

THE VIEW

A GUIDE TO OUR PROGRAMS,
HOLIDAYS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

FEBRUARY - JUNE 2023



CONGREGATION
SHOMREI TORAH
שומרי תורה



Monday, March 6,
6:15 PM

Get ready to have "Fun, Fun,
Fun 'til they come and take
our groggers away!"

Don't miss CST's annual Purim Spiel, fun for the whole family!

Register at www.cstsr.org/event/purim-2023.html

This event will also be available online.



Thursday, April 6,
6:15 PM

What plagues you?
What liberates you?

Passover at Shomrei Torah is more than the retelling of the ancient story of the Exodus; our interactive community Seder also honors our ongoing struggle for freedom, justice and equality. A delicious Passover meal will be served.

\$18 CST member, \$36 Non-member. Registration is required.

Register at www.cstsr.org/event/passover-2023

This event is available in person only.



THIS IS US! CELEBRATING
JEWISH
RACIAL
DIVERSITY



February 26 @ 3PM

Building an inclusive
Jewish community for
Black, African American,
and mixed-race Jews with
Be'chol Lashon.



March 11 @ 6PM

Sample an Asian Jewish
Passover seder with LU-
NAR.

READ MORE ON PAGE 5

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FROM RABBI GEORGE GITTLEMAN



Just after mid-winter, in January or early February, the Jewish calendar brings us Tu B'Shevat, the "New Year of the Trees." Judaism's connection to trees is as old as the Torah itself. For example, the tree bearing the knowledge of "good and evil" is a key element in the story of *Gan Eden*/The Garden of Eden. Later in Genesis, Abraham sits and meditates at the entrance of his tent, at the *Eloneh Mamre*/The Oaks of Mamre.

The Torah itself is called *Etz Chayim*/The Tree of Life: just as a tree takes root in the earth and grows upward towards the heavens, we too are rooted in the physical world but are called to reach for something higher, to connect with the spiritual realms and to strive for a deeper understanding of the divine. In *Kabbalah*, Jewish mysticism, "*The Tree of Life*" is transformed into the cosmic tree of all Being, a metaphor for the divine superstructure of reality.

Scientific understanding about trees is growing in surprising, fascinating ways. Researchers have discovered that trees are linked through an underground grid of fungi through which they exchange water and nutrients

with one another. They even use these networks to communicate, sending distress signals, for example, about drought or disease or insect attacks; and other trees actually take protective action when they receive these messages. It's a stretch to suggest that trees communicate and collaborate like humans. Nevertheless, they certainly show us that we are not the only species on the planet to be connected in complex and wondrous ways. We have a lot to learn both about them and from them.

*Just as a tree takes
root in the earth and
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All the Torah connections to trees (and there are many more!) are just one example of Judaism's deep awareness of the natural world. We are a people rooted in the earth, connected to the seasons and the environmental cycles of the year. We celebrate spring with Passover and the fall harvest with Sukkot. We pray for rain in its season (from the end of Sukkot to Passover) and dew the rest of the year. We light Hanukkah candles to illuminate the darkest days of the calendar.

The Jewish connection to the rhythms of the natural world is deeply comfort-

ing, which makes it all the more disturbing when it is disrupted by climate change. Our annual cycle of observance is not meant to be organized around prolonged drought or devastating fire or destructive downpours. And yet, here we are. We are no longer waiting for the climate crises to arrive: they are here to stay. Our question is not so much *when* or *why* but rather *how*? How can we build resilience to the new challenges we face?

Science can help us in some ways, if we work collectively. But what can we learn from our Tradition that will help us meet the promise of the future? This season of Tu B'Shevat, the birthday of the trees, is a time to honor our Tradition's deep connection to them. They say King Solomon knew the language of trees as did the Baal Shem Tov. Perhaps, like me, you've heard a tree speak to you as well! Maybe it's time we start to listen...to learn...and to take action.



**Read more from Rabbi
George on our website**

Rabbi George's Sermons:
www.cstsr.org/rabbi_george

Rabbi George's Blog:
www.cstsr.org/rabbi-george-blog





As you know, the heavy, extended rain during the early weeks of January had an impact on the hillside next to Congregation Shomrei Torah's parking lot, requiring our leadership team and me to work with experts to ensure its stability and safety.

Since then, taped to my computer monitor has been a torn piece of note paper with this message written on it; *"Our Goal: Keep everyone safe while maintaining access to Shomrei Torah."* The note has reminded me to remain focused on the priority of bringing people together here safely amidst the ever-evolving situation with the hillside and the uncertainty of access to portions of our parking lot.

But upon reflection, I realize that this is not a new goal. In fact, I see it as one of my primary functions as executive director: *"Keep everyone safe while maintaining access to Shomrei Torah."* Safety and access are aspects of a number of different situations within Shomrei Torah's day-to-day life. In fact, there are many ways we pursue those dual goals:

- Our security infrastructure and handicap parking spaces are obvious examples of ways we attempt to keep people safe

while making our facility accessible to them.

- Continuing both in-person and online access for most of our programs allows those who cannot safely be here in person to still be a part of our community.
- As our administrative staff work hard to create easy and secure registration systems, and to present comfortable and safe on-site programming, we care for them by maintaining reasonable work hours, breaks, and time off.
- And our commitment to safety can also be seen in the time and dedication spent nurturing and supporting our students as their B'Mitzvah approaches. These younger members are invited to take a risk in leading a service, offering a sermon, and reading Torah. And while they are understandably nervous, they experience a sense of safety here that allows them to not only be successful but to enjoy this special moment.

As you review the amazing Spring 2023 programming in this edition, please know that it is my intention to make it as easy as possible for you to be part of these Congregation Shomrei Torah activities in ways that allow us all to stay safe and secure. I welcome your assistance in achieving these goals and I hope to see you here soon!

Katie Evenbeck, Executive Director



Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! (We cannot say it enough, or more sincerely.)

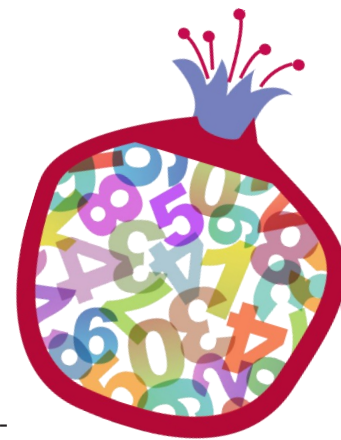
More than 80 percent of our members contributed nearly \$130,000 to the Tradition of Giving campaign – and you gave despite an uncertain economy, the challenges of COVID and rising inflation.

Your contribution buoys the budget, but it also lifts our spirits to know that you are committed to CST, our community and Jewish values. We'll admit that it's been tough recently, with a comparatively small number of people showing up in-person for services and special events.

Sometimes we look around the sanctuary and wonder whether you are still with us, in spirit and heart. The outpouring of support for the Tradition of Giving is an acknowledgement of your ongoing support. And so, again, thank you.

We also want to thank Donna Waldman and Marsha Jacobs, who coordinated the December Call-a-Thon (an important component of Tradition of Giving). About a dozen volunteers called 300 members, netted more than \$20,000, and gave us a chance to connect personally with many of you.

Sincerely, Ann DuBay, Katie Evenbeck and the *Tradition of Giving Committee*





On the second Friday of each month

Join your Shomrei Torah family at the Rabbi's Tisch (table) in lieu of regular Friday night Shabbat service. Start with Kiddush, enjoy a catered communal dinner, then gather around a tisch for Shabbat blessings (including Kaddish) and the special evening program.

Suggested donation for the catered meal is **\$12 for CST members, \$18 for non members**. Please reserve your seat in advance to attend in person.

Evening Schedule (times are approximate):

6:15 – 6:45 PM – Shabbat Blessings and Meal

6:45 – 7:10 PM – Mi Shebeirach and Kaddish

7:15 – 8:15 PM – Speaker Presentation



Friday, March 10, 6:15 PM

Jews, Prison and Spirituality with Elaine Leeder, MSW, MPH, PhD, Dean Emerita/Professor Emerita Sonoma State University.

“What’s a nice Jewish girl like you doing in a place like this?” For the last twenty-eight years Elaine Leeder has been working in prisons, first at

Elmira Correctional Facility, then San Quentin, and now in prisons all over the state of California. Her teaching, then running self-help groups and now doing Victim/Offender Dialogues, has shown her that there is redemption, remorse and contrition behind the walls. People can be transformed even in the most oppressive of circumstances. Co-Sponsored by the Social Action Committee and the Lifelong Learning Committee.



Friday, April 14, 6:15 PM

Stories from CST's Civil Rights Tour of the South Attendees.

Please join us as the congregants and friends who recently returned from the Civil Rights Tour of the South share stories from this unforgettable trip.

**COMING
SOON**

Stay tuned in your weekly CST Connect email for May and June Tisch speakers.

www.cstsr.org/rabbis_tisch



Sonoma County Interfaith Public Fast is a movement of people of faith and conscience responding and bearing witness to the tragedies and threats that face our communities locally, nationally, and globally.

We live in a time of polycrisis – gun violence, climate collapse, pandemic, homelessness, threats to democratic institutions. We see these challenges and so often feel helpless.

In many of our faith traditions, community fasting has been a powerful vehicle for reflection, atonement, resistance, and public outcry. By pulling together in shared spiritual practice and ritual action, we stand as collective witness to the perils of our time. Fasting does not take the place of action in the public arena, but enhances it through shared spiritual intention.

Fast with Us. Our goal is to disrupt “business as usual,” take a share in the suffering of the world, connect, and recommit to the safety and sanctity of all beings.

When our ancestors fasted, they fasted from food and water. We envision a

much wider range of fasting options including fasting from consumer activities, carbon consumption, small talk, and other activities that distract us from what is right in front of us.

Our first public fast will be on **Thursday, March 2nd, from sunup to sundown**, in support of the unhoused community of Sonoma County. It will be followed by a community gathering at 5:30 pm at a location to be announced.

More details can be found at
www.interfaithpublicfast.org



Shiru L'Adonai, Shir Chadash — Sing Unto God a New Song

Kabbalat Shabbat (welcoming Shabbat) is full of Psalms that beckon us to sing out to God, but furthermore, to sing a *new* song. Why is this the case? One could argue (and certainly Jews enjoy a

good debate!) that much of the comfort of prayer is found in repetition, so why does our *fixed* liturgy suggest we should make it new? And how do we do that, if indeed, the text is fixed? One way is to sing a new melody – but you knew I was going to say that!

When we repeat the same words time and again, it is quite likely they will become rote – something we say but don't really pay attention to. Like how a painting newly hung on the wall catches our eye when we walk into the room but that over time, we barely notice anymore. It's there, but we don't see it like we did when it was new. Boredom can also set in when we do something the same way every time. Variety, as they say, is the spice of life.

L'cha Dodi, which officially welcomes the Shabbat bride, is a prime example. Our tried-and-true melody by Cantor Richard

Kaplan (z"l), is beloved, no doubt, but was feeling rather worn out. You may have noticed we introduced a new melody towards the end of 2022. The tune is written by acclaimed Cantor Aaron Bensoussan who, according to Neil Levin from the Milken Archive, "is the scion of an illustrious family in the history of Moroccan Sephardi Jewry." Like Kaplan's, Bensoussan's tune is Sephardic, but it's just new enough to make us reconsider the words we're reciting and bring new life back into this prayer.

It takes upwards of ten tries for a baby to decide if they like a new food. Introducing new music might be viewed in the same way. Give the new tune a try. Then try it again and again keeping an open mind. As of this publication, we're coming up to ten times of singing the Bensoussan *L'cha Dodi* and many regular Friday night service goers have expressed they like the new melody. That's great.

Ultimately, singing a new song doesn't mean the old ones were bad. Quite the contrary, in fact, since most of our tunes have stood the test of time! The goal is not to get rid of the old but to slowly expand our musical bench, so to speak. This way, we gain options by being able to rotate through musical settings and rediscover delight in those comfy tunes we have loved for years. Singing a new song helps keep us interested and engaged, and of course, singing along.

The Social Action Committee Presents

THIS IS US! CELEBRATING JEWISH RACIAL DIVERSITY

Register today for part 2 and 3 of this amazing series
www.cstsr.org/social_action

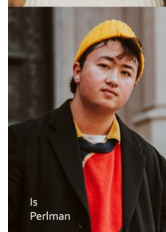


Building Inclusion for Jews who Identify as Black, African American, and Mixed Race

Sunday, February 26, 3:00 PM

Be'chol Lashon (Hebrew for "in every language") was born in the Bay Area to embrace the historical diversity of the Jewish people and welcome the growing diversity of the contemporary Jewish community. The group has grown to include summer camps, teen programs and nurturing other organizations of Jews of Color.

Be'chol Lashon Director of Community Engagement Lindsey Newman will join us in the sanctuary to discuss current community outreach efforts.



Welcome to a taste of an Asian Jewish Passover!

Saturday, March 11, 6:00 PM

In the depths of the pandemic, Asian Jews from around the country started making videos about their experience and sharing them online.

So was born LUNAR, a vibrant community of mostly young Asian Jews, which produces videos about their experience and has created a unique Asian Jewish Haggadah.

Speakers include Maryam Chishti (she/her), Is Perlman (they/them), and Jenni Rudolph (she/her).



HOLIDAYS & SPECIAL SERVICES



Shabbat Service Honoring L'Taken Attendees

Friday, February 24, 6:15 PM

Please join us to hear what our teens had to say to our elected officials on their Washington D.C. L'Taken trip. During this special Shabbat service, we will be honoring these teens committed to social justice and hearing excerpts from their speeches.



Family Shabbat Dinner

Friday March 3 and May 5, 6:15 PM

Join Rabbi George and Cantorial Soloist Erica Wisner for a kid-friendly meal, table blessings, songs and a story by Rabbi George! \$12 for adults, kids are free! Please register to attend.



Beach Boychiks Purim Spiel

Monday, March 6, 6:15 PM

Get ready to have "Fun, Fun, Fun 'til they come and take our groggers away!" Don't miss CST's annual Purim Spiel, fun for the whole family! Please register to attend.



Passover Seder

Thursday, April 6, 6:15 PM

Our interactive community Seder also honors our ongoing struggle for freedom, justice and equality. A delicious Passover meal will be served. \$18 CST member, \$36 Non-member. Registration is required.



Shabbat Service and Ufruf of Julian and Sophie

Saturday, April 15, 10:30 AM

You're invited to the Ufruf/Celebration of the marriage of Julian Tarada Gonzalez & Sophie Gittleman. Luncheon to follow, please register to attend.

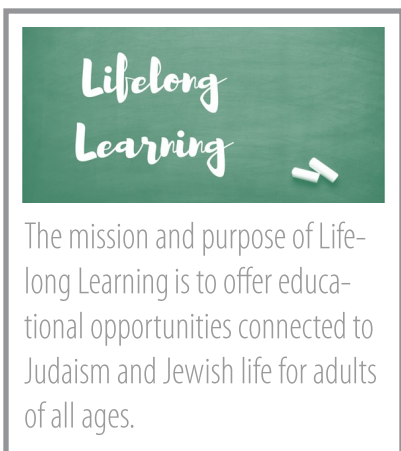


Sonoma County Yom Hashoah Commemoration

Sunday, April 16, 2:00 PM - Zoom Only

Including local survivor speakers; local students and teachers; highlight of The Story Project and the Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide; musical performances and candle lighting. Register for the Zoom link: www.cstsr.org/event/yom-hashoah-2023

LIFELONG LEARNING



The mission and purpose of Lifelong Learning is to offer educational opportunities connected to Judaism and Jewish life for adults of all ages.

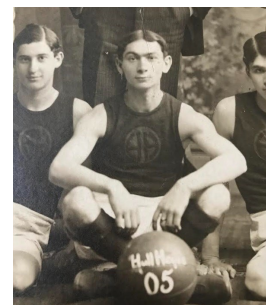
Jews and Basketball

"The First Basket," a Documentary Film by David Vyorst

Sunday, April 9 at 3:00 PM

Please join us as we examine the ROOTS of professional basketball by looking at the Jewish contribution to the sport. We will show the documentary, "The First Basket", a film by David Vyorst which goes through the early history and the role that Jewish players and coaches played in developing this great American pastime.

It is also a time that everyone can tell their favorite NBA story. Appropriate snacks will be served.



This 1905 photo shows Lee W. Wolfe, grandfather of CST member Judith Richlin-Klonsky, with other members of the Chicago basketball team sponsored by Jane Addams' Hull House.



The Jewish Meditation Center ~ Congregation Shomrei Torah

Connecting the wisdom of our tradition and the seasons of the Jewish calendar, enhancing our ability to listen to the voice within and expand our sense of interconnectedness.

Two Special In-Person-Only Events

Freedom: An Inside Job - Tuesday, March 14, 5:30 PM
Come together in person for an hour of meditation, instruction, and conversation with Rabbi George, followed by a shared meal (\$12 for members, \$18 for non-members). Please register to attend.

Meditation Mini-Retreat - Sunday, May 7, 9:00 AM
Light nosh and extended time for sitting and walking meditation and chant. Please register to attend.



Rabbi George, leader of the Shomrei Torah community for more than 25 years, is a graduate of the Institute for Jewish Spirituality's Jewish Mindfulness Meditation Teacher Training Program. Over the last two decades, he has developed both Buddhist & Jewish meditative practices.



Alissa Hirshfeld, M.A., psychotherapist & Jewish Spiritual Director, has been practicing meditation for over 30 years; has studied with esteemed Jewish and Buddhist meditation teachers; and has taught meditation and yoga in secular, religious, and healing settings.

Ongoing Meditation Sessions

Three Tuesdays per month at 5:30 PM
Join us for teaching, meditation instruction, and periods of silence. See our meditation page for dates.

Thursday Mornings at 7:30 AM
A brief, Zoom-only meditation session allowing an opportunity to start the day from a place of peace and reflection and deepen our practice together. Contact the office to receive the Zoom link.

Visit the meditation page for dates, resources, and to view past sessions: www.cstsr.org/meditation.html.

Jewish Literary Circle - Meeting on the Third Thursday of each month at 4:30 PM

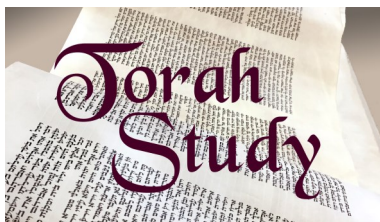
Our focus is Jewish literature and other published materials. Through lively discussions, participants enjoy each other's insights. If you have questions about the group or are interested in joining, please contact group leader Sandy at scsidorsky@comcast.net. Free, all are welcome.



February 16 - "*Becoming Eve, My Journey From Ultra-Orthodox Rabbi to Transgender Woman*" by Abby Stein. The story of an ultra-Orthodox child who was born to become a rabbinic leader.

March 16 - "*The Only Woman in the Room*" by Marie Benedict. Her beauty almost certainly saved her from the rising Nazi party and led to marriage with an Austrian arms dealer.

April 20 - "*Lioness, Golda Meir and the Nation of Israel*" by Francine Klagburn. Golda Meir, from her earliest years, displayed the political consciousness and organizational skills that would eventually catapult her into the inner circles of Israel's founding generation.



Torah Study - Saturday Morning at 8:45 AM

CST's Torah Study is a lively discussion of the week's Torah portion, led by Rabbi George or by a temple member. Participants represent a range of knowledge and perspectives. Newcomers are welcome, whether or not you've read any Torah or know any Hebrew. If participating virtually, you may call the office to arrange to borrow a Torah text with commentary. We invite you to join us!

SHOMREI TORAH CULTURAL COMMITTEE PRESENTS

BEIT CAFE

Sunday, March 19, 3:00 PM

Register to attend: www.cstsr.org/event/cultural-event-1

Spend an unforgettable afternoon of live music at Shomrei Torah featuring Rabbi George and CST members Stan Greenberg, Dave Fichera, Sofia Fichera and Milly Fichera!

featuring

the Ravens



A Chicago Blues band with **Rabbi George Gittleman** on guitar and vocals, **Stan Greenberg** on guitar and vocals, Henry White on harmonica and vocals, Earnest Harris on drums and Larry Metz on base.



Led by Dr. Brian Wilson on trombone, Ruth Wilson on French horn, **Dave Fichera** on trumpet, Hikaru Hallberg on trumpet, and Juan Vilasenor on tuba. They will present original Klezmer arrangements for this performance including Tsena Tsena, Raisins and Almonds, and more.



An all-female alternative rock/folk band featuring **Sofia and Milly Fichera**, along with their friend Fiona Bowman, known to the CST community as the musicians behind "I Have a Voice." They will be putting their spin on Jewish favorites by Debbie Friedman and Matisyahu, along with other originals.

GROUPS



Contact the office for more information or to inquire about joining these groups.

- **Knitting and Crochet Group** - Meets on the second and last Mondays of the month. For more information or to join, contact the office.
- **Women's Dinner Group** - Meets at different restaurants each month. The members of the group started as strangers and, over time, have become treasured friends. A second group has recently been added.
- **Women's Movie Group** - First Sunday each month at the Summerfield Theater, usually around 1:00 pm.
- **Women's Book Group** - First Tuesday of the month from 1:30pm to 2:30pm. Meeting offsite. *Group is currently full.*
- **Women in Conversation About Aging** - This group meets on the first and third Wednesday of every month on Zoom. *Group is currently full.*



Sunday March 5 and Sunday April 2
Note the special time: 12:30 PM

The Bagel Club invites you to join us on the first Sunday of each month for a delicious bagel brunch followed by a live speaker.

Meal includes a selection of bagels, cream cheese, lox and all the trimmings. We welcome all CST members to join us.

We request a donation of \$10 for the meal. Register to attend on our website.

STARS KIDdsh

from Brandon



Our teens had a busy first semester at Shomrei Torah! To kick off the year, we went to Six Flags Discovery Kingdom for a day full of rides and laughter. In October, we continued our annual tradition of "Octogre" a Shrek movie night. Lastly, we brought in winter by going ice skating at Snoopy's Home Ice.

Looking ahead, we have a number of fun events planned for the second semester.. In January, our

SHORTY board hosted a Bubbie [Bob] Ross Paint night. In February, many of our teens will attend the L'Taken seminar in Washington D.C. Additionally, our teens have the opportunity to attend West Coast Party on February 17-20 at Camp Newman.



Registration for West Coast Party can be found on the Camp Newman website. Our March event is a Hamantashen Bake-off on March 4th from 2:00-4:00. We hope to see you at some of our events!

Our SHORTY board, comprised of 9-12th graders, meets monthly to plan each event. We have openings on our SHORTY board for freshman, sophomores, and juniors. Please reach out to Brandon to get more details.

Brandon Binder, STaRS Director & Director of Teen Engagement

What a great first semester at STaRS! It has been such a joy to gather as a community again. Our classrooms have been busy creating memories and forming friendships. We started our year tie-dyeing our t-shirts, with a lot of help from our awesome volunteers!



from Sophie

Our regular Sunday sessions have been filled with a variety of activities thanks to our awesome teachers and staff. We started an All- School- Chuggim project that allows students to try out new skills in mixed age groups... just another awesome way to build community.



We also got to have our first movie night, where we had pizza and watched a movie right on the sanctuary wall. Brandon's dog Ruby sure wanted to join in!

We also celebrated some awesome holidays together. From Simchat Torah to Sukkot, to our amazing Hanukkah bash, we just keep having fun!



We had a JUSTY art party in January where we made a 3D Tu B'shvat project while enjoying pizza and singalong music. We also aim to get our garden up and running with student-led planning and planting. I'm looking forward to another great semester together!

Sophie Gittleman, Assistant STaRS Director & Youth Coordinator



from nicole

It's been a wonderful semester for young families at CST. Friendships have been blossoming in the classroom, on the playground and around town!

It was so great to see friends at our family Shabbat and at our recent Hanukkah gathering at Kancha. A big thank you to Sofia and Milly Fichera for their musical talents. Everyone loved singing along with them!

Our youngest KIDdish students have been learning about "Shalom Bayit" (peace in the home) and have loved singing songs, using their hands and feet, and making art!

We kicked off our Chavurah Gatherings with a family brunch at Elisette Weiss and Jacob Bockelmann's house and are looking forward to our next meetups on February 11 and March 18! We're hoping to kick off our "Raising Jewish Children" parent only book club this month.

Are you interested in gathering on Sundays when the kiddos are at STaRS or would you prefer an evening zoom once a month? Let Nicole know your preferences and if you're interested in joining a group or helping to facilitate!

Nicole Novach, Family Outreach Coordinator

coming up at stars

March

- SHORTY Hamentaschen Bake-Off 3/4
- STaRS Purim Carnival 3/5
- Coffee & Conversation with Rabbi George 3/12
- Mini-Shorty Bowling 3/12

April

- STaRS Passover Kick-Off 4/2
- 6th Grade Tallit Workshop 4/16
- Last Day of STaRS! 4/30

Questions about an event?

Contact one of our Youth Educators:
 Brandon Binder: brandon@cstsr.org
 Sophie Gittleman: sophie@cstsr.org
 Nicole Novach: nicole@cstsr.org



An Exciting Program for Jewish Teens Grades 8th-12th!

We gather every other week at Congregation Shomrei Torah and look at teen-related issues through a Jewish lens. We socialize, connect and eat together. Classes start in September, but students may join at any time of the year.

Register for this program by contacting Rick Concoff, Teen Educator, at concoff@yahoo.com, or 707-477-9196.

Learn more at kehillahsonomacounty.com

Parking and Landslide Update



John Weinstein & Jeremy Olsan



As we're going to print with this issue of the VIEW, the landslide is stable, parking is available in both the upper and lower areas (although some spaces are closed), and traffic circulation is back to normal.

As you know, this is a moving situation and conditions can change rapidly. Please read the weekly CST Connect email and any special messages for updates. In the meantime, here is what you need to know:

- Our building is not affected and is safe and open.
- Your safety is our primary concern and drives all decisions regarding parking and access.
- Our Board, staff and a team of professionals are actively working with on both the immediate issues and long-term repairs.
- We will provide updates on changes or regarding major decisions.
- We greatly appreciate your flexibility and patience!

CST Office Closures

- ⇒ February 20
- ⇒ May 29
- ⇒ June 5
- ⇒ June 19



The Amazon Smile Program Ends on February 20, 2023

Congregation Shomrei Torah sincerely thanks all those who had Shomrei Torah listed as their selected charity while this program was active.

For other ways to donate, visit www.cstsr.org/giving_opportunities

The Social Action Committee in 2023!

The Social Action Committee is changing it's organizational structure in order to improve and expand our opportunities. We are excited about programing this year and hope to have many of you participate in our activities. Please note the series "This is Us."



It is a challenging time in our country and our community, and we will continue to educate, inform, and have some fun at the same time. Our goal is always to try and make our world a better place. Please contact any one of us if you have suggestions or questions. We welcome all of Congregation Shomrei Torah!

Visit the Social Action page to read more: www.cstsr.org/social_action



Passover is right around the corner and the Shomrei Shop has everything you need. From beautiful seder plates and things to keep your children busy at the table, and even all kinds of frogs hopping around, stop by the shop to pick up the necessities.



Need a host/hostess gift? We have 'em! Also don't forget that we have a lot of new items, including Star of David necklaces, mezuzzahs, gifts for the bride and groom, and so much more.



The Shomrei Shop is open during office hours, subject to staff availability.



We're on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/CongregationShomreiTorahSantaRosa

Celebrate Shabbat

Join us to study, sing and pray. All are welcome.



Shabbat occurs every week and is central to Jewish life. Shabbat Services includes blessings over candles, wine, challah, and more.

The blessings can help us slow down, unwind, and truly set Shabbat apart from the rest of the days of the week, whether with centuries old customs and traditions or with new rituals and practices that fit our modern lives.

Join us in person or online:

Friday Evening Shabbat Service

Every Friday evening at 6:15 PM

Saturday Morning Torah Study

Every Saturday morning at 8:45 AM

Saturday Morning Shabbat Service

Every Saturday morning at 10:30 AM

Having Trouble Connecting to Us Virtually?

- Need help with Zoom or Streaming?
- Would you like to listen through your phone?

We are here to help!

Call (707) 578-5519

Or email zoom@cstsr.org

Want to advertise your business in our publications?

	MEMBER	NON-MEMBER
Business Card	\$265	\$330
Quarter Page	\$580	\$625
Half Page	\$1100	\$1490

More information available at:
www.cstsr.org/the-voice-newsletter



Whatever your
reason to belong,
Shomrei Torah
belongs to you.

CONGREGATION
SHOMREI TORAH
שומרי תורה

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THE PURPOSE OF THIS CONGREGATION

- To worship God in accordance with the beliefs and teachings of Reform Judaism.
- To cultivate and nurture in ourselves and our children a love and understanding of Jewish heritage.
- To develop a sensitive, caring and supportive congregational community where all are welcome and included.
- To act with responsibility and compassion in our community.
- To support the principals of equality, freedom and shalom among all peoples.