



Weekday Services December 21-25

Sun, 8:00 am • M-F 6:30 am
December 26: 8:00 am
Mon-Th @ CBI 4:45 pm

CHANUKAH

Wed. night, December 16 through Wed. day, December 24
Nightfall during Chanukah is at 5:26 p.m.

**Tot Kabbalat Shabbat and Dinner
Friday, December 19th**

Families with young children are welcome to join in a special Chanukah Tot Kabbalat Shabbat with Itay & Ayelet Hashay, with menorah lighting followed by Kabbalat Shabbat and dinner. \$15 for adults, \$10 for children. The schedule is as follows:

4:30 PM - Menorah Lighting and Candlelighting, Chanukah songs
Followed by Kabbalat Shabbat, led by Itay and Ayelet Hashay
5:30 PM - Dinner (there will be meat and veggie options)
The *mitzvah* of lighting the menorah is for a household or family, the lighting in shul is for *pirsumei nisa*, to publicize the miracle of Chanukah together as a community. We will not be lighting individual menorahs at CBI. You can light the menorah at home with your family before candlelighting time (as always, please be safe). We will have tea lights set up for Shabbat candlelighting.

Friday, December 19th

North Berkeley Minyan 4:35 pm
1209 Shattuck Ave (east side of street, past Oak Park, near Eunice)
Chanukah Candle Lighting before* 4:35 pm
Shabbat Candle Lighting..... 4:35 pm
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat..... 4:40 pm

Saturday, December 13th

Morning Service 9:15 am
Torah Reader: **Yair Harel**
Haftarah Reader: **Yair Harel**
Board Representative: **Lois Marcus**
Educational Childcare 11:00 am
Yeladim: **Ayelet Hashay**
Talmidim aleph: **Maharat Victoria Sutton**
Talmidim bet: **Michal Goldfarb & Naama Mayzlish**

Sermon by R. Cohen: Rejecting Spiritual Mediocrity - Reflections on the Miracle of Chanukah

Shabbat Mincha 12:30 pm
Seudah Shlishit 4:30 pm
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends 5:37 pm
Chanukah Candle Lighting after** 5:37 pm
Chanukah Game Night 7:30 pm
* Remember to put in more oil or use 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 at home, then light the Chanukah candles. One may not use the Chanukia as the candle for Havdalah.

Kiddush Sponsors

R. Pam Frydman in honor of Judah Ariel Harel and his parents Guy and

Melissa Harel and in honor Rabbi Simcha and Rebbetzin Green; **Itay and Ayelet Hashay** for Uriel's 3rd birthday; **Congregation Beth Israel** in honor of Chanukah

Hachnassat Orchim

Benjamin Epstein & Zvi Rosen

**Chanukah Heflah—Game Night
Saturday, December 20th at 7:30 PM**

Come celebrate Chanukah at CBI with menorah lighting, games of all kinds, sufganiyot, music and more! If you would like to organize a game, please contact Maharat Victoria Sutton at maharatvictoria@gmail.com

**December 25-January 2
Office Vacation**

**Shabbat with R. Dov Lerea
Saturday, January 3**



Rabbi Dov Lerea serves as the dean and *mashgiach ruchani* at Yeshivat Chovevei Torah. Rav Dov has been a professional educator for the past 35 years. Most notably, he served for many years as the Dean of Judaic Studies of the Abraham Joshua Heschel School in New York, and as the Director of Education at Camp Yavneh in Northwood, New Hampshire. Rabbi Dov has also served as the Director of Secondary Education at Boston Hebrew College, a faculty member at the Drisha Institute for Jewish Education, and a faculty member for the Wexner Heritage Foundation. Most recently, Rabbi Dov was the Director of KIVUNIM, an innovative gap-year program located in Jerusalem. In addition to his role at YCT, he is on the faculty of SAR high school.

R. Dov will be visiting CBI together with his family and will be sharing words of Torah throughout Shabbat.

Shir Appeal Concert @ CBI: On Saturday evening, January 3, 2015, at 7:30 pm, the award-winning Jewish a cappella group from Tufts University, Shir Appeal, will be returning to Beth Israel for a repeat concert. The cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children, with a maximum of \$30 per family. Co-sponsored by R. Kassman, Purveyor of Fine Pianos & the Wulf Family.

Beth Israel Classes

SUNDAY

Hebrew Reading Crash Course: Always wanted to learn to read Hebrew? CBI is excited to offer NJOP's Hebrew Reading Crash Course. Learn to read Hebrew in only five 1-1/2 hour weekly sessions. The Hebrew Reading Crash Course concentrates on teaching the Hebrew alphabet and reading skills. Free of charge. To register, go to our website <http://www.cbiberkeley.org/learn/adult-education>. Please email maharatvictoria@gmail.com with any questions.

Maharat Victoria Sutton, December 7, 14, 21, January 4, 11, 9:00-10:30 a.m.

MONDAY

Women's Dance Nights at CBI! Come dance to a blend of world music, jazz, klezmer, hip hop and more. No moves to remember, no cost either. Just a chance to let loose and get some good exercise in a fun way!

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.

2nd & 4th Mondays @ 8:00 pm

TUESDAY

Identity in Judaism: We will explore the approaches that the Jewish legal tradition has taken on key areas of Jewish identity: matrilineal vs. patrilineal descent, conversion, and apostasy. These questions of identity continue to shape our understanding of who is a Jew, and what it means to define oneself as Jewish.

Maharat Victoria Sutton, Tuesdays, Jan. 6, 13, 20, 8-9:15 pm

WEDNESDAY

Yirmiyahu: Yirmiyahu'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. Yirmiyahu 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 Yirmiyahu in his mission. **This class will meet on Wednesday, December 24.**

Maharat Victoria Sutton, 12:00 pm

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.

David Henkin – Wednesdays, 4:15 – 5:45 p.m.

Jewish Writings of Emmanuel Levinas: The Levinas Study Group meets at 8 pm at the Schweig home to discuss various essays of the Jewish philosopher Emmanuel Levinas. No background necessary. The class is facilitated by our resident scholar, Muni Schweig at his home.

Muni Schweig – 1st, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays 8:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Open Sources: A Beit Midrash sponsored by Congregation Beth Israel and Kevah: Learn independently with a *hevruta* (study partner) or join in a *shiur* on the weekly *parsha* with Maharat Victoria Sutton. If you are interested in finding a *hevruta*, email Maharatvictoria@gmail.com.

Class on hiatus until January 8.

Thursdays, 8:00 – 10:00 p.m.

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 on hiatus until January 9.**

R. Yonatan Cohen – Fridays, 9:00 a.m.

EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

In Beth Israel

Mazal Tov! to Abby Streusand, R. Gabe Greenberg and big sister Adra, in New Orleans on the birth of a baby boy, Raziel Yaakov. 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. Mazal Tov!

Volunteers Needed For Xmas Eve Men's Shelter Dinner: Next Wednesday, December 24, CBI will prepare and serve our traditional holiday Chinese dinner at the Berkeley Men's Homeless Shelter. It's a great time to pitch in when our gentile friends are celebrating their holiday. Please consider signing up to prepare and serve dinner and/or help clean up. We are also in need of someone who could shop for us. This requires a Costco card, the ability to drop food off at 5:00 pm on

our cooking day; some room in a second refrigerator would be helpful, but isn't necessary.

We are looking for volunteers to prepare the dinners (5:00 – 6:30 pm), serve the dinners (6:45-7:20 pm), and clean up (6:45-7:30 pm). We meet at the Shelter kitchen at 5:00 pm to prepare & cook to food to serve at 7:00, and clean up the kitchen until 7:40. Don't be afraid to sign up, even though you have never cooked before – recipes and directions are supplied. In addition, we are honored with a *dvar Torah* given by Rabbi Green. Please email Marvin for the Google sign up sheet @ windowworld@comcast.net

The shelter is in the back of the Veterans Memorial Building, located on Center Street in Berkeley, between MLK and Milvia. The entrance is through the little driveway between the second & third (Veteran's) building on the north side of Center St. We meet in the shelter kitchen, the door to which is at the Northeast corner of the driveway. If you do sign up and you can't make it, be sure to notify Marvin ASAP.

SCRIP: Naomi Stamper and Ruth Wittman, are available to sell scrip for Berkeley Bowl, Peets Coffee, Afikomen and CVS. Please call or email Naomi Stamper, 525-8259 • Ruth Wittman, 525-9530

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 or Midrasha: 510-843-4667.

In the Community

Spoken Hebrew Class

Where: East Bay Federation, Berkeley When: January 5th- April 6th 6:30-9:00pm

Cost: \$60 for all 12 classes

Last call for the low-cost, interactive, spoken Hebrew class starting this January! If you or somebody you know is interested in signing up, please visit our registration page or email Aliya- aliyafastman@gmail.com <https://speakhebrew.eventbrite.com>

Afikomen Judaica LiVE. SHoP. SHMooZE.

3042 Claremont Avenue Berkeley 510-655-1977 www.afikomen.com

SUSAN ROANE presents HOW TO WORK THE ROOM Interactive Workshop; Get your mensch on for Networking, Socializing & Job Advancement for the New Year with Best Selling Author Susan RoANE Sunday January 18, 3:00pm

Thank you for Shopping Local!

NCSY

Save the date: January 3rd, from 7:30-9:30 pm we will be having an epic Bubble Sports Competition!!

Teen Advocacy Program (TAP) - Jan. 20 to March 3: a 6-week program on Tuesday nights from 7:30-8:45 offers 20 high schoolers the opportunity to gain critical organization, presentation, and leadership skills for political advocacy. Apply by January 2.

Save the date: March 8th, 1:15pm - 3:15pm Get ready for an epic day of Laser Tag with up to 50 NCSYers! At Q-Zar Laser tag.

For more information, naimana@ncsy.org.

Oakland Hebrew Day School: Kindergarten Information Night, Wednesday, January 7, 7:00 - 8:30pm

Oakland Hebrew Day School, Kindergarten classroom

Please join us to learn more about our holistic Kindergarten program, meet the Kindergarten teachers, and connect with other parents. RSVP to Philippa at plichterman@ohds.org or 510-531-8600 ext. 12.

edited for length and content (to comply with the Announce List Guidelines).

MOSHAVA MALIBU - Register Early & Save! Bnei Akiva's coed religious overnight camp has excellent sports, arts, water sports, nature & more. Grades 3-10. Session: July 13 to Aug 10, 2015. Irvine Visit www.moshavamalibu.org or call 855-MOSHAVA for more info.

The Szarvas Fellowships for students completing 10th and 11th grade: this program provides exceptional North American student leaders with the opportunity to attend the world's largest Jewish summer camp and celebrate Jewish life. The camp is kosher and shomer shabbat. Scholarships are available through the SF Jewish Community Federation. <http://tinyurl.com/sf-jewishfed>. Please contact Lisa Pavlovsky with any questions - LisaP@sfjcf.org. Applications are due February 11, 2015. www.szarvas.org.

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.

Israel Focus

For your interest, information, protest, or counter-protest *Israel Focus* is designed to inform our members about a broad range of local area events concerning Israel. It is expected that you will find events that you would support and others that you would not, yet we trust that they will all inform. Beth Israel does not necessarily endorse any particular event.

An Interview with Dr. Andy David, Consul General of Israel to the Pacific Northwest by East Bay JCRC Chair Lenny Kristal on Israel's Domestic and Regional Geo-Political Landscape
Thursday, January 8, 2015, 7:00-9:00 pm
The Magnes, 2121 Allston Way Berkeley
RSVP required by Jan. 6, to jessica@jfed.org

High School Conference on Israel and the Middle East
Mayacamas Ranch Calistoga, CA
(Kosher catering by Chabad of Santa Rosa)
Friday January 16, 2015 at 4:00P-to-Sunday January 18, 2015 at 4:00 PM
<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07e9snzocda2580e01&llr=vjxq4ilab>

We invite you to submit announcements for inclusion in Israel Focus to the office at office@cbiberkeley.org. Announcements will be