

SEEING THE WORLD THROUGH JEWISH EYES

These are the ten goals that provide the focus for our

Jewish Identity Program, To See the World Through Jewish Eyes.

We hope that through shared study and experience,
all of us are able to continue to become:

- 1) Jews who affirm their Jewish identity and bind themselves inseparably to their people by word and deed.
- 2) Jews who bear witness to the *brit* (the covenant between God and the Jewish people) through the practice of *mitzvot* (commandments) as studied in Torah and the classic Jewish literature it has generated, and interpreted in light of historic development and contemporary liberal thought.
- 3) Jews who affirm their historic bond to *Eretz Yisrael*, the Land of Israel.
- 4) Jews who cherish and study Hebrew, the language of the Jewish People.
- 5) Jews who value and practice *tefilah* (prayer).
- 6) Jews who further the causes of justice, freedom and peace by pursuing *tzedek* (righteousness), *mishpat* (judgment), and *chesed* (loving deeds).
- 7) Jews who celebrate Shabbat and the festivals and observe the Jewish ceremonies marking the significant occasions in their lives.
- 8) Jews who esteem their own person and the person of others; their family and the family of others; their own community and the community of others.
- 9) Jews who express kinship with *K'lal Yisrael* by actively seeking the welfare of Jews throughout the world.
- 10) Jews who support and participate in the life of the synagogue.

We work towards helping each individual develop these key aspects of a Jewish identity through a series of programs designed for youth, for adults, and for entire families experiencing the richness of our Jewish heritage together.

OUR FAMILY OF FAMILIES

Congregation B'nai Yisrael is the
Jewish home we share. We are a
community creating positive experiences

with individuals of every age.

Congregation B'nai Yisrael is our
spiritual center, where together,
our family of families celebrates,
commemorates, worships, learns,
nurtures, gives, and grows.

We constantly strive to achieve the
beauty that comes from experiencing
the world through Jewish eyes.

CONGREGATION B'NAI YISRAEL

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CONGREGATION B'NAI YISRAEL

FOR YOUR FAMILY



Nurturing Jewish Identity
Experiences for our youngest
children and their families

2008-2009
5769

Seeing the World Through Jewish Eyes

Family Programs

Family Reorientation

Tuesday, September 8 – Sunday, September 21



Rosh Hashanah Family Services

Tuesday, September 30 – 2:30 p.m.



Yom Kippur Family Services

Thursday, October 9 – 2:30 p.m.



Sukkah Decoration & Family Dinner

Monday, October 13 – 4:00 p.m.



Simchat Torah

Celebration and Consecration

Monday, October 20 – 7:00 p.m.



Spending Shabbat Together:

Family Weekend in the Berkshires

Saturday, November 1 – Sunday, November 2



Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

at the Armonk Methodist Church

Tuesday, November 25 – 7:30 p.m.



Chanukah Family Celebration

Sunday, December 21



Nurturing Jewish Identity

Camp Program

at the Rosenthal JCC

Sunday, January 11



Appreciating Our Environment:

Tu B'Shevat Seder

Monday, February 9



Purim Spiel and Carnival

Sunday, March 8 – 11:00 a.m.



End of the Year Family Picnic

Sunday, May 17 – 11:00 a.m.



Program Schedule

TOT SHABBAT

Friday, once a month, 5:30- 6:30 p.m.

Begins Oct 17 (Nov 21, Dec 19, Jan 23, Feb 13, Mar 20,
Apr 17, May 22)

Bring your youngest children to share in the delight of Shabbat. Through experiences for all the senses, through song and food and activity, we will explore the ways in which our weekly Shabbat can be meaningful for you and your children.

KINDERGARTEN

Sundays, once a month, 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Begins Oct 19 (Nov 9, Dec 7, Jan 11, Feb 8, Mar 8,
Apr 19, May 10)

Our parents and their children come together to participate in shared activities that begin to forge the foundation of a Jewish identity. Through interactive programs and shared times, families will have an opportunity to provide for their kindergarteners a promising and exciting beginning to their life of Jewish study.

1ST AND 2ND GRADERS

Sundays, 9:30 -11:00 a.m.

Begins Oct 19

Sunday mornings are times for the whole family at Congregation B'nai Yisrael. We begin together with a healthy pancake breakfast prepared by the many families in our community. As we move towards time of Jewish study, families learn about those values that are fundamental in building a Jewish identity. There are sessions for parents, for children, and for parents and children together: all of these make up a unique program that allows our younger children to discover Jewish meaning in their lives together with their families.

Integrating Shabbat Into Your Life...

The most fundamental experience for Jewish communities has always been Shabbat. The rhythm of Shabbat is the heartbeat of the Jewish people, anchoring our every week. Guarding sacred times with our families is central to our Jewish tradition. Especially in our community where the work ethic is so strong, the need for a Shabbat of rest and family time becomes all the more important.

Shabbat is for everyone. In our community we begin at home, when we share sacred time together around our version of the ancient altar: the family table. Following the meal, we travel together to services. In our services we reach out together for the faith to repair our world and learn of our tradition. Shabbat instills the values of our tradition in our children. When we sit together for worship, we form potent memories of sharing time *as a family*. When our children leave the sanctuary during the sermon, it is for a linked activity; we learn the same lessons so we can discuss them with each other.

We at B'nai Yisrael strive to heighten the meaning of all that we do. With that goal in our hearts, we encourage you to take the holiest day of the Jewish year and make the most out of it for your family.