

Marni Meloul

From: B'nai Israel Congregation <info@bnaiisraelcong.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2015 10:03 AM
To: Marni Meloul
Subject: February 2015 e-Midmonth



F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 5 e - M I D M O N T H

Jews and Brews: An Informal Jewish Conversation for Men

Thursday, February 12
7:30-9:00 p.m.
Lakewood Country Club



This program is sponsored by the B'nai Israel Men's Club.
Join Rabbi Michael Safra for drinks and schmoozing, followed by informal text study and discussion about ethical living in our modern world.

It's Not too Late to Register . . .

Around the Rebbe's Table: Classical Teachings on Self-Improvement and Personal Growth

Instructor: Rabbi Michael Safra

Tuesdays, February 10-March 3

7:30-9:00 p.m.

Registration: \$30 members, \$40 nonmembers

Optional text: Arthur Green, *Speaking Torah: Spiritual Teachings from around the Maggid's Table* (2 vols.), available in the Blumberg-Zalis Family Library, at www.amazon.com, and other booksellers.

At the beginning of the 18th century, the Hasidic masters, followers of the ecstatic Rabbi Israel Baal Shem Tov (1698-1760) began advocating a different approach to Jewish life. Less concerned with rigorous Talmud scholarship, these tzadikim (righteous people), as they were known, preached joy, soulfulness, and personal fulfillment. Using commentaries from the weekly Torah portion, we will explore the world of the Hasidim. How do their teachings transform the tradition? What insights can they add to our own lives? These Hasidic teachings

are not "modern", but their influence on personal fulfillment and growth speak volumes to modern approaches to religion.

[Click here](#) to register.

How can \$10 add up to \$2 million?

By Voting Mercaz - Conservative Jews for an Inclusive Israel

Did you know? There is an international parliament of the Jewish people.

They Represent You Your ideas. Your priorities. Your vision of Israel.

There is an election Right Now for new delegates. The WZO allocates funds raised for the Jewish Agency through local Federations. Our institutions in Israel are allocated money based on the number of votes received. It will take you only 5 minutes and \$10; but the allocations received can add up to more than \$2 million for our movement in Israel.



Mercaz is the political arm of the Conservative/Masorti movement. A vote for Mercaz ensures an Israel that we can all identify with and be proud of . . .

- Pluralistic - Inclusive - Egalitarian - Unified - Sustainable - Diverse

Make Your Voice Heard! Vote for our Judaism, our Israel on our terms by voting Mercaz, Slate #2, at the 2015 World Zionist Congress Elections by **Tuesday, April 28**.

myvoteourisrael.com

Sisterhood Bingo

Join us for Bingo with the residents of the Hebrew Home. With just an hour of your time, you can help brighten someone's day!

Tuesday, February 17, 10:15-11:30 a.m. (Smith-Kogod Building)

Tuesday, March 10, 10:15-11:30 a.m. (Wasserman Building)

Tuesday, March 24, 10:15-11:30 a.m. (Smith-Kogod Building)



For additional information, contact Dottie Cohen (301-881-7115).

Kadima & USY: Dinner in the Dark

Thursday, February 19

6:00-8:00 p.m.

[Click here](#) to register.

Machar: Summer Camp Silliness

Sunday, February 22

12:15-2:00 p.m.

[Click here](#) to register.

Bonim: Hamantashen Baking Fun

Tuesday, February 24

4:15-6:15 p.m.



[Click here](#) to register.

JDS Lower School Staff Visits

Thursday, February 26 (Grades K, 2 & 4)

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](#) for more details or with questions.

Shabbat Magic Highlights

A variety of age-specific youth services, special events, and adult learning - is a regular feature of our Shabbat morning program. For a full list of our weekly youth services and special events, go to our [website](#). Here are some special Shabbat programs in the upcoming weeks:



February 14

- Extended Gold Kippah followed by Combined Junior Congregation & Mini-Minyan

February 21

- Parashat HaShavua Discussion; Camp Shabbat - Wear your camp T-shirt and show your camp *ruach* (spirit)!

February 28

- Sisterhood Shabbat; Combined Junior Congregation & Mini-Minyan

March 7

- March Birthday Shabbat; Kindergarten Shabbat

March 14

- Parashat HaShavua Discussion; 1st Grade Shabbat

BBM-The Blessings of B'nai Mitzvah for Parents of 5th and 6th Graders

Instructor: Rabbi Michael Safra

Sunday, February 22 "The Blessing of Shabbat"

9:15-10:30 a.m.

Registration: Free

[Click here](#) to register.

Monthly Lunch and Learn: Torah Study

Instructor: Rabbi Jonathan Schnitzer

Monday, March 2 and the first Monday of each month

12:30-1:30 p.m.

Registration: 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.

The Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning

A Project of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Proudly presented by B'nai Israel Congregation, in partnership with Congregation Har Shalom and the Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington



Shemot II: Revelation and Revolution

Instructors: Rabbi Adam Raskin and Rabbi Michael Safra
Thursdays, February 19-May 14 (No class April 2, 9, and 30.)
9:30-11:00 a.m.

Registration \$100 members, \$150 nonmembers

Congregation Har Shalom, 11510 Falls Road, Potomac

Participation in Shemot I is not a prerequisite for this course.

Follow the development of the emerging Jewish nation from the awe-inspiring encounter at Mount Sinai through the building of the tabernacle in the wilderness. Explore the highs of divine revelation and the lows of the Golden Calf. [Click here](#) to register.

Dairy Potluck Shabbat Dinner and Family Service

Friday, February 20

5:30 p.m. - Dinner

6:45 p.m. - Family Service

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. After dinner, we'll have a family-friendly Shabbat service.



[Click here](#) to register online. Questions? Contact [Sharon Safra](#).

Developing Your Family's Unique Mission Statement: Imparting Your Values to Your Children with JSSA liaison Natalie Merkur Rose

Sunday, February 22

10:45 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.

As parents, we hope that our children will embrace our own values. Yet that rarely happens without effective planning and communication. Join us as we reflect and discuss how to turn our values, ideals and dreams for our family into a useful guide for us and our children.

RSVP's to [Sharon Safra](#) are appreciated.

Mishloach Manot / Purim Packages

Send individual packages to family and friends and group packages to the clergy, teachers, and staff of B'nai Israel.

Individual Purim Packages for Family & Friends (\$8 each)

Reciprocity (\$18 flat fee)

Send a package to everyone who puts you on their list for an additional \$18.

To use the reciprocity option, you must order 6 or more individual Purim Packages.



Group Purim Packages Send packages to the staff of B'nai Israel Congregation at a discounted rate:

- * Clergy and their Families (\$18 flat fee)
- * Talmud Torah Teachers (\$18 flat fee)
- * Schilit Nursery School Teachers (\$18 flat fee)
- * B'nai Israel Staff (\$18 flat fee)

Purim Bag pick-up will begin Wednesday evening, March 4. All recipients will be notified by email that a Purim Package is waiting for them.

Proceeds from this fundraiser support the Talmud Torah.

Chairs: Andrea Sklar & Amy Stolker

Questions? Contact [Jennifer Inzelstein](mailto:jennifer.inzelstein@bnaishrael.org) in the Education Office (301-816-5576).

The deadline for orders is Sunday, February 22.

Order Online at www.purimproject.com.

Contact [Jennifer](mailto:jennifer.inzelstein@bnaishrael.org) (301-816-5576) for your unique log-in information.

Monday Night at the Movies

Monday, February 23

7:30 p.m.

Fill the Void

(Hebrew with English Subtitles, 90 minutes)

When eighteen-year-old Shira's older sister dies while giving birth to her first child, her mother proposes a match between Shira and the widower. Shira will have to choose between her heart's wish and her family duty.



Purim Carnival Tickets

Get more bang for your buck! Order Purim Carnival tickets by Wednesday, February 25 and receive bonus tickets.

- \$10 - 30 tickets plus 10 bonus tickets = 40 tickets
- \$15 - 45 tickets plus 15 bonus tickets = 60 tickets
- \$20 - 60 tickets plus 25 bonus tickets = 85 tickets
- \$25 - 75 tickets plus 30 bonus tickets = 105 tickets

Tickets can be used for carnival games and food. Average prices are 4 tickets for carnival games, moonbounce, sand art, and food.

Pick up your tickets at the Advanced Sales Ticket Table outside Goodman Hall on Wednesday, March 4 beginning at 4:45 p.m.

Proceeds from the Purim Carnival benefit the USY Tikkun Olam Tzedakah Fund and the B'nai Israel Youth Department.

Questions? Contact [Melissa](mailto:Melissa@bnaiisraelcongregation.org) (240-221-2504) for more information. Order tickets online at www.bnaiisraelcongregation.org/purim.

After Wednesday, February 25, tickets can be purchased at the Purim Carnival.



5th, 6th, & 7th Grade Kallah

Friday, February 27-Sunday, March 1 at Capital Camps

\$216/student

This program is generously subsidized by the Dollye and I. Wolford Berman Educational Initiative Grant.

New this year! Saturday evening snowtubing at Liberty Mountain

Applications are available at www.bnaiisraelcongregation.org/kallah.

For more information, please contact [Rabbi Safra](mailto:Rabbi%20Safra@bnaiisraelcongregation.org) (301-816-5565) or [Melissa Schwartz](mailto:Melissa.Schwartz@bnaiisraelcongregation.org) (240-221-2504).

Sisterhood Shabbat

Saturday, February 28

9:00 a.m.

Celebrate Sisterhood and its contributions to B'nai Israel and the greater community at this special service. Sisterhood women participate in all parts of this service. A delicious Kiddush luncheon follows. To participate, contact [Sheila Chodorov](mailto:Sheila.Chodorov@bnaiisraelcongregation.org).

AIPAC Policy Conference Sunday, March 1-Tuesday, March 3

There is still time to attend the AIPAC Policy Conference. Tens of thousands of pro-Israel Americans gather in Washington, D.C. for AIPAC's Policy Conference to help shape U.S. policy and strengthen the U.S.-Israel relationship.



[Click here](#) to register.

**Sisterhood Judaica Shop - For All Your Judaica Needs!
301-770-7577**

Purim is Wednesday, March 4!

We have masks, *groggers*, hamantashen platters, children's books and costume accessories. Everything you need for a joyous Purim!



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 Dottie (301-881-7115), Ellen (301-231-9312), or Miriam (301-649-3770).

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

Purim Celebrations

**Come in costume and help boo the wicked
Haman and cheer on Mordechai and Esther!**



Wednesday, March 4

4:45 p.m. Purim Carnival for Pre-schoolers

6:00 p.m. Purim Carnival Closes

Family Megillah Reading & Purim Skit

Geared toward older elementary school and middle school students

Led by Rabbi Michael Safra & Dr. Louis Nagel

Mini-Megillah and Shushan Schtick

Geared toward preschoolers and young elementary school students

Led by Cantor Josh Perlman

7:00 p.m. Purim Carnival Reopens for School-age Children

8:00 p.m. Traditional Megillah Reading

Thursday, March 5

7:15 a.m. Morning Minyan & Traditional Megillah Reading

If you would like to chant Megillah for the youth or traditional services, please contact Cantor Ilana Wolpert (240-221-2503).

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to set-up the Purim Carnival (grades 7 and up), please contact Melissa Schwartz (240-221-2504, melissas@bnaiisraelcong.org).

If you have a child with special needs and would like a "buddy" to assist your family at the carnival, please contact Education Director Dr. Louis Nagel (louisn@bnaiisraelcong.org, 301-816-5574).

Day School Afternoon Off Program

Thursday, March 5

12:00 noon

On Purim Day, a half day of school at JDS, B'nai Israel and Beth El children are invited to this afternoon off program here at B'nai Israel. We'll start with a pasta and salad bar lunch, visit with residents of the Ring House for Purim, have a dance party, and more. Program details are being finalized and registration information will be sent out shortly to all day school parents. If you are interested in more details or have questions, please contact Family Education Director [Sharon Safra](#).

HAZAK-Active Seniors: Tech Lab with Sharon Doner-Feldman

Thursday, March 5

1:00 p.m.

Questions about your iPad and iPhone? Join us to learn how to use them more effectively. Contact [Beth](#) to register (301-816-5575).



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!

[Check out our new Mature Singles group!](#)

The Siddur Hunt - 3rd Grade Family Education Program

Sunday, March 8

10:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

During the first part of this program, parents of third graders will receive information and materials about their children's upcoming Hagigat Sefer service. In the second phase, children will join parents to explore the siddur via an interactive parent-child scavenger hunt. Parents - please make every effort to attend! If you need more information, please contact Family Education Director [Sharon Safra](#).

Magic and Religion in the Ancient World: The Beginnings of Judaism and Christianity

Instructor: Professor Ori Z. Soltes

3 Tuesdays, March 10-24

7:30-9:00 p.m.

Registration: \$30 members, \$40 nonmembers

This three-part series considers the distinction between "religion" and "magic" in the Greco-Roman world. What are the theological and political implications for that distinction? How did this distinction play out in the emerging and diverging paths of Judaism and Christianity? And what impact does this distinction have on centuries of Jewish-Christian relations, up to our own time? Explore these questions through the media of ancient texts and art.

[Click here](#) to register.

HAZAK-Active Seniors: Jewish Washington: Scrapbook of an American Community

Featuring Wendy Turman, Archivist of the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington

Thursday, March 12

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

The presentation begins at 12:30 p.m.

Explore the rich and unique history of the Washington-area Jewish community from 1795 to today through historical photographs, oral



histories, community scrapbooks, and rare archival materials.

Wendy Turman has worked for the Jewish Historical Society since 2000. She has a Masters in Museum Studies from George Washington University and a Bachelors degree in History from the University of California, Santa Cruz. She previously worked at the National Museum of Health and Medicine and the Smithsonian Institution.

Free of charge however, reservations are requested to [Beth](#) in Rabbi Safra's office (301-881-6550, ext. 575).

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Shabbat Around B'nai

An ongoing, pay-it-forward Shabbat Dinner Program designed to expand your circle of friends within the B'nai Israel community



It's this simple...

1. Invite a B'nai Israel family for dinner on March 13.
2. Register as a host.
3. Enjoy a Friday night with friends!

Did you host a Shabbat Around B'nai, in November or December? Did you have a wonderful evening? Host again! Pick another B'nai family you'd like to spend an evening with, or someone you'd like to get to know better, and invite them for the 3rd Shabbat Around B'nai!

Were you a guest for Shabbat Around B'nai, in November or December? Then it's time to pay forward the hospitality! Pick another B'nai member/family and invite them to your home for Shabbat dinner on March 13th!

Haven't participated in Shabbat Around B'nai? No reason to miss out this time! Reach out, invite someone, and enjoy the third round of Shabbat Around B'nai. It's not too late to join in the celebration!

You do not need to know how to cook to host! You can bring in a prepared meal, or even pizza. It's not about the food-it's about the connections. It is not necessary to have a kosher home in order to participate, either. Just disclose to your potential guests whether your home is kosher or not, and if not, please serve a dairy or *parve* meal.

Light the candles, recite the blessings (we'll provide them for you!) and enjoy a wonderful evening! [Click here](#) to register. Questions? Contact [Jennifer Schwartz](#).

Day School Parent Social

For all B'nai Israel parents with children attending a local Jewish day school

Saturday evening, March 14

8:15 p.m.

At the home of Alisa & Aaron Rulnick
8913 Copenhaver Drive, Potomac

Join us for drinks and dessert! Once again this year, all participants will be asked to bring one item to the social.

[Click here](#) to register online. For more information, contact [Sharon Safra](#) (240-221-2500) or the Day School Committee Co-Chairs, [Dana Lande](#) or [Aaron Brickman](#).

Cemetery Sale at B'nai Israel Congregation

Sunday, March 15

9:30 a.m -12:30 p.m.

Representatives from Garden of Remembrance and Judean Memorial Gardens will be present.

The Sara and Samuel J. Lessans Good Deeds Day

Sunday, March 15

Good deeds is an annual celebration of doing good, initiated by philanthropist Shari Arison and organized and launched by Ruach Tova, the one stop shop in Israel for anyone wishing to volunteer or requiring aid. This past year there were over 6,500 local participants and 350,000 worldwide. Projects are organized by organizations throughout the community, including B'nai Israel. The program is organized by the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington. Visit www.GoodDeedsDayGW.org for more information.



There are two opportunities to participate through B'nai Israel:

Manna Food Center

Meet at the Manna Food Center (9311 Gaither Rd., Gaithersburg) at 10:00 a.m. to help sort and pack food boxes for needy individuals in our community.

Basketball Tournament to Benefit Peace Players International

Join our 3 on 3 tournament and help bring together Palestinian and Israeli children for the pursuit of peace.

Your \$24 registration includes the tournament, a t-shirt and pizza lunch.

Proceeds benefit [Peace Players International](#).

[Click here](#) to register.

Please contact [Rabbi Safra's office](#) (301-881-6550) for more information.

Divisions and Chairs

4th-6th Grade: Robin Lenkin and Emily Weiner

7th-9th Grade: Bobby Epstein and David Bauman

Adult: Robin Lenkin and Emily Weiner

L.I.F.E. Lecture - FDR and the Jews: Hard Questions, No Easy Answers

with Dr. Richard Breitman
Sunday, March 15
7:30 p.m.



President Franklin Delano Roosevelt earned the respect and affection of many American Jews by waging war against Hitler, supporting a Jewish homeland in Palestine, and appointing a Jew to the Supreme Court. But did he turn his back on the Jews of Hitler's Europe? Could he have done more to save them from genocide? Historian and author Richard Breitman closely examines FDR's decisions and the political pressures he faced. Roosevelt was no "savior", but he reacted more decisively to Nazi crimes than any other world leader of his time.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Calling All Mature Singles

We are looking to bring together singles in our congregation, ages 60 and older for tea and discussion, leading to the formation of a new group or Havurah. Join Rabbi Safra and Natalie Merkur Rose, LCSW-C, on Wednesday, March 18, at 3:00 p.m. for light snacks and lots of sharing.

All are invited, but please respond in advance to [Beth Balinas](#) (301-816-5575) to let us know you are coming.

L.I.F.E. Lecture - Family Business: The Department Stores of the Baltimore-Washington Region

with Michael J. Lisicky
Sunday, March 22
7:30 p.m.



Hutzler's. Hecht's. Hochschild's. Stewart's. The grand department stores that attracted shoppers and transformed local-and American-social history over a period of more than 100 years have been lost, but the memories remain. Local author and retail historian Michael J. Lisicky brings back memories as he explores the history of the stores in our region and paints a portrait of the families, many of whom were Jewish, who made these stores such treasured institutions.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Best Birthdays Project

Sunday, March 22

Isn't it fun to celebrate your birthday? How do you like to spend the day? Do you have a cake? Receive gifts? Feel special? Did you know that there are many boys and girls right here in Montgomery County who can't stay in their homes, which are unsafe and dangerous? These children must go to live with foster families, who don't always know when the children's birthdays are or don't take the time to make these dates special for the foster children who are living with them.



We can help Child Protective Services make these children smile on their birthdays. In the next several weeks, [please take this list to the store,](#)

purchase as many items as you can, and bring them to the specially marked bin, "Best Birthdays," in front of the Education Office at B'nai Israel.

On Sunday, March 22, we will be assembling the birthday bags. The filled bags will be brought to Child Protective Services, where the counselors will store them and then deliver them to each of these "forgotten" children on their birthdays.

With your help, we can make sure that every child will have a best birthday. Thank you so much for participating in this *mitzvah*!

Co-Chairs: Beverly Schnitzer, Valerie Eisenstein, and Wendi Abramowitz

Passover Workshops

Friday, March 27, 9:30-10:30 a.m. with Rabbi Michael Safra

Sunday, March 29, 9:45-11:00 a.m. with Rabbi Jonathan Schnitzer

Registration: Free

The seder is a pivotal educational opportunity that comes to life anew each year in our own home. Its core purpose is to teach the idea of freedom. Let's explore together our goal of making the seder experience most meaningful and enjoyable across the generational lines.



[Click here](#) to register for Friday, March 27.

[Click here](#) to register for Sunday, March 29.

The Pesach Guide can be found [here](#).

Sisterhood Holiday Flowers

Enhance your holiday table or send holiday flowers to a family member or friend. Flowers always compliment a beautifully set table. Let B'nai Israel Sisterhood take care of the legwork so you have less to think about during the holiday preparations. The charge is \$54 for local delivery and \$59 for Baltimore and out-of-state delivery. All arrangements will arrive in time for Passover. Place your order by Monday, March 30. Questions? Contact [Gail Libin](#).



Wine, Women and What's Nu Concert Featuring Sally Fingerett

Wednesday, April 29

Doors open at 7:00 p.m.

Concert begins promptly at 7:30 p.m.

Members of B'nai Israel are free of charge, nonmembers \$10/person

Take Erma Bombeck, David Sedaris, Joni Mitchell, Aretha Franklin, Jackie Mason, and Billy Joel, throw them into a blender, microwave on high to realign the molecular structure, and voila, you have Sally Fingerett, a "Mental Yentl" and one of Cantor Ilana's favorite singer/songwriters. No need to shlep to the Birchmere or fiddle with the Apple Store. Hear Sally perform in our own Gudelsky Hall followed by a book/cd signing. 10% of the proceeds from sales will support Wine, Women and What's Nu events.



Please consider supporting the Ritual Director's Fund which subsidizes Wine, Women and What's Nu programs. Those who donate \$72 or more by Friday, April 24 will be listed in the

event program distributed that night. If you are interested in donating, please contact [Liat](#) in Cantor Wolpert's office.

To help us with our planning, please RSVP by Wednesday, April 15 to [Carol Vogel](#).

Golf Classic at Whiskey Creek Golf Club

Wednesday, May 6

8:30 a.m. Registration, Breakfast & Warm-up

10:00 a.m. Shotgun Start

2:30 p.m. Nosh & Awards Ceremony

Please join us for our 14th Annual Golf Classic at Whiskey Creek Golf Club, one of the most beautiful golf courses in our region. Enjoy golf with that special B'nai Israel twist as we bring back the Hamantashen Hole, the Blessing over the Golf Balls, a full Kosher BBQ, and some special noshes for our golfers.



This year we will have a \$5,000 putting contest and a chance to win a lease on a new Cadillac CTS. There will also be contests on all Par 3 holes and around the course, a souvenir foursome photo compliments of Freed Photography, and prizes for the winning men's and women's foursomes.

Play with friends, entertain clients, or sign up individually and meet some of your fellow congregants. Proceeds from this event go toward programming at B'nai Israel Congregation. For more information about Whiskey Creek Golf Club, go to www.whiskeycreekgolf.com.

- * Early bird discount (\$25 per individual golfer) is applicable until Monday, March 30.
- * Payment is required by Friday, April 17.
- * Camera-ready logo artwork/disc for signs and ads is due by Friday, April 17.
- * Sponsors are invited and encouraged to play in the tournament.

To register, [click here](#).

The Ever-Changing Israeli: Cultural Reflections on Israeli Society

Instructor: Eric Zakim

3 Wednesdays, May 6-20

7:30-9:00 p.m.

Registration: \$30 members, \$40 nonmembers

What does it mean to be Jewish? What does it mean to be Israeli? What does it mean to be a productive member of society? Over the course of three weeks, Professor Zakim uses the medium of modern Israeli culture to explore changing attitudes towards religion, the military, and the Holocaust. Participants will examine how changes in the Israeli and American communities are bringing us further apart and closer together.

[Click here](#) to register.

SAVE THE DATE!

Thursday, May 14

**Celebrating Rabbi Jonathan & Beverly Schnitzer's
25 Years at B'nai Israel Congregation**

Details to Follow



REGISTRATION for Nursery School year 2015-2016

Attention all prospective families with children ages 2-5 interested in enrollment in our half day or full day programs for nursery school 2015-2016, including Before Care and After Care. Please contact [Karen Gerton](#), Director, Schilit Nursery School, 301-816-5578, to schedule a tour of our school. Registration has begun.



Camp Katan 2015 Registration

Registration for B'nai Israel Schilit Nursery School summer program, Camp Katan 2015 will begin this month. Camp Katan is designed for children two-years-old through five-years-old and is geared to the more relaxed pace of summer. If you would like to receive a registration application, please contact [Nancy Goldberg](#).



Gift Card/Scrip Fundraiser

Want to support B'nai Israel with no strings attached? Go grocery shopping frequently? Support our gift card scrip program, which benefits the synagogue.

The Education office is selling gift cards for Giant Food, Peapod, 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. 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. Or order them online and specify your pick up date by [clicking here](#). Cash or checks only! Questions? Contact [Sharon Safra](#) (240-221-2500).

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!

B'nai Israel Schilit Nursery School is linked with Harris Teeter!



B'nai Israel Schilit Nursery School is linked with Harris Teeter as a registered school for Together in Education (TIE). It is easy and linking your VIC card to Bnai Israel Schilit Nursery School #1506 does not cost you ANYTHING! Don't forget ALL VIC cards will need to be RE-LINKED for the 2014-15 school year starting August 1st. 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.

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

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. You can use the labels when setting up a Kosher kitchen. To browse products and place an order we ask that you use the unique B'nai Israel Schilit Nursery School link; <https://www.mabelsfundraising.com/c/11605>

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

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

Complimentary Sisterhood Memberships

Are you a new B'nai Israel member? During your first year, Sisterhood is pleased to present a welcome gift of a one-year complimentary Sisterhood membership (expires June 2015). For more information, contact [Juliann Goldman](#).

Mah Jongg Cards

Sisterhood is selling the 2015 Mah Jongg Card. The Standard Card is \$8.00 and the Large Card is \$9.00. You will be notified when your order is ready for pick up in the Sisterhood Judaica Shop. Please send your check payable to B'nai Israel Sisterhood and mail to: 6301 Montrose Road, Rockville, MD 20852 and mark the envelope "Mah Jongg Card". Questions? Call Harriet Levi (301-649-3429). Thank you for ordering from us. We appreciate your support!



Torah Fund Conservative/Masorti Jewish Education

Women's League for Conservative Judaism is the largest synagogue-based women's organization in the world. Its mission is to strengthen and unite synagogue women's groups and their members; support them in mutual efforts to understand and perpetuate Conservative/Masorti Judaism in the home, synagogue, community; reinforce their bonds with Israel and Jews worldwide.



Torah Fund Pin 2015
Mishpachah
Family and the

Tree of Life

Women's League, through its financial contribution to Torah Fund, ensures that the Movement's outstanding institutions of Judaic learning produce the rabbis, cantors, scholars, teachers, and educated laity needed for the entire Movement.

Donate \$180 or more to receive the pin in gratitude and recognition of your special gift. Other levels to consider are \$18, \$28, \$36, and \$50. Please consider giving any amount you are comfortable with. Every gift is important.

Make checks to Torah Fund and mail to: Torah Fund, B'nai Israel Sisterhood, 6301 Montrose Rd., Rockville, MD 20852.

Sharyn Fuchs, Torah Fund Chairman (301-822-4477)

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.

B'nai Israel Congregation

301-881-6550 | info@bnaiisraelcong.org | <http://www.bnaiisraelcong.org>
6301 Montrose Road, Rockville, MD 20852

[Affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.](#)

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