



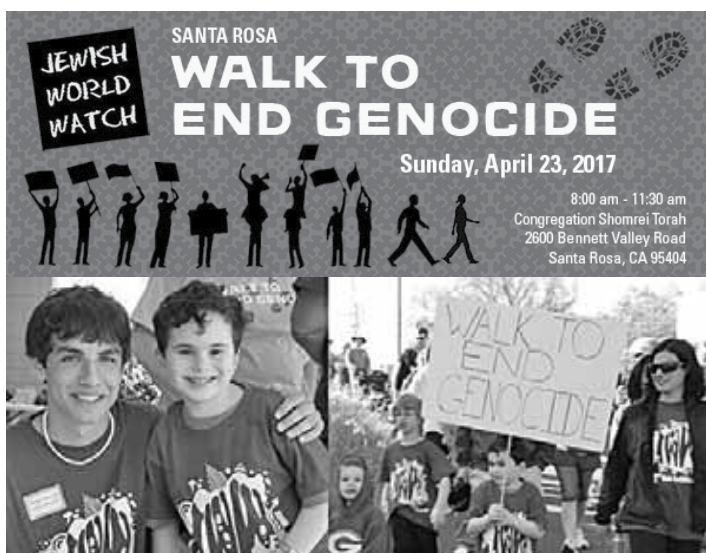
## Come to the Passover Seder

This year, once again, we are offering one Seder, featuring a delicious traditional *Pesach* meal, for both members and non-members on the second night of Passover, Tuesday, April 11 at 6:00 PM. Passover at Shomrei Torah is more than the retelling of the ancient story of the Exodus; it also honors our ongoing struggle for freedom, justice and equality everywhere. There is a place at the table waiting for you!

The cost is as follows:

- \$36 for member adult
- \$46 for nonmember adult
- \$18 for member children (ages 12 and under)
- \$23 for nonmember children (ages 12 and under)
- Free for children under 5

Reservations are required. Please call (707) 578-5519 or email [denish@cstsr.org](mailto:denish@cstsr.org) or reserve online at [www.cstsr.org](http://www.cstsr.org). Be sure to specify your preference of chicken or vegetarian.



## Walk to End Genocide

Sunday, April 23, 8:00-11 AM

Register now to Walk or Donate!

You can walk and help raise funds for this wonderful Jewish World Watch project launched in Santa Rosa six years ago by CST member Gabe Ferrick! Walk or Donate. Ask friends and family to help as well. We must never forget!!! Visit the website below and scroll down and see who will be joining both rabbis on the CST team! [www.walktoendgenocide.org/sr/congregationshomreitorah](http://www.walktoendgenocide.org/sr/congregationshomreitorah)

## Yom Hashoah – Commemoration

Sunday, April 23, 6:15 PM

Join us for CST's annual candle lighting commemorating *Yom Hashoah*. This year's theme is *L'dor v'Dor*--from generation to generation--Never Again!

The evening will feature David McCuan, Professor of American Politics, International Relations and Public Administration at Sonoma State University, whose talk is entitled *Hate Crimes, Genocide and Violence: Links Between Hate & Genocide--New Packaging, Old Themes*.

Arthur Shostak, Professor Emeritus of Sociology at Drexel University and past CST member, will also hold a discussion. His book, *Stealth Altruism: Forbidden Care as Jewish Resistance in the Holocaust*, is the culmination of more than 10 years of research on quiet acts of rebellion during the Holocaust.

CST and community members will have an opportunity to light candles in memory of the many victims of the Holocaust and other genocides. The evening will also feature music by Mama Loshn, Cantorial Soloist Erica Wisner and the CST choir.



David McCuan



Arthur Shostak

## STaRS Registration



Religious school registration for 2017-2018 is open! Visit [www.shomreitorah.org/religious-school](http://www.shomreitorah.org/religious-school). Register by May 31 to receive a \$25 early-bird discount per student!

## CONGREGATIONAL RETREAT

### My Weekend Checklist

- ☒ Shabbat Dinner
- ☒ Long Walks
- ☒ Wellness/Yoga
- ☒ Flag Football
- ☒ Campfire
- ☒ And much more
- ☒ Socializing
- ☒ Shabbat Services
- ☒ Art Projects
- ☒ Torah Study
- ☒ Music & Singing

*Save the Date!*  
**April 28–30, 2017**

Beautiful Camp Newman is located just 20 minutes from Congregation Shomrei Torah

Adults 18+ \$200 • Kids \$100  
Teens \$150 • Under 3 — free  
Unaccompanied Teen 13–17 \$250



Reserve your spot with \$100 deposit today.  
Contact [Denise@cstsr.org](mailto:Denise@cstsr.org), or call (707)578-5519.

## New Member Wine and Cheese

*Sunday, April 2, 3:00-5:00 PM*

Please join members of the clergy, the Board of Directors and the membership committee for a wine and cheese gathering. Get to know each other and some “older” members, share some wine and snacks and learn more about your synagogue!

Meet in the Kolbo Room at 3:00 PM to schmooze and hear about the many other opportunities to connect at CST.

For more information or to RSVP, contact the temple office at (707) 578-5519 or email [denise@cstsr.org](mailto:denise@cstsr.org).

## Social Action Committee Get Out the Vote

*Sunday, April 2, 3:00-6:00 PM*

Join members of the Social Action Committee as we walk a precinct in Oakmont. We will educate and advocate for the Rent Stabilization and Just Cause Eviction measure that will be on the June 6 ballot. This will be done in conjunction with the North Bay Organizing Project's Voter Engagement effort. There will be a brief training and we will walk in pairs. If you are interested in participating, please contact the temple office. We are hoping to have at least 15 volunteers from CST. If you cannot make it on this date or would like to walk more than once, NBOP has additional walk dates scheduled for other parts of Santa Rosa.

## Rabbi's *Tisch*: Reb Irwin Keller and Rabbi George Gittleman

*“Love and Marriage In Today's Liberal Jewish Community: A conversation with two leaders in the Sonoma County Jewish community”*

*Friday, April 14, 6:15 PM*

Intermarriage has been a flash point in the Jewish community since Rabbi George entered rabbinical school in 1991. The Jewish institutional response has typically been way behind the general behavior and attitudes of the Jewish community especially in the United States. Rabbi George will explore his own journey with this issue and the many intermarried families that he has served over the years.

Reb Irwin will discuss alternative families, non-monogamy and new models of kinship. How are these reflected in Jewish text, and how will they be held in modern Jewish practice? Reb Irwin Keller is the Spiritual Leader of Congregation Ner Shalom since 2008. He is a longtime LGBTQI activist, and until recently a performer and writer in The Kinsey Sicks, America's Favorite Dragapella Beautyshop Quartet. He is currently furthering his studies in the Aleph Ordination Program.

Reb Irwin Keller has been the spiritual leader of Congregation Ner Shalom since 2008. His past work includes LGBTQ advocacy and musical and comedic performance. Reb Irwin is currently continuing his studies through the Aleph Ordination Program. His *drashot* can be found on his Itzik's Well blog at [irwinkeller.com](http://irwinkeller.com). RSVP to the temple office or email [denise@cstsr.org](mailto:denise@cstsr.org) to ensure we order enough food. Suggested donation of \$18 for the dinner.

## Gender Revolution: A Journey with Katie Couric

*Saturday, April 8, 7:00 PM*

In this National Geographic documentary, Katie Couric journeys throughout the USA to explore the rapidly evolving complexities of gender identity — LGBTQIA.

Meet parents of transgender children and a youth fighting the law to use the restroom of choice. Medical experts, activists, authors and families discuss the complex issue of gender. Young people explain their difficulties in handling a wide spectrum of gender identities that affect families everywhere.



A panel discussion, with professionals, counselors and youths covering both the problems and the areas of support available locally, will be followed by Q&A time.

Free and open to the public; donations appreciated.  
Limited parking — carpooling is strongly encouraged.

This program is sponsored by the Social Action Committee of Shomrei Torah.

## Tot Shabbat

*Friday, April 14, 5:00 PM*

Theme: Passover

This informal, child-centered Shabbat Service is designed especially for children, newborn to elementary school age. Everyone is welcome: members and non-members, Jewish and non-Jewish, partners and spouses. All Tot Shabbat experiences include a kid-friendly service, lively music and movement, exciting stories, art activities, open play and pot luck dinner.

Tot Shabbat is a FREE program!



## Musical Shabbat

*Friday, April 21, 6:15 PM*

Sing, clap and even dance! This musical Shabbat service will feature a live band comprised of member volunteers/musicians who will be performing some familiar tunes mixed in with a few newer tunes that work well with a band. This upbeat service is not to be missed.

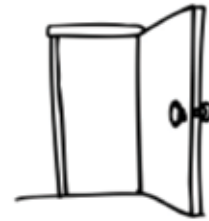
## Babies & Bagels

*Sunday, April 22*

Join other parents for a light nosh and some refreshing adult conversation, while you watch your children interact and play with others in their age group. Babies & Bagels is a FREE program with meetings held at private homes. For more information, to RSVP for the address or just to say hello, email or call the temple office. We'd love to get together with you and your little ones.



## Slip out the back, Jack?



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for growth and opportunity.

*Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 11, 8:00 AM*

## CSA Sign-ups Celebrates with MOO and Raffle at April 14 Tisch

May begins the regular weekly harvest season at Singing Frogs Farm, our lovely CSA partner of the past 7 years. To encourage folks to try out the very tasty veggies and other produce, the Environmental Action Committee is sponsoring a MOO (mostly organic Oneg).



CSA members and other CST home chefs are encouraged to make a tasty appetizer or dessert and bring it to the Tisch on April 14 (featuring Rabbi George and Reb Irwin from Ner Shalom).

In addition, new sign-ups to the CSA will be entered in a raffle with the winner to receive one box of produce (a \$26 value). If you are interested in joining the CSA, and receiving fresh produce on Wednesdays, you can get more information as well as sign up at <http://www.singingfrogsfarm.com>. If you have questions or want a share partner, contact the temple office.



## CST Congregational Fair and Annual Meeting

*Sunday, May 7, 11:30 AM*

It is time to elect the slate of board of directors and vote on the 2017-2018 budget. Come to the congregational fair and annual meeting, partake in a delicious barbecue prepared by the Men's Bagel Club, enjoy fun, family-friendly activities and music, learn about programs offered by Shomrei Torah and learn about committees you can join. Take an active role at Shomrei Torah.

## Rabbi's Tisch: Judith Richlin-Klonsky, Ph.D.

*"The Voyage of Discovery"*  
*Friday, May 12, 6:15 PM*

Shabbat invites us to step outside our everyday lives for a short time each week, to refresh our point of view. Drawing on her background as a sociologist and a family therapist, CST member Judith Richlin-Klonsky, Ph.D., will present ways to look at ourselves, our relationships, and our world through new eyes.



Judith Richline-Klonsky, Ph.D.

*Drawing on her background as a sociologist and a family therapist, CST member Judith Richlin-Klonsky, Ph.D., will present ways to look at ourselves, our relationships, and our world through new eyes.*

As a family therapist, Judith Richlin-Klonsky developed and directed community programs for children and adults. After receiving her PhD in Sociology from UCLA in 1991, she has conducted research into aging families, college students and campus life, and professions. She has also taught at UCLA, Santa Rosa Junior College and Sonoma State, bringing a sociological perspective to topics such as race and ethnic relations, social inequality, family life, and the way we collectively create ourselves and our social world. RSVP to the temple office or email [denise@cstsr.org](mailto:denise@cstsr.org) to ensure we order enough food. Suggested donation of \$18 for the dinner.



DESSERT and  
DRINKS for a  
DECADE JUNE 3

.....  
celebrate 10 years together in our home on the hill

[www.cstsr.org/ten-years](http://www.cstsr.org/ten-years)

## Dessert and Drinks for a Decade

*Saturday, June 3, 7:30 PM*

Please join us at a VERY special *Simcha* for all of us to share!

Ten years together in our home on the hill is cause for celebration!

Enjoy a drink and dessert fundraiser, with signature cocktails (mar-TEN-ee, anyone?), handcrafted desserts, live entertainment, and a few surprises.

Watch for your invitation to this special milestone in the life of our community, arriving mid-April.

## LifeLong Learning

### Introduction to the Psalms

*3 sessions: June 7, 14, 21, 7:00-8:30 PM*

Psalms are the heart of the Hebrew Bible, a source of prayer and reflection for Judaism and Christianity. This three-session class, taught by Rabbi George, will explore the history, use and meaning of the Psalms from a Jewish perspective. Free.

No previous knowledge is necessary and all are welcome. Please RSVP at the temple office.

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## Gathering in Community and Gratitude

The Torah tells us more than once in Exodus that when times were tough for the recently-freed Hebrew slaves, our ancestors, they complained first ("Is God present among us or not?" 17:7). They only expressed gratitude later.

*Parashat T'rumah* tells the story of a huge outpouring of gratitude to God, as the people willingly worked together to build the portable wilderness Tabernacle, the *Mishkan*.

The URJ Press Women's Commentary edition of the Torah points out that the word *mishkan*, when used to refer to human beings, refers to a dwelling, abode or home. When

*"The Tabernacle is conceived of as a place on earth in which God will be readily accessible and from which God's protective power will emanate."*

used to refer to God, "The Tabernacle is conceived of as a place on earth in which God will be readily accessible and from which God's protective power will emanate."



Ira Glasser, CST President

The directive from God to the people to build the sanctuary can be understood then not so much so that God can be given a special place on earth to reveal God's presence; rather, God wants us to have a gathering place, so that we may come together in community. And when we do that, God promises to be in the midst of us (25:8).

We are fortunate to be able to gather together frequently at Shomrei Torah on many occasions. And when we do, something special does, indeed, often happen. If we are still and listen, we can somehow sense God's very presence.

And that is beautiful. So, just how and when can we gather?

A great number of regular and special activities take place around our CST home base, with members of all ages and interests involved. It is such a joy to see, hear and partake in, of and with as many of these offerings and fellow congregants as time allows.

The social action movie series, the bagel club guest

speakers, the *Tisch* dinners and presenters, our B2B group's meetings and mixers, all the religious school activities, Torah study, lifelong learning classes and Friday night and Saturday morning services, to name just some of our regular choices, have been very well attended these past months, despite the rains (welcome though the rains have been).

*"A great number of regular and special activities take place around our CST home base, with members of all ages and interests involved."*

And it would have been hard to miss the buzz of the many photography sessions for the new edition of our membership directory being held in the "front room" Shalom Hall area on and off for weeks.

As I write these words, the final rehearsals for "The Lion King *Purim Schpiel*" are taking place at Shomrei Torah; Purim is close at hand.

However, by the time you receive this newsletter in early April and "read all about it," the holiday on our minds will likely be Passover, with families and friends drawing together and the community *seder* about to take place.

After that our next big event will be the late-April retreat at Camp Newman. Then the annual membership fair and general meeting in early May.

The weekend of June 2nd through the 4th will bring many of us together for the celebration of the Tenth Anniversary of the building at 2600 Bennett Valley Road. We will particularly honor and remember the founders and builders of our beautiful home on the hill, and have fun while we are at it!

You can probably think of your own favorite and special times at CST. What I believe strongly is that God's presence is truly felt when we gather together in good will, community and gratitude.

*"What I believe strongly is that God's presence is truly felt when we gather together in good will, community and gratitude."*

So let me close by expressing gratitude on behalf of us all to our many, many members who have come forward in the past and in recent months with their time, skill, experience and financial commitments to make our synagogue's life so very bright and full! Thank you all, so very much!

*B'Shalom,*  
Ira

## Board Update

**At its regular meeting on February 9th, the CST Board reported on the following:**

The Board approved three new families:

- Charles and Sara Zeff-Geber
- Gigi and Valen Shames
- Sherwin Silverman

CST Board would like to recognize our new Committee for Volunteers: *Darien Smith, Joanna Rosenblum, Beth Goodman, Paige Sobel, George Moskoff, and Jan Lees*. Thank you all for your service!

The Rabbis have been working on Social Justice issues in our community.

The Eastern Europe CST trip is SOLD OUT.

CST recently removed the play structure, due to safety issues, and is currently fundraising to replace it! We have already raised over \$22,000!!!

## CST Matchmakers Need YOU!

Did we get your attention? We're not talking about love and marriage BUT we are interested in making a good match for all our members who want to connect, have fun and make CST the best it can be. Our goal is to fix you up with the right volunteer opportunity.

Please respond to calls and emails that will be coming your way. The CST Matchmakers are comprised of new and old members: Paige Sobel (Chair), Beth Goodman, Jan Lees, Joanna Rosenblum and Darien Smith. Feel free to email Paige at [nsdpaige@sonic.net](mailto:nsdpaige@sonic.net) if you have questions or want to reach us. The more we know about you, the better the match!

## Raise Your Voice and Sing!

If you enjoy singing and the camaraderie of fellow musicians, please consider joining the Shomrei Torah Choir. Sonia Tubridy, Choir Director, is recruiting new members for the choir. If you have questions, please contact Erica Wisner, Cantorial Soloist, at (707) 490-4376 or email [EricaW@cstsr.org](mailto:EricaW@cstsr.org).

## Thanks to CST Photo Directory Greeters!

Many thanks to the CST members who graciously welcomed 200 individuals, families and pets, for photo sessions with Lifetouch over eight days of appointments. In some cases, greeters took two or three shifts! Volunteers enabled the project to run smoothly, and reported enjoying spending time with old friends and new acquaintances, and CST staff enjoyed having so many members spending time at the temple throughout the project.

Volunteers for this project were:

Suzanne Abrams, **Susan Bailyn**, Carol Berlant, Celine Berman, Linda Bornstein, Marsha Boxerman, Shelley Brott, Ronnie Campagna, Deborah Cutler, Fran Danoff, Nancy Ferrick, **Shelli Goldin**, Muncie Harper, Sheila Hirsch, Melissa Kort, Sue Lewis, Susan Lynn, Lorna Myers, Enola Nelson, Cynthia Nestle, Cherelle Noel, Laurie Peretz, **Marcy Pluznick-Marrin**, Judith Richlin-Klonsky, Patty Rosetti, Linda Sargent, Lana Sremba, **Bill Skoonberg**, Chris Smith, Richard Smith, Roy Sparrow, Susan Wurtzel. (Photo Directory Committee in bold)

If you would like to volunteer for a future CST project, contact the temple office (707) 578-5519 or email [denise@cstsr.org](mailto:denise@cstsr.org).



Greeters Shelley Brott and Marcy Pluznick-Marrin taking a warm-up photo of the Goldberg family

## Thank You!

Sharon and I want to THANK Rabbi George, Rabbi Stephanie, our friends and the entire congregation for their many warm wishes and prayers for a speedy recovery. Again, many thanks, Bnai Shalom, Sharon and Jeffrey Schechter

## Comm Comm Keeps You in the Know

The Voice newsletter, the website, our Facebook page, the View program guide, mailers and most of the other ways Shomrei Torah communicates with members are the work of the Communications Committee, a group of volunteers who, along with Temple Administrator, Chris Chang Weeks, work hard to keep you in the know about goings-on at Shomrei Torah.

The Comm Comm works with other committees to promote and support important synagogue events, manages a photo archive to document significant moments in the life of the congregation and participates in fundraising initiatives, such as the 2017 Member Directory, which will raise thousands of dollars for the congregation and provide a valuable community-building resource.

Looking ahead, we're supporting the introduction of video live-streaming of services and Lifelong Learning classes, which will be available later this year, and we're providing graphics support for the upcoming 10th Anniversary celebration of our building. Members with expertise in video production and editing or those with any other marketing and communications skills, are welcome to join us. We meet from 4-5:00PM on the third Tuesday of every month at the temple.



## Politics Bagel Style

At the March 5th Men's Bagel Club, Rabbi George spoke about "Politics from the Pulpit." He made the case that this is not a new issue, with references to Talmudic and rabbinical scholars who have weighed in on a variety of issues for centuries.

The discussion got heated when questions led to various attendees and the Rabbi espousing views on current political issues and stands. Everyone had a chance to be heard with no discernible shouting or fistfights. Perhaps Israel could learn something from Shomrei Torah and the Bagel Club.



## Become A New Legacy Circle Participant This Month

The Legacy Circle of Congregation Shomrei Torah will help maintain the facilities created here on the hilltop in Santa Rosa for generations to come; you can be part of this exciting opportunity.

It is remarkably simple to join. Chris Chang Weeks (in the temple office) can explain the procedure and send you a few simple forms to complete and return. Once the forms are returned, she will notify the Legacy Circle Committee, who will add you to the roster and present you with a lovely gift for your commitment. In addition, you will be invited to activities planned just for Legacy Circle participants for as long as you wish to attend at no charge to you.

What do you need to do now? Actually, very little except fill out the forms that are available at the temple office and come to special events if you choose. Most participants simply include CST in their wills or trusts with the plan to leave something to CST after they are gone. Committee members are delighted to discuss all options of Legacy giving with you if you so desire. You will be honored and cherished by CST for your kind consideration of its future.



## SAC Film “Catching The Sun” Draws Crowd

Over 150 environmentally concerned folks attended *Catching The Sun*, the second film in the Social Action Goes to the Movies film series. The film and panelists provided insight as to how solar power and alternative energy can help create good jobs while slowing down climate change.



**Congregation Shomrei Torah**  
2600 Bennett Valley Road  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

**[www.cstsr.org](http://www.cstsr.org)**

**707-578-5519**

(unless otherwise noted)

FAX 578-3967

**Office email**

[shomrei@cstsr.org](mailto:shomrei@cstsr.org)

**Office Hours**

Monday–Friday

9:00 AM–12 Noon

1:00–5:00 PM

**RABBI**

George D. Gittleman

[rabbig@cstsr.org](mailto:rabbig@cstsr.org)

**ASSOCIATE RABBI**

Stephanie E. Kramer

[rabbikramer@cstsr.org](mailto:rabbikramer@cstsr.org)

**CANTORIAL SOLOIST &  
YOUTH COORDINATOR**

Malcolm McElheney

[youth@cstsr.org](mailto:youth@cstsr.org)

**CANTORIAL SOLOIST**

Erica Wisner

[ericaw@cstsr.org](mailto:ericaw@cstsr.org)

**CHOIR DIRECTOR**

Sonia Morse Tubridy

[soniaMT@cstsr.org](mailto:soniaMT@cstsr.org)

**OFFICE STAFF**

**Rabbinic Assistant**

Julie Caldwell

[ra@cstsr.org](mailto:ra@cstsr.org)

**Temple Administrator/  
Operations Manager**

Chris Chang Weeks

[ccweeks@cstsr.org](mailto:ccweeks@cstsr.org)

**Senior Administrative Asst.**

Denise Harrison

[denise@cstsr.org](mailto:denise@cstsr.org)

**Website**

Jay Peretz, Webmaster

**Maintenance Supervisor**

Rich Sleeper

**Custodian**

Anne Hampton

**The VOICE**

[ccweeks@cstsr.org](mailto:ccweeks@cstsr.org)

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## Advertise Your Business or Best Wishes in the 2017 CST Membership Directory

Members and local businesses are invited to purchase an ad in the new directory to promote your goods and services or to offer a personal expression of greeting or gratitude.

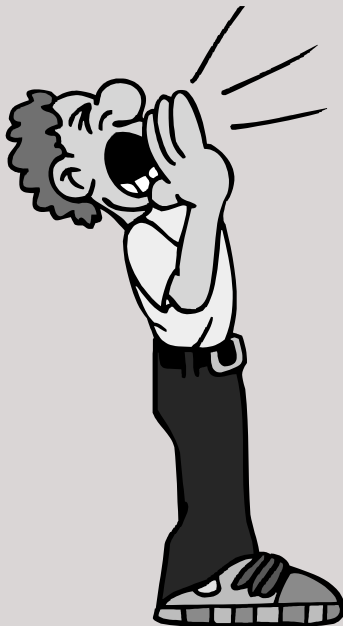
The photo directory is the synagogue's major fundraiser for 2017.

Questions? Contact Bill Skoonberg at [bskoonberg@aol.com](mailto:bskoonberg@aol.com) or Marcy Pluznick-Marrin at [MarcyPM@aol.com](mailto:MarcyPM@aol.com).



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Advertisements shall be limited to one-half page maximum size; advertisement positioning in *The Voice* will be on a rotating basis; the appearance and content of the advertisements shall be in good taste. Because this is a subjective assessment, final approval of any advertisement shall be at the discretion of the executive director, the Rabbi(s) and/or the editor of *The Voice*.

### *The Voice* Display Ad Rates

Annual Billing Amounts Effective 7/1/15

	Members	Non-Members
Business card:	\$265	\$330
Quarter-page:	\$580	\$725
Half-page:	\$1,190	\$1,490

Other advertising arrangements can be made by contacting the Executive Director. Ads and payment must be received in the temple office by the 5th of the month to start in the next month's issue.

For more information, call 707-578-5519.

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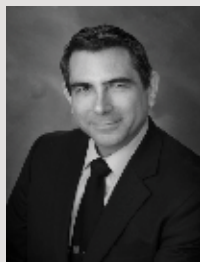
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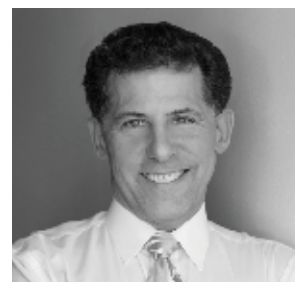
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## APRIL SERVICES

### Saturday, April 1

Weekly Torah portion: Va-Yikra

8:45 am – Torah Study led by Rabbi George

10:30 am – Shabbat Service

### Friday, April 7

6:15 pm – Shabbat Service

### Saturday, April 8

Weekly Torah portion: Tzav

8:45 am – Torah Study led by Ira Glasser

10:30 am – Shabbat Service honoring  
6th Grade

### Friday, April 14

6:15 pm – Rabbi's Tisch with Reb Irwin  
& Rabbi George

### Saturday, April 15

Weekly Torah portion: Shabbat Chol Hamoed

8:45 am – Torah Study led by Rabbi George

10:30 am – Shabbat Service

### Friday, April 21

6:15 pm – Musical Shabbat Service

### Saturday, April 22

Weekly Torah portion: Shemini

8:45 am – Torah Study led by Rabbi Stephanie

10:30 am – Shabbat Service

Bat Mitzvah of Molly Miller

### Friday, April 28

6:15 pm – Shabbat Service

### Saturday, April 29

Weekly Torah portion: Shabbat Chol Hamoed

10:30 am – Shabbat Service

See our latest calendar at [www.cstsr.org](http://www.cstsr.org)

## 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 principles of equality, freedom and shalom among all peoples.