

THE
CHRONICLE

A PUBLICATION OF CONGREGATION NEVEH SHALOM



Fresh Start

After 2020, the Only Thing Certain is Renewal

Rabbi's Corner

By Rabbi David Kosak

For seven years, I pursued ceramics as a hobby. There are so many enjoyable aspects to pottery. It is one of humanity's oldest crafts, dating back at least 20,000 years. It is also a value-added craft, as it takes the least expensive of materials — primordial mud — adds some heat and transforms it into functional stone. For those who work on a wheel, the plasticity of clay is remarkable. If you are unhappy with what you have made, you can reshape it repeatedly. Even fired clay can be ground up and added to new clay as grog. Pottery provides its makers with endless lessons in renewal.

But it is hardly unique. Renewal is a fundamental force of life, and it appears in countless ways. Judaism, for example, traditionally observed four new years. The first of *Nisan* marked the new year for counting the reign of kings during our monarchical period. The first of *Elul* was a new year for submitting animal tithes, or taxes based on one's wealth in livestock. Rosh Hashanah we are all familiar with, and Tu b'Shevat marked the birthday of trees, which was necessary in Israel, where one isn't supposed to harvest from a tree in the first three years of its life.

The American calendar also marks multiple endings and new beginnings. We have the school year, the tax year, and for many businesses, July 1st is the start of a new financial year. And of course, January 1st is the beginning of our secular new year. These staggered dates make sense, as it would be quite the burden if all of these tasks had to be dealt with on the same day. As a result, we just take these deadlines in stride.

More importantly, just as we reread the Torah each year to discover new insights, these different dates on the calendar offer us a similar opportunity.

As we begin 2021, the possibilities of renewal are all around us. A great many people have looked at 2020 as this horrific period—the year when anything that could go wrong, did go wrong. Without a doubt, this past year challenged us in countless ways, and there has been plenty of hardship to go around. Yet it was also a year of tremendous renewal. For many of us, our work lives were renewed as people hustled to create new patterns for working and schooling from home.

On a personal level, families have spent more time together because of the quarantines. For some, that created disruption and breakdowns as they struggled to learn how to cope with this enforced intimacy. Other families were able to discover opportunities in this enforced togetherness and renewed their connections.

On the national stage, meanwhile, this pattern of renewing the old continues. The most obvious example will occur on January 20th. As President-elect Joe Biden is sworn in, the nation will demonstrate its capacity for maintaining the old, a peaceful transition of power, as well as its openness to reinvention as we choose a different direction, headed by a president with a markedly contrasting style of leadership.



But 2020 was not just about top leadership. Our nation has had and continues to hold a very robust discussion about race, with an intensity that we haven't seen since the previous Civil Rights era. For some, this surfaces anguish that nothing has changed in our long history. This way of viewing things tends to condemn the past and by extension calls into question the entire American enterprise.

Or we might choose to view this as a potent period of renewal. Yes, the meaning of race may be a very old topic for America, starting from its earliest days. But how we view it—and what we include in our understandings of racism—is in flux. The cultural arguments around what racism is, how prevalent it is, and what solutions can address it, are all quite messy. It would be easy to bemoan that—and for those of us who are impatient, quicker progress is de-

Continued on next page

In the Long Run (or Walk)

Rabbi's Corner

By Rabbi Eve Posen

If you've been on a Zoom call with me at some point since May, chances are that you've seen me walking. In fact, meetings on Zoom when I'm not moving are so rare, they tend to concern people because they're so used to seeing me in movement. The number of miles I walk in any day depends on the number of meetings I have. On a day filled with meetings, 17-20 miles is the average; a day with only a few, likely only 10-15 miles during the workday. The crazy thing is on days with no meetings, even though you'd think walking would be easier without having to talk or be on camera, it's exceptionally difficult for me to push myself to even begin my walk, and my average is only about 10-12 miles on those days. Why? Because the daunting task of 20 miles ahead of me without something to look forward to or keep my mind busy is not something I usually have the motivation for.

It makes me consider how Moses might have felt along his journey in leadership. He was told the basics of his job, but the journey that stretched out before him was unknown and so very long. In fact, even in the beginning he asked God if he was really up for the task because

he felt he wasn't strong enough. However, God gave him a pep talk, and the 40-year race began. How was he able to do it? That's what I ask myself. And what did it feel like for him to stand on the mountain, see the Land of Israel, and know he'd never complete that journey?

Ultimately, Moses agreed to lead because he knew, directly from God, that there was a great future ahead for his people, and his job was to do what he could to help move them to the next phase of the journey. Moses' job was to shepherd the people into the Land of Israel so that they could continue the journey for future generations. That alone was enough to drive him to walk the miles, endure the pain, and push through to the other side.

Needless to say, I am not Moses. I walk in circles in my neighborhood, and six hours of circles is a lot, especially without a greater purpose, like leading an entire nation to their destiny. My physical miles might be tedious and repetitive, but my spiritual miles are anything but.



I am honored to be a leader of this congregation as we walk together into the next 150 years of CNS. The miles ahead of us are long and filled with cracks and bumps in the road. They are also filled with tremendous experiences, connections, vision, change, and blessings, and I look forward to continuing this journey with you.

Rabbi Kosak *continued from previous page*

sired. Simultaneously, these vociferous arguments have usually been the fiery kiln from which progress and consensus emerge.

Most Jewish potters have a special affinity for the High Holy Day *piyyut*, "*Ki Hinei KaChomer*." This liturgical poem

imagines that God shapes us as a potter shapes clay, with endless variation. Even when the initial pot has a flaw, it can be reformed into something more pleasing.

As we embark on this new secular year, I hope we can all find ways to accentuate

the positive and renew that which is broken—in our society, in our relationships, and in ourselves. Each generation and every era finds things it can fix, and leaves work for those who follow.

Warm wishes,
Rav D

Make God Laugh

Cantor's Corner

By Cantor Eyal Bitton

If you want to make God laugh, tell Him about your plans." Woody Allen's fabulous quote, a rephrasing of a Yiddish saying, expresses the idea that you can't control everything in your life, and certainly not the path your life will take. How can you plan when everything around you can change in an instant?

I am reminded of yet another memorable and hilarious quote, this one from Monty Python: "Nobody expects the Spanish Inquisition." Indeed, you can plan all you want but factors that are out of your hands can throw your plans into complete disarray. To put it in First World terms, in very contemporary terms that we can relate to, how can you plan when 2020 can happen?

Neveh Shalom is in the midst of long-range planning, as you can read about on pages 8-9. There is a stellar committee in place that has already made very impressive headway. We are in good hands; dedicated individuals have been diligently collecting and evaluating views and analyses from all the various departments of our congregation, synthesizing the infor-

mation, and delineating a vision for the future that reflects who we are and who we want to be.

This past year's events may raise the question: what is the point in having a plan when upheaval can occur unexpectedly and at any time? If God laughs when we reveal our plans, then surely God is in hysterics right now!

The Jewish people have faced daunting situations countless times throughout our history. When Jews of the Hasmonean era overcame the Seleucid attempt to erase Jewish civilization, the fruits of that victory were historically short-lived. Two hundred years later, the Romans destroyed the Temple and a 2000-year period of exile ensued. This calamity resulted in a paradigm shift; the centrality of the Temple and how the Jewish nation defined itself changed virtually overnight. We, today, are on the cusp of such a paradigm shift. I raised the spectre of such transformative change in my previous article/audio story which you can find on YouTube (youtu.be/41DVYFWZjI4).



The answer is to plan. Planning makes us ask ourselves who we are and what matters to us. Planning for our future helps us make Judaism relevant to us. When change does come, our plans may well have to change, but the introspection and examination of our identity and our values which comes by planning for the future will only strengthen us and equip us to withstand any change. So let us plan. Let us make God laugh.

The Chronicle No. 3 ~ Jan/Feb 2021

*Supported by the Sala Kryszek
Memorial Publication Fund*

To contact us with ideas, comments, or
to become a contributor:
programs@nevehshalom.org

Subscriptions and member news:
news@nevehshalom.org

Membership inquiries:
mcaplan@nevehshalom.org

For a full staff list go to:
nevehshalom.org/staff

Congregation Neveh Shalom
2900 SW Peaceful Lane
Portland, OR 97239
(503) 246-8831
www.nevehshalom.org

Lead Editor and Graphic Designer:
Brian Rohr

CONTRIBUTORS

Rabbi David Kosak, Senior Rabbi
Rabbi Eve Posen, Associate Rabbi
Cantor Eyal Bitton
Mel Berwin, Director of
Congregational Learning
Glen Coblens, President
The Co-Chairs of the LRP Committee
Jenn Director Knudsen
Michelle limori-Goldenberg
Dena Marshall, Development Director
Fred Rothstein, Executive Director
Cory Willson, Foundation School Assistant
Director

Finding Simcha in everything we do – Making 2021 the year of positivity!

By Glen Coblens, CNS President

President's Corner



- Find the positives in everything, even when it seems impossible.
- Take time every day to express gratitude for at least two things that give you joy.
- Make your mental images uplifting, optimistic, and/or hopeful.

On a personal level, I have found little things really do matter, from our outings to the nearby park to play soccer/football/basketball, board/card games, fantasy football, and Friday night Zoom calls that have replaced our normal large family Shabbat dinners. I am beyond

grateful for the health of my extended, blended family, and while I have not hugged my mother in almost a year, at least I get to see her both on Zoom and in her backyard. I miss my workouts at the gym, but I have loved leading a weekly virtual workout for CNS (join us at 10:30am Wednesdays). And, after mourning the losses of our 17-year-old kitty Braveheart (named after the Care Bear lion) and our one-year-old fluffy Schnitzel, we welcomed two adorable kittens – Pumpkin and Cider. Their cuddling and roughhousing is great mental medicine indeed.

It is through a positive, growth mindset that our sacred CNS community continued to thrive during 2020, and it is with a positive, growth mindset that we enter 2021. We took in feedback from congregants, staff, board members, volunteers, and medical experts, thoughtfully debated, made adjustments,

and evolved. We used each mistake as an opportunity to learn, reassess, and do better. We've never wavered in our commitment to learning and growing, to working hard, to practicing until we get it right, and then improving even more. As I often say in my coaching work: always be a student of the game. You don't know what you don't know.

"We've never wavered in our commitment to learning and growing, to working hard, to practicing until we get it right, and then improving even more."

2020 was a year to remember (or forget) for many if not all of us. If you are like me, you are welcoming 2021 with renewed optimism and look forward to returning to normal, whatever that may look like. Regardless of what the future holds, I believe we can all move forward with a positive outlook.

Our mind is always occupied by thoughts, which in turn influence our actions. I invite you to try to find positivity by mentally holding on to the positives, each and every day, whether they be found in family, friends, career, faith, nature, or our sacred CNS community, our *kehillah kedosha*. I invite you to decrease your stress and increase joy by having a "growth mindset," a belief that our abilities can be developed and strengthened by way of commitment and hard work. What will bring you joy in 2021?

A few positive, growth mindset suggestions:

- For every negative thought, counter or substitute with a positive one.

Let me know your thoughts on how together we can make 2021 the best year possible. Connect with me: CNSpresident@gmail.com. I look forward to learning from you.



From the Ground Up: Jewish Education & Professional Development

By Mel Berwin, Director of Congregational Learning

Over a year ago, I embarked on a professional development program called the Mandel Teacher Educator Institute. This program brings together educators from across the country, across the Jewish religious spectrum, and across Jewish educational contexts, to consider the biggest picture of Jewish education, from the ground up: What and how do we want our kids to learn? What tools do teachers need in order to meet students' needs? And then, as directors, what do we need to provide on the level of professional development? What has to be modeled for teachers to create the collaborative, reflective, and caring learning environments where we want our students to learn?

I've been to plenty of education conferences in my 25+ years in Jewish education, and what struck me immediately was that the organizers of the program had a set of values on which the program stands. They referred constantly to those values throughout our time together, and held to them in a way that spoke to a deep personal and organizational integrity. These "pillars" as they called them, have inspired me deeply, and every since the first conference, I have been reflecting on what the value pillars of our own education program are.

Some are obvious—I have certainly advocated for and written here about what it means for our education program to be as inclusive as possible, for example. Some are more subtle—what does Jewish learning really mean, after all? Just as the Long Range Planning committee



Rachel Nelson (Jewish Federation of Greater Portland) and Mel Berwin participating in the Mandel Teacher Educator Institute

is working on vision and mission statements for the whole community, I am working with our teaching staff and Education Advisory Committee to craft values statements that articulate, guide, and inspire our learning community. I look forward to sharing these with you in the near future.

Along with four MTEI conferences each year (the first two we got to attend in person, and the past two were on Zoom), I have been auditing a graduate-level certificate program in Jewish education that MTEI offers and a smaller cohort of four colleagues have been attending on a bi-weekly basis for the past year and a half. Little did we know what an essential form of support this group would become as we've weathered all of the ups and downs of running educational programs through the unpredictable challenges of

this pandemic, not to mention supporting each other through multiple personal challenges as well (one of these colleagues lost her home in the Santa Cruz wildfires, two of us have parents dealing with cancer, etc.).

This small group set out to conduct individual research projects focused on professional development within our own Jewish education contexts. By now, we feel like we might just be the guinea pigs in someone else's research project on what happens to Jewish education during a pandemic. But despite the challenges, 10 of our ALIYAH teachers are indeed trying a new form of professional development project this year—joining together each week or two by Zoom as *hevruta* or pairs, to reflect on the highlights and challenges of their own teaching and offer constructive ideas to consider.

"By now, we feel like we might just be the guinea pigs in someone else's research project on what happens to Jewish education during a pandemic."

What we collectively learn from participating in this *hevruta* professional development program will become a paper that I submit for my research.

Continued on next page



Sarah Bloom | January 16

Sarah Bloom is the daughter of David and Trudi Bloom, oldest sister of Emma and Natalie Bloom, and the granddaughter of Phillip and Rosalyn Bloom and Richard and Rebecca King. She is currently a 7th grader at Robert Gray Middle School. Sarah's favorite pastimes are dance and drama, and she is also a die-hard baseball/softball fan (both playing and watching). She is also an avid reader and enjoys painting – mostly abstract art. When not studying or engaging in one of her favorite activities, Sarah enjoys spending time (virtually right now) with her friends, both from school and Neveh Shalom.



Jonathan Faclieru | January 30

Jonathan is the son of proud parents Tsvia and Tamir Faclieru and is younger brother to Yuval and older brother to Eitan and Ella, grandson to Moshe (z"l) & Anny Faclieru and Nisim & Tsipora Ben-Rachamim. Jonathan is an excellent 7th grader at Portland Jewish Academy. Jonathan plays competitive soccer with the West Timbers club. He enjoys basketball, riding his bike, hiking, music, and playing video games with his friends. Jonathan was born in Israel and moved to Portland at the age of five. He is fluent in Hebrew and visits Israel almost every year. Jonathan is excited and looking forward to celebrating his upcoming Bar Mitzvah with the community of Neveh Shalom.



Lainey Maya Gluckman | February 13

Lainey Gluckman is the daughter of Lindsay and Ty Gluckman, sister to Hannah, granddaughter to Shari Miller, and the late Richard Miller (z"l) (Scottsdale), and Cathy Gluckman. Lainey was named after her great-grandmother Elaine and without a doubt inherited her love of baking. Lainey loves to dance, sing, and play with her adorable puppy Millie and guinea pig Penny. She is a 7th grader at Gilkey Middle School, and is grateful to the community for all their love and support in bringing her to this point.

Mel Berwin *continued from previous page*

I've never found it easy to take a step back from my work to examine the bigger picture, to focus on research, or even to go to conferences. Certainly this

year does not provide any extra time or "space" – and yet, there's no time like the present. This is as good a time as any, and arguably the most important

time of all, to invest in our teachers, our students, and our families, and to be clear about what we stand for and why.

Long-Range Planning in the Age of Covid

By The Co-Chairs of the LRP Committee



Stephanie Arnheim, LRP Co-Chair



Nathan von Colditz, LRP Co-Chair



Leah Conley, LRP Staff Liaison

Hello everyone, may 2021 find each of you healthy and safe. Here, you'll read about the history behind and work thus far by Neveh Shalom's Long Range Planning (LRP) Committee. Timely as ever, shul President Glen Coblens convened this committee last March, just as the Covid-19 pandemic hit, and he assigned us as the committee's co-chairs. Pandemic or no, we're forging ahead with our important work: to move our synagogue into the future.

First, a quick introduction to the committee co-chairs: A professional connector, **Stephanie Arnheim** has been a CNS member for 20 years and brings to the current LRP work her extensive volunteer experience on many synagogue committees and its Board of Directors. She is passionate about the shul and its direction.

Nathan von Colditz has been a Neveh Shalom member since 2016 along with his wife Lindsay and their four-year-old son, Zev. He is healthcare management consultant with McKinsey & Company and has a background in corporate strategy and healthcare IT. His work includes several enterprise transformations of organizations around new purpose, vision, mission and strategy. Nathan has been involved for years in the synagogue's annual auction and is also a member of the Finance Committee. He finds the LRP Committee a perfect way to give back in a meaningful way to Neveh Shalom.

Also on the committee are **Leah Conley**, Neveh Shalom's Director of Early Childhood Education, as the LRP Committee's staff liaison, as well as **Alan Blank, Holly Eby, Jaimie**

Harper, Dann Horowitz, Jennifer Kalenscher, Alex Menashe, Gary Peck, Debbie Plawner, Marissa Richardson, Danit Rothstein, Mark Sherman, Toby Shulruff, Karen Twain, and Josh Wnuk.

Historically, Neveh Shalom has convened a long-range planning committee every 10 years, the most recent process having concluded in 2011, and its outcome is available on the shul's website. In the past, the synagogue has commissioned its LRP committees to look strategically at the synagogue, to keep it strong and moving forward. Its role differs from that of the Board of Directors, clergy and staff, who are more focused on the day-to-day operation of the *kehillah* (congregation).

Historically, Neveh Shalom has convened a long-range planning committee every 10 years, the most recent process having concluded in 2011.

Prior to the pandemic, the process seemed relatively straightforward: convene a diverse group of congregants to serve as committee members, task them with assessing the current state of affairs at the synagogue (including the exploration of trends in the community and Conservative Judaism as a whole), tap into a broad swath of the congregation, staff and clergy, and focus on scenario planning for the future. In the past, this process produced long-range plans that resulted in, for example, the reorganization of staff under a single execu-

tive director, creation of the Stampfer Chapel, renewed focus on relationships, enhancement of technology and improved finances for the congregation.

and education matters, chaired by Mark Sherman; the second focused on social and engagement matters, chaired by Marissa Richardson; and the third focused on the business of the synagogue, chaired by Alan Blank. Each task force meets regularly, digging into its respective charge.

It quickly became clear the first order of business was to revise the shul's mission, vision and values statements. For the draft statements, Debbie Plawner gathered input from clergy, staff, Board of Directors, and the LRP

Committee itself. At this writing, the Executive Committee and Board of Directors are considering our document and are charged with its final approval. We hope to share our creative and inspirational thinking with our *kehillah* in early 2021.

Once the statements have been finalized and approved by the Board of Directors, the LRP Committee's three task forces will begin the process of identifying the key priorities and recommenda-

tions that the clergy, staff and Board of Directors plan to prioritize for the next 10 years. The primary goal of our committee's recommendations is to ensure the sustainability of the synagogue over the next decade, taking into account the uncertainties surrounding post-Covid-19 synagogue life. We know in-person engagement at some point will recommence; we acknowledge that at that time, engagement, learning and ritual life likely will look different from the so-called before times, once the pandemic is behind us.

You, our *kehillah*, also play a role in our long-term plan. After initial feedback from the Board of Directors, our committee will share our findings with you and request your feedback, probably via a congregational survey and/or focus groups. More broadly, our committee also will consider the greater Portland Jewish community and other synagogues across the United States to learn about and understand their unique needs and priorities.

We look forward to working together in our shared passion for Neveh Shalom and its future growth.

Right out of the gate, the pandemic introduced new challenges and obstacles and the committee is rolling with them, moving forward despite the uncertainties about life post-Covid-19.

As this committee launched the next 10-year LRP cycle, it took great care to convene a group of 16 talented and engaged congregants, who represent a diversity of experiences and ideas. Right out of the gate, the pandemic introduced new challenges and obstacles and the committee is rolling with them, moving forward despite the uncertainties about life post-Covid-19.

Our LRP Committee consists of three task forces: one focused on spiritual



LRP Committee: **Top row:** Leah Conley, Nathan von Colditz, Stephanie Arnheim, Gary Peck, Mark Sherman; **2nd row:** Holly Eby, Glen Coblers, Karen Twain, Fred Rothstein, Alan Blank; **3rd row:** Jaimie Harper, Danit Rothstein, Debbie Plawner, Marissa Richardson, Dann Horowitz; **Bottom row:** Toby Shulruff, Alex Menashe; **Not pictured:** Jennifer Kalenscher, Josh Whnuk

Foundation School: Leading from a "Whole-Hearted" Place

By Cory Willson, Foundation School Assistant Director

This year Leah Conley and I embarked on a new journey through uncharted territory as we opened the school during a pandemic. Much of what guided us previously in terms of policy and procedures fell away as we created new routines, always with the goal of creating community with our staff and families regardless of the new parameters and terrain.

Alongside our amazing early childhood experts (our Morahs) Leah and I created a question together that will guide our actions and our learning this year. These questions are posted in our workplace so that we can see them throughout our workday. This practice helps us remain intentional about our work, keeping our awareness engaged so that we do not function from a place of autopilot. Leah and I chose the question, "How does being whole-hearted help us lead?"

Author Brené Brown defines whole-heartedness as *"living and loving with our whole heart despite the risks and uncertainty."* This word encompasses a lot, and it serves as a beautiful guidepost as we navigate, while always keeping safety and community in mind. Being whole-hearted means that we practice courage so that we can also practice other virtues with consistency. It means that we are vulnerable, admitting we don't always know the way ahead of time, but that we do know how to get



Morah Leah Conley and Morah Cory Willson at the Foundation School Walk-a-Thon, March 1, 2020 (pre-Covid)

there through honesty, kindness, and wisdom.

The story that is unfolding for us is a masterpiece! We are seeing things that never could have or would have been if we were living in a time of comfort and certainty. There are new opportunities, new ideas, and endless invitations to get uncomfortable and do new, important work. One beautiful example of this is our new creation of a parent-teacher task force. We created this new council group recently so that as we make Covid decisions we can be hearing from our teacher and family communities in real-time. This grew from a place of whole-

heartedness as we focused on how we can be informed, connected, and transparent.

Our community has stepped up, joining us here as we navigate together, with our minds, hearts, and ears open. We are truly getting to write the story together this year, and I have been struck by gratitude for this on numerous occasions as we take the time to understand each other and move forward as a tightly woven pod of brave, loving people.

As the story continues to develop, we are seeing new scaffolding, new systems, and new creative ways to meet the needs of our community. We are knowing each other better and differently despite actual physical distance! This is a story I am proud to tell and both humbled and thrilled to be a part of.

I have been so lucky the entire time to be guided by our wisest, most loving, bravest group of citizens...**the children**. All my years of work with children has taught me that they naturally and instinctually embody what it means to be whole-hearted. It is my greatest pleasure to lead alongside our fearless and talented Morahs and to be sharing this unique time in our history with these children who will someday be leading us all.

Stay tuned for future articles which will highlight our Morahs, the questions they are exploring with children this year, and what story is developing from their work.

A Congregation Answers the Call

By Michelle Limori-Goldenberg

George Floyd's death forever changed the way many of us see the world. While not all of us are out marching in the protests, we are called individually and collectively to look at the world differently.

Congregation Neveh Shalom is also deep in introspection. "We are building a community of connection and encounter. Neveh Shalom will be a house for people of all backgrounds, orientations, genders, and viewpoints," writes **Rabbi David Kosak**. On June 17, 2020 the Congregation posted "A Covenant of Justice: Statement on Recent Events and Moving Forward." In that covenant, it is declared, "We must be antiracist. We must loudly and publicly raise our collective voices for all. We must demonstrate our support with more than just our rhetoric. We must exercise our commitment to social justice and equality through our actions." (<https://nevehshalom.org/a-covenant-of-justice-statement-on-recent-events-and-moving-forward/>)

Beginning on Friday December 11, Rabbi Kosak began a monthly series called "Unity Shabbat," featuring faith leaders from diverse communities. In this series, leaders share their perspectives on race and community during the sermon slot at Shabbat services. From Rabbi Kosak's *Oasis Songs*: "This initiative flows out of our nation's call for greater racial awareness. It is but one way that our congregation is working to inform ourselves and take action to move closer to Isaiah's vision: *'I shall bring them to my holy mountain...for my house will be called a house of prayer for all people.'*" You can find more information about these monthly speakers in the CNS eblast.

CNS Director of Congregational Learning **Mel Berwin** states, "On a personal level, I thought I did understand racism, and this movement has made me realize that I had it wrong. I'm working on unlearning and re-learning new history, vocabulary, and acknowledgment. I think we all owe it to ourselves and those whose lives we touch to participate in recalibrating society to be more equitable—to actually reach our long-time goals of racial and gender equity, and to make sure our organizations and leadership positions are representative of the full and admirable diversity of the populations we serve."

She continued, "Our K-6 program didn't change as a result of political events. What changes is our culture: the anxiety, the understandings, and the concerns for each other. Our educational programming responds by being present for our children and by creating a space where they can show up as their whole selves—academically, socially, spiritually; where they can wonder out loud at what is happening in their world, without someone telling them what to think or who to be."

In Tichon (7th-12th grades), however, Berwin said the curriculum does connect more to politics, "but the youth get to choose which political avenues they want to pursue. Our Social Justice curriculum is a good example." The curriculum is being co-lead by CNS teachers **Brian Rohr**, **Deb Freedberg**, and **Sami Oberlander**, and OJMCHE Educator Amanda Coven, and guest speakers from The Immigrant Story, the Oregon Justice Resource Center, Basic Rights Oregon, and PDX Climate Strike.

Our Sisterhood has been working hard to establish interfaith and interracial



connections in order to build mutual respect and understanding. Their goals are to establish a foundation of social bonds among communities of faith through small scale and large scale social projects, work toward mutual understanding of people who are different than ourselves, create a safe space in which all feel comfortable expressing thoughts, feelings and ideas, and understand the issues that each group faces.

With that in mind, Sisterhood has implemented two initiatives. Recently, they met with the former head of the NAACP and were involved in distributing flyers and providing turkeys for "The Proper Thanksgiving," an organization which provides free Thanksgiving meals to those in need. They are also creating opportunities for ongoing dialogues and friendships with Sisterhoods of other faiths. They welcome more participants in these efforts.

What I have learned from writing this article is that we have been answering the call: to do better, be better, and make the world more fair for all people.

Sacred Space

Our Congregational Home

By Fred Rothstein, Executive Director

Zoom is not enough. While we have learned what a useful tool it is during 2020, in the end, we all know that seeing, hugging, and physically being with one another is central to our individual and communal health: physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

On March 16, 2020, the CNS leadership made the unprecedented decision to close our building for general congregational and communal use. Of course, we all know that decision was made in the interest of *Pikuach Nefesh*, the Jewish value of saving and protecting life. Within the context and confines of that value, and adhering to the strictest of health and safety protocols, our leadership has permitted specific uses of the building in service to our community. Operating under an emergency license, our Foundation School has served first responders, essential workers, and others of our young families. We have celebrated B'nai Mitzvah with meaningful family-only attendees. Our clergy have led Shabbat and holiday services without missing a beat, and our dedicated CNS staff have come to their offices to perform essential functions on your behalf.

Updating the Building

We have also used this time to deepen our examination of our 55-year-old building and campus. At the request of the Board of Directors, the Building & Grounds Committee, under the leadership of its chair, **Roy Carmen**, and ably supported by CNS Facilities Director **Kurt**



Rice, along with all of the expert volunteers, undertook a "capital expenditures study," designed to predict life spans of systems, prioritize necessary projects, and estimate the associated costs.

"From parking lot to roof, plumbing to windows, HVAC to technology, we now have a comprehensive understanding of upcoming projects and needs to ensure the proper care of our building and campus."

Following many months of work, Roy presented a five-year campus plan to the Board at its November 2020 meeting. From parking lot to roof, plumbing

to windows, HVAC to technology, we now have a comprehensive understanding of upcoming projects and needs to ensure the proper care of our building and campus. As every homeowner knows, it's not enough to simply pay the monthly gas and water bills – we must also repair / replace roofs, fix plumbing, and have working equipment and systems.

On behalf of the entire congregation, we extend our deep appreciation to the members of the Building & Grounds Committee who, in addition to this challenging and complicated project, meet regularly to provide active stewardship of our campus: **Roy Carmen**, Chair; **Steve Blake**; **Jason Kaufman**; **Ed Kraus**; **Larry Perrin**; **Paul Schlesinger**; **Isaac Simkin**; **Carolyn Weinstein**; **Andrew Zvibleman**; and **Kurt Rice** (staff).

As I mentioned at the top of this article, Zoom is not enough. Our goal is that during this closure, we are maintaining and improving our building and grounds so that we are well prepared to welcome you back for the next 55 years and beyond.

If you would like to see the Capital Expenditure Study in its entirety, please email frothstein@nevehshalom.org.

Live-Stream Moves to Main Sanctuary

By Jenn Director Knudsen

Shabbat happens every week and doesn't hit the pause button for a pandemic. Mere days after Neveh Shalom closed on March 16, 2020 in light of Covid-19 fears, Shabbat came in yet again. On that Saturday, March 21, Shabbat services occurred via live-stream from the Main Sanctuary.

AV expert **Ed Kraus** said the debut live-stream was possible because one year prior the synagogue had completed a network wiring, and the Main Sanctuary already had a camera mounted on a ceiling overhang. To improve viewers' remote experience for the first online service of the pandemic, Kraus placed a second camera on the floor of the Main Sanctuary, in front of the bimah. With no congregants able to come to shul, the additional camera would not block anyone's view.

"We rewired it and off we ran," Kraus said of the two cameras working in tandem for a higher-quality remote service. "And that was back in March; who knew the length of time we'd need to stay out of the building."

In the interim, the Main Sanctuary was emptied, and Stampfer Chapel became the sacred space from which services were live-streamed; where a minyan has been allowed to gather for b'nai mitzvah; and where services were prerecorded in advance of the recent High Holy Days.

Now, however, the time has come to again cross the Isaak Foyer to return to the Main Sanctuary.

"We're a synagogue first and a TV studio second," said Kraus, noting the Main Sanctuary's larger size can best accommodate more sophisticated AV equipment and ensure clergy and the b'nai

mitzvah family's safety. All while maintaining the sanctuary's primary job as a sacred space.

"It actually will feel like coming to shul," said Kraus, who also serves on the Building and Grounds Committee.

He recently proposed to the Board of Directors a financial plan to improve all remote services via the purchase of specialty camera and video equipment, such as video monitors and a larger switch to better handle the additional apparatus. The Board approved the plan in October. The payout of approved funds and the purchase and installation of equipment likely will have occurred by the time you're reading this article.

"What Ed has given us in terms of time, energy, and expertise is indescribable," said **Fred Rothstein**, executive director, who has supported returning remote services to the Main Sanctuary.

"Moving to the Main Sanctuary will allow us to hopefully, in the near future, have more regular attendance on Shabbat in a safe way and allow us to begin taking small steps to being together in celebration..."

Rabbi Eve Posen also has been a big proponent of Main Sanctuary-based live-stream. "One of the hardest parts of this Covid-19 experience has been missing out on the community that's present in living a Jewish life," she said. "We've worked so hard, and continue to work hard, to keep everyone safe and healthy



Cantor Eyal Bitton on the bima in the Main Sanctuary

while we figure out how to also be in community during this strange time."

Looking ahead, Posen added, "Moving to the Main Sanctuary will allow us to hopefully, in the near future, have more regular attendance on Shabbat in a safe way and allow us to begin taking small steps to being together in celebration and connection outside of the Zoom screen."

Rothstein echoes Rabbi Posen's opinion and notes that even when our shul can return to business as usual, having the more sophisticated equipment on board will be a boon.

"Our congregants want and need to see one another – they've told us that in so many ways, most recently in our High Holy Day survey," Rothstein said.

He continued, referencing Board approval of Kraus' proposal, "We know that likely a significant portion of our members will continue to need to participate via online platforms. The current proposal is a proactive plan to be ready for both."

Virtual Happenings

Please enjoy this sampling of what is being offered at Neveh Shalom. The best way to get the latest information is through our weekly eblasts. You can sign up at: news@nevehshalom.org. Please visit the website for links at: nevehshalom.org/virtual-events.

Musical Midrash Project Join Mark Sherman as he shares his original songs based on the weekly Torah reading. More info at: musicalmidrash.com/events.

* **Concert from the Genesis Cycle - Mon, Jan 4, 7:00-8:00pm** Mark will present the 12 songs inspired by the Book of Genesis

* **Weekly Workshop - Songs of Exodus - Sun, 8:00am & Mon, 6:00pm** Each week, a new song is shared to make a strong, musical connection to the weekly Parsha.

Exercise with Coach Glen Coblens Wednesdays, 10:30am

Coach Glen Coblens is pleased to offer a dynamic and fun 45-minute, online Zoom workout for all. Guaranteed to be a stress reducer and energy builder. No previous athletic ability required. Focus will be on building core strength.

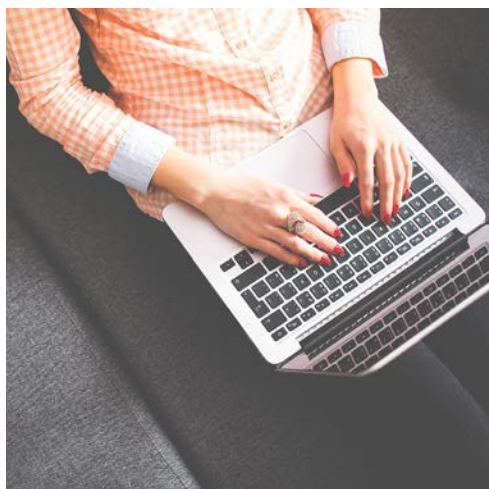
Through a Lens of Fire: Hasidic Insights on Torah with Rav D-Weds, 12:30-1:30pm

The Hasidic approach to Torah utilizes a sophisticated psychological approach that was ahead of its time.

Women's Torah Study

Sat, Jan 2, 16 & Feb 6, 20, 12:00pm

Join Mel Berwin for an hour of uplifting study and conversation. All levels of experience welcome.



Neveh Shalom Sisterhood Happy Hour Sunday, January 10, 4:00pm

Join Sisterhood in a casual discussion about the day's or week's events. All welcome. RSVP to coprez22@gmail.com

Men's Club Book Club

Thursday, January 14, 7:00pm

Join Men's Club members in this book discussion of *Famous Father Girl: A Memoir of Growing Up Bernstein*, by Jamie Bernstein. RSVP: elovitzclan@comcast.net.

Celebrity Chef Program

Tuesdays, Jan 19, 26 & Feb 2, 9, 5:00pm

Professional celebrity chefs will share cooking demonstrations, tell their personal stories, and share cooking hints during these presentations.

PRAYER (Tefillah): Speaking to God

Thursday, January 28, 4:00pm

A musical performance and discussion of prayer in memory of Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks, z"l with Cantor Eyal Bitton, Cantor Daniel Benlolo from Montreal, and Michèle Tredger.

CNS Sisterhood Book Group

Monday, January 25, 7:00pm

Join Sisterhood members in the discussion of the book *The Opposite of Comfortable* by Sharon Nir. RSVP: coprez22@gmail.com.

Israel360: "The Mystery of Herod the Great" w/ Rob Kahn - Sun, Jan 31, 11am

Colorful Insights about Herod, King of Judea, by our own Rob Kahn, Rabbi and Israeli Tour Guide. Contact: mcaplan@nevehshalom.org.

Purim Happenings – Celebrate this holiday with your Neveh Shalom Family.
Sun, Feb 21 Drive Thru Purim Carnival
Thurs, Feb 25, 6:00pm Young families fun; **6:30pm** All community Ma'ariv Service and Purim Spiel.

Morning Minyan and Shabbat Services

Please visit the website for links at: nevehshalom.org/virtual-services

Morning Minyan

Mon-Fri, 7:15am | Sun, 9:00am

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Fridays, 6:15pm

Saturday Morning Shabbat Service

Saturdays, 9:30am

Downstairs Minyan Shabbat Service

2nd, 4th, 5th Saturdays, 9:30am

Sisterhood Shabbat

Friday, January 15, 6:15pm

Join the Sisterhood as they lead Kabbalat Shabbat services.

Unity Shabbat

Dates and Times TBA

Join us for these special once-a-month Shabbat programs featuring guest faith learders from around the city.

Young Families

Please visit the website for links at: nevehshalom.org/virtual-services. For more information, please contact Rabbi Eve at: eposen@nevehshalom.org.

Kiddush Club

1st & 3rd Saturdays, 9:30am

Morah Sarah Rohr and Moreh Gershon Liberman alternate leading Kiddush Club.

Tot Shabbat

1st & 3rd Saturdays, 10:30am

Join Morah Levia as she leads our Tot Shabbat service.

4th Fridays Sing-a-Long with Rabbi Eve

4th Fridays, 5:15pm

Join Rabbi Eve as she leads our Shabbat service for families on Zoom. We'll do a bit of singing, a story, and blessings.

Member News

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

We are sorry to inform you of the passing of Phillip Gladstein, z"l, husband of Raya Gladstein, dear father of Lori (Ken) Kletzer, Carol Gladstein and Jay (Eric) Gladstein, and grandfather to Ben (Kelsey) Kletzer and Sarah Kletzer.

We are sorry to inform you of the passing of Michel (Mike) Marcel Rogson, husband of Miriam, father of Ariel (Jennifer) Rogson and Tamir (Asheara) Rogson, brother of Leon (Gavriel-la) and grandfather of Abigail, Charles and Benjamin.

We are sorry to inform you of the passing of congregant George Sidline, z"l on November 16th at the age of 86. He is survived by his wife Simonne, his two children Jon (Stacy) Sidline and Natalie Mater, and his four grandchildren: Brody, Maxx, Samantha, and Margo.

We are sorry to inform you of the passing on November 27th of Robert Earle Rudolph, z"l, at the age of 88. Bob was preceded in death by his wife Terrye (Stein) Rudolph (06/11/18). They were married for 67 years. Bob is loved and remembered by his sons Steve (Sheryl) Rudolph of Sisters, OR; Jeff Rudolph of Palm Desert, CA; and Matt Rudolph in Tualatin, OR.

We are sorry to inform you of the passing on Shabbat morning in Phoenix, Arizona of Dianne Hoffman, z"l. Dianne was preceded in death by her husband, Rabbi Sydney Hoffman and son, Larry Hoffman. She is loved and remembered by daughter, CNS members Judi (Joe) Goodman, Portland, OR; as well as daughter, Sally Snader, Phoenix, AZ; sons Sanford Hoffman, Germantown, MD and Daniel Hoffman, Gaithersburg, MD; and grandchildren Josh Goodman, Memphis, TN; Nathan Goodman, Portland, OR; Steffani (Anthony) Minella, Phoenix, AZ; Cott Snader, Phoenix, AZ; and 4 great-grandchildren.

We are sorry to inform you of the passing of Riesha Levy, z"l, who passed away peacefully on Monday, November 23rd, 2020 (7th Kislev) in Boca Raton, Florida. Riesha is loved and remembered by sons Andrew (Rosy) Levy and David (Clara) Levy and grandchildren Avi Levy, Sabrina (Nir) Maoz, Avrohom (Samantha) Levy, and Esther (Adam) Edelson and two great grandchildren, brothers Bernard (Judy) Kaufman and Hershel (Elizabeth) Kaufman.

We are sorry to inform you of the passing of our dear friend and congregant, Don Stephens, z"l, loved and remembered by his wife, Barbara; sister, Sandy (Carl) Rees; and brother-in-law, David (Diane) Beran.

Kvell With Us

Mazel Tov to Zachary A Lesch and Nina Simons who were married on October 26th. Zachary is the son of Harold and Jackie Lesch and grandson of Gloria Bacharach. Nina is the daughter of Hilga Simons of CO and the late Paul Simons. A post-Covid reception will be planned.

Mazel tov to Jenn Director Knudsen for having an article published in *The Forward* entitled "Worried about celebrating holidays remotely? Tips from a Jewish expert." Click here to read: <https://forward.com/scribe/459045/worried-about-celebrating-holidays-remotely-tips-from-a-jewish-expert/>



We are sorry to inform you of the passing of Ruth Gordin, z"l, loved and remembered by her sons Alex (Barbara) Meiers-Gordin, Robert Gordin, Seth (Kristin) Goradietsky, Douglas (Melanie) Gordin, and Howard (Christine) Gordin.

We are sorry to inform you of the passing on Shabbat morning, November 21st in California of Hannah Kalenscher, z"l, loved and remembered by her son, Mark (Jennifer) Kalenscher, daughter, Judy (Joseph) Winn and grandchildren, Ellen and Albert Kalenscher and Lindsay and Rachel Winn.

The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

Adult Education Fund

Jonathan Levy & Nancy Stone:
In memory of Leah Nepom

Annual Giving

Joni Cady & Jane Rosevelt:
In appreciation of our synagogue
Ronel Cordova:
In memory of Agustina Godoy
Bari & Robb Gilbert:
In honor of clergy & staff
Steffanie & Steven Goldsmith:
In honor of Stephanie Arnheim & John Sheldon's wedding
Stephen & Diana Sirkin:
In memory of Hannah Kalenscher
Corinne & Laurence Spiegel:
In memory of Jasmine Spiegel

Becky Menashe Bookshelf Fund

Sandy & Wendi Menashe:
In memory of Jack B. Menashe

Congregant Assistance Fund

Stephanie Arnheim & John Sheldon:
In memory of Riesha Levy

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

Samuel Gottlieb & Carolyn Gorin:
In appreciation of Cantor Eyal Bitton
Jill Pelavin & Aaron Ickes:
In honor of Hannah Ickes
Sharyl & Rick Vagy:
In honor of Raisa Premysler
In memory of Michel Marcel Rogson

Cemetery Fund

Ms. Wynne Cooper:
In memory of Mr. Sidney Cooper
Ruth Ephraim:
In memory of Alfred Grunbaum
Rosalie Goodman:
In memory of Sadie Horenstein
Alisa Prosmushkin:
In memory of Itzhak Khotyanov
Arne Rosencrantz:
In memory of George Rosencrantz
Jerrie Roth:
In memory of Ruth Liebreich

Muriel/Joseph Unkeles Choir Fund

John Barton:
In memory of Ben Barton
Phil Kane:
In memory of Anne Kanefsky
In memory of Samuel Becker

Charity Food Fund

Alan & Eve Rosenfeld:
In memory of Phil Gladstein

CNS 150 - Programs

Gary & Carolyn Weinstein:
In appreciation of Rabbi David Kosak
In appreciation of Rabbi Eve Posen
In appreciation of Cantor Eyal Bitton
In appreciation of Ed Kraus
In appreciation of Ken & Christine Klein

Camp Solomon Schechter

Steven & Wendy Shain:
In memory of Marilyn Rabie's father

Hy & Myra Jackson

Elevator Fund
Myra Jackson:
In memory of Dorothy "Yetta" Jackson
Jerrie Roth:
In memory of Jerome Roth
In memory of Allen Roth

Shuldman Kiddush Fund

Stuart Davis:
In memory of Lillian Davis
In memory of Jack Cohen
Barbara Kramer:
In memory of Allen Grobart
Marc, Robin, & Anna Shapiro:
In memory of Ella Ostroff
Ethel Shuldman & Jeff Edmundson:
In memory of Philip Shuldman
In memory of Ella Ostroff

Jacob Freedman School Fund

Howard Freedman:
In memory of Evelyn Freedman
Richard & Rebecca King:
In memory of Sally Salzberg

Mark & Leah Rubin Foundation School Fund

Robert & Emily Ail:
In honor of Riley & Marci Atkins
Stephanie Arnheim:
In honor of Ziva McAllister
Shana & Jonathan Cohen:
In memory of Michel Rogson
Roberta & Richard Cohon and Family:
In memory of Marilyn Lakefish
In memory of Charlotte Cohon
In memory of Stanford Nudelman

Herb Hochfeld:

In memory of Bea Hochfeld
In memory of Frank Hochfeld
Andrew Lakefish:
In memory of Marilyn Lakefish
Irving & Rhoda Leopold:
In memory of Stephen Leopold
Randi McLenithan:
In memory of Denny Weinstein
Marvin & Geoffrey Nudelman:
In memory of Marilyn Lakefish
In memory of Stanford Nudelman
Irving & Arlene Potter:
In memory of Don Stephens

General Synagogue Fund

Marlene Abrams:
In memory of Reuben Abrams
David & Carol Adelson
Mary and David Alhadeff:
In memory of Phil Gladstein
Gregory & Nelly Altotsky:
In memory of Nisl Rabovitser
In memory of Mark Altotsky
In memory of Abram Kizhner
Mira Altotsky:
In memory of Mark Altotsky
Stephanie Arnheim & John Sheldon:
In memory of Hannah Kalenscher
Gloria Bacharach:
In memory of Jennie Stern
In memory of Jacob Hammersley
Robin Bacon-Shone:
In memory of Thelma Beck
Emilia Baram:
In memory of Genya Ratner
Barbara Bernstein Fant:
In memory of Rita Bernstein
Alan Blank & Ellyn Sternfield:
In memory of Hannah Kalenscher
Gerei Blauer:
In memory of Ruth Blauer
Julia Waco:
In memory of Howard Waco
Marty Brophy:
In memory of Julie Brophy
Pam Calvo:
In memory of Greta Kay
Steve Caplan:
In memory of Sue Weisser
Deborah Cohen:
In appreciation of Congregation Neveh Shalom
Mitch Cooper:
In memory of Mark Cooper
Helen Duewel:
In honor of Olivia Morrow
Neal Dunitz:
In memory of Irving Dunitz
Michae Feves:
In memory of Al Feves

Francine Frisch:

In memory of Jack Israel
In memory of Arnold Frisch
Leslie Galanti:
In memory of Morris Leton
Neesa Galanti:
In memory of Morris Leton
Thelma Geffen:
Get well wishes for Bette Greenstein
Bernice Gevurtz:
In memory of Burton Gevurtz
Bradley & Julie Gevurtz:
In memory of Burton Gevurtz
Rae Goldenberg:
In memory of Victoria Sadis
Reyna & Steve Gustav:
In memory of Phil Gladstein
Jeff Hamburger:
In memory of Paula Neuburger
Shirley Harrison:
In memory of Charles Bloomberg
Richard Jolosky:
In memory of Dora Jolosky
Sue Kaplon:
In memory of Louis Heckman
Julian Kaufman:
In memory of Alfred Kaufman
Steven Kaufman:
In memory of Bernard Kaufman
Nina Khatayevich:
In memory of Mendel M. Khatayevich
Ronald Leon:
In memory of Esther Wayne
Lisa Lurie:
In memory of Frieda Lurie
Gayle & Jerry Marger:
In memory of Michel Rogson
In memory of Mae Marger
In memory of Sadie Feves
In memory of Isaac Feves
Ida Mikhlin:
In memory of Abram Mikhlin
Grigoriy Milman:
In memory of Semen Smetana
Raymond Packouz:
In memory of Harriet Towne
Robert & Harriet Perkel:
In memory of Anna Ruth Dunis
In memory of Elizabeth Goldhammer
In memory of Will & Flora Perkel
Boris & Alla Piatski:
In memory of Yefim Faktorovich
Beth Pollack:
In memory of Samuel Schwartz
In memory of Yetta Schwartz
Raisa Premysler:
In memory of Isaak Premysler
Bruce & Phyllis Ritchie:
In memory of Jack Ritchie

The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

Fred & Nora Rothstein:

In honor of Stephanie Arnheim & John Sheldon's wedding
In memory of Jane Rosenbaum

Allan & Marjorie Sherman:

In memory of Phil Gladstein
In memory of Lillian Sherman

Elena Shternberg:

In memory of Stephanie Shternberg

Diana & Stephen Sirkin:

In memory of Riesha Levy

Ludmila Slahover:

In memory of Beba Blikh

Yakov Smetana:

In memory of Semen Smetana

Jackie Solondz:

In memory of Daniel Solondz

Dennis Steinberg:

In memory of Joseph Bernstein

In memory of Anita Hillebrandt

Michael Titelbaum:

In memory of Gussie Titelbaum

In memory of Arthur Siebert

Alla Tolchinsky:

In memory of Khaya Golberg

Debra Trevellini:

In memory of Bruce Richman

Allan & Judy Weingard:

In memory of Martha Rapp Leveton

Bruce Weintraub:

In memory of Lillian Heller
Weintraub

Larry Wiener:

In memory of Ray Wiener

Peter Wollstein:

In memory of Rebecca Kaplan

Stu Yudman:

In memory of Isadore Yudman

Yuriy Yukhayev:

In memory of Lev Yukhayev

Arleen & Robert Zucker:

In honor of Stephanie Arnheim & John Sheldon's wedding

Rick Zurow:

In memory of Evelyn Zurow

Gevurtz Chapel Fund

Andrea Gevurtz Arai:

In memory of Burton Gevurtz

Hunger Relief Fund

Renée Holzman:

In memory of Phil Gladstein

Lidia & Raul Krivoy:

In memory of Hannah Kalenscher

Lidia & Raul Krivoy:

In honor of Stephanie Arnheim & John Sheldon's wedding

Vic & Toinette Menashe:

In memory of Phil Gladstein

In memory of Hannah Kalenscher

In memory of Matt Emlen

Sue Novotny:

In honor of Stephanie Arnheim & John Sheldon's wedding

Sylvia & Gary Pearlman:

In memory of Phil Gladstein

Jews of Choice Fund

Elana Emlen:

In memory of Matthew Emlen

Gladys & Joseph Fendel

Camp

Brauna Ritchie:

In memory of Jack Ritchie

Leonard Barde Cemetery

Enhancement Fund

Scott & Judy Barde:

In honor of Richard Koplan & Laurel Oziel

Carolyn Gorin & Sam Gottlieb:

In memory of Leonard Barde

Feldstein Library Fund

Jack & Melanie Birnbach:

In memory of David Papper

In memory of Benjamin Papper

In memory of Mike Rogson

Martha & Glenn Decherd:

In memory of Abraham Becker

In memory of Kate Freda Shapiro

Corinne Spiegel:

In memory of Jennie Stern

Lesch Camp Fund

Samuel Gottlieb & Carolyn Gorin:

In honor of Harold & Jackie Lesch

Jeanette Philan:

In memory of Regina Philan

Mark Ail Campership

Fund

Alan & Vicki Rotstein:

In memory of Marc Tobin

Milt Horenstein Minyan

Fund

Stephanie Arnheim & John

Sheldon:

In support of Millard Gulledge

In memory of Nancy Arnheim

Mel & Elaine Ball:

In support of Millard Gulledge

Alan Blank & Ellyn Sternfield:

In memory of Phil Gladstein

In memory of Don Stephens

Marlene Brenner:

In memory of Phil Gladstein

Carol Bryan:

In memory of Louis Bryan

Lee Cordova:

In memory of Zalie Lester

Joel Mullin & Sheri Katz:

In memory of Hannah Kalenscher

Tony & Priscilla Kostiner:

In honor of Brian & Sarah Rohr

In memory of Don Stevens

In memory of Phil Gladstein

In memory of Laura Burda's niece

In memory of Hannah Kalenscher

In support of Millard Gulledge

In honor of Stephanie Arnheim & John Sheldon's wedding

Wendi & Sanford Menashe:

In memory of Phil Gladstein

Lora & James Meyer:

In honor of Millard Gulledge

Jack & Barbara Schwartz:

In support of Millard Gulledge

Howard Shapiro:

In memory of Marcella Shapiro

Robin & Marc Shapiro:

In support of Millard Gulledge

Mysten & Rosalyn Shenker:

In support of Millard Gulledge

Paul & Joan Sher:

In memory of Ethel Zeffren

In memory of Andrea Zeffren Alter

In memory of Philip Gladstein

Mark & Gail Sherman:

In honor of Sandy Axel

Anna Davis:

In support of Millard Gulledge

Aileen & Duncan Wyse:

In memory of Hunter Jaffe

In support of Millard Gulledge

Moskowitz Fund

Marci & Riley Atkins:

In honor of Dr. Sam & Carolyn
Gottlieb/Gorin

In memory of Sylvia Moskowitz

In memory of Herman Atkins

Mary Rosenberg

Scholarship Fund

Michelle Stein:

In memory of Estelle Stein

Strauss Youth Action Fund

Sondra Pearlman:

In memory of Laura Mills

Sonia Nudelman Floral

Fund

Jerome & Shirley Nudelman:

In memory of Sonia Nudelman

Principals Fund

Gail & Mark Sherman:

In memory of Hannah Kalenscher

Honigstock Educational Scholarship

Bruce & Sheila Stern:

In memory of Goldie Oster

In memory of Isadore Kaufman

In memory of Reuben Stern

Rabbi Kosak Discretionary Fund

Samuel Gottlieb & Carolyn Gorin:

In appreciation of Rabbi David Kosak

Diane Kahn:

In memory of Joshua Kahn

In memory of Eddie Vosen

Jeffrey Menashe & Wendy

Gutmann:

In honor of Rabbi David Kosak

Jill Pelavin & Aaron Ickes:

In honor of Hannah Ickes

Aaron Potter:

In honor of Ezra Potter's Bar Mitzvah

Irving & Arlene Potter:

In appreciation of Rabbi David Kosak

Lois Ralph:

In appreciation of Rabbi David Kosak

Glenn Schwartz:

In appreciation of Rabbi Kosak

Brenda & Larry Schwartz:

In appreciation of Rabbi David Kosak

Mylen & Rosalyn Shenker:

In memory of Michel Rogson

Larry Spiegel:

In memory of Bruce Spiegel

Barbara & Dan Steinfeld:

In honor of Rabbi David Kosak

Rabbi Posen Discretionary Fund

Arlene Cogen:

In memory of Ada Siegel

Samuel Gottlieb & Carolyn Gorin:

In appreciation of Rabbi Eve Posen

Allan, Nan and Sarah Lipton:

Get well wishes for Rabbi Eve Posen

Vladimir Novikov:

In honor of Rabbi Eve Posen

Sherry Ostroff:

In memory of Ella Ostroff

Margaret Petersen:

In honor of Rabbi Eve Posen

Saperstein Chapel Fund

Taya Meyer:

In memory of Evelyn Freedman

The Generosity that Defines Us

By Dena Marshall, Development Director

I have always believed that generosity is a uniquely human trait, fundamental to the health of a community. Humans express their generosity in conventional and surprising ways in every corner of earth and throughout time. We give to each other what we believe is ours to give; sometimes we give something different than the thing we're asked; every so often we give more than we feel we can afford to lose. And humans are by nature optimistic: we believe in fresh starts and new beginnings. We give gifts to celebrate a new home, a new relationship, or a new initiative with fine wines, small appliances, seed money, or investments. We give compliments and referrals. To the things we care most deeply we give our time, our love, and our legacy.

A few weeks ago, a long-time congregant called me to say, "I received your solicitation letter and I want to make a donation. But I want to give to an initiative that really needs my support. What would you recommend?" A few days later a check arrived in the mail, much larger than I expected, with the note, "to support hunger relief efforts." Another long-time congregant sent in his full membership dues and then engaged

his employer match program to deposit the equivalent, "for a member in need." When thanked, he said, "I give because I can, and I want to make it possible for someone else to enjoy what I can enjoy." Shortly after visiting me in my new home a few years ago, my grandmother determined I needed a dishwasher (whether I agreed or not) and before long a new dishwasher arrived on my doorstep, followed by a check in the mail with the note "treat yourself." I called her immediately. "Thank you, Grandma, I really didn't need it!" "If you needed it, I wouldn't have given!" she chuckled back. In September, when wildfires ravaged Oregon in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, frenzied election campaign propaganda, and social justice protests, Oregonians set aside their differences to help one another. They opened their homes to families who had lost their own, and gave them tools, food, blood, shelter, clothing, money, a sympathetic ear, and a hand in rebuilding.

Oregonians are sturdy, generous, kind, and no-nonsense. This became categorically clear to me when I asked for your support in this year's Annual Giving Campaign. Even though we were all



hunkered down running through the full range of anxieties in our own bubbles and pods, you found your generous spirit and reached for the things you most fervently believe in: community, faith, family, health, and safety. As of this writing, in 2020 your donations to the Annual Giving Program surpassed \$193,000. In addition, your generous support of the various Neveh Shalom funds, programs and initiatives reached \$800,000, and you continue to steadfastly fulfill your CNS150 capital campaign promises with nearly \$785,000 in delivered pledges. Thank you! Your generosity, creativity, and courage build our community upwards and forwards. *L'chaim!*

The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

Stampfer Education Fund

Gerel Blauer:

In memory of Bertha Blauer

Helen Dewel:

In memory of Ella Ostroff

Vic & Toinette Menashe:

In memory of Rabbi Joshua Stampfer

Jack & Barbara Schwartz:

In memory of Ella Ostroff

Soble Renovation Fund

Sandey Fields:

In memory of Sam Soble

Jerome & Shirley Nudelman:

In honor of Del Fields

In memory of Samuel Soble

Toinette Menashe

Bookshelf Fund

Ted & Davia Rubenstein:

In memory of Phil Gladstein

Vicki Zidell:

In memory of Jack Israel

Torah Repair Fund

Joel Mullin & Sheri Katz:

In memory of Phil Gladstein

Jeffrey Menashe & Wendy

Gutmann:

In memory of Phil Gladstein

USY Travel Fund

Tony & Priscilla Kostiner:

In honor of Samuel Hartoch

Weinstein Chapel Fund

Carolyn & Gary Weinstein:

In memory of Ronald Weinstein

In memory of Violet Rapoport

Hyman

In memory of Max Weinstein

Women's League

Scholarship

Marla & Bob Weiner:

In memory of David & Rhea

Weinstein

Yad B'Yad Comforting

Mourners

Dale Oller:

In memory of Sadie Feves

In memory of Ruby Solomon

In memory of Roy Oller

Yoni Suher Fund

Jeffrey Menashe & Wendy Gutmann:

In memory of Yoni Suher

Gordon & Saskia Schaeffer:

In appreciation of Rabbi David Kosak

Vic & Toinette Menashe:

In appreciation of The 5th annual

Yoni Suher (z"l) Scholar-in-

Residence Event

In memory of Yoni Suher

CAMP SOLOMON SCHECHTER

Where Judaism and
Joy are one!
(206) 447-1967
www.campschechter.org



D&M Reliable Mobile Notary
of Oregon, LLC
503-465-4318

We Come To You!!
Mention this Ad for 5% off.

www.reliablenotaryor.com

AVAILABLE
FOR A LIMITED TIME

ADVERTISE YOUR
BUSINESS HERE

Contact **Steve Massien** to place an ad today!
smassien@4LPi.com or (330) 714-2840

HOLMAN'S FUNERAL SERVICE

Family Owned
and Operated



Providing Caring, Affordable
Service to Portland's Jewish
Community Since 1854

503-232-5131

2610 S.E. Hawthorne Blvd.
www.HolmansFuneralService.com

ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection
From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide



Authorized
Provider

SafeStreets

1-855-225-4251



WE'RE HIRING AD SALES EXECUTIVES



- Full Time Position with Benefits
- Sales Experience Preferred
- Paid Training
- Overnight Travel Required
- Expense Reimbursement

CONTACT US AT

careers@4LPi.com • www.4LPi.com/careers

AVAILABLE
FOR A LIMITED TIME

ADVERTISE YOUR
BUSINESS HERE

Contact **Steve Massien** to place an ad today!
smassien@4LPi.com or (330) 714-2840

PROTECTING SENIORS NATIONWIDE MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEM



\$29.95/MO

BILLED QUARTERLY

PLUS
SPECIAL
OFFER

CALL NOW! 1.877.801.5055
WWW.24-7MED.COM

AFFORDABLE FAMILY MEMORIALS.com

503-515-7640

Serving the Jewish
Cemeteries since 1999

afmemorials@comcast.net

SPREAD THE WORD

A Thriving, Vibrant
Community Matters



SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lp.com

Congregation Neveh Shalom, Portland, OR

A 4C 05-0312



Please recycle *The Chronicle* when finished

**We were delighted to see those of you who drove
through our Chanukah goodies pick-up!
We miss you all so much!**

