

Let Torah be a way of life, and welcome every person as a friend - Pirke Avot

BECOME AN AMBASSADOR FOR EMETH

Becky Neto, President

As we enter a new year the Board of Directors will be working on setting new goals for the congregation. Now that our tremendously successful Capital Campaign is over it is time to focus on where we go from here. When we first purchased this building and made it our spiritual home, we knew we needed to increase our membership. 100 member families was (and remains) the magical number that would enable us to have a balanced operating budget without requiring significant additional fundraising to close the financial gap.



Becky Neto

The South County is rapidly adding new home developments. As the local population grows, there is an increasing opportunity for us to introduce ourselves to new people, including the many unaffiliated Jews already living in the area. People join a congregation for a variety of reasons, and I strongly believe Emeth does a fantastic job of meeting the social, educational, and spiritual needs of our members.

In order to move us closer to our still-elusive (but getting closer) 100 member goal, I am asking all members to consider themselves ambassadors of Emeth and to share all the wonderful and numerous programs we offer. I am confident that once people are introduced to our warm and caring Emeth family they will want to be a part of it. 5778 is going to be a great year for Congregation Emeth!



WALK FOR PEACE & PRAYER VIGIL

Photos by Elizabeth Mandel & Rick Coencas

In August, in Charlottesville, the country witnessed a protest by neo-Nazis and white supremacists. They marched with assault rifles and guns, carrying lit torches, and yelling Nazi-era slogans.

In response, clergy from the

Interfaith CommUNITY of South County (ICSC) organized a peace walk and prayer vigil. Despite the short notice, word spread quickly and over 200 members community (including 14 Emeth families) rallied for a



peaceful walk through downtown Morgan Hill, culminating in a prayer vigil at the United Methodist Church. There Rabbi Israel spoke eloquently about the need to speak out against hate. Read Rabbi's complete speech (on page 11). The local press was extremely supportive of the walk, with articles and editorials condemning hate and praising the ICSC's leadership. Read the Morgan Hill Times article: "Peace Walk Draws Hundreds to Morgan Hill". Read the Gilroy Life editorial: "Love Conquers Hate As SV Locals Walk Together For Peace".

Congregation Emeth

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For the best (color) reading experience, this newsletter should be viewed online at www.emeth.net.

Follow Congregation Emeth on Facebook for the latest news and photos.



To submit articles and/or event photos, please email them to Communication Director / Kol Emeth Editor, Elizabeth Mandel, at communication@emeth.net.

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WE HAVE A PLAYGROUND!

After many false starts and unexpected hurdles, and with particular thanks to **Grant Gordon** for his drive and determination, we now have a playground with a great variety of equipment for the students.

Thank you to **Grant Gordon, Dale Foster, Michael Oshan, and Peter and Elizabeth Mandel** for assembling the playhouse (in the heat) in time for the ribbon cutting on August 20. It is a hit!



Grant and Peter display the final page of assembly instructions



MY CAMP NEWMAN EXPERIENCE

Levi Glatt, EDK Member

I had such an amazing summer at URJ Camp Newman! I made so many amazing friendships and feel very loved. My session, *Hagigah*, felt like one caring, loving, and supportive community. I had so much fun doing camp programs and activities and enjoyed sharing these experiences with all my friends. In addition, I was spiritually inspired by the *T'fillah*, (daily prayer services), singing sessions, and Shabbat services.

My experiences at Camp Newman made me not only proud to be Jewish, but honored to be this next generation of the Jewish people, that will carry on this amazing legacy and traditions to the next generation. It was inspiring to discover my Jewish identity through the making of Jewish art every day. I painted a beautiful and meaningful *Tallit*, that I am inspired to wear regularly. When I put it on, I feel the warmth, love, and community of camp spreading over me.



Thank you to the Emeth Board for the financial support that made it possible for me to have the fun, spiritually enriching, and life changing experiences that I got to have this summer!

September 2017

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4TH OF JULY PARADE: ELLIS & LIBERTY ISLANDS

Photos by Elizabeth Mandel



The float was colorful with participants waving flags from around the world and two Lady Liberties.

For a second consecutive year, Emeth joined the Interfaith COMMUNITY of South County in Morgan Hill's annual Freedom Fest parade. This year's parade theme was "National Parks" and the group chose to represent the National Parks of Ellis Island and Liberty Island.



MAZAL TOV TO OUR SUMMER BNAI MITZVAH!

This summer's Bnai Mitzvah (plural of bar/bat mitzvah) shared, for our newsletter, details of their tzedakah projects.



Raquel Jarson

I chose to protect nature for my tzedakah project. Protecting the environment is important to me. I donated 10% of my gift monies to the Amazon Conservation Association and the Association for the Protection of Nature in Israel. The Amazon Conservation Association protects the Amazon rain-forest. The Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel is Israel's oldest and largest environmental organization. Wild spaces are important animal habitats. We all need forests.

When God created people God took them and showed them all the trees of the Garden of Eden and said to them, *"See my works, how beautiful and praiseworthy they are. And everything that I created, I created it for you. Be careful not to spoil or destroy my world-- for if you do, there will be nobody after you to repair it.."* - Kohelet Rabbah

My tzedakah project is for the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel. This is a very important group due to many ecological problems existing in Israel right now, some of which are the recession of the Red Sea, and sinkholes. This group helps protect the environment from further damage and tries to repair damage that has been done to the environment. I selected this charity because the environment is very important. The fact that this is Israel just makes it more important. Colonization of other planets isn't happening any time soon, so we have to take care of the planet we already have. If you would like to donate to SPNI go to www.natureisrael.org. Or you can mail them at 2 HaNegev Street, Tel Aviv, Israel, 68186.



Nick Lemoff

PROGRESSIVE DINNER: A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Marilyn Freund & Patty Baggese, Sisterhood co-Presidents

31 members of Emeth enjoyed fabulous appetizers, soups, salads, and desserts as we traveled to the homes of four Emeth families for Emeth's annual progressive dinner. Special thanks to **Sharon and David Kirsch, Penny and Scott Doubek, Nancy Fishman and Ronnie Wilner, and Patty and Jim Baggese** for hosting in their lovely homes. A delightful time was had by all!



Appetizers included Steelhead Trout (smoked by Perry Strongin) and the Dubeks' garden-fresh tomato crostini.



Guests enjoyed visiting in Nancy and Ronnie's lovely yard while sampling Ronnie's fabulous soups.



Jim Baggese's cannoli, filled with homemade ricotta, were spectacular!

WINE TASTING FUNDRAISER

Denise Weyl, Event Chair



Over 100 congregants and their guests enjoyed a toasty afternoon at Martin Ranch Winery in San Martin for Congregation Emeth's Wine Tasting Fundraiser. They sampled four award winning wines, music, hors d'oeuvres, and desserts in a beautiful

vineyard setting. In addition to having a good time, every guest left with a bottle of Martin Ranch's red wine to enjoy at home.

The fundraising portion of our event came mostly from our raffle and silent auction, where we featured an extensive variety of items and



experiences to bid on. I appreciate the generosity of Emeth members who donated many of the gifts and experiences.

Emeth netted over \$10,000 from this event, making it one of our most successful fundraisers ever.

We are delighted with our success, but we know that ***the key to being even more successful in the future is simply this: Having more people attend.*** If the majority of members attend this wonderful afternoon of fun and bring some friends along, the number of people buying raffle tickets and bidding on great items multiplies, and Emeth benefits in a huge way., with no extra work involved. We plan to hold another wine tasting fundraiser in the future, so please consider participating and bringing your friends so we have even better news to report next time around!

I'd like to thank the committee members who worked so hard to make this a success: **Aileen & Dale Foster, Brigit & Perry Strongin, Kathy & Rick Coencas, Cathy Silverstein, Debbie Zajac, Dawn Chaffin, and Penny Doubek.** We also appreciate the many local businesses who made donations. **Click here for a list of donors,** visit them, and let them know we appreciate their support.



EMETH'S PHOTO BOOTH: BUILDING ON OUR SUCCESS

Michael Heil, Incoming Photo Booth Event Chair

Our photo booth has become a fixture at the annual Gilroy Garlic Festival, which is attended by 100,000 visitors over three days in late July. Many regular festival-goers come back each year for a photo, building memories with friends and family over the years. The photo booth has also been a reliable and critical source of donations to the congregation from a community beyond our membership. We typically net about \$4,500.

Emeth will continue with the Garlic Festival. In 2018 we plan to build on our successes, continuing to refine our technology and work flow and improving the way we enlist and deploy volunteers. The planning process will include assembling written "how to" documentation developed over the last years and adding volunteer training material for each work station.

And we will extend our photo booth fundraiser to the Morgan Hill Mushroom Mardi Gras.

Held Memorial Day weekend each year, the Mushroom Mardi Gras attracts about 80,000 over two days, making it the second largest festival in Santa Clara County!



We have made an investment in equipment and technology, and we have developed excellent skills and processes to give patrons rapid service. Our investment in photo booth equipment and training, combined with some superior aspects of the Mushroom Mardi Gras (two days of volunteer time instead of three, cooler time of year, easier access to the venue, and considerably lower booth cost) provide the opportunity for us to magnify our fundraising potential.

A team of volunteers has already stepped forward to organize and lead the effort for 2018. To make this year's programs as easy on our volunteers as possible we have already started planning. Our goal is to raise a net of at least \$7,500 this year. Look forward—over the next six months—to hearing about our progress, our plans, and opportunities for you to help.

WHAT DOES A RABBI DO?

Reflections from Hana Cidon's "Kitah Cochavim" (Stars) class (Grade 3 - Bnai Mitzvah)

This is a particularly busy time of the year for a Rabbi so, instead of asking Rabbi Israel for a Kol Emeth article, we instead asked the students "What does a Rabbi do?" Thank you to Morah Hana and her class for taking the time to provide these reflections.

The students all agreed that *Rabbis know a lot—especially Hebrew--and explain things to people. They also lead services and prayers, and help with Bnai Mitzvah preparation.*



There was also consensus that the Rabbi is expected to *"keep the temple going", "run the synagogue", "lead the temple", and "help make decisions".*

The students shared additional suggestions as well:



Isaac astutely observed that a Rabbi is expected to *"pray when no one else wants to" and "help troubled students and adults."*

Tyler noted that, *"A Rabbi would be a great example to a lot of kids."*



Max suggested, *"A Rabbi teaches us about God and what God wants of us. 'Rabbi' means teacher, so the Rabbi teaches us about and leads prayers."*

Jacob O said, *"Rabbis are supposed to love and care about the synagogue as well as God. God is everything, so praising our Adonai is the perfect thing to do. As a Rabbi, you should also take extensive care of your congregation."*

Clara agreed with the rest of the class that, *"A Rabbi helps kids' prayers, knows a lot of Hebrew, and answers a lot of questions",* and she added, *"They are also very nice."*



Ryan thought the Rabbi should be *"someone to talk with."*

Rebekka added, *"A Rabbi is someone you can look up to ... I love our Rabbi."*

EMETH'S NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Thank you to our 2016-2017 board members, all of whom are continuing to serve on the board for 2017-2018. In addition, we are delighted to have two new board members. Please welcome them:

Peter Mandel - Vice President & President Elect

Peter has been a resident of Morgan Hill for over 30 years. He discovered Congregation Emeth when Emeth's Rabbi at the time, Yitzchak Miller, called him; the Rabbi's grandmother lived across the street from Peter's mother where Peter had grown up in New York. The two women had noticed that Peter and Rabbi Yitzi were both now living in an obscure place in California called "Morgan Hill". It's a very small world. Peter works at IBM in software development, but his real job is in the theater where, in addition to performing with groups around the South Bay, he leads the local community theater group, South Valley Civic Theatre. Peter and his wife Elizabeth have been involved with Congregation Emeth for close to 20 years and their daughters, Alexandra and Emily, grew up at Emeth.



Eric Killough - Member at Large & Education Liaison

Eric lives at Take-a-Chance Ranch in Morgan Hill with his wife Beth, his daughter Emma, and their beloved collection of horses, ponies, goat, dogs and cats. He works for the Circle Up Experience in a number of roles and also teaches meditation to high school students at Oakwood School. Eric is a member of Emeth's Education Committee and has been a member of the congregation since 2016. In his free time, Eric enjoys reading, hiking, jogging and thinking of new ways to use the family lawn tractor.



Mitzvah Makers

*Special thanks to our members
for their leadership and support
on recent special projects:*

- ♥ **Leadership at Summer Shabbat Services** - Rich Pupko, Mel Weisblatt, Hana Cidon, and Julie O'Neil
- ♥ **July Emeth Cleanup (in 100+ weather!)** - Grant Gordon; Maria Elena, Aaron & Ari Jarson; Kelly, Eric, Ari & Jaylin Coleman; Eric Kilough; Becky Neto
- ♥ **Kitchen Shelving & Organization** - Cathy & Pi Silverstein
- ♥ **Assembling Playhouse** - Grant Gordon, Peter & Elizabeth Mandel, Dale Foster, Michael Oshan (See p2)
- ♥ **Leading Wine Tasting Fundraiser** - Denise Weyl (see p5 for details, including helpers)
- ♥ **Library Organization** - Linda Reisenberg
- ♥ **Leading Garlic Festival Photo Booth** - Arthur Rudin. Thank you also to booth volunteers: Susan Meyers, Michael Oshan; Jack Shorr; Gary Zarkin; Aileen Teren-Foster, Dale Foster & Katherine Foster; Barry & Marilyn Freund; Mel Weisblatt, Susie & Ken Frieberg; Peter & Elizabeth Mandel; Arthur Rudin, Susan Braun & Georgia Braun-Rudin; Marby Lee, Scott, Tracy & Jason Valentine; Becky & Rachel Neto, Sharon & David Kirsch; Curt Palm, Nancy Altman, Rich Pupko, Grant & Alexa Gordon; Raul Fernandez; Patty Baggesse; Denise Weyl
- ♥ **Pre-HHD Emeth Cleanup** - Grant Gordon, Dale Foster, Peter & Elizabeth Mandel

Be a Mitzvah Maker: Volunteer!

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Eric Killough, Education Committee member & Board Liaison

The Education Committee, formed in May of this year, serves as liaison between parents and the temple Board of Directors. The committee is also responsible for duties formerly assigned to the Principal of the school. Four individuals currently comprise the committee, and more parents are invited to join: Kelly Coleman, Grant Gordon, Maria Elena Jarson, and Eric Killough. These individuals share equally in all responsibilities and rotate leadership of their monthly meeting. The Rabbi, as Emeth's Educational Supervisor, serves as an ex officio member of the committee. The committee meets on the third Tuesday of each month to discuss all business relating to the school. All meetings are open to the entire congregation and alternating months' meetings are designed with a particular focus on parental issues and with the hope that parents will attend and participate. The committee was created directly out of parent requests for increased opportunity to provide feedback and, as such, it hopes that parents will contribute and participate in its discussion and decision making.

NEW MEMBERS!

DOUG & JODI HALL

New residents of Morgan Hill, Doug and Jodi Hall, are parents to Dillon (9) and Lucie (7), two outgoing and active children who now attend Paradise Valley Engineering Academy and Emeth's Chai School. As a family, they love to bike, hike, hang out with friends, and vacation in the northwest every summer. Dillon's passion is hockey and all sports, and Lucie can be found at any time doing gymnastics and acting out plays. They are excited to have just opened Morgan Hill's new bike shop, Bike Therapy, located at the Granary on Depot Street, and look forward to being a part of Congregation Emeth and the greater Morgan Hill community.



SHARON & DAVID KIRSCH



Three years ago when Sharon and David Kirsch decided to retire, they moved to Morgan Hill from San Jose. Both of the Kirsches are attorneys so it took some time to wind down their practices. David is still working on his last case but Sharon successfully retired in 2016. They love to spend time with their three grandchildren, travel, garden, cook and go to the theatre. They recently bought an RV and have set a goal of visiting as many National Parks as they can. Last fall, they spent 3 weeks traveling to ten National Parks in California, Arizona, New Mexico and Utah. David is an avid photographer and Sharon is a UCCE Master Gardener of Santa Clara County. She volunteers weekly at Martial Cottle Park.

MICHAEL & JUDITH HURLEY



Michael and Judith are both retired. They enjoy hiking and traveling and have hiked all around the world. Michael is interested in local San Jose history, inspired by their 104 year old house and their historic neighborhood. Judith has recently begun to study Mandarin (oy vey!). They have been associated with Emeth for many years, have good friends in the congregation and are happy to be members.

JUDITH PELS

Judith is a brand new member living in Hollister. Look for more information about her in the next issue of Kol Emeth.



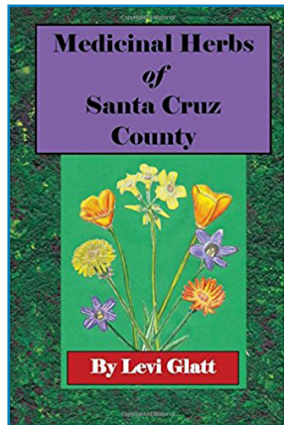
ROBINSON / TEJANO FAMILY

Leah Robinson, Edgar Tejano, son Noah (4), and daughter Adeline (6 months) just joined. You may have met Leah first at the High Holidays last year. She and Noah have also come to Tot Shabbat. Learn more in the next issue of Kol Emeth.

MORE MEMBERSHIP NEWS

AUTHOR, AUTHOR!

Mazal Tov to **Levi Glatt**, son of **Rena Dubin** and **Harlan Glatt**, on becoming a published author and illustrator! After two years of intense research, he has just completed his comprehensive field guide, *Medicinal Herbs of Santa Cruz County*.



Levi says “ Discover the magic the natural world offers by learning how to create your own easy-to-make healing remedies from more than 30 local plants! It was such an inspiring journey learning from reputable herbalists, research that sometimes goes back thousands of years, and the miraculous healing plants themselves. These plants can be appreciated within the natural landscape of Santa Cruz County, the Central Coast, and the Greater California Bay Area.”

Editor's Note: All profits from the sale of Levi's book go towards providing alternative herbal medicines to people without access to preventative medical care. Purchase from Levi or on Amazon (and remember to use Amazon Smile).

TOT SHABBAT

Marilyn Freund, Membership Chair
Photos by Lori Goldsmith

On Friday, September 8, six preschoolers embraced the upcoming New Year by coloring cards for their families and decorating shofars. They also ate apples dipped in honey and round challot, welcomed Shabbat with blessings, heard a story about *tashlich*, and joined Morah Hana for singing and dancing.



MEMBER FEATURED IN FORBES MAGAZINE

A recent Forbes article, entitled “Four Reasons These Entrepreneurs Have Horses for Partners” featured Emeth member **Beth Killough**, her business partner Susan McCusker, and their company, The Circle Up Experience. Read the complete article [here](#).



OPEN HOUSE SHABBAT

Marilyn Freund, Membership Chair

On Friday, August 18, Congregation Emeth welcomed 40 to celebrate renewing the year and welcoming guests. The beautiful Shabbat service, led by Rabbi Israel and cantorial soloist Mark Levy was followed by a festive ice cream social.



REMEMBERING EDWARD (EDDIE) STRONGIN

December 23, 1921 - August 6, 2017

Edward was born in Philadelphia Pennsylvania, the son of Russian immigrants and the youngest of five children. His father was a kosher butcher. He grew up in a very active household—one room in their home was reserved for parties and dancing. He had just graduated from high school when World War II broke out, and he joined the army as an MP. He served in Scotland, Ireland and France, and he would salute General Dwight D. Eisenhower as he entered allied headquarter in Reims France.



After the war Edward went to photography school on the G.I. bill, where he was paired up with a navy veteran, Sarah Segal. In the dark room things started to develop and they fell in love. When she took him home to meet her parents, her mother thought he was skinny and wondered if he was sickly. Sarah assured her he was a very nice healthy Jewish boy. They were married October 12, 1947.

The newlyweds started a photography business in Vineland, New Jersey, but soon packed up their belongings and Sarah's two younger sisters, drove across country to Los Angeles, got jobs, enjoyed the weather, and started the eventual migration of the entire Segal clan out to Southern California.

Eddie and Sarah had two sons, Elias and Perry. When the children were young Sarah and Eddie were very active in a Jewish religious school, the Valley Hebrew Academy. They both held numerous board positions including president.

The couple bought a camera store and photography studio in San Fernando and subsequently worked together there and in other retail stores for the next 20 years. After selling their business they moved to Torrance and their sons went to college. In 1987 Sarah and Eddie retired and they moved to Victorville, California. Eddie quickly got bored and went back to working in a camera shop until he was 81 years old.

Their son Elias contracted AIDS and eventually moved back in with Sarah and Eddie, where they nursed him until his death in 1990. Meanwhile, their son Perry had two sons, Kevin and Ryan. Sarah and Eddie would visit them regularly in northern California, attending all the kids' important events. The grandkids would also fly down for an annual summer visit with their Bubby and Zada.

After Sarah and Eddie's second retirement in 2005 they moved to Morgan Hill to be closer to their son Perry's family. They joined Congregation Emeth where Perry was very active, and routinely had family dinners at his house. In 2008

Sarah suffered a major stroke that left her left side paralyzed. Her speech and mind were not affected but she required care in a convalescent hospital. For the first time since their marriage, Sarah and Eddie were apart, and Eddie visited Sarah daily. Until then, they had been inseparable, happily working and living together 24 hours a day. They were married 65 year when she died.

During Eddie's lifetime he kept up with technology, making the transition from black and white photography to digital photography, and even restoring old photographs with Photoshop on his computer. He always had his iPhone close at hand to play games and keep track of the family on Facebook. His mind was sharp until his very last day.

Eddie was an inspiration to generations of his family and friends. He was a pillar for the extended family in times of hardship or need, with a positive attitude even in the darkest of times. He lived for the grandchildren and loved watching them grow into men. He died in his sleep on Sunday August 6, 2017. He is survived by son and daughter-in-law Perry and Brigit Strongin, and grandchildren Kevin and Ryan Strongin.

TIKKUN OLAM: REPAIRING THE WORLD

Susan Meyers, Tikkun Olam Chair



Susan Meyers

Emeth families answered the call
"Justice Justice You Shall Pursue"
(Parashat Shoftim) this summer.

We joined the Interfaith CommUNITY of South County in a **march for peace and prayer vigil** led by Interfaith Clergy including our Rabbi Israel. Several of our families supported the **Morgan Hill Safe Parking Project** designed to help families who are living in their vehicles find a home. Emeth members brought books, toys, water and dinners to the families participating in this pilot project. And, a committed group of Emeth families serve dinner once a month at the **Lord's Table** in Gilroy.

Our newly created Tikkun Olam committee is designed to bring us together to develop projects that provide opportunities for members to engage in "repairing the world". The first meeting for the new year is set for October 17 at 7:00 pm. Potential projects will be presented for discussion along with your good ideas. Everyone is encouraged to join us as we prepare to meet the call for Justice.



Rabbi Israel

PEACE RALLY AND PRAYER VIGIL REMARKS

Rabbi Debbie Israel (From August 19, 2017)

I've been told that Harold Shulweis, one of the best known rabbis in America, had heart surgery many years ago.

Reflecting on the moment he regained consciousness, he noticed the tubes and wires connecting him to machines

which softly hummed in the background; he saw nurses and technicians and therapists and doctors moving in and out of his room, examining and caring for him. He realized: how silly of us to think we can live our lives disconnected from others. Our lives are very intertwined; we are connected.

We demonstrate our connection to one another by so many of you being present today. This year, this week, more than any other time that I remember, people across our country are coming together in solidarity to say, what happens to one happens to all. We will not be divided by hate, we will not be divided by white supremacists, we will not be divided by anyone who does not see us for what we are: we are one nation,

I was asked today to offer a speech rather than a prayer. We will be praying in awhile for sure but I was asked to give a speech. In my tradition, a call to action is a prayer, speaking truth to power is a prayer, standing up for those who cannot protect themselves is a prayer. Our presence here today is, in the words of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, praying with our feet. Today we are sending a powerful message. The unity of this community, the leadership of the Interfaith Clergy in South County, speaks louder than words. Our message is that love is more powerful than hate.

I am a Jew, a proud Jew, and I am also proud that, since the recent rise of anti-Semitism in our country, the clergy in our community have assured me that if ever our Jewish community needs them, they will be here for us. We can speak in the abstract, we can talk about terrorism in Charlottesville, and urinating on a synagogue this week in Boston, and toppling Jewish headstones in a Pennsylvania cemetery, and Nazi graffiti being spray painted on a synagogue and cars nearby in Colorado Springs. But it is not abstract. Every one of these acts of hate is very personal. But, they also give me strength, and courage, and determination, because I know this community has our collective back.

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti said, "There is still, I believe, good and bad, right and wrong, truth and lies. There are not always two sides to a story. To my fellow ancestors who died because they were Jewish, there wasn't another side to the story." As my friend Rabbi Janice Mehring preached, "We keep hearing the term Neo-Nazi to describe these alt-right,

white supremacists. This new Nazi is the same as the old Nazi. They spew the same racist, xenophobic, anti-Semitic vile rhetoric. We've seen this before and left unchecked, we know where this leads. We know the intention of this band of bigots—to protest diversity, to protest inclusivity, protest blacks, protest foreigners, protest Jews. This hatred has no place in a society that cherishes freedom and liberty for all people."

Yet, there's been a discussion about whether those who were being taunted, who were the victims of the rally last Saturday in Charlottesville, were equally or at least partially to blame for the violence that ensued, and I've heard that from people other than Washington analysts, other than David Duke. I've heard and read, if those people just stayed home and let them have their neo-Nazi rally without giving it any attention none of this would've happened. Their presence provoked this response and so they are to blame too.

My friends, in 1938 and 1939 and 1940, Jews cowered behind closed doors when the Nazis marched through Germany's streets. But in their case, they knew if they were visible their lives would be at risk. They had no choice but inevitably hiding out did not protect them because Nazism was empowered by silence—the silence of good people, the silence of citizens who were not aligned with this evil ideology, the silence of a world who turned their backs.

In the early days of the Klu Klux Klan, African Americans hid behind closed doors throughout the south when Klansmen put on their robes. But this didn't prevent the lynchings, the burnings, the rapes and murder. Again, good citizens were silent and allowed these atrocities to take place in their communities.

But in 2017, we will not cower behind closed doors and we will not cower. We will not be treated as "other". We do not accept that our black brothers and sisters and our Jewish brothers and sisters need to stay home because neo-Nazis are coming to town. We all stand together, stand proud together.

In the words of Martin Luther King Jr., we shall indeed overcome the hate that has been planted in this country. Before the seeds can be sowed, we will overcome. Here is an abbreviated version of King's words as written by Pete Seger:

We shall overcome - With words of hope and love
The melody blends as we join hands with faith in God
above - We Shall Overcome!

Continued on page 12

PEACE RALLY AND PRAYER VIGIL REMARKS (CONTINUED)

Rabbi Debbie Israel (From August 19, 2017)

Sometimes we've had tears in our eyes when we joined together to sing it, but we still decided to sing it - We Shall Overcome!

Before the victory is won, even some will have to face physical death, but if physical death is the price that some must pay, to free their children from a permanent psychological death, then nothing shall be more redemptive - We Shall Overcome!

Before the victory is won, some will be misunderstood and called bad names and dismissed as rebel-rousers and agitators, but We Shall Overcome!
And I'll tell you why We Shall Overcome:

And this with this faith, we will go out and adjourn the counsels of despair, and bring new light into the dark chambers of pessimism, and we will be able to rise from the fatigue of despair to the buoyancy of hope.

And this will be a great America! We will be the participants in making it so! And so as I leave you this evening I say, walk together children! Don't you get weary 'til your work is done.

We shall overcome. God Bless You!

EMETH'S NEW TENANT: ELIZABETH SCHINDLER

INTEGRATIVE HEALTH COACH
& HOLISTIC CHEF

We are delighted to announce that Emeth has a new tenant. Elizabeth is a professional chef who has been looking for a commercial kitchen to enable her to expand her business, Ecor Holistic Food. If you attended Raquel Jarson's Bat Mitzvah, you had the opportunity to sample her delicious cooking. Elizabeth provides personal chef services and cooking classes, with a goal of helping clients eat their way into a healthy body, mind, and spirit. Learn more at her website <http://www.ecorholisticfood.com/>.



ADULT EDUCATION PLANS FOR 2017-18

Susan Braun, Adult Education Chair



Susan Braun

This year Emeth will be offering several new and interesting education opportunities for adults.

Mussar Through the Lens of Pirke Avot

The class, taught by Rabbi Israel, will offer "something for everyone", with text study for those seeking an intellectual approach and opportunities for personal growth for others.

Mussar is the practice of improving ourselves through *middot*, which are characteristics or values. Pirke Avot, translated as "Sayings of the Ancestors", refer to our Sages who wrote and debated the Talmud. These readings will offer lessons for life.

Classes will begin in November and will be held every other Tuesday, either 11:00 am - 12:30 pm or 7:00 - 8:30 pm (depending on whether enough students register for each time slot).

Trip to Jewish Los Angeles

We are planning a weekend trip to Los Angeles, led by Rabbi Israel, to explore Jewish culture and history.

Tentative highlights will include a tour of newly restored Wilshire Blvd. Temple, a visit to Skirball Cultural Museum (featuring a special Ruth Bader Ginsburg exhibit), a visit to Sinai Cemetery to see its amazing mural of American history, a unique Shabbat morning services, a tour of the Anne Frank exhibit at the Museum of Tolerance, and much more.

The date is still TBD... possibly January 7.

Also being considered are a musical program, a guest lecturer/scholar, or a storyteller.

Your ideas and suggestions are very welcome! Please contact Susan Braun at adulted@emeth.net.