

B'NAI ISRAEL PROGRAM GUIDE

FALL 2018 | 5779





Dear Members of B'nai Israel,

We are very excited to present the B'nai Israel Program Guide for Fall 2018. We hope you will find the new chronological format to be most readable and user-friendly. **This Guide covers events that take place through January 2019.** The Guide for Winter and Spring 2019 will be published later in the fall.

We are very proud of the scope and quality of our programs, but we believe that they are only the beginning. Beyond the programs, our clergy and staff are eager to meet with members of our community and to act as guides for anyone who seeks to enhance their connections to the synagogue or our tradition. There are multiple entry points to Jewish communal life; we want to help you pursue the path that works best for you.

We are most grateful to the staff and volunteers whose names are listed throughout the pages of this Guide; and to each of you for your support of B'nai Israel. Please note that in the event of unanticipated circumstances, all dates and times are subject to change. Updates will circulate in the Scroll, Community Connections, and at www.bnaiisraelcong.org throughout the year.

May 5779 be a year of blessing and peace for each of us.

Michael J. Safra Mitchell H. Berkowitz
Senior Rabbi Assistant Rabbi

Key

ADULT EDUCATION

Lectures, courses, and other programs that promote lifelong Jewish learning.

BISNS

B'nai Israel Schilit Nursery School Programs designed for families enrolled in the nursery school.

FAMILY

Programs designed for all B'nai Israel children and their parents, regardless of school.

HAZAK

Lectures for active retirees. Typically, one per month.

LIBRARY

Lectures, films, and programs sponsored by the Blumberg-Zalis Family Library.

L.I.F.E. LECTURE

"Learning Is For Everyone" Lecture Series with speakers on a broad range of relevant Jewish topics.

MEN'S CLUB

Social programming that builds community, typically for B'nai Israel men.

SISTERHOOD

Social programming that builds community, typically for B'nai Israel women.

SOCIAL ACTION

Collections, and events to give back to the community and engage in *tikkun olam* (repair of the world).

TALMUD TORAH

Events for families with children enrolled in the Talmud Torah.

YOUTH

Events for school-aged children, including but not limited to our four youth groups (Bonim, Machar, Kadima, USY).

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WORSHIP

WEEKDAYS

Daily Minyan

7:15 AM Monday-Friday

8:00 PM Sunday-Thursday

9:00 AM Sundays and these Federal holidays:

September 3 (Labor Day)

November 22 (Thanksgiving)

December 25

January 1

January 21 (MLK Day)

February 18 (Presidents' Day)

May 27 (Memorial Day)

July 4

Minyan on other Federal holidays begins at the regular time.

All Jewish holiday service times are announced in the *Scroll*, and in other publications leading up to their celebration.

FRIDAY

Friday Evening Services

6:15 PM

Welcome Shabbat with your B'nai Israel community! Our Friday evening services are participatory, filled with singing and *ruah* (spirit). Our rabbis share a teaching each week related to the weekly *parsha* (Torah portion). Periodically, our services are enhanced with special themes or followed by dinners and special programs.

SHABBAT



Shabbat Morning Services

9:00 AM

Experience the warmth of the B'nai Israel community, both at the service and at the *kiddush* following. Congregants are encouraged to participate by leading *P'sukei D'zimrah* (the Preliminary Service) and sharing in the reading of the Torah. In addition to celebrating baby namings, *b'nai mitzvah*, and *aufrufen* (*aliyot* for couples about to be married), we honor members of our community for other lifecycle events. If you are celebrating a birthday, anniversary, or other special occasion, please contact Cantor Wolpert (240-221-2503, cantorilana@bnaiisraelcong.org) to arrange for an *aliyah*.

Shabbat Mincha Service

12:30 PM

The Shabbat afternoon service is held following *kiddush* each week. The Torah is read and members of the congregation who have a *yahrtzeit* may be offered an *aliyah* and recite traditional memorial prayers. For many, the *Mincha* service, which is considerably shorter than the morning service, is the perfect venue to celebrate a baby naming. Contact Cantor Wolpert for more information (240-221-2503, cantorilana@bnaiisraelcong.org).

WEEKLY SHABBAT PROGRAMMING

ADULTS

Shabbat Wine & Cheese Receptions

Monthly at 5:45 PM
Spend time with your B'nai Israel family enjoying wine, cheese, and kid-friendly snacks in the Teitel Atrium before *Kabbalat Shabbat* services. We will gather for a moment of *kavanah* (intentionality) before moving into Hayman Chapel for our services.

October 5	January 18	April 12
November 9	February 15	May 10
December 7	March 15	June 14

Shabbat Morning Torah Study

9:00 AM in the Blumberg-Zalis Family Library

September 15	<i>Vayeilech</i>	February 2	<i>Mishpatim</i>
September 22	<i>Ha'Azinu</i>	February 23	<i>Ki Tisa</i>
October 6	<i>Bereshit</i>	March 9	<i>Pekudei</i>
October 13	<i>Noach</i>	March 23	<i>Tzav</i>
November 3	<i>Chayei Sarah</i>	April 6	<i>Tazria</i>
November 17	<i>Vayetzei</i>	April 13	<i>Metzora</i>
December 8	<i>Miketz</i>	May 11	<i>Kedoshim</i>
December 15	<i>Vayigash</i>	May 18	<i>Emor</i>
January 12	<i>Bo</i>	June 1	<i>Bechukotai</i>
January 19	<i>Beshalach</i>	June 22	<i>Beha'alotcha</i>

Shabbat Afternoon Talmud Study with Rabbi Berkowitz

Beginning Saturday, September 15 at 4:30 PM
Continues weekly and meets at the home of Rabbi Berkowitz
We will continue our exploration of the talmudic tractate Rosh Hashanah. Newcomers are more than welcome to join us. No prior knowledge is necessary. Contact Latoria (latoria@bnaiisraelcong.org) to RSVP and for the address.

YOUTH & FAMILY



Gold Kippah Prayer Practice

Weekly at 10:15 AM
Not held on holiday weekends or during school vacations.

Tot Shabbat (Ages 5 and under with parent)

Weekly at 11:00 AM

Mini Minyan (Grades K-2)

Meets on the following dates at 10:30 AM

September 29	December 8	March 2
October 20	January 5	April 6
November 17	February 2	May 4

Junior Congregation (Grades K-6/Grades 3-6)

Weekly at 10:30 AM
Grades K-6 when Mini Minyan is not held.
Grades 3-6 when Mini Minyan is held.

Teen Minyan

October 6	December 8	February 23	April 27
November 3	January 26	March 23	May 11

Birthday Shabbatot

Individuals celebrating birthdays are recognized, and everyone shares a special birthday treat.

September 29	December 1	March 2	June 1
October 6	January 5	April 6	
November 3	February 2	May 4	

Grade Shabbatot

Students lead prayers and are honored during Mini Minyan or Junior Congregation.

2s	December 8	2nd Grade	February 2
3s	November 17	3rd Grade	January 12
Pre-K	October 13	4th Grade	March 16
Kindergarten	November 17	5th Grade	December 8
1st Grade	March 2	6th Grade	April 27

HIGH HOLIDAYS

SELICHOT סליחות

The Official Start to the High Holiday Season Saturday, September 1

9:00 PM *Havdalah* and Dessert Reception
9:30 PM Reflections by the B'nai Israel clergy
10:45 PM *Selichot* (Penitential) Service

The Melodies of the Holidays with Cantor Josh Perlman

The familiar, stirring melody of Kol Nidre belongs to a class of melodies known as *MiSinai*, which emerged in Germany between the 11th and 15th centuries. The term literally means “from Sinai.” We know that none of these tunes actually came from the Middle East, but their emotional hold makes them as familiar as though they came down from the mountain.

Repairing the (Dis-)Connection with Rabbi Michael Safra

The High Holidays are incredibly effective in bringing people to fill the pews, and yet so many of the actual prayers fail to speak to us in a compelling way. We will discuss strategies for finding meaning and bridging the disconnect between our ancient tradition and the modern world.

Remember us with Blessing with Cantor Ilana Wolpert

The Musaf service, with its three distinct sections, is always an exciting, meaningful, and dramatic part of the Rosh Hashanah liturgy. Of the three sections—*Malchuyot*, *Zichronot*, and *Shofarot*—*Zichronot* is perhaps the most moving, with its passages that exhort God to “remember us with blessing.”

The Obligation to Forgive/The Prohibition of Holding a Grudge with Rabbi Mitchell Berkowitz

Can you forgive someone if they never apologized? During the High Holiday season, we typically occupy ourselves with seeking forgiveness from those we have wronged but considering how we might grant forgiveness may be even more important. Learn what our tradition teaches us about forgiveness, and how granting forgiveness can be both empowering and transformative.

ADULT LEARNING ON THE HIGH HOLIDAYS

Bridging the Divide Between American & Israeli Jews: A Dialogue with Tzachi Levy & Tamar Sommer

Monday, September 10 (First Day of Rosh Hashanah)
12:00-12:45 PM
Why is the relationship so important? Where are the fissures? What does the future hold? Tzachi Levy is the Jewish Agency Senior *Shaliach* (emissary) to the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington, and Tamar Sommer is B'nai Israel's *Shlichah* (emissary). Her presence at B'nai Israel is made possible by a partnership between the congregation and the Federation in which each provides financial and other resources to support her work.

Forecasting the Midterms: What are Jews Thinking About in 5779? with Jonathan Salant

Wednesday, September 19 (Yom Kippur)
12:30-1:15 PM
As our country gears up for mid-term elections, what are the biggest issues facing the Jewish community? Is Israel becoming a wedge issue that threatens to further divide the Jewish community, along with the rest of the electorate? How might the new tax law affect Jewish institutions? Is antisemitism on the rise, and is there something we can do about it? What's at stake for our elected officials? Hear answers to these questions and more.

A Tribe in Space with Ted Oded Avraham, founder of Jewish Student Satellite Initiative (JeSSI)

Wednesday, September 19 (Yom Kippur)
1:30-2:15 PM
In 1961, the world was astonished by Israel's claimed achievement of reaching space with an Israeli-made rocket. No matter that the effort failed—the military deterrence of representing it as a successful launch was quite useful. Today, Israel's space program has progressed only to the point of unmanned launches. But, Jews have participated in the space programs of other countries, which has posed interesting questions of observance. While some traditions can easily be practiced in space, others require considerable adaption to microgravity and low-oxygen environments.

SEPTEMBER

Labor Day

Monday, September 3 – 9:00 AM & 8:00 PM Minyan

Rosh Hashanah

Sunday–Tuesday, September 9–11

Yom Kippur

Tuesday & Wednesday, September 18 & 19

Sukkot

Sunday–Sunday, September 23–30

JEW'S UNITED FOR JUSTICE

Labor on the Bima Shabbat

Saturday, September 1

The sermon for Labor Day weekend will focus on our responsibilities towards the laborers in our midst.



Selichot

The Official Start to the High Holiday Season

Saturday, September 1

9:00 PM

See page 5.

Men's Club

AFTERNOON WITH ABBA

Frederick Keys Baseball Game

Sunday, September 2

6:00 PM

This program is one in a series of our award-winning programs that enable fathers and children to spend time together.

Sisterhood

Bingo at the Hebrew Home

Wasserman Residence

Tuesday, September 4

10:30–11:30 AM

Twice a month we assist the residents of the Hebrew Home play Bingo and help make their day a happier one. RSVP to Dottie Cohen (301-881-7115, dottiecohen@comcast.net).

Adult Education

High Holiday Workshop with Rabbi Arnie Bender

U-Netaneh Tokef (וְנִתְּנָה תִּקְרָא): Who Shall Live and Who Shall Die...Not Only in the Hands of God

Tuesday, September 4

7:30–9:00 PM

The language and strong imagery of this popular liturgical *piyyut* (poem) envisions us dramatically passing by the throne of God as the Almighty passes judgement over: “Who Shall Live and Who Shall Die.” We are commanded by Jewish law to save a life—including our own—even if it means violating a commandment.



Library

Book Discussion Group

Wednesday, September 5

11:00 AM–12:00 PM

Three Floors Up by Eshkol Nevo

Explore the interconnected lives of residents of an upper-middle-class Tel Aviv apartment building. Turmoil, secrets, unreliable confessions, and problematic decisions reveal a society in the midst of an identity crisis.



Talmud Torah

TALMUD TORAH KICK-OFF PROGRAM

Family Shabbat Service and Dinner

Friday, September 7

5:00 PM Activities for Grades PreK–2

6:15 PM Service and Festive Dinner

7:30 PM Activities for Grades 3–6

Learn, share, and create together as a family by delving into the themes of the High Holidays. Then, join together in prayer followed by a festive Shabbat meal. Register online at www.bnaisraelcong.org/talmudtorahshabbat.

Social Action

Rosh Hashanah Basket Delivery

Sunday, September 9

9:15 AM–1:00 PM

Deliver Rosh Hashanah packages to senior residents in our area. Meet in the B'nai Israel parking lot to receive your delivery details. It is a wonderful opportunity to do a *mitzvah*!

BISNS

Back-to-School Night

Wednesday, September 12

7:00 PM

Parents will have the opportunity to meet their child(ren)'s teachers and other classroom parents. Learn about our plans for the year and meet the B'nai Israel clergy and staff.

HAZAK

HAZAK

Israel's Demographic Challenges and the Future of Pluralistic Judaism in Israel with Laurence Wolff

Thursday, September 13

12:00 PM Brown Bag Dairy Lunch

12:30 PM Program

Within 20 years, the population of Israel will be 12.5 million. By 2059 the ultra-orthodox will account for 29% of Israel's population, compared to 12% in 2017. The Arab population will remain stable at 20%. Non-Haredi Jews will account for 51%, of which one third will be Orthodox. In the face of these changes, this presentation focuses on what might be done to ensure that Israel continues to flourish, and move towards repairing the fissures in Israeli society.



Shabbat Afternoon Talmud Study with Rabbi Mitchell Berkowitz

Resumes on September 15

4:30-5:45 PM

We will continue our exploration of the Talmudic tractate Rosh Hashanah. Newcomers are welcome! No prior knowledge necessary. Contact Latoria in Rabbi Berkowitz's office (latoria@bnaisraelcong.org) to RSVP and for the address.



Sisterhood

Chicks Who Stitch

Sunday, September 16

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Bring your favorite knitting, crocheting, or needlepoint and join other women to socialize. We will provide the coffee, tea, and noshes—you provide the friendship! Contact Harriet Levi (301-598-3957, augmom1800@verizon.net) with questions.

Youth

BONIM (Grades K-2) & MACHAR (Grades 3-5) KICK-OFF EVENTS

Pizza & Sundaes Party

Sunday, September 16

12:15-1:30 PM

Celebrate the start of a new year with pizza, sundaes, art projects, and games. This is a great opportunity to meet our new Director of Youth Engagement, Sarah Jarvis!

Sisterhood

Fall Welcome Wine & Cheese Evening

Sunday, September 16

7:00 PM

Meet your Sisterhood friends and Cathy Litovsky, Seaboard Region President for Women's League. *Schmooze* over wine and cheese and learn about what is going on in your Sisterhood and the region. Contact Mona El-Gamil (melgamil54@gmail.com) or Lisa Eisenberg (partyonus@gmail.com).

Sisterhood

Drop-in Mah Jongg

Monday, September 17

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Join us every Monday morning for a fun morning of Mah Jongg. No commitment is necessary and everyone is welcome! Contact Lynn Rayman (301-460-0207, alrayman@verizon.net) with questions.

BISNS

Toddler Time Fall Session Begins

Thursday, September 20

9:30-11:00 AM

Toddler Time introduces children to the nursery school environment. It is an ideal opportunity for adults to interact with their children in a productive and enjoyable way through art, story-telling, games, music, language, movement, dramatic play, and Jewish traditions.

Youth

KADIMA (Grades 6-8) & TEENS/USY (Grades 9-12)

Erev Sukkot Lunch

Sunday, September 23

12:15-1:30 PM

Have lunch with your friends on *Erev Sukkot*, and meet our new Director of Youth Engagement, Sarah Jarvis!

FAMILY SUKKOT EVENTS

Family Sukkot Brunch in the Sukkah

Monday, September 24

10:30 AM, followed by Youth Services at 11:00 AM

Bring your family and friends for a celebratory brunch in the Fanaroff *Sukkah*, followed by a brief holiday youth service.

BISNS Lunch in the Sukkah

Wednesday & Thursday, September 26-27

The clergy will meet with the children in the Fanaroff *Sukkah* for lunch and snack to recite the appropriate blessings for the *lulav* and *etrog*.

Pizza in the Hut

Wednesday, September 26

6:00 PM Dinner in Fanaroff *Sukkah*

Sukkot is a wonderful time to spend with the community. We invite families with school-aged children to a fun and informal pizza and pasta dinner. Register online at www.bnaisraelcong.org/sukkot.

Open Sukkah Night

Thursday, September 27

5:00-7:30 PM

Bring your own dairy meal and enjoy it in the B'nai Israel Fanaroff *Sukkah*. No need to RSVP. Just come! Please note: If it is raining, the *sukkah* will be closed.

Congregational Sukkot Dinner

Friday, September 28

6:15 PM *Kabbalat* Shabbat & *Ma'ariv* Services

7:15 PM Shabbat Dinner

Celebrate Shabbat and Sukkot with your congregational family "under the stars." Register online at www.bnaisraelcong.org/sukkot.

Shabbat Magic Opening Day

Saturday, September 29

Spending Shabbat with your friends and family at B'nai Israel is a magical experience! Join us for the first official day of Junior Congregation, Mini Minyan, and Tots Services.

LULAV/ETROG Orders



Thanks to the resources of the Dollye and Wolford Berman Educational Initiative Grant, we are pleased to offer *lulav* and *etrog* sets at the discounted rate of \$40 to families who are participating in this mitzvah for the first time. All others will be asked to pay \$50. Orders must be received by Wednesday, September 5.

Men's Club SUKKOT SALES Program



Purchase a Sukkah online from www.sukkot.com and use the code "bnaisrael2018" at checkout to receive a 10% discount.

If you need assistance with your sukkah selection or help to construct a new or an existing Sukkah, Men's Club members will gladly help for a small donation to the Talmud Torah. Contact Asher Gendelman (240-432-0020, asher@gendelman.us).

OCTOBER

Shemini Atzeret

Sunday, September 30 – Monday, October 1

Simhat Torah

Monday, October 1 – Tuesday, October 2

Family

Tots Simhat Torah ServiceMonday, October 1
6:00 PM

Parade with the Torah. Sing and dance with our clergy during this interactive experience for our Tots and their families to celebrate Simhat Torah!

BISNS

Mah Jongg ManiaWednesday, October 3
7:00 PM

“Crack, Bam, Dot” mean anything to you? It’s time to play Mah Jongg at B’nai Israel. Novices will participate in a hands-on approach to learning the rules and strategies of the game. Experienced players will be able to play in pick-up games with fellow Schilit Nursery School moms. Please check with the school office for details.

Men’s Club

Brisket & Beer Welcome EventWednesday, October 3
6:30 PM

Join the Men’s Club at 7 Locks Brewing for this fun welcome-back event that is open to all Men’s Club members. Catch up with old friends and meet new friends with a beer and some good food.

Shabbat Wine & Cheese ReceptionFriday, October 5
5:45 PM
See page 4.

Family

1st Grade *Simanim* (Symbols) ProgramSunday, October 7
10:15 AM-12:15 PM

Explore Jewish traditions and customs through art, music, stories and discussions, as we discover together the beauty of Jewish symbols.

L.I.F.E. Lecture

L.I.F.E. Lecture**The Children of Abraham:
How Judaism and Islam Relate
with Professor David Kraemer**Sunday, October 7
7:30 PM*This lecture is presented in partnership with the Foundation for Jewish Studies.*

In many respects Islam is Judaism’s closest “sibling.” Islam is a religion of law based both upon Judaism and other inherited Near Eastern traditions. By studying examples of Islamic parallels with Judaism, we will gain a better understanding of Jewish concepts and beliefs.



Youth

BONIM (Grades K-2)**Apple Picking**Sunday, October 7
12:15 PM

BISNS

Play at B’nai Fall Session BeginsTuesday, October 9
9:30-10:30 AM

Parents and their newborns up to 15 months are invited to Play at B’nai on Monday mornings. This group is designed for all parents and babies to get out and about, play, socialize, share conversations and experiences and, best of all, grow together! We look forward to your participation.

B’nai Israel Schilit Nursery School

PARENT CHATS

October 5, January 25, April 12
8:00 AM

All parents of nursery school aged children are invited to study with Rabbi Berkowitz. Light refreshments will be served. Contact Rabbi Berkowitz if you would like to recommend a particular topic for discussion.

Adult Education

Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Jonathan Schnitzer
Monday, October 8
12:30-1:30 PM

After some coffee and “nosh,” we spend an hour together closely exploring the text of Torah. We proceed verse by verse—extracting not only the more obvious meaning of the words and ideas but also how they interface with contemporary issues and our own personal concerns. We began with *Genesis* and we are now in *Deuteronomy*, the last book of the Torah. We have 13 chapters left before we reach the end of the Torah text. But, as the “regulars” will attest, there will be at least a few digressions and discussions before we get there. Please be assured that we are not a “closed club;” on the contrary, newcomers are warmly welcomed.



Adult Education

Writing Ethical Wills with Carol Hausman
Tuesday, October 9 and continuing for 3 more Tuesdays
7:30-9:00 PM
\$36/member, \$50/nonmember

Ethical Wills are documents that let your loved ones know your values, your important experiences, and your hopes for future generations. Writing an ethical will helps you to be introspective about your life, and lets others know what you want them to remember about you. They have been called “love letters to your family.” In this course we will explore a different topic each week, and participants will be asked to write pieces of their own ethical will on that topic.



HAZAK

HAZAK Uncovering the Past of a Dutch Jewish Family with Beri Kravitz
Thursday, October 11
12:00 PM Brown Bag Dairy Lunch
12:30 PM Program

Beri’s mother’s family fled the town of Tilburg, in the Netherlands, just ahead of the German invasion. She will discuss the intensive research and subsequent book written by the professor who bought her mother’s home. The book details the family’s history, their flight, and the professor’s journey to find the records about the whereabouts of her mother’s brother who remained in the Netherlands.



Family

Pre-K Shabbat
Saturday, October 13
11:00 AM Tots Services

Men's Club

Political Forum
Sunday, October 14
9:30 AM

Join us to hear from and ask questions of candidates running for office this fall. A light breakfast will be served.

Youth

Machar (Grades 3-5) Event
Sunday, October 14
12:15 PM
Details to be announced.

Sisterhood

Drop-in Mah Jongg
Monday, October 15
10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Sisterhood

Bingo at the Hebrew Home
Smith-Kogod Residence
Tuesday, October 16
10:30-11:30 AM

Join other Sisterhood women playing Bingo with our neighbors at the Hebrew Home.

Adult Education

Writing Ethical Wills with Carol Hausman
Tuesday, October 16
7:30-9:00 PM

Sisterhood

Game Day
Thursday, October 18
10:00 AM-3:00 PM
Join us for a day of Bridge, Canasta, Mah Jongg and other table games. Come alone or bring your own teammates, game and supplies. Sweets and lunch will be served. Contact Lynn Rayman (301-460-0207, alrayman@verizon.net) with questions.

Men's Club

DINNER AND GUEST SPEAKER The Treasures of Italy with Jeff Fredman
Thursday, October 18
6:30 PM

Join us to hear our own Jeff Fredman talk about how Italy’s Jewish heritage relates to Henry the Eighth, images of God, a *genizah* and more. A light Italian dinner will be served.

Sisterhood

Sisterhood Shabbat
Saturday, October 20
Celebrate Sisterhood and its contributions to B’nai Israel and the greater community at this special service. Sisterhood women will be honored during this service. A delicious *kiddush* luncheon follows. If you wish to participate or have any questions, please contact Joanne Zuckerman (jczuckerman@msn.com).

HIAS REFUGEE SHABBAT
Saturday, October 20

Lunch & Learn: Refugee Resettlement in the U.S. with Mira Mendick, Community Relations Director at Lutheran Social Services (LSS)
Saturday, October 20
12:30 PM

After receiving her Master of Public Administration Degree from Clark University, Mira spent two years in Montana working towards student success initiatives in higher education. Passionate about making a difference, Mira is grateful to have the opportunity to contribute to the amazing work that LSS does in our community.



HEALTH & FITNESS EXPO
with Breakfast Speaker



Sunday, October 21
9:30 AM-1:00 PM

Join us for health screenings, vendor exhibits, flu shots, and a chance to talk with doctors, fitness experts, health care practitioners, and others. Also featured this year will be a breakfast speaker at 9:30 AM on the topic of medical marijuana. Our speaker, Brian Sanderoff, is a holistic pharmacist with more than 25 years of clinical experience using herbs and nutrients to help his patients achieve healing from many health challenges. This event is sponsored by the Men’s Club.

Sisterhood

Chicks Who Stitch
 Sunday, October 21
 10:00 AM- 12:00 PM

Youth

KADIMA/USY/TALMUD TORAH (Grades 6-12)
Hiddur Mitzvah Art Program
 Sunday, October 21
 12:30 PM

Make your mark on B'nai Israel! With the help of featured guest artist, Hillel Smith, teens will design and create a special mural on one of the walls near the youth lounge. This special event is open to all B'nai Israel youth, including Talmud Torah, Noar B'Yachad (Upper School), Kadima, and USY.

The Great Family Challah Bake



Sunday, October 21
 5:00 PM

Families are invited to come together for games, dinner, and mixing dough to take home and bake for Shabbat. Each child will have a chance to braid pre-made dough that will be frozen and donated to local organizations.

Sisterhood

Drop-in Mah Jongg
 Monday, October 22
 10:00 AM- 12:00 PM

Adult Education

Writing Ethical Wills with Carol Hausman
 Tuesday, October 23
 7:30-9:00 PM

SHABBOS PROJECT



Disney Shabbat
Friday-Saturday, October 26-27

Friday, October 26
 6:15 PM Shabbat Service
 7:15 PM Hors D'oeuvres
 Cantor Josh, our "Mickey Mouse Cantor" will combine the magic of Disney tunes with our prayers.



Saturday, October 27
 12:30 PM Lunch & Learn
Unplugging and Connecting: How to Make the Most of Shabbat
 with Rabbi Mitchell Berkowitz
 Join Rabbi Berkowitz during *kiddush* for a special Lunch & Learn about the power of unplugging from technology for Shabbat in order to build stronger connections with friends, family, and God.

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Special thanks to Bonnie Cole, Freed Photography, Emily Koo, Herb Perone, and Randy Sager for the beautiful photos they have taken for B'nai Israel Congregation, some of which have been used in this edition of the B'nai Israel Program Guide.

Sisterhood

Babka Baking with Sherri Gollins
 Sunday, October 28
 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
 Babka, of Polish and Ukranian origins, is a rich sweet cake traditionally filled with cinnamon or chocolate. Join us for this hands-on baking experience. Contact Rhona Shemesh (301-318-2409, shemfam@aol.com) with questions.

Sisterhood

Drop-in Mah Jongg
 Monday, October 29
 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Adult Education

Writing Ethical Wills with Carol Hausman
 Tuesday, October 30
 7:30-9:00 PM



Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington



Explore the resources of the Jewish Genealogy Library (JGL), located upstairs in the Chod Media Center at B'nai Israel Congregation. The JGL's extensive collection contains more than 600 books and a substantial collection of periodicals and CDs, available for reference only.

Jewish Genealogy Library Hours
 Wednesdays, 11:00 AM-4:00 PM

For more information, contact Vera Finberg (703-978-6990, jgsgw_dc@comcast.net).

L.I.F.E. LECTURES
(Learning Is For Everyone)
are free of charge and open to the entire community.

These lectures are made possible by your donations and the generosity of:

- the Israel Bimblich Memorial Lecture Fund,
- the Bess and Irving Kamins Lecture Fund,
- the Lieblein Memorial Lecture Fund,
- the Morris and Ida Park Memorial Lecture Fund,
- and the Louis Wener, M.D., Memorial Lecture Fund.

L.I.F.E. Lectures will be sign-interpreted if requested at least three days prior to the program. Special thanks to the Meisel Family Endowment for Special Needs and the Dr. Mitchell and Thelma Goldfarb Rubinow Endowment for Special Needs for making this service possible.

Learn more at www.bnaisraelcong.org/lifelectures.

NOVEMBER

Jewish Book Month

Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 22 – 9:00 AM & 8:00 PM Minyan

Book Fair

Thursday-Friday, November 1-2

The entire community is invited to see a wonderful selection of books, software, puzzles, games, videos, and more available for purchase.

BISNS

Potluck Shabbat Dinner

Friday, November 2

6:15 PM Shabbat Services

7:15 PM Shabbat Dinner

Welcome Shabbat with song and dance, followed by a potluck dinner in an informal atmosphere. Each family is asked to bring a dairy or *pareve* dish to feed 15 people. Contact Arielle Katzel (ariellek@bnaiisraelcong.org) for details.

Rabbi Simon's Fall Book Review

Sunday, November 4

10:00-11:00 AM

Join Rabbi Matthew H. Simon for his exciting, informative and entertaining book review session.

Library



Book Talk with Elaine S. Povich

Sunday, November 4

11:30 AM-12:15 PM

Join us for coffee and a bagel as Elaine S. Povich, an award-winning Washington correspondent, editor, researcher, reporter, writer, communicator and journalism professor and a senior correspondent for *Stateline*, covering budget and tax issues, presents her latest literary work: *John McCain: American Maverick* (May 2018). Book signing to follow. This program is co-sponsored by Sisterhood and Men's Club.

Library



November is JEWISH BOOK MONTH



This annual celebration, sponsored by the Jewish Book Council, is dedicated to the recognition of Jewish books.

To celebrate Jewish book month we hope you will join us for one of our many wonderful library programs. All programs are free of charge and everyone is welcome!

Blumberg-Zalis Family Library Hours

Mondays 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

Tuesdays 9:00 AM-1:00 PM
4:30-8:30 PM

Sundays 9:00 AM-12:30 PM

Closed Shabbat and Holidays

For more information, or to browse our state-of-the-art online catalog, go to www.bnaiisraelcong.org/library.

Talmud Torah
2nd Grade Limmud B'Yachad
 Sunday, November 4
 9:45 AM
 Parents are invited to join their second graders in their classrooms for a morning of engaging and interactive learning.

Youth
TEEN/USY (Grades 9-12) Scavenger Hunt
 Sunday, November 4
 Time TBA

Sisterhood
Drop-in Mah Jongg
 Monday, November 5
 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Adult Education
Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Jonathan Schnitzer
 Monday, November 5
 12:30-1:30 PM

Sisterhood
Bingo at the Hebrew Home
 Wasserman Residence
 Tuesday, November 6
 10:30-11:30 AM

Youth
BONIM & MACHAR Election Day School's Out Event: Zava Zone
 Tuesday, November 6
 Details TBA

Adult Education
The Books of Jonah and Ruth with Rabbi Michael Safra
 Tuesday, November 13 and continuing for three more Tuesdays
 7:30-9:00 PM
 \$36/member, \$50/nonmember
 The stories of Jonah and Ruth come from different authors in different time periods. Their story lines have nothing to do with each other, but they are both short enough to be read in a single liturgical setting—Jonah on Yom Kippur and Ruth on Shavuot. They both offer implicit rebukes to “traditional” biblical conceptions of justice and our view of the non-Israelite.



This course will examine each book, and explore the theme of the multiplicity of voices in the Bible. While we often talk about what “the Bible says,” the truth is that the 24 books of the Bible present multiple approaches to a wide range of controversial topics.

Library
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
The Last Watchman of Old Cairo
 by Michael David Lukas
 Wednesday, November 7
 11:00 AM-12:00 PM
 Joseph, the son of a Jewish mother and a Muslim father, is a literature student at Berkeley. One day, a mysterious package arrives, pulling him into a mesmerizing adventure from California to Cairo.



Sisterhood
WINE, WOMEN & WHAT'S NU Eating Ethically
 Wednesday, November 7
 7:30-9:00 PM
 B'nai Israel Members are Free of Charge, Guests \$10/each
 Allison Friedman, Communications Director for GatherDC, will address concerns about sustainable agriculture, food workers' rights, and being aware of our own health when choosing what to put into our bodies. RSVP by Tuesday, October 30 to Deedee Jacobsohn (deedee.jacobsohn@gmail.com, 301-230-1174).

SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE

DR. AMY KALMANOFSKY Friday-Sunday, November 9-11
Dress and the Body in the Torah



Friday, November 9
 5:45 PM Wine & Cheese Reception
 6:15 PM Kabbalat Shabbat
 7:15 PM Shabbat Dinner
 8:30 PM Learning Session: Clothing Makes the Man
 In this session, we consider how clothing is understood and used broadly in the Torah, and then explore specifically the ways clothing is used in the Rebecca and Jacob narratives to define and mark shifts in identity.

Saturday, November 10
 9:00 AM Shabbat Morning Services
 11:00 AM Sermon by Dr. Kalmanofsky
 12:30 AM Lunch & Learn: Hair Matters
 This session examines hair as a potent symbol and narrative device by looking at the laws and narratives related to the Nazarite.

Sunday, November 11
 9:30 AM Special Learning Session for B'nai Israel Teens and Talmud Torah *Madrichim*

This program is made possible through the generosity of the Dolye and I. Wolford Berman Educational Initiative Grant.

EPIC SHABBAT: Nature Adventure!

Presented in partnership with Camp Ramah in New England and Jewish National Fund

Saturday, November 10

10:00 AM Fall Foods Brunch
 10:45 AM Special Youth Program: Tefillah Tiyyul (Prayer Journey)
 Special Parent Program (Dialogue with Rabbi Berkowitz: Navigating the Tensions of Jewish-American Life)

Prepare for an outdoor (weather-permitting) adventure as we explore the relationship between Judaism and the environment. Start Shabbat with a delicious fall foods brunch, followed by special programming for youth and parents. Contact Arielle Katzel (ariellek@bnaiisraelcong.org) for details.



HAZAK

**HAZAK
Engaging Scattered Communities as
a Jewish-American Diplomat
with Scott Edelman**

Thursday, November 8
12:00 PM Brown Bag Dairy Lunch
12:30 PM Program



Shabbat Wine & Cheese Reception

Friday, November 9
5:45 PM
See page 4.

Sisterhood

Drop-in Mah Jongg

Monday, November 12
10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Library

MONDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES

The Women's Balcony

Monday, November 12
7:30 PM

New York Times and *Los Angeles Times* critics' pick! Israel's #1 film of the year! When the women's balcony in an Orthodox synagogue collapses during a *bar mitzvah* celebration, leaving the rabbi's wife in a coma and the rabbi in shock, the ensuing crisis creates a gender rift in this Orthodox community in Jerusalem, in this rousing, comedic, good-hearted tale about women speaking truth to patriarchal power. (96 minutes, Hebrew with English subtitles)



Adult Education

**The Books of Jonah and Ruth
with Rabbi Michael Safra**

Tuesday, November 13
7:30-9:00 PM

Sisterhood

Hospice 101 Workshop

Wednesday, November 14
10:30 AM-12:00 PM

November is National Hospice/Palliative Care Month. A representative from JSSA Hospice will present "Hospice 101." Contact Juliann Goldman (301-309-0832, Juliann.goldman@yahoo.com) with questions. This program will follow a brief Sisterhood meeting.

Social Action

Holiday Snowflake Gift Project Collection Begins

November 12-December 16

Help make holiday wishes come true for children at the Weller Road Elementary School. Do a *mitzvah* and help make the holidays brighter for those children who otherwise may not receive holiday gifts. Contact Signe Wetrogan (signe0420@verizon.net) for details.

Sisterhood

Sisterhood Speaker & Lunch

Wednesday, November 14
10:30 AM-1:00 PM

Sisterhood

Sisterhood Fall Member Dinner

Thursday, November 15
6:30-9:00 PM
Connect with your B'nai Israel sisters over dinner and entertainment.

Youth

**USY
Lounge Night**

Thursday, November 15
Details to follow

BISNS

Pre-K Shabbat Service & Dinner

Friday, November 16
5:45 PM

Celebrate Shabbat with Pre-K classmates, teachers, and clergy. Join us for a family service of prayers, blessings, and singing, followed by a lovely Shabbat dinner. Reservations required.

Family

3s Shabbat

Saturday, November 17
11:00 AM during Tot Shabbat

Family

Kindergarten Shabbat

Saturday, November 17
10:00 AM Brunch
10:30 AM during Mini Minyan

Sisterhood & Men's Club

**BREAKFAST PANEL
The Political Year in Review
with Jonathan Salant & David Becker**

Sunday, November 18
10:00 AM
Discuss the political events that have shaped the past year with our panel. This provocative discussion will include an opportunity to ask questions and to learn differing perspectives on the politics of 2018.

Sisterhood

Chicks Who Stitch & Blanket Making Project

Sunday, November 18
10:00 AM-12:00 PM
Join with your friends at our monthly Chicks Who Stitch and help Sisterhood support the Blanket Making Project (Montgomery County Association For Family & Community Education – Warm up America). Participate by crocheting or knitting squares or donating a handmade, washable blanket to be distributed to children and teens. Contact Juliann Goldman (Juliann.goldman@yahoo.com) with questions.

Dor L'Dor דור לדור

GRANDPARENT-GRANDCHILD PROGRAM



Cookie Baking and Decorating
Sunday, November 18
12:15 PM
Grandparents and grandchildren from the B'nai Israel community are invited to join an incredible social event. Lunch will be served.

Dor L'Dor events are open to B'nai Israel-affiliated grandparents and/or grandchildren along with their family members.



Grandparents and grandchildren from the B'nai Israel community are invited to join an incredible social event. Lunch will be served.

Dor L'Dor events are open to B'nai Israel-affiliated grandparents and/or grandchildren along with their family members.

Adult Education

L.I.F.E. LECTURE
The Farhud: Roots of the Arab-Nazi Alliance in the Holocaust
with Edwin Black

Sunday, November 18
 7:30 PM



The Nazis needed oil. The Arabs wanted the Jews and British out of Palestine and Iraq. The Mufti of Jerusalem forged a far-ranging alliance with Hitler, resulting in the June 1941 Farhud, a Nazi-style pogrom in Baghdad that set the stage for the devastation and expulsion of the Iraqi Jews and almost a million Jews across the Arab world. The Farhud was the beginning of what became a broad Nazi-Arab alliance during the Holocaust.

Sisterhood

Drop-in Mah Jongg
 Monday, November 19
 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Sisterhood

Bingo at the Hebrew Home
 Smith-Kogod Residence
 Tuesday, November 20
 10:30-11:30 AM

Adult Education

The Books of Jonah and Ruth
with Rabbi Michael Safra
 Tuesday, November 20
 7:30-9:00 PM

Sisterhood

Drop-in Mah Jongg
 Monday, November 26
 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Adult Education

The Books of Jonah and Ruth
with Rabbi Michael Safra
 Tuesday, November 27
 7:30-9:00 PM

Torah Fund Dinner

Honoree: Rabbi Rami Schwartz
 Wednesday, November 28
 6:00-9:00 PM
 B'nai Israel Congregation
 To celebrate the important work of Torah Fund, B'nai Israel Sisterhood will host a dinner co-sponsored with Har Shalom Sisterhood. Through program support and scholarships for the five Conservative/Masorti seminaries around the world, Torah Fund helps ensure that rabbis and other Jewish educators and lay leaders receive the training they need to deal with the challenges of contemporary Jewish Life. Contact Judy Saks (saksfour@verizon.net) or Nancy Eig (eignancy@gmail.com) with questions.



Sisterhood

Shopping Trip to Potomac Mills
 Thursday, November 29
 Get a head start on your holiday shopping. Hanukkah begins December 2. RSVP to Christina Hersh (202-494-0207, christinahersh@aol.com).

Men's Club

Jews & Brews: Rabbi Jonathan Schnitzer
 Lakewood Country Club, Overlook Room
 Thursday, November 29
 7:30 PM
 Join us for appetizers, beer, wine, friendship, and a thoughtful discussion led by our clergy.

Adult Education

The Amazing Technicolor Story of Joseph with Cantor Ilana Wolpert
 Thursday, November 29 and continuing for two more Thursdays
 7:30-9:00 PM
 \$36/member, \$50/nonmember



The story of Joseph, the longest sustained narrative of the Torah, is something approaching a picaresque novel (or novella). The second-youngest son of Jacob, and his father's favorite, Joseph undergoes adventure after adventure as he drifts from place to place and from one social milieu to another. By the time he has reached the high point of his journey, he has evolved into a true Jewish role model. We will do a very close reading of these chapters in Genesis.



TALMUD TORAH
6th Grade
Family
B'nai Mitzvah
Institute

Friday, November 30-
Saturday, December 1

Preparing for *b'nai mitzvah* is an exciting time that raises a lot of questions for the entire family. Join us as we delve into the journey together through prayer, interactive programming, and relationship building.

Friday, November 30
 5:30 PM
 Shabbat Evening Service, Dinner, and Program

Saturday, December 1
 10:00 AM
 6th Grade Family Learner's Service with the Clergy

12:00 PM
 Kiddush lunch followed by Family Program

DECEMBER

Hanukkah

Sunday–Monday, December 2–10

December 25

9:00 AM & 8:00 PM Minyan

Family

6th Grade B'nai Mitzvah Institute

Friday-Saturday, November 30-December 1
See page 23.

Tailgate Shabbat

Saturday, December 1
Join us for this annual favorite, featuring a special *kiddush* of hotdogs with all the trimmings.

Family

Pajama Havdalah

Saturday, December 1
5:30 PM
Have your children wear their pajamas, bring their favorite stuffed animal and participate in a song-filled *Havdalah* service. The children will enjoy making a special craft. We hope you will join us in saying goodbye to Shabbat and welcoming the new week.

Library

Rabbi Simon's Winter Book Review

Sunday, December 2
10:00–11:00 AM
Join Rabbi Matthew H. Simon for his exciting, informative and entertaining book review session.

Sisterhood

Chicks Who Stitch

Sunday, December 2
10:00 AM–12:00 PM

Men's Club

Afternoon with Abba

Sunday, December 2
12:15 PM

Sisterhood

Drop-in Mah Jongg

Monday, December 3
10:00 AM–12:00 PM

Adult Education

Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Jonathan Schnitzer

Monday, December 3
12:30–1:30 PM

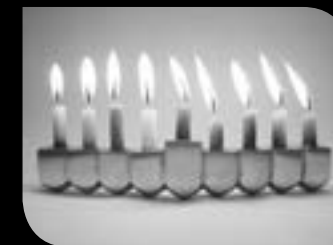
Sisterhood

Bingo at the Hebrew Home

Wasserman Residence
Tuesday, December 4
10:30–11:30 AM

Latkes & Lights

Tuesday,
December 4



5:45 PM Activities for Grades K-2
6:15 PM *Hanukkiyah* Lighting and *Latke* Dinner
Join us for a family Hanukkah extravaganza with singing, communal *hanukkiyah* (menorah) lighting, and *latkes*.

Adult Education

The Books of Jonah and Ruth with Rabbi Michael Safra

Tuesday, December 4
7:30–9:00 PM

BISNS

Dad/Parent Day

Tuesday & Wednesday, December 4-5
Our Dads/Parents will be invited into the classrooms to share a morning of yoga, snack, and play.

Sisterhood
Jewish Museum of Maryland Trip
 Wednesday, December 5
 9:00 AM-4:00 PM
 Sisterhood travels to Baltimore's Jewish Museum of Maryland to view the new exhibit, *Inescapable: The Life and Legacy of Harry Houdini*. We will also tour the historic Lloyd Street Synagogue and B'nai Israel Synagogue. RSVP to Juliann Goldman (Juliann.goldman@yahoo.com).

HAZAK
Hanukkah Celebration with Sharon Doner Feldman
 Thursday, December 6
 12:00 PM Brown Bag Dairy Lunch
 12:30 PM Program
 Celebrate Hanukkah Hazak Style! Our party will feature Hanukkah bingo with prizes, *latkes*, *sufganiyot*, *gelt* and a singalong of Hanukkah songs with Sharon.

Adult Education
The Amazing Technicolor Story of Joseph with Cantor Ilana Wolpert
 Thursday, December 6
 7:30-9:00 PM

Shabbat Wine & Cheese Reception
 Friday, December 7
 5:45 PM
 See page 4.

Family
5th Grade Shabbat
 Saturday, December 8
 10:00 AM Brunch
 10:30 AM during Junior Congregation

Family
2s Shabbat
 Saturday, December 8
 11:00 AM during Tot Shabbat

Youth
TEENS (Grades 9-12)
Hanukkah Jewish Battle of the Bands
 December 8
 7:00-9:00 PM
 Celebrate Hanukkah with a Battle of the Bands! Area synagogue bands will perform original Hanukkah songs and the audience will vote for the winners! Light the candles and celebrate with prizes, food, and fun. Our USY chapter will follow this event with a "lock-in." This event is made possible by the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington.

Youth
TEENS/USY (Grades 9-12)
Lock-In
 Saturday, December 8-Sunday, December 9
 Details TBA

Men's Club
BREAKFAST PANEL
The Future of Rockville Pike
 Sunday, December 9
 10:00 AM
 Hear about plans for Rockville Pike and ask Montgomery County officials about the path towards making these plans a reality.

Sisterhood
Drop-in Mah Jongg
 Monday, December 10
 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Library
MONDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES
Norman: The Moderate Rise and Tragic Fall of a New York Fixer
 Monday, December 10
 7:30 PM
 Norman Oppenheimer (Richard Gere) lives a lonely life in New York on the margins of power and money. His networking leads him to befriend a young, charismatic politician, Micha Eshel who later becomes the Prime Minister of Israel. Norman uses Eshel's name to leverage his biggest deal ever, creating the potential for an international catastrophe he must struggle to prevent. (118 minutes, English)



Sisterhood
Sisterhood General Meeting & Hanukkah Program
 Wednesday, December 12
 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
 Our Sisterhood Hanukkah party will feature Hanukkah bingo with prizes, *latkes*, *sufganiyot*, and Hanukkah *gelt*. Please bring 10 one-dollar bills to put in the *Tzedakah Menorah*.

Adult Education
The Amazing Technicolor Story of Joseph with Cantor Ilana Wolpert
 Thursday, December 13
 7:30-9:00 PM

Youth
BONIM (Grades K-2) & MACHAR (Grades 3-5)
Parents' Night Out
 Saturday, December 15
 Details TBA

Sisterhood
Drop-in Mah Jongg
 Monday, December 17
 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Sisterhood
Bingo at the Hebrew Home
 Smith-Kogod Residence
 Tuesday, December 18
 10:30-11:30 AM
 Join other Sisterhood women in playing Bingo with our neighbors at the Hebrew Home.

Men's Club
Sports Night
 Thursday, December 20
 6:30 PM
 This annual Men's Club event will feature Phil Wood, co-host of the radio show *Nats Xtra*. Mr. Wood has spent his career as a sports radio talk show host in the Washington-Baltimore markets, with a decided emphasis on baseball.



MITZVAH DAY

Projects for *mensches* of all ages!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16



Yvonne Klinger (yvonne.klinger@gmail.com)
Abigail Kopstein (Abigail.bortnick@gmail.com)
 Chairs

Start this special day of *tikkun olam* (repairing the world) with morning *minyan* at 9:00 AM and special projects beginning at 10:00 AM. There will be grade-specific projects for our Talmud Torah and Day School students, as well as projects for community members of all ages. Donate blood, help pack meals, and engage in other projects to donate to communal organizations.

More information will follow in the *Scroll* and the *Community Connections* publications. If you or your *havurah* would like to organize a project for Mitzvah Day, please indicate on the registration form or contact our chairs. Online registration begins in October at www.bnaiisraelcong.org/mitzvahday.

JANUARY

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Tuesday, January 1 – 9:00 AM & 8:00 PM Minyan

MLK DAY

Monday, January 21 – 9:00 AM & 8:00 PM Minyan

Library

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP *If All the Seas Were Ink* by Ilana Kurshan

Wednesday, January 2
11:00 AM-12:00 PM

At the age of 27, alone in Jerusalem and in the wake of a painful divorce, Ilana Kurshan joins the world's largest book club — *dafyomi*, Hebrew for “daily page” of the Talmud. By the time she completes the Talmud, after seven and a half years, Kurshan is remarried with three young children. Religious and secular readers alike will find themselves moved by her story.



Family

PJ Shabbat & Potluck Dinner

Friday, January 4
5:30 PM Youth Services
6:00 PM Dairy Potluck Dinner

This program is geared especially for toddlers and younger elementary schoolers. Our potluck dinners are a wonderful way to extend the evening and enjoy an informal family-friendly dinner.

HAZAK Shabbat

Saturday, January 5
Join members of HAZAK for this special Shabbat service as we celebrate the accomplishments of our chapter and its dedicated leaders.

Men's Club

Football and Subs

Sunday, January 6
12:30 PM

Youth

KADIMA (Grades 6-8) Unbirthday New Year's Celebration

Sunday, January 6
Details TBA

Sisterhood

Drop-in Mah Jongg

Monday, January 7
10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Adult Education

Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Jonathan Schnitzer

Monday, January 7
12:30-1:30 PM

Sisterhood

Bingo at the Hebrew Home

Wasserman Residence
Tuesday, January 8
10:30-11:30 AM

Join other Sisterhood women in playing Bingo with our neighbors at the Hebrew Home.

Adult Education

Leadership Crises of 'Biblical' Proportions with Steve Kerbel

Wednesday, January 9 and nine more
Wednesdays (No class on January 30.)
10:00-11:30 AM

Presented by the Foundation for Jewish Studies

B'nai Israel Members receive “Friends of the Foundation” rate of \$100 for the 10-week course. General public registration is \$120 for the 10-week course.

Starting with the earliest Israelite kings, we will explore the Bible's honest criticism, skepticism and history of kingship and leadership. We will use a close reading of the biblical text to understand early Israelite history. Knowledge of Hebrew is always helpful, but not necessary—we will read in English with occasional references to the Hebrew to understand the story, idioms and choices of the translator. Any modern Hebrew-English Bible will work as our text for the class.



HAZAK

HAZAK
Classical Storytelling and Contemporary Screenwriting with Brian Price

Thursday, January 10
12:00 PM Brown Bag Dairy Lunch
12:30 PM Program



We've been telling each other stories throughout our history, in essentially the same way. Brian will discuss the right way to tell a story based on his new book, *Classical Storytelling and Contemporary Screenwriting*, which is a guide to writing a successful screenplay and the secrets of the industry. This is a must see program for anyone who likes to tell stories or to write them.

Men's Club

DINNER & SPEAKER
The Politics of Israel with Steve Kerbel

Thursday, January 10
6:30 PM

Family

3rd Grade Shabbat

Saturday, January 12
10:00 AM Brunch
10:30 AM during Junior Congregation

Men's Club

Pub Night at B'nai Israel with Trivia Games

Saturday, January 12
7:30 PM
A relaxing and fun evening of pub food and trivia games. Enjoy beer and wine, and your trivia skills at this fun event. Spouses and significant others are welcome!

Day School

Day School Parent Social

Saturday, January 12
8:00 PM
Day school parents are invited to visit with old friends and meet new ones at our annual Day School Parent Social.

Sisterhood

Mah Jongg Tournament

Sunday, January 13
9:15 AM-4:00 PM
Meet, greet, and socialize during this spirited tournament. RSVP to Joan Barr (301-340-8940; barrjoan@verizon.net) to participate and with any questions.

Adult Education

L.I.F.E. LECTURE
Israel on Campus: Conflicts and Opportunities with Mark B. Rotenberg

Sunday, January 13
7:30 PM
Jewish news sources frequently report about the precarious situation on college campuses as it relates to the State of Israel. Throughout the country, we see campus BDS (Boycott, Sanction, and Divestment) movements trying to politically and economically isolate the State of Israel. How is Hillel working to address these issues? How does this impact upon Jewish engagement for college students?



Sisterhood

Drop-in Mah Jongg

Monday, January 14
10:00 AM-12:00 PM

BISNS

BISNS Parent-Teacher Conference

Monday, January 14
Communication between parent, teacher and school is extremely important. This is a worthwhile opportunity to hear how much your child has accomplished in school.

Adult Education

Leadership Crises of 'Biblical' Proportions with Steve Kerbel

Wednesday, January 16
10:00-11:30 AM

Sisterhood

Speaker & Lunch Program

Wednesday, January 16
10:30 AM-1:00 PM

Men's Club

Jews & Brews: Rabbi Mitchell Berkowitz

Lakewood Country Club, Overlook Room
Thursday, January 17
7:30 PM

Shabbat Wine & Cheese Reception
Friday, January 18
5:45 PM
See page 4.

Men's Club

Tu B'Shevat Seder

Saturday, January 19
After Kiddush
To commemorate the season where trees are being planted in Israel, the Men's Club invites you to join us after *Kiddush* for this unique experience. Traditional Israeli fruits and sweets will be served as we are guided through this interesting seder by a Men's Club member.

Sisterhood

Chicks Who Stitch

Sunday, January 20
10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Sisterhood

Bingo at the Hebrew Home

Smith-Kogod Residence
Tuesday, January 22
10:30-11:30 AM

Adult Education

Leadership Crises of 'Biblical' Proportions with Steve Kerbel

Wednesday, January 23
10:00-11:30 AM

Social Action Shabbat
Saturday, January 26
Celebrate with us as we recognize our many volunteers and affirm our commitment to support those in need in the larger community.

Family

7th Grade Holocaust Museum Visit

Sunday, January 27
Time TBA

Men's Club

Hearing Men's Voices

Sunday, January 27
10:30 AM
This program, led by Jeff Moss, features a small group conversation centered on an interesting and contemporary topic.

Sisterhood

Drop-in Mah Jongg

Monday, January 28
10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Men's Club

DINNER & SPEAKER
The Politics of Israel - An Overview

Thursday, January 31
6:30 PM
Join us for a discussion on the nature of Israeli politics today.

INSTRUCTORS

Adult Education
HAZAK

L.I.F.E. Lectures
Scholar-in-Residence

TED ODED AVRAHAM is the founder of the Jewish Student Satellite Initiative (JeSSI). JeSSI aims to gather US-based Jewish and Israeli teenagers around a collaborative space-technology challenge: to assemble, launch, and operate a real satellite. JeSSI's Fall 2018 program will open on October 9. For more information go to www.JeSSIcommunity.org.



ARNIE BENDER is the rabbi of Kehilat Yaar Ramot, our sister-congregation in Jerusalem. Arnie made aliyah with his wife, Carol, and (then) two children in 1984 from Philadelphia where both earned their Master's Degrees at Temple University. Carol and Arnie now have 4 children—the youngest currently serving in an elite IDF unit. Two of their older children are married, and they are looking forward to their son's wedding next month. Carol and Arnie have 7 grandchildren.



RABBI MITCHELL BERKOWITZ joined B'nai Israel as the Assistant Rabbi after he was ordained in May 2017 by the Rabbinical School at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America (JTS). While in rabbinical school, Rabbi Berkowitz served as the rabbinic intern at Shelter Rock Jewish Center in Roslyn, NY. He holds a Master of Arts in Talmud and Rabbinics from the Graduate School at JTS, and Bachelor's Degrees in History and in International & Global Studies from Brandeis University. In addition to his rabbinic and pastoral roles as the Assistant Rabbi, Rabbi Berkowitz also organizes programming and learning opportunities for the community.



EDWIN BLACK is the award-winning, *New York Times* and international investigative author of 80 bestselling books in 14 languages in 61 countries, as well as scores of newspaper and magazine articles in the leading publications of the United States, Europe and Israel. With a million books in print, his work focuses on genocide and hate, corporate criminality and corruption, governmental misconduct, academic fraud, philanthropy abuse, oil addiction, alternative energy and historical investigation.



SCOTT EDELMAN retired from the U.S. Foreign Service in 2015 after 35 years of service largely focused on the Middle East and intelligence analysis. He has worked around the world, in the United Arab Emirates, Turkey, Bahrain, and elsewhere. He received his BA in Politics at Brandeis University, a law degree from the University of Connecticut, and pursued graduate studies in Government (National Security Studies) at Georgetown University. Mr. Edelman, his wife, and his son are members of our congregation.



DR. CAROL P. HAUSMAN is a clinical psychologist and gerontologist. She has taught courses relating to aging at several area colleges and at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. She has been on the faculties of the Georgetown University School of Medicine, the Washington School of Psychiatry, and other institutions. She is a graduate of Wellesley College and received her Ph.D. from the University of Maryland. She is a member of Adat Shalom Reconstructionist Congregation.



DR. AMY KALMANOFSKY became the dean of Albert A. List College of Jewish Studies, the undergraduate school of the Jewish Theological Seminary, in 2018. Previously, she was associate vice chancellor and associate professor of Bible. In her writing and teaching, she combines contemporary ideas and critical methods with traditional text study. Deeply committed to teaching since joining the faculty in 2005, Dr. Kalmanofsky helps her students understand and appreciate the Bible's complicated beauty and meaning so that they can become careful and creative interpreters of its text. Dr. Kalmanofsky is the author of multiple books, as well as numerous articles examining the biblical representation of women and the roles women play in the Bible.



STEVE KERBEL is an independent education consultant in the Greater Washington DC area, and has been involved in Jewish education for the last 30 years. Steve is a consultant and project director for the Center for Israel Education at Emory University in Atlanta. Steve serves as National President of the Jewish Educators Assembly. In what seems like a different lifetime, Steve earned a law degree and was in the private practice of law for eight years. Among Steve's avocations, he facilitates wine tastings featuring Israeli wines and teaches about the geography of Israel through its wines and wine makers.



DAVID KRAEMER is the Joseph J. and Dora Abbell Librarian at The Jewish Theological Seminary, where he has also served as Professor of Talmud and Rabbinics for many years. As Librarian, he oversees the most extensive collection of Judaica in the Western hemisphere. Professor Kraemer is a prolific author and commentator. His books include *The Mind of the Talmud* (1990), *The Meanings of Death in Rabbinic Judaism* (2000), and *Jewish Eating and Identity Through the Ages* (2007, 2009). His most recent book is *Rabbinic Judaism: Place and Space* (2015). He is also the author and co-creator of *The Haggadah* app, for iPads.



BERI KRAVITZ lived in Israel for eight years and is a graduate of The Technion and Carnegie Mellon University. She has lived in Rockville for the past 20 years with her family. She is currently the webmaster for the JConnect website of the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington.



TZACHI LEVY is the Senior *Shaliach* for the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington. He has previously been a *shaliach* in Pittsburgh, PA and in South Africa. Most recently, Tzachi served as Director for Shinshinim Shlichut Program at the Jewish Agency for Israel. Tzachi has a Bachelor of Arts from Beit Berl College in Informal Education and History and a Master of Arts in Public Administration from Sapir College. Tzachi is a 13th generation Israeli. His strong family roots and his Zionist youth movement education were and still are his motivation and energy for working at the Jewish Federation and with the "Jewish world."



CANTOR JOSH C. PERLMAN became the Cantor at B'nai Israel in February 2001. He previously served as the Cantor at Congregation B'nai Israel in Albuquerque, New Mexico for ten years. Prior to that position, Cantor Josh was the Cantorial Soloist at Temple Shalom in Milton, Massachusetts, and Temple Emanu-El in Providence, Rhode Island. He has studied voice with Jeanne Grealish of the Sante Fe Opera and with the eminent Dr. William Riley in New York.



BRIAN PRICE is an award-winning screenwriter who has worked with major studios, television networks, and independent film producers around the world. As an instructor, he has taught screenwriting at Yale University, Johns Hopkins University, and the Brooks Institute, among others, and is a proud member of the prestigious UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television screenwriting faculty.



MARK B. ROTENBERG oversees all components of Hillel's Israel Engagement department, strengthening Hillel's commitment to Israel engagement for all Jewish students. Mark has spent most of his professional career on university campuses, serving for many years as the general counsel at the University of Minnesota and at Johns Hopkins University. A seasoned university educator, Mark taught at the University of Minnesota for over 20 years and was a visiting professor of law at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Mark has long been passionately engaged with the Jewish and pro-Israel communities. Mark received his B.A., magna cum laude, from Brandeis University, and J.D., M. Phil. and M.A. from Columbia Law School and the Columbia University Graduate School of Arts & Sciences.



RABBI MICHAEL SAFRA joined B'nai Israel after his ordination from the Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS) in 2002. He became Senior Rabbi of the Congregation in 2017, articulating as his goal to strengthen congregational life by encouraging and guiding individuals as they pursue their personal Jewish journeys. Rabbi Safra received his B.A. in history and Judaic studies from the University of Michigan, and holds a Master's Degree in Bible from the Graduate School at JTS. He serves on the boards of the Jewish Coalition Against Domestic Abuse (JCADA), Jewish Foundation for Group Homes (JFGH), and the National Rabbinic Cabinet of Israel Bonds.



JONATHAN SALANT

Jonathan D. Salant has been an award-winning political reporter in Washington for 30 years. Currently, he is the Washington correspondent for the *Star-Ledger of New Jersey* and the website NJ.com. A former president of the National Press Club, he is a member of B'nai Israel with his wife Bonnie Cole and their son Isaac, serves co-coach of the synagogue's softball team, and moderates the Men's Club's biennial political forum.



RABBI JONATHAN A. SCHNITZER

Rabbi Jonathan A. Schnitzer served B'nai Israel for twenty-eight years before becoming Rabbi Emeritus in July 2017. Rabbi Schnitzer received a B.A. from Columbia College and then studied at the Jewish Theological Seminary, where he received his Master's Degree and was ordained in 1974. In 2001, the Seminary awarded him an Honorary Doctor of Divinity. Rabbi Schnitzer has been very active on the local and national Jewish scene. He is currently a member of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Social Service Agency. A voracious reader, avid traveler and biking enthusiast, Rabbi Schnitzer also has a special passion for Israel.



RABBI MATTHEW H. SIMON

Rabbi Matthew H. Simon has served B'nai Israel as Senior Rabbi and Rabbinic Campaign Consultant for three decades. During his tenure, the Talmud Torah was expanded and consolidated, *havurot* were added and women were accorded equality. He was ordained by the Jewish Theological Seminary in 1958 and awarded an Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree in 1984. He served as a Navy Chaplain and retired as a Captain after 28 years of service.



TAMAR SOMMER is our congregational *shlichah*, and was born in Be'er Sheva but has most recently lived in Jerusalem. Both of her parents made *aliyah*—her father from Australia and her mother from South Africa. Tamar and her brother were both born and raised in Israel. After Tamar finished high school, she went into the pre-army program, Meitarim Lachish, where she volunteered, traveled through Israel, and studied Israeli politics, society, and history. Afterwards, she served as a sergeant in the Education Corps, working on a special program for troubled soldiers.



LAURENCE WOLFF is currently a senior editor at *Moment Magazine*, an independent magazine that provides perspectives on issues facing the Jewish communities in the USA and Israel. With his wife Miriam Daniel, he is a frequent visitor to Israel. Miriam's family created and helps to sustain the Daniel Centers for Progressive Judaism in Tel Aviv-Jaffa. He has published articles on Israeli education, Israel's demographic challenges, and the future of pluralistic Judaism in Israel. Dr. Wolff holds a doctorate in education planning and administration from Harvard Graduate School of Education.



CANTOR ILANA WOLPERT earned her Master's degree in Sacred Music and a cantorial investiture from the Hebrew Union College in New York in 1998. She served Congregation Bethaynu in Cleveland, Ohio through 2009. She has a Bachelor's degree in English Literature and Linguistics from Tel Aviv University, and a Master's degree and Ph.D. in English and American Literature from The Ohio State University. Cantor Wolpert cherishes her role as the Ba'alat Kriah of B'nai Israel, and is proud of the congregation's commitment to reading the entire Torah portion each Shabbat. She is passionate about teaching Hebrew, prayer skills, cantillation and Jewish literature at all levels, in both the synagogue world and in the community at large.



HINEINI

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

2018–2019

SUSTAINING OUR HOME FOR JEWISH LIFE

B'nai Israel's 2018–2019 Hineini Campaign will be kicking off soon. Please look for information in the mail, by email or the *Scroll* about how you can give to B'nai Israel and make a difference.

New this year! Hineini will be our only major fundraiser! Your contribution enables us to support our high quality programs and maintain outstanding clergy, educators and staff. Help to strengthen our community for the future and guarantee the sustainability of our synagogue community. B'nai is here for you, especially when you need it the most.

FLORIDA REUNION

February 10, 2019

Save the date!

B'NAI MITZVAH

August 25	Manuel Amdur		
September 1	Ethan Doane		
September 15	Ava Goldberg		
September 22	Lance Hersh	Sophia Hurwitz	
September 29	Shani Schwartz		
October 6	Elyssa Shenker	Jonah Kerchner	
October 13	Alexa Steinberg	Dylan Steinberg	
October 20	Reisa Blum		
October 27	Cooper Sunshine		
November 3	Ari Goldberg	Jordyn Kolchins	
November 10	Kira Bernstein	Jacob Peters	
November 17	Yael Kanter	Blake Dorman	
November 24	Ellie Levine		
December 8	Jonah Solomon		
December 15	Paulina Horowitz	Sarah Lawrence	
December 22	Jaden Yaffe		
January 5	Serena Gill		
January 12	Samuel Mayster		
February 2	Adriana Gross		
February 16	Ilana Vainstein		
March 2	Shoshana Peck		
March 9	Aaron Gallo		
March 16	Shira Levy		
March 23	Emerson Labovich	Sean Levitan	
March 30	Dalya Brickman		
April 6	Ari Kalish	Noah Parker	
April 13	Sari Goldstein	Jaycie Leichter	
April 18	Ethan Bernstein		
May 4	Alexis Rubin		
May 11	Zoe Epstein	Lilliana Fisher	Jack Franks
May 18	Sylvie Bergoffen	Eliot Shulman	Spencer Kesterman
May 25	Jared Lieberman	Ethan Lieberman	
June 1	Drew Sanders	Jocelyn Silverstein	
June 8	Naomi Sekine		
June 15	Ethan Safra		
July 5	Zachary Eig	Madeline Eig	

תורה מעולה

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Year At-A-Glance

September 10-11	Rosh Hashanah
September 19	Yom Kippur
September 24-30	Sukkot
October 1	Shemini Atzeret
October 2	Simhat Torah
October 20	Sisterhood Shabbat
November 9-11	Scholar-in-Residence
November 10	EPIC Shabbat
December 1	Tailgate Shabbat
December 3-10	Hanukkah
December 16	Mitzvah Day
January 5	HAZAK Shabbat
January 26	Social Action Shabbat
February 9	Education Shabbat/EPIC Shabbat
February 16	Men's Club Shabbat
February 23	Inclusion Shabbat
March 21	Purim
April 7	Lessans Good Deeds Day
April 20-27	Passover
May 4	EPIC Shabbat
June 9-10	Shavuot

HAZAK Lectures

September 13
 October 11
 November 8
 December 6
 January 10
 February 14
 March 14
 April 11
 May 9
 June 13

L.I.F.E. Lectures

October 7
 November 18
 January 13
 February 10
 March 10
 May 19

*Please note that all Jewish festivals begin on the preceding evening.

www.bnaiisraelcong.org

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