

ANSHE EMETH JUNE 2025 E-NEWSLETTER

SHABBAT SERVICE, FRIDAY, JUNE 13, OPEN AIR KABBALAT SHABBAT AT FEINSTEINS HOME, 7:30 P.M.

Anshe Emeth is pleased to announce that Jese Shell will be leading all services for the year. This will be his first official service. We welcome Jese with his many studies, skills, talents, beautiful singing voice and warmth and enthusiasm,

Jese Shell will be leading a musical Shabbat evening worship on **Friday, June 13th at 7:30 pm at Mike and Judy Feinstein's home**. Their address is 4533 Casstown Sidney Road, Troy. The property is northeast of Troy and southeast of Piqua.

Their home is behind the woods, at the end of a tree-lined gravel driveway. There is another driveway parallel to theirs and sometimes GPS leads people astray. Watch for 2 signs on posts at either side of the driveway.

Please bring folding lawn chairs, if you can. Dress casually and wear comfortable shoes. An Oneg will follow. Questions for Judy: 937-474-7729

MESSAGE FROM JESE SHELL

Dear Members & Friends of Anshe Emeth,



As many of you know, my name is Jese Shell and I have been a member of Congregation Anshe Emeth for almost 10 years (November is 10 years that I have attended). I am a middle school Career-Technical Educator in Springfield, Ohio and am a proud Miami Countian and member of the Jewish community, belonging to Beth Jacob Synagogue (Orthodox- Dayton) and Temple Sholom (Reform-Springfield) in addition to our beautiful *kahal*. With joy and gratitude, I am so pleased to be serving you all as the *Shaliach Tzibur* (prayer leader) to our sacred community here at Congregation Anshe Emeth. In our small but spirited congregation the strength of our prayer and community has always come from our shared commitment to tradition, learning, and exploring the many ways Judaism shapes our lives and how we can come together in faith, love, and commitment to our rural Jewish life. I hope that being here with everyone, we will begin a new chapter—one filled with music, *kavanah* (intentionality), and community connection.

Our very first Friday night together will be a *Kabbalat Shabbat* service, and what a fitting way to begin this new journey. *Kabbalat Shabbat*, meaning "welcoming the Sabbath," is a beautiful and joyous liturgy composed primarily of psalms and poetry, culminating in *Lecha Dodi*, the beloved hymn that invites the "Sabbath Bride" into our midst. In this

sacred gathering, we turn away from the noise and striving of the week, and prepare ourselves—body, heart, and soul—to embrace the peace and sanctity of Shabbat. As we begin to focus and set our minds to prayer, a beautiful note on *Kabbalat Shabbat* is that the liturgy and melodies are shared in all kinds of synagogues and communities all over the world at the same moment- a time of prayer, reflection, questions, and sacred space.

Shabbat itself is more than a day of rest. It is a sanctuary in time, a weekly opportunity to pause, reflect, and reconnect—with ourselves, with our loved ones, with *HaShem*. Especially in a rural setting like ours, where life may be quieter but no less busy, Shabbat gives us space to breathe, to listen, and to sing. I am so grateful to our hosts, Mike and Judy Feinstein, for sharing their home with us to begin the year!

This week, we read *Parshat Beha'alotecha*, a rich and multifaceted portion that reflects many of the very values we hold dear. The *parsha* begins with G-d's command to Aaron to light the menorah—an eternal symbol of illumination, inspiration, and divine presence. Later, we witness the Israelites' journey through the wilderness: their moments of faith, their complaints, and their need for leadership. We see Moses overwhelmed and longing for support, leading to the appointment of 70 elders to help carry the burden of leadership. This *parsha* reminds us of the importance of shared responsibility, spiritual light, and the need for both patience and presence in building community. I am looking forward to living these messages with everyone this year as we lift our voices in prayer, in harmony, and in celebration of Shabbat. Let this be the beginning of something sacred: a renewed sense of *ruach* (spirit), tradition, and togetherness at Anshe Emeth.

Shabbat Shalom!
Jese

MISHEBERACH

Neal Schmidt, Mitzi Saeman, Lora Kaufman, Holly Stephenson for continued healing and Joey Ferrell having surgery on June 20.

Yahrzeits for June.... in Blessed Memory

Toby Marcus Asher, Aaron Freed, Rose Kaufman, Manfred Kramer, Ellen Mayer, William Murstein, Seymour Perlis, Dora Shuchat, Zena (Bailen) Utrecht, Milton Ziment.

WITH GRATEFUL THANKS

Merrill & Anne Asher. In memory of Harry Max Asher (May), his Dad and Toby Asher (June), his mother on their yahrzeits.

There will be no service in July. Watch for news about the annual Temple Picnic....