



CST Annual Meeting

Sunday, May 19

Plan to attend our synagogue's annual membership meeting on Sunday, May 19, 2013 at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary. Among the important business to be discussed is the election of the Board of Directors for the fiscal year that begins July 1, 2013. In addition, the annual budget will be considered.

We will also hear from many of our hard-working Committee chairs without whom the Synagogue could not function. Brunch will be served immediately following the meeting, thanks to the generosity of our Men's Bagel Club.

Retiring from the Board are long-term members Jeremy Olsan and Marcy Pluznick-Marrin, both past Presidents of our congregation. These hard-working volunteers have served our community tirelessly and deserve our thanks.

Officers

President – Rachael Cutcher
VP-Finance – Garry Goodman
Secretary – Paula Duran

<u>Board of Directors</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
Susan Bailyn	2014
Keith Boxerman	2014
Charles Catlett	2014
Rachael Cutcher	2014
Deborah Cutler	2014
Bruce Falstein	2014
Reed Ferrick	2014
Shirley Liberman	2014

<u>Returning Directors</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
Paula Duran	2015
Garry Goodman	2015
Jessica Wichmann	2015

<u>New Board Nominees</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
Shelley Brott	2015
Judith Richlin-Klonsky	2015
Roy Sparrow	2015
Eli Weinsveg	2015

Shavuot – A Night of Learning

The Jewish holiday Shavuot celebrates the giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai. This is a joyous time and traditional observance includes staying up at night and studying Jewish texts. This is another example of Judaism's desire to relive, rather than simply commemorating events. This year we are cosponsoring with other synagogues a night of study with an impressive group of teachers at Congregation Beth Ami. Come relive the receiving of the Torah!

Tuesday, May 14
7:00 pm – 2:00 am

Welcome Our New Cantor!

The Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Cantor David Frommer will be joining our Shomrei Torah community beginning this July.

David grew up in Manhattan and graduated from high school in Kentucky. He received his B.A. in History with Honors from Yale University and sang with Magevet, Yale's Jewish A Cappella Group, performing across the US and internationally in Canada, Europe and the UK. After college, David volunteered for fifteen months as a combat soldier in the Nachal Infantry Division of the Israel Defense Forces, where he served with distinction in the West Bank. During the next five years, he pursued his cantorial studies at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion's Debbie Friedman

School of Sacred Music and trained as a chaplain with the New York Army National Guard.

Following his investiture from HUC-JIR, David deployed overseas as the first-ever cantor to serve as a chaplain in the US military, providing religious support for Jewish soldiers and civilians stationed in Afghanistan, Kuwait, Jordan and Qatar. He is married to Rabbi Carla Fenves.

You may have already heard David's outstanding abilities here at a Shabbat service or as the Lion in our Purimspiel. Our many thanks to the Cantorial Search Committee. Please join the staff and Board in welcoming David to Shomrei Torah.



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Sonoma County Tikkun Leyl Shavuot
Living Torah: Keeping Revelation Relevant
Tuesday, May 14, 2013 ~ 7PM-2AM
at Congregation Beth Ami, 4676 Mayette, Santa Rosa

Sponsored by:
B'nai Israel Jewish Center
Congregation Beth Ami
Congregation Ner Shalom
Congregation Shomrei Torah

SC Tribe Ice Cream and Movie

Saturday, May 18

Let's get together and celebrate Shavuot right, with an ice cream social and movie night! Enjoy some delicious dairy treats at Screaming Mimi's followed by a private movie showing at the Rialto in Sebastopol.



Shabbat Dinner Friday, May 24

Come enjoy a wonderful family style Shabbat dinner with SC Tribe. Guaranteed to be a wonderful time! **Festivities start at 6:30**, RSVP to sonomacountytribe@gmail.com for directions.

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)

Season Starts May 1

Have you been feeling like you want to upgrade your family's diet with primo fresh produce delivered weekly? Here's your opportunity. This is the 3rd year of Shomrei Torah's partnership with Singing Frogs Farm and their main season gets underway on May 1. You can get a bunch of information and sign up directly at www.singingfrogsfarm.com/CSA_Info.html

If you have questions, or want to be matched with a share partner, contact the CST office.

Bagel Club on a Roll

Sunday, May 5 at 9:00 am

Join the Bagel Club in the Sanctuary for lox, bagels, and cream cheese, along with a surprise speaker on the intriguing subject of Israel politics. Put that date in your hot file. Please RSVP to the CST office to be sure your breakfast will be waiting for you. Donation requested is \$7-10.



Second Hand Rose

Collections Start May 17!

Please bring:

- Music CDs
- Movie DVDs
- Quality costume jewelry
- Gently used: small appliances, art, house décor, sports equipment, purses, etc.
- Unique high-end specialty clothing
- Kid's quality toys & games.

Please bring items to the CST brown storage box in the lobby starting May 17. There's also a drop off garage in Oakmont. Call number below for location. We can use more space. Do you live very close to CST and have extra car-size space in your garage you can donate for 3 months?

Please: No books, electronics, everyday clothing, or items over 2 ½ X 2 ½ ft.

Questions? Contact the CST office for more information.



Welcome to the new Voice!

You have probably noticed that the Voice you are reading has changed. Shomrei Torah's Communications Committee and CST staff worked with our new graphic designer, Kathleen Nelson of Nelson Sobel Design to produce an updated design.

Most of the news and information you look for in each issue is still here. However, some of the information has been moved to our website. For example, the Birthdays and Anniversaries are now online at www.shomreitorah.org/community/birthdays and the narrative from our B'nei Mitzvah students can be found at www.shomreitorah.org/lifelong-learning/bnei-mitzvah-program/narratives. There is also no longer a Synagogue calendar within the Voice. We found that the print deadlines meant that often the Voice's calendar was out of date. You can find the up to date calendar at www.shomreitorah.org/calendar/. The schedule of services can be found on the back cover.

A special thanks to Bill Skoonberg, our dedicated graphic designer, who for so many years helped produce wonderful and entertaining Voice issues. His dedication and hard work is much appreciated!

We hope you enjoy the "new look" Voice. As always, your feedback, suggestions and comments are welcome at shomrei@shomreitorah.org.

The Shomrei Torah Voice is a periodical issued monthly except for the combined June/July issue. It is published by Congregation Shomrei Torah, 2600 Bennett Valley Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95404 and is distributed free of charge to members and supporting advertisers. Subscriptions are available for \$30 per year. Please direct inquiries to the Shomrei Torah office, 578-5519; office fax number 578-3967.

The Environmental Action Committee of Congregation Shomrei Torah invites you and your family to our annual community involvement day

HABITAT RESTORATION IN THE LAGUNA WETLANDS PRESERVE

Sunday, May 5, 2013 • 1:00–4:00 PM

A unique opportunity to make new Shomrei Torah friends while pruning, weeding, and repairing the wetlands in the spirit of tikkun olam



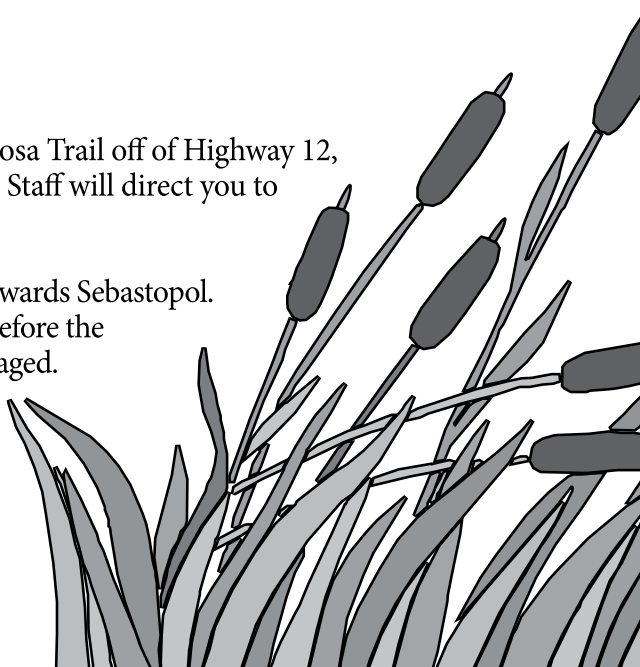
LOCATION: Meet at southern entrance for Laguna de Santa Rosa Trail off of Highway 12, Sebastopol. Park at trailhead or west side of Chevron Station. Staff will direct you to Meadowlark Field.

DIRECTIONS: From downtown Santa Rosa take Highway 12 towards Sebastopol. Drive 10–15 minutes to Laguna de Santa Rosa Trailhead just before the Chevron Station, which is on your right. Carpooling is encouraged.

GEAR: Dress to get dirty! Bring gloves—other tools will be provided. Birders, bring your binoculars!

SNACKS AND WATER WILL BE PROVIDED.

A FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT for all ages.



HEAVY RAIN CANCELS THE RESTORATION



WE WILL WORK IN LIGHT MISTY RAIN

Questions? Contact Beth Lamb, 322-0744, blamb@jps.net
For more information go to www.shomreitorah.org



Supported by:

The LagunaKeepers

A partnership of citizens, the Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation and the City of Santa Rosa

HABITAT RESTORATION RSVP FORM

Yes, I (we) will participate in the May 5th Habitat Restoration!

Name _____ E-mailAddress _____

PhoneNumber(land) _____ (cell) _____

Other Adults _____ Children (include ages) _____

() To carpool, I live in (circle one) NW, NE, SW or SE Santa Rosa or other city _____

There are three easy ways to sign-up:

1. Clip form & mail: CST, Attn: Habitat Restoration, 2600 Bennett Valley Rd., Santa Rosa, CA 95404.
2. Email: blamb@jps.net. Please be sure to include all information above.
3. Clip form and fax it to the CST office, (707) 578-3967.

Wrestling Jerusalem

Saturday, June 15, 6:00 PM

A play about an American boy, Israel and a question of conscience. Written and performed by Aaron Davidman.

From Socialist summer camp in New York to the Western Wall in Jerusalem to the Separation Barrier in the West Bank, one performer brings together different voices from America, Israel and Palestine to address some of the most provocative issues of our time. Commissioned by Theatre J of Washington D.C. and developed in part by The Jewish Theater San Francisco, Sundance Institute Theater Program and Playwrights Foundation. Co-sponsored by CST and the New Israel Fund.

Rabbi Michael Robinson Memorial Lecture

Guest speaker: URJ President Rick Jacobs

Friday, August 9 at 6:15 PM

Rabbi Jacobs knew and was inspired by Rabbi Michael's social justice work. He is also close to Rabbi George through their studies together at the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem, where they both are Senior Rabbinic Fellows.

The event is a Rabbi's Tisch. Reservations will be required.

Like Congregation Shomrei Torah on  **facebook®**

Food Fest Online Registration

Sign up begins Wednesday, June 5, 10:30 AM – Noon

To ensure there's plenty of food and bakery items at the Food Fest on Sunday August 18, we'll be taking online registration and some bakery item pre-orders.



Members can start signing up their family and friends June 5. The general community will be invited to sign up starting July 1. We are limiting attendance to 1300 this year and expect to sell out before the event. Last year we had almost 1600!

The entry fee of \$5 for ages 13 and above is new this year and will help offset expensive transportation and parking costs. Kids up to 12 are free. There is no entry fee for members who volunteer the day of the event, although they will also need to register. Look for details in Chai Lites.

URJ Biennial

December 11-15, San Diego

Join the Shomrei Torah contingent at the Union for Reform Judaism's Biennial Conference in San Diego. More information at the URJ website urj.org/biennial13/. Look for details about our Synagogue's involvement in future issues of the Voice.

Connect, Commune and Celebrate

CST Men's Retreat October 18–20
At the Enchanted Hills Retreat Center

This is a wonderful opportunity to form new relationships as well as foster current friendships among the men of Congregation Shomrei Torah. The program begins Friday evening and includes wonderfully prepared meals, services guided by Rabbi George, yoga, sports, wine tasting, educational programs and more. The cost of the retreat is \$250. Sign up now, as spaces are limited. If interested, please contact the CST office (578-5519). Scholarships are available. For more information and a registration form, go to www.shomreitorah.org. Registration closes Friday, September 27.

Pet Blessing

Sunday, June 9 from 10:30 AM – Noon

Welcome to all well behaved pets and their families! Have your pet blessed by Rabbi George, feed and pet farm animals, see llama shearings, and meet alpacas. Last time there were dogs and cats and even a bird! Kid friendly. Please no high heels or unattended pets at any time. Please RSVP for a reservation and directions by contacting our CST office at 578-5519 or denise@shomreitorah.org.



Call for Auditions! The Mikveh Monologues

A performance of "The Mikveh Monologues" will be held on Saturday, October 12, here at Shomrei Torah. The Mikveh Monologues is an original play, written by internationally celebrated author Anita Diamant, the author of "The Red Tent" and other best-selling fiction and non-fiction books, and Janet Buchwald, founder of the Boston Shakespeare Company. In "The Mikveh Monologues," personal stories are told of men, women and children who have marked a life transition by immersing in the Mayyim Hayyim mikveh.



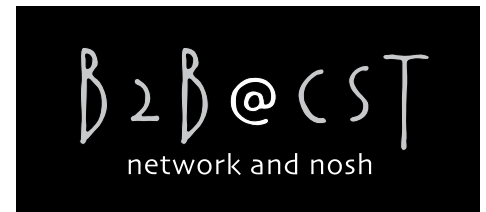
*...personal stories are
told of men, women
and children who have
marked a life transition by
immersing in the Mayyim
Hayyim mikveh.*

If you are interested in performing, we are holding auditions on May 5th at 2:00 pm at Congregation Shomrei Torah. Come prepared to perform a 2-minute monologue of your choice. We are looking for men, women, and near-bat-mitzvah age girls. If you have technical skills or stagehand skills and would like to participate in our show, please let us know. Please RSVP to the CST office.

B2B @ CST Network and Nosh Thursday, June 13 from 7:00 – 8:15 AM

Brand new at CST! Network with other CST members to build all of our businesses together. Come to our free KICK-OFF breakfast on Thursday, June 13th, 7:00 – 8:15 a.m., Kolbo Room. Bring lots of business cards and your appetite. Raffles and prizes!

Please RSVP by Wednesday, June 5th to the CST office.



Bereavement Spiritual Support Group

Cosponsored by CST and the Bay Area Jewish Healing Center

Nine weeks beginning Thursday, June 6 from 10:00 AM until 12:00 PM

Grief is a normal and extremely painful response to loss. Being with an understanding community can help bring comfort and healing to mourners. This group will provide a supportive context with resources drawn from grief counseling models, spiritual care and Jewish tradition to help you through the mourning process. The nine-week series, facilitated by Rabbi Natan Fenner of the Bay Area Jewish Healing Center, is for people who are grieving the death of a person. The group is open to Shomrei Torah congregants as well as members of the wider community. Pre-registration is required, as the group is limited to eight participants and drop-ins cannot be accommodated. Cost for the series is \$100 and low-stress financial options are available.

To register, or for more information, please contact the Bay Area Jewish Healing Center, 415-750-4197, e-mail gkolthoff@bajhc.org, or visit the BAJHC website, www.jewishhealing.org.

Jewish Without Torah? I Don't Think So...

The roster of Jewish holy days this time of year functions like a Rorschach chart for Jewish identity.



"Torah" here does not just mean the first five books of Moses. Torah, in this sense, is the symbol for Jewish life; the books, the holydays, the prayers. Everything that makes up the religious life of a Jew.

Passover, for example, has many themes but it is safe to say that concern for the oppressed or Social Justice is its main focus, which is also the essence of Jewish identity for many Jews. This is certainly true at Shomrei Torah, where our largest committee is the Social Action Committee with 28 members! There is only one problem: concern for Social Justice is not particular to Judaism. Christians, Muslims, Hindus, and Buddhists can all lay claim to a concern for the most vulnerable, the weak, the persecuted.

After Pesach comes Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Memorial Day, one of the darkest days in the Jewish year and yet another defining aspect of Jewish life: persecution. Sadly, our being a persecuted people is the defining feature of Jewish identity for more than a few of us. For these folks, our communal suffering becomes a point of pride, an end in itself. Our survival is proof of our worth, and our need for constant vigilance against future attacks the only justification necessary for Jewish continuity.

This was the Judaism of my youth, the Shoah on the one hand and Israel struggling for survival on the other, and nothing of substance in between. We were to care, to show up, to give just because of what "they did to us" and what "could happen again at any moment!" No

wonder so many folks in my generation fled Jewish life. Why be Jewish if the essence of Jewish life is suffering and the constant threat of persecution?

This was an issue of great concern for David Hartman (may his memory be for a blessing) who wrote in his book *A Heart of Many Chambers*, "I believe it is destructive to make the Holocaust the dominant organizing category of modern Jewish identity. It is both politically and morally dangerous ... to perceive ... (ourselves) essentially as the suffering remnant of the Holocaust. It is pointless and often vulgar to argue that the Jewish peoples' suffering is unique in history." (pg. 261)

To be defined by what the Nazi's did to us is to give them a posthumous victory, and to lose much of what makes Judaism so compelling. Judaism is not just about suffering! More than anything else, Judaism is about affirming life. "L'chaim," "To life!" This is almost completely lost when the Shoah becomes the primary event in our long history.

A week after Yom HaShoah comes Yom Ha-Atzmaut, Israeli Independence Day. This too is a cornerstone of Jewish identity in two distinct ways:

For many if not most Israelis the modern state is the organizing element of their Judaism; they are "National Jews." Living in Israel, being an Israeli citizen, speaking

Hebrew, serving in the army – this is their "Judaism". It includes religious elements like Friday night dinners for example, in the same way that Christianity is passively part of many Americans' identity, but its primary character is national, not religious.

There are also Diaspora Jews whose primary identity is their attachment or connection to Israel. These folks live vicariously through their connection with Israel. They have no need for Jewish observance, and their connection to the organized Jewish community is based only on its support of Israel. For them, Israel is an idealized, sentimentalized place. When they visit, they see only the good stuff: suntanned, muscle-bound Israelis "draining swamps and making the desert bloom" or more recently, "Startup nation." For these folks, Israel can do no wrong and it is an unforgivable sin to criticize Israel in any way.

After Yom Ha-Atzmaut, there is one last major Holy Day to mention and that is Shavuot, the third of the three ancient pilgrimage festivals (Sukkot, Pesach and Shavuot), and the commemoration of "Natan Torah," the giving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai.

Most liberal Jews don't even know from Shavuot yet I think of all the commemorations at this time of year, it's the most essential to who we are.

Simply stated, there is no Judaism without Torah. "Torah" here does not just mean the first five books of Moses. Torah, in this sense, is the symbol for Jewish life; the books, the holydays, the prayers. Everything that makes up the religious life of a Jew.

But, you say, "I am spiritual not religious." Fine, but are you also Jewish? If so, you have to in some way connect with Torah to sustain your Judaism: "where's the beef?" Where is the substance without Torah? And who says Torah is not spiritual?

*More than anything
else, Judaism is
about affirming life.*

Are you sure what you call "spiritual" cannot be found, enhanced or encompassed by Torah?

"Wait a minute, rabbi, I'm a cultural Jew." In the global village cultural identities are very hard to preserve, let alone transmit to the next generation – what's Jewish about bagels anymore? What is Jewish culture without Torah? Can you imagine a Jewish world where there are no synagogues and only JCC's? I don't think so.

I admit I've been a little hyperbolic and bombastic. It is one of the risks of being a rabbi. In truth, Jewish identity is a lot less black and white than I have suggested and much more in the grey. They say, if you cut a hologram into pieces, all the parts contain the whole picture in them. That's like Jewish identity – dig deep enough in any of us, you can find most if not all the elements of Jewish identity; each one of us has our own way of balancing these various aspects of what it means to be a Jew. The question is, are we happy with the balance?

**B'shalom,
RG**

Whatever Your Reason to Belong, Shomrei Torah Belongs to You

If you're like most folks, you belong to a lot of different communities: your workplace, your bike or book club, Raider Nation, or those who walk around Spring Lake.



*...we will keep
alive the long
chain of tradition
that is a key part
of your identity.*

But it's a safe bet that no other community that you belong to is quite like this one. Because unlike those whose requirement for membership is based on something you do, your affiliation with Shomrei Torah stems from who you are.

That's a crucial difference. What qualifies you for membership in this community is being Jewish, or being close to someone who is. In exchange for simply being who you are, Shomrei Torah will care for you. We will name you, teach you, marry you, console you, celebrate with you, and, ultimately, bury you. We will provide the space and time where, to borrow from Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, you can turn your thoughts "from the world of creation to the creation of the world." And we will keep alive the long chain of tradition that is a key part of your identity.

This month, every Shomrei Torah household will receive a membership renewal packet. More than simply a financial transaction, renewing your membership is your opportunity to reaffirm that identity, to make a statement about who you are and what you value, and to recommit to your community.

Of course, not every Shomrei Torah member values the same things. Reasons for joining this community are as varied as our members. But there is at least one facet of membership that is common to all of us: whatever your reason to belong, Shomrei

Torah belongs to you.

Just as every member of our community is entitled to whatever value they find here, so, too, must each of us take responsibility for creating and, ideally, enhancing that value. Many of us volunteer our time and energy, and in doing so reap sufficient reward to justify that investment. But this community can't run on good feeling alone. It needs a good deal of actual cash, as well.

We're not talking a lot of money—nowhere near the 10%, or tithe, expected by other faith traditions. All we ask is 2% of each member household's income, what is known in the synagogue world as your "fair share pledge." That's all it will take to keep our religious school teaching, our lifelong learning programs living, our services serving, and our doors wide open whenever you need us.

When the renewal packet arrives, please take a moment to consider all that you value about Shomrei Torah. When you get to the line that asks you to state your pledge amount for the coming fiscal year, remember that 2% fair share commitment you made when you joined. If all of us pledge our fair share, we will erase the budget deficit we are currently projecting and have all the resources we need to continue to provide the benefits and services you value, and which fulfill our sacred mission.

Thank you for making Shomrei Torah the warm and welcoming community it is.

**B'shalom,
Bruce**

LEGACY NEWS

Meet Legacy Circle Members Charlie and Helen Catlett



Charlie Catlett joined Congregation Shomrei Torah in the 1990's. He then drifted away from active participation for a period of time, however his involvement in the building of our new Shomrei Torah home brought him back. The more he worked with the landscaping, the more people he met, the more he felt a part of the Shomrei Torah community. Then he met Helen and they were married in May 2011. Shortly after their marriage, Helen began a journey with cancer. Shomrei Torah has been very supportive of Helen and of Charlie throughout this time.

Charlie is truly active at Shomrei Torah. He is a member of the Board of Directors, participating on the Art Committee with his work on the Heritage Cabinet which greets members as they enter the building, working on the Building Coordinating Council, and keeping the grounds in shape, just to mention a few of the many places he contributes his time and efforts. His musical talents have graced many events at Shomrei Torah.

Charlie and Helen decided to include Shomrei Torah in their long-term planning because of the sense of community and the caring spirit which has helped them. They hope that their future support will help ensure that Shomrei Torah remains the center of a spiritually strong, caring and loving community.



Interfaith Immigration Vigil

On Passover we read from the Torah, "You shall not oppress the stranger, for you know the soul of the stranger because you were strangers in the land of Egypt" (Exodus: 23:9). On Wednesday, April 3 Rabbi George and Social Action Committee members participated in an Interfaith Prayer Vigil for Immigration Reform. As we listened to

the personal stories of young people and their families who struggle under the existing system, the need for change was compelling. Rabbi George inspired the crowd with his closing prayer and call for action that would benefit, not only immigrants, but law enforcement, business leaders, and the entire community.



Environmental Action Committee

Tip-of-the-Month

"And the Lord took Adam and placed him in the Garden of Eden, to work it and guard it."
Genesis 2:15

We have only one planet -- help protect it! A reminder from the Environmental Action Committee -- Don't forget your reusable bags when shopping!

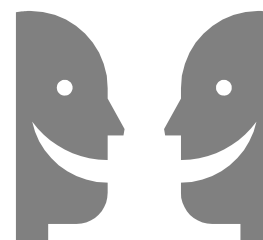
This summer an ordinance banning plastic bags will be implemented in Sonoma County which will affect grocery and most retail stores, and a 10-cent fee on paper bags will be levied.

For more information go to: www.recyclenow.org/agency/reports.asp



Cancer Resource Team At Your Service

If you were recently diagnosed with cancer, there are other members of the congregation who have experienced similar challenges and want to help. Would you like someone to talk with you and/or members of your family? We are here to listen, answer your questions and hold your hand. Contact the CST office, to be paired up with a member of the team.



STARS

Wow!!! What a wonderful year at STaRS! I hope you all have a fun, safe summer and I look forward to seeing you next year! **B'shalom, Rabbi Kramer**



Rabbi George and Rabbi Kramer

Walk to End Genocide



Preparing for the walk.



Starting out on the walk.



Walk Organizer, Gabe Ferrick.



Having fun while supporting a good cause.

Dear Families,

Hope everyone had a very healthy, happy Passover.



We look forward to seeing you on Friday, May 10, 2013 at 5:00

pm for a Friday night Tot Shabbat pot luck. Our theme will be exploring ritual objects of the synagogue with a Temple scavenger hunt. On Saturday, June 1 from 9:30 – 11:00 am there will be a Tikkun Olam planting.

Tot Shabbat is a year round program. We look forward to seeing you throughout the summer!

Love and blessings
Tot Shabbat Lauren

NFTY/Shorty

This month was a great month for SHoRTY. We hosted a Chocolate Seder with Chaverim which had over fifty teens from all over Sonoma County and even one from Lake County in attendance. We are looking forward to the last regional event of the year. It is the Spring Conclave at Camp Newman, May 17th- 19th. This event is open to all teens in 8th-12th grade. For more information on the event go to www.nfty.org/cwr or email me at aarons@jcsoco.org.

Sincerely,
Aaron Selya, SHoRTY Advisor



B'nei Mitzvah

Sarah Abramson

May 4, 2013 - 24 Iyar 5773

Join us in celebration as our daughter,
Sarah, becomes a Bat Mitzvah on
May 4, 2013.

Bruce and Carol Abramson



CoCo Weinberg

May 11, 2013 - 2 Sivan 5773

Please join as our daughter is called
to the Torah. Kiddush luncheon to
follow.

Dan and Sherry Weinberg

— CHAVERIM NOTES —

Join us for our Annual Chaverim Graduation service at 6:15 pm May 3 to honor our graduating Seniors. Chaverim Registration for the 2013-14 year is happening now, paperless, at jccsoco.org. Please support our teens and their program by registering now for 8th-12 grade. We welcome returning students as well as new ones.

Camp Chai--Directed by Rick Concoff meets during the traditional last two weeks in June. We welcome campers entering Kindergarden-7th grade and Counselor's In Training entering the 9th and 10th grade. Join us for a great two weeks of camp. For information or to register, go to www.jccsoco.org and click on the kids/camp; About Camp Chai menu choice. Thanks to Congregation Shomrei Torah and Rabbis Gittleman and Kramer for supporting Chaverim.

If there are questions call Rick Concoff, JCC Teen Director for more info at 823-3916.

Like Congregation
Shomrei Torah on



f facebook®



WE WANT YOU!

2ND ANNUAL FOOD FEST

OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND FOR:

Bakers, Schleppers, Greeters,
Sandwich Makers,
Parking Attendants,
Latke-Fryers and more....

Look for an email (*coming soon*)
providing an easy online
volunteer sign-up system

JEWISH
FOOD
FEST



Women on the Bimah

Celebrating Women On The Bimah

A wonderful commemoration of the 40th Anniversary of the first female Rabbi and the 80th anniversary of the first Bat Mitzvah occurred at Shomrei Torah on April 12th and 13th. Here's some images from that exciting event.



CST Music Performers



3 generations: Andrea Bornstein, Ruth Turner, Linda Bornstein



Torah reading: Laura Gittleman, Elly Cohen (the Gabbai)



Presidents: Dianne Smith, Marcy Pluznick-Marrin, Rachael Cutcher, Miriam Marlin, Melissa Kort

SUMMER CAMPS Grants for First Time Attendees

Attention Jewish families contemplating summer camp: Jewish Community Federation is working with summer camps in the region to subsidize summer camp for families in San Francisco, Marin, and the Peninsula. To learn more, visit JewishFed.org/grants.

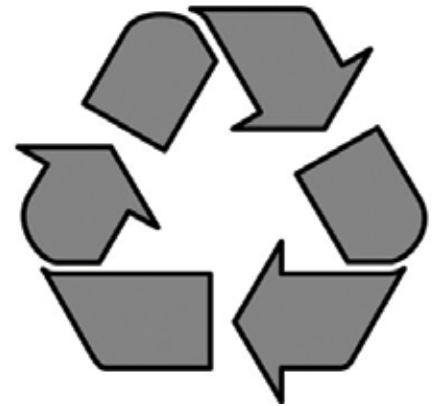
Camp Tawonga

Complete your child's summer plans with a session at Camp Tawonga! Or, sign up the whole family for a post-summer family camp weekend. Just outside of Yosemite National Park on 160 pristine acres of Stanislaus National Forest, Tawonga offers excellent sleep-away summer camp programs for campers from 2nd through 12th grades, and family camp for all ages. As a leader in Jewish camping since 1925, Tawonga is American Camp Association accredited, and has a staff/camper ratio of 1:1.5. First time campers attending Tawonga's Session 3 may be eligible for \$1000 off camp fees. Financial assistance is also available.

More info: 415.543.2267,
www.tawonga.org,
or info@tawonga.org

Waste Management Program at Congregation Shomrei Torah

As shomrei torah (guardians of the Torah) we are also shomrei adamah (guardians of the earth) and our new waste management program is an opportunity to express this Jewish value. It is nearly a year since we transitioned to our new waste management program and a great deal of what had been considered trash is now compostable! We now have new signage throughout the synagogue. Please take a moment before depositing your waste, to review where to place the item(s) you are disposing. We no longer have a trash dumpster and we are on our way to becoming a zero waste synagogue! Thank you for helping us green Congregation Shomrei Torah.



**SAVE
THE DATE**

**JEWISH
FOOD
FEST**

**FUN AND FOOD
FOR ALL!**

SUNDAY AUGUST 18 FROM 10 – 3

Donations to Shomrei Torah *Make a Difference!*

Congregation Shomrei Torah is grateful for contributions to its many funds.

Please indicate on the list below how your donation should be applied:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Congregation — General Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Marlene & Martin Stein Fund for
Camping and Israel Experience | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious School — General Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elisha's Pantry | <input type="checkbox"/> Mortgage Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious School Scholarships |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Facilities Endowment Fund — for
long-term maintenance & opera-
tion of the new synagogue | <input type="checkbox"/> Music Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Robert & Claire Harris Fund for
Social Action |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gift of Israel Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Book Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Stuart Sobelman Torah Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Library Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Rabbi George's Discretionary Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Torah Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LifeLong Learning / Adult Educa-
tion | <input type="checkbox"/> Rabbi Kramer's Discretionary Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Tot Shabbat / Early Childhood
Programs |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Rabbi Michael Robinson Fund for
Social Justice | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

This donation is:

In honor of _____

On the occasion of _____

In memory of _____

*Donations will be listed in the next Voice (\$10.00 minimum per listing) and
appropriate acknowledgement cards will be sent to inform those recognized with your donation.*

Please inform: _____

If not to a Temple member, please provide mailing address:

Address: _____ City, State, Zip _____

Your Name(s) (Donor): _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Please mail your donation to: Congregation Shomrei Torah, 2600 Bennett Valley Rd., Santa Rosa, CA 95404

To appear on Generous Gifts pages, we ask that a minimum donation of \$10.00 be made for each listing.

The office asks that you have your donations into the office by the 5th of each month.

Thank you to all who give so generously to our Congregation.



HaBonim – The Builders

On your next visit to the Synagogue, we invite you to take a look at the Heritage Cabinet as you enter. In the middle you will find our historic Czech Memorial Sifre Torah. This Torah, written in the late 1800's, was saved from the Nazi occupation of Czechoslovakia. Below that is our HaBonim book. There you will find a personal story from the generous founding donors who made our wonderful building possible. Each month the pages are turned and a new story is revealed. Come read what Shomrei Torah means to them!

*This Torah,
written in the
late 1800's, was
saved from the
Nazi occupation of
Czechoslovakia.*

Friday, May 3

6:15 pm

Shabbat Service – Chaverim Graduation

Saturday, May 4

8:45 am

Torah Study led by Rabbi George

10:30 am

Bat Mitzvah of Sarah Abramson

Friday, May 10

6:15 pm

Shabbat Service – Rabbi's Tisch

Saturday, May 11

8:45 am

Torah Study led by Lisa Wolper

10:30 am

Bat Mitzvah of CoCo Weinberg

Friday, May 17

6:15 pm

*Shabbat Service honoring Board members and
Committee chairs who have stepped down*

Saturday, May 18

8:45 am

Torah Study led by Rabbi George

10:30 am

Shabbat Service

Friday, May 24

6:15 pm

Shabbat Service with Adult Choir

Saturday, May 25

8:45 am

Torah Study led by Rabbi Kramer

10:30 am

Shabbat Service

Friday, May 31

6:15 pm

*Shabbat Service honoring
Environmental Action and Social Action
Committees*

See our latest calendar at www.shomreitorah.org/calendar

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.

RABBI

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Office email:

shomrei@shomreitorah.org

Office Hours:

Monday–Friday
9:00 AM–12 Noon,
1:00–5:00 PM

www.shomreitorah.org

Congregation Shomrei Torah
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Santa Rosa, CA 95404
707-578-5519



Affiliated with the
**UNION FOR
REFORM JUDAISM**