Yizkor Book

בית אמת
Beth Emet
THE FREE SYNAGOGUE

2026 | 5787

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Please take this booklet with you to keep as a resource throughout the year.

יִזְכֹּר אֱלֹהִים

Yizkor Elohim—may God remember—is the classic expression of Jewish hope and prayer for our departed loved ones. This prayer captures the indelible link between Divine memory and our own. We remember our loved ones by asking for God's memory. God, in turn, remembers the souls of all the living and dead, asking us to remember those who have passed on. In keeping with this tradition, the cover of the Beth Emet memorial book "We Remember" / "God Remembers"— reiterates this eternal link between God's memory and our own. Yizkor Elohim. May God remember.

A Message from Rabbi Immerman

As we live our lives, we are frequently reminded of how the past breathes through the present. We carry those who came before us in the quietest, most everyday ways—in the jokes we tell around the kitchen table, the traditions we preserve, and the moral compasses that guide our daily choices. As we open this Yizkor Book of Remembrance, we enter a space that is both intensely personal and deeply shared. Grief and loss can leave us feeling isolated, but in this sacred hour we remember that our heartbreak is held gently within the embrace of our community.

In Jewish tradition, memory is never a passive act. The Talmud teaches that each human life contains an entire world, and when we lose someone, a piece of the world shatters with them. Yet our tradition calls us not merely to look backward with sorrow, but to honor those who have died by weaving their wisdom, passion, and light into the present—by pursuing justice, showing kindness to the vulnerable, and cultivating authentic Jewish joy in our lives and homes. May the names inscribed in these pages remind us of the deep love that endures and may their sacred memories inspire us all to live with courage, purpose, and compassion.

Zichronam livrachah—may their memories be for an enduring blessing.

Warmly,
Rabbi Immerman

Yesterday is history. Tomorrow is a mystery. Today is a present.

In Memory of Rabbi Peter S. Knobel

My wife Elaine shared a quotation she found on a friend's Facebook page: "Yesterday is history. Tomorrow is a mystery. Today is a present." During *Yizkor* I think about the people and events which influenced my life. I think about what I have accomplished and what I failed to accomplish. *Yizkor* is a bittersweet time of remembrance. It pulls us backward in time. We cannot redo or relive the past, but remembering can be a spur to committing the mysterious future which lies ahead. We ask, "What are the lessons we have learned? Can they propel us to do better with the time we have left?"

As I sit here during this service I realize how quickly the years have passed. In my youth, time seemed infinite, but now my mortality stares me in the face. Intellectually I know the bulk of my life has passed, but I refuse to surrender to conclusion that it is time to withdraw from the struggle to make the world better. Each day is a present. Each day is a gift. Each day is an opportunity to wipe away a tear, to encourage another to smile, to learn something new and to do something good. I admire those who came before me and paved the way for me and whose love, presence, and wisdom remained with me until they took their last breath. Their encouragement and courage remain not only as a constant reminder of the preciousness of life, but also the importance of relationships. So many of the people whom I loved and who loved me are dead—the living become all the more precious. There were times in the past when my presence was needed but when life's exigencies caused me to be physically, spiritually, or psychologically unavailable. I regret not being there whether because of happenstance or negligence. This service of memory calls upon me—calls upon all of us—to make greater efforts to be present to others. We know the past is history and we cannot rewind the clock, but we can try to do better because the future remains a mystery.

I miss those who launched me on my journey but did live to see what my life would be like. I miss those who journeyed with me and encouraged and strengthened me but are now deceased. I think about those members of my family, friends, and members of this congregation whose lives were filled with joy and success and whose deaths were gentle. I am saddened to think about those whose lives or whose end was full of suffering and agony. Each of them is precious. Each of them was a role model and a teacher. So many memories! So many images float before my mind's eye!

I am grateful for this service. It is a virtual cornucopia of stories. They bring tears to my eyes and smiles to my face. Their stories are the components of my sacred story. Collectively our stories are the sacred story of the Jewish people.

This service not only asks us to remember but also asks, "How do we wish to be remembered? How and what will add to our story in the days, months, or years ahead?"

As I look backward and ahead, I am deeply grateful for the years God has given me, for the many blessings I have been granted and for the many people I have known and who influenced me. The memories of those who died are a blessing. I pray that when my time comes those who knew me will say." *Zechrono Levracha* his memory is for a blessing."

Yesterday is history. Tomorrow is a mystery. Today is a present.

Rabbi Peter S. Knobel, ז"ל

A Parent's Bequest

After you have divided what will then be yours,
Take to yourselves the one true heritage that came to me from my father,
And that came to him from his father, and that you too will some day hand down.
It is a heritage that I have not earned, a heritage
that I have often failed, a heritage of which I have not always been worthy;
But because of God's endless goodness, it has nevertheless been entrusted to me.
Take then this inheritance–
My love of God, though in my blindness I have groped for Him and cried out when I could not grasp Him;
My love of God's children, though in fierce pride I saw my own failings in them;
My love of Israel, though I served it less than I pretended I could;
My gratitude for life for which I am beholden to millions of men whom I have ill repaid;
My hope in eternity which is no man's due but a promise which life itself holds forth;
My wonder before a sunset, my awe of the sea, the lakes, the mountains, the hills, the forests, the storms–
And when you have come into this inheritance and when God and Israel and man and life call to you,
And when you stand beside the lake and atop the hill
I will be with you, together with all the ages of our fathers before us.
And you will know that Eternity dwells within you and you will know that you have touched God.

Rabbi David Polish, ז"ל

"If some messenger were to come to us with the offer that death should be overthrown, but with the one inseparable condition that birth should also cease; if the existing generation were given the chance to live forever, but on the clear understanding that never again would there be a child, or a youth, or first love, never again new persons with new hopes, new ideas, new achievements; ourselves for always and never any others—could the answer be in doubt?"

Gates of Repentance p. 484

How to Observe a Yahrzeit

***Yahrzeit* is a Yiddish word meaning "a year's time" and it is the remembrance of the anniversary of a loved one's death.**

Lighting a Candle

Perhaps the best known custom for observing a *Yahrzeit* is lighting a candle made to burn for at least 24 hours. **If you wish for us to deliver a *yahrzeit* candle or pick one up, please contact the office.** We light the candle at home in the evening that the *Yahrzeit* begins, and it is a symbol of the soul and spirit of the deceased. If a *Yahrzeit* falls on Shabbat or a Holiday, the candle is typically lit before the Shabbat or holiday candles. Although there is no formal blessing when lighting the candle, a meditation may be recited. It is appropriate, of course, to use your own words and thoughts in addition to or in place of a meditation. Some examples of meditations are in this Memorial Book.

Attending Services

The *Yahrzeit* observance lasts a full day and it is customary to attend services on the Shabbat following the *Yahrzeit*. You will receive a reminder from the office each year sharing with you the date on which the name of your loved one will be read, and the name will be read prior to the *Kaddish* prayer. Should you wish to change the date on which you want the name to be read, please contact the Synagogue office.

Tzedakah

It is traditional to do *tzedakah* — righteous acts of charitable giving — when observing a *Yahrzeit* to honor the memory of the deceased. The annual reminders that you receive from the office lists funds you may consider. The names of the funds are also listed within the Memorial Book each year.

Visiting the Grave

Along with the practices mentioned above, one may visit the grave as part of the *Yahrzeit* observance. Some people choose to recite psalms or recite "*El Maleh Rahamim*." Jews typically do not place flowers at the grave, but rather place a small pebble or stone on the monument or grave marker. In one sense, this is a simple way of saying: this was a person worth remembering, and I am placing the stone here to continue to build a monument of remembrance. The pebble also lets others know that someone did come and remember. Symbolically, it suggests the continuing presence of love and memory which are as strong and enduring as a rock. One name for God is "The Rock of Israel." The rock is a reminder of the presence of the Rock, whose love is stronger than death.

On the eve of the anniversary of the death (*Yahrzeit*) say the following prayer when lighting the *Yahrzeit* candle:

If with family or friends, recite the following:

At this moment, which bears the memory of our beloved (name) let us join hands in love and remembrance. A link has been broken in the chain which binds family and friends to our dear one. Yet strong bonds of home and love hold us each to the other.

We give thanks for the blessing of life, of companionship and of memory. We are grateful for the strength and faith that sustained us in the hour of our bereavements. Though sorrow lingers, we have learned that love is stronger than death. Though our loved one is beyond our sight, we do not despair, for we sense our beloved in our hearts as a living presence.

If by yourself, recite the following:

At this moment, which bears the memory of our beloved (name) I light this candle in love and remembrance. A link has been broken in the chain which binds family and friends to our dear one. Yet we who are near and far are joined always by our loving remembrance and we remain strongly tied each the other and each to his/her/their memory.

I give thanks for the blessing of life, of companionship and of memory. I am grateful for the strength and faith that sustained all who loved her/him in the hour of our bereavement. Though sorrow lingers, we have learned that love is stronger than death. Though our loved one is beyond our sight, we do not despair, for we sense our beloved in our hearts as a living presence.

The 23rd psalm or another favorite passage from the Bible or Prayer book might now be recited.

Sustained by words of faith, comforted by precious memories, we kindle the Yahrzeit light in remembrance. "The human spirit is the light of the Eternal." As this light burns pure and clear, so may the blessed memory of the goodness and nobility of character of our dear _____ illumine our souls.

Zich-ro-no/Zich-ro-na/Zich-ro-nam li-ve-ra-cha
May his/her/their memory be for a blessing

The Yahrzeit candle is lit.
זִכְרוֹנוֹ / זִכְרוֹנָהּ / זִכְרוֹנָם לִבְרָכָה

Mourner's Kaddish Prayer

יִתְגַּדַּל וְיִתְקַדַּשׁ שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא בְּעָלְמָא דִּי־בְרָא
כִרְעוּתֵהּ, וְיַמְלִיךְ מַלְכוּתֵהּ בְּחַיֵּיכוֹן וּבְיוֹמֵיכוֹן וּבְחַיֵּי
דְכָל־בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל, בַּעֲגָלָא וּבִזְמַן קָרִיב, וְאִמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

Yit-ga-dal ve-yit-ka-dash she-mei ra-ba be-al-ma di-ve-ra
chi-re-u-tei, ve-yam-lich mal-chu-tei be-cha-yei-chon u-ve-yo-mei-chon
u-ve-cha-yei de-chol beit Yis-ra-eil, ba-a-ga-la
u-vi-ze-man ka-riv, ve-i-me-ru: a-mein.

יְהֵא שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא מְבָרַךְ לְעָלַם וּלְעָלְמֵי עָלְמַיָּא.

Ye-hei she-mei ra-ba me-va-rach le-a-lam u-le-al-mei al-ma-ya.

יִתְבָּרַךְ וְיִשְׁתַּבַּח, וְיִתְפָּאַר וְיִתְרוֹמַם וְיִתְנַשֵּׂא,
וְיִתְהַדַּר וְיִתְעַלֶּה וְיִתְהַלַּל שְׁמֵהּ דְּקוּדְשָׁא, בְּרִיךְ
הוּא, לְעֵלָּא מִן־כָּל־בִּרְכָתָא וְשִׁירָתָא, תֻּשְׁבְּחָתָא
וְנֶחֱמָתָא דַּאֲמִירָן בְּעָלְמָא, וְאִמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

Yit-ba-rach ve-yish-ta-bach, ve-yit-pa-ar ve-yit-ro-mam
ve-yit-na-sei, ve-yit-ha-dar ve-yit-a-leh ve-yit-ha-lal she-mei
de-ku-de-sha, be-rich hu, le-ei-la min kol bi-re-cha-ta
ve-shi-ra-ta, tush-be-cha-ta ve-ne-che-ma-ta, da-a-mi-ran
be-al-ma, ve-i-me-ru: a-mein.

יְהֵא שְׁלָמָא רַבָּא מִן־שְׁמַיָּא וְחַיִּים עָלֵינוּ וְעַל־כָּל־
יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאִמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

Ye-hei she-la-ma ra-ba min she-ma-ya ve-cha-yim a-lei-nu ve-al
kol Yis-ra-eil, ve-i-me-ru: a-mein.

עֹשֶׂה שָׁלוֹם בִּמְרוֹמָיו, הוּא יַעֲשֶׂה שָׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ וְעַל־
כָּל־יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאִמְרוּ: אָמֵן.

O-seh sha-lom bi-me-ro-mav, hu ya-a-seh sha-lom a-lei-nu ve-al
kol Yis-ra-eil, ve-i-me-ru: a-mein.

Observing Yizkor

Yizkor memorializes deceased family members, friends, relatives and Jewish martyrs such as those who perished in the Shoah. The Yizkor service is formally named *Hazkarat HaNeshamot*, or Remembering the Souls, but is commonly called Yizkor after the opening words of the memorial prayer, *Yizkor Elohim*, or May God Remember. The memorial service is a statement of faith that goodness does not die with the person but exists in the memories of those who remain alive. During Yizkor we recall in our hearts the names of all those who are close to us.

At Beth Emet Yizkor is observed four times during the year in addition to the anniversary of the death of a loved one (*yahrzeit*): on Yom Kippur and on each of the three Pilgrimage Festivals, Simchat Torah, the seventh day of Pesach, and Shavuot. In the home, it is customary to remember the deceased by saying the Kaddish and lighting special 24-hour candles on the evening that each holiday begins. It is also customary to light a candle beginning on the evening of the annual Yahrzeit of a loved one's passing, since the Jewish day goes from sundown to sundown. The mitzvah of Yizkor is often accompanied by the mitzvah of tzedakah in memory of the deceased.

Below are the dates for Yizkor services during 5787 / 2026-27:

Holiday	*Kindle Memorial Light*
Yom Kippur	sundown, Sunday, September 20
Simchat Torah	sundown, Saturday, October 2
Pesach (7th day)	sundown, Wednesday, April 28
Shavuot	sundown, Friday, June 11

Yizkor Services

Yom Kippur afternoon	Monday, September 21 at 3:45 pm
Simchat Torah	Saturday, October 3 at 9:30 am
Pesach (7th day)	Wednesday, April 28 at 10:00 am
Shavuot	Friday, June 11 at 10:00 am

El Maleh Rahamim

El Maleh Rahamim (God full of compassion) is a prayer for the departed recited at funeral services, when visiting relatives' graves (especially during the month of Elul), and during the Yizkor memorial service.

The prayer originated in the Jewish communities of Western and Eastern Europe, where it was recited for the martyrs of the Crusades and of the Chmielnicki massacres. El Maleh Rahamim is a plea that the soul of the departed be granted menuchah nechonah (proper rest).

What follows is the English version and two Hebrew versions of the El Maleh Rahamim — the first to be read in memory of a man the second in memory of a woman:

G-d, full of compassion, you dwell in the heights and the depths: grant perfect rest under the wings of your presence to (Name of Deceased), our loved one who has entered eternity. Let them find refuge forever in the shadow of your wing and let their soul be bound up in the bond of eternal life, for you, the everlasting G-d, are their influence. May they rest in peace, and let us say: Amen.

Masculine Language

אֵל מָלֵא רַחֲמִים שׁוֹכֵן בַּמְּרוֹמִים הַמְצֵא מְנוּחָה נְכוֹנָה תַּחַת כַּנְפֵי הַשְּׁכִינָה בְּמַעֲלוֹת קְדוֹשִׁים וּטְהוֹרִים כְּזוֹהַר הָרָקִיעַ מַזְהִירִיםאֶתנִשְׁמַת

_____ בֶּן _____

שֶׁהָלַךְ לְעוֹלָמוֹ בַּעַל הָרַחֲמִים יַסְתִּירֵהוּ בְּסֵתֶר כְּנָפָיו לְעוֹלָמִים וְיִצְרֹר בִּצְרוֹר הַחַיִּים אֶת נִשְׁמָתוֹ ה' הוּא נַחֲלָתוֹ וְיָנוּחַ בְּשָׁלוֹם עַל מִשְׁכָּבוֹ וְנֹאמַר אָמֵן

Al molay rachamim, shochayn bam'romim, ham-tzay m'nucha n'chona al kanfay Hash'china, b'ma-alot k'doshim ut-horim k'zo-har haraki-a mazhirim, et nishmat (Name of the Deceased) she-halach l-olomo, ba-avur shenodvu tz'dakah b'ad hazkarat nishmata. B'Gan Ayden t'hay m'nuchata; la-chayn Ba-al Harachamim yas-tire-ha b'sayter k'nafav l'olamim, v'yitz-ror bitz-ror hacha-yim et nishmatah, Ado-nay Hu na-chalatah, v'tanu-ach b'shalom al mishkavah. V'nomar: Amayn

Feminine Language

אֵל מָלֵא רַחֲמִים שׁוֹכֵן בַּמְּרוֹמִים הַמְצֵא מְנוּחָה נְכוֹנָהתַּחַתכַּנְפֵי הַשְּׁכִינָה בְּמַעֲלוֹת קְדוֹשִׁים וּטְהוֹרִים כְּזוֹהַר הָרָקִיעַ מַזְהִירִים אֶת נִשְׁמַת

_____ בַּת _____

שֶׁהָלְכָה לְעוֹלָמָהּ בַּעַל הָרַחֲמִים יַסְתִּירֶהָ בְּסֵתֶר כְּנָפָיו לְעוֹלָמִים וְיִצְרֹר בִּצְרוֹר הַחַיִּים אֶת נִשְׁמָתָהּ ה' הוּא נַחֲלָתָהּ וְתָנוּחַ בְּשָׁלוֹם עַל מִשְׁכָּבָהּ וְנֹאמַר אָמֵן

Al molay rachamim, shochayn bam'romim, ham-tzay m'nucha n'chona al kanfay Hash'china, b'ma-alot k'doshim ut-horim k'zo-har haraki-a mazhirim, et nishmat (Name of the Deceased) she-halcha l-olomoh, ba-avur shenodvu tz'dakah b'ad hazkarat nishmatah. B'Gan Ayden t'hay m'nuchatah; la-chayn Ba-al Harachamim yas-tire-ha b'sayter k'nafav l'olamim, v'yitz-ror bitz-ror hacha-yim et nishmatah, Ado-nay Hu na-chalatah, v'tanu-ach b'shalom al mishkavah. V'nomar: Amayn.

Psalm 23

Psalm 23, with its vivid portrait of yearning for
and trust in God, is one of the most well-known
chapters in the book of Psalms.

God is my shepherd; I shall not want.
God makes me lie down in green pastures; leads me beside the still waters.
God restores my soul.
God guides me in straight paths for the sake of God's Name.
Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You have anointed my head with oil; my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the Eternal forever.

A Time To Live and A Time To Die

The Beth Emet Funeral Plan

What to Do and What Beth Emet Will Do for You and Those Close to You

A Community for All Seasons

To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:
A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;
A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
A time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away;
A time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

— *from* Chapter 3, Book of Ecclesiastes

At Beth Emet, we are committed to caring for each other throughout our lives. We help each other in times of both great joy and deep sadness. Knowing that a death often occurs unexpectedly, we have developed this resource to help you plan for and respond to the profound loss of a loved one. Beth Emet also has prepared a Funeral Plan to ease the burden of decision-making during a period of great emotional stress. Whether you have just lost a loved one or are discussing end-of-life planning with your family, the Beth Emet Funeral Plan offers the help of our community at a time when you need it most.

What To Do When Someone Dies – When a death occurs, call Rabbi Brian Immerman at 303-475-6452. If you cannot reach Rabbi Immerman, please call Cantor Natalie Young at 305-467-1841. Even if it is Shabbat or a holiday, we need to know.

We will assist you with selecting a day and time for the funeral and offer guidance for appropriate practices during the mourning period. If you choose to use the Beth Emet Funeral Plan, contact one of the participating funeral homes and identify yourself as a Beth Emet member. All arrangements may be made by telephone.

With the Beth Emet Funeral Plan, the only decisions you will need to make are:

The location of the funeral service – We strongly encourage you to have the service in the Beth Emet sanctuary. However, the Beth Emet Funeral Plan also covers services in the funeral chapel or at graveside.

The cemetery – The Beth Emet Funeral Plan does not cover any cemetery costs. If you do not already own burial plots, the funeral director will help you make the necessary arrangements. We will provide you with a list of local cemeteries.

Optional arrangements – At your request, the funeral home can arrange for services not included in the Beth Emet Funeral Plan, such as limousine transportation for your family on the day of the funeral. The costs of these services are determined by each funeral home. Additionally, the funeral home can arrange for *shomrim,* or guardians. In this Jewish tradition, the *shomrim* stay with the deceased from death until burial, usually reading from the Book of Job, Psalms, or other writings on the subject of death while sitting with the deceased. Family and friends may also be invited to serve one of the shifts of this around-the-clock *mitzvah*.

The Beth Emet Funeral Plan – Offered in cooperation with participating area Jewish funeral homes, the plan incorporates Jewish values and traditional Jewish funeral and burial practices. It is based on the principle of *K'vod HaMet,* "honoring the dead," and offers congregants a package of appropriate services at one predetermined moderate cost.

The Beth Emet Funeral Plan includes – Professional and administrative services of the director at the participating funeral home you choose. The funeral home takes care of the deceased prior to burial.

Taharah, the ritual washing and preparing of the body for burial according to ancient Jewish tradition. Following ritual purification, the deceased is dressed in simple muslin *tachrichim,* a traditional burial shroud that reflects the equality of all people in death. The *taharah* is performed by the Progressive *Chevra Kadisha* (burial society) who are volunteers from Beth Emet and other participating congregations.

Aron, a preselected traditional wooden casket that emphasizes the concepts of humility and equality. A concrete vault is also preselected, thereby eliminating some of the most stressful aspects of making funeral arrangements.

Hearse and graveside transfer vehicle.

Staff and equipment for the graveside, chapel, or synagogue service.

Death certificates and notices in the newspaper.

Arrangements, prayer books, and yahrtzeit candles for *shiva,* the ritual period of mourning immediately following burial. The Beth Emet's volunteer shiva minyan leaders will provide prayer service leaders and can serve as a resource for shiva customs.

The Beth Emet Funeral Plan is available through participating funeral homes, including Chicago Jewish Funerals and Weinstein & Piser Funeral Home, at a fixed cost at a fixed cost negotiated for our members. This rate does not include or cover any cemetery costs. Other services may be arranged for an additional cost.

Beth Emet Funeral Plan: Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Who is eligible for the Beth Emet Funeral Plan?

A. Beth Emet members and their immediate family members are eligible for the Funeral Plan in any situation where a member of our clergy officiates at the service.

Q. How much does the Beth Emet Funeral Plan cost?

A. The cost of the Beth Emet Funeral Plan is negotiated periodically with participating funeral homes. All cemetery-related costs including plot and interment are additional. There may be other costs if the death occurs out-of-town. The clergy do not charge to officiate at a funeral for members or family members eligible for the plan; however, voluntary contributions of appreciation may be made to the Rabbi's or Cantor's discretionary fund.

Q. Does Beth Emet have a cemetery?

A. No. Beth Emet does not have its own cemetery. The Beth Emet Office has information available about local Jewish and non-sectarian cemeteries for members who wish to purchase burial plots. If a plot is not purchased in advance, the funeral director can help make the necessary arrangements at the time of the funeral. If purchasing a plot is out of your financial reach, contact the office about plots that have been donated to Beth Emet.

Q. What if I wish to use the services of a funeral home that does not participate in the Beth Emet Funeral Plan?

A. We are fortunate to have a number of fine funeral directors in our community. If you prefer not to use the Beth Emet Funeral Plan, you may select the funeral home of your choice, even one who does not offer the Beth Emet Funeral Plan. Our clergy and sanctuary are available to you whether or not you opt for the synagogue's plan. However, the quoted fees apply only to the Beth Emet Funeral Plan.

Q. Where can I find more information?

A. Contact our clergy with questions about funeral practices and observances or about specific issues concerning you and your family. Contact the office with questions concerning the Beth Emet Funeral Plan.

Progressive *Chevra Kadisha* (Burial Society) and *Taharah*

"Our Rabbis taught: In three ways deeds of loving kindness (*g'milut chasadim*) are greater than charity (*tzedakah*). *Tzedakah* is only with money, but *g'milut chasadim* is with a person's body as well as their money. *Tzedakah* is for the poor, but *g'milut chasadim* is for both the poor and the rich. *Tzedakah* is for the living, but *g'milut chasadim* is for both the living and the dead." *Sukkah* 49b (Babylonian Talmud)

One way Beth Emet practices *g'milut chasadim* is through the **Progressive *Chevra Kadisha*** (PCK), a volunteer inter-congregational society that conducts the Jewish ceremony of *taharah* for the dead. PCK is run by volunteers from Beth Emet, Beth Shalom B'nai Zaken Ethiopian Hebrew Congregation, the Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation, Lomdim, and Ner Tamid Egal Minyan to serve the needs of members and their families.

When a person dies, PCK members (men for a male, women for a female) visit the funeral home and prepare the body for burial. PCK members wash the body (*rechitza*), perform a ritual cleansing *(taharah)*, and dress the deceased in a set of simple white garments (*tachrichim*). Finally, they gently place the deceased in the casket, ask forgiveness for any inadvertent sins, and depart.

The PCK treats the deceased with dignity and respect, extending *g'milut chasadim* by honoring the dead and comforting those who remember them. To learn more about *taharah*, to inquire about arrangements for a loved one, or to become a member of the Progressive Chevra Kadisha, please call 847-869-4230.

Dor L'Dor, From Generation to Generation

Dor L'Dor provides perpetual support for our synagogue's programs and services through bequests. A legacy gift becomes part of the Beth Emet Foundation's invested funds and only a portion of the income earned is spent each year. As the investments grow, Beth Emet can flourish for generations to come. Beth Emet has received more than $500,000 from bequests since the program was established.

How to participate: Join the 100+ members who have already signed up! It's easy to ensure that what you love about Beth Emet continues to thrive. You're automatically a part of Dor L'Dor by making a specific bequest to Beth Emet in your will or trust, or by naming the synagogue as a beneficiary of an insurance policy, annuity, or retirement account. Please let us know by completing a simple form at BethEmet.org/ legacy. It's non-binding and you don't need to tell us the terms of your gift.

Thank you!

We thank the following who have indicated that Beth Emet is in their legacy giving plan or have left money to Beth Emet upon their death.

Anonymous (6)
Anonymous* (3)
Mrs. Theodora S. Aronson *
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Diane* and Karl Berolzheimer
Sophie* and Sydney* Black
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Lee S. Weintraub
Paula Jacobi and Todd Wiener
Dan and Leslie Yamshon
Susan Fisher and Jonathan Yenkin
David and Nikki* Zarefsky

** Indicates deceased*

"The Beth Emet community is a source of strength through the good times and the difficult ones. Giving back to this loving community is important to us. It is a fulfilling thought that we will continue to provide support after our passing. By participating in Dor L'Dor, we also demonstrate to our family the value of charitable giving. We don't know what the future holds for the Jewish community, but we do believe that our progressive synagogue should continue to shape and influence it. We hope that our gift helps Beth Emet continue its role as a leader in the Jewish world and its place in the hearts of so many for years to come."

—Suki Fisher and Jonathan Yenkin

"The goodness of their lives has not been lost,
and their work cannot be blotted out."

In Loving Remembrance

Susan and Lawrence Aaron
Arlene Loeb Aaron
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Arlene Formund Stillerman
Dr. Manuel L. Stillerman
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So long as we live, they too shall live, for they are now a part of us, as we remember them.

–Rabbi Jack Riemer & Sylvan Kamens

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Ben Shalom, Facilities and Technology Manager
Rose Isaily, Member Accounts Manager
Butch Mayer, Head of Security
Rony St. Victor, Building Staff
Marshall Gray, Building Staff
Michael Louime, Building Staff
Rachel Silvert, Kabbalat Mitzvah Program Coordinator
Barb Wertico, Accompanist
Asher Navisky, Cantorial Assistant

Rabbis Emeriti

Rabbi Andrea C. London
Rabbi Peter S. Knobel ז"ל
Rabbi David Polish ז"ל

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Walter Director 1971-1973
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Richard Loundy* 1979-1981
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Sophie K. Black* 1983-1985
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Robert Romain* 1989-1991
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