

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

CELEBRATE RABBI DANTOWITZ'S INSTALLATION MARCH 19

Shabbat Service of Installation
for Rabbi Faith Joy Dantowitz
Friday, March 19 at 7:00 PM

On Friday, March 19th, our community will come together to celebrate the installation of **Rabbi Faith Joy Dantowitz** as the Rabbi of Congregation Emeth.

Rabbi Dantowitz will be installed by colleague and friend, **Rabbi Mary Zamore**, Executive Director of the Women's Rabbinic Network. **Cantor Alisa Fineman** will join Rabbi Dantowitz to lead the service.

Prior to moving to California and becoming the spiritual leader of Congregation Emeth last summer, Rabbi Dantowitz served as a rabbi at Temple B'nai Abraham in Livingston, NJ for ten years. Earlier rabbinic work included being a Regional Director of Admissions and Recruitment at Hebrew Union College- Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR), the Reform Jewish movement's seminary, in NY and serving as a rabbi at Congregation B'nai Jeshurun in Short Hills, NJ.



Rabbi Faith Joy Dantowitz
photo by Samuel Dantowitz

Rabbi Mary L. Zamore is the Executive Director of the Women's Rabbinic Network, a partner organization of the Reform Movement. Founded in 1975, WRN works to narrow the wage gap, create safer, respectful Jewish communities, and promote equity for all. Rabbi Zamore is the co-leader of the Reform Pay Equity Initiative and heads WRN's Clergy: Safe Employees and Employers program, which focuses on a harassment-free Jewish community.

Alisa Fineman was ordained from The Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music at HUC-JIR in May of 2018, after having served Congregation Beth Israel in Carmel as Cantorial Soloist for 22 years. She began her cantorial path with Congregation Emeth in 1990 whose warmth and appreciation fueled her desire to become cantor.

We encourage everyone to come, participate, and celebrate with us on this exciting day for our congregation!



Rabbi Mary Zamore



Cantor Alisa Fineman

Congregation Emeth

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View our newsletter online at
emeth.net/kol-emeth-newsletter.

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



To submit articles and/or event photos, please email them to Communications Director / Kol Emeth Editor, Emily Shem-Tov, communication@emeth.net.

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EASY WAYS TO SUPPORT CONGREGATION EMETH

There are many easy ways to support Congregation Emeth! We gratefully accept all donations; they are vital for maintaining and enriching our programs. Congregation Emeth is a nonprofit organization, and all financial contributions and donations are tax deductible. Visit emeth.net/donate/ to learn more.

Make Your Gifts Go Further with Corporate Matching.

Employee matching gift programs are corporate giving programs in which the company matches donations made by employees to eligible nonprofit organizations. It's an easy way to double your contribution to us! Some of our congregants work for employers with these type of programs. For questions regarding your company's programs, please contact your employer's HR or community giving department. Much of the necessary information is also available on your company intranet. If you do work for a company with this type of program, please consider applying the matching to your Emeth donations.



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Amazon will make a small donation to a named non-profit on every purchase through their AmazonSmile program. Please name Congregation Emeth as the recipient on your Amazon Prime account. This program generally has to be renewed every few months. Visit smile.amazon.com for more information and to make sure your account is linked.



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Any year, make or model in any condition.

Donate your car, boat, or motor home to Congregation Emeth and help our congregation. Wheezy is a car broker that will come out and quote any type of car. They will even buy non-working cars and pick them up. A portion of the proceeds from the car sale can benefit Congregation Emeth.



If someone would like to donate their car this way, visit www.truenate.com or call them at (800) 899-7054. Just mention that you would like to donate to Congregation Emeth when you contact them.

Connecting Strongly Even in Challenging Times

Rabbi Faith Joy Dantowitz



Rabbi Faith Joy Dantowitz

Theologian Martin-Buber teaches about encounters as “I-It” or “I-Thou” experiences. An “I-It” encounter is a utilitarian one. “Please pass the water.” “Please unmute yourself.” An “I-Thou” encounter is experiencing the Divine in the moment. It is an authentic encounter. Perhaps you’ve experienced this in nature -- on a hike in the Redwoods, walking along the beach, at a loved one’s simcha, or other occasions. It can happen between two individuals who sense God’s presence

in their midst and it can happen on your own--where you feel God’s presence.

In Genesis we read about our ancestor Jacob’s experience with God when he states: “Surely God was in this place and I, I did not know it.”

I am now in my seventh month as Congregation Emeth’s Rabbi and I have experienced multiple “I-It” and “I-Thou” encounters with you. The “I-It” pandemic moments are of course the lines we keep repeating: “Please mute yourself.” “You’re still on mute.” “Your connection is unstable.” “We lost him. Oh, he’s back.” “I can’t hear you.” “Please join in singing with me and be sure to stay on mute. I can see if your lips are moving.”

The “I-Thou” encounters have been amazing. Leading my first High Holy Days with you--all on Zoom--I hoped that months of planning would help. In Judaism we learn about *keva* and *kavana*. *Keva* are fixed prayers. *Kavana* is the intention we bring to them. For example, we can recite *Sh'ma* every day; sometimes it will feel more special than others.

God was in this place and I did recognize it. Not only on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur but in every encounter. From our one-on-one Zoom meetings to informal gatherings, Adult Learning, Chai School and Hebrew School classes — God is with us.

When I logged onto Zoom the first night of Chanukah for candle lighting and saw over three dozen screens, my heart soared. We have found a way to connect strongly even in this challenging time of the pandemic. And it’s good to have our regular “I-It” encounters. They build connections too. We even come to expect whose cat will jump on someone, whose internet connection will be flaky, and who will forget to mute themselves.

As I mentioned in my first newsletter article, I am eager to get to know each of you and build relationships between us and one another in our sacred community. Congregation Emeth is a special place because of each of you. I am grateful to be your rabbi and look forward to many more encounters (I-It; I-Thou) on Zoom and one day, in person!

February 2021

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BUILDING COMMUNITY

Michael Oshan, President



Michael Oshan

Chag Semeach, Happy Purim to you all. I sincerely hope that this newsletter finds you in good health and that you have been able to make the most of your time in these days of shut down. In most years, I find this to be my favorite season. The hillsides have turned green and the wildflowers are beginning to bloom, soon we will be celebrating Passover and our exodus from Egypt and slavery. We see a light at the end of the Covid-19 tunnel with people getting vaccinated and business beginning to re-open. Although our building sustained an isolated case of vandalism over the past month, the real damage was not to our physical building, but to our psyche. The good news is that we had a tremendous outpouring of support from our local community from various individuals and religious groups, which shows that the haters will not succeed in any effort to intimidate or dissuade us from our faith. In fact, I believe we are stronger as a result of the event. Be assured that we have good security and continue to enhance our current systems and surveillance.

As you may recall from my High Holiday address, my theme for the year is building *Kehillah*, Community. More specifically, *kehillah kedosha* or sacred community. Being part of the holy community means to take care of one another as well as ourselves. I believe, respecting and caring for others is the foundation of a holy community. I know many of our members appreciate that there has been a strong presence of community within Emeth even as we have had to close our synagogue doors during the past year. In preparation for the time when we will be able to return in person, many of you have been to our building to work on various projects around the facilities. This has included a remodel of our side entrance area to the building and sprucing up the sukkah and meditation garden. The library is being re-organized as well as the basement and attic areas. Upcoming projects include painting a mural on the concrete block shed in the parking lot and new planting in the front of the building. I am hopeful that we will be able to resume some live, in-person religious services within the next few months in our building with some added features. We are currently exploring the option of having services in our sanctuary which will be live streamed, so that when we do open up, there will still be an option to participate in a zoom format. Of course, this is subject to all appropriate social distancing regulations.

We no longer are renting out our building to a church on Sundays, though that could change as the situation progresses. We still have our kitchen rented to a caterer as we do need that income to assist with our usual expenses.

It is wonderful that so many of you have participated in our Rabbi-led Zoom services, and we thank Rabbi Dantowitz for her beautiful singing and spiritual guidance over this challenging year. This year we have also been blessed to be able to have Cantorial soloist and student-rabbi Mira Weller join us for some services and Cantor Alisa Fineman will be with us for several services this year. A few of our members have relocated to other States, but have continued to attend many of our on-line events. We also have several new families who have joined our Congregation during the shut down. I look forward to meeting all of the new members in person sometime in the near future. Our adult education and religious school have been well attended and praised for interesting programs.

I thank you all for continued financial support and appreciate the numerous hours of volunteer time that so many congregants have put in to keep our community going during these difficult times. If you have not yet had the opportunity to participate in the various programs that continue on-line, we encourage you to read about our activities in *HaMadrich* (our weekly bulletin). Feel free to contact me or any of the Congregation Board of Directors with any issues or comments. We are all in this together and we continue to make a positive impact in the community and as a *Kehillah*. I can be most easily reached through email: president@emeth.net.

Be strong; stay safe.

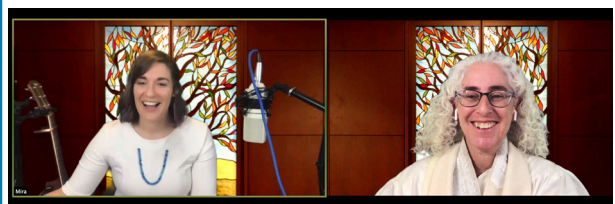
VIRTUAL FUN FOR ALL!

HIGH HOLIDAYS, SEPTEMBER



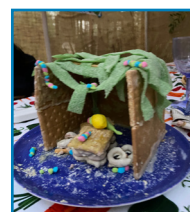
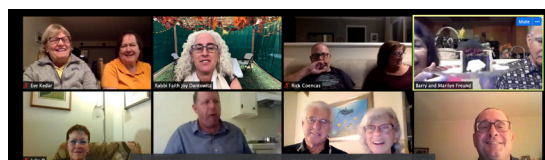
It was wonderful to welcome the New Year 5781 together for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur online services. Thank you to everyone who participated in services and joined our sacred community turning Zoom into a holy space. **Rabbi Dantowitz**, along with **Cantorial Soloist Mira Weller**, HUC-JIR 4th year rabbinic student in LA, made the services truly memorable and meaningful.

Special recognition to Congregation Emeth President **Michael Oshan** for all of his support and the wonderful welcome videos he put together from the Friends and Past Presidents. Thank you to Ritual Chair **Mel Weisblatt** for all of his help finding congregants to participate in the services. Thank you to **Marcia Fishman** and her sisters, **Nancy and Bonnie**, for organizing the High Holy Day gift bag distribution before Rosh Hashanah and to Marcia for her ongoing support as Temple Administrator Manager. Thank you to **Charlene Rose**, our Administrative Assistant, for her help communicating all of the High Holy Day information. And thank you to Congregation Emeth's storyteller extraordinaire, **Peter Mandel**, for his fantastic video with the story of Jonah.

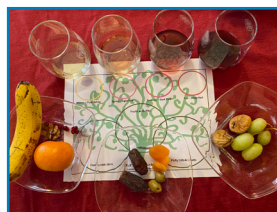


SUKKOT, OCT 2

While we were not able to gather together at the temple to build, decorate, and rejoice in our Emeth Sukkah this year, we could still take time to celebrate this Festival! This was a 'bring your own Oneg' and attendees were invited to make their own edible Sukkah to show at the end of services and then enjoy. It was great to see ones made out of fruit, cookies, pretzels, candies, and other edible fun!



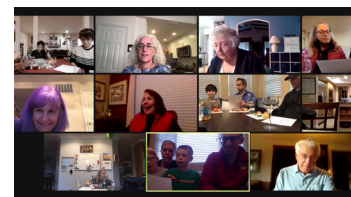
TU B'SHVAT SEDER, JAN 23



Emeth hosted an online Intergenerational Tu B'Shevat Seder as we celebrated the New Year of the Trees in January. This holiday is a time when we are reminded of our connection to the earth and our role as caretakers of the environment.

We enjoyed a seder with the tastings of different fruits and nuts, stories and songs. The seder was split into four sections, each reflecting the seasons and symbolizing different aspects of the trees and our own lives.

The evening also included a bit of yoga (Tu B'Shevat tree yoga poses!) led by our member **Jill Irwin**.



As member **Jodi Hall** noted before the event, "The one silver lining of the pandemic is the ability for us all to be 'together' without putting shoes on, and participate with the kids in ways that we might not have in other years. I always liked the message of this holiday, and remember 'planting a tree in Israel' every year as a kid. I am excited to involve and be involved as my kids learn about the celebration of the trees."

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

WELCOME ANDREA AAL AND BRUCE WALTER!

We are delighted to welcome **Andrea Aal and Bruce Walter** as new Emeth congregants! They moved from Almaden to Morgan Hill and wanted to join a local temple. Bruce was raised Catholic, but has an affinity for Judaism. Andrea comes from a Reform Jewish family. They have attended Emeth High Holidays and a Chanukah Dinner in the past. Bruce is the Director of New Business Development at Amor Organics, helping to feed the homeless. Andrea has had a career in sales, and participates in theater at South Valley Civic Theatre. Both Andrea and Bruce enjoy hiking and watching movies. They look forward to becoming an active part of Emeth.



WELCOME NATHANIAL BATES!

Nathaniel Bates is a physics teacher in Gilroy who joined Emeth to make a commitment. Nathaniel is passionate about making the world a better place, beginning with himself.



WELCOME EFREM CRAY!

Efrem Cray is a technical writer. Upon driving by Emeth often, his Boston cousin inspired Efrem to join Emeth for a temple home. He is interested in religious services, social action, adult education, and our building and grounds committee.



Mazel Tov on new babies
Brooklyn Zoe Noodleman,
granddaughter of **Arlene and Rick Noodleman** (born 11/4/20)
Dylan Eve O'Donnell,
great-granddaughter of
Adrien Drew (born 12/1/20)
Rooney Zuzia Gill, granddaughter
of **Cathy and Stewart Gill**,
(born 12/1/20)

And for the Bat Mitzvah of **Emmie Dubin**, granddaughter of **Debbie Israel and Jerry Dubin**, and niece of **Rena and Harlan Glatt**. 1/9/21

WELCOME MICHELLE RABIN AND FAMILY

A big welcome to our newest Emeth members, **Michelle Rabin** and her family. Michelle, a private practicing therapist, is married to **Larry Hotz**, a high school teacher who is retiring in June after 26 years! They live in Fresno, CA. Michelle has two young adult children -- **Ellie**, a senior in college, and **Jacob** a financial planner. Larry has three adult sons.

Michelle joined Emeth because she loves our past and present rabbis and the warmth of the community. Michelle has attended Emeth High Holidays for the past three years, and she has loved coming to Emeth services. For her, it is a family affair as she now joins her mom **Susan Meyers**, step-father **Michael**



Oshan, and cousins **Patty, Jim, Lynn, and Aaron Baggese and Joan Meyer**. Zoom has made it easier to see everyone now and to partake of services and adult education. Michelle and Larry are boating enthusiasts, enjoying both sailing and speed boating. They also love to ski and travel. Michelle also creates stained glass designs.

WELCOME BACK!

We welcome with joy the following Congregants who have recently rejoined Emeth:

Eve and Trish Kedar

Beth, Eric, & Emma Killough

**Alece, Matthew, Greyson,
& Kassidy Gallop**



ONLINE LEARNING WITH AMAZING TEACHERS

Josh Levine, Education Liaison

This past year, our children have shown us what resilience means. One of our last in-person get togethers was last year's Purim Carnival. As we plan for this year's Purim events, the calendar shows that a year that felt like 10 years is almost complete. Many parents at the time wondered -- and probably still do -- how much virtual learning is too much? Can we ask our children (and parents) to go through virtual school all day and then attend virtual Hebrew or Chai school later that day? All of these wonders and concerns were considered, and with **Rabbi Dantowitz** and **Marcia Fishman's** help and leadership we were able to find a fantastic program and curriculum that would be able to carry us through an unknown period of virtual learning. Shalom Learning (shalomlearning.org) is an established online educational organization that allows our children to continue their journey through Jewish Values and Hebrew education virtually, with an easy transition back to in person learning when we decide the time is right. The silver lining in Emeth's virtual learning has been our introduction to some amazing educators that we would not have otherwise known. Our children and parents have had so many good things to say and share about the experience so far. Thank you to our teachers, our parents and our children for being resilient during the past year.

Please take a moment to read about our teachers:

Chai School Values 1-2 grade and Chai School Values 3-4 grade:

Caleb Robinson (teaching from Philadelphia) is a rabbinical student at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City. Before entering rabbinical school, he worked as a middle school librarian for Washington, DC public schools, and spent 12 years at the US Department of Labor working on veterans' employment and employment-based immigration. Caleb hopes to work as a pulpit rabbi after graduation and is excited to be teaching our 1st through 4th grades! In his spare time, he enjoys reading and hiking.



Chai School Values 5-6 grade and support for EDK middle school age:

Rabbi Michelle Greenberg (teaching from Redwood City) is a talented educator with extensive experience working with young people in informal educational settings. Michelle has designed and led service learning programs, teen advocacy training, international volunteer trips, and peer counseling education. Having taught classes on Holocaust and genocide studies for nearly three decades, she recently partnered with the Galicia Jewish Museum in Krakow, Poland to develop a Holocaust exhibit. Her writing can be found in sermon collections, newspapers, and a textbook on critical thinking. Michelle is currently a teacher at The Nueva School in Hillsborough. She has also worked as the Dean of Students at Kehillah Jewish High School in Palo Alto and as a congregational rabbi in Illinois, Texas, and Colorado. In her spare time, Michelle enjoys travel, photography, and making good use of her kitchen.



Hebrew I and Hebrew II and support for EDK high school age:

Eytan Oren (teaching from Las Vegas) has worked in Jewish Education for 10+ years in many roles. He graduated from the University of Florida with a Bachelor of Arts in Jewish Studies, beginning his educational journey in Early Childhood and working up to Director of Education and Engagement at a synagogue. He has worked as an instructor and an administrator, planning daily lessons and yearly curriculums, working with all ages. He attended Camp Ramah Darom in Clayton, GA for 7 years and returned as a staff member for 5 more, running the Gan program (younger children of staff members) for multiple years. He loves infusing both formal and informal educational pedagogy with Jewish values and Hebrew, but most of all, he loves cooking Jewish food.



DRIVE THROUGH VISITS

photos by Elizabeth Mandel and Rabbi Dantowitz

This year of social distancing has led us to some creative ways to stay connected and build community, including doing some “drive through” events so that we could see each other and exchange gifts,

Thank you to **Marcia Fishman** and her sisters, **Nancy and Bonnie**, for organizing the High Holy Day gift bag distribution before Rosh Hashanah.

As part of the safe Chanukah celebration, **Rabbi Dantowitz** wished congregants a happy Chanukah as she safely handed out goodie bags. Members drove up, remained in their cars and had a nice chat!

We hope to see you next at the Purim CAR-nival Drive Through on Sunday, February 21! You're invited to decorate your car and/or wear Purim masks and costumes. You'll receive *mishloach manot* (Purim goodie bags) and other fun surprises.



VACCINATIONS ROLLING OUT

Blessing for Vaccination

Thank you God for the blessing of modern medicine and all whose efforts helped us reach this day.

Thank you God for helping me continue to uphold the Jewish value of *Pikuah Nefesh*--saving a life.

Healer, may this vaccine bring protection and healing to me, to my family and to the world.

Rabbi Faith Joy Dantowitz

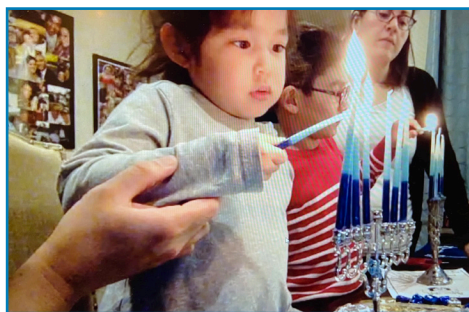
COVID-19 Vaccinations have become available to those who meet federal and state criteria. For information on eligibility criteria and availability, visit vax.sccgov.org/home

COVID-19 vaccination is one of the most important tools to end the COVID-19 pandemic. The State is prioritizing vaccines for equitable distribution to everyone in California who wants it. They expect to have enough supplies to vaccinate most Californians by summer 2021.

Even with a vaccine, you may still be able to spread COVID-19. It is important for everyone to continue using all the tools available to us to help stop this pandemic, like: Staying home and isolating from others when sick, wearing masks, washing hands often, and social distancing & avoiding crowds. Together, COVID-19 vaccination and taking steps to protect yourself and others will offer the best protection from getting and spreading COVID-19.

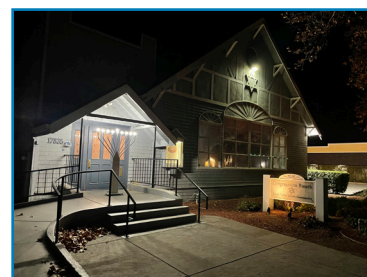
Let's continue doing all that we can to protect ourselves and others so that we can be together again in person safely soon!

ONLINE CHANUKAH CELEBRATIONS

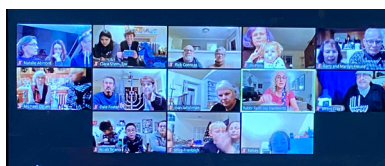
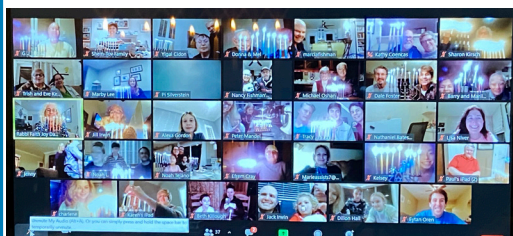
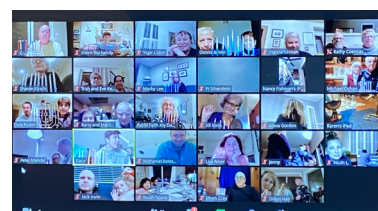


CHANUKAH CELEBRATIONS

For a minor Festival, Chanukah was a major focus this year. It was wonderful to see so many congregants and friends share the light together on Zoom every night of the holiday. The Board of Directors kicked off the holiday with the first night's honors, followed by other members of the community. Each night was special in its own way. Rabbi Dantowitz prepared materials for every night -- from texts about the holiday, to songs, to videos, to live performances -- in addition to the blessings and candle lighting. Special thanks to Peter Mandel for his video skills and time editing the Chanukah story told by many Emeth children (*Judah who always said "No!"*).



Our menorah burned brightly outside the building each night while we gathered on Zoom from our homes.



Night after night we gathered virtually to make this a truly special holiday season.



Emeth families also participated in latke making and fun – led on Zoom by our students' favorite Hebrew teacher, Eytan Oren – coming to us from Las Vegas.



SISTERHOOD CHANUKAH PARTY

Our festive Sisterhood Chanukah Zoom Celebration on December 15 featured Cordon Bleu Chef **Bonnie Fishman** as our guest presenter, supported by her sisters **Nancy and Marcia**. Bonnie created Zucchini Latkes with Grilled Red Pepper Puree extraordinaire!

Special thanks to our Chanukah team: **Marilyn Freund, Marcia, Nancy, and Bonnie Fishman, Patty Baggesse, and Rabbi Dantowitz**, for making the vision for this event come together.

The fundraising from the event enabled Sisterhood to purchase seating for Emeth's newly designed entryway and to donate to Second Harvest Food Bank.

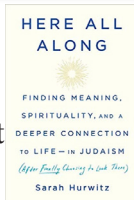


EMETH READS... AND LEARNS TOGETHER

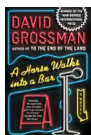
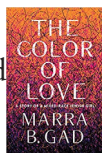
Emeth Reads

Wednesday, March 3, 7:00-8:15 PM

The March book choice for Emeth's next book discussion is *Here All Along* by Sarah Hurwitz. This wonderful book by Sarah Hurwitz, former speechwriter for Michelle Obama, explores the search for meaning. The discussion will be facilitated by *Nancy Fishman*.



Marie Escobar led the December discussion on *A Horse Walks into a Bar*, a novel by David Grossman. Sharon Kirsch facilitated the October discussion on *The Color of Love: A story of a mixed race Jewish girl*.

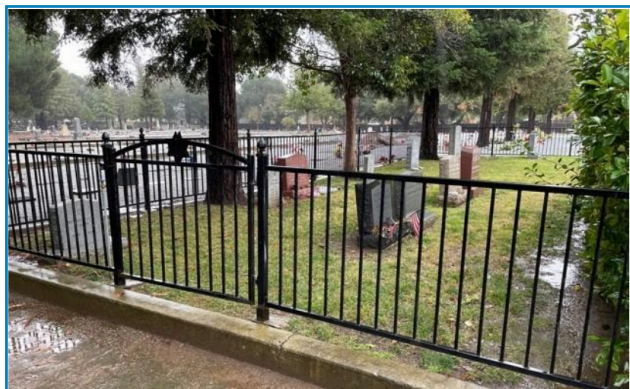


Contact admin@emeth.net for more information.

CONGREGATION EMETH HAS OUR OWN JEWISH SECTION OF THE GAVILAN HILLS CEMETERY IN GILROY

Through a partnership with the Habing Family Funeral Home, Congregation Emeth manages a section of the Gavilan Hills Memorial Park, located on First Street in Gilroy. We are now selling burial plots for pre-need for members and Jewish non-members. Prices are competitive and a portion of your purchase helps support Congregation Emeth. Prices are discounted for Emeth members and at the present time there is one plot available for resale at a significantly reduced price.

For more information contact Michael Oshan at: president@emeth.net

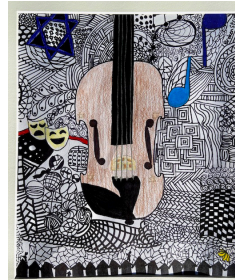


Congregation Emeth was fortunate to host Rabbi Dorothy Richman for an amazing three-part series on Kabbalah. Rabbi Richman explored the language, stories, symbols and characters of the Zohar, and showed how traditional Torah verses can be used in new and creative ways. Her knowledge, warmth, and passion for the material were contagious. We hope to invite her to return as a guest teacher in the future.

Rabbi Dantowitz is teaching three sessions on "Jewish Values and Issues Facing us Today." This Lunch and Learn class meets Tuesdays at noon, February 16, 23, & March 2.

PJ LIBRARY FEATURING EMETH

Rabbi Dantowitz will be the "celebrity guest reader" for PJ Library's pre-Purim event 2/20. She will be reading *Queen Vashti's Comfy Pants*, a fun new book by her friend and colleague Rabbi Leah Berkowitz.



Emeth member Clara Shem-Tov, who is part of the PJ Our Way National Advisory Committee, had her artwork recently featured on the PJ Our Way website and is featured in a video at pjourway.org/trees.

Learn more about PJ Library (pjlibrary.org) and PJ Our Way (pjourway.org) and sign up to receive free, award-winning Jewish books.

AAUW SCHOLARSHIPS

Do you know of a woman who is struggling financially to return to or complete college? The American Association of Women is committed to students' educational success. The Morgan Hill branch of AAUW provides scholarships for students with financial need as they graduate from high school and continue through to college graduation.

The Lauren Jenkins Healthcare Profession Scholarship was established by AAUW in memory of the beloved Emeth member, geneticist and educator **Lauren Jenkins**, who passed away in September 2015. AAUW Morgan Hill also offers scholarships to women returning to college after a break in their education and to women pursuing a four-year degree in a STEM field. Please encourage friends and family to apply now at aauwmh.org/local-scholarships.

TIKKUN OLAM UPDATES

Susan Meyers, Committee Chair



Susan Meyers

Your Emeth Tikkun Olam Committee is currently engaged in four projects:

Friday night dinners at Safe Park

Congregation Emeth is committed to providing Friday night dinners for families living in the Morgan Hill Safe Park for the months of January and May 2021. The Safe Park is supported

by the Morgan Hill Police and City Council, members of the Interfaith CommUNITY of South County, and the Gilroy Compassion Center. Families living in their vehicles (cars and/or RVs) are vetted by the Morgan Hill Police before they are admitted to the Safe Park where they are permitted to live safely in their vehicles. There are washer/dryer facilities and family showers at the Safe Park and a common area where, before the COVID-19 precautions, families were encouraged to gather and visit with volunteers. A social worker from the Gilroy Compassion Center meets with each family, counseling them about appropriate social services, housing opportunities, and jobs to help them get back on their feet.

Thank you to the following Emeth families for stepping up to provide dinners for January: **Marilyn and Barry Freund, Brigit and Perry Strongin, Susan Meyers, Michael Oshan, Brenda Hoy, Pamela Foster, Cathy and Stewart Gill, Aileen and Dale Teren Foster, Jill Irwin, Arlene Noodelman, Sharon and David Kirsch.**

We look forward to inviting all Emeth members to participate in this important mitzvah in May when we take our turn to provide dinners for those in need at the Safe Park.

Shoes for those in need

Tikkun Olam Committee members **Cathy and Stewart Gill** have been collecting shoes from local running clubs. These gently used shoes have been distributed to the Gilroy Compassion Center, St. Louise hospital and to Watsonville Hospital where our Emeth member **Pamela Foster** works as a social worker.

Affordable Housing

We are initiating a study related to local needs and to state legislation related to families who are unhoused. Thank you to **Jill Irwin** for taking the lead on this new project. The 2021 California State legislature has proposed several bills designed to begin to ameliorate the desperate need for affordable housing. We plan to keep our congregants informed as we learn more about this legislation.

A Banner to Voice our Appreciation for Essential Workers and First Responders

We wanted to voice our appreciation to those essential workers and first responders who have supported our needs during this challenging time. One small way we could begin to do this was to hang a banner on the front of our building which reads "Congregation Emeth, Jewish Community of South County sends our sincere gratitude to all essential workers and first responders: You are our Heroes!"

If you are interested in learning more about our Tikkun Olam Committee, please contact **Susan Meyers** at **TikkunOlam@emeth.net**.

INTERFAITH MLK EVENT, JAN 18

The Interfaith CommUNITY of South County presented an online Martin Luther King Tribute. The ICSC is an interfaith community of 18 congregations in Morgan Hill and Gilroy.

All of the videos from the service are available at **<https://adobe.ly/3oXdmxe>**.

Special thanks to **Rick and Cathy Coencas** for all their work on this event.





Kol Emeth
Congregation Emeth
17835 Monterey Street
Morgan Hill, CA 95037



CELEBRATE PURIM WITH CONGREGATION EMETH

Sunday, February 21

12:00-2:00 PM

Purim CAR-nival (drive-thru)

You're invited to decorate your car and/or wear masks and Purim masks/costumes, receive mishloach manot (Purim goodie bags) and other fun surprises.



4:00-5:00 PM

Hamentashen baking on Zoom with Eytan Oren, our popular Hebrew teacher from Nevada.

A **recipe is available here**, or use your favorite recipe and join us to bake.

Tuesday, February 23

7:00-8:00 PM

Sisterhood Purim Party - All Emeth women invited!

Design a hat and/or mask to wear that depicts your interests



Friday, February 26

7:00-8:00 PM

Shabbat Purim Service and Celebration