

THE  
**CHRONICLE**

A PUBLICATION OF CONGREGATION NEVEH SHALOM



HOW WE  
SUMMER

# The Contours of Summer

Rabbi's Corner

By Rabbi David Kosak

"As the sun sets, the last rays of light touch the treetops, casting a golden hue that signals the arrival of Shabbat. The world seems to hold its breath, bathed in a serene and holy glow." -S.Y. Agnon



energy courses through me when recollecting this tree.

Eternity is often experienced in such languorous moments when we give ourselves over fully to the mysterious world. For us northerners, summer readily leads us to such states. The endless hours of cloudless sun after winter's shortened days seems to stretch each day. As Jewish composer George Gershwin observed in his opera, *Porgy and Bess*:

*Summertime,  
And the livin' is easy  
Fish are jumpin'  
And the cotton is high.*

Meanwhile, a certain inwardness of the northern personality gives way to a greater ebullience. Life is everywhere and anything seems possible. It is curious how the meaning of summer is linked to geography. I have wondered whether equatorial peoples share this sense, where daylight hours are constant throughout the year.

In the land of our origins, this tension is captured; the rituals of summertime form a sandwich of meaning. We move from Shavuot, the holiday that commemorates the giving of the Torah, into a darker period of loss marked by Tisha B'Av, on which so many calamities befell the Jewish nation. Yet before that downward sweep can overtake us, Tu B'Av, the Jewish Valentine's Day, occurs just six days later, urging us to focus on love.

The contours of summer are surely shaped by our perspectives. In child-

hood, summer marks an extended period of freedom, in which the shackles of homework and the work of school are laid aside. For adults, summer must usually be grasped in smaller bits: a weekend at the coast, some days of vacation, or a hike in the Gorge. But there are new rituals that have become as ingrained in our sense memory as that oak tree is for me. At CNS, Friday nights on the plaza have become a joyous occasion to gather, sing, and celebrate. There is this moment before services begin when the western sun dips below the large Jewish star atop the Isaak Foyer and the heat of the day lifts. Magic indeed.

Life is hard, but it is not always so, as summer reminds us. Amidst our challenges there is tremendous bounty; if Sukkot marks the end of summer, it also prompts us to bring in the harvest. It is essential to count our blessings. As we head toward Rosh Hashanah with all the promises a new year offers, our synagogue's theme for this coming programming cycle is "Amen...Be a blessing."

Being a blessing to ourselves and others also provides us a taste of eternity; as our sages of yesteryear taught us, a blessing is a flow of energy whose source is God. Like the sun of summer, we are warmed by it before we transmit it to others through our acts of kindness. It doesn't end there, though, but continues to flow forth from its recipient before it is offered to another person. Blessings ripple though time much like a skipping stone causes a lake to dance.

*Continued on next page*

I spent a gap year in Israel when I was nineteen, which began with me being a volunteer on Kibbutz Ramat Hashofet. The kibbutz, named in honor of Judge Julian William Mack, is situated in the north, close to the Megiddo National Park, which is a UNESCO World Heritage site; it houses the remains of King Solomon's stables as well as a sophisticated ancient water system. Megiddo is considered one of the most important Biblical archaeological sites, but at nineteen, its ruins made little impression on me; I couldn't sense their magic. Instead, what captured my attention was a lone oak tree on a hillside. Beneath the constant summer sun, the undulating shrub grass sweeping up and away from it had all turned to pale straw. Still, this solitary oak tree thrived, enduring the heat of a Middle Eastern summer where little else could. Its persistence touched me, carving within me a sense of immortality. To this day, a charge of emotional



# Summertime, and the Living Is...

*By Rabbi Eve Posen*

About a month ago I was texting with a friend about the weight of the world. I had just returned from a weekend in the Olympic national forest, enveloped in trees and nature, and conveniently without reliable internet. While it was an adjustment to remember to download directions before we left our rented home, it was glorious to be secluded, away from the news and constant barrage of media. In those 4 days of respite and no signal I realized just how much of a toll the October 7<sup>th</sup> and beyond news has taken on my body, mind, and spirit.

After 24 hours back in Portland from this trip I quipped "I wish I could just go to summer camp all summer and be embraced in sacred community away from it all." My friend agreed. In recent years residential summer camps have started to implement a no technology policy for campers. This was done in part to "level the playing field" in terms of who has what devices, but more so to provide our children with a space free from external worries and stimuli. Camp becomes an oasis in time allowing for presence in community.

One of the most well known Torah portions we read during the summer is *Parshat Shlach Lecha*, the story of the spies. The *parshah* begins with Moshe sending 12 spies, one from each tribe, into the land of Canaan to bring back an ac-

counting of the land. The spies return with their report, and it's pretty discouraging. Two spies report back with a positive message, but the negativity of the other ten reports instills so much fear into the nation that they decide they don't want to make the journey into the promised land after all. This infuriates God, who then decrees that anyone who went out from Egypt at age 20 or older will not be allowed to enter the land of Canaan. This generation will purposefully die out so that a new generation, unfettered by the destructive mindset of their predecessors, can start anew. As the Torah details the creation of a nation that is fierce and fit, God notices that they are also struggling with preserving the sacred downtime that is Shabbat.

This idea of rest is so serious that we hear the story of a wood gatherer who gathers wood on Shabbat. God deals a harsh punishment; the Torah declares the consequence for this infraction was death. While such a punishment may sound disproportionately severe to our ears, it certainly furthers the notion that making time to stop, rest, and rejuvenate is essential to living.

As an adult with a job not at camp, like



most of you, we aren't able to pack up and seclude ourselves for the summer; we must do a bit more work on our own in order to rebalance our intake of information. These days no one will stone you for not taking care of yourself and resting on Shabbat as the Torah might suggest. However, we're still responsible for helping each other push the pause button... and for our own health.

At the very least, Shabbat can be your weekly reminder to be present not only for your family, but also for yourself.

## Rabbi Kosak *Continued from previous page*

According to the science of the water cycle, the sun-kissed waters of oceans and lakes rise as mist before they descend again to the Earth, filling the rivers which empty themselves into the

sea before rising once more as vapor. Blessings are as essential a part of our spiritual economy as the water cycle is to biologic life. They are the means by which we get to hold fast to the vivifying

force of summer, a snapshot of infinity in which all indeed is bathed in a serene and holy glow.

Enjoy these dog days!

# Transforming Tisha B'Av: From Mourning to Joy

Cantor's Corner

**By Cantor Eyal Bitton**

Is it time to transform Tisha B'Av into a day of joy? Should the Jewish people reconsider how they commemorate Tisha B'Av?

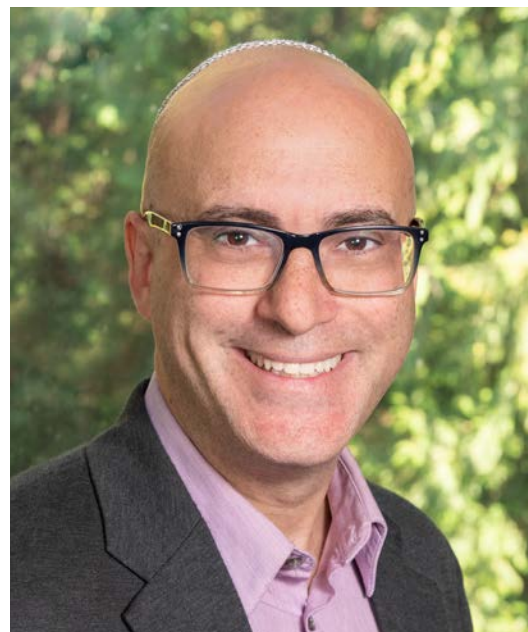
Tisha B'Av, happening Aug. 12/13 this year, is the saddest day in the Jewish calendar, marking the end of Jewish sovereignty in the land of our ancestors, Israel. The Talmud lists five calamitous events that occurred on the ninth of Av, all related to the Jewish people's connection to the land of Israel. The principal events are the destruction of the First Temple and the destruction of the Second Temple, with the latter leading to the two-thousand-year period of the diaspora, known in Hebrew as the *galut* (the exile).

In the post-Talmudic era, Tisha B'Av has come to commemorate numerous catastrophic events in Jewish history: the First Crusade, which decimated various Jewish communities: the expulsions from England in 1290, from France in 1306, and from Spain in 1492. It also marks the Holocaust. These tragedies all occurred at the hands of our non-Jewish hosts in the diaspora.

The week after Tisha B'Av, we read from the Book of Zechariah. The prophet envisions a time when all the fasts mourning the destruction of the Temple will turn into festive occasions for celebration and triumph. Zechariah relays God's message that these fasts "shall become occasions for joy and gladness, happy festivals for the House of Judah" (Zechariah 8:19).

On Tisha B'Av, we grieve for the loss of our homeland and the end of Jewish sovereignty in our land. We mourn the calamities that befell our people, whose safety and existence depended on the grace and protection of others.

Yet Zechariah's vision is now our reality. The Talmudic rabbis observed Tisha B'Av to mourn the loss of our sovereignty, but that sovereignty has now been restored. Jews may live outside of Israel, but the period of exile is over. Zechariah's prophecy of redemption and the restoration of Jerusalem has been fulfilled. Imagine what it would mean for the Jewish psyche, for our na-



tional and spiritual identity, if we made this transformation. Imagine recognizing the fulfillment of the prophecy that Israel's rebirth represents. Imagine transforming Tisha B'Av into a day of joy. Such a transformation would be a powerful way for us to acknowledge that we no longer live in a period of diaspora, but in a period of national redemption.

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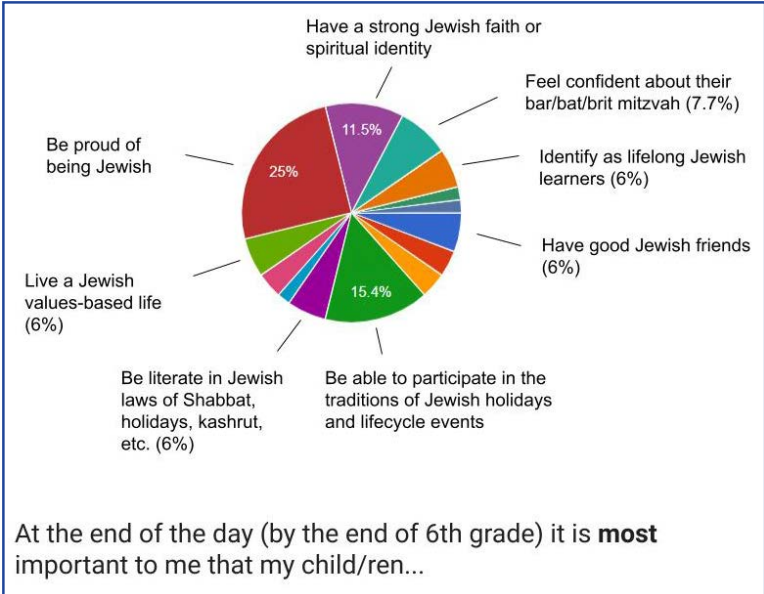


# Summer Planning for New Fall Initiatives in Our Education Programs

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

It's summer! In between spending time out in our beautiful wetlands taking nature and wildlife photos, I'm busy at work as well. Summer includes hiring teachers, meeting with new families, designing new curricula, and planning every detail of our programming for K-6, 7th-12th grades, Adult Education, and Machon Ivrit programs.

I want to let you know about a few new projects we are working on for the coming year!



included Text and Art led by Youki Imori, Know Your Rights with Rabbi Eve Posen and Aliza Olson, and Sparks Storytelling with Sarah Rohr and Leora Troper, which culminated in a wonderful performance this May.

We are developing our new options for next year. One of these will be Interfaith Interactions, an iteration of a course we have facilitated in past years, in which our youth meet with teens from other faith traditions and reflect on the similarities and differences

### What we learned from the survey:

- Our students most look forward to seeing their friends on Sunday mornings!
- Parents' priorities for curriculum include Jewish holidays and traditions, Jewish values, Jewish identity, Hebrew, Israel, and lifecycle rituals.
- Parents most appreciate that their children learn through holiday celebrations, experiential activities, practicing rituals, and attending Shabbat and daily services.

es in our stories, traditions, theologies, and values.

We are very grateful to announce that we received two separate grants for this program, from the Oregon Jewish Youth Foundation and from one of the members of the Stern Family Foundation.

### New Hebrew Tutor Coordinator

Etti Segal, who was just honored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland as the Rogoway Outstanding Jewish Professional of the year, has been promoted from a Hebrew teacher to Hebrew Tutor Coordinator. She will be the primary point person for our teachers and families regarding K-6 Hebrew scheduling and curriculum. Etti works full-time at CNS as Hebrew and Judaics Specialist, and we deeply appreciate her stepping into this new role!

### New Adult Education Offering

Beginning this fall, we are offering a new Adult Education course, taught primarily by our clergy, and covering the basics of Jewish life, called "Did Jew Know?" Sign up for one 5-week course at a time or the whole year of offerings to learn about Jewish holidays, texts, lifecycle, liturgy, and theology. Sessions are offered on Sunday mornings and Monday evenings.

### Updating Judaics and Tefilah Curriculum

Towards the end of the school year, we sent out a survey to our ALIYAH K-6 parents to learn more about their priorities for our Sunday Judaics curriculum. Based on these results, and in consultation with our clergy team, we are updating our Judaics and Tefilah curriculum for our K-6 students.

We asked a question: "At the end of the day (by the end of 6<sup>th</sup> grade), it is MOST important to me that my child/ren..." We knew we would get many answers. See the graphic above for the top eight.

### Parent Advocacy Committees

In light of the rising antisemitism in our world and, unfortunately, in our local schools, I am co-leading the effort to create Parent Advocacy Committees for each

### Tichon Receives Grants

Each year our 7th-12th graders choose their course in our Tichon Wednesday evening program. This year's options

*Continued on page 7*



## **Miles Silverberg | August 3**

Miles is grandson of son of Howie/Barbara Silverberg and Kathleen/Phil Johnston, son of Anne Johnston and Sam Silverberg, and frequently teased youngest sibling of Benny, Ella and Ava. As an 8th grader at Robert Gray Middle School, he is a curious soul who loves history, fried chicken, travel, joking around with friends, and most of all, everything baseball.



## **Aria McLain | August 17**

Aria McLain is the daughter of proud parents Chris McLain and Kim Matulef, sister of Max and Miriam, granddaughter of Debbie and Bob Matulef, Maureen McLain, Mac McLain, and the late Rhonda McLain. She is a 7th grader at Odyssey. She is active in scouts, plays piano, loves reptiles, and enjoys hanging out with her friends.



## **Benjamin Seymour Memmott | August 24**

Benjamin Seymour Memmott is the son of Lisa Gezelter and Kip Memmott, grandson of Diane and Joe Gezelter and Sharon and Kay Memmott. Ben is redoing his Bar Mitzvah, which originally took place at Temple Beth Sholom in Salem during Covid lockdown, so that he can feel the presence of family and community as he is called to the Torah. Ben is going into the 12th grade at Wilsonville High School and enjoys snowboarding, his cats, physics, and math.



## **Orli Schoenkerman | September 7**

It is with great joy that Orli Beryl Schoenkerman will become a Bat Mitzvah on Sept 7. She is supported in this endeavor by proud parents Michelle Fliman and Aaron Schoenkerman as well her older sister Mia. In addition, Orli hails from a deep bench of doting grandparents Vivian and Henry Fliman and Bert and Marcey (z"l) Schoenkerman. She is a rising 8th grader at OES and is a dedicated synchronized swimmer. She feels lucky to spend her summers at Camp Alonim in Simi Valley. Am Yisrael Chai!



## **Erez DeLorraine Lufrano | September 14**

Erez DeLorraine Lufrano is the daughter of Gina Clemmer and Richard Lufrano, granddaughter of Ned and Joan Lufrano, Joye Orcutt, and Ricky Clemmer, and big sister to an adorable Maltese named Cabo. Erez is a 7th grader at Laurelhurst Elementary who loves music (she plays piano!), scary movies, reading, vintage clothes shopping, and hanging out at Starbucks with friends.



## **Abigail Leavitt | September 21**

Abigail Simone Leavitt is an 8th grader in the Rachel Carson Program at Cedar Park Middle School. She is the daughter of Scot and Naomi, and younger sister to Bella. Abi is the granddaughter of Louisa Leavitt and Bruce Leavitt (z"l), Stuart and Dana Stark, and Elvier Yemaya. Abi is proud to be twinning with the late Carla Betty van Baren via Yad Vashem. Abi enjoys being with her friends, reading, spending time in nature, being with her pets, and listening to music. Abi loves spending her summers at Camp Solomon Schechter.



# A Message From Our New CNS President

**By Mark Kalenscher, CNS President**

Last year, after I became president-elect, friends offered two responses: 1.) "Mazel tov and thank you," or 2.) "What were you thinking?!" Sometimes, I would hear both responses from the same person. I get it. On the one hand, I feel honored and privileged to serve as Board President of CNS. Nevertheless, I recognize our many challenges as Jews in a complex social and political environment and as a large and diverse congregation.

Before we delve into the challenges ahead, let's take a moment to celebrate our achievements. Emerging from the pandemic, our focus was on reuniting our community. We have made remarkable strides thanks to the unwavering leadership and commitment of the clergy, Liza, Marlene (and Fred before her), and the entire staff. Our community is thriving, whether it's through attending services, engaging in educational opportunities, or participating in our diverse programming options. I am truly fortunate to step into my new role with our *kehillah* enjoying this kind of forward momentum. However, we must also acknowledge that there are still challenges to overcome.

Bringing our community back into the building is just the first step. The real challenge lies in fostering active participation from each of us. Your involvement is crucial in shaping the future of



our community. What will keep our diverse community engaged and thriving in the future? We want to build on the successes that have brought us here, but that's not enough. We need to find what resonates with each member. As I focus on strengthening the Board's effectiveness, I urge you to consider what will inspire you to take a more active role in our congregational life. Whether through prayer, adult education, social programs, or volunteering, your unique contribution makes our community thrive. We need you!

As you consider new ways to get involved, it might help to reflect on the priorities identified when we updated our long-range plan in 2021. This plan laid out a comprehensive strategy out-

lining our community's goals and initiatives for the next three to five years by focusing on three major areas:

**Business of the Synagogue** – Secure synagogue operations' financial sustainability and administrative effectiveness.

**Social and Engagement** – Develop and implement programs and initiatives that meet the needs of our diverse congregation.

**Spiritual and Education** – Ensure that CNS offers religious services and a variety of learning opportunities that meet the needs of our congregation.

These are broad categories, but they provide a framework for our collective thinking and resource allocation. In the coming months, our Board will transition roles to align better with these focus areas. This process will take place over the next twelve to eighteen months and will involve clarifying expectations and responsibilities. We highly value your input and encourage you to share your thoughts on how we can all work together to make CNS more engaging and welcoming. Please reach out to me ([president@nevehshalom.org](mailto:president@nevehshalom.org)) and the rest of your board with your ideas. Together, we can shape the future of our community.

*Learn more about Mark on Page 11.*

## Education Programs *Continued from page 5*

school district with Rachel Nelson of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland. In May we convened nearly 120 parents for the launch of this project, listened to the

challenges parents and children are facing in our local schools, and designated priority areas of focus for the coming year. This summer we are continuing the

planning process for these action groups. If you are a local parent and want to get involved or stay informed about these efforts, please be in touch.

# This Summer, I Hope Your Kids Are Bored

Candace's Corner

By Candace Rothstein, Interim Foundation School Director

Now that I've got your attention with that potentially provocative title, I want to share a little about why being bored is not just good for us but *essential* for our happiness and development.

How many times have your kids whined at you or their teachers, "I'm boooooored"? Sometimes this statement is uttered even after the child has had an incredibly exciting day, full of carefully planned, (and maybe pricey) experiences that you coordinated for them. I know a parent who was flabbergasted when her child complained of being bored when they were at Disneyland. *Disneyland!*

As well-intentioned modern parents, we often fill our children's days with activities, enrichment classes, new toys, and entertainment. This packed schedule and constant stimulation, while keeping children from feeling "bored," is actually detrimental to a child's development.



Havi, 5, makes flower soup, an example of open-ended and self-directed play.

Wendy Mogel, author of *The Blessing of a Skinned Knee: Using Jewish Teachings to Raise Self-Reliant Children*, writes: "Unsure how to find grace and security in the complex world we've inherited, we try to fill up the spaces in our children's lives with stuff: birthday entertainments, lessons, rooms full of toys and equipment, tutors and therapists. But material pleasures can't buy peace of mind, and all the excess leads to more anxiety—parents fear that their children will not be able to sustain this rarefied lifestyle and will fall off the mountain the parents have built for them."

When we as parents prevent our children from sitting with their "boredness," we are inadvertently stunting their creativity, self-expression, confidence, and even their own mental health. Children need to be given the time and space to discover themselves and their capabilities. This is only possible if they're given plenty of moments to let their minds wander. Give them time for *self-reflection* and *self-direction* when there isn't a set activity planned or screen to be glued to. So, this summer, between splash pads and pool parties, let your kids be bored.

Oh, and one more thing—and here's the hard truth for those of us who spend too much time on our phones: *Being bored is good for grown-ups, too.*

I'm guilty of not allowing myself a moment of boredom. Standing in line at the grocery store, I pull out my phone to scroll while I wait. Getting home after work, tired and "people'd out," I pull out my phone and mindlessly scroll, etc. So often, I don't allow my mind time to wander and reflect. Why do we do this to ourselves?



Without a toy in sight, these Pre-K students are learning and engaged while having fun. Preschool teachers give children access to real materials and invite them to play open-endedly without an end product in mind.

The other day, my sister aptly declared, "The world is on fire, and our collective mental health is in the dumpster." Yeah, pretty much. Because of this, many people, myself included at times, rely on distraction and dissociation to cope. This might help in the short term, but it won't make us happier in the long run. In fact, constant stimulation and distraction make us more depressed, less present with those we love, and lead to more feelings of helplessness about the issues facing us and the world at large.

My writing this is in no way to judge parents, kids, or any other grown-up who uses distraction to wind down and cope with the difficulties of life. There's a balance—as with everything else in life! But I invite you, as you plan your summer full of fun and activities, to also take a second to inventory your time and your children's time.

In short, I hope that my family and I have lots of moments for "boredom" this summer. In the same way, I hope we have lots of moments of presentness, happiness, and fulfillment. And I hope the same for you!



# Jewish Camps After Oct 7

By Naomi Leavitt

Staff and families from two local Jewish camps shared some of their thoughts on how things have changed since October 7th. Michelle Koplan is the CEO of BB Camp, recently rebranded as BB360. The camp has been active for 103 years and is proud to now have three day-camp locations in addition to the overnight camp on the coast. Day camp has an expected enrollment of 750 campers; overnight camp has wait lists and is expecting 600 campers.

Security has always been a top priority, so in 2019 BB Camp added armed guards to their campus. BB360 has a full-time, year-round social worker, and is partnering with Jewish Family & Child Service in Portland to work with Israeli staff during training week at camp. Last year, camp had ten Israeli staff on board, while this summer they will have 25 staff from Israel. Prior to the start of camp, all families were asked how they are feeling and what they have been experiencing since October 7th so that staff can fully support and care for the campers.

Jaimie Harper is a second-generation BB camper, who is thrilled her kids will be attending this summer for four weeks! While Jaimie grew up in Portland, her

husband, **Jacob**, grew up in Santa Rosa, California, where he attended Camp Swig. Jaimie says that growing up, BB Camp was her second Jewish home, and she celebrated more traditions there than she did anywhere else. Children **Reuben** (8th grade) and **Esther** (5th grade) both attend PJA, but Reuben's 8th grade class trip to Israel was canceled this spring, which was incredibly disappointing.

The family is truly grateful for BB Camp to help get Reuben ready for making the jump to public high school after his time at PJA. BB Camp allows for both kids to connect with Judaism and feel grounded, providing a respite and a safe place to simply be Jewish.

Manda Graizel is the Camp Director of Camp Solomon Schechter (CSS). CSS is proudly celebrating its 70th anniversary this summer. The number of campers enrolled this summer passed CSS's goals: there are wait lists for both sessions. Now more than ever, families are saying that Jewish camp is important! Parent engagement has increased, and more parents and supporters are opening their homes for programming.

In addition to having twenty Israeli staff coming this summer, many are returning from previous summers. All staff will be having conversations before arriving to camp regarding expected language, values, and dealing with current events.

CSS has a strong relationship with Homeland Security as well as local law enforcement. They



Mia Osherow and Dave Chapman, with their kids, Colette and Amelia, in 2018 at the second CNS Family Camp run by Rabbi Eve at Camp Solomon Schechter.

regularly consult with a security expert as focusing on safety and security is a top priority. New this summer will be the Director of Staff Care position, making sure that all employees are supported and guided during this challenging year.

Mia Osherow and her husband Dave Chapman are proud to say they started attending Rabbi Eve's Young Family Camp at Camp Solomon Schechter at its inception in 2017. They attended that first weekend with their children, then 6-week-old **Colette** and 4-year-old **Amelia**; their lives have changed for the better ever since. Mia grew up in Northeast Ohio, and Dave is from Illinois. Amelia just finished 6th grade and will be attending Camp Solomon Schechter for the second time this summer for two weeks. Colette completed 1st grade and will be staying closer to home but enjoying both BB Day Camp at Neveh Shalom and PJA Specialty Camp. The rise of antisemitism has always been on the back of Mia's mind, now even more so. Mia shared that she feels more compelled now to be a part of the Jewish community so her kids have a connection; she never considered changing plans after October 7th. The community is doing a good job of making safe spaces for Jewish Portland, both spiritually and physically.



Jaimie Harper with her kids, Esther and Reuben, at BB Camp in 2023.

# Meet Your Newest Board of Director Members

*We are excited to introduce to you our newest members to join the Neveh Shalom Board of Directors. We look forward to their leadership and contributions.*



**BRIAN IZENSON**

Over the past 16 years, my family's path has been entwined with CNS, celebrating many milestones... a wedding, a brit milah, a bar mitzvah, and countless holidays and events. We feel blessed to have been warmly embraced by the CNS kehilla and gotten to know many wonderful people through our shared experiences. My hope in serving on the Board is to help our kehilla thrive by nurturing the same types of experiences and connections for other congregants and their families.



**MIKE KHAVUL**

I am excited to join the Board and contribute my time and energy to the CNS community that has been so welcoming to our family (my lovely wife Gina and our amazing children Leah, Miriam, Raya, and Golda). Please say hi at Foundation School drop off or pickup: I'll be there!



**NICOLE MARKOWITZ**

As a parent of an 8-, 6-, and 4-year-old, I felt inspired to join the Board to ensure CNS remains a home away from home for my children and for the generations to come, whether it is at Foundation School, ALIYAH, Shabbat services, or special events. I am also excited to gain a 360-degree view of CNS and use my experiences to serve the entire community.



**SIMONE MYERS**

Having grown up at Neveh Shalom, and now as a parent with two children attending Foundation School, I look forward to being part of the Board to help influence the experience for our next generation of congregants.



**DAVID RUBIN**

I'm honored to join the CNS Board. As a lifelong member, CNS has played an important part in our family's life events and everything in between. To work on behalf of the Congregation is a great mitzvah! I look forward to assisting the board, clergy, and staff.



# Getting to Know Mark Kalenscher

By Jenn Director Knudsen

Starting with a successful stint at Intel Corp., the birth of a child, well-connected neighbors, and **Rabbi Joshua Stampfer, z"l**, helped lead **Mark Kalenscher** to his newest post: President of the CNS Board of Directors. In 1980, Mark joined Intel on the finance side of the chip-manufacturing giant. For those with memories of Silicon Valley's explosion during a decade that also included the aerobics revolution, neon clothing, and MTV, it speaks volumes about Mark's intellect that he had the opportunity to work with many senior executives, including Intel co-founder, Gordon Moore.

Intel enjoyed exponential growth during these years and developed a corporate culture that Mark calls "constructive confrontation," a polite description of intense meetings characterized by colleagues openly (and often loudly) disagreeing with one another, all in the name of lightning-fast progress... But it wasn't to be Mark's long-term workplace.

"I had the good fortune of joining Intel at the right time and benefitted from generous stock options," Mark, 69, said in his telltale self-deprecating style, barely betraying a smirk. He chose to retire in the mid-90s, dedicating himself to his family – wife **Jennifer Kalenscher** and young children **Ellen** and **Albert** – and a life of volunteerism.

"It's nice to sleep in every day, but then I realized I needed to do more," Mark said of early retirement. Soon thereafter, he "found [his] way onto boards," first joining a small group of like-minded investors (including **Jim Meyer, z"l**), who helped women and minorities finance small businesses. Six years after Mark and Jennifer married in 1989, key milestones led them to Congregation Neveh Shalom, greater Jewish practice, and related volunteer work.

Born in Brooklyn and raised in Sacramento, Mark says he grew up in a "very secular" household. His Jewish observance was limited to fasting on Yom Kippur. Then, in 1995, Ellen was born; in 1996, Mark's dad died, and in 1997, Albert was born. Mark says his dad's death left a "hole." "I didn't know exactly what to do when my father passed, and then we were having kids."

It turns out that Mark and Jennifer's first home was smack in the middle of neighbors **Mark and Gail Sherman** and **Rosalyn and Mylen Shenker**, both of whom remain active members of the *kehillah*. They invited the then-newbie couple to join them in their spiritual home and place of worship. Tot Shabbat, led by the accordion-wielding **Yaakov Epstein**, became a place of profound connection to knowledge, the shul, and lifelong friends.

Mark says he and Jennifer both learned to read Hebrew, the order of the service, cornerstones of Jewish ritual life, and much more, first alongside their children and then in classes taught by **Rabbi Emeritus Daniel Isaak**, educator **JoAnn Bezodis**, and Rabbi Stampfer.

A regular in Rabbi Stampfer's Tuesday afternoon Talmud class, Mark tuned in to adult Jewish education. He joined the rabbi and Prof. Sylvia Frankel in their quest to expand intellectual opportunities in greater Portland by volunteering on the board of the Institute of Judaic Studies (IJS), at Frankel's request.



Mark and Jennifer Kalenscher

In 2020, the IJS merged with the Oregon Jewish Museum-Center for Holocaust Education. Frankel, the former director of IJS, recalls that period and Mark's dedication. "...primarily financial issues needed to be resolved, and Mark, in a most professional way, helped complete the process," Frankel said.

Leadership roles at Camp Solomon Schechter (also founded by Stampfer) and at Neveh Shalom soon followed.

**Past President Steven Kahn**, whose family was among those with whom the Kalenschers became close at Tot Shabbat a quarter century ago, nominated Mark in 2016 to the shul's Board of Directors. Like for CSS, Mark has been Neveh Shalom's treasurer, a vice president, and now president.

Steven said, "At a time when many folks shy away from taking leadership roles, Mark rarely, if ever, says 'no.' Anyone who knows Mark knows how much he really loves our *kehillah* and what it has meant for him and his family."

Rabbi Stampfer remains a personal inspiration. Mark noted that "Rabbi Stampfer lived his values every day. If he could be an institution-builder, I could at least be part of sustaining them."

# A Bright Future

By Sarah E. Rohr, Youth Activities Coordinator



**Y**outh Activities at Neveh Shalom is our in-house social youth programming for grades 3-12. For the past two years, under the auspices of Rabbi Posen and then Mel Berwin, programming has focused on activities for Jewish *neshamot* (souls) to shine in a playful and respectful community.

ALIYAH and Tichon are Neveh's engines of transmission of Jewish culture and Hebrew literacy. What differentiates Youth Activities is our emphasis on socializing as Jews. We are striking a balance between youth group and camp energies, where the kids/tweens/teens can connect on shared affinities, over mitzvah projects and tasty food.

While the boundaries to keep people safe are in place, the permission to

share in ways that might not fit into a classroom structure are welcomed. For instance, at our recent Passover Forest walk, songs, and dinner, a student brought their ukulele and guitar and offered us a musically astonishing version of *Ma Nishtanah*; sharing that talent fit perfectly under the umbrella of Youth Activities.

A vision that came to fruition this year in response to the not-so-funny political climate was the inaugural Jewish Teen Comedy Night. Improv comedy games were led by our CNS treasure of a comedian and stellar (former) Jewish educator, Hayley Terris. As a participant in that evening, what

was miraculous was seeing the teens respond to Hayley's guidance. They arrived, in their own words, "feeling awkward" and left "feeling open" and seen.

The Youth Activities mandate is to welcome our younger folks in their wholeness by using a trauma-informed, inclusive, community-inspired lens to create our programming, which is born out of direct requests from our younger community members.

Last year we had forty teens for Rosh Hashanah and 45 teens for Yom Kippur services, services which were adult-created and led. This year, we want to lean into the wisdom of our teens and glean what would inspire and move them to get motivated and participate in the *Yamim Nora'im* (Days of Awe). For our younger members, there are family services and game rooms to

check out for the High Holy Days.

I want to pay homage to one of many sources of inspiration for the Youth Activities pedagogy. Some of the grounding for the idea that "Torah wisdom is fun," came from visits to **Rabbi Stampfer's (z"l)** house to hear stories and ask questions while he sat in his cozy blue lounge chair with his feet up. While a caregiver moved around quietly, he imparted the idea that providing spaces for Jewish kids to just be together (and I'll add, respectfully) is an important part of the transmission and reception of our heritage and lineage. When I work in this arena, I see his visionary words come to light.

## Upcoming Events

We are currently planning for the summer and full year ahead!

### Aug. 31-Sept 1

6th-8th Grade Lock-in at CNS (Think "Night at the Museum," synagogue style!)

### Sept. 8, 12:00-2pm

3rd-12th Grade Meet and Greet for Youth Activities at Back to Shul

### Sept. 14, 5:30-7:30pm

3rd-5th Grades Dinner and Havdalah

### Sept. 18, 6:30-8:30

9th-12th Grade Leadership planning for HHD activities, snacks provided!



# Our College Grads

## Alyssa Knudsen



**Q: Please let us know your college, degree/program, and your plans for next year.** This May, I graduated Summa Cum Laude from Brandeis University with a B.A. in Politics and a B.A. in French and Francophone Studies, and a minor in the History of Ideas.

I will be attending UMass Amherst this September for two-year M.A.

in French and Francophone Studies while teaching undergraduate French students.

**Q: You started college during the pandemic and are graduating during a war with significant campus unrest. What has been the impact on you (personally) and on your cohort more generally of these crises book-ending your college years?** My undergraduate experience began in 2020, when Covid prevented many students from beginning/returning to college. I was extraordinarily lucky that Brandeis welcomed freshmen to campus, but the year had significant hurdles I had to overcome. With few in-person classes, it took extra energy and dedication to make friends and succeed academically. But I did it! As a result of this bizarre and at times scary debut to college, I emerged far more confident in my ability to seek out and maintain personal and professional relationships. I also became much more self-motivated and organized. Because many of my courses were online, I had to create my own relationships with my professors and with the material in a way that sustained hours staring at a Zoom screen. My tenacity and the support of my peers, family, and educators has continued to serve me long after removing my mask.

**Q: How did your Jewish involvement/identity change during your college years?** I chose Brandeis specifically for its Jewish affiliation; it felt deeply affirming to finally be surrounded by so many people who understood me: my traditions, complex relationship with G-d, and strong ties to Israel. This meant, unfortunately, that the conflict between Israel and Hamas has had an acute effect on the Brandeis community, as we have both students with family in Israel and those who are vehemently opposed to the state's very existence. I have learned that being in a historically Jewish space does not necessarily protect against antisemitism, but it does give me a community worth fighting for.

## Zachary Goldsmith



**Q: Please let us know your college, degree/program, and your plans for next year.** I attended Occidental College with a Bachelor of Arts in Theater and Performance Studies and Urban and Environmental Policy.

I plan to start a theater/arts related internship in Los Angeles

**Q: You started college during the pandemic and are graduating during a war with significant campus unrest. What has been the impact on you (personally) and on your cohort more generally of these crises book-ending your college years?** My college experience, both with the pandemic and the unrest, has definitely been marked by isolation. There were many times where I did feel very much alone. However, that made me appreciate the community I had and friendships I made throughout the college experience and made me want to create community for other students at Oxy. I think I say this more in hindsight, but I think all the choices I made on campus stemmed from either the desire to be in community and have others find their way throughout college. My best friends came from this pursuit, and they helped me to stay sane when I felt like screaming at the world. My college experience was anything but normal, but my friends helped it to come close, at least momentarily.

**Q: How did your Jewish involvement/identity change during your college years?** Going into my first year, I never thought of myself as a Jewish leader. Sure, I did stuff at Neveh, but I didn't really expect that I would be involved on Oxy Hillel's executive board. I never did BBYO or USY, I never went to Camp Solomon Schechter or BB Camp. But here I am, having been on Oxy Hillel's e-board for four years. I got to see our organization in its best and worst of times. Being on the board made me more acutely aware of what it meant to be Jewish at Oxy and Jewish on campus writ large. I learned from my fellow board members, made incredible friendships, and became more confident in my own leadership and my own Jewish identity.

# The Outdoor Tabernacle

By Sara Safdie

The sounds of summer: picnic laughter under trees, shawarma sizzling on the grill, the return of mellifluous song sparrows...and *davening* in the CNS Holzman Plaza. What once was a response to the pandemic — having an enhanced, themed, Shabbat on the Plaza to welcome people back — has now become a cherished Neveh Shalom tradition. Knowing that many of our *kehillah* come to these Friday night services got me to thinking about how we define sacred space and how or why our ancestors moved from praying outdoors to a circumscribed indoor space, thus creating the *mishkan* (Tabernacle).



The first Shabbat on the Plaza of Summer 2024

After the exodus from Egypt when the Israelites were in the desert, there was no thought of praying anywhere other than in the spaces surrounding them. So why the move? It would have been easy to pray at the foot of Mt. Sinai rather than going to the trouble of creating a new sacred space. The best explanation I found was, in Sefaria, from Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel of Apta who argued “...that it was created at least partly to atone for the sin of the golden calf.” This makes it seem that it was a punishment to move from the natural world, the world God gifted to humanity with its natural beauty, scents, and sounds, to a newly-created space.

On the other side of the spreadsheet, so to speak, is the tradition that my aunt, noted Jewish storyteller, Peninnah Schram, mentioned, of an angel dwelling in every blade of grass (the etymology of “angel” is from Greek, meaning messenger); from this, it can be inferred that grasses, flowers, trees, etc., contain messages from God to His recipients.

Rebecca, my cousin in Israel, suggested I look at the Baal Shem Tov. I found there

is the joyful notion that “In the pirouettes of a nondescript leaf falling from some lonely tree, in the puff of a sudden breeze on a summer’s day, in every sight that could be seen or sound that could be heard, [the Baal Shem Tov] perceived the Infinite, the Unknowable” (Rabbi Tzvi Freeman, Chabad.org). What better way to embrace God’s summer gifts than to gather outdoors on Friday nights, Cantor Bitton’s melodies filling the air along with warm breezes, the sweet scents of flowers mingling with grasses, tree branches undulating, and filling the Holzman Plaza with the sounds of our ancient prayers?

Obviously, we’re living through difficult times, both politically and as Jews. We need to take time to remember and be grateful for the beauty that surrounds us in all its emanations. The British Romantic poet, William Blake, stated this in his “Auguries of Innocence”:

*To see a World in a Grain of Sand  
And a Heaven in a Wild Flower  
Hold Infinity in the palm of your hand  
And Eternity in an hour*

I wonder if any scholar can definitively state that prayer, or sacred space, moved indoors to an enclosed one as the result of the sin of the golden calf. What I do know is that we need to reinhabit the outdoors and remember that it is also a sacred space that includes all trees, blades of grass, cooling breezes, and the honey and bumblebees. Without it, we lose something essential—and sacred—to our human condition, something that will keep the delicate balance of nature in equilibrium. This summer, come out to the Plaza!

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# Stampfer Community Enrichment Award Returns, Honoring Brian Suher

By Elana Emlen

In the parade of many “firsts” since Covid, it’s a true delight that the Rabbi Joshua Stampfer Community Enrichment award will take place this September. (Who is the recipient? You have to read on to learn!) This award was created to honor volunteers (Jewish or non-Jewish) recognized for lifetime achievement.

My father, **Rabbi Stampfer, z”l**, received the first award in 1999, the year **Dr. Merritt Linn, z”l**, created and launched it. My dad had served as Congregation Neveh Shalom’s rabbi for forty years, and while doing that, helped found a number of organizations, including the Oregon Holocaust Resource Center, Oregon Jewish Museum, the Institute for Judaic Studies, Camp Solomon Schechter, and the Harold Schnitzer Family Program in Judaic Studies at Portland State University. (The first three organizations listed have since merged into the Oregon Jewish Museum-Center for Holocaust Education.) Each year



*Rabbi Stampfer, z”l, speaking at the 2018 Community Enrichment Award Ceremony*

the Stampfer Community Enrichment Award is presented, one of these organizations is highlighted.

While my dad was deeply moved by the inaugural award in 1999, he was moved even more so by having his name associated with subsequent honorees. Each one—up through 2019 with few pauses until the pandemic—were indefatigable volunteers who made tremendous, positive differences in their communities. Some of the recipients had been closely involved in the same organizations as my dad, while others dedicated themselves to impressive community projects outside the scope of his work. Ultimately, my dad saw the award as a way to say “thank you” and inspire others. My dad would have been delighted to learn that this year’s Rabbi Stampfer Community Enrichment Award recipient is **Brian Suher**.

The list of ways that Brian has dedicated himself to the community is long. He routinely goes beyond personal philanthropy to help organizations thrive. For example, when he served on the Camp Solomon Schechter board, he led capital improvements and took the time to oversee design, construction, and project funding. At our shul, Brian has been the consummate Shabbat on the Plaza organizer; the services and gatherings afterward have been successful and fun while contributing to something my dad loved: community-building.

When Brian’s nephew, Yoni Suher, z”l, was tragically murdered by terrorists in Turkey, Brian created an annual three-day Scholar-in-Residence program, bringing prominent Israeli scholars to Neveh Shalom to enrich our knowledge on and from a myriad of topics and per-



*Recipient of the upcoming 2024 Stampfer Community Enrichment Award, Brian Suher*

spectives. He also is an active leader at Oregon Jewish Community Foundation and the Mt. Hood Kiwanis Camp for children with developmental, intellectual, and physical disabilities.

Brian donates generously to the organizations noted here; more than that, he rolls up his sleeves and gets to work. This is exactly why it’s wonderful to see him honored with the 2024 award.

The Rabbi Joshua Stampfer Community Enrichment Award dinner is not a fundraiser; rather, it’s a celebration of the new recipient and also past awardees. It’s also an opportunity to be inspired and learn more about this year’s highlighted organization, the Oregon Jewish Museum-Center for Holocaust Education.

*Please save the date of Sunday, September 22 for the Stampfer Community Enrichment Award dinner and ceremony. Invitations will be sent later this summer.*



# Member News

Mazel tov to Hosia Rotstein Keene, daughter of proud parents **Vicki and Alan Rotstein**, who has been accepted in the PH.D. Counseling Program at Oregon State University. The three year program is a degree in Counselor Education and Supervision.

**Mazel tov to Eva Novick** on being featured in the Profiles in Law section of the April edition of the *Oregon State Bar Bulletin*.

**Mazel tov to CNS librarian Leora Troper** on receiving a Regional Arts & Culture Council (RACC) Arts3C grants, to help her finish writing her middle grade novel *Nisim and the Toymaker*, a Jewish steam-punk fantasy for readers aged 9 to 12.

**Mazel tov to Emiko Coughlin, daughter-in-law of members Elaine and Jonathon Coughlin**, on the many accolades surrounding her latest novel *The Return of Ellie Black*, including a review/endorsement by Stephen King, television interviews on local TV as well as on *Good Morning America*.

**Mazel Tov to Carol Biederman** on the birth of her grandchild! Carol's daughter Mali (and her partner Phil) gave birth to a healthy baby boy on Tues, April 23. All are doing well.

**Mazel Tov to CNS congregant and amazingly talented musician Stephan Nance**, as they embark on a nationwide tour opening for Madilyn Mei!

**Mazel tov to Danielle Chassin Kelly, daughter of Lynne Chassin**, on her first lead role in a feature length film, *Above The Trees*.

Mazel tov to **Ellie Malka**, daughter of **Ronnie and Dave Malka** on being elected the 31st Regional N'siah (President) and to **Trevor Gilbert**, son of **Bari and Robb Gilbert** on being elected the 31st Regional Godol (President) and **Celia Janoff** daughter of **Shannon and Dan Janoff** on being elected Regional Sh'lichah (Vice President of Jewish Heritage, Social Action, and Community Service) for Evergreen Region BBYO.

**Mazel tov to Cantor Bitton on two major honors:** performing at the Cantors Assembly Convention in Minneapolis and both Cantor Bitton and **Michèle Tredger** performed "The Reel Jewish Experience: Songs from the Jewish Cinema" during Jewish Music Week in Toronto, Canada.

**Mazel tov to poet and CNS member, Joe Safdie**, who will be giving a poetry reading on July 25, 7pm, at Annie Bloom's Books.

**Mazel tov to Priscilla Kostiner** on receiving the Pillar of Excellence Award from the MJCC. According to the announcement, "Priscilla Kostiner has been a pillar of Portland's Jewish community for 50 years. She championed Jewish culture through arts programs at the J setting the foundation for a vibrant cultural space for the community. The MJCC is proud to honor her lasting legacy of leadership."

**Mazel tov to Aviva Simon, Violet Simon, and Julia Stein** who as part of the United PDX 2013G Premier team in soccer won the OYSA State Cup for Girls U11.

**Mazel tov to Jennifer and Mark Kalenscher** on the marriage of their daughter Ellen to Kaitlyn Birkholz on April 20 in Black Butte Ranch, OR.

**Mazel tov to Elliot Raiton**, son of **Jake and Cory Raiton**, who was named first team all-league PIL Designated Hitter and Honorable Mention Pitcher for Grant High School.

Mazel tov to congregant **Merridawn Duckler** and Tichon Teacher **Youki Iimori** (son of congregants **Michelle Iimori Goldenberg and Randy Goldenberg**) on being a part of the Art/Lab 2023-2024 Exhibition Opening.

Mazel Tov to our Neveh Shalom PJA 8th grade graduates: **Charles Rogson, Yoav Shuall, Charlie Rothenberg, Micah Richmond, Reuben Harper, Ben Solondz, Dayton Izenon.**

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

We are sorry to inform you of the passing of CNS member **Ruby Sachter, z"l** at the age of 88. She was predeceased by her husband, **David Sachter, z"l**. She is lovingly remembered by her children Elaine (Michael Newman) Sachter, **Sheryl (Steve) Rudolph**, as well as her five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

We are sorry to inform you of the passing of Michael Kurnoff, z"l. He is lovingly remembered by his wife, Shirley Kurnoff, his children, **Lee (Howard) Lazarus, Janine (Simon) Gottheiner**, Bryan (Alora Alexander) Kurnoff, and his grandchildren, **Jacob and Zoe Lazarus, Ava, Hadley and Liam Gottheiner**, and Nathaniel Kurnoff.

We are sorry to inform you of the passing of CNS member **Sarra Dekhtyar, z"l**, on April 17 at the age of 94. She is lovingly remembered by her husband, **Izrail Dekhtyar**, her children, Greg Dekhtyar and Rimma (Mikhael) Goldberg, two grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

We are sorry to inform you of the passing of Ronald Subotnick, z"l, on Sunday morning, May 5, 2024. He is lovingly remembered by his wife, Barbara Weiland, by his children, Eric (Kerri) Weiland, Laurie (Quang) Tran, and Jennifer (Erik) Karlson, grandchildren Abigail,

Chandler, Cydney, Kai, Ethan, Elliot and Josephine, great-grandchildren Theodore and Cohen, and sister **Cathy (Mel) Berlant**.

We are sorry to inform you of the passing of William "Billy" Schuman, z"l, on May 7, 2024 in Boca Raton, FL at the age of 75. He is remembered by his sister, Estelle "Cooky" (Dr. David) Goldblatt, and his nieces, **Sarah Elianna (Brian) Rohr** and Shayna (Lt. Benjamin) Proler.

We are sorry to inform you of the passing of CNS member **Marvin Wolf, z"l** on May 28, 2024 at the age of 92. He is lovingly remembered by his wife **Barbara Wolf**, his children Eric Wolf, Sandra Wolf, and Howard (Laurene) Wolf, and grandchildren Jack, Sadie, Carly, and Reese Wolf

We are sorry to inform you of the passing of Thelma Solomon, z"l, sister of congregant **Larry (Sandie) Hupp**. She is also mourned by her daughters, Marti Solomon and Jill Solomon, sister-in-law Gayle Hupp, five nieces and nephews and numerous great-nieces and great-nephews. She was predeceased by parents Nathan (z"l) and Mildred (z"l) Hupp and brother Irving Hupp (z"l).

# The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

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### **in appreciation of**

Lisa Richmond from Daniel Pressman & Helen Tieger

### **in honor of**

Mel Berwin from Debbi Villani-Allen  
Mel Berwin from Gary & Carolyn Weinstein

### **in memory of**

Rabbi Saul Spiro from Rena Ziegler  
Mildred Weger from Elisa Weger

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Katherine Angel Raiton from Jack & Joanne Raiton

## **CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

### **in appreciation of**

Cantor Eyal Bitton from Judith Goldman

### **in honor of**

Cantor Eyal Bitton from Gary & Carolyn Weinstein

Cantor Eyal Bitton from Ruth Roth

## **CEMETERY FUND**

### **in memory of**

Ronald Meyer from Marjorie Sherman  
Ruby Sachter from Jo-Ann Bleich  
Ruby Sachter from Jo-Ann Bleich  
Ruby Sachter from Marlene Brenner  
Ruby Sachter from Phyllis Zawel  
Mary Shaman from Paul & Susan Shaman  
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Goldie Slifman from Nancy Slifman  
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Jake Sachter, Dave Sachter, Louis Gerber, & Blanche Stein from Steve Rudolph & Sheryl Sachter-Rudolph

## **FOUNDATION SCHOOL FUND**

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### **in memory of**

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Mark Danish from Jordan & Debra Plawner  
Steve Singer from Gary & Carolyn Weinstein  
Steve Singer from Stephen & Diana Sirkin

### **in memory of**

Grigory Amburg from Inna Sheinkman  
Leon Angel from Jack & Joanne Raiton  
George & Maxine Barker Debra Nudelman from Robert & Holly Cohn  
Irving Blank from Barbara & Dan Steinfeld  
Anna Chernobelsky from Raisa Premysler  
Lawrence Duckler from Heidi Duckler  
Guste Elaine Schwarz from Gerald & Margery Schwarz  
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Jeffrey Goldenberg from Rachael Goldenberg  
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Earl Goldhammer from Robert & Harriet Perkel  
Harry Goldhammer from Robert & Harriet Perkel  
Milton Hasson from Walter & Suzanne Lowy  
Terry Howard from Jeffrey & Michele Howard  
Rebecca Israel from Francine Frisch  
Samuel Kogan from Boris & Galina Kogan  
Art LaPedis from Julian Kaufman  
Marie Leton from Leslie Galanti  
Marie Leton from Neesa Galanti  
Julie Leuvrey from Dan Saltzman  
Bette Jean Londer from Jay Horenstein  
Peggy Maduff from Robert & Helene Rosenthal  
Anny Mandrow from Joan Fraser  
Estelle Marenstein from Herman & Andrea Marenstein  
Esfir Menasha Shkolnik from Yefim & Lyudmila Litinetsky  
Sara Mishkin from Raquel Zidell  
Jack Olds from Michael & Gloria Olds  
Israel Parnus from Simon Moraru  
Malie Parnus from Simon Moraru  
Esther Perkel from Marge Sherman  
Esther Perkel from Sanford & Wendi Menashe  
Tsilya Pirogovsky from Peter & Nina Pirogovsky

Tsilya Pirogovsky from Rudolf &

Tamara Lublinsky

Bunny Pollack from Joel & Sandra Pollack

Broha Press from Abram & Rimma Press

Jennifer Rachel Rosenthal from Robert & Helene Rosenthal

Joen Rodinsky from Michael & Gretchen Leopold

David Rosenfeld from Lynn & Marshall Langfeld

Abram Rubinovich from Abram & Rimma Press

Yetta Ruth Donin from Arnold & Carol Barer

Ruby Sachter from Eve Stern & Les Gutfreund

Ruby Sachter from Janet Hasson

Ruby Sachter from Janet Hasson

Ruby Sachter from Marge Sherman

Allen Shainsky from Mike & Janice Shainsky

Ronald Subotnick from Stephen & Diana Sirkin

Ronald Subotnick from Susan

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Hy Jackson from Richard & Abby Menashe  
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Adele Eisen Saxe from Charles & Harriet Saxe

## **LEONARD BARDE CEMETERY ENHANCEMENT FUND**

### **in memory of**

Christine Gottlieb from Samuel Gottlieb & Carolyn Gorin  
Lena Gottlieb from Samuel Gottlieb & Carolyn Gorin  
Anna Wasserman from Gary & Debra Wasserman

## **LORA AND JIM MEYER INCLUSION FUND**

### **in memory of**

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### **in memory of**

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### **in honor of**

Wendy & Jeffs Menashe from Renee Holzman

## **MILT HORENSTEIN MORNING MINYAN FUND**

### **get well wishes for**

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### **in honor of**

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### **in memory of**

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Marlene Lazarus from Jeffrey Lazarus

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### **in honor of**

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### **in appreciation of**

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Vivian Perlmutter from John Barton

## **RABBI ISAAK DISCRETIONARY FUND**

**in honor of**  
Carol & Daniel Isaak from Gary & Carolyn Weinstein

## **RABBI JOSHUA STAMPFER EDUCATION FUND**

**in honor of**  
Jon & Michelle Caplan from Jerry & Bunny Sadis

## **RABBI KOSAK DISCRETIONARY FUND**

### **in appreciation of**

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Harriet Vosen from Diane Kahn

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

### **in memory of**

Allan Sherman from Martin & Sharyn Schneiderman

## **SAFETY & SECURITY FUND**

### **in honor of**

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### **in appreciation of**

Danica Wnuk from the Kass Family

### **in support of**

Security Fund from Oregon Outdoor Lighting

### **in memory of**

Lee Rothstein & Michael Rothstein from Ron & Marcy Morris

Ruby Sachter from Jackie Constantine

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Philip Weinstein from Dana Weinstein

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### **in memory of**

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Sala Kryszek from Jerry & Joanne Kryszek

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Richard Samuels from Stephen & Diana Sirkin

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### **in memory of**

Rita Schneider from Robert & Marla Weiner

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## **SISTERHOOD: TORAH FUND**

### **in honor of**

Ellen & Kaitlyn from Raul & Lidia Krivoy

## **SYLVIA PEARLMAN MEMBERSHIP ENHANCEMENT FUND**

### **in honor of**

Sylvia Pearlman from Renee Holzman

Sylvia Pearlman from Linda Ostomel

Sylvia Pearlman from Jerry & Bunny Sadis

### **in memory of**

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## **TIKKUN OLAM FUND**

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## **YONI SUHER FUND**

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### **in honor of**

Paul & Susan Parter from Brian Suher & Barbara Atlas

Congregation Neveh Shalom from Randy & Yael Suher

Barbara Atlas from Randy & Yael Suher

Our 12 grandchildren from Randy & Yael Suher



Please recycle *The Chronicle* when finished

**CNS Pride Shabbat in June brought together 200 people for Shabbat on the Plaza, following a meet and greet and drag queen storytime.**





# 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/calendar](http://nevehshalom.org/calendar).

## Sisterhood BIPOC meeting

**Wed., Jul. 3, Aug. 7, Sep. 4, 7-9pm, Zoom**

Women of different backgrounds discuss questions of faith and confront social justice issues. Contact: [smallfryeterp@gmail.com](mailto:smallfryeterp@gmail.com)

## Accessing Trans Health Care: A Q&A with Talia Buchsbaum - Monday, July 8, 7:00pm

A leading Trans health medical practitioner will provide an overview of the basics of hormonal, medical, and surgical transitioning, and answer your questions.

## Coffee Connections: CNS Sisterhood Edition Wed., July 10, August 20, 11:00am

**NEW!** Connect with amazing women in a warm, welcoming atmosphere while learning more about the CNS Sisterhood.

## YAFE Berry Picking

**Sunday, July 14, 10:15am**

Blueberries, raspberries, marionberries, oh my! Join Rabbi Eve and our YAFE Community for berry picking and a story.

## Cooking for Outside In: Sunday, Jul. 14, Aug. 11, Sep. 15, 12-2pm, CNS Marla's Kitchen

Cook a meal to feed homeless teens. Contact: [8888octopus8888@gmail.com](mailto:8888octopus8888@gmail.com)

## Shroud Crowd - Sun, July 14, 2-4pm, Rm 102

Help create traditional burial clothing for use by the *Chevra Kavod haMet*. Contact: [sandyaxel@msn.com](mailto:sandyaxel@msn.com)

## Wondering Jews: PDX Spirit Happy Hour Sightseeing Cruise - Wed, July 17, 3-5:30pm

Join WJs (60+) for this special 90-min cruise along the Willamette River. \$29/person, food and drinks separate.

## Wise Women Social Brown Bag Lunch

**Thurs., July 18, Aug. 15, Sep. 19, 12-1:30pm**

Pack a lunch and join this friendly group of women to schmooze and empower one another. Contact: [jenkal@comcast.net](mailto:jenkal@comcast.net)

## Sisterhood Book Group - 7:00pm

- 7/22: *Kantika* by Elizabeth Graver
- 8/26: *Mother Daughter Traitor Spy* by Susan Elia MacNeal
- 9/23: *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride

Contact: [dianeandjosh@hotmail.com](mailto:dianeandjosh@hotmail.com)

## YAFE Storytime at the Farmer's Market

**Sunday, August 4, 10:15am**

Meet Rabbi Eve at Rieki Elementary school for a story and time to play with your CNS friends.

## Intergenerational Reverse Tashlich River Clean-Up - Sunday, Aug 18, 10:00-12:00pm

Join CNS Tikkun Olam, Sisterhood, YAFE, and Youth Activities for a river clean-up followed by a picnic. [Irlichmond@nevehshalom.org](mailto:Irlichmond@nevehshalom.org)

## YAFE Splash Pad - Wed., August 21, 2:00pm

Let's Make a Splash! Cool off at one of our Westside splash pads for fun and popsicles with Rabbi Eve and our YAFE Community.

## 6th-8th Grade Overnight at the Shul

**Saturday, August 31, Evening**

Join friends for a night of fun and sleep over in the synagogue! [srohr@nevehshalom.org](mailto:srohr@nevehshalom.org).

## BACK TO SHUL 2024!

**Sunday, Sept. 8, 12:00pm**

Join your CNS community for a fun afternoon with a hot dog lunch, music, and more! ALIYAH family meet and greet with teachers.

## Conservative Judaism Explained with Mel Berwin - Thursday, Sept 12, 7:00pm

Attend this engaging opportunity to learn about our movement's name, values, and distinguishing features. Open to all.

## High Holy Day Melody Workshop

**Sunday, September 15, 4:00pm**

Cantor Eyal Bitton will sing and teach old and new High Holy Day melodies. Contact: [Irlichmond@nevehshalom.org](mailto:Irlichmond@nevehshalom.org).

## Shaken To My Bones: Brian Rohr's Book Launch Reading and Celebration!

**Wed, Sept. 18, 6:30pm**

Join us to celebrate Brian Rohr in the launch of his feature-length poetry book, *Shaken To My Bones: A Poetic Midrash on the Torah*.

## Stampfer Enrichment Awards

**Sunday, Sept. 22, 5:00pm**

*More information on page 19*

## Teshuvah: How We Repair and Repent

**Wednesday, Sept 25, 7:00pm**

Join Rabbi Posen as we delve into the steps Maimonides lays out for repentance.

## Selichot Program

**Saturday, September 28, 8:00pm**

## Intergenerational Apple-Picking

**Sunday, Sept. 29, Time and Location TBD**

For all ages and stages – get ready for a sweet new year as we embark on this tasty activity!

## Morning Minyan and Shabbat Services

*Please visit the website for more info*

## Morning Minyan

**Monday-Friday, 7:15am (7:00am Jewish holidays and Rosh Chodesh; 9:00am US holidays); Sundays, 8:45am**

## Shabbat on the Plaza

**Fridays through August 30, 6:15pm**

An outdoor, spiritual service in the beauty of the Holzman Plaza followed by nosh and social time. Different theme each week.

*Schedule on reverse side.*

## Kabbalat Shabbat Service

**Fridays starting in Sept, 6:15pm**

After the summer, we'll return to our Kabbalat Shabbat service in the Stampfer Chapel

## Kol Shabbat

**2nd Fridays starting in September, 7:15pm**

Lay-led, voices-only service.

## 4th Friday Shabbat w/Rabbi Eve

**4th Fridays, 5:15pm**

Shabbat fun for families. *During the summer, bring a picnic and meet in the Courtyard before the Shabbat on the Plaza service.*

## Saturday Morning Shabbat Service

**Saturdays, 9:30am**

## Downstairs Minyan Shabbat Service

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

## Tot Shabbat (Ages 0-5)

**1st and 3rd Saturdays, 10:30am**

Join young families as we gather together for some Tot Shabbat fun.

## Kiddush Club (K-3rd Grade)

**1st and 3rd Saturdays, 10:30am**

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





# Shabbat on the plaza

Thru August 2024

Fridays

6:15pm

## July

- 7/5: Independence Shabbat
- 7/12: Rock n' Roll Shabbat
- 7/19: Ashkephardi Concert
- 7/26: Chanukah in July

## August

- 8/2: CNS 150: Building Blessings
- 8/9: Wondering Jews (w/ August Watters)
- 8/16: Spud Shabbat
- 8/23: Pickle-Fest III
- 8/30: Camp Shabbat

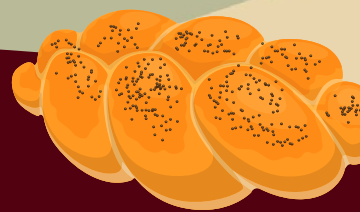


More info:  
[nevehshalom.org/  
shabbat-on-the-plaza](https://nevehshalom.org/shabbat-on-the-plaza)

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**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 6:30PM**  
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What is the difference between the Mishnah and Talmud?

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How was the liturgy was created?

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Why do we have an additional month some years?

Join your CNS Clergy to explore the basics of Jewish living and learning. Each module of the *Did Jew know?* series will be taught in 5-unique lessons. Each module is a standalone experience, and you can begin the series in any order. No advanced knowledge or learning necessary.

For the autumn, winter, and spring schedules and registration, visit: [nevehshalom.org/DidJewKnow](http://nevehshalom.org/DidJewKnow)

