CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

DAF HASHAVUAH

SHABBAT PARSHAT VAYECHI
GUEST SPEAKER R. DOV LEREA

WEEK OF JANUARY 3, 2015 / TEVET 12, 5775

Weekday Services January 4-8
Sun. 8:00 am • M-F 6:30 am
Mon-Th @ CBI 4:50 pm

SHABBAT PARSHAT VAYECHI WITH R. DOV LEREA

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.

Friday, January 2nd
North Berkeley Minyan ..... 4:44 pm
1209 Shattuck Ave (east side of street, past Oak Park, near Eunice)
Candle Lighting..... 4:44 pm
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat @ CBI ..... 4:50 pm

Saturday, January 3rd
Morning Service ..... 9:15 am
Torah Reader: **Na'man Kam**
Haftarah Reader: **Jeremy Evnine**
Board Representative: **Ben Rose**
Educational program ..... 11:00 am
Yeladim: **Ayelet Hashay**
Talmidim aleph: **Maharat Victoria Sutton**
Talmidim bet: **TBD**
Sermon by R. Dov Lerea: *Transitioning from Bereshit to Shemot: Stepping Back to Gain Perspective*
Shabbat Mincha ..... 12:37 pm
Seudah Shlishit Learning with R. Dov Lerea: *Issues in Jewish Education from the Talmud* ..... 4:40 pm
Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends ..... 5:46 pm

Kiddush Sponsors
Ellen Winnick for her mother's 5th yarzheit; **Michael and Jessica Klass** in honor of Jessica's grandfather, Yitzchak Meyer Shmuner on the occasion of his 35th yahrzeit ; **Rona Rothenberg and Yehuda Ben-Israel** in memory of Rona's father, Jerry Rothenberg z"l, on his 15th yahrzeit

Hachnassat Orchim
Denise Resnikoff & Lenny Kristal

Shir Appeal Concert @ CBI
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 group has traveled from coast to coast singing in a wide variety of languages and musical styles, from Israeli pop and rock to traditional liturgical songs to Jewish world music. Shir Appeal has won numerous awards—most recently, it was featured on Voices Only, and also appeared three times on the two volumes of the Best Of Jewish A Cappella(BOJAC) and four times on the highly acclaimed Best Of Collegiate A Cappella(BOCA) albums, the first non-secular and only Jewish group ever to appear on the series. To learn more and to order their most recent CD, Linguistics, visit www.shirappeal.com.
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.

Save the Date- January 10!
Please save the date for a community-wide Melaveh Malka on the evening of January 10. Community members will graciously host Melaveh Malkas in their homes, enabling the entire community to participate in intimate gatherings, see old friends, and make new ones Please look out for your invitation, including your host and details, later this week!

Rabbi Gedaliah Fleer on Healing in the Kabbalistic Tradition
Sunday, January 11th, 7:30 pm
R. Fleer will explore profound kabbalistic concepts and their applications to the healing process. Topics will include: Creating and maintaining "sacred space," a fundamental prerequisite to self-healing; utilizing the essential "I"; the dynamic of paradox in the healing process, with particular emphasis on "incurable disease"; prayer and healing.
R. Fleer is a leading teacher of Jewish mysticism and kabbalah, chassidic philosophy, and the teachings of Rebbe Nachman of Breslov.

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!
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

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.

PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE THIS SHEET FROM THE BUILDING ON SHABBAT

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. **Class on hiatus until January 7.**
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. The group is currently reading selections of Franz Rosenzweig. No background necessary.
Muni Schweig - Wednesdays 8:00 p.m. @ the Schweig home

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

Baruch Dayan Emet/Condolences: We regret to inform you of the passing on Thursday night, 12/25, the 4th of Tevet, **of Moshe Sinai,** beloved parent and step-father to Rabbi Shalom Bochner, grandfather of Nitzan and Yuval. The funeral took place in Albany, NY on Monday, December 29. Shloshim will be marked back in Berkeley.

Baruch Dayan Emet/Condolences: We regret to inform you of the passing of Patricia Kipnis' beloved mother, **Goldie Chelminsky, Zahava bat Yeshayahu ve Ahuva, z"l** on Friday, January 2 in Mexico City. She is survived by her husband Enrique Chelminsky, Patricia and Issy Kipnis, their children Gabriela, Hillel and Amira, Patricia's brother Alex Chelminsky in Boston and sister Deborah Prum in Mexico City and nine grandchildren. Shiva will be at the Chelminsky home in Mexico City.

HaMakom Yenacheim Et'chem Betoch She'ar Aveilei Tziyon VeYerushalayim. May God comfort the families and all others who mourn Zion and Jerusalem

Homeless Shelter: Twenty five + volunteers came to the Berkeley Men's Homeless Shelter on December 24 to cook and serve a sit-down Christmas Eve Chinese dinner to our clients. Those deserving a *Yasher Koach* and a shout out are **Deborah Shaw, Carol Cunradi, Aaron Marcus, Yaakov Harari, Leora Brosbe, Rebecca & Oded Angel, Marti Zedeck, Adam Naftali-Kelman and sons Yair & Nevo, Fried Wittman, Bella Barany, Michal Kohane, Yoni Taylor, Linda & Tal Levine, Kathleen & Talia Bloom, the Seder family, Malcolm & Amir Feeley, and Zvi Rosen**. Special thanks to **Rabbi Green** for his seasonal drash. You can participate in our community effort by supporting the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund and/or signing up at the link provided on our announce list. Our next dinner will be on **Wednesday, January 28.** Shabbat shalom.

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

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.

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!

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