



C O N G R E G A T I O N

Netivot Shalom

NOVEMBER, 2001 • HESHVAN/KISLEV 5762

From The Rabbi: "... And to the Entire World"

By Rabbi Stuart Kelman

I'm writing this column on the day after Simchat Torah. To say the least, this has been a most trying period of time for all of us. Not only did we have to deal with our usual business of introspection, prayer and celebration, but we were also faced with the horrors of September 11. Many of us found that being in a house of worship was the logical and comforting place to be. It was a location where we could ground ourselves in the context of a tradition that spans centuries and geography and be with others who share common values and existence.

Leon Wieseltier wrote in the October 8 issue of the *New Republic*:

If it makes sense to call on religion in times of trouble, it is not because religion abolishes spiritual pain, but because religion acknowledges spiritual pain. When all the political and military and economic and psychological and cultural analysis of the slaughter are exhausted, there remains the question of the justice of the world. Whether or not it has a religious answer, this is a religious question. About this question it is not easy to be brilliant. Silence is often a surer sign of mental progress than is articulateness. For some people a house of worship is useful for such reflection because it is God's house; but there are those who repair to a house of worship because it is Job's house, and therefore the natural setting for their objection to the order of things.

On Friday evening, September 15, many of us gathered for a Kabbalat Shabbat/Maariv service at the shul library. We

typically have this service conducted in the neighborhoods rather than have one communal service. In the past we have tried to organize a communal Friday evening service, but it never seemed to gather enough momentum to continue. This evening, however, four days after the 11th, seemed to be an opportunity for all of us to come together. If my memory is correct, around 60 people came to that service. For me, it was an extraordinary evening — not only for the fact that we came together in unity, but for a particular liturgical experience, which I was able to share with everyone who was present.

It concerned the last and very familiar line of the kaddish: "*Oseh shalom bimromav, hu ya'aseh shalom,aleynu v'al kol yisrael, v'imru: amen*" — "May the One who brings peace to the universe bring peace to us and to all Israel. And respond with: Amen." This is the end of a prayer of praise to the Almighty for peace and wholeness. In other *siddurim* I have seen an addition to this last verse. Four words have been added: "*v'al kol yoshvei tevel*" — "and to the entire world". So now, the whole verse reads: "*Oseh shalom bimromav, hu ya'aseh shalom, aleinu al kol yisrael, v'al kol yoshvei tevel, v'imru: amen*" — "May the One who brings peace to the universe bring peace to us, to all Israel, and to the entire world. And respond with: Amen."

From that September 15 Shabbat evening onward, I needed to express the prayer that God bring peace not only to us (the nuclear family), and to *Yisrael* (the extended family), but also to the entire

family of people on this Earth. I felt we had lost a connection with the rest of the world, and that suddenly I was confronted with the hope and desire to include the entire "global village" as part of my concluding prayer for wholeness. I may live in Berkeley, but I certainly have felt the pain and anguish of those in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania as well as that of our brothers and sisters in Israel. All of us are in need of wholeness, for ourselves and for all of humanity.

I have seen this version of the kaddish in many liberal *siddurim*. I also remember seeing it in the *Siddur V'ani Tefilati*, the siddur recently issued by the Masorti (Conservative) Movement in Israel. Whether or not this becomes an 'official' position of the Conservative Movement, there are clear indications of its acceptance worldwide. Speaking personally, I need to add these words when I say kaddish. These are words of hope and not anguish, of potential and of a not-yet reality that I am prepared to work for. These are words of *bakasha* (request from God) and words of awakening for me and my community. As is our custom at Netivot Shalom, the *shaliach tzibur* will decide whether to include these words when leading us at shul.

May these words lead us to a new reality of *shalom*—for us, for Israel and for all humanity. ✨





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Deadline for the December newsletter is **November 13**. E-mail submissions and Letters To The Editor to: newsletter@netivotshalom.org.

TEFILAH SCHEDULE

SATURDAYS

All services are held at the Berkeley-Richmond Jewish Community Center 1414 Walnut Street, Berkeley

Torah Study 9:00 a.m.

Shabbat Services 9:45 a.m.

Meditative Minyan,
3rd Shabbat
November 17 9:30 a.m.

Learner's Minyan,
2nd & 4th Shabbat
November 10, 24 9:45 a.m.

For Children & Parents:
Shabbat B'Yachad, (pre-school)
2nd & 4th Shabbat
November 10, 24 11:00 a.m.

Shabbat Shelanu, (grades k-2)
1st & 3rd Shabbat
November 3, 17 11:30 a.m.

Children's Service
for k-2nd grade 11:30 a.m.
(2nd & 4th Shabat)
for 3-6th grade 10:30 a.m.
each Saturday, unless otherwise indicated.

WEEKDAY MINYANIM

All services are held at our offices, 1841 Berkeley Way, Berkeley

Morning Minyan
Wednesdays 7:15 a.m.

Rosh Chodesh Minyan
Rosh Chodesh Kislev,
November 16 7:15 a.m.

TORAH STUDY & DRASH SCHEDULE FOR: NOVEMBER

- 3 Torah Study of **Vayera** with Rabbi Art Gould
- 10 Torah Study of **Hayyei Sara** with Nitzhia Shaked
Drash by Rabbi Kelman
- 17 Torah Study of **Toldot** with Gershom Cox
- 24 Torah Study of **Va Yetze** with Nitzhia Shaked
Drash by Yona Rappaport, Bat Mitzvah

President's Letter

As our lives return to some sense of normal — though we all feel our lives altered by the tragedies on September 11th and events since — I've been moved and encouraged by an addition to the last line of the kaddish that Rabbi Kelman, and many other rabbis, have begun to use. The line now says, "*Oseh shalom bimromav, hu ya'aseh shalom, aleinu al kol yisrael, v'al kol yoshvei tevel, v'nomar amen.*" "God who brings peace to the universe will bring peace to us and to all the people Israel, and to all humankind, and let us say Amen." This insertion of four words serves to remind us that we are members of the community of the world, and I've found myself adding them to the last line in the silent *Amidah*. Most people with whom I've spoken in the weeks since September 11th have talked about the need to do *something* in response to these horrific events, and many have actively done so by doing things such as donating blood or money. Just as many of our rituals serve to make the mundane holy, by adding these words to the Kaddish we elevate our hopes for peace by adding this spiritual piece.

Over the Shabbat weekend during Sukkot, Rom, Avi and I attended the first ever Mosaic Family Camp, a gathering of multi-ethnic and multi-racial Jewish families. Twenty-six families from the Greater Bay Area attended this weekend, in which we discovered the wonderful diversity that makes up our larger Jewish community. Adam Weisberg and Rachel Brodie, along with Sofia, Ariella and Rachel's mother, Deborah, were also there — Adam and Rachel capably serving as Jewish educators, adding an extra Netivot Shalom flavor to the weekend. We reveled in the beauty of the high Sierras at Camp Tawonga, prayed, learned, met and became friends with families like ours, and thoroughly enjoyed the Peet's coffee that is always served at Tawonga. It seems that we are constantly defining the different communities in which we have membership.

Our Netivot Shalom community is reaching another milestone. On **Sunday, November 11th** we will have our special congregational meeting at which the design subgroup of the Site Work Group will present the plans that they have developed for our new home at 1316 University Avenue. This is an exciting and auspicious time in our development as a synagogue community, and I encourage all of you to attend. The meeting will be held at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Street, from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Childcare will be provided at the shul office.

At times I hear from members that they wish they felt more connected to the synagogue. This is a situation that's easily remedied, because Netivot Shalom offers so many ways to become involved. Whether it's volunteering to sit on one of our standing committees, taking classes offered by our Adult Education Committee, sponsoring a kiddush or being a Shabbat Greeter — all of these afford our members opportunities to meet other members of the community and to connect in new and exciting ways. The Nominating Committee, which will suggest members to take Committee Chair and Board positions being vacated, is being formed now. If you are interested in speaking with the committee about openings, please contact me either by e-mail (president@netivotshalom.org) or by calling me (525-1814). I will be sure to pass that information along to the Nominating Committee.

As the echoes of Yamim Nora'im settle, let us remember the resolutions we made to change ourselves, our community, and yes, *kol yoshvei tevel*.

Debby Graudenz
President

COMMUNITY

Mature Mavens

Monday, November 12

7:00 p.m.

At the home of
Noah & Hope Alper

Topic

Long-Term Health Care
Insurance:

What is it?

How much does it cost?

Is it right for me?

Speakers

Karen Fletcher, with HICAP
Mike Jarnagin, an Insurance
Broker in Oakland

For more information and
directions, call Jean
Bradman at 549-3231.

Thank You Yamim Nora'im Ushers!

By Jeanne Reisman

Usher Coordinator 5762 Yamim Nora'im

Today *rabah* to the following usher captains and ushers, who volunteered to help during Yamim Nora'im:

Usher Captains: Robin Keller & Mark Geliebter, Andy Cohen, Ken Stanton, Karen & Steve Bovarnick, Jonathan & Heidi Wexler, Sanne & Hugh DeWitt, Ken & Denise Schnur, Michele Rappaport

Ushers: Mark Geliebter, Joanna Weinberg, David Levine, Margot Lucoff, David Hirsch, Ellen & Chuck Wunderlich, Sam Salkin, Leah Fischer, Laura Sheppard, Shelli Million, Carol Dorf, Ruth Morris, Norm Rosenblatt, Ethel Murphy, Hadara Stanton, Kathy Khuner, Jurgen Bernhardt, Joan Schwartz, Marilyn Markowitz, Bob & June Safran, Miriam Moussaioff, Andrew Greenberg, Jaime Levin, Janis Burger, Jeff Rosenbloom, Linda Blachman, Lydia Brose, Dr. Perry & Malke Scheinok, Lisa Harbus, Djedi Mateen, Carol Cunradi, Brad Rudolph, Joe Meresman, Barbara Staman, Josh Buchin, Emma Schnur, Noah Schnur, Michele Rappaport, Leonid Plotkin, Leslie Levy, Sanne & Hugh DeWitt, Joni Miller, Florence Lewis, Gene Bardach, Alex Madonik, Dale Friedman, David Marcus, Alison Jordan, Andrew Kahn, Ernst Valfer, Michael Melzer, Barbara Wezelman, Grant Edystone, Jonathan & Heidi Wexler, Peter Warhaftig.

Apologies to anyone who ushered and was not included in this list.

Shalom Bayit: How Do We Get There?

A WORKSHOP FOR NETIVOT SHALOM COUPLES

Each session will include discussion and practical tools for enhancing your relationship with your partner!

Topics: Exploring Differences
Understanding Your Partner
Moving Toward Harmony

Led By: Hilda Kessler, Ph.D.
• 30 years experience working with couples
• author of *Treating Couples*

Sunday Mornings:

November 18, December 16,
& January 20

10:00-11:30 a.m.

At the home of Hilda Kessler

Space is limited! Register by calling Hilda Kessler at 525-3582.

Childcare available at the shul offices. RSVP a must!

Welcome New Members of Netivot Shalom!

We are delighted to welcome new members to our congregation who have joined since July of this year.

Judith Abelson
Toby Adelman
Michelle &
Shahpour (Sasha) Akhavi
Susan Graubard Archuletta
Abigail Augus
Ysaaca Axelrod
Stanley Brandes
Aaron Burstein
Eric & Heike Friedman
Barbara Fritz
Matthew Gill
Andra Lichtenstein Glover
Jerami Goldschen
Andrew Greenberg &
Miriam Moussaioff
Rabbi Edward Harwitz
Cynthia Hoffman &
Jane Credland
Maurice Horwitz
Brie Johnson

Rita Largman
Michael & Marilyn Levi
Laura Lipman
D'jedi Mateen &
Deidre Ward
Bat Sheva Miller
David Radwin &
Kara N. Vuicich
Melissa Rogoway
Dr. Perry &
Malka Scheinok
Daniel Schifrin &
Abby Friedman
Sara Leya Schley
Ruth & Jerry Shorer
Shalva & Avraham Sorani
Nina Spiegel
Debbie Weinstein &
David Paulson
Hugo & Laura Wildmann

ברוכים הבאים!

COMMITTEES

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Building Community in Difficult Times

By Cyndi Spindell Berck

It is hard to know how to respond to the terrible events of September 11. The Social Action Committee can't address the big questions of war and peace, because we are committed to working on issues on which there is substantial consensus in the congregation. We keep coming back to our own backyard. We can seek peace at home by working for cooperation and understanding in our own community.

Add two more innocent victims to the death toll of September 11 — the two murder victims who apparently were targeted because of their nationality (one was Yemeni, the other Indian). Fortunately, many people have been speaking out against acts of violence and harassment toward Americans who practice Islam or appear to be Middle Eastern.

This gives me a chance to introduce the newest member of our committee, Jonathan Klein, who is looking for ways to build bridges with the Muslim community in the East Bay. He poses the question: Can we get to know each other as people of faith despite our political differences? Jon has been in contact with an imam who is an African-American Muslim. Jon also contacted the Jewish Community Relations Council and learned that they are planning interfaith activities.

Jon also has volunteered to take the lead on planning Sukkot in April (Rebuilding Together). Ednah Friedman also will help organize our participation in this annual project to fix up the home of a low-income senior, hopefully in our new neighborhood.

Another volunteer project has been suggested by a member of our congregation who shall remain nameless until I talk him into officially taking the lead on this great idea. Would anyone be interested in participating in a "Mitzvah Day" — a day to send volunteers into the community on various projects? Please start calling and e-mailing me at (510) 524-2984 or cyndiberck@hotmail.com so we can get a preliminary sense of who is interested.

Death Penalty Update

By Alex Madonik

I want to encourage everyone to visit the California Moratorium website: <http://www.californiamoratorium.org> to learn more about the issue and to sign the Moratorium petition. The list of Moratorium endorsers includes over 30,000 California residents, along with several city governments and local religious communities such as Kehilla Congregation. The Campaign's goal is to collect more than 100,000 signatures by mid 2002, in order to compel the California Legislature to seriously consider a Moratorium resolution.

Some might say that the death penalty is a distraction during this period of crisis precipitated by the terrorist attacks of September 11th, but it should be more clear than ever that the death penalty does NOT deter crime, and that the continued use of the death penalty in the U.S. lowers our standing among the world's democracies that we count as friends. At our last meeting the Bay Area Death Penalty Action Team put it this way: "Against the Death Penalty. Now more than ever." For more information, please contact Alex Madonik at 510-527-6382 or at madonika@home.com.

Next meeting of the Social Action Committee Tuesday, November 6, 7:00 p.m.

1048 Keith, Berkeley (btw. Spruce & Euclid) Call 524-2984 for information.

THE UNIVERSITY AVENUE SITE WORK GROUP:

Unveiling the Plan

By Joe Meresman,
Site Work Group Chair

On October 28th the Board approved the final design plan for the University Avenue site, after many months of effort by the Site Work Group to evaluate and integrate an enormous set of functional, spiritual, aesthetic and financial considerations. We are very pleased to be able to present this plan to the membership at large at the full congregational meeting on **Sunday, November 11 from 10:00 a.m. to noon.** Everyone is encouraged to attend.

At this meeting the Site Work Group will display an architectural drawing of the building and grounds, explain the use of each space and answer any questions you may have. As I've explained in previous newsletters, dozens of representatives from all shul functions were closely involved in each step of the design process, ensuring that the plan you will see at the meeting, which is now final and no longer subject to major revision, is the one that best meets Netivot Shalom's needs. There are more development phases to come, including bidding for contractors, construction and furnishing and interior decorating. Opportunities for you to become involved in those phases will also be discussed.

I look forward to a Standing Room Only crowd at this very exciting meeting. See you there!

If you have comments or suggestions for the Site Work Group, please contact me at Meresmanj@aol.com.

Celebrate a Simcha!!

Sponsor a kiddush! Contact the Kiddush Coordinator, Janet Harris, at 524-2245 and at janeth2@aol.com.

COMMITTEES

RITUAL COMMITTEE

Full Parasha Readings Begin in November

By Josh Gressel, Ritual Chair

Many of you remember that the Ritual Committee decided several months ago to try reading the full parasha once per month for a six month experimental period.

I'm happy to report the first full reading will be **November 17, Parashat Toldot**. It will be followed by full readings on *Parashat Vayechi* (**December 29**) and *Parashat Yitro* (**February 2, 2002**). The remaining

three parashot have not yet been chosen. We are navigating around holidays, Bar/Bat Mitzvot, and exceptionally long parashot for our experimental dates. For this reason, it will not work out to exactly one time per month, but we hope to have six full readings within an eight-month period. Please let me know (by phone, e-mail or in person) how you feel about these services — your input will be a key

component in letting us know whether to continue, expand or discontinue this experiment.

MEDITATIVE MINYAN

The meditative minyan has been meeting on the third Saturday of each month for several years now. It is currently led by the sweet voice and gentle soul of Hillel (aka Robert) Lester. I realize that this service has an appeal only to a minority of congregants, but it is to you (the mystical, meditative minority) that I am directing these comments. Where are you? Why aren't you coming? Each time I ask people who used to come why they aren't attending, I will usually hear "I forgot" or "I keep meaning to." If there is some more specific reason, please let me know and I will see if it can be dealt with. I consider this minyan's survival to be very important to the general *kavanna* of our synagogue. If you haven't tried it, please do: it is a wonderful, peaceful way to enter into prayer. I would attend every week if it met every week. We meet at 9:30 a.m. in Room 14 and finish just before Torah Service. Next meditative minyan is **November 17**.

NEW DRASH COORDINATOR

Helen Schneider has stepped down after three years of devoted service as drash coordinator. During Helen's tenure, we were treated to high quality sermons from new and veteran congregants. Helen stepped down with a two-month list prepared for her successor, and I would like to thank her on behalf of the Ritual Committee and the congregation for her years at the helm.

Replacing Helen will be Rena Fischer. Rena graciously answered my call to the Ritual Committee to take on this responsibility, after coordinating the selection and purchase of our new Etz Haim *chumashim*. I thought it was

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

Hebrew and the Elements

I somehow managed to get through 24 years of formal education without ever taking chemistry. So I need all the help I can get when it comes to understanding the elements, and some help comes from Hebrew. The Hebrew words used for the different elements share roots with other Hebrew words and the interconnection between them makes sense of what they are and what they do. For example:

Chamtzan (Oxygen): Three-letter root Chet, Mem Tzadik is common to *chometz* (vinegar), *chamutz* (sour), and *chametz* (what we don't eat on Passover). What all of these have in common is the chemical process that occurs when something is exposed to air (it was initially thought the oxygen in the air, but it's actually the hydrogen).

Chankan (Nitrogen): Three-letter root Chet, Nun, Kuf is common to the word *chanak* (strangled) and *nichnak* (suffocated). Exposure to only nitrogen results in suffocation.

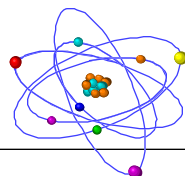
Mayman (Hydrogen): Three-letter root Mem, Yod, Mem is common with *mayim* (water) and even I know that water is composed of two parts hydrogen and one part *chamtzan*.

Pachman (carbon): Three-letter root Peh, Chet, Mem is common to *pacham* (coal), *pachmaymot* (carbohydrates: carbon + hydrates = *pachman* + *mayman*) and in shortened form *piach* (soot). Coal and soot obviously have carbon as a central ingredient.

Gophrit (sulfur): Three-letter root Gimmel, Peh, Resh is common to *gaphrur* (match), which uses sulfur in its tip.

Zarchan (phosphorus): Three-letter root Zayin, Resh, Chet is the same as for *zorach* (shines or glows), which is what phosphorus does.

— Josh Gressel



important that the drash coordinator be from our committee, as the drash is a central part of our service: it is the longest section in English (and thus the best understood by the most people) and it is given when the most people are present. If you are interested/willing in giving a drash, call or e-mail Rena (510-658-8713, renaf@itsa.ucsf.edu) and she'll get you signed up.

LAST BUT NOT LEAST DEPARTMENT

I realize you're reading this at least a month after Yamim Nora'im are over, but I'm writing this just after Yom Kippur. I can't miss the opportunity to single out a few people whom I believe can't get enough recognition for what they've done.

Deborah Lobel and Wendy Rosov have been putting together the Yamim Nora'im services for five years and three years, respectively. It is easy, when someone does something for a long time, to begin to take it for granted. If anything, it in some ways becomes harder, because it becomes more of a chore and less of a challenge.

Debby takes care of the organizational aspect of the holydays, all the thousands of details from who-has-what-honor-on-what-day-on-what-page, to negotiating space with Northbrae and Epworth churches, to coordinating the details of the times that are printed on the tickets you receive.

Wendy constructs the separate services, balancing the talents of the congregational leaders and Torah readers with the nature of the services, male/female ratio, who did it last year vs. who should get a turn this year, and numerous other delicate but highly important decisions. Both begin work six months ahead of time and essentially sacrifice their Yamim Nora'im experience to make sure things run right. Any of us who saw what they did from up close are filled with both admiration for their mastery of detail and complexity, as well as appreciation for the amount of time and personal sacrifice involved.

It is also easy to overlook the people who get "paid" to do what they do, namely Rabbi Kelman and Peggy Sandel. I believe in many ways it's easier to be a volunteer at the synagogue than a paid staff member, because you never get paid enough to do what you do. In addition, getting paid sets up an expectation that no matter what you do, you're just doing what you should be doing. Rabbi Kelman must be "on" for as much as 14 hours straight, a constant "provider" for the congregation, not only during the services but for all the people who want/need his attention during the breaks. He too does not get to pray in the way we do, because of his perpetual public role. Peggy Sandel as Ritual Coordinator (in my view the second most important job in the synagogue) logs many hours creating all the extra services required, such as Sukkot and Simchat Torah. This happens when everyone is already fried by Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur. In addition, many of these holidays are mid-week, when the pool of available people is much smaller.

All four of these people were key to the holidays being what they were for all of us: *Todah Rabah!* ✨

NOVEMBER 11, 10:00 a.m.-noon
Congregational meeting at the
North Berkeley Senior Center
to discuss the design for our
new home!

Summary of Board Meeting on 9/30/01

Report from the Adult Education Committee:

Jonathan Heinstejn provided the Board with a summary of ongoing and upcoming Adult Education programs.

- Jonathan reported on cooperation between the Adult Education Committee and the Ritual Committee with regard to *Shlichei HaTzibur* (people who *daven* and read Torah). They envision a closer coordinated relationship between the two committees to provide for future education and tutoring of current and prospective Shabbat service leaders, including participation in evaluation and training programs. After discussion, the Board unanimously agreed to in principal accept the recommendations of the Adult Education and Ritual Committees to create a synagogue program to educate and prepare congregation members to lead services. The Board asked the combined committees to prepare a budget for the 2001-02 program year for the February/March budget discussions.

Report from the Youth Education Committee:

- Andrea Altschuler reviewed the growth, leadership and creativity involved in the K'tanim, Shabbat B'Yachad, Shabbat Shelanu and Amitim programs. She recognized many fine leaders and volunteers, whose names appear in the written report she provided.

President's Report:

- The Capital Campaign is progressing. We have two more months of consultation with Stan Moore, whose contract runs through the end of November. The Campaign Chairs are considering options for continuing tracking pledges once Stan's contract concludes. We will give up the Campaign office on Martin Luther King, as we will only need someone in Adam Brown's capacity for about 10 hours per week.
- Mike Rosenheimer has taken over administering the Rosenheimer Camp Scholarship Fund. He has developed bylaws, which were presented to the Board.
- George Gidal is preparing guidelines for liaison by Board members with Committee Chairs. He was unable to attend the meeting tonight, and will present these at the meeting in October.

Treasurer's Report:

- Eugene Berg reported that he and Lauri Abrahamsen (our bookkeeper) have developed systems for accurate recording of expenses and receipts.
- We have begun using CivicBank of Commerce as our main bank, and have transferred funds from former financial institutions into our accounts at CivicBank.

November 2001

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

<p>Unless otherwise stated, all Saturday morning activities take place at the BRJCC (1414 Walnut St.) and all other activities take place at the Netivot Shalom offices (1841 Berkeley Way).</p>			
<p>4 18 Heshvan</p> <p>10:00 am SB'Y & K-2 Storytelling workshop for parents 10:00 am Youth Ed. Committee meeting</p> <p>7:00 pm "Israel in Dialogue", Tom Segev and Yossi Klein Halevi, at the BRJCC</p>	<p>5 19 Heshvan</p> <p>7:30 pm Adult Education: Ethics in the Bible, with Nitzhia Shaked</p>	<p>6 20 Heshvan</p> <p>7:30 pm Advanced Talmud class: Ilana Fodiman – Makkot</p>	<p>7 21 Heshvan</p> <p>7:15 am Morning Minyan</p> <p>7:30 pm Hebrew class 7:30 pm Haftorah Trope for Beginners, with Jan Fischer</p>
<p>11 25 Heshvan</p> <p>10:00 am Congregational Meeting at the North Berkeley Senior Center 12:00 pm (or when the Congr. Mtg. concludes) Adult Education Committee meeting in the shul office 5:00 pm Executive Committee meeting 7:00 pm Ritual Committee meeting</p>	<p>12 26 Heshvan</p> <p>7:00 pm Mature Mavins, at the Alper's home</p> <p>7:30 pm Adult Education: Ethics in the Bible, with Nitzhia Shaked</p>	<p>13 27 Heshvan</p> <p>7:30 pm Talmud & Advanced Talmud class: Rabbi Kelman – Brachot Ilana Fodiman – Makkot</p> <p>7:30 pm University Ave. Work Site Committee meeting</p>	<p>14 28 Heshvan</p> <p>7:15 am Morning Minyan</p> <p>6:15 pm Teachers Inservice 7:30 pm Hebrew class 7:30 pm Trope for Beginners, with Jan Fischer</p>
<p>18 3 Kislev</p> <p>9:00 am Shalom Bayit at Hilda Kessler's home 9:30 am Midrasha Parent/Student Study Brunch 10:00 am K'Tanim 10:00 am Controversies in the Siddur #5</p>	<p>19 4 Kislev</p> <p>7:30 pm Adult Education: Ethics in the Bible, with Nitzhia Shaked</p>	<p>20 5 Kislev</p> <p>7:30 pm Talmud & Advanced Talmud class: Rabbi Kelman – Brachot Ilana Fodiman – Makkot</p>	<p>21 6 Kislev</p> <p>7:15 am Morning Minyan</p> <p>NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL</p>
<p>25 10 Kislev</p> <p>5:00 pm Board of Directors meeting</p>	<p>26 11 Kislev</p> <p>7:30 pm Adult Education: Ethics in the Bible, with Nitzhia Shaked</p>	<p>27 12 Kislev</p> <p>7:30 pm Talmud & Advanced Talmud class: Rabbi Kelman – Brachot Ilana Fodiman – Makkot</p>	<p>28 13 Kislev</p> <p>7:15 am Morning Minyan</p> <p>7:30 pm Hebrew class</p> <p>7:30 pm Trope for Beginners with Jan Fischer</p>
<p>december 2 17 Kislev</p> <p>10:00 am Youth Ed. Committee meeting 10:00 am Controversies in the Siddur #6 10:00 am SB'Y & K-2 Hanukkah Celebration, at the BRJCC 7:30 pm Adult Ed Committee meeting 7:30 pm Ritual Committee meeting</p>	<p>december 3 18 Kislev</p> <p>7:30 pm Adult Education: Ethics in the Bible, with Nitzhia Shaked</p>	<p>december 4 19 Kislev</p> <p>7:30 pm Talmud & Advanced Talmud class: Rabbi Kelman – Brachot Ilana Fodiman – Makkot</p>	<p>december 5 20 Kislev</p> <p>7:15 am Morning Minyan 11:30 am Regional Rabbinical Assembly meeting, in the library 7:30 pm Hebrew class 7:30 pm Haftorah Trope for Beginners</p>

Heshvan-Kislev 5762

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

<p>1 15 Heshvan</p>	<p>2 16 Heshvan</p> <p>4:52 pm Candle Lighting</p>	<p>3 17 Heshvan</p> <p>9:00 am Torah Study of Vayera with Rabbi Art Gould 9:45 am SHABBAT SERVICES 10:30 am Religious School, grades K-6 11:30 am Shabbat B'Yachad & Shabbat Shelanu, room 14 Kiddush sponsored by Judy Radousky & Iris Greenbaum, in honor of Claudia Valas and all the participants in the creation of the Shabbat B'Yachad Siddur and Leader's Guide</p>
<p>8 22 Heshvan</p>	<p>9 23 Heshvan</p> <p>4:45 pm Candle Lighting</p>	<p>10 24 Heshvan</p> <p>9:00 am Torah Study of Hayei Sara with Nitzhia Shaked 9:45 am Learner's Minyan, Room 14, with Rabbi Kelman 9:45 am *SHABBAT SERVICES; drash by Rabbi Kelman, about the new humash commentary 10:30 am Religious School, Grades K-6 11:00 am Shabbat B'Yachad, Room 14 Kiddush sponsored by Claudia Valas & Carl Buchin, in honor of Joshua & Kyla's birthdays 1:30-3:30 pm Gender & Judaism Lecture Series, with Ilana Fodiman, at the BRJCC *We plan on introducing our new humash, <i>Etz Chayim</i></p>
<p>15 29 Heshvan</p> <p>7:30 pm Adult B'nai Mitzvah class</p>	<p>16 1 Kislev</p> <p><u>Rosh Hodesh Kislev</u></p> <p>7:15 am Rosh Hodesh Minyan 4:40 pm Candle Lighting</p>	<p>17 2 Kislev</p> <p>9:00am Torah Study of Toldot, with Gershom Cox 9:30am Meditative Minyan, Room 14 9:45 am SHABBAT SERVICES 10:30 am Religious School for Grades K-6 11:30 am Shabbat Shelanu, Room 14 4:30 pm Oneg Shabbat at the Kelmans' home</p>
<p>22 7 Kislev</p> <p>THANKSGIVING-OFFICE IS CLOSED</p>	<p>23 8 Kislev</p> <p>OFFICE IS CLOSED</p> <p>4:36 pm Candle Lighting</p>	<p>24 9 Kislev</p> <p>9:00 am Torah Study of Va Yetze with Nitzhia Shaked 9:45 am Learner's Minyan, Room 14, with Brenda Goldstein 9:45 am SHABBAT SERVICES; drash by Yona Rappaport, bat mitzvah 10:30 am Religious School, Grades K-6 11:00 am Shabbat B'Yachad, Room 14 Kiddush sponsored by Marc & Michele Rappaport, in honor of Yona's becoming a bat mitzvah</p>
<p>29 14 Kislev</p> <p>7:30 pm Work Site Committee meeting</p>	<p>30 15 Kislev</p> <p>4:33 pm Candle Lighting</p>	<p>december 1 16 Kislev</p> <p>9:00 am Torah Study of Vayishlach 9:45 am SHABBAT SERVICES 10:30 am Religious School, Grades K-6 11:30 am Shabbat Shelanu, room 14</p>
<p>december 6 21 Kislev</p>	<p>december 7 22 Kislev</p> <p>4:33 pm Candle Lighting</p>	<p>december 8 23 Kislev</p> <p>9:00 am Torah Study of Vayeshev 9:45 am Learner's Minyan 9:45 am SHABBAT SERVICES 10:30 am Religious School, grades K-6 11:30 am Shabbat B'Yachad, room 14</p>

Yahrzeit List

Bessie Raphael	15 Heshvan	November 1	Arnold Bloom	7 Kislev	November 22
Ralph Klatt	17 Heshvan	November 3	Martin J. Burger	8 Kislev	November 23
Rose Beck	17 Heshvan	November 3	Harold L. Cohen	9 Kislev	November 24
Tamar Kaufman	17 Heshvan	November 3	Sam Marson	9 Kislev	November 24
Max Harris	18 Heshvan	November 4	Evelyn Martin	9 Kislev	November 24
Karl Kraus	19 Heshvan	November 5	Lillian Margolis	9 Kislev	November 24
Isadore Teger	20 Heshvan	November 6	Charles Aronstein	10 Kislev	November 25
Esther Brott	22 Heshvan	November 8	Florrie Kohn	10 Kislev	November 25
Merle Yager	22 Heshvan	November 8	Evelyn Kaprow	11 Kislev	November 26
Clara Gelehrter Goodman	23 Heshvan	November 9	Mitchel Lansing	11 Kislev	November 26
Martin Bergman	23 Heshvan	November 9	Chaim Zilberman	12 Kislev	November 27
Sophie Bardach	24 Heshvan	November 10	Wulf Concus	12 Kislev	November 27
Chaim Pripstein	24 Heshvan	November 10	Chaim Victor Barki	13 Kislev	November 28
Emma Zussman Jaeger	25 Heshvan	November 11	Gwendolyn M. Fischer	13 Kislev	November 28
Jack Marcus	25 Heshvan	November 11	Ruth Black	13 Kislev	November 28
Lillian Gottlieb	25 Heshvan	November 11	Marian Dale Scott	14 Kislev	November 29
Sarah Davidson Kulakofsky	25 Heshvan	November 11	Maxine DeBoer	14 Kislev	November 29
Irving Hanover	26 Heshvan	November 12	Jack Becker	18 Kislev	December 3
Sally Louise Raimi Brose	26 Heshvan	November 12	Sylvia Lorwit	18 Kislev	December 3
Jerome Wolfe Sidel	28 Heshvan	November 14	Estelle Seder	19 Kislev	December 4
Harry Safran	28 Heshvan	November 14	Mary Solomon Goldberg	19 Kislev	December 4
George Scammel	28 Heshvan	November 14	Morris Burack	20 Kislev	December 5
Charles Mishkin	30 Heshvan	November 16	Louis Lieberman	21 Kislev	December 6
Robert Glickler	30 Heshvan	November 16	Samuel Namiot Koslav	22 Kislev	December 7
Irving Goldman	1 Kislev	November 16	Roslyn Sterling	24 Kislev	December 9
Sadie Weinstein	1 Kislev	November 16	Rudolf Grossmann	24 Kislev	December 9
Briendel Schwartz	1 Kislev	November 16	Fred Brinner	25 Kislev	December 10
Pauline V. Friedman	3 Kislev	November 18	Louis Robinson	25 Kislev	December 10
Eric Phillip	4 Kislev	November 19	Mitchel Derish	25 Kislev	December 10
Henry Brott	4 Kislev	November 19	Yosef Shein	27 Kislev	December 12
Pauline Kunofsky	5 Kislev	November 20	Jacob Levine	29 Kislev	December 14
Gershon Shragai	7 Kislev	November 22	Yakov Melech Ruby	30 Kislev	December 15
Rita Hermann	7 Kislev	November 22			

TO ADD A NAME(S) TO THE Yahrzeit List, fill out the information below and mail, e-mail or fax (include only names of departed parents, spouses, siblings or children)

MAIL TO: Congregation Netivot Shalom
1841 Berkeley Way
Berkeley, CA 94703

E-MAIL TO: ntvot-office@eb.jfed.org **FAX TO:** (510) 549-9448

NAME OF DECEASED: (English name) _____

(Hebrew name — if possible) _____

DATE OF DEATH: (civil date) _____

(Hebrew date — if possible) _____

YOUR NAME: _____

RELATIONSHIP TO DECEASED: _____

Inaugurating Our New Humashim

On **Shabbat, November 10**, we will use the *Etz Hayim humashim* for the first time! This new *humash* brings together the efforts of rabbis, teachers, commentators and scholars from across the Jewish world.

MAZAL TOV TO:

Sharon Friedman & Leo Meier on the birth of their baby boy, Jonah Walter Meier born on September 28
Nan & Peter Strauss on the birth of their new grandson, Emmett Jackson Howard

CONDOLENCES TO:

Ed Anisman on the death of his father, Al Anisman
Judith Lieberman and Michael Lieberman on the death of their father, Jerome Lieberman

Your participation is invited. Please help to develop this platform for community-wide discussion on...

GENDER & JUDAISM

At the Berkeley Richmond JCC
1414 Walnut Street, Berkeley
Saturdays, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Saturday, November 10

Ilana Fodiman
Drisha, Yeshiva University, Beth Israel
'Women and Wine: The Talmudic Portrayal of Yalta'

Saturday, December 8

Rabbi Margie Jacobs
Title: TBA

Saturday, January 12

Jennifer Ring
Professor of Political Science and Director of Women's Studies,
University of Nevada
'Tradition versus Inclusion: Tensions between Women and
"Authentic" Jewish Observance'

Co-sponsored by Beth El, Beth Israel, Kehilla, Netivot Shalom,
Aqvarian Minyan and Berkeley Richmond JCC.

“Israel in Dialogue”

WITH TOM SEGEV AND YOSSI KLEIN HALEVI

MODERATED BY FRED ASTREN

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 7:00 P.M.

BERKELEY RICHMOND JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

Tom Segev, one of the new breed of Israeli historians, and Yossi Klein Halevi, the Israel correspondent for the New Republic, will present their distinct views about contemporary Israel and the current crisis facing both Israelis and Palestinians. Segev is the author of *One Palestine, Complete: Jews and Arabs Under the British Mandate* as well as the highly acclaimed *The Seventh Million*. Halevi is the author of *At the Entrance to the Garden of Eden* as well as the remarkable coming of age story *Memoirs of a Jewish Extremist*. Both authors are often controversial, and always very articulate.

Admission: \$5.00, free to Netivot Shalom members.

This event is sponsored by the Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center, Congregation Netivot Shalom and the Israel Center of the Jewish Federation of the Greater East Bay. For more information, call the Israel Center at 510-839-2900, ext. 253 or e-mail riva@jfed.org.

Midrasha News

By Diane Bernbaum

Oh my goodness. This is the first time I am writing to you after Midrasha has actually started. What a beginning! The faculty is awesome. Students are pleased with their classes. What a great place to be.

“So,” you may ask, “can I see Midrasha in action and how can I help this effervescent program?” Well, you can do both. If you’d like to get a flavor of Midrasha, join us on Sunday morning, November 18, for our annual study brunch. Students, parents, grandparents and members of the community (that’s you) come at 9:30 a.m. for food. Then about 45 minutes later each teacher teaches something different and intriguing and then repeats it, so that you can attend two classes. And during the brunch we have a silent auction, where you can get bargains and do a mitzvah at the same time. Such a deal! It’s a great morning and we look forward to seeing you there.

OK, so you can’t come to the brunch, your children are either grown and out of the house or still on tricycles — but you want to feel a part of Midrasha. What can you do? Well, probably around the time you are reading this we will be mailing you our annual fundraising appeal. As you can imagine, with more students than ever our scholarship requests are higher than ever. Our photocopying bills are higher than ever. Our salaries for our great staff are higher than ever. Please help us fill in the financial gaps and when our request hits your mailbox, be generous. And please take a moment to read what we send. Our printer, Richard Engel at Solstice Press and our graphic designer, Barbara Lande, have been extremely generous and donated their services far, far below market value to put something in your hands you’ll really enjoy reading.

Join Us for the Learner’s Minyan

This year’s Learner’s Minyan will explore in depth the structure and sense of each section of the Shabbat Service. We will work on the nusach, the melodic form, of the prayers, examine the Torah Scroll, address questions concerning the evolution of liturgy and more.

Come study with Brenda Goldstein, Wendy Rosov, Rabbi Stuart Kelman, Cantor Carol Delton, Rabbi Art Gould, Esther Brass and Julie Batz.

Second & Fourth Shabbat each month 9:30-10:30 a.m., room 14 at the BRJCC.

Consult our fliers for details of the schedule.

EDUCATION

Religious School Hadashot

By Judy Massarano

Weekdays

KITA ALEF-BET

Hello, parents of grades 1-2 of Netivot Shalom Religious School, a.k.a. Kita Alef-Bet. Now that the Tishrei holidays are past, the school year here at CNS has begun in earnest. The class is so excited to be writing the Alef-Bet, as we create our own customized dictionaries. We have also begun learning to read Hebrew. By this writing, the class will have mastered the letter *bet* to some degree, in terms of being able to identify its sound and shape. We plan to sing the Alef-Bet song, made popular by Debbie Friedman, OFTEN. If you know it, sing it at home! A tape of it is available at school.

The children will also be more familiar with the Torah ornaments, which we reviewed and examined. And finally, they have shown themselves to be safe outside, as we took a neighborhood walk in preparation for going to the park as a group.

Group dynamics are sorting themselves out. For Hebrew reading time, we have two distinct groups at varying levels (more about patience than ability, as everyone is starting at "Alef", as it were). My co-teacher Laura Lipman, who also teaches at Rodef Shalom in Marin, is very supportive of this and teaches one of the groups independently when appropriate. When we learn about Jewish concepts, we work as one group, and the children share what they know and have seen.

Do you or your child have a favorite Jewish story to bring in? Would you like to discuss something with the class that interests you Jewishly or make a presentation of any kind? Should we have a class Shabbat dinner? How about volunteering in the classroom (from 5:00-6:00 p.m. needed most)? Your ideas are welcome! Reach me at the shul offices, 549 9447, or at home via e-mail at jdm@lim.net. Meanwhile, see you at shul.

Join us for Shabbat Shelanu, a family service, every 1st, 3rd, and 5th Saturday of the month, 11:30 a.m. in Room 20. We are always looking for parent involvement.

Shabbat

SHABBAT SHELANU

Everyone is thrilled to have the gorgeous ark built by Milt Greenstein that holds a full size Sefer Torah. This beautiful ark was used in Haver Hall for Yamim Nora'im. Do thank Milt when you see him! The Torah is being shared by the religious school classes, and that has worked out smoothly. Parent response to leading various aspects of the service has been good — I am very impressed with the expertise our parents bring to this.

The children and parents are excited to be using the new Siddur! It is my hope that we will have guest story readers (Thanks Andrea!) and guest *tefila* leaders too. Additionally, I hope to incorporate some actual Torah reading when appropriate, perhaps have Rabbi Kelman come in from time to time.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL ON SHABBAT

K'tanim (for children up to age three years & their parents): At our first event we had a wonderful turnout of at least 15 families, from a wide spectrum that includes JCC, Netivot Shalom and Congregation Beth Israel. K'tanim is very rich, with simultaneous programming for both parents and children. Our first meeting was about new beginnings and Rosh Hashana.

Kindergarten: Debbie Jagoda is enjoying her new kindergarten class, which meets in room 20. Netivot Shalom has provided her some excellent teaching materials, and she feels more supported by the administration than in the past. Parents often stay in the class too, and she welcomes this! Debbie is conscientious and most able and joyful in her work with the children.

Grades 1-2: This class is being taught on Shabbat by Galit Avitan, who has worked in the Netivot Shalom religious school in the past. Galit has been working hard to integrate the few day school students into the religious school, making it meaningful for all.

GENERAL COMMENTS

- On Saturdays, religious school students are now picked up right from their rooms, and parents and students are then free to join the regular kiddush.
- Naomi Adiv is working out beautifully as our music specialist. The 1-2 class, along with everyone else, are really enjoying her!
- Lorraine Rosenblatt has been wonderful in supporting the religious school. Thank you, Lorraine! ✨

FROM A SATISFIED PARENT:

"It is so nice to see so many families in the same boat that we are — trying to forge new traditions and maintain old ones."

The newsletter is looking for your family traditions!

If you would like to share something special you or your family does, or eats or says at a holiday, Shabbat, bedtime, waking, upon seeing the first crocus, etc., please e-mail material to: newsletter@netivotshalom.org.

Regarding Chanukah Traditions

By Debby Graudenz

When I was a child we held hands and "danced" a la "Ring-Around-the-Rosy" when we sang *Ma'oz Tzur*. Rom and I started doing that when Avi was a baby, but it turned into a parade through the house — over beds, through closets, etc., sometimes with instrumentation on pots accompanied by kazoos.

Youth Education

By Andrea Altschuler, Youth Education Chair

This synagogue does amazing things for children and families. When I sit back to consider the array and quality of programs we somehow are able to offer, I am quite impressed. We also have made a number of changes in the past year. It is very impressive that the two people who have anchored these programs for varying tenures for young children and teenagers are long-time members of Netivot Shalom, Iris Greenbaum and Diane Bernbaum. They are both extraordinary individuals who bring passion and vision to their work that is evident in the participants' enthusiasm for their programs and the learning that takes place therein. Along the continuum of youth education at Netivot Shalom, we have educators and teachers who have been with us for longer and shorter lengths of time. I am happy to report that Judy Massarano, another gifted educator, recently has increased her hours as an educator in our religious school. I especially thank Rabbi Kelman. Since we no longer have a single person overseeing youth education, Rabbi Kelman has taken on numerous tasks, on both the macro and micro scale. His dedication and commitment to Jewish education is truly a blessing to our community. I now will briefly describe the current status of youth education programs.

In the summer, Iris and Judy received a grant to establish a series of programs for parents and young children, K'tanim. They have also recently established, along with Ellen Peskin, Nitzanim, an informal group for parents and babies. Shabbat B'Yachad continues to thrive and grow in an extraordinary manner. It has blossomed to such an extent that Iris, Judy Radousky, and Lee Bearson lead the effort in creating a Shabbat B'Yachad siddur and parents'/leaders' guide. With the guidance and expertise of another CNS shining light, Claudia Valas of EKS Publishing, they published the siddur and guide and brought it to the most recent CAJE conference this past summer, where it was a huge success. Proceeds from this work will go to support Shabbat B'Yachad programming.

As the original Shabbat B'Yachad families have grown, they have worked to ensure that the experience of their children's preschool years continues as the children mature. As such, they have created Shabbat Shelanu for families with children in grades k-2 in conjunction with CNS professional staff. The Shabbat Shelanu program is now in its second year. It is receiving very positive feedback from participants, and praise for Judy Massarano's leadership.

As may or may not be well known, in the last three years we have had three different individuals who have served in the capacity of Youth Education Director. Until this year, there was one person who had overall administrative and pedagogical responsibility for youth education. As is clear to anyone with a whit of sense, three people in three years is not a good situation for any position of leadership. We fell into this position for two

complimentary reasons. There is a dearth of Jewish educators, and consequently, salaries for qualified people are beyond the reach of our synagogue. And because we had to concentrate all our leadership salary on the Director, there was nothing left over for professional-level administrative support. This lack of support was a major complaint of all the Youth Education Directors with whom I have worked.

Given that we knew we would not be able to attract the caliber of candidate we desired with the resources available to us, we have divided the professional leadership roles in youth education in the following manner. Lorraine Rosenblatt is filling the administrative gap, and is a half-time administrator for youth and adult education programs in the shul. On the pedagogical side of things, Judy Massarano oversees programs for children in grades 2 and below, while Bat Sheva Miller, a colleague of Judy's from Oakland Hebrew Day School and other venues, oversees religious school for grades 3-6. Our teachers in the religious school are of a very fine caliber, and parents seem to be quite pleased overall.

We also have made changes in the organizational structure of Amitim, which we hope will have positive pedagogical and social outcomes for the kids. Until this year, all seventh graders (the *b'nai mitzvah*/Amitim year) attended the Amitim program for the entire year on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Those kids who had *b'nai mitzvot* earlier in the year received more individual tutoring early in the year, whereas the kids with *b'nai mitzvot* later in the year did not receive such tutoring until later in the year. The problem was that kids with later *b'nai mitzvot* often felt out of the loop when their peers were receiving tutoring, whereas the kids who had earlier *b'nai mitzvot* stopped coming to Amitim once they had had their bat or bar mitzvah.

To address this imbalance, we have modified the program in the following manner. Each student comes to Amitim for the entire year on Thursdays to learn Torah, the philosophy and meaning of prayer, and how to prepare *drashot*. On Tuesdays, kids come for approximately 4-6 months before their *b'nai mitzvot* to learn davening and leining skills in *chevruta* pairs with individual tutors. We are very pleased that Pamela Rothman Sawyer and Eva Heinstejn are continuing to prepare our kids for their *b'nai mitzvot*, and that Ruth Weisberg has joined them. Naomi Adiv and our very own Dean Kertesz teach the kids on Thursdays, along with Rabbi Kelman. So far, this system seems to be working well, and has been positively received by kids, teachers, and parents.

The Youth Education Committee welcomes the participation and comments of fellow parents and congregants. If you would like to contact me, my phone number is 649-9290, e-mail is andaltl@yahoo.com, and Youth Ed Committee meetings take place the first Sunday of the month, 10:00 a.m. at the shul. ✨





Camp Ramah Updates

With Yamim Nora'im behind us and the summer fading, camp may seem a long way away to you. But for us, the people who bring you Ramah Day Camp, the summer is always on our minds. We are hard at work to bring you an even better summer next year!

Results from parent evaluation forms reflect once again that our families were very happy with camp. On a scale of 1-4, with 1 being excellent and 2 being good, they scored the quality of almost every part of camp between 1 and 2, good to excellent! That included:

- Jewish Content
- Camp staff
- Trips
- Everyday activities
- Special Activities
- Parents' and child's overall experience!

Our registration forms will be out soon — sign up early this year to get spots in the session of your choice! Next summer's dates will be:

Session I: June 24-July 19

Session II: July 23-August 16

And announcing: **Fall Camp Reunion over Thanksgiving Day Weekend!** Watch the mail for a flyer with details.

L'hitraot!

Dan Alter, Camp Director



AND NOW, FOR A JOKE...

About a century or two ago, the Pope decided that all the Jews had to leave Rome. Naturally there was a big uproar from the Jewish community. So the Pope made a deal. He would have a religious debate with a member of the Jewish community. If the Jew won, the Jews could stay. If the Pope won, the Jews would have to leave.

The Jews realized that they had no choice. They looked around for a champion who could defend their faith, but no one wanted to volunteer. It was too risky. So they finally picked an old man named Moishe to represent them. Moishe was a simple man who spent his life sweeping up after people. Being old and poor, he had less to lose, so he agreed. He asked only for one condition for the debate. Not being used to saying very much as he cleaned up, he asked that neither side be allowed to talk. The Pope agreed.

The day of the great debate came. Moishe and the Pope sat opposite each other for a full minute before the Pope raised his hand and showed three fingers. Moishe looked back at him and raised one finger.

The Pope waved his fingers in a circle around his head. Moishe pointed to the ground where he sat.

The Pope pulled out a wafer and a glass of wine. Moishe pulled out an apple.

The Pope stood up and said, "I give up. This man is too good. The Jews can stay."

An hour later, the cardinals were all around the Pope asking him what happened. The Pope said: "First I held up three fingers to represent the Trinity."

"He responded by holding up one finger to remind me that there was still one God common to both our religions. Then I waved my finger around me to show him, that God was all around us. He responded by pointing to the ground, showing that God was also right here with us. I pulled out the wine and the wafer to show that God absolves us from our sins. He pulled out an apple to remind me of original sin. He had an answer for everything. What could I do?"

Meanwhile, the Jewish community had crowded around Moishe, amazed that this old, almost feeble-minded man had done what all their scholars had insisted was impossible! "What happened?" they asked.

"Well," said Moishe, "First he said to me that the Jews had three days to get out of here. I told him that not one of us was leaving. Then he told me that this whole city would be cleared of Jews. I let him know that we were staying right here."

"And then?" asked a woman.

"I don't know," said Moishe. "He took out his lunch, I took out mine, and then he gave up."

Know any good jokes? Send them to newsletter@netivotshalom.org.

DONATIONS TO NETIVOT SHALOM

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YAMIM NORA'IM

Marcy Whitebook for extra tickets

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO:

Steve Koppman for a donation to
 the library
Ellen Peskin & Ben Heschen
 for donations to the library
Milt Greenstein for handyman help
 in the office
Meghan Starkey &
Perl Perlmutter, for the donation
 of a newer used refrigerator to replace
 the one that we use at the JCC.
D'Jedi Mateen and
Rom Rosenblum for moving the
 two refrigerators.

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I/We wish to make a donation
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 Enclosed is my/our check payable to:

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THANK YOU!

Some of Our Congregants Have Moved...

If you would like their addresses, please contact the office.

Seth Himelhoch & Sheila Jelen have moved to Silver Springs, Maryland.

Carla & Stan Dorn have moved to Chevy Chase, Maryland.

Debbie & Jerry Isaak-Shapiro have moved to Jerusalem, Israel, for two years.

Nathan Martin has moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Opportunities to Offer Tzedakah

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Shabbat Greeters We need Shabbat Greeters to welcome people into our services on Saturday mornings. Volunteer to greet for one Shabbat. Call Robin Braverman at 925-979-1998, or e-mail her at rivkah48@aol.com.

Book Reviewers Often library volumes are sent to us for review purposes. Many of the reviews need only be a one paragraph description while some require a bit more. In order to keep these books coming to Netivot Shalom, please contact Rabbi Kelman at 549-9447 ext. 103.

Library Help Do you have a few hours to volunteer in our library? We need volunteers to re-shelve books, keep track of books that are borrowed and process new books. If any of these "jobs" interest you, please contact Rabbi Kelman at 549-9447 ext. 103.

CONTRIBUTIONS

eScrip/Schoolpop Each time you shop at Safeway, Andronico's, Albertsons and many other stores in the Bay Area, a percentage of your purchases can be donated to Netivot Shalom through eScrip and Schoolpop. Registration forms for eScrip and Albertsons Community Partner Cards are free and available through the congregation office. For Schoolpop, call 1-877-456-1032.

Planes, Trains & Automobiles Donate your old car, motorcycle, truck or RV to Netivot Shalom. For more information, call Claudia Valas at 558-9200.

Stocks & Bequests To find out how to make a donation of stock to the congregation, contact Mark Priven at 559-8393. When drafting your will, please consider making a bequest to Congregation Netivot Shalom.