



Congregation Beth Aaron/ 406-248-6412

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Photo by Rachel Schaffer, c. 2006

Calendar of Events

DECEMBER

Friday, December 11
6:00 p.m.: Chanukkah celebration; latkes and potluck to follow

JANUARY

January 15-17
Rabbi Elana is at CBA.

FEBRUARY

February 5-7
Rabbi Elana is at CBA.

February 26-28
Rabbi Elana is at CBA.



Photo courtesy Rachel Schaffer
Chanukkah 2015



Photo courtesy Rachel Schaffer
Chanukkah 2015: Amira Harper lights the Shabbat candles.

From the Student Rabbi : Hineini

וַיְהִי, אַחֲרֵי הַדְּבָרִים
הָאֵלֶּה, וַהֲאֱלֹהִים נִסּוּ אֶת אַבְרָהָם
וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים, וַיֹּאמֶר הִנְנִי.

And it was, after these things, that God tested Abraham. God called to him, "Abraham!" and [Abraham answered] "Hineini." Genesis 22:1

This poignant beginning to the text we read each Rosh Hashanah, the binding of Isaac, has meaning for us both at that time of reflection and throughout our year. At this time, when the cold penetrates to our very bones and the days are just beginning to lengthen, I want to suggest a slightly nuanced reading of this well-known text.

God calls to Abraham, and he answers. How many times does someone call us and we pick up the phone, fully aware of who is on the other line and simultaneously knowing we will not award them our undivided attention? Or how often do we drive

out of the driveway intending to go one place and realize we've actually arrived at a different destination? Intuition says: often! It's human to experience distraction and juggle about three or four things at a time.

But what if that's not how we should engage with the world? What if over time someone or something called to you, and you engaged with it fully? You set aside your mental clutter and attended to that person or thing? In Jewish texts, the term described is *l'chaven et libo*, to direct one's heart. This suggests that one must not just answer absentmindedly, but must fully engage his or her heart to answer with intention.

As the New Year unfolds, what will 2016 bring for you? What are you willing to commit to with your full presence? Will you answer the calls of others with a head nod towards them, or will you truly answer "Hineini," I am fully present and in the moment?

Student Rabbi Elana Nemitoff

Call for Adult Ed Topics!

Rabbi Elana would like to hear ideas from those interested in taking adult education classes about what topics and activities they would like over the

next few months: Jewish cooking? Jewish movie night? A game night? What else? Please let her know!

Need Doors?

Is anyone in need of four sliding doors, for a closet or other location? The design of the doors has not worked out well, so CBA is changing the look of the room and giving

members the first chance at the four oak sliding doors. For a donation to the building fund, the doors can be yours—one or all four, it's up to you. Contact AI for details.



Photo courtesy Rachel Schaffer
Chanukkah 2015: Jill Salsbury leads the service.



Photo by Rachel Schaffer, c. 2006

The deadline for submitting items for the February-March Temple Tablet is **Thursday, February 18**. Send items to the editor, Rachel Schaffer.

Candle-Lighting Times

Friday, Jan 1	4:22 p.m.
Friday, Jan 8	4:29 p.m.
Friday, Jan 15	4:38 p.m.
Friday, Jan 22	4:47 p.m.
Friday, Jan 29	4:57 p.m.
Friday, Feb 5	5:07 p.m.
Friday, Feb 12	5:18 p.m.
Friday, Feb 19	5:28 p.m.
Friday, Feb 26	5:38 p.m.
Friday, March 4	5:48 p.m.
Friday, March 11	5:57 p.m.
Friday, March 18	7:07 p.m.
Friday, March 25	7:16 p.m.
Friday, April 1	7:25 p.m.
Friday, April 8	7:34 p.m.
Friday, April 15	7:43 p.m.
PASSOVER	
Friday, April 22	7:53 p.m.
Friday, April 29	8:02 p.m.
Friday, May 6	8:11 p.m.

Torah Portions for December and January

- 12/5: Vayeshev** Pent. Gen. 37:1-40:23; Pr. Amos 2:6-3:8
- 12/12: Miketz** Pent. Gen. 41:1-44:17; Num. 7:42-47; Pr. Zech. 2:14-4:7
- 12/19: Vayigash** Pent. Gen. 44:18-47:27; Pr. Ezek. 37:15-28
- 12/26: Vayechi** Pent. Gen. 47:28-50:26; Pr. I Kings 2:1-12
- 1/2: Shemot** Pent. Ex. 1:1-6:1; Pr. Isa. 27:6-28:13; 29:22-23
- 1/9: Vaera** Pent. Ex. 6:2-9:35; Pr. Ezek. 28:25-29:21
- 1/16: Bo** Pent. Ex. 10:1-13:16; Pr. Jer. 46:13-28
- 1/23: Beshalach** Pent. Ex. 13:17-17:16; Pr. Judges 4:4-5:31
- 1/30: Yitro** Pent. Ex. 18:1-20:23; Pr. Isa. 6:1-7:6, 9:5-6

Rabbi Elana's Schedule of Visits

The remaining Student Rabbi visits for 2015-16 will be included in each Tablet. Any changes in Rabbi Elana's visits due to events at HUC will be indicated. Any other additions to our schedule will be noted here.

January 15-17 MLK Weekend
 February 5-7 Saturday service

February 26-28
 March 11-12
 April 1-3 Purim
 April 22-24 Passover
 May 6-8
 Unless otherwise announced, Religious School will be held on the weekends when Rabbi Elana is in town, 10:00 a.m. on Sunday morning.

Member News

- *A hearty CBA welcome goes to new member **Margo Haak!**
- *A huge mazel tov to **Melissa Roberts** and **Jon Rio** on welcoming their son, **David Harrison Rio**, into the world on November 25, 2015, at 4:54 p.m., in Southern Pines, NC, a healthy eight

pounds and five ounces and 22 inches long. Grandparents **Carol and Don Roberts** and **Heather and Andy Rio** are absolutely kvelling! Heather adds, "He's already crying with a southern accent!"

*A sincere refuah shlema to **Tricia Williams**. Tricia, we hope you are back on your feet very soon!

Thank You's

Sincere thanks go to Jill Salsbury for leading the Chanukkah service on December 11 so beautifully, and to everyone who brought latkes and other delicious dishes to share.

Thanks also go to Brian Schnitzer for

leading the Havdalah service on December 26, and to the Rio and Roberts families for the lovely oneg that followed, all in honor of Melissa Roberts Rio and Jon Rio and their new son David Harrison Rio.

Yahrzeits

In Jewish custom, the yahrzeit is the anniversary of a loved one's death according to the Hebrew calendar. The Hebrew date comes first; the civil date follows (and varies by year).

- Kislev**
- 22 (Dec 4): Sol Cohen, grandfather of Ellen Alweis
 Jenny Nemer Sibinger, daughter of Linda and Bob Nemer; sister of David Nemer; granddaughter of Zella and Maury Nemer
 Adam Sibinger, son-in-law of Linda and Bob Nemer
- 24 (Dec 6): Aaron Small, longtime member of CBA
- 25 (Dec 7): Goldie Sukin, mother of Jack and Bob Sukin, grandmother of Dean Sukin
- Tevet**
- 1 (Dec 13): Charles Elton Lund, father of Liz Barnea
- 11 (Dec 23): Ida Page, mother of Al Page
- 14 (Dec 26): Harvey Jaffe, uncle of Heather Rio
- 16 (Dec 28): Rose Silver, grandmother of Jack and Bob Sukin
 Harold G. Fink, father of Arthur Fink
- 17 (Dec 29): Zella Nemer, mother of Robert Nemer
- 18 (Dec 30): Isidore Duberstein, father of Lenny Duberstein
- 21 (Jan 2): Miriam Burstein, mother of Uri Barnea
- 22 (Jan 3): Eleanor M. Fink, mother of Arthur Fink
 Henry Myers, father of David Myers

- 24 (Jan 5): Beverly Small, member of CBA
 Louis Nodler, father of Marsha Selwyn
- 25 (Jan 6): Harold Fink, father of Arthur Fink
- 28 (Jan 9): Susan Hutcherson, mother of Cendri and Miri Hutcherson and Jill Hutcherson Salsbury
 Eleanor Fink, mother of Arthur Fink
- 29 (Jan 10): David Firestone, grandfather of Lisa Sukin
- Shevat**
- 1 (Jan 11): Alan L. Blair, brother of Julie Coleman Ford
- 9 (Jan 19): Esther Levy, mother of Julie Coleman Ford
- 14 (Jan 24): Harry Miller, grandfather of Don Alweis
- 15 (Jan 25): Edith Gold, grandmother of Brian Schnitzer
- 19 (Jan 29): Herbert Goodman, father of Stuart Goodman
- 21 (Jan 31): Nathan Samuels, grandfather of Rachel and Deborah Schaffer
- Feb 4: Bernard Schein, husband of Sally Schein, father of Lee Schein Kapelovitz
- 26 (Feb 7): Ann Sax, grandmother of Marc Blum

January 2016

December 2015	January 2016	February 2016
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5	1 2	1 2 3 4 5 6
6 7 8 9 10 11 12	3 4 5 6 7 8 9	7 8 9 10 11 12 13
13 14 15 16 17 18 19	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	14 15 16 17 18 19 20
20 21 22 23 24 25 26	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	21 22 23 24 25 26 27
27 28 29 30 31	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	28 29
	31	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1 New Year's Day	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 Rabbi Elana at CBA	16
17	18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Tu B'Shevat	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2 Groundhog Day	3	4	5	6

Adult Ed Classes

This winter/spring, Uri Barnea will again teach Adult Ed classes. Classes meet once a week, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., at the Lincoln Center. The offerings are Introduction to Judaism (six weeks) on Tuesdays, starting January 26; The Mystery of the Ten Commandments (five weeks) on Thursdays, starting January 28; Literary and Philosophical Aspects of the Hebrew Bible (six weeks) on Tuesdays, starting March 29; and The Biblical Prophets (six weeks) on Thursdays, starting March 31.

To enroll online, go to <http://www.billingsadultcommunityed.org>, or call 406-281-5000 or 281-5010, or stop at the Lincoln Center, room 107. Class catalogs are available at the *Billings Gazette* and/or the Lincoln Center.



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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.cbamt.org

Useful links on the Web:

URJ weekly Torah series
<http://urj.org/torah/#cprFor%20Webmasters>

Weekly newsletter of the
Reform movement
<http://urj.org/eneews/jta/>

Weekly "Ten Minutes of
Torah"
<http://urj.org/torah/ten/>

The March of the Living

Janet Tatz writes that her sister, Marcia Tatz Wollner, has led March of the Living trips to Poland and Israel for over 10 years. This is a great opportunity for any 11th-12th graders you may know.

The March of the Living is a two-week journey to Poland and Israel. In Poland, along with survivors, the teens visit Nazi concentration camps and become "witnesses" to the Holocaust. While in Poland, the teens commemorate Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, with a silent march between Auschwitz and Birkenau.

In Israel, the teens visit historic and contemporary sites to learn about the creation of the Jewish State, celebrating its existence and meaning of the continuity of the Jewish people. While in Israel, the teens observe Yom

HaZikaron, Israel's Memorial Day, and celebrate Yom HaAtzmaut, Israel's Independence Day.

Since its inception in 1988, this journey has become the world's single largest Jewish education program for 11th and 12th graders, attracting over 10,000 participants annually from all over the world.

The dates for this year's MOTL are May 1-May 15, 2016. The cost, including domestic travel is \$6375. Teens will be able to take the AP tests upon their return to the United States.

Applications are available on line, at <http://www.motlthewest.org>. For more information, contact Marcia Tatz Wollner, marcia@motlthewest.org, or (858) 395-3590.



Photo courtesy Brian Schnitzer
Rabbi Arthur P. Nemitoff and Rabbi Elana Nemitoff, at CBA the weekend of December 18-20, 2015.

CONGREGATION BETH AARON

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