

Congregation Neveh Shalom

CHRONICLE

THIS NEWSLETTER IS SUPPORTED BY THE SALA KRYSZEK MEMORIAL PUBLICATION FUND

passport to Paris MercBeaucoup!

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Tikkun Leyl Shavuot

According to Jewish tradition, the Ten Commandments were given to Moses on Mount Sinai on Shavuot. That is why this holiday is called "Zman Matan Toratenu"—the Time of the Giving of Our Law. Shavuot, which means the Festival of Weeks, and occurs seven weeks after Passover, also commemorates the early wheat harvest in Palestine. So we decorate our homes and synagogues with flowers and greens. Shavuot has still another meaning. It is the Festival of New Fruits, when each man brought the first of his barley, wheat, grapes, figs, olive-oil, pomegranates, and honey to the Temple in Jerusalem. There, everyone took part in the Bikkurim (First Fruits) ceremony, which has been revived in new dress in modern Israel.

MAY 22: Evening Services & Tikkun begin at 8:15pm

May 23 & 24: Services begin at 9am

May 24: Second day of Shavuot will include Yizkor & dedication of memorial plaques.

3rd Annual PORTLAND JEWISH CHORAL FESTIVAL

Children's, adult, and senior choirs SING to
celebrate Lag B'Omer a community concert for all ages!



Sunday, May 6

2:00-3:15pm

Congregation Neveh Shalom
2900 SW Peaceful Lane, Portland, OR

All tickets \$5 at the door, or pre-purchase through PJA,
Congregation Neveh Shalom, or Shaarie Torah offices.

For more information: 503.281.0403

Neveh Shalom Family

In Memoriam

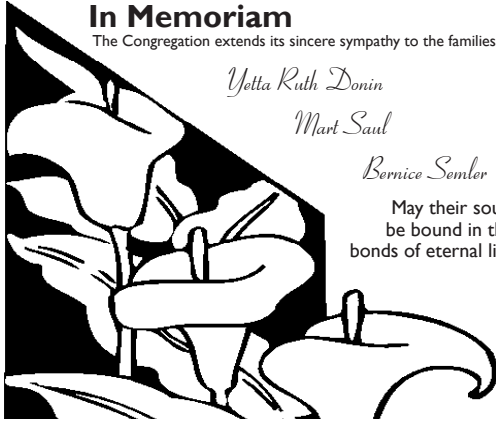
The Congregation extends its sincere sympathy to the families of

Yetta Ruth Donin

Mart Saul

Bernice Semler

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



Obituary submission? Email (100 words or less), by the first Friday of the month, to *Chronicle* editor: sjones@nevehshalom.org.

Condolences

Our sincere condolences to our members **Gary Peck** on the death of his father, Michael Peck; **Joel Semler** on the death of his mother, **Bernice Semler**; **Paul Norr** on the death of his father, Norton Norr; **Kathy Chusid** on the death of her father, Lloyd Kamin; **Sheri Cordova** on the death of her uncle; **Gideon Caron** on the death of his grandmother; **Leonard Donin** on the death of his wife, **Yetta Ruth Donin**; **Rob Shlachter** on the death of his father; and **Toby & Stephen Blake** on the death of their brother and brother-in-law, Paul Forim; and **Helene Rosenthal** on the death of her mother, Peggy Maduff.

Refuah Shlema



Refuah Shlema, a speedy recovery, to Esther Stone, Gerry Cowan and David & Florence Goodman.

Clergy Visits

To assure that clergy make visits to congregants in the hospital, extended care facilities and hospices, please contact the office at Congregation Neveh Shalom: **503.246.8831**.

In an effort to comply with the new patient privacy laws, health-care facilities may not release the names of their patients; so it is imperative that you provide the name of the member, the facility name, patient's room number, length of anticipated stay, your relationship to the patient and a number where you can be reached if further information is needed.

Welcome, New Members

Neveh Shalom extends a warm welcome to new members: **Gina Acosta, Sharon Astrin, Jordan & Debbie Plawner, Alleson Sandwell, Barbara Stonewall and Michael & Barbara Titelbaum**. We look forward to their participation in synagogue life.

Kol Ha-Kavod!

Every simcha is special. Congratulations to our many members who are celebrating throughout May. In particular, Mazel Tov to the following members who are celebrating special milestones!

MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES

Jon Balgley & Chris Coughlin
Peter & Leslie Beard
Gideon Caron & Julie Levie Caron
Jonathan & Lisa Flecker
Lee & Becky Holzman
Jeffrey & Amy Katz
Stephen Laveson & Lesley Isenstein
Joel Mullin & Sheri Katz

Warren Rosenfeld & Sheryl Langerman
Eli & Chantal Rosenthal
Gary & Cari Rubin
Philip & Frances Sarna
Robert & Kym Shabasson
Jeffrey Snyder & Carolyn Shain Snyder
Susan & Randal Sutherland

MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS

Mark Abolofia
Marci Atkins
Emiko Coughlin
Catherine Ellison
Laura Fendel
Manya Fikhman
Andrew Gilbert
Bari Gilbert
Jane Goldenberg
Raphael Goodblatt
Craig Goodman

Eleanor Horenstein
Joel Kleinbaum
David Knudsen
Lucille Kraiman
Gretchen Leopold
Michael Leopold
Elizabeth Mallov
Leslie Nathanson
Michael Olds
Naomi Olds
Steven Resnikoff

Katherine Richman
Marsha Serling Goldberg
Marat Shabashevich
Lois Shenker
Sam Silverberg
Sheila Stern
Paula Stewart
Polya Veytsman
Rose Weider

To err is human, but to really foul things up requires a computer.

~Farmer's Almanac, 1978

Correction:

Several March milestone birthdays were inadvertently left off the list in the March Chronicle. It could be user error, but we prefer to blame the database... Please accept our belated very Happy Birthday!

Regina Atlas
Alla Baram
Goldie Barde
Melanie Berwin
Michelle Bloom

Gloria Borg Olds
Richard Glick
Friderike Heuer
Michelle Jackson
Michelle-Shari Kruss

Dani Nierenberg
Alla Shore
Karen Twain
Wendy Vollen
Mara Woloshin

Shabbat Unplugged

Friday, May 11, 6:15pm

Zidell Chapel

Neveh Shalom Family

Kvell with Us



Mazel Tov to **Moses Zarkin-Scott** on his becoming a Bar Mitzvah May 25 & 26, 2007. Moses is the son of **Marianne Zarkin & Brian Scott** and brother to Shaina. His grandparents are Shirley & Sam Zarkin, and Georgene & the late James Scott. Moses is a 7th-grade student at Winterhaven School. He enjoys fencing, music, trombone, learning Torah, Science Bowl, Italian design and traveling.

Membership

This month, we hear from congregant and membership committee member Debbie Zwetchkenbaum:

When our son, Jordan, was three years old, my husband and I began bringing him to Tot Shabbat. We wanted to infuse his life with a little more Judaism. Honestly, I wasn't expecting to get much out of the experience myself. I made the commitment to attend services regularly, telling myself that I was doing it for Jordan.

I felt shy and uneasy at first. I didn't know anyone. But we kept showing up, and slowly we began to make friends and feel more comfortable. We attended the Shoreshim camping trip in August of 2005 and built some wonderful social bridges by celebrating Shabbat outdoors and enjoying the weekend with other families. At that point, we decided to become members.

When Jordan attends Neveh Shalom children's services and religious school, Jewish history and holidays come alive for him through stories, songs and interactive games. I see him absorbing the language, music and rhythms of Jewish life. I believe that he feels a sense of pleasure and pride in his Jewish identity that makes it easier for him to manage being one of the few Jewish kids at his school and in our neighborhood. Watching our son have such a positive experience in a Jewish community has truly been a blessing.

My own experiences growing up in a conservative congregation were not very nurturing. I really didn't expect that joining a synagogue would bring me and my family the sense of joy, community and spiritual connection that we now feel. The warm welcome I received at Tot Shabbat helped me to open up and gradually take the risk of reaching out to others and getting more involved. I feel so happy and grateful to be a part of the Neveh community! I hope that as a member of the membership committee I can pass along that same warm welcome to new members and encourage others to reach for the gifts that Neveh Shalom has to offer.

Please share your Neveh Shalom story with us! We'd love to hear from you.

Julie Zola
Membership Committee Chair
juliezola@azalumni.com
503-466-1639

Mazel Tov to Zev & Terri Handelman on the birth of their son, Jack Chaim Handelman, on March 27, 2007, in San Francisco. Paternal grandparents are **Irv & Gail Handelman**.

Mazel Tov to **Loren & Michelle Koplan** on the birth of their daughter, Alicia (Ali) Sydney, on April 8, 2007. Proud grandparents are **Rich & Ellen Koplan** and Leland & Renie Waltuck. Proud great-grandmothers are Lisel Gold and Sue Carl.

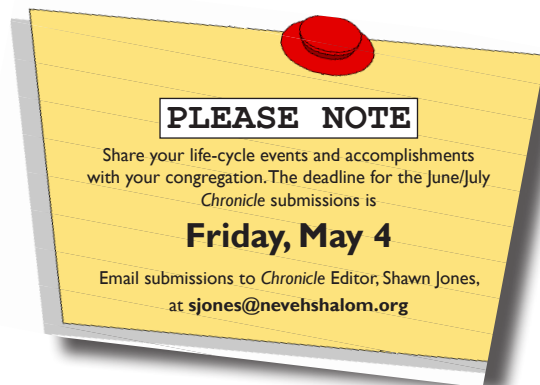



Ali Sydney Koplan



Celia Delaney Janoff

Mazel Tov to **Dan & Shannon Janoff** on the birth of their daughter, Celia Delaney, on April 8, 2007.





PLEASE SLOW DOWN

There have recently been several near-accidents in the synagogue parking lot. Please remember that the lot is both a school and office zone. Drive slowly (15mph, maximum), keep an eye out for pedestrians and cars, and **PLEASE STAY TO THE RIGHT** when entering the upper lot: Cutting through on the left to reach the Foundation School lot more quickly is very dangerous—Pedestrians and drivers are not expecting cars from that direction. It may mean leaving the house a few minutes earlier, but could prevent a tragedy.

Memorial Day Program Update



The Memorial Day Program, held the last three years at our cemeteries has been changed. In its place we will be holding a congregational-wide Veterans Day Service at Neveh Shalom on Sunday, November 11th.

This will give us the opportunity to include the entire congregation in a meaningful and educational program and allow us to include not only a memorial, but a way for all of our congregants to learn about our veterans, past and present who have served and continue to serve our country.

The program will include a flag ceremony, music, guest speakers and the reading of the names of our veterans.

On Memorial Day and Veterans Day flags will be placed at the appropriate gravesites at our cemeteries and a cemetery committee representative will be available to greet visitors and assist with plot locations.

If you would like to assist with this program or have programming ideas please contact the program chairs, **Harold & Jackie Lesch** by email leschslive@comcast.net.



A Message from The Masorti Foundation: Promoting Conservative Judaism in Israel

The Masorti Women's Study Day Project engages and empowers new immigrants, sabras and those who settled here years earlier through intensive study with women rabbis and other female scholars. More than 500 women, come together twice a year, in June for National Study Day at the Schechter Institute, and again in February for regional gatherings, all organized by Diane Friedgut, Israel liaison to the Women's League for Conservative Judaism, with guidance from Dr. Alice Shalvi, former president of the Schechter Institute.

This far-reaching project has provided an avenue for Masorti kehillot to work closely with one another to promote religious pluralism and egalitarianism in Israel, two defining issues of the movement.

To learn more, please contact:

Masorti Foundation for Conservative Judaism in Israel
475 Riverside Drive, Suite 832; New York, NY 10115-0068
(212) 870-2216; toll-free: 1-877-287-7414
www.masorti.org; info@masorti.org

Eleven things I've learned since coming to Shabbat morning services

1. Rabbis Isaak and Greenstein give provocative, challenging d'varim, and they both are pretty good at telling a joke.
2. Kiddish lunches rock. Whether its tuna and egg salad or bagels and cream cheese (not to mention the outstanding dessert table), any lunch for which that I don't have to shop, cook, or clean is delicious. We are blessed to have Alan Levin and his outstanding staff.
3. You never know who you will run into. I run into friends, meet new members who want to feel welcome and out of town guests that have stories to share about their shuls (and most are very impressed with ours).
4. You don't need to know Hebrew. Heck, how many opera goers know Italian? Most of the major prayers and songs are translated/transliterated so all can participate. I mangle plenty of Hebrew but I figure God knows what I am trying to say even if it is in English. There is also the Learner's Minyan for those that want to practice.
5. You can come whenever you want. Feel like coming to the early part of the service and then leaving, not a problem. Feel like sleeping a little later and arriving for the Torah reading, not a problem. Think the service is too long—well, then come for an hour or two and make it just the right length. Feel like joining the community for lunch, also not a problem.
6. You don't need to wear your finest when you come every week. We are happy to see you no matter what you wear.
7. Imagine being in a space where the phone doesn't ring, chores don't beckon and there are no demands made on you. What other time during the week can that be said?
8. Cantor Shivers and others who fill the role of Chazzan can take one note and make it into a poem. They can sing so many syllables so quickly that it is wonderful just to sit and listen.
9. Just when you think Shabbat cannot be any better, the sun shines through our beautiful stained-glass windows making it even more special (Baruch Hashem—Thank God).
10. Even if you don't know the Mom or the Dad or any member of the family, when new parents lovingly describe their memories of the persons for whom their baby is named, it can still bring a tear to your eye (sorry to all of those I made cry during our daughter's naming ceremony).
11. Our B'nai Mitzvah children are amazing. Week after week they shine as they surprise themselves at all they have accomplished. Their grace under pressure, their ability to stand before God and the congregation, and their youthful exuberance continually renews my faith in the future of Judaism. Their speeches leave me wanting to hear more.

What are the things you have learned while a member? Please share them with us! I look forward to seeing you at a Shabbat service in the future and building our community for now and into the future.

Jason H. Kaufman, Proud Congregant

From the President



Did you know that as a synagogue-goer, you have rights and responsibilities? This list of rights was created a few years ago by Rabbi Deborah Wechsler, with a few modifications of my own. Stay tuned, as responsibilities will be listed in next month's *Chronicle*.

1. You have the right to attend synagogue and be welcomed and treated courteously.
2. You have the right to attend the synagogue service that most fits your needs for

worship, contemplation and socializing, but with that right comes the responsibility to attend. If you are not a regular synagogue-goer, take the time to sample all the services that are offered to find the one that best fits your needs.

3. You have the right to learn Torah. We come to synagogue to learn something new about our sacred tradition. You may find that through attendance at services, the Beit Midrash, or at one of our many classes.
4. You have the right to moments of quiet when true prayer and reflection are possible. In the loud and busy world around us, we need **to (?)** synagogue to provide a true sanctuary.
5. You have the right to your makom kavua, your regular seat. Our tradition suggests that each of us has a regular place in the synagogue so that we feel at home in the sanctuary. With this right comes the responsibility to be on time, so that you can be in your seat. If a visitor unknowingly sits in your seat, you do not have the right to displace him/her.
6. You have the right to pray with your family. Some of us like to have a synagogue experience as an entire family, while others like to have an adult experience of prayer. Both desires are valid, but even those seeking adult experiences must recognize that synagogue is a place for every generation. To create the next generation of synagogue-goers, we must make Jews feel welcome at every stage of life.
7. You have the right to join in any part of the service (no matter how bad your voice is!). Synagogue is not a spectator sport; you can and should be a full participant.
8. You have the right to disagree with the Rabbi and Cantor, whether it is the content of the sermon or the choice of tune. We come to synagogue to learn and be challenged, and it is ok to disagree.
9. You have the right to be on any page of the prayerbook you wish, not just the one announced from the bima. Allow yourself to be moved by the prayers at your own pace.
10. You have the right to be informed of synagogue events, services and programs so that you can be aware of what is happening, not just in the sanctuary, but throughout the building.

Sandy Axel, President



Cantor's Notes

The third annual Portland Choral Festival will take place here at Neveh Shalom on Lag B'Omer, May 6. In addition to our choir, we will also have the Portland Jewish Academy choirs and a choir from the Rose Schnitzer Manor and the Jewish Community Choir. Every year we have a large crowd and everyone has a great time. In between the choirs singing, we have audience sing-alongs. I hope you'll be there! Tickets are only \$5 each and the money supports Jewish choir singing in Portland.

On May 18, at 8:15pm, the Neveh Shalom Choir will sing a program of Yiddish songs at the Friday night service. Some are songs that came out of the holocaust and some are wonderful happy Yiddish songs. The choir has been working on these songs for quite a while and they are performing them beautifully.

Thank you to all the wonderful congregants who are filling in while I am on Sabbatical. I am so pleased that so many of you eagerly volunteered to enhance our services. Thank you to **Wendy Hetzler** who continues to take charge of our Torah readings. It's a big job that she has diligently carried out as a volunteer.

I'll be on Sabbatical until July 15. I'll be staying in Florida and helping my parents who need some extra help just now. Honoring your parents is one of the few commandments that have a reward attached to it. The Torah says, Honor your father and your mother, that you may long endure on the land that the Lord your God is assigning to you. Three of my grandparents were taken care of at different times by my parents so I have a good legacy to continue in my generation.

I'll be missing all of you and I'll especially be missing the wonderful Portland summer weather. If you have any concerns while I'm gone, please feel free to email me (cantor@nevehshalom.org) and I'll get back to you when I can.

Cantor Linda Shivers



SUIT CLOSET

Yose's Closet is now stocked and ready for sharing. Do you have a pre/bar mitzvah lad who needs a shirt or suit to attend a bar mitzvah or Shabbat service? We have a number of shirts, pants and suits that are ready to be loaned out.

Donations wanted! Don't let your son's outgrown suit collect dust! Share it with others! This suit closet benefits those in need AND lets us recycle through re-use. We are collecting suits in like-new & clean condition for this special project, including shirts and shoes as well. If you have something to contribute, or if you would like to check out our collection for your own son's use, please call **Stephanie Arnheim** at 503.690.7768 or stephanie@equityhs.com.

Membership News

New Mausoleum

Construction of the new mausoleum at Ahavai Shalom is nearly done. Please contact Member Services Director, **Michelle Caplan**, at **503.293.7305** or mcaplan@nevehshalom.org for pricing information.



Minyan Matters

Come to Morning Minyan! Not only will becoming a minyanaire enrich your own life, it will help CNS maintain the services of which we are so very proud. It's a commitment by our entire community to make sure that rain or shine, ordinary weekday or secular holiday at least ten Jewish adults gather to say our prayers and to be present to support those who wish to say Kaddish for a recent loss or a yahrzeit.



Many pick a day of the week whether it is a weekday morning or Sunday am (and you can always change it). Let it become part of your weekly routine- as it has become part of the routine of so many of our congregants and community members and see how it will enhance your life.

Daily Minyan is at 7:15am (unless otherwise noted on the calendar).

Sunday Minyan is at 9:00am

Yahrzeit Plaques: LASTING MEMORIALS

A Yahrzeit plaque is a lasting tribute that ensures the memory of a loved one will be honored for all time. The purchase of a Yahrzeit plaque guarantees a permanent fixture in the Sanctuary plus a duplicate one that will be displayed on the Yahrzeit. Please contact **Michelle Caplan**, 503.293.7305, or mcaplan@nevehshalom.org, if you would like more information about this tradition and or about purchasing a plaque.

save the date
annual meeting
June 21, 7pm

Our National Affiliations



Women's League

Be a part of what makes us such a vibrant and supportive group. We are the link between home and synagogue, providing activities for today's Jewish women. We look forward to seeing you at an

upcoming event or meeting.

April 30-May2 brings us to our annual Pacific Northwest Regional Spring Conference. This year we'll honor our Eishet Hayil (Women of Valor). Our honoree is **Linda Alpert**. Linda is committed to being a part of Women's League and our synagogue. She is a leader and an avid volunteer. Join us to honor her.



Linda Alpert

Do you need kippot for a wedding or Bar Mitzvah? Contact your Judaica Gift Shop for your home Judaica. The Gift Shop is open M-F, 10am-12pm, Wednesdays 6:30pm-8:30pm, and Sunday mornings while religious school is in session. We are maintained with volunteers: Can you give us a morning or a Wednesday evening? Contact **Sue Axel**, 503.297.9140 for more information.

The New Year's Torah Fund Pins will be available soon. Wear yours with pride. Contact **Chris Gottlieb**, 503.245.0384 for more information.

Join us Sunday, June 3, as we honor Sheryl Robert at the Song of Miriam Award Brunch. Details are soon to follow. Also, join us on Sunday, September 23, for our annual participation in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. Many of our members are breast cancer survivors, for us this is a personal Race for the Cure. Registration information will be coming shortly.

Our monthly Potluck & Planning meeting is Tuesday, May 8, at 6:30 pm at **Nora Rothstein's** home. Everyone is welcome to attend and participate. Contact **Susan Sutherlin**, 503.626.6611 for more information.

Susan Sutherlin & Linda Alpert, Women's League Co-Presidents



Men's Club

I hope everyone was able to make use of the Yom Hashoah candles we sent out. Any contribution you are able to make helps us offset the cost of providing the candles to you and is greatly appreciated.

Our final Sunday program of the year is on May 20 in the Zidell Chapel. The topic will be Old Jewish Portland. We will have a breakfast immediately following morning minyan (about 9:40am) followed by our speaker. We also visit the Oregon Food Bank on the fourth Thursday of each month. Please contact **David Sibell** at sibell@d@ohsu.edu if you would like more information. If you are interested in learning more about Men's Club and our programs, please feel free to contact me at j3ngoodman@comcast.net.

We look forward to seeing you.

Joe Goodman, President

High School Graduation Shabbat

Please join us on Friday night, May 11th, as we celebrate the graduation of all of our

High School seniors. Neveh Shalom has established a tradition of recognizing these students as they are about to embark on new adventures. All graduating seniors should have received information in the mail already. If you did not receive something, please contact **Marci Atkins** (503.293.7308) so we can be sure to include your senior.



Adult Ed

The Ethics of Our Ancestors: Pirke Avot

"If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am only for myself, then what am I? And if not now, when?" These famous words of Hillel come from a unique chapter in the Mishnah known as Pirke Avot. More than a thousand years ago the Jewish people compiled Pirke Avot to collect the ethical and moral teachings of our sages. Viewing this timeless wisdom through a modern lens, we will begin to uncover the beauty of our tradition through study and discussion. Taught by **Rabbi Greenstein**. Beginning March 5th. Monday nights, 8:00pm, RM 113.

Beit Midrash Neveh Shalom

Discover the logic games of the Talmud, dive into the philosophy of Solomon Schechter or Kushner, uncover meaning in this week's torah portion, research Israel's history, the possibilities are endless. It is a Jewish tradition to discuss, read aloud, argue, and comment upon sacred text. We will study in chevruta (pairs) and create a buzz of learning. Multiple texts will be provided in English and Hebrew. Drop in for 15 minutes or stay for the hour, by yourself or with a friend...come Monday nights and add your voice to the echoes of our people's heritage. It is a mitzvah to study! Class meeting time has changed from Thursday to Monday nights at 7pm.

Advanced Beginners Hebrew Class

There will be an Adult Hebrew class for advanced beginners—a reading knowledge of all letters and vowels is required. Day TBA. Taught by Vered Tzur, from week of June 4th-week of August 6th.

\$120 for members, \$160 for non-members

ADVANCED HEBREW CLASS CANCELLED



Library Spring Hours

Sunday: 8am to noon*

Monday: 8:30am to 1:30pm

Tuesday: 8:30am to 1:30pm

Wednesday: 5pm to 8:30pm*

Thursday: 8:30am to 1:30pm

*When Religious School is open

Closed Friday & Saturday



Foundation School

Foundation School children and teachers happily returned to school following our spring vacation and Pesach holiday. Upon returning each class enjoyed the arrival of our butterfly unit. The children observed the life-cycle of the butterfly, and the highlight was taking them outside to bid farewell as they flew off into the world.

The celebration of Israel's birthday was an important part of Foundation School curriculum. Classes learned about the country as they took imaginary trips to Israel, left messages in the Western Wall, dressed in blue and white, paraded with flags and banners and ate blue and white treats.

Children have begun counting the Omer as they make their way to the celebrations of Lag B'Omer and Shavuot later this spring.

Jan Skolnik, Foundation School Director & **Sheila Stern**, Asst., 503.293.7308

Religious School

To help our children view the world through Jewish eyes is a goal I have as a Jewish educator. To have pride in our history, to learn from our past and to laugh at ourselves are some of the items found on the menu of lessons in our religious school. Jewish humor is not taught as a subject in our Religious School, although I am thinking of introducing it in the High School as an elective class. It helps to laugh at ourselves at times. Laughter helps us deal with the daily challenges we face in our professional and private lives while teaching us to face adversity.

So one guy says to another guy, "Mandelbaum and Rosenstern were talking one day..." Right away, his friend interrupts him, "Always with the Jewish jokes! Give it a rest! Why do they always have to be about Jews? Just change the names to another ethnic group for once!" So he starts again, "Hashimoto and Suzuki were talking one day at their nephew's Bar Mitzvah..."

Along with learning the facts and dates from our historical past, come the stories of struggling for survival and the passion to choose life above all else.

Three men, an Italian, a Frenchman, and a Jew, were condemned to be executed. Their captors told them that they had the right to a final meal of their choice before the execution. They asked the Frenchman what he wanted. "Give me some good French wine and French bread," he requested. So they gave it to him, he ate it, and then they executed him. Next it was the Italian's turn. "Give me a big plate of pasta," said the Italian. So they brought it to him, he ate it, and then they executed him. Now it was the Jewish fellow's turn. "I want a big bowl of strawberries," said the Jew. "Strawberries! It's September. Strawberries aren't in season for months!" exclaimed his captors. "So... I'll wait!"

We cultivate in our children a "Torah mind"—a mind that analyzes and deduces and asks.

After months of negotiation, a Jewish scholar from Odessa was granted permission to visit Moscow. He boarded the train and found an empty seat. At the next stop a young man got on and sat next to him. The scholar looked at the young man and thought: This fellow doesn't look like a peasant, and if he isn't a peasant he probably comes from this district. If he comes from this district, he must be Jewish because this is, after all, the Jewish district. On the other hand, if he is a Jew where could he be going? I'm the only one in our district who has permission to travel to Moscow. Wait—just outside Moscow there is a little village

called Samvet, and you don't need special permission to go there. But why would he be going to Samvet? He's probably going to visit one of the Jewish families there, but how many Jewish families are there in Samvet? Only two—the Bernsteins and the Steinbergs. The Bernsteins are a terrible family, so he must be visiting the Steinbergs. But why is he going? The Steinbergs have only girls, so maybe he's their son-in-law. But if he is, then which daughter did he marry? Sarah married that nice lawyer from Budapest and Esther married a businessman from Zhadomir, so it must be Sarah's husband. Which means that his name is Alexander Cohen, if I'm not mistaken. But if he comes from Budapest, with all the anti-Semitism they have there, he must have changed his name. What's the Hungarian equivalent of Cohen? Kovacs. But if he changed his name he must have some special status. What could it be? A doctorate from the University. At this point the scholar turns to the young man and said, "How do you do, Dr. Kovacs?" "Very well, thank you, sir," answered the startled passenger. "But how is it that you know my name?" "Oh," replied the scholar, "it was obvious."

Mixed in with all of the above, is a dash of Chutzpah—the antidote against being taken for a "freyer" (a sucker).

A little woman called Mount Sinai Hospital. She said, "Mount Sinai Hospital? Hello. Darling. I'd like to talk with the person who gives the information about the patients. But I don't want to know if the patient is better or doing like expected, or worse, I want all the information from top to bottom, from A to Z." The voice on the other end of the line said, "Would you hold the line please, that's a very unusual request." Then a very authoritative voice came on and said, "Are you the lady who is calling about one of the patients?" She said, "Yes, darling! I'd like to know the information about Sarah Finkel, in room 302." He said, "Finkel. Finkel. Let me see. Feingerg, Farber, Finkel. Oh yes, Mrs. Finkel is doing very well. In fact, she's had two full meals, her blood pressure is fine, and if she continues this way, her doctor is going to send her home Tuesday at twelve o'clock." The woman said, "Thank God! That's wonderful! She's going home at twelve o'clock! I'm so happy to hear that. That's wonderful news." The guy on the other end said, "From your enthusiasm, I take it you must be one of the close family." She said, "What close family? I'm Sarah Finkel! My doctor don't tell me nothing!"

And of course, we do our best to make learning fun and meaningful with the hope that all our students take seriously their study and apply their best efforts in class.

There was a young man, who was known for his lack of study and the rabbi of the congregation, was not about to let this go unnoticed. He performed his Bar Mitzvah and rose to the occasion as best he could, with the minimal lack of preparation. When it came time to hand out the gifts to the young lad, he received the usual Kiddush Cup and Bible from the congregation. But then the rabbi added a special gift. He said, "You have received many gifts today, many treasures of Judaism in book form that will enrich your life and make it holy in the eyes of Hashem... and now for my own special gift to you," with that he pulled out an UMBRELLA from behind the lectern and told the boy who had become a man in the previous half hour, "I present you this umbrella because I WANT TO GIVE YOU A GIFT THAT AT LEAST I KNOW YOU WILL OPEN!"

Many researchers believe that the purpose of laughter is related to making and strengthening human connections and it occurs when people are comfortable with one another, when they feel open and free. The Jewish people are no strangers to world of comedy and laughter.

Susan Bernstein, Religious School Director

Youth Activities

Kadima

K-A-D-I-M-A! That's right! I want to see all the Kadima enthusiasm! Spring is in full bloom for Kadima and we are enjoying every moment of it! Kadima is open to all sixth through eighth graders. If you have never been to a Kadima event, there is no better time to start. Next month we are going to paint pots, so get ready to paint a plate, a mezuzah or anything else your mind can imagine! Look for information in the mail or on the Youth Activities bulletin board for upcoming events. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call!

Helene Martel, Youth Activities Director: 503.293.7314,
hmartel@nevehshalom.org

USY

Hey USYers!!!

Regional Convention is coming up and it's going to be an amazing time here in Portland!! This is going to be a really fun time to meet new people, hang out with old friends, and just have a good time! It is the weekend of May 18th-21st, so mark your calendars, get your forms in, and get ready for a good time!

We had our boys/girls night in April which was a lot of fun. Boys went to one house and had a lot of fun playing some poker, while the girls had a clothing exchange and made bracelets for the Ronald McDonald House.

Neveh Shalom also held its annual auction where many 7th-12th graders got to serve their families and friends dinner. Doing this is always a lot of fun and helps raise money for the synagogue. Thanks to everyone who helped out!

Rachelle Vagy, rachelle@kfish.com

An invitation to all post-Bar and -Bat Mitzvah students, 7th through 12th graders:

Each year we select from our pool of recent and past Bar/Bat Mitzvah students and invite them to participate in leading small parts of the shaharit service on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Your participation adds an element of warmth and pride to all who have the pleasure of hearing you chant during this special time of year. This year, especially, we are getting a huge start on identifying the students and making the assignments. As you know, Cantor will be gone thru mid-July and we are trying to get as much done in advance as possible. We will provide you with the text and tape since so many of the melodies sung during the hagim are different than during the weekday or on a regular Shabbat. All you need to do is let me know of your interest and commit a few hours of learning your part in the fall. Please say YES to this request and send an email to Marci Atkins (matkins@nevehshalom.org) or call 503-293-7308. We'll be in touch with you as the summer progresses.

The ModelBeder



Committee News

Shoreshim

Shoreshim's ongoing mitzvah project is off to a great start! Now at every Tot Shabbat, you can make donations of non-perishable food items to fulfill the mitzvah of feeding the hungry. Partnering with the non-profit Neighborhood House, we will have available in Zidell Chapel a large, gray bin to put your food in to help feed the hungry in Portland. Please note: children of parents with a good memory get a sticker for their participation in this mitzvah!

Always on the first and third Saturdays of the month, our next Tot Shabbat and Shabbat Kids services will be May 5 and 19 in their regular locales, followed by a light Kiddush lunch.

Chantal Rosenthal has put together a great celebration of Yom Ha'Atzmaut, which includes an expanded Kiddush, Shabbat-appropriate and festive kids' crafts and a mitzvah project to send to the U.S. soldiers in Iraq.

In April, Shoreshim families gathered for the first time in three years for a Tot Shabbat/Shabbat Kids observance during Pesach. Even with the kitchen closed, we enjoyed a kosher-for-Passover Kiddush with matzah, grapes, cream cheese and other appropriate fare. Thanks to **Jordan Epstein** and **Marci Atkins** for making this Shabbat observance a priority and to **Edward Jacobowitz** for providing our kosher nosh.

For more information about Shoreshim please contact one of Shoreshim's co-chairs, **Kristen Ertischek**, 503.222.7229; kjert@aol.com, or **Dani Nierenberg**, 360.713.8171; DrNierenberg@aol.com.

We Need Your Stuff!



Community warehouse is the only "furniture bank" in the Portland metro area. We accept your usable furniture and household items and get them into the hands of those in need. Most needed items include: mattresses and box springs (queen, double and twin), kitchen tables and chairs, dressers, pots & pans, silverware, blankets, pillows and alarm clocks. Community warehouse is open for drop off of your

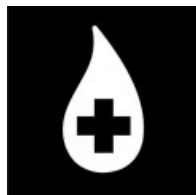
donations and has a truck available for pick-up. Please call 503.235.8786 or email sharon@communitywarehouse.org.

Thank you very much for this effort.

Roz Babener

Blood Drive

The Red Cross Blood Mobile will be here on Sunday, May 20th, accepting donors in 15 minute shifts between 9am and 1pm. Contact JoAnn Bezodis at jbezodis@nevehshalom.org or 503.293.7309 for more information.



Hinenu



check out our website!
hinenu.org

Mark your calendars for these upcoming Hinenu events!

- May 12th: Bowling
- May 22nd: Shavuot Learning Session
- June 10th: Lunch in Chinatown, and visit Chinese Garden
- June 28th: Alberta Last Thursday Artwalk

For more information and the latest updates on Hinenu, check out our web-site: www.hinenu.org, or email info@hinenu.org.

Shomrei Teva



Shavuot and Native Plants

We will soon welcome

Shavuot, a holiday most of us associate with the revelation of Torah at Sinai. As the last of the three great festivals, Shavuot was celebrated in ancient times by making pilgrimage to Jerusalem to offer the first fruits of harvest. Deuteronomy (8:7-8) lists those "first fruits" as wheat, barley, figs, pomegranates, olives, and dates, plants all native to the land of Israel.

This spring consider planting species native to our region, just as the ancient Israelites did. Even though Oregonians try to promote a healthy environment, exotic or non-native plants can be pests or threats to our area's native flora. Native plants need less water and care, preserve habitat for threatened native wildlife, better stabilize stream banks and hillside slopes, and preserve our area's natural heritage.

There are many excellent local resources for planting natives: plant lists, specialist nurseries, and native plant sales. For a start, go to the City of Portland's Naturescaping website: <http://www.portlandonline.com/bes/index.cfm?c=dcbec> or try the native plant experts, and linked resources, at http://www.plantnative.org/about_main.htm.

Your efforts to plant wisely are quintessentially Jewish, as the midrash in Leviticus Rabbah 25:3 notes: "And first of all, the Eternal God planted a Garden in Eden [Genesis 2:8]. Therefore ... occupy yourselves first and foremost with planting."

Committee News

Outside-In Cooking

Thank you to our March cooks! **Aliza Bethlahmy, Sallie Cohen, Aviva Cohen, Sasha Cohen, Sophie Cohen, Jorden Cohen, Emilie Cohen, Mckenna Davis, Michaela Dibert, Simon Goldstein, Jenn Director Knudsen, Josh Nudelman, Maddie Patton, Susan Siegel, Tovah Siegel and Lorraine Widman.** We will be meeting again May 13 at 10:30 am in the Neveh Shalom kitchen. All volunteers are welcome to help cook a meal for the Outside In day program for at risk youth and young adults. Please contact head chef; **Aviva Zigman** at ajzigman@hotmail.com for any questions or suggestions. This will be our last cooking day before we take a break for summer!



SW Hope for the Hungry

Food Drive Results



Congratulations! As the SW Hope Campaign comes to an end, we have surpassed our goal and I know there is still more to come. I want to thank you for the outstanding leadership and work. This has been an amazing coming together of the community to help fight the persistent problem of food insecurity in SW Portland. I can not tell you how helpful this campaign has been. You have truly made a difference. When I look at our shelves, I know that this is usually a time when there is a lot of bare space, but not today. This campaign

will get us into the summer well stocked and ready to serve those in our community who need a helping hand. Thank you again.

Food donations = 14,985 lbs

Cash donations = \$5,877.26 (equivalent to 58,773 lbs of food)

Total donations equivalent to 73,758 lbs of food!

Richard J. Nitti
Executive Director Neighborhood House, Inc
Celebrating 100 years of community service

"We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give." --Winston Churchill

Neveh Shalom will continue to have our food barrel available to receive your donations of non-perishable food in our main coat closet just outside the sanctuary.

Empty Nest

Our last gathering for this academic year will take place Sunday, May 20, at Seasons and Regions, 6600 SW Capitol Highway, 503.244.6400, at 11 am. RSVP to **Giselle Bawnik** at 503.644.4490 or giselle@teleport.com by May 15. Thank you.



Senior Lunch Bunch



The Senior Lunch this month will be Tuesday, May 8 at 12 noon in the Atrium. After a fabulous lunch prepared by our own Allen Levin, we will show the film *Return to Israel*. RSVP by Friday, May 4, to Julie Marquis in the office at jmarquis@nevehshalom.org or 503.246.8831, ext 100. Please join us!

College Outreach

For information about College Outreach, contact **Giselle Bawnik** at giselle@teleport.com or 503.644.4490. Thank you!

First Babies

The First Babies Group has had an eventful month! We held our monthly "Come Schmooze" gathering on a Sunday to allow those families who are unable to join us during the week come and socialize. We had a great turnout, both parents and children enjoyed themselves. Future Come Schmooze get-togethers will be on Thursday, April 26th, and Thursday, May 31st, both from 9-



11 am in the atrium (downstairs from the main entrance). The First Babies Group also joined together for a Passover recipe exchange and tasting. Families enjoyed tasting new dishes and took the recipes home to use during the holiday. If you have questions about the First Babies Group or would like more information about upcoming events please contact **Michelle Katz** at 503.292.3380 or oregonkatz@comcast.net.

TRI BUTES

Tzedakah is a central mitzvah of Judaism. Use it often and in good health! Tzedakah honors the giver and the recipient. You can make a Tzedakah contribution to honor, remember or thank someone who is important to you. It is also the custom in many communities to give Tzedakah in appreciation of an honor or aliyah during any service. **PLEASE BE SURE TO INCLUDE THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF BOTH THE DONOR AND THE RECIPIENT, AS WELL AS THE NAME OF THE FUND.** Our dedicated volunteers will thank you! We gratefully acknowledge donations to the following Synagogue Funds:

BECKY MENASHE BOOKSHELF FUND

In honor of

Donna Jackson - super mom
Sol E. Menashe
Kelly Jackson - super mom
Sol E. Menashe
Nikki Jackson - super mom
Sol E. Menashe
Abby Menashe - super mom
Sol E. Menashe
Wendi Menashe - super mom
Sol E. Menashe

In memory of

Joanna Menashe
Donna Jackson

BILLY & ROSE NAFTALIN CAMP FUND

In memory of

Rose Naftalin
Bernard and Bonnie Naftalin

CAMP SOLOMON SCHECHTER FUND

In memory of

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Paul Norr's father
Robert and Emily Ail
David Spigal
Thelma Geffen

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Mark Abolofia
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Maurine Eve Weil
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CEMETERY FUND

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Efim Averbukh
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Allan Abravanel, get well wishes
Merritt and Marilyn Yoelin
Jim Davidson, get well wishes
Merritt and Marilyn Yoelin

In memory of

Lloyd Karmir
Merritt and Marilyn Yoelin

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In honor of

Gloria Bacharach - get well wishes
Rosalie Lesch
Eleanor Fischer, get well wishes
Rosalie Lesch

In memory of

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Harold Lesch
Rosalie Lesch
Benjiman and Jeanette Philan
Jan Skolnik's father
Rosalie Lesch

DAVID BERNSTEIN MEMORIAL BIBLICAL G

In memory of

David Bernstein
Henny Bernstein
Barbara & Leonard Bock
Zadell Cogan
Henny Bernstein

EDDY SHULDMAN DOWNSTAIRS KIDDUSH

In appreciation of

Len & Elayne Shapiro - thank you
John Barton

In honor of

Allan Abravanel - speedy & complete recovery
Earl and Dale Oller
Gloria Borg Olds' special birthday
Earl and Dale Oller
Eliana, Sarina & Odena Kaufman
John Barton
Gary Fiske & Michele Ahonen - happy life in your new home
Ella Ostroff
Bauna Ritchie's special birthday
Earl and Dale Oller
Paul Romain's special birthday
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In memory of

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Emery Zidell
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Stan Eastern's recovery
Donna Jackson
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Ron Meyer's recovery
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Irving Katz
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Gloria Bacharach
Jakob and Rachella Kryszek

Gloria Bacharach - speedy recovery
Jeff and Sandy Axel & Family
 Donna Jackson's special birthday
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 Tony Kostiner's birthday
Jakob and Rachella Kryszek
 Joshua Steen Leisner's Bar Mitzvah
David Gluck, 'Kippah King'
 Ella Ostroff - speedy recovery
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Inna Sheinkman
 Riva Angert, Bencion Angert, Isaac Shtrom, Leyba Shtrom & Moysha Isris
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in memory of

Sidney M. Sherman beloved brother
*Aaron Cohen and Helen
Sherman Cohen*

PA-AM B'DOR-L'DOROT HA-BA'IM

in honor of

Gloria Bacharach
Paola Finzi

PRINCIPAL'S FUND

in memory of

Mae Weinberg
Barbara Schwartz
Marion Weinstein
Randi McLenithan

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in appreciation of

Rabbi Greenstein
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Joel Semler
Laurence and Corinne Spiegel*

in memory of

Sandra Caplan
Rosalie Goodman

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in appreciation of

Rabbi Isaak
*Gloria Bacharach
Laurence and Corinne Spiegel*

in memory of

Gloria Gurian
Kenneth Gurian

**RABBI STAMPFER DISCRETIONARY
FUND**

in memory of

Mercada Babani
Mary Peizner
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*Nancy Sherman
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Max Mudrick
Frieda Tobin

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in honor of

Tony Kostiner's special birthday
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in memory of

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Jack and Raquel Zidell

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Sala Kryszek
Jerry and Joanne Kryszek

**SAM & IDA SOBLE RENOVATION
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in memory of

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Delman and Sandey Fields
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Delman and Sandey Fields
Jack Rosen
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Bernice Friedman
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in honor of

Leslie Bleich - good health wishes
Thelma Geffen & Harry Wilson
Jack Osbourne - good health
wishes
Thelma Geffen & Harry Wilson

SHORESHIM FUND

in honor of

Ben & Kristen Erischek's new
daughter, Eliana Julie Ertischek
*Ron and Dani Nierenberg &
Family*
Adena Kaufman
*Ron and Dani Nierenberg &
Family*

in memory of

Anne Freeman
Judith Kahn

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in memory of

Yetta Donin
Jerome and Shirley Nudelman

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in honor of

Jack Schwartz' special birthday
Craig and Leslie Goodman

Jack & Barb Schwartz' special
anniversary

Craig and Leslie Goodman

in memory of

Ruth Israel
Gary and Sylvia Pearlman

**TOINETTE MENASHE BOOKSHELF
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in memory of

Zadell Cogan
*Rosalie Goodman
Sam and Beulah Schaffer*
Abraham Rosenberg
Ruth Blum

TORAH REPAIR FUND

in honor of

Gloria Bacharach
*Kenneth and Diana Golden
Gary and Sylvia Pearlman*

WEINSTEIN CHAPEL FUND

in honor of

Gary Weinstein - get well wishes
Joelen Rodinsky

**WOMEN'S LEAGUE SCHOLARSHIP
FUND**

in honor of

The Women's League
*Aaron Cohen and Helen
Sherman Cohen*
Caroline Lembeck, get well wishes
Gussie Cooper

in memory of

Lena Gottlieb
Samuel and Christine Gottlieb

**Any tribute received
after the first Friday of
the month will appear
in the next issue.**

ad page

DATED MATERIAL

WHEN A DEATH OCCURS

Call the synagogue office **503.246.8831** so that we may inform **Rabbi Isaak** and be of assistance. During business hours, ask for **Michelle Caplan, ext 114**. After business hours, on weekends & holidays, contact **Michelle Caplan at 503.481.0164, Rabbi Isaak 503.228.8819** or the funeral home of your choice for assistance. Most Jewish funerals in Portland are arranged by **Holman Funeral Service, 503.232.5131**. If you wish Tahara for your loved one—respectful preparation for burial according to ancient Jewish tradition—you may request it from Holman's Funeral Home or the funeral home of your choice. The funeral home will then notify The Chevra.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE JUDAICA SHOP

Spring is here with graduations, weddings, etc. Let us help you find the perfect gift. We have Kiddush cups, yads, jewelry, challah plates and knives, candlesticks, and you name it. We also have Divine Kosher Cooking, a marvelous cookbook with information for large gatherings as well as different cookie recipes. We look forward to assisting you to meet your needs.

Torah Fund Cards are available for all events.

SPECIAL ORDERS WELCOME

Please volunteer to work, either a special day or as an alternate.

To volunteer, for special orders, or for appointments outside of our regular hours please call **Sue Axel** at 503.297.9140.

Spring Hours

Winter Hours are Monday-Friday 10AM to noon. Wednesday from 6PM to 8:30PM and Sunday 9AM to noon when religious school is in session.

DIRECTORY

Congregation Neveh Shalom
Affiliated with USCJ

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email: info@nevehshalom.org

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- **James Monaghan**, Cemetery Maintenance
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- **Jan Skolnik**, Foundation School Director
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- **Sheila Stern**, Foundation School Asst.
503.293.7307, sstern@nevehshalom.org
- **Susan Sutherland & Linda Alpert**, Women's League Co-Presidents & Judaica Shop, ext 127
- **Debbi Villani-Allen**, Administrative Director
ext 125, dvillani@nevehshalom.org

DAILY MINYAN

Monday - Friday 7:15 am

Rosh Chodesh 7am

Sundays and Holidays 9:00 am

SHABBAT SERVICES

Erev Shabbat, Friday

1st, 4th & 5th Friday of the Month

6:15pm ONLY

2nd and 3rd Friday of the Month

6:15pm and 8:15pm

Shabbat, Saturday, 9 am

Every Saturday: Shabbat Child Care

Please call 503.246.8831 to reserve space.

If you would like to participate in the main sanctuary, please call the CNS office at 503.246.8831, ext 100

Tot Shabbat/Shabbat Kids

1st & 3rd Shabbat, 10:15 am, Zidell Chapel and rooms 113-115

Shabbat Kiddush Club (3rd-5th graders)

1st & 3rd Shabbat, 10:00 am. Room 117

DOWNSTAIRS MINYAN

2nd and 4th Shabbat in the Zidell Chapel

3rd Shabbat at the Robison Home

If you would like to lead the davening for Shahrar,

Torah, or Mussaf please call

Mark Sherman, 503.245.0571

Kindle the Sabbath Candles

כִּדּוּךְ אֶתֵּהָ יי

אֶלֶהֵינוּ מִלֶּךְ הָעוֹלָם,

אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו

וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל

שַׁבָּת.



Ba-rukht atah A-do-nay, e-lo-hay-nu me-lekht ha-olam a-sheer kid-sha-nu be-mitz-votav ve-tzi-van-nu li-hadlik ner shel Shabbat.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, Who has sanctified us by Thy commandments, and has commanded us to kindle the sabbath lights.

CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

Friday, May 4	8:03 pm
Friday, May 11	8:11 pm
Friday, May 18	8:20 pm
Friday, May 25	8:27 pm



Eleanor Fischer Dial-In Service

If you are unable to attend Shabbat services, dial in to hear them. Call 503.246.8832

The Chronicle is a publication of
Congregation Neveh Shalom
2900 SW Peaceful Lane, Portland, OR 97239
Provided free with membership.