

CONGREGATION SHAARE EMETH

BULLETIN

FEBRUARY 2023

WILD WEST PURIM



**SHUSHAN
HOOTENANY**

SUNDAY, MARCH 5

**SHUSHAN
SHAMBOREE SHOW**

MONDAY, MARCH 6

DETAILS ON PAGE 11

FEBRUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Friday, February 3, 2023

6 p.m. L'Dor VaDor Intergenerational
Shabbat Service + February
Birthday Blessings + 3rd Grade
Shabbat

Saturday, February 4, 2023

9:30 a.m. Torah Study
11 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service
Chase Rauner, child of Nikki
and Paul Rauner, becomes a
B'Mitzvah

Friday, February 10, 2023

6 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Service
6 p.m. Prayer Lab

Saturday, February 11, 2023

9:30 a.m. Torah Study
11 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service
Joseph Glasser, child of Sarah
and David Glasser, becomes a
B'Mitzvah

Friday, February 17, 2023

6 p.m. RePro Shabbat Service

Saturday, February 18, 2023

9:30 a.m. Torah Study
9:30 a.m. Boker Tov Shabbat Service

Friday, February 24, 2023

6 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Service
Tzedek Shabbat in honor of
Jewish Disabilities Awareness,
Acceptance & Inclusion Month

Saturday, February 25, 2023

9:30 a.m. Torah Study
11 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service
Evan Sagett, child of Jennifer
and Scott Sagett, becomes a
B'Mitzvah

COUNTING OUR BLESSINGS

BUILDING BRIDGES OF UNDERSTANDING

By Rabbi James M. Bennett

JBennett@sestl.org



For centuries, Jewish tradition discouraged or even prohibited Jews from studying Christianity, reading Christian scripture, or even entering a Christian Church. The Talmud equated some or all of these actions with idol worship, and generations of Jews were told to do anything in their power to avoid any behavior that might lead them to engage in idolatry.

As a result, much of Jewish folklore and behavior followed suit. My grandfather used to tell me of how his grandfather would counsel him to cross the street in Brooklyn where he grew up rather than to pass too closely to the church down the block. Jews superstitiously fearful of the negative allure of Christianity, or justifiably fearful of the evangelical proselytizing of some branches of Christianity, thus did all they could to avoid unnecessary interactions.

Thankfully, we live at a time when we are far less fearful and far more open to learning about and understanding those among whom we live. Many of us are even curious. What do my neighbors, friends, and even members of my own family who might practice a different faith believe? What do they think? What does my own faith teach about the faith of others?

In an age of increasing globalism and yet increasing opportunities for misunderstanding and prejudice,

one of the greatest tools we can use to create more friendship, understanding, cooperation and peace is education. When so many people are closing their eyes and ears to ideas and viewpoints that are different than those we hold, now is the time for us to do the opposite. We must actively work to listen to the ideas of others. We must be willing to entertain thoughts that are unfamiliar, to hear arguments that are different, to struggle to test our own beliefs against the beliefs of others with whom we disagree. Only if we can confidently explain our own faith in the context of understanding the faith of others can we be certain that we know what we believe to be good and true for ourselves.

This is, for some, a frightening and daunting task. Remaining within our own belief system and rejecting others can feel safer than opening ourselves up to knowing and understanding the ideas of others. Doing so can make us feel vulnerable. Or it can make us feel even more certain in our own beliefs and ideas. Then, and perhaps only then, can we know that we dwell in the midst of a community of mutual respect, admiration, and understanding.

Shaare Emeth has long sought to open our doors to such pathways, building bridges to understanding. We regularly welcome visiting Christian church and school groups to our sanctuary and building. We often invite those of other faiths to come learn about us. As we continue to do so, we now invite you to join as we strive to understand the faith of our neighbors. Beginning in February and March, we invite you to our program entitled "Reform Jews Encounter the New Testament" as we embark on this journey together. See page four for details.

THE COMFORT OF ROUTINE

By Bill Remis, President

President@sestl.org



It's sometime in February – the dead of winter. All of the hype from the end of the year has died down and I am in the middle of my day to day routine, which has been going on for some time now and will continue well into March. Recently, I was talking to my son and he mentioned how excited

he was for spring. The winter months, he explained, were tough sometimes. It's cold outside, the sun sets early, and the days can run together. Without his birthday in the middle of February, there wasn't much to break up the monotony of the first few calendar months of the year.

I actually find the opposite to be true. I am a firm believer in recognizing the good in the everyday. Don't misunderstand – I enjoy holidays, vacations, days off, travel and all that. But, by the time January rolls around and the year end chaos of parties and activity winds to a close, I am looking forward to returning to my regular day-to-day routine. For me, there's something peaceful and reassuring about simply getting up and managing each day as it comes, then getting up the next day to do it all over again. There feels like more time to visit family and friends at a leisurely pace, to get through work without worrying about having to rush to something else. There is more time for quiet reflection.

I know this is not the case for many people. For those of you who feel stuck or are struggling at this time of year, I hope you can find some sense of peace. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your synagogue for assistance. Your community is here for you.

I look forward to seeing and working with all of you at Temple, now and as the year progresses.

ANNOUNCING ROSALIE STEIN'S RETIREMENT



It is with mixed emotions that we share with you the news that Rosalie Stein has decided to retire from her position as Executive Director of Congregation Shaare Emeth effective June 30, 2023. We are very happy for Rosalie as she reaches this milestone in her career and will now have the

opportunity to explore other interests and commitments in her life. At the same time, all of us at Shaare Emeth will miss Rosalie's leadership, wisdom and expertise. She has served as a part of the Shaare Emeth staff since 2007 when she became Development Director, soon thereafter assuming the position of Executive Director. She has worked side by side with the Clergy, Temple Staff, and Lay Leadership to help lead the congregation through many challenges and transitions with sensitivity, creativity, compassion, and skill. She is respected for her leadership throughout the community. Her dedication to and passion for Shaare Emeth is second to none and her impact on our Congregation is immeasurable.

We will formally thank Rosalie as her retirement date approaches. The Temple Board and Operating Committee is in the process of forming a transition team to help us move forward and identify our next Executive Director. We will keep you updated as the work of the Transition Team progresses.

Bill Remis, President

Please Note: Congregation Shaare Emeth will be closed Monday, February 20 in observance of President's Day.

SEEING ISRAEL & ITS NEIGHBORS THROUGH FRESH EYES

**A Congregation Shaare
Emeth Israel-Jordan
Adventure**

October 16-30, 2023

You are invited to join Rabbi Jim and Amy Bennett on a unique journey in Israel, the West Bank, Jordan, and the Sinai, experiencing Israel through fresh perspectives and encounters. We will travel through central and northern Israel, through the West Bank into Jordan to Wadi Rum and Petra, back to Eilat, and into Egypt's Sinai desert to Mt. Sinai before concluding our visit in Jerusalem. This trip promises to offer profound and meaningful encounters with these ancient lands and peoples.

For more info, contact Stacy Jespersen at SJespersen@sestl.org or 314-569-0010.



REFORM JEWS ENCOUNTER THE NEW TESTAMENT

**Wednesdays, February 8, 15, & 22
from 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. via Zoom**

**Wednesdays, March 1, 15, & 22
from 7:30 – 9 p.m. in person or
via live stream**

Join Rabbi Bennett for this introduction to and exploration of the scriptures of our Christian neighbors. We will begin in February with a series of online classes via Zoom, then continue in person (with a virtual option) in March.

Rabbi Bennett will join in dialogue with a variety of Christian clergy representing different faith communities to help us understand how we can see the texts of our neighbors through their eyes and our own.

More information and registration at:
sestl.co/newtestament

This class is part of the Schneider Interfaith Forum made possible through the generosity of Harvey and Leanne Schneider.

INTRO TO JUDAISM - REGISTER TODAY!

Beginning February 7

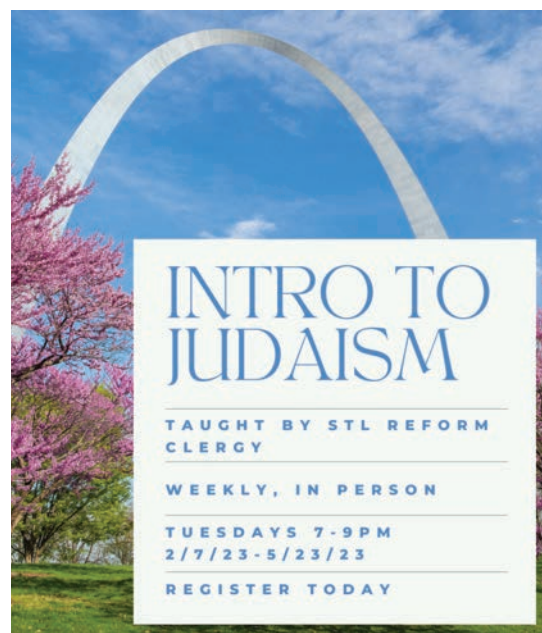
Whether you are curious about or considering Judaism or still looking to answer those questions you've had since your days in religious school, Introduction to Judaism is a place to ask your questions, learn multiple perspectives, and discover what is most meaningful to you in Judaism.

Open to all, this course is perfect for interfaith couples, those raising Jewish children, spiritual seekers, individuals considering conversion, Jews who want a meaningful adult

Jewish learning experience, and those who simply want to learn more about Judaism. You will explore holidays, lifecycle celebrations, prayer, theology, sacred texts and more with St. Louis area Reform Jewish Clergy. Questions are encouraged, and only curiosity is required.

Questions? Rabbi Bearman is happy to help! Email RBearman@sestl.org.

Learn more and sign up at
sestl.co/introspring23





B'SHA'AH TOVAH: A CLASS FOR EXPECTING PARENTS

Saturday, February 11 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

B'sha'ah Tovah will provide you with opportunities to connect with other expecting parents and to explore both traditional and contemporary ways that Judaism can add meaning to every stage of your journey to parenthood – from anticipating, to welcoming, to celebrating.

B'sha'ah Tovah is open to Shaare Emeth members and to the broader community. Questions? Email Rabbi Rachel Bearman at RBearman@sestl.org.

Register today at:
sestl.co/bshahtovah

"My husband and I took the B'sha'ah Tovah class in the Spring of 2022 and absolutely loved it. I really appreciated hearing from other parents in the group who grew up with Judaism in their lives. I did not have that experience growing up and worried about how I would be able to provide a Jewish experience for our daughter at home. Being able to connect with other parents who did have that experience and listen to their ideas on what a Jewish household looked like was reassuring in how I imagined what our home would be.

My biggest take away from the class was a better understanding of a Jewish naming ceremony. If you are wanting to connect with other first time parents who have as many questions about what to expect when welcoming a new life into the world, then this class is for you."

Kelli Wise, pictured with husband, Sam, and their daughter, Beatrix.

BOKER TOV SHABBAT

Saturday, February 18, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Families with children age five and younger are invited to join Shaare Emeth clergy and educators for a Shabbat morning worship experience designed especially for them.



We'll pray, sing, and share the joy and peace of Shabbat together. Breakfast will be served after the service. **Free and open to all!**

RSVP at sestl.co/bokertov21823





Jewish Mindfulness
Center of St. Louis



A MESSAGE FROM RABBI GOLDSTEIN

By Rabbi Andrea Goldstein

AGoldstein@sestl.org

After having spent a month of way completing the final step of my Doctor of Ministry program, I am excited to be back with all of you, and I look forward to numerous new opportunities for learning, practice, celebration and community building.

As you will see on these two pages, the Jewish Mindfulness Center of St. Louis is offering a variety of new programming and a new meditation schedule beginning this month. While I know that changes in schedules and formats can be challenging, I hope that these changes will allow for greater participation if the Center's offerings while still connecting with many of our regular community members.

I look forward to seeing many of you in-person and online this month. L'shalom!

A Tree of Life Tu B'Shevat Seder

CELEBRATING THE INTERCONNECTEDNESS OF
OUR LIVES, OUR ACTIONS, AND OUR EARTH

Sunday, February 5 from 4–5:30 p.m. at Shaare Emeth

Led by Rabbi Goldstein, Debbie Bram, Director of Jewish Life & Learning, and Lucy Greenbaum, Musician-in-Residence



Tu B'Shevat is the New Year of the Trees. In recent years this holiday has expanded to include an honoring of all the natural world and our place within it. This year's Tu B'Shevat seder will include beautiful music, readings, and prayers as well as a chance to sample delicious wines and juices, fruits, and nuts. There is no cost to attend, but registration is required. Register no later than Wednesday, February 1 by going to sestl.co/treeoflifeseder

YOU ARE NOT ALONE: A SERVICE OF WHOLENESS, HEALING AND HOPE

Sunday, February 26, 4 – 5 p.m., Kehillah Center

*Whether you are facing a physical illness * coping with mental illness * living or wrestling with an addiction * struggling with situational depression * feeling spiritually depleted * living with Alzheimer's or memory loss * caring for someone who is ill * love someone who is in need of healing ...*

We invite you to join Rabbi Andrea Goldstein and Congregation Shaare Emeth's Musician-in-Residence, Lucy Greenbaum for an afternoon of music, poetry, prayer, and connection with a community that cares.

All are welcome. Registration is required.



To register, visit:

sestl.co/youarenotalone



NEW TIMES & NEW LOOK FOR WEEKLY MEDITATION SITS

Beginning the Week of February 13

Join Rabbi Andrea Goldstein for one or both of these unique weekly Mindfulness Meditation sits where participants are led in practices opening the heart and mind to the possibility of continual growth and change. **No meditation experience necessary.**

**Mondays, 8:30 – 9 a.m.
February 13, 20, and 27**

Online Only

Set an intention for your week in these meditation sessions that incorporate lessons from the weekly Torah portion or stories and symbols of the season.

**Wednesdays, 6 – 6:30 p.m.
February 15, 22**

A Hybrid Offering

Wednesday meditation sessions will take their inspiration from the Book of Psalms, focusing on a new Psalm each week to ground us in our practice. We will conclude each sit with two prayers: *Mi Shebeirach*, a chance to pray for healing for ourselves and those we love, and *Kaddish*, a chance to remember loved ones and/or members of the greater community.

Join in-person at the Jewish Mindfulness Center of St. Louis OR online.

Check the weekly Monday Mindfulness email for the most up-to-date information and to receive the Zoom link or call-in number for one or both weekly sessions.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION: A CHANCE TO EXPLORE THE HOLINESS OF YOUR LIFE

By appointment beginning in February

WHAT IS SPIRITUAL DIRECTION?

Spiritual Direction is a practice that involves meeting with a spiritual director on a monthly basis to cultivate our ability to discern the holiness, the spiritual or the sacred in all aspects of our lives – the celebrations and the struggles and each moment in between. As Rabbi Jacob Staub explains, “the spiritual director is a companion and a witness who walks with you on your journey, offering loving, supportive, non-judgmental, undivided attention to your narrative as you sit together in the presence of the sacred.” A spiritual director does not “direct” – does not impose their beliefs or values upon you. Spiritual Direction sessions are simply a practice to help us view our lives through the lens of the spirit.

Rabbi Goldstein completed the Spiritual Direction practicum to become a spiritual director at the Aquinas Institute of Theology in 2018.

WHO COULD BENEFIT FROM SPIRITUAL DIRECTION?

Anyone. You do not have to consider yourself a spiritual person to engage in this practice. You do not need to hold any particular image of God, or a belief in God at all.

WHEN DOES SPIRITUAL DIRECTION AT THE JEWISH MINDFULNESS CENTER OF ST. LOUIS TAKE PLACE?

Beginning in February, Rabbi Goldstein will set aside time on Monday afternoons to meet with those seeking Spiritual Direction. Appointments are limited. **To set up a first appointment contact Stacy Jespersen at SJespersen@sestl.org.**

IS THERE A COST?

There is no cost for members of Congregation Shaare Emeth, though it is customary to make a donation to the Jewish Mindfulness Center of St. Louis after each session.

The cost for non-members is \$50 per session.



THE PAC OF SHIRLEE GREEN PRESCHOOL PRESENTS

TRIVIA NIGHT

Tease Your Brain & Help SGP Remodel The Motor Room!

Saturday, February 25
at Shaare Emeth
Doors open at: 06:30pm
Game starts at: 07:00pm

\$200 per table of 8

Dress up and decorate your table in your favorite TV show or movie from your childhood!

RAFFLES-SILENT AUCTION-PRIZES

For registration & further information contact
Kayla Adams at kadams@sestl.org
(314) 569-0048

CONGREGATION SHAARE • EMETH
Founded in 1867

SHIRLEE GREEN PRESCHOOL

How Can You Help?

Sponsors

Round Sponsor (\$200): Company name and logo displayed and mentioned during an entire round of trivia.
Premiere Sponsor (\$500): Company name and logo displayed on tables. Special recognition during breaks. Includes 1 table of 8.

Donations

We are collecting items that can be used for a raffle, silent auction or prizes. Please contact Rachel Rosen at rosen.rachel.s@gmail.com if you have a donation.

Volunteers

We will need volunteers to help set up, take down and organize raffle/auction items. Please contact Rachel Rosen at rosen.rachel.s@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering.

JOIN US AT TRIVIA NIGHT AND HELP US BUILD THE SGP BODY LAB!

By Brandi Cartwright

BCartwright@sestl.org



Big things are happening at the little preschool at Congregation Shaare Emeth. This year, climbing walls are going up. Swings are being suspended from the ceiling. And a crash pit is getting installed. For every ninja, gymnast, rock climber, aerialist, and spunky adventurer – Shirlee Green Preschool is the place for you.

Opening this summer, the Body Lab is the place for young children to test their skills, challenge the ways they move their bodies, and explore ways to balance and soar. From the freedom of dropping into a cloud of foam cubes to flying through the air on your tummy, The Body Lab at SGP will be a sensory-filled space to help every little one feel the soothing vestibular input of swings, the proprioceptive experience of feeling their muscles and joints do hard work, and more. At Shirlee Green Preschool, we know healthy minds are boosted by strong bodies. This Semester, we'll unveil our newest space built just for supporting body strength, coordination, and body intelligence in young children.

Last year, an Anything Grant from the Staenberg Family Foundation kicked off the initiative, providing the funds to purchase and install climbing walls. This year, Trivia Night on February 25, aims to bring us the rest of the way.

We invite friends, family, and fans of Shirlee Green Preschool to join us for a fun-filled night featuring the MC stylings of Cantor Seth Warner. A table of eight is \$200. Tickets are now on sale. Enter the table décor contest or dress up in your favorite TV show from your childhood for a costume prize. Plus, mulligans, “ask an expert”, and cheat sheets available for purchase at the event. Sponsorships are available to promote your business or service. Questions? Contact Kayla Adams at KAdams@sestl.org, 314.569.0048. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

From the children and teachers of Shirlee Green Preschool, thank you for your support and we hope to see you there!

CAMP EMETH REGISTRATION & STAFF APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN!

By Laura Horton

LHorton@sestl.org



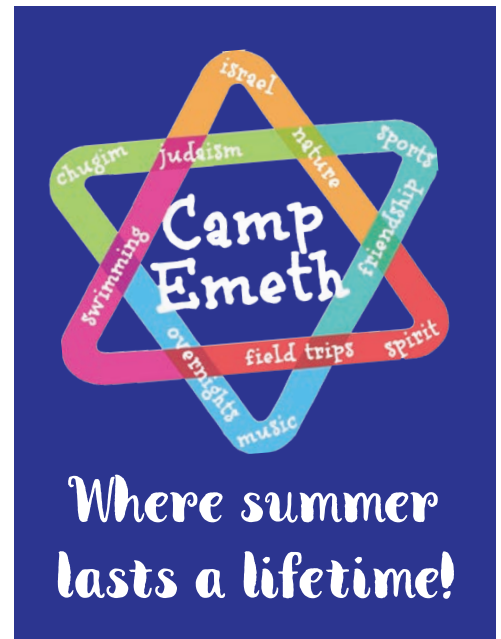
Hello! I am Laura Horton, and I am excited to experience my first summer as the new Director of Camp Emeth! This is a very

full-circle moment for me, as I grew up at Shaare Emeth, and have been a camper and counselor for Camp Emeth in the past. For the past 7+ years, I have been running a large day camp program and other recreation programs throughout the year for Kirkwood Parks and Recreation. So having the opportunity

to couple my recreation background with a Jewish camp experience and return “home” to Shaare Emeth was one that I did not take lightly! I look forward to continuing our Camp Emeth traditions and making new ones as well, building on the foundation that former camp directors have created.

If you are a camp parent, former camper or camp staff member, I would love to hear from you! It would be incredibly powerful to hear you share what makes Camp Emeth so special to you, and what I can do to keep that magic going for current and future campers!

We are also seeking camp staff members, including counselors, support staff, and specialists, to help us create timeless



memories for our campers, and you will walk away with plenty of your own as well. Come discover why Camp Emeth truly is a place where “Summer lasts a lifetime!”

I look forward to seeing you and your family this summer!

Camp At A Glance

2023 CAMP DATES:
June 12 – August 4

Camp available for
RIISING K-8TH GRADERS
as of Fall 2023

Sign up by the week or for
all 8 weeks!

To learn more or to
register, please visit:

www.CampEmeth.org



THE MAGIC AND MEANING OF A GOOD PURIMSPIEL

By Rabbi Lori Levine

LLevine@sestl.org



Every year around this time, I love that I get to fire up my creative engines. As a former tap dancer, singer, and theater kid, I find

the task of putting together our family Purimspiel for religious school fun and energizing. I am very grateful that we have staff, teachers, and an awesome clergy team who are game to play along! If you have ever celebrated Purim before with this special tradition, I am sure you can recall lots of laughter, crazy costumes, and perhaps a satirical joke or two. I recently learned that this tradition of a dramatized Purim story, performed for Jewish communities every year all over the world, goes back hundreds, maybe even thousands of years.

The Jews enjoyed light and gladness, happiness and honor. Grant us these same miracles.
(Based on Esther 8:16)

Despite their annual reinvention to the latest references in music, movies, TV, and pop culture, Purim spiels are the oldest form of Jewish theater. The earliest written records of spiels date back to the 14th century—and these theatrical productions were almost certainly performed for hundreds of years prior to those first written records. Though theater was not a typical Jewish activity, once a year members of the Jewish community would bend the rules, turn things upside down, and get a little crazy. The play or spiel in Yiddish would tell the traditional Purim story, but it also parodied local news and made fun of political leaders. The performances were really for the insiders of the Jewish community and provided an opportunity to laugh at themselves. In the Purim story, we find humor and fantastical storytelling in the context of a perilous situation. Our people, living in the

Diaspora, are vulnerable to an evil plot by a heartless villain, but we also get a silly king, drinking, merriment, hidden identities, and more. So too, with the Purimspiel: in times and places where Jews were constantly persecuted and in danger for their lives, they still found a way to inject laughter and imagination into this holiday tradition. There are even records of Purimspiels performed during the Holocaust with Haman dressed up as Hitler himself.

That is why we need to come together every year. To tell this story and to find hope and life in the darkness. I hope that you will join us this year for our family-friendly Purim celebration on March 5th, especially if you have young people in your life. We will tell the story of our survival once again with humor, with a few characters and famous lines you might recognize! I cannot wait to see you there.



WILD WEST PURIM



SHUSHAN HOOTENANY SUNDAY, MARCH 5

9 a.m. Religious School Begins

10:30 a.m. A Purim Story

11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Shushan Hootenany



Fun for all ages! Mosey on down to Temple for inflatables, entertainment, music, food, and more! Featuring **A Purim Story**: A Purimspiel for families with children ages 0-12.

Lunch from the Purim Food committee will be available for purchase, including hamantaschen: cash, check, or credit card accepted.

Brought to you by Traditions with a Twist and The Purim Committee.

REGISTER FOR ALL OF YOUR PURIM FUN AT SESTL.CO/PURIM!



SHUSHAN SHAMBOREE SHOW MONDAY, MARCH 6

7 p.m.

A Wild West Purimspiel, Written & Directed by Patrick Siler
Featuring Shaare Emeth Clergy, Staff, and Members

Wear your finest country attire and join us for a good ole Megillah reading and a knee-slappin', yeehawing shamboree of a show! Don't leave this shindig before grabbin' some hamantaschen and refreshments. This show is geared toward adults, but you can bring the youngins, too!



BE IN OUR SHAMBOREE!

Are you a country singer at heart or in the shower? Do you look great in a hat? Join the chorus of country bumpkins with all yer buddies. Singers and actors of all ages are welcome! Rehearsals are:

Thursday, February 16 at 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 23 at 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 2 at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 5 at 4 p.m.

Showtime is Monday, March 6 at 7 p.m.

Email at Stacy at SJespersen@sestl.org.

2023 Camp and Israel Scholarships Available

Congregation Shaare Emeth has need-based scholarships to help our members attend URJ Goldman Union Camp Institute (GUCI) overnight camp, teen Israel programs, and Camp Emeth.

Please contact Rosalie Stein for an application by email at RStein@sestl.org or 314.569.0010.

The deadline is February 3 for Israel scholarships and February 17 for GUCI and Camp Emeth scholarships.



Congregation Shaare Emeth is so fortunate to have the following endowments that provide these much-needed scholarships.

GUCI and Camp Emeth

Jacquelyn Wiesman Artstein Camp Scholarship Fund
Essman-Schaeffer Camp Scholarship Fund
Goldberg Camp Scholarship fund
Lisa's Star Fund for Camp Emeth
Sisterhood Youth Scholarship Fund

Israel Scholarships

Joseph and Lillian Beil Israel Fund
Chused Israel Experience Fund
Sam I Golman Israel Fund

For more information on our scholarship funds, and how you can provide need-based funding for our camp and Israel scholarships, please contact Rosalie Stein at RStein@sestl.org.



"It takes a congregation to raise a Jewish child. No family should ever feel like they are adrift on their own scrambling to make this happen. And so, we are incredibly indebted and grateful to people who donate to our endowment to be able to make that happen."

– Rabbi Andrea Goldstein

TREES OF LIFE: A GIVING INITIATIVE

By Beth Kodner

BKodner@sestl.org



Over the past few years our beautiful campus has suffered irreparable damage to more than 30 of its trees.

Our trees need some major *tikkun* (repair). We would like to replace the trees with healthy indigenous trees and landscaping. **Your temple needs your help.**

The Trees of Life committee, along with the *Shomrei Adamah* committee (our environmental committee) are working together on this important initiative. The environmental importance of trees and our part as caretakers of the earth is part of our mission.

As we celebrate Tu B'Shevat on February 5, the birthday of the trees, we will kick off our **Trees of Life Initiative**.

Join us at Shabbat Services on Friday, February 3 as we celebrate trees. We will be at the nosh with more information on how you can partner with us.

We are offering giving opportunities to support the re-beautification of our campus while we walk the walk of being an environmentally conscious community.

Special thanks to our committee:

Courtney Buxner, Chair; Josh Goldman, Natalie & Larry Goldman, Caroline Hoff, Fran Mannis, Dave Propper, Peggy & Alan Schaffer, Dede & Garry Seltzer, Gaby Tullman, Michelle Unterman-Mack, and Catherine Werner.

Please stay tuned with more details on how you can "leaf" Shaare Emeth a better place for the future.

For questions or more information, please contact Beth Kodner, Director of Development & Membership at BKodner@sestl.org or 314-692-5306.



Limited Availability North Entrance Personalized Brick	\$5000	Permanent Personalized Brick + Sapling for Your Home + Donor Recognition + Special Recognition Donor Event
Tree of Life	\$3600	Sapling for Your Home + Donor Recognition + Special Recognition Donor Event
Deep Roots	\$1800	Donor Recognition + Special Recognition Donor Event
Supporting Branch	\$500	Special Recognition Donor Event
Leaf of Love	\$250	Special Recognition Donor Event
Tree Hugger	\$\$\$	Consider any amount to partner in this initiative

YOU CAN "GIVE" TO SHAARE EMETH WITHOUT SPENDING A PENNY WITH AMAZON SMILE

How many Amazon packages show up at your doorstep each week? Did you know that each package that is delivered could generate a donation to Shaare Emeth?

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support Shaare Emeth every time you shop, at no cost to you. Tens of millions of products are eligible for donation. AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of each eligible purchase back to us.

Once you activate AmazonSmile in your account, you don't need to do anything else but shop!

With a few simple clicks in your Amazon account, you could be generating dollars for your Shaare Emeth community.

To Sign Up for Amazon Smile:

- Log into your Amazon account
- Click on the hamburger menu on the bottom right
- Scroll down to Settings
- Click on Amazon Smile
- Search Shaare Emeth
- Select Congregation Shaare Emeth
- Confirm charity
- Turn on Amazon Smile
- Start Shopping!



FROM THE ACCOUNTING TEAM

JANUARY 2023 STATEMENT

Your monthly statement for January was sent out around the 15th of the month. Please review your statement carefully to ensure your membership pledge for the 2023 year as well as all other financial commitments, are accurate and you are on a payment plan if you'd like to be on one.

If you're on a payment plan, your statement will have the words "Scheduled" next to a list of future dates, all listed under the charge for which your payments will be applied. If you are unsure or would like to get set up on a payment plan for membership or any open balance, feel free to reach out to Maggie Muhr at MMuhr@sestl.org or Scott Berzon SBerzon@sestl.org.

CHILDCARE REIMBURSEMENT FOR 2022

As the 2022 year has come to a close, if you are in need of a formal receipt displaying all payments made for childcare reimbursement, reach out to Maggie Muhr at MMuhr@sestl.org. On average it will take Maggie about 5 to 7 business days to get back to you with the formal receipt.

SUPPORT SHAARE EMETH WITH SCRIP

It's as easy as reviewing available brands on the Raise Right website and calling the office to place an order. Many of our members purchase gift cards year-round, and we are so very grateful. Every gift card purchased gives back approximately 3% to the temple.

If you'd like to join our group of members that participate in monthly standing orders, or if you'd just like to purchase a few cards, all are welcome. Please review raiseright.com to view all brands that participate and give back. We bulk order our SCRIP purchases monthly. Call us at (314) 569-0010 with your order and payment information, and we'll let you know when the cards come in.



TENNIS AND SWIM CLUB

Forest Lake Tennis and Swim Club features 8 climate-controlled indoor tennis courts (open year-round), 5 outdoor tennis courts, 6 outdoor pickleball courts, and an outdoor Olympic-sized swimming pool. Memberships, clinics, teams, leagues, and more are all available.



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Visit us at 1012 N. Woods Mill Road in Chesterfield
or online at forestlaketennisclub.com

THANKS FROM THE AV CLUB

Thanks so much to the members of Shaare Emeth's AV Club in 2022. With your generosity, we were able to keep our Shaare Emeth community connected with wrap-around technological services for members of all ages. Whether it was streamed worship services or life cycle events like funerals and B'Mitzvahs, Shaare Emeth was able to include everyone near and far as a cohesive community. The Jewish Mindfulness Center was able to provide programming that elevated the soul and body, while our Matriarchs to Mamalas Book Club and Torah Study provided a warm way to learn with friends. Technology enabled us to learn and be inspired long-distance with very special guest Dr. Edie Egar, while also embracing our community with the Keshet Committee's first LGBTQ+ Shabbaton. Throughout the year, the AV Club's support optimized what Shaare Emeth could achieve inside the temple as well as beyond its walls.

As we look forward in 2023, our technology needs increase and we hope you will consider joining the AV Club or continuing your membership when your annual renewal comes up. The suggested donation for 2023 remains the same, \$100, which can be paid by check or by installment, online. As always, we appreciate your past support and look forward to another year of connection and community as we together create a vibrant and accessible Congregation Shaare Emeth.



JOIN ONLINE AT [SESTL.ORG/AV-CLUB](https://sestl.org/av-club).

Thanks to our 2022 AV Club Members:

Julie Arnold	Gail Lewis
Akiva & Brachah Belk	Martin & Jacquelyn Lipsitz
Rabbi James & Amy Bennett	Ann & Ashley Loiterstein
Robert & Gloria Berger	Terry Lynford
Lynne & Mark Berney	Louise Mass
William & Suzanne Bierman z'l	Marcia & Carl Moskowitz
Robert & Sue Bohm	Laurie Nest
Ronnie & Allen Brockman	Sue & Joel Picus
Ilene Brooks & Richard Scharnhorst	John & Eunice Reichman
Frederick & Stefany Brot	Earl & Laurie Rosenberg
Sheila Cohen	Leah Rubin & Jeffrey Cohen
Vince & Dana DeBlasi	Jerome & Linda Sandmel
Ernest & Marsha Demba	Joshua & Hadley Schindler
Richard & Dianna Fine	Harvey & Leanne Schneider
Wendy Flusser	Mark & Lee Scissors
Lynne Fogel	Fred & Sheri Seigel
Natalie & Larry Goldman	Stanford & Andy Shanker
Rick & Sherri Goldman	Sandra Sher
Rabbi Andrea & Brett Goldstein	Gary & Janice Sherman
Jay & Carole Goldstein	Michele & Patrick Siler
Jessica & Aaron Goltzman	Dale & Merle Singer
Arlene Goodman	Leonard & Sharon Smith
Randall & Nancy Green	Bob & Rosalie Stein
James & Jane Grossman	Sanford & Jane Thal
Norman & Paula Hertel	Bernard & Anita Waxman
Rita & George Heymann	Harvey Weiss
Harry & Gale Hilburg	Virginia Weiss
Sidney & Nancy Hirsch	Alan & Sharon Weissman
Phylis Kahn	Martin Wice
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We express condolences to Shaare Emeth members and families who have recently lost a loved one and sympathy to Shaare Emeth members who have had a death in their extended family.

CONDOLENCES

Robert Bohm

Husband of Sue Bohm and
brother of David (Joan) Bohm

Allan Goldberg

Husband of Phyllis Goldberg
and father of Glenn (Nancy)
Goldberg

Mark Herwitz

Husband of Helene Herwitz

Rita Horwitz

Lucille Midows

Ilse Scheuer

Robert Sparks

Husband of Zelda Sparks

SYMPATHY

Alan (Suzi) Bayne on the death of
his father, **Robert Bayne**

Arlen Chalef on the death of her
sister, **Vicki Litz**

Jean Sokora on the death of her
mother, **Mary Boeger**

PERPETUAL MEMORIALS

A memorial has been established for:

Larry Wayne Glenn

Established by Gail Glenn and
family

Phyllis Ginsburg Harber

Established by Anne & Sheldon
Harber, Andy Harber & Tom
Brounck, and Linda & Harlan
Harber

The names of those remembered by a Perpetual Memorial will be read during the Friday Shabbat Services. They will also be remembered by yahrzeit date reminders sent to designated family members' homes and are automatically included with the Perpetual Memorials in our memorial book on Yom Kippur. For more information on establishing a Perpetual Memorial, please contact Stacy Jespersen at SJespersen@sestl.org or 314-692-5302.

NEW MEMBER FAMILIES

Sheri & Paul Berkowitz

Giorgi & Adam Bornstein

Lori & Ray Davis

Rachel & Sam Kleinman, with child, Leo

Debi & Mike Lin

Natalie & Nathan Swanson, with children,
Oliver, Eleanor, & Elliot

Margo & Drew Newman, with children,
Maya, & Joshua

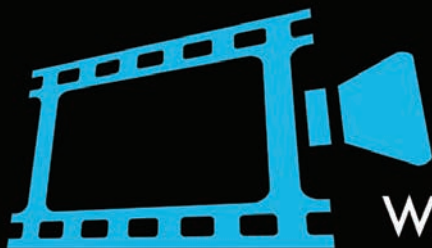
SIMCHAS

Mazel Tov to **Farilyn (late Rand) Hale** and **Mary & Rocco Carrozz** on the birth of their granddaughter, Francesca Mary Hale. Also Mazel Tov to parents, **Carmella & Marc Hale**.

Mazel Tov to **Farilyn Hale** who was recently inducted into the Parkway Alumni Association's Hall of Fame, for Community Service and Advocacy work.

Mazel Tov to **Jessica & Todd Newstead** on the birth of their daughter, Olivia Ann. Also Mazel Tov to grandparents **Sherri & Steve Newstead**.

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RABBIS' SPECIAL FUND

IN APPRECIATION OF:

Rabbi Bennett for officiating at the funeral service for Gilbert Dolgin

Sheila Dolgin and Family

Rabbi Bennett for officiating the wedding ceremony for Diana & Jordan Mandel

Ellen & Craig Mandel

Rabbi Bennett for officiating the beautiful and meaningful wedding ceremony for their daughter Diana Rosen to Jordan Mandel

Sherri & Jim Rosen

Rabbi Bennett for leading the Chanukah program at The Willows

Judy Schenberg

Rabbi Bennett for officiating at the funeral service for Nancy Novack

Marci Tobin

Rabbi Bennett

Joanne Rothenberg Travis & Alan Travis

Rabbi Bennett for support during difficult times

The Wagner Family

The Clergy of Shaare Emeth for their support and officiating at the funeral for Alvin Appelbaum

Esther Appelbaum, Sheryl & Doug Weber, Murray & Gail Appelbaum, Jeff Appelbaum

Rabbi Bennett and Rabbi Levine for their support and for helping Asher Levey prepare to become a Bar Mitzvah

Jackie & Jim Levey and Family

Rabbi Bennett and Rabbi Levine for the sensitivity extended at the time of her parents passing

Michelle Gralnick

Rabbi Bennett, Rabbi Goldstein, Rabbi Stiffman and Cantor Warner for their support and officiating at the funeral of Phyllis Harber

Anne & Sheldon Harber and Family, Linda & Harlan Harber and Family, Andy Harber & Tom Broun

Live streaming services and other forms of ongoing contact with Shaare Emeth

Maryellen McSweeney

Shaare Emeth

Alan Roman

IN HONOR OF:

Amy & Rabbi Jim Bennett on the marriage of Erica Barish and Ethan Bennett

Janice & Gary Sherman

Barbara & Bob Cohn on the birth of Ezekiel Thorstein Meagher

Jerri & Bill Livingston

Sherry & Jim Rosen on the marriage of Diana & Jordan Mandel

Iris Shepard

IN MEMORY OF:

Alvin Appelbaum

Beryl & Warren Davis; Barbara German; Natalie & Larry Goldman; Arlene Goodman & Stan Towerman; Edith & Robert Prywitch

Harvey Cohen

Sheila Cohen and Family

Eric Goldman

Jan Goldman and Herb Goldman

Barbara & Edward Guller and Sadie Greenberg

Alayne Yates

Phyllis Harber

Donna Kleinschmidt and Buff Buffkin;

Dee & Steve Mintz; Peggy Yanover and

Art Jacobs

Friedel Oberdorfer

Marcia & Hans Oberdorfer

Olga Oberdorfer

Marcia & Hans Oberdorfer

Eileen Richman

Jody & Morris Seligman, Rachel &

Harrison Seligman

David Steinberg

Peter & Elizabeth Maer

Harry Taryle

Barbara & Ira Einsohn

CANTOR'S SPECIAL FUND

IN APPRECIATION OF:

Cantor Warner for officiating at the funeral service for Gilbert Dolgin

Sheila Dolgin and Family

Cantor Warner for his role in the dedication of their parents grave markers

Michelle, Leslie and Marshall Gralnick

Cantor Warner for his support and for helping prepare Asher Levey to become a Bar Mitzvah

Jackie & Jim Levey and Family

The tributes listed here are those made for \$10 or more and processed December 1-31, 2022. A tribute gift made in another's name is a lovely way to honor a friend for a recent *simcha* (joyous occasion), to honor the memory of a deceased loved one on their *yahrzeit* (anniversary of death), or to show appreciation for someone. To make a tribute donation, please visit sestl.org/give. Hard copy forms are available in the Shaare Emeth North lobby vestibule or you may email JMcGinty@sestl.org

IN HONOR OF:

The Dahl Family on Owen Dahl becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Esther Appelbaum; Nancy S. Berk; Sheryl & Doug Weber; Gerri & Scott Weissman

Ken Brown on his milestone birthday

Linda & Bill Levin

IN MEMORY OF:

Muriel Friedland

Dale & Richard Mellin

Tom Levin

Bruce Adams & Eve Becker

Gertrude Matusofsky

Dori & Jeff Sternklar

Gloria Sirkin

Beth & Ken Friedman; Natalie & Larry Goldman

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IN HONOR OF:

Eli Esses on becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Rita & Gary Esses

Joseph Glasser on becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Sarah & David Glasser

Chase Rauner on becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Jill & Ben Turec

Drew Rosenblum on becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Jennifer & David Rosenblum

Evan Sagett on becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Alicia & Shaun Margul & Ari & Genevieve Sagett

IN MEMORY OF:

Lillian & Dr. Harry Glassman

The Lillian & Dr. Harry Glassman Family Fund

Anna Handler

Sharon & Richard Safron

JOSEPH & LILLIAN BEIL ISRAEL FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Lillian & Joseph Beil

Rosalind B. Sell

B'NAI EL TZEDAKAH FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Gloria Sirkin

Jerri & Bill Livingston; Vicki Siegel

BROCKMAN-SIEGELMAN GEMILUT HASADIM FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Helen & Oscar Brockman, Evelyn & Sidney Goldberg, Wilma & Caroline Siegelman & George Siegelman

Ronnie & Allen Brockman

MICAH DAVIS MEMORIAL FUND

IN HONOR OF:

Phyllis Kamenetzky for a speedy recovery

Andy & Stan Shanker

IN MEMORY OF:

Ruth Kessler

Norman Davis

GOLDBERG CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Allan Goldberg

Bonnie Goldberg Mullinax

SHIRLEE GREEN PRESCHOOL FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Lew Sanders

Sandra & Sanford Krachmalnick

Gail Tobin

Keith & Cindi Guller

ALAN GREENBERG EARLY CHILDHOOD FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Lew Sanders

Barbara & Michael Dorman

Cheryl Virgin

Barbara & Michael Dorman

IDA & HARRIS KRAMER SOCIAL ACTION FUND

IN HONOR OF:

Michele Siler on being recognized as a 2022 recipient of the St. Louis Jewish Light Unsung Hero Award

Marcia & Simon Koski

IN MEMORY OF:

Ida & Harris Kramer

Kandra & Steven Kramer

ANTHONY B. LAKE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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Geraldine Deutsch

Michael Kohn

LIBRARY FUND

IN APPRECIATION OF:

Bob Sparks

Melissa & Jason Adler

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Jackie & Marty Lipsitz on their 65th wedding anniversary

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IN HONOR OF:

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Marilyn & Gary Ratkin for being honored as the 2022 Heart and Soul Tzedek Award Recipients

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Gilbert Dolgin

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Elinore Sachs

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Lynn & Dr. Carl Lyss

MANN FAMILY HUNGER FUND

IN HONOR OF:

Linda & Ed Dahl and the Dahl Family on Owen Dahl becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Jim & Abby Susman

Dayle & Gene Norber and the Norber Family on Aubrey Norber becoming a Bat Mitzvah

Jim & Abby Susman

IN MEMORY OF:

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Carol & David Roe; Leanne & Harvey Schneider

Phyllis Harber

Vivien Gardner & Family

Lew Sanders

Vivien Gardner & Family

MICHAEL MATLOF CONNECTION & COMMUNICATION FUND

IN HONOR OF:

Michele Siler on being recognized as a 2022 recipient of the St. Louis Jewish Light Unsung Hero Award

Barbara & David Furman

Sherri & Steve Newstead on the birth of their granddaughter, Olivia

Carole & Jay Goldstein

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Adeline Mass

Louise Mass and Family

Dolly Newport

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IN HONOR OF:

Bob Sparks for complete healing and return to good health

Sharon & Ken Weintraub

IN MEMORY OF:

Ben Dalin

Debbie & Karl Guyer

Morton Maneson

Nancy & Harvey Lehrer

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IN APPRECIATION OF:

Bob Sparks

Rosalie & Bob Stein

Shaare Emeth

Anonymous; Renee Roodman

IN HONOR OF:

Sherri & Steve Newstead on the birth of their granddaughter, Olivia

Sue & Alan Wallach

Joe Pereles for his Senior Service Award by the Missouri Lt. Governor

Stacey & Josh Wallach

IN MEMORY OF:

Alvin Appelbaum

Earline Binford; Michael Bobrof; Monett & Myron Lite

Phyllis Harber

Rosalie Franklin; Jacquelyn & Richard Schnidman; Renee & Sam Silverstein

Tom Levin

Phyllis & Leonard Adams

Jerry Margolies

Mark Margolies

Gertrude Matusofsky

Larry & Sue Ellen Maneson

Phillip Movitz

Sherri & Rick Goldman

Sophie Prywitch

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Debbie, Lee, Marc and Alex Rothman

GARY & MARILYN RATKIN SOCIAL ACTION EDUCATION FUND

IN HONOR OF:

Amy & Rabbi Jim Bennett on the marriage of Erica Barish to Ethan Bennett

Nancy & Harvey Lehrer

Marilyn & Gary Ratkin for being honored as the 2022 Heart and Soul Tzedek Award Recipients

Rosalie Franklin; Joyce & Larry Kolker; Patty Teper

Harvey Lehrer with wishes for fast healing

Carole & Jay Goldstein

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IN APPRECIATION OF:

Rabbi Goldstein for giving meaning
and significance to the Ida Stack
Scholarship presentation
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Rabbi Levine for her glowing
tribute to the legacy of Ida Stack
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IN HONOR OF:

The Tureen Family for a wonderful
holiday and happy 2023
Jan & Bob Abrams

**KATHY & MARTY ZIGLER
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IN MEMORY OF:

Gloria Sirkin
Sandy & Phil Brooks



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