). Also, after Passover some classes are being planned. Look forward to attending the Introduction to Kashrut by Rabbi Koas and Welcome to Beth Ami's Kitchen by the Kitchen Committee. As usual, there are lot's of activity going on in the CBA Kitchen

Hag Sameach and Shalom.

*~janet Stein-Larson*

**Congregation Beth Ami  
invites you to Tot Shabbat,  
a Jewish experience for the whole  
family especially for  
young children  
1 to 8 years old.**

**Siblings  
encouraged to  
come.**



**Saturday, March 14th,  
10:30 am to noon,  
in the CBA lounge (opens 10:15 am).**

**Featuring Lauren Kalmanson  
from the Tot Shabbat team.**

**Why is this night different from other nights? Discover  
Passover through fun activities, games and songs.  
Enjoy some Passover treats, crunch some Matzah and  
dip it in some Charoset.**

For more info: [office@bethamir.org](mailto:office@bethamir.org)  
707-360-3000  
4676 Mayette Ave. Santa Rosa, California



# CONGREGATION BETH AMI COMMUNITY PASSOVER SEDER ON THE SECOND NIGHT

**Thursday, April 2 at 6:30 p.m.**

**Led by Rabbi Ron Koas**

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

The meal will be fish, dairy and vegetarian, with a special dessert.

**Members:** adults \$40, youths \$16

Family Maximum: \$100, under 6 years old free.

**Non-members:** Adults \$45

Youth \$18, Family Maximum: \$120, under 6 years old free.

**Subsidies available so all can attend. Reservations Deadline Tuesday March 31 by noon.**

See the Shofar newsletter for festival services throughout the holiday, in person and on Zoom. All are welcome.

The Pesach Guide from the Rabbinical Assembly is here: <https://www.rabbinicalassembly.org/jewish-law/kashrut/pesah-guide>



If you wish to sell your Hametz for the duration of Pesach, please do one of these:

1) Print out the form Sale of Hametz for Pesach 5786. You can follow links from our home page, or go to <https://bethamisr.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Sale-of-Hametz-for-Pesach-5786.pdf> and email it to [office@bethamisr.org](mailto:office@bethamisr.org)

2) Print and fill out the form and bring or mail it to the synagogue office.

We must have your form by 10:00 am on Tuesday, March 31, 2026 in order to be included in the sale for this year.

## BETH AMI GIFT SHOP

Everything for Passover, whether elegant or playful...

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday office open

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Friday office open

Please make an appointment with Elizabeth before your visit if possible. 360-3000.

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



## 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 or view calendar on the Beth Ami website at [www.bethamisr.org](http://www.bethamisr.org).

All Shabbat Morning Services will be held in person and on Zoom. Masks are optional.

Kabbalat Friday night Shabbat services will be held in person and Zoom unless noted below.

Also, see Calendar <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/> at the Beth Ami website.

Monthly Sunday Morning Services start at 9:00 am. followed by a light breakfast

Sunday - Thursday 7 pm Evening Services only if a Minyan is requested to say Kaddish.

To schedule an evening Minyan service call the office one week prior.

### March Services

#### March 6 Friday

6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Koas  
6:45 pm potluck dinner

#### March 7 Saturday

8:45 am. Torah Study in the Social Hall  
9:45 am. Shabbat morning service with Rabbi Koas, potluck lunch

#### March 13 Friday

6:00 pm. Shir Shabbat with Rabbi Koas and **Klezmer Creek, Catered Community Dinner**

#### March 14 Saturday

8:45 am. Torah Study in the Social Hall  
9:45 am. Shabbat morning service with Rabbi Koas, potluck lunch

#### 10:30 am Tot Shabbat

#### 7:00 pm Havdalah gathering

#### March 15 Sunday

9:00 am. Morning Service in person and Zoom followed by **light breakfast**, then **Torah on Trails** weather permitting

#### March 19 Thursday

Rosh Chodesh Nisan

#### March 20 Friday

6:00 pm. Kabbalat Shabbat lay led

#### March 21 Saturday

9:30 am. Psukei d'Zimra lay led,  
9:45 Shacharit lay led

#### March 27 Friday

6:00 pm. Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Koas

### March 28 Saturday

8:45 am. Torah Study in the Social Hall  
9:45 am. Shabbat morning service with Rabbi Koas, potluck lunch

### April Services



#### April 1 Wednesday Erev Pesach, first seder

April 2 Thursday  
9:30 am. **1st Day Pesach** services

**6:30 pm. Second Day Catered Community Seder** at Beth Ami

#### April 3 Friday

6:00 pm. Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Koas followed by Kosher L'Pesach oneg

#### April 4 Saturday

8:45 am. Torah Study in the Social Hall  
9:45 am. Shabbat morning service with Rabbi Koas, potluck lunch

#### April 8 Wednesday

**9:45 am. 8th Day Festival Pesach Service with Yizkor**

### April 10 Friday

6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Koas  
6:45 pm potluck dinner

### April 11 Saturday

8:45 am. Torah Study in the Social Hall  
9:45 am. Shabbat morning service with Rabbi Koas, potluck lunch

### April 12 Sunday

9:00 am. Morning Service in person and Zoom followed by **light breakfast**, then **Torah on Trails** weather permitting

### April 17 Friday

#### Rosh Chodesh Iyyar

6:00 pm. Shir Shabbat with Rabbi Koas and **Klezmer Creek, Catered Community Dinner**

### April 18 Saturday

8:45 am. Torah Study in the Social Hall  
9:45 am. Shabbat morning service with Rabbi Koas, potluck lunch  
**10:30 am Tot Shabbat**  
**7:00 pm Havdalah gathering**

### April 21 Tuesday Yom HaZikaron Israel Memorial Day

### April 22 Wednesday Yom Hazma'ut Israel Independence Day

### April 24 Friday

6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Koas  
6:45 pm potluck dinner

### April 25 Saturday

8:45 am. Torah Study in the Social Hall  
9:45 am. Shabbat morning service with Rabbi Koas, potluck lunch



## GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR CONGREGATION

We are very grateful for your support and think it's important that your donation is acknowledged in the Shofar. Donate online at [BethAmiSR.org /giving/](http://BethAmiSR.org/giving/)

### General Fund

In honor of Judy Kupfer's Bat Mitzvah

—*Arnold & Karen Herskovic*

In honor of David Kahn, with appreciation for preparing the lunch at CBA on 1/10/26

—*Ms. Judy Kupfer*

In honor of being called to the bimah —*Ivan Barta*

In honor of Nancy & Ed Sherman and the welcoming community of Congregation Beth Ami —*Stanley Schwartz & Felicity Auerbach Schwartz*

In memory of Peggy Schellenger

—*Alex & Connie Schellenger*

In memory of Rita Kagan

—*Anonymous*

In memory of Joseph Schussheim

—*Arnold & Karen Herskovic*

In memory of Edith Newman

—*Arnold & Karen Herskovic*

In memory of Sandi Shulkin

—*Barbara McGee*

In memory of Edith Newman

—*Branagan Branagan*

In memory of Edith Newman

—*Carol Orme*

In memory of Arthur Margolese

—*Anonymous*

In memory of Sandra Shulkin, with condolences to Ken & Tim Plattner

—*Anonymous*

In memory of Brian Gross

—*Anonymous*

In memory of Marilyn Diamond

—*Anonymous*

In memory of Paul Zygielbaum

—*Anonymous*

In memory of Irwin Margolese

—*Anonymous*

In memory of Edith Newman

—*David Root & Marilyn Wolf*

In memory of Edith Newman

—*Edward & Nancy Sherman*

In memory of Sandi Shulkin

—*Evelyn Gurevitch*

In memory of Sandi Shulkin

—*John Michael*

In memory of Sandi Shulkin

—*Judy Gunnar*

In memory of Sandi Shulkin

—*Juli Scherer*

In memory of Rita Kagan

—*Juli Scherer*

In memory of Edith Newman

—*Marc & Patty Bernstein*

In memory of Sandi Shulkin

—*Teri Friedland*

In memory of Rita Kagan

—*Tish Levee*

Mazel Tov to Judy Kupfer upon her Bat Mitzvah!

—*Anonymous*

Better health to Rayme Shapiro

—*Anonymous*

Thank you Zoe & Esther Baruch for restarting Tot Shabbat

—*Anonymous*

Thank you Lauren Kalmanson for Tot Shabbat

—*Anonymous*

Thank you torah & haftarah readers

—*Anonymous*

Speedy recovery to Jerry Newman

—*Anonymous*

Thank you to Mark D, David K, Anne and all the volunteers that made the Dec. 25 event so fun and delicious!

—*Anonymous*

Mazal Tov to Jane & Phil Dwight on the birth of their granddaughter

—*Anonymous*

Very late mazel tov to Alan & Janice Shotkin on the birth of their granddaughter

—*Anonymous*

Condolences to the Perel and Lipton families upon the passing of Sid Lipton, father of Deborah Perel

—*Anonymous*

Better health to Russ Gurevitch

—*Anonymous*

Good health and best wishes to the Koas family

—*Anonymous*

A thoughtful donation

—*Anonymous*

A generous donation

—*Elisa Watkins*

A thoughtful donation

—*Elisa Watkins*

A generous donation

—*Ira & Marlene Lowenthal*

In appreciation of Richard Kahn's coming to my home to help with selecting the right LED lightbulbs for my fixtures.

—*Jayne Rosenberg*

A generous donation

—*Robert & Robin Cooper*

Mazel tov in honor of Judy Kupfer's beautiful Bat Mitzvah

—*Zelda Bettman*

**In memory of Rita Kagan, best friend to many, bookworm, nurse extra-ordinaire. Love,**

—*Linda Emblen*

**Thank you to Mark Stoelting for all the work he does for the congregation**

—*Richard Kahn & Anne Brown*

...continued next page



## GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR CONGREGATION

*Continued...*

### General Fund:

#### Shabbat Lunch

A thoughtful donation

—*Anonymous*

A generous donation

—*Jim & Wendy Stern*

### Children's Education Fund:

In honor of Judy Kupfer's Bat

Mitzvah —*Mark & Carol Rosen*

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In memory of Sandra Shulkin

—*Jeffrey Sheff*

In memory of Rita Kagan

—*Lenore Holloway*

In memory of Sandra Shulkin

—*Richard Kahn &*

*Anne Brown*

In memory of Sandi Shulkin

—*Tish Levee*

In honor of Rabbi Koas's  
generous spirit and welcoming  
approach —*David Fichera*

With thanks for affixing a  
mezuzah to a new home

—*Mark & Carol Rosen*

In appreciation of all the  
additional classes offered by  
Rabbi Koas —*Richard Kahn*  
& *Anne Brown*

**Ben Goldman**

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## 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 March 6 & 7

- March 7 Bernard Bernstein  
Father of Marc Bernstein
- March 7 Rabbi Meyer Miller  
Father of  
Rabbi Mordecai Miller
- March 8 Bonnie Gee  
Sister of Lenore Holloway
- March 9 Florence Metz  
Friend of Beth Ami
- March 9 Leo Gurevitch  
Husband of  
Evelyn Gurevitch  
Father of Eleanor Cohen  
and Russ Gurevitch
- March 9 Jacob Stromer  
Father of Marilyn Sommer
- March 10 Mary Hahn  
Grandmother of  
Michael & Carol Newman
- March 10 Mary Huebner Dickerson  
Mother of Sarah Kauffman
- March 11 Steve Baime  
Husband of  
Michelle Baime
- March 11 Blanche Cohen  
Grandmother of  
David Brunstein
- March 11 Margaret Jacobs  
Grandmother of  
Alex Schellenger
- March 11 Hazel Schloner  
Mother of Carol Swanson

### Announced on March 13 & 14

- March 14 Pearl Lotsoff  
Mother of Cheryle Miller
- March 15 Felice Klein  
Mother of Irvin Klein
- March 16 Stan Diamond  
Father of Lauren Newman
- March 17 Michael Abrams  
Brother of Patty Bernstein
- March 18 Esther Herskovic  
Mother of  
Arnold Herskovic

- March 19 Alfred Batzdorff  
Husband of  
Susanne Batzdorff  
and Father of Jon Batzdorff

- March 19 Barbara Garam  
Mother of Rose Batzdorff

- March 20 Rae Abrams  
Mother of Patty Bernstein

### Announced March 20 & 21

- March 21 Rachel Jones  
Grandmother of  
Ross Jones

- March 22 Yvonne Abrams  
Sister-in-law of  
Patty Bernstein

- March 23 Shai ben Zalman  
Grandfather of  
Eleanor Cohen &  
Russ Gurevitch

- March 24 Susan Debra Brunstein  
Sister of  
David Brunstein

### Announced on March 27 & 28

- March 21 Rachel Jones  
Grandmother of  
Ross Jones

- March 22 Yvonne Abrams  
Sister-in-law of  
Patty Bernstein

- March 23 Shai ben Zalman  
Grandfather of  
Eleanor Cohen &  
Russ Gurevitch

- March 24 Susan Debra Brunstein  
Sister of David Brunstein

### Announced April 3 & 4

- April 4 Harriet Lotsoff  
Sister of Cheryle Miller

- April 4 Esther Sokolsky  
Mother of David Sokolsky

- April 6 Ralph Stern  
Husband of Cheryle Miller

- April 7 Morris Abrams  
Grandfather of  
Patty Bernstein

### March Birthdays

- Ben Goldman
- Karen Herskovic
- Melissa Bloom
- Rose Batzdorff
- Nancy Sherman
- Mordecai Miller
- Kelly Orr
- Bill Cordell
- Lee Feinstein
- Michele Baime
- Kim Cordell

### March Anniversaries

- Riva & Kelly Orr
- David & Debra Sokolsky
- George & Paula Schlesinger
- John & Barbara Whitaker
- Brian & Ruth Wilson
- Ed & Nancy Sherman
- Jeff & Karen Sommers

- April 8 Edward Isadore Kahn  
Father of Richard Kahn
- April 8 Gerald Lakins  
Husband of Susan Miller
- April 8 Bessie Uday  
Grandmother of  
Richard Kahn
- April 10 Esther Miller  
Aunt of Susan Miller
- April 10 Joseph Scherer  
Father of Juli Scherer



## 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.

### April Birthdays

Asher Nathan  
 Howard Glickman  
 Miriam Wald  
 Joan Schloss  
 Debi Niestat  
 Elizabeth Jarlsberg  
 Barbara Tomin  
 Barbara Whitaker  
 Martha Lane  
 Jeff Richman  
 Ross Jones  
 Carol Swanson  
 Jon Batzdorff

*No Anniversaries in April*

### Announced April 10 & 11

April 12 Benjamin Miller  
 Father of Susan Miller  
 April 12 Abraham Schy  
 Father of Stuart Schy  
 April 12 Delores Swanson  
 Mother-in-law of  
 Carol Swanson  
 April 14 Gordon Cooper  
 Brother of Bob Cooper &  
 Uncle of Graham Cooper  
 April 14 Jennifer Hoffman  
 Sister of Howard Glickman  
 April 15 Faygie Colton  
 Sister of Evelyn Gurevitch

April 15 Bea Goldstein  
 Grandmother of  
 Lauren Newman  
 April 15 Lillian Magnus  
 Grandmother of  
 Howard Glickman  
 April 15 Sophie Shapiro  
 Mother of Michael Shapiro  
 April 15 Mildred Stromer  
 Mother of  
 Marilyn Sommer  
 April 16 John Gee  
 Brother-in-law of  
 Lenore Holloway  
 April 17 Donald L. Emblen  
 Husband of Linda Emblen  
 April 17 Rosemary Friedman  
 Mother of Bill Friedman &  
 Debi Chapman

### Announced April 17 & 18

April 20 Elizavyeta Gaiger  
 Mother of Marina Voulfson  
 April 20 Samuel Gordon  
 Husband of Marge Gordon  
 April 22 Evelyn Decker  
 Mother of Mel Decker  
 April 22 Henry Herskovic  
 Father of Arnold Herskovic  
 April 22 Maurice Sokolsky  
 Father of David Sokolsky  
 April 23 Joseph Liverman  
 Grandfather of  
 Marc Bernstein

April 24 Rose Abrams  
 Grandmother of  
 Patty Bernstein  
 April 24 Sheldon Margolese  
 Uncle of  
 Michelle Zygielbaum

### Announced April 24 & 25

April 26 Beba Minsky  
 Mother of Dan Anbar  
 April 26 Constance Schweitzer  
 Mother of Blair Pleasant  
 April 30 Ellen Abrams  
 Mother of Anne Steirman  
 April 30 Manny Simon  
 Father of Lyla Nathan  
 April 30 Herman Uday  
 Grandfather of  
 Richard Kahn  
 May 1 Rosa Marks  
 Grandmother of  
 Myrna Morse  
 May 1 Margret Close  
 Mother of Signe Minuskin

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# Congregation Beth Ami

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## March and April Candlelighting

### March 2 - 3

*Purim*

### March 6 - 7

*Ki Tissa, Shabbat Parah*

Candle Lighting—6:53 pm

Havdalah—6:49 pm

### March 13 - 14

*Vayakbel-Pekudei*

*Shabbat HaChodesh*

Candle Lighting—7:00 pm

Havdalah—7:56 pm

### March 20 - 21

*Vayikra*

Candle Lighting—7:07 pm

Havdalah—8:03 pm

### March 27 - 28

*Tzav*

*Shabbat HaGadol*

Candle Lighting—7:13 pm

Havdalah—8:10 pm

### April 1 - 2

*First Day Pesach*

Candle Lighting—7:16 pm

### April 2 - 3

*Second Day Pesach*

Candle Lighting—8:15 pm

### April 3 - 4

*Shabbat 3rd Day Pesach*

Candle Lighting—7:20 pm

Havdalah—8:17 pm

### April 7 - 8

*7th Day Pesach*

Candle Lighting—7:22 pm

Havdalah—8:22 pm

### April 10 - 11

*Shmini*

*Mevarchim HaChodesh*

Candle Lighting—7:27 pm

Havdalah—8:24 pm

### April 17 - 18

*Tazria-Metzora*

*Rosh Chodesh Iyyar*

Candle Lighting—7:33 pm

Havdalah—8:32 pm

### April 24 - 25

*Acharei Mot-Kedoshim*

Candle Lighting—7:40 pm

Havdalah—8:39 pm

***The Beth Ami Gift Shop has everything for Pesach***

