



CONGREGATION NEVEH SHALOM

AMEN

... BE A BLESSING ...

PROGRAM GUIDE 2024-25

BLESS OTHERS AND YOU SHALL BE BLESSED.

— SHALOM CHAVERIM! —

Welcome!

For American speakers of English, we are unused to hearing the word “totem” except in the concept of a totem pole. That’s too bad, because a totem can refer to any object that holds spiritual significance for a particular group or community. There is a profound way in which our annual program guide is so much more than a catalog of courses, social activities, events, and so forth. Holding it in our hands, the heft of it, along with the quality of the paper and its graphical strength, gives a sense of certainty. The sheer mass of opportunities to engage in our community that you will find in its pages turns this static booklet into a dynamic representation of who we are as a community. This guide is a totem; it points us beyond programming, providing us a tangible expression of the persistence of our values regardless of the state of the world. It says, if you will, “we are here.”



This year, our synagogue’s annual theme is “Amen: Be a Blessing.” It’s a theme that resonates deeply with the journey we’ve all undertaken recently—a journey of recommitment, resilience, and renewal in our Jewish lives. Choosing to be a blessing, to live as a blessing, is an inherently transformative decision, changing our very perception of the world.

I am reminded of the beloved story of Rabbi Nachum Ish Gamzu, who we remember for his unwavering commitment. No matter what experiences came his way, he would greet them, good and bad alike, by stating, “**Gam zu l’tovah** (גם זו לטובה).” His unwavering faith allowed him to approach everything, even difficult situations, as an opportunity to find the hidden blessing within it. While some have interpreted *gam zu l’tovah* to mean that God has a plan for everything that befalls us, that assumes a knowledge of the divine mind that I don’t feel comfortable claiming. Rather, *gam zu l’tovah* was how Rabbi Nachum Ish Gamzu could say “amen” to his life in order to be a blessing.

As you explore this year’s program guide, I encourage you to see it not just as a list of events but as a totemic invitation to deepen your connection to the blessings within our tradition. By expanding your knowledge in a class, engaging in acts of *chesed* or *tikkun olam*, kindness or repair, enhancing your spiritual practice through prayer or meditation, and building our community as you gather with others, you will rediscover your own capacity to be a blessing to yourself and others.

The Torah teaches us that we are all partners in creation, and through our words, actions, and intentions, we can bring forth blessings that ripple out into the world. This year, let us embrace this sacred task with open hearts and renewed spirits. Together, let’s make “Amen: Be a Blessing” more than just a theme—let’s make it our way of life.

Rabbi David Kogal

Rav D

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Find up-to-date information on events, access your member account for a member directory, and connect to volunteer opportunities: nevehshalom.org

To join our e-mail lists contact: news@nevehshalom.org
Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/CongregationNevehShalom

BELONGING



We invite you to find your place with us!

Nourish your soul and rejuvenate your spirit! Find meaning, make long-lasting connections with like-minded people, do a mitzvah, get involved. Being a member of the Neveh Shalom kehillah allows for all of this and much more. This Program Guide is your roadmap.

Being a member of Congregation Neveh Shalom is a gift to yourself and your family. This gift connects you with your Jewish past and present. Given the diversity of our members and their varied interests, we offer an extensive array of religious services, educational opportunities, and programs. Our goal is to ensure that you find the experience that you are looking for. Our doors are always open!

“אל תפרוש מן הציבור”

Do Not Separate Yourself From The Community
Pirkei Avot, Hillel

Shabbat Greeters

At CNS services, greeters are essential to distribute handouts, books, and prayer items, as well as answering questions and guiding guests. They also promote safety and communication with our clergy, staff, and security officers, allowing our congregants and guests to feel welcomed and supported during their time in shul. Contact: [Amanda Middleton, cnsgreeting@gmail.com](mailto:Amanda.Middleton@cnsgreeting@gmail.com)

CNS Administrative and Programming Support!

We need your help! Do you have some extra time during the week to volunteer in our office? A special skill that would help enhance our programs? Whether you're a new or long-time congregant, we'd love to add you to our roster of volunteers! Please fill out the "Get Involved" section: nevehshalom.org/memberinterest



If you are interested in becoming a member, please visit our membership page at nevehshalom.org/membership.

MEET YOUR CNS PROFESSIONALS

Clergy



Rabbi David Kosak
Senior Rabbi
503.246.8831
dkosak@nevehshalom.org

Blessings are the way we feel expansive, and that ripples forth to everyone we engage with.



Rabbi Eve Posen
Associate Rabbi
503.246.8831
eposen@nevehshalom.org

"Amen, Be a Blessing" means to be present in community and for community, to lift up others in their vulnerable moments and celebrate in moments of joy.



Cantor Eyal Bitton
503.246.8831
ebitton@nevehshalom.org

Every day I feel blessed to be part of Am Yisrael, and I seek to impart that blessing to my family and community.



Rabbi Emeritus Daniel Isaak
503.246.8831 ext. 115
disaak@nevehshalom.org

To be a blessing is to live your life with integrity, honesty, dedication and love for the world and those around you.

Executive Team



Marlene Edenzon
Executive Director
503.246.8831 ext. 134
medenon@nevehshalom.org

It's a call to not just passively receive blessings but to actively be a source of blessings in the world.



Michelle Caplan
Assistant Executive Director
503.293.7313
mcaplan@nevehshalom.org

Being a blessing means embracing the opportunity to live with purpose and make a positive impact, no matter how small.

Programming



Lisa Richmond
Program Director
503.293.7317
lrichmond@nevehshalom.org

You are a blessing! And when you show up in community – whether it's to celebrate, volunteer, learn, or simply exist in friendship, together, we are blessed.



Sarah Rohr
Youth Activities Coordinator
503.246.8831
srohr@nevehshalom.org

The language of blessing has a beginning, middle and end; it is a story of recognition, reconciliation, and longing, of aspiration and realization.

MEET YOUR CNS PROFESSIONALS

Education



Mel Berwin
Director of Congregational Learning
503.293.7306
mberwin@nevehshalom.org

Each one of us has a divine spark that we can share in community, and when we hear each other and show up in the good times and the hard times, that's also a gift.



Leora Troper
Librarian - The Feldstein Library
503.293.7311
ltroper@nevehshalom.org

Being a blessing can be small - offering a hug when needed, helping a stranger find something in the store, picking up trash on a hike.



Lani Raider, Assistant Director of Congregational Learning
503.293.7309
lraider@nevehshalom.org

Being a blessing means showing up with relentless nurturing and nourishing for people and the planet each day--living a life of intention and mitzvot.

"When we are a blessing, we reflect out and ripple our energy out into the world, affecting everyone."

Financial Services



Ronit Scheyer
Director of Early Childhood Education
503.293.7307
rscheyer@nevehshalom.org

Being a blessing means striving to do better: more mitzvot, more love, more connection, supporting each other on our shared journey through life.



Rikki Kass
Finance Director
503.246.8831
rkass@nevehshalom.org

To me, Amen - Be a Blessing means that I strive to put myself and my community in a better place and help make people happy.



Candace Rothstein
Foundation School Administrative Director
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crothstein@nevehshalom.org

Blessings tie us to those who came before us--the same blessings and prayers that were said by our ancestors a thousand years ago, are still relevant to the human experience today.



Laura Robinson
Accounts Receivable and Development Assistant
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lrobinson@nevehshalom.org

Being a blessing is like one candle lighting another; nothing is lost and more light is added.

MEET YOUR CNS PROFESSIONALS

Administration



Elizabeth "Lizzy" Garrat
Operations & Calendar
Coordinator
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egarrat@nevehshalom.org

Amen...be a blessing means spreading kindness and love, touching lives positively, and inspiring others through our actions and words.



Brian Rohr
Communications Coordinator
503.246.8831 ext. 133
brohr@nevehshalom.org

I find blessings to be a comforting way to approach someone I disagree with. To understand their deeper needs and give that as a blessing. That's my attempt, at least.



Shaina Zins
Administrative Assistant/
Receptionist
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szins@nevehshalom.org

To be a blessing is to remember your social responsibility and understand that we are all a part of a community that serves to spread chesed.



Marg Everett
Administration and Cemetery
Administrator
503.246.8831
meverett@nevehshalom.org

A confirmation that I am true and trustworthy, reliable and can be counted on by you to help in any way I can.

Facilities



Kurt Rice
Facilities Director
503.293.7310
krice@nevehshalom.org

What has been so freely given to me, I must pass to others to stay in the blessing.



Patricia Alcaraz
Facilities Support & Event Staff

For me it's a blessing to work in this community and see the children every day!



Carolyn Andersen
Facilities Support & Event Staff

In my eyes and through my life a blessing comes in moments when you need it most: the smile given to a stranger all the way up to giving the shirt off your own back for one who needs it more.



Jesus Perez
Facilities Support & Event Staff

Being a blessing is an act of kindness, openness, an act of love. To be a blessing is to help others in need, to be there for them, and be their friend in need.

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

YOUTH AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT (BIRTH-2ND GRADE)



The **Early Childhood Center** along with our **Youth and Family Engagement (YAFE)** programming at CNS promotes relationship building, social engagement, and informal family learning opportunities for families with children birth through 2nd grade.

Early Childhood Center



Our **Early Childhood Center** is a community resource that supports the holistic well-being of both children and their families.

Some of what can be expected as part of the **Early Childhood Center**, include:

- Preschool Education (next page)
- Parent-Child Activities
- Parent Education Workshops
- Families Helping Families (meals, playdates, and more)

Youth and Family Engagement (YAFE)

Our **YAFE Programming** offers joyful, spiritually, and emotionally enriching activities for youth and families throughout the year, including:

- Berry and Apple Picking
- Summer Fun at the Splash Pad
- PJ Havdallah Wintertime Programming
- Youth and Family Focused Services (page 10)
- Family Camp at Camp Colomon Schechter (page 10)
- Storytimes at the Farmer's Market and so much more!



Have questions, need support, or want to join the email list?
Contact Rabbi Eve Posen: eposen@nevehshalom.org

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

YOUTH AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT (BIRTH-2ND GRADE)



Foundation School Preschool (Ages 12 months - 5 years)

All are welcome! | Joyful Jewish learning | Strong parent community | Outdoor Education Program
Experienced and loving teachers | Inspired by the Reggio Emilia approach

Now Enrolling, 8am-5pm options (plus 8:30am-4:30pm summer camp)

Ronit Scheyer, Director of Early Childhood Education, rscheyer@nevehshalom.org, 503.293.7302

Candace Rothstein, Administrative Director, crothstein@nevehshalom.org, 503.293.7307
foundationschoolpdx.org

Our Values

Foundation School is based on the ideals and traditions of the Jewish faith and is dedicated to providing exceptional early childhood education. While our curriculum is centered on the foundations of Jewish learning, our program is open to all.

We value play as every child's natural way of learning and view each child as a competent and unique learner. Our qualified and experienced staff encourages the growth of the whole child -- intellectual, social, emotional, physical, and spiritual. We encourage the development of each child's creativity, curiosity and character through respectful and age-appropriate practices alongside an emergent curriculum.

For nearly 70 years, we have embraced our youngest learners – sparking imaginations, instilling a sense of wonder, and providing the building blocks for the next generation of creative and confident problem-solvers. The children who are part of the Foundation School legacy embrace an “anything is possible” approach to life where they are asked to wonder, encouraged to inquire, and participate in the process of bringing young families together for a lifetime of friendship.

Educational Approach

Foundation School is inspired by the Reggio Emilia educational philosophy. We see our students as infinitely capable, and as such, our teachers collaborate with students to create meaningful and relevant curriculum that inspires the particular group of learners in each classroom community. We believe it is our task to teach our students to be able citizens of our community who have the skills to be independent learners, kind friends, and advocates for themselves as they gain readiness for kindergarten and the world beyond.

Our teachers take time to document each child's process of learning. As we take photos of the children engaged in activity, write down their words, and display them for the community to see, they begin to understand that their learning has power. Teachers structure the environment to help children expand their academic and social potential, encouraging discovery and meaningful learning in developmentally appropriate ways.



EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

YOUTH AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT (BIRTH-2ND GRADE)

YAFE Shabbat Services

4th Friday of each month, 5:30pm, Offsite
Families with children 0-2nd grade
Rabbi Eve Posen leads this interactive service that welcomes Shabbat through song and stories.

Tot Shabbat - Families with children 5 and under
1st & 3rd Saturdays, 10:30am, Zidell Chapel
Experience the joy of Shabbat! A fun and engaging service for families with babies, toddlers, and children up to age 5. Join our skilled early childhood educators and their good friend Shabbos Mouse for CNS's liveliest Shabbat service. Enjoy singing, dancing, storytelling, and more! Stay for a yummy kiddush lunch and become a part of our welcoming community of young families.

Kiddush Club for K-3rd graders
1st & 3rd Saturdays: 10:30am, Room 102
Families with kids 5 and up: Looking to continue the fun and warmth of Tot Shabbat? Do you love to sing, hear a Torah story, maybe even dance on Shabbat morning? If the answer is YES, then join us for Kiddush Club! Followed by Kiddush lunch and play.

YAFE Shabbat Shmooze

Join us on select Saturdays after lunch for games, connection, and snacks.

PJ Havdallah



Saturdays: December 7 & January 4 - 5:30pm
Join us as we say goodbye to Shabbat in our PJs. For families with children ages 0-2nd grade. We'll have dinner, stories, art, and a whole lot of fun. There is a per person charge.

Join us for the 9th Annual CNS Family Shabbat Experience at Camp Solomon Schechter April 24-27, 2025

"Family Camp affords us the opportunity to spend time with our YAFE kehillah in a unique and natural setting. Our family loves building memories at Camp; we look forward to camp year-round." -Mia Osherow

Join together with families with children from 0-5th grade for a fantastic weekend at Camp Solomon Schechter. As a community, we'll celebrate Shabbat with family friendly services, activities, and games. Adults time to relax as well. Located on the beautiful camp grounds in Tumwater, WA we'll enjoy the natural surroundings throughout Shabbat.



Pricing includes: cabin, Thursday dinner, three meals and two snacks on Friday and Saturday and a Sunday brunch.

To help plan our incredible weekend, please be in touch with Rabbi Eve, eposen@nevehshalom.org

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

(3RD-12TH GRADE)

Join your peers for fun and social programming!

Monthly activities for each of the age groups, from outdoor activities to holiday and Havdalah rituals to regional conventions. A welcoming space for our youth to play and lead!

3rd-5th Grade Programming



Join us for lunch and play on Sundays after ALIYAH, Sukkot hike in the forest, camp-led weekends, Havdalah and movies, and more. *Come for the games and snacks, stay for the friends!*

6th-8th Grade Programming

Activities include paddleboard and overnight, teen High Holy Day services, service projects, camp-led weekends, and holiday programs with our Tichon community. *A chance to be fully ourselves in a fun, social space!*



7th-12th Grade Programming



We are looking forward to teen High Holy Day conversation circles, teen Sukkot dinner and party, Havdalah and Saturday night outings, camp-led weekends, and leadership opportunities with younger youth groups. *Bring yourselves, your friends, and your ideas!*

Contact Sarah Rohr, Youth Activities Coordinator, for more information and links to register for programs!
srohr@nevehshalom.org

— YOUTH EDUCATION —



(Grades K-12)

www.nevehshalom.org/aliyah-k-6
www.nevehshalom.org/aliyah-7-12

Mel Berwin, Director of Congregational Learning
503.293.7306, mberwin@nevehshalom.org

Lani Raider, Assistant Director of Congregational Learning
503.293.7309, lraider@nevehshalom.org

ALIVAH K-6

The warm community of ALIVAH Jewish learning provides engaging, high-level learning opportunities for every student. Our students experience Jewish holidays and traditions, gain strong Hebrew language skills, and grow from the many opportunities for meaningful leadership within the congregational community. Our teachers are dynamic and nurturing, and our kids enjoy their experience of Jewish education. Our highest goal is for our children to feel at home in Judaism, by gaining literacy about our traditions, and experiences that ignite curiosity and connection.

Judaics & Electives

On Sunday mornings, all K-6 children attend an experiential, social, content-rich Judaics program. Each grade has its own curricular topic of exploration, a specific mitzvah or Jewish value to practice, and various chugim (electives) such as music, art, cooking, book-lovers, and super-hero comic-writing. Parents and grandparents are invited to family programs to share in their child's learning and connect with our community.



Hebrew

Our students learn Hebrew at their own pace with an individual Hebrew tutor, 30 minutes per week, in person or on zoom. Our students participate in setting goals for their own learning, and parents are invited to conferences twice per year to celebrate their child's progress.

Israeli Families

Israeli families are invited to join ALIVAH through a special program called Israeli Pathways (ילארשי קיפא), in which Hebrew-speaking children have a culturally specific, social elective taught in Hebrew. Contact us for more information!



Inclusion

ALIVAH is an inclusive community that welcomes students across the spectrum of learning styles and needs. We work closely with families to create individualized learning plans as necessary and celebrate the achievements of each of our students based on their own abilities. We learn throughout our program that every individual has strengths and challenges and the beauty of a community is that we all gain from supporting each other.

YOUTH EDUCATION

Tichon (High School)

7th-12th graders stay engaged in Jewish learning and social life through our ALIYAH Tichon (high school) program on Wednesday evenings. Teens come for dinner together and stay for learning and conversation in classes that they choose and help decide.

This year's program options:

- **Interfaith Interaction**—creating connections through conversation and action projects with other religious minorities in Portland.
- **Judaism Unpacked**—take apart big Jewish ideas to discover a more personal and creative meaning.
- **Time travel: Jewish culture & crafts**—learn about the indigenous nature of Judaism and our ancient survival kit. Projects include crafts, tree-planting, cooking, music, and creative writing.

Hebrew for Teens

With enough interest, we offer a Hebrew class for teens during or separate from Tichon; older teens are also welcome to join Machon Ivrit (modern Hebrew program for adults).

Wednesday Dinners

Wednesday evening dinners are a highlight of the week at CNS! Teens enjoy a low-cost family-friendly Kosher dinner buffet with options such as burrito bar, grilled cheese and tomato soup, or veggie stir-fry. Drop in or sign up for the year.



Teen Madrichim

Up to 30 teens each year participate in a paid internship program, assisting our ALIYAH teachers in working with K-6th graders and gaining leadership skills through a teen leadership seminar. We love our teen Madrichim!



OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARENT LEARNING & CONNECTION

We want our ALIYAH parents to feel as connected to CNS and each other as our kids do! Let us help you find activities and adult learning opportunities that nurture your minds and souls. In addition to ALIYAH family programs throughout the year, join us for one or more of these opportunities to learn and connect on Sunday mornings:

Text & Art Parent Program

One Sunday/Month, 9:15-11am

Beginning September 29, facilitated by ALIYAH parent and fiber artist Cheryl Joseph

This year's theme: Blessings throughout our Lives

Are you looking for a way to connect with other ALIYAH parents? Would you like an infusion of creative Jewish learning to bring back to your families for each holiday or season? Join old and new friends for a monthly day of learning and creating during ALIYAH hours. Free childcare for younger children available. \$10/session covers all materials.

Did Jew Know?

5 week sessions on Sunday mornings, beginning Oct 27 - Taught by CNS clergy - See page 17 for more information!

More adult education offerings on page 14-16

LIFELONG LEARNING



Mel Berwin, Director of Congregational Learning
503.293.7306, mberwin@nevehshalom.org

Lani Raider, Assistant Director of Congregational Learning
503.293.7309, lraider@nevehshalom.org

You can register for these classes at:
www.nevehshalom.org/adult-ed

We welcome all learners to join us for an exciting array of Adult Education programs this year! All programs are in person unless otherwise noted.

Judaism In Our Lives

Women's Torah Study

Saturdays, 12:30pm with Mel Berwin

An uplifting hour of study on Shabbat! Delve into biblical and midrashic text, (Hebrew and English text available) with a group of other women to find meaning from our traditions that relate to our lives. All levels of experience welcome. Email mberwin@nevehshalom.org for specific dates and topics.

Second Day Rosh Hashanah Learning - See *HHD webpage* for details: nevehshalom.org/hhd5785

Midrash, Poetry, and the Creative Process

Winter 2025 with Brian Rohr

Calling all poets, writers, and those who are curious: let's delve into the creative process! Together we will explore and interpret a collection of sacred texts, learn about the midrashic (creative, interpretive) process, and then join the conversation by writing our own unique poetic midrash. Brian Rohr is the author of the book *Shaken to My Bones: A Poetic Midrash on the Torah*.

Learning During Elul

Conservative Judaism Explained Thursday, Sept 12, 7pm with Mel Berwin

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



High Holy Day Musical Workshop W/ Cantor Bitton Sunday, September 15, 4pm

The melodies of the High Holy Days are among the most beautiful and powerful in the Jewish tradition. Join Cantor Eyal Bitton as he presents new and traditional High Holy Day melodies. Cantor Bitton invites you to learn and to sing along in this engaging and interactive workshop.



Teshuvah: How We Repair and Repent W/ Rabbi Posen Wednesday, September 25, 7pm

Join Rabbi Posen to delve into the steps identified by Maimonides, the medieval rabbi and philosopher, in order to fully engage in repentance. In this 1-hour class, we will break down the text into usable steps. *No Hebrew or text experience necessary.*



Adult B'nai Mitzvah

Whether you didn't have the opportunity at age 13 or you would like to "update" that experience by celebrating as an adult, we hope you will explore the possibility of an adult bar/bat/brit mitzvah with us! Let us help you design your personal path to this meaningful milestone. Contact Mel Berwin, mberwin@nevehshalom.org, to start the conversation!

HEBREW & SYNAGOGUE SKILLS

Q&A Orientation Class



Q&A for Beginning Hebrew & Machon Ivrit

Tue, Oct 15, 7pm with Teachers
Orientation to our Hebrew classes and levels. Meet the

teachers, explore the syllabus, and get help with registration.

Beginning Hebrew

This course, or its equivalent level of mastery, is a prerequisite for all other Hebrew and synagogue skills classes.

Tuesdays, 7-9pm, beginning Oct 29

Ease into Hebrew beginning with Alef-Bet letter recognition, vowels, and decoding skills, and move on to build a basic vocabulary.



Machon Ivrit - Modern Hebrew



Tuesdays, 7:00-9:00pm, beginning October 29

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

- Level One: Ready to Read & Speak
- Level Two: Advanced Hebrew
- Level Three: Conversational
- New Graduate level program

Learn more at: nevehshalom.org/machon-ivrit



Synagogue Skills

Tefilah: Discovering Judaism's core spiritual practice
Wednesdays, 6:30-7:25pm - Nov 6-Jan 29 and Feb 5-May 14 (10 weeks each) With Rabbi Devin Villareal
Tefilah is often translated as "prayer" but what is it really? Our siddur (prayerbook) presents us with examples of request, moral reflection, communal song instructions, meditation guides and more. In this class we will explore how these various strands emerged and were collected together. Most importantly, we will delve into how tefilah and the siddur, belong to each of us. Sign up for fall or spring session or both—different topics are covered in each.

Practicing Tefilah

Wednesdays, 7:35-8:30pm - Nov 6-Jan 29 and Feb 5-May 14 (10 weeks each) With Miles Hochstein

Feel lost in the service? Join us to learn the prayers of Shabbat services! Together we will learn the most common Hebrew vocabulary words used in our prayerbook, and spend time practicing reading and chanting in order to gain practice and confidence. Sign up for fall or spring session or both—different topics are covered in each. Hebrew decoding skills required for this class (Beginning Hebrew or equivalent.)

LEARN WITH OUR CLERGY

Drop In Grief Group



Nov-May, First Wed of the month (2nd Wed in Jan)

A place for you to be with, share, and learn about your grief in warm and supportive community. Jewish learning about death, grief, and bereavement, as well as support for the journey. Come every month or just when you can. Led by our CNS clergy on an alternating basis.

Rabbi Eve Posen



Have you ever wondered what happens **AFTER** the Israelites enter the Land of Israel?

Mondays, 12:00-1:00pm

Start date: November 4

Continuing from last year, new participants welcome

Join Rabbi Posen every

Monday at 12pm as we delve into the works of Ketuvim, Writings, the last section of the Bible. Each week we'll discuss 3-5 chapters of text and discover the rich and interesting continuation of our core story. No Hebrew language required.

Rabbi À La Carte As Associate Rabbi at Congregation Neveh Shalom, I am here to learn with you based on your learning needs and interests. Consider me the rabbi with an à la carte menu of learning options. You name the time, place, and subject matter and invite your group to learn with me in any setting.

For more information, or to register for classes on this page, contact: 503.246.8831 or receptionist@nevehshalom.org

Did Jew Know? Clergy Classes



Autumn, winter, and spring dates, starting in Oct.

Join your CNS Clergy to explore the basics of Jewish living and learning. Each module of this series will be taught in 5-unique lessons and is a standalone experience. Pick any module that interests you or sign up for them all! **See page 17 for more info and start dates.**

Rabbi David Kosak

The Portland Torah Times: Contemporary Issues Informed by Jewish Wisdom - A Lunch & Learn

Watch for dates in CNS eblast
Discuss current events while applying Judaism's often counter-intuitive perspectives to help us move beyond the headlines.



Emeritus Rabbi Daniel Isaak



Listening to Both Sides: Israelis and Palestinians Share Conflicting Perspectives

Thursday mornings 10-11am, starting, Sep 12, \$30, book not included

What does the history we think we know sound like when told by the other side? How differently do Pal-

estinians view the same events from their viewpoint? From the 1917 Balfour Declaration to recent peace initiatives, we will read the history as described separately by Israeli and Palestinian historians, using the book *Side By Side: Parallel Histories of Israel-Palestine*.

NEW

Did Jew Know?

All your Jewish questions...
answered!

Join your CNS Clergy to explore the basics of Jewish living and learning.

In this series of classes about all things Jewish, you will be exposed to a comprehensive introduction to the fundamentals of Jewish life, culture, and practices. It is designed for individuals of all backgrounds who are interested in understanding Jewish traditions, beliefs, and customs. Through lectures, discussions, hands-on activities, and guest speakers, students will gain a deeper appreciation and understanding of all things Jewish.

Each module of the *Did Jew Know?* series will be taught in 5-unique lessons. Each module is a standalone experience; you can begin the series in any order. No advanced knowledge or learning is necessary.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES (each unit is 5 classes long):

Autumn



- Jewish Thought and Theology with Rabbi David Kosak - *Starts Sunday, October 27, 9:15-10:30am*
- Core Jewish Texts with Rabbi David Kosak - *Starts Monday, October 28, 7-8:15pm*

Winter



- The Jewish Lifecycle with Rabbi Eve Posen - *Starts Sunday, January 12, 9:15-10:30am*
- Liturgy with Cantor Eyal Bitton - *Starts Monday, January 13, 7-8:15pm*

Spring



- Minor Jewish Holidays and the Rhythms of the Calendar (teacher TBA) - *Starts Sunday, February 23, 9:15-10:30am*
- A Year of Jewish Ritual and Shabbat with Rabbi Eve Posen - *Starts Monday, February 24, 7-8:15pm*

Register at: nevehshalom.org/DidJewKnow



— THE FELDSTEIN LIBRARY —

Connect with the Feldstein Library

The Feldstein Library houses over 10,000 volumes to meet the diverse needs of CNS and Portland's Jewish community. Use of the library is free for synagogue members and those enrolled in classes at Neveh Shalom. Non-members are also welcome to use the library for a nominal annual fee.

Our librarian is committed to fostering a positive experience for every library user, from preschoolers who attend weekly story times to community members of all ages.

Explore our collection

If you're looking for a book on just about anything viewed through a Jewish lens or by a Jewish author, chances are we have it. Besides our extensive Jewish history collection, we have a growing graphic novel section, a robust middle grade section, and thanks to some very generous donations, our newest collections – **the Jasmine Spiegel Diversity Collection** and a large number of modern Hebrew language novels – and much, much more.

New this year: **Creative Healing Kits** will be available for check out this fall. Designed to support families with children experiencing challenging times, such as death of a loved one, moving, or divorce, these kits include books, discussion guides, and assorted activities.

Upcoming Events

Yom Kippur Book Cart – Look for the cart full of books at High Holy Days to read something thought-provoking or inspiring during our days of awe. Books will also be available for check out.

One book/One congregation – 5785 is the year we get to all read together. Starting after the High Holy Days, our whole congregation will have the opportunity to read and discuss the same book and explore related activities.

Pop-up Author Visits Keep your eyes on our calendar! Throughout the year, we will be hosting local Jewish authors for readers of all ages to come and read, answer questions, and sign books.



Adult storytime (December & January) Winter is a time we look for cozy, indoor activities. Come to the library for a cup of tea, a comfy chair, and a short story or two read to you by Saphranit (librarian) Leora. (Why should the little kids have all the fun?)

Ben-Yehuda Book Club This fall, we will have our own version of the old "Scholastic Book Club," courtesy of Ben-Yehuda press. Folks will be able to order anything from their catalog. Orders will be shipped to the library for pick up at designated times. A percentage of the sales will go to support the library.

Donations to the Library

Making a financial or book donation to the Feldstein Library in honor or in memory of a loved one helps our collection grow, while commemorating the birthday, B'nai Mitzvah, or Yahrzeit of a book lover in your life. Choose from one of three custom designed bookplates to be placed in the book.

Access our wishlist through:
nevehshalom.org/feldstein-library/.

Contact Our Librarian

Find current library hours, library news events, explore our catalog, and more at nevehshalom.org/feldstein-library.

For more information, please contact our librarian, Leora Troper, at: ltroper@nevehshalom.org; **503.293.7311 ext. 118.**

RELIGIOUS SERVICES



We offer many different prayer experiences each month... Come and find your place! There is something for everyone.

Daily Minyan

Daily Minyan: Sunday-Friday

Dedicated congregants ensure this service is available to the community. Weekday services, 7:15am. Rosh Chodesh and intermediate days of festivals, 7:00am. Sundays, 8:45am. Major Jewish and American holidays, 9:00am.

Friday and Saturday Shabbat Services

Kabbalat Shabbat, every Friday, 6:15pm

Join our clergy for a traditional Kabbalat Shabbat service weaving together ancient and modern melodies as we celebrate Shabbat.

Kol Shabbat, 2nd Fridays, 7:15pm

Join Naomi Leavitt and Eva Novick to welcome Shabbat with a lay-led, voices-only Erev Shabbat Service. All ages and stages welcome.

NEW! Simcha Shabbat - A Birthday/Anniversary Month Blessing - 1st Fridays, 6:15pm

On the first Friday of each month, during our Shabbat service, the Rabbi will welcome those with a birthday or anniversary in that month to the bimah to receive a special blessing.

Shabbat on the Plaza/Shabbat in the Vestry Throughout the summer and in the winter

Enjoy festive Shabbat services and meals. Learn more in our special event section, pages 21-23.

Shabbat Morning Service, every Saturday, 9:30am

Traditional weekly Shabbat morning service. We are a welcoming *kehillah* that strives to create an inclusive space for prayer. Fidgets and puzzles are available for those who might benefit from them.

Downstairs Minyan

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

A lay-led Shabbat service followed by a Kiddush lunch and singing of *z'mirot* (Shabbat songs). Interested in leading a part of the service or reading Torah? Contact: downstairsminyan@gmail.com.

Young Family & Youth Shabbat Services

Fourth Fridays w/ Rabbi Posen - Families w/ children 0-10 - Fourth Friday of each month, 5:30pm

Rabbi Eve Posen leads this interactive home service that welcomes Shabbat through song and stories. RSVP: eposen@nevehshalom.org.

Tot Shabbat - Families with children 5 and under 1st & 3rd Saturdays, 10:30am

Experience the joy of Shabbat! A fun and engaging service for families with kids 5 and under led by early childhood educators. Join Shabbes Mouse and friends for our liveliest Shabbat service. Enjoy singing, dancing, storytelling, and more! Followed by Kiddush lunch with the congregation.

Kiddush Club, K-3rd graders 1st & 3rd Saturdays, 10:30am

Continue the fun and warmth of Tot Shabbat with Kiddush Club. We sing, dance, hear a Torah story and more! 1st Shabbat of the month with Morah Sarah Rohr; 3rd Shabbat with Gershon Liberman. Followed by Kiddush lunch with the congregation.

Live Streaming Services

If you are unable to attend Shabbat Services in-person, you can stream them live at: nevehshalom.org/live-streaming

LIFE CYCLE EVENTS



Bris/Baby Naming

Jewish tradition has beautiful ways to commemorate life cycle events, starting from the very beginning of life. Our clergy and staff are here to help with the details to create a beautiful ceremony for you and your (newly expanded) family.

Brit Milah/Bris: A brit milah, often called a bris, is the traditional 8th-day circumcision for boys. The bris can be held at a home or in the synagogue. The professional who performs the circumcision is called a *mohel*, and Oregon Jewish Life has a list of some of the *mohels* in Portland.

Simchat Bat/Baby Naming: Usually called a *simchat bat* ("rejoicing in the daughter"), a baby naming for a girl can take on the form and timing that's best for the family. Talk with our clergy and staff to determine the details.

Bar/Bat/Brit Mitzvah

The bar/bat/brit mitzvah year is an amazing milestone for our youth and their families. We offer planning support and prepare students to lead prayers with confidence and comprehension.

Our year-long b'nai mitzvah tutoring program provides each child with the chance to work one-on-one with a professional tutor. Our clergy work with students and families throughout the year to create a ceremony that is personally and communally meaningful. Please contact our Assistant Executive Director, Michelle Caplan, 503.246.8831, mcaplan@nevehshalom.org.

Conversion

Congregation Neveh Shalom has long been at the forefront of fashioning an inclusive, engaged, and educated community. We welcome many individuals and families into our diverse congregational *kehillah*/community.

Our enhanced conversion curriculum, combined with Portland's Introduction to Judaism course, aims to provide the tools to live a joyous Jewish life. Contact our clergy team for more information. We are excited to help our conversion students on their path to becoming Jewish!

Weddings

The Jewish wedding is a supremely joyous occasion. The rituals we will share together during the ceremony are part of over 2,000 years of Jewish tradition.

If you'll soon be celebrating an upcoming wedding with friends or family members, or you're interested in learning more about how Neveh Shalom can help you prepare for your own wedding, please contact Lizzy Garrat, Operations Coordinator: egarrat@nevehshalom.org

Funerals

Your CNS clergy and community are here to comfort you in life's most difficult moments. From walking with you as your loved one reaches the end of their life by supporting you through a year of mourning, we're here to help you grieve and move forward.

For burial, plot and cemetery information please contact Michelle Caplan: mcaplan@nevehshalom.org. When a death occurs, please call the synagogue office at 503-246-8831 so that we may inform the rabbis and assist you directly. After business hours, on weekends or holidays, contact Michelle at: 971-246-7583.

If you're requesting *tahara* for your loved one (respectful preparation for burial according to ancient Jewish tradition) you may request it from either Holman's Funeral Home at 503-232-5131; Riverview Funeral Service at 503-246-6488; or the funeral home of your choice. The funeral home will then notify the *chevra kadisha* (individuals who help with the burial process).

CANTORIAL PROGRAMMING

Words & Music for the Heart & Soul



"The cantor's role is to lead a community in prayer. This is accomplished through music, through community-building, through spiritual reflection and introspection, and through examining the sacred texts we read in services."

- Cantor Eyal Bitton

Below is a sampling of programs planned for the 2024-25 season.

Cantor Eyal Bitton's High Holy Day Musical Workshop Sunday, September 15, 4:00pm



The melodies of the High Holy Days are among the most beautiful and powerful in the Jewish tradition. Join Cantor Eyal Bitton as he presents new and traditional High Holy Day melodies. Cantor Bitton invites you to learn and to sing along in this engaging and

interactive workshop.

The Jewish Hitmakers Thursday, November 14, 7:00pm



Who wrote the songs that make the whole world sing? In this fascinating lecture, Cantor Bitton will look at great songs made famous by such artists Celine Dion, Cher, Barry Manilow, Burt Bacharach, Elvis Presley, Ben E. King, so many others. Come learn something new and sing along!

Rock the Star: A Musical Celebration of Jewish Pride Sunday, January 19, 7:00pm

Join Cantor Eyal Bitton, special guests, and the Nevehland Band for an exhilarating "mainstage" concert celebrating Jewish identity and pride. In a year marked by turmoil and challenges for the Jewish community, this evening offers a joyous escape—a chance to come together, revel in our heritage, and celebrate the essence of being Jewish. With upbeat songs and vibrant performances, this night promises to uplift and inspire. Don't miss this unforgettable celebration of who we are and what we cherish.



In the Listening Room: Songs of Freedom Thursday, April 3, 7:00pm

From Nabucco's Hebrew Slaves Chorus to The Prince of Egypt's "When You Believe", from the spiritual "Go Down Moses" to Queen's "I Want to Break Free", you'll find powerful and meaningful songs dealing with the deep human need to be free. Join Cantor Eyal Bitton "in the listening room" as he shares recordings of some of these songs as we approach Passover.



ENGAGE | SPECIAL EVENTS

Young Adult Happy Hour Thu., Oct. 17 6pm



FREE, fun, and casual gathering to with young Jewish adults (20s-30s). Cocktails, drinks, and pizza will be served. RSVP: nevehshalom.org/YAHH24

Potluck in the Sukkah Sun., Oct. 20, 5:30pm



The entire kehillah is invited to join Men's Club and Sisterhood in the sukkah. Bring a parve-dairy dish to share, shake the lulav, eat, and be merry!

Wise Women & Wondering Jews (65+) in the Sukkah Wed., Oct. 23, 12pm



A fun, casual opportunity to socialize. Order-in lunch from Garbanzo's, or bring your own.

Torah for Everyone: A Blessing for All: CNS Community Erev Simchat Torah Dinner and Celebration Thursday, October 24, 6pm (Young Family: 5:30pm)



Celebrate with us the end and new beginning of the Torah cycle. Together we'll dance and sing as we revel in the blessings of community! nevehshalom.org/ST5785

Shabbat in the Vestry with Camp Solomon Schechter Friday, November 8 | Dinner: 5:30 | Service: 6:15



Embrace the spirit of togetherness, comfort, and fun as we gather with Camp Schechter for a delightful Kabbalat Shabbat! Dinner, special camp games, and a camp-friendly Friday night service. All are invited!

Brunch & Speaker Series, Sponsored by CNS Men's Club Sundays: November 17, February 16, April 27



All are invited to come for a nosh and opportunity to learn more about today's most relevant issues with a variety of fascinating topics and speakers.

Interfaith Discussion on Peace Sunday, December 15

Rabbi Kosak is joined by interfaith leaders to speak about peace, prayer and unity.



Latkes & Vodka, sponsored by CNS Sisterhood Sunday, December 22, 6pm-9pm

All are invited to join Sisterhood for this lively, adults-only celebration of the festival of lights!



Young Adults Latke Ball Saturday, December 28, 7-10pm

Step into an electrifying Chanukah affair designed for the 20s & 30s crowd, featuring latkes straight out of the sizzling embrace of the fryer and an opportunity to celebrate the festival of lights with friends from all over Jewish Portland.



CNS Chanukah Party Sunday, Dec. 29, 5-9pm

Chanukah, oh Chanukah, come light the menorah with your CNS community! Dinner, songs, and activities - there's something for everyone at this celebration!



The (One) Pot Party: The Cholent Chronicles

In this 3-part series with Rabbi David Kosak, we'll learn the ritual and history behind the Jewish one-pot meal and regional ethnic varieties. techniques of cooking cholent with Rabbi Kosak.

- January 9: Cholent 101 Lecture
- January 23: Cholent Lab & Cook-Off
- January 25: Cholent Tasting with Kiddush Luncheon



Shishi Shabbat Dinner Friday, January 17, 6-9pm

Israelis and Americans are invited to a warm, family-style potluck Shabbat dinner for connection and conversation!



IMMERSE | SPECIAL EVENTS

Purim Palooza Carnival and Celebration Thursday, March 13



You are invited for a fun carnival experience. Enjoy a bounce house, face painting, gaga pit, carnival games, special crafts and treats and MORE!!!

Annual Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament Sunday, April 6



Join CNS Men's Club for a fun afternoon as we hold our annual charity Texas Hold 'Em tournament. Profits go towards youth education scholarships. Snacks, beer, and other beverages are provided.

CNS 2nd Night Community Passover Seder Sunday, April 13



Gather round the table for Neveh Shalom's 2nd night seder. We'll enjoy reading from the haggadah while having opportunities to engage beyond the text with meaningful interactive activities and discussions.

Young Adult Passover Seder April 2025



Gather round the table with Jewish young adults in their 20s and 30s from all around the Jewish PDX community for a welcoming and lively seder. Co-hosted at Congregation Beth Israel.

Mimouna Celebration: A Post-Passover Moroccan Tradition - Monday, April 21



People of all ages and walks of life are encouraged to join us for our festive Mimouna – a unique and joyous celebration of the conclusion of Pesach with festive crafts, Moroccan desserts, music, dance, and henna.

Yom Hashoah Wednesday, April 23



We partner with community members to mark this solemn occasion.

CNS-ORA Art, Heart, and Soul Workshops



Play with art in this series of casual, fun, and multimedia art workshops with a Jewish lens, each lead by a professional artist from the ORA Northwest Jewish Artists group. We'll provide the art supplies, instruction, wine, and snacks. Whether you're a newbie, lifetime artsy-type, or somewhere in-between, bring your friends and enjoy creating something special!

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### November 7: Calligraphy

We'll begin with an overview of basic Hebrew calligraphy, culminating in a beautiful calligraphic masterpiece for you to display or give as a gift.

### January 16: Zentangles... Again!

Learn to draw with a series of shapes and patterns to relax and create beautiful "doodles with a purpose!"

### March 27: Wire Basketry

We'll explore techniques to manipulate wire into a beautiful, functional work of art.  
(Baby Moses not included)

### May 22: Amen! Art

Create multimedia art around our CNS theme to be showcased in a community-wide display!

**Registration:** [nevehshalom.org/AHS25](https://nevehshalom.org/AHS25)

**Contact:** [Irishmond@nevehshalom.org](mailto:Irishmond@nevehshalom.org)

# CONNECT | SPECIAL EVENTS

## Yom HaZikaron/Ha'atzmaut Late April



We partner with community members to recall those who gave their lives to ensure Jewish freedom and independence, and celebrate the anniversary of the birth of Israel.

## New Member Welcome Brunch Spring 2025



Our newest members are invited to a special brunch with the clergy and Board. Share food, meet your new community, and enjoy activities to help us learn more about each other.

## CNS Annual Fundraiser Spring 2025



We look forward to coming together as a community to celebrate and support the ongoing mission of Congregation Neveh Shalom.

## Scholar-in-Residence May 9-11



on this opportunity to gain a new perspective.

Join us for riveting weekend of learning with renowned Israeli journalist and diplomatic correspondent, Amir Tibon. Featuring lectures, panel discussions, and meals, don't miss out

## Summer of Love Dance (Torah Fund Fundraiser) May 18



All are invited to boogie with Sisterhood to the tunes of Ellis Street band to raise money for Torah Fund, which supports scholarships for Conservative institutes of higher learning.

## CNS Annual Congregational Meeting Summer 2025



Please join the CNS community at our annual meeting to reflect upon our last year, and set the tone for a new one.

## Annual Mah Jongg Tournament June 1

Please join Sisterhood for a fun-filled day of Mah Jongg and friendship. Experienced and new players welcome. Enjoy brunch and several hours of play time. Lots of prizes and fun to be had by all!



## Erev Shavuot Tikkun Leil Learning June 1

Always a fascinating learning opportunity, we'll approach our evening study of torah through a relevant and contemporary lens.



## Shabbat on the Plaza Summer 2025

Shabbat on the Plaza offers an outdoor, spiritual service in the beauty of the Holzman Plaza followed by a fun-themed nosh, signature drinks, and time for Kehillah. It's a space for contemplation, inspiration, and connection, designed to nurture both the spirit and community ties.



## CNS Goes to a Thorns Game! Summer 2025

Go Thorns! Come cheer on the Portland Thorns during this fun and exciting afternoon with your kehillah!



## PRIDE HAPPENINGS

### Pride Shabbat | Summer 2025

A festive staple in our Shabbat in the Plaza series, Pride Shabbat is an opportunity to socialize and daven with your LGBTQ+ kehillah within CNS.

### Pride Beaverton | June 29

CNS Keshet represents at Pride Beaverton in the park. Come check out our booth and march with us in the parade!

### CNS Marches at PDX Pride | Summer 2025

CNS is PROUD to be standing (and marching!) with other Jewish organizations alongside the broader Portland community for Portland Pride 2025.



# TIKKUN OLAM: REPAIRING THE WORLD



## Helping the Neveh Shalom Kehillah

### Avraham's Closet

Avraham's Closet, a program of the CNS Hesed Committee, is a medical equipment lending library that provides free equipment for those with medical needs to borrow. Thanks to the congregation's generosity, we have lots of walkers, crutches, canes, commodes, shower chairs, and more to loan. If you have items to donate, particularly wheelchairs, you can drop them off at the synagogue or arrange for pick-up. Please use the contact information below for more information about how to donate or borrow items. **Cantor Linda Shivers** [cantor.shivers@gmail.com](mailto:cantor.shivers@gmail.com); 503-246-8831

### Birthday Calls to Members

Help members feel special on their birthdays by making a phone call and wishing them well. The recipients love hearing from us and being acknowledged. It is a true mitzvah! **Jason Nelson**, [nelsjaso@yahoo.com](mailto:nelsjaso@yahoo.com)

### Carpool Assistance

We often get phone calls from congregants who are unable to drive themselves to services and programs at CNS. Provide the mitzvah of allowing them to be present and connect to our kehillah. **Irichmond@nevehshalom.org**

### CNS Home Hospitality

When visiting town, around the holidays, or for various other occasions, Neveh Shalom congregants and affiliates sometimes seek out an opportunity to be guests in a Jewish home to share a meal and enjoy companionship. If you are interested in providing hospitality in such instances, please contact: **Irichmond@nevehshalom.org**

### Chevra Kavod haMet / Shroud Crowd

Chevra Kavod haMet (Society for Honoring the Deceased) provides traditional end-of-life ritual services for the non-Orthodox Jewish community of the Portland metropolitan area. We lovingly and carefully perform *tahara* (purifying and dressing the deceased) and *shmira* (reciting psalms and being with the deceased from the time of *tahara* until the funeral). Shroud Crowd is dedicated to creating the traditional shrouds, tachrichim, used by Chevra Kavod haMet. [chevrakavodhamet.org](http://chevrakavodhamet.org); [chevrakavodhamet@gmail.com](mailto:chevrakavodhamet@gmail.com)

### Hesed Committee

Help your fellow congregants at their time of greatest need by providing a meal, assistance, or just friendship. The Hesed Committee invites you to be an active part of our kehillah by being available to help out other CNS members when a life event impedes their daily activities. Congregants experiencing a medical situation or other family emergency can be supported and comforted through cooking and/or delivery of meals, assistance in grocery shopping or other errands, or simply a caring phone call. Needing a hand? Lending a hand? That's what Hesed is all about! **Barb Schwartz**, [barbschw@gmail.com](mailto:barbschw@gmail.com); **Sheri Cordova**, [nonasheri43@gmail.com](mailto:nonasheri43@gmail.com)

### Memorial Day/ Veteran's Day Flags

Join us in paying tribute to Jewish Veterans as we plant flags at the graves of heroes who served our nation with honor and dedication at Ahavai Shalom and Neveh Zedek cemeteries. [mcaplan@nevehshalom.org](mailto:mcaplan@nevehshalom.org)



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# TIKKUN OLAM: REPAIRING THE WORLD

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## Helping the Larger Community

*CNS Partners have been vetted by our Senior Rabbi to ensure shared values and mission.*

### Charity Drives for Food, Clothing, Household Goods

The need in our greater Portland community for basic items is enormous and constant. We at Neveh Shalom respond by doing what we can to help make a difference. Throughout the year, we ask congregants to help with numerous charity drives. If you would like to start your own charity drive, we are here to help facilitate! Contact: [Irishmond@nevehshalom.org](mailto:Irishmond@nevehshalom.org)

### Community Warehouse

Community Warehouse provides furniture and household items to people in need. We are always looking for donations of essential furniture, linens, and household goods! Website: [www.communitywarehouse.org](http://www.communitywarehouse.org); Contact: **Roz Babener, roz755@aol.com**

### Cooking for Outside In

One Sunday a month, CNS members gather in the Neveh Shalom kitchen to prepare a full meal for homeless youth at Outside In, whose mission is to help homeless youth move toward improved health and self-sufficiency. Website: [www.outsidein.org](http://www.outsidein.org); Contact: **Rick Botney, 8888octopus8888@gmail.com**

### Neighborhood House

Neighborhood House is committed to offering innovative and high-quality education, anti-poverty and senior support services. **503-246-1663**



### Friends of Seasonal and Service Workers (FSSW)

An all-volunteer organization of community activists, students, seasonal workers, clergy, and other concerned residents dedicated to assisting all-volunteer, independent organizing drives of farm, seasonal and service workers who are struggling to build collective solutions to their poverty conditions. **503-231-4826**

### Kindness Farm

Kindness Farm is a first-generation immigrant, refugee, & queer led nonprofit farm in SE Portland. We cultivate equitable access to healthy produce, provide education on growing food, care for land using regenerative agriculture, and foster vibrant community. [hi@thekindnessfarm.org](mailto:hi@thekindnessfarm.org) Volunteer: [volunteer@thekindnessfarm.org](mailto:volunteer@thekindnessfarm.org)

### Project Lemonade

Project Lemonade provides high-quality services to meet the needs of the foster youth community. Our programming now includes the flagship Project Lemonade Store, internships, programs for teens aging out of care, and funding opportunities that allow youth to pursue their dreams. **503-395-3976**  
[info@projectlemonadepdx.org](mailto:info@projectlemonadepdx.org)

### Sisterhood's Hygiene Kit & Clothing Collection Drive

Transitions Project is an organization that supports and provides a variety of services to adults transitioning from homelessness to housing. Needed donations: Hygiene items, clothing, and linens. There is a collection bin in the admin hallway as well as a sack outside that is labeled for TP. All items should be new and unopened. Contact: **Dana Sirkin otrbanana@comcast.net**

*Not seeing a cause you think CNS should support? Want to help initiate and coordinate Tikkun Olam activities at CNS? Contact [Irishmond@nevehshalom.org](mailto:Irishmond@nevehshalom.org).*

# CULTURAL & INTEREST GROUPS

## CNS Keshet LGBTQ+



Keshet at Neveh Shalom is a vibrant and welcoming community for LGBTQ+ Jews of all ages. We come together to celebrate **special Shabbatot**, enjoy **social outings**, and host fun-filled **movie nights**. Join us for engaging **Pride activities** and build meaningful connections in an inclusive and joyful environment. Embrace your true self and share in the spirit of unity and celebration! **Contact: [cnskeshet@gmail.com](mailto:cnskeshet@gmail.com)**

## CNS Men's Club



The CNS Men's Club is a lively and inclusive community of men from all walks of life, bringing together a diverse mix of ages and perspectives. Our activities are all about learning, having fun, and building connections! Join us for **Beer & Bible Nights Out**, getting fit with our **walking group**, engaging **Brunch and Speaker series**, **Tikkun Olam projects**, our annual **Poker Tournament**, and more. Our programming evolves to meet the interests of our members, so suggestions are always welcome and appreciated! We're all about the joy of community and supporting each other in a friendly and dynamic environment. Come be a part of the fun and make lasting memories with us! New CNS Members receive a complimentary one-year membership. Annual dues are \$36. **Contact: [jjsheff@gmail.com](mailto:jjsheff@gmail.com)**

## CNS Sisterhood



Be a part of CNS Sisterhood and experience the warmth of our community, the joy of shared activities, and the empowerment of women supporting women.

A dynamic and inclusive auxiliary organization within CNS, Sisterhood is dedicated to fostering women's programming, leadership skills, and community engagement. Our annual programming is dynamic to meet the needs and interests of our members with such activities as: **Hiking, crafting, parties, potlucks, games, educational opportunities, cooking, and volunteer opportunities.**

Whether you're looking to make new friends, develop your leadership skills, or give back to the community, there's something for everyone in CNS Sisterhood. Come and be inspired, uplifted, and connected!

New CNS Members receive a complimentary one-year membership. Annual dues are \$36. All Sisterhood members receive discounts from the Judaica Shop. **Contact: [jenkal@comcast.net](mailto:jenkal@comcast.net)**. For more information, please visit: [nevehshalom.org/sisterhood](http://nevehshalom.org/sisterhood)



# CULTURAL & INTEREST GROUPS

## CNS Young Adults



Yalla, come hang out with us! CNS opens its doors to young adults in their 20s and 30s from all over the Portland Jewish community for **game night in the Sukkah**, a **Chanukah Latke Ball**, and other gatherings. We partner with other Jewish organizations to offer a Young Adult Seder, comedy night, and more. If you're interested in participating in or helping to shape our Young Adult program, please **contact: [Irishmond@nevehshalom.org](mailto:Irishmond@nevehshalom.org)**

## ORA - Northwest Jewish Artists



ORA is a group of Jewish artists in the Portland area who have come together to support, share, inspire and showcase our art. In the process of forming this collective, we have created opportunities to exhibit members' art and support each other's artistic development. We welcome new members. Art purchases benefit the synagogue as well as the artist! Shows rotate every few months. Discover a new artist every time you come to shul! **Contact: [oraartists@gmail.com](mailto:oraartists@gmail.com); website: [northwestjewishartists.org](http://northwestjewishartists.org)**

## Wise Women



Wise Women is a warm and welcoming group that provides an opportunity for women to come together, socialize, and empower one another in a casual environment. Join us for a monthly BYO brown-bag lunch, discussion, and laughter! Open to all ages and stages, this is a great chance to foster friendship within our kehillah. **Contact: Jennifer Kalenscher, [jenkal@comcast.net](mailto:jenkal@comcast.net), Lisa Richmond, [Irishmond@nevehshalom.org](mailto:Irishmond@nevehshalom.org)**

## Wondering Jews (65+)



Wondering Jews isn't for *altacocks*! We are an active, vibrant, and welcoming group of retirees and empty-nesters who meet monthly to laugh, learn, share, and schmooze with peers. Our adult-only activities are low/no cost, typically held during weekday afternoons, and designed to be relevant and accessible to all. **Museum visits, movie matinees, tours, food carts visits, nature walks, engaging speakers, and day trips** are great opportunities to engage with old friends and meet new ones! **Contact: Lisa Richmond, [Irishmond@nevehshalom.org](mailto:Irishmond@nevehshalom.org)**

# CULTURAL & INTEREST GROUPS

## Israel360



Israel360 is a series of regularly occurring programs that considers many aspects of Israel—modern and ancient—from diverse viewpoints and approaches. Some sessions have a **cultural, political or military focus**, while other events will examine **Israeli history, sociology or the peace process** for events throughout the year. [nevehshalom.org/israel360](http://nevehshalom.org/israel360); **Contact: Lisa Richmond, [lrichmond@nevehshalom.org](mailto:lrichmond@nevehshalom.org)**.

## Israeli-American Programs



Neveh Shalom is committed to our Israeli families and to fostering greater connection between Israelis and Americans in our wider community. Partnering with PDX Hillel and Keruv Levavot, we host and support special programs throughout the year that bring together Israeli and American students, adults, and families. Join us for a warm **Shishi Shabbat** (Shabbat dinner) on campus or at the synagogue, a festive **Mimouna celebration** to end Passover, and other events throughout the year! **Contact Etti Segal [esegal@nevehshalom.org](mailto:esegal@nevehshalom.org) to get involved.**

## The Gloria Bacharach Judaica Shop



Your place to find unique items for holidays, B'nai Mitzvah, or weddings. We carry tallitot, kiddush cups, challah boards and covers, candlesticks and candles, children's items, jewelry, mezuzah cases, kosher klaffs, and more.

The shop is managed and staffed by volunteer members of Neveh Shalom Sisterhood, and we always need more help. Volunteers get an additional discount. Please join us!

### Hours:

Monday - Friday 11:00am - 1:00pm  
Wednesday 4:15-6:00pm (when school is in session)  
Sundays 9:00am-12:00pm (when school is in session)  
*During the summer, hours are M-W 11-1, and F 10-12.  
Please call one of the contacts listed below  
to confirm hours*

**Visit our online store at:**  
[nevehshalom.org/giftshop](http://nevehshalom.org/giftshop)

### Contacts:

Jennifer Kalenscher  
503-893-0822, [jenkal@comcast.net](mailto:jenkal@comcast.net);  
Dana Sirkin  
[otrbanana@comcast.net](mailto:otrbanana@comcast.net)

# — VISION, MISSION, AND — VALUES



## Our Vision

A more humane world cultivated through Jewish living, learning, and celebration

## Our Mission

To foster and preserve an inclusive, authentic, and engaging experience of Conservative Judaism in the Pacific Northwest.

Through meaningful lifecycle events, spiritual, educational, and social experiences, we become our best selves, strengthen connections to each other, and forge positive change in the world

## Our Defining Values

### **Community - *Kehillah***

Acting with courage, honesty, and integrity, we share meaningful moments where new relationships are forged, and old ones live on that shape our lives with connections to each other

### **Innovation - *Chidush***

Bringing the best of our creative Jewish wisdom, we encourage and develop new and innovative solutions to close the gap in our vision between what is and what can be

### **Jewish Life - *L'Dor V'Dor***

Embracing tradition and change, we engage in Jewish ritual, celebration and prayer, becoming an enduring family within our synagogue, keeping a vibrant relationship with Israel and the greater Jewish world, now and for generations to come

### **Inclusivity - *K'lal***

With acknowledgment of the divine spark in each of us, we create a culture of belonging where people of all diverse backgrounds and identities—such as religious observance, race, ethnicity, ability, gender, or sexuality—are all embraced

### **Transformative Learning - *Talmud Torah***

We strive to deepen our understanding of Judaism on the lifelong path to becoming our best selves and creating a more humane world

# Congregation Neveh Shalom Member Interest Form

*We're thrilled that you are a part of our vibrant Neveh Shalom community! Whether you're looking to make new friends, share your talents, or give back through volunteer work, we're here to connect you with activities that bring you joy and fulfillment. Tell us what you love to do, and let's explore the many exciting ways you can get involved!*

## YAFE (YOUTH AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT)

- Tot Shabbat (ages 0-5)
- Kiddush Club (K-2nd grade)
- Youth Activities
  - (3rd-5th Grade)
  - (6th-8th Grade)
  - (7th-12th Grade)

## CULTURAL AND INTEREST GROUPS

- Book Club
- CNS Keshet (LGBTQ Individuals & Families)
- Gloria Bacharach Judaica Gift Shop
- Israel360
- Israeli-American Programming
- Men's Club
- Young Adults (20s-30s)
- ORA, Northwest Jewish Artists
- Sisterhood
- Special Needs Family Group
- Wise Women Social Group
- Wondering Jews (65+)

## TIKKUN OLAM

- Charity Drives
- Cooking for the Hungry
- Habitat for Humanity
- Housing & Homelessness Support
- Climate & Environmental
- Shroud Crowd (Sewing Burial Shrouds)

## GET INVOLVED

- Audio/Visual Assistance
- Bereavement Outreach Support
- Birthday Calls to Congregants
- Carpool to Services/Programs
- College Outreach
- Cooking for Meal Trains
- Decorating for Holidays and Other Events
- Event Photography/Videography
- Hesed - Support for Congregants in Need
- Home Hospitality Host (Shabbat, Pesach, Etc.)
- Library Helper
- Office Support
- Reading Torah/Participating in Services
- Shabbat Greeters
- Translation Services
  - Russian
  - Spanish
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Writing/Communications

## OTHER COMMENTS OR INTERESTS:

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_



Scan the QR Code or visit  
[nevehshalom.org/memberinterest](https://nevehshalom.org/memberinterest)  
to fill out this form online.



CONGREGATION  
NEVEH SHALOM

503.246.8831 | [Richmond@nevehshalom.org](mailto:Richmond@nevehshalom.org)



CONGREGATION

NEVEH SHALOM

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