

**BJBE is a sacred inclusive community that welcomes the full diversity of our membership. We accept all who seek a place in our congregation.*

**BJBE is certified as a Safer Synagogue by Jewish Community Abuse Resources, Education & Solutions (JCARES). Our leadership has been trained in understanding the impact of abuse across the lifespan and improving access to support for congregants experiencing abusive situations. For more information, please contact the clergy or the temple office at 847-940-7575.*

**BJBE is certified as a GreenFaith Congregation. As God's partners, we strive to positively affect the well-being and future of our planet through education, choice, and action.*

**The information listed in Portals, including dates and times, is subject to change. Please watch your email, bulletins, mailers, and the online community calendar for the most up-to-date information.*

**Please join the "BJBE Community" on Facebook!*

www.bjbe.org



ברוכים הבאים לשערים WELCOME TO PORTALS!

We welcome you to another inspiring year at BJBE!

All of us are on a quest to discover the meaning and purpose of our lives. We believe that this discovery can come through participation in a sacred Jewish community, and yet we know that each person's Jewish journey will be different. Our mission is to help you find your own special entry point, or Portal, into Jewish life based on your particular passions and interests – so that when you walk through it, your soul will sing, your spirit will soar, and in time, you will come face-to-face with your destiny.

As you continue your quest for meaning and purpose this year, this booklet can be your guide. Here you will find the amazing variety of programs, events, classes, and worship opportunities that will take place at BJBE throughout the coming year.

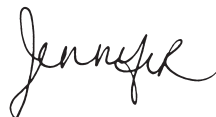
Our many offerings are organized by Centers, or areas of interest. So, for example, if you are seeking to expand your spiritual horizons, you may find your portal in the Center for Prayer and Spiritual Growth. If you love to challenge and stimulate your mind, you might find your portal in the Center for Adult Learning. If you enjoy exploring your creative side, your portal may be the Center for Artistic Expression. Or you might find your passion in one of the many other Centers within BJBE.

We invite you to peruse this book and find something that sparks your interest. Then, when you're ready, we hope you will walk through the Portal of your choice into the exciting world of meaning, purpose, and destiny.

Enjoy the journey!



RABBI KARYN KEDAR



CANTOR JENNIFER FROST



RABBI JASON FENSTER



CANTOR RAYNA GREEN

A LETTER FROM OUR CO-PRESIDENTS, LISA WILSON & TRACY FRIEND

We each follow our own spiritual path, whether that be through worship, Jewish learning, charitable work, community involvement or support of Israel. At Congregation BJBE, we have the ability to follow whichever path has meaning and purpose for each of us. *PORTALS* is a unique publication created to help you find your way.

As you read through the *PORTALS* offerings for the current year, we invite you to explore your own spiritual path and engage with other congregants through the vast offerings you will find. BJBE's five Core Values are the starting point through which our programs and offerings are oriented. You will also find detailed descriptions and contact information which makes it easy to connect and start your journey.

We hope *PORTALS* inspires you to follow your passion and discover new horizons. Your participation and involvement is why BJBE is a place where community matters. Together, we can create sacred moments and ignite the Jewish spark inside each of us.

We are fortunate to have so much at BJBE that motivates us, inspires us and ultimately helps us understand the meaning and purpose of our lives. As you explore your own spiritual path, we wish you blessings along the way.

L'shalom,



LISA WILSON



TRACY FRIEND

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Through our commitment to Judaism and each other we have established five core values that define who we are:

Torah (Jewish Learning)

Lifelong learning that informs us of transition, transforms us by touching our minds and souls and connects us to our community.

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Avodah (Worship and Spiritual Practice)

The sacred obligation to foster a sense of meaning, intention and spirituality. We understand the importance of integrating and applying a spiritual practice into our everyday lives.

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G'milut Chasadim (Acts of Loving Kindness)

The obligation to give away time to make the world a better place, money to ease someone's pain and kindness to heal a world that is broken.

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K'hilah (Community)

Community is our central value. We aspire to build a center for Jewish life, a place for laughter and joy, for meaningful conversation and friendship.

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Israel

Israel is not simply a committee at BJBE. We are privileged to recognize the modern miracle of the establishment of the State of Israel. After centuries of dispersion and the Holocaust, we have a state which is a vibrant Jewish center and must be a core component of every Jew's identity.

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Torah

O Adonai, our God, let the words of Torah be sweet in our mouths, and the mouths of Your people Israel, so that we, our descendants and the descendants of all Your people Israel may know You by studying your Torah for its own sake.

Blessed are You, Adonai, who teaches Torah to Your people Israel.

— *Mishkan T'flah*



BJBE

ONGOING PROGRAMS

Shabbat Torah Study: Deuteronomy

Saturdays, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Instructors: Rabbi Karyn Kedar and Rabbi Jason Fenster

Six years ago, we began studying the Torah from the beginning. This year we will begin the Book of Deuteronomy. We explore the Torah verse-by-verse, picking up each week where we left off the week before. For Torah study veterans and beginners alike, this is a meaningful and thought-provoking exploration of our most cherished book. New students are always welcome.

Talmud Study

Wednesdays, 7:45-9:00 a.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Jason Fenster

Reform Jews at BJBE and around the world are rediscovering the study of Talmud and other rich, thought-provoking, and inspiring classical texts. Using English translations of the texts in a casual conversational format, we will continue to explore the wisdom of our Jewish sages and discover insights that constantly change our perspective on modern living, deepen our relationship with God, and transform our way of being in the world. The group meets on an ongoing basis throughout the year and you are welcome to join in at any time.

Adult B'nai Mitzvah/Confirmation

New Class Begins 2018

Instructor: Phyllis Steiner

This year-long course meets weekly and is open to all adults whether or not you celebrated becoming a Bar/Bat Mitzvah when you were 13! Learn to read Hebrew and chant the basic Shabbat prayers, study the Jewish calendar and holidays, and read and discuss Tanakh together. The class culminates with a group B'nai Mitzvah/Confirmation ceremony. Registration is limited; contact Phyllis if you are interested in registering.

CONTACT: Phyllis Steiner
phyllissteiner@comcast.net

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Tikun Leil Shavuot Adult Evening of Learning

Saturday, May 19, 2018

Participate in the tradition of studying Torah on Erev Shavuot, in celebration of receiving the Torah at Mt. Sinai.

CONTACT: Leslie Block,
lblock@bjbe.org

Wise Aging—Living with Joy, Resilience & Spirit

7-Week Session: Dates TBD

*For more information, refer to *T'hillah: The Center for Prayer and Spiritual Growth* on page 30.

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT LEARNING

Preparing for the High Holy Days

Sundays, September 17 & 24, 2017, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

Instructors: Rabbi Karyn Kedar & Rabbi Jason Fenster

As we prepare to enter the High Holy Days season, Rabbi Kedar and Rabbi Fenster will guide us in exploring the themes of forgiveness, atonement, and renewal, and help us ready our hearts and minds to come before God in *t'shuvah*. Please bring your High Holy Days machzors with you to these sessions.

Shalom Bayit—Peace in the Home:

Having civil conversations across lines of difference

Sundays, October 8, 15, & 22, 2017, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

We live in a nation that is fracturing along political lines, and it seems that the pundits, politicians, and even the people in the street are talking past each other instead of talking to each other. What are the skills we need to talk to each other, especially when we disagree?

OCTOBER 8 – CIVIL CONVERSATION IN THE SYNAGOGUE, facilitated by the BJBE Social Justice Team

OCTOBER 15 – TALKING ABOUT NATIONAL ISSUES, facilitated by the BJBE Social Justice Team

OCTOBER 22 – TEACHING OUR KIDS TO DEAL WITH DIFFERENCE, Susie Wexler, Director of the Early Childhood Program at the Chava Center

Lessons from the Hall of History

Sundays, October 29, November 5, 12, & 19, 2017, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

As our young students make their way to their classes each week, they walk past an incredible mural depicting thousands of years of Jewish history. Over these four weeks, we will learn about some of the major memories, moments, and movements that mark the story of the Jewish people from creation to the present day.

OCTOBER 29 – **CREATION TO THE SECOND TEMPLE**, Rabbi Karyn Kedar

NOVEMBER 5 – **SECOND TEMPLE**, Rabbi Jason Fenster

NOVEMBER 12 – **ENLIGHTENMENT**, Rabbi Karyn Kedar

NOVEMBER 19 – **THE STATE OF ISRAEL**, Rabbi Karyn Kedar

A Taste of Judaism

Sundays, December 3 & 10, 2017, January 14, 2018, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

Instructors: BJBE Clergy

This engaging class on Jewish spirituality, ethics, and community is designed for the curious beginner. Taste of Judaism is designed for people who have limited or no Jewish background but are interested in learning about Judaism. Everyone is welcome: unaffiliated Jews, adult children of interfaith couples, individuals or couples from different faith backgrounds who are interested in learning more about Judaism, partners in Interfaith relationships, or synagogue-goers looking to reinvigorate their relationship to Judaism. Come dive into Jewish text, values, and thought to see how they relate to our contemporary lives.

Family & Parenting at Every Stage

Sundays, January 21 & 28, February 4 & 11, 2018, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

Each stage of children's lives brings new challenges and opportunities requiring us to adapt to changing circumstances and recalibrate our role as parents. We will explore some of the Jewish principles and practical strategies that can guide us as we strive to make values-based choices that support and nurture the young people we love.

JANUARY 21 – **NURTURING THE WOW: PARENTING AS SPIRITUAL PRACTICE**,
Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg

The work of parenting, and living in connection with others in general, can be glorious and amazing. And it can be, at least as often, frustrating, crazy-making, and mind-numbingly boring. How can the riches of the Jewish tradition help us to transform the most difficult moments with our children and the people in our lives? How can it illuminate the beautiful moments in powerful, new ways? But not only that, what do parents who are deep in the trenches of this labor of love have to teach Judaism about what spirituality is and can be? And, most critically, what might happen if we regard the work of raising children, and being in loving connection with other people as a whole, as a legitimate spiritual practice in its own right?

Family & Parenting at Every Stage – *continued*

- JANUARY 28 – **MAKING GREEN CHOICES WITH OUR KIDS**, Eli Green
Environmental justice is a Jewish value, and yet, it can be hard to fully understand environmental issues and the impact of our choices, both big and small. With sustainability expert, Eli Green, we will explore the underlying principles of the environmental issues facing us today. We will enable you to make knowledgeable choices, become role models for your children, and learn some tips and tricks for living an environmentally responsible life at home and in the world.
- FEBRUARY 4 – **NAVIGATING THE HALLS OF MIDDLE SCHOOL**, Kelly Goldberg
The years of middle school are challenging as young people try to find their place in an ever-changing social world. Drawing on her 30 years of teaching and guiding teens through these years using Jewish wisdom, Chai School Principal Kelly Goldberg will lead us in discussion about the social challenges our children face today and the spiritual principles that guide us. We will explore practical strategies to help our middle schoolers survive and thrive on their path to high school.
- FEBRUARY 11 – **YOUR CHILD, THE INTERNET, AND YOU**, Sarah Casper, Outreach Coordinator, Response Center
Bullying is no longer as easy to see as it once was, and parenting adolescents is hard enough without having to keep up on the latest and greatest social media and technological advancements. This session will inform parents about the key role that technology and social media websites play in students' feelings of connection and disconnection with their friends, family, community, and themselves. We also provide parents with important information about the latest apps and helpful conversation starters to engage their teens around this pressing issue. Parents will leave the program with the tools to support their teen in navigating the digital world.

Be Still and Get Going

Sunday, February 18, 2018, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

*Instructor: Margot Andersen, MSW, Mindfulness Meditation Teacher,
Institute of Jewish Spirituality*

In this session, we will explore how to find our courage and faith during life's most difficult challenges to move forward. Often, we become stuck and frozen with anxiety, uncertainty and fear. We will look back at the wisdom of ancient texts to help us find our faith and equanimity during times of adversity and change.

Understanding Our World: What's Happening in...

Sundays, March 4, 11, & 18, 2018, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

We live in a complex world. There are shifting economic and political power structures world over, communities are struggling with new understandings of identity, and each week seems to bring new surprises, crises, and opportunities. Over the course of three sessions, we will try to sort out what is happening, what is going to happen, and what we can do about it.

MARCH 4 – **AMERICA** – Cheryl Gutmann, past Chair of the Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism

MARCH 11 – **EUROPE** – Amy Miller, Assistant Director, International Affairs & Communications, AJC Chicago

MARCH 18 – **MIDDLE EAST** – Lital Rosenberg, Midwest Synagogue Initiative Director, AIPAC

Maintaining Memory: Stories of the Holocaust

Sundays, April 15, 22, & 29, 2018, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

As the world commemorates Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day), BJBE is honored to welcome survivors of the Holocaust to share their stories of heroism, survival, and renewal. It is a privilege and a sacred duty to bear witness to their stories.

APRIL 15 – **GEORGE BRENT** – When a non-Jew was brought into town to take over his father’s pharmacy in Tésö (now Hungary), his family was forced into the Jewish ghetto. Three days later, they were put on a train to Auschwitz-Birkenau. He and his father were selected to work, while his mother and brother were sent to the gas chambers. As the Russian army advanced in January 1945, George was sent on a death march and then taken by coal train to Mauthausen. From there, he was sent to a smaller camp in Austria that was later liberated by American soldiers on May 5, 1945. After the war, he learned his father was still alive; they reunited and both made their way to the United States in 1949.

APRIL 22 – **SCREENING OF “A HOLOCAUST TRILOGY”** – Artist DeDe Harris discusses the depth of evil and the height of courage evidenced during the Holocaust. As she describes her sculptures, she also reveals little known stories of three concentration camps: Ebensee, Auschwitz, and Theresienstadt. In this remarkable video, she informs us about the meaning she incorporated into the sculptures. This is a spiritual and compelling presentation, combining knowledge of the Holocaust, skills developed from a lifetime of work as an artist, and the use of materials collected from a variety of unusual locations. DeDe will take questions after the screening.

APRIL 29 – **ERNST “ERNIE” HEIMANN** – During Kristallnacht, November 9-10, 1938, Ernie’s school and synagogue were destroyed. In the aftermath of these events, his parents knew they had to get Ernie out of Germany. On February 1, 1939, Ernie was placed on a Kindertransport to England. His maternal aunt, who lived in England and sponsored him, arranged for Ernie to live with an English family just outside of London. In September 1939, Ernie and others from his village were evacuated to the countryside because of the bombing in London. Ernie would remain in England for four years, until he came to the United States in 1943.

THE SYMPOSIUM: HISTORY OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE

The story of the Jewish people, our story, tells the story of the world. By studying the major memories, moments, and movements of the Jewish people we can come to know ourselves and envision our future. We will experience the incredible Hall of History in our Jewish Learning Center—200 feet of murals displaying hundreds of archival, museum quality photos, maps, and documents. We will trace the story of the Jewish people from the creation of the world to creation of the modern State of Israel, and everything in between. As always, our Symposium will be taught by some of Chicagoland's leading rabbis and teachers, along with our own BJBE clergy.

Creation

Tuesday, September 12, 2017, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Cantor Jennifer Frost

Patriarchs & Matriarchs

Tuesday, September 19, 2017, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Cantor Jennifer Frost or Rabbi Karyn Kedar

Moses through Joshua

Tuesday, September 26, 2017, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Karyn Kedar

Sinai

Tuesday, October 3, 2017, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Karyn Kedar

Judges

Tuesday, October 10, 2017, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Simcha Bob, Congregation Etz Chaim

Kings & Prophets

Tuesday, October 17, 2017, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Simcha Bob, Congregation Etz Chaim

First Temple

Tuesday, October 24, 2017, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Jason Fenster

Destruction through Return

Tuesday, October 31, 2017, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Jason Fenster

Hellenism

Tuesday, November 7, 2017, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Jason Fenster

Maccabees

Tuesday, November 14, 2017, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Jason Fenster

Second Temple

Tuesday, November 28, 2017, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Karyn Kedar

Romans through Bar Kochba

Tuesday, December 5, 2017, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Karyn Kedar

Rabbinic Period

Tuesday, December 12, 2017, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Michael Balinsky, Executive Vice President of the Chicago Board of Rabbis

Great Sages of the Middle Ages

Tuesday, January 9, 2018, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Michael Balinsky, Executive Vice President of the Chicago Board of Rabbis

Kabbalah

Tuesday, January 16, 2018, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Cantor Rayna Green

Chassidic Judaism

Tuesday, January 23, 2018, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Cantor Rayna Green

Anti-Semitism and the Church Fathers

Tuesday, January 30, 2018, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Yehiel Poupko, Judaic Scholar, Jewish United Fund of the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago

Enlightenment, Napoleon, & Bill of Rights

Tuesday, February 6, 2018, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Jason Fenster

Religious Movements: Reform, Conservative, Orthodox

Tuesday, February 13, 2018, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Jason Fenster

Christianity

Tuesdays, February 20 & 27, 2018, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Yehiel Poupko, Judaic Scholar, Jewish United Fund of the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago

Islam

Tuesdays, March 6 & 13, 2018, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Alexandra Dunietz, Author of The Cosmic Perils of Qadi Usayn Maybud in Fifteenth-Century Iran

Three Ideas that Formed the Jewish Experience:

Enlightenment, Zionism and Feminism

Tuesdays, March 20 & April 10, 2018, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Debra Newman Kamin, Am Yisrael Congregation

Israel: The Early State

Tuesdays, April 17 & 24, 2018, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Michael Weinberg, Temple Beth Israel

BJBE HEBREW CLASSES

Hebrew classes for adults are taught by Ezra Kedar at BJBE. For a list of schedules and fees, please contact the temple office: 847-940-7575.

Beginning Conversational Hebrew - NEW CLASS!

This class is for adults who want to learn the basics of conversational Hebrew. *Sundays, September 10 - December 3, 2017, 9:45 - 10:45 a.m.*

Advanced Beginning Conversational Hebrew

This class is for adults who have mastered Hebrew reading and are ready to learn how to comfortably carry on a simple Hebrew conversation.

Intermediate Conversational Hebrew

Amaze yourself with how much fun you'll have speaking Hebrew! Prerequisites: Prior knowledge of basic conversational Hebrew and ability to write Hebrew script.

Advanced Conversational Hebrew

This class is for people who can begin to hold a full conversation in Hebrew and who write Hebrew script competently. Prerequisite: Intermediate Conversational Hebrew.

LEARNING TOGETHER... WHEREVER

Spiritual Seekers Discussion Groups

Day & Time TBD

*For more information, refer to *T'hillah: The Center for Prayer and Spiritual Growth* on page 30.

Omer Study Group

Day & Time TBD

*For more information, refer to *T'hillah: The Center for Prayer and Spiritual Growth* on page 31.

Searchers Groups

Searchers is the ultimate in Jewish learning as spiritual practice. In a Searchers group, sacred text becomes the vehicle for exploring your own spirituality, for making new friends, and for sharing new ideas and contemplating life's experiences in the safety of a caring community. Groups are lay led and meet on a monthly basis. All of us are searching.

CONTACT: Beth Kon
msbkon@aol.com

Learners' Circles

Learners' Circles are the hottest new thing in 21st century adult study. Gather your own group of 7-10 friends, pick a Jewish topic you're interested in studying, and one of our clergy will teach 3-4 sessions at a time and place that is convenient for you.

CONTACT: Andrew Abrams
andrewjabrams@gmail.com

*For more information about the Center for Adult Learning,
contact Andrew Abrams at andrewjabrams@gmail.com.

CHINUCH: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN

חינוך

Our religious education revolves around the Five Core Values of our temple: *Torah* (study), *Avodah* (prayer and spiritual practice), *G'milut Chasadim* (acts of loving kindness), *Community* (creating and nurturing friendships and comfort zones within the temple), and *Israel* (the State and peoplehood).

These core values are reflected in every one of our educational programs each day that our students come together to learn and to grow.

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM AT THE CHAVA CENTER

Pre-School, Summer Camp, Tot-Adult Programs

Our Chava Center provides a safe, nurturing, and stimulating environment, thoughtfully designed to facilitate the social, emotional, physical, intellectual, and Judaic growth and development of learners from two to five years old. With a professional staff of lifelong learners who structure play-based learning opportunities based on research and best practices in early childhood education, we believe in a partnership with individual families, creating personalized experiences to best meet the unique needs of every child. At each age level, we offer options for attendance. Children can extend their experience by enrolling in our early bird or lunch bunch programs. Additional on-site enrichment opportunities deepen children's explorations.

Tot-Adult Programs provide an opportunity for our youngest learners to explore while sharing time with the adults who love them. Programs are designed to meet the developmental needs of young children with opportunities for socialization and motor skill development within a fun, safe, and nurturing environment. New programs are added often. Contact Susie Wexler for a schedule of existing classes or to propose an idea for a class we should offer.

For an updated list of programs offered throughout the year, please visit the Early Childhood Center page on the BJBE web site: www.bjbe.org.

CONTACT: Susie Wexler, Early Childhood Director
swexler@bjbe.org

CHAVA CENTER SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Young Family Sukkot Celebration

Wednesday, October 4, 2017, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Join our Chava Center community for crafts, activities, and a snack as we decorate the BJBE sukkah and experience the mitzvot of shaking the lulav and eating in the sukkah.

Havdalah in Pajamas

Saturday, January 27, 2018, 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Wear your pajamas and join us as we celebrate Havdalah with a special story and snack.

Pajama Shavuot Tikun

Saturday, May 19, 2018, 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Adults stay up all night studying Torah; the kids will have an “undernighter.” Wear your pajamas and come for stories, crafts and a special snack.

JEWISH LEARNING CENTER (JLC)

JLC Sunday

Sundays: September 10, 2017 - May 6, 2018

Kindergarten through 6th grade, 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

The JLC provides an inspiring and everlasting learning experience for our youth that reflects BJBE's five core values. Sundays are filled with engaging and meaningful learning opportunities, transforming our students' Jewish identity through thought-provoking and relevant activities, and creating and sustaining community through shared experiences. In each grade, we introduce students to new concepts and challenge them to explore their Judaism in new ways. Parents are invited to learn with their children throughout the school year.

CONTACT: Missy Bell, Director of Education
mbell@bjbe.org

JLC AfterSchool

Tuesdays: September 26, 2017 – May 1, 2018, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

- OR -

Wednesdays: September 27, 2017 – May 2, 2018, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

JLC AfterSchool is for our students in 3rd-6th grades. In 3rd grade, students learn the alphabet and begin to read phonetically. The program for students in 4th-6th grades reinforces and builds upon reading skills and develops synagogue fluency, enabling students to read and comprehend the prayers of our worship service.

Additionally, students have some autonomy in their AfterSchool experience as a result of our work with the **B'nai Mitzvah Revolution (BMR)**, a national initiative with the goal of providing meaningful and long-lasting opportunities for our students as they grow into learned and engaged Jewish adults. At the end of 4th grade, students select between three portals of learning: *My Personal Prayer Journey* focuses on creating a personalized Bar/Bat Mitzvah experience; *Team Tzedek* focuses on social action projects with other temple families; and *My Israel Journey* for those families who choose for their child to become B'nai Mitzvah in our Jewish homeland. Students attend school on either Tuesday or Wednesday afternoons.

CONTACT: Missy Bell, Director of Education
mbell@bjbe.org

Chai School

Sundays: September 17, 2017 – May 6, 2018, 12:00 -1:30 p.m.

As they journey to high school, college, and beyond, Chai School provides a pivotal forum for our teens to explore their Jewish identities and solidify their Jewish foundations. Our 7th-10th graders gather on Sundays to enjoy lunch as a community, followed by learning with their peers, led by teams of master teachers and our clergy in small and large group settings. In 7th grade, students explore the question: *What do I learn from the Shoah (Holocaust) about my responsibility to the Jewish community, the global community, and Israel our home?* In 8th and 9th grades, they delve into the question: *As a Jewish young adult, how do I navigate my relationships and life choices?* Through a two-year rotation curriculum, they discuss relevant topics to today's teenage world, connecting them to Jewish text and values. 10th grade is Confirmation at BJBE, when the teens declare I am a Jew because...as they answer the question: *Are you a Jew by birth or a Jew by choice?*

CONTACT: Kelly Goldberg, Chai School Principal
kgoldberg@bjbe.org

Jewish Life Fellowship (JLF)

September 2017 – May 2018

Time and Day TBD

The Jewish Life Fellowship is an exciting opportunity for 11th and 12th grade students to learn individually and in small groups with one of our rabbis or cantors. Through this program, our older high school students effectively consider the question: *How does Judaism inform the adult I am becoming?* In monthly meetings throughout the school year, each student and his/her clergy mentor will explore together what it means to live, study, and practice as a Jew. With the guidance of clergy and staff, each Jewish Life Fellow will determine the topic, scope, and schedule of the experience. Jewish Life Fellows will also have the option to take an **internship** that will provide leadership opportunities, engaging with members and programs at BJBE, or in a local organization or business. Jewish Life Fellows are invited to enjoy lunch with the other Chai School students on Sundays.

CONTACT: Kelly Goldberg, Chai School Principal & Jewish Life Fellowship Facilitator
kgoldberg@bjbe.org

Machonik Teaching Assistant Program

8th to 12th graders comprise our nationally recognized Machonik teaching assistant program. Upon completion of a semester class in 7th grade that includes developing an understanding of the different ways students learn, as well as lesson planning and instruction, Machonikim are then qualified to assist teachers in JLC Sunday and JLC AfterSchool classes. During the school year, Machonikim meet with Kelly Goldberg once a month to discuss challenges and successes in the classroom. This program exemplifies our mission to create life-long Jewish learners and perhaps future teachers.

CONTACT: Kelly Goldberg, Chai School Principal
kgoldberg@bjbe.org

Kol Simchah Junior Choir

Director: Cantor Rayna Green, rgreen@bjbe.org

Our Kol Simchah Junior Choir is for students in grades 2-6

*For more information, refer to *The Center For Artistic Expression* on page 33.

FAMILY EDUCATION

Family & Parenting at Every Stage

Sundays, January 21 & 28 and February 4 & 11 2018, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

JANUARY 21 – NURTURING THE WOW: PARENTING AS SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

JANUARY 28 – MAKING GREEN CHOICES WITH OUR KIDS

FEBRUARY 4 – NAVIGATING THE HALLS OF MIDDLE SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 11 – YOUR CHILD, THE INTERNET, AND YOU

*For more information, refer to *Haskalah: The Center for Adult Learning* on pages 3-4.

*For more information about the Center for Religious Education for Children,
please contact Missy Bell, Director of Education, at mbell@bjbe.org

THE JEWISH SCENE FOR TEENS AND TWEENS

And the old shall dream dreams, and the youth shall see vision.

–Joel 3:1

BJBE is committed to meeting the needs of our children of all ages. We offer opportunities for sacred friendship, connection, learning, social action, leadership, and fun. Events include social, cultural, and religious opportunities; all events have a social action component as well. Youth groups empower our younger people to become leaders both at BJBE and in their communities, provide children of all ages with incredible opportunities to build lasting friendships, develop a lifelong love for Jewish culture and tradition, and find their unique Jewish selves. While our young adults enjoy these activities with their friends, they strengthen the Jewish identities that will carry them to college and beyond.

CONTACT: Cantor Rayna Green
rgreen@bjbe.org

YOUTH GROUPS

SYG (Senior Youth Group) for grades 9-12

CONTACT: Eddie Simon, SYG Advisor
esimon@bjbe.org

An elected board of teenagers runs SYG with guidance from the advisor and clergy. SYG is also active in NFTY-CAR, and encourages members to participate in NFTY.

SYG 2017-2018 SCHEDULE

SYG Board Shul-In

*September 1-2, 2017
7:30 p.m. Friday – 9:00 a.m.
Saturday at BJBE*

**SYG/JYG Ice Cream Sundae and
Bears' Game Kickoff**

*Sunday, September 17, 2017
1:30-3:30 p.m. at BJBE*

First SYG Lounge Night of the Year

*Wednesday, September 6, 2017
6:30-8:30 p.m. at BJBE
Free dinner included!*

SYG Lounge Night

*Wednesday, October 4, 2017
6:30-8:30 p.m. at BJBE
Free dinner included!*

SYG/JYG Joint Youth Group Outing to Great America

*Sunday, October 22, 2017
2:00-7:00 p.m.*

SYG Lounge Night

*Wednesday, November 1, 2017
6:30-8:30 p.m. at BJBE
Free dinner included!*

SYG Shul-in

*November 10-11, 2017
7:30 p.m. Friday – 9:00 a.m.
Saturday at BJBE*

All Youth Group Mitzvah Event at Feed My Starving Children

*Saturday, December 2, 2017
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
742 East Park Avenue, Libertyville*

SYG Lounge Night

*Wednesday, December 6, 2017
6:30-8:30 p.m. at BJBE
Free dinner included!*

SYG Lounge Night

*Wednesday, January 3, 2018
6:30-8:30 p.m. at BJBE
Free dinner included!*

L'Taken RAC (Religious Action Center) Social Justice Trip

January 26-29, 2018 in Washington, D.C.

SYG/JYG Cooking for PADS

*Sunday, January 28, 2018
2:00-5:00 p.m. at BJBE*

SYG 24 Hour Shul-in

*February 3-4, 2018
9:30 a.m. Saturday – 9:30 a.m.
Sunday at BJBE
BJBE Youth Lounge*

SYG Lounge Night

*Wednesday, February 7, 2018
6:30-8:30 p.m. at BJBE
Free dinner included!*

JYG vs. SYG YouTube Talent Competition

*Sunday, February 11, 2018
1:30 p.m. at BJBE*

SYG Lounge Night

*Wednesday, March 7, 2018
6:30-8:30 p.m. at BJBE
Free dinner included!*

SYG Chopped

*Sunday, March 11, 2018
2:00-5:00 p.m. at BJBE*

All Youth Group Chocolate Seder

*Sunday, March 18, 2018
2:00-3:30 p.m. at BJBE*

SYG Lounge Night

*Wednesday, April 4, 2018
6:30-8:30 p.m. at BJBE
Free dinner included!*

Comedy Sportz

*Saturday, April 14, 2018
6:00-10:00 p.m. in Chicago*

SYG/JYG Cooking for PADS

*Sunday, April 22, 2018
2:00-5:00 p.m. at BJBE*

SYG Shul-In and Elections

May 4- 5, 2018

7:00 p.m. Friday – 9:00 a.m.

Saturday at BJBE

Teen Mission to Kolin and Israel

June 13-24, 2018

JYG (Junior Youth Group) for grades 6-8

CONTACT: Eddie Simon, JYG Advisor
esimon@bjbe.org

JYG 2017-2018 SCHEDULE

**SYG/JYG Ice Cream Sundae
and Bears' Game Kickoff**

Sunday, September 17, 2017

1:30-3:30 p.m. at BJBE

JYG Top Chef

Sunday, September 24, 2017

2:00-5:00 p.m. at BJBE

**SYG/JYG Joint Youth Group Outing
to Great America**

Sunday, October 22, 2017

2:00-7:00 p.m.

JYG/KYG Rockin' Jump

Sunday, November 19, 2017

2:00-4:00 p.m.

950 Busch Pkwy, Buffalo Grove

**All Youth Group Mitzvah Event at
Feed My Starving Children**

Saturday, December 2, 2017

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

742 East Park Avenue, Libertyville

SYG/JYG Cooking for PADS

Sunday, January 28, 2018

2:00-5:00 p.m. at BJBE

**JYG vs. SYG YouTube
Talent Competition**

Sunday, February 11, 2018

1:30 p.m. at BJBE

All Youth Group Chocolate Seder

Sunday, March 18, 2018

2:00-3:30 p.m. at BJBE

**JYG Shul In and Matzah Ball
Shabbat**

April 20-21, 2018

6:00 p.m. Friday – 9:00 a.m.

Saturday at BJBE

SYG/JYG Cooking for PADS

Sunday, April 22, 2018

2:00-5:00 p.m. at BJBE

KYG (K'tanim Youth Group) for grades 3-5

CONTACT: Cantor Rayna Green
rgreen@bjbe.org

KYG 2017-2018 SCHEDULE

KYG Pizza in the "Hut"

*Sunday, October 8, 2017
12:30-2:00 p.m. at BJBE*

KYG Cupcake Wars

*Sunday, February 18, 2018
2:00-4:00 p.m. at BJBE*

JYG/KYG Rockin' Jump

*Sunday, November 19, 2017
2:00-4:00 p.m.
950 Busch Pkwy, Buffalo Grove*

All Youth Group Chocolate Seder

*Sunday, March 18, 2018
2:00-3:30 p.m. at BJBE*

**All Youth Group Mitzvah Event at
Feed My Starving Children**

*Saturday, December 2, 2017
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
742 East Park Avenue, Libertyville*

KYG Mystery Event!

*Sunday, April 15, 2018
2:00-4:00 p.m.
Location TBD*

**KYG Matzah Ball Shabbat &
Undernighter Movie Night**

*Friday, January 19, 2018
5:15-10:00 p.m. at BJBE*

**KYG Matzah Ball Shabbat
and Undernighter**

*Friday, May 18, 2018
5:15-10:00 p.m. at BJBE*

NFTY-CAR (National Federation for Temple Youth in the Chicago Area Region)

NFTY, The National Federation of Temple Youth, is the Reform Jewish religious youth movement that fosters leadership at the national, regional and congregational levels. NFTY-CAR brings together Reform Jewish high schoolers from the city of Chicago, the surrounding urban and suburban areas, and northwestern Indiana.

Labor Day NFTY Kickoff in Chicago

*Monday, September 4, 2017
1:00-7:00 p.m.*

NFTY Fall Kallah at OSRUI

October 13-15, 2017

NFTY Installation & Teen Oneg

*Friday, September 8, 2017
7:30 p.m. at BJBE*

NFTY 678 Kickoff in Chicago

*Saturday, October 21, 2017
6:00-9:00 p.m.*

NFTY Nashir Teen Songleading Seminar at North Shore Congregation Israel
November 17-19, 2017

NFTY Winter Kallah in Chicago
January 12-15, 2018

NFTY 678 Kallah at OSRUI
February 23-25, 2018

NFTY Kolbo Retreat at OSRUI
April 6-8, 2018

NFTY & NFTY 678 Pop Up Events
Times, Dates, & Locations TBD

YOUTH TRIPS

BJBE provides its youth with a variety of youth trip options. Each reflects experiential education at its finest, giving teens a unique new perspective on their Judaism and strengthening their identity as Jews.

L'Taken RAC (Religious Action Center) Trip
Friday, January 26 – Monday, January 29, 2018

Every year nearly 2,000 high school-age students participate in the Union for Reform Judaism Religious Action Center's L'Taken Seminar in Washington, D.C. The program is designed to expose students to a variety of public policy issues, explore the Jewish values surrounding these issues and to teach the skills of an effective advocate.

CONTACT: Dani Glass
dglass@bjbe.org

G'milut Chasadim Trip to New Orleans
Friday, March 2 – Monday, March 5, 2018

*For more information, refer to *G'milut Chasadim: The Social Action Network* section on page 41.

Teen Mission to Kolin and Israel
June 13-24, 2018

*For more information, refer to *Yisrael v'Ivrit: The Center for Israel and the Hebrew Language* on page 63.

G'MILUT CHASADIM

While social action is a part of every youth group event, the temple provides other opportunities for our tweens and teens to be of service to others.

High School Service Hours

When our teens participate in social action, they feel a sense of accomplishment, and at the same time can enjoy the added benefit of completing required high school service hours.

5th Annual MLK Day of Service

Monday, January 15, 2018

*For more information, refer to *G'milut Chasadim: The Social Action Network* on page 40.

TEEN LEADERSHIP

Besides having fun leading their friends in SYG and NFTY elected positions or in social action leadership roles, teens who participate in BJBE activities gain a valuable addition to college application forms. Additionally, impressive and meaningful opportunities are available for our teens to develop their leadership skills as teacher assistants (Machonikim) or as mentors.

Machonik Teaching Assistant Program

*For more information, refer to *Chinuch: Religious Education for Children* on page 15.

Jewish Life Fellowship

*For more information, refer to *Chinuch: Religious Education for Children* on page 15.

FAMILY EDUCATION

Family & Parenting at Every Stage

Sundays, January 21 & 28 and February 4 & 11 2018, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

JANUARY 21 – NURTURING THE WOW: PARENTING AS SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

JANUARY 28 – MAKING GREEN CHOICES WITH OUR KIDS

FEBRUARY 4 – NAVIGATING THE HALLS OF MIDDLE SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 11 – YOUR CHILD, THE INTERNET, AND YOU

*For more information, refer to *Haskalah: The Center for Adult Learning* on pages 3-4.

Matzah Ball Shabbat Family Service

Third Friday of the Month (October – June)

5:15-6:00 p.m. – Matzah Ball Soup and Challah

6:00-7:00 p.m. – Service

Join the BJBE community for a bowl of matzah ball soup and challah followed by an uplifting, inspiring multi-generational service featuring our Kol Simchah Junior Choir and a story for children.

High Holy Day Torah Readers

Teens who have had their B'nai Mitzvah are eligible to read Torah on the High Holy Days.

Kol Shabbat Torah Readers

Every Shabbat morning, congregants of all ages chant Torah during our 9:30 a.m. Kol Shabbat service. Anyone can learn to chant, and our cantors are available to help you prepare. Chanting Torah is a beautiful way to participate in the life of our community, celebrate a big milestone, or honor someone's memory. If you are interested in giving it a try, contact Cantor Green at rgreen@bjbe.org.

Kol Simchah Junior Choir

Our Kol Simchah Junior Choir is for students in Grades 2-6. These students help lead our Matzah Ball Shabbat services and sing for BJBE and the community throughout the school year.

*For more information, refer to *The Center For Artistic Expression* on page 33.

Teen Choir and Band

*For more information, refer to *The Center For Artistic Expression* on page 33.

Avodah

We affirm the goodness in life when we offer a daily prayer of gratitude. When life is difficult, and still we find the spiritual fortitude to offer a prayer of gratitude, then we declare possibility, optimism, hope.

— *Rabbi Karyn D. Kedar*



BJBE

SERVICES

FRIDAY NIGHT

Mizmor L'Shabbat Service

First Friday of the Month (September – June, except April), 7:30 p.m.

A joyous, musical service featuring Shakshuka and our amazing T'filah Band.

<i>September 1, 2017</i>	<i>December 1, 2017</i>	<i>March 2, 2018</i>
<i>October 6, 2017</i>	<i>January 5, 2018</i>	<i>May 4, 2018</i>
<i>November 3, 2017</i>	<i>February 2, 2018</i>	<i>June 1, 2018</i>

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Second, Fourth & Fifth Fridays of the Month (August – June), 7:30 p.m.

A soulful service featuring contemplative music and sermons in the traditional BJBE style.

<i>August 18, 25, 2017</i>	<i>December 8, 22, 29, 2017</i>	<i>April 13, 27, 2018</i>
<i>September 8, 22, 2017</i>	<i>January 12, 26, 2018</i>	<i>May 11, 25, 2018</i>
<i>October 13, 27, 2017</i>	<i>February 9, 23, 2018</i>	<i>June 8, 2018</i>
<i>November 10, 24, 2017</i>	<i>March 9, 23, * 2018</i>	

**On March 30, since so many in our community will be hosting or attending a first night Seder, we will not hold a Shabbat service at BJBE that evening.*

Matzah Ball Shabbat Family Service

Third Friday of the Month (October – June)

5:15-6:00 p.m. – Matzah Ball Soup and Challah

6:00-7:00 p.m. – Service

Join the BJBE community for a bowl of matzah ball soup and challah followed by an uplifting, inspiring multi-generational service featuring our Kol Simchah Junior Choir and a story for children.

<i>October 20, 2017</i>	<i>January 19, 2018</i>	<i>April 20, 2018</i>
<i>November 17, 2017</i>	<i>February 16, 2018</i>	<i>May 18, 2018</i>
<i>December 15, 2017</i>	<i>March 16, 2018</i>	<i>June 15, 2018</i>

Summer Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Every Friday, June 22–August 10, 2018, 6:00 p.m.

SATURDAY MORNING

Kol Shabbat Musical Service

9:30 a.m.

Celebrate Shabbat in a relaxed and informal environment with beautiful music and spirited singing, Torah reading, and an inspiring D'var Torah.

Tot Shabbat

Second Saturday of the Month (September –June)

9:30-10:00 a.m. – Service

10:00-10:30 a.m. – Kiddush and Family Art Project

Celebrate Shabbat with your toddlers in this fun and energetic service which includes joyous music and a Shabbat story for children. Then join us immediately following the service for challah, grape juice, and a creative family art project.

September 9, 2017

January 13, 2018

April 14, 2018

October 14, 2017

February 10, 2018

May 12, 2018

November 11, 2017

March 10, 2018

June 9, 2018

December 9, 2017

Morning B'nai Mitzvah Service

10:45 a.m.; beginning January 1, 2018 the service will begin at 11:00 a.m.

Celebrate with BJBE teens and their families as they take on the obligation of becoming bar or bat mitzvah. The bar/bat mitzvah students lead the entire service along with the clergy, chant Torah, and deliver inspiring D'verei Torah (sermons).

Havdalah B'nai Mitzvah Service

5:00 p.m.

Celebrate with BJBE teens and their families as they take on the obligation of becoming bar or bat mitzvah. The bar/bat mitzvah students lead the entire service along with the clergy, chant Torah, deliver inspiring D'verei Torah (sermons), and lead us in the Havdalah ceremony marking the transition from Shabbat to the new week.

Wednesday Morning Minyan

Wednesdays, 6:45 a.m.

BJBE offers a convenient mid-week opportunity for prayer on Wednesday mornings. Stop in on your way to work to give your spirit a workout, find friendship in community, and be present for fellow congregants who need to say Kaddish for a loved one.

HOLIDAYS & SPECIAL SERVICES

S'lichot Service & Study Session

Saturday, September 16, 2017

7:30 p.m.

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday, September 20, 2017

6:00 p.m. or 8:30 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah Day

Monday, September 21, 2017

L'Dor Vador & Traditional Services

9:00 a.m. or 12:00 p.m.

Tinok (pre-reader) Service

2:30 p.m.

*Tashlich at Wood Oaks Green Park,
Northbrook*

4:00 p.m.

Erev Yom Kippur

Friday, September 29, 2017

6:00 p.m. or 8:30 p.m.

Yom Kippur Day

Saturday, September 30, 2017

L'Dor Vador & Traditional Services

9:00 a.m. or 12:00 p.m.

Tinok (pre-reader) Service

2:30 p.m.

Torah Study

2:30 p.m.

Contemplation and Reflection,

Yizkor (Memorial) &

Neilah (Concluding) Services

4:00 p.m.

Sukkot Service

Thursday, October 5, 2017

9:30 a.m.

Shabbat Sukkot Service/ Mizmor L'Shabbat Service

Friday, October 6, 2017

7:30 p.m.

Erev Simchat Torah/Consecration

Wednesday, October 11, 2017

5:30 p.m.

Simchat Torah/ Shemini Atzeret Service

Thursday, October 12, 2017

9:30 a.m.

Community Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, November 19, 2017

7:00 p.m.

*Lakeside Congregation for
Reform Judaism*

Family Hanukkah Shabbat Service/ Teacher Appreciation Service/ Matzah Ball Shabbat

Friday, December 15, 2017

6:00 p.m.

Passover, First Day Service

Saturday, March 31, 2018

9:30 a.m.

Passover, Seventh Day/Yizkor Service

Friday, April 6, 2018

9:30 a.m.

Yom Ha'atzmaut Service: Celebrating Israel's Independence/ Matzah Ball Shabbat

Friday, April 20, 2018

6:00 p.m.

Shavuot Service

*Sunday, May 20, 2018
9:30 a.m.*

Tisha B'Av Service

*Saturday, July 21, 2018
8:00 p.m.*

Leadership Shabbat

*Friday, June 8, 2018
7:30 p.m.*

We invite you to share this special Shabbat as we celebrate the annual installation of our Board of Trustees, Sisterhood Board, and Senior Youth Group (SYG) Board for the coming year.

FESTIVALS & SPECIAL EVENTS

**Tu BiShevat Community Celebration
at Rochelle Zell Jewish High School
(RZJHS)**

*Sunday, January 28, 2018
1:00-3:00 p.m.*

**Family Purim Megillah Reading,
Shpiel & Carnival**

*Sunday, February 25, 2018
9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.*

**Purim Potluck Dinner, Service, &
Social Action Project**

*Wednesday, February 28, 2018
5:30-8:00 p.m.*

Sisterhood Women's Seder

*Monday, March 19, 2018
5:30-8:00 p.m.*

BJBE Community Seder

*Saturday, March 31, 2018
5:30-7:30 p.m.*

Tikun Leil Shavuot

Saturday, May 19, 2018

SPIRITUAL STUDY & EDUCATION

Adult B'nai Mitzvah/Confirmation

New class begins 2018

*For more information, refer to *Haskalah: The Center for Adult Learning* on page 1.

Kol Shabbat Torah Readers

Every Shabbat morning congregants of all ages chant Torah during our 9:30 a.m. Kol Shabbat service. Anyone can learn to chant, and our cantors are available to help you prepare. Chanting Torah is a beautiful way to participate in the life of our community. If you are interested in giving it a try, contact Cantor Green, rgreen@bjbe.org.

High Holy Day Torah Readers

Adults and teens who have had their B'nai Mitzvah are eligible to read Torah on the High Holy Days. If you are interested, contact Cantor Frost, jfrost@bjbe.org.

Preparing for the High Holy Days

Sundays, September 17 & 24, 2017, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

*For more information, refer to *Haskalah: The Center for Adult Learning* on page 2.

BODY AND SPIRIT

Mindfulness Jewish Meditation

Thursdays, 10:00-11:00 a.m. beginning October 19, 2017

Join us for an hour of relaxation and learning! Jewish Spirituality offers a new contemporary paradigm for Jewish learning. It is a means to personal learning and transformation. Jewish Spirituality is rooted in Torah, Hasidic and mystical texts. Each week we will start with a brief chant, study and learn, and then sit in meditation (or walking meditation). This practice is based on Chesed (love) and Emet (seeing our personal truths). We learn to see how we relate to the text before us, what it stirs up in our hearts and minds. Mindfulness benefits are many: improved concentration, memory, health, immune system, cardiac health, mood stability, and stress reduction. We start with one breath at a time! No prior experience is necessary, all are welcome. The class will be facilitated by Margot Andersen, MSW, a recent graduate of the Institute for Jewish Spirituality's Mindfulness Meditation Teacher training.

CONTACT: Margot Andersen
847-525-1710, creatingresilience@gmail.com

Spiritual Seekers Book Discussion Group

Thursdays, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m., August 24, 31, September 7 and 14, 2017

Instructor: Margot Andersen, MSW, Mindfulness Meditation Teacher, Institute of Jewish Spirituality

Rabbi Alan Lew “This is Real and You are Totally Unprepared”

We will be reading this wonderful book that takes you on a journey from Tisha B'Av through Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Each week we will read 2 chapters and discuss the spiritual meaning of each step of the High Holidays. This book is a wonderful way to dive deeply into understanding the nuances of the holidays. Please plan to purchase the book and attend as many sessions as possible.

CONTACT: Margot Andersen,
creatingresilience@gmail.com

Wise Aging – Living with Joy, Resilience & Spirit

Groups will begin this Fall

Developed by the Institute for Jewish Spirituality, Wise Aging is geared to those in their 50s through active aging. The series will focus on topics including becoming your authentic self, cultivating spiritual qualities for well-being, changing bodies and body images, revitalizing relationships, leaving a legacy and living with loss, change and death. Join us for these rich 7 week sessions to reflect on where you are on your journey in life and how to make the most out of life's precious moments.

CONTACT: Margot Andersen,
creatingresilience@gmail.com

“Be Still and Get Going!”

Sunday, February 18, 2018

*For more information, refer to *Haskalah: The Center for Adult Learning* on page 5.

Spiritual Seekers Discussion Group

Day & Time TBD

This welcoming and open self-led group invites you to join as they select books and topics to discuss with themes related to the Jewish calendar, life cycle, and spiritual contemporary living.

CONTACT: Margot Andersen,
creatingresilience@gmail.com

Omer Study Group

Day & Time TBD

Spiritual seekers will meet weekly during the period known as the Omer to count the 49 days between Passover and Shavuot. We will explore the Jewish principles involved in preparing to receive Torah. *Omer, A Counting* by Rabbi Karyn Kedar will be used as one of the texts for discussion, as well as other sources. Join us as we make these 49 days count!

CONTACT: Margot Andersen,
creatingresilience@gmail.com

Tai Chi Chu'an

Thursdays, 7:30-8:30 a.m.

Instructor: Dr. Andrew Serlin

Enhance the energy of your mind, body and spirit and gain sensitivity, focus and balance for your life. This class is perfect for older members of BJB but open to all and is offered at no charge. For more information, please contact the temple office at 847-940-7575.

SPIRITUAL LIFE TRIPS

G'milut Chasadim Trip to New Orleans

Friday, March 2 – Monday, March 5, 2018

*For more information, refer to *G'milut Chasadim: The Social Action Network* on page 41.

Teen Mission to Kolin and Israel

June 13-24, 2018

*For more information, refer to *Yisrael v'Ivrit: The Center for Israel and the Hebrew Language* on page 63.

Emergency Disaster Relief Trips

*For more information, refer to *G'milut Chasadim: The Social Action Network* on page 41.

*For more information about the Center for Prayer and Spiritual Growth, please contact Marcus Newman at Rivntuck@icloud.com.

MUSICAL CONCERTS & CINEMA

Chicago Festival of Israeli Cinema

Sunday, October 29, 2017, 3:30 p.m.

BJBE is proud to be a sponsor in this year's film festival. We will host a screening of *The Essential Link: The Story of Wilfrid Israel*, at the ArcLight Theatre in The Glen. The film's director, Yonatan Nir, will be in attendance at this screening. Tickets will be available at BJBE.

CONTACT: Noel Hara
noel@haraonline.net

BJBE ADULT CHOIR

DIRECTOR: Stephen Edwards
singingstephen@gmail.com

The BJBE Adult Choir is an important addition to our High Holiday services and other musical experiences at BJBE. Members who participate in the choir have a unique opportunity to enrich the heart and soul of our congregation. Please contact Cantor Frost at jfrost@bjbe.org if you are interested in joining us.

REHEARSALS

The Adult Choir rehearses on Tuesday evenings from 7:30-9:30 p.m. (at various times of the year) in advance of performances.

Hallel Singers for the Festival Holidays

The Hallel Singers bring extra joy and spirit to our festival morning services by leading everyone in the traditional singing of the psalms of Hallel. Festival morning services are at 9:30am on Sukkot, Simchat Torah, Passover and Shavuot. Only one rehearsal for each service. Please contact Cantor Green at rgreen@bjbe.org if you are interested in joining us.

TEEN CHOIR AND BAND

Our teen choir and band help to lead our congregation in prayer at our monthly Matzah Ball Shabbat services as well as other special occasions throughout the year. Please contact Cantor Frost at jfrost@bjbe.org or Cantor Green at rgreen@bjbe.org if interested in joining us.

KOL SIMCHAH JUNIOR CHOIR

DIRECTOR: Cantor Rayna Green
rgreen@bjbe.org

Our Kol Simchah Junior Choir is for students in grades 2-6.

REHEARSALS

The Kol Simchah Junior Choir rehearses on most Sundays when religious school is in session from 8:45-9:25 a.m. at BJBE. Rehearsals include a focus on the music, as well as the text, expression, and fun!

SERVICES AND EVENTS

Matzah Ball Shabbat

Third Friday of the Month (October-June)
5:15-6:00 p.m. – Matzah Ball Soup and Challah
6:00-7:00 p.m. – Service

Welcome Back Party!

Sunday, September 10, 2017, from 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. in the JLC

Hanukkah Concerts at Gidwitz Place and Glenview Terrace

Saturday, December 9, 2017, 12:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Shabbat Hanukkah Service

Friday, December 15, 2017, 6:00 p.m.

Tu BiShevat Community Celebration at Rochelle Zell Jewish High School (RZJHS)

Sunday, January 28, 2018, Afternoon performance

HUGS Purim Performance at BJBE

Tuesday, February 20, 2018, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Pre-Purim Carnival Sing-Along

Sunday, February 25, 2018, 9:30 a.m.

MULTI-GENERATIONAL CHOIR

Our BJBE Multi-Generational Choir is comprised of the Adult Choir, Teen Choir, and Kol Simchah Junior Choir, who come together during services and special events throughout the year to enhance the worship experience.

*For more information about the Center for Artistic Expression,
please contact Cantor Jennifer Frost at jfrost@bjbe.org.



G'milut Chasadim

To be in service to something larger
than ourselves is true greatness.

It is the work of our lives.

— Rabbi Karyn D. Kedar



BJBE

To get involved with The Social Action Network, please contact Melanie Berkowitz at melanie.h.berkowitz@gmail.com.

ONGOING EFFORTS

Ongoing Collections

Each time you come to BJBE, bring something to donate to the Tzedakah Niche in the Village Center outside of our sanctuary. We have ongoing collections for eyeglasses, hearing aids, cell phones, batteries, printer cartridges, and travel-sized toiletries.

MONTHLY EFFORTS

Tzedakah Trolley

For our JLC students, look for a new collection program with our “Tzedakah Trolley.” Throughout the year, we will highlight different organizations and their donation needs. Students will learn about the charities and then fill the trolley with needed items.

Nurturing our North Shore Neighbors

Once per month during the school year

Drop-off to: Moraine Township Food Pantry, 777 Central Avenue in Highland Park

BJBE joins with other neighborhood synagogues, churches and community groups to provide bags of groceries for families in need. Moraine Township students who might benefit from this support are identified by their school leaders, and their families are able to pick up the groceries at their child’s school. Our efforts are critical for families who need to supplement their income or for whom food stamps do not stretch the full month. Moraine Township Food Pantry provides a shopping list and BJBE volunteers sign up to purchase groceries for five families. Expect to make one shopping trip and spend approximately \$125 to cover the cost of groceries for all five families. Groceries are then dropped off at the Food Pantry for distribution. This is a great program for a chavurah, or other group, and a valuable mitzvah project for B’nai Mitzvah students.

CONTACT: Laurie Egert Weissler
lweissler@senecastrategy.com

PADS Homeless Shelter

Fourth Sunday of each Month (October 2017-April 2018)

First Presbyterian Church of Deerfield, 824 Waukegan Road, Deerfield, IL

BJBE provides meals and volunteers to support residents of Lake County who are homeless through PADS, Providing Advocacy, Dignity and Shelter. The Deerfield shelter is a joint initiative of houses of worship in our area. BJBE provides volunteers from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. in addition to dinner, breakfast and a bag lunch for up to 50 guests. Volunteers are needed for set up, meal preparation, and caring for/ assisting our guests. PADS is the first point of contact for residents of Lake County who are homeless and often the only hope for someone facing a long night in the cold. PADS serves individuals and families with children, including the mentally ill and veterans, by providing vital services, such as emergency shelter, permanent supportive housing, street outreach, and social services.

CONTACT: Ruth Miller
oogiyot@comcast.net

Project Nourish

Fourth Sunday of each Month, 9:00-10:00 a.m.

Once a month volunteers gather in BJBE's kitchen to pack and deliver lunches to help feed people who need extra food. Lunches are distributed to neighborhood residents at a church near the United Center, at PADS in Lake County, and Staben House in Waukegan.

CONTACT: Merrilee Waldron
memi660@aol.com

Baking Cookies for Project Nourish

This is a wonderful Tikkun Olam opportunity for all congregants in partnership with the Young Families Social Action Network. Bake a batch of home-made cookies (no nuts or nut products, please) and bag by twos in Ziploc bags to be added to Project Nourish lunches, which are delivered to people who are in need of food. Please label your outer bag "Project Nourish" and put it in the far right freezer in the BJBE kitchen. We will include the cookies the next time we prepare lunches. Look for "baking parties" at the temple throughout the year as well.

Inspiration Café

Select Saturday or Sunday evenings throughout 2017 and 2018, 4:00-7:15 p.m.

Great project for B'nai Mitzvah students and their families! Participants plan a menu, shop for groceries, and prepare and serve a nutritious dinner in a restaurant-style setting for up to 40 individuals who are on their journey toward self-sufficiency. This is a wonderful and gratifying group activity that requires 5-7 volunteers. Inspiration Café is located at 4554 N. Broadway on Chicago's north side.

CONTACT: Joey Waldman,
jwaldman@fishercohen.com

Social Justice Team (SJT)

Quarterly Meetings

The Social Justice Team (SJT), an arm of the Social Action Network, addresses the root causes of injustice. The SJT works across lines of faith, race, and class, and against all forms of hate and discrimination. We partner with key national and local organizations who are in alignment with areas of deeply and commonly held concerns, as identified through relational dialogue with our members. BJBE is a founding member of UPAJ (United Power for Action and Justice), a non-partisan community organization composed of religious congregations, not-for-profit groups, hospitals, health centers, and civic organizations in the Chicago metropolitan area. We are also members of “Reform Illinois,” a community organizing group representing the Reform Movement and inclusive of member congregations of the URJ. SJT’s goal, based on our shared values and concerns, is to build relational power for collective actions in the name of justice and the common good.

CONTACT: Susan Drucker
sdrucker@gemguide.com

SPECIAL EVENTS

Annual High Holy Days Food Drive

Every year at this time of year we join other area Reform congregations to collect food for those in our community who are hungry. Food and paper products are donated to The Ark.

Maot Chitim: Feeding the Hungry

Rosh Hashanah Packing Day – Sunday, September 10, 2017 at 10:30-11:15 a.m.

Rosh Hashanah Delivery Day – Sunday, September 17, 2017 at 6:00-8:30 a.m.

perishable item packing; recipient deliveries begin at 9:00 a.m.

Packing and Delivery Location: 8260 North Austin Avenue, Morton Grove

Twice a year, at Rosh Hashanah and Pesach, we join with this organization to pack and deliver boxes of food to people in the Chicago area who are in need. Participants must be at least 12 years old to participate in warehouse activities.

CONTACT: Brian Aronson
briana@aronsonassociates.com

Fall Health Fair

Sunday, October 29, 2017

9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

This educational and interactive event will include several types of health screenings and education on a variety of topics. Flu shots will also be offered (bring your insurance card). The Health Fair is sponsored by The Caring Community.

CONTACT: Terry Sachsels
tandpirate@aol.com

Fall & Spring Blood Drives

Sunday, October 29, 2017

8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 22, 2018

8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

The Social Action Network coordinates a blood drive for LifeSource to help those Chicagoans in need of blood and blood products. Committee members and donors are always needed.

CONTACTS: Rachel Tzinberg
rptzin@gmail.com

Richard Goldberg
richagoldberg@gmail.com

5th Annual MLK Day of Service

Monday, January 15, 2018

Make Martin Luther King's Day a day *on* instead of a day *off*. We provide various off-and on-site social action opportunities to honor the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. In addition to participating, opportunities for planning and "day-of" leadership are available.

CONTACT: Anne Robbin
arobbin@bjbe.org

G'milut Chasadim Programs for Families with Young Children

Getting our children involved in Tikkun Olam (repairing the world) and G'milut Chasadim (acts of kindness) at a young age is a primary goal of our programming. Making connections and growing friendships with other young families is another. Join us once or on an ongoing basis for multi-generational programming as we bake cookies for Project Nourish, collect food for the Ark, participate in a "food stamp shopping challenge," create "charity chests" for the home, fill activity bags for local children's hospitals, and much more.

CONTACTS: Melanie Berkowitz
berger.home@yahoo.com

Carrie Cohan
ckrivit@gmail.com

Sisterhood Social Action

Sisterhood organizes social action projects throughout the year, such as collections for the Deerfield Food Pantry, creating pillows for Breast Cancer Survivors, and sending notes to the Lone Soldiers in the Israeli Army.

CONTACT: Marla Goldberg
auntiemar@msn.com

JCARES *Partnership for Safer Synagogues*



BJBE is certified as a Safer Synagogue by Jewish Community Abuse Resources, Education & Solutions (JCARES), a coalition dedicated to addressing abuse across the Jewish community and perpetuating healthy, peaceful, Jewish homes, families, and relationships. Our leadership has been trained in understanding the impact of abuse across the lifespan and improving access to support for congregants experiencing abusive situations. Please call the temple office or email the following contact for *confidential* assistance.

CONTACT: Dale Busch
dalegbusch66@gmail.com

G'MILUT CHASADIM TRIPS

G'milut Chasadim Trip to New Orleans

Friday, March 2 – Monday, March 5, 2018

Join fellow BJBE congregants in our tenth annual social action mission to New Orleans. We will continue to strengthen interfaith relationships with Christian and Jewish groups in the Crescent City, form new friendships within our BJBE community, and help rebuild communities in need. Together, we will also explore and enjoy the unique city of New Orleans.

CONTACTS: Brad Marino
marinomzg@gmail.com

Judi Marino
judimarino@comcast.net

Emergency Disaster Relief Trips

Make lasting connections, learn about Jewish life and culture, and lend your hands to help in communities that experience devastation through natural disaster. Together we will have the opportunity to travel to rebuild and support the affected communities with the hope of revisiting whenever necessary. Previous trips have included Joplin, MO, Moore, OK, and Washington, IL. If you would like to get involved contact Melanie Berkowitz, melanie.h.berkowitz@gmail.com.

*For more information about the Social Action Network, please contact Melanie Berkowitz at melanie.h.berkowitz@gmail.com.



K'HILAT SHALOM:
BJBE CARING COMMUNITY...
OUR EXTENDED FAMILY

קהילת שלום

As BJBE's Extended Family, Caring Community provides spiritual, emotional, and healing support to our member families in times of joy and in times of need. Our goal is for all members to feel valued, included, and welcome. To become an active part of the Caring Community, contact Dale Busch at dalegbusch66@gmail.com or Michael Erdman at michael.erdman@hotmail.com.

CLERGY SUPPORT FOR MEMBERS IN NEED

Clergy Pastoral Care

The Rabbis and Cantors want to know when your family or loved ones experience illness or death so that they can support you in your times of need. Contact the temple office at 847-940-7575 to speak with one of the clergy's assistants. Be sure to provide all relevant information and where you can be reached.

JCARES Partnership for Safer Synagogues

*For more information, refer to *G'milut Chasadim: The Social Action Network* on page 41.



Virtual Food Pantry

In emergency situations when a member has no other source of obtaining food, short-term food assistance can be provided. The clergy handles this concern confidentially. Contact the temple office at 847-940-7575 to speak with one of the clergy's assistants.

VOLUNTEER SUPPORT FOR MEMBERS IN NEED

Primary Contact for All Volunteer Services

When we learn that a member is in need, a skilled volunteer will make contact to provide support and to assess that person's needs confidentially. We invite you to let us know when you or a loved one could use support so that our Caring Community can reach out and provide any of the services listed below.

CONTACT: Gloria Kaiz
847-945-3741, gloria@kaizs.com

Bikkur Cholim: Visiting the Sick

Chairperson: Michael Erdman

When a member needs emotional support, a phone call and/or visit will be provided at home, hospital, rehab center, or nursing home by a trained volunteer. In addition, there is a partnership between BJBE and Gidwitz that involves synagogue volunteers visiting with residents in a group discussion setting.

Meal Delivery

Co-Chairs: Dale Busch & Michael Erdman

When we learn that a member would benefit from receiving a prepared meal, volunteers will make all of the arrangements.

Transportation Assistance

Chairperson: Dolly DeCaro

When a member requires either a ride to/from temple or to/from medical appointments, a volunteer will arrange for transportation.

Self-Help Guides to Family Issues

There are self-help brochures covering a wide-range of topics available in the Tzedakah Niche in the Village Center for members to take as needed.

LIFE CYCLE: CELEBRATION AND COMFORT

Bags of Hope

Co-Chairs: Renee Busch & Rachel Tzinberg

During the High Holy Days, a bereavement memorial bag is delivered to all members who have lost a loved one during the past year.

Grief Support Phone Calls

Chairperson: Sharon Krivitzky

Volunteers will call newly bereaved family members within the first few months of a loss.

Volunteer Shiva Minyan Corps

Chairperson: Irwin Goldfine

When requested, a volunteer Shiva Minyan leader will be provided to members who have lost a loved one.

Gift for New Parents and Grandparents

A gift and note are sent out when a member has a new child or grandchild.

CONTACT: Phyllis Pearlman in the BJBE office
847-940-7575

Caring Note Cards

Co-Chairs: Jeanie Pearlman & Dolly DeCaro

A personal note is sent to members who are celebrating a special event or to provide support during a difficult time.

High Holy Days Calls

Chairperson: Ted Busch

During the High Holy Days season, volunteers will call every member of the congregation to wish them a “Shana Tova” from their BJBE family.

SENIORS AND LIFE TRANSITIONS PROGRAMS

BJBE is pleased to welcome residents of Sedgebrook and Gidwitz Senior Living facilities to our first Friday night service of every month to pray with us and enjoy the music of our T’filah Band and Singers.

Health Insurance Counseling Sessions

Dates & Times TBD

Throughout the year, appointments are available to meet with Esther Craven, a Resource Specialist with over 25 years of experience at CJE SeniorLife, a trained Senior Health Insurance Advocate. Individual appointments with Esther Craven at BJBE are available at no charge. See the Caring Community section of *This Week at BJBE* for dates and times.

CONTACT: Phyllis Pearlman,
ppearlman@bjbe.org or 847-940-7575

Wise Aging—Living with Joy, Resilience & Spirit

7-Week Session: Dates TBD

*For more information, refer to *T’hillab: The Center for Prayer and Spiritual Growth* on page 30.

SUPPORT GROUP

BJBE hosts the following support group in our building. Although not sponsored by our congregation, it is open and available to our members.

PFLAG

Second Thursday of the Month, 7:15-9:10 p.m.

PFLAG promotes the well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons, and their families and friends. All meetings are confidential; PFLAG is a safe place to talk, listen and learn. Membership is not required and there is no charge to attend. Walk-ins are always welcome.

CONTACT: Sue Ginsburg, PFLAG President Deerfield Chapter,
pflagdeerfield@pflagillinois.org, 630-415-0622

*For more information about the Caring Community...Our Extended Family,
please contact Dale Busch at dalegbusch66@gmail.com or
Michael Erdman at michael.erdman@hotmail.com.

Community

We sit in community:
Elbow to elbow, eye to eye.
So close, perhaps, we brush against each
other as we move in prayer.
Ears filled with the voices of friends,
teachers, fellow travelers – who pray with us
from the next seat, from across the room.
We come to silence.
Rhythm of words, shared melody, hushed.

— *Mishkan T'filah*



COMMUNITY AT THE CENTER

קהילה במרכז

MEMBERSHIP CIRCLE FOR COMMUNITY BUILDING

Community is BJBE's central value. Membership Circle finds and welcomes new members, creating opportunities for them to meet other members of the BJBE community and form lasting friendships.

Membership Circle

Working on an event or a program is a great way to get involved in the temple and to get to know new people in a small group setting. Volunteer for an event, for particular programs, or help out with ongoing initiatives. Small commitments are welcome!

CONTACT: Abby Agnew
abby.agnew@sbcglobal.net

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP EVENTS

Sisterhood Membership Event

Monday, October 16, 2017, 6:30-9:00 p.m.

*For more information, refer to *Kol Isha: BJBE Sisterhood* on page 56.

Recent Member Shabbat Dinner

Friday, November 10, 2017, 5:30 p.m.

This Shabbat dinner is an opportunity for members who have joined BJBE in the last two years to get to know each other, meet our lay leadership, and feel the warmth of their new extended family. Want to help?

CONTACT: Abby Agnew
abby.agnew@sbcglobal.net

Recent Member Brunch

Sunday, April 15, 2018, 9:45 a.m.

This brunch is an opportunity for new-ish members to continue to deepen their connections within BJBE and to learn more about how to get involved in all that BJBE has to offer.

CONTACT: Abby Agnew
abby.agnew@sbcglobal.net

Prospective Member Open Houses

Several times a year, we host gatherings at BJBE, in congregants' homes, or at local restaurants for prospective members. This is an excellent opportunity for your friends and family who are searching for a spiritual home to meet BJBE clergy, our Education Director, lay leadership, and other temple members in a casual and intimate setting.

CONTACT: Abby Agnew
abby.agnew@sbcglobal.net

Shabbat in the Park

Occasionally over the summer, we move outside for a musical Shabbat service in the park, followed by a special oneg treat from the ice cream truck.

CONTACT: Anne Robbin
arobbin@bjbe.org

Dessert Under the Stars

While prospective members are welcome to attend BJBE services any time, several times a year we hold special prospective member outreach services, where people who are searching for a spiritual home can get a taste of BJBE.

CONTACT: Anne Robbin
arobbin@bjbe.org

Torah on Tap

Throughout the year, we host gatherings for both members and prospective members at a bar/restaurant. This is a great opportunity to connect with our clergy with lively conversation and a drink in a casual setting.

CONTACT: Anne Robbin
arobbin@bjbe.org

Shabbat in the Home

These pot-luck Shabbat dinners, held in congregants' homes, give our members a chance to gather for intimate, casual Shabbat dinners to build community, share a beautiful meal, and connect with our clergy.

CONTACT: Anne Robbin
arobbin@bjbe.org

*For more information about the Membership Circle,
please contact Abby Agnew at abby.agnew@sbcglobal.net.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Sisterhood

BJBE Sisterhood, with a membership of over 300 women, provides religious, educational, community and social action activities for women of all ages. We believe strongly in giving back to our Temple and community. Please see the Sisterhood section of this booklet for a detailed schedule of programs and events.

CONTACT: Carol Berger
ponderer4552@sbcglobal.net

Youth Groups

BJBE offers three youth groups:

KYG (K'tanim Youth Group) for grades 3-5

JYG (Junior Youth Group) for grades 6-8

SYG (Senior Youth Group) for grades 9-12.

*For more information, refer to the *Youth Engagement* section on pages 17-20.

BJBE Stars for Business: Professional Development Group

*Mondays, September 11, 2017; December 4, 2017; February 12, 2018; May 14, 2018
7:30 p.m. at BJBE*

You work hard, and you're good at what you do. Want to be even better? Learn how to be better in business and expand your network with BJBE Stars for Business, the temple's hub for professional growth and connections. We bring in expert speakers and involve everyone in activities designed to help you perform better in your professional life. With nearly 200 active members, every event is an opportunity to network, meet new people, and share your business story—and every event is FREE to all BJBE members. Plus, the BJBE Stars for Business directory is the first resource for finding other BJBE members with whom to do business. Whether you're a business owner or a hard-working employee, a retiree or in transition, BJBE Stars for Business can help you gain new strengths, meet new connections, and be better at whatever you do.

CONTACTS: Dave Kaufman
dave@dkworldwide.com

Jeff Segal
jeff@messagetherapist.net

Ira Singer
ira@mosaicconstruction.net

Working Out Loud

*Monday, September 11, 2017
7:30 p.m.*

BJBE After Hours

BJBE After Hours is a social group for parents of school-age children and younger to connect on an adult level. We could all use a night out, so leave the kids at home and join us!

CONTACTS: Beth Sattler
beth.i.sattler@gmail.com

Maureen Wener
wenerm@yahoo.com

Celebration in the Sukkah

Saturday, October 7, 2017, 7:30-10:00 p.m.

Join us for our first event of the year at a congregant's home for snacks and schmoozing.

Look for more events throughout the year!

Post-Carpool Club

The BJBE Post Carpool Club, also known as PCP, is a group of fun-loving empty nesters. We enjoy a variety of activities together including speakers, theater, Shabbat dinners, and outings as a community of BJBE friends. Ideas for future programs always welcome!

CONTACT: Carol Berger
ponderer4552@sbcglobal.net

Mamie Eisenhower: Hostess in Chief. A historical portrayal by Ellie Carlson, museum curator, performer, and writer

Sunday, October 15, 2017, 4:30 p.m. at BJBE

Mamie was America's beloved First Lady from 1953 - 1961. She was also an Army wife, mother and grandmother. Enjoy your time with her as she relates her life as Ike's wife, our first lady and "just a good friend," which is how she most wanted to be remembered. Learn from Mamie about living in Panama and the Philippines between the World Wars and about her loving relationship with Ike, which weathered horrible rumors and long separations. Join us for a welcome reception followed by program and dinner. There will be a cost associated with this program.

A trip to Rockefeller Chapel (Hyde Park)

Sunday, January 28, 2018, afternoon concert

Join us for a special Jewish concert celebrating Israel's 70th birthday, featuring Cantor David Berger and friends, the Kol Zimrah Choir (accompanied by our own Margo Schwartz-Newton), and special guest Matthew Lazar, a leading force in the Jewish choral movement. His superior talents as a conductor and interpreter of music have elevated the standards of Jewish musical performance and educated audiences across North America. Full details to be determined, but bus transportation will be offered. There will be a cost associated with this program.

The Best of Bette, Barbara, Sammy, Tony and more

Sunday, March 11, 2018, 4:30 p.m. at BJBE.

We welcome back one of our favorite presenters, Hy Speck, who has delighted us with his informative programs. Included in this new presentation are clips from movies, television, and stage appearances of your favorite performers. Join us for a welcome reception followed by the program and dinner. There will be a cost associated with this program.

Brunch & a Movie

Sunday, June 24, 10:30 a.m. at BJBE.

We invite you to join us for a delicious brunch and a movie, followed by discussion. Movie choice to follow. Enjoy good food, a lively discussion, and community. There will be a cost associated with this program.

INTERFAITH PROGRAMMING

We recognize interfaith families to include Jews by choice, other-faith partners, and/or the extended other-faith family who love them. To stay current with interfaith programs, events, resources, and articles of interest, please visit our Interfaith Community page on the BJBE website. If you have any questions or want to get involved, contact: Anne Robbin, arobbin@bjbe.org.

Community Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, November 19, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

Lakeside Congregation for Reform Judaism

The annual Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Observance is sponsored by the Southeast Lake County Interreligious Council. This service is a back-to-basics celebration of the holiday in which worship congregations throughout Deerfield and Highland Park are invited to join in prayer as a greater community.

CONTACT: Phyllis Pearlman
ppearlman@bjbe.org

Symposium - Christianity

Tuesdays, February 20 & 27, 2018, 10:00-11:30am

Instructor: Rabbi Yehiel Poupko, Judaic Scholar, Jewish United Fund of the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago

Symposium - Islam

Tuesdays, March 6 & 13, 2018, 10:00-11:30am

Instructor: Alexandra Dunietz, Author of The Cosmic Perils of Qadi Usayn Maybud in Fifteenth-Century Iran

Sisterhood Interfaith Program

Wednesday, March 14, 2018, 7:30 p.m.

This is an opportunity to heighten our awareness and expand our knowledge of the teachings, practices, and beliefs of other faiths in our society.

CONTACT: Leslie Outten
lho4art@aol.com

INCLUSION

“For my house shall be called a house of prayer for all people.” -Isaiah 56:7

Inclusion means that all people, regardless of their ability, have the right to be a valuable and participating member of their community. In connection with our Jewish values and Congregation BJBE's mission, the Inclusion Committee is dedicated to creating a welcoming and accessible community for people with disabilities and their families. The purpose of this group is to ensure an inclusive worship, educational, and social experience in a supportive environment. The committee is open to all who are interested.

CONTACT: Dr. Jennifer Gendel
gendeljennifer@gmail.com

Inclusion in the JLC

Our Jewish Learning Center has a Special Needs Coordinator. The goal of this program is to provide a safe and nurturing Jewish education within the general BJBE classroom for students requiring additional support or accommodations. Diana Slatopolsky, long time BJBE member, Sunday School teacher, and school psychologist, provides guidance to our classroom teachers, students, and parents. If you are interested in exploring options for your child please contact Diana at slatopol@aol.com.

Purim Carnival Experience

We are proud to open our Purim Carnival early between 9:00-10:00 a.m. for families who have a child with special needs and would benefit from a quieter, lower-stimulating carnival experience. No charge, but registration is required by email to Dani Glass at dglass@bjbe.org. For more information, contact Cantor Green.

HUGS – Healthy Understanding Growth Spaces

HUGS is a collaborative effort of Chicago north suburban synagogues. HUGS values welcoming people of all abilities and strives to offer meaningful holiday celebrations for children and adults of all ages with special needs. Programs take place in synagogues around the Chicago north suburban area and are always held in spaces that are accessible to all. Family members or caregivers are welcome at all events. Most of our programs are free of charge.

HUGS Purim at BJBE

Tuesday, February 20, 2018, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

BJBE is proud to host the Purim Hamantashen Making event for adults with disabilities. There will be a special musical presentation and telling of the story of Queen Esther, a craft project, and of course, hamantashen making and eating! This event is free and open to the community. Family members and caretakers are welcome to attend. BJBE is fully accessible.

To RSVP, contact Dani Glass, dglass@bjbe.org

HUGS Holiday Calendar 2017-2018:

Rosh Hashanah

September 21, 2017, 3:30 p.m.

Congregation Beth Shalom, 3433 Walters Avenue, Northbrook

Simchat Torah

October 11, 2017, Time TBD

Temple Beth El, 3610 Dundee, Northbrook

Sukkot

Date and time TBD

Beth Hillel Congregation B'nai Emunah, 3220 Big Tree Lane, Wilmette

Hanukkah

December 13, 2017, 4:30-6:30 p.m

North Suburban Synagogue Beth El, 1175 Sheridan Rd, Highland Park

Klezmer Dance Party

February 2018 – Date and time TBD

Beth Hillel Congregation B'nai Emunah, 3220 Big Tree Lane, Wilmette

Purim Hamantashen Making for Adults

Tuesday, February 20, 2018, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Congregation BJBE

Musical Coffeehouses

Spring 2018

Traditionally, the coffeehouse is a place to meet with friends, talk, and listen to great music. Join us for these gatherings where we bring the coffeehouse atmosphere to BJBE. Enjoy good friends and great entertainment!

CONTACT: Leslie Block
lblock@bjbe.org

BJBE Community Second Night Seder

Saturday, March 31, 2018

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Experience the spiritual freedom of Pesach surrounded by family and our multi-generational community. Led by BJBE clergy, together we will sing, pray, and enjoy the wonderful tradition of our heritage.

CONTACT: Lynne Kleiman
lynne.kleiman@sbcglobal.net

BJBE Gala

April 28, 2018, Time TBD

Friendship, Fun, & Community. BJBE's annual fundraiser, sure to be a great night!

CONTACT: Sid Siegel
sidney@naturaldirect.com

JUF Speaker

May 8, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

This event, which benefits The Jewish United Fund of Chicago, will feature a high-profile speaker on issues of concern to the Jewish community.

CONTACT: Phyllis Pearlman
ppearlman@bjbe.org

ANNUAL EVENTS

Sisterhood Membership Event

Monday, October, 16, 2017, 6:30 p.m.

We welcome our paid members to enjoy a wonderful dinner and guest speaker, Maggie Anton, author of *Rashi's Daughter*, and her newest book *Fifty Shades of Talmud... What the Rabbis Had to Say about You-Know-What*.

CONTACT: Judy Marcus
judy@memorylady.com

Adult Bingo Night

Saturday, February 3, 2018, 6:30 p.m.

Join us for a fun Saturday night out at BJBE including dinner and Bingo.

CONTACT: Bonnie Koss
kossarms@comcast.net

Interfaith Program

Wednesday, March 14, 2018, 7:30 p.m.

This is an opportunity to heighten our awareness and expand our knowledge of the teachings, practices, and beliefs of other faiths in our society.

CONTACT: Leslie Outten
lho4art@aol.com

White Elephant Dinner

Monday, April 16, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

Join us at a local restaurant (location TBD) for a fun evening that will include dinner and a live auction.

CONTACTS: Lois Perlman
lillo5@comcast.net

Marcia Resnick
mrjr@me.com

Games Galore

Wednesday, May 9, 2018, 5:30-9:30 p.m.

We promise you a delicious dinner, Mah Jongg, your favorite board and card games, raffles, and a silent auction, along with laughter and fun.

CONTACTS: Elaine Kupfer

KUP12@comcast.net

Midge Colman

midge2565@gmail.com

Lois Stiglitz

lostiglitz@att.net

Volunteer Thank You Event

June 2018, Date and time TBD

Join us as we show our appreciation to everyone who helped Sisterhood achieve its goals this year.

CONTACTS: Jeanie Pearlman

theschwartzbewithyou@comcast

Linda Rukin

lmsklr@yahoo.com

ReSale

Drop Off: Saturday, August 4, 2018

Sale Dates: Sunday, August 5, and Monday, August 6, 2018

Clean out your closets and donate your housewares, knick-knacks, or whatever else you no longer want or need. We do not accept computers or large furniture. Children's toys and clothing are greatly appreciated.

CONTACT: Diane Sachs

tripmom22@aol.com

HOLIDAY EVENTS AND SHABBATOT

Hanukkah Boutique

Sunday, November 19, 2017, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

You won't want to miss this opportunity for a one-stop shopping experience, just in time for Hanukkah. Find a variety of gifts as well as items for yourself in our room full of vendors, selected for the quality of their merchandise.

CONTACTS: Jennifer Kaiz

Jefner75@yahoo.com

Sherri Wolff

baselitch@aol.com

Bonnie Litch

baselitch@aol.com

Women's Seder

Monday, March 19, 2018, 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Come join Sisterhood for a lovely and meaningful evening as we enjoy a Women's Seder and share a Passover meal. This event is for women as well as girls of religious school age.

CONTACTS: Laurie Lichko
llichko@comcast.net

Ellyn Leib
Leibfam@comcast.net

Oneg Shabbat Sponsorship

Sponsoring an Oneg Shabbat is a lovely way to celebrate a simcha such as the birth of a child or grandchild, wedding, birthday, anniversary, promotion, or to honor someone special.

CONTACT: Sharon Silver
sharonsilver@comcast.net

ONGOING EVENTS

Monthly Speakers and Programs

Monday, October 30 (Meet Rabbi Fenster), Wednesdays, November 8, January 10, February 7, & March 14, Tuesday, May 15

A variety of programs throughout the year include timely topics addressed by knowledgeable speakers as well as evenings set aside just for entertainment.

CONTACT: Gloria Marron
gloria.r.marron@gmail.com

Afternoon Book Club

Tuesdays, October 17, December 12, March 13, May 15, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

Read the book and then join in a lively review and discussion.

CONTACT: Teri Ruby
mcruteri@hotmail.com

Mah Jongg/Canasta

Mondays, 1:00 p.m.

CONTACT: Sharon Krivitsky
sharkrivitz@aol.com

SPECIAL EVENTS FOR FAMILIES AND SENIORS

80s-Plus Luncheon

Wednesday, September 13, 2017, 11:30 a.m.

Sisterhood organizes an annual event especially for senior members of BJBE.

CONTACTS: Ethel Schmall Joan Schorr Janet Swig
 hspiwak123@gmail.com joanschorr@gmail.com janetswig@aol.com

BJBE Kids Club

Sunday, April 22, 2018, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

Calling all children up to age 5. Grab an adult and join us to have fun and get messy!

CONTACT: Sandy Hill
 dune4boys@yahoo.com

COMMUNITY IN-REACH AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

College Boxes

Sisterhood members send holiday greetings and gifts to young adults at college.

CONTACTS: Cheryl Kahn Shelley Wax
 kahncm@gmail.com waxclan@aol.com

Medical Lending Closet

Sisterhood maintains a list of medical supplies available for loan within the congregation.

CONTACT: Adrienne Daskal
 847-323-7400

Oneg Shabbat

Sisterhood members volunteer at each Friday night service to serve refreshments at the Oneg Shabbat. We are always looking for bakers for an Oneg Shabbat and/or for special events.

CONTACT: Irena Rogachevsky
 irenarog2115@gmail.com

Shabbat Bags

Each fall Sisterhood welcomes new BJBE members by delivering to them a lovely gift bag of challah, wine, and Shabbat candles.

CONTACTS: Sherry Popper

iampopper1@sbcglobal.net

Sharon Sabin

sharonsabin714@aol.com

Social Action

Sisterhood organizes social action projects during the year such as making pillows for breast cancer patients, collecting food and other items for the ARK, and the Lone Soldier Project for soldiers serving in the Israeli Army.

CONTACT: Marla Goldberg

auntiemar@msn.com

Tribute Cards

Sisterhood circulates a timely list of BJBE members experiencing life cycle events. Place your order and Sisterhood will send a beautiful card with your name and the appropriate message to your intended recipient.

CONTACT: Marilyn Friedman

m.friedman@comcast.net

JUDAICA SHOP

Do your special shopping at Sisterhood's Judaica Shop, where you'll find a wonderful collection of religious items such as tallitot for B'nai Mitzvah students as well as jewelry and gift ideas for weddings and other occasions. Shop during the hours listed below or by appointment.

CONTACT: Lynne Kleiman

lynne.kleiman@sbcglobal.net

Winter Hours: Tuesdays & Wednesdays, 4:30-6:30 p.m.
(*when JLC is in session*)

Fridays after Shabbat Services

Sundays, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

(*when JLC is in session*)

Summer Hours: Wednesdays, 12:00-2:00 p.m.

Fridays after Shabbat Services

Enjoy the many opportunities to meet and network with women from Midwest Area Sisterhoods.

WRJ Midwest District Leadership Weekend at OSRUI

October 27-29, 2017

WRJ Fried Leadership Conference, Nashville

March 1-4, 2018

WRJ Midwest District Mah Jongg and Canasta Weekend at OSRUI

March 23-25, 2018

WRJ Midwest District Kallah at OSRUI

April 27-29, 2018

CONTACTS: Carol Berger

ponderer4552@sbcglobal.net

Marla Goldberg

auntiemar@msn.com

Sisterhood Executive Committee 2017-2018

President: Carol Berger

Co-Executive Vice Presidents: Molly Hershenhouse & Lara Kunz

Administration & Membership VP: Judy Marcus

Fundraising VP: Marilyn Friedman

Program & Human Services VP: Gloria Marron

Religion & Education VP: Jackie Edelson

Past Presidents' Council Chairs: Jennifer Cramer & Susan Jones

Secretary: Andi Swidler

Financial Secretary: Sue Schloss

Treasurer: Bobbie Piell

Immediate Past President: Sherri Wolff

*For more information about Sisterhood, please contact Carol Berger, Sisterhood President, *ponderer4552@sbcglobal.net* or visit: www.bjbe.org and click on the Sisterhood tab.

Israel

I think that to be a Zionist is to be in love – passionately, irrationally, eternally, and to be in Love with Israel is to hear at once the voices of a child’s song, of our ancient past, and of the dangers of the present.

— *Rabbi Karyn D. Kedar*



BJBE

YISRAEL V'IVRIT:
THE CENTER FOR ISRAEL
AND THE HEBREW LANGUAGE

ישראל ועברית

The Israel Center works to enhance the connection between BJBE members and the people, culture, and language of the Jewish state. If you would like to join in their work, contact Noel Hara at noel@haraonline.net.

ISRAEL TRIPS

Teen Mission to Kolin and Israel

June 13-24, 2018

Led by BJBE clergy and Ezra Kedar, we'll tend to the graves of those who once prayed with our Kolin Torah Scrolls in the Czech Republic, visit Terezin Concentration Camp, and stroll the streets of picturesque Prague. We will then journey home to Israel where we'll savor as much of our beautiful country as possible, from the Knerret in the North, to Masada in the South, and beautiful Jerusalem at the heart.

CONTACT: Cantor Green
rgreen@bjbe.org

ISRAEL EDUCATION

Middle East Update with Congressman Brad Schneider

Monday, August 21, 2017, 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Understanding Our World: What's Happening in the Middle East

Sunday, March 18, 2018, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

*For more information, refer to *Haskalah: The Center for Adult Learning* on page 5.

Israel: The Early State

Tuesdays, April 17 & 24, 2018, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Instructor: Rabbi Michael Weinberg, Temple Beth Israel

*For more information, refer to *Haskalah: The Center for Adult Learning* on page 9.

CELEBRATING ISRAELI CULTURE

Tu BiShevat Community Celebration at Rochelle Zell Jewish High School (RZJHS)

Sunday, January 28, 2018, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Each year on the 15th day of the Hebrew month of Shevat we join Jews all over the world in observation of this agricultural festival which is also known as “The Birthday of the Trees.” Join us as we celebrate the first buds of spring with study and sustenance from the variety of fruits that grow on trees.

Yom Ha’atzmaut Shabbat Service: Celebrating Israel’s Independence

Friday, April 20, 2018, 5:15 p.m. Matzah Ball Oneg, 6:00 p.m. Service

The modern state of Israel is a miracle. Our festive celebration in honor of Israel’s independence will continue after Shabbat services.

PRO-ISRAEL ADVOCACY

AIPAC at BJB

Tuesday, December 5, 2017, 7:30 p.m.

Join us for an evening in support of Israel with award winning author Matti Friedman. Matti’s first book, *The Aleppo Codex*, won the 2014 Sami Rohr Prize, the American Library Association’s Sophie Brody Medal, the Canadian Jewish Book Award, and other honors. His reporting has taken him from Israel to Lebanon, Morocco, Moscow, and the Caucasus, and his writing has appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, and elsewhere. BJB’s annual AIPAC event provides us another opportunity to show our love for Israel, as one of our congregation’s core values.

CONTACT: Noel Hara
noel@haraonline.net

AIPAC Policy Conference in Washington, D.C.

March 4-6, 2018

Join Rabbi Kedar and a delegation of BJB congregants for three days of confirming the support and connection between the United States and Israel at the American Israel Public Affairs Committee Annual Conference. Over 13,000 people are expected to be at the conference. We will hear from leading U.S and Israeli officials as well as from many experts in international relations. We will also have the opportunity to meet with Senators and members of the House of Representatives.

CONTACT: Howard Schneider
howardschneider@sbcglobal.net

ARZA: The Association of Reform Zionists of America

ARZA enriches the Jewish identity of Reform Jews in America by ensuring that a connection with Israel is a fundamental part of that identity. Its mission includes support and advocacy for a Jewish, pluralistic, just and democratic society in the State of Israel.

CONTACT: Doris Schyman
dschyman@gmail.com

Lynn Wax
waxlynn@gmail.com

BJBE HEBREW CLASSES

*For more information, refer to *Haskalah: The Center For Adult Learning* on page 10.

Clergy

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kkedar@bjbe.org

Cantor Jennifer L. Frost

jfrost@bjbe.org

Rabbi Jason E. Fenster

jfenster@bjbe.org

Cantor Rayna D. Green

rgreen@bjbe.org

Rabbi Emeritus

Rabbi Mark S. Shapiro

Cantor Emeritus

Cantor Cory B. Winter

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Arlene Mayzel

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Susie Wexler

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Kelly Goldberg

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Director of Education Emerita

Sandy Robbins, RJE

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2017 - 2018

EXECUTIVE BOARD & COMMITTEES

Temple Co-Presidents Lisa Wilson
 Tracy Friend

Executive Vice President Brian Tenner

Vice President/Treasurer Ted Belinky

Vice Presidents Mark Brodson
 Michael DiCocco
 Jenn Dubinsky

Recording Secretary Kim Gordon

Immediate Past President Gary Schaffel

Sisterhood President Carol Berger

Senior Youth Group Co-Presidents Benjamin Bluman
 Emma Rosenberg-Rappin

Adult Education Andrew Abrams

Budget/Finance Bruce Robbins

Building and Grounds Beth Chaitman

Caring Community Dale Busch
 Michael Erdman, off-board

Communications Jennifer Schencker

Constitution/Parliamentarian Dan Perlin

Education Maureen Miller

Financial Development Sid Siegel

Israel Noel Hara

Leadership Development Barry Metzger

Membership Abby Agnew

Ritual Marcus Newman

Social Action Melanie Berkowitz



CONGREGATION B'NAI JEHOShUA BETH ELOHIM

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