CONGREGATION SHAARE EMETH

BULLETIN
FEBRUARY 2023

WILD WEST PURIM

SHUSHAN HOOTENANY
Sunday, March 5

SHUSHAN SHAMBOREEE 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 Sjjespersen@sestl.org or 314-569-0010.

**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

**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.
"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.

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/bshaahtovah

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
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
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.

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.
Join Us at Trivia Night and Help Us Build the SGP Body Lab!

By Brandi Cartwright
BCartwright@sestl.org

Big things are happening 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 or movie 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 RISING 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
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.

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.

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

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**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!

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**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 S Jespersen@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.

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!

Trees of Life Initiative

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**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.

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**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.

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

Two of the most convenient ways to enjoy The Square Beyond Compare

Imo’s Creve Coeur East
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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 Brounk, 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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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
Ira Shepard
IN MEMORY OF:
Alvin Appelbaum
Bryzl & Warren Davis; Barbara German; Natalie & Larry Goldman; Arlene Goodman & Stan Teaverman; Edith & Robert Prywetch
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 Biff Buffkin; Dee & Steve Mintz; Peggy Yanover and Art Jacobs
Friedel Oberdorfer
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Olga Oberdorfer
Marcia & Hans Oberdorfer
Eileen Richman
Judy & Morris Seligman, Rachel & Harrison Seligman
David Steinberg
Peter & Elizabeth Maer
Harry Taryle
Barbara & Ira Einsohn
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

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

TRIBUTES
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

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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
TRIBUTES

BEMA FLOWER FUND
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 Turc
Drew Rosenblum on becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Jennifer & David Rosenblum
Evan Sagett on becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Alisa & Shaun Margul & Ari & Genevieve Sagett

IN MEMORY OF:
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Helen & Oscar Brockman, Evelyn & Sidney Goldberg, Wilma & Caroline Siegelman & George Siegelman
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IN HONOR OF:
Phyllis Kamnetzky for a speedy recovery
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Edward Lyss
Lynn & Dr. Carl Lyss
Dr. Charles Pecus
Lynn & Dr. Carl Lyss
Elinore Sachs
Lynn & Dr. Carl Lyss
Stanley Shapiro
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IN HONOR OF:
Linda & Ed Dahl and the Dahl Family on Owen Dahl becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Jim & Abby Sussman
Dayle & Gene Norber and the Norber Family on Aubrey Norber becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Jim & Abby Sussman

IN MEMORY OF:
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Carol & David Roe; Leanne & Harvey Schneider
Phyllis Harber
Vicen Gardner & Family
Lew Sanders
Vicen 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
Marcia & Simon Kossi

IN MEMORY OF:
Ida & Harris Kramer
Kandra & Steven Kramer

IN MEMORY OF:
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Marcia & Simon Kossi

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Joe Perleus for his Senior Service Award by the Missouri Lt. Governor Stacey & Josh Wallach

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Nancy & Harvey Lehrer
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Rosalie Franklin; Joyce & Larry Kolker; Patty Tepor
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Bob Sparks for complete healing and return to good health
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Adeline Mass
Louise Mass and Family
Dolly Newport
Sue Matlof and Greg Matlof

IN MEMORY OF:
Bob Sparks for complete healing and return to good health
Sharon & Ken Weintraub

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Weekly Yahrzeit listings can be found online at sestl.org/yahrzeits.

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