

WE STRIVE TO LIVE AS A HOLY COMMUNITY WHOSE STUDY AND PRACTICE OF JUDAISM INSPIRES AND CHALLENGES US TO “DO JUSTICE, TO LOVE KINDNESS AND TO WALK HUMBLLY WITH OUR GOD” (MICAH 6:8).

Beth Am, or “House of the People”, has been the center of Reform Jewish life on the mid-Peninsula since 1955, weaving a congregational fabric that blends our ancient cultural traditions with modern, innovative and thought-provoking opportunities for enrichment.

Whether you are single or married, with or without children, there is something for you at Congregation Beth Am!



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who are Beth Am’s members?

Today’s Jewish individuals and families come in lots of shapes, colors and sizes, and the Beth Am community of 1600 member households reflects that diversity. Our members reside throughout the Peninsula.

Are interfaith families welcome?

Yes! We aim to make Beth Am a welcoming and comfortable place for interfaith families, and to help them deepen their learning and understanding of Judaism, participate in the life of the congregation, and make thoughtful Jewish choices in their lives.

How can I meet people in a large congregation?

Beth Am offers a multitude of small groups organized around learning, socializing, spiritual support and social justice work. You may also want to join a chavurah, a group which gathers regularly for discussions, holiday celebrations and other Jewish activities.

When does my child begin Bar/Bat Mitzvah preparation?

Beth Am requires a minimum of four years in Hebrew and youth education programs in order to celebrate becoming Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Your child will receive credit for Hebrew and Judaica education received at another synagogue or through Jewish day school. To discuss special circumstances, please contact the director of the B’nei Mitzvah program.

How do I find out what’s going on at Beth Am?

- Visit our website at www.betham.org
- Call us at (650) 493-4661 to sign up to receive our weekly e-newsletter, *This Week at Beth Am*
- Like us on [facebook.com/CongregationBethAm](https://www.facebook.com/CongregationBethAm)
- Follow us on twitter.com/CongBethAm

What are the membership fees?

Every member is asked to make a self-assessed “fair share” contribution of 1.6% of the family gross income plus a Building Fund contribution. For members age 36 and under, the annual contribution is just \$36 per year. If someone wants to be part of Beth Am, our dues structure is never an obstacle, and individuals are invited to have a confidential conversation with our Executive Director.

26790 Arastradero Road, Los Altos Hills, CA 94022
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WELCOME TO



CONGREGATION BETH AM

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WORSHIP

WORSHIP Shabbat and holidays at Beth Am are joyful, participatory, contemplative and musical. Many Shabbat evening services feature special programs, dinners or Shabbat gatherings – all provide an opportunity to relax, unwind and enjoy a break from the busy demands of our modern lives.

Shabbat and holiday worship information and schedules can be found at www.betham.org under the “Worship” tab.



JUSTICE

SOCIAL JUSTICE Our Beth Am community shares a commitment to acts of social justice and *tikkun olam* (repairing the world). We believe it is our responsibility to do what each of us can to make the world a better place - from large organized projects to small individual moments of caring for another person. We offer opportunities for our members to help feed the hungry, house the homeless, support our sister congregation in Poltava, Ukraine and many other efforts locally, nationally and internationally.

Visit www.betham.org and click on “Justice” to learn more.



LEARNING Lifelong learning is an essential Jewish value, and Beth Am has educational opportunities for every age, from babies through adulthood. Clergy, educators, staff, Beth Am members and invited scholars from around the world teach, inspire and challenge us. Learning happens in nature, in homes, at top-quality lectures and presentations, over lunch, through the arts and in classrooms with our dedicated teachers. While becoming B’nei Mitzvah is a highlight of many members’ synagogue experience, we hope it’s just one part of a lifetime of connection and enrichment.

Beth Am Youth Education programs are innovative and always adapting to new ideas, including Hagigah (our drama-based youth education program), Avodah (Jewish service learning), Camp Beth Am (summer day camp plus year-round programs), and Connections (family group learning). In addition, we offer more traditional religious school programs, retreats, and youth and family-oriented holiday celebrations. Adults enjoy a wide array of adult learning offerings such as lectures, classes and retreats throughout the year. We are also very pleased to host a preschool of the Oshman Family Jewish Community Center.

For more detailed information about our current schedule of youth and adult education programs, please visit www.betham.org and click on the “Learning” tab.



LEARNING

“Congregation Beth Am’s purpose is to inspire our members to grow in mind, heart and soul.”

— Senior Rabbi Janet R. Marder



COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY Beth Am takes great pride in bringing people together in our shared community, to create the relationships, support systems and friendships that make our lives meaningful. Our warm and welcoming congregation offers something for everyone! Whether you want to engage with others in learning, worship or social justice activities, a benefit of our large congregation is our ability to offer myriad small-group activities to help you grow and connect.

Opportunities include Beth Am Women, Beth Am Men, the Israel Awareness Committee, the Renaissance Group (for parents of young adults), Café Beth Am for teens, young family programs, the Jewish Baby Network (for brand new parents), book clubs, trips to Israel, camping trips and more.

Visit www.betham.org and click on “Community” to see our current schedule.

JOIN

If you would like to receive information on membership or take a tour, please contact Executive Director Rachel Tasch at (650) 493-4661 or rachel_tasch@betham.org.