

chai-lights



January 2006

Kislev/Tevet 5766

WEEKDAY SERVICES:

Shacharit at 1630 Bancroft Way: Mon-Fri 6:30 a.m.; Sunday & Legal Holidays 8:00 a.m.

Mincha/Ma'ariv at Chabad of Berkeley, 2643 College Ave. Sun-Thurs. 5 minutes after candle lighting

SHABBAT SERVICES:

Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat at 1630 Bancroft Way (5 minutes after candle lighting). Morning Service 9:15 a.m.

Shabbat Mincha immediately following kiddush, approximately 12:30 p.m.

See detailed schedule on page 8

from the rabbi

Our rabbis taught, when *Adam Ha'rishon* noticed that the days were getting gradually shorter, he said, 'Woe is me, perhaps because I have sinned, the world around me is being darkened and returning to its state of chaos and confusion; this is the kind of death to which I have been sentenced from Heaven!' So he began keeping eight days of fasting and prayer. But when he observed the winter equinox, he noticed the days getting increasingly longer, he said, 'This is the world's course', and he set forth to keep eight days of festivity.

-Talmud Avodah Zarah 8a

The Talmud here suggests that there is a universal human desire to infuse light in this season of darkness. Chanukah, which begins Sunday night, the 25th of Kislev/December 25th this year, (the first time since 1959 that the first night of Chanukah fall on Dec. 25th) is an expression of this universal longing to bring more light into lives.

If this is the universalist notion of Chanukah then the nuanced national idea becomes all the more

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from the president

Local legend Earl Raab, the unquestioned father of modern community relations, says that the hard-core anti-Semitic fringe is nothing to worry about; as bad as they are, a tiny faction of sincere bigots is an inherent constant and, by itself, only a minor danger. It's when circumstances conspire to add a larger number of opportunistic bigots into the fray that the potential for great danger exists: a lesson of the Holocaust, to say the least.

So, in the wake of 9/11, I worried that a new wave of discrimination would wash across America, targeting those who were perceived to be Arabs or followers of Islam. Major network news anchors were advocating racial profiling, a billion Muslims painted with the same broad brush. Many of my friends in New York were aghast that leading Bay Area Jewish organizations and prominent local Jews (like my heroic friend Robert Rubin, Legal Director of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights) were and are

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from the rabbi

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intriguing. The struggle against the Hellenists who sought to celebrate the universal 'new light,' Chanukah is on one level about the rejection of this universalism. The national light of Chanukah is the kindling of the lights in the Beith Hamikdash, the Temple in Jerusalem, thereby inspiring and uniting a battered people to remain dedicated to our God and Torah. Chanukah glorifies the survival of few in the hands of the mighty; maintaining our commitment to Torah despite the overwhelming allure of dominant culture.

Yet true victory is not merely survival of the bit of pure oil or the glimmer of light in the face of overwhelming darkness, but it is the ability and gift to create light, which can banishes darkness for all people. We must remember that the particular Beith Hamikdash, the Temple, has its own universal calling "My House shall be called a house of prayer for all Peoples" (Isaiah 56:7) which is achieved by building in concentric circles.

May we use the light of Chanukah to remind us of our personal and particular commitments to lead lives infused with the joy and study of Torah and simultaneously not to lose sight of the ultimate goals of a redeemed world free of genocide, war, famine and suffering.

Chag Urim Sameach – Happy Holiday of Lights

Rabbi Yair Silverman

BETH ISRAEL COMMITTEES

Finance Committee: Chairperson - Stanley Wulf. Committee Member - Marvin Winer

Fundraising Committee: Joan Sopher

House Committee: Chairpersons - Joan Sopher and Seth Greenberg. Committee Members - Bella Barany, Barbara Budnitz, Avraham Burrell, Alan Finkelstein, Nae Golomb, Irene Resnikoff, Susan Schickman, Steve Silberblatt, Maxine Winer

Kitchen Committee: Chairperson - Maxine Winer. Committee Members - Bella Barany, Barbara Budnitz, Alan Finkelstein, Nae Golomb, Joan Sopher, Doreet Stein, Marty Zedeck

Landscape Committee: Chairperson - Rita Kohl. Committee Members - Susan Schickman, Steve Silberblatt

Membership Committee: Chairperson - Leslie Valas; Committee Member - Barbara Budnitz, Juliet Stamper

Memorial Plaque Committee: John Pilkington

Ritual Committee: Chairperson - Bobby Budnitz; Vice-Chair - Joel Resnikoff. Committee Members - Ezra Hendon, Naomi Brenner, Avraham Burrell, Jonathan Gruber, Eric Seder

Scrip Committee: Naomi Stamper

Sherut L'eumi Committee: Chairpersons - Linda Levy and Irene Resnikoff. Committee Members - Laura Lipman, Daniela Malmuth, John Pilkington, Doreet Stein

Social Action Committee: Jonah Markowitz

Youth Education committee: Chairpersons - Daniela Malmuth, Rona Teitelman and Tanya Schweig. Committee Members - Kenny Bamberger, Ilana Fodiman, Lauren Greenberg, Cynthia Scheinberg, Doreet Stein

Chai-lights

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We welcome submissions to *Chai-Lights*.

Layout, design and production: Joelle Yzquierdo

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Office Hours: Monday 12:00-5:00, Tuesday 9:00-3:00

Wednesday 9:00-5:00, Thursday 9:00-5:00, Friday 9:00-3:00

from the president

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fighting the administrative detention of Arab prisoners in Guantanamo and elsewhere.

Earl Raab would tell them that American Arab security and Jewish security are two sides of the same coin, that a threat to one today is a threat to the other tomorrow. He would note that enlightened self interest and *Tikkun Olam* coalesce in favor of opposing discrimination against anyone -- even if Jews were no longer a prime target of discrimination in America.

I hadn't thought much about this, until the FBI's November release of its Annual "Hate Crime Report" cataloguing the prior year's episodes. Of the 9,035 "separate offenses" reported in 2004, 18% were based on religion. Of course, I assumed that in 21st century America, anti-Islamic bias would form the bulk of the 1,480 episodes of religious bias. Wrong.

Only 13% were listed as "anti-Islamic;" 68% were "anti-Jewish". As few as we are, as invisible as many become, as little cause as Jews provide, anti-Semitism retains its perennial top spot on the discrimination charts. Even in the new millennium, old habits die hard.

If we are at all to blame for the state of affairs, it may be because we are embarrassed about standing up for ourselves. If a sexist or anti-Hispanic word is uttered, our community is justifiably up in arms. But when Michael Jackson recorded "*They Don't Care About Us*" in 1995, with the lyric "Jew me, sue me ... kick me, kike me," we had no strong reaction; small wonder, then, that he now refers to Jews who "suck... like leeches." Since we don't appear to care, why should anyone else (in America or in Bahrain) make him stop?

Hillel the Sage would be proud of how well American Jewry has embraced the second prong of his theorem -- "if we only look out for ourselves, what good are we?" Whether advocating for rights of gays, oppressed American minorities, victims of African genocide or a Free Tibet, Jews are at the forefront -- as well we should be.

But we appear embarrassed to channel the first part of Hillel's maxim -- "if we won't advocate for

ourselves, who will do so?" In multicultural Berkeley, we seem afraid to be viewed as too parochial, too Jewish. So, we keep some community institutions which should be natural sources of community pride under the radar. We ignore an art exhibit featuring classically anti Semitic imagery, which is now taking place in a City building a mile from our door, our official community relations position suggesting balance rather than outrage; maybe it's best to lay low.

Who knows if it would do any good to complain, anyway. Post-war Poland proved that you don't need Jews for anti-Semitism to thrive. Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is proving to be as staunch an anti-Semite as history has ever known. The FBI's recent report shows that communal success and integration in an educated nation doesn't stop anti-Semitism either. It's the longest running show in human history.

Maybe it has to be this way, and we would lose a unique and precious part of our communal DNA if we were allowed to become too comfortable in our social status; when that happens history seems to give us important, if painful, reminders that we really are no better than any other strangers in a strange land.



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hachnassat orchim

The Hachnassat Orchim Committee would like to thank the following families who welcomed guests into their homes recently:

Toby and Ezra Hendon

Stanley Wulf and Linda Press-Wulf

And all who helped uphold Beth Israel's tradition of hospitality and warm welcome by opening their homes for guests on shabbat

occasions

Baruch Dayan Ha'emet:

We sadly share with you the passing of **Charles Wulf, Betzalel ben Chaim Yaakov, z"l** beloved brother Stanley Wulf in South Africa, who passed away on the 9th of Cheshvan /November 11th.

We sadly share with you the of passing of **Doris Cappalli Sweetman, z"l**, mother of Joan Brodsky, who passed away on the 24th of Cheshvan/November 26.

We sadly share with you the passing of **Zalman ben Yisrael Boyarin, z"l**, father of Daniel Boyarin, who passed away the 10th of Kislev/ Dec 11th.

May God comfort their families among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

Unveiling:

Unveiling for **Sharon and Harry Silver Shayna Minnie bas Shimon and Hershal Tzvi ben Shmuel** on the 8th of Tevet/Sunday, Jan 8, 2006 @ 11:30 AM Los Gatos Memorial Park San Jose, CA 95124. Yahrzeit for **Shayna Minnie bas Shimon**, mother of Liza Silver, is on the 5th of Tevet, Jan 5th.

Mazal Tov!

To **Rabbi Saul and Shellee Berman** on the engagement of their daughter Esther to Rafi Lefkowitz of New York.

To **Shoshana Greenberg** on the marriage of her granddaughter Hadassah, daughter of Noah and Donna Greenberg, in Jerusalem.

To **Ami Wulf** on his bar mitzvah on November 26.

To **Rachel Goldberg and Jon Polin** on the birth of a healthy baby daughter Orly, and to big brother Hirsch and big sister Leebie.

Congratulations to **Ciara Levy**, granddaughter of Linda Levy and John Pilkington on winning third place in a photography contest sponsored by Sarbers Photography Store on Solano Avenue in Berkeley.

Ciara's photograph, titled "Seashells on a Remote Beach", was taken during her visit to Israel this past summer. Ciara, who is 16 years old, has been developing her talents as a photographer and is thrilled to have won in her first-time entry to a photography contest. Ciara's winning photograph is on display at both of the Sarber's stores, one on Solano Avenue and the other in Montclair.

Refuah Shleima:

To **Laura Lipman**, Avigail bat Chanah
To **Rebecca Landes**, Rivkah bat Rachel
To **Ethel Price**

kiddushim

Kiddush Sponsor, October 8: **Sondra Markowitz** to honor the memory of her great-grandparents, Chaim Hillel & Leah Stewart.

Kiddush Sponsors, Shabbat October 18: **Sam and Rose Ginsburg; Rita Kuhn** in honor of the birth of Elisha Vas.

Kiddush Sponsor, Shabbat October 19: **Nae Golomb**

Kiddush Sponsor, Shabbat November 5: **Chanah Piotrkowski** in memory of the 36th yahrzeit of her beloved mother.

Kiddush Sponsors, Shabbat November 12: **Devorah Schoenfeld** in honor of Michael Werner's new job in San Antonio, Texas; **Ernie and Frances Alexander, Daniel and Chava Boyarin, Bertram and Bernice Bradley, Andrea Broff, Sanne Dewitt, Hugh Dewitt, Margo Feeley**, in honor of Shabbat.

Kiddush Sponsor, Shabbat November 19: **Gan Shalom** in appreciation of the Beth Israel community.

Kiddush Sponsors, Shabbat November 26: **The Wulf family** in honor of Ami's bar mitzvah.

Kiddush Sponsors, Shabbat December 3: **Aaron Marcus and Leslie Becker** in honor of their 20th wedding anniversary.

Kiddush Sponsors, Shabbat December 10: **the Barany family** in memory of the second yahrzeit of granddaughter Merav Rina Barany; and the 6th yahrzeit of Ronald Barany's aunt Juliana Friedman.

Kiddush Sponsors, Shabbat December 17: **Stacey Simon** in honor of Miriam's birthday; **Ory Sandel** in honor of Gaby's birthday; **Noah and Hope Alper** in honor of Noah's birthday, Hila Wishkovsky's and Efrat Singer's birthday, and the third anniversary of Robbie's bar mitzvah; and **Toby and Ezra Hendon** in honor of the 4th anniversary of Kenny's bar mitzvah.

todah rabah

GENERAL FUND

Arnoldine Berlin

Aaron & Barbara Blumenfeld

Norman & Beverly Feldman, speedy recovery for Laura Lipman

Sam & Rose Ginsburg, in honor of Mark Schickman

Ilene Lee, in memory of Abraham Mindes, Bessie Berggard Mindes, Jess Pregler & Lea Gransig Pregler

Izyaslav & Raisa Kreymer in honor of our parents: Zunya Reysah Ben Mayer (d. 1994); Hacya bet Israel, (d. 1986); Riva Borisovna Gershberg (d. 1991); Frima Kreymer (d. 1941); David Solomonorih Kreymer (d. unknown 1941-1944)

Vida Lehmann, in memory of Joan Brodsky's mother

Michael & Deborah Lesser, honoring Mark Schickman

Gary & Lois Marcus, in memory of Meyer Kagan

Edward & Phyllis Miller, in honor of the bar mitzvah of Ami Wulf

William Roisen

Susan Heller Sommerville in honor of the marriage of Jeremy Winer; all responsible for the architecture and interior design of this wonderful new building; in memory of Judith Bloom's mother; in memory of Leslie Provence

Jeff & Doreet Stein, in memory of Leslie Provence

Harry & Clara Stein for Yiskor

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Joan Brodsky in memory of her beloved mother, Doris Cappelli Sweetman, z"l; and in honor of the warmth, generosity, and hospitality that the congregation showered upon our family during such a great loss to our whole family at large.

Joan and Joel Brodsky in honor of Barbara Budnitz's women's Shabbat dinner; and Leslie Valas and Alan Finkelstein's new members luncheon on Shabbat. Mazel tov to both families.

Sam and Rose Ginsburg in memory of Gulliver Boland, z"l; for yiskor pledge; and in appreciation of the High Holidays outreach program

Paul Hoffman

Rena and Mordy Rosen in memory of Meyer Kagan, z"l, beloved husband of Ethel Kagan and father of Risa Kagan

Sandy Kaplan Schwarcz in memory of Leslie Provence, z"l; and in gratitude to Rabbi Silverman for the comfort he has provided to my husband upon the passing of his father

Henry & Violette Sibony, in honor of Ami Wulf's Bar Mitzvah

Stacey Simon, with thanks to the community for its support during a difficult transition

KITCHEN USE

The house committee has formulated some guidelines for the membership regarding kitchen use.

We have put up a bulletin board in the kitchen. There will be a calendar that members can sign to schedule kitchen use. We have also put up a checklist for kitchen cleaning for anyone who uses the kitchen.

Additionally we have asked the following people to be available for kitchen questions.

For December: Maxine Winer

For January: Bella Barany

For February: Barbara Budnitz

For March: Marti Zedeck

Whoever wants to use the kitchen should:

1. Check dates on calendar to see if kitchen is available
2. Verify all dates with Joëlle and the kitchen helper assigned for that month (see above)
3. Please speak to a house committee member (above) regarding kitchen procedures, and how to get in and out of the building
4. Do not forget to sign up when you want the kitchen.

BUILDING FUND

Norman & Beverly Feldman in memory of Ronnie & Louis Rubin, Rose and Moses Feldman, and Gloria Yanover

Michael & Chanah Piotrkowski in memory of Chanah's mother, Tsina Tova bat yisroel, z"l

Eric Seder

Rabbi Yair Silverman & Ilana Fodiman-Silverman in memory of Gulliver Boland z"l, Charles Wulf z"l, Arthur Kaplan z"l, Doris Cappelli Sweetman z"l, Zalman Boyarin z"l and in honor of Laura Lipman and Rebecca Landes' ongoing, speedy recovery

Robert & Naomi Stamper

Stanley & Linda Wulf in memory of Isaac Kaplan's father, Arthur - Avraham Kaplan z"l

Review of laws of Chanukah and lighting your Chanukia

- Chanukah begins on the evening of the 25th of Kislev this year Sunday night Dec. 25th and continues for eight days.
- For the entire eight days of Chanukah it is forbidden to fast or to eulogize.
- During morning prayers, *Shacharit*, one should recite the full *Hallel* every day.
- "*Al hanissim*" the special paragraph of prayers for Chanukah is added in the silent prayers, *Shmoneh Esreh* and also in Grace after meals. If one forgot to say this addition, one should not repeat either *Shmoneh Esreh* or Grace.

Preparing the Chanukia

- If a number of people are lighting in one household they should make a slight separation between their *Chanukias* so that there is no confusion to the observer as to the number of candles.
- Ideally, the *Chanukia* should be placed outside the house to the left of the entrance. Since anti-Semitism was so common throughout Jewish history it became customary among many communities to place the *Chanukia* inside the house, near the entrance or on the table. In many families it is the custom to place the *Chanukia* in a window facing the public, especially where many people share one entrance (e.g., apartment building).
- The *Chanukia* should be no lower than three *tfachim* from the floor (approx. 10.5 inches) and should be no higher than 20 *amot* from ground level (35.5 ft). Ideally, it should be about 10 *tfachim* high (40 inches).
- The *Chanukia* should have all the candle or wicks on the same level, none higher or lower than the others.
- It is customary to have an additional candle (the *shamash*) with which to light the other candles and in order to use its light. The *shamash* should be placed in a way that shows that it is not one of the Chanukah candles.
- It is preferable to have the candles in a straight line, and not in a semi-circle, however it is permitted to have them in a semi-circle providing each candle is clearly separated from the others.
- It is prohibited to light the *shamash* from the Chanukah candles.
- It is obligatory to light candles, and one should even borrow money to fulfill this mitzvah. If a poor person needs money for Chanukah candles the community is obligated to provide for him.
- The minimum obligation is that every household should have one candle burning every night. It is customary to be scrupulous regarding this *mitzvah*: to have one candle on the first night and an additional candle every night (1-8), and for everyone in the house as well.
- Any type of oil is acceptable for use in the *Chanukia*, however, it is best to use olive oil.
- Wax candles are also acceptable, providing they have a single wick.
- Place first candle on the extreme right of the *Chanukia*. On the second night add a candle on the left. Light the newest candle first and proceed to the right.
- There are different customs regarding the placement of the candles, some follow the right and left of the observer from outside, some follow the right and left of the person lighting inside.

Order of blessings and songs:

- On the first night three *brachot*, blessings are recited. "*Lehadlik ner shel Chanukah*", "*She asa nissim*" and "*Shehecheyanu*". Page 709 in the Birnbaum Siddur or Page 782 in the Artscroll Siddur
- On the other nights only the first two blessings are said.

- All the blessings should be recited before actually lighting the candles. First light the *Shamash* before the blessings to avoid delay. It is forbidden to speak between the recitation of the blessings and the completion of candle lighting.
- "*Haneirot Halalu*" is recited either during or after the lighting of the additional candles.
- "*Maoz tsur yeshuaty*" then sung.

Now that its lit...:

- The *Chanukia* should not be moved after it has been lit.
- If the *Chanukia* was lit in accordance with the requirements of Jewish law and it was extinguished, one is not obligated to relight it, but one may relight it without reciting a blessing.
- If the *Chanukia* was not lit properly in the first place, or was lit in a windy place and blew out then one is obligated to relight if it went out within 1/2 hour after nightfall.
- It is permitted to work; however it is customary for women not to do any work for the entire time of that the candles are burning.
- It is forbidden to derive benefit from the light of the *Chanukia* just as it was forbidden to derive benefit from the *Menorah* in the Temple, and also in order to show that its purpose of the *Chanukia* is for a *Mitzvah*, not just for illumination.

When to light:

- There are different customs as to the lighting of the *Chanukia*. Some light at sunset. Some light about ten minutes after sunset and some at nightfall. Here in Berkeley one should try to light as soon as possible after 5:40 p.m.
- It is obligatory to put in enough oil, or a long enough candle to burn for at least 1/2 hour after nightfall (i.e. the appearance of three medium size stars).
- In exceptional circumstances one may light one and a quarter hours before sunset with a blessing. (However one should be careful to put in more oil or to use longer candles). If possible it is better to appoint an agent to light candles at the correct time, than to light early.
- If one forgot or was not able to light at the correct time, one may light as long as people are still awake in the house in which one is lighting.
- It is best to light in the presence of many people in order to publicize the miracle.
- If one is a guest at someone's house (and staying there), one should give the owner a small amount of money to buy a portion in their candles and one may fulfill the obligation through the owner. Alternatively the guest may light his own *Chanukia*.
- If one is eating out then one should light the *Chanukia* at their place of residence.

Chanukah & Shabbat

- On Friday afternoon, the Chanukah candles should be lit before the Shabbat candle-lighting time (if one accepted Shabbat early, it is forbidden to light Chanukah candles). *Mincha* should be said before lighting, if possible.
- Remember to put in more oil or bigger candles on Friday, so that they burn 1/2 hour after nightfall. Try to light just before the Shabbat candles, (without of course delaying the lighting of the Shabbat candles)
- After Shabbat one should first recite *Havdalah*, then light the Chanukah candles. One may not use the *Chanukia* as the candle for *Havdalah*.

Adapted from the laws of Chanukah by Rabbi Mordechai Beche
 Warm brachot for a joyous and safe Chanukah
 Rabbi Yair Silverman



JANUARY/FEBRUARY SCHEDULE

Congregation Beth Israel *chai lights*

SHABBAT PARSHAT VAYIGASH

Friday & Saturday, Jan. 6th – 7th

Candle Lighting	4:47 p.m.
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	4:55 p.m.
Morning Service.....	9:15 a.m.
Educational Childcare	10:15 a.m.
Shabbat Mincha	12:30 p.m.
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends after	5:49 p.m.

FAST OF 10TH OF TEVET

Tuesday, Jan. 10th

Fast Begins	6:13 a.m.
Shacharit	6:30 a.m.
Mincha with Torah Reading & Haftorah at Chabad of Berkeley.....	4:40 p.m.
Ma'ariv at Chabad of Berkeley	5:30 p.m.
Fast End's	5:51 p.m.

SHABBAT PARSHAT VAYECHI

Friday & Saturday, Jan. 13th –14th

Candle Lighting	4:53 p.m.
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat	5:00 p.m.
Morning Service.....	9:15 a.m.
Educational Childcare.....	10:15 a.m.
Shabbat Mincha	12:30 p.m.
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends after	5:55 p.m.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - Monday, Jan. 16th

Legal Holiday Learning Sunday, Jan. 15	9:00 a.m.
Monday, Jan. 16, Shacharit.....	6:30 a.m.

SHABBAT PARSHAT SHEMOT

Friday & Saturday, Jan. 20th –21st

Candle Lighting	5:01 p.m.
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat.....	5:05 p.m.
Morning Service.....	9:15 a.m.
Educational Childcare.....	10:15 a.m.

Shabbat Mincha	12:30 p.m.
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends after	6:02 p.m.

SHABBAT MEVARCHIM PARSHAT VAEIRAH

Friday & Saturday, Jan. 27th –28th

Candle Lighting	5:08 p.m.
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat.....	5:15 p.m.
Morning Service.....	9:15 a.m.
Educational Childcare	10:15 a.m.
Shabbat Mincha	12:35 p.m.
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends after	6:10 p.m.

ROSH CHODESH SHEVAT

Night Sunday & Monday –Jan. 29th – 3th

Shacharit.	6:30 a.m.
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SHABBAT PARSHAT BO

Friday & Saturday, Feb. 3rd –4th

Candle Lighting	5:17 p.m.
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat.....	5:20 p.m.
Morning Service.....	9:15 a.m.
Educational Childcare	10:15 a.m.
Shabbat Mincha	12:40 p.m.
Havdalah & Shabbat ends after.....	6:17 p.m.

SHABBAT PARSHAT BESHALACH

Friday & Saturday, Feb. 10th –11th

Candle Lighting	5:24 p.m.
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat.....	5:30 p.m.
Morning Service.....	9:15 a.m.
Educational Childcare	10:15 a.m.
Shabbat Mincha	12:40 p.m.
Havdalah & Shabbat ends after.....	6:25 p.m.

TU B'SHVAT

Sunday Night & Monday, Feb. 12th –13th

Tu B'shvat Seder at CBI	late Sunday afternoon
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Times For Action

Many commandments need to be performed during particular times of the day; here is a list of those times.
All times are for Berkeley during 2005 – all times are for Pacific Standard Time

Week of	January 7	January 14	January 21	January 28	February 4	February 11
<i>Alot Ha'Shachar Dawn</i>	6:13 a.m.	6:12 a.m.	6:09 a.m.	6:04 a.m.	5:59 a.m.	5:51 a.m.
<i>Neitz-Sunrise</i>	7:25 a.m.	7:24 a.m.	7:21 a.m.	7:16 a.m.	7:11 a.m.	7:03 a.m.
Latest ideal time for the morning <i>Sh'ma</i>	9:50 a.m.	9:51 a.m.	9:51 a.m.	9:49 a.m.	9:47 a.m.	9:43 a.m.
<i>Mincha Gedolah</i> Earliest time for Mincha	12:40 p.m.	12:43 p.m.	12:46 p.m.	12:48 p.m.	12:49 p.m.	12:50 p.m.
<i>Sh'kia</i> Sunset	5:06 p.m.	5:13 p.m.	5:20 p.m.	5:28 p.m.	5:36 p.m.	5:44p.m.
<i>Tzeit Ha'kochavim</i> Nightfall	5:48 p.m.	5:55 p.m.	6:02 p.m.	6:10 p.m.	6:18 p.m.	6:26 p.m.

JOIN THE LEARNING AT CBI

SUNDAYS

SUNDAY MORNING TALMUD CLASS

A class structured to appeal to Talmud students of all levels. We are studying the festivals and the relationship between the individual and the community in the Temple in Jerusalem through *Tractate Chagigah*.
Daniel Boyarin , Sunday, 9-10 am - *on mid-semester break, resumes first Sunday in February*

MONDAYS

MIDRASHA TANACH B'IVRIT

Explore biblical narratives in their original text; delve into the social, ethical and historic significance of these texts. Open to all high school students, please register through Midrasha.
David Henkin, Monday, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

HEBREW CHAT

Join Hila & Efrat in casual conversation as you unlock the power and beauty of the Hebrew language
Monday, 7:00 p.m. at the Alper's home

TUESDAYS

CONCEPTIONS AND MISCONCEPTIONS IN HALAKHA

A chance to explore the development of Halakha from the Talmud to modern Halakhic authorities. We will explore intriguing Halakhic scenarios and their conceptual underpinnings.
Ilana Fodi-Silverman, Tuesday, 10:30-11:30 am

COMMUNITY-WIDE TALMUD

Sponsored by Netivot Shalom and Beth Israel, meets at Beth Israel. Enter the world of Talmudic discourse and reasoning. Study Tractate Sanhedrin regarding the necessary qualifications for judges.
Ilana Fodiman-Silverman, Tuesday, 8:00 -9:45 p.m.

WEDNESDAYS

LATTE AND LEARNING

Explore Judaism with Ahron Glazer of the East Bay NCSY; for more information, contact Kenny Hendon or Sam Lyons, Berkeley NCSY vice presidents
Wednesday, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Starbucks, 1600 Shattuck , corner of Shattuck & Cedar

OPEN BEIT MIDRASH

Join our Open Beit Midrash every Wednesday evening from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. The Library/Beit Midrash will be open. As Rabbi Silverman has often said: "the single greatest feature of the yeshiva is the *shoel u'mashiv*, the resource person who is present in the house of study to guide the students towards the appropriate books or

tools to help with a particular issue." Bring that Jewish book or Jewish topic that you've always wondered about and come to our Beit Midrash, staffed with a number of *shoelim u'mashivim* — resource people/reference librarians who will help you uncover the passion of independent Torah study.
Wednesday, 7:30-9:00 p.m.

MESSILAT YESHARIM

Messilat Yesharim study group with SaraLeya Schley meets as part of the open beit midrash.

THURSDAYS

PARSHAT HASHAVUA

Seek ethical and philosophical insights by studying a section from each week's Torah portion. We will develop sensitivity to differing approaches of the classical commentaries, with an eye to understanding the questions that they seek to answer.
Rabbi Yair Silverman - Thursday, 12:15-1:15 pm

ZVI SEPTIMUS'S MIDRASHA TALMUD CLASS

Introduce yourself to the world of the Talmudic narrative (Agadata) through the eyes of our sages. Open to all high school students, please register through Midrasha.
Thursday, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

PIZZA PASH

If you are blessed with a child in 1st through 6th grade, you now have the opportunity to study serious Torah with them on a weekly basis. Explore the weekly portion through interactive questions and a curriculum created by Rabbi Motti Elon. The Torah that a child is privileged to study with one of their parents is qualitatively different than any other Torah education you are already providing for them. Please contact Efrat or Hila at (510) 528-2460 to sign up.
Thursday, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY TORAH CLASS WITH RABBI SILVERMAN

4-part class, starting Jan. 5: Explore the life, works, disputes and exiles of the Ramban Nachmanides, the central influence on 13th century Spanish Jewry; how he won the dispute but lost his home.
Rabbi Yair Silverman - Thursday, 8:00 - 9:00 p.m.

SHABBAT

EDUCATIONAL CHILDCARE AT GAN SHALOM

Are you or someone you love climbing off the walls in shul? If so, there is a Shabbat morning program for you! Teffila, song, Torah, and treats.

BETH ISRAEL IN ISRAEL #2

by Jane F.

I recently returned from a month in Israel, where I saw numerous former members and friends of CBI. Many of you thanked me for my last report back, so voila, another one...

I was thrilled to be there for the Bat Mitzva of **Merav Blum**, son of **Jody and Brian Blum**, at Kehillat Yedidya's new building, cum party at Shulchan David (which happens to be owned by the son of **Pauline and Irving Ziderman**, at whose home I had a Shabbat meal - they're doing great). There was a separate women's service, which Merav conducted with aplomb, and then gave a wonderful d'var Torah. Jody's seminars on household money management are going strong, as is Brian's column, "This Normal Life" (accessible on the Web)...Also in attendance were **Esther Susswein Edell**, due to visit the Grubers in Berkeley imminently; **Gail and Marc Luria**; **Shaya Lyon**, wearing the head-covering of the married lady she is; **Jane Golbert**, happy to be back; the **Zehava-Asis**, etc., etc...**Arieh and Ann Breslow** and their three girls are flourishing in Efrat. Arieh is doing seminars on Tai Chi Walking for seniors in Israel and abroad, produced a video on the subject in addition to his book. Ann, a massage therapist as well as Tai Chi teacher, gave me a wonderful, much-needed massage while I was visiting...**Miriam Falk** gifted me with a copy of the impressive festschrift for **Ze'ev (z"l)**, recently published by Hebrew University Press...**David and Roz Moss's** family is blossoming. David's newest hat is as creator of interior spiritual design for Jewish institutions...I had a Shabbat lunch at their daughter **Aliza Rabinovich's**, who, coincidentally is married to Dovy, son of my dear friend Sharona, and it gave me great nachas to see their beautiful kids (3), home, and table...**Pearl Schub** keeps fit going to the gym at Ramat Rachel every day, then helps out with **Jennie Schub Sternlicht's** five lively kids...I visited **Linda and Sam Solomon** at their home in Rehasim, the "haredi capital of the north," who, with their children, have integrated remarkably well into that unpretentious, pious community that has few other American residents...**Coby Solomon**, father of 4 (can you believe it?), lives in the Golan and is a chaplain with the Army...Last but not least, I spent a Shabbat with **Rabbi Leibowitz** in Kfar Saba. Well, actually, I stayed at the nearby home of **David and Ruthie**

Mitchell. Aaron Leibowitz's shul in Nahlaot is "hot," I understand from **Aviva Zornberg's** son, who is a member there (Aviva will be in SF in May). It's the in place for the "Habakkuk" generation (a mélange of Chabad/Rav Nachman/Rav Kook). Aaron has 4 children; Chana 3, expecting a fourth; **Miriam** 1, expecting a second. Yad Yakov is in the process of expanding to many Israeli cities. If you have contact information for former members across the U.S. or the world, including children who grew up at the shul, please email it to the shul office at office@beth-israel.berkeley.ca.us.

Until my next trip...

Don't Miss Out! 4-part series starting January 5 on the life, works and impact of the Ramban, Nachmanides

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Kindergarten Information Brunch

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MID-RASHA

Have you ever had something wonderful happen to you, but for a very sad reason? I'm sure that's not an uncommon experience. A few months ago I got a phone call from Debbie and Mike Feiler.

They are parents of two Midrasha graduates and Debbie is a current Midrasha teacher and faculty representative to the Midrasha Board of Directors. The Feilers told me they wanted to make a substantial contribution to Midrasha, to establish a Midrasha Director's Discretionary Fund. The sad reason that goes with this particular good news, is that the contribution was to be in memory of their daughter Rebecca, who died of cancer in September, 2004 at the age of 22. Rebecca graduated from Midrasha in the spring of 2000. She was passionate about social justice and indeed, while at CAL chose to work with the Emma Goldman Papers project, as well as working for Middle East dialogue. While at Midrasha, her teachers wrote things on their evaluations such as: "I am so fortunate to have students like Rebecca to teach. She can definitely hold her own in an often debate-like environment. I am always impressed by her thoughtful offerings, and the class thrives from her participation." "She is a strong, insightful and caring person, and her passion is reflected in her writing." "I really appreciated Rebecca's open, sunny disposition." "Rebecca always has pithy interpretations and clearly has thought a great deal about the class material." "Rebecca was extremely responsible and helpful. She was a delight to have in class." "Her warmth and good nature, combined with her sensitivity and willingness to engage the material, continued to make her a consistently positive presence in the classroom." "She is thoughtful and intelligent in her comments, and seems genuinely interested in every subject we covered. She is quite mature for her grade and is a terrific role model for the rest of the students, just by being herself. Never judgmental about others' opinions, Rebecca simply offers her thoughts, and is a very active participant in a class which offers a number of outspoken individuals." "Rebecca is a bright, positive, open-minded student who always approaches poetry with such integrity and heart."

I am telling you about this establishment of a Midrasha Director's Discretionary Fund for two reasons. First, so that you will know it exists, if you are ever moved to make a

contribution to such a fund. And second, so that if you know of needs within the community, you can let me know. People think of approaching rabbis in time of need, but sometimes educators as well have discretionary funds. Help me find good use for this money. And many, many thanks to the Feiler family.

And a heads up on things in the future. The new semester at Midrasha starts January 8. We continue to accept new students all year long. If you know teens who were too overwhelmed with school, applications to high school or college, and everything else that fall brings, and who haven't yet registered at Midrasha, it's not too late. Check our website. (www.midrasha.org) Second semester courses will be listed in the beginning of December. Our new building is huge and we have plenty of room to accommodate new students.

And keep the late afternoon/early evening of March 5 free. It will be this year's Midrasha Seudah with special featured guest Michael Krasny. If you'd like to make sure you get an invitation, phone the Midrasha office, 843-4667.

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DOLL-MAKING WORKSHOP AT BETH ISRAEL



On November 13, Barbara Schubert gave a wonderful workshop for Sisterhood on Doll-Making. Barbara created professional packets of instructions and patterns so each attendee could learn how to apply wool hair and face details to cloth dolls, and then make clothes for them on the spot. She brought lots of fabric, trim and wool, as well as dolls she had already made for us to use as examples. Barbara also displayed an extensive collection of books showing different styles of cloth dolls. Everything was set up beautifully, to provide an interesting, relaxing, creative, fun afternoon for three generations of attendees. Thank you Barbara! You may view more of Barbara's creations at www.imakedolls.com, or call her at 883-0584 to schedule a workshop for adults and/or children.

Desmid Lyon, Sisterhood Coordinator





THE GAN SHALOM ARTS & CRAFTS BAZAAR



Shabbat Youth Programs at Congregation Beth Israel Kids!

- Come join us for a fun filled Shabbat morning while your parents are at shul!
- Learn, daven and play with friends! Special Kiddush/snacks provided.
- Where: Gan Shalom Preschool, half a block from CBI (2230 Jefferson)
- When: Every Shabbat, 10:30-11:45

The details for parents:

CBI is proud to offer educational youth programming on Shabbat, and we welcome children ages 18 months – 12 years in our current programs. Each age group is offered developmentally appropriate activities; the ages listed below are a guide for parents, who will know best where their child should be.

Ketanim: (18 months-3 years)**

Supervised outdoor play in Gan Shalom yard; inside if weather demands. Healthy snacks are available; parents are responsible for all diaper changing needs. If Ketanim is “full” when you arrive, you may be asked to stay with your child.

Drop off: Can be as early as 10:15 (for Ketanim group ONLY)

Pick Up: Parents must establish clear pick up plan with program supervisor; Ketanim MUST be picked up at Gan Shalom by a parent.

** Children younger than 18 months are welcome to play with the Ketanim, but must be accompanied by one of their own parents for the entire time they are present.

Yeladim (3-6)

Meet upstairs in small room for kid-friendly davening, learning, torah parade and more! Kiddush/snack provided at end of program.

Drop off: 10:30, program begin at 10:45

Pick Up: All yeladim will be escorted by an adult back to CBI sanctuary at 11:50; if you prefer, a parent may pick up before 11:50 at Gan Shalom.

Talmidim: (7-12)

Meet in main room for davening and learning. Kiddush/snack available at end of program.

Drop off: 10:30, program begins at 10:45

Pick up: All Talmidim will be escorted by an adult back to CBI at 11:50; if you prefer, a parent may pick up before 11:50 at Gan Shalom

Questions? Contact the Youth programming committee members: Kenny Bamberger, Ilana Fodiman-Silverman, Lauren Greenberg, Cynthia Scheinberg, Tania Schweig, Doreet Stein, Rona Teitelman

DECEMBER/JANUARY CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

Joshua Safran, December 3
 Ezra Malmuth, December 6
 Jonathan Lyon, December 9
 Muni Schweig, December 10
 Steven Edel, December 11
 Karen Horowitz Weiner, December 14
 Noah Alper, December 18
 Batyah Menuchah Jasper turns 4 on December 18
 Gaby Sandel turns 5 on December 19
 Hallel Givon turns 5 on December 25
 Gary Boland, December 27
 Frances Alexander, December 31
 Molly Haber turns 2 on January 1
 Lev Shmuel Shalem Moshe Meir Aish ben Tzipora
 Faiga Gittel turns 4 years old on Jan. 2/18 Teves
 Sarah Jasper, January 2
 Danielle Diamond turns 13 on January 4
 Benjamin Dorfman Zoloth turns 17 on January 4
 Garrett Candau turns 11 on January 5

Orli Hellerstein turns 4 on January 5
 Jane Turbiner, January 9
 Hannah Rose Kabella turns 4 January 10
 Jeff Shannon, January 10
 Susan Stanfield, January 12
 Ilana Fodiman-Silverman, January 13
 Hodayah Tal Miller turns 6 on January 20
 Liza Silverwalker, January 21
 Jennifer Lubin, January 26
 Rebecca Landes, January 27
 Esther Kelly turns 17 on January 29

Anniversaries

Aaron Marcus & Leslie Becker, 20 years, Dec. 15
 Muni & Tania Schweig, 8 years, Dec. 22
 Jonathan & Sharon Gruber, 4 years, Dec. 23
 Mark & Susan Schickman, 26 years, Dec. 25
 Harry & Dorothy Rubin, 54 years, Jan. 14
 David & BatSheva Miller, 15 years, Jan. 22

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF LEARNING AT CBI

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
9:00-10:00 a.m. Talmud Class <i>Resumes in February</i> Daniel Boyarin		10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Halakha Ilana Fodiman-Silverman		12:15-1:15 p.m. Parshat Hashavua Rabbi Yair Silverman
	4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Midrasha Tanach B'Ivrit David Henkin			4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Midrasha's Talmud Class Zvi Septimus
			6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Latte & Learning NCSY	5:30-6:15 & 6:00-7:00 p.m. Pizza Pash Efrat & Hila
	7:00 p.m. Hebrew Chat Efrat & Hila	8:00 - 9:45 p.m. Community-Wide Talmud Ilana Fodiman-Silverman	7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Open Beit Midrash CBI	8:00 - 9:00 p.m. 4-Part class on the Ramban Rabbi Yair Silverman

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