

# Jewish Community of Amherst

הקהילה היהודית של אמהרסט



Jewish Reconstructionist  
Federation 

## Candle Lighting

November 7 ~ 4:18 pm  
November 14 ~ 4:11 pm  
November 21 ~ 4:05 pm  
November 28 ~ 4:01 pm

*Times shown are 18 minutes  
before sunset for Amherst, MA*

## Special Events

**November 2**  
Trip to Mayyim Hayyim

**November 2**  
Rabin Memorial Lecture

**November 9**  
JCA at Valley Light Opera

**November 11**  
Shemesh Day

**November 12**  
Ugandan Abayudaya  
Jewish Leader

**November 16**  
Tikkun Olam Family  
Program

**November 23**  
Chevra Kadisha Workshop

**November 26**  
JCA Red Cross Blood Drive

## Meetings

**November 5**  
Religion Committee

**November 6**  
Board Meeting

**November 11**  
Social Committee  
(at Whole Foods)

**November 19**  
Education Committee

## Message from President

John O. Loeb, 253-0336, JolBioSol@aol.com

As we start our new year we are constantly reminded of the current economic condition facing us every day. In that light it is natural for individuals to pull back from spending and preserve our hard earned resources. Now is the time the JCA needs your support more than ever. As we weather this crisis, and we will, let us ensure that the JCA is available for the needs and vitality of the Jewish community. The following article is written by David Sharkin on behalf of the L'dor V'dor Endowment and Legacy Campaign.

John O. Loeb, JCA President



As the 1960's founders of the JCA carried our Jewish community before us, it is now our time to carry the JCA into the future. Indeed, now is our time to help ensure Jewish vitality from this generation to the next, m'dor l'dor.

The Kehila effort some years ago led to the wonderful physical space where we celebrate our Jewish community life. Now a dedicated group of members have put together a new and amazing vision for the JCA:

- o to be a vital, creative force for Jewish intellectual and spiritual life;
- o to spark tikkun olam in our region;
- o to support more social and cultural activities;
- o and to create engaging programs for youth and adults.

But this vision cannot be realized without our personal and family financial support. What we choose to do with our money -no

matter how little or how much we have - is a clear reflection of our values. What better time to assess our values than at this time of the year near Yom Kippur when we search our own soul's accounting of what is just and valuable?

We hope that we all, as members of the JCA, can continue to gather our resources together in many ways: in our community tzedakah, in our annual dues, in JCA fundraising events and in our annual campaign. We also must lay the foundation for the JCA's future by creating a Jewish legacy through a permanent endowment and our own planned gifts to the JCA.

As we are reminded everyday, this is the real world. Our financial support of the JCA is absolutely crucial, not only to uphold the beauty of our physical synagogue or to create engaging education for our kids, but to support and maintain a vibrant and vital future for the Jewish community in our region.

There is an old saying that the best time to plant a tree is ten years ago. The second best time is now. We of the Jewish Community of Amherst have the opportunity to plant in soil that our ancestors tilled and that the JCA founders watered. It is our time now to "plant a tree" to ensure a fiscally sound Jewish future in Amherst.

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*b'Shalom,  
David Sharkin*

November 2008

Cheshvan/Kislev 5769

Vol. No. 7, Issue No. 10

**...now is our time  
to help ensure Jewish  
vitality from this generation  
to the next...**

## *Jewish Community of Amherst, Inc.*

742 Main Street, Amherst, MA 01002  
 (413) 256-0160, fax (413) 256-1588  
 Religious School (413) 256-0160 ext. 203  
 email: info@j-c-a.org; On line at: www.j-c-a.org

**Rabbi David Dunn Bauer**

**Rabbi Emerita Sheila Weinberg**

**Rabbi Emeritus Yechiael Lander** (586-1137)

**Director of Life Long Learning: Jody Rosenbloom** (256-0160 ext. 203)

**Teen Program: Rachael Goren** (256-0160 ext. 208)

### **Office Hours:**

Tuesday - Friday: 10:30 - 4:00

Wednesday: 4:00 - 6:00 & Sunday 9:00 - 1:00

*(When Religious School is in session)*

### **Board of Directors**

#### **Officers:**

**President: John Loeb** (253-0336)

**First Vice President: Lisa Perlbinder** (230-3055)

**Second Vice President: Ted Trobaugh** (549-5468)

**Third Vice President: Eli Kwartler** (253-2929)

**Treasurer: Alan Peterfreund** (253-5485)

#### **Members:**

Kitty Axelson-Berry, Michael Chernoff, Paul Charette, Judi Fonsh,  
 Gerry Friedman, Mark Israel, Molly Jackson-Watts,  
 Oran Kaufman, Judith Loischild, Robyn Miller,  
 Rhonda Shapiro-Rieser, Randi Stein, Marian Wolfsun

**Membership: Robyn Miller** (549-4060), **Oran Kaufman** (548-8139)

**Office Administrator: Marcia Howard** (256-0160, info@j-c-a.org)

**Administrative Assistants: Bonnie Webster, Eric Delisle** (256-0160)

For information about using JCA space including  
 renting the Social Hall, contact:

**Events Co-ordinator: Linda Cooper** (256-0160 ext. 207)

For a list of committee chairs and members, go to:  
<http://www.j-c-a.org/committees.html>

Please refer to your Membership Directory for contact information.  
 (If you have not received your Membership Directory, call the office.)

### **NEWSLETTER**

**Editor/Graphic Designer: Aaron Bousel**

(Voice: 253-3544, Voice & Fax: 253-3846; news@j-c-a.org)

**Proofreader: Reed Alper**

**Deadline for the December issue is November 12th**

*November 2008, Vol. 7, Issue No. 10*

*Newsletter is published 11 times per year.*

*Subscription price is included in membership.*

## **Chesed Committee**

The Chesed Committee assists JCA members in times of joy, sorrow and need, coordinating volunteers to help with meals, rides, errands, visits, shiva minyans, and other needs. We also welcome new members and babies! Please contact us if you would like to join the committee or be added to our list of volunteers.

Also, if you, someone in your family, or someone in the community is ill, hospitalized, or in need of assistance, please contact us right away. Even if visits or phone calls are not desired, it is important to us as a community to be aware of the health and well-being of our members and their families. We realize that providing this kind of information feels awkward to many people, but it is an important facet of being in community. We cannot help if we do not know.

Contact the Chesed Committee through the JCA office at 256-0160.

## **Beit Shalom Committee**

The Beit Shalom Committee is available to members of the JCA congregation wishing assistance in addressing personal differences that have arisen between individuals, among committees, or with those in leadership positions within the JCA. Accordingly, if you have concerns or disagreements, or feel a desire to enhance communication with another member, a committee, or leader, please contact a Beit Shalom Committee member to facilitate this process. All such communications will be kept strictly confidential unless agreed upon differently by the participants.

Committee members are:

Eva Metzger Brown: 256-8066  
 embrown13@comcast.net

Josette Henschel: 213-0186  
 josette.henschel@aic.edu

Rob Okun: 253-9372  
 raokun@verizon.net

Kitty Talan: 253-2248  
 kittytalan@comcast.net

Haim Gunner:  
 haim\_gunner@yahoo.com

**Devarim:**  
**Words from Rabbi David Dunn Bauer**



In our prayers during Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, we get very used to asking God for help. By the end of the holidays, we feel little embarrassment or awkwardness in standing together as a community, praying to heaven for compassion and care.

For me, and I imagine for many of us, it is often more difficult, more painful, to ask for direct help from one another. Immediate help from our fellow community members, though, is often what we need.

John Loeb spoke to the point in his Rosh Hashanah address to the congregation: The nation's economic crisis and the rising cost of food and fuel are having a real impact on members of the JCA. Rent, heat, groceries, winter clothing -- all are essential and all are costly. In times of crisis, even the basics can be financially out of reach. Compounding that real scarcity is our sense of shame, our feeling of failure at being in need.

Many of you and many friends of the JCA have over the years given generously to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund. From that fund I have been able to offer emergency financial assistance to people in and outside of the community and have supported other organizations whose work furthers the process of Tikkun Olam, repair of the world. Through this fund I have also been able to create meaningful opportunities for the JCA: visiting teachers, community events, resources for our school and our sanctuaries. I hope that those who can will continue to give to that fund in the future. However, in this difficult time in history, we also need to take special care

of our fellow JCA members.

The Tikkun Olam Committee this year is designating substantial Tzedakah monies as the basis of a new fund, the JCA Member Critical Need Fund. This will be a confidential source of assistance for members of the JCA in need. I and a community member to be designated by the Board will be responsible for giving support to those who need it.

My 48 years' knowledge of myself as a human being and my 5 years' experience as a rabbi have taught me the same lesson: Very often we delay asking for help until a problem has become an emergency. People often only ask for help with energy bills when a "shut-off notice" has already been issued. Please, please, please, be in contact with me as problems arise. Earlier is better than later. Similarly, if you are in the position to contribute to this fund, please do. We don't yet know what the extent of our need will be. If you can give now, you may be guaranteeing swift assistance to a fellow JCA member in a time of urgent distress.

*Kol tuv,  
 Rabbi Bauer*

***For me, and I imagine for many of us, it is often more difficult, more painful, to ask for direct help from one another.***

**Rabbi Liaison Committee**

The Rabbi Liaison Committee's charge is "to provide an effective process that will expand and enhance both the functional and personal relationships between the Rabbi and the JCA community." If there is an issue that you would like the committee to consider with Rabbi Bauer, please contact a Rabbi Liaison Committee member:

Aaron Bousel (253-3544), Judy Glaser (253-9607), Haim Gunner (549-0447), Ruth Kane-Levit (548-1083), Eli Kwartler (253-2929).



## Religion Committee

Paul Charette, Co-chair, 860-559-4926, [cyclone411@charter.net](mailto:cyclone411@charter.net)

Rhonda Shapiro-Rieser, Co-chair, 413-774-5796, [shapiro-rieser@comcast.net](mailto:shapiro-rieser@comcast.net)

### RELIGION CALENDAR

#### Shabbat Noach, Genesis 6:9-11:32

**October 31, Friday**

6:15 PM

Service Leader: To be announced

**November 1, Saturday**

10:00 AM- Reconstructionist Service

Service Leader: Paul Charette

D'var Torah: To be announced

10:00 AM- Masorti Service



#### Shabbat Lech-Lecha, Genesis 12:1-17:27

**November 7, Friday**

5:30 PM

Intergenerational Family Service followed by potluck supper

**November 8, Saturday**

10:00 AM

Service Leader: Rabbi Bauer

D'var Torah: Rabbi Bauer

There will be Torah study led by Rabbi Bauer following kiddush

10:00 AM

Chanting Service (see below for more information)



#### Shabbat Vayera, Genesis 18:1-22:24

**November 14, Friday**

6:15 PM

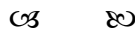
Service Leader: To be announced

**November 15, Saturday**

10:00 AM

Service Leader: Ruth Love Barer

D'var Torah: To be announced



#### Shabbat Chaye Sarah, Genesis 23:1-25:18

**November 21, Friday**

6:15 PM

Carlebach style service

Service Leader: To be announced

**November 22, Saturday**

10:00 AM

Service Leader: Rabbi Bauer

D'var Torah: Rabbi Bauer



#### Shabbat Toledot, Genesis 25:19-28:9

**November 28, Friday- Rosh Chodesh Kislev**

6:15 PM

Service Leader: Gordon Freed

Special service welcoming home college students.

**November 29, Saturday**

10:00 AM

Service Leader: Paul Charette

D'var Torah: To be announced



Check the JCA Website at:  
[www.j-c-a.org/services.html](http://www.j-c-a.org/services.html)  
 For Updated Religion Calendar Information.

### Chanting Service

**Come celebrate Shabbat at the JCA with chanting and silence**

Chanting is an ancient form of devotional prayer that is particularly powerful when practiced in community. Join us at the JCA on Saturday, November 8th to celebrate Shabbat through chanting and silence, and discover a new relationship to our beloved prayers and psalms.

The service, the first in a bimonthly series, will be led by Sara Schley, a long-time JCA member. Sara's teacher, Rabbi Shefa Gold, is a leader in Aleph: The Alliance for Jewish Renewal, and is known for her beautiful Jewish spiritual music and liturgies. Sara writes, "As you know, Shefa has been a very important teacher of Jewish spirituality and soul path for me and many others. Kol Zimra, her two year course in chant leadership has influenced my life in countless beautiful ways." The service begins at 10:00 AM in the small sanctuary.

***Kiddush and Oneg  
Sponsors***

**October 25-**

Gary Orlinsky and Karen Koehler, in honor of their son Ezra becoming Bar Mitzvah

**Please make sure you speak to Linda Cooper and fill out a Kiddush/Oneg sponsor form to assure that the date you want will be reserved.**

***Start Your Day In  
Community***

The Tuesday morning minyan is a wonderful way to start the day. Join with us in gratitude for the many blessings in our lives. Your presence is a gift that allows those who are in mourning or celebrating a *yahrzeit* to be able to say Kaddish. Please join us once a month, or **every Tuesday morning from 7:30-8:30 a.m.** Try it! It's amazing how energized your day will be!!

***Wednesday Morning  
Meditation Service***

Each Wednesday at 7:30 AM there is a morning service of meditation, prayer and singing. This is a very special time to sit in quiet in the beauty of our small sanctuary. You do not have to be a meditator to join the service. Come try it out and see what it can do for the rest of your day and week.

***First Friday Night Service and Potluck Supper***

Please join us on the first Friday of each month at 5:30 pm for a brief child oriented service followed by a potluck supper. Although the service is geared towards young children, it contains all the elements of a regular Friday evening service, including mourner's kaddish. People of all ages are encouraged to attend. It's a wonderful opportunity to get to know each other in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

***Masorti Lay-led Shabbat Minyan***

The next Masorti Minyan will be on Saturday, November 1st at 10:00 am. All, including families with children, are welcome to attend and to take a leadership role. For details contact: Catherine Madsen, 253-2930

***Foot Stomping Melodies for Welcoming Shabbat***

The next Carlebach-style service will be on November 21st  
The melodies are beautiful, the spirit/ruach is incredible.  
There will be a potluck supper following the service.

***Next Shabbat in the Groove- Friday December 12th***

This musical, interactive, and energetic service utilizes new and traditional melodies in a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere. This unique experience with instrumental accompaniment aims to deepen your spiritual awareness, to put you in touch with your Jewish neshama/soul.

Rabbi Micah Becker-Klein, director of Jewish Life and Education at the Springfield Jewish Community Center, has been performing and writing contemporary Jewish music for over ten years. His music is influenced by bluegrass, folk, rock, klezmer, and world music sound. He is one of the original members of Shabbat Unplugged, a musical troupe formed in 1995 in Philadelphia by six rabbinical students. For over seven years, their original music has shaped and influenced musical Shabbat services throughout the United States. Micah also served as musical director for the Jewish Healing service, Miriam's Well, for several years. He has composed and recorded original liturgical compositions, some of which can be found on "A Night of Questions," a companion recording for the new Reconstructionist Haggadah of the same title. Rabbi Micah is a graduate of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College.

***Chemical Sensitivities***

A number of our members have allergies to perfumes, colognes and other fragrances. Please try to minimize the use of these products when coming to JCA services and other events. Please inform your guests about this policy as well.

***New Chumashim***

The process of replacing our chumashim in the sanctuary continues. Our only source of revenue for this is from your donations to the prayerbook fund.

Please consider aiding this effort.

Donations of any amount are gratefully accepted however a minimum donation of \$65.00 is required for a book dedication plate.

***Thank You To All Who Helped Put Up Our JCA Sukkah This Year:***

The 6th Grade  
Arnie Alper  
Ann Armon  
Allegra Aronson  
Rebecca Aronson  
Michael Aronson  
Aaron Bousel  
Solomon Golstein-Rose  
Sara Haimowitz

Av Harris  
Michelle Horowitz  
Eliezer Huber  
Ruth Lewin  
Felicia Mednick  
Andra Rose  
Carol-Ann Smalley  
Jacob Smalley  
Guy Wood

Thank you to **Atkins Market** for supplying corn stalks, to **Stop and Shop** for donating a \$25 gift certificate for Sukkah decorations, and to Michelle Horowitz for arranging for both of these donations.

## Education News

**Jody Rosenbloom, Director of Life Long Learning, 256-0160, ext. 203**



### ***Ayn Kemach, Ayn Torah (No flour, then no Torah)***

#### **Consider a Donation to the JCA Children's Fund**

The JCA would like to insure that any household that wants their children to have a Jewish education is welcome at JCA School. And we have a now, dwindling Children's Fund to which anyone can contribute, that can make a big difference to our overall financial wellbeing. This year, about 20% of the JCA School households requested financial assistance, which in total was over \$3,000; twice what we allocated in our budget. Each year, the community approves the budget and the education programs are generously supported. For example, the congregation also subsidizes about 50% of the total cost of the school. Households with children in the school pay tuition, which covers another 45%. The Education Committee, through fundraisers like Dean's Beans, hopefully covers the remaining 5%. Please consider a donation to the Children's Fund that goes towards ensuring that any Jewish child has access to our education programs at the JCA. Thank-you.

### ***Introducing Family Educators***

Thanks to the generous support from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, we have a Family Education grant for the school year. We have a series of programs for holidays and tikkun olam (next on November 16) that will be developed by **Rabbi Steve Nathan, Family Educator (Congregation/School Programs)**. He has a BA in Human Development from Boston College, a M.Ed. in Counseling Psychology from Columbia University's Teachers College, and was ordained as a Rabbi from the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College. Rabbi Nathan was Director of Informal and Family Education at Main Line Reform Temple in Pennsylvania from 2004-2006. He is currently the Campus Rabbi at Hampshire College. He is also one of the JCA b'nai mitzvah tutors. We are also building outreach to families with young children and have hired, **Felicia Sloin** to act as liaison. Felicia is an experienced Cantorial Soloist and Jewish Educator who has creatively inspired Jews of all ages to learn more about their community, culture and collective story through music, teaching and innovative programming. She has a BA in theater from Oberlin College. She has worked in congregations in Boston, MA and Berkeley, CA. Felicia currently teaches at Beit Ahava and networks with other "older", new moms. Felicia will provide activities for the local Havdallah Group (starting November 8) as well as the Shabbat Shalom parent education gatherings. We look forward to family programs with these talented educators.

### ***"How to Give a Dvar Torah"***

#### **Open to the Community: Sunday, Nov. 9**

Join JCA Sixth Graders and their parents for an introduction to preparing a D'var Torah- Torah Teaching from 10-11:45 on Sunday, November 9. The workshop includes text study together, how to find the Torah portion, the differences in translations, and resources both in books and on-line for research.

Thank You To:

**Jeanne Potash** for baskets used for the High Holiday food drive,

**Judy Davis** for photos of the Rosh Hashanah Invitational, **The Holme/Miller, Lytel/Sternberg, Blain, & Kayser/Hirsh** families for various Jewish children's books and games.

## *Calendar*

Sun, Nov. 2	No Classes- Teacher Education Day
Fri, Nov. 7	Shabbat Family Dinner for Families with Children in Grades 3 & 4 Services start at 5:30 followed by potluck
Sun, Nov. 9	Dvar Torah Workshop for 6th Graders w/ parents 10-12:15r
Sun, Nov. 16	Family Education 10-12:15 - Tikkun Olam B'Yachad
Wed, Nov. 19	Education Committee Meeting 7:30pm
Sat, Nov. 22	Shabbat Shalom (registered 4-6 year olds) 10:30am-12:00 pm
Sun, Nov. 23	Kedusha LaTorah Workshop for new students in grades 1 & 2 With a parent 10-12:15
Wed, Nov. 26- Sun, Nov. 30	No Classes, Thanksgiving Holiday



### ***Shemesh Day***

**Tuesday, November 11  
Veteran's Day Holiday**



#### **School's Out**

#### **Wondering what to do with your children?**

Sign-Up for a day of "camp" at the JCA.  
Fee charged for the day

For more information: Contact Eric at [edassist@j-c-a.org](mailto:edassist@j-c-a.org)  
A collaboration between Camp Shemesh and JCA School

## Overcoming Gender Violence with Coffee

When I recently told Dean how much I appreciated and learned from reading his book, Javatrekker, I was updated on his recent project. Dean has been supporting a program aimed at overcoming gender-based violence by making its training programs/workshops available to members of a coffee cooperative in Rwanda. A more detailed account of this and other projects can be found on his website: [www.deansbeans.com](http://www.deansbeans.com).



What I really like about the Dean's Beans fundraiser is that coffee sales support humanitarian efforts such as this all over the world! So, whether your morning java contains beans from such places as Kenya, Ethiopia, Peru, Mexico, Sumatra, or (soon coming) Rwanda, you know your bargain price blend is supporting a lot more than the JCA School. Now, that's what I call tikkum olam per mug!



*Dean's Beans Organic Coffee  
great coffee, great price, great cause!*

Order due date: November 9th (pick up on/after the 14th)  
Order forms are in the JCA lobby or online by contacting:  
[susanweinstein1@yahoo.com](mailto:susanweinstein1@yahoo.com)

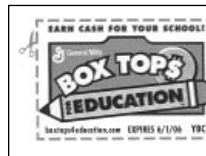
Save the date...

## Please join us for a presentation and discussion of *Jewish Rituals of Death and Mourning* Sunday, November 23rd from 2-4pm in the Social Hall

We'll learn about the wealth of Jewish rituals and practices surrounding death and the grieving process, including:

- \* Shomerim... watching and honoring the body;
- \* Tahara ... purification ritual before burial;
- \* Shiva and beyond ... the Jewish process of mourning;
- \* We will also provide information about practical matters such as securing a plot at the JCA cemetery.

**Come join us for this informal and informative presentation!**



Don't forget to bring in your **Box Tops for Education**. Each one you bring in helps to support our Synagogue!

## Make Your Hands the 'Hands of God' A JCA Tikkun Olam Program for Families and Adults- see page 10 for more information

### From the Treasurer, Alan Peterfreund ([alanjca@gmail.com](mailto:alanjca@gmail.com))

As we prepare the budgets for 2009 and 2010 (we have decided to move to a two year budget) we do so aware of the challenging economic times facing all of us. The good news is we are entering into the next couple of years in good financial health. Assuming a successful annual campaign, our stabilization fund should be over \$90,000. Our assets have been invested in very prudent funds (mostly US Gov't bonds and money market accounts) and have not suffered a decline in value. Our membership is now approaching 300 households and includes many new young families.

Our challenge as we craft our new budgets, is to remain conservative in our revenue estimates while at the same time deliver programs that make the JCA what we all envision it has the potential to be. Already this year we have had a 100% increase in the request for scholarships for the religious schools. Given our fair share dues structure, we can an-

ticipate more members struggling with financial commitments to the JCA.

First and foremost, we want everyone to know that their membership is more valuable than their dues and that the JCA should be a source of community and support, not an economic burden. Too many people in the past stopped communicating with us about money when they had personal difficulties. Please communicate your circumstances, if need be, so we can be supportive and at the same time have realistic expectations for managing the JCA budget. For those fortunate enough to be able to support the JCA at higher levels, please recognize how valued your financial participation is in sustaining our community.

### Tikkun Olam Committee JCA Tzedakah Fund Redirected Inward

Because tzedakah begins at home, and because the economy threatens new financial hardships this season, the Tikkun Olam committee has redirected its fall tzedakah allocations. This time,

all money will be used to meet critical, urgent needs within our congregation and within the Pioneer Valley community. No money will be given to national or international organizations until the spring.

Half of our fall tzedakah funds will be allocated to the rabbi's discretionary fund and will be earmarked specifically for emergency fuel (heating) assistance and other critical needs of our members. Any JCA member whose needs include fuel, grocery or other urgent matters is encouraged to make a confidential request directly to Rabbi Bauer.

The other half of our fall tzedakah funds will be allocated to local agencies that provide food, fuel and other crucial assistance to area households.

The Tikkun Olam committee invites members who are more financially fortunate to make a donation to the JCA Tzedakah Fund. This will help replenish our ability to meet the critical needs of our temple members, our local community and the larger world community.

## TEEN PROGRAMMING November 2008



### JCAT Programming for JCAT 7, 8, and 9th graders

Saturday, November 8th,  
5:30-7:30pm

#### Havdallah & Chinese Food

What better way to start off the week than with a Havdallah service and Chinese Food dinner!



Meet at the common across from the Black Sheep at 5:30pm, then we head over to Amherst Chinese for dinner. Free to JCAT members, \$10 for non-members. Meet and pickup at the common across from Black Sheep. RSVP to [jcateen-group@gmail.com](mailto:jcateen-group@gmail.com) by Friday 11/7.

Thursday, November 20th

5pm- Leadership Planning Meeting

6-8pm- Kosher Cooking and Dinner

Join us at 5pm for our monthly leadership planning meeting to help decide what events you want to have and make them happen.

From 6-8pm we will learn how to make some cool desserts and enjoy dinner together. Free to JCAT members, \$10 for non-members.

#### Regional High School Seminar

for teens and their parents

**Before You Write on My Wall: Facebook & Internet Security**

Wed. Nov. 5th 6-8pm

Congregation B'nai Israel; 253 Prospect St, Noho

**This awesome opportunity for Teens and their parents- the seminar includes collective and separate parent/teen programming and is open to all Jewish teens in grades 8-12. RSVP to [jcateens@gmail.com](mailto:jcateens@gmail.com). This program is a collaboration between GBI, Beit Ahavah, and the JGA.**



### SPARK!: Partnership for Service

*Make a difference in someone's  
life- volunteer!*



Spark! Is a program that volunteers once a month at the Center for Extended Care, Amherst on Sundays 2-4:30pm. This program is open to 8th and 9th graders from all over the Valley.

This month's spark! session will be held on  
**Sunday, November 9th, 2-4:30pm** at the  
Center for Extended Care, Amherst.

For more information or to RSVP contact Avital at [avihistory@gmail.com](mailto:avihistory@gmail.com).

### KEHILA קהילה Program

It's not too late to join...

Are you interested in continuing your Jewish education or taking your spirituality a little deeper?

If the answer is yes, then Kehila is for you!

Classes for this month are from 6-8pm on:

Wed. Nov. 5th- meet at CBI

Wed. Nov. 19th- last day of Fall electives

Contact [teendir@j-c-a.org](mailto:teendir@j-c-a.org) with any questions!

Want more info? Contact the Director of Teen Programming, Rachael Goren at [jcateens@gmail.com](mailto:jcateens@gmail.com) or 256-0160 x208. These programs are largely funded by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation Teen Initiative.



**Teen Programming:  
Celebrating a Day of Todah Rabah**

**By: Rachael Goren,  
Director of Teen Programming**

As we think about the Thanksgiving holiday this month—or a day of Todah Rabah (thank you), I just want to take the opportunity to thank our teen staff and teen leaders for all they have brought to the community this year. A special thanks to **Josefa Scherer-Williams, Lauren Kanner, Avital Nathman, Steve Nathan, Amy Epstein, Rachel Smith, and Andrea Olkin** for their ongoing efforts. תודה רבה Thank you to Mike Friedman, Ben Breger, Micah Botkin-Levy, Sarah Horowitz, Hannah Tessler, Tani Goderez, Josh Stavchansky, Isaac Weitzman, Jacob Mooney, Henry Weis, Rachel Madowitz, Addie Gamliel, Ezra Orlinsky, Lily Harris, Madison Couture, and Matty Severin for their leadership. I am also grateful to those teens and their parents that took a risk and attended a program this year. It has been a great year, and I am thankful to all of you for that!

**תודה רבה  
Thank You**

**Collaborative Teen Programming**

This month marks the start of a brand new collaboration between Congregation B'nai Israel (Northampton), Beit Ahavah (Florence) and the JCA. We will have the first of three seminars that will be held this year for community teens and their parents. The first in this series is open to 9-12th graders and will be held on **Wednesday, November 5th 6-8pm** at Congregation B'nai Israel in Northampton. The seminar, entitled *Before You Write on My Wall: Facebook and Internet Security* will include collective and separate programming for teens and their parents, as well as refreshments. This seminar is free to anyone interested and will provide a Judaic examination and information regarding internet security, Facebook, and how to protect your teen. All Kehila teens are encouraged to attend, as there will be no class for 9-12th graders that night. I encourage you all to attend this new program and bring a friend.



**JCAT events for 7-9th graders**

JCAT will be hosting two exciting programs this month for 7-9th graders. On Saturday, November 8th we will have a Havdallah and Chinese Dinner event where we celebrate Havdallah on the common across from the Black Sheep and then enjoy a Chinese dinner at Amherst Chinese. This is open to any interested teen, it is free for JCAT members and \$10 for non-members. Later in the month, on November 20th, teens will have the opportunity to help plan upcoming events at the leadership and planning meeting at 5pm, as well as learn to cook some cool kosher desserts and enjoy dinner together from 6-8pm. This is a great opportunity to check out the program and bring along a friend.



**Spark! Partnership for Service**

Our community service group, spark! will have its next session on November 9th from 2-4:30pm at the Center for Extended Care. New members are welcome— just email [avihistory@gmail.com](mailto:avihistory@gmail.com) for more information.


**Kehila Community High School Program**

Our new Kehila Program is going strong! We will be offering a special Winter and/or Spring only special for Kehila for teens interested in signing up for 3 or 6 months. If you are interested in joining us for the Winter (Dec-Feb) and/or Spring (Mar-May) trimesters, please email [teendir@j-c-a.org](mailto:teendir@j-c-a.org) for more information on the rates.


**Email List Updates**

We are in the process of updated our email list serve. If you have not registered for a teen program (JCAT, spark! and/or Kehila) and want to be on the email list, please email [jcateens@gmail.com](mailto:jcateens@gmail.com).


*Bee Shally (B'shalom)  
Rachael*



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# Make Your Hands the 'Hands of God'



A JCA

**Tikkun Olam/Repairing the World Program  
For Families and Adults**

Open to the Entire Community – so feel free to invite  
your friends (of any age) who are not JCA Members  
(Required for students of the JCA Religious Schools)

**Sunday November 16**

**10:00 - 12:15**

(Come at 9:45 if you'd like a light breakfast)

- ☆ **Learn how you can improve our communities and the world!**
- ☆ **Connect the work you do to improve the world with Jewish values and teaching!**
- ☆ **Hear from members of the community who have done special work to help repair our world ... and find out how you can do it to!**
- ☆ **Programs for families with children of all ages and for adults.**
- ☆ This program is a family learning program that will take the place of normal Religious School Classes that morning. **JCA Religious School students must attend with at least one parent, guardian or other adult.**
- ☆ Watch your weekly congregational e-mail in November for more information! School families watch for fliers to be sent home with your children in November.
- ☆ If you have any questions, please contact Rabbi Steve Nathan, JCA Family Educator for School and Community Program at [spn1007@gmail.com](mailto:spn1007@gmail.com).
- ☆ This program is funded in-part by a grant from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

***Abayudaya Jewish Leader from Uganda  
Coming to The Jewish Community of Amherst  
Wednesday, November 12***

**Israel Siriri**, head of the executive committee for the Abayudaya Jewish community in Mbale, Uganda, will speak about his community at the JCA on Wednesday, November 12 at 7:00 pm.

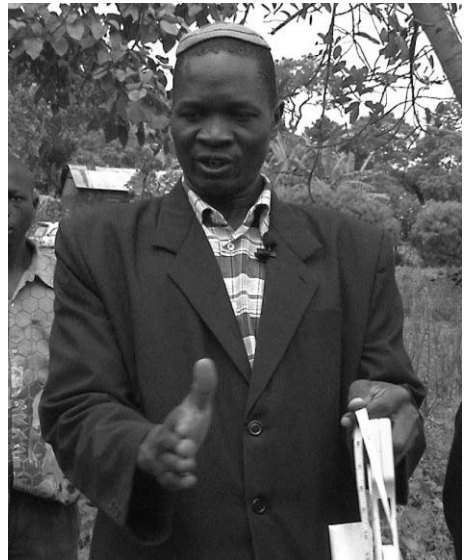
Mr. Siriri is visiting as part of a national speaking tour sponsored by U.S.-based Kulanu, Inc., which is dedicated to reaching out and assisting lost and dispersed remnants of the Jewish people.

Mr. Siriri will be speaking about the 700-member Abayudaya community (established in 1919) and their struggle to maintain their Jewish identity in Uganda. He will share the latest news of the joint Abayudaya/Kulanu sustainable development mitzvah projects working to help this struggling African Jewish community. He also will discuss how the crisis in Kenya is adversely affecting these projects in Uganda.

He will update audiences on the Kulanu-supported Abayudaya primary and high schools, feeding and educating 500 Jewish, Muslim and Christian children studying together in peace. Mr. Siriri will report on the child hunger project, public health education and women's empowerment programs; on-going classroom, dorm and school kitchen construction; as well as the village micro-finance, crafts, music CD, coffee, dried fruit and eco-tourism self-help projects.

*For more information about Kulanu and the Abayudaya, please visit [www.kulanu.org](http://www.kulanu.org).*

Singer-songwriter and ethnic folklorist **Laura Wetzler**, who has served as Kulanu.org Coordinator for Uganda for 7 years, will be also be on hand to answer audience questions with Mr. Siriri about the 20 different Kulanu-Abayudaya projects at work in rural Uganda. Laura Wetzler and Abayudaya farmer JJ Keki created the award winning "Delicious Peace" fairtrade, organic, kosher, halal coffee project recently featured in Oprah Magazine, bringing together 700 Jewish, Muslim and Christian Ugandan farmers working together in peace.



**KULANU**  
"All of Us"

***Please join us in welcoming Israel Siriri  
at a light buffet supper at 6pm followed by  
his presentation about the Abayudaya community at 7pm.***

All are welcome at both portions of the evening.  
We ask you to consider a free-will donation as you are able to support the costs of the dinner and Mr. Siriri's presentation.  
Please let us know of your plans to attend the dinner or presentation to help us plan for food and seating.  
You may email the coordinator Paul Charette at [cyclone411@charter.net](mailto:cyclone411@charter.net) or call him at 860-559-4926.  
Paul can also answer any questions you may have.

***Jewish Community of Amherst  
742 Main Street, Amherst, MA 01002 413-256-0160***

## News from the Social Committee:

### Visit to Mayim Hayyim - November 2 2008 10:30 am-5:30 pm.

Carpool to Mayyim Hayyim Living Waters in Newton. Mayyim Hayyim reclaims the ancient tradition of mikveh and reinvents the rituals of immersion to serve the needs of a diverse 21st century Jewish community. Since their opening, they have provided more than 4,700 immersions to women, men, girls, boys and infants—all marking transitional moments in their lives. Carpools leave the JCA at 10:30am and return at approximately 5pm. The trip includes a tour of facilities, an educational program, and the opportunity to set up appointments for an immersion following the tour. Immersion is by donation, suggested price \$36- \$90. Depending on interest possible lunch at Rami's Falafel, Brookline - "the best falafel in Massachusetts" - or bring lunch. No other costs beyond sharing gas and tolls. Kids Welcome!

For more information contact **Jeffrey Cohen (cohen@bc.edu)** or **Amy Mittelman (amittelman@hampshire.edu)**. For information about Mayyim Hayyim: <http://www.mayyimhayyim.org/>

### JCA afternoon at the Valley Light Opera November 9 at 2 p.m.

Amherst Regional High School, Triangle Street, Amherst. Come see how many JCAers you can find in the VLO's production of *Princess Ida!* Hint: we're both on stage and in the orchestra. Meet at the final performance, Sunday afternoon, November 9 at 2 pm, see the show, then go out for dinner afterwards! Ticket prices are \$18 for adults, and \$15 for seniors (65+) or students. For tickets, <http://www.vlo.org/ida08tix.html>

For more information call Amy 413 256-0883,  
amittelman@hampshire.edu

### The Hanukkah party will be December 21 5:30 p.m to 8 p.m.

Anyone interested in planning the food? the entertainment? Please let Amy know.

The next Social Committee meeting will be Nov. 11, 9 a.m at **Whole Foods**. All welcome. Come plan exciting events and have fun.

## Arts and Culture Committee Events

### Explore the World of Sephardic Culture

Anita Page and Eva Sartori, co-chairs of the committee, are delighted to report that JCA and Congregation B'nai Israel of Northampton are the recipients of a Grinspoon grant to fund several events on Sephardic Culture from March 29th through April 5th. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn and enjoy aspects of a Jewish culture which is less known than the more prevalent Ashkenazi one. We are planning the following:

**March 29th 5 PM, CBI-** A Sephardic music concert by Mak'hela and a talk on Sephardic cooking by Lisa Andes and a food tasting.

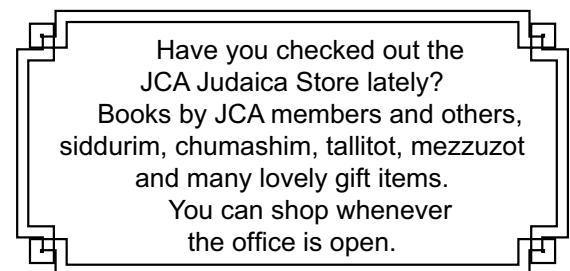
**April 3, 8 PM, JCA-** Talk on Sephardic Culture by a member of the Judaic Studies Department, UMASS, following Friday night services

**April 4, 8 PM, JCA-** Performance by Flora Jagoda, an internationally known Bosnian Sephardic singer

**April 5, 1 PM, JCA-** Workshop by Flora Jagoda on Sephardic music

The area chapter of Hadassah will be helping with organization and planning and we welcome participation from all volunteers. We will report on more events that may happen during that week.

***Keep These Dates on Your Calendar!***



## Annual Yitzhak Rabin Memorial Lecture-

### Rabbi Andrew Davids of ARZA (Association of Reform Zionists of America)

*Embracing Ambivalence: Exploring the complexities of our relationship to Israel*

**November 2, 2008, 10:30 AM**

Sponsored by the World Jewish Concerns and Action Committee of the Jewish Community of Amherst and the Northampton-Amherst chapter of Hadassah

The event is free and open to the public

Why are many progressives ambivalent toward Israel? In his talk, "Embracing Ambivalence: Exploring the complexities of our relationship to Israel," Rabbi Andrew Davids will discuss some of the reasons American Jews, who grew up supporting the need for a Jewish homeland both financially and politically, are searching for a new paradigm that will define their relationship to the Jewish state in the light of changed cultural and political conditions. He welcomes questions from the audience. There will be an opportunity for small-group discussion after lunch.

Rabbi Davids leads ARZA, the Association of Reform Zionists of America. He has been involved in Jewish organizations for more than 20 years. In addition to his ordination from the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, he holds a Masters in Public Administration, has served as Director of the Union for Reform Judaism's Youth Division, as a camp director, and as an organizational management consultant.

***It Took a Village...and We Were Magnificent***

The High Holidays at the JCA came together this year as a result of the work, love, support, time, energy and participation of hundreds of our members. As a High Holiday coordinator, I was privileged to work with so many of you, delighted to meet so many old and new friends, and quite literally stunned by everyone's generosity and warmth. Together we created and reflected the strong, vibrant community we are.

So many people came forward to be greeters and ushers, welcoming members and visitors in such a wonderfully warm and personal way. Others came forward to help with onegs, or childcare, or teen activities, or parking, or set up, or clean up, or service coordination, or to race out for more honey at the last minute (as a congregation we can really put away the honey!). One by one, members stepped up to say yes to requests to help publicize our activities, donated time and money to create the artistic fall decorations outside and the meaningful food baskets inside, helped to create and print the High Holiday booklet, baked and donated honey cakes, expanded our web site, prepared bulk mailings, and polished and fetched so that we could all enjoy and participate in our holiest of days.

I want to acknowledge some individuals who took on specific coordination roles including Paul Charette who worked so hard to organize the services

and honors; Andra Rose who coordinated all of the childcare and created the beautiful food baskets; Tom Butler who organized the clean up and outside decorating crew; and John Loeb, who coordinated all of the parking as cars streamed in each day and night. How would we have completed set up without Steven Woolf's expertise? How could we have done it without Susan Zarchin to coordinate all of the honey cake bakers, or Carol-Ann Smalley to oversee the onegs or Moira Clingman and Steven's beautiful and necessary posters? Bev Woolf's and Reed Alper's usher coordination was critical and a huge success; and JCA staff were always ready to lend a hand however we needed them. In particular, Marcia Howard worked tirelessly over the past two months. Eli Kwartler provided direction, history and support every step of the way. Thank you to all of our service leaders, but most especially our own Rabbi Bauer who opened his heart and inspired all those who listened.

And a special thanks to the many additional volunteers who graciously gave their time and energy to make the many holiday activities happen. It would not have been a success without each and every one of you, including: Leah Alper, Lena Amick, Libby Arney, Sarah Berger, Seymour Berger, Ellen Bernstein, Kitty Axelson Berry, Alan Black, Lilly Blain, Lisa Blain, Peter Blain,

Saul Blain, Seth Blain, Hill Boss, Aaron Bousel, Jaymie Chernoff, Michael Chernoff, Jeff Cohen, Linda Cooper, Judy Davis, Jay Flint, Judi Fonsh, Jeanne Friedman, David Gamliel, Judy Glaser, Isaac Goldbaum, Larry Goldbaum, Josh Goldman, Marcia Goldman, Marina Goldman, Sheldon Goldman, Rachael Goren, Hadar Grabel, Nancy Grossman, Josette Henschel, Jonah Herscu, Misha Herscu, Molly Jackson-Watts, Carol Kaminsky, Jackie Katz, Oran Kaufman, Bruce Klotz, Sallie Deans Lake, Walter Leopold, Jodi Levine, Patty Levine, David Levit, Tim Levy, Karen Loeb, Judith Loischild, Pearl-Anne Margalit, Robyn Miller, Laurie Millman, Ezra Orlinsky, Lisa Pack, Anita Page, Lisa Perl binder, Alan Peterfreund, Johanna Plaut, Jeanne Potash, Lydia Powell, Joan Rabin, Nancy Ratner, David Sharken, Jamie Sharken, Barbara Slovin, Jacob Smalley, Jody Spitz, Flo Stern, Ken Talan, Kitty Talan, Anna Treston, Ted Trobaugh, Sharon Vardatira, Sharon Weizenbaum, Zoe Weizenbaum, Guy Wood, Joshua Wolfsun, and Cheryl Zoll.

I hope that everyone made it onto this list, but if you were part of the team and somehow your name was inadvertently left off this list, I sincerely apologize. Please let me know if that has happened to you, and not just because we want to be sure to contact you next year to help!

*Marian Wolfsun*

***Thank You To Our High Holiday Service Leaders and Our Torah and Haftarah Readers***

**Service Leaders**

- Rabbi Bauer
- Rabbi MicahBecker-Klein
- Larry Fine
- Sam Gladstone
- Catherine Madsen
- Batya Perman
- Amy Rothenberg
- Rhonda Shapiro-Rieser

**Torah and Haftarah Readers**

- Arnie Alper
- Hannah Blau
- Paul Charette
- Marvin Ellin
- Rabbi Ed Feld
- Deborah Fine
- Avi Gladstone
- Miriam Gladstone
- Shoshana Gladstone
- Hadar Grabel
- Rabbi Devorah Jacobson
- Elinor Levine
- Felicia Mednick
- Rabbi Steve Nathan
- Monroe Rabin
- Elissa Rubinstein



### ***A Literary and Arts Trip to Israel - May 17<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009***

The JCA is planning a very exciting trip to Israel that will focus on the arts, literary and religious innovations of the Jewish State. Participants will engage directly with the artists, writers, and religious innovators that give contemporary Israel its unique vibrancy.

Our daily activities will include:

- encounters with authors to discuss their stories, essays, and articles;
- visits to studios and art galleries, talking with artists about their creative process and their life in Israel;
- studying Jewish texts in the new, egalitarian batei midrash (houses of study) that have sprung up in recent years; and
- trips to the Bezalel Art School, stunning historic sites around Israel, the Museum of Islamic Culture, music and

theatrical performances, exploring the unparalleled religious and cultural splendor of the country.



We will combine our immersion in Israel's art and culture with explorations of the geopolitics of Israel as well as daily life in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. There will be plenty of free time to explore on your own. The tentative itinerary is online at [www.j-c-a.org](http://www.j-c-a.org) and the budget will be on the site within two weeks. This trip is open to any interested person in and outside of our congregation. All individuals residing in Western Massachusetts are eligible for a Harold Grinspoon Foundation grant of up to \$1000 for Israel travel. Go to [www.hgf.org](http://www.hgf.org) to download an application.

If you are interested in the May 2009 trip, please contact Karen Loeb at 413-253-0336 or email at [kloeb@comcast.net](mailto:kloeb@comcast.net).

***Please sign up for this trip sooner rather than later. There are already 15 people who have committed to the trip!***

### ***Kidney Donor Needed***

Bryan Knapp, the son of Susan and Richard Knapp of Belchertown, has a rare kidney disease called Alport Syndrome. Bryan is a grad student at Wash. U in St. Louis. He is married and has a two-year-old son. Currently, his kidneys are functioning at 18%, and soon he will need a transplant. If you are interested in finding out how to become a donor, please contact Elissa Rubinstein at (413) 549-5078 or Susan Knapp at (413) 323-9738. There is no age limit nor blood type requirement.

The Deadline for the December Newsletter is  
**November 12<sup>th</sup>**

Aaron Bousel, [news@j-c-a.org](mailto:news@j-c-a.org) 253-3544

(413) 253-5384

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## Jewish Reconstructionist Federation

### JRF 42nd Convention-Transformative Judaism for the 21st Century

#### November 13 - 16, 2008 in Boston

*Hundreds of Reconstructionists and like-minded friends will gather at the 42nd Convention of the JRF to learn, daven, and celebrate together. Join a diverse community of North American and Israeli rabbis, cantors, educators, administrators and members of JRF affiliate congregations as we explore the theme Transformative Judaism for the 21st Century.*

Be moved, inspired, and challenged for four days in the company of other open-minded, lively folks who are as dedicated as you are to a progressive, vibrant approach to Judaism. Learn from leaders from across the spectrum of Reconstructionism.

Workshops will be offered on just about every imaginable area of Jewish communal life, including education, congregational development, tikkun olam, leadership, ritual and liturgy, youth, Israel, spirituality, and the arts. There's something for everyone!

#### **CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS**

*A Plenary Session on Identity, Community and Leadership* is a dialogue between the generations — those involved today in creating “emerging communities” and those who were shapers of the Havurah movement in the ‘60s and ‘70s, now serving as leaders of the Reconstructionist Movement. Participants will include Rabbi David Teutsch, Zachary Teutsch, and Rabbi Michael Strassfeld.

*Four special Forums* will immediately follow the opening plenary, giving us an opportunity to explore the themes raised as we engage in conversations with leaders in their fields:

- \* Building the Jewish Identity of the Next Generation with Jonathan Woocher and Jerry Silverman
- \* Strengthening and Transforming Congregational Life with Rabbi Hayim Herring and Amy L. Sales
- \* Rethinking the Role of Movements in the 21st Century with Rabbi Joy Levitt and Rabbi Sid Schwarz
- \* What is the Forefront of Tikkun Olam? with Rabbi Toba Spitzer and others

*Professor Jonathan Sarna*, the foremost expert on American Jewish history, will join us on Thursday evening with a talk entitled American Judaism at a Crossroads: A Perspective on Reconstructionism from a Jewish Historian.

*Shabbat services* filled with ruach (spirit) and kavannah (intention) will bring us together as an extended Reconstructionist family.

*Beit Midrash sessions* on Shabbat afternoon include informal text study, creative exploration of Reconstructionist liturgy, and a celebration of the arts.

*A special screening of Praying with Lior*, an award-winning film by Ilana Trachtman. The film celebrates the Reconstructionist Bar Mitzvah of Lior Liebling, who has Down Syndrome, and explores themes of disability and spirituality.

*Networking opportunities* throughout Convention will facilitate connections between our communities, such as break-out sessions, affinity group meetings, and receptions. Come and contribute your questions and your congregation's best practices to the conversations!

*RENA (Reconstructionist Educators of North America) and Harmonyiah*--the Reconstructionist Music Network will be participating in our Convention again this year.

Visit sights of Jewish interest in Boston or participate in a tikkun olam service opportunity on Sunday.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER, GO TO: <http://www.jrf.org/convention>

Please Note: If you cannot attend the entire convention,  
it is possible to register only for the day(s) you wish to attend.

### 5th Annual JCA Thanksgiving Blood Drive

The Chesed Committee will be sponsoring the 5th Annual JCA Thanksgiving Blood Drive (GIVE THANKS, GIVE BLOOD!) on Wednesday, November 26th from 8 AM-2 PM. Our Summer Blood Drive was a great success with over 75 pints of precious blood collected, and now it's time to re-supply the Blood Banks in time for the holidays. Our goal this Thanksgiving is to collect 100 pints of blood! Please help spread the word! Appointments are recommended (more advance appointments will guarantee better staffing!) but walk-ins are also welcome.

To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-Give-Life (1-800-448-3543) or stop by the JCA office.

For more info or to volunteer the day of the Blood Drive, please contact Robin Diamond at 253-0660 or gemmom3@aol.com. Thank you!

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**Donations**

**High Holiday Donations**

In Memory of my father (Patty & Fred Levine)  
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 Melba Nathan and Family  
 Steven Markow  
 Anna-Beth Winograd  
 With Thanks for being so welcoming to our family at Rosh Hashanah services (Cia Elkin)  
 With Gratitude for the new holiday ticket policy (Tom Wolff)  
 With Thanks for opening your doors during the High Holy Days (Leslie & Wendy Edinson)  
 With Thanks for the wonderful services (Barbara Goldin)  
 Henry Lappen  
 In Honor of Bob Weitzman & Hollie Kalkstein and family (Rose Foster)  
 Sydney Stern & Frank Werbinski

**JCA General Fund**

In Honor of the marriage of Abby Loeb & Tim Levy (Fran Saed)  
 In Memory of our parents and grandparents (The Blaustein Family – Marilyn, Jeff, Jeremy and Seth)

**Prayerbook Fund**

In memory of Ruth Boss Handelman, sister of Hill Boss (Aaron & Patience Bousel)  
 In memory of Emanuel Rubin, husband of Serene Rubin, father of Deena, grandfather of Ayala and Yael. (Aaron & Patience Bousel)

**Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**

In Memory of Marvin Peltz (Rabbi Sheila Weinberg)  
 With Thanks for the beautiful and healing Kol Nidre Service (Elaine & Arnold Trehub)  
 With Thanks for welcoming our family to the High Holiday services (Marion Wolk)

**New Members**

*We warmly welcome the following new members to the JCA community.*

Rebecca Peterfreund Zarch & Bil Zarch  
 Lori Goldner & Adrian Durlister and child Abigail  
 Robert King and child Savian  
 Richard & Barbara Lerner and children Gregory & Benjamin  
 Ariella Schwell & Roger Magnus and baby Noah  
 Gerda Wald  
 Jill Cohen and children Rebekah and Noah  
 Maryann Barakso and children Sarah and Ellie  
 Rebecca & Michael Aronson and children Jeremy, Allegra and Sage

**Condolences**

*We offer our sympathy and heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of those who have recently died:*  
 Emanuel Rubin, father of Deena Rubin, grandfather of Ayala and Yael  
 Ruth Boss Handelman, sister of Hill Boss



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## Community Announcements

### **Annual Interfaith Commemoration**

There will be an Interfaith Commemoration of the 70th Anniversary of Kristallnacht on Monday, November 10, 2008 from 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM at the Alumnae Theater Library at Elms College, 291 State Street, Chicopee.

The Keynote speaker is Henry Knight, Director of the Cohen Center for Holocaust Studies at Keene State College. This event is being co-sponsored by Hatikvah Holocaust Education Center, Elms College and the Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation of Western MA. This program is open to the public and there is no charge to attend.

### **Gan Keshet Preschool**

Gan Keshet Preschool is accepting enrollment applications for the 2009-10 school year. Please note your family might qualify for a grant from the HGF Right Start Program. "The Harold Grinspoon Foundation knows that early childhood education is essential to launching your family's Jewish journey. It will help pay the tuition of

the first child in each family to enroll in a Jewish preschool." The eligibility guidelines are few. Visit the HGF website, [www.pjlibrary.org/rightstart.php](http://www.pjlibrary.org/rightstart.php) to learn more. This year four of our families qualified and received grants from \$500 to \$1000 towards tuition. For additional information and/or to arrange a visit, please contact our Director, Wendy Stein at 584-3593 x204.

### **Adult Ed at CBI**

The following courses are being offered at Congregation B'nai Israel this fall:

**Mondays: *Opening to Life Through Movement: a Jewish Approach to Healing***: Deliah Rosel

**Tuesdays: *1948- Israel's War of Independence***: Michael Perlman

**Wednesday: *Jewish Short Fiction***: John J. Clayton

**Thursday: *Prophetic Justice***: Rabbi Justin David

All classes start at 7:30. Please call CBI at 584-3595 for more information.

### **Alternative Holiday Gift Fair**

Purchase more meaningful gifts this year, not just more gifts, at "shops" set

up by the Survival Center, Food Bank, Habitat, Heifer International and many more local and national organizations. Saturday, November 8, 10-3, North Congregational Church Parish Hall, 1195 North Pleasant Street, Amherst. At the traffic light in North Amherst. Light lunch available.

For information: 253-2929

### **Meditation Group**

Thursday Morning "Lecha Dumiyah Tehillah"\* Meditation Group

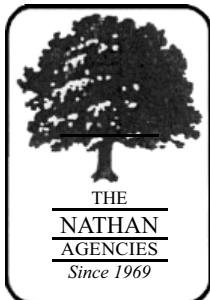
Every Thursday in the CBI Library, from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m.

Led by Rabbis Nancy Flam and Sheila Peltz Weinberg

Please know that is not an instructional group. Rather, each of us comes with our own silent meditation or prayer practice and draws strength and affirmation for our deep, inner work by being together in community.

- Arrive & Settling In: 8:00 – 8:15 a.m.
- Setting of Kavvanah/Teaching: 8:15 – 8:25 a.m.
- Bell to begin silent meditation: 8:25 a.m.
- Bell to end silent meditation: 8:55 a.m.

\* "To You silence is praise."  
Psalm 65:2



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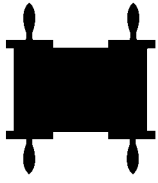
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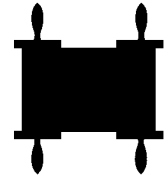
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*Jewish Community of Amherst*  
**November 2008**  
 3 Cheshvan ~ 3 Kislev 5769



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> <sup>3</sup> CHESHVAN ■ Noach 10:00 am Reconstructionist Service 10:00 am Masorti Service
<b>2</b> <sup>4</sup> CHESHVAN 10:30 am- Rabin Mem. Lecture (see page 12) 10:30 am- Mayyim Hayyim (see page 12) No Religious School Daylight Savings Time Ends	<b>3</b> <sup>5</sup> CHESHVAN	<b>4</b> <sup>6</sup> CHESHVAN 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan	<b>5</b> <sup>7</sup> CHESHVAN 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation 7:00 pm Religion Committee	<b>6</b> <sup>8</sup> CHESHVAN 7:30 pm Board Meeting	<b>7</b> <sup>9</sup> CHESHVAN ⚭ 4:18 5:30 pm Intergenerational Family Service and potluck supper, includes Shabbat Family Dinner for Grades 3 and 4	<b>8</b> <sup>10</sup> CHESHVAN ■ Lech Lecha 10:00 am Service 10:00 am Chanting Service (see page 4) Torah Study Following Kiddush
<b>9</b> <sup>11</sup> CHESHVAN 2:00 pm Afternoon at Valley Light Opera (see page 12)	<b>10</b> <sup>12</sup> CHESHVAN	<b>11</b> <sup>13</sup> CHESHVAN 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan 9:00 am Social Committee <b>Shemesh Day (page 6)</b> 7:00 pm Prayerbook Hebrew Class	<b>12</b> <sup>14</sup> CHESHVAN 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation <b>7:00 pm- Ugandan Abayudaya Jewish Leader (6:00 pm buffet supper) (see page 11)</b> <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	<b>13</b> <sup>15</sup> CHESHVAN <b>JRF Convention in Boston- Through Sunday (see page 15)</b>	<b>14</b> <sup>16</sup> CHESHVAN ⚭ 4:11 6:15 pm Service	<b>15</b> <sup>17</sup> CHESHVAN ■ Vayera 10:00 am Service
<b>16</b> <sup>18</sup> CHESHVAN 10:00 am Tikkun Olam Family Program (see page 10)	<b>17</b> <sup>19</sup> CHESHVAN	<b>18</b> <sup>20</sup> CHESHVAN 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan 7:00 pm Prayerbook Hebrew Class	<b>19</b> <sup>21</sup> CHESHVAN 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation 6:00 pm Teen Kehila Program 7:30 pm Education Committee	<b>20</b> <sup>22</sup> CHESHVAN 5:00 pm JCAT	<b>21</b> <sup>23</sup> CHESHVAN ⚭ 4:05 6:15 pm Carlebach style service followed by potluck supper	<b>22</b> <sup>24</sup> CHESHVAN ■ Chaye Sarah 10:00 am Service 10:30 am Shabbat Shalom for enrolled 4-6 year olds
<b>23</b> <sup>25</sup> CHESHVAN 2:00 pm Chevra Kaddisha Workshop (see page 7)	<b>24</b> <sup>26</sup> CHESHVAN	<b>25</b> <sup>27</sup> CHESHVAN 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan 7:00 pm Prayerbook Hebrew Class	<b>26</b> <sup>28</sup> CHESHVAN 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation <b>8:00 am - 2:00 pm JCA Red Cross Blood Drive (see page 16)</b> <b>No Religious School</b>	<b>27</b> <sup>29</sup> CHESHVAN 🇺🇸 <b>Thanksgiving Day</b> <b>Office Closed</b>	<b>28</b> <sup>1</sup> KISLEV ✕ Rosh Chodesh Kislev ⚭ 4:01 6:15 pm Service <b>Office Closed</b>	<b>29</b> <sup>2</sup> KISLEV ■ Toldot 10:00 am Service <b>No 7th grade</b>
<b>30</b> <sup>3</sup> KISLEV <b>No Religious School</b>						

*Jewish Community of Amherst*  
*742 Main Street*  
*Amherst, MA 01002*

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*November 2*

**Trip to Mayyim Hayyim in Newton (see page 12)**

*November 2*

**Rabin Memorial Lecture (see page 12)**

*November 9*

**Afternoon at Valley Light Opera (see page 12)**

*November 11*

**Shemesh Day (see page 6)**

*November 12*

**Ugandan Abayudaya Jewish Leader (see page 11)**

*November 16*

**Tikkun Olam Family Program (see page 10)**

*November 23*

**Chevra Kadisha Workshop (see page 7)**

*November 26*

**JCA Red Cross Blood Drive (see page 16)**