

jca

הקהילה היהודית של אמהרסט

JEWISH COMMUNITY OF AMHERST



Jewish Reconstructionist
Federation 

CANDLE LIGHTING

November 5 ~ 5:20 pm
November 12 ~ 4:13 pm
November 19 ~ 4:07 pm
November 26 ~ 4:02 pm

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

SPECIAL EVENTS

November 5

Kedushah LaTorah

November 7

Rabin Memorial Lecture

November 13

Shabbat B'Yachad

November 21

B'Tzelem Elohim

November 24

JCA Red Cross Blood Drive



MEETINGS

November 2

Chesed Committee

November 3

Ritual Life Committee

November 4

Board Meeting

November 30

JCA Garden Meeting



B'NAI MITZVAH

November 6- 4:00 pm

Nina Wolff Landau

November 20- 10:00 am

Shira Yeskel-Mednick

Message from Co-president

Lisa Perl binder, 230-3055, lperl binder@aol.com

One Legacy of the JCA:

According to Benjamin Franklin, "In this world nothing is certain but death and taxes." With only these certainties, is there room in Judaism for a belief in immortality or is physical death the end of everything? Is there a way to reconcile historical thought with modern values regarding eternal life and is the cemetery a holy site where an individual's legacy lives on along with the members of their community?

Many parts of the Torah provide glimpses into Jewish beliefs about what happens after death. In October and November the parshiot retell the lives and travails of the patriarchs and matriarchs. At the end of October, we read about Abraham's purchase of the cave in the field of Machpela as a burial place for his wife Sarah. It was important that Abraham buy a specific site to inter his wife so that his descendants would be remembered in perpetuity. Through stories and legends we remember the names and deeds of the biblical Jews, but does that mean their souls live on after death?

If biblical narrative does not answer this metaphysical dilemma, several Talmudic scholars address the afterlife with differing theories including messianic Judaism which decoupled the soul from the physical body and the burial ground. It's not exactly clear what the afterlife is and whether it even exists, but according to the sage Nahmanides, the "World to Come" is the era that will be ushered in by the resurrection of the dead, the world that will be enjoyed by the righteous who have merited additional life. For Maimonides, the "World to Come" refers to a time even beyond the world of the resurrected. He believed that those resurrected will eventually die a second death, at which point the souls of the righteous will enjoy a spiritual, bodiless existence in the presence of God. Still, in other sources, the "World to Come"

refers to the place inhabited by the righteous immediately after physical death, e.g. Heaven which exists now in some parallel universe – a paradise for the soul, and certainly not a cemetery

Reconstructionist founder Mordechai Kaplan offered Jewish Peoplehood, the societal structure of government, economy, culture, and religion, provides for personal self-fulfillment, as well as for "a kind of continuing radiation or anonymous immortality" after death. He wrote that different religions result from each civilization's important life elements through which its people may achieve self-fulfillment or salvation. These elements include historic events, heroes, institutions, places, and objects to which sanctity is ascribed. In effect, these sacred elements, their attitude toward life, and the conduct they inspire, constitute the religion of each people and civilization. Following this theme, that immortality is energy held in culture, events and institutions, Kaplan might say that immortality is achieved through sacred places like the cave of Machpela or by extension, the JCA Cemetery.

Our beautiful graveyard lovingly tended by Linda Sinapi and the Cemetery Committee held a special, immortal event on October 24th. We dedicated gates that belonged to a vandalized Jewish cemetery in Gangelt, Germany – donated by JCA member, Walter Leopold from the town where his family prospered until the Jews were forced to flee during the Shoah. Walter, his parents, grandparents and brothers were hidden in Holland just over the German border, and were one of only two families that survived the war. The gates are survivors too. They bore witness to the Jewish lives and generations that were buried there, becoming sacred artifacts that Kaplan might have construed as having

continued on page 14

continued on page 14

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 Benjamin Weiner

Rabbi David Dunn Bauer (2003-2010)

Rabbi Sheila Peltz Weinberg (1989-2002)

Rabbi Emeritus Yechiael Lander

Director of Lifelong Learning: Jody Rosenbloom (256-0160 ext. 203)

Director of Teen Programing: Rachael Goren-Watts (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

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 Phil Weilerstein, Peter Wood

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

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

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

Events Coordinator: Karen Loeb (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 Guidebook for contact information.
 (If you have not received your Guidebook, call the office.)

NEWSLETTER

Editor/Graphic Designer: Aaron Bousel

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

Proofreader: Sarah Thomson

Deadline for the December issue is November 12th

November 2010, Vol. 9, 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: 549-0447
 haim_gunner@yahoo.com

Devarim:
Words from Rabbi Benjamin Weiner



After all of the holidays that fall in Tishrei, the second month of the Hebrew calendar, Cheshvan, has always been considered something of a letdown. The rabbis even went so far as to add an extra syllable at the beginning of its name, calling this month devoid of sacred festivals Mar-Cheshvan: bitter Cheshvan. Contemporary Jewish professionals, on the other hand, have been known to joke that we should instead call it “Sweet Sweet Cheshvan”, because after a month jam-packed with holiday related obligations we get a break till Hanukkah.

But, of course, Cheshvan is not really devoid of holidays. Like any month, it insures us a minimum of four; one a week to be specific, beginning as the sun sets on the evening of the sixth day and lasting until the Havdallah candle hisses out in a goblet of wine (if you will permit me to refer to Manischewitz as wine.) We forget sometimes that Shabbat itself is a holiday, considered by tradition to be more significant than all of the flash-in-the-pan festivals that only show up once a year, except for Yom Kippur. But even the gravitas of Yom Kippur is expressed with a reference to Shabbat. It is Shabbat Shabbaton—the Sabbath of Sabbaths, shabbos squared.

Maybe our forgetfulness is just a human tendency to be dulled by the familiar. But one of the great tasks of Jewish life is to make the familiar strange, to experience what we have done countless times with a beginner’s mind. One great rabbi put it this way: “The old is made new, and the new made holy.” Other voices, throughout our tradition, have spoken beautifully of the way that a practice of Shabbat enriches our lives. “More than the Jewish people have kept the Sabbath,” the Talmud says, “the Sabbath has kept the Jewish people.” “But remember,” added Rabbi Akiva, “the Sabbath was given to you. You were not given to the Sabbath.” And then there is the

famous phrase of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel. The Sabbath, he said, is “a palace in time,” a sanctuary of refreshment and spirituality that we craft out of the otherwise evanescent moments of our lives.

I see this as a challenge, to myself as a rabbi and to the JCA community. Tradition tells us that once a week we are given this allotment of miraculous time. What will we make of it? How will our community fulfill the verse that teaches “They will know a unique happiness, those who call Shabbat an oneg—a delight”?

We are already beginning to propose new answers to this question. In addition to our regular Shabbat services we are about to offer a number of great opportunities, that you’ll be hearing more about in the weeks to come: Jewish-themed Yoga classes on Saturday mornings, regular Torah study in the afternoons, taught by some of the great minds of our congregation, a Friday night series of talks from Pioneer Valley artists and activists, adding a new level of inspiration to our already moving Kabbalat Shabbat services. In November, and again in February, we will host a special program called Shabbat b’Yachad, in which our whole community, big and small, will come together for a Shabbat morning of variety and unity in the study of Torah and the expression of Jewish spirituality.

You may also be asked to contribute to this sense of oneg, delight, in new ways: whether that means volunteering for a very manageable shift on our Kitchen Committee, to insure that our kiddush is always a robust and joyful Shabbat meetingplace, or lending your opinions and insight to communal conversations about the nature of Shabbat davenning—prayer—at the JCA. Stay tuned!

b’shalom,
Rabbi Benjamin Weiner

Rabbi Liaison Committee

The purpose of the Rabbi Liaison Committee is to:

- Act as a channel between the rabbi and the congregation for the communication and processing of comments, issues, and complaints,
- Further increase the effectiveness of the rabbi-congregational relationship,
- Provide a way for people who are hesitant about contacting the rabbi directly to do so.

We encourage you to contact any member of the committee whenever you feel there is an issue that you would like them to consider with Rabbi Weiner.

Please be assured that all information is confidential.

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Aaron Bousel 253-3544, abousel@comcast.net

Barbara Burkart 256-8139, barbruth@comcast.net

Eli Kwartler 253-2929, elikwarlter@gmail.com

Ted Slovin 253-3518, tslovin@acad.umass.edu



Ritual Life Committee

Paul Charette, Co-chair, 860-559-4926, cyclone411@charter.net
 Sarah Thomson, Co-chair, 413-253-2930, allset22@verizon.net

RELIGION CALENDAR

Shabbat Toledot Genesis 25:19-28:9

November 5, Friday

5:30 PM

Kedushah LaTorah (Consecration of the 1st and 2nd grade)
 Intergenerational Family Service & Potluck Supper
 Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner

November 6, Saturday

10:00 AM

Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner
 D'var Torah: Ted Slovin

4:00 PM

Mincha Service
 Bat Mitzvah: Nina Wolff Landau
 Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner



Rosh Chodeash Kislev, November 8, Monday



Shabbat Vayetze Genesis 28:10-32:3

November 12, Friday

6:15 PM

Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner

November 13, Saturday

8:45-9:45 AM

Shabbat Yoga

10:00 AM

Shabbat B'Yachad (see page 7)
 Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner



Shabbat Vayishlach Genesis 32:4-36:43

November 19, Friday

6:15 PM

Carlebach style service followed by potluck supper
 Service Leaders: Larry & Deb Fine
 Speaker: Sarah Thomson will speak about her paintings,
 which are currently on display at the JCA.

November 20, Saturday

8:45-9:45 AM

Shabbat Yoga

10:00 AM

Shira Yeskel-Mednick: Bat Mitzvah
 Service Leader: Felicia Mednick and friends
 D'var Torah: Shira Yeskel-Mednick



Shabbat Vayeshev

Genesis 37:1-40:23

November 26, Friday

6:15 PM

Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner

November 27, Saturday

10:00 AM

Service Leader: Rabbi Weiner
 D'var Torah: Rabbi Weiner



Chanukah

December 1, Wednesday- Erev Chanukah

Light the first candle at sundown



Meditation Minyan

The weekday
 meditation minyan continues to meet every
 Wednesday at 7:30 am in the small sanctuary

Shacharit (morning) Minyan

The weekday shacharit minyan continues
 to meet every Tuesday at 7:30 am
 in the small sanctuary.

Check the JCA website at:
www.j-c-a.org/services.html
 for updated religion calendar information.

**Kiddush and Oneg
Sponsors**

October 16-
Joshua Goldstein & Andra
Rose, in honor of their daughter
Fred becoming Bat Mitzvah

November 6-
Barbara & Ted Slovin, in honor
of Ted's 70th birthday

November 20th-
Felicia Mednick & Felice Yeskel
in honor of their daughter, Shira,
becoming Bat Mitzvah

**If you would like to help with
or sponsor a kiddush, please
contact Barbara Freed at:
256-0355**

Save The
Date!

Hannah Zuckerman's
Birthday

On December 18,
2010

We will raise a
glass in cheers
To celebrate a
birthday of eighty
years.

I will read from
the Torah
And Makhela will sing

After the service,
please be our
family's guests at a
kiddush luncheon in
the social hall!

L'Chaim!

Torah Reading Co-ordination

In Genesis, Abraham's faithful servant Eliezer serves his master without any indication of taking any time off, however, he is also not charged with the task of arranging for Torah readers every week. The JCA's own Eliezer, who has been responsible for co-ordinating Torah reading every week for the past seven years is taking a sabbatical this year. During this time members of the Ritual Life Committee will be sharing this task as follows:

- November & December- Gordon Freed, 256-0355, g.freed@comcast.net
- January and February- Eliza Gouverneur, 256-6145, elizagouv@msn.com, and Rhonda Shapiro-Rieser, 774-5796, shapiro-rieser@gmail.com
- March- Ruth Love Barer, 253-4923, ruthlove7@hotmail.com

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.

Foot Stomping Melodies for Welcoming Shabbat

The next Carlebach-style services will be on November 19th at 6:15 pm.

The melodies are beautiful, the spirit/ruach is incredible.

There will be a potluck supper following the service.

Torah Reading

Can you chant Torah? And if you don't know how, would you like to learn? There is now a group of people who are meeting to support each other in developing our skills in this area. Members have a wide range of ability, from experienced to beginners. Our goal is to encourage as many JCA members as possible to learn this skill and participate in chanting Torah at services. For more information please call Randi Stein (549-0526) or Ruth Love Barer (253-4923)

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 the JCA. Thank you.

**Thank You To All Who Helped Take Down
and Put Away Our JCA Sukkah**

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Arnie Alper | Aaron Bousel | Gordon Freed |
| and the following JCA Religious School Students | | |
| Saul Blain | Ben Hernandez-Sommer | Emily Porter |
| Brett Evans | Noah Madowitz | Caler Robbins |
| Isaac Goldbaum | Liliya Miller | Josh Wilkenson |

<p style="font-family: cursive; font-size: 2em; margin: 0;"><i>Hands of Patience</i></p> <p>Patience Meigs Bousel Certified Trager® Practitioner, Licensed Massage Therapist</p> <p>The Trager® Approach • Kripalu Bodywork Massage for Pregnancy & Postpartum • Energy Work</p> <p style="text-align: right;">413-218-7815 800 Main St., Amherst, MA pmbousel@comcast.net</p>	<p style="margin: 0;">We can help you move life along</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Do you need to organize your life? ■ Get paperwork under control? ■ Clear some space? ■ Plan a move? <p style="text-align: center;">Moving MENTOR Guiding you through the moving process</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Rethinking Moving Since 1996 www.movingmentor.com 413-549-1039</p>
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Education News

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



The Gift of Shabbat – For the whole family Shabbat B'Yachad on Saturday, November 13.

Creating a routine of rest is a challenge well worth the effort – so Family Education, JCA School and the Ritual Life Committee have joined together to help us. Our JCA School curriculum is built around Jewish ritual and civilization – Shabbat and Torah study connect all the values underlying our Sunday program. Hebrew is the sacred language of our prayer book & Torah. The dvar Torah, a teaching that wrestles with Torah, links us to centuries of Jewish values and discussion. Coming together in community holds us through the good and difficult times. So leave the sports fields behind for a day, unplug from the computer & all things electronic, a shopping free zone, to relax and connect in new ways based on our ancient traditions: Shabbat B'Yachad on Saturday, November 13. Bring a special food dish to share.

New Students Sweeten the Study of Torah Kedushah LaTorah (Consecration) – Friday, Nov. 5

Starting formal Jewish education is something to celebrate. At the JCA, we dedicate a Friday night service to this Kedusha LaTorah. New students in 1st & 2nd grades, participated in a special workshop with their parents on Sunday, October 24 to prepare for the special recognition at services. Led by 1st grade teacher, **Hannah Shaffer**, participants created an Aron HaKodesh (Holy Ark) for the miniature Torah scroll each student will receive. With **Rabbi Weiner**, they talked about their Hebrew names and where the names come from. And together reviewed the songs and blessings they will share. New 1st & 2nd graders include: **Nasia Benvenuto Ladin, Maysah Campbell Morton, Ezekiel Flint, Naomi Olkin, and Esme Siegel**. Households with students in Shalom Sunday class and grades 1 & 2 are especially invited to the community on Friday, Nov. 5 at 5:30pm for this service and a potluck!

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 dwindling Children's Fund to

which anyone can contribute, that can make a big difference to our overall financial wellbeing. This year, about 15% 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 45% 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 10%. Please consider a donation to the Children's Fund that goes towards ensuring that any Jewish child has access to our programs at the JCA. Thank-you.

Thank You to:

Batya Perman for the donation of rug samples.

Freida Howards networking with Kamel Hassan for donations of rug samples.

Cheryl Campbell for cleaning up & sorting childcare room toys & supplies.

Calendar

Fri, Nov. 5	Family Service & Kedushah LaTorah (Consecration) 5:30 pm Service followed by a Potluck Special Guests: Households with 1st & 2nd graders & Shalom Sunday students
Sat, Nov. 13	Shabbat B'Yachad – All households gather for programming on Shabbat instead of JCA School on Sunday, Nov. 14. (see next page)
Sun, Nov. 21	*Shalom Sunday (4-6 yr olds) 10:30-12 w/ parent group *B'Tzelem Elohim/In God's Image Parent support & education group from 10:15-11:15 am *Jewish Camping Fair at the Lander Grinspoon Academy 9:30-11:30 am
Wed, Nov. 24- Sun, Nov. 28	No classes - Thanksgiving Holiday
Wed, Dec. 1	Hannukah Puppet Show for ages 4th grade and younger. 4:30pm.

What's Your Coffee Preference?

Did you know that with JCA's Dean's Beans Organic Coffee Fundraiser you can order any blend that Dean's Beans offers? Yes, that's right. In addition to the JCA's regular and decaf custom (light/dark) blends, and popular dark roasts listed on the order form, you can order any of the Dean's Beans blends for an additional 50 cents (75 cents for flavored blends like Hazelnut or Vanilla).



This option has been available for the past 4 years, but not everyone seems to know about it. With over 30 blends to choose from, there's got to be something you like. So check out www.deansbeans.com for a complete listing, and start your mornings with a mitzvah!

Order Dean's Beans Organic Coffee by 10/29 for pick up on/after 11/5

Great Coffee, Great Cause, Great Price!

Order forms are available in the JCA lobby, on the JCA website,
or by contacting susanweinstein1@yahoo.com.

Save the date

JOIN TOGETHER FOR
SHABBAT B'YACHAD*
 Visions of "Welcome" in Parashat Vayetze

Saturday, November 13

Watch The Thursday Emails for more details

Imagine a Shabbat where we all come together
 A prayer service
 Experimenting with diverse opportunities for participation
 For a restful day
 To study Torah in ways both traditional and eclectic
 Try Shabbat yoga
 In depth text study
 Bible story time with song & participation
 Artistic expression of biblical themes
 To build our community
 Learn together
 Share a POTLUCK Shabbat meal
 Sing zemirot

*** This program is in place of JCA School on Sunday, November 14.**

Generous funding provided by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation's Family Education Initiative

Northampton Cot Shelter

Dear friends,

Once again we will be providing a meal on Christmas Eve at the Cot Shelter in Northampton. As usual we need volunteers for this to be successful. We need people to prepare the food--turkey, soup, salad, vegetable dishes, appetizers---for 16-20 people and then also people to serve the meal. Since Saul Gladstone, our original coordinator and trumpet sing-a-long provider, will be in Florida, we are looking for someone to lead us in song or music.

For more information or to volunteer please call Susan Zarchin at 256-0667 or email @ susanzarchin@gmail.com

Thank You From Project Rehovot

Dr. Irwin and Robert Berger
Yaffa Gunner
Karen Loeb
Herbert and Paulina Stark

Free Membership Offer to Join B'nai Tzedek Teen Philanthropy Program

Are you a teen who is interested in philanthropy? Are you looking for a way to meet other Jewish teens? Do you want to have fun while making a difference?

The B'nai Tzedek Teen Philanthropy Program gives local Jewish teens a way to get involved, take action and make a difference in their community through hands-on community service projects, fundraising and more.

To encourage even more young people to get involved, B'nai Tzedek is waiving the \$118 membership fee for those who sign up by December 31, 2010.

This fall, the B'nai Tzedek teen will glean crops for Rachel's Table, donating the produce to local food pantries and shelters on October 17th and November 7th and take part in a Hanukkah dance and fundraiser on December 4th.

Visit www.hgf.org to find out more or go to <http://tinyurl.com/BTmembership> to fill out your membership form today.

Visual Arts Committee

The Visual Arts Committee would like to invite everyone to hear Sarah Thomson, our current exhibitor in The Hall Gallery, speak to us after services on Friday, November 19th. She will share her thoughts on her current work and take us into the special world of her intimate watercolors, monoprints and etchings. Please join us.

Children's Scholarship Fund

This year we have a record number of families needing tuition assistance in order to send their children to Hebrew school. We also have a more limited pool of money for tuition aid than we have in many years. We would greatly appreciate any donations to the Children's Scholarship Fund.

Michael Burkart, Treasurer

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Save The Date

January 22, 2011
6:30 PM at the JCA

Dinner Dance to Formally
Honor and Welcome

Rabbi Weiner and his wife Elise to the JCA

A Middle of Winter
Celebratory Gathering

****Stay Tuned For Details****

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JEWISH COMMUNITY OF AMHERST
SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE COMMITTEE PRESENTS:

RABBI ARTHUR GREEN Dec 10-12, 2010

Rabbi Green is a noted teacher and scholar on Jewish thought and spirituality, in particular Jewish mysticism. In addition, he has been instrumental in the Jewish Renewal and Chavurah movements. A prolific author, his most recent book is **Radical Judaism:**

Rethinking God and Tradition



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday Dec. 10th:

Services at 6:15 p.m. with teaching by Rabbi Green
Dinner* with Rabbi Green at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday Dec 11th:

Text study with Rabbi Green 8:45-9:45 a.m.
Services at 10:00 a.m. D'var Torah by Rabbi Green
Kiddush open to all in Library following
Lunch* in Social Hall approx. 12:30-1:15 p.m.
Afternoon teaching by Rabbi Green 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Sunday Dec 12th:

Bagels and Coffee 9:15 a.m.
Communal conversation with Rabbi Green facilitated
by Rabbi Ben Weiner 9:30-11:00

Cost for the weekend teaching, (Sat. & Sun.)
is \$40 for members of any synagogue, \$55 for
unaffiliated guests, \$18 for students.

Meals available for separate cost.

*Fee for dinner (\$18pp) and lunch (\$10pp).
Deadline for meal registration 12/3/10.

See the following page for registration information

“Green emerges as a decidedly non-traditionalist theologian through this illuminating and evocative discussion about such topics as classic metaphors for God, evolutionary theory, and Kabbalistic theories of creation. *Radical Judaism* is highly accessible, and the issues addressed are very much those of our contemporaries.”

—Rabbi Neil Gillman, The Jewish Theological Seminary of America

Annual Yitzhak Rabin Lecture

ISRAEL AS A JEWISH AND DEMOCRATIC STATE

A Free Lecture, Conversation & Lunch

Can Israel be a Jewish & a democratic State?

Does the sizeable non-Jewish minority impede democracy

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2010 AT 10:30 AM

Jewish Community of Amherst
742 Main Street

PROFESSOR FRED A. LAZIN

*Ben Gurion University, Israel &
American University, Washington, D.C.*



RESPONDENTS

Jay Demerath III,

Professor Emeritus, UMass

Rita Kropf,

*Adj. (Retired) Professor, Amherst College
Israeli citizen & democracy activist*

Professors Lazin, Demerath & Kropf
will take questions from the audience.

Lunch Reservations are desirable.
Contributions to the lunch/program are welcome.
Contact: Yaffa Gunner, ybg@comcast.net, 413-549-0447

*Co-sponsored by the World Jewish Concerns and Action Committee of the
Jewish Community of Amherst & Northampton-Amherst Chapter of Hadassah*

JCA Adult Reading Group

The 2nd meeting of the year of the ARG will be on Wednesday, December 8, 2010 at 7:30 PM in the JCA library. We will be discussing the novel, *Someone to Run With: A Novel* by David Grossman. It is available in paperback. New participants are always welcome. Any questions, please call Ken Talan, 253-2248.

JCA Garden

It's never too early or too late to think about the garden!

Anyone interested in the idea of a small community garden at the JCA? There are so many ways that growing food brings a community together.

Come to a first brainstorming meeting at the JCA. Tuesday night November 30th at 7pm. If you cannot make the meeting but would like to be involved, please email Amy Rothenberg at amy@nesh.com

The Deadline for the December Newsletter is November 12th

All submissions MUST be made either by e-mail or e-mail with a file attached.

If you do not have access to a computer or email, please contact the editor.

PLEASE RESPECT THE DEADLINE!

Thank you, Aaron Bousel,
news@j-c-a.org 253-3544

The Judaica Store at the JCA

News from the Judaica Store

We are now affiliated with an on-line source for tons of things Jewish. The site is *Judaica Beautiful* and there is a link on our home page, www.j-c-a.org. It's on the left side of our home page, just click and have fun. The JCA gets 20% of anything you order. Of course there will still be unique and ritual items available at the shul when the office is open. Tallitot, candles, mezzuzot, cards made by our own JCA students, books and much more. Come and browse on line or from our showcase in the lobby. Anything else?? Call Hadar at 253-0597

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Co-president's column, from page 1
immortality. The Gangelst cemetery was desecrated on numerous occasions so Walter brought the gates here, had them lovingly restored, and installed as a reminder that despite hardships, persecution, and darkness, the Jewish civilization has survived – a physical reminder of Adonai's promise to the patriarchs and matriarchs and as immortal as the those buried in the cave of Machpela.
B'shalom.
Lisa

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.

You're staring right at it! You don't have to search all over town for the right place for your party.

Jewish
Community
of Amherst
Social
Hall

You don't have to search all over town for the right place for your party.



*Come and see for yourself.
Call for an appointment today.*

Our events coordinator will help you plan your party and access the resources you need for a truly joyous event
Call Karen Loeb at 256-0160 ext. 207 for reservations and more information.

 <p style="text-align: center;">Choose our catering team to create a mitzvah!</p> <p>Our team of experienced caterers has a different take on special events!</p> <p>We donate 80% of our fee to Project Rehovot and 20% to the JCA</p> <p>We excel in Middle Eastern, Mediterranean and Jewish Cuisine!</p> <p>*we use high quality food for weddings, Bar and Bat mitzvahs, Garden Parties, Banquets and other events in your home or another location; attractive floral arrangements on every table</p> <p>For sample menus and price quotes contact Karen Loeb at: phone: 413-253-0336 Email: kloeb@comcast.net</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">  </div> <p>Allen Davis, CFP® Financial Planner</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10 Bay Road, Hadley, MA 01035 tel 413.584.3098 fax 413.584.0160 cell 413.427.2782 ajdavis@finsvcs.com www.tdgfinancial.com</p> <p><small>Allen Davis is a Registered Representative of and offers securities, investment advisory and fee-based financial planning services through MML Investors Services, Inc. Member SIPC. 330 Whitney Avenue, Suite 600, Holyoke, MA 01040, Tel:413-539-2000.</small></p>
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Donations

Chesed Committee

- In Honor of Susan Myers who brings so much joy into my life (Peppy Barer)
 In Honor of Batya Perman, a dear friend and a very versatile lady (Peppy Barer)
 In Appreciation of Chesed support after the death of my mother (Elissa & Bernie Rubinstein)

Children's Scholarship Fund

- In Honor of our son and daughter-in-law, Martin & Brenda Miller and grandchildren Aaron & Liliya (Goldie & Stanley Miller)

General Fund

- In Memory of Bud Pearl (Jean & Robert Kauffman)
 In Memory of Bud Pearl (Lennie Ware)
 In Honor of Hannah Trobaugh's Bat Mitzvah (Myra Schubin)
 In Honor of the marriage of Ann Armon & Len (Eliezer) Huber (Sara & Sy Berger)
 In Honor of Paul Charette and Rabbi Weiner for the wonderful Simchat Torah celebration (Sara & Sy Berger)
 In Memory of Aaron Bousel's stepfather (Sara & Sy Berger)
 In Memory of Elissa Rubinstein's mother (Sara & Sy Berger)
 In Memory of Susan Spencer's father (Sara & Sy Berger)
 In Memory of Jayne Pearl's father (Sara & Sy Berger)
 Edward Moore
 Ilana & William Schmitt

High Holiday/Open Door Fund

- Milton Freudenheim
 Renee Hill & Alan Goldberg
 Jody Rosenbloom & Joel Kaminsky
 Wendi Weinberg & Cydnie Reiman
 In Honor of Elizabeth Rosenberg (Vicki Goldberg & Larry Young)
 Aline & Gus Sayer
 Eva & Norman Brown
 In Honor of my father, Peter Hereld (Randi Stein)
 In Appreciation of beautiful High Holiday services (Ellen & Jerry Rosenberg)
 Henry Lappen
 Ilene Lacey
 In Memory of my husband, Walter Abramson (Thelma Abramson)
 Lisa Lieberman
 Robert Kalin

If someone in your family, or someone you know in the community, is ill and/or in the hospital, please contact the Chesed Committee by calling the office (256-0160). Even if visits or phone calls are not desired, it is important for us as a community to be aware of the health and well being of our members and their families. We cannot help if we don't know.

- Leslie Goldstein & John Mosimann
 In Honor of Rabbi Weiner on the occasion of the Yom Kippur service (Renee Spring & David Piech)
 In Honor of Bob Weitzman, Hollie Kalkstein & family (Rose Foster & Harry Galinsky)
 In Honor of the 60th wedding anniversary of Elaine & Arnold Trehub (Hilda & Louis Greenbaum)
 In Behalf of Hayley Yaglom and family (Sona & Alan Yaglom)
 To strengthen the JCA community (Elinor Crandall)
 In Honor of the High Holidays Committee (Amy Mittelman & Aaron Berman)
 Mika Inoue & Seth Kupfershmid
 Pennie Marcus & Deborah Levenson

Prayerbook Fund

- In Honor of my dear daughter, Ruth Love Barer, who makes my life such a blessing (Peppy Barer)
 In Memory of my mother, Dorothy L. Sway (Elissa & Bernie Rubinstein)
 In memory of Julius Fogel, father of Suzanne Fogel Spencer, father-in-law of Peter Spencer, and grandfather of Claire, Hannah, and Ian Spencer (Patience & Aaron Bousel)
 In memory of Dorothy Sway, mother of Elissa Rubinstein and mother-in-law of Bernard Rubinstein (Patience & Aaron Bousel)

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- In Honor of Rabbi Weiner (Peppy Barer)
 In Appreciation for the support shown to our family by the JCA Kehillah, on the recent passing of my sister, Rose Groman (Peppy Barer)
 Alan Peterfreund
 In Memory of Mortimer Pearl, father of Jayne Pearl & grandfather of Ryan Hommel (Jane & Daniel Giat)
 In honor of Walter Abramson (Marcie, Lena and Dick Sclove)

Condolences

We offer our sympathy and heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of those who have recently died:
 Dorothy Sway, mother of Elissa Rubinstein and mother-in-law of Bernard Rubinstein
 Julius Fogel, father of Suzanne Fogel Spencer, father-in-law of Peter Spencer, and grandfather of Claire, Hannah, and Ian Spencer

Mazel Tov

Matthew and Sally Galman welcomed a new daughter, Elizabeth Eve Galman, born 10-5-10. Elizabeth joins older siblings Joanna (4) and Benny (2).

New or Returning Members

We warmly welcome the following people to the JCA community:
 Cynthia & Joe Gensheimer and Juliana Vera & Lawrence Wishnow

Community Announcements

Yael Dayan

“Israel’s Future and the Urgency of Two States”

Monday, November 8, 7pm
Congregation B’nai Israel,
Northampton

With peace talks underway, former Knesset member and current chair of the Tel Aviv-Yafo City Council Yael Dayan will discuss the necessity of American leadership in bringing about a two-state solution, which she calls the “best and only option” for peace.

Dayan is the daughter of the late General Moshe Dayan, and has worked tirelessly as a peace activist, joining the leadership of Peace Now and calling for an end to the occupation, evacuation of settlements, and active dialogue with the Palestinian Authority.

2011 Rekindle Shabbat:

For the REST of your week

Haven’t you wished that life came with a “Pause” button? The Rekindle Shabbat program brings Jewish and interfaith families together in homes across the Pioneer Valley for catered Shabbat dinner celebrations. Each is an opportunity to learn more about Shabbat and unwind. Community Havdalah potlucks (to end Shabbat) will also be offered in February in Hadley and Springfield, with hands-on kids’ activities, storytelling, and singing. Sign up with other households you know or let the Coordinator make a match. 2011 dates are Jan 7 and March 11 (Shabbat meals); Feb 5 and 12 for community Havdalah potluck gatherings. Get more information and sign up by November 15th at www.RekindleShabbat.org. Contact: Dyan Wiley, Coordinator, 439-1941, dyan@hgf.org. A program of the Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts and sponsored by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation and William and Lynn Foggie.

Show Support for Jewish Preschool Education!

Shop at Broadside Bookshop (Sunday, November 7th – Thursday, November 11th) located in Northampton, MA, and mention, “you wish to support CBI/GAN KESHET”, and 15% of your purchase total will be donated to the Preschool’s Scholarship Fund. The fund supports all Jewish preschool families in the area who have children enrolled at the preschool. Stay tuned, the preschool is growing and expanding its options next year. Anyone can participate. Tell family, friends, neighbors! If you would like additional information about applying to the school or about this fundraiser, please contact, Wendy Stein, Director, Gan Keshet Preschool @413-584-3593 ext. 204.

Third Annual

Alternative Holiday Gift Fair

Want to give more meaningful gifts this year instead of simply more gifts? Here’s your chance to make a world of difference with one-stop shopping. This increasingly popular fair is sponsored by North Congregational Church, UCC, and will be held in its Parish Hall, 1195 North Pleasant Street, Amherst from 10-2 on Saturday, November 13.

Setting up shop at the fair will be: Amherst Survival Center, Heifer International, Collective Copies with Worker Cooperative Products, Olive Branch Olive Oil, SERRV International, Habitat for Humanity, Church World Service, United Church of Christ Global Ministries, Solentiname Friendship Group, Hampshire County Interfaith Help Fund, BeadforLife, Support Los Ninos and the Turkish Cultural Council of Western Massachusetts.

Shoppers will find gift cards for everything from flocks of chicks to books for school children along with fair trade handcrafted items and foods, calendars, holiday cards, plus much more. For information: 253-2929

2010 Jewish Overnight Camp Fair Sponsored by the

Harold Grinspoon Foundation

The HGF Annual Camp Fair will be held on Sunday, November 21, 2010 at the Lander-Grinspoon Academy, the Solomon Schechter Day School, 237 Prospect Street, Northampton, MA.

The Fair will be open from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM. Directors and representatives from dozens of Jewish overnight camps throughout the United States, representing all religious affiliations, will be available to share videos of their camp grounds, discuss their unique programs, variety of activities, the qualifications of their counselors, and the Judaic components of their camps.

This is a rare opportunity for parents considering camp for their children to learn about the camps other children in Western MA and throughout the country attend, to ask questions about facilities and procedures and individual needs.

Campers already registered at camp are most welcome and all children who attend the fair have the opportunity to learn about the HGF Camper Incentive Program and are eligible to enter the RAFFLE! Winner will receive a check to be used for Camp enrollment.

Meditation Group

Thursday Morning “Lecha Dumiyah Tehillah”** Meditation Group
Every Thursday in the CBI Library,
from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m.

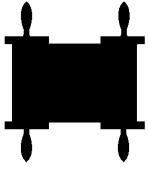
Led by Rabbis Nancy Flam and
Sheila Peltz Weinberg

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.

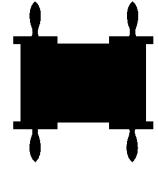
- Arrive & Settling In:
8:00 – 8:15 a.m.
- Setting of Kavvanah/Teaching:
8:15 – 8:25 a.m.
- Bell to begin silent meditation:
8:25 a.m.
- Bell to end silent meditation:
8:55 a.m.

* “To You silence is praise.”

Psalm 65:2



JEWISH COMMUNITY OF AMHERST
November 2010
 24 Cheshvan ~ 23 Kislev



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 24 CHESHVAN	2 25 CHESHVAN	3 26 CHESHVAN	4 27 CHESHVAN	5 28 CHESHVAN	6 29 CHESHVAN
		7:30 am Shacharit Minyan 7:30 pm Chesed Committee 7:30 pm Prayerbook Study Group	7:30 am Shacharit Meditation 6:00 pm Teen Kehila Program 7:30 pm Ritual Life Committee	7:00 pm Board Meeting	5:20 5:30 pm Intergenerational Family Service including Kedushah LaTorah (consecration) followed by potluck supper	Toldot 10:00 am Service 1:00 pm Torah Study 4:00 pm Mincha Service Bat Mitzvah: Nina Wolff Landau
7 30 CHESHVAN	8 1 KISLEV	9 2 KISLEV	10 3 KISLEV	11 4 KISLEV	12 5 KISLEV	13 6 KISLEV
⊗Rosh Chodesh Kislev - Day 1 Daylight Savings Time Ends 10:30 am Rabin Memorial Lecture, Speaker: Fred Lazin, followed by luncheon See p. 12	⊗Rosh Chodesh Kislev - Day 2	7:30 am Shacharit Minyan	7:30 am Shacharit Meditation		4:13 6:15 pm Service	Vayetze 8:45 am Shabbat Yoga 10:00 am Service and Shabbat B'Yachad, see p. 7
14 7 KISLEV	15 8 KISLEV	16 9 KISLEV	17 10 KISLEV	18 11 KISLEV	19 12 KISLEV	20 13 KISLEV
No JCA School		7:30 am Shacharit Minyan 6:00 pm JTOV Partners Meeting 7:30 pm Prayerbook Study Group	7:30 am Shacharit Meditation 6:00 am Teen Kehila Program		4:07 6:15 pm Carlebach style service followed by potluck supper Speaker: Sarah Thomson will speak about her paintings	Vayishlach 8:45 am Shabbat Yoga 10:00 am Service Bat Mitzvah: Shira Yeskel-Mednick
21 14 KISLEV	22 15 KISLEV	23 16 KISLEV	24 17 KISLEV	25 18 KISLEV	26 19 KISLEV	27 20 KISLEV
10:00 am Shalom Sunday for Enrolled 4-6 year olds 10:15 am B'Tzelem Elohim		7:30 am Shacharit Minyan	7:30 am Shacharit Meditation 8:30 am JCA Red Cross Blood Drive No JCA School	Thanksgiving Day Office Closed	4:02 6:15 pm Service Office Closed	Vayeshev 10:00 am Service 1:00 pm Torah Study
28 21 KISLEV	29 22 KISLEV	30 23 KISLEV				
No JCA School		7:30 am Shacharit Minyan 7:00 pm JCA Garden Meeting 7:30 pm Prayerbook Study Group				

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November 5
**Kedushah LaTorah
Consecration of New 1st & 2nd Grade Students**

November 7
Rabin Memorial Lecture (see page 12)

November 13
Shabbat B'Yachad (see page 7)

November 21
B'Tzelem Elohim (in God's Image)

November 24
JCA Red Cross Blood Drive