This article was originally posted in the Delaware Jewish Voice as part of “The Rabbi’s Voices” column.

Rabbi Joshua ben Levi, while meditating near the tomb of Rabbi Shimon Bar Yohai, was visited by the Prophet Elijah. “When will the Messiah come?” asked R. Joshua. “Ask him,” replied the Prophet. “The Messiah is at the gates of Rome, sitting among the poor, the sick and wretched. Like them, he changes the bindings of his wounds, but does so one wound at the time, in order to be ready at a moment’s notice.”

Then R. Joshua went to Rome and met the Messiah and greeted him, saying “peace upon thee, Master and Teacher” and the Messiah replied, “Peace upon thee, O son of Levi.” Joshua then asked, “When will you be coming?” and was told “Today!” But the Messiah didn’t come. R. Joshua went back to Elijah and asked why the Messiah didn’t tell the truth, because he had promised to come today but had not. Elijah explained “This is what he said to you, today, if only you will hear God’s voice” (Psalm 95:7).

I first learned this midrash (found in the Tanchuma, among other sources) when I was a high school student at a youth group retreat devoted to creative arts with the theme of the Messianic Age. Since then I’ve always loved it. As a teenager, I found it to be a fascinating portrayal of the hero and savior; this was no platonic ideal of a Jewish prophet or sovereign, commanding armies in Israel toward its redemption. In-
stead, we find a fellow sojourner and sufferer, broken in his own way; found not in Israel but outside Rome, as non-Jewish a place as one can find, sitting with the wretched of the non-Jews. And that the coming of the Messiah requires agency on the part of those waiting for him; the Messiah would come today, if only we would heed God's voice.

The question posed this month as we anticipate the High Holidays is what it will take to bring about the Messianic Age, that time of perfection, holiness and redemption. Increasingly, in Delaware and beyond, we are aware of the suffering of individuals and communities throughout the world. Whether it's Israeli brothers and sisters ducking rockets in Sderot, Arabs fleeing brutal conflict, or the parent in our own city terrified her child might be shot in front of their own home, the brokenness of the world reveals itself to us again and again, and we feel as helpless as Rabbi Joshua may have seeing the lepers at the gates of Rome surrounding the Messiah. And yet, I believe this story from our rabbinic sources can help us understand how the Messianic Age might come about, as well as give us hope.

First, it requires our own agency. We cannot act as if we are helpless, buffeted by the winds of history, powerless in the face of human misery. The theologian Art Green has written: “The actual work of redeeming the world is turned to us in history, and is done by all of us, day by day.” I firmly believe that our choices, our words have cosmic significance, even if we cannot see the greater whole, and we must understand that our actions make a difference in this world.

Second, we must understand it not merely as a time of Jewish redemption, but the redemption of the whole world. If we see the Messianic Age merely as Jewish salvation and relief of Jewish suffering, while the sick and the wretched of all the other nations continue to suffer, can we really speak of redemption? We may be the chosen people, a nation of priests and a holy people, but we cannot do the work alone. Yes, this means partnering sometimes with individuals and organizations that we don’t always agree with on every issue; no matter. We must see each other as created in God’s image, as voyagers on the same journey, and do what is necessary to partner in faith and community with one another, regardless of our differences.

Finally, we must not lose hope. Indeed, we are not permitted to lose hope. This is why Elijah chastises Rabbi Joshua at the end; we cannot give ourselves permission to let the world and its inhabitants suffer, to give in to the idolatry of cynicism. We must see ourselves as doing God’s vital work, listening carefully for God’s voice; for who knows? Perhaps this is the time, the action, that, will bring about the age of Redemption.

**Quote of the Month**

“Be careful of what you hate and what you don’t forgive; because you become what you hate and you may do what you don’t forgive.”

“Unknown”
High Holiday Learning, and a Sneak Peak

September brings the start of the High Holidays – and the start of a new year of learning. Check out the Adult Learning programs for September and the holidays, then watch the website, emails and October Orbit for even more programs.

High Holiday Prep
Wednesday, September 13 at 5:30 PM – Tochecha the Art of Rebuke
Before we forgive, there must be rebuke. How can we do it lovingly and intentionally? Why should we? How can we prepare ourselves to hear rebuke?

Wednesday, September 27 at 5:30 PM - Teshuvah: Repentance and Return
The Hebrew word for repentance, T'shuvah, means, more literally, turning, reflecting the idea that we must turn within in order to return to our true selves, and to being at one—with ourselves and with the Universe. What does this process look like? What does it mean to attain at-one-ment?

Selichot
Saturday, September 16 at 7:00 PM with singer/songwriter Chana Rothman
Welcome the High Holiday Day season with an evening of music and prayer. Featuring Philadelphia based singer/songwriter, musical community organizer, and Jewish educator Chana Rothman, who will bring us her stories and music to help to inspire us to help create better selves and a better world, breaking down barriers towards consciousness and change. This program is also part of Delaware Peace Week.

Rosh Hashanah 2nd day
Friday, September 22 at noon with Professor Aaron Kupchik
We welcome Peace Week Speaker, congregant and University of Delaware Professor Aaron Kupchick to speak on The REAL School Safety Problem: The Long-Term Consequences of Harsh Punishment.

Yom Kippur Afternoon
Saturday, September 30
We welcome Carolyn Gordon of Family Promise. Carolyn will discuss the important work that Family Promise is doing to strengthen our community

Save the Date! Hollywood Bible, the Sequel!
Wednesday, October 18 5:30 PM
Who was Solomon? Did he really say to cut the baby in half? How many wives DID he have? And many more stories that Hollywood loves to turn into films.

Mah Jongg Game
Hadassah presents a delightful Mah Jongg afternoon on Sunday, September 10 from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM at Congregation Beth Emeth. There will be desserts and prizes! Cost is $18.00 in advance or $25.00 at the door. Deadline for reservations is September 3, 2017. Please bring your Mah Jongg set to the tournament. Please make checks payable to Hadassah and mail them to Arlene Eckell, 43 Cornwall Dr., Newark, DE 19711.
Anyone with questions should email Sue Rohrbacher at suerohrba@aol.com.
"Let's Make Our Tomorrows a Blessing!"

What a month! June saw my grandson Jonathan's Bar Mitzvah and I was proud and thrilled to officiate, and our new grandson's birth. Shane Levi is a cute boy (I mean, after all, he looks exactly like...). So June was a blessed month for my family and me.

I hope the summer was filled with blessings for you. We have the month of September to look back over the year soon ending to "count our blessings," and to reflect on even more. We Jews don't have to confess anything to a mortal, but we should confess to ourselves and to clear the account, as it were, with those we might have offended. I always say that it's far easier to ask God for forgiveness than to ask a living, breathing person.

We're in the midst of the Hebrew month of Elul. Those who have actually read my Focus columns across four-and-a-half decades (first Focus on Education, then just Focus, and now Focus Emeritus) will recognize the term cheshbon hafesh, the "inventory of the soul." As it is the last month before the new year, the rabbis said this is the perfect time to raise our personal consciousness: Where did I fail? Where did I succeed? How can I do better? And of course, how can I, as part of a community, do my share for the welfare of others?

Let our deeds make 5778 a blessing. If blessings come to us, too, well, all the better. May it be a healthy and peaceful year for all of you and Israel, and of course, for this blessed world in which we live and all of humanity.

The Caring Committee

The Caring Committee provides opportunities to help members of our CBE community in a variety of ways. They include making soup and meals, writing cards and making calls, consoling the bereaved, distributing holidays gifts and visiting members of our community in facilities and their homes. The Committee meets monthly from September through May. New committee members are always welcome.

Our next meeting is September 17 at 11:00 AM. Contact Judith Insigna at jschnitman@yahoo.com or 302-764-4093 for more information about the Caring Committee.

Caring Committee Soup

Regular and low-sodium soups made by Caring Committee members are available in the Beth Emeth freezer. Any congregant who would benefit, is welcome to help themselves to a container of soup. If you know someone who might benefit from receiving soup, please contact Judith Insigna at 302-764-4093, and the committee will arrange for delivery.

Mazel Tov

...to Regina and Jeff Ruben on the birth of their grandson, Matthew Anson Taschenberger. The proud parents are Rachel Ruben Taschenberger and Peter Taschenberger.

...to Greta and Larry Wallis on the birth of their grandson, Ian Alec Wallis. The proud parents are Dr. Jeff and Jess Wallis.

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JFS

You don't have to be alone. Jewish Family Services is here for you.

- Individual & Family Counseling
- Drug & Alcohol Counseling
- Psychiatric Assessments & Medication Checks
- Youth & Family Support
- Brandywine Village Network

Support for Older Adults Aging in Place

Volunteers Welcome!

(302) 478-9411
www.JFSDelaware.org
info@jfsdelaware.org

WILMINGTON • NEWARK • LEWES
As a child, I used to love school supply shopping. Those were the days long before the supply lists were the length of a novel, and before megastores offered one stop shopping—at least in our colonial suburb. Each year, my friend Carolyn and I would march into the local small office supply store: New notebooks, binders, folders, pens, pencils, and markers all awaited us. I loved picking out the colors and patterns and the exact, perfect products. Comparing notes on the best possible choices. And then I loved putting it all together in my backpack for the first day of school—everything so pristine: the blank pages of lined paper, waiting to be filled with new ideas and new notes; the pencils and crayons still sharp, waiting to be dulled by good use; the binders with rings that still worked and closed properly, keeping the shiny folders in place between the pages. It was all new, all fresh, and all about the new year beginning.

This is how we are meant to enter the new Jewish year, as well. Fresh and new—our souls cleansed by reflection and repentance on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur; our spirits cleansed by time dwelling in the Sukkah as we open ourselves to new ideas, becoming newly aware of the world around us, seeing through open walls, unlike the walls we often put up around ourselves; our world cleansed by the rains that we pray for on Simchat Torah; our hope newly charged as we watch some of our youngest members receive Torah for the first time as they begin their Jewish education, consecrating that moment as holy not just for them, but for us, as well. Their eyes shining anew with the light of Torah. We enter this new year, brand new as we enter the cycle of Torah. Reading each word, each story, and each portion of Torah as if for the first time.

But as we look at the aged parchment, the smudges and marks from generations who have read from the same scroll—we know that’s not really true. We start anew each year—but do we really? Our pencils have been dulled and re-sharpened; our pens have run out of ink and been replaced or refilled; we’ve worn through the holes in the paper so many times the reinforcements no longer work; and some of the pages have been reordered. When we start “in the beginning,” we know it isn’t really the beginning—it’s a new story that picks up where the last one leaves off. Full of experiences—both good and bad—we return once again to the beginning. Because even if it isn’t a brand new start—it’s a new start for this version of ourselves.

A Midrash teaches that upon learning that she would not be the first letter of creation, Alef was upset. Comforting her, God tells her that she would become the first letter of the Ten Commandments—because the world is created on account of Torah—revelation, that moment at Mount Sinai, is the ultimate purpose of creation.

Or, to slightly reframe: Coming at the very beginning of the story is not as important as coming for the best part of the story.

But there’s another piece to the Midrash that we don’t get to see in what the rabbis wrote—a midrash on the midrash, so to speak. Perhaps God was placating Alef by telling her that she shouldn’t worry—she, too, would have a special place. However, God knew that there was a reason why Alef couldn’t be the first letter. Because beginnings don’t start with silence.

The creation of the Jewish people couldn’t have taken place without the creation of the world and everything that happens from the very first day to the day of Mount Sinai. And this new year cannot begin without recognizing, and acknowledging, and learning from everything that has happened for us from our very first day. We cannot read Torah, we cannot learn, we cannot live, without the lens of experience—we cannot step forward in new ways without the reflection of experience either.

And yet, we still find ourselves in the beginning. The beginning of the Jewish year. The beginning of the school year. The beginning of this new year of adventure, of learning, of growing…of life. As we gather for Selichot and the holidays, for the start of the school year, for adult learning, for youth programs, for our tashlich picnic, we all have the opportunity to celebrate this newness together. To enjoy this new year as new selves, having new experiences with new people—both those we meet for the first time, and those who have been part of our story all along. (Continued on page 11)
Philanthropy: Noun - the desire to promote the welfare of others, expressed especially by the generous donation of money to good causes.

Is this how you think of your commitment each year to Beth Emeth? If not, it should be. You are making a donation to a Jewish institution. You should view it the same as you would a donation to Jewish Federation, Mazon, ARZA, Jewish National Fund or any other Jewish, or non-Jewish, institution made each year. I would say that it is at least as important, if not more so. You are ensuring that there will be a Reform Jewish house of worship in Wilmington for years to come. We have families that have four and five (or more?) generations having been members of Beth Emeth. We have some for whom this is their first. My family and I count ourselves among the latter. We are relative newcomers, but I can’t imagine Beth Emeth not being here in perpetuity.

I have talked before, and will continue to talk, about how important each and every one of you is to that vision of an eternal Congregation Beth Emeth regardless of our personal family histories. Our donations to Beth Emeth are what keep us going. Not only our annual commitments, but also the many, many times you voluntarily send in additional donations to special causes and funds. We have had a wonderful response to our Annual Fund Drive which called out some special causes such as the need for security. Our addition of a Contemporary HHD service last year was another occasion prompting many to show their appreciation. These opportunities for philanthropy, and the willingness of people to participate in them, is helping to create a “Culture of Philanthropy” here at CBE.

Congregations everywhere are working to recreate this culture. Moving away from the culture that seems so pervasive these days of congregants looking upon their relationship with their synagogue as fee-for-service. It’s easy to slip into that vision. You pay what had been historically (until about three years ago) called “dues” and you are then “allowed” to take part in synagogue life. While that was never actually how it worked, it could be said, that is how it was perceived. We have to continue to move away from that vision though. We have to move to a relationship where you see the future in each donation. We need to move to a culture where it feels good and right to make your donations, not a burden. It is a shift in how we communicate about it. A shift in how we think about it. Perhaps even a shift in how it is done.

Your commitment allows this Jewish institution to continue to exist. Your donations allow for many opportunities for engagement in Jewish life for yourselves, for other Jews who are not able to make donations and for Jews in the generations to come. You are making an investment in the future of Reform Jewish life in Wilmington and you are appreciated! You are acknowledged! You are thanked! Thank you!

Kim

Hosts are Needed

The Caring Committee is looking for congregants who are interested in including CBE members who may be alone during the upcoming High Holidays, in their Erev Rosh Hashanah dinner on September 20. If you have room at your table for one or more extra guests, please contact Marcia Adato at mmadato@aol.com or at 302-478-8175. Once we identify potential hosts, we will give interested members the opportunity to be part of another member’s Erev Rosh Hashanah dinner.

Schoenberg Memorial Chapel

Dedicated to serving our community with Compassion, Competence and Dignity

519 Philadelphia Pike
302-762-0334
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<th>Sunday</th>
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| 3 (12 Elul)  
NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL | 4 (13 Elul)  
Labor Day  
Building Closed | 5 (14 Elul)  
(10 Elul)  
6:00p Kabbalat Shabbat Program  
7:00p Kabbalat Shabbat Service with Oneg: Themes of the High Holidays | 6 (15 Elul)  
4:30p HHD Torah Readers’ Rehearsal  
6:30p HHD Choir Rehearsal | 7 (16 Elul)  
Board Installation Shabbat  
7:00p Shabbat Service with Oneg | 1 (10 Elul)  
9:30a Torah Study & Service Combination | 2 (11 Elul)  
Ki Teitzei  
9:30a Torah Study & Service Combination |
| 10 (19 Elul)  
9:00a Opening Day of Religious School  
9:30a Sisterhood Information Event & Breakfast  
10:00a HHD Torah Readers’ Rehearsal  
1:00p Hadassah Event: Mah Jongg Tournament | 11 (20 Elul)  
(11 Elul)  
Ki Teitzei  
9:30a Torah Study & Service Combination | 12 (21 Elul)  
(11 Elul)  
Board Installation Shabbat  
7:00p Shabbat Service with Oneg | 13 (22 Elul)  
4:00p Hebrew School  
4:30p HHD Torah Readers’ Rehearsal  
5:30p Adult Learning: The Art of Rebuke  
6:30p HHD Choir Rehearsal | 14 (23 Elul)  
7:00p Shabbat Service with Oneg: Music of the High Holidays | 15 (24 Elul)  
9:30a Torah Study & Service Combination  
7:00p Selichot Service & Concert with Chana Rothman  
8:30p Havdallah & Dessert | 16 (25 Elul)  
Nitzavim-Vayeilech  
9:30a Torah Study & Service Combination  
7:00p Selichot Service & Concert with Chana Rothman  
8:30p Havdallah & Dessert |
| 17 (26 Elul)  
Peace Week  
9:00a Brotherhood  
9:00a Religious School  
10:00a HHD Torah Readers’ Rehearsal  
10:30a Torah for Today  
11:00a Caring Committee Meeting & Baking  
6:30p HHD Choir Rehearsal | 18 (27 Elul)  
(12 Elul)  
Peace Week  
7:00p Liturgical Practices Committee Meeting | 19 (28 Elul)  
(13 Elul)  
Peace Week  
7:00p Liturgical Practices Committee Meeting | 20 (29 Elul)  
(14 Elul)  
Erev Rosh HaShanah  
Peace Week  
NO HEBREW SCHOOL  
8:00p Evening Service | 21 (1 Tishrei)  
Tashlich  
Peace Week  
8:30a Tot Service  
9:30a Beth Emeth Traditional Service  
1:30p Contemporary Service  
3:00p Tashlich | 22 (2 Tishrei)  
(15 Elul)  
Peace Week  
12:00p Second Day Rosh Hashanah Lunch & Learn: Prof. Aaron Kupchik speaking on The Real School Safety Problem: The Long-Term Consequences of Harsh Punishment  
7:00p Shabbat Service with Oneg: Shabbat Shuvah | 23 (3 Tishrei)  
(16 Elul)  
Haazinu  
Peace Week  
9:30a Torah Study & Service Combination |
| 24 (4 Tishrei)  
Peace Week  
9:00a Religious School  
9:30a Sisterhood Open Board Meeting  
10:00a HHD Torah Readers’ Rehearsal  
10:30a Torah for Today  
12:00p Tashlich Picnic  
3:00p Beth Emeth Memorial Park Memorial Service | 25 (5 Tishrei)  
(17 Elul)  
Peace Week  
7:00p Liturgical Practices Committee Meeting | 26 (6 Tishrei)  
(18 Elul)  
Erev Rosh HaShanah  
Peace Week  
NO HEBREW SCHOOL  
8:00p Evening Service | 27 (7 Tishrei)  
(19 Elul)  
4:00p Hebrew School  
4:30p HHD Torah Readers’ Rehearsal  
5:30p Adult Learning: Tehuva: Repentance & Return  
6:30p HHD Choir Rehearsal | 28 (8 Tishrei)  
(20 Elul)  
Kol Nidre  
7:00p, 9:15p Kol Nidre | 29 (9 Tishrei)  
(21 Elul)  
Kol Nidre  
7:00p, 9:15p Kol Nidre | 30 (10 Tishrei)  
(22 Elul)  
Yom Kippur  
Yizkor  
8:30a Tot Service  
9:30a Beth Emeth Traditional Service  
1:30p Contemporary Service  
3:30p Afternoon Service  
4:30p Yizkor Service  
5:30p Neilah Service  
6:30p Breakfast |
Sisterhood

Did you know...

Our local Beth Emeth Sisterhood helps support and fund our congregation and Women of Reform Judaism (WRJ). Through WRJ, Reform women nationally and internationally, have created a unique and vibrant role for women in congregational life. One of the many goals stated in WRJ’s mission statement is to create caring communities, cultivate personal and spiritual growth and advocate for and promote Jewish values.

If we haven’t seen you in a while or you just haven’t been to a Sisterhood event recently, please drop by for a light bite on Sunday September 10, (opening day of Religious School) to learn more about Sisterhood and our efforts to grow and connect as Jewish women in our Congregation and Jewish community.

Hope to see you soon!
Marcia Russakow
Beth Emeth Sisterhood President

Congregation Beth Emeth Sisterhood Fall and Winter Calendar of Events 2017-2018

September 10, 2017 First Day of Religious School – Come say hi at Sisterhood’s Welcome Table! Have a bagel with some shmear and a cup of coffee! See old friends and meet some new ones!

September 24, 2017 Sisterhood Board Meeting

October 22, 2017 “We Love Our Sisterhood Members” Fall Brunch and Ice Cream Social and Mensch of the Moment Event honoring Sue Paul (Free to all Sisterhood members)

October 29 to October 31, 2017 Garage Sale Set Up

November 1 and 2, 2017 Garage Sale Fundraiser

November 8, 2017 Volunteer at Ronald McDonald House of DE

December 3, 2017 Chanukah Bazaar and Vendor Fair

Books and Bagels
Our first book will be “The Ice Cream Queen of Orchard Street” by Susan Jane Gilman. October date TBA. Please email Heather for details at h.m.margolin@gmail.com.

Where there’s a Will There Is a Way

This year the Endowment Committee provided almost $15,000 in religious school and camp scholarships for our students. We are indebted to all those congregants whose bequests to Beth Emeth enabled us to award these funds.

Unfortunately, we are never able to fulfill all requests. By including a bequest in your will to Beth Emeth for scholarships, you are ensuring that we are able to expand our scholarship program. For the donor, there is the satisfaction of helping strengthen our local Jewish community and of providing your estate with tax savings.

By informing us that you are including Congregation Beth Emeth in your will, you will be become a member of our L’Dor v’Dor Legacy Circle. We will post a list of Circle members in the temple lobby before the High Holidays. We want to add your name to our list. We ask no details; only that you have or plan to include a bequest. For information, leave your name with the temple office and a committee member will call you.

Scholarships Available

Congregation Beth Emeth has many scholarships available for Religious School, camp, Israel trips and NFTY program attendance. Applications are available at BethEmethDE.org. For questions or more information regarding scholarships, contact Scholarship Chair, Bill Brown through the temple office by calling 302-764-2393.
**Family Promise News**

**Upcoming Dates:** Our remaining hosting weeks in 2017 are the weeks of October 22 and December 31. New volunteers are always welcome. There are many different ways to support Family Promise and have a personally rewarding experience during our hosting weeks: set up sleeping rooms, drive a van, purchase supplies, visit in the evening, sleep overnight, and prepare and serve meals.

Please contact Judith Insinga at jjschnitman@yahoo.com or 302-764-4093 if you have any questions about Family Promise or for more information about volunteer opportunities.

**Empty Bowl Dinner**

St. Stephen’s Lutheran Church will hold its fourth annual Empty Bowl Dinner on Tuesday, October 24, 2017. Family Promise of Northern New Castle County is one of the beneficiaries of this fundraiser. All of the food for the dinner will be donated by local restaurants, bakeries, and faith communities. Churches and synagogues of the FPNNCC network are being asked to help with this event by donating desserts. If you would like to donate desserts, please contact Sally Dudderar at 302-438-9317 or at s.dudderar@yahoo.com.

**Catholic Charities can pick up furniture donations**

Call them at 302-764-2717 to schedule a pick up and tell them you heard about it from Family Promise. By partnering with Catholic Charities, Family Promise families will receive items for their homes when they move out.

**Save the Date**

Join with Hadassah in celebrating Ann Jaffe, our Woman of Valor. The event will be held on Sunday, November 12, 2017 at Noon at Adas Kodesh Shel Emeth. More information will follow in the near future.

**ARZA: Committed to Pluralism, Equality and Democracy Join Now**

Beginning in 2016 ARZA membership was eliminated from Beth Emeth’s yearly dues statement but this did not end the need for your membership. In fact, recent actions by the Israeli government make your membership more important than ever.

On June 25, the Israeli cabinet capitulated to extremist pressure and froze its agreed-upon plan to develop an egalitarian worship space at the Western Wall. On the same day, it advanced a bill that would grant the ultra-Orthodox Chief Rabbinate exclusive control over conversions in Israel. The Health Minister, a member of the ultra-Orthodox Party, announced, “This decision sends a clear message to the entire world that Reform Judaism has no access to or recognition at the Western Wall.”

ARZA is part of an international network of like-minded progressive Jewish voices working in unison to build a better, more democratic, pluralistic Israel. ARZA also is a major support to developing Reform/Progressive synagogues and affiliated day schools in Israel.

Your support is vital in advancing a progressive Zionist vision for Israel.

Membership is $50 per household. Please join with us and send/bring your check to the Temple Office made out to Congregation Beth Emeth with “ARZA” noted in lower left corner.
MEMORIAL SERVICE

Beth Emeth Memorial Park will continue its longstanding tradition of holding a memorial service on Sunday afternoon between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. This year’s service will be held on September 24 at 3:00 PM at the cemetery located on 1220 Faulkland Road. It is, of course, no coincidence that Jewish tradition also urges us to visit the graves of loved ones during this season.

It doesn’t matter whether your loved ones are interred at Beth Emeth Memorial Park, in another nearby cemetery or in some other part of the country. Join us under the canopy to hear their names read aloud and to stand together as we recite Kaddish. The ceremony is brief, moving and dignified. The natural surroundings provide just the right time and place to reconnect with past memories and contemplate new beginnings.

Because of the ever-growing list of names that are read during the service, we will read the names remembered by those actually attending the service. However, all of the names provided to us on a remembrance card will appear on a handout at the service. If you would like to submit names, please contact Beth Emeth Memorial Park at 302-764-2393 and we will send you a remembrance card to fill out. Please note that, in order for the names you send us to be included in the printed listing at the service, you must submit your names by September 1.

Thank you to our October Ushers

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<tr>
<td>October 6, 2017</td>
<td>Amy and Craig Sternberg</td>
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<td>October 13, 2017</td>
<td>Nancy and Nicholas D’Argenio</td>
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<td>October 20, 2017</td>
<td>Robin and Michael Sachs</td>
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<td>October 27, 2017</td>
<td>Jennifer Yates-Tallon</td>
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Welcome to our new members: David C. Margolies and Sheila Hochhauser – David and his wife, Sheila, reside in Wilmington. David is a retired professor of Entomology, formerly employed at Kansas State University. Sheila is a retired judge from the state of Kansas. They have two children, Rebecca Jenny, who resides in Brooklyn, NY, and Samuel Isaac, who lives at home.

Change of Address Reminder

Don’t forget to contact the temple office at 302-764-2393 to change your address or you may now change your address online. Simply go to our website at www.bethemethde.org and log in as a member. You can manage your account details online. If you have not yet logged in and need a password, contact the office and we will send you a link.

You can also update your telephone number or email address, the same way. Most of the temple correspondence is mailed third class. The post office does not forward any third class mail.
Beth Emeth Film Series 2017

I (We) want to attend the film series. Please reserve my (our) place for the following films:

Film 1...Sunday, October 22 at 5 PM
DOUGH....An elderly Jewish baker is struggling to keep his bakery going. Everything turns around when he hires a young Muslim apprentice. We all knead some good laughs!

Film 2... Sunday, November 12 at 5 PM
DENIAL....Based on acclaimed writer and historian, Deborah E. Lipstadt’s battle for truth as she is sued for libel by David Irving, a holocaust denier. An edge of your seat, chilling story.

Film 3 ... Sunday, December 10 at 5 PM
THE KIND WORDS... Three Israeli siblings begin a journey to discover the greatest secret of their late mother. The trip will be life changing.

Please check the films you plan to attend and send a check for $8 per film per person. The film series begins at 5 PM with dinner and then the film. Dessert and discussion follow. Also, indicate if you will bring a side dish, or salad. We provide main course, dessert and drinks. Reservations are a must. Call the office 302-764-2393 for more information and to make your reservation or signup on our website (www.bethemethde.org).

Name: _____________________________
Telephone #: _______________________

Film 1 Oct.22... Number attending...... ______
I will bring....._____________________

Film 2 Nov.12 Number attending........ ______
I will bring................___________

Film 3 Dec.10 Number attending...... ______
I will bring.............________________

Check enclosed for: (make checks to Cong. Beth Emeth, earmark: Film)

(Rabbi Koppel Continued from page 5)

The letter Bet, the letter that did get the honor of beginning Torah, earned that privilege because it is also the letter that begins the word b’rachah, blessing. The creation, our world, begins with blessing. The letter Bet, open on one side, faces the entire rest of Torah. As we open ourselves to the stories that are part of our future, recognizing that we are, in fact, brand new within this moment of our lives, may we step forward into lives that are full of the blessings around us, living our lives as a blessing.

Adult Bat Mitzvah Class

On Shabbat morning, October 28, three Beth Emeth women will celebrate becoming a bat mitzvah. During the year, we welcome our 13 year olds to the bimah to read Torah and become bar and bat mitzvah. That is a wonderful time of celebration for the young people and their families. October 28 will be as well.

Shelly Duncan, Susan Goodhart and Amanda Lewis have spent the past year learning to read Hebrew, studying Jewish history, discussing life cycle events and all the other subjects that our children learn in our school over the years from Grade 1 to Confirmation class. Each of these women brought with them their experiences of being a Jewish woman, of raising a Jewish family and being a member of a congregation – at Beth Emeth or other communities. But they also brought with them a desire to learn more, to actually stand on the bimah and read from the Torah scroll, to be able to participate in the liturgy by reading the Hebrew words and to celebrate the rite of passage – a bat mitzvah – that was not accessible to them at age 13.

It has not been easy some days to come home from work and study, to leave the house after dinner and go to class, to do research, to meet with the cantor to learn to chant and all the other components of preparing to accept this new role. But they did it!

As a teacher it is wonderful to watch the process and to share the excitement and enthusiasm – as well as being there to encourage and help them over the difficult spots.

Shelly, Susan and Amanda will be on the bimah on Saturday, October 28, at 11:00 AM Bat Mitzvah – like all Jewish life cycle events – is a community celebration. We hope that the Beth Emeth community will be there to celebrate with them and offer MAZEL TOV.

Kiddush Lunch

You are invited to celebrate our Adult Bat Mitzvah occasion on Saturday, October 28 at 11:00 AM. A Kiddush-lunch will follow. Please call the office at 302-764-2393 to let us know that you will be there for the Kiddush. We are looking forward to the celebration - Shelly Duncan, Susan Goodhart, Amanda Lewis.
Community Stocking for Soldiers Project

We are all getting ready for our upcoming 14th year of our fabulous and fun Stockings for Soldiers community project. Our volunteers are keeping very busy planning for this upcoming year of our community effort to send personalized Holiday greetings to our brave young men and women in uniform serving their country half-way around the world, in addition to sending some smiles and hugs.

Thanks to the great generosity of Louis Capano & Sons, the owners of the Branmar Plaza shopping center, we hope to be back in the "Stocking Store" that is located, once again, at the same Branmar Plaza location that we have used for the past eleven years. The Store is located to the left of Walgreens at Silverside and Marsh Roads in Wilmington, Delaware. We'll send out a confirmation once we check with our great Capano Friends.

Our official kick-off date for dropping off donations will be the week of Monday, October 2, 2017 until November 22, 2017. Volunteer working hours will start the following week on October 9, 2017. Our doors will open from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM, Mondays through Thursdays.

How you can help in October 2017:

Please visit our website for lots of information: www.StockingsForSoldiers.org

Here are some of the many ways that you can personally contribute to the success of this year’s Stockings for Soldiers Project:

Start sewing stockings now . . . many of our volunteers have been sewing and stockpiling stockings since January. The stocking pattern is available by clicking on the "Stocking Pattern" link under the “Items Needed” menu. Be sure to use only colorful, cotton fabric and plain white, red or green felt for the cuff. We request that all the stockings be the same size, so please be sure to measure the finished stockings to be 15” high by 9” wide. For easy sewing tips, please see our video link to our great YouTube “How-To-Sew a stocking for our project.

Purchase and donate fabric for stockings and polar fleece for our small blankets. Even if you do not sew, your contribution of fabric and polar fleece is much appreciated and will be used by those who do sew but don't have the funds to buy additional material. You can also cut out the stockings with our pattern.

Collect “gently used” music CD’s, paperback books (no romance novels, please) and gently used DVD movies. (no VHS video tapes please).

Please make packets of "Snowman Soup" for our troops. (Hot cocoa (packet must be unopened) in a zip lock bag.) See our link for the “Recipe” under the “Items Needed” menu. This is a great project for young volunteers to do with their families.

U.S. Flags with Embroidered Stars Needed: We are once again asking for used, cotton US Flags that are old and tattered and can NOT be flown. We will wash them, save their special embroidered stars and use them for gifts for our troops. We will then give the flags to the Boy Scouts to properly dispose of them. Our gifts are called “Starring a Veteran” and will be placed inside our stockings for some of our troops.

Stop by once, stop by twice or as often as you want . . . and stay as long as you want. But be forewarned: the joy and satisfaction you’ll receive from being a Stockings for Soldiers "Elf" is addictive . . . We know and hope that you'll keep coming back to help us again!

Judy Travis
Founder & Coordinator
Stockings for Soldiers – Delaware, Inc.
www.StockingsForSoldiers.org

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Parties

When planning your son’s or daughter’s Bar/Bat Mitzvah parties, please consider using our lovely facilities. Our social hall will accommodate a large group of family and friends. Caterers are welcome; rental is reasonable; there is room to dance, plenty of parking and a great staff to help make your party a success.

IT’S PARTY TIME
List of Funds to Donate to at CBE

ABLEMAN LITURGICAL ARTS FUND - Provides programs, contemporary worship or special musical events during Jewish Music Celebration.

PAUL AND LILLIAN CRAMER MEMORIAL FUND - To purchase equipment, and to enrich school educational programs; to fund capital improvements and maintenance to Temple property.

FAMILY ASSISTANCE - For needy families.

HARRY AND ESTHER JACOBS MEMORIAL FUND - For Adult Education and other special programs.

KEIL-HERRMANN MEMORIAL FUND - To support annual Scholar-in-Residence lecture series.

BERNARD KRESHTOOL MEMORIAL FUND - For Living Judaism programs such as Adult Jewish Education.

MILTON & HATTIE KUTZ SCHOLARSHIP FUND - To help defray expenses of our youth at Jewish camps, conclaves, Gratz High School, as well as school tuition.

EDITH LABOVSKY MEMORIAL FUND FOR STUDENT VISITS TO ISRAEL – Assistance for Youth and Family Education.

DR. LEO AND JULIA B. BLUMBERG SCHOLARSHIP FUND - For the same such purposes as the KUTZ FUND.

DIRECTOR OF LIFE LONG LEARNING DISCRETIONARY FUND - for the Religious School

LIBRARY FUND - To purchase books for the library.

MARGARET MAY MEMORIAL JEWISH FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION FUND - For Jewish educational programs.

MAZON - A Jewish Response to Hunger - fundraising to help solve the problem of hunger.

RAYMOND AND ESTHER MCDONALD MEMORIAL FUND - For activities relating to the State of Israel.

RABBI GRUMBACHER MUSIC FUND - To promote Jewish music with guest musicians and purchase music.

PRAYER BOOK FUND - funding for prayer book and bookplates call the office for pricing.

RABBIS/CANTOR/DISCRETIONARY FUNDS - To support Jewish causes, pursue acts of loving kindness, etc. Rabbi and Cantor has a separate fund.

ROSENTHAL JEWISH BOOK MONTH LECTURE FUND - To promote Jewish Literature and a biannual lecture.

SOCIAL ACTION FUND - To be used at the discretion of the Social Action Committee for local groups in need i.e. Sojourner's Place.

TEMPLE FUND - Undesignated Contributions for general congregation purposes.

VANCE BOLEN MEMORIAL FUND - To support Cadet Aides.

PEARL K. BREGMAN MEMORIAL FUND - fund available for use by the Caring Community Connection Committee.

ALICE SCHIFF MEMORIAL FUND – needs recommended by the Endowment Fund Committee and the Board of Trustees.

ADULT AND YOUTH CHOIR FUND – to promote and support the Adult and Youth Choir needs.

LEONA ELKINS SCHOLARSHIP FUND – awarding need based scholarship to students of CBE studying Hebrew or advanced Hebrew Studies at CBE, Gratz Hebrew High School or education programs in Israel.

RABBI HERBERT E. DROOZ & FLORENCE Z. DROOZ FUND – awards for scholastic excellence.

JUDGE STIFTEL AND YAFFEE FUND – needs recommended by the Endowment Fund Committee and the Board of Trustees.

THE HARRY & BLANCHE WOLPERT FUND - Family assistance fund.

STAT FAMILY GIFT FUND- Religious School camp and Israel trip scholarships

HAROLD & BEATRICE SNYDER CAMP HARLAM FUND- For Camp Harlam Scholarships.

MILTON & GAIL WAHL FUND - subsidize the publishing of The Orbit.

THE MEMBERSHIP ASSISTANCE FUND - to assist families or individual to pay the minimum dues.

CARING COMMUNITY COMMITTEE – To support the Beth Emeth community with care baskets, driving needs, food, cards, etc...

THE CONGREGATION BETH EMETH EDUCATION FUND – for supplies and programs for educational needs.

(continued on page 15)
The Congregation Family gratefully acknowledges the followg contributions:

"Nobody is ever impoverished through the giving of charity." ~ Maimonides

**Cantor Stanton’s Discretionary Fund**
In memory of Mary Timmeney from Esther & Paul Timmeney

**Caring Community Committee**
In memory of Joseph S. Lann from Phyllis R. Lann

**Holocaust Memorial Garden Maintenance**
In memory of Henry Schenker from Verna Schenker

**Keil-Herrmann Memorial Fund**
In memory of Samuel Keil from Anita Hershon

**Library Fund**
In loving memory of Sara D. Wing from Jennifer Sirkis
In memory of Sylvia Green from Susan & Malcolm Cobin

**Mazon**
In honor of the birthday of Kathy Greschler from The Birthday Group

**Rabbi Robinson Discretionary Fund**
In memory of Mary Jacobs from Gloria & Bob Jacobs

**Rabbi Grumbacher Discretionary Fund**
In honor of Suzy & Rabbi Grumbacher's new grandson, Shane and the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Jonathan from Ruth Balick
Mazel Tov to Suzy & Rabbi and Elana & Howard on the birth of the newest member of the Grumbacher clan from Elaine & Ralph Friedberg

**Temple Fund**
In memory of Marsha Sloan from Amy & Paul Blavin
In memory of Bondi Yomtob Salama from Claudine & Andre Salama
In memory of mother, Rose Noznesky from David Noznesky
In memory of Benjamin Sklut from Jan & Rob Goodman
In loving memory of husband, Joseph Godowsky, son, Donald P. Godowsky and brother-in-law, Max Godowsky from Sarah Godowsky
In memory of Maurice Klein from Barbara & Andrew Miller
In memory of Pauline Silber from Amira & Bob Silber

In appreciation of Rabbi Grumbacher for the travel-

er’s prayer for my granddaughter Mackenzie Mager and for the birth of Shane Levi Marcus. from Rosalyn Selber Lieberman
In honor of the birth of our grandson, Ian Alec Wallis from Greta & Larry Wallis
In loving memory of Bernhard Haltenorth from Dayle & Michael Joseph
In memory of Minnie Garber from Renee Chirtel & Family
In memory of Arthur Levin’s brother from Carolyn Kreston & Family

The Congregation Beth Emeth Education Fund

In loving memory of Abraham Pollack from Lori, George & Andrew Ozer

THE IRENE PACKLES MEMORIAL FUND FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS - Contributions made to this fund will enable our high school students to make the transition to college more easily, with regard to their Jewish identity.

THE LARRY ISAKOFF MUSIC PERFORMANCE FUND - Income from this fund will be used to pay for musical events such as cantorial and choir concerts, musical plays, etc.

ARCHIVE FUND - to pay for archive activities.

YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAMMING – for youth and family programs.

THE HOLOCAUST GARDEN MAINTENANCE FUND – Maintenance of the Holocaust Garden

THE TORAH REPAIR FUND – To repair the Torah.

THE JERRY ARENSON LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT FUND - for leadership development

THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND - to provide funds for Religious School and Camp scholarships.

HOSPITALITY FUND – to help with noshes, onegs and other events.

Visit us at www.bethemethde.org or call at 302.764.2393

Yair D. Robinson, Rabbi ☆ Peter H. Grumbacher, Rabbi Emeritus
Mark E. Stanton, Cantor ☆ Kim vonWeltin, President
Elisa F. Koppel, Director of Lifelong Learning

Address or phone number change, call or email: loriannw@cbe.comcastbiz.net

FUNDED IN PART BY THE MILTON AND GAIL WAHL FUND
CONGREGATION BETH EMETH

300 W. Lea Blvd.
Wilmington, DE 19802

SELICHOT SERVICE AND CONCERT FEATURING

CHANA ROTHMAN

SEPTEMBER 16, 2017  7:00PM - 8:00PM
FOLLOWED BY

HAVDALAH & DESSERT
FROM 8:30PM - 9:00PM