



**Weekday Services December 7-11**

Sun, 8:00 am • M-F 6:30 am  
Mon-Th @ CBI 4:40 pm

**Friday, December 5th**

North Berkeley Minyan .....4:25 pm  
1209 Shattuck Ave (east side of street, past Oak Park, near Eunice)  
Candle Lighting .....4:32 pm  
Kabbalat Shabbat @ CBI.....4:35 pm

**Saturday, December 6th**

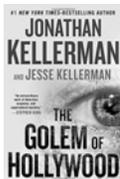
Morning Service .....9:15 am  
Torah Reader: **Udi Oster**  
Haftarah Reader: **Philip Tendler**  
Educational Childcare .....11:00 am  
Yeladim: **Natan Kuchar**  
Talmidim aleph: **Mira Kittner**  
Talmidim bet: **Michal Goldfarb & Naama Mayzlish**  
**Sermon by Maharat Victoria Sutton**  
Mincha.....12:40 pm  
Seudah Shlishit .....4:35 pm  
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends after.....5:34 pm

**Kiddush Sponsors**

Fran Alexander in memory of Ernie Alexander z"l

**Hachnassat Orchim**

Sara & Benni Darmoni



Jesse Kellerman discusses his new book

**The Golem of Hollywood**

**Sunday, December 7, 11 A. M. at CBI**

Join us for Green Tea, Goodies and Golems! Books will be available for purchase and Jesse will be happy to sign them



**Sunday, December 7 at CBI**  
**4:30 pm Mincha/Ma'ariv**

**5:00 pm Learning with Rav Ross Singer**

Join Rav Ross Singer of Yeshivat Maale Gilboa at CBI for an exciting evening of learning! Rav Singer will be leading a shiur (details below) and light refreshments will be served.

Shiur Topic:

**Imperfections that make us Whole — Inclusion in Jewish Life and Education**

Beginning with a look at the exclusion of Cohanim with bodily deformations from the priestly service, Rav Ross will survey some of the philosophical and halakhic material that reframed these exclusions. Jewish legal material that reformulates the Biblical passages in less exclusive ways will be explored. This development from exclusion to inclusion will be presented as one example of an approach to Torah that expects halakhic and moral standards to progress in ethical sensitivity.

**On Yeshivat Maale Gilboa:**

Yeshivat Maale Gilboa's exciting approach to Torah emphasizes the notion that all of humanity was created in the Divine Image, passionately pursues

truth and intellectual honesty, and eagerly embraces the challenges and opportunities of the modern state of Israel.

**On Rav Ross Singer:**

Ross Singer has received rabbinic ordination from the chief Rabbi of Chaifa, Rabbi Shear Yashuv Cohen and the Rosh Yeshiva of Yeshivat Maale Gilboa, Rabbi David Bigman and Rabbi Professor David Weiss Halivni. He is a graduate of the Mandel Jerusalem Fellows, a Hartman Institute Senior Rabbinic Fellow, and received an MA in Talmud and Rabbinics from the Jewish Theological Seminary. He has published articles in The Edah Journal, The JOFA Journal, and the Religious Kibbutz Journal Amudim. Ross served as Rabbi of Shaarey Tefilah Synagogue in Vancouver Canada from 1996-2004 years and Beth Tfiloh Congregation in Baltimore from 2006 - 2010. Making Aliya with his wife Emily and four children Rivital, Shai, Abaye, and Adin in 2010, Ross currently works as the development director of Yeshivat Maale Gilboa. He is also studying at Yad Ben Tzvi in Jerusalem towards becoming a licenced tour guide.

**Tot Kabbalat Shabbat and Dinner**  
**December 19th at 4:30 PM**

Families with young children are welcome to join in a special Chanukah Tot Kabbalat Shabbat, with menorah lighting followed by Kabbalat Shabbat and dinner. \$15 for adults, \$10 for children.

<https://www.cbiberkeley.org/pray/holiday-calendar/tot-kabbalat-shabbat-dec-19/>

**Chanukah 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](mailto:maharatvictoria@gmail.com)

**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](mailto: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!  
**2nd & 4th Mondays @ 8:00 pm**

**TUESDAY**

**Conversion - Rejection, Acceptance, Embrace**

In this two part series we will examine several philosophical texts that reveal a variety of attitudes towards the process of conversion, from strong rejection to warm embrace. Our sessions will particularly focus on the Rambam and R. Judah Halevi, and the divergent worldviews their writings support.

**R. Yonatan Cohen, Tuesdays, December 2 & 9, 7:30 pm**

*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.*

### 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.

**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](mailto:Maharatvictoria@gmail.com).

**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.

**R. Yonatan Cohen - Fridays, 9:00 a.m.**

## EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

### In Beth Israel

**Mazal Tov! to Melissa & Guy Harel** on the birth of a baby boy. Mother and baby are in good health, b"n. The community is warmly invited to a brit milah this Monday, December 8 at 8:00 am at Congregation Beth Israel. May this child's 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!

**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

**Homeless Shelter:** In this time of thanksgiving, the volunteers who donated their time to creating and serving a sumptuous feast at the Berkeley Men's Homeless Shelter Wednesday deserve a *yasher koach*. They are **Carol Cunradi, Rona Rothenberg, Preston Grant, Yaakov Harari, Deborah Shaw, Bella Barany, Linda Levine, Kathleen & Talia Bloom, Doreet & Coby Stein, Margie and (our educator) Rabbi Simcha Green**. You can support CBI's Men's Shelter dinners by donating to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund and/or signing up to help out. Our next dinner is Wednesday, December 24.

**Har Nof Orphan Fund by the OU:** Funds are being collected by a number of organizations to help the victims' families. Donations will be paid directly into an account administered by Rabbi Nissan Kaplan, a well-known rav in Har Nof, who, together with Rabbi Mordechai Rubin, *mara d'atra* of the shul where this tragedy took place, will

disburse the funds to the families of the dead and injured. Please go to <https://yof.wufoo.com/forms/xlckm600qgzabd/def/field16=OU> to donate by credit card or by check. Gifts can be earmarked for specific families or made to the general fund. All gifts are tax deductible in the United States as they are being made through a registered 501(c)3 charity. *Tizku L'mitzvot!*

**You are invited to the Chanuka special:**

**Saturday Night Live! with Chassidic Masters**

Two sessions: Teachings ON Chanukah

With: Reb Eliahu Klein noted author and teacher of Chassidut and Kabbalah.

Where: At the Klein-Scheinberg Home

2610 California St [between Parker-Carleton]

**Date/ Time: Saturday Night December 6th 2014-7:30 PM**

Next Session Dec.20th Fifth Night of Chanukah

R. Levi Yitzchak of Berditchev, R. Nachman of Breslov, R. Noson of Breslov, R. Mordechai Yoseph of Ishbitz and the Holy Baal Shem Tov

**Gan Shalom teacher Miriam Raziel's Album Release Concert in**

**Berkeley!** Please join Miriam on Saturday, December 6th, 7:30 -9:30 pm, Chochmat Halev, 2215 Prince Street, Berkeley California. For more info please check out [www.miriamraziel.com](http://www.miriamraziel.com) or <http://chochmat.org/miriam-raziel-album-release-concert/>

**Israel Gap Year and Summer Programs Fair.**

More than 20 programs will be presenting this Sunday for an amazing Jewish Summer/Gap Year Fair! Don't miss out!

**11:45-1:45, December 7th**, 1301 Oxford Street, Berkeley at Beth El

\$4,000 discount on NCSY/JSU programs TJJ, TJJA, and TJJAP

Rabbi Akiva Naiman, NCSY/JSU Director, [naimana@ncsy.org](mailto:naimana@ncsy.org) 510-206-5386

**Sephardic flamenco fusion, w/Rivka Amado, Itamar Shapira & Hilit**

**Maniv**, Sunday, December 7, 7 pm, \$15. @ Chochmat Halev, 2215 Prince St., Berkeley. [www.rivkamusic.com](http://www.rivkamusic.com)

**Berkeley Moshav and Cohousing Tour:** Would you like to live on a real *moshav*, right here in Berkeley? A group is currently forming to create Berkeley Moshav, a 20- to 25-household "Jewish cohousing" community in walking distance to Congregation Beth Israel. To find out more, or to sign up for a tour of local cohousing communities on **Sunday, December 14**, please visit [urbanmoshav.org](http://urbanmoshav.org)!

**NCSY**

**December 18-21** Regionals Shabbaton at the Hilton San Diego. Spots are limited.

**Save the date: January 3rd, from 7:30-9:30 pm** we will be having an epic Bubble Sports Competition!! For more information, [naimana@ncsy.org](mailto:naimana@ncsy.org).

**Afikomen Judaica Live. SHoP. SHMooZE.**

3042 Claremont Avenue Berkeley 510-655-1977 [www.afikomen.com](http://www.afikomen.com)

**MELITA & ISAAC CHANUKAH PARTY**, Sunday December 21, 11:30am-5:00pm, Sing-a-long Concert 11:30am, Public Menorah Lighting w/ Rabbi Chaim 4:00pm, Nosh and Activities All Day

**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!*

**Shir Appeal Concert @ CBI – Save the Date:** On Saturday evening, January 3, 2015, the Jewish a cappella group from Tufts University, Shir Appeal, will be returning to Beth Israel for a repeat concert. Booking will open soon. The cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children, with a maximum of \$30 per family.

**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](http://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](mailto:LisaP@sfjcf.org). Applications are due February 11, 2015. [www.szarvas.org](http://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](mailto: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.*

### 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](mailto:office@cbiberkeley.org). Announcements will be edited for length and content (to comply with the Announce List Guidelines).*