



chai-lights

APRIL/MAY 2006

Nisan/Iyar 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: 15 minutes before candle lighting

See detailed schedule on pages 8-9

MEET OUR CANDIDATE FINALISTS OVER THE NEXT THREE WEEKENDS

Join us at 7:00 p.m. for Friday evening Kabbalat Shabbat and light refreshments, a Shabbat morning *drasha*, a *seudat shlishit* and class, and a post-Shabbat opportunity to meet, get to know and ask questions of our three rabbinic candidate finalists. See details on page 5.



Rabbi Yonatan Cohen
April 28-30
Shabbat Parshat Tazria-
Metzora



Rabbi Etan Judah Mintz
May 5-8
Shabbat Achrei
Mot-Kedoshim



Rabbi Uri Topolosky
May 11-14
Shabbat Emor

from the rabbi

Preparation, in Judaism, is an essential component. We're taught *ain kedusha b'elo hachana*, there is no sanctity without preparation. Pesach, of all the annual festivals, certainly requires the greatest effort and challenge in its preparation, and hopefully we have likewise experienced great sanctity and enjoyment.

On the second night of Pesach, we begin the longest period of preparation of the year, the counting of the Omer. We count seven complete weeks, 49 days until the holiday of Shavuot. One central rationale for this counting is to remind us of the link between our physical freedom marked by Passover and our spiritual responsibility marked by the revelation of the Torah at Sinai on Shavuot, and that ultimately as much physical preparation as is necessary to celebrate Pesach from searching for *chametz* to koshering your home, to changing the dishes, to buying the Pesach produce, this is only the first step for the spiritual preparation for the acceptance of the Torah.

In our modern Jewish calendar, there are five memorable days that punctuate this *sefirat ha'omer* period.

- *Yom Hashoah v'hagvorah*, Day of Memory for the victims of the Holocaust and their heroism – 27th of Nisan, this year the 25th of April, marks the national Jewish day of remembrance of the Holocaust. We, at Beth Israel, join together in the city-wide commemoration Holocaust Remembrance Day, Legacies of Justice, Monday, April 24, 12:00 -1:00 p.m., Berkeley City Council Chambers, 2134 MLK, Jr. Way, as well as in the Jewish community-wide commemoration on Tuesday, April 25, at 8:00 p.m. at Temple Sinai, 2808 Summit St. Oakland. These twilight years for the holocaust survivors sagershony@comcast.net rs, it is imperative that we cherish, support, and listen with awe and reverence to their history of survival.
- *Yom Hazikaron*, Day of Remembrance for the fallen Israeli soldiers and victims of terror, the 4th of Iyar, this year May 2nd, this day always precedes *Ha'Atzmaut*, Israeli Independence Day, to remind us of the great price of our national freedom, in particular after these last years of debilitating terrorist attacks in Israel, I always think about the injured. So often you see the headline with the number who lost their life, and buried in the small print is that this many had serious injuries, this many had minor injuries. Minor injuries, in Israel, can mean the loss of an arm, a leg, an eye – not to mention the psychological scars which are often much more painful to heal. On this *Yom Hazikaron*, I call our attention to these often overlooked victims and ask that they be blessed with the courage to affirm life, the courage to live and love again. At Beth Israel, we mark *Yom Yazikaron* with a short ceremony on Tuesday evening, May 2nd,

Chai-lights

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We welcome submissions to *Chai-Lights*.

Layout, design and production: Joelle Yzquierdo

The deadline for all submissions is the 10th of the month preceding publication. Submissions may be edited and published at the discretion of the editor, content will not be censored without consultation. Please e-mail submissions to office@beth-israel.berkeley.ca.us or send them to the synagogue office to the attention of *Chai-Lights* Editor

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Rabbi Yair Silverman



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

at 7:00 p.m., just before the onset of *Yom Ha'Atzmaut*.

- *Ha'Atzmaut*, Israeli Independence Day. The rebirth of the independent state of Israel after 2000 years of exile is of monumental significance to us as Jews regardless of where we reside. In Berkeley we are blessed with the great ability to think critically and recognize shortcomings, and all too often this trait stymies our ability to develop an attitude of appreciation for the blessing and goodness which is present. My blessing is that for this one day, we are able to set aside our political differences and appreciate the awesomeness of the Jewish democratic state of Israel and express our gratitude to be privileged to live in this unique time period. Please bring your instruments and join in our festive ma'ariv and hallel on Tuesday night, May 2nd at 7:30 p.m.
- *Lag B'Omer*, the 18th of Iyar, this year May 16, marks the end of the period of time in which 12,000 pairs of Torah students, all the students of Rabbi Akivah, lost their lives according to the Talmud as an outcome of their lack of treating one another with respect. It is a day in which we are charged to refocus our energies on the interpersonal mitzvot, and it is marked by joining together in celebration. We join together with Chabad for a picnic and barbeque together in Tilden Park.
- *Yom Yerushalayim*, 28th of Iyar, this year Friday, May 26, we mark the remarkable deliverance of the Jewish people from a near tragedy of the Six Day War in 1967. We are challenged to behave in a sensitive, just and ethical fashion in light of this victory, which we have been privileged to receive. However, we are also charged to express our gratitude to God upon this remarkable salvation in spite of the new challenges which we are now facing. Come share the expression of gratitude by joining in shacharit with hallel at 6:30 a.m.

All five of these days are days in which the prohibitions of Shabbat or Yom Tov do not apply; as

such, it is easy to allow them to slip by without notice. My blessing and challenge is that we allow ourselves the opportunity to experience these days with the fullness and richness that they deserve.

Rabbi Yair Silverman

P.s. Please be a part of the process of selecting a new rabbi for this wonderful community!

BETH ISRAEL COMMITTEES

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

Fundraising Committee: Joan Sopher

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

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

Landscape Committee: Chair - Rita Kohl. Members - Joan Brodsky, Jory Gessow, Susan Schickman, Steve Silberblatt

Membership Committee: Chair - Leslie Valas; Members - Barbara Budnitz, Juliet Stamper

Memorial Plaque Committee: John Pilkington

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

Scrip Committee: Chair: Naomi Stamper. Members- Sabrina Kabella, Ruth Wittman

Sisterhood/Women's Group: Facilitator: Desmid Lyon; Committees: Jane Falk, Rose Ginsburg, Vida Lehmann, Sondra Markowitz, SerachBracha Richards, Violette Sibony, Ruth Wittman, Marti Zedeck

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

Social Action Committee: Jonah Markowitz

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

from the president

This is a labile season for us Jews. On Purim, we celebrated our near destruction with a drunken feast, wild by shul standards. On Pesach, we relived the journey from bondage to freedom, trading bitter herbs for brisket and cake. We follow quickly with Yom HaShoah, a personally mournful experience for many of our immediate families, and Yom HaAtzmaut and Yom Yerushalyim -refusing to wallow in pain while there is rebuilding to celebrate. But even our joy in the birth of Israel and the liberation of Jerusalem is tempered by the constant reality of terror in the lands.

We would likely all be bipolar were it not for our genetic predisposition to integrate churban and binyan - destruction and rebuilding. It is a skill best illustrated by a Talmudic archetype named Nachum Ish Gamzu, so named because no matter what went wrong, he would reply "Gam zu l'tovah" - this, too, is for the good." The story is told (in Ta'anit, 21a) that he was carrying a chest of jewels as a gift from the Jews to the King, when robbers replaced the stones with sand. After learning of the switch in the King's presence, he still said: "Gam zu l'tovah." Indeed, that sand was used magically to help the King to defeat a difficult foe, causing the King to grant great riches and honor to the Jews. Our worst moments could lead to great results.

Is it a theory or a rationalization? I don't know. But when Rabbi Silverman announced definitively that his heart pulled him from Berkeley to Israel, we had two possible responses: either moaning and wailing, or acknowledging that this can be a great opportunity for us and for the Silvermans, for Israel and for the Bay Area.

Many of you were in shul year before last for a speech by Rabbi Avi Weiss, leader of New York's Yeshivat Chovevei Torah (YCT) and senior rabbi of the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale (HIR). He described Beth Israel as a uniquely treasured institution of modern orthodoxy, observing that we did not know how special we are, how lucky to be a part of this community. His thoughts have resonated

along the Upper West Side, as we have received job applications from much of HIR's rabbinic staff, and from a sizable percentage of YCT's graduating class. It has been hard to narrow the field to three candidates to bring before you in the coming weeks.

Though comparisons with Rabbi Silverman will be inevitable, they will be impossible. In his six years of growth here, Rabbi Silverman has learned the pulse of the community, and understood how the members of it tick. We have seen him in unbridled joy, and have experienced him reflecting the pain of family tragedy. We identify with the cadence of his speech, and can even find the tune in his voice. None of the candidates will enjoy that intimacy; we can learn none of them so well in a single weekend.

But we will have the chance to hear each of them give a drasha, and teach a class. We will have the chance to ask them questions, hear how and what they think. In the end we will coalesce around one rabbi, who will lead us into the future.

What will be his strengths and weaknesses? Will he be stronger as a uniting force within our membership, or as a magnet to the community at large? Will he be drawn most to teens, adults or children? Will he be best known for compassion, inspiration or erudition?

I don't know the answers to any of these questions. All I am sure is that, if we have an honest open process, then whomever we choose, gam zu l'tovah.

Mark Schickman



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REPORT FROM THE RABBINIC SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Rabbinic Search Committee has been working hard to identify candidates, to interview them by phone, and to bring some of them out for interviews. A lot of progress has been made. As you have already been told, the committee consists of the following members: Ezra Hendon, Maxine Winer, who are co-chairs, Ken Bamberger, Laila Muller, Avraham Burrell, Juliet Stamper, Violet Sibony, Mark Schickman, Rona Teitleman, and Irene Resnikoff . Of course, the committee is merely the agent of the Congregation, and it is therefore vital that the Congregation both provide input into the process and that it be informed about the work of the committee. In that spirit, we provide an update of the work of the Committee to date.

NOTIFICATION OF POSITION, RECEIPT OF RESUMES, PRELIMINARY INTERVIEWS:

We have notified Yeshiva University and Yeshivat Chovevei Torah about our opening. Various committee members have also contacted other sources within the Modern Orthodox movement for recommendations of potential candidates. We have received a considerable number of resumes, have reviewed and discussed them, and have conducted telephone interviews with seven candidates. We have also gathered information about the candidates from various sources.

CANDIDATE VISITS TO BERKELEY

On the basis of these interviews and other information, we have invited our top choices out for interviews.

- **The first of these, Rabbi Yonatan Cohen, will be here with his wife Frayda Gonshor on the first weekend of April, beginning Thursday, April 27 through Sunday, April 30.**
- **The following weekend, from May 5 through May 8, Rabbi Eitan Mintz will be at our shul.**
- **Finally, on the weekend of May 11-14, Rabbi Uri Topolosky and his wife Dhalia will be visiting us.**

Plans for the visit are being worked out, but there will be several opportunities for the community

as a whole to meet with them. **Please plan to come to shul on Shabbat April 29 to meet Rabbi Cohen and Frayda, and the following two weekends for Rabbis Mintz and Topoloski.** Details of these visits will follow shortly.

CONGREGATION MEMBER INPUT

We welcome and encourage input from our members. Each member of the Search Committee gave his/her opinions about Rabbinic Qualities he/she deemed important. We invite our membership to do the same.

PROCESS

When the candidates have visited, the committee will make our recommendation to the board. Final approval must come from the members (60% vote of members in good standing). Naturally, we hope to have this process finalized sooner rather than later and our goal is to place a recommendation to the members in late May, for a congregational vote in late May or early June. Thank you for helping us in this endeavor.

Search Committee

A Special Plea From the President: The Myth of the Silent Majority

We will be bringing in our 3 finalists for our rabbinic posts. The Search Committee will then recommend one to the Board, for presentation to you at a membership meeting in late May/early June. **WE NEED TO HEAR WHAT YOU THINK OF THESE CANDIDATES.**

PLEASE be there for the next 3 weekends. PLEASE pay attention to the drasha and classes. PLEASE (politely) ask the questions that are on your mind. PLEASE form your opinions, and pass them on to any of us on the search committee. PLEASE attend the shul meeting where we will decide on our next leader.

We want and need your input, and we want YOU to feel ownership in the process and the result. This can ONLY happen if you actively take part. PLEASE, PLEASE, do so.

Best regards, Mark.

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The Annual Beth Israel Phonathon

The Fundraising Committee thanks all the generous donors to our Israel Phonathon. Together you raised \$15,306.00 for the smooth running of our beautiful new shul in 2006.

We especially thank the callers who spent the morning of the phonathon & several hard nights thereafter, making sure that everyone had an opportunity to participate: Joan Sopher, Linda Diamond, Linda Press Wulf, Jonathan Gruber, Leslie Valas, Rona Teitelman & Naomi Stamper.

Thank you also to Linda Diamond for the loan of her beautiful new office & Ilene and Gary Katz for their help.

Linda Press Wulf

"HAIFA" (up to \$179):

Abrams, Norman and Maurina
Agin, Rhoda
 Albert, George
 Albert, Paul & Lynn-Albert, Judie
 Alexander, Ernie & Fran
 Barany, Ron & Bella
 Benichou, Albert & Gottreich, Emily
 Berger, Ari & Brenner, Naomi
 Bitzan, Amos
 Blumenfeld, Aaron & Barbara
 Bradley, Bertram & Bernice
Burrell, Avraham & Rahama
 Coffman, Eleanor
 Dolgopolsky, Sergei & Lilia
 Duhl, Lisa
 Ephstein, Erez & Schumer-Epshtein, Andrea
 Feldman, Norman & Beverly
 Finkelstein, Alan & Valas, Leslie
 Fodiman-Silverman, Rabbi Yair & Ilana
 Friedman, David & Cheryl
 Fuss, Michael

Gessow, Jory & Lisa
 Ginsburg, Sam & Rose
 Golomb, Nae
 Greenberg, Rachele in memory of my father, Moshe ben Avraham
 Gruber, Jonathan & Sharon
Harari, Jacob & Rena
 Kabella, Sabrina
 Katz, Gary & Ilene
 Kaye, Brian & Tannenbaum Kaye, Fran
 Kenin, Aaron Leon & Wendy
 Kipnis, Issy & Patricia
 Klass, Michael & Jessica
 Kuhn, Rita
 Lawton, Leora
 Lehmann, Vida
 Lemberger-Hendlish, Yishai & Ilana
 Levine, Renee
 Lipman, Laura
 Lyon, Desmid
 Lyon, Jonathan & Turbiner, Jane'
 Lys, Lynley
 Marcus, Aaron & Becker, Leslie
 Markowitz, Sam
 Miller, Phyllis & Ed
 Morris, Greg & Ruth
 Newbrun, Ernest and Eva
 Pilkington, John & Levy, Linda
 Polston, Joshua & Lisa
 Resnikoff, Denise
 Rosenbaum, Michael
 Sandel, Ory
 Schley, Sara Leya
 Schoenfeld, Diane
 Schubert, Louis & Barbara
 Schweig, Muni & Tania
 Seder, Eric & Rachel
 Shivel, Carol
 Sibony, Henry & Violette
 Silver, Steve
 Smith, Richard & Irene
 Stanfield, Susan
 Steinman, Michael & Richman, Dorothy

Sweet, Justin & Sheba
 Teitelman, Rona
 Vengarick, Anthony & Courtney
 Weinstein, Peter & Mary
 Winnick Ellen & Shelley
 Yannow, Allan & Carolyn

"HERTZLIA" (\$180 - \$499):

Alper, Noah & Hope
 Cohen, Martin
 Diamond, Richard and Linda
 Engel, Marvin & Sara
 Grant, Preston & Anya
 Haber, Sam & Jan
 Katler, Aaron & Fink, Deborah
 Kazhdan, Daniel & Gurwitz, Bea
 Rubin, Harry & Dorothy
 Silberblatt, Steve & Kohl, Rita
 Smith, Jeremy & Greenberg Smith, Iris
 Stamper, Bob & Naomi
 Winer, Marvin & Maxine

"TEL AVIV" (\$500-\$999):

Marcus, Gary & Lois
 Piotrkowski, Michael & Chanah
 Safran, Robert & June

"JERUSALEM" (\$1,000 and up):

Greenberg, Shoshana
 Kaplan, Isaac
 Sopher, Joan
 Wulf, Stanley & Press Wulf, Linda

Some of our members who pledged amounts have not yet sent in their checks. We look forward to adding your names and thanking you in next month's Chailights, which is also when we will announce the winners of our raffle prize in each category.

If you have sent in your check but do not see your name above, please contact Linda Press Wulf at 525-4115.

APRIL/MAY SCHEDULE

Congregation Beth Israel *chai lights*

YOM HASHOA

Monday night - Tuesday, April 24-25th

Monday, April 24..... 12:00-1:00 p.m.
Berkeley City Council Chambers, 2134 MLK, Jr. Way

Tuesday, April 25th..... 8:00 p.m.
Jewish Community Wide Commemoration, Temple
Sinai, 2808 Summit St. Oakland

ROSH CHODESH IYYAR

*Thursday night, Friday & Shabbat
April 27th - 29th*

Shacharit..... 6:30 a.m.

SHABBAT ROSH CHODESH PARSHAT TAZRIA-METZORA

16th Day of the Omer

Friday & Saturday, April 28th - 29th

Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat..... 7:00 p.m.
Candle Lighting..... 7:38 p.m.
Morning Service..... 9:15 a.m.
Educational Childcare..... 10:15 a.m.
Mincha..... 7:10 p.m.
Seudah Shlishit..... 7:35 p.m.
Ma'ariv..... 8:35 p.m.
Havdalah & Shabbat ends after..... 8:40 p.m.

YOM HAZIKARON/

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR ISRAELI SOLDIERS

Monday night - Tuesday, May 1st-2nd

Tuesday, May 2..... 7:00 p.m.
Yom Hazikaron ceremony at CBI

YOM HATZMA'UT

Tuesday night - Wednesday, May 2nd & 3rd

Tuesday, May 2..... 7:30 p.m.
Festive Ma'ariv with musical Hallel; bring your musical
instruments to join in our celebration. Food and fun will
be had by all.

Wednesday, May 3 Shacharit w/Hallel..... 6:30 a.m.

SHABBAT PARSHAT ACHREI MOT-KEDOSHIM

23rd Day of the Omer

Friday & Saturday, May 5th - May 6th

Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat..... 7:00 p.m.
Candle Lighting..... 7:45 p.m.
Morning Service..... 9:15 a.m.
Educational Childcare..... 10:15 a.m.
Mincha..... 7:15 p.m.
Seudah Shlishit..... 7:40 p.m.
Ma'ariv..... 8:40 p.m.
Havdalah & Shabbat ends after..... 8:47 p.m.

SHABBAT PARSHAT EMOR

30th Day of the Omer

Friday & Saturday, May 12th - May 13th

Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat..... 7:00 p.m.
Candle Lighting..... 7:51 p.m.
Morning Service..... 9:15 a.m.
Educational Childcare..... 10:15 a.m.
Mincha..... 7:15 p.m.
Seudah Shlishit..... 7:40 p.m.
Ma'ariv..... 8:50 p.m.
Havdalah & Shabbat ends after..... 8:55 p.m.

LAG B'OMER

Monday night & Tuesday, May 15th - 16th

SHABBAT PARSHAT BEHAR-BECHUKOTAI

37th Day of the Omer

Friday & Saturday, May 19th - May 20th

Scholar in Residence: Dr. Aviva Gottlieb Zornberg

Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat..... 7:00 p.m.
Candle Lighting..... 7:57 p.m.
Morning Service..... 9:15 a.m.
Educational Childcare..... 10:15 a.m.
Community-wide lunch; please register through the CBI
office by Tuesday, May 16th
Dr. Zornberg's lecture, open to all..... 2:30 p.m.
Topic: "And I Did Not Know: The Secret of Prayer"
Mincha..... 7:45 p.m.
Seudah Shlishit..... 8:05 p.m.
Ma'ariv..... 8:50 p.m.
Havdalah & Shabbat ends after..... 9:01 p.m.

YOM YERUSHALAYIM

Thursday night & Friday, May 25th - 26th

Shacharit. w/Hallel..... 6:30 a.m.

SHABBAT MEVARCHIM PARSHAT BAMIDBAR

44th Day of the Omer

Friday & Saturday, May 26th - May 27th

Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat..... 7:00 p.m.
Candle Lighting..... 8:03 p.m.
Morning Service..... 9:15 a.m.
Educational Childcare..... 10:15 a.m.
Mincha..... 7:45 p.m.
Seudah Shlishit..... 8:05 p.m.
Ma'ariv..... 9:00 p.m.
Havdalah & Shabbat ends after..... 9:08 p.m.

ROSH CHODESH SIVAN

Motzei Shabbat May 6 - Sunday, May 28th

Shacharit..... 8:00 a.m.

<p align="center">MEMORIAL DAY <i>Monday, May 29th</i></p> <p>Shacharit8:00 a.m.</p> <p align="center">SHAVUOT <i>Thursday night, June 1st – Shabbat, June 3rd</i></p> <p align="center">Erev Shavuot 49th Day of the Omer <i>Thursday, June 1st</i></p> <p>Erev Tavshillin Candle Lighting 8:07 p.m. Mincha & Yom Tov Ma'ariv at CBI 8:10 p.m. Community-wide Tikkun L'eyl Shavuot ...9:30 p.m.-Dawn At Berkeley Richmond JCC, 1414 Walnut @ Rose</p> <p align="center">First Day of Shavuot <i>Friday, June 2nd</i></p> <p>Early Shacharit @ JCC5:10 a.m.</p>	<p>Regular Yom Tov Shacharit 9:15 a.m. Yom Tov Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat 7:00 p.m. Candle Lighting BEFORE8:08 p.m.</p> <p align="center">Second Day of Shavuot Shabbat, June 3rd</p> <p align="center">SARAH MELTZER BAT MITZVAH – MAZEL TOV!</p> <p>Morning Service 9:15 a.m. Educational Childcare 10:15 a.m. Yizkor 10:30 a.m. Megillat Ruth 11:30 a.m. Community-Wide lunch in honor of Sarah Meltzer's bat mitzvah 12:15 p.m. Mincha 7:50 p.m. Seudah Shlishit 8:15 p.m. Ma'ariv 9:05 p.m. Havdalah & Shabbat & Tom Tov end after 9:13 p.m.</p>
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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, Daylight Savings Time**

Week of	May 6	May 13	May 20	May 27	June 3	June 10
<i>Alot Ha'Shachar Dawn</i>	4:56 a.m.	4:49 a.m.	4:43 a.m.	4:39 a.m.	4:36 a.m.	4:34 a.m.
<i>Neitz-Sunrise</i>	6:08 a.m.	6:01 a.m.	5:55 a.m.	5:51 a.m.	5:48 a.m.	5:46 a.m.
Latest ideal time for the morning Sh'ma	9:37 a.m.	9:33 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	9:29 a.m.	9:28 a.m.	9:28 a.m.
<i>Mincha Gedolah</i> Earliest time for Mincha	1:41 p.m.	1:41 p.m.	1:42 p.m.	1:43 p.m.	1:44 p.m.	1:46 p.m.
<i>Sh'kia Sunset</i>	8:04 p.m.	8:11 p.m.	8:17 p.m.	8:22 p.m.	8:27 p.m.	8:31 p.m.
<i>Tzeit Ha'kochavim Night-fall</i>	8:46 p.m.	8:53 p.m.	8:59 p.m.	9:04 p.m.	9:09 p.m.	9:13 p.m.

CELEBRATE ISRAEL AND OFFER OUR RESPECTS
FOR THE HIGH PRICE WE HAVE PAID FOR FREEDOM

Come join us on May 2 at 7:00 for *Yom Hazikaron* ceremony
for the remembrance of our brave Israeli soldiers,
Then at 7:30 p.m. *Yom Ha'atzmaut* 58 for the State of Israel begins!
Festive *Ma'ariv and musical Hallel* - bring your musical instruments!

For more information, contact the shlichot at (510)5282460
or hila_wishko@walla.com or efratsinger85@aol.com

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

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 Alpers' home

TUESDAYS

COMMUNITY-WIDE TALMUD

Disrobing justices: How much do we really want and need to know about the individuals that serve as judges in our Judicial system? Join us on Tuesday evenings to look at what the Talmud thinks of that question. With a close read of the third chapter of the Talmud Tractate Sanhedrin we analyze the criteria and scope which is applied to deciphering who indeed wear the robes of justice. This ongoing course is co-sponsored by Congregation Netivot Shalom and Congregation Beth Israel and meets at Beth Israel

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

On summer hiatus.

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

New three-part class on the Power of Speech. As we count the Omer, review and rediscover the power that our words have to harm or heal the world. Starting May 4th, 11th & 18th.

Rabbi Yair Silverman - Thursday, 8:00 - 9:00 p.m.

SHABBAT

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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.

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gifted lecturer."

To join us for a pre-lecture lunch, please register at the Beth Israel office
at (510) 843-5246 or office@beth-israel.berkeley.ca.us



Avivah Gottlieb Zornberg is the author of *Genesis: The Beginning of Desire* (for which she won the National Jewish Book Award) and *The Particulars of Rapture: Reflections on Exodus*; and of a number of articles. She holds a PhD in English Literature from Cambridge University. For the past twenty years, she has taught Torah in Jerusalem at MaTaN, Pardes and the Jerusalem College for Adults. Dr. Zornberg also holds a Visiting Lectureship at the London School of Jewish Studies. She travels widely, lecturing in Jewish and academic settings in the U.S., Australia, South Africa. She is currently working on a volume of essays on the unconscious as a dynamic component in midrashic and hassidic exegesis.

todah rabah

GENERAL FUND

Kathleen Bloom: proceeds from Purim Mask Fundraiser
Alan Finkelstein & Leslie Valas: in memory of Lee Valas and Harry Valas

Charlotte Fonrobert

Sam & Rose Ginsburg: in memory of Leora Lawton's Mom

Paul Hoffman

Gary & Ilene Katz: in memory of Miriam Petruck's father

Daniel Kazhdan

Edward & Phyllis Miller: in memory of Miriam Petruck's father

Michael & Chanah Piotrkowski: in honor of Miriam Petruck's father

Denise Resnikoff: in honor of Shoshana Greenberg

Mordecai & Rena Rosen: in honor of Shoshana Greenberg

Richard & Irene Smith: in memory of Bertha Winer, and Stamper granddaughter

Jeremy Weintraub: in honor of father's yahrzeit

Marvin & Maxine Winer: in memory of Miriam Petruck's father

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Rabbi Joseph & Erica Goldman Brodie

Eva Caro

Norman & Beverly Feldman to the Rostov Jewish School in memory of Zoya Dolgopolski

Jory & Lisa Gessow to the Rostov Jewish School in memory of Sergei Dolgopolski's mother

Edward & Phyllis Miller: in honor of Purim; and in honor of Shoshana Greenberg's birthday

Michael & Chanah Piotrkowski

Henry & Violette Sibony for Purim, and for the yahrzeit of Violette's mother

David Spieler: for Chaya Tova Bat Chana

Jeff & Doreet Stein to the Rostov Jewish School for Zoya Dolgopolski

BUILDING FUND

Norman & Beverly Feldman

Jonathan & Sharon Gruber

Michael & Deborah Lesser

Joseph Paresky

Michael & Chanah Piotrkowski

Robert Stamper in memory of my mother, Viviane Paradise yahrzeit

Justin & Sheba Sweet

kiddushim

Kiddush Sponsors, Shabbat February 25 & March 4:

Grandparents' Kiddush: Ernie & Frances Alexander, Judith Bloom, Avraham & Ruchama Burrell, Ron & Bella Barany, Sanne DeWitt, Ed & Sandra Epstein, Norman and Beverly Feldman, Sam & Rose Ginsburg, Shoshana Greenberg, Sam & Jan Haber, Jacob & Rena Harari, Toby & Ezra Hendon, Vida Lehmann, Mort & Marilyn Markowitz, Sondra Markowitz, Ed & Phyllis Miller, Paul & Annabelle Panish, John Pilkington & Linda Levy, Harry & Dorothy Rubin, Carol Shivel, Henry & Violette Sibony, Joan Sopher, David Spieler, Bob & Naomi Stamper; Marvin & Maxine Winer, Sheldon & Marti Zedeck

Kiddush Sponsors, Shabbat March 4: **Stanley & Linda Wulf** in honor of Yoni's 10th birthday; Grandparents kiddush

Kiddush Sponsors, Shabbat March 11: **Denise Resnikoff and Lenny Kristal** in honor of Shoshi Resnikoff's 20th birthday.

Kiddush Sponsors, March 18: **Rachel Landes & Rebecca Landes**, on the 9th yahrzeit of Franklyn Ephraim Landes, beloved husband and father.

Kiddush Sponsors, Shabbat March 25: **Ljuba Davis** in honor of the birthdays of her granddaughter Sofia Arielle Larsen and two of her children: Jonathan Shane Davis and Sabrina Michaela Davis Kabella; **Jason Salganick** offering a warm welcome to past CBI members

Kiddush Sponsors, April 1: **Jane Turbiner & Jonathan Lyon** in honor of their daughter Miriam's engagement to Michael Snoyman's

Kiddush Sponsors, April 8: Mark & Susan Schickman in memory of Mark's Mother, Esther Rachel bat Tuvia, z"l and **Denise, Joel and Irene Resnikoff** in memory of Eli Resnikoff, z"l on his 17th yahrzeit.

Kiddush Sponsors, 1st Day of Pesach, April 13th: **Rhoda Agin** in honor of Pesach

Kiddush Sponsor, 2nd Day of Pesach, April 14th: **Joan & Joel Brodsky** in honor of Pesach

Kiddush Sponsor, Shabbat, April 15th: **Beth Israel Board of Directors** in honor of Pesach

Kiddush Sponsor, 8th Day of Pesach, April 20th: **Jeremy Weintraub**, in honor of his father's yahrzeit.

Hachnassat orchim

Sara & Ken Bamburger
Ruchama & Avraham Burrell
Toby & Ezra Hendon
Laura Lipman
Desmid Lyon
Tania & Muni Schweig

occasions

Baruch Dayan Ha'emet:

We sadly inform you of the passing of Beth Israel member **Ethel Price, z'l** motzei shabbat the 4th of Nisan, April 2nd, beloved mother of Beth Israel member Carol Price. Her funeral was in Los Angeles at the Beth Jacob Congregation on April 4th.

We sadly inform you of the passing Shabbat morning March 25th/25th of Adar of **Rachel Lawton, Rachel bat Pircha v' Baruch z'l** in Seattle, mother of CBI member Leora Lawton.

We sadly inform you of the passing of long-time Beth Israel member and friend, **Mary Carson, z'l**.

We sadly inform you of the passing of **Selma Levi Mizrahi - Sigourou bat Yehuda and Miriam z'l**, beloved sister of Sara Levi. The funeral took place in Los Angeles Friday, March 10/Adar 10.

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

Mazel Tov

To **Daniel & Chava Boyarin** on the birth of a grandson.

To **Bob and Naomi Stamper** on the birth of a granddaughter, and to Juliet Stamper on the birth of a niece.

To **Elior Yitzhak Walker** on his entry as a full member of the Jewish and Beth Israel community.

SISTERHOOD ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Jody Feld's April 5 pre-Pesach class, "Learning for Seder: A Continuing Journey," was well-attended by Beth Israel women (and Benjamin Feiner). Jody covered a number of topics, including several different interpretations of the four sons she recalled Rabbi Forman teaching during his years here: four ways to teach to four kinds of learners, four ways to reach four different ages, four different learning needs of the immigrant generation and the three generations that follow. The evening was restful, spiritually uplifting, and sentimental for those of us who have been here for some years. We are very grateful to Jody.



Sisterhood will host well-known environmental chemist and mountaineer Arlene Blum on June 11 for a talk on her path from an Orthodox Jewish childhood in the flatlands of Chicago to the peak of Annapurna. More details forthcoming.

THANK YOU! The Givon family, Nae Golomb and Lilia Dolgopolski put on a wonderful and delectable communal seder at CBI, for which Gary Marcus kindly donated fine wine. Their communal work is much appreciated. Much gratitude also goes to Nae Golomb, Joel and Joan Brodsky and Bella Barany for koshering the CBI kitchen for Passover.

MID-RASHA

It's coming. My favorite day of the Midrasha year... graduation. No, it's not my favorite day because it marks the end of the school year and I can finally sleep a little

later or go to a ball game or the beach on Sundays. It my favorite because when I hear each graduate speak about what Midrasha and their 18 years of Jewish education have meant to them, I am overwhelmed with pride and have absolutely not a worry in the world about "Jewish continuity." All the early mornings, late nights, long work days, and worry about program details all go out the window and I realize that I have chosen the right profession and the right job. If you'd like to be similarly filled with nachas (You don't have to be the school director or be related to Midrasha in any way to take pride in these kids. Just living in our community will do!), please join us for graduation. It is Sunday, May 21 at 10:45 a.m. in the Congregation Beth El sanctuary. The graduation epitomizes the pluralistic nature of our Midrasha community. We have 27 graduates. They come from 4 different synagogues and 4 of them are unaffiliated. We are truly a community school. Come on. A few years ago I flew back from Nepal just to be at this graduation. Surely you can drive from the other side of town!

Mazel tov to the following students and their families:

- Rina Breakstone**
- Avi Garelick**
- Hillel Kipnis,**
- Ariel Resnikoff,**

Diane Bernbaum, Director

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APRIL & MAY CELEBRATIONS

Romeo Lok turned 5 April 1, 2006
 Elizabeth Zedeck April 1, 2006
 Tirzah Brott turned 16 April 2, 2006
 Joel Brodsky, April 5, 2006
 Tania Schweig, April 6, 2006
 Glenn Massarano, April 9, 2006
 David Newman, April 9, 2006
 Max Heitler Bamberger turned 3 April 10, 2006
 Roni Greenberg turned 8 April 10, 2006
 Andrea Morris turned 17 April 10, 2006
 David Miller April 13, 2006
 Julian Clark April 22, 2006
 Ernie Alexander April 23, 2006
 Polina Dolgopolski turned 11 April 24, 2006
 Hadar Silverman turned 2 April 24, 2006
 Bat Sheva Miller April 27, 2006
 Joshua Meltzer turns 18 April 28, 2006
 Maxine Winer April 28, 2006
 Jesse Matan Gerwein turns 2 April 29, 2006
 Betzalel Massarano turns 14 April 30, 2006
 Eliana Sudikoff turns 17 May 1, 2006
 Zahava Newman turns 1 May 3, 2006

Adene Sacks May 4, 2006
 Rochelle Wolk May 8, 2006
 Sylvie Boland May 11, 2006
 Michal Vas May 11, 2006
 Marvin Engel May 12, 2006
 (Aaron) Netzach Miller turns 14 May 12, 2006
 Sarah Dorfman turns 12 May 14, 2006
 Dorit Resnikoff May 14, 2006
 Ari Berger May 16, 2006
 Molly Greenberg turns 13 May 21, 2006
 Alan Hirsch May 21, 2006
 Binah Lubin turns 1 May 21, 2006
 Aaron Marcus May 22, 2006
 Carla Lok turns 11 May 24, 2006
 Ketril Safran turns 1 May 24, 2006
 Maya Smith turns 10 May 26, 2006
 Ravenna Smith turns 10 May 26, 2006

Anniversaries

Michael & Debbie Lesser, 37th anniversary April 6
 Ernie & Frances Alexander, 63rd Anniversary, April 16

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

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF LEARNING AT CBI

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
9:00-10:00 a.m. Talmud Class <i>Daniel Boyarin</i>				12:15-1:15 p.m. Parshat Hashavua <i>Rabbi Yair Silverman</i>
	4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Midrasha Tanach B'Ivrit <i>David Henkin</i>			4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Midrasha's Talmud Class <i>Zvi Septimus</i>
			6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Latte & Learning <i>NCSY</i>	5:30-6:15 & 6:00-7:00 p.m. Pizza Pash <i>Efrat & Hila</i>
	7:00 p.m. Hebrew Chat <i>Efrat & Hila</i>	8:00 - 9:45 p.m. Community-Wide Talmud <i>Ilana Fodiman-Silverman</i>	7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Open Beit Midrash <i>CBI</i>	8:00 - 9:00 p.m. The Power of Speech May 4, 11, 18 <i>Rabbi Yair Silverman</i>

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