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CHRONICLE

Congregation Neveh Shalom



January/February 2012
Tevet - Adar 5772

No. 3
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FROM THE PULPIT



The Occupation

As I write this article, the Occupy movement that has spread around the globe is still marching through the streets. However, by the time this *Chronicle* reaches your coffee table or smartphone, I will be curious to see what strength is left of the national/international protest when the snow arrives. Revolution in the air is exciting (depending of course on which side you are on) though I was extremely disturbed when recently I caught footage of many protesters in New York shouting "Occupy Wall Street, Not Palestine!" I was quickly reminded how easy it can be for many to confuse progressive, intellectually honest and rational ideas with Anti-Semitism/Zionism...they are not the same. Most of us believe passionately in religious and cultural pluralism (the many valid but different approaches to truth) and our movement within Judaism prides itself on being intellectually honest and rational. That is why I find it so tragic that so often the worst form of anti-Semitism comes clothed in academic and intellectual speech, disguised as just one more true voice in the multiplicity of true voices. I think all of us could use a reminder, especially those of us who pride ourselves on advocating for the civil rights of all people, to consider once again the power of our speech.

Many have taught me to separate the pulpit from politics, yet I know that Israel is not just another nation in the world; the politics are not just another nation's realm of politics. The wars are not just another country's wars, the struggles are not just the struggles of another far away place. The fate of all of us, *Am Israel*, the people of Israel... cannot be separated from *Medinat Israel*, the nation of Israel...it is our homeland. It is the only place that opened its doors fully to our parents and grandparents leaving the concentration camps. It is the stage for the exciting and progressive drama of the modern Jewish future. It is one of the only places that recently granted citizenship to hundreds of Muslim refugees fleeing genocide in Darfur. It is our place, our home, and Congregation Neveh Shalom stands with and supports Israel.

Israel is not perfect, no nation is, and I do not agree blindly with each and every policy of her government. However, I cringe when I hear or read language such as "Free Palestine," "End the Occupation," "Occupy Wall Street, Not Palestine." My stomach turns when I pass by a book cover or hear someone, especially someone Jewish, refer to the situation as "Apartheid." To our credit, we as a people are extremely self-critical; the outspoken voices of all sides check and balance the "Jewish voice" that rings out to the world. But this can be both a blessing and a curse. These confused sayings are deceptive and dishonest for many factual and historical reasons but most importantly they are misleading because they ignore the significance of what they connote (these slogans against Israel are irresponsible comparisons...but they are sure good

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ANNUAL GIVING

If Not Now, When? Today & Tomorrow
אם לא עכשיו, אימת? היום ומחר

As I write this article, I wish I could say that this year's Annual Giving Campaign was a complete success. But, as of December 1st we were still \$12,000 away from our goal of raising \$150,000. However, let's focus on the positives. We have had 82 new donors (on top of the 100 we had last year). We successfully maxed out our generous matches provided by 4 families. And, those who have given for 2 years increased their gifts by 18.8%. In three years, we have moved from a mishmash of campaigns into one focused campaign that is raising twice the amount of critical funds. What we do matters - this Campaign touches all congregants - both the donor and the recipients of those gifts. What we do matters - but sometimes we get busy, we get distracted and we forget that tzedakah needs to - no should be - incorporated in everything we do. As we know, tzedakah normally is translated as justice. But I like how Rabbi Greenstein translates it - balance. We balance the scales between those that are able to give and those that, at this time, don't have such means. Someday the scales could be reversed. As a giver, our family wants the comfort of knowing that our congregation is there TODAY and TOMMORROW to support my family should we need it someday.

Every gift will make a difference...we need you Today, please. So join us by making a gift to help your CNS community stay strong!

Jason H. Kaufman

2011-12 Annual Giving Chair

S N L

Purimspiel

Wednesday
night,
March 7.

SATURDAY
NIGHTLIVE

Please
mark your
calendars
and plan
to be with
us for this
fantastic
show!

If you'd like to help
with our production
both onstage or
off, please contact
me at dbletstein@
nevehshalom.org

AARON WELTER

JANUARY 7

Mazel Tov to **Aaron David Welter**, son of **Ingrid Siegman** and **Michael Welter**, brother of **Joshua & Elana Welter**; grandson to Nancy & Dennis Siegman, Jean Bennett, and Fred Welter; and nephew of Tara Seigman, Drew Seigman, and David Welter. Aaron is a 7th grader at Whitford Middle School and enjoys soccer, day-spa, video games and playing the saxophone. Check out his bar mitzvah web page at <https://sites.google.com/site/welterbarmitzvah>.



JESSICA SCHWARTZ

JANUARY 20

Mazel Tov to **Jessica Dori Schwartz**, daughter of **Linda Schwartz**, sister of **Jackson** and granddaughter of the late Abe and Florence Schwartz (z"l) and grandmother Jill. Jessica is a 7th grader at Lake Oswego Junior High. She is strong in mind and body with reserve and a pensive manner. She envelopes the white light that surrounds her. I (her mother) am in awe, and Jackson has settled close under her wing.



EUGENE MUNBLIT

JANUARY 28

Mazel Tov to **Eugene Munblit**, son of **Irina & Roman Munblit**, brother to **Polina**, and grandson to the late Nuhim and Polina Munblit z"l and the late Arkady and Riveka Vainrub z"l. Eugene is a 7th grader at Jackson Middle School and enjoys playing piano, basketball, taekwondo, bowling, video games and hanging out with friends.



ALDEN DAVIS

MARCH 3

Mazel Tov to **Alden Eli Davis**, son of **Diane & Barry Davis**, brother to **Talia, Neville, Eitan and Rayna**, and grandson to Deborah & Stephen Davis and Suzanne & Stephen Blucher. Alden has a dog & two cats. He is a 7th grader at Beaumont Middle School and was a student at Portland Jewish Academy for his elementary years. Alden plays tenor sax in his school's advanced Ambassador Jazz Band. He enjoys playing football, hiking, skiing, reading, listening to and playing music, and hanging out with his friends. One of Alden's greatest joys is also spending part of his summer at Camp Ramah in Ojai, CA.



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at drawing attention). We should know better. After all, as Jews and especially as progressive Jews, we hold sacred the idea that words cannot be interpreted in a vacuum. Words spoken and written have to be interpreted for their tremendous depth of meaning and suggestion.

We know that words are defined by both a dictionary and history. So when I hear "Free Palestine!" I cannot also help but hear "Free Tibet!" though there is dissonance between the passive peace taught by the Dali Lama and the tools of terror taught in Gaza. China's oppression is a far cry from Israel's aspiration to live with peaceful neighbors. And shouts of "End The Occupation" sound like cries against imperial empires. A popular phrase during the 19th century was that the sun never set on the British Empire because it occupied so many lands. Around the clock, from all different time zones, there was always one British controlled land with the sun at high noon. The sun sets every night on the nation of Israel, a country the size of New Jersey, that seems to be getting smaller and smaller. And to equate Israel and apartheid, aside from touching on the nerves of so many Jewish families and institutions who gave everything to help end apartheid, would be to equate Yasser Arafat with Nelson Mandela. Yet, the only thing they have in common is the Nobel Peace Prize.

What yearning for a place or a nation or a person to be "Free" really means is more than one's ability to shape their own destiny, to walk about life with a self determination that is uninhibited. Freedom is more than the luxury to act and speak what we want, when we want, and with whom we want. The essence of freedom and the right of every human being and nation is the ability to embrace life – not to be killed or be forced to kill another. The Palestinian leadership has this freedom if only they would accept it...they have farms to cultivate, schools to build, businesses and government to grow and no one will terrify them. In fact Israel has in the past and will continue to pour resources and funds to nurture their growth. In the words of Rabbi Jonathon Sacks, known for his devotion to social justice, "The Palestinian future will begin the minute Hamas stops firing rockets on innocent Israelis." Their freedom begins the second they choose to embrace it. But Israel is still not free; she cannot simply move out of the so called "occupied" lands and live in peace.

During a press conference after the Six Day War of 1967, when Israel's neighbors waged war against the existence of a Jewish homeland, the world's third female prime minister told the world, "When peace comes we will perhaps in time be able to forgive the Arabs for killing our sons, but it will be harder for us to forgive them for having forced us to kill their sons." That war ended and Golda Meir spoke long ago but we are still not free. Her words still ring true and in a way we are still fighting that war, we are still fighting to exist and be free. We long for a Free Israel. And we continue to mouth the words of another nation's anthem from so far away because it is not just another nation, her anthem is our prayer: *Od lo avdah tikvatenu*...the hope is not lost...*Ha-tikvah bat sh'not alpayim*...the hope of two thousand years...*Li-h'yot am hofshi b'artzenu* ...to be a Free people in our own homeland. We hope and pray and speak for a Free Israel, Free from being killed, Free from being forced to kill.

Ufros Aleinu Sukkat Shlomecha,

Rabbi Bradley Greenstein

"LIVE FROM SHUSHAN:

IT'S WEDNESDAY NIGHT!"

I have generally written or co-written original Purimspiels since I began working as a cantor in 2007. Often in past experiences, I have chosen the theme of the show, usually a Broadway musical or a certain genre of popular music that served as the foundation for the parodies. Last year, along with the choir, we co-wrote a disco-themed show called Shushan Night Fever and turned Birnback Hall into a discotheque!

I wanted to try something different this year. I was seeking an opportunity to be involved with the High School kids on Wednesday night this year, so I offered a Musical Theatre elective focusing on Purim. Initially, I had a theme in mind (Motown), thinking that it would be great to expose the kids to a style of music they were less familiar with, but they vetoed it! It turns out that the students who opted for this class are writing the entire show based on a theme they chose—Saturday Night Live! My co-teacher, Jonathan Morgan, and I, alongside the students, are creating the parodies of popular SNL sketches to tell the story of Purim. We have a number of creative teens who are talented writers, comedians, singers and dancers who are bringing this show to life. We are set up in a classroom which models the actual staff-writing table at SNL in 30 Rockefeller Plaza, and there is a lot of energy buzzing around our room each week!

Jonathan and I have been learning a lot from this experience with our teens and are having a lot of fun in the process. It has been an important reminder that we need to hear the voices of our kids; they have a lot to say about the world and they do so in articulate and creative ways. We feel blessed to help further their Jewish education post-B'nai Mitzvah in a way that excites them. There are a number of other wonderful electives being taught on Wednesday night this year that have energized our kids, our teachers and our entire Tichon (High School) program at Neveh Shalom.

Our SNL Purimspiel will take place on Wednesday night, March 7. Please mark your calendars and plan to be with us for this fantastic show! I would enjoy having some adults in our community make cameo appearances as well! If you'd like to help with our production both onstage or off, please contact me at dbletstein@nevehshalom.org. Just a heads up—you may have to audition for the kids!

Happy Purim!

Cantor B



PDX LIVE

Friday, Jan. 13

Special 7:30pm service time

If you were here November 11, you were rocked! Join Cantor Bletstein, Ed Kraus, and Klezmocracy for a high-energy Shabbat service with instruments that will rock your soul! Stay afterwards and schmooze at our signature Neveh Shalom cookie oneg.

Dates for 2012:

January 13

March 16

May 11

ORA SHALOM

ORA Shalom 2nd Fridays each month

ORA Shalom is a Shabbat for the senses. Every few months a new set of artists will create a fresh display of art to be showcased. If you see something you like, you can contact the artist after Shabbat and make arrangements to purchase the art! Artists will donate a percentage of their sales to the synagogue.

Come meet the artists January 13 immediately after Friday night services! On January 13, services begin at 7:30pm due to PDX Live! A new exhibit will open on February 10, at our regular 6:15pm Erev Shabbat Service.

ORA is a local Jewish artists guild offering various membership opportunities to established as well as emerging artists. Go to www.northwestjewishartists.org for more information. Check out our blog at <http://northwestjewishartists.blogspot.com>.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES FOR SHABBAT

*Kabbalat Shabbat, Every Friday: 6:15pm

*Shabbat Morning Service, Every Saturday: 9:00am

Shabbat child care available beginning at 9:30am by advance reservation only. Please call 503.246.8831x100 by noon on the preceding Wednesday to reserve space.

Friday Evening Services with special themes:

First Fridays with Ilene Safyan

1st Fridays, 6:15pm (Jan. 6, Feb. 3)

ORA Shalom – A Shabbat for the Senses

2nd Fridays (Jan. 13 with PDX Live at 7:30pm, Feb. 10 at 6:15pm)

ORA Shalom is our newest Friday night service on the 2nd Shabbat of each month, combined with our main service. The evening will be enhanced with special music and/or art and will enliven the senses as we enter into the Shabbat experience together. A light oneg will be served immediately after Kiddush. Artists from ORA: Northwest Jewish Artists will be present to answer questions as you view their latest exhibit. Come sip wine and appreciate the creativity of our local Jewish artists. For more information about ORA, check out <http://www.northwestjewishartists.blogspot.com>

Chik-Chak Service

3rd Fridays, 6:15pm (Jan. 20, Feb. 17)

A traditional, lay-led service featuring Carlebach tunes followed by delicious, volunteer-catered dinner. Reservations required for dinner (\$12/adult, \$6/child, \$36 max/family). Contact Mel Berwin at 503.246.8831 or chikchakrsvp@gmail.com for more information.

NOTE: on 3rd Fridays when there is no Bar/Bat Mitzvah, the main service is combined with ChikChak in one service.

Hinenu Erev Shabbat Service

4th Fridays, 6:45pm (Jan. 27, Feb. 24)

For Jews in their 20's and 30's who are post-college and pre-kids. This alternative service is followed by a potluck Shabbat dinner at a local home. Please visit our Facebook page (just search for "Hinenu"). For more information, to RSVP, or to get on our email list, contact Noah Barish, nbarish@gmail.com. THIS IS NOT YOUR BUBBE'S JUDAISM!!!!

ELEANOR FISCHER DIAL-IN SERVICE

If you are unable to attend Shabbat Services dial in to hear them.

Call 503.246.8832

Downstairs Minyan

2nd & 4th Saturdays: 9:00am (Jan. 14* & 28, Feb. 11 & 25*)

*combined minyan

Downstairs Minyan is a lay-led Shabbat service followed by a light Kiddush and lively singing of z'mirot. If you are interested in leading a part of the service or reading Torah please contact **Eddy Shuldman** at mameleh@comcast.net.

KEVA with Rabbi Greenstein:

3rd Saturdays, 10:00-11:45am (Jan. 21, Feb. 18)

Join us as we study, sing, meditate and engage deeply in prayer together. KEVA is for adults and kids of every age, no experience necessary. Bring your friends!

KEVA...a little time for your soul. For more information or to get involved please contact Rabbi Brad at rabbigreenstein@yahoo.com

Rose Schnitzer Manor, "Darchei Noam" service

3rd Saturdays, 10:00am (Jan. 21, Feb. 18)

On the 3rd Shabbat of each month Neveh Shalom volunteers from Downstairs Minyan lead Shabbat services for seniors at the Robison Home Chapel, escorting residents to the Chapel and conducting services at 10am. Please contact Carol Stampfer at carol.stampfer@gmail.com

Shabbat Morning for Families and Children:

Tot Shabbat (ages 0-5 years old)

1st & 3rd Saturdays: 10:00am (Jan. 7 & 21, Feb. 4 & 18)

Tot Shabbat is a warm, age-appropriate Saturday morning service designed to introduce our youngest members to Shabbat morning worship. This interactive, engaging 45-minute Shabbat service includes prayers, music, songs and story time followed by a light Kiddush lunch.

Kehillat Noar – Youth Congregation (Grades 1-5)

3rd Saturdays, October-May: 10:00-11:15am (Jan. 21, Feb. 18)

Kehilat Noar is a "next-step-up" program from Tot Shabbat for 1st-5th graders and families. Join Gershon Liberman for this brief, lively, skill-building Shabbat morning experience, and stay for kiddush lunch with friends. For more information contact Mel Berwin, mberwin@nevehshalom.org

CANDLE LIGHTING

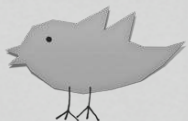
6 Jan 4:25
13 Jan 4:33
20 Jan 4:42
27 Jan 4:52
3 Feb 5:02

10 Feb 5:12
17 Feb 5:22
24 Feb 5:32
2 Mar 5:42



1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month - 10:15 AM - Zidell Chapel

TOT SHABBAT



A fun and engaging services for families with babies, toddlers, and young children up to age 5

-Join our skilled early childhood educators, Levia, Amy, and their good friend Shabbos Mouse for Neveh Shalom's liveliest Shabbat service.

-Enjoy singing, dancing, scarf waving, parachutes, story telling and more!

-Stay for a yummy kiddush lunch and become a part of our welcoming community of young families.

-Free and open to all!



New Babies Shabbat

Saturday, February 18, 2012

If you or your adult child has had a baby in the past year, please join us to celebrate and welcome your new arrival! All are invited to arrive in time for Torah service at 10am. Parents, grandparents and siblings will be honored with a group Aliyah to the Torah. A special Kiddush will follow services. Those interested in reading Torah to commemorate this special occasion please contact WendyHetzler@frontier.com. Come schmooze with your future Hebrew school classmates! This special Shabbat is open to ALL new babies in the Portland Jewish Community! Contact kwilkins@nevehshalom.org or 503.246.8831 to make sure your baby is included.

Dead Sea Spa Day

2012

**Sunday, January 8,
10am-6pm**

*Stafford Boutique Vitality Center,
Lake Oswego*

Please mark your calendars and join us for a warm and wonderful event of luxurious spa treatments for you and your friends benefitting Kochavim, Notz'tzim, and Machon Ivrit Hebrew Immersion Programs at Neveh Shalom. Treat yourself, treat your loved ones. Details to follow... For more info, contact Caroline, cbuchalter@nevehshalom.org.

SAVE THE DATE

Mah Jongg Tournament
Sunday, March 18, 11am-4pm



AUCTION NEWS

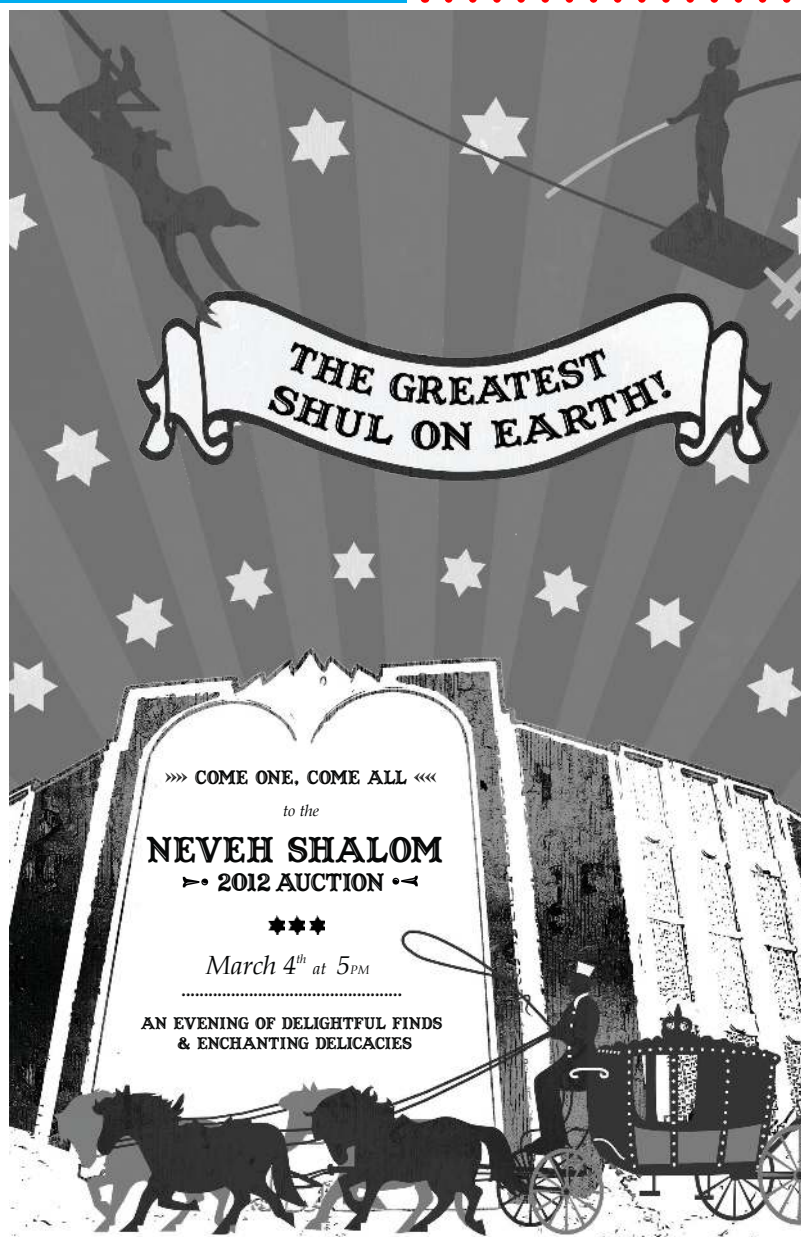
Auction 2012 - The Greatest Shul on Earth!
Dear Fellow Neveh members-

We are so excited with how the upcoming auction is shaping up! Do yourself and your congregation a favor and join us on Sunday, March 4 as we present "The Greatest Shul on Earth!" Invitations will be out soon so watch your mail. Our spectacular team of volunteers are juggling myriad details to bring you a not-to-be-missed evening where you'll be wined, dined and entertained as you find items and experiences to bid on that you just can't live without. And all this while you are in the company of great friends joining together to do good things for our Congregational home. OY!

We would be lost without your support, so RSVP right away. You don't even have to wait for your paper invite to arrive. Just call the Neveh office at 503.246.8831 and say "Count us in!" Also, we still have plenty of room for your participation as a sponsor (this is SUCH a big help!) and your auction donations to round out the fabulous finds that our team has been accumulating for you. Be creative! Both our personal window cleaner and carpet cleaner are donating packages to clean one lucky birder's whole house JUST BECAUSE WE ASKED! Who can YOU ask??

Thanks ahead for your support. We'll see you under the "big tablets!"

Fondly,
Felicia & Todd Rosenthal
Your 2012 Auction Chairs



SHOMREI TEVA MONTHLY MITZVAH CREW

3RD SUNDAYS

9:45 AM

JAN.15

FEB. 19

Join us as we remove invasive plants (ivy, blackberry, etc.) and restore the natural habitat of the lovely creekside area along the synagogue.

Make it a double mitzvah by going first to Morning Minyan. Bring a small digging/weeding tool (trowel, small shovel, etc.), and work as long as you want. Dress for the weather. It's surprisingly enjoyable work and a good schmooze with warm camaraderie. You'll like it and you'll feel good when you see how beautiful our site is becoming. Meet in the wooded area off our lower parking lot.

Questions: **Jordan Epstein**, 503.245.6580, yaakovm@comcast.net

TIKKUN OLAM

An Offer You Shouldn't Refuse....

Our Social Action/Tikkun Olam committee is looking for a few good people to help lead our collective efforts! Help oversee our Tikkun Olam activities and envision new ones for the future. Get an overview of some of our ongoing activities at <http://www.neveshalom.org/our-community/social-action>.

The minimal commitment is attending three or four evening meetings over the year. Beyond that there is the opportunity to be involved in your choice of efforts.

New projects are generated in various ways. Occasionally, a person of conviction comes to us with a cause that weighs heavy on their hearts. When they express a willingness to take on leadership for the project, our committee gets behind them to explore the idea and help them move forward.

One such idea we are working on is creating a support network for our congregants in need during these difficult times when government and charity resources are drying up. We put out the call through the Chronicle and our weekly eBlast. Four individuals responded. They will meet to explore the concept of matching needs with skilled individuals who are willing to donate their time. For instance, doctors providing medical assistance, attorneys assisting on legal issues, volunteers helping to repair or maintain homes, the list is endless.

If you are interested in taking part in the Tikkun Olam committee feel free to give me a call at 503.454.0610 or email me at stevejew18@frontier.com.

Steve Sirkin, Tikkun Olam Committee Chair



NOTES FROM SHOMREI TEVA

Tu b'Shvat

Tu b'Shvat will begin this year on February 7. Once a minor holiday, it has grown into the environmental holiday for the Jewish people. Why celebrate it, and why, as Jews, should we be especially concerned about our earth?



Tu b'Shvat is the holiday that most recognizes our moral and ethical obligations to protect the earth. Bereshit 2:15 teaches that the world was created and we are obligated "to work and to protect" it. The Shulchan Aruch says one must return anything borrowed in at least as valuable a condition as it was. So we are to leave a planet for our descendants that is as healthy as the one we inherited.

The Mishnaic and Talmudic rabbis wrote many

prayers for Jews to say when confronted with nature, to remind us that the world is a gift of creation for us to experience with awe and respect. R. Shimon Bar Yochai said three things are of equal importance: earth, humans, and rain; underscoring the balance of life.

These short statements come from an article at Canfei Nesharim, one of many worldwide Jewish environmental groups (<http://canfeinesharim.org/index.php>). The full article is now on the Neveh Shalom website at www.neveshalom.org/flyers/jewish_earthday.pdf.

I encourage you to read it and reflect on it. And on the holiday, take a walk, read, or plant a tree. Make time this year to honor Tu b'Shvat and a long Jewish tradition of caring for the earth.

Chag sameach,
Jordan Epstein
Chair, Shomrei Teva



CNS DARFUR/CONGO COMMITTEE & NEVER AGAIN COALITION

CNS Darfur/Congo Committee and Never Again Coalition

Mondays, 7:00pm (January 9, February 6)

Join us Monday evenings at Neveh Shalom and take a stand against genocide. Neveh Shalom is proud to be a central part of the Never Again Coalition. We are dedicated to raising awareness about the genocide in Darfur and the ongoing violence in the Congo. Through education, advocacy and tzedakah we strive to help the people in Darfur and the Congo and encourage our elected leaders to

stand with us to support the people suffering there. We are always looking for new members to join our committee, whether you can attend once and awhile or are interested in playing a larger role. Help us to fulfill the promise the world made following the Holocaust - "Never Again!"

For more information, please visit our website at www.neveragaincoalition.org and join us on Facebook to take part in the latest actions to combat genocide - <http://www.facebook.com/NeverAgainCoalition>.

Contact **Sarah Greenstein** or **Lauren Fortgang** at neveragaincoalition@gmail.com.



DONATE YOUR CAR TO NEVEH SHALOM

Thank You to our recent donor: **Doug Brotz**

You can receive a tax write-off by donating your unused or unwanted vehicle, running or not. Call JoAnn in the Neveh Shalom Office for more info: 503.293.7309, or jbezodis@nevehshalom.org.



THINK GREEN



Our Chronicle is available as a downloadable PDF for viewing on the screen or your computer. Sign up for the online version by sending an email to jbezodis@nevehshalom.org. Please let us know if you would like to forego your paper version to save trees.

Cooking for Outside-In

Sunday, January 8, 11-2pm

Sunday, February 5, 11-2pm

Join us in the CNS kitchen if you would like to help cook for Outside-In. On January 8 and February 5, we will be making bean dishes, which take a little extra time. We will start washing and soaking the beans around 9am, but the main cooking won't start until around 11am.

On Sunday, November 20, CNS members met in the Neveh Shalom kitchen to prepare Hearty Black Bean Soup and salad for 60. The menu for Sunday, December 4 was Tuna Noodle Casserole and salad. The food was delivered to Outside-In, a homeless shelter for teens in downtown Portland.

Watch the CNS eBlast or contact Cathy Blair at cathyblair55@yahoo.com if you would like to be informed of future dates.



SAFeway SHOPPER

CARD REGISTRATION



Help Neveh Shalom by grocery shopping. Go to www.escrip.com and click on "1-Sign Up". Select Neveh Shalom as your charity of choice, Group ID # 163941303.

DO IT TODAY!

Don't know your Safeway card number? Call them at 1.877.SAFeway.

Our next Blood Drive is Sunday, May 13.

We are in urgent need of a few volunteers to help run it! Do you have a passion for doing good and are interested in taking on this very manageable and rewarding project? Contact Jennifer at 503 293-7313. Thank you!

FOOD BARREL



Neveh Shalom has a food barrel benefiting Neighborhood House and the Sunshine Pantry. Bring in your non-perishable food items to the barrel located in the foyer outside Zidell Chapel.

Thank you for your generosity!

143 HYGIENE KITS

Thanks to seven wonderful Sisterhood volunteers and the generosity of many Congregation Neveh Shalom members, we were able to put together and deliver 143 Hygiene Kits on November 13. Once we have more toothbrushes and tampons, we will be able to put together MANY, MANY more kits.

Because Portland is 3,000 shelter beds short each night, there is a 10-week wait to get into a shelter. While waiting for a shelter bed, the homeless can take showers at the Transition Projects facility at 650 NW Irving Street.

We are continuing to collect hygiene kit items, so save those unopened hotel shampoos, conditioners, and lotions. The cheapest places to pick up travel size deodorant are WalMart, Target and Fred Meyer. Full size deodorants are available for about the same price at the Dollar Store and Big Lots. Ask your dentist for a case of toothpaste for the homeless. Pickup 4-6 toothbrushes at the Dollar stores for \$1. Pick up bulk packs of razors on sale. If you find tampons at a good price, think of the homeless!

Good job, all of you, for making life sweeter and more just in Portland.

Cathy Blair

cathyblair55@yahoo.com



Neveh Knits and Crochets

Neveh Knits and Crochets is an intergenerational group that evolved out of last year's Mitzvah Day. To date we have donated nine blanket sets to Legacy Emanuel's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, and eight helmet liners to soldiers in Afghanistan. Group members are also working on hats and scarves for Outside In, a local shelter for homeless teens.

The group ranges from beginners to very skilled. Some members create items on their own, others produce 12-inch squares that are stitched together to make a full blanket. **Leah Rubin**, who assembles many of the blankets, says, "Neveh Knits connects those who love to create through knitting with a mitzvah project. It's very satisfying to complete and send off baby blankets and hats to new babies in the Legacy Emanuel's Neonatal Unit."

At least two of our congregants have been recipients of baby blankets through the Legacy program. "As someone whose daughter was the beneficiary of beautifully knit hats and booties at the Legacy Emanuel NICU I'd love to come help," writes **Tamar Wyte-Lake**.

Neveh Knits-And Crochets meets the third Sunday of each month from 10-noon. For more information, please contact **Deborah Freedberg**, debfreedberg@yahoo.com.



MEMBER SERVICES

CNS CONNECTIONS: THE MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE

Manage Your CNS Membership Account ONLINE!



Manage Your CNS Membership Account ONLINE!

Congregation Neveh Shalom is now open for business on the web. All CNS members should have received a letter of explanation with your login name and password.

To access your account go to www.nevehshalom.org and click Member Login in the top right corner. When you login the first time you can change your password. If you lost your login information, call the office at 503.246.8831.

Utilizing this feature allows you to update your contact information, pay your membership online, add or change child information, view yahrzeit information, view your account and pay any outstanding amounts, make donations to various funds online and have acknowledgement cards sent out, register and pay for synagogue programs and events. Currently you can register for the Auction on March 4!

All information is fully secure.

Ours is a religion based on tradition. So much in fact, that there's even a song built around the idea. At Neveh Shalom we have our own traditions, too. Last month, CNS Connections continued our tradition of a communal Chanukah celebration but with some new and exciting twists added to it. We hope you had the opportunity to attend and if you did that you had the Chanukah of your life!

This month, our committee continues another long-standing tradition at Neveh Shalom, the annual "New Member Brunch." It's an event that I personally look forward to each year as a committee member. This will be my third. It's a special brunch where our new members are the guests of honor as we "officially" welcome them. Our committee members are present as are representatives from clergy, staff and the Board. It is a morning filled with lots of food, lots of schmoozing, and lots of warmth. This year's event will be on Sunday, January 22. If you joined us in 2011, you can expect your invitation shortly.

THE GLORIA BACHARACH JUDAICA SHOP AT CONGREGATION NEVEH SHALOM



Winter is here for a while, and it's a great time to stay indoors and spend quality time with your family. We have many beautiful items to brighten your home during this dark and stormy season and have expanded our inventory in the Judaica Shop, combining the contemporary with the traditional to appeal to the varied tastes of our customers.

Come on in and see the new items we've brought in, including a full line of Desert Kippot, Shabbat candlesticks and challah boards by Doris Glass and Lily Art, an expanded line of Yair Emanuel products and much more. We have also added a line of colorful hand-made, free market kippot and tallitot from Mayaworks of Guatemala.

As always, we are volunteer staffed and are in need of additional hands to expand shop hours. Please contact me if you're interested in donating some of your time, whether it's for a couple of hours a month, or once a week. Since our hours change frequently, give us a call to make sure that we're open when you'd like to shop. If you find that you can't make it in during our regular hours, feel free to email me to set up a time for a personal shopping visit.

B'Shalom-

Tina Smith, Judaica Shop Director
peppertina@yahoo.com

But welcoming new members and making them feel "at home" isn't the committee's only role. Our collective culture as *shul* means that we all should take the time to help new members feel "at home" too. Sometimes it's just a simple gesture to "Come, sit with me!" at a service or social event. Sometimes it's an invitation to one's home. It could even be as simple as a walk-up introduction. New members are the lifeblood of the *shul* and a steady influx of new members is what keeps us going and growing. While we recognize that members sometimes resign for a variety of reasons, our goal is to make sure that "I did not feel welcome, involved, or connected" is not one of them. Throughout the coming year, our committee will continue our commitment to connecting members with members and implementing new programs and ideas to enhance the member experience. We hope you'll share in our enthusiasm.

David Meltzer, Co-Chair

CNS Connections – The Member Services Committee

Stay in the loop!
Join our email list!



Send your email address by
text message:

Text
CNS

to 22828 to get started.



Message and data rates may apply.

CHRONICLE SUBMISSIONS



Share your life-cycles ad, events, and accomplishments with your congregation.

Please email submissions to
jbezodis@nevehshalom.org

ISSUE

Mar/Apr

May/Jun

Jul/Aug

DEADLINE

Fri, Feb. 3

Fri, Apr. 6

Fri, Jun. 1

The Chronicle is printed every other month. Please read our weeklye-blastandchecktheCNSwebsiteforregularupdates.

GROUPS AT CNS

SISTERHOOD

Greetings Sisters!

We have some exciting events coming up!

- The Ketubah will be our point of focus in January! Meet in Room 102, on Thursday, January 5, at 7pm, to discuss "The Marriage Artist" by Andrew Winer.
- On Thursday, January 12, at 7pm, we will gather in Room 102 again for "Exploring the Ketubah as Art and as a Document" with **Rabbi Isaak**.
- Sisterhood and Men's Club will co-host "Current Issues Facing Israel" with Amos Meron, the Israel Shaliach for Portland. Join us on Sunday, January 22, at 9:40am in the Zidell Chapel for breakfast and a very interesting program.
- On Sunday, February 12, join us in the CNS Board Room from Noon-3pm for a Luncheon Workshop with Marilyn Berkowitz, from National Women's League, entitled "How to Build a Stronger Sisterhood." Please RSVP to **Cathy Blair** at cathyblair55@yahoo.com to let her know you will be attending.
- Don't miss "DINNER and Sephardic Passover Stories with Sarah Greenstein" on Sunday, March 11, from 6-8pm. After dinner, Sarah will share the Sephardic Passover traditions of her family. If you plan to attend,



please RSVP to Cathy Blair at cathyblair55@yahoo.com.

- Mah Jongg Tournament! Our annual fun-filled brunch and tournament will be held on Sunday, March 18, 11am-4pm at the back of the sanctuary. Please sign up by filling out and returning the flier in this Chronicle before March 9. For questions call **Judi Goodman** at 503.531.7205 or **Sarah Coblenz** at 503.466.2256.
- Judaism 5G, The Upgrade will be the theme of our Regional Conference from April 29-May 2 in Walnut Creek, CA. We will have a workshop on how to integrate technology into Sisterhood with maximum results, a Jewish meditation workshop, great speakers, and many other exciting activities.

There is so much that we can share together as women. I hope to see all of you very, very soon!

B' Shalom,

Cathy Blair

Sisterhood President

cathyblair55@yahoo.com

503.675.1328

MEN'S CLUB

During the month of October the Men's Club, under the leadership of **Gary Laroff**, constructed the Sukkah which was enjoyed by one and all. Many thanks need to be given to the following individuals who contributed to the construction and the take-down of the Sukkah: **Bob Zucker, Mike Titelbaum, Gary Tenner, Mike Rogson, Jonathan Levy, Bruce Stern, David Ushman, Sam Gottlieb, Bob Weiner, Steve Sirkin, David Honigstock, & Gabe Markiz**.

Additionally, Simon Goldstein spoke to the Men's Club concerning cyber-security during October, and in November Alice Bush presented steps of how we can best become prepared for emergencies.



The upcoming Men's Club speakers:

- **January 22:** Bob Horenstein, Community Relations / Allocations Director, Jewish Federation of Portland
 - **February 26:** Eric & Stacy Stevens, Personal trainers & nutritionists
- Please keep us in mind if you need volunteers to assist you in an upcoming Neveh Shalom function. Please get in touch with **Gabe Markiz**, Club President (Gabe@mandfcps.com), or **Peter Wigmore**, Club Secretary (aussiewig711@gmail.com), and we will forward your request to our club members.

We hope the recent Chanukah season created many joyous family memories for you and your loved ones!

Gabe Markiz

Club President

Peter Wigmore

Club Secretary

SALON HAZAK

"Culture and Activities for Finely-Tuned Adults and Their Friends"

Salon Hazak is a dynamic cultural and learning group directed toward, but not limited to, 55 and over members and their friends. On November 14th participants visited the Port of Portland to learn about Portland's role in international trade; on December 14th, we welcomed a scholar and photographer team who presented photographic documentation of Lithuania; and we have a thriving writers' group that meets alternate Mondays. To be added to the monthly e-mail list, contact jgreenberg@nevehshalom.org

Upcoming Events:

- Join us this March for RED, an intense bio-drama of the renowned modern artist (and Oregon-raised) Mark Rothko. RED earned critical laurels in its New York. Set in the 1950s, RED tackles big questions about art—what it takes to create it, and where it belongs in our world. This play invites us to experience a legendary artist through the lens of the assistant brought on to help him with a project Rothko is not so sure he can accept completing. The New York Times reports "...RED captures the dynamic relationship between an artist and his creations." The group will stay for a Director's talk afterwards.
- March 1, Noon. We will meet at Portland Center Stage at 11:40am. RSVP by February 15 to kwilkins@nevehshalom.org or 503 246-8831. Tickets are \$31, payable to Neveh Shalom.
- A docent led tour to the Portland Art Museum's Rothko exhibit will be coordinated around the time of the theater production. E-mail jgreenberg@nevehshalom.org or call 503.246.8831 if you are interested in updated information on this tour.

JEWISH FILM CLUB



Join us at the
Portland

International Film Festival
Feb. 9-25, 2012

<http://www.nwfilm.org/festivals/piff>

We usually gather every 4-6 weeks to enjoy Jewish themed films and to discuss afterwards. Refreshments served. Those interested in being on the email invitation list (and to RSVP) contact Paul or Joan Sher at Joanzsher@aol.com or Paul at paulsher@me.com.

LIBRARY CORNER



Winter Hours for the Library:

Monday,
Tuesday,
Thursday
8:30am to
1:30pm
Sunday 8am
to 12 noon*
Wednesday
4pm to
8:30pm*
*When ALIYAH
Jewish Learning
Program is in
session

Watch the
weekly eBlast for
NEW Arrivals in
the Library



Shalom Chaverim! What an exciting and busy first semester we have had in our new ALIYAH Jewish Learning Programs! We have a phenomenal staff of educators working with our children in K-12 this year, and I want to share some of the highlights of our programming from the past several months:

- **The chugim (electives) in our K-5 program on Yom Rishon (Sundays) have been a great success!** Our children are learning about Jewish artists and utilizing new techniques to create beautiful creative works with artist Michelle Katz; exploring the outdoors and Jewish values around nature with youth advisor Emily Oren; adding kinesthetic learning to the mix with Hebrew yoga instructor Raki Kopernik; and exploring Jewish history during the 2nd Temple Period through a role-playing game with biblical historian Matthew Cuda. These chugim are in addition to the core curriculum on Sundays of Ivrit (Hebrew), Yahadut (Jewish building blocks), and Mitzvot (an active mitzvah project curriculum).
- **We are also loving our new ALIYAH Shabbat program.** On the first weekend of every month, instead of coming on Sundays, over one hundred kids in Kindergarten through 5th grade have been coming together for an upbeat, social Shabbat program with their youth cohort. Many parents stay and learn, pray, and enjoy along with their children. Parents get to connect on real topics relating to Jewish practice and spirituality during our parent conversation time

on these mornings—I look forward to more!

- **Our 3rd-6th graders are hard at work on Ivrit (Hebrew) and Tefilah (prayer) during Shavua (weekday) programming!** A team of staff and volunteers are evaluating our teaching efficacy on these topics, so that we know where we are most successful in our teaching and where we need to improve.
- **Thirteen 6th Grade families came together at Camp Schechter for the 6th Grade Family Retreat** in November, led by 6th grade teachers Rosana Berdichevsky and Josh Lake. We're looking forward to the 3rd-5th Grade Retreat (for kids only!) in February, also at Camp Schechter.
- **We have an amazing core of over 20 Teen Madrichim** who assist in our classrooms with the K-6th grades. Many of these teens are also participating in our Youth Leadership class in the Tichon (Wednesday night high school) program, led by Deb Freedberg and Keren Barbash-Benedek.
- **Tichon (Wednesday night high school program) is going strong with over 90 students registered.** Core classes include topics on Jewish text, identity, and history, and electives include Cantor Bletstein's Musical Theater Workshop (stay tuned for our "Saturday Night Live!" Take-Off for Erev Purim, led by many of our teens!); Jews in the News with **Eric Stone**; Youth Leadership with **Deb Freedberg & Keren Barbash-Benedek**; and 1,000 Mitzvot with **Michelle Caplan**. We look forward to reporting more as we begin Semester 2!

Mel Berwin

Director of Congregational Learning

KOCHAVIM & NOTZ'TZIM

Kochavim & Notz'tzim Hebrew Immersion Programs

We are excited to announce our successful Pre-Kochavim program returns in January as an exciting new program alongside Notz'tzim! All are welcome to join us for Notz'tzim fun - stimulating music and Hebrew immersion for children six months and up, followed by a special "next-step-up" program for kids ages two-and-a-half to four years and parents who would like to learn and play too!

- 4:15-4:45pm
parent and child Notz'tzim program (then free-play time in the Large Muscle Room for tots ages 0-2.5)
 - 4:45-5:45pm
Pre-Kochavim program 2.5-4 year olds and parents too
- Contact us to register or to sample a free trial class! HaMerkaz Program Coordinator Caroline Buchalter, cbuchalter@nevehshalom.org.

FOUNDATION SCHOOL



Foundation School is happy to welcome everyone back to school following our winter vacation. We hope all the families had time to slow down and enjoy some peaceful moments while lighting the Chanukah candles together.

The month of January will find the children embracing the season of winter. Stories and songs about sparkly snowflakes whirling and fat snowmen melting will enrich the curriculum. We will discover how water changes from liquid to solid ice, talk about what animals do in the winter, and match mittens by color and size. Children will be reminded that they too need to be prepared for the cold weather in winter by dressing warmly when they come to school.

Even in the midst of winter's chill we will begin to look toward spring as the Jewish holidays of Shabbat Shira, the birthday of the birds, and Tu B'Shvat, the birthday of trees, arrive. Children will make bird feeders, create with feathers and pretend to be birds hatching from eggs. Seeds will be planted, branches studied, and the importance of trees to our world will be emphasized. Our All-School Shabbat Program on Friday February 3 will feature songs about birds and trees performed by the children in our 3-year-old classrooms. It won't be long before the first signs of new spring leaf-buds will appear and bulbs will push up from the ground around Neveh Shalom and we will be watching with the children!

Shalom,
Jan Skolnik & Kathy Wolfson



SHORESHIM

Shalom from Shoreshim! We've had a great fall and are excited about the extremely fun winter events for young families.

Thank you to everyone who attended November's "Raising Your Mensch." We had a wonderful turn out (almost 70 people). The energy and enthusiasm for learning about tzedakah and building community was fantastic! We would also like to thank ALL our wonderful volunteers who helped make the evening possible! Special thanks to: Annual Giving Campaign Committee and Board Member - **Mark Zeitzer**; USY Board Members **Albert and Ellen Kalenscher**; Board Member, **Lee Spector** for donating our delicious dinner from his Beaverton Pizzicato; and, of course,



Rabbi Greenstein for leading us in Havdalah and teaching us valuable lessons about tzedakah.

See our flyer (and e-newsletter) for details about the popular Havdalah in Pajamas with Cantor B on January 28. The kids love this fun night of song! Be sure to stop by the Winter Family Fun Fest at the MJCC on January 29, from 3-4:30pm. Neveh Shalom will have a table with an activity geared to the Shoreshim age child. Watch the website and e-news for details on this and other great winter events coming up.

I am sad to report that my co-chair **Sonya Horowitz** and her family are moving to the East Coast in January 2012. We will sorely miss not only her dedication to Shoreshim, but all of her family's contributions to the larger Jewish community. Thank you Sonya for everything, and we wish you all the best with your move and future. **Hilary Barthold** and **Margo Litwin** have graciously agreed to join me as co-chairs.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES



Kadimaniks enjoying themselves during Kinnus at Camp Schechter

adviser), Emly (Kadima/Jr Kadima adviser) and I are all in our 20's, creating a special dynamic in our functions. We would like to strengthen the bond between teens/pre-teens and post-college/pre-marriage young adults. Hopefully this can develop into an eventual big brother/sister program as it does in other major Jewish communities. It seems to me that this new initiative in Portland is starting with the conversations between USYers and my staff (plus Moishe House residents).

The full Youth Activities calendar thru June 2012 is almost finalized and I am very excited for the coming months. Boaz, Emly, and many other staff members and parent volunteers have been working very hard to provide our families with Jewish, fun, educational, and tikkun olam youth programs. We are also building a full youth commission to guarantee progress and a synthesis between youth activities, education, and Camp Schechter. Contact me for any questions, concerns, or just to say shalom! B'Shalom,

Jonathan Morgan
Youth Director



Small Tot Playgroup

Babies and Toddlers 1-3 years old and their parents or caregivers- join us for indoor playtime each Friday from 9-10:30am. Free of charge and open to all! Bring your own vegetarian snack. We meet in the Foundation School Large Muscle Room.



Shalom CNS! These past three months have been a wonderful experience for me and even though I am still relatively new, the youth program is gaining significant traction. Most importantly we have awesome numbers of "yoots" coming out to events because they are seeking a social life from within our *Shul*. Our chapter's attendance records for the USY weekend getaways at Camp Schechter have set the bar for the entire Pacific Northwest Region with *both high school and middle school!*

One thing that's unique with our youth activities program at CNS is that Boaz (USY

ADULT EDUCATION

Beit Ha Midrash

***Rabbi Stampfer's Talmud Class**, Tuesdays, 5:00-6:00pm, Room 111

***Rabbi's Isaak's Bible Class**, Thursdays, 3:30pm, Room 111
Please call the office to confirm classes are meeting, 503.246.8831

Jewish Philosophy

This informal study group will meet on a regular basis, with an initial focus on some essays by Emanuel Levinas. Mark Sherman and Merridawn Duckler will be among the facilitators of this group. If you are interested in participating, contact Mark Sherman at msherman18@comcast.net.

Adult Ed: Read and Discuss

"Jerusalem: A Biography" by Simon Sebag Montifiore
Wednesdays, 7-8:15pm beginning Jan. 4

A new tome on Jerusalem. Find it at Costco for \$19.99 (\$35 retail). Rabbi Isaak will read and discuss this book with fellow congregants during Wednesday Night School beginning January 4. Participants can join with our High School students for dinner at 6pm for a nominal fee. In the meantime mark your calendars, buy the book, and reserve Wednesday evenings for what Rabbi Isaak hopes will prove fascinating conversations.

Weekend in Quest

February 24-26, 2012

To all Judaic Studies Enthusiasts, "Weekend in Quest", a Shabbaton sponsored by the Institute for Judaic Studies and co-sponsored by Neveh Shalom, is scheduled for February 24, 25 and 26, 2012 in Astoria. This is an opportunity to study with an outstanding scholar, celebrate Shabbat and visit with old and new friends for a weekend. Professor Oren Kosansky, associate professor of anthropology at Lewis & Clark College, will speak on the Modern Moroccan Jewish experience. For more details, please refer to the brochure on the website, <http://www.weekendinquest.org>. The registration form is a part of the brochure. A new feature this year is the ability to use Paypal to register and pay online. For more information please contact **Addie Banasky** addieban@comcast.net, or **Mimi Epstein** mimiepstein42@comcast.net.



Germany/Israel Trip
June 27-July 11, 2012

JOIN CANTOR BLETSTEIN ON THIS MISSION TRIP WITH THE CANTORS ASSEMBLY!

FOR TENTATIVE ITINERARY & PRICING INFORMATION CONTACT
CANTOR BLETSTEIN, 503-246.8831 EXT. 116,
DBLETSTEIN@NEVEHSHALOM.ORG

CHESED

Community of Care



Chesed is the virtue of loving-kindness.

The Chesed Committee is a dedicated group of people who support our Neveh Shalom community people in need. We visit people, cook meals, and provide rides for those in need of care and healing. We would love to have you join us and be a part of our growing team!

Keep us in mind if you need our caring support.

For more information or if you are interested in joining the Chesed Committee, please contact Rabbi Bradley Greenstein, rabbigreenstein@yahoo.com, 503.246.8831.

A Havurah is an independent group of individuals, couples and/or families who come together to study, socialize, or celebrate - often in homes, as determined by the members in each group. A havurah can be an enjoyable way to get to know others in a large congregation.

At the beginning of the year you may have filled out a havurah form.

If not, it is not too late to participate.

Here are a few havurot that could form when there are enough people.

See one that seems like a good fit?

E-mail or call to let us know you are interested:

jgreenberg@nevehshalom.org, 503.293.7313.

Hillsboro and the Surrounding Area

Families, Singles, Couples...let's get together from time to time to celebrate and get to know each other. Don't drive into Portland - hunker down near home!

Havdalah on the Town

Single? 30's, 40's or 50's? Let's organize a night once every few months to burn down that multi-wicked candle a notch and then hit the Portland micro-whatever scene...brew, cart, club...you name it!

Interfaith Families

Have kids, or not, and would like to get together with others for laid-back holidays and relaxed celebrations? Let's connect!

65 Plus: Lunch Hour

Join together for a light lunch every few months in the Neveh Shalom atrium. Connect with others

over a meal. This group open to all 65+ looking to meet others.

Ladies' Wine and Jewish Books

Love a good discussion and perhaps a glass of vino? Let's get a group together to read good lit and compare notes.

Family Learning Circle

Are you looking for ways to deepen your celebrations and bring more Jewish rituals to your home as a family? Build confidence in expanding the depth of your observance by coming together over Shabbat or holidays with other families looking to do the same.

Vancouver and the Surrounding Area

Families, Singles, Couples...we will get together from time to time to enjoy getting to know our neighbors in the Vancouver area. No need to cross the bridge - let's get a Washington group going.

EASTSIDE

MIZRACH:

A NEVEH COMMUNITY...



Neveh Shalom's Eastside Action!

NOSHING WITH THE NEIGHBORS!

Sunday, January 15, 5:30pm in a home near you!

Thank you to everyone who has agreed to be a host! We are still looking for a few more host homes...

On Sunday, January 15, Mizrach will coordinate "Noshing with the Neighbors!"

- Small simultaneous potluck dinner parties all over the Eastside. We will invite the Mizrach neighbors who live close by, help with the introductions and make sure everyone has a seat at a table. We are looking for host families

throughout the entire Eastside. Find out who your Neveh Shalom neighbors are and share a casual meal together. We're also asking everyone to bring a can of food to donate to charity.

We are working now on connecting hosts and their neighbors.

Would you like to open your home for a small potluck? Or, would you like to be hosted? Either way, it will help us to hear from you. Call or email today!

We will be connecting hosts and those interested in attending. Call or email today! We need to know how you would like to join in. Would you like to open your home for a small potluck? Or, would you like to be hosted? Either way, it will help us to hear from you.

If you are interested in attending a "Noshing with the Neighbors" dinner, please contact **Ann Sanderson** at sanderson.ann@gmail.com or 503.771.3477; or **Wendy Kahn**, Membership and Development Director, wkahn@nevehshalom.org or 503.293.7305.

KVELL WITH US

Mazel Tov to **Lois Shenker** on the hard-copy release of her book, *A Blessed Dying*, following the success of its serialization online. See more at <http://www.ablessedlying.com>

Mazel Tov to **Michelle & Loren Koplan** on the birth of their daughter, **Elizabeth Sarah**, on October 27, 2011.

Mazel Tov to **Elizabeth Steiner Hayward** on announcing her candidacy for 2012 Oregon State Senate. Follow her on her Facebook Page, <http://www.facebook.com/ESHayward>

Mazel Tov to **Elaine Bacharach Coughlin &**

Jonathan Lietz on the engagement of their daughter, Jody Coughlin, to Matt Greene, son of Steve & Fran Greene of San Diego. Jody's grandmother is **Gloria Bacharach**. Jody & Matt plan to have a December 2012 wedding in San Diego.

Mazel Tov to Aimee Coughlin Johnson & Aaron Johnson on the birth of their firstborn, a son, Amari Ashton Johnson, on 11/11/11, in Portland, OR. Grandparents are **Elaine Bacharach Coughlin & Jonathan Lietz**, great grandmother is **Gloria Bacharach**.

Mazel Tov to Aaron Gorin, MD (son of

Carolyn & Larry Gorin and grandson of **Goldie Barde** and the late **Leonard Barde**, z"l) on receiving several honors this year. As a board certified plastic surgeon in Tualatin, Aaron was selected by his peers as a Top Doctor in his field for the 2011 *Portland Monthly* Top Doctor edition, received the 2011 Patients' Choice Award (as well as 2008, 2009, and 2010) and was recently voted in *US News Magazine* as one of the "Top Doctors 2011."

Mazel Tov to Eric Wasserman, son of **Joel & Hilarie Wasserman**, on publishing his first novel, *Celluloid Strangers*. See more at <http://ericwasserman.com/celluloidstrangers.html>.

KOL-HA-KAVOD

Every simcha is special. Congratulations to our many members who are celebrating in September and October. In particular, mazel tov to the following members who are celebrating special five year milestones!

MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS IN JANUARY

Sidney Atlas
Glen Coblens
Deborah Freedberg
Jennifer Director Knudsen
Vladimir Fiks
Thelma Geffen
Marta Hasson
David Hosenpud
Sandra Hupp
Karen Johnson
Michelle Koplan
Jerry Kryszek
Scot Leavitt
Lauri Levy
Leonard Lewitt
William Loeb
Neil Rolnitzky
Robert Rudolph
Inna Shabashevich
Leonard Springer
Deborah Winer

MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS IN FEBRUARY

Francine Abolofia
Ron Ail
Michelle Alberts
Teresa Coughlin
Howard David
Amy Elkanich
Brian Garrison

Paul Gilliam
Lesley Glasgow
Diana Golden
Allen Hoffman
Harvey Keller
Nina Khatayevich
Ida Levenshtein
Edith Levitt
Merritt Linn
Joseph Mandiberg
Robert & Karen Metter
Wendy Miller
Naum Miroshnik
Sam Monastyrsky
Jonathan Morgan
Jordan & Debbie Plawner
Jake Raiton
Shari Katz
Steve Rudolph
Jack Schwartz
Gail Semler
Chris Shirkoff
Robert Shlachter
Eric Stone
Gennady Talal
Marla Weiner
Jeffrey Yonover

MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES IN JANUARY:

Larry & Eliane Caplan
Harold & Jackie Lesch
Ber & Ida Levenshtein
Rebecca Shine & Anne Galisky

MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES IN FEBRUARY:

Jay & Nancy Drogan
Louis Feldman & Risa Colton-Feldman
Andy & Lauren Fortgang
Leonard & Nira Levine
Darryl & Sherryll Mleynek
Simon & Inga Newman
Jack & Barbara Schwartz
Brian Suher & Barbara Atlas
Michael & Barbara Titelbaum

מזל טוב!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:



Noah & Callie Barish
Alex Zelkind
Bella Zelkind

We are moving the "Refuah Shelma" list to our weekly eBlast, in order to keep our news relevant and up-to-date.

IN MEMORIAM

WE MOURN THE LOSS OF SYNAGOGUE MEMBERS

HYMAN BALK

AVRAAM HAYAT

IDA BRAND CHAD

DORA WADDLE-DENICHENKO

May their souls be bound in the bonds of eternal life.

CONDOLENCES

Our condolences to our members and their families...

LEE MOPPER ON THE PASSING OF HIS BELOVED UNCLE,
SAMUEL MOPPER

SUE SCHWARTZ ON THE PASSING OF HER BELOVED MOTHER,
IDA BRAND CHAD

ARLENE SIEGEL COGEN ON THE PASSING OF HER BELOVED
MOTHER, ADA GUTTA KAPLAN SIEGEL

JULIA WACO ON THE PASSING OF HER BELOVED FATHER,
HOWARD WACO.

ALEX MILBERT ON THE PASSING OF HIS BELOVED
GRANDMOTHER, LINDA GRATMAN.

CEMETERY HEADSTONE UNVEILINGS:

CAROL GINSBERG, SUN. FEB. 5, 11:00AM NEVEH ZEDEK,
7925 SW CANYON LANE, 97225

When a Death Occurs

If you wish *Tabara* for your loved one--respectful preparation for burial according to ancient Jewish tradition--you may request it from Holman's Funeral Home, 503. 232.5131, or the funeral home of your choice. The funeral home will then notify the Chevra.

REFUAH SHLEMA

A speedy recovery to:

In this section, we wish a speedy recovery to those members who are ill or having surgery. Since the *Chronicle* is published only six times per year, we are moving the "Refuah Shelma" list to our weekly eBlast, in order to keep our news relevant and up-to-date.

Remember, the *mi-sheberach* (the prayer for healing) is recited at morning services following the Torah reading. If you would like to submit a name for this prayer, you may call the office at 503.246.8831.

TO HONOR THEIR MEMORY...



One of the noblest Jewish traditions is the preservation of the name of a loved one on the Memorial Board in the Synagogue Sanctuary and the lighting of a memorial light on the anniversary of death. This is an eternal reminder of our dear departed one and the love and respect their memory evokes.

At Neveh Shalom, we have two beautiful Memorial Boards, which serve two functions. A large plaque is placed in the Sanctuary for the entire year of mourning and for every Yahrzeit. Another smaller plaque is permanently maintained in the Memorial Niche. The cost for this set of plaques is \$800. Please phone **JoAnn Bezodis** at the Synagogue office, 503.293.7309.

CLERGY VISITS

To assure that clergy make visits to congregants in the hospital, extended care facilities and hospices, please contact the office at Congregation Neveh Shalom, 503.246.8831. In an effort to comply with the new patient privacy laws, healthcare facilities may not release the names of their patients; it is imperative that you provide the name of the member, the facility name, patient's room number, length of anticipated stay, your relationship to the patient and a number where you can be reached if further information is needed.

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Provided free with membership

When a death occurs call the synagogue office
503.246.8831
so that we may inform **Rabbi Isaak** and/or **Rabbi Greenstein** and be of assistance.
After business hours, on weekends or holidays, contact
Fred Rothstein at 503.475.2934 or
Rabbi Isaak 503.228.8819
See page 14 for more information.

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CONGREGATION NEVEH SHALOM FEBRUARY 2012/5772 - SHEVAT/ADAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			8 SHEVAT 1 7:15am Minyan 4:15pm Shavua 4:15pm Notz'tzim, Pre-Kochavim & Kochavim 6pm Tichon 7pm Book Group "Jerusalem" w/Rabbi Isaak	9 SHEVAT 2 7:15am Minyan Lifeline Screening 10:30am Melton w/R. Stampfer 3:30pm Bible Class w/R. Isaak 4:15pm Shavua 7pm Executive Committee Mtg. 7pm Jewish Philosophy Group	10 SHEVAT 3 7:00am Minyan 9am Small Tot Playgroup 6:15pm First Friday w/Ilene Safyan 5:02pm 	11 SHEVAT 4 Adult B'Nai Mitzvah 9am Shabbat Morning Services 9:30am K-5 Aliyah 1st Shabbat 9:30am 6th gr Shabbat 10:15am Tot Shabbat SHABBAT SHIRAH BESHALLACH
12 SHEVAT 5 9:00am Minyan 9am Cooking for Outside In 11am Unveiling for Carol Ginsberg at Neveh Zedek Cemetery	13 SHEVAT 6 7:15am Minyan 12:30pm Mah Jongg 2pm Melton w/R. Stampfer 4:15pm Shavua 4:15pm Kochavim 7pm Machon Ivrit 7pm Darfur Meeting	14 SHEVAT 7 7:15am Minyan 4:15pm Shavua 5:00pm Talmud w/R. Stampfer	15 SHEVAT 8 7:15am Minyan 4:15pm Shavua 4:15pm Notz'tzim, Pre-Kochavim & Kochavim 6pm Tichon 7pm Book Group "Jerusalem" w/Rabbi Isaak Tu B'Shevat	16 SHEVAT 9 7:15am Minyan 10:30am Melton w/R. Stampfer 3:30pm Bible Class w/R. Isaak 4:15pm Shavua	17 SHEVAT 10 7:15am Minyan 9am Small Tot Playgroup 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat Serv. with ORA Shalom 5:12pm 	18 SHEVAT 11 Hannah Sturman Bat Mitzvah 9am Shabbat Morning Services 9am Downstairs Minyan
19 SHEVAT 12 9:00am Minyan 8:30AM Pancake Breakfast 9am Kol haKehilah-Tu B'Shevat 12pm Sisterhood Event	20 SHEVAT 13 7:15am Minyan 12:30pm Mah Jongg 2pm Melton w/R. Stampfer 4:15pm Shavua 4:15pm Kochavim 7pm Machon Ivrit	21 SHEVAT 14 7:15am Minyan 4:15pm Shavua 5:00pm Talmud w/R. Stampfer	22 SHEVAT 15 7:15am Minyan 4:15pm Shavua 4:15pm Notz'tzim, Pre-Kochavim & Kochavim 6pm Tichon	23 SHEVAT 16 7:15am Minyan 10:30am Melton w/R. Stampfer 3:30pm Bible Class w/R. Isaak 4:15pm Shavua 7pm Board Mtg. 7pm Jewish Philosophy Group	24 SHEVAT 17 7:15am Minyan 9am Small Tot Playgroup 6:15pm Chik Chak Service and Dinner by reservation 8:44pm 	25 SHEVAT 18 9am New Babies Shabbat Services 9:30am 6th gr Shabbat 10am Kehillat Noar 10am KEVA w/ R. Greenstein 10:15am Tot Shabbat SHABBAT SHEKALIM MISHPATIM
26 SHEVAT 19 9:00am Minyan 9am Shomrei Teva Creekside Renovation 10am Neveh Knits & Crochets USY Potluck in the Park and Miniature Golf (time TBD) NO SCHOOLS	27 SHEVAT 20 7:15am Minyan 12:30pm Mah Jongg 2pm Melton w/R. Stampfer	28 SHEVAT 21 7:15am Minyan 4:15pm Shavua 5:00pm Talmud w/R. Stampfer	29 SHEVAT 22 7:15am Minyan 4:15pm Shavua 4:15pm Notz'tzim, Pre-Kochavim & Kochavim 6pm Tichon	30 SHEVAT 23 7:00am Minyan 10:30am Melton w/R. Stampfer 3:30pm Bible Class w/R. Isaak 4:15pm Shavua 7pm Taste and Travel 7pm Auction Meeting ROSH CHODESH	1 ADAR 24 7:00am Minyan 9am Small Tot Playgroup 6:15pm Men's Club Shabbat Serv 6:45pm Hinenu Shabbat Serv. 8:46pm 	2 ADAR 25 9am Combined Services 3rd-5th Grade Retreat & Kadima Spring Kinnus - off-site Weekend In Quest - Astoria TERUMAH
3 ADAR 26 9:00am Minyan 9am Yom Rishon (K-2 & 6th only) 9:30am Men's Club 3rd-5th Grade Retreat & Kadima Spring Kinnus - off-site Weekend In Quest - Astoria	4 ADAR 27 7:15am Minyan 12:30pm Mah Jongg 2pm Melton w/R. Stampfer 4:15pm Shavua 4:15pm Kochavim 7pm Machon Ivrit	5 ADAR 28 7:15am Minyan 4:15pm Shavua 5:00pm Talmud w/R. Stampfer	6 ADAR 29 7:15am Minyan 4:15pm Shavua 4:15pm Notz'tzim, Pre-Kochavim & Kochavim 6pm Tichon LEAP YEAR DAY			

CONGREGATION NEVEH SHALOM JANUARY 2012/5772 - TEVET/SHEVAT

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
6 TEVET 1 9:00am Minyan 	7 TEVET 2 900am Minyan 7pm Machon Ivrit <div style="background-color: red; color: white; text-align: center; padding: 5px;">OFFICE AND SCHOOLS CLOSED FOR THE NEW YEAR</div>	8 TEVET 3 7:15am Minyan 4:15pm Shavua 5:00pm Talmud w/R. Stampfer	9 TEVET 4 7:15am Minyan 4:15pm Shavua 4:15pm Kochavim 6pm Tichon 7pm Book Group "Jerusalem" w/Rabbi Isaak	10 TEVET 5 7:15am Minyan 10:30am Melton w/R. Stampfer 3:30pm Bible Class w/R. Isaak 4:15pm Shavua 7pm Executive Meeting 7pm Book Review "The Marriage Artist" 7pm Jewish Philosophy Group	11 TEVET 6 7:15am Minyan <div style="background-color: green; color: white; text-align: center; padding: 2px;">Aaron Welter Bar Mitzvah</div> 9am Small Tot Playgroup 6:15pm First Friday with Ilene Safyan <div style="text-align: right;">4:25pm </div>	12 TEVET 7 <div style="background-color: green; color: white; text-align: center; padding: 2px;">Aaron Welter Bar Mitzvah</div> 9am Shabbat Services 9:30am K-5th gr. ALIYAH Shabbat 9:30am 6th gr Shabbat 10:15am Tot Shabbat 7:30pm Jr. Kadima Sleepover <div style="text-align: right;">Veyechi</div>
13 TEVET 8 9:00am Minyan 9am Cooking for Outside In 2pm ORA Meeting USY bowling (time TBD)	14 TEVET 9 7:15am Minyan 12:30pm Mah Jongg 1pm Weekend In Quest Meeting 2pm Melton w/R. Stampfer 4:15pm Shavua 4:15pm Kochavim 7pm Machon Ivrit 7pm Darfur Meeting	15 TEVET 10 7:15am Minyan 4:15pm Shavua 5:00pm Talmud w/R. Stampfer 7pm Auction Meeting	16 TEVET 11 7:15am Minyan 4:15pm Shavua 4:15pm Notz'tzim, Pre-Kochavim & Kochavim 6pm Tichon 7pm Book Group "Jerusalem" w/Rabbi Isaak 7pm Annual Giving Meeting	17 TEVET 12 7:15am Minyan 10:30am Melton w/R. Stampfer 3:30pm Bible Class w/R. Isaak 4:15pm Shavua 7pm Sisterhood presents: "Exploring the Ketubah"	18 TEVET 13 7:15am Minyan 9am Small Tot Playgroup <div style="background-color: green; color: white; text-align: center; padding: 2px;">7:30pm PDX Live! Service & ORA Shalom</div>  <div style="text-align: right;">4:33pm </div>	19 TEVET 14 9am Combined Shabbat Service 5:30pm Kadima (off-site Big Al's) <div style="text-align: right;">Shemot</div>
20 TEVET 15 9:00am Minyan 9:45am Creekside Restoration 10am Neveh Knits & Crochets 5:30pm Mizrach Noshing with Neighbors - various eastside locations	21 TEVET 16 7:15am Minyan <div style="background-color: red; color: white; text-align: center; padding: 5px;">SCHOOLS CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAY!</div> 12:30pm Mah Jongg 2pm Melton w/R. Stampfer <div style="background-color: orange; text-align: center; padding: 2px;">Martin Luther King Day</div>	22 TEVET 17 7:15am Minyan 4:15pm Shavua 5:00pm Talmud w/R. Stampfer	23 TEVET 18 7:15am Minyan 4:15pm Shavua 4:15pm Notz'tzim, Pre-Kochavim & Kochavim 6pm Tichon 7pm Auction Meeting 7pm Book Group "Jerusalem" w/Rabbi Isaak	24 TEVET 19 7:15am Minyan 10:30am Melton w/R. Stampfer 3:30pm Bible Class w/R. Isaak 4:15pm Shavua 7pm Board Meeting 7pm Jewish Philosophy Group	25 TEVET 20 7:15am Minyan <div style="background-color: green; color: white; text-align: center; padding: 2px;">Jessica Schwartz Bat Mitzvah</div> 9am Small Tot Playgroup 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat Serv. 6:15pm Chik Chak Service and Dinner (by reservation) <div style="text-align: right;">4:42pm </div>	26 TEVET 21 <div style="background-color: green; color: white; text-align: center; padding: 2px;">Jessica Schwartz Bat Mitzvah</div> 9am Shabbat Services 9:30am 6th gr Shabbat 10am Kehillat Noar 10am KEVA w/R. Greenstein 10:15am Tot Shabbat <div style="text-align: right;">Va'era</div>
27 TEVET 22 9:00am Minyan 9am Yom Rishon 9:40am Men's Club 9:30am New member brunch (off site)	28 TEVET 23 7:15am Minyan 12:30pm Mah Jongg 2pm Melton w/R. Stampfer 4:15pm Shavua 4:15pm Kochavim 7pm Machon Ivrit	29 TEVET 24 7:15am Minyan 4:15pm Shavua 5:00pm Talmud w/R. Stampfer	1 SHEVAT 25 7:00am Minyan 4:15pm Shavua 4:15pm Notz'tzim, Pre-Kochavim & Kochavim 6pm Tichon 7pm "Jerusalem" w/R. Isaak <div style="background-color: lightblue; text-align: center; padding: 2px;">ROSH CHODESH</div>	2 SHEVAT 26 7:15am Minyan 10:30am Melton w/R. Stampfer 10:30am Cemetery Comm Mtg 3:30pm Bible Class w/R. Isaak 4:15pm Shavua	3 SHEVAT 27 7:15am Minyan <div style="background-color: green; color: white; text-align: center; padding: 2px;">Eugene Munblit Bar Mitzvah</div> 9am Small Tot Playgroup 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat Serv. 6:45pm Hinenu Shabbat Serv. <div style="text-align: right;">4:52pm </div>	4 SHEVAT 28 <div style="background-color: green; color: white; text-align: center; padding: 2px;">Eugene Munblit Bar Mitzvah</div> 9am Shabbat Services 9am Downstairs Minyan 5:30pm Shoreshim Havdalah in Pajamas w/ Cantor Bletstein USY Game Night (time TBD) <div style="text-align: right;">Bo</div>
5 SHEVAT 29 9:00am Minyan 9am Yom Rishon	6 SHEVAT 30 7:15am Minyan 12:30pm Mah Jongg 2pm Melton w/R. Stampfer 4:15pm Shavua 4:15pm Kochavim 7pm Machon Ivrit	7 SHEVAT 31 7:15am Minyan 4:15pm Shavua 5:00pm Talmud w/R. Stampfer				

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Either on your own or with your friends, transport yourself from cold, wet Portland to a warm relaxing, and invigorating spa experience.

You have two options for registration:

- Individual:** Book a spot for a relaxing full massage or reflexology treatment, followed by delicious Middle Eastern refreshments. Suggested donation: \$80-\$100 for 60 minutes.
- Group:** Invite a group of 5-8 friends to join you in a luxurious round of spa treatments. Together you will enjoy yoga, massage, a hot tub soak, and delicious Middle Eastern refreshments. Suggested donation per person: \$60-\$120 for 90 minutes.

100% of your donation benefits our Hebrew Immersion programs for children and adults, providing financial aid to those who would otherwise be unable to participate.

To reserve an individual or group spot, starting any time between 10am and 4pm on Sunday, January 8th, contact Caroline Buchalter at cbuchalter@nevehshalom.org or 503.246.8831, ext. 312.

Individuals who donate \$100 or more - and all group leaders - will be entered into a raffle for a special luxury gift basket!

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Win prizes for the most fun pajamas!

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Marianne Wollstein

Mah Jongg Madness Brunch and Tournament

Sunday, March 18, 2012
11:00am
Congregation Neveh Shalom
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Experienced and new players are welcome (no teaching).

11:00 am Brunch and explanation of rules
12:00 - 4:00pm Tournament and prizes

Reservations must be made by March 9th
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For more information please contact:
Judi Goodman at 503.531.7205 or Sarah Coblens at 503.466.2256

Payment must accompany registration form

Please make checks payable to Neveh Shalom Sisterhood

No registrations taken after March 9th.

Mail to: Congregation Neveh Shalom, 2900 SW Peaceful Ln., Portland, OR 97239

Attn: Sisterhood Mah Jongg

Name(s) _____

Phone _____

I will be coming for brunch: yes _____ no _____

I can provide a Mah Jongg set _____ card table _____



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