



Rabbi Morris Zimbalist

Visit us at www.Montebellojc.org / Call us at (845)-357-2430

President Richard Orlando
Cantor Michelle Freedman

HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR SHUL

Our congregational family provides a myriad of opportunities for you to celebrate Judaism with wonderful people in a warm and energetic environment. Below are a few of the highlights of our shul:

Religious Services: Every morning, we begin our day together as a congregation and a community with *Shacharit*. Friday evening Shabbat services are always fun, participatory and very family oriented. Children are encouraged to come up to the *bima* and help Rabbi Zimbalist lead services, while the adults lead a variety of English readings. Saturday morning services are filled with the joy and *ruach* expected on Shabbat. The service is conducted by Rabbi Zimbalist, who also reads the Torah and delivers the sermon, but the service leadership - our *daveners* and service participants - comes from the talented greater MJC community. Friday services are always followed by a wonderful *oneg*, and Saturday services are followed by a delicious Kiddush luncheon.

Hebrew School: Our Hebrew school provides a quality Jewish education for children in grades K-7. Our Board of Education and parents play an integral role in the school and are greatly involved in our special programs throughout the year. At MJC, we try to imbue all of our youth with a sense of community that enables them to grow into responsible and knowledgeable Jewish adults. We are very excited to welcome our new Director, Michelle Freedman!

Nursery School: Montebello Jewish Center's Nursery School aims to provide stimulating, nurturing experiences in a supportive and loving Jewish environment to help our children develop intellectually, socially, physically, spiritually and emotionally. The school offers mommy-and-me classes for ages 4-10 months and 10-24+ months, nursery school classes for ages 2, 3 and 4/Pre-K, an array of afternoon enrichment classes, and a summer camp. We are also pleased to be a part of the Universal Pre-Kindergarten program as a site for Ramapo Central School District. The MJC Nursery School offers a great discount for families who are members of MJC.

Adult Education: Our adult education program includes regular classes in Talmud, Bible, Hebrew, and other topics of interest. Although classes are typically scheduled to last 45 minutes, oftentimes the joy of study leads to many late evenings together. We also provide wonderful programming for Yom HaShoah and Yom HaAtzmaut. In Fall 2008, we will be starting an Adult Bat Mitzvah class.

Ritual Committee: As an Egalitarian Conservative synagogue, it is our goal to make sure we follow the laws and traditions of the Conservative movement while being inclusive of all its members and to

bring meaning and *ruach* to our Shabbat and holiday services. Ritual is the rock, the foundation for all that is done at MJC. Guided by our *Chevr* *Kadisha* (Cemetery Committee), MJC also maintains its own cemetery.

Sisterhood: Sisterhood enhances our MJC community by adding beauty to the synagogue with Bima flowers, and *ruach* to the holidays with snacks for the children, cards and Purim *mishloach manot*. We provide programming that enriches the lives of our membership including guest speakers on various topics of interest. The women who participate are phenomenal, and we range from young moms to retirees.

Men's Club: Our Men's Club supports all temple activities while engaging our members in events such as monthly breakfasts with speakers, Super Bowl Party, Back to School Barbeque, Mother's Day brunch, and so much more. We also take great pride in participating in the Yom HaShoah Yellow Candle Program.

Youth Group: Our Ruach, Kadima and USYers are energized with great activities such as dances, International Convention, Shabbat weekend, trips to New York City, movie

nights, snow tubing and everything a child and young adult could want. We try to create an environment where lifelong friendships are born and Jewish traditions and values are maintained.

Young Couples Club: A wonderful opportunity for MJC's younger members to meet and socialize. The YCC hosts fun programs on a monthly basis, parties and dinners at members' homes, holiday celebrations, and nights out on the town. Events are geared towards couples ages 45 and younger, but all couples who are "young at heart" are welcome to attend.

Special Programming: Montebello Jewish Center is fortunate to have a dynamic and excited membership who develop fabulous programs and special events throughout the year. Annual events include; meaningful services on significant dates in both the Jewish and secular calendars, the Journal Dinner Dance, Congregational Shabbat dinners, and lectures given by renowned scholars and distinguished lay leaders.