



TEMPLE EL EMETH BULLETIN

February 2026

Shevat—Adar, 5786



FROM MY DESK....

Long ago, our rabbinic sages recognized the difficulty of praying meaningfully. They understood that prayer requires thoughtfulness, attention and desire. *Thoughtfulness*, because the Supreme Being deserves something more than some quick superstitious incantations, or unintelligible mutterings thrown his way. *Attention*, because addressing the Lord of the Universe should require at least as much focus as we would give to a human, mortal monarch. And, *desire*, because G-d has given us free will to accept or deny His existence (atheists aren't punished by G-d's hurling lightning bolts at them) and to foster or quash any relationship with Him (G-d doesn't force us to love Him any more than a man forces a woman to love him). There are those who live an entire lifetime without the desire to establish any relationship with the Creator. (Take for example, that group of atheist scientists whose "religion" is proclaiming the purposelessness of the universe.)

But, the vast majority of Jews desire to speak with G-d. To a greater or lesser extent, anyone who joins a synagogue, or at least attends a High Holiday service, is probably expressing a need to feel open to some sort of relationship with G-d, however brief. And, for those who regularly enter a synagogue to pray, most want to relive (perhaps subconsciously) that brief experience over and over again. Of course, there are those who come to a synagogue for other valid reasons, but the synagogue represents the primary place Jews can congregate knowing that that place is *also* G-d's home. A synagogue is where lively congregational prayer is most likely to occur.

But fostering a genuine feeling for prayer is not easy. Unless one is used to praying on a regular basis, hoping for an instant burst and lasting effect of "prayerful emotion" by entering a synagogue and placing a prayer book in your lap is as likely to produce weak results as is entering a gym, and hoping that watching those who are exercising will build your muscles. One has to be actively using the "spiritual gym" on a regular basis, in order to strengthen the "spiritual muscles". Even then, the task is not easy.

And, the High Holidays present this problem in even starker relief. The prayer service is longer, and more unfamiliar, than daily and weekly prayer. The problem is big. Can anything be done about it?

Of course there are several solutions, just like most other problems. My suggestion is that we, as a congregation, consider an approach that may help us, in particular, as Temple El Emeth members. The path I suggest is not the only one, but, after speaking with our Religious committee members, it is an idea worth trying for the upcoming High Holidays. Here's the plan:

Cont'd on page 2...

Friday Evening (5:45 PM) and Saturday Morning (10:00 AM) Services are **HYBRID**.

Monday and Thursday Evening (5:45 PM) Services are **VIRTUAL**.

SHABBAT

CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

| | |
|---------------------|---------|
| Friday, February 6 | 5:27 PM |
| Friday, February 13 | 5:36 PM |
| Friday, February 20 | 5:44 PM |
| Friday, February 27 | 5:53 PM |

HAVDALAH

| | |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Saturday, February 7 | 6:27 pm |
| Saturday, February 14 | 6:36 PM |
| Saturday, February 21 | 6:44 PM |
| Saturday, February 28 | 6:52 PM |

Baruch Dayan Ha-Emet

We note with sorrow the passing of

Toby Brenner
(Member)

We extend our deepest condolences to all her family members. May G-d help them with strength, comfort and healing.

May G-d comfort and sustain you among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

Hybrid Congregational MEETING

Sunday, February 15th

Watch your mail for Time & details

RABBI STERNSTEIN OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday: 10:00 AM—7:00 PM

Wednesday: 9:00 AM—5:00 PM

Temple Office Hours

Monday – Thursday

Friday

9:00 AM—4:00 PM

9 am—Noon

*(Afternoons by
appointment)*

Cont'd from page 1...

1. On the first day of Rosh Hashanah, we will aim to create a Musaf experience, rather than a formal service. The reason we should try this approach is that a large number of members are unfamiliar with the Hebrew texts (even in English translation) and underlying theological messages that the machzor employs. Short "thought pieces" should increase our understanding of the messages, and will prompt us to be more personally involved in the holiday liturgy. Taking the ideas into our own hands and asking questions (as opposed to listening to a cantor chant Hebrew passages) may be more inspiring (and, perhaps, more challenging) than what we have become used to in the past. In order that the service not be lengthened, I will probably not deliver a sermon that day. Rather, these thought pieces will relate to major themes of the holiday. There will probably be music interspersed with the readings. (More on this in later columns).
2. I expect that we will have our customary traditional service on the second day of Rosh Hashanah, although we may wish to incorporate some of the "novel" approach, if it is well received on the first day.
3. Kol Nidrei will be handled much the way it has been in the past, with a more traditional approach and a sermon. I believe the congregation expects and deserves to hear something of value from the rabbi that evening. Yom Kippur is, at this writing, still under construction. I hope to have more information in upcoming articles.

Finally, please note I have confidence in our ability to create something different and appealing this coming High Holiday season. I am hopeful that this "experiment" will be a success. I encourage all of us to keep an open mind, think about our religious practices in an innovative way, and work with me on creating a High Holiday experience that will be memorable and enjoyable for all.

Rabbi Seth Sternstein

Temple—Grams



Temple-Grams remain just \$1.00 each.

Automatic Inclusion Option

If you would like your name to be listed in every Temple-Gram book for 2026, a one-time payment of **\$36** will ensure your inclusion throughout the year. Additional names for specific books may be added at **\$1.00** each. Please make checks payable to Temple El Emeth and send them in **ASAP!**

Your **\$36** donation not only supports Temple El Emeth but also ensures your greetings and good wishes are shared in 2026. **Thank you** for helping us honor our members' joyous occasions and for being part of this Meaningful tradition.

February 2026

_____ Mary Kazimir
February 1st
Special Birthday

_____ Sam H. Miller
February 13th
Special Birthday

_____ Marcia Levy
February 9th
Special Birthday

_____ Jerry Kinast
February 21st
Special Birthday

Please **print your name** the way you want it to appear on the Temple-Gram

Amount enclosed \$_____ for _____ Temple-Grams
Please mail to Temple El Emeth, 3970 Logan Way, Youngstown, Ohio 44505

PROGRAMMING



LIBERTY COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

at Churchill United Methodist Church

89 Churchill Hubbard Road—near Belmont Ave.

FEBRUARY DISTRIBUTION IS DRIVE THROUGH ONLY

NO VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Regular distribution will resume in March

Call the Temple office and we will pass your name on to the Pantry chairs



Celebrate Tu b'Shevat with
PJ Library at Temple El Emeth

Monday, February 2, 2026

5:00—6:15 PM

Children will make grass pets!

PIZZA DINNER WILL BE SERVED!

Please RSVP to Barb Wilson at the J at **330-746-3251**

TEMPLE EL EMETH

SHABBAT SERVICE AND KIDDUSH LUNCHEON

Saturday, February 7, 2026

In recognition of

The Four Chaplains

The "Four Chaplains" were four U.S. Army chaplains who sacrificed their lives on the troop transport ship USAT Dorchester in 1943, giving their life jackets to others when the ship was torpedoed. They were Methodist minister the Reverend George L. Fox, Reform Rabbi Alexander D. Goode, Catholic priest Father John P. Washington, and Dutch Reformed minister the Reverend Clark V. Poling. The chaplains were remembered for their selfless act of giving their life vests to other soldiers and were seen praying together as the ship sank.



PROGRAMMING



Hybrid TORAH TUESDAYS WITH RABBI STERNSTEIN

Dear Friends,

I invite you to Torah Tuesdays. We will explore a topic found in that week's Torah portion. Sessions run about an hour.

While basic Hebrew reading ability is not required, it will be helpful.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10th

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24th

11:00 AM.

*Call the Temple office if you are planning to attend or
If you would like to have the ZOOM link forwarded to you.*



And we're Walking...

Our Synagogue Walking Group meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:00 AM. Come join Ronna & Friends for some exercise and camaraderie inside Temple El Emeth where it is warm and dry!

COFFEE AND KIBBITZ

Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 11:00 AM

Join us at 11:00 after walking for coffee and kibbitzing with friends....or just come for the the chance to catch up with everyone!

Walking is optional!

RSVPs appreciated—330-759-1429



SISTERHOOD



If Spring is on its way, can the Sisterhood 54th Donor Lunch be far behind?

Watch your email and News You Can Use for information about the upcoming

Donor Luncheon to be held the Thursday, May 28, 2026.

SISTERHOOD



For over 35 years women have had a profound influence on the Conservative movement by their support and dedication to the Ideals of the Torah Fund. Donors to the Torah Fund have helped to allow the women of the Conservative movement to become Rabbis and Cantors in our synagogues. Where would we be today without their support and dedication?

Sincerely,
Louise Kline
Torah Fund, Chairman

NEWS & NOTES

MAZAL TOV

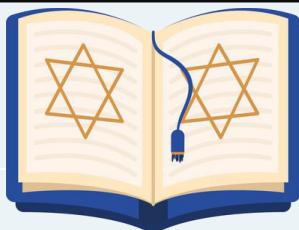
to those celebrating a Birthday in February

| | | | | | |
|----|-----------------------|----|------------------|----|----------------|
| 1 | Mary Kazimir | 13 | Sam H. Miller | 19 | Geri Newman |
| 4 | Warren Rogers | 14 | Marty Solomon | 21 | Jerry Kinast |
| 6 | Diane Finesilver | 15 | Bobbie Berkowitz | 22 | Claudia Moss |
| 8 | Jeffrey Marlin | | Madeline Long | 26 | Wendy Aron |
| 9 | Marcia Levy | 17 | Harriet Schor | | Paula Muir |
| 10 | Rabbi Seth Sternstein | | Tyler Spey | 28 | Terri Anderson |

MAZAL TOV

to those celebrating an Anniversary in February

19 Harry and Elyse Silverman 49th



Thank you to the following people who led Shabbat services while Rabbi was away:

Eric Chevlen
Aaron Duval
Art Einzig
Mindi Einzing
Paula Ferguson

Mark Perlman
Harriet Schor
Howard Sniderman
Jodi Stoyak

NEWS AND NOTES



*Thank you to
Larry Cohen for his donation
of Crown Royal
in memory of his sister,
Nancy Cohen Mayerson.*



Thinking of visiting us?

We'd be delighted to see you. Our schedule can shift with weather, appointments, or the occasional "where did everyone go?" moment, so giving us a quick call before you stop by helps ensure someone is here to greet you.

We appreciate you checking in—it helps us be fully ready for you.



Blott School—*Thank You* from Sharon Wathen.

"Thank you to your congregation for taking tags and providing lovely gifts to the Blott kids and their families.

Together we provided gifts to 88 children and gift cards for groceries to 62 families.

Your support is appreciated very much."



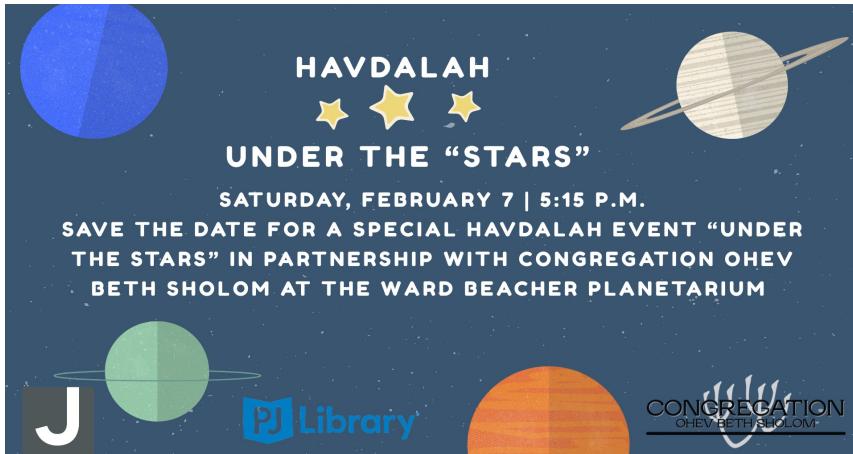
This Bulletin is read by several office staff prior to publication—but we aren't perfect.

If you find a mistake, please notify Nancy in the office so that, if possible, we can correct it.

Thank You!

The deadline for the
March Bulletin
is February 17th

FEDERATION & JCC NEWS



HAVDALAH
★ ★ ★
UNDER THE "STARS"
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7 | 5:15 P.M.
SAVE THE DATE FOR A SPECIAL HAVDALAH EVENT "UNDER THE STARS" IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CONGREGATION OHEV BETH SHOLOM AT THE WARD BEACHER PLANETARIUM

J CONGREGATION OHEV BETH SHOLOM
PJ Library

J Outback Ray's Amazing Animal Show (Ages 60+)

Get ready for a wild adventure! Outback Ray is bringing his Amazing Animal Show to town, featuring fascinating creatures from around the world. You'll meet friendly furry, scaly, and feathered friends up close while learning fun animal facts and stories that will make you smile.

This is the perfect event to share with your grandchildren—watch their faces light up as they experience the wonder of nature with you.

 February 13 | 2:00-3:00 p.m.
RSVP at jccyoungstown.org/agingwell.

Sponsored by Ohio Living Home Health & Hospice of Greater Youngstown.



HAPPY PURIM
JCC PURIM CARNIVAL
SUNDAY, MARCH 1 | 12:00-3:00 P.M.

Join us for this fun family event! Enjoy carnival food, games, prizes, a bounce house, a costume contest, entertainers and more. Admission is free, tickets for games and food will be available for purchase.

ALL FAMILIES ARE WELCOME!

Games: 12:00-2:00 p.m.
Entertainment & Costume Contest 2:15 p.m.

YAHRZEITS

February 1—February 6

14 Shevat—19 Shevat

Alvin Ackerman
Pearl Altshuler*
Jean B. Apple*
Joseph Bloom*
Reuben D. Bradlyn*
Dorothy Brown*
Emanuel Fried*
Leon Gelbman*
Harold Heyman*
Harry B. Hoffman*
Max Katzman*
Morris Lapidus*
Morris Lerner*
Esther Levine*
Toibe Lockshin*
Irving Manson*
Irwin Meader*
Daniel Meritz*
Hilda Mirkin*
David Padvo*
Frank Prigosin*

February 1—February 6

14 Shevat—19 Shevat

Harry Aaron Reisner*
Rachel Rinkevich*
Sally Rosen*
Jacob Rosky*
Philip Rossman*
Joseph M. Rubenson*
Rudolph Schor
Myer Snyder*
Madeline Soule*
Leah S. Weber*
Helen Zoss*

February 7—February 13

20 Shevat—26 Shevat

Sadie Axelrod*
Jennie L. Bender*
Grace Meier Benedikt
Maer Bradlyn*
Bernard A. Chawenson*
Elsie Cohen*
Max Cohen*

February 7—February 13

20 Shevat—26 Shevat

Samuel Copperman*
Nancy Darsky*
Margaret Davis*
Rose Elinsky*
Evelyn Farbman*
Ethel Fish*
Rose Fleshin Friedman*
Morris Furedi*
Rebecca Golden*
Joseph Goldstein*
Ruth Herman
Tillie Heyman*
Max Jacobson*
Leonard Kesselman*
Dora Kirkorsky*
Anna Lockshin*
Nathan Loden*
Harry Magid*
Isadore Malkoff*
Joseph Malkoff*
Solomon (Sol) Malkoff*

* denotes those who have Memorial Plaques

YAHRZEITS

February 7—February 13 20 Shevat—26 Shevat

Alfred Miller*
Morris Mirkin*
Richard Mirman
Frank Monus*
Esther Pianin
Maurice D. Reuben*
Bessie Rome*
David Arthur Roth*
Stanley Bruce Segall
Samuel Simon*
Vitta Sisman*
Etta Sniderman*
Chona Spector*
Morris Aaron Stein*
Blanche Stern*
Saul Weber*
Charlotte Wittman*

February 14—February 20 27 Shevat—3 Adar

Ethel Elinsky Allen*
Sarah Belinky*
Zachary Berlin
Hilda Fish Broida*
Pearl Bunshaft*
Mollie Burach*
Lena F. Chazanoff*
Ida Levy Cheslin*
Rose Chudakoff*
Annabelle Davidow*
Solomon Drajinsky*
Rose Farbman*
Tillie Friedrich*
Fannie Goldie Gelbman*
George Goldberg*
Ralph F. Goldich*
Morris Goodman*
Betty Greenberger*
Max Greenfield*
Sam Harshman*
Bertha Heselov*
Ralph Kanfer*
Joseph Kaufman*
Henry Kinast*
Amelia Klekner*
Betty Kramer
Irwin I. Kretzer*
Victor Kurjan*
Ann B. Lazar*

February 14—February 20 27 Shevat—3 Adar

Yitzchok Lockshin*
Samuel Luntz*
Anna Malkoff*
Shemaiah Malkoff*
Fay Freed Margolis*
Irwin A. Marks*
John "Jack" McGilvrey*
Fay Knox Meyer*
Esther Leah Mirkin*
Marvin Moranz*
Nathan Nichol*
Morris Pianin*
Harry E. Prigosin*
Lipot Rein
Abe Revzin
Adolph Rock*
Samuel Charles Scaffidi*
Margaret Schonberger
Rhea Schwartz*
Selma Schwartz*
David Sidney Schwebel*
Shirley L. Schwebel*
Florence Sepanik
Anna Snyder*
Rose Sobkowski*
Lillian Schan Solomon*
Gregory E Spey*
Alice Taub*
Bertram Ungar*
Philip Wagman*
Celia Waldman*
Joseph Wiesner*

February 21—February 28 4 Adar—11 Adar

Abe Abramovitz*
Helen Aron*
Eva Balan*
Ruth Bender
Rachel Braff*
Benjamin Bunshaft*
Mariano Calderoni
Gladys Feuer Cohen*
Sally Coplin*
Harry Fine*
Gustav Fish*
Moses Goldfield*
Morris Grossman*
Susan Smith Kanterman*

February 21—February 28 4 Adar—11 Adar

Chayim Zelig Kurant*
Abraham Lazar*
Carl Lockshin*
Faith L. Malkin*
Julius Markowitz*
Sylvia Meister*
Sally Miller*
Sam Mirkin*
Samuel Moskowitz*
Mildred Ruth L. Naft*
Max Nelson*
Libby (Elizabeth) Perlman
Edith Peskin*
Mary Polonsky Pianin*
Esther Polatchek*
Goldie Prizant*
Helen Quint*
Jacob Regenstreich*
Sarah H. Rome*
Alice Rosen*
Esther Sacherman*
Morris Schwebel*
Louise Y Shultz*
Adeline Sniderman*
Sam Solomon*
Philip Spector*
Rose Fried Stein*
David Strutin*
Pauline Tamarkin*
Elizabeth Udell*
Jack David Wagman*
Max Weber*
Elliott Weinberg*
Leo Wilkoff*
Fred Wolfram
Harry Yarov*



* denotes those
who have
Memorial
Plaques

DONATIONS

Yahrzeits

In Loving Memory of:

Alvin Ackerman

By Lenore Ackerman

Isadore Czi Alter

Morris Zoldan

By Sheldon & Denise Zoldan

Julie Mandel Banik

Michael Stein

By Polly Stein Flesher

Grace Meier Benedikt

Dorothy Brown

Adeline Sniderman

By Bill & Myra Benedikt

Esther Bonow

By Beth, Diane, Marshall, Cindy & Katie Finesilver

Edith Fish

By Don & Diane DiPiero

Grandfather, Gustav Fish

Father, Irving Manson

By Sherri & Gary Clayman

Moses Goldfield

By Estelle Silverman

Dennis Haines

By Jan Haines

Yahrzeits

In Loving Memory of:

Henry Kinast

By Terri & Steve Anderson
Aliza & Jeff Levy &
Grandchildren

Ann Kugelman

Louis Kugelman
By Gloria Venger

Nancy Cohen Mayerson

By Larry Cohen
Harvey Cohen

Irwin Meader

By Stan Meader

Sally Miller

By Bonnie & Lee Burdman

Marvin Moranz

By Marshall & Janice Moranz

Mildred Ruth L. Naft

Adeline Sniderman

By Howard & Linda Sniderman

Nathan Nichol

By Dr. Allen Nichol & Barbara Lebovitz Nichol

Beloved Mother, Sally Rosen

By Terry & Roger Karp & Family
Maureen & Barry Sokolov

Yahrzeits

In Loving Memory of:

David Strutin

By Stanley & Barbara Schwartz

Howard Solomon

By Jeffrey & Caron Solomon &
Family

Fred Wolfram

Harry Yarov

By Roberta & Michael Berkowitz

TEMPLE FUND

In Memory of

Toby Brenner

By Howard & Linda Sniderman
Maureen & Barry Sokolov

Steven Garner

By Bruce Garner

Steve Gerson

By Jere & Holly Small

TEMPLE FUND

In Honor of

Howard & Linda Sniderman 55th

Wedding Anniversary

By Dianne & Bert Newman





Everyone is invited to our
COMMUNITY WIDE PURIM CELEBRATION

Monday, March 2, 2026

At Temple El Emeth

Hot Dog and Salad Bar Dinner at 6 pm

(No charge for dinner but RSVP 's are required)

Megillah Reading at 7 pm

Prizes for all children

Music by TKO Klezmer Band

Everyone is invited to come in costume!

Kindly RSVP to El Emeth at 330-759-1429 by February 27





Temple El Emeth

Passover Second Seder

Thursday evening, April 2, 2026

Mincha at 6:00 pm

Seder begins at 6:30 pm

Join your El Emeth family for a traditional Passover Seder led by Rabbi Seth Sternstein and a Kosher for Passover dinner catered by Jeffrey Chrystal Catering.

Paid reservations must be received no later than March 23, 2026
Kindly fill out the form below and return to Temple with payment

TEMPLE EL EMETH PASSOVER SECOND SEDER—THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2026

| NAME | Full Member & Out-of-Town Adult Guest | | Associate & Non-Member Adult & Out-of-Town | | All Children Ages 7 - 12 | All Children Ages 0 - 6 No Charge |
|------|---------------------------------------|----------------|--|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | Brisket \$65 | Salmon \$60 | Brisket \$80 | Salmon \$80 | | |
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| | | | | | | |

- ♦ **Menu for children under 12 years—Chicken Tenders with Potatoes.**
- ♦ **Vegan Meal Required? _____.**
- ♦ **Nut Allergy? _____.**
- ♦ **Seated with _____.**

(We make every effort to accommodate requests, but cannot guarantee.)

Please return Reservation form with payment due at Temple El Emeth by Monday, March 23rd

Temple El Emeth
3970 Logan Way
Youngstown Ohio 44505

**DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE DELIVER AT ONCE!
ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED**

Executive Committee

President
Mr. Jeffrey Marlin

Co-Vice Presidents
Mrs. Lisa Mirman
Dr. Harriet Schor

Secretary
Dr. Harriet Schor

Treasurer
Mr. Richard Marlin

Sisterhood Co-Presidents
Atty. Deborah Grinstein
Mrs. Paula Ferguson

Immediate Past Presidents
Ms. Alice Franklin
Ms. Diane Finesilver

Member At Large
Mr. Harry Silverman

2nd Past President
Mr. Jeffrey Solomon

Rabbi Seth Sternstein, DD
Program Director Elyse Silverman



February 2026

Published Monthly by Temple El Emeth

330.759.1429

E-Mail: TempleElEmeth@gmail.com

Rabbi: rabbisternstein@gmail.com

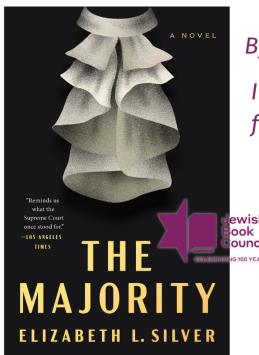
Elyse: ESilverman75@gmail.com

Website: www.templeelemeth.org

Rabbi Sternstein wishes to be in contact with anyone in our congregation who (G-d forbid) is ill. Please call the Rabbi directly, **914-960-4653**, and/or the Temple El Emeth office, **330-759-1429**, as soon as possible, if you know of someone ill. Please do *not* assume that someone else has informed the Rabbi or office. Even if we receive multiple calls, it is much preferable to our missing vital information.

We thank you for your help.

SUSAN KANTERMAN BOOK CLUB



"The Majority: A Novel"

By Jewish Book Council Author Elizabeth Silver

Inspired by history, a riveting novel of love and friendship, motherhood and ambition, and one woman's fight to be a Supreme Court justice.

FEBRUARY 17 | 7:00 P.M. ON ZOOM
REGISTER AT LEAST 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE BY
CONTACTING BARB WILSON AT
BWILSON@JEWISHYOUNGSTOWN.ORG.

FEATURING A VIRTUAL VISIT FROM THE AUTHOR!

Sponsored by Phantom Fireworks

OHEV BETH SHOLOM

PREMIER

SUPER BOWL

BLOCK POOL

RAFFLE

IS UNDERWAY!

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS VS. **PATRIOTS**

2026 PAY OUTS

| | PREMIER BOARD | STANDARD BOARD |
|-------|---------------|----------------|
| 1ST | \$10,000 | \$1000 |
| HALF | \$10,000 | \$1000 |
| 3RD | \$10,000 | \$1000 |
| FINAL | \$30,000 | \$5000 |

SUPER BOWL
February 8, 2026
Santa Clara, CA

CONGREGATION OHEV BETH SHOLOM

ONLY 100 BLOCKS SOLD PER BOARD

TO ENTER THE RAFFLE, PLEASE GO TO:

OHEVBETHSHOLOM.ORG/2026-OBS-SUPERBOWL-RAFFLE.HTML