



Weekday Morning and Evening Services

December 20-25

Morning: Sun, Thu & Fri 8:00 am • M-W 6:30 am
Evening: M-Th: 4:45 pm

Thursday & Friday, December 24-25

Office Closed

Shacharit..... 8:00 am

Shabbat Shalem with Rabba Yaffa Epstein



Rabba Yaffa Epstein serves as the Director of Education, North America for the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies. She received Rabbinic Ordination from Yeshivat Maharat and holds a Law Degree from Bar-Ilan University. She has studied at the Pardes Kollel, the Advanced Talmud Institute at Matan and the Talmud Department of Hebrew University.

Friday, December 18

4:30 pm Northside Minyan @ Sudikoff Home
1209 Shattuck Ave (east side of street, past Oak Park, near Eunice)
4:30 pm Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat
4:34 pm Candle lighting
5:30 pm Shabbat dinner at CBI (registration is closed)
6:45 pm Rabbinic Self-Consciousness - Understanding how the Rabbis perceived of their own project. We will look at the classic Talmudic story of Moshe in Rabbi Akiva's beit midrash - with a twist.

Saturday, December 19

9:15 am Morning Service
Torah Reader: Na'aman Kam Haftorah Reader: Darrell Cohn
9:30 am Childcare
10:45 am Youth Programming
Kedma (3-5 years old): Natan Kuchar
Tzafona (K-2nd grade): Lital Nagar & Yael Birnbaum
Negba (3-5th grade): Ari Weber
10:45 am Sermon by Rabba Yaffa Epstein: Serach Bat Asher: Claiming our Individual Identities in the National Story
12:45 pm Mincha

Community Hosted Shabbat Lunches

4:30 pm Seudah shelishit and shiur with Rabba Yaffa Epstein Beruriah: Truth, Myth, and the Construction of the Ideal Woman
5:36 pm Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends
7:00 pm Melaveh Malka w/Rabba Yaffa Epstein: The Torah's So Great - Even the Angels Want It. The Talmud tells us that when Moses went up to receive the Torah, the Angels did not want to give it up! What follows is an epic battle of wits between Moses and the Angels. We will examine this story, and attempt to gain an understanding of how the Talmud sees the role of the Human in the world, and in leadership.

KIDDUSH SPONSORS

Berkeley Hadassah; CBI Sisterhood; Rhoda Agin; Fran Alexander; Yvette Hoffer; Sondra Markowitz; Joel & Irene Resnikoff; Robert & June Safran; Joan Sopher; Fried & Ruth Wittman

FAST OF TEVET

Tuesday, December 22nd

Fast begins5:54 am
Shacharit6:30 am
Mincha @CBI 4:25 pm
Fast ends 5:25 pm

Beth Israel Classes

MONDAY

Book of Jeremiah with Maharat Victoria Sutton: Jeremiah's prophetic career spanned over thirty years and succession of several kings, through the Babylonian's conquest of Israel and ultimate destruction of the First Temple. The prophet risks his life to bring truth to Jerusalem and provide guidance to leaders and the nation. At times despondent, the book beautifully depicts the inner life of Jeremiah and his mission. Together, we will study the text and themes of the Book of Jeremiah.

Maharat Victoria Sutton — Mondays @ 12:00 pm

WEDNESDAY

Midrasha's Tanach and Talmud (for Teens)
This course is an informal but intensive study group focusing on close thematic readings of the Tanach and Talmud in translation.

Mickey Davis — Wednesdays @ 4:15 - 5:45 pm

Open Sources: Beit Midrash

Co-sponsored by Congregation Beth Israel and Kevah

An Open Beit Midrash for learning on all levels. You can come with a hevruta (learning partner) or we can help find the hevruta and area of learning that best fits. Start by filling out the form on our website. On site assistance with learning available.

An optional class will be given each week on the parasha by Maharat Victoria Sutton, which includes guided hevruta learning of sources for the class followed by group discussion.

Maharat Victoria Sutton — Wednesdays, 7:30—9:00 pm

Jewish philosophers: Rabbi Eliezer Berkovits: The class is currently reading and discussing selections from "Essential Essays on Judaism" presenting Berkovits' most significant essays, exploring vital issues within Judaism and Jewish society, including: Jewish morality and law, Jewish nationhood, and Jewish theology. No background necessary.

Muni Schweig — Wednesdays @ 8:00 pm @ the Schweig home

FRIDAY

Talmudic Wisdom: Join us for a weekly class that explores key sugyot (talmudic units) that discuss major Jewish questions of practice and thought. Class will not meet Dec. 25 or Jan. 1.

R. Yonatan Cohen - Fridays, 9:00 am

VISITING SCHOLARS & UPCOMING LECTURES

Shabbat Shalem with Dr. Elie Holzer — January 29-30, 2016
Dr. Elie Holzer serves as a Senior Lecturer at the Bar-Ilan University Churgin School of Education and as assistant editor of the International Journal of Jewish Education Research. Dr. Holzer holds a BA in psychology and Jewish thought from Bar-Ilan University, and an MA and PhD in Jewish Thought from the Hebrew University. He is the author of



Please refrain from wearing perfumes or scented products as there are congregants for whom these products are an irritant due to allergies or as a result of chemotherapy or other medical treatment. Thank you.

numerous publications in education and Jewish thought.



Professor Ori Aronson: "Constitutional Politics in a Jewish a Democratic State"

Tuesday January 12, 19, and 26 at 8 pm

The series will consider the state of Israel's constitutional politics twenty years after the "constitutional revolution" and the rise of judicial activism in the interpretation and enforcement of rights and values. The series will commence with

an introduction to the forces, institutions, and individuals that have shaped Israel's constitutional structure. It will then turn to a consideration of several recent episodes in the ongoing culture war over Israel's identity, notably the introduction of "nationality law" drafts, and the treatment of undocumented migrants from Africa.

Ori Aronson is the Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Foundation/Israel Institute visiting professor at the Berkeley Institute for Jewish Law and Israel Studies, UC Berkeley School of Law. He is an assistant professor at the Bar-Ilan University Faculty of Law in Ramat-Gan, Israel, where he is also a founding member of the Center for Jewish and Democratic Law. Ori received his LL.B from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and LL.M and S.J.D from Harvard Law School.



**An Evening with Consul-General Andy David
Sunday, March 13th 7:30 pm**

Dr. Andy David began his appointment as Israel's Consul General to the Pacific North-West in August 2012. In his last position, in Israel, he served as a policy advisor to the Foreign Minister. In the course of his diplomatic career, he has served Missions in Azerbaijan, Hong -Kong, and Chicago and the Midwest. His past

domestic positions in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs include policy advisor to the Foreign Minister; the Ministry's Deputy Spokesman; and Head of the Euro-Asia section in Israel's Agency for International Cooperation.

Dr. David has a B.A. (magna cum laude) and M.A. in medical science, and a Doctorate in Dental Medicine, all attained at Jerusalem's Hebrew University. He served in the Israel Air Force and in RAFAEL, the Ministry of Defense's Armament Development Authority. He is a graduate of the Executive Combating Terrorism program at the National Defense University in Washington D.C.

EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

In Beth Israel

Mazal Tov! to grandparents **Ellen Winnick, Sheldon Winnick, Orit & Yuri Raz**, and parents **Stav Raz and Dan Winnick** on the birth of a baby boy. Mother and baby are in good health, b"n. May his life be filled with the insights of Torah, the warm and supportive love of family and community, and the blessing of good deeds.

Cook for the Shelter—Wednesday, December 23, 5-7:30 PM

Looking for cooks, servers and clean-up help as we prepare a fresh dinner for residents of Berkeley Men's Shelter.

Cooking shift: 5-6:30—Serving and clean-up shift: 6:30-7:30

Please RSVP to Maharat Victoria Sutton for more details.

NCSY:

- **Winter Regional weekend** for NCSY high schoolers at the beautiful Hilton Torrey Pines in La Jolla, CA. Leaving December 24th at 8:30 AM from BJC Oakland and returning December 27th at 11:00 PM to Beth Jacob. Fee: \$375, registration closes on Friday December 18th. No one will be turned away due to lack of funds.
- **Friday Night Light (FNL):** January 15th to January 16th in San Francisco. High schoolers celebrate Shabbat and come skate with us in the heart of Union Square. Enjoy friends, food and a lot of Ruach. Meeting: Friday at 4:00 PM at Adath Israel, 1851 Noriega St, San Francisco. End: Saturday night at 10:00 PM at Powell St Bart station. Fee: \$35 per person. Sign up at norcal.ncsy.org/events. No one will be turned away due to lack of funds.
- **NCSY JUMP HIGH:** January 18th at Trapeze Arts. Middle schoolers come fly with us on the Trapeze. Drop off is Monday at 9:30 AM at 1822 9th St, Oakland. Pick up is at 1:30 PM.
- **NCSY TAP:** Tuesdays at 7:30 PM from February 2nd to March 8th at the Jewish Federation, 2121 Allston Way, Berkeley. Teen Advocacy Program is a six week program in which high schoolers will learn about the legislative process, choose and research bills they are passionate about, and lobby on March 8th in Sacramento. Apply at norcal.ncsy.org/events until January 18th.
- **Skibbaton:** February 12th to February 14th at Lake Tahoe. 9th-12th graders celebrate Shabbat, learn and come ski with us at the Granlibakken Resort. Starting Friday 8:30 AM at BJC Oakland. Ends: Sunday at 11:00 PM at BJC Oakland. Early Bird Price (until 11:59 PM on January 21st): \$265. Regular Price (after 12:00 AM on January 22nd): \$320. Sign up at norcal.ncsy.org/events.
For more information please contact cohen@ncsy.org or 310.978.5813.

Tot Kabbalat Shabbat & Dinner: Friday, January 8

Welcome Shabbat with song and movement, followed by a special dinner for families with young children. RSVP to maharatvictoria@gmail.com; Payment can be made through the CBI Office or website. \$15 adults, \$10 children, maximum \$50 per family

Teen Shabbat Lunch: Saturday January 9, in the home of Maharat Victoria and Adam, co-hosted by our Bnot sherut Lital and Yael.

Next Women's Mincha and Seudah Shelishit: January 9

Please see Tamara Beliak if you are interested in participating, reading Torah, teaching or sponsoring seudah shelishit.

Donate your car/boat/vehicle to Beth Israel/Midrasha. Full tax write off. Beth Israel/Midrasha share proceeds from sale. Contact David: 510-849-0961

In the Community

The Return of Saturday Night Live With Chassidic Masters As Taught By Rabbi Eliahu Klein

Saturday night December 19th, Parshat Vayigash 7:00 PM

Teachings of Rabbi Nachman of Breslov, Rabbi Natan of Breslov, Reb Levi Yitzchak of Berdichev, Reb Mordechai of Ishbitz, Reb Chanoch of Radzin and other Chassidic wisdom teachers. This will

be an ongoing shiur [class] that will meet every other week through the winter months. We will focus on Chassidic commentaries on the weekly Torah portion and Jewish holidays. We will meet at my home at: 2610 California Street [between Parker and Carleton]. M'lave malka refreshments will be served. Come to learn and experience the fellowship of Chassidim.

Kosher Sandwiches @ UC Berkeley: Freshly made kosher sandwiches will be available at 11:30 am Monday through Fridays at the following locations: Crossroads at the Den (Channing & Bowditch), Golden Bear Cafe, and Cafe Ramona. Choices available: one meat, one poultry, and an egg salad. For any questions, contact Avraham Burrell avraham@mindspring.com.