

LECEMBER 2000 KISLEV-TEVET 5761

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deas take time to percolate. Actually, this one took about ten years. It began at a brit milah when I was invited to participate in a Sephardic ceremony. On that occasion, the mohel asked the sandek (the one honored with holding the baby boy) to sit in a marvelously decorated chair used for this occasion. The chair itself belonged to a

San Francisco
Sephardic congregation and was
brought to all
britot. Well, ever
on the search for
new objects to
enhance our performance of

THE STORY OF THE CHAIRS

By Rabbi Stuart Kelman



ceremony. As a matter of fact, there were even two chairs brought to a home (or used in a synagogue) for this purpose. There are even chairs which, when carved together, appear something like a love seat. I thought at the time, how wonderful it might be if we at Netivot Shalom could own two such chairs. The idea sat with me for a

bit, until I was present at another brit milah and was teaching the blessing that all of us say right after the operation is per-

formed: keshem shenicnas labrit, kayn yikanes letorah, lehuoopah ulemaasim tovim ("As he has entered the covenant, so may he enjoy a life filled with Torah, companionship and extraordinary good deeds.") This is our blessing for a newborn. Suddenly, it occurred to me that two chairs might also be used for two additional purposes: for a chatan and kallah (groom and bride) and surrounding the ark which holds the Torah.

Three purposes: for a newborn, for a loving couple, and for the Torah. So, last fall, Paul Feinstein and I went and purchased (through funds from the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund) two rather interesting antique chairs. Through Paul's creativity and Lee Feinstein's beautiful work, they created two new chairs which now sit beside the ark at the JCC. Those who lift the Torah, now sit on at least one of them while the Torah is being tied. On Shabbat Bereshit, we formally dedicated these two chairs. The very next day, at the wedding of Rena Dorph and Peter Wahrhaftig, we

(continued on page 5)

mitzvot, I began to look into this custom of using specially designed chairs for a brit milah. What I discovered was that there are many traditions. To begin, I discovered that there are traditions which use two chairs in a covenant ceremony; one on which the sandek sits; the other which is designated as the Kisah eliyahu - the chair of Elijah. There is a folk belief that the prophet Elijah is present at a brit milah. We speak of Elijah being present at a brit milah, at a Pesach seder and at the close of every Shabbat at Havdalah. As I learned from Larry Hoffman, Elijah appears in our ritual at moments which are liminal moments which define times that may be of danger; moments between the sacred and the profane, between the home and the outside, between birth and the viability of life. So the custom has become to designate one chair as belonging to Elijah. (After all, who would invite someone into their home and not offer them a chair?) In checking some sources, and with the help of our local mohel, Chanan Feld, I learned that special chairs had been designed for this



Tefillah Schedule

Saturday Shabbat Services & Torah Study

Berkeley-Richmond Jewish Community Center 1414 Walnut Street, Berkeley 9:00 am - Torah Study 9:45 am - Shabbat Services 11:00 am - Shabbat B'Yachad/ Torah L'Yeladim

Wednesday Morning Minyan

1841 Berkeley Way, Berkeley 7:15 am

Meditative Shacharit

December 16, 9:30-10:30am

Join Robert Lester, on the third Shabat of the month, for a morning service opening the door to traditional Shabbat liturgy through meditation and chanting. This is a special opportunity to sink deeply into Shabbat prayer and silence before joining the rest of the community for the Torah service.

Torah Study

DECEMBER

- 2 Toldot • Fred Astren
- 9 Va-Yetze • Nitzhia Shaked
- Va-Yishlach R. Stuart Kelman
- Va-Yeshev Nitzhia Shaked 23
- 30 Mi Ketz • Open

JANUARY

- 6 Va-Yiggash • Nitzhia Shaked
- 13 Va-Yehi • Ken Cohen
- 20 Shemot • Nitzhia Shaked
- 27 Va-yra • Rabbi Art Gould

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SHALOM



THE MEDITATIVE MINYAN: MEDITATION AND TEFILAH

By Robert Lester (Hillel Ariel)

SHIMON BEN GAMLIEL SAID:

I grew up among the Sages. All my life I listened to their words. Yet I have found nothing better than silence.

> Study is not the goal, doing is. Do not mistake "talk" for "action" Pity fills no stomach. Compassion builds no house. Understanding is not yet justice.

Whoever multiplies words causes confusion. The truth that can be spoken Is not the Ultimate Truth. Ultimate Truth is wordless. The silence within the silence. More than the absence of words. Ultimate Truth is the seamless being-in-place That comes with attending to reality.

- A Modern Reading of Pirke Avot, by Rabbi Rami Shapiro

I recall my song into the night, With my heart I meditate And my spirit searches diligently.

- Psalm 77:7- Metsudah Translation

The most direct means for attaching ourselves to G-d from this material world is through music and song.

Even if you can't sing well, sing. Sing to yourself. Sing in the Privacy of your own home. But sing.

- Rebbe Nachman of Breslov



Through meditation, we can awaken to the moment, bringing clear and deep kavanah (intention) to the words we speak to G-d and ourselves. Our emotional and spiritual state during prayer is not just a possible byproduct of the prayer service, but the very pivotal point of the tefilah relationship. Being awake to our relationship with G-d.

Meditation has long been a part of Judaism. Today, there is a revival that is discovering the richness of the Jewish meditative tradition. Come join us as we deepen our access into the Shabbat liturgy through song and silence. Using key phrases of the liturgy for chants and entryways into meditation. Every third Saturday, 9:30 a.m. at the BRJCC.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING **FEBRUARY 11, 2000 Berkeley Senior Center** Martin Luther King

(1 block North of Shul office)

KABBALAT SHABBAT VEGGIE POTLUCK

at the home of Shirah and Chauncey Bell in Alameda at 6:30 on December 15. Please RSVP to 510-523-7709 or email shirahbellphd@home.com

CELEBRATE ROSH CHODESH WITH WOMEN FROM THE **NETIVOT SHALOM COMMUNITY!**

The theme of our next meeting is "Family Rituals," led by Iris Greenbaum and Carla Cassler, and will be held on Monday, November 27 at the home of Nan Strauss. For directions, call Nan at 510-547-8174. For more information about the Rosh Chodesh group, call Carla Cassler at 510-232-3036.



CHANUKAH, AMEN

By Josh Gressel, Ritual Committee

This year Chanukah coincides almost exactly with Christmas. Jerry Derblich, Ritual Committee Chair and owner of Afikomen, reports that sales for Chanukah are always higher when it comes closer to Christmas. This seems to reflect the powerful influence Christmas has on how Jews in America view and celebrate Chanukah. One effect is that Chanukah becomes a major Jewish holiday, when it is only a minor holiday in Israel and the Book of Maccabees (on which the holiday is based) was not included in the Tanach. The second effect of Christmas is the added emphasis on gift giving. It is probably the latter which many American Jewish parents find most troubling.

I heard an interesting comment in graduate school from a Jungian psychologist on the nature of materialism. She said that when we buy something, the initial thrill, the sense of newness and specialness that we feel, is an experience of the numinous Self (a Jungian term somewhat like neshama, or soul). In other words, buying or receiving something can give us a feeling akin to a religious experience. (Anyone who has braved the Ikea parking lot on a Sunday morning can witness some pretty intense shopping kavanah.)

It is probably up to each of us to decide when the gift giving stops being a means for experiencing God and becomes instead something noxious that takes us farther from God. I believe one good way to stay on the healthy side of the line is to celebrate Chanukah as much as possible with community. This year there will again be a community celebration in the synagogue as well as neighborhood celebrations in individual homes, and we will again be adopting needy families for Christmas.

Now for the second part of the title: the word 'amen'. This has nothing specific to do with Chanukah. It's just another one of those ubiquitous words in the liturgy we all say without, perhaps, being sure we know what it means. It also may be the single most widely used Hebrew word in the English language.

The word itself comes from the three-letter Hebrew root of alef, mem and nun. These three letters form the root of various words having to do with believing (lehamin), belief (emunah), confidence (emun) and believability or credibility (amin or aminut). When we use it in a prayer as "Amen" we're essentially saying we believe what was just said is right or true.

There are numerous rules governing the use of the word "amen". According to Ronald Isaacs' Every Person's Guide to Jewish Prayer (p. 158-159), the following 10 rules apply:

- One does not respond "Amen" to a blessing that one has recited for oneself.
- 2. "Amen" may be said when hearing a blessing recited by a Gentile.
- 3. One must not respond "Amen" to a blessing made in vain.
- 4. When in the midst of praying, one may not be interrupted, and may not stop, in order to say "Amen."
- 5. For educational purposes, one ought to answer "Amen" to a blessing recited by a child.
- 6. One should not say "Amen" in a tone louder than the blessing itself.
- 7. One should always pronounce the word "Amen" distinctly, without rushing.
- 8. One should always answer "Amen" after the entire blessing has been completed.
- 9. One should never answer "Amen" to a blessing that one does not actually hear. Such a response is called an "orphaned amen" and is expressly forbidden.
- 10. According to some rabbinical authorities, "Amen" is not said upon a blessing that is heard on the radio or on television.

Hag Sameach!



TAKE THE TIME NOW – ATTEND A COMMITTEE MEETING

You'll find out what's going on and join the people who are making decisions for Netivot Shalom. New faces, new energy, new creativity. It could be you.

Just a Reminder: The Netivot Shalom Annual Meeting is coming up in February.

SEE YOU THERE!



REFLECTIONS FROM YOUR RABBINIC INTERN

want to let all of you know what a blessing and a privilege it was for me to do my rabbinical school internship at Netivot Shalom. Over the course of the summer, I got to know many of you at Etzleinu potlucks, committee meetings, Torah study, Wednesday minyan, Shabbat kiddushim, and other synagogue events. All of you were so warm and welcoming; you made me feel at home and you gave me much encouragement in my rabbinic studies. Thank you.

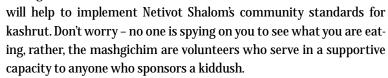
Netivot Shalom is an extraordinary community. I was inspired by the dedication and involvement of the members and by the quality and commitment of the staff. You showed me what makes a vibrant synagogue community, and you taught me important lessons for my rabbinic career that I never could have learned in the classroom. I want to thank Iris Greenbaum for her support this summer, and I want especially to thank Rabbi Kelman for his guidance and mentoring. I know my being here created more work for him, and I want to publicly appreciate him for his menschlikeit and for being such a great teacher. Netivot Shalom is lucky indeed to have this wonderful rabbi.

Again, thank you for having me at Netivot Shalom this summer. I hope to stay in touch as I finish my next two years of studies, first in Israel and then back at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, and I certainly hope to see all of you again.

B'ahava uv'todah, Chai Levy

KASHRUT UPDATE

etivot Shalom values kashrut and is committed to serving kosher food at all Shabbat kiddushim and community events. In order to maintain our standards of kashrut despite the challenge of not having our own kitchen at the JCC, we have created a new group of mashgichim (kashrut overseers) who



Maybe you have thought of sponsoring a kiddush, but you aren't sure if your kitchen is kosher enough or you feel that you don't know enough about kashrut even to buy food for a kiddush. Mashgichim to the rescue! Our mashgichim are knowledgeable about Netivot Shalom's kashrut policy, and they will be in contact with kiddush sponsors weeks before the date of the kiddush and will be in the JCC kitchen on Shabbat morning. We want to thank our members who have volunteered to serve as mashgichim. If you would like to join them, please contact the mashgiach coordinator, Glenn Massarano, at 644-0654.

THE STORY OF THE CHAIRS RABBI'S COLUMN CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

again used these chairs to lift them as we danced. With God's help, we will also have occasion shortly to use these chairs at a brit ceremony (for both boys and girls). After all, why shouldn't Elijah be present for girls as he is for boys?

Lee is preparing two additional cushions to raise the seat so that it can be a bit more comfortable for the mohel. For those of you who have seen these chairs, you will notice that they have a rather large seat-back. I intend to order a plaque to be placed on the back of the chairs which, from 5761 on, will record the names of every baby born into the congregation and any couple who are members of the congregation and married here. (Actually, I would like someone's help in recording the names of people who have celebrated life cycles events within our congregation from its inception. If you can give some time to this project, please get in touch with me.)

Once again, we have been able to create a new object for ritual use which will enhance our performance of these three mitzvot. May such opportunities ever increase.





WE ARE A REVOLUTION!

By Jean Bradman

The Older Person's Discussion Group continues to evolve, though perhaps you know us as the 55+ group. The lack of a firm name reflects an agenda that is still in flux. This in turn reflects a demographic change that is truly astonishing. Just 100 years ago people in their 70's and 80's were relatively few in number. At present the elder population in Alameda county is projected to increase by 75% between 1990 and 2010. We are a revolution!

It is important for those of us in the 55+ age group to understand some of the issues which surround this dramatic population change. Issues such as power of attorney, wills, being sandwiched between generations, ethical issues at the end of life. And so on.

We meet the second Monday of each month from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. On November 13th, Helen and Martin Wachs hosted our Poetic Celebration of Aging. On Monday, December 11, from 7-9:00 pm, Rabbi Kelman will be joining us for a discussion fo the Jewish view of aging and text study of Mipnei Savya Takum. Please RSVP to Jean Bradman at 549-3231.

We welcome any suggestions you may have concerning topics for future gatherings. Please contact Jean or Iris Greenbaum at 524-8548.

SAVE THESE ETZLEINU DATES:

Chanukah Celebrations: December 21-29

Kabbalat Shabbat & Havdalah gatherings: Any Shabbat

Tu B'Shevat Seders: February 8

Mishloach Manot - Delivering Purim Treats: March 9

Pesach Seder Matching: April 7-15

Lag B'Omer Picnic: May 11

ETZLEINU: IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

By Iris Greenbaum, Program Coordinator & Michelle Wolfson, Program Assistant

ne reason we join a synagogue is to feel part of a community larger than ourselves, and at the same time, to find a place where we belong. So many of us share in this desire that our congregation has grown by leaps and bounds to more than 380 families. When the congregation is too big to know everyone, we feel less connected. So, to recreate the intimate 'round the kitchen table' feeling, we created Etzleinu, neighborhood gatherings where we can once again gather round a kitchen table with other congregation members.

Our goals are:

- To meet other members (new and not so new) who live in the same neighborhood.
- To join together for Jewish celebrations and holidays.
- To live Jewishly by supporting each other through neighborhood networks for gemilut hasadim (acts of loving kindness).

Your feedback from last year's Etzleinu gatherings has been helpful in guiding us in this second Etzleinu year. Many people expressed a desire to deepen their Jewish spiritual practice and feel more likely to participate when we share together in Shabbat or holiday celebrations. Joining together for neighborhood celebrations also makes us more likely to reach out and support each other in times of need or sorrow.

Etzleinu can only grow with your active participation! You can help by volunteering for just one small task for just one neighborhood gathering. Many hands make light work!

We need you to:

- 1. Share your living room or back yard for an event. (We just need a small gathering space. No space is too small and you can limit the number of people invited. We'll help with the rest!)
- 2. Be a phone caller. Call 10 of your neighbors to personally invite them to the next Etzleinu event. (It's okay to leave messages on message machines.)
- 3. Come early to help set up chairs.
- 4. Stay later to help tidy up.
- 5. Welcome a new member to the neighborhood.
- 6. Lead one blessing at an event.
- 7. Help make latkes for Chanukah.
- 8. Pick up the Kabbalat Shabbat prayer books from Netivot Shalom offices.





KIDS ON SHABBAT MORNING

By Andrea Altschuler

When you come to shul on Shabbat morning, most likely you are aware of the many children present. Several dozen schoolage kids are typically in religious school. Depending on the week, that many or more might be in pre-K programs such as Shabbat B'Yachad or Shabbat Shelanu. There are also school-age children who are not enrolled in any programs - some sit in services with their parents, some read outside in the foyer, and some wander the halls of the JCC.

For many years, the Youth Education committee has attempted to engage all the synagogue's kids in meaningful programs on Shabbat morning. Thus far, we have been fairly successful with children up to sixth grade with the distinct exception of day school kids. In order to address this deficiency, to better create a sense of community between day school and religious school children, and to provide for the safety of all children on Shabbat morning, the Youth Education committee, with input from parents of religious school and day school students, has come up with the following short- and long-term plans.

On Shabbat morning, we will actively request that ALL children be in one of three places: 1) in religious school, 2) reading quietly in the foyer, or 3) with their parents, either in services or out. We are no longer able to allow children (up to sixth grade) to wander freely through the JCC for two reasons. First, it is unsafe for children to be on the play struc-

ture outside without adult supervision; and, second, these children have regularly created messes in various rooms of the JCC and damaged or destroyed JCC property. These are both, obviously, situations that are not acceptable. In the short-term, we will ask any children whom we find "wandering" to return to their parents or sit quietly in the foyer to read.

Our long-term solution to this long-term problem is as follows. Based on our recent Youth Education meeting, we will be redeveloping and expanding our current "mini-minyanim" for 2nd-6th graders into programs that will be more appealing to all the kids. (We have already instituted a new, fully inclusive "mini-minyan" for kindergarten and first grade, Shabbat Shelanu, that is off to a wonderful start.) We will begin by asking the 4th-6th grade kids themselves to come together on Shabbat morning, facilitated by parents, to develop a t'fila program for their age group. Based on these discussions, we can develop a meaningful t'fila experience for all the congregation's school-age kids.

We are very much in the early stages of developing this program, and welcome comments and insight. It is our goal on the Youth Education committee to create a meaningful and joyful community for our children. If you would like to offer your feedback and/or participation, please feel free to contact me at 649-9290, or andaltl@yahoo.com. \diamondsuit



FUNDRAISING NEWS

By Claudia Valas

As you do your end-of-year (fiscal, not Jewish) financial planning, please remember Netivot Shalom. We have many worthy funds and promise to make good use of your money! We even give you a donation slip in this newsletter to make donations as easy as possible. And don't forget - many corporations have donation matching plans. Check with your employer and double the amount of your donation.

Our auto donation program is another great way to donate to Netivot Shalom. We made over \$11,000 in our first year. It's very easy you get a tax deduction, we get a donation! If you have a car that you would like to donate, please call Claudia at 558-9200.

You can also help by signing up for eScrip. The list of merchants continues to grow and now includes Cody's Books, Eddie Bauer, Budget Rent-A-Car, The Sharper Image, Petsmart, and many grocery stores. We have separate cards for Albertson's, which has its own program, and scrip for Berkeley Bowl. This is one of the easiest ways to donate to Netivot Shalom. All you do is shop as you would anyway, and use a credit card that you have registered with eScrip. Some organizations are making thousands of dollars every month. We could too, if every member would sign up. Registration forms are available online at escripinc.com or at the Netivot Shalom office. If you have any questions about eScrip, call Claudia at 558-9200.

DONATION CARD

I/We wish to make a donation. Enclosed is my/our check payable to:

Congregation Netivot Shalom 1841 Berkeley Way Berkeley, CA 94703

Donor(s) Information:						
STREET						
Please honor the following person/event: NAME						
STREET						
This donation is intended for the following:						
ADULT EDUCATION	LIBRARY					
_BUILDING FUND	RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND					
_DINNERS FOR THE HOMELESS	_TORAH STUDY					
_CUBA FUND	YOUTH EDUCATION					
GENERAL FLIND						

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS: CHANUKAH AND A SUKKOT UPDATE

Celebrate Chanukah in Etzleinu Neighborhood Gatherings! Share in festive lights, familiar songs, and tasty treats at our neighborhood Chanukah celebrations! Hosting this exciting event will be made easy with your Netivot Shalom Chanukah Party Kit! Each host family will receive song booklets, a Chanukah song tape, a "How To" guide, a box of candles, gelt, and dreidels! For more info, call Iris Greenbaum or Michelle Wolfson at 549-9447 ext. 110.

We light the first candle on Thursday, December 21st.

Sukkot in Tilden

The natural beauty and serenity of Tilden Park was a perfect setting to experience the goodness of life and gratitude for God's sustenance . For three days beginning Friday afternoon through Sunday night, the peaceful setting of Wildcat View in Tilden was home for our communal Sukkah. Originated by Ellen Peskin and Ben Heschen last year, our Sukkot gathering grew in popularity this year! Forty Netivot Shalomers (adults and children) celebrated Kabbalat Shabbat with tefillah, singing, and delicious food. The Shabbat candles filled our Sukkah with light, and our voices filled the surrounding darkness with warmth under the Tishrei full moon.

Guests visited us throughout the Sukkot weekend, delighting in great conversation, lots of singing, tefillah, sharing of personal reflections and blessings, studying Torah, and tasting delicious foods. Children's activities included a prayer service led by Sam Priven, stories, hiking, decorating the Sukkah and nature activities. An interfaith group of adults and children, hosted by Ellen and Ben, came to visit us in our Sukkah!

There are many people to thank for creating this unique experience: Ellen Peskin and Ben Heschen for their vision and hard work! Sukkah builders Ben Heschen and John Reynolds; Sukkah deconstructionists Ben Heschen, John Reynolds and Jory Gessow; Michelle Wolfson for coordinating and leading in tefillah and Torah study; Mark Priven for leading in Shacharit; Bridgette Wynne and Robert Lester for adding to our experience of prayer.

Thank you to all who participated in creating a 'Sukkah Shalom'!!!!

We need volunteers to help plan next year's Sukkot celebration! (It's not too early - now is the time to reserve the campsite!) Please call Iris Greenbaum if you are interested: 549-9447 ext. 110.



CHANUKAH SOCIAL ACTION MITZVAH PROJECT

"If a child in a modern society like ours does not learn to read, he doesn't make it in life."

(McPike, Learning to Read: A School's First Mission)

Did you know that many East Bay public schools don't have libraries, or that few have funds to buy new books? The Jewish Coalition for Literacy needs your help to support the work of volunteer tutors in the public schools. You can help by donating new books to be used for individualized tutoring, after school reading programs, and school libraries. Please do a mitzvah for a child:

- Contact Iris Greenbaum for suggested titles.
- Bring the new books to an Etzleinu Chanukah celebration or drop them off at the shul offices.

HELP A BOOK FIND A CHILD!

DONATE STOCK!

Yes, we now accept stock as donation.

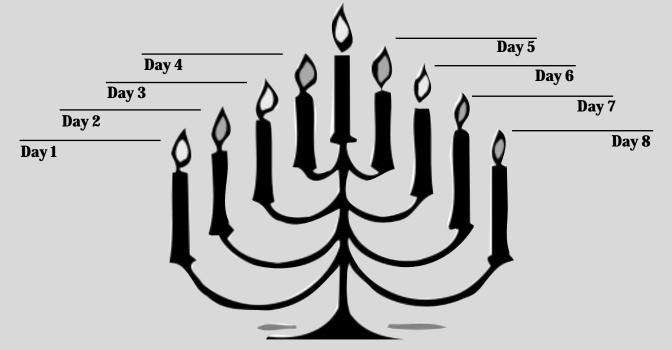
For more information call

Mark Priven at 510-559-8393.

HOST OR GUEST, WE'LL HELP PLAN THE REST!

Who are the people in your neighborhood?
Come meet them at the next Etzleinu event in your neck of the woods. We are most in need of people to open their home for one gathering.
Willing to host a Chanukah celebration?
Call Iris Greenbaum or Michelle Wolfson at 549-9447 x 110.

PARTICIPATE IN CHAI FOR CHANUKAH!



Celebrate Chanukah by honoring your friends and family.

Make a donation to Netivot Shalom for each night of Chanukah.

Fill in the names of the people you wish to honor and return this form with your check to:

Congregation Netivot Shalom, 1841 Berkeley Way, Berkeley, CA 94703

9/6 ISLEV-TEVET

monday sunday

tuesday wednesday thursday

friday

Forah Study of Toldot with Fred Astren Kiddush sposored by Debbie and Jerry Isaak Shapiro in honor of Josh and Naomi's birthdays

take place at the Netivot Shalom offices (1841 Berkeley Way.)

place at the BRJCC (1414 Walnut St.) and all other activities

Unless otherwise stated, all Saturday morning activities take

Candle Lighting Time: 4:33 pm

Shabbat Shelanu

BRJCC Rm. 14

11:30 am

5 Kislev

4 Kislev

Q

Torah Study of Va-Yetze with Nitzhia Shaked Kiddush sponsored by Larry Ben Avram and Susan Torbohn in honor of Ari Ben Avram's Bar Bar Mitzvah

11:30 am

Midrasha Workshop

7:30 - 9 pm Talmud Study Group

7:15 am Morning Minyan

7:30 pm Chavruta Hebrew

12 Kislev	9 am Torah Study of Va-Yishlach with R. Stuart Kelman 9:30 am Meditative Shacharit Kiddush sponsored by Cyndi and Peter Berck in honor of Joseph Berck in honor of Joseph Berck Shabbat Shelanu BRJCC Rm. 14	19 Kislev	Torah Study of Va-Yeshev with Nitzhia Shaked Kiddush sposored by Deborah and Peter Goldberg in honor of Leo Goldberg's Bar Mitzvah 11:30 am Shabbat B'Yachad BRJCC Rm. 14 S	4 Tevet
Candle Lighting Time: 4:33 pm 11 Kislev	6:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat, at the Bells' home Alameda, RSVP 510.523.7709 Candle Lighting time: 4:34 pm	18 Kislev 👛 🖶	Candle Lighting time: 4:37 pm 24 Kislev 29 Kislev	Candle Lighting time: 4:42 pm 3 Tevet
10 Kislev	4	17 Kislev	21-29 CHANUKAH Etzleinu Neighborhood Chanukah Celebrations For details all Iris at 549-9447 x110 24 Kislev	2 Tevet
9 Kislev	7:15 am Morning Minyan 7:30 pm Chavruta Hebrew	16 Kislev	7:15 am Morning Minyan 7:30 pm Chavruta Hebrew 23 Kislev 7:15 am Morning Minyan 7:30 pm Chavruta Hebrew	1 Tevet
8 Kislev	7:30 - 9 pm Talmud Study Group	15 Kislev	7:30 - 9 pm Talmud Study Group 22 Kislev 7:30 - 9 pm Talmud Study Group	29 Kislev
7 Kislev	7-9:00 pm 55+ Group	14 Kislev	WINTER BREAK No Religious School or Amitim	28 Kislev
6 Kislev	0	13 Kislev	10 am - 12 noon Shabbat B'Yachad Chanukah Celebration BRJCC Rm. 14 10:30 am Youth Education Committee Meeting	5 Tevet



YOUR BUILDING COMMITTEE HAS A LOT TO TELL YOU THIS MONTH

- A. Site Search
- B. \$2 Million Loan
- C. Subcommittees
- D. Welcome to Consultant Stan Moore

A. SITE SEARCH

The committee needs the eyes and ears of all congregants to help us in our search for a suitable location for our new home. The real estate market is so hot that once a site appears on the market, it is virtually too late. So we need to be proactive and identify a site that meets our criteria and then see if we can make something happen. If you see or hear of any locations that meet the following criteria let us know. It can be a business that might be closing, moving, or not doing too well. We have also been in contact with the East Bay Jewish Federation to explore possibilities of collaborating with other agencies. Although we have contacted a couple of commercial real estate brokers, we need the help of all members. Contact the Building Committee through the shul web site or call Michael Irwin, Committee Chair, at 527-3457, evenings.

Criteria:

Our target site should be within three miles of the BRJCC, but if the right site is found slightly farther than that, we need to consider it. About 18,000-20,000 sq. ft. of land, about 12,000-15,000 sq. ft. of internal space (if an existing building). If it is an existing building, it needs to have on-site parking for about 35-40 cars and on-street parking to accommodate attendees for Shabbat services. Preferably near public transportation. Any site we obtain will require a public hearing, new use permit, and zoning that permits assembly usage.

Sites that we have actively investigated over the past two years include the following:

Temple Beth El: Beth El has been an on-going topic of discussion for several years. As reported in the local press, their relocation plans have run into serious objections by neighbors and that has led to delays of their project. Because of this, they have not been in a position to discuss selling their current site. In two to three months Beth El may be willing to talk, but only if we have money. Availability is subject to the success of Beth El's obtaining all City approvals necessary to develop their new site. The Building Committee has expressed considerable concern about the viability of their current site due to its small size, lack of parking, neighbors' attitude and inability to expand the facilities.

BRJCC: Developing a joint campus with the BRJCC has also been an

on-going topic of discussion. Their plans for long range use of the site are still being determined. Assuming an agreement could be made with the BRJCC, anticipated problems in expanding the size of the facility to meet our needs include landmark status of the building, neighborhood resistance, and zoning restrictions.

Methodist Trinity Church on Durant: Since we considered the Page Street building, this site has received the most serious consideration. A subcommittee visited the site. Positive factors included the desire by Methodist Trinity Church to work with another faith community, location within our desired area, and the size of the existing structure. Negative factors include the noisy and traffic-congested campus neighborhood; a structure which architecturally is alien to our image (seriously Gothic); no place for kids to play; probably a long term lease rather than purchase; safety concerns for children (plus a traffic flight plan for pick-up and drop-off would have been very difficult), and potentially high costs for safety/accessibility upgrades. As a result this site was deemed to be unacceptable.

Other churches: We have also been in contact with a couple other churches whose property appears underutilized. They have shown no interest – thus far - in continuing discussions with us.

Fulton and Dwight: Norheim & Yost suggested this open parking lot property. Although we responded quickly, it was already in escrow by the time we checked.

Brass Foundry at 7th and Parker: Plans have been developed to convert this former brass foundry into a three-story building with onsite parking. This site appeared viable until we checked with the Berkeley Planning Department and found that the zoning precludes use for public assembly. This is typical of potential sites in West Berkeley (the old Urban Ore site on 6th Street, for example,) which are zoned by the city for light industrial use.

University at Acton open lot: This is likely going to be proposed for low-cost housing.

1800 San Pablo/Delaware: An auto repair shop (previously a florist shop). We investigated this site through Norheim & Yost. Although there was a sign indicating the site was for sale, it had already been removed from the market and the owner has signed a long term lease with the existing occupants. The owner rejected a purchase offer (from someone else) for \$1.2 million.

(continued on next page)



(Continued from previous page)

Dan Chin Chevron Station on Shattuck: We checked with Chevron as soon as this 19,000 sq. ft. property became vacant in 1999. At that time it was not available for sale yet they already had an offer for \$900,000. In May, 2000, the property was put up for sale by silent auction with a minimum bid of \$1.8 million, and it was being sold "as is", i.e. contaminated. We understand it sold for over \$3 million.

El Cerrito Lumber Company: Originally we thought it was too far north. The property has since been sold for an apartment/commercial complex.

Dolan Lumber, Central Ave. in El Cerrito: Sold.

San Pablo and Page St.: This information is to update new members. In December 1998, this former industrial property offering attractive large spaces became available. Concern was raised regarding the safety of the location. Our offer of \$1.1 million was matched by an equal offer. Our offer had time contingencies to enable us to assemble the down payment, receive congregational approval and the necessary use permits. The owner accepted the other offer, which had no such contingencies. This example points out how important it is for us to get the commitments needed for a down payment, and procedures in place to enable us to move quickly when the right site comes along. See below.

State Office Building on Shattuck next to Copelands: The committee toured this building and determined that the cost to retrofitting it for public assembly would have been far greater than our fundraising capacity. There is a beautiful site up the Arlington at San Antonio (The Old Spring Estate); unfortunately the cost is over \$10 million and the neighbors would probably not be happy with a public assembly use. If someone wants to come forward with a large chunk towards that amount, we would be willing to explore the possibilities!

There have been other sites that have been discussed and rejected for various reasons, such as location outside of our target zone, lack of public transportation, in a residential area, or limited parking.

B. SECURING A DOWN PAYMENT FOR OUR NEW HOME

As you can tell from the above examples, we have missed some potential sites because we did not have the down payment at hand. We must be able to have the finances available quickly for the down payment on any property we wish to purchase. We must solve this problem or it will be impossible to secure a site, given the speed with which properties are being snapped up. The good news is that we are talking with a local bank about a \$2 million line of credit secured by shul member guarantors. The Executive Committee will be discussing terms of such a loan. If agreeable, we will move forward in November and December to contact interested members of the congregation to ask

them to be guarantors, based on their personal assets or equity in their homes. If you would like to know more, contact Mike Irwin at 527-3457, evenings. If this all works out, we might have the down payment secured in this way by Chanukah, the festival commemorating the rededication of the Temple!

C. SUBCOMMITTEES - MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

At our November 16 meeting, we set up subcommittees as follows:

Steering: Mike Irwin, Chair

Site Review: Paul Feinstein

Communication: Judy Kunofsky

Financial: John Klein

Donor Identification: Art Braufman

Guarantors: Barbara Staman

Campaign: To be determined

We need more members for the Communication Subcommittee (to keep the congregation and neighbors informed) and Financial Subcommittee (to prepare the budget for acquiring and developing an approved site). To join the building committee or any of its subcommittees, contact Mike Irwin at 527-3457.

D. WELCOME TO CONSULTANT STAN MOORE

Netivot Shalom is pleased to be working with fundraising consultant, Stan Moore. Stan has assisted more than sixty institutions (including synagogues) in twenty-one states and overseas, in raising more than \$100 million. Stan is helping us develop a plan to raise the funds we need to purchase a building that will be our home. His role is not to ask for gifts, but rather to assist the Building Committee in the campaign. Stan will be interviewing some members of the congregation, drafting campaign materials, training volunteer fund raisers, and providing other necessary support to us.

As can be seen from the above activities, there is a tremendous amount of work that needs to take place to make real the dream that Rabbi Kelman and President Moreno talked about on Yom Kippur. This is a very exciting time for our congregation. The efforts and commitment of our members will be the key to our success.



ADULT By Jonaulan ... By Jonaulan ... By Jonaulan ... By Jonaulan ... A DULT By Jonaulan ... By Jonaulan ...

or those who have been reticent to take on a role in programming or assisting with Adult Education at Netivot Shalom, because (as Oscar Wilde said of Socialism) "it would just take up too many evenings", we have an offer you still may be able to refuse, but shouldn't: LEAD OR PLAN ONE EVENT OR PROGRAM THIS YEAR. No committee attendance required.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:30 p.m. at the shul offices

- -The Passover Haggadah
- -January 17: Prof. David Winston, The Historical Development of the Haggadah
- -February 7: Shachar Pinsker, Memory in the Haggadah and in See Under Love, a novel by the contemporary Israeli author, David Goldman
- -March 14: Special Guests TBA, The Music of the Haggadah
- -March 21: Sephardic Seder with Rachel Heinstein and Tsipi Gabay
- -March 28: Rabbi Stuart Kelman; The Moss Haggadah



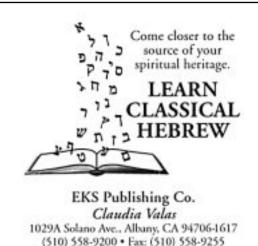
LEVINAS ON ONE FOOT

Emmanuel Levinas z'l is arguably the most important Jewish philosopher of the 20th century. His impact on the direction of Western philosophical thinking has been profound, redirecting attention from the quest for truth to the necessity of ethics. Levinas' thought runs contrary to a cultural climate dominated by a passion for selfhood, selfactualization and a flight from duty. His basic teachings address equally all branches of contemporary Judaism.

Seymour Kessler will introduce some of the basic ideas of Levinas' thought and its implications for current Jewish life and behavior. The first lecture will focus on the philosophical writings and the innovative concepts Levinas advances to redirect ethical thinking. This will serve as the basis for understanding his more Jewish writings, which will be considered in the second lecture. Recommended reading: Difficult Freedom (John Hopkins University Press) - the essays: "Ethics and Spirit", "A Religion for Adults", "Loving Torah More than God', "Judaism and the Present". Please join us Sunday, January 14 & 21, 10:00 a.m. at the shul offices.

GENDER AND JUDAISM

The focus group for Gender and Judaism met on November 5 and held an open discussion of issues such as gender bias in Youth Education materials; the relation between Hebrew text and the various attempts at gender 'sensitivity' in English translation of Liturgy; the historical development (or regression) of women's status and role in Judaism; and some dozen other approaches to this topic. For the present, the group is sharing information, responses, and calendar reminders through email. Additional programming will follow.





ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING

TORAH STUDY WITH NITZHIA SHAKED AND GUEST TEACHERS

Meets every Shabbat at 9:00 a.m. in Room 4 at the BRJCC.

B'NAI AVRAHAM V'SARAH A CHAVURAH FOR JEWS BY CHOICE AND THEIR FAMILIES

Meets bi-monthly at various members homes. Please call Carol Cunradi at 234-1003.

JUDAISM REVEALED A GROUP FOR JEWS AND THEIR NON-JEWISH PARTNERS

Meets monthly.

Please call Rose Levinson at 526-1322.

TALMUD STUDY GROUP

Meets every Tuesday evening at the shul offices at 7:30 p.m.

Learn Tractate Brachot and selected issues.

Currently reviewing texts suggested by Menachem Fisch's 'Rational Rabbis: Science and Talmudic Culture.'

FREE CLASSICAL HEBREW LESSONS

with Ethelyn Simon.

Call 530-7970 for additional information.

DECEMBER 18-JANUARY 1, NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL AND NO AMITIM.

YOUTH EDUCATION

By Rabbi Margie Jacobs

he holiday of Chanukah brings us many lessons that are relevant to other aspects of our lives and our interactions with our families. First, we have the miracle of the oil. When we light the Chanukah candles, we assert the hope that just as our ancestors were able to make precious, limited resources stretch to meet their spiritual needs, we can create a full rich communal Jewish life with our limited resources. We are limited in the number of Jewish educational classroom hours that we are able to provide for the children of our community, and we are limited in the staff and financial resources that we have to create optimal programming for our youth. How do we perform the "miracle" of making these limited resources stretch? I encourage parents to reinforce the learning that occurs in the classroom by discussing material with your children at home, and by contextualizing the learning about Judaism with the experience of Jewish practice in the home. In order to create excellent programming for our youth, the volunteer hours that each religious school family contributes are absolutely essential. Many thanks to all who have volunteered more than their share to support the religious school.

Second, our tradition encourages us to not only light the candles, but also make the miracle of the oil known by displaying the candles in a window where people will see them as they pass by. All year long we can publicize the daily wonders of our children's learning by displaying their art projects and their written work proudly. We can create family art projects that reflect our values and share them with guests, perhaps creating a prayer or blessing for our homes and our family and decorating it.

Third, during the darkest time of the year we have the festival of lights. To some, the light represents new beginnings, as the light of sunrise brings a new day. We assert that even in the darkest winter nights, there is newness and hope. Although the new year has passed, we continue to have exciting new beginnings throughout the fall and winter in the Youth Education Department. In November we began the Shabbat Shelanu K-1 family service, which has been a wonderful continuation of the Shabbat B'Yachad service. Thank you to all who have led this service and helped to create this new program. Thanks to a generous contribution, we are embarking on an exciting new music program for the religious school. This month we begin to celebrate the B'nai Mitzvah of this year's Amitim class. In November we welcomed two new teachers: Julie Batz to the Amitim staff and Michael Mizrachi to teach second grade. Thank you to Nathan Martin and Josh Rembaum for their hard work in Amitim and second grade. Thanks to Lorraine Rosenblatt, we have a new Youth Ed newsletter, Yaldei Netivot Shalom, to share information and ideas with all Netivot Shalom families.

Reflecting upon the new beginnings in our families and in our community can help us to appreciate the miracles and sacred moments that abound in our lives daily.



SHABBAT SHELANU

by Iris Greenbaum

ilmod U'lilamed, "To Learn & To Teach" brought together families with children in preschool, Kindergarten and first grade to explore the nature of prayer as an expression of our deepest feelings. Rabbi Margie Jacobs led us in a movement tefilah for Birkhot HaSchachar adding our own expressions of gratitude. Deborah Jagoda, our Kindergarten religious school teacher, led us in creating family blessings. We also created siddurim for Shabbat B'Yachad and Shabbat Shelanu, matched mitzvot, and found our way to "mizrach" in Jerusalem. We were delighted to welcome our families and extended families, including grandparents!

Our first Shabbat Shelanu was sweetened by the joy of reuniting with friends when religious school and day school families gathered together for family Shabbat services. Shelanu families with children in Kindergarten or first grades joined together to celebrate Shabbat with tefillah, songs, Torah story and a mini-kiddush! Parent volunteers led in the service and Torah story.

Many special thanks to all who helped to create Shelanu! Special thanks to our visionaries and machers: Babbie Frieberg; Judy Radousky; Deborah Jagoda and Rabbi Margie Jacobs! Special thanks to our service leader Judy Radousky and story teller, Lydia Brose!

Shabbat Shelanu meets every 1st and 3rd Shabbat at 11:30 a.m. in Room 14 at the JCC. Join us!

RAMAH DAY CAMP CORNER By Dan Alter

appy Kislev from Ramah! Now, in the heart of the winter, is the time to begin thinking about summer. Save your spot in what promises to be a full second summer of camp. You can pre-register by calling our office at 510-549-9447 ext. 111, or emailing us at ramahday@eb.jfed.org to request an application. In the meantime, here's a Ramah song for December, about our beloved Israel, which is in all of our thoughts:

Chik chik harakevet, chik chik al hapassim Chik chik k'var kaninu, et hakartissim Chik chik od me'at, nagiya lehaifa Eretz yisrael sheli, kol kach yafa-a-a-a Tasa harakevet, tu-tu-tu-a (2X) Ba-bam-ba-bam (8X)

Look for announcements about upcoming Ramah events. Our annual Havdalah Rikudiah, and camp reunion will be coming soon!

L'hitraot!

SHABBAT B'YACHAD

by Iris Greenbaum

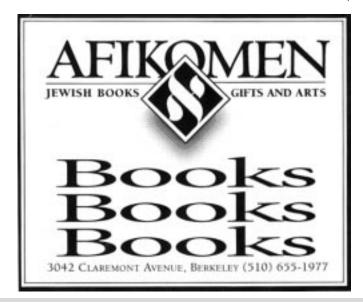
elebrating Shabbat with young children and their families is a joy so pure, and so deep! Our Shabbat morning begins with each child sharing what he or she likes about Shabbat. We gather together under a tallit tent, created by parents, as we sing 'Mah Tovu'. Parents' and children's voices join together for niggunim and tefillah. Our kiddushim celebrate the milestones of our growing children their birthdays and new accomplishments! Children who began Shabbat B'Yachad as infants are now walking, talking people, who delight in parading with the Torah, listening to a Torah story, or singing with others!

Our "alums" have now created Shabbat Shelanu to connect with other K-1 families for family Shabbat services and to further cultivate the friendships which grew from a shared Shabbat B'Yachad experience.

Other synagogues have expressed interest in our Shabbat B'Yachad program. We have been requested to publish our siddurim. Temple Sinai in Foster City has ordered 50 of our siddurim, and has modeled their Tot Shabbat program on the success of Shabbat B'Yachad.

We are planning for our Chanukah celebration on Sunday, December 17 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the BRJCC, room 14. Join us to create your own dreidel and decorations, play dreidel games, sing favorite songs, stories, festivities, and more! Please RSVP to Iris Greenbaum, 549-9447 ext. 110.

Many thanks to our service leaders and story tellers: Judy Radousky, Cathy Shadd, Babbie Freiberg, Elad Ziv, Mel Sibony, Carol Dorf, and Carla Ellern. Thank you to our Kiddush Sponsors: the Seder Family, Bridgette Wynne and Julia London, Cathy Shadd, and Melissa Hillman and Ted McClellan.





MIDRASHA NEWS

By Diane Bernbaum

here has the semester gone? It seems like school just began, and suddenly we are choosing new electives for the second semester. It's been a great few months, despite loosing four Sundays to the holidays. (After all, who minds observing holidays?)

Since I write this column for ten syn-

agogues at once, all with different publication dates, I don't know when you are reading this; so let me tell you about some of our events for the end of the semester. On November 19 at 9:30 a.m. we are having our parent/student study brunch. On December 3 at 9:30 a.m. we are having a set of workshops for students and parents of 10th-12th graders. If you are not a Midrasha family, but have teens the right age, please join us. Tenth graders will hear a recruitment presentation about the East Bay Summer Experience in Israel, our six week trip from the end of June to early August. Eleventh graders will attend a workshop on "Applying to College Through Jewish Eyes" presented by independent college counselor Marilyn Neril. Twelfth graders will hear a panel of Hillel staff and CAL students talk about adapting to college life. Eleventh and twelfth graders may also choose a workshop by Jennifer Mangel of Jewish Vocational Service on writing resumes and applying for jobs. Also, parents may attend a workshop by Kathy Langsam of Jewish Family Service on parenting teens about to go to college. All will be an hour long. Sounds like a full program.

Have you checked your mail lately? We recently sent out our annual fundraising appeal. You may have noticed that it

looked really different from years past. This is due to innovative work by our new graphic designer, Barbara Lande.

We want to thank Barbara and our printer, Richard Engel at Solstice Press, who donated their services far, far below market value. And

if you are even tempted to throw the mailing away without reading it or writing a check, remember this: Ten percent of our students have requested financial aid. Our faculties' salaries need to remain competitive to retain our wonderful staff, especially in a job market where lucrative jobs with dot coms are easy to come by. Teaching at Midrasha should be more than just a labor of love. We run Midrasha as frugally as we can, and we need you to make it all possible. Thanks in advance for your support.

IN GRATITUDE

To Paul and Lee Feinstein for their help in creating our two new chairs which surround the ark.

To Esther Kelman, for he donation of a new floor-height Chanukiyah in honor of her children, Rabbi Stuart and Vicky.

To Milt Greenstein, as always, for his continual work on 1841.

To Lee Feinstein for her work in our library.

WANTED

HOUSING WANTED

I am looking for a housing share in a Jewish, preferably kosher, household. If you know of any, please call Cecily Hurst at 510-527-3059.

House wanted to rent or house sit August 19-September 3, 2001; North Berkeley area (daughter's wedding necessitates nearby housing for in-laws.) Call 510 526-4156 day or evening.

AN INFANT CHANGING table for our shul

A SYNAGOGUE HISTORIAN

CONDOLENCES

To Debbie Feiler on the death of her father,

To Michael Fuss on the death of his father, Milt Fuss.



YAHRTZEIT LIST

DECEMBER 1 - NOVEMBER 11

Every once in a while, a gremlin creeps into our systems. It seems that such an occurrence may have happened with our Yahrtzeit list. So, please read this list carefully and if there any errors, please call us immediately.

12/1/00	Eric Phillip	4 Kislev	12/22/00	Fred Brinner	25 Kislev
12/1/00	Henry Brott	4 Kislev	12/22/00	Louis Robinson	25 Kislev
12/2/00	Pauline Kunofsky	5 Kislev	12/24/00	Yosef Shein	27 Kislev
12/4/00	Gershon Shragai	7 Kislev	12/27/00	David Basseri	30 Kislev
12/4/00	Rita Hermann	7 Kislev	12/27/00	Yakov Melech Ruby	30 Kislev
12/5/00	Martin J. Burger	8 Kislev	12/27/00	Joseph Yaffee	1Tevet
12/6/00	Harold L. Cohen	9 Kislev	12/27/00	Eric Wood	1Tevet
12/7/00	Charles Aronstein	10 Kislev	12/27/00	Faye Berman	1Tevet
12/7/00	Florrie Kohn	10 Kislev	12/28/00	Benjamin Weiner	2 Tevet
12/8/00	Evelyn Kaprow	11 Kislev	12/28/00	William Bruch	2 Tevet
12/8/00	Mitcheal Lansing	11 Kislev	12/31/00	Simon Dov Yaffee	5 Tevet
12/9/00	Chaim Zilberman	12 Kislev	1/1/01	David Rosenstein	6 Tevet
12/9/00	Wulf Concus	12 Kislev	1/1/01	Eric Frank	6 Tevet
12/10/00	Chaim Victor Barki	13 Kislev	1/2/01	Sylvia Schweitzer	7 Tevet
12/10/00	Gwendolyn M. Fischer	13 Kislev	1/3/01	Bertha Rodbell Spiegel	8 Tevet
12/11/00	Marian Dale Scott	14 Kislev	1/4/01	Nathan Abraham Epstein	9 Tevet
12/11/00	Frances Smith	14 Kislev	1/6/01	Abraham L. Gewertz	11 Tevet
12/12/00	Rebecca Weiner	15 Kislev	1/6/01	Gershon Kaplan	11 Tevet
12/16/00	Estelle Seder	19 Kislev	1/6/01	Sophie Chait	11 Tevet
12/16/00	Mary Solomon Goldberg	19 Kislev	1/6/01	Victor Goodman	11 Tevet
12/19/00	Samuel Namiot Koslav	22 Kislev	1/7/01	Joseph ben Benjamin	12 Tevet
12/21/00	Roslyn Sterling	24 Kislev	1/11/01	Dr. Robert C. Goldberg	16 Tevet
12/21/00	Rudolf Grossmann	24 Kislev			

TO ADD A NAME(S) TO THE YAHRZEIT LIST, FILL OUT THE INFORMATION BELOW & MAIL, E-MAIL OR FAX								
(include only names of departed parents, spouses, siblings and children)								
маіт то: Congregation Netivot Shalom • 1841 Berkeley Way, Berkeley, CA 94703								
E-MAIL TO: ntvt-office@eb.jfed.org FAX TO: 510.549.9448								
(HEBREW NAME - IF POSSIBLE)								
(HEBREW DATE - IF POSSIBLE)								
RELATIONSHIP TO DECEASED:								
• 1841 Berkeley Way, Berkeley, CA 94703 FAX TO: 510.549.9448								

Check out the Netivot Shalom Website

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www.netivotshalom.org



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Change Service Requested

OPPORTUNITIES TO OFFER TZEDAKAH

to Congregation Netivot Shalom

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Shabbat Greeters

We need Shabbat Greeters to welcome people into our services on Saturday mornings. Volunteer to greet for one Shabbat. Call Allen Samuelson 527-1126.

Book Reviewers

Many of our library volumes are sent to us for review purposes. Many of the reviews need only be a one paragraph description while some require a bit more. In order to keep these books coming to Netivot Shalom, please contact Rabbi Kelman at 549-9447 ext 103 if you can do some limited reviewing.

Library Help

Do you have a few hours to volunteer in our library? We need volunteers to re-shelve books, keep track of books that are borrowed and process new books. If any of these "jobs" sound like they interest you, please contact Rabbi Kelman at 549-9447 ext 103.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Kiddish Sponsors

Celebrating a simcha? Commemorating a milestone? To sponsor a kiddish, call Ronna Kabatznick, 848-6812.

eScrip

Each time you shop at Safeway, Andronico's, Albertson's and many other stores in the Bay Area, a % of your purchases can be donated to CNS through eScrip. Registration forms for eScrip and Albertson's Community Partner Cards are free and available through the CNS office.

Planes, Trains & Automobiles

Donate your old car, motorcycle, truck, or RV to CNS. For more information, call Claudia Valas at 558-9200.

Stocks & Bequests

To find out how to make a donation of stock to the congregation, please see the October 2000 issue of the CNS newsletter or contact Mark Priven at (510) 559-8393. When drafting your will, please consider making a bequest to Congregation Netivot Shalom. Contact the office for more information.