

BULLETIN

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2024



The Gratitude Issue

GATHERING *for* GRATITUDE

A Morning of Giving Back
Sunday, November 24

SEE PAGES 8 & 9 FOR MORE DETAILS

NOVEMBER + DECEMBER WORSHIP & TORAH STUDY SCHEDULE

On Friday evenings, Nosh begins at 5:15 p.m. prior to Shabbat services, which take place in the Stiffman Sanctuary, unless otherwise noted.

Friday, November 1, 2024

6 p.m. *L'Dor VaDor Intergenerational Kabbalat Shabbat Service with November Blessings: Birthdays & Simchas*

Saturday, November 2, 2024

9:30 a.m. *Torah Study*
11 a.m. *Shabbat Morning Service: Atticus Turner, child of Rebecca and Ray Turner, becomes a Bar Mitzvah*

Friday, November 8, 2024

6 p.m. *Kabbalat Shabbat Service*

Saturday, November 9, 2024

9:30 a.m. *Torah Study*

Friday, November 15, 2024

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

Saturday, November 16, 2024

9:30 a.m. *Torah Study*
11 a.m. *Shabbat Morning Service: Grace Minnick, child of Gloria and Adam Minnick, becomes a Bat Mitzvah*

Friday, November 22, 2024

6 p.m. *Kabbalat Shabbat Service*

Saturday, November 23, 2024

9:30 a.m. *Torah Study*
11 a.m. *Shabbat Morning Service: Maxwell Manlin, child of Beth and Mark Manlin, becomes a Bar Mitzvah*

Friday, November 29, 2024

6 p.m. *Kabbalat Shabbat Service*

Saturday, November 30, 2024

9:30 a.m. *Torah Study*
11 a.m. *Shabbat Morning Service: Zachary Kuznetov, child of Marina and Dmitrey Kuznetov, becomes a Bar Mitzvah*

Friday, December 6, 2024

6 p.m. *L'Dor VaDor Intergenerational Kabbalat Shabbat Service with December Blessings: Birthdays & Simchas, and Service of Consecration*

Saturday, December 7, 2024

9:30 a.m. *Torah Study with Rabbi Michal Ken Tor, see page 7*
11 a.m. *Shabbat Morning Service: Reed Brody, child of Lauren and Brian Brody, becomes a Bar Mitzvah*

Friday, December 13, 2024

6 p.m. *Kabbalat Shabbat Service*

Saturday, December 14, 2024

9:30 a.m. *Torah Study*
10:45 a.m. *Prayer Lab*

Friday, December 20, 2024

6 p.m. *Kabbalat Shabbat Service*

Saturday, December 21, 2024

9:30 a.m. *Torah Study*

Friday, December 27, 2024

6 p.m. *Kabbalat Shabbat Service*

Saturday, December 28, 2024

9:30 a.m. *Torah Study*

Friday, January 3, 2025

6 p.m. *Kabbalat Shabbat Service*

Saturday, January 4, 2025

9:30 a.m. *Torah Study*
11 a.m. *Shabbat Morning Service: Jonah Chaitman, child of Michelle and Cliff Chaitman, becomes a Bar Mitzvah*

HOLIDAY BUILDING CLOSURES

The Congregation Shaare Emeth Office and Shirlee Green Preschool will be closed:

Wednesday, November 27: Shirlee Green Preschool is closed. Our Main Office will close at 4 p.m.

Thursday & Friday, November 28 & 29: Campus closed in observance of Thanksgiving.

Wednesday, December 25: Campus closed in observance of Christmas Day.

Wednesday, January 1, 2025: Campus closed in observance of New Year's Day.

Monday, December 23, 2024–Friday, January 3, 2025: Shirlee Green Preschool closed for Winter Break.

FROM MORTAL FEAR TO MORAL COURAGE

By Rabbi James M. Bennett

JBennett@sestl.org



During Kol Nidre services this year, I spoke of the need for us all to move from mortal fear to moral courage. I wanted to share again some of my final thoughts:

The world as we have come to know it changed this year. We have learned to make the move from mortal fear to moral courage.

What does moral courage look like?

Moral courage asks us to believe that peace is better than war, that kindness is better than hate, that compassion is better than anger, that generosity is better than selfishness, and that all human beings are deserving of dignity, justice, and lives of tranquility and meaning.

Moral courage requires us to exercise patience, curiosity, and empathy before resorting to fear and anger.

Moral courage requires us to permit others to hold a well-thought-out position different than our own, without denying the legitimacy of their point of view.

Moral courage means that we should not condemn the young people we have raised, educated, and worked to inspire, especially when they are trying to live out the values we taught them, even in their own way.

Moral courage means not condemning our friends and allies on so many other issues, simply because they are trying to tell us that they are troubled by what they perceive are the injustices of the Palestinian people (or anyone else).

Moral courage also means not turning our backs on Israel when we disagree with some or all of what Israel's government, army, or people are doing.

And *moral courage* means helping our young people not to turn their backs on Israel, but rather, to work to urge and help Israel live up to the values we hold dear.

Moral courage means not turning our backs on each other, our families, our friends, our synagogue, or our community when we disagree with each other.



Moral courage requires us to ask of others what we ask of ourselves, and to ask of ourselves what we ask of others.

Moral courage requires us to actively engage in building the world we wish to leave for our children, our grandchildren, and for the world that will still be here when our personal stories come to an end.

Moral courage requires us, in the words of Rabbi Hillel, to strive, when we find ourselves in a place where there is no humanity, to act humanely.

John F. Kennedy, in his 1957 book *Profiles in Courage*, wrote:

"...that is the basis of all human morality... each man must decide for himself the course he will follow...For this each man must look into his own soul."

This is the challenge and the gift of this day of Yom Kippur. This is why we return here, year after year, to look into our own souls. To become better people. To strengthen our resolve. To face the challenges that will inevitably come our way this coming year. Together, to not draw back, but to cross over, with moral courage, not mortal fear, and to continue the journey to blessing, and to peace. Amen.

Listen to Rabbi Bennett's sermon in its entirety and all of the sermons from the High Holidays at <https://sestl.co/hhdsermons>

THANK YOU FOR BEING A MENSCH

By Craig Neuman, Executive Director

CNeuman@sestl.org



As you have seen (or will see), the theme of this bulletin is gratitude. I considered writing about the multitude of things for which I'm grateful—my family, my (general) good health, my new job!!! And don't get me wrong... I am extremely fortunate and grateful for those things. But, instead, I'd like to focus on the concept of gratitude and how important it is within communal/synagogue life.

Gratitude and community are deeply interconnected, especially in a synagogue setting, where relationships and engagement are at the heart of congregational life. When we express gratitude within our community, we strengthen bonds and foster a culture of appreciation and kindness.

Gratitude isn't just a personal emotion; it's a social one. In a synagogue community, expressing thanks to those around us — whether for small acts of kindness or major contributions — creates a shared sense of value and belonging. When people feel appreciated, they are more likely to stay engaged, contribute their time, and support each other. These moments of appreciation remind us that we don't navigate life alone; we are part of a web of support and mutual care.

In Jewish tradition, this is closely tied to the concept of *hakarat hatov* — the recognition of the good. It encourages us not only to feel gratitude but to actively seek out ways to express it, particularly in our interactions with others. When we take the time to notice the efforts of those around us, we deepen our relationships and nurture a culture where people feel seen and valued.

Expressing thanks can also set off a chain reaction of positive actions and feelings. When one person takes the time to express gratitude, it can inspire others to do the same, creating an atmosphere of mutual appreciation. Imagine a congregant thanking a volunteer who helped organize an event. That volunteer, feeling appreciated, might be more motivated to volunteer again in the future. They might also express their gratitude to someone who attended the event, further spreading this sense of connection and goodwill. When gratitude



becomes a central part of a community's culture, it creates an emotional environment where people are more likely to help each other and offer support.

Gratitude also has the power to change our perspectives. As people witness the positive effects of expressing thanks, they often become more attuned to the good things happening around them, no matter how small. In this way, gratitude not only strengthens bonds within the community but also fosters a broader sense of hope, generosity, and resilience. Gratitude is contagious. The more we express it, the more we cultivate a community where kindness and support thrive.

In my 10 short months at Shaare Emeth, I have witnessed this firsthand. We are a supportive community where appreciation and gratitude are regularly communicated. And we can always do more. I am grateful for the opportunity to play a small role in fostering an environment of giving and receiving appreciation which will build up the individuals within our congregation and strengthen the community as a whole.



GRACE, GRATITUDE, AND CONNECTION

By Dana DeBlasi, President

President@sestl.org



Elie Wiesel once said, "For me every hour is grace. And I feel gratitude in my heart every time I can meet someone and look at his or her smile." These words resonate deeply, reminding us of the profound impact that gratitude can have on our lives and our community.

In our fast-paced world, it is easy to overlook the small moments of blessing every day. We often find ourselves caught up in the hustle and bustle, focusing on our to-do lists and the challenges we face – I know this often happens to me. Elie Wiesel's words invite us to pause and recognize the beauty in the simple act of being present with one another, showing up.

Gratitude is more than just a momentary feeling; it is a practice that can transform. When we take the time to appreciate the people around us and the moments we share, we cultivate a sense of connection and belonging. Each smile we encounter, each conversation we engage in, becomes a reminder of the wonder that surrounds us.

In our Jewish tradition, gratitude is woven into our fabric, in both personal and communal prayers. We have a prayer

where we express that we are grateful for waking up to the gift of a brand-new day, where we convey how thankful we are for having enough food to eat, for recovering from illness, blessings of thanksgiving, and of course the Shehecheyanu as a prayer of gratitude for God bringing us to special moments. But gratitude is not limited to our prayers and rituals. It is also found in the everyday interactions we have with one another. When we show up for each other, offering support and kindness, we embody the spirit of gratitude. Whether it is a smile, a kind word, or a helping hand, these small acts of presence can have a profound impact on those around us. And, I also believe, a marked impression on ourselves.

As we gather as a congregation, let us embrace the practice of gratitude and show up. Let us take the time to recognize the grace in every hour and the blessings that fill our lives – both large and small. By doing so, we can create a more compassionate and connected community, one where each member feels valued and appreciated.

May we carry Elie Wiesel's words in our hearts, finding joy in the smiles we encounter and the moments we share. And may our gratitude inspire us to show up for one another, creating a ripple effect of positivity and grace that extends far beyond our congregation.



Shehecheyanu

A BLESSING FOR FIRSTS & MARKING JOYOUS OCCASIONS

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, shehecheyanu, v'kij'manu, v'higiyanu laz'man hazeh. Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the Universe, who has kept us alive, sustained us, and brought us to this season.



Modeh Ani

A PRAYER OF THANKS UPON AWAKENING

Modeh ani l'fanecha, melech chai v'kayam, shehechezarta bi nishmati b'chemla, raba emunatecha. I thank You, living and enduring King, for You have graciously returned my soul within me. Great is Your faithfulness.

November Events

FRI

8 ISRAEL'S JEWISH & ARAB FUTURE TOGETHER

6 P.M. • SANCTUARY & KEHILLAH CENTER

VISIONS OF A SHARED SOCIETY
With Mohammad Darawshe & Dr. Ayala Hendin. See page 19 for details.

14

DONATING BLOOD IS EASY AS PIE



THU

Red Cross Blood Drive

11 A.M. – 4 P.M. • B'NAI EL CHAPEL

Donating blood is one of the greatest mitzvot we can perform, fulfilling the values of *bikur cholim* (caring for the sick) and *pikuach nefesh* (saving a life).

Make an appointment at <https://sestl.co/redcross>

TUE

19 WE WERE STRANGERS IN A STRANGE LAND

10 A.M. • RUBIN LIBRARY CONFERENCE ROOM

TEXTING TUESDAYS WITH RABBI BEARMAN

Explore the historical records of Jewish immigrants in America and learn how Jews were welcomed (or not) to this continent. We'll study the three main waves of Jewish immigration, their settlement patterns, and interactions.

RSVP at <https://sestl.co/text>

TUE

19 GIVING THANKS WITH HEALING SOUNDS

7 P.M. • JEWISH MINDFULNESS CENTER

WITH OLGA GORODETSKY

We are excited to welcome Olga, a sound meditation and healing facilitator, to lead us in a sound bath experience focused on gratitude. While this session is free, spaces are limited and registration is required.

RSVP at jmcstl.org



WED

20 MATRIARCHS TO MAMALAS BOOK CLUB

2 P.M. • AT SHAARE EMETH

WOMEN IN STEM

Now meeting at temple, weather permitting! It's the new frontier for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math and WOMEN! We can read about the pioneers of STEM, or the latest phenomenal women to astonish us.

RSVP at <https://sestl.co/m2m>

SUN

24 GATHERING for GRATITUDE



10 A.M. • SHAARE EMETH

A MORNING OF GIVING BACK

Join us as we gather in a communal expression of gratitude and giving back. Everyone of every age is welcome to this intergenerational program. **See pages 8 & 9 for details.**



TUE, DECEMBER

3 EVERYDAY WISDOM FROM PROVERBS & PIRKEI AVOT

10 A.M. • RUBIN LIBRARY CONFERENCE ROOM

TEXTING TUESDAYS WITH RABBI LEVINE

Many ancient Jewish texts feel as if they could have been written yesterday. Explore the Book of Proverbs and Pirkei Avot to find lessons that speak to us today, from advice on business ethics to parenting and self-care.

RSVP at <https://sestl.co/text>

December Events

FRI

6 EMBODIMENT OF MEMORY IN BODY, SOUL, & NATION

10 A.M. • JEWISH MINDFULNESS CENTER

WITH RABBI MICHAL KEN TOR & YAEL SASLOVE

A cross-cultural exploration, blending perspectives from Jewish thought and Eastern philosophy.

See page 20 for details.

SAT

7 A TORAH OF HEALING

9 A.M. • NORTH LOBBY

WITH RABBI MICHAL KEN TOR

Join Rabbi Michal Ken Tor of the Magid HaRuach community in Israel's Yokneam-Megiddo region for a continental breakfast and Torah Study.

RSVP at <https://sestl.co/torah127>

TUE

10 & 17 FACT-CHECKING THE CHANUKAH STORY

10 A.M. • RUBIN LIBRARY CONFERENCE ROOM

TEXTING TUESDAYS WITH RABBI BENNETT

In this two-part class, we will unpack and "fact-check" the ancient Chanukah story, then apply that story to modern events across the Jewish world, asking the question: "Who are the true Maccabees today?"

RSVP at <https://sestl.co/text>

FRI

13 REDEDICATED & RENEWED

10 A.M. • JEWISH MINDFULNESS CENTER

MINDFUL MOVEMENT FOR CHANUKAH

The word Chanukah means "rededication." In this class, Dani Glassman will help us embody the values we wish to renew as we approach Chanukah and the secular new year.

RSVP at jmcstl.org

SAT

14 CHANUKAH Glow Party

3:30 P.M.

SIMCHA CENTER

0-5-YEAR-OLDS & THEIR FAMILIES

A lively dance party complete with Chanukah treats and glow sticks galore! Free and open to all. **RSVP at**

<https://sestl.co/glow24>



WED

18 MATRIARCHS TO MAMALAS BOOK CLUB

2 P.M. • AT SHAARE EMETH

WOMEN IN BROADCASTING

Now meeting at temple, weather permitting. Women in Broadcasting have historically been a source of important information! We'll look back at the early pioneers of radio and television, up to the present day.

RSVP at <https://sestl.co/m2m>

WED

18 GIFT WRAP FOR GOOD

7 P.M. • SIMCHA CENTER

WITH KESHER & THE TZEDEK COMMITTEE

Join KeSHEr and the Tzedek Committee as we wrap the gifts that Shaare Emeth has collected for Oak Hill Elementary School families.

Watch ShaareMail for more information.

MON

23 SUMMER IN DECEMBER WINTER BREAK CAMP

9 A.M.-3 P.M.

WITH CAMP EMETH

It's summer in December! Children in grades K-5 are invited to celebrate Chanukah and winter break with their Camp Emeth friends.

More details coming soon via e-mail.



FRI

27 LIGHTS & DELIGHTS CHANUKAH SHABBAT

NOSH AT 5:15 P.M.

SERVICE AT 6 P.M.

Celebrate the third night of Chanukah and welcome Shabbat with a warm, festive evening filled with food, friends, and worship.

Watch ShaareMail for more information.





GATHERING *for* GRATITUDE

A Morning of Giving Back

**Sunday, November 24
from 10–11:30 a.m.**

*Deeds of giving are the very foundation
of the world. - Pirke Avot 1:2*

Join us as we gather in a communal expression of gratitude and giving back, benefiting multiple nonprofit organizations doing vital work in our community. Every one of every age is welcome to this intergenerational program. We will once again have special projects for our preschool age children and families, and we've added new projects for organizations in need.

**Register by November 22 at
<https://sestl.co/g4g24>**

If you are unable to attend, **consider donating \$18**, which will buy supplies for one winter outreach bag or one gratitude bag for Oak Hill Elementary School.

Donate at sestl.co/g4g24

This program is brought to you by the Tzedek Committee and Gathering for Gratitude Co-Chairs: Marcene Menendez and Sue Picus with Jamie and Scott Berzon.

Thank you to the Ida and Harris Kramer Social Action Endowment Fund for helping make Gathering for Gratitude possible.



GATHERING FOR GRATITUDE



At Gathering for Gratitude in 2023, we made care packages for a variety of organizations, including Doorways (above), A Red Circle (below), and Oak Hill Elementary (bottom).



It's a big undertaking to cook, assemble, and deliver 100 Thanksgiving meals for the senior immigrants and refugees at Monarch Immigrant Services (previously BIAS: Bilingual International Assistant Services), but it's certainly worth it!



GATHERING for GRATITUDE

projects will benefit these vital community organizations:



Dear Congregation Shaare Emeth -

I am a teacher at Oak Hill Elementary School and I wanted to express my sincere gratitude for the thoughtful gifts you gave us!

We all appreciated the time, energy, & thought that went into creating the special gift bags!

Your love & gratitude for educators help to keep us going - even when times seem tough.

Wishing you all a very Happy New Year! Thank you & Blessings to you all! ♥ Mary Rodriguez

Nov. 2023

Shaare Emeth,
Thank you for all of your time in making the thanksgiving meals. For our international seniors. They greatly appreciated them. Here are some of the thanks that were said while getting the meals. Ida, from Pan-African Group, said "God bless all of you for doing this for us. Much thanks to you." Lina, from Chinese Group, "Now we don't have to go to the store and cook. My husband and I are so thankful for this Senior Center." With all of this said we are grateful to the Shaare Emeth volunteers.

Thank you all,
Lisa Vitlis
Senior Center Coordinator
Bilingual International

Thank you

2024 Emet Society Members!

Emet Society

For more than 150 years, our name, ***Shaare Emeth*** or ***“Gates of Truth”*** when translated from Hebrew, has served as our guiding light, our foundation.

When selecting a name for our highest tier giving society, the word Emet, or “truth”, was selected to reflect the importance that these significant contributions have, now and in the future. These gifts, and the people who give them, allow us to maintain our traditions while innovating and thinking outside of the box, this year and for generations to come.

A unique benefit of the Emet Society is that these annual gifts are all-inclusive. The generous support of these donations includes support for all congregational fundraisers throughout the year.

Multi-generational families can collectively join the **L’Dor VaDor Emet Society**.

If you are interested in making an Emet Society or L’dor Va’Dor Emet Society contribution, **please contact Beth Kodner at bkodner@sestl.org or Craig Neuman at cneuman@sestl.org, or call us at (314) 569.0010.**

Platinum

Sue Matlof
Pam & Ron Rubin

Gold

Merle Fox & Jeff Bikshorn
Debbie & Mike Lefton
Brenda & Joe Pereles
Kathy Zigler

Silver

Marilyn & Dick Brickson
Vicky Fraser & Steve Miller
Joy & Jay Liss
Bill Livingston, Jr.
Helene Siegfried & Michael Barzoff
Alvin Siteman
Jody & Mickey Waldman
Sue Wallach

Bronze

Michael Bobroff
Betsy & Ron Cytron
Judy & Larry Deutsch
Madeleine Elkins & Harvey Wallace
Deena & David Goran
Nancy & Randy Green
Phylis Kahn
Gerry Kowarsky
Mona & Larry Swedroe

L’Dor VaDor Emet Society

Sharon Greenberg, Darcy & Dan Glidewell,
Stefanie & Tod Greenberg
Marilyn Steinback, Susie & Jonathan Sachs,
Bob Steinback

Thank you

2024 Ner Tamid Society!

The Ner Tamid, “the eternal light”, is the symbol of God’s presence in our lives. By being part of the Ner Tamid Society, these members make a commitment to tend to the Shaare Emeth flame to ensure that it is lit for generations to come.

If you would like information on how you too can support at these levels, **please contact Beth Kodner by e-mail at bkodner@sestl.org or at (314) 692-5306.**

Thank you to the following families who are currently participating in our Ner Tamid Society.

Flame of Goodness

Claudia & Mark Krasnoff

Flame of Joy

Holly & Marc Bernstein

Nanci & Jim Bobrow

Joan & David Bohm

John Brandvein

Lisa & Larry Carson

Sheri & Nuri Farber

Betsy & Spencer Garland

Joan & Joe Goltzman

Jane & Jim Grossman

Anne & Sheldon Harber

Sharyn Levitt

Vicki Platke & Jim Lammers

Flame of Gratitude

Sandy & Ken Birenbaum

Sue Bohm

Barbara & Bob Cohn

Sharon & Warren Danziger

Gail & Charlie Eisenkramer

Sharee & Mark Feldman

Amy & Steve Gallant

Sherri & Rick Goldman

Barbara & Alan Kahn

Diane & John Kalishman

Nancy & Harvey Lehrer

Sherri & Rob Meyers

Sue & Joel Picus

Sharon & Bill Remis

Andrea & Bill Rubin

Dana & Barry Sandweiss

Peggy & Alan Schaffer

Susan & David Slavney

Julie & Tim Stern

Sharon & Glen Stettin

Julie & Neil Tzinberg

Flame of Honor

Lisa & Drew Acree

Mindy & Jay Adams

Patricia & Brad Becker

Sue & Gregg Berdy

Ira Bergman

Terry & Rick Bernstein

Lorry Blath

Jodi & Mark Blucher

Alison Bourey

Teri & Harvey Brandvein

Melanie & Jerry Bruder

Jenn & Don Buck

Courtney & Evan Buxner

Evelyn & Louis Cohen

Sharon & Richard Cohen

Andy Cowen

Patty Croughan

Linda & Ed Dahl

Dana & Vince DeBlasi

Laura & Bobby Deutsch

Roberta & Jim Deutsch

Lynn & Bill Elliot

Louise & Steve Epner

Marcia & Steven Feit

Barbara Feldacker

Maxine & Alan Friedman

Lisa & Rick Gans

Debbie Gilula

Kim & Steve Goldenberg

Natalie & Larry Goldman

Judy & Steve Gorin

Judy & Gil Grand

Ellen & Ronnie Gross

Lisa & Mark Gubernik

Mary Hartman & Stuart Friess

Debbie & Kent Hirschfelder

Tracy & Dan Jasper

Amy & Jim Kalishman

Norma Kaplan

Betsy Kelly

Jackie & Ken Kleban

Reggie & Keith Klein

Kate Kreusser

Nicole & Noah Lander

Babs Langsam Shuman &

Michael Shuman

Peggy & Don Lents

Joelyn & Edward Levy

Joan & Marc Lewen

Boobie & Ronnie Light

Ann & Ashley Loiterstein

Karen & Andrew Loiterstein

Lara & Daniel Loiterstein

Lynn & Carl Lyss

Fran & Chuck Mannis

Joan McKerrow & Michael Rubin

Julia & Larry Mendelow

Elizabeth Millard &

David Montani

Joy & Rob Millner

Marcia & Carl Moskowitz

Sherri & Steve Newstead

Flora & Jim Paster

Rachel & David Pereles

Anna & David Poger

Andy & Melissa Pomerantz

Sue & Dave Propper

Marilyn & Gary Ratkin

Marti Reichman

Wendy Rifkin-April

Randee & Andy Rimmel

Marissa & Howie Rosen

Marsha & Larry Rothman

Ellie Samson

Stephanie & Larry Samuels

Gretchen Sander &

Adam Birenbaum

Johanna & Bob Schillinger

Leanne & Harvey Schneider

Michele Shoresman &

Gary Bilow

Laurie & Bert Schweizer, III

Jenn Schwesig & Kevin Mellick

Norm Schwesig

Jennifer & Irl Scissors

Lee & Mark Scissors

Andy & Stan Shanker

Linda & Neal Shapiro

Ann & Stewart Sheinbein

Michael Sherberg &

Simeon Prager

Renee & Sam Silverstein

Marti & Barry Simon

Tisha & Alan Singer

Jane & Hal Sitrin

Susie & Rick Sokolik

Bonnie & Norman Solomon

Wendy Sondov & Paul Gold

Ann & Alan Spector

Nicky & Scott Stern

Lisa & Brent Suffian

Karen Suroff & Oscar Schwartz

Leslie & Mark Temkin

Jane & Sandy Thal

Rebecca & Ray Turner

Sharon & Alan Weissman

Ellen White

Martin Wice

Kathy & Mark Wiesman

Susan & Alan Witte

Linda Yatkeman

Julie & Greg Yawitz

Deb & Mark Zerman

Karen & Mark Zorensky

תודה רבה THANK YOU



Thank you to everyone who makes this community so special, something that's especially evident during the High Holidays. To name a few (clockwise from top left):

(1) Our recent B'Mitzvah students and members of our Chesed (Caring) Committee who filled the bimah for powerful aliyot during our Torah services on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

remember a victim of October 7th, or attended any of the Yom Kippur afternoon programs.

(2) All of the musicians, including the High Holiday Choir and instrumentalists, who added so much depth and heart to our worship services.

(5) Our enthusiastic tzedakah collectors, volunteers, and everyone who donated food or funds for the High Holiday Food Drive.

(3) Our beloved Rabbi Emeritus Jeffrey Stiffman for hosting another fascinating Jewish Year in Review with our beloved Senior Rabbi Jim Bennett.

(6) We're grateful for our large community of live-streamers!

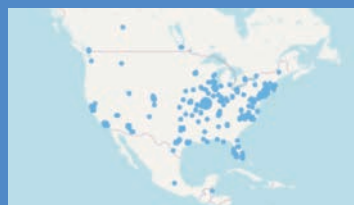
(4) Everyone who wrote postcards encouraging voter participation, made a paper poppy to

(7 & 8) Thank you to our Torah readers, Torah carriers, shofar blowers, & all who took active roles in our services.

(9 & 10) And to everyone who joined us for Sukkot and Simchat Torah, increasing our joy!



1,724 LIVE-STREAMERS



41 STATES + 7 COUNTRIES

2,774 HOURS WATCHED

Most-watched Service: KOL NIDRE



CONGREGATION SHAARE EMETH'S JUBILATION!

A HEART & Soul CELEBRATION

THANK YOU, SPONSORS!

RHODIUM

Lorraine Allen & Rita Mae Allen Family Foundation
Michael Karasick, Director

Sharon Greenberg, Darcy & Dan Glidewell, Stefanie & Tod Greenberg*
Debbie & Mike Lefton*

Sue Matlof*

Pam & Ron Rubin*

Marilyn Steinback, Susie & Jonathan Sachs, Bob Steinback*
The Staenberg Group & Michael Staenberg

PALLADIUM

Barbie Barenholtz-Present & Ron Present • Barnes-Jewish Hospital
Michele & David Bernstein • Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner
Merle Fox & Jeff Bikshorn* • Brenda & Joe Pereles* • Kathy Zigler*

PLATINUM

Marilyn & Dick Brickson* • Vicky Fraser & Steve Miller* • Joy & Jay Liss*
Bill Livingston, Jr.* • Helene Siegfried & Michael Barzoff* • Alvin Siteman*
Staenberg Family Foundation • Jody & Mickey Waldman* • Sue Wallach*

GOLD

Armanino LLP • Berger Memorial Chapel • Michael Bobroff*
Collaborative Strategies • Betsy & Ron Cytron* • Danna McKittrick, PC
Judy & Larry Deutsch* • Madeleine Elkins & Harvey Wallace*
Deena & David Goran* • Nancy & Randy Green* • Phylis Kahn*
Diane & John Kalishman • Gerry Kowarsky* • Matter Family Office
Cindy & Danny Solomon • Karen Suroff & Oscar Schwartz
Rabbi Jeffrey & Dr. Arlene Stiffman • Mona & Larry Swedroe*

TITANIUM

Rabbi Rachel Bearman • Rabbi Jim & Amy Bennett
Sharon & Richard Cohen • Dianna & Dick Fine • Kim & Steven Goldenberg
Rabbi Andrea & Brett Goldstein • Judy Schwartz Jaffe & Guy Jaffe
Jarrell Mechanical Contractors • Jewish Federation of St. Louis
Cindy, Brad, & Jeff Lefton • Rabbi Lori Levine & Joe Ferris
Lodging Hospitality Management • Amy & Craig Neuman
Leanne & Harvey Schneider • Andy & Stan Shanker
Renee & Sam Silverstein • Bonnie & Norman Solomon
Jill & Todd Solomon • Cantor Seth & Shayna Warner

* Denotes Emet Society Member



MAZEL TOV
DEBBIE
& MIKE
LEFTON

2024 HARRIS FRANK COMMUNITY
SERVICE AWARD HONOREES

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR DONORS, WHO
HELPED US EXCEED OUR FUNDRAISING GOAL!

JUBILATION!
A HEART & SOUL CELEBRATION
BENEFITS THE MISSION OF
CONGREGATION



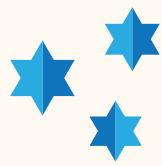
SHAARE • E M E T H

Founded in 1867

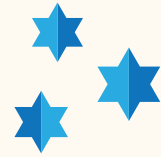


LEARN
MORE @

SESTL.CO/JU24



Chanukah



Celebrate with Shaare Emeth



CHANUKAH GLOW PARTY!



This year, Chanukah begins at sundown on

Wednesday, December 25

and ends on

Thursday, January 2



We'll be celebrating a lot beforehand and during!

SETYG LATKE LUNCH & MENORAH MAKING

Saturday, December 14 at Noon

For All High Schoolers! \$10 includes lunch, latkes, and menorah materials.

Watch your e-mail for registration.

CHANUKAH GLOW PARTY

Saturday, December 14

Ages 0-5 & Their Families

RSVP at sestl.co/glow24

RS CHANUKAH CELEBRATION

Sunday, December 15

For All Religious School Students

CHANUKAH SENIOR LUNCH

Monday, December 16

With Steve Masaki's Famous Brisket!

Watch for the flyer. **Didn't get it?**

E-mail Valerie at vcundy@sestl.org.

SHIRLEE GREEN PRESCHOOL CHANUKAH SING-ALONG

Friday, December 20

For SGP Students and Their Families -

Watch Tidbits for details!

CHANUKAH TORAH STUDY

Saturday, December 28

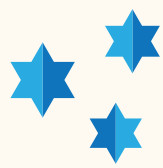
Great for teens and adults of all ages!

LIGHTS & DELIGHTS CHANUKAH SHABBAT

Friday, December 27 • A Chanukah celebration for the whole family!

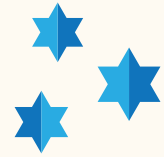


Carefully detach the following four pages to use throughout Chanukah.



Chanukah

A Guide to the Eight Nights



Chanukah, Our Story

Chanukah is the story of a brave group of Jewish freedom fighters that fought against religious persecution and tyranny. In 175 B.C.E. Antiochus Epiphanies came to power over Judea, the home of the Jews. He wanted to bring Greek culture and religion to Judea and used force to do so. Antiochus wanted to make Jerusalem a Greek city. He issued laws against the Jewish faith, banning Shabbat observance and the study of Torah to name a few. His troops desecrated the Temple in Jerusalem by building an altar in it and by forcing the Jews to make sacrifices to the Greek gods.

The Jews resented Antiochus and in 167 B.C.E., a priestly family known as the Hasmoneans, or Maccabees, lead a revolt against Greek rule. The leader of the family was Mattithias. He and his five sons came from the town of Modi'in (Modi'in is now the fastest growing city in Israel, located between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv). The Jews, led by Judah, formed a rebel army to fight Antiochus. The Maccabees defeated Antiochus' army and recaptured the Temple in Jerusalem in 165 B.C.E. On the 25th of Kislev the Jews rededicated the Temple.

On the following pages, you'll find the blessings for celebrating Chanukah in your home. Each night has been assigned a different Jewish value. We hope this guide helps you have a meaningful holiday!

Chag Chanukah Sameach – Happy Chanukah – from Your Shaare Emeth Family!



Lighting the Chanukiyah: Menorah

The Right (Left) Way to Light

- Candles are added to the Chanukiyah (menorah) from RIGHT to LEFT but kindles from left to right.
- The newest candle is lit first.
- Light the *shamash* (helper candle, usually set higher or lower than all the rest of the candles) first.
- Then use it to kindle the rest of the Chanukah lights.
- Add a new candle for each new night of Chanukah.
- On the Shabbat during Chanukah, light and bless the Chanukah candles first, then light the Shabbat candles.

Why Do We Add a Candle for Each Night of Chanukah?

According to Hillel, the Sage, every act we perform should increase holiness in the world.

We add a candle each night to bring more and more light into our homes, our consciousness and our communities.

The Blessings

Every night recite the first two blessings:

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם אשר קדשנו במצותיו וצונו להדליק נר של חנוכה.
Baruch Atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech ha-olam asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu l'hadlik ner shel Chanukah.

We praise you, Eternal God, Sovereign of the universe; You make us holy with Your mitzvot and commanding us to kindle the Chanukah lights.

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם שעשה נסים לאבותינו ולאמותינו בימים ההם בזמן הזה
Baruch Atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech ha-olam She-asah nisim la-avoteinu u-l'ee-moteinu bayamim hahem.

We praise You, Eternal God, Sovereign of the universe; You showed wonders to our fathers and mothers in this season in days of old.

On the first night of Chanukah, add:

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם שהחיינו וקימנו והגיענו לזמן הזה.
Baruch Atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech ha-olam, she-hecheyanu v'kiymanu v'higyanu laz'man hazeh.

We praise You, Eternal God, Sovereign of the universe, for giving us life, for sustaining us and for enabling us to reach this season.



Eight Nights: Eight Values

Each night's service celebrates a significant value of Judaism. These paragraphs may be added either before or after the Chanukah home service (blessings).

1ST NIGHT: *Bal Tashchit* means to not destroy or be wasteful of our natural resources. Let us be more aware of the need to protect our environment.

This Chanukah, use locally grown potatoes and onions and fry them in organic oil. Potatoes and other root vegetables are in abundance during winter, and buying food locally cuts down on the greenhouse gasses from transporting food.

Sign up for composting through our Shomrei Adamah (Protecting Our Environment) Initiative: <https://sestl.org/compost>

2ND NIGHT: *Leshon Ha-tov* means using good words. Let us be more thoughtful about the words we speak and the things we say. Words have the power to hurt and to heal.

This Chanukah, be more attentive to the words you use when talking to family, friends, and others.

3RD NIGHT: *Talmud-Torah* means the study of Torah. On this Shabbat of Chanukah, first light the Chanukiyah and then your Shabbat candles. When we talk about the study of Torah, we refer not only to the Five Books but to all Jewish learning.

This night of Chanukah, rekindle yourself to learning one new thing this year that enhances your Jewish journey.

4TH NIGHT: *Hoda'ah* means gratitude, the feeling of thankfulness or appreciation. We know that practicing gratitude increases happiness and satisfaction in life. In Judaism, reciting blessings is a way to practice gratitude. It helps elevate the mundane.

On this night of Chanukah, what are you grateful for?

Create a gratitude jar where every morning or evening you write down one thing that you are grateful for that day.





Eight Nights: Eight Values

Continued

5TH NIGHT: *Sayver Panim Yafot* means greet everyone in a cheerful manner. Just as your practice of gratitude increases your happiness, greeting people with a smile and a kind word brings light to their life.

Make a point of saying hello and thank you to the grocery store worker or the mail person or maintenance worker.

6TH NIGHT: *Chaver Tov* or *Chaverah Tovah* means being a good friend. We learn about the value of friendship in Ecclesiastes: "two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help."

Reach out to a friend in need this Chanukah by calling or sending a note or text message and letting them know they are not alone.

7TH NIGHT: *G'milut Chasadim* means ACTS of loving-kindness. Judaism teaches us that it's the kind of action we take to help those who are in need that is important. It can be as simple as showing up and making the person feel loved.

Who in your circle needs you to show up?

8TH NIGHT: *B'tzelem Elohim* means created in the image of God. Each of us has a spark of the divine in us and, according to Jewish tradition, God created each human being to be entirely unique. Each of us brings a unique contribution to this world.

What is your unique contribution to this world? Let it shine brightly like the candles of the Chanukiyah.



Values adapted from Hazon, The Jewish Lab for Sustainability, and American Jewish World Service.

Compiled by Debbie Bram, Director of Jewish Life & Learning at Congregation Shaare Emeth.

Mark your calendars and make plans to join us throughout the year for upcoming programs regarding our relationship with Israel.



Rabbi Michal Ken Tor

A Torah of Healing with Rabbi Michal Ken Tor

Saturday, December 7

9 a.m. Continental Breakfast 9:30 a.m. Torah Study

Rabbi Michal Ken Tor of the Magid HaRuach community in Yokneam-Megiddo region of Israel will visit and lead a special Torah Study: A Torah of Healing.

RSVP at sestl.co/torah127



Dr. Tomer Persico



Yael Yechieli

The Present and the Future of Liberalism, Feminism, and Jewish Spirituality in Israel

Friday, February 21–23, 2025

A weekend of learning and connection with Israel: Our Deutsch Scholars-in-Residence Dr. Tomer Persico and Yael Yechieli will be spending the weekend with us teaching and inspiring on topics of the Condition of Liberalism and Jewish Spirituality in Israel, and bringing us a timely update from Jerusalem.



Dr. Ayala Hendin

Israeli Independence: Past, Present and Future

Wednesday evenings, April 16, 23, and May 7

Dr. Ayala Hendin will be leading us on a three-part journey of understanding of the origins, meaning and misunderstanding of the Israeli Declaration of Independence, the possibility of a “Second War of Independence” and the current crises of democracy and war, along with a way for us to begin imagining hope together.

More information to follow.

SEEING THE GOOD

A 21-Day Practice to Cultivate Gratitude



Receive this daily email beginning on Friday, November 8 – Thursday, November 28

In numerous interviews over the past year, Rachel Goldberg-Polin spoke about the grounding power that Judaism’s daily prayer of gratitude, *Modeh Ani*, had for her while her son, Hersh (z”l), was being held in captivity. Rachel’s words inspired Rabbi Goldstein to create **Seeing the Good**, a 21-day practice to encourage others to take up the tradition of reciting **Modeh Ani** each morning.

By signing up for **Seeing the Good**, you will receive a brief e-mail for 21 days in November introducing us to the wisdom of Judaism and other traditions, supporting us as we try to incorporate a new ritual of prayer into our lives.

Sign up to receive *Seeing the Good* at jmcstl.org/programs, or e-mail Stacy at sjespersen@sestl.org.

Special Guests at the Jewish Mindfulness Center of St. Louis



Olga Gorodetsky

GIVING THANKS WITH HEALING SOUNDS

Tuesday, November 19
7 p.m. • Jewish Mindfulness Center of St. Louis

The Jewish Mindfulness Center of St. Louis is excited to welcome Olga Gorodetsky, a sound meditation and healing facilitator, to lead us in a special sound bath experience focusing on gratitude. While this session is free, spaces are limited and registration is required at jmcstl.org.



Rabbi Michal Ken Tor

EMBODIMENT OF MEMORY IN BODY, SOUL, & NATION

Friday, December 6 • 10 a.m.
Jewish Mindfulness Center of St. Louis

In this cross-cultural exploration, Rabbi Michal Ken Tor and Chinese medicine practitioner Yael Saslove will delve into the interconnected physical and spiritual health of individuals and nations. By blending perspectives from Jewish thought and Eastern philosophy, we will discover how both traditions view the body as a repository of memories and experiences, emphasizing the interplay between physical health and emotional well-being on a personal and national level.



Yael Saslove



Friday, November 15 • 6 p.m. • Kehillah Center
Saturday, December 14 • 10:45 a.m. • Kehillah Center

Join Rabbi Goldstein and the Prayer Lab musicians for these non-traditional Shabbat services combining contemporary readings, poetry, participatory music, interactive teachings, and time set aside for meditation and personal reflection. November’s theme is **Tikkun/Repair** and December’s theme is **Delight**.

REGISTER FOR THESE PROGRAMS AT JMCSTL.ORG

REDEDICATED & RENEWED

A MINDFUL MOVEMENT CLASS FOR CHANUKAH

Friday, December 13
10 a.m. • Jewish Mindfulness Center of St. Louis



Dani Glassman

The word Chanukah means “rededication.” Dani Glassman, LMT, RYT-500, MSW, will help us embody the values we wish to renew as we approach Hanukkah and the secular new year.



GRATITUDE FOR A GREAT SUMMER

By Laura Horton

LHorton@sestl.org



When I reflect on this past summer and begin preparations for 2025, I am filled with gratitude for the camp community surrounding me, and the desire to find new ways to make Camp Emeth the best place to be in the summer!

I want to personally thank multiple groups of people – camp is not possible without the support from this amazing community who help create unforgettable memories for Camp Emeth each summer.

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK:

- Camp Emeth Staff and their families
- Our Campers and their families
- All of our Temple Staff, Directors and Clergy
- The Board of Trustees
- The Temple Maintenance Team and Kitchen Staff
- Eugene & Karen Ellis, and Chad & Alysa Ellis, of Forest Lake Swim & Tennis Club
- Camp T-Shirt Sponsors: Maryville Hillel, L3 Corporation, Brandvein & Company, Caprice Consulting, Seltzer & Seltzer Attorneys at Law, Propper Legal, AR Workshop, Alive Health + Wellness, Southwest Oral Surgery, Gallant Dental Group
- We are so fortunate to have a village around us that allows us to create a camp experience that our campers and staff look forward to each summer.

I hope to see many of you around Shaare Emeth this fall, winter, and into 2025!

SUMMER IN DECEMBER

Winter Break Camp!

Monday, December 23 from 9 a.m–3 p.m.

Camp Emeth Families: Watch your e-mail for details!



SAVE THE DATES for Camp Emeth 2025!

The 8 weeks of
Camp Emeth 2025 will be:

June 9 - August 1

Rising K - 8th graders

*Choose the weeks that
work best for you!*

Pre- and post-care available.
Registration opens in January.

Details coming soon at

campemeth.org

GIVING THANKS FOR THIS COMMUNITY

By Rabbi Lori Levine

LLevine@sestl.org



Wow, what a start to Shaare Emeth's Religious School and JQuest! The 2024-25 school year began in September and has already brought many blessings. In this season of Thanksgiving, it feels like a great time to reflect and thank all the people who make our school community so special, including...

- ...the 52 teachers who share their talents and love of Judaism with Shaare Emeth's children each week.
- ...the 24 madrichim (teen teaching assistants) who model for the younger learners to be engaged, kind, and community-minded Jewish citizens.
- ...all the Religious School and JQuest parents for supporting their children's Jewish education by making sure they are present, by modeling lifelong learning at our family participation sessions, and by reinforcing Jewish values at home.
- ...most importantly, the roughly 300 PreK-10th graders enrolled in Religious School and JQuest this year for all the energy, commitment, and joy they bring to each session.

It is a privilege to work with this incredible team of faculty, families, and learners. We look forward to all the moments of learning and connection to come the rest of this year!



Join us for a joyful Service of Consecration on Friday, December 6!



MAY THE ONE, MAY THE ONE WHO BRINGS PEACE...
BRING PEACE DOWN, BRING PEACE DOWN



Our full-day Faculty and Madrichim Training before the start of the school year concluded with blessings and a short song session, including Elena Jagoda's Oseh Shalom, complete with hand motions.



Once a month, Sunday morning Religious School begins with B'Yachad, a special time for parents to join their students, our faculty, and clergy for energetic singing, Havdalah, and blessings. Our next B'Yachad date is December 15.

WELCOME ZIV SHALEV, OUR SHINSHIN FOR 2024-25!

This school year we are grateful to have another amazing Shinshin, a young adult from Israel who spends the year in St. Louis between high school graduation and military service as an emissary, representing Israel, teaching us about their country, and learning about our lives here in the US. Ziv will be with us through the summer of 2025. He has already created programs for our community and begun working with children in the religious school, JQuest, and Shirlee Green Preschool. In the coming year, he will also work with Camp Emeth, speak (and sing!) from the bima, and teach in other capacities.

Here is a quick bio so you can start getting to know Ziv:

Shalom! My name is Ziv Shalev, I am 19-year-old from Yehud, a small city near Ben Gurion Airport. I'm passionate about cinema and theatre, which were my majors in high school because of my love for artistic expression. My experience as a counselor in the Israeli Scouts for three years has been incredibly rewarding, teaching me valuable lessons about leadership and working with diverse groups of children. I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to spend my "Shnat Sherut" (Year of Service) with the community at Shaare Emeth. I'm eager to share my experiences as a young Israeli and to learn about Jewish life in your community. I look forward to contributing my energy and creativity while also growing from this unique cultural exchange. I am looking forward to getting to know you all this year!

Ziv Shalev (left) with Jordan and Max, members of his current host family, along with their parents, Heather and Brian Peck.



Over Yom Kippur, Ziv organized a meaningful project that led to a beautiful piece of memorial artwork. After services on Yom Kippur morning, members and guests created origami poppies (or anemones/ Kalaniot) and attached them to the names of Israelis who were murdered on October 7, 2023. Ziv recruited our Shirlee Green Preschool students to help create the yellow ribbon for the hostages in the center of the artwork.



Ziv spent time in September and October with our Religious School students and Shirlee Green Preschool's Chaverim (Pre-K) classes, playing Israeli games and learning Rosh Hashanah symbols.

Membership

Important Notes About Payment Plans

- Payment plans do not roll over.
- You must establish a new payment plan each year through your ShulCloud account or by speaking with a member of our Accounting team.
- Membership Responsibility is payable through December 2025.

Thank you to all our members who make the gift of Membership Responsibility. We are grateful for your commitment.

Membership Responsibility (MR) is Shaare Emeth's annual financial commitment and is the main source of income that allows the synagogue to operate day-to-day. Each household's MR commitment provides the funding necessary to maintain and grow Shaare Emeth's excellent clergy and staff, programming, and worship experiences. Every member plays a role in keeping Shaare Emeth strong and able to fulfill our commitments.

Each year, Shaare Emeth's Board of Trustees establishes a "sustaining amount" for MR that is approximately the cost to operate the synagogue per household. For 2025, this amount is \$3,880.

Whether you are in the building once a year or every day, Shaare Emeth is here for the community year-round. We want to be here for you when you need us. Most members received an e-mail during the last week of October with details about their MR pledge for 2025. If we do not have your e-mail address on file, you will receive a hard copy in the mail. If you wish to contribute more than what is noted or if you need to decrease this amount due to financial hardship, please contact Shaare Emeth's office by November 8.

On your November statement, you will find your Membership Responsibility 2025. At this time, you may log in to Shul Cloud to set up a payment plan or pay in full. Alternatively, if you would prefer to speak with someone about your MR, contact the Shaare Emeth office at 314-569-0010. We are here to help.

Thank you for your dedication to our congregation. Shaare Emeth continues to inspire joy, guide learning, and be there for countless members of our community each year. This is possible because members like you continue your yearly financial support. Each congregant's membership contribution adds to our collective vision of building a stronger more inclusive Shaare Emeth for future generations.



Sparkle
this
season

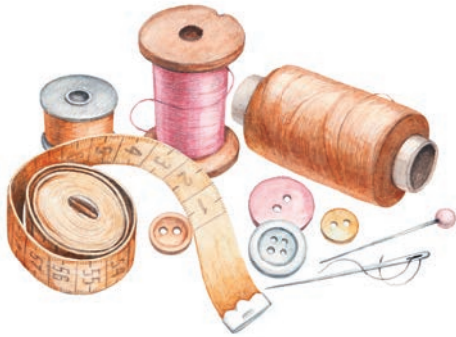
Barry Hyatt
JEWELER
Family Owned & Operated Since 1969

Westgate Centre | 314.205.9888 | hyattjewelers.com

Shaare Emeth's Chesed (Caring) Committee Is Here For You

This time of year can be difficult for many, especially as the days get shorter and colder, and the holidays leave some feeling lonely. So, we want to remind our congregational community that there are people who care about you!

If you or someone you love finds themselves needing a bit of extra help (a meal, a ride to appointments or services, help during shiva, etc.) or someone to check in with every now and again (a caring call or visit), we encourage you to reach out by going to our website at sestl.co/caring and letting us know. We will do everything we can to meet you where you are and remind you that you are not alone. If you have any questions or difficulty accessing the webpage, please contact Debbie Bram at dbram@sestl.org.



Fiber Friends Group

If you knit, crochet, needlepoint, cross stitch, etc., come join our group! Spend a couple of hours enjoying your hobby and good conversation. We meet **every other Thursday starting November 7 from 1–3 p.m.** in the Rubin Library Conference Room.

Please contact Gloria Schwadron by e-mail at gschwadron@hotmail.com or at 314-567-3480, or just show up. We would love to see you there.



Get Your 2025 Mah Jongg Card & Support Shaare Emeth!

Thank you to everyone who participated in last year's Mah Jongg card fundraiser – we brought in more than \$1,000 to support women's programming at Shaare Emeth.

It's already that time of year to renew your membership in the National Mah Jongg League and receive your new 2025 card.

The cost of the card is the same as it was last year. A standard-size card costs \$14, while a large card is \$15.

To order a card or cards, please include your name, address and the number of each size card that you are requesting. Enclose a check for the total amount made out to Congregation Shaare Emeth and mail to:

Sue Propper
747 Old Bonhomme Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63132

All orders must be received by Monday, February 3 – no exceptions. Thank you for ordering your Mah Jongg card through the Congregation. Funds received help programs & activities grow.

Mah Jongg Card Order Form 2025

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

OF STANDARD SIZE CARDS (\$14 EACH): _____

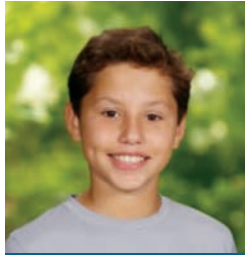
OF LARGE SIZE CARDS (\$15 EACH): _____

WELCOME, NEW MEMBER FAMILIES!

MAZEL TOV TO OUR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER B'MITZVAH STUDENTS!



Reed Brody
Child of
Lauren & Brian Brody



Zachary Kuznetov
Child of
Marina & Dmitrey Kuznetov



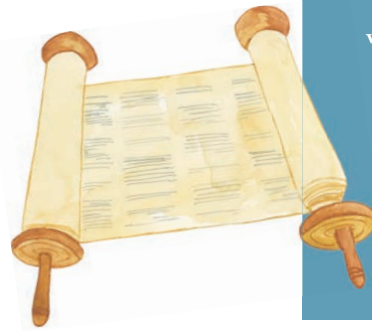
Grace Minnick
Child of
Gloria & Adam Minnick



Maxwell Manlin
Child of
Beth & Mark Manlin



Atticus Turner
Child of
Rebecca & Ray Turner



Heather and Brian Carp,
with children, Theo and Julian

Kate and Todd Colton,
with child, Norah

Samantha Cwak

Chrys Goodell

Robin and Hugh Hoffman

Sheryl Lyss and Paul Lewis,
with children, Brianna and Caleb

Amy and Charlie Roberts,
with children, Fiona and Jillian

Delaney and Ezra Schneider,
with children, Danielle,
Isabelle, and Ziva

Mazel Tov and thank you to **Joe Gerchen** and **Jeremy Katcher** for representing Congregation Shaare Emeth in the **2024 Levy Fellows**, a training cohort for board members from organizations across the St. Louis Jewish community sponsored by the Jewish Federation of St. Louis. Past Levy Fellows include Richie Gallant and Melissa Adler.

MAZEL TOV

Mazel Tov to **Lisa Litvag** on the publication of The Scout Guide St. Louis Volume 7. Lisa is the Editor and Owner of the print and digital lifestyle guide, along with Angela Sandler.

Mazel Tov to **John Kalishman, Joe Pereles, and Rabbi Andrew Terkel**, co-Founders and CEO, respectively, on Be the Narrative's partnership with Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) to further expand the scope of the Student to Student program nationwide.

Mazel Tov to **Judy Mange**, president and founder of Aging Well, and **Irl L. Scissors**, principal of Gateway Government Relations, on joining the Crown Center for Senior Living board of directors.

Mazel Tov to **Jennifer Schwesig**, recipient of the Blue Heart Award by the Gateway Alliance Against Human Trafficking (GAHT). Jen is an international attorney at Armstrong Teasdale LLP and the award celebrates her dedication to combatting human trafficking through her professional expertise and extensive pro bono legal work.



Jeremy Katcher (left) and Joe Gerchen (right)

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

Wayner Ault

Husband of Laurie Ault

Marci Bluestone

Wife of Ken Bluestone and mother of Madeline and Charlotte Bluestone

Rachel Goldberg

Daughter of Linda and Philip Dembo

Roberta Horwitz

Wife of Luther Horwitz

Brandel Minoff

Edward Rader

Debra Rothman

Lester Seligman

Gerhard Silberstein

Father of Janice (David) Rifkin and brother of Rita (George) Heymann, Lot Silberstein and Zilla Pohle

Norton Sterneck

Husband of Barbara Sterneck and sister of Ina Landsbaum

Allen Surinsky

Husband of Edna Surinsky

Judge Melvyn Wiesman

Husband of Marcia Wiesman and father of Mark (Kathy) Wiesman

SYMPATHY

Kenny (Barbara) Bressler on the death of his sister, **Linda Szus**

Jack (Ann Mayer) Eisen on the death of his brother, **Michael Eisen**

Rick (Lisa) Gans on the death of his father, **Carl Smith**

Mark (Lisa) Gubernik on the death of his father, **Sanford Gubernik**

Ramin (Stephanie) Lalezari on the death of his father, **Feridoon Lalezari**

Marlene Petrofsky on the death of her grandson, **Chad Petrofsky**

Larry (Marsha) Rothman and **Lynne Fogel** on the death of his brother and her partner, **Marty Rothman**

Mark (Stephanie) Ruter on the death of his mother, **Diane Ruter**

Ruth Satz on the death of her sister, **Sue Orenstein**

Marsha (David) Schuman on the death of their son-in-law, **Scott Arnold**

Lisa Staunton on the death of her father, **Richard Cowsert**

Geraldine Weinman and **Stacy (Jon) Jespersen** on the death of their brother and uncle, **Marvin Karfeld**

Jason Wolf (James Hudson) and **Mark (Susan) Wolf** on the death of their father and brother, **David Wolf**

PERPETUAL MEMORIALS

A memorial has been established for:

Bruce Feldacker

Established by Barbara Feldacker and his children and grandchildren

Sonia May Foster

Established by Helene & Joel Platke

Elinore Jacqueline Rain Kasnetz

Established by Madalyn Payne, Carla Ross, and Andrew Kasnetz

Jeryl (Jerri) Livingston

Established by Bill Livingston, Cindy Livingston, and Dave Livingston

Brandel Minoff

Edward Stanley Rader

Established by Nancy Inhof, Jeff Rader, and Dan Rader

Lenora Sachar

Established by Ann & Alan Spector and Dana & Vince DeBlasi

Lester Seligman

Gerhard Silberstein

Established by Janice & David Rifkin and family

Names of those remembered by a Perpetual Memorial are read during 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, contact Stacy Jespersen at SJespersen@sestl.org or 314-692-5302.



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

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Her Children and Grandchildren, Leslie Brownstein, Larry Permuter and David Permuter

Rabbi Bennett for performing the stone dedication for Jerry Seslen
Francine Seslen and Family

Rabbi Bennett and Rabbi Stiffman for officiating at the funeral service for Gail Glaser
The Family of Gail Glaser

Rabbi Goldstein for officiating at the wedding ceremony of Farilyn Hale and Kenneth Berger
Farilyn & Ken Berger

Rabbi Bearman for her loving presence and support along her spiritual journey
Annie Gottesman

Rabbi Bearman for performing the baby naming of Alden Wise
Kelli & Sam Wise

Rabbi Stiffman for officiating at the funeral service for Dr. Benjamin Borowski
Radine Borowski

Rabbi Stiffman for officiating at the funeral service for Florann Kessel
Michael, Steve and Geoff Kessel

Rabbi Goldstein, Rabbi Bennett, Rabbi Stiffman and Cantor Warner for officiating at the funeral service of Marci Bluestone and for their care and compassion
Ellen Bluestone and Family, Ken, Madeline and Charlotte Bluestone

The Clergy and Staff for teaching Torah Study
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The Clergy and Staff for the Deutsch Scholars-In-Residence program
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Carole & Jay Goldstein

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Carole & Jay Goldstein

Peggy Yanover on her granddaughter, Lauren Yanover, becoming a Bat Mitzvah

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Linda & Bill Levin on their granddaughter Aubrey becoming a Bat Mitzvah

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Sharon Rosenberg
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Wendy Flusser on being recognized as an Unsung Hero by The St. Louis Jewish Light
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Linda & Bill Levin on their granddaughter Aubrey becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Judy Lazerwitz
Linda Sandmel on being recognized as an Unsung Hero by The St. Louis Jewish Light
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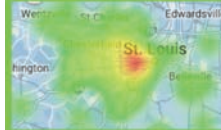
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