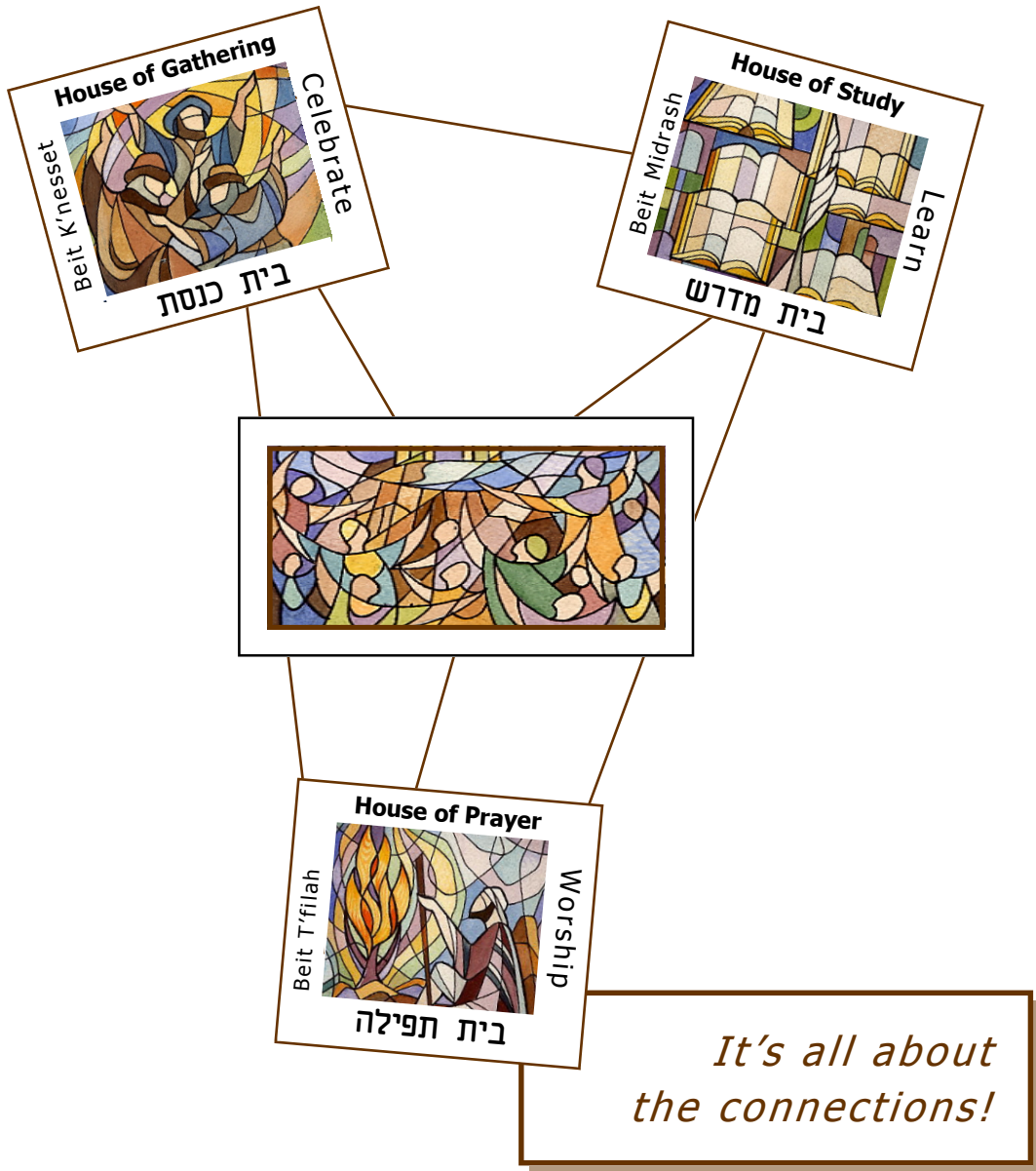


CONGREGATION BETH EMETH

An Egalitarian Conservative Synagogue



Congregation Beth Emeth, 12523 Lawyers Road, Herndon, Virginia 20171
Phone: 703-860-4515 x101 / Fax: 703-860-5647 / Email: info@bethemeth.org

www.bethemeth.org

Affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism



The stained glass art pictured throughout this brochure is found in the collection of windows, by artist David Ascalon, that adorn our sanctuary.



Recording artist Sam Glazer performs at the Beth Emeth 25th Anniversary celebration

Is Beth Emeth For You?

Our members are single, married, divorced, one-parent families, two-parent families, and empty-nesters. What brings us together is a desire to be part of a flourishing Jewish community. Together we worship, socialize, study, celebrate, grieve, and help each other learn what it means to be Jewish.

Beth Emeth is affiliated with **United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism**. Our worship services are egalitarian and we encourage members to take active roles in services. Learning and participating is what we are all about.

We definitely get our money's worth from our lovely building and social hall—it is almost never quiet and empty. Few, if any, other synagogues our size offer the range of educational programs we do. Members interested in “hands on” Judaism regularly put their faith to work in the community through charitable and volunteer activities.

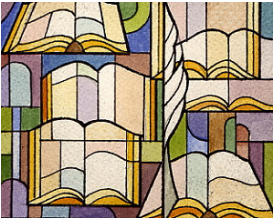
Our **Rabbi Steven Glazer**, D.H.L. (or Rabbi Steve, as he prefers) conveys a sense of ownership in Conservative Judaism by speaking to the intellect as well as the spirit of our congregation. He encourages us to learn more about all aspects of our faith to live the Jewish life that is best for each family and every member.

Rabbi Steven Glazer ...

... was ordained at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York in 1970. In 1995, with more than 30 years in the rabbinate, Rabbi Glazer brought his wisdom, experience and academic excellence to Congregation Beth Emeth.

A gifted teacher, Rabbi Glazer has taught at the Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS) and has served as Visiting Scholar at Harvard Divinity School and the Oxford Center for Hebrew and Jewish Studies. Rabbi Glazer received a D.H.L. (Doctorate of Hebrew Letters) from Hebrew Union College (1993). In 1996, Rabbi Glazer was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from JTS.





House of Study

BHU Beth Emeth hosts a special program from Baltimore Hebrew University in which 11th and 12th graders may receive college credits upon successful completion of classes taught by our own Rabbi Glazer and Dr. Michael Leavitt, Ph.D.

Religious School

The school gives students the basic tools to live their lives as Conservative Jews. The curriculum offers instruction in Hebrew, prayer and ritual; Jewish history and cultural heritage; Torah studies and ethics; Israel, politics, and current events; and Jewish music and arts. *A curriculum is also provided for Jewish children with learning disabilities.*

For 8th, 9th and 10th graders, "Chai School" provides a variety of courses so students may pursue their own Jewish interests, culminating in Confirmation around Shavuot in the 10th grade year.



A word about our 6-hour per week program for grades 3 – 7.

With our hectic lives, schlepping the kids to Hebrew School sometimes may seem overwhelming. Even if you are in a carpool, the

pick up and drop off is a big chunk of your time in mid-day. Also, the kids have so many after school and extracurricular activities. **Is it worth it?**

Family Learning Programs (FLP)

Each Religious School grade from kindergarten through seventh has its own special Family Learning Program during the regular session of Sunday School.

FLP's are a wonderful opportunity for parents and children to learn about a Jewish topic together and have fun, with plenty of hands-on activities, music, games and crafts.

Plus, we always start with coffee, juice and bagels so families can have time to schmooze.



BEECC

The Beth Emeth Early Childhood Center (BEECC) offers children ages 2-1/2 to 5 the opportunity to partake in a Conservative Jewish program where they can discover and take pride in Jewish holidays, customs, and traditions.

In small classes, BEECC offers a relaxed but structured environment. The nurturing faculty inspires children to develop self-confidence, pride, and respect for others. There is usually a waiting list to enroll in BEECC each fall and members are given first priority.

YES and here's why:

Beth Emeth Religious School turns out highly trained, well-rounded students. By the time of Bar/Bat Mitzvah, our students have been taught how to read Hebrew and to understand key prayer and Torah vocabulary, how to lead services from the Bima, how to write a drash (Torah interpretation), what is in the Talmud, why Jews perform acts to repair the world, the real meaning of Tzedakah, the history of the Jewish People, and the list goes on.

Our six hour program is a point of pride to parents who know they have genuinely fulfilled the Mitzvah, "You shall **diligently** teach them (words of Torah) to your children."

You want the best of everything for your children. Why not the best Jewish education available?

Adult Enrichment

We are committed to providing our congregants with opportunities for life long learning. Our Adult Enrichment classes and programs offer something for everyone appealing to body, mind and soul.



We've presented classes on contemporary Jewish thought, Basic Judaism, Introductory Hebrew, Prayer, Jewish Values, and for the spiritually inclined Yoga, Jewish Meditation and more.

We also invite Scholars-in-Residence and guest lecturers to discuss Israel and other hot topics of current interest.



House of Prayer

SERVICE SCHEDULE
Shabbat Evening 8:00 pm
Shabbat Morning 9:00 am
Wednesday Evening Minyan 8:00 pm
Sunday Morning Minyan 8:30 am

Worship Services at Beth Emeth serve not only as a time for spiritual renewal, but also as a central focus for our extended family. We invite all members to acquire the skills to lead services. We are particularly proud of the large number of members who read Torah regularly.

For **Shabbat, Festival and weekday** services, we follow the user-friendly Siddur Sim Shalom, the Conservative Movement prayer book, which provides English translation throughout, strategically placed transliteration, informative notes and supplemental English readings to enhance your worship experience.

For the **High Holy Days**, we use every part of the Beth Emeth building and adjacent property. Seating in the main sanctuary expands throughout the Flex Space and Social Hall to accommodate all our members who wish to attend, a benefit of congregational membership.



Weekday minyan is held every Sunday morning, beginning at 8:30 AM and every Wednesday evening at 8:00 PM.

Almost every classroom is filled with a full range of age-appropriate Junior Congregation Services.

Our very popular Teen Service is held in a tent across the parking lot. Usually attended by over 150 students, teens participate in major parts of the liturgy, the Torah Service and Readings.

We offer a full complement of Yom Tov Services for the three **Festivals** on the Jewish calendar, **Sukkot, Pesach and Shavuot**, with Yizkor recited on the appropriate day of each.

The reading of the Megillah for the holiday of **Purim** is fun for all ages, with a raucous early service for Religious School students, followed by a quieter but equally irreverent service for adults.



The Torah Roll, a Shavuot tradition at Beth Emeth.



House of Gathering

Adult Programming

Men's Club

The Beth Emeth Men's Club is an organization of volunteers committed to a strong and united Conservative movement, dedicated to observing the commandments of service and study, and brought together in camaraderie and friendship.

Everyone looks forward to food and fun at the annual Men's Club Super Bowl party and Purim Carnival.

Singles

Once a month, Jewish singles from around the area gather at CBE for wine and cheese thirty minutes before the start of the Friday Night Shabbat Service.

Committees

Adult Programming. In addition to Adult Enrichment classes, this committee plans social and cultural programs throughout the year.

Membership Committee sees to the needs of new members and develops programs to maintain our spirit of community.

Social Action Committee marshals the forces at Beth Emeth to go about the job of *Tikkun Olam*, repairing the world.

Sisterhood

The Beth Emeth Sisterhood, one of 800 affiliates that comprise the Women's League for Conservative Judaism worldwide and a member of its Seaboard Branch, strives to perpetuate conservative Judaism through education for ourselves, our families and our community.

The premiere Sisterhood events include a regular blood drive and the enormously popular **Women's Health Seminar.**

Hazak

Like USY for the Senior Set!

Hazak is the Conservative Movement's organization for mature Jews seeking camaraderie, social interaction, intellectual stimulation, religious experience and, most of all, FUN!

The name Hazak means "Strong", and is also made up of the first Hebrew letters of the words Hochma, wisdom; Zikhah, Maturity; Kadima, looking ahead.



BEECC Parents' Association

An active Parents' Association is an integral part of our school. Parents are encouraged to participate in parent education workshops, social activities, and fund-raisers. The Parents' Association also publishes a monthly newsletter. This support and warmth gives BEECC families the "extended family" feeling.

Fun Bunch

Kids grown (or almost)? Are you feeling like the house is a little too quiet now? "Empty Nesters," it's time to get out and have some fun. To do that, we have some folks you'll want to meet. Beth Emeth's own Fun Bunch gathers to enjoy each other's company and some of the great attractions the Washington area has to offer.

SYNC's, SYNagogue Connections

Beth Emeth sponsors a number of Jewish affinity groups we call **SYNC's (SY**Nagogue **C**onnections) which meet informally on a monthly or bimonthly basis. For information on any SYNC, call 703-860-4515 x127.

- Keruv** Interfaith families. In a fun, friendly atmosphere learn about Judaism and discover the unique Jewish perspective of families who have formed from different backgrounds.
- BENCH** Between jobs? Underemployed? Looking for a change? Beth Emeth Networking Chavurah, meets to exchange ideas to help you continue your professional development.
- Tachlis** Business. Join congregants and others at a Reston Town Center establishment to exchange sales leads and make key connections.
- N-F Book Club** Read/Discuss non-fiction books on Jewish topics, current and past.
- Chevriah Ivrit** Don't let your Hebrew skills fade. Join other Hebrew speakers of all levels to stay in practice and avoid getting rusty.



House of Gathering

Youth Programming

Youth

It's called Informal Jewish Education, but the kids know it has nothing to do with school. Our youth groups, Nitzanim (K-1), Bonim (2-3), Machar (4-5), Kadima (6-8) and USY (9-12), cover all ages and create distinct Jewish communities of like-aged kids who forge friendships that can last a lifetime.

Several times each year, the Youth Department produces fun and fulfilling events for all of Beth Emeth's teens, regardless of their membership in any of the youth groups. We also serve as a clearinghouse of information about other community-wide youth activities such as those at the JCC of Northern VA, Jewish Experience for Teens (JET), Israel Quest, Jewish Youth Philanthropy Institute (JYPI) and others.



Beth Emeth USY (grade 9-12)

Fun, friendship, fulfillment — that's what you get in USY. The Beth Emeth chapter has something for everyone.

Dance, play, eat, sing, pray, socialize, travel, learn, make new friends, help repair the world – whatever your interests, whatever your background – Beth Emeth USY is the place to do it all.

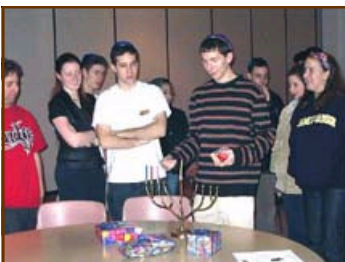
Enjoy Chapter events with your current Beth Emeth friends and meet Jewish teens living around the region and the country at Encampments, Shabbatons and Conventions.

Every Jewish teen should experience the *Ruach* (spirit, passion) of Shabbat songs, loud and intense, after a Friday night dinner.

Beth Emeth USY is always looking for new ideas and programs that appeal to the widest range of Jewish teen interests.



Beth Emeth sponsors Jewish Scouting for boys and girls. By joining a troop through the synagogue, parents can be sure that all activities will adhere to Jewish traditions for Shabbat and Kashrut.



Koach

In college, it is easy to drift away from the sense of community that our young members experienced growing up in Beth Emeth.

KOACH is an outreach program that helps keep the students in touch with Beth Emeth, with each other and with Conservative Judaism.





Congregation Beth Emeth provides a wide umbrella for the practice of Conservative Judaism. Our members come from a broad spectrum of Jewish and non-Jewish backgrounds. Some were brought up Reform, Orthodox, Conservative or Reconstructionist. Others come from a completely secular Jewish background. Still others were not born Jewish and we have a number of Interfaith families.

Today, we are all Jews-by-choice. There is no end to learning, whatever your background. Join us in the exciting journey that is living a Jewish life. Please come to Shabbat services, take a class or stop by any time to learn more about the benefits of becoming a member of Beth Emeth.

CONGREGATION BETH EMETH

12523 Lawyers Road
Herndon, Virginia 20171
T: 703-860-4515 ext. 101
F: 703-860-5647
www.bethemeth.org