

THE  
**CHRONICLE**

A PUBLICATION OF CONGREGATION NEVEH SHALOM

**A Different Kind of  
Teshuvah, A Different  
Kind of Return**



# What This Moment Asks of a *Kehillah Kedoshah*—of a Holy Community

Rabbi's Corner

**By Rabbi David Kosak**

**T**his summer, the four musketeers rode again. That's what we called one another, this incredibly tight group of college friends. Together we shared in the adventures of a rough and tumble New York, which then was still a gritty, demanding city. Muggers, pickpockets, and violence. At your own peril, you either learned street smarts quickly, or you didn't.

I've seen Jon, Steve, and Ahmed over the years. But the four of us together? This had not happened since our NYU days. A fateful reunion.

The thing with old friends? You jump right back in, with no real gap. It's like Einstein's general theory of relativity. Maybe all around you the world has changed. But with old friends, traveling at the speed of love, no time has passed at all.

And yet it had. We have pictures of us in our youth, in which we are almost unrecognizable. Now Jon's face is chiseled stone. There's a dignity in those rocky contours that only age could have carved. Ahmed's beard is a white lion of deep intent and belly rumble laughter. Steve, the cross-fit trainer who once did gym squats loaded down with 185 pounds? His heart is as soft and real as I have ever seen.

When we return to something old from long ago, what is returning? What hasn't changed? And what is irrevocably different?

Each year at the High Holidays, we "return again." We embrace the mystery of *teshuvah*, the type of change which is literally a return. We go back as someone else.

When we consider the human soul, we think about some eternal core of the human spirit, that quintessence which life itself cannot touch, tarnish, or sully. Simultaneously, one of the features of the soul that we appreciate is its capacity for self-reflection and transformation. In mystical Judaism, we are bearers of three souls: a vital, biological soul, a feeling, sensing soul, and a soul of pure mind.

We are all of these potentialities.

This year, American society and Jewish communities across the world are all returning. We return to our buildings, our schools, our synagogues, and houses of worship. Everywhere, people are coming back, coming home. We at Neveh Shalom will return, again, to our ancient rituals of atonement. The shofar will sound. We will fast. The old prayers will be chanted, comforting as a beloved sweater. We will rise and we will sit, just as we have always done.

Yet how much we each have changed! We can't help but bring those changes with us. Whatever it is that we are returning to, we do so as altered individuals and a remolded community.

I've been thinking a great deal about how many of America's culture wars are



about nostalgia, our desire for a precious past that now has slipped through our fingers, pitted against our utopian aspirations. Loss is hard. Letting go and relinquishing is hard. Yet it is the essential task of the human being.

As we regather, I hope this year that each of us will find a way to celebrate all that was beautiful and worthy. That past should ride again, untouched, unsullied, untarnished. Let us cherish our memories, including those which survived the passage of time. Simultaneously, may we each muster the grace of generosity—*chen*, *v'chesed*, *v'rachamim*—to release our nostalgia and courageously step into this new moment unencumbered by past fears, hurts, and regrets. May we be kind to one another. May our eyes see who we each now are.

*Shanah Tovah*—a good, sweet year to you,  
Rav D

# Returning to Connection

Rabbi's Corner

**By Rabbi Eve Posen**

It feels almost normal," has been the refrain for the last number of months. From children being allowed back into their sacred playgrounds and camps, swimming lessons, and Tot Shabbat, to adults walking back into shul, schools, stores, and gatherings, the sense of "normalcy" has somewhat returned. Except it doesn't really feel like "normal." After all, for the last 18 months, "normal" has taken on a new meaning with masks and temperature checks, distancing, and Zoom. Coming back, returning to our old haunts and sacred spaces might feel "comfortable," but perhaps what we thought of as normal has changed.

---

***"Every tradition was once an innovation." That is to say that everything we now consider "normal," or "what we've always done," was once new and innovative; that even includes most of the way we observe Judaism today.***

---

In Judaism, especially Conservative Judaism, we walk a similar fine line between preserving tradition and adapting to a culture of change. In fact, every time we take the Torah out of the Ark and go to put it back, we recite the words "*hadesh yameinu kekedem*." God, renew our days as those before. It's an interesting message. Knowing what we know about our history, in biblical times and since, our people have had more than our fair share of not-so-good days. So, which "days" are we referring to?

Perhaps we're not actually talking about a renewal of literal days, but more a sense of renewal. It's a reminder that every time we take out this beautiful story of our heritage, our wisdom, and our past, we should approach it with new eyes, the kind of eyes that may be experiencing everything in the Torah for the first time. Part of what makes the Israelites' journey so captivating

is that so much of it was new at the time. New leaders, new lands, even a new religion. What if we were to approach the retelling of this thrilling biography of our people with the fresh, open eyes of our children, hearing it for the first time? Perhaps this is what Simchat Torah, the end of our fall holiday season, is meant to teach us.

What about the rest of our rituals, traditions, moments, and days? Should we return to the good old days? Is that sense of normalcy we once sought after even still a part of what we should hope for after a year of transition and change?

As we approach this High Holy Day season, so much will feel familiar: the apples and honey, the melodies, and the recipes. At the same time, after 18 months of a global pandemic, so much



might also feel foreign, like actually gathering together for a meal or attending services in person.

One of the best books I've read over the pandemic is *The Power of Ritual*, by Casper ter Kuile. In it, the author quotes Rabbi Irwin Kula: "Every tradition was once an innovation." That is to say that everything we now consider "normal," or "what we've always done," was once new and innovative; that even includes most of the way we observe Judaism today.

Perhaps the prayer "*hadesh yameinu kekedem*," renew our days as those before, is not meant for us to create a carbon copy of the way it used to be, but instead to return to feelings of connection, community, and togetherness.



# Not Back to Before

Cantor's Corner

By Cantor Eyal Bitton



the pandemic. The Jewish Community in America has seen a surge of antisemitism across the country and beyond our shores. We've seen vandalism, harassment, assaults, and the stabbing of a rabbi. How safe is it for the Jewish community? Have things changed fundamentally?

On Yom Kippur, during the *Selihot* service, we call out: "*Shma koleinu*, hear our voice, Adonai our God, be kind and have compassion for us." Then we recite these words from Lamentations 5:21, which we also recite every Saturday morning: "*Hashiveinu Adonai eleicha v'nashuvah; chadesh yameinu k'kedem*" ("Turn us toward You, God, and we will return to You; make our days seem new, as they once were").

The prophet Jeremiah wrote these words following the destruction of Je-

rusalem in 586 BCE. He saw the exile of the Jewish people as an abandonment by God and was speaking in particular about the physical return of the people to the Jewish homeland. The birth of the state of Israel in the 20th century is the answer to Jeremiah's prayer. *T'shuvah* in Hebrew means "repentance" or "return," and it also means "answer." Yet the birth of Israel is not a return to the past. The state of Israel is a return AND something new. In Jeremiah's beautiful text, he does not ask to go back to before; rather, he asks that our days *seem new* or that they be *renewed*.

When we seek to return, we must seek renewal, we must seek not to live in the past but to live in the present, one that is filled with new moments which we have yet to discover. As we return, may we encounter these new moments with optimism and courage; may we do so together, strengthened by the power of community and togetherness.

I have profound memories of growing up in Kinshasa, Zaire, yet I have no intention of going back and seeing it again because I know I'd be returning to something different. The city itself has changed. The school I went to has changed. The people I knew are no longer there. What, exactly, would I be returning to?

Indeed, we can never return to what was. There's a song in the Broadway musical *Ragtime* which exclaims, "We can never go back to before."

At Neveh Shalom, our last in-person High Holy Day services were in 2019. We are excited to be back – yet we know it will not be quite the same as before. There are visible differences, and there are unquantifiable differences as well.

It's not just Neveh Shalom. Our society has gone through a great deal of turmoil and change since the start of



# What I Think About...

## President's Corner

**By Glen Coblens, CNS President**

In our house, when something breaks, it goes in the “fix-it shop,” where we keep many types of glue – Gorilla, wood, rubber, super, even glitter glue – as well as various tapes (duct, packing, etc.), clips, wires, you name it, all in the pursuit of the right bonding agent for the job at hand. Similarly, we at Neveh Shalom are always seeking the best ways to strengthen our bonds with you, our *Kehillah Kadosha*, and with each other.

As we return to our beautiful, freshly painted campus with a new roof and parking lot, things will be a bit different for the High Holy Days this year. This happens sometimes in the fix-it shop as well. For example, the Incredible Hulk’s arm now sticks straight out, but Levi loves him just the same. Similarly, we hope you will find a lovely balance between in-person connections and health and safety protocols. There will be multiple in-person service offerings that allow for physical distancing, as well as the ability to join from the comfort of your home. We believe we have struck a nice balance so all congregants and guests can experience powerful and meaningful HHDs.

I invite you to use this time to engage in deep introspection, ask for forgiveness, set a path for a positive year ahead (the Year of Positivity, as I’ve been calling it), and refresh bonds with family and friends.

While our HHD experience will be a little different, renewing the bonds you have created over the years, and/or creating new bonds will hopefully be a huge part of it. Time and again in my thirty-plus years of coaching, I have learned the power of the team bond. At Team CNS – our incredible clergy, talented and dedicated staff, passionate lay leaders and volunteers, and 2000+ people who call Neveh Shalom home – our bond is strong. There is strength in numbers and we are fortunate to count all of you as family. Putting the team first brings all of us together and there is nothing we cannot accomplish together.

Team First, Team Always!

Teams succeed when people step up within their roles. If we all do just one more thing for our wonderful Kehillah,



there is no doubt we will bring home gold. I invite you to consider what role you would like to play in creating and strengthening our CNS bonds. What type of glue are you? What kind of glue do you need, and who can provide it? Please email me at [cnsresident@gmail.com](mailto:cnsresident@gmail.com) with your thoughts and ideas.

*L’shanah Tovah.* May 5782 bring health and happiness to us all!

### The Chronicle

**No. 1 ~ Sept/Oct 2021**

*Supported by the Sala Kryszek  
Memorial Publication Fund*

To contact us with ideas, comments, or  
to become a contributor:  
[programs@nevehshalom.org](mailto:programs@nevehshalom.org)

Subscriptions and member news:  
[news@nevehshalom.org](mailto:news@nevehshalom.org)

Membership inquiries:  
[mcaplan@nevehshalom.org](mailto:mcaplan@nevehshalom.org)

For a full staff list go to:  
[nevehshalom.org/staff](http://nevehshalom.org/staff)

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

Lead Editor and Graphic Designer:  
Brian Rohr

Copy Editor  
Sara Safdie

### CONTRIBUTORS

Rabbi David Kosak, Senior Rabbi  
Rabbi Eve Posen, Associate Rabbi  
Cantor Eyal Bitton  
Mel Berwin, Director of  
Congregational Learning  
Glen Coblens, President  
Elana Emlen  
Amy Leona Havin  
Jenn Director Knudsen  
Steve Sirkin



## Upcoming B'nai Mitzvah



### Maia Levinson | September 4

Maia Levinson is the daughter of Aaron Levinson and Noelle Landauer, granddaughter of Ann and Steve Levinson of Highland Park, IL, Sherry and Dan Nichols of Oregon City, and Don and Cheryl Landauer of Eugene, and older sister to Naomi. She enjoys drawing and is currently writing and designing an epic illustrated saga about escaping prophecy and doom. Maia attended Swallowtail Waldorf School through sixth grade and will be starting seventh at Banks Middle School in the fall.



### Ravi Weinrobe | October 9

Ravi Weinrobe, son of Anna Davis and Scott Weinrobe, brother to Joshua, and grandson of Stuart and Reena Davis, Gayle Rosenthal of Dallas, Texas, and Michael Weinrobe of Taos, New Mexico, will be called to the Torah on October 8. Ravi reads voraciously, loves spending time with family and friends, enjoys summers at Camp Solomon Schechter, and plays piano. He attends Winterhaven School.

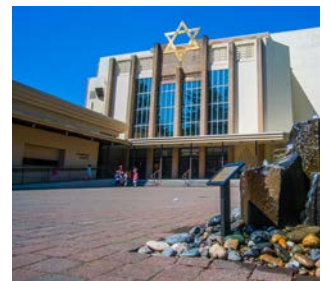


### Anderson Kitzis | October 16

Anderson Kitzis is the son of Lynne Strasfeld and Alejandro Kitzis, brother to Margot, grandson to Reva Strasfeld and the late Walter Strasfeld, and to Karen and Hugo Kitzis. Anderson is a rising 7th grader at Oregon Episcopal School. He loves participating in and watching sports of all kinds, spending time with family and friends, and his dogs, Sadie and Leo.

## You are able and welcome to join us in person for services

As the community begins to open up, and more people are coming together in person again, we at Neveh Shalom are delighted to invite Neveh Shalom members and guests of the family, to attend all services. At the time of printing, the rules are that all attendees who are **eligible to be vaccinated must be vaccinated**. *Children under the age of 12 (who are currently not eligible for vaccination) are welcome to attend.* Face masks are required indoors and highly encouraged outdoors. We will still be video live streaming the service if you are not able to or comfortable in joining us. Thank you.





# How Is ALIYAH Helping Our Kids Return to CNS?

Mel's Corner

**By Mel Berwin, Director of Congregational Learning**



I have been thinking non-stop about what this pandemic means for our children. For many of our kids, this past year has included a new fear of disease and contagion; a break from all normal structures of education and activity; seeing parents anxious, depleted, and stressed; decreased physical affection from friends and relatives, and the disruption of our social and communal lives. For some of our children, this year has allowed our kids to gain new skills, strengths, agency, and resilience. My own children have lost loved ones, realized that academics don't matter as much as they thought, prioritized just one or two close friends to spend time with, and learned important lessons about their own mental health.

It's too early to say what the long-term effects will be, but it's very clear that our children have *changed* as a result of this pandemic. Beyond their height and their hairstyles, our children have changed, so returning doesn't mean just welcoming the same kids back to the same classrooms. Our *return* must allow us to acknowledge the ways we've *turned*.

The questions I have been asking are: How do we bring our community back together in a way that allows for us to acknowledge who we are at this time, how we have changed, what is familiar, and what is new? What are the rituals that let us name these changes and let us get to know each other all over again?

One form of ritual we are using in ALIYAH this year is *Hevruta*. Not a new ritual at all, but an ancient form of learning in partnership. *Hevruta* learning brings two people and a text together in conversation, requiring the partners to focus, discuss, and wonder. It requires deep listening, curiosity, and the ability to respectfully support and challenge each other, skills that we will be teaching and practicing throughout the year. Listening, supporting, respectfully challenging: these are social-emotional skills that are necessary for surviving and thriving in community; they also help us recognize the relational side of any kind of learning.

In a brainstorming session I led in May, our ALIYAH teachers came up with several ways they could imagine using

*Hevruta* in our classrooms: as a way for students to get to know each other again; as a daily warm-up; as a method for teaching texts related to our curricular themes, and as a way of diving deep into our theme for this year.

Each year we choose a theme for ALIYAH and Tichon. The theme for this year speaks to our identities, as well as how we relate to each other in the multifaceted world around us. This verse from Pirkei Avot (1:14) is attributed to Rabbi Hillel:

אם אין אני לי, מי לי. וכשאני לעצמי, מה אני.  
ואם לא עכשיו, אימת?

*If I am not for myself, who is for me? But if I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when?*

As we return to ALIYAH this fall, we will be celebrating our return to community, acknowledging the many ways we've changed, learning the skills of *Hevruta*, and listening to and supporting each other as we grapple with the biggest questions of who we are and how we relate to the world around us.



*In Hevruta, two students focus on a text, listening closely to each other and coming up with their own understandings.*

# A Different Kind of Teshuvah, a Different Kind of Return

**By Mel Berwin, Director of Congregational Learning**

"On the first night of Rosh Hashanah, there we are, *ba'agudat achat*, pressed together in a large room, a single spiritual unit, helping each other acknowledge our actual condition, and reciting this ancient service given to us by the Divine Physician as a medicine for that condition and that condition is this:

This is real. This is very real.  
This is absolutely inescapable.  
And we are utterly unprepared.  
And we have nothing to offer but each other and our broken hearts.  
And that will be enough."

—Rabbi Alan Lew, *This Is Real and You Are Completely Unprepared: The Days of Awe as a Journey of Transformation*

Rabbi Lew, beloved author and spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Shalom in San Francisco, did not live to see this pandemic, but his words feel relevant each year, perhaps especially this year, although we aren't yet prepared to be "pressed together in a large room." But that fact—that we are held in limbo by a shifting deadly virus with new variants, aching to be back together as a community after over a year apart, and still not sure how safe it is to do so—makes these Days of Awe that much more poignant.



*The startling sound of the shofar, like a siren, calls us to ourselves and to each other as we prepare for the Days of Awe.*

---

***How do we plan a High Holy Day season when we can't all safely gather together at once? How do we think about personal and collective teshuvah at a time when it seems Mother Nature is rebelling against our human choices?***

---

So how do we plan a High Holy Day season when we can't all safely gather to-

gether at once? How do we think about personal and collective *teshuvah*—which literally means to return, but in this context means repentance—at a time when it seems Mother Nature is rebelling against our human choices? How do we (the CNS staff and clergy) create an opportunity for reflection, resolve, and renewal for all our congregants, young and old, healthy and vulnerable, ready and not

ready, to be back in person in a room full of friends and community members? And how do we—each of us as participants in this community—decide how to engage in the offerings and create a meaningful holiday season, once again, under these challenging circumstances?

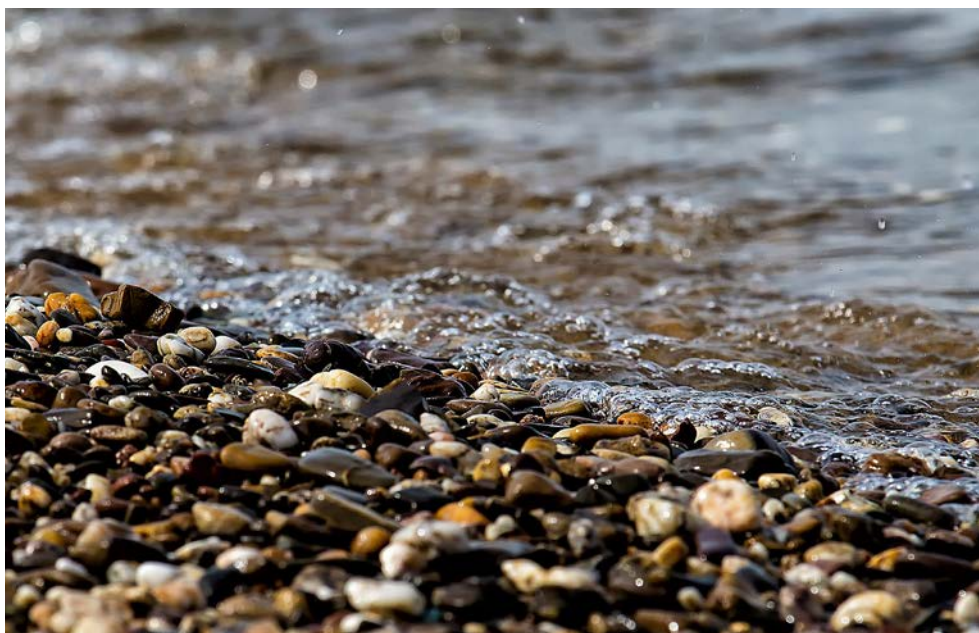
This issue of The Chronicle is dedicated to answering some of those questions. Rabbi Kosak considers what is the same and what changes when we return to an old memory or place. Rabbi Posen and Cantor Bitton both focus on the impor-



tance of the idea of renewal, especially at this time. Jenn Director Knudsen speaks to some of our congregants to hear how different folks feel about their return to society—and CNS—this fall. My article on ALIYAH explains how we're thinking about welcoming our children back into classrooms after being away for so long. By now you've seen the array of online and in-person services and programs that we've planned for this season, and you've registered for the services you'd like to attend. Maybe you've figured out your ride, or which apples and honey you want to taste on Rosh Hashanah.

For the Holy Days to be as meaningful as I want them to be, I have to invest time and intention figuring out what I really need from the holidays *this* year. I take a walk, write in my journal, and take stock so that I can find that intention and connection in the services, in the liturgy, in my prayer, and in my conversations with friends during this season of reflection. *Teshuva*, in this way, is a return to our selves. We can ask: Does my outer-self match my inner-self? What do I need this year from our Holy Days?

When I lived in England, I belonged to a synagogue in London with Rabbi Joel Levy. His *drash* (sermon) one year was that on every Rosh Hashanah, we should say to our partners, our children, our friends, and fellow community members: "I don't know you." His message was that



*Tashlich is the ritual throwing of breadcrumbs or pebbles into a body of flowing water, to symbolically cast away our sins.*

*teshuva*—the ways we want to change—can be made harder by the people who tell us, in one way or another, "I know what you are like, and I expect you to stay that way." It's a gift to allow others to become their best selves. We can consider: Am I reinforcing traits or patterns in others that perhaps they want to change?

Another way to think of *teshuva* is of affirming who we are, who we are meant to be. The theme for this year in ALIYAH is the quote from Hillel in Pirkei Avot: *Im ein ani li, mi li?* If I am not for myself, who will be for me? Another way to

ask it is: If I am not myself, who will be me? It takes courage to be our authentic selves, to stand both proud and humble as the perfect and imperfect human beings that we each are.

There's a story of Rabbi Zusya that speaks to this.

When Rabbi Zusya was on his deathbed, his students found him in uncontrollable tears. They tried to comfort him by telling him that he was almost as wise as Moses and as kind as Abraham, so he was sure to be judged positively in Heaven. He replied, "When I get to Heaven, I will not be asked 'Why weren't you like Moses?' or 'Why weren't you like Abraham?' They will ask, 'Why weren't you like Zusya?'" (Folk story, author unknown; a similar version is quoted by Martin Buber in *Tales of the Hassidim*.)



*The Torah portion we read on Yom Kippur recounts the ritual of the "scapegoat," when the High Priest would gather two goats, one of which would be sent off into the wilderness, symbolically carrying away the sins of the People of Israel.*

Who do we need to be right now? What would it take for you to be more fully yourself? What are the unique sparks that you have, and what is calling you? As we return to ourselves and our community, may these Days of Awe be meaningful, fulfilling, inspiring, and restorative for us all.

# Does Teshuvah or Return in 5782 Include Returning to Shul?

*By Jenn Director Knudsen*

**T**he French have a great word for beginning the school year: *la rentrée*. It indicates that one doesn't necessarily "start" or "begin" the new school year; rather, one reenters or returns to it. And that's what we're all contemplating right now, but on a much grander scale as we consider *teshuva*.

*Teshuva* is that powerful Hebrew word bandied about, especially at this time of year, that literally means to turn or return. It also has a deeper meaning: to turn inward, to return to self. But the concept is perhaps more multi-layered this year, as we reflect upon returning ... to what? To one's true self? To one's better self? To Congregation Neveh Shalom's building and its prayer spaces?

*Teshuva* this year, like so much we've all dealt with since March 2020, feels somehow different.

And just as the concept of *teshuva* itself means different things to different people as they contemplate their place

in the universe – particularly throughout Elul and through Simchat Torah – our congregants approach "return" to shul in their own ways. Here, a few among us share their thoughts, desires and concerns.

"We're jumping the gun right now because of the delta variant of COVID," said **Larry Perrin**, a retired doctor who'd practiced medicine as an OB-GYN for 40 years.

He and wife, **Sharon**, both vaccinated and 81 years old, fear they are easy targets for the virus and worry they could inadvertently infect their two youngest grandchildren, ages 11 and 9, who are too young to get the vaccine. The thought of coming to shul during the High Holy Days, picking up the virus and bringing it to young family members keeps the Perrins resolute in deciding to avoid Neveh Shalom this season.

It's "too radical," Larry said, to congregate in groups at this time.

The Perrin's caution isn't relegated only to their projected shul behavior. Larry said he's only recently returned to his favorite hobby – practicing his shot with 9mm and 45mm handguns at a well-regulated (and ventilated) gun club in Sherwood – and looks forward to his regular lunch date with a fellow retired physician and sharpshooter.



*Callie and Noah Barish with their kids (from L to R) Aria, Samara, Mira, Elijah*

"Lunch is the important part" of their outing, and they only go to venues "with outdoor seating," he said.

**Callie Barish** articulates a sentiment many congregants share, whether about returning to regular synagogue attendance or family activities: "The reality is that everything seems to be opening up at once, and we feel somewhat forced to jump back into the deep end," she said, referring to herself, husband **Noah**, and their four children, ages 2 to 9.

She continued, "And we are tempted to jump back in because it is so refreshing, but we still have unvaccinated children and some lingering anxiety about exposure to the virus."

In the "before times," Callie said, the family was very active at Neveh Shalom. Their 2-year-old twins are Foundation School students, the two eldest are enrolled in ALIYAH, and the family regularly attended Shabbat services.



*Sharon and Larry Perrin*



Then the pandemic hit. “We started off excited about attending Zoom services, as it eliminated some of our barriers to attendance” like kids’ nap schedules, commuting from the east side of town, and the kids’ age spread. However, she shared, “We quickly found that attending services online was nearly impossible for our particular family and was seldom enjoyable. We are ready to return to in-person programming, however, we continue to have the same barriers to attendance as we did pre-pandemic, and we have just gotten used to doing things at home, on our own,” Callie said.

But is now the right time for that physical *teshuva*, return to shul?

Yes. And yet.

Callie said, “Last year was the most spiritual I have felt during the High Holy Days since I have had children, because I could access the sermon and service at a place and time that worked best for my needs without having to juggle crying/hungry/bored/distracted children.”

Larry pointed out that walking into shul has little to do with *teshuva*.

---

***“Return,” he said, means going back to, or remaining with, basic principles, such as simply showing your fellow Jewish or non-Jewish persons kindnesses, both big and small.***

---

“We talk a lot about trying to be conscientious in our ‘returning’ – not being sucked into old routines and trying to keep some of the better habits that we have formed over the last two years,” Callie said.



Michael Lipke, Anna Stern-Lipke, Alexis, and Samuel

“Return,” he said, means going back to, or remaining with, basic principles, such as simply showing your fellow Jewish or non-Jewish persons kindnesses, both big and small.

“Doing a mitzvah for anyone... because you can,” such as simple acts like helping someone across the street or tipping well at a restaurant, is at the heart of

the three biggies – *teshuva*, *tzedakah*, and *tefillah* (prayer) – that “avert the severe decree,” he said, citing a profound line from the *Unetaneh Tokef*.



Efrem Plawner

**Michael Lipke** also cited text regarding his sense of *teshuva*, but with a different take.

“By no means am I trying to make a direct comparison,” said the father of two ALIYAH students, “but when Noah and family boarded the ark, the earth and life on it were vastly different than a year later when they disembarked.”

Lipke said the pandemic now is like the Biblical flood, responsible for “changing the landscape of how we live.” He drew out the metaphor: “Noah sent out the dove three times to determine when it would be safe to return. At this stage of the pandemic, which number dove are we on?”

We won’t know which dove we’re on until a year from now, so we should perhaps proceed – and return – but with caution.

Leave it to our youth to sum up what *t’shuvah* may ultimately mean to them, this year especially.

**Efrem Plawner**, 17, a senior at Beaverton’s Arts and Communications Magnet, is more focused on the positive social aspect of going back to synagogue. “Returning to shul,” he said, “means I will be able to be together with a community of people I haven’t seen for over a year.”



# Returning to Hebrew and to Myself

By Amy Leona Havin

**A**s a child, my mother would tell me that I could always come home, whether it was from school, a childhood sleepover, or my rigorous university conservatory program when I would call her from Seattle feeling homesick. Having immigrated to the United States from Rehovot, Israel, when I was a young girl, my parents were no strangers to the feeling of searching for “home.” While my father adapted easily, my mother longed to return to our extended family and would remind me that no matter how far away, I could always come home to California, I could always come home to Israel, and I could always come home to my Jewish roots.

After fully acclimating to the cultural norms of an American teenager in a Southern California beach town, this type of return was far from my mind. I was going to be a classical ballet dancer and live in a big city. I had given up speaking Hebrew, losing touch with my family and most of the Israeli Jewish community I had known; instead, I adopted the dream of fulfilling a bohemian, metropolitan, and compartmentalized lifestyle. It wasn't until my mid-twenties, after having lived in Portland for a few years, that I realized just what I felt was missing.

Whether it was the pang of my grandmother's decreasing health, my nostalgia for the Rehovot apartment in which I grew up, my sudden cravings for the “choco” and Bamba of my childhood, or the Pesach dinners I started hosting for my boyfriend and my cat in our tiny Eastside apartment, I began to grow increasingly closer to my Jewish and Israeli identity, longing to connect with others that felt the same. After years of only hearing Hebrew from my parents during phone calls, I took the leap and searched for a Hebrew learning class in the Portland area. What I found was



*Amy's mother Ita and Amy at their home in Rehovot*

Congregation Neveh Shalom, its Machon Ivrit Hebrew Institute (three years of modern Hebrew classes for adults), and a key piece to the puzzle that my soul was looking to fill.

At Machon Ivrit, everyone is welcome. With students of all ages from various locations across Portland and even occasionally southwest Washington, the mix of levels and backgrounds of dedicated individuals looking to connect to Hebrew is inspiring. Though not necessarily heavily involved in the synagogue's religious services, every person attending the multi-level class program is there for the same reason, in turn cultivating a deep sense of community.

As the only grandchild of four Holocaust survivors from the atrocities of the Auschwitz, Bergen-Belsen, and Siberian camps of World War II, I often feel a sense of responsibility for carrying on not only my family name, but my culture, my heritage, my religion, and my language. In short, I would like to make

my grandparents proud. It is in this sense that the Machon Ivrit instructors and community have brought me closer to myself and closer, in a way, to the memory of my ancestors. To continue to speak Hebrew with other individuals who understand my story and my background, without judgment, has been a comfort in times of homesickness. It has brought me closer to Judaism again, prepared me for my annual journeys to Israel, and has allowed me to express a part of myself that will always exist, no matter how close or far I am from home.

To speak my native language, to celebrate my family's holidays, and to share them with others more fluently and confidently has been one of the greater gifts bestowed on me in the last few years: a return not only to Hebrew education, but to my roots, to my home, and to myself.

*For more information about Machon Ivrit classes this fall, visit: [nevehshalom.org/machon-ivrit](http://nevehshalom.org/machon-ivrit) or contact JoAnn Bezodis, [jbezodis@nevehshalom.org](mailto:jbezodis@nevehshalom.org).*

# Learning to Live with Disaster

By Steven Sirkin

Early last summer, as the pandemic raged, I asked the question “Can Coronavirus Be a Blessing?” (May/June 2020 Chronicle issue). Of course, it was not in the context of those who contracted the disease and the tremendous strain it put on our society. My question was intended to open a conversation about resiliency. I wanted to explore a living lesson on a wide range of the survival skills we would need in the event of “the big one,” i.e., the great Cascadia Earthquake, or any other of a variety of major disasters.

At that time, however, I didn’t and couldn’t have even fathomed what would be the beginning of a twelve-month span of back-to-back crises, during which time we survived catastrophic wildfires, the world’s worst air pollution, an epic ice storm, a brutal heat wave (116F degrees), urban unrest, and political upheaval, all in the midst of the pandemic. Each of these crises provided additional lessons on how to survive in the face of disaster.

I’ve been involved with the CNS Safety & Security Committee for many years. As a committee, we’ve spent a lot of time over the past few years talking about how our resource-rich community can be even more resilient. Now I invite you to join the conversation.

Looking back on the past eighteen months, did you experience any of the following:

- *Potentially or needing to evacuate your home at short notice?*
- *Needing access to a “go bag” with food, clothing, prescriptions, passwords, and other items?*
- *Having a fallback supply of food and water (a gallon a person a day)?*
- *Needing to live in your home without electricity, heat, and/or AC for multiple days?*
- *Dealing with shortages at groceries or other stores?*



*Several years ago Steve drove a Red Cross ERV (Emergency Response Vehicle) across the country to Greenville, NC, to assist with hurricane aftermath.*

## What was your personal experience?

We are encouraging our fellow congregants to send along a short note letting us know:

- *What was the worst part for you?*
- *What kept you going?*
- *What supplies, equipment, services, etc., did you need that you didn’t have during one or more of these disasters?*
- *How much longer would it have been before you would have been seriously affected?*

Please send your responses to Dena Marshall (dmarshall@nevehshalom.org) with, if possible, a picture. We’d like to collect your responses and share them with others.

Our goal is to help everyone think about and prepare for such events so that it will be easier to get through any future disasters we may face. Thanks in advance for helping us help you to return to a sense of normalcy in such situations.



# Neveh Shalom 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](mailto:news@nevehshalom.org). Please visit the website for links at: [nevehshalom.org/virtual-events](http://nevehshalom.org/virtual-events).*

## **Exercise with Coach Glen Coblens** **Wednesdays, 10:30-11:15am**

A dynamic and fun online workout for all focusing on building core strength. Guaranteed to be a stress reducer and energy builder. No previous athletic ability required.

## **Back to Shul 2021**

**Sunday, September 12, Holzman Plaza**  
**12:00-1:00pm Families with Children**  
**ages 0-12 and ALIYAH K-6 Meet & Greet**  
**1:00-2:00pm All Congregants**

Let's celebrate and gather as a kehillah/community for some music, food, and fun! RSVP: [members.nevehshalom.org/event/backtoshul2021](http://members.nevehshalom.org/event/backtoshul2021)

## **Sukkot Gatherings**

We welcome you to join the CNS community to celebrate Sukkot 5782 together. We have two different opportunities this year to experience the magic of Sukkot in larger or smaller groups.

- **Thursday, September 23** - In small groups at a CNS family's Sukkah
- **Sunday, September 26, 12:30-1:30pm and 4:00-5:00pm** - In our Community Sukkah

## **Drinks and a Nosh with the Men's Club**

Join the Men's Club members for a drink and a nosh. L'chaim!

- **September 30, 6:45pm** at the Garages Satellite Pub (4810 SW Western Ave, Beaverton)
- **October 28, 6:45pm** at Westgate (3800 SW Cedar Hills Blvd, Beaverton)

## **Sisterhood Meetings**

**Thursday, September 30, 7:00pm**

For details, please contact Michelle Limori-Goldenberg: [smallfryeterp@icloud.com](mailto:smallfryeterp@icloud.com).

## **Women's Torah Study**

**Saturday, October 2 and 16, 12:00pm**

Join Mel Berwin for an hour of uplifting study and conversation. All levels of experience welcome. RSVP for link to: [mberwin@nevehshalom.org](mailto:mberwin@nevehshalom.org).

## **Sisterhood Interfaith Meetings** **Wednesday, October 6, 7:00pm**

Please join our CNS Sisterhood and Hope Christian Fellowship Sisterhood in our INTERFAITH Discussions. Your experiences and feedback are most welcome! We meet on the first Wednesday of the month on Zoom. RSVP to Michelle Limori-Goldenberg: [smallfryeterp@icloud.com](mailto:smallfryeterp@icloud.com).

## **Sisterhood Book Club**

**Monday, October 25, 7:00pm**

Join the Sisterhood for their book club discussion about *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn. RSVP to Diane Kahn: [diane-andjosh@hotmail.com](mailto:diane-andjosh@hotmail.com).

**Israel360's 2021-22** programming will continue to consider many aspects of Israel—modern and ancient—from diverse viewpoints and approaches in an atmosphere of respect. We will offer an array of Zoom and in-person events following this year's theme—Resilience, Renewal, and Reality. Keep on the lookout for 1360 emails to ensure you don't miss any of the upcoming programs.

## **Morning Minyan and Shabbat Services**

*Please visit the website for more info:*  
[nevehshalom.org/current-services](http://nevehshalom.org/current-services)

## **Morning Minyan**

**Monday-Friday, 7:15am / Sunday, 9:00am**

## **Kabbalat Shabbat**

**Fridays, 6:15pm**

## **Saturday Morning Shabbat Service** **Saturdays, 9:30am**

In person and online options

## **Downstairs Minyan Shabbat Service** **2nd, 4th, 5th Saturdays, 9:30am**

## **Young Families**

*For more information, please contact Rabbi Eve at: [eposen@nevehshalom.org](mailto:eposen@nevehshalom.org).*

## **Shanah: A Whole Family 2nd Day Rosh Hashanah Exploration**

**Wednesday, September 8, 4:15-6:15pm**

For families with kids ages 0-12. Hear the shofar, taste and make fresh pressed apple cider, experience Tashlich, and more fun! RSVP: [members.nevehshalom.org/event/Shanah2021](http://members.nevehshalom.org/event/Shanah2021).

## **Kiddush Club**

**1st and 3rd Saturdays, 9:30am**

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

## **Tot Shabbat**

**1st and 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 a Shabbat service for families. There'll be singing, a story, and blessings.





# Member News

**Mazel Tov to Rabbi Eve Posen** on starting her eighth year with Neveh Shalom! *Todah Rabah* for all that you do!

**Mazel tov and farewell to Sylvia and Isaac Frankel** on their move to Israel! They will be missed here in Portland!

**Mazel tov to Matthew Zola**, who graduated from the University of Colorado with a BS in Aerospace Engineering, *summa cum laude*, Engineering Honors Program. Matthew is the son of **Julie & Jeffrey Zola** and the grandson of Sheila and Paul Gelber and Barbara Zola, z”l and Leonard Zola, z”l.



**Felicia and Todd Rosenthal** are thrilled to announce the engagement of their daughter **Brittany Lee** to Mr. Jake Eliot Barnett of Manchester, UK. Jake is the son of Annella and Lawrence Barnett, also of Manchester. A 2022 wedding is planned.

**Mazel tov to Yaniv Horenstein** who graduated from Ida B. Wells-Barnett High School and was directly admitted into the University of Oregon’s Lundquist College of Business. Yaniv is the son of **Bob and Dorice Horenstein**.

**Mazel tov to Noam Morris O’Glasser** for winning second prize in ORT’s Jewish Animation Competition with his submission entitled *Noam Studios - The Ten Commandments*. Noam is the son of **Dr. Avital and Ben O’Glasser**.

**Mazel Tov to Allie Rosenfield** on her graduation this month from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, with a BS in Business Administration and a concentration in Accounting and Information Systems. In the Fall, she will be moving to San Francisco to begin her career as an Audit Associate at BDO USA, LLP. Allie’s proud parents are **Wendy and Barry Rosenfield**; her proud sister is **Sammie Rosenfield**.



**Mazel Tov to Brian and Sarah Rohr** (and older brother **Gabriel**) on the birth of their beautiful son, **Charlie Shem Tov Rohr**, on July 1, 2021! Everyone is healthy, happy, and full of love.

**Mazel Tov to our president and weekly exercise coach, Glen Coblens**, on being named the Head Coach of the Team USA Men’s Over 45 Basketball Team for the 21st Maccabiah Games in Israel. The Maccabiah Games, also known as the Jewish Olympics, are the third largest international multi-sport event in the world.

**Mazel Tov to 2020-2021 Song of Miriam honoree Liza Milliner!!** Liza is being recognized for her efforts and achievements in her volunteer activities, and her dedication to Jewish life and values, both at Neveh Shalom and the greater Jewish community. She has a deep volunteer history here and has devoted countless hours to making our community a better place. Thank you to Liza for all you do!



**Mazel Tov to Debbie Dedrickson (formerly Zwetchkenbaum)** on her recent marriage to David Dedrickson on July 25, 2021.

**Mazel Tov** to Miriam Goldman (daughter of longtime members **Lilia & Sergey Goldman**) who was married to Sam Master in New York on August 1.

**Mazel tov to Joe Safdie** on the publication of his latest poetry book, *The Oregon Trail*, published by Spuyten Dyuvell Books.

**Mazel tov to Carol Stampfer and Steve Lebwohl** and family on their recent marriage.

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

We are sorry to inform you of the passing of our congregant **Anna Shpitalnik, z”l** on June 15. She is survived by her son Roman Shpitalnik, daughter-in-law Lyudmila Gorbenko, and grandchildren Nicole and Jason.

We are sorry to inform you of the passing of our congregant and friend, **David Zaltsman z”l**, on July 14. David is loved and remembered by his wife **Liliya**, daughters Rimma (Tyler) Zaltsman Richardson, and Janet Zaltsman.

We are sorry to inform you of the passing of our congregant, **Lev Khodorovskiy z”l**, on July 23 at the age of 93. Lev is survived by sons Mikhail Khodorovskiy (Victoria) and Alexander Khodorovskiy, five grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

We are sorry to inform you of the passing of Charlotte Blumstein z”l at the beautiful age of 102.6. Charlotte is survived by sons Steven Blumstein (Arlene Postal) and David Blumstein. She is preceded by husbands Milton Blumstein and Bernie Cohen, and son Leonard Blumstein. Charlotte was grandmother to nine, including **Liza (Beth) Milliner** and Melissa (Oren) Abu. She was great-grandmother to ten.

We are sorry to inform you of the passing of our congregant and friend, **Irv Leopold, z”l**. Irv is loved and remembered by his dear wife, **Rhoda**, their children, **Mike (Gretchen) Leopold** and **Heidi (Gary) Grenley**, four grandchildren, a wonderful extended family and dear friends.

We are saddened to let you know that CNS congregant and OJCF’s CEO Emeritus **Julie Diamond, z”l** passed away on August 11. Julie leaves behind a family that she loved so dearly: her husband, **Tom**; their two children, **Rachael and Melissa**; her parents, **Mimi and Leonard Lewitt**; and her brother, Howard Lewitt.

# The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

*Please note that as a result of our migration to the new database, our Contributions List now has a different format, as this is how the new system exports the information. We are grateful for all who offer contributions. We hope you enjoy this new layout.*

## ADULT EDUCATION FUND

### in memory of

Roberto Berdichevsky from Margaret Coles  
Mark Raphael from Rosalyn Andronesco  
David Sachter from Jay & Michele Gilbert  
Arline Rae Weger from Elisa Weger

## ALIYAH DONATION

### in memory of

Albrecht Bacharach from Elaine Coughlin

## ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN

### in appreciation of

Mel Berwin from Jennifer Director Knudsen & David Knudsen

## BECKY MENASHE BOOKSHELF FUND

### in honor of

Alex Menashe from Sanford & Wendi Menashe

### in memory of

Jack B. Menashe from Joya Menashe & Vaune Kemp  
Solomon Ezra Menashe from Richard & Abby Menashe  
Solomon Ezra Menashe from Sanford & Wendi Menashe  
Solomon Ezra Menashe from Donna Jackson  
Samuel Schaffer from Bill & Carmela Schaffer

## CAMP SOLOMON SCHECHTER FUND

### in honor of

Victor & Toinette Menashe from Ian & Beverly Getreu  
Sharyl Vagy from Steven & Wendy Shain  
**in memory of**  
Irving Leopold from David & Carol Twain  
Irving Leopold from Thelma Geffen

## CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

### in appreciation of

Cantor Eyal Bitton from Rosana Berdichevsky  
Cantor Eyal Bitton from Ross, Talia, & Asher Weinstein  
Cantor Eyal Bitton from Victor & Toinette Menashe

### in honor of

Samuel Gottlieb from Linda & Michael Osherow

## CEMETERY FUND

### in appreciation of

Cemetery staff from Taya Meyer

### in honor of

Ernest Scheuer Larry from Larry Chusid

### in memory of

Efim Averbukh & Gesya Averbukh from Matthew Averbukh  
Marvin Brenner from Marlene Brenner  
Don Pearlman from Shirley Pearlman  
Robert Weinstein from Idelle Weinstein & Family

## CNS150: FUNDING OUR FUTURE

### get well wishes for

Gary Weinstein from Carol Danish, Randy & Wendy

### in honor of

Carolyn & Robin Weinstein from Stephen & Diana Sirkin

### in memory of

Uncle Irving Leopold from Carol Danish, Wendy, & Randy  
Uncle Irving Leopold from Gary & Carolyn Weinstein

## COHEN ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

### in honor of

Manny Berman from Seth & Susan Garber

## COLLEGE OUTREACH FUND

### in memory of

Julius Levenson from Robert & Jeannie Rosenthal  
David Weiner from Robert & Jeannie Rosenthal  
Lillian Weiner from Robert & Jeannie Rosenthal

## DAVID & ROSALIE LESCH CAMP FUND

### in honor of

Samuel Gottlieb from Harold & Jacqueline Lesch

### in memory of

Albrecht Bacharach from Harold & Jacqueline Lesch  
Ricardo Berdichevsky from Harold & Jacqueline Lesch

## DONNA JACKSON MEMBERSHIP

### ENRICHMENT FUND

### in memory of

Nat W. Jackson from Myra Jackson

## EDDY SHULDMAN DOWNSTAIRS

### KIDDUSH LUNCHEON FUND

### in honor of

Deb Freedberg from Jennifer Director Knudsen & David Knudsen  
Eddy Shulman from Jeff & Sandy Axel

### in memory of

Ricardo Berdichevsky from Gershon & Esther Liberman  
Ricardo Berdichevsky from Jeff & Sandy Axel  
Ricardo Berdichevsky from Rick & Sharyl Vagy  
Marvin W. Davis from Stuart Davis  
Rita Wolfson from Marvin Wolfson

## ELAINE & GLORIA SCHILLER

### BOOKSHELF FUND

### in memory of

Ben J. Lowenthal from Thelma Geffen

## FELDSTEIN LIBRARY FUND

### in memory of

Arthur Eisenhardt from Ronald & Rebecca Eiseman  
Charlotte Eiseman from Ron Eiseman  
Leona Goldberg from Elliot & Suzanne Axel  
Terrye Rudolph from Steve Rudolph

## FOUNDATION SCHOOL FUND

### get well wishes for

Marlene Brenner from Jerrie Roth  
Rosalie Goodman from Jerrie Roth

### in appreciation of

Rabbi David Kosak from Rhoda Leopold  
Rabbi Eve Posen from Rhoda Leopold

### in honor of

Francine & Mark Abolofia from Bari Isaacson

### in memory of

Marilyn Feist from Jerrie Roth  
Lewis Harold Freeman from Janet Freeman-Bauer & Larry Bauer  
Irving Leopold from Ann Owen & Michael Recht  
Irving Leopold from Ira & Julie Gottlieb  
Irving Leopold from Jerrie Roth & Family  
Irving Leopold from Lee & Becky Holzman  
Irving Leopold from Mardi Spitzer & Brad Lyle  
Irving Leopold from Marlene Brenner  
Irving Leopold from Melvin & Cathy Berlant  
Irving Leopold from Owen & Lynn Blank  
Irving Leopold from Russ & Ann Humberston, Cindy, Renie, Margie, Russ Jr., & Bud  
Irving Leopold from Stan & Judy Blauer  
Irving Leopold from Stanley & Beverly Eastern  
Irving Leopold from The RingSide, Inc.  
Irving Leopold from Victor & Toinette Menashe  
Barney Liebreich from Geraldine Roth  
Deana Popowcer from Daniel & Roberta Ruimy  
Harry Rodinsky from Rhoda Leopold  
Sidney Weger from Elisa Weger

## GENERAL SYNAGOGUE FUND

### get well wishes for

Marlene Brenner from Taya Meyer  
Mrs. H. Goodman from Taya Meyer  
Norm Wapnick from Gary & Sylvia Pearlman

### in appreciation of

Bob & Marla Weiner from Cantor Eyal Bitton

### in honor of

Alma Channah from Jeff & Sandy Axel  
Samuel Gottlieb from Elliot & Suzanne Axel  
Lidia Krivoy from Cantor Eyal Bitton & Michele Tredger  
Victor & Toinette Menashe from David & Deborah Menashe  
Brian & Sarah Rohr from Elliot & Suzanne Axel  
Dana & Steve Sirkin from Elliot & Suzanne Axel  
**in memory of**  
Ruth S. Allen from Carol Kane  
David Allen from Carol Kane  
Albrecht Bacharach from Corinne Spiegel  
George Hillel Barker from Robert & Holly Cohn  
Gaby Barde from Ralph Miller

Maxine Barker from Robert & Holly Cohn  
Mr. & Mrs. Yosef Beizer from Leonid & Ana Smetana  
Ricardo Berdichevsky from Sanford & Wendi Menashe  
Oscar Berdichevsky from Mario Berdichevsky  
Max Birnbach from Jack & Melanie Birnbach  
Charlotte Blumstein from Stephen & Diana Sirkin  
Max Breslow from Gayle Marger  
Marvin Brenner from Robert Greene (z"l) & Michele Brenner  
Marvin Brenner from Mark Brenner  
Ellen Bursztyn from Margarete Collier  
Leigh Cohn from Robert & Holly Cohn  
Ruth Cooper from Jane Schindler  
Lois David from Howard David  
Cecilia Dolores Gregory from Michael & Chris Feves  
Bertha Esformas from Maria Esformes  
Miriam Fass from Stephen Fass  
Mary Goldeen from Renee Dubroff  
Ida Fox from Jeremy & Dana Sacks  
Arnold Geffen from Stanley Geffen  
Mr. & Mrs. Pavel Golberg from Leonid & Ana Smetana  
Lila Goodman from Bernice Gevurtz  
Inge Hamburger from Jeff Hamburger  
Ethel Ehrlich from Bernice Gevurtz  
Gerald Kandel from Ron Mandel  
Irving Leopold from Alan & Eve Rosenfeld  
Irving Leopold from Alan Blank & Ellyn Sternfield  
Irving Leopold from Barbara Grenley  
Irving Leopold from Garry & Judith Kahn  
Irving Leopold from Jerome & Shirley Nudelman  
Irving Leopold from Taya Meyer  
Harry Lomsky from Geri Martin  
Aaron David Matza from Richard & Judith Matza  
Ruth Melzer from Alan Melzer  
John H. Miller from Ralph Miller  
Seymour Mutnick from Jeffrey Mutnick  
Debra Nudelman from Robert & Holly Cohn  
Bela Piatski from Boris & Alla Piatski  
Robert Pollack from Cary & Beth Pollack  
Edward Potter from Irving Potter  
Henry J. Raiton from Jack & Joanne Raiton  
Caren Reese-Krepel from Richard Krepel  
Richard Reingold from Jeffrey Reingold  
Anna Rosenfield from Bernice Gevurtz  
Albert Rosen from Mark Braverman  
Lillian Rosen from Mark Braverman  
Revka Rosenbaum from Simon Moraru  
Gerry Schindler from Jane Schindler  
Elizaveta Smetana from Yakov & Anna Smetana  
Mona Sherman from Jeffrey Reingold  
Bernard Shevach from The Shevach Group, LLC  
Menasha Shkolnik from Anatoly & Roza Markus  
Dorothy H. Shore from Robert Shore  
Seymour Singer from Ellen Singer & Eamon Molloy

# The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

Sidney I. Spiegel from Laurence & Corinne Spiegel  
Leonard Stevens from Julian Kaufman  
Esther Sturman from David Sturman  
Maurice D. Sussman from Howard Sussman

Sveta Tolchinskaya from Peter & Alla Tolchinsky  
Eva Wapnick from Norman & Suzan Wapnick  
Rebecca Weiss-Clark from Alan & Vicki Rotstein  
Rebecca Weiss-Clark from Jeff & Sandy Axel, & Family  
Sigmund Weisser from Steven & Tess Caplan

Pauline Wieder from Larry Wieder  
**in support of**

Jaye Gottlieb from Ira Gottlieb

## **GLADYS & JOSEPH FENDEL CAMP FUND** **in memory of**

Joseph Fendel from Albert & Bette Lynn Menashe  
Barbara Ritchie Mehrwein from Brauna Ritchie

## **GRAYCE GUMBERT FUND**

**in memory of**  
Gerald Gumbert from Kay Gumbert

## **HUNGER RELIEF FUND**

**in appreciation of**  
Raul & Lidia Krivoy from Rick & Sharyl Vagy  
Lois Schnitzer from Victor & Toinette Menashe

**in honor of**  
Bev & Ian Getreu from Victor & Toinette Menashe  
Jody Klevit from Victor & Toinette Menashe

Victor Menashe from Jay Holzman  
Victor & Toinette Menashe from Nira Levine  
Victor Menashe from Renée Holzman  
Charlie Shem Tov Rohr from Victor & Toinette Menashe  
Norman Wapnick from Victor & Toinette Menashe

**in memory of**  
Ricardo Berdichevsky from Naomi Harwin  
Michael Andrew Katz from Susan Katz  
Irving Leopold from Renée Holzman  
Louis Rosenberg from Renée Holzman  
Louis J. Rosenberg from Victor & Toinette Menashe  
Solomon Smith from Susan Katz

## **HY & MYRA JACKSON ELEVATOR FUND**

**in memory of**  
Ethel Ehrlich from Myra Jackson  
Harry Jackson from Myra Jackson  
Joseph Montrose from Myra Jackson

## **JACOB FREEDMAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

**in memory of**  
Ronald Meyer from Jeffrey & Deborah Freedman

## **L.J. ROSENBERG PLAYGROUND FUND**

**in memory of**  
Natalie Leher from Howard & Wendy David  
Harry Rodinsky from Joeen Rodinsky

## **LEAH/MARK RUBIN FOUNDATION SCHOOL FUND**

**in memory of**  
Irving Leopold from Gary & Sylvia Pearlman

## **LEONARD BARDE CEMETERY ENHANCEMENT FUND**

**in honor of**  
Carolyn Gorin from Uncle Jerry Barde  
**in memory of**  
Gaby Barde from Jerome Barde  
Goldie Barde from Samuel Gottlieb & Carolyn Gorin

## **LORA & JIM MEYER INCLUSION FUND**

**in appreciation of**  
The Rich Meyer Family from Jack & Barbara Schwartz  
**in memory of**  
Honey Meyer from James & Lora Meyer  
Laurence Meyer from James & Lora Meyer

## **LOUIS ROSENBERG BOOKSHELF FUND**

**in honor of**  
Lee Holzman from Victor & Toinette Menashe

## **MARK AIL CAMBERSHIP FUND**

**in memory of**  
Mark Ail from David & Shelley Ail  
Morris Cohen from Rande Petersen  
Hilda Gross from David Ail  
Edith I. Kaplan from Rande Petersen

## **MAURICE SUSSMAN MITZVAH FUND**

**in appreciation of**  
Peter Epstein from Thelma Geffen  
**in memory of**  
Lee Mesibov from Thelma Geffen

## **MENSCHES & MAVENS FUND**

**in memory of**  
Mildred C. Kahn from Garry & Judith Kahn

## **MILT HORENSTEIN MORNING MINYAN FUND**

**get well wishes for**  
Carlton Fairley from Randy Hirt  
**in memory of**  
Barbara Bennett from Philip & Rosalind Kane  
Ricardo Berdichevsky from Lee & Jane Mopper  
Joseph Hirt from Randy Hirt  
Julius Jay Rovech from Jeffrey Lazarus  
Fanny Lazarus from Jeffrey Lazarus  
Michael Newman from Philip & Rosalind Kane  
Philip Shapiro from Howard Shapiro  
David Singer from Larry & Brenda Schwartz  
John Ushman from David & Roxanne Ushman

## **MONTROSE VIDEO FUND**

**in memory of**  
Ethel Ehrlich from Susan Moskowitz

## **MOSKOWITZ FUND**

**in honor of**  
Mark & Francine Abolofia from Riley & Marci Atkins  
Samuel Gottlieb from Riley & Marci Atkins

Sharyl Vagy from Samuel Gottlieb & Carolyn Gorin

## **RABBI ISAAK DISCRETIONARY FUND** **in appreciation of**

Rabbi Daniel Isaak from Jack & Barbara Schwartz

## **RABBI JOSHUA STAMPFER EDUCATION FUND**

**get well wishes for**  
Rosalie Goodman from Lawrence & Sandra Huppinn

## **RABBI KOSAK DISCRETIONARY FUND** **in appreciation of**

Rabbi David Kosak from Jack & Barbara Schwartz  
Rabbi David Kosak from Rosalyn Menashe  
Rabbi David Kosak from Victor & Toinette Menashe

## **in memory of**

Ricardo Berdichevsky from Stephen & Diana Sirkin  
Ricardo Berdichevsky from Lynn Bliss  
Ricardo Berdichevsky from Melanie Birnbach  
Ricardo Berdichevsky from Ruth Oxman  
Ricardo Berdichevsky from Sheri Cordova  
Jennye Checkman from Harvey Checkman  
Bessie Checkman from Harvey Checkman  
Rebecca Schaeffer from Benson & Danna Schaeffer  
Irma Silvon from Larry & Brenda Schwartz  
Esther Singer from Steven Singer

## **RABBI POSEN DISCRETIONARY FUND** **in appreciation of**

Rabbi Eve Posen from Brian & Sarah Rohr  
Rabbi Eve Posen from Jack & Barbara Schwartz  
Rabbi Eve Posen from Jay & Rochelle Leisner  
Rabbi Eve Posen from Taya Meyer  
Rabbi Eve Posen from UnShul Unbound  
**in honor of**  
Rabbi Eve Posen from Ross, Talia & Asher Weinstein  
**in memory of**  
Ben Benson from Dana Benson-Melnick

## **ROBBIE BALL MEMORIAL FUND FOR DARFUR**

**in memory of**  
Dr. Kirby Allen from Melvyn & Elaine Ball  
Jack Goldstein from Melvyn Ball

## **ROSA WIGMORE HOLOCAUST EDUCATION FUND**

**in honor of**  
Francine & Mark Abolofia from Peter Wigmore & Randy Katz

## **SAFETY & SECURITY FUND**

**in memory of**  
Ricardo Berdichevsky from Joshua & Elisa Stevens

## **SAPERSTEIN CHAPEL FUND**

**get well wishes for**  
Gary Weinstein from Taya Meyer

## **in honor of**

Berdeen Coven from Lawrence & Sandra Huppinn  
Alan Sherman from Jay & Rochelle Leisner  
**in memory of**  
Sylvan S. Saperstein from Taya Meyer

## **SYLVIA PEARLMAN MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT FUND**

**get well wishes for**  
Rosalie Goodman from Gary & Sylvia Pearlman  
**in memory of**  
Don Pearlman from Gary & Sylvia Pearlman  
Samuel Schwartz from Jack & Barbara Schwartz

## **TEFILLIN FUND**

**in memory of**  
Stan Constantine from Gary Constantine

## **TOINETTE MENASHE BOOKSHELF FUND**

**in memory of**  
Solomon Menashe from Joya Menashe & Vaune Kemp

## **TORAH REPAIR FUND**

**in memory of**  
Ricardo Berdichevsky from Mark & Gail Sherman

## **VAAD SHEL CHESSED FUND**

**in appreciation of**  
Cantor Linda Shivers from Sherry Scheinman  
**in memory of**  
Ricardo Berdichevsky from Lee & Sheri Cordova  
Joseph Cordova from Lee & Sheri Cordova  
Robert Avram Golden from Sheri Cordova

## **WEINSTEIN CHAPEL FUND**

**get well wishes for**  
Gary Weinstein from Gary & Sylvia Pearlman  
Gary Weinstein from Sandie & Larry Huppinn  
**in honor of**  
Gary & Carolyn Weinstein from Craig Weinstein  
**in memory of**  
Irving Leopold from Craig Weinstein  
Max Weinstein from Gary & Carolyn Weinstein

## **WOMEN'S LEAGUE SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

**in memory of**  
Lillian Subotnick from Melvin & Cathy Berlant  
Yaccov Tzvie Weinstein from Robert & Marla Weiner

## **YAD B'YAD COMFORTING MOURNERS**

**in honor of**  
Sharon & Al Segal from Dale Oller  
**in memory of**  
Sol L. Solomon from Dale Oller



# New Connections at JFCS

By Elana Emlen

**W**e all know that this past year has been defined in large part by Covid-19 and the restrictions it imposed on people's lives and livelihoods. Jewish Family & Child Service (JFCS), like many organizations, responded to these needs, and has made an important, positive difference for thousands of people in the Jewish and greater Portland communities, via its mission to improve its clients' quality of life and self-sufficiency in accordance with Jewish values.

I first connected with JFCS years ago, when my mother, Goldie Stampfer, z"l, was demonstrating significant decline. A busy rebbetzin and bubbie, my mother was starting to show signs of confusion. My siblings and I went to JFCS together and met with a counselor who talked with us about dementia, how we could take care of our mom as well as ourselves, and our relationship with both of our parents.

Our visit to JFCS made a profound difference in how we planned for care, and how we talked with each other about it. I was so glad that I could turn to JFCS for advice on aging parents in a Jewish community context. It was this experience that inspired me to serve as a Board member.

There always has been a strong connection between Neveh Shalom and JFCS. Currently, JFCS Board members who also are Neveh Shalom congregants include **Lee Cordova, Justin Zellinger, Kathy Chusid, Eric Kodesch, Erika Meyer**, and me. JFCS's Advisory Committee members include **Carolyn** and **Gary Weinstein** and **Corinne Bacharach Spiegel**; the agency's staff includes **Susan Greenberg** and **Janet Menashe**; two of its contractors are **Jenn Director Knudsen** and **Duncan Gilman**. **Rich Meyer**, a.k.a. The Challahman, has provided fresh *challot* every Friday to JFCS's clients, includ-

ing Holocaust survivors and those with disabilities.

This leadership, both volunteer and professional, is infusing new energy into the organization. The four primary programs of JFCS provide support for Holocaust survivors; mental-health assistance for people of all ages; inclusion for adults with disabilities and for parents whose children have disabilities, and financial assistance for those experiencing a rough patch.

"Perhaps unsurprisingly, we're witnessing a heightened level of issues related to mental health since the onset of Covid-19," Missy Fry, a JFCS counselor, said. "We know that providing a space for people with similar shared experiences can foster a sense of community, build new connections, and provide validation and emotional support."

One of Missy's clients with a connection to Neveh Shalom who requested anonymity shared, "I came into knowledge of the recent, online Community Connection group from my involvement with TIKVAH, a JFCS social group for people with disabilities."

This individual continued, "At first I was hesitant to join in, but then one week I joined in just to see what was being discussed and found it very engaging. Through the group I have been able to connect with others, and it's been comforting to know that I'm not alone in having certain feelings."

New JFCS Board member Zellinger said, "I appreciate that JFCS is supporting the needs of the community and always looking for ways to serve more people.



The need for mental health services is only growing, and I am proud to help the agency grow and meet those needs."

Erika Meyer, also new to the JFCS Board, joined because, "JFCS does such important work for people in our community," she said. "As a pediatrician, the programs for people with disabilities, emergency services, and counseling really resonated with me. It's a privilege to be a part of it."

Director Knudsen noted JFCS just completed its three-year strategic plan, implementing a long list of important programming goals, such as the agency's laser focus on children's mental-health needs and care, as well as partnerships with synagogues' education programs – ALIYAH among them – to ensure inclusion and accessibility for all children seeking a Jewish education.

Director Knudsen said, "JFCS was there when the Emlen/Stampfer family needed it most, and today we are here to meet the needs of more families than ever before."

## 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](http://www.HolmansFuneralService.com)



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

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

[www.reliablenotaryor.com](http://www.reliablenotaryor.com)



Oregon  
Jewish  
Community  
Foundation

Your Philanthropic Partner —  
Assuring Jewish Tomorrows  
**504.248.9328 | OJCF.org**

## SIX POINTS TO CONSIDER

1. Strict adherence to Jewish burial & funeral customs
2. Close to Ahavai Shalom Cemetery
3. Well-established facilities
4. Available 24 hours a day, seven days a week
5. Personalized & affordable
6. Plenty of parking



**Call 503.246.6488**  
or visit  
[bit.LY/ShalomRiverView](http://bit.LY/ShalomRiverView)



## MOBICLEAM

Our car wash comes to you,  
at work or at home

Book at:  
[www.mobicleam.com/services](http://www.mobicleam.com/services)

Exterior Wash and Interior  
Clean Available

Hours of Operation:  
Monday - Friday 8 to 5

**503-568-9784**  
[contact@mobicleam.com](mailto:contact@mobicleam.com)

**AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME!**

**ADVERTISE HERE NOW!**

Contact **Jim Byrne** to place an ad today!  
[jbyrne@4LPi.com](mailto:jbyrne@4LPi.com) or **(800) 950-9952 x2596**

## WE'RE HIRING

AD SALES EXECUTIVES

**BE YOURSELF. BRING YOUR PASSION. WORK WITH PURPOSE.**

- Work-Life Balance
- Full-Time with Benefits
- Serve Your Community
- Paid Training
- Some Travel



**LPi** Contact us at: [careers@4lpi.com](mailto:careers@4lpi.com) | [www.4lpi.com/careers](http://www.4lpi.com/careers)

**Home Instead**  
SENIOR CARE

*To us, it's personal.*

COMPANIONSHIP  
PERSONAL CARE  
ADVANCED CARE

**503.894.8796**

[www.HomeInstead.com/805](http://www.HomeInstead.com/805)

## ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection  
From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Flood Detection
- Fire Safety
- Carbon Monoxide



SafeStreets

**1-855-225-4251**

**AFFORDABLE  
FAMILY  
MEMORIALS.com**

**503-515-7640**

Serving the Jewish  
Cemeteries since 1999

[afmemorials@comcast.net](mailto:afmemorials@comcast.net)

## NEVER MISS A NEWSLETTER!

Sign up to have our newsletter emailed  
to you at [www.mycommunityonline.com](http://www.mycommunityonline.com)

## FREE AD DESIGN

WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE



**CALL 800.950.9952**



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • [www.lpicommunities.com](http://www.lpicommunities.com)

Congregation Neveh Shalom, Portland, OR

A 4C 05-0312



Please recycle *The Chronicle* when finished

A festive banner with a blue background and an orange border. At the top, there are colorful pennants in orange, red, blue, and purple, along with small white and orange confetti. The text is in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font.

# NEVEH SHALOM BACK TO SHUL

SEPT 12 | 12-2PM

[nevehshalom.org/backtoshul2021](http://nevehshalom.org/backtoshul2021)

