



Weekday Morning and Evening Services

January 13-17, 2019

Morning: 8:00 am Sun • 6:30 am M-F

Evening: 5:00 pm @ CBI Sun-Th

Friday, January 11

Northside minyan, Gessow Home 1315 Bonita Ave., Berkeley..... 4:50 pm
Candle Lighting..... 4:52 pm
Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat..... 4:55 pm

Tot Kabbalat Shabbat (registration is now closed)

Welcome Shabbat with song and movement, followed by a special dinner for families with young children.

Tot Kabbalat Shabbat at Gan Shalom..... 4:50 pm
Dinner at CBI 5:30 pm

Save the Date for future Tot Shabbat dinner:

February 8, Tot Kabbalat Shabbat at Gan 5:20 pm, Dinner at CBI at 6:00 pm

NCSY: Berkeley Shabbat Shabang! January 11-12 @ CBI

Shabbat Lunch: NCSY Lunch for middle schoolers.

Shabbat afternoon schmooze for teens (private home)

Saturday, January 12

Morning Service 9:15 am
Childcare (upstairs at CBI*) w/**Liz Ramirez** 9:15 am

*Children 18 mos-3 yrs can be dropped off at tot childcare.

Torah Readers: **Daniel Hoffman**

Haftorah Reader: **Eric Seder**

Formal Group Time 10:30 am

Kedma (Pre-K): **M. Victoria Sutton**

Tzafona: **Hadas Jacobson**

Negba: **Natan Kuchar**

Gan Assistant: **Jade Cooper**

Parent supervisor: **Tamara Beliak & Zeev Neumeier**

Tot Shabbat Circle @ CBI Upstairs with **Natan Kuchar**

(parents welcome)..... 11:15 am

Sermon by R. Yonatan Cohen: We Won't Know How to Worship God...

Until We Get There

Shabbat Mincha 12:43 pm

Seudah Shlishit 4:50 pm

Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends 5:53 pm

Mishmash 6:30 pm

Mishmash offers parents and children an opportunity to study in pairs in a unique *beit midrash* atmosphere. For guidance in choosing learning materials best suited to each individual need, please contact M. Victoria (maharatvictoria@gmail.com). Children in grades K-8 and their parents are invited to participate. The evening begins with pizza, as parents and children settle into their learning spaces. At the close of each Mishmash, a Dvar Torah is given by one of the children.

Mishmash meets twice a month through March, on Motzei Shabbat

(about 30 min after Shabbat ends): Jan. 12, 26, Feb. 9, 23, Mar. 9 - Siyum

KIDDUSH LUNCH SPONSORS

Ronna Kabatznick, Ray Lifchez, and Alison Jordan in honor of Peter Dale Scott's 90th birthday

Ruth Hoffman and Ed Conway in honor of the birth of their granddaughter Prive Charne

Kiddush Wine Donors:

Covenant Winery, with special thanks to the Morgan Family

Beth Israel Classes

MONDAY

Key Books in Tanakh: Book of Samuel Yasher koach on completing the Book of Judges. We will continue with the Book of Samuel on Monday, January 28. **Class is not meeting January 14 and 21.**

M. Victoria Sutton — Mondays @ 12:00 pm.

NCSY LNL – Latte & Learning (for Teens; Grades 9-12): Our Special Blend: Coffee & Torah Every week. In addition to coffee, NCSY's Latte & Learning initiative serves up Judaism in a relaxed, inspirational, and fun environment. LNL is the place for teens to ask questions, voice their feelings, and connect with each other.

Mondays @ 7:30-9:00 pm @ CBI

TUESDAY

What's in a Name? Some of the most well-known and critical characters in Biblical narratives remain anonymous, leaving us to wonder why we never learn their names. Names and identities are essential to our understanding of various personalities in Tanakh, and their enduring legacies. We will explore why these significant individuals remain anonymous. As many of these unnamed characters are women, we will also touch on the larger issues of how women's stories are told, and how they are not told, in Tanakh.

M. Victoria Sutton — Tuesday Jan. 15 @ 7:30 pm

WEDNESDAY

Emmanuel Levinas: Nine readings of the Talmud by the French Jewish philosopher Emmanuel Levinas translate Jewish thought into the language of modern times. Here Levinas applies a hermeneutic that simultaneously allows the classic Jewish texts to shed light on contemporary problems and lets modern problems illuminate the texts. Besides being quintessential illustrations of the art of reading, the essays express the deeply ethical vision of the human condition that makes Levinas one of the most important thinkers of our time.

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 resumes January 18.**

R. Yonatan Cohen — Fridays, 9:00 am

EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

In Beth Israel

סדר ט"ו בשבט Tu B'Shvat Seder

A feast for the senses and the spirit

Sunday, January 20 7:30-9:00 PM

* ארבע כוסות Four Cups of Wine

* שבעת המינים Seven Species of the Land of Israel

* ערב שירים וספורים An Evening of Song and Reflection

Wine generously donated by Covenant Wines

The Seder will be Free of Charge. RSVP requested to

maharatvictoria@gmail.com

Volunteers need. Please email M. Victoria Sutton if you would like to volunteer to set up or clean up.

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.

Beautify the Bay - East Shore State Park

Monday, January 21st , 10 am (sharp) - 12:30 pm

A family friendly way to give back to the earth on Tu b'Shvat, and give back to our East Bay community on MLK Day. We will be helping to ready the "Brickyard" section of East Shore State Park for opening, make it more welcoming to people and wildlife! Remove litter and control harmful invasives along the Bay shore near the mouth of Strawberry Creek, Berkeley. All ages welcome! Light and heavy tasks for all!

Please arrive on time as we need to walk some distance into the closed area. We will meet at the South edge of the parking lot of Sea Breeze Market, near the touchdown of the pedestrian-bicycle bridge, on the South side of University at West Frontage Rd.

*Wear closed-toed shoes with good traction, and expect to get dirty.

*Tools, gloves, water, and snacks provided.

*An East Bay Regional Park District volunteer waiver can be signed when people arrive.

Note that there will be a, 7.2' tide (very high) "King Tide" at 10:30 am, during our Park visit, which will provide an opportunity to observe and discuss the impact of rising sea levels and global warming. Bring a camera or use a cell phone to submit photos to the California King Tides Project, <https://www.coastal.ca.gov/kingtides/>.

Please register at <https://tinyurl.com/ydbq4wzp>. Contact Juliet with any questions: juliet125@gmail.com

Beautify the Bay - Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline

Monday, January 21, 9 am - 11 am

Join us for this day of volunteering and connection in conjunction with CBI and the East Bay Regional Park District! Followed by a vegetarian, vegan-friendly, Kosher Picnic (following CBI kashrut guidelines) with special Tu B'Shvat fruit treats!

Location: Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline: Damon Marsh (Oakport St. access).

What we will do: We will help restore the Martin Luther King Jr. Shoreline by assisting staff in shoreline litter cleanup, restoration work and invasive plant removal in order to support and care for wildlife and their natural habitats. Then we will enjoy a well-earned Tu B'Shvat picnic brunch!

What to wear: Wear comfortable, weather-appropriate clothes. Long pants or leg coverings, gloves, and closed-toed shoes are recommended.

What to bring: To cut down on the use of plastic, please bring a refillable water bottle and a bucket to pick up litter.

Weather: Heavy rain cancels the event.

For more information, please check out the East Bay Regional Parks District Information Page.

To RSVP and/or to participate in shared driving to the event, please sign-up below. For any other questions, comments, or suggestions, feel free to contact Miriam Barrere (barrerem@gmail.com) or Raizy (nrlichtenstein@gmail.com).

Sign Up - MLK Jr Regional Shoreline <https://tinyurl.com/yadodbz8>

Open Kiddush Dates: Please email our Kiddush coordinators at kiddush@cbiberkeley.org to sponsor the following open dates:

January 25

February 9

February 23 - co-sponsors needed

April 6 - co-sponsors needed

April 20 (Pesach 1st day)

May 25

For more details on Kiddush sponsorship information, please see our website <https://www.cbiberkeley.org/connect/sponsor-a-kiddush/>

CBI Cooks at Berkeley Men's Shelter: January 23, 2019

With your help, CBI prepares and serves dinner to more than 75 guests, both men and women, on the 4th Wednesday of each month. You can

join us to cook, serve or clean up. Please note new shelter location 2140 Dwight Way.

5-6:30 - Cook and Prep Shift - 6:40-7:30 Serve and Clean-Up Shift

To help support the shelter cooking, you can contribute to Rabbi Cohen's Discretionary Fund which finances these dinners.

Tizku l'Mitzvot, Maharat Victoria Sutton

NCSY

Latte and Learning - Monday nights 7:30-9:00 pm @CBI

From Chills to Thrills! (Upcoming social event grades 9-12)

Saturday night Jan 26, 6:45 - 9:15, 3778 Park Blvd Oakland
Sign up <https://eastbay.ncsy.org/events/224854/bubble-sports-fear-factor/>

Start off the evening with food, friends, and Bubble Sports!

Then bringing back our successful NCSY FEAR FACTOR contest! Don't worry, participation is optional, BUT of course there is a grand prize for the winning team, and it's super fun to watch your friends do... well, I guess you'll just have to find out when you come!!



Save the Date! Shabbat Shalem with Rabba Wendy Amsellem

JAN. 25-26

Wendy Amsellem teaches Talmud and Halakha at Yeshivat Maharat and is the Editor of Yeshivat Maharat's Keren journal. She is also a faculty member at Drisha Institute and Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies, and she is an editor at The Lehrhaus.

Wendy is the former Director of the Dr. Beth Samuels Drisha High School Program and she was the Rosh Kollel of the Drisha July Kollel. She has been a Wexner Graduate Fellow and a Mandel Jerusalem Fellow. Wendy is an alumna of the Drisha Scholars Circle and she has a BA in History and Literature from Harvard University. She is currently pursuing a PhD in rabbinic literature at NYU.

Friday, January 25

5:07 pm Candle Lighting

5:10 pm Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat

6:00 pm Communal Shabbat Dinner

\$12 per child, student, & young professional, \$20 per adult, \$60 maximum per family. Register here:

<https://www.cbiberkeley.org/learn/scholars-in-residence/2019-2/>

7:00 pm Learning w/Rabba Amsellem: Who Can Recite the Praises of God? Torah, Shame, and Forgiveness (Talmud Bavli Horayot 13b-14a)

Should knowledge be a prerequisite for community leadership? How can we set aside personal slights and focus on the public good? We will discuss a story in Masechet Horayot that details a falling-out among the leaders of the Beit Midrash and the various interventions required to set things right.

Saturday, January 26

11:00 am - Sermon by Rabba Amsellem: Before Sinai: The Evolution of a Midrashic Motif

A very early midrash suggests that God offered the Torah to other peoples before offering it to Israel. Why would God do this? Does this affect Israel's relationship to Torah and to the Divine? We will explore the development of this midrashic motif and how it yields different meanings and insights into the Sinai story.

12:48 pm - Mincha

4:00 pm - Learning w/Rabba Amsellem

5:05 pm - Seudah Shlishit

6:07 pm - Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL ACCEPTS VEHICLE DONATIONS

IT'S A WIN/WIN FOR YOU AND FOR CBI. Car donations are an easy way to support Congregation Beth Israel, providing you with a tax write-off and

with additional funds for our community. We take care of the DMV paperwork, pick up your car, sell it at auction and then send you a receipt for the full amount that the car sold for. It's that easy! We can also accept trucks, boats, motorcycles and RVs. For more information and to begin the process, please contact Jerry Robbins, robbins42@hotmail.com (650) 766-7233.

In The Community

Richmond Museum of History Exhibit: Pioneers to the Present – Jews of Richmond and Contra Costa County
January 13 - June 30

400 Nevin Ave, Richmond, CA 94801

<https://richmondmuseum.org/event/exhibit-pioneers-to-the-present-jews-of-richmond-and-contra-costa-county/>

Online Zohar Course w/Daniel Matt

Wednesdays 6 pm-7:15 pm, January 16-February 20, 2019, via

Zoom. We will be exploring Volume 1 of *The Zohar: Pritzker Edition*.

There is no requirement for fluency in Hebrew or Aramaic or any extensive background in Jewish sources. Sliding scale from \$150 –

\$250. For further information, please visit <https://>

www.facebook.com/daniel.matt.16 or email danielcmatt@gmail.com

OHDS Winter Book Club: The Emotional Life of Girls & Boys with Tania Schweig & Bat Sheva Miller

Thursday, January 24, 7:30-9 p.m. @ CBI

Wondering about how to help your child manage their emotions in different social scenarios? Join us for an engaging parent education session by signing up to read one of two parenting books and take part in a book club style discussion. Purchase or borrow your book choice now, read over the next few weeks and join the discussion of your choice!

Book Choice #1 with Tania Schweig, OHDS Head of School

Odd Girl Out: The Hidden Culture of Aggression in Girls

by Rachel Simmons

Book Choice #2 with Bat Sheva Miller, OHDS Assistant Head of School

Raising Cain: Protecting the Emotional Life of Boys

by Dan Kindlon and Michael Thompson

Email Philippa to sign up (no cost): plichterman@ohds.org.

PHONE-A-THON 2019



Dear CBI family and friends,

For the past decade, each January has brought a fundraising appeal from Congregation Beth Israel. Every year, we have held a Phone-A-Thon to ask for help in bridging the gap between incoming commitments and outgoing expenditures, faced by all synagogues, to support the meaningful programming and events held throughout the year. And every year, Beth Israel's family and friends have risen to the occasion.

What does CBI mean to you? For ourselves and our families, CBI is a home where we can *daven*, hear thought-provoking *drashot*, participate in engaging classes, be uplifted by Jewish values, deepen our commitment to Torah learning, contribute to Jewish living in the Bay Area, nurture a thriving Jewish cultural home, learn with our amazing Maharat and Rabbi, rely on wonderful, regular children's programs, observe meaningful celebration of holidays, and participate in *tikkun olam* initiatives that contribute to our community at large. None of these things are possible without your support.

We salute you for your past generosity, and ask you to help get the job done again this year. In 2018, we shattered previous giving records. For 2019, we are aiming high: **Our goal is 100% participation to raise \$30,000 with individual pledges increasing by 10%.** The 2019 CBI Phone-A-Thon will take place on Sunday morning, **January 27th.**

If you want to have this donation credited to your 2018 tax return, please consider giving before the end of December! If you would prefer, you can make your donation before in one of three ways:

- Donate online here <https://www.cbiberkeley.org/connect/giving/telethon2019/>
- Send a check to CBI, with "2019 Phone-a-thon" on the memo line. Checks can be sent to Congregation Beth Israel, 1630 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, CA 94703.
- Call the CBI office (510) 843-5246 to make a pledge by phone; your pledge will be added to your CBI statement.

Donors will be recognized for their support in the spring issue of Chai Lights in six categories:

\$18–\$179: Supporters

\$180–\$499: Guardians

\$500–\$999: Sustainers

\$1,000–\$1,999: Pillars

\$2,000–\$4,999: Innovators

\$5,000+: Visionaries

If you don't call us, we'll call you on Sunday, January 27! We look forward to speaking to every member of the CBI family!

Best regards, and *todah rabbah!*

Carol Cunradi and Eliezah Hoffman

Phone-A-Thon Co-Chairs