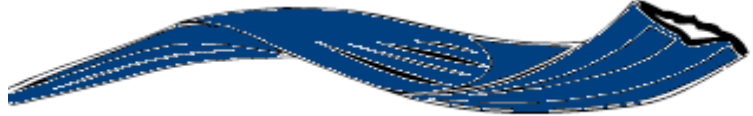


SHOFAR



Monthly Newsletter of the Monterey Peninsula Jewish Community

www.carmelbethisrael.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

JAN
7

Wellness Programs
Sundays in January

JAN
10

Lunch with the Clergy

JAN
14

Speaker Series: Professor
Sam Helfont

JAN
20

Celebrating Rabbi Leah
and the Film Preview

JAN
25

Best Years Tu B'Shvat Walk

JAN
26

Community Shabbat
Dinner

FEB
10

Women's Shabbaton

APR
6

CBI 70th Anniversary Gala



A Vision for the Future of the Congregation Beth Israel Property and Building

With much anticipation and excitement, I am excited to preview the upcoming rejuvenation plans for our beloved Congregation Beth Israel. As we stand on the threshold of a new chapter, our intention remains to cherish the past while building for the future.

To ensure that our restoration captures the building's original essence, we've re-engaged the very architectural minds who brought it to life: the Paul Davis Partnership Architects & Planners. This decision is rooted in our desire to maintain continuity while infusing modern enhancements.

A project of this magnitude requires substantial financial support, and we are deeply humbled by Charles & Kerry Beren's significant donation to kick off our Building Capital Campaign. Their generosity is a glowing testament to the community spirit we hold dear at Congregation Beth Israel.

Here's a brief outline of the comprehensive approach that Paul Davis Partnership will undertake:

- **Revisiting the Foundations:** Utilizing the original construction documents, the team will create CAD files and integrate modifications from past projects. This ensures that all changes harmonize with the building's foundational design.

Continued on page 7



From the Rabbi's Desk

While we cannot completely ignore the various COVID-19 strains that remain a threat, it seems much safer for us to come together and support one another. This past month, I saw how comforting it was for our congregants to come together to process our thoughts

and feelings about the Israel/Hamas war. Just gathering in our social hall and sharing our hopes and dreams for a safe Israel and an end of suffering brought me so much solace.

And over the first two nights of *Chanukah*, the joy and celebration were palpable as we gathered the first night at Hacienda Hay and Feed and the second night in our CBI social hall and sanctuary. With close to 200 people enjoying the gathering the first night and approximately 100 people in our social hall the second night, the singing and laughter filled my heart with joy.

We need each other. We are a family. So, this month, I want to encourage us to do an even better job of caring for CBI members who need our support. For years, Congregation Beth Israel had an active Caring Committee. When someone needed assistance with meals, a ride to a medical appointment, or just a phone call, we had volunteers in place and ready to help. Once our building shut down due to COVID-19, our Caring Committee initially made some phone calls but slowly dissolved.

It is now time to re-create our Caring Committee. If you can help make a meal, drive someone to an appointment, or simply make calls to those who rarely get out, please volunteer. Donna Shore, our acting office manager, will keep a list of all Caring Committee volunteers until one or two of our members sign up to serve as the Chairs—a vibrant Caring Committee embodies our core Jewish values and should again be a vital part of synagogue life on the Monterey Peninsula.

Separately, if you or someone you know needs support from our clergy or our Caring Committee or would simply welcome some added assistance, please let me know right away—you can call the CBI office at 831-624-2015 or email me at rabbig@carmelbethisrael.org any time.

This month, we begin re-reading the book of Exodus that describes how our biblical ancestors became a community in the wilderness, a community of former slaves who re-emerged as the tribes of Israel. Together they crossed the sea and found their freedom. Together they accepted God's revelation. Together they built the Tabernacle. Together may our Congregation, the house of Israel, strengthen one another.

This secular New Year, I hope and pray our Congregation becomes an extended family to all our members. Amen.



From Cantor Alisa

Dear Friends,

I began a very different message to you for this month about the devastation we all feel and the questions swirling in my heart and mind about Israel, Gaza, the entire Middle East, and our future. The situation is so charged that I thought it

best to look to the light of *Torah* and our Jewish calendar for wisdom and guidance.

As of this writing, the festival of *Chanukah* has just come to an end. It's so hard to put away the *menorah*, especially this year. The hope and beauty of its light continue to linger for me as does its teachings. One of my favorites, shared by R' Ari Lev Fornari, is that the story of *Chanukah* is about stretching—stretching the resources we have and expanding their potential. The way the Rabbis tell it, it is the story of lengthening the use of a little bit of oil, realizing we can live with less, and making it last. Even though *Chanukah* has now come to an end, we too have the potential to carry the light forward and make it last.

Rav Abraham Isaac Kook, the first Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi of (pre-state) Israel, wrote, *"Every person must know and understand that deep within them a candle burns, and their candle is unlike the candle of any other. There is no person without a candle. Every person must know and understand that it is upon them to toil and reveal the light of their candle for others. They must kindle them into a great torch that will illuminate the entire world."* In Proverbs 20:27, it's written, *"The soul of a human being is the lamp of God, searching out its innermost parts."* It is taught that our soul is God's way of reaching and enlightening us. Our task is to open our hearts, to feel and to pay attention.

The *menorah* not only represents the light but also the "tree of life," nodding to the festival of *Tu b'Shevat* which approaches later this month. I love how reoccurring themes rich with our fundamental values weave our holidays together throughout the year, fixed times on our calendar to help ground ourselves in our essential values—seeing the divine in all things, honoring creation, paying attention to the seasons and the seasons of our lives, focusing on what matters most—gratitude for the gift of life, making life-affirming choices, loving our neighbor, loving the stranger, being a light unto the nations and a light to those around us.

Deciduous trees have lost their leaves but, stirring deep within them, their sap rises with the hope of spring. And so with us, may we tap into the light of our souls stirring deep within, allowing us to see with new eyes and illumine a way forward through *pathways of pleasantness and peace* (Proverbs 3:18).
—Cantor Alisa



Hesed Academy News

December was filled with Chanukah fun at Hesed Academy! Students made Chanukah cards for friends and family with our art specialist Ilana Entin, sang Chanukah songs with Cantor Alisa, and made the most delicious *latkes* with our cooking specialist Larry Solow. We even put on our own Chanukah story performance during *tefillah*!

Hesed Academy will be in session on Sunday, January 7, 21, and 28. There will be **no class on January 14** in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. weekend.

January Specialty Class Schedule

January 7: Storytelling

January 21: Music

January 28: No specialist - Tu B'Shvat Seders!

Tu B'Shvat Seder

On January 28, Hesed Academy will observe the holiday of Tu B'Shvat, the birthday of the trees, through a special *seder* meal. There will be two seders, one for grades K-3 and one for grades 4-7. We will be looking for parent volunteers to help with this celebration and will be sending out an email soon with more information!

Class Dinner

The 4/5 Grade Class Dinner was rescheduled from the December date, and will take place Friday evening, **January 5** at CBI. The dinner will start at 5:15 followed by the 6 PM Service. We are looking forward to having the fourth- and fifth-grade students and their families come together as a community!

I-HELP Meals

Last month the 2/3 class did a great job preparing meals for our I-HELP participants. Thank you so much to the parent volunteers and your hard work preparing and serving the meals!

This month, the Kindergarten & First Grade will be hosting I-HELP Dinner, which will take place on **Sunday, January 7**. The K/1 class will spend their class time at Hesed Academy preparing breakfast and lunch items and getting the social hall ready for the evening dinner. Thank you so much to all the volunteers for helping provide and serve food for the I-HELP participants!

Aleynu

We have been having lots of fun in Aleynu! Last month we had the first ever Aleynu Chanukah Iron Chef competition, where teams battled to create meals with a secret ingredient that represented the holiday. The competitors demonstrated incredible creativity and teamwork! This month will have *Aleynu* meetings on January 7 and January 21. Our Aleynu beach picnic had to be canceled due to rain, but we plan to reschedule the event on a date in January. Please stay tuned for the new date and details!

Wishing you all a wonderful start to 2024!

Sophie Little, Education Coordinator



Join our Adult B'nai Mitzvah/ Fundamental of Judaism Classes

Our Adult B'nai Mitzvah/Fundamentals of Judaism class is underway, and classes start again on **Wednesday evening, January 3, 2024**, continuing thereafter every other Wednesday evening from **7:15 pm-9:00 pm**.

This class is open to any CBI member who wishes to become adult *bar or bat mitzvah* or just wants to further their Jewish learning. Even if you led a *bar or bat mitzvah* service as a child or became *bar or bat mitzvah* as an adult, this program will stimulate and educate.

Each class will begin with a short lesson on that week's *Torah* portion and an aspect of general Jewish living. The second half of the evening will focus on learning how to read our Hebrew prayers. Our program will conclude in June with an adult *B'nai Mitzvah* service where our participants will assist in leading our morning *Shabbat* service, including, at his or her option, the opportunity to chant from the *Torah*.

There is no fee to participate in our Adult *B'nai Mitzvah* program; participants will be asked to reimburse CBI for certain books and other teaching materials. Please contact the Rabbi at 831-624-2015 if you would like to join us or just show up for class on January 3.



Lunch with our Clergy

Join Cantor Alisa for Lunch with the Clergy on **Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at noon** at Baja Cantina. Maimonides said, “The Torah has two aims: the well-being of the soul and the well-being of the body.” In

this week’s Torah portion, *Va’eira*, our people could not hear God’s message because their spirits were broken by mistreatment and harsh labor. We’ll share our thoughts about why it’s difficult for people to grow spiritually when their basic physical needs are not being met. Rabbi Jonathan Sacks z”l said that alleviating poverty and respect for human rights are spiritual tasks no less than prayer and the study of Torah. Baja Cantina is located on Carmel Valley Road about a mile east of CBI—Let us know you are coming at <https://www.carmelbethisrael.org/event/lunch-with-our-clergy5.html> or call the CBI office at 831-624-2015 to RSVP. We will order off Baja Cantina’s regular menu so lunch will cost approximately \$20.



About the Israel-Hamas war

Join us on **Sunday, January 14, 2024, from 10:30 am – 12:15 pm** to hear CBI member, Professor Sam Helfont address the many questions that we all have about the Israel-Hamas war, including the current status of the war, the many strategic and political visions for the “day after,” the regional implications of the war and the post-war period, including the role of and impact on Iran and its other proxies, Hezbollah and the Houthis, and the many other issues roiling the Middle East and the world today. Sam will be speaking at the home of Charlotte Salomon in the Carmel Highlands and brunch will be served.

In these turbulent and difficult times, it was so helpful to come together as a community last fall to share our feelings, thoughts, and concerns about the ongoing crisis in the Middle East. CBI is following up on those events with an opportunity for our community to hear a factual

presentation from an expert in the region and ask the many, many questions on all our minds.

Space is limited to please register online at carmelbethisrael.org or email Charlotte Salomon directly at charlotte@carmelbethisrael.org.

Samuel Helfont is an Associate Professor of Strategy and Policy in the Naval War College program at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. His research focuses on international history and politics in the Middle East, especially Iraq and the Iraq Wars. He is also interested in Israeli, maritime, and naval history. His most recent book is *[Iraq against the World: Saddam, America, and the Post-Cold War Order](#)* (Oxford University Press, 2023). His work has also been published by *Foreign Affairs*, *The International History Review*, *The Middle East Journal*, *Texas National Security Review*, *Orbis*, *The Washington Post*, *The New Republic*, *The American Interest*, and *War on the Rocks*, among other outlets.

Helfont holds a PhD in Near Eastern Studies from Princeton University and completed a post-doctoral lectureship at the University of Pennsylvania. He has held affiliations with the Abbasi Program in Islamic Studies at Stanford University and the Foreign Policy Research Institute in Philadelphia. In 2023, he received the Naval War College’s research award.

In addition to his academic background, Professor Helfont served as an intelligence officer in the US Navy and Navy Reserve. An Iraq War veteran, he completed deployments both afloat and ashore in the Middle East. He also served on Middle Eastern and counterterrorism missions at the Defense Intelligence Agency, the National Security Agency, and the Office of Naval Intelligence, among other commands.

Congratulations to the JFF Team!





Celebrate Rabbi Leah's 92nd Birthday, Tu B'shvat, and the Premiere of the Film *Discovering Wisdom – Rabbi Leah's Journey*

Join us on **Saturday, January 20, 2024, at 7:00pm** for this evening of celebrations--of Rabbi Leah and of trees and the environment. CBI will premiere the biopic "Discovering Wisdom—Rabbi Leah's Journey" which highlights her early life to her activism for gender equity, and social and economic justice. In 1987, Leah was ordained as a Rabbi in the Jewish Renewal Community. She is renowned for her research on the Divine Feminine in Judaism—the Shekhinah—and for her profound teachings and guidance. Rabbi Leah has touched many of our lives. We are blessed to experience her guidance and wisdom.

Let's Celebrate Leah on her 92nd Birthday, Tu B'shvat, and the Film Premiere. Let us know you are coming by registering on our website, CarmelBethIsrael.org.

Donations in Rabbi Leah's honor are appreciated. You can donate on our website or send a check to CBI and note "Rabbi Leah's Legacy Fund" in the memo.



BEST YEARS Tu B'Shevat Walk

Join Rabbi Greenbaum on **Thursday, January 25, 2024**, to celebrate Tu B'Shevat, the New Year for Trees, with an easy stroll through Palo Corona (formerly, Rancho Canada). We will meet in the Palo Corona parking lot at **1:30 pm**. (If it is raining, we will postpone the walk until the following Wednesday, January 31.) After our walk, you are invited to join Rabbi Greenbaum for dessert at Sweet Reba's in the Crossroads (paid for by our Senior Endowment Fund)! RSVP online or call the CBI office at 831-624-2015. Please let us know if you need a ride for this event.



Community Shabbat Dinner

Join us on **Friday, January 26 at 6:15pm** as we offer

blessings for the bread and wine, enjoy a delicious dinner, and sing traditional music to begin our erev Shabbat. Evening services follow at 7:30 pm. The cost is \$18 for adults and \$10 for military & children. Please register online at CarmelBethIsrael.org.



CBI Women's Book Club

Here is our next date and book selection:

For location information, please email wiskoff@aol.com.

January 16, 1:30 PM -- LEAVING EASTERN PARKWAY by Matthew Daub

February 13, 1:30 PM -- THE SECRET LIFE OF SUNFLOWERS by Marta Molnar

March 12, 1:30 PM -- ANYTHING BUT YES by Joie Davidow

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



Work With Us in the CBI Office

- Mailings
- Scanning/Copying/ Filing
- Gift Bags
- Gala Help

Let Donna know you're interested.

Donna@CarmelBethIsrael.org 831-624-2015

HEALTH & Wellness



Zumba meets on Sunday afternoons at 3:00 pm in the CBI Social Hall for an hour of dance and community-building. As always, all ages and fitness levels are welcome at CBI Zumba--feel free to invite your friends and neighbors to join us.

Zumba will be on hiatus from January 1 thru January 21, 2024, resuming on Sunday afternoon, January 28. (Please note that there will no class on Sunday, February 11.) Suggested donation of \$36 for classes through April 2024; register online at www.carmelbethisrael.org.

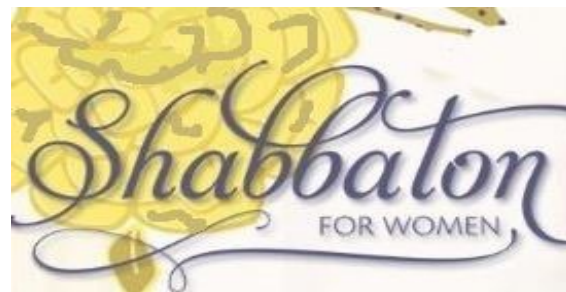


**Penelope's
PILATES**

On Sunday, January 7, 2024 at 2:00 pm and continuing every Sunday afternoon through January 28, Penelope Wasserman will offer Gentle Pilates--please bring your own mat. Penelope is the owner of Million Dollar Bones and has trained extensively through Pilates Therapeutics; she is also a Meeks Method osteoporosis exercise specialist. Suggested donation of \$20 for our four classes in January; register online at www.carmelbethisrael.org.



Join us for a very special program on Sunday afternoon, January 21, 2024, at 3:30 pm! Wendy Moro, a member of our Jewish community and an accredited sound healing practitioner, will conduct a one-hour healing sound bath that uses the power of sound vibrations to calm the nervous system and promote well-being. Wendy will offer an inspiring guided meditation as she plays a harmonic concert of Tibetan and Crystal Bowls, chimes, strings, Native American flute, and other instructions that release frequencies to clear and attune your mind and release tension and physical stress. Wendy is the founder of Carmel Sound Healing and Reiki II-certified. Her training began with Lydia Hwang, a sound and color vibrational healer who studied with Sound Master Fabian Maman and Master Chime creator Wolfgang Dienert. More recently, Wendy studied sound and akashic records with Tom Llewellyn, Founder of SoulRemember Academy, and received her Level IV certification from Ann Martin, Founder of BLISSBowls. Suggested donation of \$15; register online at www.carmelbethisrael.org.



Mark your Calendars for our next Women's Shabbaton!

By popular demand, Congregation Beth Israel is excited to hold another Women's *Shabbaton* on Saturday, **February 10, 2024, from 10:30 am – 2:15pm(-ish)**, meaningfully and spiritually led by Cantor Alisa Fineman, who is already planning another amazing day of study and prayer. For almost two decades, CBI women have come together to pray and learn together in an intimate setting—mark this date on your 2024 calendars and invite your mothers, daughters, and other female relatives and friends to join us for this unique gathering.



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A Vision for the Future

Continued from page 1

- **Collaborative Planning:** Beginning with several onsite meetings, the architects will work closely with our Building & Grounds Committee. This team will collate ideas, feedback, and visions from various inputs from within our community. A preliminary draft of designs and recommendations will be laid out through bi-weekly meetings and rigorous discussions.
- **Finalizing the Vision:** The Master Plan will culminate in detailed written summaries, graphical representations, and visionary blueprints that map out the next 70 years for our congregation. Each stage will undergo thorough reviews, ensuring the community's voice resonates in every brick and pillar.

The unveiling of this ambitious project will be a cornerstone event at our 70th Anniversary Gala on April 6, 2024. This will mark the official commencement of our Building Capital Campaign and will also celebrate our congregation's rich history and promising future.

Together, with the unwavering support of our community and the unparalleled expertise of the Paul Davis Partnership, we are poised to create a Congregation Beth Israel that pays homage to its glorious past while welcoming generations yet to come.



**Social Action
@ CBI**

Supporting Our I-HELP Guests A Mitzvah Project & Hesed Academy's Children & Parents

December marked two special events! Robby Cantor's Mitzvah project was providing coats and clothing as holiday gifts for the I-HELP men, who we hosted in early December. The men were so grateful to receive the clothing as well as Target gift cards. Robby helped to raise funds and clothing donations. He and his parents, Ilene & Neil, were on hand as Robby distributed the gifts to the men. Mazel Tov to Robby!


Each of the men also received holiday cards made by Hesed's 2/3 grade children. These were cheerfully decorated with

drawings, stickers, and messages. I happened to see some of the men later in December, and they remarked how touched they were by the children's cards! Well done teachers & parents.

To prepare the children for their service, Social Action Team members Lorraine and Hugo Gerstl visited the class to discuss homelessness with age-appropriate materials. The following week, the children then helped us prepare for our guests. They lined up on both sides of the kitchen worktable, with one side of children bagging the breakfast items, while on the other side, children bagged the lunch items. Thanks to the Room Parents Leslie Steinway and Melissa Rosenthal for their leadership, to all the parents for their donations, to the teachers, Faye Mueller-Delia and Hudson Fallon and to Sophie Little, Education Coordinator for working with our Social Action Team!

Next Up: January 7th, with grades K/1 involvement.

Arlene Krebs, Secretary of the BoT & Tikkun Olam/Social Action Team




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Emma Case	1	Cheryl Crose	17
Charlie Case	1	Adam Sorkin	19
Andrea Courier	1	Adrianna Kosmont	19
Terak Hornik	2	Abby King	20
Ellie Sorkin	2	Lindsey Lawmaster	20
Susan Greenbaum	3	Amy Neben	21
Sofia Western	3	Rabbi Leah Novick	21
David Benjamin	3	Iris Wachs	21
David Rosenberg	4	Ni Sun-Suslow	21
David Kleinman	4	Dan Granoff	22
Maezy Browning	5	Catherine Winter	22
Noah Freedman	5	Andrew Dicus	22
Julianne Leavy	6	Lisa Averbuch	24
Jude Olin Sun-Suslow	7	Steven J. Packer	25
Peter Stern	7	Ginger Cohen	25
Dave Krimsley	7	Frederica Westmoreland	25
Mike Vitiello	7	Liotte Greenbaum	26
Louis Kaplan	8	Brynn Womble	26
Illia Thompson	8	Alexandra Pollack	26
Neil Cantor	8	Anna Archer	27
Laura Jones-Lewis	13	Tally Helfont	28
Lauren Morgan Marshall	13	Darcie Kroll	29
Tani Greenbaum	15	Steven River Gurtin	30
Sophia Iverson	15	Rena Feuerstein	30
Jaclyn Marcus	16	Richard Harrit	30
Leta McCarty Messinger	16	Anna Gumberg	31
Andrew Pressman	17		



Leonard & Sheri Chodosh	20
James & Jill Gabbe	22
Norman & Diana Jacobson	29
Jennifer & Steven Prager	30

Welcome New CBI Member: Susan Singer

Family News

Abra Teitler and her family would like to thank the CBI community for all their help and good wishes.

Our Congregation strives to offer love and support to fellow congregants in times of joy and celebration, as well as in times of trouble and sorrow. One of the ways we do this is to let the congregation know your news. Please let us know if there is a simcha you wish to share (or know someone else's that they are willing to share), or a wish of encouragement or condolence that can be shared. You can send this information to shalomcbi@carmelbethisrael.org to be included in the Shofar.

Save the Date

To Celebrate Congregation Beth Israel's

70th Anniversary at the Blue and White Ball



Saturday, April 6, 2024 at 6:30 in the evening

Quail Lodge & Golf Club
8205 Valley Greens Dr, Carmel, CA 93923

\$180/pp including dinner



Visit the event page on our website, CarmelBethIsrael.org, to become a sponsor, RSVP for the event, and contribute to the Tribute Book.

You Can Be Part of the Fun

As we gear up to celebrate Congregation Beth Israel's 70th anniversary in 2024 with a spectacular Blue & White Gala, we're reaching out to our community for support. This is a momentous occasion, and your involvement can make a significant impact.

Ilene Cantor and Stacy Scherling have graciously stepped up to co-chair this event, and they're looking for enthusiastic volunteers like you to join in the festivities. We've divided the responsibilities into various teams, each contributing to the success of the celebration in its unique way. Here's a brief overview of the teams and how you can get involved:



Program and Entertainment Team:

- Help schedule and organize entertainment.
- Brainstorm ideas for additional entertainment.



Marketing Team:

- Manage social media presence.
- Work on press releases.
- Devise other promotional ideas.



Décor Team:

- Contribute to the Blue & White Ball theme.
- Assist with table settings, centerpieces, and room décor.



Silent Auction Team (led by Stacey):

- Collect donations.
- Assist with the setup on the day of the event.
- Play a role in Silent Auction décor.



Tribute Book Team:

- Contribute to the historical part of the book.
- Solicit ads for fundraising.
- Create tribute pages.



Kids Care Team:

- Provide babysitting services.
- Contribute to the teen program.

If any of these teams resonate with you and you're excited to be part of this monumental celebration, please reach out to Malina, Ilene, or Stacey. Your unique skills and dedication will play a crucial role in making this Gala a huge success.

Let's come together as a community and make Congregation Beth Israel's 70th anniversary an event to remember!

Malinab@carmelbethisrael.org
ilenecantor@gmail.com
staceyscherling@me.com

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

JANUARY 2024 • TEVET/SHEVAT 5784

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>31</div> <div>No Hesed Academy</div>	<div>1</div> <div>New Years Day</div>	<div>2</div>	<div>3</div> <div>7:15pm Fundamentals of Judaism / Adult B'nai Mitzvah Program</div>	<div>4</div>	<div>5</div> <div>5:15pm Fourth & Fifth Grade Class Dinner 6:00pm Family Shabbat with Birthday Blessings</div>	<div>6</div> <div>Shemot</div> <div>10:30am Shabbat Torah Study</div>
<div>7</div> <div>9:30am Hesed Academy</div> <div>12:30pm Aleynu</div> <div>2:00pm Gentle Pilates</div> <div>4:30pm I-HELP Men assisted by Grades K&1</div>	<div>8</div>	<div>9</div> <div>6:30pm CBI Executive Committee Meeting</div>	<div>10</div> <div>12:00pm Lunch with Our Clergy</div>	<div>11</div>	<div>12</div> <div>7:30pm Erev Shabbat Service</div>	<div>13</div> <div>Vaera</div> <div>10:30am Shabbat Torah Study</div>
<div>14</div> <div>No Hesed Academy</div> <div>10:30am Speaker Series: Prof. Sam Helfont</div> <div>2:00pm Gentle Pilates</div>	<div>15</div> <div>MLK Day</div>	<div>16</div> <div>7:00pm CBI Board of Trustees Meeting</div>	<div>17</div> <div>7:15pm Fundamentals of Judaism / Adult B'nai Mitzvah Program</div>	<div>18</div>	<div>19</div> <div>7:30pm Erev Shabbat Service</div>	<div>20</div> <div>Bo</div> <div>10:30am Shabbat Torah Study</div> <div>7:00pm Celebrate! Rabbi Leah and the Film Discovering Wisdom – Rabbi Leah's Journey</div>
<div>21</div> <div>9:30am Hesed Academy</div> <div>12:30 Aleynu</div> <div>2:00pm Gentle Pilates</div> <div>3:30pm Healing Sound Bath</div>	<div>22</div>	<div>23</div>	<div>24</div>	<div>25</div> <div>1:30pm Best Years Tu B'Shevat Walk</div>	<div>26</div> <div>6:15pm Community Shabbat Dinner</div> <div>7:30pm Erev Shabbat Service with Anniversary Blessings</div>	<div>27</div> <div>Beshalach</div> <div>10:00am B'nai Mitzvah Shabbaton</div> <div>10:30am Shabbat Torah Study</div>
<div>28</div> <div>9:30am Hesed Academy with Tu B'Shevat Seders</div> <div>2:00pm Gentle Pilates</div> <div>3:00pm Zumba</div>	<div>29</div> <div>4:30pm I-HELP Women</div>	<div>30</div>	<div>31</div> <div>7:15pm Fundamentals of Judaism / Adult B'nai Mitzvah Program</div>	<div>1</div>	<div>2</div> <div>5:15pm Second & Third Grade Class Dinner</div> <div>6:00pm Family Shabbat with Birthday Blessings</div>	<div>3</div> <div>Yitro</div> <div>10:30am Shabbat Torah Study</div>

TODAH RABAH!

Thank you to those who have recently
given generously to
Congregation Beth Israel

70th ANNIVERSARY GALA

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Love you all! Thank you! from Sarah Schechter

Elvira & Mihai Nadin for Kosher Wine

in appreciation of

Tracy Richards and Penelope Wasserman - Thank
you so much for the Zumba and Pilates classes!
from Angelica Blatt

in memory of

Rose Cohen Prupes from Martin & Karen Wiskoff
Jeny Ugoretz & Dorothy Gorelick from Melvin &
Susan Gorelick

Myron Ryter from Stephen & Wendie Ryter

Fannie Safir from Suellen S. Rubin

Herman Brandwein from William & Myrna
Brandwein

Rennette Brandwein from William & Myrna
Brandwein

Robert Taylor Fletcher III & Joan Ott from Nancy
Callahan

I-HELP PROGRAM

in appreciation of

Robby Cantor's Bar Mitzvah Project from Charlotte
Salomon & Scott Fetherston

Robby Cantor's Bar Mitzvah project from Joseph &
Carol Mironov

JEWISH FEDERATIONS OF NORTH AMERICA

Elaine Lazarus

Martin & Karen Wiskoff

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

in memory of

Mona Sacks from Steven & Jennifer Prager

SOCIAL ACTION FUND

in appreciation of

Alisa Fineman from Eric Brown



**Thank you to our
Oneg Hosts for Last
Month**

**December 8 – Friends and family of Robby Cantor
in honor of his Bar Mitzvah**

December 15 – Joe & Carol Mironov

**December 22 – Bee Epstein-Shepherd in memory
of her mother Milly Singer**

**December 29 – Sylvia & Vic Krimsley in
celebration of their 54th anniversary**

**If you would like to host an Oneg please call the
CBI office for available dates.**

You may host in honor or memory of someone
special to you or in gratitude or honor of a special
occasion or life cycle event.

Please help us keep this tradition alive. It's easy,
it's fun and very much appreciated.

Call the CBI office to schedule your Oneg at 831-
624-2015.



**Insure the future
of CBI by leaving
a gift in your will,
trust, retirement
account, or life
insurance policy.**



Congregation Beth Israel
5716 Carmel Valley Road
Carmel, CA 93923
831- 624-2015

email: shalomcbi@aol.com

Website: www.carmelbethisrael.org

Chartered in 1954 as the Jewish Community of the Monterey Peninsula, Congregation Beth Israel today serves the spiritual, educational, and social needs of Jews on the Peninsula. We derive programming and administrative strength from our affiliation with the Union for Reform Judaism and offer traditional programming to meet the needs of Jews on the Monterey Peninsula. The Congregation sponsors weekly worship services and Torah study on Shabbat; observances of all holidays and festivals; and formal educational programs. We operate our own school on weekend mornings, and we also maintain a Judaica library.

Clergy & Staff

Bruce Greenbaum - *Rabbi, D.D. & Director of Education*

Alisa Fineman – *Cantor &*

Asst Director of Education

Julie Chase- *Executive Director*

Donna Shore- *Interim Office Manager*

Charlotte Salomon- *Dir. Membership Development & Engagement*

Sophie Little- *Education Coordinator*

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2023-24

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Congregation Beth Israel
5716 Carmel Valley Road
Carmel, CA 93923

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Parshiot

January 6, Shemot

T: Exodus 1:1-6:1

H: Isaiah 27:6-28:13

January 13, Va'era

T: Exodus 6:2-9:35

H: Jeremiah 46:13-28

January 20, Bo

T: Exodus 10:1-13:16

H: Ezekiel 28:25-29:21

January 27, Beshalach

T: Exodus 13:17-17:16

H: Judges 4:4-5:31