# CHRONICLE

OF CONGREGATION NEVEH SHALOM



# **Connecting with Neveh Shalom**

#### **CNS Pride Dinner CNS**



**Dad's Night Shabbat in the Park** 



**Young Family Activities** 







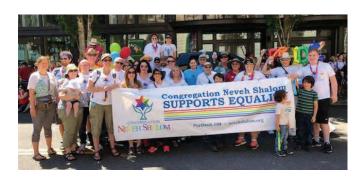
**Wondering Jews Summer Outings** 







**CNS at the PDX Pride Parade** 



**Sisterhood End of Year Picnic** 



**Wise Women! Gathering** 





# Ultimate Frisbee and the Pitfalls of Inclusion

#### A Text Study for Our Time By Rabbi David Kosak



was the captain of my high school ultimate frisbee team. Frisbee had a real following in my school and we would scrimmage three times a week. On game weeks we'd only practice twice. I developed a reputation for letting weaker players participate at all scrimmages. This was at a time when the other club teams at my school focused only on the strongest players. Those weaker players expressed a sense of gratitude to me, and I in my turn felt good that they had the opportunity to play. Yet on game days, it was understood that we were only going to field our most competitive crew. At that moment, winning became our main mission.

This story raises many questions for me at this point of my life. Was my behavior inclusive or exclusive of the weaker players? Was it exclusive because I essentially placated a large group of people who wanted in by giving them a symbolic but not actual victory? Or was it inclusive, because everyone had the chance to play in practice and demonstrate their capabilities? Were the good kids better simply because they had played more (à la Malcolm Gladwell's *The Tipping Point*), and by putting them on the field,

Was I only increasing their privilege and advantage? In other words, was I responsible for the entire context of their advantage, even though that had not occurred on my watch? Or with some moral problems, do you only need to start the clock when you get confronted by them? How far does any individual's responsibility reasonably go? As soon as we claim it is infinite (as A.J. Heschel did), we risk making the statement meaningless—for the infinite extends beyond human power, even though we may manipulate it in certain branches of mathematics.

These questions bring me even more questions: Does a club team have a responsibility to let in anyone who wishes, out of a sense of equality? To diminish prejudice? Or are all clubs exclusive by the fact that they have a restricted focus, bylaws, and so on? Should a Jew be allowed to join and remain in a Catholic club even though they argue with the Catholic tenets of the club at every turn? What values and groups will take precedence? How do we balance religious freedom and freedom of expression with our anti-discrimination laws? What is the meaning of a wedding cake? And with all this tangled morass of contradictions which some people will try to resolve to show there are no contradictions—what is the real point of inclusion anyway? Is it an absolute value and if so, is it always absolute? Does saving a life take precedence? What about keeping a family employed?

I believe deeply in inclusion, yet for all of the above moral complexities, I normally can't find guidance for my thinking from our secular society's discussion of this topic. I suppose it is because I harbor a suspicion of human nature. "Ki

yetzer lev haAdam ra m'n'uraiv. For the imagination of the human heart is wicked from its youth." Let me elaborate.

The Jewish tradition holds an optimistic view of the direction of human life. We are tilting, however slowly, towards a messianic age of redemption. This, of course, is the basis of the West's belief in progress, and it stands in contradistinction to the Greek tragic view of human activity. It is the Jewish belief in progress that makes possible the very notion of social action. Each of us can make a difference.

Our sacred writings maintain that human division below is representative of divine unity above. We have all learned that each of us carries a divine spark, and the book of Psalms explicitly tells us that we are all God's children.

How many are Your works, O Lord, In wisdom You made them all; The earth is full of your creatures. (Ps. 104)

Despite that positive slant, Judaism is rather suspicious of human efforts at inclusion precisely because it holds so strongly that human diversity is a sign of God. Nowhere is this argued more powerfully than in the strange and cryptic episode of the Tower of Babel. On the surface, this story is quite disturbing. God finds all of humanity working on a common building project and speaking a common language. Rather than God taking joy at this turn of events, the Holy One scatters us and confuses our language.

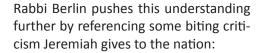
Is God simply jealous? That's one way to

Continued on next page

# The Pitfalls of Inclusion Continued from Page 3

read this story, but it's not a very robust interpretation. No, the best understanding I have come across is given voice by the 19th century Lithuanian thinker, Rabbi Hirsch Leib Berlin (the Netziv).

The Netziv was familiar with our midrashic literature, in which we learn that infants were used in making bricks and that no concern was shown when workers fell off the tower to their demise. God's rejection of the Babel project, in other words, came as a response to such human cruelty. As the Netziv phrases it, "If they complete the tower, they will reach a stage where they forcibly prevent anyone disagreeing with their plan and this coercion will lead to murder and violence which will destroy society completely."



How skilled you are at pursuing love! Even the worst of women can learn from your ways.

On your clothes, men find the lifeblood of the innocent poor, Though you did not catch them breaking in. (Jer. 2:33-34)

According to Berlin, in Jeremiah's days, "there were groups of people who believed that they possessed more love and peace than anyone else." The prophet rebukes them for this falsehood, uttered while their clothes were covered with the blood of the innocent poor. Berlin concludes that the poor were not part of their group and warns that sectarianism leads to murder. The only way to achieve real peace, he argues, comes when people are careful not to harm those who are not members of their group.

What I extract from these texts is a cautionary tale which gives voice to my sus-



picion of human activity. We also live in a time when many people believe they possess more love and peace than anyone else. Inclusion in the hands of such individuals is almost always exclusionary and destructive, even as their self-right-eousness blinds them to this. Those who are like them and who think the same way are welcome in the tent. Those who do not find the way are barred.

At our best, I believe Neveh Shalom is a community that largely avoids this pitfall. We are a place that welcomes any person who has a genuine interest in Jewish living—even if they are not halakhically Jewish or Jewish at all. Gay or straight? Cis gender or trans? Rich or poor? Left or right? Knowledgable or a beginner? If you want to share Jewish experiences and be part of our community, we welcome you. But you have to want a part in Jewish living. Inclusion in our context is thus not an ultimate value but has a goal of opening the marvels of Judaism to anyone with genuine interest.

Simultaneously, a teaching of the Kotz-ker Rebbe reverberates in my head—"a chasid is someone who doesn't fool themselves." I can think of times when individuals haven't felt welcomed here. When one part of a family wants to exclude another part. When a poor person made us feel uncomfortable.

Inclusion is not a destination. That's what I ultimately extract from the Netziv's take on the Tower of Babel. Inclusion is not something we get to check off of our to-do list. It certainly isn't the practice of a group of people who believe they possess more love and peace than anyone else.

No, inclusion is one of the tools by which we reject the tragic view of life. It's a spiritual practice by which we come to believe—and internalize—that diversity down here really is a reflection of unity above.

So let's keep working as we enter a new year of opportunities, Ray D

# The Line Between Love and Hate By Rabbi Eve Posen

sat down to write this *Chronicle* article on *Erev Tisha B'av*, the eve of one of the darkest days in the Jewish year. This is the day that marks many sad moments for the Jewish people. The destruction of both Temples, the Spanish Inquisition, and a host of other tragedies believed to have taken place on this one destructive day. The tie between these historical events, and for that matter a great number of conflicts in the world, is *sinat chinam*, baseless hatred.

However, what I actually want to talk about is not *sinat chinam* specifically, but its equally destructive cousin, intolerance. These two often go hand in hand, but intolerance has the insidious habit of sneaking around under the guise of righteousness.

For example, the Talmud, in *Eiruvin*, teaches about the schools of Hillel and Shammai. The question asked is this: If both Hillel and Shammai teach the words of a living God, why do we only follow the rulings of Hillel and not Shammai? The answer given is because the stu-

dents of Hillel were kind and gracious. They were open to other ideas and in fact studied the lessons of Shammai as well as their own.

This story resonates with me as I gear up for another program year and our High Holidays. We are a large congregation, which means a lot of needs to fill. Our clergy team works tirelessly to meet the spiritual needs of as many

people as possible, but without a doubt, there will always be a certain percentage of community members in any given event or experience who aren't having their needs met. That's the way any organization serving a large base of people – religious or secular – has to op-

erate: meet the needs of as many people as possible, and acknowledge the fact that you can't please everyone all the time.

Of course, it's easier to accept this concept when your needs aren't the ones going unfulfilled. For better or worse, everyone is in that position at one point or another. Trust me when I say that as a rabbi I've heard every side of every argument. Some people would prefer more English in the service; some people think there's far too much English in the service. Some people would like to see more intergenerational programming; some people prefer that babies and children have their own separate space.

The reality is there's no solution that fits perfectly for every constituent all the time. And while these are valid frustrations, letting them

everything we strive for at Neveh Shalom: inclusion. Instead of closing ourselves off like the students of Shammai,

the Talmud urges us to be like the school of Hillel. Why practice *sinat chinam* when the alternative is *ahavat chinam*, random love? When we consider the needs and desires of those around us along with our own, we are more likely to welcome and include everyone in every part of our community.

# May we build a congregation built on ahavat chinam, the free, unending love and acceptance of all.

color our synagogue relationships and interactions means falling into the trap of the intolerance of Shammai and the path of *sinat chinam*.

I don't mean for this to be an admonishment. Rather, I simply want us to remember the value that is at the core of As we begin this new year, it is my prayer that our community at Neveh Shalom continues to be one that is kind and gracious, that studies our own ideas and welcomes differing opinions into the dialogue. May we build a congregation built on *ahavat chinam*, the free, unending love and acceptance of all

# **Updates from Jason**

#### By Jason Kaufman, President

Baruch Atah Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha'olam, m'shaneh habriyot. Blessed are You, Adonai our God, ruler of the universe, who makes creatures different.

hile traditionally the above prayer was said upon seeing a unique creature or person, it is the perfect prayer when working towards equal access (inclusion). We are all created in God's image, yet we each possess unique qualities, features, and abilities. God gave us the world and all of its beauty, so it is imperative that our *kehillah* ensures everyone is able to fully participate without distinction. We "cannot separate ourselves from the community" (Pirkei Avot 2:5).

To many, this is just second nature, but for some, we need to stop and think about how we remove barriers. Whether it is a person with special needs, our LGBTQ community, or interfaith families, we must ensure that we are a welcoming, inclusive, and safe environment. To do this will take resources and education (and likely some funding).

We have made great strides, as you will read in other articles. We have dreams of where we may go with this.

Whether it is our building, classrooms, services or programs, we must fully ensure our culture, policies, and programming match being a fully inclusive *kehillah*. We must have *kavod* (respect) for one another, and I believe we must look at it from the eyes and minds of those who we help by being inclusive. For my "help me" this time, I ask each of us to be the voice for those who may not have the ability to speak up — and do so now, where it will have the most impact.

As we approach our *Yamim Noraim*, I am proud and humbled to serve as your president. Our family looks forward to spending time with each of you during these upcoming Days of Awe.

On behalf of Allison, Eliana, Sarina, and Adena, may you and your loved ones have a happy, healthy, fulfilling, and inclusive 5779.

L'shalom!

Jason Kaufman



What ways do you seek to enhance our inclusion? How can we work to see the world from another person's view? Let's continue the conversation via email (president@nevehshalom.org), text (503-459-3548), or in person. I look forward to hearing from each of you!

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# he Clash of the Shofars By Cantor Eyal Bitton

everal years ago, I dreamt that I was standing in a valley in Israel and heard a long shofar blast. That incredible sound stirred so much in me. I scoured the terrain around me, and then I saw an individual wrapped in a tallith, standing on the hill to my left. Then I heard the sound of yet another shofar. This one was coming from the hill to my right. I looked and could see a figure on the other hill also wrapped in a tallith.

There was a terrible clash — the musical dissonance between the two shofar blasts was grating on my ears. They weren't in the same pitch! Then I saw the two of them search for each other as they blew their shofars. Each shifted a little to this side and to that, until finally, they were perfectly facing each other. They had found each other. At that precise moment, the two separate pitches turned into one single pitch. They were now in perfect unison. It was beautiful.

We will hear the sound of the shofar this Rosh Hashanah and at the conclusion of Yom Kippur. It is a highlight for so many of us. The sanctuary quiets down. Children rush to the bimah. It's nostalgic. It's a powerful reminder of our ancient roots. It's a spiritual moment carrying a divine message.

The 13th century Spanish poet Judah Samuel Abbas, in his great poem *Et Sha'arei Ratzon*, saw the shofar blast as signifying the Jewish people's salvation – an end to persecution and the coming of the messiah. For the prophet Isaiah, it signified the gathering of the scattered Jewish people to their homeland (Isaiah 27:13).

The High Holy Days are a time when we are expected to come clean with ourselves, God, and those around us. We are asked to seek forgiveness and to be forgiving. In my dream, the shofar blowers overcame the dissonance between them and found a way to work together.

Years ago, after introducing a Moroccan melody into services at a previous synagogue, a congregant wrote a scathing letter saying that they resented having non-Jewish melodies in the synagogue. My heritage, to this individual, wasn't Jewish! Like so many of us at one point or another, I felt like an outsider, excluded and unwelcome – and to my very own community.



Both Samuel Abbas's and Isaiah's vision of the shofar can come true: our people can find redemption, and instead of being scattered, we can be united. As we hear the shofar this Rosh Hashanah, may we be reminded to acknowledge the dissonance in our personal lives, in our relationships, in how we view those who are different from us. May the shofar blast inspire us to seek to repair this dissonance so that we can live in harmony with ourselves and those around us.

Shanah Tovah!



#### Upcoming Binai Mitzvah

#### Mira Kagan - September 1



Mira Kagan is the daughter of Cyndy and Marty Kagan and sister to Cyrus. Mira is an eighth grader at the French American International School, where she is studying Spanish. She loves art, music, books, bagels, rollerblading, swimming, scuba diving, and musical theater.

#### **Mimi Plawner - October 13**

Mimi is the daughter of Debbie and Jordan Plawner, and sister to Efrem and Suretta. She is the granddaughter of Carol and Seymour (z"l) Danish of Portland and Rhonda and Michael Plawner of New City, New York. A seventh grader at Whitford Middle School, Mimi enjoys acting, dancing, and traveling.



# Successes & Challenges of Inclusion in ALIYAH

By Mel Berwin, Director of Congregational Learning

Our world hangs like a magnificent jewel in the vastness of space. Every one of us is a part of that jewel. A facet of that jewel. And in the perspective of infinity, our differences are infinitesimal. We are intimately related. May we never even pretend that we are not.

-Fred Rogers, 2002 Commencement Address, Dartmouth College

ow many of you saw the Mr. Rogers movie this summer? I was as moved by his clear, simple, and radical message of connection with young children as everyone else. The quote above communicates Mr. Rogers's deeply held religious belief that we must see with the widest perspective possible that our similarities are so much greater than our differences. We are all made in the image of God, and we are God-like when we can see the humanity in every person. Fred Rogers's gift was his ability to bring that deeply held belief into every individual interaction in his life. He understood, in a very clear way, that we all, young and old alike, need to be seen and heard in our unique individuality and feel that our singular presence makes a difference.

It's a simple idea and yet challenging to put into practice—holding on to the biggest picture and honoring all of the

unique parts. I'd venture to say that every educator and every parent experiences this sacred challenge on a daily basis.

"We are absolutely committed to the big picture that every student... is welcomed into our school, and every child, with their very own blend of character, strengths, and challenges, is entirely valued in our community."

I've written here before about ALIYAH as an inclusive program. We are absolutely committed to the big picture that every student, no matter their learning style, is welcomed into

our school, and every child, with their very own blend of character, strengths and challenges, is entirely valued in our community. It really matters to me that our kids enjoy coming to ALIYAH, they feel known by their teachers, connected to their peers, and successful in their endeavors. When I hear that a student isn't loving ALIYAH, I ask a number of questions—what's happening academically, in our school and in their regular school? What's happening at home? What are this child's favorite activities or topics—art, LEGO, reading, building, animals? Who are they close to here? And how can we incorporate all of that personal information into creating more connection for them here in our space?

Assessing how we are succeeding in this big picture goal is a constant process. We evaluate success based on every child's experience.



Mel Berwin, Director of Congregational Learning

These are some of the signs of success:

- When we are able to help a child who has experienced significant anxiety or other challenges to build relationships and engage in creative problem solving in order to participate fully in our classrooms.
- When a teen overcomes significant challenges, academic and emotional, and shines on the bimah, leading the congregation during their b'nai mitzvah and beyond.
- Our recognition that madrichim and teachers who have experienced disability can be amazing role models to younger kids with learning challenges. Seven of our 30 madrichim this year, and several of our teachers, have experienced learning disabilities and bring their experience to benefit the kids in our program.
- When students use our resources: nearly 25 percent of our students in ALIYAH receive some type of accommodation in order to participate as fully as possible in our Hebrew and Judaics classes, our arts and culture electives, and our youth services.
- When we are able to listen to, and act on, the needs of our families who experience disability and add new resources and spaces, such as our brand new sensory-friendly room, to our school and synagogue environment. Lined with floor mats and soft sofas, this space will have stress toys and a small trampoline for jumping out anxious energy.

And there are ways we still need to grow and learn.

Of particular concern to me right now are the students who have dyslexia and other language processing disorders, who



ALIYAH creates an inclusive environment, welcoming children of all learning styles to our learning community.



Ari Fink, a fourth grade ALIYAH student, learning Hebrew

struggle to read in English and are even more challenged to learn a second alphabet and reading/phonetic system with Hebrew! A new study shows that language processing challenges affect nearly one in every five children. There are excellent programs in Portland specializing in training teachers

#### "Of particular concern to me right now are the students who have dyslexia and other language processing disorders."

in reading support, and I am currently working with our new Director of Development, Dena Marshall, to find funding to allow us to train one of our teachers or para-educators to get certified in the best practices for supporting kids with language processing challenges in ALIYAH. As is often the case, strategies that support kids with learning challenges can also be beneficial to students without them. I am hopeful that we will secure funding to pursue this next step to truly meet the needs of all of our learners.

Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav said:

דע לך שכל עשב ועשב יש לו שירה מיוחדת משלו Da lecha shekol esev v'esev yesh lo shirah m'yuchedet mishelo. Know that every single blade of grass makes its own special song.

Our song is so much stronger when every unique voice is included. I can't wait to hear the songs and stories of all of our kids again this fall, and I wish you all a *Shanah Tovah uMetukah*—a very sweet new year.



# Love Poem to the Work of Creating Community

#### By Sarah Rohr

e cannot see the clay we were formed out of. Nor can we hear the voices of those by whose great efforts, pains, and abundance of love we source the structures and functions of our world from.

The stop sign hung by diligent hands, the driving directions laid out by knowing eyes, the countless folks needed to design, create, and maintain the heavy machinery we rely upon to move us swiftly from home to the wider world. The smooth efficiency we encounter in this world is dependent upon those doing their part and fulfilling their purpose.

The purpose of Neveh Shalom is manifold. I aim to highlight one tremendous purpose it fulfills in my life and the lives of my family.

We have a spiritual and physical address in addition to our physical home.

It is Peaceful Lane.

When we pull into the sprawling driveway and see familiar faces at Tot Shabbat, Foundation School, ALIYAH, or Saturday morning service friends, we have arrived.

It was not an instant ramen soup community; it grew day by day, event by event, encounter by encounter. Like any glorious garden, our ties to Neveh Shalom have grown through making time, tending relationships, and genuinely caring for the health and well-being of those in our community and beyond.

It grew by the investiture of our hearts and the metaphorical and tangible



sweat of our brows.

It came from praying hard during the High Holy Days as well as ordinary Shabbats, if you could ever call Shabbat ordinary!

It came from meal-making for budding, sleep-deprived families, to making sandwiches for the houseless. It came from gaining opinions about the layout of the service and the roles we take on in services to guide souls from hard places to an oasis of a little more peace and rest.

It came from hearing Rabbi Kosak repeatedly honoring b'nai mitzvah kids for being comfortable in their own skin.

It came from the countless moments when my three year old walked around our home impersonating Morah Leah and her infamous blue guitar, singing out loudly while bending and bowing reciting the *Barchu*, and then turning to my husband and I saying, "Repeat after me," just as Morah Leah does.

He has his own special relationships with his morot (Morah Desi, Morah Sue, Morah Karen, and Morah Donna) and the office staff, with Patrica and Kurt, with Mel and JoAnn, with Kaiya the librarian and Rabbi Eve and Cantor Bitton. Rabbi Kosak's improv will delight his heart as he ages (I am certain!).

These terrific folks are his role models and mine too!

I've heard it said that you become who you surround yourself by. It would be my greatest wish to stand side by side with these tremendous people throughout life's various in and outs, ups and downs. It's no small thing to know that you belong.

All it takes is the choice to belong. We're not the chosen people because we are a special variety of pious people. We become the chosen people when we make the choice to choose our community, and how we spend our time and with whom.

# A n Experience of Welcome and Appreciation By Whitney Thaxton

ecently, I was discussing the different synagogues in Portland with a friend of mine. She's a lapsed Catholic, and was curious about the different movements. This led to her asking me why I chose Conservative Judaism and Neveh Shalom as our synagogue. I paused, and then said, "Because it's always felt like home."

My journey with Judaism has taken the better part of a decade, but I still remember my first visit to CNS in 2008. I can still feel the peace and grace of Stampfer Chapel during the *Introduction to Judaism* session I was attending, followed by the High Holiday services I was able to attend. That feeling, those impressions of home, have been carried ever since.

Now I'm here with children and husband in tow, attending Tot Shabbat services, Foundation School, and every Shoreshim activity I can pack into our schedule. Recently we began branching out to attend regular services with our four year old and an almost-two year old. At Tot Shabbat, they can run around and have a service that is solely focused on them, but we feel it's important for them to attend the regular services so they are aware of their larger community. We come early, to let our older son select seats (which usually change about four times), and end up towards the back in case we need to make a quick exit. Sometimes they want to stand, sometimes they want to sit, sometimes they want to "follow" the prayers, and they're always excited about the toy bin in the back of Stampfer Chapel. My youngest has never met a Shabbat service he didn't love, and thinks doing the motions from Bim Bam is appropriate at all times, so it's safe to say they're usually having a good time and soaking it all in. Their joy elicits smiles (especially



Bodie (4) and Ben (2) Thaxton

from other parents), and it's comforting to know that their presence is appreciated. Attending services with two little ones can be daunting and a little intimidating; seeing them welcomed so warmly makes me believe that they too will grow up at CNS with the feelings of home that I have found here.

# Yad B'Yad: Hand in Hand: Holding the Hands of Mourners in Comfort



ur congregation is one built on the concept of standing with one another throughout life cycle events. At the time of a congregant's death, CNS knows that the loss and grief can be overwhelming to the mourners. Over the last two years, the CNS volunteer program has been reaching out to mourners. The Yad B'Yad program connects volunteers to a family or individual. Training and support is provided to the volunteers. It has been a very rewarding "mitzvah opportunity" for a number of current volunteers.

We are looking to build the program with additional volunteers. If you are interested in learning more about this program and/or joining the group of current volunteers, please contact Rabbi Posen: eposen@nevehshalom.org.

# n Peculiar Times, We Are the Portal: An interview with Judy Margles, Director of OJMCHE

#### **By Victoria Spitz**

**Victoria Spitz:** How do inclusion and tolerance figure into the mission of the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education in a broad sense?

Judy Margles: We're casting a broad net in how we're trying to engage our audiences. Our mission statement culminates in this clause about challenging our visitors to resist indifference and discrimination and to envision a just and inclusive world. We feel that studying the Holocaust is one of the most effective subjects for examining basic moral concerns. Because it addresses issues of inequity and the dangers of denying diversity, it allows us to start a dialogue and facilitate connections with historical events that allow us to better understand the world we're living in today.

**VS:** Given that the Museum specifically explores the Jewish experience in Oregon, what kinds of things does the Museum do to welcome and include visitors of diverse backgrounds and experiences?

JM: Sure, I think we do it in multiple ways. We certainly do it through our public programs, so we have partnerships with many organizations in Oregon, including the Oregon Historical Society, Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, Oregon Justice Resource Center, and Muslim Educational Trust, among others. We're also very careful not to appropriate the experiences of communities we want to represent but don't belong to, and take every effort to make sure everything we do involves the appropriate communities.

**VS:** So would you say that the Museum outwardly acknowledges the Holocaust as a way to draw connections to other atrocities, acting as a kind of bridge, so to speak?

**JM:** Absolutely. We believe you have to study the Holocaust because we live in this interconnected world, and to understand who we are today we have to know our histories. One way we accomplish

this, of course, is through our exhibitions. Right now Discrimination and Resistance, An Oregon Primer is on view, and while it's a bit about the Holocaust, it's primarily reflecting on ways discrimination was employed as a tool to affect varied groups of people over the course of history in this region. Young kids' introduction to the Holocaust is often here, and if you don't incorporate connections for them into your programming, ones they can connect with on a personal level, it's completely unintelligible. How else can a seventh grader truly understand this atrocity? Or anyone for that matter? All the time we bring in kids from more diverse areas of the state, and we hear from students representing a variety of different cultures explaining the way what they're learning about the Holocaust really maps onto their own experiences. One student in particular strongly identified with the story of Anne Frank, sharing, "That was my family's experience; we had to hide."

**VS:** Wow, that's really powerful. Neither the Jewish experience nor the Jewish experience in Oregon are singular ones. What efforts has the Museum made to prevent the propagation of "the single story," embracing instead a multiplicity of perspectives?

JM: Again, we are the portal, the bridge connecting our visitors to factual information, but also the idiosyncratic experiences of those who suffered during the Holocaust. We are blessed to have been able to work with a number of survivors. especially now when many are leaving us. Their legacies are very important. We've been able to document their stories through interviews where they relate their unique experiences through firstperson testimonials. We also pay homage to non-Jews who died in the Holocaust because while we are a Jewish institution interpreting the Holocaust through a Jewish lens, Jews aren't the only people who died. And of course we have access to in-



credible scholars and scholarship, local, national, and international alike, providing us with an abundance of personal stories that we ultimately incorporate into our work here.

**VS:** It has been well established in the museum community that museums are not neutral. In what ways does the OJMCHE's political stance promote tolerance?

JM: We'll make formal statements when something happens that's in direct violation of our mission. The travel ban, for example. Or issues surrounding individuals identifying as transgender. We send a very strong message on these topics because we're mission driven. It comes up less formally as well; we're in peculiar times after all. During a tour, the unexpected question comes up, and our docents really have to think about it. But together with their extremely rigorous internal training, we are all of us staff in the midst of diversity, equity, accessibility, and inclusion training. The world isn't what it was, so we have to continue educating ourselves in order to best serve our publics. So we are much more willing and prepared to engage in conversations where we're taking, I don't want to say a stand, but holding on to the core principles that guide our mission: righteousness, goodness, kindness... love.

# Non-Jewish Family Members Also Find Their Community at Neveh Shalom

#### By Jenn Director Knudsen

hy did your family join Neveh Shalom? As the matriarch of an interfaith family, I get that question a lot. Since my family of four joined the shul a dozen years ago, I'm usually the one who fields it.

My husband **David** also has answers to the question: "Why did your interfaith family join the synagogue?"

His responses are similar – but not identical – to other Neveh Shalom member families who also are interfaith, meaning Judaism is not the sole religion represented within the nuclear family. Here, some folks from CNS interfaith families share what led them to this shul and about their experiences within the greater Neveh Shalom community.

"Two primary factors led to my comfort joining Neveh Shalom," says Dave, noting our two daughters attended Foundation School starting at age two. Alyssa, 17, and Hayley, 15, have since become b'nei mitzvah, attended ALIYAH/Tichon, and now work as *madrichot*, ALIYAH teachers' aides.



Eric, Marissa and Freddy Richardson

"Foundation School gave us the avenue to meet other young parents and to begin to establish personal relationships that made me feel more 'at home' at Neveh Shalom," Dave continues. "It also meant I was in the building with some frequency, which created a familiarity with the shul itself."

Dave credits, too, Rabbi **Daniel Isaak**; he offered straightforward talk during a one-on-one meeting we'd requested about what joining CNS would mean for our family. "He put me at ease by being so supportive and welcoming," says Dave, who grew up in a Presbyterian and Episcopalian household.

Eric and Marissa Richardson recently moved back to Portland from Nashville – with 2-year-old son Freddy – and didn't look much farther than Neveh when considering synagogue membership, says Eric, who is agnostic. True, Marissa grew up at Neveh and so was familiar with it – "She knew it would be a tolerant place for our interfaith family," Eric says – but before returning to town she'd queried friends. "They told her about all the new programs geared toward young families that had start-

ed since she grew up and moved away," he says.

Eric takes advantage of what he terms "secular-family geared activities" (like the annual Men's Club Poker Tournament, as well as family activities such as berry picking and dinner in the park). The threesome participates in religious activities, too, says Eric, "But we like that the community doesn't only have religious events."

**Rich Lufrano** shares that he – a Jew – and his wife, Gina Clemmer – an



Ben and Lindee Lewit

atheist — feel accepted at CNS, and that the family's connection is entirely social. Daughter **Erez** loved Foundation School and now attends ALIYAH, which affords her parents — and her parents' Neveh friends — the opportunity to break bread together every Wednesday (and sometimes more frequently). "That's my biggest connection right now," Rich says. "Eating dinner once a week with great friends."

By contrast, **Benjamin** and **Lindee Lewit** (and daughter **Jessica**, 6) came looking for – and found – a connection to Neveh Shalom via religious and ritual practices. Ben, from Washington, DC, has a Conservative Jewish background, and Lindee grew up Mormon.

"We both grew up in households where we observed and practiced religion as an integral part of life and not as an occasion or holiday," Ben says, adding that the couple sought and found at CNS what they enjoyed from their former houses of worship: "education, understanding, and participation."

Perhaps most telling is that the non-Jewish family member tapped Neveh. Said Ben: "Lindee led us to membership at Neveh Shalom because she generally knows what's best."

#### **Member News**

#### **Kvell With Us**

Mazel Tov to Leah and Matthew Letts on the arrival of a new baby, Danya Aliza, on Monday, July 23. Mom and baby are both healthy. Big sisters Adira and Naomi are also thrilled!

**Mazel tov to Rabbi Daniel Isaak,** who had a letter to the editor published in the Sunday, July 22 issue of *The Oregonian* about his call to protest.

Mazel tov to Hannah Suher, daughter of Brian (Barbara Atlas) Suher and Karen Suher, and Matteo Pacifici on their wedding on July 1, 2018 in Assisi, Italy at Castel di Petrata. Hannah and Matteo live in Austin, Texas.



**Mazel tov** to two of our talented congregants on their new positions at Portland Jewish Academy. **Amy Katz** is now the new Director of Jewish Life and **Sarah Glass** is the new Admission Director.

Mazel tov to Alex Menashe and Nadine Astrakan on their recent engagement!



Thank you to all of our office staff and volunteers who helped to ensure that our 3,000+ piece mailings last month went out smoothly! Pictured from left to right: Niomi Markel, Sofia Meltzer, Leah Markel, Rachel Meltzer, and Jacob Glass. Mazel tov to congregant, and the first woman president of CNS, Elaine Cogan on her book *How to Talk to (Almost) Anyone about (Almost) Anything*, which is now in its second printing through Wise Fool Press. The book is all about public speaking for the non-public speaker.

**Yihi Zichram Baruch** – Our condolences to CNS members who have recently lost loved ones:

We regret having to inform you of the passing of Eric Allyn Kostiner, z"I, brother of Tony (Priscilla) Kostiner.

We regret having to inform you of the passing of Jo McIntyre, z"I.

We regret having to inform you of the passing of Judith Schlossberg, z"I. She is the mother of Lisa (Steven) Resnikoff, Mark, and Keith.

We regret to inform you of the death of Edward C. Ross, z"l, on July 20, 2018 in Los Angeles, CA. He is remembered by his wife, Deborah Ross, children Abby, Ryan, and Ellie Ross, sister-in-law, Susan (David) Abrams Greenberg, and mother-in-law Marlene Abrams.

Neveh Shalom has an email list to notify congregants about deaths and funerals in our community. If you would like to join this list, please contact news@nevehshalom.org.

#### **Donna Jackson Membership Enrichment Fund**

We are pleased to announce the creation of the Donna Jackson Membership Enrichment Fund, sponsored by Sandy, Wendy, Rick, and Abby Menashe.

"Donna became a part of our family and was very good to our dad for the last 18 years of his life. She's been very important to us. To show our love for Donna and all that she gave back to the community when she was board secretary at Neveh Shalom and membership director at MJCC, the family thought that a membership fund in her name would be the best way to honor her. It is our pleasure to honor Donna on Sol's behalf. We hope the fund will benefit synagogue membership in a way that represents Donna's meaningful role in outreach to our community."

For more information about this fund, please contact Dena Marshall: dmarshall@nevehshalom.org, 503.246.8831.

#### The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

#### **ALIYAH Donation**

**Leslie Aigner:** 

In memory of Marika Aigner In memory of Anna Aigner In memory of Moritz Spiegel

Alan & Vicki Rotstein:

In memory of Bob Sobel

**Edith Crever & Family:** 

In appreciation of Mel Berwin

#### **Adult Education**

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Get well wishes for Lois Shenker

# Cantor Morris Ail Music Fund

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In memory of Max Breslow

#### **Building Fund**

**Sandy and Wendi Menashe:** In appreciation of Marg Everett

#### Becky Menashe Bookshelf Fund

**Abby and Richard Menashe:** 

In memory of Joya Menashe In honor of Alex Menashe and Nadine Astrakhan In memory of Judith Schlossberg In memory of Sol Menashe In memory of Becky Menashe In memory of Ezra Menashe

Sandy and Wendi Menashe:

In memory of Solomon Ezra Menashe

In memory of Rebecca Menashe

#### **Cantor Bitton Events**

**Edith Crever & Family:** 

In appreciation of Cantor Bitton

# Cantor's Discretionary Fund

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#### Sandy and Wendi Menashe:

In appreciation of Cantor Bitton Lisa, Steven and Jacob Resnikoff:

In appreciation of Cantor Eyal Bitton

#### **Cemetery Fund**

**Rosalie Goodman:** 

In memory of Marlene Lazarus In memory of Terrye Rudolph

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In memory of Joshua Lynch Melvin Swire:

In memory of Marcia Weinsoft In memory of Joyce Levenstein Gennady, Irina, Annette, & Michelle Talal:

In memory of Iosif Talal

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#### **Charity Food Fund**

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Get well wishes for Beverly Eastern

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Menashe

Sandy & Wendi Menashe:

In memory of Judith

Schlossberg

Vic & Toinette Menashe:

In memory of Terrye Rudolph

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In memory of John Miller In memory of Gaby Barde

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Get well wishes for Sandy Axel

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In honor of Sam Gottlieb In memory of Judith

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In honor of our LGBTQ friends at Neveh Shalom and elsewhere!

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Mona Ail:

In memory of Mark Ail

#### Mark/Leah Rubin **Foundation School** Fund

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In honor of Mark Rubin

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Get well wishes for Lois Shenker

#### Milt Horenstein Minyan Fund

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In memory of Eric Kostiner **Dale Oller:** 

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Julie Townslev:

In honor of Jacob Glass

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In honor of Sheri Cordova Sheri Cordova:

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In appreciation of Rabbi Posen

Anthony & Priscilla Kostiner:
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n appreciation of Rabbi Eve Posen

# Saperstein Chapel Fund

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In memory of Phillip Tobin

# CNS Will Provide ASL Interpreters for High Holiday Services and Beyond

#### By Michelle Iimori-Goldenberg, ASL Interpreter

eveh Shalom is always striving to be a welcoming place for people of all backgrounds and abilities. Locally, one community has historically been underserved, the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community. Now Neveh Shalom will change all of that. For many years, in places like Chicago, Baltimore, and New York City, Deaf people have had greater access to Jewish education and all aspects of congregational Life. Beginning with High Holy Day services, Neveh Shalom will be providing ASL Interpreted Services upon request.

## You may be asking yourself, what does an ASL interpreter do?

"Interpreting also involves more than just signing. An interpreter must accurately convey messages between two different languages. It is a skill that takes time to develop. A qualified interpreter is one who can, both receptively and expressively, interpret accurately, effec-



Michelle Iimori-Goldenberg

tively, and impartially, using any necessary specialized vocabulary" (NAD. org). Although only certified interpreters are bound by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf Code of Professional Conduct, it is important to select interpreters who can adhere to the tenets therein. The tenets are: Interpreters adhere

to standards of confidential communication. Interpreters possess the professional skills and knowledge required for the specific interpreting situation. Interpreters conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to the specific interpreting situation. Interpreters demonstrate respect for consumers. Interpreters

demonstrate respect for colleagues, interns, and students of the profession. Interpreters maintain ethical business practices. Interpreters engage in professional development.

As you can imagine, when interpreting for a synagogue, the interpreter must also be aware of the service format and the protocols which vary within our religion. In an Orthodox setting, a female interpreter would be inappropriate for a male Deaf client since she would not be able to stand on the bima. A working knowledge of Hebrew and understanding of the Torah is also highly beneficial. As an interpreter, it



Beginning of the sign for God

is also important to be aware of how one's own beliefs and paradigms interfere with the ability to deliver the message with its original intent. The clergy and staff at Neveh Shalom are ready and willing to work with interpreters to meet the communication needs of the Deaf community, providing access to materials for services and making themselves available to discuss the services, D'var Torot, and even simple things like seating arrangements and interpreter placement.

I am excited to be a part of the change that is coming our way. It will be an experience in which we will all learn and grow in our minds and our hearts. If you know of anyone who would like to attend who is Deaf or Hard of Hearing, please reach out to the office or myself so that we have time to make the necessary arrangements. A minimum of two weeks' notice would be gratefully appreciated. We will try to work with you if there is a need for less lead time. I can be reached by email at smallfryeterp@icloud.com with any questions or requests.



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## Honoring Judith and Garry Kahn By Priscilla Kostiner

he 2018 Rabbi Joshua Stampfer Community Enrichment Award will honor **Judith and Garry Kahn**, who are well known throughout the community for the many roles they have played in both religious and secular circles.

Judith Kahn is a Portland native whose focus in life has always been family and community. Professionally, besides teaching, Judith was the administrator for Camp Solomon Schechter for six years, the Program Director for USY and the Shabbat Club at Neveh Shalom, and Executive Director of the Oregon Chapter of the American Jewish Committee. Judith also has served as President for the Portland/Ashkelon Sister City Program that was initiated by Portland's City Hall, and chaired Portland's Jewish Federation Partnership 2000 (P2K) with Kiryat Malachi and Hof Ashkelon. Together, she and Garry participated in SAR-EL, the National Project for Volunteers in Israel. In addition to these accomplishments, she sat on the board of the Jewish Education Association (JEA), was Co-President of the Melton Jewish Education Board, receiving the Song of Miriam Award in 2014 for her work with that organization, and is presently on the board of the Institute for Jewish Studies, serving on the Education Committee.

Garry Kahn's career as a trial lawyer covered 54 years, during which he spent a great deal of time volunteering in various capacities. He was active in the Oregon

Trial Lawyers Association (President 1968-69) and the Western Trial Lawyers Association (President 1972-73). He was elected to the Oregon State Bar Board of Governors (1986-89) and served as President of the Oregon State Bar (1988-89). Garry was also appointed by Governor Barbara Roberts as a Judge of the Multnomah County Circuit Court in 1991. He resigned after two years, returning to the private sector of law. Since retiring in 2016, Garry has worked part time as a pro bono lawyer, restricting his work to representing clients referred by Oregon Legal Aid Services.



Judith and Garry married in 1959. They have four children and 10 grand-children. They believe their offspring have become *mensches*, as evidenced by their sense of "giving back to the community." This is a *dor l'dor* family, as one generation teaches the next.

The Enrichment Award dinner honoring these most deserving individuals will take place on Thursday, October 25 at 6:00pm. The event is open to the public. For tickets and information, please contact Marg Everett: meverett@nevehshalom.org, 503.246.8831.

# 5778-79 2018 September elul tishri Congregation tishri





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
AUGUST S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	OCTOBER  S M T W T F S  1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	For ALIYAH/TICHON schedule, please visit: nevehshalom.org/aliyah-k-6 or nevehshalom.org/aliyah-7-12	For Foundation School schedule, please visit: foundationschoolpdx.org			Al elul 8:29pm Mira Kagan's Bat Mitzvah 9:00am Shabbat Services 10:15am Tot Shabbat 10:15am Kiddush Club 8:00pm Selichot Services Ki Tavo SELICHOT
22 elul	3 23 elul	4 24 elul	5 25 elul	6 26 elul	7 27 elul 3	28 elul <b>8:16pm</b>
9:00am Morning Minyan	OFFICE CLOSED	7:15am Morning Minyan	7:15am Morning Minyan	7:15am Morning Minyan	7:15am Morning Minyan	9:00am Combined Shabbat Services
	9:00am Morning Minyan  LABOR DAY	5:00pm Talmud Class		3:15pm Bible Class R. Isaak 6:30pm Parents Jewish Year Class w/ R. Eve and M. Leah 7:00pm Executive Committee	<b>6:15pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat with llene Safyan	Nitzavim
9 29 elul	10 1 tishri	2 tishri	12 <sup>3 tishri</sup>	13 4 tishri	5 tishri 🔌 7:04pm	15 6 tishri 8:02pm
<b>5:15pm</b> Young Family Erev RH Service	OFFICE CLOSED 8:30am RH Day 1 Services Full schedule at: nevehshalom.org/hhd5779 ROSH HASHANAH	OFFICE CLOSED 9:00am RH Day 2 Services 9:30am Shanah: Whole Family Rosh Hashanah Exploration Full schedule at: nevehshalom.org/hhd5779 ROSH HASHANAH	7:15am Morning Minyan FAST OF GEDALIAH	7:15am Morning Minyan 11:00am Building & Grounds 3:15pm Bible Class R. Isaak 7:00pm Sisterhood Board	7:15am Morning Minyan 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat	9:00am Shabbat Services 10:00am Torah Troop 10:15am Tot Shabbat 10:15am Kiddush Club  Vayelech SHABBAT SHUVA
16 <sup>7 tishri</sup>	17 8 tishri	18 <sup>9 tishri</sup>	10 tishri	20 11 tishri	12 tishri 6:50pm	13 tishri 7:48pm
9:00am Morning Minyan 9:30am Shomrei Teva Hike 10:00am Kever Avot Cemetery Visit 4:00pm Book Talk - My Jewish Year	7:15am Morning Minyan	7:15am Morning Minyan 6:40pm Kol Nidre Services	OFFICE CLOSED 9:00am Yom Kippur Services 5:00pm Mincha Service Full schedule at: nevehshalom.org/hhd5779 YIZKOR	7:15am Morning Minyan 8:00am Sukkah Build 3:15pm Bible Class R. Isaak 7:00pm Board of Directors	7:15am Morning Minyan 10:00am Sisterhood Sukkah Decoration 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat	9:00am Combined Shabbat Services
		KOL NIDRE	YOM KIPPUR			Ha'azinu
23 14 tishri	24 15 tishri	25 16 tishri	26 17 tishri	27 18 tishri	28 19 tishri 6:37pm	29 20 tishrii 7:35pm
	OFFICE CLOSED 9:00am Sukkot Services	OFFICE CLOSED 9:00am Sukkot Services	7:00am Chol haMoed Sukkot Service 10:00am Wise Women!	7:00am Chol haMoed Sukkot 10:00am Cemetery Meeting 3:15pm Bible Class R. Isaak	7:00am Chol haMoed Sukkot Service	9:00am Shabbat Chol haMoed Sukkot Services
30 See Below	<b>7:00pm</b> Soup & Cider in the Sukkah	5:00pm Talmud Class	6:00pm ALIYAH K-6 Dinner in the Sukkah	6:30pm Foundation School Parents in the Sukkah 6:30pm Men's Club Dinner	5:15pm 4th Friday w/ R. Eve 8:00pm Living Room Shabbat	SUKKOT
HOSHANAH RABBAH	SUKKOT	SUKKOT	INTERMEDIATE DAY	INTERMEDIATE DAY	INTERMEDIATE DAY	INTERMEDIATE DAY

# Mark Your Calendars and Join Congregation

Talmud Class with Rabbi Stampfer Tuesdays, 5:00pm, R. Stampfer's home Join our Emeritus Rabbi for weekly study of our sacred texts. Free.

#### Bible Class with Rabbi Isaak Thursdays, 3:15pm, Room 111

Weekly learning and discussion with Rabbi Emeritus, Daniel Isaak. Free.

#### Two Worlds: A Rock and Soul Selichot Experience – Saturday, September 1 8:00pm: Wine & Cheese 8:30pm: Service | FREE

Building on last year's service, Rabbi Kosak and Cantor Bitton will offer up themes of Selichot through traditional melodies and contemporary rock and pop music.

#### How Does Our Jewish Year Invite Wonder in Our Children and in Ourselves? Thursday, September 6, 6:30pm | Free

Explore Jewish holidays and how they are connected to our beliefs around civic responsibility (Tikkun Olam), kind community (Kehillah), the power of storytelling (Torah), and more. You'll gain insight in engaging children around the holidays. RSVP: receptionist@nevehshalom.org.

## Kabbalat Shabbat with Ilene Safyan Friday, Sept 7 & Oct 19, 6:15pm

This service is one of beautiful music, filled with singing and participation. It's a wonderful way to welcome Shabbat.

#### Shomrei Teva Tashlich Hike at Oxbow Park Sunday Sept 16, 9:30am-2:30pm

On our family-friendly Tashlich hike, we'll use Jewish nature prayers, picnic, and have a Tashlich service on the beautiful Sandy River. Meet at CNS at 9:30am or at Oxbow at 10:30am. Dress for the weather and bring a picnic lunch. RSVP: Jordan Epstein, yaakovm@comcast.net, 503-245-6580.

## Book Talk: *My Jewish Year* Sunday, Sept 16, 4:00pm

Dive into 5779 with Abigail Pogrebin as we read her 2017 book, *My Jewish Year:* 18 Holidays, One Wondering Jew. Contact: kgoldhammer@nevehshalom.org.

# Schmooze, Eat and Drink in the Sukkah for Young Professionals

Sunday, September 23, 4:00pm

Join other CNS young professionals for some networking and inspiration in the Sukkah. Delicious appetizers and drinks included. Free. RSVP by 9/20: receptionist@nevehshalom.org

#### Soup & Cider in the Sukkah Monday, September 24, 7:00pm

We'll serve soup, salad, and dessert. This adult event promises to be warming for the soul and belly! To help out with the "soup crew" or to get involved contact Carol Biederman at 503.703.5128. \$8 per person. Bring cans for the Oregon Food Bank. Please RSVP by 9/20 to receptionist@nevehshalom.org.

#### Wise Women!

Wed, Sept 26, 10:00am-12:00pm

For all retired and semi-retired, current and new, female members of Neveh Shalom. Come and have lunch. No commitments, no requests. Connect and enjoy. RSVP for location to Jennifer Kalenscher, jenkal@comcast.net.

#### Living Room Shabbat Friday, Sept 28 & Oct 26, 8:00pm (in place of the 6:15pm service)

Come for this laid-back, come as you are, Portland vibe Shabbat, one that reflects how we like to gather together in a casual, easy, and down-to-earth way, in a beautiful manner.

#### CNS Studio 54: Simchat Torah Goes Disco An Erev Simchat Torah Celebration Mon, Oct 1, 6pm Dinner | 7pm Service

Celebrate Simchat Torah with us. Dinner at 6pm. Ma'ariv service & Hakafot with a live band at 7pm. The service and band are free and open to the community. Families are welcome! Dinner: \$18/ adults, \$12/kids; \$54/family max. RSVP for dinner at: tinyurl.com/simchat5779.

#### Science & Spirituality Wednesday, October 3, 7:00-8:30 pm

Is there a conflict between scientific understanding and spiritual belief? This new series asks what the fields of sci-

ence can and do offer to the fields of religion – and vice versa. Monthly guest speakers will help us probe the deepest questions that help us understand what it means to be human. **October:** Sally Segel & Bonnie Davis – Jewish Genetic Diseases. No RSVP necessary.

#### NEW! Shehechiyanu: Blessing the Ordinary and Extraordinary Moments of Birth and Parenting

Thursdays, Oct 4, 11, 18, 25, 7:00pm

Expecting mothers and their partners or birth supports will explore joys, fears, and questions about the rituals of early child-rearing, such as birth, sleeping, and nursing. You'll learn tried and tested methods for stress reduction, as well as the Jewish wisdom, blessings, and songs that can guide you. Taught by Morah Sarah Rohr and Morah Sue Stone. Fee: \$160 per family.

## Rosh Chodesh Women's Win(e)d Down Sunday, October 7, 6:00pm

A time for women to gather and welcome the new Jewish month with community, reflection, and discussion. Hosted in member homes. Light nosh and drinks provided. For women ages 30-50. RSVP: eposen@nevehshalom.org.

## Conservative Judaism Explained Monday, October 8, 7:00pm

Whether you're a new member or simply seeking greater clarity, you're invited to attend this engaging opportunity to learn about our movement's name, values, and distinguishing features. Taught by Mel Berwin.

# High Holy Days at Congregation Neveh Shalom

Please join us for all of our High Holy Days happenings. For a copy of the schedule, stop by the office or visit: nevehshalom. org/hhd5779



# Neveh Shalom for These Great Programs!

Get Fit Israeli Dance w/ Dorice Horenstein Tues, Starting Oct 9, 9:15am & 10:15am Weekly Israeli dance class helps you get in shape, learn new moves, and listen to fun, Israeli music. 9:15am: Beginning Level. 10:15am: Intermediate Level. \$90 for 9 weeks or \$12/week drop-in.

#### Q&A: Beginning Hebrew & Machon Ivrit Tuesday, October 9, 7:00pm

Meet the teachers, get the syllabus, and find out what level works best for you.

## Soul Shabbat: A Musical Experience Friday, October 12, 6:15pm

An enhanced musical service to enrich the soul – with Cantor Bitton, a band, and the Koleinu choir.

# Women's Torah Study Sat, Oct 13 & 27, 12:30pm, Room 111 Join Mol Parwin for upliffing learning and

Join Mel Berwin for uplifting learning and conversation – all levels welcome!

#### Beginning Hebrew Starts October 14 (11am) & 16 (7pm)

This course is a pre-requisite for all other Hebrew and synagogue skills classes, and acts as the first year of Machon Ivrit. Ease into Hebrew beginning with Alef-Bet letter recognition, vowels, and decoding skills, and move on to build a basic vocabulary.

#### Machon Ivrit: Modern Hebrew Starts Tuesdays, October 16, 7:00pm

Year-long courses in Modern Hebrew, with engaging teachers and a specially designed curriculum. This once-a-week program brings learners to higher levels of speaking, reading, and understanding.

## Learn to Leyn: Chanting Torah for Beginners and Beyond

Starts Wednesday, October 17, 6:30pm Learn to engage in the honor of reading Torah! We'll learn the names and tunes of the cantillation symbols. Taught by Deb Freedberg.

#### Hebrew for Prayer Starts Thursday, October 18, 6:30pm

Increase your understanding of what we say when we pray. Together we'll learn the most common *shoreshim* (roots) that are used in our siddur. Taught by Itai Dewar.

Israel360: Jonathan Adelmal – In an Emerging New World Order: Israel's Evolving Relations – Thur, Oct 18, 7:00pm Explore Israel's relationships with Russia, China, and Middle Eastern New Friends (e.g., Saudi Arabia, UAE), and whether there are signs that Israel has been preparing for a shift away from dependence on the USA. Free.

#### **Siddur Basics**

#### Starts Thursday, October 18, 7:35pm

Learn the Shabbat morning service like a pro! The course is divided into modules that last from 4-6 weeks. Each module focuses on a different part of the service. Taught by Itai Dewar.

## Stampfer Community Enrichment Award Thursday, October 25, 6:00pm

Judith and Garry Kahn are the 2018 award honorees. This dynamic couple has made a huge contribution to the Jewish community. RSVP for the dinner: meverett@nevehshalom.org.

## Pages & Pixels – *My Name Is Shylock* Sunday, October 28, 4:00pm

Calling all readers and film aficionados! Throughout the year, we will watch a film related to the session's book selection. October's book is *My Name Is Shylock*. For more info, please contact: kgoldhammer@nevehshalom.org.

#### **Young Family & Youth**

Young Family Tot Shabbat (0-5 years) 1st and 3rd Saturdays, 10:15am Zidell Chapel

Kiddush Club for K-2nd Graders 1st and 3rd Saturdays, 10:15am Room 19

Torah Troop for 3rd-5th Graders 1st and 3rd Saturdays, 10:00am Room 102

#### Fourth Fridays w/ Rabbi Eve (age 0-6) Friday, Sept 28 & Oct 26, 5:15pm

Welcome Shabbat with music and stories; potluck dinner to follow. Contact Rabbi Eve for location: eposen@nevehshalom.org. Co-sponsored by PJ Library.

#### **Emeriti Rabbi Programs**

Rabbi Stampfer: "What's So Good about the Good Book?" An Introduction to the Bible

Begins Thursday, Oct. 4, 11:00am Join Rabbi Stampfer to learn about the Bible and delve deep into its lessons. \$50/person, which includes *Introduction to the Bible* by Christina Hayes of Yale University.

## Rabbi Isaak: "Nine Essential Things I've Learned about Life"

Begins Thursday, Nov. 1, 10:00am Rabbi Kushner is a familiar author whose most famous book, When Bad Things Happen to Good People, had universal appeal. For this class, we will discuss Rabbi Kushner's newest book, Nine Essential Things I've Learned about Life. \$36, which includes the book.

Proceeds will support the Feldstein Library. Register at: 503.246.8831; receptionist@nevehshalom.org.

#### Lend a Hand

#### Outside In Cooking Sunday, September 23, 12:00pm

Meet in the CNS Kitchen to do a mitzvah and help feed homeless teens. Info: Rick Botney, 8888octopus8888@gmail.com.

Never Again Coalition Monthly Meeting Monday, October 8, 7:00pm

Meet at Congregation Kol Shalom.

#### **Shroud Crowd**

**Sunday, October 21, 2:00pm, Room 102** Help create traditional burial clothing which will then be used by the *Chevra Kavod haMet* for their work. Contact Sandy Axel: sandyaxel@msn.com.

#### **Unveilings**

**Unveiling for Joseph Braunstein z'l** Sunday, October 7, 11:00am Ahavai Shalom Cemetery 57792018

# October

## tishri cheshvan



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER S M T W T F S	22 tishri	23 tishri	3 24 tishri	4 25 tishri	5 26 tishri 6:24pm	6 27 tishri 7:22pm
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	OFFICE CLOSED 9:00am Shemini Atzeret/ Yizkor Services 6:00pm Erev Simchat Torah: CNS Studio 54 YIZKOR SHEMINI ATZERET	OFFICE CLOSED 9:00am Simchat Torah Services 5:00pm Talmud Class SIMCHAT TORAH	7:15am Morning Minyan 6:30pm First Night of Tichon 7:00pm Science & Spirituality	7:15am Morning Minyan 11:00am R. Stampfer Class 3:15pm Bible Class R. Isaak 7:00pm Executive Committee 7:00pm Shehechiyanu: Birth & Parenting Class	7:15am Morning Minyan 5:15 Foundation School All-School Dinner 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat	9:00am Shabbat Services 10:00am Torah Troop 10:15am Tot Shabbat 10:15am Kiddush Club
28 tishri 9:00am Morning Minyan 6:00pm Rosh Chodesh Women's Win(e)d Down	29 tishri 7:15am Morning Minyan 7:00pm Conservative Judaism Explained 7:00pm Never Again Coalition CANADIAN THANKSGIVING	7:00am Morning Minyan 9:15am Get Fit Israeli Dance 10:15am Get Fit Israeli Dance 5:00pm Talmud Class 7:00pm Q&A: Beginning Hebrew & Machon Ivrit	1 Cheshvan 7:00am Morning Minyan	7:15am Morning Minyan 11:00am R. Stampfer Class 11:00am Building & Grounds 3:15pm Bible Class R. Isaak 7:00pm Sisterhood Board 7:00pm Shehechiyanu: Birth	12 3 cheshvan 6:11pm 7:15am Morning Minyan 6:15pm Soul Shabbat: A Musical Experience	Miriam Plawner's Bat Mitzvah 9:00am Shabbat Services 9:30am Downstairs Minyan 12:30pm Women's Torah Study
9:00am Morning Minyan 9:40am Men's Club Speaker: John Horvick Political Pollster 11:00am Beginning Hebrew 12:00pm Outside In Cooking	15 6 cheshvan 7:15am Morning Minyan	7 cheshvan 7 cheshvan 7:00am Morning Minyan 9:15am Get Fit Israeli Dance 10:15am Get Fit Israeli Dance 5:00pm Talmud Class 7:00pm Beginning Hebrew 7:00pm Machon Ivrit	8:00am Morning Minyan 6:30pm Learning to Leyn	& Parenting Class  9 cheshvan  See Bottom of the Page	19 10 cheshvan 5:59pm 7:15am Morning Minyan 6:15pm Kabbalat Shabbat with Ilene Safyan	9:00am Shabbat Services 10:00am Torah Troop 10:15am Tot Shabbat 10:15am Kiddush Club
9:00am Morning Minyan 10:00am Sisterhood Brunch 11:00am Beginning Hebrew 2:00pm Shroud Crowd	22 13 cheshvan 7:15am Morning Minyan	7:15am Morning Minyan 9:15am Get Fit Israeli Dance 10:15am Get Fit Israeli Dance 10:00am Cemetery Meeting 5:00pm Talmud Class 7:00pm Beginning Hebrew 7:00pm Machon Ivrit	24 15 cheshvan 8:00am Morning Minyan 6:30pm Learning to Leyn	25 16 cheshvan See Bottom of the Page	7:15am Morning Minyan 5:15pm 4th Friday w/ R. Eve 8:00pm Living Room Shabbat	9:00am Combined Shabbat Services 12:30pm Women's Torah Study  Vayera
9:00am Morning Minyan 11:00am Beginning Hebrew 4:00pm Pages & Pixels	29 20 cheshvan 7:15am Morning Minyan	21 cheshvan 7:15am Morning Minyan 9:15am Get Fit Israeli Dance 10:15am Get Fit Israeli Dance 5:00pm Talmud Class 7:00pm Beginning Hebrew 7:00pm Machon Ivrit	31 22 cheshvan 8:00am Morning Minyan 6:30pm Learning to Leyn	NOVEMBER  S M T W T F S  1 2 3  4 5 6 7 8 9 10  11 12 13 14 15 16 17  18 19 20 21 22 23 24  25 26 27 28 29 30	For ALIYAH/TICHON schedule, please visit: nevehshalom.org/aliyah-k-6 or nevehshalom.org/aliyah-7-12	For <b>Foundation School</b> schedule, please visit: foundationschoolpdx.org

# **SHANAH:** A WHOLE FAMILY 2ND DAY ROSH HASHANAH EXPLORATION



# TO THE WORLD!

September 11, 9:30am | Congregation Neveh Shalom | Free

Join us for a Birthday Party for the World! This special Rosh Hashanah Exploration includes: family services, Tashlich, a creature show, birthday candle exploration, and a cider press – bring your own apples (or use what we have) and a jar.

No tickets required. Co-sponsored by PJ Library. Contact: eposen@nevehshalom.org.





CONGREGATION NEVEH SHALOM PRESENTS



# Simchat Torah Goes Disco

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1: 6PM DINNER (WITH RSVP)
7PM MA'ARIV SERVICE & HAKAFOT WITH A LIVE BAND (FREE)

Cost for dinner: \$18/adults, \$12/kids, \$54/family max. RSVP for dinner at: tinyurl.com/simchat5779

\*Young Family Shul Pass holders will still need to RSVP









## WEDNESDAY EVENINGS 7:00-8:30PM STARTING OCTOBER 3

How do the fields of medicine, genetics, physics and brain science influence our religious ideology and spiritual care — and vice versa. No RSVP necessary.

For more information and latest schedule: nevenshalom.org/science-spirit

Contact: mberwin@nevehshalom.org.





SUNDAY
MORNING &
TUESDAY
EVENING
OPTIONS

# MACHON IVRIT HEBREW INSTITUTE

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# CONGREGATION NEVEH SHALOM

**CONTACT MEL BERWIN** 

503.293.7306 | mberwin@nevehshalom.org nevehshalom.org/machon-ivrit





Sarah Rohr is a teacher in the CNS ALIYAH program, doula, writer and artist.

Sue Stone is a nurse, Board Certified Lactation Consultant, CNS Foundation School teacher, and sleep whisperer.

What they share is an abiding friendship, a love of Judaism and the joy of witnessing families grow and thrive.

For expecting mothers and their partners or birth supports. In this 4-part series you will:

- Explore joys, fears, and questions about early childrearing, such as birth, sleeping, and nursing.
- Learn stress reduction
- Understand ways to support your family's overall well-being
- Receive Jewish wisdom, blessings, and songs that can guide you in pregnancy, birth, postpartum and parenthood.

Fee: \$160 per family.



# LEARN THE ART OF JEWISH STORYTELLING

#### WITH STORYTELLER BRIAN ROHR

Thursdays: November 1-December 13 (off Nov 22) and January 10-31, 6:15-8:15pm



TUITION FOR THE THREE MONTH COURSE: \$150 CNS MEMBERS / \$200 NON-MEMBERS. TO REGISTER, CONTACT: JBEZODIS@NEVEHSHALOM.ORG

More info at: www.nevehshalom.org/learn-art-jewish-storytelling