



DAF HASHAVUAH

DECEMBER 13-14, 2019 — 9 KISLEV, 5780

Weekday Morning and Evening Services

December 8-12, 2019

8:00 am Sun • 6:30 am M - F

Evening: Sun-Th 4:40 pm



Scholar-in-Residence

Dr. Chaim Saiman

December 13-14

Dr. Chaim Saiman is a Professor of Law at Villanova University where he teaches Jewish law, and Contracts and Insurance law. He is an editor of the American Journal of Comparative Law, and has served as the Gruss Professor of Jewish Law at the University of Pennsylvania

Law School, as a fellow in Religion and Public Life at Princeton University. In 2017, he was the Gruss Visiting Professor of Talmudic Law at Harvard Law School. He is the author of Halakha: The Rabbinic Idea of Law (2018).

Friday, December 13

- Northside minyan at Sudikoff home 4:30 pm
1209 Shattuck Ave (east side of street, past Live Oak Park, near Eunice)
- Candle Lighting 4:32 pm
- Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat @ CBI 4:35 pm
- Communal Shabbat Dinner (registration is closed at this time) ... 5:30 pm
followed by learning w/Dr. Chai Saiman: *Contemporary Beit Din: Its Problems, Practices and Promise*

Saturday, December 14

- Morning Service 9:15 am
- Tot Childcare (upstairs at CBI*) with Shyenne Burrell 9:15 am
*Children 18 mos-3 yrs can be dropped off at tot childcare.
- Childcare at Gan Shalom (ages 3-10) 9:15 am
- Greeters: Raizy Lichtenstein, Rona Teitelman, Miriam R L Petruck, Josh Ladon
- Torah Reader: Na'aman Kam
- Haftarah Reader: Zeev Neumeier
- Formal Group Time 10:30 am
Kedma (Pre-K): Natan Kuchar
Tzafona: Moriya Gamliel
Negba: Meitav Ovadia
- Sermon by Dr. Chaim Saiman: *The Rabbinic Idea of Law* 10:45 am
- Mincha 12:30 pm
- Seudah shelishit 4:15 pm
- Learning with Dr. Chaim Saiman: *Learning Greek Wisdom: Halakhah and Aggadah* 4:25 pm
- Ma'ariv, Havdalah & Shabbat ends 5:34 pm
- Mishmash 6:15 pm

KIDDUSH SPONSORS IN HONOR OF NATAN & LILI KUCHAR

SerachBracha & Paul Albert, Beth & Jonathan Astmann, Sara & Kenny Bamberger, Bella Barany, M. Victoria Sutton & Adam Brelow, Frayda & Rabbi Yonatan Cohen, Darrell Cohn & Leah Kahn, Jamie Conway & Meena Viswanath, Nimrod & Aliza Elias, Hilik & Vered Frank, Shlomit & Yoel Greenberg, Ronna Bach & Michael Greenwald, Yakov & Rena Harari, Melissa & Guy Harel, Talia Falk & Elie Hassenfeld, Rachel & Jacob Heitler, Cari & Dov Jelen, Meechal & Na'aman Kam, Ori & Rena Kanefsky, Ethan Katz & Hagit Caspi, Jenny & Josh Kirsch, Michael & Jessica Klass, Yael Krieger & Joshua Ladon, Elliana Abrahams & Raizy Lichtenstein, Saul &

Sara Miranda, Elana & Adam Naftalin-Kelman, Dvora Marciano & Assaf Romm, Adam Rosenzweig & Jessica Fain, June & Bob Safran, Tania & Muni Schweig, Hila Abel & Asaf Shor, Iris Greenberg Smith & Jeremy Smith, Juliet & Birger Stamperdahl, Brenna & Bradley Strauss, Delphine Sherman & Philip Tendler, Sheldon & Marti Zedeck, Jo-Ellen & Ben Zeitlin

Kiddush Wine:

Covenant Winery, with special thanks to the Morgan Family

Beth Israel Classes

MONDAY

Key Books in Tanakh: Book of Samuel: Following the chaotic period of the Judges, the Book of Samuel narrates the centralization of leadership in Israel. The book opens with the birth of the prophet Samuel, who unifies the nation, and crowns the first kings of Israel. The Book of Samuel presents a gripping exploration of political personalities, palace intrigue and the role of God in the lives of kings and nations. **Class meets December 16, then will be on hiatus until January 6.**
M. Victoria Sutton — Mondays @ 12:00 pm.

NCSY LNL – Latte & Learning (for teens in grades 9 to 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. L&L is the place for teens to ask questions, voice their feelings, and connect with each other.
Mondays at 7:30-8:30 pm, @ Starbucks 2128 Oxford

TUESDAY

Emotions in Halakha: Jewish law has a lot to say about how we act, but do emotional states have significance in halakha? We will look at some well-known human emotions through a halakhic lens, from the Talmud through rabbinic responsa, as well as some constructs around more elusive emotional states that have implications in Jewish law.
M. Victoria Sutton — Tuesdays, Dec. 3, & 10 @ 7:30 pm

WEDNESDAY

Vices & Virtues: Mussar is a spiritual Jewish practice focused on virtue-based ethics. Through the cultivation of inner virtues, such as patience, gratitude, and reverence, we improve ourselves. Our sessions will explore various vices and virtues as presented by classical books of Mussar.
R. Yonatan Cohen — Wednesdays @ 12:00 pm

Mussar Shmooze: Join in ongoing mussar *chaburot* or *hevrutot*, organized around a particular mussar work, from classical to modern. The evening of learning, over hearty soup, will close with an opportunity for folks to share words of Torah from their learning.
Please be in touch with Maharat Victoria Sutton to participate or if you would like to convene a *chabura* on a particular mussar work.
Bimonthly, Wednesday Nights at 7:30 pm, January 8, 22, February 5, 19, March 4, 18, April 1, 22, May 6, 20

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

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.

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 on Tractate Chagigah that explores major Jewish questions of practice and thought. In this week's class we will begin the second chapter of the tractate.

R. Yonatan Cohen — Fridays, 9:00 am

EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS **In Beth Israel**

Baruch Dayan Emet/Condolences: We deeply regret to inform you of the passing of **Vivian Muller (4/9/28-12/8/19)**, beloved mother of Laila Stone, mother-in-law of Abraham Stone, and grandmother of Margaret and Elana. She resided in Downers Grove, Illinois. Vivian was predeceased by her husband Ralph Muller and son, Steven Muller. Vivian is survived by her children - Liane Muller, Tom (Deb) Muller, Lisa Brosnan, Peter (Stacey) Muller, and Alicia (Dan) Philipp.

Laila is in Downers Grove and will be joined by her family once funeral plans are set. We will look forward to welcoming Laila back to our community and offering our comfort and support in the weeks and months to come.

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

Nessiah Tovah (Safe Travels) to M. Sutton and Family: Maharat Victoria will be out of the office from December 17 through December 25.

SPECIAL OAKLAND KOSHER FOODS SCRIP ORDER: We usually do not have Oakland Kosher Foods scrip in stock other than pre-Pesach and pre-Rosh Hashanah. However we are about to order a large amount on December 20th. Please let Naomi Stamper nstamper@sbcglobal.net know by **December 20** if you can use any OKF scrip so that she knows how much to get. Remember the next order will not be until the Spring.

CBI SISTERHOOD UPCOMING EVENT

2nd Annual Art Shuk

Sunday, December 15th 11 am - 4 pm at CBI

Come view the talents of our Shul members and other local Jewish artists. Art will be available for purchase. Come support our community of artists. Food and drink will be available for purchase as well.

Questions? Interested in participating in the Shuk? Call/text Sabrina at 510 847-0050

CBI Sunday Afternoon at the movies! Sunday, December 15, 2019, 2pm at The home of Dan & Robinn Magid (833 Mendocino Avenue)

Come join us for CBI Sunday Afternoon at the movies! There will be delicious kosher snacks, drinks and great company. We will be showing the wonderful Israeli movie "The Women's Balcony". The event will be on Sunday, December 15th at 2pm at the home of Dan and Robinn Magid, 833 Mendocino Avenue, Berkeley. Here is the official description of the movie and a link to the trailer:

New York Times & Los Angeles Times CRITICS PICK! Israel's #1 Film of the Year!

When the women's balcony in an Orthodox synagogue collapses, leaving the rabbi's wife in a coma and the rabbi in shock, the congregation falls into crisis. Charismatic young Rabbi David appears to be a savior after the

accident, but slowly starts pushing his fundamentalist ways and tries to take control. This tests the women's friendships and creates an almost Lysistrata-type rift between the community's women and men.

Trailer: <https://www.menemshafilms.com/womens-balcony>

NCSY

Early Chanukah Party! Grades 9-12

Sunday, December 15th, 6:00-9:00 pm, @ Oakland Ice Center, 519 18th Street Oakland

Dreidel competition! Prizes!... And Ice Skating

Register: norcal.ncsy.org/iceskating

Embodied Chassidis - A Men's Dance Group

Monday, December 16, 7:00 pm-8:30 pm

Come join us as we embody chassidis through learning, song and dance. We will begin by learning a piece of chassidis from Rebbe Nachman that relates to movement.

We will then put on music and dance! The hope is to draw a relationship between what we learn with our minds and what we do with our bodies. Come explore how to turn our bodies into vessels of joy and break the boundaries in our relationship with G-d.

Facilitated by Aryeh Canter. Reach out to him if you have a song to request! This event is for men only. Light refreshments provided.



Open Kiddushim:

- December 28
- February 15
- February 22
- March 14
- April 9 (Pesach 1st Day)

- April 10 (Pesach 2nd Day)
- April 11 (Pesach Shabbat Chol HaMoed)
- April 16 (Pesach 8th Day)

Email kiddush@cbiberkeley.org to sponsor kiddush at any level or ask any questions on details of Kiddush sponsorship options. Donations towards Kiddush sponsorships at all levels are welcome. Be our next Kiddush Sponsor! You'll be glad you did!

Please donate here: <https://www.cbiberkeley.org/connect/giving/>

CBI GAME GROUPS

Mah Jongg w/Marti Zedeck: Anyone interested is welcome to meet on **Tuesdays** from noon to 3:00 pm at the shul. Check with Marti to confirm dates: martizeck@yahoo.com (510) 527 0719.

CBI Sunday Soccer: A group of CBI members meet on Sunday mornings at 9 am at San Pablo park for a friendly game of soccer. All ages and levels of play skills (and no-skills) are welcomed to join. Email Noah Nathan at noahnathan@hotmail.co.uk for exact dates each week.

GAN SHALOM PRESCHOOL ACCEPTS VEHICLE DONATIONS: Car donations are an easy way to support Gan Shalom Preschool, 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

Hasidah: Hasidah IVF Grant Cycle is open! Applications are due January 6th. Applications are available at www.hasidah.org/apply. December 19th at 5:30pm- Community In Fertility is an ONLINE opportunity for Jewish women experiencing family building challenges to connect with each other during what can be a painful and isolating experience. These conversations provide the space to reflect on the experience of infertility in a Jewish context. The December session will focus on Hanukkah, miracles, and hope. Hanukkah is about the miracle of oil. But is hoping for a miracle when facing infertility a good approach? We'll explore our ideas of miracles and the role of hope when trying for a baby. E-mail Ariel@hasidah.org for more information or to sign up.

Hanukkah Concert & Sing-Along: hosted by Nigunim Chorus with guest performers Noa Levy and Asaf Ophir, Saturday, December 21, 6:30 pm at the JCC East Bay, 1414 Walnut St., Berkeley \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door, \$10 for children Eventbrite.com (search "Nigunim")
Enjoy a hamish, musical Havdalah, an uplifting Hanukkah sing-along, and amazing performances by Nigunim Chorus, vocalist Noa Levy, and multi-instrumentalist Asaf Ophir. The program includes a special medley of songs by Jewish American songwriter Irving Berlin.



Marcia Falk, #Two St. Long Street

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL ART SHUK SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 • 11 AM - 4:00 PM

Buy Holiday Gifts! Local Community Artists!

Deborah Lesser/ Ceramics • Avram Davis /Paintings
Adina Polen/ Handmade Creations • Andrea Brott/Digital Paintings
Hope Alper/ Children's Hanukkah Book • Marcia Falk /Books & Paintings
Deb Sibony/Monotype Prints • Laura Kowler/Earth Sourced Jewelry
Lisa Zebrack /Channukah Cards • Rose Ginsburg /Textiles
Betzael Massarano/ Woodwork
Nitzhia Shaked /Paintings • Aaron Marcus/ Digital Art
Isaac Kaplan & Sandy Kaplan Schwarz/ Fused Glassworks
Gabby Schubert / Pencil and Ink Fantasy Art

Come view the talents of Congregation Beth Israel members and other local Jewish artists. Art will be available for purchase. Come support our community of artists. Food and drinks will be available for purchase as well.

Questions • Call or text Sabrina • 510 847-0050

ACCFB.ORG/DINNER

On behalf of the thousands of Alameda County neighbors who you'll feed this winter, thank you for all your help with the Holiday Dinner Drive. The Chronicle recently reported "almost 200,000 Alameda County residents [have] low or very

Please give today: **YOUR DONATION WILL BE DOUBLED!**

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

Holiday Dinner Drive

Benefiting  ALAMEDA COUNTY COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

Alameda County Community Food Bank serves **1 in 5** of our neighbors

Your donation of \$36 provides 7 holiday meals

Your donation of \$60 provides 12 holiday meals

Your donation of \$100 provides 20 holiday meals



The Koret Foundation is generously **matching all gifts, dollar-for-dollar, up to \$25,000**, to support this year's Holiday Dinner Drive in Alameda County.

For every \$1 you give, the Food Bank will provide \$7 now \$14 worth of food with the match!

Thank you for your generous support!

DONATE ONLINE: accfb.org/dinner

Enter donation info and at the bottom of the page select Congregation Beth Israel from the dropdown menu

DONATE BY CHECK:

Payable to ACCFB and write Holiday Dinner Drive on the check memo line, mail to:
Congregation Beth Israel
Attn: Holiday Dinner Drive
1630 Bancroft Way
Berkeley CA 94703



The Food Bank is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Your tax-deductible gift of any amount is appreciated and needed.

PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE THIS SHEET FROM THE BUILDING ON SHABBAT

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 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. **Our goal for the 2020 Phone-a-thon, to help us meet rising expenses, is \$26,000.**



This year, our members have joined together weekly for meaningful davening, thought-provoking *drashot*, and engaging classes. We have connected with our larger Berkeley community by providing hot meals and collecting towels, socks, and underwear for those in need. We have seen the fruits of our labor as Gan Shalom begins its fifth year in its newly revitalized building, a daily home to 32 children. Our weekly Shabbat groups are an anchor for families in the CBI community. And we achieved two important infrastructure additions: the creation of East Bay Kosher and certifying Flying Falafel and Boichik Bagels, and the expansion of the Berkeley Eruv

This fall, we have already embarked on an ambitious program of scholars and teachers; we have much more to look forward to in the coming months. None of this is possible without your support. We salute you for your past generosity and ask you to help get the job done again this year.

The 2020 CBI Phone-a-thon will take place on Sunday morning, January 26th. We are asking members to increase their giving to this campaign by 10% from 2019. If you want to have this donation credited to your 2019 tax return, please consider giving before the end of December! If you would prefer, you can make your donation in one of four ways:

- Donate online here <https://www.cbiberkeley.org/connect/giving/phone-a-thon2020/>
- Send a check to CBI, with "2020 Phone-a-thon" on the memo line. Checks can be sent to Congregation Beth Israel, 1630 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, CA 94703.
- Use your bank's online payment center to make a payment to CBI.
- Call the 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 five categories, according to their level of giving:

\$18 – \$179: Supporters
\$180 – \$499: Guardians
\$500 – \$1,000: Sustainers
\$1,000 – \$1,999: Pillars
\$2000+: Visionaries

If you don't call us, we'll call you on January 26! 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