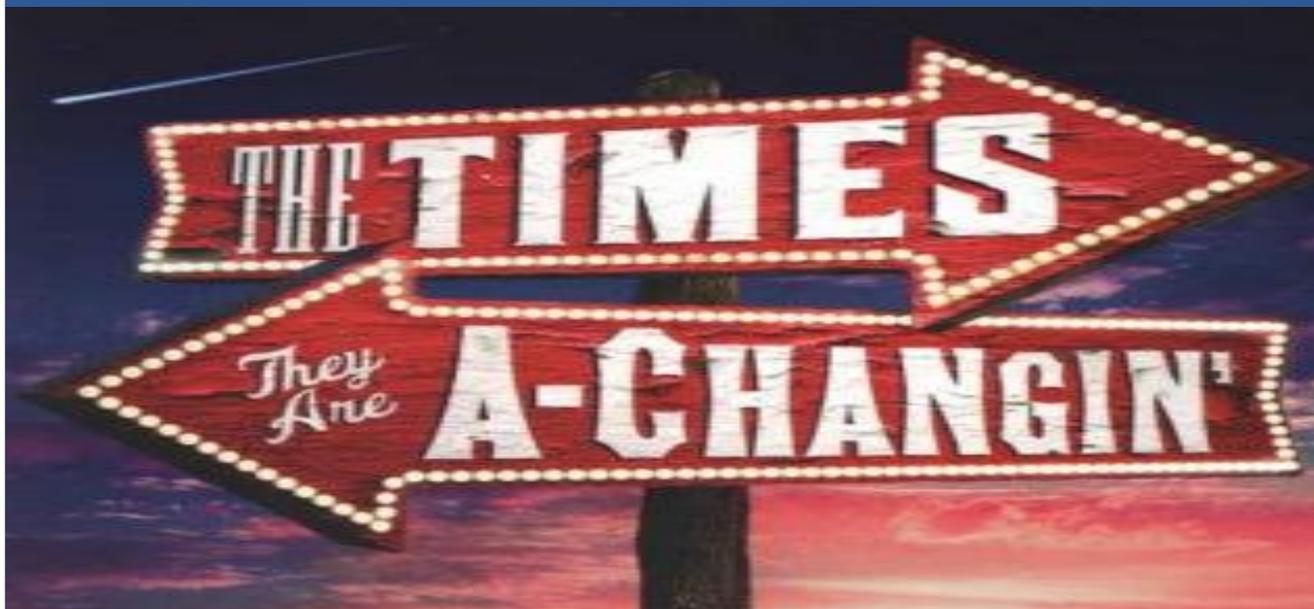




# Congregation Beth Israel Judea Community News



## BIJ – Your Community for Life! Upcoming Events

*(see pages 5 and 7 for details)*

**January 20 – 21, 2017**

**Rabbi Elyse Goldstein returns to BIJ  
as Scholar-in-Residence**

Friday evening 6:30pm Friday Night Feast

Saturday morning 8:45am Torah Study Breakfast

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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.

### 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: [bulletin@bij.org](mailto:bulletin@bij.org) in simple Microsoft Word format or in the body of your email.

The deadline for the upcoming March/April issue is: Friday, February 3, 2017.



## BIJ Board of Trustees

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## Contact BIJ

625 Brotherhood Way, San Francisco, CA 94132  
 415-586-8833 | [www.bij.org](http://www.bij.org) | [office@bij.org](mailto:office@bij.org)

### Staff

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**Cantorial Soloist Ricki Weintraub:** [rweintraub@bij.org](mailto:rweintraub@bij.org) / ext 28  
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**BIJ Office:** [info@bij.org](mailto:info@bij.org) /ext 25  
**Security/Maintenance:** Neil Bronstein: [info@bij.org](mailto:info@bij.org) /ext 25

## BIJ Community App

Stay in touch with your BIJ Community with our FREE app, available to BIJ members in both the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store.

## BIJ Office Hours

Tuesday through Thursday: 10 AM to 4 PM  
 Friday: 10 AM to 2 PM  
 Closed on most Jewish and Federal holidays



## From the Co-Presidents

By Nancy Greenberg and Deborah Schweizer

### **Times...they are ‘a changin.’**

Our country will be swearing in a new President after eight years and our BIJ community will be welcoming a new synagogue Administrator after six years of dedicated service by Sara Heckelman. While not all the details have been decided about the “incoming” administration at the time of this writing, a couple of things are certain: We wish the ones leaving all the best in their new endeavors; and we pray that good things will come in the days ahead.

While things on a national level may be hard to predict or affect, thankfully here at BIJ we are well poised to handle the transition, in large part, because of the ground work laid by our lay leaders, staff and member-volunteers over the last couple of years. We also have the ability through our team structure to continue to bring about good outcomes for our BIJ community moving forward.

You may recall two years ago when the Board of Trustees first initiated our Community Participation Plan, it was envisioned to be a way to shift the work that had fallen on too few (our Rabbi, Administrator and Board President) and engage more lay leaders and volunteers in the

essential functions of the synagogue. From all accounts, we achieved our goal thanks to the participation of our members and volunteers. All of our functioning teams – Spiritual Practice, Education, Operations, and Membership Outreach & Development--- have ongoing projects and programs that are executed by our member-volunteers and are well-received and liked. Some examples of projects going strong due to our member-volunteers are our B3 Parent Advisory Group, Kiddush Committee, the set up and cleanup effort for Shabbat Shelanu and Friday Night Feasts, member hosts for Shabbat in the ‘Hood, worker-bees on Project Day, and sandwich makers helping fight hunger insecurity, to name a few. We are grateful to the member-volunteers who give of their time to make these valued programs happen. And because more people are helping us do more things, we feel confident that these programs and projects will continue in the foreseeable future.

In addition, this upcoming year, we have identified a few more projects we hope to start that have the potential to further engage and strengthen our connection to BIJ and one another. Toward

*continued*

this goal we are recruiting for the following:

- A. 3-4 people to assist 1 day a week in the office for 2-4 hours. Tasks will vary but generally consist of helping our Administrator, answering phones, drafting and sending acknowledgment letters, yahrzeit reminders, and other correspondence as needed. Training will be provided.
- B. 3-4 people to assist 4-6 hours per month from wherever it is convenient to help prepare BIJ's communications and marketing materials. Tasks will vary but consist of laying out and creating event flyers, e-blasts, articles for the newsletter, press releases and other postings. Training and examples will be provided.
- C. 5-6 people to serve on a Task Force being formed this month to answer the question whether members of our community feel their spiritual needs are being met and what, if anything, they'd like to see changed or strengthened. We anticipate that Task Force members will meet with our Co-presidents and Team leaders 1-2 times initially in late January and February to establish a survey/outreach plan that will be conducted over the subsequent several weeks culminating in a report to the Board of Trustees by April 2017. It is anticipated that the survey/outreach results will be shared with our community at our Annual Meeting later this year.
- D. 4-5 people to host one of a series of in-home gatherings to be scheduled in March to meet and greet our new Administrator. The idea is to gather our members from different neighborhoods in San Francisco and the Peninsula for coffee/tea, a light nosh and conversation with our new Administrator about our connection to BIJ and what we hope to see for our community moving forward.

- E. 1-2-3 dozen (or more!) would-be gardeners, planters, pruners and helpers to assist in an outdoor Community Work Day to spruce up our BIJ grounds in honor of Tu B'Shvat on Sunday, February 12, from 9am to 3pm. The idea is to clean up dead and overgrown trees and shrubs and possibly replant the center area. We also are looking for a few people to help organize/plan for the event.

Our hope is that each of you will select at least one of these new or ongoing projects to participate in and ask a friend to join you. Volunteering creates an opportunity to do something meaningful, share time with good people and make our connection to BIJ and each other stronger. While things around us may change, and faces too, we can still be the vibrant, caring community that anchors us and keeps us strong.

*Nancy Greenberg and  
Deborah Schweizer*

## Scholarship!

### **Beth Israel Judea's Sisterhood Announces Its Annual Rabbi Herbert Morris Scholarship**

Applications available for: High School, College, and Continuing Education Students. All children, grandchildren, and adult members in good standing at BIJ are eligible. Please contact the office for an application or check online at [www.bij.org](http://www.bij.org).

Applications are due by Monday, March 6, 2017. Applications may be turned in at the BIJ Office or mailed to:

BIJ Attn: Diane Ehrlich  
625 Brotherhood Way  
San Francisco, CA 94132



## From the Rabbi's Study

### Light in the Dark Days of Winter

Our celebration of Hanukkah, which ended recently, is designed, in part, to bring light in these dark days of winter. With each night, we added light and warmth to ease the heaviness of the cold, dark winter days. Our tradition teaches us that learning, remembering, and celebrating are all paths to increasing the light in our lives, and the coming months will bring with them lots of opportunities to increase our inner light and carry ourselves over the winter toward the warmth of spring.

### January – a Time for Learning

Two events will highlight our adult learning schedule in January. On the weekend of January 20-21, Rabbi Elyse Goldstein will return to Beth Israel Judea as our Scholar-in-Residence. Those who were here to learn with Rabbi Goldstein three years ago will remember her as a dynamic and engaging teacher. In January, she will offer us teaching on creating conscious community and civil disobedience. And then the following week, on January 28, Rabbi Miri Gold, the first non-Orthodox rabbi to be paid a salary by the State of Israel, will join us to share her journey and the story of our Reform Movement in Israel.

### February – Learning, Remembering and Celebrating

Saturday, February 11 and Sunday, February 12 bring us two more opportunities to gather in the light of learning and remembering. On Saturday evening, we will mark the end of Shabbat Shira, the Sabbath of Song (when the “Song of the Sea” is chanted in the synagogue) with the first of what we hope will be an Annual Cantors’ Memorial Concert, in memory of BIJ’s beloved cantors, Henry Greenberg z”l and David Morgenstern z”l. We are delighted that Cantor Linda Hirschhorn will be our guest performer and I hope that you will come out to hear her and pay tribute to our cantors’ memories. And on Sunday morning, there will be a Tu B’Shvat seder, which is open to all congregants and will include our B3 students and their families.

Please mark these dates on your calendars and plan to join us. Details of all of these programs are found elsewhere in this bulletin.

### Our Lives Change with the Seasons

With the change of seasons, we note the changes in our personal and family lives. This is true as well for our Beth Israel Judea family, as we acknowledge the departure from our community of Sara Heckelman and Elie Aharon. Sara and Elie have been a part of the fabric of this community for many years, and each has offered their talents and energies for the betterment of BIJ. Sara has served for the past six years as our Synagogue Administrator, ably managing the affairs of the synagogue through a period of financial and programmatic instability and challenge, leaving us at this time of renewed creativity and engagement, strength and stability. Sara’s devotion to the synagogue, and the commitment that she brought to her sacred work here at BIJ, as well as her participation in the life of the congregation, are unmatched in her field, and we are the community that we are due, in large measure, to her contributions.

Elie has given devotedly to the community as a volunteer, contributing his gifts of voice, knowledge, and commitment to Jewish living. Especially over the past year, Elie has stepped into the roles of *gabbi* and *chazzan sheni*, assisting me in ritual leadership; teaching our Torah study, chanting Torah and the Shabbat morning service, singing in our Chant and Drum services, chanting Jonah on Yom Kippur afternoon, and so much more.

We will miss Sara and Elie whenever our BIJ family gathers. We wish them well on their journey and much happiness together in their new home, wherever it may be. We look forward to welcoming them “home” to BIJ during their visits to the Bay Area.

May these opportunities be among those that bring light and joy to your lives in the coming months.

*Rabbi Danny Gottlieb*



## Notes From Ricki

### Happy January!

In the second half of the school year, our Religious School classes continue their journey through the Torah as we begin the book of Exodus – which is called Sh'mot in Hebrew.

As we move through *Sh'mot* we encounter a different narrative from what we experienced in *Bereshit* (Genesis). Where *Bereshit* tells the individual stories of Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, Jacob, Leah, Rachel and their offspring, *Sh'mot* recounts the huge story of our history where we moved from slavery in Egypt to liberation in the Promised Land.

Genesis offered us the opportunity to explore a personal, private relationship with God as we learned about prayers and blessings. Exodus leads us to a place where we can discuss the themes of liberation, leadership, civil disobedience, stubbornness, how to treat strangers and the importance of the obligation of *tzedakah*.

February brings us to the month of Sh'vat, Tu B'Shvat, and Shabbat Shira – the Shabbat of Song.

Tu B'Shvat is known as the New Year of the trees. As the trees begin blooming and begin a new cycle of bearing fruit, the holiday reminds us how important it is for us to be good stewards of our planet. Tu B'Shvat

seders have evolved since the 16th century kabbalists began the practice. Today, we celebrate by eating fruits and nuts and drinking wine (or juice) and by giving thanks for all the ways that trees provide for us. All are invited to join B3 on **February 12th** in a community-wide **Tu B'Shvat** program. This will be our third family education Sunday of the school year.

**Shabbat Shelanu**, on the **first Friday of each month**, is a monthly service for ALL ages! A lively Tot Shabbat service is followed by a potluck dinner, family blessings, and then a mostly music family service featuring the students of one of our B3 classes. It is a great way to welcome Shabbat. It's great to feel good about being part of such a wonderful, warm community!

See you soon,

*Ricki*

## Women's Rosh Chodesh Group

**January 4, 7:00 PM**

The Women of BIJ celebrate the new moon each month on a Wednesday evening. 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.

## Special Shabbat Events



### Rabbi Elyse Goldstein returns to BIJ as Scholar-in- Residence

*January 20 and 21*

- Friday evening – 6:30p –  
Friday Night Feast
- Saturday morning – 8:45a –  
Torah Study Breakfast



### World Union Shabbat

*January 28*

8:45AM Torah Study  
10:00AM Shabbat Morning  
Service

Rabbi Miri Gold (Kibbutz Gezer, Israel) is the first Reform rabbi to be paid a salary by the State of Israel, serving as the Regional Rabbi for Gezer. Rabbi Gold will lead our Torah study and then, during Shabbat morning services, she will share with us her story and some of the challenges facing Reform Judaism in Israel.

## Shabbat at BIJ

### Erev Shabbat:

#### 1st Friday: Shabbat Shelanu

*January 6 & February 3*

- 5:45 PM Tot Shabbat Service
- 6:30 PM Dinner –main dish  
provided/bring sides & dessert
- 7:15 PM Family Friendly Musical  
Service

Shabbat Shelanu (Our Shabbat) is a time to celebrate Shabbat, eat together and highlight the learning of our students. Our Rabbis and song leaders guide us in a fun-filled Shabbat and monthly birthday celebration! RSVP <http://bij.org/events-donations/registration>

#### 2nd Friday: Shabbat in the ‘hood

- January 13, 7:30 PM, Glen Park, SF
- February 10, 7:30 PM, Diamond  
Heights, SF

On the second Friday of each month, we take our Shabbat service “on the road” to different neighborhoods in San Francisco and the Peninsula. Members host the chavurah-style services in their homes, led by Rabbi Gottlieb and Ricki Weintraub. This provides an opportunity for our members to enjoy an intimate service and invite neighbors who are not yet members of the BIJ family to meet and engage with us in an informal way. If you are interested in hosting a Shabbat in the ‘hood this year, please contact the BIJ Office.

#### 3rd Friday: Friday Night Feast

A free, catered Shabbat feast, sponsored by Sisterhood—The Women of BIJ! Welcome Shabbat with tableside blessings, then enjoy delicious fare and each others’ company. After “birkat hamazon”, the grace after meals, a special program for the adults takes place. Invite friends who have never been to BIJ! This monthly event is a wonderful opportunity to introduce your friends to our BIJ Community.

- *January 20, 6:30 PM*  
See sidebar for details!

- *February 17, 6:30 PM*

Our speaker is the Reverend Will Scott, Program Director of California Interfaith Power & Light. His topic is: “Confronting Giants; Climbing Higher Mountains - a conversation about California’s interfaith climate movement.” All major faith traditions call on us to be faithful stewards of Creation, thus to protect the earth for our children and future generations. California Interfaith Power & Light is part of a national organization, Interfaith Power & Light, which has 18,000 member congregations in 40 states. It seeks to promote energy conservation, educate congregations on the theological basis for eco-stewardship, and assist them in implementing programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and become more energy efficient. Its website lists 91 member congregations in San Francisco alone, from a broad spectrum of different religious traditions, including such well-known local synagogues as Emanu-El, Sha’ar Zahav, Sherith Israel, and Beyt Tikun.

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## Incredible Edibles

**Saturday February 4<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 pm at BIJ**

Fly with us to Hawaii where we will cook together a Hawaiian-themed menu together in our BIJ kitchen. Enjoy cooking and hanging out with your BIJ friends and family. Wear an Aloha shirt or dress or your finest casual clothing. Look for more information in our eblasts. **See you in Hawaii!**

## Lunch & Learn

**With Rabbis Gottlieb, Leon, Melamut and Mizrahi –PLUS Sandwich Making for Charity**

*January 19, 12:00PM at Ner Tamid*

*February 16, 12:00PM at Or Shalom*

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 & Learn sessions take place the third Thursday of the month, are led by Rabbis Gottlieb, Leon, Melamut and Mizrahi, and rotate among all three locations. A light lunch is provided, followed by sandwich making at 1:30 PM for Hunger Relief Project.

## More Shabbat at BIJ

**4th Friday: Sacred Hebrew Chant & Drum**

*January 27 & February 24  
7:30 PM*

BIJ is joined by Or Shalom for this unique service. Our joyful band of vocalists and drummers lead us as we welcome Shabbat in an uplifting evening, layered with harmonies and rhythms, creating a sacred space. A potluck Oneg Shabbat and schmooze follows. Please bring a treat to share. Tell a friend – all are welcome!!!

**Shabbat Mornings:**

- 8:45 AM Torah Study
- 10:00 AM Service

Join Rabbi Gottlieb each Shabbat morning at 8:45 for an accessible Torah study session, and then be right on time for Shabbat services led by Rabbi Gottlieb (the first Saturday of the month is led by Or Shalom's clergy and are joint services with Or Shalom).

See the sidebar on page 7 for special Shabbat morning programs.

## Adult Education at BIJ

**Basic Judaism**

*Alternate Tuesday evenings, beginning  
January 24th  
7:00-8:30PM*

An introduction to Judaism course for anyone who wishes to learn more about Jewish belief and practice. This course is open to all, and will also serve as pre-requisite learning for adult Bar Mitzvah and conversion students.

**Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah**

This program is for adults who did not have a Bar or Bat Mitzvah. Perhaps you grew up in a congregation that did not have Bat Mitzvah, or in a place where Jewish learning and religious practices were discouraged by the government. Perhaps you were not Jewish when you were 13, but would like to become Bar or Bat Mitzvah. Contact Rabbi Gottlieb for details. rabbigottlieb@bij.org

**Torah and Haftarah Chanting and Service Leading**

We are looking for additional leaders for our Shabbat and Festival morning services, to assist Rabbi Gottlieb, to chant Torah and haftarah and, on occasion, to lead services in his

absence. If you would like to learn how to chant Torah and/or haftarah, and how to lead the morning service, contact Rabbi Gottlieb for details. And if you already know how to chant Torah and/or haftarah, let Rabbi Gottlieb know and we'll find a time for you to contribute to our service. rabbigottlieb@bij.org

**"Poetry, Prayer, & Passion - The Story of Jewish Worship"**

*January 5, 12, and 26\*  
9:30 breakfast, class 10-11:30AM*

Join Ner Tamid and Rabbi Shana Chandler Leon for a 3-part mini-course on the amazing development of Jewish worship. How did the siddur (prayer book) come to be? How does the Torah influence the way Jews offer praise, petition and thanks? We'll enter the minds of the poets and rabbis who gave us their verbal "sacrifices," and gain new insight into "why Jews do what they do" when they enter the synagogue and pour out their hearts to the Creator.

RSVP: (415) 661-3383 or office@NerTamidSF.org.



## Cantors' Memorial Concert

*February 11, 7:30PM at BIJ*

The Shabbat on which the “Song of the Sea” is chanted is called “Shabbat Shira” (Shabbat of Song)

This year we will hold the first of what we hope to be an annual Shabbat Shira Memorial Concert, in memory of our two beloved cantors, Henry Greenberg z”l and David Morgenstern z”l.

Our guest performer will be Cantor Linda Hirschhorn. Linda was David’s teacher, and is well-known throughout the Bay Area for her innovative musical performances and her women’s musical group, Vocalot.

**Advance tickets may be purchased online at: [bij.org/events-donations/registration](http://bij.org/events-donations/registration)  
\$10 advance • \$15 general admission/\$10 seniors at the door**

## Youth & Family Education – B3

# B3

The B3 school year has gotten off to a strong start with our new Head of Religious School Ricki Weintraub at the helm. The Parent Advisory Group which consists of representatives from BIJ and B’nai Emunah and the two co-directors of the school (Ricki Weintraub and Rabbi Mark Melamut), met in November. Among other agenda items, the group is working on ways to build a stronger community among the families. We are planning a few after-school lunches for the B3 families and hopefully a couple of afternoon or evening programs. Other items to work on this year are: helping with Shabbat Shelanu, getting quality feedback from parents through the annual parent evaluation process, and helping plan the Purim calendar. BIJ representatives on the Parent Advisory Group are: Lori Ganz, Johanna Gendelman and Ann Morgenstern.

## Southside Collaborative's Tikkun Olam



The end-of-the-year holidays always bring a heartwarming amount of support to local and national nonprofit charities that help those in need. But support is needed year-round. The Southside Tikkun Olam Planning Committee is continuing our successful and meaningful programs as we start our third year of working together. We are looking for new ways to support those that need a helping hand.

One area of programming we are initiating is helping those active in the resettlement of refugees. California has taken in more Syrian refugees than any other U.S. state. The needs of this community range from basic necessities to counseling, medical care, language instruction and a myriad of other supports. The Tikkun Olam Committee will be supporting local agencies serving refugees to help them in their valuable work. Throughout the year, we will be letting the congregational members of the Southside Collaborative know how you can lend a helping hand.

Thank you to all of you who helped our Collaborative's efforts in the past year. I look forward to working with you again in the year ahead.

*Steve Roditti*

BIJ Member and Tikkun Olam Planning Committee Chair  
whoopisterev@aol.com

### Upcoming Programs

#### **TIKKUN OLAM DAY**

*Sunday, February 12, 12:30PM at BIJ*

After a successful Tikkun Olam Day in September, we are planning another one on February 12th, from 12:30 to 2:30, at Beth Israel Judea. We will have a range of activities for you to participate in – choose one or all!! We are still working on the planning, so look for more information on the BIJ website, e-blasts or app to get updates on the details. But you can count on:

- Lunch Sack preparations for the Homeless Outreach Team
- Blanket making for homeless and hospitalized youth (no special skills required)
- Collection of clothing for refugee families
- Collection of books for the Prisoner Literacy Project

And... we'll provide lunch and snacks for our volunteers.

#### **LUNCH SACK PREPARATION AFTER LUNCH AND LEARN about 1:30 p.m.**

- January 19 at Ner Tamid 12:00 PM
- February 16 at Or Shalom 12:00 PM

**FOOD BANK VOLUNTEERING** at SF/Marin Food Bank, 900 Pennsylvania Ave, San Francisco (RSVPs not needed, but let us know you are coming and we will look for you in the crowd!)

- January 29th, 9:00-11:00
- February 26th, 9:00-11:00

## BIJ Care and Concern



### Lend a Helping Hand

by Lynne Rappaport

When Johanna Gendelman injured her back around six years ago, she was in constant pain and was “barely functioning. I couldn’t even carry groceries up my steps,” she remembers. “A few times, Care and Concern folks shopped for me, and a few times, brought me food. I was so out of it, I can’t even remember specific people, but it was a huge comfort to me that I had help from people I didn’t even know! I think it really helped keep my spirits up during a really dark period in my life.”

We often take good health for granted. When illness or injury strikes, it can be difficult to cope alone. Maybe you or someone you know are down with the flu or laid up with a broken bone, recuperating from surgery, dealing with chronic illness, or caregiving a spouse or elderly parent.

### What Care and Concern Does

BIJ Care and Concern can be there for you, as long as you let us know. What do volunteers do? There might be practical tasks like grocery shopping or offering a ride to Kaiser for an x-ray and prescription pickup. Sometimes it’s providing companionship, a listening ear. I’ve made a home visit where I made toast and tea for an ailing congregant and simply sat together in the living room.

Reaching out to members who are homebound and isolated is another way to help. We deliver seder sacks filled with Passover goodies to those unable to attend a seder; during the High Holidays, it’s homemade honey cakes and cards courtesy of the children in our B3 religious school. Though sometimes the cake is politely declined (“I can’t eat sweets”), the gesture is always appreciated.

### Some Care and Concern Goals

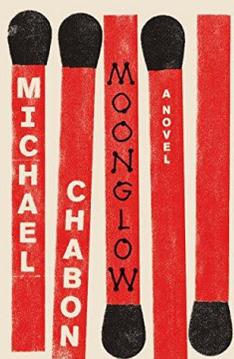
Regular personal contact from a caring volunteer can accelerate healing and lessen loneliness. Check in with the folks on the Mi Sheberach list. Make someone’s day with a cheerful phone call to a homebound congregant or an elder living at a facility. Send a get well card or handwritten note. I’ve kept the card I received from the temple last year when I had a temporary disability—a simple act that meant a lot.

Some congregants no longer drive at night and are missing out on services or events. Join our transportation assistance effort. You will meet members while performing a mitzvah, offering rides to members on the Peninsula—mainly Daly City and Pacifica—as well as SF.

### Heartfelt Thanks

...to these members who’ve stepped forward to lend a helping hand, including John Winston, Miriam Menzel, Apollo Gerona, Stella Lorvan, Alex Dukhovny, Geniya Malamud, Michele Siegel, Sherrie Rosenberg, Lori Ganz, Yvonne Lorvan, Natalie Melendez, Deborah Schweizer, Beth Yarnell Edwards, Simcha Greenspan, Deb Braun, Edna Egert and Valerie Rudee.

Contact Lynne Rappaport to be part of the BIJ Care and Concern effort at [lynnerrappa@aol.com](mailto:lynnerrappa@aol.com) or 415-665-8616. Inform the office if you or someone you know are in need of support, or wants to be on Rabbi’s Mi Sheberach list.



## Book Club

**January 11, 7:00 PM at an Offsite Location**

The next book will be the One Bay, One Book selection, “Moonglow”, the new novel by Pulitzer Prize-winner Michael Chabon. This is a novel of truth and lies, family legends, and existential adventure-and the forces that work to destroy us.

Please contact Sherrie Rosenberg at 415-902-8293 or [sherrierosenberg@gmail.com](mailto:sherrierosenberg@gmail.com) for location and details. All are welcome for an enjoyable discussion.

## Sisterhood – Women of BIJ

**By Terry A. Levy, President**

I want to thank all those who participated at the annual Sisterhood-sponsored Hanukkah Fair on December 4th. Many thanks to our volunteers, vendors, those that donated to the raffle, and those that attended to support our vendors or to listen to the music. We had a large turn out of vendors. Twenty-five of twenty-seven vendors who signed up were in attendance and most were new to our event. We were crowded much of the time. Many vendors have told me that they want to be contacted for next year’s Fair. I want to say a special thank you to Jon Frank and his jazz group for the music. It was much enjoyed and I had several people tell me so.

We had many donations for the raffle—some from local businesses including two gift certificates from Dayenu, the gift shop at the SFJCC; the San Francisco Giants Baseball Franchise who donated a baseball autographed by Sergio Romo; and the Golden State Warriors who donated a Jersey autographed by Zaza Pachulia. We also had many great donations from our BIJ members and vendors.

Putting on the Hanukkah Fair takes a long time. I spent at least six months planning and organizing each part. However, I did not do this alone. I want to give credit to those people who helped me along the way. To Lynne Rappaport who managed the advertising piece including eblasts, emails, posting flyers and print ads, and for our many conversations. I want to thank Sherrie Rosenberg, Aimee Golant, Simcha Greenspan, and Apollo Gerona for getting out our two flyers, for attracting vendors and shoppers, posting on numerous social media sites and in real locations around San Francisco and the Peninsula. Thanks to Deborah Bouck for handling the "J" advertising, Beth Yarnelle Edwards who donated the funds for and did the legwork to get our Hanukkah Fair banners made. To Miriam Menzel for writing our new donation letter which garnered us donations for the raffle. To Gail Harden who managed the raffle including setting up the tables and selling lots of tickets. It was a great success. To Natalie Melendez-Ortiz who managed the Sisterhood sales table with a small dedicated staff. I also want to thank Micha Mocha, run by Michele and Gary Siegel, Ann Morgenstern and Johanna Gendelman for providing the food for this event.

I hope that the positive feelings you may have felt at the Hanukkah Fair will last until next year so you will jump at the chance to help out. There are many tasks to complete, but with many people involved it will feel like a breeze and not a burden to accomplish. So, thank you again to all our volunteers and participants! **Save the date for our next meeting: Sunday, January 8, 10:30 AM at BIJ!**

L’ Shalom,

*Terry*

[terryalevy45@email.com](mailto:terryalevy45@email.com) or 415-334-1005



## January 7, 10:00 AM Bat Mitzvah of Lily Siegel

Lily is an 8th grader at Aptos Middle School in San Francisco. She is a serious french horn player at Aptos, having held the first chair in band for the past two years. She also is a member of the Aptos Jazz Band, where she plays trumpet. She is an active member of student government, and is the current all student body treasurer. Lily is a member of the San Francisco All City Middle School Band for 2016-2017, and was selected as a member for 2015-2016 as well. During the summer Lily attends La Honda music camp, an overnight camp located in the Bay Area. Lily hopes to attend the Ruth Asawa School of the Arts for high school to further her love of music. In addition to playing her french horn, Lily is an accomplished chef, and enjoys

cooking for her family and friends. She lives in San Francisco with her parents, older brothers Ben and Seth, and their three cats, Bristow, Sloan, and Tony (who she does not like at all).

## Visit Israel In 2017 With Rabbi And Ricki!

The next BIJ Israel Trip, to take place in the fall of 2017, is in the initial stages of planning.

**An information meeting will take place on Monday, January 9 at 7:30 pm at the home of Geoffrey Rothman and Beth Edwards.** Please contact the BIJ Office for details.

Come and meet with representatives of ARZA World Travel, who will talk with us about the program and answer all of your questions.

**RSVP** to [rabbigottlieb@bij.org](mailto:rabbigottlieb@bij.org)



## Community

### Mussar Class at Ner Tamid

"Mussar" is a thousand-year-old Jewish tradition that answers the question, "Why should I be Jewish?" with an emphatic "Because Judaism has the power to transform your life for the good!" In this mini-course, we will learn to identify our individual "soul curriculum" and explore pathways for improving every aspect of our lives – work, relationships, mental health, even how we go shopping and tend to our daily needs, all using Jewish texts and teachings that span the centuries. Rabbi Shana is a certified Mussar facilitator and would LOVE to share this powerful and poignant way of study with you. An introduction to this life-long practice will be held 9:45-11 am, with coffee and goodies, on January 29, February 5, 12, and 26 at Ner Tamid. For more information, please contact the office or Rabbi Shana at (415) 661-3383.

# Gifts and Donations – Thank you!



As most of you know, I have been involved in the governance of BIJ for the past eight

years. What many of you may not know, is that long-time BIJ member Joe Radovsky has been providing crucial assistance, counsel and legal representation to BIJ for more than the past 17 years. Joe, and one of his law firm partners, Fumi Knox, were instrumental in the negotiations and ultimately putting together a deal with Brandeis-Hillel Day School that resulted in the construction of the Mercaz building which serves as BIJ's school classrooms. In the time that I have been on the Board of Trustees, I have had the pleasure of working with Joe and Fumi on a range of very complex legal issues related to our shared use of the BIJ-BHDS site as well as on planning for the future. These issues are not the type that result in immediate and observable changes to BIJ so it is likely that most members are not aware of the work that Joe has been doing for BIJ for nearly two decades, despite the fact that I have thanked him at nearly every Annual Meeting for the past five or six years.

On behalf of the entire Board of Trustees (past and present), let me take this opportunity again to thank Joe for all his hard work and dedication. BIJ is very fortunate indeed to have someone who has BIJ's interests at heart and who is willing to put the time and energy into making sure we make the best decisions and implement those decisions properly. Thank you Joe.

*Joshua Goodman,*

Immediate Past President, Board of Trustees

## General Fund

### Debra Braun

*In appreciation of Shabbat Shelanu*

### Ilana Drummond

*In appreciation of Shabbat Shelanu*

### Jon Frank and Lynne Rappaport

*In appreciation of High Holy Days Honors*

*In appreciation of Micha Mocha*

### Apollo Gerona

*In appreciation of BIJ member dogs*

### Aimee Golant

*In appreciation of Rabbi's Amidah Class*

### Myra and Al Herpe

*In memory of Esther Jachimowicz*

### Sandra Himelstein

*In memory of Murray and Louis Gross*

### Gabriel Isaacs

*In appreciation of Shabbat Shelanu*

## High Holy Days

### Ofer and Nitza Agam

### Aleksandra Gulchin

### Susanne and George Revutsky

## Rabbi Gottlieb Discretionary Fund

### Sarah Glew

*In appreciation of High Holiday Aliyah*

### Beth Yarnelle Edwards

*In memory of Arthur Lee Yarnelle*

### Elaine Reynolds and the Moldovan Family

*In memory of Leo Graf*

## Care and Concern Fund

### Elijah Fund



### Attention BIJ Dog Lovers:

Our member Apollo Gerona has offered to donate ½ his earnings for boarding dogs of BIJ Members. For more information, please contact the BIJ office.

## Jewish Community Federation Endowment Fund

### Anonymous

### Edward Kavalerschik

*In appreciation of Shabbat Shelanu*

### Matthew Lefkowitz and Ann Comoglio

*In appreciation of Sara Heckelman and Elie Aharon's contributions to the BIJ Community*

### Lynn Miller

*In appreciation of the Yizkor service on High Holidays*

### Elaine Reynolds and the Moldovan Family

*In memory of Gerrilyn Becksted*

### Stephen Roditti

*In memory of Joseph Roditti*

### Paul and Sherrie Rosenberg

*In memory of Irving Rosenberg*

### Richard and Anne Marie Ruben

*In appreciation of BIJ*

*In appreciation of Sara Heckelman and Elie Aharon's contributions to the BIJ Community*

### Joel Rubinstein

*In appreciation of Shabbat Shelanu*

### Shira Rutman

*In appreciation of Shabbat Shelanu*

### Sharon Weinberg

*In appreciation of Shabbat Shelanu*

### Laurie Welstand

*In appreciation of Shabbat Shelanu*

### Gifts-in-Kind

### David Zeff

*Books for BIJ library*

## LANDMAN CONSTRUCTION

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LICENSE #796289

L.Landman@sbcglobal.net

415-519-1569

Please consider contacting BIJ member **Louis Landman** for your contracting needs! Louis is a B3 parent and recently did a beautiful job repairing the tile in the BIJ foyer.

# Volunteers

**Thank you to all of our volunteers!**

**Sisterhood –The Women of BIJ**

Lynne Rappaport  
Miriam Menzel  
Beth Yarnelle Edwards  
Natalie Melendez-Ortiz  
Terry A. Levy  
Sherrie Rosenberg  
Gail Harden  
Alannie Santiago-Melendez  
Apollo Gerona  
Sandie Spacek  
Jon Frank Jazz Quartet  
Simcha Greenspan

Barbara Hammel  
Janet Endelman  
Adam Safford  
Josephine Favre  
Myra Herpe  
Rosie Past  
Michele Siegel  
Ann Morgenstern  
Johanna Gendelman  
Gary Siegel  
Michele Siegel

**Bulletin**

Lynne Rappaport  
Adam Safford  
Reeva Safford

**Office**

Faith Appel  
Judy Bader  
Amy Gottlieb  
Gail Harden

**Sukkah Breakdown**

Alex Dukhovny  
Hernan Espinoza  
David Lavine

*Please forgive us if we inadvertently omitted your name.*



**OR SHALOM** JEWISH COMMUNITY  
SILVER  
*Anniversary*  
GALA

HONORING the past  
GROWING into the future

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 4 2017  
CATHARINE CLARK GALLERY

OR SHALOM WAS BORN 25 YEARS AGO  
of a desire to provide a different kind  
of Jewish education to our children.

Since then, our community has grown and thrived.  
Let's raise a glass to celebrate how far we've come!

*Food, drinks, dancing*  
*Don't miss this special celebration!*

Tickets \$75 per person; \$100 at the door  
Adults only, please  
*Discount tickets available on a sliding scale*



## Cantors' Memorial Concert: February 11, 2017!

Celebrate our two beloved cantors, Henry Greenberg z"l and David Morgenstern z"l



With guest performer Cantor Linda Hirschhorn

7:30PM at BIJ (see page 9 for details)

### Congregation Beth Israel Judea

625 Brotherhood Way  
San Francisco, CA94132  
[www.bij.org](http://www.bij.org)  
[www.facebook.com/bethisraeljudea/](http://www.facebook.com/bethisraeljudea/)

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