

From: B'nai Israel Congregation [info@bnaisraelcong.org]
Sent: Wednesday, November 14, 2012 2:02 PM
To: marni@bnaisraelcong.org
Subject: November 2012 e-Midmonth Newsletter

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)

November 2012 e-Midmonth

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Creating a Civil Society in Post-Election America](#)

[Summer Camp & Tailgate Shabbat](#)

[Shabbat Magic Highlights](#)

[Staff Visits to CESJDS](#)

[Creating a Personal Jewish Lifestyle for the 21st Century](#)

[Driving Like a Mensch](#)

[92nd Street Y Live](#)

[Scholar-in-Residence Weekend](#)

[20s & 30s Music and Margaritas Shabbat](#)

[A Package from Home](#)

[Hanukkah Donut Sale](#)

[Winter Book Review with Rabbi Matthew Simon](#)

[Sorting Items at Manna Food Warehouse](#)

[2015 B'nai Mitzvah Family Orientation](#)

[Lunch and Learn: Torah Study](#)

[Monday Night at the](#)

Dear Friends,

We hope this message finds you well.

In these days before Thanksgiving we are taking time to express our gratitude for our synagogue community and the programs and events that bring us together. The coming weeks bring us new and exciting events, including a panel discussion from the 92nd Street Y on November 28, a spectacular Scholar in Residence weekend featuring the music of Zemer Chai, and a Hazak brunch with the Honorable Stuart Eizenstat. On Hanukkah we will celebrate together at Latkes and Lights and share our celebration with Israeli soldiers through Packages from Home. Registration for the Schilit Nursery School program has begun with a full-day option being offered in the fall. And the Hineni Annual Giving campaign has reached its most important and critical stage.

Read through this e-mail for more information about this and so much more. We look forward to seeing you around the synagogue because "It's happening at B'nai Israel."

Shalom,
B'nai Israel Congregation

Creating a Civil Society in Post-Election America

Wednesday, November 14, 2012

7:30-9:00 p.m.

Instructor: Dr. Louis Nagel

Join Dr. Louis Nagel, our new Education Director, for an exploration of the role Judaism can play in restoring civility to our American society. The session will include traditional text study, as well as personal reflection on the intersection of Jewish and American values. One week after the presidential election, this is sure to be a timely topic!

Summer Camp & Tailgate Shabbat

Saturday, November 17, 2012

Experience Our Shabbat Magic Menu . . .

Movies

[Talking about Tough Topics Workshop](#)

Pajama Shabbat

Dairy Potluck Shabbat Dinners

AIPAC Shabbat

Hanukkah Holiday Movie

Latkes & Lights Hanukkah Extravaganza

[20s & 30s Iron Latke Hanukkah Party](#)

[Snowflake Wish List](#)

["Meet and Greet" with Dr. Louis Nagel](#)

HAZAK: What Parents Owe Children and What Children Owe Parents

Book Discussion

[Calling all Shul Chefs!](#)

Rabbi Safra's 10th Anniversary Celebration

[i-Engage:...Foundations for a New Relationship with Israel](#)

[Making Marriage Work](#)

[Schilit Nursery School Registration](#)

[DJ Torah Honor Society](#)

[Schilit Nursery School Fundraisers](#)

[Box Tops for Education](#)

[Entertainment 2013](#)

9:00 a.m.-Traditional Shabbat Service

10:00 a.m. -[Gold Kippah](#)

10:30 a.m. -Junior Congregation (6th-Grade Shabbat)

10:30 a.m. -Mini-Minyan

11:00 a.m. -Torah for Tots

12:00 p.m. -Tailgate Kiddush of Hotdogs and All the Trimmings

Bring your favorite jersey or summer camp sweatshirt to wear to the Kiddush.

12:30 p.m. -Conversation Israel

12:30 p.m. -Kids' Games and Activities

Join us during services and afterwards for worship, study, activities, and an opportunity to meet our members, clergy, and staff.

Prospective members are welcome! Special new member mid-year packages available!

This event is free of charge.

Shabbat Magic Weekly Youth Services

November 17

See schedule above.

November 24

11:00 - Torah for Tots (for toddlers and preschoolers and their families)

Mini-Minyan and Junior Congregation will not be held on this date.

December 1

December Birthday Shabbat; Zemer Chai Scholar-in-Residence Weekend

10:00 a.m. - Gold Kippah Chug

10:30 a.m. - 1st Grade Shabbat in Mini-Minyan

Mini-Minyan for children in grades K-3

Junior Congregation for children in grades 4-7

11:00 a.m. - All 2-year-olds and toddlers will be honored in Torah for Tots

Torah for Tots for children pre-K and younger

11:40 - Celebration of December Birthdays

December 8

9:00 a.m. - Parashat HaShavua Discussion

10:00 a.m. - Teen Minyan

10:00 a.m. - Gold Kippah Chug

10:30 a.m. - 4th Grade Shabbat in Junior Congregation

Mini-Minyan for children in grades K-3

Junior Congregation for children in grades 4-7

11:00 a.m. - Torah for Tots for children pre-K and younger

December 15

9:00 a.m. - Adult Bnai Mitzvah service

9:15 a.m. - Minyan Me'at lay-led service

10:00 a.m. - Gold Kippah Chug

10:30 a.m. - Mini-Minyan for children in grades K-3

Junior Congregation for children in grades 4-7

[Books](#)

[Attention Parents of
College Students](#)

[Sisterhood Judaica
Shop](#)

[Daily Minyan Sign-Up](#)

[Caring Committee](#)

[The Book of Mormon
at the Kennedy
Center](#)

[Washington Jewish
Week Subscriptions](#)

[Shabbat Services by
Telephone](#)

[Camp Ramah
Informational
Meetings](#)

**Attention
Members!**

The B'nai Israel Technology Committee is currently considering updating our website to make it more user friendly, to provide more information to congregants and non-congregants, to enhance its capabilities etc. We would like to hear your ideas and suggestions. We are open to all ideas. [Click here to send us an email.](#)



Main Office:
301-881-6550
Nursery School:
301-816-5578
Talmud Torah:
301-816-5576
Fax:
301-881-6221
Judaica Shop:

11:00 a.m. - Torah for Tots for children pre-K and younger

If you have any questions, please contact [Sharon Safra](#).

Staff Visits to CESJDS

Members of our B'nai Israel clergy and professional staff will be visiting both campuses of CESJDS. We hope to see our CESJDS students on the following dates:

JDS UPPER SCHOOL

Thursday, November 15

Our staff will once again be bringing pizza and dessert for the teens at our lunchtime visit. Please remind them to join us, as this is a wonderful opportunity for our students to meet and see their B'nai friends and to schmooze with our B'nai Israel staff.

JDS LOWER SCHOOL

Thursday, November 29 for grades 3-6

Thursday, January 10 for grades K-2

Members of our clergy and staff will visit the JDS Lower School to visit our B'nai Israel students during lunchtime. Students should bring their own lunches - we'll bring dessert and some special treats! We look forward to seeing you.

Reminders about these programs will come via email to our Day School families. Please contact [Sharon Safra](#) for more details or with questions.

Creating a Personal Jewish Lifestyle for the 21st Century

4 Tuesdays, November 20-December 11, 2012

7:30-9:00 p.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Jonathan Schnitzer

Registration: Members \$35, Nonmembers \$50

Participants in this class will receive a copy of *The Observant Life: The Wisdom of Conservative Judaism for Contemporary Jews*, edited by Martin S. Cohen (retails for \$34.95).

How do we find our own personal Jewish "voice?" How do we negotiate an appropriate balance between the dictates of Jewish law and our own values and actions? Using *The Observant Life*, an anthology of compelling essays recently published by the Rabbinical Assembly, we will explore not only why being Jewish matters, but how we can translate the core ideals of Judaism into a 21st-century matrix that is attractive, both spiritually and intellectually.

[Click here](#) to register.

Driving Like a Mensch (10th Grade Family Education Program)

Tuesday, November 27

6:30-8:30 p.m.

This workshop for tenth graders and their parents will deal with concerns and rituals for that

301-770-7577



Quick Links ...

[Our Website](#)

[Calendar of Events and Programs](#)

[Parasha Word of the Week](#)

[Torah from JTS](#)

[The JCA Career Gateway](#)

ANNUAL GIVING
Hineini Society

We are looking for your participation!

[Support us today.](#)

momentous occasion - getting a driver's license. We'll discuss concerns and explore insights from our tradition on this occasion. Together, parents and teens will use Jewish values to enhance their understanding of the responsibility that comes with driving. A light dinner will be served.

There is no charge for the event but RSVP's are needed by Wednesday, November 21st. Please email [Sharon Safra](#) if you plan to attend.

The L.I.F.E. Lecture Series in Partnership with 92nd Street Y Presents . . .

What Is Jewish Culture? with Amos Oz, Daniel Libeskind, James E. Young, Deborah Dash Moore, and Fania Oz-Salzberger

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Live via Satellite

7:30 p.m. Light Refreshments

8:00 p.m. Lecture

Hear some of our country's great experts on culture discuss what makes something authentically Jewish. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions in real time with the presenters in New York. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Scholar-in-Residence Weekend featuring Zemer Chai, DC's Premier Jewish Choir

Zemer Chai: The Living Music of Shabbat
Friday, November 30-Saturday, December 1, 2012

You won't want to miss this special Shabbat, which is sure to touch the soul. Live Shabbat through music. Experience the moods and musical modes, including the anticipation of Friday night, the joy of Shabbat day, and the tinge of sadness that accompanies *Havdalah*.

The musical selections will combine traditional Jewish choral music with modern compositions and opportunities to sing along as a congregation. Celebrate the conclusion of Shabbat at a *Melave Malka* (literally, "accompanying the Queen of Shabbat") highlighted by a concert of Songs of Joy. This is a Shabbat for people who love to sing.

Friday, November 30

5:45 p.m. -Wine and Cheese Reception

6:15 p.m. -*Kabbalat Shabbat* and *Ma'ariv* with Participation by Zemer Chai

7:15 p.m. -Shabbat Dinner, followed by *Zemirot* (Shabbat Songs) led by Zemer Chai

Saturday, December 1

9:00 a.m. -Shabbat Services, with participation by Zemer Chai

12:30 p.m. (after *Kiddush*)-Presentation by Zemer Chai's Artistic Director Eleanor Epstein, Tunes That

Speak and Words That Sing: Music as Midrash

Melave Malka (Escorting the Shabbat Queen)

5:30 p.m. -Special *Havdalah* Service with Zemer Chai

6:00 p.m. -Dairy Supper

6:45 p.m. -Zemer Chai in Concert with Cantors Josh Perlman and Ilana Wolpert, "The World of Jewish Song"

[Click here](#) to register ONLINE for the Shabbat dinner and/or the Melave Malka dairy supper.

20s & 30s Music and Margaritas Shabbat

Friday, November 30, 2012

Wine and Cheese Reception at 5:45 p.m.

Musical Service at 6:15 p.m.

Shabbat Dinner at 7:00 p.m.

20s and 30s Reception at 8:15 p.m.

Chairs: Stacy and Mike Rabkin

Join the congregation for a special evening with Zemer Chai community choir and then join other young professionals at a special dessert reception at 8:15 p.m. [Click here](#) to RSVP for the Shabbat Dinner. [Click here](#) for more information about the rest of the Scholar-in-Residence weekend.

Let A Package from Home be your 2012 Hanukkah present to an Israeli Soldier

B'nai Israel Congregation is participating in the A Package from Home Project providing Israeli soldiers with packages of gloves, hats, winter socks, toiletries, and other useful items as an expression of our thanks for their courage and commitment to the defense of the State of Israel.

Turn Hanukkah into a family learning experience, a "teaching moment", especially for your children. Dedicate one night of Hanukkah to these brave soldiers. With the money you would otherwise spend on family gifts for one night, send a check for that amount, or more, to B'nai Israel Congregation (mark the check for A Package from Home). Include a card or letter from your family letting the soldier know you appreciate the sacrifice they are making in securing the safety and security of Israel, and by extension, all the Jewish people. Wish them a Happy Hanukkah!

Hanukkah is coming soon (first candle is Sat. December 8) , so don't delay! [Click here](#) to participate.

B'nai Israel Education Department Hanukkah Donut Sale

Orders and payment are due by Sunday, December 2, 2012

Light the candles, spin the dreidels, and celebrate Hanukkah with Krispy Kreme Donuts (glazed, jelly or mini-donuts with blue and white sprinkles)! The cost is \$8.00 per dozen/box.

[Click here](#) to place your order ONLINE. Or click here to download the order form. Please make checks payable to B'nai Israel Congregation.

Pick-up your orders on Sunday, December 9, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.,
Tuesday, December 11, 12:00-2:00 p.m. or 4:00-7:00 p.m. Questions? Contact [Becca Ward](#).

Winter Book Review with Rabbi Matthew Simon

Sunday, December 2, 2012
10:00-11:30 a.m. in the Blumberg-Zalis Family Library

Social Action: Sorting Items at Manna Food Warehouse

Sunday, December 2, 2012
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Please plan to join us at the Manna Food Warehouse at 9311 Gaither Road, Gaithersburg as we sort items from their various pickups. This is a great family activity. In the past, families with young children had a great time doing this wonderful mitzvah. Contact [Andrea Nadelman](#).

2015 B'nai Mitzvah Family Orientation

Sunday, December 2, 2012
5:00 p.m.

A light supper will be served. Please RSVP to [Liat](#).

Monthly Lunch and Learn: Torah Study

Monday, December 3, 2012
12:30-1:30 p.m.
Instructor: Rabbi Jonathan Schnitzer
Registration: Members and Nonmembers Free

Join the eager group of congregants and others who assemble monthly to participate with Rabbi Schnitzer in a detailed engagement with the text of the Torah. This year's study will include narrative sections from the end of Exodus, Leviticus and Numbers.

Monday Night at the Movies

December 3, 2012
7:30 p.m. in the Goldberg Youth Chapel
Free of charge and refreshments will be served
Reuniting the Rubins (2012): 99 Minutes

One man's mission to follow his dream is comically halted in its tracks at the request of his dear, but

difficult, aged Jewish mother who is hell-bent on seeing her warring dysfunctional grown up grandchildren together one last time before she dies. This good old fashion comedy is a must see for anyone who has attended family gatherings and survived!

Talking about Tough Topics Workshop (For Parents of 8th Graders)

Tuesday, December 4

6:30 p.m. - Light Dinner

7:00 p.m. - Parent Discussion begins

Join JSSA social worker Natalie Merkur Rose and other parents of teens on Tuesday, December 4 from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. to discuss how you bring up or talk to your teens about tough topics, such as dating, sex, peer pressure and body image. This workshop is open to all 8th-grade parents but has been scheduled in conjunction with the 8th-grade Upper School core course, "Hot Topics."

A light dinner will be offered to any participating parents from 6:30 - 7:00 p.m. that evening. There is no fee, but RSVP's are needed by Thursday, November 29th. Contact [Sharon Safra](#) (240-221-2500) with questions or to register.

Pajama Shabbat

Friday, December 7, 2012

6:30 p.m.

Pajama Shabbat is a family-oriented Friday night service geared for young children. This mini-Kabbalat Shabbat service will feature singing, age-appropriate prayers, story time, and dessert refreshments. We encourage all children and any children-at-heart to come dressed in their favorite pj's. Teddy bears and other bedtime lovies are welcome too! Adults need not worry about getting dressed up either - this will be a fun and casual night for all.

There is no fee to attend but registration is appreciated. Contact [Sharon Safra](#) to RSVP.

The event is geared towards toddlers, preschoolers, and young elementary schoolers. A Potluck Shabbat Dinner will be held in conjunction with this program but the dinner is optional.

Dairy Potluck Shabbat Dinners

Friday, December 7, 2012

5:30 p.m.

Bring in Shabbat together with your friends at B'nai Israel at these dairy potluck Shabbat dinners. Each attending family is asked to bring one dairy or parve item to feed 10-15 people. The atmosphere for the evening is informal with opportunities to meet and schmooze with other B'nai members, sing Shabbat z'mirot and Birkat Hamazon, and enjoy relaxed time with your synagogue community.

Registration will take place online through a Sign Up Genius website. Online registration will be available shortly. Contact [Sharon Safra](#) for an online registration link when it becomes available.

This program is open to all members but held in conjunction with Pajama Shabbat. Another Potluck Shabbat Dinner is scheduled for April and will take place beginning at 7:00 p.m.

AIPAC Shabbat at B'nai Israel

Saturday, December 8, 2012

9:00 a.m.

An Inside Perspective of the Relationship between the United States and Israel
with guest speaker Stephen Aserkoff
Assistant Director for Policy and Government Affairs,
AIPAC

AIPAC Host Committee

Wendi and Daniel Abramowitz, Debra and Stuart Anolik, Gail and Paul Chod, Yvonne Schlafstein-Distenfeld and Jeffrey Distenfeld, Sheri and Jeffrey Kaufman, Tracy and Stefan Krantz, Paulette and Manny Miller, Ellen and Grant Ottenstein, Karyn and Stuart Tauber, Cynthia and Morton Zetlin

2013 Annual AIPAC Policy Conference

Sunday-Tuesday, March 3-5, 2013

Washington, DC

Be a part of the B'nai Israel delegation. Register today by visiting their [website](#) or by contacting [Deborah Adler](#) (443-690-0473).

Help us to make this the largest Greater Washington Delegation. Experience the most empowering three days in support of the U.S.-Israel relationship!

Hanukkah Holiday Movie

Monday, December 10, 2012

2:10 in the Goldberg Youth Chapel

Hanukkah Tales & Tunes / Miracles & Wonders

Rated G, 30 minutes

Celebrate Hanukkah with song, story, and puppetry. A lovely, enchanting movie for kids and adults of all ages.

Latkes & Lights Hanukkah Extravaganza

Thursday, December 13, 2012

5:00 p.m. - Registration and Festival "Fair"

6:15* p.m. - Menorah Lighting & Dinner

7:00* p.m. - Community Service Project

(* - times are approximate)

It's baaacck... After taking a year off to hold our first In-Shul Shabbaton, our ever-popular, enjoyable family Hanukkah event, Latkes & Lights is back this year!

This year's program will be slightly different than in previous years, so that children of all ages - along with their parents or grandparents - can enjoy an evening out. We'll begin with a small fair-like

program, which will include face painting, balloon designs, and more. Then we will light our *hanukiyot* (menorahs) together as a community and enjoy a latke and chicken dinner. Before the evening ends, there will be a community service project for those that want to stay. This program is always very large, so be sure to reserve your space early.

Special thanks to the B'nai Israel Sisterhood and Men's Club for helping to make this program possible.

\$16 per adult
\$7 per child 2 and up
\$50 immediate family maximum
This program is for B'nai Israel families only.

If you have any questions or would like to help before or during the program, contact [Sharon Safra](#).

[Click here](#) for a flyer and registration form. [Click here](#) to register online using a credit card.

20s & 30s Iron Latke Hanukkah Party

Thursday, December 13, 2012

Latke Cook-off at 7:00 p.m., Dinner at 8:00 p.m.

Registration: \$15 members, \$20 nonmembers

Chairs: Wendy and Jeff Stickle; Stacy and Mike Rabkin

Bring your own bottle of kosher wine; we will provide the beer. Meet other young professionals for a fun evening and celebration. During our cook-off, all chefs will be invited to choose from our special ingredients in a quest to create the perfect latke. Following the taste test, everyone will join together for a festive Hanukkah meal. Please RSVP to [Elizabeth](#) by Monday, December 10.

Snowflake Wish List

This year, we are once again hoping to make holiday wishes come true for 14 youths identified by the Linkages to Learning program coordinator. The youths are identified by sex, age, and a code number on the "[Snowflake](#)" Wish List. All items should be unwrapped and dropped off in the school office by Friday, December 14. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Becca Ward or Signe Wetrogan 301-816-5576 or Signe Wetrogan 301-384-2994.

Please note: If possible, please provide gift receipts. We will also be accepting donations (Target Gift Cards) for children who have requested them and to be used towards the purchase of the more expensive items some children asked for. Please [click here](#) for the wish list. Thank you for helping to make someone's holiday bright!

"Meet and Greet" with Dr. Louis Nagel

Sunday, December 16, 2012

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

This program is sponsored by B'nai Israel Sisterhood.

Join us for an informal "meet and greet" with our new Education Director, Dr. Louis Nagel. A light brunch will be served.

HAZAK-Active Seniors of B'nai Israel Presents . . .

"The Future of the Jews: How Global Forces are Impacting the Jewish People, Israel, and Its Relationship with the United States" with the Honorable Stuart E. Eizenstat

Sunday, December 16, 2012

Light Brunch at 10:00 a.m.

The presentation begins at 10:20 a.m.

Free of charge, but reservations appreciated to [Jo](#).

Stuart Eizenstat is a partner at Covington & Burling, where he heads the international practice. His newest book *The Future of the Jews: How Global Forces are Impacting the Jewish People, Israel, and Its Relationship with the United States* was co-authored with Sir Martin Gilbert and published in May, 2012.

His fifteen years of government service have included positions as Chief Domestic Policy Adviser and Executive Director of the White House Domestic Policy Staff for President Jimmy Carter; and Deputy Treasury Secretary, Under Secretary of State for Economic, Business and Agricultural Affairs, and Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade in the Clinton administration. He was Ambassador to the European Union from 1993 to 1996. During the Clinton Administration, Mr. Eizenstat played a key role on Holocaust-era issues as Special Representative of the President and Secretary of State, and successfully helped negotiate major agreements with the Swiss, Germans, Austrians, and French. He and his wife Frances have served in a variety of leadership roles in the Washington Jewish community.

HAZAK is our group for individuals 55 or older who want to share in interesting experiences. It's never too late to make new friends!

B'nai Israel Book Discussion Group

Wednesday, December 19, 2012

11:00 a.m. in the Blumberg-Zalis Family Library

In the Garden of Beasts by Erik Larson

In 1933, William E. Dodd becomes America's first ambassador to Hitler's Germany. Suffused with the tense atmosphere of the period this book lends a stunning, eyewitness perspective on events as they unfold in real time and speaks volumes about why the world did not recognize the grave threat posed by Hitler until Europe was awash in blood and terror.

Social Action: Calling all Shul

Chefs!

Help us prepare a holiday meal for residents of Children's Inn at NIH to be delivered **Sunday, December 23, 2012**. It's easy to participate and a great project for kids too! Here's how it works:

Prior to, or early on the morning of, December 23, 2012, prepare/
purchase any of the following using disposable aluminum pans:

- Lasagna, macaroni and cheese, tuna casserole or other main dish (we need at least 8)
- Salad or cut-up veggies and dressing
- Vegetable or other side dish (we need 5-6)
- Italian bread (we need 8-10 loaves)
- Milk (we need 4 gallons)
- Dessert (we need 5-6)

The items do not need to be kosher. However, please provide an ingredient list for NIH's use. On December 23, 2012, drop off items between 8:30-10:00 a.m. at the home of Alisa Rulnick, 8913 Copenhaver Drive, Potomac, Maryland 20854 (301-762-1963). If you cannot deliver during the designated times, we may be able to make other arrangements. To volunteer, please contact [Marjorie Kane](#). Thank you, and we hope you can help us with this wonderful mitzvah project.

Save the Date for Rabbi Michael Safra's 10th Anniversary Shabbat and Celebration

Saturday, January 5, 2013

Join us for Shabbat morning services at 9:00 a.m. as we honor Rabbi Safra for his 10 years of service and influence on our community.

The congregation is invited for a special Shabbat Kiddush, immediately following services.

In honor of Rabbi Safra's 10th anniversary at B'nai Israel, a fund for Adult Programming is being established to support our congregation's commitment to lifelong learning and Jewish growth. The purpose of this fund will be to support innovative programming to engage new segments of our adult community-both young and old-in congregational life. Contributions and tributes in honor of Rabbi Safra can be made [online](#).

More details to follow in the mail.

i-Engage: Foundations for a New Relationship with Israel

Sundays, January 27-April 28, 2013

10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

Chairs: Wendy Fanaroff, Judy Goldberg and Carol Vogel

We are living in an era unprecedented in Jewish history. Two vibrant, powerful Jewish communities- one in Israel and the other around the world-are each contributing to the future of Jewish life. But there are challenges. What kind of relationship will these two communities have? Will we continue to be one people with different yet equally important centers, or will we grow to create two exclusive, independent communities, leading to a bifurcation of the Jewish people?

Session One: From Crisis to Covenant (*co-sponsored by the B'nai Israel Men's Club*) on January 27

Session Two: Religion and Peoplehood on February 3

Session Three: Sovereignty and Identity on February 10

Session Four: Power and Powerlessness on March 3

Session Five: Battlefield Morality in Israel and Beyond (*with Noam Zion*) on March 10

Session Six: Jewish and Democratic State on April 7

Session Seven: Religious Pluralism on April 14

Session Eight: Human Rights on April 21

Session Nine: Values Nation on April 28

The i-Engage curriculum, developed by the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem, seeks to renew our relationship with Israel through easily usable and accessible content. Each session stands alone. Registration is available for individual sessions, half-series, or the entire 12-week series. Sessions 1 (presented with the B'nai Israel Men's Club) and Session 5 with Noam Zion are free and open to the public. [Click here](#) for more information. [Click here](#) to register online.

Making Marriage Work

Tuesdays, January 29-March 5, 2013

7:15-9:15 p.m.

Instructors: Vicki Hervitz, LCSW-C, from JSSA and Rabbi Michael Safra

Registration: \$475 payable to JSSA

The best wedding gift for yourself or your children is "Making Marriage Work"- a nationally acclaimed program which teaches skills to strengthen relationships and create families that thrive. Studies show that couples who participate in a premarital program have significantly more successful marriages.

The integrated curriculum-developed by the American Jewish University-combines insights about the Jewish wedding and home with proven strategies for a healthy marriage. We will discuss topics that include expectations, communication, conflict resolution, money management, influence of personality and family of origin, and share proven strategies for healthy marriages, based on national research.

For more information contact [Vicki Hervitz](#) (301-610-8412).

Schilit Nursery School 2013-2014 Registration

Classes for children ages 15 months-5 years old

We are excited that our award-winning nursery school program will be complemented by extended hours beginning September 2013. Call to request a 2013-2014 registration packet.

Please contact Nursery School Director [Karen Gerton](#) for a registration packet, more information, and a tour of the school.

Introducing the DJTorah Honor Society in Memory of Hazzan Deborah Togut

The [DJTorah Honor Society](#) was created to honor the memory of Hazzan Deborah Togut by increasing the number of teenagers who participate in the ritual life of the synagogue through Torah reading. Teenagers who read full-length portions in the Dweck Sanctuary service will receive credit towards the Society.

- Three (3) qualified readings reaches the Yad (Pointer) level and earns a gift certificate to Amazon.com, a special kippah, and a yad.
- Seven (7) qualified readings reaches the Keter (Crown) level and earns a place on a plaque in the Goldberg Youth Chapel. Students at this level will be entitled to an additional \$100 for approved youth programs (i.e. a member of the Society who would normally receive \$500 for a trip to Israel would be entitled to \$600).

The rules governing eligibility for scholarships are determined by the B'nai Israel Scholarship committee. For more information about our scholarship programs, please contact [Melissa Schwartz](#).

Get started reading Torah and earning credits this fall. Please contact [Cantor Ilana Wolpert](#) to schedule your first reading today!

Schilit Nursery School Fundraisers

[BISNS Preferred Savings Card](#)

Be on the lookout for the 2012-2013 BISNS Preferred Savings Card!

Featuring great deals that you can use through next September! Local stores, personal care services, restaurants and more will be featured. Each card is only \$25 and will be available in the Nursery School office.

[Harris Teeter Together in Education](#)

B'nai Israel Schilit Nursery School is now linked with Harris Teeter as a registered school for Together in Education (TIE). It's time to link your Harris Teeter VIC card to B'nai Israel Schilit Nursery School using our TIE Account number -1506. After your card is linked, simply purchase Harris Teeter brand products or fill a prescription and if enough people shop at Harris Teeter a donation will be made to our nursery school. We appreciate your support.

[Mabel's Labels](#)

Mabel's Labels carries awesome colorful, indestructible, easy-to-use labels. They are dishwasher, microwave, and laundry safe labels that can be attached to practically anything you don't want to lose. To browse products and place an order we ask that you use the unique [B'nai Israel Schilit Nursery School link](#).

Questions about any of these fundraisers? Contact the Nursery School Office (301-816-5578).

Box Tops for Education

Clip Box Tops for Education and help earn money for B'nai Israel's Education Department.

Earn cash for our school every time you shop for groceries! Just clip the Box Tops coupons from hundreds of your favorite products (such as Betty Crocker, Nature Valley, Kleenex, Ziploc and many more). Each coupon is worth 10¢!

NEW!! This year the grade that brings in the most Box Tops by Sunday, December 16 will win an ice cream party!! Please submit Box Tops in a small sandwich bag with your child's name and grade.

Entertainment 2013 Books are Now on Sale in the Sisterhood Judaica Gift Shop

The cost is \$30 per book and features coupons for great deals at many good dining and shopping establishments around the metro area. Out-of-town books are also available for order. This is the perfect holiday gift for the person who has everything!

Attention Parents of College Students

Please send us your child's contact information on campus! We have a Hannukah gift to send them. Please contact [Melissa Schwartz](#) with that information.

Sisterhood Judaica Shop

301-770-7577

Hanukkah begins Saturday evening, December 8!
Anything you need . . . we have!
Menorahs * Candles * Dreidels * Gelt * Latke Platters
* Decorations
* Gifts for all Ages * Candle Lighting Gifts and much more.

And, now featuring the work of Michael Aram

Judaica.

To special order personalized *kippot* and *benchers* for your *simcha*, call Suzy Levy (301-460-9636).

Shop Hours

Sunday, 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

and Tuesday, 4:15-6:15 p.m.

For special appointments, call Linda (240-462-1108), or Miriam (301-649-3770).

Daily Minyan Sign-Up

At B'nai Israel, we are justifiably proud of sustaining daily morning and evening *minyanim*. Unfortunately, our evening *minyan* sometimes lacks the required ten adults during the winter months. We are again instituting a voluntary sign up list to try to encourage more people to participate in our evening *minyan*. I want to urge you to try to commit to a *minyan* or two over the coming weeks, and to let us know in advance when those dates might be.

Click [here](#) to see a list of dates and people who have agreed to support us. You will notice that there are 4 slots for each date, as we already count on at least 6 "regulars" on any given night. The password is "bnai" and there is no need to register with the website unless you want email reminders. Your commitment to ensuring our daily evening *minyan* helps B'nai Israel maintain the sense of community excellence for which we are known.

Thank you for your support of this initiative,
Jeffrey Fredman, Vice President, Ritual Affairs

Caring Committee

Open your heart, open your mind and exciting opportunities can happen. Caution-there is the potential to develop meaningful and special bonds! There are congregants that need your help!

Helping Hands Program: We are looking for members who can occasionally provide meals and other services to B'nai Israel congregants who are in need of our help, on an "as needed" basis. If you can lend a hand, [send an email to Shelley Rothenberg and Lisa Miller.](#)

Yad I'Yad Program: We are looking for compassionate individuals who have the availability and interest to bring holiday greetings from our congregation to our homebound members a few times a year. Visits can last 10-30 minutes and will include a small holiday gift given by the congregation. We are also in need of volunteers to provide transportation for Shabbat services. If you are interested, please [send an email to Shelley Rothenberg and Lisa Miller.](#)

B'nai Israel Caring Committee: *"We're helping each other. We're helping our community. That's what*

Jews do. Those are our values."
-Rabbi Jonathan Schnitzer

The Book of Mormon at the Kennedy Center

Sunday Evenings, July 14, July 28, August 4 and August 11, 2013
7:30 p.m.

Tony Awards say "It's the Best Musical of the Year". The New York Times says, "It's the best musical of this century." It's The Book of Mormon, the Broadway phenomenon from South Park creators Trey Parker and Matt Stone and Avenue Q co-creator Robert Lopez.

Orchestra Seats - \$170
First Tier Seats - \$150

[Click here](#) for the ticket order form.

Washington Jewish Week Subscriptions

Don't forget to subscribe or renew your *Washington Jewish Week* subscriptions through Sisterhood. Make your check payable to B'nai Israel Sisterhood and leave it in the Washington Jewish Week envelope found in the Sisterhood mailbox in the main office (Jo at the front desk can help you). For questions, contact Toby Loewy. The rates are as follows:
Regular: \$72.08 for 1 year, \$99.64 for 2 years
Senior (55 and up): \$38.16 for 1 year, \$72.08 for 2 years

An Invitation to Join Your Congregation by Telephone When You Cannot Be With Us at Our Services

Open your Siddur or Humash at home or away from home and participate in our Shabbat, Festival and High Holy Day services. Follow the reading of the Torah, study the parasha together with the congregation, listen to the comments of the rabbis on the many concerns of Jewish life, offer personal prayers and sing familiar melodies along with the Hazzan and our B'nai Israel community.

Up to 15 participants will be able to call into the B'nai Israel phone system between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon and listen to the live audio of our service in the Dweck Sanctuary.

How to use the system:

1. Dial the regular B'nai Israel phone number, 301-881-6550.
2. When the automatic system answers the telephone, dial "7".

3. You will be transferred to the live Dweck Sanctuary audio.

Please note: If 15 participants are already listening on the system, you will receive a message that the system is full. Please try again later in the morning.

Camp Ramah Informational Meetings

Please join us for one of these Camp Ramah informational sessions in our area coming up in December. Hear how Camp Ramah's rich and varied programs offer campers the opportunity to grow, learn, and develop life-long friendships as they connect to Judaism in a unique way. Camp Ramah offers two-week sessions for children currently in grades 2-3 and four or eight-week sessions for children in grades 3-10. Parents and children are welcome.

Monday, December 17 at the home of Mindy and Jeff Sosland in Washington, DC, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 18 at Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School, Lower School Campus, 7:00 p.m.

For more information or to RSVP, contact [Lori Fish Bard](#).

[Forward email](#)



Try it FREE today.

This email was sent to marni@bnaiisraelcong.org by info@bnaiisraelcong.org | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).
B'nai Israel Congregation | 6301 Montrose Road | Rockville | MD | 20852