

CONGREGATION NEVEH SHALOM

EVERY “I”

STRENGTHENS

OUR “WE”

יחד ויחד

אנחנו

PROGRAM GUIDE 2026-27

SHALOM CHAVERIM

Dear Friends,

Welcome to a new year of learning, connection, and growth at Congregation Neveh Shalom. As we open the pages of this year's program guide, we also open ourselves to the sacred possibility of community, tradition, and transformation.

Our theme for 5787 is **Yachid v'Yachad: Every "I" Strengthens Our "We."**

Judaism has always held these two truths together. Each of us is a unique and irreplaceable individual, created *b'tzelem Elohim*, in the image of God. And each of us is part of something larger than ourselves, a people, a tradition, and a community that spans generations.

At Neveh Shalom, we know that our strength comes from both. A vibrant congregation is built not only by programs, clergy, staff, or leadership, but by every person who shows up, shares their gifts, asks a question, offers support, volunteers, learns, prays, celebrates, and mourns alongside others. Every "I" truly strengthens our "We."

This year's offerings reflect that belief. Whether you are attending a class, joining a social gathering, participating in worship, engaging in social justice work, celebrating a holiday, or finding support during a difficult moment, you are helping to create the kind of community we all seek. The experiences in these pages are opportunities not only to deepen your own Jewish journey, but to enrich the lives of those around you.

In a world that often pulls us toward isolation, Judaism reminds us that meaning is found in relationship. We are called to bring our authentic selves into community and, in doing so, discover that we are stronger, wiser, and more resilient together than we could ever be alone.

As *Pirkei Avot* teaches, "Do not separate yourself from the community." Our tradition understands that belonging is not passive. It is something we build together, one relationship, one act of kindness, one shared experience at a time.

As you explore these pages, I hope you will find at least one opportunity to strengthen your own Jewish journey, and one opportunity to strengthen someone else's. Because that is what sacred community asks of us: to bring our gifts, our questions, our presence, and our hearts to one another. When we do, we discover that our individual stories become part of a much larger story, one of connection, purpose, and belonging.

We are so grateful that you are part of this sacred community. May this year bring opportunities to deepen your connections, strengthen our collective bonds, and remind us all that every voice matters, every person counts, and every "I" strengthens our "We."

L'shalom,



Rabbi Eve Posen

Senior Rabbi



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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 email lists, contact: **news@nevehshalom.org**

Like us on Facebook: **facebook.com/CongregationNevehShalom**

Follow us on Instagram **[@nevehshalom.org](https://www.instagram.com/nevehshalom.org)**

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!

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

Contact: receptionist@nevehshalom.org



CONGREGATION

NEVEH SHALOM 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

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

Join us in fulfilling our sacred obligation to community. We welcome all to attend our Morning Minyan. Morning Minyan meets in Zidell Chapel Monday-Friday: 7:15am start time (7:00am Rosh Chodesh), Sunday and office closure holidays: 8:45am

Online participation is also available.

Contact: Priscilla Kostiner | lamalo@comcast.net

Friday and Saturday Shabbat Services

Kabbalat Shabbat, 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th Fridays, 6:15pm

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

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.

Kol Shabbat, 3rd Fridays, 7:00pm

From November through May, join our "voices only" Erev Shabbat service. This later service allows us to slow down and ease into Shabbat together.

Shabbat on the Plaza

Friday evenings throughout the summer

Enjoy a festive outdoor Shabbat service and meal. Learn more in our special event section, pages 7-9.

Shabbat Morning Service, every Saturday, 9:30am

Traditional weekly Shabbat morning service. We are a welcoming *kehillah* that prioritizes an inclusive and accessible space for prayer. Followed by Kiddush lunch.

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 Shabbos Mouse and friends for our liveliest Shabbat service. Enjoy singing, dancing, storytelling, and more! Followed by Kiddush lunch.

Kiddush Club, K-2nd 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! Followed by Kiddush lunch.

Mini Minyan, 3rd-5th graders

1st & 3rd Saturdays, 10:30am

Join Tefilah and Youth Specialist Meg Bernstein to learn, lead, and enjoy an active mini-Shabbat service. This service is a great stepping stone to the main service for our older elementary aged kids! Followed by Kiddush lunch.

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. To learn more about resources at CNS, please contact our clergy assistant, receptionist@nevehshalom.org

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 preparation program provides each child with the chance to work one-on-one with a professional guide. Our clergy work with students and families throughout the year to create a ceremony that is personally and communally meaningful. Please contact Cantor Eyal Bitton, ebitton@nevehshalom.org; 503.293.7301.

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. Please contact Rabbi Eve Posen, eposen@nevehshalom.org, to discuss this exciting milestone.

If you'd like to extend your simcha with an onsite reception or other festivities, please contact our Operations & Facilities manager, Lizzy Garrat at egarrat@nevehshalom.org or 503.293.7314.

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 Marlene Edenzon: medenzon@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 Executive Director Marlene Edenzon at: 971.285.4635.**

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).

ENGAGE | SPECIAL EVENTS

Explore just a few of the many ways to connect with our community this year.

Please note: Event dates, times, and details are subject to change.

Visit nevehshalom.org/calendar for the most up-to-date information and additional programs.

SUKKOT AND SIMCHAT TORAH EVENTS



Sukkah Build & Decorate

Friday, September 25, Build 8:00am | Decorate 11:00am



We need your help to build and beautify the CNS sukkah! The take-down will be on Monday, October 5, 8:00am

Young Adult Happy Hour in the Sukkah

Sunday, September 27, 5:00pm



Join our free, fun, and casual gathering with young Jewish adults (20s-30s). Bring your favorite board game and enjoy pizza, cocktails, and great company in the sukkah.

Potluck in the Sukkah

Tuesday, September 29, 6:30pm



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 joyous!

65+ Sukkah Lunch & Schmooze

Thursday, October 1, 12:00pm



A fun, casual opportunity to socialize with your 65+ peers. Order-in lunch from Garbanzo's, or bring your own.

CNS Community Erev Simchat Torah Dinner & Celebration

Saturday, October 3, Dinner 7:00pm | Celebration 7:45pm



Celebrate with us the end and new beginning of the Torah cycle with Torah Trivia, Dinner, Ma'ariv, and dancing with the Torah!

October 7th Community Memorial at MJCC

Wednesday, October 7

Community gathering to commemorate the events of October 7th, 2023.



Brunch & Speaker Series

Sundays, throughout the year

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



Wise Aging: Spiritual Tools for Growing Older

Tuesdays, October 13-November 18

Join a welcoming community of adults 60+ for a six-week journey of reflection, conversation, and personal growth.



Art, Heart, and Soul Workshops

Fall 2026, Winter 2027, Spring 2027

Have a glass of wine, a nosh, and play with art in this series of casual, fun, and multi-media art workshops with a Jewish lens, each led by a professional artist from the ORA Northwest Jewish Artists group.



Latkes & Vodka

Sunday, December 6, 4:00pm

A lively, adults-only celebration of the festival of lights with latkes, a light meal, and drinks.



CNS Chanukah Party

Thursday, December 10, 6:00pm

Chanukah, oh Chanukah, come light the menorah with us! Dinner, songs, and activities – there's something for everyone at this celebration!



Trivia Night

Saturdays, Jan. 9 & Feb. 6, 7:00pm

Put your trivia knowledge to the test at a fun, fast-paced night with Untapped Trivia—sponsored by Men's Club and open to the whole congregation.



IMMERSE | SPECIAL EVENTS

"Chai" Tea & Storytime Spring 2027



Enjoy a variety of teas, treats, and camaraderie with your CNS Sisterhood as we raise money to support the Torah Fund.

New Member Welcome Brunch Spring 2027



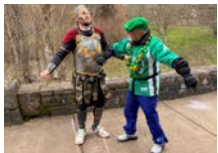
Our newest members are invited to a special brunch with the clergy and Board. Share a meal and meet your new community!

Hamentaschen! Hamentaschen! Hamentaschen! Early-Mid March



Volunteer opportunities abound as we take on our congregational effort to bake, pack, and deliver hamantaschen boxes to 120+ seniors in our community, and host JFCS Holocaust survivors for a special hamantaschen-baking experience.

Purim 5k Fundraiser Sunday, March 21, 8:00-10:00am



Whether you're a seasoned runner, a casual walker, or someone who'd rather cheer from home—you're invited to join the CNS Men's Club for a fundraiser to support our community. Costumes are encouraged!

Purim Carnival and Celebration Monday, March 22

4:00pm Carnival | 6:00pm Dinner | 6:45pm Megillah



You are invited for a fun carnival experience followed by a delicious community dinner and lively megillah reading.

Vashti's Banquet at Marrakesh Thursday, March 25, TBD



All women are welcome to join the CNS Sisterhood for great food, company, and even belly dancing as we celebrate the hero of the Purim story!

CNS 2nd Night Community Seder Thursday, April 22

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 2027

Come raise a glass (or four!) with Jewish young adults in their 20s and 30s from all around the Jewish PDX community for a welcoming and lively seder. Co-hosted by CNS at Congregation Beth Israel.



Scholar-in-Residence Spring 2027

Join us for a riveting weekend of learning with a renowned scholar. Featuring lectures, panel discussions, and meals, don't miss out on this opportunity to gain a new perspective.



Mimouna: A Post-Passover Moroccan Celebration May 2, 2027

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 Monday, May 3

We partner with community members to mark this solemn occasion.



Yom HaZikaron/Ha'atzmaut May 2027

Our community recalls those who gave their lives to ensure Jewish freedom and independence, and celebrates the anniversary of the birth of Israel.



CONNECT | SPECIAL EVENTS

Israeli-American Lag Ba'omer Celebration Monday, May 24



activities for the kids.

Join Congregation Neveh Shalom Israeli-American programs and Keruv Levavot to celebrate Lag Ba'Omer with a fun potluck at the park! Bring food to share. We'll provide music and

Mah Jongg Tournament Spring 2027



fun to be had by all!

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

CNS Annual Fundraiser Sunday, May 16



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

Erev Shavuot Tikkun Leil Learning Thursday, June 10



Join the community for a meaningful learning opportunity. We approach our evening study of Torah through a relevant and contemporary lens.

Shabbat on the Plaza Summer 2027



connection, designed to nurture both the spirit and community ties.

Shabbat on the Plaza offers an outdoor, spiritual service in the beauty of the Holzman Plaza followed by a fun-themed dinner, signature drinks, and time for Kehillah. It's a space for contemplation, inspiration, and

Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament Sunday, June 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 Annual Congregational Meeting Thursday, June 17

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



5k Summer Fundraiser Sunday, August 8, 8:00-10:00am

Whether you're a seasoned runner, a casual walker, or someone who'd rather cheer from home— you're invited to join the CNS Men's Club for a fundraiser to support our community.



CNS Goes to a Sports Game! Summer 2027

Come cheer on a local Portland sports team during this fun and exciting afternoon with your kehillah!



Pride Shabbat | Summer 2027

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 | Summer 2027

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 2027

CNS is PROUD to be standing (and marching!) with other Jewish organizations alongside the broader Portland community for Portland Pride 2027.



CULTURAL & INTEREST GROUPS

CNS Men's Club



The CNS Men's Club is a welcoming, multi-generational community where men come together to learn, connect, and have fun. Enjoy **"Torah on Tap" nights out**, engaging **brunches** with guest speakers, **sports & fitness activities**, **Tikkun Olam projects**, and our **annual Poker Tournament**. Our programming evolves to match members' interests, so ideas are always welcome. Join us for camaraderie, meaningful connections, and plenty of laughs! New CNS members receive a free one-year membership. Annual dues: \$36.

Contact: Jake Sheff | jjsheff@gmail.com
More info: nevehshalom.org/mens-club

CNS Keshet LGBTQ+



CNS Keshet is a vibrant and welcoming community for LGBTQ+ Jews of all ages. We are actively recruiting committee members to plan **special shabbatot, holidays**, and host fun-filled **social gatherings**. Join us for engaging pride activities and build meaningful connections in an inclusive and joyful environment.

Contact: cnskeshet@gmail.com
More info: nevehshalom.org/cns-keshet

CNS Sisterhood



Experience community warmth, shared joy, and the empowerment of women supporting women. As a dynamic and inclusive group within CNS, Sisterhood offers programs that build friendships, leadership skills, and community connections. Activities include **potlucks, games, cooking, interfaith connections, book groups, crafting, hiking, Mah Jongg, educational and Rosh Chodesh events, volunteer opportunities**, and more! Whether you want to meet new friends, grow as a leader, or give back, there's something for everyone.

New CNS members receive a free one-year membership. Annual dues: \$36. Members enjoy discounts at the Judaica Shop.

Contact: sisterhood@nevehshalom.org
More info: nevehshalom.org/sisterhood



CULTURAL & INTEREST GROUPS

CNS Young Adults



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, 20s & 30s seder, and more. Interested in helping shape our Young Adult programs? Please reach out!

Contact: Lisa Richmond | Irichmond@nevehshalom.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

Wondering Jews (65+)



Wondering Jews isn't for altcockers! 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 cart lunches, nature walks, engaging speakers, and day trips** are great opportunities to engage with old friends and meet new ones!

Contact: Lisa Richmond | Irichmond@nevehshalom.org



CULTURAL & INTEREST GROUPS

Israel360



Israel360 is a series of regularly occurring programs that embraces Israel's right to exist and considers many aspects of Israel—modern and ancient—from diverse viewpoints and approaches. At the center of I360 programming is creating a safe space for the community to explore, learn, and share a wide array of narratives about Israel. Some sessions have a **cultural, political or military focus**, while other events will examine **Israeli history, sociology or the peace process**.

Contact: Lani Raider | lraider@nevehshalom.org
More info: nevehshalom.org/israel360

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 Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, 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 festive Mimouna celebration to end Passover, and other events throughout the year!

Contact: Etti Segal | esegal@nevehshalom.org

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 klafs**, and more.

Gift Shop hours are based on volunteer availability. Please contact us to check current hours, schedule an appointment, or volunteer.

Visit our online store at:
nevehshalom.org/giftshop

Contacts:

Jennifer Kalenscher
503-893-0822, jenkal@comcast.net;

Dana Sirkin
otrbanana@comcast.net



— 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.

Watch for these offerings from
the Early Childhood Center, including:

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
Family Camp at Camp Solomon Schechter
Storytimes at the Park
and so much more!



Have questions, need support, or want to join the email list?
Contact: Candace Rothstein | crothstein@nevehshalom.org

— EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER —

YOUTH AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT (BIRTH-2ND GRADE)



Foundation School Preschool (Ages 12 weeks - 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 - Hours 7:00am-5:00pm with options for a modified schedule

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 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. We lovingly support the very youngest members of our *kehilah kedosha* ("sacred community") during the most formative years of their lives. We meet children where they are developmentally, and we explore Judaism using all our senses, for a beautifully holistic experience.

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 ideas and words have 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

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, 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



Select Saturdays in the Winter

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.

For more K-2nd grade youth activities, see page 18.

Join us for the 11th Annual CNS Family Shabbat Experience at Camp Solomon Schechter April 16-18, 2027

"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 will have 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, Friday dinner, three meals and two snacks on Saturday and a Sunday brunch.

To help plan our incredible weekend, please be in touch with Candace Rothstein, crothstein@nevehshalom.org

YOUTH EDUCATION



Jewish Learning K-12

(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

ALIYAH K-6

Now more than ever, it is important for our children to grow up with a strong sense of Jewish connection, identity and history. The warm community of ALIYAH 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 or 60 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.



Inclusion

ALIYAH 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 participate in Core classes designed as a toolkit for being a young adult in the world, and in Elective classes focused on text, art, cooking, or music.

This year's Core classes are:

- **Why Israel?**
Why do we care so much about Israel as American Jews? Why does the world focus so much on Israel? What would be helpful for you to know so that you can respond when you want to, with facts and nuance? And what are your questions about Israel?
- **A Practical Guide to Constructive Dispute**
In our world today, we are pushed into sides that seem to get more and more extreme. What if we embraced diversity of thought, looked for the values behind disagreements, and learned to engage in disputes in a more constructive—maybe even holy—way?



Teen Madrichim

Up to 25 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!



We're Back! Mensches & Mavens!

Mensches & Mavens Intergenerational Program

Back by popular demand, our wonderful Mensches & Mavens program brings together youth about to become b'nai mitzvah with elders (by any definition) from our congregation for all forms of Jewish identity-strengthening activities, from cooking to storytelling to art and text. For more information contact mberwin@nevehshalom.org.



YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Find your tribe!

Join your friends and make new ones in our youth groups for kids from Kindergarten through 12th grade. Check out our exciting new calendar of activities for every age, from hands-on projects to movie nights to outdoor adventures!

Contact Youth Specialist,
Meg Bernstein, with questions & ideas at
mbernstein@nevehshalom.org

CHAVERIM - For K-2nd graders & their families

Upcoming Events:

September – Apples & Honey Field Day
October – Simchat Torah at CNS
November – FLIP! Museum field trip
December – CNS Chanukah Party



NOAR - For 3rd-5th Graders

Upcoming Events:

September – Tashlich Hike & picnic
October – Wild Foraging Workshop with Cascadia Wild
November – Movie Night
December – Chanukah White Elephant party



GESHER - For 6th-8th Graders

Upcoming Events:

September – Kabbalat & Kibbitz
October – Scary Movie Night with BOGRIM
November – Cooking for Hesed
December – Winter Shul-In



BOGRIM - For 9th-12th Graders

Upcoming Events:

September – Mocktails & Movies
October – Scary Movie Night with GESHER
November – Friendsgiving Kabbalat & Kibbitz with GESHER
December – Mall Scavenger Hunt

SHABBAT ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTH (SEPT-MAY)

Mini Minyan (NOAR): A twice-monthly Shabbat morning davening club (See pg. 5)

Tea & Talmud (GESHER/BOGRIM): A monthly post-services study & hangout in the Olds Family Youth Lounge

Kabbalat & Kibbitz (GESHER): A bi-monthly Friday evening potluck dinner & discussion



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

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.

Learning During Elul

REGISTER FOR ALL/ANY ELUL LEARNING:
[NEVEHSHALOM.ORG/LEARNELUL](https://nevehshalom.org/learnelul)

Conservative Judaism Explained

Thursday, August 27, 7:00pm 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 to CNS Members & Teachers. \$18 for Non-Members.*

Approaching Grief in the High Holy Day Season

Wednesday, September 16, 7:00pm with Rabbi Posen

Sacred moments in time can bring intense emotions to the surface. In this session we'll touch on the grief that may be present as we begin a new year and offer a few Jewish tools to process the season. *Free to CNS Members. \$18 for Non-Members.*

Elul Season Poetry Workshop

Tuesday, August 18, 7:00pm with Meg Bernstein

A generative & discussion-based workshop for folks who enjoy writing poetry, exploring Elul & the High Holy Days through the poetry of apology, forgiveness, & intention. *Free to CNS Members. \$18 for Non-Members.*

Judaism in Our Lives

SUNDAYS

Inside the Siddur

with Rabbi Emily Kapor-Mater

Sundays 9:30am beginning October 11

In this class, we will crack open the daily prayers-- the Shema, the Amidah, and others, in Ashkenazi, Sefardi, and Mizrahi traditions-- to uncover the shape of our liturgy and structure of our service. Whether you're just learning to follow along or you've been davening for decades, there's something here for you. All texts will be presented in Hebrew with English translation. *\$36 for CNS members (materials fee), \$72 for non-members*

The Talmudic Sources of the Liturgy

with Rabbi Emily Kapor-Mater

Sundays 10:30am beginning October 11

Where did our prayers actually come from? How did the rabbis come up with the anatomy of the siddur as we know it today? In the second hour of this class, we will explore passages in the Talmud and the medieval law codes where the rabbis of the past debated, defined, and began the process of codifying our liturgy. All texts will be presented in Hebrew with English translation.

Free as add-on to Inside the Siddur class. *\$36 for CNS members (materials fee) if NOT enrolled for Siddur class. \$72 for non-members if not enrolled for Siddur class.*

MONDAYS

Parshat HaShavuah: Weekly Haftarah Portion Study

with Rabbi Eve Posen

Mondays 12:00pm beginning October 5, Zoom

Join Rabbi Posen and dig into the Haftarah portion of the week. Together we'll question and connect with the words of our ancestral narrative. No Hebrew language required. *Free to CNS members. \$120 for series for non-members*

"Bird as Prophet": The Poetry of Emma Lazarus

with Rabbi April Villarreal

Mondays 6:30 beginning October 19

Emma Lazarus's poetry is of a breadth and depth that is a true marvel. In this class we will move beyond "The New Colossus" to delve into her poetic works on Nature, Emotion and Society. From it we will also glean insight into American Jewish identity and spirituality. *Free to CNS members. \$120 for series for non-members*

LIFELONG LEARNING



MONDAYS CONTINUED

Aaahh!!! Jewish Monsters (for grown-ups)
with Meg Bernstein

Mondays 7:30pm every other week beginning October 19
In this class we'll explore some of the most exciting monsters & magical creatures in the Jewish tradition. No prior knowledge or monster-hunting experience necessary! We'll be searching through texts from Torah, Talmud, folklore, & more for these fantastic beasts. Please bring your curiosity. *\$36 materials fee for CNS members. \$72 for non-members*

WEDNESDAYS

Sephardic Nusach—A series
with Rabbi Cantor Eyal Bitton

First Wednesdays Monthly: Nov 4, Dec 2, Jan 6, Feb 3

Join Rabbi Cantor Eyal Bitton for a musical journey through Moroccan and Sephardic synagogue traditions. Through live demonstration, audio and video examples, we will explore the distinctive sounds of nusach, tefillah, Torah reading, and Haftarah chanting, comparing Moroccan and Sephardic traditions with Ashkenazi ones. Come listen, learn, and discover the sacred logic behind the melody. *Free to members. \$18 for non-members taken at the door.*

Sacred Time: Personalizing our Traditions around the Year
Second Wednesdays monthly with our Clergy and Educators
Oct 14, Nov 11, Dec 9, Jan 13, Feb 10, Mar 10

Join our clergy and educators for a monthly conversation that will deepen your connection with our traditions while engaging in real talk about practical ways to bring these observances to life in your own home. We'll start with texts that explain the roots of our rituals and then branch out with interesting and creative practices and innovations throughout time. *Free for CNS members. \$18 per session at the door.*

LEARN MORE AND REGISTER AT WWW.NEVESHALOM.ORG/ADULT-EDUCATION/

THURSDAYS

Religion and the American Revolution
with Rabbi Isaak

Thursdays 10:00-11:00am on Zoom
Six weeks beginning Oct 8

In 1776 a mere 2000-2500 Jewish souls populated the 13 colonies, yet religion is recognized as a significant factor in the push for independence. We will discuss the essays in the "Religion" volume of the American Revolution series, edited by Yuval Levin et al, as a means of understanding the unique freedoms and opportunities afforded to us as Jews in America.

Free for CNS members. \$72 for non-members. Please acquire the book before the class begins.

SATURDAYS

Women's Torah Study

Selected Saturdays, 12:30pm with Mel Berwin

Join a welcoming group of diverse women to focus on a different topic each week. Torah, Talmud, Midrash, and contemporary commentary are all employed to learn about our sacred traditions and find meaning for our lives. Texts in Hebrew and English- all levels welcome.

Contact mberwin@nevehshalom.org

ANYTIME

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!

LIFELONG LEARNING

Hebrew for Adults

Beginning Hebrew

Tuesdays, 7:00-9:00pm, October 13-May 18

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



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



Machon Ivrit - Modern Hebrew

Tuesdays, 7:00-9:00pm, October 13-May 18

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

- Level One: Ready to Read & Speak
- Level Two: Intermediate Hebrew
- Level Three: Advanced Hebrew
- Level Four: Conversational Hebrew

Q&A for Beginning Hebrew & Machon Ivrit

Tue, October 6, 7:00pm

Orientation to our Hebrew classes and levels. Meet the teachers, explore the syllabus, get help with registration, and find the right level for you.

Learn more at: nevehshalom.org/machon-ivrit



The Feldstein Library



Connect with the Feldstein Library

The Feldstein Library houses over 11,000 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 Library's 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** as well as a large number of modern Hebrew language novels – and much, much more.

Contact Our Library

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

For more information, please contact our office at 503.246.8831 or receptionist@nevehshalom.

CNS HESED

ACTS OF LOVING KINDNESS

CNS Hesed

Can you lend a hand? Do you need a hand?

At CNS, we care for each other in times of need. The Hesed Committee connects our community through simple but meaningful acts—**bringing meals**, sharing **medical equipment**, providing support for those who are **food insecure**, or making a **caring phone call**. Whether you're someone who could use support or someone ready to offer it, Hesed is here to strengthen our kehillah with kindness and connection.

Contact: Barb Schwartz | barbschw@gmail.com
Melanie Fried-Oken | melanie.fried.oken@gmail.com
More info: nevehshalom.org/hesed-committee/

Avraham's Closet

is a medical equipment lending library that provides free equipment to borrow for those with medical needs and accepts clean equipment in good working order. Thanks to the congregation's generosity, we have lots of **wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, canes, commodes, shower chairs, grab bars**, and more to loan. If you have donations, you can arrange to drop pre-approved items off at the synagogue. Please use the contact information below for more information about how to donate or borrow items.

Contact: Patty Magid Volk | (503) 293-7308

Food Pantry

The Neveh Shalom family includes members who may need extra support putting food on the table. **All CNS members and staff are welcome to utilize the Food Pantry.** Shoppers who visit the Food Pantry are assured total confidentiality. To donate, please check the CNS Hesed webpage and/or look at the weekly e-blast for requested items. Please bring your non-perishable/non-expired donations to the brown bins on the Plaza and outside the Administrative Office.

Food Pantry OPEN HOURS:

Mondays/Thursdays: 9:30am-noon or by appointment

Contact: Jane O'Glasser | (503) 293-7312
foodpantry@nevehshalom.org



Meal Support

The Neveh Shalom Hesed Committee "Meal Train" Program provides meals to those in our congregation who may need some temporary community support. Over the past years, meal support has been provided to congregants recovering from **surgery**, undergoing **chemotherapy**, managing **mental health crises**, experiencing **sudden unemployment**, **welcoming a new child**, and other challenging life events. Participating in this mitzvah is simple and flexible: Cook a special meal, deliver it yourself, or arrange pickup & delivery. Kosher kitchen not required. Free disposable containers available.

Contact: Darryl Rotman Kuperstock | (203) 215-8555
kuperst@gmail.com

View Active Meal Trains: tinyurl.com/CNSMealTrain

Phone Friends

Feeling connected matters. Our Hesed volunteers offer occasional **friendly phone calls to congregants who may appreciate a check-in**. Whether it's a quick hello or a longer chat, these conversations are a simple way to brighten someone's day and help maintain a sense of community and care.

Contact: Sheri Cordova | (971) 754-4177
nonasher43@gmail.com



TIKKUN OLAM: REPAIRING THE WORLD

CNS Tikkun Olam

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.

Contact: Lisa Richmond | Irishmond@nevehshalom.org

Birthday Calls to Members

Help CNS congregants 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!

Contact: Jason Nelson | nelsjaso@yahoo.com

Chevra Kavod haMet/Shroud Crowd

(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.

Contact: chevrakavodhamet.org and
chevrakavodhamet@gmail.com

Chevra Nichum/Comforting Mourners

This is a group of fellow congregants, working in close partnership with our clergy, dedicated to supporting members of our community who are experiencing grief. The name Chevra Nichum is derived from the Hebrew root nichum, meaning "comfort." Just as we are taught to perform nichum aveilim: the mitzvah of comforting mourners, our Chevra Nichum Partners aim to gently walk beside those navigating the path of mourning.

Contact: Sandy Axel | sandyaxel@msn.com
Anna Davis | annaldavis73@yahoo.com



Acts of Care & Connection (outside CNS)

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.

Contact: Rick Botney | 8888octopus8888@gmail.com

Neighborhood House: CNS is proud to partner with Neighborhood House, frequently supporting their commitment to offering innovative and high-quality education, anti-poverty and senior support services.

More information: nhpdx.org

Red Cross: Throughout the year, CNS hosts Red Cross blood drives. Check out our calendar for upcoming dates and sign up to save lives!

More information: redcross.org

Transitions Project: CNS Sisterhood supports Transitions Project, an organization that supports and provides a variety of services to adults transitioning from homelessness to housing. Needed donations: Hygiene items, clothing, and linens. 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



MEET YOUR CNS PROFESSIONALS

Clergy



Rabbi Eve Posen
Senior Rabbi
503.246.8831
eposen@nevehshalom.org



Cantor Eyal Bitton
503.246.8831
ebitton@nevehshalom.org



Rabbi April Villarreal
503.246.8831
rabbiapril@nevehshalom.org



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

Executive Team



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

Programming & Membership



Lisa Richmond
Program Director
503.293.7317
lrichmond@nevehshalom.org



Laura Robinson
Membership & Development
503.246.8831
lrobinson@nevehshalom.org

Financial Services



Rikki Kass
Finance Director
503.246.8831
rkass@nevehshalom.org

MEET YOUR CNS PROFESSIONALS

Education & Youth



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



Meg Bernstein
Youth and Tefilah Specialist
503.246.8831
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**Lani Raider, Assistant Director of
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Danielle DeSilva-Evans
Foundation School
Administrative Assistant
503.246.8831
ddesilvaevans@nevehshalom.org

Administration



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



Elizabeth "Lizzy" Garrat
Operations & Facilities Manager
503.246.8831 ext. 114
egarrat@nevehshalom.org



Candace Rothstein
Young Family Coordinator
503.293.7307
crothstein@nevehshalom.org



Shaina Zins
Communications & Marketing
Specialist
503.246.8831
szins@nevehshalom.org

MEET YOUR CNS PROFESSIONALS

Facilities



Kurt Rice
Facilities Director
503.293.7310
krice@nevehshalom.org



Carolyn Andersen
Facilities Support & Event Staff



Jesus Perez
Facilities Support & Event Staff



Javier Ramirez
Facilities Support & Event Staff



Patricia Alcaraz
Facilities Support & Event Staff





GET INVOLVED!

MEMBER INTERESTS

NEVEHSHALOM.ORG/MIS26



VOLUNTEER

Admin/Office Support

Avraham's Closet Medical Lending

Chevra Nichum (Bereavement Support)

Congregant Birthday Calls

Cooking & Baking

Event Production (Media & AV)

Food Pantry

Grant-writing

Graphic Design

Greeting

Holiday & Event Decorating

Home Hospitality

Torah Reading

Translation (ESL, Russian, Spanish)

Transportation Support

Web/IT Support

Writing/Communications



CULTURAL & INTEREST GROUPS

Arts/Crafts

Book Club

Israel360

Israeli-American

Keshet LGBTQ+

Mah Jongg

Men's Club

Music/Choir

Sisterhood

Wondering Jews 65+

Young Adults (20s & 30s)



YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Young Families 0-5

CHAVERIM (Grades K-2)

NOAR (Grades 3-5)

GESHER (Grades 6-8)

BOGRIM (Grades 9-12)



YOUR ANNUAL GIFT STRENGTHENS CONGREGATION NEVEH SHALOM.

Every "I" strengthens our "We."

I GIVE. WE THRIVE.

Yachid v'Yachad.

Annual Giving Campaign
<https://nevehshalom.org/agc5787>

