



C O N G R E G A T I O N S H A A R E E M E T H

BULLETIN

MARCH AND APRIL 2025



PURIM *in* OZ

See pages 10 & 11
for more details



SCHEDULE

MARCH + APRIL 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, February 28, 2025

6 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Saturday, March 1, 2025

9:30 a.m. Torah Study

11 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service: Bat Mitzvah of Arianna Wachler, child of Melissa and Brad Wachler

Friday, March 7, 2025

6 p.m. L'Dor VaDor Intergenerational Kabbalat Shabbat Service with Our 1st & 2nd Grade JQuest Students

Saturday, March 8, 2025

9:30 a.m. Torah Study

11 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service: Bar Mitzvah of Theodore Levine, child of Sara and Benjamin Levine

Friday, March 14, 2025

6 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Saturday, March 15, 2025

9:30 a.m. Torah Study

Friday, March 21, 2025

6 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Service

6 p.m. Prayer Lab

Saturday, March 22, 2025

9:30 a.m. Torah Study

Friday, March 28, 2025

6 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Service with Special Guest Lee Gordon; More information below

Saturday, March 29, 2025

9:30 a.m. Torah Study

11 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service: Bat Mitzvah of Simone Glasser, child of Sarah and David Glasser

Friday, April 4, 2025

6 p.m. L'Dor VaDor Intergenerational Kabbalat Shabbat Service with Our 4th Grade Religious School Students

Saturday, April 5, 2025

9:30 a.m. Torah Study

11 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service: Bat Mitzvah of Naomi Lampert, child of Heather and Jake Lampert

Friday, April 11, 2025

6 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Saturday, April 12, 2025

9:30 a.m. Torah Study

Friday, April 18, 2025

6 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Saturday, April 19, 2025

9 a.m. Passover Yizkor Service (No Torah Study)

Friday, April 25, 2025

6 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Service

6 p.m. Prayer Lab

Saturday, April 26, 2025

9 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service: Bat Mitzvah of Alexa Murov, child of Lauren and Jacob Murov

9:30 a.m. Torah Study

11 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service: Bar Mitzvah of Charlie Seltzer, child of Erin and Kevin Seltzer

Building Shared Society & Partnership Between Arabs & Jews in Israel

Friday, March 28

During Kabbalat Shabbat Worship at 6 p.m.

Lee Gordon, Co-Founder of the Hand in Hand: Center for Jewish-Arab Education in Israel, an Israeli non-profit organization that has created a network of integrated public schools serving Arab and Jewish children, will speak during our Shabbat Evening Worship. Come learn about this amazing network of schools that bring Jewish and Arab students together, building partnership and shared society across Israel.

For more background on Hand in Hand visit www.handinhandk12.org



COUNTING OUR BLESSING

TIME TO VOTE REFORM FOR ISRAEL

By Rabbi James M. Bennett

JBennett@sestl.org



For nearly a year and a half, since the October 7, 2023 terror attack by Hamas on the State of Israel, we have prayed for the safe release of the hostages, an end to the war, and ultimately, for a lasting resolution to the conflict so that all those who dwell in the land may live in peace. The return of the first of the hostages released under the ceasefire agreement is a meaningful first step and an answer to those prayers. We will continue to pray and work for the return of the remaining hostages and toward a lasting peace.

For many of us, Israel has been constantly on our minds and in our hearts. **So many people ask what they can do in order to make a difference. I believe that the upcoming World Zionist Congress (WZC) elections are a powerful opportunity for each of us to help secure and shape Israel's future.** This election gives American Reform voters a meaningful voice in how Israel spends more than \$1 billion annually and how Israel makes policies that affect Jews around the world. Your vote for the Reform slate will help elect people who will represent your values for a safe and democratic Israel, not only working with the hostages and their families to ensure their safe return and that their needs are met, but to work to keep our Reform Jewish values front and center in contemporary Israeli society. We cannot allow far-right, extremist, nationalist policies to continue to dominate Israel's decisions and actions.

A vote for the Reform Movement in the World Zionist Congress elections is a vote for our values: equality, democracy, pluralism, justice, and peace in Israel, rooted in our love and support for the people and the state of Israel.

I am privileged to have been invited to serve as part of the Vote Reform delegation and I invite you to join us in our WZC campaign as we continue to work and pray for peace, for the return of all of the hostages, for the return to normalcy of Israelis whose lives have been forever changed, and for the innocent Gazans who have suffered terrible losses.

A vote for the Vote Reform slate is a way to use your voice to fight for the return of the remaining hostages and a secure and peaceful future for Israel.

Please go to <https://urj.tfaforms.net/1507> to sign up to volunteer or to vote, or to <http://www.vote4reform.org/>

Time is of the essence. Now is the time to act and to vote. Please join me.

FOR A SAFE & DEMOCRATIC ISRAEL

*Vote Reform in the World
Zionist Congress Election*

WHAT'S AT STAKE?

Our opponents in the WZC campaign are highly motivated religious fundamentalists whose vision for the future of Israel is diametrically opposed to ours. They are organizing to destroy what we value, including:

- Chipping away at Israel's democracy
- Rolling back gains for gender equity, LGBTQ+ rights, and religious pluralism
- Stripping our Israeli Reform clergy – especially our women rabbis – and our Reform communities of their rights, funding, and infrastructure
- Making sure that our converts and children are not welcome in the Jewish state
- Expanding settlements and blocking any hope of Palestinian self-determination and safety

Their vision writes Reform Jews out of the next chapter of Jewish history and will make Jews in Israel and around the world less safe.

Learn more about the campaign at arza.org/wzc

 
UNION FOR
REFORM JUDAISM
VOTE REFORM

LETTERS FROM OUR LEADERSHIP



In honor of Purim, I would like to announce the following changes will be enacted

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

By Craig Neuman, Executive Director

C.Neuman@sestl.org

- Friday night services will run in reverse order. Services will begin with the recitation of the names on the Perpetual Memorial list (in reverse alphabetical order) and the service will conclude with candle lighting.
Congregants are invited to remain after services for a nosh.
- Congregants will get to vote on sermon topics. Additionally, the Operating Committee of the Board will act as panelists a la The Gong Show and any member can bang the gong to end a sermon at any time.
- One last change to Friday night services—congregants will be given Sermon Bingo Cards upon entry to the sanctuary. The first person to get bingo will be given a noodle kugel to take home with them.
- Shaare Emeth will now pay YOU to be a member. Each year, you can send us a letter asking what you'd like us to pay, but ultimately, we'll decide what we want to give you.
- Bacon.** Nuff said.
- Parents are required to attend Religious School each Sunday in preparation for their child's B'Mitzvah while the children will be enjoying coffee and a muffin at Shaare Emeth North (aka Bread Co on Ballas).
- The next Congregational trip has been scheduled for September 22 – October 3, 2025. Each day will be spent at one of Missouri's 12 fabulous interstate rest stops. **The cost is \$1800* per person.**
*** Food, transportation and lodging not included.**
- All the content on the Shaare Emeth website will be posted in Aramaic. Good luck translating a dead language, Google Translate!
- The Mindfulness Center will be renamed The Mind-Your-Own-Business Center.
Want to know what the new programming will be like? Too bad, we're not telling.
- The Caring Committee is changing the way it fulfills its mission. If congregants reach out in need of a hospital visit, a call from the clergy, or a kind note, instead of sending one of those things, a jar of fish will be sent to the congregant's home. The committee is also changing its name to the Herring Committee.

LETTERS FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

LIVING OUR MISSION

By Dana DeBlasi, President

President@sestl.org



Congregation Shaare Emeth is a compassionate, respectful, and inclusive community that makes Judaism relevant, meaningful, and joyful.

As we come together over these next months to recognize and celebrate our upcoming holidays of Purim

and Passover, we get the opportunity to highlight how our community acts out our mission, aligning our actions with our values and intentions. These holidays offer us occasions to explore and practice our traditions while innovating and reimagining what the lessons of our history mean in 2025. The story of Purim commemorates the saving of the Jewish people from Haman and exemplifies our values of social justice, speaking up for what is right, and the power of community.

We come together like other congregations across the globe at our annual Purim carnival and spiel for an imaginative, fun-filled, multigenerational song- and story-fest; inspiring young and not so young with a new interpretation and wisdom of our ancestors. **Talk about joyful!**

Passover is also a liberation story, one of freedom and redemption. Our collective memory and subsequent retelling via the ritual order of the Seder helps us to ensure that the themes of the exodus are not forgotten. Our reflection on how this story, our story, resonates today with our commitment to act as agents of social justice and change.

Especially relevant and meaningful!

We look forward to your participation in activities that celebrate these holidays as well as other happenings so that together we can engage with our history in new ways that are integral to the spiritual and cultural life and mission of our community.





Join us at Camp Emeth this summer!

By Laura Horton

LHorton@sestl.org



2025 camp information is now posted on our website, www.campemeth.org, so please take a look and consider joining the fun this upcoming summer! Shaare Emeth is truly a special place to be in the summer, and I will continue to strive to make Camp Emeth a welcoming “home away from home”

for our campers, as it has been for so many children in our community for over 36 years now.

Camp Emeth offers eight weeks of day camp for children entering Kindergarten through 8th Grade on the grounds of Congregation Shaare Emeth. Some campers join us for all eight weeks, while others pick the weeks that work for them and their summer schedule. Sign up early to secure your spot, as several grades are most likely full or close to full by the time you’re reading this. If your child’s grade is currently full, please join our waitlist so we can reach out if spots become available.



NOW HIRING AWESOME CAMP STAFF!

Entering 9th Grade and want to get some great volunteer experience in a fun camp setting? Apply to be a Counselor-in-Training (CIT) and spend part of your summer learning from our amazing camp staff by working alongside them as part of the Camp Emeth team!

Entering 10th Grade or above and want to help create unforgettable summer memories for kids in our community (and yourself)? Apply to be a part of the Camp Emeth team and learn how working in a summer camp setting like ours can help you grow as a leader and have fun while doing it! We have a variety of positions available, such as camp counselors and specialists, and will do our best to work around your summer schedule. Camp Emeth at its core is centered around our amazing staff that reflect our community - caring, creative, diverse, and compassionate are just a few of the words I would use to describe our staff. Please reach out if you would like to know more about summer opportunities at Camp Emeth!

Apply now at www.campemeth.org.

We may also have specialist or senior staff positions available, so if you are interested in learning more about those opportunities for leadership roles at Camp Emeth, please reach out!

Cheers to warmer days ahead!

2025 CAMP DATES & HOURS

Camp Dates:
June 9–Aug 1*

Mondays–Fridays
from 9 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Morning Carpool Drop Off
Begins at 8:45 a.m.

Pre-Care: Drop off
as early as 7:30 a.m.

Post-Care:
Pick up as late as 6 p.m.

*There will be no camp on June 19 or July 4 – these weeks will be prorated to reflect 4 days of camp.

March Events

TUE

4 & 11 JEWISH MODELS OF LEADERSHIP
10 A.M. • RUBIN LIBRARY CONFERENCE ROOM

TEXTING TUESDAYS WITH RABBI BEARMAN

From Moses to Queen Esther to RBG to Michael Twitty, a Jewish, Black, Southern, and gay chef and writer, Jewish leadership comes in many forms. Join Rabbi Bearman to explore both famous and unfamiliar Jewish leaders, learning from their diverse service and stories to inspire and strengthen our own leadership. **RSVP at sestl.co/text**

9 PURIM IN OZ

10:30 A.M.
AT SHAARE EMETH

EMERALD CITY SPECTACULAR SPIEL & CARNIVAL

See page 11 for details.



THU

PURIM

A VERY WICKED SPIEL

13

6:30 P.M.
SHAARE EMETH

See page 10 for details.



FRI

14 EMBODIED JOY

10 A.M. • JEWISH MINDFULNESS CENTER

A MINDFUL MOVEMENT CLASS FOR PURIM

Discover the delight in stretching and strengthening one's body. This class will combine playful curiosity with mindful poses, encouraging participants to embrace their joy.

RSVP at sestl.co/joy325

TUE

18 REFLECTIONS ON JEWISH ARGENTINA

10 A.M. • RUBIN LIBRARY CONFERENCE ROOM

TEXTING TUESDAYS WITH CANTOR WARNER

From February 15-24, Cantor Warner and other cantors from the American Conference of Cantors led a musical Jewish heritage journey to Argentina. For this special Texting Tuesdays session, he'll share highlights and insights from his trip. **RSVP at sestl.co/text**

WED

19 REDEFINING MASCULINITY

7 P.M. • RUBIN LIBRARY CONFERENCE ROOM

BEING A MENSCH IN THE MODERN WORLD

"Be a mensch" means "be a man," but holds deeper significance. Rabbi Andrew Terkel will explore masculinity's meaning and impact from biblical to modern perspectives. He is the first CEO of Be The Narrative, formerly Student to Student.

RSVP at sestl.co/mensch

SAT

22 A SANCTUARY OF REST

10:30 A.M. • JEWISH MINDFULNESS CENTER

A SHABBAT SOUND BATH EXPERIENCE WITH OLGA GORODETSKY

Our Torah speaks of the creation of a Mishkan, a sanctuary of God. Join Olga Gorodetsky, a sound meditation and healing facilitator, to for a special sound bath experience that will create a sanctuary of Shabbat peace. Spaces are limited. Registration is required and an \$18 donation is suggested.

RSVP at sestl.co/sanctuary325

TUE

25 FLAVORS OF FREEDOM

10 A.M. • RUBIN LIBRARY CONFERENCE ROOM

TEXTING TUESDAYS: A PASSOVER CULINARY JOURNEY

Passover dessert cooking with Lorry Blath. Learn to make a new passover dessert.

RSVP at sestl.co/text

Jewish Mindfulness Center of St. Louis events are denoted in purple.

April Events

TUE

1 FROM SHTETL TO STAND-UP

10 A.M. • RUBIN LIBRARY CONFERENCE ROOM

TEXTING TUESDAYS WITH CRAIG NEUMAN

It's apropos that this unique Texting Tuesday session occurs on April Fools Day! Join Shaare Emeth's Executive Director, Craig Neuman, for an exploration of the evolution of Jewish humor. **RSVP at sestl.co/text**

WED

2 & 16 & 23

ISRAEL: THE DREAM, THE REALITY, THE POSSIBILITIES

7 P.M. • SHAARE EMETH

THE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE OF THE ISRAELI STATE AND SOCIETY
See page 12 for additional information.

SAT

5 BOKER TOV: PASSOVER EDITION

9:30 A.M. • SHAARE EMETH

Families with children 5 and under are invited to celebrate Passover and Shabbat with a musical service, continental kid-friendly breakfast, and more. We'll pray, sing, and share the joy and peace of Shabbat together while preparing for upcoming holiday of Passover!

RSVP at sestl.co/bokertov425

TUE

8 & 15 JUDAISM IS ABOUT LOVE

10 A.M. • JEWISH MINDFULNESS CENTER

TEXTING TUESDAYS WITH RABBI GOLDSTEIN

Rabbi Goldstein will lead participants in a reflection and discussion of Rabbi Shai Held's *Judaism Is About Love: Recovering the Heart of Jewish Life*. Copies of the book can be found at Shaare Emeth's Rubin library or ordered through Amazon. Registration is required. **RSVP at sestl.co/text**

TUE

8 PASSOVER TEEN SEDER

6:30 P.M. • SHAARE EMETH

Our annual teen-only Passover Seder is back for all 8th-12th graders! We'll follow the order of the seder but mix it up with games, thought-provoking questions, and lots of silliness along the way. Come with friends and make new ones because this is certainly a seder like no other! Registration information to come via e-mail.

Not on our e-mail list? Contact Helena Cooper at hcooper@sestl.org



SUN

13 PASSOVER L'DOR VADOR

5 P.M. • SIMCHA CENTER

A SEDER FOR ALL GENERATIONS
See page 13 for details.



TUE

15

FINDING FREEDOM

7 P.M. • JEWISH MINDFULNESS CENTER

A MINDFUL MOVEMENT CLASS FOR PASSOVER
RSVP at sestl.co/freedom425



SUN

20 SIGNS OF SPRING AWE WALK

9 A.M. • QUEENY PARK

Awe walks shift our focus from internal concerns to the beauty around us. Inspired by the Biblical Song of Songs, Rabbi Goldstein will guide a walk to awaken us to the power of spring renewal. Awe walks reduce anxiety, stress, and boost generosity and joy. Meeting details provided upon registration.

RSVP at sestl.co/awe425

Jewish Mindfulness Center of St. Louis events are denoted in purple.

April Events

TUE

22 UNEXPECTED REMINDERS: NEIGHBORHOOD HOLOCAUST MEMORIALS

10 A.M. • RUBIN LIBRARY CONFERENCE ROOM

TEXTING TUESDAYS WITH VERA EMMONS

Vera Emmons will share little known memorials to the Holocaust in neighborhoods she found in Germany, Austria and the Netherlands Europe. Hear the stories of how they were created and how they are maintained. **RSVP at sestl.co/text**

SAT

26 MEMBER APPRECIATION EVENT

6 P.M. • SHAARE EMETH

Join Shaare Emeth clergy and staff for an enjoyable evening that's all about celebrating YOU, our members. Our baseball-themed party in the fall was a home run, and we'll bet this next one will be, too.

Watch ShaareMail for more information!

TUE

29 YOM HAZIKARON (MEMORIAL DAY)

10 A.M. • RUBIN LIBRARY CONFERENCE ROOM

HOW JEWS REMEMBER • Join Shinshin Ziv and Rabbi Lori Levine to learn about the moving Yom HaZikaron ceremonies in Israel, honoring fallen soldiers and victims of terrorism. We'll explore the significance of memory in Israeli society and why this day matters to Jews worldwide. **RSVP at sestl.co/text**

JEWISH MINDFULNESS CENTER

Prayer Lab
A MINDFUL SHABBAT EXPERIENCE



Jewish Mindfulness
Center of St. Louis

[JMCSTL.ORG](https://jmcstl.org)

Friday, March 21 and Friday, April 25
at 6 p.m. in the Kehillah Center
at Congregation Shaare Emeth

Join Rabbi Goldstein, Lucy Greenbaum, 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. March's theme is *Imagination* and April's theme is *Wonder*.

Weekly Meditation Sits Tuesday
mornings on Zoom at 9 a.m.

Incorporating lessons from the weekly Torah portion, as well as stories, rituals and symbols of the season, Rabbi Goldstein leads participants in practices that open our hearts and minds to the possibility of continual growth and change. No meditation experience necessary.

Join using the Zoom link in the Mindfulness Mondays e-blast. If you don't already get this weekly e-mail, sign up at <https://sestl.co/jmcemail>



PURIM 2025 AT
SHAARE EMETH



PURIM

A VERY WICKED SPIEL

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

6:30 P.M. AT CONGREGATION SHAARE EMETH

You wanna be in this hoi polloi on Erev Purim for the most swankified spiel in town! Witness the scandalacious, thrillifying tale of Estherba (Estie, for short, played by **Lucy Greenbaum**), her bestie, Galindachai (**Sami Seigel**), The Wizard of Shushan (**Ryan Cooper**), and the Wicked Haman (**Gene Jacobson**).

Your presence is requested before the show so we may rejoicify together with abundant libations and nourishments.

Come in costume! *No RSVP is required; recommended for ages 13+.*

PURIM IN OZ: *Emerald City Spectacular Spiel and Carnival*



Sunday, March 9

10:30 a.m. Purim in Oz Spiel in the Stiffman Sanctuary

11 a.m.–1 p.m. Emerald City Carnival

Bring all your munchkins and follow the yellow brick road to our Ozian Purimspiel for families with children ages 0-II.

We'll re-tell the story of Purim with your favorite characters and reimagined songs from *Wicked* and *The Wizard of Oz*.

Then Shaare Emeth will turn into Oz's Emerald City with fun and food for all ages, including carnival games, crafts, face painting, balloon animals, prizes, and more.

The amazing Purim Committee will once again be serving up a delicious lunch for purchase. Costumes are highly encouraged!

Wristbands are required for children ages 3-5th grade.

Wristbands allow for unlimited game play and each child receives a large prize, small prize, and, new this year, a cotton candy!

Carnival wristbands are \$15 for Shaare Emeth Members or \$20 for non-members.

Advance purchase recommended at sestl.co/purim

ISRAEL MATTERS

Israel: The Dream, The Reality, The Possibilities

The Past, Present and Future of the Israeli State and Society

Wednesday Evenings,
April 2, 16, 23 at 7 p.m.

With Dr. Ayala Hendin and special guest, Professor Mona Khoury, the first Arab Vice President of Diversity and Strategy at Hebrew University. We will use the Declaration of Independence of the State of Israel to explore the hope, successes, and challenges facing Israel to implement the document, which states:

“The State of Israel will foster the development of the country for the benefit of all its inhabitants; it will be based on freedom, justice and peace... it will ensure complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race, or sex.”

RSVP at sestl.co/israelseries



Dr. Ayala Hendin



Mona Khoury

Past

Present

Future

April 2: Dr. Ayala Hendin will help us explore the dream of Israel's Declaration of Independence through a critical and eye-opening reading.

April 16: Dr. Ayala Hendin and special guest Professor Mona Khoury will unpack DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) policies in Israeli higher education throughout the Democracy Crisis and the war.

April 23: Dr. Ayala Hendin will help inspire and strengthen our collective hope for the United States and for Israel.

PASSOVER



Happy Passover!

חג פסח שמח

Passover L'Dor VaDor – A Seder for All Generations

Sunday, April 13

5 p.m. in the Simcha Center

Join the Shaare Emeth Clergy, Lucy Greenbaum, Debbie Bram, and the Shir Emeth choir for our annual Second Night Seder where we will share the story of our people's freedom through uplifting discussion, prayer and song. Appropriate for individuals and families of all ages. You can reserve tables of eight or individual seats. Bring your own family seder plate and we will provide the seder items.

Watch ShaareMail for additional details and registration.



Yom HaShoah:

Liberation, Loss & Life

Sunday, April 27

3 p.m. at Temple Israel

In 2025, we commemorate 80 years since liberation of Auschwitz and other camps, and the end of the Holocaust. Join us for this Yom HaShoah program as we remember this anniversary through song, prayers, testimony, and more.



Yom HaZikaron:

Memorial Day

Tuesday, April 29

6:30 p.m. at The J Staenberg Family Campus

Join us as we come together to honor and remember Israel's fallen soldiers and victims of terror. Yom HaZikaron is a day of deep reflection, unity, and gratitude for those who have sacrificed their lives in defense of Israel and its people. The ceremony will include meaningful readings, personal stories, music, and moments of silence, creating a space for remembrance and connection.

Yom HaAtzmaut:

Community-Wide Celebration

Thursday, May 1

5 p.m. at The J Fox Building, Chesterfield

Join us as we celebrate Yom HaAtzmaut, Israel's Independence Day! This is a time to come together as a community, embrace Israeli culture, and commemorate the resilience and achievements of the Jewish state. The event will feature festive music, Israeli food, dancing, and activities for all ages as we honor Israel's journey and look forward to its future.

Watch ShaareMail for RSVP links for these community programs.

ADJUSTING TO LIFE IN AMERICA

By Julie Winkle on behalf of the Neighbor-to-Neighbor Committee

Our newcomer family is adapting well to life in St. Louis. Ismael and Fedwa are enrolled in ESL classes. They are excited to go to school together. Both girls are happily embracing school.

Insaf has been attending Carmen Trails Elementary where they have an excellent ESL program. Her teachers report that she is beginning to learn the ways of the school and that she is adjusting. Her ESL teacher is working hard to help her with vocabulary acquisition focusing on common phrases and words.

Ikbal attends Shirlee Green Preschool, as she missed the cut off for kindergarten by only a few days. Her teachers report that she is learning the routines of the preschool. She has not talked yet, but she is using gestures to make her needs known.

The family is extremely grateful that both girls can attend school and assimilate into American life. They are also appreciative of the volunteer drivers who take Ikbal to school and pick her up each day.

Our Neighbor-to-Neighbor committee is continuing to make progress on necessary documentation, medical appointments, cultural orientation, banking, etc. In addition, the committee members are in the process of helping Ismael apply for jobs, especially those that he can walk to, as he does not have transportation at this time.



Welcome to Shirlee Green Preschool, Ikbal!



Julie Winkle and Judy Willett took the girls to Myseum on MLK Day. Lots of activity, new experiences, brilliant smiles, and adorable giggles. A wonderful time was had by all.

SAVE *the* DATE

Please Join us for Congregation Shaare Emeth's

158th Annual Meeting Tuesday, May 6

This important gathering is an opportunity to reflect on our accomplishments, discuss future plans, and celebrate our shared commitment to our community. The event will feature the presentation of the **2025 Tzedek Award to Holly Bernstein**, recognizing staff milestones, and some special surprises. Your voice and presence matter! *Stay tuned for more details.*

In early February, a group of Shaare Emeth teens and chaperones arrived in Washington DC for the Religious Action Center's Bernard and Audre Rapoport L'Taken Social Justice Seminar. L'Taken is a non-stop experience, and, throughout the long weekend, our teens learned about and grappled with the parts of our society that are the most broken, decided what issue they felt most passionately about, and then prepared and delivered speeches that reflected our Reform Jewish values. The trip concluded with a visit to Capitol Hill where our teens advocated for legislation reflecting our Reform Jewish values.





IN THE
COMMUNITY



TRIVIA NIGHT

Saturday, April 5 at Congregation Shaare Emeth
Doors open at 6:30 p.m. • Trivia begins at 7 p.m.

Room at the Inn is hosting our **FIRST EVER**, and hopefully **FIRST ANNUAL**, Trivia Night!

Join us and approximately 240 Friends of Room for a fun, friendly, and slightly competitive evening of eight rounds of trivia questions, games, raffles, silent auction, food/drink, and A Mission Moment.

Visit <https://secure.qgiv.com/event/eihbhp/> for tickets, sponsorship opportunities, and donations

THE HARVEY KORNBLUM JEWISH FOOD PANTRY

Needs Our Help

The need is great, so please help in any way you can. Thank you.

For further information, please contact Louise Levine, 314 368 5902.

• Canned Chili, Beef Stew, and Protein-Rich Foods

• Healthy Cereals (please avoid sugary cereals)

• Kosher Non-Perishable Foods

• Peanut Butter & Jelly

• Healthy, Hearty Soups

• Any Kind of Canned Vegetables (corn, green beans, peas, carrots)

• Canned Beans

• Personal care items such as Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, and Diapers

A donation bin is located in Shaare Emeth's North Lobby.

Mazel Tov

to our March and April
B'Mitzvah students!



Alexa Murov
Child of Lauren and
Jacob Murov



Arianna Wachler
Child of Melissa and
Brad Wachler



Charlie Seltzer
child of Erin and
Kevin Seltzer



Naomi Lampert
Child of Heather and
Jake Lampert



Simone Glasser
Child of Sarah
and David Glasser



Theodore Levine
Child of Sara and
Benjamin Levine

WELCOME, NEW MEMBER FAMILIES!

Mara and Danny Kraus,
with child, Jackson

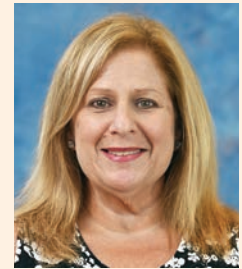
Tracy Litty

Laurie Nest

Rachel Reynolds

Bradley Sabin,
with child, Ezra

Irina and Jason Sauer



Mazel Tov to Stacy Jespersen on her JProStL Dedication Award!

Stacy has worked at Congregation Shaare Emeth since 2002 in many different roles from Acco unts Payables, Main Door Receptionist, Assistant to the Executive Director, and for the last 7 years as Executive Assistant to the Clergy. Stacy most enjoys supporting the clergy, assisting congregants, and being part of life-cycle events. Stacy has been married to her husband Jon for 31 years, has four children, and three grandchildren!



Welcome Shana Tozer, Our New Digital Communications Coordinator!

Shana Tozer has recently returned to Saint Louis and is thrilled to join the Shaare Emeth team. In addition to her role here, Shana runs her own photography business, *Shana Tozer Photography*. In her spare time, she loves spending time with her nieces and nephew, and doing all things creative.

CONDOLENCES

Ken Burkett

Husband of Jill Burkett

Donna Cohen

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Husband of Sherre
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Ashley (Ann) Loiterstein

Sheri Rentchler

Sister of Alayne
(Toney) Yates

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Wife of Gary Bilow

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Wife of Raymond Zavack

SYMPATHY

Subie (Al) Banaszynski

on the death of her mother,
Lori Sarner

Louis (Evelyn) Cohen and

Robert (Sheila) Cohen on
the death of their brother,
Peter Cohen, Sr.

Howard (Lynn) Friedman

on the death of his father,
Irving Friedman

Barry (Melanie) Goldstein

on the death of his mother,
Minna Goldstein

Phylis Kahn on the death
of her sister, **Kay Holtzman**

Mark (Beth) Manlin on

the death of his step-father,
Myron Applebaum

Shaun (Alicia) Margul

on the death of his father,
Laurence Margul

Robert (Emily) Rosenfeld,

Jr. on the death of his
mother, **Joyce Jacobs**

Gary (Rona) Sterling

on the death of his brother,
Mitchell Sterling

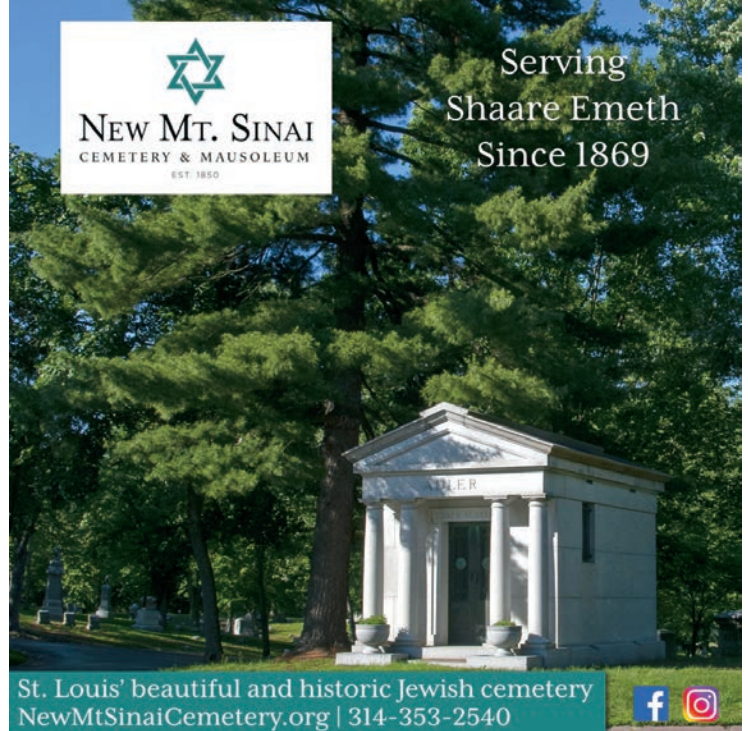
Betty Urban on the death of

her brother, **Stanley Boraz**

Elaine (Leslie) Zigler

on the death of her mother,
Bernadine Kahn

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.



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Ken Bluestone

Brian Honigbaum

Established by
Jodi Granok

Craig Mold

Established by
Judith Mold and
Christine Schena

Rebecca Rothman

Established by
Rachel Reynolds

Jeremy Adam Werl

Established by
Roma Wittcoff

Judge Melvyn W. Wiesman

Established by Marcia Ann
Wiesman 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.

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A DONATION:

In celebration of Chanukah
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IN APPRECIATION OF:

Rabbi Bennett for his help, support
and guidance for Reed Brody's
Bar Mitzvah
Lauren & Bryan Brody

Rabbi Bennett for everything he has
done for their family over the years
Karen & Ronald Herzog and Family

Rabbi Bennett for his support to
the family on the passing of their
mother, Nancy Kalishman
*Susan Goldberg, Diane & John Kalishman,
Casey & Tom Kalishman and Amy &
Jim Kalishman*

Rabbi Bennett for officiating at the
wedding of Ilyssa & Michael Lisch
Ann & Stewart Sheinbein

Rabbi Goldstein and the Jewish
Mindfulness Center of Saint Louis
Arlene Goodman

Rabbi Goldstein for officiating at the
funeral of William Greenblatt
Barbara Greenblatt

Rabbi Goldstein for her class,
"Finding Balance in
Turbulent Times"
Victor Yamaykin

Rabbi Bearman for performing
the baby naming ceremony for
Corinne Davis
The Davis Family

Rabbi Bearman for their
work together
Tracy Litt

Rabbi Bearman for helping
Ari Wolman to become a Bat Mitzvah
Natascha & Jeff Wolman

Rabbi Stiffman for officiating at the
funeral for Sheldon Sandmel and
for all his care and concern
Ben, Karin, and Josh Sandmel

The Clergy of Shaare Emeth
for all they do
David Baron and Jay Baron

The Saturday morning
Torah Study group
Stephanie & Stephen Newman

IN HONOR OF:

The Brody Family on Reed Brody
becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Sue Wallach

Stacy Jespersen for being selected
as the recipient of the JPro STL
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Roberta Feinstein on her
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Arlene Goodman
Peter Cohen, Sr.
Paula & Mike Geigerman

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and Dan Geigerman*

Dr. Michele Shoresman
Arlene Goodman
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Marleen & Gregory Glasser*

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*Beth Salzman, Tina Lampert and Angie &
Dane Kearns*

Theodore Levine on becoming
a Bar Mitzvah

The Levine Family

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a Bat Mitzvah

Lauren & Jacob Murov

Charlie Seltzer on becoming
a Bar Mitzvah

Leslye Louis

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The Mann-Lowe Family for a Happy Chanukah
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Rabbi Stiffman and Rabbi Bennett with gratitude for all of the wonderful years as former members of Shaare Emeth
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Suzy Berns
Stacy Jespersen for being selected as the recipient of the JPro STL Dedication Award
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Rabbi Goldstein for her kindness and support
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Cathleen for a speedy recovery
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