

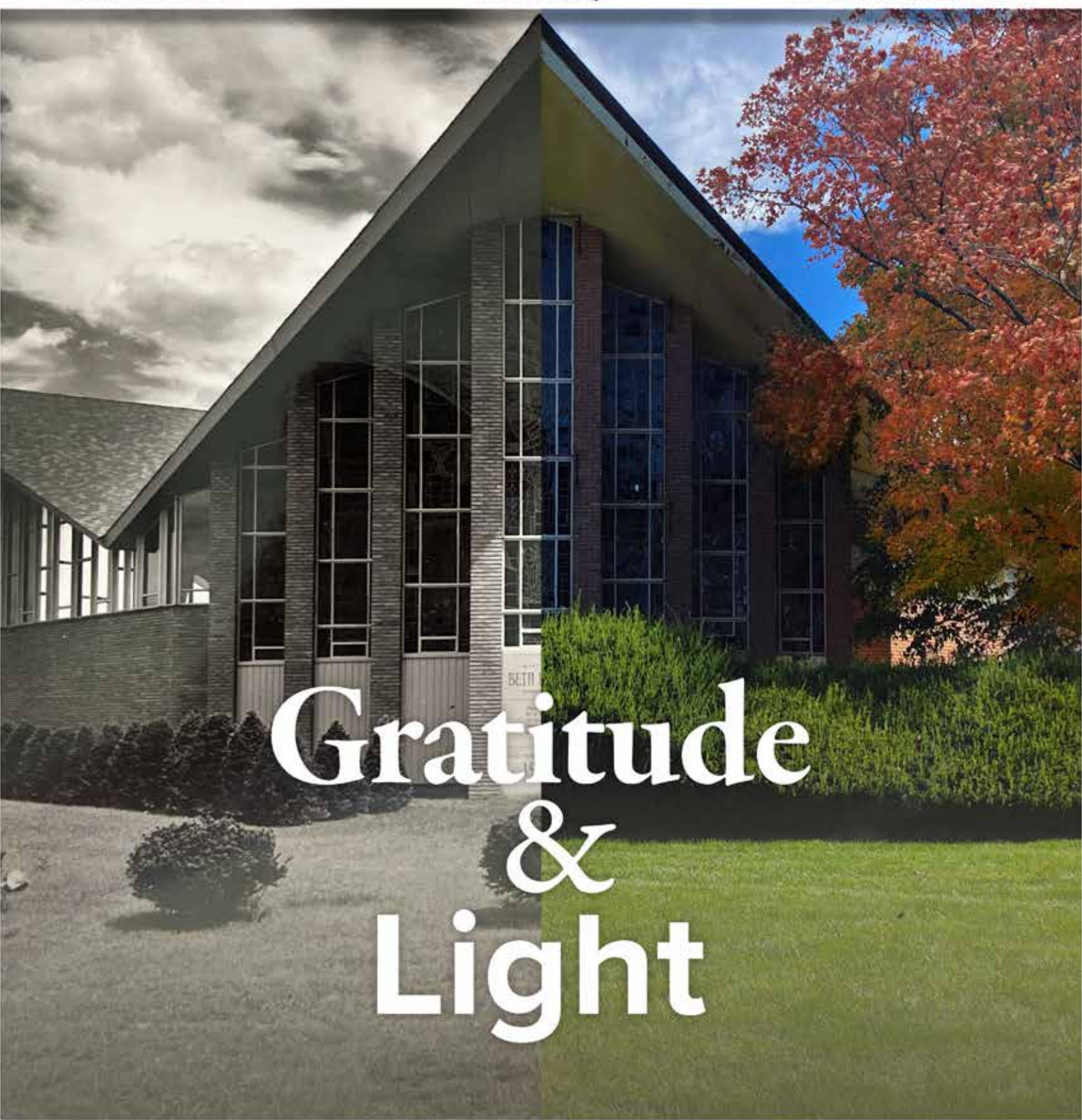


The Bulletin

Cheshvan / Kislev 5786

CBEAlbany.org

November / December 2025



Gratitude & Light

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HOOTENANNY WATCH PARTY

Thursday, November 13:
Dinner served at 6:30pm, show starts at 7pm.
Please RSVP by November 6.

Join us for a virtual watch party of the Hootenanny, celebrating Jewish Camps, Music and Community. This benefit supports the URJ camps where many of our families send their children: Eisner and Crane Lake. Beth Emeth will provide pizza dinner, salad, drinks and cookies for all who attend. While there is no cost to attend, we ask that those who are inclined, make a donation to the Benjamin Mendel Jr. URJ Camp Scholarship Fund, which helps Beth Emeth families send their children to URJ camps. **Go to CBEAlbany.org, click Upcoming Events, and search "Hootenanny" to RSVP!**



WORSHIP

Saturday Morning, November 1

9:30 am Torah Study with Andrea McNellis
10:45 am Bar Mitzvah of Max Malatras

Friday Evening, November 7

Parshat Vayera
5:30 pm Ruach and Veteran's Day Shabbat Services
Followed by a Congregational Shabbat Dinner

Saturday Morning, November 8

9:30 am Torah Study with Rabbinic Intern Spencer Mandell

Friday Evening, November 14

Parashat Chayei Sara
5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Services
Followed by an Oneg Sponsored by
the Eisenberg Family

Saturday Morning, November 15

9:30 am Torah Study with Rabbinic Intern Spencer Mandell
10:45 am Bar Mitzvah of Nicholas Eisenberg

Friday Evening, November 21

Parashat Toldot
5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Services

Saturday Morning, November 22

9:30 am Torah Study with Andrea McNellis

Friday Evening, November 28

Parashat Vayetzei
5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Services

Saturday Morning, November 29

9:30 am Torah Study with Andrea McNellis

Friday Evening, December 5

Parashat Vayishlach
5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Services

Saturday Morning, December 6

9:30 am Torah Study with Rabbi Weitzman

Friday Evening, December 12

Parashat Vayeshev
5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Services

Saturday Morning, December 13

9:00 am CBE & Me: Chanukah Edition
9:30 am Torah Study with Rabbinic Intern Spencer Mandell

Friday Evening, December 19

Parashat Miketz
5:30 pm Ruach Shabbat and Chanukah Services
Featuring Yoel Sykes, Adult Choir, Jr. Choir, and
Roach Shabbat Band
Followed by our Chanukah Dinner

Saturday Morning, December 20

10:00 am Shabbat Morning Service featuring Yoel Sykes
and the Roach Shabbat Band
Followed by an Oneg Shabbat
5:30 pm Festive Nosh
6:00 pm Havdalah Concert featuring Yoel Sykes and
Roach Shabbat Band

Friday Evening, December 26

Parashat Vayigash
5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Services

Saturday Morning, December 27

9:30 am Torah Study with Andrea McNellis

ADULT LEARNING

UNPACKING THE SH'MA: A SPECIAL LEARNING SERIES

Join us in November and December to explore the Sh'ma and her blessings, covering both the text and the music.

Wednesdays: Lunch & Learn: Textual Deep Dive with Andrea McNellis (12:00 pm – 1:30 pm). Study the prayer's meaning, history, and structure. (November 12, 19, December 3)

Fridays: Musical Exploration with Cantor Emily Short (4:30 pm – 5:00 pm). Discover the diverse musical settings and traditions that shape our understanding of this core prayer. (November 14, 21, December 5)

Connect with the core of our prayer tradition!



A MESSAGE FROM OUR RABBINIC INTERN

Spencer L. Mandell

Looking to the Horizon: Mission, Vision, and Our Sacred Future



In Jewish tradition, daily gratitude is about noticing the small things. What some may call “הכרת הטוב” *hakarot hatov*, the recognition or calling out of goodness. Gratitude does not demand big fireworks or grand displays of piety. Often, gratitude comes in a simple thank you, a shared smile, or a small act of kindness that lingers in someone’s heart long after the moment has passed.

One of the places I have learned lessons of light and gratitude most clearly was volunteering to lead the Hebrew Union College’s Soup Kitchen. Every Monday, people from many walks of life came through the doors, looking not only for food and clothing, but also for warmth, dignity, and a sense of community. I remember one guest in particular. He would always come in, sit down at the same table, and ask for a hot cup of coffee. But not just coffee. He had a very particular order: a splash of milk, four packets of sugar, stirred just so.

At first, I admit I thought it was just his small quirk. But after a few weeks, I found myself preparing his coffee for him before he even asked. In each small exchange, I learned that the coffee was not the point of my relationship with our guests.

Our Soup Kitchen’s drink selection reminded guests every time they visited our community that they are known and that some volunteer cares enough to remember who they are. Despite living on the streets of Manhattan, they were not invisible.

For one particular guest named Angel, his day was transformed by the experience of having his coffee

order remembered. What could have been routine - pouring people coffee and handing out bagged meals - instead became a special practice of seeing others and being seen myself. Adding a splash of milk and four packets of sugar to Angel’s cup of coffee made my understanding of hospitality, human dignity, and community service changed forever.

Transformation is not only personal. It is communal. Every act of kindness plants a seed that changes the soil of our community. After I remembered one guest’s coffee order, I began to remember others.

At Beth Emeth, when we come together for service projects, like the Soup Kitchen or visiting the sick, we are not only meeting communal needs, we are reshaping the whole culture of our congregation.

Each time we serve others with gratitude, we plant seeds of light within our broader community. When we see and honor the humanity of another person, even in something as small as remembering how someone takes their coffee, we are sowing seeds

of light that will eventually fill our community with joy.

May gratitude, and the Jewish practice of “הכרת הטוב” *hakarot hatov*, acknowledging the good in our

lives, open our hearts to all of the beautiful blessings around us. May we together reap a bountiful harvest of joy and light this season, becoming a community of individuals transformed by the simple, sacred act of seeing one another, one cup of coffee (or tea) at a time.

“Transformation is not only personal. It is communal. Every act of kindness plants a seed that changes the soil of our community.”

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Robin Sobol

***“Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues,
but the parent of all others.”***

– Rabbi Jonathan Sacks z”l



As we enter the season of Chanukah, these words of Rabbi Sacks remind us that gratitude is more than a feeling—it is a foundation for how we live our lives. When we begin with gratitude, every other virtue flows from it: kindness, compassion, generosity, and hope.

A few years ago during Chanukah, I found myself standing in the kitchen surrounded by wrapping paper, cookie crumbs, and children debating whether eight nights of gifts meant eight big presents or one “real” one and seven “token” ones. As I looked around at the joyful chaos—half-eaten latkes, a candle leaning sideways in the menorah, and laughter echoing through the house—I suddenly realized: this is exactly what gratitude looks like. It’s not neat or perfect. It’s laughter, togetherness, and the kind of beautiful mess that reminds us how lucky we are to have people who fill our homes with light.

The story of Chanukah is itself a story of gratitude. Faced with scarcity, our ancestors could have turned away in despair. Instead, they chose to give thanks for what they had—to light the menorah with a single jar of oil—and to trust that their faith would carry them forward. That simple act of courage and gratitude became the spark for a miracle still celebrated thousands of years later.

In our community at Congregation Beth Emeth, I see gratitude lived out daily. I see it in our clergy, who give of themselves with wisdom and care. I see it in our staff, who dedicate their talents to ensuring our congregation thrives. I see it in our volunteers, whose energy and commitment light the way for others. And I see it in all of you—our members—whose participation, kindness, and support make Beth Emeth a true home.

As your president, I am deeply grateful for the honor of serving you. Each gathering, each program, and each prayer service reminds me that we are more than a congregation—we are a family, bound together by shared tradition, values, and a vision for the future. Gratitude calls us to see not only what we have received, but also what we are called to give.

This Chanukah, may we each find ways to let gratitude guide us. May the menorah’s light remind us that even the smallest flame of thanks can illuminate the darkest night. And may we carry that light into the year ahead, building a community rooted in gratitude, joy, and hope.

From my family to yours, I wish you a Chanukah filled with light, laughter, gratitude, and peace.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Gary Fifer



I am filled with emotion as I write this. We have just concluded our magnificent celebration of Rosh Hashanah, my first and my last with you. I was able to greet many of you, including many I have only known from emails or phone calls. My wife joined me from our home in Virginia, and we were able to take part in the inspiring services. Like many of you, we waited for the long line of children to step onto the Bimah at the end. They just kept coming! What an extraordinary testament to all that you have built, and continue to build, and that after 180 plus years still attracts families to the vibrant Beth Emeth community.

Thank you for the privilege of allowing me to contribute towards sustaining and growing your community. Serving as an Interim Executive Director is always a challenge, as successful leadership at a congregation is based on forming meaningful relationships and that takes time. The very nature of being an interim contradicts forming as many meaningful relationships as we all might have hoped for.

I feel blessed to have worked with an outstanding Board of Trustees, staff, and volunteers. I cannot adequately express how dedicated they are to the well-being of the Beth Emeth community, your concerns, and your aspirations. I have tremendous respect for the skills, wisdom, humility, vision, and just plain hard work of Rabbi Weitzman and Cantor Short, and Rabbinic Intern Mandell.

I am looking forward to overlapping with your new Executive Director, Jill Rafferty-Weinisch, before I leave you. I think your search committee has made an outstanding selection.

Best wishes to all of you for a happy and healthy Thanksgiving and a Chanukah filled with light and joy!

In Hebrew, we don't like to say "goodbye". It sounds so final. Instead, we say *L'hitraot*, which translates to "see you again". It is a farewell that carries an optimistic hope of meeting again.

L'hitraot, members of Congregation Beth Emeth!

THANK YOU GARY

Rabbi Greg D. Weitzman

On behalf of Congregation Beth Emeth, I want to extend our deepest gratitude to Gary Fifer for his outstanding leadership as our Interim Executive Director. Gary stepped into this role seamlessly, bringing steadiness, clarity, and compassion at a time of transition. With grace, kindness, and thoughtful attention to detail, he guided our staff, supported our lay leaders, and helped ensure that our congregation continued to thrive. As we welcome Jill into her new role, we do so with gratitude for the strong foundation Gary helped to build. We wish him every success and joy in the next chapter of his journey.



INTRODUCING OUR NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JILL RAFFERTY-WEINISCH

Jill Rafferty-Weinisch is a dynamic leader with more than 30 years of experience advancing innovative programs in human services, youth development, education, and the arts.



She has built a career at the intersection of mission, strategy, and community, leading high-performing teams and forging cross-sector collaborations that expand opportunity, drive equity, and strengthen operational efficiency.

Currently, as the Vice President of Mission, Strategy & Delivery at Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York, Jill shapes programs across a 15-county region, strengthens volunteer engagement, and leads initiatives in youth mental wellness and belonging. Previously, as Strategic Director at Wildwood Programs, she guided person-centered supports for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, increased productivity and value across multiple service lines, led successful statewide Medicaid advocacy, and oversaw multimillion-dollar budgets. Her earlier leadership at Equinox and the Arts Center of the Capital Region expanded services for vulnerable youth and made arts programming more accessible to all.

Jill began her career in the performing arts, serving as Director of Education at Capital Repertory Theatre for more than a decade, where she built an education department that reached more than 25,000 students annually. She has co-written original theatre works for young audiences and curated both literary and performing arts series.

Deeply committed to civic life, Jill has served on nonprofit boards, including Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood, the Ellen Sinopoli Dance Company, NYS APSE (the Association of People Supporting Employment First), and the Non-profit Business Council of the Capital Region Chamber of Commerce. She currently sits on the Community Advisory Board for the Troy and East Greenbush branches of the Capital District YMCA, and has been recognized with the ARC of Rensselaer County's Community Partner Award, GE's Elfun Society Service Award, and The Capital District Business Review's 40 Under 40.

Jill holds a BFA in Performing Arts (Adelphi University) and an MA in Liberal Studies (Skidmore College). Beyond her professional work, Jill is a steadfast lap-swimmer, an enthusiastic patron of the arts, book club member, and storyteller. She lives in Troy, New York with her husband, George, and their cat, Maximillian Moonbeam.

We hope you will take a moment to welcome Jill at the next Shabbat Service or event. Stay tuned to our weekly e-news for more information about getting to know Jill!

**Visit page 20
for Meet & Greet opportunities**

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Sara Salitan-Thiell



The school year follows a cyclical pattern shaped by holidays, both Jewish and secular, and here at the Einhorn Center for Jewish Education, we've decided to focus on several themes throughout the year. Fittingly, November's theme is gratitude and December's theme is light.

It's not much of a stretch to see that gratitude begets light because it shifts our focus from what is lacking to what is abundant. In acknowledging the goodness around us, even in everyday moments of joy, we invite warmth into the shadows of our lives. Like a candle that ignites another without losing its flame, as we prepare for Chanukah's arrival, gratitude spreads quietly, but powerfully, illuminating our perspective and softening even the hardest moments. It reminds us that joy often comes not from grand events, but from the quiet recognition of everyday blessings. In

this way, gratitude becomes a kind of inner light; steady, resilient, and capable of brightening the world beyond ourselves. And everyone is capable of finding moments of gratitude in their lives, from our littlest learners to our wisest teachers.

Our children are our greatest blessings, so in November, we both teach them about gratitude, and we take a moment to be grateful for the families who share their children with us. And in December, we celebrate the light they bring to our lives, and the act of passing on our rituals and traditions to the next generation.

From all of us at the Einhorn Center for Jewish Education, we wish all of our children and their families a Happy Thanksgiving, and a Chanukah filled with joy and light!



A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION

Lita Carbone



“Never believe that a handful of dedicated people can’t change the world. Inspired by faith, they can. The Maccabees did then. So can we today.”

- Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks

I look forward to the “-ber” months each year as a time of reflection. Having the High Holy Days behind us does not mean we turn away from deeper meaning and purpose. As we enter November and December of the secular calendar, it’s easy to get caught up in the dinners, the planning, the gifts, the travel drama, the “this and that” of the season. Despite the craziness of it all, I look forward to spending time with family, friends, and our community.

As Theo and I light our Chanukiah each year, I feel a wave of emotion come over me. We recite the nightly prayer, always stealing a kiss by the candlelight, and embrace as we admire the beautiful candles. As the glow increases each night, I reflect. I stare into the dancing flames above each candle and admire our strength. *L’dor v’dor*. In spite of it all, we are still here from generation to generation.

While we have had many changes this past year and new faces have joined our office, I hold the unwavering belief that together we can do amazing things through a love of Judaism and connection with one another. Your partnership is why the staff and clergy are here. We are grateful for each and every one of you.

Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks is quoted as saying, “Never believe that a handful of dedicated people can’t change the world. Inspired by faith, they can. The Maccabees did then. So can we today.” Beth Emeth has a long history of incredible lay leadership that helps provide many opportunities for our members to connect. Checking in guests at the High Holy Days, working the table at the Chanukah Bazaar, cooking and serving a congregational dinner, handing out meals at the Soup Kitchen, delivering a bag for those mourning a loved one, or organizing our immense Archives.

Each opportunity we take to extend a hand and offer a “How can I help?” solidifies the growth of our community. Many people within our community and beyond are facing challenges, whether it be financially, mentally, health concerns, battling loneliness, or many more reasons that we cannot begin to comprehend.

Our most valued team member here at Congregation Beth Emeth is YOU. While we look at the many blessings that life holds for us, we should also look at what blessings and kindness we can give to others.

**Find your way to Connect, Learn, and Grow at CBE!
Sign up for one of our incredible committees:**

Brotherhood

Jay Hurewitz, Brotherhood@CBEAlbany.org

Cemetery Committee

Jill Hildreth, JillyHaz@gmail.com

Education Committee

Liz Albright, ENussba4@mail.naz.edu and
Julie Safranko, JSafrank@nycap.rr.com

Endowment Committee

Chad Bernstein, Bernstein.Chad@gmail.com

Finance Committee

Karen Kaufman-White, Treasurer@CBEAlbany.org

Philanthropy Committee

Rob Kivort, Robert@kivortsteel.com

REYUT (Caring for Community Committee)

Caren Kotlow and Diane Lerner, Reyut@CBEAlbany.org

Ritual Committee

Dr. Cheryl Burack, CherylBurackMD@gmail.com

Sisterhood

Sara Bonder, Sisterhood@CBEAlbany.org

Social Action Committee

Jackie Dupiche, SocialAction@CBEAlbany.org

OUR TEMPLE FAMILY

IN MEMORIAM

Beth Emeth recognizes with profound sorrow the death of our members and extends sympathy to those in our congregation who have lost a loved one.

Paul Bray

Husband of Barbara Kaiser Bray
Brother of Arthur (Anna) Bray

Lisa Movitz

Daughter of Dr. Robert and
Mrs. Patricia Friedman
Wife of Louis Movitz
Mother of Brooke (Matthew) and
Danielle Movitz
Sister of Marcy (Doug) Spink

David Weiss

Husband of Susan Weiss
Father of Miriam (Samuel) Goldman,
Benjamin (Tanja Bosak) Weiss, and
Jonathan (Marilyn) Weiss

LET'S CELEBRATE!

Congregants are acknowledged on their special birthdays (from age 35) and anniversaries (from 10th) in multiples of 5 years.

November Special Birthdays

Thomas Baker
Marc Cohen
Glenn Groper
David S. Hoffman
Michael Horelick
Elaine Krouner
Corey Kruse
Melissa Lurie
Marsha Penrose
David Posner
David Siegal
Richard Sokoler
John-Jay Steinhardt
Steven Stulmaker
Lois Suresky
Mark Swyer
Marilyn Weisburgh

November Special Anniversaries

Lynda and Jerry Cohen ~ 30 years
Denise and Steve Gonick ~ 30 years
Ilene and Chip Stein ~ 40 years
Rose and Dave Strumpf ~ 40 years
Cindy and Neal Greenstein ~ 45 years

December Special Birthdays

Richard Arensberg
Jonathan Carlin
David Dembling
Beryl Frank
Jacqueline Kessler
Elizabeth Morris
Stephen Palmer
Donna Rosen
Paula Sobol
Samuel B. Wechsler
Steven White

December Special Anniversaries

Cheryl and Scott Burack ~ 30 years

MAZAL TOV TO...

Mazal Tov for the Wedding of Emily Ginsburg and Josh Nachlis, daughter of Bruce and Carolyn Ginsburg, Granddaughter of Barry and Sara Lee Lerner.

Casey Kushner Winslett and Cooper Pillot on their engagement! Casey is the granddaughter of Helene Kushner and the late Harry Kushner (z"l).

Mazal Tov to Mia Sager and William Lindau on their engagement on the weekend of October 4 - 5.

The Squires Family on the birth of grandchildren! We are excited to share that on September 30, Steve's daughter, Matilda, gave birth to twins Maxton and Melodie. Parents Matthew and Matilda Yost are doing well as are the twins.

WE WELCOME NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS...

From July 2025 to November 30, 2025

Barbara Baker
Jillian and Jeffrey Becker
Julie Blackman and Mitch Dinnerstein
Joseph Brass
Beverly and Sanford Chorost
Carly and Chase Evans
Alexandra Lockey and Josh Paz
Sarah and Justin Luria

Stephanie Lewis and Henry McLaughlin
Paula and Chris Priore
Leta Smith and Larry Cohen
Wendy and Edward Sossner
Yolanda and Jeffry Sukloff
Susan and Jesus Vidot
Janet and Robert Wright

INTRODUCING “PRIME TIMERS” AT CONGREGATION BETH EMETH!

You’ve raised your kids. You’ve built your career. And now, it’s your time.

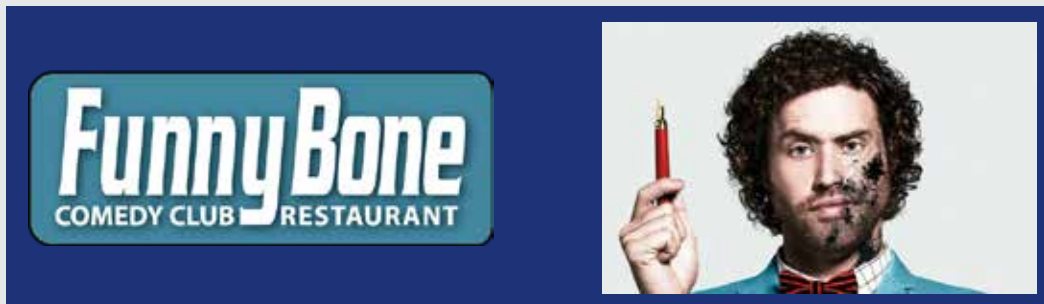
We’re excited to introduce Prime Timers — a brand-new community at Congregation Beth Emeth for members in their prime years (40s – 70s) who are ready to reconnect, re-energize, and rediscover the joy of belonging.

Whether your children are grown, you’re new to the “empty nest,” or you’re simply looking to strengthen your connection to temple life, Prime Timers is your space to laugh, learn, and build friendships with others in the same stage of life.

Join us for social gatherings, community events, and meaningful conversations that remind us that the best times are happening right now.

Prime Timers — Living life in our prime, together.

Prime Timers Kickoff Event! Laugh the Night Away at The Funny Bone!



We’re thrilled to announce the very first event for Congregation Beth Emeth’s new Prime Timers group — and it’s guaranteed to bring the laughs!

Join us on **Saturday, December 6 at 6:30 pm at The Funny Bone Comedy Club (Crossgates Mall)** for a night of fun and community featuring comedian T.J. Miller — a fellow member of the tribe and Hollywood favorite known for his roles in *Deadpool 1 & 2*, *Ready Player One*, and *Transformers*.

Let’s enjoy a night out together filled with laughter and good company!

We’ll meet at the comedy club, and anyone who wants can grab a bite to eat before or after the show — details to follow once we know how many are attending.

RSVP by going to CBEAlbany.org, pressing the Upcoming Events button, and searching “Prime”

Prime Timers — Living life in our prime, together.

B'NAI MITZVAH

B'nai mitzvah lead in candle lighting and Kiddush at the Friday night service prior to their b'nai mitzvah.



Nicholas Eisenberg - Saturday, November 15

Nicholas Franco Eisenberg, son of Jami and Pete Eisenberg, is currently in seventh grade at Bethlehem Central Middle School. He is a member of ESYO, the Empire State Youth Orchestra, playing in the Repertory Percussion Ensemble as well as percussion in the Wind Orchestra. Nicholas is looking forward to traveling to Romania with ESYO in the spring! He hopes to bring his musical talent to Congregation Beth Emeth as an occasional guest drummer during Ruach Shabbat Services and is enthusiastic about the idea of a youth band. Aside from music, Nicholas enjoys playing ultimate frisbee and spending time with his family and friends.

BROTHERHOOD WINS SPECIAL AWARD

Capital Region Yom HaShoah Candle Project: A Tradition of Remembrance and Community

For nearly four decades, the Capital Region Yom HaShoah Candle Distribution Project has ensured that close to 2,000 Jewish households annually receive a yellow candle to light on Holocaust Remembrance Day.

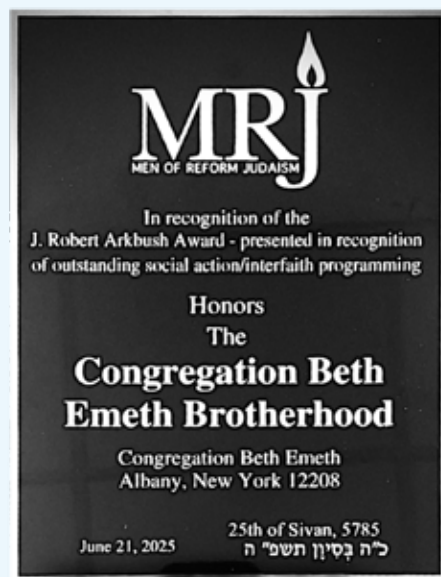
This powerful symbol affirms the communal vow: "We will never forget." Sustained by volunteers from Brotherhoods and Men's Clubs across the region, it has grown into a vital tradition that educates and unites generations.

The project began in the late 1980s when Brotherhood leaders realized the collective power of working together, ensuring every Jewish home could participate in honoring the six million lives lost. Today, this highly coordinated, grassroots effort distributes nearly 2,000 candles across four counties using roughly 100 delivery routes. The annual operation relies on over 80 volunteers for delivery and countless others for data management, logistics, and a communal Assembly Night. This massive effort relies entirely on the cooperation and trust of multiple congregations working as one.

The project demonstrated remarkable resilience during the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent logistical hurdles, quickly pivoting to implement "touchless" deliveries and finding creative solutions to distribution challenges. This flexibility has proven that adaptability keeps the flame alive.

In Summer 2025, the project was recognized nationally when the Men of Reform Judaism (MRJ) presented it with the prestigious J. Robert Arkbush Award for outstanding social action/interfaith programming.

The project continues its sacred commitment, prioritizing memory and community over fundraising. It is about standing together as one Jewish community to say: "Never Forget."



MAZAL TOV TO BROTHERHOOD ON THIS ACHIEVEMENT!

WHO WANTS TO BE A MINYAN-AIRE?

No, it's not a television program, and you can't ask the audience for help or phone a friend. By joining our group you are extending a lifeline to someone else in need.

With a congregation the size of Beth Emeth, it is often difficult for our two clergy to attend all of the life cycle events. One in particular is the ability to have a minyan for someone who has suffered a loss to say Mourner's Kaddish during Shiva.

Come join the minyanaires and learn how to conduct a Shiva service when our clergy are stretched too thin. I promise it will be a rewarding experience.

For more information, contact Steven Shrager at sjshrager@aol.com.



PASSPORT READY: HELP THE RABBI CHOOSE OUR NEXT DESTINATION!

We can't wait for our next trip abroad in 2027! Please follow the QR code to fill out our poll ranking your top 3 choices from the following options: Family Trip to Israel, Argentina, Morocco, Greece, Cuba, or Spain.



Scan Me



ANNOUNCING THE ANNUAL WISLEY DUPICHE TURKEY GIVEAWAY

We are thrilled to announce **The Annual Wisley Dupiche Turkey Giveaway**, an event dedicated to honoring the legacy and boundless spirit of our cherished social action volunteer, **Wisley Dupiche** (z"l).

Wisley was a driving force behind our community efforts. A huge supporter of the Soup Kitchen, he was instrumental in pioneering this very turkey giveaway. His kind demeanor and infectious enthusiasm brought light and warmth to every patron he interacted with. This annual event will ensure his deep commitment to serving our community lives on.

How You Can Help

This year, thanks to the generosity of our sponsor, **Price Chopper**, we've secured an incredible deal on the turkeys. In addition, our wonderful **Sisterhood** is contributing essential items for a memorable holiday meal: **baking tins, spices, and a festive recipe!**

To make this year's giveaway the largest and most successful yet in Wisley's memory, we need your support in two key ways:

1. Financial Contributions

While we have secured a great price, we need **financial support** to cover the cost of the turkeys and any unforeseen expenses. Every dollar helps us reach more families in need. See below for instructions on how to donate.

2. Item Collection

We are also planning a collection drive to gather additional items that will complement the turkey and baking supplies. **Stay tuned** for an announcement soon regarding what specific items we will be collecting (e.g., canned goods, non-perishable sides, etc.).

Please help us celebrate the life and enduring impact of Wisley Dupiche (z"l) by supporting The Annual Wisley Dupiche Turkey Giveaway. Your contribution ensures that his spirit of generosity continues to nourish and uplift our community.

To make a financial donation, please visit the website and make a donation to the Social Action Fund in support of the Turkey Giveaway.

Thank you for being a part of this meaningful tradition!





Come share in a heartwarming afternoon of connection and community!

Beth Emeth is proud to participate in the **FOCUS Festival of Thanks & Giving** on **Sunday, November 23, from 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm** at Westminster Presbyterian Church (enter at 85 Chestnut Street, Albany).

This special event is designed to build community and raise awareness of food insecurity in Albany. Join us for a simple but lovely soup and sandwich lunch (vegetarian), engaging **gratitude-themed activities**, and a chance to make “Happy Thanksgiving” cards for FOCUS pantry recipients.

The atmosphere is simple and wonderful: last year, participants felt a true sense of connection as everyone gathered as members of one community, sharing what they were grateful for.

All members of the Beth Emeth community are encouraged to attend! It’s an opportunity to connect, reflect, and support FOCUS’s vital work right before the Thanksgiving holiday. We hope to see you there!

Interested in helping out with the Beth Emeth Craft?

Reach out to Andrea McNellis at
Andrea@CBEAlbany.org



*This year's Chanukah festivities generously underwritten by the Kivort family (Josie, Jocelyn, Robert, Olivia, and Mirielle).
Chanukah Dinner in Memory of Mark Shuket*

CHANUKAH SHABBATON 2025: A WEEKEND OF LIGHT, SONG, AND COMMUNITY

Get ready to ignite your spirit at our **Chanukah Shabbaton**, a full weekend celebration to bring our community and friends together! We are thrilled to welcome acclaimed spiritual facilitator, composer, and prayer leader Yoel Sykes (Nava Tehila) to CBE to lead us in a truly transformative Shabbat and Chanukah experience.



The Weekend Schedule

- **Friday, December 19 at 5:30 pm:** The celebration kicks off with a special **Ruach Shabbat and Chanukah Services** featuring Yoel Sykes, our Adult Choir, Junior Choir, and Ruach Shabbat Band. Following services, join us for our festive **Chanukah Dinner** of brisket, latkes, and more, cooked with joy by our Brotherhood crew. Registration is required for the dinner. Services open to all.
- **Saturday, December 20 at 10:00 am:** Join us for an intimate **Shabbat Morning Service Featuring Yoel Sykes in the round**—a chance for deep listening, spiritual uplift, and learning.
- **Saturday, December 20:** We conclude the weekend with a **Festive Nosh at 5:30 pm**, followed by a **Havdalah Concert featuring Yoel Sykes at 6:00 pm**. This concert is **open to the entire community!** Come expand your heart into the spaciousness of the soul through music and prayer. Registration required for the concert.

Visit CBEAlbany.org/Worship/Chanukah to register for the Chanukah Dinner and purchase concert tickets! Pricing information available on the website. **You must register by Wednesday, December 10.**

DON'T FORGET ABOUT CBE & ME: CHANUKAH EDITION!

For our youngest members (ages 0-5 and their grown-ups), join us on Saturday, December 13 for Chanukah music, stories, and a holiday art project.



KICK OFF THE SEASON OF GIVING WITH OUR MITZVAH MENORAH!

Join us on Friday, November 21, as we light up the holiday season for those in need. Everyone will have a chance to “pick a candle” and help spread joy and warmth by providing special gifts and essential items to members of our community during the holidays. It’s the perfect way to bring the light of Chanukah to others!

SHOP LOCAL AT THE CHANUKAH BAZAAR!

Need a new **chanukiah**, candles, or maybe a festive new Chanukah sweater? Our Sisterhood is organizing the annual **Chanukah Bazaar** right in the lobby during Religious School! Stop by for all your holiday needs on:

- Sunday, December 7 - 9:30 am - 12:00 pm
- Wednesday, December 10 - 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm
- Sunday, December 14 - 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Make your holiday shopping convenient and support our Sisterhood!

CHANUKAH AT HOME

Use these blessings each night to light your Chanukah Candles at home:

*Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech haolam,
asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tsivanu l'hadlik ner
shel Chanukah.*

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all,
who hallows us with mitzvot, commanding us to
kindle the Chanukah lights.

*Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech haolam,
she-asah nisim laavoteinu v'imoteinu bayamim
hahaeim baz'man hazeh.*

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all,
who performed wonderful deeds for our ancestors
in days of old at this season.

(Said only on the first night)

*Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech haolam,
shehecheyanu v'kiy'manu v'higiyanu laz'man hazeh.*

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all,
who has kept us alive, sustained us, and brought us
to this season.

ברוך אתה, יי
אלהינו, מלך העולם,
אשר קדשנו במצותיו
וצונו להדליק נר של חנוכה.

ברוך אתה, יי
אלהינו, מלך העולם,
שעשה נסים לאבותינו
ואמותינו
במים ההם בזמן הזה.

ברוך אתה, יי אלהינו, מלך העולם,
שהחיינו וקיימנו והגיענו לזמן הזה.

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER CALENDAR

NOV 01 SAT	9:30 am Torah Study with Andrea McNellis 10:45 am Bar Mitzvah of Max Malatras	NOV 16 SUN	9:00 am Healthcare Speaker Series: End Of Life Preparation 9:30 am Religious School 9:30 am Sunday Discoveries 11:00 am The Annual Wisley Dupiche Turkey Giveaway 11:25 am All School Tefilah 11:30 am CBEYG Apple Pie Sale/Pick-Up 7:00 pm Meet & Greet with Executive Director Jill Rafferty-Weinisch (Offsite)
NOV 02 SUN	9:30 am Religious School 9:30 am Sunday Discoveries 10:00 am Brotherhood Monthly Meeting 11:00 am Soup Kitchen with Crew Chief Joe Bierman 1:00 pm Wicked at Proctor's with Sisterhood	NOV 18 TUES	7:00 pm Meet & Greet with Executive Director Jill Rafferty-Weinisch (Offsite) 7:00 pm Sisterhood Knit & Nosh - Virtual
NOV 03 MON	6:00 pm Board of Trustees Meeting 7:00 pm Sisterhood Knit & Nosh - Virtual	NOV 19 WED	4:30 pm Religious School 5:15 pm Meet & Greet with Executive Director Jill Rafferty Weinisch 5:30 pm CBEYG
NOV 05 WED	2:00 pm Meet & Greet with Executive Director Jill Rafferty-Weinisch 4:30 pm Religious School 5:30 pm CBEYG 7:00 pm Sisterhood Book Club	NOV 21 FRI	Mitzvah Menorah Begins 5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Services
NOV 06 THUR	6:30 pm Brotherhood Card Night	NOV 22 SAT	9:30 am Torah Study with Andrea McNellis 2:30 pm Can Can Bingo
NOV 07 FRI	5:00 pm Pre-neg Sponsored by Sisterhood 5:30 pm Ruach and Veterans Day Shabbat Services Congregational Shabbat Dinner to follow services	NOV 23 SUN	9:30 am Religious School 9:30 am Sunday Discoveries 12:00 pm FOCUS Festival of Thanks & Giving
NOV 08 SAT	9:30 am Torah Study with Rabbinic Intern Spencer Mandell	NOV 24 MON	7:00 pm Sisterhood Knit & Nosh - Virtual
NOV 09 SUN	9:30 am Religious School 9:30 am Sunday Discoveries	NOV 27 THUR	Thanksgiving Day - Offices Closed
NOV 10 MON	7:00 pm Sisterhood Knit & Nosh - Virtual	NOV 28 FRI	Offices Closed 5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Services
NOV 11 TUES	Veteran's Day - Office Closed	NOV 29 SAT	9:30 am Torah Study with Andrea McNellis
NOV 12 WED	4:30 pm Religious School 5:30 pm CBEYG 7:00 pm Brotherhood Torah Schmooze - Virtual	NOV 30 SUN	11:00 am Soup Kitchen with Brotherhood and Crew Chief Robyn Easton
NOV 13 THUR	9:00 am Mah Jongg 11:30 am NORCC Birthday Potluck 7:00 pm Hootenanny Watch Party Celebrating Jewish Music + Camp + Community		
NOV 14 FRI	5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Services Followed by an Oneg Sponsored by the Eisenberg Family		
NOV 15 SAT	9:30 am Torah Study with Rabbinic Intern Spencer Mandell 10:45 am Bar Mitzvah of Nicholas Eisenberg 1:00 pm Sisterhood Walk 4:00 pm CBEYG Apple Pie Bake Off		

DEC 1
MON 6:00 pm Board of Trustees Meeting
7:00 pm Sisterhood Knit & Nosh - Virtual

DEC 3
WED 4:30 pm Religious School
5:30 pm CBEYG

DEC 4
THUR 6:30 pm Brotherhood Card Night

DEC 5
FRI 5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Services

DEC 6
SAT 9:30 am Torah Study with Rabbi Weitzman
1:00 pm Sisterhood Walk
6:30 pm Prime Timers Kickoff Event!

DEC 7
SUN 9:30 am Religious School
9:30 am Sunday Discoveries
9:30 am Chanukah Bazaar
9:45 am Sisterhood and Brotherhood Member Brunch
11:00 am Soup Kitchen with Crew Chiefs Mia Sager and Andrea McNellis

DEC 8
MON 7:00 pm Sisterhood Knit & Nosh - Virtual

DEC 10
WED 4:30 pm Chanukah Bazaar
4:30 pm Religious School
5:30 pm CBEYG

DEC 11
THUR 11:30 am NNORC Birthday Potluck
6:00 pm Sisterhood Dinner Out
6:30 pm Trivia at the Warbler

DEC 12
FRI 5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Services

DEC 13
SAT 9:00 am CBE & Me: Chanukah Edition
9:30 am Torah Study with Rabbinic Intern Spencer Mandell

DEC 14
SUN **First Night of Chanukah!**
9:30 am Religious School
9:30 am Sunday Discoveries
9:30 am Chanukah Bazaar
10:00 am Brotherhood Monthly Meeting
4:00 pm Soup Kitchen 40th Anniversary Celebration

DEC 15
MON **Chanukah - Candle 2**
7:00 pm Sisterhood Knit & Nosh - Virtual

DEC 16
TUES **Chanukah - Candle 3**

DEC 17
WED **Chanukah - Candle 4**
4:30 pm Religious School
5:30 pm CBEYG

DEC 18
THUR **Chanukah - Candle 5**

DEC 19
FRI **Last chance to do a Mitzvah for our Mitzvah Menorah!**
Chanukah - Candle 6
5:30 pm Ruach Shabbat and Chanukah Services Featuring Yoel Sykes, Adult Choir, Jr. and the Roach Shabbat Band Choir followed by our Chanukah Dinner brought to you by Brotherhood

DEC 20
SAT **Chanukah - Candle 7**
10:00 am Shabbat Morning Services Featuring Yoel Sykes
5:30 pm Festive Nosh
6:00 pm Havdalah Concert featuring Yoel Sykes of Nava Tehila

DEC 21
SUN **Chanukah - Candle 8**
11:00 am Soup Kitchen with Crew Chief Jackie Dupiche
1:00 pm Cantor and Jr. Choir at the Massry

DEC 22
MON 7:00 pm Sisterhood Knit & Nosh - Virtual

DEC 25
THUR **Offices Closed**

DEC 26
FRI 5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Services

DEC 27
SAT 9:30 am Torah Study with Andrea McNellis

DEC 29
MON 7:00 pm Sisterhood Knit & Nosh - Virtual

DEC 31
WED **New Years Eve - Office Closes at 2:00 pm**

SISTERHOOD AND BROTHERHOOD MEMBERSHIP BRUNCH



The annual Sisterhood and Brotherhood Membership Brunch will be held on **Sunday, December 7 from 9:45 am to 12:00 pm**, in the Paul Hall. It is free for Brotherhood and Sisterhood members and \$12.00 for guests. You can apply this amount towards your membership of \$36.00. The Brotherhood Crew is preparing a delicious brunch including French toast, bagels, cream cheese and lox, tuna salad, herring in sour cream, and fruit. The Sisterhood will be preparing and donating kugel, and quiche.

Our featured guest will be Chef Gail Sokol who will be demonstrating one of her special recipes. Chef Gail Sokol is an award-winning chef and educator for over 25 years. She is the author of "About Professional Baking" and "Baking with Success". She served as an Instructor in Schenectady County Community College's culinary department and the Sage College's Nutrition Department. Chef Sokol has been featured on television, radio, and podcasts. She is a regular guest on WAMC radio and is the host of the podcast "Baking Radio." She is a content creator on YouTube; her channel, @GailSokol, features hundreds of recipes and how-to videos, and has over 14,000 subscribers and 2 million views. Gail's website, ChefGailSokol.com, has numerous recipes and baking tips.

Additionally at the event, we will be collecting new mittens, gloves, hats, and scarves to be given out by the St. Vincent's Food Pantry. Also, we are collecting blankets (no comforters), dry cat and dog food, and dog treats for the Hudson Mohawk Humane Society.

Register by December 2 at CBEAlbany.org. You can find the registration form under Upcoming Events, the Sisterhood page, and the Brotherhood page.

WELCOME OUR NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: MEET & GREET WITH JILL RAFFERTY-WEINISCH!



Join us in giving a warm Congregation Beth Emeth welcome to our new Executive Director, Jill Rafferty-Weinisch, as she has officially started!

Jill comes to us as a dynamic leader who has built a career strengthening communities through the arts, youth development, and human services. She is a proven strategist, dedicated to driving positive change, and ensuring operational excellence. Now, she is eager to apply her mission-driven experience to the future of Congregation Beth Emeth.

This is your opportunity to meet Jill, share your hopes for our community, and connect with her in a relaxed setting. We are offering four events:

- **Wednesday, November 5, 2:00 pm**

Hosted by Sherry Gold at Congregation Beth Emeth

- **Sunday, November 16, 7:00 pm**

Hosted by Julie and Andrew Safranko (Offsite)

- **Tuesday, November 18, 7:00 pm**

Hosted by the Glasers and the Alfreds (Offsite)

- **Wednesday, November 19, 5:15 pm**

Hosted by The Einhorn Center for Jewish Education at Congregation Beth Emeth

Please go to CBEAlbany.org to register for a Meet & Greet under Upcoming Events, thank you!

SISTERHOOD CHANUKAH BAZAAR: YOUR ONE-STOP SHOP FOR FESTIVE FINDS!



Get ready to celebrate with Chanukah cheer at our annual Sisterhood Chanukah Bazaar! This year's bazaar promises to be even bigger and better than ever, with a dazzling array of Chanukah gifts and decorations to suit every taste.

Dates (Times): December 7 (9:30 am - 12:00 pm), 10 (4:30 pm - 6:00 pm), and 14 (9:30 am - 12:00 pm)

Don't Miss Out: Our bazaar was a huge hit last year and items flew off the shelves! Be sure to arrive early to get the best selection.

Payment Options: We accept cash, check, and credit card (with a fee).

Proceeds for a Good Cause: All proceeds from the bazaar support the important work of our Sisterhood.

Mark your calendars and join us for a fun-filled shopping experience!

JOIN SISTERHOOD FOR CAN CAN BINGO



A family friendly event for a good cause

Join CBE Sisterhood on **Saturday, November 22 from 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm** for a family-friendly, fun-filled Shabbat afternoon because we “can can can” join together for a good cause and to play some bingo! Your admission is a can containing a non-perishable good for donation to a local food pantry in time for Thanksgiving, plus a candy bar or box to be used as a game prizes. Everybody wins at least once, before we end with Havdalah to celebrate the end of Shabbat. No time to shop? A \$3 registration fee will cover your set of cans. Go to CBEAlbany.org, hit the Upcoming Events button, and search “Bingo” to register.

BROTHERHOOD: WHERE COMMUNITY COMES TO LIFE

President of Brotherhood Jay Hurewitz



As President of our synagogue's Brotherhood, I invite you to be part of something deeply meaningful. Brotherhood isn't just a committee—it's the heartbeat of our congregation's spirit. We show up. We build. We support. Whether it's organizing holiday celebrations, supporting Religious School events, or lending a hand when our Congregation needs assistance, Brotherhood is where action meets intention.

Our work is rooted in Jewish values: *chesed* (kindness), *tzedakah* (charity), and *kehillah* (community). We host events that bring generations together—from our Sunday meetings and speaker series to social outings like hikes and the ValleyCats game. We're the ones cooking and grilling for Ruach Shabbat dinners and Religious school celebrations. Quietly, consistently, we make things happen.

But we can't do it alone.

Joining our Brotherhood means more than attending meetings. It means forging friendships, sharing laughs, and making a tangible difference. It's a chance to lead by example, to model commitment and care for our children and fellow congregants.

Whether you're new to the synagogue or a longtime member, there's a place for you here. We welcome your ideas, your energy, and your presence. Help us continue the good work—and help us grow.

Let's build something lasting, together.



Contact us at
Brotherhood@CBEAlbany.org
to learn more.

Join the Brotherhood for our new monthly Torah Shmooze!

Each month, the Brotherhood will gather for a relaxed and meaningful "Torah Shmooze" — a chance to connect (perhaps remotely, perhaps in person) over coffee, camaraderie, and conversation rooted in Jewish wisdom. Whether you're a seasoned scholar or just Torah-curious, come share insights, ask questions, and enjoy the spirit of brotherhood. No preparation needed, just bring your curiosity and a good sense of humor!



PIE HARD: THE CBEYG APPLE PIE BAKE-OFF & SALE!

Forget the basic fall vibes—CBEYG is kicking off the year with our first HUGE event, and it's gonna be epic (and delicious).

We're hosting the ultimate Apple Pie Bake-Off on **Saturday, November 15, from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm!** Come hang with the coolest teens in town, make some new friends, and show off your baking skills. Whether you're a pastry pro or just want to taste-test, this is the place to be.

But wait, there's more! We're rolling up our sleeves to bake pies for a good cause:

Pies for Sale: The finished masterpieces will be sold ahead of time online to pick up and on Sunday, November 16, starting at 11:30 am. Purchase a pie to level up your weekend!

Pies for Giving: We're donating fresh, warm desserts to our local Soup Kitchen that Sunday, giving us a sweet way to spread some gratitude and warmth during the season of giving.

It's the perfect chance to give back, feel the *ruach* (spirit) of our community, and, honestly, just eat TASTY PIES. Don't miss out on the most fun (and flavorful) night of the year!

Ready to bake? Register now at CBEAlbany.org under "Upcoming Events" (search for CBEYG or Pie!).

Got questions? Email us at CBEYG@CBEAlbany.org. We can't wait to see you there!

WHY JOIN CBEYG?

Are you or a high schooler you know looking to get to know other Jewish teens? Well, CBEYG is the perfect opportunity to socialize outside of school and connect with other Jewish teens. You can meet new people, talk with your friends, and participate in activities planned by members of the board! Dinner is provided every night with food options for everyone. We hope to see you at CBEYG soon.

REYUT

Reyut, our Caring Community committee, is all about spreading warmth and support within our Beth Emeth family. They are a team of friendly volunteers who can provide rides to services and/or temple activities, meals for those who are ill or sitting shiva, and phone calls or visits to those who may be housebound or would enjoy some extra contact. In September, they delivered beautiful goodie bags to our Seniors filled with sweet treats for the New Year to celebrate Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Sukkot. Reyut welcomes anyone who wants to make a difference, no matter how much time you can spare. Contact Reyut@CBEAlbany.org to get involved!

SAVE THE DATE: FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, at 5:30 pm Shabbat at Avila Services and Dinner

SOCIAL ACTION



SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, December 14, 4:00 pm

The Soup Kitchen 40th Anniversary

Mark your calendars for a special afternoon as we celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Soup Kitchen at Congregation Beth Emeth!

Congregation Beth Emeth is proud to host this celebration in partnership with All Saints Catholic Church and Betty Fuller's Soup Kitchen Crew. We'll be honoring the incredible lay leaders, volunteers, and partner organizations whose dedication has sustained this vital work for four decades.

Find out why the Soup Kitchen is a source of joy and warmth for our entire community. Your presence is the best gift, but if you can't attend, please consider donating to our Social Action Fund to help support the Soup Kitchen and all our Social Action Committee's wonderful work.

BEAUTIFICATION

This fund enhances our building with beauty, including flowers for our bimah and in our chapel.

Donations listed were received by September 30, 2025.

Shabbat of August 8 - 9

Ruth Facher Mendel and Family in memory of Benjamin Mendel, Jr.

Shabbat of August 22 - 23

Ruth Facher Mendel and Family in memory of Max Facher

Shabbat of August 29 - 30

Ruth Facher Mendel and Family in memory of Helen Facher

Shabbat of September 5 - 6

Ellen B. Brickman in memory of Norman Brickman

Shabbat of September 12 - 13

Leslie and Roy Auerbach in memory of Edith Nuss

Shabbat of September 19 - 20

Eric Larner in memory of Ira Bloom
Sara Lee and Barry Larner in memory of Ira Bloom
Irene and Alan Richter in memory of Sidney Richter

Shabbat of September 26-27

The Ackerman and Volo Families in memory of Shirley Cohen

Shabbat of October 3 - 4

Leslie and Roy Auerbach in memory of Allen Kenneth Greenberg
Frank and Elaine Flasterstein in memory of Shirley Flasterstein
Carole S. Rosenblum in memory of Max Soloman

Shabbat of October 10 - 11

Marla K. Blumenthal in memory of Belle Stanton Harold

Shabbat of October 17 - 18

The Boyer Family in memory of David S Boyer
Kathleen Meyers in memory of Richard M. Meyers

Shabbat of October 31 - November 1

Robin and Ted Sobol, Michael Stulmaker, and Steven and Lisa Stulmaker in memory of Dona Stulmaker

Shabbat of November 7 - 8

Celia Berk in memory of Celia Spector Berk
Phyllis L Berk in memory of Celia Spector Berk

The Family of M. Michel Dobris in memory of M. Michel Dobris
Joel Dobris, Jan Dobris, and Family in memory of M. Michel Dobris

Bob and Pat Friedman in memory of Dr. Jack A Morrison
Judith Halpern in memory of Susan Halpern Pfeffer
Howard and Dale Schechter in memory of Samuel Schechter
Linda, Brian, and Andrew Schechter in memory of Samuel Schechter
Harriet Spector in memory of Newman Spector
Sandi Zarch in memory of Mickey Zarch Bergman

Shabbat of November 14 - 15

Lynn Aronowitz in memory of Mary Anker Aronowitz
Susan S. Backer in memory of Nona Stern Stein
Eleanor Breinan in memory of Natalie Blum Dorkin
Margie and Rob Dorkin in memory of Natalie Blum Dorkin
Elyse H. Fields in memory of Fannie Bach Seiden
Karen and Mark Glaser in memory of Larry Glaser
Laney, Jeffrey and Ashley Lutzker in memory of Milton M. Tinkle
Donna and Lee Rosen in memory of Robert Avrach

Shabbat of November 21 - 22

Claudia Burtman in memory of Joel Burtman
Bob and Pat Friedman in memory of Bernard Friedman
Lauren Mancuso in memory of Samuel Green
Linda, Brian, and Andrew Schechter in memory of Albert Bernstein
Gail, Hal, Rebekah, and Drue Sokol in memory of Carole Koblantz Deitcher
Andrew and Beth Swartz in memory of Jacqueline Swartz

Shabbat of November 28 - 29

Melissa and Michael Berenbaum in memory of Sandra Cohen Patack
Joanne Davidoff and Family in memory of Ethel Friedman Davidoff
Joanne Davidoff and Family in memory of Gary S. Rice
Joanne Davidoff and Family in memory of Shirley Dembo Raab
Adele Einhorn and James Slover in memory of Dr. Marcus B Einhorn
Eileen Fluster and Family in memory of Jay David Fluster
Michelle, Mark Fluster, and Family in memory of Jay David Fluster
Alan and Elyse Gould in memory of Henry W. Seiden

Donald Hoffman in memory of Dollie Hoffman
 Eric Larner in memory of Abe Larner
 Sara Lee and Barry Larner in memory of Abe Larner
 Jason J. Rice in memory of Shirley Dembo Raab
 Jason J. Rice in memory of Gary S. Rice
 The Ruslander Family in memory of
 Claire Rosenholtz Ruslander
 Rabbi Scott Shpeen and Family in memory of Judith Shpeen
 Rabbi Scott Shpeen and Family in memory of Susan Shpeen
 Harriet Spector in memory of Blanche Brown
 Lisa Steve Molly and Sarah Stulmaker in memory of
 Donald Goldslager
 Herbert and Marilyn Weisburgh in memory of Lillian Weisburgh

Shabbat of December 5 - 6

Bob and Pat Friedman in memory of Lena Myers
 Sherry Gold and Family in memory of Eleanor Adin Singer
 Jackie Itzkow and Carl Ruppert in memory of Jacob Ginsburg
 Jackie Itzkow and Carl Ruppert in memory of
 Clara Stillman Itzkow
 Carol G. Rosenthal and Family in memory of Lillian Gingold
 Linda, Brian, and Andrew Schechter in memory of
 Lillian Gingold
 Valerie and William Sideman in memory of Albert J. Abrams
 Larry and Michele Sloman in memory of Albert Sloman
 Russell Todd in memory of Lola Goldberg
 Sam Wechsler in memory of Jay Wechsler

Shabbat of December 12 - 13

Arthur, Anna, and Nate Bray in memory of David Bray
 Robyn Easton and Family in memory of Roslyn Hendler Cohen
 Robyn Easton and Family in memory of Ileen A. Cohen Duffy
 Leslie and Barry Feinman in memory of Renee Feinman
 Marcy and Jeff Feinman in memory of Renee Feinman
 Jean, Jodie, and Mark Freedman in memory of
 Frances Freedman
 The Hormats Sisters, Barbara, Gail, and Carol in memory of
 Arlene Goldberg Hormats
 Jackie Itzkow and Carl Ruppert in memory of
 Lillian Smith Ginsburg
 David and Geula Naigles Family in memory of
 J. Richard Naigles
 Bonnie and Stuart Rosenberg in memory of Shirley Pomerantz
 Carl Rosenstock in memory of Barry E. Rosenstock
 Russell Todd in memory of Jerald Goldberg
 Harriet Wilder Wicks in memory of Michael J. Wicks

Shabbat of December 19 - 20

Judith Halpern in memory of Estelle Halpern
 Nancy and Barry Simon and Family in memory of
 Harold R Simon
 Sandra and Charles Stern in memory of Rosalind Taichnar

Shabbat of December 26 - 27

David and Jennifer Colman in memory of Dr. Gerald B. Colman
 Harriet Greenberg in memory of Adam Jeffrey Greenberg
 Allen Kaplan in memory of Barrett Jacobs
 Judy and Stuart Madnick and Family in memory of
 Harriet R. Koblitz
 Nancy Yaffee and Family in memory of
 Mildred Yaffee Strosberg

Shabbat of January 2 - 3

Ruth Facher Mendel and Family in memory of Isser Zolzensky
 Harriet Spector in memory of Miriam Spector
 Sandra and Charles Stern in memory of Benjamin Taichnar
 The Sykes Family in memory of Ada Jean Sykes

Shabbat of January 9 - 10

Eric Larner in memory of Mollie Larner
 Sara Lee and Barry Larner in memory of Mollie Larner

Shabbat of April 24 - 25

Eric Larner in memory of Esther Bloom
 Sara Lee and Barry Larner in memory of Esther Bloom

Shabbat of May 29 - 30

Eric Larner in memory of Benjamin Bloom
 Sara Lee and Barry Larner in memory of Benjamin Bloom

Perpetual Memorial

Perpetual Memorials ensure that Kaddish will always be recited for your loved ones. Each year the name is added to the Kaddish list and a plaque is hung in the Chapel or Sanctuary. Notices are sent to remind you of the upcoming yahrzeits and names are listed in the Bulletin.

To learn more about Perpetual Memorials,
 contact Rose Buell at 518.436.9761 x240
 or email Rose@CBEAlbany.org.

DONATIONS

Thank you to all of our generous donors! This list includes gifts received by September 30.

CLERGY FUNDS

Cantor Emily Short Discretionary Fund

Carolyn and Bruce Ginsburg in appreciation of Cantor Short

The Family of Dr. Robert C. Lieberman in honor of special birthday of Cynthia Freedman

The Family of Dr. Robert C. Lieberman in honor of the special birthday of Marvin Freedman

The Family of Dr. Robert C. Lieberman in honor of Julie Safranko on her election to The Board of Trustees

The Family of Dr. Robert C. Lieberman in honor of Robin Sobol on her Presidency of The Board of Trustees

Jessica and Alan Richer in appreciation of the lovely recognition of our 40th wedding anniversary by Cantor Short

Cantor Emily Short Musical Enrichment Fund

Steven Ostroff in memory of Fran Dembling

Cantor Jodi Schechtman Music Fund

Pat and Bob Friedman in appreciation of Ellie Safranko

Pat and Bob Friedman in honor of the bar mitzvah of Howard Cohen

Pat and Bob Friedman in recognition of the special birthday of Marvin Friedman

Gene Laks and Michelle Rosen in celebration of the Milestone Birthday of our Dear Friend, Sharon DS

Gene Laks and Michelle Rosen in memory of Frances Dembling, the beloved mother of Dan Dembling and Heidi Sabatino

Rabbi Greg D. Weitzman Discretionary Fund

Joan and Harvey Friedman in honor of Marvin Freedman's special birthday

Pat and Bob Friedman in appreciation of spiritual comfort provided by Rabbi Weitzman upon the death of our daughter

Carolyn and Bruce Ginsburg in appreciation of Rabbi Weitzman

Carol and David Grand in memory of our loving cousin Erwin Horwitz

Mr. Richard and Mrs. Kathy Kotlow

The Family of Dr. Robert C. Lieberman in honor of special birthday of Cynthia Freedman

The Family of Dr. Robert C. Lieberman in honor of the special birthday of Marvin Freedman

The Family of Dr. Robert C. Lieberman in honor of Julie Safranko on her election to The Board of Trustees

The Family of Dr. Robert C. Lieberman in honor of Robin Sobol on her Presidency of The Board of Trustees

Robyn and Ed Marinstein in celebration of Marvin A. Freedman's 95th birthday and for being honored by the Interfaith Alliance of Upstate NY

David Edward Posner in appreciation of Rabbi Weitzman - Amy and I appreciate your leadership and enthusiasm

Malcolm Sherman in appreciation of Rabbi Weitzman and the congregation for the well wishes for a speedy recovery

Rabbi Scott L. Shpeen Distinguished Artist Fund

Amy Green Jacobson in memory of In memory of Vivian Green

Rabbi Scott Shpeen Discretionary Fund

Elaine Rubenstein and Malcolm Sherman in honor of the 95th birthday of Marvin Freedman.

Cindy Urbach in memory of Lynne Scharfman Brill

Cindy Urbach in memory of Lisa Movitz

HELPING OUR SYNAGOGUE

Brotherhood General Fund

Leslie and Barry Feinman in memory of Thomas Hunt

Jeffrey Kellert & Robert Piechota in memory of Frances Dembling

Capital Improvements Fund

Margie and Rob Dorkin in celebration of Kathy and Billy Golderman's special anniversary

Jackie Dupiche in memory of Wisley Dupiche

Robin Sobol in appreciation of Garry Sanders

Robin Sobol in appreciation of Jeff Sperber

Cemetery Contribution Fund

Kenneth Schere and Robert Schere in memory of Frances Wilson Schere

Ellen Herkowitz Judaic Art Fund

Eileen Fluster in memory of Lisa Movitz, daughter of Pat and Rob Friedman

Eileen Fluster in memory of Thomas Hunt

Fund For Jewish Education

Bernard, Diane, Jennifer, and Brian Kern in memory of Lucille Reichel Sacks

General Fund

Betsy Feldstein in appreciation of of Spencer Mandell on leading the recent evening service of Libby Godfried

Betsy Feldstein in memory of Libby Godfried on her recent unveiling

George and Nancy Forrest in memory of Marilyn Brass

George and Nancy Forrest in celebration of the bar mitzvah of Kenneth Hartman

George and Nancy Forrest in memory of Fran Dembling

George and Nancy Forrest

Genie and Gary Greenhouse in celebration of Marvin Freedman's birthday

Raymond and Sigrid Naar in honor of Mirielle Kivort in getting her degree in three years

David Edward Posner in appreciation of Kathy and Billy Golderman

David Posner in appreciation of Kathy and Billy Golderman

Andy and Julie Safranko in memory of Lisa Friedman Movitz

Ellie Safranko in honor of Marvin A. Freedman's 95th birthday

Lurie Wander Fund for Sukkot

Sara Lee and Barry Larner in honor of Eileen and Greg Lurie's 55th Anniversary

Sara Lee and Barry Larner in honor of Paul Lurie, grandson of Greg and Eileen, graduation from Bethlehem High School

Sara Lee and Barry Larner in honor of granddaughters of Fred and Toby Wander's high school graduation

Eileen and Greg Lurie other wishing you a speedy recovery to Larry Gordon

Eileen and Greg Lurie in memory of Lisa Movitz, daughter of Pat and Bob Friedman

Toby and Fred Wander in memory of Fran Dembling

HELPING OUR WORLD

David Goodman Reyut/Caring Community Fund

Rabbi Ami Monson in memory of Frances Dembling {z"l}

Deborah M Sokoler in memory of David Weiss

Social Action

Kathleen Boyer in memory of Wisley Dupiche

Michael Marmulstein and Anne Rosenblum in honor of the 60th wedding anniversary of Sherry and Steve Einhorn

Social Action Tzedakah Fund

Jackie Dupiche in memory of Wisley Dupiche

Jane and David Kadish in honor of the special anniversary of Sherry and Steven Einhorn

Robyn and Ed Marinstein in appreciation of Rabbinic Intern Spencer Mandell for officiating with heart and kindness at the unveiling of Elliott F. Marinstein

Terry Strong in celebration of Shirley & Herb Gordon's Special Anniversary

HELPING OUR CHILDREN

David Iselin Memorial CBEYG Fund

Ceil and Richard Friedenthal in memory of Lisa Movitz, daughter of Pat and Bob Friedman

Discovery Center (Parenting Center)

Rona and Michael Wilker in honor of Carolyn and Bruce Ginsburg's daughter's wedding

Rona and Michael Wilker in honor of Donna and Andy Goldslager's daughter's marriage

Fund For Jewish Education

Bernard, Diane, Jennifer, and Brian Kern in memory of Lucille Reichel Sacks

Nancy Yaffee and Family in celebration of Steve and Sherry Einhorn's special anniversary

Larner Family Tree of Life 2025-2026

Nancy Yaffee and Family in celebration of Steve & Sherry Einhorn's special anniversary

YAHREZEIT - NOVEMBER & DECEMBER

If you wish to have a name included on our Shabbat Kaddish list, please contact Rose at 518.436.9761 x240 or ClergyAdmin@CBEAlbany.org. Please submit requests by the Thursday of the week the name is to be read.

Shabbat of November 7-8

Mickey Zarch Bergman
Celia Spector Berk
Lillian Mann Blair
Etta Hegleman Bolz
Aaron Brilleman
Sarah Gordon Buchman
Tessie Prager Cohn
M. Michel Dobris
Mildred Efron
Jane M. Elitzer
Harold Feigenbaum
Pauline Gabrilove
Michael Greenberg
Babette Handler
David Herbst
Rose O. Herkowitz
Mildred Kahn Horowitz
Dr. David L. Kaskel
Joseph Katz
Ruth Marion Katz
Julius Leefson
Hilda Leff
Sylvan Leff
Charles Marcus
Rose Z. Marinstein
Dr. Jack A. Morrison
Grace Barnet Muhlfelder
Sidney R. Nathan
Settie Newman
Joseph Nusbaum
Mayme Newhof Peck
Susan Halpern Pfeffer
Leah Pais Sacks
Samuel Schechter
Esther S. Simon
Newman Spector
Cora K. Swartz
Gerson Tabak
Stanley Joseph Weintraub
Dr. Lothar Wirth
Mary C. Wolk

Shabbat of November 14-15

Rita Hersh Abrams
Mary Anker Aronowitz
Bertram M. Aufsesser
Ferdinand M Aufsesser
Robert Avrach
Myrtle F. Berman
Arnold Bloom
Myron Bookstein
Sidney Buchdahl
Julius Cohn
Helen Levy Cohn
Jacob Doctor
Natalie Blum Dorkin
Martin Faust
David Fisher
Teresa Milstein Freedman
Amy Goldstein Fuld
Larry Glaser
Kathryn Goldberg
Hannah Blatner Goldsmith
Dorothy Luria Goodman
Edith K. Green
Gustave M. Heart
Henry Hirschfeld
Lena R. Kessler
Julius Laventall
Leonore G. Lebowitz
Ellison J. Lewis
Max Lutsky
Sophie Brownstein Pearl
Barnett Pickar
Robert C. Poskanzer
Helene S. Ray
Elsie M. Richter
Louis M. Rosenberg
Arthur Schwartz
Fannie Bach Seiden
Ellis Sheber
Sadie K. N. Silverman
Sidney J. Stein
Helen Aufsesser Stein
Nona Stern Stein

Dr. Arthur C. Swartz

Marvin Leslie Taks
Milton M. Tinkle
Sidney Urbach

Shabbat of November 20-21

Morris Abraham
Murray Auerbach
Shirley Basch
Jeanne L. Berger
Benjamin Victor Berinstein
Albert Bernstein
Louis W. Bookheim
Blanche Brown
Joel Burtman
Carole Koblantz Deitcher
Florence Fallick
Fanny Freedman
Bernard Friedman
Sarah Fulder
Hannah Gertzberg
Joseph Getz
Samuel Green
Raymond Harris
Felix Hartheimer
Diane Lyne Isenberg
Mollie Brightman Kern
William H. Klugman
Emma Kulerman
Rose London
Nathan Myers
Bertram Nirenberg
Margi Iselin Passman
Dr. William Schreiber
David Silberman
Florence Olim Simon
Dr. Emanuel Simon
Abraham Spitzer
Lucille Mock Stein
Jacqueline K. Swartz
Theresa Katz Weil

Shabbat of November 27-28

G. Garfield Barnet
E. Martin Blumenthal
Ethel Friedman Davidoff
Dr. Marcus B. Einhorn
Israel Fellman
Jay David Fluster
Franklin B. Fuld
Harold Gabrilove
David Glick
Ruby Summer Gold
Donald Goldslager
Dollie Hoffman
Frederick Michael Jacobson
Ida Cohen Jasper
Philip Kartzman
David M. Kay
Harry Kaye
Leah Koretz
Abraham Lerner
Daisy Levison
Barry Jay Lippman
Arnold Marinstein
Esther Doris Mitkoff
David Muhlfelder
Blanch Oppenheim Myers
Jacob Olshin
Sandra Cohen Patack
Mancia Esther Propp
Shirley Dembo Raab
Gary S. Rice
Claire Rosenholtz Ruslander
Frances Wilson Schere
Henry W. Seiden
Susan Shpeen
Judith Shpeen
Arnold Spaner
Mayer Stern
Rosa Mann Stern
Mathew Vener
Mina Waldman
Lillian Weisburgh

Shabbat of December 5-6

Hyman Aberman
 Albert J. Abrams
 Milton W. Alexander
 Mildred Thau Bernard
 Berte Yunich Bisher
 Louis C. Boochever
 Sylvia Braun
 Martin M. Davidson
 Ruth Dordick
 Joseph H. Einhorn
 Abraham Benjamin Fisher
 Morris Gersowitz
 Louis Gertskin
 Lillian Gingold
 Iola Goldberg
 Myron Gordon, M.D.
 Ruth Schonberg Holland
 Hannah Cohen Illich
 Kassel Amson Illich
 Babetta Illich
 Martin Kahalas
 Elsa Aufsesser Kohn
 Milton Levitz
 Cerf J. Levy
 David H. Lewis
 S. Charles Meislin
 Samuel Mendleson
 Rebecca Miller
 Hannah Abraham Muhlfelder
 Lena Myers
 Lorraine Boltt Paul
 Bertha Markstein Peckerman
 William J. Reinhart
 Anne Ruge
 Joseph L. Sherman
 Helen R. Shulman
 Eleanor Adin Singer
 Albert Sloman
 Caroline Schuster Swartz
 Jacob Harris Tucker
 Jay Wechsler
 Edward Wilcove
 Benjamin Zuckerman

Shabbat of December 12-13

Dr. Louis E. Blair
 Myer H. Blatner
 Pearl Tauber Blumenthal
 Sophie White Boochever

David Bray
 Roslyn Hendler Cohen
 Esther Cooper
 Gilbert Doctor
 Dr. Jacob A. Drooz
 Ileen A. Cohen Duffy
 Fannie E. Erlich
 Renee Feinman
 Albert Fox
 Frances Freedman
 Mary Pohly Friedman
 Belle D. Fulder
 Jerald Goldberg
 Arlene Goldberg Hormats
 Henrietta Klugman
 Emil G. Koretz
 Sarah Shoor Lerner
 Ira N. Levison
 Dorothy Cohen Levitz
 Augusta Lewi
 Elsie K. Lieberman
 Pearl Adels Loeb
 Max Malkin
 Fannie Mann
 Samuel Marks
 Albert I. Marx
 Howard Meyers
 Molly Mosher
 William Mosher
 J. Richard Naigles
 Samuel Newman
 Shirley Pomerantz
 Julia Price
 Barry E. Rosenstock
 Arthur Rosenthal
 Jacob Schuster
 Sophie Illich Schwartz
 Irving K. Skitol
 Leonard S. Smith
 Pearl Steinbock Starman
 Charles M. Stern, Jr.
 Charles Stone
 Solomon Susholz
 Elizabeth Cohn Weisberg
 Mildred B. Wennar
 Michael J. Wicks

Shabbat of December 19-20

Louis J. Aker
 Mathilda H. Anker

Max Aronowitz
 William Barnet
 Rachel Lea Blum
 Edith Bookstein
 Fanny Brilleman
 B. Paul Broida
 Morris Brownstein
 Marcia Dolgin Cohen
 Regina Cohn
 Helen M. Englander
 Moses Ettinger
 Rosa Foreman
 Jacob S. Friedman
 Samuel E. Fulder
 Louis Galeav
 Mark J. Getz
 Katie Ryzow Goldmeer
 Susan Weinstock Greenstein
 Fanny B. Greenstein
 Estelle Halpern
 Siegmund Illich
 Hannah R. Jaffe
 Minnie Apfelbaum Joseph
 Zoe Paley Knapik
 Kurt Landsberger
 Isaac May
 Sylvia Newell
 Karl E. Nisoff
 Louis Waldman Oppenheim
 Joseph Paley
 Max Rogers
 Hannalore Rosen
 Rosa Rosengarden
 Anna Rubin
 Lucille Reichel Sacks
 Dora Levine Shacter
 Harold R. Simon
 Caroline Sonnenfeld
 Theodore Sonnenfeld
 Celia Sonnenfeld
 Ann Marks Spaner
 Suzanne H. Stein
 Rosalind Taichnar
 Louis R. Yaguda

Shabbat of December 26-27

Lillian Anker Adamson
 Simon Ballin
 Sheldon Basch
 Emma Singer Bauer

Anne C. Begleiter
 Dr. Morris Bellin
 Esther Marks Berinstein
 Frank Braun
 Gail Robin Caplan
 Fannette Peltyn Carton
 Nathan Cohen
 Meyer "Red" Cohen
 Dr. Milton Cohn
 Dr. Gerald B. Colman
 Louis Dorman
 Mae Finklestein
 Anita R. Gilbert
 Vivian V. Green
 Adam Jeffrey Greenberg
 Sol Hahn
 Paul B. Hai
 Philip Handler
 Julius Heller
 Nettie Hellman
 Sadie G. Jacobs
 Barrett L. Jacobs
 Harriet R. Koblintz
 Celia Krouner
 Tessie Lauterback
 Frances Brown Maistelman
 Marvin H. Marks
 Augusta Foreman May
 Daniel J. Meckler
 Elizabeth Milstein
 Herman Myers
 David Peltyn
 Ira K. Rosen
 Jerome Rosen
 Anna D. Silverman
 Hannah Sonnenfeld
 Edythe M. Stein
 Belle Muhlfelder Stern
 Mildred Yaffee Strosberg
 Miriam Susser
 Ada Jean Sykes
 Yetta Thanhauser
 Bertha H. Weinberg
 Louis F. Weiss

*****Yahrzeits that fall on
 Sunday, December 28
 through Wednesday,
 December 31, 2025
 will be read on Friday,
 January 2, 2026*****

FROM THE ARCHIVES...

Thanksgiving 100 years ago
From Rabbi Emeritus Scott Shpeen

Thursday, November 26, 1925, was a momentous day for Congregation Beth Emeth. As an active part of the interfaith/interreligious community of the Capital Region, Beth Emeth participated in the ANNUAL UNION THANKSGIVING SERVICE that was held that year at 11:00 am at the UNITY CHURCH in Albany. Rabbi Ransom delivered the sermon, as well as the Thanksgiving proclamation.

What is also most poignant is the prayer for THANKFULNESS that appeared on the Bulletin cover for a special THANKSGIVING BULLETIN published that year and how its message still resonates and rings true yet one hundred years later!

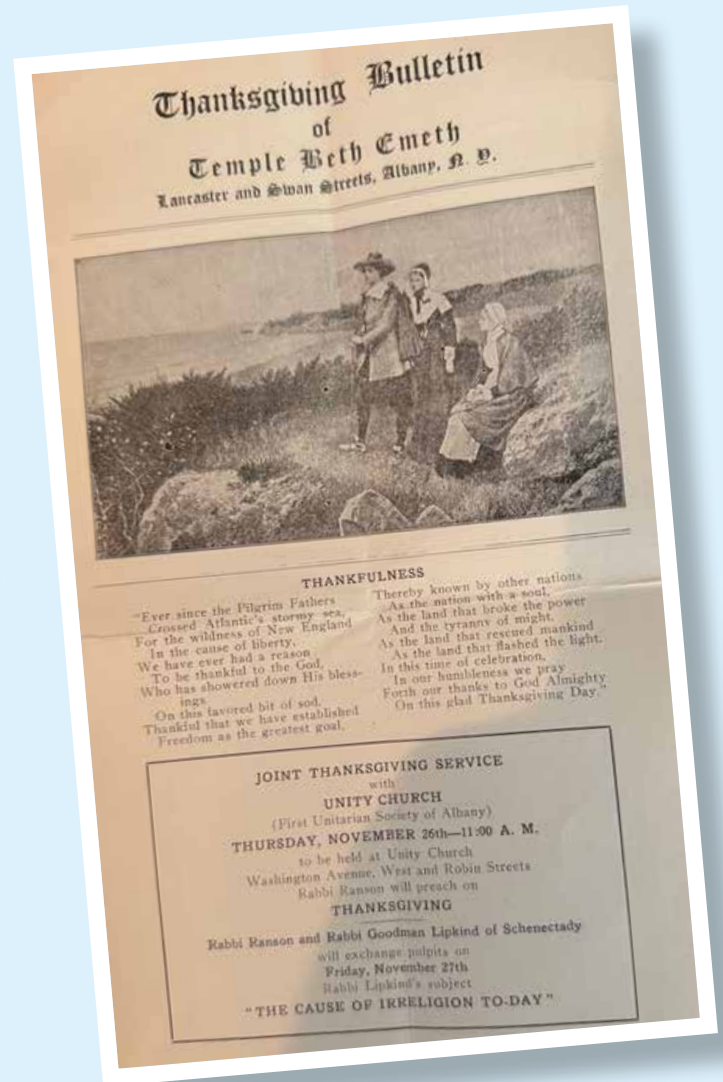
**Ever since the Pilgrims Fathers
Crossed Atlantic's stormy sea,
For the wilderness of New England
In the cause of liberty,
We have ever had a reason
To be thankful to the God,
Who has showered down His blessings
On this favored bit of sod.**

**Thankful that we have established
Freedom as the greatest goal,
Thereby known by other nations
As the nation with a soul.
As the land that broke the power
And the tyranny of might,
As the land that rescued mankind
As the land that flashed the light.**

**In this time of celebration,
In our humbleness we pray
Forth our thanks to God Almighty
On this glad Thanksgiving Day**

A few weeks later, as noted in an article that appeared in the local press, Rabbi Ransom celebrated his 34th birthday on December 10.

It is most interesting to note that his birthday (not a special milestone year) was seen as significant enough to be featured in the newspaper.





ASK BUBBE...

Advice from a Jewish Mother

Dearest Bubbe,

I hope you're having a lovely week! Chanukah is just around the corner, and I'm already seeing all the commercials for toys and electronics. My kids are starting to make their wish lists, and honestly, it's getting a little out of hand. It feels like the whole holiday has turned into a contest of who gets the most presents. Am I missing something? What happened to the real meaning of Chanukah?

Worried in Westchester, Sarah G.

My Dearest Sarah G. in Westchester,

Oy, you hit the nail on the head, dahling! A contest, you say? Feh! Chanukah is not some Olympic sport for who can unwrap the most gadgets. What happened to the real meaning? It's still there, sweetheart, hiding under a mountain of plastic toys.

Listen to your old Bubbe. This beautiful, shining holiday, it's not about the stuff. It's about the light!

*What's the biggest mitzvah of Chanukah? Is it buying your nephew a drone? No! The only mitzvah, the only thing we are commanded to do, is to light that beautiful chanukiah where everyone can see it! We're publicizing the miracle, sharing that little spark of light with the whole wide world! **It's called pirsumei nisa**, dahling, and it's a very big deal!*

*When those little flames flicker in your window, what are they saying? **Gornisht!** They're saying, "Look at the light! Look at the strength! Look at the joy that shines even in the darkest times!" We were a small group, Sarah. We lit a light, and a one-day supply of oil lasted for eight! A miracle! And what do we do today? We light our candles, we sing our songs, and we remember that even the smallest light can push away a whole lot of darkness.*

So, when your little ones come with their endless lists, tell them Bubbe said: "Sweetheart, the greatest gift of Chanukah isn't something you can buy in a store. It's the light we share. It's the warmth in our home." A little gelt, a nice book—something practical is fine. But don't let it overshadow the real celebration. Because when those candles are lit, you're looking at gratitude. You're looking at hope. And that, my dear Sarah, is worth more than all the presents in the world. Now go light those candles and spread a little joy!

With much love and many blessings,

Bubbe

If you have a question for Bubbe, please email Bulletin@CBEAlbany.org

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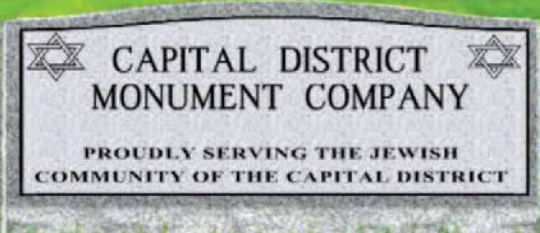
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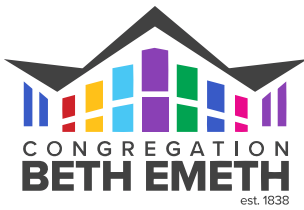
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**CBE & Me:
Tu Bishvat**

Saturday, January 31

**For children ages 0-5
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Shabbat Tzedek

Friday, January 16

**"Justice, Justice, Will
You Pursue" (Deut. 16:20)**