

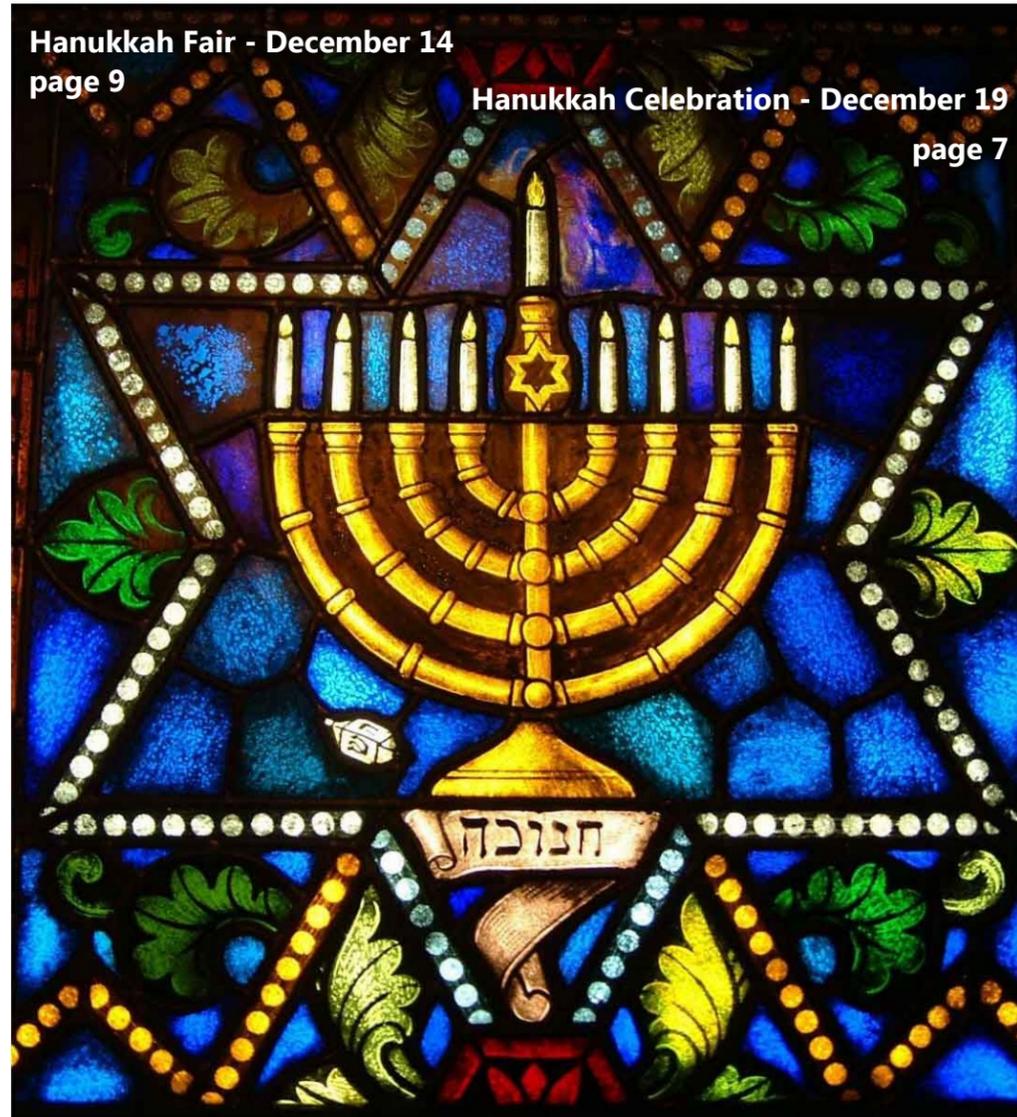
BETH ISRAEL JUDEA BULLETIN

Celebrating

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BIJ - Your Community for Life

WELCOME TO BIJ

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The BIJ Bulletin

The BIJ Bulletin is published in January, March, May, July, September and November each year by Congregation Beth Israel Judea. Original articles and reviews are appreciated, but we cannot guarantee publication. Submit ideas by email to: rgoodman@bij.org in simple Microsoft Word format or in the body of your email. **Deadline** for the upcoming January/February issue is: **Monday, December 1.**

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Mission Statement

Congregation Beth Israel Judea is a center for progressive, egalitarian Judaism located in southwest San Francisco.

Our multigenerational, participatory community welcomes all Jews and interfaith families along with their partners and friends.

We value celebrations of the spirit, Jewish culture, our children's education, and life-long learning, music, social justice and Tikkun Olam.



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Danny Gottlieb Rabbi
rabbigottlieb@bij.org / ext 22
David Morgenstern Cantorial Soloist
cantor@bij.org / ext 23
Rebecca Goodman Director of Education
rgoodman@bij.org / 415.625.3613
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Contact BIJ

625 Brotherhood Way, San Francisco, CA 94132
415-586-8833 | www.bij.org | office@bij.org

Office Hours

CLOSED Mondays

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 10 AM to 5 PM

Friday: 10 AM to 3 PM

HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURES:

Thursday & Friday, November 27 & 28

Wednesday, December 24: closes at 12:00 NOON

Thursday & Friday, December 25 & 26

Monday-Wednesday, December 29-31

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

From the President

By Joshua Goodman



Fellow members of BIJ:

I write this bulletin article from a bed and breakfast in Slaty Fork, West Virginia. Karen and I are on a driving trip through Kentucky, West Virginia and Pennsylvania before ending up in New York for my aunt's 90th birthday. Slaty Fork

is in the middle of the Monongahela National Forrest and is pretty far off of any main road. When we arrived, we stopped in at Sharpe's Country Store and met the owner, Tom Shipley. Tom's great-grandfather started the store in 1884 and it has been in the family ever since. According to Tom, his great grandfather, who was himself a 5th generation descendant of pioneers, was the first postmaster of the town and named it Slaty Fork because he saw slate all around and it was at the fork of the Elk River.

Tom is not the only long-standing resident we met on this trip. The woman who gave us a tour of the state capital in Frankfort, Kentucky told us there was a store in town that has been in her family since the 1830s. We also met another owner of another general store who had lived in Southern California but returned to West Virginia, where her parents were born and raised.

I imagine that living in a small town, particularly one in which you were born and raised, would allow for deep and multifaceted connections with others in your community. Perhaps this is an overly romanticized view, but living as I do, a transplant among transplants in a big city, I realize that connections with neighbors and with those around me must be created. I cannot rely on 100 or 200 years of history in the same place to foster such connections. If I do not actively create relationships they won't exist.

So we organize ourselves into different groupings. We meet people through work and raising our kids, and sometimes we make long-lasting friends. We also join communities such as Beth Israel Judea. But BIJ is more than just a social club or a place to meet people. It represents and embodies hundreds if not thousands of years of shared traditions and history all wrapped around a spiritual and ethical core. When we come together at BIJ, we do so to pray, learn, and repair the world, as well as to eat, socialize and raise our kids.

But it is not sufficient just to join a community like BIJ. Joining alone will not create the connections and relationships that make BIJ a community. That takes an

active involvement. Believe me, I know. I spent many years as a member of BIJ but not as an involved or active participant. More recently, I have been very involved as an active participant in many aspects of BIJ. Through that active participation I have made friends, and created connections and relationships with so many people and with BIJ itself. Now, I feel a little like that long time resident of a small West Virginia town. **BIJ is my small town.**

As we start the new year of 5775, I encourage you to make BIJ your small town. Attend some of the many services, programs, lectures or social events we have. Volunteer your time at BIJ. Participate in our Tikkun Olam projects and help repair the world. Start to create the connections and relationships that turn BIJ into your community. Before you know it, you will be greeting fellow members as old friends and helping to welcome new members into our community.

I look forward to seeing you at BIJ.

L'Shalom,

Joshua Goodman

President, Board of Trustees

RABBI MORRIS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION INFORMATION

Sisterhood-The Women of BIJ is pleased to announce the opening of the application period for the Rabbi Morris Scholarship. Applicants must be members, or children/grandchildren of members of the Congregation in good standing.

There are three different applications: one for high school seniors, one for students currently in college or graduate school, and one for adults who have gone back to school. The scholarship is for a minimum of \$350.

Applications will be available for downloading online at www.bij.org or at the BIJ office on December 9, 2014 and must be returned to BIJ c/o Diane Ehrlich no later than February 27, 2015. These scholarships may be used at any accredited 2 or 4 year college/university or at any accredited trade/technical/vocational school. All who are eligible are urged to apply. All applications should be typed or written legibly in black ink.

FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

Looking Backward and Looking Forward

By Rabbi Danny Gottlieb



LOOKING BACK UPON THE HOLY DAYS AND FESTIVALS

Once again this year, I was struck by how wonderful the High Holy Day and Festival service and celebrations felt to Ricki and me. The warmth and connection that was present in the sanctuary, the sukkah and dancing with the sifrei Torah in the Social Hall sweetened and enriched each of these holy moments. The participation of the congregation in music and prayer reminded us all of how much we feel at home at BIJ, and a part of this loving congregational family. Ricki and I are looking forward to a good and sweet year with all of you. I am excited for our future as we continue to grow in number and in strength...

First a word of thanks to all of those who worked so hard to make our High Holy Day and Festival services so beautiful. In particular, I want to thank the following people:

David Morgenstern
 Ricki Weintraub
 Sara Heckelman
 Neil Bronstein
 Inara Morgenstern and the Nashira Choir
 All the readers, service participants and shofar blowers
 Elie Aharon for leading our Yom Kippur Study
 Rebecca Goodman and staff in our children's programs
 All of our greeters, security and office volunteers
 Joshua Goodman and the members of the Temple Board and Executive Committee
 Sarah Glew and the staff of Manor Music for technical assistance

The beauty and harmony of our High Holy Day and Festival services sets the tone for the year ahead, and for many new Temple events and programs that we will experience in the year ahead. May it be a year of peace and blessing for us all.

LOOKING FORWARD TO THE YEAR AHEAD

Our Adult Education Collaboration Continues

Together with this bulletin you will receive a brochure, "Learning Together," with this year's adult education courses and programs, offered in partnership with B'nai Emunah, Ner Tamid and Or Shalom. Please join us for these learning sessions throughout the year.

Basic Judaism

Beginning October 30 and continuing until May, we will offer a Judaism 101 course on Thursday evenings at B'nai Emunah (46th and Taraval). This course is designed for people who may have taken introductory level courses in the past and who would like to deepen their knowledge about holiday and life-cycle celebrations, Jewish belief and practice, history and literature. This course will serve as a pre-requisite for those considering Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah or Conversion to Judaism. Rabbis Mark Melamut, Moshe Levin and I will teach different segments of the course. Details are in the "Learning Together" brochure.

Tikkun Olam – Hunger Relief

Together with our friends from B'nai Emunah, Ner Tamid and Or Shalom, we will form a tikkun olam partnership, initially focusing on hunger relief in our community. The committee is now in formation, and looking for volunteers to participate in the programs as they are developed. Some of you signed up at Rosh Hashanah, and you will hear from the committee soon. If you did not sign up, but wish to volunteer, please let me know. Together we can repair this small bit of the world's brokenness, and make a difference.

Shabbat Shelanu

Our First Friday program has now grown to include Or Shalom and B'nai Emunah. Shabbat Shelanu (Our Shabbat) has a service for pre-readers and their families at 5:30 pm, followed by a communal "kid-friendly" Shabbat dinner at 6:15 pm and a family service for children and adults of all ages at 7:00 pm.

And...

As you read this message, our group of Israel travelers will be completing the second BIJ Israel Tour. If you have not already done so, check out our photos on the new BIJ app (available for free in the iPhone App Store and Google Play) and our daily blog on the BIJ website. We will have lots to share with you upon our return.

November 4 is Election Day. It is our obligation to participate in the democratic process by casting our ballots. Make your voice heard by making your vote count!

I look forward to seeing you soon, and often in the year ahead.

Rabbi Danny Gottlieb

THE CANTOR'S VOICE

Between the Four Corners of the Tallis: Part Five

By Cantorial Soloist David Morgenstern

With our recent High Holy Days and the following Festival days fresh in my mind, I'd like to take a moment to thank everyone at services for their kind words of support. I am very blessed and grateful to be a part of our Beth Israel Judea community. Many thanks!

A different take on seeing tzitzit

As I've mentioned in my now four-columns-long series on the tallis, the *tzitzit*, or tassels, at the corners are visual reminders of the Mitzvot, the 613 commandments in the Torah. The hope is that this visual reminder — the tassels and the symbolic knots tied with the strings — will prevent us from doing wrong and help us to do the right thing. However, when the Rabbis drill down into it, little is simple.

In the last paragraph of the Shema, we read: "That shall be your fringe; look at it and recall all the commandments of the Lord and observe them, so that you do not follow your heart and eyes in your lustful urge." (Num. 15:39 JPS translation). Our *Eit Ratzon* prayer book translates the last part as: "And you will not be led astray by your heart and your eyes, for they will seduce you to misbehave."

The Kotzker Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Morgensztern (no relation) of Kotzk, a Chassidic rabbi born in 1787, offered an interesting teaching on this line: "Why doesn't [the text] say: 'Follow your evil heart?' Because anyone who has a good heart is *also* forbidden from following their heart. This is to teach us that even the good must not be done [purely] out of the heart's inclination, but out of knowledge and effort. ..." So, even doing good should have its own *kavannah*, or intention.



Why is there a hole at each corner of a tallis? Because the tzitzit is supposed to be tied on or "attached" to the tallis, not sewn or woven into. The hole accomplishes this mitzvah.

Rabbi Larry Tabick ponders the Kotzker Rebbe's words in *The Aura of Torah*, his recently-published collection of Kabbalistic and Chassidic commentaries on the weekly Torah portion. Tabick wonders what is so bad about doing something good just because we feel like it? Isn't it good to do good?

"The answer is that anyone can be good when they feel like it," Tabick writes. "We can all be good if it makes us feel that we have achieved something, or is likely to put us in the good books of someone we are trying to impress. But the true test of a person's goodness is whether they behave well even when they do not feel like it, even when it is to their detriment. The truly good person does good simply because it is the right thing to do, not because there is any gain to be had."



Of course, nobody is saying *not* to do good. However, our decisions can and should be informed by our deep Jewish spiritual and ethical traditions. If this sounds like a segue to Rabbi Gottlieb's pitch to "join a Jewish spiritual fitness club (sometimes known as a synagogue)," you are right. Joining our weekly Torah Study group on Shabbat morning is a good way to get Jewish values into the brain and prepare ourselves for those moments when our goodness will be tested.

Even more thanks!

To conclude this month's column, I would like to offer thanks to a number of persons in our community: First, my thanks must go to Inara Morgenstern who, from behind the grand piano, provided so much support to me and the Choir on the bimah.

Next, my thanks go out to the members of the Nashira Choir, who sang so beautifully during our High Holy Day services: Elie Aharon, Eileen Downey, Johanna Gendelman, Stacey Herrera, Jeff Kallman, Yvonne Lorvan, Ann Morgenstern, Jamie Morgenstern, Tracey Vanik and Beth Weisberg. All of these members gave of their time for rehearsals and practicing, as well as a portion of their personal High Holy Day experience so that our prayers can be enriched by their voices. Thanks so much!

Friends: May each day lead us to more wisdom, more creativity, more holiness, more peace, and closer to the Holy One of Blessing.

B'racha (with blessing),

David Morgenstern

ADULT EDUCATION

Introduction to Judaism

Thursdays, 7:00-9:00 PM, B'nai Emunah

An in-depth basic Judaism course, for anyone who wishes to learn more about Jewish history, holidays, beliefs and practices. This course will also serve as pre-requisite for those considering conversion. Led by Rabbis Gottlieb, Levin & Melamut.

Current World Affairs

November 4 & December 2, 10:30 AM

Join us for stimulating discussion, vigorous debate and intellectual exploration of global events and the Jewish approach to issues facing our international community.



Discussion is facilitated by Eric Gattmann, Professor Emeritus in Social Sciences, College of San Mateo.

Lehrhaus Philosophy Circle

The Eight Chapters

November 11 & December 9 & 23, 7:00 PM

2015 is the 825th anniversary of Maimonides' "The Guide for the Perplexed," one of the most important and widely read philosophical works. Rabbi Peretz Wolf-Prusan begins with the best introduction to Maimonides' philosophy, "The Eight Chapters." We will find investigations into the nature of the soul, virtue, intention, balance, and on the art of being a human being. This is the continuation of the series begun in October. Signup online at www.catalog.lehrhaus.org \$70.

Basic Hebrew: Siddur

November 13, December 4, 18, 6:30-7:30 PM

Do you want to learn to read Hebrew? Do you read Hebrew, but you want to read more fluidly? Do you want to learn the meaning of Shabbat evening and morning prayers? Join Ricki Weintraub on alternate Thursdays as the journey continues. \$10/session.

Monthly Craft & Schmooze

November 9, 1:00 PM

Do you enjoy making friends, making or learning crafts or maybe a little knitting? Then join us for a fun afternoon of schmoozing, crafting, artistic and spiritual exploration. We meet on a monthly basis on Sundays in the BIJ Fireside Room. Note: the Hanukkah Fair will take the place of Craft & Schmooze on December 14.



Women's Rosh Chodesh Group

November 19 & December 17, 7:00 PM

The Women of BIJ celebrate the new moon each month. Led by Ricki Weintraub, we begin with a short ritual welcoming the new moon followed by discussions, activities and meditations that help us find ways to connect more deeply to Judaism, ourselves, our lives and each other.

Golden Thursdays: Lunch & Learn

with Rabbi Gottlieb and Rabbi Melamut

November 20, 12:00 NOON at B'nai Emunah

December 18, 12:00 NOON at BIJ

Designed for people with flexible schedules who would like to come to the synagogue for a bite, learn with the Rabbis and socialize. The Lunch and Learn sessions usually take place the third Thursday of the month, are led by Rabbi Gottlieb and Rabbi Melamut of B'nai Emunah, and alternate between BIJ and B'nai Emunah. A light lunch is provided.

4th Sunday Study Circle, 10:15-11:45 AM

Join Rabbis Mark Melamut, Katie Mizrahi and Danny Gottlieb on the 4th Sundays of the month. At this informal gathering, we look forward to schmoozing, learning, connecting, fielding questions and being together. Series will begin on January 25.

Insider/Outsider @ B'nai Emunah

December 4, 11 & 18, 7:00 PM

Views from the Margins in Biblical and Rabbinic Literature. Join Hayley DeLugach for these three sessions. \$36 for the course.

Interfaith Forum - Origins: Roots of

Jewish & Christian Thought

Sunday, December 7, 4:00-6:00 PM

Two speakers will explore the roots of Judaism and Christianity and the current issues that stem from that earliest era.

Lehrhaus Philosophy Circle

Guided Tour of The Guide for the Perplexed

7 Sessions, alternate Tuesdays, beginning

January 6, 7:00 PM

Rabbi Peretz Wolf-Prusan examines Maimonides' Guide for the Perplexed. Signup online at www.catalog.lehrhaus.org \$95.

YOUTH & FAMILY EDUCATION - B³

Overcoming the Bitterness

By Rebecca Goodman, RJE; Director of Education



Dear BIJ Community,

Many of you are already looking forward to the winter holiday season while others are probably still reflecting on the recent Jewish holiday marathon of Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot and Simchat Torah.

You may notice that this bulletin is a little lean on Jewish holiday announcements. That's because following the marathon there is a month without any holiday. To emphasize this fact, the month of Cheshvan is often known as Mar Cheshvan. Mar, in Hebrew, means bitter. It is the bitter month, the only one with no Jewish holidays to celebrate. The void in holidays is especially evident following the beginning of the new year.

In Babylonian times, this month was known as *Bul*. *Bul* denotes the idea of "drying up," as the leaves begin to decay with the approach of Autumn. This month is a month of darkness and decay.

Aish.com explains that a significant event did take place in Cheshvan. "The flood (in the times of Noah) began on the 17th of Cheshvan, and the waters receded by the following year on the 27th of Cheshvan, allowing Noah and the other inhabitants of the ark to disembark. Interestingly, one explanation of the name *Bul* is that it stems from this month as the beginning of the rainy season in Israel; it is connected to the word *mabul*, flood, an overabundance of rain."

As California desperately needs the rain, may this Mar Cheshvan, the bitter month, bring an over-abundance of rain and perhaps lighten our spirits as our drought is alleviated. Meanwhile, may you also continue to reflect and think intentionally about your actions in the new year of 5775 and may you have a wonderful holiday season including Thanksgiving, Hanukkah and any other celebrations with friends and family.

Cheshvan is followed by the Hebrew month of Kislev. On the 25th of Kislev, we celebrate the festival of lights, uplifting us in the midst of the dark winter months. The rabbis noticed that light was a necessity and embraced the miracle of the olive oil lasting for eight days, just long enough to create more holy oil for the lamps in the Temple.

Hanukkah is also a time that we celebrate the victory of the few over the many (and more powerful). The Maccabees led the physical fight and saved the Jews from forced conversion and death. As we light the Hanukkiah (Hanukkah menorah), let us remember all the beauty and light we have in our own lives today.

L'shalom,

Rebecca Goodman
Director of Education

November/December Schedule

Our education program continues on Sundays:

November 2, 9, 16 and 23 (no programming 11/30)

December 7 & 14 (no programming 12/21 & 12/28)

9:30AM-12:00PM Judaica, Kindergarten – Grade 10

12:00-12:30PM Bring your lunch and schmooze

12:30-1:30PM Hevruta Hebrew, Grades 4-7

A Chance to Share; To Show You Care

Collection Drive to support needy children and families living in our SF area who lack essential things including books, clothing and toys.

Our partners in this project include B'nai Emunah and Or Shalom along with Jewish Family and Children's Services and St. Anthony Foundation (both of whom provide essential non-profit services to needy families and children).

Please donate only items that are clean and in good usable condition. New items are welcome!

Drop off in the BIJ lobby by November 9.

Wish List:

- Arts & Crafts / School Supplies
- Books for children up to age 18
- Toys of All Kinds
- Costumes and Dress-Up Items
- Infant and Children's Clothing (including shoes & socks)



Important: Please separate items by:

- ◆ Clothing and Shoes
- ◆ Games, books, and puzzles
- ◆ Toys

THE WOMEN OF BIJ

Sisterhood -- The Women of BIJ

By Sherrie Rosenberg, President

We have some amazing events planned for November and December and I have a personal message for you.

Our next meeting is on Sunday, November 16 at 10:30 am. The following Sunday, November 23 is our Annual Membership Brunch at 10:30 am. Food will be lovingly prepared by Sisterhood board members and committee chairs. Our program is musical. We are going to hear the delightful Myrna Oy and her Yiddish Concertina Cabaret. Please join us. Men, women, members and non-members are welcome.

The Hanukkah Fair is on Sunday, December 14 from 11:00 am until 3:00 pm. We are planning to make it bigger and better than ever. We have also invited our sister congregations to participate. Please remember that our Gift Shop is open by appointment with me or Myra Herpe (650.533.7510). There are some great gifts available for Hanukkah and other events.

**HANUKKAH
FAIR**

Congregation Beth Israel Judea
625 Brotherhood Way
San Francisco
www.bij.org 415-586-8833

Crafts



Judaica



Raffle



Food



Micha Mocha Cafe Entertainment

Interested in selling your handmade/artisan crafts?
We are seeking crafts people and artisans to showcase their wares at our annual Hanukkah Fair. You donate the cost of a table to BIJ's Sisterhood. A shared table (4'x3') is \$10 and a full large table (4'x6') is \$20. The donation is per table, not per person. Reserve your choice of table by Nov. 15th. Please contact Terry A. Levy, Hanukkah Fair Coordinator
terryalevy@netzero.com

**Sunday
December 14
11 AM
to 3 PM**

Boutique

Hanukkah Gelt
Candles
Greeting Cards
Paper Goods
Novelties
Hanukkiot

BRUNCH

Sunday, November 23rd

10:30 AM

Cong. Beth Israel Judea

625 Brotherhood Way . SF

Women and Men: Members of BIJ,
Or Shalom, B'nai Emunah, and Ner Tamid

**RESERVE by November 16
with Natalie Melendez**

by email: natymortiz@yahoo.com or

by phone by 8 PM 706-627-4147

*Free to members and future
members. For any other guests
a donation of \$15 is requested.*



**Become a member of
Sisterhood for just \$36.**

Featured presentation:

"Myrna Oy's Yiddish

Concertina Cabaret"



Sisterhood's book club is taking part in the One Bay One Book program of the Jewish Community Library. We are reading *The Betrayers* by David Bezmozgis. We will meet on Wednesday, December 10. Contact me for updated information on the place and date.

When you are reading this I am either in Israel or have just returned. I turned 64 on October 6 and this is my first trip to our homeland. I am grateful to Rabbi Gottlieb and Ricki Weintraub for offering me and the rest of us this opportunity. I expect that it will be a deeply meaningful experience and I hope you have had or will take the opportunity to go to Israel too.

L'shalom,

Sherrie

Sherrie Rosenberg, President

sherrie.rosenberg@gmail.com or 415.902.8293

GIFTS & DONATIONS

Annual Fund

Gary and Judy Bader
 Gemma Bouck
 Debra and Benjamin Braun
 Michael Castleman and Anne Simon
 Eileen Downey
 William and Diane Ehrlich
 Donald and Trude Fineman
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 Harry and Lee Huberman
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 Margaret Kaplan
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 Ruby Levin
 Stella Lorvan
 Ann Morgenstern and Jeffrey Kallman
 Stephen Roditti
 Janet and Joel Reves
 Richard and Anne Marie Ruben
 Ben and Ann Schweizer
 Lorraine Smookler

Care and Concern Fund

Bella Albinder
 In memory of Eugene, Hannah and Boris Albinder
 Susan Schneider
 In memory of Edward Pembridge
 Robert Warner
 In memory of David and Marguerite Warner

Friday Night Feasts

Sisterhood—The Women of BIJ

General Fund

Bella Albinder
 In memory of Ester Shtein, Mayer, Gersh, Riva Mesgbourd
 Judy and Gary Bader
 In appreciation of the High Holy Day services
 Jeanette Bronstein
 In memory of Sidney Bronstein
 Sarah Glew
 In appreciation of High Holy Day Aliyah
 Marjory Goldberg
 In memory of Theodore & Sara Sherbow

Amy and Steven Gottlieb

In memory of Shirley Gottlieb
Sandra and Alan Himmelstein
 For a speedy recovery for Jack Gross
Blair and Sue Horst
 In memory of Bernice Freeman
Margaret Kaplan
 In memory of Selma Kay
Corinne and Jennifer Kopatz
 In memory of Michael Spade

Ernest Rosenthal

In memory of Bella Rosenthal
Geoffrey Rothman and Beth Yarnelle Edwards
 In memory of Milton Rothman

Richard and Anne Marie Ruben

In honor of the wedding of Rabbi Gottlieb and Ricki

Martin Segol

In honor of Joshua Goodman and the San Francisco Giants

Robin Winburn-Woll

In honor of the wedding of Rabbi Gottlieb and Ricki
 In memory of Sharon Beverly Saylor Winburn
 In honor of the BIJ Community

High Holy Days

Stanley and Carolyn Wiener

Sponsoring the bimah and lobby flowers

Robin Winburn-Woll

Sponsoring the Rosh Hashanah kiddush

Nancy Greenberg and Marty Segol

Sponsoring the Yom Kippur break-fast

Anonymous

Danil and Galina Botoshansky

In memory of Mark Botoshansky

Sharma Elman

Gulchin Family

Aleksandra Gulchin

Meryl Felice Leavitt

Lyudmila Lipkina & Daniel Goldvekt

William & Marjorie Portilla

Susan Romer & Donald Ungar

Anatoly Sushansky

Yelena Vasilevskaya

Rose & Igor Vinogradsky

Polina & Peter Voloshko

Klavdiya & Boris Zayats

Martin & Gregg Flaum Library Fund

Beverly Flaum

In memory of Martin Flaum

Music & Cantor Fund

Geoffrey Rothman and Beth Yarnelle Edwards

In gratitude

THANK YOU

Melissa Ayres

In memory of Nathan and Mary Brisker, Elmer and Elizabeth Ayres, and all who came before them...

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Evelyn and Barry Adler

In memory of Abe Miller

In memory of Ida Miller

Lee Appel

In memory of Bessie Appel Mikkelsen

Sandra Berger and Sharon Duke

In memory of Mary Entin

Jeanette Bronstein

In memory of Sarah Rosen

Geoffrey Rothman and Beth Yarnelle Edwards

In gratitude

Cassandra Spacek

In gratitude for the support of Rabbi and the Congregation

Rabbi Morris Fireside Room Fund

Mel and Pearl Mosk

In memory of Marie Sefman



“Oh, how beautiful!” This is the collective sigh and comment that happens every Erev Rosh Hashanah when the ark is opened. There, in all their brilliance, are the Torah scrolls clad in white mantles with golden designs. Have you ever wondered what care is taken to ensure that we see them in this condition each year?

The person responsible for the cleaning and disappearing of the wrinkles is a man named Joel Berge. This man has been caring for our mantles for the past two years since he became a partner with Joon Pak at Eureka Cleaners in Eureka Square in Pacifica.

Joel came to this business after a years-long career in the hospitality and restaurant business and joined a long-time friend in his business. He has studied the art of cleaning and care of all types of fabrics with his partner and with another mutual friend of theirs who is retired from the business and is available to consult with them on delicate materials. They have been most valuable in their service to us and to several churches in the area whose vestry and altar pieces receive the same loving care.

OUR VOLUNTEERS

Our white mantles are of varying ages and need very careful hand-cleaning with “green” substances. They cannot go through a regular cleaning process because they could be damaged. Joel is painstaking in his thoroughness in restoring them to the best condition possible. Some permanent stains are from age and oxidation and cannot be removed. Others from cosmetics, perspiration and residue from hand and fingerprints are less of a problem, but still require creativity and professional know-how for their removal.

We are fortunate to have a person of understanding, integrity and knowledge helping us care for these treasures. Thank you, Joel.

A special THANK YOU to all our volunteers who gave of themselves preparing for and during the High Holy Days, behind the scenes and as greeters and ushers—your help was invaluable! You are too numerous to name!!!

Bulletin

Lynne Rappaport
Adam Safford
Reeva Safford

Marketing

Deborah Bouck

Office

Faith Appel
Judy Bader
Amy Gottlieb
Gail Harden

Sisterhood—The Women of BIJ High Holy Days

Simcha Greenspan
Gail Harden
Karen Kerner
Sherrie Rosenberg

Friday Night Feast

Barbara Hammel
Natalie Melendez
Lynne Rappaport
Sherrie Rosenberg

Gift Shop

Myra Herpe
Terry Levy
Yvonne Lorvan
Sherrie Rosenberg

Snacks for Meetings

Sandra Berger

Please forgive us if we inadvertently omitted your name.

***Donations received after October 14 will be listed in the next BULLETIN**

Congregation Beth Israel Judea

625 Brotherhood Way
San Francisco, CA 94132

Address Service Requested

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Erev Shabbat Schedule

1st Friday: Shabbat Shelanu (Our Shabbat)

5:30 PM Tot Shabbat

6:15 PM Table Blessings and Catered Dinner

7:30 PM A musical family-friendly service. Rabbis
Gottlieb, Melamut, and Mizrachi are joined by
song leader Ricki Weintraub. Potluck dessert Oneg
Shabbat follows.

2nd Friday: Neighborhood Shabbat

7:30 PM BIJ goes "on the road..."

3rd Friday: FREE Friday Night Feast

6:30 PM Tableside Shabbat Blessings & Community
Dinner. Includes program for adults. RSVP to office.

4th Friday: Sacred Hebrew Chant & Drum

7:30 PM Soulful singing, joyful rhythms and
meditative worship. Potluck Dessert Oneg Shabbat
follows - please bring goodies!!

Weekly BIJ Saturday Morning Services

9:00 AM Torah Study

10:00 AM Shabbat Services

Light Kiddush follows.

Hanukkah Fair

Crafts * Judaica * Raffle * Food
Gelt * Candles * Cards * and More!

December 14, 6:30 PM

See page 9 for more information.



Hanukkah Celebration

with Music by University of Chicago's a
cappella group: Rhythm & Jews

December 19, 6:30 PM

See page 7 for more information.

