

From: info@bnaiisraelcong.org on behalf of B'nai Israel Congregation [info@bnaiisraelcong.org]
Sent: Tuesday, January 14, 2014 4:06 PM
To: marni@bnaiisraelcong.org
Subject: January 2014 e-Midmonth Newsletter



January 2014 e-Midmonth

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Kavod v'Nichum](#)

[Staff Visits at the
CESJDS Lower School](#)

[Shabbat Magic
Highlights](#)

[The Jews in Britain:
From William the
Conqueror to
Downton Abbey and
Beyond](#)

[Hospitality Shabbat](#)

[Education Shabbat](#)

[Talmud Torah Dates
to Remember](#)

[Sisterhood
Happenings](#)

[Social Action
Projects](#)

[Family BINGO Night](#)

[Library Programs](#)

[Annual World Wide
Wrap & Basketball
Challenge](#)

Dear Friends,

We hope this message finds you well during these opening weeks of the new year.

In spite of the weather, we have so many great things planned at B'nai Israel. Read below to find information about the annual [MLK Day family program](#) and [pajama drive](#), our [unique Hospitality Shabbat](#) (Friday or Saturday evening events, and the Talmud Torah's [Pizza Bingo night](#) - and that's just for the next ten days. You can also find information about the [Men's Club Blue Yarmulke dinner](#) (hosted by B'nai Israel), [compelling adult education classes](#) and [lectures](#), exciting [Sisterhood programs](#), [Jews and Brews](#), and so much more.

Join us inside. ... It's happening at B'nai Israel.

Shalom,
B'nai Israel Congregation

Kavod v'Nichum (Honor and Consolation)

Finding Comfort and Meaning in Traditional Rituals

Facilitators: Rabbi Michael Safra and Judy Saks
Tuesday, January 14, 2014
7:30-9:00 p.m.

Registration: Free

The Jewish rituals of mourning were designed to bring comfort to the bereaved by connecting them to community at the time when they are most vulnerable. But do the rituals always work? Join us for a conversation about traditional views on mourning and comforting.

["Build-a-Pair" Tefillin Program](#)

[Aleph Isn't Tough: Hebrew Reading for Beginners](#)

[Monthly Lunch and Learn](#)

[The Portrayal of the Jews in Modern English Literature](#)

[Potluck Shabbat Dinner](#)

[Havdalah Under the Stars](#)

[Havdalah Under the Stars](#)

[Blue Yarmulke Men-of-the-Year](#)

[Protecting Seniors from Financial Abuse](#)

[Jews and Brews: An Informal Jewish Conversation for Men](#)

[Friday Night in Lights: Shabbat Sepharad](#)

[Raising a...Mensch](#)

[L.I.F.E. Lecture: Jewish Megatrends](#)

[Karen Gerton's 25th Anniversary Celebration](#)

[Florida Reunion](#)

[Scholar-in-Residence: Rabbi Jeffrey Salkin](#)

[Teach-In: Derekh Eretz](#)

[Spring L'Mazel Fructant Parent](#)

Staff Visits at the CESJDS Lower School

Thursday, January 16 for grades 3-6
Thursday, February 6 for grades K-2

Members of our clergy and professional staff will visit the CESJDS 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.

Please contact [Sharon Safra](#) for more details or with questions.

Shabbat Magic Weekly Youth Services

January 18

10:00 a.m. - Extended Gold Kippah Chug
11:00 a.m. - Combined Mini-Minyan and Junior Congregation service for children in grades K-7
11:00 a.m. - Torah for Tots for children pre-K and younger

January 25

Education Shabbat

Students will lead parts of the main service in Dweck Sanctuary
10:15 a.m. - Adult Learner's Service with Rabbi Safra
10:15 a.m. - Brief breakout groups for students in Grades K-7
11:00 a.m. - Torah for Tots for children pre-K and younger

February 1

February Birthday Shabbat

9:00 a.m. - Parashat HaShavua Discussion
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 4-6
11:00 a.m. - Torah for Tots for children pre-K and younger

February 8

Honoring JDS Seniors; 3rd Grade Moving-Up Shabbat

10:00 a.m. - Gold Kippah Chug
10:30 a.m. - 3rd Grade Moving-Up Shabbat in Junior Congregation
Mini-Minyan for children in grades K-2
Junior Congregation for children in grades 3-6
11:00 a.m. - Torah for Tots for children pre-K and younger

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

The Jews in Britain: From William

Class

[Support Your B'nai
Israel Talmud Torah](#)

[Schilit Nursery School
Tours](#)

[Jewish Coalition
Against Domestic
Abuse Support
Groups](#)

[Sisterhood Judaica
Shop](#)

[Harris Teeter
Together in
Education](#)

[Gift Card/Scrip
Fundraiser](#)

[Trip to Eastern
Europe](#)

[Teen Trip to Israel
Informational
Meeting](#)

[Multi-Generational
Israel Adventure](#)

[DJ Torah Honor
Society](#)

[Sales Associates
Needed in the
Sisterhood Judaica
Shop](#)

[Mabel's Labels](#)

[Calling all
Photography
Enthusiasts!](#)

[Daily Minyan Sign-Up](#)

[Washington Jewish
Week Subscriptions](#)

[Shabbat Services by
Telephone](#)

the Conqueror to Downton Abbey and Beyond

Instructor: Virginia Newmyer

Chair: Anne Abend
2 Thursdays, January 23 and 30
7:30-9:00 p.m.

Registration: \$15 members, \$20 nonmembers

This lecture, accompanied by hundreds of vivid slides, traces the rise of Jews in Britain from despised interlopers to vital members of the British community, represented by leaders in political, intellectual, and artistic life far in excess of their numbers.

[Click here](#) for more information. [Click here](#) to register.

Hospitality Shabbat

Chaired by Sarah Kotlove, Phyllis Lieberman and Alisa Rulnick

Shabbat Dinner on Friday, January 24 - or -
Havdalah & Dessert on Saturday, January 25

Hospitality Shabbat is a new initiative for members of all ages and stages to come together to celebrate Shabbat in a more intimate setting - our members' homes. Sign up as a guest for this unique Shabbat and community experience. Guests will be assigned by the co-chairs and staff to the most suitable host family.

Registration is due ASAP! For the flyer and a registration form, [click here](#). To register online, please [click here](#).

For more information, contact:

[Sarah Kotlove](#), Co-Chair, [Phyllis Lieberman](#), Co-Chair,

[Alisa Rulnick](#), Co-Chair, or [Sharon Safra](#), Family Education Director.

Education Shabbat

Honoring Nancy Goldberg on her 20th Anniversary with B'nai Israel

and Sharon Rosenberg Safra on her 10th Anniversary with B'nai Israel

Saturday, January 25

9:00 a.m. Shabbat Services in Dweck Sanctuary with participation by all our students

10:15 a.m. Student "Breakout Services"

10:15 a.m. Adult Learner's Service with Rabbi Michael Safra

11:00 a.m. Torah for Tots in the Blumberg-Zalis



Main Office
301-881-6550

Nursery School
301-816-5578

Talmud Torah
301-816-5576

Fax
301-881-6221

Judaica Shop
301-770-7577

[Quick Links ...](#)

[Our Website](#)

[Calendar of Events
and Programs](#)

[Parasha Word of the
Week](#)

[Torah from JTS](#)

[The JCA Career
Gateway](#)

Family Library
11:00 a.m. Recognition of teachers, and recognition of students who have reached various levels of prayer mastery (as part of the Gold Kippah Honor Society Program)
12:00 p.m. Celebratory Kiddush in Gudelsky Hall
12:30 p.m. Minha Services in Dweck Sanctuary
12:30 p.m. Conversation Israel in the Blumberg-Zalis Family Library

Talmud Torah Dates to Remember

Sunday, January 19 - No Talmud Torah Classes
Sunday, February 2 - 5th Grade Family Education Program - World Wide Wrap
Saturday, February 8 - 3rd Graders Move Up to Jr. Congregation
Saturday evening, February 8 - 4th Grade Family Education Program - Havdalah Under the Stars
Sunday, February 9 - Parent-Teacher Conferences for Grades K-2

Talmud Torah Committee

Meeting

Sunday, February 16 - NO Talmud Torah Classes - Presidents' Day Weekend
Tuesday, February 18 - Upper School 8th & 9th Grade - JCADA Speaker
Saturday, February 22 - 6th grade Shabbat/Kindergarten Shabbat

Sisterhood Happenings

Chicks Who Stitch

Sunday, January 26
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Bring your knitting, crocheting or other needlework project that you are working on. Newcomers are always welcome. Our next meeting will be on Sunday, February 9. For more information contact [Harriet Levi](#) (301-649-3429).

Bingo with the Residents of the Hebrew Home

Tuesday, January 27 at the Smith-Kogod Building
10:15-11:30 a.m.
Please contact [Dottie Cohen](#) (301-881-7115) for more information or to volunteer.

2014 Mah Jongg Cards

Place your 2014 Mah Jongg Card order now before January 30. The standard card is \$8.00 and the large card is \$9.00. Make checks payable to Sisterhood and mark your envelope "Mah Jongg Card". Questions? Call Harriet Levi (301-649-3429).

Coming in February

Social Action Program with Magen David Adom
Sunday, February 23
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Upcoming Spring Classes - Details to Follow

Mah Jongg
Basics of Yoga
Passover Cooking/Baking

Social Action Projects

Family Friendly Projects

Manna Food Packaging

Sunday, January 26
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Mark your calendars for our next Manna Food Warehouse food packaging. It's always a wonderful family activity. The Manna Food Warehouse is located at 9311 Gaither Road, Gaithersburg, MD. Contact [Andrea Nadelman](#) (301) 455-5934.

Visit of Emertis Assisted Living Facility

Sunday January 26
2:30 p.m.

Join us as we entertain the residents of the Emertis Senior Living Facility, 11215 Seven Locks Road, Potomac, Maryland 20854 on Sunday January 26, at 2:30 PM with an ice cream social event. All are welcome. The residents especially love seeing children. Contact [Paulette Kaffee](#) (301-365-3788) for information.

Family BINGO Night

Come play Bingo and get a chance to win awesome prizes in our raffle and silent auction!

Sunday, January 26

Doors open at 5:00 p.m.
First game begins at 5:30 p.m.
\$30/immediate family
Includes a large cheese pizza, salad, drinks and unlimited BINGO!

Reservations are due ASAP. This event is open to all members. Questions? Contact [Lisa Miller](#), [Debbie Oblon](#) or [Becca](#) (301-816-5576). [Click here](#) to register online.

Blumberg-Zalis Family Library Programs

Monday Night at the Movies

Monday, January 27
7:30 p.m.
Orchestra of Exiles (85 Min. in English)

When Hitler began firing Jewish musicians across Europe, violinist Bronislaw Huberman, against great obstacles, moved these great musicians to Palestine and formed a symphony that would become the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, saving nearly 1000 Jews-and guaranteed the survival of Europe's

musical heritage.

B'nai Israel Book Discussion Group

Wednesday, February 12

11:00 a.m.

The Street Sweeper by Elliot Perlman (2012)

Discussion Leader: Judy Goldberg

The lives of a street sweeper and a struggling professor intersect as the forces of the Holocaust, the American civil rights movement, Chicago unions, and New York City racial politics combine in a thrilling cross-generational literary symphony.

World Wide Wrap & Basketball Challenge

Sunday, February 2

9:00 a.m. Minyan and Tefillin Tutorial

9:40 a.m. Breakfast sponsored by the Men's Club

10:00 a.m. Build-a-Pair Workshop for 5th-graders and their families

10:30 a.m. Kadima/Men's Club Basketball Challenge

In honor of the World Wide Wrap on Sunday, February 2, the Sisterhood Judaica Shop will offer significant discounts on all tefillin purchased in January.

Small sets are \$150; Medium sets are \$175; and Large sets are \$200

The Judaica Shop is open on 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.

To join the Men's Club basketball team or to volunteer for this fun and rewarding event, contact [Joel Goldberg](mailto:Joel.Goldberg@bnaiisrael.org) (301-654-5911).

World Wide Wrap "Build-a-Pair" Tefillin Program for all 5th Grade Families

Sunday, February 2

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

Fifth graders and their families are invited to learn more about the important *mitzvah* of *tefillin*, which binds us closer to God. This program is co-sponsored by the B'nai Israel Men's Club. Contact [Sharon Safra](mailto:Sharon.Safra@bnaiisrael.org) with questions (240-221-2500).

Aleph Isn't Tough: Hebrew Reading for Beginners

Instructor: Nechama Fellner

Sundays, February 2-May 4

(No class on February 16, March 16, April 13, or April 20.)

11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon
Registration: Members \$40, Nonmembers \$55
(Includes textbook: *Aleph Isn't Tough*)

Learn to read Hebrew in 10 weeks! This class is a basic introduction for decoding Hebrew letters and vowels. Students can expect a lot of drills and an introduction to our most important prayers. These classes are perfect for individuals who want to feel more comfortable on a path of learning and greater involvement in worship services at B'nai Israel. [Click here](#) to register.

Monthly Lunch and Learn: Torah Study

Monday, February 3
12:30-1:30 p.m.

Join Rabbi Schnitzer and the eager group of congregants and others who assemble monthly to participate in a detailed engagement with the text of the Torah.

The Portrayal of the Jews in Modern English Literature

Instructor: Cantor Ilana Wolpert
4 Wednesdays, February 5-26
7:30 p.m.
Registration: \$30 members, \$40 nonmembers

Was William Shakespeare displaying anti-Semitism when he gave us the evil, greedy Shylock? How about Charles Dickens in his portrayal of Fagin the thief? English and American literature are filled with negative stereotypical depictions of Jews as Other. On the other hand, non-Jewish writers like George Eliot have been accused of going overboard with positive portrayals of Jews to atone for the anti-Semitism of their times. So which is it? Cantor Wolpert explores some of the famous Jewish characters of English and American literature in search of answers to these questions. [Click here](#) to register.

Family Service and Dairy Potluck Shabbat Dinner

Friday, February 7
6:00 p.m. Family Service
6:30 p.m. Potluck Dinner

Bring in Shabbat together with your friends at B'nai Israel at our winter dairy potluck Shabbat dinner. 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 is taking place online through a [Sign Up Genius website](#). Contact [Sharon Safra](#) with questions (240-221-2500).

Jewish Disability Awareness Month: Disability Access for 21st Century Technologies

with
Karen Peltz Strauss
Saturday, February 8
9:00 a.m.

Karen Peltz Strauss is the Deputy Bureau Chief of the Federal Communications Commission's Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, where she oversees the Commission's disability access policies. Prior to joining the FCC, Strauss spent more than 30 years as one of the nation's premier attorneys on issues concerning telecommunications and television access for people with disabilities. During this time, she spearheaded and assisted in the drafting of various federal laws on closed captioning, telecommunications equipment access, hearing aid compatibility and related issues. In 1997, President Clinton appointed Strauss to the Advisory Committee on the Public Interest Obligations of Digital Television Broadcasters.

***Havdalah* Under the Stars for all 4th Grade Families**

Saturday, February 8
7:15 - 8:45 p.m.

We invite all of our 4th graders and their families to the Owens Science Center in Lanham, MD, our students will lead us in the Havdalah service followed by an enjoyable and informative planetarium presentation on the historical importance of the constellations. The fee is \$7 per person with a \$20 per immediate family max. Look for program details at www.bnaiisraelcong.org/gradeprograms. Contact [Sharon Safra](#) with questions (240-221-2500).

Blue Yarmulke Men-of-the-Year 2014 Tribute to the Blues

Honoring B'nai Israel's Man-of-the-Year Stuart M. Shalloway

Sunday, February 9
5:30 p.m.
B'nai Israel Congregation

Live Music during Cocktails, Jewish, Swing, Rock and Blues, Creative Program, Humor, Fun, Substance,

Catering by Alan Weiss
Open Bar, Great Food, Raffle and Door Prizes, Big
50/50 Raffle and Special Gifts, After-Party for the
Hard Cores, and more!

Register online at <http://bit.ly/byregister>
Tribute journal <http://bit.ly/byads>

HAZAK-Active Seniors Presents . . .

"Protecting Seniors from Financial Abuse"with Deborah Zuckerman

Thursday, February 13

Bring a dairy lunch at 12:00 p.m.

The presentation begins at 12:30 p.m.

Deborah Zuckerman is Program Manager of the
Senior Financial Exploitation Prevention Initiative
for the Montgomery County State's Attorney's
Office. The Initiative was created in 2011 in an
effort to prevent exploitative practices that are
estimated to cost seniors between \$3 and \$6 billion
every year.

Reservations are requested to Beth in Rabbi Safra's
office (301-881-6550, ext. 575).

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!

Jews and Brews: An Informal Jewish Conversation for Men

Thursday, February 13

7:30 p.m.

Lakewood Country Club

This program is sponsored by the B'nai Israel Men's
Club.

Join us for drinks and schmoozing, followed by
informal text study and discussion about ethical
living in our modern world. Contact Bernie Rod for
more information.

Friday Night in Lights: Shabbat Sepharad

Friday, February 14

6:15 p.m.

Cantor Ilana introduces the music of Spain and the
Jewish East to our service, following which we will
dine on a dinner with Sephardic influences.

\$15/adult (ages 13 and up)

\$7/child (ages 2-12)

No charge for children ages 2 and younger

Immediate family max is \$45.
Please RSVP by Tuesday, February 11. [Click here](#) to download the registration form. Questions? Contact [Beth](#) in Rabbi Safra's office (301-881-6550, ext. 575).

"Raising a *Mensch*" - A Parent Workshop on Raising Respectful and Kind Children

with JSSA Liaison Natalie Merkur Rose
Sunday, February 23
10:45 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.

More than any academic, athletic, or future professional accomplishment, most parents just want their child to grow to be a "*mensch*," a good person. Yet, in our fastpaced, instant-gratification 21st century lifestyle, raising a kind and grateful child can be challenging. Join JSSA Liaison Natalie Merkur Rose for a lively discussion. RSVP's are appreciated to [Sharon Safra](#) (240-221-2500).

L.I.F.E. Lecture Series Presents . . .

Rabbi Sidney Schwarz

[Jewish Megatrends: Charting the Course of the American Jewish Future](#)

Sunday, February 23
7:30 p.m.

In a challenging, yet hopeful talk, Rabbi Sid Schwarz will offer four guiding principles that can drive a renaissance in Jewish life-principles that are already generating enthusiasm and engagement on the margins of the community.

L.I.F.E. Lectures are free of charge and open to all B'nai Israel members and the entire community.

Join us in honoring Karen Gerton for her 25 star-studded years at B'nai Israel!

Saturday, March 8

8:00 p.m.

This fun evening for adults includes dessert, drinks and entertainment.

\$25/adult until January 31

\$30/adult after January 31

Questions? Contact co-chairs [Tobi Bassin](#) or [Jennifer Eisenfeld](#).

Tickets may be purchased online at

www.bnaiisraelcong.org/karen.

B'nai Israel Florida Reunion

Sunday, March 2, 2014
11:00 a.m.

Ballenises Country Club
100 Ballenises Drive, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418
Suggested Donation \$18/person

Join Rabbi Jonathan and Beverly Schnitzer and Andy Schechter, President for a full brunch in the Grille Room of Ballenises Country Club and to reunite with your B'nai Israel Congregation family.

To RSVP, please contact [Marty](#) in the synagogue office (301-881-6550, ext. 569).

For directions, contact the co-chairs: [Paula Levine and Stuart Metro](#), [Vickie Abrutyn](#), or [Phyllis and Robert Snider](#).

Scholar-in-Residence | Rabbi Jeffrey K. Salkin

Martini Judaism: For Those Who Want to Be Shaken and Stirred

Jews are the descendants of an idolsmasher and prophets who stood apart from the prevailing winds of culture. Rabbi Salkin offers a vision of how Judaism can transform your life and the world. You will be shaken and stirred.

Ever since his first book, *Putting God on the Guest List: How to Reclaim The Spiritual Meaning of Your Child's Bar or Bat Mitzvah*, Rabbi Jeffrey Salkin has been known for his writing, teaching and activism. One of American Judaism's most quoted rabbis, he has been described by colleagues as "an activist for Jewish ideas." He has served congregations, created an adult study institute, produced religious television shows, and has worked as a Jewish communal executive. His writing has appeared in scholarly journals, encyclopedias, and numerous periodicals, including *Forward*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Moment*, *The Jewish Week* and *Readers Digest*. He lives and works in New Jersey.

[Click here](#) to see the complete schedule. To register for the Shabbat dinner, [click here](#). Reservations are due by Monday, March 17. Please note: an additional \$5 per person will be charged for any reservations received after Monday, March 17.

Special thanks to the Dollye and I. Wolford Berman Educational Initiative Grant for making this program possible.

Teach-In on *Derekh Eretz*

(A Conversation Among Friends)

Turn your home into a seminar space for a dialogue on *Derekh Eretz*, the Jewish concept of civility. This February, the Education Department will be organizing home hospitality Teach-Ins on this challenging subject. Host families will be asked to invite anywhere from five friends to as many as their home can hold, and arrange for snacks to suit their style of entertaining. The Education Department will schedule a clergy member or one of our education professionals to facilitate discussion. These 60 minute gatherings are intended to blend social engagement with conversation on *Derekh Eretz* or such sub-topics as *Kavod* (Respect), *Emet* (Truthfulness), and *Gemilut Hasadim* (Lovingkindness).

Hosts can make these gatherings "adults only" affairs or plan child care. We recommend scheduling these events on Sundays, but are open to other times. If you are interested in hosting a Teach-In or being invited to one, please contact [Becca](mailto:Becca@jccdc.org) (301-816-5576).

Spring L'Mazel Expectant Parent Class

The L'Mazel class includes topics such as details for planning a *brit milah* (ritual circumcision) or naming/*simchat bat* (welcoming ritual for a baby girl), transitioning from couple to parents, selecting a Jewish name, and building a Jewish home. In addition, we often add a special infant care presentation by a medical professional. Single parents, interfaith couples, same-sex couples, members and non-members are all welcome.

If you or someone you know is expecting a child or in the process of adopting a child and would be interested in a four or five week weeknight series or a long Sunday afternoon/evening one-time class this spring, please contact Family Education Director [Sharon Safra](mailto:Sharon@jccdc.org) (240-221-2500).

Support Your B'nai Israel Talmud Torah!

We are raising money to enrich our teachers' dynamic programming to benefit our children. Funds will go toward technology resources, Israeli folk dancing, guest speakers; and other innovative and educational materials.

Buy your Talmud Torah car magnet in the school office. The cost of a magnet is \$5. We ask for

parent support in making this fundraiser a HUGE success!

Thank you in advance for your help!
The Talmud Torah Parent Advisory Board

Questions? Contact [Becca Ward](#).

Schilit Nursery School News

2014-2015 Nursery School Registration

Registration is now underway for our Schilit Nursery School. Prospective families with children ages 2-5 interested in enrollment in our half day or full day programs for nursery school 2014-2015, including Before Care and After Care, please contact Karen Gerton, Director, Schilit Nursery School, 301-816-5578, to schedule a tour of our school.

Spring 2014 Parent Toddler/Toddler Time

If you have a child ages 15-24 months it is time to register for Spring 2014 Parent Toddler /Toddler Time starting in January 2014. Registration has begun.

Toddler Music

Come sing and dance during our Toddler Music Class with Miz Marni at B'nai Israel on Friday mornings beginning in February 2014. Members of the Congregation, children in our Nursery School along with their siblings and friends in the community are invited to participate in this enjoyable program. We welcome all children ages newborn - 30 months (accompanied by an adult). Contact the Nursery School office to register.

Blue Sky Puppet Theatre "Bananas"

Monday, January 20

10:30 a.m.

Doors open at 10:00 a.m.

\$5 per person over age 2, if purchased by

Wednesday, January 15

\$8 per person at the door

Refreshments will be available for purchase.

For more information, send an email to

bnainspa@gmail.com.

Be a part of the Sweet Dreams project. Bring a new pair of pajamas to donate to children (ages 4 months to 16-years-old) residing at the Greentree Shelter and receive a raffle ticket for a chance to win a special prize!

Questions? Contact the Nursery School Office (301-816-5578).

Jewish Coalition Against Domestic Abuse

Teen Support Groups & Young Adult Support Groups

Beginning Now

Age-based groups for teens and young adults between the ages of 14 and 25 who have been involved in or exposed to dating abuse or domestic abuse. Groups are open to teens and young adults of all abilities, backgrounds, faiths, genders and sexual orientations.

For more information or for questions contact [JCADA](#) (301-315-8040). Confidential Help Line: 1-877-88-JCADA (52232)

Sisterhood Judaica Shop (301-770-7577)

In honor of the World Wide Wrap on Sunday, February 2, the Sisterhood Judaica Shop will offer significant discounts on all tefillin purchased in January.

Small sets are \$150

Medium sets are \$175

Large sets are \$200

Shop Hours

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

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

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

For special appointments call Miriam (301-649-3770) or Dottie (301-881-7115).

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

Harris Teeter Together in Education

B'nai Israel Schilit Nursery School is linked with Harris Teeter as a registered school for Together in Education (TIE). You need to re-link your card each Fall. Link your Harris Teeter VIC card to B'nai Israel Schilit Nursery School 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.

Family Education Gift Card/Scrip Fundraiser

Want to support B'nai Israel with no strings attached? Go grocery shopping frequently? No need for more wrapping paper, pizza dough or magazine subscriptions? Support our new gift card scrip program, which benefits the Family Education Department.

The Family Education Department is selling gift cards for Giant Food and Moti's Market (formerly, Koshermart) and Shalom's in Wheaton! You can buy them at face value and use them just as you would cash or a credit card at those stores. The Giant Food cards may also be used for Peapod!

It will not affect your gas points, school bonus points, coupons, or any other reward points.

Buy them in the Education Office during office hours and most Talmud Torah school hours. Cash or checks only!

Questions? Contact [Julie Mintz](#), [Ellen Robinson](#), or [Sharon Safra](#) (240-221-2500).

Congregational Trip to Eastern Europe with Rabbi Jonathan and Beverly Schnitzer

Monday, April 28-May 12

Join Rabbi Jonathan and Beverly Schnitzer as they visit Prague, Budapest, Krakow, Warsaw with an optional extension to Berlin. A trip to these destinations is an extraordinarily powerful and memorable Jewish experience-one that will truly touch your soul!

[Click here](#) for more information and tour highlights.

Teen Trip to Israel

June 15-26 for 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th graders

Led by Dr. Louis Nagel and Melissa Schwartz

The [Jewish Journey](#) is dedicated to bringing groups to Israel and giving them an educational, enjoyable and meaningful trip. Participants are engaged in experiences that inspire and encourage them to connect to their Jewish identity while bringing them closer to the people and the land of Israel.

Highlights of the Teen Trip to Israel Include:

- * Kayaking on the Dan River
- * Jeep Tours

- * Shabbat Dinner Overlooking the Kotel
- * Floating in the Dead Sea
- * Museums, and so much more!

Questions? Contact [Dr. Nagel](#). [Click here](#) for more information.

Multi-Generational Israel Adventure with Rabbi Michael and Sharon Safra

Imagine Yourself in Israel!

July 28-August 8

Here are just some of the incredible highlights that may be experienced on this trip:

- Visit the wonderful excavations of ancient Caesarea
- Go through the detention camp in Atlit that held Holocaust refugees denied entry into Eretz Yisrael by the British
- Enjoy a boat ride on the Kinneret followed by a lakeshore dinner
- Travel to the Golan Heights by jeep
- Tour and wine and cheese tasting at the Bahat Winery
- Glide down Jordan River tributaries in a kayak
- Swim in the wondrous natural pools at Sachne
- Experience Kabbalat Shabbat in the Old City
- Slish through Hezekiah's water tunnel
- Tour the Jewish Quarter of Jerusalem
- Ascent by cable car for a tour of Masada
- Walk through the beautiful Ein Gedi Nature Reserve to the waterfall
- "Dig for a Day" at the archeological site of Beit Guvrin
- And much, much more!

Questions? Contact [Rabbi Safra](#) (301-816-5565). [Click here](#) for more information.

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!

Help Wanted in the Sisterhood Judaica Shop

Sales Associates Needed. Love to be around Judaica? Friendly and like to meet new people?

Join the volunteers to work in our beautiful Sisterhood Judaica Shop. We are open Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Tuesday 4:15-6:15 p.m.; and Sundays 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Pick one day or several. We would love to have you join our "staff". No experience is necessary. Contact Dottie Cohen (301-881-7115)

if you are interested.

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. Clothing, dishware and more. To browse products and place an order we ask that you use the [unique B'nai Israel Schilit Nursery School link](#).

Questions? Contact the Nursery School Office (301-816-5578).

Memorable Moments of B'nai Israel

Calling all photography enthusiasts! Would you like to be a part of preserving the legacy and posterity of B'nai Israel? We are looking for members to help us to record the history of B'nai Israel Congregation for future generations. If you are interested in this

important task, please email your name and contact information to [Marni](#) to be a part of this team.

If you had previously responded to our request for photographers, please send your contact information to [Marni](#). We look forward to working with you!

Daily Minyan Sign-Up

At B'nai Israel, we are justifiably proud of sustaining daily morning and evening minyanim. Unfortunately, our evening *minyanim* 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.

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. 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.

[Forward email](#)



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